

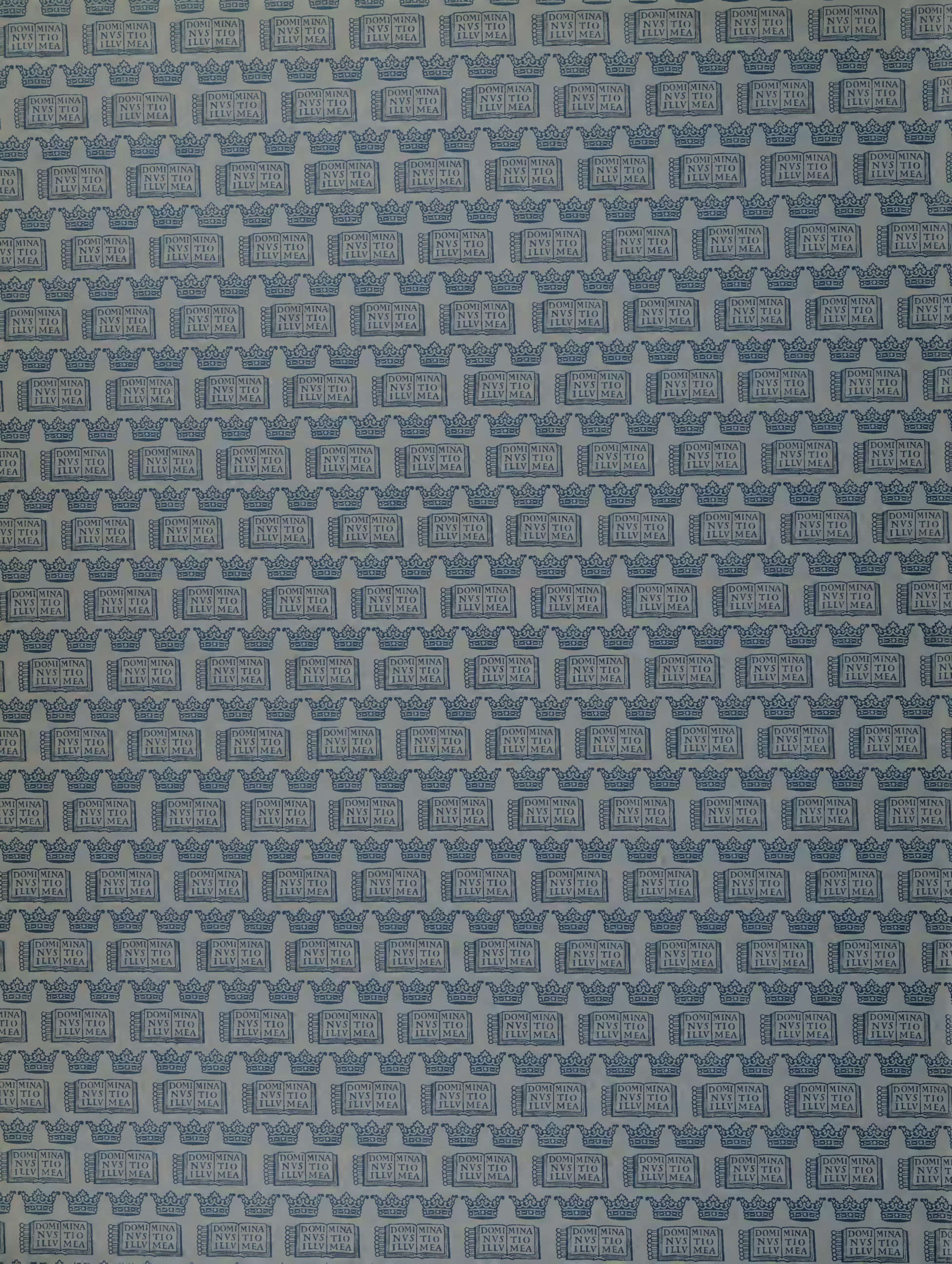
THE OXFORD ENGLISH DICTIONARY

Second Edition, Volume 20

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DICTIONARY

SECOND EDITION

THE OXFORD ENGLISH
DICTIONARY

First Edited by

JAMES A. H. MURRAY, HENRY BRADLEY, W. A. CRAIGIE
and C. T. ONIONS

COMBINED WITH

A SUPPLEMENT TO
THE OXFORD ENGLISH
DICTIONARY

Edited by

R. W. BURCHFIELD

AND RESET WITH CORRECTIONS, REVISIONS
AND ADDITIONAL VOCABULARY

THE OXFORD ENGLISH DICTIONARY

SECOND EDITION

Prepared by

J. A. SIMPSON *and* E. S. C. WEINER

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KEY TO THE PRONUNCIATION

THE pronunciations given are those in use in the educated speech of southern England (the so-called ‘Received Standard’), and the keywords given are to be understood as pronounced in such speech.

I. Consonants

b, d, f, k, l, m, n, p, t, v, z have their usual English values

g as in <i>go</i> (gəʊ)	θ as in <i>thin</i> (θɪn), <i>bath</i> (bɑːθ)	(FOREIGN AND NON-SOUTHERN)
h ... <i>ho!</i> (həʊ)	ð ... <i>then</i> (ðɛn), <i>bathe</i> (beɪð)	ʎ as in It. <i>serraglio</i> (ser'raʎo)
r ... <i>run</i> (rʌn), <i>terrier</i> ('tɛrɪə(r))	ʃ ... <i>shop</i> (ʃɒp), <i>dish</i> (dɪʃ)	ɲ ... Fr. <i>cognac</i> (kɔɲak)
(r) ... <i>her</i> (hɜː(r))	tʃ ... <i>chop</i> (tʃɒp), <i>ditch</i> (dɪtʃ)	x ... Ger. <i>ach</i> (ax), Sc. <i>loch</i> (lɒx), Sp. <i>frijoles</i> (fri'xoles)
s ... <i>see</i> (siː), <i>success</i> (sək'sɛs)	ʒ ... <i>vision</i> ('vɪʒən), <i>déjeuner</i> (deʒəne)	ç ... Ger. <i>ich</i> (ɪç), Sc. <i>nicht</i> (nɪçt)
w ... <i>wear</i> (weə(r))	dʒ ... <i>judge</i> (dʒʌdʒ)	ʎ ... North Ger. <i>sagen</i> ('zaːʎən)
hw ... <i>when</i> (hwɛn)	ŋ ... <i>singing</i> ('sɪŋɪŋ), <i>think</i> (θɪŋk)	c ... Afrikaans <i>baardmannetjie</i> ('baːrtmanəci)
j ... <i>yes</i> (jɛs)	ŋɡ ... <i>finger</i> ('fɪŋɡə(r))	ʈ ... Fr. <i>cuisine</i> (kɥizin)

Symbols in parentheses are used to denote elements that may be omitted either by individual speakers or in particular phonetic contexts: e.g. *bottle* ('bɒt(ə)l), *Mercian* ('mɜːʃ(i)ən), *suit* (s(j)uːt), *impromptu* (ɪm'prɒm(p)tjuː), *father* ('fɑːðə(r)).

II. Vowels and Diphthongs

SHORT	LONG	DIPHTHONGS, etc.
ɪ as in <i>pit</i> (pɪt), <i>-ness</i> , (<i>-nis</i>)	iː as in <i>bean</i> (biːn)	eɪ as in <i>bay</i> (beɪ)
ɛ ... <i>pet</i> (pɛt), Fr. <i>sept</i> (sɛt)	ɑː ... <i>barn</i> (bɑːn)	aɪ ... <i>buy</i> (baɪ)
æ ... <i>pat</i> (pæt)	ɔː ... <i>born</i> (bɔːn)	ɔɪ ... <i>boy</i> (bɔɪ)
ʌ ... <i>putt</i> (pʌt)	uː ... <i>boon</i> (buːn)	əʊ ... <i>no</i> (nəʊ)
ɒ ... <i>pot</i> (pɒt)	ɜː ... <i>burn</i> (bɜːn)	aʊ ... <i>now</i> (naʊ)
ʊ ... <i>put</i> (pʊt)	eː ... Ger. <i>Schnee</i> (ʃneː)	ɪə ... <i>peer</i> (pɪə(r))
ə ... <i>another</i> (ə'nʌðə(r))	ɛː ... Ger. <i>Fähre</i> ('fɛːrə)	ɛə ... <i>pair</i> (pɛə(r))
(ə) ... <i>beaten</i> ('biːt(ə)n)	aː ... Ger. <i>Tag</i> (taːk)	ʊə ... <i>tour</i> (tuə(r))
i ... Fr. <i>si</i> (si)	oː ... Ger. <i>Sohn</i> (zoːn)	ɔə ... <i>boar</i> (bɔə(r))
e ... Fr. <i>bébé</i> (bebe)	øː ... Ger. <i>Goethe</i> ('gøːtə)	
a ... Fr. <i>mari</i> (mari)	yː ... Ger. <i>grün</i> (gryːn)	aɪə as in <i>fiery</i> ('faɪəɪ)
ɑ ... Fr. <i>bâtiment</i> (batimɑ)		aʊə ... <i>sour</i> (sauə(r))
ɔ ... Fr. <i>homme</i> (ɔm)	NASAL	
o ... Fr. <i>eau</i> (o)	ɛ̃, œ̃ as in Fr. <i>fin</i> (fɛ̃, fœ̃)	
ø ... Fr. <i>peu</i> (pø)	ɑ̃ ... Fr. <i>franc</i> (frɑ̃)	
œ ... Fr. <i>boeuf</i> (bœf) <i>coeur</i> (kœr)	ɔ̃ ... Fr. <i>bon</i> (bɔ̃)	
u ... Fr. <i>douce</i> (dus)	œ̃ ... Fr. <i>un</i> (œ̃)	
ʏ ... Ger. <i>Müller</i> ('mʏlɐr)		
y ... Fr. <i>du</i> (dy)		

The incidence of main stress is shown by a superior stress mark (ˈ) preceding the stressed syllable, and a secondary stress by an inferior stress mark (ˌ), e.g. *pronunciation* (prəˌnʌnsɪˈeɪʃ(ə)n).

For further explanation of the transcription used, see *General Explanations*, Volume I.

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS, SIGNS, ETC.

Some abbreviations listed here in italics are also in certain cases printed in roman type, and vice versa.

a. (in Etym.)	adoption of, adopted from	<i>Bull.</i>	(in titles) <i>Bulletin</i>	Dict.	Dictionary; <i>spec.</i> , the
<i>a</i> (as <i>a</i> 1850)	<i>ante</i> , 'before', 'not later than'	<i>c</i> (as <i>c</i> 1700)	<i>circa</i> , 'about'	dim.	Oxford English Dictionary
<i>a.</i>	adjective	<i>c.</i> (as 19th c.)	century	<i>Dis.</i>	diminutive
abbrev.	abbreviation (of)	<i>Cal.</i>	(in titles) <i>Calendar</i>	<i>Diss.</i>	(in titles) <i>Disease</i>
abl.	ablative	<i>Cambr.</i>	(in titles) <i>Cambridge</i>	D.O.S.T.	(in titles) <i>Dissertation</i>
<i>absol.</i>	absolute, -ly	<i>Canad.</i>	Canadian	Du.	<i>Dictionary of the Older</i>
<i>Abstr.</i>	(in titles) <i>Abstract</i> , -s	<i>Cat.</i>	Catalan		<i>Scottish Tongue</i>
acc.	accusative	<i>catachr.</i>	catachrestically		Dutch
<i>Acct.</i>	(in titles) <i>Account</i>	<i>Catal.</i>	(in titles) <i>Catalogue</i>	E.	East
A.D.	<i>Anno Domini</i>	<i>Celt.</i>	Celtic	<i>Eccl.</i>	(as label) in Ecclesiastical
ad. (in Etym.)	adaptation of	<i>Cent.</i>	(in titles) <i>Century</i> , <i>Central</i>		usage;
Add.	Addenda	<i>Cent. Dict.</i>	<i>Century Dictionary</i>	<i>Ecol.</i>	(in titles) <i>Ecclesiastical</i>
<i>adj.</i>	adjective	<i>Cf.</i> , <i>cf.</i>	<i>confer</i> , 'compare'	<i>Econ.</i>	in Ecology
<i>Adv.</i>	(in titles) <i>Advance</i> , -d, -s	<i>Ch.</i>	Church		(as label) in Economics;
<i>adv.</i>	adverb	<i>Chem.</i>	(as label) in Chemistry;		(in titles) <i>Economy</i> , -ics
advb.	adverbial, -ly		(in titles) <i>Chemistry</i> , -ical	ed.	edition
Advt.	advertisement	<i>Chr.</i>	(in titles) <i>Christian</i>	E.D.D.	<i>English Dialect Dictionary</i>
<i>Aeronaut.</i>	(as label) in Aeronautics;	<i>Chron.</i>	(in titles) <i>Chronicle</i>	<i>Edin.</i>	(in titles) <i>Edinburgh</i>
AF., AFr.	(in titles) <i>Aeronautic</i> , -al, -s	<i>Cinematol.</i>	(in titles) <i>Chronology</i> , -ical	<i>Educ.</i>	(as label) in Education;
Afr.	Anglo-French	<i>Cinematogr.</i>			(in titles) <i>Education</i> , -al
<i>Agric.</i>	Africa, -n	<i>Clin.</i>	in Cinematography	EE.	Early English
	(as label) in Agriculture;	<i>cl. L.</i>	(in titles) <i>Clinical</i>	e.g.	<i>exempli gratia</i> , 'for example'
	(in titles) <i>Agriculture</i> , -al	cogn. w.	classical Latin	<i>Electr.</i>	(as label) in Electricity;
Alb.	Albanian	<i>Col.</i>	cognate with	<i>Electron.</i>	(in titles) <i>Electricity</i> , -ical
<i>Amer.</i>	American	<i>Coll.</i>	(in titles) <i>Colonel</i> , <i>Colony</i>	<i>Elem.</i>	(in titles) <i>Electronic</i> , -s
Amer. Ind.	American Indian	<i>collect.</i>	(in titles) <i>Collection</i>	<i>ellipt.</i>	(in titles) <i>Element</i> , -ary
<i>Anat.</i>	(as label) in Anatomy;	<i>colloq.</i>	collective, -ly	<i>Embryol.</i>	elliptical, -ly
	(in titles) <i>Anatomy</i> , -ical	<i>comb.</i>	colloquial, -ly	e.midl.	in Embryology
<i>Anc.</i>	(in titles) <i>Ancient</i>	<i>Comb.</i>	combined, -ing	<i>Encycl.</i>	east midland (dialect)
Anglo-Ind.	Anglo-Indian	<i>Comm.</i>	Combinations	Eng.	(in titles) <i>Encyclopædia</i> , -ic
Anglo-Ir.	Anglo-Irish	<i>Communic.</i>	in Commercial usage	<i>Engin.</i>	England, English
Ann.	Annals	<i>comp.</i>	in Communications	<i>Ent.</i>	in Engineering
<i>Anthrop.</i>	(as label) in Anthropology;	<i>Compan.</i>	compound, composition	<i>Entomol.</i>	in Entomology
<i>Anthropol.</i>	(in titles) <i>Anthropology</i> , -ical	<i>compar.</i>	(in titles) <i>Companion</i>		(in titles) <i>Entomology</i> ,
<i>Antiq.</i>	(as label) in Antiquities;	<i>compl.</i>	comparative	erron.	-logical
	(in titles) <i>Antiquity</i>	<i>Compl.</i>	complement	esp.	erroneous, -ly
aphet.	aphetic, aphetized	<i>Conc.</i>	(in titles) <i>Complete</i>	<i>Ess.</i>	especially
app.	apparently	<i>Conch.</i>	(in titles) <i>Concise</i>	et al.	(in titles) <i>Essay</i> , -s
<i>Appl.</i>	(in titles) <i>Applied</i>	<i>concr.</i>	in Conchology	etc.	<i>et alii</i> , 'and others'
<i>Applic.</i>	(in titles) <i>Application</i> , -s	<i>Conf.</i>	concrete, -ly	<i>Ethnol.</i>	et cetera
appos.	appositive, -ly	<i>Congr.</i>	(in titles) <i>Conference</i>	etym.	in Ethnology
Arab.	Arabic	<i>conj.</i>	(in titles) <i>Congress</i>	<i>euphem.</i>	etymology
Aram.	Aramaic	<i>cons.</i>	conjunction	<i>Exam.</i>	euphemistically
<i>Arch.</i>	in Architecture	<i>const.</i>	consonant	exc.	(in titles) <i>Examination</i>
<i>arch.</i>	archaic	<i>contr.</i>	construction, construed with	<i>Exerc.</i>	except
<i>Archæol.</i>	in Archæology	<i>Contrib.</i>	contrast (with)	<i>Exper.</i>	(in titles) <i>Exercise</i> , -s
<i>Archit.</i>	(as label) in Architecture;	<i>Corr.</i>	(in titles) <i>Contribution</i>	<i>Explor.</i>	(in titles) <i>Experiment</i> , -al
	(in titles) <i>Architecture</i> , -al	<i>corresp.</i>	(in titles) <i>Correspondence</i>		(in titles) <i>Exploration</i> , -s
Arm.	Armenian	<i>Cotgr.</i>	corresponding (to)	f.	feminine
assoc.	association		R. Cotgrave, <i>Dictionarie of</i>	f. (in Etym.)	formed on
<i>Astr.</i>	in Astronomy		<i>the French and English</i>	f. (in subordinate	entries)
<i>Astrol.</i>	in Astrology	cpd.	<i>Tongues</i>		form of
<i>Astron.</i>	(in titles) <i>Astronomy</i> , -ical	<i>Crit.</i>	compound	F.	French
<i>Astronaut.</i>	(in titles) <i>Astronautic</i> , -s	<i>Cryst.</i>	(in titles) <i>Criticism</i> , <i>Critical</i>	<i>fem.</i> (rarely f.)	feminine
<i>attrib.</i>	attributive, -ly	<i>Cycl.</i>	in Crystallography	<i>fig.</i>	figurative, -ly
<i>Austral.</i>	Australian	<i>Cytol.</i>	(in titles) <i>Cyclopædia</i> , -ic	Finn.	Finnish
<i>Autobiogr.</i>	(in titles) <i>Autobiography</i> ,		(in titles) <i>Cytology</i> , -ical	fl.	<i>floruit</i> , 'flourished'
	-ical	Da.	Danish	<i>Found.</i>	(in titles) <i>Foundation</i> , -s
A.V.	Authorized Version	D.A.	<i>Dictionary of Americanisms</i>	Fr.	French
B.C.	Before Christ	D.A.E.	<i>Dictionary of American</i>	freq.	frequent, -ly
B.C.	(in titles) British Columbia		<i>English</i>	Fris.	Frisian
bef.	before	dat.	dative	<i>Fund.</i>	(in titles) <i>Fundamental</i> , -s
<i>Bibliogr.</i>	(as label) in Bibliography;	D.C.	District of Columbia	<i>Funk or</i>	
	(in titles) <i>Bibliography</i> , -ical	<i>Deb.</i>	(in titles) <i>Debate</i> , -s	<i>Funk's Stand.</i>	<i>Funk and Wagnalls</i>
<i>Biochem.</i>	(as label) in Biochemistry;	def.	definite, -ition	<i>Dict.</i>	<i>Standard Dictionary</i>
	(in titles) <i>Biochemistry</i> , -ical	dem.	demonstrative	G.	German
<i>Biol.</i>	(as label) in Biology;	deriv.	derivative, -ation	Gael.	Gaelic
	(in titles) <i>Biology</i> , -ical	derog.	derogatory	<i>Gaz.</i>	(in titles) <i>Gazette</i>
<i>Bk.</i>	<i>Book</i>	<i>Descr.</i>	(in titles) <i>Description</i> , -tive	gen.	genitive
<i>Bot.</i>	(as label) in Botany;	<i>Devel.</i>	(in titles) <i>Development</i> , -al	<i>gen.</i>	general, -ly
	(in titles) <i>Botany</i> , -ical	<i>Diagn.</i>	(in titles) <i>Diagnosis</i> ,	<i>Geogr.</i>	(as label) in Geography;
Bp.	Bishop		<i>Diagnostic</i>		(in titles) <i>Geography</i> , -ical
<i>Brit.</i>	(in titles) <i>Britain</i> , <i>British</i>	dial.	dialect, -al		
Bulg.	Bulgarian				

<i>Geol.</i>	(as label) in Geology; (in titles) <i>Geology</i> , -ical	masc. (<i>rarely</i> m.)	masculine	<i>Palæont.</i>	(as label) in Palæontology; (in titles) <i>Palæontology</i> , -ical
<i>Geom.</i>	in Geometry	<i>Math.</i>	(as label) in Mathematics; (in titles) <i>Mathematics</i> , -al	pa. pple.	passive participle, past participle
<i>Geomorphol.</i>	in Geomorphology	MDu.	Middle Dutch	(Partridge),	(quoted from) E. Partridge's <i>Dictionary of Slang and Unconventional English</i>
<i>Ger.</i>	German	ME.	Middle English	<i>pass.</i>	passive, -ly
<i>Gloss.</i>	Glossary	<i>Mech.</i>	(as label) in Mechanics; (in titles) <i>Mechanics</i> , -al	<i>pa.t.</i>	past tense
<i>Gmc.</i>	Germanic	<i>Med.</i>	(as label) in Medicine; (in titles) <i>Medicine</i> , -ical	<i>Path.</i>	(as label) in Pathology; (in titles) <i>Pathology</i> , -ical
<i>Godef.</i>	F. Godefroy, <i>Dictionnaire de l'ancienne langue française</i>	med.L.	medieval Latin	perh.	perhaps
<i>Goth.</i>	Gothic	<i>Mem.</i>	(in titles) <i>Memoir</i> , -s	Pers.	Persian
<i>Govt.</i>	(in titles) <i>Government</i>	<i>Metaph.</i>	in Metaphysics	<i>pers.</i>	person, -al
<i>Gr.</i>	Greek	<i>Meteorol.</i>	(as label) in Meteorology; (in titles) <i>Meteorology</i> , -ical	<i>Petrogr.</i>	in Petrography
<i>Gram.</i>	(as label) in Grammar; (in titles) <i>Grammar</i> , -tical	MHG.	Middle High German	<i>Petrol.</i>	(as label) in Petrology; (in titles) <i>Petrology</i> , -ical
<i>Gt.</i>	Great	midl.	midland (dialect)	(Pettman),	(quoted from) C. Pettman's <i>Africanderisms</i>
<i>Heb.</i>	Hebrew	<i>Mil.</i>	in military usage	pf.	perfect
<i>Her.</i>	in Heraldry	<i>Min.</i>	(as label) in Mineralogy; (in titles) <i>Ministry</i>	Pg.	Portuguese
<i>Herb.</i>	among herbalists	<i>Mineral.</i>	(in titles) <i>Mineralogy</i> , -ical	<i>Pharm.</i>	in Pharmacology
<i>Hind.</i>	Hindustani	MLG.	Middle Low German	<i>Philol.</i>	(as label) in Philology; (in titles) <i>Philology</i> , -ical
<i>Hist.</i>	(as label) in History; (in titles) <i>History</i> , -ical	<i>Misc.</i>	(in titles) <i>Miscellany</i> , -eous	<i>Philos.</i>	(as label) in Philosophy; (in titles) <i>Philosophy</i> , -ic
hist.	historical	mod.	modern	phonet.	phonetic, -ally
<i>Histol.</i>	(in titles) <i>Histology</i> , -ical	mod.L	modern Latin	<i>Photogr.</i>	(as label) in Photography; (in titles) <i>Photography</i> , -ical
<i>Hort.</i>	in Horticulture	(Morris),	(quoted from) E. E. Morris's <i>Austral English</i>	<i>phr.</i>	phrase
<i>Househ.</i>	(in titles) <i>Household</i>	<i>Mus.</i>	(as label) in Music; (in titles) <i>Music</i> , -al; <i>Museum</i>	<i>Phys.</i>	physical; (<i>rarely</i>) in Physiology
<i>Housek.</i>	(in titles) <i>Housekeeping</i>	<i>Myst.</i>	(in titles) <i>Mystery</i>	<i>Physiol.</i>	(as label) in Physiology; (in titles) <i>Physiology</i> , -ical
<i>Ibid.</i>	<i>Ibidem</i> , 'in the same book or passage'	<i>Mythol.</i>	in Mythology	<i>Pict.</i>	(in titles) <i>Picture</i> , <i>Pictorial</i>
<i>Icel.</i>	Icelandic	N.	North	pl., plur.	plural
<i>Ichthyol.</i>	in Ichthyology	n.	neuter	<i>poet.</i>	poetic, -al
<i>id.</i>	<i>idem</i> , 'the same'	<i>N. Amer.</i>	North America, -n	Pol.	Polish
i.e.	<i>id est</i> , 'that is'	<i>N. & Q.</i>	<i>Notes and Queries</i>	<i>Pol.</i>	(as label) in Politics; (in titles) <i>Politics</i> , -al
IE.	Indo-European	<i>Narr.</i>	(in titles) <i>Narrative</i>	<i>Pol. Econ.</i>	in Political Economy
<i>Illustr.</i>	(in titles) <i>Illustration</i> , -ted	<i>Nat.</i>	(in titles) <i>Natural</i>	<i>Polit.</i>	(in titles) <i>Politics</i> , -al
imit.	imitative	<i>Nat. Hist.</i>	in Natural History	pop.	popular, -ly
<i>Immunol.</i>	in Immunology	<i>Naut.</i>	in nautical language	<i>Porc.</i>	(in titles) <i>Porcelain</i>
imp.	imperative	N.E.	North East	poss.	possessive
<i>impers.</i>	impersonal	<i>N.E.D.</i>	<i>New English Dictionary</i> , original title of the <i>Oxford English Dictionary</i> (first edition)	<i>Pott.</i>	(in titles) <i>Pottery</i>
impf.	imperfect	<i>Neurol.</i>	in Neurology	<i>ppl. a., pple. adj.</i>	participial adjective
ind.	indicative	neut. (<i>rarely</i> n.)	neuter	pple.	participle
indef.	indefinite	NF., NFr.	Northern French	Pr.	Provençal
<i>Industr.</i>	(in titles) <i>Industry</i> , -ial	No.	Number	pr.	present
inf.	infinitive	nom.	nominative	<i>Pract.</i>	(in titles) <i>Practice</i> , -al
infl.	influenced	north.	northern (dialect)	prec.	preceding (word or article)
<i>Inorg.</i>	(in titles) <i>Inorganic</i>	Norw.	Norwegian	<i>pred.</i>	predicative
<i>Ins.</i>	(in titles) <i>Insurance</i>	n.q.	no quotations	<i>pref.</i>	prefix
<i>Inst.</i>	(in titles) <i>Institute</i> , -tion	N.T.	New Testament	pref., Pref.	preface
<i>int.</i>	interjection	<i>Nucl.</i>	Nuclear	<i>prep.</i>	preposition
<i>intr.</i>	intransitive	<i>Numism.</i>	in Numismatics	<i>pres.</i>	present
<i>Introd.</i>	(in titles) <i>Introduction</i>	N.W.	North West	<i>Princ.</i>	(in titles) <i>Principle</i> , -s
Ir.	Irish	N.Z.	New Zealand	priv.	privative
irreg.	irregular, -ly	obj.	object	prob.	probably
It.	Italian	obl.	oblique	<i>Probl.</i>	(in titles) <i>Problem</i>
J., (J.)	(quoted from) Johnson's <i>Dictionary</i>	<i>Obs., obs.</i>	obsolete	<i>Proc.</i>	(in titles) <i>Proceedings</i>
(Jam.)	Jamieson, <i>Scottish Dict.</i>	<i>Obstetr.</i>	(in titles) <i>Obstetrics</i>	<i>pron.</i>	pronoun
Jap.	Japanese	occas.	occasionally	pronunc.	pronunciation
joc.	jocular, -ly	OE.	Old English (= Anglo-Saxon)	prop.	properly
<i>Jrnl.</i>	(in titles) <i>Journal</i>	OF., OFr.	Old French	<i>Pros.</i>	in Prosody
<i>Jun.</i>	(in titles) <i>Junior</i>	OFris.	Old Frisian	Prov.	Provençal
<i>Knowl.</i>	(in titles) <i>Knowledge</i>	OHG.	Old High German	pr. pple.	present participle
l.	line	OIr.	Old Irish	<i>Psych.</i>	in Psychology
L.	Latin	ON.	Old Norse	<i>Psychol.</i>	(as label) in Psychology; (in titles) <i>Psychology</i> , -ical
lang.	language	ONF.	Old Northern French	<i>Publ.</i>	(in titles) <i>Publications</i>
<i>Lect.</i>	(in titles) <i>Lecture</i> , -s	<i>Ophthalm.</i>	in Ophthalmology	Q.	(in titles) <i>Quarterly</i>
<i>Less.</i>	(in titles) <i>Lesson</i> , -s	opp.	opposed (to), the opposite (of)	quot(s).	quotation(s)
<i>Let., Lett.</i>	letter, letters	<i>Opt.</i>	in Optics	q.v.	<i>quod vide</i> , 'which see'
L.G.	Low German	<i>Org.</i>	(in titles) <i>Organic</i>	R.	(in titles) <i>Royal</i>
lit.	literal, -ly	orig.	origin, -al, -ally	<i>Radiol.</i>	in Radiology
<i>Lit.</i>	Literary	<i>Ornith.</i>	(as label) in Ornithology; (in titles) <i>Ornithology</i> , -ical	R.C.Ch.	Roman Catholic Church
Lith.	Lithuanian	OS.	Old Saxon	<i>Rec.</i>	(in titles) <i>Record</i>
LXX	Septuagint	OSl.	Old (Church) Slavonic	redupl.	reduplicating
m.	masculine	O.T.	Old Testament	<i>Ref.</i>	(in titles) <i>Reference</i>
<i>Mag.</i>	(in titles) <i>Magazine</i>	<i>Outl.</i>	(in titles) <i>Outline</i>	refash.	refashioned, -ing
<i>Magn.</i>	(in titles) <i>Magnetic</i> , -ism	<i>Oxf.</i>	(in titles) <i>Oxford</i>	refl.	reflexive
Mal.	Malay, Malayan	p.	page	<i>Reg.</i>	(in titles) <i>Register</i>
<i>Man.</i>	(in titles) <i>Manual</i>	<i>Palæogr.</i>	in Palæography		
<i>Managem.</i>	(in titles) <i>Management</i>				
<i>Manch.</i>	(in titles) <i>Manchester</i>				
<i>Manuf.</i>	in Manufacture, -ing				
<i>Mar.</i>	(in titles) <i>Marine</i>				

reg.	regular	str.	strong	<i>Trop.</i>	(in titles) <i>Tropical</i>
rel.	related to	<i>Struct.</i>	(in titles) <i>Structure, -al</i>	Turk.	Turkish
<i>Reminisc.</i>	(in titles) <i>Reminiscence, -s</i>	<i>Stud.</i>	(in titles) <i>Studies</i>	<i>Typog., Typogr.</i>	in Typography
<i>Rep.</i>	(in titles) <i>Report, -s</i>	subj.	subject		
repr.	representative, representing	<i>subord. cl.</i>	subordinate clause	ult.	ultimately
<i>Res.</i>	(in titles) <i>Research</i>	subseq.	subsequent, -ly	<i>Univ.</i>	(in titles) <i>University</i>
<i>Rev.</i>	(in titles) <i>Review</i>	subst.	substantively	unkn.	unknown
rev.	revised	<i>suff.</i>	suffix	<i>U.S.</i>	United States
<i>Rhet.</i>	in Rhetoric	superl.	superlative	<i>U.S.S.R.</i>	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
Rom.	Roman, -ce, -ic	Suppl.	Supplement		
Rum.	Rumanian	<i>Surg.</i>	(as label) in Surgery; (in titles) <i>Surgery, Surgical</i>	usu.	usually
Russ.	Russian		<i>sub voce</i> , 'under the word'	<i>v., vb.</i>	verb
		s.v.		var(r)., vars.	variant(s) of
S.	South	Sw.	Swedish	<i>vbl. sb.</i>	verbal substantive
<i>S.Afr.</i>	South Africa, -n	s.w.	south-western (dialect)	<i>Vertebr.</i>	(in titles) <i>Vertebrate, -s</i>
<i>sb.</i>	substantive	<i>Syd. Soc. Lex.</i>	Sydenham Society, <i>Lexicon of Medicine & Allied Sciences</i>	<i>Vet.</i>	(as label) in Veterinary Science; (in titles) <i>Veterinary</i>
<i>sc.</i>	<i>scilicet</i> , 'understand' or 'supply'			<i>Vet. Sci.</i>	in Veterinary Science
<i>Sc., Scot.</i>	Scottish	syll.	syllable	viz.	<i>videlicet</i> , 'namely'
<i>Scand.</i>	(in titles) <i>Scandinavia, -n</i>	Syr.	Syrian	<i>Voy.</i>	(in titles) <i>Voyage, -s</i>
<i>Sch.</i>	(in titles) <i>School</i>	<i>Syst.</i>	(in titles) <i>System, -atic</i>	<i>v.str.</i>	strong verb
<i>Sc. Nat. Dict.</i>	<i>Scottish National Dictionary</i>			<i>vulg.</i>	vulgar
<i>Scotl.</i>	(in titles) <i>Scotland</i>	<i>Taxon.</i>	(in titles) <i>Taxonomy, -ical</i>	<i>v.w.</i>	weak verb
<i>Sel.</i>	(in titles) <i>Selection, -s</i>	<i>techn.</i>	technical, -ly		
Ser.	Series	<i>Technol.</i>	(in titles) <i>Technology, -ical</i>	W.	Welsh; West
sing.	singular	<i>Telegr.</i>	in Telegraphy	wd.	word
<i>Sk.</i>	(in titles) <i>Sketch</i>	<i>Teleph.</i>	in Telephony	Webster	<i>Webster's (New International) Dictionary</i>
Skr.	Sanskrit	(Th.),	(quoted from) Thornton's <i>American Glossary</i>	<i>Westm.</i>	(in titles) <i>Westminster</i>
Slav.	Slavonic	<i>Theatr.</i>	in the Theatre, theatrical	WGmc.	West Germanic
S.N.D.	<i>Scottish National Dictionary</i>	<i>Theol.</i>	(as label) in Theology; (in titles) <i>Theology, -ical</i>	<i>Wks.</i>	(in titles) <i>Works</i>
<i>Soc.</i>	(in titles) <i>Society</i>	<i>Theoret.</i>	(in titles) <i>Theoretical</i>	w.midl.	west midland (dialect)
<i>Sociol.</i>	(as label) in Sociology; (in titles) <i>Sociology, -ical</i>	Tokh.	Tokharian	WS.	West Saxon
Sp.	Spanish	tr., transl.	translated, translation		
<i>Sp.</i>	(in titles) <i>Speech, -es</i>	<i>Trans.</i>	(in titles) <i>Transactions</i>	(Y.),	(quoted from) Yule & Burnell's <i>Hobson-Jobson</i>
sp.	spelling	<i>trans.</i>	transitive	<i>Yrs.</i>	(in titles) <i>Years</i>
<i>spec.</i>	specifically	<i>transf.</i>	transferred sense		
<i>Spec.</i>	(in titles) <i>Specimen</i>	<i>Trav.</i>	(in titles) <i>Travel(s)</i>	<i>Zoogeogr.</i>	in Zoogeography
St.	Saint	<i>Treas.</i>	(in titles) <i>Treasury</i>	<i>Zool.</i>	(as label) in Zoology; (in titles) <i>Zoology, -ical</i>
<i>Stand.</i>	(in titles) <i>Standard</i>	<i>Treat.</i>	(in titles) <i>Treatise</i>		
<i>Stanf.</i>	(quoted from) <i>Stanford Dictionary of Anglicised Words & Phrases</i>	<i>Treatm.</i>	(in titles) <i>Treatment</i>		
		<i>Trig.</i>	in Trigonometry		

Signs and Other Conventions

Before a word or sense

- † = obsolete
- || = not naturalized, alien
- ¶ = catachrestic and erroneous uses

In the listing of Forms

- 1 = before 1100
- 2 = 12th c. (1100 to 1200)
- 3 = 13th c. (1200 to 1300), etc.
- 5-7 = 15th to 17th century
- 20 = 20th century

In the etymologies

- * indicates a word or form not actually found, but of which the existence is inferred
- :- = normal development of

The printing of a word in SMALL CAPITALS indicates that further information will be found under the word so referred to.

.. indicates an omitted part of a quotation.

- (in a quotation) indicates a hyphen doubtfully present in the original; (in other text) indicates a hyphen inserted only for the sake of a line-break.

PROPRIETARY NAMES

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wave (weɪv), *sb.* (Also 6 whave, 8 weave.) [f. WAVE *v.*]

In sense 1, which appears early in the 16th c., it seems to have been substituted by popular etymology for the older *waw sb.*, which it rapidly superseded in use. In branch II it is a new formation on the verb.]

I. 1. a. A movement in the sea or other collection of water, by which a portion of the water rises above the normal level and then subsides, at the same time travelling a greater or smaller distance over the surface; a moving ridge or swell of water between two depressions or 'troughs'; one of the long ridges or rollers which, in the shallower parts of the sea, follow each other at regular intervals, assuming an arched form, and successively break on the shore. Sometimes the word is applied to the ridge and the accompanying trough taken together, and occasionally to the concave curve of the surface between the crest of one ridge and that of the next.

1526 TINDALE *Jas.* i. 6 For he that douteth is lyke the waues [1539 *Cranmer*, 1557 *Geneva*, 1611 *Authorized*, a wave; 1535 *Coverdale*, the waves] of the see. **1530** PALSGR. 287/1 Wave of the see, *uague*. **1551** ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* II. i. (1895) 116 A large and wyde sea, which... is not rough nor mounth not with great waues. **1565** STAPLETON tr. *Bede's Hist. Ch. Eng.* 91 The tempest encreased, the whaues multiplied so faste... that nothing but present death was looked for. **1585** HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 400/1 *Vnda sequax*,... wave vpon waue; ore waue following vpon anothers necke. **1593** SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, II. vi. 36 As doth a Saile, fill'd with a fretting Gust Command an Argosie to stemme the Waues. **1603** HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 255 As in a settled calme, without winde, weather and wave. **1671** MILTON *P.R.* iv. 18 As... surging waves against a solid rock, Though all to shivers dash't, the assault renew. **1697** DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* iv. 767 Proteus... in the Billows plung'd his hoary Head; And where he leapt'd, the Waves in Circles widely spread. **1781** COWPER *Expost.* 272 What ails thee, restless as the waves that roar, And fling their foam against thy chalky shore? **1810** SCOTT *Lady of L.* vi. xviii. Like wave with crest of sparkling foam, Right onward did Clan-Alpine come. **1855** TENNYSON *Maud* i. xviii. 8 Is that enchanted moan only the swell Of the long waves that roll in yonder bay? **1860** — *Islet* 16 Waves on a diamond shingle dash. **1877** W. H. WHITE *Naval Archit.* xi. 443 The main bow wave may also be followed by a train of waves, successive waves in a series having diminished heights. **1877** HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 171 It is merely the form of the wave, and not the actual water that travels.

b. = *tidal or tide wave*: see TIDAL 1 b, TIDE 16 b.

1812-16 PLAYFAIR *Nat. Phil.* I. 329 The great Wave which, in this manner, constitutes the tide, is to be considered as an undulation... of the ocean, in which [etc.].

c. *Poet.* Used in collective sing. for 'water', 'sea'. The plural is also similarly used (*poet.* and *rhetorically*), but without quite losing the primary meaning.

1588 SHAKS. *L.L.L.* v. i. 61 Now by the salt waue of the mediteranium, a sweet tutch. **1590** SPENSER *F.Q.* II. vii. 57 He... looking downe, saw many damned wights, In those sad waues [of Cocytus]. **1616** CHAPMAN tr. *Museus* F. I. Virgin, for thy Loue, I will swim a waue That Ships denies. **1667** MILTON *P.L.* I. 193 Thus Satan talking to his nearest Mate With Head up-lift above the wave. **1742** GRAY *Eton* 26 Say, Father Thames,... Who foremost now delight to cleave With pliant arm thy glassy wave? **1784** COWPER *Tash* v. 835 When he sees afar His country's weather-bleach'd and batter'd rocks, From the green wave emerging. **1820** BYRON *Mar. Fal.* II. i. The calm wave Favours the gondolier's light skimming oar. **1825** SCOTT *Talism.* i. Where the waves of the Jordan pour themselves into an inland sea. **1844** HOOD *Bridge of Sighs* 11 Whilst the wave constantly Drips from her clothing. **1860** PATMORE *Faithf. for Ever* I. viii. Perhaps... They wander whispering by the wave. **1864** TENNYSON *Voy.* v. We came to warmer waves, and deep Across the boundless east we drove.

2. transf. **a.** An undulatory movement, or one of an intermittent series of movements, of something passing over or on a surface or through the air.

1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* I. xi. The western waves of ebbing day Roll'd o'er the glen their level way. **1827** KEBLE *Chr. Y.*, *Christm. Day*, In waves of light it thrills along. **1833** TENNYSON *Dream Fair Wom.* xlviii. The holy organ rolling waves Of sound on roof and floor. **1850** — *In Mem.* xci. The thousand waves of wheat, That ripple round the lonely grange. **1899** ALLBUTT's *Syst. Med.* VIII. 86 Thus... there are the waves of goose-skin passing over the body. **1903** K. C. THURSTON *Circle* iii. 23 It was like a wave of sun through a chill room.

b. = *pulse-wave*: see PULSE *sb.* 1 6.

1838 PENNY *Cycl.* XII. 81/1 The dilatation of the arteries produced by the wave which is propagated along the column of blood contained in them. **1850** TENNYSON *In Mem.* cxxii. Till all my blood, a fuller wave, Be quicken'd with a livelier breath.

c. A forward movement of a large body of persons (chiefly invaders or immigrants overrunning a country, or soldiers advancing to an attack), or of military vehicles or aircraft, which either recedes and returns after an interval, or is followed after a time by another body repeating the same movement.

1852 T. WRIGHT *Celt, Roman & Saxon* I. 1 Europe was peopled by several successive migrations, or, as they have been technically named, waves of population, all flowing from one point in the east. **1862** STANLEY *Jew. Ch.* (1877) I. ix. 176 The Israelite conquest of Palestine... is in itself but one amongst a succession of waves which have swept over the country. **1875** STUBBS *Const. Hist.* I. ii. 16 The populations... which... were still affected by the great

migratory wave. **1879** GREEN *Readings fr. Eng. Hist.* xix. 98 Turned back wave after wave of the enemy. **1893** O. M. EDWARDS in Traill *Soc. Eng.* i. 1 The first wave of immigrants that reached Britain... was a wave of men of short stature and swarthy countenance. **1915** *Times* 3 Feb. 9/1 They send forward wave after wave of men, regardless of the punishment. **1943** R. V. JONES *Most Secret War* (1978) xli. 382 Longer raids will always be liable to attacks on their last waves whenever fighters can fly. **1951** O. BERTHOUD tr. *Clostermann's Big. Show* 1. 38 The airfield at Triqueville... was going to be bombed in force by two waves of 72 Marauders. **1982** *Daily Tel.* 12 Oct. 17/8 The fly past will take place in two waves—a slow one consisting of five formations of helicopters..., then the fixed-wing aircraft, again in five formations.

d. A long convex strip of land between two long broad hollows; one of a series of such strips; also occas. a rounded ridge of sand or snow formed by the action of the wind.

1788 A. YOUNG in *J. Baxter's Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) II. p. viii, The Downs are... nearly flat, or only in gentle waves at the top. **1789** J. WILLIAMS *Min. Kingd.* I. 108 The variation of the dip and rise there generally consists of gentle easy swelling waves. **1796** W. H. MARSHALL *W. Eng.* II. 212 A fine Vale District: rich waves of grass land. **1819** S. ROGERS *Human Life* 682 A hollow wave Of burning sand their everlasting grave. **1886** RUSKIN *Præterita* I. viii. 248 The field fences buried under crested waves of snow. **1887** RIDER HAGGARD *Allan Quaterm.* xx. The crest of a great green wave of land, that rolled down a gentle slope to the banks of a little stream.

e. A wave-like effect produced in a grandstand or stadium by successive sections of the crowd of spectators standing up, raising their arms, and sitting down again. *Usu.* as *human, Mexican, or Mexico wave*. *orig. U.S.*

This form of crowd participation was publicized through its popularity among spectators at the World Cup football competition held in Mexico City in 1986.

1984 *N.Y. Times* 6 Oct. 1. 21/1 This undulating human wave... apparently became popular at University of Washington football games a few years ago. **1986** *Financial Times* 2 June 1/8 The huge Azteca amphitheatre was roaring and rolling, as the crowd performed the jump-up-and-down body 'wave'. **1986** *Times* 21 June 40/2 As if India were not already finding batting hard enough, the crowd started during this final session to behave as they have seen others doing in Mexico, and performing what is apparently called the 'human wave'. **1986** *Today* 29 June, 100,000 fans had turned up at the Aztec stadium and performed the wave for two hours... on a day when there was no match. **1986** *Sunday Times* (Colour Suppl.) 27 July 27/3 There was the uncertainty among us media people about whether to stand when the congregation did. Half of us would rise, a third sit confusedly down again, then a fifth struggle to their feet. The Queen must have thought we were trying out a Mexico Wave. **1986** *Guardian* 18 Aug. 23/2 An occasion and result that satisfied the partisan bulk of the 88,000 crowd. We even saw a passable Mexican Wave.

3. fig. and in figurative context. **a.** chiefly *pl.*, rough, stormy, or fluctuating conditions (of life, care, passion, etc.).

a **1548** HALL *Chron.*, 14 *Hen. VII* (1550) 49 One fierce & strong waue... swallowed both their luyes not long asonder. **1563** B. GOOGE *Eglogs* iv. 93 A Creature, cause of all my Care,... A woman Waue of Wretchednes. **1590** SPENSER *F.Q.* I. x. 34 That he should neuer fall In his wayes through this wide worldes waue. *Ibid.* III. viii. 20 That eruell Queene... Did heape on her new waues of weary wretchednesse. **1606** S. GARDINER *Bk. Angling* 12 Waues of tribulation, tempests of tentations. **1781** COWPER *Truth* I Man, on the dubious waves of error toss'd, His ship half founder'd, and his compass lost. **1846** MRS. A. MARSH *Father Darcy* II. iii. 75 Alas! was there no one... to bid the waves of passion be still? **1847** TENNYSON *Princess* III. 224 And thus your pains May only make that footprint upon sand Which oft-recurring waves of prejudice Resmooth to nothing. **1856** GEO. ELIOT *Scenes Cler. Life, Amos Barton* v. An unfecundated egg, which the waves of time wash away into nonentity.

b. chiefly *sing.* A swelling, onward movement and subsidence (of feeling, thought, opinion, a custom, condition, etc.); a movement (of common sentiment, opinion, excitement) sweeping over a community, and not easily resisted. Also, a sharp increase in the extent or degree of some phenomenon; cf. *crime wave* s.v. CRIME *sb.* 4.

1851 G. BRIMLEY *Ess.* (1858) 112 Its last vestiges were fast disappearing before the wave of democratic equality. **1855** BAIN *Senses & Int.* II. iv. §18 (1864) 285 All the muscles of the body may be thrown into agitation under a wave of strong feeling. **1859** DICKENS etc. *Haunted Ho.* II. 10/1 What floods of thought came, wave upon wave, across my mind! **1870** DK. ARGYLL *Iona* i. 29 Certain waves of opinion which at successive periods were propelled from the ancient centres of Christendom. **1903** MYERS *Hum. Personal.* 7 The highest wave of materialism which has ever swept over these shores. **1910** *Sat. Even. Post* 29 Oct. 46/2 A good many 'waves of crime' occur in the imagination of newspapers. **1915** *Contemp. Rev.* May 615 A wave of militarism sweeps through the nation. **1920** *Times* 21 Jan. 12/1 The probability of a 'wave' of crime after the war has been foreseen and foretold by students of social problems. **1927** *New Republic* 21 Sept. 109/2 The Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, commenting on the alleged suicide wave among young people, reports... that the suicide rate for the population as a whole is decreasing. **1958** W. S. CHURCHILL *Eng. Hist. Speaking Peoples* IV. x. i. 10 Throughout the country a fresh wave of demonstrations followed. **1971** *Daily Tel.* 13 Apr. 6 The pace of dismissals is accelerating as companies strive to restore profits after the massive wave of inflation in costs and wages.

c. *the wave of the future*: the inevitable future fashion or trend; the coming thing.

1940 A. M. LINDBERGH (*title*) The wave of the future, a confession of faith. **1959** *Daily Tel.* 8 July 10/3 Mr. Khrushchev, in the eyes of these critics, feels that he is riding the 'wave of the future'. **1969** M. PUZO *Godfather* I. xi. 150 The business I am in is the coming thing, the wave of the future. **1971** *Sci. Amer.* Sept. 5/2 (Advt.), Fan jets are the wave of the future. You'll find them on all the 747's. **1976** L. BERNSTEIN *Unanswered Question* v. 266 They were all, including Mahler, swept along by the mighty 'wave of the future' that Wagner, in his hyper-romantic egomania, had predicted and initiated.

d. *Phr. to make waves*: to stir up trouble, make things worse, make a fuss. *orig.* and chiefly *U.S.*

In quot. 1925 used in the literal sense.

[1925 'KIMBO' *Tropical Tales* 10 Back at the foul stinking bog Potts heard himself hailed by the well-known voice of his late father. 'Hello, sonny,... slip in gently,... for the Lord's sake don't make any waves.'] **1962** A. LURIE *Love & Friendship* xiv. 277, I think it will be best if she tells him herself... After I've left. We don't want to make waves. **1972** *Publishers' Weekly* 10 Apr. 58/2 Dr. Wilkins... had just been fired from Willowbrook for allegedly making waves about conditions. **1983** *Times* 19 Feb. 11/5 He is... a solid dependable Scotsman who runs a company at a profit in an orderly fashion and doesn't make waves.

4. a. An undulating conformation; each of the undulations of such a conformation; *spec.* one in the hair; also, a set that leaves the hair in waves.

1547 in Feuillerat *Revels Edm.* VI (1914) 9 Clothe of Syluer in waues. **1547** *Ibid.* 12 The nether skyrtes or Basse of blewie clothe of golde playne leyd on with waves of clothe of Syluer. **1664** EVELYN *Sylva* xxx. 95 That [is] the Grain which runs in waves, and makes the divers and beautiful chamfers which some woods abound in. **1667** MILTON *P.L.* ix. 496 [The Serpent] toward Eve Addres'd his way, not with indented wave, Prone on the ground, as since, but on his reare. **1678** MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* vi. 104 It hath its under flat cut into those fashioned waves you intend your work shall have. **1702** PETIVER *Gazophyl.* I. v. *Concha Veneris*... [is] easily distinguish'd from all others, by its peculiar Waves and spotted Belly. **1721** W. GIBSON *Diet. Horses* i. 13 The Mane... is always the more graceful with a natural Weave from the Roots. **1795** SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* x. (1853) 126 The pennons rolling their long waves Before the gale. **1864** DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* (1865) I. i. iv. 31 Bella... employed both her hands in giving her hair an additional wave. **1866** MRS. WHITNEY *Leslie Goldthwaite* iv, Freedom's northern wind will take all the wave out of your hair. **1884** R. F. BURTON *Bk. Sword* vii. 137 Often the waves [of sabre-blades] are broken into saw-teeth. **1895** M. HEWLETT *Earthwork Tuscany* 75 A bush of yellow hair falling over his forehead in a wave. **1895**, etc. [see MARCEL *sb.*]. **1922** JOYCE *Ulysses* 343 Gerty's crowning glory was her wealth of wonderful hair. It was dark brown with a natural wave in it. **1925** F. SCOTT FITZGERALD *Great Gatsby* ii. 44 All the things I've got to get. A massage and a wave, and a collar for the dog. **1938** E. AMBLER *Cause for Alarm* v. 79 Prolonged steaming operations take the wave out of my hair. **1959** *Chambers's Encycl.* VI. 691/2 There are three main denominations of heat waving: the 'machine wave'... the 'machineless' wave... and the 'wireless' wave. **1973** [see KIRBY-GRIP].

b. An undulating line or streak of colour.

1662 MERRETT tr. *Neri's Art of Glass* xlii, It will shew some waves, and divers colours. **1704** NEWTON *Optics* I. (1721) 34 If the Glass of the Prisms be... without those numberless Waves, or Curles which usually arise from Sand-holes. **1856** R. KNOX tr. *Edwards' Man. Zool.* §414 It [the cat] is of a brown colour, somewhat greyish, with deeper coloured transverse waves. **1891** *Hardwicke's Sci.-Gossip* XXVII. 15 The waves written by the syphon above the central line corresponding to the dots of the Morse Code.

c. *Arch.* An undulated moulding; a cyma or ogee moulding.

1663 GERBIER *Counsel* 70 The wave with Lace under it at one penny per foot. *Ibid.* 71 The upper Wave cut with Leaves at six pence per foot. **1825** RICKMAN *Archit.* (ed. 3) 46 These mouldings are generally much ornamented, and the wave or zigzag ornament... is almost universal.

d. A wavy or zigzag pattern; something made in this pattern: see *quots.*

1845 G. DODD *Brit. Manuf.* Ser. v. 176 There are several descriptions of [straw-] plait made in England—such as... the 'wave', the 'diamond', &c. **1888** C. P. BROWN *Cotton Manuf.* 168 *Waves*, zigzag twill pattern.

5. Modern scientific uses.

a. *Physics.* Each of those rhythmic alternations of disturbance and recovery of configuration in successively contiguous portions of a fluid or solid mass, by which a state of motion travels in some direction without corresponding progressive movement of the particles successively affected. Examples are the waves in the surface of water (sense 1), the waves of the air which convey sound, and the (hypothetical) waves of the ether which are concerned in the transmission of light, heat, and electricity.

Hertzian waves: radio waves (discovered by the German physicist Heinrich Hertz in 1888).

1832 BREWSTER *Nat. Magic* viii. (1833) 195 They will produce each equal waves of sound. **1833** [see *wave-surface*, -*theory*]. **1839** G. BIRD *Nat. Philos.* 292 The waves of light, like those of sound, are transmitted in every direction. **1846** GREENER *Sci. Gunnery* 50 It is necessary so to prolong the explosion, that the wave of vibration has time to travel throughout the whole of the mass acted upon. **1860** TYNDALL *Glac.* II. i. 227 An aerial wave of sound travels at about the rate of 1100 feet in a second. **1863** — *Heat* viii. 257 The condensation and rarefaction [of the air] constitute what is called a sonorous pulse or wave. **1889** ROWLAND in *Amer. Jnrl. Math.* XI. 378 Starting with very good conductors and very long waves, the electric current will be uniformly distributed throughout the section of the conductors. **1902** KIPLING *Wireless in Scribner's Mag.* Aug. 136/2 Hertzian waves which vibrate, say, two hundred and

thirty million times a second. 1920 *Discovery* Apr. 115/2 These wireless waves are often called Hertztian waves.

b. *Meteorol.* A change of atmospheric pressure or temperature, consisting of gradual rise and fall or fall and rise, taking place successively at successive points in some particular line of direction on the earth's surface. In popular language, a 'heatwave' or a 'cold wave' denotes a spell of abnormal heat or cold, which is assumed to be travelling over the country in a particular direction.

1843 SIR J. F. W. HERSCHEL in *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* 61 If this minimum represent... the trough of a barometric wave which at 3 A.M. was vertically over Brussels, and at 11 A.M. over London, the wave must have been travelling westwards. 1846 W. R. BIRT in *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* 1. 147 Now a wave generated in any way and approaching the continent of Europe from the north-west would most probably impinge on it with a high... crest... Again a negative wave, with a deep trough... would present large fluctuations as it impinged on the land. 1901 *Scotsman* 4 Oct. 5/1 When a cold wave strikes Northern Minnesota, there is no knowing where the thermometer may go.

c. *Seismol.* A seismic disturbance of a portion of the crust or surface of the earth, travelling continuously for a certain distance.

1760 *Phil. Trans. R. Soc. LI.* 601 A large quantity of vapour may be conceived to raise the earth in a wave, as it passes along between the strata. 1848 *Trans. R. Irish Acad.* XXI. 58 The only motion that will fulfil these conditions, is the transit of a wave of elastic compression, or of a succession of these... through the solid substance and surface of the disturbed country. 1862 R. MALLETT *First Princ. Observ. Seismol.* I. iv. 33 If an isolated wall... be subjected to the transit of an earth wave... the resulting fractures will vary with the direction of the wave-path. 1877 F. W. RUDLER *Earthquake in Encycl. Brit.* VII. 609/2 From the seismic centre waves are propagated in all directions through the solid materials of the earth's crust. 1886 J. MILNE *Earthquakes* iii. 55 Hitherto we have chiefly considered earthquake vibrations; now we will say a few words about earthquake waves.

d. *Phys.* *wave of contraction*, the onward contraction of a muscle from the point where the stimulus is applied. *wave of stimulation*, the (hypothetical) impulse of molecular vibration travelling along a nerve from the point at which it is stimulated.

1851 CARPENTER *Man. Phys.* (ed. 2) 214 Successive contractions and relaxations may be produced... by a single prick with a scalpel; a sort of wave of contraction being transmitted in the direction of its length. 1885 ROMANES *Jelly Fish* etc. i. 25 A stimulus applied to a nerveless muscle... giving rise to a visible wave of contraction, which spreads in all directions. *Ibid.*, I shall always speak of muscle-fibres as conveying a visible wave of contraction, and of nerve-fibres as conveying an invisible, or molecular, wave of stimulation.

e. *Physics.* A de Broglie wave (see DE BROGLIE).

1924 L. DE BROGLIE in *Phil. Mag.* XLVII. 450 We are then inclined to admit that any moving body may be accompanied by a wave and that it is impossible to disjoin motion of body and propagation of wave. 1930, etc. [see *matter wave* s.v. MATTER sb. 1. 26]. 1942, 1956 [see *probability wave* s.v. PROBABILITY 4]. 1978 D. A. DAVIES *Waves, Atoms & Solids* i. 21 In order to represent the electron by a wave, or group of waves, we require to be able to state whether the wave will show dispersion.

6. A book-name of certain geometrid moths. 1819 SAMUELLE *Entomol. Compend.* 423 Geometra inornata. The plain Wave. 1832 J. RENNIE *Consp. Butterfl. & Moths* 139 The Small White Wave (*Emmelesia candidata*, Stephens). *Ibid.* 140 The Small Fan-footed Wave (*Ptychopoda dilutaria*, Stephens). *Ibid.* 141 The Dwarf Cream Wave (*Acidalia osseata*, Stephens). *Ibid.* 143 The Subangled Wave (*Timandra variegata*, Stephens). 1882 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* VI. 67 The *Acidaliæ* or 'Waves,' comprise a large number of small species.

II. An act of waving.

7. A motion to and fro of the hand or of something held in the hand, used as a signal or as an expressive sign.

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xix. (Roxb.) 155/2 Termes used about the displaying or flourishing of an ensigne... A Wave, or plaine wave, is A Turne or flourish. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xv. And so, with many waves of the hand, and cheering nods... they parted company. 1854 SURTEES *Handley Cr.* i. (1901) 1. 8 With a wave of his hat [he] brought the pack forward. 1883 D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* iii. (1885) 20 With a charming smile and a reassuring wave of the right hand. 1898 KIPLING *Fleet in Being* i. 4 The man-of-war... must also be ready to drop three or four knots at the wave of a flag.

8. A swaying to and fro.

1648 HERRICK *Hesper.*, *Delight in Disorder* 9 A winning wave (deserving Note) In the tempestuous petticoat. 1825 SCOTT *Talism.* x. The point at which he had seen the last slight wave of the Templar's mantle. 1849 M. ARNOLD *Obermann* xlii. Where with clear-rustling wave The scented pines of Switzerland Stand dark round thy green grave.

III. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

9. a. simple *attrib.*, as *wave-beat*, *-crest*, *energy*, *-head*, *-noise*, *-ridge*, *-top*, *-vail*, *-water*; (sense 2d) *wave-region*; (sense 5a) *wave-problem*, *-transmission*, *-velocity*; (sense 7) *wave gesture*.

1979 *East Anglian Mag.* Aug. 532/2 Four wild swans came high overhead, the chanting *wave-beats of their wings making a windy threnody in the great silence of the Fen sky. 1823 SCOTT *Peveril* xxvii. *Motto.* The restless foam Of the wild *wave-crest. 1976 *Jrnl. R. Soc. Arts* CXXIV. 729/1 The seasonal distribution of *wave energy fits nicely into the pattern of energy demand, that is, more in the winter than

in the summer. 1922 JOYCE *Ulysses* 512 He invokes grace from on high with large *wave gestures. 1849 CUPPLES *Green Hand* ii. (1856) 16 The *wave-heads... were crested here and there with light. 1922 JOYCE *Ulysses* 47 At the lacefringe of the tide he halted... His snout lifted barked at the *wavenoise. 1910 S. P. THOMPSON *Ld. Kelvin* II. xxi. 862 Sir William read four papers bearing on *wave-problems. 1856 OLMSTED *Slave States* 397 For an hour or two we got above the sandy zone, and into the... *wave' region of the State. The surface here was extremely undulating. 1849 C. BRONTE *Shirley* xiii. She rises high, and glides all revealed, on the dark *wave-ridge. 1893 CONAN DOYLE *Refugees* III. xxv. 30 For hours a glimpse could be caught of the boat, dwindling away on the *wave tops. 1907 V. CORNISH in *Geogr. Jnl.* Jan. 23 The effect of this *wave-transmission is to diminish the initial inequality of slope. 1906 HARDY *Dynasts* II. iv. viii. 185 Weary *wave-wails from the clammy shore. 1889 WELCH *Text Bk. Naval Archit.* iii. 59 The amount of the buoyancy in *wave-water is also constantly varying.

b. *objective*, as *wave-breaker*, *wave-drawing*; (sense 4a) *wave-curler*, *-setter*; also *wave-compelling*, *-setting*, *-subjected* adjs.; *wave-making* sb. and adj.

1764 GOLDSM. *Trav.* 297 The wave-subjected soil [of Holland] Impels the native to repeated toil. 1881 BROADHOUSE *Mus. Acoustics* 59 Constant practice in wave-drawing... will soon familiarize the student [etc.]. 1885 L. F. VERNON-HARCOURT *Harbours & Docks* I. 93 The open jetty does not act as a wave-breaker. 1890 G. NEILSON *Trial by Combat* ix. 27 The remark presents the great Dane in a light somewhat different from that suggested by his wave-compelling attitude on the wild sea shore. 1915 R. LANKESTER *Diversions of Naturalist* 61 Specially powerful wave-compelling winds. 1931 *Lady* 26 Feb. 300/1 Fix your wave-setting combs in place. 1932 *Mod. Woman* Feb. 72/1 A perfectly easy method of keeping your hair permanently waved, set and curled at home... Wave curlers 1/- pair. 1932 *Even. Standard* 1 July 9 (Adv.), A... wavesetter in your bag is almost as good as taking your hairdresser on holiday with you. 1942 Wave-making [see SONIC a. 1b]. 1961 *Guardian* 29 Apr. 1/5 Mr. Hardy sprayed on a sweet-smelling wave-setting lotion. 1979 *United States 1980/81* (Penguin Travel Guides) 235 A resort-style motel with a lake and wave-making swimming pool.

c. *simulative*, as *wave-green*, *-white*; also with the sense 'having a waved form or markings', as *wave-blade*, *-bladed*, *-breasted*, *-edged*, *-haired*, *-leaved*, etc.

1877 LANE-FOX *Catal. Anthropol. Coll. Bethnal Green Branch* S. Kens. 183 Malay Krisses, with *wave blades. 1866 W. J. FITZPATRICK *Sham Squire* 115 He... with a *wave-bladed dagger... made some stabs at the intruder. 1811 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* VIII. 405 *Wave-breasted Parrakeet. *Psittacus versicolor*. 1884 R. F. BURTON *Bk. Sword* vii. 137 The *wave-edged form [of blade] is well shown in an iron dagger. 1621 G. SANDYS *Ovid's Met.* ix. (1626) 175, I... let my *wave-green Mantle sink. 1866 CHRISTINA ROSSETTI *Prince's Progr.* x. A *wave-haired milkmaid. 1816-20 T. GREEN *Univ. Herbal* II. 828 *Xysmalobium Undulatum*; *Wave-leaved *Xysmalobium*. 1922 JOYCE *Ulysses* 11 *Wavewhite wedded words shimmering on the dim tide.

d. *locative*, as *wave-bowered*, *-reflected*. 1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* II. xxiv. Thus bending o'er the vessel's laving side, To gaze on Dian's wave-reflected sphere. 1820 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* III. ii. 32 Tracking their path... by the light Of wave-reflected flowers. 1881 ROSSETTI *Ballads & Sonnets*, *House of Life* lvi, The wave-bowered pearl.

e. *instrumental*, as *wave-beat*, *-beaten*, *-buffeted*, *-circled*, *-cut*, *-dashed*, *-encircled*, *-eroded*, *-hollowed*, *-kissed*, *-lashed*, *-moist*, *-rusted*, *-shattered*, *-swept*, *-tossed*, *-walled*, *-washed*, *-wet*, *-whitened*, *-worn*, etc. Also *wave-free*, *-weary*; *wave erosion*.

a 1593 MARLOWE *Ovid's Eleg.* I. xiv. 34 Such were they [her locks] as Diana painted stands All naked holding in her waue-moist hands. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* II. i. 120 He... oared Himselfe... To th' shore; that ore his waue-worne basis bowed As stooping to releue him. 1741 BOYSE *Patience* 200 On the sea-weed spray... the wave-toss'd body lay. 1777 POTTER *Æschylus* 51 The tort'ring sting Thence drove thee wand'ring o'er the wave-wash'd strand. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* xiii. The shaggy mounds... wave-encircled, seem'd to float. 1819 BYRON *Juan* II. cxviii. Amidst the barren sand and rocks so rude She and her wave-worn love had made their bower. 1843 J. R. LOWELL in *Pioneer* Jan. 40 Stands a maiden... Musing by the wave-beat strand. 1848 LYTTON *K. Arthur* II. cviii. Wave-hollow'd caves. 1854 F. W. FABER *Oratory Hymns* 67 Angelic songs are swelling O'er earth's green fields, and ocean's wave-beat shore. 1856 LEVER *Martins of Cro'* M. xxiii. The dark cliffs and rugged crags, the wave-beaten rocks. 1857 DICKENS *Dorrit* II. xx. Every wave-dashed, storm-beaten object. 1857 DUFFERIN *Lett. High Lat.* (ed. 3) 225 A... channel, between two wave-lashed ridges of driftice. 1861 M. ARNOLD in A. A. PROCTER *Victoria Regina* 181 The wave-kiss'd marble stair. 1876 MORRIS *Sigurd* II. 92 So Sigurd turned to the river and stood by the wave-wet strand. 1878 O. WILDE *Ravenna* 14, I have wandered far From the wave-circled islands of my home. 1881 — *Poems* 131 Be not afraid To leave this wan and wave-kissed shore. *Ibid.* 161 Some wave-shattered steep. 1885 G. K. GILBERT in *5th Ann. Rep. U.S. Geol. Survey* 84 The submerged plateau whose area records the landward progress of littoral erosion, becomes a terrace after the formative has disappeared, and, as such, requires a distinctive name. It will be called the wave-cut terrace. 1889 W. B. YEATS *Wanderings of Oisín* II. 73 And she with a wave-rusted chain was tied To two old eagles. 1892 — *Countess Kathleen* 126 When her own people ruled in wave-worn Eri. 1894 *Outing* XXIV. 92/1 The long, wave-swept margin was left to the solitude of primeval nature. 1901, etc. Wave-cut [see PLATFORM sb. 6c(i)]. 1906 HARDY *Dynasts* II. i. vi. 38 The Universal-empire plot Demands the rule of that wave-walled spot. 1919 D. W. JOHNSON *Shore Processes & Shoreline Devel.* iv. 161 The wave-erosion features associated with the coast, shore, shoreface, and offshore, are three in number. 1924 E. SITWELL *Sleeping Beauty* xiv. 47

Pan, with his satyrs on the rocks Feeding their wave-weary flocks. 1929 W. B. YEATS in *New Republic* 2 Oct. 173/2 A bone wave-whitened and dried in the wind. 1939 W. H. TWENHOFEL *Princ. Sedimentation* ii. 30 As sea level before the rise is assumed to have been stationary, a wave-eroded surface may be expected to have developed in places. 1952 C. DAY LEWIS tr. *Virgil's Aeneid* III. 72 Over against wave-worn Plemyrion there's an island Athwart the gulf of Syracuse. 1968 R. W. FAIRBRIDGE *Encycl. Geomorphol.* 133/1 Coasts made irregular by wave erosion are less common. 1974 C. TAYLOR *Fieldwork in Medieval Archaeol.* iv. 60 On the valley sides above the dam is ridge and furrow which ends just above the slight wave-cut platform which still marks the former edge of the water in the lake. 1979 *United States 1980/81* (Penguin Travel Guides) 611 Cruising on these wave-free waterways is relaxing.

10. Special *comb.*: *wave-action*, (a) *Geol.*, the action of water flowing in waves; (b) *Gunnery*, 'abnormally high pressure in a gun from very large charges' (*Cent. Dict.* 1891); *wave analyser*, any instrument for analysing a wave motion into its Fourier components; *waveband*, a range of (esp. radio) wavelengths or frequencies between specified limits; *wave base* *Physical Geogr.*, the greatest depth at which sediment can be disturbed by surface waves; *wave change* *Radio*, used *attrib.* to designate a switch for changing the wavelength to which a transmitter or receiver is tuned; also *wave changer*; *wave cloud* *Meteorol.*, an elongated cloud that is one of a parallel series formed at the crests of atmospheric waves in the lee of high ground and remaining stationary in relation to the ground; *wave-detector*, an instrument designed to detect very feeble electric waves in wireless telegraphy; *wave-disk*, a metal disk with a waved edge, used in the *wave-siren*; *wave drag* *Aerodynamics*, the drag experienced by a body at supersonic speeds as a result of the formation of a shock wave; *wave equation* *Physics*, an equation that represents wave motion, esp. (a) the differential equation $\partial^2 U / \partial t^2 = c^2 \nabla^2 U$; (b) Schrödinger's equation (see SCHRÖDINGER); *wave filter* *Electr. Engin.* = *FILTER* sb. 3e; *wave-front* *Physics*, the continuous line or surface including all the waves or radiatory emissions which are in the same phase; *wave function* *Physics*, a function that satisfies a wave equation; esp. a Schrödinger wave function (see SCHRÖDINGER); *wave group*, a short group of waves, not necessarily of uniform wavelength or amplitude; *wave-hop* v. *intr. colloq.* [after *hedge-hop* vb. s.v. HEDGE sb. 9], to fly low over the sea; hence *wave-hopper*; *wave-horse* = *SEA-HORSE* 5; *wave machine*, an apparatus for producing waves in water; *wave-making*, the production of waves by the movement of a floating body on the surface of the water; also *attrib.*; *wave-mark*, (a) *Geol.* (see quot. 1863); (b) a wavy marking, stain, or blemish; so also *wave-marked* a., *wave-marking* *Geol.*; *wave-meter* *Electr.* a device for measuring the wavelength or frequency of radiofrequency waves; *wave-motion*, motion in curves alternately concave and convex; *wave-motor*, a machine or apparatus designed to utilize the energy in the waves of water as a motive power; also *attrib.*; *wave number* *Physics* and *Chem.*, the number of waves per unit length, used esp. as a spectroscopic unit to represent the frequency of electromagnetic radiation and usu. expressed in reciprocal centimetres, cm.⁻¹ (see KAYSER); the reciprocal of wavelength, or this multiplied by 2π; symbol *k*; *wave packet* *Physics*, a group of superposed waves which together form a travelling localized disturbance; esp. one described by the Schrödinger equation and regarded as representing a particle; cf. *PACKET* sb. 1 h; *wave-particle* *Physics*, used *attrib.* to designate the two-fold description of matter and energy in terms of two seemingly incompatible concepts, waves and particles; *wave-path* *Seismol.* (see quot. 1886); *wave pattern* = *Vitruvian scroll* s.v. VITRUVIAN a. b; *wave period* *Physics*, the period between the arrival at a given point of successive maxima of a travelling wave; *wave picture* *Physics*, the conception of sub-atomic particles as waves, in accordance with wave theory; *wave-power*, power derived from the action of water waves; *wave-rainbow*, a rainbow formed on the spray of sea-waves; *wave-rate* *Acoustics*, the rate of vibration of a sounding body in a given time; *wave resistance*, the retarding force of the action of waves of water; *waverider* *Aeronaut.*, a wing that derives lift from a shock wave close to its under-surface; an aeroplane having such wings; *wave screen*

(see quot.); **waveshape** = **WAVEFORM**; **wave-shell Physics**, each of the imaginary concentric spherical layers in any medium traversed by a wave, such that the vibration of the particles of the layer is always in the same phase; **wave-siren**, a form of the **SIREN** (*sb.* 7) in which a current of air is driven through a narrow slit against an undulatory curve on the periphery of a cylinder or disk; **wave-slope**, the angle of inclination of the surface of a wave to the horizontal; **wave-surface Physics**, a geometrical surface which is the locus of all points reached at one instant by an undulatory agitation propagated from any centre; **wave-system Ship-building**, see quot. and **WAVE-LINE** 1; **wave theory** = (a) *undulatory theory* (see **UNDULATORY** 1 c); more widely in *Physics*, any theory treating of something as waves, esp. such a theory of sub-atomic particles; (b) *Philol.* = **WELLENTHEORIE**; **wave-train Physics** (see quot.); **wave trap**, (a) (see quots.); (b) *Radio* = **TRAP** *sb.* 8 d; **wave vector Physics**, a vector whose direction is the direction of propagation of a wave and whose magnitude is its wave number; **wave velocity Physics** = *phase velocity* *s.v.* **PHASE** *sb.* 5; **wave winding**, a kind of armature winding in which the coils are wound between commutator bars just over 180° apart so that there are two routes in parallel between the positive and the negative brush; † **wave work**, watered work (see quot.). Also **WAVE-LIKE** *a.* and *adv.*, **WAVE-LINE**.

1880 **DANA** *Man. Geol.* (ed. 3) 910 Index, *Wave-action on coral reefs. 1886 **A. WINCHELL** *Walks Geol. Field* 63 Here the torrential action was less turbulent: it was perhaps wave-action along a beach. 1931 **H. A. BROWN** *Radio-Frequency Electr. Measurements* ix. 314 (caption) Balanced modulator used in *wave analyzer. 1946 *Nature* 7 Sept. 329/2 A wave-analyser was developed... in 1944 in order to analyse ocean waves and swell and ship movement. 1975 **G. J. KING** *Audio Handbk.* v. 112 Harmonic distortion. For this test an audio wave analyser is required. 1923 *Daily Mail* 28 Apr. 5 A receiver which will function efficiently over a *waveband stretching from 300 metres to 20,000 metres. 1935 *Discovery* Sept. 278/1 Recent developments... have made possible... room within this waveband (30 to 75 million cycles) to accommodate several independent high-definition sound and picture channels. 1958 *Observer* 17 Aug. 8/3 By international agreement, four wavebands are available for television. 1971 **I. G. GASS** et al. *Understanding Earth* x. 144/2 Ultraviolet light (primarily in the wave-band 1500 to 2100 angstroms). 1899 **F. P. GULLIVER** in *Proc. Amer. Acad. Arts & Sci.* XXXIV. 177 The term *wave-base is here introduced as a comparable term to river baselevel or hard stratum baselevel. It is another local baselevel, which ought to be distinguished from the grand baselevel of the sea. 1968 **R. W. FAIRBRIDGE** *Encycl. Geomorphol.* 1226/1 Historically, there has been much confusion about the lower limit of wave base and marine abrasion. 1930 *Telegraph & Telephone Jnl.* XVI. 86/1 It is necessary to have a split battery at the distant end to provide the momentary impulse for the *wave change relay. 1957 *Practical Wireless* XXXIII. 520/1 The front panel carries the wave-change switch. 1924 **S. R. ROGET** *Dict. Electr. Terms* 289/1 *Wave changer, a switching arrangement enabling connections to be altered rapidly in a wireless transmitting apparatus to cause waves of a different wave length to be transmitted. 1929 **DUNCAN & DREW** *Radio Telegr. & Telephony* xxi. 673 A five position wave-changer switch changes the wavelength of the closed oscillatory circuit... simultaneously with the open radiative circuit. 1959 **R. E. HUSCHKE** *Gloss. Meteorol.* 620 *Wave cloud. 1977 *Sci. Amer.* July 40/2 (caption) Wave clouds in the lee of a Martian crater were photographed by *Mariner* 9. 1905 *Athenæum* 18 Mar. 339/2 The centre of interest in wireless telegraphy seems to be shifting from the *wave-detector or coherer to the means of producing the energy required to act upon it. 1890 **S. P. THOMPSON** in *Nature* (1891) 8 Jan. 226/2 Two such *wave-disks, looking rather like circular saws with irregular teeth. 1948 *Sci. News* VII. 30 To attain very high velocities in a practicable aircraft it is obvious that *wave drag must be reduced to a minimum. 1951 [see *form drag* *s.v.* **FORM** *sb.* 22]. 1981 **C. E. DOLE** *Flight Theory & Aerodynamics* vii. 217 The heat rise behind the shock wave is either radiated to the atmosphere or absorbed by the wing surface... and this lost energy must be continuously supplied by the engines. This energy loss represents a type of drag known as wave drag. 1926 **E. SCHRÖDINGER** in *Physical Rev.* XXVIII. 1049 (heading) The *wave equation and its application to the hydrogen atom. 1927, etc. [see **SCHRÖDINGER**]. 1936 **P. M. MORSE** *Vibration & Sound* vi. 188 Plane waves of sound, longitudinal waves, obey the same wave equation as do the transverse waves on a string. 1982 **W. H. HAYWARD** *Introd. Radio Frequency Design* iv. 114 A complete solution of the voltage wave equation... is the sum of positive and negative moving voltage waves. 1908 *Phil. Mag.* XVI. 481 This machine has been used with a *wave filter, consisting of series inductances of low effective resistance and parallel capacities. 1947 **R. LEE** *Electronic Transformers & Circuits* vi. 150 Many wave filters are composed of several sections which simulate transmission lines. 1973 **S. K. MITRA** et al. in *Temes & Mitra Mod. Filter Theory & Design* i. 1 The theory of filters owes its origin to Wagner and Campbell, who in 1915 advanced the concept of passive electric wave filters. 1867 **TAIT** *Quaternions* xi. 289 The planes of polarization of the two rays whose *wave-fronts are parallel, bisect the angles [etc.]. 1888 **RUTLEY** *Rock-Forming Min.* 57 The plane wave-surfaces or wave-fronts of the two rays will respectively be represented by the tangent planes. 1925 *Proc. R. Soc. A.* CVII. 43 (heading) Spheroidal *wave-functions. 1926 **E. SCHRÖDINGER** in *Physical Rev.* XXVIII. 1049 The wave-function physically means and determines a continuous distribution of electricity in space, the fluctuations of which

determine the radiation by the laws of... electrodynamics. 1935, etc. [see **PROPER** *a.* 3* b]. 1961 **POWELL & CRASEMANN** *Quantum Mech.* ii. 59 Until suitable boundary conditions and requirements concerning the continuity of solutions are imposed, the properties of the wave function are not completely described by the Schrödinger equation. 1979 *Sci. Amer.* Nov. 128/1 In quantum mechanics an elementary particle such as an electron is represented by the mathematical expression called a wave function, which often describes the electron as if it were smeared out over a large region of space. [1877 *Nature* 23 Aug. 343/1 (heading) On the rate of progression of groups of waves.] 1923 **H. MOORE** *Textbk. Intermediate Physics* xxxii. 317 A noise consists of a single wave or of a very short *wave-group, while a musical note consists of a regular succession of similar waves constituting a regular wave-train. 1952 **R. W. DITCHEBURN** *Light* iv. 95 In a dispersive medium, the components of a wave group move with different speeds, and the phase relations between the components are altered. 1978 **I. G. MAIN** *Vibrations & Waves in Physics* xii. 210 Any isolated wave group may be viewed as a superposition of many sinusoidal waves. 1943 *Times* 21 Dec. 2/3 Sneak-raiding FW 190s which *wave-hopped across the Channel and North Sea to surprise seaside towns were a daytime menace. 1952 **C. DAY LEWIS** tr. *Virgil's Aeneid* iv. 80 Like a bird which along the shore and around the promontories Goes fishing, flying low, wave-hopping over the water. 1984 **J. SAVARIN** *Wolfrun* xii. 175 'What I can do with a chopper will surprise you.' They'd be wave-hopping all the way across [the Channel]. 1957 **R. WATSON-WATT** *Three Steps* xxxviii. 218 Our fears about the *wave-hopper. 1888 **RIDER HAGGARD** *Mr. Meeson's Will* xi. (1897) 140 They... looked out across the troubled ocean. There was nothing in sight... but the white *wave-horses. 1968 *Surfer Mag.* Jan. 46/1 They constructed a *wave machine that could be a forerunner of a fantastic era of artificial surfing. 1979 *Listener* 1 Mar. 315/3 A swimming-pool... a place to bring the family... and enjoy the wave-machine. 1877 **W. H. WHITE** *Naval Archit.* xi. 447 Mr. Scott Russell first drew attention to the importance of *wave-making resistance. 1878 **D. KEMP** *Man. Yacht Sailing* vi. 41 There are only two principal sources of resistance, and they are consequent upon surface friction and wave-making. 1863 **DANA** *Man. Geol.* (ed. 3) 94 *Wave-marks.—Faint outlinings, of curved form, on a sandstone layer, like the outline left by a wave along the limit where it dies out upon a beach. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 Apr. 4/2 When the novice finds a few pinholes in his negatives, or wave marks on parts of the image. *Ibid.*, The wave-marks were the result of careless development. 1903 *Amer. Geol.* June 356 The top of the Lorraine is formed by a *wavemarked layer of lime-stone. *Ibid.*, Numerous other instances of *wavemarking at this horizon might be given. 1904 *Electrician* 1 Jan. 408/2 (caption) General view of *wave meter. 1905 *Athenæum* 27 May 662/2 Prof. Fleming's direct-reading cymometer or wave-meter, for measuring the length of the waves used in wireless telegraphy. 1945 *Electronic Engin.* XVII. 720/1 The absorption wavemeter can be greatly improved by the addition of a valve which will provide the necessary energy to maintain the tuned circuit in continuous oscillation. 1979 **P. HAWKER** *Guide to Amat. Radio* iv. 63/2 A convenient method of calibrating the wavemeter is to use a communication receiver. 1846 **W. R. BIRT** in *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* i. 135 In contemplating the transference of the barometric maxima and minima, we regard only the *wave-motion—but very different must be the air-motion. 1882 **P. G. TAIT** *Light in Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 603 The essential characteristic of wave-motion is that a disturbance of some kind is handed on from one portion of a solid or fluid mass to another. 1898 *Daily News* 9 June 7/2 The Linden *wave-motor boat. 1899 *Ibid.* 15 Apr. 8/6 A wave motor, which may be seen working off Dover. 1873 *Rep. Brit. Assoc. Adv. Sci.* 1872 53 The term *wave-numbers appears preferable to the equivalent term 'inverse wavelengths' which has been hitherto used. 1936 *Physical Rev. L.* 59/2 The vector **k** is called 'the reduced wave number vector'. 1973 *Physics Bull.* July 419/2 These devices are characterized by a relatively small tuning range (a few wave-numbers). 1979 *Nature* 20-27 Dec. 887/2 It is confusing to find both the chemists' wavenumber ($1/\lambda$) and physicists' wavenumber ($2\pi/\lambda$) used in different parts of the text. 1928 *Proc. R. Soc. A.* CXVII. 276 Schrödinger has shown that for a harmonic oscillator a *wave packet can be constructed which, though it spreads in the intermediate states, always returns to its original form at each end of the swing. 1955 **FRIEDMAN & WEISSKOPF** in **W. Pauli** *Niels Bohr* 153 More insight into this equation is provided by examining the time behaviour of a neutron wave packet. 1968 **G. LUDWIG** *Wave Mech.* i. iv. 47 A wave packet is not to be regarded as an approximation to a corpuscle, so that the corpuscles are *in fact* more or less extended waves, but the 4-wave determines only the probability... of the position of the corpuscles. 1979 *Nature* 22 Mar. 312/1 Observations in Massachusetts Bay of high-frequency internal wave packets indicate that they are caused by lee waves generated outside a submarine bank at the Bay's seaward margin during ebb tide. 1938 **R. C. TOLMAN** *Princ. Statistical Mech.* vii. 231 The foregoing considerations are sufficient to give an idea of the quantum mechanical treatment of *wave-particle duality in the cases of entities which were customarily regarded solely from the particle point of view. 1968 **M. S. LIVINGSTON** *Particle Physics* iii. 47 The growing understanding of the wave-particle dualism in the properties of light led Louis de Broglie in 1925 to propound the hypothesis that a material particle should also have a wave property associated with it. 1862 **R. MALLET** *First Princ. Observ. Seismol.* i. iv. 35 The line of transit, or *wave-path. 1886 **J. MILNE** *Earthquakes* i. 9 The radial lines along which an earthquake may be propagated from the centrum are called 'wave-paths'. 1905 **G. W. RHEAD** *Princ. Design* 116 Another motive in Egyptian borders... is a kind of spiral or *wave pattern, starting from a series of small circles. 1956 **G. TAYLOR** *Silver* ix. 192 All kinds of classical motifs, such as anthemion, key... and wave patterns. 1909 *Proc. R. Soc. Edin.* XXIX. 446 The energy propagated in one *wave-period across a plane at right angles to the direction of the wave-motion is equal to the energy contained in one wavelength of the group multiplied by the ratio of group-velocity to wave-velocity. 1946 *Nature* 7 Sept. 330/2 These peaks are equivalent to wave-periods of submultiples of 3×20 or 60 sec. 1975 *BP Shield Internat.* May 13/3 Wave heights and wave periods... are the crucial statistics that spell work or no work on the crane barges. 1955 **W. HEISENBERG** in **W. Pauli** *Niels Bohr* 15 The complete equivalence of the particle and

*wave pictures in the quantum theory was thus demonstrated for the first time. 1974 **G. REECE** tr. *Hund's Hist. Quantum Theory* xi. 142 Quantum and wave pictures combine to give $\Delta p = \hbar/\lambda$. 1973 *Bull. Amer. Assoc. Petroleum Geologists* LVII. 1835/1 *Wave-power gradient studies along the mainland [of the Florida coast]... indicate that the dominant wave approach direction, responsible for littoral drift towards the south-southeast, is from the west. 1974 *Times* 7 Oct. 1/3 A significant part of Britain's future energy requirements could come from cheap, pollution-free wave power. 1980 **D. BLOODWORTH** *Trapdoor* xiii. 75 There are studies for deriving solar energy from seaweed, wind-power from the trades, wave-power from the surf. 1984 *Times* 8 Nov. 16/1 The pilot wave-power plant at Toftestallen, about 50 miles west of Bergen, is expected to be operational next year. 1848 **TENNYSON** in **Ld. Tennyson** *Mem.* (1897) I. 275 Sat watching *wave-rainbows [at the Lizard]. 1903 **G. M. STRATTON** *Exper. Psychol.* v. 83 Musical notes whose *wave-rates do not differ at least a fifth of a vibration a second. 1889 **WELCH** *Text Bk. Naval Archit.* iii. 56 *Wave resistance is by far the most powerful agent in extinguishing the oscillations. 1964 *Times* 29 May 12/3 The R.A.E. had designed a new type of delta wing known as a 'waverider' which has a convex upper surface and is supported by the pressure generated by the shock wave trapped under the concave lower surface. 1978 **D. KÜCHEMANN** *Aerodynamic Design of Aircraft* iii. 77 In general terms, waveriders are a type of aircraft where the means for providing volume, lift, and propulsion are so closely integrated that their effects cannot readily be separated from one another. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 48 *Wave Screen, or Breakwater, for breaking the force of the sea, at entrance of bar... or elsewhere. 1940 *Chambers's Techn. Dict.* 902/2 Wave-form, *wave-shape. 1947 **R. LEE** *Electronic Transformers & Circuits* ix. 234 It is sometimes convenient to know whether a transformer, whose frequency response is known, can deliver a given wave shape. 1965 *Wireless World* July 364/1 The use of cameras to make a permanent photographic record of a waveshape on an oscilloscope screen is now commonplace. 1984 *Sounds* 1 Dec. 59/5 Vibrato is offered with four waveshapes to choose from, and may be programmed. 1877 **F. W. RUDLER** *Earthquake in Encycl. Brit.* VII. 610/1 The points at which a *wave-shell reaches the surface form a curve which is conveniently called a coseismic line. 1881 *Nature* 18 Aug. 359/2 Helmholtz... has constructed a new instrument, the *wave-siren. 1890 **S. P. THOMPSON** in *Nature* 15 Jan. 250/2 Dr. König had recourse to the wave-siren, an earlier invention of his own. 1877 **W. H. WHITE** *Naval Archit.* vi. 212 In considering the sufficiency of the range of the curve of stability for any vessel, it is desirable to regard it as abridged by this 8 or 10 degrees, in order to allow for the *wave slope. 1833 **MACCULLAGH** *Collected Wks.* (1880) 34 In this theory, the surface of waves, or the *wave surface, is a geometrical surface used to determine the directions and velocities of refracted or reflected rays, being the surface of a sphere in a singly refracting medium; a double surface, [etc.]. 1860 **CAYLEY** *Math. Papers* (1891) IV. 420 Some very beautiful results in relation to the Wave Surface have been recently obtained by Herr Zech. 1910 **S. P. THOMPSON** *Ld. Kelvin* II. xx. 820 Stokes has found by minute experiment that the Huygens wave-surface is most accurately obeyed by light. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 66/2 His [J. Scott Russell's] observations led him to propose and experiment on a new system of shaping vessels, which is known as the *wave system. 1833 **MACCULLAGH** *Collected Wks.* (1880) 34 On the *Wave Theory of Light. 1873 **COOKE** *Chem.* 22. 1 cannot agree with those who regard the wave-theory of light as an established principle of science. 1926 *Wave theory* [see *emission theory* *s.v.* **EMISSION** 7]. 1932 *Discovery* Apr. 100/1 This new physics was soon to be revolutionized further by De Broglie and Schrödinger, with their enthusiasm for the new wave theory of matter. 1933 **L. BLOOMFIELD** *Language* xviii. 318 The presentation of these factors became known as the wave-theory, in contradistinction to the older family-tree theory of linguistic relationship. 1966 **C. R. TOTTLE** *Sci. Engin. Materials* i. 8 The adaptation of classical mechanics to wave theory dates back only some forty years, so that modern concepts of the structure of atoms are very new. 1971 [see **STAMMBAUM**]. 1974 **G. REECE** tr. *Hund's Hist. Quantum Theory* xi. 150 Schroedinger regarded this equation as the basis of the wave theory of particles. 1897 **E. L. NICHOLS & FRANKLIN** *Elem. Physics* III. 12 A periodic disturbance sends out what is called a *train of waves*, each one of which is exactly like its forerunner... Graphic representation of *wave trains. 1875 **KNIGHT** *Dict. Mech.*, *Wave-trap (Hydraulic Engineering), a widening inwards of the sides of piers, to afford space for storm-waves which roll in at the entrance to spread and extend themselves. 1923 *Mod. Wireless* I. 247/2 The second frame aerial... is stated... to act as a 'wave-trap'. 1968 *Radio Communication Handbk.* (ed. 4) xvi. 3/1 If the generator whine remains pronounced, a fully screened tuned wave trap may be inserted in series with the output from the generator. 1955 **L. ROSENFELD** in **W. Pauli** *Niels Bohr* 88 The Fourier components of *wave vector **k**. 1978 **H. M. ROSENBERG** *Solid State* (ed. 2) ii. 21 However, in the mathematical treatment of waves it is much more convenient to use the wave vector **k** instead of the wavelength λ . 1887, etc. *Wave velocity [see *group velocity* *s.v.* **GROUP** *sb.* 6]. 1909 [see *wave period* above]. 1910 **S. P. THOMPSON** *Ld. Kelvin* II. xxi. 861 The proposition that the wave-velocity is double [that] of the group-velocity. 1969 **R. H. WEBB** *Elementary Wave Optics* v. 61 It is the wave velocity rather than the group velocity which is measured by refraction. 1892, etc. *Wave-winding [see *lap winding* *s.v.* **LAP** *sb.* 6]. 1893 *SLOANE Electr. Dict.*, *Wave Winding, a method of winding disc and drum armatures. 1980 **SLEMON & STRAUGHEN** *Electric Machines* iv. 272 If the paths of the current through the wave winding from a positive to a negative brush are traced, only two parallel paths from the positive to the negative armature terminal will be found. 1601 **HOLLAND** *Pliny* VIII. xlvi. I. 228 The very roial robe... made... after the manner of water-chamlot in *wave worke [L. *togam undulatum*].

† **wavé**, *a. Her. Obs.* [Hybrid f. **WAVE** *sb.* + **AF.** suffix -é, after *undé*.] = **WAVY**. Cf. **UNDEE**, **UNDÉ**. 1513, 1688 [see **UNDEE**]. 1572 **BOSSEWELL** *Armorie* 26 Crosse taue, checkey, waue. 1646 **SIR T. BROWNE** *Pseud. Ep.* v. x. 249 Three Barres waue. 1680 **SIR G. MACKENZIE** *Sci. Her.* vii. 26 The Drummonds bear three faces undé or wavé.

1684 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1980/4 Two pair of Gold Buckles . . dented and wave.

wave (weiv), *v.* Inflected waved, waving. Also ? 4 *Sc.* vaf, wayve. [OE. *wafian* (twice, in sense 6), corresp. formally to MHG. (and rare mod.G.) *waben* (see Grimm s.v. *wabben*) to wave, undulate; the Teut. root **wab-* is found in ON. *vafe* wk. masc. doubt, uncertainty, and in WAVER vb. and the cognates there mentioned; the ablaut-variants **web-*, **wéb-* occur in G. *weben* to wave, move about (cf. WEAVE *v.*², WEVE *v.*), which, however, is believed to be partly a dial. form of MHG. *wēwen* (mod.G. *wehen*) to wave, flutter, etc.; and in ON. *váfa* to swing, vibrate.

It is not always possible to distinguish between this vb. and the obsolete WAIVE *v.*²; the two approximate or coincide in some of their senses, and in some dialects and periods were identical in sound.]

1. To move to and fro or up and down.

* Of involuntary movement.

1. a. *intr.* Of a thing having a free end: To move to and fro, shake or sway in the air by the action of the wind or breeze.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* ix. 245 The discourouris saw thame cumande With baneris to the vynd vafand [v.rr. wawand, waiuand]. **1508** DUNBAR *Poems* iv. 14 As with the wynd wavis the wickir, [So] wavis [v.rr. wannis, waveris] this warldis vanite. **1523** BERNERS *Frois.* I. ciii. 50 b/2 Whanne those fotemen . . sawe the baners and standerdes waue with the wynde. **1577** KENDALL *Flowers Epigr.* 73 His crisped locks wavde all behinde. **1593** SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI.* II. ii. 173 Sound Trumpets, let our bloody Colours waue, And either Victorie, or else a Graue. **1671** MILTON *Samson* 718 Like a stately Ship . . With all her bravery on, and tackle trim, Sails fill'd, and streamers waving. **1713** POPE *Windsor For.* 350 High in the midst . . (His sea-green mantle waving with the wind), The god appear'd. **1810** SCOTT *Lady of L.* III. xxv, No banner waved on Cardross gate. **1837** DICKENS *Pickw.* xxxv, Dresses rustled, feathers waved, . . and jewels sparkled. **1846** RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* II. III. i. xii. §5 The bending trunk, waving to and fro in the wind above the waterfall. **1846** McCULLOCH *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) II. 7 It was then that the flag of England began to wave over every sea. **1884** BIBLE (R.V.) *Judges* ix. 9 But the olive tree said unto them, Should I leave my fatness . . and go to wave to and fro over the trees?

fig. **1648** HERRICK *Hesper.*, Mrs. Eliz. Wheeler Poet. Wks. (1915) 107 In bloome of Peach, and Roses bud, There waves the Streamer of her blood.

† b. *to wave in the wind*: to be hanged. (Cf. WAG *v.* 3 d.) *Obs.*

a1533 BERNERS *Huon* xvi. 43 Or it be nyght, I shall cause thee to waue in the wynde.

c. Of long hair: To hang down loose. *poet.*

1671 MILTON *Samson* 1493 And view him sitting in the house, . . And on his shoulders waving down those locks. **1767** M. BRUCE *Last Day Poems* (1796) 129 His golden hair Wav'd on his shoulders.

d. *trans.* Of the wind, etc.: To cause (a thing) to sway or move to and fro.

1602 KYD *Span. Trag.* III. xii A, Behold a man hanging, and tottering, and tottering, as you know the winde will waue a man. **1817** SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* VIII. xxx, Beneath a bright acacia's shadowy hair, Waved by the wind amid the sunny noon. **1828** LYTTON *Pelham* x, The wind waved my long curls. **1829** SCOTT *Anne of G. xi*, No sound was heard save that of the night wind, when it . . waved the tattered banners which were the tapestry of the feudal hall.

† 2. a. *intr.* To move to and fro restlessly or uncertainly; to waver. *Obs.*

1406 HOCLEVE *La Male Regle* 399 And whil my breeth may in my body waue, To recorde it vnnethe I may souffyse. **1500-20** DUNBAR *Poems* xxi. 59 [This world] Quhair fortoun evir, as so, dissavis With freyndly smylings of an hure, Quhais fals bechehtis as wind hyne wavis. **1508** [see 1 above]. **1628** [see WAVING *ppl.* a. 2]. **1665** [see WAVING *vbl.* sb. 1].

† b. To move to and fro unsteadily on its base or (of a person) on the feet; to totter. *Obs.*

1538 ELYOT *Dict.*, *Vacillo*, to moue incessantly, to wagge or waue, to be vnstable, or vnure. **1605** SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iii. iv. 645 As an Infant which the Nurse lets go To goe alone, waves weakly to and fro. **1608** A. WILLET *Hexapla in Exod.* xx. 18. 445 [Vatiball renders the verb by] *vacillabant*, they waued. **1609** LD. BROOKE *Mustapha* iv. iv. Chorus iv, Thus reeles our present State, And her foundation wauas.

† c. Of a floating body: To move restlessly by the impulse of the air or water. Also, To hover about in the air. *Obs.*

1606 G. WOODCOCKE *Hist. Ixstine* xxvi. 94 b, The Ghoasts of them whose liues they had rauished from their bodies, wauing before their eyes. **1632** MILTON *Penseroso* 148 And let som strange mysterious dream, Wave at his Wings in Airy stream. **c1639** ROXB. *Ball.* (1887) VI. 429 They waving up and down the Seas, upon the Ocean Main. **c1645** HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) II. xix. 32 Those, that have their heads lightly ballasted, . . are like buyis [buoys] in a barrd Port, waving perpetually up and down. **1728** POPE *Dunc.* IV. 538 Int'rest that waves on Party-colour'd wings.

† d. *to wave oneself*: ? to give oneself up to the motion of the water. In quot. *fig.* *Obs.*

1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* I. i. 1 When a Rich Crowne ha's newly kiss'd the Temples of a gladdened King, where he finds all things in a golden swimme, . . hee carelessly wauas himselfe in the swelling plenty.

† 3. Of a person: To be restless in mind; to alternate between different opinions or courses of action; to vacillate, waver. Said also of the mind, will, etc. *Obs.*

1387-8 T. USK *Test. Love* I. ii. (Skeat) 167 'Ye wete wel, lady, eke', quod I, 'that I have not . . with the wethercocke waved.' **1566** DRANT *Horace, Sat.* I. i. A v, Thy mynde it wauas and waggas, And wisheth after greater things. **1582** T. WATSON *Pass. Cent. Love v. Poems* (Arb.) 41, I waued in doubt what helpe I shall require, In Sommer freeze, in winter burne like fire. **1597** HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. xliii. §5 The truth is they waued in and out, no way sufficiently grounded, no way resolu'd what to thinke, speake or write. **1607** SHAKS. *Cor.* II. ii. 19 If he did not care whether he had their loue, or no, hee waued indifferently, 'twixt doing them neyther good, nor harme. **1611** [see WAVING *ppl.* a. 2]. **1628** FELTHAM *Resolves* II. xvi. 46 Variety, in any thing, distracteth the minde; and leaues it waving in a dubious trouble. **1642** H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. iii. i. ii, Thus waues the mind in things of greatest weight. **1796** MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 62 The court waued between these two factions.

4. a. Of water, the sea: To move in waves, undulate.

1530 PALSGR. 772/2, I wave, as the see dothe. *Je vague.* After a storme the see waveth. **1552** HULOET, Waue as water doth in tempest, *fluctuo.* **1571** [see WAVING *vbl.* sb. 2]. **c1797-1804** W. BLAKE *Poet. Wks.* (1913) 366 Wave freshly, clear waters, flowing around the tender grass. **1820** [see WAVING *vbl.* sb. 2]. **1865** TYLOR *Early Hist. Man.* iv. 63 Water is that which waves, undulates.

b. *transf.* Of a crowd: To move to and fro restlessly in a body.

1579-80 NORTH *Plutarch, Pompeius* (1595) 708 Pompey . . perceiuing . . that his owne battell on the other side waued vp and downe disorderly, as men vnskillfull in warres. **1591** SAVILE *Tacitus, Hist.* I. xl. 23 Galba was driuen to and fro with the crowde of the companie, as it waued up and downe [L. *vario turbæ fluctuantis impulsu*]. **1646** SIR J. TEMPLE *Ir. Rebellion* 25 The people . . continued waving up and down the streets. **1860** FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* V. 387 He was still speaking, when the crowd began suddenly to wave and shift.

c. Of a field of corn, etc.; To undulate like the waves of the sea.

1667 MILTON *P.L.* IV. 981 As when a field Of Ceres ripe for harvest waving bends Her bearded Grove of ears. **1720** POPE *Iliad* xx. 78 The forests wave, the mountains nod around. **1725** — *Odys.* IX. 124 With wheat and barley wave the golden fields. **1775** JOHNSON *Tax. no Tyr.* 20 Regions smiling with pleasure and waving with fertility. **1784** COWPER *Task* IV. 313 The lands, where lately wav'd The golden harvest. **a1830** H. COCKBURN *Memor.* (1856) 171 The whole place waued with wood, and was diversified by undulations of surface. **1834** RUSKIN *Months* III, Rejoice! ye fields, rejoice! and wave with gold. **1851** J. H. GURNEY *Hymn*, Fair waved the golden corn In Canaan's pleasant land.

† 5. a. *intr.* To turn aside. Also *trans.* To move (a person) aside. *to wave one's way*: ? to take a divergent route. [But this may belong to WAIVE *v.*¹]

a1548 HALL *Chron.*, *Hen. VIII* 206 b, The kynges train waued on the left hande, to geue the Frenche kyng and his train the right hande. **1642** WOTTON *Buckingham in Reliq. W.* (1651) 109 Notwithstanding all which impotunity, he resolved not [ed. 1642 omits not] to wawe his way upon this reason: . . that if . . he should but once by such a diversion make his Enemy believe he were afraid of danger, he should never live without. **1646** SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* VII. xviii. 381 Eschilus . . was brained by a Tortoise which an Eagle let fall upon it. . . Some men . . would perhaps from hence confute the opinion of Copernicus, never conceiving how the motion of the earth below should not wawe him from a knock perpendicularly directed from a body in the ayre above.

† b. Of the sun: To decline. *Obs. rare.*

1615 KYD *Span. Trag.* I. ii. 83 Till, Phoebus wauing to the western deepe, Our Trumpeters were charge to sound retreat.

** Of voluntary movements.

† 6. *intr.* To make a movement to and fro (with the hands). Only *OE.*

c1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* xxvii. 151 beah þe man wafize wundorlice mid handa ne bið hit beah bletsung buta he wyrce tacn þære halgan rode. **c1000** Sax. *Leechd.* II. 318 Ymbo hine [a dung beetle] mid twam handum . . wafa mid pinum handum swipe & cwæð priwa Remedium facio [etc.].

† 7. a. To make motions (with the uplifted hands or with something held in the hands) by way of signal. Chiefly *Naut.* (Cf. WEAVE *v.*²) *Obs.*

Cf. the OE. sense 6, which may possibly have survived unrecorded to the 16 c.

1513 ECHYNGHAM in *Lett. & Papers War France* (1897) 148 He sayth he see my lord Admirall wayvyng with his handes and cryeng to the galeye: 'Comme aborde agayne!' **c1595** CAPT. WYATT *Dudley's Voy.* (Hakl. Soc.) 30 We might discrie . . two or three with a flagg of truce, wauinge unto us that it might be lawful to com and speake with us. **1611** SHAKS. *Cymb.* I. iii. 12 He did keepe The Decke, with Gloue, or Hat, or Handkerchife, Still wauing. **1611** B. JONSON *Catiline* I. i. C 1 b, A Bloody arme it is, that holds a pine Lighted, aboute the Capitoll: And, now, It waues vnto vs. **1644** MANWYRRING *Sea-mans Dict.* 114 Waving is making a signe for a ship, or boate, to come towards them, or else to goe from them, as the signe is made, either towards or from-wards the ship.

† b. *trans.* To signal to (a person). Chiefly *Naut.* (Cf. WEAVE *v.*²) *Obs.*

1555 W. TOWRSON in *Hakluyt* (1599) II. II. 33 We mistrusted some knauery, and being waued by them to come a shoare, yet we would not. *Ibid.*, Certaine Negroes . . waued vs with a white flagge, but we . . would not stay. *Ibid.* 34 A great sort came downe to the water side, and waued vs on shoare with a white flagge. **c1595** CAPT. WYATT *Dudley's Voy.* (Hakl. Soc.) 4 Our Generall commaunded to wawe them, and halinge them . . made them know their dwite unto our English collers by vailinge their topsailes. **1602** SHAKS. *Ham.* I. iv. 61 Looke with what courteous action It wafts [Qos. 1603-4 wauas] you to a more remoued ground. *Ibid.* 68 It waues me forth againe; Ile follow it. **1616** CAPT. J. SMITH *Descr. New Eng.* (Arb.) 225 We were hailed by two

West Indy men: but when they saw vs wawe them for the King of France, they gaue vs their broad sides. **1627** — *Sea Gram.* xiii. 60 He wauas vs to to lee-ward with his drawne sword.

† 8. To move to and fro or up and down regularly or rhythmically.

a. *intr.* To move the wings up and down in or as in flight. Said also of the wings. Also *trans.*, to actuate or flap (the wings) in or as in flight.

Obs.

1526 Pilgr. *Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 202 b, Than with her wynges she fanneth & waveth vnto she haue kyndled in them fyre. **1584-7** GREENE *Carde of Fancie* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 165 The Bird[s] . . beeing young, seeing the olde ones through age growen so weake, as they are not able to wawe their wings, carrie them . . on their backs. **1657** [see WAVING *vbl.* sb. 5]. **1667** MILTON *P.L.* VII. 476 Those wav'd thir limber fans For wings. **1712-14** POPE *Rape Lock* II. 68 Colours that change whene'er they wawe their wings. **1728** — *Dunc.* IV. 422 Of all th' enamell'd race, whose silv'ry wing Waves to the tepid Zephyrs of the spring. **1808** W. BLAKE *Poet. Wks.* (1913) 145 Before her throne my wings I wawe.

† b. *intr.* To move the body from side to side. Also *refl.* (Cf. WEAVE *v.*²) *Obs.*

1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* 138 As fast as the bayte was to the rope and hooke, so fast is he also ensnared and tyed vnto it, which while hee waueth and strayneth to vnloose and breake, he wearieeth himselfe in vaine. **1697** DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 649 A Snake . . With curling Crest, and with advancing Head: Waving he rolls, and makes a winding Track. **a1700** EVELYN *Diary* 15 Jan. 1645 All the company fell a singing an Hebrew hymn . . waving themselves to and fro.

† c. *transf.* To move (the head up and down) with a significant gesture; to incline (the head). *Obs.*

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* II. i. 93 At last, a little shaking of mine Arme: And thrice his head thus wauing vp and downe, He rais'd a sigh. **1607** — *Cor.* III. ii. 77 Goe to them, with this Bonnet in thy Hand, . . Thy Knee bussing the stones: . . wauing thy head. **1768** STERNE *Sent. Journ.*, *Passport (Versailles)*, I see the injured spirit wawe her head, and turn off silent from the author of her miseries.

9. a. *trans.* To move through the air with a sweeping gesture (the uplifted or extended arm or hand, or something held in the hand by one extremity, e.g. a wand, a hat, or something that flutters in the breeze, as a flag, a handkerchief), often as a sign of greeting or farewell, or as an expression of exultation; usually implying repeated movements to and fro or up and down.

1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* II. iii. 175 And with his Hat, thus wauing it in scorn, I would be Consul, sayes he. **1611** — *Cymb.* I. iii. 6 Pisa. It [i.e. his last speech] was his Queene, his Queene. *Imo.* Then wau'd his Handkerchiefe. **1634**, **1667**, **1794** [see WAND sb. 10]. **1697** DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 513 At once she wav'd her Hand on either side, At once the Ranks of swelling Streams divide. **1712-14** POPE *Rape Lock* v. 7 Then grave Clarissa graceful wav'd her fan; Silence ensu'd. **1784** COWPER *Task* VI. 699 Maidens wawe their 'kerchiefs, and old women weep for joy. **1794** MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* xix, [He] waved his hand for him to leave the room. **1814** SCOTT *Wav.* xx, Many sprung up and waved their arms in ecstasy. **1847** TENNYSON *Princess* IV. 501 She, ending, waved her hands: Thereat the crowd Muttering, dissolved. **1849** MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* VIII. II. 385 Halifax sprang up and waved his hat. At that signal, benches and galleries raised a shout. **1859** H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* xli, Sam only waved his hand in good-bye, and sped on across the plain. **1896** CONAN DOYLE *Rodney Stone* vi, He waved his white hands as if to brush aside all opposition.

b. of impersonal things personified; chiefly *poet.*

1667 MILTON *P.L.* v. 193 And wave your tops, ye Pines, With every Plant, in sign of Worship wawe. **1749** SMOLLETT *Regicide* I. vi, Ye spreading boughs, that wawe Your blossoms o'er the stream! **1783** CRABBE *Village* I. 74 Above the slender sheaf, The slimy mallow waves her silky leaf. **1804** W. L. BOWLES *Spir. Discov.* II. 271 Dark Lebanon Waved all his pines for thee. **1820** SHELLEY *Orpheus* 106 And cypresses that seldom wawe their boughs. **1886** J. G. WOOD *Man & Handiwork* III. 31 Where the corn waves its yellow ears.

c. To brandish (a weapon).

1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* III. i. 109 And wauing our red Weapons o're our heads, Let's all cry Peace, Freedome, and Liberty. **1606** — *Tr. & Cr. v.* 9 Bastard Margarelon Hath Doreus prisoner, And stands Calossus-wise wauing his beame. **1718** POPE *Iliad* XIII. 728 King Helenus wav'd high the Thracian blade. **1799** CAMPBELL *Pleas. Hope* I. 363 By that dread name we wawe the sword on high, And swear for her to live! **1825** SCOTT *Talism.* xxviii, The sabre of Saladin left its sheath as lightning leaves the cloud. It was waved in the air, — and the head of the Grand Master rolled to the extremity of the tent. **1869** W. S. GILBERT 'Bab' *Ballads, Ben Allah Achmet* 56 'My raval!' shrieked the invalid, And drew a mighty sword and waved it. **1911** G. M. TREVELYAN *Garibaldi* VIII. 184 Men and women waved swords which they would never wield in earnest.

absol. **1607** SHAKS. *Cor.* I. vi. 74 Let him alone: Or so many so minded, Waueth thus to expresse his disposition, And follow Martius. *They all shout and waueth their swords.*

d. *intr.* (for *pass.*) To be moved to and fro. Of a weapon: To be brandished. † Also *trans.*, to pass over (something) with a brandishing movement.

1605 *First Pt. Jeronimo* III. ii. 105 See, a reuengfull sword Wauas ore my head. **1667** MILTON *P.L.* VI. 304 Now wav'd thir fierie Swords, and in the Aire Made horrid Circles. *Ibid.* XII. 643 They looking back, all th' Eastern side beheld Of Paradise, . . Wav'd over by that flaming Brand. **1671** T. HUNT *Abeced. Scholast.* 90 Give a child as long as he will crave, and a dog as long as his tail will wawe. **1828** LYTTON *Pelham* xvii, The lady's handkerchief waved in token of

encouragement and triumph. **1896** CONAN DOYLE *Rodney Stone* vi, I see, too, the figures at the garden gate: my mother, with her face turned away, and her handkerchief waving.

† *e. trans.* In the Levitical law: To elevate and move from side to side (an oblation or *wave-offering*) before the altar. *Obs.*

First in Tindale, following Luther, who renders the verb by *weben*, and also has the compounds *webebröt*, *webebrust*, *webeopfer* = wave-loaf, -breast, -offering (see 13).

1530 TINDALE *Exod.* xxix. 24 And put all upon the handes of Aaron and on the handes of his sonnes: and waue them in and out a waueoffrynge vnto the Lorde. — *Lev.* xiv. 21 Let him bringe one lambe for a trespaceoffrynge to waue it. [So **1535** COVERDALE; and all later versions.]

f. Occasional uses. Of a dog: To wag (its tail). Of a fish: To flap (a fin).

1677 GILPIN *Demonol.* iii. v. 31 The Devil. . stands like a Fawning Dog scratching and waving his Tail. **1883** E. W. GOSSE in *Longm. Mag.* I. 559 Beneath the granite gray The sulky ferox lay And waved a fin.

10. a. To signify (something) by a wave of the hand or arm. Also with dative of person.

1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* II. v. Perchance the maiden smiled to see Yon parting lingerer wave adieu. **1847** TENNYSON *Princess* II. 84 She spoke, and bowing waved Dismissal. **1874** SANKEY'S *Sacred Songs* (1878) 3 'Hold the Fort, for I am coming'. Jesus signals still; Wave the answer back to heaven, 'By thy grace we will.' **1878** BROWNING *La Saisiaz* 16 From no far mound Waved salute a tall white figure. **1888** BESANT *Inner House* iii, The women wept and laughed at the same time, and waved them welcome.

b. To motion (a person, etc.) *aside, away, back, in, off* by a movement of the hand, etc.; also with preps. *from, over, to*, etc. Also *fig.*

1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* lxxi, Waving them off with his hand, and calling softly to her as he went, he stole into the room. **1841** C. WHITEHEAD *R. Savage* I. xi. 322 He waved me from him. **1854** SURTEES *Handley Cr.* (1901) I. i. 6 Michael took off his broad-brimmed, low-crowned hat, and waving in the pack, cheered them to the echo. *Ibid.* 7 He presently had the old hounds at his heels, and hat in hand he waved them over the wall. **1864** MRS. H. WOOD *Ld. Oakburn's Dau.* xxxvii, An attendant opened the door to see if anything might be wanted, but was waved away again. **1883** D. C. MURRAY *Hearis* ix, 'There is a fire in the sitting-room', he said, closing the outer door and waving her along the hall. **1894** MRS. H. WARD *Marcella* II. 100 Marcella waved him aside and ran on. **1914** H. JAMES in *Q. Rev.* Apr. 338 If we put ourselves questions we yet wave away doubts. **1916** W. SANDAY *In View of End* 89 Hitherto the pacifist writings have been waved aside simply on the ground that they were pacifist.

(b) *to wave down* [cf. *flag down* s.v. FLAG *v.* 4 2 a], to wave at (a driver of a vehicle) as a signal to stop; also with the vehicle as object.

1955 J. P. DONLEAVY *Ginger Man* xxx. 343 A taxi roaring by. Wave it down. To the Red Lion Square. Fast. **1967** J. WEATHERHEAD *Sacred Shaft* ii. 15 There was a man. . waving her down on the fast stretch near Oxted. **1972** T. LILLEY 'K' *Section* xl. 176 A man on a motor-bike. . stopped when Carter waved him down. **1981** M. C. SMITH *Gorky Park* I. xvii. 253 It took him twenty minutes to wave down a taxi.

c. *intr.* To make a sign by a wave of the hand. **1803** EDWIN I. xiii. 205, I waved to the door, and in silence proceeded to the tyrant. **1847** C. BRONTE *Jane Eyre* xii, I retained my station when he waved to me to go, and announced:—'I cannot think of leaving you, sir.' **1855** TENNYSON *Maud* I. ix. 8 Rapidly riding far away, She waved to me with her hand. **1905** MABEL BARNES-GRUNDY *Vacill.* Hazel xvi. 219 He looks very miserable and cold and pinched. Poor old Sammy! I must wave to him.

d. *trans.* To mark (musical measures) by waving something.

1851 MRS. BROWNING *Casa Guidi Wind.* I. 804 All, to please The donna waving measures with her fan.

II. (From WAVE *sb.*)

11. To ornament with an undulating design; to make (something) wavy in outline.

1547 in Feuillerat *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 9, vj Couering of Bardes of clothe of golde wherof thre ar waved with clothe of golde. c **1611** CHAPMAN *Iliad* xxiii. 482 Arms. . forged of brass, and waved about with tin. **1652** CULPEPER *Eng. Physit.* (1656) 137 Leaves. . a little unevenly waved sometimes about the edges. **1667** MILTON *P.L.* IV. 306 Shee. . Her unadorned golden tresses wore Disshaveled, but in wanton ringlets wav'd As the Vine curls her tendrils. **1678** MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* vi. 104 When one end of the Riglet you wave, is with the Vice Screwed to the plain side of the Rack. *Ibid.* 105 The Riglet will on its upper side receive the form of the several waves on the under side of the Rack, and also the form or Molding that is on the edge of the bottom of the Iron and so at once the Riglet will be both Molded and waved. **1686** tr. Chardin's *Trav. Persia* 304 The lower part of which Chappel is cover'd with large Tiles of Porphyry wav'd, and painted with Flowers. **1706** PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), To *Wave*, to fashion, or make like the waves of the Sea; as watered Silks or Stuffs are. **1733** *School of Miniature* 39 Finish. . by fine thin Strokes, . . waving and curling them according to the turn of the Hair. **1815** J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 763 Strokes following the same direction, but gently waved. **1875** SWINBURNE *Ess. & Studies* 319 A head-dress of eastern fashion, . . raised and waved and rounded in the likeness of a sea-shell. **1888** SWEET *Hist. Eng. Sounds* §221 Earlier in the [11th] century they began to wave and lengthen the top tags of i, n, h, etc. **1909** *Daily Chron.* 1 Oct. 7/4 Hair that has been waved by hot irons till it is broken and irregular.

12. *intr.* To undulate in form or outline.

1789 J. WILLIAMS *Min. Kingd.* I. 108 The horizontal coals. . are found to wave considerably in several places. **1795** ANDERSON *Narr. Embassy China* 73 Its [sc. the river's] course waves in the finest meanders. **1796** W. H. MARSHALL *W. Eng.* II. 84 A slip or comb, of water formed land, waving with the stream. **1859** RUSKIN *Two Paths* iv. §121 From this, and in subordination to this, waved the arch and

sprang the pinnacle. **1883** MISS BROUGHTON *Belinda* II. ix, Now and then the type waves up and down before her like the furrows of a ploughed field; but she reads on.

III. 13. The verb-stem in combination, in the names of the several offerings which, according to the Levitical law, were 'waved' (see 9 e) by the priest when presented in sacrifice, as wavebreast, -loaf, -offering, -sheaf; also wavebread, a mod. synonym of *wave-loaf*.

1530 TINDALE *Lev.* vii. 30 Euen the fatt apone the brest he shall bringe with the brest to waue it a waueoffrynge before the Lorde. *Ibid.* 34 For the wauebrest and the heueshulder I haue taken of the childern of Israel. *Ibid.* xxiii. 17 And ye shall brynge out of youre habitacions two waueloaves. **1535** COVERDALE *Lev.* xxiii. 15 From the nexte daye after the Sabbath, whan ye brought y^e Waueshefe [1530 TINDALE, the sheffe of the waueoffrynge]. **1625** T. GODWIN *Moses & Aaron* VI. ii. 268 These two words, Thenuphtho, and Therumoth; both signifie shake-offrings, heaue-offrings, or waue-offrings. **1879** FARRAR *St. Paul* II. 297 Which with the wave-bread and the heave-shoulders the priest afterwards took as his own perquisites.

14. wave-off *Aeronaut.*, a signal or instruction to an approaching aircraft that it is not to land.

1951 *Jrnl. R. Aeronaut. Soc.* LV. 526/2 To avoid embarrassment to the pilot, the sudden increase of power on the wave-off signal should not be accompanied by violent changes of trim. **1973** *Black Panther* 20 Oct. 10/2 When a tower calls 'missed approach' to an aircraft, they are obliged to obey and accept the tower's 'wave-off'.

wave, obs. form of WAIF *sb.*¹, WAIVE *v.*¹, *v.*²

wave, obs. pa. t. of WEAVE *v.*¹

waved (wevɪd), *ppl. a.* [f. WAVE *v.* + -ED¹.]

1. Having the form of waves, presenting a wavy outline or appearance, undulating, undulated.

a. *gen.*

1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. II. 86 In the hole is laied good store of wood, whereon is raised gallantly a waued rooffe. **1605** SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iii. iv. *Captains* 114 A large Cave, . . Whose waved Seeling, . . The Nymphs. . rarely had imboist With Pearls and Rubies. **1768** BOSWELL *Corsica* I. (ed. 2) 25 A rich waved country. . reaches along the east and south coasts to Bonifaccio. **1808** ELEANOR SLEATH *Bristol Heiress* I. 61 This surface. . is gently waved, rising with a varied swell from a small hollow, or valley. **1863** *Illustr. Lond. News* 1 Aug. 116/4 Advt., Crinoline.—The Patent Ondina, or Waved Jupón, does away with the unsightly results of the ordinary hoops. **1875** KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Waved Wheel.* The edge of the wheel is waved or convoluted so that as it revolves it imparts a lateral oscillation to an arm, pitman, or what not. **1890** HESSELS *Corpus Gloss.* Introd. p. xi, [The letter] l, with a waved stroke through it, indicates uel.

b. of hair, etc.

1863 'HOLME LEE' *A. Warleigh* III. 58 Her hat in her lap, and her waved brown hair uncovered. **1884** McLAREN *Spinning* (ed. 2) 6 Take some hairs and some fibres of South Down wool and hold them together. The hair will hang straight and smooth, the wool will be curly, something like a corkscrew, and will have a waved appearance. **1913** *Play Pictorial* No. 138, p. vi/2 The waved hair is drawn smoothly back from the forehead.

c. *Her.* = UNDEE, WAVÉ, WAVY.

1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* II. iii. 44 Of these [Lines] some are. . Waved. **1680** SIR G. MACKENZIE *Sci. Her.* 26 Waved is so call'd, from the waves of the Sea, which it represents, and is therefore called *undé*, and is used for signifying that the Bearer got his Arms for service done at sea. *Ibid.* 44 A cross waved. *Crux undosa*. **1704** J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, Waved or Wavy.

d. Of a sword, dagger, etc.: Having the edge undulated. Also in *Her.*

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xviii. (Roxb.) 126/1 He beareth Azure, a waved sword, or a sword, or wavey. **1780** EDMONDSON *Heraldry* II. Gloss., *Waved Sword*, by some erroneously called a flaming sword. **1855** tr. *Labarte's Arts Mid. Ages* p. xxxv, Malay knife. . , blade waved.

2. Having undulated markings. Of silk, etc. = WATERED. Also in comb. † *waved-wise* adv.

1547 in Feuillerat *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 14 Gardyd abowtes with clothe of golde waydy wyse. **1601** HOLLAND *Pliny* VIII. xlviii. I. 228 The waved water chamelot was from the beginning esteemed the richest and bravest wearing. **1667** MILTON *P.L.* VII. 406 Fish. . through Groves Of Coral stray, or sporting with quick glance Show to the Sun thir wav'd coats dropt with Gold. **1711** *Fr. Bk. Rates* 378 Camblets, watered and not watered, waved, and not waved.

3. *Bot.*, *Zool.*, and *Min.* Undulate; having a wavy form or texture; having wavy markings.

1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* I. 6 The Gray, or Horse-Fly. Her eye is. . of a semisphaeroidal figure; black and waved. **1776** J. LEE *Introd. Bot. Expl.* Terms 379 *Flexuosus*, waved, bent backwards and forwards from Bud to Bud. **1796** WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) III. 673 Leaves. . waved at the edge. **1822** J. PARKINSON *Outl. Oryctol.* 187 The hinge. . without tooth, waved and rather sinuous and unequal. **1841** *Florist's Jnl.* (1846) II. 277 The sepals and petals are very linear and waved. **1843** HUMBLE *Dict. Geol.* etc. (ed. 2), *Waved*, . . In botany, applied to the margins of leaves, when bordered alternately with numerous minute segments of circles and angles. In entomology, applied to insects when the margin of the body is marked with a succession of arched incisions. **1845** A. GRAY *Bot. Text-bk.* (ed. 2) 112 A slightly waved or sinuous margin is said to be *repand*. **1870** HOOKER *Stud. Flora* 276 Lobes of lower lip subequal, waved and toothed.

b. In specific names of animals, plants, etc.

1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 130 *Raia Vndulata*. . the waved Scate. **1681** GREW *Musæum* I. §vi. ii. 147 The Great Waved-Muscle. . is commonly found in the Red-Sea. **1822** *Hortus Anglicus* II. 397 Aster Undulatus. *Waved Star Wort*. **1824** R. K. GREVILLE *Flora Edin.* 20 *Aira flexuosa*. . Waved

Hair-grass. **1832** RENNIE *Consp. Butterfl. & Moths* 139 The Waved Carpet (*Emmelesia sylvaata*, Stephens).

Comb. **1796** MARSHALL *Planting* II. 66 The Curled Cistus, or Waved-leaved Rock Rose.

4. Moved in waves.

1820 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* IV. 187 'Tis the deep music of the rolling world Kindling within the strings of the waved air Æolian modulations.

5. Held aloft and moved to and fro.

1883 MISS BROUGHTON *Belinda* I. iii, A burly middle-aged figure gesticulating with raised arms and waved umbrella in mid-road. **1891** F. TENNYSON *Daphne* 3 Beeches swung their heads Before the waved banners of the winds. **1916** BAYFIELD tr. *Ovid's Met.* XI. in *19th Cent.* May 1013 She. . was the first to see Her lord. . Who with waved hand made signal, and her own She waved in answer.

'waveform. Also wave form, wave-form. [f. WAVE *sb.* + FORM *sb.*] The shape of a wave at any moment, or that of the graphical representation of a (usu. periodically) varying physical quantity; a wave regarded as characterized by a particular shape or manner of variation, esp. a varying voltage.

1845 *Rep. Brit. Assoc. Adv. Sci.* 1844 I. 340 The wave of the first order has a definite form and magnitude. . . This wave-form has its surface wholly raised above the level of repose of the fluid. **1846** W. R. BIRT in *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* I. 138 Should the rarefying process cease, . . not only will the wave-form be continued, but also the wave-motion. **1889** WELCH *Text. Bk. Naval Archit.* iii. 58 It is only the wave form which advances, and not the water composing that wave. **1903** *Whittaker's Electr. Engineer's Pocket-Bk.* 104 The effects produced by the various wave forms may be calculated by summing the effects produced by each component having this peculiar form. *Ibid.* 108 The wave form of an alternating E.M.F. **1923** *Proc. R. Soc. A.* CIII. 84 The term 'wave-form' is used throughout as a convenient abbreviation for the 'temporal variation of the electric field'. **1947** CROWTHER & WHIDDINGTON *Science at War* 15 A cathode ray tube would be suitable for finding the wave-form of the atmospheric. **1958** *Engineering* 31 Jan. 160/1 Electrical waveforms can be generated electronically and fed to the speaker which transforms them into 'artificial' sounds. **1968** *Brit. Med. Bull.* XXIV. 251/2 They established that the breathing waveforms contain at least four significant components, having approximate frequencies of 0.27, 0.12, 0.07, and 0.03 cycles per breath. **1977** *Rolling Stone* 24 Mar. (Advt.), These new speakers come with a test record that lets you pinpoint the output level where your particular amplifier begins to clip the peaks of the musical waveform.

wave guide. Also wave-guide, waveguide. [f. WAVE *sb.* + GUIDE *sb.*] A device which constrains or guides electromagnetic waves along a path defined by its physical structure and conducts them with minimum energy loss; *spec.* a metal tube, usu. of rectangular cross-section, doing this in the hollow space along its length. Also *transf.* Cf. *transmission line* s.v. TRANSMISSION *e.*

1936 *Bell Syst. Techn. Jnl.* XV. 284 A novel form of electrical propagation by means of which extremely high-frequency waves may be transmitted from one point to another, through specially constructed wave guides. The guide. . may be a hollow copper pipe. **1960** M. REDWOOD *Mech. Waveguides* 1 In much of the research work in which mechanical waveguides are found the waveguide itself is of only subsidiary interest. **1969** *Guardian* 7 Nov. 13/4 Experimental lengths of a kind of special pipe called a 'wave-guide' . . are expected to be the very high capacity trunk telecommunications cables of the future. **1976** *Jnl. R. Soc. Arts* CXXXIV. 591/2 The electron beam is fired into a 'wave guide' carrying a very intense flow of radar waves. **1979** *Sci. Amer.* Oct. 71/3 Some whistlers have proved to be signals generated by a lightning stroke in one hemisphere of the earth and conducted to the opposite hemisphere through a natural waveguide formed by the lines of force of the earth's magnetic field. **1984** *Which?* Dec. 542/1 Microwaves. . are directed into the oven by a wave guide.

wavel (wevl), *v.* *Sc.* Also 7 waivle, weavle, 9 wawle. [Freq. of WAVE *v.*: see -EL.]

† 1. *intr.* 'To move backwards and forwards, to wave' (Jam. 1808). *Obs.*

a **1689** W. CLELAND *Poems* (1697) 107 He making Hands, and Gown, and sleeves wavel, Half Singing vents this Reavel Ravel.

† b. *trans.* To twist (the mouth). *Obs.*

1654 SIR A. JOHNSTON (Ld. Wariston) *Diary* (S.H.S.) II. 277 Folks observing in the kirk. . my wagging my head and weavling my mouth in the singing.

2. To stagger.

[1638: cf. *ppl. a.* below.] **1896** J. J. H. BURGESS *Lourra Biglan* 56 (E.D.D.) So up he wawles to da door.

3. ? To embroider with a wavy pattern.

a **1844** W. MILLER in A. Whitelaw *Scot. Song* 536 His coat's o' glowin' ruddy brown, and wawlet wi' gold.

Hence 'wavelled' *ppl. a.* ? twisted; 'wavelling' *ppl. a.*

1638 SIR A. JOHNSTON (Ld. Wariston) *Diary* (S.H.S.) I. 383 Using al and only his auin means, without wawling steps to byrods and bypayths, they may find that sprit within telling them realy and sensibly This is not the way, walk not in it. **1886** J. J. H. BURGESS *Shetland Sk.* 30 He's sic a wawlit ill-vyndid lookin' objec', nae manly wy wi him ava.

'wavelength. Also wave length, wave-length. [f. WAVE *sb.* + LENGTH *sb.*] 1. a. The distance between successive peaks or maxima of a wave; *esp.* this as a distinctive feature of the radio

waves used to carry a particular programme service.

1850 *Rep. Brit. Assoc. Adv. Sci.* 1849 II. 11 It was well known . . . that Fraunhofer had most accurately measured the wave lengths of seven of the principal fixed lines in the solar spectrum. **1871** SCHELLEN *Spectrum Anal.* §18. 59 The rays of shortest wave-length, namely the violet. **1881** BROADHOUSE *Mus. Acoustics* 66 The fork . . . condenses . . . a bulk of air equal in length to the wave-length of its own pitch. **1907** V. CORNISH in *Geogr. Jnl.* Jan. 25 The water may commonly be seen to . . . grow in the space of a few yards to a uniform wave-length of about 2 feet. **1925** *Scribner's Mag.* July 47/2 He swung the dials round to where he could receive the commercial wave lengths. **1950** *Engineering* 24 Mar. 337/3 The reasons for changes in the wavelengths of European broadcasting stations . . . are explained. **1971** *Daily Tel.* 18 Jan. 7/4 His experts have also juggled wavelengths to make air space for both Radio 1 and the commercial network. **1977** P. B. & J. S. MEDAWAR *Life Sci.* i. 20 Ordinary light microscopy has the disadvantage that nothing can be seen that is smaller than the wavelength of visible light.

b. Electromagnetic waves of the wavelength described.

1915 R. A. HOUSTON *Treat. Light* xxv. 449 He assumes the existence of an enclosure containing a great number of Hertzian oscillators all radiating and absorbing the same wave-length. **1937** JENKINS & WHITE *Fund. Physical Optics* xii 277 Substances are said to show selective reflection when certain wave-lengths are reflected much more strongly than others. **1982** *Sci. Amer.* Aug. 52/1 Most ultraviolet wavelengths . . . cannot penetrate the earth's atmosphere.

c. The distance between adjacent heights or hollows in a body with a wave-like surface.

1958 *Spectator* 31 Jan. 133/3 The wavelength of the corrugations [on Persian roads] is considerably larger than the pace of a sheep or goat. **1977** *Sci. Amer.* Apr. 30/1 Nearly constant winds blow across the basin with such force that they pile up sand dunes as much as 150 kilometres long with wavelengths of three to five kilometres, clearly visible in satellite pictures.

2. *fig.* with allusion to radio reception, implying (esp. mutual) understanding; esp. in phr. *to be on the same wavelength* (as someone else), to understand each other.

1927 *Amer. Speech* II. 276/2 *Have one's wave length*, know one's sentiments. **1929** A. E. HOUSMAN *Let.* 16 Feb. (1971) I. 276 Only the archangel Raphael could recite my poetry properly, but . . . you would do it quite nicely, and I shall try not to set up interfering wave-lengths. **a 1936** Kipling *Let.* in C. Carrington *Rudyard Kipling* (1955) xx. 509 Every man has to work out his creed according to his own wave-length, and the hope is that the Great Receiving Station is tuned to take *all* wave-lengths. **1938** *Times Lit. Suppl.* 24 Sept. 617/3 She finally comes to believe that she is the only person in Riverville who was 'born civilized' and that nobody else there is of her own 'wavelength'. **1947** T. S. ELIOT *Milton* 12 It is only in the period that the wave-length of Milton's verse is to be found. **1959** *Economist* 6 June 919/2 Editors and publishers . . . have to . . . find the wave-length of their . . . readers. **1964** H. WALDOCK in *Barcelona Traction, Light & Power Co. Case* (Internat. Court of Justice) II. 112, I do not think that it would assist the Court if I were to deal with every contention advanced by our opponents in their Observations and Conclusions; for on some points we are really not on the same wave-length. **1976** LD. HOME *Way Wind Blows* ii. 27 In September A. W. Whitworth took over, and I like to think we were soon on each other's wave-length. **1983** D. DUNNETT *Dolly & Bird of Paradise* xiii. 168 We weren't on the same wavelength really. . . . He was clever. And my thoughts are easy to read.

3. Special Comb.: **wavelength constant** = *propagation constant* s.v. PROPAGATION 8.

1940 *Chambers's Techn. Dict.* 902/2 Wavelength constant. **1963** [see *propagation constant* s.v. PROPAGATION 8].

waveless ('weɪvlɪs), *a.* [f. WAVE *sb.* + -LESS.] Having no waves or undulation; not agitated or disturbed by waves. Also *fig.*

? **a 1597** PEELE *David & Bethsabe* (1599) Bjb, Thy body smoother then this waulesses spring. **1799** CAMPBELL *Pleas. Hope* II. 127 In the waveless mirror of his mind. **1804** GRAHAME *Sabbath* 212 A waveless lake, In which the wintry stars all bright appear. **1818** SHELLEY *Eugan. Hills* 91 Beneath is spread like a green sea The waveless plain of Lombardy. **1842** BARHAM *Ingol. Leg., Fragm. Westm. Abbey* 12 Above each knightly stall Unmoved, the banner'd blazonry hung waveless as a pall. **1872** M. COLLINS *Two Plunges for Pearl* III. 166 Lotos-islands in a waveless bay. **1887** G. W. CABLE *Grande Pointe* v. in *Century Mag.* Mar. 668/1 Their delicately penciled brows, their dark, waveless hair. **1890** 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* xii, Waveless uniformity, not to say monotony, of existence.

Hence **'wavelessly** *adv.*

1819 *Blackw. Mag.* VI. 136 Wavelessly the river spread Its silver mirror. **1845** JANE ROBINSON *Whitehall* iii, So placidly and wavelessly the winds of passion or guilt glide past the waters of time.

wavelet ('weɪvlɪt). [f. WAVE *sb.* + -LET.] A little wave, a ripple.

1813 SHELLEY *Q. Mab* viii. 24 Like the vague sighings of a wind at even, That wakes the wavelets of the slumbering sea. **1856** GEO. ELIOT *Scenes Cler. Life, Amos Barton* ii, The head, with its thin wavelets of brown hair, indents the little pillow. **1873** BLACK *Pr. Thule* v. 77 The white wavelets that were breaking on the beach.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

c 1810 COLERIDGE in *Lit. Rem.* (1838) III. 360 You only hide it by foam and bubbles, by wavelets and steam-clouds, of ebullient rhetoric. **1874** H. R. RYFOLDS *John Baptist* i. 3 The transcendent Intelligence which presides over the law and measure of every wavelet of the universal energy. **1879** MACDONALD P. *Faber* I. vi. 61 Slowly she rose through a sky freckled with wavelets of cloud.

'wave-like, a. and adv. [f. WAVE *sb.* + -LIKE.]

A. adj. Resembling a wave, or what pertains to a wave.

1685 BOYLE *Effects of Motion* iii. (1690) 18, I see no necessity of having recourse to any thing but the wave-like motion of the Air for the production of our Phenomenon. **1830** LVELL *Princ. Geol.* I. 468 The wave like motion of the ground during earthquakes. **1887** T. STEVENS *Around World on Bicycle* I. 3 The wave-like macadam abruptly terminates, and I find myself on a common dirt road. **1889** *Hardwicke's Sci.-Gossip* XXV. 124 Every now and then a wave-like movement is seen to traverse through them.

B. adv. After the manner of a wave or waves.

1872 *Routledge's Every Boy's Ann.* 215 The dark solid wall of the enemy's infantry rolled, wave-like against this position. **1884** J. PAYN *Lit. Recoll.* 33 When I think of that inimitable scene, the humour of it sweeps wavelike over all.

'wave-line.

1. *Ship-building.* An outline recommended by some naval architects for the hull of a vessel as facilitating movement through the waves.

1846 *Mechanic's Mag.* 24 Oct. 391 What 's the wave line? According to its ingenious author, Mr. J. Scott Russell, it differs from an ordinary ship's bow . . . in this, that it is 'gently hollower than such a bow towards the cutwater, and a little rounder towards the greatest breadth'. **1883** *Harper's Mag.* Aug. 441/2 The wave-line theories . . . had been adopted.

2. *Physics.* The path of a wave of light, sound, etc.; also, the graphic representation of the path.

1888 RUTLEY *Rock-forming Min.* 30 They are thrown into a wave line through the successive vibration of the other particles from the line of rest. *Ibid.* 31 The wave-line . . . is just half a wave-length.

3. Each of the lines or furrows produced by the action of the waves on a sandy beach.

1891 *Century Dict.*

wavellite ('weɪvəlaɪt). *Min.* [Named 1805 after Dr. W. *Wavel* its discoverer: see -ITE.] Hydrous phosphate of aluminium, found in globular aggregates with a radiated structure.

1805 *Phil. Trans.* XCV. 162. **1822** G. YOUNG *Geol. Surv. Coast Yorks.* (1828) 129 Silky crystals, resembling wavellite. **1885** *Encycl. Brit.* XVIII. 818/1.

wave me'chanics. *Physics.* Also **wave-mechanics** (with hyphen). [f. WAVE *sb.* + MECHANICS.] A form of non-relativistic quantum mechanics introduced by E. Schrödinger in which particles are regarded as having some of the properties of waves, the waves being described by the wave functions produced as solutions of the Schrödinger wave equation.

1926 *Physical Rev.* XXVIII. 726 Schroedinger's presentation is based on his wave-mechanics, while this is based on the matrix-mechanics. **1942** J. D. STRANATHAN 'Particles' *Mod. Physics* vi. 228 On wave mechanics the electron is not regarded as a localized particle. **1953** *Sci. News* XXX. 13 When wave mechanics is applied to any problem, the first step is to write down an expression for the energy of the system. **1974** *Encycl. Brit. Macropædia* XI. 796/1 The revolutionary development of quantum mechanics (of which wave mechanics and matrix mechanics are specialized partial formulations) occurred with breathtaking rapidity in the years 1925-30.

Hence **wave-me'chanical a., -me'chanically adv.**

1928 E. SCHRÖDINGER *Four Lect. Wave Mech.* 6 In replacing the ordinary mechanical description by a wave-mechanical description our object is to obtain a theory. **1951** C. N. HINSHELWOOD *Struct. Physical Chem.* vi. 129 The number of solutions of the ψ equation, which correspond to a given value of the permitted energy value E , is the expression for the statistical weight in the wave-mechanical formulation. **1971** *Physics Bull.* Jan. 16/2 A molecule is harder to deal with wave-mechanically than either an atom or an atomic crystal.

† **'wavenger.** *Sc. and north. Obs.* Forms: 5-6 **vau-**, 6 **wauengeour**, 9 **waff-**, **whiffinger**, **waifinger**. [App. f. WAIF *sb.* after *messenger, passenger, scavenger*, etc.]

1. *Sc.* A vagabond. Also *attrib.*

1493 *Sc. Acts Jas. IV* (1814) II. 235/1 To causs idill men vauengeouris to laubour for pair leuing. **1513** DOUGLAS *Æneis* IV. xi. 17 [Shall it be] lefull till a wauengeour strangeir Me and my realm betrum on this maneir. *Ibid.* XII. v. 99 Follow me Quham now 3on vauengeour, 3on ilk stranger, Affrays so.

2. *dial.* A stray animal, estray.

1825 BROCKETT *N.C. Gloss, Waifinger*, an estray. **a 1864** R. B. PEACOCK *Lonsdale Gloss., Waifinger*, stray cattle.

waver ('weɪvə(r)), *sb.*¹ Also 6 **wayver**, **weaver**, 6-8 **waiver**. [Of obscure origin: the early forms do not favour derivation from WAVE *v.* Possibly f. WAIVE *v.*¹, in the sense 'to leave untouched'.] A young tree left standing when the surrounding wood is felled.

1555 *Anc. Deed C 7700* (P.R.O.), The said Luke shall leave . . . standynge . . . all suche wayuers of oke and asshe that be vnder the compage of twelue ynches in thycknesse. **1590** W. WEST *Symbol.* §267 (§406) Except the land and soile of the same woodes and vnderwoodes, and also wayuers called standers of &c. **1595** *Holmesfield Court Rolls in Sheffield Gloss.* s.v., That no persone or persons within this manor shall cutt vpp or carry away any of the lorde's woodes . . . vpon payne of every burden of greene wood vj d. and every weaver xij d. and every burden of dry wood being hedgwood iiii d. **1597** *Ibid.*, Every weaver or poole. **1664** EVELYN *Sylva* xvii. 71 It is a very ordinary Copse which will not afford three or

four Firsts, that is, Bests; fourteen Seconds; twelve Thirds; eight Wavers, &c. according to which proportions the sizes of young Trees in Copping are to succeed one another. **1768** *Yorks.* 186 Leaving at certain distances, when the timber and under-wood are cut down, the thriving young trees, which so left, are very properly called *wavers*, from their being agitated by every breeze. **1888** *Sheffield Gloss.*

waver ('weɪvə(r)), *sb.*² [f. WAVE *v.* + -ER¹.]

† 1. One who vacillates. *Obs.*

1667 *Waterhouse Fire Lond.* 189 No waver in Judgment, have I, through Gods mercy, ever been.

2. One who waves, or causes to undulate, swing, or flutter.

1835 T. MITCHELL *Aristoph. Acharn.* 1059 *note*, Groupes of tumblers, jugglers, ball-players, and wavers of the torch. **1860** W. G. CLARK in Galton *Vac. Tour.* (1861) 46 The wavers of flags, and the brandishers of daggers. **1869** 'MARK TWAIN' *Innoc. Abr.* xiii. (1872) 91 The . . . house-tops . . . burst into a snow storm of waving handkerchiefs, and the wavers of the same mingled their cheers with those of the masses below.

† 3. A name for the star Fomalhaut in the constellation Piscis Australis. *Obs.*

1556 *RECORDE Cast. Knowl.* IV. 267 [*marg.*] The Wauer.

4. *Printing.* See *quots.* Also **waver roller**.

1882 *SOUTHWARD Pract. Print.* 471 Next set in their places the wavers and the inkers. **1888** *Encycl. Brit.* XXIII. 706/1 As the carriage returns, this strip of ink is distributed on the inking table by rollers placed diagonally across the machine. The diagonal position gives them a waving motion; hence they are called *wavers*. **1888** *JACOBI Printers' Vocab.*, *Waver rollers*, rollers which distribute ink on the ink table in a diagonal direction. *Wavers*, short term for 'waver rollers'.

5. An implement for making the hair wavy.

1895 *Army & Navy Stores List* 15 Sept. 180/2 Hair Wavers. . . Price per box, containing 5 wavers, 0/8½. **1909** *Daily Chron.* 1 Oct. 7/4 These wavers may be left in the slightly dampened hair for an hour or two, and the result will be a soft, natural-looking wave.

waver ('weɪvə(r)), *sb.*³ [f. WAVER *v.*] The act or condition of wavering.

a. In physical sense, a flutter or trembling.

1826 J. WILSON in *Blackw. Mag.* XX. 90 No a bit butterfly on its silent waver, meeting the murmur of the straight-forward bee. **1886** GUILLEMAUD *Cruise of Marchesa* I. 137 Here and there a little gap revealed a Hobbema-like scene of sunny distance, whose clearness was unbroken by the waver of a single leaf. **1891** 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Sydney-side Sax.* xii, Sitting square, without the slightest waver or tremble in her saddle. **1918** MERRICK *When Love flies* iv. 44 She sat watching the waver of the candles in the draught.

b. A condition of vacillation or faltering. † *in a waver* (*obs.*), *on* or *upon the waver*, in uncertainty or unsteadiness; inclining now this way, now that.

1519 HORMAN *Vulgaria* 57 b, I stande in doubte or in a wauer. *Anceps sum concilii.* **1806** HENRY SIDDONS *Maid, Wife, & Widow* III. 64 His reason was on the waver. **a 1809** J. PALMER *Like Master* (1811) I. xii. 167 His regret to leave the coppers he touch'd in his present service, and his inclination to embrace the brazier's offer, kept him upon the waver, like an ass between two bundles of hay. **1864** SHERMAN *Let.* 31 Dec. (1894) 241 Not a waver, doubt, or hesitation when I order, and men march to certain death without a murmur if I call on them. **1865** MRS. H. WOOD *Mildred Arkell* xlviii, 'Does she mean to accept him?' asked Tralice. 'Well, she's on the waver. She does not dislike him, and she does not particularly like him.'

waver ('weɪvə(r)), *v.* Also 4 **wever**, 4-5 *Sc. wayver*, *wafer*, 4-6 *Sc. waver*, 4-7 *Sc. wawer*, 5 *wavere*, *wavur*, *wafyr*, 6 *wavor*, *Sc. vaifer*, 7 *wavour*. [ME. *waver*, *wever* = MHG. *waberên*, mod.G. (now dial.) *wabern*, *webern* to move about, ON. *vafra* to move unsteadily, flicker (cf. *vafrrloge* flickering flame), Norw. *vavra* to go to and fro, stagger; a frequentative f. Teut. root **wab-*: see WAVE *v.*

Shoreham's *weverinde* (c 1315, sense 5) shows that the word in the south at least is native English (cf. OE. *wæfre* unsteady, also nimble); it is possible that in the north the word may partly represent an adoption of ON. *vafra*, but the supposition is not necessary.]

I. Intransitive.

1. a. To go about or travel at random or without fixed destination; to wander, rove. Also with *adv.*, as *about*.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* VII. 41 The sleuth-hund maid stynnting thar, And vaueryt [v.r. waueryt] lang tyme to and fra. **c 1375** *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxv. (*Julian*) 287 Waferand fra place to place. **c 1440** *Alphabet of Tales* 490 þai waxed so pure at þai wawurd aboute here & per. **c 1470** HENRY WALLACE IV. 283 He saw mony rout off wyld bestis wauerand in wode and playne. **1483** *Cath. Engl.* 411/1 To Wauere Aboute (v.r. Wafyr About), *vagari*. **1513** DOUGLAS *Æneis* VI. v. 70 Quha ar vnberiet a hundreth 3eir man byde, Wauerand and wandrand by this bankis syde. **1599** NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* C1, There were two Channels . . . where through the fishermen did wander and wauer vp to Norwiche and diuers parts of Suffolke and Norfolke. **1924** GALSWORDY *White Monkey* I. viii. 63 Michael watched him down the corridor, saw him waver into the dusky street. **1977** D. FRANCIS *Risk* ii. 20 One of them [sc. the two horses in front] wavered up the straight at a widening angle. The other seemed to be stopping second by second. . . . Tapestry scorched past both of them . . . and won the Gold Cup.

† b. To stray from. *Obs.*

1456 SIR G. HAYE *Bk. Knighthood* Wks. (S.T.S.) II. 6 He slepit upon his palfray, and waverit fra his folk out of the hve way. **1599** *Extracts Aberd. Reg.* (1848) II. 204 The said Thomas hes bene accusit of . . . wavering oftentimes fra his wyff, bairnis, and famelie. **1609** SKENE *Reg. Maj.*, *Quon.*

Attach. x. 78 Gif . . he . . sali swere that, that beast did waver away from him.

2. To sway to and fro, as if in danger of falling; to reel, stagger, totter. Now *rare* (cf. 5 d, 7).

c1400 *Destr. Troy* 8266 All in wer for to walt, wayueronde he sote. c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 447/2 Schoggyn, schakyn or waveryn, *vacillo*. 1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* liii. 10 Bot ay his ane futt did waver, He stackerit lyk ane strummall awer. 1531 ELYOT *Gov.* i. xi. (1883) l. 95 Oza, for puttyng his hande to the holy shryne that was called *Archa federis*, . . though it were wauerynge and in daunger to fall, yet was he stryken of god. 1691 RAY *Creation* l. (1692) 142 When they [sc. the Fins] are cut off, it [sc. the Body of the Fish] wavers to and fro. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xxxiii. 298 She was evidently in a condition of great suffering, and Tom often heard her praying, as she wavered and trembled, and seemed about to fall down.

3. a. To swing or wave in the air; to float or flutter.

c1400 *Promp. Parv.* 518/2 Wawyn, or waueryn, yn a myry totyr, *oscillo*. c1514 BARCLAY *Eclogue* iii, Sometime must thou stoupe unto a rude vilayne Calling him master, . . Although thou woudest see him waver in a bande. 1548 UDALL *Erasm. Par. Matt.* viii. 18-22 The byrdes fleyng and wauoring in the ayer. 1574 T. HILL *Art Garden.*, *Weather* viii. 72 The kytes playing and wauering about in the aire. 1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* iii. xv. 136 Two Lions came running with their shaggy lockes wauering about their shoulders. 1726-30 THOMSON *Winter* 230 Thro' the hush'd air the whitening shower descends, At first thin-wauering. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* vii, He could discern a figure wauering and struggling as it hung suspended above the heads of the multitude. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* vi. 64 On their curls From the high tree the blossom wauering fell. 1864 SKEAT *Uhland's Poems* 252 Lo! down wauer bay clustering ringlets Round a soft and gentle face! 1883 *Chamb. Jnl.* 689 Huge butterflies wavered about the cactus plants.

b. Phr. to waver with or in the wind. ? *Obs.* c1500 *Nut-brown Maid* 74 in Arnolde *Chron.* (1811) 200 Wythout pytee, hanged to bee, and wauer w' the wynde. 1523 BERNERS *Froiss.* I. ccxxxiii. 522 With baners and penons waueryng with the wynde. 1526 TINDALE *Matt.* xi. 7 A rede waueringe with the wynde. 1582 N. LICHEFIELD *tr. Castaneda's Conq. E. Ind.* i. lxxviii. 158 After this, hee went up and downe, wauering in the winde, tarryeng for the rest of the shippes. 1725 POPE *Odys.* xxii. 508 Soon fled the soul impure, and left behind The empty course to waver with the wind. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xi, Here many an outlaw . . had wavered in the wind during the wars. 1828 MISS MITFORD *Village, Country Barber* III. 165 A lank, long, stooping figure, which seemed wauering in the wind like a powder-puff.

c. *transf.*

1860 HAWTHORNE *Transform.* xxix, Now tumbling down, down, down, with a long shriek wauering after him, all the way. 1876 MORRIS *Sigurd* II. 141 The wind in his raiment wavered.

†4. Of water, waves: To surge. *Obs. rare.*

c1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* iv. 1963 As rewaris reythe for rayn wil ryssse And wauer mare wipe wawis woide þan wil a kyndly standande flude.

5. a. Of persons, their sentiments, etc.: To exhibit doubt or indecision; to change or vary; to fluctuate or vacillate (*between*); to falter in resolution or allegiance; to show signs of giving way.

c1315 SHOREHAM *Poems* i. 424 And pi bi-leaue of ihesu crist His nou al weuerinde. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* xii. 185 Mony ane hert sal uaverand [v.r. wauerand] be That semyt ere of gret bounte. c1407 LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 2901 And thus I stood al in a rage With look cast fix in hir visage, Wauering as in a were. c1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* v. 4318 He was curyousse in his stille, . . Mad in metyr meit his dyte, Lital or noucht neuir þe lesse Wauerande fra þe suythfastnes. c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 18/2 Waueron yn hert for vnstabylnesse, *muto*. c1440 *Gesta Rom.* xxv. 97 þat he sette fully his hope in god, and not be dul in the feithe, ne wauere in the comandementes of god. 1526 TINDALE *Jas.* i. 6 But let hym axe in faythe and waver not [1611 nothing wauering]. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 223 b, That we his yongest chylden . . sholde not . . wauer in our fayth. 1548 UDALL *Erasm. Par. Matt.* i. 20, 21 Why art thou vexed? why doest thou wauer in & out? 1579 SHAKS. *Lover's Compl.* 97 And nice affections wauering stood in doubt If best were as it was, or best without. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 43 They that wavered between warre and peace. 1641 MILTON *Ch. Govt.* i. vii. 28 Vertue that wavers is not vertue. 1714 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 585 ¶8 Her Mind continued wauering about twenty years longer between Shalum and Mishpach. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. l. 603 While he was thus wauering between projects equally hopeless. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* (1858) l. iv. 355 The allegiance even of the bishops and the secular clergy to Rome had begun to waver. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* iv. §2. 172 Only on one occasion . . did the burgesses waver from their general support of the Crown. 1883 FROUDE *Short Stud.* IV. i. xi. 131 Many people had begun to waver in their allegiance. 1884 M. CREIGHTON *Hist. Ess.* viii. (1902) 239 For a time opinions wavered which boundary to choose.

† b. Phr. to waver as, like, with the wind. Cf. 3 b.

c1480 HENRYSON *Fox, Wolf & Cadger* 218 (Harl.) With that þe cadger, wauering as the wind, Come rydand on the laid. a1548 HALL *Chron.*, *Edw. V* 13 Not common people onely, which wauer with the wynde, but wyse menne also. 1565 B. GOOGE *tr. Palingenius' Zodiac* vii. Aa vjb, And so corrupt the mindes Of rude vnskilfull common sort, that wauer lyke the wyndes. a1825 *Child Noryce* i. in *Child Ballads* II. 266 Child Noryce is a clever young man, He wavers wi the wind.

† c. To hesitate to (do something). *Obs. rare.* 1644 MILTON *Divorce* II. xv. 61, I shall not much waver to affirm, that [etc.].

d. Of a combatant, body of troops, line of battle: To become unsteady, flinch, give way.

1831 JAMES *Phil. Augustus* xlii, He wavered not a step; but, still striding over the body of the king, . . maintained his ground. 1860 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* V. xxvi. 213 The sustained

fire of the Lanzknechts threw their dense and unorganized masses into rapid confusion. As they wavered, Warwick's horse were in the midst of them. 1915 J. BUCHAN *Hist. War* IV. xxvi. 75 The line wavered and broke.

6. Of things (or a person as an unconscious agent): To change, vary, fluctuate.

1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* 2 We englysshe men ben borne vnder the domynacyon of the mone, whiche is neuer stedfaste, but euer wauerynge. a1548 HALL *Chron.*, *Hen. VI* 116 Thus the Englishe affaires . . within the realme began to wauer, and waxe variable. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 91 b, To suffer this gere to hange waueringe [L. *ut rem ita fluctuare sinat*]. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s.v. *Nuto*, Victorie wauereth or flitteth betwene both vncertainly. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxxviii, During the whole space of time just mentioned, Mr. Benjamin Allen had been wauering between intoxication partial and intoxication complete. 1859 DICKENS etc. *Haunted Ho.* iii. 14/1 He had . . a waistcoat that wavered in hue between a sunny buff and a stony drab. 1922 *19th Cent.* Apr. 681 Among all Arabs succession is hereditary, but it wavers between the eldest son and the eldest male member of the family.

7. Of the voice, the eye, etc. (or a person with reference to these): To become unsteady; to shake, tremble, falter (through emotion or bodily weakness). †Of the wits: To become confused, reel.

1621 FLETCHER *Pilgr.* III. iii, Keep my wits Heaven, I feel 'em wauering, O God my head. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xlv, 'No,' replied the old man, wauering in his voice, no less than in his manner. 1850 SUSAN WARNER *Wide World* xv, Miss Fortune's conscience must have troubled her a little, for her eye wavered uneasily. 1876 MISS BROUGHTON *Joan* i. ix, Her voice wavers and breaks. The tears well up into her eyes. 1883 A. K. GREEN *X. Y. Z.* iv. 65 His eye did not waver from its steady solemn look toward the door. 1886 KIPLING *Deparm. Ditties* etc. (1888) 45 The white hands wavered — the bright head drooped.

8. Of light, shade, objects seen unsteadily or through a haze: To flicker, quiver.

1664 BOYLE *Exper. Colours* III. xiv. 227, I took . . two Triangular Glasses, and one of them being kept fixt in the same Posture, that the Iris it projected on the Floor might not Waver. 1842 TENNYSON *Gardener's Dau.* 129 The shadow of the flowers . . wauering Lovingly lower, trembled on her waist . . and still went wauering down. 1842 — *Will Water-proof* 38 The gas-light wavers dimmer. 1849 CUPPLES *Green Hand* xvii. (1856) 173 Tall palms and cocoas — their stems wauering in the thin haze. 1914 *Blackw. Mag.* Oct. 491/2 A little gleam wavered ahead on my right.

fig. 1837 HOWELL *Hist. Induct.* Sci. iv. i. I. 247 It may serve to illustrate . . the extent to which, under the Roman empire, men's notions of mechanical relations became faint, wavered, and disappeared, if we observe the change which took place in architecture.

II. Transitive.

†9. *causal.* To cause to waver; to wave to and fro; to set in waving or fluttering motion; to render unsteady or unsteadfast. *Obs.*

c1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* III. 798 þus in seige a sote to se, Or do a dowde in dignyte, Sal ger standande statis stauer, And wil bathe wit and worschep wauer. c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 518/2 Waueron, or meyn or steryn, *agito*. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law of Arms* (S.T.S.) 227 Nocht gaynstandand that he be wauerit [printed wanerit] in his wit. 1561 in Tytler *Hist. Scot.* (1864) III. 148 Seeing he . . showed himself so constant in religion, that neither the fear of his souereign's indignation could wauer him, nor great promises win him. 1583 in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 683 Item, if the Admirall shall happen to hull in the night: then to make a wauering light ouer his other light, wauering the light vpon a pole. 1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* E 2 b, A third wauerd and wagled his head, like a proud horse playing with his bridle. 1812 *Courier in Examiner* 24 Aug. 540/1 Shot, shells, grape, . . could not . . waver the line of the . . infantry.

†10. To vacillate under, falter in resistance to. *Obs. rare*—1.

1596 DRAYTON *Mortimer.* B 4 b, Th'vnconstant Barrons, wauering euery houre, The fierce encounter of this raging tyde.

waver, var. WAIVER.

waverer ('weivərə(r)). [f. WAVER v. + -ER¹.] One who wavers; one who is undecided or vacillates in opinion or choice; one who falters in allegiance or hesitates to embrace a particular party or cause.

1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* II. iii. 89 But come young wauerer, come goe with me. 1640 tr. *Verdere's Rom. of Rom.* l. xxviii. 134, I went to Cloria, unto whom I discovered the desires of my waverer [orig. (1626) 744 *les desseins de cet inconstant*]. 1850 GROTE *Greece* II. lx. (1862) V. 259 The waverers thought it time to declare themselves. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xiii. III. 271 More than one waverer was kept steady by being assured in confident terms that a speedy restoration was inevitable. 1885 *Manch. Guard.* 20 July 5/5 A section of waverers who have inclined lately to the Tory side.

b. *Hist.* The name given to a section of Peers who were willing to make terms with the Reform government of 1832 rather than wreck the Upper House.

1832 GREVILLE *Mem.* 27 Mar. (1874) II. 273, I have no doubt that all the ultras will be deeply mortified at the moderation of Lord Grey and of the Duke of Wellington, and at the success so far of 'the Waverers'. 1886 KEBBEL *Hist. Toryism* iv. 210 The second reading of the Bill had been carried in the Lords . . with the help of the well-known 'Waverers', led by Lords Harrowby and Wharcliffe.

wavering ('weivərɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [-ING¹.] The action of the verb WAVER, in various senses.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* vi. 584 The hund alwais followit the kyng, And changit nocht for na parting, Bot ay followit the kyngis tras, But waueryng, as he passit was. ? a1400 *Morte*

Arth. 2224, I watte be thi wauerynge, thow willnez aftyre sorowe. 1548 UDALL *Erasm. Par. Luke* vi. 12-16 When the people wer in a waueryng and mammaryng what he was. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* E 3 b, Had you rested them on the true Rocke, they had bene ruine-prooffe; but now the raine wil rough-enter through the crannies of theyr wauering. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. §8. 13 Massiue bodies . . haue certaine trepidations and wauerings before they fixe and settle. a1768 SECKER *Serm.* (1770) IV. 2 Why this perpetual Wauering and Fluctuation, about the first thing, that you ought to fix. 1816 JANE AUSTEN *Emma* xxii, Had there been no pain to her friend, or reproach to herself, in the waverings of Harriet's mind, Emma would have been amused by its variations. 1828-41 TYTLER *Hist. Scot.* (1864) I. 120 The wauering of the English lines was now discernible by the Scottish soldiers. 1831 ALFORD in *Life* (1873) 68 Quick waverings about of bands of light such as take place in the Polar Auroras. 1868 E. EDWARDS *Raleigh* I. xx. 443 The King's wauering between a course of clemency and one of rigour.

'wavering, ppl. a. [f. WAVER v. + -ING².]

†1. Wandering, vagrant. *Obs.*

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* vii. 112 Thai saw on syde thre men cumand, Lik to licht men and vaueraund. 1607 N. RIDING *Rec., Q. Sess. Rec.* (1884) I. 91 Tho. Best of Wath, a wauering person, [presented] for three assaults on the Constable of Melmerby.

2. Tottering, shaking, faltering, reeling.

c1400 *Destr. Troy* 13546 And wauerand, weike, [1] wan to the lond. 1569 ROEST tr. *J. van der Noot's Theat. Worldlings* 76 They proude titles haue no sure foundation, but are buylded only vpon the waueryng sandes of doubtfulness and falshode. 1816 BYRON *Siege of Corinth* xxix, The portal wauering grows, and weak! 1839 KINNEAR *Cairo, Petra & Damascus* iii. (1841) 95 A dim shadowy figure on a dromedary appeared, moving at a wauering and uncertain pace through the sand drift. 1845-7 LONGF. *Ev.* I. v. 127 And like the day of doom it seemed to her wauering senses. 1896 H. G. WELLS *Wheels of Chance* i, The nervous clutch of the wauering rider.

3. Fluttering, floating, waving, surging.

c1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* v. 845 Wauerande [v.r. welterand] wawis. c1470 *Golagros & Gau.* 290 As leif of the lynd . . That welteris down with the wynd, sa wauerand it is. 1534 BERNERS *Gold Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) P viii b, Their waueryng boughes ar aduentured in the wynde. 1660 BOYLE *New Exper. Spring of Air* xxiv. 193 These bubbles . . ascended with a wauering or wrigling motion. 1662 DRYDEN *Astræa Redux* 225 The wauering Streamers, Flags, and Standart out. 1703 POPE *Thebais* i. 266 As when two winds with rival force contend, This way and that, the wav'ring sails they bend. 1884 W. C. SMITH *Kildrostan* i. i. 42 Broken prismic lights are woven On the thin veils of wauering cloud.

4. Vacillating, undecided, inconstant; faltering in resolution or allegiance.

c1315 [see WAVER v. 5]. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* xii. 185 Mony ane hert sall uaverand be That semyt ere of gret bounte. c1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 424 He went vnto his prayers, & stude with a waueryng ee and a waueryng mynde. a1548 HALL *Chron.*, *Hen. IV* (1550) 16b, This realm . . inuaded and infested with the frantike waueryng Welshemen. 1591 SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI.* iv. i. 138 Remember where we are, In France, amongst a fickle wauering Nation. 1598 R. BERNARD tr. *Terence, Andria* i. v. (1607) 27 Hee is as wauering as a wether-cocke. 1642 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Henry Walker* A 3 b, To Alienate or estrange the hearts of wauering Subjects from their allegiance. c1660 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) II. 227 His mind is so wavouering that I think hee will settill to nothing. 1743 LD. HARDWICKE in G. Harris *Life* (1847) II. 37 If our allies are timorous and wauering, it is necessary to encourage them by vigorous measures. 1862 SIR C. DILKE *Let.* 7 Nov. *Life* (1917) I. 32 How wauering and shortsighted the policy of England in Turco-Grecian matters has been of late! a1886 STUBBS *Germany in E. Middle Ages* (1908) 167 The wauering princes returned to their allegiance.

b. *absol.* (with the).

1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1638) 380 Carambey . . encouraged the wauering, and restored the battel. 1780 *Mirror* No. 94 That I might be able . . to alarm the inconsiderate, to confirm the wauering. 1891 FARRAR *Darkn. & Dawn* lv, The most wauering could not but be confirmed by his calm wisdom.

c. *Comb.*

1526 TINDALE *Jas.* i. 8 A wauerynge mynded man is vnstable in all his wayes. 1658 J. SPENCER *Things New & Old* 179 How to prevent wauering-mindedness.

5. Of fortune, affairs, etc.: Variable, mutable. †Of a person: Having a doubtful or uncertain title.

c1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* lxxv. 1838 (Wemyss) Few personis lynceaye, Sum vther few collateralye, As cours maid and qualite Airis waverand for to be. 1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxvi. 1 This waverand warldis wretchedness. a1548 HALL *Chron.*, *Hen. VI* 148 b, Suche is worldly vnstablennes, and so waueryng is false flattering fortune. 1660 MILTON *Free Commw.* Wks. 1851 V. 438 In this wauering condition of our Affairs.

6. Changing in intensity, now strong, now faint; flickering, fitful, intermittent; tremulous, unsteady; tending to fade or become dim.

c1470 HENRY WALLACE iv. 340 Now wauerand wind, now weit. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* II. xii. 64 Or mast liklie a waverand sweving or dreyme [L. *volucricque simillima somno*]. c1622 ROWLEY *Birth of Merlin* III. vi. 17 The incertain Changes of a wauering Skie. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xvi. (Roxb.) 62/2 It is a kind of wauering flueing sound. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xlvi, The fire . . now rose high into the air, a wauering column of brilliant light. 1842 J. WILSON *Chr. North* (1857) I. 152 His sight is dim and wauering. 1866 MISS BRADDON *Lady's Mile* i, Making a little spot of crimson amongst the wauering shadows of the trees. 1868 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* I. i. 393 Till these things shall seem The wauering memory of a lovely dream. 1890 *Retrospect Med.* CII. 370 It is heard as a wauering or tremolo note.

Hence 'waveringly adv.', 'waveringness.

c **1400** *Sc. Trojan War* II. 1547 He has chapit, & so long past Throw þe wyld sees wawerandly [*v.r.* wauerandly]. **1549** COVERDALE etc. *Erasm. Par. 1 Pet. v.* 6-14 Loke not waweringly about you, haue no distrust, be not afrayed. *a* **1603** T. CARTWRIGHT *Confut. Rhem. N.T.* (1618) 27 How doubtfully and waweringly Augustine iudged of this case. **1614** J. ROBINSON *Relig. Commun.* 124 Men become perfit, and growen past that childish waweringnes. **1698** ATTERBURY *Serm.* (1734) II. 311 The Uncertainty and Waweringness of this [belief]. **1820** *Blackw. Mag.* VII. 176 The candles glimmer somewhat waweringly. **1863** GEO. ELIOT *Romola* XXI, His hearers more or less waweringly believed, that he had a mission like that of the Hebrew prophets. **1885** BRIDGES *Nero* II. ii, Speak nothing waweringly.

wavery ('weivəri), *a.* [f. *WAVER v.* or *sb.* + -Y¹.] Characterized by wavering or fluttering; tremulous, unsteady.

1820 *Blackw. Mag.* VI. 679 Across the silence seem to go With dream-like motion, wavery, slow, . . . The friends we loved long ago! **1883** MRS. R. T. RITCHIE *Bk. Sibyls* i. 2 Some old letters covered with a wavery writing. **1897** F. THOMPSON *New Poems* 184 All her waving hair. . . Lapsing like music, wavery as water, Slid to her waist. **1913** MRS. STRATTON-PORTER *Laddie* iv. (1917) 79 Making his voice all wavery and tremulous he began reciting from 'Lochiel's Warning' in tones of agonized pleading.

Waves (weivz), *sb. pl. U.S.* [See quot. 1972.] The women's section of the United States Naval Reserve, established in 1942. In *sing.*, a member of this Reserve, or, since 1948, a woman serving in the U.S. Navy. Cf. WREN².

1942 *Chicago Tribune* 9 Aug. 1. 6/1 The navy's new women's reserve corps—the Waves—will learn to drill, salute, wear the regular insignia of the service. . . and they will receive. . . detailed instructions in navy customs. **1943** N. W. ROSS *Waves* 1 The initials of the WAVES stand for the words 'Women Accepted for Voluntary Emergency Service'. *Ibid.* 150 Orders tell the wave where she is to go next. **1972** J. B. HANCOCK *Lady in Navy* 61 In 1942, when the planning for the Women's Reserve began, the question of a short and catchy name was posed. . . Miss [Elizabeth] Reynard addressed herself to the problem. . . 'I realized that there were two letters which had to be in it: W for women and V for volunteer. . . So I played with those two letters and the idea of the sea and finally came up with "Women Appointed for Volunteer Emergency Service"—WAVES.' (Later, when it was realized that *Appointed* applied only to officers, *Accepted* was the word substituted.) **1977** *Time* 10 Jan. 43/3 Mainbocher's creations graced Wallis Warfield Simpson at her marriage to the Duke of Windsor, as well as millions of WAVES and Girl Scouts, whose uniforms he fashioned.

† **wavesch**, *v. Obs. rare.* [Extended form of *WAIVE v.*¹: see -ISH².] *trans.* To put aside.

a **1400-50** *Wars Alex.* (Dubl.) 822 Then fyndes he philip . . . Had weddit hym ane oper wife & waueschad [*Ashm.* wayfð] hys moder.

waveson ('weivsn). *Maritime Law.* [App. formed after *AF. floteson* FLOTSAM: perh. originally f. *WAIVE v.*¹, but associated with *WAVE sb.*] (See quot. 1701.) Also *fig.*

1526 in Kennett *Cowel's Interpr.* (1701) s.v., Waveson, Flotteson, Lagason & Wrecks & Regalia videl. Magnas pisces captas, &c. **1701** KENNETT *ibid.*, *Waveson*, such Goods as after Shipwreck do appear swimming on the waves. [Whence **1706** in PHILLIPS; and in later Dicts.] **1894** E. P. EVANS in *Pop. Sci. Monthly* XLIV. 299 Persons of unknown origin were treated as waifs (*épaves*), the mere flotsan and waveson on the drifting tide of humanity.

wavey ('weivi), *Pl. waveys, wavies.* [See *wawa*.] A northern (American) goose of the genus *Chen*, esp. the common wavey, *C. hyperboreus*. Blue wavey, *C. caerulescens*. Horned wavey, *C. rossii*.

1795 S. HEARNE *Journ. North. Ocean* 329 The laughing goose, wavey, (or white goose,) gulls, [etc.]. *Ibid.* 442 Horned Wavey. *Ibid.*, I have seen them in as large flocks as the Common Wavey, or Snow Goose. **1831** SWAINSON & RICHARDSON *Fauna Bor.-Amer.* II. 467 Anser hyperboreus. . . Snow Goose. . . Wavey, Hudson's Bay Residents. **1892** W. PIKE *Barren Ground N. Canada* 161 Here the snow geese, or white 'wavies' were resting in thousands.

wavey, obs. variant of WAVY *a.*

wavicle ('weivik(ə)l). *Physics.* [Blend of *WAVE sb.* and *PARTICLE sb.*] An entity having characteristic properties of both waves and particles.

1928 A. S. EDDINGTON *Nature Physical World* x. 201 We can scarcely describe such an entity as a wave or as a particle; perhaps as a compromise we had better call it a 'wavicle.' **1934** *Times Lit. Suppl.* 11 Jan. 20/3 It [*sc.* X-ray diffraction] has revolutionized conceptions of the electron, which has had to be looked upon as something intermediate between a corpuscle and a packet of waves—a 'wavicle' in fact. **1962** J. NEEDHAM *Sci. & Civilisation in China* IV. 1. 135 Old Chinese philosophers . . . thought of *chhi* as something between what we should call matter in a rarefied gaseous state on one hand, and radiant energy on the other. Though all our assured knowledge gained by experiment makes us infinitely richer than they, is the concept of 'wavicles' in modern physical theory so much more penetrating? **1976** *New Scientist* 26 Aug. 461/4 To think that a particle or wavicle or whatever, is small for us, therefore it is small for the Universe, is to be biased or homo-centred.

wavily, waviness: see WAVY *a.*

waving ('weivin), *vbl. sb.* [f. *WAVE v.* + -ING¹.] The action of the verb.

† **1.** The action of changing capriciously; vacillation, wavering, *Obs.*

a **1628** F. GREVILLE *Life of Sidney* (1652) 223 She preserved her Religion without waving. **1665** E. HOPKINS *Serm. Vanity* (1685) 88 Such is the waving and fluctuation of all things here below.

2. a. Movement (of water, the sea) in waves; undulatory surface-movement (of a forest, crop, etc.).

1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* lxii. 6. 235 Like as if a soft gale stir y^e sea, so as the waves ryse not with great rage, and yit there is some waving. **1714** ADDISON *Spect.* No. 585 ¶ 2. What tho' I am delighted with the Wavings of thy Forests. **1820** SOUTHEY *Wesley* I. 80 Neither the waving of the sea, nor the motion of the ship, could take away the refreshing sleep which God gave them. **1853** DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xviii, The waving of the corn.

† **b.** Undulating play of colour. *Obs.*

1662 MERRETT tr. *Neri's Art of Glass* II. xxxvii. 61 Hardly would you believe the beauty, the toys and wavings of divers colours.

3. Undulation in form.

1789 J. WILLIAMS *Min. Kingd.* I. 103 This is what I call the waving of the strata.

4. Motion to and fro (of something having a free end).

1751 J. HARRIS *Hermes* III. iii. (1765) 336 Sound and Motion . . . such as the Murmurs and Wavings of a Tree during a storm. **1828-41** TYTLER *Hist. Scot.* (1864) I. 151 The gleam of arms, and the waving of the pennons of an encamped army. **1883** ABP. BENSON in A. C. Benson *Life* (1899) II. i. 15 Beech trees and cedars standing as still as possible in it [*sc.* the soft rain] with such gentle slow wavings as to make the most of it.

5. a. The action or an act of moving (the hand or something held in the hand, the wings, etc.) to and fro.

1611 BIBLE *Lev.* xiv. 21 Hee shall take one lambe for a trespass offering to be waued [*marg.* for a waung]. **1612** PARKES *Curtain-Drawer* 47 Each Play-house aduanceth his flagge in the aire, whither quickly at the waving thereof, are summoned whole troopes of men, women and children. **1657** J. TRAPP *Comm., Ps.* lxxx. 7 As the bird by much waving gathereth wind under the wing, and mounteth higher. **1711** ADDISON *Spect.* No. 159 ¶ 3 He beckoned to me, and by the waving of his Hand directed me to approach the Place where he sat. **1784** tr. *Beckfords Vathek* 88 The waving of fans was heard. **1837** DICKENS *Pickw.* xxxiii, The waving of handkerchiefs was renewed. **1859** TENNYSON *Guinevere* 579 She . . . in the darkness o'er her fallen head, Perceived the waving of his hands that blest.

b. A signal or direction given by waving the hand, a flag, or the like. *Obs.*

1563 P. WHITEHORNE *Onosandro Platon.* 87 The commandements, wauinges, and signes, ought likewyse first to be geuen to the heads and leaders of men.

6. Comb.: waving-base, an observation terrace at an airport from which members of the public may watch the aircraft and wave to the travellers; † waving-engine, a machine for cutting waved indentations on wood.

1678 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* vi. 103 Of the Waving Engine. **1688** HOLME *Armoury* III. 354/2 The Waving Engine . . . is a thing wherewith Waved Work is generally made upon small Frames for Pictures and Looking Glasses. **1954** *Archit. Rev.* CXV. 24 Opening off this is a roof-garden 'waving-base' from which passengers' friends can watch the departure of aircraft. **1958** [see *jet age* s.v. *JET sb.*³ 11]. **1965** *New Statesman* 20 Aug. 261/2 Even at dreary old Heathrow you can get out on to one of the waving-bases . . . for free.

waving ('weivin), *ppl. a.* [f. *WAVE v.* + -ING².] That waves.

1. Of water, the sea: That rises in waves; full of waves, billowy. Also of the shore (see quot. 1591).

1552 HULOET, Wauynge lyke water, *fluctuosus*. *a* **1586** SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. xi. §8 (1912) 416 As when the Sunne shines upon a waving water. **1591** SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. ii. 230 The subtil race Of roving Polypes; who (to rob more) Transform them hourly on the waving shore [Fr. *l'ondeux rivage*]. **1717** ADDISON tr. *Ovid's Met.* II. *Phaeton* 9 A waving sea th' inferiour earth embrac'd. **1835** R. NICOLL *Poems* (1842) 81 Noo Scotland's cliffs sae dear to me Aneath the wavin' waters fa'. **b. transf.** of things, esp. of a crop, forest, etc.: Agitated or ruffled on the surface like the waves of the sea.

1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 156/2 *Vestis vndans*, . . . a waving garment that ruffeth in going, specially when the bodye is moued or shaken. **1676** DRYDEN *Aurengz.* I. 4 The Vale an Iron-Harvest seems to yield Of thick-sprung Lances in a waving Field. **1798** W. L. BOWLES *Poems. St. Michael's Mt.* 43 Mountain, no pomp of waving woods hast thou. **1846** DICKENS *Battle of Life* I. 1 The waving grass was green. **1872** BLACK *Adv. Phaeton* xxxi, A country rich with waving fields of grain.

† **2.** Vacillating, wavering, *Obs.*

1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. viii. §29. 493/1 Their might . . . depends of the wauing humors, and wils of those inferiour vassels, of whom they thinke themselues vnresistable Commanders. *a* **1625** LD. BROOKE *Let. to Hon. Lady* iv. Wks. (1633) 282 His hollow, and wauing minde.

3. That moves to and fro at its free end by the impulse of the wind or breeze.

1591 SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI.* I. vi. 1 Aduance our wauing Colours on the Walls. **1596** — *Tam. Shr.* Induct. ii. 55 Euen as the wauing sedges play with winde. **1676** DRYDEN *Aurengz.* v. 78 The waving Arms of Aureng-Zebe appear'd, Display'd with your Morat's. **1697** — *Aeneis* VII. 869 With Joy they view the waving Ensigns fly. **1767** SIR W. JONES

Seven Fountains Poems (1777) 33 The crimson streamer's waving pride. **1829** MRS. HEMANS *Casabianca* 22 Upon his brow he felt their breath, And in his waving hair. **1842** DICKENS *Amer. Notes* v, A forest of ships' masts, cheery with flapping sails and waving flags.

4. Undulating in form or outline.

1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* v. ix. 352 An azured staffe, cutte in fashion of a waving snake. **1753** HOGARTH *Anal. Beauty* vii. 38 The waving line, which is a line more productive of beauty than any of the former. **1810** SOUTHEY *Kehama* I. ii, The fragrant smoke . . . hangeth visible on high, A dark and waving canopy. **1848** THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xlv, He was a fine open-faced boy, with blue eyes and waving flaxen hair. **1870** HOOKER *Stud. Flora* 462 *Asplenium Filix-femina*. . . Frond 1-5 ft., bright green, flaccid, waving. **1899** *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 553 A single waving or cyclical line results.

5. Of sound: Undulating in tone.

1876 HILES *Catech. Organ* ix. (1878) 62 *Unda Maris* . . . a stop with two pipes, one of which is tuned a little higher than the other, producing a waving kind of tone.

b. quasi-sb. (See quot.)

1876 HILES *Catech. Organ* iii. (1878) 21 *Waving*, is a lighter species of tremulant, for the more delicate stops.

6. Of wings: Moving rhythmically in flight.

1735 SOMERVILLE *Chase* I. 236 Th' industrious Beagle twists his waving Tail. **1795** W. BLAKE *Song of Los* II. 34 And his shudd'ring waving wings Went enormous above the red flames. **1820** SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* III. iii. 145 And it circles round, Like the soft waving wings of noonday dreams. **1896** CONAN DOYLE *Rodney Stone* viii, I . . . saw the gliding lines of windows with staring faces and waving handkerchiefs.

Hence 'wavingly *adv.*

1750 G. HUGHES *Barbados* 108 The extremities of the higher branches bend wavigly downwards. **1843** *Blackw. Mag.* LIII. 573 The sea below gleams wavigly. **1882** W. JAMES in *Amer. Ann. Deaf & Dumb* (1883) 108 Moving the hand wavigly across the forehead.

† **'wavous**, *a. Obs. rare*—¹. [f. *WAVE sb.* + -OUS.] Full of waves.

1581 T. NEWTON *Seneca's Thebais* I. 43 b, Where is the surging wauous Sea?

† **'wavure**. *Obs. Erroneous var. WAIVER.*

1847-64 WEBSTER (citing *R. Peel*), *Wavure*, the act of waving or putting off.

wavy ('weivi), *a. (and sb.)* Also 8 *Sc. wavey*. [f. *WAVE sb.* or *v.* + -Y.] *A. adj.*

1. a. Full of waves, abounding in waves, billowy.

1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* H 3 b, The waters . . . putting all theyr wauy shoulders together, bare the whole shole of them [*sc.* the dead carcasses] before them. **1685** DRYDEN tr. *Lucretius* I. 10 For thee the Ocean smiles, and smooths her wavy breast. **1712** BROOME *Iliad* xv. III. 208 They . . . Travers'd the Mountains, and the Wavy Main. **1816** J. N. BREWER *Beauties Eng. & Wales* X. iv. 28 *note*, In this fine and bold reach the waters of the Thames are more subject to wavy roughness, than in any other part west of the ancient bridge of London. **1887** MORRIS *Odys.* XI. 253 Then under the wavy deep he dived adown once more.

b. poet. Pertaining to waves of the sea.

1725 POPE *Odys.* XII. 256 Strain ev'ry nerve, and bid the vessel fly. If from yon justling rocks and wavy war Jove safety grants; he grants it to your care.

2. transf. a. Said of the air, clouds, etc.

c **1586** C[TESS] PEMBROKE *Ps.* LXVIII. iv, [The dove] That glides with feathered oare through wavy sky. **1619** BP. J. WILLIAMS *Serm. Apparell* (1620) 5 The wavy Curtaines of the Ayre about us. **1794-6** COLERIDGE *Relig. Musings* 245 Then o'er the wild and wavy chaos rush And tame the outrageous mass. **1844** KINGLAKE *Eothen* xvii, The fair, wavy cloud that fled in the morning.

b. Path. wavy breathing, respiration: respiration in which the inspiratory, and sometimes the expiratory, sounds are not continuous but broken into two or more separate parts.

1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 203 Jerky, interrupted, or wavy breathing. **1913** DORLAND *Med. Dict.* (ed. 7) s.v. *Respiration, Wavy respiration.*

3. fig. Fluctuating, wavering, changing.

1795 COLERIDGE *Friend* I. xvi. (1863) II. 20 When the public feelings are wavy and tumultuous, artful demagogues may create this opinion. *c* **1825** BEDDOES *Poems, Sacrif. self-compensated*, Weighing well man's frail and perilous tenure Of all good in the restless wavy world.

4. a. Moving to and fro or up and down with a sinuous, wave-like motion.

1700 PRIOR *Carmen Sec.* xxvi, Let her glad Vallies smile with wavy Corn. **1708** J. PHILIPS *Cyder* I. 61 Where full-ear'd Sheaves of Rye Grow wavy on the Tilth. **1816** KEATS *I stood Tip-toe* 73 Where swarms of minnows show their little heads, Staying their wavy bodies 'gainst the streams. **1830** TENNYSON *Dying Swan* 38 The wavy swell of the soughing reeds. **1884** *Manch. Exam.* 30 Sept. 5/7 This rolling sea of wavy grass.

b. Of movements: Taking place in undulating curves, sinuous.

1836 *Blackw. Mag.* XXXIX. 439 [She] spread out her white canvass to the freshening breeze, while winging her wavy way over the blue Atlantic. **1856** KANE *Arctic Expl.* I. xxxi. 421 An active wavy movement [of the Aurora], dissipating itself into barely-perceptible cirrhus. **1859** JEPHSON *Brittany* xii. 201 Representing the serpent's teeth, or his wavy motion, or his circular figure.

5. Of ground, the surface of the country: Rising and falling gently in a succession of rounded heights and hollows.

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* I. 143 The lofty mountains of the other class have a very different aspect. At a distance their tops are seen, in wavy ridges, of the very colour of the clouds. **1789** J. WILLIAMS *Min. Kingd.* I. 114 A wavy

country, which gently swells into broad ridges. **1891** HUXLEY in *L. Huxley Life & Lett.* (1900) II. 285 A fine wavy chalk down with 'cwms' and soft turfey ridges.

6. a. Forming an undulating line or a series of wave-like curves. Also, having an undulating margin.

a1701 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* (1707) 6 The sides of this fissure are firm and solid Rock, perpendicular and smooth, only seeming to lie in a wavy form all down, as it were to comply with the motion of the Water. **1725** POPE *Odys.* IV. 202 Such wavy ringlets o'er his shoulders flow. **1726** LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* I. 47 The Wall... must be... exactly even... so as not in any part to swell out or sink in, or to be wavy. **1738** LOGAN in Rigaud *Corr. Sci. Men* (1841) I. 339 A straight rod or line, viewed at some little distance through the wavy glass of a window. **1839** URE *Dict. Arts* etc. 385 If these [Damascus bars] be drawn in length, the veins will be longitudinal;... if they be made wavy in the two directions, undulated veins will be produced like those in the oriental damascus. **1846** LANDOR *Imag. Conv., Landor, Engl. Visitor, & Florentine Wks.* I. 340/2 Byron dealt chiefly in felt and furbelow, wavy Damascus daggers, and pocket pistols studded with paste. **1858** G. MACDONALD *Phantastes* i. (1878) 10 Her dark hair flowed behind, wavy but uncured. **1882** CAULFIELD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework* 195 *Wavy Stitch*, a raised Couching. **1888** JACOBI *Printers' Vocab.* *Wavy rule*, brass rule made with an undulating face.

b. Bot. and Zool. Of marks, margins, etc.: undulate, sinuate; having undulate or sinuate markings.

1832 G. RENNIE *Consp. Butterfl. & Moths* 147 Between these streaks and the hinder margin a third streak wavy, brown, terminated by a paler colour. **1857** A. GRAY *1st Less. Bot.* (1866) 62 Leaves are said to be... *Repand, undulate, or wavy*, when the margin of the leaf forms a wavy line, bending slightly inwards and outwards in succession. **1859** ANNE PRATT *Brit. Grasses* 74 *Aira flexuosa* (Wavy Hair-grass). *Ibid.* 92 *Poa laxa* (Wavy Meadow-grass). **1866** *Treas. Bot.*

c. Her. = UNDEE. *barry wavy*, of the field: Divided into waving bands of generally horizontal direction.

1562 LEIGH *Armory* 134 b, He beareth party per crosse wauey Sable, and Argent. **1610** GUILLIM *Heraldry* II. v. (1632) 69 He beareth, Argent, a Bend, Wauey, Sable... This is termed *wauey*, or *waued*, in respect it beareth a Representation of the Swelling Waue or Billowe of the Sea. **1722** A. NISBET *Syst. Her.* I. vi. 22 *Wavey* or *Waved*, is said of a Line or Lines that are formed after the Waves of the Sea, as parted *per Fess Wavey* in the Arms of Drummond of Concraig, and the Lines which form the *Barrs waved* in the Arms of the Earl of Perth, which signifies, that the Bearer got his Arms for Services done at Sea. **1864** BOUTELL *Her. Hist. & Pop.* xxi. (ed. 3) 266 *Per fesse arg.* and *barry wavy az.* **1890** CONAN DOYLE *White Company* xviii, 'How read you this...?' 'Argent and azure, a barry wavy of six.'

d. Of a dog (short for *wavy-coated*): Having the coat in waves, not curly.

1884 *Live Stock Jnl.* 28 Nov. 512/2 The Retrievers were good... the curly Doctor having to give place to the wavy Harvester in Dogs. **1887** *Field* 1 Oct. Advt. p. xvi/2 Champion Zelstone (Wavy Retriever).

7. Comb., as *wavy-coated*, -*edged*, -*haired*, -*handled*, -*leaved*; Wavy Navy *colloq.*, the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve, so nicknamed from the wavy braid worn by officers on their sleeves prior to 1956; †*wavy-ways* *adv.*, after the manner of waves.

1867 'STONEHENGE' *Dogs Brit. Isl.* 43 Windham... is a good example of the *wavy-coated dog. **1865** DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. ii, Venering; forty, *wavy-haired, dark. **1927** PEAKE & FLEURE *Peasants & Potters* 72 The *wavy-handled pots. **1928** V. G. CHILDE *Most Anc. East* iv. 94 The wavy-handled jars... have been connected by Petrie, Frankfort, and Scharff with Palestine and Syria. **1816-20** T. GREEN *Univ. Herbal* II. 828 *Xyris flexifolia*; *Wavy-leaved Xyris. **1855** ANNE PRATT *Flower. Pl. V.* 78 *Salix undulata*... is... sometimes called the Wavy-leaved Willow. **1918** W. OWEN *Let.* 21 Mar. (1967) 541 Her son, a Lieut. in the *Wavy Navy' was at home. **1944** A. JACOB *Traveller's War* iii. 40 The ship's doctor and the paymaster-lieutenant, both 'Wavy Navy' men... have been in the service only a few months and know next to nothing of the sea. **1960** D. FEARON *Murder-on-Thames* xiv. 115, I remember him when he was a Sub. He was Wavy Navy then. **1671** *Phil. Trans.* VI. 2103 When the Load dips almost perpendicularly for many fathoms together, and may rise again in the next Hill (*wavy-ways).

B. sb. A wavy-coated retriever.

1884 *Live Stock Jnl.* 5 Sept. 227/3 Retrievers: first and second both wavys. **1884** *Ibid.* 24 Dec. 612/2 Such a Kennel of wavies as is not equalled in any part of the world.

Hence *wavily *adv.*, 'waviness'.

1790 J. WEDGWOOD (*title*) An attempt to discover the causes of cords and waviness in Flint Glass and the most probable means of removing them. **1816** KEATS *Epist. Bro. George* 59 The coy moon, when in the waviness Of whitest clouds she does her beauty dress. **1860** GEO. ELIOT *Mill on Fl.* I. ix, Mr. Rappit, the hair-dresser, with his well-anointed coronal locks tending wavyly upward. **1877** WATERHOUSE in *Abney's Photogr.* (1881) 190 A fine, even, glossy surface, perfectly free from the streaks and waviness so common when working with thick films. **1886** J. J. QUELCH *Coral-Reefs in Challenger Rep.* XVI. 111. 136 The waviness and plications of the margins of the septa.

wavys, obs. pl. of WAIF *sb.*¹

†**waw**, *sb.*¹ *Obs.* Forms: 3-4 *wa3e*, 4-6 *wawe*, 3 *wau*, (4 *quawe*), 4-5 *waghe*, (5 *whaghe*, *wawghe*), 6 *wawhe*, *Sc. wa*, 4-6, 9 *arch. waw*. [ME. *wa3e*, related to OE. *wagian* WAW *v.*¹

There may have been an OE. **wazu* str. fem. or **wage* wk. fem., corresponding to MHG., MLG. *wage*, MDu. *waeghe* movement, agitation. In ME. the word took the place of the OE. *wæg* masc. = OS., OHG. *wāg* (MHG. *wāc*, *wāg*-masc., mod.G. *woge* fem.), ON. *våg-r*, Goth. *wēg-s*:-OTeut.

**wæ3o-z* flood, wave, and in the 16th c. was superseded by WAVE *sb.* In northern ME. dialects the present word would coincide in form with a possible adoption of ON. *våg-r*.] A wave.

c1275 LAY. 11977 *Wages* [c1205 *vōen*] *par arne*. **c1290** St. Brendan 530 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 234 *pe waves of pe se beoten also bi-fore and bi-hynde*. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 1844 On *pe streme pat arche can ride, pe wauus* [13.. *Gott. wawis*, **c1375** *Fairf. wagues*] *beft on ilk side*. **c1325** *Metz. Hom.* 135 This schippe... That Crist rad in and his felawes, Imang dintes of gret quawes. **c1330** R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 2973 *pe se gan fighte, pe wawes ros*. ?**a1366** CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 1561 The water is ever fresh and newe That welmeth up with waves brighte [Fr. *a grans ondes*]. **c1400** *Destr. Troy* 1992 So wode were the wagues & pe wilde ythes. *Ibid.* 12310 Tho shippes to shilde o pe shyre whaghes. **c1400** *Emaré* 322 She was so dryuen for wawe to wawe, She hyd her hede and lay fulle iawe. **c1440** *Generydes* 91 Full wekydly he and his vj felawes In to the see were cast among the wawis. **c1460** Towneley *Myst.* iii. 426 This wawghes ar so wode. **a1513** Fabyan *Chron.* VII. (1811) 373 The water of ye ryuer... was so troublous of wawe, that the brydge therwith was all to shaken. **1518** *Ortus Vocab.* (ed. 3), *Flustrum*,... sterynge of the see or a wawhe. **a1533** BERNERS *Huon* xlvii. 156 The wawes... semyd so greate and hye as mounteyns. **1535** COVERDALE *Jas.* i. 6 He that douteth, is lyke the wawes [1526 TINDALE *waues*] of the see. **1549** THOMAS *Hist. Italie* 172 The little vessel... whiche the wawes of the sea by little and little draue towards the lande. **1571** SIR. J. MAITLAND *Admon. to Regent* 31 Bewar thairfoir w^t wadder, waw, and wind. **1590** SPENSER *F.Q.* II. xii. 4 They on this rock are rent, and sunck in helpless wawes. **1600** J. MELVILL *Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 169 A tempestuous schoure and drow... with sic a how wa and spenedrift, that... he lukit for grait danger. **1821** SCOTT *Pirate* xxix, As I would pilot a boat betwixt Swona and Stroma, through all the waws, wells, and swelchies of the Pentland Firth.]

†**waw**, *sb.*² *Sc. and north. dial. Obs.* Forms: 4 *wagh*, *waugh*, *wawe*, 5-6 *waw*, *wall*, 5 *wal*. [a. MLG. and MDu. *wage* (Du. *waag*), corresp. to OE. *wæg*; see WEY *sb.*] A measure of weight, usually equal to twelve stone.

1316 Durham *Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 11 In 3 Waves plumbi emp., 115. 3d. **1399** *Acc. Exch. K.R.* 473/11 m. 3, Pro batel-lagio ix. Waugh[es] plumbi. **14..** *Assisa de Toll.* vii. in *Sc. Acts* (1844) I. 669 And of wax at pe entre nathing bot of ilk waw at pe oute passyng aucht penis gif it be weyit be wawys. **1484** *Acta Auditorum* I. (1839) 138*/2, xiiij wall and five stane of hollande cheisis. **1499** HALYBURTON *Ledger* (1867) 225 Ane [sack of wool] weyand vj wall xxv naill, and tother vj wal xv naill. **1501** *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* II. 82, viij waw v stane of irne... ilk waw xxvs. **1541-2** *Ibid.* VIII. 122, xv wall thre stane xiiij pund Spanze irne.

waw (wɔː), *sb.*³ *Sc. and north. dial.* Also 8 *weaw*, 9 *wauw*. [f. WAW *v.*²] The cry of a cat.

c1746 J. COLLIER (Tim Bobbin) *View Lancs. Dial. Gloss.*, Wks. (1862) 108 *Weaw*. **1825** *Newcastle Mag.* Sept. 393/2 O, ye of little faith!... to be frightened by the cry of an owl or the wauw of a cat. **1835** CARRICK etc. *Laird of Logan* (1841) 163 Its a wee weak i' the wauw, like Barr's cat, that ale o' yours. **1859** A. WHITEHEAD *Leg. Westmld.* 35 (E.D.D.) They oftentimes saw a cat, ... Unearthly was its waw.

||**waw**, *sb.*⁴, *wau*, the name of the 6th letter in Hebrew (see VAU, VAV) and the corresponding letter in the Arabic and other Semitic alphabets. **waw** consecutive *Heb. Gram.* = *vau consecutive* s.v. CONVERSIVE a.¹ 2 b.

1832 S. LEE *Grammar Heb. Lang.* (ed. 2) 3 Vaw, or Waw. **1880** E. C. MITCHELL in *Gesenius' Heb. Gram.* II. ii. 125 (*heading*) The perfect and the imperfect with Waw consecutive. **1880** *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 596/2 Among the points in which Hebrew differs both from Arabic and Aramaic may be mentioned... the use of Waw consecutive. **1889** J. KENNEDY *Introd. Biblical Heb.* 117 Ewald and other modern Grammarians prefer to call it *Waw Consecutive*. **1906** *Expositor* May 428 John xii. 15 follows the Hebrew of Zechariah ix. 9, the waw being epegegetic. **1914** J. E. MCFADYEN *Davidson's Introd. Heb. Gram.* (ed. 19) xxiii. 84 Waw consecutive with the imperf. is pointed exactly like the Article. **1916** M. ROBERTS in *Folk-Lore* XXVII. 222 As there is no Arabic character to represent the *v* sound the Turks use the *wau* for this purpose. **1957** *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 362/1 Further relief was provided by 'waw-consecutive', a construction almost confined to Biblical Hebrew.

†**waw**, *v.*¹ *Obs.* Forms: 1 *wa3ian* (wea3ian), 3 *wazien*, *wawi*(e), 3-5 *waw*(e). [OE. *wagian* = MLG. *wagen*, MDu. *waghen* (mod.Wflem. *wagen*), OHG. *wagôn* (MHG., mod.G. *wagen*), ON. *vaga*:-OTeut. **wagōjan*, f. **wagō* agitation: see WAW *sb.*¹ Cf. WAG *v.*]

1. intr. To shake, totter, move loosely; to be ready to fall. Only OE.

c725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) L81 *Labat*, wea3at. **a1000** *Riddles* iv. 8 (Gr.) Hornsalu wagiað, wera wicstede. **c1000** ÆLFRIC *Deut.* xxxiv. 7 His eagan ne mistodon ne his teð ne wagodon [Vulg. *nec dentes illius moti sunt*].

2. To sway to and fro on a base; to wave in the wind. Cf. WAG *v.* 3. Also *fig.*

c888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxv. §7 Ða ongon mon secgan be ðam hearpere þæt he meahte heargian þæt se wudu wagode & þa stanas hi styredon. **c1380** WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* I. 72 Sawe 3e a reede wawinge wip þe wynde? **1387** TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 425 It was i-made sottilliche by gravinge craft þat it semed verrailliche þæt corn growynge perynne wawed hider and pider, as longe corn doop in feeldes. **14..** *LYDG. Test.* 653 Min. Poems (1911) 353 [I] Wawed with eche wynd, as doth a reedspere.

b. Of the beard, tongue: = WAG *v.* 4.

13.. *K. Alis.* 1164 Swithe mury hit is in halle, When the burdes wawen [*Laud MS.* wawep] alle! **c1400** *Laud Troy Bk.* 6765 Afftir that strok his tonge neuere wawed.

c. Of a person: To swing.

c1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 518/2 Wawyn, or waueryn, yn a myry totyr, *oscillo*.

3. Of water, the wind: To move restlessly or uncertainly (*about*). Also *transf.* and *fig.*

c1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 175 De se is eue waziende and pere fore unstedefast. **1496** *Dives & Pauper* (W. de W.) ix. iv. 352/1 His worde & his loue & his fayth wawen about as the wynde. **1538** ELYOT *Dict.*, *Vndans*, wawying or mouing like to wawes.

4. Of a person, animal: To move, stir; to go; also with *away*. Also *refl.*

c1205 LAY. 26941 Hit agon diazen and deor gunnen waze3en [c1275 *pleoye*]. **c1290** *Beket* 2148 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 168 He nas nou3t þe man þat he wolde is heued enes with-drawe Ne fondi for-to fleo heore strokes, ne enes a-weiward wawe. **c1425** *Cast. Persev.* 210 in *Macro Plays* 83 Wretthe, þis wrecche, with me schal wawe.

5. trans. To cause to move or stir.

c1290 *St. Lucy* 114 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 104 A pousend men with al heore main on hire gonne drawe: Ac eue heo lai stille a-3ein, huy ne mi3hten hire enes wawe. **1297** R. GLOUC. *Chron.* (Rolls) 4220 þis geant... bigan is mace adrawe þat tuye stalwarde men ne ssolde nou3t enes wawe. **13..** *K. Alis.* 2634 A spere... Yn the ground y-stikit fast... Ac non of his myghte up-drawe, No forth in eorthe hit wawe. **1382** WYCLIF *Matt.* xi. 7 A reede wawid with wynd [Vulg. *arundinem vento agitatam*].

b. To move (a limb).

c1290 *Marie Egiptiace* 192 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 266 Heo ne wawede leome non bote hire lippene wne3e. **13..** *Sir Beues* 2177 Hit [the horse] ne wawede no fot, Til Beues hadde þe stirop. **a1400** *Festiv. Ch.* 330 in *Leg. Rood* App. 221 þe Egle is frikest fowle in flye, Ouer all fowles to wawe hys wenge.

c. Of wind: To agitate (water).

c1380 WYCLIF *Serm. Sel. Wks.* I. 70 And wyndis of pryde wawen þes floodis, so þat it is perilous to shippis for to wandre.

Hence †*wawing vbl. sb.*

c1305 *Pop. Treat. Sci.* 386 This soule deieth in a man... whan he leveth his breth and his wawinge also. **1500** *Ortus Vocab.*, *Cellinium*, the wawynge of the water.

waw (wɔː), *v.*² *Sc. and north. dial.* Also 6 *wawe*, 8 *weawgh*. [Echoic: cf. WAUL *v.*] *intr.* To cry as a cat or utter a similar sound. Hence 'wawing *vbl. sb.*

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 45/40 To Wawe as a eat, *lallare*. **1576** [see MOONER]. **1664** *ETHEREGE Com. Revenge* iv. iii, Well said Widow, i' faith; I will get upon thy body A generation of wild Cats, children that shall Waw, waw, scratch their Nurses, and be drunk With their sucking-bottles. **c1746** J. COLLIER (Tim Bobbin) *View Lancs. Dial. Wks.* (1862) 47 Three little tyney Bandyhewits... coom Weawghing os if th' little Rott'ns wou'd ha worrit meh. **c1817** HOGG *Tales, Mary Montgomery* (1865) 590/2 He was a' covered wi' blood, an' had a bit bloody bairn wawin' on afore him. **1876** J. RICHARDSON *Cummerland Talk* Ser. II. 147 Oor Betty's allus wawin', wawin'... Nowt in this world, o' that I's sarten, Wad keep her fra her wawin' lang! **1887** [G. G. GREEN] *Gordenhaven* v. 54 Ah thoct A heard a kin' o' a wawin' or something o' that sort oot o' the sea.

waw, variant of WOUGH, wall.

||**wawa** ('weiwə). Also 8 *way-way*. [Cree *wehwew* goose (Lacombe *Dict. Lang. des Cris*); Odjibwa *wêwe* goose, *wabwêwe* white goose (Baraga *Otchipwe Gram.*). The current Eng. form of the word is WAVEY.] An American-Indian name for the wild goose.

1768 *Phil. Trans.* LX. 126 There are various sorts of the geese, as the grey-goose, the way-way, the brant, the dunter. **1855** LONGF. *Hiaw.* II. 162 When the Wawa has departed, When the wild-goose has gone southward.

wa-wa, wa-wah, var. forms of WOW-WOW.

wa-wa, var. WAH-WAH².

wawag, obs. Sc. form of VOYAGE.

waward(e, -art, obs. Sc. forms of VAWARD.

wawaskeesh (wɔːwɔːskiːʃ). *N. Amer.* Also 8 *wewashkish*. [repr. Odjibwa *wawaskeshi* (Baraga *Otchipwe Dict.*, 1880) = Cree *wawaskāsew* (Watkins *Cree Dict.*, 1865).] = WAPITI.

1796 S. HEARNE *Journ. North. Ocean* 360 The wewashkish... is quite a different animal from the moose. **1896** J. MACLEAN *Canad. Savage Folk* 620 The Wapiti, known amongst the Cree Indians as Wawashkish.

wawcer, obs. form of VOUSOIR.

wawd, obs. form of *would*: see WILL *v.*

wawe, obs. form of WOE.

wawhte, variant of WOTHE.

wawil-eyed, obs. form of WALL-EYED.

wawill, obs. Sc. form of WAUL *v.*

†**wawish**, *a.* *Obs. rare*—¹. [f. WAW *sb.*¹ + -ISH¹.] Of the sea: Turbulent.

c1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* (Roxb.) 21 Amanges the waves tempestuouses ledere and help singulere With out wham we may noght this wawishe see ouerparse.

wawk, obs. form of WAKE *v.*, WALK *v.*²

wawl: see WAUL *v.*

wawl(e, obs. forms of WALL *sb.*¹, *v.*⁴

wawlme, wawme, var. ff. WALM *sb.*¹

wawou, var. form of WOW-WOW.

wawspēr ('waspər). *Sc.* Also 5, 9 wasper, 9 wausper. [The first element is obscure; the second element is SPEAR *sb.*] A fishing-spear. Cf. WASTER *sb.*³

1472 *Mumim. de Melros* (Bannatyne Club) 591 That nane . . presume . . till . . fisch thare Wateris with Wasperis nettis or any vthir Instrumentis. **1547** *Extracts Aberd. Reg.* (1844) l. 246 For keiping of thair watteris and fischingis of Done and Dee. . in raid tyme fra all maner of nettis, cobillis, wawspēris, heryvalteris, and all wther instrumentis. **1887** JAMIESON *Suppl.*, and *Add.*

wawt, obs. *Sc.* form of WELT *v.*

waw-waw ('wɔ:wɔ:). A West Indian climbing shrub (see quot.).

1864 GRISEBACH *Flora W. Ind. Isl.* 788 Waw-waw, *Rajania pleioneura*.

†**wawy**, *a.* *Obs.* [f. WAW *sb.*¹ + -Y.] Full of waves, billowy; = WAVY *a.* 1.

1412-20 *LYDG. Chron. Troy* 1. 3938 þe see is calme and blaudisching From trouble of wynde and wawy boilyng. **1426** — *De Guil. Pilgr.* 19244 Alle pylgrymes. . That swymmen in the wawy see. **1500** *Chaucer's Dreame* 697 Ten thousand shipes at a sight, I saw come ouer the wawy flood. **1503** *HAWES Examp. Virt.* x. 181 This stormy troublous and wawy water.

wax (wæks), *sb.*¹ Forms: 1 wæx, wex, 1, 2 weax, 3-6, 9 *dial.* wex, 4-6 wexe (5 vexe), 4-7 waxe, (4 waxche, *Sc.* vax, 5 whax), 5-7 *Sc.* walx, (6 *Sc.* valx, waux, waks), 3- wax. [Com. Teut. (not recorded in Goth.): OE. *weax* neut. = OFris. *wax*, OS. *wahs* (LG., Du. *was*), OHG., MHG. *wahs* (mod.G. *wachs*), ON. *vax* (Sw. *vax*, Da. *vox*):—OTeut. **waxso-m*.

Outside Teut. the word occurs as Lith. *wāskas*, OSl. *voskŭ* (Russ. *vosk*, Pol. *wosk*, Czech *vosk*), but prob. adopted from Teut. The root may be identical with Teut. **waxs-* to grow (wax *v.*¹); it seems not impossible that the etymological sense may have been 'that which grows (in the honeycomb)'. The view now most in favour refers the word to the Indogermanic root **weg-* to weave, found in OIrish *figim* I weave, L. *vēlum* veil, sail (believed to be from prehistoric **weg-slom*), and in certain Teut. words (see WICK *sb.*¹); the advocates of this etymology appeal to the apparent semasiological parallel of G. *wabe*, honeycomb, presumed to be from the root of *weben* WEAVE *v.*¹ Some other hypotheses have been proposed, but they are all unsatisfactory with regard either to form or meaning.]

1. a. A substance (also distinctively called BEESWAX) produced by bees, and used by them as the material of the honeycomb. It is a secretion of special glands in the abdomen, mixed with the secretion of the salivary glands in the process of mastication; when slightly warmed it is readily moulded into any shape, and when heated to about 150° melts into a liquid; in its natural state it is of a bright yellow colour. *butter of wax*: see BUTTER *sb.*¹ 3. Cf. *wax-butter* in 13.

Chemically beeswax is a combination of palmitic, cerotic, and melissic acids with myricil alcohol.

805-1375 [see 2]. **c** **1386** CHAUCER *Cant. T.*, Prol. 675 This Pardoner hadde beer as yellow as wax. **1398** *TREVISA Barth. De P.R.* xix. lxi. (1495) 897 Wexe is the drastes of hony. **c** **1440** *Pallad. on Husb.* 1. 1023 Of tyme is wax and hony maad swettest. **1526** *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 165 b, Lyke as y^e hony is closed within the come of waxe. **c** **1560** A. SCOTT *Poems* i. 105 As beis takkis walx and honye of þe floure. **1601** SHAKS. *All's Well* 1. ii. 65 Since I not wax nor honie can bring home. **a** **1679** SIR J. MOORE *England's Interest* (1703) 137 Break the Combs. . into three parts. The first Honey and Wax, the 2d. Honey and Wax with Sandarach, the 3d. dry Wax without Honey. **1792** J. HUNTER in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXII. 145 The wax is formed by the bees themselves; it may be called an external secretion of oil, and I have found that it is formed between each scale of the under side of the belly. **1834** MCMURTRIE *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 433 Wax, according to the experiments of the same naturalists, is nothing more than elaborated honey. **1871** STAVELEY *Brit. Insects* 248 The substances or materials collected or produced by Bees are four in number—honey, bee-bread, wax, and propolis.

¶ **b. rough wax**: a term formerly applied to the pollen adhering to the legs of bees, which was erroneously supposed to be the crude substance from which the wax was elaborated. *Obs.*

1744 tr. *Bazin's Nat. Hist. Bees* 43 This dust then, which falls upon these stamina of flowers, is the sole matter, of which wax is made, which I shall call rough wax. **1792** J. HUNTER in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXII. 144 The substance brought in on their legs, which is the farina of the flowers of plants, is, in common, I believe, imagined to be the materials of which the wax is made, for it is called by most the wax.

2. a. Beeswax as melted down, bleached, or otherwise prepared for some special purpose in the arts, in medicine, or in manufactures.

The more prominent uses are: as material for candles and tapers, as a plastic material for modelling, as a component of plasters, as a vehicle for encaustic painting, and as a protective coating to exclude the air.

805-10 in *Birch Cartul. Sax.* (1885) I. 459 Mon ðææt weax agæfe to cirican. **971** *Blickl. Hom.* 129 Swa swa eles gæcynd bið þæt he beorhtor scinep þonne weax on sceafte. **c** **1200** *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 47 Also weax on þe candelē sene, þe wueke wiðinnen unsene. **c** **1205** LAY. 2370 Mucel win, mucel weax, mucel wunsum ping. **1340-70** *Alex. & Dind.* 236 While þe weke & þe waxe vn-wastep lastep. **1375** BARBOUR *Bruce* xi. 119 Vyne and vax, schot and vittale. **1402** in *E.E.*

Wills 11, ij torchis of wax. **1406** HOCCELEVE *La Male Regle* 254 Alle eres of men of his compaignie, With wex he stoppe leet, for þat they noght Hir song sholde heere. **a** **1425** tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula* etc. 81 If pou wilt make it in maner of one emplastre, putte per-to wax and blak pich. **1597** JAS. VI *Damonol.* 11. v. 44 To some others at these times hee teacheth, how to make Pictures of waxe or clay: That by the rosting thereof, the persones that they beare the name of, may be continuallie melted or dryed awaie by continuall sicknesse. **1601** HOLLAND *Pliny* xxxv. xi. II. 546 As touching the feat of setting colours with wax, and enamelling with fire, who first began and devised the same, it is not known. **1612** *Sc. Bk. Rates in Halyburton's Ledger* (1867) 293 Candles of walx the pound weght thair of, iiiis. **1638** JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 133 There should be made three images of wax, in the place of three men that were to be offered unto Juno. **1676** WISEMAN *Surg.* 1. vi. 40 A Cerote of Wax and Oyl over the Leg. **1702** in *Ashton Soc. Life Reign Q. Anne* (1882) I. 283 Effigies. . . Curiously done in Wax to the Life. **1707-21** MORTIMER *Husb.* II. 255 Cleft Grafting. . . Cover the Head of the Stock with temper'd Clay, or with soft Wax. **1768** W. LEWIS *Mat. Med.* (ed. 2) 202 The chief medicinal use of wax is in plasters, unguents, and other like external applications. **1787** *Trans. Soc. Arts* V. 104 The Art of Painting in Wax as described in the following letter and account. **1789** MRS. PIOZZI *Journ. France & Italy* II. 227 They. . . I think excel Mrs. Wright's finest figures in wax. **1803** *Nicholson's Jnrl. Nat. Philos.* (8^o) IV. 176 A stream of wax has just overflowed the cup of the wax candle by which I have been reading. **1815** S. PARKES *Chem. Ess.* II. 148 In some particular styles of work the operation of certain colours is resisted by means of stopping out with wax. **1832** CARLYLE *Ess., Death Goethe* (1840) IV. 118 The true Sovereign of the world, who moulds the world like soft wax, according to his pleasure. **1840** DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xxviii, Children, who. . . were fully impressed with the belief that her grandfather was a cunning device in wax. **1875** KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 23 1/2 Cover the inside of the [plaster] sections with a shell of wax.

b. As used for the coating of writing tablets.

1533 BELLENDEN *Liuy* (S.T.S.) I. 55 Als richtuissie as þai ar bere Ingravin in þir tabillis or walx. **1565** COOPER *Thesaurus* s.v. *Cera*, *Ceræ credere aliquid*, Plaut. To wryte in tables of waxe. **1854** FAIRHOLT *Dict. Terms Art* s.v. *Encaustic*, The artists of antiquity . . . used the stylus and wax for tablet-pictures and architectural decorations.

c. A particular variety of wax. Usually with qualifying adj., as *bleached, white, yellow wax*. See also VIRGIN WAX.

1545 RAYNALDE *Byrth Mankynde* 118 If the child be in great heate annoynet hym with the oyle of violettes, or with oyle olyfe, tempered with a lyttell whyte wexe. **1601** HOLLAND *Pliny* xxi. xiv. II. 96 The best wax is that which is called Punica, . . . and is white. The next, in goodness is the yellowest, . . . such cometh from the countrey of Pontus. **1630** in *Abridgm. Specif. Patents, Oils* etc. (1873) 2 To make yellow wax white verie speedily. **1768** W. LEWIS *Mat. Med.* (ed. 2) 201 *Cera alba*. . . White wax: the yellow wax artificially bleached. *Ibid.*, *Cera flava*. . . Yellow wax; in the state wherein it is obtained from the combs. **1811** A. T. THOMSON *Lond. Disp.* (1818) 112 Unbleached Wax. . . Yellow wax is prepared immediately from the honeycomb. **1843** R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* xxix. 390 The applications in use were yellow wax ointment and nitrate of silver.

† **d. man of wax**: a waxen image of a man. *Obs.*

Cf. **1439** *E.E. Wills* 118 Allso I woll the great Image of wax that is at London be offred to our lady of Worcestre.

1500 *Will of Rigawell* (Somerset Ho., Blamyr 23 b), I wille that my seid executors . . . shalle offre for me a man a [sic] of wax. . . at our lady of Walsyngham. . . also at the rode of Berkles a man of waxe.

† **e. pl. Pieces of wax. nonce-use.**

1550 CRANMER *Def. Sacram.* III. 81 As two waxes, that be molten & put together, they close so in one, that euery part of the one, is ioyned to euery parte of the other.

f. An object made of wax. (a) A wax candle. (b) A figure or model in wax.

(a) **1844** HEWLETT *Parsons & W.* xlix, A resplendent October moon. . . seemed to impose upon us the notion that it would be a sacrilege against Diana if we were to shut out her rays, and substitute a pair of waxes for her clear beams. **1871** BESANT & RICE *Ready-money Mort.* iii, Don't waste the light, Dick. You're burning one of your poor aunt's waxes.

(b) **1865** TYLOR *Early Hist. Man.* vi. 125 A mediæval sermon speaks of baptizing a 'wax' to bewitch with. **1906** *Westm. Gaz.* 9 May 8/2 The original 'waxes' of Flaxman, Angelino, Pacetti, and other famous designers, from which the moulds for the familiar classical decorations were made.

3. a. In figurative and simulative uses, referring to the easy fusibility of wax, its softness and readiness to receive impressions, its adhesiveness, etc. *nose of wax*: see NOSE *sb.* 4.

c **825** *Vesp. Psalter* xxi. 15 ðe worden wes heorte min swe swe wax gemaeltende in midle wombe minre. **c** **1000** *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) lvi. 7 Swa weax meltep, gif hit bið wearmum neah fyre gefæstnad. **c** **1375** *Sc. Leg. Saints* iv. (*James*) 266 þe stane . . . wex nesch as it wax war. **1471** RIPLEY *Comp. Alch.* 1. vi. in Ashmole (1652) 130 Fluxible as Wax. **1546** J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* 11. vi. (1867) 61 At my wil I wend she should haue wrought, like wax. **1592** SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* III. iii. 126 Thy Noble shape is but a forme of waxe, Digressing from the Valour of a man. **1598** E. GUILPIN *Skial.* (1878) 58 He hath a wit of waxe, fresh as a rose. **1608** DEKKER *2nd Pt. Honest Wh.* 1. (1630) B3, *Hip*. I'm glad you are wax, not marble: you are made Of mans best temper. **1612** BEAUM. & FL. *Coxcomb* II. ii, I'll work her as I go, I know shee's wax, now. **a** **1700** B. E. *Dict. Canting Crew*, *Pliant*. . . Wax to every Thumb. **1717** POPE *Hor. Ep.* II. ii. 9 He's your slave, for twenty pound a year, Mere wax as yet, you fashion him with ease. **1748** RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) VII. 365 When my mind is made such wax, as to be fit to take what impression she pleases to give it. **1817** BYRON *Beppo* xxxiv, His heart was one of those which most enamour us, Wax to receive, and marble to retain. **1875** STUBBS *Const. Hist.* II. xiv. 99 John's heart was of millstone, Henry's of wax.

b. Phrases: *close, tight, neat as wax; to stick (to one) like wax; to fit like wax.*

1772 CUMBERLAND *Fashionable Lover* III. 35 But you mun be as elose as wax, d'y'e see. **1809** BYRON *Lines to Mr. Hodgson* 30 All are wrangling, Stuck together close as wax. **1850** SUSAN WARNER *Wide Wide World* xvi, The furniture was common, but neat as wax. **1859** LYTON *What will he do* IV. xiv, 'Cabined, cribbed, confined', in a coat that fits him like wax. **1865** DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* IV. vi, Bella and John Rokesmith followed; Gruff and Glum stuck to them like wax. **1898** N. GOULD *Landed at Last* v. 52 Not much chance of drawing Sim Sharples when he's alone. He's as close as wax, and so is Sam Rogers. **1902** [see TIGHT *a.* 5].

c. *man, lad of wax*: used as a term of emphatic commendation. Now *arch.* and *dial.* (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*).

The origin of this expression is not clear. It may have meant 'as faultless as if modelled in wax' (cf. 2 d.). Some would refer it to wax *sb.*²

1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* 1. iii. 76 Why hee's a man of waxe. **1607** DEKKER & WEBSTER *West-w. Hoe* II. i, Hees a Knight made out of waxe. **1611** BEAUM. & FL. *Philaster* 1. i, Oh! 'tis a Prince of wax. **1612** FIELD *Woman is Weathercock* 1. B4b, By Ioue it is a little man of wax. **1821** W. T. MONCRIEFF *Tom & Jerry* III. iii, A glass of good max. . . Wou'd have made them, like us, lads of wax. **1840** *Peter Parley's Ann.* I. 131 The shoemaker. . . surveyed the Prince from top to bottom. 'No tailor could do that,' said he; 'he must be a lad of wax.' **1858** TROLLOPE *Dr. Thorne* iv, All right, my lad of wax. **1880** BLACKMORE *Mary Anerley* xxiii, Could any lad of wax put up with this, least of all a daring mariner?

4. a. In early use, beeswax (or a mixture of this with other substances) as employed to receive the impression of a seal; in later use, a compound, chiefly consisting of lac, serving the same purpose: = SEALING-WAX.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 205 þa fotlastas wæron swutole & gæsyne on þæm stane, swa hie on wexe wæron aþyde. **a** **1300** *Cursor M.* 557 Als prient of seel in wax es thrist þer in he has his lic[nes] fest. **a** **1340** HAMPOLE *Psalter* iv. 7 þe prynt we bere of þi light as þe wax does of þe sele. **1398** *TREVISA Barth. De P.R.* xix. lxi. (1495) 898 Preuyte is hydde vnder wexe: and pryueleges be confermyd with wexe. **c** **1450** *Cov. Myst.* (1841) 341 Loo! here is wax fful redy dyght, Sett on þour sele anon ful ryght. **1511-2** *Act 3 Hen. VIII* c. 6 §1 The Alnager . . . shall . . . not put to eny suche clothes eny seales of waxe in any wise. **1535** W. STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) III. 464 Brekand promit to him befoir he maid In writ and walx, wnder thair seillis braid. **1560** DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 119 For al the sorte of them occupie waxe. . . in sealyng their letters. **1588** SHAKS. *L.L.L.* IV. i. 59 We will reade it, I sweare. Breake the necke of the Waxe, and euery one giue eare. **1593** — *Lucr.* 1245 No more then waxe shall be accounted euill, Wherein is stamp't the semblance of a Deuill. **1607** MIDDLETON *Michaelmas Term* IV. i, Hee will neuer trust his land in Waxe and Parchment as many Gentlemen haue done before him. **1609** SKENE *Reg. Maj., Forme of Proces* 120 The deposition. . . sould be stampit and sealit be the Lords examinators, with seale and walx, and sould not be opened at the second or thrid examination. **1622** J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Farewe. Tower Bottles* A 3, Bound fast in Bonds in Parchment and with waxe. **1676** WYCHERLEY *Pl. Dealer* IV. i, O do not squeeze Wax, Son; rather go to Ordinaries, and boudy-houses, than squeeze Wax. **1717** PRIOR *To Harley* 1 Pen, ink, and wax, and paper send. **1761** COLMAN *Jealous Wife* 1. 14 *Maj.* A Letter!—Hum—A suspicious Circumstance to be sure!—What, and the Seal a True-Lover's Knot now, hey! . . . or possibly the Wax bore the industrious Impression of a Thimble. **1818** CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) IV. 32 One piece of wax may serve for all the grantors, &c. . . if every one of them put his seal upon the same piece of wax. **1818** BYRON *Juan* 1. cxcviii, The seal a sun-flower, . . The wax was superfine, its hue vermilion.

b. With designation of colour. See also GREEN WAX.

1485 *Nottingham Rec.* III. 230 For rede wax to seale þe endentures. **1496** *Acta Dom. Conc.* II. 19 Ane decret of the Lordis under the quhite walx. **1532** *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* (1905) VI. 50 For rede waks and quhite to sele the citations. **1641** 'SMECTYMNUS' *Vind. Answ. Humb. Rem.* §16. 218 The Greene Wax and Red Wax of the Bishops. **1653** in *Verney Mem.* (1907) I. 525 Stone Bottles with White Wine. They are all sealed with Black Wax. **1712** STEELE *Spect.* No. 431 ¶ 3, I then nibbled all the red Wax of our last Ball-Tickets, and three Weeks after the black Wax from the Burying-Tickets of the old Gentleman.

† **c. hard wax** = SEALING-WAX. *Obs.*

1603 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* 35 The Ilands affoorde plenty of hides, cotten, . . hand wax and pearles. **1616** B. JONSON *Devil an Ass* v. i, My purse, my seales, My hard-wax, and my table-bookes. **1660** F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* ix. 26 Laca d'Alaca. . . Of this is likewise made Spanish hard wax. **a** **1674** CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* xiv. §139 A clean piece of paper sealed with three impressions of an antique head in hard wax.

5. Applied to artificial compounds having the properties of wax, and substituted for it in various applications.

1763 W. LEWIS *Commerc. Phil.-Techn.* 78 The gilding wax is composed of bees-wax, red ochre or ruddle, verdegriis, vitriol or alum, and sometimes other additions.

6. Any of a class of substances, found in nature in greater or less purity, including beeswax and other compounds resembling it in general properties and (more or less) in chemical composition. In *Chem.* properly restricted to those 'waxes' of animal and vegetable origin which, like beeswax, are composed of fatty acids and alcohols. The mineral 'waxes' are hydrocarbons.

a. A vegetable product obtained from various trees and plants.

1799 *Med. Jnrl.* I. 268 The matter of wax, as forming an ingredient in many vegetables, is discoverable, partly from their shining surface, partly from a certain flexibility in such bodies. **1803** *Nicholson's Jnrl. Nat. Philos.* (8^o) IV. 187 The

light matter which is called the down of fruits, which silvers the surface of prunes and other fruits, is wax. 1813 SIR H. DAVY *Agric. Chem.* iii. (1814) 96 Wax is found in a number of vegetables, it is procured in abundance from the berries of the wax myrtle, it may likewise be obtained from the leaves of many trees. 1839 *URE Dict. Arts.* etc. s.v., Wax exists also as a vegetable product, and may, in this point of view, be regarded as a concrete fixed oil. It forms a part of the green fecula of many plants, particularly of the cabbage; it may be extracted from the pollen of most flowers; as also from the skins of plums, and many stone fruits. It constitutes a varnish upon the upper surface of the leaves of many trees, and it has been observed in the juice of the cow-tree. The berries of the *Myrica angustifolia*, *latifolia*, as well as the *cerifera*, afford abundance of wax. 1880 ALCOCK in *Encycl. Brit.* XIII. 590/2 The *Urushi* tree growing in Japan (the fruit of which yields the vegetable wax). 1887 MOLONEY *Forestry W. Africa* 461 Gums and Resins, Vegetable Waxes.

b. A substance resembling beeswax secreted or produced by various species of scale-insects. Sometimes called *Chinese wax*. Also, 'the product of some other homopterous insects' (*Cent. Dict.*).

1802 BINGLEY *Anim. Biog.* (1805) III. 290 To their [the larvae of the cicada] labours the Chinese are indebted for the fine white wax that is so much esteemed in the East-Indies. They form a sort of white grease which attaches to the branches of trees, hardens there, and becomes wax. 1815 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* x. (1818) I. 328 In China wax is also produced by another insect, which... seems to be a species of *Coccus*. *Ibid.* 331 Early in the spring vast numbers of these caterpillars [of *Phalæna ceraria*] collect on the branches of the *Chila*, where they form their cells of a kind of soft white wax or resin... This wax, which is at first very white, but by degrees becomes yellow and finally brown, is collected in autumn by the inhabitants, who boil it in water, and make it up into little cakes for market. 1852 W. GREGORY *Handbk. Org. Chem.* (ed. 3) 247 Chinese Wax. 1876 WESTWOOD in *Trans. Entom. Soc. Lond.* 521 Now this 'cottony' covering was doubtless formed of the wax secreted by the *Fulgora*. 1899 D. SHARP *Insects* II. 575 A great many [of the *Fulgoridæ*] have the curious power of excreting large quantities of a white flocculent wax. *Ibid.* 597 *Ceroplastes ceriferus*, a Lecaniid, produces white wax in India... The white wax of China is understood to be produced by another Lecaniid, *Ericerus pèla*.

c. A mineral product somewhat resembling bees-wax. *fossil* or *mineral wax* = OZOCERITE. *paraffin wax*: see PARAFFIN sb. 4.

1838 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 448 Fossil wax of Moldavia. 1842 FRANCIS *Dict. Arts.* etc., *Wax*, Mineral, a bituminous substance, found at the foot of the Carpathian mountains, near Slarick. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* (1877) V. 1037 *Wax*, Fossil. Syn. with *Ozocerite*.

d. *gen.*

1866 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* (1877) IV. 322 *Ozocerite*... is like a resinous wax in consistence and translucency. 1868 *Ibid.* V. 1037 Japan-wax... is not a true wax, but a glyceride.

e. (See quotes.) Cf. *paraffin wax* s.v. PARAFFIN sb. 4.

1924 *Ski Terms* in *Tourist* (Winter Sports No.) 12/2 *Wax*, a paraffin preparation to prevent the snow balling under the ski. 1962 *Austral. Women's Weekly* 24 Oct. (Suppl.) 3/4 *Wax*, paraffin wax, rubbed on a [surf]board to prevent slipping.

f. *lost wax*: see LOST ppl. a. 6.

7. = EAR-WAX.

[1398-1614: see EAR-WAX]. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Cerumen*, the filth or Wax of the Ear, which serves to hinder Dust, Motes, or any little Creatures from getting into it. 1889 L. HUMPHRY *Man. Nursing* (1892) 216 When there is hard wax blocking up the canal [of the ear].

8. A thick resinous composition used by shoemakers for rubbing their thread. More fully *cobblers'*, *shoemakers' wax*: see COBBLER, SHOEMAKER.

1622 MASSINGER & DEKKER *Virg. Martyr* III. iii, Long I cannot last, for all sowerly waxe of comfort melting away, and misery taking the length of my foote, it bootes not me to sue for life. 1837 KIRKBRIDE *North. Angler* 11 The amateur... must... be provided with... shoe-maker's wax. I prepare my own wax, by boiling a little pitch and rosin together, and tempering it with a very little tallow. 1885 LENO *Boot & Shoemaking* 222 Wax that will work up into the pure bronze colour so much liked by shoemakers may be made of 4 lbs. resin, 1 lb. pitch, 4 ounces beeswax, 3 ounces tallow.

9. U.S. A thick syrup produced by boiling down the sap of the sugar-maple tree, cooling on ice, etc. (*Cent. Dict.*)

1845 S. JUDD *Margaret* II. i, [Making maple sugar] The 'wax' is freely distributed to be cooled on lumps of snow or the axe-head.

10. *Mining*. (See quot.)

1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-mining, Wax* (Leicester.) soft or puddled clay used for *dams* or *stoppings*, and in which the colliers stick and carry about their candles in the mine.

11. U.S. *slang*. A gramophone record; *to put on wax*, to make a gramophone record of, to record. [From the 'wax' discs in which the recording stylus cuts its groove.]

1932 *New Yorker* 11 June 56/2 An extraordinarily competent bit of manufacture is the latest wax by Miss Jeanette MacDonald (Victor 24103). 1940 J. O'HARA *Pal Joey* (1952) 107, I am going to play the tune and cut a wax of it. 1941 *Jazz Information* Nov. 28/1 Some of the most beautiful piano playing Jelly Roll ever put on wax. 1941 W. C. HANDY *Father of Blues* xvi. 219 Recording companies... made them available on wax. 1968 P. OLIVER *Screening Blues* 4 The more sophisticated types of vaudeville entertainment were to be heard on wax before the Southern rural blues. 1979 *Early Music* Oct. 469/1 Scarlatti, Rameau, Couperin, Handel and, of course, Bach were committed to wax during the 1930s, as well.

12. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. *Attrib.* (quasi-adj.) with the sense 'composed of wax'. (See also WAX TAPER.)

1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 474/2 *Ceroplastes*,... a maker of wax images. 1685 G. SINCLAIR *Satans Invis. World* 3 This woman... had formed an Wax-Picture, with pins in the side. 1811 A. T. THOMSON *Lond. Disp.* (1818) 714 Wax Plaster. 1825 in R. W. Goulding *Louth Old Corpor. Rec.* (1891) 185 By Cash of Madame Tussaud for 5 weeks use of the Mansion House for her Exhibitⁿ of Wax Figures, 9 196. 1840 DICKENS *Master Humphrey's Clock* I. 101 A young hairdresser... opened a very smart little shop with four wax dummies in the window. 1846 DICKENS *Pict. Italy*, Lyons, etc., There was a wax saint, in a little box... with a glass front to it. 1847 *Ann. Reg.* 20 A little box of about a dozen wax lucifer matches. 1849 CHRISTMAS *Cradle of Twin Giants* II. iv. I. 271 An empty bier, surrounded by an hundred wax-torches. 1853 C. C. FELTON *Fam. Lett.* viii. (1865) 61 The oddest thing of all is a wax figure of Frederic the Great. 1854 *Poultry Chron.* II. 105 Some freak of wax-fruit modelling. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Vesta*, a kind of wax match. 1870 BOWEN *Logic* xi. 353 It may be only a wax counterfeit. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 45 A wax vesta which is lit and the head knocked off. 1914 'IAN HAY' *Knt. on Wheels* xx, His wife kept wax fruit under a glass case in her parlour window. 1969 Y. CARTER *Mr. Campion's Farthing* xix. 188 A wax dummy displaying a garment for sale. 1978 J. ANDERSON *Angel of Death* xii. 139 Her body as motionless, her face as impassive as a wax dummy.

b. simple *attrib.*, 'of or pertaining to wax', as *wax-chip*, *-solution*, *-spot*.

1859 *Habits of Gd. Society* xiii. 336 After the Tuileries' balls, we often returned with complete epaulettes of wax-spots on our shoulders, if in moments of carelessness we had stood under the chandeliers. 1889 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* II. 241 A wax solution or wax chips melted by a hot iron.

c. *objective*, as *wax-bearer*, *-bleacher*, *-manufacturer*, *-modeller*, *-nibbler*, *producer*, *-refiner*; *wax-modelling* vbl. sb.; *wax-bearing*, *-forming*, *-producing*, *-secreting* ppl. adjs. Also WAX-MAKER, -MAKING.

1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* v. iii. (1592) 884 The Acolithes say they are *wax-bearers, because they carry wax-candles. 1796 MARSHALL *Planting* II. 232 The Candleberry Myrtle, or *Wax-bearing Myrick. 1881 *Instructions to Census Clerks* (1885) 77 *Wax, beeswax—bleacher, refiner [etc.]. 1908 *Westm. Gaz.* 29 Apr. 1/3 He... became a wax-bleacher at Hoxton. 1802 BINGLEY *Anim. Biog.* (1805) III. 289 The *Wax-forming Cicada. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, *Wax-manufacturer. *Ibid.*, *Wax-modeller. 1850 OGILVIE, *Wax-modelling. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 431 ¶3 Chalk-lickers, *Wax-nibblers, Coal-scranchers, [etc.]. 1889 *Hardwicke's Sci.-Gossip* XXV. 131 Insects... highly prized as *wax-producers. 1861 HUMLE tr. *Moquin-Tandon* II. iii. 206 Bees are the principal *wax-producing animals. 1881 *Wax-refiner [see *wax-bleacher* above]. 1881 *Globe Encycl.* VI. 484 The *wax-secreting glands [in the bee].

d. *instrumental*, as *wax-coated*, *-composed*, *-daubed*, *-erected*, *-jointed*, *-lighted*, *-polished*, *-rubbed*, *-tipped*, *-topped* adjs.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2748/2 A machine for preparing *wax-coated matches for dipping. a 1642 SIR F. KYNASTON *Leoline & Sydanis* 1874 His *wax-composed wings unfeathered were. 1942 W. FAULKNER *Go down, Moses* 305 The tawny *wax-daubed shapeless lump. a 1718 PARNELL *Hesiod* 131 Thus in a thousand *wax-erected forts A loitering race the painful bee supports. 1846 PROWETT *Prometh. Bound* 27 While murmurs ever and anon From his *wax-jointed reed the same low sleepy drone. 1839 HOOD *Lines to Friend at Cobham* 17 You'll sometimes have *wax-lighted rooms. 1866 J. B. ROSE tr. *Ovid's Met.* 245 Chestnut bowls, *wax-polished was their wood. 1598 E. GUILPIN *Skial.* (1878) 26 Like a *wax-rubd City roome. 1898 CONAN DOYLE *Trag. Korosko* i, He had... a small *wax-tipped moustache. 1822 W. IRVING *Bracebridge Hall* (1823) I. 113 The Stout Gentleman and his *wax-topped boots. e. *simulative*, as *wax finish*; with adjs. denoting colour, as *wax-blond*, *-brown*, *-pale*, *-red*, *-white*, *-yellow*; also *wax-like* adj.

1925 E. SITWELL *Troy Park* 92 Oh, *wax-blond orange-blossoms' calice Of their hair. 1887 W. PHILLIPS *Brit. Discomyc.* 70 Cup medium size, pale *wax-brown. 1897 C. T. DAVIS *Manuf. Leather* (ed. 2) 464 The making of a *wax finish on chrome-tanned horse hide butts. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) III. 27 Her *wax-like flesh... answers for the soundness of her health. 1816 COLERIDGE *Statesman's Man.* 4 We... need not be surprised at the fact, that a jealous priesthood should have ventured to represent the applicability of the Bible to all the wants and occasions of men as a wax-like pliability to all their fancies and prepossessions. 1862 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* (ed. 2) 474 If its chloride be mixed with a solution of bichloride of platinum it yields a wax-like mass. 1885 *Cornhill Mag.* Mar. 284 A lovely... plant with masses of waxlike lilac blossom. 1899 J. HUTCHINSON in *Archives Surg.* X. Descr. Pl. xvii, The greater part of the hand is of wax-like pallor. 1942 E. SITWELL *Street Songs* 31 Dark-leaved arbutus blooms with *wax-pale bells. 1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 516 Which purchase if thou make, for feare of slips, Set thy scale manuell, on my *wax-red lips. 1883 'MARK TWAIN' *Life on Miss.* xxxi. 338 All of them with *wax-white, rigid faces. 1890 KIPLING *Life's Handicap, Incarn. Krishna Mulvaney* 29 My face was wax-white, an' at the worst I must ha' looked like a ghost. 1805 T. WEAVER *Werner's Ext. Charact. Fossils* 58 *Wax-yellow [G. *wachsgelb*] is a light honey-yellow, mixed with a little light ashes-grey.

f. in *parasynthetic* formations, as *wax-featured*, *-headed*, *†-hearted* adjs.

1612 T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* i. 11. (1619) 227 How many who haue seemed waxe-hearted Christians, soft and pliable. 1913 MRS. E. WHARTON *Custom of Country* II. xii. 156 A showy Parisianized figure, with a small wax-featured husband. 1914 *Glasgow News* 22 Dec. 4 The map was bristling with wax-headed pins of great variety in size and colour. They represented army units.

13. *Special comb.*: *wax bath*, an application of warm liquid wax which is allowed to solidify to a part of the body, for cosmetic or medical purposes; also, an immersion in liquid wax; *wax bean* U.S. = *wax-pod bean* below; *† wax boot*, a boot made of waxed leather, for walking in marshy ground; *wax-bush*, the plant *Cuphea viscosissima*; *wax-butter* = *butter of wax* (see quot.); *wax-cloth*, cloth coated with wax as a protection from wet; also, oil-cloth for covering floors or tables; *wax-cluster* *Austral.*, the plant *Gualtheria hispida*; *wax-colour*, (a) a pigment ground with wax for encaustic painting; (b) the yellow colour of wax; hence *wax-coloured a.*; *† wax-comb*, a honeycomb; *wax-creeper* *S. African*, a name of two plants with wax-like flowers, *Hoya carnosa* and *Microloma tenuifolium*; *wax-cup*, the hollow at the top of a burning wax candle; *wax-end*, thread coated with cobblers' wax, used by shoemakers; hence *wax-ended a.*, bound with wax-ends; *wax-eye* *Austral.* and *N.Z.* = *silver-eye* s.v. SILVER sb. and a. 21 c; cf. ZOSTEROPS; *† wax-farthing*, a farthing paid by parishioners at Easter to provide wax candles for use in church; *wax-gland*, a gland (in certain insects) secreting wax; *wax-hair*, one of the long hairs occurring on the bodies of the young of *Psyllidæ* or flea-lice; *† wax-house*, a building in a monastery where wax candles were made; *wax-insect*, an insect producing wax; also *attrib.*; *wax jack*, a contrivance designed for holding a coiled taper with its end ready for lighting, to provide a flame for melting sealing wax; *wax lathe* *Watchmaking*, a lathe in which the object to be turned is fastened with shellac or sealing-wax; *wax-leather*, leather 'waxed' or finished on the 'flesh' side; also *attrib.*; *† wax-man*, the officer of a trade guild who collected the contributions of the members for the wax candles to be used in the processions; *wax-moth*, a moth whose larva preys on the honeycomb; *wax-mould*, *† (a)* a mould for running melted wax into; (b) a mould made of wax; *wax museum*, a waxworks; also *fig.*; *wax-myrtle* = WAX-BERRY a; *wax-nose*, a 'nose of wax' (see NOSE sb. 4); hence *wax-nosed a.*; *wax-oil* *Chem.* (see quot.); *† wax-opal* (see quot.); *wax-painting*, encaustic painting; *wax-palm*, a name for two S. American wax-yielding palms, *Ceroxylon andicola* and *Corypha* or *Copernica cerifera*; *wax-paper* (see quot.); *wax pear*, a variety of pear of a wax-like colour; *wax pigment*, a pigment prepared with wax; *wax-pine*, *wax-pink* (see quotes.); *wax-pocket* *Ent.*, each of the sacs on the abdomen of the bee, for receiving the wax secreted by the wax-glands; *wax-pod bean*, a dwarf French bean belonging to any of several varieties having yellow, stringless pods; a butter-bean; *wax print*, cloth patterned by a batik process; *wax rose*, a variety of rose whose petals have a waxy appearance; *† wax shoe*, a shoe made of waxed leather (cf. *wax boot*); *† wax-silver*, money paid by parishioners at Easter for wax candles to be used in the church; *wax tablet*, a board coated with wax, to be written upon with a stylus; *wax-weed* = *wax-bush*; *wax-worm*, the larva of the wax-moth.

1916 *Chambers's Jnl.* Oct. 701/1 The *wax-bath has not been found beneficial in chronic rheumatoid arthritis. 1975 *Harpers & Queen* June 168/1 Sauna, steam cabinet baths, wax baths. [1900 L. H. BAILEY *Cycl. Amer. Hort.* I. 136/2 The Wax or Yellow-podded sorts need a richer soil.] 1905 *Outing* July 502/2 White bush *wax-beans are best for very early, but the pole varieties are better for late. 1967 R. M. CARLETON *Vegetables for To-day's Gardens* II. 14 No one has produced a wax bean with better flavour than Pencil Rod Black Wax. 1676 SHADWELL *Virtuoso* II. 29 'Twill be as common to buy a pair of Wings to fly to the World in the Moon, as to buy a pair of *Wax Boots to ride into Sussex with. 1845-50 MRS. LINCOLN *Lect. Bot.* II. 96 *Cuphea viscosissima* (*wax-bush). 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* (1877) V. 1036 Beeswax is decomposed by dry distillation, giving off a product which forms, on cooling, a white buttery mass, called *wax-butter, or *Butyrum cera*. 1816 SCOTT *Bl. Dwarf* i, The first... having a hat covered with *wax-cloth, and dreadnought overalls. 1834 CARLYLE *Let. to Mrs. Austin* (Thorp's Catal. 1913) Some sort of wax-cloth for a lobby. 1868 *Chamb. Encycl.* X. 111/2 *Wax-cloth*, a name sometimes given, but very erroneously, to *Floor-cloth* (q.v.). 1834 J. ROSS *Van Diemen's Land Ann.* 133 *Gualtheria hispida*. The *wax cluster, abundant in the middle region of Mount Wellington. 1854 FAIRHOLT *Dict. Terms Art. s.v. Wax Painting*, In Encaustic Painting, the *wax colours were burnt into the ground by means of a hot iron. 1901 *Macm. Mag.* Apr. 439/2 His sun-burned face turned wax-colour. 1842 LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 581 Varieties of cornel... with *wax-coloured fruit. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XI. 368 Thai mycht liknyt be Till an *wax-cayme that beis mais. 1890 ANNIE MARTIN *Home Life Ostrich Farm* 20 The little *wax-creeper, than which tiny as it is, I do not think a more perfect flower could be imagined. 1800 HERSCHEL in *Phil. Trans.* XC. 463 That the *wax-cup of the candle be kept

clean, and never suffered to run over. **1825** BROCKETT *N.C. Gloss.*, *Wax-end, the waxed thread used by cordwainers. **1838** DICKENS *O. Twist* vii, 'I will not, sir,' replied the beadle, adjusting the wax-end which was twisted round the bottom of his cane for purposes of parochial flagellation. **1888** FENN *Dick o' the Fens* 68, I could mend all this in less than an hour with some wax-ends and a brad-awl. **1838** DICKENS *Nickleby* xiii, A fearful instrument of flagellation, strong, supple, *wax-ended, and new. **1874** A. BATHGATE *Colonial Experiences* xvii. 239. While some species are seemingly dying out, others, such as the moko-moko and the *wax-eye... appear to be increasing. **1957** J. FRAME *Owls do Cry* ix. 39 The wax-eyes hungry for honey, will make their green and yellow cloud to follow her. **c 1588** in *Rel. Ant.* I. 255 Every house payd at Easter. .j farthyng called a *waxfarthinge. **1899** D. SHARP *Insects* II. 589 Certain gall-dwelling Aphidae... possess numerous *wax glands. *Ibid.* 580 In these earlier stages the body [of various Psyllidae] bears long hairs called *wax-hairs. **1385-6** *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 391 In factura unius camini in le *Waxhous. **1472-3** *Ibid.* 413 Cum emendacione unius patelle de le wax-house, 14d. **1815** KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* x. (1818) I. 329 This account is in the main confirmed by Geomelli Careri, except that he calls the *wax-insect a worm which bores to the pith of certain trees. **1857** FORTUNE *Resid. among Chinese* 147 The wax-insect tree is no doubt a species of ash (fraxinus). **1881** *Globe Encycl.* VI. 484/1 The Hemipterous family Coccidae includes the chief wax insects, familiarly known as bark lice. **1937** *Times Lit. Suppl.* 13 Mar. 189/2 Such diversities as a coach model, a silver *wax-jack and devices of human hair. **1956** G. TAYLOR *Silver* v. 114 The wax jack... is a simple framework supporting a horizontal reel which revolves to feed a length of taper up through a central nozzle. **1980** *Halcyon Days Catal.* 16/1 A bougie box or wax jack (designed to encase a flexible wax taper). South Staffordshire, c. 1770... **1520**. **1884** F. J. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 139 For many operations required in watch jobbing Mr. Ganney recommends the *wax or cement lathe. **1711** STEELE *Spect.* No. 48 ¶4, I am mounted in high-heel'd Shoes with a glazed *Wax-leather Instep. **1852** MORFIT *Tanning & Currying* (1853) 152 Wax leather is blackened in the flesh. **1885** *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 278/1 Wax leather, the serviceable leather for the upper parts of men's boots. **1766** *Complete Farmer* s.v. Bee, A small caterpillar, termed the wax-worm, or *wax-moth, because of the havock it makes on wax. **1815** KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xii. (1818) I. 390 The wax-moth larva (*Galleria Cereana*) will for want of wax eat paper, wafers, wool, etc. **1877** J. G. WOOD *Nature's Teach.* 151 The Wax-moth, or Galleria-moth (*Galleria alvearia*). . . is in its larval state extremely injurious to beehives. **a 1679** SIR J. MOORE *England's Interest* (1703) 137 First provide necessary Instruments, as... Honey-Pots, *Wax-Molds. **1849** G. W. FRANCIS *Art of Modelling Waxen Flowers* 16 Wax moulds for plaster casting, or the electro-type, should have [etc.]. **1963** V. NABOKOV *Gift* i. 35 A Russian foodshop, which was a kind of wax museum of the old country's cuisine. **1981** J. VALIN *Dead Letter* viii. 68 There was something a little scary about this artificial paradise. . . The place had the shallow charm of a wax museum. **1813** SIR H. DAVY *Agric. Chem.* iii. (1814) 96 Wax... is procured in abundance from the berries of the *wax-myrtle. **1884** SARGENT *Rep. Forests N. America* (10th Census IX) 136 *Myrica cerifera*. Bayberry. Wax Myrtle. **a 1843** SOUTHEY *Commonpl. Bk.* (1851) IV. 11 It is fitter for the dotage dreams of Sir William Jones, than the visions of the poet. Let the *wax-nose be tweaked by Volney on one side and Maurice on the other! **c 1615** SYLVESTER *Mem. Mortal.* II. xciv, Let's leave out I, and No, in Conversation: Words now transposed, and *wax-nosed, Both. **1852** J. M. HONIGBERGER *Thirty-five Yrs. in East I.* 69, I kept the wound open for several days, and ordered the swollen parts to be embrocated with *wax-oil. **1868** WATTS *Dict. Chem.* (1877) V. 1036 [Beeswax gives off wax-butter, and] afterwards a more and more liquid oil, called wax-oil, still retaining a small quantity of solid matter. **1896** CHESTER *Dict. Names Min.*, *Wax-opal, an early name for yellow opal with a waxy lustre. **1854** FAIRHOLT *Dict. Terms Art.*, *Wax Painting. This art practised by the ancients under the name of Encaustic, has lately been revived in several countries. **1859** GULLICK & TIMBS *Painting* 75 Various attempts have been made to re-introduce wax-painting; but the art of *pencilum-encaustic*, as practised by the ancients, seems to be lost. **1830** LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 282 The Ceroxylon andicola, or *Wax Palm of Humboldt, has its trunk covered by a coating of wax, which exudes from the spaces between the insertion of the leaves. **1882** J. SMITH *Dict. Pop. Names Plants* 436 *Wax Palm*. There are two so called. 1. *Copernicia cerifera*, a fan palm native of Brazil. . . 2. *Ceroxylon andicola*, a tall wing-leaved palm, native of the elevated regions of New Grenada. **1844** HOBLYN *Dict. Med.*, *Wax-paper. *Charta cerata*. Melt, in a water-bath, 48 parts each of white wax and fine turpentine, and 32 parts of spermaceti, and spread on paper. **1600** SURFLET *Country Farm* III. xlix. 537 The best... perrie is made of little yellow *waxe peares. **1854** FAIRHOLT *Dict. Terms Art* s.v., This medium is employed in making the cakes of *wax-pigments for water-colours. **1891** *Century Dict.*, *Wax-pine, the general name for the species of *Agathis* (*Dammara*), coniferous trees producing a large amount of resin. *Ibid.*, *Wax-pink, a name for garden species of *Portulaca*; so called from their wax-like leaves and showy flowers. **1815** KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xv. (1818) I. 492 The apparatus in which the wax is secreted consists of four pair of membranous bags or *wax-pockets. **1913** L. C. CORBETT *Garden Farming* ix. 136 A different variety... may have either green or wax pods. **1921** *Culture of Vegetables & Flowers* (Sutton & Sons) (ed. 16) 24 Many visitors to the Continent have learned to appreciate the fine qualities of the *Waxpod Beans. **1951** [see BUTTER-BEAN]. **1962** *Amateur Gardening* 5 May 19 The golden waxpod beans have always attracted a good deal of attention. **1969** *Times* 24 Nov. (Congo Suppl.) p. iv/3 English Calico is planning a factory to manufacture 20m. yards of 'wax prints' a year. **1979** *Guardian* 8 June 17/3 Accra's famous market mummies have their stalls... broken into... and their contents—waxprint cloth, provisions, . . . taken away. **1837** RIVERS *Rose Amateur's G.* 18 Duchess d'Angoulême, or the *wax rose, is an old but deservedly favourite variety. **1664** WOOD *Life* (O.H.S.) II. 20 For a pair of *wax shoes [cf. below 1666, waxt shoes], 4s. 4d. **1692** SIR J. FOULIS *Acc. Bk.* (S.H.S.) 144 For 2 pair wax shoes. **1432** in *Glassecock Rec. St. Michael's, Bp.'s Stortford* (1882) 3 Et in *waxsilver collecto in ecclesia in die Paschali, vijs. viij^d. **1496** *Cov. Lett Bk.* 574 Item, that no maister make no brother to be Craft yf he haue be prentes in pe Cite

no lesse pen xiiij s. iiij d. & his wax siluer. **1807** DOUCE *Illustr. Shaks.* II. 228 The Roman practice of writing on *wax tablets with a stile was continued also during the middle ages. **1905** J. B. BURY *Life St. Patrick* iii. 40 Honoratus sent a messenger across in a boat with a letter on a wax tablet. **1884** W. MILLER *Plant-n.* I. 144 *Wax-weed, Blue, *Cuphea viscosissima*. **1766** *Wax-worm [see wax-moth].

wax (wæks), *sb.*² Now rare exc. *dial.* [f. WAX *v.*¹ Cf. G. *wachs*.]

1. The process of waxing; growth.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1430 Euer stod þai [sc. þe wandes] still in an, Wit-outen wax, wit-outen wain. *Ibid.* 8244 A-boute þat tre, A siluer cercle son naild he, þat was þe stouen for to strength, And knau þe wax o gret and length. **1892** *Athenaeum* 30 Jan. 146/2 'On the Wane' (which should strictly be called 'On the Wane, on the Wax, and on the Wane Again').

2. Stature; size (of something growing).

c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxx. 245 Thou art best on thi wax that euer was clekty, or knawen. **1618** W. LAWSON *New Orch. & Garden* (1626) 35 The boale will be first, and best serued and fed, because he is next the root, and of greatest waxe and substance. **1868** ATKINSON *Cleveland Gloss.*, and **1876-89** in Yorks. and Lincs. glossaries.

wax (wæks), *sb.*³ *colloq.* or *slang.* [Of doubtful origin; possibly evolved from some phrase like *to wax angry* (arch.), *to wax warm* (now *dial.*): see WAX *v.*¹ 9 a (b).] Angry feeling; a fit of anger; chiefly 'to be in a wax.

1854 'C. BEDE' *Verdant Green* II. vii, I used to rush out in a frightful state of wax, and show a leg. **1865** H. KINGSLEY *Hillyars & Burtons* xxxv, Can't you get into a wax, old girl? **1874** H. BELCHER *Cramleigh Coll.* I. 181 It ain't my fault if you've been bohoo'in'; so don't be in a wax with me. **1880** 'OUIDA' *Moths* I. 112 What a wax you're in, Dolly.

wax (wæks), *v.*¹ Pa. t. and pa. pple. waxed (wækst); also pa pple. waxen. Forms: *Inf.* (and Pres. stem). 1 weaxan, weacsan, weahsan, weahxan, waxan, wehsan, 2-3 wecsen, 2-4, 6-7 arch. waxen, 3 uexen, wexi, 4-5 wix(e, 5 vexe, wexyn, vix(e, vyy(e, 3-6 wexe, 4-7 (9 arch.) wex; 2-4 waxce(n, 3 *Orm.* waxenn, waxxenn, 3-6 waxen, 5 waxyn, 4-6 *Sc.* vax, 6 weaxe, *Sc.* walx, 3-7 waxe, 3- wax. *Contracted 2 sing.* 1 wyxt, 4 wext; 3 *sing.* 1 weaxt, wexþ, wixt, etc., 3 west, 3-4 wexþ, 4 wext. *Pa. t. sing.* 1 wéox, wéocs, wéohs, *Northumb.* -wóx, 2 weax, weacs, 2-3 wæx, 3 weox, 2-5 wex, 4-5 wexe, weex, *north.* wix, wix, 4 *north.* vex; 2 wacxs, 3-6 wax, 4-5 waxe, 4 wax; 3-6 (7, 9 arch.) wox, 4-6 (9 arch.) woxe, 4-6 *Sc.* vox, 5 woxse, 4-5 *Sc.* woux, 6 *Sc.* woix, wolx. *Plur.* 1 wéoxon, wéohson, wéoxson, *Northumb.* wóxon, *Mercian* wéxon, 2 weoxan, 3 weoxen, 3-5 wexe(n; 3 wuxen, 4 wuxe, 3-5 woxe(n, 4 waxen. *weak.* 4 wast, 4-5 wex-, waxide, -ede, *pl.* wexiden, -eden, 5 wexedde, wexid, wexte, waxet, waxte, waxhid, *pl.* waxiden, 5-6 wext, 5-7 wext, wexed, 6 weaxed, 5- waxed. *Pa. pple.* 1 weaxen, 2 (3e) wexon, 3 (i) wexan, 3-6 wexen, 3-5 wexe, 4-5 wex, wexun, 5 -in, -yn, wixen; 3-7 (8-9 arch.) waxen, 3-6 waxin, 4-5 -yn, wax(e, 4 ywax, 5 waxun, waxson, 6 *Sc.* walxin; 3-7 woxen, 3-4 i-, ywoxe, 3-5 woxe, woxin, 3 (i) wox, 4, 6 wox, 4 woxyn, woxsen, 4-5 woxun. *weak.* 4 wexid, 5 y-wexed, 5-7 wext, 6 wext, weaxed, *Sc.* vaxit, 6-7 wexed, 6- waxed. [A Common Teut. strong verb (which became weak in late ME.): OE. *weaxan* (pa. t. *wéox*, *Northumb.* *wóx*; pa. pple. *weaxen*) corresp. to OFris. *waxa* (W.Fris. *waechsje*, *wachse*, N.Fris. *wāks*), OS. *wahsan*, (M)Du. *wassen*, OHG. *wahsan* (MHG., mod.G. *wachsen*), ON. *vaxa* (Sw. *växa*, Da. *vokse*), Goth. *wahsjan* (with *ja*- suffix in the pres.-stem; pa. t. *wōhs*, pa. pple. *wahsan*-s):—OTeut. **waxs*-:—pre-Teut. **woks*-, an ablaut variant of Indogermanic **aweks*-, **auks*-, **uks*- (Gr. *δέξω*, *αὔξω*, *αὐξάνω* to increase, Skr. *ukṣ* to grow, perf. *va-vakṣa*, causative *vakṣayati*), an extended form of **aweg*- **aug*-, **ug*- (L. *augēre* to increase, Sk. *ōjas* neut., strength, Lith. *augu* I grow, OTeut. **auk*- in Goth. *aukan*, OHG. *ouhôn*, OE. *éacian* to grow, increase: see EKE *v.*)

The OTeut. conjugation of the verb is retained in Goth., OHG., OS., and ON.; in OE. it is confined to the Northumbrian dialect (pa. t. *wóx*); the WS. pa. t. *wéox* and the Du. *wies* are due to the analogy of the reduplicating verbs.

The strong pa. t. became rare after the 14th c., and is now wholly obsolete; the one or two examples in the poetry of the 18-19th c. are deliberately archaistic. For the pa. pple. the Bible of 1611 has *waxed* four times and *waxen* eight times; in recent use *waxen* is not infrequent when the verb is conjugated with *to be*, but is otherwise very rare.]

Originally a more frequent synonym of GROW *v.*, which has now superseded it in general colloquial use, exc. with reference to the moon (see 6). With this exception, the senses below which are not marked as obsolete are confined to literary use, and have, in varying degrees, a somewhat archaic flavour; some of those under branch I survive only in the traditional

antithesis with WANE *v.* The verb is said still to be current in certain dialects: see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

I. To grow, increase. (Opposed to *wane*, †*wanze*.)

1. *intr.* Of a plant or its parts: To increase gradually in size and vigour; to develop, sprout (*up*). *Obs.* exc. *dial.* †Also, to grow in a specified habitat or situation (*obs.*).

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past.* C. xl. 293 Sumu twigu he lehte mid wætere, ðonne hie to hwon weoxson, ðæt hie ðy suiður weaxan sceolden. **c 1000** ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 402 Rixe weaxst gewunlice on wæterigum stowum. **c 1200** *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 161 Hie wenden þe eorðe, and wurpen god sad paronne, and hit waxcs and wel peagh. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 494 Corn & frut hom wax inouþ. **c 1381** CHAUCER *Parl. Foules* 206 There wex ek euery holsum spice & gres. **1382** WYCLIF *Matt.* xiii. 7 The thornis wexen vp. **a 1400-50** *Wars Alex.* 4772 Lo, þis was a wondirfull werk... þat þai [trees] suld wax soo & wane within a wale time. **14..** in *Rel. Ant.* I. 54 Tak everfere that waxes on the ake. **1577** B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* 1. 40 b, When the Corne is ripe... you must then haue it in, that it may rather waxe in the Barne then in the Feelde. **1612** DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* v. 51 The Stem shall strongly wax, as still the Trunk doth wither. **1886** S.W. Linc. *Gloss.* s.v., The plums are waxing nicely.

†b. Of a mineral: To be native, be found, in a specified place; = GROW *v.* 2 b. *Obs.*

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* ii. 11 þæt land þe ys gehaten Euilað, þær þær gold wext [Vulg. *ubi nascitur aurum*]. **1362** LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. xi. 12 Al þe presciouse Peerles þat in paradys waxen.

2. Of human beings and animals: To increase gradually in size and strength of body and limb. *arch.* and *dial.*

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke ii. 40 Soðlice þæt cild weox. **c 1200** ORMIN 3182 & swiþe wel he wex & praf. **c 1205** LAY. 30073 þa children wuxen and wel iðogen. **a 1300** *Havelok* 791 Ich am wel waxen. **a 1300** *Cursor M.* 10613 Als sco wex on hir llicame, Sua wex hir loueword and hir fame. **13..** *Coer de L.* 2836 For forty pound men sold an ox, Though it were but lytly woxe. **c 1400** *Destr. Troy* 12449 Thies [two sons] were gyuen to the gouernaunce of a gay kyng, . . . Till þai waxen were of wit & of wight dedis. **1471** CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 247 In this noursyng he waxe and grewe in all beawte, strengthe, and prudence. **a 1547** SURREY *Æneid* IV. 353 Ascanius yet that waxeth fast behold. **1575** TURBERV. *Faulconrie* 358 You must beware that you take them not before they are somewhat woxen. **1677** in *Ray's Corresp.* (1848) 127, I think they [salmon] wax for five or six years. **1875** F. J. SCUDAMORE *Day Dreams* 83 For a time he grows and waxes in his styte. **1887** MORRIS *Odysse.* XI. 311-2 And when nine years they were waxen, nine cubits length outright Wax was the measure of their bigness. **1889** N.W. Linc. *Gloss.* s.v., Thy bairn waxes fast, she's taller ivery time I see her.

†b. of a part of the body, the hair, etc. *Obs.* **a 1000** ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 434 His feax weox swa swa wimmanna. **a 1300** *Cursor M.* 7257 Wexen was sumdel his hare. **1303** R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 9224 Here cloyes ne roted, ne nayles grewe, Ne heere ne wax. **c 1374** CHAUCER *Boeth.* IV. met. iii. (1886) 95 þat oother is chaunged in to a lyoun... and hisse nayles and hisse teth wexen. **1548-77** VICARY *Anat.* ii. (1888) 24 The Nayles... are alwayes waxing in the extremitie of the fyngers and toes.

†c. Of a morbid growth or disease: To arise and develop on or in the body. *Obs.*

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 118 Gif nebcorn on wifmannes nebbe wexen. **a 1225** *Ancr.* R. 288 þeonne... þer waxeð wunde & deopeð into þe soule. **a 1400-50** *Stockh. Med. MS.* 117 For angenayll þat waxin in feet. **c 1400** *Lanfranc's Chirurg.* 100 A surgian muste panne be bisy in al þat he myȝte, þat a crampe ne wexe not in þe wounde.

†3. Of a company, host, people: To increase in numbers. *Obs.*

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past.* C. xvii. 109 Dryhten cuæð to Noe & to his bearnum: Weahsað ge & monigfaldiað & gefyllað eorðan. **a 1122** O.E. *Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 999 And a hi leton heora feonda wærod wexan. **c 1200** ORMIN 3947 þatt heoffness here mihhte swa þurh hallȝe sawless waxenn. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 3259 Wexinge euere þe fre fon, bi water & bi londe. **13..** K. *Alis.* 6023 (Laud MS.), Now gynneþ his Oost fast to wexe. **c 1330** R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 1255 þey wil waxe & we schal wanye; When we ben fewe, þey schol be manye. **c 1380** *Sir Ferumb.* 1485 Cryst of heuene ȝow alle saue my messagers alle sixe! & ȝut þe yij schulle ȝe haue ȝour felaschip to make wixe. **1581** MULCASTER *Positions* xxxvii. (1887) 148 Will ye haue the multitude waxe, where the maintenance waines? **1612** DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xiii. 26 Her people waxing still, and wanting where to build. **a 1656** USSHER *Ann.* (1658) 1 Then blessing them, he bade them wex and multiply.

4. Of a person, nation, institution: To advance in power, importance, prosperity, etc. *Const. in, †on.*

a 1122 O.E. *Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1052 þa wæx hit [sc. the minster] swiðe on land & on gold & on seolfer. **c 1200** ORMIN 10868 Iwhille mann... þirp... þrifenn aȝȝ & waxenn aȝȝ Inn alle gode þinge. *Ibid.* 17967 Ned iss... þatt he nu forþwarrd waxe, & ec iss ned & god off me, þatt I nu forþwarrd wannse. **1340** *Ayenb.* 26 Al-huet þanne þet hi byȝ uol wexe and heȝe yclue ine dyngnetes. **c 1380** *Sir Ferumb.* 1666 Al-so mot y waxe. **1449** PECKOC *Repr.* III. viii. 322 Sithen the chyrche wexid in dignitees, he decreed in vertues. **1567-9** JEWEL *Def. Apol.* (1611) 32 *Mali proficiunt: Boni deficiunt:* The wicked wax; the godly wane. **1597** BR. HALL *Sat.* III. i. 44 Now man, that earst Haile-fellow was with beast, Woxe on to weene himself a God at least. **1607** SHAKS. *Cor.* II. ii. 103 His Pupill age Man-entred thus, he waxed like a Sea. **1624** J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Praise Clean Lined Ded.*, Hee is a firme and stable man, and waxeth much oftner then hee wanes. **1690** CHILD *Disc. Trade* Pref. (B 2 b), Land and Trade, which are Twins, and have always, and ever will wax and wane together. **1864** TENNYSON *Boadicea* 40 Thou shalt wax and he shall dwindle. **1873** BURTON *Hist. Scot.* VI. lxviii. 112 A democratic party equally hostile to

them was waxing in size and strength. **1875** JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 54 The nation waxed in freedom and friendship and communion of soul. **1876** MORRIS *Sigurd* II. 85 Now waxeth the son of Sigmund in might and goodliness. **1914** H. H. HENSON *War-time Sermon*. xix. 244 Elmham waned as Norwich waxed.

5. Of inanimate things: To increase in size, quantity, volume, intensity, etc. Of water, the sea: To rise, swell; to flow out in a flood. Of day or daylight, night: To grow longer.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 245 þæt wæter weox oþ mannes swuran. **1122** *O.E. Chron.* (Laud MS.), Hi sægon norðeast fir micel & brad wið pone eorðe, & weax on lengþe up on an to þam wolcne. **c 1200** ORMIN 1901 Marrchess nahhtess wannsenn a33, & Marrchess dajhess waxenn. *Ibid.* 1918 O þatt daj33 biginneþþ uss þe daj33ess lihht to waxenn. *Ibid.* 2472 Hire wambe sippenn toc To waxenn alls itt birrde. **a 1225** *Aner. R.* 124 þer ase muchel fur is, kundeliche hit waxeð mid winde. **c 1250** *Gen. & Ex.* 599 Dunes waxen, ðe flod wiðdros. **c 1290** *St. James* 136 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 38 þe ston bigan to wexe a-brod and holu3 bi-cam a-midde. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6562 þe se flode . . bigan to wexi uaste ase it deþ atte tide. **a 1300** *Cursor M.* 1775 þe water wex oute ouer þe plains. **c 1325** *Spec. Gy Warw.* 1001 þi mele ne shal wante noht, And þin oyle shal waxen. **c 1425** WYNTOUN *Cron.* I. vii. 398 The waters wox as thai war wod. **c 1430** *Chev. Assigne* 158 It [the chain] wexeth in hys honde & multiplythe swyde. **a 1500** *Chaucer's Dreame* 1550 Waxing the se, comming the flode. **1820** SCOTT *Monast.* v. Whereby I may be obliged to take the river, which I observed to be somewhat waxen. **1869** A. McLAREN *Serm.* Ser. II. xi. 201 Energy which wanes as the years wax. **1884** *Spectator* 2 Aug. 1009/2 Glaciers . . wax and wane in some mysterious manner. **1888** F. HUME *Mme. Midas* I. iv. Whereon the sacred fire should be kept constantly burning, waxing and waning with the seasons.

6. Of the moon: To undergo the periodical increase in the extent of its visible illuminated portion, characteristic of the first half of the lunation.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 17 þonne he [the moon] wexeþ, he bið gælic þæm godum men þe ahopað to þæm ecean leohte. **c 1000** ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 154 Se mona deð ægðer ge wyrcð ge weanað: healfum monðe he bið weaxende, healfum he bið waniðende. **a 1225**, **c 1386**, **c 1440** [see WANE v. 2]. **1591** SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. iv. 760 Tho waxing us-ward, heav'n-ward thou dost wane. **1781** COWPER *Expost.* 324 States thrive or wither, as moons wax and wane. **1859** JEPHSON *Brittany* viii. 110 Twelve moons had waxed and waned. **1865** TYLOR *Early Hist. Man.* vi. 133 Grafts are to be set while the moon is waxing. **1914** *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 177/1 The moon was now waxing fast.

7. Of a quality, state of things, activity, wealth, etc.: To become gradually greater or more striking; to increase in potency or intensity.

Beowulf 1741 Oð þæt him on innan oferhygda dæl weaxeð and wridað. **c 897** ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past.* C. xxxiii. 217 Æghweles laeowes lar wiðð [Cott. whist] ðurh his geðylde. **c 1200** ORMIN 3949 þurh whatt biforenn Drihtin Godd Wurrþshipe waxenn sholde. **a 1250** *Owl & Night.* 689 Wit went among his sore An for his sore hit is þe more. **c 1250** *Gen. & Ex.* 1268 Abimalech sa3 abraham, Hu welðe him wex and migte cam. **a 1300** *Cursor M.* 19399 Godde3 word wex fast and greu. **c 1350** *Will. Palerne* 737 His langure gan wex. **1581** A. HALL *Iliad* I. 17 When so his furie woxe, from skies he did me throw Down by the foote. **1598** SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. iv. *Handie-Crafts* 560 His Art, still waxing, sweetly marrieth His quavering fingers to his warbling breath. **1624** QUARLES *Job Militant* i. 13 As did his Name, his Wealth did daily wex. **1627** DRAYTON *Agincourt* cxcii, Now waxed horror to the very height. **1855** MOTLEY *Dutch Rep.* IV. iv. III. 65 Moreover, the discord among the Reformers themselves waxed daily.

b. in contrast with wane or þwanze.

13 . . *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 263 Worldes catel passet sone, þat wasset & wansit rit as te mone. **1377** LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xv. 3 And so my witte wex and waned til I a fole were. **1601** *2nd Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* v. iv. 2203 My fortunes cannot wax but they may waine. **1711** POPE *Temple Fame* 486 Some [lies] to remain, and some to perish soon; Or wane and wax alternate like the moon. **1809-10** COLERIDGE *Friend* xiv. (1865) 63 Its impulses wax as its motives wane. **1826** WORDSW. *'Once I could hail'* 42 In that domain Where joys are perfect—neither wax nor wane. **1899** E. J. CHAPMAN *Drama Two Lives* 9 All life's poor glammers wax and wane.

†8. a. Of a quality, activity, event, etc.: To come into being, spring up, begin, arise, occur. Also with *up*. Of the day: To appear, dawn. *Obs.*

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* v. §3 Of ðam ðonne onginnað weaxan þa mistas ðe þæt mod gedrefað. **1154** *O.E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1140, þer efter wæx suythe micel uerre betuyx þe king & Randolph eorl of Cæstre. **c 1230** *Hali Meid.* 3 Hu mucche god mihte of inker streon waxen. **c 1250** *Gen. & Ex.* 273 An wið ðat pride him wex a nyð. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1713 Bituene þe romains & pis lond þer wax þo struing. **c 1300** *K. Horn* 1452 (Laud) þe day by gan to wexe. **c 1320** *Sir Tristr.* 3327 þer wex a kene crie. **a 1340** HAMPOLE *Psalter* xxvi. 6 If . . temptacyons wax ageynes me. **c 1374** CHAUCER *Boeth.* I. pr. vi. (1886) 18 Of which false opyniouns the dirkenesse of perturba[ciouns] wexit [Addit. MS. wexeþ] vp. **c 1425** *Engl. Conq. Ireland* xi. 26 In thys whyle, wax a grett wreth & a grete stryfe betwyx þe kyng of Connaght, & donoll Obreyn.

†b. to wax forth, to be born or created. *Obs.* **1362** LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. x. 33 For wiþ word þat he warp woxen forþ Beestes.

II. With complement: To change by growth or increase, to become. (Cf. GROW v. 12.)

9. a. With adj. complement: (a) With more or less of the idea of growth or increase: To become gradually, grow.

c 1200 ORMIN 2479 þatt 3ho wass waxenn summ del græt & tatt 3ho wass wiþþ childe. **a 1300** *Leg. Rood* ii. 133 So þat wipinne pritti 3er þis tre wox wel heic. **13** . . *E.E. Allit. P.* A 538 þe sunne was doun & hit wex late. **1387** TREvisa *Higden* VIII. 287 þe Scottes wex [v.r. wuxe] strengre and

strenger. **a 1400** *Octouian* 670 Florent ys x. yere old and fyf, And heghe y-woxe. **1422** YONGE tr. *Secreta Secret.* 243 The medys wixen grene. **c 1460** *Towneley Myst.* i. 163 Bryng ye furth and wax ye mo. **1542** UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 241 b. Signifyng . . the dayes to have weaxed longer. **1560** BIBLE (Geneva) *Deut.* xxxii. 15 But he that shulde haue bene vpright, when he waxed fat, spurned with his hele [1611 Jesurun waxed fat, and kicked]. **1562** A. BROOKE *Romeus & Jul.* 209 This sodain kindled fyre in time is wox so great. **1590** SPENSER *F.Q.* II. x. 32 Till that her sisters children, woxen strong Through proud ambition, against her rebel. **1651** R. CHILD in *Hartlib's Legacy* (1655) 64 According as your plants are waxen strong. **1764** H. WALPOLE *Otranto* v. Manfred . . pushed on the feast until it waxed late. **1836-7** SIR W. HAMILTON *Metaph.* xxxvii. (1870) II. 335 By degrees, our conception waxes fuller. **1874** GREEN *Short Hist.* viii. §6. 525 The panic waxed greater when it was found they claimed to be acting by the King's commission. **1881** BESANT & RICE *Chapl. Fleet* I. 15 Even the foxes and their cubs . . had of late waxed fat and lazy.

(b) Without the idea of growth or increase: To become, turn. (Sometimes used with reference to a sudden or immediate change.)

c 1220 *Bestiary* 151 If he [the adder] cloðed man se, Cof he waxeð. **a 1300** *Cursor M.* 3563 His blode þan wexus dri and cald. **13** . . *K. Horn* 302 (Harl.) Vpon Athulf childe rymenild can waxe wilde. **1382** WYCLIF *Matt.* xxiv. 12 The charite of manye schal wexe coold. **1390** GOWER *Conf.* I. 34 When he wax seke, thei woxen seke. **1422** YONGE tr. *Secreta Secret.* 213 Yf the messenger wix drone. **c 1489** CAXTON *Blanchardyn* xx. 64 þe proude lady . . waxed red as a rose. **1513** DOUGLAS *Æneis* II. viii. 78 The wyde hallis wolc patent [L. *atria longa patensunt*]. **1542** UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 344 Y^e people . . wished & weaxed dumme. **1545** RAYNALDE *Byrth Mankynde* 127 Take fyne meale, and bake . . tyll it waxe browne. **1593** SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI.* III. ii. 76 What? Art thou like the Adder waxen deafe? **1610** HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 183 Cornwall . . waxeth smaller and smaller in manner of an horne. **1627** DRAYTON *Agincourt* cxliii, Nor aske of God the victory to gaine, Vpon the English wext so poore and fewe. **1632** LITHGOW *Trav.* I. 29 Deuotion waxed scant amongst the Christians. **1712** STEELE *Spect.* No. 276 ¶4 My Daughter Tabitha beginneth to wax wanton. **a 1770** JORTIN *Serm.* (1774) I. ii. 30 When . . the inward light waxes dim, the faith is gone. **1815** BYRON *Vis. Belshazzar* iii, All bloodless wax'd his look. **1820** KEATS *Hyperion* I. 326 Pale wox I, and in vapours hid my face. **1831** MACAULAY *Ess.*, *Byron* ¶11 The howl of contumely . . gradually waxed fainter. **1840** DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xxxviii, Mr. Chuckster waxed wroth at this answer. **1865** TROLLOPE *Belton Est.* xxiv. 283 Captain Aylmer saw that the man was waxing angry. **1880** W. WATSON *Prince's Quest* (1892) 61 Whereat the eyes of heaven wox thundrous-dim.

†b. with sb. as complement. *Obs.*

c 1300 *Havelok* 281 þe kinges douthir bigan þrue, And wex þe fayrest woman on lue. **c 1350** *Will. Palerne* 2931 þe white beres þat waxen seppe hertes. **c 1374** CHAUCER *Troilus* v. 1014 When it was woxen euee. **c 1449** PECOCK *Repr.* II. xvi. 243 Summe othere . . weren quyecker in natural witt and waxiden better philosophis. **1477** EARL RIVERS (Caxton) *Dictes* 22 He sawe a peyntour that was waxe a physicien. **1530** PALSGR. 793 Whan any preposicion waxeth an aduerbe. **1542** UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 334 He weaxed a woondreous buisie medler in all causes. **a 1550** *A pore helpe* 269 in Hazl. *E.P.P.* III. 262, I feare me he be wext A popistant stout. **1593** NASHE *Christ's T. M.* 3, In three Tearmes, of a banqrout he wexeth a great landed man. **1622** MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* I. 21 It beginning now to waxe night, they gaue off play. **1869** THIRLWALL *Serm.* Rem. 1878 III. 390 When the grain of mustard seed has waxed a great tree.

c. with complement an adv. or a prepositional phr.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 19451 þan wex þaa wreches vte of wite. **c 1350** *Will. Palerne* 140 He wex to a werwolf. **1377** LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XI. 111 In a were gan I waxe and with myself to dispute. **1388** WYCLIF *Mark* iv. 32 It waxith in to a tre. **c 1400** *Destr. Troy* 10824 Oft in wanton werkes wex þai with childe. **c 1420** *Chron. Vilod.* 4551 þe meyst . . woxse in to so fayre and so bryzt a day. **1530** PALSGR. 773/1, I dare eate no crabbes, for my tethe wyll waxe and edge than. **1591** SPENSER *M. Hubbard* 1103 Whereby the Ape in wondrous stomach woxe. **1831** JAMES *Phil. Augustus* xxvii, It was now waxing towards morning. **1864** BURTON *Scot Abr.* II. i. 78 A dangerous position, apt to wax from pleasant warmth into deadly heat. **1870** M. D. CONWAY *Earthward Pilgr.* I. 21 As time waxed on, I perceived that [etc.]. **1888** STEVENSON *Across the Plains* x. (1892) 276 A small taste . . waxes with indulgence into an exclusive passion. **1914** S. PHILLIPS in *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 552 Must that wistful dawn ne'er wax to noon?

†d. to wax in age or eld, to advance in years. Similarly, *to wax to man's estate.* *Obs.*

1340-70 *Alex. & Dind.* 943 A weih woxen on elde. **c 1385** CHAUCER *L.G.W.* 727 That, as they wex in age, wex here loue. **a 1400** *St. Alexius* (Laud 622) 136 þe more he wex in elde & lengþe, To seruen god he duede his strengþ. **1588** GREENE *Pandosto* (1607) D 1 b, As it [sc. the child] waxed in age, so it increased in beautie. **1590** SPENSER *F.Q.* II. x. 20 When her sonne to mans estate did wex. **1916** G. W. ROBINSON *Willibald's Life St. Boniface* II. 31 After he waxed in age . . and the glory of boyhood came.

†e. Of fire. to wax out: to burn out, be extinguished for want of fuel. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Melayne* 463 The fire wexe owte at þe laste. **1579** L. TOMSON *Caluin's Serm.* Tim. 686/2 If a fire that hath but little woode, wax out, wee put the brandes together, and blowe it, that it may burne.

†10. With complement a numeral: To amount to (a specified number). *Obs.*

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* 13327 A legion ys of folk þat wex Sex þousand, sex hundred sexti & sex. *Ibid.* 13937.

wax (wæks), *v.*² Also 4-5 wexe, pa. pple. wexed, -yd, ywexede. [f. WAX sb.¹

The ME. form *wexe* may be an umlaut derivative (= ON. *wexa*, OHG. *wahsen*, MHG. *wihsen* mod.G. *wachsen*, *wichsen*); but this is not certain, because *wex* was a frequent form of WAX sb.¹]

1. a. trans. To cover with a layer of wax; to dress with wax; to polish or stiffen with a dressing of wax. Also with *over*.

a 1380 [see WAXED *ppl.* a.]. **c 1391** CHAUCER *Astrol.* II. §40 Tho tok I & wexede my label in Maner of a peyre tables. **1398** TREvisa *Barth. De P.R.* XIX. lxi. (1495) 898 Tables ben wexed and dresid wyth wexe and ben playnd. *Ibid.*, For diuers vse lynnne clothes ben wexyd. **c 1400** *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xxi, þai one manere [of horn] is waxed with grene wex and gretter of sowne. *Ibid.*, A good hunters horne shuld . . be wele ywexede, pikker or pinner, after at þe hunter pinketh þat it woll best sowne. **1580** HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong. Cirer*, to waxe. **1615** tr. *De Monfari's Surv. E. Indies* 40 As a Shoemaker waxeth his thread. **1659** H. TURBERVIL *Walk Knaves Walk* 8 You are to take notice . . next of the manner, how to wax your winter boots. **1661** [T. POWELL] *Hum. Industry* 56 Smal boards or tables of wood waxed over, were in frequent use among the later Romans to write in. **1825** J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 745 Many cabinet-makers are contented with waxing common furniture. **1833** [S. SMITH] *Lett. J. Downing* xxii. (1835) 131 With that I wax'd a thread, and got a new button. **1848** DICKENS *Dombey* liv, The floors were waxed and polished. **1863** MISS BRADDON *Aurora Floyd* iii, The elegant ignoramus whose sole accomplishments consist in parting his hair, waxing his moustaches, and smoking a meerschaum. **1886** J. H. KEENE *Fishing Tackle* 160 Waxing your silk afresh, fasten it with two loops.

†b. Photogr. To saturate (paper) with wax. *Obs.*

1853 *Le Gray's Waxed Paper Process* 5 The paper . . after the development of the image . . does not require to be again waxed to obtain a positive picture. **1856** ORR's *Circ. Sci., Pract. Chem.* 146 Mode of Waxing the Negatives.

c. To remove unwanted hair from (legs, etc.) by applying hot wax and then peeling off wax and hairs together.

1953 W. P. MCGIVERN *Big Heat* x. 134 When the boys talk business I go out and get my legs waxed. **1971** *Sunday Express* (Johannesburg) 28 Mar. (Home Jnl.) 12/2, I would also like my legs waxed. **1977** J. DIDION *Bk. Common Prayer* v. ix. 232 Carmen Arrellano had been having her legs waxed in the Caribe beauty shop.

†2. To stop (an aperture) with or as with wax. Also with *up*. *Obs.*

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. v. 351 Alle þat herde þat horne . . wissheden it had be wexed with a wispe of firses. **1697** DAMPIER *Voy.* I. 231 Some of them that had not waxt up their Cartrage or Catouche Boxes, wet all their Powder. **1709** T. ROBINSON *Vind. Mosaick Syst.* 91 They . . fill their little Cells with Honey, and then do so wax it up, that it may not melt and run out.

†3. To join with wax. *Obs. rare.*

1693 DRYDEN *Ovid's Met.* I. *Transform.* *Syrinx* 36 He form'd the Reeds, proportion'd as they are: Unequal in their length, and wax'd with care.

4. Leather-manuf. To dress (a skin) with a mixture of lamp-black, oil, etc.

1885 A. WATT *Leather Manuf.* 348 Bruise on the flesh and grain up, then wax them [sc. the skins].

5. To make a gramophone record of (music, etc.); to record. Cf. WAX sb.¹ 11. *slang* (chiefly U.S.).

1935 *Melody Maker* 12 Oct. 11/4 Mario . . took his harp to the Columbia Studios, and there he well and truly waxed a couple of the classics of jazz. **1946** [see DIXIE² 1 c]. **1954** *Cleveland Press* 7 Aug. (Home Mag.) 31 Gertrude Berg has waxed a comedy duet with Red Buttons for Columbia records. **1976** *Daily Times* (Lagos) 13 Aug. 18/2 (Advt.), Another new LP Record waxed by the Celestial Church of Christ Choir.

wax (wæks), *v.*³ *dial.* [f. WAX sb.³] *intr.* to wax up, to burst into anger, 'flare' up.

1859 DICKENS *Haunted House* vii. 33/2 Nay, wench, dunna wax up so; whatten's done, 's done.

wax (wæks), *v.*⁴ *U.S. colloq. trans.* 'To beat thoroughly, gain a decisive victory over' (Funk).

1884 A. A. PUTNAM *Ten Years Police Judge* xxii. 199 Mr. Bungle . . would in nine [out of twelve cases] be waxed but for the commiseration and the magnanimity of [etc.]. **1909** *Century Dict.*, Suppl., *Wax*, to beat, thrash.

'wax-berry. A name given to the fruit of certain plants and also to the plants themselves. **a.** The genus *Myrica*, esp. *M. cerifera* of North America (BAYBERRY 2) and *M. cordifolia*, native to South Africa. **b.** = SNOW-BERRY 2 (Webster 1911).

1835 MOODIE *Ten Yrs. S. Afr.* II. 197, I occasionally employed my people at spare times in gathering wax-berries, that . . yield a substance partaking of the nature of wax and tallow, which is mixed with common tallow, and used by the colonists for making candles. **1855** W. A. NEWMAN *Biogr. Mem. J. Montagu* vii. 169 Parts of the reclaimed soil . . were not found suitable for the waxberry-bush. **1892** STEVENSON *In South Seas* iv. vi. (1900) 328 Tamaiti . . returned with coco tinder, dry leaves, and a spray of waxberry. **1897** E. GLANVILLE *Tales fr. Veld* xiii. 100, I . . found him peacefully employed boiling down wax berries for the manufacture of candles. **1953** [see KANKERBOS, KANKERBOSSIE].

'wax-bill. **a. sb.** Any one of numerous small birds of the *Ploceidae* or Weaver-bird family, whose bills have a waxy appearance; *esp.* one of the genus *Estrellda*, the best-known species being *E. astrild* of South Africa.

1751 G. EDWARDS *Nat. Hist. Birds* iv. 179 The Wax Bill. . . The Bill is of . . a fine red Colour, like Sealing-Wax, which I suppose gave the Bird its Name. **1769** LADY MARY COKE *Jrnl.* 19 Aug. (1892) III. 137 The two little birds the East India Capt. gave me . . seem to be the same as some of the Duchess of Montagu's and I think she calls them wax

WAX-BILLED

birds. **1851-61** MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* II. 72 In St. Helena birds, known also as wax-bills and red-backs, there is a trade to the same extent. **1875-84** A. H. LAYARD *Birds S. Africa* 470. **1909** *Westm. Gaz.* 17 July 14/3 The name waxbill is another of those misleading trade names that cover many species of small birds of different genera which have brightly coloured bills resembling sealing-wax.

b. *attrib. or adj.* = next.

1776 P. BROWN *Illustr. Zool.* 72 White-tailed Wax-bill Finch. **1783** LATHAM *Gen. Synopsis Birds* II. 1. 152 Wax-bill Grosbeak.

wax-billed, a. In names of certain birds: Having a bill resembling sealing-wax.

1776 P. BROWN *Illustr. Zool.* 70 The Red-rumped Wax-billed Finch. **1782** LATHAM *Gen. Synopsis Birds* I. 11. 507 Wax-billed Barbet.

† **wax-bred.** *Obs.* [f. WAX *sb.*¹ + BRED *sb.*] A wax tablet. Also *transf.* a 'table', list.

In quotes. c 1000 and a 1175 misapplied to the stone 'tables' of the Decalogue.

c 960 *Bened. Rule* (Schröder) lv. 92 Weaxbreda [L. *tabulæ*]. c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 196 þa awrat se Ælmihtiga God him twa stænene wexbredu mid his aenum fingre. c 1055 *Byrhtferth's Handboe in Anglia* VIII. 332 Swa us her æfter gelustfullap to amearkianne on pissum æfterfyligendum wexbredum, þe se arwurða beda gesette. a 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 235 þer efter arerde god þas lase þurh moysen. . . and wrate his him self in stanene waxbredene. [1853 *Rock Ch. of Fathers* III. 11. 128 Long after paper became known, the use of such tablets, which we may call the wax-brede, was kept on.]

wax candle. A candle made of wax.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) F419 *Funalia, cerei, waex-candel.* a 1000 *Ags. Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 202/28 *Cereus, wexcandel.* 1398 *TREvisa Barth. De P.R.* XIX. lxi. (1495) 898 They that serue in chyrches of wexe candyls ben callyd Ceroferarii. c 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 295/2 þan is þer anoper cros of a wax-candul leyde on hys breste. a 1586 *SIDNEY Arcadia* II. v. § 1 Sitting in a chaire, . . . & looking upon a wax-candle which burnt before her. 1605 *ERONDELLE Fr. Gard.* O7b, Make readie the Siluer-candlesticks with the waxe candles. 1753 *HANWAY Trav.* II. xxxiii. 1. 224 In the middle of the room. . . was one large wax-candle. 1840 *MRS. A. MARSH Father Darcy* II. xviii. 300 Blazing wax candles. 1892 *LADY F. VERNEY Verney Mem.* I. 22 Two great wax candles of 12 lbs. weight, to be burnt before the high altar of the church.

attrib. 1663 *Cup of Coffee* in D'Israeli *Cur. Lit.* (1866) 296/1 Should any of your grandsires' ghosts appear In your wax-candle circles.

'**wax-chandler.** [See CHANDLER¹ 2.] One whose trade is to make or sell wax candles.

1418 *E.E. Wills* (1882) 34 Iohn Baldok, . . . Waxchaundeler of London. 1466 *Paston Lett.* II. 270 To John Orford, wax chandler, for xii. torches and one candell of i. lb., lvs. iid. ob. 1503 *Privy Purse Exp. Eliz.* York (1830) 103 To John Hynsted of London wexchaundeler for iij rolles of white wax [etc.]. 1543 tr. *Act 11 Hen. VI.* c. 12 The waxchaundelers in dyuers parties of England. 1633 *Stow's Surv. Lond.* 625 The Company of Wax-Chandlers, having beene a Brotherhood of very ancient standing, . . . became yet to be incorporated in Anno, 1484. 1706 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4287/4 William Rack, late of St. Saviour's . . . Waxchandler. 1861 T. A. TROLLOPE *La Beata* I. viii. 197 The old wax-chandler was a widower of many years' standing.

† **wax-chandlery, -chandry.** *Obs.* The department of a royal household concerned with the provision and storage of wax candles.

1398 *Acc. Exch. K.R.* 470/17 m. 2 Et eidem pro iij ceruris emptis pro iij ostiis in le Wexchaundelerye. 1602 in Jeaffreson *Midsex. County Rec.* (1886) 1. 282 The Waxe Chandrie.

wax doll.

1. A doll with head and bust (often also the limbs) of wax.

1786 J. WOODFORDE *Diary* 16 Mar. (1926) II. 231 It was a wax Doll, a female Figure, dressed with a Trumpet in her Mouth. 1816 JANE AUSTEN *Let.* 21 Apr. (1952) 455 It might do for a quilt for your little wax doll. 1828 *MISS MITFORD Village, Country Barber* III. 165 A certain huge wax-doll, called Sophy, who died the usual death of wax-dolls, by falling out of the nursery-window. 1834 *DICKENS Sk. Boz, Boarding-ho.* i, Mrs. Tibbs. . . looked like a wax doll on a sunny day.

attrib. 1847 *THACKERAY Van. Fair* (1848) xii. 97 That silly insignificant simpering Miss Thompson, who has nothing but her wax-doll face to recommend her. 1852 *MRS. CARLYLE New Lett.* (1903) II. 50 Her wax-doll face took the fancy of Boys at that period.

2. *pl.* = FUMITORY.

1855 ANNE PRATT *Flower. Pl.* I. 81 The flowers [of *Fumaria officinalis*] . . . are rose-coloured, and tipped with purple and children, in many parts of Kent, call them wax dolls. 1886 *BRITTEN & HOLLAND Plant-n.*

waxed (wækst), *ppl. a.* [f. WAX *v.*² + -ED¹.] In the senses of the verb; esp., coated with a layer of wax; polished or stiffened with wax; dressed or saturated with wax, e.g. for water-proofing.

a 1380 *St. Augustine* 387 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 68 In a waxed table He wrot. 1586 *WHITNEY Choice Emblems* 28 His [Icarus's] waxed wings, the sonne did make so softe, They melted straighte. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 151/1 This suture is done with a waxed threde. 1633 J. LAW in *Scotsman* (1907) 7 Sept., [He paid 16 shillings] for soleing walxt boots. 1651 T. BARKER *Art of Angling* (1653) 13 You must work all these grounds upon a waxed silk. c 1790 *IMISON Sch. Arts* II. 46 When you take off the paper you will find every line which you drew with the black lead pencil upon the waxed plate. 1846 *BRITTAN Oper. Surg.* 347 The piercer is withdrawn, and a double waxed thread passed through its canula. 1857 *DICKENS Dorrit* II. xx, Waxed floor very slippery. 1883 D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* xxi, Tapping his

visitor's hand with the waxed end of his long pipe. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 22 Oct. 2/2 A waxed moustache.

b. *Leather-manuf.* Of a skin: Dressed on the flesh side with a mixture of lamp-black and oil.

1851-3 C. Tomlinson's *Cycl. Useful Arts* (1866) II. 36/1 The skin of leather now curried is called black on the flesh, or waxed, in contradistinction to leather which is curried on the hair or grain side. 1883 *SIMMONDS Dict. Useful Anim., Waxed Fleashes*, a trade name for certain leathers, prepared of the inner side of a split skins. 1885 A. WATT *Leather Manuf.* 341 Waxed Leather. *Ibid.* 350 Waxed Calf-skins.

c. *Photogr.* Of paper, a paper negative: Saturated with wax.

1853 *LeGray's Waxed Paper Process* 8 Method of rendering the iodised waxed paper sensitive. *Ibid.* 16 Renovating the transparency of the waxed negative. 1857 W. CROOKES *Iland Bk. Waxed Paper Process in Photogr.* 25 When this has taken place the waxed sheets must be separated one from the other.

d. **waxed-end** = *wax-end* (WAX *sb.*¹ 13).

1914 *Daily News* 30 June 4 It is entirely due to the awl and the waxed-end.

waxen ('wæksən), *a.* Also 7 *Sc. wexin.* [f. WAX *sb.*¹ + -EN⁴.]

OE. had *wæxen*, **wiexen* = (M)Du., (M)LG. *wassen*, OHG. *wahsîn* (MHG. *wähsîn*, *wehsîn*, mod.G. *wächsen*):—OTeut. **waxsino-*]

1. Made of wax.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 210 Hlaf wexenne [L. *cerarium*, error for *cerium* 'of millet'] niman freo[n]dschap niwe zefegð. 13. . . *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1650 Waxen torches Seggez sette. . . in sale. a 1513 *FABYAN Chron.* vi. (1811) 170 The whiche ordre he kepte duely by waxen tapers kepte by certayne persones. 1590 *SPENSER F.Q.* III. i. 58 Eftsoones long waxen torches weren light, Vnto their bowres to guiden euery guest. 1591 *SHAKS. Two Gent.* II. iv. 201 For now my loue is thaw'd, Which like a waxen Image 'gainst a fire Beares no impression of the thing it was. 1611 *CORYAT Crudities* 36 By the light of a waxen candle. 1643 *ALEX. ROSS Mel Heliconium* 40 In that we do enjoy our liues, In that our wexin kingdom thrives. 1646 *CRASHAW Steps Delights Muses* 115 The working Bees soft melting Gold, That which their waxen Mines enfold. 1667 *MILTON P.L.* VII. 491 The Femal Bee that . . . builds her waxen Cells With Honey stor'd. 1706 Z. CRADOCK *Serm. Charity* (1740) 21 They are but the . . . artificial Counterfeit of Virtue, Trees laden with waxen Fruit. 1782 V. KNOX *Ess.* cxxvi. (1819) III. 40 A resemblance scarcely less exact than that of the bust to its mould, or the waxen seal to the sculptured gem. 1825 *SCOTT Talism.* iii, Two waxen torches, which the hermit lighted, gave a cheerful air to the place. 1855 *MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* xvi. III. 677 A waxen figure . . . was dragged about Westminster in a chariot. 1860 *Family Economist* 3 Mar. 142/1 Waxen Flowers and Fruit. 1887 *Harper's Mag.* July 185/2 The metal (or glass) plate is covered with a waxen composition.

b. **waxen image:** spec. an effigy in wax representing a person whom it was desired to injure by witchcraft.

The victim was believed to waste away as the wax melted at the fire, and to suffer pain from stabs or the like inflicted on the effigy. Cf. quot. 1591 above.

1685 G. SINCLAIR *Satans Invis.* *World* 101 The Waxen-Image being found and broken. . . the King did . . . recover. 1697 *DRYDEN Virg. Past.* VIII. 101 Around his waxen Image first I wind Three woollen Fillets. 1821 *LAMB Elia, Witches* ¶1 That maidens pined away, wasting inwardly as their waxen images consumed before a fire. 1837 *BARHAM Ingol. Leg. Ser.* 1. *Leech Folkest.*, Fixed against [the doors] . . . was a waxen image—of himself! 1870 *ROSSETTI Sister Helen* 1 Why did you melt your waxen man, Sister Helen?

2. *trans. and fig.* As if made of wax. a. With reference to the softness, impressibility, or fusibility of wax. Chiefly of immaterial things (often with opposition to *steel or marble*).

1591 *SYLVESTER Du Bartas* I. ii. 211 The World's owne Matter is a waxen Lump, Which, un-self-changing, takes all kind of stamp. 1593 *SHAKS. Rich. II.* I. iii. 75 Oh thou the earthy author of my blood . . . with thy blessings steele my Lances point, That it may enter Mowbrayes waxen Coate. 1593 — *Lucr.* 1240 For men haue marble, women waxen mindes. 1653 *MARVELL Corr.* (Grosart) II. 4 Truly he is of a gentle and waxen disposition. 1767 G. CANNING *Poems* 28 Watch o'er my son, inform his waxen youth. 1794 *GOUV. MORRIS in Sparks Life & Writ.* (1832) II. 424 Those who remain are of that waxen substance called the men of property. 1849 *LYTTON K. Arthur* III. 1, But men are waxen when the Fates are steel'd. 1850 *TENNYSON In Mem.* xxi, This fellow would make weakness weak, And melt the waxen hearts of men.

b. With reference to the smooth and lustrous surface of things modelled in wax. Said, e.g., of fruits, flowers, youthful limbs. Also applied to the pallor of a corpse or a sick person.

a 1700 *SEDLEY Virg. Past.* II. Wks. 1722 I. 268 And waxen Plumbs [L. *cerea pruna*]. 1743 *FRANCIS tr. Hor., Odes* I. xiii. 2 His rosy neck, and waxen arms [L. *cerea brachia*]. 1853 *DICKENS Bleak Ho.* viii, But the small waxen form [sc. the dead baby] . . . had been composed afresh. 1853 *KANE Grinnel Exp.* xxxi. (1856) 266 It makes a man feel badly to see the faces around him bleaching into waxen paleness. 1894 *CRDCKETT Raiders* xii, I saw . . . a few waxen lobes of bell-heath, perfectly white.

¶ c. ? As if written on wax; soon effaced. *nonce-use.*

1599 *SHAKS. Hen. V.* I. ii. 233 Or else our graue Like Turkish mute, shall haue a tonguelesse mouth, Not worshipt with a waxen Epitaph.

3. Covered or coated with wax, loaded with wax.

waxen wings: often in allusions to the story of Icarus: see ICARIAN *a.*¹

1590 *SHAKS. Mids. N.* III. i. 172 The honie-bags steale from the humble Bees, And for night-tapers crop their waxen thighs. c 1590 *MARLOWE Faustus* (1604) Chorus 21

Till swolne with cunning, of a selfe conceit, His waxen wings did mount about his reach, And melting heauens conspird his ouerthrow. 1605 *BACON Adv. Learn.* I. i. § 3 Hence it is true . . . that diuers great learned men haue bene hereticall, whilst they haue sought to flye vp to the secrets of the Deitie by the waxen wings of the Sences. 1695 *LD. PRESTON Boeth.* v. 232 As heretofore with a swift Stile Men us'd on waxen Tables smooth Letters and Figures to ingrave. 1781 *COWPER Anti-Thelyphth.* 54 She tutor'd some in Dædalus's art, And promis'd they should . . . On waxen pinions soar without a fall. 1789-96 *MORSE Amer. Geog.* II. 27 The old . . . manner of writing, before the use of paper of any kind, and waxen tables, was known.

4. Special collocations: waxen chatterer, the Bohemian waxwing, *Ampelis garrulus*; † waxen vein *Min.*, argilliferous marlite.

1797 *BEWICK Brit. Birds* I. 83 Silk Tail, or *Waxen Chatterer. (*Ampelis Garrulus*, Lin.) 1862 *JOHNS Brit. Birds* 625 Waxen Chatterer or Waxwing. 1681 *GREW Musæum* III. §i. v. 311 The *Waxen Vein. *Ludus Helmontii.* A Stone composed of two distinct Bodies. 1705 S. DALE *Pharmacol. Suppl.* 29 *Ludus Paracelsi.* . Waxen Vein. 1740 *Phil. Trans.* XLI. 836 Masses of the Waxen-vein or *Ludus Helmontii*, which is also found in great Plenty on the Sea-shore near the Spaw at Scarborough.

5. Comb., as *waxen-faced*, *-hued*, *-like*, *-winged* adjs.

1856 *KANE Arct. Expl.* I. xv. 170 Three stools, and as many *waxen-faced men. 1916 *Chamb. Jnl.* Feb. 116/2 A sorrow-laden, *waxen-hued face. 1845 *HIRST Coming of Mammoth*, etc. 34 How *waxen-like his hands! 1909 *Essex Rev.* XVIII. 75 Waxen-like flowers of pale pink. 1645 *QUARLES Sol. Recant.* VII. 9 Since *waxen-winged Honour is not void Of danger.

† **waxen, ppl. a.** *Obs.* [Strong pa. pple. of WAX *v.*¹] Grown up, full-grown, adult. *little waxen*, young.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2060 Me drempte, ic stod at a win-tre, ðat adde waxen buzes ðre. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 252 Himself in ille likyng, & had no waxen heyre, þat mot kepe þe coroune, if he of lond went. 1382 *WYCLIF Gen.* iv. 23 A litte waxen man [Vulg. *adulescentulum*]. 1422 *YONGE tr. Secreta Secret.* 161 When hit is a wixen tree, and hundrid oxyn vnneth hit may bowe. a 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula* etc. 21 In 3ong men . . . or waxen men, I hafe seene few [sc. fistulas] euer be cured. 1555 *RIDLEY Confer.* in Foxe *A. & M.* (1583) 1722/2 The Lordes supper is, and ought to be geuen to them that are waxen. 1599 *Return fr. Parnass.* II. i. 812 Fonde they to thinke that this child's waxen daye Will be well spent when maister beares no swaye. 1632 *LITHGOW Trav.* ix. 415 Such a man can neither seduce his [pupil's] minority with ill examples, nor marre his waxen age with a false impression.

† **waxen, v.**¹ *Obs.* Also *wexen*, *weaxen*.

In several writers of the 16th c. (chiefly poetical) the forms *waxen*, *wexen* occur for *wax v.*¹, but only in those parts of the verb (inf. and 3rd pers. pl. present) in which these were in ME. the normal inflected forms of *wax*. This may sometimes be due to intentional grammatical archaism; but when these forms are used by writers whose grammar is in all other respects normal, it seems probable that the inflexional *waxen* in quotations from older writers was mistaken for a verb synonymous but not identical with *wax*. It has been thought desirable to give here all the examples in our material, in order that their individual significance may be judged of by comparison. The 17th c. quotes from H. More, which are added for completeness, are of course intentionally archaistic.

1540 *CRANMER Bible Prol.* † jb, Anone . . . theyr consciences bene admonished, and they waxen sory & ashamed of the facte. 1542 *UDALL Erasm. Apoph.* 4 And contrariwise, what thynges been moste honest the same weaxen also moste pleasaunt, yf a man haue been accustomed vnto them. 1562 A. BROOKE *Romeus & Jul.* 1039 The courage of the Mountagewes, by Romeus sight doth growe, The townes men waxen strong, the prince doth send his force. 1565 *GOLDING Ovid's Met.* III. 852 This Licabs chappes did waxen wide, his nose-thrills waxed flat. 1567 *Ibid.* xiv. 327, I felt a hooked groyne Too wexen hard vppon my mouth. 1584 *PEELE Arraign. Paris* v. i, Then first gan Cupids eyesight wexen dim. 1590 *SHAKS. Mids. N.* II. i. 56 And then the whole quire hold their hips, and loffe, And waxen in their mirth. 1590 *VALLANS Tale Two Swans* (1744) p. ix, As these Swannes began to waxen old. 1594 *BARNFIELD Sheph. Content* (Arb.) 30 When their fleeces gin to waxen rough. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* I. i. 3 What man . . . Would woxen [1647 wexen] wroth. 1647 — *Cupids Confl.* lxxv, This is the measure of mans industry To wexen some body and gotten grace To's outward presence.

† **waxen, v.**² *Obs. rare.* [f. WAX *sb.*¹ + -EN⁵.] *trans.* To cover or dress with wax.

1552 *HULOET*, Waxen, *cæro, cero.* 1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* I. 24 Others [Nero] staked through . . . and waxened over their bodies, and so set them lighted up, as torches.

waxen-kernel. *dial.* [Of uncertain formation; the second element is *KERNEL sb.*¹

Variants are *waxen-churnel*, *-crindle*, *-crundle*, *-curl*, *waxing-kernel*, *-churnel*, *-curl*, *waxy-kernel*: see *Eng. Dial. Dict.* It is doubtful whether the first element was originally WAXEN *a.*, WAXEN *ppl. a.*, or WAXING *vbl. sb.* or *ppl. a.*]

= WAX-KERNEL.

1500 *STANBRIDGE Vocabula* (1510) Aijb, In plurali he glandille, for waxen kernels. 1825 *JAMIESON, Waxen-kernel.* 1866 S. THOMSON *Dict. Dom. Med.* 8/1 Popularly, these enlarged glands go by the name of 'waxen kernels'.

waxer ('wæksə(r)). [f. WAX *v.*² + -ER¹.] One who or something that waxes. a. One who waxes leather in currying. b. (See quot. 1875.)

1875 *KNIGHT Dict. Mech., Waxer*, an attachment to a leather sewing-machine to wax the thread as it runs from the spool to the needle. 1885 A. WATT *Leather Manuf.* 343 The waxer rubs the size into the coloured side of the leather.

c. gen.
1890 O. WILDE in *19th Cent.* July 127 The waxers and gilders of images. **1930** in C. S. Johnson *Negro in Amer. Civilization* 1. vii. 100 Gas pipe layer, car washers, floor waxer. **1978** *Detroit Free Press* 16 Apr. F5/3 (Adv.), Dental technician. Experienced waxer for crown and bridge lab.

waxey, variant of WAXY *a.*¹

wax flower, 'wax-flower.

1. An imitation flower made of wax.
1843 A. McLAREN in E. T. McLaren *Mem.* (1911) 26 Mary, the wax flowers arrived in safety. **1844** MINTORN (*title*) The Hand-book for modelling Wax Flowers. **1858** GEO. ELIOT *Scenes Cler. Life, Janet's Repent.* iii, Wax-flowers presuppose delicate fingers and robust patience.
Comb. **1858** SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, Wax-flower maker.
 2. A name given to certain plants: *a.* the genus *Hoya*, esp. *H. carnosa*; *b.* *Clusia insignis* of Guyana (Ogilvie 1883); *c.* *Stephanotis floribunda* (*Cent. Dict.*).
1848 SCHOMBURGK *Hist. Barbados* 611 *Hoya carnosa*... Fleshy-leaved Hoya. Wax Flower. **1884** W. MILLER *Plant-n.* 1. 144 Wax-flower. The genus *Hoya*.

waxily, -ness: see after WAXY *a.*¹

'**waxing** ('wæksɪŋ), *vbl. sb.*¹ [f. WAX *v.*¹ + -ING¹.] The action of WAX *v.*¹; growth; increase.

c. **1055** *Byrhtferth's Handbo*c in *Anglia* VIII. 323 þonne se mona beo tyn nihta eald, and na þænne his leoht beo ærest on weaxunge. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6572 [Cnut addressing the tide] þeruore ich hote þe, þin wexing þat þou lete. **13**... *Cursor M.* 1430 (Gött.) Euer stod þai still in ane, widuten waxing [Cott. wax] or wane. **13**... *Amis & Amil.* 89 So like thei were both of syght, And of on wexing ryght. *c.* **1449** PECOCC *Repr.* III. x. 339 Thilk waxing in possessions was cause or occasioun of thilk decrecing in vertues. **1589** *Pappe w. Hatchet* (1844) 36 Yet the emptie caske sounds lower than when it was ful, and protests more in his waining, than he could performe in his waxing. **1652** URQUHART *Jewel* 134 The Moon, which was then but in the first week of his waxing. **1863** *Possibilities of Creation* 100 The waxings and wanings of light in these variable objects. **1870** *Eng. Mech.* 11 Mar. 630/2 The waxing of the light of the Satellite arises from its gradual passage out of the shadow.

'**waxing**, *vbl. sb.*² [f. WAX *v.*² + -ING¹.]

1. *a.* The process of covering or dressing with wax.

c. **1440** *Prompt. Parv.* 519/1 Waxynge, wythe wax, *ceracio*. **1538** ELYOT *Dict.*, *Cæatura*, the waxinge. **1659** H. TURBERVIL *Walk Knaves Walk* 8 Lastly, you must observe the waxing of the boot. **1818** *Art Preserv. Feet* 137 The waxing of the thread is... for the purpose of preventing it from slipping. **1857** MILLER *Elem. Chem.*, *Org.* xi. §2. 673 Previous to sale... another process [of currying leather], technically termed waxing, is performed. **1890** *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* III. 344 Refusal to strip, is... due to... touching the waxed surface with the fingers after waxing.

b. (See quot. 1858.)
1815 S. PARKES *Chem. Ess.* II. 148 *note*, In printing those silk handkerchiefs called Bandanas, a process called waxing is still followed. **1858** SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, Waxing, the process of stopping out colours in calico-printing.

† *c.* A method of cheating at dice. *Obs.*
1726 [see TOPPING *vbl. sb.*¹ 1 c].

d. Depilation by means of wax (see WAX *v.*² 1 c).
1974 *Times* 27 Aug. 9/2 Services... include waxing, manicure, pedicure. **1977** *Evening Post* (Nottingham) 27 Jan. 6/1 (Adv.), Get rid of unfeminine hair with the entirely new and painless method. No needle, no scarring, no waxing. **1982** *Oxford Times* 5 Nov. 13/5 (Adv.), Beauty Therapy, facials, manicure, pedicure, waxing.

2. *a. concr.* Wax as a polish on furniture.
1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 745 Waxing..., like varnish... is attended with inconveniences as well as advantages.

b. *U.S. slang.* A gramophone record or phonograph cylinder.

1936 *Metronome* Feb. 21/4 Waxing, phonograph record. **1941** *Jazz Information* Nov. 26/1 I'll stick to the Victor-Bluebird waxings, for they are the best. **1965** [see FRUG]. **1981** *Listener* 1 Jan. 30/1 Buddy Bolden... is said to have recorded a phonograph cylinder, somewhere around 1902... The rumoured waxing has never been discovered.

'**waxing**, *ppl. a.* [f. WAX *v.*¹ + -ING².] That waxes, grows, or increases.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 7228 A grene waxinge tre þat is fram þe more Ismite adoun. *c.* **1330** R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 7328 So waxynge [Petyt MS. waxand] folk in al þys werde, Ne so gendryng, ne so plentyue... Als we arm of oure kynde, In no lond scholde men fynde. **1387**-8 T. USK *Test. Love* III. v. (Skeat) l. 5 Blossmes of waxing frute. *c.* **1440** *Prompt. Parv.* 471/1 Spryngynge, of a welle or oþer waxynge watyr, *scaturacio*. **1588** SHAKS. *Tit. A.* III. i. 95, I stand as one vpon a Rocke... Who markes the waxing tide grow wauē by wauē. **1666** DRYDEN *Ann. Mirab.* iv, Each waxing Moon supplied her watry store, To swell those Tides. **1820** WIFFEN *Aonian Hours* (ed. 2) 36 The mutable moon Stamps all the changes of her waxing phase. **1883** M. CREIGHTON *Let. in Life* (1904) l. 263, I am sorry that you think me a waxing Conservative. **1970** ROSEBURY *Chatham* xxi. 456 The Duke... was at war with the waxing power of Leicester House.

† *b.* Of flesh: Excrescent. *Obs.*
c. **1400** *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xii, Sometyne commeth to þe houndes sekene in hir eyenn, for þer commeth a webbe vpon hem and waxynge fleeshe, þe which commeth into þ' one syde of þe eye and is cleped an naye.

† *c.* waxing kernel = WAX-KERNEL, WAXEN-KERNEL. *Obs.*

? *c.* **1460** *Medulla* (MS. St. John's, Cambr.) in *Cath. Angl.* 411 *note* 2 *Glandula, nodus sub cute*, a waxynge curnelle. **1530** PALSGR. 287/1 Waxyng kynrnels glandes, glanders. **1538**

ELYOT *Dict.*, Tolles, a waxynge kernell. **1684** J. S. *Profit & Pleas.* United 206 Waxing-Kernel, Struma, Choaking, or the Strangles.

† *d. absol. in the waxand*, in the waxing (phase). Cf. WANIAND.

a. **1300** *Cursor M.* 22496 þe mone pat es sa scene, quen it es in þe waxand sene.

Hence †'waxingly *adv.*, increasingly.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 411/2 Waxingly, *auctim*.

wax-kernel. Now *dial.* (see Eng. Dial. Dict.) [Prob. f. WAX *sb.*², either with the sense of 'a growth', or with reference to the growing-time of children (cf. *wax-pain* dial. = growing-pain); but associated with WAX *sb.*¹] A hard glandular swelling in the neck or armpit or under the jaw. Also called WAXEN-KERNEL, WAXING-KERNEL.

14... *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 707/29 *Hoc glandulum*, a wax-kynrylle. **1569** E. FENTON *Secr. Nature* 38 b, As knots in wood, waxkernels in men, or seede in herbes. **1576** NEWTON *Lemnie's Complex.* II. iii. 110 b, Wherupon happen... sometime behinde the eares Impostumes, botches and wexe-kernelles. **1825** JAMIESON, *Wax-kernel*. **1889** WAGSTAFFE *Mayne's Med. Voc.* (ed. 6), *Wax-kernels*, popular name for irritated submaxillary glands.

†'waxless, *a.* *Obs.* [f. WAX *v.*¹ or *sb.*² + -LESS.] Not liable to wax or increase.

a. **1618** [see WANELESS].

'**wax-light**. A candle, taper, or night-light made of wax.

1600 M. HOBY *Diary* 18 Sept. (1930) 145, I reed, praied, was busie about waxe lightes, and then I dined. *a.* **1700** EVELYN *Diary* 16 Aug. 1654, [Doncaster] a large faire towne, famous for greate wax-lights and good stockings. *a.* **1715** BURNET *Own Time* III. (1823) II. 154 There were many drops of white wax-lights on his breeches. **1798** SOPHIA LEE *Canterb. T., Young Lady's T.* II. 134 Shades over the wax-lights softened the glare. **1828** SCOTT *Jrnl.* 12 Apr. (1891) 572 Tom S... said in a whisper, 'I advise you to secure a wax-light to go to bed with,' shewing him... a morsel which he had stolen from a scone. **1855** MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xx. IV. 535 Within the Abbey, nave, choir, and transept were in a blaze with innumerable waxlights. **1864** KINGSLEY *Roman & T. v.* (1875) 129 The Emperor coming out to meet him with processions and wax-lights. **1870** *Chamb. Jrnl.* 16 Apr. 241/1 Visions of private sitting-rooms, wax-lights, bad wines, ... at once rise before his experienced eyes.

† waxloke. *Obs.* -1 (Unexplained.)

13... *E.E. Allit. P. B.* 1037 And þer waltez of þat water in waxlokes grete, þe spumande aspaltoun þat spyseres sellen.

'**wax-maker**.

1. A maker of wax or of wax candles. ? *Obs.*
14... *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 688/22 *Hic cerarius*,... whax-maker. **1483** *Cath. Angl.* 411/2 A Wax maker, *cerarius*. **1515** *Guild Bk. St. Mary, Boston* (MS.) fol. 15 In stipendio Willielmi Pynnell Waxmaker. **1543** *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden Soc.) II. 271 Maister Anthony Payne wax-maker.

2. A worker-bee that makes wax.
 Translating Huber's term (*abeille*) *cirière*.
1815 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xv. (1818) l. 493 When wax is not wanted in the hive, the wax-makers disgorge their honey into the cells. **1816** *Ibid.* xix. II. 128 There are two sorts of workers, the wax-makers and nurses. **1835** *Partington's Brit. Cycl. Nat. Hist. I.* 354/1.

So 'wax-making *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*
1543 *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden Soc.) II. 271 Costes and Paymentes of the wax makynge. **1815** KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xv. (1818) l. 492 The stomach... in the wax-making bees is much larger than in the nurse-bees.

'**wax-plant**. A name given to various plants either yielding a vegetable wax or having a waxy appearance; *esp. a.* the eandleberry myrtle, *Myrica cerifera*; *b.* any species of *Hoya*, esp. *H. carnosa*; *c.* the corpse-plant, *Monotropa uniflora*.
1801 J. BARROW *Trav. S. Afr.* I. 19 In most of the sandy flats are found... two varieties of the *Myrica cerifera*, or wax plant. **1865** MRS. H. WOOD *Mildred Arkell* xxiv, Mamma made me bring this down at once for your conservatory... It is a wax plant, and a very beautiful one. **1875** MELLISS *St. Helena* 311 *Hoya carnosa*,... Wax plant... *Hab.* China. **1877** SIR C. WARREN *On Veldt in Seventies* (1902) 379 On the window there hung a 'wax plant,' which has beautiful waxen-looking flowers. **1879** WEBSTER *Suppl.*, *Wax-plant*, a white fleshy plant (*Monotropa uniflora*).

wax-scot: see next.

wax-shot. *Obs. exc. Hist.* [WAX *sb.*¹ + SHOT *sb.*¹ OE. had *weaxgescot* (Wulfstan): whence the form *wax-scot* in 18-19th cent. Dicts.] A customary payment made for the maintenance of lights in churches.

15... *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 190 *marg.*, To paye for the mayntenynge off the wax and lights, iiij. d. [*marg.*, in later hand, 'Waxshote']. **15**... in *Proc. Soc. Antiq. Ser.* II. XIV. 232 Every householder payeth... for Wax-shot and Gardens two pence. **1664** [see MAINPORT]. **1706** PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Waxshot* or *Wax-scot*. **1829** [J. CHAMBERS] *Gen. Hist. Norfolk* II. 968 *note*, Ceragium, or waxshot, was the term used for money expended in church lights.

wax taper.

1. A taper made of wax.
1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P.R.* XIX. lxii. (1495) 898 A wexe tapre hyght Cereus of cera wexe for it is made of wexe. **1408**-17 in *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* Introd. p. xcvi, And .xij. wex tapers to be set vpon euery crosse. **1676** A. MARVELL *Gen. Councils* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 97 Demetrius had no more reason in law against them, than a chandler might have had, if by Paul's preaching, wax-tapers... had grown out of fashion. **1765** J. BROWN *Chr. Jrnl.*, *Harvest Day* 226 Such is

the death of the wicked: but may I like a wax-taper, leave a sweet and edifying savour of Christ behind me. **1907** J. A. HODGES *Elem. Photogr.* (ed. 6) 148 Ignited by means of a long wax taper.

† 2. A cone-shell (see quot.).

1815 S. BROOKES *Introd. Conchol.* 157 Wax Taper, *Conus Virgo*.

'**wax-tree**. A name given to various trees, of different localities, yielding vegetable or insect wax; *esp. a.* the candleberry myrtle, *Myrica cerifera*, of North America; *b.* the privet, *Ligustrum lucidum*, of China; *c.* the genus *Vismia* of South America; *d.* the varnish-tree of South America, *Elæagia utilis*; *e.* the Japanese shrub *Rhus succedanea*.

1791 W. BARTRAM *Trav.* 405 A species of *Myrica* (*Myrica inodora*)... which the French inhabitants call the Wax tree. **179**. CURTIS *Bot. Mag.* 2565 *Ligustrum lucidum*. Chinese Privet, or Wax-tree. **1803** *Nicholson's Jrnl. Nat. Philos.* (8°) IV. 188 The *myrica cerifera*, or wax tree. **1843** *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 152/1 *Wax-tree*, the common name of the plants belonging to the genus *Vismia*. **1866** *Treas. Bot.* 442/2 The natives [S. America] speak of the tree producing this resin, *Elæagia utilis*, as the Wax tree or Varnish tree. *Ibid.* 1229/2 *Wax-tree*,... Japan, *Rhus succedanea*. **1890** *Hosie West China* 197 The tree is known to the Chinese as the *Pai-la shu*, or 'white wax tree'.

waxwing ('wækswɪŋ). A passerine bird of the genus *Ampelis* (*Bombycilla*), esp. *A. garrulus*, the Bohemian waxwing.

1817 J. F. STEPHENS *Shaw's Gen. Zool.* X. II. 420 The Wax-wings, which have been detached from the Chatterers by Monsieur Vieillot, have a most remarkable and peculiar appendage on the tips of some of the quills, which has very much the appearance of red sealing-wax. *Ibid.* 421 Bohemian Waxwing. *Ibid.* 422 Carolina Waxwing. **1876** SMILES *Sc. Nat.* xi. 214 Among the rarer birds found in this district, were the Bohemian Waxwing or Chatterer (*Bombycilla garrula*). **1884** *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 616/1 The Carolina Wax-wing, alias cedar or cherry bird. **1888** LEES & CLUTTERBUCK *B.C.* 1887 (1892) 348 A large flock of waxwings... was well worth seeing.

waxwork ('wækswɜ:k).

1. Work executed in wax.

1723 BLACKMORE *Alfred* II. 67 Th' industrious Tenants of the narrow Hive... fetch Home Spoils their Wax-works to renew.

2. *a. esp.* Modelling in wax; an object or objects modelled in wax; usually applied to life-size effigies of persons, with head, hands, and bust of wax, coloured and clothed to look like life.

1697 *Post Boy* 20-23 Nov. 2/2 At the Golden Salmon in St. Martins, near Aldersgate, is to be seen, in Wax-work, about Fifty Figures, all big as the Life. **1701** in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* VII. 103 Y^e Procession which began before 7 with 12 Pageants of History in large Wax Work. *a.* **1704** T. BROWN *Walk Lond.* & *Westm.* Wks. 1719 III. 316 Here stood Edward III as they told us, which was a broken Piece of Waxwork, a batter'd Head, and a Straw-stuff'd Body. **1774** WESLEY *Jrnl.* 24 Jan., I was desired by Mrs. Wright, of New-York, to let her take my effigy in wax-work. **1840** DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xxvii, I've seen wax-work quite like life. **1865** — *Mut. Fr.* 1. ix, 'It's no good my being kept here like Wax-Work, is it now?' 'People have to pay to see Wax-Work, my dear,' returned her husband.

fig. **1858** GLADSTONE *Homer* III. 512 Homer gives us figures that breathe and move. Virgil usually treats us to waxwork.

b. pl.

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* II. 267 Of Mummies, Wax-Works, &c. **1896** S. BUTLER *Life & Lett. Dr. S. Butler* I. 228 This can only be surpassed... by Dr. Arnold's taking the terracotta figures of the Varese chapels for waxworks.

3. An exhibition of wax figures representing celebrated or notorious characters; also, the place of exhibition. Now *pl.*

1763 BOSWELL *Jrnl.* 4 July in *London Jrnl.* (1950) 289, I went and saw Mrs. Salmon's famous wax-work in Fleet Street. **1773** DUCHESS OF NORTHUMBERLAND *Diary* (1926) 207 The Tower, the Venetian Lady, Westminster Abbey, Salmon's Waxworks. **1796** T. MORTON *Way to get Married* v. 1, You must show me the sights—The lions at the Tower, ... the parliament-house, and the wax-work. **1806** J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* vii. §67 Escorting two or three coaches full of country-cousins... to the Lions, the Wax-work, the Monument, &c. **1831** *Cruchley's Pict. Lond.* 112 Wax Works. Fleet Street. **1837** THACKERAY *Ravenswing* ii, He looked like a figure out of a wax-work. **1895** SIR H. IRVING in *Daily News* 17 June 6/4 'You didn't go [to the Lyceum]! Why not?' 'Well, sir, you see there's the missus, and she preferred the wax-works.'

4. *U.S.* The climbing bitter-sweet, *Celastrus scandens*; so called from the waxy scarlet aril of the fruit.

1818 W. P. C. BARTON *Compendium Floræ Philadelphicæ* I. 128 Wax Work. A climbing plant frequently reaching the tops of trees. **1856** A. GRAY *Man. Bot.* (1860) 81 *Celastrus scandens* (Wax-work. Climbing Bitter-sweet).

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as waxwork-figure, -show; waxwork-man, the proprietor of a waxworks.

1827 SYD. SMITH *Wks.* (1859) II. 131/1 There is a wax-work Pope, and a wax-work Court of Rome. **1836** DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Gt. Winglebury Duel*, Whenever a juggler, or wax-work man, or concert-giver, takes Great Winglebury in his circuit. **1840** — *Old C. Shop* xxvii, Mrs. Jarley's wax-work show. *Ibid.* xxix, She slept... in the room where the waxwork figures were. **1889** R. BUCHANAN in *Contemp. Rev.* Dec. 912 The highway is strewn with the corpses of dead poets who never lived, ... with loud inglorious Cowleys, with waxwork Popes. **1898** WATTS-DUNTON *Aylwin* VIII. 1, The

House of Commons has become a bear-garden, and t'other House a wax-work show.

'wax'-worker. A worker in wax: **a.** a bee that makes wax; **b.** a maker of waxwork (Worcester 1860).

1821 tr. *Huber's New Observ. Nat. Hist. Bees* (ed. 3) 336 When hives are full of combs, the wax workers disgorge their honey into the ordinary magazines, making no wax.

So 'wax'-working **a.** (of a bee) making wax.

1827 E. BEVAN *Honey-Bee* 367 The power of producing wax is common both to the nursing- and wax-working bees.

waxy ('wæksi), **a.**¹ Also 7 waxey. [f. WAX sb.¹ + -Y¹.]

† **1.** Made of wax, waxen. *Obs.*

1552 HULOET, Waxie or of waxe, *careus*. **1615** *Montgomerie's Cherrie & Slae* v. in Ramsay *Evergreen* (1875) II. 101 And sum [bees] the waxie Veschells wrocht, Thair Purchase to preserve. **1625** K. LONG tr. *Barclay's Argenis* v. i. 330 The Bees so sudden joyes Their waxie-houses fill with buzzing noyse.

2. a. Having the nature or distinctive properties of wax.

1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* I. 434 Boil a quantity of honey in order to get all the waxy part out of it. **1866** *Treas. Bot.* s.v. *Elæagia*, These trees are remarkable for the quantity of green resinous or waxy matter which is secreted by the stipules. **1884** BOWER & SCOTT *De Bary's Phaner.* 82 In company with the cuticular bodies there are usually found compounds of a waxy nature.

b. fig. Of a person, his heart, mind: Soft, plastic, impressionable like wax.

1596 WILLOBIE *Avisa* (1880) 88 If you had had a waxye hart That would haue melt at hot desyre. **1608** BP. HALL *Char.* II. 111 The Vnconstant... He is seruile in imitation, waxey to persuasions. **1632** T. GOFF *Courageous Turk* II. v. Thinke you my minde is waxie, to be wrought, By any fashion. **a 1660** HAMMOND *19 Sermon* xvii. Wks. 1684 IV. 679 Now... that the softer waxy part of you, may receive some impression from this Discourse, let us close all with an Application. **1843** DICKENS *Lett.* 13 Nov. *Lett.* (1880) I. 93 If you will impress this on the waxy mind of — I shall be truly and unaffectedly obliged to you.

3. a. Resembling wax in colour or consistence; (of a quality) like that of wax. Often said of boiled potatoes that have not become 'mealy'.

1835-6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 428/1 The... waxy appearance which those who are the subjects of this disease [i.e. chlorosis] generally exhibit. **1841** HOOD *Tale of Trumpet* 209 Great Philosophers talking like Platos... And your ears as dull as waxy potatoes! **1845** *Florist's Jnrl.* (1846) VI. 6 Ground colour a clear primrose, edging a bright purple, petals very waxy. **1868** 'HOLME LEE' *B. Godfrey* xxviii. There are two daughters, pretty little waxy girls they were. **1875** BUCKLAND *Log-Bk.* 140 The general colour of the scorpion is a horrid-looking waxy brown. **1890** *Lancet* 16 Aug. 333/1 The fat is abnormally waxy and soft. **1905** R. BAGOT *Passport* xxv. 268 The waxy whiteness of the rest of the face [in an old picture].

b. Med. Affected with amyloid degeneration.

1845 BUDD *Dis. Liver* 243 These characters are well expressed by the epithet 'waxy,' which has been applied to livers in this state by Dr. Home and Rokitansky. **1866** A. FLINT *Princ. Med.* (1880) 57 The waxy material is exceptionally deposited in large nodules, constituting the waxy tumors. **1876** BRISTOWE *Th. & Pract. Med.* 800 Gallstones... sometimes consist... of a nearly homogeneous waxy mass. **1881** W. H. DAY *Dis. Childr.* 256 The lardaceous or waxy kidney. **1897** *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 537 The diffuse, waxy spleen.

4. Soiled or covered with wax. In quot. as a derisive epithet for a cobbler.

1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* (1861) III. 75/2 Your child... called me cobbler waxy, waxy, waxy. **1914** A. MACDONALD *Story & Song fr. Loch Ness-side* xiii. 223 They got there [into the fairy mound], and immediately observed the 'waxy cobbler' still dancing.

5. Comb., as waxy-faced, -looking, -skinned, -white.

1846 DICKENS *Cricket on Hearth* i. The little waxy-faced Dutch clock in the corner. **1927** *Scots Observer* 1 Jan. 3/1 Barefoot women... some with waxy-faced infants in their arms. **1859** D. BUNCE *Trav. with Dr. Leichhardt* vi. 44 A race of plants having waxy-looking berries. **1871** T. H. GREEN *Introd. Pathol.* 65 The cut-surface is... translucent, and waxy-looking. **1964** S. DUKE-ELDER *Parsons' Dis. Eye* (ed. 14) xxii. 328 Oedema is usually not marked, but all over the posterior pole there tend to gather hard, white or yellow, waxy-looking patches of exudates. **1930** J. DOS PASSOS *42nd Parallel* 1. 34 He was a sharpnosed waxy-skinned young man. **1929** W. FAULKNER *Sanctuary* xxiii. 261 His nostrils were waxy white with rage. **1954** A. G. L. HELLYER *Encycl. Garden Work* 452 *Kindingeri*, waxy-white, reddish at base. Hence 'waxily adv., 'waxiness.

1855 HYDE CLARKE, Waxiness. **1880** *Jnrl. Linn. Soc.* XV. 98 Shell... not thin, but waxily translucent. **1890** *Sat. Rev.* 22 Nov. 588/2 [He] was originally a sculptor, and now paints rather waxily, as if he were modelling in oil-colour.

waxy ('wæksi), **a.**² *colloq. or slang.* [f. WAX sb.³ + -Y¹.] Angry, 'in a wax'.

A supposed example of 1648 in the *Hamilton Papers* (Camden) 229 is an editorial misreading of *wary*.

1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xxiv. It would cheer him up more than anything, if I could make him a little waxy with me. **1866** BROGDEN *Lincolnsh. Gloss.*, *Waxey*, peevish, cross, irritable. *Ex.* You need-na be so waxey. **1872** *Punch* 1 June 222/1 It's no good being waxy about it.

way (wei), **sb.**¹ Forms: 1 weȝ, *North.* woeg, 2-3 weiz, 2-6 weie, 4-6 weie, weye, 3 wæi, wæiz, waiȝ, weȝ, *Ormin* weȝȝe, 4-5 weizȝe, 3-6 wai, wey, 4 veie, wa, weieȝe, wie, wye, 4-5 veye, 4, 6 vay(e), 4-7 waie, 4-8 waye, 5 whay, weij, 4-6 wy, 9 *Sc.* wye, 3- way. *Pl.* 4 waiis, 5 weyse, waiez, waiss,

wayse, weyys. [Com. Teut.: OE. *weg* str. masc. = OFris. *wei*, *wi* (WFr. *wei*, NFr. *wâi*), OS. *weg* (MLG. *wech*), (M)Du. *weg*, OHG. *weg* (MHG. *wec*, *weg*-, Mod.G. *weg*), ON. *veg-r* (Sw. *våg*, Da. *vei*), Goth. *wig-s*:—OTeut. **wego-z*, f. **weg-* (:**waȝ-*: **wāȝ-*) to move, journey, carry (see WEIGH v., WAIN, WAW sb.¹ and v.¹, WEY):—Indogermanic **wegh-* (:**wogh-*), found in L. *vehēre* to carry, Gr. ὄχος (:—**wogho-s*) vehicle, Skr. *vah* to journey, carry. The L. *via*, way, formerly regarded as cognate, is now generally referred to a different root. The sense-development of the Eng. word, however, has been to some extent influenced by L. *via* and its descendant F. *voie* (see also VOYE, WOYE), of both which it has always been the normal translation. Many of the uses are of Biblical origin: the Heb. *derek*, and the Gr. ὁδός in Hellenistic use (Vulg. *via*, all Eng. versions *way*) have a very wide range of meaning.]

1. Road, path.

* for passage of persons, animals, vehicles.

1. a. gen. A track prepared or available for travelling along; a road, street, lane, or path. Now esp. in phrases like *beside*, *over*, *across* the way, the other side (of) the way, to cross the way, etc.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xx. 30 And heonun tuoȝe blindo sittende æt weȝ [c 975 *Rushw.* bi ðæm weȝe; **c 1000** *Ag. Gosp.* wip ðone weȝ; **1382** WYCLIF *besidis* the weȝe; Vulg. *secus viam*]. **c 1055** *Byrhtferth's Handboc in Anglia* VIII. 303 Forðon we sittað ymb þam weȝe wædliende mid timeus sunu. **c 1205** LAY. 524 He ferde... to þan ilke weie þe he... wuste þat þe king mid his ferde forð sculde iwenden. *Ibid.* 551 Heo pohten heom beon on fest þer þe hulles weore mest & senden heom arewen i þon weie narewe. **a 1300** K. Horn 1304 (Camb. MS.) þe kniȝt him aslepe lay Al beside þe way. **c 1330** *Arth. & Merl.* 7404 þer was a launde of noblay Where come to gider seven way. **c 1350** *Will. Palerne* 1732 Abide þou in a brod weie bi a large mile. **c 1475** *Rauf Coilȝear* 394 Tak thy hors and thy harnes in the morning, For to watche weill the ways. **1579** BURGHEY in Nicolas *Sir C. Hatton* (1847) 126 Approaching to the house, being led by a large, long, straight fair way, I found [etc.]. **1585** HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 389/1 *Compitum*,... a waye where manye wayes doe meete. **1585** T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* i. xii. A bridge... vnder the which is a waye to an old ruined Church. **1632** LITHGOW *Trav.* x. 433, I saw... women traauaying the way, or toying at home, carry their Infants about their neckes. **1700** T. BROWN *Amusem. Ser. & Com.* 127, I cross'd the way to a Book-sellers. **1831** JAMES Phil. *Augustus* ii. Instead of attempting to continue the way along the side of the hill... a single arch had been thrown over the narrow ravine, and the road carried on... on the other side. **1834** DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Boarding-ho.* ii. He called out to a gentleman on the opposite side of the way. **1835** *Ibid.*, *Streets—Morning*, Mr. Todd's young man just steps over the way. **1886** C. E. PASCOE *Lond. To-day* xxxi. (ed. 3) 287 The War Office is altogether out of keeping with the clubs upon the same side of the way. **1887** J. ASHBY-STERRY *Cucumber Chron.* 5 The village is... one long street. On either side of the way are picturesque little cottages. **1887** RUSKIN *Præterita* II. v. 155 For the most part, no English creature ever does see farther than over the way. **1904** H. BELLOC *Old Road* 96 A sunken way of great antiquity leads directly from St. Catherine's Hill down to the river. **1910** D. G. HOGARTH in *Encycl. Brit.* I. 248/1 The latest type of tomb is a flatly vaulted chamber approached by a horizontal or slightly inclined way, whose sides converge above.

transf. **1594** HOOKER *Ecll. Pol.* i. iii. §2 If the Moone should wander from her beaten way.

b. In figurative context, with reference to a metaphorical walking or travelling. *parting of the ways*: see PARTING *vbl. sb.* 2 b.

† *way of indulgence*: said of the Virgin Mary as the medium or channel of access to divine mercy. (Cf. Christ's words in John xiv. 6, 'I am the Way...; no man cometh to the Father but by me'.)

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* xxvi. 12 Fot... min stod in weȝe ðæm rehtan. **c 950** *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. iii. 3 ðearuas woeg drihtnes [Vulg. *parate viam Domini*]. *Ibid.* vii. 13 Rum-welle weȝ ðiu lædas to lose. **c 1200** *Vices & Virtues* 21 Ðar ðe wei is slider and we lihtliche to fællen. **c 1400** *Pety Job* 268 in 26 *Pl. Poems* xxv. 129 All the pathes thou hast mette That euer I yede in weȝ or walle. **c 1420** HOCLEVE *Mother of God* 8 Modir of mercy, weȝ of indulgence. **1471** CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 213 Thou haste passid the straye waye and passage of Infortune for whens thou art yssued cler as the sonne. **1602** SHAKS. *Ham.* II. ii. 277 But in the beaten way of friendship, What make you at Elsonower? **1605** BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. xi. §1. 45 The trauaile therein taken, seemeth to haue ben rather in a Maze, than in a way. **1738** WESLEY *Hymns* 'Join all the glorious Names' v. O let my Feet ne'er... rove, nor seek the crooked Way. **1898** M. PEMBERTON *Phantom Army* i. vii. The way before him was no longer hidden in darkness. He saw that it lay straight—the road to the prison or the scaffold.

c. A main road connecting different parts of a country. Now rare except in names of Roman roads, as the rendering of L. *via*. Cf. HIGHWAY.

† *the king's way*: = the king's HIGHWAY.

a 900 O.E. *Martyrol.* 28 Aug. 156 On þam weȝe þe æt Rome is nemned Salaria. **c 1000** ÆLFRIC *Num.* xxi. 22 Swa swa se weȝ lið we farað [Vulg. *via regia gradiemur*]. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 160 Veire weies manion þer beȝ in englonde, Ac voure mest of alle... þoru þe olde kinges imad. **1313** *Newminster Cartul.* (Surtees) 51 De Sticeleydike per Heddeley wai usque en le Spenstrete. **c 1450** *Godstow Reg.* 541, ij. acris of arable lond... streche them-self fro the north toward the south beside the kyngis weȝ. **1482** *Cov. Leet Bk.* 510 þe grounde... in brede fro London weȝe stretchyng vnto a Corner of a Close of þe Trinite Gildes. **c 1489** CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* ix. 227 There was a waye crossed in four,

the one waye was towarde Fraunce. **1533** BELLENDEN *Livy* v. 227 Ane tempil was commandit to be maid in þe new way quhare þe voce was herde. **1535** COVERDALE *Judges* v. 6 In the tyme of Iael the wayes fayled. **1685** STILLINGFL. *Orig. Brit.* ii. 63 Whereever the Romans inhabited, they may be traced by their Ways, by their Buildings [etc.]. **1688** HOLME *Armoury* III. 198/2 The Overseers of the Ways are Men chosen yearly for to see, and... put in repair all decayed Highways... within the Bounds of the Parish. **1805** SCOTT *Last Minstr.* i. xxvi, Broad on the left before him lay, For many a mile, the Roman way. **1840** ARNOLD *Hist. Rome* xxxii. II. 288 Nor will the mightiest works of modern engineers ever rival the fame of the Appian Way.

d. transf. In MILKY WAY and various synonyms.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) U 174 *Uia secta*, iringes uueȝ. **1384** [see MILKY WAY]. **1555** Mylke way [see MILK sb. 10]. **1555** Mylke whyte way [see MILK-WHITE a. b.]. **1563** FULKE *Meteors* (1571) 38 The mylke waye called of some the waye to saint lames, and Watlyng streate. **1594** BLUNDEVIL *Exerc., Cosmog.* i. xxi. (1597) 158 The milke-white impression in heauen, like vnto a white way, called... of the common people our Ladies Way. **1775** Blomefield's *Hist. Norf.* V. 839 They believed... the Milky Way was appointed by Providence to point out the particular place and residence of the virgin, beyond all other places, and was, on that account, generally in that age, called Walsingham-Way; and I have heard old people of this country, so to call and distinguish it some years past. **1844** M. A. RICHARDSON *Local Hist. Table Bk.* Leg. Div. II. 86 The Via lactea, or 'milky way,' which the peasantry of the North frequently designate 'the way'.

e. A road considered with reference to the condition of its surface or to difficulties or dangers of transit.

a 900 O.E. *Martyrol.* 18 Apr. 58 Ðæt ða wildan hors scealden iornan [on] hearde weȝas in westenne & him þa limo all [to] breccan. **1418** in *E.E. Wills* 31, I be-queethe to the mendyng of the feble & foule weȝe beside Portmannes Crosse... xls. **1577** *Knaresb. Wills* (Surtees) I. 126 To amend a pece of evil waiȝe betwene my house and Hampistwhaite, xij d. **1588** SHAKS. *L.L.L.* v. ii. 926 When blood is nipt, and waies be fowle. **1632** LITHGOW *Trav.* i. 10, I bequeathed my proceedings to God... and my feete to the hard brusing way. **1663** PATRICK *Parab. Pilgr.* ii. (1687) 5 The weather was cold, the ways dirty and dangerous. **c 1710** CELIA FIENNES *Diary* (1888) 135 To Litchfield is 5 mile more all very good way mostly Gravel. **1712** ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* III. ix, I hope thou wilt not come too heavy laden, to spoil my Ways. **1789** DURNFORD & EAST *Cases K.B.* (1790) III. 263 If the way be foundorous and out of repair, the public have a right to go on the adjoining land. **1846** MRS. A. MARSH *Father Darcy* xxviii, 'How are the ways?' 'Deep and difficult enough, please your honour.' **1849** MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* I. iii. 379 In winter, when the ways were bad and the nights long. **1871** M. LEGRAND *Cambr. Freshm.* 301 A heap of smaller stones, placed there at the expense of the parish, for the purpose of mending the way.

f. A place of passage, e.g. an opening made through a crowd, a door or gate, etc. Also *way in*, *way out*. Hence *Way Out sign*. Cf. ARCHWAY, DOORWAY, GATEWAY. Also *fig.*

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3244 On twel doles delt ist ðe se, xii. weȝes ðer-in ben faiger and fre. **c 1400** *Destr. Troy* 5932 In the brest of the batell... He frussht so felly freikes to ground; Made wayes full wide þe weȝhis among. *Ibid.* 6513. **c 1400** MANDEV. (E.E.T.S.) viii. 36 And men seyn þat the wlcanes ben weȝes of helle. **a 1400-50** *Wars Alex.* 1324 Quare althire-thickest was þe thrange þurȝe þaim he rynnnes, And makis a wai wyde enȝe waynes to mete. **1851** MRS. BROWNING *Casa Guidi Wind.* II. 217 Here fortitude can never cut a way Between the Austrian muskets, out of thrall. **1892** C. TAYLOR *Witness of Hermas* 126 The gate is the Son of God. This is the one way-in [εἰς ὁδός] to the Lord. **1898** G. B. SHAW *Plays* II. *You never can tell* II. *stage direct.*, Near the parapet there lurks a way to the kitchen, masked by a little trellis porch. **1914** S. Low in *Edin. Rev.* Oct. 261 To a Prussian statesman it seems more natural to 'hack a way' through the territory of an unoffending neighbour than it would be to public men else-where. **a 1926** *Mod.* The words 'Way out' are painted on the door. **1972** L. MEYNELL *Death by Arrangement* xiii. 178 Hooky was forced to follow him along an uncomfortably empty platform towards the 'Way Out' sign. **1982** J. O'FAOLAIN *Obedient Wife* iii. 59 Just follow the Way Out signs.

g. Applied to a path in a wood or through the fields. See also GREEN a. 2 b.

13.. K. *Alis.* 6055 (Laud MS.), Hij hadden... Calk trappes made ynowe In wayes & vnder wood bowe. **1484** CAXTON *Fables of Auian* xxii, The snowe had couerd al the wayes [in the forest]. **1530** PALSGR. 286/1 Way in a woode syde, *sente*.

h. Fortification. A passage left between walls or buildings. *covered* (†*covert*) way (= F. *chemin couvert*), a passage running along the top of the counterscarp, protected from the enemy's fire by a parapet. (See COVERED *ppl.* a. 6, COVERT a. 1 b.) † *way of the rounds* (= F. *chemin des rondes*): see quot. 1704.

1481 CAXTON *Godeffroy* clxxiii. 257 They... dyde do make engyns, ... castellys, chattes, and wayes couerd, moche grete plente. **1704** J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Way of the Rounds*... is a space left for the Passage of the Rounds between the Rampart and the Wall of a Fortify'd Town.

i. Railways. *line of way*, a track formed by a pair of rails. See also PERMANENT way, SIX-FOOT way, WAGON-WAY.

** for passage of things.

† **2. Phys.** A duct or channel of any kind in the body of man or other animal. *Obs.*

[tr. mod.L. *via*; cf. *primæ viæ* (lit. 'first ways') the alimentary canal.]

c 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 21 þat may be known by... feiblynez of þe pacient and if it have perced þe waiez of þe vryne. **1541** COPLAND *Guydon's Quest.* I. iv, The bladder... receyueh the superfluyte vrynall by two longe

ways that descende from the kydnees. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 281 Wee must therefore enquire further for the cause of this sterility or barrennesse and not impute it to the interception of the wayes.

3. pl. a. Naut. (See quot. 1867.)

1639 in Foster *Crt. Min. E. Ind. Comp.* (1907) 332 [The use of one of the . . . docks with its] shores and waies [to fit and prepare the *Cesar*]. a 1647 PETTE in *Archaeologia* XII. 258 The smaller [ship] . . . was so ill struck upon the launching ways, that she could by no means be put off, which did somewhat discontent his majesty. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* III. iii. 325 A dry dock was dug for the bark, and ways laid from thence quite into the sea, to facilitate the bringing her up. 1864 Miss S. P. Fox *Kingsbridge Estuary* xiii. 163 When once the boat is close on the shore, the dogs are on the look out for the pieces of wood, technically called *ways*, which are placed underneath the boats to draw them up on the beach. It is very rarely that a single *way* is lost. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Ways*, balks laid down for rolling weights along. *Launching ways*, two parallel platforms of solid timber, one on each side of the keel of a vessel while building, and on which her cradle slides on launching.

transf. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xxix, Smooth strips of wood, well oiled, called 'ways' were placed above and below, to cause the book [sc. a packet of hides] to slide in easily.

b. Parallel wooden rails or planks, forming an inclined plane for heavy loads to slide down upon.

1868 B. J. LOSSING *The Hudson* 264 The ice, cut in blocks from the lake above . . . is sent down upon wooden 'ways', that wind through the forest.

c. *Mech.* Parallel sills forming a track for the slides of the uprights of a planing machine, the carriage of a lathe, or the like.

1869 RANKINE *Cycl. Mach. & Hand-tools* Plate I 5, Improved Planing Machine. . . These uprights are so arranged as to slide in ways . . . provided for the purpose in the sides of the stationary platform.

II. Course of travel or movement.

4. a. A line or course of travel or progression (whether direct or circuitous) by which a place may be reached, or along which a person or thing may pass. Const. *to, into, out of* (hence with *in, out* advs.). *to go a person's way*, to go along with him.

c 1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Matt. ii. 12 Hi on oðerne weġ [Vulg. *per aliam viam*] in hyra rice ferdon. c 1205 LAY. 26915 Heom ladden twelue of þan leod-folke þa . . . þa weises [c 1275 weyes] cuðen. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3255 Biforehen hem fleȝ an skiȝe brist ðat night hem made ðe weize list. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 11736 We wil þe wai ga bi þe se. c 1300 *Havelok* 772 Ful we[ll] he coupe þe rithe wei To lincolne. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. vi. 24 Const þou wissen vs þe wey wher þat he dwelleþ? 1420 J. STOKES in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. i. 68 He hadde sent forth Mayster Jon Lobaim vn to zow by the nexte wey. c 1440 *Generydes* 5923 With hym ther went Sygrem to be his gide, Costyng the contre many dyuers way, And so came he in to perse the redy waye. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* i. xi. 51 He had the hoost Northward the pruyuey way that coude be thoughte vnto the foreist of Bedegrayne. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. vi. An uniuersall flood, which by croked wayes finally issueth into the Sea. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* III. iii. 127 The waies at Sea are not as at Land, to returne the same way they passe. 1676 COTTON *Angler* II. ii. 12, I hope our way does not lye over any of these [hills]; for I dread a precipice. 1682 WHEELER *Journ. Greece* VI. 475, I return'd by the same way. 1732 LEDIARD *Sethos* II. ix. 293 There the way was stopp'd by mountains. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xiii, Is the Cowgate Port a nearer way to Liberton. . . than Bristo Port? 1820 KEATS *Eve St. Agnes* xl, Down the wide stairs a darkling way they found. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* I. iii. 371 If he asked his way to St. James's, his informants sent him to Mile End. 1856 G. W. CURTIS *Prue & I* iii. (1892) 113 Mr. Bourne. . . hospitably asked if I were going his way. His way was towards the southern end of the island. 1865 Mrs. NEWBY *Comm. Sense* li. III. 15 Are you coming my way, father? *Proverbs.* 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 77 There be mo waies to the wood than one. 1635 QUARLES *Embl.* IV. Epig. 2 The next way Home's the farthest way about. 1661 BOYLE *Style Script.* (1675) 56 The Longest way about is the nearest way Home. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* VII. xvii. 27 There is several ways to the Wood besides one.

b. *fig.* with conscious reference to literal travelling. † *to take the way of death*: to die.

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1752 þer me unwreah me þe wei, þet leadeð to liue. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5320 þe king aldreð sone þo þen wey of deþe nom. c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 106 By þese wyttly wordes of oure Lord Jesus Christ, mowe malicious men. . . knowe þat þey beþ in þe weye to helleward. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* II. iii. 21 That go the Primrose way to th' euerlasting Bonfire. 1646 GATAKER *Mistake Removed* 38 There is no new way to Heaven now, but the same that ever was. a 1729 J. ROGERS *Nineteen Serm.* v. (1735) 97 Every Path before us appears beset with Snares and Dangers, Ways in which we must walk with Fear and Trembling. a 1832 MACKINTOSH *Revol.* 1688 i. (1834) 11 Having found a way to court through some of those who ministered to the pleasures of the King, . . . he made his value known by [etc.]. 1864 NEWMAN *Apol.* iv. §2 (1913) 296 There are but two alternatives, the way to Rome, and the way to Atheism. 1890 W. BOOTH (*title*) In darkest England and the way out.

c. Phrases. *to hold, keep* (a certain) way: to follow it without deviation. *to know one's way around* (or *about*): to know how to get from place to place in a neighbourhood; *fig.* to know how to act in any emergency; to have shrewdness born of experience. *to light (a person) the way*: to hold out a light to enable a person to direct his course. † *there lies your way*: please to go away. † *here lies our, your way*: it is time to go. *everything coming* (or *going*) *one's way*: everything happening in

one's favour. *to go separate ways*: to cease to work or operate together and follow different paths.

For *to ask, find, lose, miss the way, one's way, to feel* (†*out*) *one's way, to clear, lead, show, stop the way*, see those verbs.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 161 Ðan þe safarinde men seð þe sa stere, hie wuten sone wuderward hie sullen weie holden. c 1386 CHAUCER *Man of Law's T.* 709 This Messenger on morwe whan he wook Vn to the Castel halt the nexte way. 1420 J. STOKES in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. i. 68 To declar vn to zow the tyme of hys comyng, and the weyes also the qwyche he wele holde. 1548 HALL *Chron.*, *Hen. VI.* 173 b, Knowyng by his espials whiche waie therle kept. 1565 [see LIGHT v. 2 4]. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* III. ii. 212 The dore is open sir, there lies your way. 1601 — *Twel. N.* I. v. 216 Will you hoyst sayle sir, heere lies your way. 1606 — *Tr. & Cr.* IV. i. 79 Here lyes our way. 1616 T. DRAKE *Bibl. Scholast.* 29 Contempt. Heere is the doore, and there is the way. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xi, 'Certainly, sir,' said Mrs. MacCandlish, and hastened to light the way. 1867 *All Year Round* 13 July 56/2 In this case the tramp who 'knows his way about' knows what to do. 1903 G. B. SHAW *Maxims for Revolutionists* in *Man & Superman* 242 In moments of progress the noble succeed, because things are going their way. 1903 *Red Bk.* June 167/2 Everything was coming his way. 1921 GALSWORDY *To Let* I. v. 52 'That's a young woman who knows her way about,' he said. 1932 KIPLING *Limits & Renewals* 385 They must be enjoying themselves now at a theatre. Everything's coming their way. [1935 N. L. McCLEUNG *Clearing in West* xix. 152 Jack knew his way around, having been here many times the winter before. . . He drove straight down to Pacific Street to the Farmer's Home.] 1938 *Times* 1 Jan. 10/4 Much was certainly lost when the original directorate decided to go separate ways, as from the separation both parties seem to have suffered. 1943 O. HAMMERSTEIN *Oklahoma!* (1947) 18, I got a beautiful feelin' Ev'rythin's goin' my way. 1957 'R. WEST' *Fountain Overflows* xi. 241 And whatever you could say about my Ma, you couldn't say she didn't know her way about. 1968 H. R. F. KEATING *Inspector Ghote hunts Peacock* vii. 95 That girl was a pretty slick chick. . . She knew her way around. 1973 G. JENKINS *Cleft of Stars* v. 60, I cursed that old rifle for letting me down at the moment when everything was going my way.

† d. ? Guidance, direction. Obs.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 340 þe þridde part of þe Chirche fityþ here aftir Crist, and takip ensaumple and weie of him to come to hevene as he cam. 1450-1530 Myrr. *Our Ladye* III. 307 Lyghte to the blynde, way to the croked.

e. *to go the wrong way*: of food or drink, to go into the windpipe instead of the gullet when being swallowed.

1764 *Phil. Trans.* LV. 42 An acquaintance. . . was killed by a piece of chesnut, which went the wrong way, as we commonly express it. 1860 HUGHES *Tom Brown Oxf.* iv, In a constant sort of mild epileptic fit, from laughter, and wine going the wrong way. 1860 O. W. HOLMES *Elsie Venner* vii. (1887) 94 He's swallered somethin' the wrong way.

f. Mode of transport.

1708 *Caldwell Papers* (Maitl. Club) I. 214, I have inquired what way my goods may safest be sent, and am told that by Holstein ships.

g. *Way of the Cross* (= eccl. L. *Via Crucis*): a series of images or pictures representing the 'Stations of the Cross' (see STATION sb. 23), ranged round the interior of a church, or on the road to a church or shrine; also, the series of devotions prescribed to be used at these stations in succession.

1868 WALTOTT *Sacred Archæol.* 554 The stations of the way of the cross . . . are— (1) the condemnation of our Lord; (2) Christ bearing His cross; (3) [etc.].

5. a. Course or line of actual movement.

1382 WYCLIF *Prov.* xxx. 19 The weie of an egel in heuene, the weie of the shadewe eddere on a ston, the weie of a ship in the myd se. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* VII. 327 Our way is Serpent like. 1665-6 *Phil. Trans.* I. 6 At what Angle the Way of the Comet cuts the Æquator. 1683 HOOKE in *Birch Hist. Roy. Soc.* (1757) IV. 231, I shewed an instrument. . . by which the way of a ship through the sea might be exactly measured. 1715 DESAGULIERS *Fires Impr.* 146 The winding Lines. . . shew the way of the Air in different Constructions of Chimneys. 1735 SOMERVILLE *Chase* IV. 431 See there he dives along! Th' ascending Bubbles mark his gloomy Way. 1868 LOCKYER *Elem. Astron.* VII. (1879) 261 The direction of the Earth's motion in its orbit, called the Earth's Way.

† b. The wake of a vessel. Obs.

c 1565 J. SPARKE *Sir J. Hawkins' 2nd Voy.* in *Hakluyt* (1589) 535 [The alligator] plunged into the water, making a streamle like the way of a boate. c 1635 CAPT. N. BOTELER *Dial. Sea Services* (1685) 300 In speaking of the Wake of a Ship. . . You said that it was also called the Way. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Way of a Ship*, the smooth Water that she makes a-stern when under Sail.

c. Engraving. (See quot. 1891.)

1874 WILLSHIRE *Anc. Prints* iii. 96 This operation. . . consists in rocking the cradle to and fro in certain directions or 'ways', determined by a plan or scale that enables the engraver to pass over the plate in very many directions without any one of them being repeated. 1891 *Adeline's Art Dict.*, *Way* (Engrav.) the series of parallel paths hewn out by the rocker on a mezzotint is technically termed a *way*.

6. a. In generalized use: Opportunity for passage or advance; absence of obstruction to forward movement; hence *fig.* freedom of action, scope, opportunity. In various phrases, as *give way* (see GIVE v. 49), *have way* (see 24), *make way* (see 25); also ellipt. *way!* (= 'make way').

a 1400-50 *Bk. Curtasye* 277 In *Babees Bk.*, 3if þou go with a-noper at þo gate, And 3e be bothe of on astate, Be curtasye and let hym haue þe way. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 188 If any vulgar fellow meet them, they presently shake and vibrate their Swords. . . and so obtaine the way without opposition. 1714 in *Jrnl. Friends Hist. Soc.* (1918) 29 Having

seen the comfort of our labours I found my way opened for a Return [sc. home]. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* cii, Poor rivals in a losing game, That will not yield each other way. 1898 A. BALFOUR *To Arms* v, Once or twice I saw a courier flying north, . . . and clearing the road with a loud shout of 'Way, way!'

b. in legal documents sometimes equivalent to RIGHT OF WAY.

1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. iii. 35 A fourth species of incorporeal hereditaments is that of ways; or the right of going over another man's ground. 1790 DURNFORD & EAST *Cases K.B.* III. 766 The plaintiff. . . by reason of his possession thereof was entitled to a certain way from the said messuage unto into through and over a certain close of the defendant &c. unto and into the king's common highway &c. and so back again &c. 1803 C. BARTON *Elem. Convey.* (1821) III. 180 If a copyholder has had time out of mind, a way over another's copyhold. 1832 *Act 2 & 3 Will IV*, c. 71 §2 No Claim which may be lawfully made at the Common Law, by Custom, Prescription, or Grant, to any Way or other Easement, [etc.].

7. a. Travel or motion along a particular route or in a particular direction. *to take* (a place, etc.) *in one's way*: to visit in the course of one's journey.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 16 Læcedom gif mon on langum wege teorige. a 1400 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon Ms.* xlvi. 121 3if þou haue eny wey to wende, I rede þou here a masse. . . In þe Morennyng. 14. . . *Tundale's Vis.* (Cott. MS.) 42 But Tundale hadde a harde waynyng, For as he yn a transyng lay Hys sowle was in a dredefull way, There as hit sawe mony a hydwyse payne Ere hit come to þe body agayne. c 1430 *Chev. Assigne* 220 The grypte eypur a staffe in here honde & on here wey strawȝte. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 262 They were well onward on their way toward Gascoyn. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* IV. iii. 92 Belike his wife acquainted with his fits, On purpose shut the doores against his way. 1600 E. BLOUNT tr. *Conestaggio* 230 The ioints thereof [sc. of the boats] were so shaken and open with the waie. 1617 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Three Weeks Observ.* B 1, We past the way away by telling tales by turnes. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* III. 714 Our way we bend To Pallas. 1735 JOHNSON *Lobo's Abyssinia, Descr.* xi. 111, I left the place of my Abode, and took in my way four Fathers, . . . so that the Company. . . was five. 1741 C'TESS POMFRET in *C'tess Hartford's Corr.* (1805) III. 166 Here we left the shore, but continued our way on very good roads, till [etc.]. 1777 EARL CARLISLE in *Jesse Selwyn & Contemp.* (1844) III. 228 As to our motions, . . . We may take Chatsworth in our way. 1779 STORER *Ibid.* IV. 242, I shall look in upon you at Matson in my way. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xl. The attendants on the execution began to pass the stationary vehicle in their way back to Carlisle. 1827 — *Highl. Widow* i, There was some originality in the man's habits of thinking and expressing himself. . . which made his conversation amuse the way well enough. a 1863 FABER *Hymn*, 'I was wandering', As He came along His way.

b. Qualified by poss. pron., the word often occurs as object or as adverbial accusative to the verb *go* (see GO v. 21 b) and its synonyms, †*fare*, †*fere* (see FARE v. 1, FERE v.), *wend*, etc. From an early period *my, his* (etc.) *way* in these collocations were often nearly equivalent to 'away', and with this weakened sense they were formerly used with other verbs of motion, as *flee* (see FLEE v. 1 d), *run* (see RUN v. 34), *come, pass, ride*. In present literary use *to go, wend one's way* survive as archaisms; mod. dialects have only the imperatives *go, come your (thy) way* (or *ways*: see 23 b).

c 1205 [see FLEE v. 1 d]. c 1205 LAY. 25954 Ich wulle faren minne wai. a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 308 þe hauec folȝeþ gode rede & fliȝt his wei & lat him grede. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1429 Eliezer is went his wei. a 1325 *Prose Psalter* xviii. 6 He ioyed as a giant to erne his waye. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 94 'Ryd thanne forth thi wey', quod sche. a 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 133 Furpe on his fete withouten fole he passis his way. a 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* x. 14 Yef ye fare rudely and be cruell with hym [the hawk], he will fle his way and neuer come atte you. 1487 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 167 The Kyng. . . muste flee hys weye owte of the contrey. 1678 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* I. 90 Then she railed on me, and I went my way. 1772 CUMBERLAND *Fashionable Lover* II. 23 Go your way for a simpleton, and say no more about the matter. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xviii, As he wended his way to the Peacock. *Ibid.* xxvi, Mr. Weller went his way back to the George and Vulture.

c. In the Bible phrase *to go the way of all the earth* (Josh. xxiii. 14, 1 Kings ii. 2) meaning 'to die'. Also in erroneous forms (due to confusion with other Bible passages), *the way of all flesh, of all living*. (*The way of all flesh* has sometimes been used to mean the experience common to all men in their passage through life.)

A passage (dated 900) in Birch's *Cartul. Sax.* II. 241 'Quando Ælfred rex. . . viam vniverse carnis adiit', shows that the substitution of 'of all flesh' (*universa carnis*) for 'of all the earth' (*universa terræ*) was current in med. Latin. The reading of the Douay Bible (quot. 1609) suggests that the substitution must have found its way into some printed copies of the Vulgate; also, the Plantin Concordance (1642) reads *carnis* s.vv. *Caro* and *Ingredior*, though elsewhere the two passages are cited with the reading *terræ*.

1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV.* v. ii. 4 Hee's walk'd the way of Nature, And to our purposes, he lues no more. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) 1 *Kings* ii. 2, I enter into the way of all flesh [Vulg. *universa terræ*]. *Ibid.*, *Josh.* xxiii. 14. 1611 HEYWOOD *Golden Age* III. i. F 4 b, If I go by land, and mis-carry, then I go the way of all flesh. If I go by sea and mis-carry, then I go the way of all fish. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* I. v. ¶ 10, I heard that Don Rodrigo had gone the way of all flesh. 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz*, Mr. Watkins Tottle i, He pardoned us off-hand, and allowed us something to live on till he went the way of all flesh. 1887 *Murray's Mag.* Sept. 422 His former retainer, Phil Judd, had long gone the way of all flesh, however seasoned.

jocularly. 1607 DEKKER & WEBSTER *West-w. Hoe* II. ii, I saw him euen now going the way of all flesh (thats to say) towards the Kitchin.

d. In verbal phrases with the sense 'to effect a forward movement by the action denoted by the verb', e.g. in *to force*, *push*, *squeeze one's way*; also occas. with the sense 'to accompany one's advance by the specified action'.

1694 ATTERBURY *Serm.*, *Isa.* lx. 22 (1726) I. 101 In this manner the Prophet of the East hew'd out his way by the power of the Sword. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 843 The slow creeping Evil eats his way, Consumes the parching Limbs, and makes the Life his Prey. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) VIII. 137 McDonald, being surrounded, attempted to fight his way thro', and wounded his man. 1750 GRAY *Elegy* 3 The plowman homeward plods his weary way. 1770 GOLDSM. *Des. Vill.* 42 No more thy glassy brook reflects the day, But, choked with sedges, works its weedy way. 1833 [see ELBOW v. 4]. 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Boz. Hosp. Patient*, We . . . entered the office, in company with . . . as many dirty-faced spectators as could squeeze their way in. — *Ibid.*, *Streets—Night*, The muffin-boy rings his way down the little street. 1859 — *T. Two Cities* II. iii, The virtuous servant, Roger Cly, swore his way through the case at a great rate. 1883 WHITELAW *Sophocles, Oed. Col.* 717 The oar-blade wings its wondrous way, Sped by stout arms. 1892 LADY F. VERNEY *Verney Mem.* I. 3 If enemies forced their way into the house. 1897 J. L. ALLEN *Choir Invisible* II, He failed to urge his way through the throng as speedily as he may have expected.

†e. A journey, voyage; a pilgrimage. *lit.* and *fig.* Also = EYRE. *Obs.*

With quot. c. 1325 cf. OF. 'faire une voie a Saint Jacques' quoted by Du Cange (s.v. *Via*) with date 1368.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 350 þauh heo beon ine worldliche weie, as ich seide er, of pilegrimes, auh habbed hore heorte euer toward heouene. c. 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 53 It was a man . . . That til sain Jamis hit [= *hight*, promised] the way. 1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* xxiv. 21 Wilnyng to wite whether the Lord had maad his weye welsom [Vulg. *utrum prosperum iter suum fecisset Dominus*], or noon. ?a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 553 He wyllte wyghtlye in a qwhyte on his wayes hye. c. 1400 *Three Kings Cologne* (1886) 56 When þey had spoke togedir and euerych of hem had tolde his purpos and þe cause of his weye. a 1500 in *Arnolde's Chron.* (1502) Bijb, That the citezens may recorde ther libarteis afore the kingis Justicis and mynystres what so euer notwythstanding Statutis of the Wey or domes in the contrey made or shewyd oute. *Ibid.* Cvj, And that the forsayd Citezens in the weys of Justice to the tour of London fro hensforward goyng, that they bee not lad by the lawes by which they were ledde in the Weys holden in the tymes of John and herry Somtyme kyng of englande.

†f. *the way's end*: *lit.* the end of the journey; *fig.* the completion of a process. *Obs.*

1526 in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 219 It shall be lawfull for the purveyour . . . to take . . . such Poultrey stuff . . . paying unto them such prices . . . as the said purveyour . . . should have paid therefor at the wayes end. 1528 TINDALE *Obed. Chr. Man* 141 b, Thou must therfore goo alonge by the scripture as by a lyne, vntyll thou come at Christ, which is the wayes ende and restynge place. 1662 PETTY *Taxes* 84 The one [stuff] wanting nothing but tacking up, to be at its ways end; and the other tayloring . . . and several other particulars.

g. *to hold, keep one's way* (cf. 4 c): *to travel without interruption; fig.* to continue one's course of action, *to 'keep going'*. † *to hold, keep way*: to keep pace (const. *with* or *dative*).

c. 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xi. (*Simon & Jude*) 326 Syne to þe eddris can þai sa; 've commawnd þow to hald þour va'. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* III. ii. 1 Nay keepe your way (little Gallant) you were wont to be a follower, but now you are a Leader. 1599 — *Much Ado* I. i. 144, I would my horse had the speed of your tongue . . . but keepe your way a Gods name, I haue done. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. vii. §2. 25 It seemeth best to keepe way with Antiquities, *vsque ad aras*. 1625 — *Ess.*, *Fortune* (Arb.) 377 When there be not Stonds, nor Restiuenesse in a Mans Nature. But that the wheelies of his Minde keepe way with the wheelies of his Fortune. 1640 YORKE *Union Hon.*, *Battles* 63 She . . . had her fore mast broken off, which so hindred her sayle, that shee was unable to keepe way with the Fleete. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 1 It flies so far, that no bird . . . but a Woodcock, can hold way with it. 1708 *Constit. Watermen's Co.* 82 All plying to keep Way, on forfeiture of oo. oo. 06. 1726 SHELVOCKE *Voy. round World* 2, I did not doubt but that I should be able to hold him away. 1818 TUCKEY'S *Narr. Exped. R. Zaire* Introd. p. xxvii, In running . . . from the Nore to the North Foreland, . . . she kept way with the transport. 1827 SCOTT *Surg. Dan.* xiii, The . . . reeds of the jungle were moving like the ripple of the ocean, when distorted by the course of a shark holding its way near the surface. 1848 DICKENS *Domby* x, People who have enough to do to hold their own way . . . had better be content with their own obligations and difficulties.

†h. *by the way of my soul* (as an oath): by my soul's salvation. *Obs.*

1460 *Paston Lett.* I. 522 For be the weye of my sowle, this lond wer uttirly on done.

i. *Naut.* Progress (of a ship or boat) through the water; rate of progress, velocity; impetus gained by a vessel in motion. *to freshen way*: see FRESHEN v. 3.

Cf. *under way* (38), from which this sense was perh. evolved.

1663 DAVENANT *2nd Pt. Siege of Rhodes* II. i, Those who withstand The Tide of Flood . . . Fall back when they in vain would onward row: We strength and way preserve by lying still. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* IV. vi. 160 If you sail against a Current, if it be swifter than the Ship's way, you fall a Stern. 1744 M. BISHOP *Life* 15 She stood away for Brest, and we . . . fired a Chase Gun, but we fired too soon, for we lost Way and she gained. 1757 *Phil. Trans.* L. 34 The sea was rough, and the yacht had great way. 1764 J. BYRON in *Hawkesw. Voy.* (1773) I. 23 On the 7th, I found myself much farther to the northward than I expected, and therefore supposed the ship's way had been influenced by a current. 1860 HUGHES *Tom Brown Oxf.* xiii, Now mind,

boys, don't quicken, . . . four short strokes to get way on her, and then steady. 1885 *Law Rep.* 10 P.D. 101 She ran into the *Nio* before her way could be stopped. 1889 JEROME *Three Men in Boat* ix, We can't steer, if you keep stopping. You must keep some way on the boat. 1899 F. T. BULLEN *Log of Sea-waif* 27 By the time our way was exhausted, about ninety fathoms had been paid out on the first anchor.

transf. 1857 DICKENS *Dorrit* I. xiii, A . . . short dark man came into the room with so much way upon him, that he was within a foot of Clennam before he could stop. 1911 *Times* 22 Aug. 8/2 He shut off his engine and by so doing took the 'way' off the biplane. 1914 *Contemp. Rev.* Nov. 680 The train gathered way.

j. Colloq. phr. *on the (or one's) way out (or down)*: going down in status, position, estimation, or favour; similarly with *in* or *up*, expressing the opposite sense.

1937 *Time* 25 Jan. 12/3 Every time one of them has called on the President and emerged smiling, rumor has whispered throughout Washington that the other was 'on his way out'. 1938 *Sat. Rev.* (U.S.) 17 Sept. 17/1 The thrill of being on the way up, of being prominent, being envied. 1938 H. L. ICKES *Diary* 5 Nov. (1955) II. 497 France is but little better than a third-rate power and is on the way down. 1955 A. L. ROWSE *Expansion Eliz.* Eng. i. 27 The Scottish king could well afford to make the concession: she was on her way out, he was on his way in. 1960 *Guardian* 9 Dec. 8/5 Sunrise yellows and pinks are definitely on the way in. 1962 in R. JARRELL *Sad Heart at Supermarket* 92 Poetry is on the way out. 1975 D. BAGLEY *Snow Tiger* xx. 163 This is the last job I'll hold as chief engineer. If I lose it I'll be on the way down — I'll be assistant to some smart young guy who is on his way up. 1980 A. SCHOLEFIELD *Berlin Blind* I. 5 Calland was a good-looking young man on the way up.

8. a. Distance travelled or to be travelled along a particular route. Hence (with adjs. *long*, *short*, *good*, *great*, *little*), a distance between places or to a place; often as advb. accusative. Also with *off*. Cf. HALFWAY.

a little goes a long way and varr.: see GO v. 43 c, LITTLE sb. 4. † a mile of way: = 'a mile away' (*obs. rare*).

c. 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* I. xxiii, Hiȝ . . . sumne dæl ðæs wegæs gefaren hæfdon. c. 1000 Ep. *Alexandri* in Cockayne *Narratiuncula* (1861) 25 Ða ondswardodon hie mec & sægdon þ̅ n̅ære mara weg þonne meahthe on tyn dagum geferan. c. 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) viii. 32 It's a grete way betwene pam. 1535 COVERDALE *Kings* XIX. 7 Stonde vp, and eate, for thou hast a grete waye to go. 1551 T. WILSON *Logic* II. I vii b, It is no good argument, if I se a tree a good way from me, to say, it is a tree, therefore it is an Apple tree. 1885 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* III. viii. 82 b, Trauailing both day and night. [they] do dispatch more way then the best horse . . . coulede doe. 1588 SHAKS. *L.L.L.* III. 57 The way is but short, away. 1590 SPENSER *P.Q.* I. i. 28 Long way he travelled before he heard of ought. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* v. 176 There came a man, and two women swimming to vs, more then a mile of way. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 36 The Sand-banks . . . reach out a good way into the Sea. 1667 SPRAT *Hist. Royal-Soc.* 250 A Chariot-way-wiser, measuring exactly the length of the way of the Chariot or Coach to which it is apply'd. 1697 C'tess D'Aunoy's *Trav.* (1706) 44 They commit these Villanies hard by a Sanctuary, so have the less way to an Altar. 1711 BUDGELL *Spect.* No. 77 ¶ I, I saw bim squirt away his Watch a considerable way into the Thames. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xxxvi, I must ask the favour of your company a little way. 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz.* *Pawnbroker's Shop*, It is a low, . . . dusty shop, the door of which stands always doubtfully, a little way open. 1844 BROUGHAM *Alb. Lunel* I. ii. 39 The Marchioness's walk seldom lasted less than an hour, so that she must have some way to go. 1856 F. O. MORRIS *Brit. Birds* V. 8 Ventriloquism . . . making the sound at one moment appear close to the listener, and the next a long way off. 1882 BESANT *All Sorts* xxi, But the village of Davenant is not a great way off. 1898 FLOR. MONTGOMERY *Tony* 18 She stood a little way from the door.

fig. 1744 HARRIS *Three Treat.* I. (1765) 18 And now then, continued he, as we have gone thus far, and have settled between us what we believe Art to be; shall we go a little farther, or is your Patience at an end? Oh! no, replied I, not if any thing be left. We have walked so leisurely, that much remains of our Way.

†b. For a mile way, a furlong way, meaning the time which it takes to go that distance, see MILEWAY, FURLONG b. *Obs.*

c. In advb. phrases used figuratively. (by) a long way: qualifying a comparative, = 'far' (better, etc.). at the least way(s): see LEASTWAYS. † a great way: to a great extent. † a foul way out: miserably far from success. some way: for some distance (in time). to go a long or great way: (a) see GO v. 43 c, d; (b) to be in agreement with someone. all the way: completely; cf. senses 8 e, f below.

1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* I. i. 112, I loue him for his sake, And yet I . . . Thinke him a great way foole. 1601 — *Jul. C.* II. i. 107 Heere, as I point my Sword, the Sunne arises, Which is a great way growing on the South. 1601 — *Twel. N.* II. iii. 201 If I cannot recouer your Neece, I am a foule way out. 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* 484 Why, forsooth, so much ado, why such a vast way about, to obtain a few Verses? 1850 LADY LYTTLETON *Let.* 12 June (1912) 401, I cannot quite enter into his politics. . . . But a very great way I go along with him. 1859 DARWIN *Let.* Nov. (1887) II. vi. 224 Also from Quatrefages, who is inclined to go a long way with us. 1859 T. HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* iv, in *Macmillan's Mag.* Dec. 102/1 He is more of a gentleman by a long way than most. 1874 SWEET in *Trans. Philol. Soc.* 1873-4. 516 The most characteristic features of Middle English, as, for instance, *ii* and *uu*, were preserved some way into the sixteenth century. 1890 W. E. NORRIS *Misadventure* xiv, Bligh, who was his junior by a long way. 1973 'N. CARTER' *Spanish Connection* x. 112 I'm saying I can't buy your story all the way, Corelli.

d. all the way from — to —: (a) throughout the specified interval, at every point in it; (b)

U.S., (estimated, etc.) at any amount between the specified quantities.

(a) 1791 R. MYLNE *2nd Rep. Thames Navig.* 10 There is the finest navigable Water, all the Way from Mr. Tovey's Meadows to Clieve Lock. 1966 *Listener* 5 May 643/2 The peak age [for crime] is during the last year at school. . . . The rate is fairly high all the way from twelve to twenty.

(b) 1878 J. H. BEADLE *Western Wilds* xxxi. 493 The value of the booty taken has been estimated all the way from \$150,000 to \$300,000. 1931 G. T. CLARK *Leland Stanford* xi. 365 The amount said to have been wagered . . . has been variously stated all the way from \$5,000 to \$50,000.

e. to go all the way, the whole way: (a) to continue a course of action to its conclusion; *spec. (slang)*, to engage in sexual intercourse (with someone), as opposed just to fondling; (b) to agree completely with someone.

1915 J. C. POWYS *Visions & Revisions* 12 If you lack the courage, or the variability, to go all the way with very different masters, and to let your constructive consistency take care of itself, you may become, perhaps, an admirable moralist; you will never by a clairvoyant critic. 1922 H. J. LASKI in *Holmes-Laski Lett.* (1953) I. 412, I can't go all the way with it, for if it was as a business man that the tyrant found the path to power I should have thought there would have been mention of it in Aristotle. 1924 P. MARKS *Plastic Age* xiv. 151 'Wonder if Janet would have gone the whole way,' flitted across his mind. 1927 H. T. LOWE-PORTER tr. *Mann's Magic Mountain* I. iii. 78 'Am I right?' 'You certainly are, I can go all the way with you there.' 1961 L. P. HARTLEY *Two for River* 49 I'd sooner go the whole way with somebody than natter with them at a tea-table. 1970 W. J. BURLEY *To kill Cat* x. 186 The things we found in her room! I mean it was obvious she was going all the way and her not fifteen! 1975 *Listener* 30 Oct. 574/4, I am not sure that I go all the way with Mr Miller in some of his analysis. 1979 R. JAFFE *Class Reunion* (1980) I. i. 24 She would go to medical school. . . . She didn't know if she would have the guts to go all the way: intern, resident, actually practice medicine. *Ibid.* vi. 86 They would do as much as they could without either removing the rest of her clothes or going all the way.

f. to come or go a long way (with personal subj.: for impersonal subj. see GO v. 43 c, d): to achieve much, to make much progress; to have a long way to go, etc., to be far short of some accomplishment; so a long way from, far short of, much inferior to.

1917 H. J. LASKI in *Holmes-Laski Lett.* (1953) I. 121 Your bretheren [sic] . . . have still a long way to go before they understand the meaning of a certain dissent in *Adair* v. *U.S.* 1922 W. S. MAUGHAM in *Pearson's Mag.* Oct. 320/2 He had come a long way since then. 1925 *New Yorker* 5 Sept. 11/3 Which is another way of saying that he will go a very long way. 1933 F. BALDWIN *Innocent Bystander* viii. 150 Sherry had a long way to travel before she would be a Fontanne or a Cornell. 1935 H. L. MENCKEN *Let.* 4 Jan. (1961) 386 You must yet go a long way, of course, before you are eligible to it. 1940 *Chatelaine* July 37/2 Pat and Rosemary have come a long way; they started their careers with Fred Waring's Pennsylvanians and ended up stars in one of the largest motion picture studios in the world. 1957 *Practical Wireless* XXXIII. 684/2 The system is a very long way from Hi-Fi, but is sufficient for the transmission of speech. 1966 *Seventeen* July 140/3 Society seems to have come a long way since the days of the Puritans, and now we're up to topless bathing suits. 1977 P. BAEZL *Ethics & Belief* vii. 79 Man has still a long way to go before he exercises his freedom responsibly and responsively.

9. a. Direction of motion, relative position, or aspect. Chiefly in advb. phrases, as *this way* (= hitherwards), *my way* (= towards me, into my neighbourhood), *that way*, *which way*, *all ways*, etc.

In early use *way* often followed a local name or a sb. preceded by *to* with the force of the suffix *-ward*. In mod. colloquial and esp. rustic speech expressions like (*down*) *Essex way* (i.e. in Essex or its neighbourhood) are common.

For the right way, the wrong way, in uses belonging to this sense, see those adjs.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 257/3 þe fixses þat þar-in er stade, . . . Til erth wai [Gött. Till erdward] þan sal þai fle. 1573-80 TUSSEER *Husb.* (1878) 103 In Cambridge shire forward to Lincolne shire way, the champion maketh his fallow in May. 1591 SHAKS. *Hen VI.* III. iii. 52 Oh turne thy edged Sword another way. 1605 — *Macb.* IV. i. 45 By the pricking of my Thumbe, Something wicked this way comes. 1607 — *Cor.* I. iii. 8 When you walk with comelinesse pluck'd all gaze his way. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* VI. 276 From whence we saw . . . to the Westward, in the way of Egypt, the Castle of . . . Elisha. a 1654 SELDEN *Table-T.* (Arb.) 67 As take a straw and throw it up into the Air, you shall see by that which way the Wind is. 1680 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* xiv. 235 The Work must run always one way. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* XI. 1123 Tbis way and that his winding Course he bends. 1744 M. BISHOP *Life* 190 Our advantageous Ground was the Destruction of a great many Thousands of the French, for we had them all Ways, Front, and Rear, and Flank. 1800 LATHOM *Dash of Day* I. iii, I seldom come your way now. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxiii, Janet . . . ventured to ask her lady, which way she proposed to direct her flight. 1841 THACKERAY *Gr. Hoggarty Diamond* II, As it was a very fine night, [we] strolled out for a walk West End way. 1846 JAMES *Stepmother* xxxviii. II. 106 The instant he entered — though the servant said, 'this way, sir,' and walked on towards the opposite door — Mr. Morton's visitor stopped, bowed to the ladies, [etc.]. 1850 NEWMAN *Difficulties Anglicans* I. ii. (1891) I. 55 Drive a stake into a river's bed, and you will at once ascertain which way it is running. 1853 LYTTON *My Novel* VI. xix, The first time you come my way you shall have two glasses of brandy-and-water. 1873 RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* xxxiii. 2 When last I was up Huntly Burn way, there was no burn there. 1878 TRELAWNY *Rec. Shelley* etc. I. 167 A vehement exclamation . . . from one of the trio of ladies, drew all eyes her way. 1891 'R. BOLDEWOOD' *Sydneyside Sax.* vi, At last I made out a whirlwind coming our way. 1896 GRATIANA CHANTER *Witch of Withyford* xv. 185 Joan she

married Farmer Blake as lives over Molton way. **1902** 'VIOLET JACOB' *Sheep-Stealers* viii, 'Where are you going to now?' . . . 'Down Crishowell way'. **1904** P. LONDON in *Times* 24 Sept. 8/2 We took care not to offend. . . by deviating from the orthodox left-to-right course. . . The 'way of the wine' is a custom which would need no explanation to a Buddhist. **1912** S. H. WARREN in *Jrnl. R. Anthropol. Inst.* XLII. 115 The shaft-hole is bored through the thinnest way of the [stone] blade, so that the cutting-edge comes at right angles to the shaft.

b. fig. in non-spatial applications. that way: in the direction indicated contextually; *spec. (a)* homosexual; *(b)* (const. *about*) in love or infatuated; also (in general sense) *that way inclined, to get that way*.

In colloquial use sometimes in predicative phrases, as *(a little) that way*, approximating to that condition; *(all, quite very much) the other way*.

1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* III. ii. 79 My consent goes not that way. **1603** [see INCLINED *ppl. a. 3a*]. **1605** — *Lear* III. iv. 21 O that way madnesse lies, let me shun that. **a1647** FLETCHER *Lovers' Progr.* I. i, You are Poetical. *Mal.* Something given that way. **1652** HOWELL *Giraffi's Rev. Naples* II. 90 Three Brothers were detected to have a Design that way. **1707** ATTERBURY *Vind. Doctr. Funeral Serm. Bennet* 32 As to the words themselves, there is nothing in them that sounds that way. **1711** ADDISON *Spect.* No. 108 ¶7 Finding his Genius did not lie that Way. **1794** J. H. MOORE *Pract. Navig.* (1828) 179 Suppose the sun's true azimuth S. 17° 45' E. and the magnetic azimuth S. 5° 48' W., required the variation, and which way? **1837** DICKENS *Pickw.* II. 'I'm afraid you're wet.' . . 'Yes, I am a little that way.' **1858** TROLLOPE *Three Clerks* xxvi, You must not compare me with them, . . They are patterns of excellence. I am all the other way. **1859** T. HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* (1861) I. x. 163 Both 'smalls' and 'greats' are sufficiently distant to be altogether ignored, if we are that way inclined. **1882** J. H. BLUNT *Ref. Ch. Eng.* II. 126 Foxe, whose evidence is often one way and his assertions the other. **1885** *Law Times* LXXIX. 161/2 The evidence on the point had in his view been all one way. **1916** A. BENNETT *These Twain* xx. 518 'He simply hates doing a thing straight off.' 'Yes, he is rather that way inclined.' **1922** C. SANDBURN *Slabs of Sunburnt West* 6 How do you get that way? **a1960** E. M. FORSTER *Maurice* (1971) vii. 42 The Greeks, or most of them, were that way inclined, and to omit it is to omit the mainstay of Athenian society. *Ibid.* xii. 62 In his second year he met Risley, himself 'that way'. **1960** WENTWORTH & FLEXNER *Dict. Amer. Slang* 540/2 *That way*, in love. *Usu.* in 'They are that way about each other.' c. 1940. **1961** V. SACKVILLE-WEST *No Signposts in Sea* 82 If I were that way inclined, which I am not, I can imagine falling in love with him myself. **1965** J. P. CARSTAIRS *Concrete Kimono* xxiii. 207 Sharon. Be reasonable. I thought you were 'that way' about Roderick. **1966** 'J. HACKSTON' *Father clears Out* 91 It got that way in the end that I used to look forward to seeing Nolan and his team come lumbering down from the north. **a1967** J. R. ACKERLEY *My Father & Myself* (1968) xvi. 185, I divined that he was homosexual, or as we put it, 'one of us', 'that way', 'so', or 'queer'.

c. Prov. to look nine ways, to look two ways for Sunday: to squint excessively. *to go, look nine ways (at once, at thrice):* expressing the indecision produced by terror or eagerness.

1542 [see NINE A. 3b]. **a1617** BAYNE *On Ephes.* (1643) 253 Some, if a thing come into the head, turne them forth-with to it, as busily as if they would goe nine waies at once. **1649** [see NINE A 3b]. **1869** A. MACDONALD *Love, Law & Theol.* xxi. 451 He has . . a bad squint, so that . . he seemed to be looking two ways for Sunday.

d. the other way about, round: conversely, vice versa; also *the other way, the other way around*.

1834 *Edin. Rev.* Oct. 83 The fault, in the present instance, is the other way. **1879** R. L. STEVENSON in *Cornh. Mag.* Oct. 412 He [sc. Burns] was 'constantly the victim of some fair enslaver'—at least, when it was not the other way about. **1894** 'M. RUTHERFORD' *Cath. Furze* vi, She . . never could recollect whether the verb was conjugated, and the noun declined, or whether it was the other way round, to use one of her favourite expressions. **1914** *Q. Rev.* Apr. 382 Whilst with Hegel the Logic is the *a priori* framework of the whole philosophy, with Eucken it is secondary, adjusting itself to the life-process and not the other way about. **1925** *New Yorker* 28 Mar. 25/2 It is just as good the other way around. **1963** *Christian Century* 9 Jan. 49/1 But the Augustinian, and biblical, position addresses man the other way around: Find God and you will find yourself.

e. one way or (the) other, either way (advb. phr.): in one direction or the other; in the direction of excess or defect, of assent or denial, of confirmation or disproof, etc.

1560 B. HAMPTON in T. Wright *Q. Eliz.* (1838) I. 36 As some as th'ende thereof, either one waye or other, shall be knowne, I will not fayle to move the Quene's Majestie that the same may be [etc.]. **1732** BERKELEY *Alciph.* vi. §5, I should . . be glad to be convinced one way or other. **1860** DICKENS *Uncomm. Trav.* vii, The housekeeper who saw it all . . seemed to have no opinion about it, one way or other. **a1878** B. TAYLOR *Germ. Lit.* 105 There are but a few years' difference between them, either way. **1884** *Law Times Rep.* L. 29/2 The Summary Jurisdiction Act 1879 has no real bearing one way or the other on the question.

f. to have it both ways and *varr.:* to have advantages from two opposed or contradictory standpoints; to make use of alternatives or contradictions as it suits one.

1914 G. B. SHAW *Fanny's First Play* II. 191 Then I suppose what I did was not evil; or else I was set free for evil as well as good. As father says, you cant have anything both ways at once. **1926** F. M. FORD *Man could stand Up* I. ii. 33 An oafish thing to do! To take a school-girl. . . just past the age of consent, out all night in a dog-cart. . . You'd think any man who was a man would have avoided that! Most men knew enough to know that the Woman Pays. . . the school-girl too! But they get it both ways. **1964** C. HODDER-WILLIAMS *Main Experiment* vii. 73 'It was only folklore.' . . 'Yes, but you can't have it both ways. If it frightens you it

must mean something.' **1967** *Listener* 13 Apr. 489/2 So our dual terminology helps us to have it both ways.

†10. Naut. The run or rake of a ship. (Cf. *RAKE sb.*⁴ I, *RUN sb.* 25b.) *Obs.*

1627 CAPT. J. SMITH *Sea Gram.* ii. 10 The meane is the best if her after way be answerable. **1691** T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* 122 The proportion between the way of the Ship cut off at its greatest transverse section, and the way of the same shaped from the same section forward in the usual manner.

III. Course of life or action, means, manner.
11. a. A path or course of life; the activities and fortunes of a person.

The use is mainly of Heb. origin, and is extremely frequent in all English versions of the Bible.

c897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past.* C. xlii, 306 Hie eðað ðone wæsðm hiera ægnes weges [L. *comedit fructus viae suæ* (Prov. i. 31)]. **971** *Blickl. Hom.* 21 Opon leothe is fulfremmednesse weð þe we on feran sceolan, þæt is se rihta geleafa. **c1200** ORMIN 18068 Forr all þe Laferdd Cristess lif & all hiss hallþhe lare, & all hiss weþge, & all hiss werre, [etc.]. **1375** *Cursor M.* 8590 (Fairf.) Of mister was þer wimmen twyn atte led þaire life in way of syn [Cott. wit sike and sin; other texts in sake and sine (synne)]. **1382** WYCLIF *Prov.* xxi. 2 Eche weie of a man riht to hym semeth. **1653** HANE *Jrnl.* (1906) 1 By the Lord's providence who disposeth of all the wayes and actions of man. **1667** MILTON *P.L.* IV. 620 Man hath his daily work . . Appointed, which declares his Dignitie, And the regard of Heav'n on all his waies; While other Animals unactive range And of their doings God takes no account. **1709** PRIOR *Henry & Emma* 395 One Destiny our Life shall guide; Nor Wild, nor Deep our common Way divide. **1750** GRAY *Elegy* 76 They kept the noiseless tenor of their way.

b. pl. Habits of life, esp. with regard to moral conduct.

c825 *Vesp. Psalter* xxxviii. (xxxix.) 1 Ic cweð ic haldu wegas mine ðet ic ne agylte in tungan minre. [Similarly in all later versions.] **1513** MORE *Rich. III* Wks. 39/1 So that euer at length euil driftes dreue to nought, & good plain wayes prosper. **1567** *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 95 Thow sall not follow wickit mennis wayis. **1599** SHAKS, etc. *Pass. Pilgr.* 323 And to her will frame all thy waies. **1675** OWEN *Indwelling Sin* xvii. (1732) 235 His Companions in Sin not finding him in his old Ways, begin to laugh at him. **1832** Hr. MARTINEAU *Manch. Strike* i. 8 Those who knew his ways could easily guess at which of his haunts he might be expected when missing from home. **1852** MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xxxvii, I wish, friend, thee would leave off cursing and swearing, and think upon thy ways. **1857** HUGHES *Tom Brown* I. i, I shall here shut up for the present, and consider my ways. **1887** M. CREIGHTON in Mrs. Creighton *Life* (1904) I. 375 Your letter will give me much food for meditation, and may in time lead to an amendment of my ways.

c. the way or ways of God: the course of God's providence; very common in Bible use.

c825 *Vesp. Psalter* xlv. 17 Rehtwis dryhten in allum wegum his. **1382** WYCLIF *Prov.* viii. 22 The Lord weldide me [sc. Wisdom] in the begynnyn of his weies [so 1535 *Coverdale*; 1611 way]. **1667** MILTON *P.L.* VIII. 413 To attaine The highth and depth of thy Eternal wayes All human thoughts come short, suprem of things. **1738** C'TESS HARTFORD *Corr.* (1805) I. 28 It tells us. . . that a day will come when the ways of Providence will be cleared up.

d. A prescribed course of life or conduct; the law or commandments (of God); also in pl.

a1000 *Andreas* 170 Leode [he] larde on lifes weð. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 6858, I . . sal hald yow lel mi hight, To-quils yee folu mi wais right. **1382** WYCLIF *Job* xxi. 14 The which seiden to God, Go awei fro vs; the kunnyng of thi weies we wiln not. **1786** S. TOLD *Acc. Life* 166, I walked closely in the ways of God. **1879** R. K. DOUGLAS *Confucianism* iii. 72 The Sage . . maintains a perfect uprightness and pursues the heavenly way without the slightest deflection.

e. the Way: in the Acts of the Apostles, a name for the Christian religion (ἡ ὁδός, Vulg. *via*).

In Acts ix. 2, xix. 9, 23, xxiv. 14, 22, the Greek has 'the way'; the only English translation that has the literal rendering in all the passages is the Revised Version of 1881 ('the Way', with capital). In ix. 2 Wyclif, following an error in some MSS. of the Vulgate, has 'this life'; later versions down to 1611 have 'this way'. In xix. 9 and 23 Wyclif, after some MSS. of the Vulgate, has 'the way of the Lord' (so, in verse 9, Tindale 1526 and Geneva 1557); later versions of verse 23 down to 1611 'that way'. In xxiv. 14 Wyclif has 'the sect' (after Vulg. *sectam*), Tindale and Geneva 'that way', Cranmer and 1611 'the way'. In xxiv. 22 Wyclif has 'the way', Geneva 'this sect', and other versions down to 1611 'that way'. In Acts xxii. 4 the Greek has 'this way', which all the English translators render literally.

12. a. A course of action. Often with the phraseology of sense 4, as to go the right, wrong, nearest way.

a1300 *Cursor M.* 29222 For-þi to weind þe seker wai I rede we be in penance ai. **1390** GOWER *Conf.* I. 2, I wolde go the middell weie And wryte a bok between the tweie, Somwhat of lust, somewhat of lore. **c1500** MEDWALL *Nature* (Brandl) I. 342 Yf thou se hym not take hys owne way, Call me cut, when thou metest me a nother day. **1526** *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 9 In this we may knowe, what waye to take, & what waye to leue. **c1530** BERNERS *Arth. Lyt. Brit.* 352, I thinke this is a better waye than all to fyght at ones. **1539** in W. A. J. Archbold *Somerset Reliq. Houses* (1892) 75 Albeyt we have used as many wayes with her as our poore wittes cowde atteyne, yet in the ende we cowde not. . . bring her to any conformitye. **1560** DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 216 Theyr Archebyssshop Herman hathe gon a new waye to worke [L. *inisse novam rationem*]. **a1586** SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. xxii. §8 (1912) 293 He durst not take open waye against them; and as harde it was to take a secrete. **1610** SHAKS. *Temp.* II. ii. 39 My best way is to creepe vnder his Gaberdine. **1616** DRAKE *Bibl. Scholast.* 2 He goeth the wrong way to worke, or to the wood. **1656** COWLEY *Dauides* I. Note 37 There is so much to be said of this subject, that the best way is to say nothing of it. **1693** LOCKE *Educ.* §39 The sooner this Way is begun with Children, the easier it will be for them, and their

Governors too. **1748** SMOLLETT *R. Random* lxii, He told me that I went the wrong way to work.

†b. (One's) best or most advisable course. Obs.

1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* IV. iii. 93 My way is now to hie home to his house, And tell his wife, that [etc.]. **1594** — *Rich. III.* I. i. 78, I thinke it is our way, If we will keepe in fauour with the King, To be her men, and weare her Liuiery. **1603** — *Meas. for M.* v. 280, I will goe darkely to worke with her. That's the way: for women are light at midnight. **1604** — *Oth.* II. iii. 393 And bring him iumpe, when he may Cassio finde Soliciting his wife: I that's the way.

c. to have (get, etc.) one's (own) way: to be allowed to follow or to enforce on others the course of action on which one is resolved; hence *to love, be fond of one's own way*. Cf. 14 i.

1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI.* III. ii. 139 Like one that . . chides the Sea, that sunders him from thence, Saying hee 'le lade it dry, to haue his way. **1611** B. JONSON *Catiline* IV. iii, Had I had my way, He' had mew'd in flames, at home, not i' the Senate. **1622** BACON *Hen. VII* 238 Hee was of an High Mind, and loued his owne Will, and his owne Way. **1748** RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) I. 147 Obstinate, perverse, undutiful Clarissa! . . then take your own way, and go up! **1849** MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* viii. II. 298 Every child knew that his majesty loved to have his own way and could not bear to be thwarted. **1859** TENNYSON *Marr. Geraint* 466, I myself sometimes despise myself; For I have let men be, and have their way. **1859** — *Grandmother* xviii, Kind, like a man, was he; like a man, too, would have his way. **1866** MRS. WHITNEY *Leslie Goldthwaite* xi, I'll . . thank you unutterably, if you'll only let me have my way in this. It will do me so much good, mamma! **1873** MRS. OLIPHANT *Innocent* III. 310 You are . . silly, pig-headed, unreasonable, and more fond of your own way than of anything else in the world. **1885** *Manch. Exam.* 8 June 4/7 If they do not get their own way they will resign. **1893** *Law Times* XCIV. 559/1 If I had had my way, I would have fought every one of these actions.

(b) spec. in phr. to have one's way, to have sexual intercourse with (used chiefly of a man).

1915 CONRAD *Victory* IV. xii. 399 If I had taken you by the throat this morning and had my way with you, I should never have known what you are. **1939** *Ottawa Jrnl.* 23 Aug. 15/2 He might destroy Phil. . . to have his way with Joan. **1961** W. BROWN *Bedeviled* 113 Although she struggled, she was no match for him and he had 'had his way with her'. **1980** E. JONG *Fanny* III. xiii. 440 Thus could Anne Bonny defend herself when she did not fancy a Man, but when she fancied one, she also had her Way with him.

†d. take better way with you: take a more reasonable course. *Obs.*

a1553 UDALL *Royster D.* IV. iii. (Arb.) 65 Let me now treate peace, For bloudshed will there be in case this strife increace. Ah good dame Custance, take better way with you.

13. a. A course of action, a device, expedient method, or means, by which some end may be attained or some danger escaped. Const. To with inf. or sb., of with gerund.

Proverb, *where there's a will there's a way*.

c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 49 þet we mazen mid ure muðe bringen us ut of pisse putte . . and þet þurh preo herde weies þe þus beoð ihaten: *Cordis contritione, Oris confessione, Operis satisfactioe*. **c1400** 26 *Pol. Poems* IV. 36 By al way make hym þi frende. **c1400** *Pety Job* 382 *ibid.* 133, I may nat from thy respecioun By no way, lorde, hyde now me. **c1470** *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 109 As for the nexte corte they hathe founde a way þat ther schull no thyng be do, yn so myche as ye be absent. **a1548** HALL *Chron.*, *Hen. VII.* 50 For after yt tyme there were an hundred wayes practised and invented how at one time or another, to deliver or convey them out of pryson. **1550** CROWLEY *Last Trumpet* 699 Why should not I . . Haue benefices two or thre? Sens thou hast taught me the wei how I may kepe them and blamelesse be. **1606** SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* I. iii. 10 Thou teachest like a foolle: the way to lose him. **1624** DONNE *Devot. x.* (ed. 2) 217 Those are the greatest mischiefs, which are least discerned; the most insensible in their *ways* come to be the most sensible in their *ends*. **a1633** G. HERBERT *Outlandish Prov.* (1640) 730 To him that will, waies are not wanting. **1668** R. STEELE *Husbandm. Calling* v. (1672) 96 The way to have full barns, is to have free hands. **1685** F. CHENEAU (*title*) French Grammar enriched with a compendious and short way to learn the French tongue in a very short time . . ; and a very rare way to find out all the articles, nouns, pronouns [etc.]. **1720** DE FOE *Capt. Singleton* II. (1840) 25 They took waies . . to satisfy us. **1753** RICHARDSON *Grandison* I. ii. 5 And tho' he finds a way, by his sister . . to let Miss Byron know his passion. **1844** BROUGHAM *Alb. Lunel* xvi. II. 176 Against England he is implacable and the only way to ruffle his temper is to praise her. **1849** MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* x. II. 554 He now saw that there was only one way of averting general confusion. **1882** BESANT *All Sorts* xxi, 'Is there no way,' she asked, 'in which he can earn money?' **1892** *Speaker* 3 Sept. 292/2 Mr. Huxley . . can see but one way of arriving at truth; which he calls experience. **1918** *Cornhill Mag.* June 634 Radicals who preached Colonial Self-government as the way and the only way to Imperial Unity.

b. Coupled with the synonymous MEAN sb.: see *WAYS AND MEANS*. Also **†mean way** (see *MEAN a. 2 4*), **†way moyen** (see *MOYEN a.*). Also **†ways and grounds**.

c1400 *Rom. Rose* 4844 Wher they ne may Finde non other mene wey [Fr. *ou nus ne set le moien querre*]. **1430-1** *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 375/2 Upon grete subtilite . . , and colored menes and weyes. **1440** in *Wars Eng. in France* (Rolls) II. 444 For elles youre partie adverse and the saide duc might not godely have founden the moyens and the weyes to have communed to geder to conclude thaire confedracy. **1455** *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 287/2 So the weyes and groundes may be founde and hadde for paiement. **1470** *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 115 Our Traitors . . which daily labour þe weyes moyens at þeir power of our final destruction. **1560** DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 82 This is the onely meane and waye, that is euermore certayne and sure. **1561** T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* II. (1577) N 1 b, Ech honest louer . . vseth so manye meanes and wayes to please the woman whome hee loueth.

†c. to have the way(s): to know how to do something. *Obs.*

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 163 O the right philosophical herte of this prince, who had the waye, euen of his enemies, also to take viltite and profite. *Ibid.* 200 Oh what an horse these folkes dooe marre, while through defaulte of skylle... thei haue not the wayes to handle hym [L. *dum illo per imperitiam... uti nesciunt*].

d. way out of: a means of escape from (a difficulty). Cf. sense 4.

1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 430 Let us... ask ourselves... whether we have discovered a way out of the difficulty.

14. a. Manner in which something is done or takes place; method of performing an action or operation.

c.725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) Q74 *Quocumque modo*, gehwelci wega. **c.1350** *Will. Palerne* 5526 He wold haue doo beter, 3if is witte in eny weizes wold him haue serued. **1450-1530** *Myrr. Our Ladye* i. v. 17 Lyghtnyng hys soule... with the spiritual vnderstondyng of hys wordes & that in tow wayes. **1563** T. GALE *Antidot.* Pref. 2 The methode and way of composition of suche medicines. **1577** B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* II. 72 But are there more wayes then one of plantyng and setting? **1603** SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* III. ii. 112 They say this Angelo was not made by Man and Woman, after this downe-right way of Creation. **1617** MORYSON *Ithin.* i. 67 After dinner we rode in like way two miles, to the City Lowen. **1638** JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 227 As for the things an Artificer shall judge to be worth his pains, he shall not only invent them after the best way, but also after the easiest way. **1651** BAXTER *Inf. Bapt.* 23 There is more ways of teaching then by preaching in a Pulpit. **1669** STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* IV. xvii. 202 A perfect Method and Way of keeping Account. **1687** A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* i. 34. I have said enough of the Turks way of Eating, Drinking and Sleeping. **1711** ADDISON *Spect.* No. 124 ¶4. I may pronounce their Characters from their Way of Writing. **1743** BULKELEY & CUMMINS *Voy. S. Seas* 66 We have found out a new way of managing the Haugh. **1747** MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* i. 4 There are several Ways of making Sauce for a Pig. **1798** SOPHIA LEE *Canterb. T.*, *Yng. Lady's T.* II. 341 She exacted, in consideration of this concession, that he should allow her to do it in her own way. **1827** FARADAY *Chem. Manip.* xxiii. (1842) 586 In many other situations a bad conductor is of service in a similar way. **1860** GEO. ELIOT *Mill on Floss* II. vii. 107 I'm not a-defending him, in no way, for being so hot about th' erigation. **1878** HARDY *Ret. Native* II. ii. (1890) 113 Yet why, aunt, does everybody keep on making me think that I do, by the way they behave towards me? **1895** *Law Times* XCIX. 546/1 Any practical suggestions pointing out in what way assistance may be rendered to students generally. **1897** J. W. CLARK *Barnwell* Introd. 9 A few words on the way in which I was led to undertake the work. **1952** M. R. RINEHART *Pool* (1953) xx. 170 It's no way to talk about a sister, but I've had about all I can take.

†b. Literary style or method. *Obs.*

1632 J. HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Eromena* To Rdr. Aiv, The Authours peculiar way of embellishing it... gained so much on the Italian humour, as it induced divers of that Nobility to procure him to second it... with another Tome. **a.1639** WOTTON *Surv. Educ.* Reliq. (1651) 334 And this is enough for the disclosing of a good Capacity in the popular way; which I have followed, because the Subject is generall. **1671** DRYDEN *Even. Love* Pref. a 1 b, I admire and applaud him where I ought: those who do more, do but value themselves in their admiration of him: and, by telling you they extoll Ben. Johnson's way, would insinuate to you that they can practice it. **1691** WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* II. 641 Five Sermons in five several stiles or waies of preaching. The first in Bishop Andrews way... The second in B. Halls way.

c. In Chemistry and Assaying. the humid, moist, or wet way, the dry way (= F. *voie humide, voie sèche*), processes distinguished by the presence or absence of liquid.

1796 [see DRY a. 11 e]. **1800** tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* I. 398, I am not yet able to give an account... of the results of this analysis by the wet way. **1838** [see HUMID a. c]. **1839** [see MOIST a. 5].

d. Adverbial phrases without prep. See also ANYWAY, SOMEWAY.

Now somewhat rare, the form with *in* being commonly preferred. For *no way* see NOWAY adv.

a.1300 *Cursor M.* 12623 Leue sun, . . . pi fader and i has mani wais Soght pe abute this thre dais. **c.1380** WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 348 Freris... spuylen pe puple many weies by ipocrisie and oþer leesingis. **1526** TINDALE *Heb.* i. 1 God in tyme past diversly and many wayes [Gr. *πολυτρόπως*] spake vnto the fathers by prophetes. **1553** T. WILSON *Rhet.* III. 90 b, When by deuersity of inuention, a sentence is manye wayes spoken. **1560** DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 286 He declareth... how many wayes they have rebelled [L. *quam multis modis rebellant ostendit*]. **1589** HAKLUYT *Voy.* Ep. Ded. ¶5 It hath passed... the censure of the learned phisitian M. Doctor Iames, a man many wayes very notably qualified. **1599** SHAKS. *Much Ado* II. i. 198 What fashion will you weare the Garland off?... You must weare it one way, for the Prince hath got your Hero. **c.1600** — *Som.* xvi. 1 But wherefore do not you a mightier waie Make warre vpon this bloudie tirant time? **1612** PEACHAM *Gentl. Exerc.* III. 167 The Lion... is borne these waies, Rampant, Passant, Saliant, Seisant or couchant. **1651** HOBBS *Leviath.* II. xxxi. 187 God declareth his Lawes three wayes. **1653** WALTON *Angler* x. 187 Some say, they [sc. eels] breed... out of the putrifaction of the earth, and divers other waies. **1659** *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) IV. 122 There Fleetewood, Desborow, with the greatest officers seeke God for counsell and act their owne way. **1682** DRYDEN *Mac Flecknoe* 208 There thou maist... torture one poor word Ten thousand ways. **1695** W. J. tr. *Bossu's Treat. Epick Poem* II. vii. 72 An Action may be entire and compleat two ways. **1780** JOHNSON *Let. to Mrs. Thrale* 4 July, I... hope she will not be too rigorous with the young ones, but allow them to be happy their own way.

e. Coupled with manner. Also in advb. phrases, *all manner of ways, any manner of way* (†ways). Now rare.

1430 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 38/2 The fermys and the frottis in the menc tyme tane in the principale some of na maner of

waye to be contyt. ?**1474** *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 141 The grace of Jhesu, hom I mekely beseche... to preserve your fadyrhod yn alle maner of weyys. **1508** *Reg. Privy Seal Scot.* I. 253/1 Alienatioun thairof in heretage, lyferent, or lang takis forthir than thre jeris, onymaner of way. **1533** GAU *Richt Vay* (S.T.S.) 26 Ane man ma trow ii maner of wais of god. **1654** DOROTHY OSBORNE *Lett.* (1888) 225 My Lady Ruthin... has put a tune to them that I may hear them all manner of ways. **1705** in W. S. PERRY *Hist. Coll. Amer. Col. Ch.* I. 162 Signed; but without the Privity... of Govr Nicholson or his being any manner of ways connected in it. **1718** in *Nairne Peerage Evid.* (1874) 33 In such way and manner as to his Majesty should seem meet. **1720** A. PETRIE *Rules Good Deportm.* (1877) 20 It is rude in Company to break Wind any Manner of Way, tho amongst Inferiors. **1815** SCOTT *Guy M.* xii. O ay, sir, there's nae doubt o' that, though there are mony idle clashes about the way and manner.

f. in his (her, its, their) way: appended to expressions of praise, with the implication that the praise given is to be understood in a limited sense appropriate to the object. *in a way* (colloq. *in a sort of way*): appended to a statement to intimate that it might be taken to imply more than it is meant to do.

1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 43 ¶3 We are all Grave, Serious, Designing Men, in our Way. **1742** RICHARDSON *Pamela* III. 255 You are two beloved Creatures: Both excellent in your way. **1749** in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. 1. 303, I have received from Cairo the Egyptian figures one of which in their way I do not think bad. **1829** SCOTT *Rob Roy* Introd. 1st half, All whom I have conversed with, and I have in my youth seen some who knew Rob Roy personally, gave him the character of a benevolent and humane man 'in his way.' **1835** DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Parl. Sk.*, Jane is as great a character as Nicholas, in her way. **1855** PRESCOTT *Philip II*, i. viii. (1857) 149 The letter of plenipotentiaries... is a model in its way. **1865** MRS. WHITNEY *Gayworthys* xxix, Of all the looks I ever see in a human face, his was the grievest then...; and yet, in a kind of way, it was the grandest. **1878** BROWNING *Poets Croisic* xlviii, Latin verses, lovely in their way. **1885** 'MRS. ALEXANDER' *Valerie's Fate* iii, He is handsome in a way—not elegant and soigné like Captain Grey, but there is something about him [etc.]. **1905** R. BAGOT *Passport* iii. 16 Its apartments, though stately in their way, were neither historic nor [etc.].

g. way of thinking: now usually, a set of opinions or principles characteristic of a party or sect. In earlier use with other senses, e.g. a purpose or intention, a (high or low) level of moral principle.

1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 66 ¶1 Lysander, who is something particular in his Way of Thinking and Speaking, told us, a Man could not be Eloquent without Action. **1737** *Gentl. Mag.* VII. 81 The Thing... was, at the best, but a very mean Action, and argued a low Way of Thinking. **1744** M. BISHOP *Life* 3, I hope he will turn your Heart from this Way of thinking [sc. wanting to go to sea]. **1841** HELPS *Ess., Transaction of Business* (1842) 93 It is often worth while to bestow much pains in gaining over foolish people to your way of thinking. **1891** KIPLING *Light That Failed* xi, More than you will be of that way of thinking, young woman.

h. way of living or life: habits (of an individual or a community) with regard to food, habitation, intercourse, etc. Now also in weakened use: a principle or activity that governs all one's actions; a dominating interest or occupation.

1605 SHAKES. *Macbeth* v. iii. 24 My way of life Is false in the Seare, the yellow Leaf. **1681** RYCAUT tr. *Gracian's Critick* To Rdr. A 8 b, Their Customs and way of living are different to other Nations of Europe. **1729** T. INNES *Crit. Ess.* (1879) 238 The same author... tells us that in his time the Britains were, as to their manners and way of living, partly like to the inhabitants of the Gauls. **1741** C'TESS POMFRET in *C'tess Hartford's Corr.* (1805) III. 369, I have got into as regular a way of life here as I could be in at my own house. **1774** GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VIII. 184 If we examine their way of living, we shall find these insects chiefly subsisting upon others, much less than themselves. **1777** SIR W. JONES *Ess.* i. 180 Since their way of life gives them leisure to pursue those arts. **1898** M. PEMBERTON *Phantom Army* i. vi, That the hour would come when he must lay down the sword... and turn with shame from the old way of life. **1917** H. J. LASKI in *Holmes-Laski Lett.* (1953) I. 104 Education is a way of life and not the collection of information. **1938** *Amer. Jnl. Sociol.* XLIV. 1 (heading) Urbanism as a way of life. **1957** *Times Lit. Suppl.* 1 Nov. 650/5 Democracy has not yet been accepted as a way of life in Germany. **1970** *Daily Tel.* 4 Sept. 5/2 The investigation... is expected to ask searching questions into the safety of supertankers, which have now become a 'way of life'. **1974** *Times* 8 Mar. 23/5 (heading) Hong-kong... Where a quick profit is a way of life. **1981** Q. CRISP *How to become a Virgin* 188 Giving talks to American universities could easily be converted into a way of life.

i. to have everything one's own way, to have it all one's own way: to have one's wishes carried out; to meet with no resistance or opposition. Cf. 12 c.

1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 66 ¶2 Therefore he would have it his Way, and our Friend is to drink till he is carbuncled and Tun-bellied. **1744** M. BISHOP *Life* 107 Never deny him any Thing, for he loves to have every Thing his own Way. **1847** HELPS *Friends in C.* i. viii. 154 That easiness of mind, which is easy because it is tolerant, because it does not look to have everything its own way. **1853** LYTTON *My Novel* iv. vii, That literature admits no controversialists, and the writer has it all his own way. **1858** SEARS *Athan.* xvi. 133 What sort of a world would you make for yourself, if you could have everything your own way?

j. In various phrases. †there is no way but one: death (or ruin) is certain. *no two ways about it or that* (? orig. *U.S. colloq.*): there can be no doubt of the fact. *it is always the way with (him)*: (he) always acts so. *by (or with) his way*

of it (Sc.): according to his account of it. *there is no way* (with dependent clause) (*colloq.*): there is no possibility that; cf. NOWAY adv.

1570 ? TARLTON in *Old Ballads* (Percy Soc. 1840) 82 No horse nor man could passe Of busines small or post, For issue none there was, No way but to be lost. **1586** MARLOWE *1st Pt. Tamburl.* v. ii. 1982 The Souldan and the Arabian king together March on vs with such eager violence, As if there were no way but one with vs. **1599** SHAKS. *Hen. V.* II. iii. 16 After I saw him fumble with the Sheets... [etc.], I knew there was but one way. **1678** DRYDEN *All for Love* Pref. b4, For if he heard the malicious Trumpetter proclaiming his name before his betters, he knew there was but one way with him. **1796-7** JANE AUSTEN *Pride & Prej.* xliii, 'And this is always the way with him,' she added. 'Whatever can give his sister any pleasure, is sure to be done in a moment.' **1818** FEARON *Sk. America* 320 (Thornton s.v. No) You and I have got to dovetail, and no two ways about it. **1834** J. HALL *Kentucky* I. 145 'This has been a powerful hot day.'... 'No two ways about that,' said the hunter. **1842** DICKENS *Amer. Notes* vi, Well, they're [i.e. the cells are] pretty nigh full, and that's a fact, and no two ways about it. **1852** H. ROGERS *Ecl. Faith* (1853) 221 It is too much the way with you objectors to say [etc.]. **1867** MRS. OLIPHANT *Madonna Mary* I. viii. 119 But then that is often the way with those well-off people. **1889** STEVENSON *Master of Ballantrae* ii, Onyway he was a great hand by his way of it, and he up and rebuked the Master for some of his on-goings. **1975** *New Yorker* 1 Dec. 55/2 There is no way a losing candidate can pick himself up and pretend nothing has happened to him. **1977** *Daily Tel.* 10 Oct. 12/8 We are operating an emergency service and there is no way we would strike and let the old folk down. **1978** S. BRILL *Teamsters* x. 380 There was no way he would support the President's reelection. **1978** G. A. SHEEHAN *Running & Being* xiii. 188 He had recognized the bald head and there was no way I was going to beat him.

k. in this way: in colloquial lang. sometimes used vaguely for 'thus' or 'so', when not the manner of an action but the action itself is in question.

1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxviii, I can't let you cut an old friend in this way.

l. (in) one way or (or and) another: by any of various methods, for any of various reasons, in any of various respects. Cf. sense 9 e.

1861 T. HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* I. iii. 40 Being a good whist and billiard player, and not a bad jockey, he managed in one way or another to make his young friends pay well for the honour of his acquaintance. **1923** R. MACAULAY *Told by Idiot* i. v. 23 One way and another, what with papa's friends and mamma's and the children's, a good deal of life flowed into the... house. **1955** L. P. HARTLEY *Perfect Woman* viii. 79 What, after all, had he to tell Alec that mattered so much, one way or another? **1965** M. ALLINGHAM *Mind Readers* xix. 211 We're in for a very busy time, my lad, one way and another. **1973** *Listener* 15 Nov. 661/3, I was quite well educated, one way and another. **1979** A. PRICE *Tomorrow's Ghost* xii. 216 Captain Fitzgibbon wouldn't come back from that last Ulster tour, one way or another.

m. way of looking at it or things: the (personal) perspective from which one views a situation or event, esp. as regards attitudes brought to it or implications seen in it; a point of view.

[1845: see LOOK v. 3 a. **1861** T. HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* III. v. 95 Mary's habits, and thoughts, and ways of looking at and judging of people and things, were much changed.] **1881** H. JAMES *Portrait of Lady I.* xvii. 218, I can't make out that what he tells me about the royal family is much to their credit; but he says that's only my peculiar way of looking at it. **1893** 'L. CARROLL' *Sylvie & Bruno Concluded* ii. 27 It's a new way of looking at it—to me... but it seems a true way, also. **1905** E. G. WHITE *Ministry of Healing* 483 We differ so widely in disposition, habits, education, that our ways of looking at things vary. **1911** D. H. LAWRENCE *White Peacock* II. i. 202 It's one way of looking at things. **1963** D. LESSING *Man & Two Women* 141, I mean to say, you've got to take the rough with the smooth, and there's no other way of looking at it.

n. the way: so that, with the result that. *Ir.* **1899** SOMERVILLE & 'ROSS' *Some Experiences Irish R.M.* v. 118 A couple o' 'dhraws o' th' ash plant across the butt o' the tail, the way I wouldn't blind her. **1912** J. STEPHENS *Crock of Gold* xiv. 225 Be sure and hold him tight... the way we can have a good look at him. **1924** R. MACAULAY *Orphan Island* i. 16 We must see about fermenting some of this fruit-juice, the way we'll get something fit to drink.

o. it's this way: a colloq. formula introducing an oral explanation.

1905 'O. HENRY' *Strictly Business* (1910) But it's this way: Suppose you're a Fifth Avenue millionaire, soaring high. **1938** T. CALDWELL *Dynasty of Death* (1939) I. 385 Well, it's this way, Paul: you see, a number of us must stay at home to make the guns... for our soldiers to use. **1961** *East Anglian Mag.* July 505 'It's this way,' he expounded to his cronies in the know. **1970** [see LOSE v. 1 9 b].

15. In advb. phrases like (in) all ways, (in) any way, (in) one way, (in) more ways than one, etc., the sense of 'manner' (see 14) passes into that of: An aspect, feature, or respect; a point or particular of comparison.

1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* i. iv. 15 His worst fault is that he is giuen to prayer; hee is something peeuish that way. **a.1600** HOOKER *Wks.* (1836) III. 796 That justice exacteth punishment for offending, even after their offences be forgiven them, there is, as it seemeth, proof sufficient more ways than one. **a.1626** BACON *New Atl.* (1900) 38/13 Also we make them differ in Colour, Shape, Activity, many ways. **1630** B. JONSON *New Inn* iv. iii, The Office of a man Thats truly valiant, is considerable Three ways: the first in respect of matter...; in respect of forme...; And in the end [etc.]. **1816** *Edin. Rev.* Dec. 464 The foreign Commissioners had not yet reached St Helena, whose presence in the island may justly have alarmed Sir Hudson, in more ways than one, for the safety of his prisoner. **1885** 'MRS. ALEXANDER' *Valerie's*

Fate v. May you find a companion better in all ways than I could have been! **1893** LE GALLIENNE *Retrospect*. Rev. (1896) II. 21 A teetotaler, however admirable in other ways, is not the fit person to edit Burns. **1895** HARDY *Jude* v. viii. 398 Her loss was a loss to me in more ways than one! **1952** M. R. RINEHART *Swimming Pool* xiv. 129 It's a dead end, in more ways than one.

16. a. A condition regarded as hopeful or the contrary. Chiefly with qualifying adj.: *in a good, bad, forward* (etc.) way. † *to stand in good way*: to be likely to prosper. † *to be in way with*: to be in treaty with (a person) for something. † *to put* (a business) *in a way*: to put in train. (*to put*) *in the* (or *a, that*) *way*: (to make) pregnant; cf. *in the family way* s.v. FAMILY 10 b.

Also *to be in a fair way* (to do something): see FAIR a. 14. **1467** Paston Lett. Suppl. 113 Wer by, I undy[r]stand, . . . all thyng standyth in good way. **1480** Cely Papers (Camden) 49, I am in way w't lyshbryght van whennysbarge for an ij of yowr sarplers. I hope I shall go thorow w't hym. **c1500** in *Joseph Arimath.* (E.E.T.S.) 32 He . . . set bis realme & his housholde in good waye . . . & toke bis Iourney. **1624** in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* (1913) Jan. 129 When he hath put the business in a way, then he [the Secretary] is to go back and take his own place. **1648** GAGE *West Ind.* 219, I am in a good way for salvation. **1691** T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* p. xviii, Timber sufficient for the use of the Navy Royal had now been in a forward way to its sufficient growth. **1698** J. COLLIER *Immor.* *Stage* 211 When ever you see a thorough Libertine, you may almost swear he is in a rising way, and that the Poet intends to make him a great Man. **1726** SHELVOCKE *Voy. round World* 347 People in such a forlorn way are apt to form innumerable apprehensions. **1742** RICHARDSON *Pamela* III. 228 [She] told me . . . that the Way I was in [sc. 'in the family way'], made her love me better and better. *Ibid.* 354 So having congratulated their hopeful Way, and wished them to take care of themselves [etc.]. **1809** WINDHAM *Let.* 23 July in *Sp.* (1812) I. 109 But one of the poor men who were hurt at the fire is dead, and another of them is, I fear, in a bad way. **1817** JANE AUSTEN *Let.* 23 Mar. (1952) 488 Mr's Clement too is in that way again. I am quite tired of so many Children. **1828** CARR *Craven Gloss* s.v., 'To be in a hinging way,' neither well nor ill. **1831** MRS. ARBUTHNOT *Let.* 18 Feb. in C. Arbuthnot *Corr.* (1941) 140 Young Ly. C. is *not in a way*; the old housekeeper wrote to her something about it, & she wrote back word, 'God's will be done.' **1838** DICKENS *Nickleby* xxiii, There was Mrs. Lenville, in a very limp bonnet and veil, decidedly in that way in which she would wish to be if she truly loved Mr. Lenville. **1867** QUEEN VICTORIA *Let.* 25 Oct. in R. Fulford *Your Dear Letter* (1971) 155 Dearest child, why did you not tell me, your own mother, when you first began being in that way? **1871** SMILES *Charac.* i. 26 The nation that has no higher god than pleasure, or even dollars or calico, must needs be in a poor way. **1960** *Pick of Today's Short Stories* XI. 215 They'd both eloped. . . 'I'll bet he put her in the way'. **1980** J. ROSE *Elizabeth Fry* iii. 44 She suspected herself of being pregnant, 'in the way' as she called it.

b. *to be in a way* (with or without specifying adj.): to be in a state of mental distress or anxiety. *dial.* Cf. STATE sb. 2 c.

1855 *Mag. for Young* XIV. 131 She keeps on crying out for her mamma . . . and she is in such a way as I never saw. **1869** A. MACDONALD *Love, Law & Theol.* xvi. 313 But they say she's in a dreedful way. . . She's never yet heerd frae her man [etc.]. *Ibid.* xviii. 354 Sbe'll gae clean distrackit—a hear sbe's in a sair wey about it. **1873** SPILLING *M. Migges* 81 (E.D.D.) Well, then, I was in a way. **1883** FRANCES M. PEARD *Contrad.* xxvi, Mother's in a fine way. **1896** GRATIANA CHANTER *Witch of Withyford* iv. 45, I suppose her was in a proper way about it and fell to crying.

17. Kind, sort, description. Now only in certain phrases. *in the way of*: of the nature of, belonging to the class of, 'in the shape of'. Also, with similar sense, and more frequently, *in the* — *way*, where *way* is qualified by an attributive sb. or an adj. So occas. *in this way* = 'of this kind'.

1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* III. §140 He averred that 'in that way of bill [sc. a bill of attainder] private satisfaction to each man's conscience was sufficient, although no evidence had been given in at all'. **1736** BUTLER *Anal.* Introd., Wks. 1874 I. 4 Though so little in this way has been attempted by those who have treated of our intellectual powers. **1757** FOOTE *Author* 1. Wks. 1799 I. 134 You have nothing in the compiling or index way, that you would intrust to the care of another? *Ibid.* 136 In the year forty-five, when I was in the reasonable way. **1770** LANGHORNE *Plutarch's Lives, Philopæmen* ¶4 From a child he was fond of everything in the military way. **1791** SMEATON *Edystone L.* §94, I could have every thing here, that I could desire in the freestone way. **1797** MRS. A. M. BENNETT *Beggar Girl* (1813) I. 214 In the afternoon tea-way, her bar exhibited the genteel thing. **1809** MALKIN *Gil Blas* I. xii. ¶4, I should want for nothing in the bread and water way! **1823** J. BADCOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 170 Sheet lead, which comes to us in the way of lining round tea-chests. **1835** DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Making a Night of it*, It was his ambition to do something in the celebrated 'kiddy' or stage-coach way. **1837** — *Pickw.* iv, Mr. Solomon Pell, finding that nothing more was going forward, either in the eating or drinking way, took a friendly leave. **1875** FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* (ed. 2) III. xiii. 305 He did a good deal in the way of ravaging. **1875** E. WHITE *Life in Christ* iv. xxvii. (1878) 442 More certainty is attainable respecting some things which Divine Goodness will *not* do, than as to what it *will* do in the way of positive benefaction.

18. a. Kind of occupation, work, or business. Now only more explicitly *way of business*. Formerly also † *way of life* = 'walk of life'.

1690 NORRIS *Beatitudes* (1694) 81 If God would not accept an House of Prayer from a Man of a Military Way and Character, much less will he accept [etc.]. **1711** ADDISON *Spect.* No. 21 ¶8 To place their Sons in a way of Life where an honest Industry cannot but thrive. **1721** *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6020/4 Diapers, Damasks, Huckabacks, and all sorts of . . . Linnens in a Linnen-Draper's Way. **1727** GAY *Begg.* Op. 1.

ix, The Lawyers are bitter enemies to those in our way. **1752** *Lond. Even.-Post* 28–30 May 4/1 We hear that there hath been lately an Order made in some of the Royal Hospitals, that no Governor should serve them in his Way of Business. **1782** MISS BURNLEY *Cecilia* ix. vi, Her mother, she was sure, would never be at rest till he got into some higher way of life. **1787** T. JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) II. 90 The best workmen in this way, acknowledge that his is like a new art. **1791** SMEATON *Edystone L.* §293 This day the plumber completed every thing in his way about the balcony. **1920** *Act 10 & 11 Geo. V* c. 13 §2 (3) In the case of a seller who was in the same way of business before the war.

b. Preceded by an attributive sb. denoting the kind of commodity dealt in.

1760 DERRICK *Let.* (1767) I. 45 The different manufactures of this town, more particularly in the cutlery and toy way. **1766** ENTICK *London* IV. 114 There are several . . . wholesale traders in the haberdashery way. **1786** *Phil. Trans.* LXXVI. 27 note, [He] had some years past the honour to work in the instrument way under the direction of the late Dr Demainbray. **1788** *Ann. Reg., Projects* 93 A gentleman of ability in the steel way. **1838** DICKENS *Nickleby* iv, I am in the oil and colour way. **1841** THACKERAY *Gt. Hoggarty Diamond* ii, It was a new house, but did a tremendous business in the fig and sponge way.

c. *in my* (his, etc.) *way*: = in my (etc.) line; suited to my (etc.) capacity, tastes, or requirements. Chiefly in negative context. Cf. 37 d.

1806 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* i. Introd., Quoting from a dead language looks a little like skulking, and that's not at all in my way, as you know. **1863** DICKENS *Uncomm. Trav.* xvii, One . . . is made angry by my modestly suggesting the possibility of Paris time being more in their way. **a1865** MRS. GASKELL *Wives & Dau.* xiv, I knew it [sc. an agricultural meeting] wasn't much in his way. **1887** BIRRELL *Obiter Dicta* Ser. II. 64 Research was not in his way.

19. a. *in a great, small way*: (living) on a large or small scale of income and expenditure. Also with reference to the magnitude of a business establishment.

c1750 J. NELSON *Jrnl.* (1836) 9 We . . . lived in a good way (as the world calls it), that is, in peace and plenty, and love to each other. **1779** *Mirror* No. 17, I was married, about five years ago, to a young man in a good way of business as a grocer. **1815** JANE AUSTEN *Emma* ii, Having brothers already established in a good way in London. *Ibid.* xxii, The elder sister . . . was very well married, to a gentleman in a great way, near Bristol, who kept two carriages! **1833** CARLYLE in *Fraser's Mag.* July 27/1 Next, however, as another more lasting resource, he forges; at first in a small way. **1849** THACKERAY *Pendennis* viii, It was very right that he should take lodgings in his aunt's house, who lived in a very small way. **1864** *Law Times' Rep.* N.S.X. 719/1 The defendants . . . were contractors and builders in a large way of business. **1885** *Field* 26 Sept. 476/1 Young men . . . go headlong into some big scheme they take into their heads . . . instead of starting cautiously and in a small way.

b. *in a big way*: on a large scale, intensively; (*colloq.*) with great enthusiasm or display; very much, very well. orig. *U.S.*

[**1903** *Dialect Notes* II. 306 *Big way* (to get in a), *v. phr.*, to become excited. 'The preacher got in a *big way* and you could hear him a mile.'] **1927** F. HARRIS *My Life & Loves* III. v. 69, I meant to take up the whole problem of journalism in a big way when I came back. **1932** *N. Y. Times Bk. Rev.* 10 Jan. 17/3 A gangster who calls himself Napoleon and who goes in for crime in a big way. **1936** H. L. ICKES *Diary* 30 June (1955) I. 626 The speech went over in a big way. **1943** J. S. HUXLEY *TVA* vii. 51 Over half a million acres . . . of fishable water . . . are already being taken advantage of in a big way. **1950** C. MACINNES *To Victors* II. 211, I could go for her in a big way. **1955** A. HUXLEY *Let.* 18 Mar. (1969) 738 Amanita muscaria . . . he thinks will open the doors of ESP in a big way. **1958** *Times Rev. Industry* Dec. 57/2 Users of traditional materials are looking to the . . . use of . . . plastics in a big way. **1980** A. MARS-JONES *Lantern Lect. & Other Stories* (1981) 10 The Trust people played hard-to-get until he started bequeathing the property . . . to the Welsh nationalists. *Then* they sat up and took notice In A Big Way.

† **20.** In the 17–18th c. often used for: A particular form of church government or polity. *Obs.*

a1647 [see CONGREGATIONAL 3]. **1648** J. COTTON *Way of Congreg.* Ch. 1. iii. 1 Nor is Independency a fit name of the way of our Churches. **1651** BAXTER *Inf. Bapt.* 145 The Episcopall Party are far more confirmed in their way by it. **1737** WATERLAND *Eucharist* 449 From our own Divines I may next proceed to some learned Foreigners, of the *Lutheran way*. **1750** [see PRESBYTERIAN a. 1].

21. a. The customary or usual manner of acting or behaving.

1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII*, III. i. 157 Why shold we (good Lady) Vpon what cause wrong you? Alas, our Places, The way of our Profession is against it. **1700** CONGREVE *Way of World* v. xiii, Even so Sir, 'tis the way of the World, Sir. **1729** LAW *Serious* C. i. 13 Here you see, that one person has Religion enough, according to the way of the world, to be reckon'd a pious Christian. **1830** tr. *Caillie's Trav. Timbuctoo* I. 94, I tried in vain to discover the origin of this whimsical custom; the only answer I could obtain was, 'It is our way'. **1839** THACKERAY *Fatal Boots* Jan., Living with dukes and peeresses, and writing my recollections of them, as the way now is. **1850** — *Pendennis* lvi, Almost every person [in this story], according to his nature, . . . and according to the way of the world as it seems to us, is occupied about Number One.

b. *pl.* Customary modes of behaviour; usages, customs.

1742 FIELDING *J. Andrews* I. iii, He . . . was . . . as entirely ignorant of the ways of this world as an infant just entered into it could possibly be. **1893** F. T. RICHARDS in *Trail Soc. Eng.* i. 10 Contending parties among the barbarians looked for Roman support, courted it by assuming Roman ways, and invited Roman interference. **1884** W. C. SMITH

Kildrostan 46 We judge a stranger by our home-bred ways, Who, maybe, walks by other rule of right.

22. a. A habitual or characteristic manner of action, behaviour, expression, or the like. Often in collective plural.

it is (only) *his way*: often said of some perverse or annoying habit of behaviour which the friends of the person guilty of it are accustomed to regard with toleration. So proverbially, *Pretty Fanny's way* (after quot. a 1718). † *after my way*: in accordance with my custom.

1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 6 ¶1 Now upon any Occasion, they only cry, 'Tis her Way, and That's so like her. **1709** — *Ibid.* No. 45 ¶6 As it is my Way to write down all the good Things I have heard in the last Conversation to furnish my Paper, I can from this only tell you my Sufferings and my Pangs. **1711** ADDISON *Spect.* No. 90 ¶7, I was, after my Way, in Love with both of them. **a1718** PARNELL *Elegy to Old Beauty* 34 And all that's madly wild, or oddly gay, We call it only pretty Fanny's way. **1748** RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) III. 103 The free dislike I expressed to his ways, his manners, and his contrivances. **1779** *Mirror* No. 25, I was about to be angry; but on such occasions it is not my way to say much. **1779** *Ibid.* No. 47 ¶4 He often indulges in jokes . . . which could not be heard without a blush from any other person; but from Tom, for his way is known, they are heard without offence. **1800** MRS. HERVEY *Mourtray Fam.* II. 269 Henry gone! without our knowing any thing about the letter; and all by your slow ways! **1824** SCOTT *St. Ronan's* i, The exuberant frolics of Meg's temper, which were to them only 'pretty Fanny's way'. **1857** G. A. LAWRENCE *Guy Livingstone* vi, She had the ways of a child petted all its life through. **1865** DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. vi, I ought to have begun with a word of explanation: but it's my way to make short cuts at things. **1871** LOWELL *Pope* Writ. 1890 IV. 15 Dryden, in his rough-and-ready way, has hinted at this in his verses to Congreve. **1884** W. C. SMITH *Kildrostan* 79 He settled near us In the next glen, and lived a sumptuous life, Costly, luxurious, though his ways were coarse. **1899** *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 217 The teacher may observe slow action, wandering eyes, twitchings, awkward ways, or stooping.

b. *pl.* Habits, usual modes of acting (of an animal); † (of a horse) acquired habits, accomplishments.

1706 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4285/8 Stolen or strayed . . . a roan Mare . . . all ber Ways, except Pacing. **1899** W. T. GREENE *Cage-Birds* 68 The Red-sided Tit is nearly akin to the Liothrix, which it resembles in many of its ways.

c. *transf.* Occas. with reference to a thing: A tendency or liability to some particular kind of action.

1883 *Manch. Guard.* 3 Oct. 7/2 A policy has a way of becoming unrecognisable when it is administered by a man who does not believe in it. **1918** *Times Lit. Suppl.* 14 Mar. 122/3 Each of our nerves has a nature of its own and ways of its own.

d. *to have a way with one*: to have a persuasive manner. Also in plural (usually with qualifying word) applied to ingratiating tricks of manner.

1711 R. MARTIN in E. H. Burton *Life Bp. Challoner* (1909) I. iii. 33 Saying yt he'd make a most excellent missionary; he had such an honest way with him. **1840** DICKENS *Old C. Shop* iv, Quilp has such a way with him when he likes, that the best-looking woman here couldn't refuse him if . . . he chose to make love to her. **1872** LEVER *Ld. Kilgobbin* lxxviii, All your little beguiling ways and insinuating tricks. **1877** PATMORE *Unkn. Eros, Departure* 1 It was not like your great and gracious ways! **1901** *Athenaeum* 27 July 120/2 Sticking through thick and thin to the fascinating good-for-nothing who has a way with him.

IV. 23. Uses of *ways* as a singular.

a. The genitive *ways* (OE. *weges*) occurs in many advb. phrases in which it is combined with a preceding pronominal adj. Most of these phrases came to be written as single words, and are treated as such in this Dict.: see ANYWAYS, NOWAYS, OTHERWAYS (OE. *ōðres weges*) and -WAYS suffix. Other similar collocations, now *Obs.* or *dial.*, are *each ways*, *this ways*, *that ways*, *which ways*, *the same ways*, synonymous with 'each way', 'this way', etc. (see 9 a, 9 b, 14 d).

† Occas. also with a prep., as *in each ways*, *by this ways*. **11. . .** O.E. *Chron.* an. 1016, [Hi] wendon him suðweard oðres weges. **c1205** LAY. 18702 Elches weies [c1275 weyes] him wes wa. *Ibid.* 25428 Neoren hit noht cnihtes no pes wæies idihte. **a1225** *Leg. Kath.* 1984 þis pinfulde gin wes o swuch wise iginet, þæt te twa turnden eider wiðward oðer; & anes weis baðe: þe oðer twa turnden anes weis alswa. **a1225** *Juliana* 42 Sei me ȝet witerluket, quod ha, hwuches weis ȝe wurchet ant bicherreð godes children. **c1230** *Hali Meid.* (Bodl. MS.) 112 Hit is þah i wedlac summes weies to þolien. **1338** R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1725) 123 Roberd pe Marmion pe same ways did he, He robbed porgh treson pe kirke of Couentre. **c1420** *Contin. Brut* ccxli. (E.E.T.S.) 352 þe tokyn ij smale tewellys . . . , and caste þe tewellys aboute þe Dukis nek . . . ; and þan þei drowen her towellis eche wayez. **1530** *Palsgr.* 421/1 He hath altered his stayre another wayes, *il a coutourne ses degrez tout autrement*. **1585–6** EARL LEYCESTER *Corr.* (Camden) 463 Before which tyme, the winde beinge as it was, the flete wolde be gonne over landes end, and passe that waies to the seas. **1590** PAYNE *Brief. Descr. Irel.* (1841) 9 Let the slope side of your ditch be towards your marraigne, and that wayes throw vp all your earth. **1597** BEARD *Theatre God's Judgem.* (1612) 20 He could not tell which wayes to turn himselfe. **1598** SHAKS. *Merry W.* II. ii. 5c, i pray your worship come a little neerer this waies. **1622** CALLIS *Stat. Sewers* (1647) 127 Doctor Bonhams Case, fol. 119 in the same Report, wherein the principal Case there put sways the same ways. **1896** GRATIANA CHANTER *Witch of Withyford* xiv. 170 Going . . . up over the track that ways to Witches' Combe.

b. Similarly *to go, come one's ways* (also † *on one's ways*), synonymous with *to go, come one's way* (see 7 b), and parallel to the G. *er ging seines*

weges. In the later period a loose use of the plural may have coalesced with the use of the advb. genitive.

Now only *dial.* and *vulgar.* and chiefly in the imperative; in rustic use *come thy ways* is often addressed playfully to children and animals.

c 893 ÆLFRED *Oros*. 21 þonne rideð ælc hys weges mid ðan feo. 13.. *Cursor M.* 22063 (Edinb.), [Satan shall be] laisid at te laste... to walc his wais forþe [Cott. his forth; other texts his way] fra þat quile. 1450-1530 *Myrr. Our Ladye* 1. xxii. 57 He anon lefte there the stynkeynge body that he appered in, & wente hys wayes. c 1460 *Macro Plays, Wisdom* 878 Turne þi weys! þou gost a-myse. 1576 GASCOIGNE *Kenelworth Castle Wks.* 1910 II. 101 And death... will end my dayes, As soone as you shall... wish to go your wayes. 1581 *RICH Farew.* Bbij, To conueigh her... a sute of mannes apparell: wherin the next daie in the after noone... she should shift herself, and so come her waies vnkowne of any, to suche a place. *Ibid.* Bbij, Alberto, seyng matters so thoroughlie concluded, tooke his leaue of them bothe, and goyng his waies home, he caused all his daughters apparell to be looked together. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* 1. ii. 221 You meane to mocke me after: you should not haue mockt me before: but come your waies. 1610 — *Temp.* II. ii. 85 Come on your wayes: open your mouth. 1701 FARQUHAR *Sir H. Wildair* v. vi, Go thy ways for a true Pattern of the Vanity, Impertinence, Subtlety, and Ostentation of thy Country. 1768 GOLDSM. *Goodn. Man* 1. i, Well, go thy ways, Sir William Honeywood. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* viii, 'Ride your ways,' said the gipsy, 'ride your ways, Laird of Ellangowan'. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* lxxii, Go thy ways with him, sir... and Heaven be with ye both! 1884 *Chesh. Gloss.*, *Come thy ways*, a coaxing way of calling an animal; or even of addressing children.

c. In a good, great, little, long ways, the origin of the use of *ways* for *way* is obscure. Also without qualifying adj. Now only *dial.* and *U.S.*

It might possibly have arisen from the analogy of phrases containing the advb. genitive (see a and b). There is no known instance in OE. of such a construction as **lytel weges* (= 'paullum viæ'), which might possibly account for it.

1588 PARKE tr. *Mendoza's Hist. China* 289 They... came vnto the gates of the cittie, after they had gon a good wayes in the suburbs. 1594 R. ASHLEY tr. *Loys Le Roy* 105 b, Selim Ottoman... assailed him with a mightie armie, a good waies within his owne kingdom. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* XII. iii, Not that I hope... to live to any such Age as that neither — But if it be only to eighty or ninety: Heaven be praised, that is a great Ways off yet. 1809 BYRON *To Mr. Hodgson* 25 June, Falmouth... is no great ways from the sea. 1841 CATLIN N. *Amer. Ind.* xlii, II. 62 The beautiful Arabian... must... be a great ways further South than this. 1845 S. JUDD *Margaret* 1. xiv. 113 'It is only a little ways,' replied she, 'and I went clear down to the village to-day alone.' 1890 BICKLEY *Surrey Hills* III. 206 Maybe 'ee's lost his ways. 1895 S. CRANE *Red Badge* v, His mouth was still a little ways open. 1907 J. H. MCCARTHY *Needles & Pins* xiii, The man staggered a little ways across the hall and fell in a heap. 1927 W. FAULKNER *Mosquitoes* 202 I'll carry you a ways, until we get somewhere. 1933 BLOOMFIELD *Language* ii. 40 A speaker can be heard only a short ways and only for an instant or two. 1938 T. WILDER *Our Town* 1. 52 Can I walk along a ways with you? 1976 *New Yorker* 15 Mar. 67/1 As it passed over the ridge to land on the other side it hit a tree quite a ways up. 1979 N. MAILER *Executioner's Song* (1980) 1. xxix. 445 Though I suppose at some point in the future... he may be eligible for parole, that's a long long ways away.

V. Idiomatic phrases.

* with governing verb.

For clear the way, fetch way (Naut.), gather way (Naut.), give way, pave the way, see the verbs.

24. have way. (See 6 above.)

† a. To be allowed liberty of action. *Obs.*

1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* v. 238 Let me haue way, my Lord, To finde this practise out.

b. Of feelings or their manifestation: To find vent.

1846 JAMES *Step-mother* xxxii, He evidently strove to speak calmly, but the father's apprehensions would have way, and his voice trembled, and his lip quivered. 1883 D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* xix, Tom dropped his face into his hands, and a scalding tear or two had way in spite of him.

25. make way.

a. To open a passage, remove obstacles to progress, to facilitate passage or entrance. (See 6 above.) Const. *for*, *†to*, or *†dative*.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 91 Do þe þe weie makeden biforen him bien folkes lorpeawes. c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 1555 þorow þe host he made hem [? read hym] weye. On ilk a side he hided þe deye. a 1400-50 *Bk. Curtasye* 533 in *Babees Bk.*, Byfore þe cours þo stuarde comes þen, þe seruer hit next of alle kyn men Mays way and stondes by syde, Tyl alle be serued at þat tyde. c 1450 *Merlin* xxxii. 655 Gawein com thorough the presse makinge wey with the trenchaunt suerde. 1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 68 b, And the fift or odde Crane in maner of a persiue sterne, to make the other way in the Ayre, flieth all alone before. 1588 PARKE tr. *Mendoza's Hist. China* 184 They were carried in little chayres vpon mens backes, and the Capitaine... before them making way. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI.* iv. viii. 62 My sword make way for me, for heere is no staying. 1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle* (1871) 81 Wher gold makes way Ther is no interruption. 1638 R. BAKER tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. II) 107 Hee seemes to thinke... that vertue had neede of delight, to make way for her into the soule. 1693 LOCKE *Educ.* §140 All the World forwardly joyn to oppose and defeat them: whilst the open, fair, wise Man has every Body to make way for him, and goes directly to his Business.

† b. Of ground: To allow of passage. *Obs.*

c 1300 K. *Horn* 1489 (Laud MS.) þe sond by gan to drye And hyt hym makede weye.

c. To move from one's place so as to allow a person to pass.

c 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxv. 120 He commaundeþ þe lordeþ þat rydez nere him to make way þat þe men of religioun may comme to him. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II.* v. ii. 110 Make way, vnruely Woman. 1842 BORROW *Bible in Spain* vii,

A Portuguese or Spaniard will seldom make way for a stranger, till called upon or pushed aside. 1911 GOULDSBURY & SHEANE *Gt. Plateau N. Rhodesia* 259 If a young man sees his mother-in-law coming along the path, he must retreat into the bush and make way for her.

d. To leave a place vacant for a successor or substitute.

1760-72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 122 When my family... were thus turned out of doors, an old follower made way for them in his own cottage, and retired... to a cow-house hard by. a 1828 H. NEELE *Lit. Rem.* (1829) 33 The tragedies of Shakspeare were driven from the stage to make way for those of Addison and Rowe. 1853 KINGSLEY *Hypatia* xxx, If they [the philosophers] had no better Gospel than that to preach, they must make way for those who had. 1869 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* III. xii. 151 His castle... has been wantonly destroyed to make way for one of the barbarous official buildings of modern France. 1896 *Law Times* C. 407/2 At Durham... [Sir Charles] refused to stand, and his refusal made way for the present Lord Herschell.

e. To make progress on a journey or voyage. Often with qualifying word, as *to make good, much, little way*. (Cf. 7 above.)

(a) *Naut.* (see 7 i).

1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* xxvii, 97 Castyng her sight ferder towarde the see, she sawe the saylles, wyth the flote of the shippes that made good waye. 1556 TOWSON in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 98 The windes and seas were high, yet we made some way. a 1626 BACON *New Atl.* 1 The Winde... settled in the West for many dayes, so as we could make little or no way. 1624 CAPT. J. SMITH *Virginia* III. vi. 60 We seeing them prepare to assault vs, left our Oares and made way with our sayle to encounter them. 1626 — *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 29 Fetch the log-line to try what way shee makes. 1744 M. BISHOP *Life* 49 We lost our Main top Mast, so that after the Storm was over we could not make any Way. 1791 SMEATON *Edystone L.* §155 Our vessels... made better Way in a rough sea. 1837 MARRYAT *Dog-Fiend* xlii, He stood up on the choak to ascertain what way she was making through the water. 1882 DE WINDT *Equator* 75 The river, however, widened to nearly a mile in breadth... and we made better way.

(b) *gen.* Also *fig.*

1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* II. ii. 24 And I haue horse will follow where the game Makes way. 1590 SPENSER *F.Q.* 1. i. 39 He making speedy way through spersed ayre. a 1593 MARLOWE & NASHE *Dido* 221 Æneas is my name... With twice twelve Phrigian ships I plowed the deepe, And made that way my mother Venus led. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* 1. i. 239 Waite you on him... While I make way from hence to saue my life. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* *Intro.* Ep., So great is the difference betwixt reading a thing one's self, making toilsome way through all the difficulties of manuscript, and, as the man says in the play, 'having the same read to you'. 1845 McCULLOCH *Taxation* III. ii. (1852) 446 Should the system [of life annuities] not make any greater way than it has done, it may not... be worth objecting to. 1860 MOZLEY *Univ. Sermon*. vii. (1876) 182 See... how little way they have made in truly spiritual, unselfish affections and inclinations. 1882 BESANT *All Sorts* xviii, And he made no more way with his wooing. That was stopped, apparently, altogether. 1883 FRANCES M. PEARD *Contrad.* i, His companion... was making rapid way towards the point. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commu.* xxxix. II. 71 There are some signs the view is making way.

† f. To make a hole in, through. *Obs.*

1581 A. HALL *Iliad* iv. 73 That of the staffe the steeled point made in his forehead way. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* 11. 155 With that word she stroke me on the head, And through the instrument my pate made way. 1611 COTGR., *Faire jour* à, to make way vnto.

† g. Of an event or action: To lead to, afford facilities for something; to render it possible to do something. *Obs.*

1646 H. LAWRENCE *Commun. & War with Angels* 14 And this will not be unusefull to consider since it makes way to shew to what end they appeare and what they... can doe for us. 1677 TEMPLE *Moxa* *Miscell.* (1680) 194 About which time [the age of forty] the natural heat beginning to decay, makes way for those distempers. a 1715 BURNET *Own Time* III. viii. (1900) II. 143 This made way to more desperate undertakings.

† h. to make way to: to approach (a person) with a view to establishing relations with him.

1671 MILTON *Samson* 481, I already have made way To some Philistian Lords, with whom to treat About thy ransom.

26. make one's (its) way. (Cf. 7 above.)

a. To travel or proceed in an intended direction or to a certain place. *to make the best of one's way* (also, *†to make one's best way*): to go as quickly as one can; *†to* decamp.

c 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxiv. 156, I made my way... vnto Rome. 1582 N. LICHFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* 1. iii. 7 b, The rest then departed, making their way into the Sea, with a South southwest winde. 1668 CLARENDON *Contempl. Ps.* Tracts (1727) 473 Those who... make their way through a sea of blood and rapine to grasp an authority which belonged not to them. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 395 He makes his way o're Mountains, and contemns Unruly Torrents, and unforded Streams. 1705 ADDISON *Italy* Monaco, etc. 4 The next Day we again set Sail, and made the best of our way 'till we were forc'd, by contrary Winds, into St. Remo. 1742 FIELDING *J. Andrews* 1. xvi, The Thief... without any Ceremony, stepped into the Street, and made the best of his Way. 1836 THIRLWALL *Greece* xxii. III. 215 A very small number made their way to Ambracia. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xxiii, With that they parted; Mr. Swiveller to make the best of his way home and sleep himself sober; and Quilp [etc.]. 1844 DISRAELI *Coningsby* VII. iv, Coningsby bade his friend farewell till the morrow, and made his best way to the Castle. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* III. 1. 366 Hardly any gentleman had any difficulty in making his way to the royal presence. 1864 TROLLOPE *Small Ho. Allington* xxi, Johnny made his way on to the road by a stile that led out of the copse. *Ibid.*, Then we'll make the best of our way home, and have a glass of wine there. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* vi. §4. 300 It was in

despair of reaching Italy that the young scholar [Erasmus] made his way to Oxford.

† b. To effect a passage by force, force one's way. *Obs.*

1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* VI. § 157 But if they compelled him to make his way, and enter the town by force, it would not be in his power to keep his soldiers from taking that which they should win with their blood.

c. To make progress in one's career; to advance in wealth, station, reputation, etc. by one's own efforts.

1605 SHAKS. *Lear* v. iii. 29 If thou do'st As this instructs thee, thou dost make thy way To Noble Fortunes. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 123 ¶ 4 He was to make his Way in the World by his own Industry. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humphry Cl.* 18 July 11. (1815) 261, I am not at all surprised that these Scots make their way in every quarter of the globe. 1853 LYTTON *My Novel* II. vi, A young man who has his own way to make in life had better avoid all intimacy with those of his own age who have no kindred objects.

† d. To find means to do something. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 23179 Quat he war wijs þat moght Stedfast hald þis dai in thought!... For þan mund he her make his wai Fra wrak to were him on þat dai.

† e. (Also *†to make one's ways*.) To gain favour, establish relations with a person. *Obs.*

1618 RALEGH *Apol.* Wks. 1751 II. 250 It was bruited... that... being once at Liberty... having made my Way with some foreign Prince, I would turn Pirate. a 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archaeol. Soc.) II. 37 He made his waies with Colonell Monke, Governor of Dundalk, for the Parliament, and bought of him worth £1500 of ammunition.

f. Of a thing. *to make its way*: to travel, make progress; (of an opinion, custom, etc.) to gain acceptance.

1656 COWLEY *To Sir W. Davenant* 35 Thy Fancy like a Flame its way does make, And leave bright Tracks for following Pens to take. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 119 ¶ 6 This infamous Piece of Good-breeding, which reigns among the Coxcombs of the Town, has not yet made its way into the Country. 1861 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) 1. 48 It might have been anticipated that Luther's doctrines would have made their way early among this little colony of his countrymen. 1874 MICKLETHWAITE *Mod. Par. Churches* 80 Brass instruments have already begun to make their way.

27. pay one's way. † a. To defray one's expenses on a journey. *Obs.*

a 1825 *Willie Wallace* vi. in *Child Ballads* III. 271/2 Take ye that, ye belted knight, 'T will pay your way till ye come down.

b. To succeed in paying one's expenses as they arise, without incurring debts. Of a business undertaking, *to pay its way*: To be carried on at least without loss, to be self-supporting.

1803 G. COLMAN *John Bull* II. iii. 22, I earned my fair profits; I paid my fair way. 1823 BYRON *Age of Bronze* xiv, But bread was high, the farmer paid his way. 1858 TROLLOPE *Three Clerks* iii, Mrs. Woodward... had there maintained a good repute, paying her way from month to month as widows with limited incomes should do. 1885 *Times* (weekly ed.) 2 Oct. 15/3 The pier has never come near paying its way. 1892 *Law Times' Rep.* LXVII. 139/1 It seems to me a most reasonable thing for a person applying for shares to look for a guarantee of interest until the concern can pay its own way. 1899 LADY M. VERNEY *Verney Mem.* IV. 155 By great economy John has just paid his way.

28. see one's way. a. In literal sense, to have a view of the portion of the road or route immediately before one, so as to be able to avoid wandering or stumbling. b. *fig.* in obvious metaphorical uses; now often, to know that some object is attainable (const. *to*); also (chiefly in negative contexts) to feel justified in deciding to do something.

1774 BURKE *Let. to Marq. Rockingham* 25 Sept., I must see my way much more clearly before me, before I take any other step in that business. 1775 — *Sp. Concil. Amer.* 22 Mar. 56, I do not absolutely assert the impracticability of such representation [of the Colonies]. But I do not see my way to it. 1823 KEBLE *Serm.* iii. (1848) 64 To see his way safely, if not clearly or comfortably, through all the snares of error and disputation. 1861 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) 1. 33 Simple fighting John Bull can understand, but in a negotiation he can't see his way. 1865 MRS. NEWBY *Comm. Sense* IV. III. 44, I feel that I know my business pretty well already, and that I begin to see my way. *Ibid.* lvi. III. 55, I wish I could do more... but I think I see a way. 1870 NEWMAN *Gram. Assent* II. ix. 353 Laud said that he did not see his way to come to terms with the Holy See, till Rome was 'other than she is'. 1875 HELPS *Soc. Press.* ii. 24 The neighbours do not see their way to altering it. 1885 *Law Times* LXXIX. 342/1 He did not see his way clear to allow their names to remain upon the register. 1886 *Manch. Exam.* 16 Jan. 5/4 Lord Salisbury has at last seen his way to the final choice of a bishop for Manchester.

29. a. take the way. (Cf. sense 4 and TAKE v. 25 b.) To enter on and follow the route leading to a specified place. In early use sometimes without mention of destination; *†To* set out, travel.

c 1300 *Harrowing of Hell* (Harl. MS.) 38 In godned toke he þen way þat to helle gates lay. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 1708 Gij him spedde nigt & day; Into Ingland he toke þe way. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* II. 146 All him alane the way he tays Toward the towne off Louchmabane. c 1386 CHAUCER *Man of Law's T.* 556 The Constable and his wyf also And Cundance han ytake the righte way Toward the see. c 1420 ? *LYDG. Assembly of Gods* 551 Wherefore Cerberus tooke the next way. c 1485 Digby *Myst., Christ's Burial & Resurr.* 983 Then let us tak þe way furth straye. a 1533 BERNERS *Huon* lxii. 215 They departyd & tooke the way towards Rome. 1801 SCOTT *Eve of St. John* 86 O fear not the priest, For to Dryburgh the way he has ta'en. 1831 — *Ct. Robt.* xxiv, Count Robert subjected himself to necessity, and... took

the way to Europe by sea. **1831** JAMES *Phil. Augustus* xx, Here the anchorite bade God speed him, and, turning his steps back again, took the way to his hut.

†b. To go about to *do* something. Also, to take its course without interference. *Obs.*

1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. xvii. §9. 64 That opinion . . hath beene of ill desert, towards Learning, as that which taketh the way, to reduce Learning to certaine emptie and barren Generalities. **a1700** DRYDEN *Theod. & Hon.* 138 Give me leave to seize my destin'd Prey, And let eternal Justice take the way.

30. to take one's way. To set out on a journey; to journey, travel.

a1300 *Cursor M.* 11382 þis kinges thre þar wai þai tok A tuelmoth ar þe natuiute. **1338** R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 327 After þe enterment þe kyng tok his way. To þe south he went porgh Lyndesay. **1375** BARBOUR *Bruce* xviii. 114 For the laiff has thair yavis tane Till the Erische kyngis. **c1386** CHAUCER *Melib.* ¶2996 And right anon they taken hire way to the Court of Melibee. **c1450** *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 7456 His way barfote þan he toke. **1484** CAXTON *Fables of Poge* vii, Sayinge these wordes [the foxe] toke his waye & ranne as fast as he myght. **1498** COV. *Leet Bk.* 588 And they came forth at þe south durre in þe Mynstere & toke their way thurgh the newe bilydng downe þe Bailly-lane. **c1600** SHAKS. *Sonn.* xlviii. 1 How carefull was I, when I tooke my way, Each trifle vnder truest barres to thrust. **1642-4** VICARS *God in Mount* 149 Lord Paulet . . took his way toward Myncard. **1667** MILTON *P.L.* xii. 649 They hand in hand with wandring steps and slow, Through Eden took thir solitarie way. **1697** DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* iii. 405 Alone, by Night, his watry Way he took; About him, and above, the Billows broke. **1761** GRAY *Odin* 13 Onward still his way he takes. **1893** ASHBY-STERRY *Naughty Girl* xviii. 157 As she took her way sadly and slowly down the pier.

**** with prepositions.**

31. by the way. a. Along or near the road by which one travels; by the road-side. In early use also †by way.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 15 þa sæt þær sum blind pearfa be ðon wege. **c1205** LAY. 26612 Whaðer heo liue weoren, þa heo bi wæie læien. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 8055 A riche man was þar bi wai Was seke, to him þan turnd þai. **1550** CROWLEY *Epigr.* 227 Than, by the waye syde, hym chaunced to se A pore manne that craued of hym for charitie. Whye (quod thys Marchaunt) . . Do ye begge by the waye. **1879** JEFFERIES *Wild Life in S. Co.* ii. (1889) 17, I passed flocks of dying sheep: in the hollows by the way their skeletons were here and there to be seen.

b. While going along, in the course of one's walk or journey. In early use †by way.

c1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke x. 4 Ne bere ge sacc . . ne nanne man be wege [Vulg. *per viam*] ne gretað. **a1122** O.E. *Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1096, Ac þes folces þe be Hungrie for, fela þusenda þær & be wæge earmlice forforan. **c1290** *Beket* 1208 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 141 þov hauest selde i-seize þene Erchebischof of caunterburi wende in swuche manere bi weie. **a1300** K. Horn 759 He fond bi þe weie Kynges sones tweie. **1387** TREVISIA *Higden* III. 115 þe kyng . . wente homwarde, and was i-slawe by þe weie. **1550** CROWLEY *Last Trumpet* 31 The rauens fed him [sc. Elias] by the way. **1590** SHAKS. *Mids. N.* iv. i. 204 Lets follow him, and by the way let vs recount our dreames. **1617** MORYSON *Itin.* 1. 204 By the way, in this mornings journey, we did see Weyssenburg, a free but not imperiall City. **1719** DE FOE *Crusoe* i. (Globe) 156 Nor is it possible to describe . . what strange unaccountable Whimsies came into my Thoughts by the Way. **1760** [see by prep. 12]. **1898** M. PEMBERTON *Phantom Army* i. vii. It had been in his mind when he rode out of Zaragoza that he would find an early opportunity by the way to question the gipsy.

fig. **1603** SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* v. 458 His Act did not ore-take his bad intent, And must be buried but as an intent That perish'd by the way.

c. fig. with reference to the tenor of discourse: Incidentally, in passing, as a side-topic.

1556 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* i. (Arb.) 38 margin, Land-lordes by the wai checked for Rent-raising. **1581** J. BELL *Haddon's Answ.* Osor. 45 Whiche I thought meete to touch briefly by the way. **1598** SHAKS. *Merry W.* i. iv. 150 Shee is pretty, and honest, and gentle, and one that is your friend, I can tell you that by the way. **1620** T. GRANGER *Div. Logike* 100 They are inferred often by the way for illustration sake. **1632** LITHGOW *Trav.* v. 228 And now by the way I recall the aforesayd Turke. **1731** *Art of Drawing & Paint.* 32 But we must take this by the Way, that in the refining of it, two Ounces will not produce above 40 Grains of good Colour. **1847** H. GOODWIN *Serm.* Ser. i. viii. 131, I would hint to you by the way, that we are perhaps not fair judges of our own actions.

d. used parenthetically to apologize for introducing a new topic, a casual remark, or the like.

a1614 DONNE *Biathanatos* (1644) 99 Though, by the way, this may not passe so generally, but that it must admit the exception, which the Rule of Law upon which it is grounded, carries with it. **1668** DRYDEN *Ess. Dram. Poesy* 46, I mean besides the Chorus, or the Monologues, which by the way, show'd Ben. no enemy to this way of writing. **c1730** BURT *Lett. N. Scot.* (1754) II. 97 By the Way, altho' the Weather was not warm, he was without Shoes, Stockings, or Breeches. **1836** DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Sentiment*, This, by the way, was another bit of diplomacy. **1840** THACKERAY *Barber Cox Feb.*, When we lost sight of him, and of his little account, too, by the way. **1884** RIDER HAGGARD *Dawn* xxvii, By the way, talking of letters, there was one came for you this morning in your Cousin Philip's handwriting.

e. in predicative or complementary use.

1564 T. DORMAN *Prooffe Cert. Art. Relig.* 95 b, This is yow said but by the waie, before yow entre into the matter. **1652** NEDHAM tr. *Selden's Mare Cl.* 46 Also, a word by the way, touching the Mediterranean Sea in possession of the Romanes. **1653** RAMESEY *Astrol. Restored* 5 But this by the way, let us now proceed. **1719** DE FOE *Crusoe* i. (Globe) 245 However, I allow'd Liberty of Conscience throughout my Dominions: But this is by the Way. **1904** BURNAND *Records & Remin.* II. 285 But this by the way.

f. As a by-work; as a subordinate piece of work.

1611 COTGR. s.v. *Passant, En passant*, slightly, lightly, cursorily, accidentally, by the way. **a1708** BEVERIDGE *Thes. Theol.* (1711) III. 265 It is not to be done by the way, but with our own might. **1881** JOWETT *Thucyd.* i. 91 Maritime skill is . . not a thing to be cultivated by the way [*ἐκ παρέργου*] or at chance times.

†g. Indirectly, by a side channel of information.

1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* iii. iv. 130 *Macb.* How say'st thou that Macduff denies his person At our great bidding. *La.* Did you send to him Sir? *Macb.* I heare it by the way: But I will send.

h. attrib. as adj. phr.: Incidental, casual, haphazard.

1869 MRS. WHITNEY *We Girls* ii, At parting, she . . said . . in an off-hand, by-the-way fashion—'Ruth' [etc.]. **1881** F. HUEFFER *Wagner* 32 The introduction in a by-the-way manner of the two great religious principles appears not particularly happy. **1881** SAINTSBURY *Dryden* i. 21 The ordinary prose style of the day . . indulged . . in every *détour* and involution of second thoughts and by-the-way qualifications.

32. by way of —. A prepositional phrase used in various senses. Also †by the way of. (The governed sb. is usually without article.)

†a. By means of; through the medium of; by the method of. *Obs.*

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 69 This lord . . spak so that be weie of schrifte He drowh hem [sc. the priests] unto his covine. **1439** in *Fenland N. & Q.* (1905) July 222 And yat . . ye wole at yis tyme in yis oure grette necessite putte youre handes and ese us by wey of lone of ye somme of C marc. **a1450** MARG. ANJOU *Let. to Dame J. Carew* (Camden) 97 Burneby . . desireth with all his hert to do yow worship by wey of marriage. **1495** *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 493/2 That noo persone . . be not empeached nor chargeable . . by wey of accion or otherwise. **1526** *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 2, I requyre you . . that . . ye neuer by way of curiosite be besy to attempte any persone therein. **1530** PALSGR. 898 Diuerse communications by way of dialoges. **1577-87** HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 1149/2 To indamage some of his countries by waie of inuasion. **1598** GRENEWAY *Tacitus, Ann.* 11. xvi. (1622) 56 Flaccus . . by way of great promises [*per ingentia promissa*], perswaded him . . to enter into the Romane garrison. **1613** SHAKS. *Hen. VIII.* iii. i. 54 We come not by the way of Accusation, To taint that honour euery good Tongue blesses. **1663** GERBIER *Counsel* 5 Master-work-men may receive Instructions by way of Draughts, Models, Frames, &c. **1675** J. OWEN *Indwelling Sin* viii. (1732) 96 At least spiritual Sense is not radically in them, but only by way of Communication.

†b. By the action of (a person or persons). *Obs.*

1447 in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 1450, 70/2 Gif it happnis the said landis to be distroublit or vexit be way of Inglismen it sal be alowit to the said Alex. of the malis.

†c. Law. by way of feat [= AF. *par voye de fait*]: see FEAT sb. 1 b. Also (*Sc.*), by way of deed.

1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* III. 141 The tother part with haill power and mycht, Without ressonne agane he wald persew, Be way of deid his richtis till reskew. **1564** *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 275 In caise ather of the saidis partiis . . sall happin to be hurt, harmit, inuadit, or persewit be utharis be way of deid. **1582-8** *Hist. James VI* (1864) 62 That na injure be done to ony subiect be way of deid.

d. As an instance or a mode of; in the capacity or with the function of; as something equivalent to.

[Cf. AF. 'par voye de charite', 1321 in *Rolls Parlt.* I. 393.] **13..** E.E. *Allit. P. A.* 580 By þe way of ryȝt to aske dome. **c1380** WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 59 He were a cruel fadir pat myytte not zeue his owene childe bred . . & ȝit wolde not suffre anoper man to helpe þes children bi weie of mercy. **c1389** in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 38 Also þese bretherin han ordeyned, be weye of charite, pat [etc.]. **a1400** MAUNDEV. (1839) xviii. 199 The Kyng of that Contree, ones every ȝeer, ȝeueþe leue to pore men to gon in to the Lake, to gadre hem precyous Stones and Perles, be weye of Alemesse. **1429** *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 349/1 Bi weie of hongyng or keveryng. **1551** SIR J. WILLIAMS *Accompte* (Abbotsf. Club) 99 To be gevin vnto straungers by waie of his maiesties reward, v^m li. **1589** PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* III. xviii. (Arb.) 203 We be allowed now and then to ouer-reach a little by way of comparison. **1672** VILLIERS (Dk. Buckhm.) *Rehearsal* i. i. (Arb.) 31 My next Rule is the Rule of Record, and by way of Table-book. **1674** *Essex Papers* (Camden) I. 168 There ought to be a distinction made in Letters of that nature, betweene passing a thing over by way of Connivance and giving a Publick Liberty. **1711** STEELE *Spect.* No. 78 ¶4 Nothing was wanting but some one to sit in the Elbow Chair, by way of President. **1712** ADDISON *Ibid.* No. 267 ¶2 Virgil makes his Heroe relate it by way of Episode. **1744** M. BISHOP *Life* 260 Most of them were very industrious in selling one Thing or other by Way of turning the Penny to a good Use. **1749** FIELDING *Tom Jones* III. vii, I ask pardon for this short appearance, by way of chorus, on the stage. **1806** J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum.* Life ii. §22 Attempting to spring carelessly . . over a five-barred gate, by way of shewing your activity to a party of ladies. **1820** BYRON *Juan* v. liii. note, In Turkey nothing is more common than for the Mussulmans to take several glasses of strong spirits by way of appetizer. **1842** DICKENS *Amer. Notes* xiv, The drapers always having hung up at their door, by way of sign, a piece of bright red cloth. **1843** PRESCOTT *Mexico* i. ii. 1. 31 The sovereign . . holding a golden arrow, by way of sceptre, in his left hand. **1856** RUSKIN *King of Golden River* i. 4 He used to clean . . the plates, occasionally getting what was left on them, by way of encouragement. **1868** J. BRUCE *Digby's Voy. Mediterr.* (Camden) Pref. p. x, Dr. Richard Farrar composed some lines upon him by way of epitaph. **1868** LOUISA M. ALCOTT *Little Women* vi, 'You'll have to go and thank him,' said Jo, by way of a joke. **1892** Bookseller 17/1 The summary [of the Act] given by way of introduction is concise and clear.

†e. by way of excellency (or eminence): = 'par excellency.' *Obs.*

1621-31 [see EMINENCE 8 c]. **1643** [see EMINENCY 8]. **1694** LOCKE *Advers. Theol.* in *King Life* (1858) 343 There is one Spirit manifestly distinguished from God, i.e. one created Spirit by way of excellency; i.e. the Holy Spirit. **1699** tr.

Dupin's Hist. Canon O. & N. Test. I. 2 They are likewise styl'd the Scriptures by way of Eminence. **1703** [see EMINENCY 8]. **a1704** [see EXCELLENCE 1 b]. **1711** SHAFTESB. *Charac. Misc.* v. ii. III. 278 Have you writ . . a Play, a Song, an Essay, or a Paper, as by way of Eminence, the current Pieces of our Weekly Wits are generally stil'd.

f. Followed by gerund, forming predicative phrases with the sense: In the habit of (doing something); also, more usually, making a profession of, or having a reputation for (being or doing so-and-so). *colloq.*

1824 MISS FERRIER *Inher.* xxxii, The Colonel was by way of introducing him into the fashionable circles. **1852** C. B. MANSFIELD *Paraguay*, etc. (1856) 182 A wiseacre passenger, who is by way of knowing the river well, says they are called *capinchos* in these parts. **1862** H. KINGSLEY *Ravenshoe* xlvii, Mary was 'by way of' helping Lady Hainault's maid, but she was very clumsy about it. **1877** LADY M. A. BROOME *Yr.'s Housekeeping S. Africa* iv. 61 'Charlie,' our groom, who is by way of being a very fine gentleman, . . only condescends to work until he can purchase a wife. **1881** MALLOCK *Rom.* 19th Cent. III. v. II. 34, I am by way, here, of doing the same thing. **1891** *Sat. Rev.* 18 July 77/1 Mr. Brander Matthews finds fault with the phrase 'by way of being', and says an American can hardly understand it. . . 'By way of being' is endeavouring or purporting to be, holding oneself out in a certain character, or being so reputed; and this with an implied disclaimer of precise knowledge or warranty on the speaker's part. **1897** DU MAURIER *Martian* v. 236 The Gibsons were by way of spoiling me. *Ibid.* ix. 379 Nor did he . . come across them at any house he was by way of frequenting. **1906** *Lit. World* 15 Nov. 515/1 The character of this woman, who is by way of being the female villain of the story, is drawn with skill.

g. By the route which passes through or over (a specified place): = VIA prep. Also †by the way of.

Formerly with omission of *of*, the place-name being prefixed to *way*. Cf. sense g.

11.. O.E. *Chron.* (MS. F.) an. 888, Heo forðferde be Rome wege [L. *in itinere Rome*]. **1460** *Paston Lett.* I. 515 He schall send his man hom be Newmarket wey. **1701** W. WOTTON *Hist. Rome* 481 He went by the way of Illyricum. **1771** SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* To Sir W. Phillips 21 Sept., We set out from Glasgow by the way of Lanark. **1865** *Cornh. Mag.* XI. 595 It invaded France by way of Avignon. **1901** ALLDRIDGE *Sherbro* xxvi. 291 From Bafodia we were diverging from the main road to Freetown which is by way of the Bumban hills.

†h. Through the medium of (a person). *Obs.*

1560 SIR N. THROGMORTON in Wright *Q. Eliz.* (1838) I. 49 The 29th of October last, I wrote to you from Paris by the waye of Monsieur de Chantonet.

†33. from the way: Out of the way, in a secluded place. *Obs.*

1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 1144 Some darke deepe desert seated from the way, . . Will wee find out.

34. in the (etc.) way. (See also senses 16a, 17-19.)

†a. As one proceeds or goes along; in the course of one's journey (to a place). Also *in one's way*; in early use, *in way*. Cf. *to take in one's way* (sense 7). *Obs.*

to do (a person, etc.) *in the way*: to send out (*refl.* to set forth) on a journey or expedition.

1297 R. GLOUC. 3765 He . . greipede is noble ost & dude him in þe weye. **a1300** K. Horn 1007 Horn dude him in þe weie On a god Galeie. **13..** K. *Alis.* 3392 (Laud MS.), þine Olifauntz & þine beest Do alle ordeyne on hast And do hem done in þe waye þat hij weren in feld contreye. **13..** *Guy Warw.* 259 At Felice he tok his leue þo, and in his way he goþ aplist. **1377** LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xvii. 47 As we wenten þus in þe weye wordyng togyderes. **1382** WYCLIF *Gen.* xlv. 24 Ne wraththe ȝe in the weye. **c1450** *Mirk's Festial* 9 He stervet yn þe way. **1629** HOBBS *Thucyd.* II. 127 But they of Stratus, aware of this, whilst they were yet in their way . . placed diuers Ambushes not farre from the Citie. **c1643** LD. HERBERT *Autobiog.* (1886) 140 Going from St. Julian's to Abergavenny, in the way to Montgomery Castle. **1712** BUDGELL *Spect.* No. 277 ¶11 If you please to call at my House in your Way to the City. **1748** RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) VII. 143 In the afternoon [she] was at Islington church, in her way home. **1791** SMEATON *Edystone L.* §264 The master of the floating light saw the buoy in his way to Plymouth. **1822** [MARY A. KELTY] *Osmond* I. 186 A heavy foreboding made her linger in her way to her own apartment.

b. In Biblical use, *to be or walk in the way with* (†*mid*) = to accompany a person on a journey; fig. to associate with.

c950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. v. 25 Uæs ðu geðafsum wiðer-bracæ ðinum hraðe miðþy bist in uoeg mið him [Vulg. *dum es in via cum eo*]. **1611** BIBLE *Prov.* i. 15 My sonne, walke not thou in the way with them.

c. (Chiefly in *one's way*.) On or along the road by which one travels; so as to be met, encountered, or observed.

c1205 LAY. 26770 Wo was heom iboren þa ipan weie heom weoren biuoren. *Ibid.* 26793 In his wæie þat he funde al he hit aualde. **a1591** H. SMITH *Caveat Chr.* Serm. (1601) 498 Sinne is not long in coming: nor quickly gone, vnlesse God stop vs, as hee met Balaam in his way. **1592** SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 879 Like one that spies an adder, Wreath'd vp in fatal folds iust in his way. **1610** — *Temp.* II. ii. 11 Like Hedg-hogs, which Lye tumbling in my barefoote way. **1721** E. WARD *Merry Trav.* i. (1729) 35 Resolving to . . moisten well our dusty Clay, At the next Alehouse in our Way. **1726** SWIFT *Gulliver* iv. i, I had not got far when I met one of these Creatures full in my way, and coming up directly to me. **1840** DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xlii, She had gained a little wooden bridge, which . . led into a meadow in her way.

d. fig. in phrases like *to come, fall, lie in* (one's) *way*, to be met with in one's experience, to come within (one's) range of possible observation,

utilization, or attainment. Similarly *to lay, put, throw in* (a person's) *way*. Also predicatively, in phrases like *it will be* (a certain sum of money, etc.) *in my way* = I shall gain (so much) in the specified contingency.

1596 SPENSER *State Irel.* (Globe) 631/2 Under it [*sc.* his mantle] he can cleanly convey any fitt pillage that cometh handsomely in his way. **1596** SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV*, v. i. 28 Rebellion lay in his way, and he found it. **1605** [see FALL v. 34]. **1617** J. CHAMBERLAIN in *Crt. & Times Jas. I* (1848) II. 43 It [*sc.* his having a son] may be a hundred thousand pounds in his way, if his father keep his word. **a 1662** DUPPA *Rules & Helps Devot.* 1. (1675) 72 The Imagination . . casting thoughts in our way, and forcing the Understanding to reflect upon them. **1677** TEMPLE *Moxa Miscell.* (1680) 193 The General Officers of Armies, . . the publick Ministers . . (that have fallen in my way) being generally subject to it [*sc.* the Gout] in one degree or other. **1691** T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* p. xii, It comes in my way here to retaliate to him. **1722** WOLLASTON *Relig. Nat.* v. 107 When one man alters the opinion of another by throwing a book, proper for that purpose, in his way. **1743** BULKELEY & CUMMINS *Voy. S. Seas* 154 We have now nothing to live on but Seal, and what Providence throws in our Way. **1744** M. BISHOP *Life* 46 Though it might have been Thousands in my Way had I continued my Business. **1763** COWPER in *Southey Life & Wks.* (1835) I. 163 My friends must excuse me, if I write to none but those who lay it fairly in my way to do so. **1789** WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Subj. Painters i. (note)*, Which will be a benefit ticket in Sir William's way. **1797** JANE AUSTEN *Pride & Prej.* xliii, It might seem as if she had purposely thrown herself in his way again. **1828** SCOTT *Tales Grandf.* Ser. 1. xxiv, A warrant empowering them to take all Portuguese vessels which should come in their way. **1841** S. WARREN *Ten Thou.* II. vii. 189 They say he has a cousin who is one of the officers to the Sheriff of Middlesex, and puts a good many little things in his way! **1882** BESANT *All Sorts* xxxi, These things he knew nothing of; they had not come in his way. **1888** MCCARTHY & PRAED *Ladies' Gall.* II. ii. 19 Every actor whom it had come in my way to know . . was a poor devil.

e. In such a position, or of such a nature, as to obstruct, impede, or be an annoyance. Chiefly in phr. *to be or stand in* (one's) *way*, or *in the way of* (a person or thing); also *to put, throw in* (one's) *way*.

1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* xii. 14 Welth, warldly gloir, and riche array Ar all bot thornis laid in thy way. **1564** Brief *Exam.* Biiij, Ye must . . take heede, lest ye stande in your owne way. **a 1700** EVELYN *Diary* 27 Aug. 1667, He thwarted some of them and stood in their way. **a 1750** LD. DARTMOUTH in *Burnet Own Time* (1900) II. 251 *note*, King Charles gave him [Godolphin] a short character when he was page, . . of being never in the way, nor out of the way. **1773** FOOTE *Bankrupt* 1. Wks. 1799 II. 99 To throw some confounded rub in the way. **1787** 'G. GAMBADO' *Acad. Horsem.* 41 Thus, then, you go off with eclat, provided nothing is in your horse's way; and if there is, . . he will probably leap over it. **1796** MME. D'ARBLAY *Camilla* II. iii. I. 183 [His] egotism . . sacrificed his best friends and first duties, if they stood in its way. **1836** DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Sentiment*, The smaller girls managed to be in everybody's way, and were pushed about accordingly. **1866** LE FANU *All in Dark* xxxv, He would have been in the way—unutterably *de trop*. **1867** TROLLOPE *Last Chron. Barset* II. lix. 159 She considers herself to have a claim upon [him] . . and that I stand in her way. **1868** FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* II. vii. 132 At such a moment as this, when one would have thought that horses were distinctly in the way. **1885** *Manch. Exam.* 11 June 4/7 The Liberal party will be bound in honour to throw no factious obstacles in their way. **1887** BARING-GOULD *Gaverocks* II. xxiii. 17 His pride stood in the way of success.

f. Within reach or call, at hand, get-at-able; in a place where things are going on or where one can be found readily. ? Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1598 R. BERNARD *Terence, Eun.* v. ix. (1607) 188 Whether you be in the way, or out of the way [*te praesente absente*]. **1687** MIÉGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II. s.v., To be in the way, or in a readiness, *se tenir prêt, ne pas s'écarter*. **1729** SWIFT *Direct. Serv.* Gen. ¶ 1 When your Master or Lady call a Servant by Name, if that Servant be not in the Way, none of you are to answer. **a 1760** CHALLONER in E. Burton *Life* (1909) II. xxiv. 28 We will spend our evenings . . at our own lodgings, so that we may . . be in the way for such as shall come for Instructions. **1814** JANE AUSTEN *Mansf. Park* xviii, I came here to-day intending to rehearse it with Edmund . . but he is not in the way. **1840** DICKENS *Old C. Shop* viii, In order that . . he might take care to be in the way at the time. **1859** H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* xxxix, I'm glad, too, to see you here. One feels safer when you're in the way. **1897** R. N. BAIN tr. *Jōkai's Pretty Michal* xxx. 229 He himself, however, had not been in the way when beauty was being served out.

g. In the humour or mood (for what is going on). *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

1703 *Rules of Civility* 114 A sort of People never in the way, never pleas'd with any thing. **1856** J. BALLANTINE *Poems* 108 He is aye in the way for a crack.

†h. (*to be*) *in one's way*: in the right course of action, within one's rights. *Obs.*

1689 *Andros Tracts* I. 111 Answer was made by the Deponent, that if we [the Watch] should kill them [suspicious persons resisting arrest], we were in our way, then Mr. Randolph . . said, you are in the way to be hanged.

i. *once in a way*: on a single (exceptional) occasion; as a solitary or rare instance; rarely, exceptionally; quasi-*adj.*, of rare occurrence, exceptional. Also for *once in a way*.

This phrase would seem to be a corruption of the earlier *once and away*, which may have meant originally 'once and then go away', 'once and no more', though all the instances quoted under *ONCE adv.* 8 c admit of being interpreted in the sense above explained. Cf. *once in a while* (see *ONCE* 8 c).

1842 NEWMAN *Ch. Fathers* 302, I must beg indulgence once in a way, to engage myself in a dry and somewhat tedious discussion. **1853** [see *ONCE* B. 9 b]. **1858** TROLLOPE *Dr. Thorne* xix, Now I like this kind of thing once in a way.

1860 READE *Cloister & H.* liii, They agreed to take a holiday for once in a way. **1913** *Sat. Rev.* 21 June 762/2 The case of Ulster . . really offers him this luxury for once in a way.

35. in the way of —. (Or equivalent construction.) (See also sense 17.)

†a. As a mode, instance, or manifestation of; as tantamount to or supplying the place of. Also *in way of*. Cf. *by way of* (32 d). *Obs.*

c 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 97 The Abbess and the Couente . . graunted . . that, in the wey of charite, that they wold fynde for ever a prest conuenient pat shold do a prestis service every day, namely for the sowles of the forsaid peple. **a 1513** FABYAN *Chron.* cxxvii. (1533) 62 Dagobert . . bete his mayster, & after in way of dyspyte caused the berd of his tuteur to be shauen of. **1534** *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden Soc.) II. 310 Onlesse your said highenes be good and gracious lord vnto hym in weye of right and justice. **1565** COOPER *Thesaurus* s.v. *Abijcio*, *Abicere se alteri ad pedes* . . to prostrate him self at ones feete in way of intreatie. **1568** GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 23 King William should geue him yerely in the way of a fee . . xij. Markes of Golde. **1606** SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* iii. iii. 13, I doe beseech you, as in way of taste To giue me now a little benefit. **1621** J. CHAMBERLAIN in *Crt. & Times Jas. I* (1848) II. 273 He concluded with a wish . . for the felicity . . of that . . happy couple; and, in a way of amen, caused the Bishop of London . . to give them a benediction. **1633** BP. HALL *Hard Texts* Amos ii. 1 Moab . . burnt the very bones of the King of Edoms sonne to ashes, in way of sacrifice to his gods. **c 1643** LD. HERBERT *Autob.* (1886) 176 Which I then bestowed upon some servants of the Prince, in way of retribution for my welcome thither. **1817** JAS. MILL *Brit. India* II. v. i. 327 In way of compensation, he was allowed a pension.

b. By means of, by adopting the method of. Now *rare*. Also † *in way of*.

The first quot. may perhaps belong to sense 17. **1607** SHAKS. *Cor.* iii. ii. 137 He returne Consull, Or neuer trust to what my Tongue can do I' th way of Flattery further. **1771** SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* To Sir W. Phillips 18 July, He attempted to open her eyes in the way of exhortation, and, finding it produced no effect, had recourse to prayer. **1823** SCOTT *Quentin D.* xxx, That in the way of treaty more permanent advantages could be obtained . . than by an action which would stain her with a breach of faith and hospitality. **1849** MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* I. ii. 220 The attack was made, not in the way of storm, but by slow and scientific approaches.

†c. With a view to; as a means of attaining or performing; so as to effect or produce. Also *in way of, in a way of. Obs.*

1588 SHAKS. *L.L.L.* iv. ii. 14 A kinde of insinuation, as it were in *via*, in way of explication. **c 1643** LD. HERBERT *Autobiog.* (1886) 138 He commanded me . . not to send any more to Sir John Ayres, nor to receive any message from him, in the way of fighting. **1655** FULLER *Ch. Hist.* ix. 190 And yet in way of recovering health by changing of Aire, of study for a time in the University, . . or of being employed in publick Affairs, they [licences to elergy for non-residence] cannot be wholly abrogated. **1662** H. MORE *Antid. Atheism* Ep. Ded., Which was done in way of Divine Honour to the Wisdom of the Deity. — *Philos. Writ.* (1712) Pref. Gen. p. xxi, The ancient Divines and Prophets . . witness that the Soul is join'd to this earthly body in a way of punishment. **1760-72** H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 17 Coming closer . . in the way, as it were, of claiming acquaintance with him.

d. In the course or routine of.

1639 S. DU VERGER tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* 58 Providing that it were done in the way of publicke justice. **1693** CONGREVE *Old Bach.* iv. iii, In the way of Trade, we still suspect the smoothest Dealers of the deepest designs. **1765** FOOTE *Commissary* 1. 3 Not at all given to lying, but like other tradesfolks, in the way of her business. **1863** KINGSLEY *Water-Bab.* i. 6 Remembering that he had come in the way of business, and was, as it were, under a flag of truce.

†e. When one is concerned with. *Obs.*

1596 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV*, iii. i. 139 But in the way of Bargaine, . . I le caull on the ninth part of a hayre. **1606** — *Tr. & Cr.* II. ii. 189 *Hect.* . . Hectors opinion Is this in way of truth: yet nere the lesse [etc.].

†f. *in the way of honesty*: under honourable conditions; so far as honour allows. *Obs.*

1595 SHAKS. *John* I. i. 181 For thou wast got i' th way of honesty. **1598** — *Merry W.* II. ii. 75, I defie all Angels . . but in the way of honesty. **1606** — *Ant. & Cl.* v. ii. 253. **1639** J. CLARKE *Pareem* 25 Yours to command in the way of honesty.

g. *to be in the way of*: to be likely to do or obtain (something), to have a good chance of (doing or attaining something); formerly also † *in way of, † in a way of. to put* (a person) *in the or a way of, † in way for*: to put him in a position to obtain or achieve (something). Also with *to* and *inf.* instead of *of*.

See also FAIR a. 14.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 1212 For 3yf pou mayst, & wylt nocht, pou art yn weye to payne be brought. **1477** EARL RIVERS (Caxton) *Dictes* 32 The whiche ypocras seeyng the craffe of physike in weye of perdition because alle his felawes were dede. **1542** *Lament. & Piteous Treat.* Ep. Ded., I purpose, as sone as my dysease is paste, to put me in waye with all dyllygence to se you ryght soone. **1625** BACON *Ess., Friendship* (Arb.) 179 A Physician, that . . is vnacquainted with your body . . may put you in way for a present Cure, but ouerthroweth your Health in some other kinde. **1677** in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 36 Lord Mohun is now in a way of recovery. **1689** [see 34 h]. **1719** DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 410 Being very ingenious at such Work, when they were once put in the Way of it. *Ibid.* 423 Seeing Things . . in so fine a way of thriving upon my Island. **1729** LAW *Serious C.* viii. 112 She has educated several poor children, . . and put them in a way of an honest employment. **1779** WARNER in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1844) IV. 259 You cannot expect a Dyer's letter from me, as your nephew Charles is so much more in the way of having authentic information. **1823** SCOTT *Quentin D.* iv, Why did you not

tarry at Brussels, then, with the Duke of Burgundy? He would put you in the way to have your bones broken every day. **1827** — *Surg. Dau.* Pref., Mr. Croftangry is in the way of doing a foolish thing. **1844** BROUGHAM *A. Lunel* xii, I soon was put in a way of earning a moderate weekly payment as a translator from the English and Italian. **1847** MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* II. 4 Now I am in the way of getting well again. **1860** DICKENS *Uncomm. Trav.* vi, Even then they might sometimes put themselves in the way of being blown into the Regent's Canal. **1883** D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* xiv, I am getting on a little in the world, and am in the way to earn a little money. **1885** *L'pool Daily Post* 7 July 4/4 Diplomatic difficulties, which he hoped were in the way of solution.

†h. *to be in way of marriage*: to have a prospect of being married. Also, *in (the) way of marriage, in way to marriage*, with a view to matrimony. *Obs.*

1482 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 102 He askyd mc hefe I wher in any whay of maryage. **1579** Q. ELIZ. in Nicolas *Sir C. Hatton* (1847) 106 Such Princes as in former time have sought us in way of marriage. **1583** RICH *Phylotus* (1835) 11 But Phylotus in the ende desired Emelia of her father in the waie of Mariage. **1596** SHAKS. *Merch. V.* II. i. 42 Neuer to speake to Ladie afterward In way of marriage. **1598** — *Merry W.* I. iv. 89 To speake a good word to Mistris Anne Page for my Master in the way of Marriage. **1642** FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* iv. xiii. 301 As if their sex in reference to men were not capable of any other kind of familiar friendship but in way to marriage.

†i. *in a way of*: in the habit of (doing something). *Obs.*

c 1704 *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 353 The House of Lords are in a way of having hours very uncertain.

j. *in way of* (*Naut.*): = *in wake of* s.v. WAKE sb.² 4 b(a).

1950 L. BAKER *Design Marine Water-Tube Boilers* ix. 144 *Arboring*, a term applied to the removal of tube plate material in way of tube ends to reduce the unsupported length of tube inside the drum. **1957** *Shipping World* 21 Aug. 153/2 Longitudinal centre-line bulkheads are provided in all the main and tweendeck holds, . . and in way of the hatch openings there are steel supports for removable wooden longitudinal bulkheads. **1960** *Fishing Gaz.* (N.Y.) 15 Mar. 18/1 The propeller shaft has 5/8" thick centrifugally cast liners or wearing sleeves shrunk on in way of the stern bearing and stuffing box.

36. a. on (or upon) the, or one's, way, on, or in the course of, a journey. to be well on one's way: to have fairly started, or to have made some progress. Also *fig.*, in progress towards completion or accomplishment.

In OE. *on wege*: see also AWAY *adv.*

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. v. 25 Beo þu onbugende þinum wiferwinnan hraðe þa hwile þe ðu eart on wege mid him. — Mark ix. 34 Witodlice hi on wege [*Vulg. in via*] smeadon hwylc hyra yldost were. **a 1122** O.E. *Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1086, þæt þa godan men . . gan on ðone wege þe us lett to heofonan rice. **c 1205** LAY. 1348 Brutus . . ferde riht on his wei. **c 1300** *Cursor M.* 8054 Fand þai noþer fra þat sith Man ne beist þat þai wit met, þat on þair wai pam moght do lett. **c 1400** *Ywaine & Gaw.* 549 He thoght to be wele on hys way Or it war passed the thryd day. **c 1420** *Anturs of Arth.* 315, I mot walke one my wey, porgh þis wilde wood. **1470-85** MALORY *Arthur* I. i. 36 Ryde on your wey, for I wille not be long behynde. **1523** SURREY in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. 1. I. 227 Trusting that the gonnors be well on the waye hiderwards. **1526** TINDALE *Acts* viii. 39 He went on his waye reioysynge. **1596** DANETT tr. *Comines* (1614) 41 He sent a trumpeter to them, who met with the hostages vpon the way. **1597** SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV*, II. i. 73 You should haue bene well on your way to Yorke. **1653** HOLCROFT *Procopius* I. x. 16 Overtaking him upon the way. **1697** DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* iv. 576, I will my self conduct thee on thy Way. **1812** BYRON *Ch. Har.* I. xiv, And Cintra's mountain greets them on their way. **1840** DICKENS *Old C. Shop* lxx, Day broke, and found them still upon their way. *Ibid.* lxxii, The boy had led him to his own dwelling . . on their way back. **1860** TYNDALL *Glac.* I. iii. 23 On the following morning I was on my way towards this valley. **1861** MILL *Utilit.* II. 35 To inform a traveller respecting the place of his ultimate destination, is not to forbid the use of land-marks and direction-posts on the way. **1885** *Law Rep.* 15 Q.B.D. 329 The debtor was on his way to the office of the official receiver.

on the way (this form only): *spec. (colloq.)* (a) pregnant; (b) (of a child) conceived but not yet born.

(a) **1588** SHAKS. *L.L.L.* v. ii. 679 She is two moneths on her way [*sc.* with child]. **1865** A. MACDONALD *Let. Apr.* in A. W. Baldwin *Macdonald Sisters* (1960) vi. 100 Poor Mrs Hughes . . is 'on the way again, blest if she ain't'. **1941** E. WELTY *Curtain of Green* (1943) 39, I bet you another Jax that lady's three months on the way.

(b) [1858. cf. sense 38 b.] **1896** KIPLING *Day's Work* (1898) 271 I'm a married man, an' my fourth's on the ways [*sic*] now, she says. **1919** V. WOOLF *Night & Day* ix. 121 He has two children, and another on the way. **1961** G. GREENE *Burnt-Out Case* vi. i. 183, I think I have a baby on the way. . . He doesn't want one. **1983** R. RENDELL *Speaker of Mandarin* v. 69 We've . . four simply adorable grandchildren with another on the way.

b. *imp. (be) on your way*: go away, get going; also (*U.S.*), 'get away' (GET v. 61 b). *colloq.* (orig. *U.S.*).

1903 'O. HENRY' *Trimmed Lamp* (1907) 236 Be on your way, Freddie. **1929** WODEHOUSE *Gentleman of Leisure* xi. 86 'We're going down with him to the country today, Spike, so be ready.' 'On your way, boss. What's that?' **1974** 'P. B. YUILL' *Bornless Keeper* xii. 113 Toddle off back to Victoria. . . On your way, amigo.

c. (*I am*) *on my way*: a formula used to express the speaker's intention of hurrying or of making an immediate departure.

1919 in N. I. White *Amer. Negro Folk-Songs* II. 124 Lord I'm on my way. . . Lord I'm on my way. **1948** G. VIDAL *City & Pillar* II. 35 'I'm on my way,' said Jim. **1971** 'L. EGAN' *Malicious Mischief* (1972) ix. 158 'Call just in . . — they had a

prowler over on Jackson. . . He was armed.' . . 'I'm on my way!' snapped Varallo. 1972 J. PHILIPS *Vanishing Senator* i. iv. 37 'Step on it, will you?' 'On my way,' Peter said. 1978 A. PRICE *'44 Vintage* xii. 152 If it's all the same to you, m'sieur, we'll be on our way.

37. out of the way. (See also OUT-OF-THE-WAY *adj. phr.*)

a. Away from the road by which one is travelling; off the track or proper route. Also in *fig. context.*

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 405/2 Out of Way, *devius, delirus*. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s.v. *Deflecto, Ex itinere ad visendum aliquem deflectere*, to turne out of the way to see one. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* II. ii. 7 Nor lead me like a fire-brand, in the darke Out of my way. 1653 W. RAMESEY *Astrol. Restored* 161 Let us then . . . step a little out of our way, and say somewhat of the Critical days. a1704 LOCKE *Cond. Und.* §34 They are more in danger to go out of the way, who are marching under the Conduct of a Guide, that 'tis an hundred to one will mislead them, than he that has not yet taken a Step, and is likelier to be prevail'd on to enquire after the right Way. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 323 It being a Month's Sail out of his Way. 1890 BICKLEY *Surrey Hills* III. 214 It was a good mile out of his way, but he felt he must see it again. 1913 J. G. FRAZER *Psyche's Task* iv. (ed. 2) 80 If the two meet on a path they carefully avoid each other; he will step out of the way and she will hurry on.

b. *fig.*, with the notion of going astray or being off the right path. †(to be) *out of the way*: in error, mistaken; also, ? missing the point (*obs.*).

a1225 *Juliana* 42 (Royal MS.) Hwen he sent us to wrenchen eni rihtwise out of þe weie. 1487 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 159 He sayth yee schall be to far owte of the weye w' owte yee gree & bergeyne togeder. 1530 PALSGR. 715/1 He hath set me out of the waye with his teacheinge: *par son enseignement il ma desuoyé*. 1561 T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtier* iv. (1577) Xijj, Perhappes M. Morrello is not altogether out of the waye in saying that beauty is not alwayes good. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 3 Know he, that he is much deceived, and to say more truly, quite out of the way. 1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* 102 They are cleane out of the way, who when they wold vse them for any inward cause, doe cast away their winges and feete. 1694 ATTERBURY *Serm.* (1726) I. v. 181 Thus it is in all Matters of Speculation or Practice; He that knows but a little of them . . . is more out of the way of true Knowledge than if he knew nothing at all. 1728 GAY *Begg. Op.* i. v. Never was a man more out of the way in an argument than my husband. 1742 RICHARDSON *Pamela* III. 173 Our Governors cannot always be in the wrong; and he therefore who never gives them a Vote, must probably be as often out of the Way as they.

c. With *of* or possessive: Away from the path in which a person or thing is moving; in a position where one does not meet or impede another; at a distance from, clear of, a person's or thing's activities; out of reach of, not in danger from.

For out of harm's way see HARM sb. 1 c.

1550 CROWLEY *Epigr.* 832 If Abner had knowne what was in loabs harte, I do not doubt but he would have out of his waye sterre. 1650 JER. TAYLOR *Holy Living* ii. §5 Men stand upon their guard against them [sc. inquisitions], as they secure their meat against harpies and cats, laying all their counsels and secrets out of their way. a1701 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* (1707) 56 The embroyments and factions that were then amongst the Arabs . . . made us desirous to keep as far as possible out of their way. 1744 M. BISHOP *Life* 28 They sent us a great many Bombs, . . . there came one swift as Lightning. I had much ado to get out of it's Way. 1858 TROLLOPE *Dr. Thorne* xvi. The fellow kept out of my way, and I couldn't see him. 1886 RUSKIN *Præterita* I. xii. 423 Always glad to have me out of her way.

d. (to be) *out of* (a person's) *way*: not in his line, not in accordance with his present purpose or taste, outside his scope, beyond his abilities. (Cf. 18 c.) ? *Obs.*

1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 167 It is out of my way, so it lightly may, To all good thyngis thy way is out of the way. 1687 MIÉGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II. s.v., This is a Thing out of my Way, not proper to me, *cela n'est pas mon Affaire*. 1707 FREIND *Peterboro's Cond. Sp.* 165 What other Negotiations his Lordship carried on . . . is out of my way to relate. 1722-7 BOYER *Dict. Angl.-Fr.* s.v., This is a thing out of my Way (it is not in my Power). 1763 FOOTE *Mayor of G.* II. Wks. 1799 I. 186, I don't much care for your poppers and sharps, because why, they are out of my way. 1780 MRS. COWLEY *Belle's Stratagem* III. i. Now, I beg, Mr. Hardy, you won't interfere in this business; it is a little out of your way. 1841 S. WARREN *Ten Thou.* II. vii. 188 I'd give a trifle to know how . . . such people ever came to be concerned in such a case. 'Tis quite out of their way—which is in the criminal line of business!

e. *to go out of one's way to* (do something): to do something which the circumstances do not call for or invite.

1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* III. 321 The culpable freedoms of persons, who, in what they went out of their way to say, must either be guilty of absurdity, meaning *nothing*; or, meaning *something*, of rudeness. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1877) I. App. 729 One hardly sees why any one should go out of his way to invent the tale.

f. *to put* (a person) *out of his, or the, way*: to disturb, inconvenience, trouble; †to disappoint, foil; †to vex, 'put out'. Often *refl.*, to submit to inconvenience or bother for the sake of others; const. *for* (another), *to* (do something).

†*to be out of the way*: to be out of temper or vexed (*with* a person). *rare*.

1692 LOCKE *Educ.* §11 (1693) 10 They should be afraid to put Nature out of her Way in fashioning the Parts [of the body]. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* I. 57 By what Mr. Jonathan tells me just now, he was quite out of the way with you. 1748 — *Clarissa* (1768) VII. 183 If, indeed, I am out of the way a little, I always take care to reward the varlets for patiently bearing my displeasure. 1796 *Plain Sense* (ed. 2) III. 173 Though, at present, we are put something out of our

way, we hope still to find some sacred spot of earth. 1818 HAZLITT *Table Talk* xxv. (1869) 346 They cannot put themselves out of their way on any account. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* xxxi, Anything [to drink] that's handy, miss; don't put yourself out of the way, on our accounts. 1858 THACKERAY *Virgin.* ii, Why should Lady Castlewood put herself out of the way to welcome the young stranger? . . . Was a great lady called upon to put herself out of the way for such a youth? 1873 MRS. OLIPHANT *Innocent* III. xi. 177 The maids not caring to put themselves out of the way for such guests.

g. Away from the resort or society of other persons; away from the place where one would be looked for or wanted; in a position remote or inconvenient to get at.

c1350 *Will. Palerne* 1019 Sche trowed trewly . . . were sche out of þe weye þat william wold fonde for to pleie in þat place þe priue loue game. 1554 SIR J. MASON in Tytler *Edw. VI* II. 452, I had for answer, that I should not be out of the way in the afternoon, for that he intended to signify unto me his pleasure for answer to my request. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 33 b, Duke Fridericke appointed certain . . . to conveighe Luther out of the way, in to some secrete place. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* III. i. 40 Ile devise a meane to draw the Moore Out of the way. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 84 They seeing . . . that it was impossible to save the Prince, kept out of the way. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* I. 369 This seemed to us then to be a place out of the way, where we might lye snug for a while. 1739 H. BARNES *Pract. Cases C.P.* (1772) 320 'Tis plain he kept out of the Way to prevent being arrested. 1745 POCOCKE *Descr. East* II. II. 71 In order to make people resort to a place which was so much out of the way. a1750 [see 34 c]. 1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict.*, *Out of the way*, a thief who knows that he is sought after by the traps on some information and consequently goes out of town or otherwise conceals himself is said by his pals to be out of the way for so and so. 1843 DICKENS *Martin Chuz.* xxxviii, He had speculated too much and was keeping out of the way. 1853 LYTTON *My Novel* I. xii, The Leslies don't mix with the county; and Rood lies very much out of the way. 1873 MISS BRADDON *Str. & Pilgr.* III. x. 332 Fancy his coming area-sneaking here while his Ludship's out of the way!

h. Away from an obstructive position.

1535 COVERDALE *Isa.* lviii. 14 Take vp what ye can out of the waye, that ledeth to my people [1611 take vp the stumbling blocke out of the way of my people]. 1919 K. PEARSON in C. Goring *Eng. Convict* Introd. 12 [Goring] clears out of the way for ever the tangled and luxuriant growths of the Lombrosian School.

i. *to put* (†bring, †take, †rid, etc.) *out of the way*: to make away with, kill. Also, †*to hang*, †*shoot out of the way*. (to be) *out of the way*: no longer alive.

c1535 SIR F. BYGOD *Treat. conc. Improprations* Cj, As moche as lyth in you, both god and all preachinge, and all other holy thynges ben clene extyncte. . . and specially this holy ordynance [sc. preaching] put out of the waye. a1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. V* 17 b, When . . . these other lordes & knyghtes were thus beheaded and ryd out of the waye. *Ibid.*, *Hen. VIII* 93 He doubted lest he might be brought out of the waie, as other dukes of Albany before had serued the heires of Scotland. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 138 b, Of Luther and the rest, there is no hope unlesse they be dispatched out of the way [*nisi opprimantur*]. 1563-83 FOXE *A. & M.* 2097/1 The said wicked Gardiner . . . bent all hys deuises, to bring this our happy and deare soueraigne out of the way. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 187 If this do not cure him [the dog] within seuen daies, then let him be knocked on the head, or hanged out of the way. 1632 MASSINGER *Maid of Hon.* III. iii, I am halfe Hang'd out of the way already. 1679 *Trials of Green*, etc. for *Murder of Sir E. Godfrey* 30 He told me there was a Gentleman that was to be put out of the Way; that was the Phrase he used, he did not really say *Murder* him. 1757 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. 1. 313 Old Admiral Holbourn, who curst and swore. . . because Byng was not Shot out of the Way. 1867 FROUDE *Short Stud.* (ed. 2) 114 The Earl of Moray . . . was put out of the Way by an assassin. 1879 M. J. GUEST *Lect. Hist. Eng.* xxxviii. 388 Though he [Richard] had a wife already, he determined to put her out of the way, and marry his own niece Elizabeth sooner than let Henry Tudor win her. 1881 JOWETT *Thucyd.* I. 123 The living have their rivals and detractors, but when a man is out of the way, the honour and good-will which he receives is unalloyed.

†j. *to be out of the way*: (of a thing) to be lost or missing. *Obs.*

1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* III. iv. 80 Is 't lost? Is 't gon? Speak, is 't out o' th' way? 1687 MIÉGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II. s.v., To be out of the Way or out of its proper Place, *être dispersé, égaré*.

†k. *it is out of* (my, his, etc.) *way*: it amounts to or entails a loss of (a specified sum). *Obs.*

1616 J. CHAMBERLAIN in *Crt. & Times Jas. I* (1848) I. 405 He did the lady a great piece of service to get her out of the Tower, where, if she had been at this time, it might chance been out of her way fifty or three score thousand pounds, at least. 1633 SHIRLEY *Gamester* III. (1637) F3, A curse upon these reeling Dice, that last in and in Was out of my way ten peeces. c1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) I. III. xxix. 84 It is like to be out of my way 3000 l. 1687 MIÉGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II. s.v., 'Tis much out of my Way, or to my Loss, *cela m'a fait grand tort, ou j'y ai beaucoup perdu*. c1750 J. NELSON *Jrnl.* (1836) 23 Though it may be ten pounds out of my way to be turned out of my work at this time of the year.

†l. Beside the mark, amiss; oddly, extraordinarily.

c1374 CHAUCER *Anel. & Arc.* 318 (Harl. 7333) Have I ought saide oughte of þe waye [*Fairf.* seyð oght amys I prey]. 1577 *F. de L'isle's Legendarie* I. vij b, Of him therefore did not a gentleman of Caux speake much out of the waye, when [etc.]. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* v. xii, It's surprizeable to me, Mr. Hobson, you can behave so out of the way!

m. Predicatively (with the substantive vb. expressed or understood) as *adj.*: Beside the mark, out of place, inappropriate; odd, bizarre; †not in vogue, unfashionable; †erroneous,

incorrect; extraordinary, unusual, remarkable. Cf. OUT-OF-THE-WAY.

1568 HACKET tr. *Thevet's New found World* xvi. 25 Also it shal not be out of the way [orig. *hors de propos*], to say that [etc.]. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* I. iii. 366 A pox of drowning thy selfe, it is cleane out of the way. 1676 PHILLIPS *Purchasers Pattern* 106 This rule of reckoning . . . will not be much out of the way, if you reckon the money by the Tables of rebate. 1681 W. ROBERTSON *Phrascol. Gen.* 1299/1, I think it not out of the way, *non alienum puto*. a1699 TEMPLE *Health & Long Life* Wks. 1720 I. 273 Mine [sc. my three wishes] were Health, Peace, and fair Weather; which, though out of the way among young Men, yet perhaps might pass well enough among old. 1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. 99 The writers of them fell entirely in [with] my opinions, odd, unaccountable, and out of the way as they may appear to many. 1873 MRS. OLIPHANT *Innocent* III. xx. 331 If anything out of the way turns up, nobody will remember that such a thing ever happened. 1885 HOWELLS *Silas Lapham* xxvi. 476 Did you ever know me to do anything out of the way? 1892 *Nation* (N.Y.) LIV. 232/3 Therefore much that still passes current as opinion about him is pitifully out of the way.

38. a. *under way*. *Naut.* [ad. Du. *onderweg* (also *-wegen*) on the way, under way, f. *onder* under, in the course of, etc. + *weg* (dat. pl. *wegen*) way.] Of a vessel: Having begun to move through the water; cf. sense 7 i; often spelt *under weigh*: see WEIGH sb.² Now freq. as one word: see UNDERWAY *adv.*

1743 BULKELEY & CUMMINS *Voy. S. Seas* 98 To prevent which, we do agree, that when Under-way they shall not separate. 1751 PALTOCK P. *Wilkins* viii. (1884) I. 78 We drew up the two boats, and set all hands at work to put the ship under way. 1788 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Emmeline* (1816) IV. 75 It was near ten o'clock before the vessel got under way. 1836 MARRYAT *Midsh. Easy* xxiv, He has proposed to me that he shall go on board, and get the brig under way. 1836 W. IRVING *Astoria* xi, Mr. M'Kay urged the captain to clear the ship and get under way. 1863 A. YOUNG *Naut. Dict.* (ed. 2) 431 *Under way*, this expression, often used instead of *under weigh*, seems to be a convenient one for denoting that a ship or boat is making progress through the water, whether by sails or other motive power. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 706 *Under way*, a ship beginning to move under her canvas after her anchor is started. Some have written this *under weigh*, but improperly. A ship is under weigh when she has weighed her anchor. . . As soon as she gathers way she is under way. 1883 *Stubbs' Mercantile Circular* 8 Nov. 982/2 Of the collisions on or near our shores, most were between steam and sailing vessels when under way. 1885 *Law Times' Rep.* LIII. 61/2 Trawlers . . . are bound to show the same lights as a vessel under way.

b. *transf. and fig.*

1822 BYRON *Vis. Judgem.* xci, Ere he could get a word Of all his founder'd verses under way. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. v. viii, A courier is, this night, getting under way for Necker. 1858 — *Fredk. Gt.* x. iii. (1873) III. 240 The little Wife has already brought him one child, a Daughter; and has (as Friedrich notices) another under way. 1856 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 2 Feb. 80/1, I took the honest waiter home with me in my cab, and under-way we had a good laugh at the spy. a1874 L. STEPHEN *Hours in Libr.* Ser. 1. 309 They are restlessly anxious to get their stories well under way.

VI. Combinations.

39. Obvious combinations. a. simple attrib., as *way-book*, *-end*, *-pane* (PANE sb.¹ 9), *-signal*; b. objective, as *way-taking*, *-traveller*, *-wanderer*, *way-beguiling*, *-stopping* adjs.; c. instrumental, as *way-bewildered*, *-sore*, *-spent*, *-wearied*, *-weary* adjs.

1645 QUARLES *Sol. Recant.* IX. 6 Short miles, and *way-beguiling Company. 1796 *Way-bewildered [see THOUGHT¹ 7 c]. 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 11 Mar. 1/2 A complete *way-book of the journey from Cherbourg to Nice has been printed. 1869 W. BARNES *Early England & Saxon-English* 106 When the railway was taken into the hands of more learned men, we had . . . the *terminus* instead of the rail-end, or *way-end, or outending. 1886 J. BARROWMAN *Sc. Mining Terms* 72 *Way-end*, the inner extremity of the wooden railways formerly used in mines. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* II. 923 *Way-Pane.—The strip of land left for cartage along the side of the main [*i.e.* principal ditch]. 1883 *Century Mag.* Oct. 807/1 Each palm, orange tree, and vineyard left on the old mission sites was a *way signal to the new people. 1871 PEARCE *Lyr. Poems* 125 *Way-sore feet. 1777 POTTER *Æschylus, Choeph.* 355 The *way-spent traveller. 1623 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *World runs on Wheels* Wks. (1630) II. 238/2 It cleered the Streets of these *way-stopping Whirligigges! 1471 *Hist. Arrival* Edw. IV (Camden) 27 They thought . . . to have gotten into their company, by that *way-takynge, great nombor of men of Lancashire and Chesshere. 1872 HOWELLS *Wedd. Journ.* (1892) 101 Loquacious, acquaintance-making *way-travellers. 1795 SOUTHEY *Soldier's Wife* 1 Weary *way-wanderer, languid and sick at heart. 1796 COLERIDGE *Destiny of Nations* 149 And minister refreshment to the tired Way-wanderer. 1758 J. G. COOPER *Epist. Aristippus* iv. 28 Life's *way-wearied travellers. 1916 BLUNDEN *Harbingers* 60 *Wayweary traveller, with your broad bright eyes. 1926 T. E. LAWRENCE *Seven Pillars* (1935) 5 Love, the way-weary, groped to your body.

40. a. Special comb.: *way-baggage* U.S., the baggage or luggage of a way-passenger; *way-beam*, a beam used in the construction of a form of longitudinal railway sleeper; †*way-beaten* a., exhausted by travel; †*way-beater*, ? one who frequents the highway for felonious purposes; *way-chain*, a brake for the wheel of a vehicle; in quot. *fig.*; †*way-door*, a door opening on the street; *way-fare* U.S., a fare charged for travelling between intermediate stations on a railway; cf. *way-passenger*, *-station*; †*way-fere* [FERE sb.¹], a companion in travel; †*way-flax* (meaning obscure); †*wayfood*, provision for a

journey; way-freight *N. Amer.*, goods that are picked up or set down at intermediate stopping places on a railway or shipping route; also, a train carrying such freight; way-gang, -go *Sc.* = WAYGATE²; †waygoer, a traveller by road, a wayfarer; †wayhire *local*, payment made for the concession of way-leave; †way-lead *v. trans.*, to guide, conduct; †way-leader, one who conducts a traveller; way letter (see quot.; cf. *by-letter*, BY- 4 and *by-way letter*, BY-WAY 3); †way-mate, a fellow-traveller; way passenger *U.S.*, a passenger picked up or set down at a stage on a coaching route or station on a railway line intermediate between the main stopping-places; way-place *U.S.*, a stopping place on a road or railway; a wayside hostelry or an intermediate station; way-point *orig. U.S.*, a stopping-place on a journey; also, (on an air journey) the computer-checked coordinates of each stage of a long flight; way-port, a port which normally serves as a port of call rather than as an ultimate destination; way-post = GUIDE-POST; way-rate *north.*, a rate levied by a local authority for the upkeep of the roads; †way-reeve, †-serjeant, officers appointed to supervise the repair of the roads; †way-shide, ? one of the planks used to form gangways; way-stop, chiefly *U.S.*, an intermediate stopping place on a journey; also *fig.*; way-ticket = WAY-BILL 4; also *attrib.*; way train *U.S.*, a train which stops at intermediate stations on a railway; a stopping train; †way-walking *a.*, vagrant; †way-went, ? a turn of the road; way-wise *a. dial.* and *U.S.*, of a horse, familiar with the roads he is required to travel; also *fig.* of a person, experienced, trained; †way-witere (ME.), one who shows the way, a guide; †waywoodware, timber to be used in the construction of roads.

1847 WEBSTER, *Way-baggage. 1860 in WORCESTER; and in later Dicts. 1883 *Specif. Alnwick & Cornhill Rlwy.* 46 Within the troughs [sc. trough-girders] are to be laid ... *way-beams, ... packed between the gussets with stemming pieces. 1742 JARVIS *Quixote* II. iv. vii. 311 The *way-beaten couple, master and man, sat them down. a1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. xxii. §9 This we learned chiefly, by the chief of those *way-beaters. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* v. xxvi. 122 A sort of People whom they call'd High-way-men, Way-beaters [Fr. *Batteurs de pavez*], and makers of Inroads in Roads. 1882 LD. SALISBURY in T. Williams *Polit. Wit & Humour* (1889) 67, I will take the Duke of Wellington's simile. He said it [the House of Lords] was a *way-chain, or, as in these days we should say, a vacuum-brake. 1597 BP. HALL *Sat.* III. iv. 7 But hee must needs his Posts with blood embrew, And on his *way-doore fixe the horned head. 1863 DICEY *Federal St.* I. 55 You can go from New York to Chicago ... for four pounds; but the *way-fares are three-halfpence a mile. c1450 PECOCK *Donet* (1921) 89 Jesus ... oure *weifere, oure techer. c1610 Cry in *Sturbridge Fair* in Gutch *Coll. Cur.* II. 16 Also that no man shall regrave of the aforesaid things, as ... *Way-flax, ... Rosin, Yarn, Pitch, Tar-Cloth, or other thing of Grocery ware. 1382 WYCLIF *Deut.* xv. 14 But thou shalt ȝyue *weyfofe [Vulg. *viaticum*] of the flockis. 1833 Niles' *Reg.* XLIV. 260/2 The hatch ... was open to get out a lot of *way-freight. 1875 'MARK TWAIN' in *Atlantic Monthly* Aug. 191 No way-freights and no way-passengers were allowed, for the racers would stop only at the largest towns. 1898 H. E. HAMBLETON *Gen. Manager's Story* 37 The way freight ... had crossed over to load some freight. 1977 *Islander* (Victoria, B.C.) 8 May 2/3 The discharging of cargo and the loading of way-freight. 1744 in Kames *Decis. Crim. Sess.* 1730-52 (1799) 81 To cause the water restagnate upon the *way-gang of the pursuer's mill. 1700 SIR A. BALFOUR *Lett.* 130 They use to stop the *way-goe of the Water, sometimes in the Summer, and lett the Place overflow with Water. 1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* xxxvii. 25 And sittynge for to eet breed, thei seen Ysmalices *weiegoers [Vulg. *viatores*] to comen fro Galaad. 1482 CAXTON *Trevisa's Higden* v. xii. 145 b, Also for refreshynge of weygoers there as clere welles were by hye weyes, the same kyng made arere postes and to honge thereon shelles or cuppes of bras. 1577-87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* I. Hist. Eng. 181/1 Such tolles and tallages as were demanded of waygoers at bridges. 1747-8 in *N. Riding Record Soc.* (1890) VIII. 267 To save the country the several rates pay'd by the Riding for *wayhires ... when the said road is overflowed with water. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* VII. xiii. 232 Whether ward ar ye *way ledyng this knyghte. a1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. xiv. §6 Let the Gods dispose of me as shall please them; but sure it shall be no such way, nor *way-leader, by which I will come to libertie. 1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* IV. i. 99 They are to procure faithful and trusty guides, and skilful way leaders. 1773 H. FINLAY *Jrnl.* 11 Nov. (1867) 38 *Way letters he makes his own perquisite. 1851 E. BOWEN *U.S. Post-Office Guide* 47 On the letters brought by a mail carrier to be mailed, called way-letters, one cent. is to be charged in addition to the usual postage. 1893 H. JOYCE *Hist. Post Office* x. 147 For purposes of illustration ... A bye or way letter would be a letter passing between any two towns on the Bath road and stopping short of London. 1638 BRATHWAITE *Barnabees Jrnl.* (1818) 183 Thee, pleasing *way-mates titled have their patron. 1799 *Mass. Mercury* 12 Feb. (Thornton) The fare is 4d per mile for *way passengers. 1834 in McClure *Early Life Abr. Lincoln* (1886) 174 Fare through ... nine dollars: way passengers six and a fourth cents per mile. 1835 C. F. HOFFMAN *Winter in West* I. 102 At Huron, where the boat put in to land way-passengers. 1849 H. MELVILLE *Jrnl. Visit to London* (1948) 67 In a fit of the nightmare was going to stop at a *way-place, taking it for the place of my destination. 1883 'MARK TWAIN' *Life on Mississippi* lii. 512 She got out of the cars at a way-place.

1880 *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 53 The Ohio is plied by a line of Cincinnati and Pittsburgh packets, and by smaller craft earning a precarious existence between *way' points. 1899 J. LONDON *Lett.* 12 Sept. (1966) 54 And to-morrow I start out on that postponed trip of mine to Stanford University and Mt. Hamilton, to say nothing of way points. 1902 O. WISTER *Virginian* xxiv. 276 The letter ... had gone by private hand at the outset, taken the stage-coach at a way point [etc.]. 1971 *Flying Apr.* 29/1 (Advnt.), Computer and waypoint selector lets you fly direct to a destination hundreds of miles away ... forget about airways dog-legs. 1983 *Times* 6 Sept. 26/2 They plot course by typing ... a series of 'way-points' into the computer. Such way-points occur every four hundred miles, so even if one were wrong, the next should put aircraft back on course. 1984 *Sunday Times* 20 May 34/2 The co-ordinates of the different 'waypoints', or intermediate stages along the flight ... were checked and found correct. 1897 'MARK TWAIN' *Following Equator* xxxii. 303 A good many of us got ashore at the first *way-port to seek another ship. 1901 *Daily Colonist* (Victoria, B.C.) 11 Oct. 3/2 The steamer Princess Louise ... has been tied up for repairs, and there will be no steamer leaving for the canneries and way ports of the north until Monday at least. 1927 *Blackw. Mag.* Mar. 330/2 'A way-port' he sighed, after ordering coffee. 'It's turned out to be a terminus for a good many fellows like me.' 1773 BERRIDGE *Wks.* (1864) 184 They were like *wayposts, which shew a road but cannot help a cripple forwards. a1845 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg. Ser.* III. *Blasph. Warn.* 338 And you came to a place where three cross-roads divide, Without any way-post, stuck up by the side Of the road to direct you and act as a guide. 1813 *Examiner* 8 Feb. 91/2, I was ... appointed Way-warden for the parish; and was dragged from my business to collect the *way-rate. 1788 W. H. MARSHALL *Yorks.* I. 189 Every township ought to employ a roadman or working-*way-reave ... for the same excellent purpose [of road-mending]. 1334 *Rolls of Parlt.* II. 84/2 En eyde de lour ferme de *Wey-serjauntz qe soleyent estre en foreyn boys pur le Cheminage, laquele Cheminage & Weywodewares sont ore defete par reson de la Porale. 1535 *Act 27 Hen. VIII* c. 18 Conveyeng awaye of *wayshydes shores pyles ... from the said bankes and walles [of the Thames]. 1961 WEBSTER, *Way-stop. 1969 *Islander* (Victoria, B.C.) 17 Aug. 12/3 She [sc. a steamboat] makes various way-stops on each trip and as Skipper McMinn says—'We stop for anyone who jumps up and down on the shore and gives us a holler.' 1981 *Southern Horticulture* (N.Z.) Spring 13 A town that's now making it. Martinborough was once just a way stop on the road to Pirinoa. 1983 C. G. HART *Rich die Young* iv. 45 Pat was using the Academy as a way-stop while he tried to break into the movies. 1893 *Times* 28 Sept. 3/5, I agree with your correspondent ... that the *way-ticket system is a good one. 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 27 Feb. 4/1 Men really in search of work would be given 'way tickets' for definite routes ... Holders would be entitled to lodging, supper, and breakfast at the casual ward. 1873 'MARK TWAIN' & WARNER *Gilded Age* xxix. 269 Next morning ... he descended, sleepy and sore, from a *way-train. 1920 S. LEWIS *Main Street* 22 The hordes of the way-trains were not altogether new to Carol. 1534 MORE *Conf. agst. Trib.* III. xix. (1553) Rv, Whether euery *waye walking beggre be by this reason out of prison or no, we shall conside. c1425 *Macro Plays, Cast. Persev.* 158 Worthy wytis, in al pis werd wyde, Be wyldde wode wonys, & euery *weye-went. 1775 ASH, *Waywise, expert in choosing the road. 1840 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* Ser. III. ix. 122 If they [sc. women as wives] are too old they are apt to be headstrong from havin' had their head so long; and, if they are too young, they are hardly way-wise enough to be pleasant. 1901 *Munsey's Mag.* XXV. 740/2 When a colt can be safely driven around the home grounds, he is considered 'farm broke,' or way wise. 1918 F. HACKETT *Ireland* xi. 309 Flung into the medley of American life, he was compelled ... to become way-wise in the factory, [etc.]. c1205 LAY. 12860 þa cleopeden þe æorl Constantin & bad þa *weiz-witere [c1275 wei-wittic] for-ærnen þa wateres. 1334 *Weywodewares [see wayserjeant above].

b. In the names of plants found growing by the wayside and in stony places, as †way-barley, -bennet, -bent, *Hordeum murinum*; †way-cress = *SCATIACA cress*; way-grass (see quot. 1887); way-thistle, *Carduus arvensis*. Also WAYBREAD, WAYWORT.

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* I. xlvii. 67 This kinde of wilde Barly ... is called ... in English Wall Barly, *Way Barly, or after old English writers, Way Bennet. 1578 LYTE *Doodeis* IV. xlv. 504 Wall Barley, or *Way Bennet. 1665 LOVELL *Herbal* (ed. 2) 464. 1763 [see wall barley, WALL sb. 1 25 c]. 1538 TURNER *Libellus, Phenix*, ... *waybent. 1548 — *Names of Herbes* (1881) 43 Phenix Dioscoridis semeth to be the herbe which is called in Cambrishshire Way bent. 1562 — *Herbal* II. 20 b, [Iberis] may be called in Englishe *way-cresses. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Calligonon* ... *Waygrasse: knotgrasse. 1887 *Kentish Gloss.*, Way-grass, a weed; knot-grass. *Polygonum aviculare*. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. cccclxxiv. 1012 The *way Thistles grow euery where by high way sides and common paths, in great plenty. 1796 W. PITT *Agric. Stafford* 78 The common, cursed, or way thistle.

†way, sb.² *Obs. rare.* [? var. of WEY.] A certain quantity of glass.

1545 *Rates of Custom Ho.* Cijj, Glasses Reinish the way or web containing lx bunches. 1550-1600 *Customs Duties* MS. Addit. 25097 lf. 7 b, Glasse the waye or wabe. 1656 *Act Commw.* c. 20 Rates (1658) 468 Glass for Windows called ... Rhenish, the Way or Web.

†way, v. *Obs.* [f. WAY sb. 1]

1. *intr.* To go, journey, proceed.

1596 SPENSER *F.Q.* IV. ii. 12 On a time as they together way'd, He made him open chalenge, and thus boldly sayd. 1708 *Yorkshire Racers* 10 They ... Way'd to the course, and gallop'd true and well.

2. *trans.* (See quot. 1706.) Also *erron. weigh*, *waigh*.

1639 T. DE GREY *Compl. Horsem.* I. v. (1656) 43 Untill such time as he hath been ... made gentle, ... content to be shod, to be Back'd, Broken, Ridden, Wayed, Mouthed. a1652 A. WILSON in Peck *Desid. Curiosa* (1735) II. xii. 25 My spotted Nag ... being younge & not well waigh'd, run away with mee. a1654 SELDEN *Table-T.* (Arb.) 39 He that

hath a Scrupulous Conscience, is like a Horse that is not well weigh'd, he starts at every Bird that flies out of the Hedge. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *To Way a Horse*, is to teach him to travel in the Ways. 1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4490/4 Lost ... a young black Gelding, comes 4, not thorough weigh'd.

3. To set (a waggon) on the made way or track on which it runs.

1763 in *London Mag.* (1764) 145/2 When a waggon happens to be off the waggon-way, if laden, it will take two or three horses to way the waggon again.

†4. *intr.* To construct a way. In quot. *indirect passive. Obs.*

1640 SOMNER *Antiq. Canterb.* 195 It was a Free-Schoole for the City ... anciently wayed unto, and having a passage to it from some part of Burtle-street.

Hence †wayed *pgl. a.*

?1640 SUCKLING *Lett. Fragm.* Aur. (1658) 77 A well-wayed horse will safely convey thee to thy journeys end.

1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Way'd Horse* [with Horsemen] is one who is already backed, supplied, and broken, and shews a Disposition to the Manage.

way (wei), *adv.* [Aphetic f. AWAY. Cf. G. *weg* similarly used.]

1. = AWAY *adv.* in various senses. †do way: see DO v. 53. Now only *Sc.*, *north.*, and *U.S.*

c1205 LAY. 15933 Let alæten þis wæter & wei weorpen [c1275 away werpe]. a1300-1578 Do way [see DO v. 53]. 1460 *Paston Lett.* I. 525 As for tythyngs here, the Kyng is way at Eltham. 1533 MORE *And Pt. Confut. Tindale* IV. Wks. 593/2 Which great occasyons Godde suffred to fal vpon him and carye hym waye. [Tindale's words are: to carye him clene oute of the waye.] 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xxvi. Gae wa', gae wa'. 1871 W. ALEXANDER *Johnny Gibb* iii, Gae 'wa', ye haveril. 1908 *Collier's Mag.* Oct., 'Travelling for the Presidency' (Thornton s.v. *Lunch-counter*) Mr. Bryan has, during the past twelve years, eaten or otherwise made way with over 1,700 meals at railroad lunch-counters.

2. *esp.* At or to a (great) distance, far. a. with *preps.*

1849 W. S. MAYO *Kaloolah* v. (1850) 44 You see it was way towards Tupper's Lake. 1888 MRS. CUSTER *Tenting on Plains* viii. (1893) 151 He sat 'way under the mantel, to let the tobacco-smoke go up the chimney. 1891 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* IV. 29, I would have sold at a very low price, way below cost. 1927 BARONESS ORCZY *Sir Percy hits Back* v. 35 The three men had become mere specks, 'way down the road. 1959 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 16 Oct. 589/3 You are feet deep in snow and the temperature is way below zero. 1972 *Guardian* 17 Nov. 1/6 The census figures confirm ... that unemployment is way above the official figure. 1979 R. PERRY *Bishop's Pawn* v. 76 You're way off course ... It's back on Unter den Linden.

b. With *advs.*, as *down*, *over*, *through*. Now only *Sc.*, *north.*, and *U.S.* For *way back*, *in*, *off*, *out*, *up* see main entries below.

1908 S. E. WHITE *Riverman* ix, Until you got sick of it *way through. 1851 E. S. WORTLEY *Trav. in U.S.* xxxiii. 138 The trading and wealthy cities of far off Alabama and Louisiana, 'way down south'. 1854 SEBA SMITH (title) *Way down East*. 1866 *Atlantic Monthly* May 640 Nor these ain't matters thet with pol'tics swings, But goes 'way down amongst the roots o' things. 1850 L. H. GARRARD *Wah-to-Yah* xvii. 222 Calyformy! way over yonder!

c. *fig.* Much, far. *U.S.*

1941 L. I. WILDER *Little Town on Prairie* v. 34 'I wonder how much it costs,' said Ma. 'Way too much for ordinary folks,' said Pa. 1957 *New Yorker* 2 Nov. 105/2 Go by plane, train or ship. Arrive way sooner—relaxed! 1977 *Rolling Stone* 24 Mar., He was a country & western singer and he drank way too much.

3. *Comb.* (Chiefly *Sc.*)

a. with a pa. pple. or verb, as *way-gone*; †way-put *v. Sc.*, to put away: (a) to effect the escape of (a fugitive from justice); (b) = PUT *v.* 39 d.

1831 *Sutherland Farm Rep.* 81 in *Libr. Usef. Knowl.*, *Husb.* III, They are sorted into their wedder herdings to replace the *waygone lot of the last year's ewe hogs. 1538 in *Pitcairn Crim. Trials* (Bannatyne Club) I. *205 [John Tuedy, in Lyntoun, convicted of art and part of the treasonable assistance given to James Douglas. ... And for art and part of] *way-putting [him]. 1540 *Extracts Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 170 That nane of thaim way put nor dispoone vpon the necessaris requirit to the said schip as ane schip of weir.

b. with *vbl. sbs.* (or other nouns of action), chiefly *Sc.*, as *waycoming*, -*fleeing*, -*passing*, -*sending*, -*sliding*; way-ganging = WAY-GOING; †wei-sith, departure, death; way-taking, the action or an act of taking (something) away, removal. Also WAY-GOING.

1651 SIR A. JOHNSTON (Ld. Wariston) *Diary* (S.T.S.) II. 95 Heard of the Scots army coming to Dumfermling after hir *waycoming. 1513 DOUGLAS *Aeneis* IV. vi. 93 Tofoir thi *wayfeling, Had I ane child consavat of thi ofspring. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 176 Gif a man ... assuris ane othir frely to cum, and spekis nocht of his *way ganging. a1605 R. BANNATYNE's *Jrnl.* (1806) 490 It was ewin, at the way ganging of the day light. 1898 LD. E. HAMILTON *Maukin of Flow* xi. 125 I'd be laith to get an ill name at the very outset of our way-ganging. 1479 *Acta Dom. Concil.* (1839) 45/1 þat þe persouns þi past fra þe elecciuon of þe said Alexander be summond ... to ansuer ... for þair *way passing. a1578 LINDSAY (Pittscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 11 [They] brunt the toun at thair way passing. a1572 KNOX *Hist. Ref. Wks.* 1846 I. 420 Sche farther willit, to offer the *way-sending of the men of weir. c1205 LAY. 25846 [She] weop for hire *wei-sið. *Ibid.* 28199 Scullen alle mine feond wei-sið make3e. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xviii, Avoiding right-hand snares and extremes, and left-hand *way-slidings. 1479 *Acta Audit.* (1839) 93/1 Befor þe lordis comperit David Wemys summond ... anent þe *wataking of the oxin furth of þe landis of myrecarny. a1572 KNOX *Hist. Ref. Wks.* 1846 I. 56 And so did Jesus Christ, the onyie trew Light, schyne unto many, for the way-tackin of one. 1625 in *Spalding Club Misc.* V. 218 The gryt trubill and discord

betuin the laird and his tenants anent the waytaking of doris at thair remowing.

way (wei), *int.* Also **whay**. [Cf. *wo int.*] A call to a horse to stop.

1836 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Tuggs's at Ramsgate*, Away went the donkey.. 'Way-way! Wo-o-o-o!' cried Mr. Cymon Tuggs. **1846** — *Cricket on Hearth* ii, 'Way!' This monosyllable was addressed to the Horse, who didn't mind it at all. 'Oh do Way, John!' said Mrs. Peerybingle. 'Please!' **1856** MISS YONGE *Daisy Chain* i. xv, Whay! Stop. There's an old woman in here.

way, obs. form of **WEIGH** *v.*, **WEY**, **WHEY**, **WOE**.

-way (wei), as a terminal element of advs., is identical with **WAY** *sb.*¹

1. Phrases consisting of the sb. qualified by an adj. are often used adverbially (see **WAY** *sb.*¹ 8, 14 d, etc.), and some of the combinations of adj. and sb. thus used have come to be apprehended as single words, and so pronounced and written; the second element, losing its separate stress, has assumed in some degree the aspect of an adverbial suffix. The only early example of this process is the OE. *ealne weȝ*, an adverbial accusative, which after the disappearance (in the 14th c.) of adjectival flexion became **ALWAY** (q.v. for the development of meaning). *Anyway*, *everyway*, *noway*, *someway*, written as single words, are not found before the 16th c. The only advs. in *-way* f. descriptive adjs. are *broadway* (16th c.), *crossway* (early 17th c.), *straightway* (as two words in 15th c.; as one word from 1530). Most of the above-mentioned advs. have parallel and synonymous forms in *-WAYS*.

2. The few advs. f. sb. + *-way* do not originate from phrases, but are genuine compounds; they all have parallel forms in *-WAYS*. †*Needway* 'necessarily' occurs in Barbour *c* 1375 (*needways* in *Cursor M. a* 1300). *Edgeway*, *endway*, *sideway*, *sunway*, which denote direction of movement, are, like the corresponding forms in *-WAYS*, not older than the 16th century.

3. *Crossway* and *sideway* are frequently used as adjs.; the other advs. in *-way* expressing spatial direction would perhaps admit of a similar use, but it is not evidenced in our quotations.

wayag(e, obs. Sc. forms of **VOYAGE**.

wayang ('wa:jæŋ). [a. Javanese *wajang*, *wayang*.]

1. In Indonesia and Malaysia, a theatrical performance employing puppets or human dancers; *spec.* a type of Javanese shadow puppet play.

1808 *Asiatick Res.* X. iii. 181 Scenic exhibitions termed 'Wayang-wayang', were till lately, very common in the peninsula of Malayu [*sic*]. **1853** *Jrnl. Indian Archipelago* VII. 271 A very large collection of Wayang figures, cut out of hide. **1881** *Encycl. Brit.* XIII. 604/2 The wayangs or puppet plays, in which grotesque figures of gilded leather are moved by the performer, who recites the appropriate speeches, and as occasion demands plays the part of chorus. **1910** [see *shadow-play* s.v. **SHADOW** *sb.* 16]. **1934** H. W. PONDER *Java Pageant* iv. 49 The stories have been immortalized.. by the 'Wayang', or native theatre, which for countless generations has been so much a part of Javanese life. **1965** L. PALMIER *Indonesia* xi. 171 The wayang performance has always had a magic and religious significance. **1973** D. MAY *Laughter in Djakarta* iv. 71 Tonight he was going.. to see a *wayang*, an old Hindu-Javanese story acted and danced by a famous company from central Java. **1978** N. FREELING *Night Lords* xvi. 72 The wayang dollies depended.. upon the skill and suppleness of the manipulator's fingers.

2. With qualifying term (see quot. 1969), as **wayang kulit** [Javanese *kulit* skin, leather], the Javanese shadow puppet play.

1893 W. B. WORSFOLD *Visit to Java* x. 178, I had an opportunity of witnessing.. the wayang *kliuk*, in which the puppets are exhibited themselves to the audience instead of being made to project shadows. **1894** J. D. VAUGHAN in N. B. DENNIS *Descr. Dict. Brit. Malaya* 324 In a puppet show the figures are seen and in this their shadows are. The show is called *wayang kulit*, or leather puppets. **1936** G. B. GARDNER *Keris* i. 21 The figures are usually grotesque, of the *wayang kulit* type. **1965** *Economist* 13 Mar. 1149/3 The traditional Indonesian *wayang purwa* puppet theatre show, usually performed at night, in which the vague shadows of leather puppets are fuzzily silhouetted on a screen. **1966** D. FORBES *Heart of Malaya* viii. 100 Figures that moved across the frame of the doorway looked like silhouettes in the *wayang kulit*, the shadow play. **1969** A. R. PHILFOTT *Dict. Puppetry* 277 The precise nature of the performance is distinguished by a qualifying term—e.g. wayang purwa, wayang gedog, wayang wong—the last being a performance by human actors.. The qualifying term may indicate type of puppet or the type of plays. **1976** *Times* 31 Aug. (Malaysia Suppl.) p. iv/4, Both farmers and fishermen are largely confined to their houses during the monsoon season, when some of them cut silhouetted puppets from cowhide for the traditional Wayang Kulit shadow play—a long procession of characters, based on the Indian epic *The Ramayana*.

'way-back, *adv.*, *a.*, and *sb. colloq.* (chiefly U.S., Austral., and N.Z.). Forms: see below. [f. **WAY**

adv. + **BACK** *adv.*] **A. adv.** *Usu.* written **way back**. 1. Far away; in or from a remote rural area.

1855 *Merry's Museum* XXIX. 58, I did not know that there was such a fine Magazine, .. for I live 'way back in the woods'. **1884** *Boston Globe* Oct., His unkempt hair, gawky appearance, and homespun suit.. all bespoke the citizen from wayback. **1889** KIPLING *From Sea to Sea* (1899) II. xxvi. 28 'You'll see the salmon-wheels 'fore long,' said a man who lived 'way back on the Washoog'. **1916** G. THORNTON *Wotser* 85 The condition of those living 'wayback'. **1930** M. R. E. BLAIR *By Pacific Waters* ii. 12 I'm sure they are getting a storm way-back. **1936** 'F. GERALD' *Millionaire in Memories* iii. 106 Blackall was much the same as any other township 'way back'. **1976** *National Observer* (U.S.) 6 Nov., 'We needed something to let people know that there was a church there,' says Rector Mart Gayland Pool. 'We sat way back on a slope near a golf course, and out facility looked more like a bowling alley or a Kinney shoe store.'

2. A long time ago; *from way back*, since a long time ago; hence, through and through.

1887 *Lantern* (New Orleans) 30 July 3/3 Nick is a walker from way back. **1889** 'MARK TWAIN' *Yankee at Crt. Arthur* xxxi, He *thinks* he's a Sheol of a farmer; thinks he's old Grayback from Wayback. **1889** KIPLING *From Sea to Sea* (1899) I. xxii. 432, I am an American by birth—an American from way back. **1892** 'MARK TWAIN' *Amer. Claimant* 167, I tell you, he's an artist from way back! **1907** *Daily Chron.* 2 Sept. 2/7 The Whitmans were American 'from way-back'. **1923** J. H. COOK 50 Yrs. *Old Frontier* III. 227 This occurred 'way back', when the Indians had no horses. **1939** *Country Life* 11 Feb. p. xxxvi/1 The 'Rule for Anchresses', written way back in the thirteenth century. **1948** *Sporting Mirror* 19 Nov. 6/2 Way back in September I said that Norwich City have got what it takes and would be a power this season. **1969** J. D. A. WIDDOWSON in Halpert & Story *Christmas Mummings in Newfoundland* 218 The real mummies we used to have way back. **1970** J. LENNON in J. Wenner *Lennon Remembered* (1972) 144 He not only knew my work, and the lyrics that I had written but he also understood them, and from way back. **1978** R. HILL *Pinch of Snuff* ix. 87 'You know Burkill, sir?' he asked. 'From way back.'

B. adj. *Usu.* written **way-back**, **wayback**.

1. Of long ago.

1885 *Santa Fé Weekly New Mexican* 10 Sept. 1/2 A writer in giving a description of the plains of Kansas in the 'way back' time, speaks of it as a 'wilderness of grasses'. **1962** *Observer* 17 June 3/6 [U.S. writer] He had an ancestor cult. There was a painting of a way-back ancestor wearing a woollen waistcoat.

2. Hailing from, or located in, a remote rural area.

1887 *New York Ev. Post* 4 Oct., The way-back delegates, those from the farms and the small villages. **1918** *Blackw. Mag.* May 608/2 There was a *fundi*.. who used to let on that the pictures on some vases.. were done from wayback Masai. **1933** *Bulletin* (Sydney) 24 May 21/2 Mrs. Smallbeer sold her very wayback pub. **1950** K. S. PRICHARD *Winged Seeds* xv. 165 Sally understood that this visit to a way-back station was an experience for them. **1951** *Landfall* V. 278 Miss Dane.. imagined herself a pioneer of progress in a wayback community. **1973** M. CARNEGIE *Friday Mount* 218 No wonder some of the way-back towns had that look.

C. sb. Form as for the adj. 1. A person inhabiting or coming from a remote district.

1890 E. CUSTER *Following Guidon* xvii. 261 We were, in Western terms, 'waybacks from wayback'. **1912** R. S. TAIT *Scotty Mac, Shearer* 125 At a group in front of him a thimble-rigger was expending much eloquence to induce a party of waybacks to relieve him of his surplus cash. **1924** *Contemp. Rev.* Aug. 236 The well-known resourcefulness and sense of location of the present-day way-backs of Australia.. are due.. to lessons taught the pioneers by the natives.

2. Remote rural areas; *spec.* the Australian outback.

1890 [see prec. sense]. **1901** F. J. GILLEN *Diary* 5 Oct. (1968) 277 The station is built on a stony rise on the western bank of the Newcastle and like most stock stations in the 'wayback' there has been no attempt made to improve the appearance of the surroundings. **1925** H. H. COOK *Far Flung* v. 39 Some 50 miles in the 'way-back'. **1933** *Bulletin* (Sydney) 27 Sept. 20/4 Waltzing Matilda in the waybacks of S.A. I came upon a well-found homestead.

'way-bill.

1. A list of passengers booked for seats in a stagecoach or other public vehicle for places on the road. Also a detailed statement of goods entrusted to a public carrier for delivery at stated destinations.

1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* 3 June 1784, The Oxford post-coach took us up in the morning at Bolt-Court.. I found from the way-bill, that Dr. Johnson had made our names be put down. **1821** *Massachusetts Spy* 23 May (Thornton), Packages of the larger kind, belonging to any passenger, were always entered on the way-bill. **1824** BARNEWALL & CRESSWELL *Rep. K.B.* II. 718 He did not see any Norwich way-bill [in the waggon]. **1849** DE QUINCEY *Eng. Mail Coach* Wks. 1862 IV. 297 Ucalegon, as it happened, was not in the way-bill and therefore could not have been booked. **1864** T. S. WILLIAMS & SIMMONDS *Engl. Commenc. Corresp.* 91 You will also be kind enough to repay him the carriage according to the bills of lading or the waybills he will show you. **1897** BRAM STOKER *Dracula* xvii. (1912) 244 The official.. sending also.. the way-bill and all the papers connected with the delivery of the boxes at Carfax.

2. A list of places to be visited on a journey.

1851 W. KELLY *Excursion to California* I. x. 172 According to our way-bill, and comparing it with our computed travel, we could not be far off the next crossing of the Platte. **1866** *Daily Tel.* 16 Jan. 7/4 All of which places.. are set down for visit in my way-bill. **1879** TOURGEE *Fool's Errand* xxxv. 242 He had been traveling on what is known in that country as a 'way-bill', or a description of a route received from another.

transf. **1823** MOORE *Rhymes on Road* Introd. 89, I've got into the easy mode, You see, of rhyming on the road—

Making a way-bill of my pages, Counting the stanzas by my stages.

3. *U.S.* A label attached to an article in transit to indicate its destination, mode of transport, etc.

1887 GUNTER *Mr. Barnes* xx. 145 The old and dilapidated little dirty trunk covered with numerous way-bills.

4. A kind of pass by producing which a man 'on the road' can obtain relief at certain stages of his journey. So *way-bill system*.

1893 *Times* 20 Sept. 3/6 This system, which became known as the 'waybill' system, was worked in this way. When a destitute wayfarer left a casual ward in the morning, he could, on application, obtain a waybill or passport, on which were recorded.. the day and hour at which the bearer left it, and the route on which he was travelling, [etc.]. **1897** *Church Times* 20 Aug. 187/1 Any poor traveller.. will be.. fed, lodged, and passed on, the following morning, with a stamped way-bill, to the next lodging-house on the route.

Hence *way-bill v. U.S. trans.*, to enter (goods) on a way-bill.

1877 W. H. BURROUGHS *Taxation* 140 Freight being way-billed through. **1890** *Railways Amer.* 412 He.. must count, seal, superscribe, and way-bill money packages and handle oyster-kegs.. at a moment's notice.

†**'way-bit**. *north. Obs.* Forms: 6 waybitte, wey byt, 6-7 wey-, 7 wea-, 7-8 wee-, (9 wai-), 7- way-bit. [First element uncertain, but prob. representing northern dialectal variants of **WEE** *sb.*¹ and *a.* + **BIT** *sb.*²] A short distance.

As shown by the quotations, the source of the word was the alleged habit of Northern rustics, on being asked the distance to a place, of giving it as 'a mile (etc.) and a way-bit', which the inquiring traveller found practically to mean two or three miles.

1589 *Almond for Parrat* 2 If.. my full points seeme as tedious to thy puritane perusers, as the Northren mans mile, and a waybitte to the weary passenger. **1600** *Wisd. Dr. Dodypoll* iv. i. in Bullen *O. Pl.* III. 139 How far am I from Court? Some two myles and a wey byt, sir. **1603** T. M. *True Narr. Entert. H.M.* C3 b, The miles according to the Northren phrase, are a wey-bit longer then they be here in the South. *c* 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1655) IV. xxviii. 67 In the North parts where there is a wea bit to evry mile. **1651** J. C[LEVELAND] *Poems, Dial. Two Zealots* 52 A York-shire Wea-bit, longer then a mile. *a* 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Yorks.* (1662) 190 Ask a Country-man here on the high-way, how far it is to such a Town, and they commonly return, So many miles and a way-bit.. It is not Way-bit, though generally so pronounced, but Wee-bit is a pure Yorkshirism, which is a small bit in the Northern Language. *Ibid.* 225 Generall Leslie with his Scottish ran away more then an York-shire mile, and a Wee-bit. **1775** J. WATSON *Hist. Halifax* 548 *Way-bit*. As a mile and a way-bit. Meaning a wec, or little bit. **1834** MEDWIN *Angler in Wales* I. 255 You shall have his description of it, preface and all—which is like the mile and the wai bit, in Sussex, the one twice the length of the other. *fig. a* 1670 HACKET *Abp. Williams* i. (1692) 59, I have heard him prefer divers, and very seriously, before himself, who came short a Mile and a way-bit. **1692** *Poems in Burlesque* 15 From Sleep to Death, there's but a way-bit.

b. transf. of time.

1687 SETTLE *Refl. Dryden's Plays* 51 In his *anno ætatis*, thirty and a Way-bit. **1732** LADY B. GERMAIN *Lett. to Swift* 13 May, You will find forty years and a wee bit have done no more good to my head than it has to my face.

'way-board. *Mining.* Also **weigh-**. [app. f. **WAY** *sb.*¹ + **BOARD** *sb.* (cf. sense 16).] (See quot. 1859.)

a. **1747** HOOSON *Miner's Dict.* L3, These Leaps never happen but at some Way-board, or large Bed-joynt. **1818** W. PHILLIPS *Geol.* 137 The limestone strata contain thin beds of clay, termed by the miner way-boards. **1859** PAGE *Handbk. Geol. Terms, Wayboards*, a mining term, now pretty generally employed by geologists to designate any thin layers or bands that separate or define the boundaries of thicker strata.

b. **1802** J. MAWE *Mineral. Derbysh.* Gloss. (E.D.S.), *Weighboard*, clay intersecting the vein. **1860** WORCESTER. **1864** WEBSTER. (And in later Dicts.)

waybread, **waybred** ('weibred). Forms: *a.* 1 weȝbrádae, -bráde, (2 weibreode, 3 wei-, 5 weybrode), 4-6 weybrede (6 -bred), 5-6 waybrede, 6-7 waybreed, 6, 9 waybread, (7 whaybred, 8 way-broad), 5- waybred (6 wabred, 6, 9 wabret, 9 waybret, wabert). *β.* 7 wayburne, 9 -burn; 7 waburne, 9 wabran, -bron, waveren. [Com. WGer.: OE. *wegbráde*, *wegbræde* wk. fem., corresponds to OS. *wegabreda*, *wegbrede* (MLG., M.Du. *wegebrede*, Du. *weegbree*; WFr. *weibré*), OHG. *wegabreita* fem. (MHG. *wegebreite*, mod.G. *wegebreite*, *wegbreite* fem., *weg(e)breit* masc.); Da. has *vejbred* from LG. The word means 'broad-leaved plant growing beside the ways'; f. **WAY** *sb.*¹ (the early continental forms have genit. pl.) + OTeut. type **braidjōn-* broad object (cf. OHG. *wintbreita* 'ventilabrum', *breite* flat cake). In the *β*-forms, occurring only with *-leaf*, the *d* of the stem has disappeared before the *-n* of the OE. genitive sing. in *wegbrédan léaf* (Leechd. I. 84, 86).] = PLANTAIN¹ 1. Also *water waybread* = water plantain: see PLANTAIN¹ 2.

c 700 *Epinal Gloss.* 65 *Arniglosa*.. uueȝbradae. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 292 *ŷenim*.. þa ruwan weȝbrádan [etc.]. *11*.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 544/38 *Plantago*, weibreode. *c* 1265 *Voc. Plants* *ibid.* 558/22 Weibreode. **1398** TREVISA *Barth. De P.R.* xvii. cxxix. (1495) 687 Weybrede chewed easyth and clensyth swellynge gomes. *c* 1450 *Alphita*

(Anecd. Oxon.) 14 Arnoglossa, . . plantago maior idem. . . Anglice weybrode. c 1500 *Gloss.* 69 in *Makculloch MS.* (S.T.S.) 28 Hec plantago, a wabred. 1538 TURNER *Libellus*, *Alisma dioscorideae*, . . water plantane or water waybrede. 1562 — *Herbal* 11. 94 There ar two kyndes of plantayn or Waybrede, the lesse and the greater. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* xxv. viii. 11. 223 Themison . . set forth a whole booke of the hearbe Waibread or Plantain, wherein he highly praiseth it. 1657 W. COLES *Adam in Eden* lxxvi, The generall English name is Plantaine; but that which the Greeks call *Eptaneuron*, we call Way-bred, because it commonly breeds by the wayside. 1705 tr. *Cowley's Plants* Wks. (1711) III. 303 Next Waybred rose. . . Her Nature is astringent, which great Hate Of her among Blood-letters does create. 1861 MRS. LANKESTER *Wild Flowers* 109 The common name of Plantago Major is undoubtedly Way-bred (not Way-bread, as it is usually spelt), from its frequency by the way-side, seeming as if bred on the road. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, Waybread.

b. *Comb.*: waybread-leaf (also *Sc.* wayburn-leaf), sometimes used as the name of the plant.

a. 1599 T. CUTWODE *Caltha* Poet. (Roxb.) cxvii, And with a Wabret leafe he made a wallet. 1614 G. MARKHAM *Cheap & Gd. Husb.* Table hard words, *Plantayne* . . is called Whaybrede leafe. 1803 LEYDEN *Scenes of Infancy* 1. 101 The wabret leaf, that by the pathway grew.

β. 1609 in T. Craig-Brown *Hist. Selkirksh.* (1886) I. 180 Being demandit if she gave drinks, she answered she gave nane bot of Waburne leavis for the hart-axes. 1623 *Sel. Rec. Presbyt. Lanark* (Abbotsford Club) 1 She appoyntit thame the wayburne leaf to be eatin nyne mornings. 1808 JAMIESON, *Wabran leaves*, Great Plantain or Waybread. 1820 *Blackw. Mag.* Nov. 202, I thought the grey whin was gaun frae below me—it shook like a wabron-leaf. 1831 W. PATRICK *Plants Lanark*. 94 Greater Plantain. . . The leaves (vulgarly called the Wayburn-leaf) are spread on the ground. 1914 J. S. ANGUS *Shetland Gloss.* 154 *Wavren leaf*, plantain (*Plantago major*).

waycett, obs. form of WATCHET.

waycht, *Sc.* var. *wicht*: see WIGHT a.

†waycoriant. *Obs. rare.* The three obscure terms in the quot. (as also *wagron* on the prec. page: see quot. s.v. GHEEREAGUAR) seem to be arbitrary formations, pretended names of pigments.

1658 W. SANDERSON *Graphice* 69 For an Amethyst, the same Gheereaguar mixed with Waycoriant and waywick.

†wayed, *ppl. a.* *Obs. rare.* [f. WAY sb.¹ + -ED².] Having a way. Also in *three-wayed* = THREE-WAY a.

1382 WYCLIF *Isa.* xv. 3 In his thre weied places thei ben gird with a sac. — *Ezek.* xix. 13 Now it is plauntid ouere in desert, in loond not wayed [Vulg. *invia*].

wayer(e): see WARE sb.³, WAYOUR *Obs.*, WEIGHER.

†wayfarage. *Feudal Law. Obs.* [f. WAYFARE sb. or v. + -AGE.] = CHIMINAGE.

1594 CROMPTON *Jurisd.* 189 Chimynage, that is toll for wayfarage. 1607 COWELL *Interpr.*, Chiminage. . . signifieth a toll for wayfarage through the forest. 1679 BLOUNT *Ant. Tenures* 91 They ought to have. . . Toll for wayfarage through the whole Farm aforesaid.

wayfare ('weifæ(r)), sb. *arch.* [f. WAY sb.¹ + FARE sb., after WAYFARING a.]

1. Wayfaring, travelling. Also *fig.*

?a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1797 He. . . Wroghte wayes fulle wyde, and wounded knyghttez; Wykrez his in wayfare fulle werkand sydez, And hewes of þe hardieste halsez in sondyre. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* xi. xxx. I. 328 Their [sc. ants'] waifare is so ordinarie and continuall, that wee may see the very hard flint and pebble stones worne with their passage too and fro. 1614 SYLVESTER *Little Barts* 714 The wayful load Of Cares and Crosses (in a thousand things) Which this our wretched, sad, short, Way-fare brings. 1850 S. DOBELL *Crazed* 24, I. . . entered on my wayfare when I saw Gold on the ground and glory in the trees. 1886 BURTON *Arab. Nts.* (abr. ed.) I. 4 On the fourth day he made ready for wayfare. 1887 MORRIS *Odys.* x. 501 O Circe, and what helmsman for my wayfare shall I get?

b. Guidance in travel. *rare*—1.

1875 MORRIS *Aeneids* viii. 336 Me. . . my mother's word well worshipped hither drive, The nymph Carmentis; and a god, Apollo, wayfare gave.

†2. Provision for a journey, travelling expenses. [tr. L. *viaticum*]. *Obs.*

1600 HOLLAND *Livy* xxii. lii. 464 A noble Lady. . . named Busa, relieved them with some victuall, apparrell, yea and mony also in their purses for their wayfare. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Deut.* xv. 14 Thou shalt in no case suffer him to depart empty: but geve him his wayfare of thy flockes, and of thy barne floore, and thy presse.

wayfare ('weifæ(r)), v. Now *rare* and *arch.* [Back-formation from WAYFARING sb.] *intr.* To journey or travel, esp. on foot. Also *to wayfare* *it*.

1547 *Act 1 Edw. VI.* c. 3 § 3 Divers wemen and men goeth on begging wayfaring. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* xxiv. (1617) 411 Abraham, Isaac and Jacob wayfared from place to place vpon the earth. 1596 SPENSER *F.Q.* v. xi. 37 There as he traueled by the way, he met An aged wight, wayfaring all alone. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 474 A certain Laconian as he way-fared, came unto a place where there dwelt an olde friend and host of his. 1818 KEATS *Lett.* Wks. 1889 III. 142, I hope soon to be writing you about the things of the north, purposing to wayfare all over those parts. 1850 *Fraser's Mag.* XLII. 446 Shoals of people. . . wayfared it up the Rhine. 1898 HARDY *Wessex Poems* 135 Along through the Stour-bordered Forum, Where Legions had wayfared.

b. *fig.* and in *fig.* context.

1535 *Goodly Primer*, *Commendations* Ps. cxix. Zain, Whilst I here wayfared a stranger. 1578 *Bk. Chr. Prayers* 12

Most louing Father, . . harken to the prayers of thy seruants, yet wayfaring here on earth. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 141 Not jading it in the great road of bare motion, which other stirr'd bodies are wayfaring in. 1875 MANNING *Mission Holy Ghost* i. 23 That he is but a stranger wayfaring upon earth.

wayfarer ('weifæra(r)). [f. WAY sb.¹ + FARER. Cf. WAYFERER.] A traveller by road, esp. one who journeys on foot.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 520/1 Weyfarere, viator, viatrix. 1514 BARCLAY *Eglog* iii. (1570) Bvjb, Iugglers and pipers, and scuruy wayfarers. 1551 T. WILSON *Logic* 43 The way-fairer shall not (or very hardly) come to his journeies ende, except he haue some money in his purse. 1602 CAREW *Cornwall* i. 66 But in stead of remedy, they receyued in answer, that neither such an outcorner was frequented with many wayfarers, nor by hanging out signes. . . did they inuite any. 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Streets—Night*, Savoury steams of hot dinners salute the nostrils of the hungry wayfarer, as he plods wearily by the area railings. 1858 CHR. G. ROSSETTI *Poems, Up-hill* 9 Shall I meet other wayfarers at night? Those who have gone before. 1896 CONAN DOYLE *Exploits of Gerard* vi. 217 There were few wayfarers between there and Greiz.

b. *wayfarer's-tree*, the hobble-bush. *U.S.* 1858 [see HOBBLE-BUSH].

wayfaring ('weifæring), *vbl. sb.* Somewhat *arch.* [f. WAY sb.¹ + FARING *vbl. sb.*, after WAYFARING a.] Journeying, travelling; an instance of this. Also *fig.*

1536 *Primer Eng. & Lat., Commend.* (Rouen) 149 b, Thy iustifications were to me songes in y^e place of my wayfaring. 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* 11. iii. Liv, Wherefore comest thou a wayfarynge into this country. . . ? 1548 UDALL *Erasm. Par. Acts* ii. 22–28 He him selfe went on wayfarynge frome place to place. 1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* iii. xxv. (1634) 484 To us the onely and perfect felicitie is knowne even in this earthly waifaring. a 1677 BARROW *Wks.* (1686) III. Serm. xv. 178 The Scripture aptly resembles our life to a wayfaring, a condition of travel and pilgrimage. 1818 KEATS *Endym.* i. 132 That I may dare, in wayfaring, To stammer where old Chaucer used to sing. 1832 W. IRVING *Alhambra* (1851) 122 To hear a mass and put up a prayer for a prosperous wayfaring across the Sierra. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xlii, Gipsy camps they had passed in their wayfaring. 1881 O'SHAUGHNESSY *Songs of a Worker* 42 A certain traveller, sad and. . . worn With wayfaring.

b. *Comb.*, as *wayfaring-journey*, *-life*, *-sketch*; †*wayfaring-book*, an itinerary; †*wayfaring-shrub* = WAYFARING-TREE.

1549 in *Strype Eccl. Mem.* (1721) III. App. lxxxiii. 289 Give us Grace to forget this Way-faring Journey, and to remember our proper and true Country. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* i. 204 No farther this way did Antonine specify any place in his way-faring book. 1614 LITHGOW *Trav.* B4 Some notable illusions. . . which I found in my wayfaring journey. 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Viscum*, The Bark of our Lantane or Way-faring Shrub. 1847 MISS F. SKENE (*title*) *Wayfaring Sketches* among the Greeks and Turks. 1889 LUCY TOULMIN SMITH (*title*) *English Wayfaring Life in the Middle Ages* [tr. J. J. Jusserand *La Vie nomade*].

wayfaring ('weifæring), *ppl. a. arch.* Forms: 1 wegfareng, 4 weyfarende, -faringe, -varyng, (5 -fareng), 4–6 wayfarynge, -inge, 6 wayefa(y)rynge, waifaring, 7 way-fairing, 6–wayfaring. [OE. *wegfarende*, f. *weg* WAY sb.¹ + pres. pple. of *faran* FARE v.¹ Cf. Icel. (14th c.) *vegfaraandi*, MSw. *vāgh-*, Sw. *vāgfarande*, Da. *veifarende*. Cf. the cognate WAYFERING.] Travelling or journeying by road. Usually *wayfaring man*, a traveller by road. Also *fig.*

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* xxvi. 204 Sum wegfarende man ferde wiþ pone feld. c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* 3659 We ar. . . Weyfarende men þat wolde haue gryp. 1387 TREvisa *Higden* V. 449 For refreshyng and socour of way farynge [MS. y weyvaryng] men. 1502 ATKYNSON tr. *De Imitatione* iii. xxiii. (1893) 216 O iesu, . . the solace & confort of wayfarynge soules. 1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* 11. (Arb.) 157 The waye beyng sumwhat trodden afore, by waye fayryng men. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxxviii. § 11. 241 The necessities of trauailers waifaring men and such like. 1611 BIBLE *Isa.* xxxv. 8 The wayfaringmen, though fooles, shall not erre therein. 1678 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* i. 155 When the Shepherds perceived that they were way-fairing men, they also put questions to them, . . as, Whence came you? 1897 'EDNA LYALL' (*title*) *Wayfaring Men*.

†b. *wayfaring man's tree*, the fuller form of WAYFARING-TREE.

Both are found in Gerarde for the first time, but only the latter survived.

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* iii. cxv. 1305 The Wayfaring mans tree groweth vp to the height of an hedge tree, of a meane bignesse.

Hence wayfaringly *adv. rare.*

1552 HULOET, Wayfaryngly, peregrine, uiatice.

wayfaring-tree. [Short for *wayfaring man's tree* (see above); cf. *traveller's joy*.]

1. The tall shrub *Viburnum Lantana*, with broad leaves downy underneath, white flowers in dense cymes, and green berries turning first red then black. It grows wild in hedges and underwood.

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* iii. cxv. 1305 Of the Wayfaring tree. 1670 EVELYN *Sylva* xxi. § 19. (ed. 2) 101 The *Viburnum*, or Way-faring tree, . . makes the most plant and best bands to Fagot with. 1671–96 PHILLIPS, *Weafaring-tree*. 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.*, *Viburnum*; The Wayfaring or Pliant Mealy Tree. 1785 MARTYN *Lett. Bot.* xvii. (1794) 239. 1830 HOWITT *Bk. Seasons* (1837) 117 Wayfaring tree! what ancient claim Hast thou to that right pleasant name? 1859

W. S. COLEMAN *Woodlands* (1866) 121 The Wayfaring Tree, belonging to the same genus as the Guelder Rose, bears a considerable resemblance to that shrub, both in its flowers and berries; but in the leaves differs entirely.

2. *U.S.* The hobble-bush (*V. lantanoides*).

1814 PURSH *Flora Amer. Septentr.* 711. 1856 A. GRAY *Man. Bot. U.S.* (1860) 168.

wayfe: see WAIF sb.¹, WAIVE v.²

†wayferer. *Obs.* [f. WAY sb.¹ + FERE v.¹ + -ER¹.] = WAYFARER.

1388–9 in *1st Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* 80/1 De xvi d. solutis uni weyferer eodem tempore. c 1450 MYRC. *Par. Pr.* 1364 Hast þou in herte rowpe I-had, Of hem þat were nede be-stad, To seke & sore and prisonerus, I-herberet alle weyfer[er]us?

†wayfering, *ppl. a.* *Obs.* Forms: 1 wegférende, 3 weiverinde, 4 wayverinde, -ferande, way-, weyferyng(e. [OE. *wegfêrende*, f. *weg* WAY sb.¹ + pres. pple. of *fêran* FERE v.¹] = WAYFARING *ppl. a.*

c 890 WÆRFERTH tr. *Gregory's Dial.* 128 þa cwæð se wegférenda to þam æwfastan mæn. c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 164 Dysig bið se wegférenda man seðe nimð pone smeðan weg þe hine mislæt. a 1225 *Ancre. R.* 350 Heo iuindeð, iwis, Sein Julianes in, þet weiuerinde men georne secheð. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 10510 Be a man yn sykenes, or yn prysoun, Weyferyng, or yn temptacyun. 1340 *Ayenb.* 39 Robberes and kuede herberzeres þet berobbeþ þe pilgrikes an þe marchons and þe opre wayuerindemen. 13. . . *E.E. Allit.* P. B. 79 þe wayferende frekez, on fote & on hors, . . Lapez hem alle luflyly to lenge at my fest. c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* ii. pr. v. (1886) 34 (Cambr. MS.) Yif thou haddst entred in the paath of this lyf a voyde wayferyng [Addit. MS. way-faryng] man. c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 348 In þis epistle techip Poul how wey-feryng men þat lyven here shulden go þe streijt wey þat ledip men to þe blisse of hevene.

wayff(e, wayft: see WAIF sb.¹, WEFT sb.²

wayfire, obs. f. WAFER.

way-gang. *Sc.* [GANG sb.¹] = WAY-GOING.

1737 RAMSAY *Sc. Prov.* 27 Frost and fawshood have baith a dirty waygang. 1894 LATTO *Tam. Bodkin* xxxi. 315 Their wa' gang [sc. the death of her parents] brak the hindmost link that bund her affections to Breeriebuss.

†'waygate'. *Obs.* Also 6 -gait. [f. WAY *adv.* + GATE sb.²] The act of going away, departure.

1575–6 *Durham Depos.* (Surtees) 269 This exminate at his waygait bad the said Thomas fairwell. 1598 R. BERNARD tr. *Terence, Heautontim.* iii. i. (1607) 221 Least that old wonted austerite of yours bee worse then it was at his way-gate. 1600 HEYWOOD *2nd Pt. Edw. IV* (1613) Q4b, So God respect the waygate of my soule, as I know nothing. 1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 77 It is an usuall course (amongst shepheards) att the way-gate of a snowe. . . to keepe theire sheepe. . . on some swarth-grownd.

waygate². *Sc.* and *north.* [f. WAY sb.¹ + GATE sb.² Cf. *way-gang*, -go s.v. WAY sb.¹ 40.]

1. A passage-way.

For various special uses see *Eng. Dial. Dict.* a 1800 in Hogg *Jacobite Relics* (1819) I. 24 He's awa to sail, Wi' water in his waygate, An' wind in his tail. 1866 CARLYLE *E. Irving* in *Froude Remin.* (1881) I. 101 'Upon all these [books] you have will and waygate', an expressive Annandale phrase of the completest welcome.

2. Speed, progress, headway. *Sc.* and *north.*

1825–82 JAMIESON. 1894 *Northumbld. Gloss.*

waygh, obs. form of WEIGH v.

way-going ('weigaʊn). *Sc.* and *north.* Also 9 *Sc.* -ga'en, -gaun. [f. WAY *adv.*] The action or fact of going away, departure (on a journey, from life); the act of leaving (a habitation, employment).

1633 SIR A. JOHNSTON (Ld. Wariston) *Diary* (S.H.S.) I. 98 Coming hooome. . . my saule blissed God. . . for his goodnes to me in this comunon conforme to my voue before my way-going. 1649 J. CARSTAIRS *Lett.* (1846) 58 Fearing much the [letter] bearer's way-going, I dare say no more; but let [etc.]. 1702 H. GUTHRY *Mem.* 56 They press'd that the prorogation might be with the consent of the Estates, and upon his refusal they oppos'd his way-going. 1819 ALEX. BALFOUR *Campbell* I. xviii. 326 It was a wae wa-ga'en to mae nor me at that time. 1825–82 JAMIESON, *Way-gaun, Wa'-gaun, Way-going, adj.*, removing from a farm or habitation. 1896 'G. SETOUN' *Robert Urquhart* xxiii. 248 He may ha'e so putten the words in my mouth just to ease the wa-gaun o' a faithfu' servant. 1899 CROCKETT *Kit Kennedy* ii. 13 Christopher Kennedy had lost his position. . . for drunkenness, and even at that very moment with his companions he was celebrating his way-going.

b. *attrib.*, as *way-going premium*; *way-going crop* (see quotes.).

1773 *Harpham Inclos. Act* 8 Such farmer. . . shall. . . have a *way going crop or crops following him. 1797 J. BAILEY & G. CULLEY *Agric. Northumbld.* ii. 25 Where the tenant quits on the 12th of May, he is allowed to have a crop of corn from off two-thirds of the arable lands; this is called the way-going crop. 1855 H. BROOM *Comm. Common Law* (1856) 13 A custom that a tenant shall have the waygoing crop after the expiration of his term is reasonable and good. 1920 *Act 10 & 11 Geo. V.* c. 76 § 10 (7) (f) The tenant shall, along with the last or waygoing crop, sow permanent grass seeds. 1881 *Times* 17 Mar. 4/5 They [sc. Irish tenants] care not to realize five years' rent for the *way-going premium which at any time they might receive.

Similarly way-going a., departing, outgoing. *Sc.*

1812 SIR J. SINCLAIR *Syst. Husb. Scot.* II. 62 Much depends on the conditions obligatory on the way-going tenant. **1845** R. HUNTER *Law Landl. & Tenant Index*, Waygoing tenant's right to value of fallow land.

waygoose. Now *dial.* or *Obs.* [Of obscure etymology; there is no evidence that the second element is to be identified with GOOSE *sb.*] (See *quots.* and cf. WAYZGOOSE.)

1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* 361 It is also customary for all the Journey-men to make every Year new Paper Windows. . . Because that day they make them, the Master Printer gives them a Way-goose; that is, he makes them a good Feast, and not only entertains them at his own House, but besides, gives them Money to spend at the Ale-house or Tavern at Night. These Way-gooses, are always kept about Bartholomew-tide. And till the Master-Printer have given this Way-goose, the Journey-men do not use to Work by Candle Light. **1833** TIMPERLEY *Songs of the Press* 23 Song, Composed for a Printers' Way Goose. **1847** HALLIWELL, *Way-goose*, an entertainment given by an apprentice to his fellow-workmen. *West.* **1857** WRIGHT *Dict. Obs. & Prov. Engl., Way-goose*, an annual feast among printers. It appears to have been formerly a practice peculiar to Coventry, where it was usual in the large manufactories of ribbons and watches, as well as amongst the silk dyers, at the season of the year when they commenced the use of candles, to have what was called a *way-goose*, when all the persons of the establishment were accustomed to go a short distance into the country and partake of an entertainment provided for the occasion at the charge of their employers: and this practice uniformly preceded the working by candle-light. **1865** J. BROWN *J. Leech*, etc. (1882) 13 *note*, Once a year they attend the annual dinner of the firm, at which composers; readers, printers, machinemen, clerks, etc. dine. This dinner is called the 'Way Goose', and is often referred to in *Punch*. **1886** *Cheshire Gloss., Waygoose* or *wayzgoose*, an entertainment given to journeymen workmen.

'way-in, a. slang. [f. WAY *adv.* + IN *adv.*, after WAY OUT *a.*] Conventional; fashionable, sophisticated.

1960 N.Y. *Times Mag.* 12 June 19/1 A famous lady columnist with a way-out taste in millinery but a way-in taste in film fare. *Ibid.* 78/4 Many artists . . . have sought refuge in . . . way-in or way-out religious conversions. **1967** *Punch* 29 Nov. 81/2 There's a real way-in guy looking like how a guy on *The Times Saturday Review* ought to look like.

waying ('weɪŋ), *vbl. sb. poet. nonce-wd.* [f. WAY *v.* + -ING¹.] A going away; departure.

1922 HARDY *Late Lyrics & Earlier* 120 So, with this saying, 'Good-bye, good-bye,' We speed their waying.

wayk(e, wayken: see WEAK, WEAKEN.

wayl, *obs. form* of VAIL *v.*¹, WALE *v.*¹

waylaway, *obs. form* of WELLAWAY.

waylay (weɪ'leɪ, 'weɪleɪ), *v.* Pa. t. and pa. pple. waylaid (weɪ'leɪd, 'weɪleɪd). Also 6-7 way-laye, 6-9 way-lay. [f. WAY *sb.*¹ + LAY *v.*¹ (where see senses 18b, c.), after MLG., MDu. *wegelāgen* (= MHG. and early mod.G. *wegelagen*, *weglagen*, superseded in later German by *wegelagern*), f. *wegelage*:—OS., OHG. **wega lāga* besetting of ways (*wega* genit. pl. of *weg* way + *lāge* besetting, ambush, related to LAY *v.*¹).]

1. trans. To lie in wait for (a person or thing) with evil or hostile intent; to seize or attack in the way.

1513 in G. P. Scrope *Castile Combe* (1852) 292 The saynd [sic] Robert Bruer, Richard Pollen, John Lewis cam and waylaynd [sic] my keepers man, and so hert hyem. **1596** SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV.* I. ii. 183 [They] shall robbe those men that wee haue already way-layde. **1601**—*Twel. N.* III. iv. 176. I will way-lay thee going home, where if it be thy chance to kill me [etc.]. **1666** DRYDEN *Ann. Mirab.* ccii, Now on their Coasts our conquering Navy rides, Way-lays their Merchants, and their Land besets. **1674** MILTON *P.R.* I. 184 How thou lurk'st. In Valley or Green Meadow to way-lay Some beauty rare. **1759** JOHNSON *Idler* No. 73 ¶3 The rich are neither way-laid by robbers, nor watched by informers. **1779** FORREST *Voy. N. Guinea* 144 Then we should be way-laid by armed corcoros. **1813** SCOTT *Rokeby* III. xii, Thou art a wanderer, it is said; For Mortham's death, thy steps way-laid. **1861** *Sat. Rev.* 7 Dec. 578 A screw-steamer of war . . . waylaid the English Royal West India Mail steamer in the Bahama Channel . . . and brought her to by firing a round shot across her bows. **1883** *Manch. Guardian* 18 Oct. 4/7 A ruffian . . . waylaid her in the street and assaulted her in the most brutal manner.

b. fig.

a1616 BEAUM. & FL. *Little Fr. Lawyer* II. iii, Dost thou way-lay me with ladies? **1635** QUARLES *Embl.* III. Epig. ix, Thy soule's way-laid by sea; by Hell; by earth. **1680** C. NESSE *Church Hist.* 495 That Word of God *There must be ten horns* way-lays them. **1750** JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 69 ¶3 All the other Miseries, which way-lay our Passage through the World, Wisdom may escape, and Fortitude may conquer. **1760** STERNE *Tr. Shandy* III. vi, The accidents which unavoidably way-lay them.

c. To intercept and seize (a thing in transit). Also *fig.* to seize (an opportunity).

1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* Dram. Pers. (1600) Aij, He way laies the reports of seruices, & cons them without booke, [etc.]. **1639** MAYNE *City Match* II. iii, Use stratagems To get her silver whistle, and way-lay Her pewter knots or bodkin. **1672** *Essex Papers* (Camden) I. 37, I. . resolve to waylay all opportunities for ye future. **1851** HELPS *Comp. Solit.* iv. (1874) 43 The fond wife used to waylay and open large packets. **1856** KANE *Arct. Expl.* II. vii. 84 Hans has not returned. I give him two days more before I fall in with the opinion . . . that Godfrey has waylaid or seized upon his sledge.

2. transf. (without implication of hostility). To wait for (a person) in the way and accost; to stop (a person) in order to converse with him.

1612-15 BP. HALL *Contempl., O.T.* XIX. i. (1625) 1355 The Prophet . . . way-lays the King of Israel, and sadly complains of himselfe in a reall parable. **a1625** FLETCHER *Chances* IV. i, Our loves shall now way-lay ye; welcome, Gentlemen. **1728** SIR R. WALPOLE *Let.* 8 Oct. in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. 1. 241 Our scheme about the Duke of Riparda must be alter'd unless you can way-lay this Evening or to-morrow morning, & prevail wth him to alter his course. **1804** WORDSW. 'She was a Phantom' 10 A dancing Shape, an Image gay, To haunt, to startle, and way-lay. **1807** MISS MITFORD in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) I. iii. 62 The driver of the Reading coach is quite accustomed to be waylaid by our carriage. **1840** DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xlviii, Being directed to the chapel [he] betook himself there, in order to waylay her, at the conclusion of the service. **1886** RUSKIN *Præterita* II. 60, I have held it a first principle of manners not to way-lay people. **1914** *Blackw. Mag.* Nov. 577 The canal lock-keepers waylay me for the latest information.

†3. To impede or intercept (a person) in his progress; to block the path of. Also, to impede or obstruct (an activity). Obs.

1625 BACON *Ess., Usury* (Arb.) 543 For the Employment of Money, is chiefly, either Merchandizing, or Purchasing; And Vsury Way-lays both. **1649** MILTON *Eikon.* viii. 68 Using a strange iniquity to require justice upon him whom he then waylaid and debarr'd from his appearance. **1660** INGELÖ *Bentiv. & Ur.* I. (1682) 156 By this means we endeavour to way-lay an inconvenience which others accelerate by Excess in meats and drinks. **1681** FLAVEL *Right Man's Ref.* 170 'Tis our wisdom to way-lay our troubles. **1688** BUNYAN *Jerus. Sinner Saved* (1886) 121 Art thou crossed, disappointed, and way-laid, and overthrown in all thy foolish ways and doings?

4. To beset or blockade (a road, position, district) with an armed force or the like. ? Obs.

1609 [BP. W. BARLOW] *Answ. Nameless Cath.* 292 The Pope caused them to bee staied from that meeting, way-laying the Coastes of Verona and Millan. **1618** J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Pennyles Pilgr.* F 1 b, Then all the valley on each side being way-laid with a hundred couple of strong Irish Grey-hounds, they are let loose as occasion serues vpon the heard of Deere. **1757** WASHINGTON *Lett.* Writ. 1889 I. 498, I. . ordered the passes of the mountains to be waylaid by commands from other places. **1784** BELKNAP *Tour to White Mts.* (1876) 19 The next morning they waylaid the road and killed these men. **1813** SCOTT *Rokeby* II. xiii, Is our path way-laid? **1828** W. IRVING *Columbus* VIII. iii. II. 237 He spread his army through the adjacent forests; and waylaid every pass.

Hence waylaid *ppl. a.* waylayer, one who waylays. waylaying *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.* (Stress variable, as in the vb.)

1626 BRETTON *Fantasticks* C4, The quarter Sessions take order with the way-layers. **1666** DRYDEN *Ann. Mirab.* xxv, Like hunted Castors, conscious of their Store, Their way-laid wealth to Norways coasts they bring. **1674** N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 71 Something . . . as powerful to check or bind motion, as the way-laying of a gross unweildy body. **1694** MOTTEUX *Rabelais* v. xxvi. 125 As we went back to our Ships, we saw three Way-Layers [Fr. *trois gouteurs de chemins*], who having been taken in Ambuscado, were going to be broken on the Wheel. **1759** DILWORTH *Life of Pope* 149 A lurking way-laying coward. **1828** SMEETON *Doings in London* 222 That fellow . . . is one of the way-layers, a contemptible class of thieves, who attend the waggon and coach-yards, pretending to be porters; they watch the country people, and offer their services to carry their parcels. **1855** LANDOR *Imag. Conv., Asin. Pollio & Licin. Calvus* i. Wks. 1876 II. 437 Wherever there are rich wayfarers there also are sly and alert waylayers. **1870** MORRIS *Earthly Par.* II. III. 501 Without a will for aught, did Bodli stand, Nor once cast eyes on the waylayer's band. **1872** GREG *Enigm. Life* v. 190 It [sc. death] continues the most waylaying thought of the thoughtful man, till he silences its importunity by listening to all it has to say, and reasoning it back into the tomb. **1897** 'O. RHOSCOMYL' *White Rose Arno* 224 Ned ran rapidly over the history of the waylaying of Ithel.

wayle, *obs. form* of VAIL *v.*²

1601 W. PERCY *Cuckqueanes & Cuckolds Errants* IV. i. (Roxb.) 48 Cause your Friggats Bonnets to wayle.

wayle: see WAIL *sb.*, *v.*, WALE *sb.*¹, *a.* (a. *absol.*).

†waylead. *Sc. Obs.* Forms: 6 wayleid, -laud, walaidd, waled. [f. WAY *sb.*¹ + LEAD *sb.*²] An artificial watercourse leading to a mill; a mill-lead or mill-leat.

1547 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 33/1 Cum molendino . . . cum . . . aqueductu et cursu ac le walaidd ejusdem. *Ibid.* 39/1 Lie waylaud. **1565** *Ibid.* 1583, 173/2 Cum lie wayleid pro deservitione dicti molendini. **1588** *Ibid.* 1591, 656/2 Molendinum . . . cum sequelis . . . lie dam, waled et wattergait.

'way-leave, 'wayleave. In 5 waylefe, -leve. [f. WAY *sb.*¹ + LEAVE *sb.*¹] Permission to make and use a way for conveying coal from the pit-head across a person's land; the rent or royalty paid for such permission; the way or road constructed for the purpose. Also, permission to carry telephone wires over or along buildings, or to lay water-pipes or drains across private land, and the charge or rent payable therefor. More widely, a right of way granted by the owner of land to a particular body and for a particular purpose, often in return for payment; also, a document conferring the right.

1427-8 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 709 Elemosinario pro waylefe, 6s. 8d. **1431-2** *Ibid.* 711 Wayleve. **1661** in *N. & Q.* Ser. XII. XI. 391/2 (Lease of a coalmine) Vna cum bona et

sufficianti wayleave et stayleave in per et trans territorium de Casterton Fell . . . pro omnibus . . . carriagiis. **1725** *Portland Papers* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) VI. 104 These way leaves are an artificial road made for the conveyance of coal from the Pit to the Steaths on the riverside. **a1734** NORTH *Life Ld. Keeper Guilford* (1742) 136 Another thing, that is remarkable, is their Wayleaves; for, when Men have Pieces of Ground between the Colliery and the River, they sell Leave to lead Coals over their Ground. **1739** *Enq. Price Coals* 14 For leave of way he must pay a consideration, called a way-leave. **1879** *Cases Crt. Session* Ser. IV. VI. 929 His property is advantageously situated for enabling him to demand wayleave. **1884** *Standard* 26 Sept. 4/2 The Telephone Companies are now permitted . . . to make their own arrangement for way-leaves. **1892** *Times* 23 Mar. 8/3 The Royal Commission on Mining Royalties and Way-leaves. *Ibid.* 9/4 As between towns the Post Office usually has way-leaves enough to accommodate trunk telephones. **1893** NEASHAM *North-country Sk.* 28 By agreement with Mr. Tempest who let them both wayleave and staitroom they were limited to an annual vend of 12000 chaldrons. **1928** H. G. WELLS *Way World is Going* xi. 127 The exploitation of the air, as a means of . . . available travel, is hopeless without . . . secure wayleaves over Europe. **1930** *Times* 22 Mar. 19/2 We have also practically completed the Scottish overhead 'Grid' system for the Central Electricity Board . . . Owing to the difficulty of securing permission for wayleaves our work was necessarily interfered with. **1960** *Farmer & Stockbreeder* 1 Mar. 91/1 The Central Electricity Generating Board has no legal right of entry on your land without your permission or until such time as you have signed a wayleave. **1963** *Times* 24 May 16/6 A wayleave for a future subway linking the triangle with the Radcliffe Infirmary and passing under the Banbury and the Woodstock roads.

attrib. **1830** *Edin. Rev.* LI. 179 Those whose collieries are in that situation, have to pay way-leave rents. **1960** *Times Rev. Industry* Feb. 75/1 There is no way-leave payment. **1971** P. GRESSWELL *Environment* 215 Landowners are in a strong position to influence power line proposals through granting or refusing wayleave consent.

†way-leet. *Obs.* Forms: 3 weienlæte, weynlæte, 4 weonlete, weielot; 4 weilot, 5 weylate, -lete, 6 wailleete, 6-7 wayleet(e). [Partly repr. OE. *weggelæte*, partly *wega, wegana gelæte*: see WAY *sb.*¹ and LEET *sb.*³

The forms with -lot, -late show obscuration of vowel in the second syllable due to absence of stress.]

A place where two or more roads meet.

For two-, three-, four-way-leet see LEET *sb.*³

c1000 O.E. *Glosses* (Napier) I. 4716 *Competalia*, weggelæte. **c1205** LAY. 15509 Summe heo wenden to þan wude, summe to weienlæten [c1275 weynlætes]. **13..** in *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 341 Ren a-boute bi þe strete, Bi wey and bi weonlete. **1388** WYCLIF *Gen.* xxxviii. 14 Sche sat in the weilot [Vulg. in bivio itineris] that ledith to Tampna. — **2 Sam.** i. 20 Nether telle 3e in the weilottis of Ascalon [Vulg. in compitis Ascalonis]. **c1430** Pilgr. *Lyf Manhode* III. xlviii. (1869) 161 A verrey dunghep in a weylate, ther eche at his time may come to make filthe. **1450** MYRC *Par. Pr.* 748 (ed. 1868) Al þat leyen her childeren at eny wey-letes or at eny chyrch dores or at eny other comyn weyes and levethe hem.

wayless ('weɪləs), *a.* Also 4 weyles, 4, 7 wayles, 6-7 wai-, waylesse, way-less, 7 wailess. [OE. *weglæas*: see WAY *sb.*¹ and -LESS. Cf. Icel. *vegalauss* out of the way, lost in the woods, MHG. *wegelōs*, mod.G. *weg(e)los*.] Having no way or road. Chiefly of a country, region, etc.: Trackless, pathless.

c1100 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 149/20 *Auiaria*, weglæsa beara, secreta nemora. *Ibid.* 177/17 *Inuium*, ungefere, uel wegleas pæð. **1387** TREVISA *Higden* II. 219 Man . . . fel . . . out of hous in to maskynge and wayles contray [L. *de domo ad devium*]. **1398** — *Barth. De P.R.* xiv. lii. [Tollemache MS.] A weyles wildirnesse [L. *invia solitudo*]. **1591** SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. v. 389 If without wings we fly . . . Through hundred sundry way-less wayes address. **1612** DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* ii. 164 As though the peopled townes had way-less deserts been. **1630** DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Floures of Sion, Hymne Fairest Faire* 162 With wonders new my Spirits range posset, And wandering waylesse in a maze them rest. **1690** C. NESSE *O. & N. Test.* I. 462 He was also their courteous companion in all their wayless ways. **1821** R. S. HAWKER *Cornish Ballads*, etc. (1904) 258 Joys such as these, Visions of wayless fancy, were the fire That burnt within me. **1901** 'ZACK' *Tales Dunstable Weir* 151 The bush which from his account was wide-spreading and wayless.

Hence 'waylessness.

1871-4 HORT *The Way*, etc. i. (1894) 37 The delightfulness of the opening world depends in no small measure on its semblance of waylessness.

wayll, *obs. Sc. form* of WELL *adv.*

waylle, variant of VAIL *sb.*¹ (advantage, profit). **a1550** *Vox Populi* iv. 115 in *Skelton's Wks.* (1843) II. 405 Lett marchantmen goe sayle For that ys ther trwe waylle.

waylle, var. VAIL *v.*¹; *obs. f.* WALE *sb.*²

waylor(e, obs. forms of VALOR.

a1483 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 313 Every person . . . that ys of the waylore of xx. li. of goodes, and aboffe. *Ibid.* 314 Euery seruant . . . that takyt waygs to the waylor of xx. s. and a-boffe.

†way-maker. *Obs.*

1. One who makes or mends roads.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 405/2 A Way maker or mender, *portitor*. **1609** in F. Devon *Issues Exch., Jas. I* (1836) 95 To Thomas Norton, his Majesty's way-maker, appointed to oversee the performance of the mending of the highways. . . £29. 10s.

2. A person or thing that prepares the way for another; a forerunner, precursor; a prelude (to).

1574 T. NEWTON *Health Mag.* T j b, Sleepe at noone . . . is a foremessanger or way-maker to Feuers, Apostumations,

and Abscesses. c1614 SIR C. CORNWALLIS in Gutch *Coll. Cur.* I. 139 Which match, I conceived, had been a preparation, and a way-maker to this other. 1634 BP. HALL *Contempl.*, N.T. IV. iv. 117 What was his [John Baptist's] errand, but to be the way-maker unto Christ? 1640 BASTWICK *Ld. Bishops* viii. Ij, Now the spirit of Prelacie was the very beginning of the Apostacie, which was Antichrists way-maker.

'way-man. [WAY sb.¹]

†1. A waywarden. *Obs.*

1570 in Toulmin Smith *Parish* vii. (1857) 509 Jhon Stone, Jhon Margorn, Waymen of West Ashton do give up their Accounts. 1630 in G. P. Scrope *Hist. Castle Combe* (1852) 336 That every housekeeper within the parish which hath noe ploughe, doe com or send one to dige or picke stones one day before the aforesayd day, being warned by the way-men.

†2. A traveller, wayfarer. *Obs.*

1638 BRATHWAIT *Barnabees Jnrl.* III. (1818) 83 Shew thy selfe a famous way-man. 1876 *Whitby Gloss.*, *Wayman*, a journeyer.

3. A workman employed on the permanent way of a railway; a plate-layer.

1840 F. WHISHAW *Railw. Gt. Brit. & Irel.* 252 Waymen, who are paid by the contractors for keeping the permanent way in repair. 1885 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 7 Oct. 7/2 A party of waymen found that a wood and iron bridge... had been... destroyed by fire.

'waymark, 'way-mark, sb. An object, whether natural feature or artificial structure, which serves as a guide to the traveller. Also fig.

1611 BIBLE *Jer.* xxxi. 21 Set thee vp way-markes. a 1656 BP. HALL *Rem. Wks.* (1660) 2 Wherein it seems there was continual fire kept for the way-mark of travellers. 1703 THORESBY *Diary* (1830) I. 424 Now it is so naked that there is not so much as one [tree] left for a way-mark. 1780 COWPER *Progr. Error* 117 Is this the path of sanctity? Is this To stand a way-mark in the road to bliss? 1871 TYLOR *Prim. Cult.* I. 19 Survival in Culture, placing all along the course of advancing civilization way-marks full of meaning to those who can decipher their signs. 1882 PUSEY *Paroch. & Cathedr. Serm.* xv. 211 The brilliant way-marks in the corners of our else dark streets are the palaces for the drunken. 1899 BARING-GOULD *Bk. West II.* viii. 131 High towers... serve as waymarks over land that was all formerly waste.

'waymark, v. [f. the sb.] *trans.* To provide or identify (a path) with waymarks. Hence 'waymarked ppl. a., 'waymarking vbl. sb.

1960 *Guardian* 5 Nov. 6/3 The Ramblers' Association... is cleft... over the question of 'waymarking' paths and routes by means of blobs of coloured paint. *Ibid.* 9 Nov. 8/3 The plan to provide 'waymarking' on some popular British fells. 1973 *Village Autumn* 51 Walkers on the Continent or in America find themselves well supplied with long-distance trails and with waymarked paths in tourist areas. 1982 *Walker's Britain* 328/2 There are still several stretches where the waymarking is incomplete because public rights of way have not been obtained. 1983 *Out of Town* July 72/2 Much effort and imagination has gone into waymarking the walks.

waymb, wayme, obs. forms of WAME.

†way'ment, sb. *Obs.* Also 4 weyment. [a. OF. *waiment*, *weyment*, *guaiment*, f. *waimenter*: see next.] Lamentation.

c1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 4435 A gret wayment and hideous cry Might men here then witterly, That the Troyens made y-wys For the wounde of Philomenys. 1590 SPENSER *F.Q.* III. iv. 35 She made so piteous mone and deare wayment, That [etc.]. 1647 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. i. III. ix, All things did augment My heavey plight, that foully I blam'd the hest Of stubborn destiny cause of this wayment.

†way'ment, v. *Obs.* Also 4-5 waymente, weyment(e, 4-5, 7 wament, 5-6 *Sc.* woment, wement, 6-7 waiment. [a. OF. *waimenter*, *weymenter*, *guaimenter*, f. *wai*, *guai* int., wo, alas; prob. after *lament* to lament.]

1. *intr.* To lament, wail; to sorrow bitterly.

1375 *Cant. Creat.* 177 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 126/2 þus seuentene dayes and more alle þe fische sorweden þore And waymentide wip Adam. c1386 CHAUCER *Par.* T. ¶230 Thilke science, as seith seint Augustyn, maketh a man to waymenten in his herte. c1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* (Roxb.) 94 The whilk for hire two sons waymentid doelfully. 1530 PALSGR. 779/2, I wement, I make mone... It dyd my hert yll to here the poore boye wement when his mother was gone. 1590 SPENSER *F.Q.* II. i. 16 For what bootes it to weepe and to wayment, When ill is chaunst? 1595 *Locrine* II. ii. 89 And therefore well may I wayment. 1678 LITTLETON *Eng.-Lat. Dict.*, To wament, *lamento*. 1814 CARY *Dante, Purg.* xxvi. 135 Sorely waymenting for my folly past. 1861 K. H. DIGBY *Chapel St. John* (1863) 182 The profane laity chuckling or waymenting when conferring professionally with one another on their... gains, or losses.

refl. c1450 *Merlin* xvi. 262 When he hadde thus hym longe waymented.

2. *trans.* To bewail, lament for.

c1475 *Partenay* 3324 He thaim complained And waymented sore. 1566 GASCOIGNE *Jocasta* II. i. 57 And mee thy wretched dame, ... waymenting still Th' vnworthie exile thy brother to thee gae. 1593 G. HARVEY *New Let. Notable Cont. Wks.* (Grosart) I. 296 Magnifique Mindes... In grisly weedes His Obsequies waiment.

Hence †way'menting vbl. sb. and ppl. a.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xxxiii. 21 The ded of synfulmen... is werst... thof it be endid in riches and honours and waymentinge of men. c1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 137 The grete clamour and the waymentinge That the ladies made at the brennyng Of the bodies. c1470 HENRY *Wallace* II. 161 The pittows wementyng [ed. 1570 womenting], The wofull wepyng that was for his takyng. 1513 DOUGLAS *Aeneis* IV. viii. 2 How mony sobbis gailf throw and womentingis?

1566 GASCOIGNE *Jocasta* v. v. 116, I will... washe thy wounds with my waymenting teares. 1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* III. iv. 504 For their lost husbands they entreate their waymentings by repetition of the good and gracefull partes they were endowed with. 1621 MOLLE *Camerar. Liv. Libr.* II. xviii. 130 The... pittifull waymenting of the people. 1883 R. W. DIXON *Mano* I. xvi. 53 How waymenting Came in joy's place.

†waymen'tation. *Obs.* [f. WAYMENT v. + -ATION.] Lamentation.

c1403 LYDG. *Temple of Glas* 949 Of him I had so gret compassioun, Forto rehere his weymentacioun, That... I want connyng, his peynes to discryue. c1425 *St. Eliz. Spalbeck* in *Anglia* VIII. 113/43 She scheweth in weymentacyouns and turment hir owne compassyone. c1450 *Merlin* xx. 347 Thus wente kyng Rion, makynge grete sorowe and weymentacion in-to his contrey.

waymot, var. WEMOD a. *Obs.*, wrathful.

wayn(e: see VAIN a., VEIN sb., WAIN sb.¹, sb.², sb.³, v., WANE sb.¹, sb.², v., WEAN v.

waynd, *Sc.* variant of WONDE v. *Obs.*

wayneschot, -scot, etc.: see WAINSCOT.

waynge, obs. f. WANG¹.

†waynoun. *Obs. rare.* [a. OF. *waignon*, north-eastern var. of *gaignon* dog, cur, scoundrel.] A worthless person, scoundrel.

a 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xv. 47 Ther me calleth me fulle flet, ant waynoun wayte-glede.

†waynpain. *Obs.* Forms: 4 waynepayne, weine pain, 4-5 waynpain, -payn, 5 -pane, wanpayn, -pan. [a. OF. *wagnepan*, north-eastern form of *gaignepain*: see GAINPAIN.]

1. A sort of gauntlet; = GAINPAIN 1.

c1300 *Wills & Invent. N.C.* (Surtees) I. 16, ij galeæ xiiij. iij. d. j par de Waynpayns & ij brasers vj. viiij. d.

2. A servant or scullion.

Freq. in the *Durham Acc. Rolls*, both as an appellative and as a proper name.

13.. *Sir Beues* (A.) 926, I will þe dou3ter 3eue To a weine pain. 1364 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 44 Le Waynpain, 2d. 1438-9 *Ibid.* 71 Cuidam famulo coquine vocato Waynpayn.

waynscot(e, -skot(e, etc.: see WAINSCOT.

waynt, waynte: see QUAINT a., WANTY.

way off, adv. and a. orig. U.S. [f. WAY adv. + OFF adv.] A. adv. Far away.

1853 G. C. HILL *Dovecot* 29, I found her 'way off in them woods yonder! 1897 S. CRANE *Third Violet* xxxiii. 215, I am going somewhere; but I don't know where. 'Way off, anyhow. 1897 KIPLING *Captains Courageous* iii. 60 'Way off yander's the Day's Eye. 1929 D. H. LAWRENCE *Pansies* 72 Out of the soul's middle to the middle-most sun, way-off, or in every atom. 1952 *Manch. Guardian Weekly* 22 May 7/2 Way off to the right was a beery Irishman.

2. Far from the intended target; greatly mistaken, quite wrong.

1892 *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 438/2 The papers are generally 'way off in some things. 1906 A. H. LEWIS *Confessions of Detective* 1. i. 10 'You're dead wrong, Doc!' broke in Mugsey... 'You're 'way off.' 1962 J. GLENN in *Into Orbit* 209 My attitude indications on the instrument panel are way off. 1973 'H. HOWARD' *Highway to Murder* x. 118 Seemed first impressions could be 'way off. 1977 H. KAPLAN *Damascus Cover* (1978) iv. 33 On the pistol range Ari discovered... that his aim was way off.

B. adj. 1. Usu. 'way-off. Distant.

1870 A. D. WHITNEY *We Girls* (1871) xi. 229 General and Mrs. Ingleside... had come from their way-off, beautiful Wisconsin home. 1928 D. H. LAWRENCE *Woman rode Away* 93 The way-off things like the sun.

†wayour. *Obs.* Forms: 4 waier, wayer(e, wayh(o)ur, 4-5 wayour, 5 wayor, -owre, way3owr, wayir, wayr, 5-6 wayre. [a. AF. *wayour* (Britton) = OF. *gayoir*, f. *waer*, *gaer* (mod.F. *guêre*) to bathe (a horse) in a pond or stream.] A horse-pond.

1310 *Bridgwater Corp. MSS.* No. 833 Sicut itur versus le West Wayhur. c1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* 11186 Sipen in wayers to watre & wasche, Sythen to wye, & to mangers teye [their steeds]. 1374 *Bridgwater Corp. MSS.* No. 488 lacentem in le longheys eiusdem ville versus le Wayere. c1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 513/2 Wayowre, stondynge watyr [wayowr, or way3owr, water P.], *piscina*. c1450 BURGESS *Secrees* 1877 Slepynge wayours, watrys incertayn, Salt, bittir, and fumous. c1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 800/15 *Hec piscina*, a wayir. 1488 *Maldon* (Essex) *Liber B* fol. 39 They come to the townes ende at the wayour. 1530 PALSGR. 286/1 Wayre where water is holde, *gort*.

way out, adv., a., and sb. orig. U.S. [f. WAY adv. + OUT adv.] A. adv. Far out, far away. *colloq.*

1868 G. A. CUSTER *Let.* 20 Feb. in E. Custer *Following Guidon* (1890) 53 They had braved the perils... in order to bring us, 'way out here, news from our loved ones. 1882 *Congress. Rec.* 9 Mar. 1758/1 Instead of that they go way out to Peoria, Illinois. 1933 L. I. WILDER *Farmer Boy* xvi. 119 This country... goes 'way out beyond Kansas... down to the Pacific Ocean. 1944 M. LASKI *Love on Supertax* xi. 102 After a... journey by 'bus, Clarissa alighted way out on the North Circular Road. 1977 *Chicago Tribune* 2 Oct. v. 2/2 There is more clout in the Senate, you see, than way out west away from the mainstream.

B. adj. Also way-'out. 1. Far removed from reality or from convention; extreme; progressive, avant-garde, advanced. *slang.*

1958 G. LEA *Somewhere there's Music* xix. 164, I turn on [sc. smoke marijuanal] a little and I get way out. 1959 *Encounter* June 42/2 The ego-ideal of the Beatnik is the 'cool hipster'—... the man who is 'way out'. 1959 N. MAILER *Adots. for Myself* (1961) 296 Mine [sc. my hypothesis] is interesting, mine is way out (on the avenue of the mystery along the road to 'It') but still I am just one cat in a world of cool cats. 1961 *Life* (Internat. ed.) 8 May 44 The way-out world of micro-electronics. 1964 J. DUNBAR in Hamblett & Deverson *Generation X* 179 One thing I like about Cambridge, people don't try to be too way out. At places like Oxford, or Reading, I've seen blokes going around barefoot and wearing ear-rings. 1967 *Times* 13 Apr. 23 The 'way out' field of nuclear fusion. 1972 J. PHILIPS *Vanishing Senator* III. iii. 162 Vardon thought up a way-out scheme to commit a murder. 1979 *Dædalus* Spring 141 These [sc. Radio Città in Bologna and Radio Alice] were 'way-out' examples of local radio. 1982 BARR & YORK *Official Sloane Ranger Handbk.* 38/1 She would not wear Art Nouveau jewels (too way out).

2. Greatly mistaken. *slang.*

1959 M. SUMMERTON *Small Wilderness* viii. 112 You're way out, Puss. If anybody has got a perfect alibi... it's Cliff. 1965 *New Statesman* 7 May 721/3, I would not presume to argue with Edward Hyams on matters botanical, but he is way out on snakes.

C. sb. A person who holds extreme or unconventional views.

1968 *Manch. Guardian Weekly* 17 Oct. 19 The drop-outs have copped out, the redskins have bitten the dust, the way-outs have faced the nitty-gritty (truth). 1970 *Encycl. Sci. Suppl.* (Grolier) 158 Two years ago we were considered way-outs. Nobody knew what conservation meant.

Hence way-'outness *slang*, unconventionality.

1965 *Tablet* 27 Nov. 1327/1 Some way-outness prevents him from acquiescing in the wisdom of acceptance. 1968 R. V. BESTE *Repeat Instructions* i. 10 That's the kind of way-outness that should have made Security suspicious. 1979 S. SMITH *Survivor* xvii. 185 Young people of all degrees of 'way-outness'.

wayr(e: see VAIR, WARE, WEAR v.¹, WEIR.

†way-rope, altered form of WARROPE.

1641 S. SMITH *Herring Buss Trade* 8 To every Seizon belongs a Buye, which is fastned to the Way-rope.

wayryngle, variant of WARIANGLE *Obs.*

-ways, the terminal element of certain advs., was originally a use of the genitive of WAY sb.¹

1. Many phrases consisting of the genitive of way (in various senses) qualified by an adj., were formerly used adverbially (see WAY sb.¹ 23 a). The earliest known examples are in the Peterborough Chronicle (first hand, A.D. 1124) which twice has *ôðres weges* in the sense 'by another route'; in this phrase the adj. appears uninflected before the end of the 12th c. (see OTHERWAYS). Similarly *alles weis*, *nanes (nones) weis* occur early in the 13th c., becoming *always*, *noways* in the 14th c. On the analogy of these words were subsequently formed *feveryways* (1398), *anyways*, *flikeways* (16th c.), and (from descriptive adjs.) *crossways*, *longways*, *straightways* (16th c.), *broadways* (18th c.).

2. A solitary instance of an adv. f. sb. + -ways before the 16th c. is †*needways* 'necessarily', occurring in the *Cursor M.* (a 1300) and in Barbour. In the later formations the general sense is 'in a specified direction'; so *endways*, *lengthways*, *sideways* (16th c.), *edgeways*, *breadthways* (17th c.), *sternways* (19th c.), *sunways*.

3. As there is no perceptible difference of function between the adverbial genitive and the adverbial accusative, most of the advs. in -ways have synonyms in -way. Further, most of the advs. in -ways are synonymous with actual or possible parallel formations in -wise; and the similarity of sound of the two suffixes has given rise to the notion that they are mere alternative forms of one and the same ending. Johnson's erroneous statement (s.v. *Way*) that 'way and ways are often used corruptly for -wise' has probably led many to prefer -wise to -ways or -way on the ground of supposed correctness. Cf. *always*, *always*, †*alwise*; *anyway*, *anyways*, *anywise*; *breadthways*, -wise; *broadway*, -ways, -wise; *crossway*, -ways, -wise; *edgeway*, -ways, -wise; *endway*, -ways; *everyway*, †-ways; *lengthways*, -wise; †*likeways* (obs.), *likewise*; *longways*, -wise; *noway*, -ways, -wise; *otherways*, -wise; *sideway*, -ways, -wise; *straightway*, -ways, †-wise; *sunway*, -ways, -wise.

4. The combinations of -ways are, unlike those of -way, hardly ever used as adjs., with the exception of SIDEWAYS.

waysande, obs. form of WEASAND.

ways and means.

Formerly also means and ways, *moyens* and *ways*, *ways* and *grounds*: see *WAY sb.* 13b. Cf. *F. voies et moyens* (? after Eng. Parliamentary use).

1. a. The methods and resources which are at a person's disposal for effecting some object.

1433 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 449/2 All the weys and menes by the whiche yei mowe enhance ye prizes of her Merchandises. 1483 in *Lett. Rich. III & Hen. VII* (Rolls) I. 48 His grace is wele content that his said commissioners finde suche weyes and meanes as the said Sir Rauff shalle move frely without enpechement or trouble. 1561 T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* III. (1577) O viij, After he had long attempted by all wayes and meanes to compasse hir. 1583 WHITGIFT *Serm.* (1589) C 5 b, Gregorie . . sought also waies and means secretly to murder him. 1699 G. HARVEY *Van. Philos. & Physick* v. 40 To preserve Health . . no better ways and means can be used, than applying at certain intervals, to those cleansers or abstersives here before mentioned. 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 195 ¶ 6, I send with this, my Discourse of Ways and Means for encouraging Marriage. a 1737 M. GREEN *Seeker* 30 Dominion and wealth are the aim of all three, Tho' about ways and means they may disagree. 1775 BURKE *Sp. Concil. Amer.* 22 Mar. 56 Fortunately I am not obliged for the ways and means of this substitute to tax my own unproductive invention. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* liii, He has been devising ways and means all the way here of explaining himself, and has been satisfied with none. 1882 'EDNA LYALL' *Donovan* xv, It was true that there were ways and means of raising money. 1905 P. LONDON *Lhasa* II. 136 In Tibet there are ways and means unknown to western nations.

† b. rarely in sing. *way and mean. Obs.*

c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 83 In þe þrid maner is a þing seid better þan an oþer, in þis, as it helpiþ better by sum wey and mene to þe 3end of a þing, þan an oþer dōþ. 1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxvii. 70 The for to pleis thay socht all way and mein. [1530] PALSGR. 287/2 Wey or meane, *acheison*.]

2. a. *spec.* In *Legislation*: Methods of procuring funds or supplies for the current expenditure of the state. Also *attrib.*

Committee of Way and Means. (a) A committee of the whole House of Commons, which sits to receive the annual financial statement from the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and to consider the means of procuring the necessary annual supply. (b) *U.S.* A standing committee of the House of Representatives, to which are referred bills dealing with revenue, tariff, etc.

1644 *Jrnl. Ho. Comm.* III. 509/1 This Committee, or any Four of them, is to consider of all Ways and Means for raising of Monies . . and to make Report to the House. 1685 *Ibid.* IX. 759/1 The House then . . resolved into a Committee of the whole House, to consider of the Ways and Means to raise his Majesty's Supply. 1695-6 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* IV. 16 The commons were yesterday in a committee of the whole house upon wayes and means for raising two millions. 1695 (*title*) An Essay upon ways and means of supplying the war. [By C. Davenant.] 1737 *Gentl. Mag.* VII. 654/1 When we take this Affair into our Consideration in the Committee of Ways and Means. 1738 JOHNSON *London* 245 Ye Senatorian Band, Whose *Ways and Means* support the sinking Land. 1767 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* ix. xi, The first Lord of the Treasury thinking of *ways and means*, could not have returned home, with a more embarrassed look. 1785 *Rolliad, Prob. Odes* xi. 92 Rapt in St. Stephen's future scenes, I sit perpetual Chairman of the Ways and Means. 1798 T. JEFFERSON *Lett. to J. Madison* 26 Apr., Writ. 1854 IV. 237 The Committee of Ways and Means have voted a land tax. 1824 MACAULAY *Prophetic Acct. Epic Poem* Misc. Writ. 1860 I. 149 His Lordship . . advises him [Mr. Vansittart] to look after the ways and means, and leave questions of peace and war to his betters.

attrib. 1867 *Oregon State Jrnl.* 5 Jan. 2/2 The Ways and Means Committee decided to postpone an action on Mr. Boutwell's bill. 1919 *Lit. Digest* 22 Mar. 21/2 Mr. Fordney, of Michigan, . . will probably be . . Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee. 1973 B. J. SIMS *Suppl. to Sergeant on Stamp Duties* (ed. 6) A55 This section and the associated Ways and Means Resolution provides powers whereby changes in stamp duty may be given effect to by means of a Budget Resolution. 1977 *Time* 12 Dec. 34/2 Al Ullman, the House Ways and Means chairman, has been pleading with Carter for a 'minimalist' rather than a 'maximalist' tax bill. *fig.* 1699 GARTH *Dispensary* vi. 108 No Ways and Means their Cabinet employ, But their dark Hours they waste in barren Joy.

b. *Pecuniary resources in general.*

† *to be upon ways and means*, to be trying to raise money. 1738 *Gentl. Mag.* VIII. 41/2 So have I known a buxom lad . . taught by kind mamma at home; Who gives him many a well try'd rule, With ways and means—to act a fool. 1760 FOOTE *Minor* II. Wks. 1799 I. 250 People that are upon ways and means, must not be nice. 1791 SMEATON *Edystone L.* §313 And whenever it shall appear to be necessary to renew it [*sc.* the gilding], I doubt not but ways and means will be found. 1869 A. MACDONALD *Love, Law & Theol.* x. 159 The party then adjourned to McGroggy's large room, and . . resolved themselves into a committee of ways and means. 1872 GEO. ELIOT *Middlem.* lviii, 'She had not yet had any anxiety about ways and means. 1879 'EDNA LYALL' *Won by Waiting* xxi, She . . went to the nursery, to discuss ways and means with Bella's nurse.

wayse, obs. form of *OOZE sb.* 3 and of *WASE*.

c 1475 *Cath. Angl.* 409/2 (Addit. MS.) *Wayse*, *alga*.

'*wayside*. a. The side of a road or path, the land bordering either side of the way. Phr. *to fall by the wayside* [after Luke viii. 5: see quot. 1526], to fail to stay the course, to drop out.

? a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1713 They are enbuschede one blonkkes, with baners displayede, In 3one bechene wode appone the waye sydes. 1526 TINDALE *Luke* viii. 5 As he sowed some fell by the waye syde. 1550 CROWLEY *Epigr.* 221 By the waye syde, hym chaunced to se A pore manne that craued of hym for charitie. 1673 RAY *Journ. Low C.* 19 Among the Corn by the way-sides as we went. 1752 J. HILL *Hist. Anim.* 498 This species is very frequent with us especially on heaths and by way-sides. a 1784 JOHNSON in *Mrs. Piozzi Anecd.* (1786) 5 A stone he saw standing by the

way-side, set up . . in honour of a man who had leaped a certain leap thereabouts. 1850 ANNE PRATT *Comm. Things of Sea-side* iii. 171 The wild-flowers, which grace every way-side. 1878 SWINBURNE *Poems & B. Ser.* II. *Before Sunset* 6 Lighted shade and shadowy light In the wayside and the way. 1893 MAX PEMBERTON *Iron Pirate* i, A crucifix that stood on the wayside by the hill-foot yonder. 1894 J. DAVIDSON *Ballads & Songs* 121 All the waysides now are flowerless. 1965 *New Statesman* 7 May 719/1 Responding to persuasion, young wives go back into teaching. . . Some toughen and survive, others fall by the wayside. 1973 *Times* 24 May 10/1 She went to San Diego for a world junior tournament last year and fell by the wayside only because of a marker's error. 1977 L. T. MILIC in Bond & McLeod *Newslett. to Newspapers* 1. 41 As society changes, so must the tone of a publication or it falls by the wayside.

b. *attrib.* passing into *adj.* Of or pertaining to the wayside; situated on, lying near, occurring, growing or living by the wayside. *wayside pulpit*, a board, usu. placed outside a place of worship, displaying a religious text or maxim.

1807 J. RUICKBIE (*title*) *The Way-side Cottage*; consisting of Pieces in Prose and Verse. 1845 J. SAUNDERS *Cab. Pict. Engl. Life, Chaucer* 17 The little wayside chapels, erected for the accommodation of travellers. 1861 MISS JANE M. CAMPBELL *Hymn*, 'We plough the fields' He paints the wayside flower. 1878 B. TAYLOR *Deukalion* III. vi. 132 Free as the wayside brook to whoso thirsts. 1883 S. C. HALL *Retrospect* II. 388 The coach stopped to change horses at a way-side inn. 1906 PETRIE *Relig. Anc. Egypt* xiii. 85 Such were the places for wayside devotions and passing prayers. 1925 *Advertising World* Dec. 302/2 (*heading*) How the 'wayside pulpit' scheme was organized. 1932 Q. D. LEAVIS *Fiction & Reading Public* II. iv. 193 An inspection of the slogans displayed on Wayside Pulpits . . reveals that they are largely devoted to denunciation of an attitude described as pessimistic. 1976 *Church Times* 20 Feb. 11/1 'My greed is another's need' and 'Live simply that others may simply live' have become familiar slogans on wayside pulpits and in parish magazines. 1981 F. INGLIS *Promise of Happiness* iii. 93 We most of us *know* when we are lying. My wayside pulpit-point is that we no longer care very much.

wayst, *wayster*: see *WASTE*, *WASTER*.

way station. U.S. Also *way-station*.

a. An intermediate station on a railway route, a way-side station. Also *transf.*

1850 *Ann. Rep. Railroad Corp. Massachusetts* 1849 21 Way stations for express trains. 1854 *Harper's Mag.* VIII. 566/2 The boats touched at most of the prominent towns on the river, to land such passengers as might desire to disembark at 'way-stations'. 1855 [see LOCK v. 7 d]. 1856 OLMSTED *Slave States* 53 Twenty minutes spent at way-stations. 1881 R. G. WHITE *Eng. Without & Within* ii. 44 If it is at a way-station, the passengers give up their tickets as they pass out through the station. 1891 C. ROBERTS *Adrift Amer.* 67 This was only what is called a way station. There was nothing but a section house and a long siding, besides the usual offices. 1912 F. J. HASKIN *Amer. Govt.* 210 Cities which are to-day mere way stations on the international routes of trade will grow into rich world centers. 1914 *Sat. Even. Post* 4 Apr. 52/2 At ten o'clock that night at a way-station the kid was ditched. 1934 A. WOOLLCOTT *White Rome Burns* 258 To fly by way of Ottawa, Point Barrow, and other way-stations. 1944 *Daily Progress* (Charlottesville, Va.) 21 July 1/8 The island [*sc.* Guam] . . formerly served as a way-station on the trans-Pacific airroute to the East. 1976 N. THORNBURG *Cutter & Bone* vi. 134 It was . . a way station carefully restored and preserved to offer at least a semblance of its original state. 1984 *New Yorker* 9 July 43/2 The United States may . . use Moroccan facilities . . as way stations for combat troops destined for service in, say, the Middle East.

b. *fig.*, or in *fig. context*.

1892 *Congress. Rec.* 23 Mar. 2462/2 'Will the gentleman allow me to ask him a question?' . . 'The gentleman will excuse me. On a fast schedule I can not stop at way stations.' 1926 [see TECTAL a.]. 1948 MENJOU & MUSSELMAN *It took Nine Tailors* 10 She thought a theater was just a way station on the road to perdition. 1960 BRUNER & KLEIN in Kaplan & Wapner *Perspectives in Psychol. Theory* 65 There are corticofugal impulses that go down through the reticular formation to program selectivity of intake by way stations in the sensory system. 1973 *Sci. Amer.* July 52/1 Lymphocytes are found in high concentrations in the lymph nodes, way stations along the lymphatic vessels. 1978 W. GARNER *Möbius Trip* (1979) i. 12 The Belgravia apartment was not a home. . . It was a way station. 1982 H. KISSINGER *Yrs. of Upheaval* viii. 302 The cease-fire was merely a tactic, a way station toward their objective of taking over the whole of Indochina by force.

wayt(e, obs. ff. *WAIT sb.*, v.¹, v.², *WEIGHT*.

wayte, obs. Sc. f. *WITE sb.*; obs. f. *WOT v*.

wayth, variant of *WAITH sb.*¹, *WOTHE Obs.*

way-tree. dial. [? f. *WAY sb.*¹ or *WEIGH v.*] (See quot.)

1854 ANNE E. BAKER *Northampt. Gloss. s.v. Batticle*, Sway-tree, Swingel-tree, and Way-tree, are synonymous in different parts of the county. 1856 J. C. MORTON *Cycl. Agric.* II. 726 *Way-tree*, (Lincolns.), the largest tree of the three 'swingle-trees'.

way up, adv. and *a. orig. U.S.* [f. *WAY adv.* + *UP adv.*] *A. adv.* Far up.

1851 'E. WETHERELL' *Wide, Wide World* I. xii. 150 Do you live 'way up there? 1862 O. W. NORTON *Army Lett.* 100 A minister of the gospel who was so wonderfully . . war-like way up in Erie. 1901 LEE BACON *Houseboat on Nile* 51 The Howadji . . was 'way up in that painter's paradise where [etc.]. 1946 K. TENNANT *Lost Haven* (1947) vii. 95 If you owned a bath, it put you 'way', 'way up in the world. 1956 H. KURNITZ *Invasion of Privacy* xiv. 92 She came down the stairs and I thought that was funny because they live way up top. 1972 *National Observer* (N.Y.) 27 May 14/1 Way up in the high-level social circles are those who are so rich they never, ever talk about money.

B. adj. *Usu.* 'way-up. Excellent, first-class; of high social standing. *slang* (chiefly *U.S.*).

1887 F. FRANCIS *Saddle & Mocassin* 81 A real way-up cook, who could make chile-con-carne, tamales, and all the best Mexican dishes. 1902 KIPLING *Traffics & Discoveries* (1904) 17 He's a way-up barrister when he's at home. 1909 'O. HENRY' *Roads of Destiny* xviii. 299, I want to be manager of something way up—like a railroad or a diamond trust or an automobile factory.

way-up (wei'ʌp), *sb. Geol.* [f. phr. (*which, this, the right*, etc.) *way up* (*WAY sb.*¹ 9 a, *UP adv.*² 9 a).] Orientation as regards which part is uppermost or was deposited last.

1958 Q. *Jrnl. Geol. Soc.* CXIII. 364 Way-up has been determined from graded bedding. 1969 BENNISON & WRIGHT *Geol. Hist. Brit. Isles* ii. 34 Certain characters, such as . . the way-up of shells, provide evidence of bottom conditions and the strength of currents. 1982 COLLINSON & THOMPSON *Sedimentary Structures* vi. 97/1 Aeolian structures could help to establish way-up in highly dipping sequences.

wayve, obs. form of *WAIVE v.*¹ and *v.*² *Obs.*

wayward ('weiwəd), *a.* Not now in colloquial use. Also 4 waiwerd, weiward, 4-5 weyward (4 -werd, 6 -warde), 4, 6 waywarde, 6-7 waiward (6 -warde), (7 waward). [Aphetic f. *AWAYWARD. Cf. froward*.

The word has prob. often been apprehended as a derivative of *WAY sb.*¹, with the literal sense 'bent on going one's own way'; this notion seems to have influenced the development of meaning.]

1. Disposed to go counter to the wishes or advice of others, or to what is reasonable; wrongheaded, intractable, self-willed; froward, perverse. Of children: Disobedient, refractory.

In recent use the sense is somewhat milder, and perhaps always with some mixture of 2. If applied to conduct deserving severe moral reprobation it would now be apprehended as euphemistic.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 376 As waiwerd clerkis wolden in seynt Austyns time haue done owte . . þis worde of þe gospelle. 1382 — *Matt.* xvii. 16 Al thou generacioun vnbyleeful and weiward [Vulg. *perversa*]. c 1425 *Eng. Conq. Irel.* 142 Folk so weyward & so vnredy. c 1475 *Lament. Mary Magd.* 237 Wherefore ye lyke tyrantes wode & waywarde Now haue him thus slayne for his rewarde. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 20 Than he waxeth testy and weywarde, and for every tryffel is impacient and angry. 1557 NORTH *Guevara's Diall Pr.* Gen. Prol. Aij, Many sorowes endureth the woman in nouryshyng a waywerde chylde. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. 102 [They] shewe them selues either wilfull, waiwarde, or maliciouslye blinde. 1583 WHITGIFT *Serm.* (1589) C 6 b, The third kinde is of those that are conceited and wayward, who onely obey when they list, wherein they list, and so long as they list. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* IV. iv. 4 My wife is in a wayward moode to day. 1651 FEATLY *Abel Rediv.*, *Reinolds* 486 A waward Patient maketh a froward Physitian. 1830 D'ISRAELI *Chas. I.* III. 97 Charles . . used the wayward genius with all a brother's tenderness. 1833 TENNYSON *New Year's Eve* 25, I have been wild and wayward, but you'll forgive me now. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* lxix, The wayward boy soon spurned the shelter of his roof, and sought associates more congenial to his tastes. 1894 LADY M. VERNER *Verny Mem.* III. 326 Sir Ralph treated the wayward girl with a courtesy to which her mother never condescended.

absol. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 63 b, Here our old peevish wayward, piketh a new quarell agaynst me. 1582 N. T. (Rhem.) 1 *Pet.* ii. 18 Not only the good and modest, but also the waiward [Vulg. *dyscolis*]. 1912 *Spectator* 27 July 135/2 The two together supply the unwise and the wayward with the necessary instructions.

† b. Of things personified. Also of conditions, natural agencies, etc.: Untoward. *Obs.*

1567 TURBERV. *Epit.*, etc. 80b, When waywarde Winter spits his gall. a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. xxix. §1 What spiteful God . . hath brought me to such a waywarde case, that neither thy death can be a reuenge, nor thy ouerthrow a victorie. 1608 SHAKS. *Pericles* IV. iv. 10 Pericles Is now againe thwarting thy wayward seas. 1718 PRIOR *Solomon* II. 803 My Coward Soul shall bear it's wayward Fate. 1792 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* Apr., This wayward month opened upon me with none of its smiles. 1821 JOANNA BAILLIE *Metr. Leg.*, *Ghost of Fadon* vii, We war with wayward fate.

† c. Of judgement: Perverse, wrong, unjust. Also of the eye: Perverted. *Obs.*

1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* vi. 23 3if thyne eyse be weyward [Vulg. *nequam*]. — *Hab.* i. 4 Weywerd dom [Vulg. *judicium perversum*]. 1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* (1895) 40 Suche prowde, lewde, ouerthwarte, and waywarde iudgements [L. *superba, absurda ac morosa iudicia*]. 1668 DRYDEN *Dram. Poesy* 51 The wayward authority of an old man in his own house.

† d. Of words, actions, countenance: Indicating or manifesting obstinate self-will. *Obs.*

c 1450-1530 *Myrr. Our Ladye* 44 An other he [the Evil One] sturthe to make som weyward token. 1599 SANDYS *Europa Spec.* (1632) 94 If a man should heap together all the cholerike speeches, all the way-ward actions, that ever escaped from him in his life. 1630 *Pathomachia* I. iv. 8 From wayward words they passed on to bloody blowes. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xii, I shall never forget the diabolical sneer which writhed Rashleigh's wayward features.

† e. Of a disease, etc.: Not yielding readily to treatment, obstinate. *Obs.*

1541 R. COPLAND *Galyen's Therap.* 2 Fiv, By the occasyon of them the vlcere is waywarde and rebel to be healed.

2. Capriciously wilful; conforming to no fixed rule or principle of conduct; erratic.

a 1533 BERNERS *Golden Bk. M. Aurel.* Let. iv. (1537) 118 b, Our lyfe is so doubtfull, and fortune so waywarde, that she dothe not alway threate in strykyng, nor striketh in

thretnynge. 1604 DEKKER *Honest Wh.* 1. B1, My longings are not wanton, but wayward. 1750 GRAY *Elegy* 106 Hard by yon wood... Mutt'ring his wayward fancies he would rove. 1832 WORDSW. *Loving & Liking* 44 Instinct is neither wayward nor blind. 1881 JOWETT *Thucyd.* 1. 88 The movement of events is often as wayward and incomprehensible as the course of human thought.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* (of things).

1786 BURNS *Brigs of Ayr* 51 He left his bed and took his wayward rout, And down by Simpons wheel'd the left about. 1799 WORDSW. *Poems Imag.* x. 28 In many a secret place Where rivulets dance their wayward round. 1817 SCOTT *Harold* II. xv, Thus muttering, to the door she bent Her wayward steps. 18.. SMITHSON *Usef. Bk. Farmers* 32 (Cassell) Send its rough wayward roots in all directions. 1905 C.T.C. *Gaz.* June 254/1 The wayward hoop is a fruitful cause of those accidents for which no one except the victim gets punished.

†'wayward, *v.* *Obs. rare*—1. [f. prec. adj.] In passive: To be perversely prejudiced.

1586 STANIHURST *Ded. in Holinshed* II. 81 If anie be ouerthwartie waywarded, as he will sooner long for that I haue omitted, than he will be contented with that I haue chronicled.

[wayward, -wards. In the 17–18th c. the suffix -ward(s) was often appended to phrases like *this way, that way, our way*, etc., preceded or not by *to* or *from*. (See -WARD 4, -WARDS 2, 5.) In printed books it was common to join the suffix to the word *way* (either with or without hyphen), but to leave the preceding words of the phrase without hyphen, so that *way-ward(s)* or *wayward(s)* has a fallacious appearance of being a word.

1599 Warr. *Faire Women* II. 548 To creep that way-ward whilst I live ile trye. 1662 PEPPYS *Diary* 7 May, He left the Queene and flete in the Bay of Biscay, coming this wayward. 1682 WHEELER *Journ. Greece* IV. 317 Turning back to our way-ward, we had the view of the highest Part of Parnassus. *Ibid.* VI. 474 Not very far from hence we cross'd a stream that ran from the Way-wards thither. 1686 F. SPENCE tr. *Varilla's Ho. Medicis* 169 He invited their children to a match of hunting that way-wards where he was to embark. 1770 H. WALPOLE *Let. to G. Montagu* 31 Mar., I depend upon seeing you whenever you return this wayward.]

wayward(e, variant forms of VAWARD.

c1530 BERNERS *Arth. Lyt. Brit.* eiv. (1814) 497 The baner of Britaine sholde be in the way ward. *Ibid.* cv. 500 The King of Orquency... was put to the wayward with xxx. M. hawberts.

waywarden ('weɪwɔːd(ə)n). [f. WAY sb.¹ + WARDEN sb.¹] A person (later, one of a board) elected to supervise the highways of a parish or district.

1776 G. WHITE *Selborne, To Barrington* 8 Jan., As to that [shrew-ash] on the Plestor, 'The late vicar stubb'd and burnt it,' when he was way-warden. 1820 in *Archaeologia* (1831) XXIII. 398 Mr. George Charman, the way-warden... had frequently observed that the cattle resorted to a particular spot to rest. 1862 *Act 25 & 26 Vict.* c. 61 §9 The Highway Board shall consist of the Waywardens elected in the several Places within the District. 1863 TROLLOPE *Rachel Ray* I. 274 He was poor-law guardian and way-warden. 1872–4 JEFFERIES *Toilers of Field* (1892) 238 This man... was enabled to do a quantity of hauling, flint-carting for the way-wardens, [etc.].

waywardly ('weɪwɔːdli), *adv.* [f. WAYWARD *a.* + -LY².] In a wayward manner.

1388 WYCLIF *Ecclus.* xxvii. 26 At the last he schal turne weiwrdli his mouth [Vulg. *pervertet os suum*]. 1395 PURVEY *Remonstr.* (1851) 45 These principlis vndirstonden weiwrdli, and applied blasfemel to a synful man. 1545 ELYOT *Dict.*, *Morose*, waywardely. 1549 COVERDALE etc. *Erasm. Par.* 1 John ii. 7–11 He loued his enemies, yea those that turned waywardly from him and that were worthy of euyl. a1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. xxii. §2 Waiwardly proud; and therefore bold, because extremely faultie. 1825 J. NEAL *Bro. Jonathan* III. 331 Thou art still a creature of... courage and power. But why went such power so waywardly? 1880 *Academy* 23 Oct. 299/2 Taste changes so waywardly.

waywardness ('weɪwɔːdnɪs). [f. WAYWARD *a.* + -NESS.] The quality of being wayward (see the various senses of the adj.).

1382 WYCLIF *Rom.* i. 29 Fulfillid with al wickidnesse, ... couetyse, waywardnesse [Vulg. *nequitia*]. c1450–1530 *Myrr. Our Ladye* 152 Wretched were that persone that for eny waywardenes of harte wolde be vnreconcyled... at that tyme. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* II. vi. 165 Our faulte and not the waywardnesse of God [non Dei morositatem] is the cause. 1676 HALE *Contempl.* II. Lord's Prayer 116 Therefore in great condescension to the waywardness of our Natures, he is often pleased to keep the Treasury of outward Blessings in his own hands [etc.]. 1796 MME. D'ARBLAY *Camilla* V. 528 The barbarous waywardness that could deprive me... of the exquisite felicity of my lot! 1823 LAMB *Elia, Poor Relations*, The waywardness of his fate broke out against him with a second and worse malignity. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xviii, For all his waywardness, he took great credit to himself as being determined to be in earnest 'this time'. 1863 KINGLAKE *Crimea* (ed. 4) II. vi. 137 There was a waywardness in the course of the disease... for which it is difficult to account. 1872 TENNYSON *Gareth & Lynette* 1150 He, who lets His heart be stirr'd with any foolish heart At any gentle damsel's waywardness. 1919 *19th Century* May 897 Parliament... has rallied the people from the waywardness of rebellion.

† In lists of 'Proper Terms' mentioned as the typical attribute of haywards.

1486 *Bk. St. Albans* fvij, A waywardnes of haywardis.

† waywards, aphetic form of AWAYWARDS.

a1400 *Pistill of Susan* 55 Heore wittes wel wai-wordus þei wrethen awai.

way-way, obs. form of WAWA.

way-wiser ('weɪwaɪzə(r)). Now *Hist.* Also 8–9 -wizer. [Formed after G. *wegweiser* (= Du. *wegwijzer*, Sw. *vägväisare*, Da. *vejviser*), f. *weg* WAY sb.¹ + *weiser*, agent-n. f. *weisen* to show.

The Eng. sense is not found in the other Teut. langs. In German the word has, besides its primary sense 'one who or something which shows the way', several other meanings, the most common being 'guide-post', which is also current in Du., Da., and Sw.]

1. An instrument for measuring and indicating a distance travelled by road.

Of various forms, usually operated either by the step of the pedestrian or by the revolution of the wheels of the vehicle.

1651 R. CHILD in *Hartlib's Legacy* (1655) 70, I say twenty Ingeniuties have been found even in our days, as Watches, Clocks, Way-wisers, [etc.]. 1654 EVELYN *Diary* 13 July, He [Dr. Wilkins] had above in his lodgings and gallery variety of shadows, dyals, ... a way-wiser, [etc.]. 1657 *Ibid.* 6 Aug., I went to see Colonel Blount, who showed me the application of the Way-wiser to a coach, exactly measuring the miles, and showing them by an index as we went on. a1679 J. WARD *Diary* (1839) 160 An instrument call'd a waywiser, by the motion whereof a man may see how many steps he takes in a day. 1683 HOOKE in *Birch Hist. Roy. Soc.* (1757) IV. 231 It was one part of a way-wiser for the sea... designed to keep a true account, not only of the length of the run of the ship through the water, but the true rumb or leeward way [etc.]. 1701 MOXON *Math. Instr.* 21 *Waywiser*, for the pocket; a movement, like a Watch to Number or count your steps or paces, in Order to find how far you walk in a day. a1734 R. NORTH *Life Sir D. North* (1744) 202, I contrived a Way-wiser, and we both wrought upon it hard till it came to Perfection, and was fixed upon a Calash we used. 1886 *Cheshire Gloss.*, *Way-wiser*, a pedometer. [1891 N. & Q. Ser. VII. XI. 195/2 The waywiser [of c. 1800]... registers only up to twelve miles, after which distance the index must be again adjusted.]

fig. 1801 *Monthly Mag.* XII. 98 It is with the spying-glass of conjecture, not with the way-wiser of record, that the bearing of their sources must be made out.

† 2. [In the German sense.] A guide-post, finger-post. *rare*—1.

1855 W. WHITE *To Switz. & Back* x. 127 Why should one side of the mountains have all the crosses, and the other all the way-wisers?

waywode ('weɪwɔːd). Now *Hist.* Forms: 7–9 waywode, -wood, weywode, (7) weiwode, 8 weywode, -wod), 8–9 waiwode, (8) waiwod, woewood). [Var. of VAIWODE, repr. an early Magyar form of a common Slavonic title of office. Cf. mod.L. *wayvoda*.] = VOIWODE.

1661 *Mercurius Caled.* in *Sir A. Boswell's Poet. Wks.* (1871) 64 There is a considerable number of horses to carry on the work of the day; among others, a Waywode of Polonia hath a Tartarian horse. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 7 The Weywode or Gouverneur of Novogorod. 1739 ELTON in *Hamway's Trav.* (1762) I. i. iv. 11 We arrived at the city of Saratoff, and waited on the Weywode. 1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* II. xii. *Note*, Lusieri has laid his complaint before the Waywode. 1837 ALISON *Hist. Europe* xvii. (1848) V. 13 Their waywodes or military chieftains [in Poland]. 1905 *Sat. Rev.* 21 Oct. 522/2 There were hospodars in Wallachia and waywodes in Moldavia.

† b. = WAYWODESHIP.

1837 ALISON *Hist. Europe* xvii. (1848) V. 11 The waywodes and palatinates into which every province was divided [in Poland]... became divided against each other.

Hence 'waywodeship' [-SHIP], the province or district ruled by a waywode.

1684 *Scanderbeg Rediv.* iv. 62 [He] returned his thanks to the several Waywodeships. 1704 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3988/1 General Reinschild... is marching towards the Weywodship of Cracow. 1908 *Contemp. Rev.* Aug. 226 The Servians desired to transform the territory inhabited by them into a Servian waywodeship.

way-worn, *a.* Worn or wearied by travel.

1777 POTTER *Æschylus, Choeph.* 350, I, like a stranger, harness'd in this coarse And way-worn garb. 1788 CROWE *Levesdon Hill* 14 By soft gradations of ascent to lead The labouring and way-worn feet along. 1824 MISS L. M. HAWKINS *Annaline* II. 24 [He had a] wayworn look and meagre aspect. 1836 W. IRVING *Astoria* II. 141 The wayworn and hungry travellers. 1866 LE FANU *All in Dark* xxi, The horses... emerged from the inn-yard gate... to replace the way-worn team.

fig. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* liii, That night... she prayed humbly for that poor wayworn sinner.

waywort ('weɪwɔːrt). Also 3 waiwurt, 5 weywourth, 6 weywort. [f. WAY sb.¹ + WORT. Cf. early mod.G. *weg(e)wurz*, synonym of G. *weg(e)wart(e)* endive.] A name for †a. the saxifrage (*obs. rare*—1); b. the pimperl.

c1265 *Voc. Plants* in Wr.-Wülcker 556/25 *Saxifragium*, ... waiwurt. a1400–50 *Stockh. Med. MS.* p. 194 Pymperol or selfhol or weywourth or morecrop: *ipia maior*. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal Suppl.*, Waywort is Pimpernell. *Ibid.*, Weywort is *Ipia maior*. 1886 BRITTEN & HOLLAND *Plant-n.*, Way-wort. *Anagallis arvensis*.

waygoose ('weɪgʊːs). [Alteration of WAYGOOSE, under which the earlier evidence for the word is given.

The eccentrically spelt form *waygoose*, which, although established in recent use, has not been found, exc. in Bailey's Dictionary, earlier than 1875, is prob. a figment invented in the interest of an etymological conjecture (see quot. 1731).

Bailey's assertion that the word had the sense of 'stubble-goose' is unsupported, and is very unlikely; this allegation, and the accompanying fantastic misspelling of WASE, may have been suggested by the idea that the obscure word *waygoose* could be explained on the assumption that it had lost a z. (The *Eng. Dial. Dict.* refers to Cope's *Hampshire Glossary* for 'waze-goose, a stubble-goose', but Cope's authority for this is a MS. word-list which, he says, 'contained many words that had certainly no relation to the dialect of the county'.) It seems clear that the genuine traditional form among printers was *waygoose*, and that the form *wayzgoose*, now prevailing, is a supposed correction following the authority of Bailey. The statement that goose was 'the principal dish' (or even that it was eaten at all) at the 'waygoose' dinner is destitute of evidence. It is possible that *waygoose* may be a corruption by popular etymology of some earlier word, but no satisfactory explanation has been found either in English or in any foreign language.]

Originally, an entertainment given by a master-printer to his workmen 'about Bartholomew-tide' (24 August), marking the beginning of the season of working by candle-light. In later use, an annual festivity held in summer by the employees of a printing establishment, consisting of a dinner and (usually) an excursion into the country.

1731 BAILEY (ed. 5), *Wayz*, a Bundle of Straw. *Wayzgoose*, a Stubble-Goose, an Entertainment given to Journey-men at the beginning of Winter. 1833 TEMPERLEY *Songs of the Press* 23 note, Way Goose.—The derivation of this term is not generally known. It is from the old English word *wayz*, stubble. A wayz Goose was the head dish at the annual feast of the forefathers of our fraternity. 'Wayz Goose, a stubble Goose, an entertainment given to journeymen at the beginning of Winter.'—Bailey.]

1875 SOUTHWARD *Dict. Typogr.* 137 The wayzgoose generally consists of a trip into the country, open air amusements, a good dinner, and speeches and toasts afterwards. 1895 *Surrey Mirror* 23 Aug. 2/7 The members of the typographical staffs of the *Surrey Advertiser* (Guildford) and the *Surrey Mirror* (Redhill) had their wayzgoose on Saturday last, when they journeyed to Brighton.

b. *attrib.*

a1880 F. T. BUCKLAND *Notes & Jottings* (1882) 39 London printers generally have a 'wayzgoose' dinner in the autumn. 1897 F. T. BULLEN *Cruise of 'Cachalot'* 372 Carriages were chartered, an enormous quantity of eatables and drinkables provided, and away we went, a regular wayzgoose or bean-feast party.

||wazir¹ (wə'zɪə(r)). Also 9 wezeer, wuzeer. [Arab. *wazīr*, whence the Turkish *vezir*: see VIZIER.] = VIZIER 1.

1715 J. STEVENS *Hist. Persia* 191 Kobad... accordingly gave Orders to his Wazirs or Viziers. 1807 E. S. WARING *Tour Sheeraz* 27 We... reached a Surae, built by a son of the late Wuzeer. 1839 LANE *Arab. Nts.* I. 2 King Shahrīyār... ordered his Wezeer to repair to him. 1902 E. G. BROWNE *Lit. Hist. Persia* vii. 256 The office of Wazir, for all the power and dignity which it carried with it, was a perilous one.

So wazirate (wə'zɪərət) = VIZIERATE 1, 2; wazirship = VIZIERSHIP 1.

1715 J. STEVENS *Hist. Persia* 163 Dividing them [sc. his dominions] all into four wazir, or Vizierships, that is, Governments. 1886 BURTON *Arab. Nts.* (abr. ed.) I. 173 After which time they entered upon the Wazirate, and the power passed into their hands as it had been in the hands of their father [the Wazir]. 1902 E. G. BROWNE *Lit. Hist. Persia* vii. 256 When the 'Abbāsids came to the throne, the laws of the Wazirate were fixed. 1919 SIR S. LOW in *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 399 The country was annexed to the Wazirate.

Wazir² (wə'zɪə(r)). Also Waziri; 9 Vaziri, Vizeeree, Wuzeera, etc. A member of a Pathan people of north-west Pakistan; also, this people collectively. Also *attrib.* or as *adj.*

1815 M. ELPHINSTONE *Caubul* III. iii. 385 The Vizeerees are said to be tall and muscular. 1838 in *Parl. Papers* 1839 XL. 29 The Vezere territory. 1842 C. MASSON *Journeys* I. vii. 100 A few Vaziri huts. 1847 H. B. EDWARDS *Diary* 3 Dec. (1911) 156 A very extensive triangular Thull, or sand, occupied by the Vizeeree tribes. 1851 R. G. LATHAM *Ethnol. Brit. Colonies* iv. 182 The mountaineers around them—the *Vizeri*—are a pure branch. 1873, etc. [see MAHSUD]. 1924 LD. RONALDSHAY *India* vii. 76 Our dealings with the Mahsud Waziris. 1957 B. J. GOULD *Jewel in Lotus* x. 134 The 'girls' were Wazir tribesmen and the welcome they received was a salvo of rapid fire. 1977 J. CLEARY *High Road to China* v. 163 The Mahsuds and Wazirs have... shot down several of our machines. *Ibid.* 175 The four Waziri... remained behind.

wch, wch., abbrev. of WHICH *pron.*

1739 T. CORAM *Let.* 15 Sept. in R. McClure *Coram's Children* (1981) iii. 31 The Attorney & Solicitor Generals Fees... weh they had for Examining the Proposals. 1793 C. BURNEY *Let.* 10 July in F. Burney *Jrnl.* & *Let.* (1972) II. 171, I dread the evils into wch their sudden union w^d involve them. 1811 SHELLEY *Let.* 6 Jan. (1964) I. 37 Ignorant of the refinements in Love, wch. can only be attained by solitary reflexion.

wd, wd., abbrev. of would s.v. WILL v.¹

1793 [see WCH, WCH.]. 1800 [see WHOLESALE v.]. 1811 SHELLEY *Let.* 12 Jan. (1964) I. 44 Wd. that I cd. believe them to be as [they] are represented. 1888 H. O. D. DAVIDSON *Let.* 12 July in R. S. Churchill *Winston S. Churchill* (1967) I. Compan. 1. v. 169, I thought it wd do him good to spend a day with you. 1910 [see week-endize vb. s.v. WEEK-END]. 1930 E. POUND *XXX Cantos* vi. 24 They wd. have given him poison But for the shape of his sword-hilt. 1981 J. STUBBS *Ironmaster* xiv. 188 There w^d be an Outcry if the wedding was to fall in the month of May.

wder, var. *uder*, Sc. f. OTHER.

1531 *Abstr. Protocols Town Clerks Glasgow* (1897) IV. 44 Wderis commissionaris of Dwmbertane protestit for rameyd.

we (wī, wī), *pron.* Forms: 1 *we*, *wé*, *Northumb.* *woe*, 2 *weo*, *hwe*, 4–5 *we*, 5 *whee*, 4–7 *wee*, *Sc.* *ve*, 2–*we*. Also 7 *rarely w'* (before a vowel or *h*). [Com. Teut.: OE. *wē* corresponds to OFris. *wī* (WFr. *wi*, *wy*, NFr. *wi*, *we*, *wū*), OS. *wī*, *wē*, MDu. *wī* (mod. Du. *wij*), OHG. *wir*, *wēr*, *wier* (MHG., mod.G. *wir*), ON. *vér*, *vær* (Sw., Da. *vi*), Goth. *weis*.

These forms seem to go back to more than one OTeut. type. The Gothic form represents OTeut. **wiz*:—pre-Teut. **weis*, an extension (with nominative suffix *-s*) of Indogermanic **wei* found in Skr. *vayām*, Avestic *vaēm*, *we*. With regard to the OE., ON., and some other forms, there is difference of opinion, some scholars referring them to an ablaut-variant (either **wē-z* or **wē-z*) of **wī-z*, and others to a pre-Teut. **wē* of which **wei* is supposed to be an extension by the addition of a demonstrative particle.]

1. a. The pronoun of the first person plural nominative, denoting the speaker and one or more other persons whom he associates with himself as the subject of the sentence.

For the obsolete dual see *wit pron.* For emphasized compounds see *OURSELF* 2, *OURSELVES* 2.

Beowulf 260 *We synt gumcynnes ðeata leode*. **c 1000** *Agg. Gosp.* Luke xxii. 71 And his cwædon: hwi gyrne we gyt gewitnesse? sylfe we gehyrdon of hys muðe. **a 1250** *Owl & Night*. 1690–1 Ah hit was unker uoreward þo we come hiderward þat we parto holde scholde þar riht dom us 3iue wolde. **a 1300** *Cursor M.* 4820 ‘Childer,’ he said, ‘weþen are yee?’ ‘Sir, wee are o farr cuntre.’ **1382** *WYCLIF 2 Thess.* i. 4 So that we silf glorien in 3ou. **c 1420** *WYNTOUN Cron.* viii. xxxiii. 5785 3he se þat þai ar ma þan we. **c 1460** *Oseney Reg.* 174 Vpon the texte whee sware, both I and my wiffe. **1640** *J. GOWER Ovid's Festiv.* i. 8 Gold-temple please us, though the old w' approve. **1673** *HICKERINGILL Greg. F. Greybeard* 142 Hold, w' have sprung a mast. **1697** *DRYDEN Æneis* xi. 392 We; (for myself I speak, and all the Name Of Grecians, who to Troy's Destruction came). **1847** *HELPS Friends in C.* i. vii. 103 A thorough perception of the simple fact, that they are not we. **1879** *MISS BRADDON Cloven Foot* xx, ‘We must have everything ready for him.’ ‘So we will, ma'am, spick and span,’ answered Mrs. Trimmer.

b. following, as subject, a verb in the subjunctive mood; = let us (do something). Now only *rhet.* or *poet.*

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 11 Arweorþian we Crist on binne asetene. **a 1250** *Owl & Night*. 177 (Cott.), Ac lete we awei þos cheste. **a 1300** *K. Horn* 1527 Make we vs glade eue among. **13..** *Guy Warw.* 5060 ‘Lordinges,’ he seyde, ‘ginneþ 3ou armi, & gin whe hem to asaily.’ **c 1325** *Metr. Hom.* 53 Forthi I red we it forsak, And hald we us in rihtwisnes. **1470–85** *MALORY Arthur* vii. xv. 235 Noo leue we the knyghte and the dwerf, and speke we of Beaumayns. **1540** *PAISGR. Acolastus* i. iv. Giv, Go we in adores. **1593** *SHAKS. Rich.* II. i. ii. 6 Put we our quarrell to the will of heauen. **1657–83** *EVELYN Hist. Relig.* (1850) i. 33 Consider we, first, the structure of his body. **1814** *WORDSW. Excurs.* viii. 391 Turn we then To Britons born and bred within the pale Of civil polity.

c. defined or made precise by some qualifying word or phrase.

a 900 *CYNEWULF Crist* 746 Swa we men sculon heortan gehygdum hlypum styllan. **1582** *STANYHURST Æneis* i. (Arb.) 35 Wee carytiefte Troians. **a 1596** *Sir T. More* i. i. 121 And if you men durst not vndertake it, before God, we women would. **1605** *SHAKS. Macb.* i. i. 1 When shall we three meet again? **1612** *R. CH. Olde Thrift newly revived* 39, I must confesse that we poore Farmers... doe exclaime against Inclosures. **1631** *CHAPMAN Cæsar & Pompey* i. B3b, *Met.*... We will haue the army Of Pompey entred. *Cato*. We? which we intend you? Haeue you already bought the peoples voices? **1702** *DE FOE Shortest Way w. Dissenters* 23 We of the Church of England. **1751** *F. COVENTRY Pompey the Little* i. iii. 27 We Girls are under so many Restraints. **1848** *DICKENS Dombey* xlii, ‘We in the City know you better,’ replied Carker. **1865** *MRS. WHITNEY Gayworthys* xi, Mother, we two must make our wills. **1883** *J. W. SHERER At Home & in India* 99 She must have been what we westerns should call a child. **1918** *Act 8 Geo. V*, c. 1 We, Your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of the United Kingdom... in Parliament assembled.

d. qualified by a prefixed adj. *poet.*

[1607, 1635: see 3.] 1646 *CRASHAW Steps to Temple* 27 (Ps. 137) While unhappy captiv'd wee Lovely Sion thought on thee. **1697** *DRYDEN Æneis* v. 810 O wretched we, whom not the Grecian Pow'r, Nor Flames destroy'd, in Troy's unhappy hour!

e. used confidentially or playfully to mean the person addressed, with whose interests the speaker thus identifies himself; esp. by a doctor in friendly or cheering address to a patient.

1702 *VANBRUGH False Friend* i. i. C3, Well, old Acquaintance, we are going to be Married then? **1834** *DICKENS Sk. Boz, Boarding-ho.* ii, ‘Well, my dear ma'am, and how are we?’ inquired [Doctor] Wosky, in a soothing tone. **1884** *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 172/2 Well, Jane, and how are we this morning?

f. used indefinitely in general statements in which the speaker or writer includes those whom he addresses, his contemporaries, his fellow-countrymen, or the like.

c 1000 *ÆLFRIC Hom.* II. 442 On ðisum wræcfullum life we sceolon earmra manna helpian. **a 1300** *Cursor M.* 247–8 Giue we ilkan pare langage, Me think we do pam non outrage. **c 1386** *CHAUCER Knt.'s T.* 408–10 We seken faste after felicitie, But we goon wrong ful often trewely. Thus may we seyn alle and namely I. **a 1450** *Le Morte Arth.* 2303 Launcelot hyr brydelle ledde, In the romans as we rede. **a 1500** *Hist. K. Boccus & Sydrache* (? 1510) Pij, And yf they

[sc. fishes] felt the ayre also As we or foules or beastes do. **1612** in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* (1914) XXIX. 251 Yf we should have any difference with Spaine (as happely wee may have before wee looke for yt). **1712** *ADDISON Spect.* No. 512 ¶ 1 There is nothing which we receive with so much Reluctance as Advice. **1752** *J. HILL Hist. Anim.* 263 The Swedes and Danes call it Fjarsing... the French, Viver; and we, the Weever. **1845** *CARLYLE Cromwell* (1871) II. 7 Of Sheriff Morgan... we have no farther notice whatever. **1865** *RUSKIN Sesame* i, I say first we have despised literature. What do we, as a nation, care about books? **1875** *JEVONS Money* (1878) 25 In ordinary life we use a great many words with a total disregard of logical precision. **1876** *STEDMAN Victorian Poets* vi. 183 He is well broken, as we say of a thoroughbred.

g. used in conjunction with *they* to allude to the tension between two mutually exclusive groups or categories of people, or their opposing interests. Cf. *them and us* s.v. *THEM pers. pron.* 1 e.

[1884 F. MAURICE F. D. Maurice II. xvii. 531 That division of all men into the two classes of ‘we’ and ‘the rest’,... which we most of us adopt.] **1926** *KIPLING Debts & Credits* 327 Would you believe it?—They look upon We As only a sort of They! **1942** *H. HAYCRAFT Murder for Pleasure* xv. 316 The... fundamental contradiction between the We and They in government. **1948** *R. H. TAWNEY* in F. A. Iremonger *William Temple* v. 88 The ‘We and They’ complex... could not survive continuous co-operation with colleagues... whose experience of life was quite different from his own. **1965** *Observer* (Colour Suppl.) 25 Apr. 13/1 The children have a chance of learning to deal with adults, without the we-they feeling. **1973** *Guardian* 30 Mar. 14/2 Anything which emphasises the ‘we’ and ‘they’ of the situation will drive men... towards the extremes of politics.

2. Used by a single person to denote himself:

a. by a sovereign or ruler. Often defined by the name or title added.

Beowulf 958 Beowulf mapelode...: We þæt ellenweorc... feohtan fremedon. **c 1425** *Eng. Conq. Irel.* (1896) 6 We, dermat, prince of leynestre. **1436** *HEN. VI in Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* Var. Coll. IV. 199 We forse alle the gret discouraging and discomfort that mygte growe to oure trwe suggestis. **1482** in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* (1910) XXV. 122 We Elizabeth abbas of p^e Monastere of Syon... wylle and ordeyne that [etc.]. **1603** *JAS. I* in *Rymer Fædera* (1705) XVI. 538 Wee, Myndinge of our Royall and absolute Power to Us commytted, to visitt [etc.]. **1613** *SHAKS. Hen. VIII.* II. iv. 71 Sir, I am about to weepe; but thinking that We are a Queene [etc.]. **1642** *CHAS. I* in *Clarendon Hist. Reb.* v. §20 In plain English, it is to take away the freedom of our vote; which were we but a subject were high injustice; but being your king, we leave all the world to judge what it is. **1835** *LYTTON Rienzi* iv. vii, Noticed you the we—the style royal? **1850** *WISEMAN Pastoral* 7 Oct., In that same Consistory we were enabled ourselves to ask for the Archiepiscopal Pallium, for our new See of Westminster. **1872** *TENNYSON Gareth & Lynette* 362 But Arthur, ‘We sit King, to help the wrong’d Thro’ all our realm’.

b. by a speaker or writer, in order to secure an impersonal style and tone, or to avoid the obtrusive repetition of ‘I’.

Regularly so used in editorial and unsigned articles in newspapers and other periodicals, where the writer is understood to be supported in his opinions and statements by the editorial staff collectively.

c 893 *ÆLFRED Oros.* i. i. § 11 Nu hæbbe we scortlice gesæd ymbe Asia londgemæro. **c 1000** *ÆLFRIC Hom.* I. 556 We mihton ðas halgan rædunge menigfealdlicor trahtnian. **a 1300** *Cursor M.* 265 Now o pis proloug wil we blin. **1513** *BRADSHAW St. Werburg* i. 295 The second sone of Penda, we meane kyng Wulfere. **1589** *PUTTENHAM Eng. Poesie* i. xix. (Arb.) 56 We our selues who compiled this treatise. **1610** *HEALEY St. Aug. Citie of God* III. xviii. 133 Should we particularize, wee should become a direct Historiographer. **1807** *COPESTON Advice to Yng. Reviewer* 1 There is a mysterious authority in the plural we, which no single name, whatever may be its reputation, can acquire. **1836** *DICKENS Sk. Boz, Criminal Courts*, We shall never forget the mingled feelings of awe and respect with which we used to gaze on the exterior of Newgate in our schoolboy days. **1860** *Leader* 11 Feb., The volume that we have now before us. **1879** *T. P. O'CONNOR Beaconsfield* xiv. 577 In this official report [of a speech] the vain-glorious and significant ‘I’ is toned down to the softer and less candid ‘we’.

c. Hence jocularly as quasi-*sb.*: The editor of a periodical, or a contributor who uses this style; the periodical itself.

1853 *R. S. SURTEES Sponge's Sp. Tour* ix, It reached the ears of the great Mr. Seedeysman, the mighty we of the country, as he sat in his den penning his ‘stunners’ for his market-day *Mercury*. **1866** *Chamb. Jnl.* 15 Dec. 788/2 Not only was I myself overwhelmed by these accounts of foreign travel, when I was a We, but I noticed [etc.]. **1902** *Monthly Rev.* Aug. 124 Yet the two great ‘Wes’ of the eighteenth century, the ‘Monthly’ and the ‘Critical’ played no unimportant part in the literary education of our great-grandparents.

3. Used for the accus. *us* (now only by the uneducated). Cf. *LET v.* 14 b.

c 1500 *Melusine* xix. 106 Lete we send for the two knyghtes. **1553** *Respublica* III. iii. 682 *People*... He fiereth on youe & beareth vs faire in hande And therewithallobbeth bothe youe & we of oure Lande. **1607** *SHAKS. Cor.* v. iii. 103 And to poore we Thine enmities most capitall. **1635** *R. CAREW* in *Lismore Papers* (1888) Ser. II. III. 222 Those... fauours... vouthsafed vnto poore immeritinge we. **1782** *COWPER John Gilpin* 16 So you must ride On horseback after we. **1883** *D. C. MURRAY Hearts* xxxii, Not as ever you was proud to folks like we. **1890** *BICKLEY Surrey Hills* III. 207 He a' never disappointed we afore, why should 'un now? *Ibid.* 209 Maister Fenton ain't here yet, so let we have another hymn.

† **we**, *int.* *Obs.* Also 5 *whe*. An exclamation app. used for emphasis, or to demand attention. Cf. *wi int.*

13.. *Sir Orfeo* 176 (Sisam) O we, quap he, allas allas. **13..** *Gosp. Nicod.* 28 (MS. Harl.) We, whatkyn godes er pire? **13..** *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 2185 We, lorde, quoth þe gentyle knyzt, Wheper pis be þe grene chapelle. **c 1440** *York Myst.* xi. 139 Wel lord, þai wil noght to me trayste. *Ibid.* xv. 46 Wheel huddel be-halde into the heste! **c 1460** *Towneley Myst.* ii. 147 Wel ryn on, in the dwills nayme Before!

we: see *WEE sb.* 1 and *a.*, *WOE*, *WY* (man).

wea-bit, var. *WAY-BIT Obs.*

weach, weack: see *WITCH (tree)*, *WICK*.

weade, *obs.* form of *WEED v.* 1

weaden, *obs.* pl. of *WEED sb.* 2

weafe, ? etymologizing var. *WOOF*.

1657 *C. BECK Universal Char.* M 2 b, The weafe or woof of cloth.

weage, *obs.* Sc. form of *VOYAGE*.

weak (wik), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: *a.* 3–5, 4–9 *Sc.*, 9 *dial.* *waik*, (6 *Sc.* *waek*), 4–6 *waike*, *wayk*(e), (4 *Sc.* *vayk*, 5–6 *Sc.* *vaik*, *vaik*), 3–6 *weik*(e), *weyk*(e), (6 *Sc.* *vaiek*, *veik*). *β.* 4, 6 *wek*, 4 *weck*, 6 *wecke*; 5–6 *weke*, 4–7 *weeke*, 6–7 *weake*, 6–*weak*. [*a.* ON. *veik-r*, corresponding to OE. *wác*: see *WOKE a.*

The earliest known examples are in the *Cursor Mundi* (a 1300, but MSS. 14th c.); the word gradually took the place of the corresponding native adj. (OE. *wác*, ME. *WOKE*) which did not survive beyond the 15th c. There seems to have been some difference of meaning between OE. *wác* and ON. *veikr*; in OE. the primary Teut. sense ‘yielding, not rigid or firm, pliant’ was still prominent, while in ON. it had developed into the sense ‘not strong’.

The *β*-forms show the same development of Scand. *ei* to *ē* which is found in *BLEAK a.* (earlier *bleyke*, ON. *bleik-r*), *STEAK sb.* (ME. *steke*, *steyke*, ON. *steik*; still pron. dialectally with *i*), and *REAN*, var. of *RAIN sb.* 2 (ON. *reim*).

In mod. dialect literature the word is often written *waik* or *wake*. Graphically, these forms belong to the *a* group; but in certain areas it may be doubtful whether the shade of pronunciation denoted by the spelling descends from ME. *ē* or from ME. *ei*. As the normal Sc. representative of OE. *wác* is *wake*, which in late Scottish might have been written *waik*, it is possible that some of the Sc. examples given below belong etymologically to *WOKE a.* rather than to the present word.]

A. adj.

† 1. Of a material thing: Pliant, flexible, readily bending. (Usually with implication of want of strength.) = *WOKE a.* 1. *Obs.*

The recognition of this sense by Johnson (who has been followed by later Dicts.) is remarkable; his authority has not been identified.

? **a 1366** *CHAUCER Rom. Rose* 225 A mantel heng hir faste by, Upon a perche weyke and smalle [Fr. *A une perche moult gresle*]. **c 1440** *Prompt. Parv.* 520/1 Weyke, or lethy, *lentus*. **14..** *Sir Beues* 647 (MS. M) All to lethy [MS. *O weyke*] the spere was wrought. **c 1480** *HENRYSON Age & Youth* 13, I... saw ane catyf [Age]... cumand... walowit & wane, waik as ane wand. **1500–20** *DUNBAR Poems* lv. 22 Sum, thocht tham selfis stark, lyk gyandis, Ar now maid waek lyk willing wandis. **1755** *JOHNSON, Weak*, 3. Soft; pliant; not stiff. [Whence in later Dicts.]

2. a. Wanting in moral strength for endurance or resistance; lacking fortitude or courage, strength of purpose or will; unsteadfast, wavering.

1375 *BARBOUR Bruce* viii. 340 [Thai] dang on thame so hardly That in schort tyme men mycht se by At erd ane hundreth weill, and mar; The remanand the vaykar war. **a 1425** tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 7 He, forsoþ, þat is wayke of hert is nost in way of curacion. **c 1450** *CAPGRAVE St. Augustine* xxv. 34 The man was weyk and dred mech þe knyf. **1456** *SIR G. HAYE Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 170 Peple villain and wayke in the faith. **1526** *TINDALE Matt.* xxvi. 41 The spirite ys willynge but the flesshe is weeke. **c 1540** *R. MORICE in Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 24 [He] being very moche combered with the concupiscence of the fleshe, and stryvyng gretely to suppress the same, felt himself to wek to overcom it. **1593** *SHAKS. 3 Hen. VI*, IV. i. 12 Which are so weake of courage... That they'le take no offence at our abuse. **1667** *MILTON P.L.* viii. 532 Here onely weake Against the charm of Beauties powerful glance. **a 1716** *SOUTH Serm.* (1727) VI. xi. 385 It is the just Shame... of the Frailty of our Condition to consider... how weak we are to intend, and how much weaker to perform. **1774** *GOLDSM. Nat. Hist.* V. 180 But though so furious among themselves, they [turkeys] are weak and cowardly against other animals, though far less powerful than they. **1779** *COWPER Human Frailty* 1 Weak and irresolute is man. — *Olney Hymns* xxix. 12 And Satan trembles, when he sees The weakest saint upon his knees. **1889** *W. ARMSTRONG Wrestling* (Badm. Libr.) 224 Outsiders often clamour loudly over these falls, and a weak judge is liable to be influenced.

absol. **1667** *MILTON P.L.* vi. 909 But list'n not to his Temptations, warne Thy weaker. **1784** *COWPER Task* II. 343 He 'stablishes the strong, restores the weak. **1902** *W. ADAMSON Joseph Parker* xxiii. 299 Faith leads to the Rock higher than self, on which the weak can rest in safety.

b. In the translations of the Bible from Tindale onward, used to render Gr. ἀσθενής, ἀσθενών, applied by St. Paul (esp. in Rom. xiv and 1 Cor. viii) to believers whose scruples, though unsound, should be treated with tenderness, lest they should be led by the example of the more enlightened into acts condemned by their

conscience. Hence allusively in *weaker brethren* (often supposed to be a scriptural phrase), applied to the more timorous members of a party, who are in danger of being shocked by extreme statements of principle or policy; *weak sister* (*colloq.*, orig. U.S.), an ineffectual or unreliable person (of either sex); a person of weak character; also *transf.*

In the Wycliffite and other early versions the rendering is 'sick' (*Vulg. infirmus*).

1526 TINDALE *1 Cor.* viii. 11 But take hede that youre libertie cause nott the weake to faule. *Ibid.*, And so thorow thy knowledge shall the weake brother perishe for whom christ dyed. **1573** T. C[ARTWRIGHT] *Reply to Answ. Whitgift Aijb*, That the setters forward of thys cause... giue occasion to the papists of slaundering the religion, and to the weake of offence. **1674** B. PARRY *Duppa's Rules & Helps Devot.* 1. To Rdr., If Noise and Clamour might pass for Inspiration, the Apostles must go for Weak-Brethren, and mere Novices, compared with our New Lights. **1779** [R. RICHARDSON] *Epist. Ded.* to Bp. Lond. p. xvii, But recollecting the many Christian Injunctions in Favour of weak Brethren, you thus proceeded with your Charge. **1857** Call (San Francisco) 3 May 1/1 G. W. Swerzy... is a 'weak sister' and a rather 'bad egg'. **1866** GEO. ELIOT *Felix Holt* I. iv. 95 'I lack grace to deal with these weak sisters,' said the minister. **1882** BESANT *All Sorts* viii, I do as little as I can... on Sunday, because of the weaker brethren. The Sunday we [sc. Seventh Day Independents] keep as a holiday. **1949** R. B. WEST *Rocky Mt. Cities* 311 The morning *Rocky Mountain News*... dawdled along as one of the weakest sisters in the Scripps-Howard string [of newspapers]. **1955** E. BERCKMAN *Beckoning Dream* (1956) xix. 135 Luanna was a softie... a weak sister. She's the one you'd expect to go all to pieces, and she did. **1976** 'J. Ross' *I know what it's like to Die* xvii. 116 Birdsell was a weak sister... He was... known to be greedy and a physical coward.

c. of actions, attributes, etc.

1667 MILTON *P.L.* ix. 1186 And left to her self, if evil thence ensue, Shee first his weak indulgence will accuse. **1671** MARVELL *Corr. Wks.* (Grosart) II. 391 The Lord Lucas made a fervent bold speech against our prodigality in giving, and the weak looseness of the government. **1800** COLERIDGE *Piccolom.* v. v. 78 Because he had a weak hour and forgot himself. **1819** SHELLEY *Cenci* v. iii. 22 They must have told some weak and wicked lie To flatter their tormentors. **1878** LUCY *Diary Two Parl.* (1885) I. 365 Disraeli, in a weak moment, offered him office again.

d. Of features, expression of countenance, etc.: Indicating weakness of character or intention.

1877 W. S. GILBERT *Fogarty's Fairy* (1890) 30 The nurse smiled a weak smile, as who should say, 'Master's joke is always so amusingly chosen'. **1882** BESANT *All Sorts* xxix, His forehead, when the original thatch was thick, must have been rather low and weak. **1897** KIPLING *Capt. Cour.* x. 227 'What have you two men been doing now?' she said, with a weak little smile.

e. Deficient in power to control emotion; unduly swayed by grief, compassion, or affection. Of tears: Indicating weakness.

1768 STERNE *Sent. Journ.*, *Snuff-Box*, But I am as weak as a woman; and I beg the world not to smile, but pity me. **1794** MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* xlv, 'They are weak tears, for they are useless ones,' replied the count, drying them. **1848** DICKENS *Dombey* i, It's very weak and silly of me, I know, to be so trembly and shaky from head to foot. **1886** 'MRS. ALEXANDER' *By Woman's Wit* ii, You must have a weak spot in your heart for him, or you would never stand it.

3. a. Wanting in strength and skill as a combatant; relatively deficient in fighting power as shown by the result of the contest.

c1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 1814 ber was turn ageynes turn; bat waykest [of the wrestlers] was, byhoued spurn. **c1471** Pol. *Poems* (Rolls) II. 276 Fayne was the waykyer away for to flee. **1481** CAXTON *Reynard* (Arb.) 102 Yet thought the foxe I haue good auantage, the clawes of his for feet ben of, and his feet ben yet sore therof... he shal be somwhat the wekyer. **1593** SHAKS. *Rich.* II, iii. 1. 62 Then if Angels fight, Weake men must fall. **1602** — *Ham.* v. ii. 273 Your Grace hath laide the oddes a' th' weaker side.

b. Deficient as a fighting power in numbers, resources, etc. †Also const. of.

c1470 HENRY *Wallace* iv. 162 With waik power thai durst him nocht persew. **c1489** CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* i. 55 The folke of the duke were weke and almoste gon. For, of the two hundred that he hadde broughte, he hadde noo moo wyth hym but fourth. **1574** *Southampton Court Leet Rec.* (1905) I. 102 The watche of this towne ys neither good nor sufficient but very weak and vnmeet for the preseruacon of thys towne. **1592** *Soliman & Pers.* iii. i. 48 Their fleete is weake; Their horse, I deeme them fiftie thousand strong. **1593** SHAKS. *3 Hen. VI*, iv. v. 7 And often but attended with weake guard. **1611** W. ADAMS *Let. in Rundall Mem. Japon* (Hakl. Soc.) 22 The king's ships were out seeking vs... understanding that wee were weake of men. **1614** RALEGH *Hist. World* v. iii. §21. 578 He was indeede farre too weake for the Enemie in Horse, both in number and in goodnesse. **1670** DRYDEN *1st Pt. Cong. Granada* v. (1672) 53 We are not provided for a siege... The foe is strong without, we weak within. **1749** FIELDING *Tom Jones* v. xi, Having concluded, from seeing three men engaged, that two of them must be on one side, he... espoused the cause of the weaker party. **1784** COWPER *Task* II. 273 Sham'd as we have been... and in our own sea prov'd Too weak for those decisive blows that once Ensurd us mast'ry there. **1871** FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* IV. xvii. 54 Each detachment of William's great army of occupation was weak and isolated. **1912** *Eng. Hist. Rev.* Oct. 662 The French... were much weaker in large vessels.

†c. *transf.* *weak of friends*: having few influential friends. *Obs.*

1586 T. MORGAN in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* (1913) Jan. 56 note, Burghley... was weak of friends in the Privy Council.

d. Of a position: Poorly garrisoned.

1650 J. NICOLL *Diary* (Bannatyne Club) 25 The Englishe Generall, taking this very grevouslie, that such a waik hous sould hald out aganes him, [etc.].

e. *Chess-playing*. Of a man: Insufficiently protected against capture.

1860 LÖWENTHAL *Morphy's Games Chess* 57 The K. Kt's P. and K's P. are now both of them weak and the cause of much subsequent embarrassment. *Ibid.* 59 The Pawn... would have been left isolated and weak.

f. Wanting in skill as a performer in a game, sport, athletic exercise, contest, etc. Of play, a move, stroke: Exhibiting want of skill. So, *weak place, spot* (in a person's play).

1827 in W. DENISON *Sk. Players* (1846) 57 In other points England was weak: her fielding was not near so good, her bowling was not equal, [etc.]. **1860** LÖWENTHAL *Morphy's Games Chess* 62 On principle it is weak play, as it leaves a Pawn behind unsupported. *Ibid.* 98 A weak move. **1862** *Baily's Mag.* Sept. 142 But the Surrey bowling was weak, and the men of The North scored 266 in their first innings. **1872** *Ibid.* Aug. 168 Mr. Grace... gave... a chance at his one weak place, short leg. **1891** GRACE *Cricket* ix. 248 (Bowling.) And that brings me to my last point—seek for the weak spot in the batsman's defence. **1901** JESSOP in *Badminton Mag.* Apr. 371 We [Gloucestershire] shall be even a weaker side than usual in the first two months.

4. a. Of a person, the body, limbs: Deficient in bodily or muscular strength; esp. of a child or woman, inferior in respect of physical strength.

a1300 *Cursor M.* 15033 þe childer þat war waike To ga þat pres a-mang. *Ibid.* 23624 þir [the good] sal be selcut strang and wight, þai [the wicked] sal be weck [MS. Gött. waike] wit-vten might. **c1300** *Havelok* 1012 þider komen bothe stronge and wayke. **a1340** HAMPOLE *Psalter* xii. 5, I... sett noght by þane styringe, na mare þan a geaunte dos at þe puttyng of a waik man. **c1386** CHAUCER *Man of Law's T.* 834 How may this wayke womman han this strengthe Hire to defende agayn this renegat. **1393** LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* vi. 23 Certes, ich seyde... Ich am to waik to worche with sykel oper with sythe. **1470-85** MALORY *Arthur* iv. xx. 144, I am the yongest and moost weykest of yow bothe. **1596** SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* v. ii. 165 Why are our bodies soft, and weake, and smooth, Vnapt to toytle? **1628** MILTON *Vacation Exerc.* 1 Hail native Language, that by sinews weak Didst move my first endeavouring tongue to speak. **1646** SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* iv. v. 190 Divers continue all their life... left-handed, and have but weak and imperfect use of the right. **1697** DRYDEN *Æneis* xi. 1044 It shall be seen, weak Woman, what you can, When Foot to Foot, you combat with a Man. **1709** POPE *Ess. Crit.* 197 That on weak wings, from far, pursues your flights. **1757** FOOTE *Author Prol.*, But as the sluggish animal was weak, They fear'd, if both should mount, his back would break. **1776** A. SMITH *W.N.* v. i. II. 315 He is a very strong man who by mere strength of body can force two weak ones to obey him. **1821** SHELLEY *Adonais* xxvii, O gentle child... Why didst thou... with weak hands though mighty heart Dare the unpastured dragon in his den?

b. *absol.* (Cf. 10 b.)

a1300 *Cursor M.* 832 þe strang [bigan] þe weker for to sla. **1456** SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 257 Off tymes the starkare... puttis the waykar to the wer. For it is agayne nature that the waykare wan the starkare. **a1500** *Coventry Corpus Chr. Pl.* ii. 447 But the weykist gothe eyuer to the walle. **1535** — [see WALL sb. 13]. **1546** J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* II. v. (1867) 56 And where the small with the great, can not agree, The weaker goeth to the potte, we all daie see. **1565** STAPLETON tr. *Bede's Hist. Ch. Eng.* 95 Thinking it a light matter to iniury, beguile or vse violence toward our wekers and inferiours. **1579** KENDALL *Flowers Epigr.*, *Trifles* 5 The weake may stand the strong in sted: a dog may haue a day. **1768** ROSS *Helenore* II. 85 The weak wins ay the warr.

c. *the weaker vessel* [cf. VESSEL sb. 13], in 1 Pet. iii. 7 said of the wife as compared with the husband; hence occas. used jocularly for 'the wife' or female partner. *the weaker sex*: see SEX sb. 1 c.

1526 TINDALE *1 Pet.* iii. 7 Geyvngc honoure vnto the wyfe as vnto the weaker vessel [Gr. *ὡς ἀδυνατότερον αὐτοῦ*]. **1588** SHAKS. *L.L.L.* i. i. 276 Iaquenetta (so is the weaker vessell called) which I apprehended with the aforesaid Swaine. **1668** ST. SERFE *Tarugo's Wiles* III. 23 B[aker's] Wife. O! you are a fine man indeed! to leave the Government of the Oven now... to me that's the weaker vessel.

d. of physical effort.

1783 CRABBE *Village* I. 197 Alternate masters now their slave command, Urge the weak efforts of his feeble hand.

5. a. Deficient in bodily vigour through age, sickness, privation, etc.; wanting in strength of the vital functions of the body; debilitated.

1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 767 Bot als tye als a man waxes alde, þan waxes his kynde wayke and calde. *Ibid.* 6157 Seke I was and in ful wayke state. **1399** LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* II. 64 3oure owen lymmes... so feeble and wayke wexe in þe hammes. **1470-85** MALORY *Arthur* xxi. xi. 857 Thyder they came within two dayes for they were wayke & feble to goo. **1519** *Knaresb. Wills* (Surtees) I. 8, I, John Gill, hole in mynde and wake in stomack, &c., to be buried in pallall Chyrchyerd. **1524** *Reg. Privy Seal Scot.* I. 501/1 Patrik... is now of grette age, febill and waik in his persoun. **a1548** HALL *Chron.*, *Hen. VIII* 20 Thei hired shippes and putte the lorde Marques in one, which was so weak that he asked where he was. **1599** DALLAM in *Early Voy. Levant* (Hakl. Soc.) 81, I was verrie wayke, not able to goo on foute one myle in a daye. **1651** HOBBS *Leviath.* II. xxix. 173 Till (if Nature be strong enough) it break at last the tutumacy of the parts obstructed... or (if Nature be too weak) the Patient dyeth. **1687** MIÉGE *Fr. Dict.* I, *Tendre*, tender, ... of a weak constitution. **1780** SELWYN in *Jesse S. & Contemp.* (1844) IV. 363, I am at present in a weaker state of health from a present disorder than I ever was. **1840** DICKENS *Old C. Shop* lxiv, You're too weak to stand, indeed. **1889** 'J. S. WINTER' *Mrs. Bob xx*, And, as is generally the case after hysteria, she is now very weak and prostrate. **1891** FARRAR *Darkn. & Dawn* lix, Pomponia sat by the bedside, holding the weak hand.

Simulative phrases. **1840** [see RAT sb. 1 c]. **1902** C. N. & A. M. WILLIAMSON *Lightning Conductor* 327 Poor Lady B. was as weak as a rag, but... Pa kept her up on a raw egg in wine.

b. Feeble through exhaustion; faint. ? Now chiefly *dial.*

a1707 PRIOR *Dk. Ormond's Pict.* 10 'Till weak with Wounds... He faints. **1849** LEVER *Con Cregani*, I am getting wake; just touch my lips again with the jug. **1880** *Antrim & Down Gloss.*, *Weak turn*, fainting fit. **1905** *Brit. Med. Jnl.* 1 July 23 He took a 'weak turn' and died the following day. **1918** *Pall Mall Gaz.* 29 June 8/1 A wound over the eye, which caused the Welshman to go so weak that the referee stopped the contest.

6. a. Constitutionally feeble; not vigorous or robust in health.

1523-34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* liii. 50 Of euery sort of shepe, it may fortune there be some, that like not and be weike. **a1548** HALL *Chron.*, *Edw. IV* (1550) 36 The French kyng had no heire male, but one weak boy. **1602** SHAKS. *Ham.* III. iv. 114 Conceit in weakest bodies, strongest workes. **1772** PRIESTLEY *Inst. Relig.* (1782) I. 218 Laws to prevent the education of weak children. **1774** GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* II. 201 Fontenelle... was naturally of a very weak and delicate habit of body. **1780** BENTHAM *Introd. Morals & Legisl.* vi. (1789) 43 A man may be weak all his life long, without experiencing any disease.

b. of a tree, plant, fruit, etc.

1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* iv. i. 115 The weakest kinde of fruite Drops earliest to the ground, and so let me. **1666** W. W. *New Help to Discourse* (ed. 4) 224 Stake and bind up the weakest Plants, against the Winds. **1754** JUSTICE *Scots Gard. Director* 173 If your Artichokes are weak in the Spring, hill them up with rich Earth, and they will recover. **1768** [J. GIBSON] *Fruit-Gardener* 208 Early pruning is commonly recommended for weak trees. **1892** *Speaker* 3 Sept. 290/1 The roses... will deteriorate year after year... getting too weak to open leafy buds.

7. Of bodily organs or their functions: Deficient in functional strength (either naturally or by impairment).

The usual collocations are: *weak eyes, sight; weak stomach, digestion; weak chest, lungs, heart*; also (later) *weak nerves*, which has commonly the loose sense of 'nervousness', liability to be easily agitated.

c1480 HENRYSON *Swallow & other Birds* 19 Hir ene ar waik, the sone scho may not se. **1597** SHAKS. *Lover's Compl.* 214 The deepe greene Emerald in whose fresh regard, Weake sights their sickly radiance do amend. **1599** — *Hen. V.* III. ii. 56 Their Villany goes against my weake stomacke, and therefore I must cast it vp. **1655** FULLER *Ch. Hist.* vi. 299 My weak and squeazie stomack will hardly digest the wing of a small rabbit. **1661** BOYLE *Style of Script.* (1675) 27 Batts... are only pleased with (what is alone proportioned to their weak sight) a Twilight. **1732** BERKELEY *Alciph.* vi. §7, I have naturally weak eyes, and know that there are many things that I cannot see. **1760** STERNE *Tr. Shandy* III. xx. Author's Pref., With such weak nerves and spirits, and in the condition I am in at present. **1781** COWPER *Truth* 98 Fancy shall apply To your weak sight her telescopic eye. **1822-9** *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 3) I. 210 Shell-fishes do not always agree with weak stomachs. **1825** J. DENNISTON *Leg. Galloway* 95 His amiable lady being a woman of weak nerves. **187.** *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* I. 184 One of the large Monkeys in the Zoological Gardens had weak teeth, and he used to break open the nuts with a stone.

8. a. Of the mind or mental faculties: Deficient in power.

c1374 CHAUCER *Anel. & Arc.* 341 But me to rede out of this drede or guye Ne may my wit, so weyke is hit, not streche. **c1400** tr. *Secreta Secret.*, *Gov. Lordsh.* 80 But of wyn þat ys takyn abundantly... it makys wayk þe vertuz of þe sawle. **c1480** HENRYSON *Swallow & other Birds* 24 Mannis saule is febill and ouer small, Of vnderstanding waik and imperfite. **1562** WINJET *Cert. Tractatis Wks.* (S.T.S.) I. 27 It apperis to my waik iugement that to attempt sic proude misordour sall [etc.]. **1593** SHAKS. *Lucr.* 460 Such shadowes are the weake-brains forgeries. *Ibid.* 1825 Such childish humor from weake minds proceeds. **1597** — 2 *Hen. IV.* II. iv. 273 And such other Gamboll Faculties hee hath, that shew a weake Minde, and an able Body. **1642** J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Walker the Ironmonger* A2, This hath past without controlement to... the raising of strifes... in many people of weake capacities and judgements. **1671** MILTON *P.R.* II. 221 For Beauty stands In the admiration only of weak minds Led captive. **1690** LOCKE *Hum. Und.* II. xxiii. §12. 140 We are furnished with Faculties (dull and weak as they are) to discover enough in the Creatures, to lead us to the Knowledge of the Creator. **1751** SMOLLETT *Per. Pic.* xcvi, Lord A—m... was a man of weak intellects. **1781** COWPER *Truth* 366 Earth gives too little, giving only bread, To nourish pride, or turn the weakest head. **1798** FERRIAR *Illustr. Sterne*, etc. 8 Persons of weak understanding. **1857** BUCKLE *Civiliz.* I. vii. 446 No where are the weakest parts of the human mind more clearly seen than in the history of legislation. **1865** H. KINGSLEY *Hillyars & Burtons* lxi, Her suspicions... were only the product of a weak brain in a morbid state. **1908** [MISS E. FOWLER] *Betw. Trent & Ancholme* 317 A boy of weak intellect, a Natural.

b. Lacking force of intellect or strength of mind; easily deceived, credulous.

1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* xiv, Thou (sely) 3outh, of nature Indegest... of wit wayke and vnstable. **1660** JER. TAYLOR *Ductor* III. iv. 290 And that Priest were... a weak person who should chuse to wear gray, because there is no religion in the colour. **1665** GLANVILL *Def. Van. Dogm.* 52 If any are so weak to affirm nothing can be demonstrated, against which any thing is or can be objected [etc.]. **1736** BUTLER *Anal.* II. viii. Wks. 1874 I. 293 By these means weak men are often deceived by others. **1759** ROBERTSON *Hist. Scot.* III. Wks. 1851 I. 217 Though Elizabeth was as much inferior to Mary in beauty and gracefulness of person as she excelled her in political abilities... she was weak enough to compare herself with the Scottish queen. **1781** COWPER *Convers.* 225 Credulous infancy, or age as weak, Are fittest auditors for such to seek. **1842** NEWMAN *Ecl. Miracles* (1843) 127 It can mean nothing else but that St. Gregory did no miracles, and that it is weak, nay, even heathenish, to believe he did. **1849** MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* viii. II. 295 He... was everywhere received with outward signs of joy and respect, which he was

weak enough to consider as proofs that the discontent... had subsided. 1885 'MRS. ALEXANDER' *Valerie's Fate* ii. Do you think I should be so weak and stupid as to fall in love with a man... I know nothing about?

absol. 1784 COWPER *Task* ii. 566 The weak perhaps are mov'd, but are not taught, While prejudice in men of stronger minds Takes deeper root.

c. Feeble (*in* one's intellect, the brain, head, etc.).

a 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Warwicksh.* (1662) 119 Hence was it that the Earl was kept in so strict Restraint, which made him very weak in his Intellectuals. 1831 SCOTT *Cast. Dang.* ii. Shrewd and wise men wax weak in the brain in these troublous times. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xxi. Until Mr. Smallweed's grandmother, now living, became weak in her intellect.

9. Inefficient, ill-qualified. a. Of a person's abilities, productions, qualities, etc. (Often used in modesty or self-disparagement.)

c 1386 CHAUCER *Prioress' T.* 29 My konnyng is so wayk, o blisful queene, For to declare thy grete worthynesse That [etc.]. c 1450 HOLLAND *Houlate* 37 And I haue mekle matir in metir to gloss... And waikes is my eloquence. c 1590 J. STEWART *Poems* (S.T.S.) II. 6 My vaeik and friuole versis. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich.* III. iii. i. 37 *Card.* My Lord of Buckingham, if my weak Oratorie Can from his Mother winne the Duke of Yorke, Anon expect him here.

b. Of a person: Wanting in ability, ill-qualified, unskilled or inefficient *in, of* or *to* do (something).

1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* cxlix. And, sone, of wit or lore Sen thou art wayke and feble. 1564 BECON *Wks.* I. Pref. ♣ Civ. When such as are yet weake in knowledge of Christ and of his holy Gospel heare y^t [etc.]. *Marg.*, Weakeynges. 1590 SPENSER *F.Q.* I. Intro. ii. Helpe then, O holy Virgin chiefe of nine, Thy weaker Nourice to performe thy will. 1653 W. RAMESEY *Astrol. Restored* 28 One of the silliest and weakest Students in Astrologie was chosen out of all the other to confute the Doctor. 1780 COWPER *Progr. Err.* 15 Weak to perform, though mighty to pretend. 1781 — *Charity* 633 But if, unhappily deceiv'd, I dream, And prove too weak for so divine a theme. 1818 KEATS *Endym.* III. 938 O 'tis a very sin For one so weak to venture his poor verse In such a place as this. 1831 SIR J. SINCLAIR *Corr.* II. 257 Some weak politicians would startle at the expense it might occasion. 1885 *Leeds Mercury* 24 June 4/4 The new Government will be so lamentably weak in debating power.

transf. 1821 SHELLEY *Adonais* lii, Rome's azure sky, Flowers, ruins, statues, music, words, are weak The glory they transfuse with fitting truth to speak.

c. Of literary work or composition: Showing little evidence of ability.

1713 STEELE *Englishm.* No. 20. 132 It is the weakest Part of a very weak Book. 1733 POPE *Hor. Sat.* II. i. 5 The lines are weak, another's pleas'd to say.

10. a. Wanting in power or authority over others.

1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* cxlviii. And quhare a persone has tofore knowing Off It that is to fallen purposely, Lo, fortune is bot wayke in suich a thing. 1538 STARKEY *England* I. iii. 84 Our cuntrey ys now weke, and no thyng so strong as hyt hath byn in old tyme. 1550 CROWLEY *Way to Wealth* 265 If the gentlemen and rulars of thy countreie shoulde be to weake for the, he would bring in straining nations to subdue the. 1651 HOBBS *Leviath.* II. xxx. 182 It is a weak Sovereign, that has weak Subjects; and a weak People, whose Sovereign watheth Power to rule them at his will. ? 1761 GOLDSM. *Misc. Wks.* (1837) I. 472 England, therefore, grew weaker, or, what amounts to the same thing, saw her neighbours grow stronger. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xx. IV. 437 Sometimes... no set of men who can be brought together possesses the full confidence and steady support of a majority of the House of Commons. When this is the case, there must be a weak Ministry.

b. *absol.* (Cf. 4 b.)

1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* I. iii. 91 Therein, yee Gods, you make the weak most strong; Therein, yee Gods, you Tyrants doe defeat. 1697 [see STRONG a. 5 b]. 1733 POPE *Ess. Man* III. 49 Grant that the pow'rful still the weak controul. 1844 DISRAELI *Coningsby* IV. iv. The idea of restraining the powerful by the weak is an absurdity.

c. of power, strength, authority, etc.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* P 311 And moore-ouer contricion destroyeth the prison of helle and maketh wayk and feible alle the strengthes of the deueles. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* (S.T.S.) II. 38 The strenth of every office & power begynnys to be febil and waik in þe lattir parte of þe 3ere. 1570 SATIR. *Poems Reform.* xviii. 47 Thy thocht his deith wald mak thy power waik. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich.* II. ii. iii. 154, I cannot mend it, I must needs confesse, Because my power is weake. a 1656 [see STRONG a. 5 d].

11. a. *Card-playing.* Of a game, hand, suit: Not of a commanding nature or value. Of a player: Ill-provided with commanding cards (*in* a specified suit).

1680 COTTON *Gamester* (ed. 2) 75 [L'Ombre] If the Players have but a weak Game, they are to imitate cunning Beast-players in dividing the Tricks. 1742 HOYLE *Whist* 28 Your Adversary on your Right-hand begins with playing the Ace of your weak Suit. 1746 *Ibid.* (ed. 6) 62 When ought you to make Tricks early? *Ans.* When you are weak in Trumps. 1864 [see STRONG a. 24].

b. *Money-market.* Of money or stock: Insufficient to meet a demand or to carry on operations. Similarly of a holder of stock.

1875 *Economist* 23 Jan. 95/1 The Bank reserve will continue too weak for the probable demands upon it in the spring. *Ibid.* 6 Mar. 289/2 Several of the weaker holders have been forced to dispose of their stocks at a considerable reduction on former rates.

12. Not strong or energetic in action; lacking in force or power. a. of natural agents, etc.

c 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret.*, Gov. Lordsh. 68 For pat stomake ys lykned to a wayk & feble feer, pat vnnetnes may to-brenne rosels and smal chippys. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 226/1 *Siparum*,... a saile wherewith the course or voyage of

a ship is holpen, when the wind is weake and faileth. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV.* IV. v. 100 For my Cloud of Dignitie Is held from falling, with so weake a winde, That it will quickly drop. 1604 E. G. [RIMSTONE] tr. *Acosta's Hist. Indies* II. vii. 97 If the sunnebeames be weake, they draw vp no fogge from the rivers. a 1626 [see STRONG a. 13 c]. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 45 'Tis to be noted that the tides are weakest at the full of the Moon. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 175 A combination of weak magnets... will communicate magnetism in proportion to their accumulated power. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 515 The above list gives them [i.e. external astringents] in order of their efficacy—from the weakest to the strongest. 1907 J. A. HODGES *Elem. Photogr.* (ed. 6) 112 Weak sunlight will be found to give the best lighting.

† b. Of food: Not highly nourishing. *Obs.*

1382 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) I. 264 Men may se by thair contynance... that thair sustynance Simple is and wayke. 1615 SANDYS *Trav.* 118 Of these [Moors] it is strange to see such a number of broken persons: so being by reason of their strong labour and weake foode.

c. Of the voice: Feeble in enunciation.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 24314 þir martirs tuin... quen þai herd crists voice Sa waik pat vnethes most þai here, Come neuer care þair hert sa nere. a 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* I. (Arb.) 39 A voice, not softe, weake, piping, womannishe, but audible, stronge, and manlike. 1697 DRYDEN *Aeneis* VI. 666 They rais'd a feeble Cry, with trembling Notes: But the weak Voice deceiv'd their gasping Throats. 1810 CRABBE *Borough* xxii. 324 And 'Come,' they said, with weak, sad voices, 'come.' 1873 MARCH. DUFFERIN *Canad. Jnl.* (1891) 81 The voices of the singers were thin and weak. 1878 HARDY *Ret. Native* v. v. 'Are you not ashamed of me'... she asked in a weak whisper.

d. Of the pulse: Having little force.

1700 DRYDEN *Pal. & Arc.* I. 154 Weak was the Pulse, and hardly heav'd the Heart. 1707 FLOYER *Physic. Pulse-Watch* 403 A weak Pulse, languid, profound, subtile, slow, indicates a cold Disease. 1876 [see STRONG a. 13 b].

e. Of faith, conviction, affection, passions: Wanting in strength, not intense.

1530 TINDALE *Answ. More Wks.* (1573) 267 The fayth that dependeth of an other mans mouth is weake. c 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* cii. 1 My loue is strengthened, though more weake in seeming. 1732 POPE *Ess. Man* II. 130 Hence diff'rent Passions more or less inflame, As strong or weak, the organs of the frame. 1768 COWPER *Olney Hymns* xviii. 22 Lord, it is my chief complaint That my love is weak and faint.

f. (a) Of words or expressions: Wanting in force, inadequate; implying relatively little fullness of meaning.

1771 JUNIUS *Lett.* lxiv. (1772) II. 327 If these terms are weak, or ambiguous, in what language can Junius express himself? 1861 PALEY *Aeschylus* (ed. 2) *Choeph.* 913 note, 'To wait fate' is, however, a much weaker term than the other.

(b) *Math.* Of a mathematical entity or concept: implying less than others of its kind; defined by fewer conditions.

1950 W. FELLER *Introd. Probability Theory* I. viii. 157 The strong law of large numbers was first formulated by Cantelli (1917)... Like the weak law, it is only a very special case of a general theorem on random variables. 1964 A. P. & W. ROBERTSON *Topological Vector Spaces* p. vii. It often clarifies results in the theory of normed spaces, especially those concerned with the weak topology, to regard them as particular cases of more general results about topological vector spaces. 1971 G. HIGMAN in Powell & Higman *Finite Simple Groups* vi. 211 We then define E_n to be the weakest equivalence relation on Ω_n satisfying the following three conditions. 1979 *Proc. London Math. Soc.* XXXVIII. 439 Let L be the collection of minimal edge-sets of paths which join s to s' or t to t' . Then L has the weak MFMC property (but... in general, not the strong).

g. Of a dose of medicine: Less in quantity (and hence in power) than the normal dose.

1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 588 Weak doses of thymol, tar, or subacetate of lead.

† h. Of slumber: Light, not deep or heavy. *Obs.*

1663 PATRICK *Parab. Pilgr.* x. (1687) 56 A weak slumber... chaining up his reason, left only his imagination at liberty to rove about.

i. Of a chance: Slight, slender, small in degree.

1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* x. Shall I call him down? But it's a weak chance if he'd come, sir!

j. Of an attack of disease: Not severe or acute.

1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 586 It [i.e. 'red gum'] is more probably urticarial or a weak form of prurigo.

k. *Physics.* Applied to one of the four known kinds of force between particles, which is effective only at distances less than about 10^{-15} cm., is very much weaker than the electromagnetic and the strong interactions, and conserves neither strangeness, parity, nor isospin.

[1953 M. GELL-MANN in *Physical Rev.* XCII. 833/2 Let us suppose that both 'ordinary particles' (nucleons and pions) and 'new unstable particles'... have interactions of three kinds: (i) Other charge-dependent interactions, which we take to be very weak. 1954 [see STRONG a. 10 e]. 1968 M. S. LIVINGSTON *Particle Physics* vii. 139 Parity conservation is violated in this weak interaction. 1972 G. L. WICK *Elementary Particles* iii. 43 Typical weak interactions are nuclear beta decay and the slow decays of elementary particles. 1976 *Sci. Amer.* Jan. 45/1 The weak force affects every particle but one, the exception being the photon. 1982 *Ann. Reg.* 1981 385 Theorists had already inferred that electromagnetism and the weak force were two extremes of the same thing.

13. a. Wanting in effectiveness.

1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI.* v. iii. 27 My ancient Incantations are too weak. 1600 — *Sonn.* xxxiv. 11 Th' offenders sorrow lends but weake reliefe To him that beares the strong offenses crosse. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* XII. 291 When they see

Law can discover sin, but not remove, Save by those shadowie expiations weak, The blood of Bulls and Goats. a 1718 PRIOR *Engraven on Column* 14 Yet Spires and Towers in Dust shall lye, The weak Efforts of Human Pains. 1721 POPE *Epitaph Hon. S. Harcourt*, How vain is Reason, Eloquence how weak! If Pope must tell what Harcourt cannot speak. 1741 C'TESS POMFRET in *C'tess Hartford's Corr.* (1805) III. 52 Knowing with what goodness you receive my weak endeavours to amuse you. 1822 SHELLEY *Chas. I.* ii. 292 *Strafford*. Be these the expedients until time and wisdom Shall frame a settled state of government. *Laud.* And weak expedients they.

b. Of evidence, argument, etc.: Not convincing. Of a case, title, etc.: Not having strong evidence.

1538 STARKEY *England* I. ii. 27 That where as my resonys schal appere to you sklender and weke, wyth your dylygence you may them supply. 1542 ELYOT *Dict.*, *Causa inferior*, the lesse right, or weaker title. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 18 b, Which is a light and verye weake reason. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI.* I. i. 134 *Henry*. I know not what to say, my Titles weake. 1594 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* II. v. §5, I wonder that a cause so weak and feeble hath bene so much persisted in. c 1600 MONTGOMERIE *Cherrie & Slae* 1112 3our warrant is but waik. 1630 MILTON *On Shaks.* 6 Dear son of memory, great heir of Fame, What need'st thou such weak witnes of thy name? 1662 STILLINGF. *Orig. Sacrae* III. i. §8 Hee admits them upon far weaker grounds than wee do attribute them to God. 1686 TILLOTSON *Serm. at White-Hall*, 1 *Cor.* iii. 15, 18 [An argument] so intolerably weak and sophistical that any considerate man ought to be asham'd to be catch'd by it. 1707 ATTERBURY *Vind. Doctr. Funeral Serm. Bennet* 4 Pretending to shew, how weak and improper the Proofs are, which their Asserters employ in the defence of them. 1781 COWPER *Convers.* 722 Will they believe, though credulous enough To swallow much upon much weaker proof. 1863 TWISTLETON in *W. Smith's Dict. Bible* III. s.v. *Zidon*, Justin, however, is such a weak authority for any disputed historical fact. 1871 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* IV. xviii. 188 But the direct evidence for a siege of Oxford is so weak that the tale cannot be relied on. 1904 H. BELLOC *Old Road* 119 The first evidence afforded us was weak enough. We saw [etc.].

† 14. Of a thing: Of little account or worth, inconsiderable. *Obs.*

1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* v. i. 434 And this weake and idle theame, No more yeelding but a dreame, Gentles, doe not reprehend. 1604 — *Orh.* III. iii. 443 O that the Slaue had forty thousand liues; One is too poore, too weak for my reuenge. 1822 SHELLEY *Chas. I.* ii. 207 *Strafford*. How weak, how short, is life to pay— *King.* Peace, peace. Thou ow'st me nothing yet.

15. a. Having less than the full or proper amount of a specific ingredient. Of an infusion: Over-diluted.

1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV.* II. ii. 10 Doth it not shew vildely in me, to desire small Beere? *Poin.* Why, a Prince should not be so loosely studied, as to remember so weake a Composition. 1676 J. SMITH *Art of Painting* vii. 38 You must give it such a quantity of your fat Oyl, that it may not be so weak as to run when you have laid it on, nor so stiff, that it may not work well. 1755 JOHNSON, *Weak*... 6. Not much impregnated with any ingredient: as a weak tincture, weak beer. 1769 J. SKEAT *Art of Cookery* Expl. Terms, *Cooley*; is a white broth or weak gravy. 1791 W. HAMILTON *Berthollet's Dyeing* I. 5 By means of a very weak acid. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 837 To a weak solution of galls, add a few drops of weak solution of sulphate of iron. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* lxiv, A great basin of weak tea. 1891 'J. S. WINTER' *Lumley* xv, A little brandy and water, not too weak.

b. *spec.* of iron.

1841 GREENER *Sci. Gunnery* 120 An iron which is technically termed 'Weak', can never be made a strong bodied iron. 1868 JOYNSON *Metals* 58 What is called 'weak' pig-iron, which contains a high percentage of phosphorus and sulphur.

c. Of corn: ? Having a small proportion of grain to the chaff.

1842 J. AITON *Domest. Econ.* (1857) 205 Let the cows get... a little clover hay, mixed with weak oats, the refuse of what is sent to the mill. *Ibid.* 252 The horse gets about the fourth part of a peck of oats, with some weak and refuse corn for supper daily.

d. Of flour: Made from soft wheat, so that it contains relatively less gluten and more starch, rises less with yeast, and is less cohesive. Of wheat: Soft.

1889 J. BLANDY *Bakers' Guide* (ed. 2) 65 It is very important that young bakers should know how to buy, and blend flour for bread-making; and we... direct them to use a hard dry flour in the sponge, with an eighth part of soft weak flour... to feed the yeast. 1914 *Times* 8 June 16/5 Some flours, among which that from English wheat may be taken as a familiar example, produce small flat close-textured and 'runny' loaves. These are called weak flours. 1924 J. STEWART *Bread & Bread Baking* ii. 15 Weak flours are... important in pastry baking and confectionery. 1951 *Good Housek. Home Encycl.* 466/2 'Soft' or 'weak' wheats contain less gluten and more starch. 1962 *Listener* 22 Mar. 510/1 As a general rule, 'strong' flour contains more nitrogen than 'weak' flour.

e. Of the mixture in an internal-combustion engine: = LEAN a. 4 f.

1918 V. W. PAGÉ *Aviation Engines* iii. 114 A rich mixture ignites much quicker than a weak mixture. 1948 'N. SHUTE' *No Highway* ix. 217 Mr. Honey's estimate of the time to tailplane failure, under normal weak mixture cruising conditions, was 1,440 hours. 1981 R. BACON *Two-Stroke Tuning* ix. 63 All two-stroke engines are sensitive to mixture strength. Too rich and the power and acceleration suffer, while if too weak the result can be a seized or holed piston.

16. a. Wanting in material strength, unsound, insecure.

c 1400 *Contin. Brut* ccxxxii. 315 Oper strong werkes... were so yshake perewith, pat pey... shol be euermore, the febelere & weyker while pey stonde. 1535-6 in *Trans.*

Shropsh. Archæol. Soc. (1880) III. 256 This year was a maltman slayne in grope lone in Shrewsbury with the fall of a wecke chymney in an old howse there. **1545** ASCHAM *Toxoph.* 11. (Arb.) 121 Freates begynne many tymes in a pin, for there the good woode is corrupted, that it muste nedes be weke, and bycause it is weake, therefore it freates. **1612** R. CH. *Olde Thrift newly revived* 69 Where that many fences bee weake. [to] bee strengthened. **1622** J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Shilling B* 5, And by misfortune if the Caske be weake, Three or foure Gallons in the ground may leake. **1855** TENNYSON *Brook* 84 The gate, Half-parted from a weak and scolding hinge, Stuck. **1856** J. C. MORTON *Cycl. Agric.* I. 840/1 This causes inequality of growth, weak and deficient places in the hedge.

b. *fig.* and in *fig.* context. Freq. in *weak link*: the weakest or least dependable of a number of interdependent items; also in *Proverb*. Cf. *weak point* (a), sense 16e.

181 N. BURNE *Disput.* xxv. 111b, Thairfoir all that quihlk ye ground vpon this vaik fundament, man fall altogidder. **1595** SHAKS. *John* v. vii. 78 Returne with me againe To push destruction, and perpetuall shame Out of the weake doore of our fainting Land. **1692** PRIOR *Ode Imit. Hor.* vii, Your mould'ring Monuments in vain ye raise On the weak Basis of the Tyrant's Praise. **1868** CORNH. *Mag.* XVII. 295 A chain is no stronger than its weakest link. **1885** E. P. HOOD *World of Proverb* 131 The strength of the chain is in the weakest link. **1926** H. CRANE *Let.* 12 Aug. (1965) 272 Mrs. Simpson was enormously pleased at your postcard; and I with your praise of the Dedication. You generally do pick the weakest link; that verse has bothered me. **1942** I. S. SHRIBER *Body for Bill* (1947) xiv. 183 'Stansfield was a pretty weak individual... He was threatening to give the whole thing away.' 'A chain is no stronger than its weakest link, remember?' **1965** M. FRAYN *Tin Men* xv. 88 An unreliable man, Haugh, a weak link in the team. **1975** R. LEWIS *Double Take* iv. 138 All right, he lifted the heart drug, but we... picked out the weak link in Ward too. **1984** Bookseller 8 Sept. 1049/2, I sometimes seek comfort in the old adage that a chain is only as strong as its weakest link.

c. Of a fortified place: Not possessed of sound defence (esp. in some part or on a particular side). Also † *weak-breach* (in quot. *fig.*).

c. **1400** MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) x. 40 Ynentes pe kirk of pe Sepulchre es pe citee maste wayke, for pe grete playne pat es betwene pe citee and pe kirke. a **1586** SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. xiii. 57 The glittering of the armour, and sounding of the trumpets giving such an assault to the weake-breache of his false senses. **1604** JAS. I *Counterbl. Tobacco* (Arb.) 107 He makes his breach and entree, at some... parts thereof, which hee hath tried and found to bee weakest and least able to resist. **1652** H. COGAN tr. *Scudery's Ibrahim* Pref., in *Villiers' Rehearsal* (Arb.) 30 It is of works of this nature, as of a place of war, where notwithstanding all the care the Engineer hath brought to fortifie it, there is alwayes some weak part found. **1673** TEMPLE *Observ. Netherl.* viii. 251 Those Out-works which are either weak of themselves, or not well defensible for want of men. **1849** MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 597 Bristol had fortifications which, on the north of the Avon... were weak.

quasi-adv. **1720** OZELL tr. *Vertot's Rom. Rep.* II. xiv. 418 Hirtius found out a Place weaker guarded than the rest, which he carried Sword in hand.

d. *weak side* [cf. F. *côté faible*]. (a) Of a fortified place: A side defectively fortified or unsound in its defences. (b) *fig.*

(a) **1667** DRYDEN *Secret Love* 1st Prol. iv, Plays are like Towns, which, howe're fortifi'd By Engineers, have still some weaker side, By the o'reseen Defendant unesp'y'd.

(b) **1671** TEMPLE *Surv. Const. Empire, Sweden* etc., *Miscell.* (1680) 13 Their Application... to trade, has much increast their Shipping and Seamen (which they found to be their weak-side in their last attempts). **1692** L'ESTRANGE *Fables* I. cccxxx. 288 This Dog here would perhaps have Fought for his Master in any Other Case... But the Love of Mutton has his Weak side. **1713** ADDISON *Cato* I. i, To quell the tyrant Love, and guard thy heart On this weak side, where most our nature fails. **1730** T. BOSTON *Mem.* vii. (1899) 140 Satan soon after got in upon my weak side. **1780** *Mirror* No. 92 My friend... is a little inclined to take things on their weak side. **1809** MALKIN *Gil Blas* XI. v. ¶1 He spared you the trouble of finding out the weak side of that prelate and his principal officers, by discovering their different characters to you.

e. *weak point*. (a) Of a thing: The point or feature where it is defective or unsound. (b) (A person's) *weak point*, a failing or weakness (moral or intellectual).

(a) **1865** MILL *Auguste Comte* 126 M. Littré... is a disciple only of the Cours de Philosophie Positive, and can see the weak points even in that. **1868** S. NEIL *Publ. Meetings* 81 In [sc. the peroration] the strong points should be enforced, and the weak should be slipped airily over. **1869** TOZER *Higl. Turkey* II. 21 A magnificent view indeed it was... The weak point in it was that the country on one side was... excluded from view. **1875** [see WEAR v. 15]. **1883** A. SIDGWICK *Fallacies* 218 To use it as a rough guide in finding the weak point of an argument. **1908** *Animal Management* (War Office) 180 Every weak point in the fit of a saddle in a squadron should be known. **1920** *Times Lit. Suppl.* 29 Apr. 263/3 The weak point of modern capitalism is the opportunity it gives of bad spending.

(b) **1827** HARE *Guesses* I. 183 Do you want to find out a person's weak points? Observe the failings he has the quickest eye for in others. **1849** C. BRONTË *Shirley* xxv, Other people betrayed consciousness of, and annoyance at her weak points.

17. Wanting in solidity or firmness; slight; of a texture easily broken, fragile, frail.

1581 [1582] T. NORTON in Nicolas *Sir C. Hatton* (1847) 235, I desire not to undertake any such work, but do shun it as storms in a broad sea for a weak vessel. **1601** SHAKS. *Jul. C.* I. iii. 108 Those that with haste will make a mighty fire, Begin it with weak Strawes. **1680** J. COLLINS *Plea Irish Cattell*, etc. 26 The Hurds, ... or Tow, of Flax and Hemp, will serve to make a weaker, or a worse sort of Linnen. **1705** tr. *Bosman's Guinea* 260 Their Eggs are... covered... with a

thick Flesh which is pliable and weak. **1756** R. ROGERS *Jrnl.* (1769) 11 We then attempted to cross the lake, but found the ice too weak. **1817** SHELLEY *To William Shelley* 2 The billows on the beach are leaping around it, The bark is weak and frail. **1897** PR. RANJITSINHJI *Jubilee Bk. Cricket* iv. 148 A weak, springy [bat] handle is a mistake. A handle should bend like the butt-end of a good fly-rod and not like an aspen stick.

fig. **1592** SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad. Ded.*, I know not... how the worlde will censure mee for choosing so strong a proppe to support so weake a burthen. **1781** COWPER *Expost.* 629 What web too weak to catch a modern brain? **1784** — *Tiroc.* 169 How weak the barrier of mere nature proves, Oppos'd against the pleasures nature loves!

18. Not strongly marked. a. Of colours, markings: Not vivid.

1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 177/2 *Buxeus*, ... a weake or vnperfect yellow, like box. **1591** SHAKS. *Two Gent.* III. ii. 6 This weake impresse of Loue, is as a figure Trenched in ice, which with an houres heate Dissolues to water, and doth loose his forme. **1831** BREWSTER *Optics* x. 87 In the spectrum of Pollux there were many weak but fixed lines. **1876** ABNEY *Instr. Photogr.* (ed. 3) 100 For a negative of the weak type the bromide may be omitted. **1878** — *Treat. Photogr.* xii. 85 Defects in negatives... A weak image may be due—1, to an unsuitable collodion [etc.].

b. *Mining and Geol.* (See quot. 1884.)

1833 T. SOPWITH *Mining Distr. Alston Moor* 107 Old Carr's Cross Vein, in Alston Moor, in mining language, is weakest at the north end. **1884** J. A. PHILLIPS *Ore Deposits* 185 In the Alston-Moor district a vein is said to be weak when the strata on either side are but slightly displaced.

c. Of an animal's scent: Faint.

1854 SURTEES *Handley Cr.* xxxvii. (1901) II. 6 Pigg lifted his 'ounds, the scent being weak from the water.

19. *Comm.* Of market prices, the market: Having a downward tendency, not firm. Hence of commodities with regard to their prices.

1856 in Tooke & Newmarch *Hist. Prices* (1857) V. 657 In January ('56) the market opened with much firmness at 75s...; subsequently the tone became weaker. **1882** *Daily News* 23 Aug. 2/7 Prices for wheat, however, were decidedly weaker. **1900** *Ibid.* 17 Sept. 2/5 Hematite continues to be weak, as was the case at Tuesday's market. **1903** S. S. PRATT *Work of Wall St.* 100 If there are more offers than bids the market is weak and the price declines.

20. *Phonetics and Prosody*. Of a sound: Pronounced with less force than the adjacent sound or sounds. Of accent, stress: Having relatively little force. Of a syllable, the ending of a verse: Unstressed or without metrical ictus. Of the caesura: Falling after a short syllable. Of a variant pronunciation: usual in contexts where the word is unstressed.

weak ending, the occurrence of an unstressed or proclitic monosyllable (a preposition or conjunction) in the normally stressed place at the end of an iambic line. Sometimes distinguished from *light ending* (e.g. a relative pronoun or auxiliary verb), on which the voice can dwell slightly.

a **1637** B. JONSON *Engl. Gram.* iv. (1640) 43 Before e. and i. it [C] hath a weak sound, and hisseth like s. **1662** HOWELL *New Engl. Gram.* 28 This letter n... hath three degrees of sounds, full in the beginning, weak in the middle, and flat at the end of a word. **1765** J. ELPHINSTON *Princ. Engl. Lang.* II. 329 Combinations of two syllables. Iamb, a short and a long, or a weak and a strong. **1774** [W. MITFORD] *Ess. Harmony Lang.* 100 Besides these, feet often occur with the strong accent on both syllables; and frequently one foot, sometimes two in a verse, have the weaker accent only. **1824** T. MARTIN *Philol. Eng. Gram.* 117 When two consonants fall together and will not combine, the weaker is sometimes silent. **1838** E. GUEST *Engl. Rhythms* I. 86 The primary accent of the adjective ought always, when not emphatic, to be weaker than that of the substantive. **1852** *Proc. Philol. Soc.* V. 153 A foot catalectic on the weak syllable. **1857** C. BATHURST *Shaks. Versif.* 38 There are several instances of the weak endings. **1871** J. HADLEY *Ess.* (1873) 273 The effect of a weak r on the preceding short vowel. **1874** B. H. KENNEDY *Publ. Sch. Lat. Gram.* §260 (ed. 2) 529 A weak trochaic caesura, after the trochee or second syllable of the dactyl. **1874** J. K. INGRAM in *Trans. New Shaks. Soc.* II. 447 The former may with convenience be called 'light endings', whilst to the latter may be appropriated the name (hitherto vaguely given to both groups jointly) of 'weak endings'. **1886** J. B. MAYOR *Engl. Metre* 103 Some have maintained that the basis of the metre is a double trochee with a weaker stress on the first syllable and stronger on the third. **1890** H. SWEET *Primer Spoken Eng.* 13 Words that occur very frequently with weak stress often develop a *weak* form by the side of the original *strong* one. **1917** D. JONES *Eng. Pronouncing Dict.* p. xix, Circumstances exist in which strong forms occur unstressed, but in no case does a weak form occur stressed. **1982** J. C. WELLS *Accents of Eng.* I. iii. 227 In many accents the pronoun *you* has a weak form /jə/ (conventionally spellable *ya* in the United States, but *yer* in non-rhotic-oriented England).

21. *Philol.* In various applications, opposed to *strong* (see STRONG a. 22). a. Of Teut. nouns and adjs.: Belonging to any of the declensions in which the stem in OTeut. ended in -n. b. Of Teut. verbs: Forming the preterite by the addition of a suffix. c. In Greek grammar, sometimes applied to the sigmatic or 'first' aorist, in contradistinction to the 'second' or 'strong' aorist. d. In Sanskrit grammar, the designation of the reduced stems of nouns, and of the cases in which the reduced stem occurs. e. In Hebrew and Syriac grammar applied to certain consonants (otherwise called 'feeble') and to verbs which have one or more of these in the root. f. The designation of the ablaut-grade which results from absence of stress.

a. **1841** [see STRONG a. 22 a]. **1885** J. BYRNE *Struct. Lang.* II. 194 There is also in all the Teutonic languages a weak declension, as Grimm has called it, which has arisen from the insertion of *n* or *an* between the stem and the element of case or number.

b. **1833** *Philol. Museum* II. 385 No weak verb ever in process of time became strong, while strong verbs do become weak. **1841** LATHAM *Eng. Lang.* xviii. 198 Weak Tenses. The Präterite Tense of the Weak Verbs is formed by the addition of *d* or *t*... The Verbs of the Weak Conjugation fall into Three Classes. **1845** *Proc. Philol. Soc.* II. 50 In the weak perfects of the Teutonic languages... no such difficulty presents itself. **1886** KINGTON OLIPHANT *New Engl.* I. 228 There is a curious confusion of the Strong and Weak verb in *metal moltynnyd*.

c. **1875** E. ABBOTT *Curtius' Elucid. Student's Grk. Gram.* 104 The sibilant common to both naturally leads from the future to the weak aorist. **1876** PAPILLON *Man. Comp. Philol.* 196 The Weak or Compound Aorist (1 aor.).

d. **1863** BENFEY *Sansk. Gram.* §220. 176 There are some nouns which have a strong and a weak form. *Ibid.* §238. 198 In the Veda the distinction between the strong and weak cases is less regularly observed than in the later Sanskrit.

e. **1874** A. B. DAVIDSON *Hebr. Gram.* 69 A weak verb is a verb which has one or more of its three stem letters a weak letter. The weak letters are the gutturals, the quiescents, and *nun*. **1904** J. A. CRICHTON *Nöldeke's Syriac Gram.* 42 Weak roots vary a good deal in their weak letters. *Ibid.* 106 A few verbs *primae* n also take e, as well as a few weak verbs.

f. **1888** SWEET *Hist. Engl. Sounds* §249 The result was a variety of vowel-series, each with the three stages, strong, medium, and weak. **1891** A. L. MAYHEW *O.E. Phonol.* §645 Weak (i.e. Zero) Grades. **1908** WRIGHT *O.E. Gram.* §472 In the athematic verbs the personal endings were added to the bare root, which had the strong grade form of ablaut in the singular, but the weak grade in the dual and plural.

22. Similitive phrases in which *weak* may have any of various meanings. (See also sense 5a.)

1535 BIBLE (Coverdale) *Ezek.* vii. 17 All knees shalbe weake as the water [1611 (A.V.) weake as water]. **1874** TROLLOPE *Phineas Redux* II. xxx. 244 She would not sin... Having so resolved, she became weak as water. **1926** J. BUCHAN *Dancing Floor* I. ii. 54 We were as weak as kittens, but... extraordinarily happy. **1980** A. PRICE *Hour of Donkey* ix. 123 He must have been as weak as a kitten, with all the blood he'd lost. **1983** J. WAINWRIGHT *Their Evil Ways* v. 154, I think you're mad... Mad and as weak as water.

23. Comb. a. In parasynthetic adjs., as *weak-backed*, *-brained*, *-chined*, *-fleshed*, *-limned*, *-principled*, *-skinned*, *-stressed*, etc. See also WEAK-HANDED, -HEADED, -HEARTED, -KNEED, -MINDED, -SIGHTED.

1535 COVERDALE *Isa.* xxviii. 7 They are... *weake braned thorow stronge drynke. **1841** DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* xxxiv, It is a foolish fancy on the part of this weak-brained man. a **1663** KILLIGREW *Parson's Wedd.* I. i. (1664) 75 The *weak-chin'd slave hir'd me once to say, I was with Child by him. **1657** J. SERGEANT *Schism Dispatch* 94 This *weak-conscience'd man. **1645** WALLER *To Mistress Braughton* 8 So in those Nations which the Sun adore some modest Persian, or some *weak-ey'd Moore, No higher dares advance his dazzled sight. **1746** COLLINS *Ode to Evening* iii, Save where the weak-eyed bat With short shrill shriek flits by on leathern wing. **1822** SHELLEY *Chas.* I, ii. 127 And banish weak-eyed Mercy to the weak. **1967** *Weak-fleshed [see *raw-jawed* adj. s.v. RAW a. 9]. **1611** SHAKS. *Wint.* T. II. iii. 119 Not able to produce more accusation Then your owne *weake-hindg'd Fancy. **1853** DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* liii, You're not one of the *weak-legged ones. **1852** THACKERAY *Esmond* I. xii, My Lord Firebrace was but a feeble-minded and *weak-limbed young nobleman. a **1918** W. OWEN *Poems* (1963) 90 The *weak-limned hour when sick men's sighs are drained. **1802** 'AN ENGLISH TRAVELLER' *Sk. Paris* II. ix. 293 These *weak-nerved females, who would have fainted at the sight of a spider mangling a fly. **1835** DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Parlour Orator*, *Weak-pated dolts they are. **1913** D. H. LAWRENCE *Sons & Lovers* ix. 246 It was the nose and eyes of her own mother's people—good-looking, *weak-principled folk. **1933** DYLAN THOMAS *Lett.* (1966) 72 And unless you want to regard the man [sc. D. H. Lawrence] as a vain, *weak-skinned, egocentric, domineering little charlatan, don't borrow the book. **1796** W. H. MARSHALL *W. Eng.* II. 207 A *weaksoiled arable District. **1508** FISHER *Wks.* (1876) 253 Those the whiche be basshefull and *weyke spyrryd. **1808** H. SWEET *New Eng. Gram.* II. 32 If three strong-stressed words come together—especially in immediate succession, but also with intervening *weak-stressed words—the stress of the middle word is often reduced. **1966** *English Studies* XLVII. 83 In languages that use interrogatives as indefinites, such as Dutch, the latter are always weak-stressed. **1896** *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 229 A *weak-walled heart... is much more easily influenced by digitalis than a healthy one. **1885** *Graphic* 21 Feb. 174/2 *Weak-willed folk. **1909** G. M. TREVELYAN *Garibaldi & Thousand* iv. 73 The doubtful and weak-willed guide of Europe's destiny. **1649** G. DANIEL *Trinarch.*, *Hen.* IV, ccxxiv, Soe cutting through a Swarme Of Gnatts, an Eagle scouring after Prey, Beats downe the *weak-wing'd vermin in her way. **1865** SWINBURNE *Chastelard* IV. i. 159 These men be *weaker-witted than mere fools When they fall mad once.

b. as adv. with pa. pples., *weak-built*, *-made*; with pres. pples., *weak-growing*, *-shivering*.

1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 130 Yet euer to obtaine his will resolving. Though *weake-built hopes perswade him to abstaining. **1656** COWLEY *Pindar. Odes, Life and Fame* i, Oh Life... Vain weak-built Isthmus, which dost proudly rise Up betwixt two Eternities. **1842** LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 705 In *weak-growing sorts, apt to fruit, they should be encouraged with manure. **1593** SHAKS. *Lucr.* 1260 Those proud Lords to blame, Make *weak-made women tenants to their shame. **1727-46** THOMSON *Summer* 1260 Nor, when cold Winter keeps the brightening flood, Would I *weak-shivering linger on the brink.

c. † *weak-back*, † *-wit*, one who is weak in the back, in mind; † *weak-heart* a., = WEAK-HEARTED.

a **1425** tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 8 All pinges ar hard to a waik hert man, for pai trow euermore yuellez to be nyze

to pam. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* i. ix. (1674) 11 [Greek] proves hard of digestion to the squeasie stomachs of modern weak-wits. 1659 CLEVELAND *Vit. Uxoris* xviii, By thee 'tis likely shee'l have none. Whilst thou for weak-back go.

† **B. sb.** = FEEBLE *sb.* 4, FOIBLE 2. In quot. 1683 *fig. Obs.*

1683 D. A. *Art of Converse* 87 And so [we] lose a considerable advantage over our Adversary by not reflecting where the weak of his discourse lies; we think only on't when the stroke is past. 1692 SIR W. HOPE *Fencing Master* 28 Thrust with the Fort of your Sword upon the weak of his.

† **weak, v. Obs.** Forms: 5-6 weke, weyk, weik, wayk, *Sc.* waik, (6 vaik), 6 week, 6-9 weak. [*f.* WEAK *a.*]

1. *trans.* To make weak or weaker, to weaken or enfeeble. Also *fig.*

c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 4737 A strengthe, weyked to stonde vp-right [*Fr. force enferme*], And feblenesse, ful of might. 1459 *Paston Lett.* i. 444 He... is ryte lowe browt, and sore weykid and feblid. 1502 *Ord. Crysten Men* (W. de W.) iii. iii. (1506) 156 In weykynge them and dyscouragynge, be it by theyr euyl example or otherwyse. 1513 DOUGLAS *Aeneis* ix. x. 50 Nor 3it the slaw nor febill onwieldy age May waik our spreit, nor mynys our courage. a 1536 TINDALE *Brief Decl. Sacram.* (c 1550) B v b, All that comme to the sacrament... with the medytacyon to weak the flesh and strenght the Spyrite agaynst her. c 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) xxxiv. 14 Ane fowsum appetyte, That strenth of persoun waikis. a 1635 RANDOLPH *Poems* (1638) 50 It weaks the Braine; it spoiles the memory. 1642-7 H. MORE *Song of Soul* i. ii. lxxx, Which will empair the flesh and weak the knee. 1856 J. BALLANTINE *Poems* 190 Time hasna dimmed my goshawk ee, Nor weak'd my hand.

absol. 1568 SKEYNE *Pest* (Bannatyne Club) 25 Fasting mundifeis... bot vaikis thair with.

b. To soak in water, to macerate. Cf. **WOKE** *v.* [*? After Du. weeken, LG. wēken.*]

1559 MORWYN *Evonymus* 10 This herbe... if it be dried and weikte or stiept in wyne a few dayes, then distilled in Balneo Mariae. *Ibid.* 72 Newe herbes nede the lesse time, when they are stiept or weekt in wine or other liqour.

2. *intr.* To become weaker or less severe, be mitigated.

c 1374 CHAUCEUR *Troilus* iv. 1144 (Campsall MS.) Somwhat to wayken [*Harl. MS. woken*] gan pe payne.

Hence † **weaking** *vbl. sb.*

1559 MORWYN *Evonymus* 67 Maceration, y^e is steping or weking, or els infusyon, a watring & moistening. 1581 W. S. *Exam. Compl.* i. 6 Albeit we labour not much with our bodies... yet yee know we labour with our mindes, more to y^e weaking of y^e same, then by any other bodily exercise we should do. *Ibid.* ii. 18 b, It may come to y^e great desolation and weaking of the strenght of this realme.

weak, obs. form of WICK.

weake, obs. form of WEEK.

weaken ('wɪk(ə)n), *v.* Also 6 wayken, weyken, *Sc.* waken. *Pa. t.* and *pple.* 4 waykned, 6-8 weakned, 7 *Sc.* waikned. [*f.* WEAK *a.* + -EN⁵.

In the following early instance the word may be a direct adoption from Scand.; cf. Norw. dial. *veikna*, MSw. and Sw. *vekna*, to become weak.

13.. *E.E. Allit.* P. B. 1422 So faste pay wejed to him wyne, hit... bryeped vppe in to his brayn & blemyst his mynde, & al waykned his wyt, & wel neze he folos.]

1. *trans.* To make weak or weaker.

† 1. To soften. a. To steep (salt meat) in water, so as to remove the salt (cf. **WOKE** *v.*). b. To dissolve in acid. *Obs.*

1530 PALSGR. 770/1, I wayken salte meates, I lay them in water. *Je attrempe en leaue.* 1540 — *Acolastus* ii. i. Hiv b, Clodius Esopus his sonne dyd at a banket eate a perle, weakened in stronge veyneger.

2. To lessen the physical strength or vigour of (an animal or plant, its parts or organs); to lessen the functional vigour of (an organ or an organic power).

1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 707 At the laste battayle the very strengthe of his chiefe souldiours was weakened. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* iii. 149 b, Swyne... Afore they goe to pasture, they must be medicined, least the grasse skarre [*sic*] them to much, by which they wylbe greatly weakened. 1588 GREENE *Pandosto* (1607) G 1 b, Who gazeth at the Sunne, weakeneth his sight. 1643 BAKER *Chron.*, *Hen.* II (1653) 87 So strong a Corrosive is grief of mind, when it meetes with a body weakened before with sickness. 1764 *Museum Rust.* IV. 30 Such running to seed will weaken the plants much more than several cuttings. 1810 CRABBE *Borough* xxii. 331 Through the water came A hollow groan, that weaken'd all my frame. 1831-3 E. BURTON *Eccles. Hist.* xii. (1845) 282 The venerable Apostle was so weakened by age, that his disciples were obliged to carry him to the religious meetings. 1845 BUDD *Dis. Liver* 130 Such measures... weaken the patient, at a time when his assimilating powers can scarcely maintain his actual condition. 1864 TENNYSON *En. Arden* 821 A languor came Upon him, gentle sickness, gradually Weakening the man, till he could do no more, But kept the house, his chair, and last his bed.

b. In Bible phrase, *to weaken the hands of*: *fig.* to reduce the effectiveness of (a person or body of persons), to hinder, discourage. Cf. **STRENGTHEN** *v.* 2 b.

1560 BIBLE (Geneva) *Jer.* xxxviii. 4, *Neh.* vi. 9. 1864 PUSEY *Lect. Daniel* (1876) 135 The people of the land weakened the hands of the people of Judah.

3. To enfeeble or decrease the vigour of (the mind, etc.).

1536 *Primer Eng. & Lat., Dirige* (Rouen) 133 My spyryte god wotte is wekenyd wonders sore. 1683 BURNET tr. *More's Utopia* 88 Unless Age has weakned his Understanding.

1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) VI. 217 When peoples minds are weakened by a sense of their own infirmities. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xii, His consciousness came back; but the mind was weakened and its functions were impaired.

4. To lessen (authority, influence, power, credit), †to lower the value of (something); †to impoverish (an estate).

1530 PALSGR. 770/1 Their power is waykenned: *leur pouuoyr est affoyblié or infermé.* 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 155 There can no greater plage inuade a commen wealth, than what time thauthoritie of lawes is weakened and disolued. 1612 *Two Noble K.* v. iv, A Steed... a black one, owing Not a hayr worth of white, which some will say Weakens his price. 1618-20 *Essex Archd. Bk. Depositions* (MS.) 21 b, He... nowe found his estate much weakned and impaired sithe the makinge of the said will. 1639 DU VERGER tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* 6 Her Father Venon... had much weakned his estate in drawing his deare friend out of prison. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* II. 1002 Weakening the Scepter of old Night. 1673 *Temple Observ.* *United Prov.* viii. 251 Because the loss of every small Outwork does not only weaken the Number, but sink the Courage of the Garrison within. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 7 Such a Prostitution of his Presence, he thinks, weakens his Authority. a 1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1766) II. 71 While the witnesses were weakening their own credit. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) VIII. 215 Which must weaken the influences of their good works. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W.N.* III. ii. 1. 467 That the power, and consequently the security of the monarchy, may not be weakened by division, it must descend entire to one of the children. 1847 G. HARRIS *Ld. Chanc. Hardwicke* i. iii. 245 The witness may also be made to weaken his own credit, by the account which he admits of himself, or of his character. 1885 'MRS. ALEXANDER' *Valerie's Fate* iii, The slight difference of age between herself and those she taught somewhat weakened her authority.

5. To reduce the strength of (a body of men) in numbers or fighting power; to render (a position) less secure.

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 129 b, What tyme the one parte was thus weakened, the Anabaptistes doe chouse newe senatours, all of their owne faction. 1600 HAKLUYT *Voy.* III. 228 Considering how in number we were diminished, and in strength greatly weakned, both by reason of our sickness and also of the number that were dead. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* II. 111 Imagining that Tyrone... would not have... any minde to... hinder his retreat when he should have weakened his forces by that Plantation [of a garrison]. 1698 J. COLLIER *Immor. Stage* i. 5 Such Licentious Discourse tends... to weaken the Defences of Virtue. 1760 *Cautions & Advices to Officers of Army* 171 If you should be sent on a Party, observe this Precaution yourself; but let them not be too strong, lest you weaken your main Body. 1860 LÖWENTHAL *Morphy's Games Chess* 114 This move, however, weakens the K. B's P., which immediately becomes the focus of Black's attack. 1875 GOSSIP *Chess-player's Man.* 846 Black would gain a move, but weaken his position.

6. To render weaker in resources, authority, political or military power, or the like.

1568 BIBLE (Bishops') *Isa.* xiv. 12 O Lucifer... Howe hast thou gotten a fall euen to the ground, which didst weaken the nations? 1597 HOOKER *Ecl. Pol.* v. lxxvi. §6 As long as their amitie with God continued, nothing could weaken them but Apostasie. 1651 HOBBS *Leviath.* II. xvii. (1904) 116 So now do Cities and Kingdomes... endeavour as much as they can, to subdue, or weaken their neighbours. 1673 *Temple Observ.* *United Prov.* i. 17 Both Philip and his Son... found themselves a Match for France, then much weakned, as well by the late wars of England, as the Factions of their Princes. 1713 ADDISON *Cato* II. iii, Let us not weaken still the weaker side, By our divisions. 1727 DE FOE *Engl. Tradesm.* (1732) I. vi. 67 As they [*sc.* those adventures] very rarely add to his credit, so if they lessen the man's stock, they weaken him in the main, and he must at last faint under it. 1853 NEWMAN *Hist. Sk.* (1873) II. i. vi. 137 They took every means to weaken and annoy the very men whom they had invited. 1864 BRYCE *Holy Rom. Emp.* viii. (1875) 129 He [Otto] is commonly said to have wished to weaken the aristocracy by raising up rivals to them in the hierarchy. 1887 *Field* 3 Dec. 862/1 The Old Harrovians were now greatly weakened by the enforced retirement of Rendall. 1915 J. W. HEADLAM *Hist. Twelve Days* iii. 83 Serbia would certainly have been humbled and weakened.

7. To render less efficacious.

1639 SALTMARSH *Policy* 301 Perseverance preserves and advances that grace which relapses weaken and loose. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 309 ¶ 16 An ordinary Poet would indeed have spun out so many Circumstances to a great Length, and by that means have weakened, instead of illustrated, the principal Fable. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* xxxiii, I... swore... upon another fragment of the true cross which I got from the Grand Seigneur, weakened in virtue, doubtless, by sojourning with infidels. 1877 TENNYSON *Harold* v. i, Let not my strong prayer Be weaken'd in thy sight.

b. To lessen or destroy the strength of (an argument, a case, etc.); to render (a probability) less likely.

1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* I. iii. 195 Ajax... sets Thersites A slauē... To match vs in comparisons with durt, To weaken and discredit our exposure. 1644 J. MAXWELL *Sacro-sancta Reg. Maj.* 46 This weakeneth no wayes our argument. 1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St.-Pierre's Stud. Nat.* (1799) I. 166 This concession no more weakens the probability of the hydraulic cause, which I apply to it, than that of the principle of the attraction of the heavenly bodies, which [*etc.*]. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xx. IV. 527 They well knew that an inquiry could not strengthen their case, and might weaken it. 1886 J. B. MAYOR *Engl. Metre* 76 This would very much weaken, if not entirely destroy, the evidence in favour of such feet.

c. To render (faith, resolve, conviction) weaker.

1848 MRS. GASKELL *Mary Barton* xii, Don't let my being an unbelieving Thomas weaken your faith.

8. To render (a material thing) less strong or more liable to fracture.

1827 FARADAY *Chem. Manip.* ix. (1842) 242 A hole... will appear before the filter is finished; or if not, it will be so weakened as to be unable to bear a quantity of fluid without breaking. 1857 DEMPSEY *Archit. Pract.* 51 Closers must never be allowed except in the quoins; where they necessarily must occur, in order not to weaken the work by cutting those bricks which show on both faces. 1910 J. BARTLETT in *Encycl. Brit.* V. 387/1 The timbers are held together with a spike. In this way they are not weakened. 1914 M. BARRETT *Footpr. Anc. Scot. Ch.* i. 36 This weakened the central tower, which fell with a crash in 1688.

9. To reduce the intensity of (a colour, sound, fire).

1683 SALMON *Doron Med.* II. 378 Then weaken the fire, and draw off a strong cinnamon water. 1733 *School of Miniature* 34 In working thereon with Green, it constantly weakens the Red which had first been laid on. 1791 W. HAMILTON *Berthollet's Dyeing* II. 143 This weakens the colour of the madder. 1805 *Nicholson's Jnl. Nat. Philos.* (80) XI. 129 Both sounds grew weaker in proportion as I retired from the striking point; but that transmitted by the stone was weakened much more rapidly than that transmitted through the air. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 531 The oxygen... acts upon the colouring particles; it combines with them, and weakens their colour. 1876 TAIT *Rec. Adv. Phys. Sci.* ix. 220 The atmosphere might merely have weakened the various kinds of sunlight.

b. *Phonetics.* To reduce in force of utterance.

1863 BENFEY *Sansk. Gram.* §187. 153 Many verbs... are weakened... by rejecting final or penultimate nasals. 1869 J. PEILE *Grk. & Lat. Etymol.* 124 As for example when a in Greek is weakened to *i*. 1874 A. J. ELLIS *E.E. Pronunc.* IV. 1282 In the first case the vowel is strengthened, in the latter weakened. 1877 SWEET *Primer Phonetics* §273 (1902) 95 There is a distinct tendency to weaken the stress of the last syllable of a syllable-group. 1888 — *Hist. Engl. Sounds* 186 In *drawen* the *w* was probably soon weakened into an *u*. 1908 — *Sounds of English* 51 The falling diphthongs weaken their second elements, so that they are no longer full *i, u*.

10. *Card-games.* To lessen the strength of (one's hand, etc.).

1742 HOYLE *Whist* (1746) 25 Whereas if you had trumped one of your Adversaries best Cards, you had so weakened your Hand, as probably not to make more than five Tricks without your Partner's Help. 1862 'CAVENDISH' *Whist* (1864) 47 You weaken a suit by discarding from it, and lessen the number of long cards you might otherwise establish.

11. To render (market prices, a market) less firm.

1875 *Economist* 2 Jan. 20/1 Stocks being quite small, the increased receipts do not have much effect as yet in weakening prices. 1883 *Manch. Exam.* 26 Nov. 4/2 Advices from Manchester have tended to weaken the cotton market.

II. *intr.* 12. To grow or become weak or weaker.

1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* Oj, It shuld be daunger of to moche resolucyon and that the strength shuld weyken. 1594 R. ASHLEY tr. *Loys le Roy* 81 b, By transporting the principal forces, and riches, from Rome to Bizantium, diuiding of the Empire into the East and West; they weakned much. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* i. iv. 248 His Notion weakens. 1607 ROWLANDS *Guy Warw.* 32 The Emperor... with new forces gave a new assault, Knowing the City could not be relieved, And then their strength would weaken by default. 1733 *School of Miniature* 34 With the same Mixture form all the Shades, adding White as they weaken. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* etc. II. 202 While o'er the meadow's little fluttering rill The twittering sunbeam weakens cool and dim. 1855 BROWNING *Old Pict. Florence* vi, Wherever an outline weakens and wanes. 1876 J. ELLIS *Caesar in Egypt* 151 The body weakens, but the soul is strong. 1884 HOWELLS in *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 123/2 These hydraulic elevators weaken sometimes, and can't go any further. 1886 HARDY *Mayor Casterbr.* i. xviii. 224 Mrs. Henchard was weakening visibly [in health]. 1920 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 23 Sept. 621/4 The plot weakens a little towards the end.

b. (orig. *U.S.*) To take a less firm attitude, to recede from a standpoint, to give way.

1876 'MARK TWAIN' *Tom Sawyer* xxvii, Don't you ever weaken, Huck, and I won't. 1882 BRET HARTE *Flip* ii, 'Go 'long. Dad, you're talking silly!' The old man weakened. 1890 *Boston (Mass.) Jnl.* 13 Sept. 73 A man whom he took for an accomplice weakened when the first child was to be taken and exposed the scheme. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 2 Dec. 2/2 The Church will indeed suffer an immense loss of moral prestige if she now weakens on this subject.

Hence 'weakened *ppl. a.*

1548 *Elyot's Dict., Attenuatus*,... appayred, weakened, diminished. 1577 GRANGE *Golden Aphrod.* Giv b, The fountayne Granus giueth strength vnto the weakened bone. 1594 *Selimus* 157 My sonnes... May take occasion of my weakened age, And rise in rebell armes against my state. 1694 ATTERBURY *Serm., Isa.* lx. 22 (1726) I. 130 When a Warlike and Savage Race of Men... set upon a dissolute, divided, and weakned Enemy. 1797 JANE AUSTEN *Sense & Sensib.* xxix, An aching head, a weakened stomach, and a general nervous faintness. 1869 J. PEILE *Grk. & Lat. Etymol.* 159 The French *u* is a similar example of weakened articulation. 1870 JEVONS *Elem. Logic* xvi. 140 They are said to have a weakened conclusion because the conclusion is particular. 1874 A. J. ELLIS *E.E. Pronunc.* IV. 1284 In point of fact this (a) is a 'weakened' (u) reduced to (o). 1893 LIDDON *Life Pusey* I. xiii. 305 The proposed change, in Pusey's eyes, involves at least a weakened recognition of that duty [of propagating religious truth].

weakener ('wɪk(ə)nə(r)). Also 6-8 weakner. [*f.* WEAKEN *v.* + -ER¹.] One who or something which weakens.

1589 L. ANDREWES *Serm., Lent* i. (1629) 268 If this Ego, be not Saul, but David, David, which giveth strength vnto the Pillers; and not Saul, an empaier or weakner of them. 1694 [S. BETHEL] *Provid. God* (ed. 2) 94 There being no such Traitors to the Strength of a Land, Underminers and

Weakners thereof, as are unreformed Provocations. *a 1716 SOUTH Serm.* (1727) VI. xi. 397 Fastings and Mortifications . . which . . rightly managed, are . . great weakners of Sin. *1817 COLERIDGE Biog. Lit.* (1907) I. iii. 35 Averrhoes' catalogue of Anti-Mnemonics, or weakeners of the memory. *1870 EMERSON Soc. & Sol.* viii. (1883) 161 The crowds and centuries of books are only . . echoes and weakeners of these few great voices of Time.

weakening ('wik(ə)nɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [-ING¹.]

1. The action of the vb. WEAKEN in various senses; an instance of this.

1548 Elyot's Dict., Debilitatio, a weakenyng, or makyng faynte. *c 1550 W. S. Disc. Comm. Weal Eng.* (1893) 21 Yet youe knowe we labour with oure myndes, more to the weaknyng of the same then by anie other bodyly exercise we can doe. *a 1568 ASCHAM Scholem.* II. (Arb.) 135 To the great weakeninge euen at this day of Christes Church in England. *1651 HOBBS Leviath.* I. xii. 59 All which causes of the weakening of mens faith, do manifestly appear in the Examples following. *1674 R. GODFREY Ing. & Ab. Physick* 72 What with the weakenings of this fit, twice bleeding an Issue, often vomitting, and oftner purging; I was every year as dully as autumn came, laid up with a continual Fever. *1748 Anson's Voy.* I. x. 100 The diminishing and weakening of our crew by deaths and sickness. *1869 J. PEILE Grk. & Lat. Etymol.* 124 Here we have cases of pure weakening—the substitution of a weaker for a stronger sound. *1874 A. J. ELLIS E.E. Pronunc.* IV. 1270 Weakening consists, according to Grimm, in 'an unaccountable diminishing of vowel content'. *1876 TAIT Rec. Adv. in Phys. Sci.* IV. 86 The efficiency of the engine is directly proportional to the weakening of the current. *1886 JACO Chem. Wheat* etc. 315 The rate at which weakening goes on during panification. *1901 Brit. Med. Jnl.* 2 Feb. 263/1 The opening can be enlarged and then resutured without causing any weakening in the lower part of the abdominal wall.

2. Something that weakens; a cause or source of weakness. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1545 VISCT. LISLE in Hooker Life Sir P. Carew (1857) 130 Which wilbe a great weakening to the navye, yf any thing in the meane tyme shall happen. *1663 GERBIER Counsel* 18 If Doores and Windowes . . were as wide as they are high; it must through necessity be a weakening to a Building. *1703 R. NEVE City & C. Purchaser* 7 All Openings are Weaknings. *1744 M. BISHOP Life* 208 This was a great weakening to us, . . for we were environed round on all sides by our Enemies, [etc.].

weakening ('wik(ə)nɪŋ), *ppl. a.* [-ING².] That weakens, in various senses of the vb.

a 1586 SIDNEY Arcadia III. ix. (1912) I. 397 You see we both doo feele The weakning worke of Times for ever-whirling wheele. *1694 tr. Milton's Lett. of State* 240 To our great grief we have beheld the Protestant Princes . . more and more at weakning variance among themselves. *1746 FRANCIS tr. Horace, Art of Poetry* 558 The weakening Joys of Wine and Love. *1797 JANE AUSTEN Sense & Sensib.* xlvii, Marianne's illness, though weakening in its kind, had not been long enough to make her recovery slow. *1843 R. J. GRAVES Syst. Clin. Med.* xx. 230 All weakening measures were therefore contra-indicated. *1866 MAX MÜLLER Skr. Gram.* 290 Changed . . before weakening terminations beginning with consonants. *1899 Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 595 A diagnosis easily explained by the weakening influence of influenza.

weakfish ('wikfɪʃ). *U.S.* [ad. obs. Du. *weekvisch*, -vis, f. *week* soft + *visch* fish. Cf. G. *weichfisch*, a gadoid fish.] A marine sciænoïd food-fish of the genus *Cynoscion*, esp. *C. regalis*, the squeteague or sea-trout of the Atlantic. Other varieties are the spotted weakfish, *C. nebulosus*, and the white or bastard weakfish, *C. nothus*.

The Dutch name (in the form *weekvis*) occurs in a poem in praise of 'New Netherland' by Jacob Steendam (1661), cited in Goode *American Fishes* (1888) 110.

1791 J. BAXTER Jnl. 21 June in *Amer. Speech* (1965) XL. 200 Went a fishing . . had 350 weekfish. *c 1838 Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) XXIV. 365/2 This species . . is known to the Anglo-Americans by the name of *Weak-fish*, because considered by some as a debilitating food, and by others from it pulling but slightly on the line with which it is caught. *1844 Amer. Jnl. Sci.* XLVII. 61 *Otolithus regalis*, Cuv., Weak Fish, Yellow-fin. *1873 T. GILL Catal. Fishes E. Coast N. Amer.* 26 *Cynoscion regalis* . . Squeteague or squit . . weak-fish (New York).

Hence **'weakfishing**, fishing for weakfish.

1888 GOODE Amer. Fishes 125 Much the same rig as is used in weakfishing.

'weak-handed, a.

1. Having weak hands; *fig.* not capable of effective exertion.

1539 BIBLE (Great) 2 Sam. xvii. 2 And I wyll come vpon hym, while he is werye and weake handed. *1868 MISS YONGE Cameos* I. iv. 27 Crimes were committed which he had no power to restrain, and, weak-handed and bewildered, he seems to have acted in great matters [etc.].

2. = SHORT-HANDED *a.*² 2.

1817 J. BRADBURY Trav. 292 This mode is called girdling, and is only resorted to by those who, to use their own phrase, are weak-handed. *1836 MARRYAT Pirate* xvi, We certainly may defend the schooner from the shore as well as on board; but we are weak-handed.

'weak-headed, a.

1. Lacking strength of mind or purpose.

1654 [see SISTERNITY]. *1705 DE FOE Consolidator* Wks. 1840 IX. 387 A weak-headed prince, who neither had a right to give his crown, nor a brain to know what he was doing. *1889 LABOUCHERE in Daily News* 20 Feb. 3/2 A more weak-kneed, weak-headed lot of men could not be conceived. *1908 JACOBS Salthaven* xiii, That weak-headed Cecilia Willitt believes him.

2. Easily overcome by strong liquor.

Hence **'weak-headedness.**

1894 LD. DUFFERIN in Lady Dufferin's Poems & Verses 15 footnote, In contrast to Sheridan's weak-headedness, I may cite the instance of my paternal grandfather. . . He would occasionally begin a convivial evening with what he called a 'clearer', i.e., a bottle of port [etc.].

'weak-hearted, a. a. Lacking fortitude, faint-hearted. b. Tender-hearted, soft-hearted.

a. *1549 Bk. Com. Prayer, Letany* 123 To comfort and helpe the weake hearted. *1613 SHAKS. Hen. VIII.* III. ii. 390 My Weake-hearted Enemies.

b. *1841 Lost Brooch* II. xvi. 114 Those soft weak-hearted persons, who think that religion consists in nothing but what they call kindness and forgiveness.

weakish ('wikɪʃ), *a.* [f. WEAK *a.* + -ISH.] Somewhat weak.

1594 LADY BACON Let. in Lambeth MSS. 650, fol. 223, I wold fayn have gon to London for phisick next weeke, but I perceiue I cannot being weakish to Ryd so farr. *1809 Med. Jnl.* XXI. 386 If the pulse be felt, it will be found to be quick and weakish. *1865 DICKENS Mut. Fr.* IV. iv, An innocent young waiter . . with weakish legs. *1890 ABP. BENSON in A. C. Benson Life* (1899) II. 305 Spoke at Oxford House to about 400 men. . . They were attentive—and afterwards they asked weakish questions.

Hence **'weakishness.** *rare*—⁰.

1864 WEBSTER.

'weak-kneed, a. Having weak knees; chiefly *fig.* wanting in resolution or determination.

1863 Rio Abajo Press (Albuquerque, N.M.) 24 Feb. 2 But we must forego these comforts and conveniences, because our legislators are too weak-kneed to enact a tax law. *1870 Daily News* 16 Nov., The Prefects of the Republic . . know how to keep down the malcontents and to enliven the weak-kneed. *1875 N. Amer. Rev.* CXX. 208 Kitty Ellison and her weak-kneed lover, we find, are still objects of current allusion. *1891 KIPLING Light that Failed* xiv. (1900) 235 Suicide . . would be . . a weak-kneed confession of fear.

Hence **'weak-kneedness.**

1882 Standard 19 Sept. 5/1 The peculiar awkward running gait of women . . is due to a weak-kneedness characteristic of the sex. *1887 Sat. Rev.* 10 Sept. 340 The weak-kneedness of the Irish landlords has had much to do with the triumph of anarchy.

'weakliness. [-NESS.] Weakly quality.

1826 GALT Last of Lairds iii. 28 Does na everybody ken I'm a seven-months bairn, the which is the cause of my weakliness. *1865 KINGSLEY Herew.* Prel. 1 The weakest and the silliest . . transmit to their offspring their own weakliness or silliness. *1897 Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 258 This has been attributed to the weakliness of hospital infants.

weakling ('wiklɪŋ). Also 6 weak(e)lyng, weikling, Sc. waykling, 6-7 weakeling. [f. WEAK *a.* + -LING¹. Cf. G. *weichling* effeminate man.]

† 1. An effeminate or unmanly person. *Obs.*

1526 TINDALE 1 Cor. vi. 9 Nether fornicators, . . nether whor-mongers, nether weaklinges [*μαλακοί*; Luther, *weichlinge*]. *1600 HOLLAND Livy* XXXIII. xxviii. 840 Men were much deceived to thinke, that so horrible and straunge a murder was committed by such weaklings and persons as they were [*qui tam atrocem caedem pertinere ad illos semiviros crederent*].

2. A person or animal that lacks physical strength, or is weak in health or constitution.

1576 FLEMING Panopl. Epist. 358 Will you lay a heauie and weightie burthen, vpon the . . shoulders of a young beginner, of a weakling, of an infant, which is able to make Demosthenes sincke vnder it, and falter to the grounde? *1579-80 NORTH Plutarch, Hannibal* (1595) 1143 There it was that Annibals souldiers . . became then of valiant men, rancke cowardes: of strong menne weakelings. *1593 SHAKS. Lucr.* 584 Thy selfe art mightie, . . My selfe a weakling, do not then insaure me. *1609 HOLLAND Amm. Marcell.* 133 Hewen in pieces they were pell-mell one with another, armed souldiers and unarmed weaklings, and no regard of sex was made. *1641 MILTON Animadv.* 31 Like a carved Gyant terribly menacing to children, and weaklings. *1684 J. S. Profit & Pleasure united* 2 It will . . cause her [the Cow] to produce weaklings, or unhealthy Calves. *1697 J. PUCKLE New Dial.* 33 Of pitiful Weaklings at Land, they come to be hardy, stout, and healthfull Persons. *1822 LAMB Elia, Roast Pig.* The strong man may batten on him [the pig], and the weakling refuseth not his mild juices. *1850 KINGSLEY Alton Locke* iv, Shakspeare was lame; Alfred, a rickety weakling. *1881 BESANT & RICE Chapl. of Fleet* II. viii, I say nothing for that poor weakling, that hot-house plant, [etc.]. *1889 Spectator* 27 Apr. 571/2 The caravans must have dropped many dead weaklings, men and beasts alike, in every hundred miles.

fig. *1648 JENKYN Blind Guide* i. 14 So poor a weakling, and so mishapen a monster it [sc. a book] is, that . . none will doubt it for his.

3. One who is weak in character or intellect.

1577-87 HOLINSHED Chron. III. 1121/2 Those honest men that had beene of Throckmortons quest . . submitted them-selues, and said they had offended like weakelings. *1616 HAYWARD Sanct. Troub. Soul* I. xiv. (1620) 290 What then shall I doe, wretched weakeling? Shall I speake? or shall I be silent? I must not bee silent, and I cannot speake. *a 1656 HALES Serm.* Golden Rem. I. (1673) 47 Weaklings are able to begin a quarrel, but the prosecution and finishing is a work for stronger men. *1844 THIRLWALL Greece* lxvi. VIII. 448 If they were men they would be in no want of allies, nor, if weaklings, of masters. *1884 BROWNING Ferishtah's Fancies* i. 28 Should he play The helpless weakling, or the helpful strength That captures prey and saves the perishing? *1896 W. WATSON Purple East* 36 Only the witting's sneer, the worldling's smile, The weakling's tremors, fail him not who fain Would rouse to noble deed.

b. One who is a tiro or unskilled in (a subject).

1575 FLEMING Virg. Bucol. Ep. Ded. Aiiij, Leauing nothing vnstified which might appertaine to the vttermost

exposition of these Bucolikes, that weakelings in Poetrie might rather be supported then suppressed.

4. One who is weak in the faith or in spiritual attainments.

Common in 16-17th centuries.

1548 UDALL Erasm. Par. Mark i. 9-11 A minstre . . muste . . eschew all thinges wherwith the weakelings may be offended. *1577 HANMER Socr. Schol. Eccl. Hist.* III. vii. 304 Eusebius . . confirmed like a cunning Phisicion such as were weakelings in the faith. *1657 OWEN Commun. with God* II. iii. Digress. ii. 123 We that can doe nothing in our selves, we are such weaklings, can doe all things in Jesus Christ, as Giants. *1865 C. STANFORD Symb. Christ* vii. 201 Many a weakling has thought himself strong.

5. *appositive* or as *adj.* Weak, feeble.

1557 GRIMALD in Tottel's Misc. (Arb.) 102 Hee shall, for man, a weaklyng woman prouee. *1821 LAMB Elia, Mackery End.* In the days of weakling infancy I was her tender charge. *1848 KINGSLEY Saint's Trag.* II. v, But now to wash Christ's feet were dangerous honour For weakling grace. *1906 Times Lit. Suppl.* 13 July 246/1 The author does not spare himself, and he does not spare the weakling reader.

weakly ('wikli), *a.* [f. WEAK *a.* + -LY¹.]

1. Weak in constitution, not strong or robust, delicate.

1577 tr. Bullinger's Decades II. viii. 203 Not to suppress such a fellowe as this, is to put a sword in a madde mans hand, to kill vnwise and weaklie men. *1582 T. WATSON Centurie of Love* xcii, Little of stature, and in apparence weaklie. *1678 W. MOUNTAGU in Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 329 Anne Coke is thought to bed of a son, . . a very weakly one. *1684 BUNYAN Pilgr.* II. (1900) 248 Neither objected he against my weakly Looks, nor against my Feeble Mind. *1753 MISS COLLIER Art Torment.* II. iv. (1811) 171 Hermia is far from being of a weakly constitution. *1832 HT. MARTINEAU Manch. Strike* ix. 103 The more weakly of the labourers lie down and die. *1843 R. J. GRAVES Syst. Clin. Med.* xii. 133 From the weakly habit of the patient, . . he thought it advisable to let her have some weak chicken broth and light negus. *1877 CONDER Basis of Faith* v. 225 The swiftest hare may be run down by the dogs, weaklier ones meanwhile lurking in safe covert. *1899 Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 857 In weakly children the syrup of the phosphate of iron . . is of advantage.

absol. *1621 T. GRANGER Expos. Eccles.* I. 3. 6 The sicke and weakly, thinketh the strong and healthfull happy. *1848 MRS. GASKELL Mary Barton* viii, She, the weakly, was left behind, while the strong man was taken. *1865 KINGSLEY Herew.* Prel. 1 In the civilised state . . the weakest and the silliest . . have their chance likewise.

b. of a plant, tree, etc.

1775 J. TAIT Land of Liberty II. xxxv. 47 She cuts him off like some poor weakly flow'r. *1842 LOUDON Suburban Hort.* 364 It would be ridiculous to lay the same quantity of wood into a weakly tree as into a tree in full vigour. *1887 Field* 15 Oct. 603/2 A weakly grower [sc. a rose-tree].

2. Characterized by moral weakness.

1890 'R. BOLDEWOOD' Col. Reformer xxiv, Of no avail are weakly condolences or mild assenting pity. *1900 Month Aug.* 135 A sort of cruel kindness and weakly indulgence.

3. Of a laugh: Feeble, faint, half-hearted.

1883 MISS BROUGHTON Belinda III. iii, 'Are they?' she says, with a weakly laugh.

weakly ('wikli), *adv.* [f. WEAK *a.* + -LY².] In a weak manner.

1. a. With little energy, force, or strength; † with gentle action, softly (*obs.*).

1398 TREvisa Barth. De P.R. XII. xxvii. (1495) 429 A kite is weke in flyghte and in strengthe and is callyd Miluus as it were weakely fleenge [*L. molliter volans*]. ? *a 1400 Morte Arth.* 697 Waynour waykly ewepande hym kyssiz. *1526 Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 155b, By more easy meanes commeth to perfeccyon, whiche they slowly & weykly or fayntly desyre. *1600 SURFLET Country Farm* III. ix. 441 For the yong plant which can attract & draw bot weakly, & at hand any substance for it selfe, will hardly [etc.]. *a 1626 BACON Sylva* §33 It is very probable that the Motion of Grauitie worketh weakly, both farre from the Earth, and also within the Earth. *1641 SYMONDS Serm. bef. Ho. of Comm.* Biiijb, An arrow weakly shot, will fall short of the mark. *1657 BAXTER Present Tr.* 12 Grace may act weaklier than it did before. *1715 DESAGULIERS Fires Impr.* 11 Upon account of their distance from the Fire, they are but very weakly reflected. *1876 PAPILLON Man. Comp. Philol.* 69 Final *m* [in Latin] . . must have been weakly pronounced.

b. In a weak or enfeebled condition. Also *transf.*

c 1400 Destr. Troy 10151 Philmen . . the gome hit, . . gert hym to stoupe, bat he wauerit perwith, & weakly he sete. *1470-85 MALORY Arthur* xix. xii. 794 Thenne the wounded knyghte syr Vrre sette hym vpon weykly. *1509 HAWES Past. Pleas.* xl. (Percy Soc.) 202 In his hand he hadde A croked staffe; he wente full weakly. *1590 SPENSER F.Q.* II. i. 45 As one out of a deadly dreame affright, She weakly started, yet she nothing drad. *1606 SIR E. COKE in True & Perf. Relat.* T 3b, This paper of his Retraction, which hee had weakly and dingly subscribed. *1844 MRS. BROWNING Lost Bower* lxxix, By this cough I weakly lie on, While I count my memories.

† 2. a. Insecurely, unsubstantially. *Obs.*

1522 Bp. FOXE in Ellis Orig. Lett. Ser. II. II. 8 Also my Lord, I have not soo sklanderly buylded my selve, nor soo weykly established my house in thies parties, that I can honestely or conveniently so sodenly depart hens. *1665 SIR T. HERBERT Trav.* (1677) 123 That supposition is but weakly founded, at least in my apprehension. *1784 Cook's 3rd Voy.* I. Intro. 12 The visits were . . so transient, that it was scarcely possible to build upon a foundation, so weakly laid, any information that could even gratify idle curiosity.

b. With weakness of constitution.

1613 SHAKS. Hen. VIII. II. iii. 40 *Old Lady.* Haue you limbs To beare that load of Title? *Anne Bullen.* No in truth. *Old Lady.* Then you are weakly made.

3. With slight defensive strength.

1582 STANYHURST Aeneis II. (Arb.) 60 Our state eke and persons may not thus weakly be shielded. *1591 SHAKS. I*

Hen. VI, II. i. 74 'Tis sure they found some place, But weakly guarded, where the breach was made. **1593** — *Lucr.* 28 Honour and Beautie in the owners armes, Are weaklie fortress from a world of harmes. **1680** COTTON *Gamester* (ed. 2) 52 When you find your adversaries King any way weakly guarded. **1705** ADDISON *Italy, Pesaro* 145 Some have wonder'd that the Turk never attacks this Treasury, since it... is so weakly guarded. **1921** *Times Lit. Suppl.* 3 Feb. 67/3 Haig... was quite right to hold the southern end of his line... more weakly than the rest.

4. a. With deficiency of numbers or amount; sparsely, meagrely. ? *Obs.*

1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. xiii. §7. 52 If a shoemaker should haue no shooes in his shoppe, but onely worke, as hee is bespoken, hee should bee weakly customed. **a1649** WINTHROP *Hist. N. Eng.* (1853) II. 232 Here came a pinnace... for procuring powder... but we were weakly provided ourselves. **1748** ANSON'S *Voy.* II. i. 112 The capstan was so weakly manned, that it was near four hours before we hove the cable right up and down.

b. In a slight degree; to a small extent or amount.

1775 Phil. *Trans.* LXVI. 204 A battery so weakly electrified that its shock will not pass through a chain. **1789-96** MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 617 The waters weakly mineralized. **1805** W. SAUNDERS *Min. Waters* 557 The ochre... is, when dry, weakly magnetic. **1805** T. WEAVER *Werner's Ext. Charact. Fossils* 191 Solid fossils that stain... either strongly or weakly. **1827** FARADAY *Chem. Manip.* xvii. (1842) 450 This may be done... by bringing the body, if weakly electrified, into contact with the cap.

5. With weakness of mind or character; with lack of mental grasp or firmness of will.

1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* II. i. 188, I will not adventure my discretion so weakly. **1662** STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacrae* III. iv. §1 The meaning is not that all mankind was made of the same uniform matter, as the author of the *Præ-Adamites* weakly imagined. **1671** MILTON *Samson* 50 Who this high gift of strength committed to me... Under the Seal of silence could not keep, But weakly to a woman must reveal it. **1705** S. CLARKE *Disc. Nat. Reliq.* vi. Wks. 1738 II. 661 Plato, after having delivered very noble... Truths concerning the Nature and Attributes of the Supreme God, weakly advises Men to worship likewise Inferiour Gods. **1864** MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* III. 208 What may strike you as weakly fanciful in my desire. **1885** 'MRS. ALEXANDER' *At Bay* vii. He was weakly credulous. **1892** LADY F. VERNEY *Verney Mem.* I. 267 She was not at all inclined to be weakly indulgent.

6. With little vigour of action, inefficiently.

1663 JER. TAYLOR *Serm. Funeral Abp. Armagh* 1 The Condition of Man in this World is so limited... that the best things he does he does weakly. **1751** JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 162 ¶4 We please our pride with the effects of our influence thus weakly exerted. **1853** DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xiii. Mr. Boythorn, who interested himself strongly in the subject — though I need not say that, for he could do nothing weakly. **1905** L.D. E. FITZMAURICE *Ld. Granville* I. xv. 430 Mr. Lowe considered that he had been but weakly defended by some of his colleagues in the House of Commons.

7. With little force of argument; unconvincingly.

1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacrae* III. i. §7 Now I appeal to the reason of any Person... Whether either of these two Hypotheses... he not far more weakly proved, then the existence of a Deity is. **1855** PUSEY *Doctr. Real Presence in Fathers* Note F 73 He is blamed by others, as exposing the doctrine which he defends weakly. **1870** EMERSON *Soc. & Solit.* i. 9 He spoke weakly, and from the point, like a flighty girl.

8. *Math.* In a way that implies less or that satisfies fewer conditions (cf. WEAK a. 12 f(b)).

1955 M. LOËVE *Probability Theory* ix. 443 If all sequences T^*X are weakly compact, then it is easily proved that $\sup \|T^*\| < \infty$. **1972** R. J. WILSON *Introd. Graph Theory* vii. 102 A digraph D is said to be connected (or weakly-connected) if it cannot be expressed as the union of two disjoint digraphs.

'weak'-minded, a.

1. Having a weak mind; lacking strength of purpose. Of actions, opinions, etc.: Indicating weakness of mind.

1716 T. CAVE *Let.* 5 Aug. in M. M. Verney *Verney Lett.* (1930) II. xxii. 43 We all continue in perfect sanity of body but very weak-minded this hott weather, as you'll judg by this Scrawl. **1782** MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* v. xiii, 'Oh fie,' cried he, 'to suffer your understanding to be lulled asleep, because the weak-minded Mr. Arnott's could not be kept awake!' **1842** ABDY *Water Cure* 57 Nor will any one, who wilfully prejudices the weak-minded and uninstructed against this method... stand guiltless. **1863** MISS BRADDON *Eleanor's Vic.* III. xv. 227 It is my misfortune to be weak-minded. I can't say 'no' to people. **1878** J. GAIRDNER *Rich.* III. i. 7 The Duke of York... fruitlessly endeavoured to bind a weak-minded king by pledges. **1890** H. JAMES *Tragic Muse* xxxv. If he should go abroad his mother might think he had some weak-minded view of joining Julia Dallow.

2. Mentally deficient; half-witted.

1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 797/1 The care of the weak-minded and the insane. **1899** *Alburt's Syst. Med.* VII. 744 The educative and disciplinary influences resorted to in the treatment of weak-minded children. **1899** *Daily News* 28 Sept. 7/3 This woman had two sisters weak-minded, who were in the lunatic asylum.

Hence 'weak'-mindedness.

1854 MILL *Diary* 4 Feb., in *Lett.* (1910) II. 367 It might well be that even good men... thought that to be scrupulous about means was weakmindedness. **1888** *Fortn. Rev.* 1 Oct. 449 Murderous attacks may result from... Insanity of primary weak-mindedness. **1897** MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 400 How long ago this happened it is impossible to say, owing to... the weak-mindedness of the African regarding time.

weakness ('wi:knis). [f. WEAK a. + -NESS.]

1. The quality or condition of being weak, in any sense of the adj.; deficiency of strength, power, or force.

a1300 *Cursor M.* 27054 Botes thre, Quar-wit þat we mai strengthed be. þe first for waikeness of vr fa þat qua-sum will mai were him fra. *Ibid.* 28932 [Of alms-giving] 'Weiknes' sal þou lok for mede, For þou man agh all helpe in nede, þe waikest and þe mast vn-ferre. **1340** HAMPOLE *Pr. C.* 9026 Alle þe strenthe of Sampson þat was pereles, War noht tald þare bot wayknes. **c1400** *Destr. Troy* 3323 Syn weikenes of women may not wele stryve, Ne haue no myght tawardes men maistries to fend. **c1440** *Promp. Parv.* 520/2 Weykenesse, of hert, *vecordia, pusillanimitas*. **1525** *Grete Herbal* clxxiii. (1529) Lj, Agaynst vomyte caused of weykenesse of the vertue retentyfe, take [etc.]. **1538** STARKEY *England* 43 Wych thyng [sc. retirement from the world] surely ys not amys downe of them wych perceyue theyr owne imbecyllite and wekenes. **1595** SHAKS. *John v.* iii. 17 To my litter straight, Weaknesse possesseth me, and I am faint. **1601** — *Jul. C.* IV. iii. 276, I thinke it is the weaknesse of mine eyes That shapeth this monstrous Apparition. **1651** HOBBS *Leviath.* III. xxxvii. 236 And so make the weaknesse of his voice seem to proceed... from distance of place. **1678** LADY CHAWORTH in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 45 Lady Portsmouth [is] going to Bourbon as soone as her weaknesse will permitt. **1686** TILLOTSON *Serm. at White-Hall* (1 Cor. iii. 15) 19, I shall shew the weakness of the principle upon which this argument relies. **1707** *Curios. Husb. & Gard.* 259 The weakness of the Sun in that Season. **1748** RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) VII. 33 They depend upon the indulgent weakness of their Parents tempers. **1769** *Junius Lett.* xvi. 69 The man who is conscious of the weakness of his cause is interested in concealing it. **1774** [W. MITFORD] *Ess. Harmony Lang.* 153 The expression of the 829 line is much heightened by the extreme weakness of the accent in the first foot [etc.]. **1781** BURNS *Let. W. Burnes* 27 Dec., The weakness of my nerves. **1782** *Jrnl. Yng. Lady of Virginia* (1871) 22 Nancy was much better... Weakness is her only complaint. **1818** *Cruise Digest* (ed. 2) VI. 162 Where... a testator... was incapable of disposing of his lands from any weakness of mind. **1821** LAMB *Elia, Witches* Wks. 1908 I. 554 Credulity is the man's weakness, but the child's strength. **1838** PRESCOTT *Ferd. & Is.* II. xxiii. III. 425 The independence of Navarre had hitherto been maintained less through its own strength than the weakness of its neighbours. **1856** KANE *Arctic Expl.* I. xxiii. 301 He was startled by the growing weakness of the ice. **1861** M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 33 The weakness of Henry III would not suffer him to commit himself heartily to a Ghibelline policy. **1869** TANNER *Clin. Med.* (ed. 2) 20 Dementia... This form of insanity is often seen in those who in early life exhibit weakness of will, or of moral self-control. **1875** *Economist* 23 Jan. 95/2 The special causes of weakness affecting the markets have... been greatly influential here. **1884** *Law Times Rep.* L. 118/2 Rule 15... is a rule meant to make a litigant expose the weakness of his case. **1920** *Conquest* Nov. 7/2 The mountains... are lines of weakness caused by the crumpling of the earth's crust.

2. In particularized uses. a. A weak point, a circumstance of disadvantage.

1597 BACON *Ess., Of Negotiating* (Arb.) 92 If you would worke any man, you must either know his nature, and fashions and so leade him... or his weaknesses or disadvantages, and so awe him. **1627** *DONNE Serm.* lxxxii. (1649) II. 9 Here, it is a faire portion of that Angelical happiness, if you be alwaies ready to support, and supply one another in any such occasional weaknesses. **1914** 'IAN HAY' *Knt. on Wheels* xix, The brakes of the Britannia cars have always been their weakness. **1920** *Discovery* Apr. 114/1 Any weakness there was in our pre-war small house design was a tendency to fussiness.

b. An infirmity of character, a failing.

c1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) I. v. xii. 148, I shall heartily thank you... if you tell me of my weaknesses. **1671** MILTON *Samson* 773 *Dalila*. First granting, as I do, it was a weakness In me, but incident to all our sex, Curiosity. **1711** ADDISON *Spect.* No. 255 ¶10 This very Thirst after Fame... is itself looked upon as a Weakness in the greatest Characters. **1748** CHESTERF. *Let. to Son* 29 Oct., Not to seem to perceive the little weaknesses, and the idle but innocent affectations of the company. **1776** GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xiv. (1782) I. 525 The laws of Constantine against rapes were dictated with very little indulgence for the most amiable weaknesses of human nature. **1797** JANE AUSTEN *Sense & Sensib.* xlix, His heart was now open to Elinor, all its weaknesses, all its errors confessed. **a1859** MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xkv. V. 256 Many who could not help smiling at Burnet's weaknesses did justice to his abilities and virtues.

† c. A weakened condition of body; an attack of faintness. *Obs.*

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* II. ii. 148 He... Fell into a Sadnesse... thence into a Weaknesse. **1617** MORYSON *Itin.* I. 236, I was all the day troubled with a weakness of bodie. **1749** HARTLEY *Observ. Man* i. i. §1. 51 The Numhness, and paralytic Weaknesses, which frequently succeed after Opiates. **1756** MRS. CALDERWOOD in *Coltness Collect.* (Maitl. Club) 203 And ever since, I am given to violent passions and weaknesses in my head.

3. An unreasonable or self-indulgent liking or inclination for (a person or thing).

1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 442 ¶1, I must own my Weakness for Glory is such, that if I consulted that only, I might [etc.]. **1746** CHESTERF. *Let. to Son* 4 Oct., I have no womanish weakness for your person. **1852** THACKERAY *Esmond* III. xi, He hath every great and generous quality, with perhaps a weakness for the sex which belongs to his family. **1869** A. MACDONALD *Love, Law & Theol.* x. 172, I think she would like to have Porter, but he doesn't seem to see that she has a weakness for him. **1895** H. A. KENNEDY in *19th Cent.* Aug. 330, I own to a weakness for a play that, without any flourish of pretence, does very distinctly amuse me. **1913** *Jrnl. Friends' Hist. Soc.* Jan. 4 He had a weakness for getting on his feet several times in the course of one First-day morning.

b. quasi-concr. Something for which one has an unreasonable liking.

1822 BYRON *Vis. Judgm.* xxxix, Nor wine nor lust Were of his weaknesses. **1840** DICKENS *Old C. Shop* iv, You have

been exciting yourself too much—talking perhaps, for it is your weakness. **1853** — *Bleak Ho.* xx, It's the fashionable way; and fashion and whisks have been my weaknesses, and I don't care who knows it.

'weak'-sighted, a. Having weak sight; also fig.

a1591 H. SMITH *Sinner's Convers.* (1613) A5h, If our faith he so weakly sighted that we cannot see Christ. **1606** MARSTON *Parasit.* III. F1, Las we are now growne old, weakly sighted, alas anyone foolles vs. **a1652** BROME *City Wit* II. ii, My Mayd is very thick of hearing, and exceeding weakly sighted. **1768-74** TUCKER *Li. Nat.* (1834) I. 596 The weak-sighted cannot sustain thy piercing look. *Ibid.* 623 Nor are the views of God so narrow as to want those helps... which are necessary to weak-sighted mortals. **1833** T. HOOK *Parson's Dau.* I. ii, Luckily it was getting dark, and Lovell, moreover, was somewhat weak-sighted.

Hence 'weak'-sightedness.

1632 BROME *Northern Lass* II. iii, I hope you will pardon my weakly sightedness... Could not your worship make your selfe knownen sooner? **1860** MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, Weak-sightedness, ... *Asthenopia*.

weaky ('wi:ki), a. north. dial. [f. WEAK a. + -Y¹. Cf. dial. woky moist, sappy, f. WOKE a.] Moist, damp; juicy.

1641 [implied in WEAKNESS: see below]. **1691** RAY *N.C. Words* 80 *Weaky*, moist. **1703** THORESBY *Let. to Ray*, *Weaky*, moist. **1788** MARSHALL *Rur. Econ.* Yorks. II. 364 *Weaky*; juicy; opposed to 'hask'. **1876** *Whitby Gloss.* s.v., 'Weakly weather', rainy. 'Don't make the paste too weaky', don't make the dough with over much water.

Hence 'weakness, moisture. dial.

1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 75 On the day time wee putte them into one close or other, and lette them eate snowe, and gette the weaknesse on the grownde. **1878** *Cumberld. Gloss.*, *Weakness*, moisture.

weal (wi:l), sb.¹ Forms: 1-2 wela; 1 weola (3 weolla), 3-4 weole (2 wole); 1 weala (3 wale); 2-6 wele (3-4 wel, well), 5-6 weel(e (5 weell), 5 weyle; *Sc.* 5-6 weile (6 weille), 5-7 weill, weil (6 veill, veil), 6 weyll, 8 weel; 6-7 weale, 6- weal. [OE. *wela* (*weola*, *weala*) wk. masc. = OS. *welo*, OHG. *wolo*:—OTeut. **welon-*, f. root **wel-*: see WELL adv.]

The 14th cent. northern form *wel* (*well*) is merely a variant spelling, and the length of the vowel is proved by rhymes; but from the 15th cent. in midland and southern texts a real confusion between *wēle* and *wēl* appears, owing to the currency of double forms of the adverb 'well'. In consequence of this the noun is sometimes written *wel*, *well*, or *welle*, and in this form is latterly identified in pronunciation with the adv. (For examples see WELL sb.²) On the other hand the adv. in the form *wēle* or *wēle* has influenced the meaning of the noun in sense 4 below, and probably contributed to its use in sense 3 (and in WEAL-PUBLIC) as an equivalent of L. *bonum* and F. *bien*.]

† 1. Wealth, riches, possessions. *Obs.* (as distinct from 2).

Often *world*-, *world's*, *worldly weal*.

c888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xi. §1 Ac for bearnleste eallne þone welan þe hi gegaderigað hi lætað fræmdum to hrucanne. **971** *Blickl. Hom.* 197 Se man ahte mycelne welan. **c1205** LAY. 7732 For eowre muchele wurðscipe weole 3c seullen hahhen. **a1225** *Ancr. R.* 196 Ant te world hit mon jiscen worldes weole, & wunne, & wurscipe. **a1250** *Prov. Ælfred* 120 Wyp-vte wysdome is weole wel vnuwp. **1340-70** *Alex. & Dind.* 32 For what richesse, rink, vs might þou bireue, Whan no wordliche wele is wip us founde? **c1400** 26 *Pol. Poems* viii. 68 Beter is litel ry3twys wonne... þan... Wipouten desert take pore mennys wele. **1531** ELYOT *Governor* I. i, In our olde vulgare, profite is called weale. **1594** GREENE & LODGE *Looking Gl.* III. ii. 1057 (Collins) Behold with ruthfull eyes Thy parents robd of all their worldly weale By subtle means of vsurie and guile. **1838** PRESCOTT *Ferd. & Is.* I. i. 119 He paid the usual penalty of such indifference to worldly weal, by seeing himself eventually stripped of his lordly possessions.

† b. pl. *Obs.*

c900 *Bada's Hist.* IV. xi. (1890) 294 Ond he sundorliif & munuclif was foreheorende allum þam weolum & arum þes eorðlecan riices. **c1000** *Ags. Gosp.* Luke viii. 14 þæt synd þa ðe... of welum [Vulg. *diuitiis*] & of lustum pysses lifes synd forþrysmode. **c1175** *Lamb. Hom.* 111 Ðu gederast mare and mare... and þine welan forrotiað beforan þine eþzan. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 4503 Man þat weltres in his welis And, thoru his welth, na fautes felis. **1543** RECORDE *Gr. Artes* Bijh, How many waies also Arithmetike is conducible for al priuat weales of Lordes and all possessions. **1628** PEMBLE *Salomon's Recant.* 24 Dislike and Hatred of all his magnificent workes, weales, possessions and pleasures.

† c. Pomp, splendour, rich array. *Obs.*

c1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 264/123 For no Monuk ne scholde gon out þar-of, þe worldes weale to seo. **c1386** CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 37 This duc... Whan he was come almost vn to the toun In al his wele and in his mooste pride.

† d. Stores, supplies. *Obs.*

13... *Coer de L.* 4786 Agaynes hem comen her naveye, Cogges, and dromoundes, many galeyne... That were charyd with al weel, With armour and with other vytayle. **c1400** *Emare* 824 He lette ordeyne shypus fele, And fylled hem fulle of wordes wele, Hys men mery wyth to make.

2. Welfare, well-being, happiness, prosperity.

a1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 431 Siððan hið him se wela onwendd & wyrð him wite gægarwod. **a1122** O.E. *Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1086, Eala hu leas & hu unwest is pysses middancardes wela. **c1205** LAY. 10394 He heom wolden mucle wele & wurðscipe itæchen. **a1225** *Ancr. R.* 192 þeo ilke uondunges... wendeð afward to weole and to eche blisse. **c1250** *Gen. & Ex.* 809 Aham let loth in welðe and wale. **13...** *Guy Warw.* 822 Wele is him pat it winne may. **c1386** CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 2243 For now is Palamon in alle wele. **c1477** CAXTON *Jason* 50b, I am right ioyous of thy wele and worship. **1491** *Act 7 Hen. VII* c. 12 Preamble, Dedis of charite... to he doon for him... for the wele of his soule. **1549** COVERDALE etc. *Erasm. Par. Rom.* vi. 15 Ye nowe are become Christes seruantes, whose seruice is all weale

and blisse. **1612** BACON *Ess.*, *Goodness* (Arb.) 198, I take goodness in this sence, the affecting of the Weale of men, which is that the Gracians call *Philanthropia*. **1642** D. ROGERS *Naaman* 165 To read Masse or Dirigies for the weale of his soule after his decease. **1805** SCOTT *Last Minstr.* vi. xxvii. And monks should sing, and bells should toll, All for the weal of Michael's soul. **1822** GOOD *Study Med.* (1829) I. 396 The flux... becomes a conditional of the corporeal weal. **1859** TENNYSON *Enid* 799, I doubted whether daughter's tenderness, Or easy nature, might not let itself Be moulded by your wishes for her weal.

b. freq. in contrast with *woe* (†*wowe*).

a. **1000** *Cædmon's Gen.* 466 þæt þær ylðo bearn moste oncesan godes & yfeles, gumena æghwilec welan & wawan. c. **1200** *Vices & Virtues* 29 Ne on wele ne on wauzhe. a. **1250** *Prov. Ælfred* 142 For God may yeue, þenne he wule, god after wule, weole after wowe. a. **1300** *Cursor M.* 4054 His waa, his well, yee sal here bath. c. **1300** *Havelok* 2777 For wel ne for wo. **1393** LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* xviii. 202-4. c. **1400** *Pride of Life* 376 in *Non-Cycle Myst. Plays* 100 þer is dred & sorow & wo wyoutin wel. **1470-85** MALORY *Arthur* i. xii. 51 How they sware that for wele nor woo they shold not leue other. **1590** SPENSER *F. Q.* i. viii. 43 But welcome now my Lord, in wele or woe. **1667** MILTON *P. L.* viii. 638 Thine and of all thy Sons The weal or woe in thee is plac'd. **1771** BEATTIE *Minstr.* i. xxix, All human weal and wo learn thou to make thine own. **1814** SCOTT *Lord of Isles* iv. v, 'Come weal, come woe, by Bruce's side,' Replied the Chief, 'will Ronald bide.' **1850** TENNYSON *In Mem.* cxix. 2 Dear friend, far off, my lost desire, So far, so near in woe and weal. **1863** MISS BRADDON *Aurora Floyd* xv, Impulsive and impetuous, she had always taken her own course, whether for weal or woe. **1897** Q. VICTORIA in *Daily News* 17 July 5/4 In weal and woe I have ever had the true sympathy of all my people.

† c. *pl. Obs.*

13... E.E. Allit. *P. A.* 154 & euer me þoȝt I schulde not wonde For wo, þer welez so wyne wore. **1483** CAXTON *Golden Leg.* 260/2 Thou arte begynnynge myddell and ende of alle weles and goodes. c. **1500** *Three Kings' Sons* 24 He [God] hath gyuen me more of weles than y haue or can deserue. **1544** *Late Exped. Scot.* (1798) 13 To proue whether the Scottes had yet learned, by their importable losses lately chaunced to them, to tendyr their own weales, by true and reasonable vnytyng & adioynynge them selues to the Kynges Maiesties louyng liege people. **1568** GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 156 Nor regarding... their awne weales and states, neyther the weales of their householdes, as their wives, children, or friendes.

† d. applied to a person, as a source of felicity, or an object of delight. *Obs.*

a. **1225** *St. Marher.* 8 þu art iweddeds weole ant widewene warant. a. **1240** *Ureisin* in O.E. *Hom.* I. 183 Ihesu mi weole, mi wunne. c. **1375** *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxx. (*Theodora*) 363 þu art my welth & wele. **1390** GOWER *Conf.* I. 288 O thou my wele, o thou my wo. c. **1489** CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xii. 290 He is our lord and our wele, and therfore I praye you, fayr breder, that ye wyll obeye hym. **1490** — *Eneydos* vi. 28 Sith that he hath... taken awaye hym whiche was alle my wele.

3. contextually. The welfare of a country or community; the general good. Often with defining word, as *common*, *general*, *public*, *universal*. See also COMMON WEAL I, PUBLIC a. 2 a, WEAL-PUBLIC I. Now arch.

† Phr. the weal of peace = OF. *le bien de paix*.

1444 *Rolls of Parl.* V. 121/1 Where afore this tyme for the wele of Peas, Tranquillite and gode Governance, bitwene the Baillifs and Cominalte of the Toun of Shroesbury, divers compositions were made bitwene hem. **1483** *Eng. Gilds* 335 To... the wele of the kyng our souerayn lordes people. **1531** ELYOT *Governor Proheme*, Your graces moste beneuolent inclination towards the vniuersall weale of your subiectes. **1568** GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 146 It was agreed by the king... for his more suretie, and for the weale of the lande. **1643** in Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* vii. §342 As enemies to the weal of both kingdoms. **1697** DE LA PRYME *Diary* 16 Sept. (Surtees) 150 Who values the weal politic above the ecclesiastic. **1726-30** THOMSON *Winter* 35 For thy country's weal. **1820** BYRON *Mar. Fal.* iv. i, This needful violence is for thy safety, No less than for the general weal. **1826** *Pennsylv. Hist. Soc. Mem.* I. 132 He appears in them as a watchful guardian of the domestic weal. **1838** PRESCOTT *Ferd. & Is.* II. xxiii. III. 430 This enterprise, undertaken for the weal of the church. **1870** BRYANT *Iliad* ix. 122 Thou... shouldst follow willingly Another's judgment when it best promotes The general weal.

b. Hence, a state, community; = COMMON WEAL 2. ? *Obs.*

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* xi. vii. 92 Avys heiron amangis 30u for the best, And help to bring our feble weil to rest. **1560** DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 304 For the universall Christen weale [L. *pro republica Christiana*]. **1591** SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI.* III. i. 66 The speciall Watch-men of our English Weale. **1597** BP. HALL *Sat.* II. iii. 15 Wo to the weale where many lawiers bee. **1603** R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* 102 We ought not to meruaile, if this weale haue flourished now these 250. yeares in great reputation of armes and valor. **1605** SHAKS. *Macb.* v. ii. 27 Meet we the Med'cine of the sickly Weale. **1608** HEYWOOD *Rape of Lucrece* B4b, Tarquins abilitie will in the weale, Beget a weake vnable impotence. **1727** GAY *Fables* I. xvii. 27 (Shepherd's Dog & Wolf) If mindful of the bleating weal, Thy bosom burn with real zeal. **1763** CHURCHILL *Epist. Hogarth* 42 To enlarge the mind, Purge the sick weal, and humanize mankind.

† 4. a. Goodness, virtuous behaviour. *Obs.*

c. **1500** *Three Kings' Sons* 33 She wist wele that without grete nurture... he might not knowe the weelis and honours that he coude. *Ibid.* 36 In his company, wheryn men may lerne bothe wele and honour. c. **1500** *Melusine* 11 Yf that ye think theron bot wele & honour.

† b. Good or honourable report. *Obs.*

c. **1500** *Three Kings' Sons* 133 For the grete weeles that euery man rehersed of you.

weal (wi:l), *sb.*² [A mod. variant of WALE *sb.*¹, by confusion with WHEAL *sb.*¹, a pustule: see WHEAL *sb.*²] The mark or ridge raised on the flesh by the

blow of a rod, lash, etc.; = WALE *sb.*¹ 2, WHEAL *sb.*²

1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* etc. II. 68 Who, soon as mounted, with his switching weals, Puts Dob's best swiftness in his heavy heels. **1842** LOVER *Handy Andy* iv, From shoulder to flank, sir, I am one mass of welts and weals. **1845** DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* vi. (1852) 111 He told us that his legs were marked by great weals, where the thong had wound round as if he had been flogged with a whip. **1872** TENNYSON *Last Tourn.* 58 His visage ribb'd From ear to ear with dogwhip-weals. **1900** CONAN DOYLE *Green Flag* etc. 185 Black and bitter were the thoughts of Frenchmen when they saw this weal of dishonour slashed across the fair face of their country.

† **weal**, *v.*¹ Var. WHEAL *v.*¹ *Obs.*

1664 in Pepys *Diary* 31 Dec. (1879) III. 96 [Charm against a thorn] Jesus... Was pricked both with nail and thorn; It neither wealed, nor belled, rankled, nor boned.

weal (wi:l), *v.*² [var. of WALE *v.*², by confusion with WHEAL *v.*¹] *trans.* To mark (the flesh) with weals; = WALE *v.*² 1.

1722 DE FOE *Col. Jack* i, I saw him afterwards, with his back all wealed with the lashes. **1820** CLARE *Rural Life* (ed. 3) 100 The lash that weal'd poor Dobbin's hide. **1825** SCOTT *Talism.* xviii, His bare arm... wealed with the blows of the discipline. **1886** FENN *Master Cerem.* xxx, Were you ever beaten—cut—and wealed with your own whip?

b. *absol.*

1908 *Times* 17 Jan. 4/6 The school authorities allowed only four strokes, two on each hand, as a maximum punishment, and they must not weal. **1922** *Blackw. Mag.* Mar. 355 The knotted ropes that weal and flay.

Hence *wealed ppl. a.*, 'wealing *vbl. sb.*

1841 TUPPER *Twins* xvii. (1844) 131 His wealed body, full of pains and aches and bruises. **1902** *Westm. Gaz.* 20 Nov. 7/2 The governess and upper housemaid examined the child afterwards and found severe wealing of the back and stomach, besides bruises.

weal, var. WEEL; *obs. Sc. f. WELL a., adv.*

wealaway, *obs. form of WELLAWAY.*

weald (wi:ld). Forms: 1 weald, 3-4, 6 welde, 5 weeld, 5-6, 8 weld; 6-9 wild(e, wyld(e, 7 wile; 6 weylde, 6-7 weild(e, 7 wield, 6- weald. [OE. *weald* 'forest' (the WS. equivalent of Anglian *wald*: see WOLD), normally developing into southern ME. *wēld(e, weeld*; the modern spelling, which is due to Lambarde, is a re-adoption of the OE. form. The form *wild(e*, which occurs early in the 16th c., is probably parallel to Kentish and Sussex dial. *fi:ld* for *field*, but in later use was apparently assimilated in pronunciation to the more intelligible *WILD sb.*, which had an appropriately descriptive meaning.

The OE. *weald* is applied in the Chronicle (see below) to the forest of Andred, which included at least part of the present 'Weald']

1. (Now usu. with capital initial.) The name of the tract of country, formerly wooded, including the portions of Sussex, Kent, and Surrey which lie between the North and South Downs. Chiefly with the.

(a) O.E. *Chron.* an. 893, Se [Limene] mupa is on eastewearde Cent, æt pæs miclan wuda eastende þe we Andred hatað;... seo ea... lið ut of pæm wealda; on þa ea hi tuguon up hiora scipu of þone weald. [1018 *Charter of Cnut* (Ord. Surv. Facs. III. No. xxxix) Quoddam siluulae nemus concedo famosa in silua Andresewealde.] c. **1290** *St. Kenelm* 52 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 346 Sethpe hadde þe kyng of westsex southsex also, þe welde and al þe bischopriche of Cicester porth. [1357 in *Cal. Pat. Rolls*, 31 *Edw. III* m. 17 (1909) X. 578 Towns and places within La Welde, co. Kent.] **1471** CAXTON *Recuyell* Pref. (Sommer) 4, I... was born & lerned myn englisch in kente in the weald where I doubt not is spoken as brode and rude englisch as in any place of england. **1483** DK. NORFOLK in *Paston Lett.* III. 308 The Kentysshmen be up in the weld, and sey they wol come and robbe the cite. **1523** *Act 14 & 15 Hen. VIII.* c. 6 The hundred of Cranebroke, in the wilde of your county of Kent. **1543-4** *Act 35 Hen. VIII.* c. 17 §11 Townes parishes or places... within the weldes of the counties of Kent, Surrey and Sussex. **1558-9** *Act 1 Eliz.* c. 15 §2 The Weilde of Kent. *Ibid.*, In the Weylde of the Countye of Surreye. **1580** LYLly *Euphues* (Arb.) 268, I was borne in the wyld of Kent. **1596** SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV.* II. i. 60. **1619** DALTON *Country Justice* xxvi. (1630) 72 In the highwayes within the Wildes of Sussex Surrey or Kent. **1642** HOWELL *For. Trav.* v. 61 The Wiles of Kent. **1662** *Act 14 Chas. II.* c. 6 §17 Any Owner Farmer or Lessee of any Iron worke... within the Wildes of the Counties of Surry Sussex or Kent. **1697** DE FOE *Ess. Projects* 109 That unpassable County of Sussex, which especially in some parts in the Wild, as they very properly call it, hardly admits the Country People to Travel to Markets in Winter, [etc.]. **1778** *England's Gazetteer* (ed. 2) s.v. *Newdigate, Surry*, The Wyld hereabouts is observed to bear excellent oats. **1801** W. HUNTINGTON *God Guardian of Poor* 66 Being a native of the Wild of Kent, which is none of the most polite parts of the world.

(b) **1570** LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1576) 167 Nowe then we are come to the Weald of Kent, which (after the common opinion of men of our time) is contained within very straight and narrow limits, notwithstanding that in times paste, it was reputed of suche exceeding bignes, that it was thought to extend into Sussex, Surrey, and Hamshyre. **1625** MARKHAM *Inrichment Weald Kent* 1 The Weald of Kent is the lower part of that Shire, lying on the South side thereof, and adioyneth to the Weald of Sussex, towards the West. **1787** Phil. *Trans.* LXXXVII. 190 The right hand stations occupy... the heights which extend across the Wealds. **1822** W. D. CONYBEARE & PHILLIPS *Outl. Geol.* 144 The Weald. This district may be generally described as stretching along

the coast of the channel from Folkstone to Beachy Head, and thence extending westwards into the interior as far as the confines of Sussex and Hampshire. **1846** McCULLOCH *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) I. 196 There is a great deal of valuable timber and coppice-wood in Surrey, particularly in the weald... Turnpike roads good; but cross-roads, particularly in the weald, very indifferent. **1863** HERSCHEL *Fam. Lect. Sci. Subj.* 1. §4 What has become of all that great bed of chalk which once covered all the weald of Kent? **1903** KIPLING *Five Nations, Sussex* 24 And through the gaps revealed Belt upon belt, the wooded, dim Blue goodness of the Weald.

2. A wooded district or an open country; a wold. Now only *poet.*

1544 BALE *Chron. Oldcastle* 47 Manye fledde... into the welde of Scotlande, Walys, and Irelande. **1603** S. DANIEL *To Lady Marg. C'tess Cumberland* 8 What a faire seate hath he, from whence he may The boundlesse wastes, & weilds of man suruay. **1851** MEREDITH *Sunrise* 18 *Poet. Wks.* (1912) 78 Glimmering fields, And wakening wealds. **1855** BAILEY *Mystic* etc. 83 Forest and upland frith, and the wide weald Hercynian, where the demon shadow stalks. **1859** TENNYSON *Guinevere* 127 But she to Almesbury Fleed all night long by glimmering waste and weald.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, chiefly 'of or pertaining to the Weald'. *weald clay*, the upper stratum of the Wealden formation immediately above the 'Hastings sand'; also *pl.* with reference to the various subdivisions of this stratum. *weald saurian* = HYLÆOSAURUS. *wealdsman*, an inhabitant of the Weald.

1822 W. D. CONYBEARE & PHILLIPS *Outl. Geol.* 145 A second valley... occupied by the argillaceous beds which have called the 'Weald clay. **1878** *Chamb. Encycl.* X. 114 The Hastings beds contain more sandstone and less clay than those of the upper Weald Clays. **1828** P. I. MARTIN *Geol. Mem. W. Sussex Advt.* p. vi, The space thus comprised, has otherwise, in geological language, got the name of the 'Weald Denudation'. *Ibid.* 40 'Weald Formation, or Wealden. **1869** J. TIMBS *Ancestral Stories* 164 The forest or *Weald Saurian (*Hylæosaurus*). **1928** *Daily Tel.* 29 May 8/5 The flares signalled her triumph to the *wealdsmen of Sussex. **1828** P. I. MARTIN *Geol. Mem. W. Sussex* 54 Although any considerable segment of the circle of the *weald valley may be taken as a specimen of the whole.

weald, *obs. form of WIELD.*

Wealden (wi:ldən), *a.* and *sb.* [f. WEALD + -EN⁴].

The suffix is here employed arbitrarily in a sense remote from its ordinary use. As the formation of the word was app. suggested by the adjs. in -en, it may be presumed that the inventor regarded the adjectival use as primary, and the substantival use as elliptical for 'wealden formation'; but Martin's own use of the term affords no evidence of this.]

A. adj.

1. Of or pertaining to the geological formation known as the Wealden (see B). *Wealden lizard* = HYLÆOSAURUS.

1828 P. I. MARTIN *Geol. Mem. W. Sussex* 42 This bed of wealden sand. **1829** W. BUCKLAND in *Trans. Geol. Soc.* (1835) Ser. II. III. 425 On the discovery of Fossil Bones of the Iguanodon, in the Iron Sand of the Wealden Formation in the Isle of Wight. **1833** MANTELL *Geol. S.E. Eng.* 181 The Wealden strata may be separated into three principal divisions; namely, the Weald clay; the Hastings beds, including the strata of Tilgate Forest; and the Ashburnham or inferior limestones and shales. *Ibid.* 328 *note*, The Wealden Lizard, or Fossil Lizard of Tilgate Forest. **1846** McCULLOCH *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) I. 65 *Wealden series*, a name given to a series of clays, sands, and limestones, from being well developed in the weald of Sussex, and which is remarkable for containing the remains of terrestrial, freshwater, and æstuary animals. **1863** A. C. RAMSAY *Phys. Geog.* 125 It [Weald Clay] was left in its native state, and formed those broad forests which once covered the Wealden area.

2. a. Of or pertaining to the Weald.

1870 LOWER *Hist. Sussex* I. 137 This ancient Wealden parish is about five miles in length, [etc.]. **1896** A. AUSTIN *England's Darling* IV. ii, And wealden wolves will batten on the rest. **1907** *Sat. Rev.* 14 Sept. 327/1 An epitaph in a wealden churchyard.

b. Applied to a style of timber house built in the Weald in the late medieval and Tudor periods (see *quots.* 1961, 1963).

1956 *Archæol. Jnl.* CXII. 93 In Kent the aisled hall was replaced by the type of building often called the 'Wealden' house, though it has a wider distribution than that. **1961** M. W. BARLEY *Eng. Farmhouse & Cottage* 1. ii. 27 The Wealden house has a central hall open to the roof with a storeyed wing at one end or both. The whole is under a continuous roof, but the storeyed wing is jettied out, to overhang the ground floor by a foot or more. **1963** S. E. RIGOLD in Foster & Alcock *Culture & Environment* xiii. 351 The characteristic hall-house of Kent and Sussex has a unitary hipped roof... covering both the hall and the two-storeyed ends... When the upper stories are jettied laterally, the façade of the hall between them is relatively recessed, and the lateral wall-plate of the jettied ends is carried right across... in front of the wall-plate of the hall... This is the so-called 'Wealden house'. **1974** *Country Life* 14 Feb. 312/4 A yeoman farmer's house of the Wealden type that existed in the mid 15th century.

B. *sb. Geol.* The name of a formation or series of estuarine and freshwater deposits of Lower Cretaceous age, extensively developed in the Weald.

1828 P. I. MARTIN *Geol. Mem. W. Sussex* 9 To avoid the inconvenience of the periphrasis of weald sands and clays, it is proposed, as any compound from weald must have a Saxon termination, to call the whole formation the *Wealden*. *Ibid.* 48 Fossils of the Wealden. The fossil shells most frequent in this district of the weald, (and they are common to the whole Wealden,) are of the genera *Vivipara*, [etc.]. **1842** H. MILLER *O.R. Sandst.* i. (ed. 2) 39 From the

Grauwacke of the Lammermuirs, to the Wealden of Moray. **1876** D. PAGE *Adv. Text-bk. Geol.* xvii. 308 Regarding the Lias, Oolite and Wealden as portions of one great system.

wealdend(e, **wealdent**: see **WALDEND**.

†**'Wealding**. *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. **WEALD** + **-ING**³.] An inhabitant of the Weald.

1767 S. PATERSON *Another Trav.* I. 297 Ye Essex hundreds, and ye Kentish wealdings, rejoice!

†**'Wealdish**, *a. Obs.* Also **6 weldish**(e. [f. **WEALD** + **-ISH**¹.]

1. Of or pertaining to the Weald.

[**1317** *Kent Fines in Archæol. Cant.* (1882) XIV. 241 Agnes, dau. of Simon le Wealdiss'. **1318** *Ibid.* 250 William, son of Robert de Weldysh'.]

1554 J. PROCTOR *Wyat's Rebell.* (1555) 28 Sir Henrie Isleye, the two Kneuettes and certayne other with .v. C. weldishe menne were at Seuenocke. **1625** MARKHAM *Inrichment Weald Kent* 6, I will open the nature and conditions of this wealdish ground, comparing it with the Soyle of the Shire at large. **a1661** FULLER *Worthies, Kent* (1662) 56 A considerable part of this County is called the Wealde, that is, a Wood-land ground, the Inhabitants whereof are called the Wealdish-men.

2. Having the character of uncultivated land.

1598 NORDEN *Spec. Brit., Herts.* 1 The disposition of this part of the countrie to Forrest and weldish groundes, fitte for the fostering of such kinde of wild beastes.

†**'Wealdy**, *a. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. **WEALD** + **-Y**¹.] Of or pertaining to the Weald.

1570 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1576) 169 But when they come to the Tenautes inhabiting within the Wealdy country, then the stile and Intituling, is first, *Redditus de Walda*, Then [etc.].

weale, obs. form of **WALE** *sb.*¹, **WEEL**.

weale away, obs. form of **WELLAWAY**.

†**'wealful**, *a. Obs.* Forms: 3 **weole**-, 3-5 **wele**-, 4-5 **welful**, 4 **welful**, *Sc.* **velfull**, 5 **welfull**, 6 **wefulful**, 6-7 **weal(e)full**. [f. **WEAL** *sb.*¹ + **-FUL**.] Happy, prosperous, fortunate, blessed, gladsome.

c1230 *Hali Meid.* (MS. Titus) 31 For, beo hit nu, pat te beo richedom riue, ant tine wide wahes wlonke & wefulle. **a1240** *Saules Warde in O.E. Hom.* I. 259 Hire witte se wefulful pat euch eorðlich lilt is peoster þer ojeines. **1352** MINOT *Poems* viii. 17 Weleful men war 3e, i-wis. **c1374** CHAUCER *Boeth.* i. met. i. (1868) 4 þilke deep of men is welful pat ne comþ not in 3eres þat ben swete. **c1386** — *Man of Law's T.* 353 O cleere, o welful Auter, hooly croys. **1406** HOCCELEVE *La Male Regle* 402 O god! . . . Weleful lord. **1426** LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 16999 And wel-full and blyssed be tho betynges and skowrynges, that compellyn a chylde to declayne from his trespassys and his Errours. **1556** GRIMALDE *Cicero De Offic.* Pref. to Rdr. ¶vj, If it bee well, and wisely, and conveniently done: we shall be wealfull, and in a blessed case, **1609** J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Holy Rood* D 3, To tell the Ierkes with ioy, that ioy do bring, Is both a wealefull, and a wofull thing.

Hence †**'wealfully adv.**, †**'wealfulness Obs.**

c1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* ii. pr. iii. (1868) 37 It deliteþ me to comen now to þe singular vphepyng of þi welefulnesse. **c1375** *Sc. Leg. Saints* iii. (*Andrew*) 663 Albale, þu blissit croice, þat is hallowit wefulful of Ihesu cryste in þe body. *Ibid.* 785 A matrone þat wefulfully quihle mariyt wes with a senatour of þe place. **1387-8** T. USK *Test. Love* i. vi. 24 If a man be riche and fulfuld with worldly wefulnesse, some commendn it. **1388** WYCLIF 3 *John* 2 Of alle thingis Y make preyer, that thou entre and fare wefulfully, as thi soule doith welefuli. **1412-20** LYDG. *Chron. Troy* iv. 274 þat euery ping miȝt in wefulnes To ȝoure ences perseueren and contvne.

wealked, variant of **WELKED**, **WHELKED**.

we-all ('wi:ɔ:l), *pron. U.S. dial.* [f. **WE** *pron.* + **ALL** *a.*] Used in place of **WE** *pron.*

1875 'MARK TWAIN' *Let.* 23 Nov. (1917) I. xv. 268 We-all send love to you-all. **1905** A. V. CULBERTSON *Banjo Talks* 25 Ter do lak we-all in de pas'. **1926** E. M. ROBERTS *Time of Man* vii. 266 His wife was young. . . and we-all made a jolly set. **1949** *Chicago Tribune* 27 Feb. vii. 6/6 Did we-all see Smokey hold? **1964** N. Y. Times *Mag.* 23 Aug. 62/2 *Soul brother*, Negro; also referred to as . . . *we-all*, . . . *the people*.

So 'we-all's, our; ours.

1887 *Scribner's Mag.* Oct. 475/1 O Lawd, 'lighten we-all's unnerstandin's. **1893** H. A. SHANDS *Some Peculiarities of Speech in Mississippi* 67 'That house is we all's' means that the house belongs to all of us. **1905** A. V. CULBERTSON *Banjo Talks* 160 Bin settin' yer. . . lak dis, So I be sut'n dat I doan' miss De train dat teck me back ter we-all's place.

weall, obs. form of **WALE** *v.*¹, **WELL** *adv.*

weallinde, variant of **WALLING** *ppl. a.*¹

a1225 *Ancr. R.* 216 Gif þe gulchecuppe weallinde bres to drincken.

†**weal-public**. *Obs.* Also *pl.* 6-7 **weale publiques**. [**WEAL** *sb.*¹ + **PUBLIC** *a.* 2 *a*, after F. *le bien publique* and L. *bonum publicum*.]

1. The general good of the community; public welfare or interest. Hence, the state or body politic.

1495 *Act 11 Hen. VII* c. 34 Preamble, The reformation of the weale publique. . . in the seid parties of Southwales. **1540-1** ELYOT *Image Gov.* 16 b, The sondry dignities and offices in the weale publik were aptly distributed. **a1586** SIDNEY *Arcadia* iii. iv. ¶2 Therefore, the weale-publique was more to be regarded, then any person or magistrate that therevnto was ordained. **1602** F. HERING *Anatomies* 19 The Weale-publike Prudently and Religiously provided for. **1641** MILTON *Reform.* ii. 46 What is all this either here, or

there to the temporal regiment of Wealpublick, whether it be Popular, Princely, or Monarchical? **1671** F. PHILIPPS *Reg. Necess.* 338 Private mens Actions and Suits must be suspended for a convenient time, where it is *pro bono publico*, the Weal-publick. **1710** STEELE & ADDISON *Tatler* No. 253 ¶6 The Advantages that may arise to the Weal-Publick from this Institution. **1731** PEYTON *Divine Catastrophe Ho. Stuarts* 62 To . . . keep and defend the Weal-publick in Health and Prosperity.

2. A state, community, or commonwealth.

1540-1 ELYOT *Image Gov.* 83 b, Truly god gyueth wysedome, but faour and auctoritie mooste chiefly sheweth it in a weale publyke. **1551** ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* 1. (1895) 30 They found townys and cytyes, and weale publyques, full of people, gouerned by good and holsum lawes. **1610** HEALEY *St. Aug. Citie of God* i. xxix. 45 When Carthage was raized downe, and the greatest curber and terror of the Romaine weale-publike vterly extinguished and brought to nothing. **1622** [E. MISSELDEN] *Free Trade* 33 This is our case in this Weale-publike; no Kingdome hath better Lawes. **1627** HAKEWILL *Apol.* (1630) 107 Whatsoever the force of the starres be, upon the persons of private men, or the states of weale-publiques.

†**'wealsman**. *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. *weal's* genitive of **WEAL** *sb.*¹ + **MAN** *sb.*¹] One devoted to the public weal; a commonwealth's-man.

1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* ii. i. 59 Meeting two such Weales men as you are (I cannot call you Licurgusses).

†**'wealsome**, *a. Obs.* Forms: 4 **welsom**-, **-sum**, **welsum**, 5 **weylsum**, **welsumme**. [f. **WEAL** *sb.*¹ + **-SOME**¹.] Happy, prosperous; fraught with happiness.

1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* xxiv. 21 Wilnyng to wite whether the Lord hath maad his weye welsom [L. *prosperum*] or noon. — *Eccles.* iv. 3, I preiseide more the deade than the liuende; and I demede hym welsumere [L. *feliciorem*] than either, that ȝit is not born. **c1425** *Found. St. Bartholomew's* (1886) p. xcix, O ye happy and weylsum ȝe, and most weylsum religious men.

Hence †**'wealsomely adv.** *Obs.*

1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* xxxix. 2 He was a man in alle thingis welsumly [L. *prosperare*] doynge. — 3 *John* 2 Of alle thingis I make preyer, thete for to entre, and fare welsumly, as thi soule doth welsumly.

wealth (wælθ). Forms: 3 **welðe**, **welðhe**, 3-5 **welpe**, (4 **weolthe**, **-pe**), 3-7 **welth**, (3 **weltht**, 5 **welt**), 4-5 **welp**, 4-6 *Sc.* **velth**, 6 *Sc.* **veltht**, 4-6 **welthe**, (6 **wellthe**), 6 **wealthe**, (7 **waelth**), 5-**wealth**. [ME. *welpe*, f. **WELL** *adv.* or **WEAL** *sb.*¹ + **-TH**¹, on the analogy of *health*. Parallel formations are MDu. *weelde*, *welde* (mod.Du. *weelde*), MLG. *welede* (mod.LG. *welde*), OHG. *welida*.]

†1. The condition of being happy and prosperous; well-being. *Obs.* (exc. *arch.*). *a.* of a person.

c1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1550 And bad him [Esau] of his kindes loured ben, In welðe and miȝt wurðinge ðen. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 755 Adam ȝode walkand in pat welth. **c1340** HAMPOLE *Pr. Cons.* 1288, 1290 And in welthe men wald ay be; Bot parfit men, pat pair lif right ledes, Welthe of þe worlde ay fese and dredes. *Ibid.* 1293 Worldly welthe. **1398** TREVISIA *Barth. De P.R.* vi. xiii. (1495) 197 Noo man hath more welth [L. *nullus est felicior*] than he that hath a gode woman to his wyfe. **c1450** *Merlin* xxxiii. 680 The grete love that I haue to you hath made me forsake alle other. . . for with-outte you haue I neither ioye ne welthe. **1470-85** MALORY *Arthur* ix. xxxvii. 400 But whanne sekene toucheth a prysoners body thenne may a prysoner say al welthe is hym berafte. **1523** BERNERS *Froiss.* i. Pref., Aboue all thynges, wherby mans welthe ryseth, speciall laude and cause ought to be gyuen to historie. **1526** TINDALE *1 Cor.* x. 24 Lett no man seke his awne prophet: but lett every man seke his neighbours welthe. **1548-9** (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer* 122 To preserue thy people . . . in wealth, peace, and Godlynes. *Ibid.* 122 b, In all tyme of our tribulation, in all tyme of our wealth. **1559** — *Prayer for Queen* 12 Grauntt her in health and wealthe longe to liue. **1592** *Soliman & Pers.* v. i. 24 Vpon great affaires, Importuning health and wealth of Soliman, His highnes by me intreateth you. **1596** SHAKS. *Merch. V.* v. i. 249, I once did lend my bodie for thy wealth. **1596** FITZ-GEFFREY *Drake* (1881) 104 And o long may wee have them, and enioy These worthies to our wealth, and thine annoy.

b. Contrasted with *woe*, *wandreth*, *care*.

a1300 *Cursor M.* 23981 Wede o welth wil i namar, Clething wil i me tak o care. **c1330** R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 2462 Welpe a-wey to wou pou [Fortune] strykes. **1357** *Lay Folks' Catech.* (T.) 433 Euenly to sofir the wele and the wa, Welthe or wandreth, whether so betides. **a1529** SKELTON *Agst. Garnesche* iv. 124 Wherefor in welthe beware of woo. **a1542** WYATT *Epigr.* xxiv. (1908) 51, I trust sountyme my harme may be my helth, Syns euery wo is ioynid to some welth. **a1566** R. EDWARDS *Damon & Pithias* (1571) H iij b, In wealth a double ioye, in woe a present stay, A sweete compaignie in eche state true Friend-ship is alway.

c. Of the world, a country, town, community, its people or members; hence (the common or public) welfare. Cf. **COMMONWEALTH** 1, **PUBLIC** *a.* 2 *a*.

1390 GOWER *Conf. Prol.* 95 The world stod thanne in al his welthe: Tho was the lif of man in helthe, Tho was plente, tho was richesse. **1456** *Cov. Leet Bk.* 290 Your own souerayn lorde & kyng. . . Whome God . . . preserve in good helthe. . . to this landys welthe! **c1470** HENRY WALLACE viii. 1610 Was neuir befor. . . Sic welth and pes at anys in the land. **1490** *Little Red Bk. Bristol* (1900) II. 126 In divers matiers concerning the welth of the same Town. **1521** *Cov. Leet Bk.* 672 For the worship of the Cyte or the welthe of the Craft. **c1530** L. COX *Rhet.* (1899) 46 That the maker of the lawe apply his hole studye to the welth of his subiectes. **1550** J. COKE *Eng. & Fr. Herald's* §153 (1877) 101 You enpenche the welth of marchaundise, pylling and robbing the christen

people. **1551** ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* ii. vi. (1895) 218 The inuentyon of feates, helpynge anyne thyng to the aduantage and wealthe of lyffe. **1552** HULOET, *Wealthe of a comminaltye, bonum publicum, respublica*. **1557** NORTH *Gueuara's Diall Pr.* 454 He alwaies studied the wealth of his people. **1607** in M. H. Peacock *Hist. Wakefield Grammar Sch.* iv. (1892) 56 And when I shall knowe any thinge. . . that . . . toucheth the welth or good order of this schole, I will call my fellowe gouernours together.

d. An instance or kind of prosperity; a felicity, blessing. Chiefly *pl.*

The *pl.* is also used as in 3 *b*.

a1300 *Cursor M.* 23432 O welthes mar mai na man tell, þan haf to will o welth þe well. **1340** HAMPOLE *Pr. Cons.* 1319 For angres mans lyf clenses, and proves, And welthes his lif troubles and droves. **c1430** *Hymns Virg.* (1867) 86 Whi is þis world biloued pat fals is & veyn, Sipeþ þat hise welþis ben so unserteyn? **1523** BERNERS *Froiss.* i. clxxxii. 88 b/2 They sayd howe the noble men of the realme of Fraunce, knyghtes and squyers shamed the realme, and that it shulde be a great welth to destroy them all. **1548** PATTEN *Exped. Scot.* Pref. d j b, Whyche shoulde be greatly for the wealthes of vs bothe. **1560** *Irish Act 2 Eliz.* c. 5 §1 That it hath pleased God. . . to preserue and keepe for vs and our wealths your royall Maiestie. . . to raigne ouer vs. **a1652** BROME *Queen & C.* iii. ii, And show The Elder sort how to improve Their Wealths by Neighbour-hood and Love.

†*e.* Used for: State, government (of a nation): = **WEAL** *sb.*¹ 3 *b*. *Obs. rare.*

a1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Misc. Tracts* x. (1683) 160 Julius Cæsar. . . was once in mind to translate the Roman wealth unto it [Troy].

†2. Spiritual well-being. Often in the testamentary phrase *for the wealth of* (one's) *soul. Obs.*

c1400 *Lay-Folks Mass-Bk.* 30 (MS. F) And alle that hit hereth to here soules helthe, Thu [Lord] help hem with thi grace and thi welthe. **c1450** *Godstow Reg.* 652 For the helthe of her owne sowle and the welthe of her husband. **1463** in *Somerset Med. Wills* (1901) 201 And where as there can nott be soo hasty recompense as nedid for the welth of my soule therefore [etc.]. **1483** *Act 1 Rich.* III. c. 2 §1 Such memorialles as they had ordeigned to be done for the welth of their soules. **1526** *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 18 It is all thynges that necessarily is requyred to the welthe and helthe of mannes soule. **1537** *Instit. Christen Man* A 7, I Beleue. . . that this Christe. . . lued. . . and. . . suffred. . . for our sakes, and for our welthe. **1540** HYRDE tr. *Vives' Instr. Chr. Wom.* (1541) 76 b, She. . . procured both suche as was for the welthe of his soule, and prepared holsume meates for his body. **1553** *Primer, Prayer Adversity* V iij, As shal be moste metest and agreable to thyne honor and glory & to my moste perfect wealth and euerlastynge saluacion.

3. A prosperity consisting in abundance of possessions; 'worldly goods', valuable possessions, esp. in great abundance: riches, affluence.

In mod. use *wealth* tends to be felt as a stronger term than *riches*.

c1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 796 God gaf him ðor siluer and gold, And hird, and orf, and srud, and sat, Vn-achteled welðe he ðor bi-gat. *Ibid.* 2374 Of alle egiptes welðhe best Gaf he is breðere. **a1275** *Prov. Elfred* 382 Welðes welðe to wurnes shal wurpien. **1352** MINOT *Poems* vii. 153 For here es welth inogh to win, To make vs riche for euermore. **a1400-50** *Wars Alex.* 3582 Oure boundis ere barrayne and bare and pine full of welth. **1447** BOKENHAM *Seyntys, St. Faith* 303 Alle these profers hye Of wurshyp welt or of dygnite Wyth dacyan hym hycht he set not a styte. **1508** DUNBAR *Tua Mariit Wemen* 394 Quhen he had warit all on me his welth, et his substance Me thought his wit wes all went away with the laif. **1567** *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 51 For all this warldis welth and gude, Can na thing ryche thy celistide. **1570** LEVINS *Manip.* 59/6 Welth, *abundantia rerum*. **1590** SPENSER *F.Q.* ii. vii. 7 What art thou man. . . That. . . these rich heapes of wealth doest hide apart From the worldes eye? **1591** SHAKS. *Two Gent.* i. ii. 13 *Julia*. What think'st thou of the rich Mercatio? *Lucetta*. Well of his health; but of himselfe, so, so. **1639** J. CLARKE *Paræm.* 99 Wealth makes worship. **1667** MILTON *P.L.* i. 722 When Ægypt with Assyria strove In wealth and luxurie. **1701** DE FOE *Trueborn Eng.* 1. (1703) 13 Wealth, howsoever got, in England makes Lords of Mechanics, Gentlemen of Rakes. **1746** FRANCIS tr. *Hor. Epist.* ii. ii. 45 He. . . sack'd a royal Fort, Replete with various Wealth. **1749** FIELDING *Tom Jones* viii. xi, My female companion. . . at first remonstrated against it: but upon producing my wealth, she immediately consented. **1770** GOLDSM. *Des. Vill.* 62 His best companions, innocence and health; And his best riches, ignorance of wealth. **1796** H. HUNTER tr. *St. Pierre's Study Nat.* (1799) II. 577 There the man of wealth would be instructed really to practise virtue. **1809** CAMPBELL *Gertrude* ii. xxiv, More than all the wealth that loads the breeze, When Coromandel's ships return from Indian seas. **1833** TENNYSON *Lady Clara* 61 In glowing health, with boundless wealth. **1840** DICKENS *Old C. Shop* vii, Sole inheritor of the wealth of this rich old hunks. **1861** M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 47 All this material wealth and splendour was of course in official connexion with the Church.

personified. **1712** BUDGELL *Spect.* No. 506 ¶2, I have somewhere met with a Fable that made Wealth the Father of Love. **1813** BYRON *Giaour* 344 Alike must Wealth and Poverty Pass heedless and unheeded by.

†*b.* in *plural*, with reference to more than one possessor. *Obs.*

c1530 BERNERS *Golden Bk. M. Aurel.* (1536) 157 b, Many leue dyuers welthes that they haue in straunge landes, and lyue straitly, for to lyue in their owne land. **1574** *Mirr. Mag., Albanact* lxiii, To late you shall repent the act When all my realme, and all your wealthes are sackt. **1650** STAPYLTON *Strada's Low C. Wars* ii. 48 He would be supported by the counsels and wealths of forrein Princes.

†*c. pl.* Things in which material riches consist; rich and costly goods or possessions; luxuries. *Obs.*

1352 MINOT *Poems* x. 11 In holl þan pai hidid grete welthes, . . . Of gold and of siluer, of skarlet and grene. **1377** LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. x. 83 þe more he wynneth and welt welthes & ricchesse. **c1400** *Sege Melayne* 801 The Bischope. . .

pyghte Pauylions with mekill pryde, With wyne & welthes at will. **c1450** HOLLAND *Howlet* 847 All thus thir hathillis in hall heirlly remanit, With all welthis at wiss, and worschipe to vale. **1551** ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* i. (1895) 106 Lawes, wherby all men shoulde haue and enioye equall portions of welthes and commodities.

d. Abundance of possessions or of valuable products, as characteristic of a people, country, or region; the collective riches of a people or country.

The phrase *the wealth of nations* had some currency before it was adopted by Adam Smith in the title of his famous work; but its early history is obscure.

1666 DRYDEN *Ann. Mirob.*, *To Duchess of York* 20 The Winds were hush'd, the Waves in ranks were cast... Those, yet uncertain on whose Sails to blow, These, where the wealth of Nations ought to flow. **1667** MILTON *P.L.* II. 2 High on a Throne of Royal State, which far Outshon the wealth of Ormus and of Ind. **a1687** PETTY *Pol. Anat.* (1691) 35 'Tis suppos'd that the Wealth of Ireland is about the $\frac{1}{4}$ or $\frac{1}{5}$ of that of England. **1737** POPE *Hor. Epist.* i. i. 126 Their Country's wealth our mightier Misers drain. **1739** CRESS HARTFORD *Corr.* (1805) I. 152 He declared that he would rather live upon his small annuity all his days, than marry a woman he did not previously love, though she possessed the wealth of the Indies. **1752** JOHNSON *Romancer* No. 202 ¶6 To be poor, in the epic language, is only not to command the wealth of nations. **1757** [BURKE] *Europ. Settle.* Amer. VII. xxviii. 274 Our American colonies... pour in upon us a wealth of another kind... from their fisheries. **1776** A. SMITH (*title*), An Inquiry into the Nature and Causes of the Wealth of Nations. **1778** JOHNSON 17 Apr. in *Boswell*, As the Spanish proverb says, 'He, who would bring home the wealth of the Indies, must carry the wealth of the Indies with him.' **1820** BYRON *Mor. Fol.* v. i. 14 A city which has open'd India's wealth To Europe. **1858** A. TROLLOPE *Dr. Thorne* xxv, Not for all the wealth of India would he have given up his lamb to that young wolf.

e. said of a specific commodity as the chief source of a country's riches. Also with defining word, indicating a particular source.

1645 SIR R. WESTON *Husb. Brabant* (1652) 7 That Land is natural to bear Flax, which is called the Wealth of Flanders. **1854** J. D. WHITNEY (*title*), The Metallic Wealth of the United States Described and Compared with that of other Countries.

f. *fig.*

1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* III. ii. 257, I freely told you all the wealth I had Ran in my vaines; I was a Gentleman. *Ibid.* III. v. 61 Yet more quarrelling with occasion, wilt thou shew the whole wealth of thy wit in an instant. **a1627** MIDDLETON *Witch* II. i, O honestie's a rare wealth in a woman, It knows no want. **1635-56** COWLEY *Dovideiv* iv. 488 To Help seems all his Power, his Wealth to Give; To do much Good his sole Prerogative. **1667** MILTON *P.L.* IV. 207 Beneath him... he views... To all delight of human sense expos'd... Nature's whole wealth. **1675** DRYDEN *Aurengz.* III. (1676) 47 Whom Heav'n would bless, from Pomp it will remove, And make their wealth in privacy and Love. **1697** COLLIER *Ess. Mor. Subj.* II. 158 Those who come last [in the Roll of Time], seem to enter with Advantage. They are born to the Wealth of Antiquity. **a1771** GRAY *Death Hoel* 9 He ask'd no heaps of hoarded gold; Alone in Nature's wealth array'd, He ask'd and had the lovely maid. **1820** HAZLITT *Lect. Dram. Lit.* 12 There is no time more... prolific of intellectual wealth. **1868** T. T. LYNCH *Rivulet* CXLIX. iii. (ed. 3), Then darkening heavens disclose Their starry wealth.

†g. Condition with regard to riches or poverty; degree of wealthiness. *Obs.*

1607 DEKKER & WEBSTER *Northw. Hoe* I. ii, It shall then bee given out, that I'me a Gentlewoman of such a birth, such a wealth,... and so forth. **1662** PETTY *Taxes & Contrib.* 16 Ignorance of the Number, Trade, and Wealth of the people, is often the reason why the said people are needlessly troubled.

4. Economics. A collective term for those things the abundant possession of which (by a person or a community) constitutes riches, or 'wealth' in the popular sense.

There has been much controversy among economists as to the precise extent of meaning in which the term should be used. The definition that has been most widely accepted is that of Mill (quot. 1848 below).

1821 TORRENS *Ess. Product. Wealth* i. 3 When we say, a man of wealth, the term implies quantity, and signifies an abundance of the comforts and luxuries of life. But when we say, agriculture is a source of wealth, the accessory idea of quantity is not implied, and the term comprises the products of agriculture, whether they be raised from one acre or from a million; whether they are capable of subsisting an individual, or a nation. **1825** BENTHAM *Ration. Reward* 237 All wealth is either the spontaneous production of the earth, or the result of labour, employed in the cultivation of the earth or upon the materials which it yields. **1832** HT. MARTINEAU *Life in Wilds* II. 23 Whatever lives, or grows, or can be produced, that is necessary or useful, or agreeable to mankind, is wealth. **1848** MILL *Pol. Econ.* I. Prel. Rem. 8 Money, being the instrument of an important public and private purpose, is rightly regarded as wealth; but everything else which serves any human purpose, and which nature does not afford gratuitously, is wealth also. *Ibid.* 9 To an individual, anything is wealth, which, though useless in itself, enables him to claim from others a part of their stock of things useful or pleasant. Take for instance, a mortgage of a thousand pounds on a landed estate. This is wealth to the person to whom it brings in a revenue... But it is not wealth to the country; if the engagement were annulled, the country would be neither poorer nor richer. *Ibid.* 10 Wealth, then, may be defined, all useful or agreeable things which possess exchangeable value; or in other words, all useful or agreeable things except those which can be obtained, in the quantity desired, without labour or sacrifice. **1856** FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* (1858) I. i. 87 An attempt... was made to bring the production and distribution of wealth under the moral rule of right and wrong. **1883** H. SIDGWICK *Pol. Econ.* I. iii. 71 The wealth of any individual is considered to include all useful things—whether material things, as food, clothes, houses, &c., or immaterial things as debts, patents,

copyrights, &c.—which... admit of being sold at a certain price. This aggregate is suitably measured by its exchange value; the common standard of value, money, being taken for convenience's sake. **1891** SCRIVENER *Fields & Cities* xx. 194 The Companies Acts... have not, and will not, create wealth; it is not the function of law to create wealth,—only to regulate its distribution. Wealth is created... by labour. **1920** A. W. KIRKALDY *Wealth* 15 If this definition [Mill's] be accepted, the importance of abundance disappears. Wealth may be a very small as well as a very big thing. A single pin... has exchange value, it is useful, and is therefore wealth... So is a motor-car or a fine yacht or an Atlantic liner.

5. Plenty, abundance, profusion (*of* what is specified). Also, the condition of abounding in something valuable.

1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 42 The firth... quhair gret welth of Salmonte. **1816** SCOTT *Old Mort.* xxxiii, And they hae walth o' beef, that's ae thing certain, for here's a raw hide that has been about the huries o' a stot not half an hour syne. **1850** TENNYSON *In Mem.* Concl. xxvi, Again the feast, the speech... the wealth Of words and wit. **1858** HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* (1872) I. 48 This wealth of silver, gold, and gems, that adorned the shrines of the saints. **1874** SAYCE *Compor. Philol.* vi. 217 The manifold wealth of articulate speech. **1882** RHYS *Celtic Brit.* i. 21 There is no reason, however, to suppose that the great wealth of the country in iron ore had been discovered by Cæsar's time. **1894** CONAN DOYLE *Mem. Sherlock Holmes* 218 With... dark Italian eyes, and a wealth of deep black hair.

6. attrib. and Comb. (chiefly objective and obj. gen.), as *wealth-acquiring*, *-bearing*, *-centre*, *-creating*, *-creation*, *-creator*, *-despising*, *-getting*, *-holder*, *-maker*, *-making*, *-monger*, *-owner*, *-producing*, *-store*, *-worship*, *-yield*, *-yielding*; *wealth-fantasy*; instrumental, as *wealth-elated*, *-encumbered*, *-fraught*; **†** *wealth boastingly adv.*, in a way that shows pride in wealth; *wealth tax*, a tax levied on the basis of a person's capital or financial assets.

1879 GEO. ELIOT *Theo. Such* xviii. 346 The predominance of *wealth-acquiring immigrants. **1865** J. MACGREGOR *Rob Roy on Baltic* (1867) 269 The mighty, *wealth-bearing Thames. **1593** NASHE *Christ's T. T.* 3, Nothing about them but is *wealth-boastingly & elaborately beautified. **1890** O. CRAWFORD *Round Calend. Portugal* 19 The first stronghold and *wealth-centre of this ancient kingdom. **1964** M. McLuhan *Understanding Medio* (1967) x. 110 In the Roman world the army was the work force of a mechanized *wealth-creating process. **1892** F. W. BAIN (*title*), On the Principle of *Wealth-creation. **1740** J. DYER *Ruins of Rome* 330 Th' humble roof... Of good Evander, *wealth-despising king. **1801** MRS. ROBINSON *Sylphid* II. 149 (Jod.) The report... awakened the jealousy of the *wealth-elated baronet. **1844** LD. LEIGH *Walks in Country* 79 A *wealth-encumber'd Peer. **1940** 'G. ORWELL' in *Horizon* Mar. 181 This kind of thing is a perfectly deliberate incitement to *wealth-fantasy. **1798** B. JOHNSON *Orig. Poems* 30 *Wealth-fraught keels in safety cut the seas. **1904** R. T. ELY & WICKER *Elem. Princ. Economics* 3 Those social phenomena that are due to the *wealth-getting and wealth-using activities of man. **1957** A. C. L. DAY *Outl. Monetary Econ.* II. 19 Similar considerations will influence many other *wealth-holders. **1980** TWA *Ambassador* Oct. 14/1 Much of the growth in the number of wealthholders in the United States has been among the affluent, but clearly non-wealthy middle-class and upper-middle-class households. **1899** *Daily Tel.* 11 Oct. 8/7 The *wealth-makers whom he always hated. **1964** M. McLuhan *Understanding Media* (1967) x. 111 The Roman Army as a mobile, industrial *wealth-making force. **1654** WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 396 These are sawcy Truths to obtrude on the Power-mongers, *Wealth-mongers, and Pleasure-mongers of the World. **a1665** J. GOODWIN *Being filled with the Spirit* xvii. (1670) 476 If the Question should be put to all rich Wealth-mongers and Honour-mongers. **1896** *Daily Tel.* 3 Feb. 4/7 The vast *wealth-producing industries of the Rand. **1891** MEREDITH *Invect. Achilles* Poet. Wks. (1912) 554 Thou mayest gather here plunder and *wealth-store. **1963** *Daily Tel.* 22 Feb. 26/6 (heading) *Wealth tax statement next week. **1974** *Guardian* 23 Mar. 12/1 The Labour Party... suggested an annual wealth tax starting at 1 per cent on £50,000, and running up to 5 per cent on £400,000 and more. **1976** *Jrnl. R. Soc. Arts* Mar. 200/1 Until the final form of wealth tax has been decided it is not possible to decide whether it will be fiscally neutral as regards private woodlands. **1850** GROTE *Greece* II. lxvii. VIII. 540 Plato was not the man to preach king-worship, or *wealth-worship, as social or political remedies. **1877** GLADSTONE *Glean.* (1879) I. 168 The wealth-worship which marks and deforms our time. **1917** 19th Cent. Dec. 1237 Its [sc. the ocean's] *wealth-yield appears to be beyond words bounteous. **1888** CLODD *Creation* iv. 30 Rich as are igneous rocks in *wealth-yielding mineral veins and ores, they are... destitute of fossils.

wealthful ('welθʊl), *a.* Now rare. [f. WEALTH + -FUL.] Abounding in wealth; **†**happy (*obs.*), rich, prosperous; conducive to wealth. **†** *wealthful of*, abounding in.

13.. *Cursor M.* 641 (Gött.) þis is a stede of welthful wone. **1398** TREVISA *Barth. De P.R.* xv. lviii. (1495) 509 Though Flaunders be lityll in space yet it is welthfull of many speacyall thynges and good. *Ibid.* xvii. clvi. 707 In good and fatte grounde growyth good eere in grete quantytee and welthfull of greynes. **1447** BOKENAM *Seyntys, Christina* 4 A cyte... Weldful and ful off weildly solas. **c1470** HENRY *Wallace* XI. 211 This man... at ye sa welthfull mak. **1513** MORE *Rich. III.* Wks. 38/1 All is... quiete, and likeliel righte wel to prosper in welthful pece under youre coseyns. **1534** — *Comf. agst. Trib.* III. Wks. 1235/2 God hauynge manye mancions, and al wonderfull welthfull in his fathers house. **1577-87** HOLINSHED *Chron.* I. 20/2 All things necessarie for the welthfull state of man. **1776** MICKLE tr. *Camoens' Lusiad* 464 Malacca's castled harbour here survey, The welthful seat foredoom'd of Lusian sway. **1883** MISS BROUGHTON *Belindo* III. vi, It is a lovely rain... healthful, wealthful, beneficent.

Hence **†** *wealthfully adv.*, **†** *wealthfulness.*

c1450 tr. *Boeth. de Consol.* i. met. vii, MS. Bodl. Auct. F. 3. 5, lf. 220 b, Gladnes in hauynge of worldly welthefulnes. **1535** STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) III. 206 To leve ay in welthfulnes. **1540** HYRDE tr. *Vives' Instr. Chr. Wom.* II. ii. (1592) N8, To lead thy life wealthfully.

wealthily ('welθɪli), *adv.* Now rare. Also 6-7 *wealthely*. [-LY².] In a wealthy manner.

1534 WHITINTON *Tullyes Offices* II. (1540) 75 That pertayne and avayle a man to lyue well and welthyly. **1551** ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* i. (1895) 105 All thynges be so well and wealthely ordered, that vertue is had in pryce and estimatyon. **1567** J. SANFORD *Epictetus* Epist. A ij b, That we should be in felicitie and leade our life both well and wealthilie. **1596** SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* I. ii. 75, I come to wue it wealthily in Padua. **1614** S. DANIEL *Hymen's Tri.* II. i, And thus they all vnhappy by that meanes Which they accompt would bring all happinesse; Most wealthely are plagu'd, with rich distresse. **1658** *Whole Duty Man* xiv. §25 When out of an eagerness of bestowing them wealthily, they force them to marry utterly against their own inclinations. **1755** JOHNSON, *Richly*, *adv.*,... with riches; wealthily. **c1885** E. DICKINSON *Poems* (1955) III. 1123 Ill it becometh me to dwell so wealthily When at my very Door are those possessing more, In abject poverty.

wealthiness ('welθɪnis), *a.* Now rare. [f. WEALTHY *a.* + -NESS.] Wealthy quality or condition; wealth.

a1513 FABYAN *Chron.* III. lvi. (1533) 20 This in tracte of tyme made hym welthy. And by meane of this welthynes ensued pryde. **1535** COVERDALE *Job* xxi. 13 They spend their dayes in welthynesse: but sodenly they go downe to hell. **1536** *Primer Eng. & Lat.* (Rouen) 144 b, Verely I sayde in my welthynes I shall neuermore be mouyd. **1567** *Treasure* Div b, You shall wante no kinde of welthines. **1596** DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 7 marg., The Welthines of fische in Scotland. **1747** SHENSTONE *Let. to Groves* 21 Sept., I almost hate the idea of wealthiness as much as the word.

wealthless ('welθɪs), *a.* rare. [f. WEALTH + -LESS.] Without wealth, having no money. In quot. 1605 *absol.*

1605 A. WARREN *Poor Mon's Poss.* B2 b, In vaine the wealthlesse doe their wants repeat. **1799** CAMPBELL *Pleas.* *Hope* II. 42 Barr'd from delight by Fate's untimely hand, By wealthless lot, or pitiless command. **1886** A. WEIR *Hist. Bosis Mod. Europe* (1889) 220 Wealthless maidens... cut off their... locks in order to get a mite for the national cause.

† *wealthling*. *Obs. rare.* [f. WEALTH + -LING¹.] A wealthy wight.

1581 MULCASTER *Positions* xxxvii. (1887) 147 Be there not as vntoward poorelinges, as there be wanton wealthlinges? **1605** A. WARREN *Poor Mon's Pass.* etc. G4, Wealthlings suppose their parting peale they heare.

† *wealthy, a.* *Obs. rare*—1. [f. WEALTH + -LY¹.] Happy, delightful.

c1460 Towneley *Myst.* i. 185 It is not good to be alone, to walk here in this worstly wone, In all this welthy wyn.

wealthy ('welθɪ), *a.* [f. WEALTH + -Y¹.]

†1. a. Possessing well-being, happy, prosperous. Of conditions of life: Comfortable, luxurious. *Obs.*

c1375 *Sc. Leg. Soints* xxxi. (*Eugenio*) 222 Quhen hyre chawmir wast saw he, quhare welthi wes scho wont to be. **1540** HYRDE tr. *Vives' Instr. Chr. Wom.* (1592) X2, If the wife have skill to rule an house... then shal al the marriage be more wealthy and fortunate. **1551** ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* II. ix. (1895) 301 A pleasaunt and a welthy lyuynge [lautam ac splendidam vitam]. *Ibid.*, [They] lyue so wretched and miserable a lyfe, that the state and condition of the labouring beastes maye seme muche better and welthier. **1563** WINJET *Bk. Quest.* Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 128 In our days the samyn wes abusit among mony in idilnes and welthy lyfe.

†b. Of the body: Thriving (in phr. *healthy and wealthy*). *Obs.*

1538 STARKEY *England* 179 You schal see veray few of sobor and temperat dyat, but they haue helthy and welthy bodies.

c. dial. Of cattle: Well-fed.

1829 BROCKETT *N.C. Gloss.* (ed. 2). Hence in recent Dicts.

2. Of persons: Having wealth or abundant means at command; rich, opulent.

a1430 *Hymns Virg.* (1867) 115 Charite doop neuere wickidli... Ne blownen is with pride thous sche be welpi. **1560** DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* II.18 Ryche and welthy marchauntes. **1596** SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* IV. ii. 37, I wil be married to a wealthy Widow, Ere three dayes passe. **1703** DAMPIER *Voy.* III. 58 Besides Merchants and others that Trade by Sea from this Port, here are other pretty Wealthy Men. **1781** COWPER *Expost.* 419 The Rocks and herds of wealthy Lot. **1807** CRABBE *Par. Reg.* III. 786 Come, surly John, thy wealthy kinsman view. **1820** SCOTT *Monast.* i, The donations of land with which the King endowed these wealthy fraternities. **1825** McCULLOCH *Pol. Econ.* I. 7 He is said to be wealthy, according to the degree in which he can afford to command those necessities, conveniences and luxuries, which are not the gifts of nature, but the products of human industry. **1848** MILL *Pol. Econ.* I. Prel. Rem. 8 To be wealthy is to have a large stock of useful articles, or the means of purchasing them. **1860** RUSKIN *Unto this Last* iv. (1862) 126 Many of the persons commonly considered wealthy, are in reality no more wealthy than the locks of their own strong boxes are. **1881** 'RITA' *My Lady Coquette* i, The Mervyns are by no means a wealthy family.

Prov. **1639** J. CLARKE *Param.* 91 Earely to bed and earely to rise, makes a man healthy, wealthy, and wise.

absol. **c1380** *Antecrist* in Todd *Three Treat. Wyclif* (1851) 131 Crist fedde þe needy pore; & þei þe riche & welpi. **c1412** HOCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 1288 He sparith hem that vnwelthy heer ben, And to þe velthy dooth as þat ye seen. **1682** DRYDEN *Medal* 183 The wise and wealthy love the surest way. **1784** COWPER *Task* IV. 426 Meanwhile ye shall

not want... what a wealthy than ourselves may send. 1890 R. H. WRIGHTSON *Sancta Republica Romana* 12 The wealthy fled with their moveables.

3. Of a country, community, period, etc.: Prosperous, flourishing, thriving; commanding riches.

c 1460 FORTESCUE *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* xvi. (1885) 149 Yff the kyng haue such a Counsell... his lande shall... be ryche and welthy. 1538 STARKEY *England* 88 Thys reame hath byn callyd euer ryche, and of al Chrystundome one of the most welthys. 1539 BIBLE (Great) Ps. lxxvi. 12 Thou broughtest vs out in to a welthy place. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 38 A cite maist welthie to name Inverlouth. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 700 The wealthy Abbay of Fountaines. 1653 MILTON *Hirelings* (1659) 12 Thus we see that not only the excess of hire in wealthiest times, but also [etc.]. 1827 SOUTHEY *Penins. War* II. xvi. 26 The southern provinces, the most fertile and wealthiest of the kingdom.

4. In extended use: Rich in some possession or advantage; plentifully furnished with something; abundant, copious.

1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* II. iii. 72, I am a simple Maide, and therein wealthiest That I protest, I simply am a Maide. 1607 — *Timon* II. ii. 193, I am wealthiest in my Friends. 1608 B. JONSON *Masque Ld. Haddington's Marr.* Wks. (1616) 943 Loues wealthy croupe of kisses. a 1616 — *Epigr.* lxxxi. To Proule, I will not show A line vnto thee, till... I haue by two good sufficient men, To be the wealthy wittenes of my pen [after L. *testis locuples*]. 1635-56 COWLEY *Davidis* I. 77 The mighty Oceans wealthy Caves. c 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* I. v. xxvii, Upon Dr. Davies Britisch Grammer. Twas a tough task believe it, thus to tame A wilde and wealthy language. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Horace, Epist.* II. i. 184 And with glad Harvests crown the wealthy Year. 1830 TENNYSON *Madeline* II Revealing deep and clear are thine Of wealthy smiles. 1859 HT. MARTINEAU *Biog. Sk.* IV. ii. (1869) 283 The 'Kosmos' of Humboldt... is wealthy in its facts, and splendid in its generalizations. 1860 BLACKMORE *Lorna D.* iii. By her side was a little girl... with a wealthy softness on her, as if she must have her own way. 1887 *Athenæum* 31 Dec. 900/1 Mr. Foster... has rendered the wealthy coloration and tonality of Walker with great judgment. 1905 HOLMAN HUNT *Pre-Raphael.* I. 145 The language of the painter [Rossetti] was wealthy and polished.

† 5. Of great worth or value, valuable. *Obs.*

1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s.v. *Copiosus*, A great and wealthy heritage. 1589 GREENE *Menaphon* (Arb.) 47 My food the pleasant Plaines of Arcadie and the wealthie riches of Flora. 1593 MARLOWE & NASHE *Dido* II. i. 360 Queene Dido... for Troyes sake, hath entertaind vs all, And clad vs in these wealthie robes we wear. 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XVIII. 313 Then they washt, and fild the mortal wound With wealthy oyle, of nine yeares old. 1612 in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* (1914) Apr. 251 An assured trade that way... will... proove more wealthy and beneficial for this state then any other. 1652-62 HEYLYN *Cosmogr.* II. (1682) 160 A wealthy race of sheep, which bring forth young twice a year, and are shorn four times. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 382 In divers Islands they finde most wealthy Mines. 1715 POPE *Iliad* I. 217 Thine in each Conquest is the wealthy Prey. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Hor.*, *Sat.* II. iii. 335 An actor's son dissolv'd a wealthy pearl... In vinegar.

6. (With capital initial.) Name of a N. American variety of late-ripening, red-skinned cooking or dessert apple. *Freq. absol.*

1869 C. DOWNING *Fruits & Fruit Trees Amer.* (ed. 2) ix. 398 Wealthy. A new variety originated by Peter M. Gideon, near St. Paul, Minn., from seed gathered in Maine about 1860... Fruit medium, oblate or roundish oblate, whitish yellow ground, shaded with deep rich crimson. 1921 *Daily Colonist* (Victoria, B.C.) 7 Oct. 7/4 Seal of Quality Groceries. No. 1 Wealthy Apples, excellent, sound stock, in boxes containing about 40 lbs. 1944 *Chicago Daily News* 25 Sept. 13/3 Right now Wealthies or Maiden's Blush are the choice varieties for cooking or pie. 1975 *New Yorker* 11 Aug. 39/1 The five apples so suddenly swept from the general market were the Baldwin, the Wealthy, the Golden Grimes, the Ben Davis, and the Black Twig.

† **wealy**, *a.*¹ *Obs.* Forms: 1 *welig*, -eg, *wælig*, *weolig*, 2-4 *weli*, 3 *weoli*, -e3, 4-5 *wely*, 6 *Sc. velie*. [OE. *welig* = OS. *welag* (MLG. and MDu. *welich*, LG. and Du. *welig* luxuriant, rank, wanton), OHG. *welac*:—WGer. **welago-*, f. **wela-* WEAL sb.¹; see -Y¹]

1. Wealthy, prosperous, happy.

Beowulf 2607 ðemunde ða ða are, þe he him ær forgeaf, wicstede weligne Wægmundinga. c 893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* IV. v. (1883) 166 Sum welig mon... se wæs haten Hanna. II.. *Gloss.* in Wr.. Wülcker 540/6 *Dines*, welic. c 1205 LAY. 427 þa weolezen & þa weaðlen. *Ibid.* 13904 þe þridde hæhte Woden þæt is an weoli godd. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7879 Bot oft þe weliest o win Riue-liest þai fal in sin. *Ibid.* 9958 þan was þar never suilk a hald, Ne nan welier in werld to wald. c 1380 in *Polit. Poems* (Rolls) I. 267 Suche annuuls has made thes frers, so wely and so gay, That ther may no possessioners mayntene thair array.

2. In good condition, healthy.

13.. *E.E. Allit. P.* B. 1244 þo þat byden wer so biten with þe bale hunger, þat on wyf hald ben worpe þe welgest fourre. c 1440 *Pallad.* on *Husb.* III. 266 The clawes drie & scabbid, old, vnseely, Kitte al away, & kepe up that is wely.

3. Luxurious, self-indulgent.

1545 JOYE *Expos. Dan.* v. 50 b, The peple of Israell as oft as they waxed wealy and fatte as saith the song of Moses. *Ibid.* v. 71 Let sicke sewer wealy rulers beware of a soden fall. c 1590 J. STEWART *Poems* (S.T.S.) II. 216 Sum velie var, Sum vickit, And Sum vaine.

Hence † **wealiness**, luxuriousness. *Obs.*

1545 JOYE *Expos. Dan.* xi. 181 Therfore of pryde and wealynes [he] gaue himselfe vp vnto his owne lustis. 1571 GOLDING *Calvin* on Ps. xxx. 7. 109 Hereuppon groweth wealynesse of the flesh [*hinc carnis lascivia*], that they licentiously folow theyr owne lusts.

† **wealy**², **weely**, *a.* *Obs.* Also 7 *wealie*, *weally*. [Of obscure origin; common in P. Holland.] Of land: Unproductive, marshy, poor.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XVII. viii. I. 506 If the ground be cold, moist, and weely. 1610 — *Camden's Brit.* 203 This river [Ex] hath his head and springeth first in a weely and barren ground named Exmore. *Ibid.* 364 Flockes of sheepe long necked and square of bulke and bone, by reason (as it is commonly thought) of the weally and hilly situation of their pasturage. 1610 FOLKINGHAM *Feudigr.* I. x. 33 Sandy Marle serues (for want of other) chiefly in cold moist and weely grounds.

weam(b): see WAME.

weame, *obs.* form of WAME, WEM.

† **weamish**, *a.* *Obs.* [? Variant of QUEIMISH *a.*] Squeamish.

1571 T. FORTESCUE *Mexia's Foreste* 46 b, Wee in this Age are colde and drie, of complexion none other or better then Melancoly, angrye, weamishe [Fr. *ennuyseuse*], harde to please and enuious. 1777 HORÆ *Subsecivæ* (MS.) 462 (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*) *Weamish*, *squeamish*.

wean (win, wen), *sb. Sc. and dial.* Also 9 *ween*, *wain*, *wane*. [A contraction of *wee ane*: (see WEE *a.* and ONE), the full form still appearing in the first group of quotations. In the north-eastern Sc. counties the equivalent *little ane* has similarly given *littlan*, *littlen*.] A young child.

a. 1692 [see WEE *a.*]. 1721 RAMSAY *Poems* I. Gloss. 397 *Wean*, or *wee ane*, a Child. 1755 JOHNSON s.v. *Wee*, In Scotland it denotes small or little; as *wee ane*, a little one, or child. 1768 ROSS *Helenore* 6 The name the wean [1789 *weeane*] gat, was Helenore. a 1774 FERGUSSON *Hallow-Fair* viii, Than there's sic yellowchin and din, Wi' wives and wee-anes gablin.

β. 1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* II. iii, When Bessy Freetock's chuffy-cheeked We'an To a Fairy turn'd. 1728 — *Anacreontic on Love* 8 A poor young Wean. 1786 BURNS *Inventory* 52 Wi' weans I'm mair than weel contented, Heav'n sent me ane mae than I wanted! 1789 — *To Dr. Blacklock* 52 To make a happy fire-side clime To weans and wife, That's the true pathos and sublime Of human life. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* iv, There was my daughter's wean, little Eppie Daidle. 1822 GALT *Provost* xxiv, The major part were sailors' wives and weans. 1825 BROCKETT *N.C. Gloss.*, *Weens*, children. Little ones. 'How are the weens?' 1826 J. WILSON *Noctes Ambr.* Wks. 1855 I. 175 Returnin back hame, the wife and weans were a' at the door. 1841 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.*, *Nell Cook* end, So bless the Queen and her Royal Weans. 1856 MRS. BROWNING *Aur. Leigh* III. 927, I being but a yearling wean. 1887 P. M'NEILL *Blawearie* 85 Here comes that great grumpus crying like a wane once more. 1900 *Century Mag.* Feb. 601/2 But poor Shamus he had a wife an' a congregation of wains on his han's.

wean (win), *v.* Forms: 1 *wenian*, 4-6 *wene*, 4-7 *wain(e)*, *wane*, 5-7 *wayn(e)*, *weyn(e)*, 6 *ween*, 6-7 *wein(e)*, *weane*, 6- *wean*. [OE. *wenian* to accustom (once only, to wean), corresponding to OFris. *wennia*, OS. *wennian* (MLG., MDu., mod.Du. *wennen*), OHG. *wennen* (MHG. *wenen*, mod.G. -*wöhnen*), ON. *venja* (Sw. *vänja*, Da. *vænne*):—OTeut. **wanjan*, f. **wano-*accustomed (ON. *van-r*); cognate with ON. *vane* wk. masc., custom, habit. For the Teut. root **wan-*: **wun-*, to be accustomed, to dwell, see WANE sb.², WONE sb.², WONT.

The OE. *wenian* occurs very frequently in the sense 'to accustom', but this use is not illustrated here, as it did not survive into ME. The sense 'to wean (a child)' was ordinarily expressed in OE. by *awenian* (cf. G. *entwöhnen*), and occasionally by *gewenian*.]

1. *trans.* To accustom (a child or young animal) to the loss of its mother's milk; to cause to cease to be suckled. *a.* with obj. a child.

c 960 ÆTHELWOLD *Bened. Rule* vii. 22 Agyld þu me, drihten, mid biternesse lean, swa swa moder ðeþ hyre bearne, þonne hio hit fram hire breosta gesoce weneþ. 13.. HAMPOLE *Psalter* cxxx. 4 As a childe þat has nede to be on his modur kne and fostird with hur mylke, perisch if he be wenyd [earlier MS. spaned] & takyn fro mylke. 1382 WYCLIF *Hos.* i. 8 And she wenyde hir [Vulg. *et ablactavit eam*] that was With outen mercy. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P.R.* VI. vi. (Tollem. MS.), The childe is popirly clepid 'puer', when he is wained from milke and departid from þe breste. c 1425 *Cursor M.* 3018 (Trin.) Whenne he was wened [earlier texts spaned] fro þe pappe. c 1440 *Jacob's Well* 231 When þe modyr wanyth here childe, sche wetyth here tetyth wyth sum byttere thyng. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 522/1 Wene chyldey fro sokyng, *ablacto*, *elacto*. c 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 16 Then aftyr, when scho was wened, þay broght hur to þe tempull. 1530 PALSGR. 770/2, I wayne a chylde from soukyng, *Je seure*. 1563-87 FOXE *A. & M.* (1596) 106/1 Before the child that is borne be waned. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* I. iii. 24 'Tis since the Earth-quake now eleuen yeares, And she was wean'd. 1634 T. JOHNSON *Parey's Chirurg.* xxiv. xxiv. (1678) 554 If the child be weak, sickly, or feeble, he ought not to be weaned. a 1641 BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 526 Untill shee be wayned, which must be at three yeers end, shee shall remaine with you in her fathers house. 1652 CULPEPPER *Eng. Phys.* 178 It is much used to dry up the Milk in Womens breasts when they have weyned their children. 1789 BUCHAN *Dom. Med.* (1790) 187 As soon as they perceive their strength and appetite begin to fail, they ought immediately to wean the child. 1888 MISS BRADDON *Fatal Three* I. iii, His wife would return to him as soon as Lady Castle-Connell's daughter was weaned.

absol. 1823 BYRON *Juan* XII. xxi, Unless a man can calculate his means Of feeding brats the moment his wife weans.

b. with obj. a young animal.

1481 CAXTON *Reynard* (Arb.) 34 Reynart... said thus.. Neuertheles yet was I vnto the tyme that I was wened for the tete, one [etc.]. 1485 in *Descr. Catal. Anc. Deeds* (1890) I. 359 William and Agnes to have the calves of them and thei to be weynyd at the age of x. wekes. 1523-34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 39 It is tyme to wayne theyr lambes, whanne they be .xvi. wekes old. *Ibid.* § 66 If thou wayne thy calves with hey it wyl make them haue great belyes. 1575 FLEMING *Virg. Bucol.* I. 2 Our Lambs new weined from y^e dam. 1588 SHAKS. *L.L.L.* v. ii. 250. 1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* I. v. 23 Adding to the end of these great houses a little one, to keepe calves in of both kinds, which you haue wained. 1759 R. BROWN *Compleat Farmer* 22 The best time for weaning calves is from January to May. 1846 BAXTER'S *Libr. Pract. Agric.* II. 193 The meal or flour mixed with milk... is excellent food for weaning calves. 1908 WEYMAN *Wild Geese* xviii. 282 The low of a cow whose calf was being weaned.

c. in figurative context.

1571 CAMPION *Hist. Irel.* II. x. (1633) 134 No doubt the name and reputation thereof would have bin a spur to these erections, as nurses for babes to suck in, till they might repaire thither [sc. to the University] to be wained. 1584 LYLY *Campaspe* III. iv. 121 Reason [must] weane what appetite nursed. 1592 tr. *Junius on Rev.* xii. 1 Vntil that time wherein this Church were as it were weyned & taken away from the breast or milk of her mother. 1866 KINGSLEY *Herew.* xiv, I put my love out to nurse, instead of weaning it.

d. trans.

1615 J. STEPHENS *Satyr. Ess.* iv. 53 As Wormewood, rubbed upon the nipple of a Nurses Teate, weanes the childe. 1618 W. LAWSON *New Orch. & Gard.* xii. (1623) 41 The Tree ouer-loden with fruit, and wanting sap to feed all she hath brought forth, will waine all she cannot feed, like a woman bringing forth moe children at once then she hath teats. *Ibid.* xv. 51.

2. *fig.* To detach or alienate (a person, his desires or affections) from some accustomed object of pursuit or enjoyment; to reconcile by degrees to the privation of something.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 81 b, By obedyence they were wayned from this worlde. 1581 PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* (1586) III. 157 If they thinke them fit to enter into religion, the mother, who ought to haue cheefe charge of them, must seeke to waine them from all worldlie vanities. 1596 DRAYTON *Legends, Cromwell* 187 When first the wealthy Netherlands me trayn'd, In wise Commerce... And from my Countrie carefully me wayn'd. 1607 WALKINGTON *Optic Glass* B 7 b, Hee must wisely defeate, and waine his appetite of all such dainty morsels. 1608 MERRY *Devil Edmonton* II. iii. 22 You are enioynd to waine your friendship from mee. 1616 B. JONSON *Every Man in H.* I. i, How happie, yet, should I esteeme my selfe, Could I (by any practise) weane the boy From one vaine course of studie, he affects. 1670 T. BROOKS *London's Lament.* 192 Luther was a man weaned from the world; and therefore when honours, preferments, and riches were offered to him, he despised them. 1741 BERKELEY *Lett.* Wks. 1871 IV. 266 A long continuance of ill health has weaned me from the world. 1751 SMOLLETT *Per. Pickle* lxxxvi, He endeavoured to wean his eyes from the fatal object. 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Sentiment*, I trust the plan I have devised will be effectual in weaning my daughter from this absurd idea. 1837 WHEWELL *Hist. Induct. Sci.* (1857) I. 226 Mankind cannot be weaned from the opinion. 1856 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* xxxiii. (1865) IV. 64 Already men's minds were becoming weaned from positive belief in the concrete divinities of Olympus. 1876 BRIDGES *Growth of Love* xxxv, Few there be are wean'd from earthly love. 1907 C. S. PARKER *Sir J. Graham* I. i. 4 He... strove with some success to wean his tenantry from thriftless habits.

absol. 1850 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. III. viii. 108 The consequences of sin are meant to wean from sin.

b. with *away*.

1891 F. H. WILLIAMS *Atman* v. 270, I deliberately planned to wean you away from Margaret. 1913 WOODROW WILSON *New Freedom* ix. 203 If they refuse to be weaned away from their independence they cannot continue to enjoy the benefits extended to them.

c. refl.

1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI.* IV. iv. 17 And I the rather waine me from dispaire For loue of Edwards Off-spring in my wombe. c 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* I. §1. xlii, Before I wean my self from Italy, a word or two touching the genius of the Nation. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 27 ¶ 2 Let us not stand upon a Formal taking of Leave, but wean our selves from them [sc. the allurements of the world], while we are in the midst of them. 1725 BOLINGBR. *Lett. to Swift* 24 July, If your heart tells you nothing, say nothing, that I may take the hint, and wean myself from you by degrees. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* III. §4. 131 A love of secular learning from which Edmund [Rich.] found it hard to wean himself.

d. intr. for refl.

c 1665 MRS. HUTCHINSON *Mem. Col. Hutchinson* (1885) I. 93 While she was weaning from the friends and places she had so long conversed in. 1827 HOOD *Hero & L.* vi, Leander, weaning from sweet Hero's side, Must leave a widow where he found a bride.

† 3. To dissuade (whether successfully or not).

1607 SCHOLAST. *Disc. agst. Antichrist* I. iii. 139 They wayned the people from this hypocrisie by these reproofes in vaine. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel. Democr.* to Rdr. 38 Tell an Epicure... of his irregular course, weine him from it a little.

4. To remove or abate gradually (a desire, affection). *rare.*

1706 E. WARD *Wooden World* Diss. (1708) 35 He weans by Degrees his Longings after the Flesh-pots of Sodom. 1842 SARAH, LADY LYTTELTON *Corr.* (1912) 327 The [baby] Princess has exactly... the same 'morbid' love of one nursery-maid, as Merial has for you. That is to be weaned, I think, by a little less fondling her yourself.

† 5. To train, accustom to (good habits). *Obs.*

[Not a survival of the OE. sense (see the etymology); the use seems to have been developed from the notion of 'weaning' from the contrary evil.]

1579 LODGE *Def. Plays* 8 Weane thy selfe to wisdomed, and vse thy tallant in zeale not for enuie. 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 149 When the Father weaneth [later edd. *warneth*] them to continencie, the flatterer allureth them to lust. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxxi, The Lewes by reason of their long

abode in a place of continuall seruite toyle could not suddainly be wained and drawne vnto contrarie offices without some strong impression of terror.

weanable ('wi:nəb(ə)l), *a.* [f. WEAN *v.* + -ABLE.] Capable of being weaned.

1570 LEVINS *Mamp.* 2/28 Weanable, *ablactabilis*. **1811** *Ann. Reg.*, *Chron.* 94 The lambs are weanable when they can thrive on the same food that the dam subsists on.

† **wean-calf.** *Obs.* [f. WEAN *v.*] A calf newly weaned.

1618 *Depos. Bk. Archd. Essex & Colchester* 66b, There was . . a custome within the parish of Elmsted . . for therbage of weane calves . . that the partie who weaned the said calves should paie no tithe therof.

weane, variant of WANE *sb.*³

weaned ('wi:nd), *ppl. a.* [f. WEAN *v.* + -ED¹.] In senses of the verb, *lit.* and *fig.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 522/1 Wenyd, as chylder fro sokyng, *ablactatus*. **1535** COVERDALE *Ps.* cxxx. 2 My soule is euen as a weened childe. **1620** BRINSLEY *Virg. Ecl.* iii. (1633) 35 The wained kids. **1670** T. BROOKS *London's Lament*. 215 With what a weaned heart and cold affections do men look upon all the pomp, state, bravery and glory of the world, when [etc.]. **1836** C. BRADLEY *Pract. Sermon*. 360 A weaned heart is absolutely needful for you. **1837** YOUATT *Sheep* xv. 517 Many farmers are very fanciful as to the provision for the weaned lambs.

Hence 'weanedness, spiritual detachment.

a 1617 BAYNE *Eph.* (1643) 278 Adorning this their age in Christ, with graces correspondent, viz. experience, wisdom, weanedness, all kinde of mortification. **1689** MANTON *Serm.* iii. 1. *Life of Faith* 28 The Spiritual life . . begets a boly weanedness in us. **1702** C. MATHER *Magn. Christi* 1. iii. 13/2 An Example of . . Weanedness from the things of this World. **1858** J. S. C. ABBOTT *Heroines Fr. Revol.* 215 Her weanedness from the world. **1885** SPURGEON *Treas. Dav.* Pe. cxxxi. 2 Such weanedness from self springs from the gentle humility declared in the former verse.

weanel ('wi:nəl), **wennel** ('wɛn(ə)l). Now *dial.* Forms: 5 weynelle, 6 weanell, weannell, wennell, 6, 8-9 wennel, 7- weanel. [f. WEAN *v.* + -EL².] An animal newly weaned, a weanling.

1488-9 in *Rep. MSS. Ld. Middleton* (Hist. MSS. Comm. 1911) 472, xv. weynelles, le pece ij s. viij d. **1557** TUSSEY *100 Points Husb.* lxxvii, Pinch weannells at no time of water nor meate. **1573-80** — *Husb.* (1878) 61 Young colts with y weannells together go serue. **1579** SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Sept. 198 A Lambe, or a Kidde, or a weanell wast. **1669** WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.*, Dict. Rust., *Weanel*, a young Beast newly weaned. **1787** GROSE *Prov. Gloss.*, Wennel. **1879** *Hertford Mercury* Dec., Advt., 26 Home-bred Steers and Sturks, . . 4 Weanels, 2 Down Calving Cows.

appositive. **1588** *Theocritus' Idyllia* viii. A ijb, Ile pawne a calfe, a wennell lambe laie thou to it.

weaner ('wi:nə(r)). [f. WEAN *v.* + -ER¹.]

† 1. One who takes care of a young person. *Obs.*

1579 LYLIE *Euphues* (Arb.) 131 Plato . . admonished all nurses and weaners of youth, that they should [etc.].

2. A calf or lamb weaned during the current year; also, a pig or any other animal weaned during the current year. Also *attrib.* Cf. WEANYER. orig. *Austral.* and *N.Z.*

1865 R. HENNING *Let.* 19 Aug. (1966) 208 He takes the heaviest flock of all, 2,200 weaners. **1881** MRS. C. PRAED *Policy & P. I.* 137 These are the weaners to be looked after. **1890** 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* xi, Wether, hogget, ewe, weaner. *Ibid.*, You won't have that weaner flock drafted before breakfast. **1928** *Daily Express* 3 Feb. 5/2 Instruction is given in . . the rearing of calves for stock, for market as 'weaners', and for sale as veal. **1950** *N.Z. J. agric.* Jan. 63/1 Pigs sold as weaners through saleyards. **1958** *Times* 29 Sept. 2/7 Though weaner prices fell . . during 1957/58, high prices for fat pigs are still reflected in the store market. **1969** T. WEST in R. Blythe *Akenfield* xi. 179, I want to produce weaner-pigs. . . Are you interested? **1981-2** *Deer Farmer* (N.Z.) Summer 10/3 The trial of disbudding of 80 to 100 weaner bucks will start in March next year. *Ibid.* 16/2 A herd of 300 New Zealand wapiti and wapiti-red hybrid females, is run at Criffel, along with 200 bulls, and 30 male and 30 female New Zealand wapiti weaners. **1984** *N.Z. Farmer* 12 Apr. 12/1 The cattle policy is to winter all weaners.

weangeance, *obs.* Sc. form of VENGEANCE.

weanie, weany ('wi:nɪ), *dial.* [dim. of WEAN *sb.*: see -IE, -Y⁶.] A very young child.

1785 BURNS *Scotch Drink* xii, When skirlin weanies see the light, Thou maks the gossips clatter bright. **1864** BLACKMORE *Clara Vaughan* xxiv, The two weanies (big baby and little baby) only attending for the sake of example. **1894** A. REID *Songs Heatherland* 103 Davie . . Mindit neebors' crawlin' weanies.

weaning ('wi:nɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [-ING¹.] The action of the vb. WEAN; an instance of this.

1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* xxi. 8 Abraham made a greet feest in the day of the wanyng of hym. **c 1460** *Oseney Reg.* 91 Mylke of pere kyne fro p^r tyme of p^r weynyng of pe calves. **1610** FLETCHER *Faithf. Sheph.* 1, Whose Lambs are ever last And dye before their waining. **1697** DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* iii. 295 This from his Weaning, let him [the horse] well be taught. **1784** COWPER *Tiroc.* 557 This second weaning, needless as it is, How does it lac'rate both your heart and his! **1848** DICKENS *Dombey* viii, A waiter's wife, . . from within a day or two of Paul's sharp weaning, had been engaged as his nurse. **1895** MEREDITH *Amazing Marr.* xxix, The time for the weaning of the babe approached.

b. Comb. as *weaning-feast, -time*; with sense 'in process of weaning', as *weaning calf, child, colt, lamb; weaning-brash* (see quot.).

1844 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.* (ed. 4), Brash, *Weaning, . . A severe form of diarrhoea, which supervenes at times on weaning. **1598** in *Lancs. & Chesh. Wills* (Chetham Soc. 1897) III. 8 To the children of John Holcrofte my best *weaning calf. **1778** *Reading Merc. & Oxf. Gaz.* 30 Nov., A weaning Bull Calf. **1844** MARRYAT *Settlers in Canada* xxviii, He also took six weaning calves to bring up. **1820** CLARE *Rural Life* (ed. 3) 110 Like *weaning child that's lost its rattle. **1913** E. NESBIT in *New Witness* 23 Jan. 369 The limbs of our weaning children You crushed in your mills of power. **1523-34** FITZHERB. *Husb.* §135 If there be moche grassee . . than put in calves newly wained . . and also *waynyng coltes. **1896** JESSOPP & JAMES *Life St. William of Norwich* p. lxxv, The miracle which happened on his *weaning-feast. **1697** DRYDEN *Virg. Past.* vii. 21 To house, and feed by hand my *weaning Lambs. **1577** B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* iii. 139b, The Lambes . . must be well cherished in their *weaning time with good pasture.

weanling ('wi:nliŋ), *sb.* and *a.* Also 6 wayne-, weyn-, wenling, 6-7 wain(e)ling. [f. WEAN *v.* + -LING¹.] *A. sb.* A young child or animal newly weaned.

1532-3 *Act 24 Hen. VIII* c. 9 §1 Diuers persons . . haue vsed . . to kille yonge beastes, called waynelinges, steres, bullockes, and hesters, of one or two yeres old. **1536** *Primer, Compline* (Ps. cxxxi. 2) K vij, I am a weanlyng in very dede. **1550** *S'hampton Crt. Leet Rec.* (1905) § Yf any of them have two kyne or wenlings. **1589** A. F. *Virg. Bucol.* 1. 2 The tender weanlings of our sheepe. **1614** ROWLANDS *Fooles Bolt* D 2b, Mens Children went not then to write and read As euery weanling now a dayes must do. **1655** MOUFET & BENNET *Health's Improv.* viii. 58 Calves are either Sucklings or Wainlings. **1710** HILMAN *Tusser Rediv.* Dec. (1744) 145 By this Stanza it seems as though be recommended the Housing of Weanlings. **1883** O. W. HOLMES in *Atlantic Monthly* Sept. 322 Is it a weanling's weakness for the past That . . Still keeps our gray old chapel's name of 'King's'? **1916** K. J. SAUNDERS *Adv. Chr. Soul* 24 Akbar . . shut up a score of weanlings away from all contact with adults.

fig. **1594** O. B. *Quest. Profit. Concern.* L 4b, The other starre here meant, is called Luciferum, Venus her owne starre, to whom bawdes are wont to complaine, when they were deceiued or robbed of any of their sequestred weanlings.

B. adj. Recently weaned.

1637 MILTON *Lycidas* 46 As killing as the Canker to the Rose, Or Taint-worm to the weanling Herds that graze. **a 1722** LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 214, I doubted some weanling-calves I had wanted water. **1726** POPE *Odyss.* xix. 469 Hermes, . . Whose shrine with weanling lambs he wont to load. **1869** BLACKMORE *Lorna D.* lxxv, Into the old farmhouse I tottered, like a weanling child.

fig. **1859** MEREDITH *R. Feverel* xxxix, That part of his pastoral duty he wisely leaves to weanling laymen. **1871** SWINBURNE *Songs bef. Sunrise, Eve Revol.* 57 Breasts that bare Our fathers' generations, whereat lay The weanling peoples and the tribes that were.

weanscot, -scott, *obs.* forms of WAINSCOT.

weany, variant of WEANIE, WEENY.

weanyer ('wi:njə(r)), *dial.* Also 6 wanyer, wayner, wenyer. [f. WEAN *v.* + -YER, -IER I.] A weanling. Cf. WEANER 2. Also *attrib.*

1524 *Inv. in Surrey Archæol. Collect.* (1880) VII. 235 Itm vii Wanyers price xxxiii^s. **1544** R. BROKER *Will* (Brit. Mus. Addit. MS. 24,925 ff. 21 b), A heffer and ij wenyers of this yere. **1884** *W. Sussex Gaz.* 25 Sept., Advt., Two weanyers. **1902** *Oxf. Times* 28 June 2/3 Advt., A Weanyer Calf.

weap(e), *obs.* ff. WEEP *v.*

weapon ('wep(ə)n), *sb.* Forms: *a.* 1 wæpen, wēp(e)n, wēpen, wæmn, 1-2 wæpn, 2-3 *Orm.* wæpenn, 3-7 wepen, 4 wepene, -in, 4-5 wepne, 4-6 weppen, 5-6 wepun, wep(p)yn, 5-7 wepon, 5 weppon, weppun, (vepen), 6 weapen, 6- weapon; *β.* 3 *E. Anglian* wopen; *north.* and *Sc.* 3-7 wapen, 4 wappen, vap(p)yn, 4-7 wapin, 5-6 wappin, wap(p)yn, 5 vappin, 5, 7 wappon, 6 wapon, vapon, vapin, vaupyn, waippin, waipone, wapoune, 7 wapone. [Com. Teut.: OE. *wæpen* neut. = OFris. *wēpin*, OS. *wāpan* (MLG. *wāpen*, whence MHG. *wāpen*, *wāppen*, mod.G. *wappen* only in the sense of armorial bearings), OHG. *wāfan* (MHG. *wāfen* neut., mod.G. *waffe* fem.), ON. *vāpn* neut. (Sw. *vapen*, Da. *vaaben*), Goth. **wēpn* (pl. *wēpna*):—OTeut. **wæpno-m*:—pre-Teut. **wēbno-m*. A parallel type **wæbno-m* (:—pre-Teut. **wēpnó-m*) is supposed by some scholars to be implied by certain rare forms in various Teut. langs.: OHG. or OS. (*Hildebrandslied*) *wābnum* dat. pl., OE. *wæmn*, ON. *vámn*. Outside Teut. no probable cognates have been found.

The northern ME. *wāpen* (later *wappen*) and the rare (E. Anglian) *wopen* represent the ON. *vāpn*: cf. WAPENTAKE, WAPPENSHAW. The shortening of the long stressed vowel in the first syllable is normal; Ormin has still the OE. quantity.

The pl. in OE. was normally identical in form with the sing., but in the 10th and 11th c. forms with final -u occur. In Layamon *c 1205* the plural is usually *wepnen*, though there are also examples of *wepne* and *wapen*. From the beginning of the 14th c. the plural has in ordinary use been formed with the suffix -(e)s; with regard to the occasional uninflected plural see 1b below.]

1. *a.* An instrument of any kind used in warfare or in combat to attack and overcome an enemy.

a. **Beowulf** 1509 Swa he ne mihte no . . wæpna gewældan. *Ibid.* 1573 He . . wæpen hafenaðe heard be hiltum. **c 930** O.E. *Chron.* an. 917, & a-hreddon eall þæt hie ge-numen hæfdon, & eac hira horsa & hira wæpna micelne dæl. **c 1205** LAY. 6424 Morpidus . . seouen hundred of-sloh and swemde mið wepnen. **a 1225** *Ancr. R.* 240 þe þet his wepnen worpeð awei, him luste beon iwundod. **c 1330** R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 15518 When þey were waxen on elde, Armes to bere, & wepne to welde. **1377** LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. iii. 304 Alle þat bereth baslarde, brode swerde or launce, Axe other hachet or eny wepne ellis. **c 1386** CHAUCER *Monk's T.* 34 With-outen wepene saue his handes tweyne He slow and al torente the leon. **1415** HOCCELEVE *To Sir J. Oldcastle* 471 A clod Of eerthe, at your heedes to slyngre or caste, Were wepne ynow. **c 1511** *1st Eng. Bk. Amer.* (Arb.) Intro. 28/1 There wepyns is lange pykes and stones ther they caste myghtly with. **1559** *Mirr. Mag., Dk. Suffolk* xxi, And sum with weapons would have layed on lode. **1610** SHAKS. *Temp.* ii. i. 322 'Tis best we stand vpon our guard . . let's draw our weapons. **1614** RALEGH *Hist. World* v. iii. §21. 579 The Battels of foote . . drew neere together . . till they were almost within a weapons cast. **1636** MASSINGER *Bashf. Lover* i. ii, In a cause like this, The Husbandman would change his ploughing-irons To weapons of defence. **1697** DRYDEN *Aeneis* v. 668 Fix'd in the Mast the feather'd Weapon stands. **1750** GRAY *Long Story* 39 They hid their armour And veil'd their weapons bright and keen. **1821** BYRON *Sardanap.* ii. i, My sword! O fool, I wear no sword: here, fellow, Give me thy weapon. **1859** DICKENS *T. Two Cities* i. v, Nothing was represented in a flourishing condition, save tools and weapons. **1870** EMERSON *Soc. & Solit., Eloquence* (end), The Arabian warrior of fame, who wore seventeen weapons in his belt. **1880** *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 278 The term 'small arms' includes sporting and military weapons carried by the shooter. **1902** A. S. HURD *How Navy is run* 81 There is a roar and a crash as the great 25-ton weapon speaks.

β. **c 1250** *Gen. & Ex.* 469 Wopen of wyte and tol of grið. **a 1300** *Cursor M.* 15722 Sper and suerd and mace þai bring, And wapens oper maa. **1375** BARBOUR *Bruce* ix. 711 Thair fayis thaim met with vapnys bar. **c 1470** HENRY Wallace i. 193 Wapynyns he bur, outhir gud suerd or knyff. **c 1470** *Gol. & Gaw.* 461 With alkin wappyns . . that wes for were wrought. **1549** *Compl. Scot.* xi. 96 Al the vaupynis and armour of scotland to be deluyerit to the inglismen. **a 1578** LINDSAY (Pittscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) i. 194 All the arteilzerrie . . with all maner of vaponis. **1650** J. NICOLL *Diary* (Bann. Club) 28 Our Scottis army being all drowsie . . and many of thame thair horsess and wapines to seik.

† *Proverb.* **a 1575** PILKINGTON *Expos. Neh.* iv. (1585) 64 b, A weapon boods peace, as the common saying is.

transf. (humorously) **1712-14** POPE *Rape Lock* iii. 128 Just then, Clarissa drew with tempting grace A two-edg'd weapon from her shining case. **1853** DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xix, For Chaddband . . can wield such weapons of the flesh as a knife and fork, remarkably well. **1873** TRISTRAM *Moab* v. 95 Those, to him, novel weapons, a knife and fork.

† *b.* Down to the end of the 16th c., the plural, when used in the collective sense = 'arms', was often identical in form with the sing. *Obs.*

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* xlv. 10 Bogan forpreste[ð] & gebriceð wepen [Vulg. arma]. **c 1200** ORMIN 8187 & hise cnihtess alle mæn Forþ sedenn wipp þe bære, Wipp heore wæppenn alle bun, Swa summ pe33 sholldenn fihhtenn. **c 1205** LAY. 499 Al þæt wapmon-cun þa mihte beren wapen. **c 1250** *Gen. & Ex.* 3283 Wepen, and srud, siluer, and gold. **a 1300** *Cursor M.* 7572 þæt all mai wit þæt godd o might Sauues noht man in wapen bright. **c 1425** *Eng. Cong. Irel.* xxi. 54 Out of wepne [v.r. wepyn], he was as redy to otherees byddyng as other to hys. **c 1450** in *Kingsford Chron. Lond.* (1905) 137 And then the erl of Arondell sett gouernance in that contre and tokyn all wepyn from hem. **c 1520** BARCLAY *Salust's Jugurth* xl. 56 b, Their enemies . . lette them to go to the castell of the towne where their armour and wepyn was. **1550** HARRINGTON tr. *Cicero's Bk. Friendship* (1562) 26 As if Coriolanus hadde anye freendes, whether they oughte to haue borne weapon with hym agaynst thei country. **1561** T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtier* i. (1900) 89 He was forced to arise from bankettes and runne to weapon. **1585-6** EARL LEYCESTER *Corr.* (Camden) 426 They doe make reckoning of all ther vyttell, of ther armour, and wepon. **1596** DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 363 Thair myndes war sa in ydleset, and elose fra weir and wapoune.

c. fig.

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* iii. §1 Ie [Wisdom] wat þæt þu hæfst þara wæpna to hraðe forþen þe ic þe ær sealde. **a 1000** *Guthlac* 148 (Gr.) ðyrede hine georne mid gæstlium wæpnum. **c 1175** *Lamb. Hom.* 69 [God] 3eue us wepne for to boren Mid gode werkes for us to weren. **a 1200** *Moral Ode* 336 in O.E. *Hom.* I, Mid fasten and almesse . . Mid þo wepnen þe god haueð 3iuen alle mancunne. **c 1200** ORMIN 12485 þe deoffel comm to wundenn Crist þurh glutternessess wæppenn. **a 1225** *Ancr. R.* 366 þe wepnen þet slown him, þet weren ure sunnen. **1398** TREvisa *Barth. De P.R.* ii. v. (1495) 32 Angels ben callid Smythes for they araye for vs ghostly wepyn. **1561** T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* iii. (1634) 405 That they . . should dedicate themselves to God . . and their members, weapons of righteousness to God. **1593** SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI.* i. iii. 61 His Champions, are the Propbets and Apostles, His Weapons, holy Sawes of sacred Writ. **1605** — *Leaz* ii. iv. 280 And let not womens weapons, water drops, Staine my mans cbeekes. **1718** POPE *Iliad* xx. 297 So voluble a weapon is the tongue. **1832** HT. MARTINEAU *Manch. Strike* iv. 53 The first man who deserts the work . . puts the weapon of the law into the hands of our opponents. **1849** MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 151 A consummate master of all the weapons of controversy. **1864** BRYCE *Holy Rom. Emp.* xv. (1875) 253 The charge of heresy was one of the weapons used with most effect against Frederiek II. **1871** FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* IV. xviii. 188 William was not slow to follow with other weapons. His course was . . to seize the towns.

d. transf. Any part of the body (esp. of a bird or beast) which is or may be used as a means of attack or defence, as a claw, horn, tusk, or the like; in pl., the spurs of a game cock or hen. (Cf. ARM *sb.*² 11, ARMATURE 5.)

1635 MARKHAM *Pleas. Princes* 43 Your [Game] Henne . . must be . . well tufted on the crowne, which shewes courage: if shee have weapons she is better. **1749** FIELDING *Tom Jones*:

11. iv. Those weapons which she wore at the ends of her fingers. **1823** 'JON BEE' *Dict. Turf, Weapons*, in cocking, the spurs appearing on hens or young cocks. **1914** A. S. WOODWARD *Guide Fossil Rem. Man, Brit. Mus. Nat. Hist.* (1915) 5 Typical modern monkeys, with the canine teeth enlarged into weapons.

†e. A soldier of a class distinguished by the weapon he uses. *Obs. rare*—1.

1590 SIR J. SMYTH *Disc. Weapons* 12 Whilst the Piquers and other weapons doo reduce themselves into forme vnder their Ensignes.

f. Used for: One skilled in the use of a weapon. *rare*—1. (? quasi-arch.)

1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* II. viii, Blandford knows which of us two is the best weapon. At small-sword, or back-sword, ... I can beat him.

2. Phrases.

†a. *to take weapon in hand*: to take up arms.

1538 STARKEY *England* 79 In tyme of warr, hys necessary for our plowmen and laburarys of the cuntry to take wepyn in hand. **1630** R. JOHNSON'S *Kingd. & Commw.* 573 Amarth never tooke weapon in hand against this people, before he understood... that all Persia was in upore.

b. *at all, any weapons*: with weapons of any kind. †*at the weapons of* —: with the weapons used by —. †*to play one's prize(s) at all, at several, in all weapons*: fig. to use every or several means to win one's contest (cf. PRIZE sb.² b).

1620, a 1670 [see PRIZE sb.² b]. a **1656** BP. HALL *Soliloquies* lxxv. Wks. 1662 III. 461 If the question be concerning some scrupulous act to be done or omitted, now self-respect plays its prizes at all weapons. **1760–72** H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 97 At any weapons, against any odds I will prove him a traitor. **1781** C. JOHNSON *Hist. J. Juniper* II. 139 [He] said he was not a porter to fight with his fists; but would give him... satisfaction... at the weapons of a gentleman. **1831** JAMES PHIL. *Augustus* vi, He was... expert at all weapons.

c. (To challenge, fight, beat, etc. an adversary) *at (with) his own weapon or weapons*, i.e. with such as he is expert in. Chiefly fig.

1610 MARCELLINI *Triumphs Jas.* I 83 To deale and cope with the envious and perfidious malignity of these calumniators, even at their owne weapons. **1618** BOLTON *Florus* III. i. (1636) 163 Metellus, ... fayning flight when he meant nothing lesse, matcht him at his own weapons. **1622** MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 145 Tbat he should put a full stoccardo vpon me, and go brag when he had done, that he had beaten a master of defence at his owne weapon. **1678** CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* 12 We insist so much upon this philosophy here, ... because, without the perfect knowledge of it, we cannot deal with the atheists at their own weapon. **1760** FOOTE *Minor* 1. (1767) 11 You cockneys now beat us suburbanians at our own weapons. **1781** C. JOHNSON *Hist. J. Juniper* I. 51 This was truly foiling the Devil, at his own weapons. **1781** JOHNSON *Lives of Poets: Congreve* 17 He is very angry, and, hoping to conquer Collier with his own weapons, allows himself in the use of every term of contumely and contempt. **1810** COLERIDGE *Lit. Rem.* (1838) III. 239 Their undue predilection for Patristic learning and authority... originated in the wish to baffle the Papists at their own weapons. **1850** C. KINGSLEY *Alton Locke* II. xvi. 259 Try no more to meet Hammon with his own weapons, but commit your cause to Him who judges righteously. **1897** B. STOKER *Dracula* xxii. 306 He has chosen this earth because it has been holy. Thus we defeat him with his own weapon, for we make it more holy still.

3. The penis. *coarse slang.*

a **1000** *Ags. Gloss.* in Wt.-Wülcker 265/33 *Calamus*, teors, þæt wæpen, uel lim. **1377** LANGL. P. Pl. B. ix. 180 Whiles þow art 3onge and þi wepne kene, Wreke þe with wyuynge. **1762** T. BRIDGES *Homer Travestie* iv. 189 She guides his weapon where she lists: Nay more, a touch of her soft hand, If fallen down, will make him stand. **1922** JOYCE *Ulysses* 529 Well for you, you muff, if you had that weapon with knobs and lumps and warts all over it. **1972** H. & R. GREENWALD *Sex-Life Lett.* (1974) 279 This sexual thrill still comes over me whenever I see a horse flashing his weapon, and although I feel guilty and try to look away, I usually look as long as decently possible.

4. attrib. and Comb.: simple attrib., as *weapon-clang*, *-crash*, *-hoard*, *-pit*, *-point*, *-power*, *-stroke*; *weapon-like*, *-proof* adjs.; objective, as *weapon-delivery* (also attrib.), *-maker*, *-whetter*, *weapon-making* vbl. sb.; also †*weapon-bearer* = ARMOUR-BEARER; †*weapon-love*, love as a WEAPON-SALVE; †*weapon-man*, one skilled in the use of weapons; *weapon(s)-carrier*, a vehicle or aircraft specially designed for carrying weapons; *weapons-grade* a., applied to fissile material of suitable quality for making nuclear weapons; *weapon-smith* *Hist.*, a forger or maker of weapons; *weapon(s) system* orig. U.S., a military weapon together with all the equipment required to make use of it, such as detection and control apparatus, a launcher, and a delivery vehicle; *weapon-tool*, a tool which could also be used as a weapon; *weapon-training* vbl. sb., training in the use of weapons. Also WEAPON-SALVE.

1535 COVERDALE *I Sam.* xiv. 1 Ionathas sayde vnto his lad which was his *wapen-bearer: Come, let vs go ouer to the Philistynes watch. ? **1547** — *Confut. Standish* To Rdr., So am I ready to do the same agaynst... greate Goliath of Rome and his weapon-bearer. **1938** *19th Cent.* Feb. 195 The possibilities of the new *weapon-carrier in the air. **1947** *Horizon* Sept. 207 A weapons-carrier flew by loaded with G.I.s. **1810** SCOTT *Lady of Lake* III. xviii, Then *weapon-clang, and martial call, Resounded through the funeral hall. **1813** — *Rokeby* v. xxxi, And *weapon-crash and maddening cry, Of those who kill, and those who die! **1963**

Daily Tel. 10 Oct. 15/8 TSR 2, the RAF's tactical and strategic bomber, ... has the most secret and sophisticated all-weather *weapons delivery system in the world. **1977** R.A.F. *News* 22 June–5 July 2/5 Live ammunition, bombs and missiles were, in general, carried only by aircraft flying sorties which would culminate in weapon delivery at one of the recognised ranges. **1961** *Ann. Reg.* 1960 152 Both countries... should each set aside 30,000 kilograms of *weapons-grade uranium 235, as a first step in their transfer to peaceful uses. **1977** N. FREELING *Gadget* 1. 11 It won't make a bomb... It's nowhere near weapons grade. **1955** J. R. R. TOLKIEN *Return of King* 50 There are no great *weapon-hoards here, lord. **1922** D. H. LAWRENCE *England, my England* (1924) 36 Not what we would call love, but a *weapon-like kinship. a **1711** KEN *Hymns Evang.* Poet. Wks. 1721 I. 168 Thou when the Sword went through her tender Heart, With *Weapon-love didst then anoint the Blade. **1915** MARY JOHNSTON *Fortunes of Garin* xv. 239 Armourers and *weapon-makers. **1936** AUDEN *Look, Stranger!* 67 Built by the conscience-stricken, the *weapon-making, By us. **1635** J. HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Banish'd Virg.* II. 90 Practising my selfe in... imitating whatsoever I had seene done by any judicious *weapon-man. a **1944** K. DOUGLAS *Alamein to Zem Zem* (1946) 29 Looking down... at a *weapon-pit beside us, I saw a Libyan soldier reclining there. **1958** M. K. JOSEPH *I'll soldier no More* ix. 161 The neat row of weapon-pits so convenient for sleeping. **1814** SCOTT *Lord of Isles* vi. xxi, Each *weapon-point is downward sent, Each warrior to the ground is bent. **1937** L. HART *Europe in Arms* xvii. 238 At night... an increase of man-power in proportion to *weapon-power is desirable. **1870** BRYANT *Iliad* xxi. 699, I cannot think That he is *weapon-proof. **1849** KEMBLE *Saxons in Eng.* II. vii. II. 306 The heroic *weapon-smith on the one hand, and on the other the poor professors of such rude arts as the homestead cannot do without. **1908** *Expositor* Sept. 265 The settled weapon-smiths of ancient Egypt... were quite a different class from the nomad clans of tinsmiths and coppersmiths. **1870** BRYANT *Iliad* xi. 471 Lightly falls the *weapon-stroke Of an unwarlike weakling. **1956** W. A. HEFLIN U.S. *Air Force Dict.* 564/2 *Weapon system. Also weapons system. **1958** *Engineering* 11 Apr. 450/1 The 'weapon system concept'—that is, a unified integration of airframe, weapon-firing control, and enemy identification. **1977** M. EDELMAN *Polit. Lang.* viii. 147 Americans and Russians are constantly told that the other is ahead in this or that weapons system. **1980** R. L. DUNCAN *Brimstone* x. 244 There were always 10,000 diverse elements which were required to come together at precisely the right instant, the total testing of a weapons system and a defense against that system. **1861** W. R. WILDE *Catal. Antiq. Anim. Materials R. Ir. Acad.* 360 Weapons and *Weapon Tools. **1945** E. WAUGH *Brideshead Revisited* 9 Had I put in the names of two corporals for the *weapon-training course? **1979** R. PERRY *Bishop's Pawn* vi. 106 Their weapon training had been sadly neglected... In killing Moss, they'd used sufficient ammunition to decimate a small army. **1585** HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 519/2 *Samarii*, ... *weapon whetters.

weapon ('wep(ə)n), *v.* Now *rare* exc. in pa. pple.: see WEAPONED. Forms: a. 1 wæpnian, wæmnnian, 3 wepne-n, wepnie-n, wepni, 5 weppen, wepen, 6 wepon, 6- weapon; β. E. *Anglian* 3 wop(e)nen; north. 4 wapne. [OE. wæpnian, f. wæpen WEAPON sb.; cf. OHG. wāffanan, -ōn (MHG. wafenen, wæfenen, mod.G. waffnen), also MHG. wapnenen (mod.G. wappnen, to clothe in armour), ON. vāpna.] *trans.* To furnish with weapons or a weapon; to arm.

c **1000** ÆLFRIC *Gram.* xix. (Z.) 122 *Armor* ic eom gewæpnod, armo te ic wæpnize ðe. c **1205** LAY. 8644 He seide forð rihtes: wepneð eow cnihtes. *Ibid.* 8655 He wepneð his cnihtes and zærowede heom to fehten. c **1425** *Eng. Cong. Ireland* v. 16 Ne shamefully ne didde hym to flight, but euer mor he was I-lich redy to weppen and to defend hym-self. **1535** COVERDALE *I Macc.* xiv. 32 Then Symon withstode them, and... weaponed the valeant men of his people. **1591** SIR J. SMITH *Instruct.* (1595) 217 All sortes of souldiours may presentlie... arme and weapon themselves in warrelike manner.

b. fig.

c **1000** ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 72 He mid rodetacne his muð and ealne his lichaman gewæpnod. a **1225** *Juliana* 43 Hwer se we eauer iseoð mon oðer wummon eani god biginnen; we wepnið us æzein ham. **1593** NASHE *Christ's T.* D. 3, A great many more allegations hath hee to thys end, which heere to recite were to weapon presumption.

Hence 'weaponing' vbl. sb.

1590 SIR J. SMYTH *Disc. Weapons* 3 b, And as they doo mistake the conuenient arming of horsemen and footmen, so they also mistake the weaponing of them.

weaponed ('wepənd), *pa. pple. and ppl. a.* [f. WEAPON *v.* and sb. + -ED^{1,2}.

OE. had wæpned male (cf. WEAPON sb. 3).]

Furnished with weapons or a weapon; armed.

(a) c **1000** ÆLFRIC N.T. (Gr.) 18/19 He com þa gewæmmod. a **1122** O.E. *Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 992, Hi... þæt scip genamon eall gewæpnod & gewæded. c **1250** *Gen. & Ex.* 3373 Wopened he ben a-gen israel. **1352** MINOT *Poems* iv. 39 He broght folk... þæt ful wele wapnid were. **1387** TREVISIA *Higden* VII. 359, I and þow be here allone, iliche wel i-horsed and i-wepened. c **1450** in *Kingsford Chron. Lond.* (1905) 136 And all this tyme chorlys of Normandy weren weponed, and born harnes. **1600** *Looke about You* C4, You see I am weaponed... Ile stab them come there twenty. a **1652** BROME *Queenes Exch.* II. iii, They are three sturdy knaves and strongly weapon'd. **1813** SCOTT *Rokeby* v. xxxii, For they were weaponed, and prepared Their mistress on her way to guard. a **1861** T. WINTHROP *Life in Open Air* i. (1863) 8, I was weaponed with a staff, shoulder brute or biped uncourteous dispute our way. **1907** MCCARTHY *Needles & Pins* xx, You shall be well clad, well weaponed, well horsed.

(b) c **1200** ORMIN 10225 þe cnihtess wærenn wæpnedd folg. c **1250** *Gen. & Ex.* 2479 Wel wopnede men. c **1425** *Eng. Cong. Ireland* 10 Robert... sette the bowmen for to wer the fight of the kernels, and turned the wepned men to fill þe diches. **1535** COVERDALE *Prov.* vi. 11 Necessite [shall come

to us] like a wapened man. **1603** T. WALE in *Lismore Papers* Ser. II. (1887) I. 65 There should be two hundred weaponed men put into armes by the cyttie. **1680** C. NESSE *Church Hist.* 372 In the sight and despite of sixty weaponed witnesses. **1798** W. TAYLOR in *Robberds Mem.* (1843) I. 219 The weapon'd slaves of tyranny. **1808** MEREDITH *Odes Fr. Hist.* 76 Her weaponed children's moan Of stifled rage invoking vengeance.

b. quasi-Her.

1685 H. MORE *Illustr. Daniel* etc. 344 He alone is said to ride weaponed, viz. with a Sword coming out of his mouth. **1762** tr. *Busching's Syst. Geog.* V. 413 A griffin gules, crowned Or and weaponed, in a field azure.

c. fig.

c **1200** ORMIN 677 Whas itt iss þatt wæpnedd iss Wipp fulle throwpe o Criste. **1548** UDALL etc. *Erasm. Par. Luke* xxi. 5–11 Great pestilences... shal... consume a mightie great nombre of people in sort as though the aire were armed & weaponed to doe vengeance vpon the euil sort. **1563** SHUTE *Archit.* 3 b, Yf a man myght be parfaict in al these sciences as were Aristarchus... Architas, [etc.]... (for all these were strongly weaponed with all these sciences before rehersed). **1616** J. HAYWARD *Sanct. Troub. Soul* i. iii. (1620) 10, I was come to a greater staidnesse... I was warned, I was weaponed; I was instructed, I was encouraged. **1839** J. STERLING *Poems* 156 The scathed and haggard face of will, And look so strong with weaponed thought. **1844** EMERSON *Ess.* xx. Wks. (Bohn) I. 249 We are amphibious creatures, weaponed for two elements, having two sets of faculties, the particular and the catholic. **1860** — *Cond. Life* vi. ibid. II. 408 In all the encounters that have yet chanced, I have not been weaponed for that particular occasion, and have been historically beaten. **1916** *Edin. Rev.* July 15 'Responsible Government'... may also be found incompatible with that kind of weaponed and sentinelled peace that will follow the conflict.

d. transf. (Cf. WEAPON sb. 1 d, 3.)

1577 B. GOOGE *Heresback's Husb.* III. 126 It [the ass] is a woonderful Coltishe beast, & vnreasonably weaponed [L. animal mire salax, & pro corporis portione membrosius]. **1643** *Milton Divorce* 2 Yet they shall, so they be but found suitably weapon'd to the lest possibilitie of sensuall enjoyment, be made, spight of antipathy, to fadge together. **1810** SOUTHEY *Kehama* xvi. xiii, His mouth, from ear to ear, Weapon'd with triple teeth, extended wide.

weaponeer (wepə'nɜ:(r)). *U.S.* [f. WEAPON sb. + -EER.] a. One who has charge of a weapon of war prior to its deployment.

Orig. used *spec.* of nuclear weapons.

1945 in *Amer. Speech* (1947) XXII. 149/2 Here are the names of the Superfortress crew which carried the atomic bomb to Japan... Naval observer and 'weaponeer', Capt. William S. Parsons. **1952** *Word Study* Feb. 4/1 United States atomic weaponers probably will set off the world's greatest explosion within the next few days.

b. An expert or specialist in the development of weapons of war.

1979 *New Yorker* 13 Aug. 67/1 Robert Wilson... head of experimental physics at Los Alamos; Philip Morrison, who had gone... to take care of the bombs...; Richard Feynman, who had been in charge of one of the computing sections... I fitted in with this bunch of weaponers. **1982** *Christian Sci. Monitor* 22 June 22/1 Probably the most interesting to the weaponers of the great powers was the testing of US vs. Soviet fighter planes.

So *weapo'neering* vbl. sb., the development and production of weapons of war.

1955 *Bull. Atomic Sci.* Sept. 239/3 Nearly half of our expenditure for research and development each year goes to weaponneering. **1960** N. Y. *Times Mag.* 29 May 20 You must... make those essential advances in the state of the weaponneering art which will most intercept any possible aggression by any potential enemy. **1976** *Aviation Week* 19 Jan. 54/1 It's easier to conceptualize bombs, weaponneering and 'bard kill' missiles than the wizardry of electronic detection and countermeasures equipment.

weaponization (wepənə'raɪzən). *U.S.* [f. as prec. + -IZATION.] The process of equipping with weapons of war, or adapting something for use as a weapon. So 'weaponized' ppl. a.

1969 U.S. Dept. Defense Appropriation Bill 1970 (91st Congress 1 Sess., House Rep. 698) 72 Aircraft Weaponization (advanced and exploratory development) was reduced. **1973** *Black Panther* 7 Apr. 10/2 Observers worry that the fledgling crime protection industry may follow a similar line, with huge profits made in this industry supporting a new domestic lobby for more weaponized solutions to the anger of the ghetto, the barrio and the poor white hollow. **1976** *Aviation Week* 1 Nov. 19/2 He said the Navy plans to build a 3,000-ton 'weaponized' surface-effect ship. **1982** N. Y. *Times* 23 Mar. A-14/2 Chemical warfare agents were... weaponized with Soviet assistance in Laos, Vietnam and Kampuchea. **1983** *Aviation Week* 17 Jan. 27/2 He cited an alarming trend toward the weaponization of space as the reason for his new emphasis on the civilian uses of space.

weaponless ('wepənls), a. [f. WEAPON sb. + -LESS.] a. Without weapons or a weapon; unarmed.

a **1000** in Napier OE. *Glosses* i. 724 *Inermes quosque*, i. sine armis, i. uniwersos, gehwylce wæpenlease. c **1000** ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* xxix. 175 Wundor-lie godes gifu þæt þam wæpenleasan menn ne mihton þa wælbærowan mid wæpnum wið-standan. **1390** GOWER *Conf.* III. 181 He sette a lawe for the pes, That non, but he be wepneles, Schal come into the conseil hous. c **1430** *Lybeaus Disc.* 366 Hyt wer greet vylanye To do a knyght to deye Wepeneles yn place. **1548** UDALL etc. *Erasm. Par. Mark* vi. 6–9 He sent them out weaponlesse, leste that mans aydes shoulde challenge any thing in this heauenly busynesse. **1596** SPENSER *F.Q.* v. v. 14 Soone as the knight she there by her did spy, Standing with emptie hands all weaponlesse. **1641** EARL MONM. tr. *Biondi's Civil Wars* v. 140 The defendants being suffered to depart away weaponlesse. **1671** MILTON *Samson* 130 [He] Ran on embattelld Armies clad in Iron, And weaponless

himself, Made Arms ridiculous. 1795 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* II. 100 Here the poor captives, weaponless and bound, Saw their stern victors draw again the sword. 1820 BYRON *Mar. Fal.* III. ii. 95 A lone, unguarded, weaponless old man. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* II. III. 399 Take my sword, and leave me weaponless. 1895 SCULLY *Kafir Stories* 96 Naked and weaponless fugitives from the Tonga and other tribes.

fig. 1629 RUTHERFORD *Let. to Mar. M'Naught* 17 Nov., Lett. (1891) 45 My Captain, Christ, hath said, I must fight and overcome the world, and with a weak, spoiled, weaponless devil. 1680 C. NESSE *Church Hist.* 32 God will not war with a weaponless devil.

b. *transf.* Of an animal: Without natural means of attack or defence.

1537 COVERDALE *Expos. Ps.* xxii A viij b, Loke how lytle a naturall shepe can kepe, gyde, rule, saue or defende it selfe agaynst daunger and misfortune (for it is a feble and wapenlesse beast). 1644 J. STRICKLAND *Immanuel* 6 Dennes or burroughes where weaponlesse creatures find shelter when they are hunted. 1666 J. SMITH *Old Age* 58 That audacious Carper at the works of God (who complained that other Creatures had naturally a defence given, and man only left weaponless).

c. Not containing a weapon.

1863 THORNBURY *True as Steel* III. 327 'What a poor soldier am I' said the Ritter..looking down to his weaponless belt.

weaponry ('wəpənri). [f. WEAPON *sb.* + -RY.] Weapons collectively. Now esp. weapons of war.

1844 N. Brit. Rev. I. 143 The armour of our ancient halls, the weaponry, the device. 1875 TALMAGE *Old Wells* 269 Look over the weaponry of olden times—javelins, battle-axes [etc.]. 1956 C. W. MILLS *Power Elite* viii. 184 The new weaponry has been developed as a 'first line of defense'. 1959 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 16 Jan. 27/2 War has become inevitable because of the weaponry which both sides are amassing. 1961 *New Left Rev.* Jan.-Feb. 49/1 Modern weaponry advances faster than any other branch of technology. 1972 *Daily Tel.* 27 May 1/1 The Russians have deployed 64 defensive Galesh missiles around Moscow since 1969, but the Americans are more advanced in this weaponry. 1977 *Irish Times* 8 June 5/2 The US should put aside hopes of outstripping the Soviet Union in doomsday weaponry.

fig. 1966 *New Statesman* 23 Dec. 942/1 Its weaponry of surprises...allows Miss Smith free movement in areas where the clichés lie thick.

† **weapon-salve**. *Obs.* [Cf. G. *waffensalbe*.] An ointment superstitiously believed to heal a wound by sympathetic agency when applied to the weapon by which the wound was made.

1631 W. FOSTER (*title*), Hoplocrisma-Spongus; or, A Sponge to wipe away the Weapon-Salve..wherein is proved, that the Cure late-taken up amongst us, by applying the Salve to the Weapon, is Magicall and unlawfull. 1633 HART *Diet of Diseased* III. xxx. 373 Cures..supposed to have been performed by the weapon-salve. a 1646 J. GREGORY *Posthuma, Serm.* etc. (1649) 63 The Principal Ingredient of the weapon-Salv, is the Moss of a dead Man's-skul. 1670 DRYDEN *Tempest* v. i. Anoint the Sword which pierc'd him with this Weapon-Salve, and wrap it close from air till I have time to visit him again. 1830 SCOTT *Demonol.* vi. 191 The effects of healing by the weapon-salve.

fig. 1659 STILLINGFL. (*title*), Irenicum. A Weapon-salve for the Churches Wounds. 1679 ALSOP *Melius Inq.* Pref., The Title raised me on tip-toes to see..that famous Weapon-salve which might consolidate the Churches bleeding wounds.

weapon-s(c)haw, -shawing, -showing: see WAPPENS(C)HAW, -S(C)HAWING.

weapon-tack, -tage, obs. ff. WAPENTAKE.

wear (wɛə(r)), *sb.* Also 5 were, 6-7 weare, 7-8 ware. [f. WEAR *v.* 1.]

I. 1. a. The action of wearing or carrying on the person (an article of clothing, an ornament, a watch, sword, or the like); the condition or fact of being worn or carried upon the person.

1464 *Rolls of Parl.* V. 567/2 The best and lightest Tymbre to make of Patyns and Clogges, and moost esiest for the were of all estate. 16.. *Bell my Wiffe* 26 in *Percy Fol.* MS. II. 323 My cloake it was a very good cloake, it hath beene alwayes good to the weare. 1713 STEELE *Guardian* No. 170 ¶ 16 'Tis a Demonstration, that they have more [Woolen Goods] than is sufficient for their own Wear. 1716 J. PERRY *State Russia* 74 The wear of Furs is a great Fashion in China. 1757 [BURKE] *Europ. Settlem. Amer.* VII. v. II. 161, I have seen cloths made there, which..were..as far as I could judge, superior for the ordinary wear of country people, to any thing we make in England. 1818 *Min. Evid. Committee Ribbon Weavers* 178 Every one who visits France brings over some [articles of manufactured silk] for their own wear. 1903 R. BARR *Over Border* I. vi. 66 His costume..hung, loosely unfitting, about a frame that had become gaunt since its wear began. 1912 *Daily Graphic* 31 Dec. 13/2 A charming coat for restaurant wear.

b. *the worse for wear*: deteriorated through wearing (cf. WEARING *vbl. sb.* 3); drunk. See also WORSE *a.* 4 c.

1782 COWPER *Gilpin* 183 A hat not much the worse for wear. 1840 'OUIDA' *Moths* I. ii. 32 The statuette..never seemed the worse for wear. 1857 C. M. YONGE *Dynevor Terrace* II. xvii. 270 His boots were less polished..and he looked somewhat the worse for wear. 1936 J. BUCHAN *Island of Sheep* iii. 44 When I came across him in Persia..he was rather the worse for wear. 1966 D. FRANCIS *Flying Finish* x. 127 You'll be kicking your heels about the airport for a few hours. Don't let any of them get...er...the worse for wear. 1977 M. ALLEN *Spence in Petal Park* xix. 87 The blonde girl left about ten, looking distinctly the worse for wear. 1982 T. BERGER *Reinhart's Women* iii. 46 The vehicles in view were routine automobiles, two of them the worse for wear, with dents and rust and jagged antenna-stems.

† c. Use, the using or making use (of a utensil). *Obs.*

1571 *Aldeburgh Rec. in N. & Q.* 12th Ser. VII. 185/1 For ye wear of a kettill and a trevet xii^d.

2. *Phr. to be in wear*. a. Of an article of clothing, an ornament, etc.: To be actually on the person of the wearer; also, to be (still) habitually worn by a person, not to have been discarded. Similarly (of a person), *to have in wear*. b. Of a kind or style of garment, etc.: To be worn by people generally; to be in vogue or fashion. Similarly, *to come into wear*.

1786 MRS. A. M. BENNETT *Juvenile Indiscr.* III. 106 Sophia, do you know patches are coming into wear again? 1799 WASHINGTON *Lett.* Writ. 1893 XIV. 150 If there are any handsome cockades (but not whimsically foolish) in wear,..I should be glad if they were sent with the eagles fixed thereon. 1809 W. IRVING *Knickerb.* II. ii. (1849) 92 Several gigantic knee-buckles of massy silver are still in wear, that made gallant display in the days of the patriarchs of Communipaw. 1851-61 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* II. 33/1 If there be any part of silk in a dress not suitable for any of these purposes it is wasted, or what is accounted wasted, although it may have been in wear for years. 1855 DICKENS *Holly-Tree* i, The lesser roadside Inns of Italy; where all the dirty clothes in the house (not in wear) are always lying in your doorway.

fig. 1704 SWIFT *Mech. Operat. Spir.* Misc. (1711) 274 Now, Sir, to proceed after the Method in present Wear. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xix, Assuredly that shield and buckler of Britannia are not in present wear.

3. a. What one wears or should wear; the thing or things worn or proper to be worn at a particular time or in certain circumstances.

1570 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1576) 12 Makers of coloured woollen clothes..from whence is drawne.. sufficient stoare to furnishe the weare of the best sort of our owne nation. 1581 A. HALL *Iliad* x. 180 And without crest or plume at all his morian on [he] doth pull, Of bullish hyde, a yong mans weare, men do it call a scul. 1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* I. iv. *Amo.* Your ribband too do's most gracefully, in troth. *Aso.* Tis the most gentile, and receiue'd weare now, sir. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* II. vii. 34 Motley's the onely weare. 1611 — *Wint. T.* IV. iv. 327 Will you buy.. Any Silke, any Thred, any Toyes for your head Of the news't and fins't, fins't weare-a. 1619 FLETCHER *Knt. Malta* II. i, What's in that pack there? 1 *Sold.* 'Tis English Cloth. *Nor.* That's a good wear indeed, Both strong, and rich. 16.. CLEVELAND *News fr. Newcastle* 130 Wks. (1687) 290 Our Wear's plain Out-side, but is richly lin'd. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 257/2 It is a wear amongst little Children with us to this day. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 166 A particular kind of flowered and striped lawns, which are a cheap and fashionable wear. 1812 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* XXXIII. 229 It has occasionally been questioned whether hats or turbans were the prevailing wear. 1860 THACKERAY *Round. Papers, Ribbons* (1876) 18 The Great Duke's theory was..that for common people your plain coat without stars and ribbons, was the most sensible wear. 1865 in G. HILL *Hist. Dress* (1893) II. 261 Little insects of all kinds, especially flies, are good wear in bonnets. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 5 June 5/6 Their cotton gowns are much cooler wear in the broiling weather of the present week than the warm Welsh woollens. 1902 *Times* 29 July 11/3 The makers..are fairly well supplied with orders, men's wear excepted.

b. *transf.* and fig.

1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* III. ii. 78 *Clo.* I hope Sir, your good Worship will be my baile? *Luc.* No indeed wil I not Pompey, it is not the wear. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* v. 829 Hence burly corpulence Is his familiar wear, and sleek disguise. 1847 L. HUNT *Men, Women, & B.* I. xiv. 232 Meeting one day with a lovely face that had flaxen locks about it, we thought for a good while after, that flaxen was your only wear. 1876 C. L. SMITH *Tasso's Jerus. Delivered* III. vii, Each from his head removes the bauble there Of silk or gold,..Each doffs too from his heart its haughty wear.

4. a. Capacity for being worn or for further advantageous use.

1699 BOYER *Royal Dict., Eng.-Fr.* s.v., A Stuff of good Wear, une Etoffe d'un bon usé. 1881 *Punch* 26 Feb. 94/1 The shoe that has still wear in it. 1901 ALLDRIDGE *Sherbro* xxviii. 339 The native-made cloths..of never-ending wear.

b. Advantage of continued wearing.

1836 [HOOTON] *Bilberry Thurland* II. i. 35, I've had more wear out of this one waistcoat, than any hafe dozen agen.

II. 5. a. The process or condition of being worn or gradually reduced in bulk or impaired in quality by continued use, friction, attrition, exposure to atmospheric or other natural destructive agencies; loss or diminution of substance or deterioration of quality due to these causes.

1729 [T. PRIOR] *Observ. Coin* (1856) 305 This Scarcity will be farther increased by the Wear of Silver Coins, which has lessened their Weights considerably. 1730 CONDUITT *Observ. Coins* (1774) 51 The telling money on wood, especially with a mixture of sand, very much encreases the wear. 1791 SMEATON *Edystone L.* § 321, I then saw the coast was in a state of wear. 1797 *Monthly Mag.* III. 546 The foundation should be covered to the depth that is necessary to sustain the wear to which the road is subject. 1869 F. KOHN *Iron & Steel Manuf.* 90 The saw, not being constantly in use, is driven by an independent engine to save the wear of its bearings. 1891 FLOWER *Horse* iii. 115 The shape of the table alters as the wear of the tooth proceeds. 1894 A. M. BELL in *Jrnl. Anthropol.* Inst. XXIII. 273 So also with surface finds; if they possess definite characteristics of form, of wear, of weather,..of position when found, each of which places them in a class by themselves.

b. *transf.* and fig.

1882 SPURGEON *Treas. Dav.* Ps. cxix. 20. VI. 51 They [sc. desires for holiness] cause a wear of heart, a straining of the mind. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 311 Those who..are already showing signs of wear in their nervous systems.

6. a. wear and tear, wearing or damage due to ordinary usage; deterioration in the condition of a thing through constant use or service. Also (less usual) *tear and wear*: see TEAR *sb.* 2 i.

1666 PEPPYS *Diary* 29 Sept., The wages, victuals, wear and tear, cast by the medium of the men, will come to above £3,000,000. 1691 T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* 119 Wear and tear of Ground-Tackle. 1699 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* IV. 595 Allowing 4l. a man per mensem for ware and tear, charge of the ordnance included. 1702 SAVERY *Miner's Friend* 64 A Work..that cost forty-two shillings per diem..besides Ware and Tare of Engines. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W.N.* IV. ix. (1869) II. 249 The wear and tear of the implements of husbandry. 1835 MARRYAT *J. Faithful* i, A pair of shoes may have lasted her for five years, for the wear and tear that she took out of them. 1839 STONEHOUSE *Axholme* 46 It is difficult to calculate the daily wear and tear of four horses, straining through the thick mud, breaking the gears, and almost pulling the waggon to pieces. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Wordbk.*, *Wear and Tear*, the decay and deterioration of the hull, spars, sails, ropes, and other stores of a ship in the course of a voyage. 1868 STANLEY *Westm. Abb.* (ed. 2) 508 The wear-and-tear of four centuries..had rendered this venerable building quite unfit for its purpose. 1902 *Act 2 Edw. VII* c. 42 § 7 (d), Such damage as the local authority consider to be due to fair wear and tear in the use of any room in the school house.

b. *transf.* and fig.

1678 BUTLER *Hud.* III. i. 1182 That in return would pay th'expense, The Wear-and-tear of Conscience. 1775 JOHNSON in *Boswell* (1791) I. 515 You are not to wonder at that; no man's face has had more wear and tear. 1806 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* ii. § 31 There is not a whit less wear and tear to the nerves. 1828 MACAULAY *Ess.*, *Hallam* (1897) 89 Mr. Hallam..scarcely makes a sufficient allowance for the wear and tear which honesty almost necessarily sustains in the friction of political life. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xxv, Unequal to the wear and tear of daily life, as he had often professed himself to be. 1881 M. ARNOLD *Ess. Crit.* Ser. II. vi. (1888) 166 Nay, I doubt whether his [Shelley's] delightful Essays and Letters..will not resist the wear and tear of time better..than his poetry.

c. *wear-and-tear-pigment* (Biochem.) [tr. G. *abnutzungspigment*]: a pigment that accumulates in cells as they age.

1928 *Amer. Jrnl. Path.* IV. 236 This pigment (lipofuscin) was recognized by Lubarsch who classified it along with melanin as 'wear-and-tear' pigment (*Abnutzungspigmente*). 1943 *Jrnl. Compar. Neurol.* LXXXVIII. 45 It would be better to abandon the attempt to group all these substances [from different tissues] under the common term 'wear-and-tear' pigment. 1968 [see *lipofuscin* s.v. LIPO-].

7. *Pugilism*. (See *quots.*)

1819 *Sporting Mag.* N.S. III. 231 It was who should stay upon the wear-out game in the rain the longest. 1832 P. EGAN'S *Bk. Sports* 45/1 Bravo, Neal—he must win it—he has too much wear-and-tear for Gaynor.

III. 8. The anterior surface of the lower part of the mouth of a carpenter's plane.

185. Tomlinson's *Cycl. Useful Arts* II. 318/2 The narrow opening between the face of the iron and the line *m w'* is termed the *mouth* of the plane; the line *m w'* is called the *wear*: the angle between the mouth and the wear should be as small as possible, so that as the sole wears away,..the mouth may not be too much enlarged.

IV. 9. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *wear-resistance, -resisting; wear-proof, -resistant, -resisting* adjs.; *wear-dated* *a.* (see *quot.* 1968).

1897 SEARS, ROEBUCK *Catal.* 183/2 This suit..is regular wear-resisting goods. 1921 *Daily Colonist* (Victoria, B.C.) 9 Apr. 7/1 Wearproof Suits for Boys. Specially selected materials and extra care in the making of these suits enable them to give every wearing satisfaction. 1943 *U.S. Patents Q.* LVI. 494/2 Wear-resisting, anti-fatigue, and shock-absorbing properties are relative and not absolute terms. 1946 *Nature* 5 Oct. 476/2 The advantage of these new processes is that the weight and wear-resistance of the fabrics are increased. 1960 *Farmer & Stockbreeder* 29 Mar. (Suppl.) 4/1 A wear-resistant outer lining. 1968 J. IRONSIDE *Fashion Alphabet* 102 *Wear-dated*, officially recognised guaranteeing the length of normal wear of garments. 1978 *Detroit Free Press* 16 Apr. (Detroit Suppl.) 14 (Adv.), Choice of covers includes lush acrylic velvet by Monsanto with two-year wear-dated guarantee.

wear (wɛə(r)), *v.* 1. Pa. t. wore (wɔə(r)); pa. pple. worn (wɔ:n). Forms: 1 *werian*, 3-4 *werie*, *werye*, 3-5 *north. wer*, 3-7 *were*, 4 *weri*, 4-6 *wher(e)*, 5 *weyr(e, wheer)*, 5-6 *weer(e, 5-8 (chiefly Sc.) weir*, 6 *wayre, Sc. weire, veir, veyr*, 6-7 *weare, waire*, 7 *ware*, (8 *wair*), 6- *wear*. *Pa. t. a.* 1-5 *werede*, 3 *weorede*, 4-5 *wered*, -*id*, *werd(e, 5 weryd(e, werryde, -id, veryd, Sc. werit, -yt, weiret, 6 weard, 8 weared*. *β.* 4-6 *were*, 4-5 *wer, weyr, Sc. war, wour*, 5-6 *Sc. woir*, 5-7 *ware*, 6 *weer, weare, wayre, waare, warre, woore, Sc. wair*, *woure*, 6-7 *woare*, 6- *warre*. *Pa. pple. a.* 1-5 *wered*, 4 (y) *werd*, 5 *werid, -yd, Sc. -it, werde*, *werede*. *β.* 5 *woryn*, 5-8 *worne*, 6 *woren, Sc. vorne*, 6-8, 9 *dial. wore*, 5- *worn*. [A Com. Teut. weak vb. (wanting in Frisian, LG., Du., Sw., Da., and mod.Norw.): OE. *werian* corresponds to OHG. *werjan, werjen* to clothe, ON. *verja* to clothe, also to invest, lay out (money: see WARE *v.* 2), Goth. *wasjan* to clothe (also in comb. *gawasjan* to clothe, *andwasjan* to unclothe, strip):—OTeut. **wazjan* (? and **wasjan*), f. Teut. root **was-*, whence Goth. *wasti* fem., garment, MHG. *wester* fem., christening robe; ablaut variant of OTeut. and Indogermanic **wes-*, whence ON. *vesl* neut., cloak, L. *vestis*

garment, Gr. ἐννύαι (:—*wesnu-) to clothe, φορέω, ἐσθής raiment, Skr. *vas* to clothe, *vasman* neut., a cover, garment, *vasana* neut., *vastra* neut., clothing.

The change from the weak to the strong conjugation, due to the analogy of verbs like *swear*, *bear*, *tear*, seems to have begun in the 14th c., but is rare before the 16th. In OE. the pa. pple. *forworen* occurs once, along with the regular *forwered*, as a gloss to *decrepita* (Napier OE. Gl. i. 2109), and in *The Ruined City* 7 we should probably read *forworene* *zeleorene* for the *forweorone zeleorene* of the MS.]

I. 'To carry appendant to the body' (J.).

1. a. *trans.* To carry or bear on one's body or on some member of it, for covering, warmth, ornament, etc.; to be dressed in; to be covered or decked with; to have on.

c893 ÆLFRED *Oros*. iv. ix. (1883) 190 þæt nan oper ne moste gylðenne hring werian, buton he æpeles cynnes wære. c1205 LAY. 17695 He weorede æne burne. c1290 *St. Patrick* 506 in *S.E. Leg.* 214 Ech werede clices of þe en-taile þat heo wereden on corpe here. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1928 He were a bleaunt of blwe, þat bradde to þe erpe. c1386 CHAUCER *Squire's T.* 139 If hire lust it [sc. this ring] for to were vp on hir thombe or in hir purs it bere. c1450 *Mirk's Festial* 197 He..werd þe her next to hys flesch. c1470 HENRY WALLACE iii. 84 Gude souir weide dayly on him he wour. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 72 Though he ware the habit of religion, yet his herte was in the worlde. 1535 COVERDALE *1 Macc.* xi. 58 To weere a colar of golde. 1590 *Tarlton's Neues Purgatorie* 35 A crew of men that woare Baye garlands on their heads. 1601, 1696 [see TRUSS sb. 4]. 1657 HOWELL *Londinop.* 319 These [Irons] he [sc. a prisoner] ware from Thursday till Sunday. 1707 J. STEVENS tr. *Quevedo's Com. Wks.* (1709) 355 Wearing Watches in their Pockets. 1721 *BERKELEY Pres. Ruin Gt. Brit. Wks.* III. 109 More fine linen is wore in Great Britain than in any other country. 1857 W. A. BUTLER *Nothing to wear* 19 Miss McFlimsey..The last time we met, was in utter despair, Because she had nothing whatever to wear! 1879 HARLAN *Eyesight vi.* 78 In Germany..it has long been impossible to fill the ranks of the army without allowing soldiers to wear glasses. 1902 J. BUCHAN *Watcher by Threshold* 280 He wears the same clothes for years. 1913 M. ROBERTS *Salt of Sea* ix. 215 His ears had been pierced for earrings, though he wore none.

fig. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Past.* iv. 36 Each common Bush shall Syrian Roses wear. 1859 FITZGERALD *Omar* xviii, Every Hyacinth the Garden wears.

b. To dress oneself habitually or at a particular season in (a material, garment) of a particular sort or fashion. Also in *passive*, of the material or garment.

a1225 *Ancr. R.* 418 Nexst fleshe ne schal mon werien no linene cloð. c1250 *Doomsday* 28 in *O.E. Misc.* 164 Moni of pissie riche þat wereden foh and grei. a1300 *Cursor M.* 11112 He..wered noper wol ne line. 13.. *Sir Orfeo* 241 (Sisam) He þat hadde ywerd þe fowe and griis. c1449 PECOCC *Repr.* v. xii. 543 The habitis, whiche..ben assigned to be worn of the religiose persounes. 1516 *Life of St. Bridget* in *Myrr. our Ladye* lii, She weer euer rough & sharpe wolen cloth. 1535 COVERDALE *2 Sam.* xiii. 18 Soch garmentes wayre y^e kynges daughters whyle they were virgins. 1597 HOOKER *Ecll. Pol.* v. lxxv. §1 The Church..suffereth mourning apparell to bee worne. 1785 GEO. A. BELLAMY *Apol.* III. 50 Brown rateen, which at that time was much wore. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lii, When the Court went into mourning, she always wore black. 1860 O. W. HOLMES *Prof. Breakf.-t.* vii. 136 She wears her trains very long, as the great ladies do in Europe. a1891 R. W. BARBOUR *Thoughts* (1900) 66 Wearing scarlet is a badge of being in the Queen's service.

fig. 1896 A. E. HOUSMAN *Shropshire Lad* ii, Loveliest of trees, the cherry now..stands about the woodland ride Wearing white for Eastertide.

†c. with *on* or *upon* adv. (= on one's person; cf. *have on*, *put on*). *Obs.*

? a1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 564 A chapelet, so semly oon Ne werede neuer mayde vpon. c1386 — *Wife's Prol.* 559, I..wered vpon my gaye scarlet gyses. 1387 TREVISIA *Higden* I. 239 þis victor hym self schulde were on Iupiter bis cote. 1567 HARMAN *Caveat* 62 A lytle whystell of syluer that his mother dyd vse customablye to wear on. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 209/43 To Wear on, *ferre*. 1579-80 NORTH *Plutarch, Aristides* (1595) 364 He weareth on a purple coloured coate.

d. said of an animal.

1486 *Bk. St. Albans, Hawking* d.iii, The bellis that yowre hawke shall wheer looke in any wise that thay be not to heuy ouer hir power to weyr. 1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Fam. Love* 13 b, A ring of gold..ceaseth not to be a ryng of gold though a swine wear it.

†e. *absol.* To dress, be clad (in a specified fashion). *Obs. rare.*

a1225 *Ancr. R.* 4 þet techeð al hu me schal beren him wiðuten, hu eten, drincken, werien, ligen, slepen, wakien. 1597 J. PAYNE *Royal Exch.* 28 They walkinge and wearinge in that common place agreeable to there caullinge and state.

f. *intr.* (for *passive*) = to be worn; to be the fashion.

1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* i. i. 172 Virginitie like an olde Courtier, wears her eap out of fashion..just like the brooch and the toothpick, which were not now. 1888 QUILLER-COUCH in *Echoes fr. Oxf. Mag.* (1890) 105 Are 'hems' wearing?

2. a. *trans.* To bear or carry (arms, also a stick or cane). †Hence, to display (a heraldic charge) on one's shield.

c1000 *Canons of Ælfric* xxx, Ne preost..wæpna ne werige. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* i. 355 The byschop..gert him wer His knyvis, foroueh him to scher. ? a1400 *Morte Arth.* 3872 He was the sterynneste in stoure that euer stete werryde. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law of Armys* (S.T.S.) 276 Than will he declare the armes that all princis and nobleis and othir gentillis aw to were, and of their colouris and discricpious. 1463 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 15 To Davn Willm Boxforde my knyves that I veryd my selfe. 1535 COVERDALE *1 Chron.* vi. 18 Soch as were fightinge men,

which wayre shyld & swerde, and coulde bende the bowe. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* i. xvii. 19 b, [They had] sworne, at no time after to wear armes against the Turkish nation. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) i. 131 *marg. note*, The ryd lyon he weires in his armes. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* v. i. 2 Wear thy good Rapier bare, and put it home. 1690 in *Nairne Peerage Evid.* (1874) 26 The said Lord William Murray is..to..bear and wear the armes and cognizance of the house and family of Nairne. 1749 CHESTERF. *Lett. to Son* 27 Sept., His cane (if unfortunately he wears one) is at perpetual war with every cup of tea or coffee he drinks. 1775 SHERIDAN *Duenna* iii. vii, You shall know that I have a brother who wears a sword. 1819 D. B. WARDEN *Acc. U.S.* III. 219 Both sexes..wear an umbrella in all seasons. 1847 MRS. A. KERR tr. *Ranke's Hist. Servia* 270 Their small arms, which they had formerly been permitted to wear.

†b. To use, employ, handle. *Obs.*

a1400 *Nominale* (Skeat) 138 *F[emme] use nase et criuere*. W[oman] weruth seue and riddell. c1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 367 He offerd vnto hym..a grete porcion of syluer vessel, & bad hym were þaim for his sake.

3. To allow (one's hair, beard) to grow in a specified fashion, or as opposed to shaving or to the use of a wig.

c1100 *O.E. Chron.* (MS. C) an. 1056 Leofgar..se werede his kenepas on his preosthade oððæt he was biscop. c1449 PECOCC *Repr.* i. xx. 124 Noone women weriden thanne eny lynnyn or silken keuercheefis, but weriden her open heer. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 55 Speake seldome, and weare a long beard. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* v. i. 158 The Clearke wil nere weare haire on's faee that had it. 1624 CAPT. J. SMITH *Virginia* 3 The women weare their haire long on both sides. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* I. 407 Many of them have abandoned their Country to preserve their liberty of wearing their Hair. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vicar W.* xxx, Be so good as to inform me, if the fellow wore his own red hair. 1802 WORDSW. *Resol. & Independ.* viii, The oldest man he seem'd that ever wore grey hairs. 1841 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* i, He wore his own dark hair. 1862 *Queen's Regul. Naval Service* 336 The Officers, Petty Officers, and Seamen of the Fleet are not to wear moustaches or beards. 1905 H. G. WELLS *Kipps* ii. ii. §1 She wore her hair in a knob behind.

4. Phrases (*lit.* and *fig.*).

a. to wear a crown, diadem, mitre, palm, the purple, etc.: to hold the dignity or office of which the ornament is a symbol.

c893 ÆLFRED *Oros*. vi. xxx. (1883) 280 þæt hie woldon þa onwaldas forletian, & þa purpuran alegen þa hie weredon. 1382 WYCLIF *1 Esdras* iii. 2 King Darie made a gret soper..to alle that wereden [v.r. werden] purper. c1393 CHAUCER *Gentilesse* 7 Al were he mytre, croune or dyademe. c1470 *Three Fifteenth-C. Chron.* (Camden) 4 He was the fyrst kyng þat ever wered crowne of golde in this londe. 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* i. 6 The last that wore the Imperiall Lydium of Rome. 1597 — *2 Hen. IV.* iii. i. 31 Vneasie liyes the Head, that weares a Crowne. 1797 BURKE *Regic. Peace* iii. Wks. VIII. 274 It is the power of winning that palm which ensures our wearing it. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* i. ii. 205 Degrading that crown which it was probable that he would himself one day wear. 1895 'H. S. MERRIMAN' *Sowers* i, He [the Emperor] is a gentleman, although he has the misfortune to wear the purple.

†b. to wear the horn(s): to be a cuckold. *Obs.*

c1530 *Hychescorner* 706 And, knight of the halter, my fader ware an horne. 1600 SHAKS. *A.Y.L.* iv. ii. 14 Take thou no seorne to weare the horne. 1632 SIR T. HAWKINS *Mathieu's Unhappy Prosperitie* 98 By reason he was old, and without children..his wife should doe well to make him weare the horne. 1639 J. CLARKE *Paræm.* 328 The good wife weares the breeches, the good man the horns.

†c. to wear papers: (of an offender) To have a note of one's offence fastened on one's back or head. *Obs.*

a1529-1588: see PAPER sb. 7 b.

a1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* i Some after were apprehended diuerse called promoters..of the whiche, the moste part ware papers, and stooode on the Pillorie. 1552 HULOET, Weare a paper for some infamy or offence, *contamidiu* [read *catomidiu*]. 1560-1 MACHYN *Diary* (Camden) 250 They ware paper a-pon ther hedes for perjure. 1616 BRETON *Good & Bad* 14 Lest when the Law indeede laies them open, in steade of carrying papers in their hands, they ware not papers on their heads.

d. to wear one's arm in a scarf or sling: to support it thus when injured. to wear one's heart upon one's sleeve: see HEART sb. 54 f.

1597, 1600 [see SCARF sb. 1 4]. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 27 My companion was so bruised, that he wore his arm in a scarf for two months after. 1727 BOYER *Dict. Royal* II. s.v. *Sling*, To wear one's Arm in a Sling, *Porter le bras en écharpe*. 1794 [see SLING sb. 2 3 c].

e. to wear the breeches: see BREECH sb. 2. to wear yellow hose (or breeches): see YELLOW a. 2. to wear the willow: see WILLOW. to wear the trousers: see TROUSERS sb. pl. 2 c.

†f. slang. (See quotes.) *Obs.*

1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict.* s.v. *Bands*, To wear the bands, is to be hungry, or short of food for any length of time. *Ibid.* s.v. *Wear it*, to wear it upon a person, (meaning to wear a nose, or a conk,) is synonymous with nosing, conking, splitting, or coming it.

5. Of a ship (or its commander): To fly (a flag, colours).

†Formerly also, to carry (a mast).

1558 in W. G. PERRIN *Brit. Flags* (1922) 88 Mr. Broke, Captain of the reed Gallie, who is appointed to ware the flage of vize Admyrall for this present Jorney. 1575 FLEMING *Virg. Bucol.* iv. 12 No shyp that weares a maste, Shal make exchange of wares. 1627 J. SMITH *Sea Gram.* xiii. 62 Any ship..where he..resideth..is to weare his flag in the maine top. 1666 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 82/1 Thirteen French Gallies, wearing Swedes Colors. 1715 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5359/1 The Czar on board his Ship wears the Distinction of Vice-Admiral of the Blue. 1803 in *Nicolas Disp. Nelson* (1845) V. 287 *note*, Saint George's Ensigns are

to be worn by every Ship in Action. 1862 *Queen's Regul. Naval Service* 17 The Admiral of the Fleet, and the Admirals of the Red, White, and Blue, shall wear their proper Flag. 1881 MACGEORGE *Flags* 73 The other [pendant] is worn at the mast-head of all armed vessels in the employ of the government of a British colony.

6. *transf.* To bear or possess as a member or part of the body.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* viii. Prol. 156 Quhy the corn hes the caff, And kow weris clufe. 1591 G. FLETCHER *Russe Commw.* iii. 10 b, The fish that weareth it [the 'fishe tooth'] is called a Morse. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* ii. i. 214 Who knowes not where a Waspe does weare his sting? In his taile. 1600 — *A.Y.L.* ii. i. 14 Sweet are the vses of aduersitie Which like the toad, ougly and venomous, Weares yet a precious Jewell in his head. 1614 RALEGH *Hist. World* Pref. D 2, Euery man weares but his owne skin. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel. Democr.* to Rdr. 34 To see a man to weare his braines in his belly, his guts in his head. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* iv. 531 Two Golden Horns on his large Front he wears. a1721 *Prior Turtle & Sparrow* 132 All that wear Feathers first or last, Must one Day perch on Charon's Mast. 1794 GODWIN *Caleb Williams* 47, I will not put my estate to nurse to you, nor to the best he that wears a head. 1847 H. MILLER *First Impr. Eng.* xvii. (1861) 215 Fish that wear an armature of bone outside. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* liii, Steyne wore the scar to his dying day.

7. To exhibit or present (a particular look, expression, appearance, etc.).

1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* i. ii. 344 With a countenance as cleare As Friendship weares at Feasts. 1669 DRYDEN *Tyrannic Love* i. i, When an action does two faces wear. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* xi. vii, He now assumed a carriage to me so very different from what he had lately worn. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vicar W.* iii, The world now began to wear a different aspect. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xviii. 48 There everything wore the appearance of a holiday. 1841 THACKERAY *Gt. Hoggarty Diam.* xi, Both wore very long faces. 1870 DISRAELI *Lothair* xli. 211 The countenance of Lord St. Aldegonde wore a rueful expression.

8. a. In various *fig.* uses: To carry about with one in one's heart, mind, or memory; to have as a quality or attribute; to bear (a name, title).

a1586 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 47 Let Aeneas be borne in the tablet of your memory. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* i. i. 75 He weares his faith but as the fashion of his hat, it euer changes with y^e next block. 1602 — *Ham.* iii. ii. 77 Give me that man, That is not Passions Slaue, and I will weare him In my hearts Core. 1605 — *Macb.* ii. ii. 65 My Hands are of your colour: but I shame To weare a Heart so white. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* ix. 191 Suffragan of Nottingham, (the last I beleeve who wore that title). 1668 DAVENANT *Man's the Master* v. i, He did wear your Brother in his bosome as his dearest Friend. 1777 THICKNESSE *Journ. France* (1789) I. 348 'Roach; an unfortunate name!' said he; — 'but, as it is my name, I will wear it.' 1827 in *Scott Chron. Canongate* Introd. App., He was vain of the cognomen which he had now worn for eight years. 1848 *Classical Museum* V. 382 The dithyramb wore the same character as Pindar's *ððla*. 1884 *Christian Commw.* 21 Feb. 439/1 Those who wear His name.

b. To possess and enjoy as one's own. Chiefly in *phr.* to win and wear (a lady as one's wife).

The *lit.* reference may have been to a favour won in the tilt, or to a king's crown (cf. Shaks. *2 Hen. IV.* iv. v. 222).

1573 G. HARVEY *Letter Bk.* (Camden) 114 Thou hast woone her—weare her. 1588 GREENE *Pandosto* (1607) G j, Meliagrus is a Knight that hath wonne me by loue, and none but he shall weare me. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* v. i. 82 Win me and weare me, let him answer me. 1611 — *Cymb.* i. iv. 96 You may weare her in title yours. 1621 FLETCHER *Wild-goose Chase* ii. i, Win 'em, and wear 'em, I give up my interest. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* III. 350, I, who have won the gold, am only fit to wear it. 1847 MARRYAT *Childr. N. Forest* xxvii, As for his daughter..you have yet to 'win her and wear her', as the saying is.

c. To tolerate, accept, or agree to (a proposal, etc.). *Usu.* in negative with *it* as obj.

1925 FRASER & GIBBONS *Soldier & Sailor Words* 301 *To wear*, to put up with, e.g., 'I won't wear it', 'I won't stand it'. 1945 C. H. WARD-JACKSON *It's a Piece of Cake!* (ed. 2) 61 *Wear it. Agree to it, accept it.* Thus, 'I've asked the old man for permission to keep the bar open an hour later, but he won't wear it.' 1950 C. MACINNES *To Victors the Spoils* i. 70 'The new Captain would never wear it.' 'Then it's up to you to put it to him the right way.' 1961 E. WAUGH *Unconditional Surrender* iii. i. 203 Presently the Lieutenant came across to them bearing a 'rigar-case'. 'I can't wear them myself,' he said. 1970 P. H. JOHNSON *Honours Board* 61 The mother said this was very kind but that Peter would never —she was given to girlish slang—'wear it'. 1981 S. JACKMAN *Game of Soldiers* i. 53 No..Watson wouldn't wear it..Nor will I.

II. To waste, damage, or destroy by use.

9. a. To waste and impair (a material) gradually by use or attrition. ? Primarily with clothes as obj. = to damage them by ordinary wearing.

Perh. originally short for FORWEAR, which is found earlier.

1382 WYCLIF *Josh.* ix. 13 Clothis and shoon..for the length of lenger weye ben to troden, and almest wereð. 1398 TREVISIA *Barth. De P.R.* xiv. iii. (1495) 469 Waters dygge and weer the nesse partes of the erthe. c1400 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xxiv (end), Whan his tuskes aboute beth..wywered of þe neyther tuskes. c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 522/2 Weryn, or vson, as clothy and other thyngys, *vetero*. 1539 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 89 If any of the said housholde stuf be worne or gone, then she to be resonable recompensed. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 45 How it chaunced, that the philosophers did frette and weare the thresholdes of riche mennes houses. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Oct. 8, I haue pypped erst so long with payne, That all mine Oten reedes bene rent and wore. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 752 All the letters beside..are so worne and gone, that they could not be read. 1611 BIBLE *Ecclus.* vi. 36 Let thy foote weare [ἐκτριβέτω] the steps of his doore. 1717 POPE *Eloisa* 19 Ye rugged rocks, which holy knees have worn! 1764 J. FERGUSON *Lect.* 47 When the stone

is considerably wore, and become light, the mill must be fed slowly. **1849** M. ARNOLD *Forsaken Merman* 74 We climb'd on the graves, on the stones worn with rains. **1855** BOHN *Ray's Prov.* etc. 339 Constant dropping wears the stone. **1872** L. P. MEREDITH *Teeth* 112 When the teeth are crowded too closely together, they wear one another. **1898** 'H. S. MERRIMAN' *Roden's Corner* iv. 33 The house . . . is of dark red brick with facings of stone, long since worn by wind and weather.

absol. **1478** *Rental Bk. Cupar-Angus* (1879) I. 212 He sal defend the watyr at it were na ferrar in, eftir vale and quantyte of his land.

b. with intensifying adv., as *away*, *down*, *off*, *out*.

1538 ELYOT *Dict. Addit.*, *Contero*, to weare out with occupieng. **1561** in *Inuentaires de la Roynie Descosse* (Bannatney Club) 33 Ane auld cannabie of grene serge worne away and brokin. **1590** SPENSER *F.Q.* II. iv. 4 Her lockes . . . Grew all afore, . . . But all behind was bald, and worne away. **1600** FAIRFAX *Tasso* xviii. xxi, Downe fell the bridge, swelled the streame, and weard The worke away. **1647** in *Verney Mem.* (1907) I. 373 All the linnen is quite worne out. **1674** BOYLE *Corpusc. Philos.* 28 Such an attrition, as wears off the edges and points. **1676** J. SMITH *Art of Painting* xvii. 75 Too frequent operations in this kind must needs wear off a little of the Colours. **1782** MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* v. viii, Never sweep a room out of use; only wears out brooms for nothing. **1835** T. MITCHELL *Acham. of Aristoph.* 620 *note*, The metaphor is derived from a flute, the mouth-piece of which is worn out. **1852** LYELE *Elem. Geol.* (ed. 4) iii. 25 These flinty cases and spiculæ . . . are . . . admirably adapted, when rubbed, for wearing down into a fine powder fit for polishing the surface of metals. **1885** *Law Rep.* 15 Q.B.D. 316 The catch on the pin . . . was worn away. **1922** C. ALINGTON *Strained Relations* xiv. 222 If you can't get into Parliament without my wearing out your old suits.

c. with pred. extension, as *to wear threadbare*, *smooth*, *blunt*; *to wear to rags* or *tatters*, *to the stumps*. (Also in fig. context.)

1520 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 223 Welth and Wyt, I say, be so threde bare worne, That all is without Measure. **1555-1732** [see STUMP sb. 3b]. **1575** GASCOIGNE *Weedes, Compl. greene Knt.* 180 She did but weare Cosmanes cloutes, which she in spite had torne: And yet betwene them both they weare the theeds so neere [etc.]. **1639** J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Part Summers Trav.* 48 My Pen is worn blunt. **1661** BOYLE *Style Script.* (1675) 232 All his too frequent kisses have worn it to tatters. **1756** AMORY *Buncle* (1770) II. 69 There was no water dropping from the roof of this cave; but in a thousand places . . . it crept through the sides, and formed streams that ran softly over the ground and weared it smooth. **1765** FOOTE *Commissary* I. 7 He'll stick to his honour too, till his cassock is wore to a rag. **1808** SCOTT *Marmion* I. v, His forehead, by his casque worn bare. **1852** THACKERAY *Esmond* I. vii, She would wear a gown to rags, because he had once liked it.

10. a. To sap the strength or energy of (a person, his faculties, etc.) by toil, age, etc.; to fatigue, weary; †to exhaust (a soil).

1508 DUNBAR *Tua Mariit Wemen* 127 He is waistit and worne fra Venus werkis. **1523-34** FITZHERB. *Husb.* §14 All these maner of otes weare the grounde very sore. **1585** HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 384/1 *Ager effatus*, . . . a ground that by continuall fruitfulness is quite spent, worne, and out of occupieng. **1591-5** C'TESS PEMBROKE *Lay of Clorinda* 95 Thus do we weep and waile, and wear our eyes. **1601** SHAKS. *All's Well* v. i. 4 Since you haue made the daies and nights as one, To weare your gentle limbes in my affayres. **1694** DRYDEN *To Congreve* 66 Already I am worn with Cares and Age. **1825** SCOTT *Talism.* iii, Both warriors, worn by toil and travel, were soon fast asleep. **1833** HT. MARTINEAU *Loom & Luggie* II. i. 7 He had brought me up to an occupation that wears the spirits. **1865** M. ARNOLD *Ess. Crit.*, *M. de Guérin* (1875) 121 Still the yoke wore him deeply, and he had moments of bitter revolt. **1870** BRYANT *Iliad* IV. 402 Age, the common fate of all, has worn Thy frame.

b. with adv., as *away*, *out*, *down*, *†up*. Also with advb. phr., as *to wear to death*.

1524 in *Ellis Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. I. 193 Ells they [the Irish] shall never be worn out, but increas more and more. **1577** WOLTON *Cast. Christians* Fijb, Peruerse affections, which doo euen weare away, and consume vs. **1603** SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* I. ii. 109 You that haue worne your eyes almost out in the seruice, you will bee considered. **1607** NORDEN *Surv. Dial.* v. 241 A weed that groweth commonly upon grounds ouertilled, and worne out of heart. **1672** W. WALKER *Parcem.* 56 They win by wearing their enemies out. **1691** SIR T. P. BLOUNT *Ess.* 165 In most of these Places the old Inhabitants, or their Breed, are quite wore away. **1701** COLLIER *M. Anton.* (1726) 8 That she may not live too fast, wear up her constitution, and destroy the capacities of enjoyment. **1729** LAW *Ser. Call* xi. 169 She tells you that her patience is quite wore out. **1735** JOHNSON *Lobo's Abyssinia*, *Voy.* viii. 42 The concern they shew'd at seeing us worn away with Hunger, Labour, and Weariness. **1783** — *Let. to Mrs. Thrale* 23 July, Do not let your mind wear out your body. **1803** BEDDOES *Hygëia* ix. 105 At the close of the season in London women appear worn down, haggard and spent. **1840** ARNOLD *Hist. Rome* II. 344 With these missiles [they] endeavoured to wear down the mass of their enemies. **1840** DICKENS *Old C. Shop* lxiv, This poor little Marchioness has been wearing herself to death! **1847** W. E. FORSTER in *Reid Life* (1888) I. vi. 190 Found my father . . . pretty well, but worn up and worn down. **1848** THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xiv, And still you go hanging on to my sister, who'll fling you off like an old shoe, when she's wore you out. **1872** DASENT *Three to One* x, He always looks well when he doesn't wear himself down dancing all night. **1881** JOWETT *Thucyd.* I. 230 They carried on uninterrupted war against the new settlers until they completely wore them out. **1886** 'SARAH TYTLER' *Buried Diamonds* xviii, To-night, when one is worn off one's feet already, with this miserable ball. **1904** M. HEWLETT *Queen's Quair* III. xi. 50 She wore herself to thread, padding up and down the room. **1912** *World* 7 May 700/1 As the soil . . . becomes worn out the farmers have to buy more artificial manure.

c. With *on* or *upon*. Of a circumstance: to affect (a person) adversely; to fatigue or debilitate. Cf. WEIGH v.¹ 22 a.

1864 O. W. NORTON *Army Lett.* (1903) 245, I did not suppose these things were serious enough to wear upon your health. **1901** 'L. MALET' *Hist. Sir R. Calmady* v. ii. 389, I have had a detestable winter . . . It wore upon me. It demoralised me. **1915** D. H. LAWRENCE *Let.* ? 29 Apr. (1962) 335 You can't imagine how it wears on one, having at every moment to resist this established world.

11. a. *fig.* With object a quality, condition, activity, disease, etc.: To cause to weaken, diminish, or disappear gradually. Chiefly with adv. or advb. phr. (as above). *to wear out*: to efface, destroy, exhaust, abolish, by gradual loss or the lapse of time.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 33 The world . . . welnyh is wered oute. ? **1400** *Morte Arth.* 2930 Oure wages are werede owte, and thi werre endide. **1586** A. DAY *Eng. Secretorie* I. vi. (1595) 18 But that custome . . . is long since worne out. **1657** in *Verney Mem.* (1907) II. 59 That acquaintance with you which time and far distance hath worne something out of our memories. **1663** BUTLER *Hud.* I. i. 47 We grant, although he had much wit, H' was very shie of using it, As being loath to wear it out. **1697** DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 6 All other Themes that careless Minds invite, Are worn with Use, unworthy me to write. **1705** ADDISON *Italy, Venice* 100 By the Pompousness of the whole Phrase to wear off any Littleless that appears in the particular Parts that compose it. **1711** — *Spect.* No. 39 ¶1 Diversions of this kind wear out of our Thoughts every thing that is mean and little. **1751** F. COVENTRY *Pompey the Little* I. x. 91 When he had a little wore off the Relish of Pleasure. **1831** JAMES PHIL. *Augustus* xxii, As the fire wore away the strength of the wood. **1857** B. TAYLOR *Northern Trav.* xii. (1858) 124 When the novelty of the thing is worn off. **1865** DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* IV. xvi, As if Time alone could quite wear her injury out. **1871** FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (1876) IV. xviii. 145 He did not strike a blow till all the powers of diplomacy had been thoroughly worn out between himself and his rival. **1899** *Albutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 846 Repeated operations with the idea of 'wearing out' the disease.

b. *to wear down*: to blunt the force of and overcome by steady resistance or counter-attack. Also, to get gradually ahead of (a competitor in a race) by superior endurance.

1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* xix. 221 These medicines . . . remove the aguish fits . . . gradually, and as it were, by wearing down the paroxysms. **1851** DIXON *W. Penn* viii. (1872) 66 The young Quaker . . . strove to wear down malice by his patient and forgiving mood. **1889** RIDER HAGGARD *Allan's Wife* 20 Be a man, and wear it down. **1895** *Daily News* 27 Sept. 3/2 Macbriar . . . gradually wearing down Balm of Gilead, won by three-quarters of a length.

† c. *to wear out*: to forget, lose mental hold of, through disuse or lapse of time. *Obs.*

1676 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* To Rdr., My application to another Study and Profession, rendred my skill in that Language of little use to me, and so I wore it out by degrees. **1708** SWIFT *Sent. Ch.-of-Eng.* Man §2 Misc. (1711) 131 When these Doctrines began to be Preached among us, the Kingdom had not quite worn out the Memory of that unhappy Rebellion.

12. To form or produce by attrition.

1597 DRYDEN *Heroic. Ep., Chas. Brandon* 17 That Nectar-stayned way, The restless sunne by traualing doth weare. **1697** DRYDEN *Aeneis* IX. 520 Few Paths of Humane Feet, or Tracks of Beasts, were worn. **1726** LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* I. 74/1 Ants, with constant passing up and down, will wear tracks even in flints. **1782** MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* IV. vii, Wish I had not come now; wore a hole in my shoe. **1834** PRINGLE *Afr. Sk.* vi. 203 A steep and rugged path, worn by the boors' cattle.

III. *intr.* To suffer waste or decay by use or by lapse of time.

13. a. Of persons or living things, activities, qualities, etc.: To lose strength, vitality, keenness, sharpness, or intensity, by the decay of time; to waste, diminish, or fade by gradual loss.

1275 *Serving Christ* 68 in *O.E. Misc.* 92 per werep vre white in wurmene won. **1530** PALSGR. 780/1 All thyng weareth save the grace of God. **1589** R. ROBINSON *Gold. Mirr.* (1851) 28 Tyme is my name, young once I was, Though now, I weare and wast alas. **1595** DANIEL *Civ. Wars* IV. viii. [v. vii], How blessed they that gaine what neuer weares. **1600** MONTGOMERIE *Misc. P.* xii. 10 (Laing MS.) My eyes with tereis dois weir. **1605** BACON *Adv. Learn.* I. II. §5 It . . . refresheth their reputation, which otherwise would weare. **1840** DICKENS *Old C. Shop* liv, The deaf old man . . . muttered to himself . . . that the sexton was wearing fast. **1864** BROWNING *Jas. Lee's Wife* IV. vii, Yet this turns now to a fault . . . That I . . . wait too well, and weary and wear.

b. most commonly with adv., as *away*, *off*, *out*, or advb. phr.

1377 in *Polit. Poems* (Rolls) I. 215 Alle thing weres and wasteth away. **1390** GOWER *Conf.* I. 16 Bot whan god wole, it [the schism] schal were oute, For trowthe mot stonde ate laste. **1480** HENRYSON *Test. Cress.* 467 All Welth in Eird away as Wind it weires. **1547** BOORDE *Brev. Health* cccxxix. (1557) 121 b, Were before the eyes a pece of blacke sarcent . . . and it [a blast in the eye] wyll were away. **1574** tr. *Marlorat's Apoc.* 28 To the intent these things myght neuer weare out of minde. **1611** BIBLE *Exod.* xviii. 18 Thou wilt surely weare away . . . for this thing is too heavy for thee. **1697** DAMPIER *Voy.* I. 282, I found that my strength increased, and my Dropsy wore off. **1719** DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 247 In a little Time, however, no more Canoes appearing, the Fear of their Coming wore off. **1720** S. PAYNE *Bp. R. Cumberland's Sanchon.* Pref. p. xiv, His usual Reply was, A Man had better wear out than rust out. **1742** KAMES *Decis. Court Sess.* 1730-52 (1799) 49 Hence the strict way of interpreting such clauses . . . wore by degrees out of use. **1759** R. BROWN *Compl. Farmer* 111 If clover is apt to wear out of your ground. **1789-96** MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 398 Many persons conjecture that the Cape [Cod] is gradually wearing away. **1798** [see LAND sb.¹ 3c]. **1821** BYRON *Sardanap.* I. ii. 112 Till summer heats wear down. **1842** DICKENS *Amer. Notes* ii, When its novelty had long worn off.

1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* xxviii. 362 He . . . seldom got any relief until the attacks were wearing off. **1859** H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* xx, Her anger, so far from wearing out, grew on what fed it. **1872** BLACK *Adv. Phaeton* ix, The chill of driving through the fogs of the plain had worn off. **1889** S. WALPOLE *Ld. John Russell* xxi. II. 98 The strange distrust which had so frequently separated Sir Robert Peel and Lord John began visibly to wear away.

c. with predicative adj. *rare*.

1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. iv. viii, The chorus is wearing weak; the chorus is worn out. **1875** SWINBURNE *Ess. & Stud.* 334 An old man of great strength now wearing weak.

† d. *to wear out, forth*, of something which holds good for a limited time: To determine, expire. *Obs.*

1412-20 LYPD. *Chron. Troy* IV. 2420 Whan þe trews pat þei had take Wer werid oute. **1420** WYNTOUN *Cron.* VIII. 1682 Neuripeles he was in dowe, Or his condyte was worne out. **1472** *Paston Lett.* III. 73, I gat a lycence of hym for a yere, and it is nyghe woryn ought. **1525** in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 1527 97/2 Gif ony feman of the said craft pass furth of the toum or his band of his service be worne furth. **1530** PALSGR. 780/1, I weare out, as thynges do after their tyme prefixed is passed, *je me faulx* . . . The pardons shall weare out within these thre dayes.

14. a. Of clothing and other material things: To suffer gradual destruction, loss, or decay from attrition or use.

1402 *Jack Upland* 45 Maketh youre habit you men of religion, or no? If it do, than, ever as it weareth, your religion weareth; and, after that the habit is better, is your religion better. **1414** BRAMPTON *Penit. Ps.* (Percy Soc.) 38 As clothys doth were with wedyr and wynde. **1440** *Promp. Parv.* 522/2 Weryn or wax olde and febyl [by] vse, *veterasco*. **1530** PALSGR. 780/1, I weare, as a garment or any other thyng weareth and consumeth with the tyme, *je me vse*. **1582** N. T. (Rheims) *Luke* xii. 33 Make to you purses that weare not [Vulg. *qui non veterascunt*]. **1587** TURBERV. *Trag. Tales* 33 By lingring loue she made his monie mealte, As waxe doth weare against the flaming fire. **1836** *Penny Cycl.* VI. 380/1 These milk-teeth . . . gradually wear and fall out, and are replaced by the second and permanent teeth.

b. with intensifying adv. or advb. phr., as *away*, *down*, *off*, *out*, † *on* or *to the thread*.

1414 BRAMPTON *Penit. Ps.* (Percy Soc.) 38 Alle ethrly thynges schul were owte; Castellys and towrys schul bende and breste. **1530** PALSGR. 780/1, I weare awaye, as a scripture, or thyng made for remembraunce weareth awaye with the weather or with the tyme, *je me oblitere*. **1566** A. EDWARDS in *Hakluyt Voy.* (1599) I. 358 When it [cloth] commeth to weare on the threed, it renteth like paper. **1601** *Office. Papers Sir N. Bacon* (Camden) 117 Jettyes and pyles . . . to defend theis mershes and bankes from wearing awaye by the rage of the sea. **1643** CARYL *Expos. Job* I. 104 Our flesh wears off quickly in the grave. **1687** MIEGE *Gl. Fr. Dict.* II, My Suit begins to wear out. **1793** [EARL DUNDONALD] *Descr. Estate of Culross* 22 Many of the old established Collieries in the Firth are wearing fast out. **1836** wear off [see c]. **1860** W. W. READE *Liberty Hall* II. 38 The gilt beginning to wear off. **1882** [see THREAD sb. 2b j]. **1886** *Manch. Exam.* 22 Feb. 6/1 When their carts wear out they need the services of the wheelwright. **1886** BESANT *Childr. Gibeon* II. xxiii, Her scanty wardrobe would wear out.

c. with predicative adj., as *wide*, *flat*, *thin*.

1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 7 Teeth blacke, wearinge wide. **1836** *Penny Cycl.* VI. 380/1 After six years old the edges of the teeth begin to wear flat, and as they wear off the root of the tooth is pushed up in the socket. **1896** HOUSMAN *Shropshire Lad* xxxiv, Where the standing line wears thinner and the dropping dead lie thick. **1931** J. VAN DRUTEN *London Wall* II. i. 69 You must have known yourself it's [sc. a love affair] been wearing thin. **1942** J. S. HUXLEY in *Polit. Q.* XIII. 384 The inter-war disputation between the 'have' and the 'have-not' powers is wearing a bit thin. **1982** G. M. FRASER *Flashman & Redskins* 52, I knew Susie's first good opinion of Spring had worn thin.

IV. 15. *intr.* To last or hold out in use or with the lapse of time; to resist (well or ill) the attrition or waste of use and age; also, to stand the test of experience, criticism, etc.

1568 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xlvi. 19, I haif Quhyt off grit delyt, . . . Weill werand Reid, quhill 3e be deid. **1687** MIEGE *Gl. Fr. Dict.* II, This Stuff wears very well. **1710** STEELE *Tatler* No. 208 ¶1 The Flattery with which he began, in telling me how well I wore, was not disagreeable. **1766** GOLDSM. *Vicar W.* i. I . . . chose my wife, as she did her wedding-gown, not for a fine glossy surface, but such qualities as would wear well. **1771** *Junius Lett.* liv. 286 These praises . . . will wear well, for they have been dearly earned. **1788** *Monthly Mag.* Mar. 183 The natives [of New York] . . . do not appear to wear so well as the English. **1816** BYRON *Siege Cor.* xiv, Tyrant and slave are swept away, Less form'd to wear before the ray. **1833** DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Mr. Minns*, How are you, Minns? 'Pon my soul you wear capitally! **1875** H. JAMES *R. Hudson* i, Rowland examined the statuette at his leisure. . . . He discovered its weak points, but it wore well. **1905** MRS. BARNES-GRUNDY *Vacill. Hazel* 96, I am tired of old-fashioned, made-to-wear-for-ever clothes.

† 16. *trans.* *to wear out*: to come safe through, 'weather' (a storm, an attack of sickness). *Obs.*

1617 in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 252 She has fallen into it [the ague] again . . . but . . . I hope she may wear it out. **1645** BP. HALL *Rem. Discontent.* 63 The poor man . . . when hee foresees a storm to threaten him, puts into the next Creek; and wears out in a quiet security that Tempest, wherein he sees prouder Vessels . . . fatally wracked.

V. In reference to time, change, endurance, etc.

17. In *pa. pple.*, of time, a period of time, a season: Past, spent, passed away. Also with adv., as *out*, † *by*, † *forth*. Now chiefly *poet.*

This use is found earlier than senses 18 and 19, and the vb. may here be regarded as either *trans.* or *intr.*

c **1400** *Beryn* 1090 Fawneus lyvid wyfles [till] thre yeer wer werid. *c* **1420** *Wyntoun Cron.* II. 1301 Qwhen hir tyme was werit [*Wemyss* worne] out. *c* **1470** *HENRY Wallace* IX. 659 Off tym that is by worn. **1472** in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 1476, 258/1 Eftir the termes of 5 yeris are worne furth and bipassit. *a* **1547** *SURREY 'The soote season'* 12 in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 4 Winter is worne that was the flowers bale. *a* **1548** *HALL Chron., Edw. IV* 221 b, Mornyng in continuall sorowe, not so much for her selfe and her husbände, whose ages were not so much consumed and worne, but for the losse of prince Edward her sonne. **1557** *TUSSER 100 Points Husb.* §83 Share not thy lammes, till mid July be worne. **1587** *TURBERV. Trag.* T. 55 And there he staied untill such time as all his yere was worne. **1590** *SHAKS. Mids. N.* IV. i. 187 And for the morning now is something worne, Our purpos'd hunting shall be set aside. **1842** *TENNYSON Love & Duty* 69 Till now the dark was worn, and overhead The lights of sunset and of sunrise mix'd In that brief night. **1890** *HALL CAINE Bondman* II. vii, The year was far worn towards winter.

18. a. trans. To spend, pass (one's time, a period of time). Chiefly *poet.* Cf. *WARE v.*² b.

1567 *FENTON Trag. Disc.* xii. 263 b, She weard her youth in dule in steade of ioye. **1590** *SPENSER F.Q.* I. i. 31 To shew the place, In which that wicked wight his dayes doth weare. *c* **1750** *SHENSTONE Elegy* i. 45 Where with Ænone thou hast worn the day. *a* **1777** T. WARTON *Suicide* v. 26 He wore his endless noons alone, Amid th' autumnal wood. **1809** *CAMPBELL Gert. Wyom.* II. ix, A deep untrodden grot Where oft the reading hours sweet Gertrude wore. **1821** *CLARE Vill. Minstrel* I. 18 Spinning long stories, wearing half the day. **1875** *MORRIS Æneids* XII. 398 He... speeding of a silent craft, inglorious life would wear.

b. with adv., as away, out, †by, †forth.

1535 *COVERDALE Job* xxxvi. 11 They shall weare out their dayes in prosperite. *a* **1586** *SIDNEY Arcadia* I. end (1598) 95 She, perceiving the song had alreadye worne out much time. **1625** *DONNE Serm.* lxxvi. (1640) 665 Let me wither and weare out mine age in a discomfortable... prison. **1669** in *Sturmy Mariner's Mag.* a 4 b, No novel Romance, nor no paultry Plays, To wear out Time with, and mis-spend our Days. **1769** E. BANCROFT *Guiana* 384 They... thus wear out a life of solitude. **1773** *Life N. Frowde* 150 In this Manner we wore away near seven Months. **1809** *MALKIN Gil Blas* vii. vii. (Ritldg.) 25 We wore away a good part of the night in laughing and drinking. **1821** *CLARE Vill. Minstrel* I. 174 There they their games... pursue, With chuck and marbles wearing Sunday through. **1842** *MANNING Serm.* xxi. (1848) I. 315 They wore out with patience the years of this toil-some life. **1852** M. ARNOLD *A Farewell* xiii, And though we wear out life, alas!... In seeking what we shall not find.

c. To enable (a person) to last or hold out through a given period. Sc.

1815 *SCOTT Guy M.* xxiv, She should have a pint bottle o' brandy and a pound o' tobacco to wear her through the winter.

19. a. intr. Of time, a period of time: To pass on or advance gradually to its conclusion; to pass away. Also, *to wear late, †short.*

1597 E. S. *Discov. Knts. Poste* B 4 The day weares, and I haue farre to go. **1598** *SHAKS. Merry W.* v. i. 8 Away I say, time weares. **1637** *RUTHERFORD Lett.* (1664) 197 Your afternoon will wear short, and your sun fall low and goe down. **1763** *FOOTE Mayor of G.* II. i, Well said, Master Mug; but come, time wears. **1826** *SCOTT Woodstock* I. iii. 98 It wears late, and gets dark. **1837** J. E. MURRAY *Summer in Pyrenees* II. 213 It was now wearing late in the day. **1842** *LEVER J. Hinton* xix, As the evening wore late, the noise and uproar grew louder. **1865** *DICKENS Mut. Fr.* I. xiii, Without that aid they would have known how the night wore, by the falling of the tide. **1870** *MORRIS Earthly Par.* III. II. 376 But time went on, and still the days did wear With little seeming change.

b. with adv., as away, on, out, through.

1526 *TINDALE Luke* ix. 12 The daye began to weare awaye [so **1611**, **1882**; Gr. *κλίω*]. **1600** E. BLOUNT tr. *Conestaggio* 183 The short season for galleies to lue in that sea began to weare away. *a* **1764** *LLOYD Milk-maid* 14 How slowly wears the time away! **1834** *DICKENS Sk. Boz, Steam Excurs.*, The time wore on; half-past eight o'clock arrived. **1853** *KINGSLEY Hypatia* xxii, And so the week wore out, in dull and stupefied despair. **1865** H. PHILLIPS *Amer. Paper Curr.* II. 89 Three years had now worn away in the unequal conflict. **1872** *BLACK Adv. Phaeton* ix, The afternoon is wearing on apace. **1879** *MEREDITH Egoist* xlix, The night wore through.

c. to wear on, of an action or activity: To be prolonged or continued.

1886 R. C. TEMPLE in *Folk-Lore Jrnal.* IV. 193 What follows is meant to be merely the expression of my ideas for the time being, subject to modification as the discussion wears on.

20. a. To pass gradually into (a condition, etc.). **1555** *WATREMAN Fardle Facions* I. v. 68 Estiemed but a villaine, untill with his forwardnes and wel doying, he could weare into estimacion again. **1805** *FOSTER Ess.* II. vi. 205 The mind should not be allowed, if I may so express it, to wear into a conclusion, by a slow imperceptible inclination.

b. trans. To bring (a person) gradually into (a habit or disposition). Also to instil (a view or opinion) gradually into the mind.

1690 *LOCKE Hum. Und.* II. xxi. §69 Trials... by Repetitions wear us into a liking of what possibly, in the first Essay, displeas'd us. **1712** *ADDISON Spect.* No. 409 ¶ 8 A Man who has any Relish for fine Writing... naturally wears himself into the same manner of Speaking and Thinking. **1871** *MORLEY Crit. Misc., Carlyle* 225 Mr. Carlyle has done much to wear this just and austere view into the minds of his generation.

VI. With reference to movement in space.

21. a. intr. To go, proceed, advance; with adv. or advb. phr. indicating the direction. Usually of a slow or gradual movement. Chiefly *Sc.*

c **1470** *HENRY Wallace* x. 355 Byschop Beik com with sic force and slycht, The worthy Scottis weryt fer on bak. **1581** A. HALL *Iliad* i. 7 Pallas away she weares, She leaues the Greekes, to Gods aloft in Heauen she repaires. **1768** *ROSS Helenore* 70, I think I see't my sell, we'll wear in by, Gin we

get there. **1821** *CLARE Vill. Minstrel* I. 210 [The bee] wearing home on heavy wing. **1821** *JOANNA BAILLIE Metr. Leg., Wallace* xxxiv, And mazy waters, slyly seen, Glancing thro' shades of Alder green, Wore eastward from the sight to distance grey. *Ibid.*, *Malcolm's Heir* xxix, Faint, doleful music struck his ear, As if waked from the hollow ground. And loud and louder still it grew, And upward still it wore. **1876** *BLACK Madcap Violet* xxi, The sun was wearing round to the west.

b. quasi-trans. To move over (a space or distance). *poet.*

1596 *SPENSER F.Q.* IV. ix. 19 Thus many miles they two together wore. **1623** J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Discov. by Sea* A 8 b, Thus we our weary Pilgrimage did weare.

†22. trans. To cause to fly or flutter out. *Sc. Obs.*

c **1480** *HENRYSON Test. Cress.* 165 His widdirit weid fra him the wind out woir.

23. Sc. To conduct (sheep or cattle) gradually to the fold or other inclosure. Also with *in, up*.

a **1724** *The Ew-Bughts, Marion* 2 in *Ramsay Tea-t. Misc.*, Will ye gae to the ew-bughts, Marion, And wear in the sheip wi' mee? **1725** *RAMSAY Gentle Sheph.* I. i, [She] bade me hound my dog, To wear up three waff ewes stray'd on the bog. **1767** in R. S. CRAIG & A. LAING *Hawick Tradition* (1898) 246 He... thereby wore in the sheep and nolt... so that they could not get to the Common. *Ibid.* 247 Weiring his sheep and nolt from the Common. **1790** A. WILSON *Poems, Sheph. Dream.* She... wore them homewards to the fold. **1827** *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 48/1 Some [shepherds] perished in wearing their flocks from the weather-side of the hills. **1828** W. McDOWALL *Poems* 23 An' my auld dog's nae worth a doit He winna wear the sheep. **1912** A. McCORMICK *Words fr. Wild-wood* iii. 47 Or it may be the bark of a dog or the voice of a shepherd as they 'wear' the sheep down the mountain sides to the rees for the clipping.

wear (wɛə(r)), *v.*² *Naut.* Pa. t. and pa. pple. **wore** (wɔə(r)). Forms: 7 *wear*, *warre*, *wayer*, *werr*, 7-9 *ware*, 7- *wear*. *Pa. t.* 8-9 *ward*, 7- *wore*. *Pa. pple.* 9 *wear*ed, 8-9 *wore*. [Of obscure origin; in sense it coincides with *VEER v.*² 2, but the early forms seem to forbid the supposition of connexion with that verb unless they are due to association with *WEAR v.*¹]

1. intr. Of a ship: To come round on the other tack by turning the head away from the wind. Often with *round*. Opposed to *tack*.

1614 *GORGES Lucan* v. 200 To guide the helme the maister dreads: To port, to weare, or serue the seas, The labouring ship he cannot ease. **1626** CAPT. J. SMITH *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 28 The ship will not wayer. **1627** — *Sea Gram.* ix. 37 Touch the wind, and warre no more. **1669** *STURMY Mariner's Mag.* I. ii. 18 Werr no more. **1697** *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3318/3 They both wore round and Attackt us on the Starboard-side. **1761** *Brit. Mag.* II. 535 The Bellona was made to ware round by means of her studding-sails. **1795** *NELSON in Nicolas Disp.* (1845) II. 14, I saw the Sans Culotte, who had before wore with many of the Enemy's Ships, under our lee bow. **1840** R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xi. 25 We wore round and stood off again. **1865** W. G. PALGRAVE *Arabia* II. 203 Wearing slowly up with a side wind we anchored a little after sunset. **1880** *Times* 25 Dec. 7/4 The ship sails well... stays quickly and surely; also wears well.

2. trans. To put (a ship) about, bringing her stern to windward.

1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 519 We... war'd the Ship again, and brought our Quarter to bear upon them. **1726** *SHELVOCKE Voy. round World* 261 They... wore ship, and hauled close on a wind to the westward. **1797** *NELSON in Duncan Life* (1806) 40, I ordered the ship to be wore. **1820** *SCORESBY Acc. Arctic Regions* II. 374 The ship was instantly 'wearer'. *Ibid.* 440 When we attempted to wear the ship... she refused to turn round. **1840** R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* x. 23 When the watch came up, we wore ship, and stood on the other tack. **1904** *Times* 22 Mar. 9/5 The Mona continued to run before the wind, her crew having seemingly been unable to wear her.

†wear, v.³ *north. dial. Obs.* [Of uncertain origin.] *trans.* To cool.

1674 RAY N. C. *Words*, To Wear the pot, to cool it. *a* **1743** *JOSIAH RELPH Misc. Poems* (1747) 1 Thur callar blasts may wear the boilen sweat: But my het bluid, my heart aw' in a bruil, Nor callar blasts can wear, nor drops can cuil.

wear: see WEIR. Also obs. f. *WARE sb.*¹, *a.*, *v.*²

weara'bility. [f. *WEARABLE a.* + *-ITY.*] The capability of being worn or of enduring wear; suitability for wear; durability.

1927 *Daily Express* 5 Sept. 5/2 A series of distinctive models to demonstrate individuality with wearability. **1958** *Vogue* Dec. 108 This is the sweater you must have this autumn for its soft lines, its beautiful wearability. **1966** *Chem. & Engin. News* 19 Dec. 13/2 Corfam sells in the U.K. for about the same as top-quality shoe leather, with which Du Pont compares its product for wearability under flexing and for 'breathability'. **1981** *Observer* (Colour Suppl.) 12 Apr. 75 (Advt.), A 100% cotton shirt with all the comfort and wearability men associate with cotton.

wearable ('wɛərəb(ə)l), *a.* and *sb.* [f. *WEAR v.*¹ + *-ABLE.*]

A. adj. Capable of being worn; fit or suitable to be worn.

1590 SIR J. SMYTHE *Disc. Weapons* 14 He... did encrease his numbers of Mosquetters, the blowes of the bullets of which, no armours wearable can resist. **1650** *HOWELL Giraffi's Rev. Naples* I. 15 Oil, Cheese, Silk, and all other either edible, or wearable commodities. **1801** *LADY SARAH LENNOX Lett.* (1901) II. 151, I assure you a poplin is not wearable in these days. **1842** R. OASTLER *Fleet Papers* II. 26 It... will not weave into wearable cloths. **1853** G. J. CAYLEY *Las Alforjas* I. 105 By the time I had made and smoked a cigarette, the powerful sun of January had dried

the sock to a wearable state. **1882** *MISS BRADDON Mt. Royal* II. ix. 180 The only shop in London at which wearable gloves could be bought. **1896** J. L. ALLEN *Summer in Arcady* iii. 11 The thousand... things, eatable, wearable, or otherwise usable that may be sent to and fro between friendly households.

B. sb. A wearable commodity, an article of clothing. Chiefly in *plural*.

1711 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4817/7 Gloves, Buttons, Wearables. *c* **1720** *Lett. fr. Mist's Jrnal.* (1722) I. 215, I had... provided her handsome Lodgings... and, for her Wearables, rich Sattins, Gold Watch, and a hundred other Trinkets. **1726** *BERKELEY Let. Wks.* 1871 IV. 137 Whether a minor be not chargeable for eatables and wearables supplied on the credit of another. **1818** *SCOTT Hrt. Midl.* xli, He... moved off with Mrs. Dutton's wearables and deposited the trunk containing them safely in the boat. **1849** C. BRONTE *Shirley* xxiv, Let a woman ask me to give her an edible or a wearable... I can, at least, understand the demand. **1859** *LEVER Dav. Dunn* xlvi, Drawers were crammed with his wearables.

weard, obs. form of WEIRD *sb.*

weare, obs. form of WAR, WEIR.

wearer ('wɛərə(r)). [f. *WEAR v.*¹ + *-ER*¹.]

1. One who wears or carries on his person (a garment, ornament, etc.). Also transf. and fig.

1402 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 69 But if my cloth be over prescious, Jakke, blame the werer. *c* **1449** *PECOCK Repr.* I. xvi. 88 Werers of piliouns. *c* **1460** *Towneley Myst.* xxviii. 333 Mi gyrdill gay and purs of sylk... whils I am were of swylke, the longere mercy may I call. **1495** *Act 11 Hen. VII.* c. 27 To the great damage losse and disceite of the Kingis true subgettis biers and werers of such fustian. **1596** *SHAKS. Merch. V.* II. ix. 43 O... that cleare honour Were purchast by the merrit of the wearer. **1606** — *Ant. & Cl.* II. ii. 7 By Iupiter, Were I the wearer of Anthonio's Beard, I would not shaue't to day. *a* **1633** G. HERBERT *Outlandish Prov.* (1640) 491 The wearer knowes, where the shoe wrings. **1667** *MILTON P.L.* III. 490 Then might ye see Cowles, Hoods and Habits with thir wearers tost And flutter into Raggs. **1725** *POPE Odys.* VIII. 440 This sword... Whose ivory sheath inwrought with curious pride, Adds graceful terror to the wearer's side. **1815** W. H. IRELAND *Scribbleomania* 104 Half of the wearers of buskin and sock. **1849** C. BRONTE *Shirley* vi, Her style of dress announced taste in the wearer. **1860** *TROLLOPE Castle Richmond* xiii, There are great red swollen noses, very disagreeable both to the wearer and his acquaintances. **1869** *TOZER Highl. Turkey* II. 264 Caps, cloaks, and rings, which render the wearer invisible. **1878** J. DAVIDSON *Inverurie* i. 14 What wearers of flesh and blood dwelt then in the sheltered dell?

b. said of a lower animal. **1876** E. PARFITT in *Rep. & Trans. Devonsh. Assoc.* VIII. 247 This brilliancy of colouring [of some birds] would seem... to compensate the wearers for the melodious voice... of their more sober-painted relatives.

2. That which wears away, consumes or diminishes by attrition.

1773 *JOHNSON* (ed. 4). (But his example belongs to sense 1.) Hence in later Dicts.

wearable ('wɛərəb(ə)l), *a.* [f. *WEARY v.* + *-ABLE.*] Capable of being wearied.

1775 *ASH, Unweariable*, not wearable. **1856** *RUSKIN Mod. Paint.* III. iv. x. §14 The imagination is eminently a wearable faculty, eminently delicate, and incapable of bearing fatigue. **1904** *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 546 Lord Leighton... could judge... with the minimum of æsthetic strain; while most critics... have to depend... on wearable taste.

Hence 'weariableness.

1904 *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 540 The sensitiveness, the weariableness of the æsthetic faculties... causes, in the Art-world, the demand for novelty to outrun the legitimate supply.

wearie, obs. form of WORRY *v.*

wearied ('wɛəriɪd), *ppl. a.* [f. *WEARY v.* + *-ED*¹.] (Excessively) fatigued; tired out. Also with *out*. Of a look, sigh: Expressive of or indicating weariness.

1538 *ELYOT Dict., Exercitus*, exercised, vsed in labour, wearied, hardned. **1560** *DAUS tr. Sleidane's Comm.* 419 b, Being so faint and wearied with traveling. **1577** *GRANGE Golden Aphrod.* D iij, Whilst he thought to haue rested his wearied limmes in a bedde of security. **1594** *SHAKS. Rich. III.* IV. iv. 112 Now thy proud Necke, beares halfe my burthen'd yoke, From which, euen heere I slip my wearied head. **1628** *MAY Virg. Georg.* II. 63 And time it is to ease our wearyed horse. *a* **1646** Z. BOYD in *Zion's Flowers* (1855) App. 17 My wearied soul he doth restore. **1667** *MILTON P.L.* I. 320 Or have ye chos'n this place After the toyl of Battel to repose Your wearied vertue. **1746** *FRANCIS tr. Hor., Sat.* I. v. 28 Till wearied passenger retires to rest. **1820** *SCOTT Monast.* xvii, Why art thou so well pleased that the morning should call thee up to daily toil, and the evening again lay thee down a wearied-out wretch? **1823** — *Quentin D.* xxxvi, The wearied and wounded... were lying in vain for shelter and refreshment. **1840** *DICKENS Old C. Shop* xlvi, Wearing the depressed and wearied look of one who [etc.]. **1841** S. WARREN *Ten Thou.* I. viii, He stretches his wearied limbs to their uttermost. **1872** *TENNYSON Gareth & Lyn.* 1234 Yet not less I felt Thy manhood thro' that wearied lance of thine. **1888** *BLACK In Far Lochaber* xxiii, She turned away with a wearied sigh.

Comb. **1849** C. BRONTE *Shirley* xi, She came back... pale and wearied-looking.

Hence 'weariedly *adv.*, 'weariedness.

a **1617** *BAYNE Lect.* (1634) 308 The more weariednesse we feele, the more we may be bold this way. **1681** *RYCAUT tr. Gracian's Critick* 81 Having... weariedly travelled over much ground, they met no Man. *Ibid.* 161 When the other Senecs weariedly retire to their repose... these careful Centinels of the Soul, attend their guards. **1688** *SANDILANDS Salut. Endear'd Love* 30 Which brings a weariedness, faintness, and benumbedness over them. **1815** *SCOTT Guy*

M. xlvii, The poor Dominie . . . wearily plodded his way towards Woodbourne. **1865** MRS. NEWBY *Comm. Sense* xlvii. II. 247 'What a mother!' exclaimed Mrs. Sowerby, wearily. **1872** TENNYSON *Last Tourn.* 156 Sighing wearily. **1886** *Daily News* 12 Oct. 3/1 Wearily trudging home.

wearier ('wɪərɪə(r)). *rare*. [f. WEARY *v.* + -ER¹.] One who wears or fatigues.

1765 J. BROWN *Chr. Jnrl.*, *Winter Day* 253 To be . . . a wearier of God with iniquity, a blasphemer [etc.].

weariful ('wɪərɪfʊl), *a.* [f. WEARY *v.* + -FUL.]

1. That causes weariness; that tires one's endurance or patience.

c1454 PECOCK *Folewer* 15 Maters . . . which ellis schulde have be to hem ouyr hard and ouer werylful to be vndirstonde. **1822** *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 82 Yef y schulde . . . declare synglerly the peynys and tormentys of euery syngler cryme . . . hit wulde be ouer teduse and werylful to the redder therof. **1591** R. TURNBULL *St. James* 51 That we . . . with inuincible fortitude and pacience, may finish our weariful pilgrimage in his feare, religion and seruice. **1825** FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Weariful*, tiresome; giving exercise to patience. Ex. 'I have had a weariful bout of it.' **1826** GALT *Last of Lairds* i. 8 O that wearyfu' jaunt to Embro' to see the King! **1846** G. S. FABER *Lett. Tractat. Secess.* 194 So proceeds the Professor through ten weariful pages. **1849** C. BRONTE *Shirley* vi, This foreign style of darning . . . was done stitch by stitch, so as exactly to imitate the fabric of the stocking itself; a weariful' process. **1886** SYMONDS *Renaiss. It., Cath. React.* (1898) VII. xiii. 210 Visions of dreary wanderings through weariful saloons. **1912** W. S. BLUNT *Land War in Ireland* ix. 339 Twenty weariful Irish miles.

b. of a person. *Sc.*

a1700 *Gaberlunzie-Man* vii, The weirifou' Gaberlunzie-man. **1882** STEVENSON *Fam. Stud.* (1888) 299 She was a religious hypochondriac, a very weariful woman.

c. of the weather. Chiefly *Sc.*

1872 J. PAYNE *Songs of Life & Death* 224 Wearyful winter is gone at last. **1874** R. TYRWHITT *Sketch. Club* 223 Spite of gray winter and weariful weather. **1894** A. REID *Sangs o' the Heatherland* 48 The wearifu' snaw, O, the wearifu' snaw!

2. Full of weariness; utterly fatigued. Of a person: Languid or affecting languor. Of a look, sigh, smile: Exhibiting or expressing weariness.

1862 MATILDA B. EDWARDS *John & I* xxiv. (1876) 323 He lay still for some time with a weariful smile upon his lips. **1880** G. MACDONALD *Diary Old Soul* Feb. 25, And the thought-spirit, weariful and wan, . . . Sinks moveless. **1880** JEFFERIES *Greene Ferne Farm* 209 The wearyful women came homeward from the gleaming. **1885** JEAN INGELow *Sleep of Sigismund* 8 His weird is on him to grope in the dark with endless Weariful feet for a goal that shifteth still. **1891** MEREDITH *One of our Conq.* xxviii, Colney cast a weariful look backward. **1899** CROCKETT *Kit Kennedy* 9 Liliás sighed the long, weariful sigh of hope deferred.

Hence 'wearifully *adv.*', 'wearifulness.

1838 *Lett. fr. Madras* (1843) 226, I quite dread to hear the subject mentioned, for fear of a quarrel, besides the wearifulness. **1885** MEREDITH *Diana* iv, There was a strange interjection, as to the wearifulness of constantly wandering. **1888** BLACK *In Far Lochaber* xxiii, The long night passed, slowly and wearifully. **1907** C. G. HARPER *Rural Nooks* 14 The blurred lights of the streets and shops going weirdly and wearifully by.

'wearihood. *nonce-wd.* [-HOOD.] The condition of being weary.

1883 *Academy* 27 Oct. 278/1 After years of doubt and deception and the wearihood of waiting, the Wanderer at last returns.

weariless ('wɪərɪlɪs), *a.* [f. WEARY *v.* + -LESS.] That does not weary or become weary.

c1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 75 Werylesse I walke ay in trouble and travaile, Ever travilyng witheout werynes. **1608** HIERON *Defence* II. 184 Will ever any man but a wearylesse wrangler. . . affirme and stand to it, that wisdom is taken diversely here. **1799** SHERIDAN *Pizarro* I. i, With weariless remonstrance he sued to win me from my purpose. **1813** HOGG *Queen's Wake* I. (1814) 51 How came yon white doves from the window to fly, And hover on weariless wings to the sky? **1879** LOWELL *Mem. Poems, To W. L. Garrison* 42 O small beginnings, ye are great and strong, Based on a faithful heart and weariless brain! **1886** BLACKMORE *Springhaven* ix, The weariless tide came up and lifted the bedded keel. **1906** *Times Lit. Suppl.* 30 Nov. 402/2 A sturdy Dissenter, a weariless promoter of Godliness.

Hence 'wearilessly *adv.*

1791 COLLINSON *Hist. Somerset* 610 A headland . . . where a huge disjointed rock . . . is wearilessly combated by the waves. **1893** F. ADAMS *New Egypt* 192 He opposed openly and wearilessly the ruinous policy of his master.

wearily ('wɪərɪli), *adv.* [f. WEARY *a.* + -LY².] In a weary manner; with weariness.

1481 CAXTON *Godfrey* clxxxv. 271 Theyr enemyes wexed wery and weryly and slowly defended them. **1523** BERNERS *Froiss.* clxxvii. (1812) I. 221 And so they went weryly by heapes. **1568** GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 298 They perceaued a flocke of men of armes comming together right weryly. **1610** SHAKS. *Temp.* III. i. 32 *Mir.* You looke weryly. **18..** MOORE 'Merrily every Bosom' ii, Weryly every bosom pineth. **1859** TENNYSON *Marr. Geraint* 254 [He] down the long stretch riding weryly, Found every hostel full. **1866** GEO. ELIOT *Felix Holt* i, A heavy moth floated by, and, when it settled, seemed to fall weryly. **1891** FARRAR *Darkn. & Dawn* lix, 'What is heaven?' asked Poppæa, weryly.

weariness ('wɪərɪnɪs). [f. WEARY *a.* + -NESS.]

1. Weary condition; extreme tiredness or fatigue resulting from exertion, continued endurance of pain, or want of sleep.

c900 *Beda's Hist.* III. ix. (1890) 178 [þæt hors] þy gewuneliccan þeawe horsa æfter werynesse ongon wealwian. **c1200** *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 35 [Adam] ne purte naure polen hunger ne þurst, . . . ne werynesse, ne elde, ne unhelðe, ne deð.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4920 + 34 He lay muchedel of þe nyȝt in wo & in sorwe, . . . So þat aslep atte laste vor werynyssse hym nome. **c1380** WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 35 Upberynge us in oure werynes. **c1450** Merlin ii. 39 Than the white [dragon] leide hym down to reste for werynesse. **1500-20** DUNBAR *Poems* xxxv. 9 For weyrines on me ane slummer soft Come with ane dremyng. **1584** COGAN *Haven Health* I. 11 First I shall declare what remedie is to be vsed against weyrinesse which commeth by immoderate labour. **1611** SHAKS. *Cymb.* III. vi. 33 Wearinesse Can snore vpon the Flint, when restie Sloth Findes the Downe-pillow hard. **1649** J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Wandering to see West* 8 At last, wearinesse and watching, began to inforce sleep upon me. **1707** FLOYER *Physic. Pulse-Watch* 86 If the Exercise be Immoderate with great Weariness, the Spirits and Heat are very much evaporated. **1797** COLERIDGE *Christabel* I. 74, I scarce can speak for weariness. **1856** SIR B. BRODIE *Psychol. Inq.* I. iv. 136 The muscles . . . may be for a long time in a state of involuntary contraction . . . without weariness being induced.

2. Tedium or distaste induced by monotonous or uncongenial conditions or occupations; tiredness of a course of action, a state of things, a person or thing. †Also *rarely* const. to with inf.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 129 b, Therof foloweth . . . teduousness in all gostly exercyse, & werynes of holy company. **1560** DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 376 A certeyne weyrines, and impacience of long imprisonment. **1625** BACON *Ess., Death* (Arb.) 387 A man would die, though he were neither valiant, nor miserable, only vpon a wearinesse to doe the same thing, so oft ouer and ouer. **1643** R. BAKER *Chron.* (1653) 9 Osred, whose wife Cutburga, out of a loathing weyrinesse of wedlock, sued out a divorce from her husband. **1853** DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xii, Weariness of soul lies before her, as it lies behind. **1858** FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* IV. xviii. 37 The struggle . . . terminated, through weariness of enduring and inflicting suffering. **1885** *Manch. Exam.* 15 May 5/6 Sheer weariness of things which are to them common and familiar.

3. Something that wearies.

1560 BIBLE (Geneva) *Eccl.* xii. 12 There is none end in making manie bokes: and muche reading is a wearines of the flesh. **1845** FROUDE *Nemesis of Faith* (1849) 109 Long devotions are a weariness to healthy children. **1856** MISS YONGE *Daisy Chain* II. x, The children were dull, and she began to believe she was doing no good—it was all a weariness. **1905** R. BAGOT *Passport* x. 90 To be compelled by fashion to sit down to a meal at the pleasantest hour in all the twenty-four is a weariness to the flesh and a vexation to the spirit.

wearing ('wɛərɪŋ), *vbl. sb.*¹ [f. WEAR *v.*¹ + -ING¹.]

†1. The fact or habit of being clothed in a particular way; kind or style of clothing; also *concr.* what a person wears or might wear. *Obs.*

a1225 *Ancr. R.* 8 Gif heo hit ne bihat nout heo hit mai don pauh, & leten hwon heo wel wule, alse of mete & of drunch, fleschs forgon oper visch, . . . of weriunge, of liggunge, of vres, of beoden. *Ibid.* 368 Mid festen, mid wechchen, mid disciplines, mid herd weriunge. **1340** HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 1521 Of bathe þer worldes gret outrage we se . . . In worldis havynng and beryng, In vayn apparail and in weryng. **c1400** *Brut* ccxx. (1906) 261 [He] disigede him wiþ wonder ryche cþopes oute of al maner resoun boþe of shaping and of wering. **1526** *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 137 Pamperyng or ouer-moche cherysshyng of our bodyes by soft lyenge, soft weryng, or moche fedyng. **1600** HOLLAND *Pliny* viii. xviii. 1. 228 The waved water chamelot, was from the beginning esteemed the richest and bravest wearing. **1605** SHAKS. *Oth.* IV. iii. 16 Giue me my nightly wearing, and adieu. **a1613** *Overbury Wife, Characters, Milkmaid* (1618) 14 b, For though she be not arraied in the spoile of the Silke-worme, she is deckt in innocence, a far better wearing. **1621** LADY M. WROTH *Urania* 510 Hee perswaded his companion to put on his West-coate, and night-wearing, and walk into the garden. **1629** GAULE *Holy Madn.* 134 Another shape out, and another trim up their wearings. **1654** GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* II. iv. 48 He shifted his Velvet Trunks, which was his customary wearing. **1690** LOCKE *Gout.* I. i, Chains are but an ill wearing, how much Care soever hath been taken to file and polish them.

b. *pl.* (See quot.)

1837 *Patent* 27 Nov. in *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jnrl.* I. 54/2 Certain Improvements for producing Ornamental Lace or Wearings.

2. The action of carrying on the body (an article of dress, an ornament, or the like). †of one's wearing: forming part of one's wardrobe (*obs.*). Also *fig.*

13.. *E.E. Allit. P. B.* I 123 For ho schynes so schyr þat is of schap rounde, . . . & wax euer in þe worlde in weryng so olde, 3et þe perle payres not whyle ho in pyese lasttes. **1426** *E.E. Wills* (1882) 71, I woll þat . . . my preest haue . . . a gowne of my weryng. **a1450** *Knt. de la Tour* xxvii. 39 Seint Bernarde, . . . for his holi lyuing, and of weryng of the heyre, . . . was chose to be abbot of that place. **1482** *Cely Papers* (Camden) 103 My mother has gewyn to Myhellz wyfe a cremsyn gowne of hyr wheryng. **1581** PETTIE *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* I. (1586) A3 b, Such rare jewels are well worth the wearing. **1607** SHAKS. *Timon* v. i. 146 Speciall Dignities, which vacant lyfe For thy best vse and wearing. **1704** SWIFT *T. Tub* ii. 54 With good wearing, they will last you fresh and sound as long as you live. **1711** STEELE *Spect.* No. 43 ¶ 10 But a Fool of a colder Constitution would have . . . made Buff of his Skin, for the Wearing of the Conqueror. **1719** DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 421, I desir'd that they might all take an equal Quantity of the Goods that were for wearing. **1818** SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* xxx, He rushed into the room with a willow branch in his hand, which he told her had arrived that instant from Germany for her special wearing. **1849** MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vii. II. 182 The opposition, it seemed, wished . . . to make the crown of England not worth the wearing.

b. *attrib.* in wearing apparel, wearing gear (*arch.*), articles of clothing collectively. †Formerly also in many other collocations with

the senses 'suitable or intended for wearing', as *wearing clothes, garments, gown, jewels, linen, rapier.*

Also †wearing plate, plate in actual household use (*cf.* *WEAR v.*¹ 2 b).

1418 E. E. *Wills* (1882) 32 Myne owne werynge clothes. **1498** in *Somerset Med. Wills* (1901) 365 All my weryng kercheff evenly to be departed betwene her and . . . Agnes Huyssh. **1542** UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 204 He would of a custome diligently serche his robes, and al his wearyng geare, & saie [etc.]. **1575** FLEMING *Virg. Bucol.* viii. 26 These wearing geere sometimes to me that faithles fellowe left. **1576** — *Panopl. Epist.* 354 The sheepe . . . yeeldeth her woll, which is wouen and wrought to make vs wearing garmentes. **1593** SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI.* I. iii. 88 The very trayne of her worst wearing Gowne, Was better worth then all my Fathers Lands. **1616** MS. *Liber Depos. Archd. Colestr.* 94 His wife's wearing linnen. **1617** in W. F. Shaw *Mem. Eastry* (1870) 227 Item all her wearinge apparell, xvij^{li}. **1620** *Inv.* in *Essex Rev.* (1907) XVI. 206 His purs and waringe parell, ij^{li}. **1661** in W. M. Sargent *Maine Wills* (1887) 3, I giue vnto Anthony Littlefeild all my wearing Cloaths. **1683** in *J. Hull's Diaries* (1857) 260 The s^d Judith Hull [the widow] shall have and enjoy out of the personal estate . . . one halfe part of all the wearing plate. **1685** in *Verney Mem.* (1907) II. 421 Bring along with you . . . yr Best Waring Things. **1688** HOLME *Armoury* IV. xii. (Roxb.) 487/1 His owne wearinge rapier carried by his servant. **1721** DE FOE *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 72 Some wearing linen. **1740** C^{TESS} HARTFORD *Corr.* (1805) II. 29 Her wearing jewels are the finest and most various of any sovereign's now living. **1835** DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Pawnbroker's Shop*, Wearing apparel of every description. **1900** H. SUTCLIFFE *Shameless Wayne* xiv, With blood on his wearing-gear and sorrow on his face.

3. The condition or process of being continuously in wear or use. Chiefly in phrases with prep., as *in* (†the) wearing, (the) worse for (†the) wearing.

1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 44 All thyng is the woors for the wearyng. **1581** PETTIE *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* I. (1586) 11 That the . . . Boote was made of such leather as would shrinke in the wearing. **1613** J. MAY *Decl. Estate of Cloth* 38 After a moneths wearing, it will looke like a souldiers coat which hath line sixe moneths out of garrison. **1697** COLLIER *Ess. Mor. Subj.* II. (1703) 69 Friendship is one of those few things which are the better for the wearing. **1706** E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 74 His hardest Tools are the worse for Wearing. **1711** *Dissenting Teachers Addr. agst. Bill for building 50 New Churches* 18 A Pulpit little worse for wearing to dispose off. **1724** RAMSAY *Widow* 10 'The Widow she's youthfu', and never æe Hair The war of the wearing.

4. The action of wasting, damaging, or exhausting, or the process of being wasted, by continuous use or exposure. Also with *away, down, out.*

1473 *Rental Bk. Cupar-Angus* (1879) I. 177 For the defens of the said land for the weryng awa of watter als far as thar bundys rekys. **1500-20** DUNBAR *Poems* lxiii. 31 Hail! in everie circumstance, In forme, in mater, and substance, But wering, or consumption. **1523** *Act 14 & 15 Hen. VIII* c. 6 §2 Many other Comon wayes . . . be so depe and noyous by wearyng and Course of Water and other occasions, that [etc.]. **1542** UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 17 b, To liuing a single life is annexed. . . vter decayng and wearyng out of the name. **1597** SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV.* v. i. 89, I will deuse matter enough out of this Shallow, to keepe Prince Harry in continuall Laughter, the wearing out of sixe Fashions (which is foure Tearmes). **1711** ADDISON *Spect.* No. 10 ¶ 3 Such Writings as tend to the wearing out of Ignorance, Passion, and Prejudice. **1802** PLAYFAIR *Illustr. Huttonian Theory* 294 The thinnest part of that rock . . . has been perfectly defended by them from every sort of wearing and decay. **1853** MRS. GASKELL *Ruth* xxix, The final and unmendable wearing-out of the parlour carpet, which there was no spare money to replace. **1855** W. H. BARLOW in *Phil. Trans.* CXLV. 226 This arose from a slight wearing of the working parts of the measuring instrument. **1877** HUXLEY *Physiogr.* ix. 149 The great wearing down of land which must be effected by rain and rivers. **1883** *Science* II. 75/2 The wearing-away of the falls would injure navigation above. **1908** *Animal Managem.* (War Office) 183 This wearing out of a tired horse by a tired man.

b. *concr.* in *pl.* Worn places, marks of wear.

1885 *Lock Workshop Rec.* Ser. IV. 313/1 If the pallets are worn, the wearings must be filed out.

c. Wasting from disease: in quot. with *away*. (? *Obs.*) Hence *dial.* a wasting illness, consumption.

1654 SIR A. JOHNSTON (Ld. Wariston) *Diary* (S.H.S.) II. 240 Hearing of my Lord Craighall his fayling and wearyng away, I went to him. **1824** CARR *Craven Gloss., Wearing, consumption.* **1876** *Mr. Gray & his Neighbours* I. 116, I do believe one on 'em is going into a wearin'.

d. Wearying or exhausting effect.

1845 MRS. S. C. HALL *Whiteboy* I. ix. 140 The woe and wearing of weeks [of sickness] sobered and softened her.

†5. Manner in which a cloth, etc. wears (well or badly); degree of resistance to the effects of wear. Also *fig.*, degree in which a person continues to merit approval; also, degree of resistance to the effects of time. *Obs. rare.*

1549 LATIMER *and Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 59 Salomon sayed to hym [sc. Adonias]: Gette the into thy house, bilyke he meante to warde, and ther to se hys wearynge, as if he shoulde saye, shewe thyselfe wythoute gall of ambition, to be a quiet subiecte, and I wyll pardon the for thys tyme. But I wyll se the wearynge of the. **1566** A. EDWARDS in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1599) I. 358 They talke much of London clothes, and they that know the wearing, are desirous of them before the cloth of the womens making, for they find it nothing durable. **1740** CIBBER *Apol.* 177 In the Wearing of her Person, she was particularly fortunate; her Figure was always improving, to her Thirty-sixth Year.

6. Passing, elapsing (of a period of time). *rare.* **1876** MORRIS *Sigurd* I. 30 Now again in a half month's wearing goes Signy into the wild. **1895** *Funk's Stand. Dict.*,

Wearing . . 3. Diminution or passing away, as, the wearing of the season. 1905 A. T. SHEPPARD *Red Cravat* III. ii. 238 Before the wearing of a moon, [he] was back again.

'wearing, *vbl. sb.*² *Naut.* [f. WEAR *v.*² + -ING¹.] The action of turning a vessel's stern to windward: opposed to *tacking*. Also *attrib.*

1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780), *Wearing*. See the article *Veering*. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xxiii, A regular tacking and wearing bill was made out.

wearing ('wɛəɪŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. WEAR *v.*¹ + -ING².]

1. Exhausting, tiring; enfeebling by continued strain or irritation. Also *wearing-out*.

1811 LADY GRANVILLE *Lett.* (1894) I. 20, I have been prevented writing by most wearing nervous headaches. 1815 CHALMERS in *Hanna Life* (1851) II. 18 A heartless, hard driving, distracting, and wearing out life among the bustle of unministerial work. 1824 SUSAN FERRIER *Inher.* xl, She . . remarked, what a wearing-out thing it [reading aloud] was for the reader. 1837 CARLYLE *New Lett.* (1904) I. 55 My toil is great; but it is not a wearing toil, as that of writing is. 1859 J. BRIGHT *Sp. India* 1 Aug. (1876) 50 This wearing exasperating question of how money is to be got. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* III. xvi, You see the occupations of the day are sometimes a little wearing. 1876 HARDY *Ethelberta* xx, She began to know how wearing were miserable days, and how much more wearing were miserable nights. 1887 Murray's *Mag.* Aug. 267 It was in many respects a wearing life.

2. That gradually destroys, diminishes, or impairs by continued use or attrition.

1859 R. HUNT *Guide Mus. Pract. Geol.* (ed. 2) 292 The specimens exhibited show the wearing and grinding force of the modern glaciers. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Deronda* xxxv, This cloister was built of harder stone than the church, and had been in greater safety from the wearing weather. 1903 W. CHRYSAL *Kindg. Kippen* 146 All the lower ground is covered with sheets of boulder clay, the material resulting from the wearing action of the ice.

3. That is undergoing wear, diminution, or impairment by continued use or attrition. *wearing course* (Highway Engin.) (see quot. 1940).

1908 *Animal Managem.* (War Office) 36 The surface [of the tooth] which bites on the food or its fellow in the opposite jaw is the *table*, or *wearing surface*. 1940 *Gloss. Highway Engin. Terms (B.S.I.)* 28 *Wearing course*, the layer of material applied to form the carriage-way. 1977 *Bitumen* (Shell Internat. Petroleum Co.) 2/4 The traffic load is carried mainly by the base layer, while the wearing course provides a waterproof non-skid cover which resists traffic wear.

Hence 'wearingly *adv.*

1870 *Public Opinion* 6 Aug. 170 It is the trivial, every-day suffering . . that is most wearingly, if not most keenly, felt.

wearish ('wɛərɪʃ), *a. Obs. exc. dial.* Forms: 4 *werische*, 5-6 *werysshe*, *weris(s)he*, -*ysh(e)*, *wearysh(e)*, *wear-*, *weerische*, *weerysh*, 6-7 *werish*, *weerish*, 9 *dial. warish*, *werrish*, 6- *wearish*. [Late ME. *werische*; of obscure origin. Cf. WERSH *a.* which is prob. a contracted form of this.]

There is some resemblance in form and sense to the early mod.Du. *wers*, *wars*, *warsch*, 'contrarius, adversus, malus' (Kilian), mod.Du. *wars*, disgusted, averse, weary of, Du. *dial. warsig*, Fris. *wèrsich* disgusting; but etymological connexion seems improbable.]

1. Destitute of savour, sickly-flavoured, tasteless, insipid; unsalted. Cf. WERSH *a.* 1.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P.R.* IV. ix. (Tollem. MS.) Flemme is an humouris kyndely colde and moyste, werische and unsauoury [L. *insipidus*]. c 1425 *St. Mary of Oignies* II. ii. in *Anglia* VIII. 154 As any man . . amonge many manere deynete metes wold forsake an vnsauory and werysshe mete. 1477 NORTON *Ordin. Alch.* v. in *Ashm.* (1652) 74 Also is Weerish tasc called Unsauoury. 1530 PALSGR. 328/2 Werysshe as meate is that is nat well tastye, *mal sauouré*. 1531 TINDALE *Expos. 1 John* Prol. (1538) 7b, As the tastye of the sycke maketh wholsome and well seasoned meate bytter, weerysh, and unsauory. 1533 MORE *Debell. Salem* iv. Wks. 938/1 If the salt waxe ones freshe & werish, wherin shal ani thing be wel seasoned? 1538 ELYOT *Dict., Inconditus* . . weryshe. 1607 *Barley-Breake* (1877) 28 When Hyems shall vpon them shake his lockes, Their grazing feast will haue a wearish tatch. 1828 CARR *Craven Gloss., Warish*, unsauoury. 1881 *Leic. Gloss., Werrish*, . . as applied to drinks, 'small', weak, sickly, insipid.

b. *fig.* Void of relish, insipid, savourless; flat, futile, ineffectual.

1532 TINDALE *Expos. Matt.* v-vii. (? 1550) 23b, All werysh and vnsauerye ceremonies whyche haue lost theyr significacions. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* *Erasm.* Pref. *vij b, In expressyng and vttreyng suche saynges Xenophon seemeth to me somewhat weeryshe [*mihī dilutor uidetur*]. 1548 — *Erasm. Par. Matt.* v. 10-12 Beeyng ouerwhelmed with weryshe opinions and wayne desyres. *Ibid.* vii. 28, 29 They vsed to brynge furth certayne weryshe constitutions, of wasshyng their handes before meate, [etc.]. *Ibid.* *Luke* Pref. (.) iij b, So werishe and vneffectual was y^e vertue of the medicine of Physicke whiche thei brought [*adeo Pharmacum quod adferebant uim habebat dilutam & inefficacem*]. 1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. 1 Cor.* i. 9-20 The rude and wearysh preaching [*sermo rudis et inconditus*]. 1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* III. v. 523 Yelding hir pleasures weerish, and hir amours tastelesse. 1650 H. BROOKE *Conserv. Health* 4 A sickly, wearish, and momentary Delight.

2. Of persons and animals, their limbs, etc.: Sickly, feeble, delicate; lean, wizened, shrivelled. Also, of a countenance: Sickly-looking. Cf. WERSH *a.* 2.

1513 MORE *Rich. III* Wks. (1557) 54/1 Therw^t he plucked vp hys doublet sleue to his elbow, . . where he shewed a werish withered arme and small. 1566 DRANT *Horace, Sat.*

II. v. Hiiij b, If thou canst spy a wealthie man, that hath a wearyshe chylde, There, shewe thy selfe officious. a 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* 1. (Arb.) 39 A countenance, not werishe and crabbed, but faire and cumlie. 1569 V. SKINNER tr. *Montanus Inquis.* 20b, A full weake & wearish body [L. *corpore infirmo ac caduco*]. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. 116b, If they [the stallions] be to yong, they get but weake and wearish Coltes. *Ibid.* 137b, A small and a weerysh Sheepe. 1579 LODGE *Def. Plays* 5 That they like good Phisitions should so frame their potions, that they might be applicable to the quesie stomacks of their werish patients. 1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* I 4b, They haue hid a little weerish leane face vnder a broad French hat. 1596 SPENSER *F.Q.* IV. v. 34 A wretched wearish elfe, With hollow eyes and rawbone cheekes forspent. 1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* VI. xxii. 784 The deepe red wine which is harsh and rough, . . is profitable to comfort the loose & wearish stomacke. 1624 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* (ed. 2) Democr. to Rdr. 2 Democritus . . was a little wearish [1621 wearyish] old man, very melancholy by nature. 1633 FORD *Love's Sacr.* v. 1, A crooked leg, . . a wearish hand, A bloodlesse lip. 1685 BURNET *Life Bp. Bedell* 257 It might often have been easily done, especially upon such a weakly and wearish Body. 1881 *Leic. Gloss., Werrish*, feeble; deficient in stamina; of a delicate constitution. 1888 DOUGHTY *Trav. Arab. Des.* I. v. 148 All the date-eaters are of a certain wearish visage.

b. Comb.: *wearish-coloured*, sickly-hued, pale.

1548 THOMAS *Ital. Gram., Dict.* (1567), *Pallida*, pale, or wearishe coloured.

c. Lacking energy, languid.

1650 H. BROOKE *Conserv. Health* 163 A wearish and impotent giving up of the spirits. a 1656 USSHER *Ann.* VI. (1658) 328 At the first setting out they seemed to run exceeding well, but after a while, to grow somewhat wearish.

3. Dull-witted, stupid.

1519 HORMAN *Vulg.* 52 A werissh [L. *insulsus*] felowe made at this besynes. 1537 in *Ellis Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. III. 103 My thyncke yt ys butt a weryshe persson to haue any such lernyng of prophesye.

4. ? Peevish, cross-grained, crabbed.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. xxvi. §4 (1912) 317 Have any of you children, that be not sometimes cumbersome? Have any of you fathers, that be not sometime weerysh? What, shall we . . hate our children, or disobey our fathers?

Hence 'wearishly *adv.*, languidly, without energy; 'wearishness, lack of savour.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P.R.* XIX. lii. (1495) 893 The nynte sauour hyght werysshenesse and vnsauerynesse. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 106 *marg.*, Beetes is an herbe . . of whos excedyng weryshenesse and vnsauerynesse [etc.]. 1633 AMES *Fresh Suit agst. Ceremonies* Pref. p. xvii, How wearishly & unwillingly goe they to the worke?

wearisome ('wɛərɪsəm), *a.* Forms: 5 *werysom*, 6 *weerysom*, *werisom*, *wearisom*, 7 *wearysome*, 6-*wearisome*. [f. WEARY *v.* and *a.* + -SOME.]

† 1. Weary; showing signs of weariness. *Obs.*

c 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 751 The sotelte a man with sikelle in his hande, In a ryvere of watyr stande wrapped in wedes in a werysom wyse. c 1475 *Partenay* 4406 Hyt declare and tell shall my wer[y]som gost. 1561 T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtier* II. (1577) Kivb, At banckettes they refreshed their weerysome mindes, in those high discourses and diuine imaginations of theirs. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* II. 49 The wearisome creatures of the world declining to their rest. a 1656 USSHER *Ann.* VI. (1658) 190 They came, and saw no attendance about him, onely a decrepit and wearisom old man, lying along upon the beach.

2. Causing weariness through monotony, or the continuance of uncongenial circumstances; tedious.

1450-1530 *Myrr. Our Ladye* 55 The remedy hereof [undevotion] ys . . to abyde vpon the tretable sayng of theyre seruice, be yt neuer so werysom. 1590 SPENSER *F.Q.* II. xii. 32 This is . . The worlds sweet In, from paine and wearisome turmoyle. 1596 RALEGH *Discov. Guiana* 97 It is nowe time to returne towards the North, and we founde it a wearisome way backe. a 1653 BINNING *Sinner's Sanct.* xxix. Wks. (1735) 316/2 What is your Life, but a tedious and wearisome Repetition of such brutish Actions which only terminate on the Body? a 1699 TEMPLE *Health & Long Life* Wks. 1720 I. 288 All will allow . . the several Conditions of Fortune to be all wearysome, dull or disagreeable without good Humour. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* VII. VI, Simplicity uninformed, becomes wearisome. 1822 LAMB *Elia* Ser. II. *Conf. Drunkard*, A forecast of the wearisome day that lies before me. 1825 SCOTT *Betrothed* xxii, It was impossible for life to glide away in more wearisome monotony that at the castle of the Garde Doloureuse. 1883 'OUIDA' *Wanda* I. 218 The ceremonies of a court are wearisome to me. 1891 *Speaker* 2 May 533/2 The author might do much better if he would give up this wearisome murder-mongering, and take a fresh subject. 1902 *Spectator* 11 Oct. 520/1 At almost wearisome length we have endeavoured to set forth the . . case.

b. of a speaker or writer.

1573 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 35, I persaiv how werisum and tædius I have bene unto your wurship. 1634 W. TIRWHYTT tr. *Balzac's Lett.* I. 43 Were it not that I feare to be wearysom unto you, I should never make an end of my newes. 1841-44 EMERSON *Ess., Intellect* Wks. (Bohn) I. 141 How wearisome the . . political or religious fanatic . . whose balance is lost by the exaggeration of a single topic.

3. Causing weariness from bodily or mental exertion or protracted pain; fatiguing, exhausting. Now somewhat *rare*.

1594 HOOKER *Ecl. Pol.* I. vii. §7 The roote hereof, diuine malediction; whereby the instruments being weakened wherewithall the soule (especially in reasoning) doth worke, it preferreth rest in ignorance before wearisome labour to knowe. 1691 RAY *Creation* II. (1692) 4 The Head . . would have been very painful and wearisome to carry, if the Neck had lain parallel or inclining to the Horizon. 1703 M. WARWICK in Baynard *Cold Bathing* II. 297 A weak and wearisom Pain, together with a soreness upon the Part. 1750 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 6 ¶2 There was once a time when Wreaths of Bays or Oak were considered as recompences equal to the more wearisome labours. 1751 LABELYE *Westm.*

Br. 66 Their great Trouble, Care, and wearisome Attendance. 1883 JOSEPHINE E. BUTLER *Autob.* xii. (1909) 177, I climbed up the wearisome gallery stairs. 1916 *Lancet* 8 Jan. 73/2 The hand-bellows is of such a size that it fills the hand comfortably, and continuous pumping is not wearisome.

'wearisomely, *adv.* [-LY².] In a wearisome manner. a. So as to cause weariness.

c 1735 SECKER *Lect. Catech.* xxxviii. (1769) II. 276 In the whole of this Work, we must be careful, neither to hurry over any Part thoughtlessly, nor lengthen it wearisomely. 1828 Harrovian 155 Although wearisomely fond of description, L. E. L. is deficient in giving the shades of character, and variety of illustration. 1865 LOWELL *Study Wind., Thoreau* (1871) 156 If he botanise somewhat wearisomely, he gives us now and then superb outlooks from some jutting crag. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 14 July 5/5 The comedy drags somewhat wearisomely towards the end. 1885 *Spectator* 8 Aug. 1048/1 The wearisomely abundant current literature concerning actors and acting.

b. In a state of weariness or ennui. *rare*.

1831 CARLYLE *Sartor Res.* II. vii, As he wanders wearisomely through this world. 1858 — *Fredk. Gt.* III. iii. I. 214 What struggles and inextricable armed-litigations there were for it, readers of Brandenburg-History too wearisomely know.

'wearisomeness. [-NESS.]

† 1. The condition of being wearied; liability to become wearied. a. Fatigue, exhaustion from effort or pain; liability to be easily fatigued. b. Tedium, ennui; weariness of something uncongenial or uninteresting. *Obs.*

a. 1560 tr. *J. Fisher's Godly Treat. Benef. Prayer* G4, Excepte eyther the great wearysomenes of our bodyes, or some other lyke necessitie inforce vs. 1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* IV. x. 643 The fresh leaues . . being put vnder the naked soles of the feete, they greatly take awaie their wearisomnes, which by far walking haue wearied themselues. a 1653 GOUGE *Comm. Heb.* II. 17. (1655) 240 Sundry infirmities of body, as hunger, thirst, cold, wearisomesse. 1672 T. VENN *Milit. Observ.* 184 But if the wind blow stiff, or there is a weakness or wearisomness in the Ensign-bearer, then he may set the butt end against his waste and not otherwise. a 1768 SECKER *Serm.* (1770) III. 270 For in his Turn, every one must expect to be in a State of Wearisomeness and Pain, of Weakness and Danger. 1780 *Ann. Reg.* 1 A kind of languor and wearisomeness. 1882 E. W. HAMILTON *Diary* 25 Nov. (1972) I. 364 R. G. evidently wants to get out of harness also, partly from a feeling of wearisomeness and partly from bad health.

b. 1557 PHAER *Æneid* v. L 4b, *Argt.*, The Troiane wyues, at the instigation of the Raynbow, and for wearysomnesse of theyr longe trauayle: cast fier amonge the fleet. a 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* 1. (Arb.) 37 Such a witte, as is . . diligent in painfull thinges without wearisomes. 1586 A. DAY *Engl. Secretorie* II. (1625) 109 Scanderbeg declaring his wearisomeness of captivite . . desired to visit his kingdom. 1631 GOUGE *God's Arrows* III. §46. 266 That wearisomness which is taxed in the Lewes that said, when will the New-Moones and Sabbaths be gone? 1643 MILTON *Divorce* Pref. 2 Yet they shall . . be made, spight of antipathy to fadge together, and combine as they may to their unspeakable wearisomnes & despaire of all sociable delight in the ordinance which [etc.]. 1822 [MARY A. KELTY] *Osmond* I. 289 Their wearisomeness of Osmond's stupidity. 1824 DIBDIN *Libr. Comp.* II. 119 Where there is no variety, and where wearisomeness as naturally follows. 1840 PUSEY in Liddon *Life* (1893) II. xxiv. 156, I should have been afraid of the casting lots, lest it should arise from a wearisomeness of indecision, instead of waiting patiently for the time when He would enable one to decide according to His will.

2. The quality or fact of causing weariness; tendency to weary. a. Aptness to cause fatigue. b. Tediousness.

a. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 254 The commoditie is answeareable in proportion and measure, to the wearisomnesse of the labour. 1671 WOODHEAD *St. Teresa* II. 261 Amidst the joltings of the Waggon, the trouble and wearisomness of the journey, they kept their Prayer, as in the Quire. 1843 POE *Tales, Pit & Pendulum*, As if those who bore me . . had paused from the wearisomeness of their toil.

b. 1579 TWYNE *Petrarch's Phisicke agst. Fortune* 1. 109b, *Ioy*. The ayre is very cleere, I would it might not be changed. *Reason*. Thou knowest not how soone this cleereness will bring wearisomnesse: There is nothing so pleasant which continuall frequentlyng the same maketh not loathsome. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 5 The Ambassadors endeavoured to abate the wearisomenesse of our stay there, by banquets, hunting matches, and walking. 1879 HINGSTON *Austral. Abr.* vii. 71 A great sameness about it was soon, however, observable, producing even the usual effect of monotony—wearisomeness. 1886 *Manch. Exam.* 27 Jan. 3/2 A second article . . which has, notwithstanding these good qualities, just a suspicion of wearisomeness.

† 3. Loathing (for food). *Obs.*—1

1642 D. ROGERS *Naaman* 346 Evell which causeth such a fulsomenesse and wearisomenesse in Gods stomacke.

wearne, obs. f. WARN *v.*¹; var. WARN *v.*² *Obs.*

'wear-out. *rare*. Also wearout. [f. *vbl. phr. to wear out*: see WEAR *v.*¹ 9, 14.] Wearing out; destruction or damage from use.

1897 C. T. DAVIS *Manuf. Leather* (ed. 2) 270 There is absolutely no wear-out to any of the working parts of the bed. 1979 *Arizona Daily Star* 5 Aug. c 4/1 (Advt.), They are . . protected against premature wearout during the warranty period.

weary, obs. form of WORRY *v.*

weary ('wɛəri), *a.* Forms: 1 *wérig*, (uorig), *wérig*; 2-4 *weri*, (3 *wəri*), 3-6 *werie*, -*y*, (4 *wiry*, 5 *wyry*), 4, 6 *Sc. very*, (5 *were*, *werre*), 5-6 *werye*, 6 *weery*, *wiery*, 6-9 *Sc. wearie*, 6- *wórig*. [OE. *wérig*, corresponding to OS. (*sīð*-) *wórig*

weary (with a journey), OHG. *wuarag* drunk:—W.Ger. **wōrigo*-, -*ago*-. The root **wōr*- seems to be identical with that in OE. *wōrian* to wander, go astray, and in ON. *órar* fits of madness, *ðér-r* mad, insane; the primary sense was perhaps 'bewildered', 'stupefied'.]

I. 1. a. Having the feeling of loss of strength, languor, and need for rest, produced by continued exertion (physical or mental), endurance of severe pain, or wakefulness; tired, fatigued. Now with stronger sense: Intensely tired, worn out with fatigue.

The strong emotional emphasis which the word has acquired in modern times tends to exclude it from colloquial use and from unimpassioned prose.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter*, Hymn xii, *Mentes fessas*, mod woerigu. a 900 *Elene* 357 (Gr.) þa weregán neát, þe man . . . drifeð & þirscð. c 900 *Bæda's Hist.* iii. ix. (1890) 180 þa heo þa on þære stowe geseted wæs, ða wæs heo werig. c 940 *Brunanburh* in O.E. *Chron.* an. 937 þær læg secg mænig, garum ageted, . . . ofer scild scoten, . . . werig, wiges sæd. a 1200 *Moral Ode* 240 (Lamb. MS.) Ho [sc. souls in hell] walkeð weri up and dun, se water deð mid winde. c 1290 *Katherine* 24 in S.E. *Leg.* 92 Of sonne and Mone and steorrene also, fram þe este to þe weste þat trauaillith and neuere werie ne beoth. c 1290 *Becket* 1158 *ibid.* 139 Swipe weri was þe holi man, onneþe he bar up is fet. c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2518 Meliors was so wery þat sche ne walk miȝt. 1375 *Barbour Bruce* xii. 143 His men als that wer very Hynt of thair basnetis. c 1400 *MAUNDEV.* (Roxb.) xvi. 75 He was so wery þat he myȝt na ferther. 1557 N. T. (Genev.) *Matt.* xi. 28 Come vnto me all ye that are wearie and laden. 1567 *MAPLET Gr. Forest* 68b, The fift or odde Crane . . . flieth all alone before, till he be wearie so doing. 1684 J. S. *Profit & Pleasure* united 159 To know when the Stag is weary, is easily done by his Slaving, froathing at the Mouth, [etc.]. 1837 W. IRVING *Capt. Bonneville* xlv. III. 188 After an absence of twenty days, they returned weary and discouraged. 1856 MRS. BROWNING *Aur. Leigh* i. 465 Producing what? A pair of slippers, sir, To put on when you're weary. 1865 SWINBURNE *Chastelard* i. ii. 30, I am tired too soon; I could have danced down hours Two years gone hence and felt no wearier.

absol. 1382 *WYCLIF Job* iii. 17 There rested the wery in strengthe [1611 There the wearie be at rest]. 1382 — *Isa.* xl. 29 The Lord . . . yueth to the wery vertue. 1568 *GRAFTON Chron.* II. 627 The Duke of Yorke sent euer fresh men, to succor the werie, and put new men in places of the hurt persons. 1760-72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) II. 160 Death may bring rest to the weary and overladen. 1804 *CAMPBELL Soldier's Dream* 4 Thousands had sunk on the ground overpowered, The weary to sleep, and the wounded to die. 1848 *DICKENS Dombey* lviii, The eternal book for all the weary and the heavy-laden. 1887 I. R. *Lady's Ranch Life Montana* 105 In a few minutes we were sleeping the sleep of the weary.

b. said of the body, its limbs or organs.

c 1205 *LAY.* 16592 To lechinien þa wunden of leofenen his cnihten & baðien on burȝe heore wearie ban. 1573 *GASCOIGNE Posies, Hearbes Wks.* 1907 I. 354 If thou sitte at ease to rest thy wearie bones. 1590 *SPENSER F.Q.* i. ii. 29 There they alight, in hope . . . rest their weary limbs a tide. 1697 *DRYDEN Virg. Georg.* iv. 264 Late at Night, with weary Pinions come The lab'ring Youth, and heavy laden home. 1792 *ROGERS Pleas. Mem.* i. 73 (1810) 12 How oft . . . We . . . Welcom'd the wild-bee home on weary wing. 1841 *LONGF. Excelsior* v, 'O stay,' the maiden said, 'and rest Thy weary head upon this breast!'

c. with the source of weariness indicated. Const. *with*, formerly also *þof* (now only in sense 2), *þfor*, or *þgenitive*.

Beowulf 579 Sipes werig. a 1000 *Hiddles* liv [lv]. 10 Werig þæs weorces. c 1205 *LAY.* 18406 Heo beoð swiðe werie iboren heore wepen. c 1220 *Bestiary* 635 Ðanne he is of walke weri. 1362 *LANGL. P. Pl. A. Prol.* 7, I was weori of wandringe [B. wery forwarded]. ? a 1366 *CHAUCER Rom. Rose* 440 Ne certis she was fatt no thing But semed wery for fasting. 1382 *WYCLIF John* iv. 6 Jhesu maad wery, or feynt, of the iurney, sat thus on the welle. c 1400 *MAUNDEV.* (Roxb.) x. 40 When he was wery of bering of þe crosse. 1489 *CAXTON Faytes of A.* II. xxxvii. 157 They fonde the watchmen sore wery of longe wathe. 1584 *POWELL Lloyd's Cambria* 93 Both armies being wery with fighting. 1596 *SPENSER F.Q.* vi. vii. 19 Weary of trauell in his former fight, He there in shade himselfe had laud to rest. 1610 *SHAKS. Temp.* iv. 134 You Sun-burn'd Sicklemen of August weary. 1617 *MORYSON Itin.* i. 179 My horse weary of this long journey without so much as a daies rest, beganne to faint. 1697 *DRYDEN Virg. Georg.* iv. 581 Weary with his Toyl, and scorch'd with Heat. 1805 *SCOTT Last Minstrel* i. ii, The stag-hounds, weary with the chase, Lay stretch'd upon the rushy floor.

d. Of pace, tread, voice, etc.: Showing signs of fatigue.

a 1000 *Cynewulf's Christ* 993 Beornas gretað . . . werigum stefnum. 1638 *QUARLES Hierogl.* i. 8 When at length His weary steps have reach'd the top. 1697 *DRYDEN Æneis* xi. 803 His Foes in sight, he mends his weary pace. 1784 *BURNS Man was made* 6, I spy'd a man, whose aged step Seem'd weary, worn with care. 1820 *SHELLEY Sensit. Pl.* iii. 9 The weary sound and the heavy breath, And the silent motions of passing death. 1821 — *Epipsych.* 155 The beaten road Which those poor slaves with weary footsteps tread. 1840 *DICKENS Old C. Shop* xv, Accordingly, towards this spot, they directed their weary steps.

† e. quasi-*sb.* in *for weary*: see *FOR-* prefix 10. c 1350, c 1400 [see *FOR-* prefix 10]. c 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 5574 Then were the Trojens wel wery, Thei myght not for wery hem steri. c 1420 *Avow. Arth.* xvii, For werre slidus he on slepe, No lengur myȝte he wake. 14 . . . *Sir Beues* (O.) 2449 What for wery and what for faynt, Syr Beuys was neringhande attaynt. a 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 180 But on þe morow, what for wach, what for wery, he fylle on slepe. c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxx. 226 Vnethes may I wag, man, for wery in youre stabill Whils I set my stag, man.

f. *Weary Willie*: see *Tired Tim* s.v. *TIED* ppl.

a. 1 c.

1896 *Illustr. Chips* 16 May 1/3 *Lazy Larry*: 'Watcher doin', Willie?' *Weary Willie*: 'Oh, jest wipin out a little debt I owe.' 1901 *Munsey's Mag.* Sept. 884/2 Dan had not been gone a day when the first Weary Willy appeared and demanded pie, with a horrid leer. 1906 E. DYSON *Fact'ry 'Ands* vii. 76 'Garn,' he said, 'no airs. Yer Weary Willie's brother Sam, *halias* Ther Frequent Sleeper, [etc.].' 1909 *Punch* 20 Jan. 46 (caption to picture of two tramps) *Weary Willie*: I'd sooner walk up 'ill than I would down, any day — it do throw yer into yer boots so. 1927, etc. [see *TIED* ppl. a. 1 c]. 1929 *Amer. Speech* IV. 345 *Weary Willie*, a tramp who usually hikes it and is too tired to work. 1972 [see *TIED* ppl. a. 1 c].

2. a. Discontented at the continuance or continued recurrence of something, and desiring its cessation; having one's patience, tolerance, zeal, or energy exhausted; 'sick and tired' of something. Also with *in*, and *to* with inf.

c 1205 *LAY.* 1328 Ne bið na man wery heora songes to heran. 1377 *LANGL. P. Pl. B.* xv. 181 Whan he is wery of þat werke þanne wil he some tyme Labory in a laudendrye. c 1386 *CHAUCER Parson's T.* 1042 It [sc. the Paternoster] is schort . . . for a man schulde be þe lasse wery to say it. c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 6298, I wol no more of this thing seyn, If I may passen me herby; I mighte maken you wery. 1470-85 *MALORY Arthur* xvi. i. 664, I am nyghe wery of this quest. 1526 *TINDALE 2 Thess.* iii. 13 Brethren be not weary in well doynge. [So all later versions exc. Rheims.] 1534 — *Gal.* vi. 9 Let vs not be wery of well doynge [1611 in well doing]. 1535 *COVERDALE Ps.* vi. 6, I am weary of gronyng. 1551 *ROBINSON More's Utopia* II. vi. (1895) 212 In the exercyse and studdye of the mynde they be neuer werye. c 1590 *Fair Em* iv. i. 28, I am grown werye of his companie. 1605 *SHAKS. Lear* i. iv. 218 He that keepest not crust, nor crum, Weary of all, shall want some. 1647 *CLARENDON Hist. Reb.* iv. §42 By this time the King was as weary of Scotland as he had been impatient to go thither. 1670 *DRYDEN 1st. Pt. Conq. Granada* i. i, 'Tis just some joyes on weary Kings should waite. 1711 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. 1. 143 He cannot be ignorant how weary we are of the war. 1726 *SWIFT Gulliver* i. i, The last of these voyages not proving very fortunate, I grew weary of the sea. 1790 *BURNS The Taylor* fell 13 There's somebody weary wi' lying her lane. 1817 *SHELLEY Rev. Islam* Ded. 33 For I grow weary to behold The selfish and the strong still tyrannize Without reproach or check. 1855 *TENNYSON Maud* i. xxii. 4 She is weary of dance and play. 1864 — *Islet* 29 His compass is but of a single note, That it makes one weary to hear. 1875 *JOWETT Plato* (ed. 2) V. 122 Plato is never weary of speaking of the honour of the soul.

b. Tired of, anxious to be rid of (a person). *rare.*

? c 1472 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 123 Me thynk þay sšuld nat be so wery of yow, þat dyd so gret labour & diligence to have yow. 1602 W. S. *Thomas Ld. Cromwell* iv. ii. 6 All parts abroad where euer I haue bene Growes wearie of me, and denies me succour. a 1653 R. BROME *City Wit* iv. i, I will suddenly take occasion to break with the Foole Wolsie; of whom I am heartily weary. 1859 *TENNYSON Vivien* 687, I am weary of her.

3. Depressed and dispirited through trouble, anxiety, disappointment, etc.; sick at heart.

c 888 *ÆLFRED Boeth.* xxii. §1 Eala Wisdom, þu ðe eart sio hehste frofer calra weriga moda. c 1000 *Wanderer* 15 Ne mæg werig mod wyrdre wiðstandan. c 1205 *LAY.* 28081 þa wes ich al wet & wery of sorȝen and seoc. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 15875 Mate and wery war þai pan. 1535 *COVERDALE 2 Esdr.* xii. 5 Yet am I weery in my minde. 1538 *STARKEY England* II. i. 150 Many febul and wery soulys, wych haue byn oppressed wyth wordly vanyte. 1605 *SHAKS. Macb.* iii. i. 112, 1 *Murth.* So wearie with Disasters, tugg'd with Fortune. 17 . . . *Slighted Nansy* in Ramsay *Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) I. 23 Far ben the house I rin; And a weary wight am I. 1792 *BURNS Banks of Doon* (later version) 4 How can ye chant, ye little birds, And I sae weary fu' o' care! 1892 L. JOHNSON in *1st Bk. Rhymers' Club* 6 Our wearier spirit faints, Vexed in the world's employ.

4. Of persons: Having little strength, feeble, sickly. *Sc. and dial.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xviii. (Egipciane) 240 þocht he auld & very vas. 1533 *BELLENDE Livy* III. iii. (S.T.S.) I. 250 Than was Ebucius, ane of þe consullis, dede in þe ciete, and his colleig seruilius sa wery þat he mycht skarsly draw his aynd. 1808 *JAMIESON s.v.*, A weary bairn, a child that is declining. S. a 1825 *FORBY Voc. E. Anglia* s.v., It is a poor weary child. 1879 *Good Words* 405/1 The minister had christened Nicky Macdonald's bairn in the house, since it was far too weary a thing to be brought to the kirk.

fig. 1533 *BELLENDE Livy* III. vii. (S.T.S.) I. 273 þe ciete was nocht sa wery [L. *aegram*] þat It mycht be dantit with sic remedis as It was wont to be.

II. Causing weariness.

5. Fatiguing, toilsome, exhausting. (Sometimes blending indistinguishably with sense 6.)

c 1315 *SHOREHAM* II. 84 To bere hyt [sc. the cross] to caluary, I-wys, hyt was wel wery. c 1386 *CHAUCER Miller's T.* 457 The dede slepe for wery bisynesse fill on this Carpenter. 1560 *DAUS tr. Sleidane's Comm.* 219b, They wente a werye and a paynefull Jorney [L. *difficili et molesto itinere*]. 1560 *BIBLE* (Geneva) *Isa.* xxxii. 2 As the shadowe of a great rocke in a wearie land. [Literal from the Heb.] 1575 *FLEMING Virg. Bucol.* ix. 29 Let's synging passe our weary waye, lesse trouble wyll be oures. 1719 *DE FOE Crusoe* i. (Globe) 129 Many a weary Stroke it [sc. the boat] had cost, you may be sure; and there remained nothing but to get it into the Water. 1764 *GOLDSM. Trav.* 423 Vain, very vain, my weary search to find That bliss which only centres in the mind. 1783 *BURNS Despondency* 5 O Life! Thou art a galling load, Along a rough, a weary road, To wretches such as I. 1832 *Ht. MARTINEAU Life in Wilds* vi. 76 It was weary work with any tool but the hatchet. 1833 *TENNYSON Lotos-Eaters* 41 Evermore Most weary seem'd the sea, weary the oar. 1849 *AYTOUN Lays Scott. Cavaliers* (ed. 2) 72 And aye we sail'd, and aye we sail'd Across the weary sea. 1894 J. A.

STUART In Day of Battle iv, India . . . is far away. Many a weary mile lies between us and it.

6. a. *Irksome, wearisome, tedious; in graver sense, burdensome to the spirit.*

1465 *Paston Lett.* II. 188 Thys ys to wyry a lyffe to a byde for you and all youre. 1603 *SHAKS. Meas. for M.* III. i. 129 The weariest, and most loathed worldly life That Age, Ache, periury, and imprisonment Can lay on nature. 1798 *WORDSW. Lines Tintern Abbey* 39 In which the heavy and the weary weight Of all this unintelligible world, Is lightened. 1813 *SCOTT Rokeby* v. iii, In the rude guard-room, where of yore Their weary hours the warders wore. 1850 *KINGSLEY Alton Locke* xli, Like the clear sunshine after weary rain. 1884 *TENNYSON Cup* i. ii. 26, I have had a weary day in watching you. Yours must have been a wearier.

† b. Of discourse, a speaker or writer: Tedious, wearisome. *Obs.*

1549 *COVERDALE* etc. *Erasm. Par.* i *Tim.* i. 1-7 Wherto should a man labour for saluacion by means of so many wery obseruacions [per tot molestas obseruatiunculas ad salutem contendere]. 1571 T. FORTESCUE *Mexia's Foreste* vii. 15 b, Sundry are the considerations, of whiche Lactantius Firmianus . . . as also somme others, haue written, large, & wery volumes. 1603 *SHAKS. Meas. for M.* i. iv. 25 Your Brother kindly greets you: Not to be weary with you; he's in prison.

7. *Sc. and north. dial.* a. Sad, sorrowful, hard to endure.

a 1785 W. FORBES *Dominie* in R. Forbes *Poems Buchan Dial.* II. 35 With blubber'd cheeks and watry nose, Her weary story she did close. 1813 *SCOTT Rokeby* III. xxviii. Song, A weary lot is thine, fair maid. a 1893 in R. Ford *Harp Perth.* 24 This weary, waefu' tale o' mine.

b. As an expression of irritation: Tiresome, vexatious, 'wretched', 'confounded'.

a 1785 W. FORBES *Dominie* in R. Forbes *Poems Buchan Dial.* II. 27 Wae worth that weary sup of drink He lik'd so well! 1802 *SIBBALD Chron. Sc. Poetry* IV. Gloss., *Weary*, wretched, cursed; as the weary or weariful fox. 1845 MRS. S. C. HALL *Whiteboy* x. 85, I went hunting everywhere for the weary cat and her kittens. 1864 *LATTO Tam. Bodkin* xiv. 131 Ye weary, weirdless, ne'er-do-weel vagabond. 1893 'L. KEITH' *Lisbeth* ii, 'Lisbeth, mind these weary steps. Your aunt's very infirm in the feet.

c. quasi-*adv.* as an intensive: Grievously, 'sadly'.

1790 *SHIRREFFS Poems Sc. Dial.* 262 Poor Scots now is daz'd and auld, Her childrens blood rins weary cauld, To see her Palace like a fauld For haddin' sheep! 1860 J. P. KAY-SHUTTLEWORTH *Scarsdale* II. 155 Hoo'! be weary pottet (disturbed) wi' a letter fro' onybody bur mysel'.

8. *Sc.* in certain phrases, perh. influenced by *WARY v.*, to curse: *weary fa' (fall)*, *weary on*, *weary set* (a person or thing), a curse on (him, etc.).

1788 *BURNS Duncan Gray* 1 Weary fa' you, Duncan Gray. 1816 *SCOTT Old Mort.* xxxix, O, weary on the wars! mony's the comely face they destroy. 1816 — *Bl. Dwarf* iii, O weary fa' thae evil days! 1828 W. McDOWALL *Poems* 21 There's Brawnie, weary on her, Hear how she roars an' rowts. 1875 W. ALEXANDER *Sk. Life Ain Folk* 149 Weary set that chiel, . . . he has seerly nae taste ava. 1893 *STEVENSON Catriona* ii, The French recruiting, weary fall it! 1896 A. LILBURN *Borderer* xxix. 221 Eh, weary on us! There seems no end to our misfortunes.

III. 9. *Comb.*, as *weary-brained*, *-eyed*, *-laden*, *-looking*, *-winged*, *-worn* adjs.; † *weary-foot a.*, having weary feet, tired with walking.

1898 G. B. SHAW *Lett.* i May (1972) II. 38, I finish the book at a sitting, as I don't want to be 'weary-brained when Charlotte comes. 1930 J. MASEFIELD *Wanderer of Liverpool* 24 *Weary-eyed men came on deck. 1798 O'KEEFFE *Wild Oats* II. i, The hungry and *weary-foot traveller. 1784 *BURNS Man was made to mourn* end, A blest relief to those That *weary-laden mourn! 1885 L.D. R. GOWER *Old Diaries* (1902) 21 A worn *weary-looking man of middle age. 1833 *SCARGILL Puritan's Grave* (1846) 63 The occasional cawing of the *weary-winged rooks. 1795-6 *WORDSW. Borderers* i. 420 If you knew . . . how sleep will master The *weary-worn. 1819 *KEATS Otho* II. ii. 117 For I am sick and faint with many wrongs, Tir'd out and weary-worn with contumelies.

Hence † *werihede* [-HEAD], weariness.

1340 *Ayenb.* 33 Efterward comp werihede þet makeþ þane man wery and worsi uram daye to daye.

weary ('wɛəri), *v.* Pa. t. and pa. pple. **wearied** ('wɛəriɪd). Forms: 1 (ȝe)wérigian, (ȝe)wérġian, wérġian, 3 werȝe, 4-6 wery(e, werie, 6 weerie, 6-7 wearie, 6- weary. [OE. *wér(i)ġian*, -*ġean* intr., and *ġewérġian* trans., f. *wérig* WEARY a.]

I. *intr.* To grow weary.

1. To become tired; to suffer fatigue. Now *rare.*

c 890 *WÆRFERTH Gregory's Dial.* 204 þæt ilce mod æȝþer ȝe mid healicum mærgnum weaxeð & strangað & eac of his aȝenre untrymnyse werȝað & teorað. c 900 *Bæda's Hist.* i. xxvii. (1890) 78 Forðon hyngran, þyrstan, hatian, calan, wérġian, al þæt is of untrymnesse þæs geycndes. *Ibid.* III. ix. 178 þa ongon his hors semninga wérġian & ġestondan. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 252, & ȝif þet heo werȝeð, euerichon wreodeð him bi oðer. 1577 *GRANGE Golden Aphrod.* ed. Rjb, My hande with long holdyng werieth. 1686 P. GORDON *Diary* (Spalding Club 1859) 126, I had not ridden four miles when one of the horses wearied. a 1776 *Lizae Baillie* xi. in Child *Ballads* IV. 269 She was nae ten miles frae the town When she began to weary. 1850 *TENNYSON In Mem.* xxv. 9 Nor could I weary, heart or limb, When [etc.].

b. Of the heart, mind, patience, etc.: To become tired or exhausted. Also of a person, to grow dispirited or sick at heart.

1434 *MISYN Mending of Life* xi. 124 Stedfastly he bidys in body & werus not in hart. 1600 in Harington *Nugæ Antiq.* (1779) II. 257 Thus I will lay down my quill, which seldom wearies in a friendly tale. 1650 J. CARSTAIRS *Lett.* (1846) 74,

I hope he [God] keeps you from wearieing in reference to the delay of our libertie. **1769** ELIZ. CARTER *Lett.* (1809) III. xlvii. 379 The spirit wearies with perpetual dissipation. **1829** HERSCHEL *Ess.* (1857) 514 That diligence which never wearies, . . . goes on adding grain by grain to the mass of results. **1891** E. PEACOCK *N. Brendon* II. 76 His poetic mind never wearied.

c. To become affected with tedium or ennui.

1798 *Monthly Mag.* Dec. 436 ['Improper expressions used in Edinburgh'] I weary when I am alone; I become weary. **1853** G. J. CAYLEY *Las Alforjas* II. 288 There is one kind and sympathising spirit which does not weary over my dilated gossip.

2. With various constructions. a. To grow tired of (something, doing something); to do (= of doing) or to be (= of being) (*arch.* or *poet.*); also with pres. pple.

a **1225** *Juliana* 22 For ne werjeð he neauer to wurchen ow al þat wandreðe world a buten ende. **c1400** *Destr. Troy* 52997 Thai werit of pere werke þe wallis to kepe. **c1475** *Wisdom* 847 in *Macro Plays* 63 þat of hys lyff he xall wery, & qwak for very fere. **c1480** HENRYSON *Swallow & other Birds* 1891 Quhilk day and nicht weryis not for to ga Sawand poyssoun. . In mannis Saull. **1627** BP. P. FORBES *Eubulus* 15 Whence anie, who in singleness seeketh Resolution will not wearie to search it. **1782** MISS BURNAY *Cecilia* II. iv, She now wearied of passing all her time by herself, and sighed for the comfort of society. **1829** CARLYLE in *Foreign Rev.* IV. 120 Into the ocean of air he gazed incessantly; and never wearied contemplating its clearness. **a1834** COLERIDGE *Lit. Rem.* II. 376 How the mind wearies of, and shrinks from, the more than painful interest, the *μωρόν*, of utter depravity. **1846** G. WARBURTON *Hochelaga* I. 217 The eye does not weary to see, but the hand aches, in even writing the one word—beauty. **1859** TENNYSON *Elaine* 628 He. . . had ridd'n a random round To seek him, and had wearied of the search. *Ibid.* 894 As a little helpless innocent bird. . . Will sing the simple passage o'er and o'er. . . till the ear Wearies to hear it. **1876** L. STEPHEN *Eng. Th.* 18th C. I. 356 It is not wonderful that a man pursuing so vast a plan. . . should have wearied of his task before it was completed.

b. To suffer weariness from long waiting or deferred hope; to wait wearily for or to do (something), or through (a period of time); to long or languish for something. Chiefly Sc.

1809 SYD. SMITH *Serm.* II. 131 Why may it not. . . induce him to carry on the load of life who pants, and wearies for the grave. **1818** HOGG *Brownie of Bodsbeck* II. iii. 42, I hae wearied to see them. **a1830** H. COCKBURN *Memor.* (1856) 155 The Lord Advocate. . . generally leaves his representatives. . . to endure the summing up, and to weary for the verdict. **1830** GALT *Laurie T.* III. vi, [They were] watching the corpse and wearying for my return. **1856** WHEWELL in *Life* (1881) 480, I was beginning to weary for a letter from you. **1866** 'ANNIE THOMAS' *Played Out* I. ix. 153 A congregation of women assembled immediately after a dinner, wearying through the hour before the men rejoin them. **1876** *Whitby Gloss.* s.v., They keep me wearying for dinner. **1885** 'MRS. ALEXANDER' *At Bay* viii, I have just been wearying to see you. **1888** R. BUCHANAN *Heir of Linne* iii, I was wearying to speak with you. **1894** G. MOORE *Esther Waters* 39 She wearied for a companion.

3. quasi-trans. with out: To go wearily through to the end of.

1594-5 *Merchant's Daughter of Bristow* I. vi. in *Roxb. Ball.* (1872) II. 1. 87 There will I waste and wearie out my dayes in woe. **1648** GAGE *West Ind.* xvii. 114 After I had here wearied out the wearinesse, which I brought in my bones from the Cuchumatlanes. **1889** *Boy's Own Paper* 17 Aug. 730/2, I soon forgot to be sorry for Sister Mary, left to weary out the holidays in vacant loneliness.

II. trans. To make weary.

4. To exhaust the strength or endurance of (a person, his limbs, etc.); to fatigue or tire with toil, sickness, watching, sustained mental effort, etc.

Beowulf 2852 He gewergad sæt. **c897** ÆLFRED Gregory's *Past.* C. xxxv. 239 He. . . gewergad ðonne his heortan suide hearde mid ðy gesuince. **c1000** ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* (1900) I. 192 þurh godes fore-stihtunge ne hors ne he sylf gewergod wæs. ? **a1400** *Morte Arth.* 796 He had weryede the worme [sc. dragon] by wyghtnesse of strenghte, Ne ware it fore the wyldre fyre that he hyme wyth defendez. **c1440** *Promp. Parv.* 522/2 Weryyn, or make wery, . . . *fatigo, lasso.* **1530** PALSGR. 779/1, I werye by over moche labour or travayle, *je lasse.* . . This horse trotteþ so harde that he hath weryed me more than I was a gret whyle. **1563** GOLDING *Cæsar* I. (1565) 18b, Many having a long time wearied their armes, chose rather to cast their targets out of their hands. **1597** HOOKER *Eccl.* Pol. v. lxxxii. §10 They in the practise of their religion wearied chiefly their knees and hands, we especially our eares & tongues. **1610** SHAKS. *Temp.* III. i. 19 Pray set it downe, and rest you: when this [log] burnes 'Twill weepe for hauing wearied you. **1657** EARL MONM. tr. *Paruta's Pol. Disc.* 186 By drawing out the War in length, they might think to weary and disorder the Enemy. **1675** J. OWEN *Indwelling Sin* ix. (1732) 107 They brought their Offerings or Sacrifices on their Shoulders, which they pretended wearied them, and they panted and blowed as Men ready to faint under them. **1759** JOHNSON *Rasselas* iv, Resolving to weary by perseverance, him whom he could not surpass in speed. **1825** SCOTT *Talism.* vi, A mighty curtal axe, which would have wearied the arm of any other than Cœur de Lion. **1825** — *Betrothed* xi, She wearied her memory with vain efforts to recollect. . . his features. **1859** TENNYSON *Elaine* 827 'Alas,' he said, 'your ride hath wearied you.'

b. transf. and fig.

1573-80 BARET *Alu.* P. 496 If the vine be wearied with plentiful bearing. **1593** SHAKS. *Lucr.* 1363 So woe hath wearied woe, mone tired mone. *Ibid.* 1570 Thus ebs and flowes the currant of her sorrow, And time doth wearie time with her complaining. **1604** JAS. I *Counterbl. to Tobacco* (Arb.) 108 So being euer and continually vsed, it [medicine] doth but weaken, wearie and wearie nature. **1697** DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 638 Then roaring Beasts, and running Streams he tries, And wearies all his Miracles of Lies.

c. With adv. or advb. phr.; esp. to weary out, to fatigue completely, so as to render incapable of further exertion.

1647 COWLEY *Mistress, Thraldom* v, Like an Egyptian Tyrant, some Thou weariest out, in building but a Tomb. **1670** DRYDEN *1st Pt. Cong. Granada* IV. (1672) 35 In walls we meanly must our hopes inclose, To wait our friends, and weary out our foes. **1829** LANDOR *Imag. Conv. Greeks & Rom.* (1853) 352 Whose movements would have irritated, distracted, and wearied down the elephants. **1848** DICKENS *Dombey* IV, He was stupefied, and he was wearied to death. **1859** TENNYSON *Vivien* 586 Then he found a door. . . And wearied out made for the couch and slept.

5. To tire the patience of; to affect with tedium or ennui; to satiate (*with*). Also with out.

1340 *Ayenb.* 99 He wolde þet hit were ssort uor þet non ne ssolde him werye hit uor to lyerny. **c1386** CHAUCER *Can. Yeom. Prolog.* & T. 751 It weerieth me to telle of his falsnesse. **c1460** SIR R. ROS *La Belle Dame* 62 It werieth me this mater for to trete. **c1489** CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* x. 271 How am I shamed for four glotonis! certes this weryes me sore! **1553** T. WILSON *Rhet.* 115b, But nowe because I haue halfe weryed the reader with a tedious matter, I will harten him agayne wyth a merye tale. **1600** SHAKS. *A.Y.L.* v. ii. 56, I will wearie you then no longer with idle talking. **1667** MILTON *P.L.* XII. 107 Till God at last Wearied with their iniquities, withdraw His presence from among them. **1675** E. WILSON *Spadac. Dunelm.* Pref., And now, good Reader, I have even wearied thee out. **1797** MRS. RADCLIFFE *Italian* xvi, Our patience is wearied already. **1798** SOPHIA LEE *Canterb. T., Young Lady's T.* II. 384 Wearied out at last by the tender importunity. . . she reluctantly took solemn charge of the child. **1830** TENNYSON *Lilian* iii, Gaiety without eclipse Wearieth me. **1855** MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xvi. III. 649 He was. . . doing his best to weary out his benefactor's patience and good breeding. **1877** MRS. OLIPHANT *Makers Flor.* v. 138 Oddly enough, however, this excessive applause wearied the simple-minded artist. **1883** 'OUIDA' *Wanda* I. 206 He had a sensitive fear of wearying with his presence ladies to whom he owed so much.

b. To trouble by importunity (heaven, the gods, etc.).

1633 FORD *'Tis Pity* I. iii, I have even wearied heaven with pray'rs. **a1718** PRIOR *Henry & Emma* 411 Watchful I'll guard Thee, and with Midnight Pray'r Weary the Gods to keep Thee in their Care. **1831** SCOTT *Quentin D.* Introd., He. . . wearied Heaven and every saint with prayers. . . for the prolongation of his life. **1846** H. G. ROBINSON *Odes of Hor.* II. xviii, I weary not The Gods to mend my present lot. **1879** FROUDE *Cæsar* xv. 227 There, for sixteen months, to weary Heaven and his friends with his lamentations.

c. absol. To cause weariness or ennui.

1815 SIR R. PEELE in *Croker Papers* (1884) I. III. 76 Which would have been ludicrous enough for half an hour, but, like other good things, wearied by constant repetition. **1849** LEVER *Con Cregan* xx, There was so much novelty to me in all around, that the monotonous character of the scene never wearied.

Hence 'wearying vbl. sb.

a1225 *Ancr.* R. 252 Vondunge is sliddrunge: & þuruh werjunge beoð bitocned þeo unbæauwes under slouhðe þet beoð inenned þer uppe. **1621** BP. HALL *Heaven upon Earth* §4 Hence are those vaine wearyings of places and companies together with our selues.

weary, obs. form of WORRY v.

wearying ('wiəriŋ), ppl. a. [-ING²]

1. That causes weariness, fatigue, or lassitude.

1798 BLOOMFIELD *Farmer's Boy, Spring* 62 When Giles with wearying strides From ridge to ridge the ponderous harrow guides. **1834** SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) IV. 369 A day in London is more wearying to me than a walk up Scafell. **1864** DISRAELI in G. E. BUCKLE *Life* (1916) IV. xii. 405 Lord P., after the division, scrambled up a wearying staircase to the ladies' gallery. **1862** WRAXALL tr. *Hugo's Les Misérables* I. iii. 7 The two old females generally accompanied him, but when the journey was too wearying for them he went alone. **1898** E. GLANVILLE *Kloof Bride* viii, They took up their position and began a wearying watch.

2. That causes tedium or ennui.

1796 MME. D'ARBLAY *Camilla* V. 216 Cutting short. . . all the wearying round of explanation. **1840** MARRYAT *Poor Jack* xxv, He was never wearying, and often. . . amusing. **1857** LIVINGSTONE *Trav.* ix. 185 Nothing is so wearying to the spirit as talking to those who agree with everything advanced. **1911** PETRIE *Revol. Civilisation* iii. 59 Roman copies of Greek work, of wearying banality.

Hence 'wearyingly adv.

1829 *Examiner* 325/1 The piece. . . was wearyingly long. **1902** ELINOR GLYN *Refl. Ambrosine* 287 You said you were not wearyingly faithful.

†'wearyish, a. Obs. rare. [f. WEARY a. + -ISH.]

Done or passed in weariness.

1615 JACKSON *Creed* IV. i. viii. 83 If wee deferred this suruey til old age come vpon vs, in which life it self becomes a burthen, our returne of thanks for fruition of it, and the vnpleasant apertinences, would be but wearyish. **a1618** [see REMISSAL]. **1702** C. MATHER *Magn. Chr.* III. i. App. (1852) 340, I have drawn forth many wearyish hours.

weasand ('wi:zənd). Now chiefly dial. Forms:

α. 1 wāsənd, 4 wosen, 7 wozen. β. 4-8 wesand, 5 Sc. vassand, 5 waysande, 5-6 wesande, weysand(e), 6 wessande, wezzand, 7 wezand, weazond, 7-9 weazand, 9 weezand, 6- weasand; 4-6 wesaunt, 5-6 -aunnt, -awnt, -ant, 6 -ante, weasaunte, 6-7 weasant; 6 weasan, 6-7 -en, 7 wezon, -en, weeson, -zon, 7-8 weazon, 7-9 weazon; 5 wesing, -yng, 7 weasin. γ. (Sc. and north.) 8-9 wyson, wizen, 8 wyzen, (whizzen), 9 wizzen, -on, wezzon. (See also *Eng. Dial. Dict.*) [OE. *wāsənd* masc. (? and fem.) correspon. to OFris. *wāsande*, -ende, throat, OS. *wāsənd*

ruminant stomach, OHG. *weisant*, -ont, -unt, throat, windpipe, gullet (MHG. *weisen*, early mod.G. *waisen*, *weise*, mod. dial. *wās* etc.). The word has the form of a pres. pple. or ppl. agent-noun (for the formation cf. ON. *velindi* neut., gullet). The etymology has not been determined; for various conjectures see K. v. Bahder in Grimm s.v. *Waisen*. A parallel synonymous formation from the same root with different suffix appears in WEEZLE (= G. dial. *weisel*).

The forms *wosen* (14th c.), *wozen* (17th c.), and the mod. dial. *oosen*, *hoosen*, are normal descendants of the OE. *wāsənd*; and possibly the Sc. form *vassand* comes from *wāsənd* with shortening of the vowel. The remaining ME. and mod.E. forms (including *weasand*) are anomalous; etymologists have generally attempted to account for them by the assumption of an OE. parallel form **wāsənd*. This is not impossible, but Sweet (*Ag. Dict.*) appears to be in error in giving *wāsənd* as an actually recorded variant of *wāsənd*.

1. The oesophagus or gullet.

a1000 in Napier *O.E. Glosses* i. 2447 *Ingluue*, gyfernesse, wasende. **c1000** Sax. *Leechd.* II. 44 Læccedomas. . . wið gealhswile & protan & wasende. **c1050** *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 264/19 *Rumen*, wasend. **c1050** *Voc.*, *Ibid.* 421/37 *Ingluuiem*, in pane wasend. **13.** *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1336 þay gryped to þe gargulun, & graypely departed þe wasant fro þe wynt-hole. **1375** [see THROPPLE]. **c1400** *Laufanc's Cirurg.* 148 And betwene þe necke & gula wipinneforþ þere is ordeyned mary [see MERI], that is to seie þe wasant. **14.** *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 676/24 *Hic ysophagus*, a wasende. **c1440** *Prompt. Parv.* 523/1 Wesaunt, of a beestys throte, ysophagus. **c1450** *Two Cookery-bks.* 80 Pulle him [a snipe], late his necke be hole, save the weseing. **1548-77** VICARY *Anat.* v. (1888) 44 Also in the mouth is ended the vppermoste extremitie of the Wesande, which is called Myre or Isophagus. **1578** LYTE *Dodoens* II. ccii. 305 It will cause the Horseleaches. . . to fall of, which happen to cleaue fast in the throote or wesande of any man. **1593** NASHE *Christ's Teares* H4, Their watry wesands were like to leape out of theyr mouthes for meate. **1601** HOLLAND *Pliny* XI. xxxvii. I. 339 The other is more inward, called properly the Gullet, or the Wezand, by which we swallow downe both meat and drinke. **1634** BP. HALL *Contempl.*, *N.T.* IV. *Loaves & Fishes* 123 As if the soules of these men lay in their weasand, in their gutt. **1669** *Phil. Trans.* IV. 1021 Its Windpipe; which. . . together with the Oesophagus or Weasand. . . reaches down to the Sternum. **1715** RAMSAY *Christ's Kirk* Gr. III. 83 Now what the Friends wad fain been at, . . Was e'en to get their Wysons wat. **1785** BURNS *Scotch Drink* xiv, But monie daily weat their weason Wi' liquors nice. **1819** SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xlii, By Heaven, . . better food hath not passed my weasand for three livingd days. **1915** G. SINCLAIR *Poems* 58 May their wysons never want A drop o' dew tae weet them.

2. The trachea or windpipe: = ARTERY I.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P.R.* v. xxiii. (Bodl. MS.), And somme of pese fonge the voice as þe lunges with þe receptacles wosen and pipes þereof. **a1529** SKELTON *Col. Cloute* 1156 Herke, howe the losell prates, With a wyde wesaunt! **1541** R. COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Chirurg.* Fijb, The wesaunt. . . is a cartylagynous grystled partycle created and fourmed for to be instrument of y^e voyce. **1547** BOORDE *Brev. Health* 80 *Trachea arteria*. . . In Englyshe it is named the wesande, or the throte bol. **1609** J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Hum. Heaven on Earth* I. cxx, His wozen whez'd when his breath it did fill. **1646** SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* IV. viii. 198 The weazon, rough artery, or winde-pipe. **1672** WISEMAN *Wounds* I. viii. 68 The Aspera Arteria or Weazond. **1697** DRYDEN *Æneis* IX. 592 Th' unerring Steel descended while he spoke; Pierc'd his wide Mouth, and thro' his Weazon broke. **1798** ELIZ. INCHBALD *Lovers' Vows* III. ii, They. . . held so strongly by his throat, They almost stopt his whizzen.

†b. Erroneously used for ARTERY 2.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P.R.* III. xii. (1495) 55 Of the herte spryngyth the wosen, as the veynes spryng out of the lyuer. *Ibid.* III. xii. (Tollemache MS.), The vertu þat hat vitalis, þe vertu of lyf, hap meuyng by þe wosen and smale weys [L. *per arterias*].

3. The throat generally.

c1450 *Mankind* 803 in *Macro Plays* 30 A-lasse, my wesant! 3e wer sumwat to nere [the rope]. **1550** LATIMER *Last Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (1562) 121 Should I haue named hym? for they should as one haue this wesaunt of mine. **1570** FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 2) II. 1405/1 But God of his mercey so directed his wicked purpose, that the backe of his knife was towarde hys wesand. **1610** SHAKS. *Temp.* III. ii. 99 There thou maist braine him, . . Or cut his wezand with thy knife. **1630** J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Epigr.* xxxviii. Wks. II. 266/1 See'st thou a villaine hang vp by the weason? **1668** DRYDEN *Even. Love* v. i, Give me a Razor there, that I may scrape his weeson, that the bristles may not hinder me when I come to cut it. **1684** J. S. *Profit & Pleas. United* 162 A perfect Greyhound. . . a long Neck. . . with a loos hanging wezand. **1720** RAMSAY *Rise & Fall of Stocks* 77 The Miser. . . Syne shores to grip him by the Wyson. **1724** SWIFT *Verses upright Judge* Misc. 1735 V. 147 The Church I hate, and have good Reason: For there my Grandsire cut his Weazon. **1819** SCOTT *Leg. Montrose* xiii, Clap your hand thus on the weasand of this high and mighty prince, under his ruff. **1833** M. SCOTT *Tom Cringle* xviii, He. . . drew his knife across the Leopard's weasand. **1837** CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. VII. ii, They are parted and no weasands slit. **1841** BORROW *Zincali* II. 47 I'd straight unsheath my dudgeon knife And cut his weasand through.

4. Comb., as *weasand muscle*; *weasand-stopping* adj.; *weasand-pipe* = senses 1-3 above.

c1720 W. GIBSON *Farrier's Guide* I. v. (1722) 60 The. . . Bronchium, or the *Weasand Muscles. **1544** PHAER *Regim. Lyfe* (1560) S viijb, Somytyme it lyeth. . . upon the *weasant pype, and than. . . it stoppeth the breath & stranglenth the pacient anone. **1596** SPENSER *F.Q.* IV. iii. 12 His weasand pipe it through his gorget cleft. **1620** I. C. *Two Merry Milk-maids* IV. i. L 1b, Ray. Cut my throat! *Fre.* I, your Weason pipe, your Gullet. **a1656** R. COX *Actæon & Diana* 31 He

will come armed with nothing but a Razor, with which if he does slit your wezand-pipe, it will not be amiss to take it patiently. 1872 O. W. HOLMES *Poet Breakf.-t.* viii. 267 Poor, yelling, scalping Indians, .. *weasand-stopping Thugs.

wease-alley, corrupt form of WEESE-ALLAN.

weasel ('wiz(ə)l), *sb.* Forms: 1 uueosule, uuesulae, wesle, 4 wesill, 4-5 wesel(e, 4-6 wesell, -il, 5 wesyl(le, wees-, wessylle, weysyl, wezel, whesille, *Sc.* quhasill, 6 wesyll, weysell, 6-7 weazell, -ill, weesell, we(e)sill, 6-9 weesel, 7 weasell, -il, weassel, weesle, we(e)zill, weezle, wheezle, *Sc.* waesel, 7-8 weezel, *Sc.* whessell, 8-9 weasle, 9 *dial.* wizzel, 7- weasel. [OE. *wesule*, *wesle* wk. fem. = NFr. *wisel* (WFr. *wesul*, *weezling*), (M)Du. *wesil*, OHG. *wisula*, -ala (MHG. *wisele*, *wisel*, mod.G. *wiesel* fem.):—OTeut. **wisulōn*-, of obscure origin.

From German dialects come the Icel. (*hreysi*)*vísla*, ('cairn-) weasel', Sw. *vestla*, *vestla*, Da. *væsel*.]

1. **a.** A carnivorous animal (*Putorius nivalis*), the smallest European species of the genus (of the order *Mustelidae*) which includes the polecat, stoat, etc. It is remarkable for its slender body, and for its ferocity and bloodthirstiness.

c725 *Corpus Gloss.* M337 *Mustela*, uueosule. c1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* vi. (Z.) 19 *Mustela*, wesle. 11.. *Conf. Egbert* xxxix. in Thorpe *Ag. Laus* II. 164 8if on hwylnce mycelne wætan mus oððe wesle onbefalle. .sprenge mid halig wætere. c1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 166 Ceste belette, a weese. a1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xc. 13 þe wesill ouercumys him [sc. the basilisk] & slas him. 1398 TREvisa *Barth. De P.R.* xviii. lxxiv. (1495) 829 The wesell hathe a red and a whyte wombe and chaungeth colour. c1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* i. 540 The wesil shal for this doom hem noon harm. c1480 HENRYSON *Mor. Fab.* v. (*Parl. Beasts*) xvii, The quhirand quhitret with the quhasill went. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* iii. 156b, I would.. counsell you to destroy your Rattes and Mise with.. Weesels. 1579 LYLly *Euphues* (Arb.) 272 If thou be [be]witched with eyes, wear the eie of a wesill in a ring, which is an enchantment against such charmes. 1606 N. B[AXTER] *Sydney's Ourania* G 1, The Pole-catte, and wilde-catte, the Weezle, & Stote. 1624 CAPT. J. SMITH *Virginia* II. 35 Of Weasels and other Vermine skins a good many. 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* I. 97/2 Pole-cats, Weezels, .. or the like Vermin. 1832 L. HUNT *Sir R. Esher* (1850) 336 Staring like a weasel. 1844 JESSE *Scenes Country Life* 357 Keepers have informed me that Weazles will sometimes kill and feed on Snakes. 1883 SIMMONDS *Dict. Useful Anim.* s.v., The long-tailed weasel (*Mustela longicauda*). 1919 *Contemp. Rev.* Aug. 183, I came across a bloodthirsty weasel, dragging a large buck rabbit after it.

transf. and *fig.* 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V.* i. ii. 170 For once the Eagle (England) being in prey, To her vanguard Nest, the Weazell (Scotland) Comes sneaking, and so sucks her Princely Egges. 1632 CHAPMAN & SHIRLEY *Ball* i. (1639) A4, *Co.* Dee not know him, tis the Court dancing Weesill. *Ma.* A Dancer, and so gay. 1633 B. JONSON *Tale Tub* i. vi, Wherefore did I, Sir, bid him Be call'd, you Weazell, Vermin of a Huisher? 1638 FORD *Fancies* II. ii, Whoreson, lecherous weazle! 1790 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Advice to Future Laureat* II. 39 Brudenell, thou stinkest! weasel, polecat, fly! 1886 P. ROBINSON *Teetotum Trees* 39 A thin little weasel of a Bengalee Baboo.

b. In proverbial sayings. †to be bit by a barn weasel: to be drunk.

1673 R. HEAD *Canting Acad.* 171 He is bit by a barn Weasel. 1825 J. NEAL *Bro. Jonathan* III. 269 'On with your story, will you; and if you are caught another time—' 'Caught! me!—... catch a weasel asleep!' 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xxiii, I'm... as sharp as a ferret, and as cunning as a weasel.

¶ **c.** Erroneously spoken of as a corn-eating animal.

c1600 *Distr. Emperor* III. i. in Bullen *Old Pl.* (1884) III. 208 True, daughter; love is like the weasel that went into the meale-chamber; .. it grows plump and full of humor; it asks a cranny as bygg as a conye borrowe to gett out agayne. a1744 POPE *Imit. Hor.* Ep. i. vii. 51 A Weasel once made shift to slink In at a Corn-loft thro' a Chink. [Hence 1755 JOHNSON, *Weasel*, a small animal that eats corn and kills mice.]

d. In some parts of England and Ireland confused with the STOAT, which is sometimes called *ermine weasel* or (when wearing its winter coat) *white weasel*.

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 726 The white Weasel is called *Minever*. 1676 COTTON *Angler* II. viii. 75 A Flie called the Owl-Flie; the dubbing of a white Weasel's tail. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* III. 358 This animal [sc. the ermine] is sometimes found white in Great Britain, and is then called a white weasel. 1891 *Fishing Gaz.* 3 Jan. 7/2 The stoat, or ermine weasel (*Mustela erminea*) .. in many parts of England is called a weasel. 1916 *Field* 22 Apr. 661/3 The stoat .. in many parts [of Ireland] is known as 'weasel'.

2. Applied with qualifying words to various animals belonging to the family *Mustelidae*, or having some marked resemblance to the weasel, as *fisher w.* (see FISHER¹ 2 b); *four-toed w.* = SURICATE; *Malacca w.* = RASSE; *Mexican w.* = KINKAJOU; *water-w.* (see WATER sb. 30).

1771 PENNANT *Syn. Quadr.* 228 Four-toed Weasel. 1781 *Hist. Quadr.* II. 328 Fisher Weasel. *Ibid.* 338 Mexican Weasel. 1800 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* I. 11. 406 Malacca Weasel.

†3. [transl. L. *mustela* (*marina*).] A fish, taken to be the lamprey. (Cf. *weasel-fish*, -ling in 8 b, and Fr. *belette*.) *Obs.*

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* xxxii. ix. II. 445 The liver also of the fish named the Sea-cat or Weazill, is given in like case.

†4. The SMEW. Cf. *weasel coot*, *duck* in 8 b.

a1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Norf. Birds* Wks. 1835 IV. 317 The .. *mustela variegata*, .. the variegated or party-coloured weasel, so called from the resemblance it beareth unto a weasel in the head.

5. **U.S.** A nickname for a native of S. Carolina. 1845 in C. Cist *Cincinnati Misc.* I. 240 The inhabitants of .. S. Carolina [are called] Weasels. 1875 *Chamb. Jnl.* 13 Mar. 171/2 South Carolina is Palmetto State, and the natives are Weasels.

6. A tracked vehicle capable of travelling over difficult terrain; *spec.* (a) a light cargo and personnel carrier (*U.S. Mil.*); (b) a snow tractor (see quot. 1958).

1944 *Yank* 4 Aug. 17/2 Cargo carrier M29, nicknamed the Weasel, is now in full production. 1949 [see *snow-buggy* s.v. SNOW sb.¹ 8 b]. 1958 *Times* 11 Nov. 6/7 The Weasel—one of the snow vehicles used by Sir Vivian Fuchs on his trans-Antarctic journey—was invented by a civilian, the late Mr. Geoffrey Pyke. 1964 'J. H. ROBERTS' *Q Document* (1965) ix. 206 The hotels operated what the student referred to as 'wesaru'—which .. was the Japanese way of pronouncing 'weasel', a cross between a jeep and an army tank—to carry the guests. 1980 *Globe & Laurel* July/Aug. 227/2 We in fact lost two vehicles doing this, one being my own command vehicle which was a cargo LVT with a weasel in the back.

7. An equivocal statement or claim, esp. one used in an intentionally misleading advertisement. See *weasel word*, sense 8 b below.

1959 T. GRIFFITH *Waist-High Culture* (1960) 83 The answer may have to be a 'weasel', the phrasing that avoids or begs the question. 1963 D. OGILVY *Confessions Advert.* Man xi. 155, I plead guilty to one act of *suggestio falsi*—what Madison Avenue calls a 'weasel'. 1975 *Idle Moments* (Austral.) Dec. 26/2 The 'weasels' are so cleverly written, so subtle, you hardly notice them at all.

8. **a. attrib.** and **Comb.**, as *weasel family*, *kind*, *tribe* (designations for the order *Mustelidae*); *weasel-colour*, -mind, -run, -skin, -whelp; similitive, as *weasel-†becked* (= beaked), -eyed, -faced, -headed, -like adjs.

1587 HARRISON *England* II. vii. 172/1 in Holinshed, If a man .. be *weasel beaked then much heare left on the cheekes will make the owner looke big like a bowlded hen. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 177/2 *Fuluus*, .. fox or *weazill colour. 1922 *Weasel-eyed [see *peanut-brained* adj. s.v. PEANUT 3 a]. 1985 C. FITZGIBBON *Love lies a Loss* v. 59 The weasel-eyed creditors lined the dock. 1596 NASHE *Saffron-Walden* X 1 b, Mounsieur Fregeuile Gautius, that prating *weazell fac'd vermin, is one of the Pipers in this consort. 1807-8 W. IRVING *Salmagundi* (1824) 148 A little meagre, weasel-faced Frenchman. 1877 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* II. 182 The *Weasel Family. 1681 GREW *Museum* I. §ii. i. 19 The *Weesle-Headed Armadillo, *Tatu Mustelinus*. 1768 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* I. 82 This species is the least of the *weasel kind. 1899 F. V. KIRBY *Sport E.C. Africa* 322 Their .. *weasel-like slenderness of body. 1923 *Chambers's Jnl.* Feb. 88/1 Simon would have dallied by the way, his *weasel-mind alert to draw news of the hindering from this Heseltine. 1901 'LINESMAN' *Words by Eyewitness* 153 Setting his traps in a *weasel run. 1583 *Rates Custome* ho. Fij b, *Wesel skinnes the dosen, iiij. d. 1800 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* I. 11. 378 The *Weasel tribe. 1398 TREvisa *Barth. De P.R.* xviii. lxxiii. (Bodl. MS.), 3if þe *wesel whelpes falleþ bi ony happe in chynnes .. þe wesel heleþ ham wip a certeyne herbe.

b. Special comb.: weasel-coot, -duck, the female or young male of the smew; †weasel-fish, a rockling (cf. WHISTLE-fish); weasel-lemur, a small short-tailed lemur (*Lepilemur mustelinus*); †weasel-ling, a kind of rockling; †weasel-monger, one who hunts rats, etc., with weasels; weasel-snout, the yellow dead-nettle or archangel (*Lamium Galeobdolon*), from the shape of the corolla; weasel word orig. *U.S.*, an equivocating or ambiguous word which takes away the force or meaning of the concept being expressed; hence *weasel-worded* a.

1804 BEWICK *Brit. Birds* II. 266 Red-headed Smew, or *Weasel Coot. 1885 SWAINSON *Prov. Names Birds* 165 *Weasel ducks or Weasel coots. 1773 *Gentl. Mag.* XLIII. 220 The Bladder Fish, and the *Weasel Fish. 1877 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* I. 223 This *Weasel Lemur .. has fair-sized ears, and its colours are of all sorts of shades of red, grey, white, and yellow. a1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Norf. Fishes* Wks. 1835 IV. 328 *Mustela Marina*; called by some a *weasel ling, which, salted and dried, becomes a good Lenten dish. 1591 ? PEELE *Sp. to Q. Eliz. at Theobalds, Gard. Sp.*, This *weasel-monger [i.e. a mole-catcher]. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) III. 530 Yellow Archangel. Yellow Dead Nettle, or *Weasel snout. 1900 S. CHAPLIN in *Century Mag.* June 306/2 'The public should be protected—' 'Duly protected,' said Gamage, 'That's always a good *weasel word.' 1916 *N.Y. Times* 1 June 1/2 Colonel Roosevelt began the day's speechmaking by opening his guns upon President Wilson .. He accused Mr. Wilson of using 'weasel words' in advocating universal military training, but 'only the compulsion of the spirit of America'. A weasel, the Colonel explained, would suck all the meat out of an egg and leave it an empty shell. 1939 *Florida* (Federal Writers' Project) 1. 125 There were no 'weasel word' qualifications, such as 'it is alleged'. 1952 G. SARTON *Hist. Sci.* I. xvi. 404 It is perhaps a little ambiguous to call them idealists. [Note] The weasel word idealist is sometimes understood as the opposite of realist. 1977 P. JOHNSON *Enemies of Society* viii. 108 Whereas in the spheres of advertising, education and economics the use of weasel words tends to be towards gross overstatement, in the field of killing and mass destruction, the tendency is to understate and minimize. 1923 LD. CHARNWOOD *Theodore Roosevelt* x. 215 It is even comically reminiscent of the writer's own criticisms later of Mr. Wilson's '*weasel-worded' phrases. 1981 *N.Y. Times* 29 Mar. 4/1 The facts it contained did not support what one official termed the agency's 'weasel-worded' conclusion.

c. attrib. or as *adj.*, after *weasel word*, above. Of a statement, etc.: equivocating, ambiguous, quibbling.

1912 T. ROOSEVELT in *Outlook* 27 July 662/2 The weasel sentence about States' rights could well have been suggested by the astuteness of Mr. Bryan's fellow-Democrat Mr. Ryan. 1965 M. NAYLOR *Your Money* x. 59 If .. other things remain equal .., the price will rise .. It is now time to deal with that weasel qualification, 'other things being equal'. 1974 R. M. PIRSIG *Zen & Art of Motorcycle Maintenance* (1976) IV. xxviii. 337 The whole business seemed to many of them merely a new and pretentious jargon of weasel concepts. 1979 *Financial Rev.* (Melbourne) 27 Apr. 2 The probability is that the commission will deliver another of its weasel judgements, recognising merit on all sides.

'weasel, *v. colloq.* (orig. *U.S.*). [f. the sb.]

1. **a. trans.** To render (a word, phrase, etc.) ambiguous or equivocal; to remove or detract from (its meaning) intentionally.

1900 *Century Mag.* June 305/2 I've seen him take his pen, and go through a proposed plank or resolution, and weasel every flat-footed word in it. 1919 T. ROOSEVELT in *Maine, my State* (Maine Writers Research Club) 20 'His words weasel the meaning of the words in front of them,' said David, 'just like a weasel when he sucks the meat out of an egg and leaves nothing but the shell'.

b. intr. To equivocate or prevaricate, to use weasel words.

1956 [see DIRT sb. 6 e]. 1963 D. OGILVY *Confessions Advert.* Man v. 99 If you tell lies, weasel, you do your client a disservice. 1972 C. WESTON *Poor, Poor Ophelia* xxv. 151 He listened to the younger detective weaseling at the other end.

2. **a.** To extricate oneself from or get out of a place in the manner of a weasel. Also with *in* (with movement in the opposite direction).

1925 J. BONE *London Perambulator* 162 How to weasel out of London, north, south, east and west, with the fewest possible obstructions. 1963 T. PYNCHON *V.* vii. 171, I was always weaseling in, you know, on some show where you wouldn't expect to find naval personnel. 1968 P. DICKINSON *Skin Deep* ix. 176 Pibble weaseled out of the car and ran across the road.

b. To escape from or extricate oneself out (of a situation, obligation, etc.), esp. dishonourably; to welsh on. Also with *one's way*.

1956 *Washington Post* 7 Aug., For this country to weasel on its obligation would be both to fracture the Atlantic alliance and to engage in the most offensive and immoral sort of appeasement. 1962 N. MAXWELL *Witch-Doctor's Apprentice* ii. 10, I wanted to commit myself publicly to it so that it would be hard to weasel out after only a day or two. 1973 *New Yorker* 3 Mar. 85/1 Canterbury is one of the 'decadent' communities that gradually weaseled out of the Shaker strictures against ornament and luxury. 1978 M. PUZO *Fools Die* xxi. 239 A real fucking claim agent weaseling out of his obligations. 1980 *Logophile* IV. 1. 46/1 It required weaseling his way into the confidence of his bank-manager. 1981 *Spectator* 6 June 16/2 Jilly Cooper was too kind-hearted to name those who weaseled out of the exercise.

3. **trans.** To obtain or extract (something) out of another, esp. by cunning.

1975 L. DEIGHTON *Yesterday's Spy* xii. 99 He .. 'weaseled' luggage for the boat-train passengers and was not above stealing the occasional camera. 1975 *Observer* 30 Nov. 22/4 My sole achievement was weaselling a medical certificate out of my G.P.

Hence 'weaselling *ppl.* a. and *vbl.* sb.

1956 H. KURNITZ *Invasion of Privacy* xii. 81 Never could get along with lawyers .. Bunch of weaseling doubletalkers. 1969 *Listener* 31 July 132/2 'Legitimate puffery' is often plain lying. At best, it encourages 'weaselling'—the use of meaningless and unverifiable formulae like 'Bloggo is better'; at worst, it is demonstrably fraudulent. 1978 *N.Y. Times* 30 Mar. D 18/1 Arum says there has been heavy pressure for a return bout from all over the world. He offers this as justification for his weaseling out of a commitment to match Spinks with Ken Norton.

weaselish ('wiz(ə)liʃ), *a. rare*. [f. WEASEL sb. + -ISH¹.] = WEASEL^{LY} a.

1923 D. H. LAWRENCE *Captain's Doll* xiv, in *Ladybird* 225 The driver, who was thin and weaselish.

†**weaselled**, *a. Obs.* [f. WEASEL sb. + -ED² (irregularly used).] = next. Only in Comb. *weaselled-coloured*, -faced adjs.

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 714 The colour of the weas was like a Weaseled coloured horse. a1692 SHADWELL *Volunteers* IV. i. (1693) 36, I never saw so weasell'd-faced a Puppy.

weaselly ('wiz(ə)li), *a.* Also weas(e)ly. [WEASEL sb. + -Y¹.] Weasel-like. Also *weaselly-looking*.

1838 *Bentley's Misc.* III. 582 He was a weaselly-looking little man. 1857 BORROW *Romany Rye* II. App. xi. 359 An individual .. of middle stature, a thin and weaselly figure, a hollow complexion. 1900 'ANTHONY HOPE' *Quisante* i. 10 He was a little weaselly perhaps. 1973 M. AMIS *Rachel Papers* 128 He was wearing a fashionable black polo-neck jersey (fashionable, that is, among the weaselly middle-aged) whose sleeves he was rolling down. 1982 BARR & YORK *Official Sloane Ranger Handbk.* 17/2 What a funny little weaselly face he has!

weaselship ('wiz(ə)liʃp). [f. WEASEL sb. + -SHIP.] †**a.** A mock title for a weasel. **b.** The condition or qualities of a weasel. In quot. *fig.*

1702 YALDEN *Æsop at Crt.* vii. 23 A Fox .. ask'd him .. why his Weazleship would keep In durance vile. 1861 *Macm. Mag.* IV. 311/1 Such a representation .. as would .. exhibit his weaselship in the most striking light.

weasen, *obs.* form of WEASAND.

weaseny, variant of WEAZENY.

weasill, variant of WEEZLE *Obs.*

weason, variant of WEASAND.

weast, obs. form of WEST.

wea-swa, obs. form of WHOSO.

[**weasy**, spurious word in Dicts., is based on a misreading of WEALY in *Joye's Expos. Dan.* 1545. So weasiness (Joye *wealynes*).]

weat(e, obs. forms of WAIT *v.*¹, WET.

1557 N. T. (Geneva) 2 *Thess.* iii. 5 The Lord guyde your hearts to the loue of God, and the weating for of Christe.

weather ('weðə(r)), *sb.* Forms: 1 *weder*, 2 *wæder*, 2-5 *weder*, 4 *Sc. vedir*, weddire, wedyre, 4-5 *wedir*(e, wedre, wedur, wedyr, whedir, 5 *Sc. weddre*, -ir, -yr, wedere, wedyer, wheder, whed(d)yr, 6 *weddur*, *wedor*, *Sc. wadder*, (veddir), *wodder*, -ir, *woder*, (vodder); 5 *wethyr*, 5-7 *wether*, 5-6 *whether*, 6, 9 *Sc. wathir*, (6 *vedthir*), 6- *weather*. [Com. Teut. (not recorded in Gothic): OE. *weder* neut., OFris. *weder*, *wether* (Nfris. *wedder*, Wfris. *waer*, *war*), OS. *wedar* *wather*, storm, Du. *weder*, *weer*, OHG. *wetar* (MHG. *weter*, mod.G. *wetter*), ON. *veðr* (Sw. *väder*, Da. *vejr*):—O'Teut. **wedro-m*. It is uncertain whether the pre-Teut. form was **wedhro-m* (= OSl. *vedro*, Russian *vedro* good weather, *vedrŭ* adj., fair, said of weather; cogn. w. Lith. *vidras*, *vydra*, storm, *áudra* storm, flood) or **wetró-m* (ablaut-var. of Lith. *vėtra* storm, OSl. *větrŭ* air, wind); on either alternative the word is prob. f. the Indogermanic root **wē* to blow (see WIND *sb.*¹) + suffix *dhro-* or *tro-*.

The spelling with *th* instead of the earlier *d* first occurs in the 15th c. (though the pronunciation which it indicates may well be much older); before the end of the 16th c. it had become universal. In several dialects, chiefly *Sc.* and *n.w.*, the pronunciation with (d) still survives. See TH 6, and the note s.v. FATHER *sb.*

The nautical use = wind, direction of the wind (see senses 3, 8) is probably derived from ON. *veðr*.]

I. 1. a. The condition of the atmosphere (at a given place and time) with respect to heat or cold, quantity of sunshine, presence or absence of rain, hail, snow, thunder, fog, etc., violence or gentleness of the winds. Also, the condition of the atmosphere regarded as subject to vicissitudes.

For *wind* and *weather* (rarely † *weather* and *wind*) see WIND *sb.*

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) T 121 *Temperiem*, uueder. *a* 1000 *Azarias* 62 Wedere onlicust, ponne on sumeres tid sended weorpeð drepna dreorung. *a* 1100 *Gerefa* in *Anglia* IX. 259 þæt he friðige & forðige ælce [tilpe] be ðam. . . ðe hine weder wisað. *c* 1205 *LAV.* 12042 þe wind gond aliðen & þat weder leoðede. 1297 *R. GLOUC.* (Rolls) 2441, & vor weder & oþer ping on erpe after hom [sc. the planets] moche is, þis misbileuede men hom clupede godes. *c* 1374 *CHAUCER Troylus* III. 670 And if ye ligen wel to-night, com ofte, And careth not what weder is on-lofte. *c* 1400 *T. CHESTRE Launfal* 223 And for hete of the wedere Hys mantell he feld togydere And sette hym down to reste. *c* 1403 *LYDG. Temple of Glas* 395 And oft also, after a dropping mone, The weddir clereþ. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 627 But sodanly þe wedir chaunged. *c* 1520 *SKELTON Garl. Laurel* 1442 How men were wonte for to discerne By candelmes day what wedder shuld holde. 1545 *ASCHAM Toxoph.* II. (Arb.) 161 The lengthe or shortnesse of the marke is alwayes vnder the rule of the wether. 1545 *RYNALDE Byrth Mankynde* 88 Item the interperancie & mutation of the ayre, & whether, may be cause of aborcement. 1528 *LYNDESAI Dreame* 774 Surmountyng the myd Region of the air, Quhare no maner of perturbatioun Off woder may ascend so hie as thair. 1609 *Pimlyco, or Runne Red-Cap* D 2, To know what Wether was to come By 'th Almanacke. 1667 *SPRAT Hist. Royal-Soc.* 247 A Wheel-Barometer, and other Instruments for finding the pressure of the Air, and serving to predict the changes of the Weather. 1678 *LADY CHAWORTH* in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 45 Lady Portsmouth. . . goes to Bourbon as soone as the weather opens to allow travelling. 1779 *Mirror* No. 35 The conversation began about the weather, my aunt observing, that the seasons were wonderfully altered in her memory. 1853 *MRS. GASKELL Ruth* xxv, It was weather for open doors and windows. 1859 *H. KINGSLEY G. Hamlyn* viii, However, I am sincerely glad you are come, I knew no weather would stop you. 1890 *C. DIXON Ann. Bird Life* 309 They are birds which have no regular winter home. . . they wander to and fro, south and north, just as the exigency of the weather drives them.

¶ In advb. phrases sometimes with omission of *in*.

1738 *C'TESS POMFRET* in *C'tess Hartford's Corr.* (1805) I. 10 On your left hand is the fire (no bad thing this weather), and on your right a window. 1896 *HOUSMAN Shropshire Lad* xxv, Fred keeps the house all kinds of weather.

b. With descriptive adj., e.g., *good, bad, hot, cold, warm; bright, dull; fine, fair, foul; dry, wet, rainy; clear, thick; rough, windy, still, calm.*

c 893 *ÆLFRED Oros.* VI. xxxii, þa het he betan pærinne micel fyr, for þon hit was ceald weder. *c* 1000 *AGS. Gosp.* Matt. xvi. 2 To-morgen hyt byð smylte weder, þes heofen ys read. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 236 Ðe mire is mahti, Mikel 3e swinked In sumer and in softe weder. *c* 1290 *S.E. Leg.* 198 þat weder þat was so cler and fair. 1340 *Ayenb.* 129 Ase uayr weder went in-to rene. 1340 *HAMPOLE Pr. Consc.* 1442 Nowes the wedir bright and shynand, And now waxes it alle domland. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2440 What of here hard heizing & of þe

hote weder, Meliors was al mat. 1362 *LANGL. P. Pl. A.* VII. 310 þorw Flodes and foul weder Fruites schul fayle. *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 300 Nou han þei. . . hosen in harde weder. *c* 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 146/1 Fayre, mery wedur or tyme, *amenus.* 1470-85 *MALORY Arthur* XIV. ix. 653 And at that tyme the wheder was hote. 1490 *CAXTON Eneydos* xv. 56 The reyny wedre therto propyce and conuenable. 1578 *LYTE Dodoens* II. xlii. 204 Sometimes they flower againe in Autumne when the whether is milde and pleasant. 1600 *SHAKS. A. Y. L.* v. iv. 142 You and you, are sure together, As the Winter to fowle Weather. 1631 *PELLHAM Gods Power* 4 But the next day, . . the weather falling out something thicke, and much yce in the Offing [etc.]. 1653 *WALTON Angler* ii. 41 The gloves of an Otter are the best fortification for your hands against wet weather that can be thought of. 1774 *M. MACKENZIE Marit. Surv.* 95 In moderate Weather, anchor a Vessel at the Shoal. 1782 *MISS BURNEY Cecilia* VIII. ix. To go out in all weather to work. *Ibid.* IX. v. The weather being good on the morning he called. 1842 *DICKENS Amer. Notes* ii, The vessel being pretty deep in the water, . . and the weather being calm and quiet, there was but little motion. 1853 — *Bleak Ho.* xv, There was no fire, though the weather was cold. 1919 *H. L. WILSON Ma Pettengill* 165 Will you look at that mess of clouds? I bet it's falling weather over in Surprise Valley.

c. fig. and in figurative context; spec. (Lit.), applied to an intellectual climate, state of mind, etc.

1603 *R. JOHNSON Kingd. & Commw.* 65 Iustinian restored it [the Empire] somewhat to a better state, driuing the Vandals out of Africke, and the Gothes out of Italy by his captaines; but this faire weather lasted not long. 1630 *Bp. HALL Occas. Medit.* § 73 O God. . . Let mee haue no Weather but Sunne-shine from thee. 1751 *SMOLLETT Per. Pickle* xcvi, Pipes, who. . . knew the contents of the piece [a pistol], asked. . . if it must be foul weather through the whole voyage. 1818 *SCOTT Hrt. Midl.* xlvii, Certain polemical skirmishes betwixt her father and her husband, which. . . often threatened unpleasant weather between them. 1862 *THACKERAY Philip* xxviii, We hadn't much besides our pay, had we? we rubbed on through bad weather and good, managing as best we could. 1878 *E. W. BENSON in Life* (1899) I. xiii. 463 But we have foul weather coming. We have to do the Church's work without sacrificing those party men, [etc.]. 1901 *N. Amer. Rev.* Feb. 266 A barometer is thus formed by which the financial wether of the country is forecast. 1909 *H. JAMES Roderick Hudson* (rev. ed.) vii. 147 He supposed that these changes of intellectual weather. . . were the lot of every poet. 1922 *G. SANTAYANA Soliloquies in England* 30 What governs the Englishman is his inner atmosphere, the weather in his soul. 1927 *T. WILDER Bridge of San Luis Rey* 17 Such authors live always in the noble weather of their own minds. 1962 *K. ALLOTT Penguin Bk. Contemp. Verse* 18 A short introduction giving explicit attention to the poetic 'weather' of each of the last four decades.

† **d.** With indef. article: A kind of weather; a spell of a particular kind of weather. *Obs.*

c 1205 *LAV.* 4573 Æst aras a ladlich weder. *Ibid.* 7398 þeo com heom a wedere wunderliche feire. *c* 1374 *CHAUCER Troylus* III. 657 Lord, this is an huge rayn! This were a weder for to slepen inne. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 12914 It made tho a lothely wedur, Hit raynes faste, thondres, & blowes. 1546 *Gassar's Prognost.* A viij b, Not long before the Sonne shall set, we may looke for a trobelous wether, & perchaunce snow. 1548 *Elyot's Dict., Apricitas*, . . a fayre clere wether. 1618 *ROWLANDS Sacred Mem.* 25 Their storme was chang'd into a fayre calme wether.

e. pl. Kinds of weather: sometimes equivalent to *sing.* Now *rare* exc. in phr. (*in*) *all weathers*.

Beowulf 546 Wedera cealdost, nipende niht ond norpan wind, heaðogrim ondhwearf. *a* 900 *Andreas* 1256 Weder coledon heardum hægelscurum. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 244 Swa bið eac on wintra, for cyle & for para wedra missenlicnesse, þæt se milte wyrð gelefed. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 13 Westmes þorð uele wederas oft and ilome scal forwurðan. *c* 1325 *Poem temp. Edw. II* (Percy) xxxv, Catel cometh and goth As wederis don in lyde. 1340 *HAMPOLE Pr. Consc.* 1424 Sere variance, for certayn skille, Of þe tymes and wedirs and sesons. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 5216 For wind & gode wederes hade þei at wille. 1377 *LANGL. P. Pl. B.* xv. 349 For þorw werre and wykked werkes and wederes vresonable Wederwise shipmen. . . Han no belieue to þe lifte ne to þe lore of filosofres. *c* 1449 *PECOCK Repr.* II. ii. 146 God is such oon, that he nedith not to haue housis ouer him for to couere him fro reyne and fro othir sturne wedris. *a* 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 2470 Wederes had thei feyre and good. 1526 in *Willis & Clark Cambridge* (1886) I. 618 Dowble bandes of leade for defence of great wyndes and other outragious wethers. 1639 *J. TAYLOR (Water P.) Pt. Summers Trav.* 44 Every Sunday, be it Winter or Summer, all manner of weathers. 1697 *T. SMITH in Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 247, I was forced. . . to go downe to Westminster . . in all weathers. 1706 *E. WARD Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 21 He's. . . not so stiff as to carry Sail against all Weathers. 1717 *LADY M. W. MONTAGU Let. to Abbé Conti* 17 May, It is covered on the top with boards to keep out the rain, that merchants may meet conveniently in all weathers. 1849 *C. BRONTE Shirley* xi, She took walks in all weathers—long walks in solitary directions. 1862 *H. KINGSLEY Ravenshoe* xix, It was impossible to pass round the promontory on horseback in the best of weathers; now doubly so. 1865 *DICKENS Mut. Fr.* I. v. All weathers saw the man at the post. *fig.* 1611 *SHAKS. Wint. T.* v. i. 195 Camillo ha's betray'd me; Whose honor, and whose honestie till now, Endur'd all Weathers.

† **f.** With implied favourable qualification: Weather suitable for some purpose. *Obs.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvii. (*Macchar*) 1486 þar-to weddire had þai pane, þat þai wane froyt of land & se thru his prayere in gret pleynte. 1393 *LANGL. P. Pl. C.* VII. 113 Bote ich hadde wedir at my wilich wited god þe cause. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 3280 Thei. . . passed the see, when thei hadde wedur, To Thenedoun. 1469 *Plumptre Corr.* (Camden) 21 Whether is so lateum in this cuntrey, that men can neither well gett corne nor hay.

g. With unfavourable implication: Adverse, unpleasant, hurtful, or destructive condition of the atmosphere; rain, frost, wind-driven waves,

etc. as destructive agents. *stress of weather*: see STRESS *sb.* 3.

a 1122 *O.E. Chron.* (Laud) an. 1097, He pohte his hired on Winceastre to healdenne, ac he wearð þurh weder gelet. *Ibid.* an. 1114, Ac wæder him lætte. 1340-70 *Alex. & Dind.* 443 Swich housinge we han to holde out þe wedures. *c* 1400 *Sowdone Bab.* 76 A drift of wedir vs droffo to Rome. 1425 *Paston Lett. Suppl.* (1901) 5 Whether it wille chippe or chynne or affraye with frost or weder or water. *a* 1548 *HALL Chron., Edw. IV* 233 b, Which bridge was made and covered with bordes, onely to kepe of the wether. 1557 *TUSSER 100 Points Husb.* xxxv, Thinges sowne, set or graft, in good memory haue: from beast, birde and weather to cherishe and saue. 1606 *G. W[OODCOCKE] Hist. Iustine* II. 7 Before the vse of garments was found out against weathers iniury. 1616 *T. SCOT Philomythie* H 6 b, His [the weathercock's] taile was too too weake, when euey feather Was bent with storms, and broken with the weather. 1638 *M. CASAUBON Use & Custom* 77 It hath bene observed of some free stones, that . . if they bee laid in that proper posture, which they had naturally in their quarries, they grow very hard and durable against both time and weather. 1665 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 4 The stones. . . being of a soft . . condition and not able to endure the sunn and weather. 1693 *MOXON Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 251 Chords, which should be well Pitched to preserve them from the Weather, and rotting. 1814 *SCOTT Ld. of Isles* IV. xxii, Weather and war their rougher trace Have left on that majestic face. 1853 *DICKENS Bleak Ho.* lviii, 'Are you well wrapped up?' . . I told him I cared for no weather, and was warmly clothed. 1872 *SHIPLEY Gloss. Eccl. Terms* s.v. *Louvre Boards*, Boards. . . to keep out the weather.

fig. 1663 *CHARLETON Chorea Gigant.* 18 An Invention . . not so firmly founded, as to be impregnable; nor so closely compacted in all its parts, as to keep out all weather of Contradiction.

h. Violent wind accompanied by heavy rain or agitation of the waves. Now *dial.* and *Naut.* † Also, a storm, tempest; often pleonastically, *storm, tempest of weather*(s. *Obs.*

c 888 *ÆLFRED Boeth.* xxxviii. § 1 Ða gestod hine heah weder & stormas. *c* 1205 *LAV.* 102 Mid wolcnen & mid wedere heo poleden wensioðes. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3055 Moyses, do ðis weder charen, And 3u sal [ic] leten ut-faren. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 6018 þe seund on-sand [sc. of the plagues of Egypt] Was a weder ful selcut snell. 13. . . *K. Alis.* 5794 (Laud MS.), þe wederes stronge & tempestes. . . hem duden grete molestes. *c* 1381 *CHAUCER Parl. Foules* v. 681 Now welcom somer, with thy sonne softe, That hast this wintres weders over-shake. 1387-8 *T. Usk Test. Love* I. iii. 63 And so by mokel duresse of weders and of stormes. . . I was driven to an yle. *c* 1400 *MAUNDEV.* (Roxb.) xxxii. 144 þer es neuermare. . . nowper thunner ne leuening, haile ne snawe, ne oþer tempestez of ill weders. 1402 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 44 To were us from wederes of wynteres stormes. *c* 1420 *WYNTOUN Cron.* VII. x. 3278 And þar be a tempest fel Off gret wedderis sharpe and snel. 1450-1530 *Myrr. Our Ladye* III. 303 There are gendered tempestes of weder and hayle. 1490 *CAXTON Eneydos* xxx. 114 Whan thenne they had ronne & saylled so moche that they were in the highe see a stronge weddre arose. 1523 *BERNERS Froiss.* (1812) I. cccxxiv. 506 This rayne and wether endured tyll the sonne rose. 1526 *TINDALE Heb.* xii. 18 Ye are not come. . . to myst and darcknes and tempest of wedder [Gr. θυελλῆ]. 1531 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 26 Tempestes of wedder or stormes. 1553 *T. WILSON Rhet.* 106 b, Diogenes beeyng vpon the Sea among a number of naughtie packes in a greate storme of wether, when diuerse of these wicked felowes cried out for feare of drownynge, [etc.]. 1598 in *Rec. Convent. Burghs Scot.* (1870) II. 27 [They] alegit that wai irmpedit be storme of wedder. 1703 *DAMPIER Voy.* III. I. 10 Upon these Signs Ships either get up their Anchors, or slip their Cables and put to Sea, and ply off and on till the Weather is over. 1718 *HEARNE Collect.* (O.H.S.) VI. 212 The Master and the other Servant, running through the Weather towards the Houses, were both struck dead. 1894 *HALL CAINE Manxman* III. v, 'Then don't be late,' said he, 'there's weather coming.' 1898 *Morn. Post* 11 Nov. 5/2 Wasn't it a beautifully disciplined Mess, though? I wish you could see 'em at sea in weather.

† **i.** What falls from the clouds; rain, snow, etc. Also in *fig.* context. *Obs.*

1382 *WYCLIF Deut.* xxxii. 2 Flowe as dewe my speche, as wedre [Vulg. imber] vpon erbe. *Ibid.* Job xxiv. 8, *Eccl.* xi. 3, *Isa.* v. 6, *Jer.* xiv. 22. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 4336 But er he it in sheves shere, May falle a weder that shal it dere. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilyear* 74 The wedderis ar sa fell, that fallis on the feild. *a* 1533 *BERNERS Golden Bk. M. Aurel.* xxxiv. (1535) 59 The labourer whan it reyneth not, couereth his will, thinkinge that an other tyme the wethers or raynes will fall theron and trouble hym. 1595 *SHAKS. John* IV. ii. 109 A fearefull eye thou hast! . . So foule a skie cleeres not without a storme: Poure downe thy weather! how goes all in France? 1825 *JAISON, Weather*, a fall of rain or snow accompanied with boisterous wind. Roxb. When the wind comes singly . . , [people say] 'It 'ill be no weather the day, but wind'.

† **j.** In contexts relating to clouds or fog, the word sometimes assumes the sense of: Air, sky. *Obs.*

c 1375 *Cursor M.* 24414 (Fairf.) þe wedder [earlier texts air, aier] be-gan to derkin & blacke. *c* 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in *Wr.-Wulcker* 801/1-4 *Hic aier*, *Hic aera*, *Hic ether*, *Hec ethera*, the wethyr. *a* 1500 *Coventry Corpus Chr. Plays* i. 209 These wedurs ar darke and dym of lyght. 1530 *PALSGR.* 648/1, I overcast, as the weather dothe wan it is close or darke and lykely to rayne. . . We shall have a rayne a none, the weather is sore overcaste sodaynly. . . I overcast, as the cloudes do the weather. *c* 1605 *DRAYTON Ballad Agincourt* 76 Arrowes . . that like to serpents stoong, peacing the wether.

2. Phrases.

† **a.** *the weather rains, thunders*, etc. = 'it rains', etc. *Obs.*

1390 *GOWER Conf.* I. 140 The weder schal upon thee reine. 1590 *SIR J. SMYTHE Disc. Weapons* 19 b, If in the tyme of anie battle. . . the weather doth happen to raine, haile, or snow. 1634 *SIR T. HERBERT Trav.* 24 The weather thundring and storming exceedingly.

† **b.** *to make* (rarely *bear*) *fair weather*: to be conciliatory, make a show of friendliness (*to* or

with a person); also, to make a specious show of goodness, etc. *to make fair weather of* (a state of things): to gloss over, represent as better than it is. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 8289 At here comyng thei made fair wedur. And spak of many thynges to-gedur. 1537 CROMWELL in *Merriman Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 93 Thothor parte declare him in wordes towards his Maieste to make only faire wether, and in his harte . . . to doo all that he canne to his graces dishonour. 1547 CHEKE in *Harington Nugæ Ant.* (1804) I. 20 And if anye suche shall be, that shall of all things make faire weather, and, whatsoever they shall see to the contrarye, shall tell you all is well. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 369b, Duke Moris. . . to make fayre weather [L. *pacificationis causa*] sendeth his ambassadors to the Counsell. 1583 GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* cxix. 732 And that is the cause why wee see so fewe holde out in weldoing. Many make faire wether for a time, so as yee woulde thinke them to bee marvellous good men: but in the turning of a hande all is marde. 1589 R. PAYNE *Brief Descr. Irel.* 7 Al the better sort doe deadly hate y^e Spaniards, & yet I thinke they beare them fayre weather, for that they are the popes champions. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI.* v. i. 30 But I must make faire weather yet a while, Till Henry be more weake, and I more strong. 1596 *Edw. III.* i. ii. 23 Returne and say, That we with England will not enter parlie, Nor neuer make faire wether, or take truce. 1598 MARSTON *Pygmal.*, Sat. i. 31 Ixion makes faire weather vnto Ioue. 1622 BACON *Hen. VII.* 49 To which message, although the French King gaue no full credit, yet he made faire weather with the King, and seemed satisfied. 1673 KIRKMAN *Unlucky Cit.* 163 My Mother-in-law made very fair weather to me, and gave me many good words.

c. Naut. Of a ship, *to make good, bad,* etc. *weather of it*: to behave well or ill in a storm.

1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* i. ii. 17 We make foul weather. 1781 *Naval Chron.* XI. 287 The Ship makes a very good weather of it. 1860 *Merc. Marine Mag.* VII. 86 The ship making very bad weather and shipping large quantities of water. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Make bad weather, To.* A ship rolling, pitching, or leaking violently in a gale. 1881 *Daily Tel.* 28 Jan., The sea was . . . not so heavy but that in my judgment a twenty-ton yacht would have made excellent weather of it.

fig. 1915 'IAN HAY' 1st *Hund. Thou.* i. xiii. §2 The feckless and muddle-headed, making heavy weather of the simplest tasks.

d. in the weather: in an exposed situation, unprotected from rain, cold, and wind; in the open air (usually with implication of severe weather). Similarly *to go into, through the weather*.

1513 FABYAN *Chron.* v. lxxxiii. (1516) 32 The kynges Herdemen passyd by, And seynge this Bysshop with his company syttyng in the weder, desyred hym to his howse to take there such poore lodgyng as he had. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* II. 102 The Tree roots best, that in the Weather stands. 1693 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 241 The out side of Buildings that lies in the Weather. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* ii, The captain . . . turns up his coat collar . . . and goes laughing out into the weather as merrily as to a birthday party. 1865 MRS. H. WOOD *Mildred Arkell* xlv, They started together through the weather to the house of William Arkell. 1880 HOWELLS *Undisc. Country* xiii. 190 Her longing to be in the weather [after an illness].

†e. down the weather: in adversity. *to go down the weather*: to become bankrupt. *Obs.*

1611 COTGR., s.v. *Aller*, *Aller au safran*, to fall to decay, to grow bankrupt in estate, to goe downe the weather. 1641 J. SHUTE *Sarah & Hagar* (1649) 63 We see how Job was despised when he was down the weather, yea even by those, whom, when he prospered, he would scarce have set with the dogs of his flock.

f. under the weather (orig. U.S.): indisposed, not quite well.

1827 *Austin Papers* (1924) I. 1622 The fredonians is all here rather under the wether. 1850 D. G. MITCHELL *Lorgnette* (1852) I. 50 As for the Frenchman, though now, between the valorous Poussin and the long-faced Bonaparte, a little under the weather [etc.]. 1882 MISS BRADDON *Mt. Royal* II. iv. 59 'What, old lady, are you under the weather?' he asked, turning to survey his mother with a critical air. 1887 F. R. STOCKTON *Borrowed Month* 68 They had been very well as a general thing, although now and then they might have been under the weather for a day or two.

g. weather permitting: often appended to an announcement (e.g. of the sailing of a vessel) to indicate that it is conditional on the weather being favourable.

1712 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4953/4 The Edgley Gally will be ready to Sail. . . Wind and Weather permitting. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* i, There was a beautiful port-hole which could be kept open all day (weather permitting). 1883 *Black's Guide Devon.* (ed. 11) 164 The steamers from Portishead to Ilfracombe call, going and returning, weather permitting.

h. clerk of the weather: see CLERK *sb.* 3.

1829 P. EGAN *Boxiana* 2nd Ser. II. 302 Asking of no favours from the clerk of the weather to keep off 'the pitiless pelting storm', as their greasy jackets were proof against all watery attacks. 1835 C. F. HOFFMAN *Winter in West* I. 38, I could not, if I had made my own private arrangements with the clerk of the weather, have fixed it upon the whole more to my satisfaction.

i. to stretch wing to weather: to fly.

1825 SCOTT *Betrothed* xxiii, If they be not carefully trained. . . I would rather have a gosshawk on my perch than the fairest falcon that ever stretched wing to weather.

j. above (or over) the weather (Aeronaut.), above the range of weather conditions acting at ground-level; above the clouds.

1944 *Aviation* Feb. 497/1 The plane climbs . . . to fly 'over the weather'. 1958 *Listener* 16 Oct. 593/1 It was said that they [sc. accidents] had destroyed all prospect of carrying passengers at speeds not far short of the speed of sound, far above the weather, at heights of 35,000 feet.

3. *Naut.* The direction in which the wind is blowing. 'Applied to anything lying to windward of a particular situation' (Adm. Smyth). In various phrases: *to luff nigh the weather*: to sail near the wind; in quot. *fig.* *to drive with the weather*: to drift with the wind and waves. *to have the weather of*: to be to windward of (another ship); similarly *in, into, on, to, upon (the) weather of*. Also, *in, into the weather; up to weather*: to windward. Cf. A-WEATHER.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 370 Or elles thei take ate leste Out of hir hand or ring or glove, So nyh the weder thei wol love. 1526 TINDALE *Acts* xxvii. 15 We lett her go, and drave with the wedder [ἐφεσμεθα]. 1557 TOWNSON in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 113 Wee had sight of three sailes of shippes. . . which were in the weather of vs. *Ibid.*, When we met, they had the weather of vs. ? 1565 J. SPARKE *Ibid.* 524 His pinnesse . . . being in the weather of him. 1588 in *St. Papers Defeat Sp. Armada* (Navy Rec. Soc. 1894) II. 107 After this we cast about our ship, and kept ourselves close by the Spaniard until midnight, sometime hearing a voice in Spanish calling us; but the wind being very great and we in the weather, the voice was carried away. *c* 1595 CAPT. WYATT *Dudley's Voy. W. Ind.* (Hakl. Soc.) 18 [Hee] gave commaundement that the carrell shoulde plie up into the weather. *Ibid.*, The French admerall, who laie aloofe of some six leagues to weather. 1692 J. SMITH's *Sea-mans Gram.* i. xvi. 78 *Weather Gage*, is when one Ship has the Wind (or is to weather) of another. 1842 BROWNING *Waring* iii. 12 Then the boat . . . from the lee, Into the weather, cut somehow Her sparkling path beneath our bow. 1868 *Field* 25 July 83/2 The *Mabella* [yacht] too, was much closer on her weather than was pleasant. 1903 *Times* 21 Aug. 4/3 *Reliance*, though astern, was well up to weather. *Ibid.*, *Reliance* by now had unmistakably got upon the challenger's weather.

4. The angle which the sails of a windmill make with the perpendicular to the axis. More fully, *angle of weather*.

1759 SMEATON in *Phil. Trans.* LI. 141 note, The angle of the sails is accounted from the plain of their motion; that is, when they stand at right angles to the axis, their angle is denoted 0°, this notation being agreeable to the language of practitioners, who call the angle so denoted, the weather of the sail. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 138 In the mill-wright's terms, the greatest angle of weather was 30 degrees, and the least varied from 12 to 6 degrees, as the inclination of the windshaft varied from 8 to 15 degrees.

5. = WEATHERING *vbl. sb.* 3. *rare.*

1894 A. M. BELL in *Jrnl. Anthropol. Inst.* XXIII. 272 Beyond doubt they [two flints] were chipped at the same time. . . yet one is weathered, and the other is unaltered. So from an isolated example of weather I am in no haste to draw a conclusion. *Ibid.* 273 So also with surface finds; if they possess definite characteristics of form, of wear, of weather, . . . then these are certainly local accidents.

II. *attrib. and Comb.*

6. a. Simple *attrib.*, as *weather bulletin, -cast, -change, -chart, -forecast, -journal, -lore, -lorist, -map, -mark, -prediction, -report, -saw, -screen, -wear, †-wrack.*

1926 R. MACAULAY *Crewe Train* II. viii. 157 She asked Arnold . . . to tell her when the *weather bulletin came on; that was normally the only part of the programme to which she cared to listen. 1980 P. MOYES *Angel Death* xv. 198 The weather bulletin . . . advised guests that Hurricane Beatrice was . . . moving at a brisk fourteen knots. 1866 STEINMETZ *Weathercasts* 142 *Weathercasts by the Barometer. 1878 R. STRACHAN in *Mod. Meteorology* (1879) 84 A system of storm-warnings and weather-casts. 1980 *Time* 17 Mar. 37/1 A native American art form, the television weathercast. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Deronda* lii, Something as dim as the sense of approaching *weather-change. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 26 Oct. 5/2 The *weather-chart . . . showed that there were several small atmospheric disturbances in the neighbourhood of the British Isles. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 158/1 *Weather Forecasts and Storm Warnings. 1868 G. M. HOPKINS *Jrnl. & Papers* (1959) 189 Henceforth I keep no regular *weather-journal but only notes. 1875 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 2 Jan. 7/2 We shall thereby add every year to our *weather-lore of the various oceans and seas. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 21 Aug. 10/1 A remarkable dearth of acorns . . . which, according to the *weather lorists, is a favourable augury for the coming weather. 1877 *Weather map [see FACSIMILE 3]. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 157/1 The International Monthly Weather Maps issued by the United States Signal Service. 1693 *Humours Town* 15 Bringing Old Age and *Weather marks on you before you have run half your Course. 1909 *Weather prediction [see GAFFE]. 1951 M. McLuhan *Mech. Bride* (1967) 75/1 The comment is given in the style of stock-market operations or weather predictions. 1863 R. FITZROY *Weather Bk.* 349 Local changes should be indicated to observers. . . by due attention to the published *Weather Reports. 1939 T. S. ELIOT *Family Reunion* II. i. 97 And now it is nearly time for the news We must listen to the weather report. 1980 A. E. FISHER *Midnight Men* vii. 78 He could do without unfavourable weather reports. 1871 G. M. HOPKINS 6 Aug. *Jrnl. & Papers* (1959) 213 The common *weather-saw about the rainbow. 1914 'BARTIMEUS' *Naval Occasions* xx. 181 The men on the bridge ducked their heads as . . . a shower of spray drifted over the *weather-screens. 1977 P. SMALLER *Trove* ii. 84 The triple-panel weather screen was fitted with heavy duty wipers. 1824 MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl.* 191 Owre moor and dale for mony a year, May Davie's famous dykes appear, Ne'er bilged out wi' *water-wear, But just the same. 1875 BRASH *Eccl. Archit. Irel.* 96 In truth, I have seldom seen a better executed piece of masonry, despite the weather-wear of over seven hundred years. *a* 1616 BEAUM. & FL. *Wit at Sev. Weapons* II. i, Well, well, you have built a nest That will stand all storms, you need not mistrust A *weather-wrack.

b. objective, as *weather-caster* (so *-casting*), *-forecaster, †-wielder; weather-braving, -withstanding* *ppl. adjs.*

1800 HURDIS *Fav. Village* 4 How long upon the hill has stood Thy weather-braving tower. *c* 1904 *Encycl. Dict.*

Suppl., *Weather-caster.* 1965 *Punch* 5 May 660/2 His great ambition in life is to be a TV weathercaster. 1980 *Time* 17 Mar. 37 TV weather-casters have been much mocked for their polyester jocularity. *Ibid.* (heading) The wonderful art of weather-casting. 1900 *Nature* 29 Nov. 110/2 Disappointing . . . from the viewpoint of the weather forecaster. 1981 *Times* 9 Dec. 1 The weather forecasters were criticized . . . for not giving enough warning . . . of the snowfall. *c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* VII. 3 As the weather-wielder sends, to Sea-men prosperous gales. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xliii, Those prudent and resolved and weather-withstanding professors, wha hae kend what it was to lurk . . . in bogs and in caverns.

c. instrumental, as *weather-bleached, -blown, -borne, -bronzed, -eaten, -hardened, -roughened, -scarred, -stayed, -tanned, -tinted, †-waft, -wasted, -worn* *ppl. adjs.* Also WEATHER-BEATEN, etc.

1784 COWPER *Task* v. 834 His country's *weather-bleach'd and batter'd rocks, *c* 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* II. 532 Strong Enispe, that for height, is euer *weather-blowne. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Weather-borne, pressed by wind and sea. 1837 W. IRVING *Capt. Bonneville* xv, Their . . . *weather-bronzed complexions. 1814 COLERIDGE *Lett.* (1895) 640 [A Janus face] all *weather eaten. 1834 SOUTHEY *Doctor* ix. I. 111 A countenance which, *weather-hardened as it was, might have given the painter a model for a Patriarch. 1897 W. B. YEATS *Secret Rose* 187 Her dark, *weather-roughened skin. 1876 MISS BROUGHTON *Joan* I. i, The *weather-scarred gray walls. 1854 MRS. C. L. BALFOUR *Working Women* (1868) 395 Whenever he had a guest belated or *weather-staid in that lonely region. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak* Ho. lii, A *weather-tanned . . . woman with a basket. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* v (verses), The *weather-tinted rock and tower. 1647 WARD *Simple Cobl* 20 Men . . . , that are *weather-waft up and down with every eddy-wind of every new doctrine. 1822 SCOTT *Pirate* xix, These haggard and *weather-wasted features. 1609 HEALEY *Discov. New World* I. v. 13 We beheld a tombe, which as far as I could guesse by the *weather-worne inscription contained the bones of the Romane Apicius. 1827 CARLYLE *Germ. Lit. Misc.* 1857 I. 48 The weather-worn sculptures of the Parthenon. 1862 ANSTED *Channel Isl.* I. i. (ed. 2) 8 Sark, somewhat the loftiest of the islands, is also the most weather-worn.

d. with adjectives expressing imperviousness or power of resistance (to the weather), as *weather-free, -resistant, -resisting, -tight, -tough.* Also *weather-resistance*; WEATHER-PROOF.

1648 G. DANIEL *Eclog* ii. 6 Lambs, sooner wise then wee, Have got the Hedge, and now stand Weather-free. 1819 BYRON *Juan* II. xi, The dashing spray Flies in one's face, and makes it weather-tough. 1832 HT. MARTINEAU *Ella of Garv.* i. 10 If your honour would order the place down below to be made weather-tight for us. 1855 *Poultry Chron.* III. 388 Place a hen, with her brood, under a good weather-tight coop. 1894 *Weather-resisting* [see ROOFING (*vbl.*) *sb.* 1 b]. 1902 A. AUSTIN *Haunts Anc. Peace* 20 The cottages . . . looked solid, sturdy, and weather-tight. 1934 *Archit. Rev.* LXXVI. 16/1 Many years of use have proved the method satisfactory, both as a weather-resistant and as insulation. 1942 *E. African Ann.* 1941-2 98 (Advt.), Anti-rust paint . . . durable, elastic, weather-resisting. 1967 M. CHANDLER *Ceramics in Mod. World* iv. 117 Another property that makes both porcelain and glass insulators particularly suitable for high-voltage insulators is their weather-resistance. 1970 *New Yorker* 3 Oct. 27/2 You can bolt on anything from redwood to weather-resistant aluminum.

7. Special comb.: *weather balloon*, a balloon sent up to provide meteorological information, either by the course it takes or by means of instruments it carries; †*weather-basket*, a wickerwork screen or covering to protect a plant; *weather-box* = *weather-house*; *weather-brained a.* = WEATHER-HEADED; *weather bureau U.S.*, an agency (*spec.* one established by the Government) which observes and reports on weather conditions; †*weather-caster*, a weather-prophet; *weather centre*, an office which provides weather information and analysis; *spec.* in U.K., part of the Meteorological Office; *weather clerk* = *clerk of the weather* s.v. CLERK *sb.* 6; *weather-cloth Naut.*, a covering of canvas or tarpaulin used to protect boats, hammocks, etc., or to shelter persons from wind and spray; *weathercoat*, a weather-proof coat, a raincoat; *weather-cord*, a cord used as a hygrometer; *weather-cottage* = *weather-house*; *weather cycle*, a recurring pattern of weather or of some tendency in the weather; *weather-dog dial.* [DOG *sb.* 10] = WEATHER-GALL; *weather-door*, (a) a louver-hole in a church steeple (cf. LOUVER 4, quot. 1858); (b) *Mining* (see quot.); †*weather-fan*, a punkah; *weather-fane* = FANE *sb.* 1 2; *weather-fast a.*, secure against the weather; *weather-fence v. trans.* = WEATHER-FEND; *weather-fish* = *thunder-fish* b (s.v. THUNDER *sb.* 6); †*weather-flag*, a vane; *weather-gleam, -glim* *Sc.* and *north. dial.*, clear sky near a dark horizon; also, the horizon; *weather-god*, a god who presides over the weather; *weather-guard v. trans.*, to guard against bad weather; *weather-head dial.*, a secondary rainbow; *weather-hen jocular*, a female weathercock; an inconstant woman; *weather-house*, a toy hygroscope in the form of a small house with

figures of a man and woman standing in two porches; by the varying torsion of a string the man comes out of his porch in wet weather and the woman out of hers in dry; **weather-line**, the surface of an embedded timber just above the ground; **weather-maker**, a weather-prophet; also **weather-making** *vbl. sb.*; **weather-man**, (a) one who observes the weather; now also *spec.* one who presents a weather forecast on radio, television, etc.; (b) (freq. with capital initial and in *pl.*) (a member of) a violent revolutionary group in the U.S. (see quot. 1970); cf. *Weather Underground* below; **weather modification**, the deliberate alteration of the weather in an area; **weather-monger**, a weather-prophet; **weather-moulding** *Arch.*, a dripstone; **weather plane**, an aeroplane designed to collect data on weather conditions at high altitudes; † **weather-plate**, a plate marked with a scale for indicating the height of the mercury in a barometer; † **weather-prophecy** *Obs.*, the foretelling of the weather; **weather-prophet**, one who foretells the weather; one who is weather-wise; also *fig.*; **weather radar**, radar used for meteorological investigations (e.g. of rain); † **weather-rope** (see quot.); **weather satellite**, a satellite especially equipped to observe weather conditions and to provide meteorological information; **weather-sharp** *U.S. colloq.*, a weather-prophet; an official meteorologist (*Cent. Dict.* Suppl. 1909); **weather ship**, a ship serving as a weather station; **weather-sick** *a.*, sick of, suffering from, the weather; **weather-sign**, a phenomenon that indicates change of weather; also *fig.*; † **weather-skirt** *U.S.* = SAFEGUARD *sb.* 8; **weather-slatted**, -slating (cf. *weather-tiled*, -tiling); † **weather-spar** = WEATHERBOARD 2; † **weather-spy**, a weather-prophet; **weather station**, a meteorological observation post; † **weather-stone**, a kind of stone classed according to its imperviousness to weather; **weather-strip** orig. *U.S.*, a strip of wood or rubber applied to a crevice in order to exclude rain and cold (Webster 1864); hence as *vb. trans.*, to apply a weather-strip to (*Cent. Dict.* 1891); hence **weather-stripped** *ppl. a.*; **weather-stripping** *vbl. sb.*, material used to weather-strip a door, window, etc.; the process of applying this; **weather-table** *Arch.* = WATERTABLE 1b; **weather-tile**, a kind of tile used instead of weather-board to cover a wall; **weather-tiled** *ppl. a.*, covered with overlapping tiles; **weather-tiling** *vbl. sb.*, the process or result of covering a wall with tiles; **weather-tree**, the white poplar, *Populus alba*; **Weather Underground**, the revolutionary organization formed by the Weathermen (see above); **weather-vane** = VANE 1; also *fig.*; **weather-wall**, a wall serving as a shield from the weather; **weather-warning** (see quot.); **weather window** *Oil Industry*, a brief interval in the year when the weather is calm enough to allow construction, loading, etc., operations to be carried out at sea; **weather-wiseacre** *nonce-wd.*, one who professes to be weather-wise; † **weather-wizard**, a weather-prophet; **weather woman**, (a) (with capital initial) a female member of the revolutionary Weatherman organization; (b) a woman who presents a weather forecast on radio or television; † **weather-works**, devices to protect a ship from rough weather.

1940 *War Illustr.* 19 Jan. 614/3 (caption) Finnish soldiers are investigating weather conditions by sending up a *weather balloon. 1979 J. GRIBBIN *Weather Force* vii. 160 (caption) Russian scientists... prepare to launch a flock of weather balloons, which will radio back information about conditions in the atmosphere's lower levels. 1699 MEAGER *New Art Garden*. 28 When they are Grafted they must be fenced, either with a *weather-basket, or some earthen Vessel. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* x, The elder and younger son of the house of Crawley were, like the gentleman and lady in the *weather-hox, never at home together. 1826 SCOTT *Woodst.* vii, But art thou not an inconsiderate *weather-hrained fellow, to set forth as thou wert about to do, without any thing to bear thy charges...? 1854 H. MILLER *Sch. & Schm.* i. (1858) 10 There was a weather-brained tailor in the neighbourhood, who used to do very odd things, especially, it was said, when the moon was at the full. 1871 *Harper's Mag.* Aug. 401/1 In the year 1857 Lieutenant M. F. Maury... appealed to the public and Congress, through the press, urging the establishment of a storm and *weather bureau. 1890 *U.S. Statutes* XXVI. 653 The civilian duties now performed by the Signal Corps of the Army shall hereafter devolve upon a bureau to be known as the Weather Bureau. 1950 *Los Angeles Times* 12 Feb. 1/4 Weather Bureau figures show that 34 inch fell during the rainstorm. 1978 S. SHELTON *Bloodline* iv. 71 July turned out to be the rainiest month in the history of the French weather bureau. 1607 DEKKER *Knt.'s Conjur.* (1842) 9 The storme heeing at rest, what buying vp of almanacks was there to see if the *weather-casters had played the doctors to a haire.

[1959 *Times* 19 Aug. 8/7 The Air Ministry Meteorological Office is to open a 'weather shop' where the public may call in person at the new home of the London forecasting office at Princes House, Kingsway.]. 1961 *A.A. Handbk.* 17 'Weather Centres' staffed by the Meteorological Office are open in London, in Glasgow, and in Manchester. 1973 C. BONINGTON *Next Horizon* xiii. 185, 1. went through the daily ritual of getting the weather forecast. This entailed 'phoning' the weather centre in London. 1877 'MARK TWAIN' *New England Weather in Index* (Boston) 11 Jan. 16/2 It must be raw apprentices in the *weather-clerk's factory who experiment and learn how in New England... and then are promoted to make weather for countries that require a good article. 1898 H. S. CANFIELD *Maid of Frontier* 111, I wouldn't have a weather clerk inside of me for any thing. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* I. xxiv. 315 A sort of *weather-cloth, which... would certainly make her more comfortable in heavy weather. 1897 *Outing* XXIX. 547/1 A coil of rope for head-rest, a discarded sail for weather cloth. 1897 J. L. ALLEN *Choir Invisible* x. 132 He got up at last and wrapped his *weather-coat about him. 1930 *Daily Express* 6 Oct. 13/5 (caption), Real Harris tweed weathercoat. 1978 *Sunday Times* 21 May 1/6 (Adv.), A pure silk wrap-around weathercoat... to protect you from summer showers... £165. 1746 *Phil. Trans.* XLIV. 169 The *Weather-Cord is an Hygrometer of a very ancient Invention. 1906 E. V. LUCAS *Wanderer in Lond.* 170 One of the old *weather-cottages, with a little man and a little woman to swing in and out and foretell rain and shine. 1930 *Engineering* 31 Jan. 148/2 Based upon a *weather cycle or period of almost fourteen years. 1758 BORLASE *Nat. Hist. Cornw.* 17 There appeared in the North-East the frustum of a large rainbow... They call it here in Cornwall a *weather dog... and pronounce it a certain sign of hard rain. 1865 R. HUNT *Pop. Rom. W. Eng.* (1881) 434 'Weather dogs'... are regarded as certain prognostications of showery or stormy weather. 1753 F. PRICE *Observ. Cathedral-Ch. Salisbury* 40 The upper part of the Spire... just below the *weather Door. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, *Weather-door*, a door in a level to regulate the ventilating current. 1611 COTGR., *Poille*,... also, an Umbrello, or great *weather-fanne. 1773 *Phil. Trans.* LXIV. 140 The *weather-fane which terminates the conductor. 1910 J. FARNOL *Broad Highway* I. xxiv, It was somewhat roughly put together, but still very strong, and seemed, save for the roof, *weather-fast. 1750 W. L. BOWLES *Poems, Sylph of Summer* 466 Yon eastern downs, That *weather-fence the blossoms of the vale. 1886 H. G. SEELEY *Freshw. Fishes Europe* 248 In Germany and Austria it [*Misgurnus fossilis*] is regarded as a weather prophet, and sometimes is called the *Weather-fish, because it usually comes to the surface about twenty-four hours before bad weather, and moves about with unusual energy. 1611 COTGR., *Gyrouette*, a fane, or *weather-flag. 1802 SIBBALD *Chron. S.P. Gloss.*, *Weddir-glim, clear sky, near the horizon; spoken of objects seen in the twilight or dusk; as 'between him and the wedder-glim'. 1817 *Blackw. Mag.* Oct. 84/1 While... the weather-gleam of the eastern hills began to be tinged with the brightening dawn. 1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 185 Nae cloud o'w-head the lift did dim, But i' the western weddir-glim A black up-castin'. 1905 E. CLODD *Animism* § 11. 58 Indra, the old Vedic *weather-god, has been completely elbowed out as an object of worship by special rain-gods. 1885 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* I. 338/2 The pioneers attend to this work, trenching the ground, *weather-guarding the shelters. 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Weather-head, the secondary rainbow. 1904 EDITH RICKERT *Reaper* 318 The old folk watched for weatherheads and talked of storms. 1632 HEYWOOD *and Pt. Iron Age* i. i. C2, And now faire Troian *Weather-hen adew, And when thou next louest, thinke to be more true. 1899 B. THOMAS & GRANV. BARKER (title), The Weather-Hen. 1726 *Post-Man* 1-3 Sept. 2/2 Adv., The Gentlemen, Ladies and Farmers famous new invented *Weather Houses. 1784 COWPER *Task* I. 211 Peace to the artist, whose ingenious thought Devis'd the weather-house, that useful toy! 1800 LATHOM *Dash of Day* I. i, He is always in bed when I am up, and I am always at rest, when he is stirring; our movements put me in mind of the man and woman in the Dutch weather-house. 1915 'Q' (Quiller-Couch) *Nicky-Nan* xiii. 156 A man has no husiness to stand grimacing in his own doorway... like a figure in a weather-house. 1830 R. MUDIE *Pop. Guide Observ. Nature* 302 As little was the injury done at the *'weather-line', just by the surface of the earth, where the durability of timber is put to the severest test. 1888 EMILY GERARD *Land beyond Forest* II. 30 note, Instances of *weather-makers are also common in Germany. 1891 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 13 Oct. 7/2 A weather-maker for an almanack got into conversation with a shepherd. 1883 STALLYBRASS tr. *Grimm's Teut. Mythol.* III. 1152 The gift of prophecy and the art of *weather-making. 1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* 11. (Arh.) 152 Therefore in shootynge there is as much difference betwixt an archer that is a good *wether man, and an other that knoweth and marketh nothyng, as is betwixt a hlynde man and he that can se. 1901 *Weather man* [see *hot wave* s.v. HOT a. 12]. 1944 *Sun* (Baltimore) 15 Nov. 11/2 Nobody ever gets anywhere telling the weatherman how to behave. 1952 W. STEVENS *Let.* 26 June (1967) 757 It did not go below 85° in N.Y. last night according to the weather man. 1970 *Guardian* 28 Oct. 13/3 The Weathermen have been in existence for just over a year, since the SDS [sc. Students for a Democratic Society] split of June, 1969... The Weathermen got their name from a line in a Bob Dylan song: 'You don't need a weatherman to know which way the wind blows.' 1971 *Times* 15 Jan. 12/6 Could this country have acquired an Anglicized offshoot of the American Weatherman—or Weathermen as these violent urban guerillas are less accurately but probably more widely known? 1979 R. PERRY *Bishop's Pawn* i. 23 The West was agreed that the IRA, the Weathermen, the Red Army Faction... were composed of criminals, terrorists and murderers. 1983 *Listener* 14 July 17/3 We asked the weatherman, Jack Scott, to demonstrate some of those extraordinary regional variations for us. 1951 *U.S. Congr. Senate Committee Interior Hearings* Apr. 152 *Weather modification on a small scale, such as protection against frost... is known to be possible. 1968 *Times* 1 Nov. 6/6 Russian research on methods of reducing damage to crops by hailstorms is being examined seriously in the United States, according to a National Science Foundation report on last year's activities in weather modification. 1977 *Time* 7 Mar. 55/1 The Governors also agreed to create a task force that could channel such requests for aid and coordinate weather-modification (cloud seeding) programs. 1656 2nd Ed. *New*

Almanack 3 If the *weather-mongers rule hold true. 1911 J. G. FRAZER *Golden Bough: Magic Art* (ed. 3) I. iv. 227 Wizards, doctors, weather-mongers, prophets. 1841 *Few Words to Churchwardens* 1. (Camb. Camden Soc.) 10 You may see what is called the *weather-moulding of the old roof remaining. 1878 SIR G. SCOTT *Lect. Archit.* I. 165 A hollow projecting moulding containing the foliage, capped by a weather moulding. 1962 *Listener* 18 Oct. 632/2 The 'Coliseum of cloud' that a *weatherplane captured for us. 1976 *Evening Post* (Nottingham) 13 Dec. 7/2 Experts... identified it as a crashed weather plane which sends wind and temperature conditions from a height of 90,000 feet. 1698 DERHAM in *Phil. Trans.* XX. 4 The *Weather-plates are to be put upon the Frame [of a portable barometer], by setting them to the same height, at which the Mercury stands in a common Barometer. 1843 MILL *Logic* I. III. iv. 389 The reliance on astrology, or on the *weather-prophecies in almanacs. 1866 STEINMETZ *Weathercasts* 7 The most successful *weather-prophet of modern times... the late lamented Admiral Fitzroy. 1884 S. E. DAWSON *Handbk. Dom. Canada* 4 The metaphors of political weather-prophets. 1946 1st *Technical Rep. Weather Radar Research* (Mass. Inst. Technol. Dept. Meteorol.) (AD 54113) 3 (heading) *Weather-radar observations at M.I.T.'s Radiation Laboratory. 1979 *Atmosphere-Ocean* XVII. 78 The radar data were obtained from the McGill Weather Radar located just outside Montreal. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Weather-ropes, an early term for those which were tarred. 1960 *Aeroplane* XCIX. 90/2 After taking 22,952 photographs of the Earth's cloud cover, Tiros I, the World's first *weather satellite, has ended its useful life... after the satellite's electronics had suffered a failure. 1976 L. DEIGHTON *Twinkle, twinkle, Little Spy* xi. 115 His factories make complicated junk for communications satellites... And there are weather satellites too. 1884 *Graphic* 13 Dec. 610/3 The New York *'weathersharps', who have to their westward some three thousand miles of land studded with signal stations. 1946 *Shell Aviation News* No. 100. 6/3 A proposal by the Search and Rescue Committee that *weather ships should be maintained in the North Atlantic for meteorological observations. 1978 *Nature* 1 June 407/1 Following the withdrawal of US weatherships in 1973, it is the only regularly reporting deep ocean (3,000 m) station in the North Atlantic north of the tropics and south of 50° N. 1757 DYER in J. Duncombe *Let.* (1773) III. 62, I think I never was so *weather-sick; the deep snows forbid me air and exercise. 1892 MEREDITH *Ode to Comic Spirit* Poems 1898 II. 222 A statue losing feature, weather-sick. 1856 MRS. BROWNING *Aur. Leigh* II. 691, I can tell The *weather-signs of love: you love this man. 1915 19th *Cent.* Jan. 190 His prophecies [about India] are perpetual, and he read the weather-signs at a glance. 1903 ALICE M. EARLE *Two Cent. Costume Amer.* II. 617 Another name for a safeguard was a *weather-skirt. 1870 *Lond. Society* Sept. 266 A... house, *weather-slatted from top to bottom. 1859 JEPHSON *Brittany* xvi. 269 Buildings of lath and plaster, covered on the most exposed parts with *weather-slating. 1632-3 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II. 698 The Windowes in y^e Roofe, to be of good Oake Timber, with *Wether sparrs handsomely wrought. c 1595 DONNE *Sat.* i. 59 And sooner may a gulling *weather Spie By drawing forth heavens Scheme tell certainly [etc.]. 1895 *Funk's Stand. Dict.*, *Weather station. 1953 *Encounter* Nov. 7/1 Japan gets its weather from China, but no weather reports—at least not until the Japanese experts again manage to break the code of the Chinese weather-stations. 1981 'E. LATHEN' *Going for Gold* vii. 87, I was on to the weather station... The forecasters are talking about the hizzard of the century. 1686 *Plot Staffordsh.* 168 It heing all of it good *weather-stone, hut not enduring the fire. 1847 *Rep. Comm. Patents* 1846 (U.S.) 94 One patent has been granted for improvement in fences, and another for a *weather strip for doors. 1921 *Daily Colonist* (Victoria, B.C.) 25 Oct. 6/6 (Adv.), Weather Strip—'Stormproof', 24 feet in box. 1970 K. BALL *Fiat 600, 600D Autobook* xii. 143/2 The front windscreen and rear window are secured in place by a special weatherstrip. 1985 *Times* 19 July 13/4 In windy winter conditions the windload presses the door up against the weatherstrip. 1908 I. N. STEVENS *Liberators* 8 The wind that shook the windows, *weather-stripped as they were, crept into the room. 1945 NELSON & WRIGHT *Tomorrow's House* xiii. 147/2 A heavy flush door, weather-stripped... would... reduce the direct transmission of sound. 1942 *Archit. Rev.* XCI. 99/3 The windows are pine with aluminium *weatherstripping. 1959 'S. RANSOME' *I'll die for You* xii. 144 A part of the weather stripping was loose, and in a heavy rain it leaked. 1975 *Globe & Mail* (Toronto) 14 Nov. 2/5 As for weather-stripping, Mrs. Macdonald said their house doesn't need it because of extra insulation and double windows. 1839 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jnl.* II. 361/2 A weather fillet, or *weather table, which projects half an inch from the general face of the window. 1906 *Antiquary* Jan. 7/2 A weather-table on the north wall. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2568/2 Siding-tiles are sometimes called *weather-tiles. 1887 HISSEY *Holiday on Road* 230 A somewhat quaint little inn, having a *weather-tiled upper story. 1904 A. C. BENSON *House of Quiet* iv, One wing is weather-tiled. 1703 [R. NEVE] *City & C. Purchaser* 286 *Weather-tyling... Is the Tying, (or Covering with Tyles) the upright Sides of Houses. 1833 LOUDON *Encycl. Archit.* §438 The weather-boarding may be covered... with what is called weather-tiling. 1847 C. A. JOHNS *Forest Trees* I. 357 note, I think there will be rain... for the *weather tree is shewing its white lining. 1972 *National Observer* (U.S.) 27 May 10/2 The... *'Weather Underground', which boasts that it is responsible for so many of these homings, is down to only 15 or 20 members now, according to sources in the House Internal Security Committee. 1982 H. KISSINGER *Years of Upheaval* iv. 89 The terrorism of the Weather Underground. 1721 BAILEY, *Weather-vane. 1866 LE FANU *All in Dark* x, The pointed gables, with stone cornices and glittering weather-vane on the summit. 1896 *Tablet* 1 Feb. 167 *The Pall Mall Gazette* even prefers to regard him as a Royal weather-vane. 1838 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jnl.* I. 235/1 A *weather wall in the centre will run the whole length [of the pier]. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Weather-warning, the telegraphic cautionary warning given by hoisting the storm-drum on receiving the forecast. 1974 *Petroleum Rev.* XXVIII. 787/1 The *weather-window is normally reckoned to last into September. 1983 *Sunday Times* 6 Mar. 69/4 It's been said that Esso's development of artificial islands has not merely opened the weather window further hut ripped it off its hinges. 1807 W. IRVING

Salmagundi (1824) 122 This is the universal remark among the. *weather-wiseacres of the day. 1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* Ep. Ded. B3b, False Prophets, *Weather-wizards, Fortune-tellers. 1652 GAULE *Magastrom*. 23 Weather-wizzards, planet-prognosticators, and fortune-spellers! 1971 *Times* 15 Jan. 12/7 Only one unconnected *Weatherwoman has since been traced. 1973 *Daily Tel.* 14 Dec. 3/3 BBC Television is to have its first weather woman. She is Miss Barbara Edwards, who at present reads weather forecasts on radio. 1982 *Times* 28 May 9/3 Diana Arp. was from a very wealthy family and became a Weather woman, making bombs. 1776 COOK *3rd Voy.* i. iii. (1784) I. 34 The caulkers were set to work. to caulk the decks and inside *weather-works of the ship.

8. *Naut.* Used attrib. or as adj. with the sense: Situated on the side which is turned towards the wind; having a direction towards the wind; windward; opposed to *lee*, *leeward* adjs.; as *weather-anchor*, *-beam* (BEAM sb.¹ 17), *-bowline*, *-brace*, *-division*, *-earring*, *-gangway*, *-gun*, *-leech*, *-lift*, *-lurch*, *-port*, *-quarter*, *-rail*, *-roll*, *-sheet*, *-shore*, *-shroud*, *-spoke*, *-tack*, *-tide*, *-topping-lift*, *-wheel*; *weather-bow*, the bow that is turned towards the wind; hence as *v. trans.*, to turn the weather-bow to; *weather-deck*, a deck exposed to the weather [cf. G. *wetterdeck*]; the uppermost unprotected deck, other than the fore-castle, bridge and poop; *weather-dodger slang*, a screen on the bridge of a ship, affording protection from the weather; *weather-gage*, *-gauge* (see GAUGE sb. 5); hence as *v. trans.*, to keep the weather-gage of; *weather-helm*, a tendency in a ship under sail to come too near the wind, requiring the tiller to be kept constantly a little to windward; *weather-mark Sailing*, a mark on a racing course towards which boats sail into the wind. Also (*to the*) *weatherward* adv.

1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Weather-anchor, that lying to windward, by which a ship rides when moored. 1790 BEATSON *Nav. & Mil. Mem.* II. 140 Two sail. gave us chase and kept on our *weather-beams till morning. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Weather-beam*, a direction at right angles with the keel, on the weather side of the ship. 1626 CAPT. J. SMITH *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 18 On the *weather bow. 1851 H. MELVILLE *Whale* xvi. 80 Take a peep over the weather-bow. and tell me what ye see there. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xxxvi. We made but little by *weather-bowing the tide. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* I. 18 Set in the Lee-Braces, and haul forward by the *Weather Bowlines. *Ibid.* 17 Let go the. Lee-Braces. set in your *Weather Braces. 1762-9 FALCONER *Shipwr.* ii. 308 The sheet and weather-brace they now stand by. 1836 MARRYAT *Midsh. Easy* xxv[i], 'A small pull of that weather main-top-gallant brace—that will do,' said the master. 1850 *Rep. Committee in G. Moorsom Admeas. Tonnage* (1853) 167 The Depth in Midships from the Underside of the *Weather Deck to the Ceiling at the Limber Strake. 1906 ATTWOOD *War-ships* 46 Wood is now only used for weather decks [etc.]. 1908 PAASCH *From Keel to Truck* (ed. 4) 75 *Weather-deck*, Term given to an upper deck on account of its exposure to the sun, rain and wind. 1973 H. GRUPPE *Truxton Cipher* (1974) xiii. 135 Tolley. disappeared down the weather-deck ladder. 1920 *Discovery* Nov. 329/2 Nelson had intended his *weather division to be in line ahead. 1924 R. CLEMENTS *Gipsy of Horn* v. 84 One was. in comparative comfort under the lee of the *weather-dodger. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* iv. The first [sailor] on the yard goes to the *weather earing, the second to the lee, and the next two to the 'dog's ears'. 1834 MARRYAT *P. Simple* xiii. Walk this boy up and down the *weather gangway. 1892 *Field* 2 July 30/3 Daffodil. was sufficiently far to windward to *weather-gauge her. 1759 *Ann. Reg.* 120 We. run our *weather-guns out. 1691 T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* 126 *Weather, or Leeward Helm. may be fitted to promote or hinder the Sailing upon occasion. 1882 NARES *Seamanship* (ed. 6) 190 A screw ship carries more weather helm than a sailing ship. 1836 MARRYAT *Midsh. Easy* xxv[i], The Aurora dashed through at the rate of eight miles an hour, with her *weather leeches lifting. 1899 F. T. BULLEN *Log of Sea-waif* 279 The weather-leech of the lower stun' sails began to flap. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Weather-lurch, a heavy roll to windward. 1894 *Outing* XXIV. 36/2 The 'Una' turned the *weather-mark with a lead of nearly half an hour. 1963 *Times* 8 June 5/1 By the weather mark Andromeda was in front. 1809 *Sporting Mag.* XXXIII. 127 A great sea poured through one of the *weather-ports. 1626 CAPT. J. SMITH *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 19 Boord him on his *weather quarter. 1743 BULKELEY & CUMMINS *Voy. S. Seas* 9 The Commodore being on the Weather-Quarter, bore down under our Lee, and spoke with us. 1834 M. SCOTT *Cruise of Midge* i. (1836) 16 The felucca was now within long pistol-shot of our weather-quarter. 1888 E. J. MATHER *Nor'ard of Dogger* 352 We had to hang on the *weather-rail, the seas rolling along like mountains. 1815 *Falconer's Dict. Marine* (ed. Burney), *Weather-Rolls, those inclinations which a ship makes to windward in a heavy sea. a1625 MANWAYRING *Sea-mans Dict.* (1644) 76 If the *weather-sheate be as farre as the Bulk-head. 1851 H. MELVILLE *Whale* xiii. 67 The tremendous strain upon the main-sheet had parted the weather-sheet. 1626 CAPT. J. SMITH *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 30 Come to an Anchor vnder the Ley of the *weather shore. 1697 J. PUCKLE *New Dial.* 16 A North-West Wind. makes Holland a Lee and England a Weather Shore. a1625 MANWAYRING *Sea-mans Dict.* (1644) 32 Then cutting the *weather shrowdes, the mast will instantly and without danger fall over board. 1849 CUPPLES *Green Hand* vi. (1856) 59, I looked to the wheel. as he coolly gave her half a *weather-spoke more. 1883 *Man. Seamanship Boys* 56 Haul on the *weather-tack and lee-sheet. 1815 *Falconer's Dict. Marine* (ed. Burney), *Weather-Tide, denotes that which, by setting against a ship's lee-side, while under sail, forces her up to windward. 1883 *Man. Seamanship Boys* 163 The fiddle-block is hooked to the *weather-topping lift. 1557 TOWNSON in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 127 At night the Minion, and the pinnesse came vp to vs, but could not fetch so farre

to the *weatherward as we, and therefore they ankered about a league a wether the castle. 1600 (25 Dec.) *Adm. Ct. Exam.* 34 (P.R.O.) [A ship] to the weatherward about a league. 1904 DOWDEN R. *Browning* 73 The boat veers weatherward. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Weather-wheel, the position of the man who steers a large ship, from his standing on the weather-side of the wheel.

weather ('wɛðə(r)), *v.* Forms: 5 *wederyn*, 5-7 *wether*, 6- *weather*. [f. WEATHER sb.]

OE. had *wedrian*, *widrian*, *wuderian*, *zewiderian*, to be (good or bad) weather = ON. *viðra*: see WEATHERING *vbl. sb.* 1. Cf. MHG. *weteren* (mod.G. *wettern*), to subject to wind and sun (= sense 1 below), *witeren* (mod.G. *wittern*) to storm, etc.; also *WITHER v.*]

1. *trans.* To subject to the beneficial action of the wind and sun; to air. a. *Hawking* (see quot. 1856). Also *refl.* and *intr.* in passive sense.

14.. in Harting *Perf. Bk. Keping Sparhawkes* (1886) *Introd.* p. ix, For wetheringe yo' hauke offer yo' hauke water. 1575 TURBERV. *Falconrie* 134 When you hauer kept hir two houres vpon the fist, then set hir in the Sunne to weather hir half an houre. c1575 *Perf. Bk. Keping Sparhawkes* (1886) 11 Set her to wether fastinge a longe tyme. *Ibid.* 14 In myste they will neuer wether, nor flye well. 1615 MARKHAM *Country Contentm.* i. vii. 88 Then he shall bee sure to weather his Hawke abroad euery euening except on her bathing daies. 1773 J. CAMPBELL *Mod. Falconry* 191 Of Bathing and Weathering Hawks. 1856 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Sports* i. IV. §5. 223/2 Hawks must also be weathered; that is to say, they should be put out on perches. in the open air, and then left. for many hours a-day, but not in the rain.

transf. 1590 SPENSER *Muiopotmos* 184 And then he [the butterfly] percheth on some braunch thereby, To weather him, and his moyst wings to dry. 1596 — *F.Q.* v. iv. 42.

b. To air (linen, etc.); to dry thoroughly (a harvested crop).

c1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 519/2 *Wederyn*, or leyn or hangyn yn the wedyr, *auro.* 1530 PALSGR. 780/2, I wether a thyng, I lay it abrode in open ayre. *Je ayre*. It shall be well done to weather your garments in Marche for feare of mothes. a1569 KYNGESMILL *Man's Est.* xii. (1574) F vj b, They may not flourish long: Euen as herbes that growe in the shadowe, neuer well weathered with the warme sunne. 1580 TUSSEY *Hush.* (1878) 129 Maides, mustard seede gather, for being too ripe, and weather it well. 1844 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* v. i. 269 After reaping. the produce of the several plots was well weathered, and then thrashed. 1847 HALLIWELL, *Weather*, to dry clothes in the open air. 1892 P. H. EMERSON *Son of Fens* xvii. 173 'Well, the stuff [cut reeds] is rather heauy, ain't it?' 'It want to be weathered, bor.'

c. To expose (land, clay for brick- or tile-making) to the pulverizing action of the elements.

1548 [see WEATHERING *vbl. sb.* 3 b]. 1865 *Daily Tel.* 3 Nov. 5/4 The clay bank, where the raw material is stored and 'weathered'.

2. To change by exposure to the weather. a. *trans.* To wear away, disintegrate, or discolour by atmospheric action. Const. *into*, to a specified form or condition. Chiefly in *passive*. Also with *away*. Also, to produce as an incrustation on a surface by the action of the weather. Spec. in *Geol.*

1757 tr. J. F. Henckel's *Pyritol.* v. 61 This leady clay. derived from a lead-ore, weathered and reduced to earth. *Ibid.* 87 On this sinter. we find glitter, iron and copper pyrites, not conveyed by streams of water, nor agglutinated, but weathered thereon, or produced by weather or damps. 1789 [see WEATHERED *ppl. a.* 1]. 1833 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* III. 210 The face of the limestone is hollowed out and weathered into such forms as are seen in the calcareous cliffs of the adjoining coast. 1867 H. MACMILLAN *Bible Teach.* xiii. (1870) 267 The rain-cloud hangs low. overhead; the smoke hovers around; and they weather the finest sculptured surface. 1878 ANSTED *Water & Water Supply* 89 It [sc. percolation] acts also very powerfully in weathering the rocks through which the water passes. 1918 H. BALFOUR in *Man* XVIII. 147 The nose either was not represented or has been weathered away.

b. *intr.* To become worn, disintegrated, or discoloured under atmospheric influences. Const. *into*, to a specified condition. *to weather out*: to become prominent or isolated by the decay or disintegration of the surrounding rock.

1789 J. WILLIAMS *Min. Kingd.* II. 20 The grey granite begins to weather or decompose. 1839 MURCHISON *Silur. Syst.* i. xxxiii. 441 The lower shale is here clearly seen beneath the limestone, and weathers to the same light ashen colour as in Salop. 1862 ANSTED *Channel Isl.* i. 1. 7 Hard crystalline rock, decomposing or weathering by the constant action of the sea and weather. 1883 RUSKIN *Fors. Clav.* xcii. 207 The dark rock weathers easily into surface soil. 1885 SIR J. W. DAWSON *Egypt & Syria* v. 112 The pillar-like masses of salt that weather out of the salt cliff of Jebel Usdum. 1914 MOIR in *Man* XIV. 179 Those fragments of flint would in time, by thermal effects, 'weather out' and leave a clean-cut groove behind.

c. In *pass.*, esp. of a crop: To be deteriorated by too long exposure to bad weather.

1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* I. 74 With feet nigh shoeless. And napless beaver, weather'd brown. 1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts* III. 185 All barleys that have been weathered in the field. should be rigidly rejected [for malting].

d. *intr.* To wear (well or ill) under atmospheric influences.

1883 R. HALDANE *Workshop Rec.* Ser. II. 436/2 For outside work, boiled oil is used, because it weathers better than raw oil.

3. *Naut. a. trans.* To sail to the windward of (a point or headland, another ship, etc.).

c1595 CAPT. WYATT *Dudley's Voy. W. Ind.* (Hakl. Soc.) 18 Our carrell plyinge up into the winde weathered the saile which came from the shore. 1608 W. HAWKINS in *Hawkins' Voy.* (Hakl. Soc.) 383 We lay close E.S.E. with a S.W. wynd,

seeking to wether Socotora but could not. 1627 CAPT. J. SMITH *Sea Gram.* xii. 57 You cannot boord him except you weather him. 1660 INGELO *Bentiv. & Ur.* i. (1682) 170 When they have weather'd the Cape of Good-Hope. 1694 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) III. 323 Not being able to weather the Lizard Point because of the strong south west wind. 1703 BURCHETT *Mem. Trans. at Sea* 141 Our Blue Squadron. by a shift of Wind had weather'd the French. 1801 NELSON in *Nicolas's Disp.* (1845) IV. 314 The Agamemnon could not weather the shoal of the middle, and was obliged to anchor. 1820 SCORESBY *Arctic Regions* II. 476 An impervious mass of ice. which. we could neither weather, nor discover a passage through. 1878 DIXON KEMP *Yacht & Boat Sailing* 378/1 To weather is to pass on the windward side of an object. In cross tacking the vessel 'weathers' another that crosses ahead of her.

b. *fig.* To get safely round; to get the better of.

1626 DONNE *Serm.* xxi. (1640) 210 That soule which is but neare destruction, may weather that mischief. 1654 WHITELOCKE *Swed. Embassy* (1772) I. 449 But, through mercy, he weathered this point also. 1708 ADDISON *Pres. St. War* 15 We have been tugging a great while against the Stream, and have almost weather'd our point. 1833 MARRYAT *P. Simple* xxxvii. Peter, read me about Jacob, and his weathering Esau with a mess of pottage.

†c. To aim wide of (the mark) on the windward side. *Obs. rare*—1.

1588 LUCAR *Tartaglia's Colloq.*, *Lucar Appendix* 4 Euery Gunner ought to weather the marke according to the hardnes of the winde, and the distance.

d. *intr. to weather on or upon*: to gain upon in a windward direction; also *fig.*, to get the advantage of, take liberties with.

c1595 CAPT. WYATT *Dudley's Voy. W. Ind.* (Hakl. Soc.) 16 Some fowre leagues of, wee sawe a saile to weather on us. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World* Diss. (1708) 35 How well soever he can weather upon others, he is never able to fore-reach upon his Commander. 1748 ANSON *Voy.* II. iv. 163 We had both weathered and fore-reached upon her considerably. 1829 MARRYAT *F. Mildmay* xvii. How do you think the scoundrels weathered on me at last? 1836 FRASER *Mag.* XIV. 475, I weathered upon my duty without discredit, my leisure without care, my liquor without quarrelling. 1863 READE *Hard Cash* I. ix. 252 The other [pirate] came up to weather on him and hang on his quarters, pirate fashion. 1881 *Daily News* 9 June 5/4 There is a triumph, too, which only a genuine yachtsman can feel when inch by inch a dreaded rival is weathered on.

4. *trans. a. Naut.* To withstand and come safely through (a storm). Often with *out* (also *absol.*).

1673 TEMPLE *Observ. United Prov.* viii. 255 Such old Seamen in so strong a Ship that had weathered so many storms without loss. 1681 H. NEVILLE *Plato Rediv.* 22 [No more than] the Pilot and Mariners [are answerable] for not weathering out a Storm, when the Ship hath sprung a planck. 1748 ANSON *Voy.* i. vi. 62 Had they [the masts] weathered the preceding storm, it would have been impossible. to have stood against those. tempests we afterwards encountered. 1790 COWPER *On Receipt of Mother's Pict.* 89 As a gallant bark. (The storms all weather'd and the ocean cross'd) Shoots into port. 1819 BYRON *Juan* II. xli. But the ship labour'd so, they scarce could hope To weather out much longer. a1859 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xxiv. V. 204 In the port lay fleets of great ships which had weathered the storms of the Euxine and the Atlantic. 1864 TENNYSON *Enoch Arden* 135 To sell the boat — and yet he loved her well — How many a rough sea had he weather'd in her! 1866 R. M. BALLANTYNE *Shifting Winds* II. She had sailed from the antipodes, had weathered many a gale.

b. *fig.* or in *fig. context.* To come safely through (a period of trouble, adversity, affliction, etc.); to sustain without disaster.

1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* ix. xvi. 192 He Weathered out the Reign of Queen Mary. 1671 CARYL *Sir Salomon* IV. 66 My designs of Revenge are vain, and unjust. I must pull down my Sables to weather out this storme. 1674 BOYLE *Excell. Theol.* i. iii. 95 Afflictions slight and short may well be weather'd out by these Philosophical Avocations. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World* Diss. (1708) 78 They value no such Puffs, if they can but weather a Beating. 1772 MACKENZIE *Man of World* II. xx. After having weathered so many disasters, I at last arrived near the place of my nativity. 1775 JEFFERSON *Let.* 4 July in H. S. Randall *Life* (1858) III. 568 If we can weather out this campaign, I hope that we shall be able to have a plenty [of gunpowder] made for another. 1787 BURNS *Let. Earl Glencairn* Dec., My brother's farm is but a wretched lease, but I think he will probably weather out the remaining seven years of it. 1834 CREEVEY in *C. Papers* (1904) II. xii. 296 The Government. could not have weathered the session. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* x. II. 623 They were. thrown into the shade by two younger Whigs, who weathered together the fiercest storms of faction. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xiv. Pa told me, only yesterday morning. that he couldn't weather the storm. 1865 — *Let.* (1880) II. 242, I rather doubt. their being able to weather it out. 1885 *Contemp. Rev.* June 906 Their proprietors are less indebted and weather a crisis better. 1900 G. C. BRODRICK *Mem. & Impr.* 143 The other weathered a serious illness and lived on for two or three years.

c. *gen.* To pass through and survive (severe weather).

1680 OTWAY *Orphan* IV. i. The Beasts that under the Warm Hedges slept, And weather'd out the cold bleak Night, are up. 1742 T. WOODROOFE in *Hanway Acc. Brit. Trade Caspian Sea* (1753) I. i. xvii. 113 We had weathered out the inclement season with as good spirits as could be expected in so bad a neighbourhood. 1785 COWPER *Let. Lady Hesketh* 9 Nov., Wks. 1835 I. 171, I began. to fear I should never be able to weather out the winter in so lonely a dwelling. 1795-6 WORDSW. *Borderers* i. 513 My husband, Sir, Was of Kirkoswald—many a snowy winter We've weathered out together. 1805 — *Waggoner* III. 80 Among these hills, from first to last, We've weathered many a furious blast. 1854 THOREAU *Walden* xiv. (1863) 275, I weathered some merry snow storms.

†d. To take shelter from (a storm). *Obs.*
1742 FIELDING *J. Andrews* II. iii. They said there was a violent shower of rain coming on, which they intended to weather there [i.e. at an alehouse]. **1749** — *Tom Jones* XII. viii. Partridge, with much earnest Entreaty, prevailed with Jones to enter, and weather the Storm. **1798** BLOOMFIELD *Farmer's Boy*, Winter 296 Beneath whose trunk I've weather'd many a show'r.

5. intr. to weather along, † to weather it on: to sail or make headway in spite of wind and weather. Also to weather her way.

1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* D 3, [All] that euer Yarmouth vnshelled or ingendred to weather it on till they lost the North-starre. **1836** W. IRVING *Life & Lett.* (1866) III. 91. I have ever since made my calculations to 'weather along', as the sailors say, for some time to come, without any of the funds I have invested. **1881** J. K. SCOTT *Galloway Glean.* 14 See the 'Press Home' steerin' strecht for lan', Will she weather her way to the shore?

6. trans. To set (the sails of a windmill) at the proper angle to obtain the maximum effect of the wind-force. Cf. WEATHER sb. 4.

1745 Phil. *Trans.* XLIV. 1 All which Sails [of a water-wheel] are weathered in the same Manner as those designed for Windmills. **1759** SMEATON *Ibid.* LI. 144 Plain sails weather'd according to the common practice. **1825** J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 138 From which it appears that sails weathered in the Dutch manner produced nearly a maximum effect.

7. Arch. To slope or bevel (a surface) so as to throw off the rain; to furnish (a wall, buttress) with a weathering or water-table.

1833 LOUDON *Encycl. Archit.* §860, 13 feet 6 inches oak wrought, framed, and weathered (beveled to throw off the wet). **1878** MACVITTIE *Ch. Ch. Cathedral, Dublin* 66 A plinth which is weathered in the depth of the buttresses by nine courses of Water-tables. **1879** Cassell's *Techn. Educ.* II. 294/1 Fig. 391 shows the manner in which the sill is sloped off, or 'weathered'.

weather, obs. f. WETHER, WITHER sb.

'weatherable, a. [f. WEATHER v. + -ABLE.] Capable of withstanding the effects of the weather. Also 'weathera'bility.

1961 WEBSTER, *Weatherability.* **1963** H. R. CLAUSER *Encycl. Engin. Materials & Processes* 662/1 The poor weatherability of some of the man-made fibers can be overcome by the use of special finishing and/or coating treatments. **1972** J. G. CRUICKSHANK *Soil Geogr.* II. 52 Even where the parent material is rock in place, the weatherable minerals—or what has survived complete chemical weathering—are of continuing importance for soil profile development. **1979** *New Scientist* 17 May 547 Silicones in paint prevent colour fading, and give better long-term weatherability and heat resistance.

'weather-beaten, pa. pple. and ppl. a.

1. Beaten or buffeted by wind and rain; that has been exposed to severe weather.

c1560 T. MOWNTAYNE in *Narratives Reform.* (Camden) 210 Thence to Colchester, and there toke shypynge, thynkyng to have gone ynto Seland, . . . but we were so whether-beatyn that of force we were glad to retorne bake agayn. **1563** GOLDING *Cesar* IV. (1565) 102b, Most of our shyps were thus broosed and weatherbeaten. **1589** GREENE *Menaphon* (Arb.) 32 To rest our wearie and weather-beaten bones. **1632** J. HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Eromena* 16 The galleys of Sardegna being (by a great tempest) wether-beaten and driven to that shore. **1647** CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* VI. §137 The King's harassed, weatherbeaten, and half-starved troops. **1722** CROXALL *Fables Æsop* xli. 76 The Sun . . . darted his warm sultry Beams upon the Head of the poor weather-beaten Traveller. **1830** J. G. STRUTT *Sylva Brit.* 141 It becomes harder and tougher in proportion as it is weather-beaten. **1882** 'OUIDA' *Bimbi* 98 The tall old houses are weatherbeaten into the most delicious hues. **1904** *Daily Chron.* 16 July 9/2 Another weather-beaten pigeon sought rest on the brigantine Jantyre.

fig. or in fig. context. **1621** T. WILLIAMSON tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* 22 At that time when Saint Cyprian liued, the whole world was iudged to be very much weather-beaten. **1639** FULLER *Holy War* II. xxxvii. 94 Mean time Jerusalem was a poore weather-beaten kingdom. **1668** BP. E. HOPKINS *Van. World Wks.* (1710) 19 If honourable, we are but raised above others to be the more weather-beaten.

2. As adj., expressing the result.

a. Of things: Worn, defaced, or damaged by exposure to the weather.

1547 SURREY *Eccles.* iii. 12 Auncient walls to race, . . . and of their wether beten stones, to buydle some new deuyse. **1593** NORDEN *Spec. Brit.*, Midx. 38 Pancras Church standeth all alone. . . old and wetherbeaten. **1608** MACHIN *Dumb Knt.* I. B3, Orators wies shortly will bee knowne like images on water staires, euer in one wetherbeaten suite. **a1618** RALEGH *Royal Navy* 27 They make their Ocum. . . of old seere and weather-beaten ropes. **1697** *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3260/4 Wearing a Weather-beaten Periwig. **1848** THACKERAY *Van. Fair* i. A very small and weather-beaten old cow's-skin trunk. **1860** WHYTE MELVILLE *Mkt. Harb.* xii. Under the weather-beaten winkers and shabby harness of a four-horse waggon.

b. Of persons, their countenances, etc.: Bronzed, coarsened, toughened, hardened by exposure to all kinds of weather.

1530 PALSGR. 844/1 Weather beaten, as men be that have lyeen in the felde or see. **1577-87** HOLINSHED *Chron.* I. 175/1 Harold answered, that they were not priests, but wether-beaten and hardie souldiers. **1607** DEKKER *Knt.'s Conjur.* II. D1b, Neither they, nor the weather-beatenest Cosmographical Starre-catcher of em all. **1662** HIBBERT *Syntagma Theol.* II. 144 Such was his undoubted resolution, that neither their great words, nor their high looks could daunt him, Weather-beaten-souldier (as I may so speak) in Christianity. **1769** FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780) A aa 2, s.v. *Emmariné*, *Matelot emmariné*, a case-hardened or weather-beaten tar; a veteran sailor. **1771** SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* 5 May (1815) 63 An old man, with a wooden leg and a

weather-beaten face. **1853** KINGSLEY *Hypatia* xviii. 209 The scarred and weatherbeaten features of the old warrior. **1855** MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xv. III. 613 Two weatherbeaten old seamen who had risen from being cabin boys to be Admirals.

Similarly †'weather-beat (*dial.* -bet) ppl. a. Also †'weather-beat v. trans. rare-0. †'weather-beating vbl. sb.

1586 [? J. CASE] *Praise Mus.* vi. 75 Alas what pleasure could they take at the whippe and ploughtaile in so often and vncessant labours, such bitter weatherbeatings. **1598** FLORIO, *Sbattere*, . . . to thrash, to wetherbeate. **1615** CHAPMAN *Odyss.* VI. 193 [Ulysses] So wet, so weather-beate. **1621** T. GRANGER *Expos. Eccles.* xii. 3. 319 The teeth . . . standing like weather-beate stakes, . . . falling out one after another. **1719** D'URFEE *Pills* IV. 198 The Devil he was so Weather-beat, He was forc'd to take to a Tree. **1886** S.W. Lincs. *Gloss.*, *Weather-bet*, weather-beaten.

†'weather-bit, -bitten, ppl. a. *Obs. rare.* [Cf. Da. *veirbidt*, Norw. *vederbiten*, Sw. *våderbiten*.] Nipped, gnawed, or worn by the weather.

1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* v. ii. 60 Now he thanks the old Shepheard (which stands by, like a Weather-bitten Conduit, of many Kings Reignes). **1624** HEYWOOD *Captives* II. i. in Bullen O. Pl. IV, What are you poore soules Thus wett and wether-bitt?

'weatherbitt, -bit, sb. *Naut.* [See BITT.] An extra turn of the cable about the bitts in bad weather. Also v. trans., to give this extra turn to (the cable).

1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780), *Weather-bit*, a turn of the cable of a ship about the end of the windlass, without the knight-heads. It is used to check the cable, in order to slacken it gradually out of the ship, in tempestuous weather, or when the ship rides in a strong current. **1840** R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xxiv, Weather-bit your chain and loose the topsails! **1867** SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Weather-bitt*, is that which holds the weather-cable when the ship is moored. **1883** *Man. Seamanship for Boys* 191 To weather bitt a cable is to take another turn round the bitt end. **1900** *Century Mag.* Feb. 600/2, I now moor ship, weather-bitt cables, and leave the sloop *Spray* . . . safe in port.

'weather-blate, -blade, -bleat. *Anglo-Irish.* [Etymologizing perversion (after WEATHER sb.) of OE. *hæferblæte*: see HEATHER-BLEAT.] The snipe.

1802 G. V. SAMPSON *Statist. Surv. Londonderry* 459 The weather-blate, or snipe, flying high in a calm night, is a good sign. **1890** D. A. SIMMONS *Words Armagh & S. Donegal* (E.D.D.), *Weather-blade*, a snipe which utters a sound like a goat. **1908** *Westm. Gaz.* 29 Sept. 2/3 The black water-hen and the sad weather-bleat.

'weatherboard.

1. a. One of a series of boards nailed horizontally, with overlapping edges, as an outside covering for walls. Also *collect. sing.*

1539-40 in Swayne *Churchw. Acc. Sarum* (1896) 268, C fowt of whether borde to whetherborde the howes end. **1759** Phil. *Trans.* LI. 287 Some of the weather-boards were thrown outwards to the bottom of the garden. **1802** *Barrington's Hist. N.S. Wales* x. 420 The stores were of brick, and the guard-house of weather-boards. **1845** J. O. BALFOUR *Sk. N.S. Wales* 87 Settlers . . . have, according to their means, built of free-stone, brick, or weather-boards, cottages and houses. **1883** SLADEN *Austral. Lyrics* 25 The other, sore-dinted, scarcely crawled to the sheltering weatherboards. **1890** 'R. BOLDEWOOD' *Miner's Right* vi. 61 The more ambitious buildings are of weather-board, sawn pine or hardwood boards, roofed with large sheets of galvanized iron.

attrib. **1894** A. ROBERTSON *Nuggets*, etc. 173 The weather-board walls creaked and groaned like a ship's timbers in a gale.

b. A board laid over builders' work or material as a protection.

1851 B'ham & Midl. *Gardeners' Mag.* Apr. 30 Every heap [sc. of quick lime] being covered by mats or weatherboards. **1879** Cassell's *Techn. Educ.* I. 195 Unfinished walls should be covered with straw, on which boards, called weather-boards, should be laid.

c. A weatherboarded dwelling or other building. *Austral.*

1925 'H. H. RICHARDSON' *Way Home* II. i. 123 Jerry and his bride had made ready their tiny weatherboard. **1935** L. MANN *Human Drift* xxxvi. 238 Magnificently the two stories of Geelong weatherboards, new that year, overlooked on the ridge. **1975** D. MALOUF *Johanno* II. 28 But our one-storeyed weatherboard wasn't the only one to be fortified. The whole city had taken on the aspect of an armed camp.

2. a. A board placed sloping over a window or other opening to throw off or keep out rain; †pl. louver-boards; also, a board used to carry off water.

1568 Ludlow *Churchw. Acc.* (Camden) 128, ij bordes to make wether bordes for the windowes in the steple. **1569** *Ibid.* 138, iij bordes . . . for wetherbordres in the steple windowes. **1585** HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 210/2 *Deliquia*, . . . water boords, or wether bordes; gutters whereinto the house caues doe drop. **1598** HAKLUYT *Voy.* I. 577 The Cathedrall Church of Holen hauing . . . also beames and weather-bourdes, and the rest of the rooffe proportionally answering to this lower building. **1741** Phil. *Trans.* XLII. 498 A great Number of large Holes, regularly placed, . . . with Weather-boards placed over each Range of Holes, so as to hang over them obliquely downwards. **1818** MOORE *Fudge Fam. Paris* iii. 80 Such hats!—fit for monkeys—I'd back Mrs. Draper To cut neater weather-boards out of brown paper. **1833** T. Hook *Love & Pride*, *Marquess* xii, Rattle went all the windows—slap went the weather boards [of an omnibus]. **1892** *Dict. Arch.* (Archit. Publ. Soc.), *Weather board*, a board fixed . . . at the bottom of a door or window, to keep out driving rain.

b. Naut. (See quotes.)

1760-72 tr. Juan & Ulloa's *Voy.* (ed. 3) II. 304 On the 30th we took down our weather-boards. **1815** *Falconer's Dict. Marine* (ed. Burney), *Weather-Boards* are pieces of plank placed in the ports of a ship, when laid up in ordinary; they are fixed in an inclined position, so as to turn off the rain without preventing the circulation of the air. **1867** SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* **1908** PAASCH *From Keel to Truck* (ed. 4) 546 *Weather-boards*, . . . boards fitted closely together . . . in front or on the sides of a bridge, poop or raised quarter-deck.

3. Naut. [See WEATHER sb. 8 and BOARD sb. 12. Cf. Icel. *veðr-borð*.] The windward side of a ship.

a1625 MANWAYRING *Sea-mans Dict.* (1644) 12 The weather-boord, that is as much as to say, to windward. **1706** PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey). **1867** SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*

Hence 'weatherboard v. trans., to nail weatherboards upon (a wall or roof); also *absol.* 'weatherboarded ppl. a. 'weatherboarding vbl. sb., the work of covering a building with weatherboards; also *concr.*, weatherboards collectively.

1515 in *Compotus Rolls Obedientiaris St. Swithun's, Winch.* (1892) 461 Et in solutis duobus carpentariis conductis ad wetherbordandum finem coquinae. **1535-6** *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 370 Paid for viij c. d. of borde flor to wederborde the sowth side of wolston wyynns howse. **1613** *S'hampton Crt. Leet Rec.* (1905) 464 The Towne howse now in the tenure of Thomas beare . . . would requier to be weather-boarded. **1632** in E. B. Jupp *Carpenters' Co.* (1887) 300 The boarding and weatherboarding of howses sheds and hovells. **1703** [R. NEVE] *City & C. Purchaser* 285 Weather-boarding . . . is us'd to signifie the Boards themselves, when nail'd up. **1737** W. SALMON *Country Builder's Estimator* (ed. 2) 16 To build a Barn with all new Oak-Timber, to thatch, underpin, and weather-board with Feather-edged Deals. **1796** W. H. MARSHALL *W. Eng.* II. 211 Farm houses . . . with weatherboarded barns. **1805** R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. 48 The outside covered over with strong weather-boarding. **1847** J. D. LANG *Phillipsland* 283 A neat, comfortable, weather-boarded cottage. **1885** *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 606/1 Narrow strips of weather-boarding.

'weather-bound, ppl. a. Detained by bad weather; prevented by stress of weather from sailing, travelling, or other outdoor activity.

1590 R. FERRIS *Dang. Adventure* B1, There we were wether bound, and constrained to stay full seuentene dayes. **a1641** BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 334 The messenger who carried those Letters, being wether bound and sea-beaten, could not come so soone. **1667** *Lond. Gaz.* No. 193/4 The Fleet of Colliers that lay here weather-bound, are now under sail for the Thames. **1726** R. GALE in *Mem. Stukeley* (Surtees) I. 187, I lye weatherbound here by a deep snow. **1887** T. A. TROLLOPE *What I remember* I. xvii. 346 Two young Americans . . . were in the house, equally weather-bound with ourselves.

fig. **1779** JOHNSON *L.P., Milton*, This dependence of the soul upon the seasons . . . may, I suppose, justly be derided as the fumes of vain imagination. . . The author that thinks himself weather-bound will find, with a little help from hellebore, that he is only idle or exhausted.

'weather-breeder. A day of exceptionally sunny and calm weather, popularly supposed to be a presage of a coming storm. Also fig.

1655 H. L'ESTRANGE *Chas. I* (1655) 160 The King had intentions of being present at the General Assembly; but this lucid interval proved but a weather-breeder. **1659** J. ARROWSMITH *Chain Princ.* 391 Look at a very fair day, as that which may prove a weather-breeder, and usher in storms. **1780** T. SMITH *Jrnl.* (1849) 281 A most delightful day; a weather breeder. **1828** CARR *Craven Gloss.*, s.v., A cloudless sky, after a succession of rainy weather, denotes rain, and is said to be a weather-breeder. **1879** J. BURROUGHS *Locusts* 98 Weather-breeders . . . are usually the finest days in the calendar, all sun and sky. **1903** *Daily Chron.* 10 Feb. 5/2 Isolated fine days in February are known in Surrey as 'weather-breeders'.

So weather-breeding a.

1899 R. M. GILCHRIST *Nicholas* 23 The last se'nnight of March had been dull and weather-breeding.

'weathercock, sb. Forms: see WEATHER sb. and COCK sb. [Cf. Du. *weerhaan*, G. *wetterhahn*, Sw. *väder-*, Da. *veirhane*.]

1. A vane in the form of a cock, which turns with its head to the wind. Also used *gen.* for a vane of any form. Often mentioned as a symbol of mutability or fickleness.

a1300 Neckam *de Utensil.* in Wright *Vocab.* 115 *Ventilium*, veder-coc. **1340** Ayenb. 180 þeruore hi byep ase þe wedercoc þet is ope þe steple, þet him went mid eche wynde. **a1400** CHAUCER *Agst. Woman Unconstant* 12 As a wedercock, that turneth his face With every wind. **c1480** HENRYSON *Test. Cress.* 567 Thairfoir, I reid 3e tak thame as 3e find, For thay ar sad as Widdercock in Wind. **1546** *Inv. Ch. Goods York* etc. (Surtees) 86 The said Steple hayving a whether cokke theruppon all gylt. **1683** D. A. *Art of Converse* 21 Some are as changeable as weather-cocks in their humours. **1790** COWPER *Let. Lady Hesketh* 22 Mar., I have as many opinions about it as there are whims in a weathercock. **1833** L. RITCHIE *Wand. Loire* 37 The Duc de Choiseul . . . consoled himself by setting up the head of Voltaire as a weathercock. **1867** H. LATHAM *Black & White* 100 The most conspicuous weather-cock in the town is a golden trumpet on the spire of one of the churches.

2. fig. a. of things (in various obvious allusions). † upon the weathercock, inclined to turn and vary.

1589 GREENE *Menaphon* (Arb.) 48 No doubt your mother was made of a Weathercocke, that brought forth such a wauering companion. **1661** GODOLPHIN *View Adm. Jurisd.* Intro. [a], He that vents his own Notions, or sails by the weather-cock of his own Brain. **1687** DRYDEN *Hind & P.* I. 465 The Word's a weathercock for ev'ry wind. **1702**

VANBRUGH *False Fr.* 1. B 2. As much upon the Weather-cock as the Ladies are, there are some the Wind must blow hard to fetch 'em about. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* III. lxxix. 35 Newspapers are powerful in three ways, as narrators, as advocates, and as weathercocks.

b. of persons; esp. one who is changeable or inconstant.

1588 SHAKS. *L.L.L.* IV. i. 97 What plume of feathers is hee that indited this Letter? What veine? What Wether-cocke? 1598 — *Merry W.* III. ii. 18 Where had you this pretty weather-cocke? 1607 MIDDLETON *Fam. Love* II. (1608) C 2, I thinke we loose part of our happinesse when we make these weathercocks our equalls. 1670 DRYDEN *1st Pt. Conq. Granada* III. (1672) 21 The word which I have giv'n shall stand like Fate; Not like the King's, that weathercock of State. 1799 NELSON 6 Apr. in *Nicolas Disp.* III. 316 The last are weathercocks, and will always be on the side of the conqueror. a 1850 CALHOUN *Wks.* (1874) II. 178, I ask the advocates of this doctrine, in what do they differ in their actions from the mere trimmer, the political weather-cock? 1870 R. BROUGH *Marston Lynch* xiv. 118 He was... a terrible weathercock in the matter of opinion.

3. a. *attrib.* and *appos.*, passing into *adj.* = changeable, inconstant.

a 1680 CHARNOCK *Attrib. God* (1834) I. 558 The wavering and weathercock resolutions of men. 1710 in *Hearne Collect.* 7 Mar. (O.H.S.) II. 356 Not weather-Cock Kennett such turning can show. 1801 *Marvellous Love-Story* II. 316 Miss Harrison was one of those every-day sort of weather-cock characters who veer about with every varying gust of prejudice, folly, or envy. 1818 COLERIDGE *Friend* (1865) 216 Their political opinions depend with weathercock uncertainty on the winds of rumour that blow from France. 1881 MISS BRADDON *Asphodel* II. 162 In affairs of the heart, Mr. Turchill belonged to the weathercock species.

b. *Comb.*: weathercock-like *adj.*, -wise *adv.*

1663 GERBIER *Counsel* 2 Inslaved by Weather-cock-like-spirits to make their Buildings according unto things a la mode. 1874 LISLE *Carr Jud. Gwynne* II. vii. 192 It was not in his steadfast nature to veer about, weather-cock-wise.

c. *Aeronaut.* Used *attrib.* and as *adj.* with reference to the tendency of an aircraft to turn away from the set compass direction into the relative wind.

1898 *Aeronaut. Jnl.* Jan. 6/2 The little vertical rudder has a little bit of a weather-cock action. If the wind suddenly shifts, it swings the machine round to head the wind. 1916 G. C. LOENING *Military Aeroplanes* xii. 166 Some tendency to head into the relative wind is necessary. This is obtained by having enough rudder or fin surface aft to bring the directional center back of the c.g. and is called 'weathercock' stability. 1928 N. MACMILLAN *Art of Flying* vii. 74 A seaplane is usually directionally stable to the wind on the water with engine stopped, a quality which is described as being 'weathercock'... If the seaplane is weathercock, she will ride head to wind and drift backward. 1935 C. G. BURGE *Compl. Bk. Aviation* 616 Weathercock instability. 1945 *Jnl. R. Aeronaut. Soc.* XL. 461/2 Weathercock stability should be reasonably high, to cut down the magnitude of the inadvertent skid. 1970 T. HACKER *Flight Stability & Control* vii. 160 The variation of the vertical tail area will influence the weathercock stability.

Hence 'weathercockish, -cocky *adjs.*, fickle, changeable. 'weathercockism, changeableness.

1843 *Fraser's Mag.* XXVII. 301 Thiers will always be regarded as the very condensed essence of weathercockism. 1886 'OUIDA' *House Party* ix. (1887) 198 She is what her husband characterises as 'weathercocky'. 1887 *Sat. Rev.* 12 Feb. 213/2 To do these Radicals justice, there is a great deal of consistency in their weathercockism.

'weathercock, *v.* [f. *prec. sb.*]

† 1. *intr.* to weathercock *it*: to veer or vary like a weathercock. *Obs.*

1654 J. P. TYRANTS & PROTECTORS 39 Men that will be of the Kings Religion, be he of what Religion he will, and are clamorous against all that cannot weather-cock it like themselves. 1824 *Blackw. Edin. Mag.* June 703/2 No change of times can ever change that feeling in me. Let others weather-cock it to and fro as they please.

2. *trans.* To provide with a weathercock; to serve as a weathercock for.

1658 S. AUSTIN'S *Naps upon Parnassus* B 4. But that's a work onely befits the Gods, To weather-cock their Eyes with fishing-rods. 1864 TENNYSON *Aylmer's Field* 17 Whose blazing wyvern weathercock'd the spire. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 698/2 Elaborately adorned gables, . . . scrolled, and weather-cocked.

3. To send (a person) up to the weathercock. *jocular nonce-use.*

a 1845 [see MASTHEAD *v.* 1].

4. *intr.* a. *Naut.* Of a ship: to (tend to) head into the wind.

1952 SMITH & VIOLET *Wind calls Tune* i. 19 She would weathercock head to seas and, under mizzen and foresail, she would sail well without anybody at the tiller. 1974 *Tel.* (Brisbane) 4 June 8/5 In these conditions the boats had a strong tendency to weathercock, making it exceptionally difficult to pick up buoys.

b. *intr.* (See quot. 1956.) Also *trans.*, to cause to weathercock.

1956 W. A. HEFLIN *U.S. Air Force Dict.* 565/2 *Weathercock.* Of an airplane, rocket, or similar body: to align, or attempt to align, its longitudinal axis with the direction of the wind. 1976 'M. ALBRAND' *Taste of Terror* v. 38 That terrible cross-wind caught the plane's high vertical stabilizer and began to weathercock it into the wind.

Hence 'weathercocking *vbl. sb.*

1952 SMITH & VIOLET *Wind calls Tune* vi. 59 We had to get the mizzen as flat as possible to make it more efficient as a 'weathercocking' influence. 1985 *Flight* 4 May 23/3 The butterfly tail... actually eliminates weathercocking in crosswinds.

weather-coil, *v.* *Naut.* ? *Obs.* [See WEATHER *sb.* 3 and COIL *v.* 4.] *intr.* Of a ship (see quots.). Also weather-coiling *vbl. sb.*

a 1625 MANWAYRING *Sea-mans Dict.* (1644) 115 *Weather-coile* is when a ship is a hull, to lay her head the other way, without loosing any saile; which is only done, by bearing up the helme. It is an excellent condition in a ship; for most ships will not weather-coile. 1626 CAPT. J. SMITH *Acid. Yng. Seamen* 29 Weather coyle. 1627 — *Sea Gram.* ix. 40 If shee will weather coile, and lay her head the other way without loosing a saile, that must bee done by bearing vp the Helme. c 1635 CAPT. N. BOTELER *Dial. Sea Serv.* (1685) 222 The Weather-coiling of a Ship, is, when being a Hull [etc.]. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl. Suppl.*, *Weather-Quoil*, or *Coile*. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Weather-coil*, when a ship has her head brought about, so as to lie that way which her stern did before, as by the veering of the wind; or the motion of the helm, the sails remaining trimmed. *Weather-coiling*, a ship resuming her course after being taken aback; rounding off by a stern-board, and coming up to it again.

† 'weather-driven, *pa. pple.* and *ppl. a.* *Obs.* [See WEATHER *sb.* 6c. Cf. Sw. *väderdrifven*.] Driven by stormy weather.

a 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* VI. ccxiii. (1811) 230 He, in his course of saylyng, was wedder dryuen, and by tempest, into y^e cowntre or prounce of Pontife. 1530 PALSGR. 844/1 *Weather driuen*, as a shyppe is that is let go at all adventures, *abandonner* [sic]. 1539 CROMWELL in *Merriman Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 193 A certain frenshe ship laden with Scotishe goodes wetherdryuen at South schelis. 1602 CAREW *Cornwall* II. 151 Philip... during his voyage... towards Spayne... was weather-driuen into Weymouth. 1659 O. WALKER *Oratory* 16 Like a weather-driven ship destitute of her Pilot.

weathered ('wɛðəd), *ppl. a.* [f. WEATHER *v.* + -ED¹.]

1. Worn, stained, or seasoned by the weather or by atmospheric influences. Also *weathered out*. Chiefly *Geol.* (See WEATHER *v.* 2 a, b.)

1789 J. WILLIAMS *Min. Kingd.* I. 420 This weathered or dissolved copper is found in many places in the state of an ochre or of a loose powder. 1820 *Edin. Philos. Jnl.* III. 185 The weathered surface of several specimens of calcareous sandstone. 1827 CARLYLE *Germ. Rom.* IV. 212 The weathered aspect of the towers. 1843 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* I. II. 1. vii. § 26, I have never yet seen any restoration or cleaned portion of a building whose effect was not inferior to the weathered parts. 1854 HOOKER *Himal. Jnl.* I. xi. 254 The weathered surface of each block was black. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. vii. 54 The weathered ice of the surface... could be cloven with great facility. 1879 *Encycl. Brit.* X. 230/1 Practice enables a geologist to discriminate some rocks by the feel of their weathered or fresh surfaces. 1906 *Cornish N. & Q.* Ser. 1. 235 A collection of weathered-out crystals of felspar. 1914 MOIR in *Man* XIV. 180 What we have regarded as deep striae caused by immense pressure are in all probability simply weathered out shattered scratches.

2. Of a crop of grain or hay: Deteriorated by too long exposure to the elements.

1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts* III. 185 Weathered barley has a dull and often a dirty appearance. 1879 MISS JACKSON *Shropsh. Word-bk.*, *Weathered*, damaged, but not spoilt, by too long exposure to weather—wet and bad harvesting weather: said of hay or corn. 1892 *Daily Chron.* 6 Sept. 3/5 Barley is particularly liable to become 'weathered' and unfit for malting.

3. *Arch.* Made sloping, so as to prevent the lodgement of water; furnished with a weathering or water-table.

1840 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jnl.* III. 2/1 Two octagonal turrets... strengthened by massive double buttresses in three stages, the lower part terminating in weathered canopies, the middle having weathered offsets. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* II. 294/1 Copings are worked with... an inclined or 'weathered' upper surface.

'weather-eye. [? a jocular use of the *Naut.* sense, WEATHER *sb.* 8; or perh. = the eye which is specially used for observing the weather. Cf. ON. *veðr-eygr*, ? keen-eyed.] Used in fig. phrases, such as to keep one's weather-eye open, to be watchful and alert, keep one's wits about one.

1829 P. EGAN *Boxiana* 2nd Ser. II. 505 Lads of the Fancy, who always keep their 'weather eye' up towards business, i.e. looking after the blunt. 1839 HOOD *Storm at Hastings* 189 Howbeit his weather eye the seaman aim'd Across the calm, and hinted by his speech A gale next morning. 1846 DICKENS *Domby* x. 89 Joe is awake, Ma'am... Josh has his weather-eye open, Sir. 1851 H. MELVILLE *Moby Dick* I. xxxiv. 253 All whale-ships' standing orders, 'Keep your weather eye open, and sing out every time'. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* II. v. You look out. Keep your weather eye awake. 1887 RIDER HAGGARD *She* vii. 88 Job returned in a great state of nervousness, and keeping his weather eye fixed upon every woman who came near him. 1916 'TAFFRAIL' *Pincher Martin* iv. 53 Even the captain and the navigator... did not seem to be taking things very seriously, though in reality they both had their weather-eyes very much lifting. 1959 B. WOOTTON *Soc. Sci.* 10. I have tried to keep a weather eye open to what is going on elsewhere: references to work in other areas... will be found scattered through these pages. 1981 *Times* 7 Apr. 6/7 The Russians... are keeping a weathereye on other navies.

'weather-fend, *v. trans.* [f. WEATHER *sb.*] To defend from the weather; to shelter. Also *fig.* Hence 'weather-fending *ppl. a.*

A Shakespearian word echoed by later writers.

1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* v. i. 10 In the Line-groue which weather-fends your Cell. 1788 CROWE *Levesdon Hill* 4 This friendly mount, that weather-fends My reed-roof'd cottage. 1800 COLERIDGE *Pitt & Buonaparte* in *Hazlitt Pol. Ess.* (1819) 396 A young man, . . . sheltered and weather-fended

from all the elements of experience. 1814 WORDSW. *Excurs.* II. 420 A penthouse, framed . . . To weather-fend a little turf-built seat. 1858 EMERSON *Adirondacs* 35 We . . . Barked the white spruce to weatherfend the roof. 1873 RUSKIN *Crown of Wild Olive* App. 191 Finding its work prosper, the little medicinal and weather-fending company took vows on itself.

weather-gall. Also 6, 9 *Sc. -gaw*, 9 -go. [f. WEATHER *sb.* + GALL *sb.* Cf. G. *wettergalle*, Du. *weergal*; also WATERGALL 2 and WINDGALL.] An imperfect rainbow, believed to be a presage of storm: = WATERGALL 2. Sometimes applied to other appearances in the sky to which the same significance is attributed.

1613-35 MARKHAM *Eng. Husb.* 1. i. iii. 12 If you shall see one or more Weather-galls which are like Raine-bowes, onely they arise from the Horizon but a small way upward. 1621 BRATHWAIT *Time's Curtain drawn* L 7, He . . . taukes of Starres, and cliques of the Sun, . . . Of wether-gaws and many sike as these. 1694 tr. *Marten's Voy. Spitzbergen in Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* II. 50 These Lights are called Weather-galls by the Sea-men. 1808 JAMIESON, *Weddir-gaw*. 1822 SCOTT *Pirate* iv. See how much heavier the clouds fall every moment, and see these weather-gaws that streak the lead-coloured mass with partial gleams of faded red and purple. 1823 W. SCORESBY *Jnl. Whale Fish.* 23 A little before sunset, a weather-gall (or the limb of a rain-bow), of extraordinary brilliancy, appeared. 1824 CARR *Craven Gloss.*, *Weather-gall*, a secondary rain-bow. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* s.v., A weather-gall at morn, Fine weather all gone. *Ibid.*, *Weather-go*, the end of a rainbow, as seen in the morning in showery weather. 1878 J. VEITCH *Hist. Scot. Border* xiv. 515 They eyed carefully the weather-gaw, or broken bit of rainbow above the horizon.

'weather-glass. [Cf. Du. *weerglas*, Da. *veirglas*, Sw. *väderglas*, G. *wetterglas*.]

† 1. A kind of thermometer, used to ascertain the temperature of the air, and also to prognosticate changes in the weather. *Obs.*

It consisted in its simplest form of an upright tube filled with water, terminating at the top in a bulb containing rarefied air. The water sank or rose in the tube as the air in the bulb expanded or contracted.

1626 BACON *Sylva* § 27 Cold . . . doth manifestly Condense; As wee see in the Contracting of the Aire in the Weather-Glasse. 1634 J. B[ATE] *Myst. Nat. & Art* 28 A Weather-glasse is a structure of, at the least, two glasses, sometimes of three, foure, or more, as occasion serueth, inclosing a quantity of water, and a portion of ayre proportionable, by whose condensation or rarification the included water is subject unto a continuall motion, either upward or downward; by which motion of the water is commonly foreshewn the state, change, and alteration of the weather. a 1643 SUCKLING *Brennoralt* II. i. His colour . . . sanke down As water in a weather-glasse Prest by a warme hand. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* 257 For the true discovery of the nature and temper of the Air, as to its density or rarity, we have not met with a more certain or compleat invention than the Weather-glass. *Ibid.* 259 The Weather-glass or Thermoscope. 1670 DRYDEN *1st Pt. Conq. Granada* IV. ii. (1672) 36 As in some wether-glass my Love I hold; Which falls or rises with the heat or cold. 1694 *Phil. Trans.* XVIII. 205 A tender Weather-Glass or Thermometer. 1720 *Ibid.* XXXI. 117 Two Thermometers, the one the common seal'd Weather-glass, having no Communication with the outward Air, wherein the temper as to Heat and Cold was shewn by the swelling or shrinking of the included Spirit.

2. A barometer.

1695 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3103/4 A Portable Barometer, or Weather-Glass. 1710 ADDISON *Tatler* No. 220 ¶ 3 Toricellius, the Inventor of the common Weather Glass. 1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 33 ¶ 2 Weather rainy. Consulted my weather-glass. 1848 CLOUGH *Boothie* II. 17 The weather-glass, say they, is rising. 1885 *New Bk. Sports* 23 There is no trusting the weather-glass among the Highland hills.

3. *fig.*

1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 276, I shall onely refer you to the Politicians Weather-glasse, whereby he not onely foreseeeth (but discerneth aright when fallen) the unseasonable weather of his respective Place he liveth in. 1681 D'URFEY *Progr. Honesty* xiv. 32 His Bone's his Weather-Glass, and his Back Is his perpetual Almanack. 1742 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Mann* 24 June, My uncle, who is my political weather-glass, and whose quicksilver rises and falls with the least variation of parliamentary weather. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) VIII. 180 When the weather-glass of my pride got up again, I found I had gone too far to recede. 1864 G. A. LAWRENCE *Maurice Dering* II. 80 Besides, I'm not at all sure that he was losing heavily: his own face is a bad weather-glass.

4. *poor man's*, or *shepherd's*, weather-glass: a name for the scarlet pimpernel, *Anagallis arvensis*, from its closing its flowers before rain. 1827, 1872 [see SHEPHERD *sb.* 8d]. 1836 J. T. MACKAY *Flora Hibern.* 1. 194 Common Pimpernel, or Poor Man's Weatherglass.

† 'weather-headed, *ppl. a.* *Obs.* [Prob. f. WETHER (cf. *sheep-headed*), but admitting of association with WEATHER (expressing the notion of instability).] Light-headed, foolish.

a 1652 BROME *Queen & Conub.* IV. iii. 86 Here come more of our weather-headed wise neighbours. 1695 CONGREVE *Love for Love* II. vii. 36 For that old Weather-headed Fool, I know how to laugh at him. 1822 SCOTT *Peveril* vii. You deserved to be ducked for it... for a weather-headed puppy.

weathering ('wɛðərɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* Forms: 1 wæderung, 2 widerung, 4 wedring, weduring, -ynge, widdringe, 4-6 wederyng(e, 5 wedryng(e, weddrynge, wedyrryng, 5-6 wethering(e, -ynge(e, 6 wedering, 7 werryng, 6- weathering. [In sense 1, repr. OE. *wederung*, f. *wed(e)rian* (see

WEATHER *v.*); in later uses *f.* WEATHER *v.* + -ING¹.]

†1. *a.* Weather conditions; (good or bad) weather; in nautical use chiefly with reference to the direction and force of the winds. *Obs.*

a 1122 *O.E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1085, & pæs ilean geares was swiðe hefelic gear . . & swa mycel ungelimp on wæderunge swa man naht æðelice gepencean ne mæg swa stor punning & læzt wes. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 13 Gif 3e mine bibode healded penne sende ic eou rihte widerunge. *c* 1325 *Poem temp. Edw. II* lxxvi, God hath . . send wederyng on erthe Cold & unkynde. 1387-8 T. *Usk Test. Love* III. vii. 74 After suche stormes [in budding-time], how hard is it to avoyde, til efte wedring and yeres han maket her circute cours al about, er any frute be able to be tasted! 1425 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 290/1 Grett rayne, and longe abyding upon the water, be fortune of wederyng or otherwise. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 519/2 Wederynge, of þe eyre, *temperies.* *a* 1450 *Mirk's Fæstl* 284 3e prayen to God forto haue kynde wedryng to all maner of sedys þat ben cast yn þe erthe. *c* 1489 *CAXTON Sonnes of Aymon* xxiv. 524 And wyte it, that by fortune of wedryng, they were well eyght monethes vpon the see. *c* 1500 *Melusine* xxvii. 206 That no raynne or other fowll wedryng myght lette peire entree within the tounne. *a* 1513 *FABYAN Chron.* VII. (1811) 314 By reason of the vnreasonable wederynge, as in y^e laste yere fell, y^e whete was solde for xv.s. a quarter. 1528 R. *COPLAND tr. Rutter of Sea* (c 1550) D viij b, The maister and his mariners trimmeth not thei sayle as it should be, and ill wethering taketh them in the sea. *c* 1565 *SPARKE in Hakluyt Voy.* (1589) 537 He did consider what time he should spend ere he could get so farre to windward againe, which would haue bene with the wethering which we had 10 or 12 dayes worke.

†b. Propitious or suitable weather. *Obs.*

1340-70 *Alex. & Dind.* 1 When þis weith at his wil weduring hadde, Ful rape rommede he rydinge pedirre. 1389 in *Eng. Glids* (1870) 23 We shul preyen . . for alle trewe shipmen. . . y^t godd for his grace yeue hem wederyng and passage. *c* 1400 in *York Manual* (Surtees) 221* 3e schulleþ also bidde þat god . . suche widdrings vs sende on erpe þat þe fruyt þat is þe inne thriue. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 261 So þou synfull man. . . excusyst þe, & seyst, I may noȝt kepe þe halyday, for god wil sende no wederyng on þe werkeday. 1532 *TINDALE Expos. Matt. v.-vii.* 59 Where the prieste oughte to praye in the mother tounge. . . for wedering and frutes [etc.]. 1553 *BECON Reliques of Rome* (1563) 236 b, Ye shal pray for al manner of frutes. . . y^t almighty God. . . maye sende suche wederynges, y^t they maye come to the sustenance of man.

†c. Stormy weather; also, a storm. So *great, strong weathering* [cf. *F. gros temps*]. *Obs.*

c 1450 *Contin. Brut* 482 þere was such wedryng of thonder, lightnyng, hayll and raync, þat the peple were sore adredde. *c* 1450 *LOVELICH Grail* II. 68 So thanne Cam þere bothe wynd & wedrynge, and fer Into the see gan hcm brynge. 1455 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 335 Atte all tymes that any Carrik or Galei arryvyth by force of Wederynge. . . in the Portes. 1490 *CAXTON Eneydos* xv. 52 The duke Eneas and Dydo fleyng the wedrynge, shalle rendre hemself bothe togydre alle alone. *Ibid.* 55 Vnto the tyme that the sayde cloudes were well thyk gadred with the stronge wedrynge that surprised them all atones. *a* 1513 *FABYAN Chron.* v. cii. (1811) 76 Both hoostes were so greuously betyn with the sayd tempest and wederynge. *Ibid.* VII. ccxxiii. 249 In . . the .v. daye of October, passynge tempeste of wederynge fell in sondry places of Englonde. 1526 in *Willis & Clark Cambridge* (1886) I. 616 For defense of great wyndes and outrageous wetheringes. 1605 *STOW Ann.* 633 On Candlemas euen . . was great weathering of wind, haylc, snow, rayne.

2. The action of exposing a hawk to the action of the weather. (Cf. WEATHER *v.* 1a.) Also *weathering ground*.

1575 *TURBERV. Faulconry* 76 He muste remember euery euening to tye out his hawke a weathering. 1677 N. *COX Gentl. Recr.* II. (ed. 2) 168 *Weathering*, is when you air your Hawk in Frost, Sun, or by the Fire-side. 1773 J. *CAMPBELL Mod. Faulconry* 264 *Weathering*, the setting out of a hawk to take the air. 1855 *SALVIN & BRODERICK Falconry in Brit. Isles* iii. 44 In the morning. . . they may be. . . placed upon blocks in the open air, without their hoods; this is called 'weathering'.

attrib. 1635 *QUARLES Embl.* v. ix. 5 Ev'n like the Hawlk, (whose keepers wary hands Have made a prisner to her wethring stock). [See *STOCK sb.* 19.] 1960 M. *WOODFORD Man. Falconry* ii. 9 The weathering ground should be a level, well-drained area of short grass protected from the prevailing winds. 1978 *Country Life* 27 July 215/3 Hawking enthusiasts will be delighted to find a well-stocked weathering ground at Kinmount.

3. a. The action of the atmospheric agencies or elements on substances exposed to its influence; the discoloration, disintegration, etc. resulting from this action.

1665 J. *WEBB Stone-Heng* (1725) 88 The weathering of so many Centuries of Years. 1757 tr. *J. F. Henckel's Pyritol.* v. 87 The ore on sinter is a plain and easy proof in behalf of a weathering, or a production by damps, rather than by way of streaming. 1774 *Phil. Trans.* LXIV. 489 The miners have called this decaying of the sulphurous ores of copper, iron, and other metals and semi-metals, the weathering of these ores. 1830 *LYELL Princ. Geol.* I. 211 It is snow-white, a description which is very applicable to the newer part of the deposit at San Filippo, where it has not become darkened by weathering. 1845 J. *PHILLIPS Geol. in Encycl. Metrop.* VI. 702/2 The weathering of the surfaces of buildings by the fluctuations of heat and moisture is partly dependent on the structure and composition of the stone. 1856 *RUSKIN Mod. Paint.* IV. v. xvii. §2 Now this sculpture by streams, or by gradual weathering, is the finishing work by which Nature brings her mountain forms into the state in which she intends us. . . to. . . love them. 1878 *A. K. Johnston's Africa* viii. 94 Hills of red sand formed from the weathering of a ferruginous sandstone of which the plain. . . is composed. 1888 *RUTLEY Rock-Forming Min.* 122 Through weathering, the iron. . . becomes converted into sesquioxide. 1914 *MOIR in Man XIV.* 179 The second part of my paper. . . deals with the 'weathering out' of scratches upon flint.

b. The action of the elements (on land, clay, etc.) as a beneficial agency; the state of being pulverized and rendered workable by this action.

1548 *LATIMER Ploughers* (1562) 16 And I feare me this land is not yett ripe to be plowed. For as the saying is: It lacketh wethering; This geare lacketh wethering, at least waye it is not for me to plough.

c. *Philol.* Phonetic decay. *rare.*

1870 F. A. *MARCH Gram. Anglo-Sax.* §102 Weathering of Case-endings. *Ibid.* §226 Weathering of Inflection Endings.

d. Exposure (of the face or skin) to all kinds of weather.

1887 *STEVENSON Mem. & Portr.* vi. 96 His face. . . was ruddy and stiff with weathering.

4. *Naut.* The action of passing (an object) on the windward side. Also *attrib.*

1878 *DIXON KEMP Yacht & Boat Sailing* 378/2 *Weathering*.—A relative term used in sailing to define the action of one vessel that is eating to windward of another. 1894 *Times* 30 July 7/3 Britannia had stood far enough out into the English Channel to get weathering distance.

5. *Arch.* A projecting course on the face of a wall, serving as a 'drip' to throw off rain-water; a sloped 'set off' of a wall or buttress; the inclination or slope given to a surface in order to prevent the lodgement of water.

1739 *LABELYE Piers Westm. Bridge* 69 The Sally, or Projection of a Cordon or rustic Cornish. . . serves also as a Weathering to the Stone-work. 1825 J. *NICHOLSON Oper. Mech.* 545 The measurer takes a line or tape and begins. . . at the plinth, then stretching the line to the top, bends it into the offset, or weathering. 1833 *LOUDON Encycl. Archit.* §1882 The massive buttress, with its deep weatherings, or water-tables between each graduation or stage of the height. 1850 *PARKER Gloss. Archit., Weathering*, a slight inclination given to horizontal surfaces, especially in masonry, to prevent water from lodging on them. 1875 *BRASH Eccl. Archit. Irel.* 98 The weatherings. . . were contrived with skill and judgment.

attrib. 1886 *Cheshire Gloss., Weathering course*, bricks set out from the wall round the bottom of a chimney, to protect the thatch where it joins the chimney.

weathering ('wɛðərɪŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. WEATHER *v.* + -ING².] That wears away or disintegrates through the action of the weather.

1855 *KINGSLEY Glaucus* 21 Syenite usually does so in our damp climate, from the 'weathering' effect of frost and rain. 1860 *TYNDALL Glac.* I. xxi. 148 The cliffs of the Breitborn are much exposed to weathering action. 1892 in A. E. *Lee Hist. Columbus* (Ohio) I. 676 The uses of the clays derived from the weathering shale are only in their infancy as yet. 1912 *Hibbert Jrnal.* Oct. 106 What we call changing physical objects—weathering hills or ageing suns.

'weatherize, *v.* U.S. [f. WEATHER *sb.* + -IZE.] *trans.* To make weatherproof; *spec.* to render (a building) impervious to the effects of weather, by insulation, double-glazing, etc. Also 'weatherized *ppl. a.*; 'weatherizing *vbl. sb.*; 'weathery'zation.

1946 *Woman's Home Compan.* Mar. 117/3 (Advt.), Weather-Bird Shoes for boys and girls are weatherized. 1946 *Collier's* 9 Nov. 92 (Advt.), A brand-new portable [radio] with new weatherized case. 1976 *Laurel* (Montana) *Outlook* 9 June 3/2 A project which could provide insulation and other weatherization materials. . . A coordinator for the Weatherizing program. 1977 *Time* 4 Apr. 52/2 Plants and office buildings will have to be weatherized to prevent energy loss. 1980 *New Age* (U.S.) Oct. 28/1 In Fitchburg, Massachusetts, people were so scared of freezing last winter that they dreamed up a program of door-to-door citizen action which was supposed to weatherize half their houses in five weeks. 1983 *Hyde Park* (Chicago) *Herald* 6 July 21 The city's weatherization program makes it worthwhile.

weatherliness ('wɛðəlɪnɪs). [f. WEATHERLY *a.* + -NESS.] Weatherly quality (of a ship).

1883 *DIXON KEMP in Fortn. Rev.* 1 Sept. 324 The Mosquito. . . carried her ballast much lower than any existing yacht. This. . . was a principal cause of her weatherliness. 1893 *MAHAN Infl. Sea Power* I. 223 The superior speed and weatherliness of the Spanish ships might have enabled them seriously to molest the British.

†'weatherling. *Obs.* -1 [-LING.] A student of the weather.

1656 S. *PARTRIDGE Synopsis* B 3, Many more the like rules [for Prediction of the Weather]. . . I might here have added; but in this little Booke, let the Weatherling be satisfied with these.

weatherly ('wɛðəlɪ), *a.* (and *adv.*).

†1. Of or pertaining to the weather. *Obs. rare* -1.

1652 *GAULE Magastiv.* 61 Any proposition or prognostication (as well touching weatherly events as arbitrary contingents).

2. *Naut.* Of a sailing vessel: Able to sail close to the wind without drifting to leeward. Also used loosely (see quot. 1904).

1729 *Phil. Trans.* XXXVI. 57, I proposed to make a Ship work far better to Windward, than it is possible for the most Weatherly one to do at present. 1833 M. *SCOTT Tom Cringle* viii, Notwithstanding her weatherly qualities, the heavy cross sea, as she drove into it, headed her off bodily. 1846 G. *WARBURTON Hochelaga* I. 19 Those stout weatherly boats crowding up to the wharves, have just now returned from fishing for cod. 1867 *SMYTH Sailor's Word-bk., Weatherly*, said of a well-trimmed ship with a clean bottom, when she holds a good wind, and presents such lateral resistance to the water, that she makes but little lee-way while sailing close-hauled. 1886 R. C. *LESLIE Sea Painter's Log* 226 For

downright weatherly qualities, lead and leverage will beat beam without depth. 1904 *Dixon Kemp's Yacht & Boat Sailing* 649/2 *Weatherly*, the quality of hanging to windward well or holding a good wind. This term is often improperly used to denote good behaviour in a sea way or in bad weather.

†3. *adv.* To the windward. *Obs. rare* -1.

1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4422/7 Three of their Ships being almost as far Weatherly as we were.

weathermost ('wɛðəməʊst), *a.* *Naut.* [f. WEATHER *sb.* (8) + -MOST.] Furthest to windward.

1557 *TOWNSON in Hakluyt Voy.* (1589) 125 The Christopher being the headmost & the weathermost man. 1622 *SIR R. HAWKINS Voy. S. Sea* lix. 140 But in equitie and reason, the le-ward shippe ought euer to giue way to the weather most. 1726 G. *ROBERTS Voy.* 202 Having got the Length of the Weathermost of the little Islands, I bore away afore the Wind for the Fuurno. 1761 *COLMAN Jealous Wife* III. 43 One of Them made use of small Arms, which carried off the weathermost Corner of Ned Gage's Hat. 1834 *MARRYAT P. Simple* xlvii, The brig rounded up on the wind, shooting up under the sterns of the two weathermost schooners.

weatherology (wɛðə'rɒlədʒɪ). [f. WEATHER *sb.* + -OLOGY.] The science and study of the weather and its phenomena.

1823 *BYRON Yuan* XIII. xliiii, Wbatever other blunders lie Upon my shoulders, here I must aver My Muse a glass of weatherology. 1860 *Chamb. Encycl.* I. 563/1 But the poverty of Australian hydrography is aggravated by the singularities of the so-styled 'weatherology'. 1881 S. T. S. *LECKY Wrinkles Pract. Navig.* I. xv. 114 Weatherology.

Weather-ometer (wɛðə'rɒmɪtə(r)). Also Weatherometer, weatherometer. [f. WEATHER *sb.* + -OMETER.] A proprietary name for a device which subjects substances to simulated weather conditions in order to determine their weather-resistance.

1929 *Official Gaz.* (U.S. Patent Office) 11 June 308/2 Atlas Electric Devices Company, Cbicago, Ill. . . Weather-ometer. For Apparatus for Testing the Effect of Weather Upon the Surfaces of Objects. Claims use since Dec. 3, 1926. 1937 *Nature* 28 Aug. 353/1 For accelerated weathering tests on various paints the weatherometer. . . has been used. 1951 [see FADE-OMETER]. 1965 *New Scientist* 1 July 25/3 A cyclic weatherometer developed as a screening test for new types of timber preservatives and water repellants.

'weatherproof, *a.* and *sb.* [See *PROOF a.* 1 b.] *A. adj.* Impervious to the weather.

c 1620 Z. *BOYD Zion's Flowers* (1855) 16 Our Bark's not weather proof. 1647 *HERRICK Noble Numb., Thanksgiving to God* 4 A little house, whose humble Roof is weather-proof. 1665 J. *WEBB Stone-Heng* (1725) 45 Some are hard and Weather Proof; some soft, and subject to Decay. 1778 *MISS BURNBY Evelina* (1791) I. xvi. 66 'O never mind the old Beldame,' cried the Captain; 'she's weather-proof, I'll answer for her.' 1848 *DICKENS Dombey* lix, The house stands, large and weather-proof, in the long dull street. 1914 *Illustr. Lond. News* 3 Jan. 32/3 Weather-proof overcoats, suits, and costumes.

B. *sb.* Weatherproof material. Also, a weatherproof coat; a raincoat.

1876 *SMILES Sc. Nat.* x. 186 Nothing but the stiffest weather-proof can keep the water out. 1925 *Studio* (Art & Publicity Special Autumn No.) (Advt. suppl.) p. ix, Aquascutum pure wool weatherproofs come in one quality only—the best. 1935 *Times* 21 Feb. 14/2 [The Queen] saw the colour first in a crêpe de Chine weatherproof made with a cape. 1962 *N.Y. Times* 16 Nov. 3 A & F presents a selection of Burberry topcoats, overcoats and weatherproofs.

Hence as *v. trans.*, to make weatherproof or impervious to weather; 'weatherproofed *ppl. a.*; 'weatherproofness.

1926 T. E. *LAWRENCE Seven Pillars* (1935) VI. lxxix. 435 The Indians weather-proofed their own north-west rooms. 1929 *Punch* 17 Apr. p. xxii/2 Weatherproofed by Burberrys, their value as overcoats is enhanced in every way. 1933 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 7 Dec. 874/3 There is something animal . . . in their strength, endurance, weather-proofness and capacity to live rough. 1963 *N.Y. Times* 1 Dec. 12 The 'Stormster'. . . all-climate coat. . . Weather-proofed cotton-poplin. . . lined. 1969 *Jane's Freight Containers* 1968-69 9/2 It is recommended that the test for weatherproofness (Test No. 9) be made last. 1976 *West Lancs. Evening Gaz.* 8 Dec. 11/9 The revolutionary roof coating system designed to protect, insulate and weatherproof your home.

weather side.

1. *Naut.* The windward side (of a vessel, etc.).

1399 *LANGL. Rich. Redeles* IV. 77 þan lay þe lordis a-lee with laste and with charge. . . And warned him wisely of þe wedir-side. *a* 1548 *HALL Chron., Hen. VIII* 21 b, The Caricke was on the wetherside and the Regent on the lye side. 1769 *FALCONER Dict. Marine* (1780) s.v. *Weather*, When a ship under sail presents either of her sides to the wind, it is then called the weather-side. 1840 R. H. *DANA Bef. Mast* ii, I stood in the waist on the weather side. 1883 *Man. Seamanship for Boys* 3 Salutes on Board Ship. The starboard side in harbour, and the weather side at sea, is the officers' side.

2. The side (e.g. of a building, a tree) that is most exposed to injury from weather.

1827 *STEUART Planter's G.* (1828) 136 Most Trees are unequally balanced, and show what is called a 'weather-side', usually to the west and south-west, in this island. 1827 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 48/1 Many shepherds. . . had hair-breadth escapes, and some perished in wearing their flocks from the weather-side of the hills. 1838 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnal.* I. 338/2 On the occasion of repairing the weather side of the tower of the Lady Church, at Munich. 1860 *MAURY Phys.*

Geog. Sea 96 The weather side of all such mountains as the Andes is the wet side, and the lee side the dry.

fig. 1816 'QUIZ' *Grand Master* I. 11, I now am present, Sir, you see, So leave the weather side to me.

'weather-stain. A stain or discoloration caused by the weather. Also *fig.*

1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* iii, The grey old towers... bearing the rusty weather-stains of ages. **1817** T. L. PEACOCK *Melincourt* vii, Though I have endeavoured to leave them as much mould, mildew and weather-stain as possible. **1847** EMERSON *Poems*, 'Butler, fetch the ruby wine' 43 Give me wine to wash me clean Of the weather-stains of cares. **1858** HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* (1871) II. 54 A marble statue, grey with ancient weather-stains.

Also **'weather-stained ppl. a., 'weather-staining vbl. sb.**

1849 THOREAU *Week Concord Riv.* 57 Town records, old, tattered, time-worn, weather-stained chronicles. **1851** H. MELVILLE *Whale* xvi, She was a ship of the old school... Long-seasoned and weather-stained in the typhoons and calms of all four oceans. **1868** BOYD *Less. Middle Age* 16 The lowly dwelling... with its weather-stained walls. **1884** *Daily News* 4 Sept. 3/1 The only detriment time has wrought in the monument is the weather-staining of the marble statues.

weather-wisdom. The traditional lore of weather prognostics.

1822 *Lights & Shades* II. 53 That science of guesses commonly called weather-wisdom. **1837** HEWELL *Hist. Induct. Sci.* I. 29 Another reason, founded apparently upon some limited empirical maxim of weather-wisdom taken from the climate of Greece. **1866** STEINMETZ *Weathercasts* 7 'Weather-wisdom' is very far from being a mere superstition.

weather-wise ('wɛðəwaɪz), *a. (sb.)* [f. WEATHER *sb.* + WISE *a.*] *a.* Skilled in prognostics of the weather. Also *absol. as sb.*

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* xv. 350 Wederwise shipmen. **1556** S. BURROUGH in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 319, I maruelled why he departed so suddenly, and went ouer the shoales... But after I perceived them to be weather wise. **1637** J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Drinke & Welcome* C3b, Some by their cornes are wondrous Weather-wise. **1735** B. FRANKLIN *Poor Richard* (1890) 50 Some are weatherwise, some are otherwise. **1802** COLERIDGE *Dejection* 1 If the Bard was weather-wise, who made The grand old ballad of Sir Patrick Spence. **1849** JAMES *Woodman* vi, Auguring rain to the minds of the weather-wise. **1866** STEINMETZ *Weathercasts* 35 A certain weather-wise nobleman, Lord Portarlington, predicted the intensely hot summer of last year. **1895** MEREDITH *Amazing Marr.* I. xv. 167 Are you weather-wise?—able to tell when the clouds will hold off or pelt? **1922** JOYCE *Ulysses* 390 Biggish swollen clouds to be seen as the night increased and the weatherwise poring up at them.

b. fig.

1581 W. STAFFORD *Exam. Compl.* i. (1876) 27 Some weather-wise fellows, that coude chaunge their opinions as the more and stronger part did ehaunge theirs. **1917** GWYNN & TUCKWELL *Sir C. Dilke* li. II. 313 He was weatherwise in the assembly, and knew the conditions which might lead to unforeseen disturbance.

'weatherwise, adv. orig. *U.S.* [f. WEATHER *sb.* + WISE *sb.* II.] As regards the weather.

1963 [see *personnel-wise* advb. s.v. PERSONNEL 3]. **1971** *Country Life* 21 Oct. 1084/1 October is usually a very good month weatherwise. **1975** *Budget* (Sugarcreek, Ohio) 20 Mar. 15/6 Weatherwise the last week has been real nice.

† **weather-wiser.** *Obs.* [ad. Du. *wederwijzer*, *weerwijzer*, *f. weder*, *weer* WEATHER *sb.* + *wijzer*, agent-n. *f. wijzen* to show; cf. WAY-WISER.] An instrument serving to foretell the weather.

1667 SPRAT *Hist. Royal-Soc.* 255 Several Discourses about Thermometers, Hygrosopes, Baroscopes, and other Weather-wisers. **1676** GLANVILLE *Ess.* III. 40 He hath there given an account of the defectiveness of common Weather-Glasses, ... and Ascent of Water by Cold in the ordinary Weather-wisers. **1708** R. NEVE *Baroscop.* 4 By which means it is now become an excellent Weather-wiser, to predict dry and moist Weather. **1787** BEST *Angling* (ed. 2) 152 The flowers of pimpernel; the opening and shutting of which... are the countryman's weather-wiser, whereby he tells the weather of the following day.

weathery ('wɛðəri), *a. rare.* [f. WEATHER *sb.* + -Y.] Fitful, changing like the weather.

1563 *Mirr. Mag., Ld. Hastings* xiv, As nought may last, so Fortunes weathery cheare With powtyng looks kan lower on my Syre. **1880** BLACKMORE *Mary Anerley* II. vi. 82 The fitting fancy of boy and girl, who pop upon one another, and skip through zig-zag vernal ecstasy, like the weathery dalliance of gnats.

Weatings ('wi:tɪŋz), *sb. pl.* Also w(h)eatings. [f. respelling of WHEAT *sb.* + -ings, as in *middlings* s.v. MIDDLING *sb.* 3c.] A proprietary name for the residue of the milling of wheat (the sharps: see SHARP *sb.* 9), used as food for farm animals.

1931 *Trade Marks Jnl.* 30 Sept. 1329/1 Weatings... Fine wheat offals (for food). The M.M.A., Limited... London E.C. 3. **1937** C. FORMAN *Pig Breeding & Feeding* vii. 79 These weatings are advertised as not more than 5 per cent fibre. **1937** E. M. RICKARD-BELL *Handbk. Mod. Pig Farming* vii. 81 For the weatings we can substitute up to 10 per cent. with coconut cake. **1960** *Farmer & Stockbreeder* 8 Mar. 5/1 Weatings and bran both quoted at £25 per ton ex mill. **1976** G. JOHNSON *Profitable Pig Farming* (ed. 5) viii. 124 Sharps, weatings or middlings have not been included in any of the above selection of suitable rations.

weavable ('wi:vəb(ə)l), *a. rare.* [f. WEAVE *v.* + -ABLE.] That may be woven.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 412/1 Weffabylle, *texibilis*. **1856** RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* III. iv. xvii. §37 The world... got weavable fibres out of the mosses, and made clothes for itself.

weave (wi:v), *sb.* [f. WEAVE *v.*]

† 1. Something that has been woven, a woven fabric. *Obs.*

1581 A. HALL *Iliad* ix. 171 A couerlet fine aloft, Of woollen weaue. **1597** MIDDLETON *Wisd. Solomon* iv. 11 So righteous are allurde by sins deceit, And oft inticed into sinners weaue. **1646** SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* v. xv. 257 This habit of Iohn, was... rather some finer weave of Camelot.

2. A particular method or pattern of weaving.

1888 C. P. BROOKS *Cotton Manuf.* 132 This weave is not confined to the making of fabrics with an unbroken pile surface. **1888** R. BEAUMONT *Woollen Manuf.* x. 279 It may... be useful to consider how, from a plain weave warped and woven one thread black and one thread white, the solid lines of these colours... have been formed. **1901** *Scotsman* 1 Apr. 11/1 With reference to linens there has been a larger demand for weaves of this kind.

weave (wi:v), *v.* 1 *Pa. t.* wove (wəuv); *pa. pple.* woven ('wəuv(ə)n). *Forms: Inf. and pres. stem* 1 *wefan* (2 *sing.* wyfst, 3 *sing.* wefð, wifeð, wyfð), *weofan*, 3-6 *weve*, 4-5 *wewe*, *wef(e)*, 5-6 *weyve*, *Sc. weif(f)*, *weff*, 6 *weeve*, *wayve*, *wywe*, *Sc. weive*, *weive*, *wif(f)*, *wyf*, *wywe*, 6-9 *Sc. wyve*, 6-*weave*. *Pa. t. sing.* 1 *wæf*, *wef*, 4 *wof*, *woof*, 4-5 *waf*, *wafe*, *wave*, 6- *wove*; *weak forms* 4 *wevede*, 7 *weavde*, 6-9 *weaved*. *Pa. t. pl.* 1 *wæfon*, 4 *weven*, *woven*. *Pa. pple.* 1 *wefen*, *gewefen*, *giwefen*, *North. geuofen*, 3 *iweove*, *iweven*, 4 *iweve*, *wovun*, *ywoven*, (i) *wovyn*, 5-6 *Sc. weif*, 6 *Sc. weffin*, *wiffin*, *woiften*, *wowein*, *wolvin*, 7-9 *wove*, 4- *woven*; *weak forms* 4-6 *weved*, 4 *weft*, *woved*, 5 *weyud*, 7 *weevd*, *weavd*, 6-9 *weaved*. [A Common Teut. strong verb (not recorded in Gothic): OE. *wefan*, *pa. t.* *wæf*, *pl.* *wæfon*, *pa. pple.* *wefen*, corresponds to OFris. **weva* (Nfris. *weewen*, Wfris. *weve*, *weevje*), (M)LG., (M)Du. *weven*, OHG. *weban*, *wepan* (MHG., mod.G. *weben*), ON. *wefa* (MSw. *väva*, Sw. *väfva*, Da. *væve*):—OTeut. **wēb-* (:**wab-*: **wæb-*):—Indogermanic **webh-* (:**wēbh-*: **ubh-*), represented in Skr. *ūrnavābhi* spider (lit. 'wool-weaver'), Gr. *ὀφί*, *ὄφος*, *web*, *ὀφαίω* to weave. The same root occurs in *web* (and *abb*), *weft*, *woof*.

In the 14th and 15th c. the form of the *pa. pple.* became assimilated to that of the *pa. pples.* of strong verbs with root ending in a liquid (e.g. *steal*, *stolen*), and, as in most verbs of that class, the *o* of the *pa. pple.* was extended to the *pa. t.* both *sing.* and *pl.* The weak inflexion has been occasionally used in all periods from the 14th c. onwards, but has never become general.]

1. *trans.* To form or fabricate (a stuff or material) by interlacing yarns or other filaments of a particular substance in a continuous web; to manufacture in a loom by crossing the threads or yarns called respectively the warp and the weft. Also with *obj.* the web itself, a garment made up of such a stuff or material. † to *weave out*: to complete the weaving of.

† to *weave in a stool*: see STOOL *sb.* 3.

c900 *Bæda's Hist.* iv. xxv. (1890) 354 Hio smælo hrægel weofap & wycrap. **c1050** *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 504/2 *Ordiretur*, *wefen* wæs. **c1200** *Virtues & Vices* 39 Al swa nan webb ne mai bien iweuen wið-uten twa beames. **c1290** *St. Edmund Conf.* 167 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 436 Heo [a hair shirt] nas i-sponne ne i-weoue, ake i-broide strengus longue. **c1300** *Assump. Virg.* 668 This ilke webbe here self woof. **1390** *Gower Conf.* III. 237 Thei tawhten him a Las to breide, And weve a Pours. **c1450** *Mirk's Festial* 246 Scho occupiet hir craft of weuyng clothes and ornaments to þe auter. **1483** *Cath. Angl.* 412/1 To Wefe, *texere*. **1513** DOUGLAS *Æneis* XIII. viii. 86 The precyus wedis, Wrocht craftely, and weif of goldin thredis Quhilum be fair Andromachais hand. **1528** MORE *Dyaloge* III. x. O vþ2 Yt were as sone done to weue a new web of clothe as to sowe vppe euery hole in a net. **1530** PALSGR. 779/1 The weyver sayeth he can nat wayve my clothe tyll he have more yarne. **1535** COVERDALE *Job* vii. 6 My dayes passe ouer more spedely, then a weueer kan weue out his webbe. **1538** ELYOT *Dict.*, *Textrina*..., the place where things be weaued or wounden. **1539** BIBLE (Great) 2 *Kings* xxiii. 7 Where the women woue hangings for the groue. **a1548** HALL *Chron.*, *Hen. VIII.* 73 b, For all the copes and Vestementes wer but of one pece, so wouen for the purpose. **1584** *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 13 For weaueing forecore yerdes and four of canuise, v^s. **1632** LITHGOW *Trav.* vi. 250 He weau'd these Napkins. **1670** SIR S. CROW in 12th Rep. *Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 15 The silke... beeing ill woven will shrink and pucker. **1697** DRYDEN *Æneis* VII. 340 These Purple Vests were weav'd by Dardan Dames. *Ibid.* ix. 651 The Mantle... which I wove with Care. **1725** POPE *Odys.* xv. 139 Accept, dear youth, this monument of love, Long since, in better days, by Helen wove. **1789-96** MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 541 Woollen stockings... of excellent quality are wove by the Germans, especially in Germantown. **1856** G. ROBERTS *Soc. Hist.* 376 Our lace was not wove. It had neither warp nor woof. **1872** YEATS *Techn. Hist. Comm.* 69 The shawls and the textile furniture used in the rites of religion were frequently woven in the temples.

b. in figurative context.

In many langs. the equivalent vb. is used in metaphorical expressions relating to the contriving of plots or deception: so Gr. *ὀφαίω*, L. *texere*, *ordiri*, Fr. *ourdir*. Cf. 1 f.

1382 WYCLIF *Isa.* xxx. 1 Wo!... seith the Lord, that 3ee schulden do counsell, and not of me; and wefen a web [Vulg. *ordiremini telam*], and not bi my spirit. **1606** Sir G. Goosecappe v. i. in Bullen *Old Pl.* (1884) III. 85 All the wiles Weeud in the loomes of greatnes, and of state. **c1620** MORYSON *Itin. Suppl.* (1903) 191 If... each Deputy should

giue in writing to the State in England a full relation of his government and the State of that kingdome [Ireland], so as his successour might weaue the same webb he had begunn, and not make a newe frame of his owne. **a1662** HEYLIN *Cypr. Angl.* 64 For much they feared that Abbot would unravel all the Web which Bancroft with such pains had weaved. **1796** ELIZA HAMILTON *Lett. Hindoo Rajah* (1811) II. 220 The robes of the seasons, wove in the changeful looms of nature. **1808** SCOTT *Marm.* vi. xvii, O what a tangled web we weave, When first we practise to deceive! **1842** LYTTON *Zanoni* i. i, All this helped silently to weave charmed webs over Viola's imagination. **1893** F. THOMPSON *Poems* 59 Better thou wov'st thy woof of life than thou didst weave thy woof of song.

c. said of the loom.

1804 W. L. BOWLES *Spir. Discov.* II. 275 Thy mariners... furl'd th' embroidered sails, That looms of Egypt wove.

d. To depict in tapestry.

c1385 CHAUCER *L.G.W.* 2360 She hadde I-wouyn In a stamyn large How she was brought from Athens in a Barge. *Ibid.* 2364 And al the thyng that Tereus hath wrought She waf it wel & wrot the storye a-boue. **1513** DOUGLAS *Æneis* v. 15 Quhairon wes weif in subtell goldin threidris King Troyus son [etc.]. **a1683** OLDHAM *Rem.* (1684) 114, I have seen a handsomer Mortal carv'd in Monumental Ginger-bread, and woven in Hangings at Mortlock.

fig. **1802** SCOTT *T. Rhymer* III. xvi, Their loves, their woes, the gifted bard In fairy tissue wove.

e. fig. To contrive, fabricate, or construct (a mental product) with elaborate care. Also with *out*, *up*.

c1420 WYCLIF *Bible* I. 71/1 Of whom the first [Isaiah] is not seyn to me to weuen prophecie, but euangelie. **a1586** SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (1598) 351 Your wise, but very darke speeches... are wouen vp in so intricate a maner, as I know not how to proportion mine answer vnto them. **a1600** HOOKER *Ecll. Pol.* vi. vi. 6 For answer whereunto Acesius weaveth out a long History of things that hapned in the persecution under Decius. **1656** EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advs. fr. Parnass.* i. xxv. (1674) 44 The Author's subtilty in weaving of his Poem. **1799** CAMPBELL *Pleas. Hope* i. 165 Then weave in rapid verse the deeds they tell. **1819** W. S. ROSE *Lett. N. Italy* I. 24, I had already woven a little romance for him in my imagination. **1824** LAMB *Elia, Blakesmoor*, Contemplations on the great and good... weave for us illusions. **1849** MISS MULOCK *Ogilvie* II, Katherine had already woven out the whole romance of the stranger's life. **1861** GEO. ELIOT *Silas M.* i. i, You stole the money, and you have woven a plot to lay the sin at my door. **1862** SPENCER *First Princ.* i. iii. §21 (1875) 66 The original materials out of which all thought is woven. **1874** M. CREIGHTON *Hist. Ess.* i. (1902) 42 The... desire for reality that made him [Dante] weave his poem around himself. **1876** THOMPSON *Chron. A. de Usk* 186 The evil arts of brewing charms and weaving spells. **1885-94** BRIDGES *Eros & Psyche* May 15 Pathetic strains and passionate they wove, Urgent in ecstasies of heavenly sense. **1913** W. K. FLEMING *Mysticism Chr.* 108 In his writings, his weakness lay in his proneness... to weave endless allegories out of the Old Testament writings.

f. To form (e.g. a basket, a wreath) by interlacing rods or twigs, flowers, etc.

1398 TREvisa *Barth. De P.R.* xvii. elii. (1495) 704 Stakes be pyghte in the grounde and there abowte ben wretthes wouen and wounden of thornes. **1599** T. CUTWODE *Caltha Poet.* (Roxb.) ccxiv, And others very busie do begin: To weaue their litle baskets... to put their hearbs and all their flowers in. **1667** MILTON *P.L.* ix. 839 Adam the while... had wove Of choicest Flours a Garland to adorne Her Tresses. **1757** DYER *Fleece* i. 375 Hurdles to weave, and chearly shelters raise, Thy vacant hours require. **1813** SCOTT *Rokeby* v. xiii, But, Lady, weave no wreath for me, Or weave it of the cypress-tree! **1839** FR. A. KEMBLE *Resid. Georgia* (1863) 21 Among the Brobdignagian sedges... the nightshade... weaves a perfect matting of its poisonous garlands. **1839** EMERSON *Poems, The Problem* 25 Know'st thou what wove yon woodbird's nest Of leaves, and feathers from her breast? **1842** MACAULAY *Horatius* lxix, When the girls are weaving baskets, And the lads are shaping bows. **1902** S. E. WHITE *Blazed Trail* viii, With the skill of ghastly practice some of them wove a litter on which the body was placed.

fig. **1893** LIDDON *Life Pusey* I. App. A. 451 Legend has woven a wreath round the early history of the family.

g. Sc. To knit. Also *dial.* to plait (hair).

1695 *Rec. Old. Aberd.* (New Spalding Club) I. 160 Privat schooles... wherein children ar taught to sew or wyve. **1785** BURNS *Epist. to J. Lapraik* 1 Apr. ii, On Fastenene we had a rockin, To ca' the crack and weave our stockin. **1825** JAMIESON, To *Weave* v. a. and n. To knit, applied to stockings, &c.; pron. Wyve. Aberd. **1884** J. C. EGERTON *Sussex Folk* 132 He... used to go regularly twice a week to the house of one of his principal customers, 'to weave his cue', or, in less professional language, to plait his pigtail.

h. In figurative use app. sometimes confusedly: To spin, twine (a cord, thread).

1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 24413 The cordeler that waf the corde Of pes, vnyte, and conorde, Hyr name was called 'Charyte'. **1648** GAGE *West. Ind.* 19 The Indians uproar had weaved for us a thred of long discourse. **1856** KANE *Arctic Expl.* II. xxv. 249 The men weave their long yarns with peals of rattling hearty laughter between.

2. *absol.* or *intr.* To practise weaving; to work with a loom.

c1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* xv. (Z.) 104 *Tui ancilla texit* Din wynl wefð. **1390** GOWER *Conf.* II. 170 Hire moder... Bad that sche scholde... lerne forto weve and spinne. **c1450** CAPGRAVE *St. Gilbert* l. 129 A conuerse of pat same ordre... sat stille in his craft weuyng. **1585** E. D. PRAYSE *of Nothing* Aijb, For equity would not... that Arachne weaue in the frames of Minerva. **1608** SHAKS. *Per.* iv. vi. 194, I can sing, weaue, sow, and dance, with other virtues. **1781** COWPER *Truth* 317 Yon cottager who weaves at her own door, Pillow and bobbins all her little store. **1818** Min. *Evid. Committee Ribbon Weavers* 112 My father is a silk weaver; it is about twenty years since I first began to weave. **1828** CARLYLE *Heyne Ess.* 1840 II. 41 The poor cottage, where his father had weaved. **1917** T. R. GLOVER *From Pericles to Philip* i.

17 [In Egypt] Women go to market and men stay at home and weave, and they weave down where others weave up. *fig.* 1622 FLETCHER *Sp. Curate* II. i. They that pretend to wonders must weave cunningly.

3. *trans.* Of a spider, insect: To spin (a web, a cocoon). Also *absol.*

c 1220 *Bestiary* 468 Ðe spinnere . . werpeð ðus hire web and weueð on hire wise. 1382 WYCLIF *Isa.* lix. 5 The webbis of an attercop that wouen [v.r. weueden]. 1398 TREvisa *Barth. De P.R.* XVIII. xi. (Bodl. MS.) þe female leieþ egges and pereof comeþ smal spiþeres and þe modre setteþ hem to weue as sone as þei beþ yheijt. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 19269 As an yreyn wewyth a calle, To make fflyes there-in to flalle. a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VII* 30 She . . beganne to devyse & spyne a new webbe, lyke a spyder that dayly weveth when hys calle is torne. 1604 DRAYTON *Owle* E 2 b, The spyders woue their webbs euen in his wings. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 111 Silke-wormes . . infold themselves in a piece of silk they weaue of an ouall forme and yellow color. 1784 COWPER *Tiroc.* 595 While ev'ry worm industriously weaves And winds his web about the rivell'd leaves.

fig. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI.* III. i. 340 My Brayne, more busie then the laboring Spider, Weaues tedious Snares to trap mine Enemies. 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. i. 159 He . . Could twist as tough a Rope of Sand, And weave fine Cobwebs, fit for Skull That's empty when the Moon is full. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* I, Men the flies of latter spring, That lay their eggs, and sting and sing And weave their petty cells and die.

4. To form a texture with (threads, filaments, strips of some material); to interlace or intertwine so as to form a fabric.

1538 ELYOT *Dict., Licia*, be thredes, whiehe sylke women do weaue in lyncelles or stooles. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* II. iv. 46 The Spinsters and the Knitters in the Sun, And the free maides that weaue their thred with bones. 1608 — *Per.* IV. Gower 21 When they weaude the sleded silke, With fingers long, small, white as milke. 1638 H. PEACHAM *Valley of Varietie* 131 There remains fine hairie threds, like unto Flax, which are woven into cloth. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Past.* x. 103 This while I sung, my Sorrows I deceiv'd, And bending Osiers into Baskets weav'd. 1789 *Massachusetts Spy* 27 Aug. 3/2 A young lady of Milton lately spun 70 skeins of thread out of a pound of Cotton—which another young lady wove. 1808 FORSYTH *Beauties Scot.* V. 272 To send cotton yarn from the mills . . into the remote glens of the Highlands, for the purpose of being weaved. 1877-80 *Gr. Industr. Gr. Brit.* III. 212 Milligan . . wove in the silk piece, and dyed the flowers their natural colour in the white. a 1908 C. BIGG *Orig. Chr.* (1909) 459 The art of weaving flax had been introduced from Babylon.

b. To entwine or wreath together.

1578 [see INTERTEX v.]. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 167 Citizens daughters . . weare nothing vpon their heads but their hair wouen with laces, and so gathered on the forehead of the head. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Past.* ix. 57 The Grottoes cool, with shady Poplars crown'd, And creeping Vines on Arbours weav'd around. 1727 [DORRINGTON] *Philip Quarll* (1816) 42 He bent the branches . . and weaved them across one another. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* lxxviii, Again at Christmas did we weave The holly round the Christmas hearth.

c. *fig.* To intermingle or unite closely or intimately as if by weaving; to work up into an elaborate and connected whole. Also with *in*.

1545 GARDINER in Abp. Parker *Corr.* (Parker Soc.) 27 In the tragedy untruth is so maliciously weaved with truth [etc.]. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* II. i. 17 This weaves it selfe perforce into my businesse. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Let. to Lady Kilconquhair* 8 Aug., Is not this hell and heaven woven thorow other? 1638 SIR T. HERBERT (*title*), Some Yeares Travels . . Describing especially the two famous Empires, the Persian, and great Mogull: weaved with the History of these later Times. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* I. ii. §25 Can they receive and assent to adventitious Notions, and be ignorant of those, which are supposed woven into the very Principles of their Being. ? 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 40 ¶2 An Author might as well think of weaving the Adventures of Æneas and Hudibras into one Poem. a 1719 — *Evid. Chr. Relig.* v. (1733) 42 When religion was woven into the civil government, and flourished under the protection of the Emperors. 1816 BYRON *Ch. Har.* III. cxii, And for these words, thus woven into song, It may be that they are a harmless wile. 1862 J. MARTINEAU *Ess.* (1866) I. 203 Science weaves phenomena into unity. 1875 OUSELEY *Mus. Form* ix. 49 Put the melody in the bass, or in an inner part, and weave in a new melody with it in the upper part. c 1904 BRIDGES *Voltaire Poems* (1912) 381 Grave Dante weaving well His dark-eyed thought into a song divine.

d. *intr.* for *refl.* To become woven or interwoven. Also *fig. rare.*

1613-16 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* I. ii. 30 The amorous Vine which in the Elme still weaves. 1849 LYTON K. *Arthur* II. lxxi, Tears weave with smiles to form the bridge to heaven!

e. *intr.* With quasi-passive sense: To admit of being woven.

1842 R. OASTLER *Fleet Papers* II. 26 It will not spin into good yarn, nor weave into wearable cloths.

† f. *intr.* To weave out: to become unwoven. *nonce-use* (suggested by the context). *Obs.*

1641 MILTON *Reform.* II. 78 The government of Episcopacy, is now so weav'd into the common Law In Gods name let it weave out againe.

5. *trans.* To enmesh or entangle, to wrap up, as in a net, etc. In quot. *fig.*

1620 [? G. BRYDGES] *Horæ Subs.* 394 And thus being wouen in their [Roman] nets, they be in a manner destitute of all possibility of recovery. 1869 LOWELL *Study Wind., Condescension in Foreigners* (1871) 43 The mind can weave itself warmly in the cocoon of its own thoughts.

6. To cause to move in a devious course; to direct (one's steps) in a devious or intricate course, as in dancing.

1650 HEATH *Clarastella* 11 Her steps with such an evenness she wove, As shee could hardly be perceiv'd to move. 1839 DE QUINCEY *Mem. Grasmere Wks.* 1890 XIII. 132 Sarah was going about the crowd, and weaving her

person in and out. 1893 KATE D. WIGGIN *Cathedral Courtship* 136 To weave that donkey and that Bath 'cheer' through the narrow streets . . is a task for a Jehu.

b. To go through the intricate movements of (a dance).

1792 ROGERS *Pleas. Mem.* II. 36 Weave the light dance and swell the choral song. 1862 NEALE *Hymns East. Ch.* 46 They . . to that eternal Pascha Wove the dance and raised the strain.

Hence weaved *ppl. a.* = WOVEN *ppl. a.* Also *weaved-up*.

1552 HULOET, Weued, *textus.* 1561 B. GOOGE tr. *Palingenius' Zodiac* vi. Rvj, Lyke as the flye that smallest is in weued Cobweb hye. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II.* IV. i. 229 (Qo. 1608) And must I rauell out My weaud vp Folly?

weave, v.² Also 6 wheave, 7 weive. [Continuation of ME. WEVE.]

1. a. *intr.* To move repeatedly from side to side; †to toss to and fro; to sway the body alternately to one side and the other; to pursue a devious course, thread one's way amid obstructions.

1596 SPENSER *F.Q.* v. iv. 10 Whilest thus amidst the billows beating of her Twixt life and death, long to and fro she weaud [rhymes bereaued, deceaued]. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 146 Their fantasticall gestures exceed all barbarisme, continually weauing with their bodies, and often jumping vp-right (as is the manner in dauncing). 1682 T. FLATMAN *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 72/4 By and by I saw him weaving from one side of the Pulpit to t'other. 1805 WORDSW. *Prelude* VII. 700 Him who grinds The hurdy-gurdy, at the fiddle weaves, Rattles the salt-box [etc.]. 1854 MISS A. E. BAKER *Northampton Gloss., Weaving*, moving backward and forward in a chair when uneasy or in trouble. 'You're weaving your web of sorrow,' is often said to any one so doing. A metaphor from the loom. 1884 'MARK TWAIN' *Huck. Finn* xx, The preacher . . begun in earnest too; and went weaving first to one side of the platform and then the other. 1897 BARRÈRE & LELAND *Dict. Slang, Weave* (American), to work along from one side to the other. . . A drunken man 'weaves along'. 1898 CROCKETT *Standard Bearer* II. 14 Twenty or thirty dragoons were urging their horses forward in pursuit, weaving this way and that among the soft lairy places.

b. *spec.* of a horse or a wild animal in captivity: To move the head, neck, and body restlessly from side to side of the stall.

1831 YOUATT *Horse* xix. 345. 1869 FITZWYGRAM *Horses & Stables* §194. 121 As a general rule, horses do not weave, unless they are tied up. 1934 [implied in WEAVING *vbl. sb.* 2]. 1973 G. DURRELL *Beasts in my Belfry* vii. 140, I could only presume that he [sc. a buffalo doing a sort of waltz] put on this performance for the same reason that a lion paces up and down its cage or a polar bear or an elephant will weave from side to side—a soothing and interesting habit to pass the time till the next meal.

c. *R.A.F.* Of an aircraft or its pilot: to fly a devious course, usu. in attempting to avoid enemy planes or anti-aircraft fire. Also *transf.* (in this use *slang*).

1941 *Battle of Britain August-October 1940* (Min. of Information) 13 Enemy bomber formations were . . protected by a box of fighters, some of which flew slightly above to a flank or in rear, . . and . . others weaving in and out between the sub-formations of the bombers. 1942 *R.A.F. Jnl.* 3 Oct. 22, I took my Edgar Wallace from the billet and weaved out to the Nissen hut. 1943 P. BRENNAN et al. *Spitfires over Malta* 26 The remaining four 110's at once broke, and began weaving, each steering a different course home. 1952 [see PREDICT v. 4]. 1973 N. MONSARRAT *Kappilan of Malta* 38 The sky above him seemed full of planes, weaving and circling like the flies in the wine-shop.

d. to get weaving, to apply oneself briskly to something; to 'get a move on'. Cf. to get cracking s.v. CRACK v. 22 b. *colloq.* (orig. *R.A.F.*).

1942 *R.A.F. Jnl.* 30 May 19 We'll knock that . . place off the map. Get weaving. 1942 T. RATTIGAN *Flare Path* III. 83 We'd better get weaving, or we'll find this chemist feller has gone to lunch. 1948 A. BARON *From City, from Plough* v. 36 'There won't' 'alf be a queue at the NAAFI. . . Let's get weaving. 1959 M. PUGH *Chancer* 49 When he gets weaving, the dashboard ashtray does three thousand revs. 1964 R. BRADDON *Year of Angry Rabbit* i. 8 And this call's costing me a ruddy fortune so how's about you hang up and get weaving, eh? 1971 B. W. ALDISS *Soldier Erect* 185 Pack your night things in a small pack and get weaving, while I lay on transport.

2. *trans.* To move (the hand or something held by it) to and fro, up and down.

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 404 Make the ointment to sinke wel into the flesh, by holding a hot broad barre ouer the place annointed, weauing your hand too and fro, vntill the ointment be entred into the skin. *Ibid.* 417 Hauing annointed all the raw places with this ointment, make it to sinke into the flesh, by holding and weauing vp and downe ouer it, a hot broad barre of yron.

3. To make a signal to (a ship or its occupants) by waving a flag or something used as a substitute. Also *intr.* with *for*.

1593 P. NICHOLS *Sir F. Drake Revived* (1628) 27 He wheaued vs with his hat, and his long hanging sleeves to come a shoare. 1599 DALLAM in *Early Voy. Levant* (Hakl. Soc.) 41 The nexte daye . . he came to the sea sid, and weaved for a boate. 1600 HAKLUYT *Voy.* III. 566 Then shaking a pike of fire in defiance of the enemie, and weauing them amaine, we bad them come aboard: and an Englishman in the gallie made answer, that they would come aboard presently. 1622 in *Foster Eng. Factories Ind.* (1908) II. 33 Which when they perceived, they weived us with naked swords. 1628 DIGBY *Voy. Mediterr.* (Camden) 59 Although I shott towards them and weaud them to follow me.

4. *Pugilism.* (*trans.* and *intr.*) To creep close into (one's opponent) before delivering one's

blow; to step in feinting and try to approach close to one's opponent in order to administer punishment. Also (? *Obs.*), to get (the adversary's head) 'in chancery'.

1818 *Sporting Mag.* (N.S.) II. 23 Spring held his opponent's hand . . to prevent being weaved. *Ibid.*, Painter . . endeavoured to weave his antagonist. *Ibid.* III. 133 Neither were expert hands at weaving, and Martin was thrown. 1820 P. EGAN's *Boxiana* (1829) III. 397 The strength and skill of Belasco enabled him to hold up his opponent, and weave on, till he got Sampson down on both his knees. 1832 P. EGAN's *Bk. Sports* 26/2 In closing, Curtis captured his opponent's 'knowledge-box', and was endeavouring to weave it under his arms, but [etc.]. 1921 *Times* 29 June 10/6 Defensively he [sc. Dempsey] is a much better boxer than one might easily suppose. . . His body sways as he weaves in and out, making him a very elusive target and very difficult to land on with a hard punch.

weavel(1, obs. ff. WEEVIL.

weaver¹ ('wi:və(r)). Forms: 4 wefere, 4-5 wevere, 5 wevyr, wewar(e, weiver, weyver, 5-6 weffer(e, 5-7 wever, 6 wevar, wayver, 6-7 *Sc.* wiver, 6, 9 *Sc.* weyver, 7 *Sc.* weifer, 8 wever, 9 *Sc.* wyver, 6- weaver. [f. WEAVE v.¹ + -ER¹]

1. a. One who weaves textile fabrics; a workman or workwoman whose occupation is weaving.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* Prol. 99 Wollene websteris and weueris of lynch. 1382 WYCLIF *Job* vii. 6 My dazes swiftliere passiden than of the weuere the web is kut of. c 1450 CAPGRAVE *St. Gilbert* l. 31 þe apostell, which was a weuer of cloth. 1531 ELYOT *Gov.* I. i. 1 A wayuer or fuller shulde be an unmete capitaine of an armie. 1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV.* II. iv. 146, I would I were a Weaver, I could sing all manner of songs. 1638 *Burgh Rec. Glasgow* (1876) 388 The wiveris friemen within this burgh feirit that [etc.]. 1675 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. 1. 80 Last week there was an uproar in London occasioned by the weavers. 1765 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Mann* 25 May, Many thousand Weavers rose, on a bill for their relief being thrown out of the House of Lords. 1768 *True Copy Poll City Oxf.* 16 Mitchel, James, Wytham, Weaver. c 1778 *Life Capt. Socivizca* 28 Every Wallaehian Man is his own Cartwright, and every Woman a Weaver for her own Family. 1851-5 *Tomlinson's Cycl. Usef. Arts* (1867) II. 857/2 The weaver . . pressing with one foot on one of the treadles, . . lowers one of the healds, [etc.]. 1871 C. GIBBON *Lack of Gold* v, The weavers obtained employment principally from the manufacturers of Kingshaven. 1892 *Labour Commission Gloss., Weavers*, women employed in the manufacture of cloth.

b. One who plaits. Also *Sc.*, one who knits.

1783 *European Mag.* Sept. 176 Betty got the hair wove into a tail at the . . wig-makers. assuring the nimble-fingered weaver, it was for herself. 1825 JAMIESON, *Weaver, wyver*, . . a knitter of stockings, Aberd.

2. *fig.* One who weaves, in metaphorical senses of the vb.; one who contrives, constructs, etc. (something specified).

In the first quot. the word may be misread for *wenere* WEENER.

c 1430 *Hymns Virg.* (1867) 77 þanne comeþ forþ good hope; To saue man he wolde fonde: 'þou wronge weuere ouerhope! I make him free, þou woldist make him bonde.' 1587 M. GROVE *Pelops & Hipp.* (1878) 73 Yet say not naythelesse that I . . am the weauer of your woe. 1781 COWPER *Conversat.* 207 Sedentary weavers of long tales Give me the fidgets. 1885 CLODD *Myths* I. iii. 20 The savage is not a conscious weaver of allegories. 1905 J. B. FIRTH *Highways Derbysh.* xvi. 245 A weaver of rhymes.

3. *Sc.* A spider.

1825 JAMIESON, *Wyver*, a spider, Aberd. 1882 *Ibid.*, *Wyvers'-wobs*, cobwebs.

4. One of numerous Asiatic or African tropical birds of the family *Ploceidae*, so called from the elaborately interwoven nests that many of them build. Also more fully *weaver-bird* (see 7).

1828 STARK *Elem. Nat. Hist.* I. 240 *Ploceus Philippinus*, Tem. . . Philippine Weaver. . . *P. Abyssinicus*. . . Abyssinian Weaver. 1844 LADY G. FULLERTON *Ellen Middleton* (1854) II. xiv. 149 The weavers with their endless tails. 1894-5 *Lydekker's Roy. Nat. Hist.* III. 363 The red-billed black weaver (*Textor niger*) is found in the Transvaal. 1909 *African Monthly* VI. 270 A colony of Spotted-backed Weavers.

5. A water-beetle of the family *Gyrinidae*. = WHIRLIGIG *sb.* 4.

1864 WEBSTER.

6. *Basket-making.* Any cane which is woven between the stakes of a basket.

1897 A. FIRTH *Cane Basket Work* II. 17 *Weavers*, the canes which are placed alternately behind and before the spokes. 1960 E. LEGG *Country Baskets* 27 If you will just bear in mind the names of the parts—sticks or stakes, and weavers — . . you will never forget the different grades required. . . The stakes must be stouter or stronger than the weavers.

7. a. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *weaver-body*, *-boy*, *†-craft*, *-girl*, *-leg*, *†-trindle*; also in the names of certain birds, as *weaver-bird* (see sense 4), *-bunting*, *-finch*, *-oriole*. *weaver ant*, a tropical ant, esp. one of the genus *Oecophylla*, which builds nests of leaves fastened together by the silk of its own larvæ.

1913 *Ann. Rep. Smithsonian Inst.* 1912 456 The highly interesting *weaver ants . . use their larvæ as weaver's shuttles. 1977 *Sci. Amer.* Dec. 146/1 Weaver ants are extremely abundant, aggressive and territorial. 1826 J. F. STEPHENS *Shaw's Gen. Zool.* XIV. 34 *Ploceus*, Cuvier. *Weaver-bird. 1879 LUBBOCK *Sci. Lect.* II. 38 The pendulous nests of the weaver-bird are a protection from snakes and other enemies. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxvi, Ye are willing to be guided by the Glasgow *weaver-body's advice.

1817 COBBETT *Pol. Reg.* XXXII. 98 The appellation of 'Weaver Boys' was... bestowed on the speakers at the numerous meeting, held at Manchester in November last. **1783** LATHAM *Gen. Syn. Birds* III. 193 *Weaver Bunting. **1515** *Sel. Cases Star Chamber* (Selden Soc.) II. 87 Robert Rossell being freman of the *weaver Crafte sworne saith [etc.]. **1876** A. R. WALLACE *Distrib. Anim.* II. 286 The Ploceidae, or *Weaver-finches, are especially characteristic of the Ethiopian region. **1849** C. BRONTE *Shirley* i. The *weaver-girls in their flowers and ribbons. **1875** G. MACDONALD *Malcolm* II. 44 He wad... rin as fest as his wee *weyver (spider) legs cud wag. **1782** LATHAM *Gen. Syn. Birds* I. 435 *Weever Oriole. **1483** *Cath. Angl.* 412/2 A *Weffer tryndylle, *jnsubulus*.

b. Possessive combinations, as *weaver's beam*, † *brush*, -craft, -glue, † *hand-roll*, † *jack*, -loom, † *weight*, -winder; † *weaver's beef* of Colchester, a name given to sprats; *weaver's bottom*, *weavers' cramp* (see *quots.*); *weaver's knot*, a sheet-bend or single bend, used for joining threads in weaving; † *weaver's larum*, an alarum made of a candle, a weight, and string; *weaver's lights* (see *quot.*: cf. *weaver's windows*); *weaver's shuttle*, (a) the shuttle used by weavers: (b) a shell *Radius* (*Ovulum*) *volvæ*; *weaver's windows* (see *quot.*: cf. *weaver's lights*).

1539 BIBLE (Great) *1 Sam.* xvii. 7 Y^e shafte of his spere was like a *weuers beame. **1598** SHAKS. *Merry W.* v. i. 24. **a 1679** J. WARD *Diary* (1839) 112 Sprats are proverbially called *Weaver's beef of Colchester. **1865** W. WHITE *East. Eng.* I. 145 She had never heard sprats described as weaver's beef, as they are (or were) at Colchester. **1899** *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Weaver's bottom, term for chronic inflammation of the bursa over the ischial tuberosity from pressure. **1583** *Rates Custome ho.* Avij, Brussches called *weuers brussches of heare, the dosen, ij.s. vj.d. **1462** in C. A. Markham *Northampton Bor. Rec.* (1898) I. 298 Euery persone that shall occupie and set vp the seide *Weyverescrafte within the ffraunchese of this town. **1881** W. RIVINGTON in *Brain* IV. 257 The patient, who had been a weaver, suffered from what we may call 'weavers' cramp', by which is meant a condition analogous to 'writers' cramp'. **1872** C. W. HEATON *Experim. Chem.* iii. 308 When cotton thread or cotton fabrics are bleached, it is merely in order to remove the oily, sweaty, and mealy substances (*weaver's glue, &c.) which have become attached to them during spinning and weaving. **1688** HOLME *Armoury* III. xxi. (Roxb.) 251/1 A *weavers hand Roll. *Ibid.*, A *Weavers Jack. **1532** [G. WALKER] *Dice Play* Bij b, To turne his pricke vpward, and cast a *weauers knot on both his thumbs behind him. **1678** WANLEY *Wonders Little World* i. x. 16 With the flexure of her Tongue only she could readily tie that fast Knot, which we call the Weaver's Knot. **1745** *Phil. Trans.* XLIII. 555 This little Apparatus goes commonly by the Name of the *Weaver's Larum, from its being chiefly or originally made use of by Persons employed in that Trade. **1866** *Morn. Star* 14 Aug. 4/5 Broad windows extending the breadth of the house, and known as 'weavers' lights'. **1535** COVERDALE *1 Sam.* xvii. 7 The shaft of his speare was like a *weuers lome. **1538** ELYOT *Dict.*, *Radius*,... a *wayuers shyttell, wherwith he throweth the yern in to the webbe. **1560** BIBLE (Geneva) *Job* vii. 6 My dayes are swifter then a weauers shuttle. **1815** S. BROOKES *Introd. Conchol.* 157 Weaver's Shuttle, *Bulla Volva*. **1576** GASCOIGNE *Steele Gl.* (Arb.) 80 When *weauers weight is found in huswies web. **1867** H. LATHAM *Black & White* 19 The trades taught are those of the... weaver, *weaver's winder, carpenter, and blacksmith. **1896** K. SNOWDEN *Web of Weaver* xii. 152 The house had what we used to call 'weavers' windows—three or four narrow lights together.

'weaver'². [f. WEAVE *v.*² + -ER¹.] **a.** A horse that 'weaves' or rolls the neck and body from side to side.

1847 T. BROWN *Modern Farriery* 387 Animals of an impatient, irritable temper, ... will sometimes keep moving their head, neck, and body to and fro, like the motion of a weaver's shuttle: these have been called weavers. **1863** MRS. GASKELL *Sylvia's L. xi*, T' horse was a weaver, if iver one was. **1880** W. DAY *Racehorse in Training* i. 6 If a horse is a weaver put him into a box, for in it he is more contented and often forgets his tricks.

b. *Boxing.* A boxer who weaves from side to side as a tactical move. Cf. WEAVE *v.*² 4.

1829 P. EGAN *Boxiana* 2nd Ser. II. 165 They again became weavers, till they measured their lengths upon the ground, Warren again undermost. **1950** J. DEMPSEY *Championship Fighting* xi. 54 'Bobbbers and weavers'—chaps who come in bobbing low and weaving from side to side.

c. *R.A.F. slang.* A pilot (or aircraft) pursuing a devious course. Cf. WEAVE *v.*² 1 c.

1942 in Forbes & Allen *Ten Fighter Boys* 47, I called up the C.O. and said I would like to take up position as a 'weaver'. **1956** J. E. JOHNSON *Wing Leader* iv. 53 Some of our squadrons provided two weavers in an attempt to guard themselves from the bounce. The weavers flew above the squadron and continually weaved and criss-crossed.

d. A driver of a motor vehicle who moves continuously from lane to lane, esp. in order to pass other vehicles. *collog.*

1960 *Amer. Speech* XXXV. 312 For a long time we have heard of the *weaver*, the driver who shifts from lane to lane in driving. **1973** *Telegraph* (Brisbane) 13 Sept. 30/1 Then we have the weaver, who careers from lane to lane, passing other cars right and left.

weaver, obs. f. WAYER *sb.*¹; var. WEEVER.

weaveress ('wi:vəris). [f. WEAVER¹ + -ESS.] A female weaver.

1723 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6194/7 Mary Griffin, ... Weaveress. **1877** J. H. BLUNT *Dursley* 222 He found two looms alone remaining at work in the hands of an ancient weaver and weaveress. **1890** *Tablet* 4 Jan. 25 An old weaveress, a widow 72 years of age.

† **'weaving**, *vbl. sb.* Obs. rare. [f. WEAVER¹.] Weaver's work.

1719 D'URFEY *Pills* VI. 92 In Weaving and in Fulling, I have... Skill; And underneath my Weaving-Beam, There stands a Fulling-Mill.

† **'weaverly**, *a.* Obs. rare⁻¹. [f. WEAVER *sb.* + -LY¹.] As a depreciatory epithet: Like a weaver.

1643 J. WHITE *First Cent. Scandalous Malignant Priests* 47 [He] calls his parishioners... Plow jogggers, Bawling doggs, Weaverly lacks, and Church-Robbers.

weavill, obs. form of WEEVIL.

weaving ('wi:vɪŋ), *vbl. sb.*¹ [f. WEAVE *v.*¹ + -ING¹.]

1. The action of the *vb.* WEAVE; esp. the operation of forming cloth or other stuff by the interlacing of yarn or other filaments in a loom.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xv. 444 Cloth pat cometh fro þe weuyng is nouȝt comly to were. **1398** TREVISA *Barth. De P.R.* xviii. xi. (Bodl. MS.), þe female [spider] is more of bodie þan þe male and hæp lengre feete and more pliaunte and more able to meuyng and to weuyng. **c 1475** *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 284 As myche for gardingy, spyngnyng, and weuyng. **1511-12** *Act 3 Hen. VIII*, c. 6 §1 The Wever whiche shall have the weuyng of eny wollen yerne to be webbed into cloth. **1601** HOLLAND *Pliny* vii. lvi. I. 188 Weaving was the invention of the Egyptians. **1774** BRYANT *Mythol.* (1775) II. 525 Erech; in which place likewise the weaving of linen, and making of nets was first found out. **1843** J. S. KNOWLES *Secretary* III. i. 25 His grace the duke Is in a net of his own weaving caught. **1872** YEATS *Techn. Hist. Comm.* 45 Weaving was an art in which the Egyptians excelled.

† **b.** *concr.* A tissue, plexus. Obs.

1758 J. S. tr. *Le Dran's Observ. Surg.* (1771) Dict. Dd 3, *Varicosum Corpus*, that Weaving of Blood-Vessels, which enters into the Testicles.

2. *slang.* (See *quot.* 1865.)

1803 *Sporting Mag.* XXI. 326 Weaving—Is securing one or more cards upon the knee, under the table played at. **1865** *Hotten's Slang Dict.*, Weaving, a notorious card-sharpping trick, done by keeping certain cards on the knee, or between the knee and the underside of the table, and using them when required by changing them for the cards held in the hand.

3. *attrib.*, as *weaving-factory*, -frame, † *house*, -loom, -mill, -room, -shed, † *shop*, † *work*.

1845 G. DODD *Brit. Manuf. Ser.* iv. 95 Some being 'spinning-factories', some 'weaving-factories', and some both conjoined. **1530** PALSGR. 288/1 *Weuyng frame, mestier. **c 1440** *Prompt. Parv.* 523/2 *Weuyng howse, textrinum. **1772** [see SPINNING-HOUSE 1]. **1496** in Weaver *Somerset Med. Wills* (1901) 343 A *weuyng lome w^t his apparell and portenances. **1675** in Jeaffreson *Midsx. County Rec.* (1892) IV. 63 Wooden frames of weaving Loomes. **1835** URE *Philos. Manuf.* 380 A *weaving-mill near Manchester. **1844** DISRAELI *Coningsby* iv. ii. Nor should the *weaving-room be forgotten. **1867** MORRIS *Jason* II. 455 Whom soon they found, within the weaving-room, Bent earnestly above the rattling loom. **1844** *Penny Mag.* Jan. Suppl. 38 We next descend to the 'weaving-shed',... Here we find eight hundred and forty power-loomes in one room. **1897** *Q. Rev.* Oct. 432 The men from the... imperial weaving-sheds. **1564** *Inv.* in Noakes *Worcs. Relics* (1877) 13 In the *weaving shoppe ij loomes, v geares [etc.]. ? 14.. in *Hampole's Wks.* (1895) I. 159 Fro vnder to none sche occupied hir in *weuyng werke. **1535** COVERDALE *Tobit* ii. 11 Anna... wente daylie to the weuyng werke.

'weaving, *vbl. sb.*² [f. WEAVE *v.*² + -ING¹.]

1. *Pugilism.* (See WEAVE *v.*² 4.)

1820 P. EGAN's *Boxiana* (1829) III. 465 In closing, after a struggle, they broke away from each other. Neither of them seemed to have any idea of the weaving system. **1827** DE QUINCEY *Murder* i. in *Blackw. Mag.* Feb. 210/2 In the course of this round we tried the weaving system, in which I had greatly the advantage, and hit him repeatedly on the conk. **1897** R. G. ALLANSON-WINN *Boxing* 261, I was obliged to retreat, and did so, as slowly as possible, using the weaving guards with both arms and completely escaping punishment.

2. The side-to-side movement by an animal of its head and neck.

1934 MILLER & ROBERTSON *Pract. Animal Husbandry* 59 Weaving is a nervous habit acquired by many wild animals in captivity (especially bears), and occasionally by horses. **1973** G. DURRELL *Beasts in my Belfry* iv. 70 Sam had a habit—not uncommon in bears—which is called weaving.

weaving ('wi:vɪŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. WEAVE *v.*¹ + -ING².] That weaves, in senses of the verb. Hence 'weavingly adv.

c 1000 *Song Hezekiah* in *Lambeth Ps.* (Lindelöf) 236 Forcorfen is swylce fram wefendum wife [L. *uelut a texente*] lif min. **1590** SHAKS. *Mids. N.* II. ii. 20 Weauing Spiders come not heere. **1809** SHAW *Gen. Zool.* VII. 429 Weaving Oriole. **1815** KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xiii. (1818) I. 411 The weaving spider... presses her spinners against one of the walls, and thus glues to it one end of her thread. **1945** L. MACNEICE in *Horizon* Nov. 259 Loom of wind Weavingly laughingly leavely weepingly. **1959** C. OGBURN *Marauders* (1960) vi. 183 Overby ran erect, like a halfback, ... carrying his rifle weavingly before him as if it were a football.

weavle, obs. f. WAVEL *v.* Sc.

† **'weavy**, *a.* Obs. rare⁻¹. [f. WEAVE *v.*¹ + -Y.] Suitable for weaving.

16.. CHALKHILL *Thealma & Cl.* (1683) 44 Others fell'd Wood, and some dye weavy Yarn, The Women Spun.

weazand, weazell: see WEASAND, WEEZLE.

weazen ('wiz(ə)n), *a.* Also 8 weezen, 9 weasen. Altered form of WIZEN *a.*

1765 FOOTE *Commissary* I. 10 His little weezen face as sharp as a razor. **1793** CHARLOTTE SMITH *Old Manor House* I. iii. (ed. 2) 53 However she may set her weazen face against it... she likes at the bottom of her heart a young fellow of spirit. **1820** W. IRVING *Sketch Bk., Inn Kitchen* I. 317 A little swarthy Frenchman, with a dry weazen face. **1839** DICKENS *Nickleby* lxii, A little, weazen, hump-backed man. **1877** W. S. GILBERT *Foggerty's Fairy* (1892) 76 A weazen little body, with over ladylike manners.

fig. **1901** *Blackw. Mag.* Oct. 577 Their policy was not weazen and anæmic.

b. *Comb.*: weazen-face, -faced *adjs.*

1794 GODWIN *Caleb Williams* 37 He is but a poor, weazen-face chicken of a gentleman. **1824** W. IRVING *T. Trav., Bold Dragoon* (1848) 30 A pale, weazen-faced fellow. **1841** THACKERAY *Gt. Hoggarty Diamond* ii, A little weazen-faced old lady. **1844** DICKENS *Mart. Chuz.* xi, A little blear-eyed, weazen-faced, ancient man came creeping out.

weazen ('wiz(ə)n), *v.* Also 9 weezen. [Altered form of WIZEN *v.*] *intr.* To shrink, shrivel. Also *trans.* (? *nonce-use*) to cause to shrink.

1821 *Lonsdale Mag.* II. 409, I put those three shillings... into a hole, and I found them weezened every time I went to look at them... I have just found it out that Dick has weezend them. **1850** *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XI. ii. 605 Nothing retards their [sc. pigs'] feeding so much as allowing them to be pining and weazening for their anticipated regular meal.

weazened ('wiz(ə)nd), *ppl. a.* = WIZENED *ppl. a.*

1842 THACKERAY *Sultan Stork Wks.* 1900 V. 739 The old woman blushed as far as her weazened old face could blush. **1862** SALA *Seven Sons* III. iv. 65 Jockeys... dwindled from strong men into little weazened brats of children. **1879** J. PAYN *Under One Roof* i, A small grey man, frail of limb, somewhat weazened as to face. **1883** *Chamb. Jrnl.* 12 May 289/2 Weazened black and tan terriers.

transf. **1854** THACKERAY *Newcomes* I. xi. 115 Old and weazened as that piano is. **1882** CONSTANCE F. WOOLSON *Anne* i. 22 The small face showed the most profound, almost weazened, solicitude.

weazeny ('wizəni), *a.* [f. WEAZEN *a.* + -Y¹.] Somewhat weazen.

1854 LOWELL *Fireside Trav., Roman Mosaic* (1909) 202 A half-dozen of weazeny baked pears. **1865** MRS. H. WOOD *Mildred Arkell* xxviii, A thin, weazeny sort of man.

weazon, weazond, obs. ff. WEASAND.

web (web), *sb.* Forms: 1 web, 1-2 webb, 3 weob, 3-8 webb, 4-5 web(b), 4-7 webbe, 5-7 webbe, 6 wabe, 3- web. Also *Sc.* and *north.* 6 wob, webb(e), 6-9 wob, 7 woob, 8- 9 wab. [OE. *web(b)* neut., corresp. to OFris. *web*, *wob* (Wfris. *web*, *webbe*, Nfris. *wêb*, *wâb*), OS. *webbi* (MLG. and LG. *webbe*), MDu. and Du. *webbe*, *web*, OHG. *wappi*, *weppi*, *webbi* (MHG. *weppe*, *webbe*) neut., ON. *vef-r* masc. (genit. *veffar*; Da. *væv*, Sw. *väf*):—OTeut. **wabjo-m*, -z, f. **wab*-ablaut-var. of **web*-: see WEAVE *v.*¹]

1. **a.** A woven fabric; *spec.* a whole piece of cloth in process of being woven or after it comes from the loom. Also *collect.*, woven stuff. Often as cognate obj. to *weave*.

Regularly used to translate L. *tela*. **c 725** *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) T 89, 90 *Telum*, web. *Textrinum*, webb. **a 1050** *Liber Scintill.* (1889) 216 *Tela consummatur filis*, webb byþ gefyllend mid prædum. **c 1200** *Vices & Virtues* 39 Al swa nan webb ne mai bien iweuen wið-uten twa beames. **a 1225** *Annc. R.* 322 Wile a weob beon, et one cherre, mid one watere wel ibleched? **c 1325** *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 157 A webe to wewen. **a 1340** HAMPOLE *Psalter* 496 þe wefand pat sheris down þe web are it be fulfilled. **1362** LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. v. 92 þenne I wussche hit [a new coat] wore myn, and al þe web aftur. **1382** WYCLIF *Job* vii. 6 My dages swiftiliere passiden than of the weuere the web is kut of. **1514** *Act 6 Hen. VIII* c. 9 §2 The Weaver... to restore... the Surplus of the same Yarn, if any shall be left not put into the same Web. **1546** *Extracts Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 236 Ane wob of tartane, contenand x ellis. **1577** B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* 1. 38 b, Flaxe... being beaten to a softnesse, serueth for webbes of Linnen. **1629** *Orkney Witch Trial* in *County Folk-Lore* (1903) III. 78 Christane Reid in Clett cam in ane maid errand, seiking woft to ane wob. **1697** DRYDEN *Æneis* ix. 633 Her Hand the Web forsakes. **1789** BURNS *Robin shure in hairst*, I gaed up to Dunse, To warp a web o' plaiden. **1797** *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 835/2 The breast-bar, a smooth square beam in which there is an opening to let the web through as it is wove. **1815** J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* I. 81 A whole web or piece of calico is printed by them in three minutes. **1849** M. ARNOLD *Sick King in Bokhara* 8 Ye shall pay Each fortieth web of cloth to me, As the law is. **1854** SURTEES *Handley Cr.* (1901) I. i. 5 Peter was dressed like his master—coat, waistcoat, and breeches of the same web. **1909** R. LAW *Tests of Life* xv. 312 The pattern of the cloth is more clearly displayed in the web than in the patch.

in figurative context. **1576** FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 114 Should I... recant now in mine aged years, ... and as it were begin a new webbe? **1579** SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Oct. 102 Vnwisely weaues, that takes two webbes in hand. **1587** GREENE (*title*), Penelope's Web. **1771** WESLEY *Jrnl.* 6 Sept., How long shall we be constrained to weave Penelope's web?

† **b.** ? A breadth of woven material. So med.L. *tela*, OF. *toile* (Du Cange).

c 1460 *Invent. Sir J. Fastolfe* in *Archæologia* XXI. 263, ij fustian Blanketts, every of hem vj webbys. **1465** *Paston Lett.* III. 435, ij. payr shytes of ij. webbys, ij. hedshytes of ij. webbys, vj. payre shytes of ij. webbys.

c. *transf.* and *fig.* Something likened to a woven fabric; something of complicated structure or workmanship. Also, the texture of such a fabric.

1599 ALEX. HUME *Hymns* i. 10 Skarse nature yet my fae about, His virile wob had spun. **1601** SHAKS. *All's Well* iv. iii. 83 The webbe of our life is of a mingled yarne, good and ill together. **1610** HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) To Rdr., Some there be who may object to the silly web of my stile. **1663** CHARLETON *Chorea Gigant.* 28 Having thus, thread after thread, unravell'd M^r Jones his long Web of Reasons, which he thought so closely and artificially woven, as to be strong enough to bind his Readers to a belief of his Opinion, that Stone-heng was a Roman Structure. **1820** W. IRVING *Sketch Bk., A Royal Poet* I. 171 That passionate and fanciful amour, which has woven into the web of his story the magical hues of poetry and fiction. **1822** HAZLITT *Table-t.* Ser. II. v. (1869) 122 The web and texture of the universe. . . is a mystery to them. **1860** MOTLEY *Netherl.* I. i. 24 The web of diplomatic negotiation and court-intrigue which had been slowly spreading over the leading states of Christendom. **1894** LADY M. VERNEY *Verney Mem.* III. 108 Sir Ralph. . . is soon trying to disentangle the complicated web of John Denton's debts. **1917** O. WILDRIDGE *Captains & Co.* xx. 235 His cheeks had a web of criss-cross wrinkles.

d. Used for WARP. *lit.* and *fig.*

1538 ELYOT *Dict., Liciatorium*, a weauers shyttel, or a sylke womans tauell, wheron sylke or threde beinge wounden, is shot through the web or lome. **1644** QUARLES *Sol. Recant.* x. 51 How mungrell nature weaves Wisdom and Folly in the self-same Loom, Like webbe and woof. **1781** COWPER *Expost.* 331 He. . . Strikes the rough thread of error right athwart The web of ev'ry scheme they have at heart. **1862** GOULBURN *Pers. Relig.* i. iv. (1873) 38 Service and prayer are the web and woof of the Christian life. **1883** OGILVIE, *Web*, locally, the warp in a loom.

2. a. An article made of woven stuff (e.g. a garment, tapestry, a winding-sheet). Also *collect.* woven stuff of a particular material or pattern. Now chiefly literary or *arch.*

In quot. c 1205 *gode webbe* app. represents OE. *godweb*, *godeweb*, 'fine linen', etc., the first element being perh. interpreted as = 'good'.

Beowulf 995 Goldfag scinon web æfter wazum. c 1205 LAY. 19947 Iscrud mid gode webbe. c 1275 *Ibid.* 22584 be king. . . caste on his rugge swipe riche webbes. a 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 1523 All þe wawis withoute in webis of ynde. 1560 ROLLAND *Seven Sages* 19 The riche Badkins, the costlie veluot wobbis. c 1590 GREENE *Fr. Bacon* III. i. 992 If Phæbus tired in Latonas webs Came courting. 1757 DYER *Fleece* II. 540 What nation did not seek, Of thy new-modell'd wool, the curious webs? *Ibid.* III. 59 A different spinning ev'ry different web Asks from your glowing fingers. 1791 HAMILTON *Berthollet's Dyeing* I. 133 Common woollen stocking web. 1813 J. THOMSON *Inflammation* 283 Linen cloth is the web on which the plaster is commonly spread. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* III. ix, Kneeling down at the bedside and kissing the sheets out of respect for the web that was to hold the sacred person of a King. 1867 MORRIS *Jason* vi. 477 With richest webs the marble walls were hung. 1871 ROSSETTI *Staff & Scrip* xxx, Fair flew my web [a banner]. 1883 MISS BROUGHTON *Belinda* II. vii, Costly fabrics and dainty webs.

† b. ? A kind of net for catching fish. *Obs.*

1533-4 *Act 25 Hen. VIII.* e. 7 To take or distroye in or by meanes of any wele. . . lepe hyve crele rawe webbe lister syer . . . the yonge frye . . . of any kynde of Salmon.

† c. A bandana or large handkerchief. *Obs.*

1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pr.* IV. iv. 369 The waste cotton-shrub, . . . have ye not. . . made it into beautiful bandana webs? **1850** 'SYLVANUS' *Bye-lanes & Downs* iv. 53 The inimitable web of cambric carefully folded. *Ibid.* vi. 74 The flash, reared up fellow, in the light blue pantaloons and huge web of satin round his neck!

† d. *pl.* Stockinet pantaloons. ? *nonce-use.*

1825 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Sutherl.* (Colburn) 27 Our tall friend in the webs.

3. a. A band of material woven strongly without pile. Also *collect.* = WEBBING. Cf. GIRTH-WEB.

1337-8 [see WAME-TOW]. **1395** [see WAME-TOW *attrib.*]. **1794** in *Jrnl. Friends' Hist. Soc.* (1918) 7 The Coffin was. . . lowered down with Ropes and Webb. **1823** J. BADCOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 115 Procure two yards, more or less, of web, of broad tape, or cloth listing. **1862** *Catal. Internat. Exhib.*, *Brit.* II. No. 3841, Elastic gusset webs. *Ibid.* No. 4962 The elastic web is so placed as to allow the free rising of the instep. **1875** KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Web* 5. (*Vehicle*) Stout bands of textile fabric, used as straps to limit the extension of the hood.

b. *attrib.* (and *Comb.*). Made of webbing.

1844 *Queen's Regul. Army* 351 A web-headed halter with two reins. **1890** 'R. BOLDEWOOD' *Col. Reformer* x, Have you no. . . breaking-bit, or web surcingle? **1915** 'IAN HAY' *1st Hund. Thou.* viii, Sam Browne belts have been wisely discarded by the officers in favour of web-equipment. **1915** P. MACGILL *Amateur Army* 100 Web-belts were cleaned, and every speck of mud and grease removed.

4. a. A cobweb. Also applied to the filmy textures spun by some caterpillars. Also *collect.* *sing.*

So L. *tela*, F. *toile*.

c 1220 *Bestiary* 468 De spinner. . . werpeð ðus bire web. a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* lxxxix. 10 As þe erayn makes vayn webbes forto take flegthis with gile. c 1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* I. § 3 Thi Riet shapen in manere of a net or of a webbe of a loppe. a 1400 *Nominale* (Skeat) 625 *Vn teile de filaundre*, A web of gossomer. **1426** LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 23576 The place is not. . . Clenly kept with reuerence; For beforin, and ek behynde, Yraynes and webbes men may fynde. 14. . . in *W. of Henley's Hub.* (1890) 55 Yeff ye se at morowe a dewe vpon þe gronde that is callid webbe off arayne hongyngre vpon þe grasse. **1555** EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 219 Her bodye was. . . full of that laune wherof they make their webbes. **1606** N. B[AXTER] *Sydney's Ourania* G 3 b, Th' admirable Silke-worme Whose daintie webbe doth cloath potentates. **1718** *Poor Robin* Feb. A 5 b, Cut Caterpillars Webbs from Tops

Of Twigs. **1774** GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VIII. 22 Some [caterpillars] spin themselves a eone or web, in which they lie secure till they have arrived at maturity. **1823** BYRON *Juan* x. lxxxiv, With a soft besom will I sweep your halls, And brush a web or two from off the walls. **1859** TENNYSON *Vivien* 108 A gilded summer fly Caught in a great old tyrant spider's web. **1869** J. J. WEIR in *Trans. Entom. Soc.* I. 21 Larvæ which spin webs. . . are eaten by birds, but not with avidity; they appear very much to dislike the web sticking to their beaks. **1879** JEFFERIES *Wild Life in S. Co.* xvii. 317 At the end of September. . . acres of furze may be seen covered with web in the morning.

b. A single thread or line spun by a spider, used in optical instruments; = COBWEB *sb.* 1 b.

1877 LD. LINDSAY & D. GILL in *Dun Echt Observ.* *Publ.* II. 11 The webs a, b, c, d, and f are all attached to the frame which is moved by the micrometer screw. **1883** *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 248/1 A spider. . . is caught. . . and placed on a wire fork. The insect immediately attaches a web to the wire. . . This web is wound up on the fork till ten or twelve turns. . . have been secured.

c. *fig.*; esp. (a) a subtly-woven snare or entanglement; (b) something flimsy and unsubstantial; fanciful reasoning or the like. Cf. COBWEB *sb.* 3.

When the spider is not indicated in the context, it is often difficult to decide whether the quot. belongs here or to 1 c.

1574 *Mirr. Mag., Q. Elstride* xxvi, O wretched wight bewrapt in webbes of woe. **1577** tr. *Bullinger's Decades* I. i. 5 They taught that man. . . by his owne faulte, . . . brought into the worlde death and damnation, together with a webbe of miseries, out of whiche it can not ridde it selfe. **1604** SHAKS. *Oth.* II. i. 169 With as little a web as this, will I ensnare as great a Fly as Cassio. **1605** BACON *Adv. Learn.* I. iv. § 5. 19 The Schoole-men. . . did out of no great quantitie of matter, and infinite agitation of wit, spin out vnto vs those laborious webbes of Learning which are extant in their Bookes. **1672** DRYDEN *2nd Pt. Conq. Granada* I. ii (end), I. . . Silk-worm-like, so long within have wrought, That I am lost in my own Webb of thought. **1838** PRESCOTT *Ferd. & Is.* I. Intro. 88 The law seemed only the web to ensnare the weak. **1841** DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* xxiii, He. . . felt that accident and artifice had spun a web about him. **1859** H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* vi, He is entangled in a web of crime and guilt from which there is no escape. **1864** TENNYSON *Aylmer's Field* 780 Who wove coarse webs to snare her purity, Grossly contriving their dear daughter's good.

5. *Paper-making*, etc. a. An endless wire-cloth working on rollers and carrying the pulp. b. A large sheet or roll of paper made in this way. c. A continuously moving plastic sheet or film.

1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 369 A horizontal frame, . . . furnished with a roller or cylinder at each end, over which is stretched an endless web of brass wire, of the requisite texture or fineness for the paper about to be manufactured. . . The web proceeds slowly forward with a tremulous motion, which arranges and disperses the pulp regularly over the whole surface of the web. **1854** C. TOMLINSON *Obj. Art-Manuf., Paper* 30 A continuous or endless web of wire cloth, stretched over two or more revolving rollers. **1854** *Tomlinson's Cycl. Usef. Arts* II. 263/1 An endless wire-cloth, over which the web of paper is formed. **1855** HERRING *Paper & Paper Making* 76 The web, as it is termed by the paper-maker, being thus severed longitudinally. **1867** *Tomlinson's Cycl. Usef. Arts* III. 514/2 White paper, supplied by the paper-maker in large rolls of web, about 18 inches in diameter. **1958** E. G. FISHER *Extrusion of Plastics* vii. 96 The sheet passes through one or two pairs of nip rolls which draw the web through the take-off. **1974** J. H. BRISTON *Plastics Films* xv. 191 The web of material is controlled at all stages of the wrapping operation and cut-off only takes place when the product has been fully enclosed.

II. 6. a. A tissue or membrane in an animal body or in a plant. Also applied to similar pathological formations.

c 1290 *St. Michael* 720 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 320 A smal weob it [the fetus] bicluppez al aboute, to holden it togadere faste. **1398** TREVISIA *Barth. De P.R.* v. i. (Tollemache MS.) Sumtyme an ey hap twey solkes, pat ben distingued a tuo by on webbe and call [una tela]. **1541** COPLAND *Guydon's Quest. Cyrurg.* E iij b, The sayde webbe or tuncyle called Retbina. **1728** CHAMBERS *Cycl. s.v. Ear*, A delicate Web, that lines the *Vestibulum*, *Cochlea*, &c. **1807** J. E. SMITH *Phys. Bot.* 324 The five filaments of the *Celosia*, Cock's-comb, are connected at their lower part by a membranous web. a 1827 *Good Study Med.* (1829) III. 511 When these sinuosities are first formed or scooped out, their walls are soft, irritable, and of the common cellular web. **1899** *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Web*, in *Anat.*, any membrane-like, semi-transparent structure. **1897** *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 812 Chronic stenosis of the larynx, . . . due to. . . the formation of membranous webs.

attrib. **1876** tr. *E. Wagner's Gen. Pathol.* 167 The circulation in the web-membrane is retarded after closure of the femoral artery. **1897** *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 812 Cicatricial web formations [in the larynx] should be divided by cutting dilators.

b. The omentum or caul of cattle.

1808 JAMIESON, *Web*, the covering of the entrails, the cawl, or omentum, apparently denominated from its resemblance to something that is woven. a 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia* s.v., 'The web of the body'; the omentum. **1842** J. AITON *Domest. Econ.* (1857) 212 Meal is understood to darken the flesh, web, and lights of the animal [a calf].

† 7. a. A thin white film or opacity growing over the eye; a kind of cataract, albugo, leucoma, or pterygium. Also *pin and web*: see PIN *sb.* 1 I. Also *fig. Obs.*

1387 T. USK *Test. Love* I. ii. 180 That hath caused my cominge in-to this prison, to voyde the webbes of thyne eyen, to make thee clerely to see the errours thou hast ben in. **1388** WYCLIF *Tobit* vi. 9 To anyointe iȝen, in whiche is a web. **1398** TREVISIA *Barth. De P.R.* VII. xvi. (1495) 234 Another euyl of the eyen we calle a webbe and Constantin calleth it Albugo and Pannus. c 1400 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xii, Sometyme commeth to þe houndes sekenes in hir eyenn, for þer commeth a webbe vpon hem and waxynge flesshe. **1464** *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* (Roxb.) 280 For a

webbe and a pynne in yhe. **1538** ELYOT *Dict., Suffusio*, a webbe in the eye. c 1575 *Perf. Bk. Keping Sparhawkes* (1886) 31 Pyn or Web or other dymnes by strokes &c. must be spedely lokod unto. **1607** TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 28 If a horse haue a web in his eye. **1622** BANISTER *Treat. Eyes* vi. iii. H8, Of the webbe or cataract, called in Greeke, *hypochyma*, in Latin, *suffusio*, *gutta*, *aqua*, *imaginatio*. a 1638 *MEDE Wks.* (1672) 645 Lord! that the whole strain of Scripture. . . should not cure this web, and take this filme from the eyes of men! **1747** WESLEY *Prim. Physick* (1762) 67 Drop a drop or two at a time into the Eye, and it takes away all. . . Spots, Webs, or any other Disorder whatever. a 1827 *Good Study Med.* (1829) IV. 220 This opacity [caligo], as well as the pterygium, was denominated a 'web of the eye', from its giving the idea of a film spreading across the sight.

† b. *gen.* A crust or film. *Obs.*

1594 PLAT *Jewell Ho.* I. 61 [The candle] always supporting it selfe aboute the water, by a thin crust or webbe, which it worketh about the flame in the nature of Camphire.

8. a. The membrane or fold of skin which connects the digits of an animal; esp. that which connects the toes of an aquatic bird or beast, forming a palmate foot.

1576 TURBERV. *Venerie* lxxiii. 201 They [sc. otters] are footed like a Goose: I menee they haue a webbe betwene theyr clawes. **1768** PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* (1776) II. 533 The lower part of the toes and webs black. *Ibid.* 548 Mr. Ray calls this a cloven-footed gull; as the webs are depressed in the middle, and form a crescent. **1774** GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* IV. 150 Each foot [of the otter] is furnished with five toes, connected by strong broad webs like those of water fowl. **1813** J. THOMSON *Inflammation* 77 The capillary vessels in the web of the foot of the frog. **1842** TENNYSON *Morte d'Arthur* 269 Like some full-breasted swan That. . . takes the flood With swarthy webs. **1894** CROCKETT *Raiders* xxvi. 226 My hands pricked at the thin fine skin between the fingers that we call the webs. **1899** *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 865 The burrows [of the itch insect] will generally be found in the webs between the fingers and toes.

b. *Path.* An extension of the normal fold which occurs as a congenital malformation in the human hand or foot.

1866 BARWELL in *Med. Press* 25 Apr. 416 On examining the fingers I found them connected together, not merely by a thin web, but by a thick layer of tissue covered. . . by skin from corresponding parts of the fingers. **1876** T. BRYANT *Pract. Surg.* (ed. 2) II. 300 When the fingers are well formed, the Surgeon should, if possible, divide the web.

9. The series of barbs on each side of the shaft of a bird's feather; the vane or vexillum.

1713 DERHAM *Phys.-Theol.* VII. i. 375 *note*, The Mechanism of the Vanes, or Webs of the Feathers. **1768** PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* (1776) II. 590 The greater quill feathers are black; the exterior webs of the next are a fine green. **1828** STARK *Elem. Nat. Hist.* I. 216 First feather of the tail white, with a black square spot on the interior web. **1837** GOULD *Birds Europe* V. Pl. 372 The shaft and the narrow inner web white; the outer web broad and deep bluish black. **1893** GADOW in *Newton Dict. Birds* 239 The rami, radii, and cilia compose the inner and outer web, vane, or *vexillum* of the feather.

III. 10. a. A sheet of lead, such as is used for roofing and for coffins. ? *Obs.*

Cf. med.L. *tela plumbi*: **1312** *Acc. Exch. K.R.* 492/18 m. 2 (P.R.O.).

1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* XXI. xi. 857 After she was put in a webbe of leed & than in a coffyn of marbyl. **1489** in *Peck Desid. Curiosa* (1735) II. vii. 10 For the Balmyng, Fencyng and Scowering of the Corse, with the Webbe of Led and Chest. **1555** *Inv. Ch. Goods York* etc. (Surtees 97) 152 Leade. In the covering upon the same colledge M^dxiiij square yerdes of webbe. **1577** in *Assoc. Archit. Soc. Rep.* (1866) VIII. 301 One webb of Lead lyng in the gutter within the said battlement cont. in lenth ij^{xx}. yardes and in bredth one yarde. **1600** FAIRFAX *Tasso* x. xxvi, And there with statly pompe by heapes they wend, And Christians slaine rolle vp in webs of lead. **1601** HOLLAND *Pliny* XXXI. vi. II. 411 Those pipes be called properly in Latin Denariae; the web or sheet whereof beareth ten fingers in breadth. **1660** *Churchw. Acc. Pitington* etc. (Surtees) 197 For taking upp the high rooffe of the leades and laying the webbs againe. **1852** R. BURN *Naval & Mil. Dict.* II. s.v., Web of lead, *feuille de plomb*.

† b. A quantity of glass. Cf. WAY *sb.* 2 *Obs.*

1545-1656 [see WAY *sb.* 2].

11. The piece of bent iron which forms a horseshoe.

1587 MASCALL *Cattle, Horses* (1596) 156 Make your shooes with a broade webbe. **1639** T. DE GREY *Compl. Horsem.* 111 That no gravell be remaining betwixt the web of the shoo and the sole. **1725** *Bradley's Family Dict.* s.v. *Shoeing*, The Shoe must be made of Spanish Iron, with a broad Web, fitting it to the Hoof. **1831** YOUATT *Horse* xvii. 312 The inside part of the web is bevelled off, or rendered concave, that it may not press upon the sole. **1908** *Animal Managem.* (War Office) 227 The whole of the substance of the shoe is called the 'web'.

12. † a. The blade of a sword or of a carpenter's plane; the iron head of an axe or hatchet. *Obs.*

1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* II. xciii, A sword, whereof the web was steele. *Ibid.* VII. xciv, The brittle web of that rich sword. **1676** *Depos. Cast. York* (Surtees) 223 This informant got hold of the head or web of the ax. **1747** HOOSON *Miner's Dict.* R 3 b, This [Rudder] we use to let in the ends of Sliders, or Headtrees, where the Web of the Haek is too short for the purpose. **1812** P. NICHOLSON *Mech. Exerc.*, *Joinery* 204 Web of an Iron, is the broad part of it which comes to the sole of the plane, the upper edge or end of the web has generally one shoulder, and sometimes two, where it joins the tang.

b. (See quot.)

1784 J. SMALL *Ploughs* 13 The web may be three inches broad at the broadest, and taper from a foot down all the way to the point. **1819** REES *Cycl.*, *Web of a Coulter*, . . . that part of it which is drawn out thin and sharp, in order to cut and

separate the ground. . . In the sock, too, any thin sharp part has the name of web or wing.

c. The detachable long narrow blade of a frame-saw or fret-saw. Cf. *web-saw*.

1831 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* I. 330 It [the Grecian saw] consists of a square frame, having in the middle a blade or web, the teeth of which stand perpendicular to the plane of the frame. 1846 HOLTZAPFEL *Turning*, etc. II. 725 The mill-saw webs [are used] for cutting deals into thin boards. 1866 *Chambers's Encycl.* VIII. 508/1 The Ribbon-saw. . . consists of a very long band—or web, as it is called—of steel, usually very narrow, and with finely-cut teeth.

13. The bit of a key; also, each of the 'steps' or incisions in this.

1773 W. EMERSON *Princ. Mech.* (ed. 3) 284 *Web*, the thin broad part of an instrument, as the web of a key. 1800 *Trans. Soc. Arts* XVIII. 241 So that the webs or bits of the Key may clear the Tumblers in the lock. 1856 *Jrnl. Brit. Archæol. Assoc.* XII. 125 This key has a solid or blank web. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib.*, *Brit.* II. No. 6105, The 'bits' or steps on the 'web' of the key, that act on the levers inside the lock.

14. a. The vertical plate (or its equivalent) which connects the upper and lower laterally-extending plates in a beam or girder. Also applied to each of these lateral plates or flanges. Also, a longitudinal vertical member joining the upper and lower components of a wooden rib, spar, or beam in an aircraft.

1851 DEMPSEY *Builder's Guide* 144 The two [flanges of the girder] are united by a vertical rib or web of just sufficient thickness to connect the flanges properly. 1856 *Min. Proc. Inst. Civ. Engin.* XV. 155 On the Relative Proportions of the Top, Bottom, and Middle Webs of Iron Girders and Tubes. 1862 SMILES *Engineers* III. 409 Cast-iron girders, with their lower webs considerably larger than their upper, were ordinarily employed where the span was moderate. 1870 B. BAKER *Strengths of Beams* etc. 290 The experiments on the model tube for the Britannia bridge indicated clearly that diagonal strains, both compressive and tensile, occurred in the webs of the tube. 1877 W. H. WHITE *Nav. Archit.* ix. 333 So long as the beam is in one piece, or so long as the pieces forming its web are well connected together edgewise, there is no difficulty in meeting this racking strain. 1892 *Dict. Arch.* (Arch. Publ. Soc.), *Web*. The iron plate, fixed vertically, in a single web girder; or two plates in a tubular girder. 1909 *Flight* 11 Sept. 553/2 The rib for a double-surfaced deck [sc. wing] is more elaborate in construction, and is itself stiffened with 'webs'. 1918 *Ibid.* 25 July 830/2 Each of the spars is built up of spruce flanges, connected on front and rear faces by three-ply webs, the whole forming a box. 1919 PIPPAARD & PRITCHARD *Aeroplane Struct.* xvii. 199 The load is transmitted by shear across the web portion of the rib, and so this portion must be very strongly attached to the web of the spar. 1962 *Flight Handbk.* (ed. 6) iii. 45 Platz's wing employed box spars with plywood sides (webs) and heavier wooden tops and bottoms (booms).

b. The upright portion between the tread and the bottom flange of a rail. †Formerly applied to the tread and the bottom flange (*upper, lower web*); also to the upright ridge of an edge-rail.

1838 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 169/1 The lower web is, in some examples, not so wide as the upper web by nearly half an inch. 1840 H. S. TANNER *Canals & Rail Roads U.S.* 156 Which lip extends upwards and laps over the lower web of the rails on that side. *Ibid.* 264 *Web*, the outer projection of a rail, intended to prevent the wheels of carriages from running off the track. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XX. 225/1 There was a waste of metal in these early rails. . . owing to the excessive thickness of the vertical web.

c. The arm of a crank, connecting the shaft and the wrist.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 27 Aug. 4/7 Cranks having the additional strength provided by an increase of metal in the webs of the crank itself. 1889 HASLUCK *Model Engin. Handybk.* 79 It is best to turn the shaft and outsides of the crank webs first; the insides and the pin can be turned after.

d. The thinner part of an anvil, between the head and the base.

1874 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* I. 120/2 Body or web of the anvil.

e. (See quot.)

1908 PAASCH *Dict. Naval Terms* (ed. 4) 770 *Web*, . . . that part of a boat-oar, between the blade and the loom.

f. In a sheave (see quot.).

1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 153 *Web*, the thin partition on the inside of the rim, and between the spokes of an iron sheave.

g. A solid disc connecting the centre and the rim of a wheel, instead of spokes.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Web* 3. That portion of a car-wheel which extends between the hub and the rim. *Ibid.* s.v. *Web-wheel*. Clock and watch wheels are cast or stamped with webs and then crossed out.

h. pl. Snow-shoes. *N. Amer.*

1923 *Beaver* Jan. 145 It is said they still enjoy an occasional zestful tramp on the 'webs' over leagues of new Manitoba snow. 1939 K. PINKERTON *Wilderness Wife* ix. 103 After breakfast we went out to slip on our webs. 1966 M. E. & O. MURIE *Wapiti Wilderness* xviii. 223 Snowshoes, or 'webs' as the Jackson Hole people call them, were the tried and true aids.

15. The basketwork of a gabion.

1852 R. BURN *Naval & Mil. Dict.* II. s.v., Web of a gabion, hurdle, &c., clayonnage. 1859 F. A. GRIFFITHS *Artill. Man.* (1862) 255 Gabions are. . . 2 feet 9 inches high, in the web.

16. Mining. (See quot.)

1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-mining*, *Web*, the face or wall of a long-wall stall in course of being holed and broken down for removal. The web varies in thickness (according to the height of the seam) from 2 or 3 to 7 feet. Fig. 135 shows a cross-section of a long-wall with a web of coals after drawing the timber. 1886 J. BARROWMAN *Sc. Mining Terms* 51 *Plane*,

a working room driven at right angles to or facing the plane joints. *Ibid.* 72 *Web*, the plane.

17. *Math.* A tangential net.

1911 WEBSTER s.v. *Net*, But if [represented] in line co-ordinates, the net is tangential or a web.

IV. 18. *Comb.*, as *web-like* adj.; objective, as *web-spinning* adj.; simulative, as *websoft* adj.; *web-fed* a. *Printing* = *reel-fed* adj. s.v. *REEL* sb. 1 6; *web-fingered* a., having the fingers united for a considerable part of their length by a fold of skin; also, applied to a fish, *Prionotus carolinus* or *palmipes*; *web-frame*, (a) the frame to which the spider-threads are attached in a filar micrometer; (b) in iron ship-building (see quot.); † *web-garn* [GARN sb.], weaver's yarn; † *web-lace* (see quot.); *web-lead*, sheet-lead; † *web-loom*, a weaver's loom; *web-machine*, a printing machine which is automatically supplied with paper from a roll or web (see 5); *web-nest*, a filmy tissue enclosing a group of certain caterpillars or web-spinners (sense b); cf. *web-worm*; *web offset*, offset lithographic printing on a continuous reel of paper (cf. sense 5 b); freq. attrib.; *web-(perfecting) press* = *web-machine*; *web-plate* (see quot. 1908); *web-printing*, printing on a web-press; *web-saw*, a frame-saw; *web-spinner*, (a) a web-spinning spider; (b) a brownish gregarious insect of the order Embioptera, the females of which are wingless; † *web-stand*, a folding tray-stand with a top composed of strips of webbing; *web-toed* a., web-footed; *web-weaver*, in quot. applied to a spider; *web-wheel* (see quot. and 14 g); *web-work*, a tissue like that of a woven fabric; also fig.; *web-worked* a., worked with cobweb; *web-worker*, a spider that spins a web; *web-worm* U.S., a name for various lepidopterous larvæ which are more or less gregarious and spin large webs in which they feed or rest. Also WEB-BEAM, -FOOT, -FOOTED.

1949 MELCHER & LARRICK *Printing & Promotion Handbk.* 358/1 Newspapers are printed on *web-fed rotary presses. 1965 ZIGROSSER & GAEHDE *Guide Coll. Orig. Prints* iv. 73 In the rotogravure process the plate is in the form of a copperplated cylinder, functioning in a web-fed rotary press for long and speedy runs of printing. 1781 BLAND in *Phil. Trans.* LXXI. 362 Of these [children] I was *web-fingered. 1844 *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* XLVII. 59 *Prionotus Carolinus*, Cuv., Web-fingered Grunter. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* (1861) II. 137/1 He was, it is said, web-footed, naturally, and partially web-fingered. 1873 T. GILL *Catal. Fishes E. Coast N. Amer.* 21 *Prionotus carolinus*. . . Web-fingered sea-robin; Carolina robin. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 248/2 As the *web-frame is generally thicker than the fork, the web will now be stretched across the former, with a certain amount of tension. 1898 KIPLING *Day's Work* 81 A huge web-frame by the main cargo-hatch. 1908 PAASCH *Dict. Naval Terms* (ed. 4) 81 Web-frames consist of strong plates fitted transversally to the frames to which they are riveted. . . They serve for extra strength or in lieu of hold-beams, etc. 1440 *York Memo. Bk.* (Surtees) I. 78 That noon of the said craft shak make no capez of *webb garn nother blew ne meld nor noon other colour. 1801 FELTON *Carriages* (ed. 2) II. Gloss., *Webb Lace, a thick coarse kind of lace, mostly used for footman holders. 1894 *Athenæum* 14 Apr. 482/3 The casting of *web lead for roofs. 1768-74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 390 This *web-like expansion of the ethereal strings. 1815 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* ii. (1818) I. 31 The web-like nests [of the larva of *Bombyx chrysorrhæa*] which so often deform our fruit trees. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 29 Dec. 3/3 The silk Chantilly laces. . . are. . . very pretty and weblike. 1316 in *Rock Text. Fabr.* (1870) 96 Pro *webblomes emptis, xxs. 1404 *Rec. Borough Nottingham* 20 Aug. II. 22 Appetitiores unius wollyn weblome cum uno cam et j. slay. 1884 *West. Daily Press* 16 Sept. 5/6 The splendid *web machines now in use. 1888 JACOBI *Printers' Vocab.*, *Web machines*, cylindrical printing machines in which the paper is laid on by tapes. 1895 W. SCHLICH *Man. Forestry* IV. 279 The caterpillars, enclosed in the common *web-nest, first gnaw the upper side of the leaves. 1903 *Biol. Bull.* IV. 100 They [sc. Embiidæ] still spin their web-nests. 1959 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 15 May 296/3 America, the land of newspapers on the giant scale, . . . is making great strides. . . with *web-offset colour on newsprint. 1967 E. CHAMBERS *Photolitho-Offset* xv. 238 Web offset can be defined as a method of lithographic printing in. . . one or more colours on one or both sides of a web of paper in a single operation. 1981 *Printing World* 28 Jan. 13/1 It was printed on a new Timson T32 web offset press. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, s.v. *Web Printing-machine*, A *web perfecting-press. 1887 *Harper's Mag.* July 176/1 The web perfecting press, containing two printing cylinders, printing both sides of the paper. 1878 *Schiller's Technol. Dict.* III, *Web*, *Web-plate (Iron ship-b.). 1908 PAASCH *Dict. Naval Terms* (ed. 4) 103 *Web-plate*. Term given to a plate of great breadth and thickness, as for instance to one forming a shifting-beam in a hatchway. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, s.v. *Web Printing-machine*, The *web-press is a late improvement. 1890 W. J. GORDON *Foundry* 198 Printing from continuous paper is known as *web-printing', 'roll-printing' or 'reel-printing'. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Web-saw. 1889 *Century Mag.* Jan. 418/2 The web-saw, the glue-pot, the plane, and the hammer are the principal tools used. a 1915 JOYCE *Giacomo Joyce* (1968) 7, I hold the *websoft edges of her gown. 1923 *Jrnl. & Proc. R. Soc. Western Australia* IX. i. 61 The Order Embioptera, or *Web-spinners, is a small but very distinct and isolated group of insects. 1941 J. S. HUXLEY *Uniqueness of Man* ix. 193 In the spiders, we find a very interesting difference between the hunters and the web-spinners. 1944 *Proc. U.S. Nat. Mus.* XCIV. 401 (title) A revision of the Embioptera, or web-spinners, of the New World. 1972 SWAN & PAPP *Common Insects N. Amer.* vi. 85 Embiids or Webspinners. . .

occur mostly in the tropics and sub-tropics. 1904 W. H. HUDSON *Green Mansions* v. 57 This was no *web-spinning, sedentary spider. 1946 *Nature* 2 Nov. 630/2 The web-spinning Tineid caterpillar. . . is usually an inhabitant of hawthorn bushes. 1837 *Fraser's Mag.* XV. 435 A large tray of glasses. . . stood in the room on a *web stand. 1872 MIVART *Anat.* 236 In some cases these folds extend far along, binding the digits together, and causing the person so affected to be what is called 'web-fingered' or '*web-toed'. 1884 COUES *Key N. Amer. Birds* (ed. 2) 622 *Macrorhamphus*. Web-toed Snipe. 1550 BALE *Apol.* 15b, It hath bene so handeled and tosed amonge the spyders *webbe weuers of Babylon. . . that it is become moche larger both in length and bredthe than afore. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* IV. xxxvii. 31 The instinct of a crippled spider so completely changed, that from a sedentary web-weaver it became a hunter. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Web-wheel, a wheel in which the hub and rim are connected by a web or plate, which is sometimes intact and sometimes perforated. . . The term is applied in contradistinction to one with spokes. 1790 R. MERRY *Laurel of Liberty* (ed. 2) 10 A *web-work of despair, a mass of woes. 1812 [see VENOMED ppl. a. 2 c]. 1862 LYTTON *Str. Story* II. 199 The tyro who dissects the webwork of tissues and nerves in the dead. 1874 J. T. MOGGIDGE *Suppl. to Harvesting Ants* 200 A glutinized, *web-worked purse, about three inches long. 1658 ROWLAND *Moufet's Theat. Ins.* 1071 All Net-workers, and *Web-workers amongst Spiders. 1841 T. W. HARRIS *Insects Inj. Vegetation* (1862) 357 The little caterpillars known by the name of fall *web-worms, whose large webs. . . may be seen on our native elms, and also on apple and other fruit trees, in the latter part of summer. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 14 July 4/5 The webworm. . . did considerable damage to the stands. 1896 LODEMAN *Spraying of Plants* 256 Fall Web-worm (*Hyphantria cunea*). *Ibid.* 325 Web-worm (*Depressaria heraclina*). *Ibid.* 352 Privet Web-worm (*Margarodes quadrastigmatis*).

web (web), v. [OE. *webbian*, f. WEB sb. All the senses after 1 are new derivatives from the sb.]

1. *trans.* To weave (a fabric) in the loom. ? Obs. In OE. only in fig. phr. *uroht webbian*, to devise (a false) accusation.

c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 519/1 Webbon, or webbe clothe of lynnynne, *linifico*. 1449 in Hudson & Tingey *Rec. Norwich* (1910) II. 285 Providing alway that the clopinge be webbed be the avyse of the said wardens. 1511-12 *Act 3 Hen. VIII* c. 6 §1 The Wever whiche shall have the wevyng of eny wollen yerne to be webbed into cloth. 1530 PALSGR. 778/2, I webbe a clothe, *Je ourdis*. I have nat yerne ynough to webbe my clothe with all. 1809 J. BARLOW *Columb.* II. 513 Her sprightly mind A vesture white had for the prince design'd; And here she seeks the wool to web the fleece. 1892 *Labour Commission Gloss.*, *Web*, to weave.

† 2. *intr.* Of a spider: To spin its web. *nonce-use*. Obs.

a 1604 HANMER *Chron. Irel.* (1809) 195 The rooffe of Westminster Hall, where no English Spider webbeth or breedeth to this day.

3. *trans.* To cover with (spider's or caterpillar's) web; to weave a web upon.

1853 *Zoologist* XI. 4044 The canker-worm. . . forms itself a house by webbing the corner of a leaf.

b. *transf.* To cover with a web or fine network.

1895 *Forum* (N.Y.) Jan., Continents were being ribbed with railways, the atmosphere was being webbed with telegraph wires. 1905 P. LANDON *Lhasa* I. 361 An exquisite head-dress in which the high aureole. . . was barely recognisable under the strings and riggings of pearls which webbed the whole thing.

c. To stretch threads of spider's web across (a micrometer, etc.).

1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 248/1 Method of Webbing the Filar Micrometer. The webbing of a micrometer is a process that should be familiar to all practical astronomers. 1890 W. F. STANLEY *Surv. & Levelling Instrum.* 50 It is a somewhat delicate process to web a diaphragm. . . The webs are taken from a rather small or young garden spider. *Ibid.* 100 The diaphragm of the telescope of the Y-level is generally webbed with plain cross webs.

4. To entangle or envelop in, or as in, a (spider's) web. Also with *round*.

1864 WEBSTER *Web* v.t., to unite or surround with a web, or as if with a web; to envelop; to entangle. 1901 *Fun* 20 Apr. 189/2 A peasant kills a giant spider who has webbed a fly. 1907 *Black Cat* June 26 The girl was ready when again they [sc. wolves] webbed her round, each trumpet-mouthed with his own hunting cry. She lashed out.

5. To connect (fingers, toes, etc.) with a web or membrane. Also with *together*.

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VI. 45 Nature. . . by broad skins, has webbed their toes together. 1890 W. P. BALL *Effects of Use & Disuse* 147 Use-inheritance. . . aids in webbing the feet of water-dogs, but fails to web the feet of the water-hen.

b. To imprint with the marks of web-feet. *nonce-use*.

1866 HOWELLS *Venetian Life* xiv. 203 The ground was webbed with the feet of geese.

|| **webb, webbe.** *Amer. Indian. Obs.* [perh. obs. Algonkin.] (See quot.)

1634 W. WOOD *New England's Prospect* Nomencl. O 3 b, *Web*, a wife. 1672 JOSSELYN *New Eng. Rarities* 20 The Indian Webbes make use of the broad Teeth of the Fawns to hang about their Childrens Neck when they are breeding of their Teeth. *Ibid.* 62 One Christopher Luxe. . . was healed again by an Indian Webb, or Wife, (for so they call those Women that have Husbands). 1676 I. MATHER *War with Indians* 28 A party of English came in a Warlike posture upon some of their Webbs (as they call them) i.e. Women, as they were gathering corn.

† **webbe.** *Obs.* Also 5 web. [ME. *webbe* represents (1) OE. *webba* masc.; (2) OE. *webbe* fem. (only in *freodūwebbe* peace-weaver, woman); OTeut. types **wabjon-*, *-ōn-, f. **wab-*:

*web-: see WEAVE *v.* The word survives in the surnames *Webb, Webbe.*]

1. A male weaver.
c 1100 in Wr. Wülccker 188/10 *Textor*, webba. *a* 1327 *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 188 The webbes ant the fullaris assembliden hern alle. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 362 A Webbe, a Dyere, and a Tapyccer. 1389 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 12 Johanni de Bokkyngne, webbe, ciui Londonie. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C. x.* 204 These eremytes. . Whilom were workmen, webbes and taillours. *c* 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret.*, Gov. Lordsh. 90 Some pat assemblyd yn a tounne, & herberd hem yn a webbe hous, to whom pat nyght a child was born. 1403 *Will of John Oxstret* (Somerset Ho.), Johanni Anketell Webbe de Sarum. .

b. In gen. sing. or plur. (OE. *webban, webbena*), with *light* and *loom*.

1346 *Little Red Bk. Bristol* (1900) II. 3 Si aliquod instrumentum textoris, videlicet Webanlam [sic] de nouo fiat. *Ibid.* 4. 1403 *Will of Ralph Styllle* (Somerset Ho.), Lego ad lumen beate marie vocatum Webben lyst xld. 2. A female weaver, a webster.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B. v.* 215 My wyf was a webbe and wollen cloth made. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 1525 (Trin.) She was þe formast web [Cott. webster] in kynde þat men of þat crafte dud fynde.

web-beam. [Cf. OHG. *weppi-, weppe-, webboum*, mod.G. *webebaum*.] The roller in a loom on which the web is wound as it is woven.
c 1100 in Wr. Wülccker 187/11 *Liciatorium*, lorh, uel web-beam. *Ibid.* 188/4 *Insubula*, webbeamas. 14. *Ibid.* 696/19 *Hoc laciatorium* [sic], a webbeme. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* XVIII. 835/2 From this opening the web passes to the knee-roll or web-beam, round which it is rolled by means of the spokes.

webbed (webd), *ppl. a.* [f. WEB *sb.* + -ED².] 1. Furnished with a web or connecting membrane; *esp.* of the feet of certain birds.

1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* 1. 5 The Common Fly. . her wings look like a Sea-fan with black thick ribs or fibers, dispers'd and branch'd through them, which are webb'd between with a thin membrane or film, like a slice of Muscovy-glasse. 1678 RAY *Willughby's Ornith.* III. III. 322 Such [birds] as have all four toes web'd together. 1773 PENNANT *Genera of Birds* p. xi, The toes of birds that swim are either plain, . . or pinnated, . . or entirely webbed or palmated. 1816 TUCKEY *Narr. Exped. R. Zaïre* II. (1818) 47 Three toes full webbed, the fourth toe . . quite free. 1851 WOODWARD *Mollusca* 71 Arms (except the ventral pair), webbed high up. 1859 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* VI. (1873) 142 What can be plainer than that the webbed feet of ducks and geese are formed for swimming?

b. *Path.* Having a 'web' as a congenital malformation. See WEB *sb.* 8b.

1862 E. J. CHANCE *Bodily Deform.* 1. 86 The Fingers or Toes may be more or less webbed together. 1876 T. BRYANT *Pract. Surg.* (ed. 2) II. 300 Webbed fingers and toes are another common deformity. 1913 DORLAND *Med. Dict.* (ed. 7) s.v. *Penis*, *Webbed penis*, a penis that is inclosed by the skin of the scrotum.

c. *Machinery.* In various uses: see WEB *sb.* 14. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 154 Sheaves . . are made . . of iron, with a brass coak, either open or webbed. 1913 J. B. BISHOP *Panama Gateway* v. III. 365 Each [lock gate] is a huge webbed steel box, the girders of which are covered with a steel sheathing.

2. Covered with, or as with, cobweb. In *Bot.* = COBWEBBED 2.

1810 *Splendid Follies* I. 110 The tender blades of trefoil were still webbed in silvery gossamer. 1862 THORNBURY *Turner* I. 360 There were skies of an orange purple, skies webbed with grey showers. 1870 HOOKER *Stud. Flora* 191 *Carduus crispus* . . involucre webbed. 1905 E. T. THURSTON *Traffic* II. II. Only the gaunt, gray forms of the stunted poplars stood out, webbed, against the leaden colour of the sky.

†webber. *Obs.* Also 5 webbare. [f. WEB *v.* + -ER¹.] A weaver.

c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 312/1 Loom of webbarys crafte (*v.r.* of webstare), *telarium*. *Ibid.* 519/1 Webbare of lynnynne clothe, *linifex*. *c* 1515 *Cocke Loresles B.* (Percy Soc.) 9 Gyrdelers, forborers, and webbbers.

webbing ('webm), *vbl. sb.* [f. WEB *v.* + -ING¹.] 1. The action or process of weaving. ? *Obs.*

c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 519/1 Webbynge, of wullyne clothe, *lanificium*. . . Webbynge, of lynnynne, *lanificium*. 1463-4 *Rolls of Parl't.* V. 501/2 Withoutte dyversite in webbyng, fullyng, knottyng and burling. 1483 *Vulgaria abs Terentio* 3 Wyth woll and webbynge wemen were wont to gete their luyunge. 1558 in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* (1897) XII. 439 Which yerely fee ferme was paid so long as webbyng in the said cite was used. 1562 PHAER *Aeneid* IX. E eij, In webbing wasting tyme to eas thereby myne aged care [*tela curas solabar antlis*]. 1657 J. WATTS *Scribe* etc. Author's Epist. b2, Woman, get you home, and follow your own businesses of spinning and webbing.

2. *concr.* A woven material.

1754 POCOCKE *Trav.* (Camden) II. 15 Welch Webbings. . . a thick sort of flannel, of which the Soldiers' clothing is chiefly made. 1883 *Daily News* 10 Sept. 2/6 In elastic webbinge there is no improvement in the trade for gussets [of boots]. 1884 *Health Exhib. Catal.* 84/1 Webbing made of reed and used in substitution of fir-lathing.

b. Woven material in the form of a strong wide band, used by upholsterers and others. Also *attrib.* in *webbing belt, tape*.

1794 Girth-webbing [see GIRTH-WEB]. 1796 *Repert. Arts & Manuf.* VI. 76 A chain, webbing, strap or line, is applied on the ledge on the face of the wheel. 1833 LOUDON *Encycl. Archit.* §634 A box footstool. . . The top is formed of an outside frame, on which is stretched strong webbing, for the purpose of supporting the stuffing above. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Webbing tape*, a kind of broad tape. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 5 May 5/2 A broad band of Turcoman

webbing of extremely fine texture. 1888 JACOBI *Printers' Vocab.*, *Webbing*, a term for the wider tapes of a printing machine; also applied to the girthing used for running in and out the carriage of hand-presses. 1916 *Blackw. Mag.* Apr. 548/2 Trench coat, rifle, bayonet, webbing belts [etc.].

3. Material for a (spider's) web. ? *nonce-use.* 1883 G. MACDONALD *Princess & Curdie* xxvii, A huge spider, . . which, having made an excellent supper, was full of webbing.

4. = PALMATION 2. Also *Path.*, a webbed state of the fingers or toes.

1872 ERICHSEN *Surg.* (ed. 6) II. 298 Webbing of the Fingers is occasionally met with. 1888 *Med. Press* 18 July 59/2 In the feet. . the webbing is less thick and complete than in the hands, the terminal phalanges being separate from each other. 1894 *Century Mag.* Jan. 353/2 As the palmation, or webbing [of the larger moose's antlers], is not so wide as in the first variety, the points are longer.

webby ('webɪ), *a.* [f. WEB *sb.* + -Y.]

1. Consisting of web; resembling web or a web.

1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 289 The Cæruleous [Spider] causeth a paine of heart, deep sleep and vomiting of a webby matter. 1768-74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 596 They delight to . . entangle the feeble in their webby filaments. 1854 LADY LYTTON *Behind the Scenes* I. I. iv. 124 His gloves were. . . of some webby elastic texture. 1904 E. NESBIT *Phœnix & Carpet* x. 185 The big darn in the middle of the carpet was all open and webby like a fishing-net.

2. Of the digits: Furnished with a web, palmated. Also *fig.* of a person.

1807 CRABBE *Par. Reg.* 1. 381 Bats on their webby wings in darkness move. 1861 G. H. K[INGSLEY] in F. Galton *Vacation Tourists* iv. 165, I am of so fishy and webby a nature, that I take to the water at once. 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 Sept. 2/1 If I have not pointed ears or webby fingers, [etc.].

weber¹ ('veɪbə(r), 'wi:bə(r)). *Electr.* Also †weber. [After the German physicist Wilhelm Weber (1804-91).] a. A name (now disused) for the unit of electrical quantity (now COULOMB) and the unit of electrical current (now AMPÈRE).

1872 *Telegr. Jnrl.* I. 11/1 The current through *a b* will then be equal to one British Association unit of current, or one weber per second. 1874 [see FARAD 2]. 1876 PREECE & SIVEWRIGHT *Telegraphy* 3 The unit quantity of electricity in general use has been called a *weber*. 1879 G. PRESCOTT *Sp. Telephone* 469 In the weber current and the electro-motive force, we have the data for comparing the work of these machines. 1881 *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* 425 The current produced by a Volt acting through an Ohm . . is called a Weber. 1881 S. P. THOMPSON in *Jnrl. Soc. Arts* XXX. 32/2 To tear away a single gramme of hydrogen from the oxygen with which it is combined requires no less than 95,050 webers ('coulombs') to flow through. 1883 J. SWINBURNE *Pract. Electr. Units* 28 The coulomb has taken the place of the weber as unit of quantity, and the ampère is used instead of the weber-per-second as unit of current.

†b. A unit of magnetic pole strength, equal to the pole strength that produces a field of 1 oersted ('gauss') at 1 centimetre. *Obs.*

1882 R. CLAUDIUS in *Phil. Mag.* XIII. 394, I would take leave to propose that for it [sc. the unit of magnetism] the name 'weber' be introduced. 1892 G. F. BARKER *Physics* IV. III. 645 The unit pole just now defined. . . is called a weber and the unit field which it produces at unit distance is called a gauss.

c. The M.K.S. unit of magnetic flux (now incorporated in the International System of Units), equal to 100 million maxwells; one volt-second. Symbol Wb.

1891 *Trans. Amer. Inst. Electr. Engineers* VIII. 542 We can start by defining 10⁸ lines of force as the unit of induction and call it, say, a weber. 1895 *Rep. Brit. Assoc. Adv. Sci.* 196 The Committee . . recommend for tentative adoption the following terminology: — 1. That as a unit for magnetic field, a hundred million 'c.g.s. lines' be called a weber. 1935 *Proc. Nat. Acad. Sci.* XXI. 579 Various International Electrical Congresses. . . and since then, the I.E.C., have adopted, by successive steps, the well-known series of nine practical electromagnetic units (ohm, volt, ampere, farad, coulomb, joule, watt, henry and weber). 1963 G. TROUP *Masers & Lasers* (ed. 2) v. 67 For magnetic dipole transitions, |*p_{m1}*| is of the order of a Bohr magneton (1.2 × 10⁻²⁹ weber metre). 1971 I. G. GASS et al. *Understanding Earth* iv. 71/2 The [magnetic] field varies over the Earth from 7 × 10⁻⁵ to 2.5 × 10⁻⁵ weber metre⁻² (Wb m⁻²).

Weber² ('veɪbə(r)). *Physiol.* [The name of Ernst H. Weber (1795-1878), German physiologist and anatomist.] 1. *Weber's law*: the observation made by Weber that the increase in a stimulus that is just noticeable is a constant proportion (the *Weber fraction* or *ratio*) of the initial stimulus, for any one sense.

1872 [see PSYCHOPHYSICAL *a.*]. 1890 W. JAMES *Princ. Psychol.* I. xiii. 537 So much for a general account of what Fechner calls Weber's law. 1935 *Brit. Jnrl. Psychol.* XXVI. 226 The obvious fact that Weber's Law is disobeyed both for very high and for very low light intensities leads to the clearly apparent result that. . the various greys at either end of Dr. Ostwald's scale are never even approximately equidistant. 1938 STEVENS & DAVIS *Hearing* iv. 149 We are not here concerned with the constancy of the Weber fraction 41/1, which was another of Fechner's assumptions, but only with . . the ability of an added just-noticeable difference to contribute always the same increment to the total subjective effect. 1952 I. J. HIRSH *Measurement of Hearing* vii. 194 We conclude that Weber's Law holds (for white noise) from about 20 to 100 db Sensation Level. 1970 *Jnrl. Gen. Psychol.* LXXXII. 38 The results of the present experiment suggest that the use of contrasting St[andard] and Co[m]parison

vibrotactile stimuli will result in relatively small Weber ratios.

2. *Weber-Fechner law* [FECHNER] = *Weber's law* above; also, the related statement that the strength of a sensation is proportional to the logarithm of the stimulus causing it.

1891 A. D. WALLER *Introd. Human Physiol.* xv. 536 (*heading*) The Weber-Fechner law. 1968 PASSMORE & ROBSON *Compan. Med. Stud.* I. xxiv. 30/2 To increase the loudness by steps that seem equal to the listener the intensity of sound must be multiplied by approximately the same factor for each step (Weber-Fechner relation).

Weberian (wɪ'biəriən), *a.*¹ [f. name of E. H. Weber (see WEBER²) + -IAN.] *Weberian corpuscle* or *organ*, a tubular vesicle in the prostatic portion of the urethra. *Weberian ossicles*, a chain of small bones between the ear and the air-bladder in certain fishes; *Weberian apparatus*, the set of structures, including the ossicles, which connect the air-bladder with the ear.

1849-52 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. II. 1415/2 The Weberian organ or corpuscle. 1889 *Amer. Naturalist* May 427 Hypophthalmus possesses an air-bladder connected with the auditory organ by intervention of a Weberian apparatus, formed of parts of the anterior vertebræ. 1889 *Proc. Roy. Soc.* 20 June 309 The Air-bladder and Weberian Ossicles in the Siluridæ.

Weberian (wɛɪ'biəriən), *a.*² [f. the name of Carl Maria von Weber (1786-1826), German composer + -IAN.] Of, pertaining to, or characteristic of Weber or his music.

1958 *Listener* 28 Aug. 321/3 Many of the typically Weberian passages in dotted notes. 1978 *Gramophone* June 56/2, I hope I have not led you to underestimate the quality of so much of the music—the Weberian horns at the start of No. 1.

Weberian (wɛɪ'biəriən), *a.*³ [f. the name of Max Weber (1864-1920), German sociologist and political economist + -IAN.] Of, pertaining to, or characteristic of Weber, his philosophy, or his writings.

1959 G. D. MITCHELL *Sociol.* 114 The importance of this Weberian analysis is that a system of stratification is seen to depend upon the economic character of society, the way prestige is distributed, and the kind of legal and political institutions it possesses. 1969 P. A. ROBINSON *Freudian Left* 6, I consider the Weberian ideal of a *wertfreien* science misguided. 1975 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 1 Aug. 880/5 This account of the transformation of Wolof war-leaders into bureaucrats, bringing Weberian theory to bear, is a new departure. 1979 L. LERNER *Love & Marriage* vi. 231, I shall use 'sublimation' essentially in its Weberian meaning.

Webernesque (wɛɪbə'nɛsk), *a.* [f. the name of Anton von Webern (1883-1945), Austrian composer + -ESQUE.] Characteristic of the music of Webern. So 'Webernish *a.*', somewhat resembling the music of Webern.

1959 *Listener* 28 May 960/3 The ejaculatory, disjointed, Webernish texture. 1961 *Times* 13 Oct. 18/5 The instrumentation is carried out in characteristically Webernesque fashion. 1976 *Gramophone* Sept. 437/3 The surface is. . . rather Webernesque.

Weber number ('veɪbə(r), 'wɛbə(r)). *Physics.* Also Weber's number. [tr. G. *webersche zahl* (F. Eisner 1932, in Wien & Harms *Handb. d. Experimentalphysik* IV. iv. 225), f. the name of Moritz Weber (1871-1951), German naval engineer, who first formulated it in 1919.] A dimensionless quantity used in the study of surface tension, bubbles, and waves, usu. expressed as $\rho v^2 / \gamma$ or the reciprocal of this, where γ is the surface tension of the fluid, ρ its density, l the characteristic length, and v the velocity of the fluid or of waves in the fluid; also, the square root of either quantity.

1937 O'BRIEN & HICKOX *Appl. Fluid Mech.* v. 149 Generalized Representation of Weir Coefficients. . . The first three terms [in the coefficient of discharge] merely represent the geometrical similarity including the roughness. The other two are Weber's number and Reynolds' number. 1946 H. ROUSE *Elem. Mech. of Fluids* x. 322 The radical form of this ratio $W = V/\sqrt{(\sigma/\rho L)}$ is known as the Weber number. 1977 R. A. DUCKWORTH *Mech. of Fluids* vii. 149 In ship testing, the influence of surface tension forces, for which the Weber number, $(\sigma/\rho V^2 l)$, provides the criterion for dynamic stability, may be ignored because. . . such forces are negligible compared with the viscous and gravitational forces. 1979 A. L. LYDERSEN *Fluid Flow & Heat Transfer* ii. 39 Examples of force ratios are. . . inertia forces/surface forces = $\rho L V^2 / \gamma$ = We = Weber number. 1979 *Sci. Amer.* Aug. 170/3 When the beaker is made to create water sheets in the middle range of Weber numbers, the ridge sends out curved waves.

'web-foot. [See WEB *sb.* 8.]

1. A foot with webbed toes. Also, the condition of being web-footed.

1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. lxxv. 325 *note*, It was common to say a fenman was an amphibious creature; and that their children were born with web-feet. 1777 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* IV. 5 This is among the species taken notice of by Aristotle on account of the broad feet, which, he says, assist them in swimming: as web-feet do the water-fowl. 1884 J. TAIT *Mind in Matter* (1892) 64 If it dive, it will generally have a hull-shaped body, short legs, and web-feet.

2. A bird or other animal having web-feet.
 1895 *Funk's Stand. Dict.* 1911 WEBSTER.
 3. a. A nickname for a dweller in the Fens.
 ? Obs. b. A native of the State of Oregon. So called on account of the moist climate.

1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. lxxv. 325, I would fain rouse up the spirits of some of my brother webfeet. [Note.] This is a contemptuous term given to fenmen. 1845 W. WHITMAN in *Amer. Speech* (1961) XXXVI. 297 Oregonese [are called] Webfoots. 1873 J. H. BEADLE *Undeveloped West* xxxv. 759 Everybody and everything we saw had the unmistakable 'Oregon look'. We were among the 'Web-feet' at last, and a comely race they are. 1875 *Chamb. Jnl.* 13 Mar. 171/2 The inhabitants of Alabama are Lizards; .. Oregon, Hard-cases or Web-feet.

c. An infantryman. *U.S. slang.*

1867 B. W. DUKE *Hist. Morgan's Cavalry* xiv. 400 When the 'webfeet' called us 'buttermilk rangers', we did not get angry with them. 1917 J. MORGAN *Recoll. Rebel Reefer* 210, I was only a poor 'webfoot'.

'web-footed, a. Having web-feet. Also fig. (in quotes. 1945 and 1980, *Mil.*).

1681 *Grew Musæum* i. §iv. iii. 69 Web-footed Fowl or Palmipede's. 1745 P. THOMAS *Voy. S. Seas* 337 Flamingoes. .. The Legs are .. Web-footed like a Goose. 1774 *GOLDSM. Nat. Hist.* III. 191 It [the capibara] is in a manner web-footed. 1818 KEATS *Endym.* iv. 245 Web-footed alligators. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* (1861) II. 137/1 One of these men .. was, it is said, web-footed, naturally, and partially web-fingered. 1910 *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 352/1 Platypus .. is of aquatic habits, being web-footed.

fig. 1945 *Tee Emm* (Air Ministry) V. 49 We feel that the web-footed boys [i.e. Coastal Command] are not the only ones who may fall into the water out East. 1980 *Globe & Laurel* July/Aug. 226/1 The Small Raids Wing of the newly established Amphibious School based at Fort Cumberland and RMB Eastney, which also absorbed former web-footed units like RM Det 385.

Hence 'web-footedness' (*Cent. Dict.* 1891).

webless ('weblɪs), a. rare. [f. WEB sb. + -LESS.] Not furnished with a web.

1848 KINGSLEY *Saint's Trag.* II. v. [iv.], O'er still and webless looms The listless craftsmen through their elf-locks scowled.

Webley ('webli). The proprietary name of various types of revolver and other small arms, etc., originally made by the firm of P. Webley and Son. Also *absol.*

1889 *Field* 4 May 618/1 After an exhaustive trial .. the new Webley revolver .. has been adopted by the English Government. 1897 *Sears, Roebuck Catal.* 586/2, 44 caliber, center fire, Webley cartridge. 1911 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 656/1 In the Webley the bolt is upon the standing breech and grips the extremity of the hinged barrel. 1920 *Trade Marks Jnl.* 24 Mar. 567 Webley .. Small-arms. Webley & Scott, Limited, .. Birmingham; small arms manufacturers. 1923 *Official Gaz.* (U.S. Patent Office) 16 Jan. 502/2 Revolvers, automatic pistols, and other small arms. Webley & Scott Limited, Birmingham, England. 1937 S. SMITH *Good Time was had* by Al 53 A Webley, service pattern, is a useful weapon. 1979 P. COSGRAVE *Three Colonels* vi. 137 Haddad was wearing a heavy Webley ostentatiously on his hip.

webster¹ ('webstə(r)). *Obs. exc. Hist.* Forms: 2 webbestre, 4 web(b)ester, webister, 4-5 webstere, 5 webstar, 6 wybster, 3- webster; *Sc.* 5-6 wobstar, 6-7 wobster, 6- wabster. [OE. *webbestre*, fem. of *webba* weaver, WEBBE: see -STER.] A weaver: a. as the designation of a woman.

c 1100 *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 188/11 *Textrix*, webbestre. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1525 Scho was þe formost webster þat man findes o þat mister. 1375 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 330 Anota Milner, Webster. c 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 795/8 *Hec textrix*, a webster.

b. extended, or applied *spec.*, to a male weaver. 1362 *LANGL. P. Pl. A.* Prol. 99 Wollene websteris [1377 B. Prol. 219 Wollwebsteres, 1393 C. 1. 222 Webbesters] and weueris of lynn. 1379 *Poll-tax W. Riding* in *Yorks. Archaeol. Jnl.* V. 14 Thomas Webster. Webster vjd. *Ibid.* 15 Johannes Clerke .. Webster vjd. 1382 *WYCLIF 1 Sam.* xvii. 7 The shaft of his speer was as the beam of websters. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1587 Wrightes, websters, walkers of clothe. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 519/1 Webstar (or weware), *textor*, *textrix*. 1467 *Ord. Worcester* §17 in *Eng. Gilds* 383 Spynners, websters, dyers, shermen, and other laborers or artificers apperteynyng to the same [i.e. cloth-making]. 1525 in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 1530-1, 219/2 The best and worthiest of the haile craft of the wobstaris within the burgh. 1535 *LYNDESAY Satyre* 4106 Find me ane Wobster that is leill, Or ane Walker that will nocht steill. 1573-80 *Tusser Husb.* (1878) 32 Sell webster thy wull. 1607 *TOPSELL Four-f. Beasts* 626 The wooll of Istria and Liburnia, which if it were not for the spinning in Portugall, and the web-sters Art thereupon, it were no better then haire. a 1733 *Shetland Acts* 16 in *Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.* (1892) XXVI. 199 That the webster's ell be 3 feet 4 inches, or 40 inches long, on which only unscoured cloth is measured. 1792 *BURNS 'Willie Wastle dwelt on Tweed'* i, Willie was a wabster guid, Cou'd stown a clew wi' ony bodie. 1841 *GEN. P. THOMPSON Exerc.* (1842) VI. 12 Is it likely that it is only because the websters and hosiers do not set about it themselves? 1847 H. S. RIDDELL *Poems* 194 The wabsters weary at their looms, Maun still at them be thruming. 1892 *STEVENSON Catriona* xv, Tod was a wabster to his trade.

c. *attrib.*, as *webster beam*, *loom*.

1334-5 *Leicester Borough Rec.* (1901) II. 17 Webstere bem. 1599 *Lanc. & Cheshire Wills* (Chetham Soc.) 152 Webster Lomes.

d. *appositive*.

a 1568 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xlvi. 43 A weid .. Weill wrocht in the lwms with wabster gwmis [see GOME]. 1721 *RAMSAY Elegy on Patie Birnie* xii, A crishy Webster Loun. 1785 *BURNS Holy Fair* ix, An' there, a batch o' wabster lads,

Blackguarding frae Kilmarnock. 1818 *SCOTT Rob Roy* xxvi. A pair wabster body. 1888 *DOUGHTY Arabia Deserta* I. 225 Good webster-wives weave in white borders made of their sheep's wool.

Webster² ('webstə(r)). The name of Noah Webster (1758-1843), the American lexicographer, used *absol.* to designate his Dictionary (first published in 1828), and any of its later revisions and abridgements (now published by G. and C. Merriam Co., Springfield, Mass.).

1843 *Quincy* (Illinois) *Herald* 17 Mar. 4/1 (*heading*) Definitions not found in Webster. 1928 *Amer. Speech* IV. 90 We use Webster (in America) colloquially as synonymous with dictionary. 1950 [see OXFORD 2]. 1978 *Amer. Speech* LIII. 70 Many 'Websters' later, came the controversial dictionary edited by Philip B. Gove and published in 1961 by the G. and C. Merriam Company of Springfield, Massachusetts, to whom Webster's heirs had sold the rights to the dictionary in 1843.

Websterian ('webstəriən), a.¹ [f. the name of Noah Webster (see prec.) + -IAN.] Of, pertaining to, or characteristic of Webster's Dictionary (see prec.) or any of its later versions or abridgements.

1874 B. F. TAYLOR *World on Wheels* 28 Websterian 'probabilities' says that is not the derivation of 'scale' at all. 1897 *Bookman* Nov. 201 We are quite sure that if the English were to adopt the Websterian spelling, Professor Matthews would very, very soon experience a conservative reaction. 1935 A. C. BAUGH *Hist. Eng. Lang.* xi. 442 James Fenimore Cooper .. was pronouncing .. beard as *berd* or *baird* (another Websterian pronunciation). 1962 *New Yorker* 10 Mar. 156/2 Nearly all the books that come off the press .. are edited and printed in accordance with Websterian usage. 1979 *Amer. Speech* LIV. 13 Thus was the battle joined between the traditional grammarians and those who might well be called the Websterian grammarians.

Websterian, a.² [f. the name of the English dramatist John Webster (1580-1625) + -IAN.] Of, pertaining to, or characteristic of Webster or his plays.

1928 *Observer* 12 Feb. 4 With the great Websterian passages there is mingled a great deal of melodramatic fustian. 1940 M. LOWRY *Let.* 27 July (1967) 32 It is 'original' if you fear for past Websterian, not to say Miltonian, minor lacks of ethics on my part. 1950 *Scrutiny* XVII. 152 The other (*The Insatiate Countess*) a rather Websterian account of a promiscuous noblewoman's destruction. 1971 *Guardian* 19 Jan. 8/5 The true Websterian frisson is achieved on an empty stage.

websterite¹ ('webstərait). *Min.* [Named in 1822 after T. Webster, who discovered it: see -ITE.] A synonym of ALUMINITE.

1823 H. J. BROOKE *Crystallogr.* 452. 1837 *DANA Min.* 450. 1855 J. PHILLIPS *Man. Geol.* 386.

websterite² ('webstərait). *Petrogr.* [f. Webster, name of a village in N. Carolina + -ITE¹.] An ultramafic intrusive igneous rock composed essentially of orthorhombic and monoclinic pyroxenes.

1890 G. H. WILLIAMS in *Amer. Geologist* VI. 44 The specimens obtained by Mr. Merrill from Webster are such admirable representatives of the bronzite-diopside rocks that the name Websterite is suggested. .. for them; and there seems to be no impropriety in extending this term over all the massive intrusives which are composed entirely of monoclinic and orthorhombic pyroxene. 1978 S. R. NOCKOLDS in S. R. Nockolds et al. *Petrol. for Students* xiii. 148 Pyroxenite with both ortho- and clino-pyroxene ('websterite') is the commonest variety, found both in connection with some great layered igneous bodies .. and in small intrusions.

†'webstery. *Obs. rare.* [f. WEBSTER¹ + -Y.] Goods made by a webster; woven materials.

1588 *PARKE tr. Mendoza's Hist. China* 7 They do sell none of their silkes there by the yard, neither any other kinde of websterie, .. but by the waight. *Ibid.* 368 There is also great store of flaxe, cotton, and other kinde of webstrie.

†wecche, v. *Obs.* Forms: 1 weccan, 3 wecche, 4 wechche. *Pa. t.* 3 wæht(e), wehte, 3-4 weijt(t)e, 4 wight. [OE. *weccan* = OHG. *wecchen* (mod.G. *wecken*), ON. *vekja*, Goth. (*us-*) *wakjan*, f. root *wak-: see WAKE v.]

1. *trans.* To rouse from sleep. (Cf. AWECCHE v. 1.)

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past.* C. lxiv. 461 Se kok .. ærðæmfe he crawn wille, hefð up his fōru, & wecð hine selfne. a 900 *Crist* 889 (Gr.) Englas ælbeorhte on efen blawað byman on brehtme, .. weccað of deaðe dryhtgumena bearn. c 1205 *LAY.* 798 Ohtliche heom slæð on & wecche heom of slepa. c 1300 *St. Brandan* 446 That hi ne weijte noȝt the [sleeping] fishes, leste hi here schip breke. 13 .. *K. Alis.* 2925 We wore aslepe, Darie us wight. 13 .. *Seayn Sag.* (W.) 1628 Thous [he] the king bigan to wechche, And saide, 'Sire, vp! vp! hit is dai!'

2. To stir up, excite (e.g. wind, fire, passion, strife). (Cf. AWECCHE v. 2.)

Beowulf 2046 Onginneð geomorod geongum compan .. wigbealu weccan. c 900 *Bæda's Hist.* iv. iii. (1890) 268 Forþon Drihten lyfte ontyneð, windas wecð. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 137 Ne beo þu noht .. wilful to weccen lust þar to. *Ibid.* 161 [The devil] weccheð among hem flite and win. c 1205 *LAY.* 16216 þe wind wæht [c 1275 wehte] þat fur þæt hit wunderliche born.

wech(e, obs. ff. WATCH, WHICH, WITCH, WYCH.

wechesafe, obs. form of VOUCHSAFE.

Wechsler ('wekslə(r)). *Psychol.* The name of David Wechsler (b. 1896), American psychologist, used *attrib.* or as *adj.* in connection with various intelligence tests devised by him (and in use since 1939), esp. the *Wechsler-Bellevue Intelligence Scale*, the *Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children* (WISC), and the *Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale* (WAIS). Also *absol.*

1942 *Amer. Jnl. Psychol.* LV. 608 The Wechsler-Bellevue Intelligence Scale, an individual scale adapted to ages 10-60 and consisting of 5 verbal and 5 performance-tests, with vocabulary-test as alternate. 1954 A. ANASTASI *Psychol. Testing* xii. 306 Two scales for measuring 'general intelligence', namely, the Wechsler-Bellevue Intelligence Scale and the Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children. *Ibid.* One of the primary objectives of the Wechsler-Bellevue is to provide an intelligence test suitable for adults. 1961 *New Scientist* 16 Mar. 665/3 Special psychological tests, including the well-known Wechsler Memory Scale, were employed to assess memory. 1970 *Jnl. Gen. Psychol.* July 69 The tasks of the Wechsler .. are not composed of stimuli all of the same degree of structuredness either. 1981 D. STATT *Dict. Human Behav.* 129 *Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale*, one of the most widely used intelligence tests for adults, combining performance and verbal ability testing.

wecht, wechty, Sc. ff. WEIGHT, WEIGHTY.

weck, obs. form of WEAK a., WICK.

weckid, -it, obs. forms of WICKED.

wed (wəd), sb. *Obs. exc. dial.* Also 1, 4 wedd, 3-6 wedde, (5 wede, weed); 5-9 *Sc.* wad, (5 vad), 9 *Sc.* and *dial.* wadd; 7 wade. [Com. Teut.: OE. *wed(d)* neut. = OFris. *wed* neut., pledge, covenant, OS. *weddi* neut., pledge (MLG. *wedde* pledge, wager, etc.), (M)Du. *wedde* fem., wages, OHG. *wetti* neut. (MHG. *wette*, *wet* neut., fem., pledge, wager, etc., mod.G. *wette* fem., wager), ON. *veð* neut., pledge (MSw. *väp* neut., pledge, wager, Sw. *väd* neut., wager), Goth. *wadi* neut., earnest-money, pledge:—OTEut. **wadjo-m*, cogn. w. L. *vadem* (*vas*) masc., surety (whence *vadimōnium* bail), Lith. *vadiuoti* to redeem a pledge. The OTeut. word was adopted in the Rom. langs.: see GAGE sb.¹, WAGE sb.]

1. A pledge, something deposited as security for a payment or the fulfilment of an obligation; sometimes of a person, a hostage.

a 1122 *O.E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1016, & heora freondscipe þær gefæstnodon, ge mid wedde ge mid aþe. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 394 Ne telleð me him god feolawe pet leið his wed ine Giwerie uorto acwiten ut his fere? a 1300 *Cursor M.* 6798 If þat pou. O þur man tas wedd o clath Yeil[d] again þat clath. Ar sun ga dun þat ilk dai. a 1310 in *Wright Lyric P.* xxxix. 110 He hath hewe sum wher a burthen of brere, therefore sum hay-ward hath taken ys wed. 1377 *LANGL. P. Pl. B.* v. 244, I lerned amonge Lumbardes and Iewes a lessoun .. to legge a wedde and lese it. 1382 *WYCLIF Ezek.* xviii. 7 He shal geelde the wed [Vulg. *pignus*] to the dettour. c 1389 *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 91 And qwo-so come after prime be smeten, he shal pay jd, or leye a wed. 1436 *E.E. Wills* (1882) 107 Item I wolle that the prioresse & the house of Chesthant haue freely theire Weddys ayeen withouten any mony payenge. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 519/1 Wedde, or thyng leyed yn plegge, *vadium*, *pignus*. c 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 155 And he nother his heires shold never take wedde of the forsaide Anneys or of her assignes. 1458 *Forman's Monumt. Christ's Hosp.*, Abingdon 70 For now is Culham hithe i com to an ende, .. Few folke there were coude that wey wende, But they waged a wed or payed of her purse. a 1500 in *Arnolde's Chron.* (1811) 18 Yf any man of our landis .. take any tolle or custome of the citezens of London other wyse than they shuld the Shereifs of London shall take wed of hem at London. 1560 *ROLLAND Seven Sages* Prol. iii, My buke to borrow greitlike scho did Inquyre, Ane wed thairfoir scho said scho wald down lay. 1609 *SKENE Reg. Maj.* 49 Some things are borrowed and lent, be giving and receiving of ane wad. *Ibid.*, *Stat. Alex. II.* 18 And gif he may not giue wades .. he sall remaine as wade: aye and quhill he enter the pledges, quhillkis he promised. 1776 *Herd's Sc. Songs* II. *Gloss.*, *Wad* or *wed*, pledge, wager, pawn. 1818 *SCOTT Rob Roy* xxiv, I thought the chield Morris looked devilish queer when I determined he should remain a wad, or hostage, for my safe back-coming.

b. *fig.*, or in reference to staking one's life (cf. 2 c, 4).

1340 *Ayenb.* 102 þis adopcion is ase weddes ase zayp saynte paul huerby we byþ zikere þet we ssolle habbe þe eritage of oure uader. [Cf. *Vulgate pignus*, Eph. i. 14.] 1362 *LANGL. P. Pl. A.* iii. 195 Hedde I be Marchal of his Men .. I durste haue I-leid my lyf, and no lasse wed, He hedde beo lord of þat lond. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xviii. (*Epigiane*) 624 For oure sawete one quhilk [tree] vas he put, & his blud schede, & for ws put nane vthir wed. 1399 *LANGL. Rich. Redeles* III. 309 And ho so grucche or grone, aþeins her grette wylis, May lese her lyff lyghtly, and no lesse weddis. c 1400 *Beryn* 2984 No les wed pen lyvis! c 1530 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 59 He that lawith at a mynstrels worde, gevith to hym a wedde.

†c. A nuptial pledge or promise. *Obs.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xli. (*Agnes*) 400 Here-of in vynesynng remanis ay þe forsað ryng one þe fyngire of þat ymag of vad of weding in-to vag. 1390 *GOWER Conf.* I. 94 Bot ferst, er thou be sped, Thou schalt me leve such a wedd,

That I wol have thi trowthe in honde That thou schalt be myn housebonde.
†2. In various phrases the sb. assumes the contextual sense: The condition of being pawned, mortgaged, given up as a hostage, etc. (Cf. PLEDGE sb. 6.) *Obs.*

a. *to, in wed*: as a pledge or hostage. *in wed of*: as security for (a payment, etc.).
For *dead wed* (= MORTGAGE) see DEAD a.

Beowulf 2998 Ond þa lofore forgeaf angan dohtar, hamweorðunge, hyldo to wedde. c1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2198 Dis symeon bi-lef ðor in bond, To wedde under Iosepes hond. c1440 *Gesta Rom.* xxiv. 88 But if þou pay now, I shal holde thi wif to wed, tyll tyme þat I be paid fully my salary. 1460 *Extracts Aberd. Reg.* (1844) l. 405 That na induellande of this burgh... tak in wedd any gudis that Wat Cutlaris wif bryngis for any penyworthis oytir than dry siluer. 1488 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* l. 98 [13l. 10s.] quhilk he had gevin away at the Kingis command, and had the Thesauraris signet in wed tharof. 1530 *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1871) II. 28 Item, that na maner of parsonis man nor woman tak any claith in wedd fra vtheris. 1561 *Burgh Rec. Stirling* (1887) 79 Ane chenye of gold... quhilk the Lady Caterene... deliverit him in wed of the sowme of ane hundredth and twenty merkis. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) l. 333 The Scotis sulde gyue Cumbirland, in wedd of payment of the hail soume.

†b. *to set, put, lay to or in wed, to betake on wed*: to pawn, pledge (valuables), to deposit (money) as security; to mortgage (land); to give up (a person) as a hostage. *to take out of wed*: to redeem (something pledged). *Obs.*

?a900 *Ælfred's Dooms* xxxvi, ƿif mon... hrægl... to wedde selle. c1205 LAY. 25172 Mi lond ich wulle sette to wedde for seolure. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 8083 He...leide willam is broþer to wedde normandye & borowede þer uppe of him an hundred þousand marc. 1382 WYCLIF *Amos* ii. 8 And on clothis leyde to wedde the eeten bysidis eche ather. 1387 TREVISIA *Higden* V. 31 Hym was levere legge to wedde [L. *distrahere*] his vessel of silver and of gold...þan greve provinces and londes and þe senatoures. c1412 HOCCLIVE *De Reg. Princ.* 4904 And yf he stire you and meeve Your jewells leif in wedde, certain he Lovethe your estate and prosperitee. 1430 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 38/2 Wyt yhe me in my strenyeand myster til haf put in wede til my lowyt... frend Andro Osteler... al the landis of [etc.]. 1450 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 205/2 His plate and other goodes sold, and in wed layed. c1450 *Merchant & Son* 162 in Hazl. *E.P.P.* l. 143 Fadur, y schall do my parte to helpe yow owte of payne, Yf y schulde leye my selfe to wedd, or that ye come ageyne. 1462 in *Spalding Club Misc.* V. 22 His tua sponys...at wer laid in wede to the said Thome. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 412/1 To take owte of Wedde, *depignerare*. c1500 *Lyt. Geste Robyn Hode* 212 My londes bethe sette to wedde...To a ryche abbot...Of saynt Mary abbay. 1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* (1821) l. p. lviii, He that sald his swerd, or laid it to wed, was degradit of auctorite, and banist, as unworthy creature, out of their company. 1567 in *6th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* 643/2 Layd in wed to Maister Robert Rychartson...in pledge of fywe thousand pundis thir jowellis after following. 1573 in *Inventaires de la Roynne Descosse* (Bannatyne Club) Pref. p. cliii, All that was lefte of the juelles unlayde to wed. 1597 J. S. *Cert. MS. Poems, Way to Thrift* F6, And lay to wed both pot and panne When the fire clean is blowne out. 17... *Druken Wife o' Galloua* v. in *Herd Sc. Songs* (1776) II. 39 My Sunday's coat she has laid it a wed.

†c. *fig.* Often, *to lay one's life, head, to wed*, used to confirm or guarantee an assertion or an undertaking (cf. 4). *Obs.*

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 131 þæs Halġan Gastes, se wæs of heofenum onsended...to wedde þæs heofonlican eþles. a1300 *Cursor M.* 16670 þare he gaf his suete flesche for ur ranscum in wedd. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1725) 246 Sir Adam of Stretton fulle hard was he led, Nouht without encheson, I lay my gloue to wed. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xviii. 31 Lyf seyth þat he likh and leyth his lif to wedde, þat [etc.]. c1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 423 Herby þei myght þat mennis synnes, and laye hor soules in wedde, þat oper mennis soules shulde be saved. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* l. 95 And thus his trowthe he leith to wedde. c1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xv. 167 Thei...profreden here hedes to wedde, but 3if it wolde falle as they seyden. c1400 *Gosp. Nicodemus* (Galba) 100 þaire carping þare no thing þou knew, We lay oure heuiddes in wed. 1430-40 LYDG. *Bochas* viii. xxiv. (1554) 194b, The sword of Arthur he durst not abide, Lest he should lay his lyfe to wed. c1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxviii. 56, I dar lay my heede to wed, Or that we go vntill oure bed That we shall here anothere. c1470 HENRY *Wallace* iv. 633 3it felle Sothron left the lyff to wed. *Ibid.* ix. 1209 My hed to wed, Lochlewyn he past to se. a1500 in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 247 A leche hath layd hys hed to wed To make a plaster that wolde me please. c1530 *Hickscorner* Cj, I warraunt you she wyil neuer saye you naye My lyfe I dare laye to wedde.

†d. *to lie or be to or in wed*: to be in pawn. *lit.* and *fig.* *Obs.*

c1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 360 Lat hym be war, his nekke lith to wedde. 1464 *Paston Lett.* II. 146 For in London lyth to wedde many ryche jowells of ouris. 1497 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* l. 345 Item...giffin to the Prothonotar, to quit out the Duke of Yorkis broune hors that lay in wed in the toune, xiiiij lib. c1518 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 2168 He may ryne sa pycher, for his plate is to wed. 1556-7 *Rec. Inverness* (New Spalding Club) l. 5 The forsaid pece of land wes lyand to hyme in wed of ten pundis.

†3. Something taken or left that serves as evidence. *Obs.*

a1300 *Cursor M.* 4402 Bot for mi cri ful suith he [Joseph] fled And left wit me a taken wedd [Gött. a token in wedd]; His mantel es bi-left wit me, þat ilk man pee sothe mai see. *Ibid.* 7706 Fra þe kings aun bedd þus he [sc. David] broght a priue wedd.

4. A stake in a game or wager. Also *fig.* † *to lay wed*: to wager (cf. 2 c).

c1320 *Sir. Tristr.* 320 Now bope her wedde lys, And play þai biginne. c1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* i. (*Petrus*) 488 Lat Symone one fer stand fra þe bede, And 3e sal se, I lay wede,

þe fendis craft sone onhyde. 1540 *St. Papers Hen. VIII* (1836) V. 178 He harde the Kyng say...that He trestyd to gett that proffett that never Kyng of Scottes had, and He shulde other have yt, or yt shulde coste Hym the best wed He had to leysse. 1665 BRATHWAIT *Comm. Two Tales* 166 It is a dear wade, when your Life lies upon last Stake. 1670 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 3), *Wed*, a gage or pawn; a word still retained in the Country sport, called *Pray my Lord a course in your park.* 1721 J. KELLY *Sc. Prov.* 19 A Wad is a Fool's Argument. Spoken when, after hot disputing, we offer to lay a Wager that we are in the Right. 1802 SIBBALD *Chron. Sc. P.* IV. Gloss., *Wadds*, a youthful amusement, wherein much use is made of pledges. 1808 JAMIESON, *Wadds*... In this game, the players being equally divided...each lays down one or more *wads* or pledges at that extremity where the party, to which he belongs, chuse their station. A boundary being fixed at an equal distance from the extremities, the object is to carry off the *wads* from the one of these to the other.

†5. A gage of battle. *Obs.*
c1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 8404 Tak 3e non hede of þeyr grete host, for wel 3e wot þei ar bot bost, . . . for þem our wed schal nought be leued. c1435 in *Kingsford Chron. London* (1905) 54 'This shull I preve with my body, and se here my wedde': and threwe forth his hode.

†6. *Comb.* (all *Obs.*): *wed-bed*, the marriage bed; *wedbedrip Law*, some kind of BEDRIP (the force of *wed-* is uncertain); *wed-breach*, breach of covenant (*OE.*), adultery; *wed-break* [as if *OE. *wedbreca*], an adulterer; *wed-brother* [cf. *ON. vedbróðir*], a sworn brother; *wed-fee*, a wager, the prize in a contest; *wed-ferre*, a spouse; *wed-keeper*, a stakeholder; *wedman*, a married man; *pl.* married people; *wed-shooting* (*Sc. wad-*), shooting for a prize; *wed-spite nonce-wd.* = SPITE-WED.

In the later instances referring to marriage prob. directly associated with WED v.

a1650 *Old Robin* 9 in *Percy Fol. MS.* l. 235 They had not in their *wed bed laid, scarcely were both on sleepe, but vpp shee rose. 1798 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* V. 367 Those priests the wed-bed who renounce. c1325 in *Kennett Par. Antiq.* (1818) l. 575 Et debet unam *Wedbedrip pro voluntate domine. c1020 WULFSTAN *Hom.* xxxiii. (1883) 164 Eac syndan wide...þurh abbrycas and ðurh *wed-brycas and ðurh mistlice leasunga forelorn and forlogen. 1638 W. LISLE *Heliodorus* II. 29 This crime of wed-breach. a1300 *E.E. Psalter* xlix. 18 If...with *wedbrek [Vulg. *cum adulteris*] þi dele þou sete. c1100 *O.E. Chron.* (MS. D) an. 1016, Coman begen þa cýnngas to gædre... & wurdon feolagan & *wed broðra. c1205 LAY. 14469 Send after mine sune Octa & æfter...Ebissa his wed-broðer. c1300 K. Horn (Laud MS.) 295 He tok wit him anoper þat was hornes wed broþer. c1330 *Floric & Bl.* (Abbotsf. Club) 163 We beth wed brethren and trewthe iplight. c1400 *Brut* (1906) 120 O þow false traitoure! haste þow my trewe wed-broþer slayn for cause of me? c1420 *Avow. Arth.* x, Butte carpe we now of ther othir thre, How thay preuyd hor *wedde-fee. 1504-5 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* III. 128 Item, to Dande Doule, that the King tynt on ane wedfee, xiiij s. a1600 MONTGOMERIE *Devot. Poems* iii. 7 Sleep na mair in sleuth and sin, Bot...richtly rin That hevily wedfie for to win Vhilk he prepairs for his. 1620 in A. Maxwell *Hist. Old Dundee* (1884) 408 [He] put in the hands of Thomas Scot...two double-angels of gold upon ane woodfie betwix himself and Alexander Hering. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Let. to Alex. Gordon* 16 June, It is folly then for men to say, this is not Christ's plea, he will lose the wed-fee, men are like to beguile him: that were indeed a strange play. 13... *Sir Beues* (A) 3168, I trowe, he is nouȝt now here, þat schel be me *wedde-ferre! 1591 R. BRUCE *Serm. Edin.* C4b, For as to this conscience, it is a faithfull *wed-keeper: the gages that it receiveth, it renderis. c1460 *Towneley Myst.* iii. 400 Me thynk my hert ryfis...To se sich stryfis *wedmen emong. *Ibid.* xiii. 65 We sely wedmen dre mekyll wo. c1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 806/22 *Hic sponsus*, a wedman. 1792 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* II. 509 Many amuse themselves...with shooting for prizes, called here *wad-shooting. c1560 SIR T. SMITH in *Strype Life* (1698) App. 24 You may well be called Mr. Agamus or Misogamus, Surnamed in right English, *Wedspite, or Spitedwed. For I never heard Man speak so despitefully against Wedding and Marriage of the Queens Majesty in my Life.

wed (wed), *v.* Inflected wedded (also wed), wedding. Forms: 1 weddian, 2-3 weddenn, 3-4 wedden, weddi-, y, 3-5 wedd, 4 weed, 5 weede, wid, weddon), 3-6 wedde, 8-9 *Sc. wad*, 4- wed. [Com. Teut.: *OE. weddian* corresponds to *OFris. weddia*, *MLG. wedden*, *OHG. wettôn* (MHG., mod.G. *wetten*), to pledge, wager, *ON. veðja* to pledge, Goth. *ga-wadjōn* to espouse (*ἀμύλοεσθαι*):—*OTeut. *wadjōjan*, f. **wadjō-m* WED sb.]

The form *wed* in the pa. t. is now only dialectal; in the pa. pple. it is common *dial.* but otherwise rare exc. in poetry.]

†1. *intr.* To engage, covenant (to do something). Only *OE.* (Const. *genitive* or to with gerundial inf.)

a1000 *Laws Æthelstan* §23 (Liebermann) ƿif hwa ordales weddige, ðonne cume he [etc.]. c1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Luke xxii. 5 And hig...him weddedon feoh to sylenne.

2. *trans.* To wager, stake (e.g. money, one's life, one's head). *Obs.* exc. *Sc.* and *north.*

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. iv. 129 And 3if þou worchest hit in wit Ich wedde bope myn Eres, þat lawe schal ben a laborer. 1393 *Ibid.* C. iii. 36 My lyf ich dar wedde, He shal lese for hure loue a lappe of trewe charite. c1430 *Chev. Assigne* 27 & þat dare I my hedde wedde. 1560 *Peebles Burgh Rec.* (1872) 262 Stene Robesone weddit ten merkis of money aganes the said tar barrel that scho suld nocht mary the said king of Swane. c1600 MONTGOMERIE *Sonn.* xlv. 8 Shute on; lat sie who first my wedfie wins; For I will wed ane apple and a nute. 1786 BURNS *Earnest Cry & Prayer* xv, Or faith! I'll wad my new pleugh-pettle, Ye'll see't or lang. 1818 SCOTT

Hrt. Midl. xxxvi, I'll wad ye a plack, as we say in the north, that you get the pardon from the king. 1843 in T. Doubleday *Coquet-Dale Fishing Songs* (1852) 110 I'se wad a pund, when night comes round, That, creel for creel, we bang them a'! 1876 *Whitby Gloss.*, *Wad*, to pledge; to bet. 1894 A. REID *Sangs o' the Heatherland* 54 I'll wad that sune our neebors' heids Will doors and windocks thrang.

3. To marry. (Common in dialects; otherwise only *literary.*) a. *trans.* Originally, to make (a woman) one's wife by the giving of a pledge or earnest. More fully, † *to wed* (a woman) *to wife*, *to or unto his wife*. Hence, of a person of either sex: To take in marriage; to become the husband or wife of (a person) by participating in a prescribed ceremony or formal act.

a1000 *Laws Edmund, Be wifmannes beweddunge* §1 (Liebermann) ƿif man mædan oððe wif weddian wille, & hit swa hire & freondan gelicige, [etc.]. *Ibid.* §6 ƿif hy þonne ælces þinges sammæle beon, ðonne fon magas to & weddian heora magan to wife. c1205 LAY. 22243 þis maiden he gon wedde and nom heo to his bedde. c1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1090 Two ðor werren quam him ðoȝte ear To wedden his two doȝtres ðear; Loth hem warnede. c1275 LAY. 4500 A king of Britayne hadde hire i-wedded [c1205 biwedded]. 13... *E.E. Allit. P.* A 772 Quat-kyn þyng may be þat lambe, þat þe wolde wedde vnto hys vyf? c1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1422 Wolde he be my worldly make & weddy me to wyue. *Ibid.* 2012, & she hym wedede after þan þat was hure fader for. c1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xv. 70 þe lady had mykill sorow þat scho had wedded him. c1475 *Rauf Coilyear* 925 Wed ane worthe to wyfe. 1485 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 48 My lord Schanchler publyshed in the Parliament house the same day, that the Kings gud grace shall weede my lady Elizabeth. a1533 BERNERS *Huon* lxii. 216, I wyll wed her to my wyfe. 1548-9 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Matrimony* 14 With thys ring I thee wed. 1552 HULOET, *Wedde, denubo*, for the woman; *desponso*, for the man. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* iii. ii. 118 If you loue her, then to morrow wed her. a1663 KILLIGREW *Parson's Wedd.* iv. i. (1664) 124 *Pars.* If she be my wife Sir? I have wedded her and Bedded her, what other Ceremonies would you have? 1794 BURNS *Weary Fund o' Tow* iv, And 'or I wad anither jad, I'll wallop in a tow. 1816 J. WILSON *City of Plague* i. iv. 248 The husband, now no longer tied May wed a new and blushing bride. 1856 AYTON *Bothwell* i. xxiv, I wed A trembling, sickly, shrewish dame, And put her from my bed. 1873 BLACK *Pr. Thule* ix. 133 To think that your aunt would forbid your wedding a King's daughter!

fig. c1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 339 Cristis Chirche is his Spouse... And fer be it fro Cristene men to graunte þat Crist haþ weddid þe fend. c1450 *Godstow Reg.* 15 O true valeyntyne is oure lord to me... With his blade, Seynt dauid! he did me wedde. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II.* v. i. 94 Come, come, in wooing Sorrow let's be brieve, Since wedding it, there is such length in Griefe. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* v. 216 They led the Vine To wed her Elm. 1670 DRYDEN *2nd Pt. Conq. Granada* III. (1672) 113 In gaining him, I gain that Fortune too Which he has Wedded, and which I but Wooe. 1781 COWPER *Retirem.* 229 As woodbine weds the plant within her reach.

†b. *Phrase.* *to wed (a) wife*: to get married.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6798 Me sedde þe king þat he moste nede wede wif. a1300 *Cursor M.* 3216 Abraham wald in his lijf þat ysaac had wedded a wijf. c1325 *Lai le Freine* 248 Than was ther...A riche knight...yong, and jolieu; And had nought yete y-wedded wiue. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. x. 149 He hath wedded a wyf with-inne this syx monethes. 1460 CAPGRAVE *Chron.* (Rolls) 139 The fader of Gefrey Plantagenet wedded a wyf only for beute. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 124b, To one demaundayng when best season wer to wedde a wife.

4. To bind (the contracting parties) in wedlock; to conduct the marriage ceremony for (a man and woman); also *absol.*

1... *Rule of Chrodegang* (Napier) 81 Brydguman & bryde mid gebedum & mid ofringum mæssepreost sceal bletsian & weddian hi & betæcan hi be lagum. c1440 *Jacob's Well* 21 We schewyn acursyd...alle preestys þat...weddyn ony opere but here owyn parysschenys wyth-oute leve, or weddyn wythoute þe banys askyd. c1450 *Godstow Reg.* 1 Alle men of religion þat howselith, or weddith, or anelith any man or woman, with-out leve. c1450 *Contin. Brut* 425 The Erchebisshop of Caunturburi...weddid hem togederis there by ordynauce of God and holy chirche. c1533 BERNERS *Huon* lxii. 214 How Huon...went to Rome to the pope, who weddyd togyther Huon and the fayr Esclaramonde. 1546 *Yorks. Chantry Surv.* (Surtees) 228 The sayd incumbent shuld...burye, wedde, and christen wythin the sayd chappell. 1876 MISS BROUGHTON *Joan* i. xxxii, The *Helmsley Courier* devotes three columns to the describing of...how they were clad, who wed them, [etc.].

b. To give (a woman) in marriage; to cause to be married.

c1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* v. 863 And whi here fader tarieth so longe To wedden here vn-to som worthi wight. c1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* vi. (*Thomas*) 47 þe kinge of þat cunctre of nev his douchtir vedit had. 1843 J. S. KNOWLES *Secretary* II. i. 21 My father cannot wed me 'gainst my will.

5. *pass.* To be joined in wedlock; to be married † *with, unto, to* (a husband or wife); also, to be joined together as husband and wife.

c1200 ORMIN 1942 & 3uw birrþ witenn þatt 3ho wass Weddedd purrh Godess wille Wipp an weppmann off hire kinn. *Ibid.* 1990 & forrpi wass 3ho till Josap Wipp Godess lazhe weddedd. a1225 *Ancr.* R. 394 Auh pauh heo were iwedded him heo muhte i-wurðen so unwest, [etc.]. c1300 *Havelok* 1127 To-mo[r]we ye sholen ben weddeth, And, maugre þin, to-gidere beddeth. 138. WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. l. 334 She lyvede sevene 3eer wiþ hir hosebonde þat was weddid wiþ hir fro her maidenhod. a1450 *Knt. de la Tour* xlvii-xlix. 66 After the knight was wedded to another wif, and he and the seounde wif leued togedre. v. yere. 1529 FRITH *Antithesis* 96b, The Pope sayeth...y prestes also shall not be wedded. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* i. i. 37 In Siracusa was I borne, and wedde Vnto a woman, happy but for me. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* 231 Cecilie...was wedded to Thomas Greie. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* ix. 828 And Adam, wedded to another Eve, Shall live with her enjoying,

I extinct. **1673** J. W[ADE] *Vinegar & Mustard* (1873) 21 Before that ever we were wed. **1819** SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xxiv, When I returned. . . I found her wedded to a Gascon squire. **1874** GREEN *Short Hist.* iv. §1. 162 Eleanor the daughter of Simon of Montfort. . . was wedded to him [Llewelyn] at the English court.

fig. **c1374** CHAUCER *Anel. & Arc.* 131 Hir hart was to him weddid with a Ringe. **a1400** *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* xl. 253 Ihesu, my soule is weddet to þe.

6. intr. (false refl.). To enter into the matrimonial state; to take a wife or husband; to contract matrimony. Const. †to, with.

a1225 *Ancr. R.* 368 Nolde him liken betere þen þauh me seide him þet heo gleowede & gomede, & wedde mid oðer men, & luede in delices! **c1393** CHAUCER *Marriage* 18 Bet ys to wedde than brenne in worse wise. **1483** CAXTON *Golden Leg.* 170/1 Aurelyan. . . came to domycelle for to wedde and accomplissh the maryage by force ageynst hir wyll. **1530** PALSGR. 778/2 There be seasons forbydden to wedde in. **1562** J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 132 Who wedth ere he be wise, shall die ere he thriue. **1592** KYD *Murther. I. Brewen Wks.* (1901) 292 'But if I were so minded' (quoth he), 'I would be twice aduised how I did wed with such a strumpet as thy selfe'. **1596** SHAKS. *Tam. Shrew* III. ii. 17 Hee'll wooe a thousand, . . . Yet neuer meanes to wed where he hath woo'd. **1619** J. DYKE *Counterpoysen* (1620) 21 And yet how many sticke not to wed to Canaanites! **1721** *Lett. fr. Mist's Jnrl.* (1722) II. 248 A Country Fellow had the Misfortune to wed with one of the Godly. **1781** COWPER *Table-T.* 554 As if the poet, purposing to wed, Should carve himself a wife in gingerbread. **1807** CRABBE *Par. Reg.* i. 434 Yet. . . there were times of joy, (The day they wed, the christening of the boy). **a1834** COLERIDGE in *Lit. Rem.* (1839) IV. 59 Alas! alas! this is the misery of it, that so many wed and so few are Christianly married! **1859** TENNYSON *Marr. Geraint* 227 And may you. . . live to wed with her whom first you love. **1884** H. SPENCER in *Contemp. Rev.* Feb. 155 Dissenters. . . were made free to wed by a purely civil rite.

fig. **a1225** *Leg. Kath.* 1517 He hæuð iweddett him to mi meidhād mit te ring of rihte bileauē. **1621** HEYLIN *Microcosmus* 243 [The Thames] flieth through Berks, Buck; Middlesex, Surrey, Kent, and Essex; and so weddeth himself with the Kentish Medway.

7. trans. To unite as in marriage. **a.** To attach (a person, his thoughts, etc.) indissolubly by affection to something. Chiefly in *passive*, to be obstinately attached to (an opinion, one's own will, a habit, a faction, etc.). Also (rarely) *refl.*, to addict or devote oneself to a party.

c1397 CHAUCER *Lack Steff.* 28 (MS. Cotton) O prince. . . Drede god. . . And wed thil folk ayen to stedfastnesse. **1421** 26 *Pol. Poems* xviii. 6 Swete poujt in deuocion, Is weddid to chastite. **1542** UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 279 b, This Pompeius. . . wedded hymself wholly to the faction of Sylla. **a1548** HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 181 b, The kyng perceived & knewe well, that the quene was wedded to her awne opinion. **1562** J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* l. ij b, I was wedded vnto my wyll. **1575** FLEMING *Virg. Bucol.* To Indifferent Rdr., The Bucolikes of Virgil. . . I haue translated into the Englishe tongue, wedding my selfe (as it were) to y^e vulgar and common phrase of speach. **1614** RALEGH *Hist. World* III. i. §5. 9 It highly commends his diligence and iudgement, that he was not so wedded to any author, as affected with the loue of truth. **1669** STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* vii. xxxi. 47 They are so wedded to superstition, that some adore the Devil. **1703** R. NEVE *City & C. Purchaser* 45 Nations. . . are very apt to be wedded to their own Ways and Methods. **1707** *Curios. in Husb. & Gard.* 20 The frivolous Cares that wed you to the Town. **1712** ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* iv. vi, Your Honour has it in your power to wed me still closer to your interest! **c1750** SHENSTONE *Love & Hon.* 88 The love That weds each bosom to its native soil. **1800** CAMPBELL *On leaving a Scene in Bavaria* xvii, Then wedd thee to an exile's lot. **1866** TROLLOPE *Claverings* iii, He was not wedded to the joys of his college hall, or the college common room. **1887** COLVIN *Keats* ii. 34 Ready to entertain. . . any set of ideas. . . he could never wedd himself to any as representing ultimate truth. **1889** MRS. E. KENNARD *Landing a Prize* viii, You have been wedded to your comforts all your life. **1913** WOODROW WILSON *New Freedom* vi. 119 There are those, of course, who are wedded to the old ways.

†**b.** To unite by liking or custom *with.* *Obs.* **c1380** WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 364 And errorr in weiyng of þis love makip many fals weddingis; as men ben weddid wip þer habitis, and per costumes, and per singular maners, as 3if þei weren Cristis comaundementis.

†**c.** To commit or pledge (a person) irrevocably to a course of action. *Obs.*

1578 H. WOTTON *Courtly Controv.* 251 Hauing married a woman which did but dishonour the country, and had wedded him vnto a war so dangerous, as [etc.].

d. To join or couple (a thing) intimately *with* or *to* something else; to associate closely *together*.

1818 KEATS *Endym.* II. 408 Above his head, Four lily stalks did their white honours wed To make a coronal. **1839** HOOD *Storm at Hastings* x, Whilst we were panting with the sultry weather, And hardly cared to wed two words together. **1851** WESTCOTT *Introd. Study Gospels* i. (1860) 78 The LXX. wedded Greek language to Hebrew thought. **1887** SAINTSBURY *Hist. Elizab. Lit.* ii. (1890) 46 The *Ecclesiastical Polity* remains a book in which matter and manner are wedded as in few other books of the same kind. **1891** LINDLEY *New Holidays in Essex* 38 There is an excellent thing locally wedded with Blackwater boating. It is sausages.

†**8.** To espouse, adopt (a cause, a course of conduct, a custom, etc.). *Obs.*

1626 T. H[AWKINS] tr. *Caussin's Holy Crt.* 4 Men, who willingly wed the manners, and affections of those on whom they see their fortunes depend. **1647** CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* i. §49 And though. . . most of the principal men of the House of Commons were again elected to serve in this Parliament, yet they were far from wedding the war. *Ibid.* II. §57 Most of the King's Privy Council. . . now as frankly wedded that interest as any of the leaders. **1742** YOUNG *Nt. Th.* i. 51 O lead my mind, . . . and fix my firm resolve Wisdom to wed.

1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. i. ii, Or, in milder language, They have *wedded* their deusions; fire nor steel, nor any sharpness of Experience, shall sever the bond.

wed (wəd), *ppl. a. rare.* [pa. pple. of WED *v.*] = WEDDED.

? **a1400** *Morte Arth.* 700 This werre. . . That warnes me wyrchippe of my wedde lorde. **a1400** *Relig. Pieces fr. Thornton MS.* 5 The sexte commandement forbeddes vs. . . to foly fleschely with any womane owper. . . wedde or unwedde. **c1440** *Alphabet of Tales* xxxv. 25 He was a wed man. **1823** BYRON *Juan* xi. xlv, A rib's a thorn in a wed gallant's side, Requires decorum.

wed(d, obs. forms of WEED *sb.*¹, *sb.*², *v.*¹

wedaw, obs. form of WIDOW.

Wedda, variant of VEDDA.

†**'weddable, a.** *Obs.*—⁰ [f. WED *v.* + -ABLE.] That may be wedded.

1611 COTGR., *Variable*. . . Mariable, weddable, marriageable.

wedde, obs. form of WIDDY *Sc.*

wedded ('wədɪd), *ppl. a.* [f. WED *v.* + -ED¹.]

1. Joined in wedlock; living in the married state.

? **a800** *Conf. Abp. Ecgbert* xx. in Thorpe *Laws* (1840) II. 146 Ða geweddodan fæmnan [L. *puellam desponsatam*] hire yldran hi ne moton syllan oðrum men. **c1175** *Lamb. Hom.* 143 þe weddede wiuēs. **c1200** ORMIN 4604 Weddedd were & weddedd wif. **13..** *Cursor M.* 10458 (Gött.) Quar-of suld i haue ioy or bliss, Quen i mi weddid lauerd miss? **c1381** CHAUCER *Parl. Foules* 355 The wedded turtill with hire herte trewe. **c1412** HOCCEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 1623 And many wedded couples haue I knowe. **1548-9** *Bk. Com. Prayer, Matrimony* 13 b, N. wilte thou haue this woman to thy wedded wife. **1607** SHAKS. *Per.* III. iv. 9 My wedded Lord, I nere shall see againe. **1667** MILTON *P.L.* viii. 605 Harmonie to behold in wedded pair More grateful then harmonious sound to the eare. **1717** POPE *Éloïsa* 77 Let wealth, let honour, wait the wedded dame. **1740** RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. 205, I have been a close observer of the behaviour of wedded folks. **1798** T. MORTON *Speed the Plough* v. i, She is my wife. . . My lawful, wedded wife. **1848** MRS. GASKELL *Mary Barton* xxxiii, If she lives, she shall be my wedded wife. **1908** G. TYRRELL in M. D. Petre *Life* (1912) II. 380, I thought that Utrecht would faint at the idea of a wedded bishop.

b. absol. rare. **c1230** *Hali Meid.* 5 þat bihald as of heh alle widewen under hire & weddede bæfe. **1450-1530** *Myrr. Our Ladye* II. 149 She fayled not. . . the chastyte of vyrgyns ne the plenteousnesse of wedded. **a1849** MANGAN *Poems* (1859) 62 Who pleads for thee thus, thy wedded shall be.

2. Of or pertaining to marriage or to married persons.

1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* i. v. 137 (Fo.) Go aske his name: if he be married, My graue is like to be my wedded bed [Oq. wedding bed]. **1667** MILTON *P.L.* iv. 750 Haile wedded Love, mysterious Law, true source Of human offspring. **1709** STEELE *Tatler* No. 184 ¶2 As soon as she took upon her the wedded Condition. **1823** SCOTT *Quentin D.* xxxi, I care not myself for the wedded state. **1830** COLERIDGE *Table-t.* 27 Sept., Luther has sketched the most beautiful picture of the nature, and ends, and duties of the wedded life I ever read. **1866** NEALE *Sequences & Hymns* 130 and wedded troth remains as firm, and wedded love as pure. **1888** BURGON *Lives 12 Gd. Men* II. v. 8 The sun of his wedded happiness set in this same year.

3. Obstinately attached (to an indulgence, a habit, opinion, party, etc.).

1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 117 If thou be either so wicked that thou wilt not, or so wedded that thou canst not abstain from their glances. **1721** MORTIMER *Husb.* i. 1 The wedded Opinions of the Generality to the Custom and Practice of their Neighbours. **1854** C. E. NORTON *Lett.* (1913) I. 106 New Hampshire. . . the most wedded of all the Northern States to the Democratic party.

4. Of things: Coupled or joined together.

1842 TENNYSON *Godiva* 43 Then fled she to her inmost bower and there Unclasp'd the wedded eagles of her belt. **1916** *Blackw. Mag.* Nov. 572/1 The country-side [Italy]. . . with its wedded vines and elms.

†**5. wedded brother** = *wed-brother* (see WED *sb.*

6). *Obs. rare.*

c1350 *Athelston* ii. (Zupitza), For loue of here metyng pare þey swoor hem weddyd breperyn for euer mare, In treweþ treweþ dede hem bynde. *Ibid.* xiv, þy weddid broþir.

Hence †**'weddedhood** [-HOOD], **'weddedness** [-NESS], wedded state or condition.

a1450 MYRC *Par. Pr.* 212 Dedly synne hyt ys forthe broght, Saue in here wedhode [v.r. weddedhood] That ys feyre to-fore gode. **1891** *Harper's Mag.* July 181/1 His weddedness. **1903** LD. R. GOWER *Rec. & Remin.* 538 He and his wife appear exceedingly fond of one another, a rare and refreshing state of weddedness nowadays.

Weddell ('wədəl). The name of James *Weddell* (1787-1834), Scottish navigator, used *attrib.* or in the possessive as *Weddell*(s) *seal*, to designate a large brown Antarctic seal, *Leptonychotes weddellii*, first recorded by him and named in his honour in 1826. Cf. *sea-leopard* s.v. SEA *sb.* 23 b. Also *absol.*

1902 G. E. H. BARRETT-HAMILTON in *Rep. Coll. Nat. Hist. Voy. 'Southern Cross'* i. 19 Weddell's seal is probably of wide distribution. **1923** F. WILD *Shackleton's Last Voy.* vi. 118 Near by a fat Weddell seal lay asleep. **1938** [see CRABBEATER 3]. **1971** R. SALE *Man who raised Hell* i. 1. 14 He was trying to tag a Weddell mother seal. . . Weddells are big animals, going to twelve feet. **1979** *Nature* 11 Jan. 87/3 The Weddell seal has adapted to fill a specialised niche—the

inshore fast ice zone—where it winters under the ice, keeping breathing holes open with its teeth.

weddellite ('wədəlɪt). *Min.* [f. the name of the *Weddell* Sea, Antarctica, where it was first found + -ITE¹.] A hydrated calcium oxalate, CaC₂O₄·2H₂O, which occurs as colourless tetragonal crystals and is common in calculi.

1942 FRONDEL & PRIEN in *Science* 24 Apr. 431/1 Stones [formed in the body] composed wholly of carbonate-apatite are relatively rare. Whewellite (CaC₂O₄·H₂O), weddellite (CaC₂O₄·2H₂O) and especially struvite. . . are ordinarily present. **1961** *Lancet* 26 Aug. 452/1 (*caption*) The large crystals in the centre of the field were of calcium oxalate dihydrate (weddellite). **1976** *Chem. Abstr.* 20 Sept. 190/1 (*heading*) Whewellite (CaC₂O₄·H₂O) and weddellite (CaC₂O₄·2H₂O) from the Upper Cretaceous limestone near Zminj in Istria (Croatia, Yugoslavia).

wedder ('wədə(r)). [f. WED *v.* + -ER¹.] One who weds. *penny wedder* (? cf. PENNY-wedding).

1866 *Morning Star* 15 Sept. 2/5 The sounds of hobnailed feet and giggling was heard in the church porch, denoting the arrival of the first batch of penny wedders. **1891** in *Century Dict.*

wedder, obs. and dial. f. WEATHER, WETHER.

weddesette, obs. form of WADSET *v.*

weddewede, obs. form of WIDOWHOOD.

wedding ('wɛdɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* Forms: 1 wedding, 3 weddingue, 4 wedding, 5 -yn, 4-5 wedding, -yng, 4-6 wedding(e, -inge, 6 *Sc.* vedding, 3- wedding. [f. WED *v.* + -ING¹.]

1. The action of marrying; marriage, espousal. Chiefly *gerundial*. †Also, the married state, wedlock, matrimony (*obs.*).

c1000 *Gosp. Nicod.* vii. 3 in Thwaites *Hept.* (1698), Seo wedding was beweddod, eal swa cower agene ðeoda secgap. **c1250** *Gen. & Ex.* 1428 Siðen men hauen holden skil, first to freinen ðe wimmanes wil, Or or men hire to louerd giue, for wedding or for morgen-giwe. **c1290** St. *Edmund Conf.* 97 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 434 Wel he huld is treupe setpe and his weddingue also, And trewe spouse was inoʒv. **a1300** K. *Horn* 423 Hit nere no fair wedding Bitwexe a pral & a king. **1362** LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* x. 178 Summe. . . For Couetise of Cate! vnkuyneliche beop married, And Careful Concepcion comep of such wedding. **1375** BARBOUR *Bruce* i. 267 Wedding is the hardest band That ony man may tak on hand. **a1400** CHAUCER *Envoy to Bukton* 24 So may happe That the were leuer to be take in Frise Than eft falle of weddinge in the trappe. **c1460** *Towneley Myst.* xiii. 92 Be well war of wedding. **1483** *Cath. Angl.* 412/1 Ye secund Weddyngc, *bigamia, deutrogamia*. **1490** CAXTON *Eneydos* xiv. 52 My sone hyemen, whiche is named the god of weddinge. **1564** *Brief Exam.* *****ij, Who vsed the ring fyrst in wedding? the Heathen. **1599** SHAKS. *Much Ado* II. i. 76 Wooing, wedding, and repenting, is as a Scotch ijgge, a measure, and a cinque-pacc.

Prov. **1562** J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 129 Weddyng and hangyng are desteny.

2. a. The performance of the marriage-rite; the ceremony of a marriage, with its attendant festivities.

This is the word in general use for this sense. **c1300** K. *Horn* 1295 (Laud) He rongen þe bellen þe wedding [Cambr. wedlak] for to fullen. **c1386** CHAUCER *Knt's T.* 25 The feste that was at hir weddyngc. **1490** CAXTON *Eneydos* lxiii. 163 Moche loye was there made atte theyr weddyngc. **1526** TINDALE *Matt.* xxii. 10 The weddinge was furnyssed with gastes. **1530** PALSGR. 287/2 Weddyng, *noptes*. **1602** SHAKS. *Ham.* i. ii. 178, I thinke it was to see my Mothers Wedding. **1663** KILLIGREW *Pars. Wedd.* v. ii, I'll run and invite them to the Wedding. **1754** RICHARDSON *Grandison* V. lv. 347 Every woman's heart leaps. . . when a wedding is described. **1797** SIR F. M. EDEN *St. Poor* I. 598 The custom of a general feasting at weddings and christenings. **1848** DICKENS *Dombey* v, The very wedding looked dismal as they passed in front of the altar. **1885** 'MRS. ALEXANDER' *At Bay* x, Are you to be at the Milton wedding next week? **1897** STOPP. BROOKE in *Jacks Life & Lett.* (1917) II. 532, I am told the wedding went off well.

fig. **a1901** F. W. H. MYERS *Hum. Personality* (1903) II. 295 Since that great wedding between Reason and Experience, which immortalises the name of Galileo.

b. Phr. *penny wedding*: see PENNY 12 c. *silver wedding* [G. *silberhochzeit, silberne hochzeit*], the 25th anniversary of a wedding (see SILVER *sb.* 20). *golden wedding*, the 50th anniversary. *diamond wedding*, the 60th or 75th anniversary (see DIAMOND *sb.* 12).

1850 J. VON TAUTPHGUS *Initials* I. v. 121 'Perhaps you have no golden or silver wedding in England?' 'I confess I never heard of any thing of the kind,' said Hamilton. . . 'To be fifty years married and to have a golden wedding, is a sort of event in a family.' **1860** *Illustr. Lond. News* 24 Nov. 485/3 The celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the marriage of Prince William of Hesse and the Princess Charlotte. . . This 'golden wedding', as such an event is called [etc.]. **1874** LONGF. *Hanging of Crane* vii, It is the Golden Wedding day.

†**3.** Occas. found in other senses of the verb: Close union or association; the action of pledging or wagering. *Obs.*

c1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 364 [see WED *v.* 7 b]. *Ibid.* 431 But Lord! wheper weddyng wip siche signes helpip to holde religioun of Crist, and love hym of hert? — *Wks.* (1880) 448 Wedding wip pes newe bilawis, passinge þe wedding wip goddis lawe, makip pes newe rotun sectis. **1503** *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* II. 401 Item, the xj day of October, to the King quihilk he tynt on wedding with the Abbot of Cambuskinneth, xiiij s.

4. a. *attrib.*, as *wedding-anniversary*, *-appearance*, *-banquet*, *-bed*, *-bell*, *-chamber*, *-cheer*, *-clothes*, *-coat*, *-dinner*, *-dower*, *-dress*, *-feast*, *-festival*, *-gown*, *-guest*, *-journey*, *-mass*, *-night*, *-peal*, *-photo*, *-photograph*, *-present*, *-robe*, *-sermon*, *† smock*, *-song*, *-suit*, *-supper*, *-table*, *-torch*, *tour*, *† trim*, *trip*, *visit*.

a1700 EVELYN *Diary* 13 Aug. 1673, It being his *wedding anniversary. 1971 'D. HALLIDAY' *Dolly & Doctor Bird* iii. 33 It's our wedding anniversary. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) IV. 257 How bravely shall we enter a court, . . . dressed out each man, as if to his *wedding-appearance. 1855 LONGF. *Hiaw.* xii. 372 Thus the *wedding-banquet ended. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* i. v. 137 (Qo. 1599) If he be married, My graue is like to be my *wedding bed. 1685 ? DRYDEN *Daphnis* 64 in *Sylva* 118, I bargain for a wedding Bed at least. a1849 POE *The Bells* ii, Hear the mellow *wedding bells. 1552 HULOET, *Weddyng chamber, *thalamus*. 1611 BIBLE 2 *Esdras* x. 1 When my sonne was entred into his wedding chamber, he fell downe and died. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* iv. v. 87 Our *wedding cheare [turns] to a sad buriall Feast. 1678 BUTLER *Hud.* iii. i. 737 The Bride, That with her *Wedding-cloaths undresses Her Complaisance and Gentilleses. 1824 MISS MITFORD *Village* I. 288 Betsy . . . prepared her wedding-clothes, and looked hourly for the bridegroom. 1838 M. R. WALKER *Let.* 27 July in C. M. Drury *Elkanah & Mary Walker* (1940) iii. 92, I was glad indeed to see him safe & sound with his cloths sadly rent having lost his coat his *wedding coat. 1857 DICKENS *Let.* (1880) II. 26 A pair of common nankeen tights, . . . and blue wedding-coat. 1633 ROWLEY *Match at Midn.* II. i. D2 b, One *wedding dinner must serve both marriages. 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz*, *Mistaken Milliner*, Miss Amelia Martin was invited . . . to honour the wedding-dinner with her presence. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* III. i. 78 Then let her beauty be her *wedding dower. 1801 M. EDGEWORTH *Belinda* II. xxxi. 357 Something must be left to the imagination. Positively I will not describe *wedding dresses. 1863 KINGSLEY *Water-Bab.* ii, They helped her on with her wedding-dress. 1633 FORD 'Tis Pity III. v, They that now dreame of a *wedding-feast, May chance to mourne the lusty Bridegromes ruine. 1855 LONGF. *Hiaw.* xi (heading), Hiawatha's Wedding-feast. 1795-6 WORDSW. *Borderers* 1. 331 The villagers Are flocking in—a *wedding festival. 1439 E.E. *Wills* (1882) 118 My *weddynggown and all my cloris of gold. 1767 MURPHY *School for Guard.* iv. iv. 66, I have brought your young lady's wedding-gown. 1798 COLERIDGE *Ans. Mar.* 1. 31 The *Wedding-Guest here beat his breast, For he heard the loud bassoon. 1841 THACKERAY *Gt. Hogarty Diamond* in *Fraser's Mag.* Nov. 598/1 She lent us her chariot for the *wedding journey. 1881 HOWELLS (title), *Their Wedding Journey*. 1612 WEBSTER *White Devil* II. 1. 190 Accused be the priest That sang the *wedding masse. 1661 PEPYS *Diary* 10 Oct., So home, and intended to be merry, it being my sixth *wedding night. 1682 OTWAY *Venice Preserved* 1. 7 The very bed, which on thy wedding night Receiv'd thee to the Arms of Belvidera. 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz*, *Watkins Tottle* i, I spent my wedding-night in a back-kitchen chimney. 1808 SKURRAY *Bidcombe Hill* 25 note, In the village of Horningsham . . . it is customary, when a young person dies unmarried, to ring the *wedding peal on muffled bells, immediately on the interment of the corpse. 1966 P. WILLMOTT *Adolescent Boys* iii. 46 They showed us different *wedding photos. 1956 FOCAL *Encycl. Photogr.* 1273/2 A good set of *wedding photographs calls for a surprising amount of planning and organization. 1972 C. FREMLIN *Appointment with Yesterday* x. 76 Cora should have received the wedding photograph. 1854 C. SCHREIBER *Jrnl.* 27 May (1952) 35 My *wedding present to Felicia, a white and gold bookcase. 1898 G. B. SHAW *Plays* II. *Candida* 81 A travelling clock in a leather case (the inevitable wedding present). 1450-1530 MYRR. *Our Ladye* II. 238 Thys noble yonge lorde ys clad in a new *weddyng robe. 1694 T. BROWN *Lottery for Ladies & G. Wks.* 1711 IV. 169 Dr. B—s shall preach the *Wedding Sermon. c1610 BEAUM. & FL. *Scornf. Lady* 1. i, If my *Wedding smock were on. 1648 HERRICK *Hesper.*, 'Come sit we under yonder Tree' 22 Next we will . . . talke of Brides; and who shall make That wedding-smock, this Bridal-Cake. 1598 R. BERNARD *Terence, Adelphi* v. vii. (1607) 327 They which sing the *wedding song. 1594 *Taming of a Shrew* (1844) 22 For this I sweare shall be my *wedding sute. 1728 CIBBER *Provoked Husband* III. i. 53 The Wedding-suit of a first Dutchess. 1807 Wedding suit [see *family tree* s.v. FAMILY sb. 11]. 1959 W. FAULKNER *Mansion* xiii. 296 Maybe he picked it up along with that-ere white wedding suit. 1695 CONGREVE *Love for L.* IV. xv, Ha, ha, ha! That a Man shou'd have a Stomach to a *Wedding Supper, when the Pidgeons ought rather to be laid to his feet. 1961 NEW ENG. BIBLE *Rev.* xix. 9 Happy are those who are invited to the wedding-supper of the Lamb! 1722 RAMSAY *Three Bonnets* IV. 53 To teil how meikle cakes and ale . . . Was serv'd upon the *wedding-table. 1591 SHAKS. *1 Hen.* VI. III. ii. 26 Behold, this is the happy *Wedding Torch, That ioyneth Roan vnto her Countreymen. 1847 C. M. YONGE *Scenes & Characters* xxxi. 340 The wedding had been hurried on, and the *wedding-tour was shortened. 1955 C. CARRINGTON *Rudyard Kipling* ix. 201 It will not be necessary to retrace Rudyard's steps throughout his wedding tour. a1729 TICKELL *Colin & Lucy* 43 He in his *wedding-trim so gay, I in my winding-sheet! 1855 DICKENS *Dorrit* (1857) i. ii. 17 A clerical English husband . . . on a *wedding trip with his young wife. 1925 F. SCOTT FITZGERALD *Great Gatsby* viii. 183 Tom and Daisy were still on their wedding trip. 1974 *News & Reporter* (Chester, S. Carolina) 22 Apr. 4-A/8 After a wedding trip to Charlottesville, Virginia the couple will reside on Morreene Road, Durham. 1794 J. WOODFORD *Diary* 7 Apr. (1929) IV. 103 Mr. & Mrs. Carbould are gone out for a few days to make a *wedding visit to Mrs. Carbould's Brother at Castor near Yarmouth. 1872 GEO. ELIOT *Middlem.* II. III. xxviii. 89 Through the next weeks there would be wedding visits received and given.

b. *wedding band* U.S. = *wedding-ring*; *wedding-breakfast*, the entertainment given at the bride's house etc. after the marriage-ceremony and before the departure for the honeymoon; cf. *BREAKFAST* sb. 2 b; *wedding-bush*, a shrub of the genus *Ricinocarpos*, of the family Euphorbiaceae, esp.

R. pinifolius, which is native to eastern Australia and bears clusters of fragrant white flowers; *wedding-cake*, a large rich cake, covered with icing and decorated with sugar ornaments, cut and distributed to the guests at the wedding-feast and sent in small portions to absent friends; also *attrib.*; also *fig.*, esp. applied *attrib.* (often somewhat dismissively) to a sumptuously ornate style of architecture, and (also *absol.*) to buildings in this style; *wedding canopy Judaism* = CHUPPAH; *wedding-cards*, cards, bearing the names of the two parties, sent out to friends as an announcement of the wedding; also in *sing.*; *wedding-chest*, an ornamental chest made to contain a bride's clothes, etc.; *† wedding church door* = *wedding door*; *wedding-coffer* = *wedding-chest*; *wedding-day*, the day on which a marriage is performed, or which is fixed for the marriage; also, an anniversary of this day; also *attrib.*; *† wedding door*, the church-door, or porch, at which couples were married; *wedding-favour*, a knot of white ribbon, or a white rosette, sometimes worn by guests at a wedding; *wedding-finger* = RING-FINGER; *wedding-flower*, (a) *Moræa (Iris) robinsoniana*, of Lord Howe's Island, N.S.W.; (b) *Dombeya natalensis*, of S. Africa; *wedding-garment*, a garment appropriate to, or customarily worn at, a wedding; also *fig.* (with ref. to Matt. xxii. 11-12); *† wedding-garter*, a garter worn as a wedding-favour; *wedding group*, (a photograph of) a wedding party; *† wedding-house* = BRIDEHOUSE; *† wedding kirk door* = *wedding door*; *† wedding-knives*, ? a pair of knives worn at the girdle by a bride; *wedding-knot*, (a) *fig.* the bond of matrimony; (b) *Naut.*, a tie for uniting the looped ends of two ropes (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875); *wedding list*, a list of acceptable wedding gifts for guests to consult and act upon; *wedding-march*, a march (Mendelssohn's, if not otherwise specified) composed for performance at a wedding; *† wedding-monger*, one who is busied about a wedding; *wedding party*, the assemblage of persons at a wedding; *wedding reception*, a party at which the wedding guests are formally greeted and entertained after the marriage ceremony; cf. *RECEPTION* 2 d; *wedding-ring*, a ring, usually of plain gold, placed by the bridegroom on the third finger of the bride's left hand as part of the ceremony, and worn by her ever after; a ring similarly presented by the bride to the bridegroom, and worn afterwards by him; also *attrib.* and *fig.*; *wedding-sheet*, a sheet laid on the bridal bed and sometimes kept to form a shroud for the bride at her death.

1946 R. LYLE *Mademoiselle's Handbk. Bridal Consultants* vi. 79 *Wedding bands have in centuries past been made of iron as well as gold. 1977 'E. MCBAIN' *Long Time no See* i. 16 On the third finger of his left hand, there was a wedding band. 1850 THACKERAY *Pendennis* II. xv. 144 There is a *wedding breakfast. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xxx, To make the furnished lodging decent for the wedding-breakfst. 1859 *Habits Gd. Society* xv. 72 It must be borne in mind that the wedding-breakfast is not a dinner. 1962 *Sunday Times* 11 Nov. 25/4 They married in church, and had a wedding breakfast but no honeymoon. 1923 *Census of Plants of Victoria* (Field Naturalists' Club of Victoria) 41 *Wedding Bush. 1961 Wedding-bush [see MANNA' 9]. 1648 HERRICK *Hesper.*, *Bride-Cake*, This day my Julia thou must make for Mistressse Bride, the *wedding cake. 1798 COLERIDGE *Three Graves* 60 The wedding-cake with her own hand The ruthless mother brought. 1879 MRS. F. D. BRIDGES *Jrnl. Lady's Trav.* iii. (1883) 43 The Palace, somewhat of the wedding-cake style of architecture, all over stucco ornaments and whitewash. 1925 F. SCOTT FITZGERALD *Great Gatsby* i. 8 A breeze . . . blew curtains . . . twisting them up toward the frosted wedding-cake of the ceiling. 1949 H. G. ALSBERG *Amer. Guide* 105 *Kennebunk* . . . Among numerous old mansions are . . . Wedding Cake H. (c. 1825), with most unusual Vict. trimmings. 1968 N.Y. *City* (Michelin Tire Corp.) 16 Others [sc. skyscrapers], sometimes known as *wedding cakes*, were covered with ornate sculpture in the 1900 'Gigi style'. 1971 J. WILLETT in A. Bullock *20th Cent.* 242/1 A massive piece of wedding-cake architecture (. . . fortunately never built) for the projected Palace of Soviets in Moscow. 1892 I. ZANGWILL *Childr. Ghetto* I. 37 The hope was expressed that Mr. and Mrs. Belcovitch would like . . . to see their daughters' daughters under the *Chuppah*, or *wedding canopy. 1978 I. B. SINGER *Shosha* iv. 74 You should lead your daughter to a black wedding canopy! 1847 C. M. YONGE *Scenes & Characters* ii. 9 She was putting her sister's *wedding cards into their shining envelopes. 1867 AUGUSTA WILSON *Vashti* xxix, I . . . noticed a basket containing some of the wedding cards. 1888 A. K. GREEN *Behind Closed Doors* ii, My daughter's wedding-cards are out. 1953 DYLAN THOMAS *Let.* 31 Mar. (1966) 401 Had your wedding card. Congratulations. 1874 J. H. POLLEN *Anc. & Mod. Furniture S. Kens. Mus.* 127 *Coffer* . . . The figures of angels . . . on the ends and the front panel are uninjured. It has been a *wedding chest. 1560 *Ludlow Churchw. Acc.* (Camden) 97 Paid . . . for menyngye . . . the window over the *weddinge churche dore. 1904 *Studio* Sept. 303/2 *Wedding-coffers, or 'cassones', as they are sometimes called. a1553 UDALL *Royster D.* i. iv. (Arb.) 26 What weepe on the *wedding day?

be merrie woman. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* iv. v. 35 O Sonne, the night before thy wedding day, Hath death laine with thy wife. a1700 EVELYN *Diary* 18 Nov. 1659, Sir John Evelyn invited us to the 41st wedding-day feast. 1782 COWPER *Gilpin* 9 Though wedded we have been These twice ten tedious years, yet we No holiday have seen. Tomorrow is our wedding-day. 1847 C. BRONTE *Jane Eyre* xxxvii, The third day from this must be our wedding-day, Jane. 1470-3 *Rec. Andover* 11 Paid vnto John helyer for reperacon don at the *weddyndor, vid. 1636 in Swayne *Churchw. Acc. Sarum* (1896) 205 A gallerie over the Wedding doare in the Church. 1681 W. ROBERTSON *Phrascol. Gen.* 592/1 A *wedding favour, *Lemniscus nuptialis*. 1882 BESANT *Revolt of Man* xi. (1883) 263 The church was crammed with the guests in wedding-favours. 1542 RECORDE *Gr. Artes* Pij, The *weddyng fynger (whiche is the nexte to the little fynger). 1548 PATTEN *Exped. Scot.* Hiv, Hurt vpon the weddyng fynger of hys righte hande. 1888 'J. S. WINTER' *Boote's Childr.* xiii, She slipped it on to her wedding-finger. 1869 in *Gardeners' Chron.* (1872) 23 Mar. 393/3 A large Iridaceous plant, termed the '*Wedding Flower'. 1526 TINDALE *Matt.* xxii. 11 The kynge . . . spied there a man which had not on a *wedding garment. c1540 COVERDALE *Fruitful Less.* To Rdr. (1593) A 4 b, The old Adam ought we to lay aside . . . and to put on Christ the Lord, as the new wedding garment. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* IV. i. 51 Is supper ready, the house trim'd, . . . and every officer his wedding-garment on? 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* i. ii. 524 Are these the fruits o' th' Protestation, . . . Which all the Saints, and some, since Martyrs, Wore in their Hats, like *Wedding-Garters. 1861 GEO. ELIOT *Silas Marner* 361 The *wedding group had passed on . . . to the humbler part of the village. 1930 R. LEHMANN *Note in Music* v. 190 The texts, the wedding group, and the photograph of a grave on the wall. 1979 J. ADAM SMITH *John Buchan* 51 People in Scotland, she said, might like to have wedding groups, but she doubted if it was ever done in London. c1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 519/2 *Weddyngge (howus K., hous P.), *idem* quod Brydale howse, *supra*. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 412/1 A Weddyng howse, *nuptorium*. 1684 D'URFEY *Pills* (1719) II. 31 Willy was late at a Wedding-house, Where Lords and Ladies danc'd all arow. 1530 *Extracts Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 137 He was found in the *wedding kirk dur with his bonat on his heid. 1596 *Edw.* III. II. ii. 17 Here by my side doth hang my *wedding knives. c1620 DEKKER *Match me in London* v. (1631) 70 See at my Girdle hang my wedding kniues. 1902 'ROMA WHITE' *Backsheesh* iii. 33 Of course, from the British Public point of view the Moslem *wedding knot is not altogether respectable. 1981 *Times* 7 Mar. (Bride & Home Suppl.) p. vi/1 Today's brides . . . confine romance to their wedding dress and . . . Roneo their less personal requirements . . . The stores still keeping *wedding lists do provide a valuable service. 1850 J. BENEDICT *Sk. Life Mendelssohn* 42 The gorgeous *Wedding-mareh. 1903 J. L. ALLEN *Mettle of Pasture* ii. 33 The loud crash of the wedding march closed their separate pasts with a single melody. 1671 CARYL *Sir Salomon* II. 29 By that time the Lawyers, the Taylers, the Semstresses, and riming Poets, with the rest of the *Wedding-Mongers, will have all things in readiness. 1873 C. M. YONGE *Pillars of House* IV. xlvii. 340 The blow was known to all that said *wedding party. 1877 W. S. GILBERT *Engaged* (? 1883) II. 31, I have ordered four frys for the wedding party. 1979 J. GARDNER *Nostradamus Traitor* xxxv. 165 Another alert. This time the wedding party had to take shelter. 1871 A. J. MUNBY *Diary* 4 Nov. in D. Hudson *Munby* (1972) 299 We, Council and Students . . . offered this evening a *wedding reception to Litchfield and his bride. 1965 [see STUNG ppl. a. 2]. 1978 S. SHELDON *Bloodline* xlv. 374 After the ceremony there was a wedding reception at the Baur-au-Lac. c1386 CHAUCEUR *Clerk's T.* 812 And heere agayn my elothying I restore, And eek my *weddyng ryng. c1540 COVERDALE *Fruitful Less.* (1593) Kk 2 b, The same holie Ghost, who is . . . the earnest pennie of saluation, the wedding ring of grace. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* II. ii. 139 Wouldst thou not . . . from my false hand cut the wedding ring? 1630 R. JOHNSON'S *Kingd. & Commw.* 41 The sand about us seemes to be our wedding Ring, and the riches of the Sea our Dowrie. 1704 PRIOR *To Yng. Gent. in Love* 70 The Moral of the Tale I sing (A Posy for a Wedding Ring). 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xxvii, The only article of ornament of which she stands possessed appears to be her wedding-ring. 1953 DYLAN THOMAS *Under Milk Wood* (1954) 74 His mother . . . with her wedding-ring waist and bust like a black-clothed dining-table suffers in her stays. 1980 *Quilt World* Sept./Oct. 23/1 Sheri's mother feels that it is a single wedding ring quilt because when four blocks are pieced together a ring is formed. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* IV. ii. 105 Prythee to night, Lay on my bed my *wedding sheetes, remember. 1823 LOCKHART *Reg. Dalton* i. viii. (1842) 46 Her wedding-sheet, which, according to the primitive fashion of the district, had been carefully laid by for that purpose, was formed into the shroud which enveloped her remains.

¶ For alternative forms of many of these collocations see BRIDAL 2, BRIDE sb.¹ 5 a, 6, MARRIAGE 8, NUPTIAL a. 1. The adjectival force of *wedding* is recognized in the following quot.: 1530 PALSGR. 329/1 ('The Table of Adiectyves') Weddyng, belongyng to maryage, *nuptial*.

weddinger ('wedɪŋə(r)). *dial.* [f. WEDDING + -ER¹.] A wedding-guest; *pl.* the whole wedding-party, including bride and bridegroom.

1802 G. V. SAMPSON *Statist. Surv. Londonderry* 458 After a few days' carousal among the groom's friends, the weddingers move towards the bride's country. 1811 *Ora & Juliet* IV. 185 But wont you have some cake, ladies, before the weddingers come to church? 1887 HALL CAINE *Son of Hagar* II. xv, 'Good luck to the weddingers!' they said. 1891 ATKINSON *Moorland Par.* (ed. 2) 205 The weddingers passed down the little slope leading to the churchyard gate.

weddir(e, obs. ff. WEATHER, WETHER.

weddow(e, obs. forms of WIDOW.

weddre, -ur, -yr, obs. forms of WEATHER.

† **wede**, *v.* Obs. Forms: 1 wēdan (3 *sing. pres.* wēt(t), 3 weden, -enn, 3-5 wēde, (3 weede, 4 wed, wedde, 3-4 wide), 5 *Sc.* weide, weid, weyd. [OE.

wēdan = OS. wōdian, OHG. wuoten (MHG. wueton, mod.G. wüten), ON. ēða:—OTeut. *wōðjan, f. *wōðo- mad: see WOOD a.]

1. *intr.* To be or become mad. Cf. AWEDE.

c 900 *Bæda's Hist.* v. xiii. (1890) 438 Cwæð he; Ne wede ic [L. non insano]. c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John x. 20 Deofol is on him & he wet. a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1264 þes keiser . . as mon pet bigon to weden & to wurðen ut of his ahne witte, wodeliche 3eide [etc.]. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3749 Me es sua waa, almost i weede. c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1509 He . . went hom ajeine, Weping as he wold wide for wo & for sorwe. 13 . . E.E. *Allit. P.* B 1585 So was þe wyȝe wytles, he wed wel ner. a 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 539, I am all in aunter, sa akis me þe wame, Of werke well ne I wede. c 1400 *Rowland & Otuel* 936 He . . ferde als he wolde wede. a 1413 *Anturs of Arth.* 558 (Ireland MS.) Neȝtehonð Syr Wauan wold wede, So wepputte he fulle sore.

b. Phrase. *to wede (out) of, but wit.*

13 . . *Cursor M.* 13975 Of þis womman þe grete faireded Did mani man of witt to wede. c 1425 *WYNTOUN Cron.* v. x. 1903 Bot ay withre roris reythe he [reder], Wedande but wit as a wode man. a 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 651 Nighe of witte she wold wede. c 1470 *HENRY Wallace* II. 205 Thocht I for wo all out off witt suld weid!

2. To be wild with anger or desire; to rage. *Const. again; to (do something).*

c 1000 *ÆLFRIÐ Saints' Lives* xvi. 225 He [the Devil] wet nu swiðe and wynð on ða cristenan. c 1200 *ORMIN* 14140 Fra þatt grediȝnesse þatt dop þe mann to wedenn riht to winnenn erpic ahhte. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 264 Hwon mon loggeð him bi ure Louerde, þeonne on erest beginneð þe deoffen to weden. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 2408 Quen þai þe see, for þi fairheide To reue me þe þan sal þai wede. c 1425 *WYNTOUN Cron.* v. vi. 1179 Fra þine he cessit for to weide Agayne þe cristyn men in deide. *Ibid.* v. xiii. 4624 In ire as he was wedande þen. c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xv. 47 No wonder if I wede, I that may do no dede; how shuld I theder wyn ffor eld? a 1500 *Ratis Raving* 2480 Wedand in a rage.

b. Of waves, pestilence: To rage, be furious. c 900 *Bæda's Hist.* III. xv. (1890) 200 þa yða weollon & weddon þæs sæs. c 1425 *WYNTOUN Cron.* ix. iii. 230 In Scotlande þat ȝhere in violence [Was] wedande þe thride pestilence.

Hence †'weding (Sc. *wedand*) ppl. a., raging, raving.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* L 198 *Limphaticus*, woedendi. c 888 *ÆLFRED Boeth.* vii. §4 Hwa mæg þæm wedendan gietsera genoh forȝifan? c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xliii. (*Cecilia*) 572 Almacius cane til hire say: þat wedand wodnes do away, & sacryfy oure godis til. c 1425 *WYNTOUN Cron.* viii. xi. 1776 Al brym he belyt in to brethe, And wrythit al in wedand wrethe. a 1500 *Ratis Raving* 1644 Fore wedand Joy beand in vages Lattis al suthfast gud knowleges.

wede, obs. form of WEED.

|| **wedeln** ('ve:dəln), *sb.* *Skiing.* Also *wedel*. [a. G. *wedeln* (in same sense).] A skiing technique using a swaying movement of the hips to make short parallel turns (see PARALLEL a. 1 b). Also *attrib.*

1957 J. CEELY tr. *Joubert & Vuarnet's Ski ABC* ii. 106 The skier effects a real *wedeln* when he is able to minimize the second step of the above progression. *Ibid.* iii. 130 In linked turns or *wedeln*, planting the pole adds favorable *rhythm* to the movements. 1958 *Times* 1 Mar. 7/6 The reverse shoulder technique of *wedeln* . . or *godille* as the French call it, has become so universal among first-class racers of all nations that no one using the classical rotation can hope to be placed in a serious race. 1963 *New Yorker* 2 Feb. 37 Down he goes, anyway, his *wedeln* so crisp he never seems to care at all for the configuration of the snow. 1963 *Amer. Speech* XXXVIII. 208 Other attributive uses are *wedel track* and *wedel turn*. 1973 R. HAYES *Hungarian Game* xxxii. 195 We had skied nearly to the base of the mountain and Mary Louise shot over a drop. . . I did a quick *wedeln* series and looked for her. 1974 H. EVANS et al. *We learned to Ski* 44 Those who can do the long radius parallel turn learn to make shorter linked parallel turns—the *wedel*. 1975 *Oxf. Compan. Sports & Games* 965/2 Between 1956 and 1958, the Austrian, *Sailer*, won seven out of eight world titles, . . and he introduced the *wedeln* style to a wide public.

|| **wedeln** ('ve:dəln), *v.* *Skiing.* Also (app. more commonly) *wedel*. [a. G. *wedeln* (in same sense), lit. to wag (the tail).] *intr.* To use the *wedeln* technique in skiing. Also *transf.* in *Skateboarding*.

1961 *Times* 7 Jan. 7/7 Sign-posted high roads which shepherd each carload of uninspired humanity down from the heights . . *wedeln* as best they can. 1963 *Amer. Speech* XXXVIII. 208 *Wedel; wedeln, v.* to execute a special kind of short parallel turns close to the fall line in quick succession. 1968 *Time* 15 Nov. 49 They *wedeled* down the 1,200-ft. slope or slammed through the slalom course. 1973 P. A. WHITNEY *Snowfire* iii. 36, I don't care . . whether my skis are expertly parallel. I've never been able to *wedel*. 1977 *Skateboard Special* Sept. 3/1 Special slalom decks have a raised centre to make it easier to 'pump' or 'wedel'.

Hence 'wedeln' (l)ing *vbl. sb.*

1977 *Skateboard Special* Sept. 2/2 *Wedeling*, a sophisticated method of reducing speed while zig-zagging down steep hills. *Ibid.* 5/1 Slalom decks . . are often slightly raised in the middle to make pumping and *wedeling* easier. 1979 N. SLATER *Falcon* ix. 161 His *wedelling* turns between each traverse were smothered in a flurry of snow.

Wedenisdai, obs. form of WEDNESDAY.

† **wedenonfa'**. *Sc. Obs.* Forms: 6 *wedonynpha* (vedumfa), 8 *wytenon-fa*, 9 *weidinonfa*. [f. OE. *wēden-* (in *wēden-heort*, -*sēoc*) mad + *onfa'*, ONFALL. Cf. WIDDENDREAM.] *Ague* (in later use *spec. puerperal ague*, *WEED sb.*), or a fit of this. c 1500 *Rowlis Cursing* 57 in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 300 The worme, the wareit *wedonynpha* [Maitl. MS.

vedumfa], Rumbursin, ripplis, or bellythra[w]. 1597 in *Pitcairn Crim. Trials* (Bannatyne Club) II. 27 Item, for hailing of women of the *Wedonynpha* [by sorcery]. 1755 R. FORBES *Ajax*. etc. *Jrnl. to Portsmouth* 33, I wis fleȳd that she had taen the wytenon-fa, . . far she shuddered a' like a klippert in a cauld day. 1808 JAMIESON, *Wedonynpha*. . . This [see quot. 1755] is rendered 'trembling, chattering'. But it is the term generally used in the North, to express that disease peculiar to women, commonly called a *weid*; *weidinonfa*. Ang[us].

weder(e: see WEATHER, WETHER, WHITHER.

|| **Wederdoper.** *rare* -1. [Du. *wederdoooper*, f. *weder* again + *doooper* baptizer: see DOPPER².] (See quot.)

1647 N. WARD *Simp. Cobler* 16 The Crowds of foraigne Wederdopers, that is Anabaptists.

wederlyng, corrupt f. *querdlyng*, CODLING².

a 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 102 þe wince and þe wederlyng.

wedester. *Obs.* -1 (Meaning uncertain.)

1346 *Little Red Bk. Bristol* (1900) II. 12 [Ordinaciones pro fullonibus.] Item ordynee est qe nul mestre paye a nule femme quest appelee Wedestere . . synoun *jd.* le iour.

wedeu, -ew(e, wedewer: see WIDOW, -ER.

wedge (wɛdʒ), *sb.* Forms: 1 *waecg*, *wecg*, *wegge*, (4 *weeg*), 4-7 *wegge*, (5 *vegge*, *weegge*, *wegghe*), 5-6 *weg(e)*, 5-7 *wagge*, 6 *wadge*, *wegg*, 7 *wedg*, 3- *wedge*. Pl. 6 *wedgies*, *Sc. vagis*, *wagis*. [Com. Teut. (not found in Gothic): OE. *wegc* masc. corresponds to OS. *weggi* wedge (MLG. *wegge*, *wigge*, LG. *wegge* wedge, wedge-shaped cake), MDu. *wegge*, *wigge* (mod.Du. *wegge* fem., wedge-shaped cake, *wig* fem., wedge), OHG. *weggi*, *wecki*, wedge (MHG. *wegge*, *wecke*, wedge, wedge-shaped cake; mod.G. dial. *weck*, *wecken* masc., wedge, wedge-shaped cake), ON. *vegg-r* wedge (Norw. *vegg*, Da. *vægge*, MSw. *vägge*, *vigge*, Sw. *vigg*, *vigge*):—OTeut. **wagjo*-z.

The affinities of the word are somewhat uncertain. Some scholars regard it as cognate with OHG. *waganso* (see *wagense* in Grimm D. Wb.), ON., Norw. *vangne*, Gr. *ὄψις* (Hesychius) ploughshare, OPrussian *wagni-s* coulter, Lith. *vągis* pin, plug, f. Indogermanic root **wogh-* (Teut. **wag-*); cf. Skr. *vāh-* ? to force.

The LG. and Du. form with *i* for *e* (whence perh. the Sw. form and the Eng. *wig sb.* 1, a kind of cake) is not easy to account for. It may be due to a special sound-change in some local dialect; the hypothesis that it represents an ablaut-variant (OTeut. **wegjo*-z) is inadmissible.]

1. a. A piece of wood, metal, or other hard material, thick at one end and tapering to a thin edge at the other; chiefly used as a tool operated by percussion (or, less frequently, pressure) applied to the thick end, for splitting wood, stone, etc., forcing apart contiguous objects, dilating a fissure or cavity, tightening or securing some part of a structure, raising a heavy body, and other similar purposes. Hence, in *Mechanics*, the type of simple machine of which the wedge proper is an example, and which includes also knives, chisels, and cutting and piercing instruments in general; formerly reckoned separately among the 'mechanical powers', but now regarded as a variety of the inclined plane.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) C 970 *Cuneus*, *waecg*. a 1050 *Liber Scintill.* xxvii. (1889) 103 Yfele treowes on oste yfel nægel oððe *wecg* on to fæstnigenne ys. a 1250 *J. de Garlande* in *Wright Voc.* (1857) 137 Et cum *cuneis* [glossed *wedgyes*] et *cavillis*. 1357 in *Pipe Roll* 32 *Edw.* III m. 34/2 ij. *Wegges ferri*. c 1391 *CHAUCER Astrol.* i. xiv. 4 Thorw wich pyn ther goth a litel *wegge* which þat is cleped the hors, þat streyneth alle thise parties to hepe. c 1440 *York Myst.* xxxv. 235 Goode *wegges* schall we take þis tyde, and feste þe foote [of the cross]. *Ibid.* 242 Gyffe me þis *wegge*, I schall it in dryue. c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 81/2 *Clyte*, or *clote*, or *vegge*, *cuneus*. ? 1474 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 147, j *wegge* of yron. 1523-34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* §3 The plough-fote is a lyttell pece of wodde, with a croke end set before in a morteyes in the ploughe-beame, sette fast with *wedges*, to dryue vppe and downe. 1542 *Extracts Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 184 To . . reforme and mend the artillery, and to mak carttis, boolis, *vagis*, and all vder necessaris belangand thairto. 1555 *EDEN Decades* (Arb.) 369 The marble stone . . they breake and cleave with *wedgies* of iren. 1569 *SPENSER Theat.*, *Sonets* v, I heard the tronke to grone vnder the *wedge*. 1613 in *Trans. Exeter Dioc. Archit. Soc.* Ser. II. (1867) I. 395 For 5e pike of iron *wegges* to make faste the brasses, xij d. 1648 *WILKINS Math. Magic* i. viii. 52 The fift Mechanical faculty is the *Wedge*, which is a known instrument, commonly used in the Cleaving of wood. 1697 *DRYDEN Æneis* vii. 711 Tyrrheus . . left his *Wedge* within the cloven Oak. 1711 *Milit. & Sea Dict.* II. (ed. 4). *Wedges* are us'd to make fast the Mast in the Partners. They also put a *Wedge* into the Heels of the Top-Masts, to bear them upon the Tressel-Trees. 1728 *CHAMBERS Cycl.*, *Wedge*, *Cuneus*, in *Mechanicks*, the last of the five Powers or simple Machines. . . To the *Wedge* may be refer'd all Edge-Tools, and Instruments which have a sharp Point, in order to cut, cleave, slit, chop, pierce, bore, or the like; as *Knives*, *Hatchets*, *Swords*, *Bodkins*, &c. 1773 W. EMERSON *Princ. Mech.* (ed. 3) 44 The sharper the *wedge*, or the more acute its angle, the easier it will divide any thing or overcome any resistance. 1784 *COWPER Task* v. 43 Forth goes the woodman . . To wield the axe And drive the *wedge* in yonder forest drear. a 1790 W. NEWTON tr. *Vitruvius* x. xviii. (1791) 266 The distended ropes . . are then confined at the holes with *wedges*, that they may not slip. 1842 *Min.*

Proc. Inst. Civil Engin. II. 73 The *wedges* employed to secure the rails in the chairs are similarly compressed. 1858 *SIMMONDS Dict. Trade, Wedge*, . . a small fastening for a door or window. 1867 *SMYTH Sailor's Wordbk.*, *Setting-up*, raising a ship from her blocks, shores, &c. by *wedges* driven between the heels of the shore and the dock foundation. 1888 W. E. NICHOLSON *Gloss. Terms Coal Trade* (E.D.D.), *Wedge*, a sharp or flat pointed iron or steel, used for splitting and breaking coal or stone. 1923 *My Magazine* Jan. 22 *Wedge*. A small piece of wood placed under the heel of a living model for support. It is seen in statues.

b. *Grafting.* (a) A peg to keep the cleft open.

(b) The tongue or tapered end of a scion or stock.

1523-34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* §136 Thou muste haue . . a mallet, to dryue the knyfe and thy *wedge* in-to the tree. 1653 *AUSTEN Fruit-Trees* 48 Being cloven with the knife, and a *wedge* of Box, or other hard wood knockt in, to keep it open, then prepare the Graft [etc.]. 1832 *Planting* 30 in *Libr. Usef. Knowl.*, *Husb.* III, The upper division of the scion made by the slit, termed the tongue or *wedge*, is then inserted into the cleft of the stock.

c. The movable slip of wood, tapered on one side, by means of which the blade of a carpenter's plane is adjusted and fastened in the stock.

1678 *MOXON Mech. Exerc.* iv. 64 This knocking on the Britch [of a plane] raises the Iron, so it also raises and loosens the *wedge*: therefore . . whenever you knock upon the Britch, you must also knock upon the *wedge*, to fasten the Iron again.

d. *Arch.* A *voussoir*.

1726 *LEONI Alberti's Archit.* I. 73 b, The last *wedge*, which is called the key-stone, shou'd be cut according to the lines of the other *wedges*, but left a small matter bigger at the top, so that it may . . drive the lower *wedges* closer together. a 1790 W. NEWTON tr. *Vitruvius* vi. xi. (1791) 147 In edifices which are built with piers and arches of *wedges* with the joints tending to their centers, the extreme piers are to be made of a greater breadth, that they may resist the force when the *wedges*, pressed by the weight of the walls, and impelling toward the center, thrust against the abutments. 1849 *FREEMAN Archit.* 20 We might conceive an arch whose *voussoirs* should be *wedges*, not of stone . . but of wood.

2. a. *fig.* and in *fig.* context.

1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 278 Take an other unvanquishable argument such as all y^e Heretiques *wedges* with all their Beattles and mallets cannot beat abroad. c 1620 A. HUME *Brit. Tongue* (1865) 13 Now I am cum to a knot that I have noe *wedg* to cleave. 1645 *FULLER Good Th. in Bad Times* II. vi. The same *wedge* wil serve to cleave the former difficulty. 1704 F. FULLER *Med. Gymn.* (1711) 78, I hope these *Reflections* will not be misinterpreted. . . as a *Wedge* to make way for any Design of mine. 1841 *CALHOUN Sp. Wks.* 1861 IV. 11 This bill is the entering *wedge* for all the measures of the session. 1857 G. A. LAWRENCE *Guy Liv.* xxvii. 267 Just as he had fixed on the astute question which was to drive the first *wedge* into the mystery, *Guy* turned . . and met him full. 1909 G. A. T. MIDDLETON *Eng. Ch. Archit.* i. 17 England became a *wedge* of paganism driven in as it were between the Christianity of the Continent . . and the Christianity of Ireland. 1913 R. LUCAS *Ld. North* xiv. II. 168 *Shelburne* . . perceived that there was room for a *wedge* to be driven in between the French and the Americans.

b. *Phr.* *the thin (little or small) end of the wedge*, a small beginning which it is hoped or feared may lead to something greater. Also *attrib.*

1856 C. FOX *Jrnl.* 8 Nov. in *Memories Old Friends* (1882) xxii. 308 Beware, Englishmen, of the tendencies to hierarchy in your country when the thin end of the *wedge* is introduced: it will work its way on to all this. 1858 *TROLLOPE Dr. Thorne* xxxi, (Chapter-heading) The Small End of the *Wedge*. *Ibid.*, We have all heard of the little end of the *wedge*. . . That pill had been the little end of Lady Arabella's *wedge*. Up to that period she had been struggling in vain to make a severance between her husband and her enemy [the doctor]. 1867 *Hansard Commons* 27 June 615 The thin end of the *wedge*. 1868 *FREEMAN Norm. Cong.* (1877) II. x. 460 The rule [of Chrodegang] was but the small end of the *wedge*. 1884 *Graphic* 20 Dec. 639/3 Cremation advocates have managed to get in the thin end of the *wedge* in France.

attrib. 1896 *Daily News* 21 Feb. 5/1 How many reforms have the Tories resisted with the thin-end-of-the-*wedge* argument.

3. a. An ingot of gold, silver, etc. ? *Obs.*

Presumably so called because the ordinary form of an ingot was that of a *wedge*; cf. Heb. *lāšōn*, lit. 'tongue', used in the same sense; but in the Eng. use of the word there appears to be no evidence of any reference to shape. The OE. *wegc* is in translations of Matt. xvii. 27 used for 'piece of money' (rendering L. *stater*).

c 900 *Bæda's Hist.* i. i. (1890) 26 Berende on *wecga* orum ares & isernes, leades & seolfres. c 1000 *ÆLFRIÐ Hom.* I. 60 Hi behwyrfdon heora are . . on sumum ȝyldenum *wegge*, and ðone on sæ awurpan. c 1100 *Gloss.* in Wr. Wülcker 141/34 *Metallum*, ælces kynnes *wecg* vel ora oððe *clyna*. c 1380 *WYCLIF Wks.* (1880) 49 þei wilen not touche an halpeny or ferping wip þe coyn . . of the kyng . . a *wegc* of siluer or a cuppe of gold þei wolen handil faste. 1436 *Libel Eng. Policy* in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 171 Also *Pruse* mene make here aventure Of plate of silvere, of *wegges* gode and sure In grete plente. c 1450 *CAPRAVE St. Aug.* (1910) 48 He . . made þe vesseles of syluȳr which longed on-to þe chorch to be molten, and þe *weggis* perof be sold and departed to por men. 1535 *COVERDALE Job* xxviii. 16 No *wedges* of gold of Ophir. 1560 *BIBLE* (Geneva) *Josh.* vii. 21 Two hundredth shekels of siluer and a *wedge* of golde of fyftie shekels weight. [So 1611 (margin, Heb. tunge)]. 1585 *HIGINS Junius' Nomencl.* 403/1 *Aurum purum, infectum*, . . gold vnwrought, and in the *wedge*. 1613 [see INGOT 1]. 1634 *SIR T. HERBERT Trav.* 140 Fifty thousand Talents of vncoyned Gold, besides siluer *wedges*. 1694 *BRAGGE Disc. Parabes* v. 194 'Tis like a child's slighting a *wedge* of gold, and rather pursuing an empty bubble because it shines and glitters. 1719 *DE FOE Crusoe* I. (Globe) 196, I found there . . some small Bars or *Wedges* of Gold.

b. *Cant.* Silver, whether money or plate.

1725 *New Cant. Dict.*, *Wedge*, Plate, or Silver or Gold Moveables and Trinkets: Also Money. 1812 *Sporting Mag.* XXXIX. 209 A convenient fencing repository, from the lady's tyke to the nobleman's wedge. 1821 *Life D. Haggart* (ed. 2) 98, I had some wedge planked in a garret in North Leith. . . I was anxious to convert it into blunt. 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 29 May 2/1 Between two and three I turns over a pawnbroker's shop, and gets safe away with a lot of wedge—that's silver plate.

attrib. 1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict.* s.v. *Wedge*, A wedge-feeder, a silver-spoon. 1839 AINSWORTH *Jack Sheppard* II. xiv. A wedge-lobb, otherwise known as a silver snuff-box.

4. A lump or cake of any solid substance.

1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. 146 b, The Creame . . . is put into a vessell . . . wherein with often beating and moouing up and downe, they so shake the milke, as they seuer the thinnest part of from the thicke, which at the fyrst gather together in little crombles, and after with the continuance of the violent moouing commeth to a whole wedge, or cake [L. in *massam cogatur*]. 1728 E. S[MITH] *Compleat Housew.* (ed. 2) 57 When you have churned, wash your Butter . . . and beat it well . . . let it stand in a Wedge . . . till the next morning. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Berkeley* I. iv. 74 Different kinds of rude money . . . skins in one country, shells in another, and wedges of salt in a third.

5. *transf.* a. A formation of troops tapering to the front or van, in order to cleave a way through an opposing force. (Orig. after L. *cuneus*; cf. *wedge-battle* in 10.) Now more widely of a body of people.

1614 RALEGH *Hist. World* III. xii. §7. 152 Taking a choise Companie of the most able men, whom he cast into the forme of a Wedge, or Diamond. 1615 H. PEACHAM *Relat. Affairs Cleve & Gulick* C 2 b, The Horse . . . were showne in the field in order of fight: their manner was in forme of a Pile or wedge, called of the old Romans, *Cuneus*. 1674 MILTON *P.R.* III. 309 See how in warlike muster they appear, In Rhombs and wedges, and half moons, and wings. 1697 DRYDEN *Janeis* XII. 842 One Soul inspiring all, Form'd in a Wedge, the Foot approach the Wall. 1802 C. JAMES *Milit. Dict.* s.v. 1821 SHELLEY *Hellas* 377 Thrice their keen wedge of battle pierced our lines. 1887 *Times* (weekly ed.) 21 Oct. 2/1 A wedge of 15 or 18 policemen were endeavouring to be driven into that meeting. 1900 M. HEWLETT *Richard Yea-and-Nay* II. ix, The wedge held firm; red work for axe and swords while it lasted. 1913 J. H. MORRISON *On Trail Pioneers* I Every entrance is blocked, and down every gangway a long wedge of standing people has been driven deep into the heart of the house.

b. The V-shaped formation adopted by a number of geese or other wildfowl when flying.

[1725 WATTS *Logic* II. ii. §1 The wild Geese flew over the Thames in the Form of a Wedge.] 1869 BLACKMORE *Lorna Doone* xxix, So like half a wedge of wildfowl, to and fro we swept the field. 1889 *Daily News* 11 Jan. 5/3 There drifts over the moor a wedge of clangorous geese, making for the Channel.

c. *gen.* Something in the form of a wedge; a wedge-shaped part or piece of anything.

1821 SHELLEY *Adonais* I, One keen pyramid with wedge sublime, Pavilions the dust of him who planned This refuge for his memory. 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Box, Making a Night of it*, A pot of the real draught stout, and . . . cushions of bread, and wedges of cheese. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xii. 80 The glacier here . . . was cut up into thin wedges. 1889 H. SAUNDERS *Man. Brit. Birds* 660 The three outer primaries are of a dusky-black which becomes paler towards the edges of the inner webs, though there is no grey 'wedge'. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 430 It is better, instead of removing such a kidney, to treat each focus independently by scraping or by the excision of a wedge.

d. A strip of land narrowing to a point.

[1678 PHILLIPS (ed. 4), *Wedge*, a Sand so called, being broad at the West end, and sharp at the East end, and lies on the North side of the Marger Sands.] 1867 MURCHISON *Siluria* xvii. (ed. 4) 412 The Coal-field . . . thins out . . . so much that to the west of Bèthune it has merely become a narrow wedge. 1918 *Blackw. Mag.* June 77 1/2 The white wedge of Kildin Island is now on our port bow.

e. In an organ (see quot.).

1852 SEIDEL *Organ* 78 The wedge of the mouth . . . is the interval between the under lip and the language.

f. *Meteorol.* A narrow wedge-shaped area of high pressure between two adjacent cyclonic systems; also the representation of this on a weather-chart.

1887 R. ABERCROMBY *Weather* ii. 26 Between the two cyclones the isobar of 29.9 ins. projects upwards, like a wedge or an inverted letter V., but this time encloses high pressure; this shape of lines is called a 'wedge'.

g. The wedge-shaped stroke in cuneiform characters. Also *attrib.*

1821 RICH *Babylon & P.* (1839) 249 The wedges in the third [kind of inscription] cross each other. 1883 G. EVANS *Ess. Assyriol.* 6 The kind of writing in the copies, with the wedge as its fundamental element, was to them perfectly new.

1881 TYLOR *Anthrop.* i. 11 Deciphered from the wedge-characters of Nineveh. 1915 PINCHES in *Proc. Soc. Bibl. Archæol.* XXXVII. 90 We have a direct testimony to the practice of cutting the wedge-inscriptions.

h. Short for *wedge-shell* (see 10).

1815 S. BROOKES *Introd. Conchol.* 157 *Wedge*, *Donax*.

i. A v-shaped sign used in various musical and other notations (see quots.).

1893 E. M. THOMPSON *Handbk. Greek & Latin Palæogr.* v. 68 The paragraph-mark was not . . . uniformly the horizontal stroke; the wedge > . . . and similar forms were employed. 1970 *Language* XLVI. 78 Wedges printed after vowel symbols, e.g. [a'a'a'a], indicate raising, backing, lowering, and fronting. 1980 *Early Music* July 401/1 The most fascinating [signs] are the wedges indicating *crescendo*, *diminuendo* and *messa da voce* on single long notes: ◀, ▶, ◆, and a passage with second-position fingerings.

j. *Golf.* A golf club with a wedge-shaped head, used for lofting the ball at approach shots, or (= *sand wedge* s.v. SAND sb.² 10 a) out of a bunker, etc. Also, a shot made with a wedge.

[1924 J. WHITE *Easier Golf* iv. 100 What I attempt to do is to use this heel [of a club] . . . as a wedge, and by driving this into the sand behind the ball I create sufficient disturbance to force the ball out of any lie.] 1937 [see *sand wedge* s.v. SAND sb.² 10 a]. 1952 *Chambers's Jnrl.* May 300/1 Basil walked moodily off the tee, and after five minutes' search found his ball embedded in a patch of the foulest rough on the course, hacked it out with his wedge, and, playing two odd to the green, lost the hole. 1961 *Times* 1 July 4/1 He . . . played an overcautious wedge at the Royal. 1975 *Daily Tel.* (Colour Suppl.) 12 Sept. 9/4 Putting is out; most golfers carry just a driver, a four-wood, mid-iron and wedge.

k. A wedge heel; a wedge-soled shoe. See sense 9 b below. *colloq.*

1959 *Chambers's 20th Cent. Dict.* Add. 1965 R. HARDWICK *Plotters* (1966) xi. 102 Stretch pants, wedges, and a leghorn hat. 1968 J. IRONSIDE *Fashion Alphabet* 137 *Wedge*, a solid heel joined to the sole in one solid piece. 1976 *Washington Post* 19 Apr. A12/3 (Adv't.), Casual style wedges in Oxford and slip-on styles. 1983 *Times* 14 July 11/3 Gladiator straps on stacked wooden wedge . . . £44.50.

l. A hair style in which the ends of the hair are slightly graduated so that they form a series of wedges. orig. U.S.

1976 *Time* 19 Apr. 69 There are many variations on the new wedge. Stylists at the Paul McGregor shops in New York and Los Angeles have shaped the back of the cut into three inverted pyramids. 1977 *Daily News* (Perth, Austral.) 19 Jan. 6/4 After she became a headliner, Dorothy's hairdo, called the wedge, sent girls rushing off to hairdressers to duplicate the look. 1985 *Hair Summer* 78 (caption), Short, sculptured sweeping version of the wedge has classy clout in the form of a pink flash.

6. *Geom.* a. A triangular prism. b. A simple solid formed by cutting a triangular prism by any two planes.

1710 J. CLARKE tr. *Rohault's Nat. Philos.* (1729) I. 87 Let ABC represent a Wedge; and let CG be perpendicular to AB. 1829 *Nat. Philos., Mech.* II. x. 43 (U.K.S.) A Wedge is a solid figure, which is called in geometry a triangular prism. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 24/2 The wedge being merely the frustum of a triangular prism, we have at once [etc.]. 1895 A. LODGE *Mensuration* 7 If from a triangular prism of indefinite length, a piece is cut off by two transverse planes which are not parallel, this piece is called a wedge.

7. *Her.* A charge consisting of an isosceles triangle with a very acute angle at its vertex.

1716 S. KENT *Gramm. Her., Proctor of Norfolk*; He beareth Or, three Wedges Sable. 1780 EDMONDSON *Her. II. Alph. Arms, Isam or Isham*. Vert, three wedges ar. 1847 W. S. EVANS *Gramm. Her.* 151 The Nail (sometimes called the Passion-nail) . . . must not be confounded with the Wedge, which is of course wider at the top, and in shape something like a pile.

8. Cambridge University. *the (wooden) wedge*: the student last in the classical tripos list.

This counterpart to the older 'wooden spoon' (see WOODEN a.), designating the last man in the mathematical tripos, was suggested by the fact that in the first classical tripos (1824) the last man was Wedgwood of Christ's College, afterwards famous as an English etymologist.

1852 BRISTED *Five Yrs. Eng. Univ.* (ed. 2) 253 Of the remainder, five were Wranglers, four of these Double men, and a fifth a favorite for the Wedge . . . The last man is called the Wedge, corresponding to the Spoon in Mathematics.

9. a. Combinations, chiefly similitive, as *wedge-blade*, *-block*, *-bolt*, *-fashion*, *-form*, *-head*, *-shape*, *-stone*, *-wad*; *wedge-balancing*, *-billed*, *-sided* adjs.

1921 D. H. LAWRENCE *Tortoises* 19 Four rowing limbs, and one *wedge-balancing head. 1836 E. STANLEY *Fam. Hist. Birds* xiii. (1848) 289 Tribe 1. Cuneirostral (*Wedge-Billed). 1917 D. H. LAWRENCE *Look! We have come Through!* 113 The fine, fine wind . . . Like a fine, an exquisite chisel, a *wedge-blade inserted. 1868 *Rep. to Govt. U.S. Munitions of War* 55 The breech is opened and closed by a *wedge-block worked by a hinged lever. 1892 GREENER *Breech-Loader* 22 A round steel *wedge-bolt. 1665 J. WEBB *Stone-Heng* 190 These [stones] also were either of a *Wedge fashion, or wedged under the Great One. 1802 PLAYFAIR *Illustr. Hutton. Theory* 295 This *wedge-form of the whinstone masses. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 7 June 4/2 A disc on which black and white wedge-forms alternated. 1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XIII. 343/1 These [bars of steel] are welded together by forging to *wedge-heads, tying together with wire [etc.]. 1812 SIR J. SINCLAIR *Syst. Husb. Scot.* I. 43 The white thorn [hedge], when properly trained, and occasionally cut over, or dressed in the *wedge-shape, . . . will last for ages. 1895 HOFFMAN *Begin. Writing* 141 The end of the stick would be sharpened into a wedge-shape. 1852 *Mechanics' Mag.* 10 July 23 When taper or *'wedge-sided' type is employed, the cylinder need not be more in circumference than the size of the sheet of paper. 1854 CT. E. DE WARREN tr. *De Sauley's Round Dead Sea* II. 113 The voussoir, or early *wedge-stone. 1879 *Man. Artill. Exerc.* 53 *Wedge wads . . . consist of two wooden wedges connected by a piece of cane . . . These wads are to be rammed home separately after the projectiles.

b. Designating a wedge-shaped heel extended under the instep of a woman's shoe (also, the sole which includes this), or a shoe having such a heel. Freq. as *wedge-heel*, *shoe*, *sole*; *wedge-heeled*, *-soled* adjs. Cf. sense 5 k above.

1939 M. B. PICKEN *Lang. Fashion* 164/3 *Wedge-soled*, having a wedge-shaped piece making a solid sole, flat on the ground from heel to toe. 1940 GRAVES & HODGE *Long Week-End* xxi. 375 A high-heeled fancy shoe . . . and a wedge-heeled streamlined type. 1940 *Manch. Guardian Weekly* 11 Oct. 259 Today's displays of courts . . . and wedge-heel, and all other of the creations of the fashion-designer, give no indication . . . of what was really a welcome weeding out. 1940

O. NASH in *New Yorker* 23 Nov. 18/2 Let us give thanks that women's wedge shoes weren't invented until they were. 1942 in C. W. CUNNINGTON *Eng. Women's Clothing in Present Cent.* (1952) viii. 271 Practical [shoes], with flatter heels, square toed and wedge-soled. 1951 [see CREEPER I d]. 1957 R. HOGGART *Uses of Literacy* iv. 102 Mail-order firms advertise fancy wedge-shoes. 1975 D. BEATY *Electric Train* 153 Painted faces clumping up . . . on six-inch wedge shoes. 1983 P. DEVLIN *All of us Here* x. 112 Her daughter, in a new permanently pleated skirt, wedge-heeled shoes.

10. Special comb.: † *wedge-battle* = sense 5 a; *wedge-bill*, a bird with a wedge-shaped bill, as (a) the Australian *Sphenostoma cristatum*; (b) a S. American humming-bird of the genus *Schistes*; *wedge-bone*, † (a) the sphenoid bone; (b) a small bone sometimes occurring in lizards on the undersurface of the spinal column at the junction of a pair of vertebrae; *wedge-coral* (see quot.); *wedge-draining*, a mode of draining land, somewhat similar to *plug-draining*; *wedge-fern*, a fossil fern of the genus *Sphenopteris*; *wedge-fid* *Naut.* (see quot.); *wedge-form*, *-formed* adjs. = WEDGE-SHAPED; *wedge-grafting* (see quots.); *wedge-gun*, a field-gun in which a wedge is used in closing the breech; *wedge-leaf fern* = *wedge-fern*; *wedge-micrometer*, a graduated wedge-shaped piece of metal or glass, to be thrust between two fixed points to determine their distance apart; *wedge-photometer* *Astr.*, an instrument consisting of a wedge of glass, used for measuring the comparative brightness of stars; *wedge-press*, a press used for extracting oil from seeds; *wedge-shell*, a marine bivalve, belonging to *Donax* or allied genera; *wedge-tail* *Austral.*, the wedge-tailed eagle (see *wedge-tailed* adj.); = EAGLE-HAWK 2; *wedge-tailed a.*, having a wedge-shaped tail; used *spec.* in the names of birds, as the wedge-tailed eagle (*Uroaetus audax*) of Australia, and the wedge-tailed gull, *Rhodostethia rosea*; *wedge tent* = A TENT.

1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* 78 Out of a square of men hath bin reduced a triangle or *wedge battell in perfect order to fight. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1638) 273 The wedge battell of the Christians could not of the Turks be broken. 1848 GOULD *Birds of Australia* III. Pl. 17 Crested *Wedge-bill. 1861 — *Trochil.* IV. Pl. 219 *Schistes personatus*, . . . Masked Wedge-bill. *Ibid.* Pl. 220 White-throated Wedge-bill. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 442 *Sphenoides* or the *Wedge-bone. 1871 HUXLEY *Anat. Vert.* v. 217 Such a . . . sub-vertebral wedge-bone is commonly developed beneath and between the odontoid bone and the body of the second vertebra. 1860 GOSSE *Actinol.* *Brit.* 324 The Smooth-ribbed *Wedge-coral. *Sphenotrochus Macandrewanus*. *Ibid.* 326 The Knotted Wedge-coral. *Sphenotrochus Wrightii*. 1830 *Cumb. Farm Rep.* 67 in *Libr. Usef. Knowl.*, *Husb.* III, The *wedge or brick draining . . . is certainly not so well known among practical farmers as its merits deserve. 1867 W. W. SMYTH *Coal & Coal-mining* 36 *Sphenopteris* (*wedge-fern). 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, **Wedge-fids*, for top and top-gallant masts; in two parts, lifting by shores and sett-wedges. 1822 J. PARKINSON *Outl. Oryctol.* 221 Ovately *wedge-form. 1843 HOLTZAPFEL *Turning* I. 15 In many plants the wedge-form plates . . . appear as an irregular cellular tissue. 1822 J. PARKINSON *Outl. Oryctol.* 188 A longitudinal, *wedge-formed, equivalved bivalve. 1861 DARWIN in *Life & Lett.* (1887) III. 265 These packets cohere into many wedge-formed masses in Orchis. 1838 W. BARRON in *Gardener's Mag.* XIV. 80 The grafting of the *Cedrus Deodara* on the Cedar of Lebanon . . . is accomplished by what I call *wedge-grafting. 1842 LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* §657 *Wedge-grafting* . . . is a modification of side-grafting. *Ibid.* §664 Herbaceous wedge-grafting is effected by paring the scion into a wedge shape, and inserting it into a corresponding slit in the stock. 1876 VOYLE & STEVENSON *Milit. Dict.* (ed. 3), *Wedge Gun. 1851 MANTELL *Petrif.* 32 The other characteristic Wealden plant is the *Sphenopteris* (S. Mantelli), or *wedge-leaf fern. 1891 *Century Dict.* s.v. *Micrometer*, *Wedge-micrometer. 1883 C. PRITCHARD in *Mem. R. Astron. Soc.* XLVII. 394 The question, then, arises as to the applicability of the *wedge-photometer to the measurement of the magnitude . . . of such stars. 1844 *Penny Mag.* Sept. 381 The triturated seeds were put into woollen bags which were wrapped up in hair-cloths, and then submitted to the *wedge-press. 1820 WODARCH *Introd. Conchol.* 23 *Donax*. — *Wedge-shell. 1935 A. C. CHISHOLM *Bird Wonders Austral.* x. 102 The *Wedge-tail is a formidable foe for any native mammal. 1965 [see EAGLE-HAWK 2]. 1974 D. STUART *Prince of my Country* ii. 9 Watching the long effortless circling of the wedgetail high in the air. 1977 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 21 Jan. 76/2 Australia is the only place in the whole world where the wedgetail eagle is known. 1848 GOULD *Birds of Australia* I. Pl. 1 *Wedge-tailed Eagle. 1872 COUES *Key N. Amer. Birds* 316 *Wedge-tailed*, or Ross' Rosy Gull. 1898 'R. BOLDEWOOD' *Canvas Town Rom.* 73 The great wedge-tailed Eagle soaring above them. 1862 O. W. NORTON *Army Lett.* (1903) 49 We used to sleep on the ground or on pine boughs when we had the small *wedge tents. 1940 G. W. MARTIN *Mod. Camping Guide* v. 86 The wedge tent, known also as the A tent, is a popular model with explorers and other outdoorsmen who want something a little larger than a tiny crawl-in tent. 1980 D. T. ROSCOE *Your Bk. Camping* ('Your Bk.' Ser.) ii. 22 *Wedge tents* . . . are designed to save weight and bulk and to withstand wind better when the smaller end is pitched directly into it.

wedge (wedʒ), *v.*¹ Also 5–6 *wegge*. [f. WEDGE sb.]

1. a. *trans.* To tighten, fasten tight by driving in a wedge or wedges. Also with *in*, *on*, *up*.

c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 520/1 *Wedge*, wythe a *wedge* [*Winch. Wegge* with a *wegge*], *cuneo*. 1523–34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* §24

Than maye he... tothe the rakes... and driue the tethe pwarde faste and harde, and than wedge them aboue with drye woode of oke. 1667 BOYLE in *Phil. Trans.* II. 590 A piece of Shining Wood, wedged in with a piece of Cork. 1678 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* iv. 66 The Iron [of the Plane] being then well wedg'd up. 1722 A. PHILIPS *Briton* III. v. 32 My Chariot straight; another, for the Prince. Store them with Spears; wedge on the keenest Scythes. a 1790 W. NEWTON tr. *Vitruvius* VI. xi. (1791) 146 When posts are placed under them, and wedged, the beams cannot settle or be damaged. 1816 JANE AUSTEN *Emma* XXVIII, I have been assisting Miss Fairfax in trying to make her instrument stand steadily... You see we have been wedging one leg with paper. 1826 GWILT tr. *Vitruvius* VI. xi. (1866) 148 When posts are introduced and wedged up under them, the beams are prevented from sagging. 1840 H. S. TANNER *Canals & Rail Roads* U.S. 151 The wooden key used in wedging fast the upper string piece. 1842 *Min. Proc. Inst. Civil Engin.* II. 78 Compressed trenails... would hold tighter than the trenails now used, which require to have the points split and wedged up. 1875 *Carpentry & Joinery* 55 The simple but useful operation of wedging tenon and mortice joints.

†b. *transf.* and *fig.* To fasten firmly or attach to. *Obs.*

1629 MAXWELL tr. *Herodian* IV. 191 Both the Emperours... seeking to win and wedge men to their severall Factions, by faire Promises. 1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* I. II. 46 They find the Prelates and Popes themselves, so wedg'd and link'd to Secular advantages, they have not time to think upon God.

†c. To render (a gun) useless by the insertion of a wedge. *Obs.*

1680 *Exact Jnl. Siege Tangier* 8 Leaving the Guns double shotted, spiked and wedged with steel. *Ibid.* 11 The Men of Charles Fort having Spiked and Wedged their great Guns.

d. to wedge *up*: to raise a ship before launching, by means of slivers or wedges driven between the false keel and the bilgeways.

1879 'H. COLLINGWOOD' *Secret of Sands* xix, Four months... saw her caulked, her seams paid, her hull painted, and, in short, everything ready, even to wedging up, for launching.

2. a. To cleave or split by driving in a wedge. 1530 PALSGR. 778/2, I wedge a blocke, I put in a wedge to cleave it, *je coigne*... Wedge this blocke, it will ryve the soner. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* I. i. 35 My heart, As wedged with a sigh, would rive in twaine. 1678 [see WEDGING *vbl. sb.* 1].

b. To split off, to force apart, asunder, or open, by driving in a wedge. *Also fig.*

1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xlvii. (1856) 423 And even now great ledges are wedged off from the hillsides by the ice. 1865 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XIX. vi. (1873) VIII. 201 Friedrich and he are wedged asunder by that dike of Russians and Austrians. 1873 MOGGIDGE *Harv. Ants* I. 33 Having contrived to wedge off several large flakes of the rock. 1894 *Advance* (Chicago) Oct. 4 It is not commonly the big things but the little ones which wedge pastor and people apart. 1914 H. BALFOUR in *Jnl. R. Anthropol. Inst.* XLIV. 33 A billet of lime wood, split at one end and wedged open with a stone.

3. a. *transf.* To drive, push, or squeeze (an object) into something where it is held fast; to fix firmly by driving in, or by pressing tight. *Const. into, in, under, between.* Also with adv., as *in, up, down.*

1513 DOUGLAS *Aeneis* XI. xv. 85 Quhill that the lance... wedyt deip within hir cost stude. 1607 DEKKER *Whore of Babylon* L. 1, Fall thunder, And wedge me into earth, stiffe as I am. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII.* IV. i. 58 Among the crow'd i' th' abbey, where a finger Could not be wedg'd in more. 1665 J. WEBB *Stone-Heng* 190 These [stones] also were either of a Wedge fashion, or wedged under the Great One. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* I. vii. 195 Besides what Gold and Sand they take up together, they often find great lumps, wedg'd between the Rocks. 1697 DRYDEN *Aeneis* V. 285 Sergestus in the Centaur soon he pass'd, Wedg'd in the Rocky Sholes, and sticking fast. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* II. iii, Squeezing my legs together, [he] wedged them into the marrow-bone above my waist. 1764 FOOTE *Patron* III. Wks. 1799 I. 353, I was wedged so close in the pit, that I could scarcely get out. 1806 A. DUNCAN *Life of Nelson* 12 They became... fast wedged in the ice. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* III. I. 336 If a coach or a cart entered those alleys, there was danger that it would be wedged between the houses. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's* C. vii. 43 The boy... tried to wedge some of his cake into her mouth. 1869 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. xiv, Driven into that nook, and wedged as he had described, was Gaffer's boat. 1870 *Spectator* 19 Nov. 1370/1 If they are permitted to go on, they will wedge themselves in between the Germans, and be able to enfilade the corps on each side. 1890 *Hardwicke's Sci.-Gossip* XXVI. 239 In its persevering search for the snails, it had got its head tightly wedged some distance into the wall. 1908 H. WALES *Old Allegiance* I. 14 He... sat with... his pipe firmly wedged in the corner of his mouth.

b. *fig.*

1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* II. iii. 30 Nay your wit will not so soone out as another mans will, 'tis strongly wedg'd vp in a blocke head. a 1659 BP. BROWNRIE *Serm.* (1674) I. xxvi. 340 He wedges in the other Prayer for a competency of temporal things. 1730 *Portland Papers* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) VI. 29 Having been wedged down in this detestible place [the Fleet prison] by an incurable and painful malady, poverty and tatters.

4. To pack or crowd (a number of persons or animals) in close formation, or in a limited space. Also with *together.*

1720 POPE *Iliad* XVII. 846 While Greece a heavy, thick Retreat maintains, Wedg'd in one Body like a Flight of Cranes. 1776 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* I. (1782) I. 16 The strength of the phalanx depended on sixteen ranks of long pikes, wedged together in the closest array. 1807 J. BARLOW *Columb.* III. 766 Here Zamor ranged his ax-men deep and wide, Wedged like a wall and thus the king defied. 1844 MARIA T. ASMAR *Mem. Babylonian Princ.* II. 68 The crowd was prodigious. Men, women, and even children were wedged in one dense mass. 1856 STANLEY *Sinai & Pal.* xiv.

(1858) 465 A dense mass of pilgrims who sit or stand wedged round it. 1871 CARLYLE in *Mrs. Carlyle's Lett.* (1883) I. 8 The 2,000 human figures, wedged in the huge room into one dark mass, were singular to look down upon.

5. *intr. a.* To become fixed or jammed tight by (or as by) the operation of a wedge.

1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* I. 55 Which all wedge together and intersect one another both with equal and unequal Angles. 1893 *Atlantic Monthly* Feb. 197/2 The men started carefully, holding the saw quite true that later it might not wedge.

b. To force one's way in. *rare.*

1616 B. JONSON *Devil an Ass* III. iii. 26 This comes of... haunting The Globes, and Mermaides! wedging in with Lords, Still at the table!

c. to wedge *their way*, to fly in a wedge-shaped formation, tapering to the front or van. *poet.*

1667 MILTON *P.L.* VII. 426 Part loosely wing the Region, part more wise In common, rang'd in figure wedge thir way.

6. to wedge out (Geol.): = *thin out* s.v. THIN *v.* 1 2 a; = *lens out* s.v. LENS *v.*

1819 [implied in *wedging out* s.v. WEDGING *vbl. sb.* 4]. 1839 R. I. MURCHISON *Silurian Syst.* 140 Limestone... can be traced tapering away from a central mass to thin extremities, which really wedge out between the coal grits and the older deposits. 1945 *Bull. Amer. Assoc. Petroleum Geologists* XXIX. 1563 The distinction from the Permeability Trap Reservoirs is made by restricting the Pinch-Out Trap Reservoirs to types located in such stratigraphic intervals or zones which actually wedge out. 1966 *Earth-Sci. Rev.* I. 163 Ignimbrites tend to wedge out against or thin over topographic highs. 1979 *Nature* 27 Sept. 267/1 These nappes wedge out and converge to the west and seem to represent a telescoping of Lower Palaeozoic Facies.

wedge (wɛdʒ), *v.* 2 In 7 wage. [Of obscure origin; the modern form is prob. less correct than the earlier *wage*, but cf. WEDGE *sb.* 4.] *trans.* To cut (wet clay) into masses and work them by kneading and throwing down, in order to expel air-bubbles. Hence 'wedging' *vbl. sb.*

1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 123 [Potter's clay] is brought to the wageing board, where it is slit into flat thin pieces... This being done, they wage it, i.e. knead or mould it like bread. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 461 Wedging the clay is a similar process [to that of slapping]... The presser cuts off, with a thin brass wire, a piece of clay from the mass, which he slaps forcibly between the palms of his hands, and then with great violence throws it on the board. 1839 *Ure Dict. Arts* 1011 The first of which is called the potter's *sloping* [ed. 5, 1860 *slapping*] or *wedging*. 1860 W. WHITE *Wrekin* xxvii. 297 The [pug]-mill, however, continued to work, and in time convinced the men of their stupidity; and now, if a man were ordered to 'wedge' his own clay, his answer would be 'Aw'll stroike first'. *Ibid.*, The clay... is... thrown into the 'pug-mill', or 'wedging-mill', a large upright cylinder, in which it is forced or screwed gradually downwards, and extruded at the bottom in a continuous cubical mass.

wedge, *obs. var.* WAGE *sb.* and *v.*

1530 PALSGR. 287/2 Wedge a pledge, *gaige, pleige. Ibid.* 778/2, I wedge, I lay in pledge, *je gaige.* I wedge my heed it is nat so.

wedged (wɛdʒd), *ppl. a.* 1 [f. WEDGE *sb.* and *v.* 1 + -ED.] Shaped like a wedge.

1552 HULOET, *Wedged, cuneatus.* 1722 A. PHILIPS *Briton* I. i. 2 In Chariots, fang'd with Scythes, they scour the Field: Drive through our wedged Batalions with a Whirl. 1730 A. GORDON *Maffer's Amphib.* 307 The Key-Stone in the middle is wedged, and, as we say, Swallow-tail'd. 1809 CAMPBELL *Gert. Wyom.* III. xxv, With... arrowy frize, and wedged ravelin. a 1813 A. WILSON *Foresters Wks.* (Belfast 1846) 250 Above, around, in numerous flocks are seen Long lines of ducks o'er their fav'rite scene; Some to the lake in wedged divisions bend. 1827 *Encycl. Lond.* XXII. 806/2 Two fore-teeth, of which the upper are wedged, the lower are acute. 1867 EMERSON *Poems, May-day* 29 Or hark, Where yon wedged line the Nestor leads, Steering north with raucous cry Through tracts and provinces of sky. 1874 THEARLE *Naval Archit.* 336 The cover being secured by wedged buttons worked with a spanner. 1891 *Century Dict.*, *Wedged*, in *zool.*, wedge-shaped; cuneiform or cuneate: as, a wedged bone; the wedged tail of a bird.

wedged (wɛdʒd), *ppl. a.* 2 [f. WEDGE *v.* 2 + -ED¹.] Of wet clay: that has been wedged to expel air-bubbles before it is worked.

1903 in J. BURNETT *Useful Toil* (1974) III. 298 From balls of wedged or refined clay he made the pancake-like shapes of clay which he had to use in making the next set of plates. 1967 M. CHANDLER *Ceramics in Mod. World* II. 63 However well pugged or well wedged (hand worked to eliminate air) his clay may be, the ceramic sculptor cannot be certain that it contains no blebs.

wedge-like (wɛdʒlaɪk), *a.* [f. WEDGE *sb.* + -LIKE.] Like or resembling a wedge.

1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 48 There are commonly sixe bones, which compasse the braine on eche side, besides that which is called the wedge-like bone, which is vnder the pallat of the mouth. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 456 The Wedge-like-forme of the country. 1652 BENLOWES *Theophila* x. xci, But still thy knotty Brain with wedge-like Anguish cleave. 1774 *GOLDSM. Nat. Hist.* VI. 239 Of these [teeth] there are six rows, sharp-pointed, and of a wedge-like figure. 1840 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jnl.* III. 125/1 They are farther secured by a wedgelike pin driven into their centres. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 598 Diminished by degrees into mere wedge-like streaks.

wedger (wɛdʒə(r)), [f. WEDGE *v.* 2 + -ER¹.] A workman who wedges clay to expel air-bubbles from it.

1881 *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 361/2 The 'wedger' takes a lump of... twenty pounds, lays it on the kneading block before him, [etc.]. 1921 *Dict. Occup. Terms* (1927) §104 Wedger,

clay wedger, cuts lump of clay into pieces or wedges with wire cutter, and beats one piece of clay vigorously against another to make it homogeneous and free of air bubbles, for use in manufacture of highest class ware.

wedge-shaped (wɛdʒʃeɪpt), *a.* Shaped like a wedge, cuneiform; *Bot.* and *Zool.* = CUNEATE.

1788 J. WHITE *Jrnl. Voy. N.S. Wales* (1790) 143 The tail [of this bird] is long and wedge-shaped. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) III. 843 Leaves wedge-shaped. 1837 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jnl.* I. 24/2 The rafters to be of wood... and the section to be wedge-shaped. 1845 LINDLEY *Sch. Bot.* I. (1858) 10 If very much wider at the point than at any other part, they [leaves] are *cuneate* or *wedge-shaped*. 1867 SCHELE DE VERE *Studies in English* 10 The wedge-shaped inscriptions of Cyrus, Darius, and Xerxes. 1893 TUCKEY tr. *Hatschek's Amphioxus* 90 Changing to high and sharply pointed wedge-shaped cells.

wedgewise (wɛdʒwaɪz), *adv.* [f. WEDGE *sb.* + -WISE.] After the manner, in the form, of a wedge.

1548 *Elyot's Dict.*, *Cuneatim*, wedgewyse, by lyttell bandes or companies, imbatayled wedgewyse. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* II. I. 79 They... with a pointed bataille wedgewyse pierced through and made themselves passage. 1610 — *Camden's Brit.* I. 456 It lieth Wedg-wise upon the sea. 1657 R. CARPENTER *Astrol.* 28 That these words may be understood to the bottom, and withstand all Objections; and that no opposition may wedge-wise enter upon them. 1703 NEVE *City & C. Purchaser* 10 Bricks moulded... Wedgewise, broader above, than they are below. 1852 DE MORGAN in *Graves Life Sir W. R. Hamilton* (1889) III. 415 Nothing but two sheets of thin pasteboard... with three bits of book-covering cloth... pasted on, so as to open out wedgewise. 1900 M. HEWLETT *Richard Yea-and-Nay* II. ix, Inside the town gate they took up close order, wedgewise, linked and riveted.

wedgie (wɛdʒi), *colloq.* Also wedgy. [f. WEDGE *sb.* + -Y⁶.] A wedge-heeled shoe (see WEDGE *sb.* 9b); more recently, also *spec.* one with a built-up or 'stacked' sole. *Usu. in pl.*

1940 *Women's Wear Daily* 15 Mar. 18/1 New streamlined wedgies that make the foot look smaller. 1943 *Consumers' Res. Bull.* (U.S.) Dec. 20/2 Brown leather 'wedgie' with bottom-sole of thin leather. 1950 [see *slingshot* s.v. SLING *sb.* 7]. 1962 A. HUXLEY *Island* ix. 133 Soft Platform Wedgies in Wide Widths. 1974 E. BRAWLEY *Rap* (1975) I. v. 83 She always wore those white wedgies, old Marie-Claude, claimed they eased her feet on the job.

wedging (wɛdʒɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. WEDGE *v.* 1 and *sb.* + -ING¹.]

1. *a.* The action of driving in a wedge or wedges, or of fixing or cleaving by this means; the condition of being thus fixed.

1678 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* v. 98 They drive a Wedge so far in the kerf as they dare... and so provide the Saw a freer and easier passage through the Stuff: This Wedging they continue so oft as they find occasion. 1825, 1842 *Foxtail* wedging [see *FOXTAIL* 4]. 1893 TUCKEY tr. *Hatschek's Amphioxus* 140 We saw the oval notochord transverse section still wedged in between the cells of the mesenteron... In the region of the later segments we still find the former condition of the wedging.

b. *concr.* A wedge-shaped piece or pieces of some hard material driven in for tightening or securing.

1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 337 The wheels are fixed on the shaft by means of a wedging of hard wood, driven in all round.

2. *Geol.* The flaking off (of rock, etc.), as if by the operation of a wedge.

1882 A. GEIKIE *Text-bk. Geol.* VII. 928 Their naked precipices are kept bare and steep by the wedging off of successive slices of rock along lines of joint.

3. *Sport.* (See *quot.*)

1897 *Encycl. Sport* I. 583 *Spraint*, the excrement of the otter; also called *wedging*.

4. *Geol.* With out: the narrowing of a stratum or the like to the point of extinction. Cf. WEDGE *v.* 1 6.

1819 J. FORBES *Geol. Land's-End District* (1822) 21 At one point of this natural section, an instructive example of what is called by geologists the *wedging out* of a bed, is observable. 1883 W. S. GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-Mining* 283 *Wedging out*, cropping or thinning out.

5. *attrib.*, as *wedging joint*; *wedging crib*, *curb Mining* (see *CRIB sb.* 12 and *CURB sb.* 10).

1839 *Ure Dict.* Art 972 Three kinds of cribs are employed; called *wedging*, *spiking*, and *main cribs. Ibid.* 973 The flange for the *wedging joint* is best turned inwards. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, *Wedging-crib* or *Wedging-crib*, Eng.

Wedgwood (wɛdʒwud). Also incorrectly Wedgewood. [A proper name: see below.]

1. a. Used *attrib.* to designate the pottery made by Josiah Wedgwood (1730-95) and his successors at Etruria, Staffs. The best-known kinds are vases, plaques, medallions, etc., of fine clay lightly glazed, with classical designs in white relief on a blue or black ground.

Sometimes spelt with lower-case initial. Now a proprietary name both in the U.K. (since 1876) and the U.S. (since 1906).

1787 COLMAN *Inkle & Yarico* III. i, She's... quite dark; but very elegant; like a Wedgwood tea-pot. 1798 *Phil. Trans.* LXXXVIII. 568 A piece of black Wedgwood-pottery. *Ibid.*, Wedgwood-ware. 1819 *CHILDREN Chem. Anal.* 374 A still simpler... method is to place the filters in a wedgwood basin on the sand bath. 1861 J. GARDNER *Househ. Med.* 410 Two Wedgwood-ware mortars... and

pestles to match. **1862** *Catal. Internat. Exhib.*, Brit. II. No. 6897, Solid jasper, that is the material now exclusively called Old Wedgwood Ware. **1873** SIR J. D. HOOKER in L. Huxley *Life* (1918) II. 133, I sent Gladstone a Wedgwood medallion of my Father. **1876** *Trade Marks Jnrl.* 2 Aug. 325 Wedgwood. Godfrey Wedgwood... trading under the Firm of Josiah Wedgwood and Sons... Pottery Manufacturers... Pots. 2823, 28th Feb. 1876. **1906** *Official Gaz.* (U.S. Patent Office) 4 Dec. 1671/1 Wedgwood. Particular description of goods.—Porcelain, stoneware, and earthenware, including Jasper.

b. Used *attrib.* and *absol.* to designate the blue colour which is characteristic of Wedgwood ware.

1900 *Bladud* (Bath) 28 Mar. 6/3 You will recollect how many of the Christmas cards were wedgwood blue last year. *Ibid.* 7/1 The wedgwood frock I have described. **1909** *Daily Graphic* 20 Oct. 13/2 Touches of cherry colour or Wedgwood blue insets of velvet. **1923** *Daily Mail* 19 Feb. 1 (Adv't.), Coloured Jap silks (36 inches wide)... In pink, coral, wedgwood, helio, [etc.]. **1974** P. DICKINSON *Poison Oracle* ii. 41 Her angry Wedgwood eyes held his.

c. sb. = Wedgwood pottery or ware. Also, with *pl.*, a piece or specimen of this.

1863 SIR J. D. HOOKER in L. Huxley *Life* (1918) II. 78 Wedgwoods are an unspeakable relief to me. I look over them every Sunday morning, and poke into all the little second-hand shops I pass in London, seeking medallions. **1890** *Pall Mall Gaz.* 12 Mar. 3/1 Mr. Cornelius Cox's unique collection of wedgwood. **1892** *Ibid.* 25 Mar. 6/3 The very choice collection of old Wedgwood belonging to the late Mr. W. D. Holt, of Liverpool.

2. Designating the scale of temperature used in the pyrometer invented by Josiah Wedgwood for testing the heat of kilns. The zero corresponds to 1077° F.

1807 T. THOMSON *Chem.* (ed. 3) II. 510 Flint-glass melts at the temperature of 19° Wedgewood.

wedgy ('wedʒɪ), *a. rare.* [f. WEDGE *sb.* + -Y¹.] Resembling a wedge; shaped like a wedge.

1799 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Rev.* XXVIII. 525 An attraction of cohesion... which is darting its wedgy crystals in every direction, and severing, with resistless interstitial force, the comparatively loose and feeble organization of every contiguous state. **1846** LANDOR *Imag. Conv.*, *Lucian* & *Timotheus* Wks. II. 31/2 He... pushed his wedgy snout far within the straw subjacent. **1888** J. INGLIS *Tent Life in Tigerland* 296 She shoots from aloft and cleaves the water with her wedgy beak.

†**wedhood.** *Obs. rare*—¹. [f. WED *ppl. a.* + -HOOD.] The married state.

a 1450 [see WEDDEDHOOD].

wedir, weðer, obs. forms of WHETHER.

wedir(e, obs. forms of WEATHER.

wedirwyn(e, variants of WITHERWIN.

wedlock ('wedlɒk), *sb.* Forms: 1 *wedlác*, 2-3 *wedlac*, (*Ormin* *weddlac*), 3-4 *wedlak* (e, *wedlayk*, 4 *weddelak*, *wedlek*, (5 *vedlak*), 6 *wedlaike*; 4-7 *wedlok*, 4-6 *wedloke*, 5-7 *wedlocke*, 7- *wedlock*. [OE. *wedlác*, f. *wed* pledge, *WED sb.* + -*lác* suffix forming nouns of action: see -LOCK.

In two vocabularies of the 11th c. *wedlác* renders L. *arrabo* earnest-money; but the sense, if it existed, did not survive into ME.]

†**1.** The marriage vow or obligation. Chiefly in phrases, *to hold, keep wedlock*, to be faithful in marriage; *to break (one's) wedlock*, to commit adultery. *Obs.*

a 1100 *Aldhelm Gloss.* in *Zeitschr. f. deutsches Alterthum* IX. 498/2 *Pacta sponsalia refutans*, *wedlac wiðsacende*. **c** 1200 *ORMIN* 2499 And tohh wass heh & sop weddlac Haldenn on e33perr hallfe. **c** 1230 *Hali Meid.* 19 3if ha hare wedlac lanelliche halden. **c** 1275 *XI Pains of Hell* 105 in *O.E. Misc.* 150 Heo þat her wedlac brekep To heore mupe þe fiod takep. **c** 1385 CHAUCER *L.G.W.* 295 For alle kepud they here maydynhed Or ellis wedlek. **1426** AUDELEY *Poems* 3 Kepe 3oure wedloke. **1450-1530** *Myrr. Our Ladye* II. 207 How wedlocke betwixt man and woman shulde be kepte after the lawe of god. **c** 1511 *1st Eng. Bk. Amer.* (Arb.) Intro. 35/2 There is... noman so hardy that dare breke his wedloke. **1523** BERNERS *Froiss.* (1812) I. xxi. 30 Howe be it she kept but euyl the sacrament of matrimony, but brake her wedloke. **1526** TINDALE *Matt.* v. 32 And whosoever maryeth her that is diuorced, breketh wedlocke. **1553** T. WILSON *Rhet.* Pref. Aiii, None remembered the true obseruation of wedlocke. **1579** RICE *Inuect. Vices* Eiv, Christe aunswered,... Thou shalte not breake wedlocke: Thou shalte not kill. **1604** SHAKS. *Oth.* v. ii. 142 *Æmil.* That she was false to Wedlocke? *Oth.* I, with Cassio. **1611** — *Wint.* T. v. i. 124 Your Mother was most true to Wedlock.

2. The condition of being married; marriage as a state of life or as an institution; matrimonial relationship. Now only in literary or legal use.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 206 Uor hwuso hit euer is idon,... bute one ine wedlake, hit is deadlich sunne. **c** 1230 *Hali Meid.* (Titus MS.) 13 Hit [sc. coition] is tah in wedlac summes weis to polien. *Ibid.* 33 Wedlac haueð hire frut þritti fald in heuene; widewehad, sixti fald. **1303** R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 11201 For many come neuer yn wedlak But for þe fyrst cunnauht þat men spak. **c** 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* x. 202 (MS. T.) Sip þe lawe hap y-grauntid þat iche man haue a make in maner of wedlak. **c** 1386 CHAUCER *Merch. T.* 20 Noon oother lyf, seyde he, is worth a bene, For wedlok is so esy and so clene That in this world it is a Paradys. **1387** TREvisa *Higden* IV. 353 In a nyȝt whan þei hadde i-payde dette of wedlok eyper to oper. **c** 1440 *York Myst.* xiii. 261 In lele wedlak pou lede þe. **a** 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 108 Yf scho had conceyuet out of wedlocke, þe lewes wold haue sayde scho had ben a lechore. **1490** CAXTON *Eneydos* xiii. 46 Iuno, the goddess of wedlocke. **1548-9** *Bk. Com. Prayer, Marriage* 14b, Forasmuche as N. and N. haue consented together in holly

wedlocke. **1576** FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 287 They put away their wyues, and enter againe into wedlocke. **1582** STANYHURST *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 68 Of Venus in wedlock thee daughter [*Veneris nurus*]. **1595** SHAKS. *John* I. i. 117 Your brother is Legittimate, Your fathers wife did after wedlocke beare him. **1597** HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxxiii. §2 That kind of loue which is the perfectest ground of wedlocke is seldome able to yeeld any reason of it selfe. **1634** SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 39 [The Banians] so extremely honour Wedlocke, that they seldome are vnmarried at seuen yeares of age. **1671** MILTON *Samson* 353, I pray'd for Children, and thought barrenness In wedlock a reproach. **1765** FOOTE *Commissary* I. 9, I look upon wedlock to be a kind of lottery. **1797** S. JAMES *Narr. Voy.* 170 He offered Haswell his sister in wedlock. **1807** CRABBE *Par. Reg.* II. 362 Children from wedlock we by laws restrain. **1829** LYTTON *Devereux* I. i, Sir Arthur had two children by wedlock. **1854** MILMAN *Lat. Christ.* vi. iii. (1864) III. 441 Heribert himself, the great Archbishop, was a married man; his wedlock had neither diminished his power nor barred his canonisation. **1879** DIXON *Windsor* I. iv. 34 In her early days of wedlock, he neglected her.

fig. **c** 1400 26 *Pol. Poems* xxii. 25 To god, thi wedlok wiþ loue holde. **c** 1530 TINDALE *Jonah* Prol. (1863) Bijb, This euell... nacion (which breake y^e wedlocke of faith wherwith they be married vn to God).

transf. **1697** DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 203 Instructed thus, produce him [the stallion] to the Fair; And join in Wedlock to the longing Mare.

b. born in (or †*under*), *out of wedlock*: said distinctively of legitimate or illegitimate offspring. Now the most frequent use of the sb.

c 1205 LAY. 395 Assaracus heuede enne broper þe wes under wedlac iboren. **1340** HAMPOLE *Pr. Cons.* 8261 Som þat er in lele wedlayk born. **c** 1400 *Gosp. Nicodemus* (G.) 252 In wedlayk [v.rr. wedlake, wedloyke] was he born. **1470-85** MALORY *Arthur* x. xxiii. 451 Sire Aglouale was his fyrste sone begoten in wedlok. **1547** *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 262 His bretheren and susters gotten in wedlaike. **1634** CANNE *Necess. Separ.* v. 219 Those children... which are born under wedlock. **1675** CHARAC *Town-Gallant* 2 He is so bitter an Enemy to Marriage, that one would suspect him born out of Lawful Wedlock. **1765** BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. 434 A legitimate child is he that is born in lawful wedlock. **1824** W. IRVING *T. Trav.* II. II. 25, I forgave the fellow... his two heinous crimes, of having been born in wedlock, and inheriting my estate. **1891** E. PEACOCK *N. Brendon* II. 97 He did not believe that little Bessy was born in wedlock. **1911** *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 379/2 The question remains, how far, if at all, English law recognizes the legitimacy of a person born out of wedlock.

c. In particularized sense: A matrimonial union; a married life.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* ix. 152 And þus þourw cursed cayn cam care vpon erthe; And al for þei wrouȝt wedlokkes aȝein goddis wille. **1450-1520** *Myrr. Our Ladye* II. 206 Thys lesson tellyth... how holly a wedlocke was betwixte loachym and Anne. *Ibid.* 207 Why le he [God] behelde all the rightwys and honeste wedlockes that shulde be from the fyrste makeyng of man vnto the laste day. **1581** STUDLEY *Seneca's Herc. Etæus* II. 197 O woeful wight, it pitieth vs to see Thy wedlock in this tickle state to bee. **1624** FLETCHER *Rule a Wife* v. (1640) 64 Tis sacriledge to violate a wedlock. **1825** SCOTT *Betrothed* xii, It was then your mother... of whose unhappy wedlock you have spoken? **1846** JERROLD *St. Giles* xxxiv, And Snipeton, his wife in her winding-sheet, might so have solemnised a second wedlock.

†**d.** A marriage ceremony, wedding. *Obs.*

a 1300 K. Horn (Camb. MS.) 1254 Hi Runge þe belle þe wedlak for to felle.

†**3.** A wife. *Obs.*

1561 NUCE *Seneca's Octavia* iv. i. F iij, Cæsars wedlock are you. **1567** TURBERV. *Ovid's Epist.* 149 b, [Ulysses says] But I, not forcing of their gifts, did loue my wedlock best. **1567** GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* ix. (1593) 213 He heard his wedlocke shrieking out, and did her calling knowe. **1601** B. JONSON *Poetaster* iv. iii, Which of these is thy wedlocke, Menelav? thy Hellen? **1605** CHAPMAN *All Fooles* I. ii. 118 Valerio, here's a simple meane for you To lye at racke and mangle with your wedlocke. **1606** MARSTON *Parasitaster* II. i. C 3, But to lie with ones brothers wedlocke, O my deere Herod, tis vile and vncomon lust. **1611** MIDDLETON & DEKKER *Roaring Girl* I. i. E 4b, He watches For quarrelling wedlockes, and poore shifting sisters. **1617** FLETCHER *Valentinian* v. vi, The most true constant lover of his wedlock. **1690** DRYDEN *Don Sebast.* II. ii, For his Wedlock for all her haughtiness, I find her coming.

4. Comb. a. Simple attrib. (now *rare* or *Obs.*) as in *wedlock-band*, -*bed*, -*debt*, -*knot*, etc.

1422 YONGE tr. *Secreta Secret.* 194 To pay wedlak dette hit is of no syn. **1557** *Willf. Amcotts* (Somerset Ho.), In the choys of their wedlockmates. **1586** T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* I. 457 By wedlocke copulation we came into the world. **1593** SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI.* III. iii. 243 Ile ioyne mine eldest daughter... To him forthwith, in holly Wedlocke bands. **1596** — *Merch. V.* v. i. 32 She kneeles and prayes For happy wedlocke houres. **1600** — *A.Y.L.* v. iv. 150 Whiles a Wedlocke Hymne we sing. **16...** MIDDLETON, etc. *Old Law* v. i, Will it please you to taste of the wedlock courtesie? **1624** DAVENPORT *City Night-cap* II. (1661) 17 Since our marriage, I have perform'd So fairly all judicial wedlock-offices, That [etc.]. **1635** J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Old Old Man* B 3 b, She dead, he ten yeares did a Widdower stay; Then once more ventred in the Wedlock way. **1671** MILTON *Samson* 986 Who to save Her cuntry from a fierce destroyer chose Above the faith of wedlock-bands. *Ibid.* 1009 Love-quarrels oft in pleasing concord end, Not wedlock-trechery endangering life. **1819** SCOTT *Noble Moring* i, It was the noble Moring in wedlock bed he lay. **1824** SYMMONS tr. *Æschylus' Agamemnon* 64 To Iliion came the wedlock-woe.

†**b. wedlock-bound a.**, bound in marriage; **wedlock-breaker**, an adulterer; so **wedlock-breaking sb.** and *a. Obs.*

? **a** 1400 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 370 Werne euery man... Off wedlocke-brekyngye wer to be. **c** 1500 *Mayd Emyln in Anc. Poet. Tracts* (Percy Soc.) 23 All wedlocke brekers. **c** 1530 TINDALE *Jonah* Prol. (1863) Bijb, This euell & wedlocke breakinge nacion... seke a signe. **1552** LATIMER *Serm. Lincs.* i. (1562) 67 Thou shalt not be a wedlock

breaker. **1608** TOPSELL *Serpents* 267 Wedlocke breakers, & Cockold-makers. **1667** MILTON *P.L.* x. 905 Alreadie linkt and Wedlock-bound To a fell Adversarie.

Hence †**wedlock v. trans.**, to unite in marriage (in quots. *passive*); also (nonce-use), to *wedlock it*, to get married. †**wedlockable a.**, marriageable. †**wedlockhood**, the married state.

c 1230 *Hali Meid.* (Titus MS.) 33 Of peos þre had, meidenhad & widewehad, & te þridde, wedlachad [Bodley MS. wedlac]. **1557** PHAER *Æneid* VII. (1558) Sij, One doughter did remayne... Now husbandripe, now wedlockable full, of laufull yerres. **1644** MILTON *Divorce* II. xv. (ed. 2) 60 Is it not most likely that God in his Law had more pity towards man thus wedlockt, then towards the woman that was created for another. **1674** N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* Ep. Ded., That man... will never feel himself less at ease for being wedlockt but to one. **1737** OZELL *Rabelais* III. ix. 50 A single Person is never seen to reap the Joy and Solace that is found among those that are Wedlockt. Wedlock it then in the Name of God, quoth Pantagruel.

wedmell, -mole, -moll, obs. ff. WADMAL.

Wednesday ('wenzdeɪ, -di). Forms: *a.* 1 *Wódnes dæg* (dǣg), *dei*, 3 *Wodnesdei*, 3-4 -*day*, (3 *pl.* -*dawes*), 3-5 *Wodenes-*, 4 *Wodenis-*, 5-6 *Wodens-*, *Wodinsday*. *β.* 3 *Wednes-*, *Weodnes-*, *Wendesdei*, 3-4 *Wednesdai*, 4 *Wendes-*, 4-5 *Wedenis-*, *Wedenys-*, *Wedenes-*, *Wedonesday*, -*dai*, 4-7 *Wedins-*, 5 *Wyndenesse day*, *Sc.* *Wedynnisdai*, 5-6 *Wed(d)ens-*, *Wed(d)yns-*, *Wednys-*, 6 *Weddynnis-*, *Wednis-*, *Wedns-*, *Sc.* *Veddynis-*, 6-7 *Weddins-*, 3- *Wednesday*. *γ.* *Wannesdai*, 5 *Wan(n)ys-*, *Wones-*, *Won(n)ysday*, 5 *Wenness-*, *W(h)enysday*, *Wenstay*, 5-6 *Wennysday*, *Wendesdai*, 6 *Wenes-*, 4-7 *Wensday* (e. [OE. *Wódnes dæg* = OFris. *wóns-*, *woenis-*, *wern(i)s-*, *wernes-*, *wers-*, *wer(ren)dei*, *wénsdei* (mod. Wfris. *woansdei*, *wansdei*, *wensdei*, *wernsdei*, Nfris. *wijnjsdei*, *wadensdei*), MLG. *Wôdenesdach*, *Gudensdag*, MDu. *Woensdach* (mod.Du. -*dag*), ON. *Óðensdagr* (Sw., Da. *Onsdag*), 'the day of (the god) *Woden*', a translation of late L. *Mercurii dies*, whence the name of the day in the Rom. langs. (F. *Mercredi*, Sp. *Miercoles*, It. *Mercoledì*). In High German the day appears always to have been called 'mid-week' (mod.G. *Mittwoch*), although for the other days (exc. Saturday) the translated Roman (planetary) names were adopted as in the other WGer. langs. and ON.

The name of Woden (OE. *Wóden*, OS. *Wóden*, OHG. *Wuotan*, ON. *Óðinn*:—OTeut. **Wōdono-z*) is referred to the Teut. root **wōd-*, found in OTeut. **wōdo-* mad, furious (see WOOD *a.*), ON. *ōð-r* (:—**wōdo-z*) poetic frenzy, inspiration; cognate with L. *vātēs*, Irish *faith*, prophet. The identification of Woden, the highest god of the Teutonic pantheon, with Mercury, appears already in Tacitus ('Deorum maxime Mercurium colunt', *Germ.* ix); it was probably chiefly suggested by Woden's character as the god of eloquence; another feature common to the German and the Roman deity is their swiftness and wide range of travel.

As representing the OE. *Wódnes dæg*, the *β* forms are anomalous. The same irregularity appears in some of the Frisian forms above quoted, and in the English place-names Wednesday and Wednesfield, Staffordshire, and Wensley, Derbyshire (1086 Domesday *Wodneslei*, c 1200 *Wedenesle*). Some scholars have proposed to account for the change of vowel by the assumption that an unrecorded form **Wēden* (:—**Wōdino-z*, with suffix-ablaut) existed in OE. and OFris. beside the form without umlaut; but the supposition involves some difficulties.

The uncontracted pronunciation ('wed(ə)nzdeɪ), though not recognized in the dictionaries (Webster 1911 gives it as 'in British use, esp. in the north'), is not unfrequently heard from speakers belonging to the northern and north midland counties. The contracted pronunciation now prevailing goes back to the 15th c.; the earlier metathetic form *wendesdei* (c 1275) is noteworthy.]

The fourth day of the week.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp. Mark* Intro. p. 5 *Feria .iiii.* wodnes doege. **c** 1000 *Ags. Gosp. Matt.* iii. (*heading*). On Wodnesdæg. **c** 1123 *O.E. Chron.* an. 1123 (Laud MS.) On an Wodnes dei. **a** 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 2215 þet wes on Wodnesdei [v.rr. Wednesday, Weodnesdei] þet ha þus wende. **a** 1225 *Ancr. R.* 70 Iðen Aduent, & iðe Umbridawes, wodnesdawes, & fridawes. **c** 1275 LAY. 13925 Tydeaw we 3efue tisdei Woden we 3efue wendesdei. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2432 In oure tonge ycluped in honour of him is wodnes day [v.rr. 14-15th c. Wednesday, Wodenesday, Wedonesday, Wensdaye]. **a** 1300 *Cursor M.* 270 + 1 *Luna* Moneday *Mars* Tisday *Mercurius* Wednesday. **1377** LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* XIII. 154 In a signe of the Saterdag that sette firste the kalendare, And al the witte of the Wednesday of the nexte wyke after. **c** 1385 FORDUN *Chron. Gentis Scot.* v. lii. (1871) 253 Quartam [feriam] suo nomini dedicantes, diem Woden vocabant, quæ consuetudo per Anglos etiam hodie servatur, vocant enim eundem diem Wodensiday. **c** 1400 *Rule St. Benet* xli. 29 Al þe wukis in þe summr, sal ye faste... þe wedenisdai and te fryday. *Ibid.* 1708 Wedinsday. **c** 1425 in *Rep. MSS. Ld. Middleton* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) 107 Other men or wymmen that have non peyse of their owen growyng, lett hem gedur hem twyse in the weke on Wennesday and on Friday. **a** 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 40 Yche Wenysday and Fryday, he made hys confessoru bete hym

wyth a 3arde apon þe backe al bare. *c1450 St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 3411 On a wednesday he fell seke. *c1450 Godstow Reg.* (1911) 206 The wonysday Afore wytsonday. *1457 Paston Lett.* I. 414 At Norwich hastily, the Wenstay in Ester weke. *c1470 HENRY Wallace* xi. 1280 Now thai him kep to martyr in London toun On Wednsday, befor King and commoun. *c1485 Digby Myst.* (1882) iii. 1505 On þe weddysday, ower lord..made..fysche In flod. *1490 Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 131 On Wedynnisda the xxiiij da of Marche. *1529 CROMWELL* in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 324 To morow at nyght or wenesday by none at the Ferthest. *a1533 BERNERS Huon* lxviii. 235 On a wednsday they came to Parys. *1534 MORE Treat. Passion Wks.* 1299/2 The day before his maundy, that is to wyt the wednsday before hys passyon. *1536 WRIOTHESLEY Chron.* (Camden) I. 39 The 17th day of May, beinge Weddensday. *1537 CROMWELL* in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 59 At the Wodensday next after pentecost. *1544* in Rymer *Foedera* (1719) XV. 54 The thirtieth of July (beinge Wensdaye). *Ibid.*, Wednsdaye (the sixth of August). *1544* in *Sel. Cases Crt. Requests* (Selden Soc.) 98 By the Wennynday in the Wytsonweke. *1552 HULOET*, Wensdaye, *mercurij dies*. *1556* in Lodge *Illustr. Brit. Hist.* (1791) I. 214 And upon Wednsday..she..departed. *1558* in T. Wright *Q. Eliz.* (1838) I. 4 Mr. Teylle wil be with you apon Wensdaye week. *1562-3 Act 5 Eliz.* c. 5 §11 Every Wednesdaye..which heretofore hathe not by the Lawes or Customes of this Realme bene used and observed as a Fishe Daye..shalbe hereafter observed and kepte as the Saterdays in every Weeke bee or ought to be. *1563 WINJET Bk. Quest. Wks.* (S.T.S.) I. 126 The Kirk of God heifor, obseruing..abstinence..on Wodinsday generalie in the orient Kirk. *1574* [? WHITTINGHAM] *Brieff Discours* 40 The next daie beinge wensdaie. *1579 FULKE Heskins's Parl.* 456 On Sunday and Wednesday..and on other dayes. *1607 SHAKS. Cor.* I. iii. 64, I look'd vpon him a Wensday halfe an houre together. *1639 SIR T. HOPE Diary* (Bannatyne Club) 100 On 3 July, Weddingsday, wes the tumult of women in Edinburgh. *1715 GAY Trivia* II. 419 Wednesdays and Fridays you'll observe from hence, Days, when our sires were doom'd to abstinence. *1808 JAMIESON, Wensday*, Wednesday. *1822 DOWNES Lett. fr. Mecklenburg* 173 The evening of Wednesday was a gloomy one. *1905 'G. THORNE' Lost Cause* II, Wait till you see my leader in Wednesday's issue.

b. In names of certain days of the ecclesiastical calendar, as ASH-WEDNESDAY [= med.L. *dies cinerum*, Fr. *jour or mercredi des cendres*, It. *di delle ceneri*, G. *aschermittwoch*, Du. *aschdag*, ON. *oskudagr*, *osku-öðensdagr*, Da. *askeonsdag*, Sw. *askonsdag*], the first day of Lent, also called †PULVER-Wednesday [from the words 'pulvis es et in pulverem reverteris', used in the service]. Also *Good W.*, *Holy W.*, *Spy W.* (*Anglo-Irish*: see *SPY sb.* 5), the Wednesday before Easter.

1297, 1387 [see ASH-WEDNESDAY]. *c1450 Mirk's Festial* 82 3e schull begyn your fact at Aske-Wanynday. *c1454* [see PULVER sb. b]. *1471 Act Auditorum* (1839) 16/1 Onne gude Wednesday in passioun woulk. *1842* [see *SPY sb.* 5]. *1845 Dublin Rev.* June 425 On Holy Wednesday at the words in the Passion, 'et velum templi scissum est', it [the veil] is torn open in two parts. *1894 Northumb. Gloss.*, Good Wednesday.

c. attrib.

138. WYCLIF Sel. Wks. II. 423 Bigynnyng first at þe Wednesdai gospel in þe firste woke of Advent bifore Cristemasse. *1650* in *Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm. Var. Coll.* (1907) IV. 241 The defrayinge of the chardge for the Wensdaye lecture. *1672 MARVELL Rehearsal transpros'd* I. 246 You say that the Clause 5^o Eliz. of the Wednesday-Fast has been the original of all the Puritan-Disorders. *1673 S'too him Bayes* 100 To your long business about the Clause to the Wednesday Act, and its binding the Conscience or no, I answer, [etc.]. *1810 LADY MORGAN Autobiog.* (1859) 304 Several of my liberal Wednesday-evening guests have been made peers. *1848 DICKENS Dombey* liii, My Wednesday nights came regularly round. *1883 D. C. MURRAY Hearts* vii, They're going to play my 'Dream of Venice' at Hoffmann's Wednesday Concerts.

Similarly †Wodnes-niȝt, Wednesday night.

c1000 Ecgb. Pœnit. II. §21 in Thorpe *Laws* II. 190 Æfre Sunnan-niht & Wodnes-niht. *c1000 Wulfstan's Hom.* lviii. (1883) 305 Sunnannihitum..ne Wodnesnihtum. *c1297 Beket* 1125 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 138 His wei wodnes-niȝt out of þe toune he nam.

wedo, obs. form of WIDOW.

wedonynpha, var. obs. Sc. WEDENONFA'.

wedou(e, -ow(e, obs. forms of WIDOW.

wedre, -ur, obs. forms of WEATHER.

wedred, obs. form of WITHERED ppl. a.

wedset(t, -sette, obs. forms of WADSET.

wedue, wedw(e, obs. forms of WIDOW.

wedy, obs. variant of WIDDY.

wedyr, obs. f. WEATHER, WETHER, WHETHER.

wee (wi:), sb.¹ and a. orig. Sc. Forms: 4 wei, wey(e, 4-6 we, 6-9 wie, 7 wea, 8 wi, 6- wee. [Northern ME. *wei*, repr. earlier Anglian *wēg*, *wēge* = WS. *wæg*, *wāge* (see WEIGH sb.); the later *we*, *wee* shows the normal loss of the final palatal spirant which is still indicated in all the rhymes of the earliest texts.

In the sb. the original sense of 'quantity', 'amount', is very slightly recorded, the word being mainly used (almost always with *little*) as a measure of time or space. In adjectival use, however, the idea of quantity or size has been

retained; this use evidently originated in the Sc. idiom exemplified by BIT sb.² 9 (*a bit thing* = 'a bit of a thing', 'a little thing'); cf. *wee bit* in B. c below. It is however remarkable that, although found as early as the 15th c., the adj. is rare in Sc. writers before 1721, though our quotes. from Shakespeare and Heywood show that it had become known to Englishmen early in the 17th c. The word (both sb. and adj.) is current in the dialects of some English counties (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*), but there is no evidence to show that it was commonly used in England before the 19th c.; see however WAY-BIT.]

A. sb. In early use almost always *a little wee*, later also *a wee*: = 'a little', 'a (little) bit'; in various applications (chiefly as adverbial accusative).

†1. a. A little or young thing; a child. *Obs.*

a1300 Cursor M. 8419 He ne es yitt bot a littel wei, þow do him for to foster slei.

b. A small quantity.

c1375 Sc. Leg. Saints xix. (Christopher) 605 þe kinge tuk þan a lytil we of þe fresche blude, & vet his ee.

c. To a small extent, in a small degree.

1513 DOUGLAS Æneis I. ix. 61 The quene Dido, astonist a litte wie [1710, we] At the first sycht. *1720 RAMSAY Rise & Fall of Stocks* 85 It lulls a wee my Mullygrubs, To think upon these bitten Scrubs. *1793 Regal Rambler or Devil in London* 69 Dinna be angry, ... I have been drinking a wi, and I believe the Devil was in me.

d. Qualifying an adj. or adv.: Somewhat, rather.

1816 SCOTT Old Mort. xxxvii, His brain was a wee aje, but he was a braw preacher for a' that. *1818* — *Br. Lamm.* xxv, I thought it right to look a wee strange upon it at first. *1818* — *Hrt. Midl.* li, 'Are you sure you know the way?' .. 'I maybe kend it a wee better fifteen years syne.'

2. A short time.

a1300 Cursor M. 11665 Quen sco had sitten þar a wei [Gött. wey] Sco bihild a tre was hei. *Ibid.* 12531 [James, stung by an adder] Bolnand in a litel wei, þat al-mast bigan he to dei. *c1375 Sc. Leg. Saints* xvi. (Magdalene) 449 Quhene he..wist þat in a lytil we for falt of met þe barne suld de. *1375 BARBOUR Bruce* VII. 182 The Kyng than vynkit alitill we. *c1500 Priests of Peblis* 817 Ane lytill wie befor the feist of Zule. *1535 STEWART Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) I. 183 Now will I leif of this ane lytill we. *Ibid.* II. 139 So at the last the cloude ane lytill we Discouerit wes, that tha nicht better se. *c1560 ROLLAND Seven Sages* 154 Scho was wyteles a lytill we. *1592 MONTGOMERIE Misc. Poems* lvi. 2 Stay, passer, thy mynd, thy fute, thy ee: Vouchsaif, a we, his epitaph to vieu, Quha [etc.]. *a1700 Gaberlunzie-Man* iv, They raise a wee befor the cock. *a1728 RAMSAY Ode Birth of Drumlanrig* 47 Ye hardy Heroes.. Forsake a wee th' Elysian Plains. *1818 SCOTT Rob Roy* xiv, Bide a wee—bide a wee; you southrons are aye in sic a hurry. *1869 A. MACDONALD Love, Law & Theol.* vii. 120 In a wee they baith felt their wames leavin' them, an' they maist lost their senses.

3. A short distance; a little way.

1375 BARBOUR Bruce XIII. 217 Arrowes that felly Mony gret voundis can thame ma, And slew fast of their hors alsua, That thai vayndist a litell we. *Ibid.* XVII. 677 Behynd hir a litill we It fell. *c1420 WYNTOUN Cron.* VIII. xxxiii. 5788 We sal fenȝhe ws as we walde fle, And wipe draw ws a litil we.

B. adj. a. Extremely small, tiny. (In Sc. use with weaker sense, as a synonym of *little*.) Often more emphatically *wee wee*, *little wee*, *wee little*.

The Shaks. example is not found in the quarto of 1602; as this has 'a whay-coloured beard' in the corresponding sentence, it has been conjectured that the 'wee-face' of the Folio may be a mistake for *wehy-face* (cf. *Macb.* v. iii. 17). However, the reading of the Folio may be taken as evidence that the adj. was known in 1623. In this and in quot. 1617 the adj. is hyphenated to the following sb., and preceded by *little*.

c1450 HOLLAND Houlate 649 The litill we Wran, That wretchit dorche was. ? *1598 SHAKS. Merry W.* (1623) I. iv. 32 He hath bot a little wee-face, with a little yellow beard. *1617 Heywood Fair Maid of West* II. i, Hee was nothing so tall as I, but a little wee-man, and somewhat huckt backt. *1638* in W. N. Clarke *Coll. Lett.* (1848) 173 Her ministers gangand in guid auld little short cloakes, with wea blacke velvet neckes. *Ibid.* 180 Upon his weake wea nagg. *1692* [? CALDER] *Sc. Presbyt. Elog.* 104 The very wie-ones [marg. Little Children] were then so serious that [etc.]. *1721 KELLY Sc. Prov.* A 178 A wie [Foot-note: little] Mouse will creep under a mickle Corn-stack. *Ibid.* B 35 Better a wie Fire to warm us, than a mickle Fire to burn us. *1721 RAMSAY Poems* Gloss. 397 *Wee*, Little; as, A wanton wee Thing. *1726 Fleming's Fulfilling Script.* (ed. 5) Table Scots Phr., *Wie*, little or small. *1786 BURNS Inventory* 37 Wee Davock hauds the nowt in fother. *1792* — *Song*, She is a winsome wee thing. *1818 SCOTT Hrt. Midl.* v, It wad aye serve to keep the puir thing's heart up for a wee while. *1819 J. R. DRAKE Culprit Fay* xv, He banned the water-goblins' spite,—For he saw.. Their little wee faces above the brine. *1827 DARLEY Sylva* 31 Neater, I ween, though not much ampler, Than wee miss works upon her sampler. *1832 MOTHERWELL Poems, Oh Wae* be 6 The wee wee fifes piped loud and shrill. *1846 H. COLERIDGE Poems* II. 23 Like a wee bird struggling in the nest. *a1856* in *Strang Glasgow & Clubs* 574 You have only to raise the window, haud up your wee finger, and, [etc.]. *1884 Q. VICTORIA More Leaves* 204 We met little Alix on her wee pony. *1889 'J. S. WINTER' Mrs. Bob* iii, She would be free..to hie herself to London-town and take a dear wee little flat.

b. in superlative.

1728 RAMSAY Reasons Hackney Scribblers 22 To wiest Insects even'd and painted. *a1856* in *Strang Glasgow & Clubs* 572 They're a' awa, fra the wee'st to the biggest o' them. *1863 'HOLME LEE' A. Warleigh* II. 271 Strangers.. who wore such amplitude of petticoat that in passing between the ranks of infants.. they literally swept the wee-est over. *1878 A. J. C. HARE Story of Life* (1896) I. 206 Tell

me all about the wedding—every smallest, weest thing. *1883 BLACK Shandon Bells* v, The boat the wee-est black speck on the silver of the water.

c. *a wee bit*: = 'a wee' (see A. sb.). Often quasi-adj. (cf. BIT sb.²) and quasi-adv. (qualifying an adj.).

a1661 [see WAY-BIT]. *1721 KELLY Sc. Prov.* A 183 A wie House well fill'd, a wie bit Land well till'd, and a wie Wife well will'd will make a happy Man. *1785 BURNS Cottar's Sat. Night* 23 His wee-bit ingle, blinkan bonilie. *1823 Moor Suffolk Words* 474 'A wee bit of a thing'—applied to a child, and to almost every little thing. *1828 SCOTT F.M. Perth* xxvii, A boat will wait for you..at a wee bit creek about half a mile westward from the head of the Tay. *1901 W. R. H. TROWBRIDGE Lett. her Mother to Eliz.* xxviii. 140 The champagne..that I had this morning has given me just a wee bit of a migraine.

d. *the wee folk*: the fairies.

1819 W. S. MASON Stat. Acc. Irel. III. 27 The curate has heard a man swear most solemnly, that he has seen some hundreds of the 'wee folk' dancing round these trees. *1854 ALLINGHAM Fairies* 5 Wee folk, guid folk, Trooping all together; Green jacket, red cap, And grey-cock's feather. *1894 K. GRAHAME Pagan Papers* 162 The quotation suggested a fairy story, .. But the Wee Folk were under a cloud: sceptical hints had embittered the chalice.

e. *the Wee Free Kirk*: a nickname given to the minority of the Free Church of Scotland which stood apart when the main body amalgamated with the United Presbyterian Church to form the United Free Church in 1900. Hence *Wee Frees*, *Wee Kirkers*, the members of the 'Wee Free' church. Also *transf.*

1904 Monthly Rev. Oct. 5 The Free Kirk and the 'Wee' Kirk. *1904 Times* 31 Dec. 8/1 The funds must be handed over to the remnant of the old Free Church—the 'Wee Frees', as Scotland nicknames them. *1905 P. W. WILSON Why we believe* v. 61 Scotland is convulsed because the property of the United Free Church has been handed over by a court of law to a remnant of Wee Kirkers. *1953 EARL WINTERTON Orders of Day* viii. 92 In 1919..both the Labour and Liberal Oppositions were small and ineffective. The latter, facetiously known as the 'Wee Frees'..split into two halves led by Sir Donald Maclean and Mr. George Lambert respectively. *1966 Punch* 20 July 123/3 His account of the way in which the Wahabis—the Calvinistic 'wee frees' of Islam—are surrendering to the worst of Western culture is a lively moral tale in itself. *1979 H. WILSON Final Term* I. 10 The smell of power..was in their nostrils, for the first time since the 'Wee Frees', the Samuelite Liberals, had left the 1931 Coalition Government.

f. *the wee (small) hours* = *small hours* s.v.

HOOR 3 b. *colloq.*

[*1787 BURNS Death & Dr. Hornbook* in *Poems & Songs* (1968) I. 84 The auld kirk-hammer strak the bell Some wee, short hour ayont the twal.] *1849 C. BRONTË Shirley* II. ii. 73 She followed the steps of the night, on its pathway of stars, far into the 'wee sma' hours ayont the twal.' *1859* [see HOOR 3 b]. *a1891 H. MELVILLE To Major John Gention* in *Compl. Wks.* (1924) XIII. 366 In the wee hours..how affluent hast thou been on that theme. *1932 'L. G. GIBBON' Sunset Song* 232 They'd another long dram, and they argued far into the wee, small hours. *1949 P. MICHAELS This Perverse Generation* v. 44 No one has a persistent inner compulsion to..talk about silly things in crowded, stuffy, little night-club rooms at wee hours of the morning. *1966 'H. MACDIARMID' Company I've Kept* viii. 193 We walked back..in the 'wee sma' 'oors' of the following morning. *1979 United States 1980/81* (Penguin Travel Guides) 278 Several acts keep the place hopping from dinner time until the wee hours.

wee (wi:), sb.² *colloq.* [See WEE v.] = WEE-WEE sb. 1.

1968 R. CLAPPERTON No News on Monday vi. 61 Wanda is downstairs having a wee. *1971 P. PURSER Holy Father's Navy* ii. 12 Hurry up, I want to do a wee. *1973 Punch* 1 Aug. 139/1 Thought I saw someone comin' in de gate, but it only a dog havin' a wee on de magnolia.

wee (wi:), v. *colloq.* [Echoic: see WEE-WEE v.]

intr. To urinate. Also *refl.* = WET v. 5 d.

1934 DYLAN THOMAS Let. 11 May (1966) 128 Wee on the sun that he bloody well shines not. *1970 Guardian* 13 July 9/2 Ladies always have to walk a mile and they'll wee themselves if they don't find something soon. *1976 West Lancs. Evening Gaz.* 15 Dec., She hit her daughter because she kept on 'weeing' all the time. *1983 Daily Mail* 30 May 17/5 Our headmaster told us that any boy caught shir should if absolutely necessary wee into an empty milk bottle.

wee (wi:), int. Imitation of the squeal of a pig.

a1842 in Halliwell *Nursery Rhymes* 119 This little pig said Wee, wee, wee! *1860 Hist. Five little Pigs* 31 Poor Piggy ran off crying out in great pain, 'Wee! wee! wee!!' all the way home.

†wee, = *wi'ye*, with you. *Obs.*

1611 CHAPMAN May-Day IV. 67 And yet I speak no hurt of them neither. *Inno.* No Capitane, thus farre, I goe wee.

wee, obs. f. WE, WHY, WOE; var. WY *Obs.*, man.

wee-bit: see WAY-BIT.

weeble, obs. or dial. form of WEEVIL.

weech, obs. variant of WYCH.

weed (wid), sb.¹ Forms: 1 wéod, wiod, 3 wied, (wod), 3-4 wed, weod, (4 pl. weoden), 4-6 wede, 4 wyed, (5 ? wade), 5-6 *Sc.* weid, 6 wyde, *Sc.* weyd, 6-7 wide, 5-7 weede, 5- weed. [OE. *wéod* neut. = OS. *wiod* neut., mod.LG. *wêd*, Flem. dial. *wied*, EFris. *wiud*; the ulterior etymology is unknown.]

1. a. A herbaceous plant not valued for use or beauty, growing wild and rank, and regarded as cumbering the ground or hindering the growth of superior vegetation.

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxiii, Swa hwa swa wille sawan westmære land, atio ærest of . . ealle þa weod þe he gesio þæt þam æcerum derigen. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 129 For þi is þis westren forgruowen mid brimble and mid þornes and mid ðuele wíedes. c 1290 *St. Mary of Egypt* 108 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 264 Heo ne et no mannische mete bote weodes and wilde more. 1393 *LANGT. P. Pl. C.* xiii. 224 On fat lond and ful of donge foulest weodes groweth. c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 519/2 Weed, or wyld herbe, *aborigo.* 1480 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 445 [They] stoppen the dyches with þe weodes of their gardeyns & other swepyng of their houses. 1532 *HERVET Xenoph. Househ.* 49 b, The grounde must be clene kept and deliuered from wídes. 1592 *SHAKS. Ven. & Ad.* 946 They bid thee crop a weed, thou pluckst a flower. a 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) I. 128 To keep a field from over growinge with wídes. 1669 *WORLIDGE Syst. Agric.* 87 Whilest they [sc. Hedges] are yet young, they are to be constantly weeded, least the Weeds prevent the thick spreading of the Hedge at the bottom. 1726 J. LAURENCE *New Syst. Agric.* 451 Couch-Grass is a pernicious Weed, keeping the Land hollow and loose. 1781 *COWPER Expost.* 214 But grace abus'd brings forth the foulest deeds, As richest soil the most luxuriant weeds. 1815 *WORDSW. White Doe* vii. 1896 Plate of monumental brass, Dim-gleaming among weeds and grass. 1840 *DICKENS Old C. Shop* xxii, In the garden there was not a weed to be seen. 1885 *MISS BRADDON Wyllard's Weird* I. i. 32 The soil teemed with flowers. There was no room left for a weed.

b. A plant that grows wild in fresh or salt water. Cf ORE-WEED, PONDWEED, RIVER-WEED, SEAWEED, WATER-WEED.

1538 *ELYOT Dict.*, *Alga*, reyte, or weodes of the see. 1607 *SHAKS. Cor. II.* ii. 109 As Weeds before A Vessell vnder sayle, so men obey'd, And fell below his Stem. 1617 *MORYSON Itin.* iii. 146 Both Ilands [Jersey and Guernsey] burne a weede of the Sea or Sea coales brought out of England. 1653 *WALTON Angler* ix. 177 This fish. . . loves . . . to live . . . in standing waters, where mud and the worst of weeds abound. 1669 *WORLIDGE Syst. Agric.* 65 *marg.*, Of Sea-weeds, and Weeds in Rivers. 1774 *GOLDSM. Nat. Hist.* VIII. 177 They are bred from eggs, which are laid upon the weeds along the sea-shore. 1825 *SIR H. DAVY in Phil. Trans.* CXV. 329 Weeds and shell fish. 1886 *STEVENSON Kidnapped* vi, The weeds were new to me—some green, some brown and long, and some with little bladders that crackled between my fingers.

c. collect. sing.

c 1220 *Bestiary* 245 [The ant] gaddreð ilkinnes sed boðen of wude and of weod. a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 593 Among þe wede [Cott. weode], among þe netle. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1140 Insted o þin oper sede, Ne sal þe groue bot thorne and wede. 1434 *Maldon (Essex) Court Rolls* Bundle 20. no. 1 Ricardus Kyng jactat le weede gardini sui in Skykkh lanne. 1523-34 *FITZHERB. Husb.* § 54 The grasse that groweth vpon falowes is not good for shepe; for there is moche of it wede. 1596 *SPENSER F.Q.* iv. vii. 4 When suddenly behind her backe she heard One rushing forth out of the thickest weed. 1791-3 *SMEATON Edystone L.* § 252 The coat of weed, which was likely to fix upon it during the winter. 1832 *TENNYSON Enone* 197 A wild and wanton pard. . . Crouch'd fawning in the weed. 1865 *MRS. L. L. CLARKE Common Seaweeds* i. 18 They [needles] will be extremely useful in laying out the weed.

d. Prov. † the weed overgroweth the corn. ill weeds grow apace.

1470-85 *MALORY Arthur* vii. viii. 224 To see suche a ladde to matche suche a knyghte as the wede ouer grewe the corne. 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* I. x. (1867) 22 Ill weede growth fast . . . wherby the corne is lorne. For surely the weede overgrowth the corne. 1594 *SHAKS. Rich. III.* ii. iv. 13 Small Herbes haue grace, great Weeds do grow apace. 1616 *DRAXE Bibl. Scholast.* 216 An ill weede growth apace. a 1692 *POLLEXFEN Disc. Trade* (1697) 100 As ill Weeds grow apace, so these Manufactured Goods from India. 1721 J. KELLY *Sc. Prov.* 319 The Weeds o'er grow the Corn, the bad are the most numerous.

e. Used, with defining word, to form the names of wild plants, as BINDWEED, COTTONWEED, CUDWEED, DUCKWEED, DYER'S WEED, GREENWEED, HOGWEED, *hungerweed* (HUNGER sb. 4e), IRONWEED, Knapweed, KNOTWEED, *matweed* (MAT sb.¹ 8), MILKWEED, MUGWEED, NECKWEED, RAGWEED, *yellow-weed* (YELLOW C. 1).

2. a. gen. Any herb or small plant. Chiefly poet.

c 1000 *Ag. Gosp. Matt.* vi. 30 ðif æceres weod [Vulg. *fenum agri*] . . . God swa scryt, . . . þam mycle ma he scryt eow. 13 . . . *K. Alis* 796 Mury time is the weed to sere [Laud MS. is wede sere]; The corn ripeth in the ere. 1590 *SPENSER F.Q.* ii. i. 52 And then with words, and weedes, of wondrous might, On them she workes her will to vses bad. 1614 *SYLVESTER Bethulia's Rescue* 56 The Sun-burnt Reaper had yet scarcely rid The ridged Acres of their richest Weed. 1807-8 W. IRVING *Salmag.* (1824) 365 These evils have all come upon you through tea! Cursed weed. 1859 *TENNYSON Vivien* 321, I once was looking for a magic weed.

b. Applied to a shrub or tree; esp. to a large tree, on account of its abundance in a district. 1697 *DAMPIER Voy.* I. 165 Cotton-trees. . . are the biggest Trees, or perhaps Weeds rather, in the West Indies. 1707 *MORTIMER Husb.* 604 The Raspberry Tree. . . is rather a Weed than a Tree, never living two Years together above ground. 1860 W. WHITE *Wrekin* xi. 99 There is no lack of wood or of 'Herefordshire weeds', as oaks are called. 1885 *MOZLEY Remin.* II. 206 The ash is the weed of the county [Northants]. 1890 W. J. GORDON *Foundry* 127 The elm, which from its abundance in the country, is still known as the 'Warwickshire weed.'

3. spec. a. Tobacco.

1606 *WARNER Alb. Eng.* xiv. xci. (1612) 369 An Indian weede, That feum'd away more wealth than would a many thousands feed. 1609 *DEKKER Guls Horne-bk.* iv. 19 Where,

if you cannot reade, exercise your smoake, and inquire who has writ against this diuine weede. 1687 *MONTAGUE & PRIOR Hind & Panth. Transv.* 17 Your Pipe's so foul, that I disdain to smok; And the Weed worse than e're Tom. I----s took. 1781 *COWPER Conversat.* 251 Pernicious weed! whose scent the fair annoys. 1797 *Sporting Mag.* X. 58 And chaunt the song, and puff the weed. 1841 *LYTTON Nt. & Morn.* I. vi, He knocked the weed from his pipe. 1899 *Albutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 153 Tobacco vertigo and the other nervous consequences of the weed resemble those of neurasthenia.

b. A cigar or cheroot. colloq.

1847 *ALB. SMITH Chr. Tadpole* Introd. (1879) 9 Pulling a melancholy looking weed from the lining of his hat. 1848 *THACKERAY Bk. Snobs* xli, We. . . kept up with brandy and soda-water and weeds till four. 1885 *C. LOWE Bismarck* I. 388 note, The strategist carefully selected the best weed in the Chancellor's case.

c. Marijuana; a marijuana cigarette. slang (orig. U.S.).

1929 *Amer. Speech* IV. 345 *Weed*, marijuana cigarette. (A Mexican drug.) 1932, 1933 [see REEFER § 3]. 1939 *C. R. COOPER Designs in Scarlet* viii. 145 There are certain centers in which marihuana offers more of a menace. . . The peddling of the weed is dependent upon persons. . . content with small profits. 1949 *R. CHANDLER Little Sister* xxiv. 173 They were looking for. . . a suitcase full of weed. 1955 J. KEROUAC in *Paris Rev.* Winter 14 You could smell tea, weed, I mean marijuana, floating in the air. 1965 W. SOYINKA *Road* 24 Say Tokyo reaches out a stick of weed to him which he accepts behind his back. 1978 R. HILL *Pinch of Snuff* iii. 28 She might be on the game. Or she might have a bit of weed about the place. Or anything.

4. fig. An unprofitable, troublesome, or noxious growth. (Formerly often applied to persons.)

† a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 4322 Latt no wykkyde wede waxe, ne wrythe one this erthe. 1422 *YONGE tr. Secreta Secret.* 164 So rysyth of the roote of an . . . appert traytoure, othye rebellis, many wickid wedis sone growynge, that al trewe men in londe Sore greuyth. 1568 *GRAFTON Chron.* II. 349 And if. . . any persons. . . entended the contrary, there must also be deuised howe such euill weodes may be destroyed. 1598 *BARRET Theor. Warres* 7 Justices, to disburden their shire of corrupt weeds, as they tearme it, do picke out the scumme of their countrie for the warres. 1604 *SHAKS. Oth.* iv. ii. 67 Ob thou weed: Who art so louely faire, and smell'st so sweete, That the Sense akes at thee, Would thou hadst neuer bin borne. 1647 *CLARENDON Hist. Reb.* I. § 72 An immoderate ambition. . . is a weed (if it be a weed) apt to grow in the best soils. 1750 *JOHNSON Rambler* No. 183 ¶ 11 Envy is, indeed, a stubborn weed of the mind, and seldom yields to the culture of philosophy. 1850 *GROTE Greece* II. lxviii. (1862) VI. 156 Intolerance is the natural weed of the human bosom, though its growth or development may be counteracted by liberalizing causes. 1915 *F. S. OLIVER Ordeal by Battle* II. v. 146 Militarism is a tough weed to kill.

5. slang. (Cf. WEEDY a.¹ 4.) a. A poor, leggy, loosely-built horse.

In *Shaks. Meas.* for *M.* I. iii. 20 the word has been explained to mean 'an ill-conditioned horse'. Theobald's correction, 'steeds', may be right.

1845 *STOCQUELER Handbk. Brit. India* (1854) 181 The necessity. . . for constant renewal of the blood. . . without which the breed degenerates into weeds. 1859 *LEVER Davenport Dunn* ii, He bore the same relation to a man of fashion as a 'weed' does to a 'winner of the Derby'. 1861 *Farmer's Mag.* LV. 1/2 A leggy weed that can go the fastest for half a mile or so over the flat. 1890 'R. BOLDEWOOD' *Squatter's Dream* iii. 28 Here she pointed to her steed, a small violent weed.

b. A lank delicate person without muscle or stamina. Hence, a small, feeble, or contemptible person; a 'weedy' type (see WEEDY a.¹ 4 b). slang.

1869 A. L. SMITH in *Morgan Univ. Oars* (1873) 231, I know men who, from being weeds, have grown into strong and healthy men on the river. 1953 *WILLANS & SEARLE Down with Skool!* (1954) 12 There are a grate number of other weeds and wets about the place. 1959 I. & P. OPIE *Lore & Lang. Schoolch.* ix. 170 *Little 'uns.* Tiny Tim, Tom Thumb, tot, and, very common, weed. 1960 M. SPARK *Bachelors* x. 179 She's mad in love with that little weed Patrick Seton. 1970 *Times* 4 Mar. 13/5 A girl torn between a brainy weed and a moronic body-builder. 1982 *BARR & YORK Official Sloane Ranger Handbk.* 71/1 Don't try too hard: swots are weeds.

† 6. Mining. (See quot 1710.) Obs.

1671 *Phil. Trans.* VI. 2102 (Tin), So [we] continue sinking from cast to cast. . . till we find either the Load to grow small, or degenerate into some sort of weed. . . as Mundië, or Maxy. . . Daze, . . . Iremould. *Ibid.* 2105 The Load is usually in an hard. . . Country, made up of metal, spars and other weeds. 1710 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* II, *Weed*, in the Miners Language is the Degeneracy of a Load or Vein of fine Metal, into an useless Marchasite.

7. attrib. and Comb. a. simple attrib., as *weed-bed*, *-bush*, *-case*, *control*, *-drift*, *-field*, *-fish*, *-growth*, *-life*, *-nosegay*, *-root*, *-seed*. Also WEED-HOOK.

1664 *Phil. Trans.* I. 13 They went into the Weed-beds of the Gulf of Florida. a 1682 *SIR T. BROWNE Norf. Fishes* Wks. 1835 IV. 330 A weed-fish, somewhat like a haddock. 1782 *MRS. DELANY Autob.* (1861) I. 368 My amusement was running after butterflies and gathering weed nosegays. 1791 W. H. MARSHALL *W. Eng.* (1796) II. 279 The weed seeds having spent themselves. . . the dressing will be turned in. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 993 The weeds and weed-roots will then be seen upon the surface. 1848 *ALB. SMITH Chr. Tadpole* xlv. 395 Metal weed-cases. 1851 *KINGSLEY Yeast* x, Even if marriage was but one weed-field of temptations, as these miserable pedants say. 1899 *Contemp. Rev.* Dec. 884 One of those curious round weed-bushes known as 'tumble weeds'. 1915 *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 199/1 He would make the rod bend like a bow and quiver as he ran out the line, always making for the weed-bed at the bottom. 1923 *KIPLING Irish Guards in Great War* I. 222 They broke and disappeared in the rank weed-growth. 1934 A. HUXLEY *Beyond Mexique Bay* 249 Lawrence wrote eloquently of Oaxaca and Lake Chapala, . . of the merits of that rank weed-

life of the natural man. 1948 S. B. WHITEHEAD *Reclaiming your Garden* ii. 17 Chemicals. . . have a selective action in weed control. 1951 *Sport* 7-13 Jan. 8/1 It had the drawback of increasing weed-growth. † 1953 *DYLAN THOMAS Sel. Lett.* (1966) 416 In the slimy squid-rows of the sea there's such a weed-drift and clamour of old plankton drinkers. 1966 *Listener* 1 Sept. 304/1 The improvement of cultivation techniques to make weed control possible.

b. instrumental, as *weed-choked*, *-clogged*, *-covered*, *-entwined*, *-fringed*, *-grown*, *-hidden*, *-hung*, *-laden*, *-mantled*, *-ridden*, *-sodden*, *woven* adjs.

1799 *CAMPBELL Pleas. Hope* II. 201 O'er each Runic altar, weed-entwined. 1818 *KEATS Endym.* I. 65 Weed-hidden roots. 1856 *LEVER Martins of Cro' M.* I, Weed-grown walks. 1857 *GOSSE Omphalos* viii. 216 This weed-fringed tide-pool. 1870 H. MACMILLAN *True Vine* v. (1872) 188 The idleness of another is seen in the meagre, weed-choked produce of his neglected fields. 1897 *KIPLING Capt. Cour.* iii. 57 The weed-hung flukes of the little anchor. 1898 O. WILDE *Ballad Reading Gaol* 12 Every day Crawled like a weed-clogged wave. 1910 W. DE LA MARE *Three Mulla-Mulgars* xxiii. 305 Nod's raft swam last across this weed-mantled lagoon. 1922 *JOYCE Ulysses* 699 In loose allwool garments. . . trundling a weedladen wheelbarrow without excessive fatigue at sunset amid the scent of newmown hay. 1938 W. DE LA MARE *Memory* 29 Roofless and eyeless, weed-sodden, dank, old, cold. 1944 *BLUNDEN Shells by Stream* 15 Weed-woven the shallowing pool. 1953 L. KUFER *Living in Towns* 300 Waste land and weed-covered pit banks. 1968 E. A. McCOURT *Saskatchewan* xvii. 195 The inscriptions on the wooden crosses in the weed-ridden settlement graveyard. 1972 R. ADAMS *Watership Down* xxxii. 245 The rough, weed-covered ground of the combe sloped away below them.

c. objective, as *weed-cutter*, *-grubber*, *weed-cutting* vbl. sb.; *weed-waving*, *-winding* adjs.; also *weed-free*, *-like* adjs.

a 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. ii. 32, I save the Expence of the Weed-grubbers. 1729 *SAVAGE Wanderer* II. 415 Up-sprung, such weed-like Coarseness it betrays, Flocks on th' abandon'd Blade permissive graze. 1850 *Rep. Comm. Patents* 1849 (U.S.) I. 297, I likewise claim the combination of the adjustive weed cutter and leverel F. 1863 *HAWTHORNE Old Home, Consular Exp.* I. 16 The weedlike decay and growth of our localities. 1879 G. M. HOPKINS *Poems* (1967) 78 On meadow and river and wind-wandering weed-winding bank. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 12 May 3/2 An endeavour is being made on the Test to have all weed-cutting completed by the middle of May. 1903 *Ibid.* 2 Oct. 2/1 Patent weed-cutters, worked by machinery. 1940 J. BETJEMAN *Old Lights for New Chancels* 33 The light skiff is push'd from the weed-waving shore. 1960 *Farmer & Stockbreeder* 22 Mar. 56/3 It is the modern alternative. . . to secure weed-free cropping. 1981 M. SELLERS *From Eternity to Here* i. 7 A well-planned and weed-free vegetable garden.

d. † weed-ash, † soda-ash (which is made from sea-weed); weedhead slang (chiefly U.S.), one who is addicted to marijuana; a marijuana smoker (see HEAD sb.¹ 7e); weed inspector, an official in charge of controlling the growth of noxious weeds; weed-killer, something that kills weeds, spec. any of various chemical preparations used for killing weeds; liquid, powder, etc., of this kind; also fig.

1753 *HANWAY Trav.* (1762) I. vii. lxxxviii. 407 Also pot-ash, weed-ash, and pearl-ash. 1952 *Amer. Speech* XXVII. 30 *Weedhead*, . . . marijuana smoker. 1966 C. HIMES *Heat is On* xx. 157 Weedheads jabbered and gesticulated. 1973 R. PARKES *Guardians* x. 178 The students that spat and jeered at authority, the weed-heads that threw acid in a vicar's eyes. 1909 *Chambers's Jnl.* Nov. 702/2 The writer, in his capacity as weed-inspector, has had. . . to direct the settlers to plough under entire fields of growing grain in order to eradicate such weeds. 1974 D. SEARS *Lark in Clear Air* iv. 48 The one in overalls was Brad-Awl Callum, weed inspector, pound-keeper, truant officer and County Constable all rolled into one. 1745 W. ELLIS *Agric. Improv'd in Mod. Husbandman* July xi. 88 Such Wheat commonly runs up into such rank Stalks, as to become great Weed-killers. 1890 *Daily News* 6 Sept. 2/7 In mistake [he] took up a bottle of weed killer, some of which he drank. 1901 M. FRANKLIN *My Brilliant Career* xxi. 179 Every one would be wanting to engage me as the great noxious weed-killer and poisonous insect exterminator if I made away with you. 1929 *WODEHOUSE Mr. Mulliner Speaking* i. 23 What this woman needed was a fluid ounce of weed-killer. 1967 B. PATTEN *Little Johnny's Confession* 46 Who poured weedkiller over your innocence? a 1974 R. CROSSMAN *Diaries* (1976) II. 291 She only talked to Anne and myself about a new weedkiller called Paraquat, pointing out of the window to a field where it was being used.

weed (wi:d), sb.² arch. exc. in sense 6 b. Forms: 1 wæd, wæde, *North.* wéde, wéde, 3 *Orm.* wæde, *pl.* weaden, 3-6 wede, 3-4 *pl.* weden, 4 *north.* and *Sc.* wed, veid, ved, (5 *pl.* vedis), 4-7 *Sc.* weid(e), 5-6 *Sc.* weyd, 6-7 wide, 4-7 weede, 5- wee. [ME. *wēde*, repr. two formations: (1) OE. *wæd* fem. = OS. *wād* (MLG. *wāt*), OHG., MHG. *wāt* (early mod.G. *wat*), also in comb. *linwāt* fem., *linen* (= Du. *lijnwaad* neut.; mod.G. in perverted form *leinwand*), ON. *vād*, *vōð* fem. (Norw. *vaad*, Sw. *våd*):—OTeut. **wædi*-z; (2) OE. *wæde* str. neut. = OS. *wādi* (MLG. *wēde*), prob. shortened from the collective formation OE. *zewāde* (ME. I-WEDE), OS. *giwādi*, Du. *gewaad*, OHG. *giwāti*:—OTeut. type **gawædjo*-m.

It is disputed whether the Teut. **wædi*- descends from a pre-Teut. **wēti*-, root **wē*- to weave (= Skr. *vā*), or from **wēdhi*-, root **wēdh*- (= Zend *vad* to clothe oneself; the Goth. *ga-widan* (OHG. *wetan*), to join together, is by some regarded as cognate).]

1. An article of apparel; a garment.

c 888 *ELFRED Boeth.* xxviii. Deah nu se unrihtwisa cynig Neron hinc gescrypte mid callum þam wlitegestum wædum. c 1000 *ELFRIC Hom.* II. 500 Martinus me bewæfde efne mid ðyssere wæde. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 314 Uorði þet heo hefde ileaned one wummonne to one wake on of hore weaden. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1972 He . . . boden him sen lf his childes wede it miȝte ben. c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2563 ȝif we walken in þes wedes . . . what man so vs metes may vs sone knowe. 13 . . . *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 2358 Hit is my wede þat þou werez, þat ilke wouen girdel. c 1430 *Chev. Assigne* 119 Of sadde leues of þe wode wrowȝte he hem wedes. 1542 *UDALL Erasm. Apoph.* 289b, By & by dooyng on hym a wede answerable vnto his presente fortune, he fled away secretly. 1569 J. SANFORD tr. *Agrippa's Van. Artes* xxv. 36 There was an obstinate strife . . . concerning the habite, or apparel of S. Augustine, that is to saie, whether he did weare a blacke weede vpon a white Coate, or a white weede vpon a blacke Coate. 1614 *CAMDEN Rem., Apparel* 233 They . . . began to wanton it in a new round curtall weede which they called a Cloake. 1621 *FLETCHER Pilgr.* v. vi. To my house now, and suite you to your worths; Off with these weeds, and appeare glorious. a 1706 in *Watson's Collect. Sc. Poems* 1. 35 On Sabbath days his Cap was fedder'd, A seemly Weid. 1725 *POPE Odys.* xvi. 293 An aged mendicant in tatter'd weeds. 1764 H. WALPOLE *Otranto* v. One in a long, woolen weid. 1805 *WORDSW. Prelude* III. 457 Spare diet, patient labour, and plain weeds. 1808 *SCOTT Marm.* v. vi. The Baron dons his peaceful weeds. 1846 *KEBLE Lyra Innoc.* (1873) 168 Her innocent vesture, the pure Chrisom weid. 1850 *TENNYSON In Mem.* v. 9 In words, like weeds, I'll wrap me o'er, Like coarsest clothes against the cold.

2. *collect. sing.* Clothing, raiment, dress, apparel.

a 1000 *Daniel* 103 þæt þam ȝengum þrym gad ne wære wiste ne wæde. c 1290 *St. Mary of Egypt* 160 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 265 Ne wilne þou nouȝt þat ich þe abide, for ich am withoute wede. a 1300 *K. Horn* 1052 We schulle chaungi wede: Hauē her cłopes myne, & tak me þi sclauyne. 1393 *LANGL. P. Pl. C.* xxiii. 211 Lacke shal þe neuere Wede ne worldlich mete. c 1450 *Mirk's Festial* g. 1 stale forþe yn pore wede. 1551 *CROWLEY Pleas. & Payne* 140 Wyllynge that eche should at his nede, Hauē breade and broth, harbour and wede. 1576 *HANMER Anc. Eccl. Hist., Socr. Schol.* II. xxxiii. 292 A little before he had bene deposed . . . for apparelling himselfe in such weede as was not decent for the dignity and order of priesthood. 1595 *SPENSER Colin Clout* 713 For each mans worth is measured by his weed. 1616 *CHAPMAN tr. Musæus* F6, This sayd, his faire Limbes of his weede, he strip't. 1788 *BURNS Written in Friars-Carse Hermitage* 2 Be thou clad in russet weed. 1868-70 *MORRIS Earthly Par.* I. 1. 250 In face, in figure, and in weed, She wholly changed before his wondering eyes. *Ibid.* 325 Who robbed me, and with blows Stripped off my weed and left me on the way.

† b. In the expletive phrase *in* or *under weed*, usually appended to an adj., as *worth(l)y*, *wight*, *wise*. Cf. *under gore*, *GORE sb.*² 2. *Obs.*

c 1330 *Amis & Amil.* 30 Twoo ladies. That worthi were in wede. c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 585 Of lumbardie a dukes douȝter ful derworȝ in wede. a 1352 *MINOT Poems* ix. 37 Iohn of Coupland, a wight man in wede. c 1400 *Emare* 250 Then sayde þat wordy vnþur wede. a 1435 *Torr. Portugal* 2397 One of the fleyrest knyghtis That slepith on somer nyghtes Or walkyd in wede. a 1440 *Sir Degrev.* 392 Many bold mene and wight, Wyse under wede. c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xviii. 230 Yond worthy wyghtys in wede. a 1580 *Murning Maiden* 55 in *Matth. Fol. MS.* 361 Than wepitt scho lustie in weyd.

3. *transf. and fig.* (e.g. our 'garment' of flesh). c 1320 *Cast. Love* 657 God . . . þat from heuene dude alihte, And vnder vre wede vre kynde nom. c 1374 *CHAUCER Troylus* III. 1431 O blake nyght. . . That shapen art by god þis world to hide At feyrest tymes with þi derke wede. 1390 *GOWER Conf.* II. 335 Sche fliþ before his yhe a Crowe. . . To kepe hire maidenhede whit Under the wode of fethers blake. 14 . . . *LYDG. Ballad of Deceitful Women* 26 Hir galle is hid under a sugred wede. 1557 *GRIMALD in Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 96 As morning bright, with scarlet sky, doth passe the euenings weed. 1567 *JEWEL Def. Apol.* II. 221 Therefore the Greekes calle Baptisme, ἀβραῖος ἔδυμα, That is, the Weede of immortalite. 1590 *SHAKS. Mids. N.* II. i. 256 And there the snake throwes her enamell'd skinnē, Weed wide enough to rap a Fairy in. 1613-16 *BROWNE Brit. Past.* I. i. 11 That heart. . . That neuer wore dissimulations weed. a 1618 *RALEGH Rem.* (1644) 116 Being stripped out of this mortall weed. a 1639 *CAREW Comparison* 20 Thy skin's a heavenly and immortall weede. 1785 *BURNS Scotch Drink* vii. Aft, clad in massy, siller weed, Wi' Gentles thou erects thy head. 1793 — *By Allan Stream* 20 How cheery through her shortening day Is Autumn, in her weeds o' yellow. 1805-6 *CARY Dante, Inf.* xxxiii. 60 Father, . . . thou gavest These weeds of miserable flesh we wear; And do thou strip them off from us again.

4. Used contextually for: Defensive covering, armour, mail. *collect. sing.* or *pl.* Also *iron*, *steel weed*.

c 1205 *LAY.* 23773 þe king mid his weden [c 1275 wede] leop on his stede. c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 3535 Was non so stif stelen wede þat withstod his wepen. 1375 *BARBOUR Bruce* xvi. 580 A chemeyr, for till hcill his veid, Aboue his armyng had he then. c 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 3994 Thei. . . drow out horses and stedes And here strong Iren wedes. c 1470 *HENRY Wallace* II. 112 The thrid he straik throuch his pissand of maile, The crag in tha; no weidis mycht him waill. 1480 *Robt. Devyll* 910 in *Hazl. E.P.P.* I. 254 Greate horses stampēd in yron wedes. 1515 *Scottish Field* 537 in *Chetham Misc.* II. They will sticke with their standarts in their stele weedes. 1611 W. AUSTIN in *Coryat's Crudities* Panegyrr. Verses g 5 b, His garments. . . Which heretofore like weedes of prooffe Serued him to keepe the colde aloofe. 1813 *SCOTT Triern.* III. xx, Oh for his arms! Of martial weed Had never mortal Knight such need!

5. A garment, or garb, distinctive of a person's sex, profession, state of life. a. *sing.* (collect. or particular).

1297 *R. GLOUC.* (Rolls) 4918 Sirc bissop wu ne ȝifstus of pine wite brede þat þou est þi sulf at þi masse in pine vayre wede. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 23981 Wede o welth wil i namar, Clething wil i me tak o care. 13 . . . *Guy Warw.* 1721 Gij seye

a man of rewly ble Go in pilgrims wede. 1303 *R. BRUNNE Handl. Synne* 2343 Sepyn toke þe knyȝt palmers wede. c 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 6548 þat day þat cuthbert toke bischop wede. 1470-85 *MALORY Arthur* xvii. ix. 702 They . . . sawe the good man in a religyous wede. 1581 *J. BELL Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 276 b, Such as are buried in the cowle & weede of a Franciscane Fryer. 1587 *FLEMING Contn. Holinshed* III. 1280/1 Wherin also is buried John Yoong . . . in his doctors weed. 1605 *ERONDELLE Fr. Gard.* G 3 b, It is not the weed y^t maketh the monke. a 1670 *SPALDING Troub. Chas. I* (Bannatyne Club) I. 16 This was the ordinary weid of thir his majestie's foot guards. 1684 *BUNYAN Pilgr.* II. 153 They neither have the Pilgrim's Weed nor the Pilgrim's Courage. 1859 *TENNYSON Enid* 1528 This poor gown, This silken rag, this beggar-woman's weed.

b. *pl.*

1362 *LANGL. P. Pl. A.* vi. 7 Apparayled as a Palmere In pilgrimes wedes. c 1450 in *Kingsford Chron. Lond.* (1905) 129 Sche eschapede thens in a mannys weeds. 1570 *GOOGE Popish Kingd.* III. 39 b, Who can declare the massing weedes? 1590 *SPENSER F.Q.* I. Introd. i, Whose Muse whilome did maske . . . in lowly Shepheards weeds. 1650 *HOWELL Giraffi's Rev. Naples* I. 89, I wold never have shaken off my mariners weeds. 1667 *MILTON P.L.* III. 479 They who to be sure of Paradise Dying put on the weeds of Dominic. 1673 *HICKERINGILL Greg. Father Greyb.* 74 A Conformist Minister with all his Aaronical weeds on. 1763 *C. JOHNSTON Reverie* II. 104 Though he was habited in the humble weeds of a slave. 1781 *COWPER Truth* 81 In shirt of hair and weeds of canvass dress'd. 1838 *PRESCOTT Ferd. & Is.* II. xxi. III. 372 The spirit of the soldier burned strong and bright under his monastic weeds.

c. Sometimes without specifying word = a palmer's dress, the religious habit, etc. (as indicated by the context).

c 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 1338 If ane so for wikkid dede Leue hir abbay & hir wede. c 1489 *CAXTON Sonnes of Aymon* xxi. 459 He shet the dore of his chapell, and toke his wede & his staffe. 1561 *T. HOBY tr. Castiglione's Courtier* II. Zij, The frier . . . beesought me to lett him goe downe, and not to shoue suche shame to the weede. 1706 [see 6 b]. 1760-72 *H. BROOKE Fool of Qual.* (1809) I. 147, I gave her two-pence, re-assumed my former garb, and left my weeds in her custody.

6. With defining word, esp. *mourning*: A black garment worn in token of bereavement; mourning apparel. Also, a scarf or band of crape worn by a mourner.

1536 *BELLENDEN Cron. Scot.* (1821) II. 165 This other sall pas in dolorus weid, on ane blak hors. 1546 in *Strype Eccl. Mem.* (1721) II. App. 4 A Commandment was given . . . to . . . put on them every man his mourning weeds. 1592 *KYD Sp. Trag.* I. iii. 20 Let Fortune doe her worst, She will not rob me of this sable weed. 1603 *H. PETOWE Eliza's Funeral* A 4, Then weepe no more, Your sighing weedes put off. 1656 *EARL MONM. tr. Boccacini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* 289 Being clad in a long mourning weed, he appeared in the Colledge of the Litterati. 1787 *BURNS On Death Sir J. Hunter Blair* 15 A stately Form In weeds of woe. 1852 *MRS. STOWE Uncle Tom's C.* xxvii, People who saw him in the street. . . knew of his loss only by the weed on his hat. *Ibid.* xxviii, A long strip of black crape, torn from the funeral weeds. 1905 *Eng. Dial. Dict., Weed*, a band of cloth or crêpe for a man's hat in time of mourning. W. Yks.

b. *spec.* The deep mourning worn by a widow, including a crape veil, 'weepers,' etc. Now always *pl.*; with or without *widow's* prefixed. (The *sing.* seems to have been used formerly to mean the veil.)

The only use of the word now generally known; quite *collog.* while the custom of wearing deep mourning was still widespread.

1595 *Locrine* v. i. 24 Let her there prouide her mourning weeds And mourn for euer her owne widow-hood. 1706 *MRS. CENTLIVRE Platonic Lady* I. iii. 14 The disconsolate Wife having borrowed a Weed of her Neighbour, is consulting her Glass to see how it becomes her. 1706 *PHILLIPS* (ed. Kersey), *Weed or Wede*, a Garment or Suit of Cloaths; whence it is still us'd for a Frier's Habit, a Widow's Vail, &c. 1711 *ADDISON Spect.* No. 44 ¶ 4 An afflicted Widow in her Mourning-Woods. 1715 — *Drummer* II. i, The Taylor had made her Widow's weeds. 1748 *RICHARDSON Clarissa* (1768) VII. 117 What a charming widow would she have made! How would she have adorned the weeds! 1749 *FIELDING Tom Jones* III. i, As this [her habit] changed from weeds to black, from black to grey, from grey to white. 1836 *DICKENS Sk. Boz, Parish* vii, The mother wore a widow's weeds. 1849 *THACKERAY Pendennis* III, There were no entertainments. . . during the year of her weeds. 1887 *Poor Nellie* (1888) 428 He had heard the cook remark . . . that his mother would now wear weeds.

† 7. A cloth, covering, hanging, or the like. Also *collect. sing.* *Obs.*

c 1200 *ORMIN* 8171 All patt wæde patt tær wass Upþo þe bære fundenn, All wass itt off þe bettste pall. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 372 And pan sylen to sitte vpon silke wedis. c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 830 Eek as for hail a russet weede is To kest vpon the querne [L. *Panno roseo mola cooperitur*]. 1582 *STANYHURST Æneis* III. (Arb.) 72 With black weede the altar is hanged.

weed (wi:d), *sb.*³ *Sc.* and *Anglo-Irish.* Also *weid*. [The first syllable of *weeden*- WEDENONFA', wrongly analysed as *weed* an' onfa' (see quot. c 1830).] A sudden febrile attack; esp. a kind of puerperal fever.

1790 *A. DUNCAN Med. Comm.* Dec. II. V. 300 It may be difficult, therefore, in the beginning, to distinguish puerperal fever from accumulations of fæces in the alimentary canal, especially if joined to an Ephemera, or Weed. 1818 *SCOTT Br. Lamm.* xii, Dinna ye hear the bairn greet? I'se warrant it's that dreary weid has come ower't again. 1819 *Edin. Mag.* Mar. 220 There to appearance she still lay, very sick of a fever, incident to women in her situation, and here termed a *weed*. 1830 *CARLETON Traits Irish Peas.* (1843) I. 308 Besides, I'm a bit bothered on both sides of my head, ever since I had that weary *weid*. c 1830

in *Proc. Berwick. Nat. Club* (1916) 86 Ephemeral colds, vulgarly called weeds and onfas. 1902 *Brit. Med. Jnl.* 19 July 209 A touch of the 'weed' (or weid), which means a sudden febrile attack.

b. A feverish disease in cattle.

1811 J. TROTTER *Agr. Surv. W. Lothian* 168 Milch cows, however, are not unfrequently subject to what is here called a weed, which is a kind of feverish affection. 1851 *Jnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XII. II. 523 Irritation and inflammation of the absorbent vessels and glands. . . constituting the disease termed *weed* [in horses].

weed (wi:d), *v.* *Pa. t.* and *pa. pple.* *weeded*. Forms: 1 *wéodian*, 4-6 *wede*, (4 *wed*), 4-7 *weede*, (5 *wedy*, 6 *weade*, 7 *weyde*), 6 *Sc. weid*, 6- *weed*; *pa. t.* and *pa. pple.* occasionally 5-9 *wed*, 8 *wedd*, 9 *Sc. wede*. [OE. *wéodian* = OS. *wiodôn* (LG. *weden*), (M)Du. *wieden*, (M)LG. *wedon*, Wfris. *wjудde*, f. OE. *wéod*, OS. *wiod*, WEED *sb.*¹]

1. *intr.* (or *absol.*) To clear the ground of weeds; to pull up weeds.

a 1100 *Gerefa in Anglia* IX. 261 Me [read Mon] mæig . . . on sumera fealgian. . . tymbrian, wudian, weodian, faldian. 1393 *LANGL. P. Pl. C.* ix. 66 And alle þat helpen me to erye oper elles to weden, Shal haue leue, by our lorde to go and glene after. *Ibid.* 186. 1523-34 *FITZHERB. Husb.* §21 The chyefe instrument to wede with is a paire of tonges made of wode. 1593 *HYLL Art Garden.* 74 If any by ignorance doth weede about the plantes without gloues on their handes. 1600 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 128 A woman that helped to weyde in the garthing iij days, iij^d. 1732 *BERKELEY Alciph.* v. §21 Whoever hath a mind to weed will never want work. 1733 W. ELLIS *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 221 The Sheep can't weed amongst them [Beans and Peas], and eat up the wild Oat and Curlock. 1782 *MISS BURNEY Cecilia* VIII. v, To the garden then they all went, and saw him upon the ground, weeding. 1847 F. W. ROBERTSON *Human Race* vii. (1881) 73 When once the farmer has sown, he can do little more except weed. 1860 W. WHITE *Wrekin* xxix. 342 The gardens adjoin the inclosure, and there I saw boys digging, hoeing and weeding amid plentiful crops of cabbage and beans.

2. a. *trans.* To free (land, a crop, plant) from weeds.

c 1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in *Wright Voc.* 156 Vostre lyn en tens sarchet [glossed] wed th flax. 1398 *TREvisa Barth. De P.R.* xvii. lxxv. (1495) 642 It nedyth that corne be clene wedyd and clensyd of . . . euylly wedys. c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* II. 289 And watre hem . . . Ek delue hem al aboute, and weede hem clene. c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 359 A man went to wede hys vynys. 1523-34 *FITZHERB. Husb.* §21 How to wede corne. 1534 *MS. Acc. St. John's Hosp., Canterb.*, For a woman wedyng bens ij days, iij^d. 1553 *BRENDE Q. Curtius* IV. 34 They . . . came into her garden. . . and found him weding of his ground. 1562 *TURNER Herbal* II. 52 When it is an inch long, it must be diligently wedede w' handes & not w' a weding yron. 1646-47 in *Willis & Clark Cambridge* (1886) II. 94 To the gardener for weeding y^e garden and the walks. 1693 *EVELYN De la Quint. Compl. Gard.* I. i. iii. 5 Your small Plants, as Strawberries, Lettice, Succory, &c. require to be often Weeded, the better to perform their Duty. c 1710 *CELIA FIENNES Diary* (1888) 301 One Garden wth Grass plots and Earth walks Cut and wedd. 1766 *Complete Farmer* s.v. *Turnep* 7 Qb/1, I hand-hoed them once, and wed them twice. 1816 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 685 Weed the beds of onions, lettuces, carrots, and leeks. 1824 *LOUDON Encycl. Gard.* (ed. 2) §1352 Garden-pincers. . . Their chief use is to weed ponds. 1858 *SLIGHT & BURN Bk. Farm Implements* 328 The hand draw-hoe is used for weeding corn sown in rows. 1859 *TENNYSON Geraint & Enid* 942 As now Men weed the white horse on the Berkshire hills To keep him bright and clean as heretofore. a 1894 *STEVENSON In South Seas* II. ii. (1900) 152 The alleys where we walked were smoothed and weeded like a boulevard.

b. *fig.*

1377 *LANGL. P. Pl. B.* xvi. 17 Herte hatte þe herber þat it [the tree of Patience] in groweth, And *liberum arbitrium* hath þe londe to ferme, Under Piers þe plowman to pyken it and to weden it. a 1400 *Hymns Virg.* (1867) 77 God! sowe þi merci amonge my seede, þanne schal it growe þous y sowē late, And Repentance my corne schal weede. 1545 *BRINKLOW Compl.* 46 b, The kyngs grace began wel to wede the garden of Ingland. 1579 *Br. Ely* in W. Wilkinson *Confut. Fam. Love* Back of title-p., That our Church of England might be well weeded from to grosse errors. 1600 *SHAKS. A.Y.L.* II. vii. 45 Prouided that you weed your better iudgements Of all opinion that growes ranke in them. 1648 *EARL WESTMORLAND Otia Sacra* (1879) 41 So let our Hearts be thoroughly wed of Sin, And then they'll prove good ground agen. 1662 *EVELYN Sculptura* i. 10 It is not to shew how diligently we have weeded the Calepines, and Lexicons . . . but the result of much diligent collection. 1735 *SWIFT Gulliver, Introd. Let. fr. Capt. Gulliver*, I desired you would let me know . . . when . . . courts and leues of great ministers [were] thoroughly weeded and swept. 1818 *KEATS Endym.* II. 106 Could I weed Thy soul of care. 1847 *TENNYSON Princess* v. 454 A lusty brace Of twins may weed her of her folly. 1879 *FROUDE Caesar* x. 110 The Senate was at once weeded of many of its disreputable members. 1897 *Bookman* Jan. 129/1 The story would be better from a literary point of view if weeded of some of its clevernesses.

3. a. To remove (weeds) from land, esp. from cultivated land or from a crop. Also with *out*, *up*.

c 1430 *LYDG. Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 173 Heretykys have lefte there frowardnes, Wedyde the cokkelle frome the puryd corne. 1523-34 *FITZHERB. Husb.* §21 Dogfenell, godes, mathes, and kedlokes are yll to wede after this maner. 1557 *TUSSER 100 Points Husb.* (1878) 231 In June get thy wede-hoke, . . . and wede out such wede, as the corne doth not loue. 1611 A. STANDISH *Commons Compl.* 44 Weede the grasse cleane vp from about the rootes. 1628 *FOLKINGHAM Panala Med.* 77 Like a discreet Damsell, which preserues wholesome Herbes, and weeds-*vp* hurtfull Weeds. 1656 *EARL MONM. tr. Boccacini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. xvi. (1674) 18 So great abundance of Weeds grew up . . . [they could not] undergo the charges they were at in weeding them out. 1710 *HILMAN Tusser Rediv.* Mar. (1744) 32 Wild Oats . . . are not easily weeded when in the Blade. 1765 *Ann. Reg.* II. 146 The

natural grass is to be considered as a weed, which, if not at first weeded out of the ground, will soon destroy . . . the artificial grass. **1902** W. W. JACOBS *At Sunwich Port* ii. 13 Mr. Wilks . . . weeded two pieces of grass from the path, and carefully removed a dead branch from a laurel.

† **b. transf.** To remove (vermin, noxious animals). *Obs.*

1583 MELBANCKE *Philotimus* Tij b, The Kite canne weede the worme, can kill the Moulewarpe. **1593** SHAKS. *Rich. II*, ii. iii. 167 Bushie, Bagot, and their Complices, The Caterpillers of the Commonwealth, Which I haue sworne to weed, and plucke away.

c. fig. To eradicate (errors, faults, sins, etc.); to remove (things or persons) as noxious or useless. Also with *away*, *out*.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 30 By holy exercyse of the same plucketh out by the rotes & wedeth away all þe euill customes of synne. **1536** TINDALE *N. T.* To Chr. Rdr., Thou hast here . . . the newe Testament. . . Which I haue looked ouer agayne . . . with all diligence, . . . & haue weeded out of it many fautes. **1546** *Supplic. Poore Commons* (E.E.T.S.) 62 Your Hyghnesse . . . hath . . . supplanted, and, as it were, weeded out, a great nombre of valiaunt and sturdye monckes, fryers, [etc.]. **a 1568** ASCHAM *Scholem*. 1. (Arb.) 56 If wise fathers, be not as well ware in weeding from their Children ill things. **1588** SHAKS. *L.L.L.* v. ii. 857 To weed this Wormewood from your fruitfull braine. **1603** — *Meas. for M.* iii. ii. 284 Twice trebble shame on Angelo, To weede my vice, and let his grow. **1615** *John Flodder* in Rollins *Pepysian Garl.* (1922) 58 And weed away from euery place and Cittie, Such idle Drones, you cherish with your pittie. **1643** PRYNNE *Sov. Power Parl.* 1. (ed. 2) 24 That they were assembled for the good of the King and kingdom, and to weed from about him, such Traytours as he continually held with him. **1662** J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 43 These customs savour of their antient Idolatry. The Ministers do all they can to weed it out of them by little and little. **1690** LOCKE *Educ.* §147 Where you may . . . gently correct and weed out any Bad Inclinations, and settle in him good Habits. **1736** BERKELEY *Disc. Wks.* 1871 III. 415 Those who are so active to weed out the prejudices of education. **1817** BYRON *Lament. Tasso* iv, I weed all bitterness from out my breast. **1870** LOWELL *Study Wind.*, *Chaucer* (1871) 170 Sir Harris Nicolas, with the help of original records, weeded away the fictions by which the few facts were choked and overshadowed.

4. a. To clear *away* (plants, not necessarily noxious or useless); to take *out* (plants or trees) to prevent overcrowding; to thin (a crop).

1543— [see WEEDING *vbl. sb.* 2]. **1791** W. GILPIN *Rem. Forest Scenery* I. 85 If you want to shelter a nursery of young trees, plant Scotch firs: and the phrase is, you may afterwards *weed them out*, as you please. **1825** JAMIESON, 'To *Weed*, to thin growing plants by taking out the smaller ones; as, 'to weed firs', S.

¶ **b.** The refrain of Jean Elliot's song (quot. c 1760) has often been quoted in the form 'The flowers of the forest are a' wcde away'. In allusion to this, Scottish writers have sometimes used *wede away* (app. without associating it with the verb *weed*) in the vague sense 'carried off by death'; sometimes it has been interpreted as 'withered, faded'. Similarly to *wede away* used intr. for 'to die off', trans. for 'to carry off by death'.

c 1760 JEAN ELLIOT in F. Elliot *Trustworthiness of Border Ballads* (1906) 166 The Flowers of the Forest are weeded away. **1808** SCOTT *Marmion* vi. xxxvi, One of those flowers, whom plaintive lay In Scotland mourns as 'wede away'. **1824** — 4 Apr. in *Fam. Lett.* (1894) II. xx. 198 How sad it is to see those whom we love gradually weeded away from the world in which we are left. **1824** MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl.* 28 Ava my gude auld native parish, the Browns and the Sproats are a weedin awa. **1851** A. MACLAGAN *Sk. Nature* 225 If sad Fate before me should Wede him away.

c. transf. To remove (inferior or superfluous individuals) from a company, herd, etc.; also with *out*.

1863 E. FARMER *Scrap Bk.* (ed. 3) 27 The hounds have been 'weeded', some sold and some hung. **1869** WHYTE-MELVILLE *Songs & Verses* 87 Faster and faster comes grief and disaster, All but the good ones are weeded at last. **1889** 'J. S. WINTER' Mrs. Bob i, She had her house, as heretofore, all her old society (excepting such as she had judiciously weeded out). **1893** FORBES-MITCHELL *Great Mutiny* 3 Those unfit for foreign service were carefully weeded from the service companies. **1901** *Essex Weekly News* 15 Mar. 5/7 If a herd is to be made profitable, about one fourth of the cows must be weeded-out every year.

d. intr. Of a company: To become thinned down.

1887 SIR R. H. ROBERTS *In the Shires* v. 90 The field has weeded down to the select few.

e. trans. To perform a process of selecting from (a collection of documents, a file, etc.), rejecting those items which are unimportant or not worth retaining; to select (papers, etc.) in this manner. Also, to select (papers, etc.) in order to withhold them from general inspection. Also with *out*.

1874 H. TAYLOR *Let.* 30 Sept. in J. Brown *Lett.* (1912) 412, I am not sure that when I admired his poetry most, I did not admire his letters more, but like almost every collection of letters they should be weeded. **1946** A. E. PORTER *Let.* 26 Aug. in P. Moon *Transfer of Power* (1979) VIII. 309 Dick Tottenham, who compiled most of the files and is now on leave preparatory to retirement, would be singularly well qualified to weed them out and present you with those which are in fact worth keeping. **1977** *Times* 31 Aug. 4/1 The Ministry of Defence has begun a review of the way classified papers are written, filed, preserved (or 'weeded').

f. to weed down, to reduce (a list of candidates, etc.) to a short-list.

1942 R.A.F. *Jrnl.* 18 Apr. 6 Those who pass are further weeded down by a ballot. **1962** J. GLENN in *Into Orbit* 17 NASA asked us to take a series of tests which would help weed us down further.

5. slang. (See *quots.*)

1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict.*, *Weed*, to pilfer or purloin a small portion from a large quantity of anything; . . . an apprentice or shopman will *weed* his master's *lob*, that is take small sums out of the till. . . To *weed the swag* is to embezzle part of the booty, unknown to your *palls* before a division takes place. **1823** 'JON BEE' *Dict. Turf*, To *weed*, to steal part only. **1894** J. G. LITTLECHILD *Remin.* xv. (ed. 2) 158 Thus, in the case of a famous American bank robbery, he is suspected of having 'weeded the swag' to the amount of nearly £10,000.

6. Angling. Of a trout: to bury itself in weeds when hooked (*refl.* and *intr.*). Also, to entangle (the fish) in weeds (*const.* in *pass.*).

1889 F. M. HALFORD *Dry-Fly Fishing* ix. 211 Do not be afraid of weedy places. Trout . . . seldom weed at night, probably because they do not see the angler. *Ibid.* 224 When a fish is once weeded, the following tactics are what I suggest. **1960** *Times* 2 July 11/2 The risk of allowing a fish to weed itself is much reduced. . . if the weedbed lies upstream. *Ibid.*, More good trout have been lost in attempts to prevent them reaching weedbeds than have been lost in efforts to get them out once they have become weeded.

weed, obs. form of WED *v.*

weedable ('wi:dəb(ə)l), *a.* [f. WEED *v.* + -ABLE.] That may bc weeded.

1611 COTGR., *Sarcable*, weedable, fit to be weeded.

weedage ('wi:diɔdʒ). [f. WEED *sb.*¹ + -AGE.] Weeds collectively. Also *fig.*

1855 LYNCH *Rivulet* cix. vii, When [wilt Thou] with last desolations Earth's weedage consume. **1866** REDGRAVE *Cent. Painters* II. 112 The weedage, leafage, and flowers have been painted white, or approaching to it.

† **weedbind.** *Obs.* = BINDWEED *i.*

1551 TURNER *Herbal* i. Lviij, The properties of byndweed. The iuice of weedbynde, purgeth the belly.

weede, obs. form of WED *v.*, WIDE.

weeded ('wi:did), (*ppl.*) *a.*¹ [f. WEED *sb.*¹ and *v.*¹ + -ED.]

1. Covered with weeds. Of a crop: Abounding in or choked with weeds; weedy.

1818 KEATS *Endym.* III. 193 Upon a weeded rock this old man sat. **1822** *Blackw. Mag.* XII. 785 [It] sent up only weeded, raggy, and mixed crops. **1830** TENNYSON *Mariana* i, Unlifted was the clinking latch; Weeded and worn the ancient thatch Upon the lonely moated grange.

2. Freed from weeds. Also *fig.*

1766 *Sp. agst. Suspending & Dispensing Prerogative* in *Parl. Hist.* (1813) XVI. 310 It was the rump of a well weeded parliament that abolished the monarchy. **1846** MRS. A. MARSH *Father Darcy* II. i. 5 The fields are covered with fine well-weeded turf.

3. Of a crop: Thinned out; sparse.

1831 T. MACQUEEN *Gloaming Amusem.* 65, O! white, white was his weedit hair.

weeded ('wi:did), *a.*² *arch.* [f. WEED *sb.*² + -ED².] Dressed in widow's weeds.

1895 HARDY *Jude* v. vii. 369 Having ascertained thus much the immensely weeded widow retraced her steps. **1971** 'A. BURGESS' *MF* i. 18 An untrustworthy young man in black spoke to the frail weeded widow.

† **'weeden.** *a. Obs. rare.* [f. WEED *sb.*¹ + -EN⁴.] Composed of weeds.

1599 DALLAM in *Early Voy. Levant* (Hakl. Soc.) 54 We that had our weeden pillows.

weeder ('wi:ðə(r)). [f. WEED *v.* + -ER¹.]

1. An implement used to eradicate weeds.

c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 519/2 Wedare, runco. **1688** HOLME *Armoury* III. xx. (Roxb.) 246/1 The Fift is a long staffe, with a Broad Hooke of three teeth turning vp made fast on the end of it. . . This is termed a weeder. **1862** ANSTED *Channel Isl.* iv. xx. 478 Weeding is commonly done by hand with a small weeder. **1875** J. GRANT *One of 'Six Hundred'* ii, Occupied with a weeder, which he always carried, and with which the ends of all his walking-sticks were furnished.

2. A person employed to remove weeds from a crop, land, etc.

1534 *MS. Acc. St. John's Hosp., Canterb.*, For mett & drynk for ij weeders ij days, ij d. **1538** ELYOT *Dict., Sarritor, & sartor*, a weeder of corne. *Ibid.*, *Stirpices*, wieders in gardenyes. **1577** B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* ii. 52 b, The beddes and the borders must be so cast, as the weeders hands may reach to the midst of them. **1645** WITHER *Vox Pacif.* 74 Some Weeds, and Corne, are in the blade so like, That many Weeders have deceived bin. **1691** SIR J. FOULIS *Acc. Bk.* (S.H.S.) 136 To y^e weeders in y^e yard to drinck, o 4 o. **a 1722** LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 385 My wheat was putting out into ear when I sent weeders to weed it. **1760** STERNE *Tr. Shandy* III. xxxiv, Whilst I am worth one [sc. shilling] to pay a weeder—thy path from thy door to thy bowling-green shall never be grown up. **1794** J. BOYS *Agric. Kent* 25 Women weeders, per day . . . os. 8d. **1827** CLARE *Sheph. Cal.* 47 Each morning now, the weeders meet To cut the thistle from the wheat. **1835** *App. Munic. Corpor. Rep.* III. 1699 [Among Officers of Richmond, Yorks., corporation] Weeder of Foot-paths. **1870** *Inquiry, Yorksh. Deaf & Dumb* 20 He is employed as weeder in the garden at Wighill Park. *fig.* **1607** [see WATERER *i.*] **1801** W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* XI. 648 Novels, Poems, Plays, and Periodical Trash, without end, press upon us for notice—it must be left to the weeders.

3. **a.** An extirpator (of weeds). Chiefly *fig.* Also with *out*.

1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III.* 1. iii. 123, I was a packe-horse in his great affaires: A weeder out of his proud Aduersaries. **1598** YONG *Diana* 228 Thou art a weeder out Of vices, from the place of vertues graine. **1611** COTGR., *Eschardonneur*, a weeder of thistles.

b. spec. A person employed by a government department to weed documents, letters, etc. (WEED *v.* 4 e).

In *quots.* 1976 and 1984 the process is one of selecting papers in order to withhold or suppress them rather than to discard them.

1976 SUMMERS & MANGOLD *File on Tsar* v. xx. 254 Before papers get anywhere near the Public Record Office the weeders, for that is what they are called in government circles, have first bite; beavering away in Whitehall basements, they plough through the documents accumulated by all government ministries, deciding what should be suppressed. **1983** W. GARNER *Think Big, Think Dirty* vii. 101 The weeders worked in Central Registry, thinning down documentation as it grew bulky, repetitive or outdated. **1984** *Times* 23 May 10/3 Highly secret work, so secret that the weeders will see that it is not disclosed, even after 30 years.

4. attrib., as *weeder woman*; *weeder-clips* *Sc.* = *weeding shears* (see WEEDING *vbl. sb.* 3).

1748 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to C'tess of Bute* 10 July, I generally rise at six, and as soon as I have breakfasted, put myself at the head of my weeder women and work with them till nine. **1787** *Weeder-clips* [see WEEDING-HOOK].

weedery ('wi:ðəri), *sb.*¹ [f. WEED *sb.*¹ + -ERY.] Weeds collectively; also, a place where weeds abound.

1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul, Psychozoia* II. lxxii, Hard by there was a place, all covered o're With stinging nettles and such weedery. **1814** SOUTHEY *Roderick* vi. 46 The weedery which through The interstices of those neglected courts Uncheck'd had flourish'd long, and seeded there. **1837** *Tait's Mag.* IV. 629 Two poplars at the end of a strip of weedery. **a 1890** MARIANNE NORTH *Recoll. Happy Life* (1892) I. i. 29 Our garden was much of a weedery in those days at Hastings.

weedery ('wi:ðəri), *sb.*² *poet. nonce-wd.* [f. WEED *sb.*² + -ERY.] Mourning garments.

1908 HARDY *Dynasts* III. vi. ii. 459 Even as he For whom thou wear'st that filial weedery Was waylaid by my tipstaff nine years since.

weedful ('wi:ðfʊl), *a. rare.* [f. WEED *sb.*¹ + -FUL.] Abounding in weeds. *lit.* and *fig.*

1614 SYLVESTER *2nd Sess. Parl. Vertues Royall Ded.*, Need-full in this Weed-full Time. **1849** MANGAN *Poems, To Jos. Brenan* 14 Unheedful Of the thorns and tares, that choked the weedful Garden of my mind!

'**weed-hook.** In 1 wéodhóc, 4 wyed hoc, 5 weod hook, wedhoc, -hoke, -huke, 4-6 wedehoke. [f. WEED *sb.*¹ + HOOK *sb.*¹] A hook for cutting away weeds. Also in *fig.* contexts.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* S 20 *Sarculum*, uueodhoc. **1340** *Ayenb.* 121 þe yefpe of drede . . . is þe wyed hoc of þe gardine pet uordeþ al þet kueade gers. **c 1340** *Nominale* (Skeat) 527 *Sarcle* . . . Wedehoke. **1408** *Wyclif's Bible* Isa. vii. 25 (2nd text, MS. K.) A sarpe, *id est*, a weod hook. **c 1420** ? *LYDC. Assembly of Gods* 1361 Then Reson & Sadnesse toke wede hokes tweyn, and all wyldewanones out of the fylde gan wede. **1557** TUSSER *100 Points Husb.* lxxix, In June get thy wedehoke, thy knife and thy gloue. **1561** T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* iv. xi. §11 (1562) 72 Learne that thou hast nede of a wedehoke, not of a scepter, that thou mayste doo the worke of a Prophete. **1610** J. ROBINSON *Justif. Separat.* 117 How dare the Prelates . . . take this forbidden weedbook into their hands, & vse it against any tare amongst them? **1631** MABBE *Celestina* i. 21 To root it out streight with the weed-hooke of good workes. **1710** HILMAN *Tusser Rediv.* Mar. (1744) 32 These [thistles] may . . . be weeded off with a Weed-hook, or Stabbing-knife. **1844** H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 941 The only implements used in weeding corn are the hand draw-hoe . . . and the weed-hook. **1858** SLIGHT & BURN *Bk. Farm Implements* 328 The Weed-Hook . . . consists of an acute hook of iron, flattened, . . . with the two inner edges as far set asunder as to embrace the stem of succulent herbaceous plants, and made as sharp as easily to cut through them.

weedicide ('wi:ðisaɪd). [f. WEED *sb.*¹ + -I- + -CIDE.] A chemical preparation designed as a weed-killer; weed-killer.

1934 *Jrnl. Dept. Agric. W. Austral.* XI. 521 Sodium arsenite has been employed extensively . . . as a weedicide, and . . . proved the most successful weed killer. **1951** *Chambers's Jrnl.* Aug. 457/1 Agricultural scientists . . . have set themselves the task of finding efficient straight weedicides. **1975** *N.Z. Jrnl. Agric.* Sept. 21/1 Maize farmers . . . spend a great deal of time and money on ground preparation, seed, fertilisers and weedicide. **1979** *Indian Express* 10 Apr. 10/4 As preparatory cultivations are carried out to control weeds only, efforts should be made to use weedicides for it whenever necessary.

weeding ('wi:ðɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. WEED *v.* + -ING¹.]

1. **a.** The action or process of freeing (land, a crop, etc.) from weeds.

c 1100 *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 105/3 *Runcatio*, weodung. c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 519/2 Weddyng, runcacio. **1468-9** *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 102 For wedyng in the whete, iij s. j d. **1523-34** FITZHERB. *Husb.* §21 After a shoure of raine it is beste wedyng. *Ibid.*, But as for terre, there wyll noo wedyng serue. **1583** *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 10 John Hewode for the dresing, wyedyng and kypinge of the gardenes . . . foure and tyn ty shillinges. **1641** MILTON *Animado.* 52 The weeding and worming of every bed both in that, and all other Gardens thereabout. **1707** MORTIMER *Husb.* 126 The common price of weeding of it [sc. woad] is about eight pence an Acre. **1846** *J. Baxter's Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) I. 381 When draining is properly attended to, there will be little occasion for weeding. **1921** *Times Lit.*

Suppl. 8 Sept. 574/3 The subsequent weeding of the young crop [of teak] until it can hold its own against the rapid growth of weeds and useless trees.

b. The eradication (of weeds); also with *out*. Also *fig.*

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 68 b, The wedyng out of Heretikes. **1656** EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* i. xvi. 28 It was... ridiculous to compare the purging of the world from seditious spirits, with the weeding of noysome hearbs out of a Garden. **1901** *Scotsman* 13 Mar. 9/4 One who... was all for the weeding out of incapacity and the selection of the fittest officers.

c. That which is weeded out.

1588 SHAKS. *L.L.L.* i. i. 96 Hee weedes the corne, and still lets grow the weeding.

2. a. The action of thinning out plants, trees, etc. Also *concr.* (*pl.*) the plants removed in the process.

1543 *Act 35 Hen. VIII* c. 17 §5 Persons... which have... Woods or Coppice... shall, at the felling or weeding thereof, leave standing... twelve Trees of Oak. **a 1715** BURNET *Own Time* (1734) II. 274 They charged him [Ld. Halifax] for another Grant... to the waste of the Timber... [He replied] His Grant in the Forest of Dean was only of the Weedings. **1799** J. ROBERTSON *Agric. Perth* 254 At a second weeding, when it appears necessary, another third of the original number may be cut down. *Ibid.* 255 Ditto number of weedings, taken out before 20 years, and valued at one half-penny each. **1825** JAMIESON, *Weedings*, what is pulled up, or cut out, in thinning trees, &c. **1844** H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* 111. 1098 To erect a pyramid of 3 small trees or weedings of larch or Scots fir.

b. transf. and fig. Also with *out*.

1844 DISRAELI *Coningsby* II. i, The accession of Mr. Canning to the cabinet... soon led to a further weeding of the Mediocrities. **1853** SURTEES *Sponge's Sp. Tour* lx. 342 It seemed agreed on all hands that their party rather wanted weeding than increasing. **1870** *Daily News* 11 Nov., The feeling... is so strong, that a great weeding of the judicial bench is probable if the Republic lasts. **1884** *Athenæum* 20 Dec. 800/3 Its value would have been greater if the two volumes had been reduced to one by the judicious weeding of the articles dealing with the controversy with Mill. **1916** *Kinematograph Year Bk.* 36 (*heading*) The weeding-out process. **1932** *New Yorker* 14 May 56/2, I should like to hear some of the manuscripts that the weeding-out committee considered inferior to the final five. **1953** J. S. HUXLEY *Evolution in Action* ii. 42 This weeding-out process. **1968** *North Amer. Rev.* CVII. 589 In one case, and in one case only, could this weeding [of a library's collection] be properly made. **1977** *Times* 31 Aug. 4/1 Valuable material may have been destroyed during 'weeding'. **1981** D. FRANCIS *Twice Shy* xii. 139 He disagreed strongly with my weeding-out policy, even though I'd... discussed every dud [horse] to be discarded.

3. attrib. and Comb., as weeding season, time; in the names of many tools used in removing weeds, as *weeding chisel*, † *dog*, *forceps*, *fork*, † *iron*, † *knife* (lit. and fig.), † *pincers*, *shears*, † *tongs* (lit. and fig.), *tool*, also WEEDING-HOOK; *weeding dues slang* (see quot. and WEED v. 4 e); *weeding shim dial.* (see quot.); *weeding-woman* (cf. *weeder woman*, WEEDER 4).

1819 REES *Cycl.*, **Weeding-chisel*, an useful tool with a divided chisel point, for cutting the roots of large weeds within the ground. **1688** HOLME *Armoury* III. 392/2 In the Base is... a Gardiner's *Weeding Dog. It is made with a Taper Fork, and a Cross bar of Iron, some six or eight Inches above, [etc.]. **1812** J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict.* s.v., Speaking of any person, place, or property, that has been weeded, it is said *weeding dues have been concerned. **1819** REES *Cycl.*, **Weeding-Forceps*, or *Tongs*, the tool of the nipper kind which is made use of for taking up some sorts of plants in weeding corn and other crops. **1611** COTGR., *Serfoët*, a weeding hooke, or *weeding forke. **1828-32** WEBSTER, *Weeding-Fork*, a strong three-pronged fork, used in cleaning ground of weeds. **1921** *Blackw. Mag.* June 769/2, I was summoned into the house... and leaving my weeding-fork and basket, was absent... perhaps an hour. **1562** *Weeding yron [see WEED v. 1 2]. **1683** J. REID *Scots Gard.* (1907) 149 Pull up the roots cleanly, taking the help of the weeding-iron where needful. **1728** SWIFT *Pastoral Dial.* xi. Misc. 1732 III. 11. 38 Him on my Lap you never more should see; Or may I lose my *Weeding-knife—and Thee. **1751** EARL ORRERY *Remarks Swift* (1752) 183 The scythe of time, or the weeding-knife of a judicious editor, will cut down the docks and thistles. **1842** LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 381 When large weeds only are to be pulled out of shrubberies, this may sometimes be done with *weeding pincers. **a 1722** LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 385 The latter end of the *weeding-season. **1906** ALICE WERNER *Natives Brit. Central Africa* vi. 137 In the planting and weeding seasons, people set out for the gardens before daylight. **1688** HOLME *Armoury* III. xx. (Roxb.) 246/1 He beareth Gules, a paire of Weeding Tonges Or, else a paire of *Weeding Sheares, erected and open. **1850** OGLIVIE, *Weeding-shears*, shears used for cutting weeds. **1819** REES *Cycl.*, **Weeding-Shim*, an implement... made with a frame somewhat like that of the common wheel-barrow... It is a very useful and convenient tool for the purpose of tearing up weeds. **1523-34** FITZHERB. *Husb.* §16 The wichie shal be great hurte to the corne, when it shall be sowen, and specially in the *weeding-tyrne of the same. **1733** W. ELLIS *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 298, I was obliged several Years after, to cut them up in Weeding-time. **a 1555** BRADFORD in Coverdale *Lett. Martyrs* (1564) 462 Yf god... perchance beginne... to poure hys showers vpon you: to nippe you with his *weeding tonges, &c. **1688** [see *weeding shears*]. **1850** OGLIVIE, **Weeding tool*, an implement for pulling up, digging up, or cutting weeds. **1710** ADDISON *Tatler* No. 221 He gave me positive Orders to turn off an old *Weeding-Woman. **1908** [MISS E. FOWLER] *Betw. Trent & Ancholme* 40 Two old weeding-women, cheek by cheek, taking up daisies.

weeding-hook. = WEED-HOOK.

1378 *Acc. Roll Doune, Wandsworth, Surrey* (Westm. Chapter Munim.), iij Wedynghokes. **c 1440** *Promp. Parv.* 519/2 Wedynge hooke, *runco*. **1523-34** FITZHERB. *Husb.* §21

And if it be drye wether, than muste ye haue a wedynge-hoke. **a 1661** HOLYDAY *Juvenal* (1673) 270 When weeding-hooks and rakes The first Smiths made. **1763** MILLS *Syst Pract. Husb.* 111. 22 The common weeding-hook will not go deep enough to take out the whole of the long slender tap root of this plant. **1787** BURNS *Answ. Gudewife of Wauchope-House* ii, The rough burr-thistle, spreading wide Among the bearded bear—1 turn'd my weeding heuk [*Ibid.* Wks. 1800 III. 378 weeder-clips] aside, An' spar'd the symbol dear! **1842** LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 135 The weeding-hook, which is a narrow strap of iron forked at the lower extremity, and a wooden handle at the other, is also used for raising weeds.

fig. **1641** MILTON *Ch. Govt.* i. v, He little dreamt then that the weeding-hook of reformation would after two ages pluck up his glorious poppy from insulting over the good corne.

weedless ('wi:dlis), *a.* [f. WEED *sb.*¹ + -LESS.] Free from weeds. *lit.* and *fig.*

1611 DONNE *Anat. World, 1st Anniv.* 82 For all assum'd vnto this dignitie, So many weedlesse paradises bee. **1659** W. CHAMBERLAYNE *Pharon.* III. i. 95 Whose weedless banks no pinning winter knew. **1670** DRYDEN *1st Pt. Cong. Granada* IV. (1672) 35 When troubled most, it does the bottom show, 'Tis weedless all above; and rockless all below. **1841** CATLIN *N. Amer. Ind.* (1844) II. 164 The thousand treeless, bushless, weedless hills of grass. **1874** W. CORY *Lett. & Jnls.* (1897) 371 A clear, weedless, rocky pool. **1908** H. WALES *Old Allegiance* viii. 137 Straight shaded walks and weedless lawns.

weedling ('wi:dlɪŋ), [f. WEED *sb.*¹ + -LING.]

1. A small weed.

1820 CLARE *Rural Life* (ed. 3) 62 And though thou seem'st a weeding wild, Wild and neglected like to me. **1881** R. BUCHANAN *God & the Man* III. i. 17 Beyond this moss there seemed no other sign of vegetation;... not even the weedlings of the rock.

2. A slight, weakly person.

1890 *Universal Rev.* 15 July 410 What is pathetic is the maternal anxiety shown by the weedy lady for her weeder child... Her whole care is that the weeding's days shall be long [etc.]. **1911** *Times* 9 Aug. 6/1 The strong, able-bodied ones go off to the Colonies and only the weedlings remain.

† **weedwind.** *Obs.* [ad. MDu. *wedewinde* = G. *wehdwinde* (see WITHWIND), with assimilation of the first element to WEED *sb.*] **a.** Black Bindweed, *Polygonum Convolvulus*. **b.** Wild Convolvulus, *Convolvulus arvensis*.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* III. liii. 394 Of blacke Withwinde, or Bindweede... This kinde of Bindweede is called... in shoppes *Volubilis media*, that is to say, The meane Bindweede... in English Weedwinde, and Windweede, or Iuybindweede. **1597** GERARDE *Herbal Table Engl. Names*, Weedwind, that is withywind. **1601** R. CHESTER *Love's Mart.* (1878) 82 Sweete Trefoile, Weedwind, the wholesome Wormewood. **1665** LOVELL *Herball* (ed. 2) 465 Weed wind, see Withy wind.

weedy ('wi:di), *a.*¹ [f. WEED *sb.*¹ + -Y¹.]

1. Full of, abounding or overgrown with, weeds.

c 1420 *Pallad. on Husb.* Tab. 219 Lond, weet, wodi, wedi, or stony, to remedie. **1596** SPENSER *F.Q.* IV. x. 55 But I... Like warie Hynd within the weedy soyle, For no intreatie would forgoe so glorious spoyle. **1611** BIBLE *Jer.* xlix. 21 The noise thereof was heard in the Red [marg. weedy] Sea. **a 1631** DONNE *Lett. to Persons of Honour* (1651) 50 A sullen weedy lake, where I could not have so much as exercise for my swimming. **1707** MORTIMER *Husb.* 100 If Wheat is weedy it must lie upon the Gravel. **1767** A. YOUNG *Farmer's Lett. to People* 261 Dividing the field in such a manner as to give each method a fair proportion of the weedy and clean parts. **1828** DAVY *Salmonia* 47 The fish here are large, and the river weedy, so you must take care of your fish and your tackle. **1852** MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xxxii, The waggon rolled up a weedy gravel-walk. **1914** 'IAN HAY' *Knt. on Wheels* xiv, The garden was weedy and the lawn unshaven.

fig. **1579** SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Dec. 122, I haue Nought reaped but a weedy crop of care. **1628** PRYNNE *Brief Surv. Cozens* 15 The infallibilitie of the Church of Rome, from whose weedy Garden, this Garland of Deuotion hath bene gathered. **1859** MEREDITH *R. Feverel* xiii[x], A sad downfall if we forget what human nature, in its green weedy Spring, is composed of. **1892** *Daily Tel.* 31 Aug. 5/4 [The library] of the Church House is still scrappy, weedy and incomplete.

2. Of the nature of or resembling a weed; made or consisting of weeds.

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* IV. vii. 175 When downe the weedy Trophies, and her selfe, Fell in the weeping Brooke. **1610** G. FLETCHER *Christ's Tri.* I. 1, Let... nettles, kixe, and all the weedy nation, With emtie elders grow, sad signes of desolation. **1733** W. ELLIS *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 349 The Sheep... in quest of their weedy Food. **1753** DODSLEY *Publ. Virtue* I. ii. 94 His new machine; form'd to exterminate The weedy race. **1881** GRANT ALLEN *Evolutionist at large* 44 Thus the crowfoot, too, cannot blossom to any purpose below the water;... only those lucky individuals whose chance lot it was to grow a little taller and weeder than the rest, and so overtop the stream, have handed down their race to our time. **1885** *L'pool Daily Post* 30 June 4/6 Grasping in their tired little hands the weedy spoils of the hedgerow.

fig. **1819** H. BUSK *Vestriad* II. 84 The brawny Tritons, with their weedy hair. **1835** WATERWORTH *Exam. Distinctive Princ. Protestantism* 9 These weedy prejudices never will be torn up. **1874** BURNAND *My Time* xxvi. 238 A long-legged gentleman with weedy whiskers. **1888** D. C. MURRAY *Weaker Vessel* xiv, Some of them are clever in a way; rooted fools by nature, who bear a weedy little blossom of wit, and suppose themselves to flower all over.

3. Having a taste or tang of weeds.

1867 *Trans. Illinois Agric. Soc.* VI. 638 *Weedy*, flour made from wheat that has come in contact with a noxious weed imparting an unpleasant smell. **1892** J. M. WALSH *Tea* 107 The liquor [of Neigherry] is thin, muddy and rank or 'weedy' in flavour.

4. colloq. (Cf. WEED *sb.*¹ 5.)

a. Of animals, esp. horses and hounds: Lean, leggy, loose-bodied, and lacking in strength and mettle.

1800 *Sporting Mag.* XV. 107 The poor, slight, weedy, spindle-shanked stock of brood mares. **1854** SURTEES *Handley Cr.* xxxviii. (1901) II. 15 He rode a weedy chestnut. **1865** MORLEY *Mod. Characteristics* 11 A very shabby old brougham drawn by a pair of very weedy horses. **1877** STABLES *Pract. Kennel Guide* 37 *Weedy* a very expressive word, as applied to a dog who looks leggy, thin, badly-bred, and apparently going to seed. **1888** 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Robbery under Arms* xi, We drafted out all the worst and weediest of the cattle.

b. Of persons: Unhealthily tall and thin; lanky and wanting physical vigour; also, weakly, of poor physique. Also without reference to physical qualities: feeble, half-hearted, weak; lacking firmness or strength.

1852 SURTEES *Sponge's Sp. Tour* xxi, 'Nice size, too,' continued he... 'plenty of substance... (puff)... Hate a weedy woman—fifteen two and a half—that's to say, five feet four, 's plenty of height for a woman'. **a 1865** MRS. GASKELL *Wives & Dau.* viii, Grace... is looking rather pale and weedy. **1892** *Nation* 21 Apr. 295/3 In order to fill the ranks large numbers of weedy men have been enlisted. **1922** E. M. FORSTER *Life to Come* (1975) 73 The chief had developed into an affable and rather weedy Christian with a good knowledge of English. **1971** *Petticoat* 24 July 4/3 I'm just too weedy, I don't threaten to expose them. **1982** BARR & YORK *Official Sloane Ranger Handbk.* 122/1 At whatever grade, they are fearless ('Be weedy in front of the wops?').

c. Of things.

1950 *Chambers's Jnrl.* Mar. 13/1 He must have conveyed this to her in one way or another, because soon afterwards she sent back his presents, and the weedy friendship which might have blossomed into a beautiful love was nipped in the bud.

5. Comb., as weedy-brown, -haired, -looking adjs.; *weedy-slow* adv.

1958 J. BETJEMAN *Coll. Poems* 263 A mounting arch of water weedy-brown. **1819** KEATS *Lines to Fanny* 36 That monstrous region, whose dull rivers pour, Ever from their sordid urns unto the shore, Unown'd of any weedy-haired gods. **1854** WHYTE MELVILLE *Gen. Bounce* vii, His fastidious taste cannot but admit that there are 'some weedy-looking ones among 'em'. **1861** HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* xxxiii, Tom thought them weedy-looking animals. **1866** *Treas. Bot.* 139/2 Various genera of coarse weedy-looking plants. **1923** E. SITWELL *Bucolic Comedies* 38 In the Castles drowned long ago Where the empty years pass weedy-slow.

Hence 'weediness, the quality or state of being 'weedy'; lack of physical presence; feebleness.

1924 WODEHOUSE *Bill the Conqueror* v. 103 He had a certain weediness, a lack of thews and sinews. **1925** W. DEEPIING *Sorrell & Son* viii. 80 He realized that in spite of the other man's weediness he was a competitor who was to be respected.

weedy ('wi:di), *a.*² [f. WEED *sb.*² + Y¹.] Of a woman: Wearing widow's 'weeds', clad in mourning.

1848 LONGF. *Life* (1891) II. 133 A weedy woman came sweeping up to us, and introduced herself as an admirer. **1850** DICKENS *David Copp.* xvii, She still wore weeds. I think there was some compromise in the cap; but otherwise she was as weedy as in the early days of her mourning. **1887** JESSOPP *Arcady* 155 Think of the blank despair that would take hold of the weedy widows and desolate orphans when they applied for their share of the surplus.

weef (wi:f). Also wef. [? Var. of WEETH, dial. f. WITHE *sb.*] (See quot.)

1832 *Planting* 90 in *Husb.* (L.U.K.) III, *Bavins.* House-faggots, bound with two withers or weefs. *Ibid.*, The tops of hedge-stakes, coopers' ware, &c., bound with one wither or wef. *Ibid.*, *Withers* or *weefs*. The plant shoots of hazel, ash, willow, &c., for binding the spray and prunings of trees into faggots, brooms, &c.

weef, weeft: see WEEFE, WEFT.

weegle, Sc. var. WAGGLE *v.*

weehee: see WEHEE.

week (wik), *sb.* Forms: *a.* 1 wice (*rare*), wicu (inflected wican, wiccan), 3-5 wike, 3-6 wyke, 5 weke, 6 wieke; 4 wycke, 6-7, 9 *dial.* wick; *β.* 3-6 weke, 6 weeke, weicke, weake, 6- week; *γ.* 1 wucu, 2-3 wuke, 3-5 wouke, 4-5 woke, 4-6 wok, 5 wooke, wouyk, wowke (wokk), 5-6 wolk(e); *δ.* Sc. 4-8 ouk, owk(e, 5-8 oulk, owlk, ulk, olk, 6 wke, 9 ook. [Com. Teut.: OE. *wice* wk. fem. corresponds to OFris. *wike* (Wfris. *wike*, Nfris. *week*, *wik*), OS. *-wika* in *crācēwika* Passion Week (MLG., LG. *weke*), MDu. *weke* (Du. *week*), OHG. *wehha*, *wohha* (MHG., mod.G. *woche*), ON. *vika* (Norw. *vika*, Sw. *veck*, Da. *uge*), ? Goth. *wikō* (once only, rendering *τάξις* 'order' in Luke i. 8):—OTeut. **wikōn*.

As there is no reason to suppose that the Germanic peoples used a reckoning by weeks before they came in contact with the Romans, it is probable that the OTeut. **wikōn* had originally some meaning wider than that of 'period of seven days', which the word has in WGer. and Scandinavian; perh. it meant 'succession, series,' and this may have been the sense of Goth. *wikō* in the only recorded example. The root **wik-* is found in ON. *vikja* to turn, move, OHG. *wehsal* (mod.G. *wechsel*) change.

The remarkable diversity of forms in the Eng. word is due to the different effect, in different dialects, of the initial (w) on the following vowel. The original form with *wi-* appears rarely in OE. literature (exc. in combinations, where it was general); the *β* type represented by the standard English

form descends from this. The form *wucu* (inflected *wucan*) is the ancestor of the γ type (ME. *woke*, *wouke*, etc.), whence the δ type was developed in the North by the loss of the initial (w) before the labial vowel. (The written *l* in many of the Sc. forms, *wolk*, *oulk*, etc., was never pronounced.)]

1. a. The cycle of seven days, recognized in the calendar of the Jews and thence adopted in the calendars of Christian, Muslim, and various other peoples; a single period of this cycle, i.e. a space of seven successive days beginning with the day traditionally fixed as the first day of the week.

The Jewish week began with the day after the Sabbath, and this beginning was adopted by the Christian church. The days of the Jewish week, except the seventh (the Sabbath) were not named, but distinguished only by number: in early Christian use the name Sabbath was retained for the seventh day, and the first was called the Lord's day (η κυριακή η μέρα, *dies dominicus*), the other days being numbered only. The English names, Sunday, Monday, etc., belong to an astrological week which, quite independently of the Jewish-Christian week, arose from the practice of assigning the successive hours to the seven planets in the order of their distance, and then naming each whole day (of 24 hours) from the planet supposed to rule its first hour. The planetary names, *Dies Solis*, *Dies Lunæ*, *Dies Martis*, etc., came into common use in the Roman empire, and were adopted in translated form by the English (before they came to Britain) and other Teut. peoples; the names Mars, Mercurius, etc., being apprehended as names of Roman gods, were rendered by the names of the Teutonic deities supposed to correspond to these: for details see the articles TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, etc.

a. *a900 O.E. Chron.* an. 878 (Parker MS.) On þære seofodan wicean ofer Eastron. *c900 Bæda's Hist.* v. ii. (Miller) 388 Mid ðy hit ða an wice ðæs fæstnes gefyllen wæs. *c950 Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke xviii. 12 Ic fæsto tuigo in wico [*c975 Rushworth wica*]. *c1175 Lamb. Hom.* 139 Alle oðer dages of þe wike heoð to preldome to þis dei [sunnan dei]. *c1205 LAY.* 13927 þære feorðe dæi i þere wike heo æfuer him [Woden] to wuðscipe. *a1225 Ancr. R.* 70 Euerich urideie of ðe yer holdeð silence, hute gif hit beo duple feste; & teonne holdeð hit sum oðer dai iðe wike. *c1290 S. Eng. Leg.* 312/438 þe seoue Dawes in þe wike. *c1374 CHAUCER Troilus* ii. 430, I shal nomore com here þis wike. *c1394 P. Pl. Crede* 13 þe Lengpe of a Lenten, flech moot y leue. . . And Wedenes-day iche wyke wipouten flech-mete. *c1400 Ywaine & Gaw.* 3058 Ilkone of us, withouten lesyng, Might win ilk wike fourty shilling. *a1450 Mirr's Festial* 172 [A Saracen said to a Christian] þis is þe wyke þat þoure gret profete deyt in. *1450-1530 Myrr. Our Ladye* i. i. 4 The seonde parte ys of youre seuen storyes, accordyng to the seuen dayes of the wyke. *1456 Paston Lett.* Suppl. (1901) 57 My lord of Norwich shal the next wyke visite the hous of Hykelyng. *1590 in P. H. Hore Hist. Wexford* (1900) I. 271 James. . . went to St. James' faire to Bristowe the last wick.

β. *c1275* [see 2. *c1205*]. *c1380 WYCLIF Sel. Wks.* II. 1 þe Wednesday in þe firste weke of Advent. *1390 GOWER Conf.* III. 116 He. . . Of sevene daies made a weke. *c1400 MAUNDEV.* (Roxb.) xiv. 61 On þe Saterdag it rynnes fast, and all þe weke elles it standes still. *1529 MORE Let. to Wife* 3 Sept., Wks. 1419/2, I shal (I think). . . get leaue this next weke to come home and se you. *1556-7 Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) 458 The said [Recorder] shall thre daies every weicke gyve attendaunce. *1560 DAUS tr. Sleidane's Comm.* 231 That thre daies in the weke they tame theyr body with fastyng. *a1633 G. HERBERT Outlandish Prov.* (1640) 587 [Proverb] Thursday come, and the week's gone. *1740 C'TESS POMFRET in T'cess Hartford's Corr.* (1805) I. 208 As this is a week of great devotion and retirement with all good catholics, so it is a week of great idleness and equal retirement with us protestants. *1748 Anson's Voy.* II. viii. 222 At Cheripe, . . . there is a constant store of provisions prepared for the vessels who go thither every week from Panama. *1837 WHEWELL Hist. Induct. Sci.* (1857) I. 111 We may probably consider the Week, with Laplace as 'the most ancient monument of astronomical knowledge'. *1837 DICKENS Pickw.* xlv. You couldn't make it convenient to lend me half a crown till the latter end of next week, could you? *1849 C. BRONTE Shirley* i. The present week is yet but at Thursday, and on Monday [etc.]. *1867 E. A. FREEMAN in Stephens Life* (1895) I. 391 Last week I have been working at the early life of Lanfranc.

γ. *c1000 Rule St. Benet* (1888) 51 þæt beon an ælcere wucan saltere. . . gesungenne. *a1122 O.E. Chron.* an. 1118, On pison gearre on þære wucan Theophanie was anes æfenes swyðe mycel litinge. *c1200 ORMIN* 4173 Itt iss a33 heh messedag3 At here wukess ende. *c1200 Trin. Coll. Hom.* 3 And hit [sc. Advent] lasteð þre wuke fulle and sum del more. *1297 R. GLOUC.* (Rolls) 2431 Vr eldore him [sc. Woden] bitoc of þe wouke þen verpe day. *a1325 MS. Rawl. B.* 520 lf. 32 Ant te bailliffs. . . eche wouke ofer eche fortentigt ale leste sullen maken enquestes of men herburgers. *c1380 WYCLIF Wks.* (1880) 454 þus þe persoun þat al þe wouke disposiþ hym to preche to his sheep or [etc.]. *c1400 Rule St. Benet* xli. 29 Al þe wukis in þe summir, sal ye faste ilke wuke tua dais. *c1400 MAUNDEV.* (1839) xxv. 261 For thei schryven hem and howsele hem evermore ones or twyes in the Woke. *1425-6 in Acta Dom. Conc.* II. Intro. 13 The secunde terme begynande the Monunday of the first hail wolke of lenteryn with lik continuacion of termes. *c1440 Promp. Parv.* 532/1 Woke (*v.rr.* wok, wooke), *ebdomada*, *septimana*. *c1450 Godstow Reg.* 231 To gefe to þe power nedy parysshens of bloxham euery wouke & euery 3ere halfe a quarter of corne menglyd. *1456 SIR G. HAYE Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 303 The peple desyris. . . the mare to se him na he rade every day, or every wolk or moneth. *1552 ABP. HAMILTON Catech.* (1884) 51 Als well on the Saterdag as ony other day of the wouke.

δ. *c1470 Gol. & Gaw.* 1343 With reualing and reuay all the oulk hale. *1526 Cartul. S. Nicholai Aberd.* (New Spald. Club) I. 154 With an trentell of messis in ye ouik [? read oulk] yat ye said ohit sal happin in. *1565 Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 332 That na sellaris be oppynnit bot thryis in the oulk for selling of thair geir. *1566 in Hay Fleming Mary Q. of Scots* (1897) 495 Nocht onlie the twa Sondagis bot also the hole rest of the olk. *1584 J. MELVILL Autob. & Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 181 Ther shalbe four Sermones in the ouk; twa on the Sunday, and twa on the ouk-days. *1608 Rec. Innerwick* in A. I. Ritchie *Ch. St. Baldred* (1880) 114 The examination to begin ye nixt olk. . . for that purpose. *1728*

Ramsay Robt., Richy, & Sandy 31 Last ouk I dream'd my tup. . . hrak his leg. *1807 TANNAHILL Soldier's Return* II. iii. Wife—fetch my bonnet that I caft last owk. *1868 G. MACDONALD R. Falconer* I. xi. 137, I'll think about it whan ance I'm throu wi' this joh. That'll be neist ook or thereabouts, or aiblins two days efter.

b. With prefixed word, denoting some particular week of the year. Also, a week during which some event takes place, either annually or on one occasion only; a week during which attention is focused on a particular topic for promotional, charitable, etc., purposes.

The weeks of the ecclesiastical calendar commonly thus referred to are *Easter week*, *the ember weeks* (EMBER²), PASSION-WEEK, HOLY WEEK (also called GREAT week), ROGATION week (also called GANG-WEEK, GRASS-WEEK, PROCESSION-WEEK), WHIT-WEEK (also called WHITSUN-week, † WHITSUN DAY-week, † Pentecost-week).

a950 Guthlac (Prose) xx. 161 On þære eastorwucan. *c1450 Brut* II. 437 In Cristemesse wike. *1450-1530 Myrr. Our Ladye* II. 278 In Penthecoste weke. . . In tryntrye wyke. *1482 Cely Papers* (Camden) 94, I perposed to a byn with yow in the uesterne weke. *c1500 Cartul. S. Nicholai Aberd.* (New Spald. Cluh) I. 259 One Wedinsday in ye penthcost owk nixt eftir ye synod. *1622 LAUD Diary* 23 Apr., Wks. 1853 III. 138 Being the Tuesday in Easter week. *1692 PEPPYS Let. to Evelyn* Easter Monday, The last being Confession, this in all good conscience should be Restitution Week. *1761 G. COLMAN Jealous Wife* II. 21 How unlucky it is, that this damn'd Accident shou'd happen in the Newmarket Week! *c1810 W. HICKEY Mem.* (1960) xx. 326 We had previously enjoyed private lodgings at Epsom. . . for the race week. *1890 W. BOOTH In Darkest Eng.* II. vi. 231 Self-denial. . . [which] the Soldiers of the Salvation Army practice every year in Self Denial Week. *1917 Wells Fargo Messenger* V. 133/2 (*caption*) Native sons of the Golden West begin 'Prune Week' ceremonies. *1965 'E. McBAIN' He who Hesitates* iii. 34 'How come everybody's so eager to join me this morning?' Roger asked. 'Who knows? . . . Maybe it's national brotherhood week.' *1977 Lancashire Life* Mar. 99/1 He won a prize for the best money-raising poster during Warships Week.

¶ c. Sometimes applied *transf.* to other artificial cycles of a few days that have been employed by various peoples, e.g. the eight days' 'week' of the Romans (see NUNDINE), the five days' 'week' believed to have been used by the ancient Germans, etc.

1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] D'Acosta's Hist. Indies VI. ii. 435 They accompted their weekes by thirteene dayes, marking the dayes with a Zero or cipher.

2. a. A space of seven days, irrespective of the time from which it is reckoned. † *all a week*: for a whole week.

† *forty weeks*: often used for the length of the period of gestation.

c1055 Byrhtferth's Handboc in Anglia VIII. 288 On þam beoð twa & fifti wucena. *c1205 LAY.* 22931 To feowur wiken [c1275 wukene] uirste þat wrec [read werc] wes iuorðed. *c1250 Gen. & Ex.* 2473 So woren forð .x. wukes gon, get adde iacob birigeles non. *c1290 S. Eng. Leg.* 66 And two 3er and al-mest preo wyke. *1297 R. GLOUC.* (Rolls) 7942 þis ost. . . hisegede þen castel, six wuke wel waste. *a1300 Cursor M.* 18587 He. . . Was tua and thrirti winturs ald, And monet sex and wyckes tua. *c1315 SHOREHAM v. iio* In pyssere ioye we scholde by-louken Al hyte ioyen of uourti woken þe wylest he 3ede wyþ chylde. *c1330 R. BRUNNE Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 9353 Al a wyke þe kyng per lay, He spilte his tyme. *1375 BARBOUR Bruce* IX. 359 He gert his men3e husk ilkane, Quhen sex owkis of the sege wes gane. *1377 LANGL. P. Pl. B.* XVI. 100 And in þe wombe of þat wenche was he fourty wokes. *1398 TREvisa Barth. De P.R.* IX. ix. (1495) 354 A monthe conteynyth fourre weekes and a weke seuen naturall dayes. *c1400 Beryn* 1047 For fourre wookis full, or he did hir entere, She lay in lede within his house. *c1420 WYNTOUN Cron.* IV. xxv. 2375 þat about þe hundrethe day, Wouyk, monethe or moment [etc.]. *c1420 Chron. Vilod.* 1662 He regned not fourre 3ere here, By sixe wykeus as yche vnderstonde, þat he was martrid. *1466 Paston Lett.* Suppl. 108, I thyнке of every day a wyke tyl ye be content. *c1470 HENRY Wallace* II. 273 Hyr dochtir had of xij wokkis ald a knyff. *a1520 SKELTON Magnyf.* 1003, I haue not kept her yet thre wokys. *1534 Star Chamber Cases* (Selden Soc.) II. 214 Welche cattall hath hen. . . Impoundyd by the tyme and space of ten wykes at the leste. *1553 Edin. Burgh Rec.* (1871) II. 278 The expensis of the ulk preceadand the xxvj day of Marche. *1593 SHAKS.* 3 *Hen. VI.* II. v. 36 So many Dayes, my Ewes haue bene with yong: So many weekes, ere the poore Foodles wil Eane. *1596 DALRYMPLE tr. Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 248 Efter mony oulkes quhen mekle tha had wrocht and mekle had swat, tha [etc.]. *1615 R. COCKS Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 9 He hath hyn in this place a wick, and never came into the English howse till now. *1734 POPE Hor. Sat.* II. ii. 93 A Buck was then a week's repast, And 'twas their point, I ween, to make it last. *1736 BUTLER Anal.* I. i. Wks. 1874 I. 24 A man determines. . . that he will walk to such a place with a staff a week hence. *1744 M. BISHOP Life* 114 Thinking every Day a Week, and Week a Month. *1751 F. COVENTRY Pompey the Little* II. xii. 236 As he had expected a Parcel from London by the Coach for a Week before, he naturally concluded this to be the same. *1787 Hoy Let.* 31 Oct. in *Burns' Wks.* (1809) II. 110, I should give him nought but Stra'hogie castocks to chew for sax ouks, or ay until he [etc.]. *1856 MISS YONGE Daisy Chain* I. ix, She was within six weeks of seventeen, and surely she need not be sent down again to the schoolroom. *1865 MRS. WHITNEY Gayworthys* xlii, Then there came a week of rain.

b. Seven days as a term for periodical payments (of wages, rent, or the like), or as a unit of reckoning for time of work or service.

1426-7 Rec. St. Mary at Hill (1904) 66 Also payd to Thomas Seviere and his felawe to set vndir þe clerkis chamber dore þe o mason a hole wouke iiij s. iiij d. *1492 Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 205 And for alimos, gevin woukly, of xxiiij wokkis, xlvij li. *1527 St. Papers Hen. VIII.* IV. 473 After the rate of 18^d by the wouke. *1552-3 Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1871) II. 342 Item to Andro Mansioun for half ane ulk's

wage. *1557-8 Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 409 Payde to wylliam Ellsasse for j quarter and vj wykes the soms of xix s. vjd. *1580 Fermor Acc.* in *Archæol. Jnrl.* (1851) VIII. 181 P^d for xii weickes bord for Mr. Richard Farmor and his man, at viij^s the weicke iiij^d iiij^s. *1784 Morn. Chron.* 26 May 4/1 Advt., The above premises may be taken by the week, and entered upon immediately. *1842 DICKENS Amer. Notes* iii. (end), The house is full of hoarders, . . . many of whom . . . contract by the week for their board and lodging. *1882 BESANT All Sorts* xxi, Eighteen shillings a week would buy him outright until his engagements begin again. *Ibid.* xxii, And in two days more the week's rent would be due. *1886 C. E. PASCOE Lond. To-day* ii. (ed. 3) 39 A week's notice is the general rule before vacating rooms. *1914 'IAN HAY' Knt. on Wheels* xviii, I have two thousand a year. . . I don't know how much that is a week, but I'll work it out some day in shillings and see.

† c. Followed by *day* used pleonastically. (See DAY sb. I.)

c1440 Partonope 6634 This lyfe they ladde vj. wekes day. *c1670* [see DAY sb. II.]

d. Used vaguely for an indefinite time, as in *a week or two*, implying a moderate space of time; *weeks*, referring to a duration which is felt as long.

c1386 CHAUCER Frankl. T. 567 But thurgh his magik for a wyke or tweye It semed that alle the Rokkes were aweye. *c1422 HOCCEVE Min. Poems* 174 My freend, aftir, I trowe, a wike or two That this tale ended was, hoom to me cam, And seide [etc.]. *15.. LYNDESAY Play* 1048 in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Cluh) 505 Than scho deit to, within ane olk or two. *1550 CROWLEY Way to Wyldest* 195 How often hast thou gone whole dayes together, whole weekes, yea whole yeres, and neuer thought once to loue hym aryght? *1597 in J. Melvill's Autob. & Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 424 Alas! the mounths, alas! the wkes and dayes, That I consum'd in foolishe sports and plays. *1797 JANE AUSTEN Sense & Sensib.* xxix, He did feel the same, Elinor—for weeks and weeks he felt it. I know he did. *1891 'J. S. WINTER' Lumley* vi, 'Oh, Vere is not going for weeks—weeks,' declared Mrs. Jock with great decision. *1918 Times Lit. Suppl.* 18 Apr. 183/2 The unbounded hospitality of a time when a few letters of introduction gave weeks of princely entertainment.

e. feast of weeks *Heb. Antiq.* [tr. Heb. *ḥag šābū-ōth*] = PENTECOST 1.

1382 WYCLIF Exod. xxxiv. 22 The solernpyte of weekis. *1535 COVERDALE ibid.*, The feast of wekes. [So the later versions.]

3. The six working days, as opposed to the Sunday; the period from Monday to Saturday inclusive. Cf. WEEKDAY. Now also meaning five working days, from Monday to Friday inclusive, as opposed to the weekend; *three-day week*: see THREE III. 2.

c1000 Sax. Leechd. III. 244 Ǣif se terminus gescyt on sumon dæge þære wucan þonne byð se sunnan dæg þær æfter easter dæg. *1340 Avenb.* 212 þeruore me let of bodiliche workes of þe wouke uor betere to onderstonde to hidde god. *1362 LANGL. P. Pl. A.* VII. 243 For summe of my seruauens heop seke oper-while, Of alle þe wike [*v.rr.* wyke, weke, wouke] heo worchep not so heor wombe akep. *1602 SHAKS. Ham.* I. i. 76 Why such impress of ship-wrights, whose sore Taske Do 's not diuide the Sunday from the weeke. *1882 BESANT All Sorts* xxix, On this Sunday morning, when the old man looked as if the cares of the week were off his mind.

4. a. *week of years*: used in Lev. xxv. 8 by Wyclif, Tindale, and in the Douay Bible (after the Vulgate) for 'a period of seven years' (Coverdale has 'yeare sabbathes', and the other versions 'sabbaths of years', following the Heb.). Also used by commentators in explanation of the 'weeks' mentioned in Dan. ix. 24-27, where periods of seven years are meant.

1382 WYCLIF Levit. xxv. 8 And thou shalt nouble to thee seuen wekes [1388 woukis] of 3eerys. *a1591 H. SMITH God's Arrow* ii. (1593) D 1 h, This worde *Hebdomada* . . . is sometimes taken for a weeke of daies, that is, seauen daies. . . But at other times it signifieth the spaee of seauen yeares, and then is it called *Hebdomada Annorum*, A weeke of yeares. *1621 T. WILLIAMSON tr. Goulart's Wise Vieillard* 147 Doe wee not obserue how in three weeks of yeares three are dead? *1650 SCLATER Expos. Rom.* iv. Ep. Ded. A2, Having now, (hy the space of full three weeks of yeares, and more). . . had a strong dispute with my thoughts, whether [etc.]. *c1680 R. FLEMING Fulfilling Script.* II. iii. (1726) 278 They know Daniel's seventy weeks. . . clearly takes in his [the Messiah's] coming, and though it were taken either for weeks of days, or of years, it must long since he expired, hut if they should mean weeks of ages, then for many thousand years his coming could not be yet expected.

b. *week of days*: used by Bible commentators (following a mistranslation of Dan. x. 2) to denote a literal week as opposed to the 'week of years': see QUOTS. in 4 a.

It is not clear whether Scott's use for 'a whole week' is an echo of this, or whether it was a current phrase.

1560 BIBLE (Geneva) *Dan.* x. 2 At the same time, I Daniel was in heauines for thre weekes of daies. *Ibid.* 3 Til thre weekes of daies were fulfilled. *1611 Ibid.*, Three full weekes [margin, Heb. weeks of dayes]. *1818 SCOTT Br. Lamm.* x, They dared not keep me a week of days in durance.

5. In various idioms. a. *a week* [see A *adj.* 2, 4, *prep.*], every week, weekly, per week. (See also 2 b.)

a1225 Ancr. R. 344 Of alle swuche pinges schriue hire enes a wike ette leste. *1387 TREvisa Higden* V. 415 He usede twyes a wouke to sitte al day to fore þe chirche dore. *a1450 Knt. de la Tour* 12 A good woman. . . that fasted. iij. tymes a wouke. *1861 BROUGHAM Brit. Const.* ix. 118 It is repeated seven times a-week.

b. In expressions serving to fix a date. *this day, tomorrow, Monday*, etc. *week*: seven days before or after the day specified. Similarly *this*

day, etc. (so many) *weeks*. *yesterday*, *Monday*, etc. *was a week* (dial.), seven days before the day mentioned. †Formerly also *four* (etc.) *weeks day*, exactly four weeks (cf. 2c).

1398 *Munim. de Melros* (Bannatyne Club) 490 [Gif] default be of þir paymentis . . . ovre runnene ande ganeby sex wovkis daye eftir þe lymite terme. 1454 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) 281 [That] al maner of men of Iryshe blode . . . avoyde [i.e. quit Dublin] by this day iiiii. wekys. And gyff eny of this Irysish blode . . . may be founde within the said cite or fraunchis after the said iiiii. wekys day, they shall . . . be put in prisone. 1531 *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden Soc.) II. 187 The same Court so adjoined to be kepte ther that day three wekes next ensuyng. 1582 SIR J. POPHAM in H. Hall *Soc. Eliz. Age* (1886) 262, I mene if God please to be at Salisburie the wekes-daie at night before Easterdaie. 1700 in *Jrnl. Friends' Hist. Soc.* (1914) Oct. 181 Wee heard . . . of her being ther last 4th day was a weeke. 1810 *Sporting Mag.* XXXVI. 160 The whole of the money must be made good that night weke. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M. v.* Allow me to recommend some of the kipper—it was John Hay that catcht it, Saturday was three wekes. 1831 *Lincoln Herald* 23 Sept. 4/4 Early on Monday morning weke, an attempt was made [etc.]. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xlv. Send Charley to me this night weke—'for the letter'. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* II. vi. The crisis came on Saturday, the day weke that Thompson had died. 1863 MISS BRADDON *Aurora Floyd* xx. Last Saturday was a weke I touched at Liverpool with a cargo of furs [etc.]. *Ibid.*, When I came back last Saturday weke. 1883 D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* xiii. Can you make it convenient to be there this day weke? 1889 'J. S. WINTER' *Mrs. Bob* i. Let us say Thursday weke, dear—This is Saturday, so it is quite enough notice to give.

c. *week and week about*: in alternate weeks.

1891 KIPLING *Light that Failed* vi. 94 The girls were supposed to market week and week about.

d. *week in, week out*: see IN *adv.* 2.

e. *week-to-week* (attrib. phr.), continuing or recurring in successive weeks; continual. Cf. TO *prep.* 6c.

1959 *New Statesman* 24 Jan. 92/2 The lightning flashed above Sinai, and in its glare, the starry-eyed observer, remote from the week-to-week grind of party work, saw a great machine, whirling smoothly to life. 1981 J. SUTHERLAND *Bestsellers* i. 15 The bestseller lists. . . their week-to-week attention singles out sensational books of the moment.

6. Proverbial phrases. †a. *to be in by the week*: to be ensnared, caught; *fig.* to be deeply in love. *to go to it by the week*: to commit oneself thoroughly.

1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 69 This prouerbe sheweth the in by the weeke. a 1553 UDALL *Royster D.* i. ii. 4 He is in by the weeke, we shall haue sport anon. 1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretorie* II. (1595) 47 Yet now we be in, let vs go to it by the weeke. 1588 SHAKS. *L.L.L.* v. ii. 61 O that I knew he were but in by th' weeke. 1598 R. BERNARD *Terence, Andria* i. i. (1607) 12 He is in the snare; he is in for a bird, hee is in by the weeke. 1612 WEBSTER *White Devil* E 1, Enter Flamíneo and Marcello guarded, and a Lawyer. *Law.* What are you in by the weeke.

b. *too late a week*: a jocular understatement for 'far too late'. Now only as echo of Shaks.

1600 SHAKS. *A.Y.L.* II. iii. 74 At seauteente yeeres, many their fortunes seeke But at fourescore, it is too late a weeke. 1826 SCOTT *Jrnl.* (1890) I. 105 If she had her youthful activity, and could manage things, it . . . would amuse her. But I fear it is too late a weeke. 1829 *Ibid.* II. 220.

c. †*the week of the four Fridays*: an imaginary date that will never arrive (*obs.*). a *week of Sundays*: seven Sundays or weeks as representing a long time. †*a week of Saturdays*, an indefinite period, a long period. Cf. *month of Sundays* s.v. MONTH¹ 3f.

1760-72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) I. Ded. p. x, At the period that the hogs shall . . . feed along with the herrings; . . . or on the week of the four Fridays, so long looked for by astrologians. 1831 *Constellation* 8 Jan. 57/3 No, you couldn't gess a week of Saturdays and so I'll tell you—cause it is *ungintele*. 1898 'C. HARE' *Broken Arcs* i. ii. 13 Tes wark . . . never done, an' nar' a bit o' play for I, . . . no, not in a week o' Sundays. 1901 D. SLADEN *My Son Richard* iv. He . . . got to know her more intimately in that five minutes than he might otherwise have done in a week of Sundays.

d. *to knock (a person) into the middle of next week*: to give (him) a decisive blow, to punish severely; to astound, flabbergast. *slang* (orig. *Pugilistic*).

1821 MONCRIEFF *Tom & Jerry* II. iv. They knock'd me into the middle of next weke—besides tipping me this here black eye—only see how red it is! 1833 [S. SMITH] *Lett. J. Downing* xv. (1835) 95 The first clip I made was at Amos, —but he dodged it, and I hit one of the Editors of the Globe, and knocked him about into the middle of next weke. 1846 W. T. PORTER *Quarter Race Kentucky* 105 The next moment he was knocked into the middle of the next three weeks! 1859 GEO. ELIOT *Adam Bede* xvi. I believe you would knock me into next weke if I were to have a battle with you. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Oct. 720/2 It would not be comfortable to be knocked by his heels into the middle of next weke.

7. Combinations: †*week-boy*, a boy hired by the week, as distinguished from an apprentice; *week-long*, continuing for a week; *week-night*, a night in the week other than Sunday night; also *attrib.*; *week-old a.*, that has lived or lasted a week; †*week-silver*, some kind of feudal dues (prob. in commutation of WEEK-WORK).

1662 *Act 14 Chas. II* c. 5 § 17 No Master Weaver . . . shall . . . sett on worke above two Apprentices or any *weeke-Boy to weave in a Lombe in the said Trade in worsted weaving. 1683 [see DEVIL *sb.* 5a]. 1898 *Daily News* 15 Sept. 6/4 The ladies, true to their *week-long enthusiasm, . . . made the University College Theatre look very bright. 1847 LD. LINDSAY *Chr. Art* I. p. clxviii, I lay at the feet of Jesus, . .

yoking down my struggling flesh with week-long fastings. 1859 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* xl. Both he and Ellen thought it strange that their mother should insist on that book on a *week-night; they never usually read it [the bible], save on Sunday evenings. 1877 SPURGEON *Serm.* XXIII. 120 Week-night services. 1892 *Lichfield Mercury* 25 Mar. 8/5 If we obstinately shut our eyes and keep company with the hapless *week-old kittens. 1903 KIPLING *Five Nations* 115 Out of the darkness we reach For a handful of week-old papers And a mouthful of human speech. 1430 in *N. & Q.* 13th Ser. I. 449/1 Exceptis redditibus, seruiciis, . . . et xvij. s. annuis vocatis *Weikseluer.

Hence †*wukemalum adv.* [-MEAL], by weeks. c 1200 ORMIN 536 Drihtin Godd To pewwtenn wukemalum. *Ibid.* 554.

week (wik), *int.* Also 8 *weeke*, 9 *weke*. [Cf. *WHEAK v.* and *sb.*, *WHICK v.*, *WEE int.*] Imitation of the squeak of a pig or mouse.

1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* iv. ii. 146 Weeke, weeke, so cries a Pigge prepared to th' spit. a 1719 D'URFUY *Pills* II. 87 Weeke, Weeke, Weeke, squeak'd the Pig. 1855 BROWNING *Fra Lippo Lippi* 11 Harry out . . . Whatever rat, there, haps on his wrong hole, And nip each softling of a wee white mouse, *Weke, weke*, that's crept to keep him company!

week(e, obs. forms of WEAK, WICK.

weekday ('wikdei). Forms: see WEEK *sb.* and *day sb.* [OE. *wicdæg*, f. *wic(u)* WEEK. Cf. OHG. *wehhtag*, ON. *wikudagr*.]

†1. A day of the week. (In quot. c 1200 a literal as opposed to a metaphorical day.) *Obs.*

c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* III. v. þæt hi þy feorðan wicdæge & þy syxtan faetan to nones. c 1200 ORMIN 13182 Alls itt off þiss weerrldess dæg Riht onnfassat efenn wære, Forþi þatt ure wukedæg Bi twelfte timess ernæpp [etc.]. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 2857 Sir loth wiif . . . in a salt stan men seis hir stand þat bestes likes o pat land, þat anes o þe wok day, þan es scoliked al a-way. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 166 [They] do mare the Sunday or the haly day na othir wolk dayes.

†2. A day of the week other than market-day or Sunday. *Obs.*

1477 in *Charters* etc. *Edin.* (1871) 141 The nolt market . . . [to be held] about the Trone, . . . and nocht on the wolk day. 1588 in G. P. SCOPE *Castle Combe* (1852) 332 That none shall bye any grayne or other vittell on our markett-daye before nyne of the clocke in the fore-none, nor in the wicke-dayes more then shall serve their owne howsolde.

3. a. A day of the week other than Saturday or Sunday (formerly, other than Sunday).

c 1546 COVERDALE *Calvin's Treat. Sacram.* etc. Fj b, Inlyk maner as thou seist this blessed sacrament ministrat on the sonday, euen so wyth lyke reuerence do they vse it at the same houre on those wyke dayes, that the congregacyon . . . hath appointed to that vse. 1563 *Homilies, Of Place & Time of Prayer* i. II. 139 For although they wyll not traueley nor labour on the Sunday, as they do on the weeke day, yet they wyll not rest in holynes. 1593 in *Maitl. Club Misc.* I. 57 That . . . wpone the oulk dayes thai begin at viij houis and end preciselie at ix houis. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Sunday* ix, Thou art a day of mirth! And where the week-dayes trail on ground, Thy flight is higher. 1654 J. AUDLAND in *Jrnl. Friends' Hist. Soc.* (1919) XVI. 135, I have been in Bristol several first dayes . . . and I have gone into the Countrey, in the Weekdayes. 1732 SWIFT etc. *What passed in London Misc.* III. 263 My Wife and I went to Church (where we had not been for many Years on a Week-day). 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Seven-Dials*, Pass through St. Giles's in the evening of a week-day, there they are in their fustian dresses. 1860 *Sat. Rev.* 3 Mar. 277/2 His [sc. Spurgeon's] father was a hard-working man on week-days, and a preacher on Sundays. 1976 P. R. WHITE *Planning for Public Transport* II. 32 On weekdays (Mondays to Fridays), to which many urban surveys are confined, many trips are made within a confined time budget.

b. *attrib.*

[1595 in *Maitl. Club Misc.* I. 72 In the oulk dayes preiching in Glasgw it is desyrt that the ministeris kep preciselie the hour.] 1693 O. HEYWOOD *Diaries* (1885) IV. 147 That house where the week-day lecture had been kept. 1732 POPE *Ep. Bathurst* 345 One solid dish his week-day meal affords, An added pudding solemniz'd the Lord's. 1762 SECKER *2nd Charge Dioc. Canterb.* (1771) 253 Diligence . . . in bringing your People to the holy Communion, and where it can be, to Week-Day Prayers. 1802 WORDSW. *Sonn. 'I grieved for Buonaparte'*, The talk Man holds with week-day man in the hourly walk Of the mind's business. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *Adam Bede* lii, He knew nothing of week-day services, and thought none the worse of the Sunday sermon if it allowed him to sleep from the text to the blessing. 1877 A. MACLAREN (*title*), Week-day Evening Addresses.

week-end. 1. a. (with *a* and *pl.*). The end of a week; the holiday period at the end of a week's work, usually extending from Saturday noon or Friday night to Monday; esp., this holiday when spent away from home. *long week-end*: see LONG *a.*¹ 18.

1638 in *Victoria County Hist. Yorkshire* (1912) II. 415/2 The greatest weight of the said exaction will fall upon very poor people . . . who making every week a coarse kersey and being compelled to sell the same at the week end . . . are nevertheless constrained to yield one half penny apiece. 1793 W. B. STEVENS *Jrnl.* 27 Feb. (1965) i. 70 Wrote to Dewe that I would put on my seven league boots next weekend and stretch my course to Appleby. 1870 *Food Jrnl.* 1 Mar. 97 'Week-end', that is from Saturday until Monday, —it may be a later day in the week if the money and credit hold out, —is the season of dissipation. 1879 *N. & Q.* Ser. v. XII. 428/2 In Staffordshire, if a person leaves home at the end of his week's work on the Saturday afternoon to spend the evening of Saturday and the following Sunday with friends at a distance, he is said to be spending his *week-end* at So-and-so. 1889 MISS BRADDON *Day will Come* xxiv, Theodore and his friend betook themselves to Cheriton Chase on the following Friday, for that kind of visit which north country people describe as 'a week end'. 1892 *Times*

18 Mar. 8/2 They had evidently taken the house for week-ends. 1899 S. R. GARDINER *O. Cromwell* vi. 192 Oliver . . . may be regarded as the inventor of that modified form of enjoyment to which hard-worked citizens have, in our day, given the name of the 'week-end'. 1905 *Spectator* 26 Aug. 289/1 What a 'week-end' it must have been for the host, whatever it may have been for the guest.

b. The period from Saturday to Monday during which business is suspended and shops are closed.

1878 J. ALMOND *Bunch of Water-cresses* 4 If I get my 'bacco now, I can manage to see th' week-end o'er very well. 1913 *Times* 13 Sept. 17/3 The Money Market was steady with a fair demand for advances over the week-end at about previous rates.

c. The end (i.e. the last day) of the week; Saturday. *dial.*

1880 C. H. POOLE *Staffs. Gloss.*, *Week-end*, Saturday.

2. *attrib.* a. For use at week-ends, as *week-end bag*, *case*, *cottage*, etc.; occurring at or for the duration of a week-end, as *week-end course*, *leave*, *school*, *war*, etc.

1887 *Advt. of G.W.R.* (in *Lancs.*), Week-end tickets. 1896 *Hetton-le-Hole* (Durham) *Gloss.* s.v., 'Week-end trips' are now advertised on most of the [railway] lines. 1911 'SAKI' in *Bystander* 12 Apr. 70/2 I've seen a week-end cottage near Dorking that I should rather like to buy. 1924 KIPLING *Debts & Credits* (1926) 316 You live like a home defence Brigadier, besides week-end leaf [sic]. 1934 WEBSTER, *Weekend* case. 1944 J. S. HUXLEY *On Living in Revolution* 117 Short weekend courses and longer 'study workshops' for teachers. 1946 C. MCCULLERS *Member of Wedding* 1. 10 At dark John Henry came to the back door with a little week-end bag. 1952 'M. COST' *Hour Awaits* 136 She carried a small, smart week-end case of crocodile. 1958 O. CAROE *Pathans* xxv. 418 Roos-Keppel did indeed start his tour of office with two small operations the scale of which is sufficiently shown by the fact that one of them was called the week-end war. 1962 J. BRAINE *Life at Top x.* 136, I came to each and every week-end school here. 1967 R. V. BESTE *Repeat Instructions* (1968) xiv. 148, I haven't a week-end cottage. 1973 *Guardian* 22 Jan. 1/1 Lieutenant Mark Phillips, on weekend leave from Germany, went hunting on Saturday with Princess Anne. 1982 J. O'FAOLAIN *Obedient Wife* II. 42 A weekend bag packed with scent, toothbrush and so forth.

b. Carrying out a specified activity or fulfilling a specified role only at week-ends or for pleasure (sometimes with the implication 'casual, amateur'); e.g. *week-end Air Force*, *athlete*, *father*, *gardener*, *motorist*, *sailor*, *soldier*, *writer*. Cf. SUNDAY *sb.* 3.

1935 *Discovery* Oct. 314/1 The publisher suggests that *English Earth* will interest equally the farmer and the week-end motorist. 1941 *Time* 30 June 31/1 Week-end athletes should be careful. 1943 C. H. WARD-JACKSON *Piece of Cake* 62 *Week-end Air Force*, *The*, the Auxiliary Air Force. It was formed in 1925, its officers and men being citizens who gave week-ends and other part-time to their duties. 1959 *Listener* 12 Mar. 461/1 None of your present week-end, or decade-end writers realize that the present agitators are the sons of a former day, of which these writers presumably know nothing. 1962 *Jrnl. Family Law* Fall 104 The law is, in fact, uncertain as to the rights of the ex-spouse. Consequently, it seems even more uncertain about the privileges which the law should extend to the children with 'week-end fathers'. 1970 *New Yorker* 3 Oct. 40/3 Will you look at them weekend soldiers. 1974 *Harper's & Queen* Sept. 117 Humphrey Brooke was only a weekend gardener until . . . he decided to retire. 1976 'D. HALLIDAY' *Dolly & Nanny Bird* ix. 120 The boat was . . . full of tanned, husky weekend sailors.

Hence *week-end v. intr.*, to spend a week-end holiday; *week-ending vbl. sb.*; also as *ppl. a.*, (in the habit of) spending the week-end away from home. *week-endize v. intr.*, to spend a week-end away from home (*nonce-wd.*). *week-endy a.*, suggestive of the week-end.

1901 *Daily Chron.* 31 July 7/2 Where shall we week end? 1906 B. VAUGHAN *Sins of Society* 66 You see 'week-endings' have become part of the British Constitution, and nowadays everybody who is anybody has to be out of town in the season, say from Saturday to Tuesday. 1910 R. BRIDGES *Let.* 21 June in *Bridges & Bradley Corr.* (1940) 77, I was glad to get your note saying that you wd week-endize. 1913 W. J. LOCKE *Stella Maris* xv. 201 Where have you been week-ending? 1914 A. N. LYONS *Simple Simon* i. iii. 42 He week-ends at Paris-Plage. 1930 J. B. PRIESTLEY *Angel Pavement* xi. 567 She spent the next few minutes getting from the bus to the station, which was very crowded and week-endy. 1934 WEBSTER, *Weekending adj.* 1947 J. HAYWARD *Prose Lit. since 1939* 36 *The Long Week-end*—an ironical title which only the 'week-ending' Englishman will appreciate. 1973 A. GREY *Some put their Trust in Chariots* xiii. 72 Weekending French families setting out in their saloons for the countryside. 1976 G. EWART *No Fool* II. 61 Contrariwise, would you admire what's trendy (you were a fashion once yourself) or see virtue in what's suburban or weekendy?

week'ender.

1. One who spends the week-ends away from home.

1880 *N. & Q.* Ser. vi. I. 42 Lodging-house keepers and tradesmen in Llandudno, Rhyl, and other holiday resorts in n. Wales, employ the derivative form 'week-enders' . . . when they speak of . . . visitors who come on Saturday and go on Monday. 1901 C. G. HARPER *Gt. North Road* I. 144 Three bedrooms for the use of the week-enders. 1905 *Sat. Rev.* 14 Oct. 490/1 Saturday morning is quite time enough for the week-enders to get away.

2. a. A week-end cottage (see WEEK-END 2a). *colloq.*

1941 BAKER *Dict. Austral. Slang* 81 *Weekender*, a week-end holiday cottage or shack. 1967 E. HUNT *Danger Game* iii. 59 He had a week-end at Palm Beach and a lovely car. 1976 *Billings* (Montana) *Gaz.* 16 June 10-c/5 (Advt.), Small,

clean . . home in Red Lodge. Perfect weekender any season. 1983 *Austral. Women's Weekly* Aug. 21/2 There is, says Pauline, constant confusion over . . shacks and holiday homes. 'A shack in NSW is a tumbledown wreck. In NSW you have a weekender.'

b. A bag large enough to carry everything needed for a week-end away from home; a week-end bag. *U.S. colloq.*

1961 *Harper's Bazaar* June 24/2 A capacious week-ender in pale coffee-bean hide. 1980 *TWA Ambassador* Oct. 99/1 You'll use the Kluge Bag like a week-ender too, because it's just as easy to carry on and a whole lot better.

† **weekfish**. *Obs.* [ad. Du. *weekvisch*, f. *week* soft + *visch* fish. Cf. WEAKFISH.] A fish of the Dutch East Indies, the size of a whiting, esteemed a delicacy.

1686 RAY *Willughby's Hist. Pisc.* App. 6 Pisces India Orientalis a Joanne Nieuhofs Descripti . . . Wit fish or Week fish.

weekly ('wi:kli), *a.* and *sb.* [f. WEEK *sb.* + -LY¹.] *A. adj.*

† 1. Of or pertaining to the week (either as a seven-days period or as opposed to Sunday). *Obs.*

1563 *Homilies, Of Place & Time of Prayer* I. II. 138 That vpon the Sabbath day . . they shoulde cease from all weekly and workeday labour. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xi. 178 Hengists noble heyres; their Idols that to raise Heere put their German names vpon our weekly daies.

2. *a.* That occurs, is done, made, given, etc. once a week.

weekly bill: see BILL *sb.*³ 10. *weekly boat:* a coaster on which the crew is paid by the week. Cf. *monthly boat* *s.v.* MONTHLY *a.* 4. *weekly tenancy:* one determinable at the end of any week.

1489 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 1528, 120/1 In the delivering of thir oukly penny to God and to Sanct Jhonne. 1525 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 1527, 97 The forsaيد wolklie penny and halpeny salbe payit ilk Setterday. 1576-77 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* II. 582 His releif of the said owklike wageis as accordis. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. xix. § 1 The Iewes haue alwaies had their weekly readings of the law of Moses. 1621 (*title*) Corante: or weekly newes from Italy, Germany, [etc.]. 1681 in *Nairne Peerage Evid.* (1874) 16 With a weekly markett and two free faires yearly. 1699 G. HARVEY *Van. Philos. & Physick* vi. 46 The daily, weekly, or frequent use of Opiates. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 79 ¶ 9 The Indiscretion of the Books themselves, whose very Titles of Weekly Preparations . . lead People of ordinary Capacities into great Errors. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 289 ¶ 2 The Use I make of the above-mentioned Weekly Paper. 1732 POPE *Ep. Bathurst* 264 The Man of Ross divides the weekly bread. a 1806 HORSLEY *Serm.* (1812) II. xxiii. 227 A public weekly assertion of the two first articles in our Creed. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* iv, The weekly charge in this establishment for each female patient is three dollars. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* I. iii. 390 In this way he gathered materials for weekly epistles destined to enlighten some county town. 1899 S. R. GARDINER *O. Cromwell* vi. 192 He found repose in a weekly visit to Hampton Court. 1920 *Act 10 & 11 Geo. V* c. 30 § 2 Entitled . . to receive payments . . at weekly or other prescribed intervals. 1927 F. H. SHAW *Knocking Around* 4 She was a weekly boat, where the crew provided their own food. 1946 J. BATTEN *Dirty Little Collier* 12 These weekly boat men are quite used to slipping home for a few hours.

b. With a personal designation: Performing some action, or employed in some capacity, once a week; that has a contract by the week.

weekly boarder: a school pupil who boards at the school during the week and returns home at week-ends. *weekly man* *Austral.*, an extra hand taken on for one or more weeks. *weekly tenant*, 'one paying rent by the week, and liable to removal on a week's notice' (Simmonds *Dict. Trade*, 1858).

1712 *Prior Extempore Inuit.* 1 Our Weekly Friends Tomorrow meet At Matthew's Palace. 1737 POPE *Hor. Ep.* I. i. 155 They change their weekly Barber. 1841 DICKENS *Let.* 6 Mar. (1969) II. 225, I will send [him] as a weekly boarder to the best school I can find in the place . . . I say weekly boarder, because I should wish the boy . . to be at home from Saturday night to Monday Morning. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* xx, Filling up the station with a lot of weekly men. 1973 J. MANN *Only Security* i. 9 It had a school where Clovis might be a weekly boarder.

† c. slang. *weekly-accompts* pl., a name given to the small square white patches on each side of a midshipman's collar.

1819 VAUX *Mem.* I. 69 The midshipmen proceeded to cut off the weekly accmpts from the coat I had on.

B. *sb.* A newspaper or review published once in each week.

1833 [see MONTHLY *sb.* 2]. 1845 DICKENS *Let.* 26 July (1977) IV. 337 A notion . . has occurred to me in connection with our abandoned little weekly. 1846 C. MITCHELL *Newsp. Press Directory* 81 Not any of the newspapers published at the close of the week display more activity or success than this [the *Observer*] in the acquisition of news, which, after the preceding six days, has been swept and exhausted by the immense resources of the *dailys*; and this is the great difficulty in a *weekly*. 1858 *Times* 29 Nov. 6/3 Clever weeklies and less clever dailies. 1863 *Morn. Star* 3 Jan., To-day a new literary Weekly of high pretensions begins its existence. 1914 in *Civil Service Year Bk.* (1916) 294 They take 6 penny daily papers and 3 halfpenny ones; 3 weeklies costing 3d. each and 5 weeklies costing 6d. each.

weekly ('wi:kli), *adv.* [f. WEEK *sb.* + -LY².] In each or every week, week by week. Usually, once in seven days.

1465 in *Paston Lett.* II. 193 He payth for hys borde wykely xx^s. 1474 *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1869) I. 29 It is statut . . that the said penny be rasit wolkly on the Monundaye. 1522 *Galway Arch.* in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 400 No man shalbe made fre unless he can specke the Englishe tonge and shave his upper lipe wicklye. 1540 *Sc. Acts Jas. V* (1814)

II. 378/1 That pair be wokly thre market dais for selling of breid within the said toune. a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 182 The Legates sat wokely, & euery daie were argumentes on bothe partes and nothynge els doen. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* v. xxx. 427 There was one Priest alone resident continually, the which they changed weekly. 1670 in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 15 Our daughter . . tells me she gives your Ladyship weekly an account of her selfe. a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 7 Sept. 1665, There perishing neere 10,000 poore creatures weekly. 1726 AYLIFFE *Parergon* 140 As these Persons are oblig'd to perform the Communion Service . . in their turns Weekly, they are sometimes called Hebdomadal Canons. 1842 BORROW *Bible in Spain* xxxvi, An acute Gallegan . . who gave me weekly a faithful account of the copies sold. 1905 R. BAGOT *Passport* xv. 142 You had arranged for her [a governess] to come here two or three days weekly.

weeksite ('wiksɪt) *Min.* [f. the name of Alice M. D. Weeks (b. 1909), U.S. geologist + -ITE¹.] A hydrated silicate and oxide of uranium and potassium, K₂(UO₂)₂(Si₂O₅)₃·4H₂O, found as soft, yellow orthorhombic crystals.

1960 W. F. OUTERBRIDGE et al. in *Amer. Mineralogist* XLV. 43 Weeksite at the Autunite No. 8 claim occurs as small spherulites of yellow radiating crystals. 1978 *Mineral. Abstr.* XXIX. 232/1 Weeksite . . is described for the first time from France in the uranium deposit of Les Bois Noirs.

weeksmān ('wiksmən). [f. *week's*, genitive of WEEK. Cf. *month's-man*, MONTH *sb.*¹ 6b.] A functionary whose term of office is a week; *spec.* (see quot.).

1855 HARE *Cases Chancery* X. 298 Until . . 1850 (when the Defendants . . were appointed day oyster meters), all monies received in respect of such compensation were divided equally among them. A list was kept, and each of the eighteen meters in rotation took upon himself the duties of 'weeksmān,' whose office it was to allot the boats to each of the meters in his turn.

weekwām, *obs.* form of WIGWAM.

week-work. *Hist.* [OE. *wic-*, *wiceweorc*, f. *wic(u)* WEEK + *weorc* WORK *sb.* Cf. OS. *wekewerk*.] In Old English Law, work done for the lord by the tenant so many days a week. Also *attrib.* in †*weekwork-silver* (cf. *week-silver*, WEEK *sb.* 7).

c 1000 *Rectitudines* in Thorpe *Laws* I. 434 On sumen lande is þæt he [sc. the *gebur*] sceal wyrcan to wicweorce .ii. dagas swile weorc swile him man tæc ofer gearas fyrst ælcre wucan, and on herfest .iii. dagas to wicweorce [etc.]. ? 1050 in Kemble *Cod. Dipl.* No. 461. III. 450 Consuetudines in Dyddanhamme . . Se gebur sceal his riht don; he sceal erian healfne æcer to wicweorce. 1355 *MS. Rental of Winchcombe Abbey, Glos.*, Toto homagio pro Wikewerkseiver xis. xid. 1883 SEEBOHM *Engl. Village Comm.* ii. 78 Week-work—i.e. work for the lord for so many days a week, mostly three days. 1916 *Edin. Rev.* July 73 A feature which reminds us of the week-works of the villein under our own manorial system.

weel¹ (wi:l). *Sc.* and *north.* Forms: 1 wæł, 3 wel, 4, 6 wele (4-5 welle), 6 vele, 6-7 weill, 7 weell, 8-9 wiel, weil, wheel, 9 weal, 4, 7-9 weel. [OE. *wæł* masc. and neut. = WFrís. *wiel*, OLow Frankish *wâl* (pl. *wâlâ*), 'abyssus', MDu. *wael* (Flem. *weele*), MLG. *wêl* (LG. *weel*, *weele*, whence mod.G. *wehl* masc., *wehle* fem.).] A deep pool; a deep place in a river or the sea; a whirlpool or eddy.

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past.* C. Envoy 469 Ac se wæl wunað on weres breostum . . diop & stille. c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram. ix.* (X.) 52 *Hic gurgis pis wæl*, þæt is, deop wæter. c 1200 ORMIN 19690 Godd . . þatt mihhte hemm alle . . Inn helle wel bisennkenn. c 1275 *XI Pains of Hell* 89 in *O.E. Misc.* 149 Of vych a wrm pat atter berep . . Ifulled is þat fule pool . . Hwenne þe feondes heom [lost souls] foreletp, Snaken and neddren heom imetep, And dreyeð heom in-to a wel þer heo polyp al vnsel. a 1300 *Cursor* M. 2903 Bituixand þai sink in þat wele þar neuer man sank þat was o sele. a 1300 E.E. *Psalter* xxxv. 9 And with welle [Harl. weel] of þi liking ai Sal tou drinke þam [Vulg. *torrente voluptatis tuæ potabis eos*]. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 413/1 A Welle, gurges. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* vii. ii. 13 Tybir flowand soft and esely, Wyth swirland welis [L. *verticibus rapidis*] and mekle ȝallow sand. 1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* (1821) I. p. xlviii, The grettest vele heirof is namit Corbrek; for it will othir sink, or ellis draw ane schip to it, howbeit it be distant thairfra ane mile. 1553 *Rec. Burgh Lanark* (1893) 26 Sir Jhone Cunyngam . . settis the tan half of his bait gangand apone Sant Katrynys weill in Clydisholm to Wylgum Pumfra. 1599 ALEX. HUME *Hymnes* iii. 211 The bells and circles on the weills, Throw loppwing of the trouts. 1674 RAY *N.C. Words*, Weel, Lanca. a whirlpool. 1683 in *Nairne Peerage Evid.* (1874) 18 From the said foord of Gellie to the weell of Buckmenem. 1786 BURNS *Halloween* xxv, Whyles owre a linn the burnie plays, . . Whyles in a wiel it dimpl't. a 1800 *Rare Willie* viii. in *Child Ballads* IV. 182/2 In the deepest weil in a' the burn, Oh, there she fand her Willie! 1817 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxxvi, The deep waters and weils o' the Avondow. 1818 W. PHILLIPS *Geol.* 113 The pool of still water or wheel, above the falls. 1834 HOGG *Dom. Manners* Scott (1909) 59 In a few minutes we reached Gleddie's Weal, the deepest pool in all that part of Tweed. 1909 *Jedburgh Gaz.* 28 May 3/7 A large, deep pool known as the 'Old Weal'.

b. *attrib.* 1703 THORESBY *Let. to Ray*, A Wheel-pit, whirl-pool. a 1800 *Young Hunting* xvii. in *Child Ballads* II. 153/1 They douked in at ae weil-heid, And out aye at the other.

weel² (wi:l). Forms: *a.* 3-5 wyle, 6 wyele, 7 wile; 6 wyll(e, whyll). *β.* 5 wele (5-6 welle), 5-7 weele (6 weyle, weale), 7- weel, (6 *Sc.* weill, 7 well, 9 weal); 6-9 wheel (7 wheele). [OE. *wile-* (in *wile-*

wise), a reduced form of *wilige*, *wilie* basket: see WILLY. The form *wele*, *weel* is a normal development from this.]

1. A wicker trap for catching fish, esp. eels. 1256 *Northumb. Assize Roll* (Surtees) 103 Fit destructio [in the Tyne] salminiculatorum per wyles et per minuta retia. 1369-70 *Acc. Obedientiars Abingdon Abbey* (Camden) 19 In wyls et pottus, iij s. 1426 *LYDG. De Guil. Pilgr.* 18057 Lyke a wyle in a ryver, to cache the fysche bothe fer and nere; the entre large, the comynge out is so strayt, it stant in dout. 1450-1 *Acc. Obedientiars Abingdon Abbey* (Camden) 130 Et in welez emptis pro piscibus capiendis in fossato Conuentus, iij s. x d. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 413/1 A Welle, *nassa*. 1510 STANBRIDGE *Vocabula* (W. de W.) Cvjb, *Nassula*, a wyll, or a leepe. 1519 HORMAN *Vulg. Z* 1 b, One hath robbed my wyele, *predo nassam diripuit*. 1573-80 TUSSER *Husb.* (1878) 87 Watch ponds, go looke to weeles and hooke. 1649 E. REYNOLDS *Hosea* iii. 26 We are like Fishermens wheels, wide at that end which lets in the Fish, but narrow at the other end, so that they cannot get out againe. 1725 *Bradley's Family Dict.*, Weel, . . made of Osier-twigs, which are supported by Circles or Hoops, that go round, and are ever diminishing; . . Its Mouth is somewhat Broad, but the other end terminates in a Point: It's so contrived, that when the Fishes are got in, they cannot come out of it again, because of the Osier Twigs, which advance on the inside, to the Place where the Hoops are, and which stop the Passage, leaving but a small opening there. 1769 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* III. 163 It does not often take a bait, but is generally caught in weels. 1873 *Act 36 & 37 Vict.* c. 71 § 15 Any basket, trap, or device for taking fish, except wheels or leaps for taking lamperns. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* (ed. 4) 125 Weels used on the apron of Weirs for taking Lamperns. 1902 CORNISH *Naturalist Thames* 163 The movable eel-trap or 'grig-wheel', like a crayfish basket, only larger.

b. in fig. context.

1639 MAYNE *City Match* III. iv, 'Slight who would think your Father should lay weeles To catch you thus? 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xvi. (Roxb.) 80/1 A weele with two ends, or holes: for fish to get in at; which when in, there is no getting out againe, from whence came the proverbe, I caught him with a weele: that is I got him in so, that he could not get out. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* v. xiv, When did you ever hear that . . any body ever got out of this Weel without leaving something of his behind him.

c. *Her.* A conventional representation of such a fish-trap, borne as a charge.

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xvi. (Roxb.) 80/1 He beareth Azure, a Weele with its weele vpward, Or. 1780 EDMONDSON *Her.* II. Gloss., *Hoop*, for catching of fish, is always drawn in armory, as in Plate VIII. Fig. 39. c 1828 BERRY *Encycl. Her.* I. Gloss.

d. *attrib.*, in †*weel-net*.

1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 218 Weaving them close together in a round and large forme, after the maner of a fishers leape or weele net.

2. A basket, *esp.* one in which fish are kept. 1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) II. 319 Moyses . . was putte in a weele made of rishes [L. *in fiscella scirpea*] dressede with picche, and caste in to the water. *Ibid.* IV. 353 The fader and mother abhorreng to sle their owne son . . putte hym in a wele in to the see. 1530 PALSGR. 287/2 Welle or lepe for fysshe, *bouticle*. 1651 T. BARKER *Art of Angling* (1659) 44 Providing a little weele made of wicker to carry their fish. 1659 TORRIANO, *Cavagna* . . a fisher's-weel, or haske. 1678 LITTLETON *Dict., Lat.-Eng., Fiscella*, . . a wile wherein fishes are kept. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* (ed. 4) 125 Hard Weels [are] large baskets in which eels and lamperns are kept alive until sold.

wee¹l, *obs.* contr. form of *we will*.

1652 COTTERELL *Cassandra* v. (1676) 543 Wee'l set our selves up again.

weel(e, *obs.* forms of WEAL *sb.*¹, WELL.

weeld, *obs.* form of WEALD.

weeld(e, *obs.* forms of WIELD.

weele, **wee**¹ll, *obs.* contr. forms of *we will*.

1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* II. ii. 6 Why then wee'll make exchange. 1598 CHAPMAN *Blinde Begger Alexandria* B 3 b, Weele strike vp a drumme. 1606 MARSTON *Parasit.* IV. G 2, Stay foole weele follow thee. 1620 T. MAY *Heir* I. (1633) B 4 b, Lay it [the child] to him, weele out face him tis his.

weelful, -som, *var. ff.* WEALFUL, -SOME.

weely, *var.* WEALY *a.*² *Obs.*

weem (wi:m). [a. early Gael. *uaim* (now *uaimh*) cavern.] The name applied in Scotland to a cave or underground dwelling-place used by early inhabitants of the country.

1792 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* IV. 101 An artificial cave or subterraneous passage, such as is sometimes called by the country people a weem. 1851 D. WILSON *Preh. Ann.* I. iv. (1863) 107 The general name applied in Scotland to these subterranean habitations is Weems, from the Gaelic word *uamha* a cave. 1865 C. W. KETT in *Q. J. J. Sci.* Apr. 247 We find in Scotland underground dwelling-places formed of large unhewn stones without cement of any kind; these are called *weems*. 1892 D. MACRITCHIE *Underground Life* 47 It would be an easy matter for proprietors to fence in and otherwise protect existing 'weems'.

weem, *var.* WAME.

weemen, *obs.* pl. of WOMAN.

† **ween**, *sb.* *Obs.* Forms: 1-2, 3-4 wen, 3-6 wene, (3 wæne), 4-5 weene; *Sc.* and *north.* 4-5 weyne, 4 vene, veyn, 5 weyn. [OE. *wên* fem. (rarely masc. or neut.) corresp. to OFrís. *wên* opinion, OS. *wân* masc., hope, OHG., MHG. *wân* masc., opinion, hope, etc. (mod.G. *wahn* fem.,

delusion), ON. *ván* fem., hope, Goth. *wēn-s* hope:—O Teut. **wāni-z*, f. Teut. and Indo-germanic root **wen-* to love.]

1. Opinion, belief. (Cf. WONE sb.)

c888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xl. §3 Ne bið lof na ðy læsse, ac is wen þæt hit sie py mare. *a1250 Ancr. R.* 390 *note*, Efter monnes wene. *c1250 Gen. & Ex.* 73 Ðis ik wort in ebrisse wen, He witen ðe soðe ðat is sen. *Ibid.* 3271 Egipcienes woren in twired wen queðer he sulden folgen or fien. *a1275 Prov. Ælfred* 215 in O.E. *Misc.* 115, & ich her 3u wille leren wenes mine, wit & wisdom.

2. Expectation, hope. (Cf. WONE sb.)

Beowulf 383 (Gr.) þæs ic wen hæbbe. *c1205 LAY.* 28141 Of pine kume nis na wene for no weneð heo nauere to soðe þæt þu cumen aȝin from Rome. *a1300 Floriz & Bl.* 651 Camb. MS.) To hire was mi meste wene, For to habbe to mi quene. *1390 GOWER Conf.* II. 88 It were betre be refused Than forto worchen upon weene.

3. Probability, supposition; doubt.

Beowulf 1845 (Gr.) Wen ic talige. . . þæt þe Sæ-ðeatas selran næbben to geceosenne cȳning ænigne. *c1205 LAY.* 13503 Hit bið a muclehe wene whær ȝe i-seon me auere mare. *Ibid.* 18752 þa ȝet hit weore a wene whar þu heo mihtes aȝe. *c1300 Cursor M.* 1104 Bituixand þei þe southe had sene O thing þai wist noght bot a wene.

4. Phrases. a. *wen* is, *is wen*: the probability is (that . . .), it is probable (that . . .).

c897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xi. 72 Forðæm hit is wen ðæt se ne mæȝe oðerra monna scȳlde ofaðwean [etc.]. *971 Blickl. Hom.* 235 Wen is þæt ic ȝefyrnode. *Ibid.* 239 Cum nu mid us. . . py læs wen is þæt hi us eft ġenimon. *c1000 Ags. Gosp.* John viii. 19 Ðyf ȝe me cupon, wen is þæt ȝe cupon minne fæder. *c1200 ORMIN* 7152, & wen iss þatt he wass forðredd & serhfull in hiss herhte.

b. *without(en) (any) ween, but ween* (Sc.), *forout(en) ween* (Sc.): without doubt.

c1200 ORMIN 4326 þu findest wiss wiþputenn wen Rihhte ehte siþe an hundredd. *c1205 LAY.* 6311 To soðen wihuten wene þe laȝe hehte Marciane. *a1300 Cursor M.* 468 In þat curt þat is so clene, May na filth in drem wihuten wene. *a1366 CHAUCER Rom. Rose* 574 Withouten wene, Wel semyde by hir aparyle She was not wont to gret traulye. *c1374* — *Troilus* IV. 1593 Er Phebus suster lucyna the shene, The leon passe out of þis ariete, I wol ben here with-outen only wene. *1375 BARBOUR Bruce* VI. 162 Thai presit hym so fast, That, had he nocht the bettir beyn, He had beyn ded forouten weyn. *Ibid.* xix. 292 The erl sperit giff he had seyne The Inglis host; 'ȝa, schir, but weyne'. *c1440 York Myst.* xi. 104, I will go witte with-outen wene. *c1450 Holland Houlate* 382 Of Scotland the wer wall, wit ȝe but wene, Our fais force to defend. *c1500 Lancelot* 2880 The thrid . . . was o manly knyght, but weyne. *c1550 ROLLAND Crt. Venus* III. 51 Twentie and fwe, quhen thay war red but wene.

† *ween*, a. *Obs. rare*. [a. ON. *vánn*:—O Teut. type **wāni-*, f. **wāni-* WEEN sb.] Beautiful.

13.. Gaw. & Gr. Knt. 945 Ho watz þe fayrest in felle . . . & wener þen Wenore [Guenever], as þe wyȝe þoȝt.

ween (wi:n), *v. Obs. exc. arch.* Pa. t. and pa. pple. weened (wi:nd). Forms: 1 *wénan*, *wénan*, 2-4 *wenen*, 3 *weone*, 3-5 *wene*, 3-6 *wene*, 4-5 *whene*, *Sc. ven(e)*, vein, 4-6 *Sc.* and *north.* weyn(e), 5 *veyn*, 6 *wean*, 6-7 *Sc.* wein(e), 4-7 *weene*, 5- *ween*; 3-4, 6 *win(n)*, *wyn(n)*. Pa. t. 1 *wénde*, 3-6 *wende*, 3 *wénde*, 3-6 *wend*, 4 *Sc.* *whende*, vend, 5-6 *Sc.* *wéind*, weynd; 3-6 *went(e)*, 4 *north.* *weint*, 5 *wentt*, *whente*, (6 *Sc.* *wont*, wount, wint). Pa. pple. 4-6 *wend(e)*, went, 5 *whent*. [A Common Teut. weak verb: OE. *wénan* corresp. to OFris. *wēna* to think, OS. *wānian* (MLG. *wēnen*, *wānen*, LG. *wanen*), OLow Frankish *wānan* (MDu., Du. *wanen*) to fancy, think), OHG. *wānnen*, *wānen* (MHG. *wānen*, mod.G. *wāhnen* to suppose wrongly, imagine), ON. *væna* to hope, Goth. *wēnjan* to hope:—O Teut. **wāni-*, f. **wāni-* WEEN sb.]

The word seems to have gone out of general use in the 17th c. It has survived as an archaism, esp. in the parenthetic formula illustrated in 1 h.]

1. *trans.* In regard to what is present or past: To think, surmise, suppose, conceive, believe, consider. In ME. often with *well*.

a. *Const.* object-clause, with or without *that*.

971 Blickl. Hom. 55 þa word þe he wenþ þæt him leofoste syn to ȝehyrenne. *1154 O.E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1137 Al þe tunsceipe flugæn for heom, wenden ðæt hi wæron ræueres. *c1200 ORMIN* 11585 Forr þatt te deofell sholde Wel wenenn þatt he wære mann. *c1250 Gen. & Ex.* 1543 Ysaac wende it were esau. *a1300 Cursor M.* 7557 Quat! wyne þu i am a hund? *1303 R. BRUNNE Handl. Synne* 10596 He went he had be hys brother. *1471 CANTON Recuyell* (Sommer) 148 When they sawe Iupiter, they had went he had ben half man and half hors. *1530 PALSGR.* 756/2 The castell which men wente had ben inprenable, is throwen downe now. *1532 MORE Confut. Tindale* Wks. 455/1 If they had but tolde the myracles that Christ did, the countries to whom they were sent, woulde haue went that they had lyed. *1580 FULKE Martiall Confuted* iv. 169 Let him looke in his lexicon, where I weene al his Greeke is. *1600 HOLLAND Livy* v. xxxix. 205 The Romanes . . . weening that there was none left alive. *1614 CAMDEN Rem., Prov.* 313 They that be in hell were there is no other heauen. *1721 Colin's Mistakes* iv. 3 Well I ween, That . . . Dan Spenser makes the fav'r'te Goddess known. *1805 SCOTT Last Minstr.* III. xxxi. Some said that there were thousands ten; And others ween'd that it was nought But Leven clans, or Tynedale men. *1838 MRS. BROWNING Deserted Garden* xii, Though never a dream the roses sent Of science or love's compliment, I ween they smelt as sweet. *1848 LYTTON Harold* vi. i, But well I ween that Gryffyth will never keep troth with the English.

† *b. Const.* infin. *to ween to be* or *do* = to think that one is or does. *Obs.*

c1200 Vices & Virtues 9 Sume weneð bien sacles of ðessere senn[e] [of swearing], for ðan ðe me nett hem to ðan aȝe. *c1205 LAY.* 24535 Ælc wende to beon betere þene oðer. *a1300 Cursor M.* 12119 þof þou wen make-less to be, þat nan in lare sal teche þe. *c1374 CHAUCER Anel. & Arc.* 96 So that she wende haue al his hert yknowe. *1390 GOWER Conf.* I. 15 Between two Stoiles lyth the fal, Whan that men wenen best to sitte. *c1450 Knt. de la Tour* cxi. 151 After this sorw, that she went to haue loste her sone, she hadde another. *1513 DOUGLAS Æneis* I. Prol. 131 Quhen we best wene To haue Virgill red, understand, and sene, The richt sentence perchance is fer to seik. *1638 JUNIUS Paint. Ancients* 150 The parret . . . weening to see another parret in the glasse.

† *c. Const.* obj. and compl. (sb. or adj.). *Obs.*

c1230 Hali Meid. (1922) 10 Al is þet tu wendest golt, iwurde to measting. *1380 WYCLIF Sel. Wks.* III. 40 Weenynghe his liif glorios þat is vicious. *c1385 CHAUCER L.G.W.* 12 Men schal nat wenyn euery thyng a lye For that he say it nat of ȝore ago. *c1430 Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* II. lxvi. (1869) 100 Gretli j am abasht þat þou þat j wende a nice man answerest me so wel. *1533 MORE Answ. poysoned Bk.* Wks. 1036/1 They . . . should shortly perceiue in euery place where they wene themselve many, how very few they be. *1582 STANYHURST Æneis* II. (Arb.) 44 Weene you . . . thee Greekish nauye returned? *1596 SPENSER F.Q.* VII. vi. 11 Shee her selfe more worthy thereof wend.

† *d. Const.* obj. and infin. *Obs.*

1340-70 Alex. & Dind. 534 So wis wenst þou þe be. *1390 GOWER Conf.* I. 96, I wot thou wolt nothing forbere Of that thou wenest be thi beste. *1456 SIR G. HAYE Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 265 That that may be kend wenand thame self till have rychtwis caus. *1528 in Pocock Rec. Reform.* I. 85 We weening the same to haue been our way. *1570 DEE Math. Pref.* 19 While the eye weeneth a round Globe . . . to be a flat and plaine Circle. *1606 HOLLAND Sueton.* 43 Kenning a farre of Pompeis gallies . . . and weening them to be his owne.

† *e. With simple object* (usually a neut. pronoun): To think, believe, credit (something). Also, to surmise or suspect to exist. *Obs.*

c888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xlii, Nis þæt ðeah no licumlice to wennean, ac gastlice. *c1000 ÆLFRED Hom.* I. 440 þeah . . . us gedafenad þæt we hit wenon swiðor þonne we unradlice hit ȝesepan. *c1230 Hali Meid.* (1922) 11 Hwen þus is of þe riche, hwat wenes tu of the poure. *1340 HAMPOLE Pr. Cons.* 2154 Na man ille dede shuld wene þar, whar gude lyf byfor has bene. *13.. E.E. Allit. P. C.* 244 Hit were a wonder to wene. *c1374 CHAUCER Troilus* I. 1031 But herke, Pandare, o word, for I nolde That thouw in me wendest so gret folye. *c1375 Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvii. (*Machor*) 78 þis quhen þe king had herd & sen, þe loy he had wald na man wen. *c1400 Rom. Rose* 5672 Is no man wretched, but he it wene. *1560 DAUS tr. Sleidan's Comm.* 239 Neither must we here consyder, what the greatest multitude weneth, but what the trowth is. *1570 Satir. Poems Reform.* xx. 117 Quhat sall we wene of tratours kene. *c1570 Pride & Loul.* (1841) 65 These matters . . . So straunge, and so incredible to weene.

† *f. coupled or contrasted with wit* (*wot*, etc.).

c1290 Holy Cross 11 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I Ich wene þat ich wot 3wat þis somunce amounti schal. *13.. E.E. Allit. P. A.* 47 þer wonys þat worpyl I wot & wene. *1375 BARBOUR Bruce* IV. 771 But quethir scho . . . Wenit, or vist it vitterly, It fell eftir all haley As scho said. *c1435 Torr. Portugal* 1559 Wot ye well and not wene, Whan eyther of hem had other sene, Smetertly reid her dede. *1721 J. KELLY Sc. Prov.* 69 Before I ween'd, but now I wat.

g. ellipt. or absol. Usually with adv. or conj. (*as*, *than*, *when*, etc.).

c888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xl. §2 Utton healdan unc þæt wit ne wenen swa swa þis folc wenð. *c1200 ORMIN* 9826 Annd tatt wass mikell wherrfeddleȝc þatt dide hemm swa to wenne. *a1225 Ancr. R.* 222 Moni þet ne weneð nout bredeð in hire breoste sum liunes hweolp. *c1350 Will. Palerne* 706 Ich am a mad man . . . For to wene in þis wise. *c1375 Sc. Leg. Saints* xv. (*Barnabas*) 3 Bot þai wene wrang. *1377 LANGL. P. Pl. B.* xv. 470 Riȝt so rude men . . . Louen and by-leuen by lettred mennis doynȝes, And by here wordes and werkes wenen and trowen. *c1400 Rule St. Benet* 1019, I am wastid wor þan I wend. *c1450 Merlin* i. 19 Thow art not so wyse as thow weneste. *1470-85 MALORY Arthur* VI. v. 189, I know you better than ye wene. *a1568 ASCHAM Scholem.* I. (Arb.) 45 Which is an opinion not so trewe, as some men weene. *1601 Song of Mary in Farr S.P. Eliz.* (1845) 432 Farre more they be than we can weene. *1615 BP. ANDREWES Serm.* Nativ. x. (1629) 90 And sure, the way is not readie to hit; . . . It is but a foolish imagination, so to ween of it. *1746 FRANCIS tr. Hor., Sat.* II. viii. 26 If haply right I ween. *1808 SCOTT Marm.* I. xxi, Even our good chaplain, as I ween, Since our last sieg we have not seen. *1850 MRS. BROWNING House of Clouds* viii, Named as Fancy weeneth.

h. used parenthetically (esp. in *I ween*) rather than as governing the sentence. In verse often a mere tag.

c1175 Lamb. Hom. I. 157 Eiðer of pisse teres schedde þe apostel leste ich wene [L. *fudit fortasse apostolus*] þa þe he seide [etc.]. *a1225 Ancr. R.* 210 Nis, ich wene, no mon þet [etc.]. *c1300 Havelok* 655 þre dayes þer-biforn, i wene, Et he no mete. *c1420 ? LYOG. Assembly of Gods* 278 Of royall rychesse wantyd she noone I wene. *c1500 Nut-Brown Maid* xxviii, Ye shape some wyle, me to begyle, and stele fro me I wene. *1564 ANNE LAOY BACON tr. Jewel's Apol.* (1859) 47 And do all they themselves, ween you, agree well together? *1667 MILTON P.L.* IV. 741 Nor turnd I weene Adam from his fair Spouse. *1764 H. WALPOLE Otranto* IV, He, I ween, is no sacred personage. *1787 BURNS Humble Petit. Bruar Water* iii, A panegyric rhyme, I ween, Even as I was he shor'd me. *1819 SCOTT Ivanhoe* iii, See what tidings that horn tells us of—to announce, I ween, some her ship and robbery. *1835 LYTTON Rienzi* I. v, And never, I ween well, had she greater need of true friends than now. *1842 BARHAM Ingol. Leg.* Ser. II. *Ingol. Penance* 2 A stalwart knight, I ween, was he. *a1873 DEUTSCH Lit. Rem.* (1874) 251 There will be a greater harvest still, we ween.

2. In regard to what is future or contingent: To expect, anticipate, count on; to surmise, suspect; to think possible or likely. *Const.* object-clause, with or without *that*, etc.

c1000 Ags. Gosp. Matt. xx. 10 þa þe þær ærest comon wendon þæt hig sceoldon mare onfon. *a1225 Ancr. R.* 178 Ne wene non of heie liue þet heo ne beo itempted. *c1290 Beket* 2045 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 165 Wenst þou þat ichulle fleo? *c1374 CHAUCER Troilus* IV. 384 Who wolde haue wend þat yn so lytel a þrowe Fortune oure loye wolde han ouerþrowe. *1375 BARBOUR Bruce* IV. 210 My lif wend I thair suld be gane. *1456 SIR G. HAYE Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 182 [He] gafe the sauf condyt, wenand it wald be obeyde. *15.. Freiris of Berwik* 246 Quha wenit that ȝe sa lait wald haif cum hame? *1535 Goodly Primer* Pij, I had wente that I shulde haue gone to my graue in my beste dayes.

† *b. with direct object* (sb. or neut. pronoun). In OE. the object is in the genitive. So (rarely) in early ME.

971 Blickl. Hom. 51 Ðif we ane hwile beop on hwylcum earfopum þær we ures feores ne wenap. *a1240 Oreisun in Lamb. Hom.* 187 Nai soþes nai. Ne wene hit neuer no mon. *a1250 Prov. Ælfred* 161 in O.E. *Misc.* 112 Monymon wenep þat he wene ne þarf, longes lyues. *a1275 Prov. Ælfred* (2nd version) 650 Ac þanne þu hid lest wenest þe lūpere þe biswiket. *a1300 Cursor M.* 10128 Prophecies com al to end, Quen lues alperlest it wend. *1338 R. BRUNNE Chron.* (1810) 317 Whan William was comen, & wende no tresoun, Sone was he nomen, & don in prisoun. *1390 GOWER Conf.* I. 81 Thei that wende pees Tho myhten finde no reles Of thilke swerd which al deuouret. *a1450 Le Morte Arth.* 1973 So nere hys herte the sorowe sought All-moste hys lyffe wolde no man wene. *1513 DOUGLAS Æneis* VI. ii. 38 ȝour first reskw . . . Furth of a Gregioun cetie sall be schaw, Quhilke thow lest wenis [L. *quod minime reris*].

Prov. c1386 CHAUCER Reeve's T. 400 Hym that nat wene wel that yuele dooth. *1760 RAY Prov.* 227 (Scottish Proverbs) He that evil does, never good weines.

c. With inf., present or perfect, with or without to (†*for to*, †*till*): To expect, hope, wish; to purpose, intend, be minded.

Beowulf 933 Ðæt wæs unġeara, þæt ic ænigra me weana ne wende . . . bote ȝebidan. *1154 O.E. Chron.* an. 1140, Eustace . . . wende to bigeton Normandi þær purh. *c1205 LAY.* 1848 þa heo best wende to fleonne, þa weoren heo faie. *c1250 Owl & Night.* 814 He [the fox] wenep eche hunde at wrenche. *a1300 Cursor M.* 6853 Your faas þat yow winnes [v.r. wenis] witstand Sal haue na might o fote and hand. *c1330 R. BRUNNE Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 5298 In-to Egipte þen schiped he, for wel wend he þer sicer haue be. *1375 BARBOUR Bruce* XVIII. 50, I wend neur till here that of the! *1470-85 MALORY Arthur* II. vi. 83, I lytel wende to haue met with yow at this sodayne auenture. *1561 HOLLYBUSH Hom. Apoth.* 17b, A colde sweat brake out, so that he wened to dye straight waye. *1590 SPENSER F.Q.* I. iii. 41 And ramping on his shield, did weene the same Haue reft away with his sharpe rending claws. *1591 SHAKS. I Hen. VI.* II. v. 88 Thy Father . . . Leuied an Army, weening to redeeme, And haue install'd me in the Diademe. *1611 BIBLE 2 Macc.* v. 21 Weening in his pride to make the land nauigable. *1667 MILTON P.L.* VI. 86 They weend That self same day by fight, or by surprize To win the Mount of God. *1805 SCOTT Last Minstr.* II. xxix, Ye ween to hear a melting tale, Of two true lovers in a dale. *1854 J. S. BLACKIE in Blackw. Mag.* LXXVI. 266 Beyond the bounds of earth to fly Impious he weened.

d. ellipt. with adv. (e.g. *least*), or conj. (*ere*, *sooner*, *than*, etc.), instead of inf. or object-clause.

c888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* vii. §1 þonne hy læst wenað. *c1000 Ags. Gosp. Matt.* xxiv. 50 þonne cȳmp ðæs weles hlaford on þam dæȝe ðe he na ne wenþ. *a1225 Ancr. R.* 222 Ich chulle . . . worpen hire oðere half, & bredeu uerliche adun er he lest wene. *c1330 R. BRUNNE Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 9471 As he stod, er he lest wende, He was schot to depe. *1340 HAMPOLE Pr. Cons.* 1376 That may fal soner than som wenes. *1375 BARBOUR Bruce* XI. 23 And wis menis etling cumis nocht Till sic end as thai weyn alwayis. *c1440 Pallad. on Husb.* v. 211 And heer an ende, er then y wende, y fynde. *c1450 tr. De Imitatione* I. xxiii. 31 What houre we were not þe sonne of man shal come. *a1600 MONTGOMERIE Misc. Poems* iii. 62 Quhen ȝe leist wein, ȝour baks may to the wall. *1814 CARY Dante, Par.* xxxi. 53 Round I turned With purpose of my lady to inquire . . . But answer found from other than I weened.

† *3. With neut. adj. or adv. and prep.*: To think (much or highly) of; to feel or be affected towards; to trust in. Also without const. (cf. *overween*). *Obs.*

1340 Ayenb. 21 þanne þe man wenþ more of him-zelue þanne he scolde. *1390 GOWER Conf.* I. 109 Whan he was not in his strengthe wende. *Ibid.* 222 Bot wolde God that grace sende, That toward me my lady wende As I towards hire wene! *1593 G. HARVEY Pierces Super. Wks.* (Grosart) II. 125 He winneth not most abroad that weeneth most at-home.

† *4. intr.* with *of*, *for*: To dream of, look for, expect. *Obs.*

1589 Martins Months Minde E 1 b, Howbeit, it was not that so well, as they do ween for, (being perhappes reserued for his two sonnes hereafter). *1613 SHAKS. Hen. VIII.* v. i. 136 Weene you of better lucke, I meane in periur'd Winesse, then your Master, Whose Minister you are . . . ?

5. In renderings of certain Latin words.

† *a. trans.* To esteem, respect; to reckon or esteem equal to.

c1000 Lamb. Psalter lxxxvii. 5 *Aestimatus sum cum descendentibus in lacum*, ȝewened ic eom mid nyperastigendum to seaðe. *a1300 E.E. Psalter* lxxxvii. 5, I am wened in ilka land To þas þat ere in flosche falland. *Ibid.* cxliii. 3 Lauerd, whilk es . . . some of man, for þou wenest him [Vulg. *quia reputas eum*].

† *b. To impute* (an offence) to (a person). *Obs.*

a1300 E.E. Psalter xxxi. 2 Seli man to wham noght wenes lauerd sinne [Vulg. *cui non imputauit Dominus peccatum*].

† *6. In impersonal use.* Only in the absol. pres. pple. *weening* = it seeming, as (because, since) it seemed (to some one). *Const.* clause (usually with *that*) or inf. *Obs.*

c1450 CAPGRAVE Life St. Aug. xxxiii. 42 For þat same had he do or þis tyme had not Valery sent him owt of þe weye,

wenyng to many men þat he schuld not sone come a-geyn. **c1470** GREGORY *Chron.* in *Hist. Coll. Cit. Lond.* (Camden) 234 Wenyng unto the thevys that the boxys hadde ben sylvyr ovyr gylt, but was but copyr. **1485** CAXTON *Chas. Gt.* 92 Whereof they were sore aferde... wenyng to them that it had be the deuyt. **1523** BERNERS *Froiss.* (1812) I. cclxv. 391 They came... to a village called Puernon, and toke their lodgyng, wenyng to them to be in surety. *Ibid.* ccclxxxv. 652 Y^e duke and his went to Berwyk, wenyng to the duke to haue entred into the towne;... but the capitane of the towne... refused to him the entre, and closed the gates agaynst hym and his. **1542** UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 233 Ajax... in his madnesse... slewe a greate noubre of theim, wenyng to hym that he had slain Ulysses and his coumpaignie. **1568** GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 276 The common of Roane and of Beuios... sodainely met with the Englishe Marshallles, wenyng to them they had bene Frenchmen.

weend(e, obs. forms of WEND *v.*, to go.

†**'weener.** *nonce-wd.* [f. WEEN *v.* + -ER¹.] One who weens; *easy weener*, a credulous person. For an earlier doubtful instance see quot. *c* 1430 s.v. WEAVER¹ 2.

1604 EDMONDS *Observ. Cæsar's Comm.* VI. v. 13 The inconuenience of ouer light credulitie, leading such easie weeners to a disappointment of their hopes.

'weeness. *rare.* [f. WEE *sb.*¹ and *a.*] Smallness. **1882** Jamieson's *Sc. Dict.* s.v.

weening ('wi:nɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* Obs. or arch. [f. WEEN *v.* + -ING¹. Cf. OHG. *anawânunga* 'existimatio', *piwânunga* 'deliberatio', MHG. *wænunge*, *wenung(e)*, G. *wähnung*.]

1. The action of thinking, supposing, expecting, etc. In ME. often = mere opinion, surmise or suspicion (as opposed to certain knowledge).

c900 Bæda's *Hist.* IV. xix. (MS. Ca.) þæt heo ða wenunge æt nyhstan ðurhteah. **c1330** R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 7423 þer wenyng pat day þey tynt. **1340** Ayenb. 113 Hit is ope substance, þet is, uirtuous and substancial aboue onderstondinge and wenyng. **1377** LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* xx. 33 Wenyng is no wysdome ne wyse ymaginacioun. **1397** *Rolls of Parlt.* III. 379/2 It was my menyng and my wenyng for to haue do the best. **c1400** Rom. *Rose* 2601 Hit is but foly and wrong wenyng To aske so outrageous a thyng. **c1420** *Prose Life Alex.* 36 3e wende hafe done till vs as your eldrys didde sumtyme till kynge 3erles, bot your wenyng desayued 3ow. **1477** NORTON *Ord. Alch.* i. in Ashm. (1652) 22 An old Proverbe, In a Bushell of weeninge, Is not found one handfull of Cunnenge. **1570** DEE *Math. Pref.* 2 Surmountyng the imperfection of coniecture, weenyng and opinion. **1625** GILL *Sacr. Philos.* I. 96 These upstart weenings are so wisesse, as they are false. **a1633** G. HERBERT *Outlandish Prov.* 811 Weening is not measure. **1652** H. BELL *Luther's Colloq. Mensalia* 225 A Preacher... should... not build upon a weening... but must be sure of the Caus. **a1761** LAW *Behmen's Myst. Magn.* xl. (1765) 231 It lies not in any Mans own willing, weening, running, or going to will.

†b. Phrases. *to be at or in weening*: to be in a state of uncertainty or expectation. *to (one's) weening*: to the best of one's belief. *to put in weening*: to make (a person) think or believe. Obs.

c1275 *Passion of our Lord* 595 in O.E. Misc. 54 As heo stode and speken and weren at wenyng Of vre louerdas aryste and fele oþer ping. **1375** BARBOUR *Bruce* IV. 765 Sen thai ar in sic wenyng, Forouten certane vitting. **c1375** *Sc. Leg. Saints* xlv. (*Anastase*) 184 As he wend he had done til his wenyng Inuch. **c1430** Pilgr. *Lyf Manhode* I. cviii. (1866) 57 Vn yrened j took it thee, for to my weenyng thou shuldest bere it the bettere. **c1440** Partonope 8588 Ye haue chose some new thinge, And wolde put me in wenyng that it were for good Partonope. **1481** CAXTON *Reynard* xvii. (Arb.) 42 Nay I shal bryng you out of wenyng and shewe it you by good wytnes.

†2. Arrogant opinion, self-conceit. Obs. Cf. *overweening*.

1575 FENTON *Gold. Epist.* (1582) 88 Temporall riches bring with them pride and wening to him that hath them. **1603** HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 1016 Yong gentlemen... filled with a great weening and opinion of themselves.

†**'weening**, *ppl. a.* Obs. [-ING².]

1. That weens or thinks; cogitative. **c1391** CHAUCER *Boeth.* III. pr. x. (1886) 71 Yif so þe þat this good be in hym by nature, but that it is diuers fro hym by wenyng resoun [*sed ratione diuersum*].

2. Self-conceited, arrogant, overweening. **1579** FENTON *Guicciard.* IX. 465 The Swizzers being of nature proude and weening, became more rayseed and lifted vp in minde by the estimation that others had of them.

weenong ('wi:nɒŋ). [Jav. *winong*.] The Javanese name for the tree *Tetrameles nudiflora*. **a1838** HORSFIELD in J. J. Bennett *Pl. Javan.* *Rariores* 80 Weenong of the Javanese. It is a large tree. I found it in full flower... in 1815. **1866** *Treas. Bot.* s.v. *Tetrameles*, This tree is the Jungle-bendy of India, and the Weenong of Java.

weent, var. WENT *sb.* Obs.

weeny ('wi:nɪ), *a. dial. and colloq.* Also 8 weny, 9 weany. [f. WEE, with ending imitated from TINY, TEENY *a.*²]

1. Very small, tiny. Also *teeny-weeny* (see TEENY *a.*²).

1790 GROSE *Prov. Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Wee and weny*, very small. North. **1833** *Christmas Improvement* iii. (1841) 40 Such a little tiny weeny pill can never cure such a great big headache as I have got. **1876** Mr. Gray & Neighbours II. 140 You haue to keep her head the tinyest, weanyest bit in the world to the nor-east. **1911** C. BEADLE *City of Shadows* vii,

The cupid bow of a mouth opened just the weeniest bit. **1922** W. J. LOCKE *Tale of Triona* ii. 23 They're little tiny weeny shells.

2. Special collocation: **weeny-bopper colloq.** [after *teeny-bopper*], a very young (esp. female) pop fan (sometimes notionally of a younger age group than a teeny-bopper, but the two terms are freq. interchangeable).

1972 *Daily Express* 2 Nov. 16 Britain's 'weeny-boppers' are in danger of dancing their way to incurable deafness. **1975** *Evening News* 5 July 16/5 Being a weeny-bopper can be a problem when it comes to clothes... Our model, Karen, nearly 13, got her mum to take her round the stores. **1976** M. BUTTERWORTH *Festival!* viii. 133 A couple of weenie-boppers at a pop concert.

weeny ('wi:nɪ), *sb.*¹ Also *weenie*. [f. the adj.]

1. *colloq.* A very young child.

1844 C. RIDLEY *Let.* Oct. (1958) xv. 180, I must tell you now about the chicks [i.e. children]. Little weeny is growing visibly. **1973** 'D. HALLIDAY' *Dolly & Starry Bird* vi. 82 Not Mr. Paladrini who was so nice to the weenies? **1977** *Ottawa Citizen* 29 June 7/1 Our five-year-old granddaughter keeps asking when the trip is going to begin. Travelling with weenies is something that Mama and I have done for most of our lives.

2. *U.S. slang.* a. A girl; an effeminate man. b. An objectionable person.

1929 [see PHOOEY *int.* (sb.)]. **1963** *Amer. Speech* XXXVIII. 171 Some of the less frequent... phrases [for an effeminate young man] are: *dink*... and *weenie*. **1964** *Ibid.* XXXIX. 118 Free variation... is also established in the interchangeability of the names of smaller animals for socially unacceptable persons: *toad*, *squirrel*, and *shrimp* all serve for the zoologically unsound but all-inclusive *weenie*.

weeny ('wi:nɪ), *sb.*² *U.S. slang.* Also *weeney*, *weenie*. Var. WIENIE. Cf. WINNY.

1906 *Dialect Notes* III. 163 *Weenie*... Wiener Wurst, sausage. 'Hot Weenies.' **1935** *Amer. Speech* X. 159 'Weenies', 'Wienies', and 'Weenies' are also for sale. **1960** C. HAMBLETT in *Pick of Today's Short Stories* 136 The simplest basics... Marilyn Monroe, hot dogs, weenies. **1981** P. THEROUX *Mosquito Coast* viii. 72 Father said, '...I've got other weenies to roast.' And he went back to his maps.

weep (wi:p), *sb.* Also 3 weop, weop, 3, 4 wep, 3-6 wepe, 6 weepe. [f. WEEP *v.* Cf. WOP.]

†1. a. Weeping, lamentation. *to burst a-weep*: to burst out weeping. Obs.

c1205 LAY. 11091 þe iherde þesne weop [cf. *wop* *ibid.* 5970, 15066]. **c1250** *Gen. & Ex.* 2328 He... brogte hem bi-for iosep Wid reweli lote, and sorwe, and wep. **a1300** in *Anecd. Lit.* (1844) 90 Al the blisse of thisse live Thou shalt, mon, henden in weop. **1303** R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 5721 For comunlych aftryr wepe, Fal men sone on slepe. **13...** K. *Alis.* 7871 (Laud MS.), Michel weep, mychel waylying. **c1374** CHAUCER *Troilus* II. 408 She bygan to brest a wep a-noon. **a1425** *Cursor M.* 10496 (Trin.) Whil she mened þus hir mone Wip wepe [other texts weping] & sorwes mony one. **1512** *Helyas* in *Thoms Pr. Rom.* (1828) III. 116 The which in weepe piteously bewayled her good spouse. **1545** *Hen. VIII's Primer, Lauds* Cijb, Deuout prayer, meynt with wepe, Suffreth not the hart to slepe.

b. A fit or bout of weeping. Also *the weeps*: a fit of weeping or melancholy. Also *transf.*

Also in 'Hence these weeps', a burlesque alteration of 'Hence these tears'.

1836 C. SHAW *Mem.* etc. (1837) II. 574, I had nothing else for it, but in the middle of the night to go aside and have a very hearty weep by myself. **1876** J. P. STRUTHERS in *Life & Lett.* iv. (1918) 49 But those days are gone. Hence these weeps. **1886** Kipling *Departm. Ditties, Mare's Nest* 43 There was a scene—a weep or two—With many kisses. **1922** JOYCE *Ulysses* 297 And Bob Doran starts doing the weeps about Paddy Dignam. **1937** 'G. ORWELL' *Let.* 31 July in *Coll. Ess.* (1968) I. 280, I heard from Murry who seemed in the weeps about something. **1982** *Medico-Legal Jnl.* L. 10 Leaving his Counsel to do what we call 'The weeps', i.e. to plead in mitigation of sentence.

2. An exudation, percolation, or sweating of moisture.

1838 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jnl.* I. 213/2 Weeps which in iron would speedily be stopped by the natural operation of rust, go on in copper indefinitely, working their way like worms in wood. **1891** *Century Dict.*, *Weep*, exudation, sweat, as of a gum-tree. **1901** *Oxf. Times* 2 Mar. 3/4 The water... did not come by any jets or spouts... but by simple oozes or weeps or whatever term they used to describe what took place.

3. Comb.: †**weep-drop**, a drop of moisture like a tear; **weep-hole**, an opening through which water percolates or drips.

1509 FISHER 7 *Penit. Ps.* li. Wks. (1876) 120 A mannes brethyng when it toucheth any thyng that is colde as yren or glasse, anone it is resolved in to wepe droppes of water. **1851** *Colon. Mag.* July 8 The water... filters through the red sand, running through 'weep holes' made of brick, into a reservoir.

weep (wi:p), *v.* Pa. t. and pa. pple. wept (wept). Forms: *Inf.* 1 wēpan, wēpan, 2-3 wepen, (*Orm.* -enn), 3 weopen, 3-6 wepe, (3 weape), 4 wipe, weope, 3-4 wep, (5 wepyn, wape), 5-8 *Sc.* weip, 6 *Sc.* veip, wepe, 6-7 weepe, (7 weap), 7- weep. *Pa. t.* 1 wēop, 2-4 weop, 3 weap, wiew, 3-4 wep, wop, 3-5 wepe, (4 weep, wip, 5 wippe); 3 wepude, 4 wepped, 4-5 weped, (4 wepid, wepet), 4-6 wepit, (4 weppit, 5 wepput, 6 *Sc.* weipit, wepit), 6-9 weeped, 4- wept. *Pa. pple.* 1 wōpen, 4 wopen, i-wope, 4 wepen; 4 wepid, 8 weeped; 4 ywept, wepte, 7 weept, 4- wept. [A Com. Teut. vb., prob. originally weak, but in WGer. assimilated

to the reduplicating conjugation: OE. *wēpan* (pa. t. *wēop*) corresponds to OFris. *wēpa* to cry aloud (str. pa. pple. *wēpin*, -en), OS. *wōpian* to bewail (pa. t. *weop*), OHG. *wuofan* to bewail, pa. t. *wiof* (MHG. *wuofen*, pa. t. *wief*), also OHG. *wuoffen*, pa. t. *wuofita* (MHG. *wüefen*, pa. t. *wüefte*), ON. *épa* (pa. t. *épta*) to scream, shout (whence ME. *EPE v.*), Goth. *wōpjan* to cry aloud, call; f. the OTeut. **wōpo-* represented in OE. *wōp* masc., weeping (see *wop*), OS. *wōp* masc., lamentation, OHG., MHG. *wuof* masc., lamentation, ON. *óp* neut., cry. Outside Teut. no certain cognates are known.

The weak inflexion first appears in the 13th c., and became prevalent in the 14th.]

1. *intr.*

1. a. To manifest the combination of bodily symptoms (instinctive cries or moans, sobs, and shedding of tears) which is the natural, audible, and visible expression of painful (and sometimes of intensely pleasurable) emotion; also, and in mod. use chiefly, to shed tears (more or less silently).

In mod. English somewhat rare in non-literary use, being superseded by *cry*; recently a sense of the inappropriateness of that verb as applied to silent manifestations seems to have in some degree revived the colloquial currency of *weep* in the sense 'to shed tears'.

c900 Bæda's *Hist.* III. xiv. (1890) 198 He ongon wepan hluttrum tearum. **c1000** *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xxvi. 75 And he eode ut & weop [Vulg. *plorauit*] bitrylice. **c1175** *Lamb. Hom.* 43 Nu bi-gon paul to wepen wunderliche, and mihhal heh engel þer weop forð mid him. **c1205** LAY. 6650 þer Elidur þe king weop [c1275 wep] mid his eþenen. *Ibid.* 18895 þe æremite gon to weopen. **1297** R. GLOUC. 6924 þe quene wepinde [v.r. wepude] wel sore, þe king ansuerede þis. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 14023 þis womman [Mary Magdalene] wepan on his fete. **1340** *Ayenb.* 93 Ne þet ne is naht lyf of man ac of child þet nou wepþ nou heþþ. **138** WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 249 þei shulden... wipe wip men pat wepen here. **c1386** CHAUCER *Prolog.* 144 She was... so pitous She wolde wepe if that she saugh a Mous Kaught in a trappe, if it were deed or bledde. **c1425** *Seven Sag.* (P.) 570 Scho wippe and hir hondis wronge. **c1450** *Merlin* ii. 30 And anon this othir [child] began to crye and wape. **1570** *Satir. Poems Reform.* xiii. 150 The tyme sall cum that he sall weip and murne. **1604** SHAKS. *Oth.* iv. i. 143 She... So hangs, and lolls, and weepes vpon me. **1610** — *Temp.* III. i. 74, I am a foole To weepe at what I am glad of. **1667** MILTON *P.L.* XI. 495 Sight so deform what heart of Rock could long Drie-ey'd behold? Adam could not, but wept. **1700** DRYDEN *Sigism.* & G. 578 Away, with Women weep, and leave me here, Fix'd, like a Man to die, without a Tear. **1782** Miss BURNAY *Cecilia* IV. i. Mrs. Harrel... had shut herself up in her own room to weep and lament. **1850** TENNYSON *In Mem.* xxx. v. 'They rest', we said, 'And silence follow'd, and we wept. **1860** TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xxv. 191, I could have wept like a child.

b. said of animals.

c1400 MAUNDEV. (1919) xxxii. 192 þeise serpentes [sc. crocodiles] slen men & þei eten hem wepyng. **1602** SHAKS. *Ham.* III. ii. 282 Let the stricken Deere go weepe. **1612** WEBSTER *White Diuel* D 3, Here is a Stag my Lord hath shed his horns, And for the losse of them the poore beast weepes. **1872** DARWIN *Emotions* vi. 167 The Indian elephant is known sometimes to weep. **1875** JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 361 Man... is... affected with the inclination to weep more than any other animal.

c. Const. *for, over, †on* (a person or thing regretted or commiserated).

a900 O.E. *Martyrol.* 30 July 132 þa weop eall Romana dugð for þære dæde. **c950** *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke xxiii. 28 Nallað 3ie woepa ofer mec [Vulg. *super me*] ah ofer iuh seolfo woepað. **c1175** *Lamb. Hom.* 157 He iseh Martham and Mariam Magdalene þe sustren wepe for hore broðer deð. **a1225** *Ancr. R.* 312 He weop oðe rode, & o Lazre, & o Jerusalem. **c1250** *Gen. & Ex.* 4149... daizes wep israël for his dead. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 1799 For þar misdedes wepe þai pan. **c1374** CHAUCER *Boeth.* II. pr. ii. (1868) 35 Paulus... when he hadde take þe kyng of perciens weep piteously for þe captiutee of þe self kyng. **1382** WYCLIF *Luke* xix. 41 He seynge the citee, wepte on it [Vulg. *fleuit super illam*]. **a1450** *Mirk's Festial* 32 þen for Ion segh mony wepe for hyr, Ion sayde to hyr: Drusyan, ryse vp. **1549** *Compl. Scot.* ii. 25 The prophet hieremye wepit for the stat of the public veil of babillone. **1593** SHAKS. *Rich. II.* v. i. 87 Weepe thou for me in France; I, for thee here. **1601** — *All's Well* I. i. 3 And I in going Madam, weep ore my fathers death anew. **1623** COCKERAM III. s.v. *Crocodile*, Hauing eaten the body of a man, it [sc. a crocodile] will weepe ouer the head, but in fine eate the head also. **1711** ADDISON *Spect.* No. 70 ¶8 Instead of weeping ouer the Wound she had received, as one might haue expected from a Warrior of her Sex. **1803** M. G. LEWIS *Sir Agilthorne* liv, They who can weep for others' woes, Should ne'er haue cause to weep their own. **1827** CARLYLE *Ess.*, *Richter* (1840) I. 29 Like him we have long laughed at them or wept for them. **1833** TENNYSON *Two Voices* 149 In some good cause... To perish, wept for, honour'd, known. **1855** — *Maud* I. VIII. An angel watching an urn Wept over her, carved in stone. **1853** DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* lv, I knew by that time... how you had mourned for me, and wept for me.

d. Const. *for* (the emotion that prompts weeping). Similarly with *to* and *inf.*, or a *that*-clause.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6954 þe bissopes þat hir ladde vor ioye wepe al so. **a1352** MINOT *Poems* xi. 12 For wo will he wepe. **1375** BARBOUR *Bruce* xx. 237 That wep was nane in that Company That thai ne wepit for pite. **c1420** *Arturs of Arthur* 560 (Douce MS.) Thus wepus for wo Wowayne þe wighte. **1591** SHAKS. *Two Gent.* II. iii. 12 A Iew would haue wept to haue seene our parting. **1593** — 2 *Hen. VI.* III. ii. 121 Henry weepes, that thou dost liue so long. **1593** — *Rich. II.* III. ii. 4, I weepe for ioy To stand vpon my Kingdome once againe. **1648** HERRICK *Hesper.*, *To Daffadills* 1 Faire Daffadills, we weep to see You haste away

so soone. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* ix. 991 So saying, she embrac'd him, and for joy Tenderly wept. 1784 COWPER *Task* vi. 700 Maidens wave Their 'kerchiefs, and old women weep for joy. a1806 H. K. WHITE *Solitude* vi, I start, and when the vision's flown, I weep that I am all alone. 1865 SWINBURNE *Chastelard* iii. i. 104, I have wept for wrath Sometimes and for mere pain, but for love's pity I cannot weep at all.

e. To call †on, cry or pray to with weeping. rare.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 7822 He wep on god vaste ynou & criede him milce & ore. c1460 *Merita Missæ* 105 in *Lay Folks Mass Bk.* 151 And how he dide for the weop To his fader on olywete. 1560 BIBLE (Geneva) *Num.* xi. 13 For they wepe unto me, saying, Giue vs flesh that we may eat. 1845 MRS. NORTON *Child of Islands* (1846) 43 Then sweet St. Mary stands in her recess, Worshipped and wept to, as a thing divine.

f. Phr. to weep one's fill or bellyful.

a1290 *S. Eustace* 193 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 215 Ich habbe I-wopen all mine fill. 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. John* xi. 28-31 They folowed hir: suspectyng that . . she woulde haue goonen to the graue, and there to wepe hir belly full. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI.* ii. v. 113 Ile beare thee hence, where I may weepe my fill.

g. Proverbial expressions.

1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* i. xi. (1867) 28 Naie good childe, better children weepe then olde men. 1616 T. DRAKE *Bibl. Scholast.* 23 It is better that children weepe, then old men. [1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* ii. ii. 122 But man. . . Plaies such phantastick tricks before high heauen, As makes the Angels weepe.] 1859 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* xliii, To see a young fellow like that. . . only ripe for the gallows at five-and-twenty, is enough to make the angels weep. 1889 'J. S. WINTER' *Mrs. Bob* xii, Ye Gods! it is a sight to make the angels weep.

2. Phrases. †to weep Irish: to weep unfeelingly, as a professional mourner weeps at an Irish wake. to weep with (or over) an onion: fig. to weep with feigned grief.

1586 STANYHURST *Descr. Irel.* viii. 44/2 in *Holinshed*, They follow the dead corpse to the graue with howling and barbarous outcries, pitifull in apparence; whereof grew, as I suppose, the prouerbe: To weepe Irish [orig. *Hibernice lacrimari*]. 1589 *Pappe w. Hatchet* Div b, Ile make thee to forget Bishops English, and weep Irish. 1650 FULLER *Pisgah* ii. xii. §15. 247 Surely the Egyptians did not weep-Irish with fained and mercenary teares. 1681 W. ROBERTSON *Phraseol. Gen.* (1693) 1305 To weep Irish, or to feign sorrow.

[1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* v. iii. 321 Mine eyes smell Onions, I shall weepe anon.] 1616 *Withals' Dict.* 557 *Flere ad nouerca tumulum*, to weepe with an Onion. 1882 T. G. BOWLES *Flotsam & Jetsam* 144 Here again is . . the Vicomte weeping ruefully over the strongest onion that ever man sliced.

3. a. Of the eyes: To shed tears.

1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 16 And wowis vaine, quhilk thay did neuer keip, Sall gar thame gnasche thair teith, & eyis weip. 1588 SHAKS. *Tit.* A. iii. i. 59 (Qo. 1600) Titus, prepare thy aged eyes to weepe. 1780 COWPER *Boadicea* iii, Princess! if our aged eyes Weep upon thy matchless wrongs, 'Tis because [etc.]. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* ii. xxii, 'Twas an hero's eye that weep'd. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* viii, Her eyes are always weeping for the loss of her beauty. 1871 R. ELLIS tr. *Catullus* lxi. 85 Her innocent Eyes do weep to be going.

b. fig. of the heart. (Cf. 6b.)

13. . . *Adam Davy's Five Dreams* 64 Myne herte wop for grete drede. 1550 CROWLEY *Epigr.* 163 The other sorte. . . Do make my harte wepe when they come to my mind. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII.* iii. ii. 335 My heart weepes to see him So little, of his great Selfe. 1796 *Let. to Cowper* in *Jrnl. Friends Hist. Soc.* (1918) 32 My heart wept for thee. . . with the tenderest solicitude for thy welfare.

4. transf. a. Of things: To shed water or moisture in drops; to exude drops of water. Also, to waste away in drops.

1387 TREvisa *Higden* IV. 3 The preost. . . seide pat pere come nevere reyn. . .; but the trees hadde i-wope in þe eclipses of þe sonne and of þe moone. c1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) vii. 78 And there besyde ben 4 Pileres of Ston, that alle weys droppen Watre: and sum men seyn, that they wepen for our Lordes Dethe. c1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* ix. 75 Clayes wepe Vncerteynly, whos teres beth right swete. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xv. 1 3e Montaines, murne; 3e valayis, vepe. 1603 G. OWEN *Pembroke*. (1891) 78 In these buildings you shall finde. . . all the wallies of the house to be all weapinge and covered with streames of water. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* ii. ii. 168 When all our Offices haue beene oppress With riotous Feeders, when our Vaults haue wept With drunken spilt of Wine. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India* & P. 126, I saw. . . Women. . . waiting the distilling of Water from its [the tank's] dewy sides; which they catch in Jars, and. . . carrying it away, leave it only weeping. a1722 LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 23 If you lay dung on a sandy or rocky ground. . . it will be weeping away. 1732 P. MILLER *Gard. Kalendar* (1762) 280 Where. . . resinous trees. . . require some of their branches to be cut off, this is the best season. . . for now they are not so subject to weep. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* i. xxxv, The birch-trees wept in fragrant balm. 1854 J. S. C. ABBOTT *Napoleon* (1855) II. xxvii. 501 The sky ceased to weep, and the veil of clouds was withdrawn. 1909 *Engl. Rev.* Mar. 617 Within the forest nought weeps save the rain.

b. To issue in drops; to trickle or fall as tears. Also with out.

1596 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV.* iv. iv. 58 The blood weepes from my heart, when I doe shape [etc.]. 1739 [S. BERINGTON] *G. De Lucca's Mem.* (1738) 173 Gold. . . comes oftentimes in great lumps from the Mineral Rocks, as if it wept out from between the joints. 1828 SPEARMAN *Brit. Gunner* 340 The water will continue to weep or run from the holes. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 3 May 5/3 There would evidently have been some difficulty in keeping the tunnel clear of water, which 'wept' into the heading at the rate of 447 gallons a minute. fig. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* vi. 251 Down thro' her limbs a drooping languor wept. 1872 — *Gareth & Lynette* 213 Barefoot. . . The Lady of the Lake stood: all her dress Wept from her sides as water flowing away.

c. Of a boiler, etc.: To allow small drops of water to percolate or trickle through; to leak in drops from a joint or rivet.

1869 SIR E. REED *Shipbuild.* i. 11 Every rivet being tested not one of them was found to weep. 1869 *Daily News* 21 Aug., Nearly all new boilers 'weep' for the first few weeks. 1886 R. C. LESLIE *Sea Painter's Log* 31 He will admit, 'she weeps a trifle in her garboards'.

d. Of a sore, etc.: To exude a serous fluid.

1882 *W. Worc. Gloss.*, Weep, to run as a sore does. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 243 The fluid escapes just as any raw surface weeps. *Ibid.* VIII. 559 It [i.e. psoriasis] never weeps.

e. Of certain explosives: to exude liquid (indicative of a dangerous condition).

1972 *Guardian* 9 Feb. 6/8 The freighter Autolycus. . . was ordered to leave the harbour. . . after her cargo of nitro-glycerine was found to be 'weeping'. 1978 C. EGLETON *Mills Bomb* ix. 91 Gelignite. . . Dangerous? Only if they were handlingjelly that was beginning to weep. 1982 *Times* 6 Jan. 7/7 Stirring the loyalists up was like. . . playing with jelly that had been weeping for two years.

5. To hang limply; to droop. Of a tree: To droop its branches. Cf. WEEPING *ppl.* a. 6.

1764 CHURCHILL *Gotham* i. 285 The Willow weeping o'er the fatal wave, Where many a Lover finds a watry grave. 1830 TENNYSON *Dying Swan* ii, One willow over the river wept. 1872 OLIVER *Elem. Bot.* ii. 207 Young plants, raised from seeds of the Weeping Ash. . . , had a tendency to 'weep' in their first branching.

II. trans.

6. To shed tears over; to lament with tears.

c897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past.* C. x. 61 Dæt ðætte oðre menn unaliefedes dot he sceal wepan sua sua his agne scylde. c1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* xxxvii. 34 He. . . weop his sunu lange tide. a1122 O.E. *Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1086 Oððe hwa is swa heard heort þæt ne mæg swyrces ungelimpes? a1300 *Cursor M.* 1357 þi fader sin now wepes he. c1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 2928 Sche wepede weddyng, . . ffor scheo had loued longe byfore þe kyng of Denmark. 1387 TREvisa *Higden* VIII. 95 þe monkes come unnepe at þe laste, whan þey had longe i-wope [v.r. ywept] þe wrong of her violent out puttynge. 1450-1530 *Myrr. Our Ladye* i. xii. 32 Many. . . by swetenes of the songe, ar styrted to wayle and to wepe theyr synnes. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI.* iii. i. 221 His fortunes I will weepe. 1603 B. JONSON *Sejanus* v. N.2, Now they 'gin to weepe The mischiefe they haue done. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* ix. 648 Nor was I near to close his dying Eyes, To wash his Wounds, to weep his Obsequies. c1726 SAVAGE *Epist. to Dyer* 54 My sympathizing breast his grief can feel, And my eye weep the wound I cannot heal. 1790 COWPER *Castaway* ix, No poet wept him: but the page Of narrative sincere. . . Is wet with Anson's tear. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* v. xvi, A child will weep a bramble's smart. 1825 — *Talism.* xvii, Edith, for whom he dies, will know how to weep his memory. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* iv. 50 Nor is it Wiser to weep a true occasion lost. 1860 C. READE *Cloister & Hearth* lxxii. (1896) 209 The princess went barefoot to Loretto, weeping her crime and washing the feet of base born men.

fig. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Vertue* i, Sweet day, . . The dew shall weep thy fall to night, For thou must die.

7. a. To let fall from the eyes, to shed (tears).

The object is freq. expressed by a synonym, as *water*, *drop*, *brine*, or a hyperbolic term, as *flood*, *sea*, *rain*, etc. to weep crocodile tears: to feign grief (see CROCODILE sb. 2).

c1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 65 þat priddre þing. . . is wop þe we for ure synnes wepeð. *Ibid.* 149 Swiche teares weip þe holie spuse uppen hire spūs. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. v. 44 þenne Ron Repentance and Rehersed pis teeme, And made William to weope watur with his ejen. c1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* i. 941 Sithen þat þow hast wopen [v.r. wepen] many a drope. 1588 SHAKS. *L.L.L.* iv. iii. 33 Thou shin'st in euery teare that I doe weepe. 1606 — *Tr. & Cr.* iii. ii. 84 When we vowe to weepe seas. 1612 *Two Noble K.* i. iii. 25 Women That haue sod their Infants in. . . The brine, they wept at killing 'em. 1631 MILTON *Epit. March. Winchester* 56 Here be tears of perfect moan Weept for thee in Helicon. 1667 — *P.L.* i. 620 Tears such as Angels weep, burst forth. 1781 COWPER *Hope* 519 The wretch. . . Has wept a silent flood, revers'd his ways, Is sober, [etc.]. 1819 KEATS *Lamia* ii. 66 She. . . wept a rain Of sorrows at his words. 1853 MRS. GASKELL *Ruth* xxv, All tears had been wept out of her long ago. 1891 FARRAR *Darkn. & Dawn* xxix, The eyes of Nero had to weep crocodile tears.

b. fig. Of the heart, or a wound: to weep (tears of) blood.

1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 1054 His soft flanke, whose wonted lillie white With purple tears that his wound wept, was drencht. 1605 B. JONSON *Volpone* iii. ii. (1607) F4b, My heart Weepes blood, in anguish. 1613-16 W. BROWNE *Brit. Poet.* i. iii. 49 His wound (yet sore) That grieu'd it, it could wepe blood for him no more. ?a1634 ? CHAPMAN *Rev. for Hon.* iv. i. (1659) 48 My heart weeps tears of blood, to see thy age thus like a lofty pine fall. 1718 POPE *Iliad* xiii. 160 My heart weeps blood to see your glory lost!

† c. to weep millstones: cf. MILLSTONE 2 b.

1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III.* i. iv. 245 Clarence. Bid Gloucester thinke on this, and he will weepe. 1st Murderer. I Millstones, as he lessoned vs to weepe. [Cf. *Ibid.* i. iii. 354 Your eyes drop Mill-stones, when Fooles eyes fall Teares.]

d. To declare, express, utter with lamentation. Also with forth. rare (chiefly poet.).

1599 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* v. (1602) H3, Ile weepe my passion to the senselesse trees. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* iv. iv. 559 Leontes opening his free Armes, and weeping His Welcomes forth. 1621 LADY M. WROTH *Urania* 347 Both chain'd together. . . complaining and weeping their sorrowes to those wallies. 1782 MISS BURNAY *Cecilia* iii. ii, The poor woman wept her thanks. 1790 COWPER *On Receipt Mother's Picture* 31, I. . . drew A long, long sigh, and wept a last adieu! 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* iii. 14 'My fault' she wept 'my fault! and yet not mine'.

8. quasi-trans. with adv. or compl. a. in phrases expressing excessive or prolonged weeping; esp. to weep out one's eyes or heart.

c1290 *St. Lawrence* 40 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 341 That hadde so much i-wope That he weop out both is eyene. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* iv. iii. 99 O I could weepe My Spirit from mine eyes. 1630 *Pathomachia* v. iv. 44, I haue wept out mine Eyes for Griefe, I cannot read. 1688 PRIOR *Ode Exod.* iii. 14 viii, Weep out thy Reason's, and thy Body's Eyes. 1887 F. M. CRAWFORD *Saracinesca* vi, It seemed unspeakably pathetic to hear her weeping her heart out.

b. To bring (oneself, another, etc., into a specified state or condition) by weeping. Const. into, to, or with adj. complement.

1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* ii. iii. 14 Why my Grandam hauing no eyes, looke you, wept her selfe blinde at my parting. 1605 — *Macb.* iv. iii. 2 Let vs seeke out some desolate shade, and there Weepe our sad bosomes empty. 1643 TRAPP *Comm. Gen.* i. 1 'And Joseph fell upon his fathers face' as willing to have wept him alive again, if possible. 1647 R. STAPYLTON *Juvenal* 108 Weeping her selfe into a stone fountaine. 1818 SHELLEY *Rosalind & Helen* 363 But now—'twas the season fair and mild When April has wept itself into May. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* iv. 116 She wept her true eyes blind for such a one. 1891 *Temple Bar* Dec. 600 Phil wept herself to sleep in her sister's arms.

c. with advs. to weep (a thing) back: to recover it by weeping. to weep out: to remove, put out, extinguish, by weeping; also, to expend (one's life) in weeping. to weep down: to weep until the setting of (the sun).

1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II.* v. i. 48 The sencelesse Brands will sympathize The heaue accēt of thy mouing Tongue, And in compassion weepe the fire out. 1595 — *John* iv. iii. 105, I lou'd him, and will weepe My date of life out, for his sweete liues losse. 1606 — *Ant. & Cl.* ii. vi. 111 *Men.* Pompey doth this day laugh away his Fortune. *Enob.* If he do, sure he cannot weep't backe againe. 1606 CHAPMAN *Mons. D'Olive* i. i, He like a mortified hermit clad, Sits weeping out his life. 1681 FLAVEL *Meth. Grace* xxvi. 453 As it is with the eye when anything offends it, it cannot leave twinkling and watering till it haue wept it out. 1726 POPE *Odys.* xxi. 240 Thus had their joy wept down the setting Sun.

d. esp. to weep away: (a) to spend, consume in tears and lamentation; (b) to remove or wash away with tears of commiseration. (Said also of the tears.)

(a) 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* ii. i. 115 Since that my beautie cannot please his eie, Ile weepe (what's left away) and weeping die. 1599 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* v. vi, Ile weepe away my braine In true affections teares. 1705 ADDISON *Italy* 2 Mary Magdalene. . . is said to haue wept away the rest of her Life among these solitary Rocks. 1859 TENNYSON *Vivien* 734 Nothing left But into some low cave to crawl, and there. . . weep my life away.

(b) 1762 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* v. iii, My father managed his affliction otherwise; . . he neither wept it away, as the Hebrews and the Romans—or slept it off. 1823 PRAED *Australasia* 262 And the mild Charity which day by day Weeps every wound and every stain away.

9. To shed (moisture or water) in drops; to exude (a liquid, etc.). Also to weep forth.

1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 47 Ormus Iland, has no fresh water, saue what the fruitfull Cloudes weepe ouer her, in sorrow of her desolation. 1651 BIGGS *New Disp.* ¶79 Celandin weepeth a golden juice. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* iv. 248 Groves whose rich Trees wept odorous Gummies and Balme. *Ibid.* ix. 1003 Skie low'd, and muttering Thunder, som sad drops Wept at completing of the mortal Sin. 1669 W. SIMPSON *Hydrol. Chym.* 328 Cut a vine in January. . . you shall find it weep forth a deal of insipid water. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Past.* iv. 35 The Knotted Oaks shall show'r of Honey weep. 1705 POPE *Spring* 62 And trees weep amber on the banks of Po. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* iii. ix, Forgetful that its branches grew Where weep the heavens their holiest dew On Alpine's dwelling low. 1860 TENNYSON *Tithonus* 2 The vapours weep their burthen to the ground. 1870 *Edinb. Med. Jrnl.* Dec. 514 The surface of the. . . integument had been weeping a bloody sanies for three days.

weep, obs. var. WYPE *dial.*, lapwing.

†'weepable, a. *Obs. rare.* [f. WEEP v. + -ABLE.] Deplorable, lamentable.

c1449 PECOEC *Repr.* i. xvi. 86 Bi this now seid cause bifille the rewful and weapeable destruction of the worthi citee and vniuersite of Prage. c1456 — *Bk. Faith* Prol. (1909) 110 For which so bireweable and weapeable perel whiche the clergie may se in the lay party, which oujte [etc.].

weepe, obs. form of WIPE v.

weepentack, obs. f. WAPENTAKE.

1676 in *Trans. Cumb. & Westmorl. Antiq. Soc.* (N.S.) XX. 247.

weeper ('wi:pə(r)). [f. WEEP v. + -ER¹.]

1. a. One who weeps or sheds tears, esp. one who is constantly weeping; also one who has tears at command.

c1380 *Antecrist* in Todd *Three Treat. Wyclif* (1851) 142 Crist chese to him wepers; & þei chesen to hem myrre syngers. 1382 WYCLIF *Judg.* ii. 5 The name of that place [Bochim] is clepid, of wepers, or of terys. [Similarly in 1611 *marg.*] a1400 Prymer (1891) 46 Seynte marie. . . do fauour to weperes. 1597 SHAKS. *Lover's Compl.* 124 To make the weeper laugh, the laugher weepe. 1646 CRASHAW *Steps to Temple* 1 The Weeper. 1693 DRYDEN *Juvenal* x. 46 Laughter is easie; but the Wonder lies, What stores of Brine supplyd the Weepers Eyes. 1735 CRAIG tr. *Veda's Past.* i. (1736) 167 Thus, while he sigh'd and dropt a tender Tear, The Hiefers. . . Nor Crystal Brooks, nor sprouting Grass regard, So much they in the Weeper's Sorrow shar'd. 1825 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. ii. *Passion & Princ.* xi. III. 230 My first wife was a weeper, Ma'am; and I did hope to haue escaped a second. However, it seems you are come of a crying family. 1842 C. WHITEHEAD *R. Savage* xii, Had I been at any time of my life a weeper and wailer. 1874 L. STEPHEN *Hours in Libr.* (1892) II. vii. 212 Cowper's tears. .

never... suggest that the weeper is proud of his excessive tenderness.

b. spec. A hired mourner at a death-bed or funeral.

1412-20 *LYDG. Troy Bk.* iv. 3062 It neded hem no wepers for to here,—þei hadde l-nowe of her owne stoor. **c1485** *Digby Myst.* iii. 835 With wepers to þe erth yow hym bryng. **1634** W. TIRWHYTT tr. *Balzac's Lett.* I. 386 At funerals in Paris, wepers are usually hired for money. **1714** *SWIFT Poems, In Sicknes* 23 Ye formal Weppers for the Sick. **1824** *MORIER Adv. Hajji Baba* xxv, Leilah, who is a professed weeper at burials. **1895** *PETRIE Egypt. Tales* Ser. I. 115 The weppers crouching at the door of thy tomb shall cry aloud the prayers for offerings.

c. One of a number of little images in niches on a funeral monument, representing mourners.

1656 *DUGDALE Antiq. Warw.* 354, xiv Images embossed, of Lords and Ladyes in divers vestures, called Weppers, to stand in housings made about the Tombe. **1790** *PENNANT Lond.* 64 The sides [of the tombs] are... embellished... with figures of mourners, *pleureurs*, or weppers, frequently in monastic habits. **1864** *BOUTELL Her. Hist. & Pop.* xxiii. (ed. 3) 388 Eight compartments, each of them having a canopied effigy or 'weeper'. **1912** J. S. M. WARD *Brasses* 85 A magnificent canopy with figures either of saints or of 'weppers' in niches.

d. Ch. Hist. One of the lowest class of penitents (*προσκλαίοντες, flentes*) in the early Eastern Church.

1841 *Gentil. Mag.* Aug. 152/2 That abject class of penitents, mentioned in ancient ecclesiastical canons as mourners, kneelers, and weppers... who, covered with sackcloth and ashes, were enjoined to perform penance in the open air. **1885** *Encycl. Brit.* XVIII. 486/1.

2. The Capuchin monkey (*Cebus capucinus*) of South America. Also *weeper sai*, *capuchin*, *monkey*. Cf. *F. singe pleureur* and *BEWAILER* 2.

1781 *SMELLIE Buffon's Nat. Hist.* (1791) VIII. 174 The sai, which some travellers have called the weeper, is somewhat larger than the sajou. **1781** *PENNANT Hist. Quad.* I. 204 Weeper monkey. **1821** *HELEN M. WILLIAMS tr. Humboldt's Trav.* V. 532 Those bearded monkeys called *capuchins*, which must not be confounded with the weeper or sai. **1841** *Penny Cycl.* XX. 417/1 One of the most common species is the Weeper (*Cebus Apella*). **1894** H. O. FORBES *Handbk. Primates* I. 216 When sleeping the Weeper Çai curls itself up, covering its face with its arms and tail.

3. A conventional badge of mourning. Usually *pl. a.* A strip of white linen or muslin formerly worn on the cuff of a man's sleeve. Cf. *F. pleureuse*.

1724 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6255/2 All... being enjoined to appear... in long black Cloaks, Cambrick Bands, Chamoy Shoes, Weppers, &c. **1746** H. WALPOLE *Let. to Mann* 1 Aug., I... was assisted by the sight of the Marquis of Lothian in weppers for his son who fell at Culloden. **1760-2** *GOLDSM. Cit. W.* xcvi, Our merry mourners clap bits of muslin on their sleeves, and these are called *weppers*. **1827** *HOOD True Story* 115 There comes some unexpected stroke And hangs a weeper on the cuff. **1892** D. FRASER *Autob.* ii. 4 Our cuffs were covered with white linen 'weppers'.

b. A broad white cuff worn by widows.

1755 in W. Macgill *Old Ross-sh.* (1909) 148 Making 6 shirts... 6 suit double mobs—6 lawn hoods—6 pair weppers. **1786** *BURNS On a Scotch Bard* 25 Auld, cantie Kyle may weppers wear, An' stain them wi' the saut, saut tear. **1811** *Sporting Mag.* XXXVIII. 47 With weppers she has tipped her sleeve The while she's laughing in it. **1843** *THACKERAY Bluebeard's Ghost in Fraser's Mag.* Oct. 413/1 She [the widow] had her beautiful hair confined in crimped caps, and her weppers came over her elbows. **1889** 'J. S. WINTER' *Mrs. Bob* xix, Mrs. Antrobus... wore very deep and very wide weppers.

c. A long black hat-band formerly worn by men.

1832 *STANDISH Maid of Jaen* 40 The plumes broad floating in the air, And weppers which the followers bear. **1834** *MARRYAT P. Simple* xli, My father... tore off the craped weppers, and then threw them on the floor as he walked away. **1898** *BESANT Orange Girl* I. vi, The undertaker... was... tying the weppers on the hats.

d. The long black craped veil of a widow.

1860 *GEO. ELIOT Mill on Fl.* I. xii, He might cherish the mean project of heightening her grief at his death by leaving her poorly off, in which case she was firmly resolved that she would have scarcely any weeper on her bonnet. **1872** — *Middlem.* lxxx, If anybody was to marry me, flattering himself as I should wear those hijeous weppers... for him.

e. transf. A streamer of moss hanging from a tree.

1857 B. TAYLOR *Northern Trav.* xiv. (1858) 144 The firs were hung with weppers of black-green moss.

4. Usually *pl.* Long flowing side-whiskers as worn by 'Lord Dundreary' (E. A. Sothorn) in the play 'Our American Cousin'. So *Dundreary* (or *Piccadilly*) *weppers*.

1894 *DU MAURIER Trilby* 1. (1912) 4 He wore an immense pair of drooping auburn whiskers, of the kind that used to be called *Piccadilly weppers*. **1903** *Athenæum* 13 June 760/3 A mid-Victorian Englishman with 'Dundreary weppers'. **1908** *Sat. Rev.* 20 June 775/2 Sir James Day was... adorned with the 'weeper'—a form of whisker... at one time a popular forensic compromise between the bare face and the full beard.

5. A hole or pipe in a wall for the escape of dripping water. (Cf. *weep-hole* in *WEEP sb.* 3.)

1890 *N. Y. Tribune* 2 Feb. (Cent.) The eyes with which it [sc. the aqueduct tunnel] weeps are rightly called weppers, being small rectangular openings in the side walls, through which all the water collected and collecting on the outside of the masonry pours into the inside. **1893** G. D. LESLIE *Lett. Marco* xxxvii. 255 A drain-pipe, or what builders term a weeper... The weppers in it are to allow the water from the bank behind it to escape.

6. = *WEEPIE. colloq.*

1934 'N. BELL' *Winding Road* xvii. 445 A few hot-eared scribes have written weppers about such things and kidded themselves they'd done the trick. **1949** M. LASKI in *Sketch* 21 Dec. 551/2 Every magazine... reckons to print at least one weeper every Christmas. **1977** *New Yorker* 8 Aug. 10/1 Irene Dunn does the suffering in this version of the Fannie Hurst classic weeper about a woman who loves a selfish married man. **1984** *Miami Herald* 30 Mar. 7D/4 We have been hearing that romance is making a comeback in the movies, and here it is: the old-fashioned, meet-ya-when-this-war-is-over weeper.

Hence 'weepered a., furnished with weppers.

1908 EDITH SOMERVILLE & 'ROSS' *Further Exp. Irish R.M.* ii. 54 John Cullinane, very dusty, and waving a crushed and weepered hat.

† *'weepful, a. Obs. rare.* [f. *WEEP sb.* + *-FUL.*] Full of weeping, mournful.

1382 *WYCLIF Wisd.* xviii. 10 And wepful weiling [L. *flebilis planctus*] of bewepte junge childer was herd. [1860 in WORCESTER (citing *Wickliffe*), and in later Dicts.]

weepie ('wi:pi). *colloq.* Also *weepy*. [f. *WEEP v.* + *-IE*; cf. *TALKIE*, etc.] A sentimental film, story, play, etc.; a 'tear-jerker'.

1928 *Sunday Dispatch* 23 Dec. 12/2 There are undoubtedly times when a film calculated to raise buckets of tears has its appeal. Someone recently christened this type of picture... a 'weepie'. **1948** *Sunday Pictorial* 18 July 11/4 'If Winter Comes' (Empire) is a re-make of the famous weepie novel. **1958** *Spectator* 18 July 85/3 *Chicken Soup with Barley*... is an East End Jewish weepie. **1962** *Times* 14 May 14/1 An all-out weepie is the only possible description for *Girl in a Birdcage*. **1977** D. FRANCIS *Risk* xvi. 207 How much easier if the miscreant would confess... a sentimental solution... which happened only in weepie films. **1984** *Listener* 5 July 35/1 'Weepies' come in all shapes and sizes. Ostensibly they are women's pictures, because only women cry at them, right?

weeping ('wi:piŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. *WEEP v.* + *-ING*.] The action of the verb in the various senses; an instance of this.

1. The expression or manifestation of sorrow, pain, etc. by shedding tears.

c1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 53 We muȝen michel eðere forðen wepinge þene song. **c1275** *LAY.* 5970 Mochel was þar wepinge. **c1369** *CHAUCER Dethie Bianca* 600 My sorowe is turned to playnyng And al my laughter to wepyng. **c1450** *Mirour Saluacioun* (Roxb.) 158 Flodes... of trewest sorow and wepyng. **1561** *HOBY tr. Castiglione's Courtier* I. Dij, The great Alexander, hearing a certayne Philosophers opinion to be that there were infinite worldes, fell in weping. **1573** *BEDINGFIELD tr. Cardanus' Conf.* II. (1576) 16 b, The wepyng of y^e heire is the wepyng of one that laugheþ vnder a vizar. **1633** P. FLETCHER *Ps.* cxxxvii. 5 There we laid asteepling Our eyes in endlesse weeping For Sions fall. **1651** *HOBBS Leviath.* I. vi. 27 Sudden Dejection is the passion that causeth Weeping. **1711** *STEELE Spect.* No. 95 ¶ 3 There is nothing, on these Occasions, so much in their Favour as immoderate Weeping. **1808** *SCOTT Marm.* v. xxxii, Weeping and wailing loud arose. **1881** *BESANT & RICE Chapl. Fleet* I. 1, So must this book begin with tears and weeping. **1896** H. G. WELLS *Wheels of Chance* xix, Such weeping as he had seen before had been so much a matter of damp white faces, red noses, and hair coming out of curl.

b. With *a* and *pl.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4180 He hurde... Of a woman a deoluol cry & a pitos wepinge. **c1374** *CHAUCER Boeth.* I. pr. ii. (1868) 9 And wiþ þe lappe of hir garment... she driede myn eyen þat were ful of þe wawes of my wepynges. **c1420** *Prymer* (1895) 52 [Ps. cxvi. 8] He hap delyuerid... myn iȝen fro wepyngis. **1523** *BERNERS Froiss.* (1812) I. ccxcvii. 683 Euery day encreased the complayntes, wepynges, and cryes, made to Phylp Dartuell. **1630** *MILTON Passion* 51 Should I... Take up a weeping on the Mountains wilde. **1777** *THICKESSE Journ. France* (1789) II. 51 You seem to hear the groans, weepings, and bewailings, from the dying. **1889** 'J. S. WINTER' *Mrs. Bob* xx, And then what a weeping and a wailing there was!

2. The exudation or dripping of moisture generally; the flow or discharge of humours from the body, of gum, etc. from a tree; also the liquid so falling. Also *fig.* the produce (of the vine).

a1655 G. S. in *Hartlib Ref. Commw. Bees* 29 The Bees gather out of the weepings of Pine... Trees... abundance, both of Honey and Wax. **1699** W. SALMON *Pharm. Bateana* (1713) 654 They are good against a Gonorrhæa, Whites, Gleetes, Weepings, &c. **1730** *Phil. Trans.* XXXVI. 453 The mucous Particles and Steams arising from the Lungs, made a constant weeping of a thin slavery Liquor from the Mouth of the Pipe. **1744** *BERKELEY Siris* §28 The weepings of the lentiscus and cypress. **1817** *MOORE Lalla Rookh, Veiled Prophet* 499 Vases, filled with Kishmee's golden wine, And the red weepings of the Shiraz vine. **1877** A. W. BENNETT tr. *Thomé's Bot.* 48 A process on which depends, for example, the 'weeping' of wounded grape-vines. **1889** *WELCH Naval Archit.* x. 118 Any weeping of the rivets or caulking which results, is rectified.

3. The drooping or downward sweep (of hair). **1869** *BLACKMORE Lorna D.* viii, The dark soft weeping of her hair.

4. attrib. and Comb., as weeping-match, -scene; †weeping-dale = 'vale of tears' (*VALE sb.* 2 b); **weeping-hole**, an opening through which moisture percolates; **weeping-ripe a.**, ready to weep; **†weeping-room**, opportunity for weeping; **†weeping-spot**, a spot or stain where a tear has fallen; **weeping-time, -while**, a time when one weeps or may weep.

c1400 *Pety Job* 410 in 26 *Pol. Poems* 134 In thys wofull *wepyng dale, I byde alwey. **1866** *Chamb. Encycl.* VIII. 217/2 Holes are led through the wall called 'weeping-holes'. **1903** C. BALD *Indian Tea* vii. (1917) 97 It is imperatively necessary to have weeping holes, to carry off

any water which may get behind the building. **1856** *KANE Arctic Expl.* II. xi. 117 They often assemble by concert for a general *weeping-match. **1548** *Elyot's Dict., Lachrymabundus*,... *weepyng rype. **1588** *SHAKS. L.L.L.* v. ii. 274 The King was weeping ripe for a good word. **1593** — 3 *Hen. VI.* I. iv. 172. **a1614** *FLETCHER Valentinian* I. iii. Then as Souldiers... they tell their wounds Even weeping ripe they were no more nor deeper. **1648** *HERRICK Hesper., Pastorall to King* 7 Behold him weeping ripe. **1611** *CHAPMAN Iliad* xxiv. 554 Ilion Shall finde thee *weeping roomes enow. **1809** A. HENRY *Trav.* 285 Had I not previously been witness to a *weeping-scene of this description, I should certainly have been apprehensive of some disastrous catastrophe. **c1430** *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 2370 The *weping spotted in no wise Thei coude with noo craft gete a-way While thei had weesh it so many a day. **c1400** *LOVE Bonavent. Mirr.* (1907) 191 And of thise three *wepyng tymes speketh holy writte. **1893** F. THOMPSON *Poems* 71 Smile, sweet baby, smile, For you will have *weeping-while.

† *b. Anat., as weeping corner* (of the eye); **weeping-flesh**, the lachrymal caruncle; **weeping vein**, the ophthalmic vein. *Obs.*

to ope the weeping vein: to cause weeping. *poet.*

1543 *TRAHERON Vigo's Chirurg.* II. iv. 257 b, In the weeping corners of the eyes, there groweth a fistula [etc.]. **1616** *CHAPMAN Odys.* x. 519, I granted, went, and op't the weeping veine In all my men. **1639** T. DE GREY *Compl. Horsem.* II. i. (1656) 65 The *Veines* which we do usuallie open, are; First the two *Temple-Veines*... Secondlie, we open the two *Eye or weeping-Veines*. *Ibid.* II. xv. 494 First let him bloud in the neck and weeping veines. **1656** J. SMITH *Pract. Physick* 120 A Haw in the Eye... is discerned from the weeping flesh, because the roots of the Nail ever inclineth most to whitenesse. *Ibid.* 345 An Ulcer of the weeping flesh, namely an *Ægyptos*.

weeping ('wi:piŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. *WEEP v.* + *-ING*.]

1. a. That weeps. Said of persons, also of the eyes.

c1000 *ÆLFRIC Josh.* vi. 21 Hi ofslogon... ða wepende cild. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6938 þe quene was þo vorp ilad mid moni a wepinde eye Of bissopes & of heyemen. **c1425** *Cursor M.* 14023 (Trin.) Were þis mon prophete so good þis wepyng wommon [Earlier texts þis womman wepand] on him wood He auzte to witen what she were. **1450-1530** *Myrr. Our Ladye* II. 233 The gretnes of godhed was mekely hyd in the lytel body of a weping chylde. **1554** *Bury Wills* (Camden) 145, I bequeath to my nece Mary Gifford... my ringe with the wepinge eie. **1575** *GASCOIGNE Flowers, Mask Mountacute* 164 That so he might be shewed... Unto us all, whose weeping eyes dyd much abhorre the sight. **1596** *SHAKS. Merch.* V. i. ii. 53, I feare hee will proue the weeping Philosopher when he growes old, being so full of vnmannerly sadnesse in his youth. **1617** R. WHITE *Cupid's Banishm.* in *Nichols Progr. Jas.* I (1828) III. 293 The Weeping Drunkard next. **1667** *DRYDEN Ind. Emp.* IV. iv, Cyd. More cruel than the Tyger o're his spoil; And falsar than the Weeping Crocodile. **1697** — *Æneis* v. 797 Turning to the Sea their weeping Eyes. **1706** *ROWE Ulysses* IV. i, Sadly attentive to the weeping Queen. **1711** *STEELE Spect.* No. 252 ¶ 3 There is something so moving in the very Image of weeping Beauty. **1748** *RICHARDSON Clarissa* (1768) IV. 146 A weeping eye indicates a gentle heart. **1754** *GRAY Progr. Poesy* 44 Disease, and Sorrow's weeping train. **1848** *DICKENS Dombey* xxv, Edith looked down upon the weeping girl, and once kissed her. **1848** *THACKERAY Van. Fair* xxxii, He had taken leave of his weeping sweetheart. **1884** J. PARKER *Apost. Life* III. 124 When men speak of Jeremiah, they think of him as the weeping prophet.

† *b. absol.* Persons weeping. *Obs.*

c1482 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 24 He... fulbitterly beganne to wepe and with rennyng terys sorofully sobbyd as wepyng doth [L. *ut plorantes solent*].

c. **weeping monkey:** a name applied to the sapajous. Cf. *WEEPER* 2.

1834 *McMURTRIE Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 48 Their name of *Weeping Monkeys* is derived from their plaintive voice.

2. Of the voice, the countenance: Tearful, lachrymose. Of utterances: Accompanied with weeping, tearful. Of emotion: Expressed by weeping.

c900 *Bæda's Hist.* I. xii, Ða... onsendon hi ærendwrecan to Rome mid gewritum & wepindre bene [L. *lacrimosis precibus*]. **c1000** *Ag. Ps.* (Thorpe) vi. 7 Forðam þe Drihten hyrde mine wependan stefne [Vulg. *vocem fletus mei*]. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 17947 Wiþ wepyngre preyere. **1382** *WYCLIF Dan.* vi. 20 With a wepyngre voice [Vulg. *voce lacrimabili*]. **c1400** 26 *Pol. Poems* xi. 46 Repentaunce makeþ wepyng mon [= moan]. **1561** *HOBY tr. Castiglione's Courtier* II. (1900) 161 For undoubtedlye it is not meete for a Gentle manne to make weeping and laughing faces. **1593** *SHAKS. 2 Hen. VI.* I. i. 34 Her words yclad with wisedomes Maiesty, Makes me from Wondring, fall to Weeping ioies, Such is the Fulnesse of my hearts content. **1632** *LITHGOW Trav.* x. 457 Leaving me with a weeping good-night. **1760-72** H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) II. 154 Having taken a weeping leave of all the family. *Ibid.* IV. 17 We behold him with weeping gratitude. **1827** *POLLOK Course T.* IX. 1156 Bards... bewailed them much, With doleful instruments of weeping song.

3. †a. weeping tears, abundant weeping. Rarely in *sing.* *Obs.*

a1470 *HARDING Chron.* cxl. x, He shroue hym then vnto abbots three With great sobbyng and hye contricion, And wepyng teares. **1471** *CAXTON Recuyell* (Sommer) 644 The troians toke the body of parys with wepyng teares and bare hit vnto the cyte. **1513** *DOUGLAS Æneis* xiii. iv. 40 Wyth sik plente of bittir wepand teris. **1560** tr. *J. Fisher's Godly Treat. Benef. Prayer* H1, With many sighes and abundance of wepyng teares. **1593** *SHAKS. Lucr.* 1375 Many a dry drop seem'd a weeping teare, Shed for the slaughtred husband by the wife. **1652** C. B. STAPYLTON *Herodian* I. 7 This Message was receiv'd with weeping teares. **a1700** *Tri. Patience* in *Halliwell's Anthol.* (1851) 359 With weeping tears she did reply, My heart is overwhelm'd with grief. **a1825** *FORBY Voc. E. Anglia, Weeping-tears*, A very odd pleonasm, but in very common use for excessive sorrow.

b. Falling or issuing in drops like tears. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 79 The Springs on, or near the tops of hills, if weak and weeping, may proceed from rains. **1704** POPE *Windsor For.* 30 Let India boast her plants, nor envy we The weeping amber or the balmy tree. **1735** J. PRICE *Stone-br. Thames* 6 To empty out the weeping Water and Springs. **1766** *Complete Farmer* s.v. *Lucern*, Except it be obstructed by a stratum of rock, or chilled at root by weeping springs. **1827** POLLOK *Course T.* v. 98 Though poets... talked and sang Of brooks, and crystal founts, and weeping dews. **1831** WORDSW. *Sonnet Depart. Sir W. Scott* 1 A trouble, not of clouds, or weeping rain... Engendered.

4. Exuding moisture: a. Of soil: Oozing, swampy.

1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* 1. 17 b, Yf it be wette or weepyn ground, or subiect vnto other inconueniences. **1597** SHAKS. *Lover's Compl.* 39 A riuer... Vpon whose weeping margent she was set. **1625** MARKHAM *Inrichment Weald Kent* 9 The Haisell ground being dry, and not subiect to Winter-springs, or teares of water (for which some call such, A whining or weeping ground) is to be handled thus. *Ibid.* 19 A sandy and grauelly ground that is wet and weeping. **1644** G. PLATTES in *Hartlib's Legacy* (1655) 216 The last Experiment, shewing how weeping land may be drained where there is no level. a **1700** EVELYN *Diary* 2 June 1676, The soil a cold weeping clay, not answering the expence. **1707** MORTIMER *Husb.* 33 Ray-Grass... is reckoned to grow on any Land, but chiefly in Cold sour Clays, and weeping Grounds. **1801** *Farmer's Mag.* Nov. 409 Upon poor, weak, weeping clays, where... the dung is locked up... the application of lime is equally salutary. **1813** VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* 40 The shaley rock, covered with a grey loam of a moderate staple, and producing a very wet and weeping surface. **1816** *Trial Berkeley Poachers* 30 There I could see, for there was a wet or weeping place, the tracks of sixteen men.

b. *Path.* Of the eyes: Running, watering. Also of diseased tissues or structures from which moisture exudes. *weeping eczema*, a variety of eczema characterized by abundant exudation.

1580 BLUNDEVIL *Curing Horses Dis.* xxviii. 15 Of weeping or watering eies. **1810** *Sporting Mag.* XXXV. 140 It appeared that at the time of sale the horse had weeping eyes. **1899** *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 503 A general raw, red, weeping surface is produced. *Ibid.* 608 Squamous or weeping eczema. *Ibid.* 749 The epidermis is exfoliated... leaving the skin underneath red and tender but never moist or weeping as in eczema.

c. In general use.

1550 BALE *Acts Engl. Votaries* II. O vj, I coulde here shewe ye wonders of weping Roodes, and sweating ladies. **1697** DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* 1. 647 The yawning Earth discloses'd th' Abyss of Hell: The weeping Statues did the Wars foretel. **1710** HILMAN *Tusser Rediv.* Apr. (1744) 45 His Bark clean without fungi or Toad-stools, no weeping Holes or decayed Boughs upon him. **1805** R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. 283 Oozing springs, ... weeping rocks. **1903** E. CHILDERS *Riddle of Sands* ix. 92, I returned, with a shock, to the present, to the weeping walls, the discoloured deal table, the ghastly breakfast litter.

d. †*weeping bower*, the name given in Barbados to a tree that exudes a gum of some kind. *weeping gum*, the name of two species of Eucalyptus, *E. pauciflora* and *E. viminalis* (Morris *Austral Engl.* s.v. *Gum*).

1696 PLUKENET *Almagestum* Wks. 1769 II. 43 Arbor... Scenam topiariam efformans Lachrymifera, fortè Stacteflua, s. Myrrham liquidam fundens... Nostratibus Colonis Weeping Bower nuncupata.

5. Of climate, weather, skies, etc.: Dripping, rainy.

1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV.* 1. iii. 61 A naked subject to the Weeping Clouds. a **1668** DENHAM *To Sir John Mennis* 1 All on a weeping Monday, ... Little Admiral John To Bologne is gone. **1771** SMOLLETT *Humphry Cl.* 6 Sept., This country would be a perfect paradise, if it was not, like Wales, cursed with a weeping climate. **1819** KEATS *Otho* v. v. 39 Gauzes of silver mist, Loop'd up with cords of twisted wreathed light, And tassell'd round with weeping meteors! **1821** SCOTT *Pirate* iv, The inconveniences arising from a cold soil and a weeping climate. **1844** H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 981 In a weeping season, the hay on one property was effectually saved by the use of the tedding-machine. **1846** MRS. A. MARSH *Father Darcy* xxxviii, It was a weeping day—a cold, cloudy day, at the very beginning of September. **1884** ANNIE S. SWAN *Carlowrie* ii. 30 The rain still falling desolately from weeping skies. **1896** KIPLING *Seven Seas, Three Sealers*, The weeping fog rolled fold on fold the wrath of man to cloak.

transf. **1615** CHAPMAN *Odyss.* XIX. 646 Ioy and grieve together Her brest inuaded: and of weeping weather Her eyes stood full.

6. Used to designate trees (less frequently other plants) the branches of which arch over and hang down drooping. Chiefly in the distinctive names of particular species or varieties. [So F. *pleureur* in *saule pleureur* weeping willow, *frêne pleureur* weeping ash.]

weeping oak, the Californian white oak, *Quercus lobata*; also, a cultivated variety of the English oak, *Quercus Robur*. The *weeping ash*, *beech*, *birch*, *elm*, etc. are varieties of certain species of those trees; in botanical works they are designated by the addition of *pendula* after the specific name. See also *weeping willow*.

1606 N. B[AXTER] *Sydney's Ourania* F 4 b, The weeping Elme, the Beech, the Byrch. **1791** W. GILPIN *Forest Scenery* I. 41 There is another variety also of this tree, called the weeping elm. *Ibid.* 66 Of the white birch there is a... variety, sometimes called the lady-birch, or the weeping-birch. **1807** J. E. SMITH *Phys. Bot.* 61 The weeping variety of the Common Ash. **1824** 'A. SINGLETON' *Lett. from South & West* 62 The weeping-cherry... bears blossoms when a part of the fruit is ripe. **1838** LOUDON *Arboretum* II. 1214 *Fraxinus pendula*... The pendulous, or weeping Ash. *Ibid.* III. 1691 *Betula pendula*... the weeping Birch. *Ibid.* 1732

Quercus pendula... the Weeping Oak. *Ibid.* 1952 *Fagus pendula*... the weeping Beech. **1849** *Florist* 273 Among weeping trees, we found the weeping purple Beech, the weeping Holly, the new weeping Elm, ... the weeping Yew, the weeping Oak, weeping silver Fir, and weeping red Cedar. **1859** D. BUNCE *Trav. Dr. Leichhardt* 91 Many species of *Acacia* made their appearance, including the celebrated Weeping Myall. **1865** GOSSE *Land & Sea* (1874) 343 The... rhizome of *Goniophlebium dissimile*... allows to droop on every side its long, weeping fronds. **1868** *Rep. U.S. Commissioner Agric.* (1869) 202 Weeping and drooping trees. **1869** S. R. HOLE *Bk. about Roses* viii. 124 They may soon be trained into Weeping Roses. **1882** *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* IX. No. iii. 436 At the upper end stands... a purple beech, and a weeping elm, there being weeping ashes elsewhere. **1889** Weeping myall [see BOREE³]. **1895** CORNISH *Wild Eng.* 92 On the shaded bank, a line of weeping-birches dips into the pool. **1898** MORRIS *Austral Engl.* 171 Rice Grass, Meadow, *Microtæna stipoidea*. Called also *Weeping Grass*. *Ibid.* 506 *Weeping-Myall*, an Australian tree, *Acacia pendula*. Cunn. **1951** *Dict. Gardening* (R. Hort. Soc.) IV. 1825/2 Newly planted bush and standard (not weeping) roses should be pruned back. **1969** *Better Homes & Gardens* (U.S.) Apr. 83 *Weeping cherry*, bright pink blossoms are artistically spaced along the gracefully hanging branches.

Weeping Cross.

1. A place-name occurring in several English counties, presumably indicating the site of a stone cross (now destroyed) formerly known by this designation.

Recent Ordnance Maps have shown places so named (1) about 2 miles S.E. of Shrewsbury; (2) about 2 miles S.E. of Stafford; (3) about 2 miles S.E. of Banbury; (4) near Bury St. Edmunds (see quot. a 1500); (5) near Ludlow. See also quot. 1893. All the places seem to be at cross-roads. It is said that the remains of the 'weeping cross' near Banbury were removed in 1803 (Beesley *Hist. Banbury*, 1841); with reference to that near Ludlow cf. quot. 1826. It is usually assumed that the name indicates that acts of devotion at these crosses were enjoined upon penitents, but there appears to be no evidence of this. Pennant's explanation (quot. 1782) seems to be merely a conjecture; another conjecture (Beesley *Hist. Banbury*) is that the cross marked the place at which bodies carried to interment were set down for the bearers to rest.

[a 1500 in *East Anglian* (1887-8) II. 226 [Bury St. Edmunds.] Falda incipit juxta riperam apud Winothes, et procedit ita ulterius ascendendo versus Austrum usque ad Crucem Lacrymantem.] **1675** OGILBY *Britannia* (1698) 39 At 21'3 come to Weeping-Cross a noted Place, where 4 Ways meet;... and at 22'7 enter Banbury. **1782** PENNANT *Journ. from Chester* 78 After leaving the town [Stafford] I crossed the Wolverhampton Navigation at Radford Bridge. ... A little further is Weeping Cross; so stiled from its vicinity to the antient place of execution. **1826** T. WRIGHT *Hist. Ludlow* (ed. 2) 175 Passing along the road which leaves the town at the bottom of Holgate Fee, we come to a small tump of earth and stones which marks the boundary of the parish. The name of the 'Weeping Cross', yet retained by this land mark serves to preserve the traditional record of a Cross. **1893** *Dublin Rev.* July 557 There is a road outside Salisbury named 'King John's Lane', leading from Clarendon to Old Sarum; it is crossed by another road, and at this point there is a clump of elm-trees. These trees are known as 'the weeping cross trees.'

2. Used allusively, esp. in the proverbial phrase *to come home by Weeping Cross*, to suffer grievous disappointment or failure.

Cf. the occasional variants 'to come home by broken cross' (1662 Howell *New Engl. Gramm.*, *Peramb. Spain* 68) and 'to make our prayers at whining crosse' (1602: see WHINING *vbl. sb.* b).

1579 GOSSON *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 46 They... pull the house on their owne heds, retorne home by weeping Crosse, and fewe of them come to an honest ende. **1580** LYLly *Euphuës* (Arb.) 243 The tyme will come when comming home by weeping crosse, thou shalt confesse [etc.]. **1592** GREENE *Upst. Courtier* D 2, Heerein I hold the Tailor for a necessary member to teach proud nouices the way to weeping crosse. **1612** WITHER *Pr. Henries Obseq.* Ded. A 3, For here I mourne, for your-our publike losse; And doe my pennance, at the Weeping Crosse. **1625** FLETCHER & SHIRLEY *Nt. Walker* I. i, One is a kind of weeping cross, Jack, A gentle Purgatory. **1643** TRAPP *Gen.* iv. 16 God fetcht Jonas home again by weeping-cross. **1665** J. DAVIES *tr. Scarron's Novels* II. iv. 125 And so the poor Boy was forc'd to get back again to Madrid with a weeping-cross. **1741** OZELL *tr. Brantome's Sp. Rhodom.* (1744) 56 Making an Irruption into Provence, he came home by Weeping-Cross. **1884** W. MORRIS *Archit. & Hist.* (1900) 16 How different that [sc. artistic finish] is from mechanical or trade finish, some of us, at least, have learned, maybe, by the way of Weeping Cross.

†*weepingly*, a. *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. *weeping ppl.* a. + -LY¹.] Tearful.

c **1440** *Gesta Rom.* lxi. (1878) 259 The Emperoure gothe into swiche a chaumbr glad I-nowe, but when he comythe oute, al his visage is wepyng [*tota facies eius est lacrimosa*].

weepingly ('wi:pɪŋli), *adv.* [f. *weeping ppl.* a. + -LY².] In a weeping manner.

1340 *Ayenb.* 192 Huet yefpe is pet... pet pe on nimp gled liche and pe oþer hit lyst wepindeliche? c **1450** LOVELICH *Merlin* 7205 Ful tenderly the teres he dide down lete, and so wepyng he torned ageyn. **1565** COOPER *Thesaurus, Lachrymose*,... weepyngly: as though one wepte. **1597** SHAKS. *Lover's Compl.* 207 Their kind acceptance wepyngly beseecht. **1621** LADY M. WROTH *Urania* 76 Thy sap doth weepyngly bewray thy paine. a **1700** B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Mawdlin*, weepyngly Drunk. **1876** MISS BROUGHTON *Joan* I. xxx, It is four months... since Wolferstan went—since, weepyngly, his love said to him, 'God keep you, Anthony!' **1890** W. C. RUSSELL *Ocean Trag.* II. xxv. 259 My mind revolving... blackly and weepyngly.

weeping willow. [See *weeping ppl.* a. 6. Cf. F. *saule pleureur*, G. *trauer-*, *thränenweide*.]

1. A species of willow, *Salix babylonica*, a large tree, native of Eastern Asia, having long and slender pendulous branches, cultivated in Europe as an ornamental tree and regarded as symbolical of mourning.

1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.*, *Salix; orientalis*,... The Weeping Willow. **1755** YOUNG *Centaur* iii. Wks. 1757 IV. 171 Their wretched joys flourish, like dismal weeping willows watered by a ditch. **1810** SCOTT *Lady of L.* I. xvii, Eddying... The weeping willow twig to lave. **1898** 'MERRIMAN' *Roden's Corner* xxi. 224 A weeping-willow, trimly trained in the accurate Dutch fashion.

2. Rhyming slang for 'pillow'. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1880 D. W. BARRETT *Life & Work among Navvies* (ed. 2) II. ii. 43, I have been told... that often when a man is ready to retire to rest, he will inform his mates, 'That he's done his lot for the day, and is goin' to lay his pen 'oth o' bread (head) on the weeping-willow (pillow)'. **1944** N. STREATFIELD *Curtain Up* x. 123 Time young Holly was in bed... Hannah wants your head on your weeping willow, pillow to you.

†*weepley*, a. *Obs. rare*. [f. *weep sb.* or *v.* + -LY¹.] Lamentable, tearful.

c **1374** CHAUCER *Boeth.* I. pr. i. (1868) 5 My weple compleynte [*querimoniam lacrimabilem*]. *Ibid.* III. met. xii. 106 By hys weepley [*v.r. wepley*] songes [*flēbitibus modis*].

weepy ('wi:pi), a. [f. *weep v.* + -Y¹.]

†1. Weeping, mournful. *Obs.*

1602 DAVISON *Poet. Rapsody* C 2, And when I weep, And sigh full deep, A weepy sighing Voice againe thou lendest.

2. Inclined to weep or shed tears, tearful.

1863 'HOLME LEE' *A. Warleigh* II. 95 She appeared with... her watery eyes more weepy than ever. **1894** DU MAURIER *Trilby* IV. (1912) 166 The bold dragoon sang... 'My Sister Dear',... with such pathos, ... that his audience felt almost weepy in the midst of their jollification. **1897** BRAM STOKER *Dracula* xix. (1912) 276, I shall put a bold face on, and if I do feel weepy, he shall never see it.

3. *dial.* Exuding moisture, damp, oozy.

1825 JENNINGS *Observ. Dial. W. Eng.*, *Weepy*, abounding with springs; moist. **1879** MISS JACKSON *Shropsh. Word-bk.* s.v., One o' the fat cheeses is weepy. **1886** W. SOMERSET *Word-bk.* s.v., Terr'ble weepy field o' ground. **1906** KIPLING *Puck of Pook's Hill* 196 An old marlipit full of black water, where weepy, hairy moss hangs round the stumps of the willows and alders.

'*weequashing*, *vbl. sb.* U.S. Also wigwassing. [f. Algonkin *wigwas* birch-bark (canoe) + -ING¹.] The spearing of eels or fish from a canoe by torchlight.

1888 GOODE *Amer. Fishes* 436 Vast quantities [of suckers] are taken... by spearing by torchlight or 'weequashing'. **1902** A. F. CHAMBERLAIN in *Jrnl. Amer. Folk-lore* Oct. 267 The word *weequashing*, or *wigwassing*, would seem to be derived... from *wigwas*, a widespread Algonkian... term for 'birch bark', the immediate source of the word being Passamaquoddy or Micmac.

weer, obs. form of *WEIR*, and var. *WERE* *Obs.*

weer, obs. pa. t. of *WEAR* *v.*, BE *v.*

c **1400** *Beryn* 2617 And therfor wisdom weer... Nevir to dele with hem. *Ibid.* 3049 And wher weer pow Ibore?

weerd, obs. form of *WEIRD*.

weere, var. *VERE*, spring; obs. form of *WEIR*.

weerie, obs. form of *WEARY* *v.*

weerish, var. *WEARISH* *a.*

weerne, var. *WARN* *v.*² *Obs.*

weerock, var. *WIRROCK*.

wees, obs. form of *was*: see BE *v.*

weesand, obs. form of *WEASAND*.

weese, *weeze* (wi:z), *v.* *Obs. exc. dial.* Forms: 1 *wésan*, 5 *wese*, 6-7 *wheeze*, 8-9 *dial.* *weeze*, 6-*weese*. [OE. *wésan* (:—*wōsjan), f. *wós* OOZE *sb.*¹] *intr.* To ooze, drip or distil gently.

c **1000** *Sax. Leechd.* II. 44 bonne ærest onŷinne se healsgund wesán. **14**.. *Seven Deadly Sins* 58 in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 246 He toke me 'carytas', and put it in a clout, And bade me bame me well aboute, when hit wolde other water or wese. a **1555** BRADFORD *Writ.* (Parker Soc.) I. 303, I will not speak of the often weesing out. **1591** SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. ii. 79 At his knots his Water weezes forth. c **1620** Z. BOYD *Zion's Flowers* (1855) 11 It seemes I heare the water wheesing in. **1790** D. MORISON *Poems* 105 Yon greetin' cheese, Frae which the tears profusely weeze. **18**.. in var. *dial.*: see *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s.v. *Weeze*.

weese, var. *WASE*.

weese allan (also wease alley), an alleged local name of the skua (cf. SCOUTY-AULIN).

1849 *Zoologist* VII. 2393 The common skua is a 'wease-alley'. **1885** SWAINSON *Prov. Names Birds* 210 Richardson's Skua (*Stercorarius crepidatus*)... Weese allan (Orkney Isles).

weesel (l: see WEASEL *sb.*, WEEZLE.

weeshy ('wi:ʃi), a. *Anglo-Irish*. [Of obscure origin. Cf. *wee sb.*¹ and a.] Very small, tiny.

1825 [see DEESHY a.]. **1830** CARLETON *Traits Ir. Peasantry* (1843) I. 141 The first man he met was the weeshy fraction

of a tailor, as nimble as a hare. **1842** *LOVER Handy Andy* iii, And what weeshee little balls thim is, sir. **1894** *McNULTY Mither O'Ryan* v. 48, I had larned . . . as a weeshy lad, to repate some 'Spaches from the Deck'.

weesil(**i**, var. **ff**. WEASEL *sb.*, WEEZLE *Obs.*

†'weesle, *v.* *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [*dim. of WEESE v.*] *intr.* To ooze.

a 1555 *BRADFORD Writ.* (Parker Soc.) I. 304 For a time the streams of our affections may be stopped . . . ; howbeit so yet they will weesel out now and then.

weesle, *obs. form of WEASEL sb.*

weeson, *obs. form of WEASAND.*

weesp, *Sc. form of WISP sb.*

weesshe, ? *obs. form of WISH v.*

wee'st heart, var. of the northern dial. phrase *wae's t'heart*: see *WOE sb.*

1695 *CONGREVE Love for L.* II. ii, Nurse, where's your young Mistress? *Nurse*. Wee'st heart, I know not, they're none of 'em come home yet.

weet (*wit*), *v.*¹ *arch.* Also 6 *wete*, 6-7 *weete*. [*repr. ME. wēte(n*, var. *ff. wite(n* inf. and pl. prcs. ind. and subj., and *wite* imperative and sing. pres. subj., of *WIT v.* (for the other parts of the verb see *WOT v.*, *WIST v.*). From the middle of the 16th c., if not earlier, the form *weet* seems to be obsolete in ordinary speech, but down to the second decade of the 17th c. it was frequent as a literary archaism (chiefly *poet.*), as attributed in the drama to rustic speakers, and as a variant of *wit* in the phrases *to do* or *give* (a person) *to wit*, (*that is*) *to wit*. The archaistic use in the 16th and early 17th c. was confined to the inf., the plural present, and the present participle; but the poets of the 18th c. and later, who have used the word in imitation of Spenser, have often treated it as a regular verb, with 1 sing. pres. *I weet*, and inflexions *weets*, *weeted*.

For the examples of *wete* before 1550, and of the phrases above-mentioned in which *to weet* = 'to wit', see *WIT v.*

a. trans. To know (a fact, the answer to a question); also with clause as obj. **b. intr.** To know of something.

In Shaks. only once: see quot. 1606.

a 1547 *SURREY Æneis* II. 144 Then we in dout to Phebus temple sent Euripilus, to wete the prophesye. **1560** *PILKINGTON Aggeus* DJ, Thy money . . . shal waste away, thou not weetyng how nor when. **1561** T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtier* III. (1577) O vjb, The innocent children, that could not only be in no fault, but not so much as weetting of their fathers yll dooings. **1575** *Gamm. Garton* II. iii, Tush, man, is Gammers neele found? That chould gladly weet! **1584** R. SCOT *Discov. Witcher* xv. xxvi. (1886) 443 Then would I wēt of our witchmongers the reason why. **1590** *SPENSER F.Q.* I. v. 3 Forth he comes into the commune hall, Where . . . waite him many a gazing eye, To weet what end to straunger knights may fall. *Ibid.* I. xii. 3 That aged Sire . . . looked forth, to weet, if true indeede Those tydings were. **1594** *CAREW Huarte's Exam. Wits* Author's Pref., Curious parents may haue an art and maner to discouer the wit of their children, and may weet how to set each of them in hand with that science wherein he shall principally profit. **1599** T. M[OUFET] *Silkuormes* 53 Others diuine that they themselves did weete No other tree could yeelde their silken threede. **1603** G. OWEN *Pembroke'sh.* (1891) 103 When Percellye weareth a hatte All Pembroke'sh. shall weete of that. **1606** *SHAKS. Ant. & Cl.* I. i. 39 In which I binde One paine of punishment, the world to weete We stand vp Peerelesse.

1706 *PRIOR Ode to Queen* iv, Me all too mean for such a Task I weet. **1717** — *Alma* II. 289 Well I weet, thy cruel Wrong Adorns a nobler Poet's Song. **a 1721** — *Wandering Pilgr.* 5 The gracious Knight full well does weet, Ten farthings ne'er will do, To keep a man each day in meat. **1742** *SHENSTONE Schoolm.* 251 Nor weeting how the Muse should soar on high Wisheth, poor starvling elf! his paper kite may fly. **1747** [G. RIDLEY] *Psyche* x. in *Museum* III. 83 Thou weetest not what Med'cines in them are. **1751** *MENDEZ Seasons* xi. in *Pearch Collect. Poems* (1768) II. 238 And while the lambs in fainter voices bleat, Their mothers hang their head, in doleful plight I weet. **1817** *SHELLEY Rev. Islam* IV. xiv, But, when one meets Another at the shrine, he intly weets, Though he says nothing, that the truth is known. **a 1846** *LUNDIE Mission. Life Samoa* iii. 17 Ah! little weet those who dwell at ease among their own people, what the missionary endures! **1861** *PATMORE Angel in Ho.* II. II. xv, Nature's infinite ostent Of lovely flowers . . . That weet not whether any heed. **1865** *SWINBURNE Poems & Ballads, St. Dorothy* 302 That is a noble scripture, well I weet, That likens women to an empty can. **1886** R. F. BURTON *Arab. Nts.* (abr. ed.) I. 111 Well weeting that Fortune is fair and constant to no man.

weet (*wit*), *int.* and *v.*² [Echoic. Cf. *WEET-WEET* and *TWEET*.] **a. int.** An imitation of the cry of certain small birds. **b. v. intr.** Of a bird: To chirp or twitter. Hence 'weeting *ppl.* **a.** Also 'weet-bird, the wryneck.

1852 *Zoologist* X. 3649, I was completely surrounded by curious, restless weeting little willow-wrens. **1863** *WISE New Forest* 186 The wry-neck . . . is in the Forest known as the 'weet-bird', from its peculiar cry of 'weet', which it will repeat at short intervals for an hour together. **a 1897** *LADY C. GURDON Suffolk Tales* etc. 160 A robin weeting or chirping at the window foretells a death in the house.

weet(e, *obs. and Sc. forms of WET.*

Weetabix ('wītəbɪks). The proprietary name of a breakfast cereal in the form of thick crumbly biscuits made from wheat.

1936 *Official Gaz.* (U.S. Patent Office) 3 Mar. 31/1 Olive Cross, Washington, D.C. Filed Jan. 11, 1936. *Weetabix* for crushed wheat breakfast food biscuits. **1938** *Trade Marks Jnl.* 17 Aug. 1009/2 *Weetabix* . . . Wholemeal biscuits. *Weetabix Limited*, . . . Kettering, Northamptonshire; manufacturers. **1974** R. RENDELL *Face of Trespass* i. 14 He . . . poured milk over a couple of Weetabix and sat down to eat his breakfast. **1981** F. INGLIS *Promise of Happiness* II. 47, I changed loyalties . . . from cornflakes to Weetabix.

weete, *obs. form of WHEAT.*

1464 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 68 The churchmen of Dudcote wer in bargenyng off a ryke of weete for the welfare and help off the church.

weetingly, *obs. var. WITTINGLY adv.* (Cf. *WEET v.*¹ and next.)

1542 *UDALL Erasm. Apoph.* 23 b, That a manne should weetyngly & willingly come in the presence . . . of them. **1570** *LEVINS Manip.* 109/45 Weetyngly, *sciens & prudens*. **1596** *SPENSER F.Q.* VI. iii. 11 This ill state, . . . To which she for his sake had weetyngly Now brought her selfe. **1642** H. MORE *Song Soul* II. i. iii. xv, That man is wood That weetyngly hastes on the thing he hates.

weetless ('wɪtlɪs), *a. arch.* [*f. WEET v.*¹ + -LESS. App. coined by Spenser; distinct from *witless*.] Unknowing, unconscious. †Also (quot. 1579), meaningless.

1579 *SPENSER Sheph. Cal.* July 35 Syker, thous but a laesie loord, and rekes much of thy swynck, That with fond termes, and weetlesse words to blere myne eyes doest thinke. [E. K. *Glosse*, Weetlesse, not vnderstoode.] **1590** — *F.Q.* III. ii. 26 But the false Archer, which that arrow shot So slyly, that she did not feele the wound, Did smyle full smoothly at her weetlesse wofull stound. **1596** *Ibid.* VI. viii. 47 And now all weetlesse of the wretched stormes In which his loue was lost, he slept full fast. **1747** [J. UPTON] *New Canto F.Q.* xix. 13 Nathless the Soul, from her true heavenly Way, Caught by some Semblance fair, too weetless wends astray. [*Footn.*, *Weetless*, thoughtless, careless, unknowing: too thoughtless goes astray.] **1751** *MENDEZ Seasons* xxx. in *Pearch Collect. Poems* (1768) II. 246 Or how the way-ward mother to chastise When from her vetchy nest the weetless vagrant hies. **1767** *MICKLE Concup.* I. xx, Bashfully the weetlesse Boy did look. **1802** *LEYDEN Cout of Keeldar* xxxviii, 'Twas here for Mangerton's brave lord A bloody feast was set, Who weetless, at the festal board, The bull's broad frontlet met. **1814** *CARY Dante, Parad.* x. 31 And I was with him, weetless of ascent, But as a man, that weets him come, ere thinking. **1829** G. DARLEY *Wedding Wake, Anniv.* 73 Look how the weetless, reckless air Moves its dead tresses now! **a 1849** *MANGAN Poems* (1859) 256 Mother dear, thy happy heart is weetless of my dolour.

weet-weet, *int. and sb.*¹ [Echoic.]

1. int. ('wɪt'wɪt). An imitation of the cry of certain birds, esp. the sandpiper and chaffinch. Also *sb.* as the name for this cry.

1808-13 A. WILSON *Amer. Ornith.* (1831) III. 170, I could still hear their low note of *weet-weet*, as they approached near to the vessel below me. **1831** *HOWITT Seasons* (1837) 106 The weet-weet and pink-pink of the chaffinch. **1843** *Zoologist* I. 221 The 'weet-weet' of the sandpiper.

2. sb. ('wɪt'wɪt). Used as a name for the sandpiper.

1852 *MAGGILLIVRAY Brit. Birds* IV. 350 *Actitis*. Weet-weet. *Ibid.*, The Weet-weets are small migratory birds, which frequent the sandy and muddy margins of lakes, rivers, and estuaries. *Ibid.* 351 *Actitis Hypoleucos*. The White-breasted Weet-weet. *Ibid.* 356 *Actitis macularia*. The Spotted Weet-weet. **1862** *JOHNS Brit. Birds* 625 Weet-weet, the Common Sandpiper.

|| **weet-weet** ('wɪt'wɪt), *sb.*² [Native Australian: see quot. 1878.] An Australian toy (see quot. 1878), contrived to be capable of being thrown to a great distance.

1878 R. B. SMYTH *Aborigines of Victoria* I. 352 The plaything (Fig. 170) called by the natives of the Yarra *Witch-wi-tch, We-a-witcht, Weet-weet, or Wa-voit*, is one of the most extraordinary instruments used by savages. . . The head—in shape like two cones placed base to base—is about four inches and a half in length and one inch in diameter; and the stem, not quite two-tenths of an inch in diameter, is about twenty-one inches in length. **1886** *Daily News* 20 Dec. 5/3 The Australian toy called the *weet-weet* which can be thrown for several hundred yards, bounding off the ground at frequent intervals all the way. **1910** T. A. JOYCE *Handbk. Ethnogr. Coll. Brit. Mus.* 117 A peculiar toy is the weet-weet or 'kangaroo-rat', which the practised player can throw to enormous distances.

weet-weet, v. [*f. WEET-WEET int.*] *intr.* To cry 'weet, weet'.

1845 S. JUDD *Margaret* I. ii. (1871) 7 A sand-piper glided weet-weeting along the shore.

weety ('wɪti), *a. Sc.* Also 7 *weytie*, 9 *weetie*. [*f. weet*, *Sc. f. WET a.* + -Y¹.] Rainy, wet.

1658 J. NICOLL *Diary* (Bannatyne Club) 222 The crop was verie pure, be resson of the spring tyme, quhilk was verie cold and weytie by the space of many weekis. **a 1774** *FERGUSON Mutual Compl.* 23 In sunshine, and in weety weather. **1887** *SERVICE Duguid* 241 Noo the spring time . . . was weety and cauld. **1915** SIR J. WILSON *Lowland Scotch* 169 [Written Eng.] a wet day. [Spoken Sc.] a weete day.

weeve, *obs. form of WEAVE v.*

weever ('wɪvə(r)). Also 7 *wiver*, 7-9 *weaver*. [Prob. originally *wiver*, *a. OF.* (north-eastern)

wivre the weever (13th c.), a transferred use of *wivre* serpent, dragon (see *WYVER*, *WYVERN*), = Central OF. *guivre* (mod. heraldic F. *guivre*, *giure*), repr. L. *viper*a VIPER; the more normal OF. descendant of L. *viper*a is *wivre*, the weever (whence *VIVER*², *QUAVIVER*), mod.F. *vive*. The fish was called 'viper' from its venomous spines: see quot. 1622.] A fish of the genus *Trachinus* or family *Trachinidae*, common on the coasts of Europe; esp. *T. draco*, the Greater, and *T. vipera*, the Lesser Weever. They have sharp dorsal and opercular spines with which they can inflict painful wounds.

1622 *DRAYTON Poly-olb.* xxv. 167 The Weauer, which although his prickles venom bee, By Fishers cut away, which Buyers seldom see. **1666** *MERRETT Pinax* 187 Araneus, a Weaver, or Wiver. **1747** *MRS. GLASSE Cookery* ix. 88 To Broil Weavers. **1752** J. HILL *Hist. Anim.* 263 *Trachinus* . . . The Weever. **1766** *SMOLLETT Trav.* I. xviii. 292 Here too are found the *vyvre*, or, as we call it, weaver, remarkable for its long, sharp spines, so dangerous to the fingers of the fishermen. **1832** *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* I. 7 These are, the greater weaver . . . and the tadpole fish. **1848** *JOHNS Week at Lizard* 171 It was the Lesser Weever.

Comb. **1867** J. G. WOOD *Routledge's Pop. Nat. Hist.* III. 97 The Great Weaver, or Weever Fish.

weevil ('wɪv(ə)l, 'wɪvɪl). Forms: *a.* 1 *wibl*, *wibil*, *wifel*, 5 *wyvył*, -oll, 6 *wyvel*(l(e, 6-7 *wivel*(l; 5 *wevel*, -yl, 6 *wevell* (wew-), -yll, 6-7 *wevill*, 6-8 *wevil*; 6 *weavill* (7 -il), 6-7, 9 *weavel* (7 -ell); 6 *weevell*, 6- weevil (6-7 -ill). *β. dial.* 7 *wibel*, -ill, 9 *wibble*; 8-9 *weeble*, 9 *weabel*. *γ. dial.* 7 *whule*, 8-9 *whool*, 9 *weuhl*, *whewl*, *wule*, *weuel*, *yule*. [OE. *wifel* masc., beetle, corresp. to OS. (gold-) *wiwil* glowworm, MLG. *wevel*, OHG. *wibil*, *wipil* beetle, chafer, ON. *vifill* in *tordyfill* dung-beetle (MSw. pl. *torddöffa*, Sw. *tordyfel*, Norw. *tordivel*; cf. OE. *tordwifel*):—OTeut. **webilo*-z, *f.* **web-* to move about briskly (see *WAVE v.*) or **web-* to WEAVE, 'from the filaments spun for the larva-case' (Skeat). From the same root is the synonymous OE. *wibba* (:—**webjon-*) beetle, glowworm.

For the special phonology in English cf. *beetle* repr. OE. *bitela*; the OE. *i* when lengthened in an open syllable became *ē* in ME. The *β* and *γ* forms illustrate normal dialectal alterations of the *v*.

In the 16th and 17th c. some writers app. confused the name of the weevil with that of the weasel, using *wezell*, *weezel*, for the insect; see the quotations under *WEEZEL*.]

1. In OE., a beetle of any kind; in later use, any beetle classed under the group *Rhyncophora*, the larvæ of which, and sometimes the beetles themselves, are destructive by boring into grain, fruit, nuts, the bark of trees, etc.; esp. a beetle belonging to any of the numerous species of the family *Curculionidæ*, the true weevils; also one belonging to the families *Brenthidæ* and *Bruchidæ*.

The best known are the corn-weevil, *Calandra granaria*, a small red beetle that does much damage in granaries by boring into the grains of corn in order to deposit its eggs, and the NUT-WEEVIL. For *clover*-, *grain*-, *palm*-, *pea*-, *rice*-weevil see those words.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) C 151 *Cantarus*, *wibil*. *Ibid.* P 110 *Panpila*, *wibl*. **a 1000** *Riddles* xlii. 73 (Gr.) Is þæs gores sunu gonge hrædra þone we wifel wordum nemnað. **c 1440** *Prompt. Parv.* 523/2 *Weyvl*, or malte boode (Winch. MS. *gurgulio*). **1455** *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 324/2 Whether ye Malt be bad or good, all is cast together in soo grete a multitude, that noo man can kepe it from Wormes called Wevels. **1469** in *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 21 Also that you gar the malt be windowd, or it be laid in any garners, for ells there will brede wyvolls in it. **1528** *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden Soc.) II. 174 The wyche malte was etten with wewells. **1587** *GOLDING De Mornay* xvi. (1617) 284 The Husbandman createth not the wiuell in the Corne. **1623** T. SCOT *Highw. God* 78 Mothes are no worse in cloth, rust in yron, nor whales in Mault, then these in the Commonwealth. **1626** *BACON Sylva* §696 A Worm called a Wevill . . . that feedeth upon Roots. **1628** *MAY Virg. Georg.* I. 10 There little Weeuills heapes of corne destroy. **1741** *Compl. Fam.-Piece* I. vi. 284 Your Malt . . . not having had Time to contract . . . Weebles, (an Insect that eats out the Heart of Malt). **1750** W. ELLIS *Country Housew. Fam. Compan.* 7 Whoools, or Wevils, or Maggots, may be screened and sifted from the Flower. **1760** R. BROWN *Compl. Farmer* II. 95 Pease . . . are very apt to breed worms, wevils, and mites. **1817** *KIRBY & SP. Entomol.* II. xxiii. 322 The whole tribe of weevils (*Curculionidæ*). **1834** *J. Ross's Van Diemen's Land Ann.* 70 The wheat of New South Wales is seldom six months old before it is affected with the weevil. **1863** J. G. WOOD *Illustr. Nat. Hist.* III. 474 We now arrive at a vast group of beetles, embracing several thousand species, which are popularly classed under the name of Weevils. **1883** *STEVENSON Treas. Isl.* v, If you had the pluck of a weevil in a biscuit you would catch them still.

b. collect. sing.

1866 *Standard* 16 July 5 The plaintiff stated that he found the malt contained 'weevil', a very destructive insect. **1908** *Animal Managem.* (War Office) 99 Beans should be hard and dry . . . and free from weevil.

c. fig. and in fig. context.

1598 E. GUILPIN *Skial.*, Sat. VI. E 3, If that some weevil, mault-worme, barley-cap, Hearing my lines halfe-snorthing ore his kanne, Swears them for good. **1793** *WOLCOT* (P. Pindar) *Epist. Pope* 179 The French are . . . downright devils; In heavenly wheat, accurs'd destructive weevils!

2. Applied to other insects or their larvæ.

1789 T. WRIGHT *Meth. Watering Meadows* (1790) 41 One of the ewes was kill'd, and . . . its liver was putrid, and replete with the insect called the Fluke or Weevil.

3. attrib. and Comb., as *weevil-beetle*, *tribe*; *weevil-damaged* adj.; † *weevil malt*, malt infested with weevils.

1720 STRYPE *Stow's Surv.* II, v. xi. 202 In the End of the Year they commonly brewed with Wyvel Malt. **1817** KIRBY & Sp. *Entomol.* xxi. II. 235 The weevil tribe. **1871** DARWIN *Desc. Man* II. viii. (1890) 208 In some weevil-beetles . . . there is a great difference between the male and female in the length of the rostrum or snout. **1890** *Kapunda Herald* 26 July 2/4 Sheepskins. — . . . Broken and weevil-damaged skins bring from 1½d. to 3½d. per lb.

weeviled ('wi:v(ə)ld), *a.* [f. WEEVIL + -ED.] Infested with weevils.

1901 *Contemp. Rev.* Mar. 409 The system which flogged the men and fed them on weeviled biscuit.

weevily ('wi:vili), *a.* Also 8 weavely, 9 weevilly. [f. WEEVIL + -Y¹.] Infested with weevils.

1757 W. THOMPSON *R.N. Advoc.* 21 Rotten, musty, weavely Flour. **1803** NELSON in *Nicolas Disp.* (1845) V. 280, I sincerely hope no weevily bread will be sent. **1859** SALA *Tw. Round Clock* (1861) 365 Men who are sometimes brought to live when on shipboard upon weevily biscuit that breaks the teeth. **1889** MRS. C. PRAED *Romance of Station* 45, I threw out [to the hens] a handful of weevily rice. **1891** C. ROBERTS *Adrift Amer.* 6 Some old salt who has forgotten the tough salt horse and weevilly biscuit.

weevle, *v.* *rare*⁻¹. [? f. WEEVIL sb.] *refl.* To wriggle (oneself) out.

1889 A. T. PASK *Eyes of Thames* 254 The small boy weevles himself out from the boxes.

wee-wee, var. WI-WI².

wee-wee ('wi:wi:), *v. colloq.* [Echoic: freq. as a child's word.] *intr.* To urinate.

1930 C. BEATON *Diary Dec.* in *Wandering Years* (1961) ix. 192 Young men . . . hurried into the garden to wee-wee. **1944** D. WELCH *In Youth is Pleasure* vi. 113 Orvil hated Guy. . . He was glad that the dog had wee-wee'd on Guy's expensive jacket. **1954** D. ABSE *Ash on Young Man's Sleeve* 167, I suddenly rushed into the sea . . . and wee-weed in the water for a joke. **1960** L. PINCUS *Marriage* ii. 110 Mrs. Robinson felt disgusted at the thought of 'the tail' touching her, 'because it wee-wee'd'. **1975** 'J. LYMINGTON' *Spider in Bath* ii. 40 Show us the way to the bar and the lady would probably like to wee-wee.

wee-wee ('wi:wi:), *sb. colloq.* [f. as prec.: cf. PEE-PEE².] **1.** Urine; an act of urination; *to do* (have, etc.) *a wee-wee*, *to go* (make) *wee-wee*, *to urinate*. Cf. WATER sb. 18a.

1937 PARTRIDGE *Dict. Slang* 943/1 *Wee-wee*, a urination; esp. *do a wee-wee* . . . late C. 19–20. **1938** *Life & Health* Sept. 19/2 If he wants to urinate, it's, 'Mommie, wee, wee, duty.' **1948** A. N. KEITH *Three came Home* x. 184 Our barrack . . . smelled of kids, pots, and wee-wee. **1955** J. P. DONLEAVY *Ginger Man* xvi. 175 If you'll excuse me a moment, I must make wee wee. **1961** J. STROUD *Touch & Go* xiii. 138 He made his voice deliberately offensive: 'He's gone to do a wee-wee.' **1969** M. BRAITHWAITE *Never sleep Three in Bed* xvii. 76 Hub and I had to go wee wee, and when advised by Mother that we were to go upstairs instead of in the back yard we took the stairs two at a time to see if such a thing could be true. **1982** J. SCOTT *Uprush of Mayhem* vi. 67 When he needed a wee-wee he did it in a corner of the hut.

2. A penis. **1964** W. & J. BREEDLOVE *Swap Clubs* xv. 233 Our grandmothers, wielding butcher knives, threatened to cut off our fathers' wee-wees if they didn't stop playing with them. **1972** *Screw* 12 June 16/3 [The] self-righteous defender of what he thought to be his threatened wee wee, could not contain his machismo.

weeze: see WEESE.

† **weezel** (also 6 wesell), *erron.* var. of WEEVIL. *a* **1533** BERNERS *Golden Bk. M. Aurel.* (1535) 101 Nor the darnell amonge the corne, nor the wesell amonge the grayn, . . . dothe so muche damage. **1697** DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* I. 268 The Corn devouring Weezel [L. *curculio*] here abides, And the wise Ant her wintry Store provides.

† **'weezle**. *Obs.* Forms: 6 weesel, -zill, 6–7 wesell, -ill, -yll, weesell, -sil(l), weasill, wezill, 7 weazell, wizzel(l), 8 weezle. [First recorded in the 16th c., but perh. repr. an OE. **wāsel*, corresponding to G. dial. *waisel*:—WGer. **waisilo*-, from the same root as WEASAND. Substitution of -el for -en is however possible.]

1. The trachea or windpipe: = WEASAND **2.** **1538** ELYOT *Dict., Curculio*, . . . the wesyll of the throte of a man, wherby he growth wynde. **1579**–**80** NORTH *Plutarch, Demosthenes* (1595) 908 But wise men laughing at his fine excuse, tolde him it was no sinanche that had stopp'd his wesill that night, as he would make them beleuee. ? *a* **1597** PEELE *David & Bethsabe* (1599) Biv, The mastiues of our land, shall werry ye, And pull the weesels from your greedy throtes. **1626** BACON *Sylva* §174 The Weasill or Wind-pipe. **1639** MAYNE *City Match* III. iv, Death you Pander, Forbid the banes or I will cut your wizzle.

b. Comb. **1632** tr. *Bruel's Praxis Med.* 198 Blood . . . if it doe come from the throte, or wezell-pipe . . . it is voyded by hemming. **1647** LILLY *Chr. Astrol.* xlv. 269 The Weesell-pipe of a man's Throat or Lung-pipe. **1726** LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* III. 34 From the Weezle-pipe to the Joynt of the Neck.

2. The epiglottis. **1594** T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 86 The wesell of the throte, which is a little fleshy and spongie bodie, in figure like to a pine-apple, hanging at the end of the palat. **1598**

FLORIO, *Epiglotti*, the couer or wesill of the throte. **1601** HOLLAND *Pliny* xx. ix. II. 51 The ashes of the root being burnt, cure the Vvula or swelling of the wezill in the throat. **1671** H. M. tr. *Erasm. Colloq.* 292 He [a cock] wants . . . such a tongue as we have, nor has he a weesil [L. *nec* (adest) *epiglottis*].

weezon, *obs.* form of WEASAND.

wef, *obs.* form of WEAVE *v.*; var. WEEF, WEFTE.

wefde, **wefed**, var. forms of WEVED, altar.

wefe, var. of WEVE *v.* *Obs.*

wefere, *obs.* form of WEAVER¹.

weff, *obs.* Sc. form of WEAVE *v.*

† **weffe**¹. *Obs.* Forms: 3–4 wef, 4–5 weef(e, 4–6 weffe. [Of obscure etymology; represented later by *weft* WAF¹ sb.¹ 1.]

1. A (foul or unsavoury) scent or odour: = WAF¹ sb.¹ 1 b. Cf. WHIFF sb.¹ 3.

a **1300** *Body & Soul* (Laud MS.) in *Map's Poems* (Camden) 335 And nou3 so lodly thou3 list grenne, fro the comeþ a wikke wef. **13..** *Ibid.* (Vernon MS.) 342 A wikked weef. **13..** *Metr. Hom.* (Vernon MS.) in *Archiv Stud. neu. Sprach.* LVIII. 288 Wondur him pou3t þat of þat bodi [= corpse] wef hedde he nou3t. *c* **1440** *Prompt. Parv.* 520/1 (MS. K.) Wefe, vapor.

2. Flavour, taste; ill-savour: = WAF¹ sb.¹ 1 a. Cf. WHIFF sb.¹ 3 b.

c **1440** *Prompt. Parv.* 520/1 Weef [Winch. MS. Weefe], or summe what semyng to badnesse, inclinacio ad malum. **1530** PALSGR. 287/2 Wefe tast, goust. *Ibid.* 475/1, I can nat awaye with this ale, it hath a weffe: . . . *elle est de mauuays goust.*

† **weffe**². *Obs.*–¹ [? f. WEVE *v.*] A blow or cut. (Cf. WAFF sb. 3.)

13.. *Coe de L.* 5291 He took to hys mace off bras, . . . And gaff hym a sory weffe, That hys helme al to-cleff.

† **weffe**³, earlier form of *weft* WAF¹ sb.¹ 6 (a small flag waved as a signal).

1562 BULLEIN *Bulwarke, Dial. Health & Sicknes* 76 b, Then Ariadne rente from her, her womanly apparell, making a weffe thereof upon the ende of a pole.

waffer, *obs.* form of WAFER, WEAVER.

weffin, *obs.* Sc. pa. pple. of WEAVE *v.*

weffler, var. WHIFFLER¹.

wefforne, *obs.* form of WYVERN.

weft (weft), *sb.*¹ Forms: **1** wefta, weft, wift, **4** wyft, weeft, 4–6 wefte, 4– weft; **6** woft(e, 7–9 *Sc.* woft, waft. [OE. *wefta* wk. masc., *weft* str. masc., ? *wift* fem., corresp. to ON. *veptr* masc., *vipta* fem., weft, MHG. *wift* masc., fine thread; repr. OTeut. types **wefton*-, **wefto*-z, **wefti*-z, f. **web*- to WEAVE.]

1. Weaving. The threads that cross from side to side of a web, at right angles to the warp threads with which they are interlaced: = WOOF **1.**

c **725** *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) D 57 *Deponile* wefta. *a* **1100** *Gerefa in Anglia* IX. 263 He sceal fela tola to tune tilian & fela andlomena to husan habban. . . Fela towtole: flexlinan, spinle, reol, gearnwindan, wifte, weffe, wulcamb, [etc.]. *c* **1100** *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 187/32 *Deponile*, wefta, uel weft. **1382** WYCLIF *Gen.* xiv. 23 A threed of the weeft. *Ibid.* *Exod.* xxxix. 3 He made hem into thredes, that thei mysten be plattid with the weft of the rather colours. **1398** TREVISA *Barth. De P.R.* xviii. xi. (Bodl. MS.), 3if þe wefte is ibroke þei begynnep to amende it. **14..** *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 696/21 *Hec trama*, a wefte. **1570** LEVINS *Manip.* 52 Wefte, woft(e, stamen. *Ibid.* 157 Y^e Woft of a web, subtegmen. **1615** MARKHAM *Eng. Housew.* II. iii. 89 The one they call warpe, the other weft, or els wooffe. **1629** *Orkney Witch Trial in County Folk-Lore* (1903) III. 78 Christiane Reid in Clett cam in ane maid errand, seeking woft to ane wob. **1664** POWER *Exp. Philos.* I. 46 In the Silk Ribbans, you might plainly see the Contexture, how the Warp and the Weft cross one another at right Angles. **1767** STERNE *Tr. Shandy* IX. xxi, She . . . wets it—dries it—then takes her teeth to both warp and weft of it. **1788** PICKEN *Poems Scot. Dial.* 248 Gloss., *Waft*, woof. **1822** SCOTT *Pirate* xxxii, And we have many of foreign knacks Of finer waft than woo' or flax. **1832** HT. MARTINEAU *Manch. Strike* ix. 106 My father used to . . . set my mother to card and spin the raw cotton for the weft. **1860** SMILES *Self Help* II. 34 'Blackburn Greys,' consisting of linen weft and cotton warp. **1867** MORRIS *Jason* xv. 360 And Eradne left The carding of the fine wool for the weft. **1876** ROCK *Text. Fabr.* v. 41 Bagdad or Baldak silks, with a weft of gold, known among us as 'baudekins'.

fig. **1563** *Mirr. Mag., Richard Dk. Glouc.* xx, Of ambicion behold the worke [? read warpe] and weft, Prouoking me to do this haynous treason. *a* **1693** *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xxviii. 237 Wouldst thou . . . untwist all the Threads of the warp and the waft of the weer'd Sister Parques?

b. The strips of cane, palm-leaf, straw, etc. used as the filling, in weaving baskets, mats, etc. Also, the woven fabric.

1845 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* VI. 1. 212 Many workmen thoughtlessly force their feet between the weft or horizontal branches of the hurdle. **1859** C. WILLIAMS *Narr. & Adv. Trav. Africa* xvii. 189 Flags, reeds, and bulrushes . . . are woven . . . into mats . . . and so close is their weft that neither light, nor wind . . . can penetrate it. **1859** *Abridgm. Specif. Patents, Weaving* (1861) 1015 For these purposes wires . . . may be used as the warps of the fabric, and straw or rushes or other materials being the weft. **1875** KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*,

Straw-fabric Loom. A loom for making goods the weft of which is straw.

2. Yarn to be used for the weft-threads.

1795 AIKIN *Country Round Manchester* 233 Employed in spinning cotton wefts for check-makers. **1802** *Bank's Manch. & Salford Directory* 29 Brown, Richard and Co. dealers in twist, weft, &c. **1846** McCULLOCH *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) I. 677 All sorts of wefts, from the lowest to the highest numbers, are now spun by means of this machine. **1898** *Daily News* 16 May 8/5 Tow wefts . . . have been dealt in to a larger extent than for weeks back. **1902** *Times* 29 July 11/3 Doubled wefts are offered at easy prices; single wefts are dull.

3. That which is spun or woven.

1398 TREVISA *Barth De P.R.* XIX. lv. (1495) 896 Certen smalle wormes as it were attercoppes . . . done spyne and weue and make webbes and weftes abowte the hony combs. **1570** LEVINS *Manip.* 52/45 Wefte, woft(e, stamen. **1697** DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* I. 381 Then Weavers stretch your Stays upon the Weft. **1706** PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Weft*, a thing woven; as *A Weft of Hair*. **1799** H. GURNEY *Cupid & Psyche* xx. 44 See those crones that on the left Weave the many-colour'd weft. **1851** MRS. BROWNING *Casa Guidi Wind* II. 122 Let thy weft Be of one woof and warp. **1883** WHITEHEAD *Sophocles, Trachin.* 675 The investiture O' the robe, a weft of wool, fleecy and white.

b. fig. and in figurative context.

c **1400** 26 *Pol. Poems* xxi. 64 In helle is shewed euell-spinnen wyft. *c* **1460** *Towneley Myst.* II. 435 Yey, ill spon weft ay comes foule out. **1719** HAMILTON *Ep. to Ramsay* 24 July v, I'm unco iri, and dirt feart I mak' wrang waft. **1864** SWINBURNE *Atalanta* 738 The weft of the world was untorn That is woven of the day on the night. **1891** 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Sydney-side Sax.* II, I cannot unravel the weft of it. I've made and helped to make a sight of victual in my day, and now [etc.].

4. Transferred uses. † **a.** A film formed over the eye. *Obs.*

1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 29 The ashes of the head of a black Cat . . . put into the eye . . . helps the haw, weft, and web in the eye. *Ibid.* 105 The gall [of the Rock-goat] cureth the weft in the eye.

b. A layer of closely interwoven hyphæ produced in certain fungi; also a 'mat' of hairs on the stem or leaf of a plant.

1875 COOKE *Fungi* II. 26 Certain filaments of the weft of the fungus. **1879** *Academy* 11 Jan. 33/1 The access of . . . injurious insects to the flower is prevented . . . by the dense weft of woolly hairs which covers the stem and leaves. **1887** tr. *De Bary's Fungi* v. 217 The peripheral portion of the delicate hyphal weft . . . takes an active part in the further growth.

c. (See quot.)

1847 HALLIWELL, *Weft*, . . . (5) The ground of a wig.

5. A streak of cloud; a thin layer of smoke or mist. Cf. WAF¹ sb.¹ 2 d, WAIF sb.³

a **1822** SHELLEY *Queen of My Heart* II, And thy beauty more bright Than the stars' soft light, Shall seem as a weft from the sky. **1883** SYMONDS *Ital. Byways* 97 Exceedingly soft and grey, with rose-tinted weft of steam upon its summit, stood Vesuvius above us in the twilight. **1897** MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 187 The mountains . . . opposite were just enough illumined to let one see the wefts and floating veils of blue-white mist upon them.

6. attrib. and Comb., as *weft cop* (COP sb.² 3), *dealer*, *thread*, *warehouse*, *winding*, *yarn*; *weft-finger* (Knitting), the forefinger; *weft fork*, (a) a pronged *weft stopper*; (b) (see quot. 1875); *weft-hook* (see quot.); *weft line*, flax (see LINE sb.¹ 1 b) for the manufacture of weft-thread; *weft (stop) motion*, *stopper*, a device that automatically causes a stoppage of the loom when the weft-thread breaks or fails; *weft-way* (see quot.).

1881 *Weft cop [see TWIST sb.¹ 23]. **1892** *Daily News* 16 July 7/1 There is only a very small demand for twist and weft cops for the home trade. **1802** *Bank's Manch. & Salford Directory* 34 *Weft and twist dealer. **1880** [MRS. FLOYER] *Plain Hints Needlework* 37 The . . . fore, or *weft', finger; the thumb, or 'rest'; the second, or 'position' finger. **1851** in *Abridgm. Specif. Patents, Weaving* (1861) 329 Improvements in the manufacture of *weft forks . . . for looms. **1875** KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Weft-fork*, one used in certain kinds of looms where the filling is laid in, one piece at a time. **1898** *Daily News* 7 Mar. 2/1 As soon as either thread breaks the machine is stopped immediately by the weft forks. **1875** KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Weft-hook*, one for drawing in the filling in the case of slat-weaving looms and some forms of narrow-ware and ribbon looms. **1896** *Daily News* 5 Dec. 9/4 The range of *weft lines continues unchanged at 3s. 1½d. **1863** in *Abridgm. Specif. Patents Weaving* II. (1871) 410 That part of the loom known as the *weft motion' for stopping the loom when the weft breaks. **1878** A. BARLOW *Hist. Weaving* xxiv. 261 The fork and grid *weft stop motion. **1853** in *Abridgm. Specif. Patents Weaving* (1861) 408 An improved *weft stopper for two or more shuttles. **1843** *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 177/1 Into this shed . . . he throws the shuttle containing the *weft-thread. **1802** *Bank's Manch. & Salford Directory* p. iv, Twist, *weft and calico warehouse. **1888** C. P. BROOKS *Cotton Manuf.* 168 *Weft-way, yarn twisted over to the right in spinning. Weft may be either twist-way or weft-way. **1863** B. WOODCROFT *Brief Biogr.* 44 A *weft-winding engine. **1835** URE *Philos. Manuf.* 330 It must be spun into warp-yarn and *weft yarn, each of peculiar grist.

† **weft**, *sb.*² *Obs.* Also 6 waift, wayft, 7–8 waft. Variant or perversion of WAIF sb.¹

1579 *Acts Privy Counc.* (1895) XI. 196 Claiming the ship and goodes as a weft dewe to the lordes of the soile. *Ibid.* 247. **1590** SPENSER *F.Q.* III. xi. 36 The gentle Lady . . . did . . . wander wide At wilde aduenture, like a forlorne weft. **1596** *Ibid.* IV. ii. 4. *Ibid.* IV. xii. 31 For that a waift [i.e. Florimell], the which by fortune came Vpon your seas, he claym'd as propertie. **1591** *Art. conc. Admiralty* 21 July §46 Those, which vpon the high Seas, haue found any . . . Boates

forsaken, or wayfts, driuing, or floating, without any creature in the same. 1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* i. ii. The Lord of the soile ha's al wefts and straies here? 1625 FLETCHER *Elder Brother* iv. iv. You are Lord o' the soile Sir, Lilly is a Weft, a Straie, shee's yours, to use Sir. 1678 DRYDEN *Limberham* v. i. Do you know that I am Lady of the Mannour: and that all Wefts and Strays belong to me? 1680 BUTLER *Characters* (1908) 127 His Belly is provided for... his Back... takes other Courses to maintain itself by weft and stray Silver Spoons, stragling Hoods and Scarfs, [etc.]. c 1680 BEVERIDGE *Serm.* (1729) I. 532 It is as a waft or stray, that belongs only to the head landlord of the world, to whom therefore you must restore it. 1708 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* II. II. xii. 498 The Causes competent to the Admiralty Court of Scotland, are these among others... Wafts, and Strays, and Deodands, and Wrecks. 1838 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) IV. 560 Farther corrections I shall make... for a posthumous edition, in which also I shall embody some wefts and strays.

weft (wɛft), *v.* *rare.* Also *Sc. waft*. [f. WEFT *sb.*¹] *intr.* To form a weft or web; to interlace the weft with the warp. Hence 'wefting' *vbl. sb.*

1785 BURNS *2nd Ep. J. Lapraik* viii. Ne'er mind how Fortune waft an' warp. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 19 Jan. 8/1 The warping, wefting, milling and finishing occupied 3h. 15 min.

weft, *Sc.*, *dial.*, and *Naut.* form of WAF *sb.*¹

weft, *obs. pa. pple.* of WEAVE *v.*

† **'weftage'**¹. *Obs. rare*—¹. [f. *weft* var. WAF *v.*¹ + -AGE.] Conveyance: = WAF *v.*¹

1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 175 The naturall faculty needeth no vehicle or weftage, because it is inbred in euery part.

weftage² ('wɛftɪdʒ). [f. WEFT *sb.*¹ + -AGE.] The arrangement of the threads of a woven fabric. Chiefly *transf.*

1681 GREW *Museum* I. §i. 3 Whereby also the weftage of the fibers..of the Muscles might more easily..be observed. 1746 G. ADAMS *Microgr.* xxxvii. §4. (1747) 203 The Weftage of the Fibres [of wood]. 1901 F. E. TAYLOR *Folk-Sp. S. Lanc.* (E.D.D.), *Weftage*, the texture of woven cloth.

wefted ('wɛftɪd), *a.* [f. WEFT *sb.*¹ + -ED.] Composed of interwoven hyphæ.

1902 *Encycl. Brit.* XXVIII. 554/1 The thallus..is..composed of..cell-filaments, with apical growth (hyphæ), or of more or less complex wefted sheets or tissue-like masses of such (mycelium).

wefty ('wɛftɪ), *a. rare.* [f. WEFT *sb.*¹ + -Y¹.] Of the nature of a weft (of thread, filament, vapour).

1867 W. BARNES *J. Poole's Gloss. Eng. Colony Forth & Bargy, Wexford*, s.v., *Wefty*, webby, cobwebby. 1876 J. W. MARSTON *Dram. & Poet. Wks.* II. 379 There stood a gaunt form pale But regal... His brow Was circled by a wefty coronet.

Wegener¹ ('veɪɡənə(r)). *Geol.* The name of Alfred Wegener (1880–1930), German geophysicist, used in the possessive with reference to the theory of continental drift which he first published in 1912.

1922 *Living Age* 10 June 657 Professor F. E. Weiss... writes in the Manchester Guardian that Professor Wegener's theory 'constitutes a good working hypothesis, and the striking simplicity with which it allows many phenomena to be explained will greatly stimulate further enquiry'. 1926 [see *continental drift* s.v. CONTINENTAL *a.* 1 d]. 1963 *Sci. Amer.* Apr. 90/1 Between 1920 and 1922 Wegener's hypothesis excited great controversy. 1982 *Nature* 23/30 Dec. 681/2 Jeffreys refers with regret to the defection of Sir Arthur Holmes to 'Wegener's theory'.

Hence *Wege'nerian a.*

1960 *Bull. Amer. Assoc. Petroleum Geologists* XLIV. 245 (caption) Early tertiary paleogeography and trans-Atlantic migration route for shelf benthos according to Wegenerian hypothesis of continental drift. 1967 *Oceanogr. & Marine Biol.* V. 340 Some zoologists are inclined to accept the Wegenerian idea that the Atlantic Ocean is indeed young, and of no greater antiquity than the Cretaceous. 1980 *Guardian* 20 Nov. 13/8 Pangea... probably existed for a few hundred million years before it... began to break up to generate Wegenerian drift.

Wegener² ('veɪɡənə(r)). *Path.* [The name of F. Wegener, 20th-century German physician.] *Wegener's granulomatosis*: an often fatal disease characterized by granulomatosis of the respiratory tract and necrotizing blood-vessels.

1948 *Acta Path. & Microbiol. Scandinav.* XXV. 582 Clinically, this case agreed well with the previously described cases of Wegener's granulomatosis. 1957 *Thorax* XII. 57/1 The syndrome has been known as Wegener's granulomatosis since his detailed description of three cases in 1936 and 1939. 1977 *Daily Colonist* (Victoria, B.C.) 4 Dec. 27/6 An autopsy showed that my grandmother died of a very rare disease called Wegener's granulomatosis.

wegg(e), *obs. forms* of WEDGE.

weggebobble ('wɛdʒɪbɒb(ə)l). *nonce-wd.* Humorous alteration of VEGETABLE *sb.*

1922 JOYCE *Ulysses* 163 Coming from the vegetarian. Only weggebobbles and fruit.

wegh, var. WYE *Obs.*, a man; *obs. f.* WEY.

weghe, *obs. form* of WEIGH *v.*

weght, *obs. form* of WEIGHT *sb.*¹ and *sb.*²

wegion, -yon, *obs. ff.* WIDGEON.

wegotism ('wi:ɡɒtɪz(ə)m). [A jocular formation on WE and EGOTISM.] An obtrusive and too frequent use of the first person plural by a speaker or writer.

1797 *Brit. Critic* IX. 424 A more trifling matter of objection is the use of the plural form [we] throughout in speaking of himself... In an individual preacher... it seems a strange desertion of propriety: and if used to avoid egotism, leads to that which... if we did not too much respect etymology, we might jocularly style *Wegotism*. 1811 MISS L. M. HAWKINS *C'tess & Gertr.* I. Introd., We may have blended *wegotism* and *egotism*; but Cæsar writes 'dixeram' and 'scripsimus'. 1881 H. J. JENNINGS *Curios. Crit.* 156 What has been called the 'wegotism' of the press.

wehee (wi'hɪr), *int.* and *sb. Obs. exc. dial.* Forms: a. 4, 6 wehe (4 wey), 4 wehee, 6-7 weehee, 7 wehie, weahae; 9 *Sc.* wehaw. *be.* 4 whi (? wihi), 6 wyhie, wigh-hie, 6-7 wihi, 7 wihee (whhi-hhee), 7-9 *dial.* wighee. [Echoic.]

A. *int.* A conventional representation of the sound uttered by horses.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* VIII. 75 (MS. T.) As wilde bestis wip wehe worp vp togedere. c 1386 CHAUCER *Reeve's T.* 146 Whan the hors was laus, he gyneth gon Toward the fen, ther wilde Mares renne Forth with wehee [v.r. wehe]. c 1520 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 477 And Annot wolde be nyce, and laughes, 'tehe, wehe'. 1567 *Trial of Treasure* Eijj, We, he, he, he, he, were the horse heles I saye. 1594 LYL Y *Mother Bombe* iv. ii. 194 Hee neither would cry wyhie, nor wag the taile. 1603 DEKKER *Patient Grissill* 567 So they can crie wighee and hollow, kicking iade. 1606 CHAPMAN *Gentl. Usher* i. i. 30 One cannot crie 'wehie', but straight shew [your Barbarie mare] cries 'tihi'. 1654 [see TEE-HEE *int.*]. c 1690 ROXB. *Ballads* (1890) VII. 56 The Tapster bid them welcome then, and wea-hae did cry.

b. Used to a horse.

1821 MACTAGGART *Gallov. Encycl.* 472 *Wehaw!* a cry which displeases horses. 1847 HALLIWELL, *Wighee*, an exclamation to horses.

B. *sb.* An utterance of this sound; a whinny or neigh.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* IV. 21 3it wol he make moni a whi [v.r. many (a) wehe, wey] er he come pere. c 1589 *Whip for Ape* 26 in *Lyly's Wks.* (1902) III. 418 Such hahaes, teehees, weehees, wild colts play. 1592 *Def. Conny-Catching* in *Greene's Wks.* (Grosart) XI. 59 The olde Churle comming an hower before Supper time... for an amorous wehe or two, as olde Jades wyynie when they cannot wagge the taile. 1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* II. i. There's ne're a Gentleman i' the country has the like humors for the Hobby-horse as I haue? I haue the Methode for the threeding of the needle... and the wigh-hie, and the daggers in the Nose... all the Humors incident to the qualitie. 1618 FLETCHER *Women pleas'd* iv. i. His [the hobby-horse's] lewd wihies. 1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* To Rdr., Rosinante looks for your Tih-hee, and you shall have his Whhi-hhee. 1673 *Char. Coffee-House* 6 To... make an Oration to Caligula's Horse, whence you can only expect a weehee or Jadish spurn.

† **wehee**, *v. Obs.* Forms: 6-7 wighy, 7 wighie, wihy, wyhee, weyhey. [f. *prec.*] *intr.* To neigh or whinny, as a horse does.

1599 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* III. (1602) F2, Tis an old horse can neither wighy, nor wagge his taile. 1606 — *Parasit.* IV. G 1 b, Al that can wyhee or wag the taile, are vpon grievous paines of their backe summond to be assistant in that Session of loue. 1615 [HOBV] *Curry-Combe* for *Coxe-Combe* iv. 156 'Tis an ill Horse that can neyther wey-hey, nor wagge his taile. 1618 BRETON *Courtier & Countryman* (Grosart) 8/2 The young Colts wighie at their parting with their Fillies. 1668 DAVENANT *Rivals* III. 36 Tho' lightly on the hobby-horse and dancers, He learns to Wighy, and the rest to prance—Sirs. 1847 HALLIWELL, *Wehee*, *Wihie*.

wehl, *obs. form* of WAIL *v.*¹

|| **Wehmut** ('veɪmʊt). [Ger.] Sadness, melancholy, wistfulness, nostalgia.

1907 M. A. VON ANRIM *Fräulein Schmidt & Mr. Anstruther* xlii. 130 What I feel when I listen to music is chiefly *Wehmut*, and I don't think much of *Wehmut*... It is a forlorn thing, made up mostly of vague ingredients—vague yearnings, vague regrets, vague dissatisfactions. 1920 D. H. LAWRENCE *Let.* in C. Mackenzie *My Life & Times* (1966) V. 170, I get a sort of *Wehmut*. Quoi faire! 1933 J. HILTON *Lost Horizon* 20 A sort of universal sadness, something remote or impersonal, a *Wehmut* or *Weltschmerz*, or whatever the Germans call it.

wehrgeld, -gelt: see WERGELD.

wehrlite ('veəlɪt, 'wɜ:lɪt). [f. the name of Adolf Wehrle (1795–1835), Austrian Councillor of Mines: see -ITE¹.] 1. *Petrogr.* [ad. G. *wehrlit* (F. von Kobell *Grundzüge d. Mineral.* (1838) iii. 313.) A peridotite mainly consisting of olivine and monoclinic pyroxene with common accessory opaque oxides.

1861 H. W. BRISTOW *Gloss. Mineral.* 404/1 *Wehrlite*, the name given by von Kobell to a massive granular mineral, which is probably a variety of *Lievrite*. 1913 J. P. IDINGS *Igneous Rocks* II. i. vi. 316 *Wehrlite* is closely associated with olivine-gabbro, into which it grades with increasing feldspar. 1979 *Nature* 7 June 489/2 The cumulate peridotites are recognised in thin sections which show serpentinised wehrlite with 50% clinopyroxene.

2. *Min.* [a. F. *wehrlite* (J. J. N. Huot *Nouveau Man. complet de Minéral.* (1841) I. 188).] A native rhombohedral alloy of bismuth and tellurium occurring as tin-white to steel-grey foliated masses.

1874 *Amer. J. Sci.* CVIII. 259 The following minerals are positive (+), or negative (–), in contact with copper:.. Wehrlite Bi₂(TeS)₄ +. 1931 *Chem. Abstr.* XXV. 1762 Eleven Te minerals are found in Hungary... Tetradymite, .. wehrlite... and stützite are described. 1972 *Doklady Earth Sci.* CC. 167/1 *Wehrlite* is a sulfur-free bismuth telluride whose composition and position in the classification of minerals are interpreted differently by various authors. *Wehrlite* was first described at the Deutsch Pilsen deposit, Hungary.

|| **Wehrmacht** ('ve:rməxt). Now *Hist.* [Ger., lit. 'defence force'.] The name used for the German armed forces between 1921 and 1945. Also *attrib.*

1935 in *Documents on German Foreign Policy* (1959) III. 1008 Ranks and badges of rank of the members of the Reich Air Ministry... will assume a military character and resemble those of the Wehrmacht. 1945 *Daily Mirror* 8 May 3/2 The Wehrmacht commander announced that he did not recognise what he described as the 'armistice'. 1945 'G. ORWELL' in *Tribune* 9 Nov. 10/3 He... attempted to pass himself off as an ordinary soldier of the Wehrmacht. 1959 M. CROSLAND tr. *J. Rovani's Germany* 176 Young Germans... begin travelling around the country armed with a stewpan and an old Wehrmacht kitbag. 1965 *English Studies* XLVI. 226 The Wehrmacht mentality is plain, the terrible joyous uplift in the fact of killing, the terrible satisfaction to be extracted from a sense of the irresistible. 1978 L. HEREN *Growing up on The Times* vii. 257 Of all the armies which fought in the second world war, the *Wehrmacht* was undoubtedly the best, perhaps the best in history.

wehrwolf: see WERWOLF.

wehte, *pa. t.* of WECHE *v. Obs.*

wehy, var. WYE *Obs.*, a man.

Wei (wei). The name of a Chinese dynasty, esp. one of the partial dynasties ruling (in the north of China) from the mid-4th to the mid-6th cent. A.D. Also used *attrib.* and *absol.* to designate works of art, esp. sculpture and pottery, produced in the period.

1894 G. N. CURZON *Probl. Far East* viii. 276 The Inner Wall is attributed to the Wei dynasty in A.D. 542. 1913 R. FRY *Let.* 31 May (1972) II. 368 I've just seen a show in Paris full of the most amazing things; among them the finest Wei Dynasty statues from somewhere away in the west of China. 1952 WATSON-GANDY & GORDON tr. *Grousset's Rise & Splendour Chinese Empire* xv. 111 Their dynasty was called Wei (often referred to as T'o-pa Wei to distinguish it from the Three Kingdoms Wei). *Ibid.* 114 Wei sculpture has been called the Far Eastern equivalent of the Romanesque and Gothic sculptures which developed six and eight centuries later in Europe. 1960 C. WINICK *Dict. Anthropol.* 556/1 *Wei*,... unglazed pottery often decorated with pigment and tomb figures of the Wei dynasty in China, A.D. 368–557. 1982 M. YOUNG *Elmhurst of Dartington* viii. 196 Ancient Chinese pots of the Han, Wei, Tang and Sung dynasties.

wei, *obs. f.* WAY, WEIGH, WEY, WHEY, WOE.

weibullite ('vaɪbʊlɪt). *Min.* [ad. Sw. *weibullit* (G. Flink 1910, in *Ark. f. Kemi, Mineral. och Geol.* III. xxxv. 4), f. the name of K. O. M. Weibull (1856–1923), Swedish mineralogist: see -ITE¹.] A mineral containing lead, bismuth, selenium, and sulphur and occurring as grey crystals at Falun, Sweden; now regarded as an orthorhombic species but for long of uncertain status.

1913 *Mineral. Mag.* XVI. 375 *Weibullite*... This mineral, from Falun, Sweden, was described by M. Weibull in 1885 as a seleniferous variety of galenobismutite. 1980 *Amer. Mineralogist* LXV. 789 Studies of specimens from Falun, Sweden, reported to contain the two minerals weibullite and wittite have established at least three selenium-rich bismuth-lead sulphosalts of similar chemistry. A nomenclature is proposed in which two of the minerals retain the old names weibullite and wittite, while the third is given the new name nordströmite.

|| **wei ch'i** (wei tʃi:). Also *wei chi*. [Chinese *wéiqí*, f. *wei* to surround + *qí* chess.] A traditional Chinese board game of territorial possession, equivalent to GO *sb.*²

1871 *J. North-China Branch R. Asiatic Soc.* VI. 107 The chessman of the *wei ch'i*... are generally not made of ivory, but of stone or a glassy substance. 1892 *Ibid.* XXVI. 80 *Wei-ch'i* is considered *par excellence* the game of the literary class, while Chess is the favourite diversion of military men. 1911 H. F. CHESHIRE *Handbk. Goh or Wei Chi* 148 To the cultured classes... 'Wei Chi',... was, and is an almost essential part of their life. 1917 *Encycl. Sinica* 594/1 *Wei ch'i*, *surrounding chess*, often called chess by foreigners... The square board on which it is played is divided by eighteen lines each way, making 324 squares. The play... is at the points where the lines cut or meet. 1969 R. C. BELL *Board & Table Games* II. iii. 59 The eighteenth-century Chinese painting on glass reproduced as the frontispiece, shows two ladies playing *Wei-ch'i* on an antique form of board of 13 × 11 squares. 1976 *New Yorker* 26 Jan. 23/2 The pattern recalls the Chinese game of *wei-ch'i* (known here by its Japanese name, *go*), in which a player captures his opponent's counters by surrounding them with his own.

Weichsel ('vaɪksəl). *Geol.* The German form of the name of the river Vistula in Poland, used *attrib.* and *absol.* to designate the fourth and final Pleistocene glaciation in northern Europe,

corresponding to the Würm glaciation of the Alps. Hence **Weich'selian** *a.* (also *absol.*).

1934 R. A. DALY *Changing World of Ice Age* i. 29 Recently four Glacial stages have been traced in Germany. Figure 19 shows the nested moraines of three, named in order of decreasing age, Elster, Saale, and Weichsel. **1968** EMBLETON & KING *Glacial & Periglacial Geomorphol.* 10 The links with North America, apart from the correlation of the Wisconsin with the Würm/Weichselian, are more tenuous. **1969** BENNISON & WRIGHT *Geol. Hist. Brit. Isles* xvi. 361 After the early Weichselian glaciation the climate varied considerably. **1974** *Encycl. Brit. Micropædia* X. 598/3 The Weichsel Glacial Stage has been divided into at least two main cold phases, . . . separated from each other by a period of more moderate climatic conditions, an interstadial. **1979** *Jrnl. Arid Environments* II. 293 Five successive units of time, respectively the Palaeozoic, the Mesozoic, the Tertiary, the Quaternary, and the late Weichselian and Flandrian.

weid(e): see **WEED** *sb.*¹, *sb.*², *v.*¹, **WEDE** *v.*, **WIDE** *adv.*

weidenagemoot, obs. form of **WITENAGEMOT**.

weido, obs. Sc. form of **WIDOW**.

weie, obs. form of **WAY**, **WEIGH**, *v.*, **WEY**, **WYE**.

Weierstrassian (waɪə'strɑːʃən), *a.* *Math.* [f. name of Karl W. *Weierstrass* (1815-97), an eminent German mathematician + -(I)AN.] Pertaining to or invented by *Weierstrass*, esp. *Weierstrassian function*.

1878 CAYLEY *Math. Papers* (1896) X. 434 We have thus in all 21 equations which exhibit the form of the *Weierstrassian* functions al (*u, v, w*)₁₂, . . . , al (*u, v, w*)₆₇. **1884** DANIELS in *Amer. Jrnl. Math.* VI. 256 The *Weierstrassian* proof of this . . . is as follows. **1901** OSGOOD in *Ann. Math. Ser. II.* II. 122 The *Weierstrassian* function **℘**.

weiete, obs. form of **WET** *a.*

weif(f), obs. Sc. forms of **WEAVE** *v.*¹

weife, obs. form of **WIFE**.

|| **Weigela, Weigelia** (waɪ'dʒiːlə, -'dʒiːliə). *Bot.* [mod.L., f. name of C. E. *Weigel*, a German physician (1748-1831).] A genus of caprifoliaceous shrubs from China and Japan cultivated for its flowers, now commonly merged in *Diervilla*; a plant of this genus.

1846 *Jrnl. Horticultural Soc.* I. 66 A *Weigela*. . . from the North of China. **1851** GLENNY *Handbk. Fl. Garden* (1855) 401 *Weigela*. Very handsome hardy deciduous shrubs, adapted for planting against ornamental walls. **1875** W. CORY *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1897) 384 *Weigelia* is out in glory. **1882** *Garden* 18 Mar. 184/2 All the *Weigelas* delight in a good, free soil.

† **Weigelian**, *sb.* and *a.* *Obs.* [f. the proper name *Weigel* (see below) + IAN.] *A. sb.* A follower or adherent of the German mystic Valentin Weigel (1533-88). *B. adj.* Of or pertaining to Weigel, his opinions or followers. **1657** BAXTER *Present Th.* 4 The persons holding this third Opinion are the Paracelsians (under whom I comprehend the Weigelians and the rest of the Enthusiasts). **1676** W. HUBBARD *Happin. People* 28 No man, unless a Weigelian Sceptick, ever did account Moses less fit to be a Leader unto Israel because he was learned in all the wisdoms of the Egyptians.

weigh (wei), *sb.*¹ Forms: 1 *wæȝ*(e, *wēȝ*, 2 *wæize*, 3 *weie*, 4 *waye*, *weih*, *weȝe*, 4-5 *weigh*(e, 5, 9 *wee*, 5-7, 9 *dial.* *wey*, 6 *wye*, 7-9 *way*, 9 *dial.* *weigh*. [OE. *wæȝ* str. fem., *wæȝe* wk. fem. (both meaning 'balance' and 'weight'; see **WEY**), corresp. to OS. *wāga* (MLG. *wāge*, MDu. *wāghe*, Du. *waag*; see **WAW** *sb.*²), OHG. *wāga* (MHG. *wāge*, mod.G. *wage*), ON. *vág*, (Sw. *våg*, Da. *vaag*):—OTeut. **wāgō-*, -*ōn-*, f. **wāg-*(: **weg-*: **wag-*): see **WEIGH** *v.*]

† 1. *A weight. Obs.* (For the word as the name of a particular denomination of weight, see **WEY**.)

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* xxxii. (Z.) 58 *Pondus*, byrðen oððe *wæȝ* [v.r. *wæȝ*]. **c 1200** *Vices & Virtues* 11 Godd us for-bett ðat we ne sculen habbe twifeald *wæize* ne twifeald imett.

2. A balance, pair of scales.

† *a. sing. Obs.*

a 1050 *Liber Scintill.* xxiv. (1889) 97 Wordu soðlice snotera on *wæȝe* beoð *awegene* [Eclaus. xxi. 28 *statera ponderantur*]. **a 1225** *Ancr. R.* 60 Auh seint Austin deð þeos two boðe in one *weie*, wilnes, & hæbe wille uorte beon iwilned. **1340** *Ayenb.* 255 þe wordes of þe wyse byep y-weȝe ine þe *weye*. **c 1350** *Will. Palerne* 947 þou waltres al in a *weih* & wel y vnderstande whider þe belauance bremliet bouwes al-gate. **1382** *Wyclif Prov.* xi. 1 A treccerous *weȝe* [Vulg. *statera*] abominacioun is anent God. **a 1450** *Mirk's Festial* 221 Then come thylike brennet dekon, and layde a grete pot on þe *wey* þe wech anon *weyt* vp al togedyr.

b. plural (sometimes construed as *sing.*). *Obs.* exc. *dial.* † Also, the zodiacal constellation *Libra*.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* lxi. 10 *Mendaces filii hominum in stateris*, lease bearn monna in *wegum*. **c 1100** *Gloss.* in *Wr.* Wülcker 148/16 *Trutina*, *wæga*. **1340** *HAMPOLE Ps.* lxi. 9 Leighers in *weighes*, that is, on the *weighes* of rightwisnes. **c 1400** tr. *Secreta Secret.*, Gov. *Lordsh.* 74 Heruest bygynnes whenne þe sonne entryn þe first degree of þe tokenynge of *weighes*. **c 1425** *WYNTOUN Cron.* v. iv. 693 Pap Siluestir gert

þaim be layide In til a *weyis*. **1480-1** *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 97, j par *Weez* lign. cum *ponderibus*. **1533** *Extracts Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 451 Ane pair of woll *weyiss*, ane pair of ballendis of brass. **1552** *LYNDESAY Monarchie* 2286 Sanct Mychaell, with his wyngis and *weyis*. **1573** *Extracts Aberd. Reg.* (1848) II. 10 A pair of *weyis* witht baikis, pryce xl. d. **1578** *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 282 The kitchinge. . . A pair *wyes* and *wyghts*, iis. vjd. **c 1587** *MONTGOMERIE Sonn.* xviii. 11 Hald evin the *Weyis*. **1609** *SKENE Reg. Maj.*, *Burrow Lawes* c. 125 §3 The heire. . . sall haue. . . ane *faill*, the *weyes* [L. *stateram*], with the *wechts*, [etc.]. **1808** *JAMIESON, Weyes, Weyis*, a balance with scales for weighing. **1825** *Ibid.*, *Weyes, Wees*.

c. Sc. (See *quot.*)

1886 J. BARROWMAN *Sc. Mining Terms* 72 *Weighs*, a weigh-bridge; a waggon-weighing machine.

3. A pole borne on the shoulders of two men, for carrying a water-vessel. ? *Obs.* Also *wey and bodkins* (*dial.*): see *quot.*

1688 *HOLME Armoury* III. xiv. (Roxb.) 11/2 A Runge or Soe: which is a kind of vessell that Tanners, Glouers, and Beere-brewers use to carry Water in, being borne on a Way or pole betwene two men. **1844** W. BARNES *Poems Rural Life* Gloss. 368 *Wey an' bodkins*, a set of spreaders for hitching two horses to the same part of a sull or harrow. The first, the *Wey*, is fastened at its middle to the plough or harrow by a *cops*. . . and the *bodkins* are connected by a crook on their middle to *clipses* on the two ends of the *wey*.

weigh, *sb.*² In *under weigh*, a common var. of *under way*, from erroneous association with the phr. 'to weigh anchor'. See **WAY** *sb.*¹ 38.

1777 E. DRAPER *Lett.* 25 Aug. in *N. & Q.* (1944) 15 July 28/1, I can assure you on the authority of Mr. Sullivan, that he saw him underweigh in the Bessborough and for the East Indies several Weeks ago. **1785** *CUMBERLAND Observer* xii. [ix.] ¶7 This perverse wind has at last. . . come about to the east, so that we are all in high spirits getting under weigh. **1796** *Hist. Ned Evans* I. 182 Mr. Evans stood upon the beach till the packet got under weigh. **1840** R. H. *DANA Bef. Mast* xxiii, She got under weigh with very little fuss, and came so near us as to throw a letter on board. **1841** *CATLIN N. Amer. Ind.* xxxii. (1844) II. 2, I embarked. . . and was glad to get underweigh. **1855** F. C. ARMSTRONG *Warhawk* I. xii. 258 The following morning he embarked with his attendant, O'Regan, on board The Royal Anne, which got under weigh shortly after.

weigh (wei), *v.*¹ *Pa. t.* and *pa. pple.* *weighed* (*weid*). Forms: 1 *wegan* (3rd *sing.* *wigeð*, *wihð*; *wegedð*, *wehð*), 2-4 *weȝe* (3 3rd *sing.* *weihð*), 3-4 *weȝe*, *weȝe*, 4 *weghe*, 6 *weygh*(e, *weygh*, 6-7 *weighe*, *waigh*(e, 6- *weigh*; 2-6 *weie*, 3-7 *weye* (5 *wheyhe*, 5-7 *Sc. veye*), 4-7 (9 *Sc.*) *wey* (5-7 *Sc. vey*); 4-7 *waie*, 5-7 *waye* (5 *whaye*), *way*, 6-7 *wey*; 5-6 *north.* and *Sc. wye* (5 *whye*), 7 *Sc. wie*; 5 *whe*, 6 *Sc. we-*, *ve-*, 9 *Sc. wee*. *Pa. t. a.* 1 *wæȝ*, *pl. wæȝon*, 3 *way*, *pl. weȝe*, 4 *weȝ*, *wey*, *weȝ*(e, *weygh*, *wayȝ*, *weghe*, *weie*, (? *woghe*). *β.* 3-4 *weide* (3 *pl. weiden*), 3-5 *weiede*, 4 *we(y)ȝed*(e, etc., 4-7 *weied*, *weyed*, 6-7 *wayed*, *waied*, *waighed*, etc., 6- *weighed*. *Pa. pple. a.* 1 *wegēn*, 2-3 *iwæȝen*, 4 *yweȝe*, *weyen*, (i-), (y) *wey*(e, (i) *weie*; 5 *wawyn*, *wowyn*, *wowne*. *β.* 4 *yweid*, (i) *weied*, *weȝed*, 4-7 *weyed*, 5 *weiede*, 5-6 *weyd*, 6 *wei*(e)d, *wayed*, *wayd*(e, etc., 7- *weighed*. [A Com. Teut. strong verb: OE. *wegan* (*wæȝ*, *wæȝon*, *wegēn*) corresponds to OFris. *wega*, *weia* to move, weigh, OSax. *wegan* to weigh, (M)Du. *wegen* to weigh, OHG. *wegan* to move, shake, weigh (MHG. *wegen*; mod.G. has *bewegen* to move, while the simple verb is represented by the two verbs *wägen* trans., to weigh, *wiegen* intr., to weigh, be of a certain weight), ON. *vega* to lift, weigh (Sw. *våga*, Da. *veie*, to weigh), Goth. *ga-wigan* (only Luke vi. 38 in *pa. pple.* fem. *gawigana* shaken). The Teut. root **weg-*, **wag-*, **wæȝ-* (for words representing the several grades see **WAY** *sb.*; **WAG** *v.*, **WAGON**, **WAIN**, **WAW** *sb.*¹ and *v.*¹; **WEIGH** *sb.*¹, **WEY**) is:—Indogermanic **wegh-*, **wogh-*, **wēgh-*, found in Skr. *vah*, L. *vehēre* to carry, Gr. *φοχος*, *ὄχος* vehicle.

The remarkably early appearance of the weak conjugation was prob. due to confusion with **WEIGH** *v.*²; the two OE. verbs *wegan* and *wegcan* coincided in the form *wegedð* of the 3rd *sing. pres.* (though the former verb had also the more normal *wigeðð*). The strong inflexion of the *pa. t.* died out in the 14th century, and that of the *pa. pple.* in the 15th.]

1. To bear, carry, hold up; to heave up, lift.

† 1. *trans.* To bear from one place to another; to carry, transport. *Obs.*

In *quots.* 13. . . ? To carry round and serve (wine). *Beowulf* 1207 He þa frætwæ *wæȝ*. . . ofer yða ful. **c 1000** *Narratiuncula* (1861) 9 Micel mænigeo elpenda þa þe gold *wæȝon* & læddon. 13. . . *E.E. Allit.* P. B. 1420 So faste þa *weyed* to him wyne, hit warmed his hert. *Ibid.* 1508 *Weȝe* wyn in pis won, wassayl, he cries. 13. . . *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1403 *Wyȝeȝ* þe walle wyn *weȝed* to hem oft.

† 2. To bear (arms); to wear (a robe, etc.). *Obs.*

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past.* C. xiii. 77 On ðæm selfan hræȝle, ðe he on his breostum *wæȝ*, **c 900** *Bæda's Hist* II. ix. (1890) 123 Hæfde he & *wæȝ* mid hine twieȝce handseax ȝættred. **c 1205** *LAY.* 24471 Heo *weȝe* on heore honde feowwer sword of golde. *Ibid.* 26279 Ælc *weiede* an sculdre seold swiðe godne. **c 1250** *Owl & Night.* 1022 (Cott.) He miste bet teche ane bore To *weȝe* [yes. bere] boþe sheld & spere.

† 3. With *up*: To hold up, support. *Obs.*

c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 49 He ðe *weȝȝ* upp mid his fingre heuene and ierðe.

4. † *a.* With *up*: To hoist, to lift up. *Obs.*

1421-2 *HOCLEVE Dialogue* 402 Right as a thief þat hath eschapid ones The roop, no drede hath eft his art to vse, Til þat the trees him *weye* vp, body and bones. **1563-83** *FOXE A. & M.* 1472/2 They tooke the sayd Roode and weyed hym vppe and set him in his olde accustomed place. **1669** *WORLIDGE Syst. Agric.* viii. §1. 132 With which Tongs you may Beclip the [Hop-] Pole at the bottom, and resting the joyn thereof on a block of wood, you may weigh up the Pole.

† *b. fig.* To raise up, exalt. *Obs.*

c 1586 C'TESS *PEMBROKE Ps.* cvii. xiv, [God] from want the poore doth waigh.

c. Naut. To set up (a mast).

1841 *DANA Seaman's Man.* 134 *Weigh*, to lift up; as, to weigh an anchor or a mast.

5. *a. Naut.* To heave up (a ship's anchor) from the ground, before sailing. Now usually to *weigh anchor* (without art.). † Formerly also with *up*, in.

13. . . *E.E. Allit.* P. C. 103 Cables pay fasten, Wȝȝt at þe wyndas weȝen her ankres. ? **a 1400** *Morte Arth.* 740 Wyghtly one þe wale thay wye up þaire ankres. **1492** *Acta Dom. Concil.* (1839) 245/1 Compelling of þe saidis Wegeantis seruitouris to wey þer ankris. **1509** *BARCLAY Shyp of Folys* (1874) I. 108 Come to our shyp our ankres ar in wayde. **c 1515** *Cocke Lorell's B.* (Percy Soc.) 14 Than *Cocke* wayed anker, and housed his sayle. **a 1548** *HALL Chron., Hen. V* 44 b, When the wynde was prosperous. . . they waied up the Ankres. **1556** W. TOWNSON in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 101 We wayed our Grapnel and went away. **1628** *DIGBY Voy. Mediterr.* (1868) 19, I weighed anchor and sett sayle. **1632** *LITHGOW Trav.* II. 45 The windes fauouring vs, we weighed Ankors. **1653** *HOLCROFT Procopius, Gothick Wars* I. 11 Constantianus wayed Anchor from Epidaurus. **1720** *DE FOE Capt. Singleton* x. (1840) 173 We weighed anchor the same tide, and stood out to sea. **1814** *SCOTT Ld. of Isles* III. iv, Cormac Doil. . . Hoisted his sail, his anchor weigh'd. **1835** *SIR J. ROSS Narr. 2nd Voy.* v. 77 We immediately weighed anchor.

b. fig.

1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 17, I will streight *weie* anker, and hoise vp sayle. **1633** *MASSINGER Guardian* Prol., Our Author weighs up anchors, and once more Forsaking the security of the shore, Resolves to prove his fortune. **1650** R. STAPYLTON *Strada's Low C. Wars* II. 36 As often as this sacred Anchor [of Religion] is weighed, so often the Ship of the Common-Wealth is tossed. **1882** *Century Mag.* Sept. 707/2 He for whom the sexton has tolled the bell has 'weighed anchor'.

c. absol. = to weigh anchor. Hence, to sail (from, out of a port, etc.).

1513 *SIR E. HOWARD in Ellis Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. I. 215 We coud ryd no lenger ther without gret danger. . . we yed to get us in to the Downes. **1549** *Compl. Scot.* vi. 40 The maister. . . bald the marynalis lay the cabil to the cabilstok, to veynde and veye. **1556** W. TOWNSON in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 101 We wayed and set saile. **1613** J. SARIS *Voy. Japan* (Hakl. Soc.) I The 14th in the morning we wayed out of the roade of Bantam for Japan. **a 1647** *PETTE in Archaeologia* XII. 226 On Wednesday. . . we weighed from Limehouse, and anchored right against the Tower. **1748** *Anson's Voy.* I. iv. (ed. 4) 47 On the 3d of November we weighed from Madera. **1808** *WELLINGTON in Gurw. Desp.* IV. 193, I found about 60 of the convoy had lost their anchors in attempting to weigh. **1867** *Pall Mall Gaz.* 19 July 9/1 It would have been necessary for each ship to weigh singly, which would have occupied fifteen minutes each. **1893** H. M. DOUGHTY *Wherry in Wendish Lands* 20 In the morning we weighed early.

6. *a.* To raise (a sunk ship, gun, etc.) from the bottom of the water. Also with *up*.

a. **a 1500** in *Arnolde's Chron.* (1811) 133 After tyme she was weyed and toued to the haunyn at Caleis. **a 1548** *HALL Chron., Hen. VIII* 26 Leuyng the gonne (because the master carpenter sayde y^t he woulde shortly way it out of the water). **1578** W. BOURNE *Treas. Trav.* IV. viii. 17 Then it will waygh or lyfte the sunken Shyppe from the bottome. **1669** *STURMY Mariner's Mag.* v. xii. 81 Rules to weigh Ships, or Guns, or any thing else in the Water. **1726** *SHELVOCKE Voy. round World* 239 [The diver] could find but one small gun, which he weigh'd and brought ashore. **1777** J. PUTNAM in *Sparks Corr. Amer. Rev.* (1853) II. 540 Should the enemy succeed in weighing the chevaux-de-frise, and proceed up the river. **1783** *COWPER Lett. to J. Hill* 20 Oct., I must beg leave, however. . . to mourn. . . that the Royal George cannot be weighed.

b. **1545** *DK. SUFFOLK in Hooker Life Sir P. Carew* (1857) 129, I trust by Monday or Twisday. . . the Mary Rose shalbe wayed upp and saved. **1598** W. PHILLIP tr. *Linschoten* I. xcix. 194/2 The Reuenge had in her diuers faire brasse peeces, that were all sunke in the sea, which they of the Island were in good hope to waigh vp againe. **1643** *BAKER Chron., Hen. VIII.* 7 A great Gunne. . . was overthrowne in a deep Pond of water; . . the Master Carpenter taking with him a hundred labourers, went and weyed it up. **a 1700** *EVELYN Diary* 6 June 1687, A vast treasure, which was sunk in a Spanish galloon. . . was now weigh'd up by some gentlemen. **1735** S. GALE in *Archaeologia* I. 189 *note*, One of these stakes, entire, was actually weighed up between two loaded barges at the time of a great flood. **1760** S. DERRICK *Lett.* (1767) I. 16 She being effectually sucked in by the heavy sandy bottom, all attempts to weigh her up have been ineffectual. **1782** *COWPER Loss of Royal George* 25 *Weigh* the vessel up. . . ; Her timbers yet are sound, And she may float again. **1815** *Local Act 55 Geo. III* c. lv. §73 If any Boat. . . shall be sunk in any Part of the said Canal, . . and the Owner . . . shall not, without loss of Time, weigh or draw up the same.

† *b. intr.* for *refl.* To be raised up; to admit of being raised. *Obs.*

1655 W. HAMMOND *On death of Brother* (No. 2) Only this difference, that sunk downward, this *Weigh'd* up to bliss. **1669** *STURMY Mariner's Mag.* v. xii. 81 If the thing sunk be upon Sands or Rocks, it will weigh the better.

II. To balance in the scales; to ascertain the weight of; to consider or compare in this respect.

7. a. trans. To ascertain the exact heaviness of (an object or substance) by balancing it in a pair of scales, or on a steelyard, against a counterpoise of known amount.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* xiii. 84 Ælc þæra ðinga, þe man wiðð on wægan. c 1000 Sax. *Leechd.* I. 374 ðenim geoluwne stan & salt stan & pipor & weh on wæge. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 213 Gif hit chepinge be, þe me shule meten oðer weien. c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 17 He wile hes habben wel imotet and bi rihte wæize wel iwæize. 1340 *Ayenb.* 44 Huanne þo pet zelleþ be wyzte purchaceþ and makeþ zuo moche pet pet ping pet me ssel weze sseweþ more heuy. 1382 WYCLIF 2 *Sam.* xiv. 26 He weiede [1388 weijeide] the heiris of his heed with two hundred siclis be the comoun weigt. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. x. 273 When . . . þe woolle worth weye, woo ys þe penne. c 1400 *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 356 þe kynges by whas wyzte hit be yweye. c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 533/1 Wowyn, or weyyd, ponderatus, libratu. 1469 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 21 The wright stone that the wooll was weyed with. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* iv. i. 255 Are there ballance heere to weigh the flesh? 1613 J. SARIS *Voy. Japan* (Hakl. Soc.) 42 A Beame to waye spice with. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 98 They weigh the cheese when it is set on Table, and taken away, being paid by the weight. 1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 28 ¶ Engines should be fixed in proper places to weigh chairs as they weigh waggons. 1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. 179 We have weighed it green, that is, just after mowing, against all the other pasture grasses, and it out-weighs them all. 1827 FARADAY *Chem. Manip.* xv. (1842) 387 A graduated transfer jar containing the gas to be weighed. 1863 MISS BRADDON *Aurora Floyd* xiii, While the numbers were going up, and jockeys being weighed. 1894 SIR J. ASTLEY *Fifty Yrs. Life* II. 212 When we weighed their riders after the morning's work, we found that Peter was giving Foxhall two stone and a half.

b. absol.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. v. 118 Furst I leornede to lyze a lessun or tweyne, And wikkedliche for to weie was myn oper lessun. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 122 Libra . . . hath figure and resemblance Unto a man which a balance Berth in his hond as forto weie. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* III. vii. (1883) 138 And by the potte and elle ben signefied them that haue the charge to weye and mete and mesure truly.

c. to weigh (someone) against gold (or silver): to perform the Indian ceremony in which (a rajah, etc.) is weighed and his weight in gold (or silver) distributed as largesse.

1696 J. OVINGTON *Voy. Surat.* 179 The Moguls are sometimes weighed against Silver. 1934 *Times* 25 Aug. 13/2 The Maharajah . . . will be weighed against gold. . . The gold-weigh ceremony is usually performed with gold supplied by the person being weighed. . . This amount will be distributed in charity. 1936 *Times* 14 Jan. 13/6 At this Durbar the Aga Khan will be weighed against gold, and it is expected that 20,000 guests will attend the function.

d. In Horse-racing. to weigh out, in: to take the weight of (a jockey) respectively before and after a race. (Cf. 9.)

1890 *Rules of Racing in Encycl. Sport* (1898) II. 224 The Stakeholder shall not allow a jockey to be weighed out for any horse until such horse's stake [etc.] have been paid. *Ibid.* 225 The Clerk of the Scales . . . shall in all cases weigh in the riders of the horses . . . and report to the Stewards any jockey not presenting himself to be weighed in.

e. to weigh off: to punish; to convict or sentence. *slang* (orig. *Mil.*). Now chiefly *Criminals*.

1925 FRASER & GIBBONS *Soldier & Sailor Words* 301 *Weighed off, to be,* to be brought up before an officer and punished. 1945 *Tee Emm* (Air Ministry) V. 54 P.O. Prune will have to investigate and deal with a charge . . . and possibly weigh off the first delinquent of his service career. 1958 F. NORMAN *Bang to Rights* i. 22 You just got weighed off yesterday? 1963 T. & P. MORRIS *Pentonville* ii. 20 One young man . . . commented that he had been 'weighed off at X Assizes by some old geezer toggled up like Father Christmas'. 1978 B. NORMAN *To mick Good Body* x. 81 Another was in custody . . . waiting to be weighed off.

f. to weigh in: to weigh (an air passenger's luggage) before departure; to subject (a passenger) to this procedure. See *excess luggage* s.v. EXCESS 6b.

1934 RHYS-WILLIAMS *Diary* 1 Aug. (MS.), Left Eaton Place at 4.30 p.m. for Victoria, where we were 'weighed-in', and had our luggage weighed and labelled. 1961 L. DEIGHTON *Ipswich File* v. 30 She weighed in my wardrobe case. 1970 *New Yorker* 16 May 41/2 The porter . . . takes her bag and follows her to the desk to have it weighed in.

g. Angling. to weigh in: of an angler, to have (one's catch) officially weighed at the end of a competition. Also *absol.*

[1928: see WEIGHED 3a]. 1949 *Club Anglers' Jnl.* Nov. 14/1 The river fished well and the winner weighed-in 6 lb. 4 oz. 12 drms. 1972 *Match Rules* (Nat. Fed. Anglers) in E. Marshall-Hardy *Angling Ways* (1973) xxxix. 306 No competitor may have his catch weighed in who has litter lying on the banks of his swim. 1976 *Wymondham & Attleborough Express* 17 Dec. 22/5 Only 10 . . . competitors weighed in, . . . but . . . Frank Kilbourn . . . float fished to take 9-2 of good roach.

8. a. To measure a definite quantity of (a substance) on the scales. Usually with out: To portion out (a quantity measured by weight) from a larger mass; to apportion (such a quantity) to (a person or persons); †to measure exactly or to the full weight (*obs.*). Also with *in, into:* To introduce a specified weight of (a substance), to add as an ingredient.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Can. Yeom. Prol.* & T. 745 And of that coper [he] weyed out [Cambr. MS. vp] but an ounce. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholas's Voy.* II. iii. 33 b. We began to way out the bisket vnto the gallie slaues. 1596 SPENSER *F.Q.* v. ii. 35 For at the first they all created were In goodly measure, by their Makers might, And weighed out in

ballaunces so nere, That not a dram was missing of their right. 1615 R. COCKS *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 88 We wayed out the wax which came in the Hozeander, and fownd it want a tonne. 1616 *Ibid.* 111 We waied out the pepper to day for the king. *Ibid.* 217 He delivered or wayd out much more to Tomo Dono and Cushcron Dono. a 1646 BURROUGHS *Exp. Hosea* iii. (1652) 197 Never did any skilfull Physitian more carefully weigh out to every dram what the potion should be that is to be given to a child, than God doth weigh out every affliction that he sendeth upon his children. 1827 FARADAY *Chem. Manip.* iii. (1842) 75 No further difficulty will now arise in the way of graduating a tube. The 34.25 grains of mercury are to be weighed in. . . . Another 34.25 grains of mercury are to be weighed into the tube to the metal already contained in it. *Ibid.* xii. 283 If it be found that as many parts of the acid have been used as of grains of the carbonate weighed out, the acid is of proper strength.

†**b. To measure (a sum of money) by weight, in order to pay it to (a person).** Chiefly in Biblical renderings. Also with *out, down. Obs.* (So OE. *awegan, G. wägen, dar-, zuwägen.*)

1382 WYCLIF *Zech.* xi. 12 And thei weyiden my meede, thritti platys of syluer. 1388 — *Job* xxviii. 15 Nether siluer schal be weied [1382 peisid] in the chaungyng therof. 1535 COVERDALE *Jer.* xxxii. 10, I . . . weyed him there the money vpon the waigthes. — *Zech.* xi. 12 So they wayed downe xxx. syluer pens, y^e value that I was prysed at. 1585 HIGINS *Junius's Nomencl.* 492/2 An officer that weyed out mony for soldiers wages. 1607 DEKKER & WEBSTER *Westw.-Hoe* II. i, Some [are] cutting purses, some cheating, some weying out bribes.

c. fig. To dispense or administer (justice) impartially.

c 1400 26 *Pol. Poems* i. 14 Weye o lawe in euenhede, By-twen fauour and vengeance. 1562 A. SCOTT *Poems* i. 29 (To Q. Mary) Waye iustice, equale without discrepance.

9. a. intr. in Horse-racing. Of a jockey: To take his place in the scales, in order that his declared weight may be verified by the clerk. *to weigh out (in)*, to do this before and after a race. (Cf. 7 d.) Similarly in *Boxing, to weigh in*, said of a boxer (turning the scales at a particular weight) before a fight. Hence in general colloq. use.

1805 *Weatherby's Racing Cal.* XXXII. p. xxxviii, That every person who shall ride at Newmarket for Plate, Sweepstakes, or Match, shall be obliged to weigh when he comes in. 1858 *Rules of Racing* § 37 Jockies are required to weigh at the usual place of weighing, before the race, . . . and every rider is, immediately after the race, to ride his horse to the usual place of weighing, . . . and to weigh to the satisfaction of the person appointed for that purpose. 1868 WHYTE MELVILLE *White Rose* I. xiv. 174 Their riders are drinking sherry, . . . preparatory to 'weighing in'. *Ibid.* 182 Mr. Snipe, returning to weigh after an easy victory. 1877 *Rules of Racing* § 31 Weighing out and starting. *Ibid.* § 34 Weighing in. 1879 J. RICE *Hist. Turf* I. 298 The rider of Musjid . . . is said to have weighed in and weighed out with a whip weighing 7 or 9 lbs. and to have exchanged it for a lighter whip before and after the race. 1909 'O. HENRY' *Roads of Destiny* xviii. 307 He was six feet four and weighed in at 135. 1920 MASEFIELD *Right Royal* 33 When the clock struck three and the men weighed out. *Ibid.* 119 Then the riders weighed-in, and the meeting was over. 1931 *Daily Express* 13 Oct. 1/7 Both boxers weighed in this afternoon. 1958 S. WILCOX 3 *Days Running* vii. 79 When at last I was able . . . to 'weigh-in' . . . I weighed five pounds more than at the beginning of the day. 1966 *Aviation Week & Space Technol.* 5 Dec. 6/1 The complete inertial package weighs in at only 14 pounds. 1979 *SLR Camera* Mar. 35/1 The compact 'Zuiko' 1000mm measures just 26 inches and weighs in at around eight and a half pounds.

b. Hence to weigh in with: to introduce or produce (something that is additional or extra). *colloq.*

1885 *Daily News* Nov. (Passing English, 1909) The journal 'weighs in' with a prismatic Christmas number. 1901 *Macm. Mag.* Apr. 464/1 Carver . . . used to sit up and snort a bit when we weighed in with hock and seltzer instead of tea. 1921 D. MACKAIL *Romance to Rescue* i. 9 A Rhodes scholar weighed in with praise of Greenwich Village.

c. fig. to weigh in: to bring one's weight or influence to bear; to enter a forceful contribution to a discussion, etc. *colloq.*

1909 G. B. SHAW *Let.* 31 July (1972) II. 854, I want you to ask the Chief Rabbi to weigh in. 1919 BEERBOHM *Seven Men* 147 A few weeks later the Anglo-Indians weigh in. In due course we have the help of our Australian cousins. 1938 E. BOWEN *Death of Heart* III. iii. 378 The telephone crisis . . . had been the moment for Lilian to weigh in. 1956 A. L. ROWSE *Early Churchills* 221 The Princess Anne, in her constant rôle of fairy godmother to the Marlboroughs, weighed in; nor could it have been done with more tact and good feeling. 1976 *Milton Keynes Express* 4 June 38/4 Sim weighed in with 4-27 off eight overs.

d. To launch into and attack (a person, etc.). Also *fig. colloq.*

1941 *Baker Dict. Austral. Slang* 81 *Weigh into someone*, to attack, wake into a person in a fight. 1976 F. WARNER *Killing Time* i. i. 8, I survived the war, . . . and then, if I was a minute after 9.30 in the evening, my Mother would weigh into me.

10. a. trans. To hold (an object) in the hand (or in both hands) in order to observe or estimate its weight; to balance an object in the hand (or hands) as if estimating its weight.

1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* II. iii. Mjb, Waye me this gyrdel heuy with moche golde i. fele me this girdel, howe heuy it is with golde. 1781 COWPER *Expost.* 343 Who poises and proportions sea and land, Weighing them in the hollow of his hand. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* lvii, 'But why should he know of it?' said Glossin, slipping a couple of guineas into Mac-Guffog's hand. The turnkey weighed the gold, and looked sharp at Glossin. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* xxiii, Mr. Bumble . . . counted the teaspoons, weighed the sugar-tongs. 1848 — *Dombey* lvi, He remained before him weighing his white hat in both hands by the brim. 1911 H. W. & F. G.

FOWLER *Concise Oxf. Dict.* s.v., [He] meditatively weighed his stick in his hand.

b. To keep (the wings) evenly outspread in flight. poet.

1667 MILTON *P.L.* II. 1046 Satan . . . in the emptier waste, resembling Air, Weighs his spread wings.

11. fig. (with more or less retention of the literal idea or expression): a. To estimate, assess the value of (a person, a condition, quality, etc.), as if by placing in the scales.

a 1200 *Moral Ode* 63 in *Lamb. Hom.* 163 þer me scal ure werkes weien biforan þe heuen king. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. I. 152 þe same Mesure pat 3e Meten A-mis oper elles, 3e schul be weyen þer-with whon 3e wenden hennes. 1382 WYCLIF *Job* vi. 2 Wolde God, my synnes weren wejed . . . in a ballaunce. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* III. 129 þou art i-weye on a ballaunce and i-founde pat þou hast lasse [Dan. v. 27]. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 29b, Our sayd lorde . . . at the houre of our iudgement shall ponder and wey euery mannes encrease or decrease. 1549 Bk. *Com. Prayer, Communion*, Not waying our merites, but pardonyng our offences. 1557 NORTH *Guevara's Diall Pr.* Prol. A i, God doth not way us as we are, but as we desier to be. 1590 SPENSER *F.Q.* I. iv. 27 Accursed vsurie was all his trade, And right and wrong ylike in equall ballaunce waide. 1670 DRYDEN *1st Pt. Conq. Granada* III. (1672) 22 Friendship . . . weighs by th' lump, and, when the cause is light, Puts kindness in to set the Ballance right. 1736 BERKELEY *Discourse* Wks. III. 419 Were all men to be weighed in the exact scale of merit. 1744 M. BISHOP *Life* 97 Where such a cross-grain'd Piece of Stuff is concerned . . . one should ponder with inward Consultations, to be able to weigh him to a Hair. 1781 COWPER *Hope* 366 That heav'n will weigh man's virtues and his crimes With nice attention, in a righteous scale. 1815 BYRON *Hebrew Mel.*, *Vis. Belshazzar* vi, He, in the balance weigh'd, Is light and worthless clay. 1872 BLACKIE *Lays Highl.* 134 God numbers not the heads, but weighs the hearts Of them that worship. 1897 'OUIDA' *Massarènes* xxii, [She] had mentally weighed him, and found him wanting.

b. To balance with or against (another object regarded as a counterpoise) in order to obtain a comparative estimate. Also *to weigh together*.

1513 MORE *Rich.* III. Wks. 47/1 Waye the good that they dooe, with the hurte that commeth of them. 1549 Bk. *Com. Prayer* Pref., If those men will waye their labor, with the profite in knowlege, whiche dayely they shal obtain by readyng vpon the boke. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom.* & *Jul.* I. ii. 101 But in that Christall scales, let there be waid Your Ladies loue against some other Maid. 1596 SPENSER *F.Q.* V. ii. 45 For by no meanes the false will with the truth be wayd. 1609 DEKKER *Guls Horne-bk.* i. heading, The old world & the new weighed together. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* II. i. 8 Then wisely (good Sir) weigh Our sorrow with our comfort. 1647 COWLEY *Mistress, Love undiscovered* ii, Forbid it Heaven my Life should be Weigh'd with her least Conueniency. 1781 COWPER *Hope* 178 The fragrant grove, th' inestimable mine, Were light when weigh'd against one smile of thine. 1823 LAMB *Elia* Ser. II. *Tombs in Abbey*, While we had been weighing anxiously prudence against sentiment. 1829 NAPIER *Penins. War* II. 265 He anxiously weighed his own resources against those at the enemy's disposal. 1868 HELPS *Realmah* vi. x. (1876) 112 But of what weight was any mere earthly consideration of that kind when weighed against the danger of impiety? 1917 *Q. Rev.* Jan. 16 They held their lives to be of little price, when weighed against a nation's fidelity to its engagements.

c. To make equal, balance (the year; i.e. to make night and day of equal length). poet.

Cf. *Columella* x. 42 Cum . . . paribus Titan orbem librauerit horis.

1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* 1. 419 Now sing we stormy Stars, when Autumn weighs The Year, and adds to Nights, and shortens Days. 1720 POPE *Iliad* xxii. 39 The Year when Autumn weighs.

12. a. To consider (a fact, circumstance, statement, etc.) in order to assess its value or importance; to ponder, estimate, examine, take due account of; to balance in the mind with a view to choice or preference.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 323 3if we weyn ariht dispensis bi lore of þe hooly goost. c 1385 CHAUCER *L.G.W.* 384 (398) And weyen every thyng by equite. 14. . . LYDGE. *Horse, Goose & Sheep* 150 in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 21 Ye prudent Iugis. . . Weieth this mater in your discrecioun. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Gov. Princis* (S.T.S.) 147 Cast all thair counsaills ilkan till othir in thy mynde, and wey thame as thou thinkis the caus requeris. 1533 *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden Soc.) II. 300 They wayeing in thaire myndes the force of the saide acte. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 266 b, He desyreth them . . . that they would way the whole case diligently. 1590 SPENSER *F.Q.* I. ix. 20 She, now weighing the decayed plight And shrunken synowes of her chosen knight. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII.* II. iv. 197. 1653 W. RAMESEY *Astrol. Restored* 181 If thou hast seriously weighed the foregoing rules. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* xii. 70 Weigh in your Mind the various Chance of War. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 43 ¶ 2, I have well weighed that Matter. 1742 FIELDING *J. Andrews* III. iii, I weighed the consequences on both sides as fairly as I could. 1775 SHERIDAN *Rivals* III. i, I have been likewise weighing and balancing what you were pleased to mention concerning duty. 1847 YEOWELL *Anct. Brit. Ch.* iii. 34 Let any thinking man weigh this singular circumstance. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 39 The jurymen, . . . being little accustomed to weigh evidence, followed without scruple the directions of the bench. 1855 *Poultry Chron.* III. 32 They never came to a decision without duly weighing the pros and cons. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* xx, The difficulty of the moment was too pressing for him to weigh distant consequences. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* III. II. 390 The king is wise; his wrath will well be weighed.

absol. 1796 WORDSW. *Borderers* II. 645 Men who are little given to sift and weigh.

b. To ponder and examine the force of (words or expressions). to weigh one's words: to speak deliberately and in calculated terms.

1340 *Ayenb.* 255 Huo pet ne weþþ his wordes ine þe waye of discrecion. *Ibid.* 256 Huer me ssel weþe pet word er hit be

yzed. **1576** GASCOIGNE *Steel Glas* 215 Words of worth, and worthy to be wayed. **1579** LODGE *Def. Plays* 16 If we way Poetes wordes and not ther meaning, our learning in them wilbe vey mene. **a1584** MONTGOMERIE *Cherrie & Slae* 1164 Then Hope replyd, . . . And wyslie weyd his wordes. **a1631** DONNE *Lett.* (1651) 309 The old King thought the preacher never had thought of his sermon, till he spoke it. . . I knew that he had weighed every syllable, for halfe a year before. **1655** in *Verney Mem.* (1907) II. 14, I must . . . weigh my words before they are sent abroad. **1725** POPE *Odys.* XIII. 62 His words well-weigh'd, the gen'ral voice approv'd. **1846** J. MARTINEAU *Ess.* (1869) II. 64 The moralist . . . has far other work than to weigh expressions and analyze definitions. **1848** DICKENS *Dombey* xxii, Mr. Carker read this slowly; weighing the words as he went. **1877** HUXLEY *Techn. Educ. Sci. & Cult.* (1881) 82, I weigh my words when I say that if the nation could purchase a potential Watt, or Davy, or Faraday, at the cost of a hundred thousand pounds down, he would be dirt-cheap at the money.

c. with object-clause. Now rare.

Often to weigh by, with, within oneself.

1526 Pilgr. *Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 152 Ponderynge and weyenge also that of all vertues mercy is moost necessarily requyred to this myserable worlde. **1549** E. ALLEN *Jude's Par. Rev.* xi. 16 Whether any suche thyng . . . maye hereafter happen, let euery true christen harte . . . well consyder and wey by himselfe. **1553** BRENDE *Q. Curtius* v. 81 They wayed also that both the sauegard of them, and of the king lay in the handes of one that was a prisoner. **1553** in *Strype Eccl. Mem.* (1721) III. App. xi. 30, I beseech yow . . . waye wyth your self, what a good Master our hevenlye Father ys unto yow. **1573** BEDINGFIELD tr. *Cardanus' Comf.* II. (1576) 18b, If they would waye with themselves, that all men . . . haue the vse of reason. **1578** WHETSTONE *2nd Pt. Promos & Cass.* v. v. M 1, Good Madamme way, by lawe, your Lord doth dye. **c1600** SHAKS. *Sonn.* cxx. 8 And I a tyrant haue no leasure taken To waigh how once I suffered in your crime. **1621** T. WILLIAMSON tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* A2b, Well weighing with my selfe, that it was a Work might yeld some profit to my Countrie men of England. **1675** DRYDEN *Aurengz.* v. (1676) 80 You thought me dead, and prudently did weigh Tears were but vain. **1683** PENNSYLV. *Arch.* (1852) I. 75 We ye free People of ye Town . . . of Salem . . . weighing well in ourselves y^t nothing can more readily conduce to our . . . Happiness, then a fair and just settlement of our Foundations [etc.]. **1803** ELTON in *Vesey Chanc. Cases* (1827) VIII. 427 The Court ought to weigh, whether the doubt is so reasonable and fair, that the property is left in his hands not marketable. **1825** SCOTT *Talism.* iii, He weighed within himself, whether [etc.]. **1841** MYERS *Cath. Th.* III. §42. 161 Let any one weigh well what it is to translate such a collection of documents as constitute the Bible.

d. to weigh up: to appraise, form an estimate of (a person). *colloq.*

1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 15 Feb. 5/1 The Liberal delegates were ferdid only when 'weighing-up' the House of Peers and insisting upon its disestablishment. **1897** 'O. RHOSCOMYL' *White Rose Arno* 43, I will watch him closer for the future. I should have come up earlier now, but that I was weighing up his servant, an arrant Whig and a spy to boot. **1904** *Daily Chron.* 14 Jan. 7, 'I knew too much about her,' she said. 'I had weighed her up.'

† **13. a.** To esteem, value, think highly of; to count dear or precious; to ascribe value or importance to. Often with negative: (Not) to care for or regard. *Obs.*

a1225 Ancr. R. 336 Kunde of gode heorte is to beon of-fear'd of sunne, per as non nis ofte; oðer weien swuðer his sunne summechere þen he þurfte. Weien hit to lutel is ase vuel, oðer wurse. **c1386** CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 923 That lord hath litel of discrecion, That in swich cas kan no diuision, But weyeth pride and humblesse after oon. **1449** PECOCK *Repr.* III. x. 335 Whi therfore schulen we ouer miche weie and apprise his seiynge? **1496-7** Act 12 Hen. VII. c. 12 Preamble, The same Kyng . . . not fearyng Almyghty God in breking his seid promys nor weyng his Honour in the same. **1567** HARMAN *Caveat* 64 Take no care for that, for I doe not greatly waye it; it was worth but three shyllinges foure pens. **1579** SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* June 73 Nought weigh I, who my song doth prayse or blame. **1588** SHAKS. *L.L.L.* v. ii. 27 You waigh me not, O that's you care not for me. **1592** DANIEL *Compl. Rosamond* xxiii, Henry the second, that so highly weigh'd mee. **1595-7** LYLly *Wom. in Moon* III. ii. 289, I, he wayes more his flocke then me. **1633** MASSINGER *New Way* III. iii, My deeds, nephew, Shall speake my loue, what men report, I waigh not. **1676** SIR W. TEMPLE in *Essex Papers* (Camden) II. 81 The Estates would bee enough inclinable to it as weighing interest more than honour. **1681** W. ROBERTSON *Phrasel.* Gen. 1306/2, I do not weigh you a pin . . . *Non ego te flocci facio.*

† **b.** with adj. compl. (*light, dear, etc.*). *Obs.*

c1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE Ps. cxvi. v, Thy people all beholding, Who dear their deaths dost weigh. **1592** Arden of *Feversham* I. i. 361 To let them see how light I wey their words. **a1599** SPENSER *F.Q.* VII. vi. 55 Them all, and all that she so deare did way, Thence-forth she left. **1599** SHAKS. *Hen. V.* II. iv. 43 In cases of defence, 'tis best to weigh The Enemie more mightie then he seemes. **1601** — *All's Well* III. iv. 32 Let euerie word waigh heauie of her worth, That he does waigh too light.

† **14. intr. a.** To pay heed or deference to. *Sc.*

1423 Jas. I *Kingis Q.* cxx, Myn effectis grete, Vnto the quich þe aughten maist weye. **1456** SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 157 Suppos that haue na soverane to quham thai wey, bot anerly God allane.

† **b.** with of: To ponder, consider (something); to judge of, estimate, value, care for. *Obs.*

1573 New Custom Diijb, God waieht not. Of any vesture, or outward apparance a mite. **1577** HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist.*, Euseb. v. v. 82 But weye of this euery man as pleaseth him. **1584** LODGE *Forbonnius & Prisc.* 35 Soldvius, not . . . willing to weigh of the submissive request of his daughter, interrupted her thus. **1596** SPENSER *F.Q.* VI. vii. 29 Vnworthy she to be belou'd so dere, That could not weigh of worthinesse ariht.

† **c.** with negative: (Not) to hesitate to (do something). *Obs.*

1573 LLOID *Pilgr. Princes* 14 The women of Scithia called Amazones . . . wayed not to encounter with Hercules in the field.

III. To have heaviness or weight.

15. intr. Of a material object or substance: To have a greater or less degree of heaviness, as measured by the scales. **a.** To be equal to or balance (a specified weight) in the scales.

The specifying word is to be regarded as a predicative complement rather than as governed by the verb.

c1000 Sax. *Leechd.* III. 92 Se sester sceal wegan twa pund be sylfyr gewyht. **a1023** WULFSTAN *Hom.* xlv. (1883) 228 Ælc an hazelstan wegeð fif pund. **13..** Sir Beues 1424 A dede Beues binde to a ston gret, þat we3 seue quarters of whet. **c1386** CHAUCER *Prolog.* 454 Hir couerchiefs . . . I dorste swere they weyeden ten pound, That on a sonday weren vpon hir heed. **1387** TREvisa *Higden* III. 207 Oon of the hameres weiede tweie so moche as anoper. **1474** CAXTON *Chesse* III. iv. (1883) 111 One framosian had promysed to hym as moche weight of pure gold as the heed weyed. **1529** Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot. (1883) 177 Ane silver spune and a masar veand 3 uncis. **1553** EDEN *Treat. New Ind.* (Arb.) 34 The fleshe therof wayed .xlviij. pound weight. **1590** SHAKS. *Com. Err.* IV. i. 28 Here's the note How much your Chaîne weighs to the vtmost charact. **1655** MARQ. WORCESTER *Cent. Inv.* §69 A little . . . Key, not weighing a Shilling. **1675** R. VAUGHAN *Coin & Coinage* 75 They'd have it . . . so as the Pieces of Silver and Gold should weigh one the other. **1774** GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* IV. 44 Some of them [sc. marmots] are found to weigh above twenty pounds. **1838** T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 891 The gum weighed 3 per cent of the almonds analyzed. **1856** J. RICHARDSON *Recoll.* I. vi. 145 In person he was tall and corpulent, weighing something over twenty stone.

b. with adv. or pred. adj.

a1225 Ancr. R. 232 Hwon two bereð one burðene ant te oðer bileaueð hit, þeonne mei þe þet holdeð hit up iuelen hu hit weihð. **c1290** St. Michael 395 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 311 Heouene geth al aboute þe corpe, eueue it mot weyze. **a1300** Vox & Wolf 237 in *Hazl. E.P.P.* I. 66 He lep in [the bucket], and way sumdel. **13..** St. Cristofer 364 in *Horst. Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 458 The childe swa heuy woghe þat ofte-sythes one knees he hym droghe. **c1385** CHAUCER *L.G.W.* 1788 (Fairfax) And as she woke, hir bed she felt presse. What best ys that, quod she, that weyeth thus? **c1440** York *Myst.* xxx. 136 Al sir, yhe whe wele! **c1475** Macro *Plays, Mankind* 692 Ther ys to moche cloth, yt weys as ony lede. **1481** CAXTON *Godfrey cxxxviii.* 205 They . . . becam stronge, and deluier in suche wyse that the armes that they bare weyed nothing as them semed. **1581** A. HALL *Iliad* x. 174 His shield that waightie waied. **1586** WHITNEY *Choice Embl.* 41 The heauie loade, did weye so harde behinde. **1606** SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* IV. xv. 32 Heere's sport indeede: How heauy weighs my Lord? **1779** COWPER *Yearly Distress* 48 Like barrels with their bellies full, They only weigh the heavier. **1818** SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* x, His fingers fumbled as if . . . the other [sc. his beaver] had weighed equal with a stone of lead.

16. a. fig. (with more or less retention of the literal idea or expression).

a1225 Ancr. R. 332 Misericordia superexaltat iudicium [Jas. ii. 13]: . . . his merci toward us weieð euer more þen pet riht nearuue. **1340** Ayenb. 91 Loue is þe wy3te ine þe balance. . . uor non oþer þing ne may we3e, huanne me comp to nime ech his ssepe, bote loue and charite. **c1386** CHAUCER *Monk's T.* 243 Thy regne is doon, thou weyest noght at al. **1390** GOWER *Conf.* II. 275 Ther ben manye of these Lovers, that thogh they love a lyte, That scarsly wolde it weie a Yit wolde thei have a pound again, As doth Usure in his bargain. **c1440** Jacob's *Well* 4 3e weyin now in mennys hertys, in dreed of 3oure my3t, more þan all þe world, for all þe world dare nogt wythstonde 3ou. **c1440** Gesta *Rom.* xlv. 177 For synne is not ly3t, but it is hevy, and weythe more than lede. **1595** SHAKS. *John* II. i. 332 One must proue greatest. While they weigh so euen, We hold our Towne for neither: yet for both. **1599** — *Much Ado* v. i. 93, I know them, yea And what they weigh, euen to the vtmost scruple, Scambling, out-facing, fashion-monging boyes. **1601** — *All's Well* III. iv. 31 Let euerie word waigh heauie of her worth.

† **b.** To amount or be equivalent to. *Obs.*

1529 MORE *Dyaloge* IV. xi. 108b/2 Yt gaue hym occasyon to dowt less Luther ment not al thing so euyl as his wordys seme to way to. **1588** LAMBARDE *Eiren.* II. iv. (ed. 3) 152 Whether a man doe actually vse force in his entrie, or doe come so readily appointed and araid for it, . . . it seemeth to weigh to a violent (or *Forcible*) entrie.

† **c.** to weigh with (also even with): to counterpoise in power, value, etc.; to be of equal value or importance with. *Obs.*

1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV.* II. ii. 196 In euery thing, the purpose must weigh with the folly. **1607** — *Timon* I. i. 146 Giue him thy Daughter, What you bestow, in him lle counterpoize, And make him weigh with her. **1656** EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. iii. (1674) 4 France may vie and weigh even with Greece it self, in point of Learning.

d. to weigh against, † again: to counter-balance, countervail.

c1410 [see 20]. **1590** GREENE *Never too late* II. (1600) K4b, Hee that seeketh to way against his owne will, oftentimes kicketh against the prick. **1597** SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV.* I. iii. 55 Much more, in this great worke . . . should we . . . know our owne estate, How able such a Worke to vndergo, To weigh against his Opposite? **1833** HT. MARTINEAU *Manch. Strike* iv. 47 Such evils . . . can neither be helped nor be allowed to weigh against the advantages of union. **1884** GILMOUR *Mongols* xviii. 216 He believes that every sin will weigh against him, and drag him down in the scale of being.

e. quasi-trans. To equal (something else) in weight or value; to counterbalance; † to be tantamount or equivalent to.

1583 GREENE *Mamillia* I. 6b, So that eyther thou couldest sooth her with a frumpe, or els lay a loading carde on her backe, should wey a scoffe. **1588** SHAKS. *L.L.L.* v. ii. 26 Indeed I waigh not you, and therefore light. **1613** — *Hen. VIII.* I. i. 11, *Ibid.* III. ii. 259 The heads of all thy Brother-Cardinals . . . Weigh'd not a haire of his. **1893** *Westm. Gaz.* 21 Mar. 3/2 There are difficulties . . . in the poem. Only they do

not weigh the enormous difficulty of a multiplicity of Homers.

† **f. absol.** Of two things: To balance each other. *Obs.*

1523 BERNERS *Froiss.* (1812) I. xliii. 59 So that finally the good and the yuell wayed.

17. intr. To be of (much or little) value or account; to be regarded as considerable or important; to have influence with (a person) when he is forming an estimate or judgement.

c1386 CHAUCER *Parson's T.* ¶ 367 (Hengwrt MS.) Dedly synne, whan the loue of any thyng weyeth in the herte of man as muche as the loue of god or moore. **1535** W. STEWART *Cron.* (Rolls) III. 313 And his command with him richt litill weyit. **1597** HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxxv. §5 Why things so light in their owne nature should waigh in the opinions of men so much. **1659** *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) IV. 179 Younge Darby [6th Earl], whoe nowe weighs much less then his name formerly hath donn. **1670** MILTON *Hist. Brit.* III. 107 Pleasing to God, or not pleasing, with them weighed alike; and the worse most an end the weightier. **a1700** EVELYN *Diary* 6 Dec. 1680, In truth, their testimonie did little weigh with me. **1705** ATTERBURY *Serm. bef. Queen* 28 Oct. 22 A Wise Man is then best satisfy'd . . . when he finds . . . that the same Argument, which weighs with Him, hath weigh'd with Thousands . . . before him. **1744** KAMES *Decis. Crt. Sess.* 1730-52 (1799) 79 Nor ought it to weigh that Murray run the hazard of his factor's bankruptcy. **1838** MACAULAY *Lett. to Napier in Trevelyan Life* (1876) II. vii. 12 There is another consideration that weighs much with me. **a1853** ROBERTSON *Lect.* (1858) ii. 51, I have not the vanity to say . . . that my name had weigh with many; but it did weigh with some. **1870** LOWELL *Among my Bks.*, Rousseau 338 Every man feels instinctively that all the beautiful sentiments in the world weigh less than a single lovely action. **1899** DOYLE *Duet* xiv. 199 Holland is a sound man, and his opinion would weigh with any judge. **1910** BEET *Rise of Papacy* ii. 79 The Roman verdict weighed much throughout Christendom.

IV. To affect, or be affected, by weight.

18. a. trans. to weigh down: to draw, force, or bend down by pressure of weight; fig. to depress, oppress, lie heavy on. Similarly, to weigh back, † on one side, to the earth.

a1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* vii. 17 He . . . likyd to be seruauente of syn, swa þat his synn weghe him down, þat he neuer rise til þe rist of heuen. **1565** COOPER *Thesaurus* s.v. *Degratio*, The vine lodeth and weigheth downe the elme. **1579** SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Feb. 232 The watrie wette weighed downe his head. **1595** DANIEL *Civ. Wars* IV. lxxvi, O could the mighty but giue bounds to pride And weigh backe fortune ere shee pull them downe. **1597** SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV.* III. i. 7 O gentle Sleepe . . . how haue I frighted thee, That thou no more wilt weigh my eye-lids downe. . . ? **1598** GRENEWEY *Tacitus, Ann.* XIV. ii. 201 Then the rowers thought best to way the gallie on one side [L. *unum in latus inclinare*], and so to sincke her. **1611** BIBLE *Wisd.* ix. 15 The corruptible body presseth downe the soule, and the earthy tabernacle weigheth downe the minde that museth vpon many things. **1712** ADDISON *Spect.* No. 494 ¶ 4 There are many excellent Persons, who are weighed down by this habitual Sorrow of Heart. **1783** COWPER *The Rose* 4 The plentiful moisture incumber'd the flower, And weigh'd down its beautiful head. **1857** BUCKLE *Civiliz.* I. xi. 625 The people were weighed down by an insufferable taxation. **1858** DRAYSON *Sport. Scenes* S. Afr. 208 The Kaffirs returned, almost weighed down by the immense weight of meat. **1865** SWINBURNE *Atalanta* 1303 Falling and weighed back by clamorous arms Sharp rang the dead limbs of Eurytion. **1879** PATTISON *Milton* xiii. 215 Causes other than the inherent faults of the poem long continued to weigh down the reputation of *Paradise Lost*. **1884 *Contemp. Rev.* Feb. 252 What, then, was the *consuetudo carnalis* which thus weighed to the earth this soul of fire, striving to ascend to its true home?**

† **b.** Without adv.: To depress, dispirit. *Obs. rare.*

1633 FLETCHER & SHIRLEY *Night-walker* I. (1640) B 3, You are light Gentlemen, Nothing to weigh your hearts.

† **19. intr. a.** Of the scale of a balance (with up or down): To rise or sink according as it holds the lesser or greater weight. Also *gen.* (with down): To sink through its own heaviness or load. *Obs.*

c1375 Sc. *Leg. Saints* xxii. (Laurence) 750 A gret pot . . . in pat balance has he done; þane ourys veyt vpe tycht [read rycht] sone. ? **1566** W. P. tr. *Curio's Pasquin in Trance* 65 That Deuill . . . doth all that he can to make his parte [of the balance] way downe the heauier. **a1626** BACON *Sylva* §610 The Cause is the plenty of the Sap, and the Softnesse of the Stalke, which maketh the Bough, being ouer-loaden, and not stiffely vpheld, weigh downe.

† **b.** to weigh with: to move with, follow the motion of (something that shifts or varies). to weigh against: to strive to make head against (the wind). *Obs.*

1553 BRENDE *Q. Curtius* IV. 34 b, Waying with the worlde, according as the tyme should alier [semper ex ancipiti mutatione temporum pendens]. **a1557** MARY BASSET tr. *More's Treat. Pass. M.'s* Wks. 1372/1 A fainte harted mayster of a shippe . . . shrinketh from the sterne, and . . . suffreth the ship alone to waye wyth the waues [puppim permittit fluctibus]. **1557** Tottel's *Misc.* (Arb.) 263 And where thou sekas a quiet port, Thou dost but weigh agaynst the winde.

20. trans. Of an object set in the scales (with down, up, †out; also † to weigh to the beam): To turn the scale when weighed against (something else); to outweigh, cause to rise in the scale. Also to weigh down (the balance or scale). Often fig.

1387 TREvisa *Higden* IV. 7 At þe laste þe stoon was leide in a balounce, and he weip [MSS. a, þ, γ, weygh, wey3, way3] up al þat me myzte leie aȝenst hym in þe oþer side. **c1410** HOCCELEVE *Mother of God* 21 Helpe me to weye Ageyn the feend, þat with his handes tweye, And his might, plukke

wole at the balance To weye vs down. c 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* 66 Her . . . uell dedes . . . weyed downe and ouercome her good dedes. c 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 221 When alle his synnys wern layde on þe balans and was nygh ouercomyn, then come thylke brennet dekon, and layde a grete pote on þe wey þe wech anon weyt vþ al togedyr. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II.* III. iv. 89 But in the Ballance of great Bullingbrooke, Besides himselfe, are all the English Peeres, And with that oddes he weiges King Richard downe. 1596 SPENSER *F.Q.* IV. ix. 1 Hard is the doubt, and difficult to deeme, When all three kinds of loue together meet, And doe dispart the hart with powre extreme, Whether shall weigh the balance downe. *Ibid.* v. ii. 46 Yet all the wrongs could not a litle right downe way. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* II. iii. 162 We poizing vs in her defectiue scale, Shall weigh thee to the beame. 1613 — *Hen. VIII.* III. i. 88 My Friends, They that must weigh out my afflictions. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World* Diss. (1708) 14 Four Ounces of *Vigo* Dust, shall weigh him down more, than four Tun of Honesty. 1711 SWIFT *Examiner* No. 26 One Whig shall weigh down ten Tories. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* vii, Where all other inducements were wanting, the habitual carelessness of his disposition stepped in and still weighed down the scale on the same side. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 27 Mar. 7/3 Whose mistakes . . . are a thousand times weighed up by his countless individual deeds of true friendship.

† 21. *trans.* To sway or influence (a person); to induce (a person) to (do something). *Obs.*

1571 CAMPION *Hist. Irel.* 121 When these wordes weighed him nothing, his owne man . . . began to reprove him for not relenting to so rich a proffer. 1586 J. HOOKER *Hist. Irel.* in *Holmshed* II. 83/2 By the procurement as well of the archbishop as of all the cleargie [the legate] was weighed to giue the citizens absolution.

22. *intr.* with *on* or *upon*. a. Of a thought, feeling, circumstance: To lie heavy on, depress (a person, his spirits, etc.). Also in indirect passive.

1775 SHERIDAN *Duenna* II. iv, If either of you had known how each moment of delay weighs upon the heart of her who loves. 1820 KEATS *Lamia* II. 43 Where am I now? Not in your heart while care weighs on your brow. 1832 TENNYSON *Lotos-eaters* 57 Why are we weigh'd up upon with heaviness? 1838 LYTTON *Alice* II. ii, Something seemed to weigh upon her spirits. 1858 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* II. 387 This London atmosphere weighs on me. 1863 MARY HOWITT tr. *F. Bremer's Greece* II. xii. 47 The sceptre of despotism weighs oppressively on all free public life. 1909 J. L. ALLEN *Bride of Mistletoe* v. 147 The silence began to weigh upon her.

b. To insist or dwell upon (a fact, argument, etc.). *rare.*

1817 H. T. COLEBROOKE *Algebra*, etc. Notes & Illustr. p. xlii, These facts will be further weighed upon as we proceed. 1818 — *Import Colonial Corn* 70 Without weighing upon this surmise.

23. The vb.-stem in combination: weigh-balk *north.* and *Sc.*, the beam of a pair of scales or steelyard; *pl.* scales; weigh-bar = *weigh-shaft*; weigh-beam, a balance or steelyard; weigh-brods *pl. Sc.*, boards used for the scales of a large balance; † weigh-gilt *Sc.*, a payment for weighing (after Du. *waaggeld*, G. *wage-, wägegeld*); † weigh-leaf, a board or plate used as a scale; weigh-lock *U.S.*, a canal-lock at which barges are weighed and their tonnage is settled; weighman, a man employed to weigh goods, etc.; in a colliery, one who weighs the tubs of coal as they leave the cage at the pit-mouth (for *check-weighman* see CHECK-); weigh-master (cf. G. *wagemeister*, Du. *waagmeester*), the official in charge of a weigh-house or public scales; weigh-out, the verification of a jockey's declared weight before a race (see 9); weigh-shaft = ROCK-SHAFT. Also WEIGH-BRIDGE, -HOUSE, -SCALE.

1485 *Inv. in Ripon Ch. Acts* (Surtees) 371, j *weybalke cum skales. 1593-4 *Burgh Rec. Stirling* (1889) II. 380 Quhat-sumever parson . . . in tym cuming borrow the use of their wey balk to wey irone or wther geir. 1608 in Cochran-Patrick *Early Rec. Mining Scot.* (1878) 150 Ane grit weybak with the balance brodis thereto for weying the ore. 1824 SCOTT *Redgauntlet* ch. xxiii, To see a' ane's warldly substance capering in the air in a pair of weigh-bauks, now up, now down. 1841 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jnl.* IV. 93/1 A lever is fixed upon the cross-head working in a link connected to a second lever fixed on a shaft or *weigh-bar across the engine, whereby a rocking motion is produced. 1890 W. J. GORDON *Foundry* 16 Beam-engine with its weigh-bar gearing. 1492 in *Wadley Notes Wills Bristol* (1886) 178 My *weybernes [? read -bemes] with all my weights of lede. 1804 *Local Act 44 Geo. III* c. lv. § 1 To . . . erect and set up . . . Weighbeams, Cranes. 1833 N. ARNOTT *Physics* (ed. 5) II. 11 If we balance a quantity of ice in a delicate weigh-beam. 1578 *Inv. R. Wardrobe* (1815) 255 Ane pair of *wey broddis garnist with yron for weying of mettall with thair towis. 1497 HALYBURTON *Ledger* (1867) 74 Hous hir, 12, *weygylt, 4g. 1498 *Ibid.* 213 Item weygilt, ilk sek 4. 1593 in *Archaeologia* (1853) XXXV. 436 For mending John Newarke's *way leaffe, broken in wayinge of lead, iij d. 1835 LIEBER *Stranger in Amer.* II. 140 The object of the greatest interest to me, in Utica, was a *weigh-lock—an American invention if I am not mistaken. The toll for freight on the canal is proportionate to weight. 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-mining, Weighman*. See *Weigher*. 1907 [see WEIGH-HOUSE]. 1917 *Blackw. Mag.* Apr. 630/1 The bigger fish were weighed on an ingenious balance, consisting of a long steel rod with a sliding weight, the whole suspended on a bit of string held aloft by the weighman. 1617 in *Heath Grocers' Comp.* (1869) 428 The *Weymaster and his porters, which attended at the Guildhall. 1689 RAVENHILL *Acc. Comp. Grocers* 4 The Grocers . . . may be well presumed (time out of Mind) to have had the management of the King's Beam, as an Office peculiar to them; . . . they having had all along . . . the naming of the Weigh-Master, and the naming, placing, removing and governing of the four Porters, attending that Office, all

to be elected out of their own Company. 1886 *Racing* (Badm. Libr.) 67 It was, indeed, this absolute certainty as to the accuracy of the *weigh-out, which led to the detection of the attempted fraud when Catch-em-alive won the Cambridgeshire. 1867-72 N. P. BURGH *Mod. Marine Engin.* 73 Motion is imparted to the lever *weigh shaft by a toothed quadrant keyed thereon. 1888 *Lockwood's Dict. Terms* 407 Weigh Shaft or Way Shaft. . . Sometimes called a reversing shaft.

† weigh, *v.* 2 Only OE. and early ME. Forms: 1 *wecgan*, 3rd sing. *wexed*, *pa. t.* *wex(e)de*, *pa. pple.* *gewexd*, 3rd sing. *weieð*, *pa. t.* *wæide*, 4 *pa. pple.* *yweid*. [OE. *wecgan* = OHG. *wegan*, MHG. *wegen* (weak vb., with umlaut *e*; distinct from OHG. *wegan*, MHG. *wegen* str. vb. = WEIGH *v.* 1), Goth. *wagian* to shake; f. Teut. root **wag-*, ablaut-var. of **weg-*; see WEIGH *v.* 1] *trans.* To shake, toss, agitate, move about.

a 1000 *Boeth. Metr.* vii. 35 Wyrc he siðþan his modes hus, þær he mæge findan . . . grundweal gearone: se to glidan ne þearf þeah hit wegce wind woruldearfæra. c 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Thorpe) cviii. 25 Hi wegðan . . . heora heafod. c 1205 *LAY.* 20137 Swa þe hæze wude, þenne wind wode weieð hine mid mæine. *Ibid.* 21869 Heo weiden in hære ærmen heore children ærmen. c 1315 SHOREHAM *Poems* I. 370 þat makeþ man so hardiliche To stonde, and so merie Ine goste, þat he ne may nauzt yweid be Wip blanding ne wip boste.

weighable, ('weiəb(ə)l), *a.* [f. WEIGH *v.* 1 + -ABLE.] That can be weighed; heavy enough (or reckoned as heavy enough) to be weighed in scales.

1429 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 349/1 Woll, and al maner pinge weiable. 1570 *DEE Math.* Pref. cjb, Of euery one, the Content known, in your least waight, that is wayable. 1616 *Burgh Rec. Stirling* (1887) I. 144 All weyabill merchand waris, sic as lint, hemp, irn, woll. 1796 T. TWINING *Trav. Amer.* (1894) 161 It was applicable . . . in every wholesale warehouse of weighable goods. 1854 DICKENS *Hard T.* III. vii, Anything so . . . ridiculously shameful as the whelp in his comic livery, Mr. Gradgrind never could by any other means have believed in, weighable and measurable fact though it was. 1878 N. *Amer. Rev.* CXXXVII. 50, I am not aware that the soul of Shakespeare or of Newton, when they died, added any weighable powers to the dust to which they returned. 1885 *Leeds Mercury* 5 Aug. 3/2 Where he found a weighable quantity was in the liver.

† 'weighage. *Obs.* Also 7 way-, weyage, -edge. [f. WEIGH *v.* 1 + -AGE.] A duty or toll paid for the weighing of goods.

1547 *Charters rel. Glasgow* (1906) II. 511 All . . . oure Custumis of oure ciete and burgh of Glasgw, with mettage and weighage and all uther commoditeis pertenant thareto. 1603 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 514/1 The pittie custumes . . . togidder with the dewteis and custumes of weyage and metage. 1604 in *Rec. Convent. Burghs Scot.* (1870) II. 176 Thai tak na mair for weyage bot ane penny for the stane [of wool]. 1611 *Shampton Crt. Lett Rec.* (1905) 441 We . . . finde . . . that the Towne is defrauded of that dew of wayage as it ought to receave by wayeage of goods saleable at the King's beame. 1632 *Sc. Acts Chas. I* (1817) V. 243 Weyages and heaven dewteis dew to be payed in hardereis. 1683 in *Somers' Tracts* (1748) I. 180 [London dues] Meetage, Weighage, Scavage, Hallage. a 1701 LEVINZ *Rep.* (1702) III. 37, 8d. per Tonne pur chescun Tonne de Cheese port de ascun lieu en Angleterre al Port de London . . . en nom de Weighage. 1824 CHITTY *Laus Commerce* II. 16 Weighage, called either *tronage* for weighing wool at the king's beam, or *pesage*, for weighing other avoirdupoise goods. 1856 BOUVIER *Law Dict. U.S.A.* (ed. 6) II. 647.

weighboard: see WAY-BOARD.

'weigh-box. a. One of a set of boxes, used in the operation of 'drawing' wool, in which the wool is more accurately weighed. b. A weigh-house. c. A chute which weighs and delivers coal at a railway coaling-station (*Cent. Dict. Suppl.* 1909).

1884 McLAREN *Spinning* vii. 120 (2) the spindle gill box; (3) the 4-spindle drawing box; (4) the 6-spindle weigh box. 1907 *Daily Chron.* 25 June 9/2 The following is a complete list of the cars which weighed in at the public weigh-box.

'weigh-bridge. [Cf. G. *brückenwage*.] A platform scale, flush with the road, for weighing vehicles, cattle, etc.

1796 R. SALMON in *Repert. Arts & Manuf.* VI. 74 Weigh-bridges or engines, with their apparatus, for the purpose of weighing carriages. 1825 in *Newton's Lond. Jnl. Arts* (1828) XIV. 253 Certain improvements on Weighing Machines which Machines he [the patentee] denominates German Weigh Bridges. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 1194 The cart-steelyard or weigh-bridge. 1849 F. B. HEAD *Stokers & Pokers* viii. (1851) 75 [The] trucks . . . are immediately drawn by horses first over a weighbridge. 1886 *Daily News* 26 July 2/2 The heaviest lamb turned 169lb. on the weighbridge. *fig.* a 1834 COLERIDGE *Hints Th. Life* (1848) 21 The positions of science must be tried . . . on the weigh-bridge of common opinion and vulgar usage.

weighed (weid), *ppl. a.* [f. WEIGH *v.* 1 + -ED.] 1. That has had its weight ascertained by the scales.

c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 520/1 Weyd, or wowon, *ponderatus*, *libratus*. 1669 [see SQUASH sb. 2] 1. 1827 FARADAY *Chem. Manip.* xxiv. (1842) 600 Then ascertain whether the weighed portions equipoise each other. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.*, Org. 765 A weighed quantity of the solid . . . is carefully introduced. 1886 JACO *Chem. Wheat* etc. 407 Counterpoised and Weighed Filters.

2. Of judgement, opinion, etc.: Considered, balanced. † Of a person: Having a balanced and steady judgement. Cf. WELL-WEIGHED.

c 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) I. 349 Secretary Walsingham, and Secretary Cecil, a pair of the best weighed statesmen this island hath bred. 1647-8 COTTERELL *Davila's Hist. Fr.* (1678) 18 The Admiral, with more weighed Counsel, opposed the Princes opinion. 1675 DRYDEN *Aurengz.* I. i. (1676) 4 Aureng-Zebe, by no strong passion sway'd, Except his Love, more temp'rate is, and weigh'd. 1689 T. R. *View Govt. Europe* 67 Our English Ancestors have always been of a more steady principle, more wise, and more weigh'd, than to dance after their Politicks. 1909 *Westm. Gaz.* 23 Apr. 3/1 The weighed judgments of the staid 'councillor'.

3. With down: Depressed, downcast.

1822 BYRON *Werner* I. i. 509 'Tis past fatigue which gives my weigh'd-down spirit An outward show of thought. 1935 S. SPENDER in *London Mercury* May 8 The tall girl with her weighed-down head.

weigher ('weiə(r)). Forms: 4 wier, weir, 4-5 weiere, weyere, 5 weyor, -ar, 5-6 weyer, 6 waier, weygher, 6-7 wayer, 6- weigher. [f. WEIGH *v.* 1 + -ER]. Cf. MLG., MHG. *weger*.]

† 1. ? One who bears up or supports (a person).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 22115 þe wicked gastes his wiers [Gött. weirs] Him foluand in al his afers.

2. One who heaves up or weighs (an anchor).

1598 FLORIO, *Salpatore*, a wayer or heauer of ankers. a 1818 M. G. LEWIS *Jrnl. W. Ind.* (1834) 5 The weigher of the anchor.

3. a. A person who is employed to weigh commodities; an official appointed to weigh or to supervise weighing, to test weights, etc. Also *weigher-in*.

14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 618/3 *Trutinator*, a weyere. 1463 *Cases bef. King's Council* (Selden Soc.) 111 Brouwers weyers porters tresourers clerkys [etc.] of the Staple. 1476 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) II. 5 And when I haue weyyde heme to . . . pay . . . to the weyor for euery saken j.d. a 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. (1811) 342 Where before tyme y^e weyer vsyd to lene his draught towarde the marchaundyse, soo that the byar hadde by that meane .x. or .xii. li. in a draughte to his aduantage. 1535 *Act 27 Hen. VIII.* c. 14 (§1) The waier of the Wolles within the said Porte. 1677 W. B. *Touch-stone Gold & Silver Wares* 20 Their Assay-Office, . . . wherein is a Sworn Weigher. 1701 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* V. 79 Mr. Fitch, cheif weigher of the gold and silver at the Mint. 1794 GRIGGS *Agric. Essex* 26 Two men are nominated . . . whom we call public weighers, whose business it is to . . . examine the weights of all millers and shopkeepers. 1812 J. SMYTH *Pract. Customs* (1821) 11 At landing the Goods, the Weigher is to call out the full and true gross weight in the scale. 1855 H. G. DALTON *Hist. Brit. Guiana* II. 568 Licensed Weighers or Gaugers. 1880 'MARK TWAIN' *Tramp Abroad* II. 9 The crowd mash one another to pulp in the effort to get the weighers' attention to their trunks. 1886 *Act 49 & 50 Vict.* c. 49 §16 The Admiralty may appoint . . . persons to be meters and weighers at and within the harbour. 1906 A. H. LEWIS *Confessions of Detective* I. i. 7 I've been weigher-in at the boxing tournaments for over ten years. 1928 *Daily Tel.* 25 Sept. 12/5 It is a rule that every fish caught must be kept alive, and after being weighed must be put back into the water by the official weigher-in. 1982 J. A. SHARWOOD in *Occasional Papers Univ. Sydney Austral. Lang. Res. Centre* No. 20. 20 He may be inclined to complain to the boundary rider . . . about the bloke with the short arm being employed as the weigher-in there.

b. in fig. sense or context.

1388 WYCLIF *Prov.* xvi. 2 The Lord is a weiere [1382 peisere] of spiritis. c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* III. xx. (Roxb.) 146 The time and the sunne j made myn owen and in my balaunce j putte hem. Bi myn outrage j haue maad my self weyere ther of and sellere. ? 1566 W. P. tr. *Curio's Pasquin in Trance* 64 b, marg., Seint Michael wayer of soules. 1759 [E. YOUNG] *Conf. Orig. Comp.* 72 Old Time, that best weigher of merits. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 171 Do you, like a skilful weigher, put into the balance the pleasures and pains. 1903 *Critic* (U.S.) XLIII. 360/1 Now that you are becoming a professional weigher of books yourself.

c. A machine for weighing.

1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 21 Aug. 4/1 The coal is then placed into a weigher, which dips at each quarter of a ton.

† 4. Used to translate L. *æquator* (EQUATOR 1). Cf. WEIGH *v.* 1 I c. *Obs.*

c 1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* I. §17 This same cercle [the equinoctial] is cleped also the weyere, *equator*, of the day.

Hence 'weighership, the office of (public) weigher.

1885 *American XI.* 68 After all, Mr. Sterling seems likely to miss the Brooklyn weighership.

'weigh-house. [Cf. MLG. *wegehûs*, G. *wagehaus*.] A public building to which commodities are brought to be weighed.

1438 *Cal. Patent Rolls, Hen. VI* (1907) III. 192 [By the way which runs between] le Weyhous [of the said staple, and the said] Wolbrigg. 1463 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 35 Robert Basset, cleric of the Weyhous at London. 1530 TINDALE *Answ. More Wks.* (1572) 278/2 Thirty or forty sturdy lubbers, . . . of which y^e weakest shall be as strong in the belly when he commeth vnto the manger, as the mightiest porter in y^e weyhouse. 1598 *Stow Surv.* 150 On the North side of this street [Cornhill] . . . one large house is called the Wey house, where marchandizes brought from beyond the seas, are to bee weighed at the Kinges Beame. 1649 W. GREY *Chorogr.* 17 Under the Town-Court is a common Weigh-house for all sorts of Commodities. 1658 *Rec. Burgh Lanark* (1893) 170 The bailies and counsell ordaine the wechts in the wiehous. 1776 G. SEMPLER *Building in Water* 154 Public Stores and Weigh-houses. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxxi, I might hae hung there till the day of judgment . . . wi' my head hinging down on the tae side, and my heels on the tother, like the yarn scales in the weigh-house. 1829 *Heath Grocers' Comp.* 186 The general Weighhouse and King's Beam were

in Cornhill, upon the site of the present Sun-Court. 1833 *Act 3 & 4 Will. IV*, c. 46 § 107 A weigh-house for the use of the inhabitants... with the necessary weights, scales, and measures. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 692/1 Every scale in the weigh-house is painted some distinguishing color. 1907 *Daily Chron.* 18 Oct. 9/2 A large motor-car... backed into a public weigh-house at Blairgowrie (Perthshire)... The building was damaged and the steelyard destroyed... The weighman was in the house at the time, but was uninjured.

'weigh-in. [f. the vbl. phr. *to weigh in*: see WEIGH v.¹ 7, 9.] 1. *Boxing.* The weighing-in of a boxer before a fight. See sense 9a of the vb.

1939 *Sun* (Baltimore) 28 June 15/1 The general might bring the subject up at the weigh-in and instruction period for the two fighters at noon to-morrow. 1946 *Daily Progress* (Charlottesville, Va.) 18 June 7/4 Louis expected to remain at Pompton Lakes until just before the weigh-in. 1952 L. A. G. STRONG *Darling Tom* 138 At the weigh-in, each man had received instructions to scow at the other. 1974 H. L. FOSTER *Ribbin', fivin', & Playin' Dozens* vi. 251 Boxers at weigh-ins usually attempt to psych one another.

2. *Angling.* The weighing of the anglers' catch at the end of a competition. See sense 7g of the vb.

1949 *Club Anglers' Jnl.* Oct. 14/2 A good weigh-in, topped by a splendid bag of roach. 1971 *Rocquaine Regatta: Programme* (Guernsey) 7 Event 1-8.00 a.m. Sea Angling. Start at Imperial Hotel 8.00 a.m.—weigh-in 10.30 a.m. 1972 *Shooting Times & Country Mag.* 1 July 16/1 The weigh-in caused great excitement as individual catches were very close.

weighing ('weɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* Forms: see the vb.; also 5 weyng(e. [f. WEIGH v.¹ + -ING¹].)

1. The action of lifting, raising, or hoisting. Also with *up*, *†out*, etc.

1485 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 27 Paid... for the weying of an Anker... 1497 *Ibid.* 171 The brekyng vp of the dokke hede at Portesmouth weyng vt of the piles & shorys. 1545 in *Hooker Life Sir P. Carew* (1857) 131 My Lorde Admyrall... told me that he had a good hope of the waying upright of the Mary Rose this afternone or to-morrow. a 1687 SIR W. PETTY in T. H[ale] *Acc. New Invent.* (1691) 119 The... weighing up of a Ship. 1755 in *Sixth Rep. Dep. Kpr. Rec. App.* II. 128 A Windlass, for the more easy weighing a Ship's Anchor at Sea.

2. The action or process of ascertaining the weight of an object.

1430 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 134 The ouersight of the weyng, and the sealyng of weightes. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 520/2 Weynyng, wythe whytys, ponderacio, libracio. a 1500 in *Arnolde's Chron.* (1502) 36 Whyngne appartayneth not vnto tronage. 1720 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5869/2 Owners of Hops are to give Notice... of the... Hour of bagging and weighing. 1827 FARADAY *Chem. Manip.* II. (1842) 65 The method of double weighing... invented by Borda. 1842 *LOVER Handy Andy* i. Certain weighing of soap and tobacco was going forward. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.*, *Org.* 24 A second weighing gives the quantity of metallic lead. 1884 LD. KELVIN in S. P. Thompson *Life* xix. (1910) II. 801, I shall be greatly interested to hear more of your silver weighings.

b. *concr.* (See quot.)

1828 WEBSTER, *Weighing* 2. As much as is weighed at once; as, a weighing of beef.

3. *fig.* Balancing in the mind, pondering, considering.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 364 And errour in weyng of his love makip many fals weddings. 1560 tr. *Fisher's Godlie Treat.* Prayer H 6b, Ouerrunning a multitude of wordes with small consideration or weyghing of them. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 636 After mature deliberation and weighing of the matter. 1660 JER. TAYLOR *Duct. Dubit.* III. v. rule 8 § 12 The truth... is determinable by a just weighing of all that which very many wise Men have said, being put together. 1827 J. J. POWELL's *Devises* (ed. 3) II. 151 If the 'weighing of inconveniences' were to be made on every particular will, the relative situation of the heir and devisee being thrown into the scale. 1848 MRS. GASKELL *Mary Barton* xv. Will's love had no blushings, no downcast eyes, no weighing of words. 1885 *Law Rep.* 15 Q.B.D. 137 The statute requires that there should be a real inquiry, a real weighing and sifting of evidence.

4. (Downward) pressure.

1398 TREVISIA *Barth. De P.R.* VII. lv. (1495) rivb, This skyne is deeled other slakyd somtyme... by to grete weyghte & weyenge downwarde of the other membes.

5. *Comb.*, as *weighing-cage*, *-fee*, *-house*, *-room*, *-scales*, *-yard*; *weighing-engine*, *-machine*, an apparatus (e.g. a combination of levers, a spring-balance) for weighing heavy bodies; *†weighing-post*, a post on a race-course, indicating the place appointed for the weighing of the riders.

1819 REES *Cycl.*, **Weighing-Cage*,... an open box or cage, by means of which any small animal, such as a pig, sheep, calf... may be... expeditiously weighed... It is constructed on the principle of the common steel-yard. 1796 *Repert. Arts & Manuf.* VI. 77 The main or long lever of the *weighing-engine. 1861 *Act 24 & 25 Vict.* c. 97 § 34 Any House, Building, or Weighing Engine erected for the better Collection, Ascertainment, or Security of any such Toll. 1858 *Rules of Jockey Club* § 30 The *weighing fee for plates and stakes is 10s. each horse, and 10s. extra for the winner. 1819 REES *Cycl.*, **Weighing-House*, a building furnished with a dock, and conveniences for gauging or ascertaining the tonnage of boats that are to be used on a canal. 1829 TYTLER *Hist. Scot.* vi. II. 155 It would be necessary to have some experienced person to attend in the weighing-house upon the part of the king, to superintend the annual payments. 1863 MISS BRADDON *Aurora Floyd* xiii. John was... tumbling over small book-men in his agitation; dashing from the ring to the weighing-house. 1796 *Repert. Arts & Manuf.* VI. 75 (page-heading) Patent for an Improvement in *Weighing-Machines. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 343 The Weighing-machine is an important article of the

barn furniture. 1864 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* III. 231 There is a weighing-machine at our green-grocer's. 1688 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2312/4 Every Horse shall be shewn that day three weeks before the Race, at the *Weighing Post of Caythorp Course. 1734 CHENY *List Horse-Matches* 22 *Small-hopes* came in first, but the Rider alighting off before he came to the weighing Post, the Gelding was deem'd distanc'd. 1838 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jnl.* I. 116/2 There is an office for the clerk of the market, and a *weighing-room. c 1450 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) III. 99, j par *weyngscales de ligno, iiij d. 1891 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Sydney-side Sax.* xii, [After the race] Possie rode up to the *weighing yard with me.

†**'weighing**, *ppl. a.* [-ING².] Heavy. *Obs. rare.* c 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret.*, Gov. Lordsh. 71 Ley vpon py wombe an hoot sherte and weyand [*camisiam calidam ponderosam*].

weightment ('weɪmənt). *Anglo-Indian.* [f. WEIGH v.¹ + -MENT, after *measurement*.] The action of weighing (commodities).

1878 J. INGLIS *Sport & Work* xii. 135 They... cheat in the weightments and measurements. 1889 V. BALL tr. *Tavernier's Trav.* II. 447 The methods of weightment employed by Tavernier and Schrauf respectively. 1903 C. BALD *Indian Tea* xiv. (1917) 215 A careful examination of leaf, load by load, before weightment. 1906 J. A. ELLIOTT in *Padri Elliott of Faizabad* 220 The Deputy Opium Agent... let him set up a shop in the opium-camp during the two months that the weightments were on.

weigh-scale. *Orig. north.* In 4 weye scale, 5 weyscale, -scill, 6 weye skaile, weyskale. [ad. Du. *waagschaal* or MLG. *wageschale* (whence MSw. *vågshkal*, Sw. *vågskål*, older Da. *vægshkol*, Norw. *vaagskaal*) = G. *wagschale* (†*wage*-), OE. *wægscalu* (once). See SCALE sb.¹ and next. In recent use perh. a new formation.] The pan of a balance; *pl.* a pair of scales.

13... *Metr. Hom.* (Vernon MS.) in *Archiv. Stud. neu. Spr.* LVII. 313 þe fennes leide in a weye scale Alle pers synnes grete and smale. c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 204 Hym poghtr per was fowle blakk men patt putt all his ill dedis in a weye-scale. And on þe toder hand hym poghtr per was fayr men, bod þai wer passand hevy, & said þai had no gude dede of his to putt in þe toder wey-scale agayns his ill dedis. 1447-8 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 87 Pro uno drawghrape et uno smalrape. pro Weyscill, 15d. 1459-60 *Ibid.* 89, j par del Weyscalez cum diversis ponderibus. 1582 *Durham Wills* (Surtees) II. 45, i paire of weye skailes. 1600 *Mem. St. Giles's, Durh.* (Surtees) 27 Paid for mendinge of a weyskale.

1897 KIPLING *Capt. Cour.* viii. 179 A tall woman who had been sitting on a weigh-scale dropped down into the schooner.

b. *to be on the weigh-scales:* to be undecided.

1886 M. MOORSOM *Thirteen all Told* 43 Elliot was still on the weigh-scales about going.

†**'weigh-shale** (5 weyschalle, weschale), *var. of prec.* (perh. directly representing OE. *wægscalu*).

1465 *Priory of Finchale* (Surtees) p. ccxcviii, j par weschalis cum diversis ponderibus. c 1475 *Cath. Angl.* 412/2 (Addit. MS.) A Weyschalle, vbi A balane.

weight (weɪt), *sb.*¹ Forms: *a.* 1 gewiht, gewyht, 2 iwicht; 1-3 wiht, 3-5 wyht, wɪzt(e, 4-5 wyzt(e, wyght(e, 4-6 wyghte), 4-6 whyght(e, 4-5 wighte, 4-7 wight (5 *Sc.* vycht); 4 wythe, 5 wyt(e, whyt(e, 4-5 witte, wytte. *β.* 3 *Orm.* wehht, 3-6 wegth, 4-5 wegthe, wezt(e, 4- *Sc.* wecht (6 vecht); 3-4 weiht, 4-5 weyht(e, weɪzt(e, weyzt(e, 4-6 weyght(e, 4-7 weighte (5 weigt-e, wheight-e; 5 *Sc.* weicht, 6 *Sc.* veicht, veycht, veyght, weycht), 4- weight; 5 wazt-, 6-7 waight(e, wayght(e, (6 *Sc.* waicht, waycht, 7 wayht); 4-5 weite(e, (pl. wettes), 5 weyte, wheyt(e, weyth(e, weith, whet(t)e, 6 waithe, 6 *pl.* waytts, 6-7 wait(e, 7 wayte. [OE. *wiht* (? fem.), = OFris. *wicht* (WFr. *wicht*, NFr. *wegt*, *wacht*), MDu. and Du. *wicht*, MLG. and LG. *wicht*, *wigt* (whence MDa. *vekt*, Da. *vægt*, Norw. *vegt*; MSw. *vekt*, *vikt*, Sw. *vigt*), G. (irreg.) *wucht*, ON. *vétt*, *vátt* fem.:—OTeut. type **wex̥ti-z*, f. root **weg̥*:- see WEIGH v.¹ The more usual form in OE. was *gewiht* (e str. neut. = MDu. *ghewichte* (Du. *gewicht*), MLG. *gewichte*, *geweichte*, MHG. *gewichte* (G. *gewicht*):—OTeut. type **gawex̥tjo-m*. As the prefix *i-*, *y-* (:—OE. *ge-*) in sbs. fell away in early ME., the two formations coalesced in the 12th c. The normal descendant in mod. English of the OE. *wiht* would be **wight*; the vowel of the *β* forms may be due partly to the influence of the prehistoric ON. **weht*, and partly to association with *weigh* vb.]

1. Measurement of quantity by means of weighing; quantity (in the abstract) as determined in this way.

1. *by weight:* as determined by weighing. *†without weight:* taken unweighed.

c 1000 Sax. *Leechd.* I. 146 ðenim pas wyrtte & swinen smeru... ægþres gelice micel be wihte. [Cf. *Ibid.* I. 148 ðenim... ealra þyssa wyrta gelice fela be gewihte.] a 1123 *O.E. Chron.* an. 1086 (Laud MS.) Manig marc golde & ma hundred punda seolfres. Ðæt he nam be wihte... of his landleode. c 1325 *Chron. Eng.* 503 (Ritson) He made thre condlen by wyht. 1340 *Ayenb.* 44 Huanne po þet zelleþ be wyste purchaceþ and makeþ zuo moche þet [etc.]. c 1440 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Kath.* 1238 Alle soules... That shal to

blisse, I peyse hem alle be wyte Whether in goodnesse thei ben heuy or lyghte. c 1460 *Contin. Brut.* 492 It was ordeyned þat þe gold in Engliish coynge shuld be weyed, & none receyved but by weght. 1539 *BIBLE* (Great) 2 *Kings* xxv. 16 The brasse of all these vessels was without wayght. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. i. 32 To distribute the bysket... by weight. 1601 F. TATE *Househ. Ord. Edw. II* § 15 (1876) 13 The serjant chaundler shal receve the wax & lightes bi wayght from the clark of the spicery. c 1612 *Turners Dish* in *Rollins Pepysian Garl.* (1922) 36 You that sel your wares by wayght, and live vpon the trade. 1613 *PURCHAS Pilgrimage* II. iii. 98 Besides jewels, and brasse, and iron, without weight, with Cedars and stones without number. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 561 With Axes first they cleave the Wine, and thence By Weight, the solid Portions they dispence. 1730 CONDUITT *Observ. Coins* (1774) 10 Foreigners who take our guineas in quantities only by weight, may melt down the heavy ones. 1811 A. T. THOMSON *Lond. Disp.* (1818) 440 The proportions of acid and water were equal by weight. 1815 W. H. IRELAND *Scribbleomania* 15 Of paper a pile... Which by weight had been purchas'd.

2. Associated with *measure* and *number*, esp. in figurative expressions referring to due proportion.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 439 Met of corn, and wigte of fe, And merke of felde, first fond he. 13... *Cursor M.* 23564 (Edin.) Of his werk es noht vnhalde, bot al in mette and weith and tale. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 7690 For he made alle thyng thurgh myght and sleight In certain noumbre and mesure and weght. c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 321 It is good & resonable men to haue chirchis in mesure, & in numbere, & in weyhte, aftr þe hooly trinitee. c 1400 26 *Pol. Poems* xiv. 68 Let comon lawe his cours hold, Euene mesure, mett, and wyzt. c 1480 HENRYSON *Swallow* 1666 All creature he maid for thi behufe... In number, wecht, and dew proportion. 1551 CROWLEY *Pleas. & Payne* 562 You that by disceyte haue wonne, Were it in weyght or in mesure. 1588 A. KING in *Cath. Tractates* (S.T.S.) 214 To vse falset in buying, selling or changing, in pryce, in weicht or mesure.

3. a. Ponderability, as a general property of material substances; relative heaviness.

Also *transf.* in Phenology (see quot. 1860).

c 1385 CHAUCER *L.G.W.* Prol. 231 (Fairf. MS.) His gilte here was coronwed with a sonne l-stede of golde for heuynesse and wyght. 1398 TREVISIA *Barth. De P.R.* XIX. cxxx. (1495) 938 Two thynges makyth weyghte: lightnesse and heuynesse. 14... LYDG. *Beware of Doubteness* 92 In balauce when they be peised, For lakke of weght they be bore down. c 1450 *Merlin* iii. 57 They... seide it was a thyngne impossible to charge, they [the stones] were of soche gretnesse and wight. 1600 SHAKS. *All's Well* II. iii. 126 Our bloods Of colour, waight, and heat, pour'd all together, Would quite confound distinction. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 315/1 The Axe for the cutting of the great and large Bones... hath weight and substance in it. 1728 POPE *Dunc.* I. 183 As clocks to weight their nimble motion owe, The wheels above urg'd by the load below. 1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. 74 The wool had then very likely gained weight considerably. a 1790 HENRY *Hist. Gt. Brit.* (1793) VI. 634 If the number of coins... did not actually make a pound in weight. 1858 LARDNER *Hand-bk. Nat. Phil.* 154 Air possesses, in common with all material substances, the qualities of impenetrability, inertia, and weight. 1860 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Weight or Resistance*,... a faculty common to man and to the lower animals... taking cognizance of weight and other kinds of mechanical force.

Phr. 1857 G. A. LAWRENCE *Guy Liv.* i. He had slowly gravitated on into his present position, on the old Ring principle—'weight must tell'.

b. In *fig.* or *transf.* uses.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* II. pr. iii. (1886) 25 Yif any frute of mortal thinges may han any weyhte or pris of welefulnesse. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 41 b. In the weyght of this noble treasure, standeth all the effecte of the pilgrymage of perfeccyon. 1587 A. DAY *Daphnis & Chloe* (1890) title-p., Excellently describing the weight of affection, the simplicitie of loue. 1658 FLECKNOE *Enigm. Char.* 12 He hovers in his choice, like an empty Ballance with no weight of Judgement to incline him to either scale. 1787 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Ode upon Ode Wks.* 1812 I. 443 And really I would rather be knock'd down By weight of argument than weight of fist. 1891 CAYLEY *Math. Papers* (1897) XIII. 110 It is for this purpose convenient to introduce the notion of 'weight'; say a triangle has the weight 1, then a quadrangle, ... divisible into two triangles, has the weight 2.

c. Impetus (of a heavy falling body; also of a blow).

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XVII. 693 The gynour... swappit out the stane That evin toward the life is gane, ... And with gret wecht syne duschit doune. c 1440 *Generydes* 2163 Ther strokes shuld come with grette wight.

d. In scientific use: (see quotes.)

a 1721 KEILL *Maupertius' Diss.* (1734) 3 A secret Force, we call Weight or Gravity, attracts, urges or impels Bodies towards the Center of the Earth. 1806 O. GREGORY *Treat. Mechanics* I. 46 It will not be difficult to attach a just and scientific meaning to that which is commonly ealled weight: it is the effort necessary to prevent a body from falling. 1827 N. ARNOTT *Physics* I. 14 Weight, therefore, is merely general attraction acting everywhere.

e. *Prosody.* (See quot.)

1898 SWEET *A.S. Rdr.* *Intro.* (ed. 7) 86 Stress and quantity together constitute weight. *Ibid.* 92 This double alliteration is not essential to the metre like that caused by extra weight.

4. In various phrases (see also sense 1):

a. *in* (or *†of*) *weight*, added to adjs. such as *heavy*, *light*, *great*, etc.

c 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 4662 Semely dyght... With eglis faire and riche In syght, Off riche gold and mechel of wyght. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Alfonse* vi. Thow wenest that within my bely shold be a precious stone more of weyght than I am. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* diij. That noon be heuyer then an other bot like of weyght. a 1500 in *Arnolde Chron.* (1811) 128 The said bales... were myche heuyar in weight than they shulde naturally haue ben. 1910 W. PARKER in *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 352/1 They [opossum skins] are... not only very light in weight and warm, but handsome.

fig. 1570 B. GOOGE *Popish Kingd.* 13b, The Dorekeeper instructed than, what things he ought to do Whenas this office great of waight he there doth come vnto.

†b. of weight (as adj. phrase): Heavy. *Obs.*

1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* II. 1385 (Campsall MS.) For swyfter cours cometh þyng þat is of wighte When it descendeth þan don þynges lyghte. c1384 — *H. Fame* 739 Any thinge that hevy be As stoon or lede or thyng of wight. a1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 5473 Lamprays of weyt Twa hundredth pond ay a pece. 1599 ALEX. HUME *Poems* (S.T.S.) *Hymn* vii. 113 Crosbowes of waight, and Gnosik gainyeis kein. 1663 GERBIER *Counsel* 47 Materials of weight, as Sauder, where-with an unconscionable Plummer can ingrosse his Bill.

†c. of weight: of full or standard weight. *Sc.*

1500 HALYBURTON *Ledger* (1867) 253 [Certain coins] all of vycht. 1524 in *Acts Parl. Scot.* (1875) XII. 41/1 þe gold sall have comone course. . þe Hary noble of Weiht for xl^b. . þe scottis demy of wecht xvij^b. 1597 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 228/2 Rois nobilis of gold and wecht.

5. The amount which an article of given price or value ought to weigh. Chiefly *ellipt.* in predicative use = 4 c. *short weight*: see *SHORT* a. 15.

a1400 *Eng. Gilds* 354 3if þe ferpingloff is in defawte of wyghe ouer twelf pans, þe bakere is in þe amercy. 1435 in *Kingsford Chron. Lond.* 73 That no man..shulde putte forth ne profre no golde. . but yff yt helde the weyht. 1530 FALSGR. 770/1, I pray you, go wayt this angell, and tell me and he be weygt [F. de poix]. a1585 in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* (1914) XXIX. 521 Spanishe gold of best and those [pieces] that be weight. 1623 FLETCHER & ROWLEY *Maid in Mill* iv. iii. We must be weight in love, no grain too light. 1640 QUARLES *Enchirid.* II. xlv. If thou finde him weight, make him thine owne. 1691 LOCKE *Consid. Lower. Interest* (1692) 149 Your heavy Money, (i.e. that which is weight according to its Denomination, by the Standard of the Mint). 1720 DE FOE *Capt. Singleton* vii. (1840) 119 It was near two ounces more than weight in a pound. 1802 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Pop. Tales, Murad* I. I. protested. . that I had never furnished the people. . with bread that was not weight. c1850 *Arab. Nts.* (Rüldg.) 212 The miller. . ordered her to bring the scales, to see if the money he was going to pay was weight.

†6. The action of weighing. *Obs. rare.*

a1483 *Liber Niger in Househ. Ord.* (1790) 63 One of these clerkes dayly, to be at the weyghtes of wax in the chaundrey. 7. Ponderable matter; that which weighs.

1663 GERBIER *Counsel* 53 What resistance dust can be, when waight is laid upon it. 1755 CHAMBERLAYNE *Pres. St. Gt. Brit.* I. III. viii. 196 They are suffered to be over-charged with Weight laid upon them, that they expire presently. 1859 TENNYSON *Marr. Geraint* 526 Slowly falling as a scale that falls, When weight is added only grain by grain.

II. An amount determined or determinable by weighing; a definite quantity weighed or capable of being weighed.

8. a. A portion or quantity weighing a definite amount. Often preceded by an expression indicating the amount: in OE. in the genitive, as *anes pundes*, *preora punda wiht*; now in attributive or appositional form, as *one pound*, *three pounds weight*. Often abbreviated *wt.* *weight for weight*. (see *FOR* prep. 25); also (with hyphens) used *attrib.*

c1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 374 ðenim. . of ælcere pisne wyrtte xx penega wiht. a1300 *Cursor M.* 12429 If he his mone [= money] moht not gett. . þat ilk weight þat þar was less, He suld yeild of his aun fleux. ? a1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* I 106 The barres were of gold ful fyne. . Full heuy gret and no thyng lyght, In eueriche was a besaunt weight. 1387 TREVISIA *Higden* V. 397 þe monkes. . took wip hem. . a weyghte of brede for the jorney [L. *pondus panis durum*]. c1430 *Chev. Assigne* 155 She sente aftur a golde-smyste to forge here a cowpe; And. . delyuered hym his weyghtes. 1494 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 314 For iij pund wecht foure vnce. . of gold. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* IV. i. 41 You'l aske me why I rather choose to haue A weight of carrion flesh, then to receiue Three thousand Ducats? 1655 MARQ. WORCESTER *Cent. Inv.* §99 How to make one pound weight to raise an hundred as high as one pound fallet. 1669 EARL SANDWICH tr. *Barba's Art of Metals* I. (1674) 12 Lemnian-Earth. . is esteemed as rich as Gold, and sold so weight for weight. 1728 E. S[MITH] *Compleat Housew.* (ed. 2) 164 Mix the Pulp and Meat together, and take the weight and half of Sugar. 1794 VANCOUVER *Agric. Cambridge* 55 The grass. . produced from the water-meadows, is chiefly inferior to that (weight for weight) which grows. . upon unwatered ground. 1827 STEUART *Planter's G.* (1828) 150 Close-planting, pruning, and other means are employed to obtain what is considered the greatest possible 'weight of wood'. 1845 DODD *Brit. Manuf.* v. 26 About 112 lbs. weight of biscuits are put into the oven at once. 1854 RONALDS & RICHARDSON *Chem. Techn.* (ed. 2) I. 236 The quantities of heat contained in equal weights of water and air at the same temperature. 1964 W. G. SMITH *Allergy & Tissue Metabolism* vi. 71 In the perfused cat hind limb it is as active as acetyl-choline on a weight-for-weight basis. 1968 *Times* 3 Dec. 10/8 Female rats were given daily doses reckoned to be about eight times as powerful on a weight-for-weight basis as those taken by the tribeswomen. 1974 *Brit. Med. J.* 19 Jan. 107/2 Special care needs to be taken over the use of Lanoxin brand [of digitalis], which is now twice as potent on a weight-for-weight basis as formerly.

fig. 1382 WYCLIF 2 *Cor.* iv. 17 [The] list thing of oure tribulacioun worchith. . the euerelasting weyghte of glorie in vs. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* III. v. 88 Is she, with Posthumus? From whose so many waights of baseness, cannot A dram of worth be drawne. 1706 PRIOR *Ode to Queen x*, Impartial Justice holds Her equal Scales; 'Till stronger Virtue does the Weight incline. 1852 TENNYSON *Ode Death Wellington* 240 One, upon whose hand and heart and brain Once the weight and fate of Europe hung.

transf. 1855 HOPKINS *Organ* II. 493 [In the New Organ] there are several reservoirs producing different weights of wind.

b. *ellipt.* A pennyweight of gold.

1890 *Melbourne Argus* 9 Aug. 4/6 Tried a crushing, and didn't get four weights to the ton.

c. to lose weight: to become thinner or less corpulent; to put on weight: see *PUT* v. 1 46 f.

1961 M. SPARK *Prime of Miss Jean Brodie* iv. 114 She had lost weight through her sad passion for Mr. Lloyd. 1970 M. PATTEN *Bedsitter Cookery* 89/1 Most sensible people today are anxious to keep a slim figure and a well-planned diet is an essential towards either losing weight or maintaining a good weight. 1982 J. MANN et al. *Diabetics' Diet Bk.* I. 20 To lose weight you should aim to have only 1,300 calories a day.

9. its, his, etc. weight in or of gold, silver, etc.: a quantity of gold, silver, etc. of the same weight. Chiefly in hyperbolic statements of value.

c1205 LAY. 30835 For nauer neoðer nalde for his æfne wiht of golde þat þe king hit wuste þat [etc.]. a1300 *Floriz & Bl.* 650 (Cambr. MS.) 3e habbeþ iherd of blauncheffur, Hu ihc hire bojte. . For seusesipe of gold hire wiht. 13. . *Sir Beues* 1725 An hors he hadde of gret pris. .; For him a 3af seluer wiht, Er he þat hors haue miht. 14. . *Guy Warw.* 8122 He wold haue yove for the fyndyng [of the sword] The weight of gold and of other thyng. a1500 MEDWALL *Nature* (Brandl) II. 324 Thou art worth the weight of gold. 16. . *Eger & Grine* 1154 in *Percy Fol. MS.* I. 390 He is worth to her his waight in gold. 1614 J. SARIS *Voy. Japan* etc. (Hakl. Soc.) 204 Muske, worth the wayht in Siluer. 1634 ? S. ROWLEY *Noble Soldier* II. i. D2, I would not drinke that infernal draught. . for the weight of the world in Diamonds. 1672 PETTY *Pol. Anat. Irel.* (1691) 68 Gold has been worth but twelve times its own weight in Silver. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 783 Add to the solution twelve times its weight of distilled water. 1854 PATMORE *Angel in Ho., Betrothal* 130 A Tasso worth its weight in gold. 1856 MISS YONGE *Daisy Chain* II. xxvi, The dear old nurse. . whom George Rivers would have paid with her weight in gold, for taking care of his new daughter.

10. a. The amount that something weighs; the quantity of a portion of matter as measured by the amount of its downward force due to gravitation; the amount of resistance offered by a body to forces tending to raise it. *live weight*: see *LIVE* a. 7.

c1385 CHAUCER *L.G.W.* 1118 Sakkis ful of gold of large weyghte. 1387 TREVISIA *Higden* III. 205 þanne he took heede þat þe hameres were of dyuers weyghtes. 1398 — *Barth. De P.R.* xvi. v. (Bodl. MS.), þouze it [sc. gold] be in fire it wastep nougt, bi smoking and vapoures noþer leseþ his weyht [L. *nec etiam in pondere minoratur*]. c1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xviii. 84 Marchands sophisticateþ peper, when it is alde. . and so by cause of þe weight it semes fresch and new. c1475 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 286 The pore pepyll. . be oppressyd. . In yevyng theym to myche weyhte into the spyynyng. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen.* IV. II. iv. 276 The weight of an hayre will turne the Scales betwene their Haber-depois. 1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* II. ii, To a friend in want, hee will not depart with the weight of a soldred groat. 1625 N. CARPENTER *Geogr. Del.* I. iv. (1635) 73 The parts are indowed with an equal weight. 1698 FLOYER *Asthma* (1717) 196 The Morning Weight [of the Asthmatic] was 178 Pound. 1715 tr. *Gregory's Astron.* (1726) I. 491 The Weights of homogeneous Bodies plac'd near one another. 1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. 74 The weight of this wool encreased from. . August 30, 1756, to Feb. 19, 1757, as 100 to 103½. 1827 FARADAY *Chem. Manip.* II. (1842) 25 Small weights cannot be appreciated in instruments intended for great quantities, because of the strength. 1855 BREWSTER *Newton* I. xii. 323 The weight of all bodies is diminished by the centrifugal force, so that the weight of any body is greater at the poles than it is at the equator. 1876 TAIT *Rec. Adv. Phys. Sci.* xiv. (1885) 357 The weight of a pound of matter varies from place to place on the earth's surface.

fig. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 276 Mi weyhte of love and mi mesure Hath be mor large. . Than evere I tok of love ayein. 1571 CAMPION *Hist. Irel.* xiv. (1633) 46 When he was forced to silence with the weight of truth. 1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretorie* II. (1595) 128 If men wold but thoroughly enter into the weight of their estates, and truly consider with them-selves what of duty appertaineth to very reputation. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* I. ii. 9 Heerein I see thou lou'st mee not with the full waight that I loue thee.

transf. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* (1671) 128, I know not the weight of the pension the King will give me.

b. In phrases stating how much a thing weighs, as of two pounds weight.

1389 *Eng. Gilds* 30 Also a knaue chyld. . beren a candel yat day, ye wyghte of to pound. ? 1449 *Paston Lett.* Suppl. (1901) 22, ij. tapers of wax of ij. lbs. wyght. 1479 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 19 And ij salt salers of sylver of the weyht of x unse or xj. 1553 EDEN *Treat. New Ind.* (Arb.) 34 The fleshe therof wayed .xlviij. pound weyght. 1557 RECORDE *Whetst.* Rj, A Cube of Brasse of 4 inches square, doth weyge 7 pounde weyghte. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* III. iv. 24 'Twill be heauier soone, by the waight of a man. 1758 *Payne's Universal Chron.* 29 July-5 Aug. 141/2 A Turtle of upwards of 500 lb. wt.

c. In figurative phrases. to pull (one's) weight: see *PULL* v. 15b; to throw (chuck, etc.) one's weight about or around: to assert oneself or one's authority, esp. in an objectionable way; to act officiously. *Colloq.*

1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 37 The vastnesse of their Empire, falling with his owne weight. 1794 GOUV. MORRIS in *Sparks Life & Writ.* (1832) II. 395 We have seen such a system fall by its own weight. 1917 A. G. EMPEY *From Fire Step* 31 Don't chuck your weight about until you've been up the line and learnt something. 1921 *Brit. Weekly* 6 Oct. 2/3 There was a general. . belief that people round us were not pulling their weight. 1922 C. E. MONTAGUE *Disenchantment* viii. 104 Some typically stupid English General. . was clearly throwing his weight about, as they say, without any real understanding of anything. 1926 S. JAMESON *Three Kingdoms* xii. 348 'Come to that,' he said, 'Isabel has more right than any of you to fling her weight about.' 1941 J. P. MARQUAND *H. M. Pulham, Esq.* i. 10 Bill King. . always used to say that Bo-jo was a bastard, a big bastard. Perhaps he meant that Bo-jo sometimes threw his weight around. 1955 E. HILLARY *High Adventure* 163 A big, strong, swanking chap who had thrown his weight about a good deal lower

down. 1966 N. MARSH *Death at Dolphin* (1967) vi. 145 Why hadn't he put his foot down? . . He should have thrown his weight about. 1982 'M. HEBDEN' *Pel & Staghound* xv. 176 Madame Rensselaer seemed to enjoy throwing her weight about.

d. Chem. atomic weight: the relative weight of the atom of any element = atomic mass s.v. ATOMIC a. 1; similarly molecular weight, the relative molecular mass of a molecule, equal to the sum of the atomic weights of the constituent atoms.

1820, etc. Atomic weight [see ATOMIC a. 1]. 1836-41 BRANDE *Chem.* (ed. 5) 236 A compound of 1 atom of hydrogen and 1 atom of chlorine, their respective weights being 1 and 36. 1838 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 256 This would raise the atomic weight to 31.74. 1872 *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* XXV. 949 The relative molecular weights of ether, alcohol and water. 1950 *Sci. News* XV. 88 Blue hæmocyanin. . This molecule is the largest of any known substance, having a molecular weight of several millions. 1978 P. W. ATKINS *Physical Chem.* 11 We can determine how many elementary units we have by measuring the mass of the sample. . and knowing the relative molecular mass (R.M.M., the 'molecular weight').

e. transf. in Mechanics. (See quotes.)

1810 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 4) XIII. 53/1 When two forces act against each other by the intervention of a machine, the one force is called the power, and the other the weight. 1829 *Chapters Phys. Sci.* 77 The Inclined Plane. . is always inclined obliquely to the weight, or the resistance to be overcome.

11. a. A heavy mass; usually, something heavy that is lifted or carried; a burden, load. Also fig.

c1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* II. met. v. (1886) 35 Allas what was he þat fyrst dalþ vp the gobetes or the weyhtes of gold couered vndyr erthe. 1398 TREVISIA *Barth. De P.R.* v. xxiii. (Bodl. MS.), A philosophir was preued whi an horrible man is more heuy þanne eny burpon opir weyhte [ed. 1495 wytte]. c1440 *Gesta Rom.* xxxi. 117 Ther he was nye dreynthe, for gret weyte of his burdon. 1523-34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* §20 With the weyght therof it pulleth the corne flatte to the erth. 1538 STARKEY *England* I. iii. 78 Not to lyne. . as an vnprofytful weyght and burden of the erth. 1562 BR. PILKINGTON *Abdias* Pref. A av, The greater weyghte that is cast on, the soner it breakes. 1584-7 GREENE *Carde of Fancie* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 75, I found it built. . so slenderly, as y^e least waight was able to pash it into innumerable peeces. c1620 FLETCHER *False One* v. iv, My free mind, Like to the Palm-tree walling fruitful Nile, Shall grow up straighter and enlarge it self 'Spight of the envious weight that loads it with. 1642 *Docq. Lett. Pat. at Oxf.* (1837) 323 New inuencions. . to raise ponderous weyghtes with. 1659 DRYDEN *Heroick Stanzas* xv, His palms, tho under Weights they did not stand, Still thriv'd. 1698 FLOYER *Asthma* iv. 127 All strait Cloaths, and the weight of Blankets hinder the Extention of the Breath. 1764 [J. BURTON] *Pres. St. Navig. Thames* 39 There will be no Occasion to penn up such a vast Weight of Water pressing on the Weir. 1792 *Jrnl. Ho. Comm.* XLVII. 363/2 It is an Absurdity. . to load the Extremities with more Weight of Metal than the Midships. 1814 SCOTT *Lord of Isles* v. xx, Strong are mine arms, and little care A weight so slight as thine to bear. 1852 MALPAS *Builder's Pocket-bk.* 57 The whole weight is thrown upon the beam. 1865 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sci.* (1871) 14 The simplest form of work is the raising of a weight.

transf. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Hor.*, Sat. I. x. 12 Let your sense be clear, Nor with a weight of words fatigue the ear. — *Art of Poetry* 260 note, The Verses. . were so heavy with a Weight of Spondees.

b. Phr. to take the weight off (one's feet): to sit down and rest. Cf. to take a load off (one's feet) s.v. LOAD sb. 3 h. *colloq.*

1936 'J. TEY' *Shilling for Candles* ix. 100 Waiters like to take the weight off their feet for a little. 1960 L. DAVIDSON *Night of Wenceslas* i. 19 We were at the seat now. 'Like to take the weight off?' I said. 1965 A. ROUDYBUSH *Season for Death* (1966) xxxii. 190, I stepped into the library. . to take the weight off my feet for a minute. 1973 H. MILLER *Open City* xv. 168 Sit down, take the weight off.

12. spec. a. In horse-racing or riding: The amount (expressed in stones and pounds) which the jockey or rider is required or expected to weigh, or which the mount can without difficulty carry. *catch weights*: see *CATCH*-4.

1602 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2773/4 None but Gentlemen to ride; The weight 12 Stone. 1740 *Act 13 Geo. II.* c. 19 §3 Any Horse. . carrying less than the Weights herein before directed to be carried. 1771 [P. PARSONS] *Newmarket* I. 108 Who ever heard of a rider's throwing away part of his weight, or tearing his pocket that the shot might run out? 1858 *Rules of Racing* §38 Each jockey shall be allowed 2 lb above the weight specified for his horse to carry and no more. 1883 'RAPIER' *Types of Turf* 74, I remember how eagerly in a certain stable the weights were expected for last year's Cesarewitch.

b. Without article.

1734 CHENY *List Horse-Matches* 11 The highest Horse to carry 12 st. and all under his Size to be allow'd Weight for Inches. 1782 COWPER *Gilpin* 115 He carries weight! he rides a race! 1886 EARL SUFFOLK *Racing* 145 Weight for age is the basis of trials with old horses. 1889 BADEN-POWELL *Pigsticking* 117 The chief objections to an Arab are. . his frequent inability to jump and to carry weight. 1891 'R. BOLDEWOOD' *Sydney-side Sax.* viii, He was a dark brown horse. . up to weight, and good across country.

Comb. 1863 MISS BRADDON *Aur. Floyd* xiii, The bay filly which was to run in a weight-for-age race at the York Spring [meeting]. 1898 *Encycl. Sport* II. 196/2 Weight-for-age races are of three varieties.

c. *Boxing.* A match between boxers of a particular weight.

1914 *Varsity* 24 Feb. 15/1 An experienced boxer. . who won this weight last year at Cambridge. *Ibid.*, Selected to do duty in the two weights.

III. In figurative senses from the above.

13. a. A burden (of responsibility, obligation, suffering, years, etc.).

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Eng. Wks.* I. 66 bei [the Jews] shal bere to be ende of þe worlde the wyte of þe olde lawe. c 1450 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Gilbert* 90 He held him-self on worpi to þe birde of swech a wyte. 1539 BIBLE (Great) *Num.* xi. 11 Seynge that thou puttist y^e weight of all this people vpon me. a 1586 SIDNEY *Ps.* v. iv. With heaped weights of their own sinns oppresse These most ungratefull rebels unto thee. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* II. i. 36 But were we burdned with like waight of paine, As much, or more, we should our selues complaine. 1632 SANDERSON *Serm.* 303 You that groane vnder the waight of Gods displeasure. 1661 F. HOWGILL in *Extr. S.P. rel. Friends* II. (1911) 129 The Imprisonment of Freinds lyes as a weight vpon the Nation. 1675 DRYDEN *Aurengz.* I. (1676) 2 The weight of seventy Winters prest him down. 1718 PRIOR *Power* 694 Permit me strength, my weight of woe to bear. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 540 For my Part I had a Weight taken off from my Heart. 1738 WESLEY *Ps.* CXLVII. vii. Ye, who bow with Age's Weight. 1811 BYRON *To Thyrsa* 43 Oft have I borne the weight of ill, But never bent beneath till now! 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* vi. The child, overpowered by the weight of her sorrows and anxieties... burst into a passion of tears. 1883 S. C. HALL *Retrospect* I. 397 He was an aged man... and seemed enfeebled by the weight of years.

b. Burden (of proof), onus.

1824 J. MARSHALL *Constit. Opin.* (1839) 312 The whole weight of proof... is thrown upon him who would introduce a distinction.

14. a. The force of an onslaught or encounter in the field; pressure exerted by numbers.

c 1500 *Melusine* xix. 106 Wel ye wote that two knyghtes may not susteyne & bere the weight ayenst wel LXXX. or houndred thousand paynymys. 1643 R. BAKER *Chron.*, *Hem.* III (1653) 127 And so undertaking the main weight of the battell, [he] perished under it. 1697 DRYDEN *Aeneis* IX. 1071 They bear him back; and whom by Might They cannot Conquer, they oppress with Weight. 1734 tr. *Rollin's Rom. Hist.* (1827) IX. 189 No longer able to support the weight of the enemy, they thought fit to retire. 1828 SCOTT *F.M. Perth* xi. The tumult... forced asunder, by the weight and press of numbers, the Prince and Douglas.

b. to feel the weight of: to suffer from (by receiving a heavy blow or undergoing severe pressure). Freq. fig.

1553 *Respublica* 284 He that ones wincheth shall fele the waite of my fiste. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* II. 98 He had felt the waight of her Majesties power. 1681 FLAVEL *Meth. Grace* xvii. 317 His enemies felt the weight of his prayers, and the church of God reaped the benefits thereof. 1701 ATTERBURY *Serm.* (1726) I. 268 They, who lately felt the weight of the English Arms. 1702 DE FOE *New Test Ch. Eng. Honesty* Writ. 1705 II. 306 The Church, who by this time began to feel the Weight of the King's Hand, had been Dispossest'd of Magdalen College in Oxford. 1880 MRS. PARR *Adam & Eve* II. 21 I've a made that great lutturputch feel the weight o' me hand.

† c. to give a weight to: to add force or vigour to.

1796 MME. D'ARBLAY *Camilla* VI. iv. III. 202 To see her thus completely disconcerted, gave a weight to the mischievous malice of Mrs. Arlbery.

d. Mining. (See quot.)

1892 *Labour Commission Gloss.*, *Weight*. A weight is the gradual or sudden lowering of the roof of a mine after the coal has been worked on the long-wall system.

15. a. Importance, moment, claim to consideration; esp. (a) in phr. of weight, of great (little, etc.) weight.

(a) 1521 WOLSEY in *Ellis Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. I. 179 A smale conceyement... of no regarde, weight, or importance. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 79b. In matters of weight and difficultie. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. 113 What obedience than is due to them in matters of small waight, of small importance. 1606 *Proc. agst. Late Traitors, Garnet* etc. 103 Such new matter as shall be worth the hearing, as being indeed of waight and moment. 1642 D. ROGERS *Naaman* 50 So should we in our journeyes, traivailes, attempts of weight... beseech him that his good hand might appeare. 1697 DRYDEN *Aeneis* VII. 345 Pond'ring future Things of wond'rous Weight. 1729 LAW *Serious C.* xv. (1732) 274 It is certain, that all such bodily actions as affect the soul, are of great weight in Religion. a 1770 JORTIN *Serm.* (1771) II. xix. 377 This is an argument of weight. 1783 BURKE *Sp. Fox's E. India Bill Wks.* 1792 II. 417 The objection is of weight. 1851 HELPS *Comp. Solit.* xi. 214 The night-mares of care and trouble cease to weigh as if they were the only things of weight in the world.

(b) 1581 N. BURNE *Disput.* To King a v. As the importance and vecht of the mater requyris. 1597 HOOKER *Ecl. Pol.* v. lxxv. §4 Ceremonies haue more in waight then in sight. 1614 RALEGH *Hist. World* IV. vii. §2. 299 Considering better... the weight of the businesse, which he had taken in hand. 1662 HOWELL *New Engl. Gram.* 16 In French she [the letter Y] is of that weight that she makes sometimes a whole word of her self. 1708 SWIFT *Sacram. Test Misc.* (1711) 328 But there is no great weight in this. 1741 WATTS *Improv. Mind* II. iv. The weight and force of argument which should influence the mind. 1830 CUNNINGHAM *Brit. Paint.* I. 223 Yet weight must be allowed to the opinion of Northcote. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* IV. I. 513 Weight of moral character was indeed wanting to Edward Seymour. 1861 BUCKLE *Civiliz.* (1869) III. v. 324 Having no wealth to give him weight. 1888 BRUCE *Amer. Commw.* I. viii. 106 The two elections... are the best evidence of the weight of this consideration.

b. spec. The relative value of an observation. More widely, a multiplying factor associated with each of a series of numerical quantities, esp. ones that are added together.

1825 *Phil. Mag.* LXV. 167 The arithmetical mean of a set of observations... is the particular case when the weights a, a', a'' etc. are all equal, and the sum of the errors is equal to zero. 1838 DE MORGAN *Ess. Probab.* 138 The method of finding an average is this: multiply every observation by its weight and divide the sum of the products by the sum of the

weights. 1868 J. C. WATSON *Theoret. Astron.* vii. 372 The relative accuracy of two or more observed values of a quantity may be expressed by means of what are called their weights. 1935 PAULING & WILSON *Introd. Quantum Mech.* iv. 100 The degree of degeneracy (the number of independent wave functions associated with a given energy level) is often called the quantum weight of the level. 1940 G. CROWTHER *Outl. Money* iii. 93 For some sorts of index numbers, weighting is essential... Weights that are correct at one time may be incorrect at other times. 1949 *Economist* 8 Oct. 775/1 If the estimate of the change in productivity had been based on calculations using post-war weights they would have indicated a larger increase in productivity in the United States. 1970 O. DOPPING *Computers & Data Processing* ii. 32 The number 491 means $4 \times 100 + 9 \times 10 + 1$. The weights are 100, 10, and 1, respectively. 1983 *Personal Computer World* Dec. 142/2 When each digit is multiplied by its weight the sum of the products, including the check digit, whose weight is 1, is exactly divisible by 11 in a valid [Standard Book] number.

16. Persuasive or convincing power (of utterances, arguments, evidence); impressiveness (of matter or speech).

1534 BERNERS *Golden Bk. M. Aurel.* Prol. (1535) Aiv. It suffiseth to gyue for the weght the sentence. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* Erasm. Pref. *iij b, A famous speaker... geueth to the saynges moche weight and grace also. 1586 A. DAY *Engl. Secretorie* I. (1625) 5 A matter of gravity is to be delivered with waight. 1630 PRYNNE *Anti-Armin.* 113 A Sentence of sufficient antiquity and weight to put a period to this Controuersie. 1716 ADDISON *Free-holder* No. 19 ¶3 Having nothing of any manner of weight to offer against the principles of their antagonists. 1783 BLAIR *Rhet.* xviii. I. 365 Nothing derogates more from the weight and dignity of any composition, than too great attention to ornament. 1829 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) IV. 158 But this detracts not from the weight of your reasoning. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* II. I. 172 No man spoke with more weight and dignity in council and in parliament. 1866 MRS. WHITNEY *L. Goldthw.* II. The 'O father!' was not without its weight.

17. Weightiest or heaviest part; greatest stress or severity; preponderance, superior amount (of evidence, authority) on one side or the other of a question.

1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 621, xv. thousand men, in whom consisted the waight and peyse of the whole enterprise. 1665 BRATHWAIT *Comment Two Tales* 199 Weight of Judgment has ever given Invention Priority before Language. 1722 DE FOE *Hist. Plague* (1754) 8 The Parish of St. Giles's, where still the Weight of the Infection lay. 1866 ROGERS *Agric. & Prices* I. x. 168 The weight of evidence is in favour of the latter hypothesis. 1883 *Law Rep.*, 11 Q.B.D. 591 An order... for a new trial on the ground... that the verdict was against the weight of evidence.

18. In various phrases:

a. to lay weight upon: †to urge (a person) to do something (obs.); to attach importance or value to.

(a) 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* XLIX. 1238 The woman laid great wait upon me to depart out of those quarters.

(b) 1708 SWIFT *Sacram. Test Misc.* (1711) 336 We are apt to lay some weight upon their Opinion. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* iv. We lay no weight whatever upon the pretended information thus conveyed. 1863 B. TAYLOR *Quaker Widow* xvi. And it was brought upon my mind... That we on dress and outward things perhaps lay too much weight.

† b. to hold weight with: to vie in greatness with. Obs.

1641 J. SHUTE *Sarah & Hagar* (1649) 148 For there are but few deliverances temporal, that hold weight with the delivery from the paines of child-birth.

c. to have weight: to make an impression on, weigh with (those who judge a matter); to receive favourable consideration; to be recognized as valid or important. Similarly to carry weight.

1638 SIR K. DIGBY *Let. to Ld. G. Digby* (1651) 10, I conceive they are to have no more weight with those that have ability to examine them, then [etc.]. 1707 FREIND *Peterboro's Cond.* Sp. 108 The latter opinion had its weight, and prevail'd. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) I. 213 If... such narrow motives have so little weight with me. 1771 JUNIUS *Lett.* lix. 308 The conditions which constitute this right must be taken together. Separately, they have little weight. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) I. 368 If the tenant... were likely to be prejudiced by not being named, this objection would have weight. 1858 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It.* Jmils. (1872) I. 31 The visé of a minister carries more weight.

† d. upon the weight of: on the strength of, by relying on the value of. Obs.

1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 4 Introd., I shall not pretend to raise a Credit to this Work, upon the Weight of my politic News only.

e. to give (full, due) weight to: to allow (a plea, argument, circumstance) its proper force; to weigh equitably; to treat as valid or important.

1885 *Manch. Exam.* 26 June 5/3 His Holiness has given due weight to the many conflicting aspects of the case. *Ibid.* 10 July 5/1 It is proper to give full weight to the exculpatory evidence adduced.

19. Influence or authority (of a person) due to character or ability, position, office, wealth, or the like. Freq. in phrases of weight, of (great, etc.) weight; also to throw, put, one's weight behind something, and varr.

1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 4 ¶7 Those Persons at the Helm are so useful, and in themselves of such Weight. 1747 *Frauds & Abuses Coal-Dealers* (ed. 3) 5 In all popular Assemblies, it has been found necessary to place some Man of Weight and Dignity in the Chair. 1779 J. MOORE *View Soc. France* (1789) I. iv. 25 Their opinions have considerable weight on the manners and opinions of people of rank. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xiii. III. 253 It could hardly be doubted that they were directed by some leader of

great weight. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 6 Nov. 5/3 Political economists of weight refused to join the Commission. 1938 'G. ORWELL' *Homage to Catalonia* v. 65 The Communist Party, with Soviet Russia behind it, had thrown its whole weight against revolution. 1951 C. P. SNOW *Masters* xxxiii. 268, I can't do as much as I should like, but I shall throw in my weight wherever I can. 1976 *Southern Even. Echo* (Southampton) 11 Nov. 1/1 The floodgates opened on the fluoridation of water supplies... when the... Regional Health Authority put their weight behind the scheme.

IV. A standard of quantity determined by, or employed in, weighing.

20. † a. A standard of weight. Obs.

a 1000 Laws *Edgar* III. viii. in *Liebermann* 204 Gange an gemet and an gewiht swylce man on Lundenbyrig and on Wintanceastre healde. a 1200 *Moral Ode* 212 in *O.E. Hom.* I. 173 Godes wisdom is wel muchel... & nis his milce naut lesse, ac bi pan ilke iwichte. c 1200 *Ibid.* 384 (Trin. MS.) *ibid.* II. 231 þar ne sullen [hi] habben god alle bi one wihte. a 1400 *Eng. Gilds* 356 þare þe kynges wyzte by-lyp. *Ibid.* 356 þe kinges by whas wyzte hit be y-weye. 1429 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 349/1 It was ordeinid... yat on weizte and on mesure be bi al ye Reme, as wel with oute ye Estaple as with ynne.

b. With addition of a distinguishing word, as in *troy*, *avoirdupois weight*: Any of the various systems (consisting of a series of units in fixed arithmetical relation to each other) used for stating the weight of a quantity of matter.

a 1500 in *Arnolde Chron.* (1811) 191 Ther beth iij maner weyghtis, that is to wete, troy weyght, auncell weyghtis, and lyggynge weyght. 1540 *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden Soc.) II. 222 Euery person... shuld sell the same by liefull weight called Haberdepoyes. 1545 *Rates Custom-ho.* d v, Fyrst of the wayght of Troye... By thys wayght is bought and solde golde... and jewels. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* s.v. *Weights*, There are two sorts... in use with us; the one called Troy weight... the other *Avoir-du-pois*. 1713 *BERKELEY Guardian* No. 35 ¶7 Ten Pound Averdupoise Weight of this Philosophical Snuff. 1724 SWIFT *Drapier* i. (1730) 15 Twenty Shillings will weigh Six Pounds Butter Weight. 1891 *Labour Commission Gloss.*, Short, statute or imperial weight.—2,240 lbs. to the ton... Long weight.—2,400 lbs. to the ton.

21. a. A unit or denomination of ponderable quantity.

c 1200 ORMIN 7812 All þatt mann sholde biggen ut wipp fife wehte [= shekels] off sillferr. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 28437 Again þe lagh... haf i wysed fals weght and mette. 1398 *TREVISIA Barth. De P.R.* vi. xvii. (MS. Addit. 27944) Mna is a certeyn wyzte and valewe. 1623 COCKERAM 11, A weight of three graines, *Kirat*. 1857 J. H. WALSH *Dom. Econ.* 620 The last mentioned goods may be sold either by the heaped measure, or by the standard weight. 1863 *MISS BRADDON Aur. Floyd* xxxi, She knew—to the smallest weight employed at Apothecaries' Hall... how much sugar Mr. Bulstrode liked in his tea.

b. In pl. and coupled with measures.

1387 *TREVISIA Higden* II. 227 Caym... tornede symple lyuyng [of] men to fyndyng of mesures and of wyztes [L. *ponderum et mensurarum*]. 1596 (title) The Pathway to Knowledge. Conteyning certayne brief Tables of English weights, and Measures. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* s.v. *Weights*, One Phidon an Argive is said to have bin the first finder out of Weights and Measures. 1741-2 GRAY *Agrip.* 41 The power To judge of weights and measures. 1799 *Med. Jmrl.* I. 199 The operations relative to a general uniformity of weights and measures. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 393 The Weights and Measures Act (5th Geo. IV., c. 74).

† c. Used in various localities as a name for the customary unit for weighing particular commodities (e.g. wool, hemp, cheese, potatoes); the quantity denoted differs greatly in different places (see quotes.). Cf. WEY, and MEASURE sb. 5 b. Obs.

1490 in *Somerset Med. Wills* (1901) 291, I have xviii weights of wulle besydes the bequestes aforeseyd. a 1500 in *Arnolde Chron.* (1811) 263 The weight of Essex chese is... CCC. weyght, fyue score xij. li. for the C. The weight of Suffolk chese is xij. score and xvi. li. 1592 in *Rec. Convent. Burghs Scot.* (1870) I. 381 Ane neif full of ewirre wecht of voll. 1656 H. PHILLIPS *Purch. Pattern* (ed. 3) 193 There are some other denominations of these weights in several places, as... Rooves, Weights, Loads. 1687 A. LOVELL *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 98 The Inhabitants make Five thousand Weight of Silk yearly, with the Money whereof they pay their Tribute. 1881 RIMMER *Old Country Towns* 278 A 'weight' for some unexplained cause, was the Boston method of expressing 256 pounds. 1830 *Edin. Cycl.* VII. 221/2 [In Cork] Potatoes, when retailed in market, are sold by a measure called a weight, generally containing 21 lb. 1856 MORTON *Cycl. Agric.* II. 1127 (Dorsets.), of wool, a weigh or weight is 30 lbs., and 1 lb. or 1 lb. over in some places. Weight (Dorsets.), of hemp, 8 heads of 4 lbs., twisted and tied, making 32 lbs. (Somers.), of hemp, 30 lbs.

d. A measure of an illegal drug; hence, the drug. Also without article. *slang*.

1971 *Frendz* 21 May 11/2 Avoid carrying weight late at night. 1972 *Listener* 23 Mar. 359/3 Your hash dealer is usually a friendly happy freak who's managed... to buy himself a weight and he deals it out to his friends. 1978 S. WILSON *Dealer's Move* i. 13 Neil was taking colossal risks, there'd be up to thirty weights sitting in the flat at one time.

22. a. A piece of metal or other substance, weighing a known amount and identical with one of the units or with a multiple or aliquot part of a unit in some recognized scale.

In early instances *false weights* is ambiguous, as it may be referred either to this sense or to 24 (pair of scales); probably the writers did not always distinguish, the virtual sense being 'fraudulent weighing'.

1340 *Ayenb.* 44 Huanne me hep diuerse wyztes... and beggeþ be þe gratteste wyztes... and zelleþ by þe leste. 1398 *TREVISIA Barth. De P.R.* XIX. cxxxi. (1495) 940 Somtyme massy thynges and heuy by the whyche the heuynesse is assayed is callyd a weyght. 1420 *E.E. Wills* (1882) 46, I 3eve to þe sam William a beme þat I weye þer-wyth, and ij leuys, also iij^e of ledyn wyztis. c 1430 *Contin. Brut* 448 In þat tyme

pe gold of þe realme went by weght; And euery man had a payr ballaunce And weghtes in hys sleve for þe gold. **1467** *Eng. Gilds* 383 That all other wightes wryn the cite... be ensealed accordyng to the kynges standart. **1474** *CAXTON Chesse* III. iv. (1883) 107 A man holding in his ryght hand a balance And the weyght in the lifte hand. **1540** *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden Soc.) II. 222 Sufficient beames scales and weghtes seald... for true seruing of the byers. **1583** *Rates Custom ho.* Avjb, Brasse weights called pile weights the c. l. s. **1656** *W. DU GARD tr. Comenius' Gate Lat.* Unl. §536 The lightest little weight, giving motion to the Ballance, they call a Grain. **1784** *TWAMLEY Dairying* 59 Press it with a four pound weight, or... with a lighter weight. **1892** *Photogr. Ann.* II. p. cxvii, Scales and Weights.

b. Athletics. A heavy lump of stone, or ball of metal, which is thrown from one hand placed close to the shoulder. Commonly in the Sc. phr. *putting the weight* (see PUT v.¹ 2, PUTTING vbl. sb.¹ 8). Also *ellipt.* as the name of this sport.

1865 *Field* 21 Jan. 34/1 Throwing the hammer, putting the weight.

23. a. A block or lump of metal or other heavy substance, or a heavy object, used to pull or press down something, to give an impulse to machinery (e.g. in a clock), to act as a counterpoise, or the like. Cf. *letter-weight*, *paper-weight*, *sash weight*, JACK-WEIGHT.

c 1425 *Macro Plays, Cast. Persev.* 1943 þis worthy, wyldde werld, I wagege with a wyt [= wylt]. **1515** in *Archæol. Cant.* XXXII. 17 Payed for mending off the waithes off the clock ij d. **1535** *COVERDALE 2 Kings* XXI. 13 Ouer Ierusalem wyll I stretch forth the lyne of Samaria, and the weighte of the house of Achab. **1606** *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 175 Payed for the jacke, the cordes and pullies, xxv; the weight and cheans, v. **1617** *MORYSON Itin.* III. 66 The dore likewise by weights are made to shut of themselves at the heeles of him that comes in. **1660** *F. BROOKE tr. Le Blanc's Trav.* 266 A delicate Clock with weights to it. **1774** *M. MACKENZIE Maritime Surv.* 48 Let the Weight at the End of the Line be pretty heavy. **1774** *Pennsylv. Gaz.* 9 Feb. Suppl. 2/3 Sash pullies, weights and lines. **1833** *J. HOLLAND Mamuf. Metals* II. 299 A weight being attached to the hook b, the spring... is drawn downwards. **1838** *HAWTHORNE Amer. Note-bks.* (1868) I. 216 There was a clock without a case, the weights being visible.

fig. 1622 *BACON Hen. VII.* 189 By Gods wonderfull providence, that... hangeth great Weights vpon small Wyres. **1639** *J. CLARKE Paræm.* 109 Great weights hang on small wyers. **1641** *GAUDEN Love of Truth* 22 Love is the weight and motor of the soule.

† **b. to go on weights** (see quot.). *Obs.*

1597 *A. M. tr. Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 50/4 The small, thinnie, and Hern-fashoned hippes and legges, wherof we commonly say 'they goe one Wayghtes'.

V. A means of weighing.

† **24. pl.,** less commonly *sing.* (A pair of) scales, a balance. Also in figurative context. *Obs.*

a 1300 *E.E. Psalter* lxi. 10 Lijhers sones of men are ai In weghtes [L. in stateris]. **13..** *E.E. Allit.* P. B. 1734 þy wale rengle is walt in weytes to heng, & is funde ful fewe of hit fayth dedes. **1390** *GOWER Conf.* I. 332 If that I mihte finde a sleighte, To leie al myn astat in weyhte. **1398** *TREVISIA Barth. De P.R.* XIX. cxxx. (1495) nnij, In this wyse... the thyng in the whyche a thyng is weyed is callyd a weyghte. **1437** *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 508/2 Where ye Kings Weights and his Beem ben sette. **1513** *MORE in Grafton Chron.* (1568) II. 763 The world would put her and her kindred in the wight, and say that they had... broken the amitie and peace. **1555** *EDEN Decades* (Arb.) 220 One of these byrdes with her nest put in a paire of gold weights, ... hath waid no more than ii. **Tomini.** **1596** *SPENSER F.Q.* v. ii. 45 The false he layd In th' other scale; but still it downe did slide, And by no meane could in the weight be stayd. **a 1619** *FOTHERBY Atheom.* II. i. §3 (1622) 174 That... weigheth the mountaines in a waite. **1629** *Z. Boyd Last Battell* iv. 499 David in his time put them in the weights together [Ps. lxii. 9].

VI. 25. a. attrib., as *weight balk*, *beam*, *-charge*, *-equivalent*, *-gain*, *limit*, *scale*, *sense*, *stone*, *thermometer*; *weight-conscious* adj.; *weight belt*, a belt to which weights are attached, designed to help divers and underwater swimmers stay submerged; *weight-clock*, a clock operated by weights; *weight cloth*, a cloth carried by a jockey to make up his riding-weight; also *fig.*; *weight function* *Physics*, a function that specifies the weight (sense 15 b) of some quantity; † *weight-house*, a weigh-house; *weight nail* (see quot.); *weight-plate*, a plate on which articles are set to be weighed in a weighing-machine; *weight training*, a method of physical training involving the use of weights.

1575 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 255, j olde *weight balke with skayles, ij d. **1462** *Maldon* (Essex) *Court Rolls* (Bundale 37, No. 4b), A *weight beme de ferro, precii iiiis. **[1943** *Diving Man.* (U.S. Navy Dept.) x. 150 Next, the weighted belt is fastened on.] **1955** *R. & B. CARRIER Dive* iv. 111 *Weight belts should also provide for interchangeable weights to regulate buoyancy as needed. **1966** 'L. HOLTON' *Out of Depths* (1967) xii. 115 'Here. I'll show you a diver's gear... He held up a weight belt. **1978** *A. P. BALDER Sport Diving* ii. 14 The purpose of the weight belt is to help the diver achieve the weightless state. **1898** *Daily News* 7 Dec. 2/7 The *weight-charge on packets above 1lb. in weight. **1850** *DENISON Clock & Watch-m.* 110 The great wheel of a *weight-clock rides on the barrel arbor. **1887** *KIPLING Plain Tales* (1888) 144 You can arrange the race with regard to 'Shaekles' only. So long as you don't bury him under *weight-cloths, I don't mind. *Ibid.* 181 Maybe, Fate's weight-cloths are breaking his heart. **1889** *Daily News* 4 June 3/8 Before... her driver could return to weigh in, his weight cloths were abstracted from the sulky. **1974** *Radio Times* 28 Feb. 280/2 A nervously *weight-conscious society.

1897 *SINGER & BERENS Some Unrecognized Laws Nat.* 107 The volume-equivalent would be too great and the *weight-equivalent too small. **1930** *Weight function [see ORTHOGONALIZE v.]. **1974** *G. REECE tr. Hund's Hist. Quantum Theory* ii. 33 He made use of a weight function $G(E/v)$ for the enumeration of states. **1956** *Nature* 3 Mar. 423/2 (caption) Average *weight-gains of animals fed on lime-treated maize. **1981-2** *Deer Farmer* (N.Z.) Summer 3/1 (Wapiti) Crosses with reds; the hybrids also produce good velvet and weight-gains. **1714** *Fr. Bk. Rates* 300 Any of the Duties of the King's *Weight-House. **1961** *Engineering* 21 July 72/1 The new 1½ litre *weight limit formula came into effect... in May. **c 1850** *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 134 *Weight nails are similar to deck nails, but not so fine, have square heads, and are used for fastening cleats, &c. **1887** *P. McNEILL Blawearie* 169 The colliery engineer was quickly on the ground, [and] the *weight-plate removed. **1849** *NOAD Electricity* (ed. 3) 357 A similar bow was formed on the back of the armature, to which the *weight scale was attached. **1899** *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 709 The *weight sense was lost in the hands as well as in the feet. **1469** *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 21, I have a counterpoise wheite of the *weight stone that the wooll was weyed with. **1849** *R. V. DIXON Heat* I. 52 One an air thermometer, ... the other a mercurial *weight thermometer. **1955** *O. STATE Weight Training for Athletics* i. 17 *Weight training... implies training with light weights... for the purpose of improving one's performance in a particular sport. **1957** *DUNCAN & BONE Oxf. Pocket Bk. Athletic Training* (ed. 2) iii. 24 Weight training may now be regarded as an essential part of athletic training. **1976** *E. DUNPHY Only a Game?* v. 147 We have to do weights. I don't believe in weight-training.

b. Comb., as *weight-bearing* (sb. and adj.), *-carrier* (esp. a horse that can carry a heavy rider), *-carrying*, *-lifter*, *-lifting*, *-maker*, *-puller*, *-putting*, *-raising*, *-reducing* (sb. and adj.), *-resisting*, *-thrower*, *throwing*, † *-wiser* (= indicator).

1954 *MARTIN & HYNES Clin. Endocrinol.* (ed. 2) ii. 50 Osteoarthritis of the hips, knees and spine develops from undue strains of excessive *weight-bearing as life advances. **1959** *Manch. Guardian* 9 July 5/7 We cannot even tell whether the heavy walls of the new buildings are the weight-bearing structures they look to be. **1977** *P. A. RING in Bone & Joint Dis.* (Brit. Med. Assoc.) 83 It may be better to strive for union in the relatively young patient, even at the risk of a period of protected weight-bearing. **1862** *G. A. LAWRENCE Barren Honour* xix. II. 90 Red Lancer is a very model of a fast *weight-carrier. **1893** *F. F. MOORE I Forbid Banns* (1899) 31 It has the build of a weight-carrier, that chair. **1883** *Mrs. E. KENNARD Right Sort* xix, Mounted on a huge *weight-carrying hunter. **1897** *Daily News* 14 May 3/2 Our baggage animals—to the limit of their weight-carrying capacity. **[1884** *Nat. Police Gaz.* (U.S.) 12 Jan. 13/2 Alonzo Hiwanda, the... champion heavy-weight lifter.] **1897** *Ibid.* 26 May 3/4 Bothwell, of Glasgow, is well known as a powerful man, besides a *weight lifter. **1955** *R. BANNISTER First Four Minutes* 112 The waddling gait and breathlessness of a muscle-bound weight-lifter. **1980** *Sunday Times* (Colour Suppl.) 14 Sept. 99/2 A weightlifter complained that he did not like showing his tattoos in public. **1896** *Daily News* 6 Apr. 5/7 The London *Weight-lifting Club. **1902** *Daily Chron.* 28 Apr. 5/3 A series of weight-lifting competitions. **1647** in *W. M. Williams Ann. Founders' Co.* (1867) 103 No *Waight Maker that doth cast Brass Waightes and... put them to sale. **1868** *H. WOODRUFF Trotting Horse* xxiii. 200 The *weight-pullers... are of medium weight. **1900** *A. E. T. WATSON Young Sportsman* 84 *Weight putting—The weight should weigh 16 lbs., and in England must be of iron. **1948** *Sporting Mirror* 21 May 14/3 Giles had never done any weight putting when he went to Germany with the army. **1850** *DENISON Clock & Watch-m.* 245 The going part is also reduced... to a mere *weight-raising machine. **1922** *Times* 7 Oct. 13/5 Grilling is the great essential of the *weight-reducing diet. **1958** *F. C. AVIS Boxing Ref. Dict.*, *Weight reducing*, taking off superfluous weight, often by means of vapour baths, sweating exercises, etc. **1978** *N. MARSH Grave Mistake* ii. 42 She tried... to get Verity to fix a day when she would come to a weight-reducing luncheon. **1708** *PHILIPS Cyder* I. 265 Hazel, and *weight-resisting Palm. **1895** *Outing* XXVI. 461/2 Any one of her five *weight throwers could beat the best man at Cambridge. **1901** *J. P. PARET Woman's Bk. Sports* 163 *Weight-throwing has four or five variations. **1960** *Times* 29 Apr. 16/6 The investigation covered swimming, track running, weight-throwing. **1685** *Phil. Trans.* XV. 1003 We find, by several sorts of Baroscopes (or *weight-wisers) not only that [etc.].

weight (weyt, Sc. wext), sb.² *Sc.* and *north.* Forms: 2 wehit, (wheit), 4 wyeight, whight, 4-5 weght, 8-9 weight, 6- wecht. (See also *Eng. Dial. Dict.*) [Possibly a special application of prec. 21, orig. denoting a utensil capable of containing a certain weight of grain.] A farm utensil resembling a sieve in form, with a bottom of sheepskin or wood (unperforated), used for winnowing corn, also as a measure.

For *timbre wecht*: see TIMBRE sb.¹ b.

1183 *Boldon Bk.* (Surtees) 23 Et j. wehit de scatmalt, et j. wehit de farina, et j. wehit de avena. **1354** *Finchale Acc.* (Surtees) p. xxxvi, iij wyeightes. **1360** *Ibid.* p. lii, ij weghtes. **1371** *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 129, iij riddilis; j whight. **1483** *Cath. Angl.* 412/2 A Weight, capisterium. **1724** *RAMSAY Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) II. 181 My bairn has tocher of her awin... A Wecht, a peet-creele and a cradle. **c 1780** *M. LONSDALE in S. Gilpin Songs & Ballads Cumbld.* (1866) 279 Theer was whangs an' shives, thick an' thin, I' weights an' riddles putt'n. **1786** *BURNS Halloween* xxi, Meg fain wad to the Barn gaen, To winn three wechts o' naething. **1844** *H. STEPHENS Bk. Farm* II. 283 Wechts or maunds for taking up corn are made either of wood or of skin, attached to a rim of wood... Wechts should be made of [two] different sizes. **1898** *J. COLVILLE Sc. Vernacular* 12 When snow covered the ground, the barn wecht or close sieve was the favourite [bird] trap.

Hence 'wechtful, the amount contained in a 'weight'. Also *wecht v. trans.*, to winnow (corn) with a 'weight'.

1804 *TARRAS Poems* 67 She wechts the corn anent the blaw. **1808** *JAMIESON, Wechtful*, as much as a wecht can contain. **1832** *CARLYLE Remin.* (1881) I. 29 Potatoes were little in use then; a 'wechtful' was stored up to be eaten perhaps about Halloween. **1844** *H. STEPHENS Bk. Farm* II. 273 Another woman, with a smaller wecht, takes up the good grain... and divides the wechtful between the other two women. *Ibid.* 283.

weight (weyt), v. [f. WEIGHT sb.¹]

† **1. trans.** To oppress (the mind); also *pass.*, to be oppressed in mind or spirit. *Sc. Obs.*

1647 *R. BAILLIE Lett.* (1842) III. 3 However this silence sometimes weighted my mind, yet I found it the best and wisest course. **1654** *SIR A. JOHNSTON* (Ld. Wariston) *Diary* 10 Apr. (S.H.S.) II. 230 Shoe told me my daughter Elizabeth had found under hir seaknesse a deserted condition and now shoe was weighted with it. **1728** *P. WALKER Life Peden* (1827) I. 80 When he awak'd, he seem'd more than ordinary weighted, and groan'd heavily, saying, Sad Days for Scotland.

2. a. To load with a weight; to supply with an additional weight; to make weighty. Also with *down*.

1747 *HOOSON Miner's Dict.* G 3 b, If the Wholes be too soft, that we think it will let the Forks settle when they come to be weighted, we put a Sill under them. **1813** *VANCOUVER Agric. Devon* 65 The large masses [of stone] used for weighting the levers of the cider-presses. **1851-4** *TOMLINSON Cycl. Arts & Manuf.* II. 31/1 The boards... are... filled with earth to weight them down. **1885** *Manch. Exam.* 10 Sept. 5/3 A bough is cut from a tree... weighted with a few heavy stones and then dragged over the soil.

fig. 1825 *COLERIDGE Aids Refl.* 78 We may see with complacency the Arrows of Satire feathered with Wit, weighted with Sense, and discharged by a strong Arm, fly home to their mark. **1860** *MOTLEY Netherl.* (1868) I. ii. 46 Intricate nets of diplomatic intrigue, ... thoroughly weighted with Mexican gold.

b. fig. To oppress with weight, to weigh down; chiefly *pass.*, to be heavily burdened (*by* or *with* oppressive conditions or circumstances). Also with *down*.

1858 *FROUDE Hist. Eng.* III. xvii. 445 Weighted as he was with faults, ... he fought his battle bravely. **1872** *GEO. ELIOT Middlem.* xlvii, It wants to have a House of Commons which is not weighted with nominees of the landed class. **1880** *SWINBURNE Study Shaks.* 236 The memory of Mr. Tennyson would be weighted and degraded by the ascription of whole volumes of pilfered and diluted verse.

c. techn. To add weight to (an inferior commodity) by the admixture or use of an adulterant.

1862 *C. O'NEILL Dict. Calico Printing & Dyeing* 19 A sulphate of baryta... is used for 'weighting,' that is, for giving weight and apparent body and firmness to inferior goods. **1886** *Daily Tel.* 24 June (Cassell) Dark arts are in certain quarters practised... in disguising and weighting teas. **1895** *Daily News* 1 Oct. 6/3 The ingenuity of the foreign dyer was such that he was able to 'weight' or adulterate his silk.

d. Statistics. To multiply the components of (an average) by compensating factors; to treat (the components of any numerical quantity) similarly.

1901 *A. L. BOWLEY Elem. Statist.* 111 The very important statistical method known as 'weighting the average'. *Ibid.*, Should we weight the numbers given by the total numbers of inhabitants of the contributing counties, or by their distance from London, or by some quantity derived from these? **1927** *C. SPEARMAN Abilities of Man* App. p. xviii, We urgently require to know how the single tests should be relatively 'weighted' in their combination. **1971** *I. G. GASS et al. Understanding Earth* v. 82 The individual data were weighted according to quality, so that a poorly determined result makes a smaller contribution to the mean than a precisely determined value. **1976** *Daily Record* (Glasgow) 30 Nov., Replies were weighted by age and General Election voting to make sure they were representative of all Record readers. **1977** *Whitaker's Almanack* 1978 1219 In working out the [cost-of-living] index figure, the price changes are 'weighted'—that is, given different degrees of importance—in accordance with the pattern of consumption of the average family.

3. To assign to (a horse) the weight he must carry in a handicap race. (Cf. WEIGHT sb.¹ 12 a.)

1846 *DARVILL Engl. Race Horse* (ed. 3) II. 286 Such horse is generally highly weighted, to bring him on a fair equality with the others. **1856** 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Sports* II. i. i. §2 Horses are constantly entered and run solely with the view of inducing the handicapper to 'weight' them at a low scale. **1883** 'RAPIER' *Types of Turf* 73 A very bad colt... was weighted in a manner ludicrously disproportionate to his capacity.

fig. 1865 *HUXLEY Lay Serm.* ii. (1870) 30 So long as this potential motherhood is her lot, woman will be found to be fearfully weighted in the race of life. **1875** *MERIVALE Gen. Hist. Rome* v. 29 The plebeians, however unfairly weighted in the race for riches, could not be always kept in poverty.

4. a. (In senses of WEIGH v.¹) *trans.* To ascertain the weight of (goods, etc.) by means of a weighing machine; to weigh. *lit.* and *fig.* Also *colloq.*, to feel the weight or heaviness of (something held in the hands).

1734 *J. STEUART Letter-Bk.* (1915) 378 Your meall to be weighted with the common standard weights of Mariebrugh. **1865-** [see WEIGHING vbl. sb.] **1898** *L. QUILLER-COUCH Span. Maid* iv. 202 Why, there hasn' a bin a touch of cold in the air...; an' heavy!—you can a-most weight it in yer hands.

b. Of a jockey: *to weight out, in*, to undergo weighing before or after a race. = **WEIGH** *v.* 9. **1877** *Rules of Racing* § 34 (iii). It is optional for the jockey to weight out or in with his bridle.

weight, obs. form of **WAIT** *sb.*, *v.*¹, **WIGHT**.

weightage ('weɪtɪdʒ). Chiefly *Pol.* or in *Pol.* contexts. [*f.* **WEIGHT** *v.* + **-AGE**.] The assignment of a weighting factor to compensate for some (numerical) disadvantage, esp. in favour of a sparsely populated area, or to a minority party, interest, etc.; the amount so added. See **WEIGHTING** *vbl. sb.* 3.

1906 in A. Husain *Fazl-i-Husain* (1946) vi. 96 Weightage, not by numerical strength but by political importance and value of the contribution made to the defence of the Empire. **1937** *Times* 24 Dec. 13/3 The Liberals [in Romania] only managed to secure 38 per cent. of the votes. . . They do not, therefore, qualify for the 'weightage' provided by the law of 1926. **1949** I. JENNINGS *Constitution of Ceylon* ii. 189 In agricultural countries like South Africa and Australia. . . the rural population, on whom the wealth of the country largely depends, must be given some weightage against the more concentrated and more highly organized urban population. **1957** L. F. R. WILLIAMS *State of Israel* 159 Does the present plan give these fractional groups a weightage in public affairs. . . which their relative unimportance cannot justify? **1971** *Queen's College* (Oxford) *Record* Dec. 22 The geographical distribution of men who have gone down does not reflect quite the same northern weightage as do schools of origin. **1980** *Sunday Mail* (Brisbane) 9 Nov. 25/1 The National Party yesterday reaffirmed its policy of electoral distribution based on the electoral 'weightage' principle.

weighted ('weɪtɪd), *ppl. a.* [*f.* **WEIGHT** *v.* + **-ED**.]

1. †*a.* Of one's mind or spirit: Overburdened, oppressed. *Obs.*

1660 [see **WEIGHTEDNESS** (below)]. **1732** T. BOSTON *Crook in Lot* (1805) 168 Their weighted and sorrowful life will be succeeded with a fullness of joy.

b. Burdened with a heavy weight; loaded. Of the eyelids: Heavy with sleep.

1895 S. CRANE *Red Badge* xiii, His head fell forward. . . and his weighted lids went softly down over his eyes. **1905** 'J. OXENHAM' *White Fire* xiii, Their weighted progress was slow.

2. *a.* Furnished with a heavy substance to give additional weight.

1827 FARADAY *Chem. Manip.* xv. (1842) 360 When filled and covered with a weighted board, they [*sc.* the bladders] will supply a constant stream of gas. **1839** URE *Dict. Arts*, etc. 1286 The warp and web are kept longitudinally stretched by a weighted cord. **1872** *Abridgm. Specif. Patents, Raising* etc. (ed. 2) 182 A stationary rod, on which is mounted a weighted lever.

b. *fig.* Of words, etc.: Made weighty. **1879** 19th Cent. Oct. 596 Supposing Mr. M.'s argument to be. . . that of a special pleader who uses weighted words even in preparing to open his discussion. **1914** D. MACMILLAN *Life R. Flint* xii. 344 Its objectivity is equally evident, if one compares it, say, with the more subjectively weighted definitions.

c. *weighted average*, an average in taking which each component is multiplied by a factor chosen to give it its proper importance. *weighted* is similarly used of numerical quantities other than averages.

1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* II. 443 We may. . . call the constant *c* the specific weight of the observations to which it applies, and $\Sigma cA \div \Sigma c$ the weighted mean. **1901** A. L. BOWLEY *Elem. Statist.* 111. **1962** A. NISBETT *Technique Sound Studio* 277 Quoted noise levels are sometimes 'weighted' against bass according to standard loudness contours. Weighted and unweighted measurements may differ by 20 dB or more at low frequencies. **1970** G. K. WOODGATE *Elem. Atomic Struct.* vii. 137 The identity. . . simply states that the weighted mean of the energies of the levels belonging to a term coincides with the energy of the unperturbed term. **1972** *Times* 27 Sept. 2/2 (*heading*) 'Weighted' vote at Labour conference suggested.

Hence **'weightedness**, the condition of being weighted.

1660 J. DURHAM *Expos. Rev.* v. i. 284 Secondly, There is a disappointment, *vers.* 3. Thirdly, There is John's exceeding great heaviness and weightedness therewith, *vers.* 4.

†**'weightful**, *a.* *Obs.*—⁰ [*f.* **WEIGHT** *sb.*¹ + **-FUL**.] **Weighty**.

1530 PALSGR. 329/1 Weyghtfull, pondereux.

weightily ('weɪtɪli), *adv.* [*f.* **WEIGHTY** + **-LY**².] In a weighty manner; with or as with weight. Usually *fig.*

1552 HULOET, Weyghtelye, pensiculate. **1572** BOSSEWELL *Armorie* II. 25 b, It is very needefull. . . diligently to see, and weightily to consider the cote armors, whiche are put to them to bee paynted. **1637** B. JONSON *Discov. Wks.* 1640 II. 101 No man ever spake more neatly, more presly, more weightily. **1667** H. MORE *Div. Dial.* II. xiv. (1668) 257 How few. . . do seriously spend their studies in any thing weightily Moral or Intellectual? **1725** BROOME *Pope's Odys.* Notes VII. 379 II. 170 He makes his agents speak weightily and sententiously. **1856** FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* II. 409 Abuses, which. . . told most weightily on the serious judgment of the age. **1868** E. EDWARDS *Raleigh* I. xix. 410 There was some division of opinion upon the bench on the question thus weightily opened.

weightiness ('weɪtɪnis). [*f.* **WEIGHTY** *a.* + **-NESS**.] The quality or condition of being weighty: *a. fig.*, the fact of being of much

weight, importance, or consequence; grave or serious character.

1530 PALSGR. 287/2 Weightynesse, aggrauation. **1560** DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 152 b, The weightines of the cause also requireth, that many of vs should come to the counsell. **1596** LODGE *Marg. Amer.* 42 If thou faint through feebleness of bodie, I will default through waightnesse of discontent. **1618** Barnevelt's *Apol.* C 3, I had. . . complained. . . of the weightinesse of the Office imposed vpon me. **1665** J. GOODWIN *Filled w. the Spirit* (1867) 371 The weightiness or penetrating force of those arguments. **1713** ELLWOOD *Autobiog.* (1714) 15 The Weightiness that was upon their Spirits and Countenances. **1744** M. BISHOP *Life* 14 Observing the Weightiness of the Concern, this was my Method of proceeding. **1905** 'J. OXENHAM' *White Fire* xvi. 161 'The matter is worth consideration,' he said, with an assumption of weightiness.

b. of material things.

1539 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* III. vii, There is felt in the entayles. . . a weyghtynesse with tension or thrusting outwarde. **1591** SPENSER *Ruins of Time* 571 The Caue. . . with her owne weightynesse Vpon them fell. **1690** LOCKE *Hum. Und.* II. xxxi[i]. § 18 The peculiar Weightiness, and yellow Colour of Gold. **1832** L. HUNT *Sir R. Esher* (1850) 33 It was relieved from an appearance of too much weight by the very weightiness of the hanging sleeves. **1839** BAILEY *Festus* 25 A deathless spirit's state, Freed from gross form and bodily weightiness.

weighting ('weɪtɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [*f.* **WEIGHT** *v.* + **-ING**¹.]

1. *a.* The action of the verb.

1865 JANET HAMILTON *Poems* etc. (1870) 154 It's England mak's an' sign's the peace. . . ; Whan Europe's balance gangs aage, She trims the scales for wechtin'.

b. *spec.* The action or process of fraudulently adding weight to textiles (see **WEIGHT** *v.* 2 c).

1904 Tailor & Cutter 4 Aug. 480/2 Woollen Draper's Terms, Weighting: A process by which sulphate of zinc and other metals is absorbed in wool, and so adding weight.

2. *concr.* Something used as a weight to press down, steady, or balance.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1464/1 Weighting. Blocks put on a flask to keep the cope down under the upward pressure of the body of iron poured into the mold. **1907** *Westm. Gaz.* 16 Feb. 13/1 Another evening froek. . . has weightings of jet and silver at the foot and about the décolletage.

3. The assignment of weights (**WEIGHT** *sb.* 15 b); the weights so used.

1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 12 Jan. 3/1 A different system of weighting, . . &c., may cause a difference of 1, 2. . . per cent. in the index numbers. **1940** [see **WEIGHT** *sb.* 15 b]. **1965** PHILLIPS & WILLIAMS *Inorg. Chem.* I. iii. 75 One general technique for improving on the first approximation by the V.B. method is to include additional structures. . . in the complete wave function, with appropriate weighting factors. **1972** *Guardian* 18 Feb. 13/5 Rents and eating out. . . accounts for 22 per cent of the 'weighting' of the [retail price] index. **1983** *Personal Computer World* Dec. 142/2 Each of the eight digits of the base number is given a weighting.

4. An amount added to a salary for a special reason; esp. *London weighting*, that paid to compensate for the higher cost of living in the London area.

1946 Scheme of Conditions of Service (National Joint Council for Local Authorities' Admin., Profess., Techn. & Clerical Services) 19 The salary scales shall be weighted, as follows, in favour of officers employed in the London area: . . £20 weighting with proportionate weighting of female scales. **1952** *Times* 25 Jan. 2/7 The wording of the statement relating to the award did not make clear whether the recommended increase was meant to be over and above the weekly 10s. 'weighting allowance' granted to London [fire]men. **1958** *Times* 5 Dec. 3/2 Salary (including London Weighting) according to age and experience. **1976** *Broadcast* Dec. 17/1 Brief consideration was given to a number of items including: weighting for major towns and cities other than London, London weighting, interest on monies owed to staff, [etc.]. **1982** *Daily Tel.* 20 Oct. 1/1 The government is to end the annual publication of the London weighting index which is widely used as the basis for calculating extra payments for employees in London.

weightless ('weɪtlɪs), *a.* [*f.* **WEIGHT** *sb.*¹ + **-LESS**.] *a.* Without weight, having comparatively little weight. Also (of a body having mass), not apparently acted on by gravity, either because the gravitational field is locally weak, or because both the body and its surroundings are freely and equally accelerating under the field (as in an orbiting satellite).

1547 SURREY *Aeneid* II. 1054 But she was gone, And subtly fled into the weightlesse aire. **1597** SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV.* IV. v. 33 Did hee suspire, that light and weightlesse downle Performe must moue. **1621** G. SANDYS *Ovid's Met.* x. (1626) 214 The Swans that drew Idalia's weightlesse charriot through the aire. **1652** BENLOWES *Theophila* III. xxx, Those lights. . . Who would portray, as soon may find A way to paint the viewless, poise the weightless wind. **1860** W. W. READE *Liberty Hall* I. v. 77 The captain of the Liberty Hall boat. . . had long since observed young Saxon, his form slim therefore weightless. **1890** K. PEARSON in *Messenger Math.* XX. 28 Suppose the load at the free terminal not to be produced by a suspended load but by a weightless spring. **1929** *Science Wonder Q.* Fall 55/2 Do you mean that. . . we will be weightless as soon as you. . . set the lever at zero? **1950** *Jrnl. Aviation Med.* XXI. 396/2 A body is weightless as soon as it is allowed to move freely under the influence of gravity and of its own inertia. **1953** A. C. CLARKE *Prelude to Space* v. 28 The perfect [spaceship] pilot. . . must be capable of operating efficiently. . . when he was 'weightless'. **1978** *Nature* 20 July 236/1 We report here the results of an experiment in the weightless environment of space. **1983** A. MASON *Illusionist* i. 15 A man who could command his body to float weightless through the air could not command the necessities of life.

b. of immaterial things.

1608 J. ROBINSON in Bp. Hall *Apol. Brownists* (1610) 3 margin, [They] are oft times emboldened to roule vpon them as from aloft very weake and weightlesse discourses. **1662** DRYDEN *To Ld. Chancellor* 155 The glorious course you have begun. . . must both weightless and immortal prove. **1855** SINGLETON *Virgil* VII. 814 For neither weightless was Amata's name. **1858** W. ARNOT *Laws fr. Heaven for Life on Earth* 2nd Ser. ii. 22 A voluble tongue. . . may. . . not add one grain to the stoek of human wisdom by the imposing bulk of its weightless product.

Hence **'weightlessness**.

1884 E. FAWCETT *Rutherford* xvii. 195 The hand which she gave him had wasted into almost utter weightlessness. **1929** *Science Wonder Q.* Fall 58/2 If they had not already been accustomed to weightlessness, the first heedless step would have carried them far from the ship. **1932** D. LASSER *Conquest of Space* xiii. 192 The terrors of weightlessness. **1959** *Observer* 31 May 1/4 The two monkeys spent a number of minutes in a condition of weightlessness or zero G. **1974** R. ADAMS *Shardik* x. 74 Her stane gave a curious impression of weightlessness, as though she might actually be about to float down into the hollow. **1983** *Brit. Med. Jnl.* 13 Aug. 479/2 The most important vestibular disturbance encountered in weightlessness is motion sickness.

Weight Watcher. orig. *U.S.* Also *weight-watcher*. [**WEIGHT** *sb.*¹: see **WATCH** *v.* 12 d.]

1. *pl.* A proprietary name used esp. for (members of) an organization, Weight Watchers International Inc., formed to promote dietary control as a means of slimming, or any of its associated clubs. *Oecas.* in *sing.*

1961 *Official Gaz.* (U.S. Patent Office) 28 Feb. TM 130/2 The Low Calorie Candy Co., Inc. . . Filed Mar. 14, 1960. *Weight Watcher.* For dessert and pie mixes sold in combination packages. . . First use Feb. 1, 1960. **1964** *N. Y. Herald Tribune* 1 Nov. 11 4/3 Weight Watchers is an Alcoholies Anonymous for compulsive eaters. *Ibid.* (*caption*) Novice Weight Watchers line up for the first session of a new group. **1966** J. NIDETCH (*title*) The Weight Watchers Cookbook. **1966** *Sunday Tel.* 28 Aug. 2/4 A Long Island housewife has successfully tackled the American problem of compulsive eating with her movement Weight Watchers Incorporated, which now has hundreds of thousands of members in 15 States. **1967** *Business Week* 4 Mar. 106/3 They. . . transplant the Weight Watcher idea. . . under a system of franchises. **1967** *Trade Marks Jnl.* 25 Oct. 162/2 *Weight Watchers*. . . Books, printed publications, stationery, diaries, printed matter and pocket portfolios. . . all containing data pertaining to dieting and weight control. Weight Watchers International Inc. **1967** *Official Gaz.* (U.S. Patent Office) 5 Sept. TM 21/2 I. B. Kleinert Rubber Company, New York. . . *Weight Watcher.* For girdles. **1968** *Ibid.* 16 Jan. TM 133/1 Weight Watchers International, Inc. . . Filed Sept. 26, 1967. *Weight Watchers*. . . For indicating membership in the applicant association. **1968** *Ibid.* 18 June TM 146/1 *Weight Watchers*. For planning, executing and supervising diet programs by means of group meetings, courses [etc.]. . . First use May 15, 1963. **1972** J. ANDERSON in *Clin. Endocrinol.* (1973) 80 Group therapy should not be derided and is probably one of the main reasons for the apparent success of 'Weight-Watchers' clubs. **1977** P. HILL *Liars* xi. 144 You should join Weightwatchers. . . They'd slim you down in no time. **1978** *Cornish Guardian* 27 Apr. 12/5 Mr. Arthur spoke of the health campaign in arranging a 'fun and jog' for all ages, involving the local Weight Watchers, Keep Fit Classes. **1984** S. MOODY *Penny Dreadful* xi. 144 Half the world starved while the other half joined Weight Watchers.

2. (With small initials.) A person who tries to lose weight, esp. by dieting; one who is weight-conscious.

1966 *Family Circle* Jan. (recto front cover), Meal plans for weight-watchers. **1968** *Sunday Times* 10 Nov. 35 Italians are not exactly the keenest weight-watchers in the world and hardly let a day go by without forking into the pasta. **1970** *Guardian* 6 June 12/5 What the intelligent weight watcher needs is a diet which keeps her fit. **1971** *New Scientist* 4 Feb. 231/3 The hint to weight-watchers is obvious: keep food out of sight, and it should stay out of mind. **1983** *Daily Tel.*, 9 Feb. 17/4 The old message that it was good for weight watchers to eat a slice of cheese on a cream cracker has gone out of the window.

Hence **'weight-watching** *ppl. a.* and *vbl. sb.*

1970 *Globe & Mail* (Toronto) 26 Sept. 29/2 (Adv.), Luncheon here is to be recommended. . . and for the weight watching girls. . . there are tempting light suggestions. **1978** *Dumfries Courier* 20 Oct. 28/3 Martin. . . decided that dieting or weight-watching were not for him. **1982** W. J. BURLEY *Wycliffe's Wild-Goose Chase* iv. 66 'Beef casserole with boiled potatoes and carrots.' Good! But not for weight watching.

weighty ('weɪti), *a.* Forms: 5 *wehty*, 6 *Sc. wegh-*, *vech-*, *vych-*, *wych-*, *waich-*, *waychtie*, 6–7 *Sc. wechtie*, 7 *Sc. weychtie*, 6, 9 *Sc. wechty*; 6 *weyhty*(e, 6–7 *weightie*, 5– *weighty*; 6 *wayhty*, *wai(h)ti*, *wayt(t)y*, 6–7 *weighty*, -ie. [*f.* **WEIGHT** *sb.*¹ + **-Y**¹.]

1. 1. Of a considerable or appreciable weight; that weighs a good deal, heavy.

1500 *Ortus Vocab.*, *Onerosus*, heuy or wehty. **1535** COVERDALE *Prov.* xxvii. 3 The stone is heuy and the sonde weightie: but a foolles wrath is heuyer then they both. **1577** B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 24 b, The best seede also is that which is weightiest. **1665** MANLEY *Grotius' Low C. Wars* 351 A very great Frost. . . had covered with Ice, both the Marshes and Rivers, that they would bear the greatest and most weighty Carriages. **1681** CHETHAM *Angler's Vadem.* i. § 4 Let all the Hasle Rods be. . . no weightier than you can easily manage with one Hand. **1697** DRYDEN *Aeneis* XII. 1284 Now stern Aeneas waves his weighty Spear Against his Foe. **1711** POPE *Temple Fame* 429 As weighty bodies to the centre tend. **1852** MALPAS *Builder's Pocketbk.* 43 Many ceilings. . . have heavy cornices, pendants, and other weighty

matters attached to them. **1879** J. C. COX *Ch. of Derbys*. IV. 141 He... lies buried under a weighty uninscribed tomb.

fig. 1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang.* T. 1. 63 By that path, their Crowne of glory had neither been so certaine, nor so soone, nor so weighty.

b. Of persons or animals: Of more than the usual size, large or bulky of body, corpulent. **†Of soldiers:** Heavily armed or equipped.

1581 A. HALL *Iliad* II. Catal. Princes 39 And Iton breeder good Of waightie felterd felled sheepe. **1590** R. FERRIS *Dang. Adventure* B2, We recovered him and got him vp againe (although he were a verie waightie man). **1670** MILTON *Hist. Brit.* II. 59 Ostorius... could hardly stay thir flight; till the waighty Legions coming on, at first poy's'd the Battel, at length turn'd the Scale. **a 1701** MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* (1732) 124 Upon the bough there sits a good weighty Fellow, to press it down to the bottom [of the water]. **1819** W. TENNANT *Papistry storm'd* (1827) 49 Auld Saunders Clerk, a man o' echty, Though eild-encumber't now and wechty.

c. Of great weight in proportion to its bulk, of high specific gravity.

1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 403/1 *Argentum graue*,... weightie siluer, or siluer in bulleon, as they call it. **a 1700** EVELYN *Diary* 22 June 1664, It look'd like a fungus, but was weightie like metall. **1748** J. HILL *Hist. Fossils* 13 Friable, weighty, fine red Bole. **1796** KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 138 Baroselenite... Rough and harsh, but appears weighty. **1839** URE *Dict. Arts* 816 The successive percussions that it receives, determine the weightier matters, and consequently those richest in metal, to accumulate towards its upper end.

†d. Of coin: Of full weight, of the standard or legal weight. *Obs.*

1617 MORYSON *Itin.* 1. 294 He that brings a weighty French crowne *In specie* to the Gold-smiths, they will give him six shilling six pence for it. **1691** LOCKE *Consid. Lower. Interest* (1692) 156 He will... contract to be paid in weighty Money. **1730** CONDUITT *Observ. Coins* (1774) 52 If foreigners, who take our money in large parcels only by weight, are suffered to pour in light money upon us, at the same rate as if it were weighty.

2. Bearing down heavily as if weighted or of great weight; falling with force or violence.

1583 tr. *Maison Neuve's Gerileon* 1. 61 b, If he had not by his agillitie and nimblenesse, eschewed the weightie blowes of the Giaunte. **1605** R. F. *Dedekind's Sch. Slovenie* (1904) 101 Another must both brawling words and weightie blows abide. **1725** POPE *Odys.* x. 198 Then leaning on the spear with both my haps, [I] Up-bore my load, and prest the sinking sands With weighty steps. **1738** WESLEY *Ps.* XXXII. viii, Whoe'er like Horse and Mule withstand,... I bruise beneath my weighty Hand.

II. 3. a. Of great gravity or significance; requiring earnest thought, consideration, or application; highly important, serious, grave, momentous.

1489 EARL OF NORTHUMBERLD. in *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 61 For right weighty consideration me moving concerning the pleasur of the Kings highnes. **1503-4** *Act 19 Hen. VII.* c. 28 Preamble, Great and weighty matters concernyng the comen weale of this lande. **1548** HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 163 My lordes, we haue perceiued the kyng your masters requests, which be greate and of a waightie Importaunce. **1591** SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI.* II. i. 62 This was your default, That being Capitaine of the Watch to Night, Did looke no better to that weightie Charge. **1606** STOCK tr. *Whitaker's Answ. Campian* 95 A waighty question... concerning lawfull ceremonies. **1646** *Hamilton Papers* (Camden) 129 You may judge how gladly I would impart things of waightier and more pleasing consequence. **1693** W. FREKE *Sel. Ess.* xxvi. 154 By Dissimulation and Trifles, sometimes the Weightiest Matters haue been discovered. **1718** *Free-thinker* No. 65. 71 What weighty Negotiations did He bring to a Conclusion! **1737** POPE *Hor. Epist.* II. i. 379 Or choose at least some Minister of Grace, Fit to bestow the Laureate's weighty place. **1769** BURKE *Observ. Late St. Nation* Wks. 1842 I. 80 The questions of war and peace, the most weighty of all questions. **1809** COLERIDGE *Friend* No. 7. 109 There are three weighty motives for a distinct exposition of this Theory. **1865** DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* III. iv, And now I am going seriously to tell you... four secrets. Mind! Serious, grave, weighty secrets.

b. Of a substantial or solid nature; ranking high in respect of importance or value.

In quot. 1744 employed sarcastically with allusion to sense 1.

1558 BP. WATSON *Seven Sacram.* xxx. 193 To exchange the short and light affections of thys tyme, wyth the eternall and weighty ioyes in the Kyngdome of heauen. **1586** A. DAY *Eng. Secretorie* 1. (1595) 49 The authority of Example is also very weighty. **1596** NASHE *Saffron-Walden* S2, Were they weightie Treatises? **1653** W. RAMESEY *Astrol. Restored* 110 You are to know that a more weighty planet, or that which is superiour cannot apply unto the lighter or inferiour, except when he is retrograde. **1744** *Def. People* title-p., Full Confutation of the Pretended Facts, advanc'd in a late Huge, Angry Pamphlet... In a Letter to the Author of that weighty Performance. **1816** SINGER *Playing Cards* 165 Mr. Dibdin whose authority on the subject is the weightiest that could be possibly adduced. **1874** BLACKIE *Self-Cult.* 41 In these days, when the most weighty books may be had cheaply, in the lightest form. **1877** HUXLEY *Techn. Educ. Sci. & Cult.* (1881) 84 Steps which will have a weighty and a lasting influence on the growth and spread of sound and thorough teaching.

4. a. Of an argument, utterance, etc.: Producing a powerful effect; adapted to influence or convince; forcible, telling, potent.

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 114 With moste weightie wordes. **1573** G. HARVEY *Letter Bk.* (Camden) 12 Your wurship hath harde what forcible and waiti reasons M. Nevil hath usid against me. **1594** SHAKS. *Rich. III.* I. i. 148 Lyes well steel'd with weighty Arguments. **1641** J. JACKSON *True Evang.* T. II. 133 A speech... so gnomical and waighty, that S. Augustin highly commends it. **1717** PRIOR *Alma* III. 44 No fool Pythagoras was thought; Whilst he his weighty doctrines taught. **1759** ROBERTSON *Hist. Scot.* I. IV. 264 But

on the other hand several weighty objections had to be urged. **1856** KINGSLEY *Misc.* (1859) I. ix. 331 Reflections very wise and weighty indeed. **1868** FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* II. ix. 334 Few and weighty were the words which the great Earl spoke that day. **1890** *Law Times Rep.* LXIII. 684/1, I must adopt the evidence on the other side, which I think is more weighty.

b. Of persons: Having great authority or influence; important or impressive in respect of position, views, or utterance.

1662 HOWELL *New Engl. Gram.* To Rdr. 4 Mr. Ben Johnson a Weighty man and one who was as patient as hee was painfull in all his composures. **1666-7** PEPYS *Diary* 17 Feb., A mighty quick, ready man, but not so weighty as he should be. **1709** SWIFT *T. Tub Author's Apol.* ¶ 6 Since the weightiest men in the weightiest Stations are pleased to think it a more dangerous point to laugh at those corruptions in religion. **1729** BUTLER *Serm.* Wks. 1874 II. 49 There is not any necessity that men should aim at being important and weighty in every sentence they speak. **1853** LYTTON *My Novel* XI. v, The great commoner, the weighty speaker, the expert man of business. **1860** EMERSON *Cond. Life* v. (1861) 112 The argument is scouted, until by-and-bye it gets into the mind of some weighty person; then it begins to tell on the community. **1879** HUXLEY *Sensation Sci. & Cult.* (1881) 246 We sometimes hear it [this maxim] enunciated by weighty authorities, as if its natural consequence... had the force of a moral obligation.

5. Hard to bear or endure without failing or giving way; oppressive, burdensome, grievous.

1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* v. iv. Zijb, I am tormented withinthorthe... with so weighty a charge of conscience. **1568** GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 653 Like a wise prince, he alleged his insufficiency for so great a rome and weighty a burden. **1613** PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* 1. xvi. 73 He was beholden to the Romanes, that eased him of so weighty a burthen, and lessened his cares of gouernement. **1712** STEELE *Spect.* No. 308 ¶ 1 The weighty Cares which you have thought fit to undergo for the publick Good. **1821** SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxii, I have lived ill, and the world has been too weighty with me. **1849** LEVER *Con Cregan* xviii, There are hundreds, here, whose weightiest evil would be that they awoke an hour earlier than their wont.

†b. Rigorous, severe. *Obs. rare.*

1607 SHAKS. *Timon* III. v. 102 We banish thee for euer... If after two days shine, Athens containe thee, Attend our waightier Judgement.

†6. Serious, grave; expressing seriousness or gravity, earnest, solemn. *Obs.*

1599 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* Prol., If any spirit breathes within this round, Vncapable of waightie passion. **1613** SHAKS. *Hen. VIII.* Prol. 1. 2, I come no more to make you laugh, Things now, That beare a Weighty, and a serious Brow... We now present. **1622** J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Sir Greg. Nonsense* Wks. (1630) II. 3/1 With that the smug-fac'd Pluto shook his vestment, Deepe ruminating what the weighty lest ment. **1677** PENN *Trav. Holland* etc. (1694) 212 The Countess... lookt upon me with a weighty countenance, and fetcht a deep sigh, crying out, O the cumber and entanglements of this vain World!

7. = HEAVY a. 20.

1828 W. IRVING *Life & Lett.* (1864) II. 337 My chief fear of the work is that... it may prove... in some parts heavy. I shall work it up, however, as much as possible, and endeavor to lighten it where it is weighty.

weih, var. WY. *Obs.*, man.

weiht, obs. f. WEIGHT, WIGHT.

weik(e, weiket, weikit), obs. ff. WEAK a., WICK, WICKED, WICKET.

Weil (vail). *Path.* [The name of H. A. Weil (1848-1916), German physician, who described the disease in 1886 (*Deutsches Archiv f. Klin. Med.* XXXIX. 210).] *Weil's disease*, a severe, sometimes fatal, form of leptospirosis that is characterized by fever, jaundice, and muscle pains and is acquired by infection from the urine of rats.

1889 *Brit. Med. Jnl.* 6 July 11/1 (*heading*) Notes on a case of Weil's disease. **1934** [see LEPTOSPIROSIS]. **1961** R. D. BAKER *Essent. Path.* ix. 200 The mortality of Weil's disease (spirochetal jaundice), the common leptospirosis of man, is about 10 per cent. **1977** C. McCULLOUGH *Thorn Birds* xii. 276 He looked thin, wrinkled and yellow... 'What is Weil's disease, Luke?'... 'Oh, it's just some sort of jaundice most cutters get sooner or later. The cane rats carry it.'

weil, var. or obs. f. WEEL¹, WELL *adv.*, WHEEL, WHILE.

†weila, *int.* *Obs. rare.* [OE. *weg lá*: see WELLAWAY, and cf. WELLA *int.*] Alas!

c 1000 *Ag. Ps.* lxix. 4 (Thorpe) Ealle... þe me word cwædon, Wegla, wegla [Vulg. *qui dicunt mihi, Euge, euge*]. **c 1230** *Hali Meid.* (1922) 23 Weila þat reowbe. *Ibid.* 39 Weila [v.r. wala], lutel þarf þe carien for þin anes liueneð.

weilaway, -awei, -away, var. ff. WELLAWAY.

weilcum, obs. Sc. f. WELCOME v.

weild(e), obs. ff. WIELD.

weile, obs. f. WELL.

weil(e)fair, obs. Sc. ff. WELFARE.

Weil-Felix (vail'fihks). *Med.* [The names of Edmund Weil (1880-1922), Austrian physician, and Arthur Felix (1887-1956), Polish bacteriologist, who described the reaction in 1916 (*Wien. klin. Wochenschr.* XXIX. 33).] *Weil-Felix reaction*: an agglutination reaction

which takes place when serum from a patient infected with typhus is added to certain strains of bacteria of the genus *Proteus*, used as a diagnostic test for the disease.

1919 *Public Health Rep.* (U.S.) XXXI. 2446 The Weil-Felix reaction... has recently come into use as a means of diagnosing typhus fever. **1956** *Nature* 11 Feb. 257/2 The Weil-Felix reaction... proved of immense value in the differential diagnosis of typhus from typhoid and other fevers of unknown origin, and stimulated a great deal of research to explain why it was possible to obtain a specific agglutination reaction with an organism playing apparently no part in the causation of the disease. **1978** *Jrnl. R. Soc. Med.* LXXI. 509 The Weil-Felix reaction, which is the only generally available diagnostic test, failed to detect over 50% of proven cases in several series.

weill, obs. f. VEAL *sb.*¹, WEEL, WELL.

weillaway(e), var. WELLAWAY.

weille, **weill-fair**, obs. Sc. ff. WELL a. and *adv.*, WELFARE.

weily, var. of (or error for) WELLY *adv.*

1731-8 SWIFT *Pol. Convers.* II. (1738) 170 Well; I'm welly [b]rosten, as they sayn in Lancashire.

Weimar ('vauma:(r)). The name of a city in Thuringia, Germany, where the democratic constitution under which Germany was governed from 1919 until the start of the Third Reich in 1933 was drawn up. Used *attrib.* and *absol.* with reference to the political, social, and cultural aspects of Germany during this period, esp. in phr. *Weimar Republic*.

1932 *Internat. Affairs* XI. 770 The return pure and simple to the Weimar system. **1934** H. P. GREENWOOD *German Revolution* iii. 39 The National Assembly at Weimar epitomised... the whole Weimar Republic. **1958** *Listener* 20 Nov. 828/2 The liberal fancies of the Weimar Republic. **1963** W. H. CHAMBERLIN *German Phoenix* xiii. 244 In distinct contrast to the Weimar period, a political system based on free elections... has had time to strike deep roots. **1968** P. GAY *Weimar Culture* (1969) p. xiv, The dazzling array of these exiles... tempts us to idealize Weimar as unique, a culture without strains... a true golden age... But to construct this flawless ideal is to trivialize the achievements of the Weimar Renaissance. **1974** W. LAQUEUR *Weimar* vii. 224 There was... a light side to Weimar culture: Fritz Massary and Richard Tauber, Marlene Dietrich and the *White Horse Inn*. *Ibid.* ix. 273 The Weimar revival reached its apogee in the late 1960s with the rise of the New Left. **1982** S. G. DUFF *Parting of Ways* vii. 74 The Weimar Government tried to meet... obligations by printing money.

Weimaraner (vaime'ra:ne(r), wa:-). [Ger., f. *Weimar* (see prec.) + *-aner* (something) of this place, region, etc.] A (breed of) grey, short-coated, drop-eared pointer, which was originally bred as a hunting dog in the Weimar region.

1943 *Amer. Kennel Gaz.* Jan. 77/1 The admission to registration of the Weimaraner... brings to 109 the breeds now recognized as pure-bred. **1952** L. ROSS *Picture* 35 He had... a pen for eight Weimaraner puppies. **1954** *Time* 1 Mar. 19/1 Republican speechwriters came to a point like so many Weimaraners last November. **1968** *Globe & Mail* (Toronto) 17 Feb. 49/5 (Advt.), Weimaraners are medium size sporting dogs. **1979** *Daily Mail* 26 Oct. 25/2 The upper middles have recently taken to foreign breeds—weimaraners and rotweilers.

†weimer. *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [Cf. WFrís. (17th c.) *wemersang* 'song of woe'.] Lamentation.

c 1230 *Hali Meid.* (1922) 29 (Titus MS.) þeos ne schulen neauer song singen in heuene, ah schulen weimeres leod ai inare in helle.

weind, obs. form of WIND, WYND; Sc. var. WEND v.² (to ween).

†weine, v. *Obs.* [a. ON. *veina* = OE. *wánian* WONE v.] *intr.* To lament, wail.

c 1205 LAY. 25827 þa iherde he wepen, wunder ane swiden, wepen and weinen. **c 1400** *Pilgr. Soule* (Caxton) 1. xv. (1859) 12, I ne can nought done, but cryen, and weyne That charyte nought rekyth of my peyne.

weine pain, var. WAYNPAIN *Obs.*

weiner ('wi:ne(r)), var. of WIENER *sb.* a. Cf. WEENY *sb.*² N. Amer.

1961 in WEBSTER. **1965** P. TAMONY *Americanisms* (typescript) No. 10. 8 In Frankfurt small sausages were termed *Wein*; this turns up in American colloquialism as *weiner* and *weenie*. **1973** H. NIELSEN *Severed Key* iv. 45 We got a little cold beer and some weiners, and we thought we'd have us a picnic. **1980** J. M. BICKHAM *Regensburg Legacy* iv. 56 The hotel supper... sauerkraut, weiners, green beans.

weing, obs. Sc. f. WING.

weinscot, obs. f. WAINSCOT.

||Weinstube ('vain'stu:bə). [Ger., f. *wein* WINE + *stube* STUBE, room.] A small German wine-bar or tavern. Cf. BIERSTUBE.

1899 F. NORRIS *McTeague* 126 Its place was taken by a German saloon, called a 'Wein Stube'. **1936** C. BEATON *Diary* Sept. in *Wandering Years* (1961) xvi. 297 We sit in the Weinstube drinking white wine. **1946** S. SPENDER *European Witness* 138 The Weinstube was one of those German drinking cellars which resemble a chapel. **1969** K. BENTON *Twenty-Fourth Level* vi. 101 He dined in a noisy, cheerful

German *Weinstube*. 1981 L. DEIGHTON *XPD* vi. 36 The wreckage of a German *Weinstube*.

|| **Wein, Weib, und Gesang** (vain vaip unt gə'zan), *phr.* [Ger.] Wine, women, and song, proverbially considered the essential ingredients for carefree entertainment and pleasure by men.

First popularized as the title of a Strauss waltz (1869). Strauss prob. took it from the anon. couplet found in the Luther room at Wartburg: Wer nicht liebt Wein, Weib und Gesang / Der bleibt ein Narr sein Leben lang (see *WINE sb.* 1 f(b), quot. 1862).

1885 G. B. SHAW in *Dramatic Rev.* 27 June 341/1 The 'Wein, Weib, und Gesang' waltzes which the Inventions Council offer us as the flower of modern European music. 1924 G. B. STERN *Tents of Israel* vi. 87 Franz. was a typically Viennese Rakonitz, in the famous Wein-Weib-und-Gesang style. 1935 C. ISHERWOOD *Mr. Norris changes Trains* iii. 38, I shall . . . prepare myself to enjoy an evening of *Wein, Weib, und Gesang*. More particularly *Wein*. 1959 M. CROSLAND tr. J. ROVAN's *Germany* 21 The famous trilogy 'Wein, Weib und Gesang' (wine, woman and song) which form the subject of numerous drinking songs on both sides of the Rhine.

weipe, obs. Sc. f. WIPE *v.*

weir (wɪə(r)), *sb.* Forms: *a.* 1-2 *wer*, 3-8 *were*, 5 *werre*, 5-7 *weere*, 5-8 *weer*; 5, 7 *ware*, 6-8 *weare*, 7-9 *wear*; 6-7 *weire*, *weyre*, 7- *weir*; 6-8 *wier*. *β.* 6-7 *wyre*, (7 *wyer*), 7-8 *wire*. [OE. *wer* m., = OS. *werr*, MLG. *wer*, *weer*, *weir*, *were* (LG. *wêr*, *were*), MHG. *wer*, *were* (G. *wehr*, *†währ*; dial. *wier*) neut., f. the stem of OE. *werian* to dam up: see WERE *sb.* OIcel. *vor*, *var*-, landing-place, is possibly related.

Normally the standard modern form would have been *wear* (wɛə(r)); this is represented by the dialectal *wair*, *ware*. The late variant *wire* is difficult to account for.]

1. *a.* A barrier or dam to restrain water, *esp.* one placed across a river or canal in order to raise or divert the water for driving a mill wheel; also, the body of water retained by this means, a mill-dam; now gen., a dam, of which there are various forms, constructed on the reaches of a canal or navigable river, to retain the water and regulate its flow.

a. c897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past.* C. xxxviii. 279 Se se ðe ðone wer bricð, & ðæt wæter utforlæt, se bið fruma ðæs gefittes. c1460 *Oseney Reg.* 30 With all dwellynges þe which been vpon the were of þe milles. 1482 CAXTON *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 543 The mayer of London. and the comynalte dyde do brake vp al the weerys that were bytwene Medewey and Kyngeston. 1491 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) 373 To arrest ther mill horses, . . . and to kepe them . . . ryll they . . . make the saide werre. a1550 LELAND *Itin.* (1769) IV. 92 A Damm or Were to serve the Kinges Milles a little lower then the Dammes. 1583 in W. H. Turner *Sel. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 434 A locke or weare by Rewlie lock, to bende the water in sommer and to drawe uppe in wynter. 1653 WALTON *Angler* iii. 89 [The trout] wil about (especially before) the time of his Spawning, get almost miraculously through Weires and Flood-Gates against the stream. 1695 *Act 6 & 7 Will. III.* c. 16 (title) An Act to prevent Exactions of the Occupiers of Locks and Weares upon the River of Thames Westward. 1722 DE FOE *Plague* (1756) 170 A Weer or Stop upon the River, made to raise the Water for the Barges which go up and down the River. 1792 A. YOUNG *Trav. France* 21 The navigation of the river in the town being absolutely impeded by the wear which is made across it in favour of the corn mills. 1813 VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* 314 There are no other reservoirs than those which are formed by the dams or weirs by which the streams are raised for the purpose. 1859 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* xiii. I'm the best swimmer in Devon. That was proved by my living in that weir in flood time. 1866 M. ARNOLD *Thyrsis* ii. The Vale, the three lone wears, the youthful Thames. 1877 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 3 About 380 million gallons flow over the weir every four-and-twenty hours.

β. a1722 LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 203 A good kiln ought to have such a draught as to roar like wires on a river. 1758 *Descr. Thames* 160 Farmer's Wires or Weirs . . . Day's Wires, [etc.]. 1776 G. SEMPLE *Building in Water* 33 There was . . . a Wire or a Stone Dike almost quite a-cross the River. 1875 H. R. ROBERTSON *Life Upper Thames* 40 A boat descending the stream meets with no impediment till it reaches the dam or 'weir' (pronounced 'wire' by the riverside people), as it is technically called.

b. *Her.* A charge representing a weir.

1780 EDMONDSON *Heraldry* II. Gloss., *Weare*, *Weir*, or *Dam*, in *Fesse*. It is made with stakes and osier twigs, wattled or interwoven as a fence against water.

2. *a.* A fence or enclosure of stakes made in a river, harbour, etc., for taking or preserving fish. (Cf. *fish-weir* FISH *sb.* 7.)

In OE. also used to render L. *captura* in the sense of a 'catch' of fish.

a. 839 in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* I. 598 Twygen weoras in fluvio qui dicitur Stur. 901 *Ibid.* II. 247 An wer on Ycenan. 996 in Kemble *Cod. Dipl.* VI. 136 Des healfan weres æt Brægentforda. 1052-67 *Ibid.* IV. 211 Al ðare þinge ðe ðarto mid richte gebirð. . . on waterin and on weren. a1122 *O.E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 963, þa twa dæl of Witlemsmere mid wætres & mid wæres & feornes. a1200 in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* I. 171 In captura. . . piscium quæ terræ illi adiacet, ubi sunt scilicet duo quod nostratim dicitur Weres. c1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* III. 35 As why this fish, and nougt that, cometh to were. c1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* III. xxv. (1869) 150 It is maad as a were for fysh; Entree ther is, but issue nouht. 1459 *Rolls of Parl.* V. 365/2 And a were called Petersam were. . . to be had for evermore to the seid Priour and Monkes. 1523 *Act 14 & 15 Hen. VIII.* c. 13 Diuers weres & ingins for fishynge, made & leuied in the same hauen. 1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witcher.* xii. xvii. 216 [He] robbed a millers weire and stole all his celes. 1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. v. 315

The delicate. . . Golden-eye, Kept in a Weyre, the widest space doth spy. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 808 A very goodly Weare for the catching of Salmons. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* I. 465 Their only Food is a small sort of Fish, which they get by making Ware of stone, across little Coves, or branches of the Sea. 1724 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* III. 233 An act for demolishing . . . Fishing Dams, Wears & Kedles set across the River Schuylkill. 1791 W. H. MARSHALL *W. Eng.* (1796) II. 240 The [Salmon] Weir. . . consists of a strong dam or breastwork, ten or twelve feet high, thrown across the river. 1859 R. F. BURTON *Centr. Afr. in Jرنل. Geog. Soc.* XXIX. 81 note, The Wigo, or weir, is like that of Western India. 1894 *Outing* Feb. 401/1 Close to the weir—a kind of circular fish-trap made by driving stakes into the bottom close together.

fig. 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Luke* v. 4-7 Satan hath fishers of his owne to: who dooe. . . towle them into the were and nette of damnacion.

β. 1624 CAPT. J. SMITH *Virginia* I. 7 The people were fled, but their wires afforded vs fish. 1638 SUCKLING *Aglaure* v. i. 35 Like wanton Salmons comming in with floods, that leap o're wyres and nets, and make their way. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* I. 106 They carry them alive to Jamaica, where the Turtles have wires made with Stakes in the Sea to preserve them alive.

b. A weel for catching fish. †Also *Her.*, a representation of this, borne as a charge.

1611 COTGR., *Boissel d'ozier*. A weele, or weere of Ozier twigs. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xvi. (Roxb.) 80/1 He beareth Azure, a Weele with its hoope vpward, Or. This is also termed a Fishard, or a Ware. 1834 WHITTIER *Mogg Megone* 841 The clear stream where The idle fisher sets his weir. 1845 *Peter Parley's Ann.* VI. 51 A weir is a basket loose and open at one end, and smaller at the other, into which the fish were driven.

3. A pond or pool. *Obs. exc. dial.*

For the forms *wayre*, *wair* see WAYOUR.

a1300 *E.E. Psalter* cvi. 35 He set in weres ofe watres [L. in *stagna aquarum*] wildernes. c1450 *Mirk's Festial* 143 And soo was hit hyd þer yn [to] þe tyme þat byschopys of þe tempull let make a were [v.r. wayre] yn þe same place, forto wasch schepe yn. 1657 J. WATTS *Scribe*, etc. *Dipper Sprinkled* 31 To make choise of a common Pond or Weyr to dip your two new converted holy Sisters in. 1691 RAY *S. & E. Country Words*, Were, or Wair, a pond or pool of water. 1877 *Holderness Gloss.*, Weir, a pond.

4. *local.* *a.* A fence or embankment to prevent the encroachment of a river or sea-sand, or to turn the course of a stream.

1599 NASHE *Lenten Stufte* 22 The burdensome detrimetes of our hauen, which euery twelue-month deuoures a Iustice of peace liuing, in weares and bankes to beate off the sand. 1680 N. *Riding Rec.* VII. 30 Roger Beckwith . . . and other of the adjoining neighbours have taken care to make a weare to keep the said river in its antient channel. 1824 CARR *Craven Gloss.*, Weer, an embankment against its [sc. a river's] encroachment. 1846 BROCKETT *N.C. Words* (ed. 3), Were, . . . an embankment to prevent the encroachment, or turn the course of a stream. 1894 *Northumbld. Gloss.*, Wear, weir, a structure of stone mixed with rice (brushwood) for protecting a bank from the wash of a stream.

b. (See quot.)

1894 *Northumbld. Gloss.*, Wear, Weer, the landing place and fishing ground at a salmon-net fishery.

5. *Sc.* A hedge. (Cf. WEAR *v.* 2.)

1789 D. DAVIDSON *Seasons* 51 Now weir an' fence o' wattl'd rice, The hained fields inclose. a1894 J. SHAW in R. WALLACE *Country Schm.* (1899) 355 Weir, . . . a hedge.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *weir-bank*, *-bridge*, *-dam*, *-frame*, *-head*, *-heck* (HECK *sb.* 1 2), *-hole*, *-pile*, *-pool*, *-stream*; *weir-keeper*, *-owner*; *weir-boat*, a boat kept at a weir for the use of the weir-keeper; † *weir-dike*, a bank that serves as a dam; *weir-hatch* [HATCH *sb.* 1 6], the flood-gate or sluice of a weir; *weir-hedge*, a bank made on each side of a river to narrow and deepen its water; † *weir-hook* (see quot.); *weir house*, a trap for salmon at a salmon weir; † *weir-net*, a net for taking fish at or from a weir; *weir-shot net*, a fishing net that is shot or cast in a circular form, used in salmon fisheries on the Tweed (see quot. 1855).

1583 *Inquis. Sewers Linc.* (1851) 16 That all *weare banks & all other Bankes heretofore in Commission . . . & all close ditches & drains . . . shall be ditched sufficiently before Michaelmasse. 1436 *Catal. Anc. Deeds* IV. 273 (A. 8182) [Two boats called the] feriboot [and] a *wereboot. 1851 KINGSLEY *Yeast* iii. He found on the *weir-bridge two of the keepers. 1793 R. MYLNE *Rep. Thames* 22 Without a Lock in the said Cut, or a *Weir-dam in the bed of the River. 1518 *Sel. Pleas Star Chamber* (Selden Soc.) II. 130 A lytull grownde inclosyd in the fenne by Reasun of makynge of a *Weyr dyke. 1902 CORNISH *Naturalist Thames* 6 The holes and angles of the *weir-frame. 1898 HARDY *Wessex Poems* 204 As when a *weir-hatch is drawn, Her tears . . . With a rushing of sobbs in a shower were strawn. 1817 SCOTT *Waverley* ix. A large brook . . . leapt in tumult over a strong dam, or *wear-head. c1467-9 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 641 Pro extraccione et impositione lez stapyls pro le *Warehek molendini. 1819 *Rep. Cycl.* VI. Aa4, s.v. *Canal*, Jetties, or *Weir-hedges have formerly been made, for diminishing the width of the river below the several shoals. 1841 HARTSHORNE *Salop. Antiq.* 610 *Ware-hole, *Weirhole*, a hole into which the back water of a mill stream falls. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xvi. (Roxb.) 86/2 A *Weare, or fish cage hooke. It is a large and strong Iron hooke with a socket at the end, to be fixed on a long pole, or staffe, to take fish out of weares or cages. 1791 W. H. MARSHALL *W. Eng.* (1796) II. 256 The [Salmon] Weir. . . consists of a strong dam. . . At one end of the dam, is a 'weir house' or trap. 1791 R. MYLNE *2nd Rep. Thames Navig.* 15 By disuniting the Care of the Pound Locks from the Miller and the *Weir-Keeper. 1881 *Taunt's Thames Map* 66/1 The weir-keeper is another old hand on the river. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 256/2 *Excipulus*, . . . a *weare net. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* II.

18 In September they take in Weeles and Weere-nets an incredible number of most sweete and sauery celes. 1656 W. DU GARD tr. *Comenius' Gate Lat. Unlocked* §358, p. 101 Part hee shutteth up in repositories, from whence when there is need hee taketh them out with a warenet. 1610 R. VAUGHAN *Water-Workes* Hib, *Weare-owners. 1864 MEREDITH *Sandra Belloni* xx, She saw the white *weir-piles shining. 1889 'J. BICKERDYKE' *All-round Angler* III. 90 A man taking a chance day on the Thames has small chance of success unless he sticks to the *weirpools. 1855 *Archæol. Æliana* IV. 302 The *wear-shot net is rowed by means of a boat into the river in a circular form, and is immediately drawn to the shore. 1857 *Local Act 20 & 21 Vict.* c. cxlviii. §62 Every Person who shall shoot or work any Wear Shot Net in the River within the Distance of Thirty Yards of any other Wear Shot Net. 1889 J. K. JEROME *Three Men in Boat* ix. 143 We might have somehow got into the *weir stream, and be making for the falls. 1900 *Daily News* 1 Jan. 8/7 The well-known weir stream which skirts the grounds of Eton College.

weir (wɪə(r)), *v.* [f. WEIR *sb.*] *trans.* To provide with a weir. Chiefly in pa. pple.

1610 R. VAUGHAN *Water-Workes* G 2b, The Riuer of Wie . . . was . . . so Weared & fortified, as if the Salmons therein . . . had been forbidden their vsuall walks. 1794- [see WEIRING *vb.* *sb.*]. 1828 CARR *Craven Gloss.* (ed. 2), Weer, to make a protection of a bank. 1904 *Times* 13 Feb. 13/6 The main channel was locked and weired for navigation.

weir, *Sc. var.* VERE *sb.* *Obs.*, WAR *sb.* 1, WERE *sb.* and *v.*, WIRE *sb.*

weirai, var. WARRAY *v.* *Obs.*

weird (wɪəd), *sb.* Forms: 1 *wyrd*, 3-5 *wird*, (4 *wired*, 5 *wirid*), *wirde*, 4-5 *wyrde*; 4 *wyerde*, *wierde*, 4-6 *werd* (5 *werid*), *werde*, 4- *weird* (5 *Sc. veird*), 7-8 (9 *Sc.*) *wierd*; *Sc.* 6 *waird*, 6-7 *weard*, 8 *weerd*. [OE. *wyrd* fem., = OS. *wurd* (pl. *wurdi*), OHG. *wurt*, ON. *urð-r*, from the weak grade of the stem *werþ-*, *warþ-*, *wurþ-* to become: see WORTH *v.*

The word is common in OE., but wanting in ME. until c1300, and then occurs chiefly in northern texts, though employed also by Chaucer, Gower, and Langland. The normal later and modern form would have been *wird*, and the substitution of *werd*, *wërd* (which is natural in south-eastern ME.) is difficult to account for in the northern dialects. In senses now current the word is either Scottish or archaic (chiefly under the influence of Scottish writers.)

1. The principle, power, or agency by which events are predetermined; fate, destiny.

Beowulf 455 Gæð a wyrd swa hio sceð. *Ibid.* 477 Hie wyrd forswæop on Grendles gyre. c888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxix. §5 Ac þæt þæt we wyrd hatað, þæt bið Godes weorc þæt he ælce dæg wyrcð. a1000 *Seafarer* 115 Wyrd biþ swiðre, meotud meahtriga, þonne ænges monnes gehygd. 13.. *E.E. Allit. P.* A. 249 What wyrd has hyder my iuel wayned. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 2134 Worpe hit wele, oþer wo, as þe wyrdle lykez hit hafe. a1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 443 þat sygnfyfþ þe same man þat sett is, be wird, So many prouynce to pas. c1470 HENRY WALLACE *ix.* 244 As werd wil wyrk, thi fortoun mon thou tak. c1585 MONTGOMERIE *Sonn.* xxxiii. I Humuld I warie bot my wickid weard, Vha span my thrifles thrauard fatall threed? 1603 *Philotus* c. Quhat wickit weird hes wrocht our wo? [1895 W. MORRIS *Beowulf* 16 Weird wends as she willet. *Ibid.* 17 Weird swept them away.]

b. Magical power, enchantment.

1813 HOGG *Queen's Wake* 79 He heard the world of awsome weird, And he saw their deedis of synn.

2. *pl.* The Fates, the three goddesses supposed to determine the course of human life.

c725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) P. 15 *Parcae*, *wyrde*. c1385 CHAUCER *L.G.W.*, *Hypermetre* 19 The werdis that we clepyn destene Hath shapyn hire that she mot nedis be Pyetous sad. c1450 *Crt. of Love* 1173, I mene, the three of fatal destine, That be our werdes. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 420/2 *Wyrdis, parce*. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* I. 1. 30 Gif werdis war nocht contrair [si qua fata sinant]. 1547 SURREY *Æneis* IV. 581 (Roxb.) Fijj, The werdes withstande [fata obstant]. a1585 MONTGOMERIE *Flying* 326 'Woe worth', quoth the Weirds, 'the wights that thee wrought!' 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* i. 5 And whilst from Phleg'ran fields, the weirds me call, I in Elisean plaines, am forc'd to fall. 1722 RAMSAY *Three Bonnets* II. 13 Ye're grown sae brow: now weirdes defend me! 1855 SINGLETON *Virgil* I. 29 'Career ye on,' Have to their spindles cried. . . the Weirds [Parcae].

b. One pretending or supposed to have the power to foresee and to control future events; a witch or wizard, a soothsayer.

1625 HEYLIN *Microcosmos* (ed. 2) 509 These two . . . were mette by three Fairies, or Witches (Weirds the Scots call them). 1654 VILVAIN *Enchir. Epigr.* II. lxxx, The 2 Scots courtiers who met three Wierds or Witches which foretold their fortune. 1682 C. IRVINE *Hist. Scot. Nomencl.* 12 *Arioli*. Weards, Sooth-sayers, or Second-sighted-men. 1834 A. SMART *Rambling Rhymes* 164 Puir auld wives . . . Were seized in Superstition's clutches, An' brunt to death for wierds an' witches. 1899 J. SPENCE *Shetland Folk-lore* 143 With this green nettle And cross of metal I witches and wierds defy.

3. That which is destined or fated to happen to a particular person, etc.; what one will do or suffer; one's appointed lot or fortune, destiny.

Often in to *dree one's weird*: see DREE *v.* 2 c. c725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) S433 *Sortem*, *wyrd*, *condicionem*. c888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xl. §1 Ic wille secgan þæt ælc wyrd bio good, sam hio monnum good þinc, sam hio hian yfel þince. a1300 *Cursor M.* 3453 Strang weird was giuen to þam o were þat þai moght nouht þair strif for-bere. *Ibid.* 9968 Had neuer woman sa blisful wírd. . . As maria maiden. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 2418 Dalyda dalt hym hys wyrde. c1400 *Ant. Arthur* xvi. (Irel. MS.) 'Ways me for thy wírdel'

cothe Waynor. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 4680 þai grett, þai sorowed þai sary werde. *c* 1470 HENRY WALLACE iv. 761 My waryed werd in world I mon fullfill. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* I. 109 Euerie ladie passit hame. . Weipand full soir and wareand hir werd. 1563 SACKVILLE *Induct. Mirr. Mag.* lxiii. It made myne iyes in very teares consume: When I beheld the wofull werd befall, That by the wrathful wyl of Gods was come. *a* 1600 MONTGOMERIE *Misc. Poems* xlv. 31 They haif wrought my weird Vnhappiest on eird. 1718 RAMSAY *Christ's Kirk Gr.* iii. viii. It's a wise wife that kens her weird. *a* 1774 FERGUSSON *On Seeing Butterfly Poems* (1845) 18 Those Whose weird is still to creep, alas! Unnoticed, 'mang the humble grass. 1795 BURNS 'O tell na me' iii. Let simple maid the lesson read, The weird may be her ain. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xii. My weird maun be fulfilled, Mr. Butler. 1892 J. A. HENDERSON *Ann. Lower Deeside* 79 The weird of this kirk is that it will fall in time of worship. 1909 BELLOC *Marie Antoinette* 255 It was one more of those hammer-bloos of Fate exactly coincident with the sequence of the Queen's weird.

b. pl. (often in reference to a single person). *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 15279 þe gait it es al graid, He mai sai wibes warid þat forwit him es laid. 1320-30 *Horn Ch.* 456 Wiif thai toke, and duelled thare; In Inglood com thai no mare, Her werdes for to bide. *c* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* lxxiv. 5 Sum says it was my werdis; sum says the sterne of my birth gert me syn. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* i. met. i. (1886) 1 The sorful wierdes of me olde man [*maesti mea fata senis*]. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 94 When thai at mi nativite My weerdies setten as thei wolde. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. iv. 241 As hus werdes [v.r. wurdus] were ordeined. 1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* ix. So vncouthly hir werdes sche deuideth. *c* 1470 HARDING *Chron.* LXXXV. iv. Fortune, false executryse of weerdies [= Chaucer *Troilus* iii. 617], That euermore. . To all debates thou strongly so enherdes. 1571 SIR J. MAITLAND in *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxvii. 102 Then warreitt war thy weirdis and wanhap. 1579 *Sc. Acts Jas. VI* (1814) III. 140/1 That they can tell þai weardis deathis & fortunes.

c. spec. An evil fate inflicted by supernatural power, esp. by way of retribution.

[*a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8981 Bot hard it es, þe wurd o sin þat yarked was til adam kin!] 1874 'QUIDA' *Two little Wooden Shoes* 132 Swallows do not tell their secrets. They have the weird of Procne on them all. 1877 TRENCH *Lect. Med. Ch. Hist.* 178 But a weird was upon him and upon his race. 1885 JEAN INGELOW *Sleep of Sigismund* 7 The weird is on him to grope in the dark with endless Weariful feet for a goal that shifteth still.

4. a. A happening, event, occurrence.

Prov. *after word comes weird*, the mention of a thing is followed by its occurrence or appearance.

a 900 *Cynewulf's Christ* 81 Ne we þære wyrde wenan þurfon toeward in tide. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 221 þa gelamp wundorlic wyrd þæt se leg ongan slean & breacan ongan pone wind. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 340 It were a wonder wierde To sen a king become an hierde. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* 5459 It befall þis wondir wierde. 1721 J. KELLY *Sc. Prov.* 2 After Word comes Weird; fair fall them that call me Madam. 1883 HALL CAINE *Shadow Crime* xxxvi. Weel, weel; after word comes weird. That's why the constables are gone, and that's why Robbie's come.

b. That which is destined or fated to happen; predetermined events collectively.

c 1470 *Golagros & Gaw.* 1082 Thair wil nane wyis, that ar wis, wary the werd. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* III. vii. 48 Bot we from werd to werd and chance mon wend. 1876 W. MORRIS *Sigurd* I. 3 A tale that the elders have told, A story of weird and of woe.

5. † a. A decree (of a god). Obs.

a 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 270 þe werdes Of my gracious goddis, þe grettest on erde. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XII. xii. 202 And thou, Tellus, mast nobill God of erd, Hald fast the speris hed by þour werd.

† b. An omen or token significant of the nature of a future event; a prognostic. Obs.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XII. xiii. 150 Jove. . bad hir hald doun baldly to the erd, For to resist Turnais ire and werd [L. *omen*]. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* (S.T.S.) II. 233 þe senat. . said þai accepit þe weird þat followit one þir wourdis.

c. A prediction of the fate which is to happen to a person; etc.; a prophecy.

1785 *Poems Buchan Dial.* 18 Altho' his mither, in her weirds, Foretold his death at Troy. 1802 C. GRAY *Poems* (1811) 73 Then, as to his fortin tellin', . he ne'er liket to be sellin' His weird for wind.

d. A supernatural or marvellous occurrence or tale.

1814 W. NICHOLSON *Poet. Wks.* (1897) 40 [She] Could tell her tale or lilt her sang, . Wi' weirds and witcheries aft atween, And unco sights that some had seen. *a* 1859 A. TAIT in Jas. Watson *Living Bards of Border* 151 What legends and weirds these fair scenes still awaken.

6. Comb., as weird-fixed, -set adjs.; weird-licht Sc. the light of destiny; † weird-man, a seer; weird-woman, a witch.

1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 181 Now was come the *weird-fix't hour Ordain'd to break the Papish power. 1844 W. THOM *Rhymes & Recoll.* 54 There's a bricht e'e looks love to me, Like the *weird licht o'er me shining. 1806 JAMIESON *Pop. Ballads* I. 238 'Dire is the doom', the *wierd-man said; 'Nae mair, O lady, speir!' 1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 46 The *weird-set day begins to daw. 1845 J. E. CARPENTER *Poems & Lyrics* 34 The *weird-woman had stol'n away.

weird (wæd), *a.* Also 5 wyrde, 5-6 *Sc.* werd(e), 6 veird, 7 weyard (weyard), weer'd, 8 weird, 9 weerd. [Originally an attrib. use of prec. in *weird sisters* (see sense 1), the later currency and adjectival use being derived from the occurrence of this in the story of Macbeth.]

The evolution of the forms found in Shakspeare's *Macbeth* was app. from *weyrd to weyard (retained in Acts III and IV in the First Folio) and weyard (used in Acts I and II); the latter was no doubt due to association with wayward, a word used many times by Shakspeare. (The later folios retain the

weyward spelling, and alter the other to this or to wizard.) In several passages the prosody clearly requires the word to be pronounced as two syllables; hence Theobald's use of the diæresis in his emendation *weird* (see quot. 1733 below), giving rise to the scansion of quot. 1755 in sense 1, and quot. 1820 in sense 4.]

1. Having the power to control the fate or destiny of human beings, etc.; later, claiming the supernatural power of dealing with fate or destiny.

Originally in the *Weird Sisters* = † (a) the Fates; (b) the witches in *Macbeth*.

c 1400 *Sc. Trojan War* II. 2818 Vperis said sche was, I trow, A werde-sister, I wait neurir how. *c* 1420 WYNTOUN *Cron.* vi. xviii. 1862 þa women þan thought he Thre werd systeris mast lyk to be. *c* 1475 *Cath. Angl.* 420/2 (Addit. MS.) Wyrdre systres, *parce*. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* v. xiii. 74 Admit myne asking, gif so the fatis gidis, . . Or 3it werd sisteris list gif thaim that cuntre. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. (1872) 64 The tail of the three veird systirs. 1577 HOLINSHED *Hist. Scot.* 243/2 *marg.*, The prophesie of three women supposing to be the weird sisters or feiries. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* I. iii. 32 The weyard Sisters, hand in hand, . . Thus doe goe, about, about. *Ibid.* III. i. 2 Thou hast it now, King, Cawdor, Glamis, all, As the weyard Women promis'd. *Ibid.* III. iv. 133, I will to morrow . . to the weyard Sisters. *a* 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xxviii. 237 The weerd Sister Parques. 1733 THEOBALD *Shaks. Macb.* I. iii. *note*, In every passage . . my Emendation must be embraced and we must read *weird* [ed. 1740 *Wierd*, or *Weird*]. 1755 J. G. COOPER *Tomb Shaks.* 99 Where three swart sisters of the weird band Were mutt'ring curses to the troublous wind. 1765 *Birth of St. George* 47 in Percy *Reliq.* III. 218 To the weird lady of the woods He purpos'd to reparaire. 1807-8 W. IRVING *Salmagundi* (1824) 129 He had rather see one of the weird sisters flourish through his key-hole on a broom-stick. 1820 SHELLEY *Let. Maria Gisborne* 106 And here, like some weird Archimage sit I, Plotting dark spells. *a* 1854 H. REED *Lect. Brit. Poets* v. (1857) 189 The weird woman with beards meet to seal the deep damnation of their victim.

2. a. Partaking of or suggestive of the supernatural; of a mysterious or unearthly character; unaccountably or uncomfortably strange; uncanny.

1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* ix. viii. Some said, I was a fiend from my weird cave, Who had stolen human shape. 1820 — *Witch Atlas* 670 It is A tale more fit for the weird winter nights Than for these garish summer days. 1835 LYTON *Rienzi* I. xii. This solitude has something in it weird and awful. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* I. 14 Myself too had weird seizures, Heaven knows what. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. i. Both men then looked with a weird unholy interest at the wake of Gaffer's boat. 1878 LUCY *Diary Two Parl.* (1885) I. 393, I hear a weird story in connection with the private history of the family.

absol. 1888 *Daily News* 30 Aug. 4/7 Miss Seward, according to Sir Walter Scott, was a mistress of the weird in oral narrative. 1899 SIR G. DOUGLAS *James Hogg* v. 101 Unlike the German's, Hogg's 'weird' is seldom or never morbid, fevered, hectic.

b. of sounds or voices.

1815 SHELLEY *Alastor* 30 In lone and silent hours, When night makes a weird sound of its own stillness. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. ii. 11 The weird rattle of the débris which fell at intervals. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* II. i. The person of the house gave a weird little laugh here. 1876 SMILES *Sc. Natur.* vi. 100 He was awakened by a weird and unearthly moaning.

3. Of strange or unusual appearance, odd-looking.

1815 SHELLEY *Alastor* 448 Mutable As shapes in the weird clouds. 1861 H. MACMILLAN *Footn. Page Nat.* 23 The soft yielding carpets of greenest verdure and weirdest patterns, woven by these tiny plants on the floor of shadowy old forests. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* Prel., He begins to people the weird places of the earth with weird beings. 1907 BP. A. ROBERTSON in *Trans. Devon Assoc.* 53 Bampfylde Moore Carew, King of the Gipsies, [not] the only weird, extravagant figure that has moved across Devon's stage.

4. a. Out of the ordinary course, strange, unusual; hence, odd, fantastic. (Freq. in recent use.)

1820 KEATS *Lamia* I. 107, I. . bade her steep Her hair in weird syrops, that would keep Her loveliness invisible. 1849 LYTON K. *Arthur* II. xxxvi. The prophet up the plain, Gathering weird simples, pass'd. 1855 DICKENS *Holly-Tree* i. He was a man with a weird belief in him that no one could count the stones of Stonehenge twice, and make the same number of them. 1912 *Eng. Hist. Rev.* Oct. 833 The 'Guacchiadim' of p. 140 is a weird misprint for Guicciardini.

b. Colloq. phr. weird and wonderful, marvellous in a strange or eccentric way; both remarkable and peculiar or unfathomable; exotic, outlandish. Freq. iron. or derog.

1859 J. H. STIRLING in *Meliora* Oct. 231 These [poems] are doubtless meant to be very weird and wonderful, but they are mere breath, and . . barren as the wind. 1886 O. WILDE in *Pall Mall Gaz.* 1 Feb. 5/1 There is psychology of a weird and wonderful kind. 1908 T. E. LAWRENCE *Let.* 9 Aug. (1954) 70 Their food is weird and wonderful. 1946 VISCT. KNEBworth *Boxing* xiv. 176 The beginner so often gets the idea that he is going to do the most weird and wonderful movements. 1962 *Friend* 3 Aug. 947/1 Nearly all the weird and wonderful decorations were provided by a decorator member of the club. 1978 S. NAIPAUL *North of South* II. vi. 227 A weird and wonderful place is Jo'burg.

5. Comb., as weird-looking adj.

1862 [ELIZ. JOHNSTON] *Gifts & Graces* xix. 184 All the trees grim and shadowy, every familiar object weird-looking. 1867 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 437 The Prophet first pointed out a weird-looking creature, a turnkey. 1888 F. HUME *Mme. Midas* I. Prol., A cruel, weird-looking scene, fantastic, unreal, and bizarre as one of Doré's marvellous conceptions.

weird (wæd), *v.* *Sc.* and † *north.* Also 4 weirrd, werd, wired, wiird, 6 waird, 8 weerd, 9 wierd; 7 *pa. pple.* weard. [f. WEIRD sb.]

1. trans. To preordain by the decree of fate; esp. in *pass.* to be destined or divinely appointed to, into, or unto (with inf. or sb.).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 23368 Ne hert mai think þaa ioies sere, þat iesus crist has dight til his, þat weirdded er vnto þe bliss. *Ibid.* 25225 All þe men þat werded es for to be brought into þi blis. 1678 RAY *Prov.* (ed. 2) 360 (*Sc. Prov.*) A man may woove where he will, but he will wed where he is weard [ed. 1, where his hap is]. 1742 R. FORBES *Ajax Sp.* (1755) 14 These darts that wearded were To tak the town o' Troy. 1885 J. LUMSDEN *Rural Rhymes* 236 Gin the gude Mr. Hootsman is weirdit to be married a third time neist weir.

2. To assign to (a person) as his fate; to apportion as one's destiny or lot.

c 1550 *Clariodis* (Maitl. Club) I. 1030 The Waird Sisteris . . wairdit me, gif ane knave chyld war I, That efter I was sevin zeiris old To be transformit in ane lyoun bold. *a* 1800 *Kempion* iii. in Scott *Minstrelsy* (1802) II. 93, I weird ye to a fiery beast, And relieved sall ye never be, Till [etc.]. 1806 JAMIESON *Pop. Ballads* I. 238 Say . . what the doom sae dire, that thou Doest wierd to mine or me? *a* 1869 C. SPENCE *Fr. Braes of Carse* (1898) 182 A lesson teaching poor and rich That nane should weird ill to a witch.

3. To warn or advise by the knowledge of coming fate.

1806 JAMIESON *Pop. Ballads* I. 237, I wierd ye, gangna there! *Ibid.* II. 174, I weird thee, to lat me be were best.

Hence 'weirded ppl. a.'; 'weirding vbl. sb. in Comb. *weirding peas*, peas employed in divination.

1804 TARRAS *Poems* 68 Jock Din is to the yard right sly, To saw his wierdin piz. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* xvii. Say, what hath forged thy wierded [footn. fated] link of destiny with the House of Avenel?

'weirddom. [f. WEIRD sb. + -DOM.] The supernatural world.

1863 B. BRIERLEY *Chron. Waverlow* Introd. p. xv, Stories of eld and weirddom are vanishing too.

weirdie ('wædi), *slang.* Also weirdy. [f. WEIRD a. + -IE.] **1.** An odd or unconventional person; one who is considered 'weird'; *spec.* applied to any young man with long hair and a beard. Freq. in *pl.*

1894 A. S. ROBERTSON *Provost o' Glendookie* 101 'He's awa without his curran' loaf.' 'He's a weirdie.' 1949 W. R. BURNETT *Asphalt Jungle* (1950) ii. 19 Cobby. . . thought to himself: 'He's a weirdy, all right.' 1954 'P. QUENTIN' *Wife of Ronald Sheldon* vii. 57 God, is that one a weirdie! . . There was a cobweb in her hair. 1959 *Listener* 3 Dec. 975/1 The weirdies that Kerouac seems always to meet wandering and muttering in the small hours. 1960, 1961 [see BEARDIE 2]. 1962 *Punch* 14 Feb. 268/2 One [bedsitter]. . . advertiser. . . added 'No Weirdies either'. 1966 *Daily Tel.* 17 Nov. 18/8 There was not an unwashed bearded weirdie in sight! 1974 K. MILLETT *Flying* (1975) I. 94 I'm not a friend, just the visiting weirdie.

2. Something that is 'weird', fantastic, bizarre, or grotesque. Freq. applied to a film, book, etc.

1948 *Astounding Sci. Fiction* Jan. 15 The *Cosmos* had one of its feature writers compose a weirdie about a world consisting of beings of pure mind. 1962 *Listener* 14 June 1043/3 The *Lake Lovers* is a weirdie. 1968 *Blues Unlimited* Nov. 25 Country Jim is a weirdie. 1969 R. PETRIE *Despatch of Dove* i. 26 No mistake, it was a weirdy of a day.

weirdish ('wædiʃ), *a.* [f. WEIRD a. + -ISH.] Somewhat weird.

1863 DISRAELI in Monypenny & Buckle *Life* (1914) III. 472 A great number of owls have been disturbed. . . Their hooting at night is. . . louder than the south-west wind, which, indeed, is only the accompaniment to their weirdish arias. 1914 E. F. BENSON *Dodo the Second* iii. 68, I was always weirdish, and I am too old to change now.

weirdless ('wædlis), *a.* *Sc.* [f. WEIRD sb. + -LESS.] Destined to ill fortune, ill-fated, unlucky; hence unbusinesslike, incapable, worthless.

c 1800 *Mary Hamilton* iii. in Child *Ballads* III. 391/2 And wae be to that weirdless wicht. 1821 *Joseph the Book-Man* 99 Ye weirdless, naughty, spendthrift man. 1825 JAMIESON, *Weirdless* 2. Destitute of any capacity to manage worldly affairs, S. 1864 LATTO *Tam. Bodkin* x. 93 What could she think. . . but that I behooved to be some wild, weirdless, ne'er-do-weel?

Hence 'weirdlessness.

1825 JAMIESON, *Weirdlessness*, wasteful mismanagement.

weird-like ('wædlak), *a.* [f. WEIRD sb. + -LIKE.] Suggestive of the supernatural, ominous, eery, uncanny. Of a person: Uncanny-looking.

1854 GRACE GREENWOOD *Haps & Mishaps* 113 The almost deathly quiet, the oppressive loneliness, the strange deep, unearthly gloom of this mouldering city of the dead are things to be felt in all their melancholy and weird-like power. 1856 MISS MULOCK *J. Halifax* vi. Still I hear the awe-struck, questioning, weird-like tone. 1875 G. JACQUE *Hope* iii. 35 Along that dismal silent road A weirdlike man was seen to plod. 1884 W. C. SMITH *Kildrostan* 45 So weird-like was the feeling of the place.

weirdly ('wædli), *a.* *Sc.* [f. WEIRD sb. + -LY.]

1. Favoured by fate, happy, prosperous.

1807 HOGG *Mtn. Bard* Poet. Wks. 1838 II. 211 Harden was a weirdly man. 1819 — *Jacobite Relics* II. 189 In thy bien and weirdly nook Lie some stout Clan-Gillian banes.

2. Pertaining to, or suggestive of, witchcraft or the supernatural.

1831 HOGG *Magic Mirror* in *Blackw. Mag.* XXX. 650 A hill for weirdly deeds renowned. **1858** MASSON *Milton* I. 538 In such studies and weirdly phantasies let the night pass. **1880** J. E. WATT *Poet. Sk.* 19 (E.D.D.) Though a warlock had waggit his weirdly wand To bring doon the lift on my head.

Hence 'weirdliness.

1859 MASSON *Brit Novelists* 243 Passages . . to which, for visual weirdliness, there is nothing comparable in the pages of his rival.

'weirdly, adv. [f. WEIRD *a.* + -LY².] In a weird or fantastic manner.

1859 TENNYSON *Elaine* 840 Elaine . . past beneath the weirdly-sculptured gates. **1861** J. THOMSON *Ladies of Death* xx, That face Of subtle loveliness though weirdly pale. **1888** ANNIE S. SWAN *Doris Cheyne* iv. 71 A low, moaning wind . . waved the bare tree boughs weirdly to and fro.

'weirdness. [f. WEIRD *a.* + -NESS.] The fact or quality of being weird.

1869 E. W. BENSON in A. C. Benson *Life* (1899) I. 289 Then fell the weirdness that still comes betimes When, after earnest talk, I fall to talk for talking's sake. **1893** *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 44/2 The greatness, vastness, and, if the word be permissible, weirdness of an empire that is the ruler of countless millions.

weirdo ('wɪədəʊ), *sb.* and *a. slang.* [f. WEIRD *a.* + -O².] *A. sb.* = WEIRDIE 1.

1955 L. FEATHER *Encycl. Jazz* 347 *Weird-o*, a weird person. **1958** *Observer* 13 Apr. 15/3 He is worried by Press reports which represent him as 'a weirdo—there is another word for it'. **1967** *Courier-Mail* (Brisbane) 13 Apr. 22/3 Another set of weirdos using a slick philosophy of revolt against the established order as camouflage for a lazy or corrupt existence. **1972** J. McCURE *Caterpillar Cop* iv. 45 A shock-haired, bearded weirdo in a tartan dressing-gown and wellington boots. **1976** M. MACHLIN *Pipeline* xli. 448 We are near the village and I go back a lot, but like I said, they all treat me like I was some weirdo. **1981** *London Rev. Bks.* 3-16 Sept. 3 Santa Fe is acknowledged as a milieu of aesthetes and weirdos. **1984** *Melody Maker* 6 Oct. 34/4 This record is for the real weirdos.

B. adj. Bizarre, eccentric, odd.

1962 *Sunday Times* 5 Aug. 20/6 Frankly, I'm sick of your whole weirdo line. Leave me alone. **1969** C. BURKE *God is Beautiful, Man* (1970) 46 About halfway through the party a real weirdo thing happened. **1974** M. MOORE *Silver Birch Country* 43 The lady I'm looking after is a dear old duck, completely weirdo, but she's got a terrible sense of humour, and I like her. **1979** *Tucson* (Arizona) *Citizen* 20 Sept. 2A/6 It . . makes us sound like some sort of weirdo fanatics opposed to all medicine.

'weirdsome, a. [f. WEIRD *sb.* + -SOME.] Uncanny, mysterious.

1885 J. F. MOLLOY *Royalty Restored* I. 304 These dark and weirdsome gulphs. **1910** *Spectator* 9 July 51/2 She . . sent the animal on its weirdsome errand into the darkness of the night.

'weirdward, a. [f. WEIRD *sb.* + -WARD.] Bordering upon or approaching the supernatural.

1866 J. B. ROSE tr. *Ovid's Met.* XIII. 697 Unnumbered sisterhood Of wierdward birth.

'weirdy, a. Sc. [f. WEIRD *sb.* + -Y.] Fateful. **1804** R. COUPER *Poetry* II. 21 Life's ember suffers unco throwes—What will ye, weirdy time, disclose!

weire, Sc. var. WAR sb.¹

weirelyk, obs. Sc. var. WARLIKE a.

weiring ('wɪərɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. WEIR *v.*] The constructing of a weir or of weirs; also, *concr.* materials used for making a weir or of which a weir is composed.

1794 W. H. MARSHALL *W. Eng.* (1796) II. 289 Hitherto, piles and planks had been used, to confine the rapid Tavey within its channel; much valuable timber having been used . . in 'weiring'. **1882** *Act 45 & 46 Vict.* c. 38 §25 The making . . of any works for any of the following purposes . . : (iv) Embanking or weiring from a river or lake. **1901** *Spectator* 27 July 119/1 In the canalised stream . . there were numbers [of crayfish], which made homes in . . sides of locks, and in the wood of the weiring.

weirlic, -lyk(e, obs. Sc. ff. WARLIKE.

weirlic, -ly, var. ff. WARLY Obs.

weirwal, var. WEREWALL Sc. Obs.

weische, obs. Sc. f. WASH.

weise, var. WASE; Sc. var. WISE v.

weisenheimer, var. WISENHEIMER.

weisht, Sc. var. WHISHT sb. and int.

weism ('wi:z(ə)m). [f. WE *pron.* + -ISM, after *egoism*.] The too frequent use of 'we' (see WE *pron.* 2 b) by a speaker or writer. Cf. WEGOTISM.

1800 *Anti-Jacobin Rev.* V. 58 What intolerable weism! more revolting than the worst species of egotism! **1833** *Fraser's Mag.* Apr. 505 His 'egotism', so offensive to the *we*-ism of the press.

'Weismannian, a. and sb. [f. as next + -IAN.] *a. adj.* Of or pertaining to Weismann or his biological theory. *b. sb.* One who accepts the theory of Weismannism.

1903 *Amer. Naturalist* May 349 The line of argument will probably not be convincing to even the milder

Weismannians. **1903** *Science* 5 June 906/1 The method . . in which . . there is no reduction division in the Weismannian sense. **1905** *Westm. Gaz.* 30 Mar. 1/3 Objections to the Weismannian theories.

Weismannism ('vaismənɪz(ə)m). [f. the name *Weismann* (see below) + -ISM.] The theory of evolution and heredity propounded by the German biologist, August Weismann, esp. in regard to the continuity of the germ-plasm and the non-transmission of acquired characteristics.

1894 H. SPENCER in *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 592 (title) Weismannism once more.

Weissenberg ('vaɪsnɜːbɜːg). [The name of Karl Weissenberg (b. 1893), Austrian-born physicist.] *a. Cryst.* Used *attrib.* with reference to a technique of single-crystal X-ray diffraction introduced by him, in which a metal shield allows the diffracted X-rays to produce only one set of parallel lines of spots which are recorded over the whole of the photographic film by rotating it synchronously with the crystal, enabling the Miller indices and other crystal parameters to be easily obtained.

1934 W. P. DAVEY *Study of Crystal Struct. & its Applic.* vii. 205 The Weissenberg camera may be used . . in the indexing of diffraction spots which are so thickly clustered on layer lines as to require otherwise a large number of oscillation photographs. **1962** Weissenberg photograph [see SALESITE]. **1976** D. SHERWOOD *Crystals, X-rays & Proteins* xiv. 507 To obtain full three-dimensional information, we may take a series of photographs corresponding to each layer line in which we are interested. This was realised by K. Weissenberg, and in 1924, he published an experimental method which enables this to be done. This is now known as the Weissenberg method.

b. Physics. **Weissenberg effect:** an effect observed when a visco-elastic liquid is stirred, when the liquid rises in the centre and climbs the stirring rod rather than forming a concave surface like normal fluids.

1949 M. REINER et al. in *Jrnl. Soc. Chem. Industry* LXVIII. 327/2 When a vertical rod is rotated in certain viscous elastic liquids, the liquid climbs up the rod and when a disc is rotated in such a liquid near the bottom of a beaker containing it, the liquid is drawn radially towards the centre. . . Freeman and Weissenberg claim that the first experimental observations were made by Weissenberg and Russell. . . In view of this it would seem justifiable to describe such phenomena as 'the Weissenberg Effect'. **1978** *Sci. Amer.* Nov. 148/2 If you would like to produce the Weissenberg effect, you might use a mixing bowl mounted on a turntable.

weissite¹ ('vaɪsaɪt). *Min.* [Named (G. *weissit*) after C. S. Weiss, German crystallographer: see -ITE.] An altered form of iolite.

1836 T. THOMSON *Outl. Min.* 282 Weissite occurs thinly scattered in a chlorite slate in kidney shaped pieces about the size of a hazel nut. **1849** J. NICOL *Min.* 263 Weissite, externally like fahnlite, but said to be monoclinohedric. **1868** DANA *Min.* (ed. 5) 301 Weissite, iberite, huronite, are supposed to be altered iolite.

weissite² ('vaɪsaɪt). *Min.* [See quot. 1927 and -ITE¹.] A copper telluride, Cu₅Te₃, occurring (often in association with rickardite) as bluish black or bluish grey pseudocubic crystals with a metallic lustre that darken on exposure to air.

1927 W. P. CRAWFORD in *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* CCXIII. 346 The mineral is named Weissite after the late Loui Weiss, owner of the Good Hope mine [at Vulcan, Colorado]. **1980** *Mineral. Abstr.* XXXI. 354/1 Rickardite and weissite occur with pyrite, tetrahedrite, chalcocopyrite, and altaite in this orebody in andesites and dacite porphyrites.

|| Weisswurst ('vaɪsvʊrst). [Ger., f. *weiss* white + *wurst* sausage.] (A) whitish German sausage made chiefly of veal.

1963 I. FLEMING *On H.M. Secret Service* xxvi. 289 At the Franziskaner Keller . . they ate mounds of Weisswurst and drank four steins of beer each. **1970** *Sat. Rev.* (U.S.) 12 Sept. 107/3 Germany's never-stale variety of sausages, particularly . . the delicate Weisswurst. **1983** *N.Y. Times* 7 Sept. c7 Weisswurst, the great specialty of Munich, is generally made with veal, pork, bread crumbs, nutmeg, salt, pepper and, sometimes, lemon peel or parsley. It is also stuffed into casings before cooking.

weist, obs. f. WEST; var. WISHT a. dial.

weit, obs. Sc. f. WET; obs. f. WHITE, WIT v.; var. WITE sb.

weith, obs. f. WIGHT.

weive, obs. f. WAIVE v.¹, WEAVE; var. WAIVE v.²

weize, var. WASE; Sc. var. WISE v.

wejack, earlier form of WOODCHUCK.

1796 S. HEARNE *Journ. N. Ocean* 377 The Wejack and Skunk are never found in the Northern Indian country. **1829** J. RICHARDSON *Fauna Bor.-Amer.* I. 52.

wek, obs. form of WEAK a.

weka ('weka, 'weikə, 'wikə). Also *waika*. [Maori, so named from its cry.] The native name for the flightless rails *Ocydromus australis*

and *O. brachypterus* of New Zealand. Also called *weka rail*.

1845 E. J. WAKEFIELD *Adv. New Zealand* II. iv. 95 Two young *weka*, or wood-hens, about as large as sparrows. **1852** *Zoologist* X. 3400 The eggs of . . the *Weka* (*Ocydromus*), obtained in the Middle Island, New Zealand. **1873** *Ibis Ser.* III. (1874) IV. 97 Wood or Maori Hen. *Weka*. **1906** *Westm. Gaz.* 20 Jan. 9/2 The *weka* rails are also flightless. **1914** *Chamb. Jrnl.* Nov. 751/1 The *weka* . . is very common throughout the New Zealand bush.

† **weke, sb. Obs. rare.** [ad. ON. *veku*, *vøku*, obl. case of *vøkva* moisture.] Moisture; liquid.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4698 Tilmen . . Als pai war won pair seide had saun, Bot alkin weke it was wit-draun. *Ibid.* 11215 He pat þe walud wand moght ger In a night leif and fruit ber, Witvten weke or erth a-bute. *Ibid.* 24453 Bot als ferrsum i moght reke, To kis pat tre was blodi weke.

weke, obs. f. WEAK, WEEK sb., WICK sb.¹; var. WEEK int.

weket, -ett, obs. ff. WICKET.

wekid, -it, wekir, obs. ff. WICKED, WICKER.

wekke, var. VECKE Obs., WICK a.

wekked, wekker, wekyt, obs. ff. WICKED, WICKER, WICKET.

wel: see WAL, WEEL¹, WELL.

w'e'l, obs. contraction of *we will*.

1677 C. D'AVENANT *Circe* IV. ii. 35 Let him dye, to his groans w'e'l dance and w'e'l sing.

wel-adaie, -aday, etc.: see WELLADAY.

welans (-anys), -ly, Sc. var. ff. VILLAINS a., -LY. Obs.

welany, obs. Sc. f. VILLAINY.

welawei, -way, etc., welawo: see WELLAWAY, WELLAWO.

welawylle, -wynne: see WELLA adv.

welbede, -bode, obs. forms of WOBIT.

wel bego(n, bigoo: see WELL BEGONE.

Welch, obs. form of WELSH.

welcome ('welkəm), *sb.¹, int., and a.* Forms: *a.* 1 *wilcuma* (*wilcymo*), 2-3 *wilcume*, (3 *wilkume*), 6 *Sc.* *wylcum*, *wylcome*; 1 *wylcume*, *wylcyme*, 3 *wulcume*, 3-5 *wolcome*. *β.* 2-3, 5 *welcume*, 3-4 *wel come*, 3-6 *wel-come*, *welcum*, 4 *welcum*, 4-7 *welcom* (5 *Sc.* *velcom*), 7 *well come* (7 *Sc.* *weillcome*), 7-8 *well-come*, 3- *welcome*. [Originally OE. *wilcuma* (f. *wil-*, *will-* *will*, desire, pleasure + *cuma* comer, guest) = OHG. *willicomo*, MHG. and MLG. *willecome*, -*kume* (whence OF. *wilecome*), with subsequent alteration of the first element to *wel-* *WELL adv.*, and identification of the second with the imperative or infinitive of the verb *come*, under the influence of OF. *bien venu*, *bien veigniez*, L. *bene venisti*, *bene venias*, etc., and possibly of the Scand. forms given below.

Parallel developments appear in the cognate languages, either with retention of the original form of the first element, and reduction or extension of the second, as in older G. *wille-*, *wilkum(m)*, -*komm*, G. *wilkkomm*, LG. *willkām*, MDu. *willecomen*, MLG. *willekomen* (LG. *willkamen*), MHG. *willechomen*, -*komen* (G. *willkommen*), or with substitution of *wel-* for *wil-*, as in MDu. *wellecome* (Du. *welkom*), -*comen*; also MLG. *wolkomen*, WFr. *wolkom*. It is not clear whether the ON. *velkominn* (Norw. *velkomen*; MSw. *vel-*, *välkomin*, Sw. *väl-*, Da. *velkommen*) is an independent formation or the result of LG. and Romanic influence.

The occasional ME. forms in *wol-* may represent either the southern *wul-* from *wyl-*, *wil-*, or the *wol* which appears as a variant of *wel* *WELL adv.*

† *A. sb.* One whose coming is pleasing or desirable; an acceptable person or thing. *Obs.* (OE. only.)

Beowulf 1894 He . . cwæp þæt wilcuman Wedera leodum scapan scirhame to scipe foron. **c 900** *Beda's Hist.* IV. ix. (1890) 290 Me is, cwæð heo, þin cyme on miclum ðonce; & þu eart leof wilcuma [L. *et bene venisti*]. **a 1000** *Riddles* IX. 11 (Gr.) Ic . . hælepum bodige wilcuma fela woþe minre.

B. In predicative use, passing into *adj.*

1. *a.* Of a person: Acceptable as a visitor, companion, etc.; also in phrase *to make* (a person) *welcome*.

a. Beowulf 388 ðesaga him eac wordum, þæt hie sint wilcuman Deniga leodum. **a 1000** *Cædmon's Satan* 617 (Gr.) ðe sind wilcuman! gað in wuldres leoht to heofona rice. **c 1205** LAY. 8528 *Wulcume* ært þu Iulius. *Ibid.* 15995 *Mærling* þu ært wilcume. **a 1225** *Ancre R.* 394 Biturn þe and cum agean, wilkume schaltu beon me. **c 1300** *Beket* (Percy Soc.) 1265 For ther nere hi noȝt wolcome: for the schame bifore, And the desclandre of Seint Thomas. **c 1440** *Prompt. Parv.* 532/1 *Welcome, exceptus*. **c 1560** A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) xxviii. 38 Quhen schow growis meik and tame, Scho salbe wylcome hame.

β. **a 1200** *Vices & Virtues* 99 3if ðar cump ani poht oðer ani word a godes half hie bieð hire swiðe welcome. **a 1250** *Owl & Night*. 1600 Vor pan ic am hire wel welcome. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 10456 þe king . . vel adoun akne . . To þe

erchebissopes fet . . & sede leue fader wel come mote pou be. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 3148 3e ben welcom to me bi crist pat me made. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Sompn.* T. 103 Algetes wel come be ye, by my fey. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 9392 He . . was welcom I-wis to the wegheas all. 1480 CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* ccxlii. 276 And no creature warned that feste, but alle were welcome. *a* 1533 BERNERS *Huon* lxviii. 253 They that gyue are euer welcome. 1551 CROWLEY *Pleas. & Pain* 597 In dede, very many do him entertayne Lyke as there were none more welcome then he. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* i. ii. 23 *Timo.* O Apermantus, you are welcome. *Aper.* No: You shall not make me welcome: I come to haue thee thrust me out of doores. 1667 M. POOLE *Dialogue* 150 And the oftner they come to him, the welcomer they are. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 83 Since for a little money all are welcom, one may eat as many as he pleases. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* v. i, Harlequin . . was always welcome on the Stage. 1849 JAMES *Woodman* iv, Lord Chartley and his friends were right welcome. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 635 Visitors from abroad . . are always welcome.

b. In attributive use.

1579 TOMSON *Calvin's Sermon. Tim.* 901/1 When we shall see them . . bee in credit and be the welcomest men in the world which fight against God and his truth. 1718 PRIOR *Solomon* i. 312 They . . with full Mirth receive the welcome Guest. 1829 SOUTHEY *Sir T. More* (1831) I. 240 The kindest host, the welcomest guest. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 27 Jan. 8/2 A heartily-welcome member of the family.

2. a. Of a thing: Acceptable, agreeable, pleasing. †to be evil welcome: to be badly received.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 24819 His presand welcum was and he, Als bringand wont was to be. *c* 1375 *Ibid.* 10276 (Fairf.) Thyne offeryng heper is welcome. 1570 FOXE *A. & M.* (1583) 1620/1 As for death, if it come welcome bee it. 1579 TOMSON *Calvin's Sermon. Tim.* 69/2 Dogs that barke against the seruants of God, seeking nothing so much as to . . cause their doctrine to be euill welcome. 1654 COCKAINE *Diane* i. ii. 47 Knowing a full Relation will come the welcomest to me. 1657 in *Verney Mem.* (1894) III. 304 A few instructions would have beneen welcome. 1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 1 ¶ 11 Praise is not so welcome to the Idler as quiet. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* vii, I think fetters of gold are like no other fetters—they are ever the weightier the welcomer. 1838 LYTTON *Alice* i. ix, This letter was by no means welcome. 1851 CARLYLE *Sterling* i. i, Human Portraits, faithfully drawn, are of all pictures the welcomest on human walls.

Phrases. 1598 FERGUSSON *Sc. Prov.* (S.T.S.) 52 Of untymous persons. He is as welcome as water in a ravin ship. He is as welcome as snaw in harvest. 1659 HOWELL *Lex., Prov., Engl. Prov.* i. 11/1 As welcome as water into ones shoes. As welcome as Flowers in May. 1671 T. HUNT *Abeced.* 28 *Scholast.* 90 As welcome as Snow in the Harvest.

b. In attributive use.

1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* iv. 189b, Till the swallow with her appearing, promise a welcommer season. 1596 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV.* i. 1. 66 And he hath brought vs smooth and welcome newes. ? 1622 FLETCHER *Love's Cure* v. iii, Why this . . will be a welcomer present to our Master Philip Than the return from his Indies. 1660 BOYLE *New Exp. Phys. Mech.* xxxvii. 309 The People, upon a very welcome Occasion testified their Joy by numerous Bon-fires. 1697 DRYDEN *Aeneis* i. 244 The Trojans, worn with Toils, and spent with Woos, Leap on the welcome Land. 1760 FAWKES tr. *Anacreon* Introd. p. vi, A Person of Anacreon's Character must . . meet with a welcome Reception wherever Wit and Pleasure were esteemed. 1839 FR. A. KEMBLE *Resid. in Georgia* (1863) 49 Port and bacon would prove a most welcome addition to their farinaceous diet. 1916 *Contemp. Rev.* Dec. 686 There are many other welcome signs of the drawing together of the Churches.

3. a. Freely permitted or allowed, cordially invited, (to do or to have something).

13 . . *Seuyn Sages* (W.) 3822 He bad them say, That thai war welcum alway To soorn in that same ceté. *c* 1400 *Sc. Trojan War* (Horstm.) II. 1924 To get pat golde . . Thai said he suld be richt welcome. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilze* 71 Forsuith thow suld be wel-cum to pas hame with me. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 40 They were very welcome, if they thought fit, to go. 1729 P. WALKDEN *Diary* (1866) 40, I told him he was welcome to have the lend of it till Martinmas. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xxv, You're very welcome to pass another night here. 1861 PALMERSTON in *Autob. Ld. C. Paget* (1896) Pref. p. vii, I must have 20 or 24 Iron-cased ships—you are quite welcome to have 40 or 48. 1882 'EDNA LYALL' *Donovan* xviii, He's welcome to call me what he pleases.

b. and welcome, added to a statement to imply: And he is (you are, etc.) freely permitted or cordially invited to do so, to have it, or the like.

1491 *Act 7 Hen. VII.* c. 22 Preamble, He may suerly comme hedir and welcome. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 104 So lo: now eate and welcome neighbour (quoth he). 1609 SHAKS. *Per.* II. iv. 22, I. Lord Hellicane, a word. *Hell.* With me? and welcome, happy day my Lords. 1755 *Man* No. 39, 5 And if this be done, let them judge and welcome. 1764 *Museum Rust.* III. 136 On the continent let them use the scythe and welcome, because there their weather is not so unsettled as ours. 1836 MRS. C. P. TRAILL *Backw. Canada* 75 Here are some cakes; . . take 'em, and welcome. 1869 LOWELL *Study Wind.* (1871) 2 Burgoyne may surrender and welcome.

c. Freely offered or open to all. nonce-use.

1772 PENNANT *Tour Scot.* (1774) 364 My hall was filled with my friends and kindred: . . and hecatombs of beeves and deer covered my rude but welcome tables.

d. you are (or you're) welcome: a polite formula used in response to an expression of thanks.

[1907 W. W. JACOBS *Short Cruises* II. 34 'Thank you,' said the girl, with a pleasant smile. 'You're quite welcome,' said the skipper.] 1960 *Times* 14 Sept. 12/7 The coloured lift attendant in South Carolina who had that attractive way of saying, almost singing, 'You're welcome' whenever we thanked her. 1977 P. DICKINSON *Walking Dead* i. iv. 55 'Thanks,' said Foxe . . 'You're welcome,' said Dreiser. 1980 A. E. FISHER *Midnight Men* viii. 93 He dialled Directory

Enquiries and asked the girl if she had a number. She gave him one and told him he was welcome.

e. you are welcome (to something): said ironically of something one is glad to be without.

1937 A. THIRKELL *Summer Half* i. 10 'Fine Old English Gentlemen,' said the applicant enthusiastically. 'You are welcome to him.' 1969 J. N. SMITH *Is he Dead, Miss Finch?* xviii. 118 My Uncle Len and Aunt Marge live there in a caravan. (They're welcome.)

G. 1. a. Used in the vocative as a form of address to a visitor or guest; hence as *int.*, serving as an expression of good will or pleasure at the coming of a person. (Sometimes addressed to a thing personified or quasi-personified.)

a. *c* 890 WÆRFERTH tr. *Gregory's Dial.* 276 He ongan . . þus cweþan: 'wilcuman la, mine hlafordas, wilcuman la, mine hlafordas!' *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xxv. 23 *Euge.* wilcymo. *c* 1100 *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 191/13 *Euax*, wilcume. *c* 1205 LAY. 22485 Wulcume sire Arður, wilcume lauerd [*c* 1275 welcome]. 1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxv. 51 Now tak me be the hand, Wylcum! my golk of maireland. 1568 *Henryson's Orpheus & Eurydice* 155 (Bannatyne MS.) Fair weill my place. . . And wylcum woddiss wyld.

B. *c* 1150 *De Vita et Miraculis S. Godrici Heremite de Finchale* (Surtees) 306 Dixit enim hæc verba Anglica . . 'Welcome, Simund; welcome, Simund'. *a* 1240 *Sawles Warde* in *O.E. Hom.* I. 259 A seið warschipe, welcome, liues luee. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8168 Alsuth sum he pat king had knaun, He said, 'sir welcum to pin aun'. 1362 LAGL. P. Pl. A. XII. 62 Al hayl, quod on po, and I answered, welcome and with whom be 3e. *a* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 222 Welcom, my swete son and cosyn. *c* 1520 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 920 What! whom haue we here, Jenkyn Joly? Nowe welcom, by the God holy! 1552 HULOET, Welcome euen with all my herte, *optato aduenisti.* 1588 SHAKS. *L.L.L.* II. i. 92 Faire Princesse, welcome to the Court of Nauar. 1656 COWLEY *Misc.* 31 Welcome learn'd Cicero, whose blest Tongue and Wit Preserves Romes greatness yet. 1702 ROWE *Tamerl.* i. i, Wellcome! thou worthy partner of my laurels. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vicar W.* xii, Welcome, welcome, Moses! well, my boy, what haue you brought us from the fair? 1842 MACAULAY *Lays, Horatius* li, Now welcome, welcome, Sextus! Now welcome to thy home! 1865 SWINBURNE *Chastelard* II. i. 76 Look, Here come my riddle-readers. Welcome all. 1879 TENNYSON *Falcon* (1884) 105 Welcome to this poor cottage, my dear lady.

b. to bid, wish (a person) welcome (home): to tell (him) that he is gladly received (home or as a guest, etc.).

c 1375 *Cursor M.* 15060 (Fairf.) þe rescyeues pine awen folk & biddis welcome hame [*Göit.* and biddes þe welcum hame]. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* i. i. 201 Wif, bid these gentlemen welcome: come, we haue a hot Venison pasty to dinner. 1720 N. BLUNDELL *Diary* (1895) 162 My Wife sent Ned Howard to Wooton to wish my Lady well-come-home.

c. The word 'welcome' displayed in letters.

1872 MARCH. DUFFERIN *Canad. Jnl.* (1891) 42 The rooms were ornamented with 'welcomes' and wreaths of maple.

d. welcome aboard, said (in allusion to nautical usage) as a joc. greeting to someone joining a particular group, enterprise, etc.

1962 J. D. MACDONALD *Key to Suite* II. 28 He put Hubbard's material in the envelope, hesitated, then scrawled across the front of it, 'Welcome aboard!' 1970 J. SANGSTER *Touchfeather, Too* iii. 79 We headed across the cool green lawn to the clubhouse. . . I was introduced to the manager. . . [who] had once served . . in the navy. 'Welcome aboard, Miss Touchfeather,' he said. 1977 'J. LE CARRÉ' *Hon. Schoolboy* v. 111 'Welcome aboard,' said Guillam. . . They had reached the fifth floor.

2. †welcome to our house, a name for the Cypress Spurge, *Euphorbia Cyprarissias*. Also welcome-home-husband.

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. cxxxii. 407 The fifth [is called in English] Cypress Spurge, or among women, Welcome to our house. 1665 LOVELL *Herball* (ed. 2) 465 Welcome to our house, see Cypress spurge. 1828 CARR *Craven Gloss.*, Welcome-home-husband, Cypress Spurge.

welcome ('wɛlkəm), sb.² [f. prec. or next. Cf. Du. *welkom*, G. *willkomm*, MHG. *willekum*.]

1. a. An assurance to a visitor or stranger that he or she is welcome; a pleasant or hearty greeting or reception given to a person on arrival at a house or other place.

to outstay, or overstay, one's welcome: see the vbs.

1525 BERNERS *Froiss.* (1812) II. 433 She had neuer before ben at Parys, therefore the burgesses of Parys gaue her her welcome [Fr. *Si luy deuioient les bourgeois de Paris sa bien venue*]. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* v. i. 111 And to thee, and thy Company, I bid a hearty welcome. 1611 — *Wint.* T. IV. iv. 560 Me thinks I see Leontes opening his free Armes, and weeping His welcomes forth. 1649 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Wand. Wonders of West* 15 A house . . where I tooke a welcome, a supper and a bed, till the next morning. 1703 EARL ORRERY *As you find it* II. i. 20 I'll promise you nothing but an English-Dinner, and an English-Welcome. 1757 DYER *Fleece* I. 123 The little smiling cottage, where at eve He meets his rosy children at the door, Prattling their welcomes. 1814 BYRON *Lara* i. vii, Warm was his welcome to the haunts of men. 1846 MRS. A. MARSH *Father Darcy* II. xiv. 242 That he was the friend beloved by Everard, was sufficient to insure him a welcome from Evelyn. 1847 MARY HOWITT *Ballads* 144 Then the abbot he prayed them all be still, And let their welcomes wait. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* III. §6. 145 The welcome of the townsmen made up . . for the ill-will . . of both clergy and monks.

b. transf. (esp. with *adjs.*) A greeting or reception of an unpleasant or unsatisfactory nature.

a 1548 HALL *Chron.*, *Edw. IV* (1550) 39b, But when they aproched the toune, the artillerye beganne to shote. . . This welcome semed very straung to kyng Edward, ponderynge together yestardayes promise, and this dayes doyng. *c* 1600

T. PONT *Topogr. Acc. Cunningham* (Maitl. Club) 10 Bot Wallace with a veill armed company gifts them a very hote welcome. 1633 T. STAFFORD *Pac. Hib.* i. xii. 78 The Invaders finding so ill a welcome, returned. 1725 P. WALKDEN *Diary* (1866) 111 We . . then went on to Mr. Jolly's, where we met but with a cold welcome.

†c. A special award in a lottery, made to the persons first drawing lots or blanks on the opening day or on each of the subsequent days. *Obs.*

1567 (Aug.) *Proclam. Gen. Lottery* (Arch. Bodl. F. c. 11, fol. 108), The first person to whome any Lot shall happen, shal haue for his welcome . . the value of fiftie poundes sterling. *Ibid.*, The Second . . shall haue . . for his welcome . . thirtie poundes. 1624 CAPT. J. SMITH *Virginia* IV. 118 Welcomes. To him that first shall be drawne out with a blanke, 100 Crownes. *Ibid.* 119 The prizes, welcomes, and rewards, shall be payed in ready Mony, Plate, or other goods.

2. a. welcome home, entertainment provided to celebrate the return home of a person; also, expressions of greeting made at a person's homecoming. Also transf. Also freq. attrib.

1530 TINDALE *Answ. More* IV. ii. Wks. (1572) 323/1 As when we call one that is new come home to breakfast and set a Capon before him and say, this is your welcome home. 1578 H. WOTTON *Courtlye Controv.* 296 She had good prouision of embracings, & wanton toyes, to feast him at his welcome home. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* VIII. vii. 776 Sylla of Carthage, upon my returne to Rome, after I had bene long absent, invited me to a supper for my welcome home. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Let. to J. Kennedy* Lett. (1664) 186 Our little inch of time-suffering is not worthy of our first night's welcome-home to heaven. 1680 LADY RUSSELL *Let.* 6 Mar. (1807) 3, I am very earnest to hear, . . how my brother is after his journey, and melancholy welcome home. 1885 'MRS. ALEXANDER' *Valerie's Fate* II, I hope Madeleine has not forgotten my fire,' murmured Miss Riddell, as she walked . . down the Champs Elysées. 'Such evenings as these one wants a welcome home.' 1955 B. PYM *Less than Angels* vi. 71 We aren't getting on very fast with your welcome-home party. 1966 B. KIMENYE *Kalasanda Revisited* 32 He would take the creature up to the Musaka's and ask Miriamu to prepare it as a special 'welcome home' supper for Yosefu. 1974 M. BIRMINGHAM *You can help Me* viii. 178 It gives me the chance to be part of your welcome-home committee.

b. Sc. (See quotes.)

1808 JAMIESON, *Welcome-haim*, the repast presented to a bride, when she enters the house of a bridegroom. 1818 *Edin. Mag.* Nov. 415/1 On Monday evening, just about gloamin, the husbands and wives of the village assemble at the house of the newly-married couple, to celebrate the welcome hame, by a good drink and funny crack.

c. dial. A bell tolled on the occasion of a person's death. Also transf.

1878 F. KILVERT *Jrnl.* 25 Dec. (1977) 328 The Welcome Home, as it chimed softly and slowly to greet the little pilgrim coming to his rest, sounded bleared and muffled through the thick snowy air. 1948 F. THOMPSON *Still glides Stream* xii. 226 It was a small, homely procession which . . accompanied Reuben on the last of his many journeys. The silvery sweet strain of a robin threaded the silence. 'The welcome home!' said Mrs. Finch.

3. Hearty or hospitable reception of a stranger or guest.

1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* III. i. 26 Small cheere and great welcome, makes a merrie feast. 1596 — *Tam. Shr.* Ind. i. 103 Go sirra, take them to the Butterie, And giue them friendly welcome euerie one. 1641 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) I. 39 It will much depend upon what assurance of welcome we shall have from home in more then beare words. 1845 LINGARD *Anglo-Saxon Ch.* I. iii. 137 Edilwalch, king of Sussex, received him [Wilfrid] with welcome. 1859 TENNYSON *Enid* 387 A youth, that following with a costrel bore The means of goodly welcome, flesh and wine. 1879 — *Falcon* (1884) 105 And welcome turns a cottage to a palace.

4. A welcoming salute. Also attrib.

1615 R. COCKS *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 63 The Duch envied the King of Firando aboard their ship, and gave hym 3 pec. ordinance for a wellcom. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* i. ix, The gunner held his linstock yare, For welcome shot prepar'd. *Ibid.* i. x, The cannon from the ramparts glanced, And thundering welcome gave.

†5. powder of welcome, a medicament for the eyes.

The origin is obscure: *welcome* is merely a rendering of the name used in the orig. L. of the quot. 1541, viz. *pulvis benvenuti*. Cf. *Treasure of Poore Men* (1540) 8 'Of powder called Bonaventure'.

1541 R. COPLAND *Guydon's Form.* Y 1 b, Fyftly is put the powdre of welcome, of myne owne makynge for all spottes of the eyes.

6. attrib. and Comb., as welcome mat U.S. colloq., a mat put out to greet welcome visitors; chiefly used in fig. phrs. to indicate a friendly welcome (cf. *red carpet* s.v. RED a. 19a); welcome song: *spec.* the first ode composed by Purcell (see quotes.); welcome wagon N. Amer., a car bringing gifts and samples from local merchants to newcomers in a community; also fig.

1951 I. ASIMOV *Foundation* (1953) II. v. 73, I certainly don't intend to lay down the welcome mat. 1963 M. MCCARTHY *Group* III. 50, I can only ask you to come here whenever you're in town. The welcome mat will be out. 1978 R. NIXON *Mem.* 622 The door will not only be open—I've been weaving a welcome mat. 1681 H. PURCELL (*song-title*) A Welcome Song in the year 1681 for the King. 1883 GROVE *Dict. Mus.* III. 47/1 In 1680 . . [Purcell] produced the first of his numerous odes, viz. 'An Ode or Welcome Song for his Royal Highness [the Duke of York] on his return from Scotland'. 1942 Welcome song [see *birthday ode* s.v. BIRTHDAY 3]. 1961 WEBSTER, Welcome wagon. 1970 A.

TOFFLER *Future Shock* (1971) vi. 104 We have in many American suburbs a commercial 'Welcome Wagon' service that accelerates the process by introducing newcomers to the chief stores and agencies in the community. **1971** H. T. WALDEN *Anchorage Northeast* 13 The welcome-wagon type of hospitality is not here. **1976** *Times Lit. Suppl.* 2 Jan. 4/3 He was never serious about moving to America, fearing perhaps that the American welcome wagon, by killing his habit of resentment with kindness and pelf, might stultify his... literary gifts.

welcome ('welkəm), *v.*¹ Forms: *a.* 1 (ge)wylcumian, wylcumian, 3 wil-, wulcumen, wolcume, 4 wolcome. *β.* 1 wellcumian, 2 welcumien, 3 -cumen, 4-5 welcum, -kum (5 whellcwm, *Sc. velcum*); 3-5 welcome (6-7 *p. t.* -commed). [Originally OE. *wilcumian*, f. *wilcuma* WELCOME *sb.*¹, with later alteration of the first element in the same way as in the noun.]

1. *trans.* To greet (a person) with 'welcome!'; to receive (a visitor) gladly and hospitably; to accord a friendly reception to; to make welcome.

a. **c.1000** *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. v. 47 ðif ge þæt an doð þæt ge eowre gebroðra wylcumiaþ. **c.1000** *ÆLFRIC Saints' Lives* iii. 507 And basilus sende sona him to-geanes and hine wylcumode. **c.1205** *LAY.* 17098 þe king... ut him gon ride... to wulcumen Mærlin. **a.1250** *Owl & Night.* 440 þe lilie mid hire faire wlite wolcomeþ [*Jesus MS.* welcumeþ] me. **c.1300** *Beket* (Percy Soc.) 690 That folc to him drouȝ And wolcome him and makede feste. **c.1350** *Will. Palerne* 4290 And worþili hire he wolcomed wen he hire mette.

β. **c.1000** in *Engl. Studien* VIII. 478 Dæt folc... wellcumiaþ Fenix. **c.1160** *Ags. Gosp.* (Hatton) Matt. v. 47 ðyf ge þæt an doð þæt ge eowre gebroðre welcumiēð. **c.1250** *Gen. & Ex.* 1396 And laban cam to ðat welle ner, faizer welcumeð he ðer eliez. **c.1290** *Beket* 696 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 126 þæt folk sone to him drouȝ And welcumenen him. **a.1300** *Cursor M.* 4015 He welcumd iacob selli fair, He wist he was his fader air. **13...** *Seuyn Sag.* (W.) 3850 Dame, in hert I am sary, That we haue noht al ful plenti, To welcum swilk a lord als he. **c.1374** *CHAUCER Troylus* v. 849 Criseyde, at shorte wordes for to telle, Welcomed him, and doun by hir him sette. **c.1400** *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 2411 For to welcum with wordes fre Eyur-ilk man in per degre. **c.1450** *Merlin* xxv. 447 [They ride] till thei come to logres the thirde day, and ther were thei richly welcomed. **1530** *PALSGR.* 779/1, I welcome with wordes or gentyll intreatyng. *Je bienueingne.* **1557** *TUSSER 100 Points Husb.*, July x, Then welcome thy haruest folke, seruantes and all: with mirth and good chere, let them furnish thine hall. **1603** *KNOLLES Hist. Turks* (1638) 49 The yong Emperor... welcomed him full sore against his will. **1659** *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) IV. 130 Almost euery body would welcome the King and not a few expect him. **1725, 1732** [see *SPEED v.* 10 d]. **1849** *MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* vii. II. 195 He would have found that the nation was not yet prepared to welcome an armed deliverer from a foreign country. **1874** *GREEN Short Hist.* vii. §6. 405 The exiled merchants of Antwerp were welcomed by the merchants of London.

b. Const. *to, into* (a place). Also with advs. of place, as *ashore, back, up*; esp. *to welcome home*.

c.1205 *LAY.* 10957 He nom forð rihtes six wise cnihtes, to Custance heom sende, & wilcumeð hine to londe. **a.1300** *Cursor M.* 15060 þe receiues pin aun folk, And welcums þe hame. **a.1380** *S. Bernard* 1039 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 58/2 þe erchebisshop aȝein him sent A worpi clerk of good entent, Him to welcome curteisliche In to þat ilke bisschopriche. **a.1450** *Mirk's Festial* 115 Welcomyng hym wyth songe into þe church, as pay welcomet hym syngyng into þe cyte of Ierusalem. **1594** *SHAKS. Rich. III.* iv. 439 And there they hull, expecting but the aide Of Buckingham, to welcome them ashore. *Ibid.* v. iii. 260 Your wiues shall welcome home the Conquerors. **1610** *HOLLAND Camden's Brit.* 71 Probus was welcomed into Britaine. **1629** *MILTON Christ's Nativ.* 18 Hast thou no... solemne strein, To welcome him to this his new abode...? **1797** *JANE AUSTEN Sense & Sens.* vi, They were interrupted... by the entrance of their landlord, who called to welcome them to Barton. **1894** *LADY M. VERNEY Verney Mem.* III. 293 No one welcomed him back with the womanly love which mother and sister would have lavished upon him.

c. *fig.* Also with *in*.

1593 *SHAKS. Rich. II.* ii. 7 Yet I know no cause Why I should welcome such a guest as greefe. **1599** *SHAKS. etc. Pass. Pilgr.* 199 For she [the lark] doth welcome daylight with her ditte. **1785** *COWPER Task* iv. 41 So let us welcome peaceful ev'ning in.

d. Const. *to* (an entertainment).

1634 *SIR T. HERBERT Trav.* 51 Our Ambassadour, the Gentlemen his followers and Sea-captaines were welcomed to a very neat and curious Banquet.

2. To greet or receive *with* (or *by*) something (esp. of an unpleasant nature).

1590 *SHAKS. Com. Err.* iv. iv. 38, I am... driuen out of doores with it [sc. a beating] when I goe from home, welcom'd home with it when I returne. **1611** *BIBLE Transl. Pref.* ¶1 Zeale to promote the common good... is welcommed with suspicion in stead of loue, and with emulation in stead of thanks. **1639** *Du VERGER tr. Camus' Admir. Events* 2 Venon... at his returne found himself welcomed with two disasters. **1653** *J. TAYLOR* (Water P.) *Certain Trav.* 13 Good Mrs. Martin who welcom'd me with good whitt wine. **1791** *MRS. RADCLIFFE Rom. Forest* i, If you return within an hour you will be welcomed by a brace of bullets.

3. *a.* To greet heartily or joyfully (the return of a person, etc.).

1697 *DRYDEN Virg. Georg.* ii. 761 His little Children climbing for a Kiss, Welcome their Father's late Return at Night. **1815** *SHELLEY Alastor* 283 Thy sweet mate will... welcome thy return with eyes Bright in the lustre of their own fond joy. **1870** *BRYANT Iliad* v. 191 Since he no more should welcome their return From war.

b. To greet with pleasure the coming or occurring of (an event, etc.).

1856 *FROUDE Hist. Eng.* I. ii. 131 He... would have welcomed an escape from the dilemma perhaps as warmly as

Henry would have welcomed it himself. **1874** *GREEN Short Hist.* ii. §3. 68 The religious movement... was welcomed with an almost passionate fanaticism. **1884** *GILMOUR Mongols* xvii. 207 Such... difficulties... are welcomed... as subjects of debate.

† **welcome, v.**² *Obs. rare.* [f. WELCOME *sb.*¹ and *a.*] *intr.* To be welcome.

c.1450 *LOVELICH Grail* xlii. 278, 280 Ful lowde to hem they gonne to Crye, and seide 'welcometh' Al An hye... 'Welcometh' quod Iosephes ful Sekerlye.

welcomed ('welkəmd), *ppl. a.* [f. WELCOME *v.*¹ + -ED¹.] Made welcome; gladly received.

1583 *MELBANCKE Philotimus* Ccij, Philotimus, my wished frend, and welcomde guest, how dost thou? **16...** *W. BOSWORTH Arcadius & Sepha* i. 553 This [wound] being slighted 'gan to fester in, And having got a newly welcom'd skin, Began to fester more. **1826** *SHERER Notes & Refl. Ramble Germany* 45 A man who had been drenched by the very same midnight rain, and... had been dried by the same welcomed sunbeams as myself.

'**welcomeless, a.** [f. WELCOME *sb.*² + -LESS.] Without a welcome; also, unwelcome.

1838 *LYTTON Alice* x. iii, Amidst blank and welcomeless faces, Maltravers passed into his study. **1848** — *Harold* v. iii, The treasures of the King are well nigh drained in feeding these hungry and welcomeless visitors.

welcomely ('welkəmli), *adv.* [-LY².] In a welcome manner. *a.* With an expression or feeling of welcome; gladly, hospitably.

a.1595 *SOUTHWELL Hundred Medit.* (1873) 510, I shall... find the gates... wide open, and... shall be welcomely received. **1631** *GOUGE God's Arrous* v. §16. 428 Amittie with such Kingdomes will be earnestly desired, and welcomely embraced. **1649** *J. TAYLOR* (Water P.) *Wand. Wonders West* 9 There I stayd till the next day noone, being well and welcomely entertained. **1693** *W. FREKE Sel. Ess.*, *Art of War* 259 Such an Army [Militia] You may easily Disband... and, euery Man knowing his home is Welcomely received. **1776** in *J. Rae Adam Smith* (1895) 26 [In a letter of 22nd May 1776... the Glasgow Senatus tell the Master and Fellows of Balliol plainly that the Scotch students had never been] 'welcomely received' [at Balliol]. **1822** *T. CHALMERS Mem.* (1850) II. xiv. 359, I have been very kindly and welcomely entertained. **1884** *Westmorland Gaz.* 1 Nov. 5/6 Both were welcomely received by the husband's daughter.

b. In a manner that is welcomed; so as to gratify or please.

1646 *SIR T. BROWNE Pseud. Ep.* III. iv. 112 The same we meet with in Juvenal, who by an handsome and metrical expression more welcomely engrafs it in our junior memories. **1818** *LADY MORGAN Autobiog.* (1859) 100 The interesting guest who so unexpectedly, but so welcomely arrived. **1858** *CARLYLE Fredk. Gt. x. v.* (1873) III. 258 His Portrait (a welcomely good one, still to be found there). **1874** *Daily News* 22 May 5 Upon all the sun shone most welcomely.

† **welcomen**, obs. var. WELCOME *a.* 2.

c.1300 *Harrow. Hell* 150 (Digby MS.) Welcome, loured, wel pou be, ... flul welcomen art pou ous. **1432-50** *tr. Higden* I. 409 If thei wasche theire feete, thei theinke that thei be welle commen.

'**welcomeness.** [-NESS.] The state of being welcome or of being welcomed.

1620 *Swetnam Arraigned* (1880) 61 Oh, Madame, I haue such welcomeness! For me, what is't? **1660** *BOYLE Seraph. Love* §xxv. (1700) 151 Yet will they [sc. our joys] really still continue new... upon the scores of their welcomeness and Freshness. **1768** *STERNE Sent. Journ.* (1778) I. 113 (Montriuil) The poor little fellow press'd it [the snuff-box] upon them with a nod of welcomeness... *Prenez en—prenez*, said he. **1977** [see *picnic party* s.v. *PICNIC sb.* 3].

welcomer ('welkəmə(r)), [f. WELCOME *v.*¹ + -ER¹.] One who, or something which, welcomes or greets (a person or thing).

13... *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 252 In prima porta... inuenient tres 'welcomeres' horribiles, videlicet... nakednesse Reminge feblesse. **1594** *SHAKS. Rich. III.* iv. i. 90 Farewell, thou wofull welcommer of glory. **1812** *W. TAYLOR* in *Monthly Rev.* LXVII. 529 Welcomers of libertinism, but not of impudence. **1829** *C. ROSE Four Years S. Africa* 306 Yes,—you [sc. a sea-fowl] are a fitting welcomer to my country. **1850** *J. STRUTHERS Poet. Wks.* Life, p. lxix, The welcome was acceptable, though the welcomer was not by any means promising or prepossessing. **1905** *SIR A. LYALL Marq. Dufferin* I. vii. 266 They were received by a concourse of welcomers and a profusion of banners.

welcoming ('welkəmɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. WELCOME *v.*¹ + -ING¹.] The action of greeting with welcome or of making welcome; a welcome.

1303 *R. BRUNNE Handl. Synne* 2858 Hys doghtyr was þe fyrste þyng þat mette hym and made hym welcomyng. **1390** *GOWER Conf.* II. 255 The king cam with his knyghtes alle And maden him glad welcominge. **c.1400** *Laud Troy Bk.* 14460 Thei... grete the kyng with wordes curteis; And he... thanked sone her wel-comyng. **c.1440** *Generydes* 392 He came anon withoute taryeng, And curtesly gaue them ther welcomyng. **1525** *BERNERS Froiss.* II. clx. 177 And to his welcomyng to Dignon, many ladyes and damosels were come thyder to se hym. **1600** *J. PORY tr. Leo's Africa* viii. 325 For the welcoming of whom [sc. all strangers] they bring up great store of doues, of chickens, and of such like commodities. **1670** *MILTON Hist. Eng. Wks.* 1851 V. 24 Elidure... runs to him with open Arms; and after many dear and sincere welcomings, conuaies him to the City Alclud. **1798** *COLERIDGE Anc. Mar.* vi. xii, But soon there breathed a wind on me... It mingled strangely with my fears, Yet it felt like a welcoming. **1818** *KEATS Endym.* i. 377 Where every zephyr-sigh pouts, and endows Her lips with music for the welcoming. **1836** *DICKENS Sk. Boz, Tuggs's at Ramsgate*, Nothing was to be heard but talking, laughing,

welcoming, and merriment. **1883** *Athenæum* 17 Nov. 627/1 The spontaneous welcoming of a given book by an audience that is in size and influence a public.

welcoming ('welkəmɪŋ), *ppl. a.* [-ING².] That welcomes or gives a welcome.

1656 in *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) III. 285 Their famous new come preacher, making the welcomming speech in the name of the rest. **1661** *BOYLE Style of Script.* (1675) 152 With how much more reason may God expect a welcoming entertainment for the least adorned parts of a Book, of which [etc.]. **1809** *PINKNEY Trav. France* 77 The returning husband, and the welcoming wife. **1821** *CLARE Vill. Minstr.* I. 161 Then as the glad sun breaks the clouds in a shower Tears melt in a welcoming smile. **1876** *M188 BROUGHTON Joan* i. x, Wolferstan stepping to meet her, with his low laugh and his welcoming eyes.

fig. **1863** *KINGLAKE Crimea* (1877) III. iv. 350 The happy-looking cottages, with their... welcoming porches.

Hence '**welcomingly adv.**

1884 *Century Mag.* Nov. 58/2 She... listened welcomingly to Juan's glad promises of the joy that was to be.

weld (weld), *sb.*¹ Forms: *a.* 4-6 welde, 6- weld (8 wield). *β.* 5-6 wolde, (olde), 5- wold (5 oold), 7-8 would, 8 woold, 8-9 woald. *γ.* *Sc.* 5- wald. [OE. **wealde*, Anglian **walde* = MLG. *walde* (wolde), *waude* (still in LG.), MDu. *woude*, *wouwe* (Du. *wouw*; hence G. *wau*, †*waube*, Sw. and Da. *vau*), possibly a derivative of *wald*, wood, forest. The Germanic word is the source of Sp. *gualda*, Pg. *gualde*, F. *gaude*.

The later forms of the word show the same development of the vowel as the West Saxon *weald* WEALD and Anglian *wald* WOLD.]

1. The plant *Reseda Luteola*, which yields a yellow dye. Also, the dye obtained from this plant.

a. **c.1374** *CHAUCER Former Age* 17 No Madyr, welde, or wod no listetere Ne knewh. **c.1440** *Promp. Parv.* 520/2 Welde, or wolde, herbe... *sandix*, *atriplex*. **1597** *GERARDE Herbal* II. cxxviii. 398 *Luteola*... in English Welde and Diers weede. **a.1661** *FULLER Worthies, Kent* II. 57 Weld or Wold:—Know, Reader, that I borrow my Orthographie hereof (if it be so) from the Dyers themselves. **1676** *Phil. Trans.* XI. 795 Diarsweed, Weld or WOULD. **1707** [J. JOHNSON] *Clergyman's Vade Mecum* 217 Woad, Saffron, Wield, are all small Tythes. **1763** *W. LEWIS Chem. Philos.-Techn.* 412 The cloth... is then passed through a copper of weld or woold, prepared as for dying yellow, which is supposed to soften the cloth. **1789** *Trans. Soc. Arts* I. 207 A plat of weld I had planted the autumn before. **1815** *J. SMITH Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 539 Weld readily imparts its colour to water; it is used in the proportion of from three to six pounds for every pound of cloth. **1839** *URE Dict. Arts* 126 The boil of weld, by which the dye of black cloth is frequently finished. **1872** *OLIVER Elem. Bot.* II. 141 Dyer's Mignonette or Weld (R. Luteola) is cultivated for dyeing yellow.

β. **14...** in *Sax. Leechd.* III. 349/1 Wolde. **c.1440** *Promp. Parv.* 532/1 Wold, herbe, or woode... *sandix*. **1496** *Bk. St. Albans, Fysshynge* h ij, Put therein two handfull of ooldys or of wyxen... Lete woode your heer in a woodsfatte a lyght plunket colour. And thenne sethe hym in olde or wyxin. **1530** *PALSGR.* 290/1 Wolde herbe. **1582** *HAKLUYT Voy.* (1599) II. i. 163 Yellowes and greenes are colours of small prices in this realme, by reason that Olde and Green-weed wherewith they be died be naturall here. **a.1661**, **1676** *Wold*, would [see *a.*]. **1707** *MORTIMER Husb.* (1721) I. 165 Weld or WOULD is a rich Dyers Commodity. **1763** *Wold* [see *a.*]. **1791** *HAMILTON tr. Berthollet's Dyeing* II. 259 Weld or wold is a plant yielding a yellow colour. **1855** *SINGLETON Virgil* I. 29 The ram shall... change his fleece, With now the sweetly-blushing purple dye, With now the saffron wold. *γ.* **1498** *HALYBURTON Ledger* (1867) 223 Item sald hym a town of wald for 7 li. 15 s. **15...** *Aberd. Reg.* (MS.) XXIV, Thre half pokis of wald. **1672** *Sc. Acts Chas. II* (1814) VIII. 63/2 Noe vther incorporation... to buy or sell... Wald and vther materials for dying. **1743** *R. MAXWELL Sel. Trans. Agric.* 368 For every Pound of Yarn allow three fourths of a Pound good English Wald. **1808** *JAMIESON*.

† *b.* Applied to other species of *Reseda*. *Obs.* **1597** *GERARDE Herbal* II. cxxviii. 396 Of Sesamoides, or bastard Weld or Woade, out of Diosc... 3 *Sesamoides maius Scaligeri*. Barren Welde. 4 *Sesamoides paruum Mathioli*. Bucks horne Welde.

2. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *weld plant*, *seed*; *weld-dyeing*, *liquor*, *vat*, *yellow*; *weldworts*, Lindley's name for the N.O. *Resedaceæ*.

1876 *W. MORRIS* in *Maekail Life* (1899) I. 325, I have found out and practised the art of *weld-dyeing. **1763** *W. LEWIS Chem. Philos.-Techn.* 413 The passing through *weld liquor, after scowering with soap, is entirely unnecessary. **1805** *R. W. DICKSON Pract. Agric.* II. 777 Sheep... will not touch the *weld plants. **1765** *Museum Rust.* IV. 147 The French sow their *weld-seed in July. **1899** *MACKAIL W. Morris* I. 317 Madder or *weld vats. **1845** *LINDLEY School Bot.* (new ed.) 72 *Resedaceæ*—*Weldworts. **1899** in *Mackail W. Morris* I. 312 Madder red, *wald yellow.

weld (weld), *sb.*² [f. WELD *v.*]

1. A joining or joint made by welding.

1831 *J. HOLLAND Manuf. Metal* I. 96 Should the bars of iron not be... long enough, they are to be welded, and the welds separated. **1862** *Fraser's Mag.* Nov. 634 Tires for locomotive engines are also exhibited, made without a weld. **1880** *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 279/2 Each barrel has a weld running down its whole length. **1892** *Profess. Papers Corps R. Engineers* 10 It was desirable, with such a weld, that the two surfaces should not be at an angle and this form of weld was called a 'butt' weld.

2. The act, process, or result of welding; the state or fact of being welded.

1862 *Times* 12 Aug. 9/4 Where soundness of weld might have been expected... thin layers of interposed 'cinder' have... prevented perfect union between contiguous laminæ of iron. **1884** *Lock Workshop Rec. Ser.* III. 68/1 Copper

phosphide would be formed, which would effectually prevent a weld. 1884 W. H. GREENWOOD *Steel & Iron* i. 7 Under these conditions but moderate pressure is required to ensure a perfect weld.

3. Comb.: weld decay, (increased susceptibility to) corrosion in chromium-nickel stainless steel that has been kept at 600° to 900°C for a time (as in welding), owing to the precipitation of chromium carbide and the consequent lowering of the chromium content; weld-iron, wrought iron; weld pool, the pool of molten metal formed about a joint in welding; weld-steel, puddled steel.

1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, Weld-iron. Weld-steel. 1884 LOCK *Workshop Rec.* Ser. III. 266/1 Steel which will harden from any cause... is termed weld-steel. 1932 E. GREGORY *Metallurgy* vii. 275 The heating of alloy steels of the 18 per cent chromium, 8 per cent nickel type in the range 650°–900°C. greatly decreases their corrosion resistance... This phenomenon is known as weld-decay. 1964 W. STEEDS *Engin. Materials, Machine Tools & Processes* (ed. 4) vii. 169 With coated electrodes too high a current... makes control of the weld pool difficult. 1973 A. PARRISH *Mech. Engineer's Ref. Bk.* v. 74 This local depletion of chromium causes lack of passivity in acid corrodants with consequent attack along grain boundaries (weld decay). 1975 BRAM & DOWNS *Manuf. Technol.* ii. 55 The arc and the weld pool are protected from atmospheric contamination.

weld (weld), *v.* [Alteration of WELL *v.*, prob. under the influence of the *pa. pple.*]

1. *intr.* To undergo junction by welding; to admit of being welded. Also *fig.*

1599 JAS. I *Basil. Doron* III. 153 Mixinge through... dailie conversation, the men of euery kingdom with an other, as may with time make them to growe and weld [*orig. MS.* well] all in one. 1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* i. 10 They say it makes the Iron weld, or incorporate the better. 1724 RAMSAY *Song, Widow* 21 Strike iron while 'tis het, if ye'd have it to wald. 1884 W. H. GREENWOOD *Steel & Iron* x. 204 When heated to whiteness... the particles cohere or weld together perfectly.

2. *a. trans.* To soften by heat and join together (pieces of metal, esp. iron, or iron and steel) in a solid mass, by hammering or by pressure; to forge (an article) by this method.

1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* i. 9 And so weld, or work in the doubling into one another, and make it become one entire lump. 1680 ALSOP *Mischief Imposit.* vii. 51 A Cutler's boy... was making a knife, and unluckily the steel fell off when he had welded it. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 341 They are usually made of iron and steel welded together. 1832 BABBAGE *Econ. Manuf.* xxx. (ed. 3) 299 In this difficulty, the contractors resorted to a mode of welding the gun-barrel. 1848 LYTTON *Harold* i. i, I heard the smith welding arms on the anvil. 1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 284 The bayonet consists of a steel blade welded to a wrought-iron socket.

b. fig. and transf. To unite intimately or inseparably; to join closely together.

(a) 1839 BAILEY *Festus* 243 Let us love, and die, And weld our souls together, night! 1860 GEO. ELIOT *Mill on Fl.* II. vi. If boys and men are to be welded together in the glow of transient feeling, they must be made of metal that will mix. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* xi, Habits, inexorably welded into the being of the man.

(b) 1802 J. PLAYFAIR *Illustr. Huttonian Theory* 283 The line of separation... has, on the whole, been marked out with great precision; and, though the stones have been firmly united, or, as one may say, welded one upon another, yet, when a fresh fracture was obtained, the stratified and unstratified parts have rarely failed to be distinguished. 1859 MURCHISON *Siluria* xi. (ed. 3) 301 The lower part being welded on to the Upper Silurian by thin fissile strata. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* i. xx. 139 All the glaciers... are welded together to a common trunk. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 690 A hypertrophic condition of the horny layers of the epidermis—the cells becoming condensed or 'welded' together.

weld, *obs. f.* WEALD; *obs. f. (and pa. pple.)* of WIELD; *var.* WOLD *sb.*

weldability (weldə'bɪlɪtɪ). [*f.* WELDABLE + -ITY.] The quality or property of being weldable.

1869 H. S. OSBORN *Metallurgy Iron & Steel* iii. 85 There is a degree of weldability in platinum which causes that metal to be classified with iron as a weldable metal. 1884 W. H. GREENWOOD *Steel & Iron* i. 8 The above-mentioned elements harden malleable iron, and probably affect its weldability. 1884 LOCK *Workshop Rec.* Ser. III. 300/2 Its weldability depends upon the viscosity it [*sc. glass*] assumes at a bright-red heat.

weldable ('weldəb(ə)l), *a.* [*f.* WELD *v.* + -ABLE.] *a.* Capable of being welded.

1855 D. LARDNER *Hand-bk. Nat. Philos.: Hydrostatics* III. v. 304 Weldable metals.—The metals capable of being welded soften before they are fused. 1864 *Reader* 9 Apr. 449/1 We have the various kinds of steel, which are highly elastic, malleable, ductile, forgeable, weldable. 1881 *Metal World* No. 24. 372 Pure malleable and weldable nickel. 1889 *Nature* 10 Sept. 510/2 Many metals not hitherto considered weldable, such as tool steel, copper, and aluminium are readily welded.

b. transf. Of plastic substances: Capable of being united in a solid mass.

1881 *Knowledge* 25 Nov. 67/1 Wax, pitch, resin, and all other solids that fuse, gradually cohere, are weldable... when near their fusing point. 1884 LOCK *Workshop Rec.* Ser. III. 300/2 Outside of the metals there is a multitude of weldable substances. Glass is a typical example of these.

weldar, *obs. form* of WIELDER.

weldbore, *var.* WILDBORE.

welde, *obs. form* of WIELD *sb.* and *v.*

welded ('weldɪd), *ppl. a.* [*f.* WELD *v.* + -ED¹.]

1. *a.* United by welding.

1869 *Scientific Opinion* 10 Feb. 270/1 The wire had been drawn from welded palladium. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 27 June 2/1 The immensely expensive welded-iron gun to which Sir W. Armstrong was wedded.

b. transf. and fig.

1837 SIR F. PALGRAVE *Merch. & Friar* (1844) Ded. 4 The welded mass of haut ton, or low ton. 1862 LYTTON *Str. Story* xxiii, The welded strength of its sinews was best shown in the lightness and grace of its movements. 1878 BROWNING *Poets Croisic* lxxi, Welded lines with clinch Of ending word and word. 1898 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 1008 The firm, thick, fibrous septum of the welded valve-structures.

2. welded joint, = welted joint: see WELT *v.*

1882 W. J. CHRISTY *Joints* 197 This variety [of overlapping joint] thus compactly rolled together is otherwise termed a welded joint.

3. *Geol. a.* Applied to pyroclastic rock formed by the union of small, heat-softened particles.

[1802: see WELD *v.* 2 b (b). 1899 J. P. IDINGS in A. HAGUE et al. *Geol. Yellowstone Nat. Park* II. x. 406 The mass is compact of glass, but it consists of irregularly shaped streaks and patches of different color. These twist and curve about one another and appear like a perfectly welded mass of strips or ribbons and irregular fragments of variously colored glass. 1909 — *Igneous Rocks* I. i. viii. 333 These examples of welded pumice are from rhyolitic lavas in the Yellowstone National Park. 1935 *Trans. Amer. Geophysical Union* 309 Although commonly and perhaps generally associated with deposits of light-colored volcanic ash of rhyolitic composition, the welded tuff is not confined to this association but occurs also on older rocks. 1962, 1970 [see IGNIMBRITE]. 1977 A. HALLAM *Planet Earth* 74/1 There may also be intercalations of submarine pillow lavas or welded tuffs indicative of volcanic islands.

b. Applied to an intimate, close-fitting contact between two bodies of rock that have not been heat-softened or tectonically disrupted.

1939 *Q. J. J. Geol. Soc.* XCV. 354 The contact is, as usual, welded, and the base of the overlying sediments consists of current-bedded, brown-weathering, fine sandstone. 1948 R. R. SHROCK *Sequence in Layered Rocks* ii. 55 There are examples... where an entire geological system is represented by the hiatus along the welded contact. 1976 *J. Geol. Soc.* CXXXII. 125 The contact of the slump sheets with the overlying mega-beds is welded, i.e. depositional fit is present.

†wel-dede. *Obs.* Forms: 1 wel-dæd, 2-4 weldede (wel-dede, wel dede). [OE. *weldæd* = MDu. *weldaet* (Du. *weldaad*; LG. *woldâd*, WFr. *woldied*), OHG. *wolatât* (MHG. *woltât*, G. *wohltat*), Goth. *wailadêds*: see WELL *adv.* and DEED *sb.*] A good deed; a benefit.

a 1000 *Phœnix* 543 [Hie] stigad to wuldre wlitige gewyrtd mid hyra wel-dædum. c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 346 Do well on eallum ðinum life, and we siððan æfter ðinum wel-dædum bliðne ðe eft genimad to us. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 131 Vre lauerd seinte paul... munegeð... to godes worde and to weldede. c 1205 LAY. 3160 Wordſchepe haue þu pire weldeda. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. III. 62 For-þi I lere 30u, lordynges, such wrytynge 3e leue, To writen in Wyndowes of 3oure wel dedes.

weldende, weldent, *var. ff.* WALDEND *Obs.*

welder ('weldə(r)). [*f.* WELD *v.* + -ER¹.]

1. One who welds; spec., a smith employed exclusively in welding.

1828-32 WEBSTER. 1846 GREENER *Sci. Gunnery* 146 The spirals being thus formed, the welders commence their day's work. 1854 B'ham *P.O. Directory* 683/2 Of the gun trade are the following:... gun barrel borsers, filers, welders, ribbers. 1918 *Chamb. J. J. Aug.* 532/2 This was done by engaging every available machinery welder and patcher.

2. A welding-machine.

1896 *Cyclist* 8 Jan. 25 A 40 kilowatt welder... occupies the following floor space.

welder, *obs. form* of WIELDER.

weldinde, *var. f.* WALDEND *Obs.*

welding ('weldɪŋ), *vbl. sb.*¹ [*f.* WELD *v.* + -ING¹.]

1. *a.* The action of the verb WELD; the process of joining with a weld.

1603 [see 2]. 1691 T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* 14 Their Pintells... never having had their due welding. *Ibid.* 23 To give it its due welding or working. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* I. 11 The fire for welding should be free from sulphur. 1854 J. SCOFFERN in *Orr's Circ. Sci., Elem. Chem.* 438 The kaligenous metals, potassium and sodium, readily admit of welding. 1881 J. EVANS *Anc. Bronze Implem.* 293 The term 'welding' is, however, inappropriate to a metal of the character of bronze.

b. Capacity for uniting under the operation of heat and pressure.

1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 784 *Welding.* The property of conjunction possessed by some metals at high temperatures. 1826 HENRY *Elem. Chem.* I. 556 The property of welding, which belongs to platinum and iron at a high degree of heat only, is possessed by this substance [sodium] at common temperatures. 1868 ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* 236 When hot, it [wrought iron] possesses the peculiar property of 'welding'.
c. = *welding heat* (see 3).

1842 *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* 106 A piece of the same iron heated to welding, and left to cool, broke... in one blow.

2. *transf. and fig.* The action of uniting, or the fact of being united, closely or indissolubly.

1603 JAS. I *Basil. Doron* III. 149 The vniting and welding of them heerafter in one, by all sort of friendship, commerce, and alliance. 1857 I. TAYLOR *World of Mind* 669 These are solderings of the social system... but Love is a welding. 1874 SYMONDS *Sk. Italy & Greece* (1898) I. xi. 212 Nor was it in their welding of the bricks alone that these craftsmen showed their science. 1905 'G. THORNE' *Lost Cause* xii, The harmonic welding of the order and traditions of our Lord's Own time with the full vivid life of the twentieth century.

3. *attrib. and Comb.*, as *welding-machine*, *process*, *state*, *swage*; welding heat, the degree of heat to which iron is brought for welding; welding point, degree of heat requisite for welding; also *fig.*; welding powder, a flux used in welding; welding torch, a blow-pipe used in welding.

1710 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* II, **Welding-Heat*, is a Degree of Heat which Smiths give their Iron in the Forge, when there is occasion to double up the Iron, and to Weld... the Doublings. 1776 *Phil. Trans.* LXVI. 510, I heated a piece of iron... to a white heat, or what the smiths call a welding heat. 1884 LOCK *Workshop Rec.* Ser. III. 301/2 Cast-steel requires a low welding-heat. 1874 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Welding-machine*, one for uniting the edges of plates previously bent, [etc.]. 1868 JOYNSON *Metals* 69 Each quality of iron has a different *welding point. 1886 FROUDE *Oceana* i. 16 The feeling... may be a warm one, but not warm enough to heat us... to the welding point. 1873 SPON *Workshop Rec.* Ser. I. 361/1 The steel to be welded... is then dipped into the *welding powder, and again placed in the fire. 1907 E. WILSON & LYDALL *Electr. Traction* I. 95 The electric *welding process... welds the rails together. 1846 GREENER *Sci. Gummery* 108 The parts first fused are gathered on the end of a similarly fabricated rod, in a *welding state. 1874 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Welding-swage*, a block or fulling-tool for assisting the closure of a welded joint. 1921 *Engineering Index* 1920 417/2 A new carriage for *welding torches. 1975 BRAM & DOWNS *Manuf. Technol.* ii. 42 The welding torch used with these systems must be designed to aspirate the acetylene.

'welding, *vbl. sb.*² [*f.* WELD *sb.*¹] The process of dyeing with weld.

1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 550 The cloth is prepared as for welding, and dyed yellow.

Weldish, variant of WEALDISH *a. Obs.* [To this may belong the following:—

1336-7 *Acc. Exch. K.R.* 19/31 m. 6 In .C. Weldisbord' emptis ad eandem [bargiam]. 1419 *Will of Richard Hallum* (Somerset Ho.), Cum j pare lynth[earnium] de Weldyssheloth.

weldless ('weldlɪs), *a.* [*f.* WELD *sb.*² + -LESS.] Made without a weld.

1865 *Athenæum* 30 Sept. 442/1 Weldless tyres. 1869 F. KOHN *Iron & Steel Manuf.* 182 Weldless Tubes. 1894 *Daily News* 14 June 6/4 The Triumph Weldless chain, an American invention.

weldment ('weldmənt). [*f.* WELD *v.* + -MENT.] A unit consisting of pieces welded together.

1945 in WEBSTER *Add.* 1950 *Engineering* 10 Feb. 149/1 In fabricated 'weldments'... it might not be necessary to stress-relieve. 1962 *B.S.I. News* Nov. 21/1 Fabricators may be taking a grave risk when they accept orders for weldments... furnished to inadequate specifications. 1979 *Railway Age* 31 Dec. 50/2 New features include... use of alloy steel castings in place of weldments.

Weldmesh ('weldmɛʃ). Also weldmesh. [*f.* WELD *sb.*² or *v.* + MESH *sb.*] The proprietary name of wire mesh formed by welding together two series of parallel wires crossing at right angles. *Freq. attrib.*

1935 *Trade Marks J. J. 24 Apr.* 516/1 *Weldmesh*... screens, partitions, guards, frames, sieves and seatings, all made of welded steel wire. The British Reinforced Concrete Engineering Co. Limited, Stafford, manufacturers and merchants. 1957 *Archit. Rev.* CXXI. 116 The balcony rail is of weld-mesh panels, with teak handrail. 1971 *Country Life* 11 Nov. 1255/1 It [*sc. a cage*] is made of weldmesh, used for tiger cages. 1978 *Cornish Guardian* 27 Apr. 10/3 (Advt.), 8 ft weldmesh pig lamps. 1984 *Times* 28 July 2/3 The committee recommended that the chain-link fence should be supplemented by weldmesh fencing which is more difficult to breach.

weldsomialy: see WIL(D)SOMLY *adv.*

wele, *obs. f.* VEAL, WEAL *sb.*¹, WEEL, WELL *sb.*¹ and *adv.*, WHEEL.

†wele, *v.* *Obs.* [ad. ON. *velja*: cf. WALE *v.*¹] *trans.* To choose, pick out.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 7340 Whan... Oure Prynces perceyue þer ar so fele, þe 3onge dur þey nought out wele, Bot pulke of twenty wynter elde Or more. 13... *Ibid.* (Petyt MS.) 2731 Sex hundred of hyse weled [*Lambeth MS.* coled] he out.

wele, we'le, *contr. ff. we will.*

1592 *Arden of Feversham* IV. iii. 74 Lyke louing frends, wele meete him on the way. 1677 C. DAVENANT *Circe* V. ix. 57 Then we'le retire.

weled, *obs. pa. t.* of WIELD *v.*

weleful, *var.* WEALFUL *Obs.*, WILFUL.

welew, *obs. f.* WILLOW.

welewe(n, *var. ff.* WALLOW *v.*²

weleygh(e, *obs. ff.* WILLOW.

welfare ('welfə(r)), *sb.* Forms: *a.* 4- welfare, (4 wilfare), 4-8 wellfare (5 wellefare); 5 welfar, whelfar; 7 welfaire, wellfair. *β.* 4-5 welefar(e), (4 weylfare, 6 -far), 5 weelfare, *Sc.* weillfair, weilfar(e, weill-, weyllfar, -fayr, 5-6 *Sc.* weil-, welefair, (6 veilfair, -fayr(e, -fare). [f. the verbal phrase *wel fare* (see *FARE* v.¹ 7), the verb being replaced by the noun (*FARE* *sb.*¹). Cf. ON. *velferð* (Sw. *välfärd*, Da. *velfärd*) welfare, *velfor* parting, leave-taking.]

1. *a.* The state or condition of doing or being well; good fortune, happiness, or well-being (of a person, community, or thing); thriving or successful progress in life, prosperity.

a. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 3928 3yf þou euer haddyst sorow oþer kare Of þy neghþurs welfare. c1369 CHAUCER *Dethe Blaunche* (Fairf.) 582 My lyfe, my lustes, be me loothe, For al welfare and I be wroothe. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 116 So overcast is my welfare, That I am schapen al to strif. 1426 LVDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 9235 Thow art boundē to deuyse Hys goostly [h]elthē & wel-ffare. ?1466 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 77 Desyring to here of yower wellefare and prosperite of body and sawle. 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* I. i. Djb, I. .had myne eye contynually vpon his welfare, I ouerpassed nothyng that myght profyt him. 1559 AYLMER *Harborowe* D4b, Whereupon dependeth either the welfare or ilfare of the whole realm. 1574 *Mirr. Mag., Elstride* xxvii, [Thou] Didst liue a life deuoyde of all welfare. 1623 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Discov. by Sea* C3b, Your laudable endeouours for your welfare and commodity. 1684 J. S. *Profit & Pleas. United* 139 Above all let the King or Master Bee be Long, Shining, and Chearfull, . . for upon his Success depends the wellfair of the whole Swarm. 1718 *Free-thinker* No. 65. 71 It was one continued Series of Actions, for the Welfare of the People. 1770 GOLDSM. *Des. Vill.* 186 Their welfare pleas'd him, and their cares distress'd. 1838 LYTTON *Alice* I. iii, Her first wish in life is for your happiness and welfare. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* III. 264 They know not, cannot guess How much their welfare is a passion to us. 1892 *Weekly Reporter* 17 Dec. 97/1 The welfare of the child—religious, moral, and social, as well as physical and pecuniary—is the paramount consideration for the court.

β. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 1715 3yf þou fordost þe weylfare Betwyx þo þat weddyde are. 1357 *Lay Falsk Catech.* 434 That our hert be noght to hegh for no welefare, Ne ouer mikel undir for nane yvel fare. c1400 *Ywayne & Gaw.* 1354 Ful glad was sir Gawayne, Of the welefar of Sir Ywayne. c1440 LYDG. *Hors, Shepe & G.* 495 Where peas restith, ther is al welfare. c1470 HENRY *Wallace* v. 524 Spek I will off Wallace glaid weillfar. 1521 G. DOUGLAS in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. I. 293 Concernyng ye weylfar and surte of his derrest nevo the Kyng. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xiii. 224 Pray . . [that] Hy grace lang's pace may in gude weillfair stand. 1785 BURNS *Cotter's Sat.* Nt. v, Brothers and sisters meet, And each for other's weelfare kindly spiers.

† *b.* As the name of a ship. *Obs.*

1310 *Rot. Scatiz* 90/1 Will's le Fisshere de Gravesiende mag'r navis que vocatur la Welefare de Westm'.

† 2. A source of well-being or happiness; *pl.* the good things of life. *Obs.*

c1369 CHAUCER *Dethe Blaunche* 1040 For certes she was . . My worldes weelfare and my goddesse. c1374 — *Traylus* IV. 228 Lyth Troylus byraft of eche welfare I-bounde in þe blake bark of care. c1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 450 Som tyme þer was a knyght þat lefte all his possessions & his wurshuppis and his welefare, and made hym a monk.

† 3. *a.* Good cheer, good living or entertainment.

c1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxix. (*Placidus*) 602, & 3et þane til ane Inis haf pain he can, & gert mak pain welfare of al thing þat was necessarye. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIX. 350 To wasten, on welfare and on wykked kepyng, Al þe worlde in a while þow owe witte. c1440 *Jacob's Well* 286 þe iij. nyzt, þei weryn herberwyd at an-oþer good mannys hows, & haddyn gret welfare. a1470 H. PARKER *Dives & Pauper* (W. de W. 1496) IV. ii. 162/1 Whan that yonge folke wexe rebelle ayenst fader & moder & gyue them to suche ryot & welfare & ydlenesse. 1528 ROY *Rede me* (Arb.) 45 Both in welfare and wede, With oute doute they farre excede The nobles of the region. 1577 W. HARRISON *Descr. Scot.* I. 2/1 in *Holinshed*, Those that are giuen much vnto wine and such welfare.

† *b.* Abundance (of meat, drink). *Obs.*

c1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 61 þei . . han lordschipis, rentis, gaie houses & costly, & welfare of mete & drynk. a1395 HYLTON *Scala Perf.* I. lxxii. (W. de W. 1494), He that . . delytes in welfare of mete or drynke.

4. *a.* The maintenance of members of a group or community in a state of (esp. physical and economic) well-being, esp. as provided for and organized by legislation or social effort. See also sense 5.

1918 [see *rest room* s.v. *REST* *sb.*¹ 14a]. 1965 A. J. P. TAYLOR *Eng. Hist.* 1914-45 IV. 121 Free treatment of venereal disease was the sole innovation in 'welfare' directly attributable to the first World War. 1968 M. PYKE *Faad & Society* v. 66 And a Western community converted to the principles of welfare will supply vitamins and much else without requiring profit. 1977 M. FRENCH *Women's Room* (1978) II. 139 Welfare . . was starting to be a big thing. A lot of Puerto Ricans coming up to New York to get a free handout.

b. ellipt. (Usu. with capital initial.) A welfare centre or office; (the officials of) a welfare department.

1928 [see *PALLY*]. 1960 D. LESSING *In Pursuit of English* IV. 135 Once she asked Welfare if Aurora could go to a council nursery. 1972 J. MANN *Mrs. Knox's Profession* VII. 57 That poor mite. . . The mother didn't ought to leave it like that. . . They ought to get the welfare to that woman. 1984 *Observer* (Colour Suppl.) 18 Mar. 6/2 First I rang the Welfare to make sure they would get me a flat.

c. = *welfare benefit*, sense 5 below. Esp. in phr. *on (the) welfare*. orig. *U.S.*

1946 [see *SNAG* v.² 4]. 1964 S. M. MILLER in I. L. Horowitz *New Sociol.* 295 Women on welfare strongly demonstrated against the cessation of allowances. 1970 *Toronto Daily Star* 24 Sept. 1/1 People receiving welfare in Metro broke all previous records. 1974 K. MILLETT *Flying* (1975) II. 141 Half the people I know feed on welfare. 1976 F. ZWIG *New Acquisitive Society* II. v. 111 If a man with four children on supplementary benefits would only be better off working if he could earn about £75 a week, it would . . need a very conscientious man, keen on his work, to resist the temptation to stay on welfare.

5. *Comb.* In recent use with sense of 'relating to or concerned with the welfare of' (workers, children, etc.) as *welfare centre*, *clinic*, *committee*, *department*, *office*, *officer*, *policy*, *service*, *work*; also, provided by the State for those in need, as *welfare benefit*, *cheque*, *food*, *milk*; subsisting on benefits provided by the State, as *welfare family*, *mother*; welfare capitalism, a capitalist system seeking to combine a desire for profits with concern for the welfare of its employees; *welfare fund*, a fund or funds from which payments are made in time of sickness, etc.; *welfare hotel* *U.S.*, a hotel in which people on welfare are housed until more permanent quarters can be found for them; *welfare manager*, *worker*, a person engaged in looking after the welfare of people working in factories, mercantile establishments, etc.; *welfare roll* *N. Amer.*, a list of those entitled to welfare benefits from the State.

1977 M. EDELMAN *Political Lang.* VII. 125 Through disorder the poor have increased welfare benefits in the United States. 1960 *New Left Rev.* Sept.-Oct. 10/2 The very real achievements of 'welfare capitalism'. 1978 P. BAILEY *Leisure & Class in Victorian Eng.* II. 43 Robert Owen's New Lanark mills had included an annexe comprising a school, museum, music hall and ballroom . . and there were several other examples of this kind of welfare capitalism. 1917 *New Witness* 28 June 202/1 It is continually stated that Maternity Clinics and Infant Welfare Centres have met with the greatest success in France. 1941 J. S. HUXLEY *On Living in Revolution* (1944) 21 Communal feeding centres, crèches or welfare centres. 1947 *Sun* (Baltimore) 6 May 22/8 The cashing of four welfare checks sent to one of her male inmates after his death. 1976 *Billings* (Montana) *Gaz.* 17 June 1-D/2 When he got his Social Security and welfare checks. 1937 'G. ORWELL' *Road to Wigan Pier* v. 93 The baby was getting its weekly packets of milk from the Welfare Clinic. 1952 *Oxf. Jun. Encycl.* X. 282/1 The welfare committees also provide welfare services for the blind, deaf, dumb and crippled. 1922 S. LEWIS *Babbitt* II. 17, I wonder if I could get one of the department-stores to let me put in a welfare-department. 1977 M. EDELMAN *Political Lang.* v. 79 A welfare department or education department bears a name that is even less adequate in defining the priorities to which it must respond. 1977 *New Yorker* 27 June 88/3 The Spencers were far from being a welfare family; the house cost forty thousand dollars, which they could afford. 1948 *Ann. Reg.* 1947 487 There were . . subsidies on animal feedings, welfare foods, milk in schools. 1958 Welfare food [see *family allowance* s.v. *FAMILY* *sb.* 11]. 1947 *Ann. Reg.* 1946 205 Mr Lewis [sc. a trade-union leader] . . refused even to discuss his demands until he had been granted a 'welfare fund' financed by a royalty on coal. 1978 S. SHELTON *Blaodline* xxxix. 348 They were listed if they had paid taxes or drawn unemployment insurance or welfare funds. 1971 *Times* 8 Jan. 5/1 The scandal of the 'welfare hotels' [in New York] where the city places homeless families has been simmering for many weeks. 1977 *N. Y. Rev. Bks.* 15 Sept. 3/1 One welfare hotel in New York, the scene of repeated mayhem, is next to the local police station. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 6 Sept. 4/5 The camp was managed by the Men's Welfare League. 1904 *Century Mag.* Nov. 61 The welfare manager. . who may be either a man or a woman, is a recognized intermediary between the employers and employees of mercantile houses and manufacturing plants. 1958 Welfare milk [see *family allowance* s.v. *FAMILY* *sb.* 11]. a1974 R. CROSSMAN *Diaries* (1976) II. 560 Increased family allowances with supplementary allowances and children's tax allowances, the price of school meals, the price of welfare milk, [etc.]. 1971 *N. Y. Times* 9 June 43 The needs of . . the pressured pensioner, the welfare mother and the harried commuter in our cities involve the whole range of vital urban services. 1978 *Guardian Weekly* 8 Jan. 16/4 Welfare mothers should get off the dole and go to work. 1976 *National Observer* (U.S.) 12 June 4/3 I'd rather see people employed than at the welfare office. 1944 Welfare officer [see *SAY* v.¹ 1 c]. 1963 T. PARKER *Unknown Citizen* II. 58, I have been to see the C.A.C.A. welfare officer responsible for Smith's after-care. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 28 Jan. 11/1 Another scheme . . is well described . . by its title, 'the welfare policy'. The home of 'the welfare policy' is the city of Dayton, Ohio. 1970 *Toronto Daily Star* 24 Sept. 1/1 The number of family units on the welfare rolls has more than doubled in the past year. 1979 *United States 1980/81* (Penguin Travel Guides) 300 A city where the list of places that offer poor boy sandwiches is probably longer than the welfare rolls. 1952 Welfare service [see *welfare committee* above]. 1903 *Review of Reviews* July 79/1 The term 'industrial betterment', or 'welfare work', is used in a wider sense to include all of those services which an employer may render to his work people over and above the payment of wages. It has even been used to include the provision of homes for employees, kindergartens, schoolhouses [etc.]. 1916 *Daily Express* 29 Mar. 6/5 Welfare work tends to improve the conditions of life for women and girls employed in factories, etc. 1904 *Century Mag.* Nov. 63 The welfare worker of a large retail establishment.

† *'welfare*, *vbl. phr.* *Obs.* Also 6 well fare, 7 wellfare. [f. as prec. Cf. *FAREWELL*.] The optative phrase *well fare* (you, it, etc.), used

either as a genuine expression of good wishes (= 'May it go well with', 'good luck to') or employed ironically.

1534 MORE *Conf. agst. Trib.* III. Wks. 1214/2 Welfare your hert, good Uncle, for this good counsell of yours. 1589 R. HARVEY *Pl. Perc.* 2 Well fare London yet, for a policie besides water . . pull downe the houses burning. 1590 SPENSER *F.Q.* III. II. 42 But thine my Deare (welfare thy heart my deare). 1612 T. JAMES *Corrupt. Script.* III. 35 Yet welfare another learned Iesuit that had beene at Rome. 1625 BURGESS *Pers. Tithes* 32 Now welfare Brownist. 1672 S. PARKER *Pref. to Bramhall's Vind.* a2 Well fare poor Macedo for a modest Fool!

b. Used as *sb.* with *a.*

1642 SIR E. DERING *Sp. Relig.* I A well-fare to my Reader if he be either of birth or breeding: A farewell to the rest.

wel-farende, welfaryng(e: see *WELL-FARING ppl. a.* *Obs.*

'welfare state. Also Welfare State. [STATE *sb.* 30.] A country in which the welfare of members of the community is underwritten by means of State-run social services.

The term is sometimes said to have been coined by Sir Alfred Zimmern in the 1930s, but it has not been traced in his published writings.

1941 W. TEMPLE *Citizen & Churchman* II. 35 We have . . seen that in place of the conception of the Power-State we are led to that of the Welfare-State. 1948 *Economist* 24 Jan. 135/2 The welfare state got its start in the deepest depression this country [sc. the U.S.] has ever known. 1950 *Times* 19 May 5/3 This is one of the achievements for which the 'welfare State', with its vast apparatus of taxation, subsidies, family allowances, school meals, and other services, can claim credit. 1959 B. WOOTTON *Social Sci. & Social Path.* 16 The myth of the 'welfare state' has turned the minds of investigators away from the study of material want. 1967 M. DRABBLE *Jerusalem the Golden* ix. 214 She wondered whether she should fall on her knees and thank . . the Welfare State. 1976 *New Yorker* 22 Mar. 48/3 They came because Sweden, more than any other country in the industrial West, is a workers' state—not a Socialist state . . but a stunning experiment in welfare-state capitalism. 1977 M. WALKER *National Frant* 8 A scholarship kid who went to grammar schools and won a scholarship to Oxford because of the 1944 Education Act and the Welfare State. 1984 *Listener* 22 Mar. 9/3 Repeated assertions that the welfare state is to be dismantled and the counter-assertion that Mrs Thatcher's administration is committed to maintaining welfare expenditure. 1985 *New Statesman* 9 Aug. 3/1 The welfare state will have to retain the power to take away children from danger.

Hence **welfare-'statism** orig. *U.S.*, the social conditions or organization associated with a welfare state; **welfare-'statist**, one who advocates such organization. Cf. **WELFARISM**, **WELFARIST** I.

1949 in *Amer. Speech* (1957) XXXII. 296 Welfare statism advanced slowly and gradually. 1958 *Spectator* 31 Jan. 143/1 The combined effects of high taxation, continuous inflation, welfare statism and the tempting array of consumer goods. *Ibid.* 13 June 761/1 The demands of the welfare-statists in Congress for increased Government spending and tax cuts are now only occasionally heard. 1971 P. WORSTHORNE *Socialist Myth* v. 76 Labour Governments have to make too many economic concessions to the rich . . which places very strict limits on the scope and scale of welfare-statism. 1980 *London Rev. Bks.* 3-16 July 15/3 'Welfare statism' came into being in the 1940s. . . It consisted in . . the extension to the whole population of adequate health, education and social insurance.

welfarism ('welfəɾɪz(ə)m). orig. *U.S.* [f. *WELFARE* *sb.* + *-ISM*.] The principles or policies associated with a welfare state; also = **WELFARE-STATISM**.

1949 *Life* 25 July 17/2 There must be safeguards so that welfarism does not end in economic or political tyranny. 1961 *Engineering* 17 Feb. 249/1 All Germans . . also agree that the term 'welfarism' is likely to have widely different meanings in the U.K. and in Germany. 1962 *Times* 23 Jan. 9/7 Text-books . . are slanted towards welfarism, socialism, and world government. 1968 P. B. AUSTIN *On being Swedish* ix. 72 'The Swede,' said old Sundbärg, before welfarism or modern Swedish prosperity were born or thought of, 'would not mind Sweden being prosperous, providing that no one in it were better off than himself.' 1976 R. DELMAR in Mitchell & Oakley *Rights & Wrongs of Women* ix. 283 State regulation of the family through welfarism (family allowances etc.) . . means that the working class . . has the law available to them. 1984 *Times* 21 Apr. 9/2 The proposition that the ills of Britain . . are more or less the fault of capitalism is no more self-evident than the proposition that they are more or less the fault of welfarism.

welfarist ('welfəɾɪst), *sb.* (*a.*) [f. as prec. + *-IST*.] 1. One who is concerned with welfare, esp. that of animals. Also *attrib.* or as *adj.*

1941 I. BROWN in *Manch. Guardian Weekly* 14 Mar. 214/3 There is in this country an enormous and semi-official bureaucracy which deals in social welfare and all manner of educational and uplifting matters. It is rapidly developing a jargon of its own. . . The Uplifters and Welfarists are assaulting us with the Scorpions of their Jargantuan. 1979 *Country Life* 15 Feb. 428/1 How does one define 'Animal Welfare'? . . To some the term 'welfarist' is almost one of contempt. 1980 *Times* 13 Feb. 3 The union has failed on our behalf to respond to the lies and unfair allegations of the welfarists. 1980 *Observer* (Colour Suppl.) 16 Mar. 41/3 The animal welfare movement—or the 'welfarist' movement as it is now widely called. 1983 *Sci. Amer.* Aug. 5/2 The pork producer of today generally is an animal protectionist and an animal welfarist in the best practical sense.

2. orig. *U.S.* One who supports the principles or policies associated with a welfare state. Also *attrib.* or as *adj.* Cf. WELFARE-STATIST.

1968 *New Yorker* 12 Oct. 201 The welfare state... is not incompatible with the police state. George Wallace is a welfarist, and so is Mayor Daley. **1977** *Daily Tel.* 30 June 16 Questions arise which, in recent years, have been rendered almost taboo by the near-universal acceptance of facile welfarist orthodoxy. **1985** *Daily Tel.* 6 May 14/1 It has often been said... that he is the prisoner of a Californian perspective which scorns the moribund welfarist states of Western Europe for the growth and dynamism of the Pacific basin area.

welfed, obs. f. WELL-FED.

welful(l, var. ff. WEALFUL *a.* *Obs.*

welȝe, var. north. and Sc. form of VAIL *v.*¹ *Obs.*

|| **weli**, **wely** ('welī). Also 9 wali, wullee. [Arabic *wali*, *welī* friend (of God), saint.]

1. A Muslim saint or holy man.

1819 T. HOPE *Anast.* (1820) I. 341 Notes, *Hafeez*: holy, but in a less degree than the Wely or saint. **1840** J. B. FRASER *Trav. Koordistan* etc. I. 312 He... had on his head a magnificent turban of cashmere shawl—somewhat inconsistent in a dervish; but saints and *wullees* are now-a-days privileged people. **1876** STOBART *Islam* 204 Those faqirs who attain to great sanctity are called 'Walis'.

2. The tomb or shrine of a weli.

1838 E. ROBINSON *Res. Palestine* (1841) I. 322 Rachel's Tomb... is merely an ordinary Muslim Wely, or tomb of a holy person. **1871** FARRAR *Witn. Hist.* iii. 114 The white-domed wely of an obscure Mohammedan saint.

welk (welk), *v.*¹ *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Also 3 welken, 4-7 welke, 5 wylke, 7 wilke; *ppl. a.* 6 wealked, 9 *dial.* wilkt. [ME. *welken*, prob. of Continental origin: cf. (M)Du., LG., OHG. (MHG. and G.) *welken* (also OHG. *welhen*, MHG. *welchen*), in the same sense, and LG. *welk*, *wālk*, OHG. *welk*, *welc* (G. *welk*) *adj.*, withered, flaccid, sere, etc.]

1. *intr.* Of a flower, plant, etc.: To lose freshness or greenness; to become flaccid or dry; to wilt, wither, fade. Also with *away*.

c1250 [implied in WELKED *ppl. a.*] **a1300** E.E. *Psalter* lxxxix. 6 It wites ales gresse areli at dai;... At euen doun es it broght Vnlastes, and welkes and gas to noght. **1340** HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 707 A man may likend be Til a flour, pat... Welkes and dwynes til it be noght. **1387** TREvisa *Higden* I. 77 No manere of tree leseþ pere his leues; no floures pere welkeþ. **c1440** *Jacob's Well* 262 Thou faryst as a vyne wyth brode leuys that some welkyn. **a1470** H. PARKER *Dives & Pauper* (W. de W. 1496) iv. xxiii. 189/1 They [the garlondes] shall alway be grene & fresshe, & neyther welke ne fade. **1577** HARRISON *England* iii. xiv. 113 b, Saffron... These flowers are gathered... before the rising of the Sunne, whych would cause them to welke or flitter. **1641** BEST *Farming Bks.* (Surtees) 31 Soe soone as the pennie-grass beginne to welke and seeme dry, then is it time to beginne to mowe. **1648** *Hunting of Fox* 7 Some particular vines... doe daily wilke and wither away. **1787** GROSE *Prov. Gloss.* s.v., Mown grass in drying for hay is said to welk. **1825** BROCKETT *N.C. Words, Welk*, to dry, to wither.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* (or in *fig.* context).

c1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* lxxii. 17 Behaulde the laste endinge of wicked men, when their flour welkes, & wytes awaye. **1387-8** T. USK *Test. Love* II. xi. 105, I, as a seer tree, with-out burjoning or frute, alwaye welke. **a1425** tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 41 And so I quenched þe forseid superfluites... so þat þai bigan to dry and to welk and fall away. **1625** K. LONG tr. *Barclay's Argenis* Pref. 4 For Bookes translated doe... like remov'd Trees, welke. **1657** REEVE *God's Plea* 232 This world... can hold nothing in it long, the whitest flowers welk and drop.

†2. To become less, to diminish, to shrink. Of the sun or moon: To wane, lose brightness. *Obs.*

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 35 The See now ebbeth, now it floweth, The lond now welketh, now it groweth. [1579 E. K. *Gloss. Spenser's Sheph. Cal.* Nov. 13 The Moone being in the waine is sayde of Lidgate to welk.] **1590** SPENSER *F.Q.* I. i. 23 When ruddy Phœbus gins to welke in west. **1631** QUARLES *Samson* xiii. 74 When the Sun was welking in the West. **1641** MILTON *Reform.* I. 29 The Church that before by insensible degrees welk't and impair'd, now with large steps went downe hill decaying.

3. *trans.* To cause to fade or wither.

1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Nov., 13 But nowe sadde Winter welked hath the day. **1594** *Zepheria* xvi. C4b, Oh how hath black night welked vp this day? **a1825** FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Welk*... 2. To expose to sun and air, and turn over in order to be dried; as grass to be converted to hay.

Hence 'welking' *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

a1400 *Gloss. in Rel. Ant.* I. 6 *Emerceo*, to wex drie and welkyng. **c1440** *Promp. Parv.* 521/1 Welkyng, *marcor*. **1630** J. LANE *Contra. Squire's T.* ix. 225 (Ashm.) While welking Phœbus went down to the west.

† **welk**, *v.*² *Obs. rare.* [Related to WALK *v.*¹ and *v.*²] *trans.* To roll or knead together.

a1400 *Stockholm Med. MS.* i. 300 in *Anglia* XVIII. 302 Take garlek & hony & an eyis ȝelke, Do hem to-gedyr wel bete & welke. **a1825** FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Welk*... To soak, roll, and macerate in a fluid.

welk(e), obs. forms of WHELK.

welk(e), obs. pa. t. of WALK *v.*

welked (welkt), *ppl. a.* *Obs.* exc. *dial.* [f. WELK *v.*¹] a. Withered, faded, dried up. † b. Dulled in lustre.

c1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2107 And .vii. lene [ears] riȝt ðor-bi, welkede, and smale, and druȝte nūmen. **c1386** CHAUCER *Pard.* T. 410 For which ful pale and welked is my face.

1387-8 T. USK *Test. Love* III. v. 37 Mistrust with foly, with yvel wil medled, engendreth that welked padde. **1390** GOWER *Conf.* III. 357 That which was whilom grene gras, Is welked hey at time now. **c1425** tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula* etc. 71 Hyngyng in maner of a welked grape [pendentes instar uvae marcidæ]. **1426** LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 16320 A drye stobyll, or... a welkyd leef. *Ibid.* 16325, I, the most wrechchyd Wyght off alle synners, and most dyffadyd and wylked with synne. **a1470** HARDING *Chron.* xcv. xii, The grasse and corne, that welked were afore... waxed grene and gan reuert. **1563** SACKVILLE *Induct. Mirr. Mag.* xii, Her wealked face with woful teares besprent. **1579** SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Jan. 73 By that, the welked Phœbus gan auaille His weary waine. **1594** NASHE *Terrors Nt. Wks.* (Grosart) III. 258 Our faces... are most deformedlye welked and crumpled. **1603** DRAYTON *Bar. Wars* vi. xxxix, There comes proude Phaeton tumbling through the cloudes... And setting fire vpon the welked shrowds [ed. 1619 His Chariot tumbling from the welked Shrowds]. **1879** CUSSANS *Hertfordsh.* III. 321 Shep likes tunnups better when they're wilkt.

† **welken**, *v.* *Obs.* [f. WELK *v.*¹ + -EN⁵] *intr.* To wither, fade.

1398 TREvisa *Barth. De P.R.* xi. ix. (Tollemache MS.), Hore froste... makeþ berbes and floures up on þe which he falleþ welkenen. **14...** *A Goodly Balade* 52 in *Chaucer's Wks.* (1532) 234 b, Myn hert welkeneth thus sone.

Hence † 'welkening' *vbl. sb.* *Obs.*

c1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* (Roxb.) 144 There is the flour of ȝouthede y' neure shal knawe welknyng.

† **welken**, obs. var. WELKED *ppl. a.*

c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 521/1 Welkyd, or walkyn [Winch. MS. welkyn], *marcidus*.

welkin ('welkin). Forms: a. 1-2 wolcen, wolcn (2 wlcen), wolc, 2-3 wolcne, 3-4 wolkne, (1) 4 wolken(e, wolkon; *pl.* 1 wolcnu, -na, 2 wolcne (wlcne), wolkne. β. 2-3 weolcne (also *pl.*), 4 weolkyn; 3-5 welkne, 4-5 welkene, 4-7 welken (4 welcon); 4-6 welkyn, 5 -yne, 5, 7 welkine, 6-welkin (7 -ing, wellkin, wilkin). γ. 3-5 walkne, walkene (4 -en), 4-5 walkyn(e). [OE. *wolcen*, *wolcn* neut. = OFris. *wolcn-* (*olcn-*, *ulcn-*), *wolken* (*olken*, *ulken*); Wfris. *wolken*, *wolk-e*, Nfris. *wolk*), OS. *wolcan*, *wolcn-* (MLG. *wolke-n*, *wulke*, LG. *wolk-e*, *wulk-e*; MDu. *wolcke*, Du. *wolk*), OHG. *wolkan*, *wolchan* (MHG. *wolken*, G. *wolke*); the word is lacking in the Scand. group and not recorded in Gothic. A rare OE. *wolcne* wk. fem., is also represented in early ME.

The phonology of the ME. forms with *eo*, *e*, and *a* in the stem is irregular. It has been suggested that the *eo* and *e* are due to mutation, but there is no obvious reason for the change, and the explanation still leaves the forms with *a* unaccounted for. In a number of the early ME. instances it is difficult to decide whether the forms are to be taken as singular or plural.]

† 1. A cloud. *Obs.*

In OE., esp. in poetry, freq. in plural, esp. in the phrase under *wolcnum* = under the sky or heaven (cf. sense 2).

Beowulf 651 Scaduhelma gesceapu scriðan cwoman, wan under wolcnum. **c825** *Vesp. Psalter* civ. 39 Adeneð wolcen in ȝešildnisse heara. **c897** ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past.* C. xxxix. 285 Se ðe him ælc wolcn ondrædt, ne riðþ se næfre. *Ibid.*, Se wind drifeð ðæt wolcn. **971** *Blickl. Hom.* 59 Ealle þa ȝewitap swa swa wolcn. **c1000** *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xxvi. 64 Eftær þysum ȝe ȝeseoð mannes bearn... cumende on heofones wolcnum. **c1050** O.E. *Chron.* (C.) an. 979 by ilcan ȝeare was ȝesewen blodig wolcen on oft siðas on fyres ȝelicesse. **c1205** LAY. 11974 Swurken vnder sunnen sweorte weolenen. *Ibid.* 25592 þa com þer... winden mid þan weolenen a berninge drake.

2. The apparent arch or vault of heaven overhead; the sky, the firmament.

In later use (from 16th c.) only literary (chiefly *poet.*) and *dial.* (Lancs.).

a. **1122** O.E. *Chron.* (Laud MS.) Hi sægon on norð east fir micel & brad wið þone eorðe & weax on lengpe up on an to þam wolcne & se wolcne un dide on fower heafle and faht þær to ȝeanes. **c1200** *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 151 þe sunne teð water from eorðe up to þe wolcne. **c1205** LAY. 27452 þa wolcne gon to dunien, þa eo[r]ðe gon to biuien. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) App. E4 þer hi bigan his flizt, & fley him swiþe an hey Vp bi þe lofte fer, and þe wolcne was wel ney. **c1315** SHOREHAM VII. 68 þe wolcne by-clepp þe molde. **1387** TREvisa *Higden* V. 399 Ethelbert spak wiþ hem out of house under þe wolken [*sub diuo*].

β. **c1205** LAY. 2883 He ferde swiðe hehȝe þere weolcne he wes swiðe nih. **a1225** *Ancr. R.* 306 Al þene world leitende of swarte leite up into weolcne. **a1250** *Owl & Night*. 1682 (Jesus MS.) We habbe stefne brihte & sitteþ vnder welkne bi nyhte. **a1310** in Wright *Lyric P.* xlii. 114 Ase fele sythe ant oft... As sterres beth in welkne. **1377** LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xvii. 160 Al þe wyde worlde... Bothe welkne and þe wynde, water and erthe, Heuene & helle. **1387** TREvisa *Higden* III. 459 It is ful likyng to us to beholde þe welkene and þe sterres of heuene. **c1420** *Anturs of Arth.* 328 (Douce MS.) þe windes, þe weders, þe welkene vnides. **a1500** *Chester Pl.* *Creation* 21 To be a diuident to twyne the waters aye; Above the welkin, benethe also. **1529** MORE *Dyaloge* III. Wks. 1222/2 He... caste vp his eyen in to the welkin and wepte. **1551** RECORDE *Cast. Knowl.* (1556) 7 Whiche parte is aboute all the foure Elementes, and compasseth them about, and is called the Skie, or Welkin. **1591** SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. ii. 414 That lightly born... Safe through the Welkin I my course may take. **1632** LITHGOW *Trav.* III. 81 When the welkin had put aside the vizard of the night. **1662** HIBBERT *Syntagma Theol.* I. 29 Light... diffuseth in an instant the whole welkin over. **1678** VAUGHAN *Thalia Rediv.*, *Daphnis* 18 Not one Black cloud, no rags, nor spots did stain The Welkins beauty. **1714** GAY *Sheph. Week* I. 3 No chirping Lark the Welkin sheen invokes. **1748** THOMSON *Cast. Indol.* I. lviii, There would he linger, till the latest ray Of light sat

trembling on the welkin's bound. **1817** SCOTT *Harold* I. ii, If a sail but gleam'd white 'gainst the welkin blue. **1857** LONGF. *Sandalphon* 44 When... the welkin above is all white, All throbbing and panting with stars.

fig. **1849** C. BRONTË *Shirley* xxviii, I... see a fine, perfect rainbow, bright with promise, gloriously spanning the beclouded welkin of life. **1868** LOWELL *Under Willows* 284 And all the heavens revolve In the small welkin of a drop of dew.

γ. **c1250** *Gen. & Ex.* 96 Do god bad ben ðe firmament, Al abuten ðis walkne sent. **13...** *K. Alis.* 1737 (Laud MS.), Ich haue moo kniȝttes to werren þan ben in þe walken sterren. **1377** LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xv. 355 Shipmen and shepherdes... Wisten by þe walkene, what shulde bityde. **c1407** LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 1006 As sterres in the frosty nyght, Whanne walkne is most bryght, With-oute cloude or any skye. **c1450** *Cov. Myst.*, *Creation* 86 The secunde day watyr I make The walkyn also ful fayr and bryth.

b. Considered as the abode of the Deity, or of the gods of heathen mythology: The celestial regions, heaven.

1559 *Mirr. Magistr.*, *Hen. VI.* xiii, If... such as say the welken fortune warkes, Take Fortune for our fate. **1581** A. HALL *Iliad* I. 6 But luno hearde from Welkin high, this cruell iarre. *Ibid.* II. 31 Of Gods thou loue the soueraigne chiefe, and Lord of Welkin hie Of aire, and of this earth below. **1610** HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 327 How glittereth now this place of great request, Like to the seat of heavenly welkin hie? **1653** W. RAMESEY *Astrol. Restored* III. vii. 157 It is Nectar and Ambrosia such as will make the wilkin roar. **1852** KINGSLEY *Andromeda* 34 Far-seeing Apollo Watched well-pleased from the welkin.

c. in phrases descriptive of loud sounds, as to make the welkin ring, to rend the welkin, etc.

1587 MARLOWE *1st Pt. Tamburl.* iv. ii. 1489 (Brooke) As when a fiery exhalation Wrapt in the bowels of a freezing cloude, Fighting for passage, makes the Welkin cracke. **a1593** MARLOWE & NASHE *Dido* IV. ii. 1103 O heare Iarbus plaining prayers, Whose hideous echoes make the welkin howle. **1596** SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* Induct. ii. 47 Thy hounds shall make the Welkin answer them. **1635** QUARLES *Embl.* viii. 33 One frisks and sings, ... and makes the Welkin rore. **1728** POPE *Dunc.* II. 246 Sound forth, my Brayers, and the welkin rend. **1735** SOMERVILLE *Chase* II. 157 The Welkin rings, Men, Dogs, Hills, Rocks, and Woods In the full Consort join. **1814** SOUTHEY *Roderick* III. 368 That shout, Which, like a thunder-peal, victorious Spain Sent through the welkin, rung within his soul Its deep prophetic echoes. **1818** WORDSW. *Inscr. Hermit's Cell* v. 10 When storms the welkin rend. **1837** CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. I. vii, 'Live the Fatherland!' rings responsive to the welkin. **1854** SURTEES *Handley Cr.* i, Away they go full cry, making the welkin ring with the music of their deep-toned notes. **1874** DIXON *Two Queens* VII. i. II. 2 The citizens rent the welkin with their shouts.

d. in the asseveration by the welkin.

1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* I. i, This villanous poetrie will vndoe you, by the welkin. **1822** SCOTT *Peveril* xxxviii, Which, by the welkin and its stars, you would not be slow in avenging.

e. to the welkin, 'to the skies' (SKY *sb.*¹ 3 d).

c1746 J. COLLIER (Tim Bobbin) *View Lancs.* *Dial.* Wks. (1862) 58 This Raseot... roost meh Bitch to the varra Welkin.

3. The upper atmosphere; the region of the air in which the clouds float, birds fly, etc.

13... *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 525 Wrope wynde of þe welkyn wrastelez with þe sunne. **c1369** CHAUCER *De the Blaunche* 343 Ne in al the welkyn was no clowde. **c1400** *Destr. Troy* 7621 Ouershotyng with shoures thurgh þere shene tentes, As neuer water fro the welkyn hade waynit before. **a1450** *Mirk's Festial* 160 Men of all þe nacyns... werne comen togedyr ynto þe tempule for fere of þe herst pat pay herd yn þe welken. **1570** LEVINS *Manip.* 134/21 The Welkin, aire, aura, ær. **1582** STANYHURST *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 89 Thee stars imparted no light, thee welken is heauye. **1601** W. PERCY *Cuckqueanes & Cuckolds Errants* v. iv. (Roxb.) 69 Hold vp thy Lynk I say, I may obserue the state of the welking. Rayne or no Rayne? Ha. **1645** G. DANIEL *Poems* Wks. 1878 II. 42 The Royall Eagle, in the welkin towers. **16...** CHALKHILL *Thealma & Cl.* (1683) 160 One might perceive such changes in the King As hath th' inconstant welkin in the Spring. **1713** CROXALL *Orig. Canto Spenser* x. (1714) 12 When the blasting Mildew's dreary Bane With noisom Breath infects the Welkin sheen. **1757** SMOLLETT *Reprisal* Epil., If this welkin angry clouds deform. **1853** C. BRONTË *Villette* xxxv, Down washed the rain, deep lowered the welkin. **1876** BLACKIE *Songs Relig.* 19 Breath that drew the rolling rivers From the welkin's dewy cells. **1880** WEBB *Goethe's Faust* I. ii. 67 The baleful powers of air, Which through the welkin stream.

fig. **1601** SHAKS. *Twel. N.* III. i. 65 Who you are, and what you would are out of my welkin, I might say Element, but the word is ouer-worne.

† 4. In the Ptolemaic system: A 'heaven' or sphere. *Obs.*

c1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 288 And euerile on ðat helden wid him [Lucifer]... fellen ut of heuones list In-to ðis middil walknes niȝt. **1387** TREvisa *Higden* II. 185 þe planetes and þe ȝeyper wolkons moeueþ out of þe west in to þe est. *Ibid.*, The meoungne of þe ouermeste wolken out of þe est in to þe west.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as welkin-country, -dome, -way; welkin-high, -like *adjs.*; † welkin-eye, a heavenly or blue eye; welkin-wise *adv.*, after the fashion of the welkin; † welkin-wizard, an almanac-maker who makes astrological forecasts.

1581 A. HALL *Iliad* I. 15 The God his mansion keeps, In *Welkin Country he remains. **1860** G. P. MORRIS *Poems* (ed. 15) 169 When victory rent the *welkin-dome He earned a sepulchre—at home. **1611** SHAKS. *Wint. T.* I. ii. 136 Come (Sir Page) Looke on me with your *Welkin eye. **1804** J. GRAHAME *Sabbath* 875 The joyous choir unseen, Poised *welkin-high, harmonious fills the air. **1839** BAILEY *Festus* 254 That high and *welkin-like infinity. **1590** SPENSER *F.Q.* I. iv. 9 He leaves the *welkin way most beaten playne, And, rapt with whirling wheeles, inflames the skyen With fire not made to burne. **1854** J. D. BURNS *Vision of Prophecy* 122 A

luminous element of gladness Now vaults our sphere of being *welkin-wise. **1596** BARLOW tr. *Lavater's Three Serm.* i. 10 'The coniectures of these *Welkin Wisards [marg. Almanack makers], whose Prognostications of euerie yeares warres, diseases, heate, colde, [etc.]...proue either manifest vntruthes, or coniecturall ghessees.

welky, var. **WHELKY** *a.*²

well (wɛl), *sb.*¹ Forms: *a.* 1 wælla (uælla), 1, 3 wælle (1 uælle), 3-5 walle, 3-4 wall, 4-5 wal; *Sc.* and *north.* 6- wall (6 vall, 9 wal), 6-7 woll (6 vol). *β.* 1 wella, 1, 3-5 welle (4-5 wele), 1- well, 3-7 wel. *γ.* 1 wylla, willa, wielle, 1, 4 wylle, 1, 3-4 wille; 1 wyl, 1-4 wyll, 1, 5 will. [OE. *wielle* (*wylle*), **wiell* (*wyll*, *will*), str. masc., **wiella* (*wylla*, *willa*; Anglian *wælla*, *wella*), wk. masc., *wielle* (*wylle*, *wille*; Angl. *wælle*, *welle*), wk. fem., *f.* the stem of *weall-an* to boil or bubble up: see WALL *v.*¹ Cf. OHG. *wella* (G. *welle*) wave, ON. *vella* boiling heat.]

1. *a.* A spring of water rising to the surface of the earth and forming a small pool or flowing in a stream; a pool (or, rarely, a stream) fed by a spring. Now *arch.* or *dial.*

a. **c825** *Vesp. Psalter* xlii. 2 Swe swe heorut gewillað to wællum wetra swe gewillað sawul min to ðe god. **c1205** LAY. 17025 Summe heo uerden a-nan þat heo comen to Alæban þat is a wælle. **c1240** [see 2 d.]. **c1440** *Floriz & Bl.* 291 (Cambr. MS.) Aboue þe walle stant atreo. **c1450** *Mirk's Festial* 179 Anon sprang a fayr walle. **1535** STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 219 Out of ane woll discendand fra ane spring, He send that tyme cald water for to bring. **1567** *Rec. Burgh Lanark* (1893) 39 That na personis wysche ony clathis...at the burne nor yit at Sanct Mungois wall. **1595** *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 91/2 Fra the said puill eist to ane wall callit the Dokand well. **1652** in *Edin. Topogr. & Antiq. Mag.* (1848) 152 Going...to the Kirktowne wall and washing of her daughter's eyen, & saying...All ye ill of my bairn's eyen in ye wall fall. **1775** *Companion to Map of Peebles* 107 There is a remarkable fine spring, called Geddes's wall, near the top [of Broad Law]. **a1806** R. JAMIESON *Pop. Ballads* I. 61 Tak me to yon wall fair; You'll wash my bluidy wounds o'er and o'er.

β. **c900** *Bæda's Hist.* v. x. (1890) 418 Is ðæt ec sæd pætte in ðere stowe, þer hio ofslægne weran, weolle an welle. **c1205** LAY. 19782 Heo comen to þære welle and heore bollen feolde. **c1220** *Bestiary* 62 A welle he sekeð ðat springeð ai boðe bi nigt and bi dai. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 15 Vor engelonde is vol ino3 of frut & ek of tren, Of wellen swete & colde. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 12470 þe spring...o well, ...þof it euer vte rinnand es þe wel es neuer mar þe less. **?a1366** CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 1417 About the brinkes of these welle...Sprang up the gras. **1390** GOWER *Conf.* I. 326 He strawhte him forto drinke Upon the freisshe welles brinke. **1422** YONGE tr. *Secreta Secret.* 245 [In autumn] Wellis wythdrawen ham, grene thynges fadyth, Frutes fallyth. **c1470** *Golagros & Gaw.* 40 Thay walkit be the syde of ane fair well. **1547** BOORDE *Introd. Knowl.* vi. (1870) 141 There be welles, the whyche doth tourne wood in to Irone. **1574** T. HILL *Art Garden.* II. *Bees*, etc. 69 And when ryuers and wels be shallower of water than customably, doe then declare raine to followe. **1603** STOW *Surv.* II Then was there 3. principall Fountaines, or wels in the other Suburbs, to wit Holy well, Clements well, and Clarkes well. Neare vnto this last named fontaine, were diuers other wels. **1663** R. LOWE *Lancs. Diary* (1876) 8, I went with Mary and other wenches to a well [at the] bottome of towne feild. **1775** R. CHANDLER *Trav. Asia M.* (1825) I. 121 At a well was a marble pedestal perforated, and serving as a mouth. **1832** W. IRVING *Alhambra* I. 249, I laid myself down one noon-tide, and slept under a palm-tree by the side of a scanty well. **1859** JEPHSON *Brittany* vi. 68 The well flows in a pure and abundant stream from the granite rock. **1870** *Handbk. Orkney Isl.* 94 There are several mineral wells in the island. **1892** J. A. HENDERSON *Ann. Lower Deeside* 169 He at last reached what proved to be a well of water.

γ. **c893** ÆLFRED *Oros.* IV. vii. §10 An was pæt on Piceno pæm wuda an wielle weol blode. **c900** *Bæda's Hist.* I. vii. (1890) 38 And þa sona hraðe beforan his fotum was wyl upp yrnende... And nu seo wylle & pæt water [etc.]. **c1000** SAX. *Leechd.* I. 116 ðeos wyrt [watercress]...of hyre sylfre cenned bið, on wyllon & on brocen. *Ibid.* II. 32 And apweah eft þa eagan on clænnum wylle. **c1305** *St. Kenelm* 295 in *E.E.P.* 55 For þer is a wille fair ynou3...In þe stede as he lai on. **c1315** SHOREHAM *Poems* v. 55 þe wylle pat hys in paradys fol wel by-tokenep þys auys. **13...** *Cursor M.* 20212 (B. Mus. Add.) Sche dide of hure clopes alle, and wasche hure with water of wille.

b. A miraculous spring of water (or oil); a spring of water supposed to be of miraculous origin or to have supernatural healing powers; also, in later use, a medicinal or mineral spring.

Freq. in proper names assigning the well to a particular saint.

854- [see HOLY WELL]. **c1305** *St. Kenelm* 295, 297 in *E.E.P.* (1862) 55 A wil spring vp þere stod...þat me clepeþ seint kenelmes welle: þat melie men hap iso3t. **c1440** *Stacyons of Rome* 828 in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 171 Two wellis there bethe, I tell thee, that sprynggythe oyle. **c1450** *Mirk's Festial* 14 And whan he was buryet, at þe hed of þe tombe sprong a well of oyl þat dyd medysyn to all seke. **1581** *Sc. Acts Jas.* VI, III. 212/2 Aganis passing in pilgrimage to chapellis wellis and croces. **1591** SHAKS. *Two Gent.* IV. ii. 84 Th. Where meete we? *Pro.* At Saint Gregories well. **1632** ROWZEE (*title*), The Queenes Welles. That is, A Treatise of the nature and vertues of Tunbridge Water. **1648** GAGE *West Ind.* 5 [Papists] encroaching upon many Houses and Farmes, enriching themselves, as namely at Winifreds Well (so termed by them) where they had bought an Inne. **a1774** FERGUSON *Poems, Daft Days* 35 Reaming ale, Mair precious than the well o' Spa, Our hearts to heal. **1806** P. O'NEILL *Tour Orkney* etc. 26, I likewise visited the wells of Kildingie... These wells or springs, are situated in the Mill Bay. **1824** SCOTT (*title*), St. Ronan's Well. **1882** W. TAYLOR *Researches Hist. Tain* I. 27 note, A copious fountain of pure water situated on... the girth boundary in the heights

of the parish...has from time immemorial borne the name of St. David's well. **1904** A. C. FRASER *Biog. Philos.* i. 26 The Priory...and the well and chapel of St. Modan on the hill, were my favourite haunts.

c. pl. A place where medicinal springs exist, to which invalids resort; a watering-place or spa.

1673 SHADWELL *Epsom-Wells* I. i, Enter Mrs. Woody, ... to Toby and others, drinking at the Wells. **1707** in J. Ashton *Soc. Life Q. Anne* (1882) II. 113 The New Wells at Epsom, with variety of Raffling Shops, will be open'd on Easter Monday next. **1716** *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5459/1 The Princess set out...for the Wells of Medway. **1728** YOUNG *Love Fame* v. 23 Thro' every sign of vanity they run; Assemblies, Parks, ... Balls, Wells, Bedlams, [etc.].

†*d.* *Her.* The representation of a stream, used as a bearing. *Obs.*

1486 *Bk. St. Albans* Her. e vjb, And of hym y^t beris thes armys ye most say...He berith of golde and .iij. Wellis.

e. A fountain fed by a spring; a structure erected above a spring for convenience in obtaining the water; a drinking-fountain. Chiefly *Sc.*

1575-6 in *Burgh Rec. Glasgow* (1876) 457 Item, to Johnne Wilsoun for four geistis to the well in Gallowgait...viiij lib. **1630** *Ibid.* 373 The new woll in the Trongait to be sklaitted in the best forme. **1638** *Ibid.* 390 Ane warrant...for taking down the wall at the Croce. **1656** *Ibid.* (1881) 351 The twa new wallis newlie buildit in Trongait and at the vennall. **1823** GALT R. *Gilhaize* III. 34 She was mobbet, and the wells pumped upon her by the enraged multitude. **1843** JAMES *Forest Days* i, It had on the south side, a well, and an iron ladle underneath.

2. *transf.* and *fig.* *a.* In allusive contexts directly suggestive of the nature (flowing, etc.) or uses (drinking, taking water) of a spring.

c897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past.* C. vii. 49 (MS. Hatton) Hio [the speech] aweoll of anum wille [Cott. welle]; ðeah heo an tu tfeleowe, ðeah was sio æspryng sio soðe lufu. **c1220** *Bestiary* 341 Ðanne we ðus brennen bihoueð us to rennen to cristes quike welle, ...drinken his wissing. **a1225** *Ancre. R.* 282 In hire he heldeð nout one dropemele, auh 3eoteð vlowinde wellen of his grace. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 310 Fader is he cald for-þi pat he is welle pat neuer sal dri. *Ibid.* 21023 O þe wel o witt he dranc. **c1315** SHOREHAM v. 61 þys wulle hys god self man by-come, Of hym þys ioyen bep alle y-nome. **13...** *Lay Folks' Catech.* (L.) 190 Crist was þe furst qwyk welle of grace. **c1420** Prymer 68 Mi soule pirstide to god, pat is a quyk welle! **1568** T. HOWELL *Arb. Amittie* (1879) 52 O noble hart whose Well of grace, shall spring and neuer drie. **1807** CRABBE *Par. Reg.* I. 98 Not one who, early by the Muse beguiled, Drank from her well the waters undefined. **1840** LONGF. *Sp. Stud.* I. v, O sleep, ... Holding unto our lips thy goblet filled Out of Oblivion's well, a healing draught! **1899** J. P. FITZPATRICK *Transvaal* i. 25 The effect of the annexation was to start the wells of plenty bubbling—with British Gold.

b. That from which something springs or arises; a source or origin.

a. **c825** *Vesp. Psalter* xxxv. 10 Forðon mid ðe is wælle lifes. **c825** *Vesp. Hymns* xi. in *O.E. Texts* 417 Leht lehtes & wælle lehtes. **1533** GAU *Richt Vay* (S.T.S.) 27 The bibil quihilk is the grund and vol of al godlie doctrine and hewinlie visdom. **1599** ALEX. HUME *Poems* (S.T.S.) *Hymn* vi. 110 He made the Sun a lampe of light, A woll of heate to shine by day.

β. **c1000** *Lambeth Psalter* xxxv. 10 Forðan þe mid þe is welle lifes. **1340** *Ayenb.* 80 Uayrhede, wyt, prouesse, myzte, vridom and noblesse; pise byep zix wellen of ydelnesse. **1377** LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xv. 30 And þat is wytte and wisdome, þe welle of alle craftes. **c1400** *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 271 And fro diafragma it mai go to þe brayn, pat is þe welle of alle nerues. **1475** *Bk. Noblesse* (Roxb.) 51 Athenes, that was the welle of connyng and of wisdam. **1538** STARKEY *England* 180 Tyranny in al commynaltys ys the ground of al yl, the wel of al mysche and mysordur. **1539** BIBLE (Great) *Prov.* xvi. 22 Understanding is a well of lyfe vnto hym that hath it. **1667** MILTON *P.L.* xi. 416 [He] purg'd with Euphrasie and Rue The visual Nerve...; and from the Well of Life three drops instill'd. **1859** FITZGERALD *Omar* xxxiv, Then to this earthen Bowl did I adjourn My Lip the secret Well of Life to learn.

γ. **a1000** *Ags. Ps.* (Thorpe) xxxv. 9 Forpæm mid þe is lifes wylle. **1422** YONGE tr. *Secreta Secret.* 135 Vndyrstondynge is the begynnynge and will of al vertues.

c. Applied to persons regarded as a source or abundant manifestation of some quality or virtue.

a1225 *St. Marher.* I. 11 þu art walle of waisdom. **a1310** in Wright *Lyric P.* xxxiii. 94 Ofte y crie merci, of mylse thou art welle. **1377** *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) I. 218 Prince Edward That welle was of alle corage. **c1386** CHAUCER *Wife's Prol.* 107 Crist, that of perfection is welle. **c1400** *Pilgr. Sowle* v. i. (1859) 74 He is the welle of all manere of goodnes. **c1440** *Partonope* 226 That thay may say as ye passe by strete: Loo, yonder gothe the welle of gentylnesse. **c1450** tr. *De Imitatione* III. xi. 78 O þou welle of euerlasting loue. **1500-20** DUNBAR *Poems* lxxvii. 7 Oure lustie quein, The vall of velth, guid cheir, and mirrines. **1559** *Mirr. Mag.*, *Edw. IV.* vi, A Salomon that was of wit the well. **1596** SPENSER *F.Q.* IV. ii. 32 Dan Chaucer, well of English vndefyled, On Fame's eternal beadroll worthie to be fyled.

d. A copious flow (of tears or blood). Also hyperbolically applied to a weeping person.

a1225 *Ancre. R.* 156 For pui he [Jeremiah] bed welle of teares to his eien, pet heo ne adrueden nanmore pen welle. **a1240** *Ureisin* in *O.E. Hom.* I. 189 þe ilke fif wallen [v.r. wellen] pet of þi blisfulle bodi sprungen and strike dun strondes of blode. **1382** WYCLIF *Jer.* ix. 1 Who shal 3yue to myn hed watir, and to myn e3en a welle of teres? **c1530** *Hickscorner* 19 She sawe her sone, all deed, Splayed on a crosse with the fyve welles of pyte. **1606** SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* v. x. 19 There is a word will Priam turne to stone; Make wels, and Niobes of the maides and wiues.

e. A whirlpool.

Applied spec. to certain whirlpools in the Orkneys as a rendering of the native designation *keld* = ON. *kelda* spring.

Tennyson's use may either be independent or derived from Scott.

a1654 BLAEU *Le Theatre du Monde* v. 159-60 Map, Orcades...Souna...the Welles. *Ibid.*, Spurness well. **1693** J. WALLACE *Descr. Orkney* 7 The Wells of Swinna, which are two Whirl-pools in the Sea. **1750** M. MACKENZIE *Orcades* 5/1 One of these Whirlpools or Wells, as they are called in Orkney. **1774** G. Low *Tour Orkney* etc. (1879) 29 The whirlpools called the Wells of Swona, so long famous for the alledged danger in passing over or near them. **1821** SCOTT *Pirate* xxxviii, Even as the wells of Tuftiloe can wheel the stoutest vessel round and round, in despite of either sail or steerage.

1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* x, If...the roaring wells Should gulf him fathom-deep in brine. *Ibid.* cviii, To scale the heaven's highest height, Or dive below the wells of Death.

3. *a.* A pit dug in the ground to obtain a supply of spring-water; spec. a vertical excavation, usually circular in form and lined with masonry, sunk to such a depth as to penetrate a water-bearing stratum.

a. **c950** *Lindisf. Gosp.* John iv. 6 Uæs...ðer uælle iacobes. **c1275** *Wom. Samaria* 12 in *O.E. Misc.* 84 Iesus at ore walle reste him seolf al one. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 13229 Here nu quat herodias did, In a wall his heued sco hid. **c1395** *Plowman's T.* 298 They folowe Christ that shedde his blodde To heven, as bucket in-to the wall. **1882** 'JACK ROBINSON' *Auld Tales* 11 (E.D.D.) T' horrator war prayan fer a girt wal et he cud drop intul.

β. *γ.* **c1000** *Ags. Gosp.* John iv. 6-7 þær wæs iacobes wyl; Se hælend sæt æt ðam wylle. **c1250** *Gen. & Ex.* 2947 In euerilc welle, in euerilc trike, men funden blod al witterlike. **c1275** LAY. 19810 þo wende to þan wille cnihtes swipe snelle. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 11701 Mak vs a well for mine sake, pat all mai plente o water take. **c1385** CHAUCER *L.G.W.* 1584 Or as a welle that were botemeles Ryght so can fals Iason haue no pes ffor to desyryn [etc.]. **c1440** *Jacob's Well* 3 Whanne 3oure welle is made...3e muste haue a wyndas, & a roop, & a bokett, a drawyn vp watyr to drynke, be-cause 3oure welle is so deep. **1485** *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 29 For the well a Bokett with a cheyne of yryn. **1530** PALSGR. 287/2 Well made of stone, *puis, putelle*. **1553** BRENDE *Q. Curtius* VII. 146 The ryuer of Oxus...being a water vnholsum to be drone...the Macedons fell to digging of welles. **1592** SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* III. i. 99 No: 'tis not so deepe as a well, nor so wide as a Church doore, but 'tis inough. **1610** HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* 281 A Well of an exceeding depth. **1625** N. CARPENTER *Geogr. Delin.* II. iv. (1635) 60 Starres from the darke bottome of a deepe Well or Mine will shew themselves at mid-day. **1698** FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 155 A little out of the Way is erected an high-wall'd Well. **1700** DRYDEN *Fables, Pal. & Arc.* II. 82 Now up, now down, as Buckets in a Well. **1745** tr. *Columella's Husb.* I. vi, The ground being dug after the manner of wells, which they call *siros*, receives the fruits. **1842** TENNYSON *St. Sim. Styl.* 63 For many weeks about my loins I wore The rope that haled the buckets from the well. **1858** HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Jnls.* (1871) I. 337 There is no familiar object connected with daily life so interesting as a well. **1888** *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 402/2 When the population of a district is scattered it is possible to supply individual wants by means of streams, springs, or shallow wells.

fig. **c1400** *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 193 Now we han medycyns drawn of .ij. wellis & of manie maistris. **a1591** H. SMITH *Serm.* (1592) 998 The well of Gods secrets is so deepe, that no bucket of man can sound it. **1611** BIBLE *Isaiah* xii. 3 With ioy shall yee draw water out of the wels of saluation. **1655** W. SPURSTOWE (*title*), The Wels of Salvation opened. **1781** COWPER *Convers.* 564 Hearts may be found...Whose wisdom, drawn from the deep well of life, Tastes of its healthful origin. **1848** DICKENS *Dombey* xviii, After stating this curious and unexpected fact, Mr. Toots fell into a deep well of silence.

b. *Her.* A bearing representing the stone curb or border of a well.

1780 R. Glover's *Ord. Arms Augm.* 49 in Edmondson *Her.* II. O, Gu. three wells ar. water az. **1828-40** BERRY *Encycl. Her.* I.

4. *a.* In various proverbial sayings or phrases. (See also PITCHER¹ I b.)

(*a*) **1546** J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 70 Well well (quoth she) many wels, many buckets. **1757** B. FRANKLIN *Poor Richard* (1890) 278 Then as Poor Dick says, When the Well's dry, they know the Worth of Water. **1832** J. J. BLUNT *Reform. Eng.* 140 We know not, says the proverb, what the well is worth till it is dry. **1860** WHYTE MELVILLE *Mkt. Harb.* xiii, 'He's as deep as a well, is my master,' answered old Isaac.

(*b*) **1691** HARTCLIFFE *Virtues* 181 If Truth, as Democritus fansied, lies at the bottom of a deep Well. **1848** DICKENS *Dombey* xxxii, He tried a glass of grog; but melancholy truth was at the bottom of that well, and he couldn't finish it. **1888** J. M. COBBAN *By Telegraph* iv, The depth of the well at the bottom of which truth is hid was nothing to the unfathomableness of his designs.

b. *to put* (a person) *in the well* (see quot.). *slang.*

1812 VAUX *Vocab. Flash Lang.* (1819) s.v. *Garden*, To *put* a person in the garden...or in the well, are synonymous phrases, signifying to defraud him of his due share of booty by embezzling a part of the property, or the money it is fenced for.

5. *transf.* †*a.* = FONTANELLE I *a.* *Obs.*

c1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 216 Make him .iiij. cauterijs:...oon bihinde þe nolle in þe welle perof, [etc.]. *Ibid.* 309 Also in þe welle vnder þe eeris & bihinde þe eeris þou schalt make cauterijs for passious of isen.

b. *a well of a* (a place): like a well, as being damp and cold or deep and dark.

1843 DICKENS *Chr. Carol* ii, He then conveyed him...into the veriest old well of a shivering best-parlour that ever was seen. **1869** BLACKMORE *Lorna D.* xlvii, She had gotten it in a great well of a cupboard.

6. *Naut.* *a.* A vertical shaft protecting the pump below the lower (or upper) deck in a ship's hold. *to sound the well*, to ascertain, by

means of a sounding-rod, the depth of water accumulated in the hold.

1611 COTGR., *Lossec*, the sinke, or well, of the pompe of a ship. **1626** CAPT. J. SMITH *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 11 The Pompe, the pumpe-well, the pumpe brake, [etc.]. **1627** — *Sea Gram*. ii. 9 The Dutch men vse a Burre pumpe. . . to pumpe vp the Billage water that. . . cannot come to the well. **1750** BLANCKLEY *Nav. Expositor*. **1762-9** FALCONER *Shipwr.* ii. 464 They sound the well. **1825** T. HOOK *Sayings Ser.* 11. *Passion & Princ.* xv. III. 401 The ship scemed rapidly settling. . . yet no one dared to sound the well. **1836** MARRYAT *Pirate* iv. The well was again sounded. Nine feet water in the hold. **1881** *Daily Tel.* 14 Feb., So long as the sounding-rod gave a dry well, the men's courage kept tolerably steadfast.

b. A cistern or tank in a fishing-boat, in which the catch of fish is preserved alive. Cf. WELL-BOAT 1.

1614 GENTLEMAN *Eng. Way Wealth* 19 Fresh fish, which they of purpose do keepe alive in their boates in Wells. **1720** DE FOE *Capt. Singleton* ii. (1840) 37 This well [was of] the same kind which the small fisher-boats in England have to preserve their fish alive in. **1828** DAVY *Salmonia* 49 He. . . is landed. A fine well-fed fish, not much less than 4 lbs. Throw him into the well. **1848** JOHNS *Week at Lizard* 259 The store-pot is emptied and its contents transferred to a well in the hold of the vessel. **1912** *Daily News* 29 Mar. 4 The Betsy was running for harbour for all she was worth. Her 'well' was full of live cod.

7. A shaft or pit bored or dug in the ground. In various specific applications.

a. An excavation for the storage of ice.

1681 Cal. *Treas. Bks.* 8 Building an ice well for his Majesty's use in Windsor Great Park. **1850** *Gardeners' Mag. of Bot.* 1. 82 Section of ice well. . . a, well; b, porch. **1873** SPON *Workshop Rec.* Ser. 1. 364/1 There must be perfect drainage insured from the bottom of the well, so that the ice will be kept dry.

† b. *Mil.* = SHAFT sb.³ 2.

1702-11 *Milit. & Sea Dict.* (ed. 4) 1, *Well*, a Depth the Miner sinks into the Ground, and thence carries on the Branches, or Galleries, to find out, and disappoint the Enemies Mines, or to prepare one. **1736** J. CAMPBELL *Milit. Hist. Pr. Eugene* etc. 1. 217 We now began to perceive that their Miners were in search of our Mines, and that they worked in sinking Wells in order to get into our Galleries.

c. (See quot.)

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey) s.v. *Observatory*, The Royal Observatory. . . furnish'd with all sorts of Instruments. . . and a dry Well for Discovery of the Stars in the Day-time.

d. A shaft sunk to obtain oil, brine, gas, etc.

1799 *Asiatic Researches* VI. 127 An Account of the Petroleum Wells in the Burmah Dominions. **1885** *Encycl. Brit.* XVIII. 713 In 1819 a well bored for brine in Wayne county, Kentucky, yielded so much black petroleum that it was abandoned. **1892** [see GUSHER 2]. **1901** *Munsey's Mag.* XXV. 743/2 The first flowing [petroleum] well, or 'gusher', . . . was struck in 1861.

e. A shaft to carry water through a retentive to a porous stratum or to a drain; a sink for sewage.

1856 J. C. MORTON *Cycl. Agric.* I. 692 It will be proper. . . to cut a drain of four feet in depth only, and then to sink small wells down to the watery bed. **1865** *Daily Tel.* 27 Oct. 5/2 The system of drainage adopted is that of running the pipes of each house into a dead well. . . These wells are made of bricks, without any cement.

f. *Engin.* A hollow cylinder or shaft of masonry sunk and filled in solid to form a foundation.

1885 L. F. VERNON-HARCOURT *Harbours & Docks* I. 405 Where the thickness of the mud exceeded 13 feet, square masonry wells were sunk through it on to the rock. . . These wells, being. . . filled in solid with masonry, form piers for arches. **1920** in WEBSTER.

8. a. The central open space, from roof to basement, of a winding, spiral, or elliptical staircase; the open space in which a lift operates.

a **1700** EVELYN *Diary* 7 Nov. 1644, 2 paire of oval stayres all of stone and voide in the well. **1783** *Phil. Trans.* LXXXIII. 138 Which, passing over pulleys. . . was fastened to a scale that descended into the well of an adjoining stair-case. **1817** J. EVANS *Excurs. Windsor* etc. 161 In the well of the staircase, by a cord of black and yellow, hangs a Gothic lantern. **1848** THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lxii, If you choose to consider it, and sit on the landing, looking up and down the well! **1886** STEVENSON *Kidnapped* iv, The same passing brightness showed me the steps were of unequal length, and that one of my feet rested that moment within two inches of the well. **1890** B. HALL *Turnover Club* viii. 87 But Gean hustled the man out to the elevator shaft and dropped him into the well beneath. **1901** *Scotsman* 8 Mar. 6/8 Fall down a hoist well. *Ibid.*, The cage. . . was at the bottom of the well.

b. The space on the floor of a law-court (between the Judge's bench and the last row of seats occupied by Counsel) where the solicitors sit.

1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* i, The various solicitors in the cause. . . ranged in a line, in a long matted well. . . between the registrar's red table and the silk gowns. **1879** ESCOTT *England* II. 209 In the 'well,' a seat a step below that of the Queen's counsel, sit the solicitors. **1883** D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* xxviii, Wiggled heads went together in the well of the court, and papers were rustled to and fro on the table.

c. A deep narrow space formed by the surrounding walls of a building or buildings, serving for the access of light and air.

1859 DICKENS *T. Two Cities* II. v. (end), Climbing to a high chamber in a well of houses, he threw himself down in his clothes on a neglected bed. a **1861** T. WINTHROP *Cecil Dreeme* v. (1896) 64 Through a most unsavoury alley into a court, or rather space, serving as a well to light the rear range of a tenement house. **1915** *Spectator* 29 May 742/2 The back-rooms look south—into the well.

d. = *orchestra pit* s.v. ORCHESTRA 4.

1933 P. GODFREY *Back-Stage* i. 15 The orchestra are in position in the 'well'. **1951** *Oxf. Compan. Theatre* 836/2 The

Orchestra Well for the accommodation of the theatre musicians is in front of and below the stage itself.

9. a. A space left, in stacking hay, to serve as a ventilating shaft. *dial.*

1710 HILMAN *Tusser Rediv.* Aug. (1744) 102 Some prescribe leaving a Hole or Well in the Middle of the Mow. . . by keeping therein a Basket or Barrel, and raising it as the Mow increases. **1842** C. W. JOHNSON *Farmer's Encycl.* 1261 *Well*, a. . . vent hole left in a rick or mow of hay or other similar materials, to prevent its overheating.

b. In *Ship- and Boat-building* applied to various vertical apertures: see quotes.

1874 THEARLE *Naval Archit.* §192 When it is not considered necessary to provide a well for raising the propellor. **1894** PAASCH *From Keel to Truck* 108 Well. The deepening between the ends of two waterballast-tanks, or between the ends of a double-bottom and a bulkhead. **1897-8** *Encycl. Sport* I. 179 *Well*, the opening in a decked canoe to admit the putting in of cargo and to accommodate the crew.

10. a. A box-like receptacle in the body of a vehicle, for articles of luggage.

1783 *Morn. Chron.* 14 Mar. 4/2 Advt., A very roomy crane-necked Travelling Coach, with well to the bottom, and luggages behind. **1794** W. FELTON *Carriages* (1801) II. 199 The Well of a Carriage is a strong box conveniently placed at the body to carry luggage. **1848** THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lxvi, The baggage was strapped on. Francis came out with his master's sword, cane, and umbrella tied up together, and laid them in the well. **1911** SIR W. BUTLER *Autobiog.* xx. 354 He. . . took three or four brace of grouse from the bag, and. . . put the birds in the 'well' of the vehicle [an Irish car].

b. A comparatively deep receptacle at the bottom of a piece of furniture, esp. of one fitted with trays, drawers, compartments, etc.

1841 SAVAGE *Dict. Printing*. **1842** LYTTON *Zanoni* VII. ii, He peered into the well [of an escritoire], and opened the drawers. **1879** MISS BRADDON *Vixen* III. 47 There was an old-fashioned work-table, with a faded red silk well, beside the open window. **1888** JACOBI *Printers' Vocab.*, *Well*, a receptacle under the cases in the upper part of a composing frame, for holding copy, etc. **1905** H. G. WELLS *Kipps* III. iii. §4 Kipps. . . draws out the marvellous till; here gold is to be, here silver, here copper—notes locked up in a cash-box in the well below.

11. A hole or cavity containing or to contain a liquid. In various applications.

a. The water-tank at the base of a shot-tower, into which the drops of melted lead fall.

1851-4 Tomlinson's *Cycl. Useful Arts* (1867) II. 514/1 For the carrying out of this invention shot-towers and shot-wells have been constructed. **1884** LOCK *Workshop Rec.* Ser. 111. 362/1 They are sufficiently hardened by cooling to bear the shock of striking the surface of the water in the well below.

b. A cavity at the bottom of a furnace, into which the molten metal falls.

1864 WEBSTER. **1881** RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.* s.v., *Well*. The crucible of a furnace.

c. A sunk receptacle for a liquid, as ink, etc.; also, an indentation or cavity in a dish, tray, etc.; *spec.* in *Ceramics*, the depressed central portion of a plate, saucer, or dish.

1873 SPON *Workshop Rec.* Ser. 1. 166/2 The bath should be. . . larger than the well, which must be a square hole, a little larger than the plate, and about an inch deep. **1881** *Pharmaceut. Jnrl.* 165 A small glass 'naphtha well', set in the case, similar to an 'ink well'. **1937** *Crockery & Glass Jnrl.* Nov. 28 The Fleurette shape. . . with flower grouping in the well and repeated on the shoulder. **1971** *Country Life* 21 Oct. 1055/1 The saucer is decorated with a circular medallion of The Bull and the Mouse, its well with four sprigs of flowers, the bowl with the Bull and the Frogs.

12. *Physics.* = *potential well* s.v. POTENTIAL sb. 4 c.

1942 *Rep. Progress Physics* VIII. 302 The. . . way to estimate the depth of the well is to postulate that the binding energy of the least strongly bound particle shall be equal to the experimental value for this quantity. **1972** *Sci. Amer.* Apr. 27/1 The original aim was to create a well so deep (from 10 to 20 million volts deep) that the ion-ion collisions could be energetic enough for nuclear transmutations to occur.

13. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *well-conductor*, *-covering*, *-drill*, *-grating*, *-hook*, *-mouth*, *-plate*, *-pulley*, *-pump*, *-roof*, *-rope*, *-shaft*, *-side*, *-site*, *-stage*, *-tubbing* (TUBBING vbl. sb. 2), *-yard*; *well-maker*; *well-like* adj.

1974 BP *Shield Internat.* Oct. 2/1 The jacket. . . wraps round the 'well-conductors which go down into the ground. **1845** G. PETRIE *Ecl. Archit. Ireland* 449 *Well Coverings. **1875** KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Well-drill, a tool for boring wells. **1886** W. J. TUCKER *E. Europe* 410 It is the duty. . . of the eldest boy in the school. . . to see that the *well gratings are closed. **1885** HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 302/1 *Lupus*, . . . a *well hooke. **1854** THOREAU *Walden* 195 We have one other pond just like this, White Pond. . . but I do not know a third of this pure and *well-like character. **1910** RIDER HAGGARD *Q. Sheba's Ring* xvi. 241 [He] pointed to a jagged, well-like hole blown out. . . by the recoil of the blast. **1666** Despauteii *Grammat. Instit.* vii. (Jam.) *Aquilex*, . . . a *wel maker. **1895** *Daily News* 21 Dec. 5/4 When the second slip took place, the well-maker was suffocated. **1537-8** *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 377 Paid for j lode of bryk for his *well mowthe. **1869** TOZER *Highl. Turkey* II. 130 The well-mouth, from being dry, becomes full of water. **1888** Lockwood's *Dict. Mech. Engin.*, *Well Plate. A cast-iron plate put over the mouth of a well to carry the pumps, &c. **1940** W. FAULKNER *Hamlet* 1. i. 18 He had already begun to hear the mournful. . . plaint of a rusted *well-pulley. **1889** *Daily News* 5 Aug. 2/7 A substantially constructed set of *well pumps, even if fitted down a well 100 or 200 feet from the ground level, may be utilised as a fire engine in large establishments. **1886** MRS. FLOR. CADDY *Footsteps Jeanne D'Arc* v. 88 Chemillé has a romanesque church and the usual domical stone *well-roofs. **1424** *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) III. 151 It. Roberto

Raper pro ij wellerapis. **1575** *Aldeburgh Rec.* in N. & Q. 12th Ser. VII. 227/1 For a bucket ye hoopes, and a *well Roape. . . xliiii^d. **1752** *Rec. Elgin* (New Spald. Club 1903) I. 465 Rigwoodies, tethers, wallropes. **1908** *Westm. Gaz.* 21 July 2/1 He went to a well and clambered down the well-rope. **1857** DICKENS *Dorrit* 1. iv, In one corner of the hall. . . there was a little waiting-room, like a *well shaft. **1656** EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* 1. xcvi. (1674) 131 The Rope which hung upon the Bucket by the *well-side. **1818** SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* xx, For all she can sit idle by a well-side the whole day, when she has a handsome young gentleman to prate with. **1972** L. M. HARRIS *Introd. Deepwater Floating Drilling Operations* iii. 22 The *wellsite geologist should. . . provide technical assistance to the drilling supervisor. **1979** *Jnrl. R. Soc. Arts* CXXVII. 406/2 This led in due time to the adoption of a system of deep ditches around the various well sites. **1888** Lockwood's *Dict. Mech. Engin.*, *Well Stage. A framing of timber erected over the mouth of a well to carry the pumps and pipe connections. **1898** F. DAVIS *Silchester* 41 Roman wine casks that have served the purpose of *well tubbing. **1480** *Coventry Leet-bk.* 446 Their plum house by pe *well-yarde yate.

14. Special comb.: well-basket, a long deep basket formerly used by street-hawkers; well-beam, the wooden beam or roller over which the rope of a well-bucket runs; well-borer, (a) one who bores wells; (b) a machine or apparatus for boring a well; well-boring vbl. sb., the process of sinking a well by drilling through earth or rock; also *concr.*, the shaft of a well; well-brick (see quot. 1889); well-bullock, one used (in India) to turn the windlass at a well; well-cabin (see quot.); † well-carse (see WELL-CRESS); well-chapel, one enclosing a holy well; well-cistern, one fed by a spring; well crane (see quot. 1888); † well crank, a windlass for raising and lowering a bucket at a well; well-curb, (a) the stone border round the mouth of a well; (b) see quot. 1892; well-digger, one who digs or bores wells as a profession; well-dish, a meat-dish with a depression at one end as a receptacle for gravy; well-drag (see quot.); well-drain *Agric.*, a drain for wet land, made after the manner of a well, with a boring through which the water rises to be carried off by the drain; well-draining, a system of land drainage (see quot. and prec.); hence well-drain v. (Webster 1847-54); well-dresser, one who takes part in well-dressing; well-dressing = *tap-dressing* (TAP sb.¹ 8); well-eye *Sc.* and *north.*, a spot in a bog where a spring rises to the surface; a small pool of spring-water; *fig.* a source; † well fern, the maiden-hair *Adiantum Capillus-Veneris*; well-fire = *well-grate* below; well-flowering = *tap-dressing* (TAP sb.¹ 8); well-girse, -grass *Sc.* = WELL-CRESS; well-god, a tutelary deity of a well; well-grate (see quot. 1910); well-horse, a horse that turns the windlass of a well; well-house, a small building or room enclosing a well and its apparatus; well-karses, -korses *Sc.* and *north.* (see WELL-CRESS); well-kerb = *well-curb*; well-kick, the exerting by an oil-well of pressure in excess of that of the drilling fluid pumped into it, leading to loss of circulation; well-packing (see PACKING vbl. sb.¹ 2 note); † well-pipe, a conduit-pipe; in quot. *fig.*; well plum, a local name of the pochar, *Fuligula ferina*; well-pole, (a) a well-sweep; (b) see quot. 1893; † well-reeve (see quot. and REEVE sb.¹ 2); well-rig (see quot.); well-room, (a) the place on the floor of a boat or ship where the water collects, and lies until it is pumped out; (b) = *well-house*; (c) see quot. 1858; well-shanker *Sc.* = *well-sinker*; well shrimp, a fresh-water crustacean found in wells; well-sinker = *well-borer*, -digger; well-sinking vbl. sb. = *well-boring*; well-smack = WELL BOAT; well-spherometer, 'a form of spherometer for accurately measuring the radius of curvature of a lens' (*Cent. Dict.* 1891); well-staircase, -stairs, -stairway, a winding or geometrical staircase with a well or open centre; wellstead [STEAD sb. 7], a site for a well; well-sweep (see SWEEP sb. 24); well-tomb, a prehistoric tomb having a well or shaft for an entrance; well-trap, (a) a depression in a drain, in which water lies and prevents the escape of foul air; (b) see quot. 1893; well-tube, the casing-pipe of a driven well; well-way, the shaft of a well; well-wheel, the wheel that turns the axle of a windlass at a well; well-work, the making of a well; well-worship, the worship of a well or its guardian spirit; also well-worshipping vbl. sb. and ppl. a. Also WELL-BOAT, -BUCKET, -CRESS, etc.

1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* (1861) II. 485/1, I give two shillings for a 'shallow'; that's a flat basket with two handles; they put 'em a top of *well-baskets', them as can carry a good load. **1895** KIPPLING *Soldiers Three*, etc. (1917) 273 He will hang him by the heels from the *well-beam. **1786** *Phil. Trans.* LXXVII. 50 George Naylor, of Louth, in the County of Lincoln, *Well-borer. **1852** *Mechanics' Mag.* 6

Nov. 370 Thomson's Artesian Well-borer. 1884 *Lisbon* (Dakota) *Star* 10 Oct., Experienced well-borers...will endeavor to find petroleum. 1835 *Ure Philos. Manuf.* 57 Mine and artesian *well-boring. 1890 *Hardwicke's Sci. Gossip* XXVI. 74/1 Many years ago, in a well-boring, . . the flanks of the buried Primary rocks were reached at a depth of 1100 feet. 1784 *Phil. Trans.* LXXV. 3 To build a wall of clay against the morassy sides of the well, with a wall of *well-bricks internally, up to the top of it. 1889 *N.W. Linc. Gloss.*, *Well-bricks*, curved bricks used for lining wells. 1879 *Mrs. A. E. James Ind. Househ. Managem.* 72 One of the *well-bullocks had a violent attack of the malady. 1867 *Smyth Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Well-cabins, those in brigs and small vessels, which have no afterwindows or thorough draught. 1858 J. T. BLIGHT *Anc. Crosses E. Cornw.* 94 *Well-chapel, Menacuddle, St. Austell. . . The length of this building is 11 feet. . . The spring rises in the east end. 1898 *Dulbin Rev.* July 150 A *well-cistern of clear spring water. 1905 W. HOLMAN HUNT *Pre-Raphaelitism* II. xi. 289 To judge from the company round the well-cisterns, . . it [Cana of Galilee] was at the time a happy neighbourhood. 1849 J. GLYNN *Constr. Cranes* 35 The *well crane having been found inconvenient for raising great weights, because of the insufficient resistance of the ground at the well top. 1888 *Lockwood's Dict. Mech. Engin.*, *Well Crane*, a fixed post crane, one-half of whose post is above ground and the other sunk in a pit, or well, dug to receive it. c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 520/2 *Welle crank, *tollinum*. 1877 *Talmage Fifty Serm.* 23 Will you sit down in front of the *well-curb, when a few more turns of the windlass might bring up the . . buckets? 1886 *Kipling Departm. Ditties*, etc. (1899) 56 We have trodden the mart and the well-curb. 1892 *Dict. Arch.* (Arch. Publ. Soc.), *Well-curb*. The ring of elm or metal upon which the lining of a well is built. 1693 *Moxon Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 254 A Borer (such as *Well-Diggers use). 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Oct. 708/2 By trade he is a well-digger. 1880 *Blackmore Mary Anerley* xlvii, When a coal comes to table in a *well-dish. 1857 *Wright Obs. & Provinc. Dict.*, *Well-drag, a three-pronged drag to bring the bucket up when it falls in. *Leic.* 1881 *Leicestersh. Gloss.* 1819 REES *Cycl.*, *Well-drain, in Agriculture, that sort of vent or discharge for the wetness of land, which is constructed in somewhat the well or pit manner. *Ibid.*, *Well-draining, that means of clearing lands from wetness, which . . is accomplished by making large deep pits or wells. 1898 R. M. GILCHRIST *Willowbrake* i, Within five minutes the curtain would be drawn aside and the *well-dressers set free to join the turbulent outside revellers. 1860 *Well-dressing [see *tap-dressing*: *TAP sb.* 1 8]. 1882 C. F. KEARY *Outl. Prim. Belief* ii. 87 Fetichism survives in the honours paid to wells and fountains, . . in England known under the name of 'well-dressing'. 1536 *Bellenenden Cron. Scot.* (1821) I. 170 Thy knew nocht the ground, and fell sometimes in swards of mossis, and sum time in *well-eyes. 1820 *Marmaiden of Clyde* ii. in *Edin. Mag.* VI. 422 An' the marmaid's gown was green as grass in the cauld well-ee that grows. 1826 *GALT Last of Lairds* xxxv, The cause o' our national decay, and agricultural distress, . . come a' thegither frae anither well-ee. 1565 *COOPER Thesaurus, Adiantum*. . . It may be called Venus hear. . . other name it to be *well ferne. 1906 *Studio XXXVIII*. 127/1 *Well-fires are used in all the rooms. 1824 E. RHODES *Peak Scenery* 315 An ancient custom still prevails in the village of Tissington. . . It is denominated *Well-Flowering. 1874 *Murray's Handbk. Derbysh.* etc. (ed. 2) 188 An ancient . . custom of dressing the 5 wells or springs of this village. . . is still kept up, and is known as 'Tap Dressing', or 'Well Flowering'. 1903 *SECCOMBE & ALLEN Age Shaks.* I. 1. 44 His [Browne's] Devonshire has a large population of river-gods, *well-gods, and nymphs. 1673 D. WEDDERBURN *Voc.* 18 (Jam.) *Nasturtium aquaticum*, *well-grass. 1825 *JAMIESON, Well-grass, Well-girse, Well-herse, Watercresses.* 1910 *Encycl. Brit.* XII. 378/2 In the closing years of the 19th century a *well-grate was invented, in which the fire burns upon the hearth, combustion being aided by an air-chamber below. 1927 W. E. COLLINSON *Contemp. Eng.* 90 Fires. . . are more often well-grates (i.e. low) than basket-grates (with bobs for the kettle). 1894 *MEREDITH Lett.* (1912) II. 461, I am under an engagement . . to deliver a novel in the Spring, and have to go the round of a *well-horse daily. 1354-5 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 555 In una sera reparanda pro le *Wellhousdore. 1466-7 *Ibid.* 641 Pro punctuacione super stabulum hospitum et le Wellehouse infra abbatiam. 1597 in *Archaeologia* LXIV. 369, 1500 ston lat nail for ye well house. 1895 *CROCKETT Men of Moss-Hags* xxvii, I made a rush swiftly round the corner, and entered the well-house. 1889 *Kipling Soldiers Three* (ed. 3) 67 Losson. . . lowered the cage [of the parrot] into the cool darkness of a well, and sat on the *well-kerb. 1972 L. M. HARRIS *Introd. Deepwater Floating Drilling Operations* x. 97 Closing in around the drill pipe and circulating a conventional *well kick. 1974 P. L. MOORE et al. *Drilling Practices Manual* xi. 277 Failure to recognize a well kick could be disastrous. 1875 *Knight Dict. Mech.*, *Well-packing. 1540 *COVERDALE Fruitf. Lessons* T4b, Here are opened the conduites and *well pipes of life. 1862 *JOHNS Brit. Birds* 625 *Wellplum, the Red-headed Pochard. 1885 *SWAINSON Prov. Names Birds* 160 Well plum. 1826 *LONGF.* in S. Longfellow *Life* (1886) I. 86 There is so little. . . to remind one that he is out of town: no corn-fields, . . no slab-fences: no *well-poles. 1893 *S.E. Worc. Gloss.*, *Well-pole*, a pole having at the end a hook, with which the bucket is lowered into the well for the purpose of bringing up water. 1613 *Coventry Leet Bk.* II. 21 Apr. 11 Jas. I. leaf 63 (MS.) Such said aldermen. . . and such ten persons. . . shall choose and elect two persons dwelling in everie particular ward where any comon well is. . . to be *well-reeves for one whole year. 1875 *Knight Dict. Mech.* 2759/1 *Well-rig is the term applied to the whole plant for well-boring, consisting of the derrick, its engine [etc.]. 1769 *FALCONER Dict. Marine* (1780), s.v. *Limbers*. The water. . . is conveyed to the *well-room, where the pumps are fixed. 1852 *Hist. Co. Oxford* 278 A very curious well-room of the time of Henry II has been discovered in the centre of the keep tower. 1858 *SIMMONDS Dict. Trade, Well-room*, an apartment or building containing a mineral spring or spa, where the waters are drunk by invalids. 1882 *Well-shanker [see *SHANKER* 4]. 1853 *Gard. Chron.* 23 Apr. 260/2 A *Well Shrimp, a small white crustaceous animal, about half an inch long. 1914 *Brit. Mus. Return* 171 Well-shrimp. 1604 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 156 A *well-sinker, vj days sinking the well. . . iij. 1884 *B'ham Daily Post* 24 Jan. 3/4 Wanted. . . three good Well-sinkers. 1858 *Q. Rev.* Jan. 6 All sorts of earthwork, in embanking, boring, and *well-sinking. 1915

Daily News 20 Sept. 1 The authorities have requisitioned all workmen with a knowledge of well-sinking. . . and are sending them. . . to work on drilling artesian wells. 1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. 238 The *well-smacks employed in our cod-fisheries. 1840 *DICKENS Old C.* *Shop* xlviii, A little out-of-the-way door at the foot of the *well staircase flew briskly open. 1868 *Daily News* 4 Aug., If space is an object, two or three well-staircases. . . might be employed. 1892 *Dict. Arch.* (Arch. Publ. Soc.), *Well-stairs. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 347/1 The central column around which these *well-stairways usually wind. 1546 *Yorks. Chantry Surv.* (Surtees) I. 152 For a *wellsteede. . . for a wellstede and a fysshing. 1876 *Whitby Gloss.*, *Wellsteed*, the site of a well. 1828-32 *WEBSTER*, *Well-sweep. 1836 C. A. GOODRICH *Universal Traveller* (ed. 2) I. i. 27 Here and there, by the side of the older houses, may be seen a well-sweep, a primitive contrivance to draw up water by a pole, which is attached to a beam, moving up and down on an axle. c1850-60 *ALICE & PHOEBE CARY* in M. C. Ames *Mem.* (1873) 252 A grape vine, shaggy and rough and red, Swings from the well-sweeps high, sharp head. 1886 E. S. MORSE *Jap. Homes* ii. 73 In this sketch a regular New England well-sweep is seen. 1889 *Nation* 11 Apr. 303/1 The graves belong to the type of *well-tombs'. 1850 *OGILVIE*, *Well-trap, the same as *stench-trap*. 1893 J. WATSON *Confess. Poacher* 133 The well-trap is a square, deep box, built into the ground opposite to a smooth-hole in the fence through which the rabbits run. As the rabbits run, the floor opens, and they drop into the well. 1875 *Knight Dict. Mech.*, *Well-tube. 1753 *HANWAY Trav.* (1762) I. II. xvi. 69 The method of keeping them clear of water, is by a large scoop which is suspended. . . over the *well-way. 1900 *Engineering Mag.* XIX. 772/2 A sea-going hydraulic dredge having the ladder for the suction-pipe and cutter in a well-way in the centre. 1535 *MS. Rawl. D.* 777 fol. 84b, ix new storoppes to stave the Rynges of the *well wheell to the spokes. 1542 *UDALL Erasm. Apoph.* 24 *marg.*, The scoldyng of brathels is no more to bee passed on, then the squekyng of welle wheles. 1895 *Atlantic Monthly* Mar. 308 You take insult like a donkey on a well wheel. 1858 *SKYRING Builders' Prices* 76 The digging will only be applicable to *Well-work, as that for Drains must of course depend upon their depth. 1810 C. O'CONOR *Columbanus's Third Let.* 84 Origin of Irish *Well-worship. 1882 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* IX. 510 Well-worship continues to this day, and votive gifts. . . are still thrown into the clear spring waters. 1810 C. O'CONOR *Columbanus's Third Let.* 79 *Well-worshipping was a Druidic superstition. 1892 *Catholic News* 23 July 5/5 A race of well-worshipping semi-pagans.

† *well, sb.*² *Obs.* [f. *WELL adv.*, substituted for *WEAL sb.*¹ under the influence of F. *bien.*]

1. Well-being, welfare, advantage, profit. a. In contrast to *woe*.

c1385 *CHAUCER L.G.W.* 687 Neuere. . . 3e nere out of myn hertis remembrance For wel or wo, for carole or for daunce. c1420 J. PAGE *Siege Rouen in Hist. Coll. Citizen Lond.* (Camden) 35 Thes were the syghtys of dyfferauns, . . That one of welle and pat othyr of wo. 1450-1530 *Myrr. Our Ladye* III. 320 For the soulle when yt ys departed from the body by dethe receyueh anon welle or wo. 1550 *CROWLEY Last Trumpet* 160 But do thou nothing wickedly, Neyther for wel nor yet for wo. 1600 W. WATSON *Decadordon* (1602) 350 A resolute intent. . . in well, and in woe, to remaine constant.

b. In general use; freq. in *for the well of* —. 1424 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 72 3if it so be pat thei towche the well of the kyng. . . or his realme. 1440 in *Wars Eng. in France* (Rolls) II. 588 My saide lord desireth that it like the king of his goode grace, for the grete welle of bothe his royaumes, to ordeyn, . . that [etc.]. 1497 in *Lett. Rich. III & Hen. VII* (Rolls) II. 74 For the welle of hys saule he can noo lesse doo then use for absolucion. 1509 *BARCLAY Shyp of Folys* 229 For worldly ryches, the trouth nat playne to tell, Puttyng bodely profyte before eternal well. 1525 *BERNERS Froiss.* II. xx. 17 b, For y^e well of the peace. . . we desyre them to sette to their seales. 1590 *SPENSER F.Q.* I. ii. 43 That may restore you to your wouted well. 1632 *LITHGOW Trav.* ix. 414 Hungary aboundeth. . . in all things the earth can produce for the well of man. a1645 *LD. NAPIER Mem.* (1793) 43 My Lord Lowdon. . . might have thought me willfull against my owne well.

2. *well public* = *WEAL-PUBLIC* 2. *rare*—1.

1579 *LODGE Def. Plays* 6 Though Plato could wish with the expulsion of Poetes from his well publikes, . . yet the wisest had not all that same opinion.

3. Good or honourable report.

c1500 *Melusine* 135 She. . . desired moche to see him for the well that it was said of him. [1802 *COLERIDGE Ode to Rain* 28 I'll nothing speak of you but well.]

well (wel), *a.* Forms: 3-7 wel, 4-6 wele, 5 welle, 5- well; *Sc.* and *north.* 5 weyll, 6-7 weill (6 weil), 6- weel. [From *WELL adv.* in predicative use: see sense 1.]

1. Used predicatively to denote a state of good fortune, welfare, or happiness: † *a.* With the dative of the personal pronouns, esp. in the formula *well is me, thee, him*, etc., or *well worth him*, etc. *Obs.* (Cf. *L. bene est mihi*, etc.) *Beowulf* 186 Wel bið þam þe mot æfter deaðdæge drihten secan. c825 *Vesp. Psalter* xxxiv. 21 [Hie] cwædon: wel ðe, wel ðe [L. *euge*]. c1000 *ÆLFRIC Gen.* xii. 13 þæt me wel sig for þe, and min sawul lybbe for þinum intingan. *Ibid. Num.* xi. 18 Wel us wæs on Egipta lande. 12. *Moral Ode* (Egerton MS.) 388 in *O.E. Hom.* I. 183 Of him to sene nis no[n] sed, wel hem is þe hine bi-healeð. c1205 *LAY.* 13079 Wel wurdþe þe Vortiger pat þu art icumen her. a1225 *Ancre.* R. 124 Wel is me uor mine gode, & wo is me þauh for þin uel. c1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2387 'Wel me,' quað he, 'wel is me wel, ðat ic aue abiden ðus swil[c] sell' 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5751 A voys sede, as him pošte, þes wordes poru þe soun, Wel is þe, wel is þe, as he vel adoun. a1310 in *Wright Lyric P.* xviii. 59 Sute Jhesu, wel may him be, That the may in blisse sel c1374 *CHAUCER Troylus* I. 350 Lord wel is hym þat may be of yow oon. c1380 *WYCLIF Sel. Wks.* I. 256 And so at þe daie of dome, God shal not seie, Wel be þee. 1423 *Jas. I. Kingis Q.* liii, A! wele were him that now were In thy

plyte! 1470-85 *MALORY Arthur* x. lxxxii. 558 Wel is me that I haue mette with yow. 1523 *SKELTON Carl. of Laurel* 718 O wele were hym that herof myght be sure. 1535 *COVERDALE Ps.* cxxviii. 2 O well is the, happie art thou. 1599 T. STORER *Life & D. Wolsey* B3 b, But wel is me where e're my ashes lie, If one teare drop from some religious eie. 1650 J. CARSTAIRS *Lett.* (1846) 63 If so, weils me for evermore. 1690 W. WALKER *Idiomat. Anglo-Lat.* 512 Well is me if this be true. 1825 *BROCKETT N.C. Words, Weel's-mon-thee!* God bless you.

† *b.* With nouns, orig. in the dative, but latterly (by loss of inflection) capable of being construed as nominatives. Also rarely with *to* or *for*. *Obs.*

c1000 *Laws Cnut* lxxxiv. (Lieberm.) 368 Wel þære heorde ðe gefolgað þam hyrde. a1300 *Assump. Virg.* 99 Wel beo þe time þat þu were ibore, For al þis wordle were forlore. c1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 1797 A place to pleye, ordeyned Brutus, — Corineus was wel of þat graunt — for to wrastle wyþ þat geaunt. a1352 *MINOT Poems* ii. 5 It es wrokin, I wene, wele wurth þe while. c1400 *Destr. Troy* 477 Well were that woman might weld hym for euer. c1430 *How Good Wiif tauhte hir Dougtr* 213 in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 47 For weel is þe child þat wiþ synne wole not be filid. c1450 *Merlin* xiv. 225 Well were that maiden that so feire a knyght wolde requere hir of love. 1509 *BARCLAY Shyp of Polys* 135 Well is that londe, and ioyous may it be, Whiche is defendyd by suche a noble estate. 1593 G. HARVEY *Pierces Super.* 141 Yet well-worth the Master-Ape. 1597 *BP. HALL Sat.* III. ii. 19 Well were thy name and thee Wert thou inditched in great secrecie. 1602 *CAREW Cornwall* i. 37 In times past. . . Holdings were so plentifull and Holders so scarce, as well was the Land-lord who could get one to bee his Tenant. 1606 *ROLLOCK 1 Thess.* 84 Well is that man in whose mouth this word is put: and well is that people that hes a man in whose mouth the Lord hes put his word. 1678 *SPRAT Serm. Gal. vi. 10*, 16 Charity. . . is made the constant Companion. . . of all Virtues. . . and well it is for that Virtue, where it most enters, and longest staves.

c. With the nominative forms of the personal pronouns, or with nouns clearly construed as nominatives.

In this usage freq. placed, like other adjectives, after the vb.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5765 He wende to heuene & was wel ynou. 1340 *HAMPOLE Pr. Consc.* 1452 Now er men wele, now er men wa. a1375 *Joseph Arim.* 33 He þat ledes vs þis wel vre herborwe schal wisse. þei founden hit newely, so wel weore þei neuere. *Ibid.* 659 We weore so wel of vr-self, we nuste what we duden. 1406 *HOCCELEVA La Male Regle* 12 Whil thy power [O Health!]. Regned in me & was my gouernour, Than was I wel, tho felte I no duresse. c1450 *Cov. Myst.*, *Counc. Jhus* 91 *Cayphas*. Fare wel, sere, and wel 3e be. c1489 *CAXTON Sonnes of Aymon* xxiv. 528 Now wold I be well in my ship in the myddes of the see, for if I abyde him, he shall make an ende of me. 1513 *DOUGLAS Æneid* vii. iii. 38 All hail our native goddis, weil 3e be! a1547 *SURREY Æneid* II. 301 And well were they whoes handes might touch the cordes. 1563-83 *FOX E. & M.* 983 They fell to singyng. . . Well was he that could reache the hyst note. 1595 J. KING *Serm. Queen's Day in Lect. Jonas* (1597) 703 O well were wee in the daies of Queene Elizabeth. 1597 *BEARD Theatre God's Judgem.* 183 Wel was he that could hide himself in a corner. 1688 *PENTON Guardian's Instruction* 24 He was never well but when he was managing or talking of the Dogs. 1818 *SHELLEY To Mary* — 11 Mary dear, come to me soon, I am not well whilst thou art far.

2. *a.* In favour, in good standing or estimation, on good terms, *with* (a person). Also rarely with *together*.

Originally with *to be* (see also the special senses below); now common only with *keep* or *stand* (see *STAND v.* 15 e), with approach to an adverbial force. The gap in the evidence between the 15th and 18th cent. is remarkable.

a1300 *Cursor M.* 9521 He had an anlepe son, þat wit his fader was sa wele þat [he] wist his wisdom ilk dele. c1300 *Havelok* 2878 She is fayr, and she is fre, . . þertekene she is wel with me. 1377 *LANGL. P. Pl.* B. III. 152 There she [Meed] is wel with þe kyng, wo is þe rewme. c1435 *Torr. Portugal* 1948 That man was well with god all-my3t. c1450 *Godstow Reg.* 26 She was fayre and comly, and well was with the kyng almyhty.

1709 *MRS. MANLEY Secret. Mem.* (1720) III. 76 There was nothing I outwardly omitted to be well with her Majesty. 1739 *tr. Rollin's Anc. Hist.* xvii. ii. (ed. 2) VIII. 30 Antigonus. . . had. . . intreated Philip to keep well with Aratus. 1741 *CHESTERF. Lett.* 8 Aug., The last [report] I had from Mr. Maittaire was so good a one, that you and I are at present extremely well together. 1750 *Ibid.* 26 Apr., He is well with. . . many people of the first distinction at Paris. 1753 *RICHARDSON Grandison* II. xii. 87 That he might stand well with a son, whose character. . . made his father half afraid of him. 1770 in *Earl Malmesbury Diaries & Corr.* (1844) I. 66 For although they are by no means well together, yet they would both find their advantages in a war. 1811 *Ora & Juliet* II. 66 She chose to keep well with the Dudleys in all appearance. 1881 *MRS. LYNN LINTON My Love* I. i. 13 He desired to keep well with Stella's father. 1883 D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* xiv, The new heir. . . had good reasons for standing well with his neighbours.

fig. 1820 T. BROWN *Lect. Philos. Human Mind* IV. c. 608 'The true secret of happiness', says Fontenelle, 'is to be well with our own mind.'

b. spec. On terms of intimate friendship or familiarity *with* (a woman).

1704 *CIBBER Careless Husb.* v. iii, But it's so natural for a prude to be malicious when a man endeavours to be well with anybody but herself. 1784 *BAGE Barham Downs* I. 91 You must know Sir, I have the honour to be well with Mrs. Gadbury, Lady Connall's woman. 1809 *MALKIN Gil Blas* III. v. ¶2 All our set were well with some fine woman or other. *Ibid.* III. vii. ¶3 Do not suppose that you are well with a Duchess.

† *c.* Pleased or satisfied *with* (oneself). Also *well to do*. *Obs.*

1786 *MRS. A. M. BENNETT Juvenile Indiscr.* I. 11 He could not avoid being extremely well with himself. 1854 *SURTEES Handley Cr.* vii. (1901) I. 62 He went on 'Change with. . . a

strut that plainly told how well he was to do with himself. **1865** 'ANNIE THOMAS' *On Guard* I. iv. 61 His horses . . rattled over the stones . . at a rate he would not have driven them had he been well with himself just then.

†d. Without const. In favour. *Obs.*

1694 M. PRIOR in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 213 Neither the Dauphin or Mons' Luxembourg are very well in Court. **1752** CHESTERF. *Lett.* 22 Sept., However, be as well at court as you possibly can. *Ibid.*, In short, make yourself well there, without making yourself ill somewhere else. **1776** in Sparks *Corr. Amer. Rev.* (1853) I. 203, I have the pleasure to inform you that I am extremely well in the opinion of the senatorial part.

3. a. In a state of prosperity or affluence; more explicitly *well in goods* or *cash*, *well in the world*; = WELL OFF 1 c. (See also WELL TO DO, TO LIVE, TO PASS.) Now *rare*. exc. in *well to do*, *well off*.

to *leave* (a person) *well*, to *be well left*: to leave or be left well off by devise or inheritance.

c **1386** CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 68 Thanked be ffortune and hire false wheel, That noon estat assurth to be weel. **1463** ASHBY *Prisoner's Refl.* 78 Whiche greuyd me sore . . To be in pouert and of goodes bad, That before was well in goodes and rest. **1606** DEKKER *Sev. Sinnes* v. (Arb.) 36 Richmens sonnes that were left well, and had more money giuen by will, then they had wit how to bestow it. **1682** in *N. & Q.* 12th Ser. IX. 436/2 He has left euery body that is related to him good Legaseys and his wife extream well. **1686** tr. Chardin's *Coronat. Solyman* 130 A Family that is not very well in the World. **1746** W. HORSLEY *Fool* (1748) I. 189 Vanesius was well in Cash. **1780** *Mirror* No. 97 He imperceptibly became, 'in easy circumstances, well in the world, of great credit, [etc.]. **1809** MALKIN *Gil Blas* II. vii. ¶4 He must be very well in the world. **1835** *Politeness & Good-breeding* 97 Two boys . . the one high-born as to rank, and . . the other well in the world as to riches. **1875** [see LEAVE v. 1 2b].

†b. *well and warm*: in comfortable and affluent circumstances. *Obs.*

1571 CAMPION *Hist. Irel.* II. ix. (1633) 114 But you are well and warme and so hold you. a **1670** WOOD *Life* (O.H.S.) I. 129 A. W. seemed very sorry at this news, because he was well and warme where he was. **1673** HICKERINGILL *Greg. F. Greybeard* 4, I shall not get a penny by your custome; neither do I desire it. For I am well and warm.

c. Favourably circumstanced; having things as one wishes them to be; = WELL OFF 1 a. Now *rare*.

c **1440** Partonôpe 5281 When wymmen be well they can not cese. **1598** SHAKS. *Merry W.* I. i. 278 *An.* Will't please your worship to come in, Sir? *Sl. No.* I thank you forsooth, hartely; I am very well. **1606** — *Ant. & Cl.* II. v. 33 We vse To say, the dead are well. **1643** BURROUGHS *Exp. 1st 3 ch. Hosea* II. v. 351 You who are thorough Gods mercy in his way, you are now well, know when you are well, and keep you wel. c **1645** HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) III. 24, I am afraid we have seen our best days, we knew not when we were well. **1784** BAGE *Barham Downs* I. 64 But every body, Mrs. Susan, don't know when they are well. **1865** M. ARNOULD *Ess. Crit., Academies* ¶2 Not without a little hesitation—for apparently they found themselves very well as they were . . —they consented.

4. In a sound or undamaged state; *spec.* in marine insurance, of a vessel.

c **1450** St. Cuthbert (Surtees) 475 God shewed meruaile in apert. be bell was wele al swythe. **1580** H. SMITH in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 470 Wee were afraid that she [the ship] had taken some hurt, but she was well. **1667** EARL ORRERY *St. Lett.* (1742) 288 He . . came . . to inform me . . that the Rupert was driven from them by force of weather, but doubts not, that she is well. **1848** J. ARNOULD *Marine Insur.* I. 586 In order to protect himself from liability to any loss before a given day, the underwriter frequently causes a warranty to be inserted in the policy that the ship was 'all safe', or 'well', on the day.

5. a. Sound in health; free or recovered from sickness or infirmity; more explicitly *well in health*. Const. of (a sickness, wound). Also *not well* (Sc. *no weel*) = UNWELL a. 2 (†formerly with of a sudden, o' th' sudden).

1555 CARD. POLE in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* (1913) July 529 Tho3 my passage over the see was not so quyet . . yet after I was lounded I found myself very well. **1560** DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 428 b, She was not very wel in health. **1596** SHAKS. *Merch. V.* III. ii. 238 Not sicke my Lord, vnlesse it be in minde, Nor wel, vnlesse in minde. **1598** — *Merry W.* I. i. 80 M. Page. I am glad to see your Worships well. **1599** — *Much Ado* IV. i. 63 Is my Lord well, that he doth speake so wide? **1634** MILTON *Comus* 1000 Where young Adonis oft repotes, Waxing well of his deep wound. **1650** CROMWELL *Lett.* 30 July in *Carlyle*, The Major-General will, I believe, within few days be well to take the field. **1711** SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 1 Dec., He . . drinks no claret yet, for fear of his rheumatism, of which he is almost well. **1782** COWPER *Gilpin* 220 This shall be yours when you bring back my husband safe and well. **1831** SCOTT *Ct. Robt.* xxxii, Ursel . . is restored to you well in health. **1853** DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xxiii, I hope you are well. I am happy to see you. **1864** TROLLOPE *Small Ho. Allington* xx, 'The fact is this; I'm very well, you know;—as strong as a horse.' 'You look pretty well.'

(b) **1608** MIDDLETON *Trick to catch Old-one* v. H 2 b, Troth I am not well of a suddaine. a **1616** BEAUM. & FL. *Wit without Money* III. i, A proper Gentleman: I am not well o' th' sudden. **1667** DRYDEN *Secret Love* I. iii, Dear Asteria lead me, I am not well o' th' sudden. (*She faints.*)

†b. *well in* (one's) *wits*: of sound mind. *Obs.*

1561 HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtier* I. (1900) 90 A manne may assuredly thinke him not to be wel in his wittes. **1577** tr. *Bullinger's Decades* II. viii. 206 What man that were wel in his wittes would say to kinges [etc.]. **1581** PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* I. (1586) 4 If I shuld say it, rather I (than you) might be thought scarce wel in my wits. **1645** SIR R. WESTON *Ilusb. Brabant* (1652) 26 Such profitable Terms, as no man, that is well in his wits, but will venture at them. **1686** W. CLAGETT *17 Serm.* (1699) App. 18 No body, well in

his wits can be misled by it. **1720** WATERLAND *Eight Serm.* 90 A Man would hardly be supposed well in his Wits, that should seriously entertain any the least Doubt . . concerning it.

c. Used attributively, esp. as *well man* (†sometimes hyphenated).

1628 DIGBY *Voy. Mediterr.* (Camden) 14, I tooke a view of my well men. **1654** WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 95 Our division of the living is not so much into Physitian, and Patient, as into well Physitian, and sick Physitian. **1666** PEPYS *Diary* 12 Feb., In spite, . . ill people would breathe in the faces, out of their windows, of well people going by. **1672** WISEMAN *Wounds* II. vii. 50 He . . could take no rest until his wounded finger was digested, yet his pain was not so great in his Wound, as in his well fingers. **1700** DRYDEN *Fables, Cock & Fox* 401 But neither Pills nor Laxatives I like, They only serve to make a well-man sick. **1737** B. FRANKLIN *Poor Richard* (1890) 73 Poor Dick eats like a well man, and drinks like a sick. **1759** *Ann. Reg.* 62 One of the ships . . with no more than 65 guns . . and but 472 well men at quarters. **1841** CATLIN *N. Amer. Ind.* (1844) II. xlv. 80 Of those who are alive, there are not well ones enough to take care of the sick. **1874** HOWELLS *Chance Acquaint.* iv. (1882) 97 Calling Kitty's attention to his ingenuity by a pressure with her well foot. **1879** — *L. Aroostook* (1883) II. 10 They welcomed him back to animation with the patronage with which well people hail a convalescent. **1900** 'MARK TWAIN' *Man that corrupted* etc. 128 Two days later he 'began to eat like a well man'.

(b) Comb., as *well-baby*, used *attrib.* to designate clinics or health care arrangements for routine checking of healthy children, as a form of preventive medicine; *well woman* (usu., with hyphen, *attrib.*), a woman who has undergone satisfactory gynaecological tests. orig. *N. Amer.*

1921 *Daily Colonist* (Victoria, B.C.) 5 Oct. 6/4 A well-baby clinic will be held at the Saanich Health Centre . . An invitation is extended to all mothers to bring their infants. **1963** *Jrnl. Amer. Med. Assoc.* 2 Nov. 459/1 She had been advised to bring the child to the well-baby clinic. **1976** G. E. GODBER *Brit. National Health Service* i. 5 Many of the elected councils of cities and counties had not used their powers to provide antenatal and well-baby care. **1977** PEN *Broadsheet* No. 3. 3/3 A range of leaflets on contraceptive methods, well-women care, sex-related diseases. **1980** *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 29 Mar. 958/2 The new hospital will have a 40-bed gynaecological unit with a wide range of outpatient services and a specially designed 'well woman clinic' to provide urgently needed health screening. **1981** 'G. GAUNT' *Incomer* xxvi. 173 That Thursday's well-baby clinic functioned with the slick accuracy of a Jesuit mass. **1984** S. TOWNSEND *Grooving Pains A. Mole* 13 She says she needs the money for her 'Well Woman' test. She is having primary and secondary sexual organs checked. **1985** *Observer* (Colour Suppl.) 14 Apr. 23/3 She looked every inch the part of the world's most glamorous well-woman.

d. *absol.* (as pl.). Those who are sound in health.

1676 Princ. Chymists *Lond.* 104 For our S. P. never worketh on the Well, either by Vomit or Stool. **1783** JOHNSON *Let. Dr. Brocklesby* 29 Aug., in *Boswell*, It is great consolation to the well, and still greater to the sick. **1841** CATLIN *N. Amer. Ind.* (1844) II. xlii. 69 Leaving about 30 sick, and about an equal number of well to take care of and protect them. **1886** BESANT *Childr. Gibeon* xxv, Every body feels it, the sick and the well, the patient and the nurses. **1908** *Westm. Gaz.* 22 Feb. 16/1 It should be the business of the doctors to prevent the well from getting sick.

e. *well day*: a day on which one is free from sickness, esp. from an attack of an intermittent disorder. (Sometimes hyphenated.)

1652 WOOD *Life Aug.* (O.H.S.) I. 176 What in the well-days his stomach had contracted, he would on the sick-day vomit it out. a **1657** R. LOVEDAY *Lett.* (1663) 175, I scarce enjoy'd one well day in ten Weeks absence. **1719** DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 96 The 30th was my Well-day . . and I went abroad with my Gun. **1760-72** H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) II. 113 As it was one of his well days, he walked in without help. **1799** UNDERWOOD *Dis. Childhood* (ed. 4) I. 301 Repeated cold and hot fits . . with one or more well-days between them. **1869** CARLYLE *New Lett.* (1904) II. 251, I struggle to hang by my 'Work' . . and generally do get a particle or two of it done every well-day.

f. Of a person's health or spirits: Sound, good. Of sickness: Cured.

1712 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 9 Oct., Lord-treasurer has had an ugly fit of the rheumatism, but it is now near quite well. **1760-2** GOLDSM. *Cit. W.* v, His health, thank Heaven, is still pretty well. **1801** ELIZ. HELME *St. Marg. Cave* III. 186 Your health is, I fear, not well. **1836** SOUTHEY *Cowper's Wks.* III. 137 Yet he described his spirits as tolerably well in the day. **1847** SURTEES *Hawbuck Grange* iv. 74 Indeed he had fully determined, if his cold was well enough, to ride over to Snailswell.

6. In the phrase (*it is*) *well* (*that*) or *to*:

a. Advisable, desirable, to be recommended.

1475 Bk. *Noblesse* 82 It is welle to understonde that ye haue no protectoure, kepar, ne defendour but it come of God. **1605** SHAKS. *Macb.* I. vii. 2 Then 'twere well, It were done quickly. **1820** KEATS *Eve St. Agnes* xxxviii, If thou think'st well To trust, fair Madeline, to no rude infidel. **1848** DICKENS *Dombey* xlv, I never thought to look at him again, . . but it's well I should, perhaps. **1864** 'ANNIE THOMAS' *D. Donne* III. 97 Suggestions as to the seat it would be well for him to take. **1910** *Encycl. Brit.* II. 28/1 When a trout rises it is well to count 'ten' before striking.

b. Gratifying, fortunate, lucky; forming a matter for satisfaction or thankfulness.

1665 DK. ORMONDE in *11th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 13 It is well wee have time to looke about us before the next assault. **1701** DE FOE *Trueborn Eng.* 23 'Tis well that Virtue gives Nobility. **1717** ATTERBURY *Serm.* (1734) I. 161 It is well they afford us both these. **1779** WARNER in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1844) IV. 271 Such a dinner as we had to-day! it was well it was a christening! **1842** DICKENS *Amer. Notes* xiv, It was well for us, that we were in this humour, for the road [etc.]. **1859** TENNYSON *Guinevere* 421 Well is it that

no child is born of thee. **1865** LE FANU *Guy Deverell* III. 149 It is well when these sudden collapses of the overwrought nerves occur.

c. as *well . . if* or *that*, in preceding senses.

1753-4 RICHARDSON *Grandison* II. xxvii. 209 Perhaps in this case . . it were as well they did not. **1801** MARVELLOUS *Love-Story* II. 288, I think it would be as well if John was to go off . . this afternoon. **1889** MRS. E. KENNARD *Landing a Prize* vii, Perhaps it was just as well . . that Ebenezer remained in his cabin.

7. a. Of a state of things, work, an undertaking, etc.: Satisfactory; of such a nature, or in such a condition, as to meet with approval or give content.

1381 in Knighton *Chron.* (Rolls) II. 139 For if the ende be wele, than is alle wele. **1523-34** FITZHERB. *Husb.* §14 If it be thynne, sowe thicke the nexte yere; and if it be well, holde his hande there other yeres. **1523** SKELTON *Garl. Laurel* 763 He can neuer leue warke whylis it is wele. **1580** H. SMITH in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 471 We did tarrie for her to know whether all was well with her. **1581** A. HALL *Iliad* v. 76 The warre they deeme not well for them. **1604** SHAKS. *Oth.* III. i. 45 Goodmorrow (good Lieutenant) I am sorrie For your displeasure: but all will sure be well. **1620** T. MAY *Heir* I. (1633) B 1, That's well, that's very well. **1746** FRANCIS tr. *Hor.*, *Sat.* II. vi. 10, I have enough in my possessing, 'Tis well. **1798-1803** JANE AUSTEN *Northanger Abb.* x, Though it is vastly well to be here for a few weeks, we would not live here for millions. **1820** W. IRVING *Sketch Bk., Wife* (1821) I. 35 She saw . . with the quick eyes of affection, that all was not well with him. **1859** E. FITZGERALD *Omar Khayam* lxiv, He's a Good Fellow, and 'twill all be well.

Prov. **1381** [see above]. **1562** J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 21 Well aunt (quoth Ales) All is well that endes well. **1600** F. L. *Ovid's Remedie of Love* etc., To Rdr. E 3 b, Yet take this old Prouerbe with a right application . . All is well that endeth well. And so end I. **1724** P. WALKER *Peden* (1827) Pref. p. xxvii, The old Saying holds, that All's well that ends well. **1905** 'G. THORNE' *Lost Cause* iv. 106 All's well that ends well! You won't have the services disturbed again.

b. of material things.

1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 118 It [sc. a cheese] is, saith an other, well as can bee. **1595** in *Archaeologia* LXIV. 389 Because the walles ryse and be not well nor all of one collore, the most be wheyed at the plasterers charge. **1596** SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* iv. i. 172 *Kate*. The meate was well . . *Pet.* I tell thee Kate, 'twas burnt and dried away. **1599** MINSHEU *Span. Dial.* 3 This water is now well [Ya esta buena est agua], you may now wel wash Sir. **1600** SHAKS. *Sonn.* ciii, Were it not sinfull then struing to mend, To marre the subiect that before was well. **1761** FOOTE *Lyar* I. ii. (1786) 14 Do you know now, that . . I honour the Park? forty thousand million of times preferable to the play house! Don't you think so, my dear? *Miss Godfrey*. They are both well in their way.

absol. **1589** GREENE *Menaphon* (Arb.) 78 Sweet Censors take my silly worst for well.

c. to let (or leave) *well alone*: to refrain from trying to make better that which is already well.

1740 CHEYNE *Regimen Pract.* Ess. p. xxxvi, When a Person is tolerably well, and is subject to no painful or dangerous Distemper, I think it his Duty . . to let Well alone. **1830** [see LET v. 18 b]. a **1865** MRS. GASKELL *Wives & Dau.* xxxii, Why can't you leave well alone? **1883** D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* xii, Tom was very near yielding. . . But Mr. Carroll could not let well alone, and unfortunately he went on, 'Whom am I to believe, [etc.].'

d. *all's well*: a sentry's reply when he has received the password in answer to his challenge. (See also quot. 1769.)

1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780), *All's well!* an acclamation of safety or security pronounced by a sentinel . . at the time of striking the bell each half-hour during . . the night watch. **1802** C. JAMES *Milit. Dict.* s.v. *Pass*, *All's Well*, a term used by a British sentry after he has challenged a person that comes near his post, [etc.]. **1803** T. DIBDIN *Engl. Fleet* III. ii. Duet, 'Who goes there? Stranger—quickly tell; 'A friend,'—the word—'Good night—All's well'.

e. *Sc.* Quite ready. *rare*.

1805 A. SCOTT *Poems* 40 With hunger smit, may hap they seem to feel, Or cry, perhaps, oh! is the hodgil weel! **1825** JAMIESON s.v. *Weill*, Is the denner weel?

8. a. In conformity with approved standards of action or conduct; right, proper. Now *arch*.

1534 *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden Soc.) II. 315 John . . toke the seid iiij horsez . . and theym impounded, as well and lawfull it was . . for hym to doo. **1540** PALSGR. *Acolastus* II. v. Nij, That is well, or well done, let hym be brought in. **1713** ADDISON *Cato* III. ii, O Portius, was this well!—to frown on her, That lives upon thy Smiles!

†b. qualifying a noun of action. *Obs.* (For the similar use with verbal sbs., see WELL *adv.* 30.)

1583 in Neal *Hist. Puritans* (1754) I. 267 The archbishop has power to make laws for the well government of the church. **1635** STRAFFORD *Lett.* (1739) I. 482 That he see to the upholding of my Houses and well Usage of my Grounds. **1677** EARL ESSEX in *Essex Papers* (Camden) II. 148 The well payment of their Rents depending much upon the well paying of the Army.

c. Good; of a character or quality to which no exception can be taken. Now *arch.* or *Obs.*

1661 MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 70 The things [clauses in the Act] seem to me generally well and desirable. *Ibid.* 344 Which thing, as it hath a well and certain foundation, so it is your wisdom [etc.]. **1671** MILTON *Samson* 1723 Nothing is here for tears, . . no weakness, no contempt, Dispraise, or blame, nothing but well and fair. **1695** A. CHARLETT in Wood *Life* (O.H.S.) III. 499 His behaviour was very well during his Illness; was very patient and Quiet. **1766** GOLDSM. *Vicar* xi, Our honest neighbour's goose and dumplings were fine. . . It is true, his manner of telling stories was not quite so well. **1773** — *Stoops to Cong.* II. i, Yet the fellow, but for his unaccountable bashfulness, is pretty well too. He has good sense. **1780** JOHNSON in *Boswell* (1887) IV. 24 Yes, they are very well, Sir; but you may observe in what manner they are well. They are the forcible verses of a man of a strong mind, but

not accustomed to write verse. **1798-1803** JANE AUSTEN *Northanger Abbey* v. It is really very well for a novel.

9. † a. Of good or satisfactory appearance. Obs.
1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* III. v. 119 Hee'll make a proper man: His leg is but so so, and yet 'tis well. **1611** — *Wint. T.* v. iii. 20 But here it [sc. a statue] is: behold, and say 'tis well. **c 1710** CELIA FIENNES *Diary* (1888) 248 In this parke stands another pallace St. James, wch is very well. **1742** RICHARDSON *Pamela* III. 162 He is a lively Gentleman, well enough in his Person. **1748** — *Clarissa* (1768) I. 7 But then, stepping to the glass, she complimented herself, 'That she was very well'.

b. well to see, well to be seen: (of a person) good to look upon, comely. *rare*.

1804 R. ANDERSON *Cumbld. Ball.* (c 1850) 111 To be seer she's a sarvant, but weel to be seen. **1808-9** LAMB *Poetry for Children, Three Friends* 23 Well to do and well to see Were the parents of all three. **1902** CROCKETT *Dark o' Moon* vii. 43 In person she was short, well-to-see, rosy-cheeked, buxom.

10. In concessive use, followed by an objection or contrary view expressed or implied: a. it is all very well: it is right and proper in itself or under certain circumstances.

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 82 And where as they saye that the Gospell must be taught after the interpretations approued by the church (that is very well) but all the stryfe is, which is the trewe church. **1779** WARNER in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1844) IV. 283 It is all very well, sir; I know what you will say—that you [etc.]. **1864** TROLLOPE *Small Ho. Allington* xxiii. That's all very well, Amelia. **1879** RUSKIN *Let.* 31 Oct. Wks. 1908 XXXIV. 238 Written contracts are all very well, but if the contractor stops payment—where are you? **1905** 'G. THORNE' *Lost Cause* v. Oh, it's all very well, vicar, we know you never say anything against anyone.

b. he (it, etc.) is all very well: there is no fault to be found with him, it, etc.

For the force of the appended phrase in his (*her, its, their*) way see *WAY* sb. 14 f.

1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Parish* ii. As to the curate, he was all very well; but... the curate wasn't a novelty, and the other clergyman was. **1837** Partington's *Brit. Cycl. Nat. Hist.* III. 746/2 As a curiosity the black swan is all very well... but it has none of the beauty and grace of the white swan. **1898** 'MERRIMAN' *Roden's Corner* xxvii. 288 Mr. Cornish is all very well in his way. But we're not fools.

c. Similarly with well enough.

1798 WORDSW. *Goody Blake* 37 'T was well enough, when summer came... But when the ice [etc.]. **1823** SCOTT *Quentin D.* Intro. Their higher wines, indeed, are well enough... yet I cannot but remember the generous qualities of my sound old Oporto. **1842** DICKENS *Amer. Notes* xv. This is well enough, but nevertheless I cannot... incline towards the Shakers.

d. Without vb.: well and good. Also (? *Obs.* or *dial.*) *good and well*.

1699 BOYER *Royal Dict.*, Eng.-Fr., Well and good, *à la bonne heure*. **1749** SMOLLETT *Gil Blas* x. (1782) IV. 71 My mother's predictions were always favourable to those who solicited them: if they proved true, good and well; but when they came back to reproach her [etc.]. **1809** MALKIN *Gil Blas* x. (1814) 364 My mother always sold good luck for good money; if the accomplishment trod on the heels of the prediction, well and good. **1854** SURTEES *Handley Cr.* viii. (1901) I. 74 These people arrive to-day. If you... can find anything out about them, you know, well and good. **1888** 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Robbery under Arms* vii. 'If you like to bow and scrape to rich people, well and good', I said.

e. For very well, without verb, see WELL adv.

† 11. Quite sufficient (as a statement). Obs.
1673 RAY *Journ. Low C.* 152, I have been often told that there are in Paris a million and a half of people, whereas it is well if there be half a million. *Ibid.* 379 A free State... as the Inhabitants boast, for above 1000 years, but its well if half so long.

12. Easy (to deal with). rare-1.

1816 JANE AUSTEN *Persuasion* iii. In the way of business, gentleman of the navy are well to deal with.

well (wel), *v.*¹ *Pa. t.* and *pa. pple.* welled (weld). Forms: 1 *wiellan*, *wyllan*, *wællan*, 1-2 *wellan*, 4 *wellen*; 2-6 *welle*, (6 *wel*), 3- *well* (4 *will*); *Sc.* 9 *wall*. *Pa. t.* 3 *welden* (*pl.*), 4 *wellyd*, 4-5 *wellyde*, 5 *wellede*, 5-7 *wellid*, 6 *weld*, 4- *welled*. *Pa. pple.* 3 *iweld*, 3-4 *iwelled*, 4-5 *wellid*, *wellyde*, 5 *wellyd*, *Sc.* *wellit*, 4- *welled*. [OE. *wiellan* (*wyllan*; Anglian *wællan*, *wellan*), causative verb from the stem of *weallan* to boil, *WALL* *v.*¹ Cf. MDu. and Du., MLG. and LG., MHG. (and G. *dial.*) *wellen*, to cause to boil, to boil or well up, etc., WFr. *welje* to well up, NFr. *wêl* to boil, ON. and Icel. *vella* (p. t. *veldi*) to boil (trans.).

The form is appropriate only to the trans. senses; in the intr. it has taken the place of the original strong verb *wall*.

† 1. trans. To boil (a liquid, ingredients, etc.). **a 1000** Sax. *Leechd.* I. 72 *ŝenim pa ylcan wyrt betonican & wyl on ealdan wine*. *Ibid.* II. 22 *ŝenim wudurofan & wudu merce... & wel on buteran*. *Ibid.* 374 *ŝepuna ða wyrt to somne & wæl to somne*. **c 1290** St. *Lucy* 145 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 105 *þo nomen huy pich and brumston, and welden it wel faste*. **? a 1400** *Morte Arth.* 1736, I walde be wellyde alle qwyke, and quarterde in sondre, Bot I wyrke my dede. **c 1420** *Liber Cocorum* 19 *Take brede and peper and ale, And temper þo brothe... And welle hit to-geder*. **14...** LYDG. *Horse, Goose & Sheep* 375 in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 31 [Mutton] Wellid with growel.

† b. fig. (Cf. 3 b.) *Obs.*—

c 1450 HOLLAND *Houlate* 499 The wyis quhar the wicht went war in wa wellit.

† c. To thicken or curdle (a liquid, esp. milk) by boiling or heating. *Obs.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 520/2 Welle, mylke or oper lycure, coagulo.

d. spec. (See quot.)

1876 *Whitby Gloss.* s.v. *Welling*, 'They're welling livers', obtaining the oil from the livers of fish, in the way of making it flow by an adapted heat.

† 2. To liquefy (metal) by heat; to melt down, cast, found. Obs.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 284 *þe caliz þet was imelt iðe fure & stroncliche iwelled, and seodðen... so swuðe ueire afeited*. **c 1290** St. *Patrick's Purg.* 272 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 208 *þe feondes welden led and brass, and in heore moupes caste*. **a 1300** *Holy Rood* (Ashm.) 501 He made him drynke led iweld. **138**. WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 136 Men schal welle [1388 *Isa.* ii. 4 welle togidere: Vulg. *conflabunt*] hor swerde into plowgh-schares. **1388** — 2 *Chron.* xxxiv. 17 Thei han wellyd togidere [Vulg. *conflaverunt*] the siluere, which is foundun in the hous of the Lord. **c 1440** *Promp. Parv.* 520/2 Welle, metel, fundo. **1570** LEVINS *Manip.* 55/14 To wel iron, conflare.

b. To soften (metal) by intense heat; to join while heated, to weld. Obs. exc. dial.

Du. and LG. *wellen* also have this sense.

1424 *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) III. 152 *þo scharpyng et wellyng of wegges de ferro*. **a 1500** *Hist. K. Boccus & Sydracke* (?1510) Rijj. As two peces of Iron fare In the fyre when they wellyd are. Ley that one that other vpon And geue them a stroke anon, Throughe hete they together bynde. **1513** DOUGLAS *Æneis* viii. vii. 174 A huge gret semely targat, or a scheild... In every place sevin þai thai well and call. **1599** *Churchw. Acc. Pittington*, etc. (Surtees) 275 For wellinge the springe and for makinge nailles to the cocke [clock ?] bordes, iij d. **1616** *Ibid.* 172 P4 to Thomas Pearson for mendinge the grate bell tounge, vj s... P4... about the wellinge and helpinge Thomas Pearson, xij d. **1808** JAMIESON s.v., *To wall*, To beat two masses into one. **1824** [CARR] *Craven Gloss.*, *Well*, to weld. **1825**— in various northern glossaries.

3. intr. To boil. (Said of a liquid, of ingredients, and also of the containing vessel.) Also with *up*.

a 1400 *Stockholm Med. MS.* 210 in *Archaeologia* XXX. 356 Take... y^e whyte of twayne eyre And a porcyon of rye mele, And late it well to geder welle. **c 1420** *Liber Cocorum* 5 Take sope, cast in hys potage; benne wylle þe pot begyn to rage And welle on alle. **c 1425** *Macro Plays, Cast. Persev.* 3594 Go pou to helle, pou devyl... In bras & brimston to welle! **c 1450** St. *Cuthbert* (Surtees) 3371 When þe caldroun began to well þe tempest sest. **1483** *Cath. Angl.* 413/2 To Welle, *bullire, ebullire*. **1554-9** *Songs & Ball. Phil.* & *Mary* (Roxb.) 12 Full lean be thi pottage where the pote wellis. **1869** *Lonsdale Gloss.*, *Well*, to boil.

† b. fig. Chiefly in the phrase *to well in woe*. Cf. *welling woe*, *welling wood*: *WELLING ppl.* a. 1 b, c.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 23166 Gas to þe deuil, þar sal yee ga, for to well þar in his wa. **a 1310** in *Wright Lyric P.* xi. 40 In such wondryng for wo y welle. **c 1325** *Metr. Hom.* (1862) 29 That thai sal euermare duelle, And wafullie in pines welle. **a 1400** *Min. Poems fr. Vernon MS.* xlv. 8 þe Mon þat is taken in dedly synne, He may wel witen In wo to wellen. **c 1440** *York Myst.* i. 131 For-thi efter þaire warkes were, in wo sal þai well.

† c. Of metal: To melt and boil up. Obs.

c 1430 *Chev. Assigne* 166 And I breke me a cheyne & halfe leyde in þe fyre, And it wexedde in my honde & welled so faste, That I toke þe opur fyve & fro þe fyre caste.

† d. fig. To unite as by welding.

159. JAS. I *Basil. Doron* III. (MS. = ed. 1599, p. 153) Mixing... the men of euerie Kingdome and wellet owte of maye with tyme make thaim to grow & well all in ane. [Cf. *WELD* *v.* 1.]

4. Of liquids, esp. of a well or spring of water: To rise up to the surface (of the earth) and flow in a copious stream. Also with up, out, forth.
† Const. of.

1387 TREvisa *Higden* II. 59 In þis citee wellet vp and springe hote bapes. **1398** — *Barth. De P. R.* xiii. i. (MS. Add. 27944) Other watir springe and wellet owte of the ynnar parties of the erthe as welles watir and pites watir. **? a 1400** *Morte Arth.* 3377 Thane cho wente to the welle by the wode euis, That alle wellyde of wyne. **c 1425** *Seven Sag.* (P.) 135 Fayre welles there wellyde fast. **a 1500** *Hist. K. Boccus & Sydracke* Uij b, That [earth] turneth to brymstone Which wellyth vp somtyme anon. **1530** PALSGR. 778/2, I well up, as water that bobyllith, or cometh out of the yerthe. **1590** SPENSER *F. Q.* I. i. 34 Thereby a Christall streame did gently play, Which from a sacred fontaine welled forth alway. **1614** BP. *HALL Contempl.* v. iii. 62 Hee might (if he had pleased) haue caused a spring to well out of the plaine earth. **1727-46** THOMSON *Summer* 807 From his two springs, Pure welling out, he... rolls his infant stream. **1787** BURNS *Death Sir J. H. Blair* ii, Lone as I... mus'd where limpid streams, once hallow'd, well. **1795** SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* III. 21 Fast by a spring, which welling at his feet With many a winding crept along the mead. **1831** JAMES *Phil. Augustus* xvii, A clear small stream, that welled from a rock hard by. **1869** TOZER *Highl. Turkey* I. 39 The... fountains were... believed to well up from the Scamander. **1877** HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 190 The molten matter, which wells up the throat of a volcano.

fig. 1812 D'ISRAELI *Calam. Auth.* xxii. (1879) 178 A few of those public works whose waters silently welled from the spring of Leland's genius. **1838** LYTTON *Leila* I. ii, As the water glides from yonder rock, I see the tide of empire welling from my hands. **1846** KEBLE *Lyra Innoc.* (1873) 71 O who may count The drops from that eternal Fount Of heavenly Intercession, welling night and day?

b. transf. of vapours, etc., that rise up to the surface, or flow forth in a stream; *poet.* of sound.

(a) **1842** DICKENS *Amer. Notes* iii, What sparkling bubbles glanced upon the waves, and welled up every moment to the surface. **1860** PUSEY *Min. Proph.* 82 The smoke... ascendeth, swelleth, welletth, vanisheth. **1863** DANA *Man. Geol.* 710 The heat as gradually welled up from below, penetrating the moist and yielding beds. **1895** S. CRANE *Red Badge* v, Smoke welled slowly through the leaves.

(b) **1848** KINGSLEY *Saint's Trag.* iv. iv, What sweet sounds from her fast-closed lips are welling, **a 1849** POE *Bells* i,

Keeping time... To the tintinabulation that so musically wells From the bells. **1867** MORRIS *Jason* xiv. 45 White bodies moving, Wherefrom it seemed that lovely music welled.

c. to well over, to overflow. lit. and fig.

1843 JAMES *Forest Days* i, It had a pond, which was kept clear by a spring at the bottom, welling constantly over at the side next the road. **1883** D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* viii, His heart welled over with joy. **1885** 'MRS. ALEXANDER' *At Bay* i, The spring of imaginative passion... lay there, ready to bubble up and well over into a strong current at the touch of the divining-rod.

5. Of tears: To rise (up) to the eyes in a copious flood; to flow down.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* v. 215 But þo by-gan a lytel his herte vnselle Thorough teris which þat gonnen vp to welle. **1377** LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xix. 375 And þanne welled water for wikked werkes, Egerlich ernynge out of mennes eyen. **1600** FAIRFAX *Tasso* iv. xciv, Downe from her eies welled the pearles round, Vpon the bright Ennamell of her face. **1601** WEEVER *Mirr. Mart.* E4, Still the pearles round Stil through her eies, and wel vpon her face. **1791** MRS. RADCLIFFE *Rom. Forest* iv, Tears welled into her eyes as she spoke these words. **1858** G. MACDONALD *Phantastes* xiii. 157 She lay with closed eyes, whence two large tears were just welling from beneath the veiling lids. **1863** MISS BRADDON *Aurora Floyd* ii, As she looked, the tears welled slowly up to her eyes which had been dry before. **1894** J. A. STEUART *In Day of Battle* vii, My heart welled into my eyes in thankfulness.

6. Of blood or corrupt matter: To flow from the body, a wound, or sore.

1387 TREvisa *Higden* IV. 287 Herodes... was... i-tormented... wip wormes þat welled þat sprang out of his priue harneys. *Ibid.* 289. **14...** *St. Mary of Oignies* (MS. Douce 114) in *Anglia* VIII. 140 Wormys wellynge oute of seint Symeouns woundes. **1532** MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 401/2 As the water welled out wyth the blood oute of hys blessed heart vpon the crosse. **1590** SPENSER *F. Q.* I. viii. 47 Her dried dugis... Hong downe, and filthy matter from them weld. **1697** DRYDEN *Æneis* x. 1184 With clotted Locks, and Blood that well'd from out the Wound. **17...** BROOME *Iliad* x. Poems (1727) 128 Blood o'er the crimson Field Well'd from the Slain. **1777** POTTER *Æschylus, Agamem.* 271 When forth-welling from the wound, The purple-streaming blood shall fall. **1835-6** Todd's *Cycl. Anat.* I. 238/2 The blood... wells up abundantly from the bottom of the wound. **1858** G. MACDONALD *Phantastes* xiii. 182 His hand was pressed against his side... The blood was welling from between the fingers. **1890** *Brit. Med. Jnl.* 29 Mar. 707 Many small cavities were exposed. They were tensely filled with foul pus, which welled out freely from them.

b. transf. of the source or a place. *Const. of.*

1387 TREvisa *Higden* V. 235 (MS. y) He welled ful of wormes. **? a 1400** *Morte Arth.* 3819 Alle wellys fulle of blode, thare he awaye passes. **c 1482** *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 32 Also y behylde the right syde of the ymage of oure lordis body and hit welled oute of blode.

7. fig. To spring or originate; to issue or flow forth or out. Of qualities, conditions: To emanate *† of, out of, from* a person or thing as a source.

13... tr. *Ælfred in Engl. Studien* VII. 311 þyse ryueres bep holy scriptures, þat wellet out fro þe welle of wysdom, þat is Crist. **1387-8** T. USK *Test. Love* I. ii. 151 Trewly, al maner of blisse and preciousnesse in vertue out of thee springen and wellen. **c 1400** *Pety Job* 438 in 26 *Pol. Poems* xxv. 135 Vertues, lorde, though I haue none, Late thy grace in me now welle. **c 1450** tr. *De Imitatione* III. x. 77 Considere all þinges as welling of þe hyst & most souereyn good. **1548** UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Luke* iv. 20-24 The woordes whiche proceeded from the mouth of Jesus... welled forth from a brest replenished with the heavenly spirite of God. **1590** SPENSER *F. Q.* III. vi. 25 With sugred words and gentle blandishment, Which as a fontaine from her sweet lips went, And welled goodly forth. **1834** H. MILLER *Scenes & Leg.* xv. (1857) 223 Those old artless compositions which have welled out from time to time from among the people. **1846** *Eclectic Rev.* Feb. 134 The Pilgrim's Progress... welled up from the deep fountains of the author's own mind, and... flowed on without reserve. **1883** R. W. CHURCH *Spenser* v. 129 The abundance of his ideas, as they welled forth in his mind day by day.

8. trans. a. Of a spring: To pour forth (water, etc.). Also with adv., as up.

1387 TREvisa *Higden* VII. 391 þis 3ere at Fynchamstede in Barrokschire a welle was i-seie welle blood fiftene dayes. **c 1400** *Destr. Troy* 340 There was wellit to wale water full nobill, In yche place of the playne with plentius stremes. **1729** SAVAGE *Wanderer* v. 22 Rills... Meet in yon Mead, and well a River's Source. **1820** IRVING *Sketch Bk.* I. 32 Some classic fountain, that had once welled its pure waters in a sacred shade. **1853** G. JOHNSTON *Nat. Hist. E. Bord.* I. 227 Another green bank from which a spring wells up to the light its sparkling waters.

b. fig. To pour out (something) in or as a stream. Also with *out, forth, up*.

a 1425 *Cursor M.* 17076 (Trin.) Mary welle of mercy, wellyng [Laud willyng] euer pite. **1526** *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 112 Wherefore it is deuyded in two partes: on the one parte it welletth vp all mocyons of concupescence. **1590** SPENSER *F. Q.* II. ii. 8 She sate, Welling out streames of teares. *Ibid.* x. 26 Behold the boyling Bathes at Cairbadon, Which seeth with secret fire eternally, And... to their people wealth they forth do well. **1610** G. FLETCHER *Christ's Vict.* in *Heaven* xlviii, How nimble will the golden phrases flie, And shed forth streames of choycest rhetoric, Welling celestiall torrents out of poesie? **1834** DE QUINCEY *Autob. Sk.* Wks. 1853 I. 24 Deep is the solitude of millions who, with hearts welling forth love, have none to love them.

well, v.² [f. *WELL* sb.¹]

1. slang. To defraud (one's confederates) by embezzling part of the booty; to conceal (booty) from one's confederates; to conceal (a portion of one's estate) from creditors.

1812 VAUX *Flash Dict.* (1819) s.v. *Well*, To *well* your accomplice, or *put him in the well*. **1823** EGAN *Grose's Dict.*

Vulgar Tongue, *Well*, to divide unfairly... A cant phrase used by thieves, where one of the party conceals some of the booty, instead of dividing it fairly amongst his confederates. **1824** *Compl. Hist. Murder Mr. Weare* 255 Probert frequently alluded to the money... and his apprehensions lest Thurtell should *well* it (meaning keep it to himself). **1893** *Illustr. Sporting & Dram. News* 22 July 766/1 Out of the salvage of my fortune—for something had been safely 'welled', you may be sure—I purchased a tricycle.

2. Naut. (See quot.)

1820 *SCORESBY Acc. Arctic Reg.* II. 450 To well the ship. —This operation [for stopping a leak], consisting in the building of a bulk-head or partition on the fore part of the leak, and caulking it, so as to confine the water within it.

well (wel), *adv.* Forms: *a.* 1-7 wel (1 uel, 3 wuel, wæl), 1, 5- well (2 wæll, 5 whell), 5 welle. *β.* 4-5 (8-9 *Sc.* and *north.*) weel, 4 wíel, *Sc.* 5 veill, 5-6 weill, 6 wyell, 7 weell (weall); 4-5, 7 (6 *Sc.*) wele, 5 weile, *Sc.* veyle, 6 weele. *γ.* (Chiefly *north.*) 4-5 will (5-6 wyll), 5 wil, 5-6 wyl; 4 wille, 5 wile, wyle, wyll. See also *wol* *adv.* [Common Teutonic: OE. *wel*, *well* = OFris. *wel* (Nfris. *wel*, *well*, Wfris. *wel*, *wol*), MDu. and Du. *wel*, OS. *wel*, ON. and Icel. *vel* (Norw., Da. *vel*, Sw. *väl*); also OS. *wela*, *wola* (MLG. and LG. *wala*, *wal*), OHG. *wela*, *wala*, *wola*, *wol* (MHG. *wole*, *wol*, G. *wohl*), Goth. *waila*. The stem is regarded as identical with that of the verb *WILL*.

An early lengthening of the vowel is indicated by the ME. *weel* (*wíel*, *wele*, etc.), which appears in northern and Scottish texts from the 14th cent., and is still the current form in Scottish, northern, and north midland dialects. The forms *will* and *wol* probably originated in unstressed positions.]

I. 1. a. In accordance with a good or high standard of conduct or morality; in a way which is morally good. Chiefly with *do* vb.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* xxxv. 4 [He] nalde ongeotan ðæt [he] wel dyde [L. *bene ageret*]. **a 1000** *Doomsday* 119 Welan ah in wuldre se nu wel penceð! **a 1000** *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xii. 12 Hyt ys alyfed on reste-dagum wel to donne [L. *bene facere*]. **a 1122** *O.E. Chron.* (Laud) an. 1086 Litel rihtwisenesse wæs on pisum lande . . . buton mid muncan æn pær pær hi wæll ferdon. **c 1175** *Lamb. Hom.* 131 ðe mon þe wel deð, he wel ifehð. **a 1200** *Moral Ode* 37 Ne scal na mon . . . slawen wel to done. **c 1300** *Relig. Songs* i. in *Owl & Night*. etc. (Percy Soc.) 63 Mon, let sunne and lustes thine; Wel thu do and wel thu tench. **c 1340** *HAMPOLE Pr. Consc.* 288 He says he has no will to fele Ne to understand for to do wele. *Ibid.* 1987 þe last day of man is hyd, . . . For he shuld kepe wele al þe other dayes. **c 1400** *Rule St. Benet* vii. 12 For þi lokys pat ye do wel. **c 1440** *Gesta Rom.* 1 þerfore gouerne the wele the while til I come home ægen. **c 1481** *CAXTON Dialogues* 47 *Qui bien fera bien aura*, Who doth well shall well haue. **1562** J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 21 Doo well, and haue well, men say. **a 1591** H. SMITH *Serm.* (1601) 299 It is better to doe well then to doe good: for a man cannot offend in doing well. **1663** S. PATRICK *Parab. Pilgr.* (1687) 355 Let me see a Man that keeps his shop and buys and sells, and yet lives well and keeps the Laws of Christ. **a 1703** BURKITT *On N. T.* Mark x. 17 It is not talking well, and professing well, but doing well, that entitles us to heaven and eternal life. **1805** WORDSW. *Prelude* viii. 527 That, by acting well, And understanding, I should learn to love The end of life. **1860** PUSEY *Min. Proph.* 606 If thou livest well and teachest well, thou wilt be a judge of all; if thou teachest well and livest ill, thine own only.

b. Satisfactorily in respect of conduct or action.

a 1000 *Riddles* [i]. 5 He him wel hereð, þeowap him gepwære. **c 1325** *Spec. Gy Warw.* 82 Wisdom in godes drede Vse wel, pat be my rede. **c 1386** CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 968 And they him sworn his axynge faire and weel. **c 1420** *Chron. Vilod.* 4838 To loue god & serue hym wyle. **1450-1530** *Myrr. Our Ladye* ii. 65 Deuoute redyng . . . causeth moche grace and comforte to the soule yf yt be well and dyscretely vsed. **1471** CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 60 The same Archas gouerned him so wele and so wisely that [etc.]. **1526** TINDALE *1 Tim.* v. 17 The senious that rule wele are worthy of double honoure. **1534** *Cal. Irish Chancery* Rolls I. 11 Ye swear that ye well and trulie shall serue our Soueraigne Lord the King. **1568** GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 349 If any charge do come vpon the king and his realme, howe it may be well and honourably supported. **1710** STEELE *Tatler* No. 212 ¶ 4 A Woman must think well to look well. **1881** *Med. Temp. Jnl.* LIX. 13 He there worked well and never touched alcohol. **1883** WHITELAW *Sophocles, Antigone* 1323 'Tis counselled well, if well with ill can be.

† c. Justifiably, rightly. Obs. -1

1382 WYCLIF *Jonah* iv. 4 And the Lord saide, Gessist thou, wher thou art wel [L. *bene*] wroth? *Ibid.* 9.

2. a. In such a manner as to constitute good treatment or confer a benefit; kindly, considerably; generously; charitably.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* cxx[i]v. 4 Wel doa [L. *bene fac*], dryhten, godum & rehtum on heortan. **c 897** ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past* C. xli. 304 Far mid us, ðæt we ðe mægen wel don. **c 1000** *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. v. 44 Doð wel þam þe eow yfel doð. **c 1175** *Lamb. Hom.* 59 þene Mon he lufede and welbiþhte. **1424** *E.E. Wills* 57 No man merueil pogh I do well to him, for, [etc.]. **1540** CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 270 Your grace was veray moche displeasyd Saying I am not well handelyd. **1565** COOPER *Thesaurus* s.v. *Bene*, To be well vsed for little coste. **1712** SWIFT *Jnl.* to *Stella* 11 Oct., Opportunities will often fall in my way, if I am used well. **1896** GLADSTONE in *Daily Chron.* 8 Oct. (1903) 5/2 My danger is the danger of being too well used. . . by my biographers.

b. to deserve well of: to be entitled to gratitude or good treatment from (a person). See *DESERVE* 3 b. Cf. L. *bene mereri de*, F. *bien mériter de*.

1585-6 EARL LEYCESTER *Corr.* (Camden) 423 He can tell you whether I dyd use Paul Buis, and deservyd well at his handes, or no. **1709** ADDISON *Tatler* No. 117 ¶ 1 A great

Man, who has deserved well of his Country. **1709-1840** [see *DESERVE* v. 3]. **1865** DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* III. ii, You do right, child, . . . to speak well of those who deserve well of you.

c. With verbs of greeting, receiving, etc.: In a kindly and friendly manner; with friendly words; with favour or welcome.

Cf. *to stand well with*, s.v. *WELL* a. 2.

c 1000 in Kemble *Cod. Diplom.* IV. 214 Eadward king gret wel Willem biscop. **a 1122** *O.E. Chron.* (Laud) an. 675, Ic Agatho . . . grete wel seo wurðfulle Æðelred. *Ibid.* an. 1137, He for to Rome & pær wæs wæl underfangen fram þe pape. **c 1205** LAY. 15084 Uortigerne . . . grette wel Hengest. **c 1250** *Gen. & Ex.* 1420 Laban and his moder . . . fagneden wel ðis sondere man. **c 1325** *Spec. Gy Warw.* 52, [I] grete þe wel, fadyr myn. **1443** HEN. VI in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. I. 79 Right dere in God we grete you wele. **1483** RICH. III. *Ibid.* Ser. II. I. 159 Right reverend Fadre in God, right trusty and welbeloved, we grete you wele. **1706** tr. *De Piles' Art Painting* 336 He was well receiv'd at Court, and in favour with Four Kings successively. **1885** 'MRS. ALEXANDER' *At Bay* v, You receive him very well considering you do not like him?

d. With verbs denoting feeling or intention.

1659 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) IV. 87 Not as intending well to the King, for they are vowed rebels. **1661** J. BARWICK in *Extr. S.P. rel. Friends* Ser. II. (1911) 128 A Gentleman that wishes well to the King. **1729** T. INNES *Crit. Ess.* (1879) 17 At least I meant well, and aimed only at truth. **1831** SCOTT *Cast. Dang.* iv, I am an Englishman, and wish dearly well to my country. **1836** DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Shops & Tenants*, We wished the man well, but we trembled for his success. **1847** MARRYAT *Childr. N. Forest* xxv, There is a great difference between wishing well to a cause and supporting it in person.

e. With verbs of thinking or speaking (†also of hearing) of a person, etc.

1445 tr. *Claudian in Anglia* XXVIII. 269 Easily with the thus thi men live, thou seest of hem evir wele. **c 1450** tr. *De Imitatione* III. xxxiii. 102 Wheper þei say wel, wheper þei say evel, pou art not perfore a noþer man. **1526** TINDALE *1 Tim.* v. 10 Soche a wone as was . . . well reported off in good workes. **1538** ELYOT *Dict. Add.*, *Bene audire*, to be well spoken of. **1576** R. PETERSON *G. della Casa's Galateo* 22 Eache man desirith to bee well thought of. **1596** HARRINGTON *Metam. Ajax* Answ. Let. Aivb, If you haue heard so well of my poore house. **1596** SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* iv. iv. 37 Signior Baptista, of whom I heare so well. **1610** — *Temp.* II. ii. 95 His forward voyce now is to speake well of his friend. **1698** M. HENRY *Christianity no Sect* (1847) 190 Ill-will never speaks well. **1753-4** RICHARDSON *Grandison* II. xlviii. 388 One would be willing to be well thought of by the worthy. **1848** DICKENS *Dombey* xliii, Papa thinks well of Mrs. Pipchin. **1865** [see 2 b]. **1895** *Bookman* Oct. 12/2 'The Ebb Tide' was practically by Mr. Stevenson himself, and he was disposed to think very well of it.

f. With equanimity or good nature; without resentment. Chiefly with *take*.

† *to take* (a thing) *well* a worth: see *WORTH* sb.

1753-4 RICHARDSON *Grandison* III. x. 133 They did not suffer her to go out of her chamber; which she took not well. **1923** R. A. FREEMAN *Dr. Thorndike's Case-Bk.* i. 31 'And how did the coloured gentleman take it?' 'Not very well.'

3. With courage and spirit; gallantly, bravely.

1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1725) 24 So many dohty dyntes was bituex tham tueye, Wele þei did togidere, better may noman seye. **1447** SHILLINGFORD *Lett.* (Camden) 20 Dourysch acquyted hym well. **c 1450** *Merlin* vi. 97 Alle the barouns that weren of valoure and wele hadde don. *Ibid.* xxxii. 654 Sir Gawein and his felowes did merveiles and wele. **1600** SHAKS. *A.Y.L.* I. i. 134 Hee that escapes me without some broken limbe, shall acquit him well. **1667** MILTON *P.L.* vi. 29 Servant of God, well done, well hast thou fought The better fight. **1819** SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xxxi, Well and chivalrous did De Bracy that day maintain the fame he had acquired.

II. 4. Faithfully, heedfully, carefully, attentively: **a.** With verbs of holding, keeping, attending to, etc.

c 831 in Sweet *O.E. Texts* 446 Ic . . . bebiade Eadwealde . . . ðæt he ðis wel healde. **a 900** CYNEWULF *Christ* 1236 þreo tacen . . . pæs þe hi hyra peodnes wel wordum and weorcum willan heoldon. **971** *Blickl. Hom.* 109 Hit is . . . nytlic þæt hie heora fulwiht-hadas wel gehealdan. **c 1200** ORMIN 1033 þatt folkkess halizdomess . . . wærenn inn an arrke pær Wel & wurplike jemmede. **c 1300** *Havelok* 209 And preide, he shulde yeme hire wel. **a 1300** *Cursor M.* 6849 Haldes þis wille [Gött. wele], i bid you now. **c 1375** *Ibid.* 438 (Fairf.) He gaf an mast of al þat wele hif he coude a keppet hit weel. **1375** BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 118 3e suld . . . Haif chosyn 3ow a king, that mycht Have haldyn veyle the land in rycht. **1433** *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 477/1 And well and truly kepe the seid godes. **1482** *Cely Papers* (Camden) 124 I hawhe promysyd hym a bow and I trwste that he wyll se whell to yowr hors. **1573-80** TUSSEY *Husb.* (1878) 130 To cart gap and barne, set a guide to looke weele. **1577** B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* II. 53 Touchyng seede, this is to be well seen to. **1611** BIBLE *Jer.* xxxix. 12 Take him and looke wele to him, and doe him no harme. **1782** BURNS *I'll go & be a Sodger* 6, I gat some gear wi' meikle care, I held it weel thegither.

b. With verbs of observing, considering, studying, etc.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 203 Mid þy þe þa Cristenan leode þæt wel sceawodan, ða gesawon hie [etc.]. **c 1200** ORMIN 1829 Wel birrþ uss lokenn þær what uss þatt name mæ33 bitacenn. **1375** BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 202 And gyff ony thar-at war wrath, Thai watyt hym wele with gret scaith. **c 1385** CHAUCER *L.G.W.* (Fairf.) 335 Of thyn answere avise the ryght weel. **c 1400** *Rule of St. Benet* (Prose) 11 And tat ye recorde wel þe cumantemens of god. **1436** *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 191 Loke wele aboute, . . . unfayllyngly, unfeynnyge, and unfeynte. **1513** BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* 1338 She well consydered with due dyscrecyon Of this present lyfe the great wretchydnesse. **a 1529** SKELTON *Agst. Garnesche* iii. 97 Note and marke wyl thys parcele. **1538** STARKE *England* 117 Me thynke you pondur not al wel and depely. **1603** HARSNET *Popish Impost.* 36 Heere is her lesson read ouer: and marke the scholler how well she conned it. **1611** BIBLE *Prov.* xv. 15 The prudent man looketh well to his going. **1746** FRANCIS

tr. *Hor., Epist.* I. vii. 117 Philip, who well observ'd our simple Guest, Laughs in his Sleeve. **1849** MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 610 Feversham . . . had looked at himself well in the glass. **1873** *Punch* 4 Jan. 9/2 After thinking the matter well over, we have determined not to compete.

5. In a way appropriate to the facts or circumstances; fittingly, properly: **a.** With verbs of saying or speaking. †Also rarely in other contexts (quot. *c 1175*). *well taken*: of a point in an argument, aptly or judiciously raised. (orig. U.S.).

To be distinguished from the phr. *to take* (someone's) point, where *take* = to understand the significance of.

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past* C. xxi. 151 Be ðære ildinge suite wel Dryhten ðreade Iudeas, ða he ðurh ðone witgan cuæð. **a 900** CYNEWULF *Christ* 547 ðæt is wel cweden swa gewritu secgað, þæt [etc.]. **c 950** *Lindisf. Gosp.* John iv. 17 Cweð to hir se hælend, uel ðu cuede þæt ic ne hafu uer. **971** *Blickl. Hom.* 9 Wel þæt wæs gecweden, forþon þe [etc.]. **c 1175** *Lamb. Hom.* 83 He com bi þis forwunden mon. Wel he com bi him, þa he bicom alswich else he. **13..** *K. Alis.* 3097 þou hast wel spoken, Dalmadas. **1340** *Ayemb.* 19 Zuych folie is wel y-clepede onwythede. **1382** WYCLIF *Matt.* xv. 7 Ysay, the prophete, propheciende wel of 3ou. **c 1440** *Generydes* 1835 Whanne the Sowdon had hard hym sey so will, 'Generydes', quod he, 'I geue yow grace'. **1470-85** MALORY *Arthur* x. xxxvi. 471 This is wel sayd, saide Morgan le fay. **1561** HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtier* I. (1900) 94 And you say wel, that [etc.]. **1590** MARLOWE *2nd Pt. Tamburl.* v. i, Wel said, let there be a fire presently. **1610** *DONNE Pseudo-Martyr* 170 Sepulueda . . . saies well. . . That the soule doth exercise *Herile Imperium* vpon the body. **1638** JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 7 It is well observed by an ancient Orator [etc.]. **1662** STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacra* III. ii. §1 If so, as Maimonides well observes, the whole Religion of Moses is overthrown. **1725** POPE *Odyss.* viii. 153 Well hast thou spoke (Euryalus replies). **1779** *Mirror* No. 37 ¶ 8 The delightful occupations of a country life, which Cicero well said . . . are next in kindred to true philosophy. **1809** ROLAND *Fencing* 119 It was well suggested . . . that it would be better [etc.]. **1855** PALEY *Æschylus* (1861) Pref. p. vi. note, Hermann himself well says of certain critics of the old school [etc.]. **1863** A. LINCOLN *Coll. Works* (1953) VI. 245 The point made in your paper is well taken. **1883** WHITELAW *Sophocles, Electra* 252 If I speak not well Have thou thy way. **1907** *Nation* (N.Y.) 14 Feb. 146 One of Mr. Hearst's points seems to us well taken. **1936** E. B. WHITE in *New Yorker* 14 Mar. 16/2 The question is well taken. **1943** [see *POINT* sb.¹ 28 c].

b. With verbs expressing fitness, suitability, etc.

a 900 CYNEWULF *Christ* 3 Wel þe geriseð, þæt þu heafod sie healle mærrer. **971** *Blickl. Hom.* 13 Wel þæt geras þæt heo wære eadmod. *Ibid.*, Wel þæt eac gedafenap þæt he to eorðan æste. **c 1050** *O.E. Chron.* (MS. C.) an. 1036 Syððan hine man byrigde, swa him wel gebyrede, ful wurðlice, swa he wyrðe wæs. **c 1330** R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 11914 Nys non on lyue . . . þat semep so wel his beryng. **13..** *E.E. Allit.* P. B. 793 Wlonk whit was her wede, & wel hit hem semed. **1375** BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 394 And in spek wilsypt he sum deill; Bot that sat him rycht wonder weil. **? a 1400** *Morte Arth.* 170 Sone the senatur was sett, as hymne wel semyde, At the kynges owne borde. **1502** ATKYNSON tr. *De Imitatione* III. xxxiv. (1893) 223 It acordeth nat to well to my hert. **1513** DOUGLAS *Æneis* vii. Part. 165 As our buik begouth his weifair tell, So, weil according, dewlie bene annex Thow drery preambill. **1596** SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* Induct. i. 126 An Onion will do well for such a shift. **1600** — *A.Y.L.* iv. ii. 4 It would doe well to set the Deares horns vpon his head. **1622** MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 167, I haue enlarged my selfe in speaking more already, then may well become mee. **1753-4** RICHARDSON *Grandison* II. xxiv. 185 She is dissatisfied with what she has written: But I tell her, I think it will do very well. **1832** G. R. PORTER *Porcelain & Gl.* 274 Almost any . . . inflammable vegetable matter will probably answer equally well. **1848** T. AIRD *Chr. Bride* II. i, Yea, well that forehead's beauty undebased Beseems the scion of a prince's side.

c. to do well: to act prudently or sensibly. Also ironically.

1476 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) II. 12 Ye do Ryghte welle to set hyt in a suerete. **c 1489** CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* vii. 176 Ye have well doon, swete knyghte, for to have brought your horse here. **c 1530** BERNERS *Arth. Lyt. Bryt.* (1814) 535 It were well done that I sholde caue be armed v. hondred knyghtes. **1576** TURBERV. *Venerie* 192 The Huntsman . . . shall do well to stop up his earthes if he can finde them. **1626** BACON *Sylva* §53 You shall doe well to put in some few Slices of Eryngium Roots. **1663** GERBIER *Counsel* 22 Roomes on moist grounds, do well to be Paved with Marble. **1673** DRYDEN *Amboyna* III. i, He do's well to take his time. **1725** DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 180 Whoever shall follow the same, or a like track, . . . will do well to make a year of it. **1771** SMOLLETT *Humphry Cl.* (3rd) 14 June, You will do well to keep a watchful eye over . . . Villiams. **1818** SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* ix, Lord Bittlebrains would do well to remember what his folk have been. **1856** MRS. OLIPHANT *Magd. Heppburn* I. 275 'Boy, thou dost well to beard me', cried Sir Roger. **1884** *Chr. Commu.* I May 688/3 Clergymen who have nothing better to do than incite to war would do well to seek some other calling.

6. a. Prosperously, successfully, fortunately, happily; without harm or accident. (Cf. II.) Freq. with *do*, *fare*, *go*.

to be well rid of: cf. *RID* v. 3 c.

Beowulf 1045 Beowulfe . . . eoder Ingwina onwald geteah wicga and wæpna; het hine wel brucan. *Ibid.* 2162 Bruc ealles well. **c 1000** ÆLFRED *Gen.* xxxix. 2 Drihten wæs mid him; se man wæs wel donde on callum pingum. **c 1300** *Havelok* 2983 Him stondes wel þat god child strenes. **c 1460** *Towneley Myst.* xxiv. 404 Well worth you all thre, most doughty in dedel **1535** COVERDALE *1 Sam.* xx. 7 Yf he saye then: It is good, then stondeth it well with thy seruaut. — **2 Kings** iv. 26 Axe her yf it go well with her. **1540** PALSGR. *Acolastus* III. iii. Pj, All hayle moche .i. god sende the well to fare. **1551** ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia*, P. Giles (1895) p. c, Thus . . . I byd you most hartely well to fare. **1573-80** TUSSEY *Husb.* (1878) 48 Too lustie of courage for wheat doth not well. **1607** SHAKS. *Cor.* IV. i. 21 Farewell my Wife, . . . Ile

do well yet. **1611** BIBLE 2 *Chron.* xii. 12 Also in Iudah things went well. **16..** SIR W. MURE *Ps.* xxxvii. 7 And fret not that his wayes go well, Leud plotts to passe who brings. **1631** SHIRLEY *Sch. Compl.* v. i. 68 Woo'd I were well rid of you. **1665** in *Spalding Club Misc.* I. 40, I am werie confident... that the bussiness of our familie shall goe weall. **1712-13** SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 17 Jan., This took well, and turned off the discourse. **a1718** PRIOR *Epitaph* 5 If Human Things went ill or Well. **1842** LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 275 The gooseberry... and the common nightshade... succeed equally well. **1899** *Blackw. Mag.* Mar. 552 All went well as far as the foot of the ice-fall.

b. With verbs of going, bringing, getting, etc., and adverbial complement.

a1300 *Cursor M.* 5024 Ledes wit yow beniamin, Godd giue yow pedir will [*Fairf.* rich] to wine. **c1470** *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 110 God 3eve yow goode nyghte and bryng yow welle home and in schorte tyme. **1505** COOPER *Thesaurus s.v. Bene*, Good speede the, and send the well to returne. *Ibid.* s.v. *Ceres*, To call and prairie to god to send well in our corne. **1636** SANDERSON *Serm. Ad Aulam* iv. (1689) 415 So he came well off at the last, though he was dangerously engaged onward. **1708** S. SEWALL *Diary* 18 Dec., Got home well in my slay, had much adoe to avoid slews. **1748** RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) VIII. 184 God send him well out of the kingdom! **1748** SMOLLETT *R. Random* ix, We proceeded on our journey, blessing ourselves that we had come off so well. **1822** SCOTT *Nigel* xv, I wish you weel through, my lord, but it is an unequal fight. **1852** E. WARBURTON *Darien* i. xiii. (1860) 110 His regard for what was left of his reputation concurred with his greed of gold in wishing his guest well away. **1860** SALA *Badd. Peerage* i. xviii. 307 However, I'm well out of it, I don't mean Newgate, but my Spanish courtship. **1876** H. BROOKS *Natal* 199 After he had got well off from the tribes in the old neighbourhood.

c. Successfully in some material respect; profitably; advantageously.

c1450 *Godstow Reg.* 245 To be had and to be hold... frely quyetly... wele and in pease. **1604** E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* iv. ii. 208 What a father doth to marie his daughter well, is to give her a great portion in marriage. **1673** JANEWAY *Heaven upon Earth* (1847) 79 Consider... before you make light of this business, and know when you are well offered. **1729** T. COOKE *Tales* etc. 102 Monimia wrong'd the tender Soul shall move, And Anthony well lose the World for Love. **1753-4** RICHARDSON *Grandison* II. xxx. 236 Will four thousand pounds be well laid out in a quarter-partnership? **1863** W. C. BALDWIN *Afr. Hunting* vii. 231, I sold all my oxen well in Bloemfontein. **1864** TROLLOPE *Small Ho.* *Allington* xxvi, 'Amelia has done very well [in her marriage], my dear.' 'Oh, if you call it doing well for your girls, I don't.' **a1865** MRS. GASKELL *Wives & Dau.* xxxii, Mamma... always says you have done very well for yourself [in marriage].

†d. *spec.* Profitably for the seller or buyer; at a high or low price respectively. *Obs.*

c1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxviii. (Margaret) 6 And for pere prophetis the we se it [the pearl] oft weile bocht be. **1480, 1576** [see WELL-BOUGHT]. **1599** HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. i. 59 They are exceeding fat [geese] & wel sold [L. *optimi fori*].

7. a. In a state of plenty or comfort. See also LIVE v.¹ 4 d.

c1000 *Ælfric's Colloq.* in Wright *Voc.* (1857) 9 3e maȝon... butan minon cræfte lif adreoȝan, ac na lānce ne to wel [L. *adeo bene*]. **1340-70** *Alex. & Dind.* 106 þanne ferde þe worlde as a feld þat ful were of bestes, Whan eueri lud liche wel lyuede up-on erpe. **1874** DASENT *Tales fr. Fjeld* 302 He would be able to live well and good all his days.

b. Satisfactorily or excellently in respect of health or recovery from illness. Usually with *do*.

c1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 251 A bruther of his askid hym how he did, and he said, wele. **a1478** *Stonor Papers* (Camden) II. 29, I trust to God þat he sal doo ryght weile, and so doth þe fessechane. **1530** PALSGR. 524/1, I do well: *ie me porte bien*. **1594** SHAKS. *Rich. III.* II. iv. 40 How doth the Prince? *Mes.* Well Madam, and in health. *Ibid.* III. i. 96 How fares our Noble Brother? *Yorke.* Well, my deare Lord. **1611** BIBLE *John* xi. 12 Then said his disciples, Lord, if he sleepe, he shall doe well. **1711-12** SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 17 Mar., Mrs. Percival's youngest daughter has got the small-pox, but will do well. **1841** H. GREVILLE *Diary* Ser. I. (1883) 152 A fine child, and the Queen doing well. **1863** LONGF. in *Life* (1891) III. 25 Bowditch is wounded through the arm; C. through both shoulders... Both doing well.

8. a. With good reason; naturally; as a natural result or consequence.

c900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* II. i. (Schipper) 110 Cwæð he: Wel þæt swa mæg, forþon hi engellice ansyne habbað. **c1205** LAY. 983 Wel ieh hit mai suggest, to soþe ich hit wene. **c1380** WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 26 Sip lordis and men of grete statis... ben so mucche biholden to destroe it, & mowne welle don in dede. **c1385** CHAUCER *L.G.W.* 183 Men... wel it calle may The daisie, or elles the ye of day. **1423** JAS. I *Kingis Q.* xiv, Wist thou thy payne to cum... For sorow and drede wele myght thou wepe and waille. **1485** CAXTON *Malory's Arthur* Pref. 2 In hym...myght wel be aretted grete folye and blyndenesse. **1508** DUNBAR *Galdyn Targe* 279 Rude is thy wede... Wele aucht thou be afret of the licht. **1578** T. N. tr. *Conq. W. India* 60 Alleagyn... that he who had common 2000 leagues by Sea, might well goe 70 leagues by lande. **1678** B. R. *Let. Pop. Friends* 3 Well may our Irish Friends, cry Oh Hone! Oh Hone! **1753-4** RICHARDSON *Grandison* II. x. 70 What! are you confounded?—Well you may, if you cannot answer me as I wish! **1791** COWPER *Iliad* i. 319 Now Priam and his sons may well exult. **1816** SCOTT *Old Mort.* xiv, Ye could hardly weel be said to breakfast this morning. **1849** MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 368 The government did not venture... to enforce a regulation of which the legality might well be questioned. **1872** MORLEY *Voltaire* (1886) 5 Another might well have said of him what he... said of his famous contemporary. **1902** 'VIOLET JACOB' *Sheep-Stealers* viii, 'How do you get it all up to Abergavenny?' 'Ah, you may well ask.'

b. In clauses introduced by *and* or *as*.

a1300 *Floriz & Bl.* 632 þe children awoke þo anon... Sore hi beop offred and wel mæȝe. **1563-83** FOXE *A. & M.* 192/1 With thys vncomely outrage the King was much displeased (as he myght full well). **1650** ELIZ. CROMWELL *Let.* 27 Dec.

in *Carlyle*, Which makes me think my writing is slighted; as well it may. **1667** MILTON *P.L.* IX. 785 Back to the Thicket slunk The guiltie Serpent, and well might. **a1700** EVELYN *Diary* 5 May 1686, Which dispensation... gave umbrage (as well it might) to every good Protestant. **1753-4** RICHARDSON *Grandison* III. viii. 119 The dear creature... took pride, as well she might, in her hair. **1852** GLADSTONE *Glean.* (1879) IV. 81 The capital was in amazement at the boldness of the Judges; and well it might. **1871** 'MARK TWAIN' *Eye-Openers* 87 All the high houses... were full, windows, roof, and all. And well they might be.

c. In concessive sense: Indeed, certainly. †*how well* (after F. *combien que*), although.

1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* III. xiii. 116 Alas syr, sayd the lady... I must nedes reste me. Ye shal wel, said kyng Pellinore. **1471** CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 93, I haue not Intencion for to obeye his comandement how well that he is my fader. **1474** — *Chesse* i. iii. (1883) 15 How well that the lyon be the strengest beste, yet somtyme a lityll birde eteth hym. *Ibid.* II. iv. 47 How well he was kyng by right. **1585** T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. xiv. 15 They doe labour & til the ground, how well there groweth no corne... But well there groweth certaine other graine and hearbes of small estimation. **1589** PUTTENHAM *Engl. Poesie* I. i. (Arb.) 19 Who... may well be sayd a versifier, but not a Poet. **1634** MILTON *Comus* 211 These thoughts may startle well, but not astound The vertuous mind.

9. a. Without difficulty or hindrance; readily, easily.

c1000 *Canons of Ælfric* vii. in Thorpe *Laws* II. 346 Hy miltion þa wel habban wif on pam dagum. **1154** O.E. *Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1137, Wel þu myhtes faren all a dæis fare, sculdest thu neure finden man in tune sittende. **c1250** *Prayer to Virgin* 19 in O.E. *Misc.* 196 Helpe þruh þin milde mod for wel þu mist [rime liht]. **13..** *Cursor M.* 20116 (Edin.) Alle þa leuedis þate þare wern, Ful wel þai miȝtin hir forberne. **a1352** MINOT *Poems* i. 36 þat lord of heuyn mot Edward lede And maintene him als he wele may. **c1400** MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxv. 114 þai may wele hafe swilk clothes, for þai er of lesse prys þare þan wollen clathez er here. **c1420** *Sir Amadace* (Camden) xxxix, For he that schope bothe sunnc and mone, Fuile wele may pay for alle! **c1450** *Cursor M.* 19059 (Laud) Thow maiste wele se now our wone Yeftes haue we to the non. **1481** CAXTON *Myrr.* I. xiii. 41 Who that myght haue the parfayt scyence therof, he myght wel knowe how the world was compassed. **1551** R. ROBYNSON *More's Utopia* (1895) 53 All their housholde stuffe, whiche is verrye lytle worth, though it myght well abyde the sale. **1803** *Med. Jrnl.* X. 203 With respect to this query... I cannot so well answer. **1828** [G. C. Lewis] tr. *Boeckh's Pol. Econ. Athens* I. 318 These ambassadors remained absent three months, although they might have equally well returned at the end of one. **1849** MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 16 Nor were the refugees such as a country can well spare.

b. Used to denote the possibility or likelihood of an occurrence or fact.

? **a1400** *Morte Arth.* 1788 So may the wynde weile turnne, I quytte hym or ewyne. **1484** CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* III. iii, He that is... atte vypperest of the whele of fortune, may wel falle doune. **a1547** SURREY *Eneis* II. 373 This right hand well might haue ben her defense. **1618** W. LAWSON *New Orchard & Gard.* (1623) 7 The chilling cold may well some little time stay, or hinder the proud course of the sap. **1620** QUARLES *Feast for Worms* xi. I, Was not this my Word... When this mis-hap might well haue ben escaped? **1680** MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* x. 178 Though no size for the heighth of the Puppets can be well asserted. **1709** BERKELEY *Ess. Vision* §144 A little consideration will shew us how this may well be. **1753-4** RICHARDSON *Grandison* I. xii. 66 That a learned man and a linguist may very well be two persons. **1818** CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) II. 188 This was as strong a case as could well come before the Court. **1874** SCRIVENER *Lect. Text N.T.* 5 No transcript... can well be found which does not differ from its prototype in some small points. **1887** 'L. CARROLL' *Game of Logic* i. 10, I grant you they couldn't well be fewer. *Ibid.* 35 Your Premisses... are as fallacious as they can well be!

c. In negative or comparative clauses.

1523 SKELTON *Garl. Laurel* 35, I can not wele tell you what was the occasyon. **1569** J. SANFORD tr. *Agrippa's Van. Artes* 31 b, The thinge seemed graver unto him then that he mighte well speake of it. **1609** BIBLE (Douay) 4 *Kings* xxv. Comm., There was so exceding much, that they wel could not, or did not weigh it. **1626** BACON *Sylva* §173 The Base striketh more Aire, than it can well strike equally. **1642** *Tasman's Jrnl.* in *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* I. (1694) 135 The Wind would not well suffer them to go to the Northward. **1686** [ALLIX] *Dissert.* i. in W. Hopkins *Ratramnus's Body & Bl.* (1688) 7 His Answer... could not be well written before the Year 868. **1711** SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 27 Apr., I see not how they can well want him..., and he would make a troublesome enemy. **1768** STERNE *Sent. Journ.* II. 14 (*Passport, Paris*), By the time La Fleur had well told me, the master of the hotel came... to tell me the same thing. **1827** DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* v. vii, Before Vivian could well finish his sentence. **1881** JOWETT *Thucyd.* I. 192 He can praise a sharp remark before it is well out of another's mouth. **1898** 'MERRIMAN' *Roden's Corner* xiii. 135 Appearing to know more of that abode of evil than she well could.

†d. At least, assuredly. *Obs.*

1825 SCOTT *Betrothed* xxi, Surely, if I am willing to confer such confidence, it is well thy part to answer it.

10. a. To all appearance; by good evidence.

a1300 *Cursor M.* 17900 þenne eoom a mon... þat semed wel to haue ben eremyte. **c1386** CHAUCER *Prolog.* 369 Wel semed eche of hem a fair burgeys. **1450-1530** *Myrr. Our Ladye* II. 237 That yt appere wel that she ys hys mother. **1470-85** MALORY *Arthur* VI. vii. 192 Thou semest wel to be a good knyght.

b. With acute reasoning; shrewdly.

c1450 *Merlin* II. 25 When thei herde these words, [they] supposed wele what he ment. **1523** BERNERS *Froiss.* I. xciv. 116 They supposed well before that the Kyng of Englande wolde come into Bretayne. **a1687** COTTON *Angler's Ballad* II. Poems (1689) 76 And full well you may think, If you troll with a Pink, One too weak will be apt to miscarry.

III. 11. Effectively; successfully as regards result or progress.

Beowulf 2570 Scyld wel ȝebearȝ life and lice læssan hwile... þonne his myne sohte. **c888** ÆLFRED *Boethius* xli. §4 Swiðe wel þu min hæfst geholpen æt þære spræce. **c1200** *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 39 þe childre þewuen wuel. **c1205** LAY. 23121 For ich hine wulle in Norwæge neowe king makien and hine wæl lere to witeȝen wel þa leoden. **c1375** *Sc. Leg. Saints* i. (*Petrus*) 322, I sal helpe þe wondire veill. **c1400** *Rom. Rose* 1911 But the oymement halpe me wele. **c1450** LOVELICH *Graill* xiii. 270 Scheldes & hawberkis al to-broke, So wel they gonne there hem beweld. **1821** SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) III. 262 The printer gets on well with my History.

12. In a manner, or to an extent, approaching thoroughness or completeness.

c1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 322 3ecnua [þa pyrta] wel. **c1200** ORMIN 19308 He... haffde himm self wel filledd All þatt tatt cwiddedd haffde ben Off himm. **c1250** *Gen. & Ex.* 229 He... heled him ðat side wel ðat it ne wrocte him neuere a del. **c1386** CHAUCER *Reeve's T.* 388 Thise clerkes beete hym weel, and lete hym lye. ? **a1400** *Morte Arth.* 321 Now schalle we wreke fulle wele the wrethe of oure elders! **c1430** *Two Cookery-bks.* 1. 6 Take otemele, an grynd it smal, an sethe it wyl. *Ibid.* 26 Menge hem wylle to-gederys. **1482** *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 23 Ageyne meruaylously the colowre of hys face was reuyuyd and welle shewyd. **1523-34** FITZHERB. *Husb.* §35 Corne, ... if it be well wynewod or fande, ... wyl be solde the derer. **1535** COVERDALE *Ex.* xxiv. 5 Let it boyle well, & let the bones seyth well therin. **1565** COOPER *Thesaurus s.v. Bene*, Well accompanied or with a good companie. **1618** W. LAWSON *New Orchard & Gard.* (1623) 12 All your labour... about an Orchard is lost vnlesse you fence well. **1639** FULLER *Holy War* I. xix. 31 Of late some English travellers climbing this mountain were well wetted. **1697** DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 295 This from his Weaning, let him well be taught. *Ibid.* IV. 191 Lab'ring Well his little Spot of Ground. **1703** ROWE *Ulysses* IV. i. (1706) 50 'Till... that poor bleeding King be well reveng'd. **1799** G. S. CAREY *Balnea* (ed. 2) 76 The market here is not very well supplied. **1814** SCOTT *Wav.* xlv, The pockets of the defunct... had been pretty well spung'd. **1820** KEATS *Lamia* II. 301 She, as well As her weak hand could any meaning tell, Motion'd him to be silent. **1890** *Retrospect. Med.* CII. 307 After being well dried with an antiseptic sponge or dry gauze.

13. a. Used as an intensive to strengthen the idea implied in the verb, or to denote that the action, etc., indicated by it attains a high point or degree.

(a) **c888** ÆLFRED *Boeth.* v. §2 Ne meaht þu win wringan on mide winter, þeah ðe wel lyste wearmes mustes. **c1000** *Sax. Leechd.* I. 148 Syle him ðas ylcan wyrt we drincan on wætere. **c1250** *Gen. & Ex.* 1521 Niðede ðat folk him fel wel, And deden him flitten hise ostel. **c1350** *Will. Palerne* 1266 þan william wigtly, as he wel coupe, profered him þat prisoner. **1375** BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 21 Thai suld weill haue prysst That in thar tyme war wycht and wyss. *Ibid.* XVIII. 87 Thai said weill at thai suld do sua. **c1449** PECOCK *Repr.* Prol. I As resoun also it weel confermeth. **1876** *Coursing Calendar* 172 Mr. Deighton's bitch, who beat her opponent well at the finish. **1877** H. SMART *Bound to Win* III. 158 Ever since... the twain had got on very well together.

(b) **c1200** ORMIN 19300 biss birrþ þe full wel trowwenn. **a1352** MINOT *Poems* I. 41 Gai pai war and wele pai thought On þe Erle Morre and oper ma. **1375** BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 149 He thoctt weile... That he suld slely fynde the gade [etc.]. **c1400** *Ywayne & Gaw.* 2507 That may i noght do, Bileves wele, for me bus go. **c1430** *Chet. Assigne* 67 þe kyngne... wente wele it were sothe alle pat she seyde. **c1450** *Merlin* xxxii. 655 Thei bothe fill to the erthe as he that trusted wele vpon his felowes. **c1460** *Tounley Myrr.* xxxi. 34 *Thomas.* Sir, What so euer ye bid vs do We ascent vs well ther to. **1476** *Stonor Papers* (Camden) II. 11 In trowthe I hadde wil hopide that your horsis shulde a ben here as pis night.

(c) **1542** UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 215 b, Many moo then one to had well deserved to bee whippid. **a1669** [see DESERVE v.3]. **1692** E. WALKER tr. *Epictetus' Mor.* Ep. Ded., You were then pleas'd to express an high esteem for the Author, as he very well deserves it.

b. with verbs of pleasing (†*like*, *pay*), liking, or loving.

(a) *Beowulf* 639 Ðam wife þa word wel licodon. **a900** CYNWULF *Christ* 918 þam þe him on mode ær... wel ȝecwemdun. **c950** *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. vi. 34 Wel mæg wel wel licas [L. *sufficit*] ðam dæg weringnise his. **971** *Blickl. Hom.* 29 þis is min se leofa sunu, on þam me wel gelicode. ? **a1400** *Morte Arth.* 230 There ne es prelatte, ne pape, ... That he ne myghte be wele payede of thees pryce metes! **1596** SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* IV. iv. 39 Your plainnesse and your shortnesse please me well. **1753-4** RICHARDSON *Grandison* I. li. 410 Sir Hargrave did not seem so well pleased.

(b) **a1300** *Cursor M.* 548 Wit bestes doubm man has his fele, O thyng man likis, il or welle. **c1430** *Chet. Assigne* 54 Sythen seche to þe courte..., And þou shalt lyke fulle wele yf þou may lyfe aftur. **c1450** *Merlin* xxx. 607 Kyngne Ban... behilde the maydenys, and liked wel theire companye. **1477** EARL RIVERS (Caxton) *Dictes* 2 He trusted I shuld lyke it right wele. **1675** R. BURTHOGGE *Causa Dei* 419 Perhaps, while some of us are for Martyn, and others for Luther... God likes well of us All. **1847** RIDDELL *Cottagers Glendale* III. xxv, Our Mary liket weel to stray Where clear the burn was rowin'.

(c) **a1300** *Cursor M.* 11310 O pouert na dedaigne had he þat biddes vs luue wel pouerte. **1338** R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 36 In England neuer before was kyng lufed so wele. **c1386** CHAUCER *C.T.* Prol. 634 Wel loued he garleek, oynons, and eek lekes. **c1412** HOCCELEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 3892 Thei love as vel as doth sustir & brothir. **c1450** CAPGRAVE *St. Aug.* i. 3 We rede of hym... pat he hated þe Greke letteris and loued weel þe Latyn. **1593** SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI.* IV. vii. 139 Let them kisse one another: For they lou'd well when they were alieue. **1818** SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* xx, It is a spot connected with the legendary lore which I love so well.

c. Placed before past pples. to denote a high degree of the state, etc., described. †Also occas. following the pple.

c1205 LAY. 340 þa wepmen weren iwexan, þa wimen wel ipowene. **c1300** *E.E. Poems* (1862) 153 þis uers is fui wel iworst. **1338** R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 242 Now I find þe here, wele set is my trausile. **a1352** MINOT *Poems* iii. 101 þe Ingliis men war armed wele Both in yren and in steie. **c1386** CHAUCER *C.T.* Prol. 29 The ehambres and the stables weren

wyde And wel we weren esed atte beste. **a 1425** *Cursor M.* 9900 (Trin.) A deep diche is pere aboute wel wroupte wipouten doute. **c 1449** *PECOCK Repr.* II. iii. 150 Eer thei be weel adauntid and weel schamed of her folie. **c 1470** *HENRY Wallace* I. 112 Is nayne in world, at scaithis ma do mar, Than weile trastyt in borne familiar. **1553** *ASCHAM Rept. Germany* 3 We were wel affrayd then, the sickenes would haue proued also to vs. . . very contagious. **1560** *DAUS tr. Sleidane's Comm.* 231 When the number of Bysshoppes was wel increased, they beganne the Counsell. **1585** *T. WASHINGTON tr. Nicholay's Voy.* IV. xiii. 126b, A Leopardest skynne well spotted. *Ibid.*, The poleaxe at the point being well steeled. **1599** *SHAKS. Hen. V.* v. ii. 335 Maides well Sommer'd and warme kept, are like Flyes at Bartholomew-tyde. **1639** *J. TAYLOR (Water P.) Crabtree Lect.* 46, I am neither well litter'd, nor well provender'd. . . nor well rubb'd, nor well curried, nor indeed well any thing'd. **1659** *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) IV. 171 Some say the Sweade is well beaten by the Dane and Dutch. **1746** *FRANCIS tr. Hor., Sat.* I. iv. 190 Well fraught with numbers is the rhyming trade. **1771** *MRS. HAYWOOD New Present for Maid* 255 Wood-ashes well sifted. **1783** *S. CHAPMAN in Med. Commun.* I. 285 Tincture of roses, well acidulated. **1842** *LOUDON Suburban Hort.* 497 Pots. . . either new or well cleaned in the inside. **1882** *BESANT All Sorts* xxvii, She had been drawn on into wider schemes, and could not retire until these. . . were well started.

d. With past pples. followed by prepositions or adverbs.

1538 *ELYOT Dict. Add., Artitus*, well instructed in sciences. **1621** *SANDERSON Serm., Ad Pop.* iv. (1689) 212 The land by that means well-purged of these overspreading Locusts. **1755** *J. SHEBBEARE Lydia* (1769) I. 178 Surgeon Macpherson being well learnt in northern knowledge. **1863** *KINGLAKE Crimea* (1876) I. xii. 198 He had not been kept well imbued with the policy which his Government was pursuing. **1899** *Daily News* 28 Oct. 7/1, I conceived that his system was not well-bottomed on facts.

e. With adjs. in -ed (cf. 32).

1486 *Bk. St. Albans* ejb, An hert heeded weele.

14. a. Clearly, definitely, without any doubt or uncertainty.

a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 95 Wel wostu þat hi dōþ þar ynne. **1258** *HEN. III Proclam.* 18 Oct. §2 þæt witen 3e wel alle þæt we willen [etc.]. **c 1290** *Beket* 119 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 110 For we it mowen wel i-wite. . . þat. . . it is godes sonde. **a 1300** *Harrow. Hell* (Digby MS.) 57 þou mist witen bi mi play þat ich wile hauen mine away. **a 1300** *Cursor M.* 866, I sagh wel þat i misfard. **1340-70** *Alex. & Chind.* 91 Men sep wel þat þe see sesep & stintep. **a 1366** *CHAUCER Rom. Rose* 1355 There were, and that wote I full well, Of pome garnettys a full gret dell. **c 1386** — *Merch. T. Epil.* 7 And from a sooth euere wel they weyue; By this Marchauntes tale it preueth weel. **1411** *Rolls of Parlt.* III. 650/1 He knoweth wel that. . . he ne hath nocht born hym as he sholde hav doon. **c 1450** *Merlin* xxxii. 655 Segramor. . . hadde well sein and parceyved whiche was Petrus. **1483** *CAXTON Golden Leg.* 429/1 The kyng theodoryk that wel wyste of it commaunded [etc.]. **c 1483** *SKELTON Death Edw.* IV. 37, I se wyll, they leve that doble my jeris. **1526** *TINDALE John* iv. 26, I wot well Messias shall come. **1581** *RICH Farew. Milit. Prof.* Ep. Ded. aij, Wisdome now hath warned me, that I well knowe Cheese from Chalke. **1585** *T. WASHINGTON tr. Nicholay's Voy.* I. xix. 22b, Which hee well perceived, and smiling, tolde mee that he saw wel that I dissembled. **1624** *BP. MOUNTAGU Immed. Addr.* 95 As. . . his most sacred Maestie can well remember. **1638** *BAKER tr. Balzac's Lett.* II. 33 The number of my enemies is great, I see it well. **1667** *MILTON P.L.* IV. 926 Well thou knowst I stood Thy fiercest. **1711** *STEELE Spect.* No. 78 ¶7 We well know, Sir, you want no Motives to do Justice. **1741-2** *GRAY Agrippina* 60, I well remember too (for I was present). **1788** *PRIESTLEY Lect. Hist.* IV. xxiv. 191 Nor does it well appear that their kings did afterwards introduce any of another sort. **1837** *WHEWELL Hist. Induct. Sci.* (1857) II. 158 All is done by an impulsion which one does not well understand. **1849** *MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* VI. II. 24 He. . . could well remember the political contests of the reign of James the First. **1895** *Law Times* XCIX. 544/1 The parties know perfectly well beforehand what are the points in dispute.

b. Intimately, familiarly; closely, in detail.

(a) **c 1320** *Sir Tristr.* 225 Mi broþer wele it [a ring] knewe, Mi fader 3af it me. **1393** *LANGL. P. Pl.* C. XXI. 253 Peter þe apostel. . . wel hym knewe. **c 1400** *Destr. Troy* 13508 Wele his cosyn he knew, & kaght hym in armys. **c 1420** *Apow. Arth.* xxx, The kinge his bugulle con blaw, His knyghts couthe hitte welle knaw. **1470-85** *MALORY Arthur* VI. iii. 186 We here knowe the wel that thou art syre Launcelot du laake. **1535** *COVERDALE Gen.* xxix. 5 We knowe him well. **1596** *SHAKS. Merch. V.* I. i. 153 You know me well. **1697** *DRYDEN Virg. Georg.* III. 442 The Shepherd knows it well; and calls by Name Hippomanes. **1709** *STEELE Tatler* No. 58 ¶2 He being well known to us all. **1862** *THACKERAY Philip* xxvii, I know him. . . too well to think he will ever apologize!

(b) **a 1400-50** *Wars Alex.* 44 He couth. . . wele as Aristotill þe artis all seuyñ. **1422** *YONGE tr. Secreta Secret.* 122 Arystotle. . . well kowth the lawes. **c 1440** *Generydes* 3698 Be cause ye knowe so will this contre. **1602** *2nd Pt. Return fr. Parnassus* Prol. 46 Vnlesse you know the subiect well you may returne home as wise as you came. **1759** *JOHNSON Rasselas* vii, He thought himself happy in having found a man who knew the world so well. **1819** *SCOTT Ivanhoe* xxxiii, I can well of woodcraft.

15. a. In a skilful or expert manner.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* xxxii. 3 Wel singað [L. bene psallite] in wynsumnisse. **a 900** *CYNEWULF Christ* 668 Sum mæg fingrum wel. . . hearpan stigran. **a 1200** *Moral Ode* 109 Ne mei him na Mon also wel demen ne also rihte. **c 1205** *LAY. 41* A Frenchis clerc, Wace was ihoten, þe wel coupe writen. **1297** *R. GLOUC. (Rolls)* 3166 So wisliche he made hit & so wel þat me leuede him uaste. **c 1386** *CHAUCER Prol.* 122 Ful weel she soong the seruice duyne. *Ibid.* 384 He koude. . . Maken Mortreux and wel baake a pye. **1430-40** *LYDG. Bochas* II. 2368 This Tubal koude forge weel. **1529** *MORE Dialogue Heresies* Wks. 108/2 And men mutt amonge them selfe, that y^t boke was not only faultles, but also very wel translated. **a 1548** *HALL Chron., Hen. VIII* 73 The same gate or tower. . . well and warly was made ouer the gatepoups. **1599** *B. JONSON Cynthia's Rev.* v. iii. 2nd Masque, How well Diana can distinguish times? **1626** — *Staple of N.* IV. i, Well play'd, my Poet. **1656** *STANLEY Hist. Philos.* I. IV. iv.

3 A Man. . . able to discourse wel. **1706** *tr. De Piles' Art Painting* 386 He was a universal Painter; he perform'd well alike in all kinds, Landskip only excepted. **1741** *C'TESS POMFRET in C'tess Hartford's Corr.* (1805) II. 277 Lord Strafford. . . looks extrcmely young. . . but talks very well. **1803** *SCOTT Cadyow Castle* xvii, Aim'd well, the Chieftain's lance has flown. **1857** *RUSKIN Pol. Econ. Art* ii. §102 A great work is only done when the painter. . . determines to paint it as well as he can. **1875** *JOWETT Plato* (ed. 2) V. 381 Every one of these poets has said many things well and many things the reverse of well.

b. In a sufficient or satisfactory manner.

The exact sense varies in different contexts.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1541 He seruuede his fader wel Wið wines drinc and seles mel. **1375** *BARBOUR Bruce* XI. 50 God may richt weill our werdis deill. **c 1386** *CHAUCER Squire's T.* 18 He. . . kepte alwey so wel roial estat, That ther was nowher swich another man. **c 1430** *Chew. Assigne* 2 Alle weldyngge god. . . Wele he wereth his werke with his owne honde. **1712** *SWIFT Jnl.* to Stella 26 Mar., The quicksets. . . do not grow so well as those famous ones on the ditch. **1853** *Jnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XIV. II. 367 The machine. . . could not cut laid corn well. **1855** *Poultry Chron.* II. 523 She appears moping, but eats very well. **1893** *Weekly Notes* 85/1 The existing practice has worked well, and. . . ought to be maintained. **1908** [*MISS E. FOWLER*] *Betw. Trent & Ancholme* 40 Very fine Irises. . . grow well in that garden.

c. With good appearance or effect; elegantly.

c 1330 *R. BRUNNE Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 196 After þe Ingliš kynges he says þer pris þat all in metir fulle wele lys. **c 1386** *CHAUCER Clerk's T.* 332 This markis. . . hir sette Upon an hors, snow-whyte, and wel ambling. **c 1450** *Merlin* iii. 44 Thider come to hym a comely man wele araied. **a 1529** *SKELTON Agst. Garnesche* iv. 135 Yt wold garnyche wyll thy face. **1710** *STEELE Tatler* No. 212 ¶4 A Woman must think well to look well. **1778** *D. LOCH Tour Scot.* 14 Upon the whole, it is a neat well laid out town. **1779** *Mirror* No. 11 That [science] of the serjeant, as it teaches a man to stand well on his legs. **1884** *E. YATES Recoll.* I. 142 The gardens were large and well laid out. **1898** *A. BALFOUR To Arms* vi, I was a big, strong fellow, carrying my six feet well.

IV. As an intensive with adjectives, numerals, adverbs, etc.

16. a. With adjectives. Formerly in common use, the sense varying from 'fully, completely' to 'fairly, considerably, rather'. Now rare exc. as in b.

c 888 *ÆLFRED Boeth.* xxv, Seo leo, peah hio wel tam se, . . heo forgit sona hire niwan taman. **c 900** *tr. Bæda's Hist.* IV. ii. 258 Wæron her stronge cyningas and wel cristene. **971** *Blickl. Hom.* 217 þa was he þær dagas wel manige. **c 1000** *Sax. Leechd.* II. 180 Pisan. . . gesodena. . . on wine wel scearpum. **c 1175** *Lamb. Hom.* 49 Ah leofemen godalmihtin haeuð isceaweð us wel muchele grace. **c 1205** *LAY.* 25694 We habbeð wið him iuohten wel feole siðen. **c 1220** *Bestiary* 112 His muð is 3et wel unkuð wið pater noster and crede. **1297** *R. GLOUC. (Rolls)* 1 Engeland his a wel god lond. *Ibid.* 7693 þoru out al engeland he huld wel god pes. **c 1315** *SHOREHAM Poems* i. 24 Be him wel siker, þer-to he schel. **c 1350** *Will. Palerne* 4 In þat forest. . . þer woned a wel old cherl. **1362** *LANGL. P. Pl.* A. VII. 44 In a wel perilous place þat Purgatorie hette. **1387** *TREVISIA Higden* I. 13, I haue peynt a wel faire man. **c 1400** *MAUNDEV. (Roxb.)* ix. 35 A lytill citee and a narrow, bot it es wele lang. **c 1450** *Godstow Reg.* 160 Hit should be wele lawfull to the same Abbesse. **1484** *CAXTON Fables of Avian* ii, Wel hyghe fro the ground. **a 1533** *BERNERS Huon* lii. 176 He thought hymselfe ryght wel happy. **1577** *HARRISON England* II. ii. 62/1 in *Holinshed*, The Ogur or Gur. . . is a welfaire streame. **1578** *LYTE Dodoens* IV. xxxi. 489 A branche of laeues, very well like to the leaues of the Lentil. **1599** *MARSTON Antonio's Rev.* v. iv, Tis well brim full. Euen I haue glut of blood. **1648** *GAGE West Ind.* 160 They have enough and more then is well sutable to their vow. . . of poverty. **1664** *H. MORE Apol.* vi. in *Myst. Iniq.* 520 When he was once well warm in his Dignity. **1700** *DRYDEN Pal. & Arc.* I. 151 Nor well alive nor wholly dead they were. **1728** *CHAMBERS Cycl. s.v. Painting*, To Paint on a Wall: when well dry, they give it two or three Washes of boiling Oil. **1822** *Scoresby's Jnl. Whale Fish.* (1823) 448 We. . . made her well fast for another night's lodgings.

b. In modern use esp. in well able, aware, worth, worthy.

c 1420 *Sir Amadace* xxxi, 3e mone haue maysturs euyrware, As wele wurthi 3e ar soe. **1599** *SHAKS. Much Ado* I. i. 224 Amen, if you loue her, for the Ladie is verie well worthie. **1611** *BIBLE Num.* xiii. 30 Let vs goe vp at once and possesse it, for we are well able to ouercome it. **1612** *R. CH. Olde Thrift newly revived* 64 Though it be a seemely and large tree, and well worth the hauing, yet [etc.]. **1697** *DRYDEN Æneis* VII. 906 Himself well worthy of a happier Throne. **1711** *STEELE Spect.* No. 78 ¶9 You are well able to settle this affair. **1780** *COXE Russ. Discov.* 187 He was well aware that the only method [etc.]. **1804** *ANNA SEWARD Lett.* (1811) VI. 164 Every day produces letters as well worth attention as most of Cowper's. **1837** *B. D. WALSH Aristoph., Knts.* I. iii, I was well aware that these intrigues were carpentered. **1885** *Law Times' Rep.* LII. 650/2 She thought the property was well worth that amount.

†17. With numerals, or terms of measurement, denoting fulness of the number, distance, etc. Obs.

c 1000 *ÆLFRIC Saints' Lives* xv. 37 Se godspellere. . . ðær þurhwonode wel twa gear mid him. **c 1000** — *On New T.* (Grein) 13 For þan þe ic gesett hæbbe. . . wel feowertig larspella on Englisum gereorde. **c 1290** *St. Kenelm* 232 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 352 Folk pat bis wonder isai3. . . awaiteden wel a dai 3ware þe kou bi come. **c 1300** *Havelok* 1747 He tok some knithes ten, And wel sixti oper men. **a 1352** *MINOT Poems* vii. 57 Knights war pare wele two score. **a 1375** *Joseph Arim.* 521 Seraphe takes of heore men wel a two hundred. **c 1400** *MAUNDEV.* (1919) xxii. 126 Wel a. . . iiii. quarters of a furlong ore more. **c 1425** *Engl. Conq. Ireland* xxi. 52 Wel three pousand men. **1471** *CAXTON Recuyell* (Sommer) II. 446 He. . . was there well thre owres sechying yf he coude fynde ony hoole or caue. **c 1489** — *Sonnes of Aymon* i. 23 They were well an hondred men or more. **1523** *BERNERS Froiss.* I. xvi. 17 There was deed in the place, well to the nombre of ccc. **1582** *N. LICHEFIELD tr. Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. iii. 8 A

great Harbour, which reacheth into the Lande sixe leagues, and at the entering it containeth well as much more.

18. †a. With adverbs. (Cf. 16.) Obs.

See also WELL-A-FINE, -MOST, -NEAR, -NIGH, and YWHERE adv.

a 1200 *Moral Ode* 8 Wel late ich hadde bi bi-pocht; bute god me nu rede. **a 1250** *Owl & Night.* 36 For þine wile lete Wel ofte ich my song furlete. **c 1275** *LAY.* 25349 Folk par com wel sone to þare borh of Rome. **13. . .** *Guy Warw.* (1891) 446 Wel wele y knowe. . . Herhaud, so god me rede. **c 1350** *Will. Palerne* 4989, I hote þe in hert it liked him wel ille. **1377** *LANGL. P. Pl.* B. Prol. 67 The moste my[s]chief on molde is mountyng wel faste. **c 1385** *CHAUCER L.G.W. Prol.* 33 There is wel onethe game non That from myne bokys maketh me to gon. **c 1400** *Sowdone Bab.* 2513 Down to the erthe wele lowe thay loute. **1450-80** *tr. Secreta Secret.* xxi. 17 They beren it wele greuously ayens him. **1563** *WINSET tr. Vincent. Lirin.* ix. Wks. (S.T.S.) II. 27 The wittingis of sum auld aunciant man wel dirkile setfurth.

b. With advs. and preps. of place or direction, in later use freq. in figurative phrases.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 11027 Til elizabeth pan welforth stadd, Hir child in wamb [began] be gladd. **c 1320** *Sir Tristrem* 22 His name, it sprong wel wide. **1387** *TREVISIA Higden* I. 17 þat is in oper bookes iwrite welwyde. **c 1400** *Ywaine & Gaw.* 549 He thought to be wele on hys way Or it war passed the thryd day. **c 1449** *PECOCK Repr.* I. iv. 20 Welny3 or weel toward the al hool lawe with which Cristen men ben chargid. **1473** *Paston Lett.* III. 92 Som men thyñke it wysdom. . . to be theer now weell owt off the weye. **c 1489** *CAXTON Sonnes of Aymon* vii. 176 But or ever he was vnbounde, the other were well ferre. **1530** *PALSGR.* 862/1 Well forward, *bien auant*. **1625** *PURCHAS Pilgrims* II. 1132 Well within the banke we harboured. **1698** *FRYER Acc. E. India & P.* 173 Whose Force. . . gauleð Seva Gi, that he wish'd him well off. **1788** *J. WHITE Jnl. Voy. N.S. Wales* (1790) 109 Being well in with the westward-most point of a very large bay. **1840** *R. H. DANA Bef. Mast* xxxv. 133 The Captain stood well to the westward, to run inside the Bermudas. **1855** *M. PATTISON in Oxford Ess.* 287 Though not published till 1830, which was well into the second period. **1883** *D. C. MURRAY Hearts* xvii, She held her head well up. **1895** *Law Times' Rep.* LXXII. 817/1 A woman well past the age of childbearing.

†c. well at ease: see EASE sb. 7 a.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 17651 He was gestend ful wel at es. **1377** *LANGL. P. Pl.* B. XIII. 42 Of þat men mys-wonne, þei made hem wel at ese. **1530** *PALSGR.* 844/1 Well at ease, *bien aise*. **1551** *T. WILSON Logic* dj, Nature hath denied some men health of body, that thei are neuer wel at ease. **1560** *DAUS tr. Sleidane's Comm.* 232 He felte hymselfe skant wel at ease. **1706** *tr. De Piles' Art Painting* 229 By these high Prises Guido found himself, in a little while, very well at ease, and liv'd nobly. **1825** *JENNINGS Obs. Dial. W. Eng., Well-at-ease*, hearty, healthy.

d. With various prepositional phrases or adverbs denoting a state or condition.

c 1425 *Macro Plays, Cast. Persev.* 2702 þou art a party wele in age. **1605** *SHAKS. Macb.* IV. iii. 179 They were wel at peace, when I did leaue 'em. **1653** *H. COGAN tr. Pinto's Trav.* xlii. 168 A woman reasonably well in years. **1701** *W. WOTTON Hist. Rome* i. 17 Marcus went to Lectures to this Man. . . when he was well in Years. **1861** *HUGHES Tom Brown at Oxf.* iv, It takes no mean qualities to keep a boat's crew well together and in order. **1879** *MRS. ARGLES Airy Fairy Lilian* III. 100 Taffy and Mabel Steyne can be seen a little lower down, holding well together.

e. to be (or get) well away: to have (or obtain) a good start over one's pursuers; usu. fig., to make good progress in an activity (esp. drinking). *colloq.*

1910 *Glasgow Herald* 7 Feb. 13/2 From the drop out Andrew got well away but Henry pulled him up. **1927** *W. E. COLLINSON Contemp. Eng.* 101 Expressions. . . like. . . 'he's well away' (he has got into his stride or into swing whether in tackling a meal or a flirtation or in drink). **1947** *'N. SHUTE Chequer Board* iii. 51 Bristow had a bottle of whisky and I had one of gin so we were well away. **1950** *J. CANNAN Murder Included* vii. 141 'What's happened?' . . . 'If we knew that, we should be well away.' **1956** *C. BLACKSTOCK Dewey Death* vi. 128 He paused again, but Sergeant Robins saw no point in making any comment; the young gentleman was plainly well away. **1973** *J. PORTER It's Murder with Dover* viii. 72 Many great men. . . [can] drop off to sleep at any time. . . and Chief Inspector was no exception. He was well away by the time MacGregor climbed back into the car. **1984** *A. CARTER Nights at Circus* III. v. 233 The Colonel. . . overcomes his resistance to vodka to such an extent he is soon well away and sings songs of Old Kentucky.

†19. With comparative adjs. and advs. (esp. bet or better, worse, and more): Much, considerably, rather. *Obs.*

1297 *R. GLOUC. (Rolls)* 287 Man þou art iwis To winne 3yt a kinedom wel betere þan min is. **a 1300** *Cursor M.* 2438 Abram went ham and his wijf sare, He lued hir wil mare þan are. **1340** *HAMPOLE Pr. Cons.* 2359 Men sese night ne knawes what it es, þarfor men dredes it wele þe les. **1362** *LANGL. P. Pl.* A. v. 95, I deme men þat don ille, and 3it I do wel worse. **c 1400** *Beryn* 902 It had be wel bettir, he had be wele I-lernyd. **c 1400** *Pilgr. Soule* (Caxton) iv. xxxviii. (1859) 63 Thenne began she to wepe wel faster than byfore. **c 1460** *Towneley Myst.* xxvi. 304, I was well wrother with ludas. **1535** *STEWART Cron. Scot.* II. 199 Fra that tyme furth the weill les he thame drede. **1624** *BEDELL Lett.* xi. 141 Your next is well worse.

V. 20. as well as: a. In as good, efficient, satisfactory, (etc.) a way or manner as. (Also, in early use, simply well as.)

a 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 44 And wele as Aristotill [he couth] þe artis all seuyñ. **1435** *Coventry Leet Bk.* (1907) 182 But neuer-thc-later. . . he makithe cardes ther-of as well as he may. **1530** *PALSGR.* 831/2 As well as is possible. . . As well as can be or maye be. **1589** *PUTTENHAM Engl. Poesie* III. xxii. (Arb.) 267 Certaine propheticall rymes, which might be constryd two or three wayes as well as to that one whereunto the rebels applied it. **1600** *Look about you* I i b, I see Prince Iohn courted as well as I. **1634** *MILTON Comus* 201 This is the place, as well as I may guess. **1634** *MASSINGER Very Woman* iv. i, *Ped.* How hast thou sped? *John.* My Lord, as

well as wishes. **1793** *Piper of Peebles* 6 Fan cummers fled and hurl'd as weel On ice, as only vady chiel. **a 1809** J. PALMER *Like Master* (1811) I. xii. 174. I am left to rough it as well as I can. **1849** MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 74 She affected... to listen with civility while the Hydes excused their recent conduct, as well as they could.

b. To the same extent, in the same degree, as much, as.

OE. *eal swa wel*... *swa swa* occurs in the same sense (Ælfric *Hom.* I. 274).

c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* I. 75 He... sayde he was a synner & mysterd forgyfnes of his syn als wele as sho did. **1474** CAXTON *Chesse* II. i. (1481) bj, He... swore to hym... that also wel he was and shold be his frend... as euer he had ben tofore. **1547** *Homilies* I. *Swearing* II. Giv b, Aswell they vse the name of God in vayne... as they whiche do promise [etc.]. **1628** BURTON *Anat. Mel.* II. ii. iii. (ed. 3) 235 Why hath Daulis and Thebes no Swallowes... as well as the rest of Greece. **1710** ADDISON *Whig Exam.* No. 4 ¶ I A man may as well hope to distinguish colours in the midst of darkness, as to find out what to approve and disapprove in nonsense. **1891** R. W. CHURCH *Oxf. Movement* ix. 347 The English Church was after all as well worth living in and fighting for as any other.

c. With weakened force, passing into the sense of 'both... and', 'not only... but also'. Also † so well... as.

In early use the rendering 'not only... but also' is applicable only if the two contrasted words or expressions are transposed.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Prolog.* 49 And therto hadde he riden... As wel in cristendom as in Hethenesse. **1390** GOWER *Conf.* I. 117 For al schal deie... Als wel a Leon as an asse, Als wel a beggere as a lord. **c 1400** MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) vii. 25 þu þai do als wele in winter as in somer. **c 1425** tr. *Arderne's Treat.* *Fistula* etc. 60 Blode is norischyng of al membrez, als wele of sadde as of softe. **1467-8** *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 100 The Shireff shewyd ij comysions of this graunt as well of the lordes as of the comyns. **1533** CRANMER *Let. to Dean of Arches* Misc. Writ. (Parker Soc.) II. 253 That you take all manner of depositions as well for the one part as for the other. **1571** DIGGES *Pantom.* I. xx. Gjb, In equiangle triangles aswell the containyng as the subtending sides of equal angles are proportionall. **1588** PARKE tr. *Mendoza's Hist. China* 329 All of them as well the men as women and children were clothed with shamway skins. **1645** GATAKER *God's Eye on Israel* 50 Consisting of both sorts, as well unfaithfull as faithfull, as well bad as good. **1662** STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacrae* II. iv. §2 Which... must certainly comprehend as well the morall as the ceremonial part of Moses his Law. **1718** HICKES & NELSON *J. Kettlewell* I. xiii. 38 Making Use as well of his Eye... as of his Tongue. **1749** C. MIDDLETON *Free Inq.* Pref. p. xxxiii, It is allowed... by all, as well friends as enemies. **1828** SCOTT *F.M. Perth* xiv, Our churchmen have become wealthy, as well by the gifts of pious persons, as by... bribes.

(b) **1545** BALE *Image Both* Ch. xiii. (1550) dviii, Comprehending in him so wel Mahomyte as the Pope, so well the ragynge tyrant as the styll hypocryte.

d. Used to denote the inclusion of one thing (person, etc.) or class with another.

c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* III. vii. 316 The multitude of the lay peple, as well as of clerkis. **1470-85** MALORY *Arthur* ix. xxxvi. 397 Whan men ben hote in dedes of armes ofte they hurte their frendes as well as their foes. **1613** HIERON *Serm.* Wks. 1614 I. 335 Whereas the children of God in many things are trespassers aswell as the vngodly. **1649** HOWELL *Dodona's Grove* (ed. 3) 3 Nor is she lesse abounding in all things conducing to pleasure also, aswel as profit. **1655** *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) III. 221 My heart as well as purse being quite sunk. **1702** ADDISON *Dial. Medals* ii. (1726) 37 I find... the Latins mean Courage by the figure of Virtue, as well as by the word it self. **1715** DESAGULIERS *Fires Impr.* 127 The two first... are made of Tin as well as the third. **1769** JUNIUS *Lett.* II. 13 Educated... by... a most spirited as well as excellent scholar. **1821** CRAIG *Lect. Drawing* etc. vii. 404 The back-ground as well as other parts is dotted or stippled. **1854** MRS. JAMESON *Comm.-pl. Bk.* (1877) 38 There are different sorts of strength as well as different degrees. **1896** *Law Times'* Rep. LXXXIII. 615/1 A highway for carriages as well as for foot-passengers.

21. as well. a. Also, in addition; in the same way.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 536 As she dyde, he dyde yn dede;... Ry3t as she dede, he dede as weyl. **1549** *Compl. Scot.* Epist. 1 As veil it bringis furtht... hoilsum frute of honour. **a 1631** DONNE *Paradoxes* (1652) 60 They should love their brothers aswel. **1669-70** MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 302 The next news will be, that... they [the Lords] have as well complied on their part also. **1875** *Economist* 23 Jan. 95/1 But the state of the French Exchange is such that gold is taken from London as well. **1882** BESANT *All Sorts* xxvii, Because she was a dressmaker, and lived at Stepney, he would be a workman and live there as well.

b. To the same extent.

c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. ix. 199 Wherefore as weel or miche rather Cristen men ouzten be waar foot entirmete with like ymagis. *Ibid.* II. xviii. 260 Wherefore as weel and as allowebili y mai seie this speche.

c. With may, might, had, etc., implying the equivalence or equal result of one action in comparison with another.

c 1440 *York Myst.* xxix. 249 Sir, we myght als wele talke tille a tome tonne! **1608** DOD & CLEAVER *Expos. Prov. xi. and xii.* 87, I might as well have thrown my money down the ruer. **1652** SHIRLEY *Brothers* iv. v, He might as well have murdered me, for I Shall have no heart to live. **1692** E. WALKER tr. *Epictetus'* Mor. xviii, As well you might Wish Vice were Virtue, wish that Black were White. **1730** *Lett. to Sir W. Strickland* rel. to *Coal Trade* 25 Dyers... buy wholly of the Lightermen, tho' they might as well... buy of the Masters. **1768** STERNE *Sent. Journ.*, *Le Patisser*, As I am at Versailles, thought I, I might as well take a view of the town. **1800** WORDSW. *Hart-Leap Well* II. ix, You might as well Hunt half a day for a forgotten dream. **1820** BYRON *Mar. Fal.* iv. ii, It had been As well had there been time to have got together, From my own fief... more Of our retainers—but it is too late. **1870** J. E. T. ROGERS *Hist. Glean.* Ser. II. 151 He thought he might as well strive to promote his own

ends. **1879** MISS BRADDON *Cloven Foot* xxxviii, You really may as well let me have a little food.

22. a. With qualifying adverb prefixed, as too well, pretty well.

Also freq. with so, very, full (see FULL adv. 1 c), right (see RIGHT adv. 9 a).

(a) **c 888** ÆLFRED *Boethius* vii. §3 For ðæm þæt ðc ðissa woruldsælða to wel ne lyste. **971** *Blickl. Hom.* 185 Ic larde þæt men... upgengra welenā to wel ne truwoodon. **1604** SHAKS. *Oth.* v. ii. 344 Then must you speake Of one that loud not wisely, but too well. **1753-4** RICHARDSON *Grandison* II. ix. 59 Those [facts], however, would too well justify him.

(b) **1599** MASSINGER etc. *Old Law* v. i, The Dutch Veny I swallowed pretty well. **1737** BRACKEN *Fariery Impr.* (1756) I. 214 Give the Horse pretty well of my Cordial Ball. *Ibid.* 215 He has pretty well of Flesh upon his Back. **1753-4** RICHARDSON *Grandison* II. vii. 40 Their father... by that time, had pretty well got over his grief. **1855** KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* ii, He... had his heart pretty well hardened by long, baneful licence. **1882** BESANT *All Sorts* xxviii, They had got by this time pretty well all they clamoured for. **1888** 'J. S. WINTER' *Boote's Childr.* xi, Lassie kept her composure pretty well. **1902** J. K. MANN *Hist. Popes* I. 1. 417 The pallium... had then... pretty well its modern shape.

b. well enough: sufficiently well, adequately.

In the 16th cent. occasionally written as one word.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 295 And thanne him thoghte wel ynough, It was fantome. **c 1440** *Alphabet of Tales* 215 When sho saw þis maister of þe knyghtis, sho knew hym well enogh & he hur. *Ibid.* 414, I know þe not, bod I know þat gown well enogh. **1470-85** MALORY *Arthur* xxi. i. 839 And by cause of hyr fayre speche Syr Mordred trusted hyr wel ynough. **1579** J. STUBBES *Gaping Gulf* D 7, Which mought wel ynough be the cause why the Pope deked hym with hys title of most christian king. **1585** PARSONS *Chr. Exerc.* Pref. 4 The vulgar translation is known welinough. **1587** GOLDING *De Mornay* xxx. (1592) 473 But the Rabbines saw wellynough that the miracles of Iesus could not be denied. **1631** SHIRLEY *Sch. Compl.* v. i. 68 He gaue me two or three kicks, which I deseru'd well enough. **1710-11** SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 11 Jan., The scheme... would have done well enough in good hands. **1753-4** RICHARDSON *Grandison* I. xvii. 119 They liked not the humour he seemed to be in well enough to comply with his request.

c. With intensive (usu. *slang*) adv. or adj. prefixed, as bloody well, damn well, etc.

1884 [see BLEEDING ppl. a. 6]. **1898** [see JOLLY adv. 2]. **1903** KIPLING *Five Nations* 117 We have had a jolly good lesson, and it serves us jolly well right. **1921** E. O'NEILL *Emperor Jones* i. 160 Ring the bell now an' you'll bloody well see what I means. **1928** E. WAUGH *Decline & Fall* III. iii. 240, I should bleeding well say there was. **1933** [see RUDDY adv.]. **1941** [see DAMN a. and adv.]. **1943** D. WELCH *Maiden Voyage* iii. 14 Someone in the next cell was shouting, 'Bloody well let me out, you bastards.' **1962** L. R. BANKS *End to Running* I. vi. 96 Because actually, as a matter of fact, don't y'know, I'm not sodding well coming.

VI. 23. a. Employed without construction to introduce a remark or statement, sometimes implying that the speaker or writer accepts a situation, etc., already expressed or indicated, or desires to qualify this in some way, but frequently used merely as a preliminary or resumptive word.

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xl. §4 Wella, wisari men, wel, gað ealle on pone weg [etc.]. **c 1315** SHOREHAM *Poems* I. 285 Wel, broþer, Ne non ne may icristned be Ar he his boren of moder. **[1382]** WYCLIF *Isaiah* xlv. 16 He... is chaufid, and seide, Vah, or weel, I am hat. **1388** — *Ezek.* xxvi. 2 Well the 3atis of puplis ben brokun. **c 1420** ? LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 505 'Well,' seyde Apollo, 'yef he on erthe be, Wyth my brennyng chare I shall hym confound.' **c 1450** *Cov. Myst.*, *Counc. Jeyes* 76 Wel, serys, 3e sal se... I xal correcte hym for his trespas. **1529** MORE *Dyalogue* I. xxi. 27 b, Well quod I yet wold I wit one thyng more. **1550** CROWELEY *Way to Wealth* 320 Wel, loke to this gear be tyme. **1581** A. HALL *Iliad* I. 13 Wel, thee to please, I wil [go] to Ioue. **1589** [? LYL] *Pappe w. Hatchet* Bij, Squirrellitie were a better word: well, let me alone to squirrell them. **1610** SHAKS. *Temp.* II. ii. 47 This is a very scurvy tune to sing at a mans Funerall: well, here's my comfort. **Drinkes.** **1652** H. BELL *Luther's Colloq. Mensalia* 293 They... take from us what wee have. Well! they will repent it. **1691** tr. *Emiliane's Observ.* *Journ. Naples* 207 Well, (said he) I shall make a shift... to eat them with my Fingers. **1711** SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 3 Nov., Well, but as I was saying, what care I for your Mayor? **1766** GOLDSM *Vicar* xii, Well, my boy, what have you brought us from the fair? **1779** WARNER in *Jesse Selwyn & Contemp.* (1844) IV. 261 He asked, 'Well, and how is George?' **1826** GALT *Last of Lairds* xvii. 151 'I understood that Mr. Mailings... was one of your most particular friends.' 'Well, and what of that?' **1863** MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* III. 170 Well, I returned from that visit quite set up. **1894** FISKE *Holiday Stor.* 181 As works of art—well, they were rather too highly coloured for works of art.

b. sb. An instance of this use of the word.

1866 LOWELL *Biglow P.* Ser. II. Intro. (1912) 282 A friend... told me that he once heard five 'wells'... precede the answer to an inquiry. **1885** *Proc. Amer. Soc. Psych. Research* I. 312 (Cent.) The 'wells' and 'ahs', 'don't-you-know's' and other stop-gap interjections.

24. a. well, well, denoting surprise, resignation, or acquiescence.

[1388] WYCLIF *Ps.* xxxiv. 21 Thei seiden, Wel, wel! oure izeñ han sien. **c 1420** *Prymer* (1895) 66 (*Ps.* xl. 15) Bere þei her confusioun anon, þat seien to me, 'well well!'. **c 1480** HENRYSON *Town & C. Mouse* x, 'Weill, weill, sister,' quod the rurale mous [etc.]. **1546** J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 70 Well well (quoth she) many wels, many buckets. **1675** COTTON *Burlesque* 183 *Apol.* Well! well! but he were best take heed How he attackes my Maiden-head. **1712** STEELE *Spect.* No. 533 ¶ I Well, well, you may banter as long as you please. **1815** SCOTT *Guy M.* xlii, But well, well!—it will last my time. **1847** HELPS *Friends in C.* I. vii. 117 Well, well, we will leave these heights, and descend in little drops of criticism. **1883** D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* xv, 'Father',... 'you

must not talk like that.' 'Well, well, my dear,' said her father, 'well, well.'

b. with intervening noun (in vocative).

c 1350 R. WEVER *Lusty Juvenius* (c 1560) Djbb, Well wanton well, I wysse I can tel [etc.]. **1554** *Interl. Youth* (facs. Waley) Bij, Well wanton well, fye for shame. **1598** B. JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* I. (1601) B 1 b, Well Cosen well, I see you are e'ene past hope Of all reclaime. **1605** CHAPMAN *All Fools* II. i. E 1, Well, wag, well, wilt thou still deceiue thy father...? **a 1652** BROME *Mad Couple* I. i. (1653) B 6 b, Well wag well, you must not now put me off with my wife.

25. very well, denoting agreement, approval, or acquiescence.

In the absence of construction the distinction between the adverbial and adjectival use becomes obscured: cf. WELL a. 7 and 10.

1564 *Brief Exam.* Djbb, You wyll say, we haue a commaundement of the Lorde... Very well. **1719** DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 518 We were chas'd... By five Sloops... says the Fellow... Very well, said I, then it is apparet there is something in it. **1815** SCOTT *Guy M.* xlvii, The Baronet, though highly offended, could only say, 'Very well, sir, it is very well.' **1866** GEO. ELIOT *F. Holt* xxxv, At last he said... 'I agree—I must have time.' 'Very well. It is a bargain.' **1878** HARDY *Ret. Native* VI. iii, 'Very well, then,' sighed Thomasin, 'I will say no more.'

26. well then, introducing a conclusion or further statement, or implying that one can naturally be drawn or made.

c 1440 *York Myst.* xxxiii. 237 Wele þan, We sall frayst er they founde vs fer fro. **1509** HAWES *Past. Pleas.* xxix. (Percy Soc.) 138 Well then, quod she, I shall you now tell Howe the case standeth. **1535** COVERDALE *Ezek.* iv. 15 Well than, I will graunte the to take cowes donge, for the donge off a man. **1542** RECORDE *Gr. Artes* N viij b, Well then go forthe, in the nexte space I fynd one counter, which I remoue forward. **1628** J. DOUGHTY *Serm.* 10 Well then, let both principles of Church tenants and Scripture stand in force. **1647** COWLEY *Mistress, Wish* i, Well then; I now do plainly see, This busie world and I shall ne're agree. **1679** DRYDEN (*Edipus* III. i. 34 *Dio.* Basely you kill'd him. *Adr.*... Well then, I kill'd him basely. **1802-12** BENTHAM *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) I. 136 *note*, Well then, since we must stop somewhere, we will stop at a trillion. **1844** DISRAELI *Coningsby* III. i, Well then, there were Bolingbroke and Pitt. **1884** B. L. FARJEON *Gt. Porter Sq.* (ed. 6) xxxvii. 290 'Well then!' she exclaimed; winding up the argument thus, as is the way with women.

27. With various additions, esp. well now, oh well, ah well.

(a) **1599** B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* IV. iv, Well now master Snip, let mee see your Bill. **1615** T. ADAMS *Spiritual Navig.* 19 Well yet, as salt and bitter as this Ocean the world is, there is some good wrought out of this ill. **1782** MISS BURNBY *Cecilia* VIII. iii, 'Well now,' said he, 'remember the sin of this breach of appointment lies wholly at your door.' **1889** 'J. S. WINTER' *Mrs. Bob* xix, 'What are you thinking about, Stevie?'... 'Oh! well really, I can't say.'

(b) **a 1779** D. GRAHAM *Writ.* (1883) II. 56 *Sawny.* A well a well then good day to you good-mither. **1814** SCOTT *Wav.* xxix, Aweel, Duncan—did ye say your name was Duncan or Donald? **1848** MRS. GASKELL *Mary Barton* xxxi, The old woman tried to comfort her, beginning with her accustomed—'Well-a-well!' **1868** LE FANU *Lost Name* I. xxii. 220 'Oh! well, after luncheon, then,' said he.

VII. Comb. The adverb *well* is extensively employed in combination with various parts of the verb, esp. the past and present participles, and in parasynthetic adjectives ending in *-ed*. In modern practice the latter are regularly hyphenated. In attributive use the participial formations are properly hyphenated, and the hyphen is also frequently employed even when the construction is predicative. On account of the large number of such combinations, all those of any standing (either by common or continued use, or in virtue of their source) are treated as main words, the less important or less common being printed in smaller type without definition, after the model of similar words in UN-. The normal insertion or omission of the hyphen, according to the construction of the word in the sentence, is indicated by printing it within parentheses, as *well(-)baked*.

In the following enumeration of the different types of combinations the illustration is chronological, and partly includes words more fully exemplified below.

28. With past pples., as well-born, -bred, -done, etc., in predicative or attributive use.

Beowulf 1927 Hygd swiðe geong, wils, welþungen. **c 897** ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past.* C. xvii. 111 3if hwæt welgedones bið. **c 950** *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke xix. 12 Monn sum welboren. **c 975** *Rushw. Gosp.* John vi. 45 Alle larwas *vel* welgilærde. **c 1375** BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 385 Bot off lymmys he was weill maid With... schuldrys braid. **c 1386** [see DISPOSED 2]. **c 1449** PECOCK *Repr.* II. viii. 190 It is merytorie and weel doen forto 3eue thilk ensauple. **1474** SIR J. PASTON *Lett.* III. 107 He... lefte a greet garnyson there, weell fornysshyd in vytayll, and all other thyng. **1525** BERNERS *Froiss.* II. elxviii. 469 A well trauelled knight and well known. **1577** B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. 128 His legges wel sette. **a 1623** FLETCHER *Love's Cure* III. iv, *Cl.* 'This ill for a fair Lady to be idle. Say. She had better be well-busied. **1631** WEEVER *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 548 An ancient and well allied familie. **1661** BOYLE *Physiol. Ess.* (1669) 178 The hardness of a well-blown Bladder. **1746** FRANCIS tr. *Hor., Epist.* I. vi. 58 Venus decks the well-be-money'd Swain. **1793** HOLCROFT tr. *Lavater's Physiogn.* xxiii. 116 Well-arched and short foreheads are... not of long duration. **1851** MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunters* xxi, This was said in well-accentuated... English. **1890** 'R. BOLDBREWOOD' *Miner's Right* xxxiii, The well-clothed, well-fed, well-amused passage through barren

hours. **1959** W. ANDREW *Textōk. Compar. Histol.* iv. 113 (caption) The 'hairs', covered with well-vascularized epidermis, may be as much as 20 mm. long.

29. With present pples. in adjectival (predicative or attributive) use.

c897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past.* C. xvii. 107 Ongean ða godan & ða wellibbendan. *Ibid.* lvii. 439 Wyrta...swiðe welstincenda. **c1000** AGS. Ps. (Spelman) cl. 5 Heriað hine on cimbalum wel swegendum. **1382** WYCLIF *Ps.* xci. 15 Wel suffrende thei shul be. — *Ecclus.* xlvii. 14 A son weel felende [*filius sensatus*]. **1432** *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 405/2 The wynes...were...faire, fyne, wele drinking. **c1449** PECOCK *Repr.* II. xx. 274 Thilk word...is...so weel teching and dressing. **1477** *Paston Lett.* III. 182 If ther be among theym eny pric horse...in especial that he be well trottyng. **a1586** SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 40 Accompanied with...the well inchaunting skill of Musicke. **1597** A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 38/2 Then with a well-cutting sawe, sawe of the whole legge. **1660** INGELO *Bentiv. & Ur.* I. (1682) 148 The People express'd it with such exact harmony of well agreeing voices. **1670** EACHARD *Cont. Clergy* 12 If a lad has but a lusty and well-bearing memory...he proves a brave clergyman. **1844** W. H. MILL *Serm. Tempt. Christ* iii. 77 That...view, even when sobered to a well-calculating morality. **1864** DE COIN *Hist. & Cult. Cotton & Tobacco* 279 Sticks split from some good or well-splitting wood. **1884** McLAREN *Spinning* (ed. 2) 36 A vessel...containing a well-closing lid. **1889** BADEN-POWELL *Pigsticking* 12 A sport which draws so well-paying a visitation on to their village.

30. a. With verbal sbs., as *well-building*, *-guiding*, *-joining*, *-keeping*, etc.

The later tendency is to employ *good* with the vbl. sb., and restrict *well* to the gerund.

a1300 E.E. *Psalter* cxviii. 91 With pi wele-setting [L. *ordinatione*] lastes dai. **a1568** ASCHAM *Scholem.* I. (Arb.) 49 Finding paine in ill doing, and pleasure in well studyng. **1586** A. DAY *Eng. Secretorie* II. (1625) 14 Weeting of my well-deeming. **1600** FAIRFAX *Tasso* xvii. xcvi, Through my well guiding is your voiage donne. **1613** SHAKS. *Hen. VIII.* III. ii. 152 *Car.* And euer may your Highnesse yoake together...my doing well, With my well saying. **1623** J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Discov. by Sea* C 2 b, A...large Armorie...with other Weapons and munition, which for goodness, and well-keeping, is not second to any Noblemans in England. **1624** WOTTON *Elem. Archit.* 1 Well building hath three Conditions. **1641** SANDERSON *Serm., Ad Aulam* xiii. (1674) II. 195 In the well-joy[n]ing consisteth the strenth of structure.

b. Freq. with vbl. sbs. followed by *of*.

c1440 HYLTON *Scala Perf.* (W. de W. 1494) I. lxiii, Wayne gladnes & wel payeng of thiselfe. **a1586** SIDNEY *Arcadia* I. iii. (1912) 19 The well bringing up of the people. **1596** HARRINGTON *Anat. Metam. Ajax* Ep. Lijb, The well handling of the matter. **1623** J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Discov. by Sea* B 3 b, His goods are but lent him, by him that will one day call him to a reckoning, for the well or ill disposing of them. **a1639** W. WHATLEY *Prototypes* III. xxxix. (1640) 17 The well-husbanding of abundance. **1655** D. DICKSON *Ps.* xcii. 4 in Spurgeon *Treas. David* IV. 272 One of the parts of the well-spending of the Sabbath. **1667** EARL ORRERY *St. Lett.* (1742) 305 For the well constituting of the said corporations. **1668** DRYDEN *Dram. Poesie* 46 The copiousness and well-knitting of the intrigues we have from Johnson. **1690** CHILD *Disc. Trade* (1698) 158 The well-making of our Woollen-Manufactures. **1691** T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* 119 The safety and well sailing of a Vessel. **1707** MORTIMER *Husb.* 48 In the well draining of Cornlands lies a main advantage. *Ibid.* 50 The well covering of the Seed must be of great advantage. **1739** TROWELL *Treat. Husb.* etc. 4 The well ploughing of the Land is a very great Advantage to all Seeds sown. **1766** *Complete Farmer* s.v. *Plough*, The well going of the plough wholly depends upon the placing of this.

c. With gerunds followed by an object or preposition.

?**1568** in Pettus *Fodinæ Reg.* (1670) 61 Rules and Ordinances for the well-governing the Affairs of the Society, etc. **1625** K. LONG tr. *Barclay's Argenis* v. xiv. 383 For the love of her...hee would not faile in well-looking to his charge. **1634** SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 138 Because of...the well-seating it...he allured out of Babilon six hundred thousand soules. **1693** G. ST. LO *England's Safety* title-p., A Sure Method for...Raising Qualified Seamen for the well Manning Their Majesties Fleet on any Occasion. **1699** T. C[OCKMAN] tr. *Tully's Offices* 135 By Moderation...we mean...the Knowledge of Well-timing whatever we do. **1765** GALE in *Phil. Trans.* LV. 197 The well-peopling the colonies, and securing our new acquisitions. **1766** *Complete Farmer* s.v. *Lucern*, The grand secret of well-managing a trading populous country. **1854** *Poultry Chron.* II. 351/2 The...all important necessity of well matching the poultry. **1890** A. P. MORTON tr. *Le Roux' Acrobats & Mountebanks* 168 In well calculating the strength of the steed.

31. With verbs, as *well-ally*, *-clothe*, *-employ*, etc. Now rare.

a1300 E.E. *Psalter* civ. 9 He was mined...of his witeword hende...þat he weleset [Vulg. *disposuit*] for Abraham sake. **14...** *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 602/23 *Persoleo*...to welwone. **1563** MAN *Musculus' Commonpl.* 286 b, Seyng that the mystery of the holy Trinity did not well lyke with that people. **1612** DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xvii. 6 That of so great Descent, and of so large a Dower, Might well-allye their House. **1670** MILTON *Hist. Brit.* III. 129 Prowlers...intent upon all occasions...to pamper and well line themselves. **1851** (title) Robert Owen's Journal. Explanatory of the Means to Well-place and Well-feed, Well-clothe, Well-lodge, Well-employ, Well-govern, and Cordially unite the Populations of the World.

32. Forming parasynthetic adjectives in *-ed*, as *well-ancestored*, *-dispositioned*, *-eared*, etc.

Cf. OE. *welwillednes*.

1530 PALSGR. 442/2 This sworde is well backed. **1568** GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 495 Of bodie he was slender...well membred, and strongly made. **1571** GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* xviii. 34, 63 He had bin a well-sinewed man. **1591** GREENE *Farew. Folly* (1617) I 4 b, The Gentleman is well forehanded and well foreheaded. **1630** BP. HALL *Occas. Medit.* xlii. 107 Why perfectly limmed; not a cripple? Why well-sensed; not a fool? **1671** WOODHEAD *St. Teresa* II. vii. 52 That those

that shall be received, be thereto called by God, and be well-dispositioned. **1688** J. GRUBB *Brit. Heroes* vii, Castor the flame of fiery steed, With well-spur'd boots took down. **1704** *Hymn to Victory* lx. 41 Old English Courage scorns those trifling things, The Higher Ground, the Well-flank'd Wings. **1804** MITFORD *Inquiry* 372 A well-eared poet will of course avoid cacophony in rimes. **1855** *Poultry Chron.* III. 452 Her eggs are well formed and well-shelled. **1857** GOSSE *Omphalos* xi. 326 The formidable Shark...a well-toothed adult. **1891** *Harper's Mag.* July 318/1 The well-ancestored, rich,...respectability from which she springs. **1894** *Outing* Sept. 427/2 The five brace of grand, plump, well-plumaged birds.

33. With adjectives.

a1780 *Braes o Yarrow* vii. in Child *Ballads* IV. 165/1 Nine well-wight men lay waiting him. **1797-1803** JANE AUSTEN *Northanger Abbey* xxviii, The two girls...found themselves so well-sufficient...to themselves, that it was eleven o'clock...before they quitted the supper-room. **1853** *Tait's Mag.* XX. 267 Its accession...would bring no well-wieldable strength with it. **1886** J. CORBETT *Fall of Asgard* I. 115 The charm of his face were the well-open eyes.

well, obs. dial. var. FELL *v.*

1511 MS. *Acc. St. John's Hosp., Canterb.*, Payd...for wellyng treys iii d. [See also WELLING.]

well, obs. f. WEEL, WILL *sb.* and *v.*

† **wella**, *int.* and *adv.* *Obs.* Forms: 1 *wel lá*, 3-4 *wella*, *wela*, *wele*, (3 *wælla*, *wælle*, *welle*, *wellen*). [OE. *wel lá* (see WELL *adv.* and LO *int.*), partly confused with *wá lá* (see WALE *int.*) and *weg lá* (WEILA). Cf. also OE. *wel gá*, *weol gá*, glossing L. *heia* and *euge* respectively.]

A. int. a. Well then. b. Ah! alas!

Also followed by a sb. as object = alas for..., or a clause = alas that...

c888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxiv. §8 *Wella*, men, wel. **c1000** ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* iii. 627 Hwæt þa se læce...cwæð mid wope: *wella basilius*, gif ðu sylf noldest, nære þu git forðfaran. **c1205** LAY. 3456 Wallan, dæð, wela, dæð, þat þu me nelt forðemen. *Ibid.* 7875 *Welle* broðer Nennius þat ich þe quic nabbe.

B. as adv. or intensive prefix: Very, exceedingly.

c1205 LAY. 5970 *Wælle* muchel wes þa wop, þæ Belin þeonne wende. *Ibid.* 12805 *þeder* com þe ohte mon, *wælla* wel wes he ibon. *Ibid.* 29622 *Welle* uain [c1275 *wele* glad] wes he þe uore. *Ibid.* 31258 *Wellen* henden wes þe mon Osric ihaten. **13...** E.E. *Allit.* P. B. 831 þe gestes gay & ful glad. *Welawynnelly* wlonk. **13...** *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 518 *Wela* wyne is þe wort þat waxes þeroute. *Ibid.* 2084 *Wela* wyll was þe way, þer þaþ bi wode schulden. **a1400** *Wars Alex.* 1970 *Wella* [v.r. *wel*] wide ware þe wele,...Mist pou þe marches of Messedoyne mayntene þiselfe.

well-a'bused, *ppl. a.*

1879 HUXLEY *Hume* ii. 36 The offer...was particularly honourable to so well abused a man.

well-a'ccepted, *ppl. a.*

a1763 SHENSTONE *Ess. Men & Manners* Wks. 1768 II. 42 He had such entire possession of the hearts as well as understandings of his friends, that he could soon make the most surprizing paradoxes believed and well-accepted.

† **well-a'ccomplished**, *ppl. a.*

1588 SHAKS. *L.L.L.* II. i. 56 A well accomplisht youth. **1650** WELDON *Crt. K. Jas.* 19 A well accomplished Gentleman. **1792** A. MURPHY *Ess. Life & Genius Johnson* 141 At Mr. Thrale's he saw a constant succession of well-accomplished visitors. **1821** SCOTT *Kenilw.* x. I know you to be a worthy, kind, and well-accomplished gentlemen.

well-a'ccorded, *ppl. a.*

1581 SIDNEY *Def. Poetrie* (Arb.) 46 The Liricke...with his tuned Lyre and wel accorded voyce. **1732** POPE *Ess. Man* II. 121 The lights and shades, whose well-accorded strife Gives all the strength and colour of our life.

well-a'ccording, *ppl. a.*

1814 BYRON *Lara* I. xx, Blest are the early hearts and gentle hands That mingle there in well according bands.

well-a'ccoutred, *ppl. a.*

1713 DERHAM *Phys.-Theol.* IV. xii. (1720) 225 When those [animals] that are able to shift for themselves, are left to their own Discretion and Diligence, and the Helpless well accouter'd and provided for. **1881** *Brit. Q. Rev.* Jan. 41 That the Tridentine dogma survives all the determined and well-accoutred assaults made thereon goes without saying.

well-a'ccredited, *ppl. a.*

1847 MRS. GORE *Castles in Air* xxix. (1857) 268 The subterfuges which tarnish many a well-accredited transaction on the turf.

well-a'ccustomed, *ppl. a.* Much frequented by customers. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1690, 1761 [see ACCUSTOMED 2]. **1736** ENTICK *Cant. Tales* Prol. 1 An Inn...noted for its great Trade, or as we say, a well-accustomed House. **1880** F. PEEL *Risings of Ludlites* v. 24 The St. Crispin...was a well accustomed house, and the inner doors were swinging to and fro in the usual fashion.

well(-)a'acquainted, *ppl. a.*

† **1.** Familiarly known (to others). *Obs.*

1565 JEWEL *Repl. Harding* xiv. 509 These Authorities...be...well acquainted, and known vnto the World. **1590** SHAKS. *Com. Err.* IV. iii. 2 There's not a man I meete but doth salute me As if I were their well acquainted friend.

2. Having a good acquaintance with (= knowledge of) a person or thing; familiar with. Also without const. (of two or more persons).

1728 CIBBER *Provoked Husb.* I. i. 7 He is a Man too well-acquainted with the Female World to be brought into a high Opinion of any one Woman, without some well-examined

Proof of her Merit. **1857** BUCKLE *Civiliz.* I. xii. 666 Mounier was well acquainted with our language. **1864** PUSEY *Daniel* (1876) 311 Habakkuk's hymn shows one well-acquainted with the Psalms. **1877** W. S. GILBERT *Sorcerer* I. Ballad, Time was when Love and I were well acquainted.

well-'acted, *ppl. a.*

1. Meritoriously conducted or lived.

1792 A. MURPHY *Ess. Life & Genius Johnson* 85, I boast no knowledge glean'd with toil and strife, That bright reward of a well-acted life.

2. Cleverly feigned or simulated.

1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxxvi, 'Alas! my lord,' said Varney, with well-acted passion. **1883** D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* x, 'My dear Malfi,' said Mark, in well-acted wonder and commiseration, 'what is the matter?'

3. Skilfully performed on the stage.

1890 'L. FALCONER' *Mlle Ixe* vi. 156 With far less emotion than a well-acted play would have excited in her.

well(-)a'dapted, *ppl. a.*

1713 STEELE etc. *Guardian* No. 64 ¶18, I am charmed with his artificial Expressions in well adapted Similes. **1825** J. NEAL *Bro. Jonathan* II. 164 Her gown was a drab silk...of a cut well-adapted for the display of her fine shape. **1842** DICKENS *Amer. Notes* iii, With a rude eloquence, well adapted to the comprehension of his hearers.

welladay ('welədeɪ), *int.* (*sb.*, *v.*) Now *arch.* and *dial.* Forms: 6 *well a daye*, 6-7 *wel(-)aday*, (8 *wel-a-day*), 6 *wellada*, 7 *wel-adae*, *weladay*, *welady*, *welody*, *wellday*, 7, 9 *well a-day*, 6- *well-a-day*, *welladay*. Also 6, 8-9 *Sc.* and *dial.* *wal(l)aday*; 6 *wer(e)aday*, 9 *dial.* *werraday*. [altered f. *WELLAWAY*, by substitution of DAY (or ADAY), as in *wo worth the day*, *lackaday*.]

A. int. An exclamation expressing sorrow or lamentation; = alas! Also with *ah* or *O* prefixed.

c1570 W. ELDERTON in *Collect. B.L. Ballads* etc. (1867) 1 *Well a daye*, *well a daye*, *well a daye*, *woe is me*. **1570** LEVINS *Manip.* 196/42 *Wel aday*, *heu*, *hei*. **1591** SPENSER *Virg. Gnat* 417 *Ah* (*waladay*) there is no end of paine. **1592** SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* III. ii. 37 *A welady* [Q. 2 *weraday*], bee's dead, hee's dead. *Ibid.* IV. v. 15 *Oh weladay* [Q. 2 *wereday*], that euer I was borne. **1599** T. CUTWODE *Caltha Poet.* (Roxb.) xxxix, But walladay, he was not there aware of Cupids shaft. **1602** W. S. THOMAS *Ld. Cromwell* IV. ii. 22 *A*, *wellday* for my Cowe! **1603** HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 198 *Alas* and *weladay*, what shall we doe? **1648** HERRICK *Hesper.*, *Mad Maid's Song* iii, *Alack* and *wellday*! **1652** C. B. STAPYLTON *Herodian* xiii. 105 Then quire of Boys and Ladies sighing *Welody*, With Hymns and Pæans making dolefull *Melody*. **1719** D'URFEE *Pills* VI. 284 *Alack* and a *wellday*. **17...** *Gaberlunzie-man* v. in *Ramsay's Tea-t. Misc.* (1762) I. 79 *Sbe* clapt her hand, cry'd, *Waladay*. **1781** COWPER *Hope* 428 *Well-a-day*, the title page was lost! **1798** COLERIDGE *Anc. Mar.* II. 135 [139] *Ah wel-a-day!* [*later* *well a-day!*] what evil looks Had I from old and young. **1813** MOORE *Two-penny Post Bag* viii. 35 *Thou* know'st the time, too, *well-a-day!* It takes to dance that chalk away. **1842** BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.*, *Lay St. Cuthbert*, *Well a day!* *Well a day!* All he can say Is but just so much trouble and time thrown away. **1851** HAWTHORNE *Twice-told T.* I. viii. 154 But, *wellday*, we hear a shrill voice of affliction. **1888** *Sheffield Gloss.*, *Werraday*, *wellday*.

b. in reduplicated form *wella*, *welladay*.

1805 G. MCINDOE *Poems* 92 The precious clay, Which in the tomb, with tears, I laid, *Wella wellday!* **1820** KEATS *Eve St. Agnes* xiii, And as she mutter'd 'Well-a—well-a-day!'

B. sb. The utterance of this exclamation; lamentation; a lament.

1582 T. WATSON *Centurie of Love* lxxxii. (Arb.) 118 At last, though late, farewell olde *wellada*. **1597** BEARD *Theatre God's Judgem.* I. xvi. 57 Their ioyfull song was turn'd to mournfull cries, And all their gladnesse chang'd to *welladaies*. **1598** PETOWE 2nd Pt. *Hero & Leander* Cijb, This all alone sad Lady gan to play Framing sweet musick to her *wellday*. **1608** SHAKS. *Per.* IV. iv. 49 (1st Qo.) His daughters woe and heaue *wellday*. **1814** Mrs. J. WEST *Alicia de Lacy* II. 291 Her ears were alternately assailed by the peccavits of penitence and the well-a-days of love.

transf. **1593** G. HARVEY *New Let. Notable Cont.* C 2 b, Let him be the *Falanta downe-didle* of Ryme, the *Hayhohalliday* of Prose, the *Walladay* of new writers.

C. v. intr. To cry 'welladay'. *nonce-use*.

1835 CLARE *Rural Muse* 153 The swains are sighing all, and well-a-daying.

well-a'djusted, *ppl. a.* a. In gen. use.

1735 THOMSON *Liberty* II. 330 The swelling mantle's well-adjusted flow. **1825** SCOTT *Talism.* xxi, The marabout raised his head gently from the ground,...moving with a well-adjusted precaution.

b. With reference to emotional adaptation. Cf.

ADJUSTED *ppl. a.* 4.

1939 L. MACNEICE *Autumn Jrnl.* xii. 49 A civilised, articulate and well-adjusted Community where the mind is given its due But the body is not distrusted. **1940** [see ADJUSTED *ppl. a.*] **1952** C. P. BLACKER *Eugenics: Galton & After* 307 Able and well-adjusted children. **1977** E. AMBLER *Send no More Roses* i. 11 The Able Criminal...may be presumed...to be emotionally stable and 'well-adjusted'.

well-a'dorned, *ppl. a.*

1616 CHAPMAN *Odys.* VII. 239 He...Aduanc't him to a well-adorned Throne.

well(-)ad'vised, *ppl. a.* In 4-5 *avised*.

1. Of persons: Prudent, wary, cautious, circumspect.

In modern use chiefly predicative, as 'He would be well-advised to give up the idea'.

a. c1386 CHAUCER *Melib.* ¶2514 A man þat is wel auysed, he dredip his lest enemy. **c1430** LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 141 Hooly Awstyn, sad and wel avised, Kneube by signes this complaynt was no fable. **a1466** GREGORY *Chron. in Hist. Coll. Cit. Lond.* (Camden) 158 That Parlyment

hadde an evylle faryng ende, to shamefully for to be namyd of any welavysyd man.

β. **1500-20** DUNBAR *Poems* xli. 2 Be 3e ane luvlar, think 3e nocht 3e suld Be weill adwysit in 3our gouerning? **1585** T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. 15 b, A most valiant & well aduised knight. **1594** SHAKS. *Rich III.* iv. iv. 517 Hath any well-aduised friend proclaym'd Reward to him that brings the Traytor in? **1603** KNOLLES *Hist. Turkes* (1638) 288 The well aduised and valiant captain Kanacontes.

absol. **1560** BIBLE (Genev.) *Prov.* xiii. 10 With the wel aduised is wisidome. (And so **1611**.)

†b. with const. Careful or heedful of or that—.

c **1386** CHAUCER *Miller's T.* 398 Be well auysed on that ilke nyght. . . That noon of vs ne speke nat a word. c **1400** *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xviii, Also pat he be. . . wele auysed of speche. c **1450** *Merlin* iii. 45 Quod the kynge, Be well avised that ye knowe it is he. And thei seide, We knowe verely it is he. **1579-80** NORTH *Plutarch, Lycurgus* (1595) 57 To another he put forth a question, who was to be well aduised of his aunswer.

†c. In one's right mind, sane. *Obs.*

1588 SHAKS. *L.L.L.* v. ii. 434 And were you well aduis'd? **1590** — *Com. Err.* ii. ii. 215 Am I. . . Sleeping or waking, mad or well aduise?

2. Of actions, etc.: Based on wise counsel or careful consideration.

a **1470** HARDING *Chron.* clxxvi. viii. (1812) 314 The kyng full sad, with wordes well auysed, Thanked them all. **1846** MRS. A. MARSH *Father Darcy* II. viii. 140, I hope I should not be found wanting either in spirit or perseverance to carry out well-advised plans. **1850** GROTE *Greece* II. lxiv. VIII. 203 Construing their studied and well-advised silence into a proof of oblivion.

Hence well-advisedly adv.

1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* ix. (1592) 127 He. . . seemeth to speake discretely and weladuisedly. **1648-58** HEXHAM II, *Wel-bedachtelick*, Well-advisedly, or Considerately.

well(-)a'ffected, *ppl. a.*

1. Favourably disposed, inclined to be favourable or friendly (to or towards a person or thing); *spec.*, well-disposed towards existing authority, loyal.

1563-83 FOXE A. & M. 150/2 If any good men were well affected or minded toward religion. **1609** R. I. *Nova Britannia* title-p., Nova Britannia: Offering most Excellent fruites by Planting in Virginia. Exciting all such as be well affected to further the same. **1611** SPEED *Theat. Gt. Brit.* To Rdr., To the well-affected and favourable Reader. **1664** D. FLEMING in *Extr. St. Papers Friends* III. (1912) 213 Hee Lives in a very well affected Towne, both to the church and State. **1671** R. MONTAGU in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 502 The Presbyterian. . . party. . . never were well-affected to a French alliance. **1746** BP. SHERLOCK *Let.* 10 June in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. 1. 291 The well-affected Lanes. **1832** LYTTON *Eug. Aram* I. ix, I know you are an honest man, Bunting, and well affected to our family. **1878** BOSW. SMITH *Carthage* 359 Sicily. . . was unlikely to give her further trouble, and that, not because she was well-affected, but simply because she was exhausted.

absol. **1643** [ANGIER] *Lanc. Vall. Achor* 10 Whilest the Siege lasted against Manchester, the heavens held a sympathy with the well-affected. **1658** Dom. *State Papers* 360 The petition of the well-affected of Gateshead. **1779** ARNOT *Hist. Edin.* I. vi. 206 It had been a common practice of government, to screen the well-affected from the punishment of their murders.

2. Adroitly assumed or simulated.

1907 *National Church* 15 Oct. 277/1 By this process in matters of religion the state will have washed its hands of any responsibility for the moral character of its citizens—a Gallio in its well-affected impartiality of indifference.

†well-a'ffectionate, *a. Obs.* [Cf. next.] Well disposed.

1590 SPENSER *F.Q.* III. iii. 62 Then each to other well affectionate, Friendship professed with vnfained hart.

well-a'ffectioned, *a.* [Cf. prec.] = WELL-AFFECTED I. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1628 tr. *Mathieu's Powerfull Favorite* 127 A Senatour whom hee knew to bee a good Citizen and well affectioned to Tiberius. **1875** JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 702 They were obedient to the laws, and well-affectioned towards the gods.

well-a-fine, *adv.* and *int. Obs.* exc. *dial.* [See AFINE *adv.*]

A. *adv.* Right well, well indeed; to good purpose, thoroughly.

c **1330** *Kyng of Tars* 780 Icham nou glad wel a fyn, Mai non blithur be. **1380** *Sir Ferumb.* 2752 Now y knowe wel-a-fryn, by message schendeth me. c **1400** *Rom. Rose* 3690 For no man. . . maye. . . of the reysyns haue the wyne, Tyl grapes rype and wel a fyne Be sore empressid. c **1400** *Beryn* 1393 The tale wol be ryff Of me, & of noon othir; I knowe rizte wel a fyne. **1573** TISSER *Husb.*, Author's Life xix. (1878) 210 A Moone, . . . Which well a fine me thought did shine. **1746** *Exmoor Scolding* (E.D.S.) 81 Chem a laced well-a-fine aready. **1882** JAGO *Dial. Cornw.* 309 That's all well-a-fine. **1886** W. *Somerset Word-bk.*, *Well-a-fine*, *adv.* phr., very well; truly; indeed.

b. Altered to *well and fine*.

c **1400** *Gamelyn* 427 Anon as Gamelyn hadde eten wel and fyne. c **1400** *Beryn* 303 Fawns lete hym clatir & cry wel & fyne. **14..** *Guy Warw.* (Camb. MS.) 9086 Gye lokyd theron wele and fyne. c **1450** LOVELICH *Merlin* 6860 This knowen 3e alle wel and fyn.

B. *int.* (See quot. 1880.)

1880 E. *Cornw. Gloss.*, *Well-a-fyne*, a common interjection, meaning 'it's all very well'. **1892** 'Q' *Three Ships* ii. 33 Well-a-fine! What a teasin' arfmful is woman, afore the first-born comes!

†wellage. *Obs. rare*—¹. In quot. wellage. [f. WELL *sb.*¹ + -AGE (denoting a material).] (See quot. and *press-ware* s.v. PRESS *sb.*¹ 17.)

1612 STURTEVANT *Metallica* 92 Wellage is a kind of Pressware for the speedy making of Wells, farre cheaper then the rounds, which are made of Brick to keepe the earth from falling downe.

well-aged, *a.* Now *rare*. Advanced in years, of a good age.

c **1470** ASHBY *Active Policy* 815 Loke that youre counseil be rather godly set, Wele aged, of goode disposicion. **1535** COVERDALE *Josh.* xiii. 1 Thou art olde & well aged. **1568** ASCHAM *Scholem.* II. (Arb.) 141 The Latin tong, concerning any part of purenesse of it, . . . did not endure moch longer, than is the life of a well aged man. **1979** [see *road-bed* s.v. ROAD *sb.* 9b].

well-aimed, *ppl. a.*

1598 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XI. 99 Atrides with his wel-aimde lance smote Isus on the brest. **1606** — *Gentl. Usher* I. i, You come not neere him, but discharge aloofe Your wounding Pistoll, or well ayimed Dart. **1667** MILTON *P.L.* IX. 173, I reck not, so it light well aim'd. **1725** POPE *Odyss.* XXI. 4 Who now can bend Ulysses' bow, and wing The well-aim'd arrow thro' the distant ring. **1819** SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xliii, The wearied horse of Ivanhoe, and its no less exhausted rider, went down. . . before the well-aimed lance and vigorous steed of the Templar. **1867** AUGUSTA WILSON *Vashti* xxv, He retreated before a well-aimed blow. **1868** G. V. COX *Recoll. Oxford* 206 A well-aimed orange, . . . thrown from the gallery, struck him forcibly on the face.

†well-aired, *a.* [f. AIR *sb.*] Having a sweet breath. *Obs.*

1505 in *Mem. Hen. VII* (Rolls) 233 The said queen is like for to be of a sweet savour and well eyred.

well(-)aired, *ppl. a.*

1. Thoroughly ventilated; favoured with good air.

1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* Note 3 The situation in the centre of the High Street rendered it [the Tolbooth] so particularly well-aired, that when the plague laid waste the city in 1645, it affected none within these melancholy precincts. **1843** R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* v. 62 The bed-room of a patient labouring under fever should be well-aired. **1871** NAPHEYS *Prev. & Cure Dis.* I. i. 47 Well-aired locality.

2. Damp-freed by exposure to air or heat.

1789 H. NEWDIGATE *Let.* 1 July in A. E. Newdigate-Newdegate *Cheverels of Cheverel Manor* (1898) vi. 89, I came home to a well-air'd Comfortable Bed. **1848** MRS. GASKELL *Mary Barton* xxxi, She. . . went on to assure Mary the bed was well aired.

well-a'llied, *ppl. a.*

1603 SHAKS. *Meas.* For M. III. ii. 109 The vice is of a great kindred; it is well allied. **1631** [see WELL *adv.* 28].

well-a'lly, *v. trans.*

1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xvii. 6 A Nymph. . . That of so great Descent, and of so large a Dower, Might well-allie their House.

well-a'near, *int. Obs.* exc. *dial.* [app. altered f. WELLAWAY by substitution of ANEAR.] Alas! alack-a-day!

1600 *Look about you* ii. B 1 b, Now well a neere that ere I liu'd to see, Such patience and so much impiety. **1608** SHAKS. *Per.* III. Prol. 51 The Lady shreokes, and wel-a-neare, Do's fall in trauayle with her feare. **1640** J. D. *Knave in Grain* III. i. G 2, Wherefore was it? well a neare. **1677** W. NICOLSON in *Trans. R. Soc. Lit.* (1870) Ser. II. IX. 322 *Wellaneer*, well away, alack-a-day. **1787** GROSE *Prov. Gloss.*, *Wellaneer*. Alas. N. a **1836** in 'S. Gilpin' *Pop. Poetry Cumb.* (1875) 207 Bit, wellneer! when he sud tean his kiss, . . Hur elbow rease an' barr'd him fra his bliss.

So well-a'nearing, in same sense.

1683 G. M[ERITON] *Yorks. Dial.* 4 Wellaneerin, wellaneerin, run fast run, Hye thee Hobb, and bid my Mawgh Herry come. *Ibid.* 7 Ey wallaneerin, wлта gang and see. **1703** THORESBY *Let. to Ray*, *Wellaneering*, alas.

well-a'nnaeled, *ppl. a.*

1831 BREWSTER *Optics* xxi. 184 Thin plates of well-annealed flint glass. **1854** *Pereira's Polarized Light* (ed. 2) 139 A well-annealed piece of glass, all of whose parts possess equal elasticity, is a single refractor.

well-a'nointed, *ppl. a.*

1746 FRANCIS tr. *Hor. Sat.* II. v. 142 Upon his naked back Her heir sustain'd the well-anointed pack [*cadaver unctum oleo largo*]. **1860** GEO. ELIOT *Mill on Fl.* I. ix, Mr. Rappit, the hairdresser, with his well-anointed coronal locks tending wavily upward.

well(-)a'paid, *ppl. a. Obs.* exc. *arch.* Heartily pleased or satisfied.

13.. K. *Alis.* 203 I Darie was wel apaied Of that Archelaus haveth ysaide. c **1350** *Well. Paterne* 1314 Whanne pemperour it wist, he was wel apayed. **1377** LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. vi. 198 And eche pore man [was] wel apayed to haue pesen for his huire. **1387** TREvisa *Higden* III. 383 He cowpe feyne hym gracious and wel apaied when he were wroop, and wroop when he were wel apayed. **1470-85** MALORY *Arthur* XVIII. xxiii. 767, I am wel apayed, said sir Gareth, that I may knowe him. c **1500** H. MEDWALL *Fulgens & Lucres* Eiv b, Be she wroth or well a payde. **1576** KNEWSTUB *Confut.*, *Serm.* Q 2 b, There is good cause, not only to be content, but also well appaide with it. **1590** SPENSER *F.Q.* III. ii. 47 She therewith well apayed, The drunken lampe downe in the oyle did steepe. **1611** R. FENTON *Treat. Usury* To Rdr. 3, I shall thinke my selfe well apaid, if I can cause them but to feelee those wounds. **1643** TRAPP *Comm. Gen.* xxiv. 47 He joyeth over her with singing, as wel-apaid of his choyce. **1825** JENNINGS *Obs. Dial. W. Eng.*, *Well-apaid*, appeased; satisfied. **1870** MORRIS *Earthly Par.* III. II. 32 'Or all is nought Whereof I think', at last a wanderer said, 'Or of my tale shall ye be well apaid'.

Hence †well-a'paidness. *Obs.*

1633 [D. ROGERS] *Treat. Sacr.* i. 190 This complacence and well apaiednesse of heart.

well(-)a'pparelled, *ppl. a.*

1530 PALSGR. 329/1 Well apparayled or well decked, *gorrier*. **1576** R. PETERSON *G. della Casa's Galateo* 18, I would haue euey man well appareled, meete for his age and calling. **1592** SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* I. ii. 27 When well apparel'd April on the heele Of limping Winter treads. **1821** LAMB *Elia* Ser. I. *All Fool's Day*, The goodly ornate of well-apparelled speech. **1860** LONGF. *Wayside Inn*, K. *Olaf* XIV. ix, Never, while they cruised and quarrelled, Old King Gorm, or Blue-Tooth Harald, Owned a ship so well appareled.

well-a'pplied, *ppl. a.*

a **1586** SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. xviii. (1912) 463 By the diligent care of friends and well applied cunning of surgeons. **1625** K. LONG tr. *Barclay's Argenis* I. ii. 5 Timoclea, with well-applied language, began to question her Guest. **1764** DODSLEY in *Shenstone's Wks.* (1768) II. 317 A stone seat. . . with this well-applied inscription. **1768-74** TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 646 A discreet and well-applied industry in the service of mankind. **1842** LOVER *Handy Andy* vi, Giving him a hearty cuff on the ear, which would have knocked him down, only that Oonah kept him up by an equally well applied box on the other.

well-a'ppointed, *ppl. a.* Properly equipped or fitted out.

1530 PALSGR. 844/1 Well apoynted, *bien a poynt*. **1535** COVERDALE *Jer.* vi. 22 They ride vpon horses wel apointed to y^e batell agaynst the. **1597** SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV.* I. i. 190 The gentle Arch-bishop of Yorke is vp, With well-appointed Powres. c **1600** DRAYTON *Mis. Marg.* clxxviii, Ten thousand valient well-appointed men. **1656** COWLEY *Pindar. Odes*, *Brutus* iv, One would have thought t'had heard the morning crow, Or seen her well-appointed Star Come marching up the Eastern Hill afar. **1784** COWPER *Tiroc.* 676 In him thy well-appointed proxy see, Arm'd for a work too difficult for thee. **1807** WORDSW. *White Doe* 699 Nor wanted at this time rich store Of well-appointed chivalry. **1835** *Court Mag.* VI. 166/2 The well-appointed silk, waterproof, ivory-handled, umbrella of his friend. **1864** 'ANNIE THOMAS' *D. Donne* I. ii. 29 She saw that he had good horses and a well-appointed mail-phaeton. **1889** G. FINDLAY *Eng. Railway* 3 A well-appointed hotel.

Hence well-a'appointedness.

1680 H. MORE *Apocal. Apoc.* 82 They have Breast-plates of Iron, which shows the courage of these Saracens, and their well-appointedness for War. **1890** H. JAMES *Tragic Muse* xxvi, He remembered too. . . her actual smartness, as London people would call it, her well-appointedness.

well-a'pproved, *ppl. a.*

1590 SPENSER *F.Q.* II. x. 65 Hengist and Horsus, well approu'd in warre. **1596** SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* I. i. 7 My trustie seruant well approu'd in all. c **1611** CHAPMAN *Iliad* xvii. 437 He cald to friend, these well-approu'd supplies; Th' Aiaces, and the Spartan king. **1684** BUNYAN *Pilgr.* II. (1900) 212 There dwelt also not far from thence one Mr. Skill, an antient and well approved Physician.

well-'argued, *ppl. a.*

1708 J. PHILIPS *Cyder* II. 20 With winning Rhetoric and well-argu'd Law. **1964** K. G. GRUBB *Layman looks at Church* iv. 100 Laymen make contributions in Assembly debates. . . which are often serious and well-argued. **1975** *Amer. Speech* 1971 XLVI. 261 Vennemann's paper is a well-argued proposal for modifying marking theory in TG grammar.

well-'armed, *ppl. a.*

1. Adequately armed for war or combat. Also *transf.* and *fig.*

c **1290** *St. Christopher* 143 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 275 Wel I-armede heo wenden forth. **13..** K. *Alis.* 2582 Faire chevalry him cam fro Mede, Wel y-armed, on heigh stede. **1340** *Ayenb.* 170 bet pe man by wel y-armed uor to ouercome parfütliche zenne. c **1425** WYNTOUN *Cron.* VIII. clxxix. 6723 His hors weill armyt wes. c **1460** *Towneley Myst.* xxvi. 469 A thowsand shall I assay, and mo, well armed ilkon. **1592** SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* I. i. 216 In strong prooffe of chastity well-arm'd. **1605** — *Lear* III. vii. 20. **1635-56** COWLEY *Dauidis* iv. 699 A vast, well-arm'd and glittering Host. **1791** COWPER *Iliad* ix. 96 Forth rush'd the guard well-armed. **1875** HIGGINSON *Hist. U.S.* xv. 133 The Indians' arrows did not put them on an equality with the well-armed Englishmen. **1901** N. *Amer. Rev.* Feb. 206 Create a regular and well disciplined army, and secure a well-armed diplomacy.

2. Furnished with a powerful armature.

1832 BREWSTER *Nat. Magic* xi. 273 A strong and well-armed loadstone.

well-'armoured, *a.*

1868 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* I. II. 578 The King's brave well-armoured folk.

well-a'rranged, *ppl. a.*

1798 SOPHIA LEE *Canterb. T.*, *Young Lady's T.* II. 377 Dr. Dalton listened, in mute astonishment, to this well-arranged, extravagant plan. **1823** SCOTT *Quentin D.* xxvii, A well-arranged and handsomely trimmed beard. **1842** DICKENS *Amer. Notes* ix, A well-arranged public library of some ten thousand volumes. **1905** *Athenæum* 7 Oct. 469/3 A good deal of interesting and well-arranged information will be found in the sections which come before the main list of biographies.

well(-)a'rrayed, *ppl. a.*

? a **1366** CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 472 Al to selde iwys Is ony pouere man wel fedde Or wel araied. c **1374** — *Troilus* II. 680 And also blisful Venus wel arrayed Sat in hire seuenthe hous of heuene po. **1387** TREvisa *Higden* VII. 359, I and pow be here allone, illiche wel i-horsed, and i-wepened, illiche wel arrayed. c **1425** WYNTOUN *Cron.* ix. xxv. 2826 Wip a nobyll company Weil arayit and dantely. **1470-85** MALORY *Arthur* I. x. 49 The two kynges were come ouer the see with thre hondred knyghtes wel arayed both for the pees and for

the werre. 1605 R. F. *Dedekind's Sch. Slovenrie* (1904) 16 At length, when thou art well araide, let both thy hose hang downe About thy heeles. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* II. 234 Ye well-array'd! Ye lilies of our land! Ye lilies male! who neither toil, nor spin.

† **well-arted**, *a.* **Obs.** Artistically wrought.

c 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XVIII. 356, I made A number of well-arted things; round bracelets, buttons braue.

well-ar'ticulated, *ppl. a.*

1951 W. K. MATTHEWS *Languages U.S.S.R.* iii. 33 Mordvin . . shares with Cheremiss a well-articulated system of word-formation. 1977 *Jrnl. Commonw. & Compar. Politics* XV. 5 Pre-unionists parties in some colonies and republics of South Africa were functionable, rather well-articulated units.

well-a'sserted, *ppl. a.*

1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* I. xc, Not all the marvels of Barossa's fight, . . Have won for Spain her well asserted right.

well-a'ssorted, *ppl. a.*

1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* (ed. 2) 15 The rich variety to be found in the well-assorted warehouses of the dissenting congregations. 1836 A. COMBE *Physiol. Digestion* (ed. 2) 302 The after-dinner small-talk of a well-assorted circle.

well-a'ssured, *ppl. a.*

1475 CAXTON *Jason* 78 During which time he helde him wel assured in his palais. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 Sept. 8/3 If they do not go out to well-assured situations they go to hunger, want, disease, and possibly death in a country which is wild and disappointing. 1899 CROCKETT *Kit Kennedy* xix. 131 With well-assured hearts the pair made themselves ready for what remained to be done.

well-a'ttempered, *ppl. a.*

1845 NEALE *Seaton. Poems* (1864) 9 Vain the trust in lance and mail And well-attemper'd sword. 1852 TENNYSON *Ode Wellington* 74 A man of well-attemper'd frame. 1866 FELTON *Anc. & Mod. Gr.* I. II. ix. 442 The soft and well-attemper'd air of spring.

well-a'ttended, *ppl. a.* Of a meeting: attended by a large number of people.

1946 *Nature* 21 Dec. 918/1 Dr. W. H. Taylor presided over a well-attended meeting. 1979 G. POTTINGER *Secretaries of State for Scotland 1926-76* xix. 193 The Scottish Covenant Movement . . held two well-attended assemblies in 1947 and 1948.

well-a'ttending, *ppl. a.*

1725 POPE *Odyss.* III. 18 She . . admonish'd thus his well-attending mind.

well-a'ttested, *ppl. a.*

1667 GLANVILL *Consid. Witches* etc. 5 Standing publick Records have been kept of these well attested Relations. 1756 BURKE *Vind. Nat. Soc.* 20 Other well-known and well-attested ones [sc. slaughters]. 1774 E. LONG *Jamaica* III. 874 There are well-attested instances in Jamaica of the voracity of the alligator. 1857 GEO. ELIOT *Ess.* (1884) 36 The well-attested facts of his life. 1871 NAPHEYS *Prev. & Cure Dis.* I. i. 45 A well-attested case of longevity.

well-a'ttired, *ppl. a. poet.*

† 1. Properly equipped or furnished. **Obs.** 13.. *Sir Orfeo* 158 (Sisam) He . . brougt me to his palais, Wele atird in ich ways.

2. Richly arrayed.

1637 MILTON *Lycidas* 146 The Musk-rose, and the well-attir'd Woodbine. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* XVIII. 473 Charis, Vulcan's well-attired spouse.

well-au'thenticated, *ppl. a.*

1786 POLWHELE tr. *Theocritus*, etc. (1792) II. 212 Amidst the legends of superstition, it is in vain we search for well-authenticated truths. 1820 W. IRVING *Sk. Bk., Spectre Bridegroom*, Events of the kind are extremely common in Germany, as many well authenticated histories bear witness. 1879 LUBBOCK *Sci. Lect.* v. 167, I have endeavoured to select only those arguments which rest on well-authenticated facts.

well-avised: see WELL-ADVISED.

wellaway ('welə'wei), *int. and sb.* Now *arch.* Forms: *a.* weġ lá weġ, wei lá wei (2 wi lá wei), 3 wæilawæi, 3-4 weilawei, 3-5 -wai (6 *Sc.* -wa), 4-5 weilaway, 3-5 -way, 5-6 weillaway (5 -weye), 4-5 weylaway (5 weyle-away, -away); 4-5 weylowey (weyllo-), weyloway, 5 weilowey, -waie; 4-5 weile-, weyleway. *β.* 3-4 wailawai, 3-5 -way; 3-4 waile-wai, 4 -way, 5 -wey (3-4 wailwai), 4-5 wailoway, 6 waile a way; 3-5 wayla-, 4-5 wayle-, wayloway. *γ.* 3-4 walawai, 4-5 -waie, walewai(e); 3-5 (9) walaway, 4-5 -waye, -wey(e), 4 wale(a)way, woleway; 4-5 walo(w)way; *Sc.* 6-7 walla-, 6 wallo-, 7 wallouway, 8 walaways, 9 wally-wae. *δ.* 3 welawei, 5 -weie, 4-5 -wey, 4 -weye; 4-7 welaway, 4-6 -waye, 5 -waie, whela-, weloway; 4-5 well-, welle away, 5 well y weye, 5-6 well-, 6 welle awaye; 5-7 (9) wellaway (well-away, well-a-way); *Sc.* 6 welloway, 9 wellawa, 8-9 williwa (9 wai a waes). *ε.* 4-5 weleaway, 4-6 -away, 6 *Sc.* weill away, 6-7 wealaway, weale away. [OE. *weġ lá weġ*, *wei lá wei*, an alteration of *wá lá wá* (see WELLAWO), by substitution of the OScand. interjection **wei* (ON. and Icel. *vei*; see WEILA) for OE. *wá*. The later forms are partly normal phonetic developments, partly the result of contamination with forms

representing OE. *wá lá wá*, and partly due to the first element being identified with, or replaced by, *wel*, *wele* WELL *adv.* (cf. WELLA).]

A. int. An exclamation of sorrow or lamentation. (Cf. WELLADAY, -ANEAR, -A-WINS.)

Formerly often in phr. to *sing wellaway*, *my* (his, etc.) *song is wellaway*.

a. c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxv. §7 Weilawei [*Bodl. wila weij*]. c 1000 *Lambeth Ps.* xxxix. 16 *Qui dicunt mihi euge euge*, þa þe cweðap me weġla weġ *wele* wala wa *wele* cala cala. c 1205 LAY. 17918 Wæilawæi, wæilawæi, . . muchel is þa sorġe þe isġen is to londe. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 64 Weilawei, min eie haueð irobbed al mine soule. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 8193 De mount scabiose was aslawe, weilaway. c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 12238 Biside þe tounge þis womman lay, & often cried 'wey la way!' c 1386 CHAUCER *Reeve's T.* 152 Iohn . . gan to crie: harrow and weylaway. 1412-20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* IV. 4392 For now her trust of kynȝthod was away, Her worpi men slayen, weilaway! c 1440 *Ps. Penit.* (1894) 29 Defautes fele that me deface, Maketh me synge weylaway.

β. a 1250 *Owl & N.* 220 þu singist anigȝt and noȝt adai & al þi song is wailawai [*Jesus MS.* wailaway]. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 8669 Bot wailawai! it sua bitide, Mi felaw smord hir barn in bedd. c 1400 *Gamelyn* 197 (Harl. MS.) And þer he herd a Frankeleyn wayloway syng. 1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* II. 1614 Women and children cried 'out and waile-a-way'. *γ.* a 1300 *Cursor M.* 9056 Has pou, coth þai, pi lau renaid? Yaa, soth haf i, walawai! he said. 13.. *Gosp. Nicod.* 1314 (Sion MS.) For come he here, I have greete drede we sal say walloway. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 2434 þan sal walloway be pi sang. c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* v. 36 Now, alas, and walloway! c 1480 HENRYSON *Fox & Wolf* 155 Now, quod the Foxe, allace and wallaway! a 1568 in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 378 Now, walloway, is thair no help? 1724 RAMSAY *Tea-t. Misc.* (1775) I. 136 Walaways! I dow to do!

δ. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 408 Louerd, wultu smiten? . . Welawei! þu meit wele. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 11214 'Welaweie' þey cry and sey. c 1374 CHAUCER *Anel. & Arc.* 338 Bot welawaye, to far ben thei to fecche. 14.. *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 125/63 Therefore my song is well-y-wey! c 1440 *Partonope* 6497 Hys songe was not but wellawaye. 15.. *Adam Bel st.* 99 in *Child Ballads* (1888) III. 27 Alas that euer I se this daye! . . Alas and welawaye. 1553 BRADFORD *Serm. Repentance* (1574) Ev, But alas and welaway . . Gods anger . . hath taken him away by death. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 410 Wellaway surely may Purgatory sing, if it have not better Proctor to uphold it, then Luther. 1590 SPENSER *F.Q.* II. viii. 46 Harrow and well away [ed. 1609 weal-away]. 1657 W. RAND tr. *Gassendi's Life Peiresc* II. 139 Alas and well away. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxxii, There is not a farmer but shall sing well-a-wa over a burnt barnyard and an empty byre. 1820 [A. SUTHERLAND] *St. Kathleen* IV. 116 Will a waes, man, but ye hae a lang account to settle. 1878 A. MARY F. ROBINSON *Handful Honeysuckle* 80 Alas, and Wellaway!

ε. 13.. *K. Alis.* 4481 (Laud. MS.) For Oxcele & Darriadas He grade welaway & allas. c 1412 HOCCEVE *De Reg. Princ.* (Roxb.) 1958 But welaway! so is myne hert wo. 1426 AUDELEY *Poems* 10 In hunger, in cold, in thrust, welaway! Afftyr here almes ay waytyng. c 1495 *The Epitaffe* etc. in Skelton's *Wks.* (1843) II. 391 Alas for sorowe therefore! Oute and welaway. c 1530 *Hyckescorner* 549 We all may say welaway For synne that is now-adaye. 1580 H. GIFFORD *Gilloflowers* (1875) 101 Her song was woe, and weale away. 1616 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past* II. i. 13 Alas and weale away, since now I stand In such a plight.

b. with so or full prefixed.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 15366-7 He mai sai walawai Full walwa þan mai he sing. *Ibid.* 22703 þis midelerth, ful wail wai [*Edinb.* ful wailawai, *Trin.* so wayleway], Al to noght sal brin awai. c 1369 CHAUCER *Bk. Duchesse* 729 Phyllis also for Demophon Henge hir selfe, so weylaway. c 1440 *York Myst.* vi. 24 For vs is wrought, so welaway, Doole endurand nyghte and day. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VI. i. 52 Quhair-in he porturit als, full weloway, The luif abhominable of quene Pasyph.

c. followed by that and clause, expressing the ground or subject of lament. † Also with *what* = how!

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 183 A weilewei, þu fule hold, þat ich auere was to þe iteid. c 1205 LAY. 8031 Wæila wæi wæila wæi þæt he is þus i-faren awæi. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 17575 Walawai quat þai war blind. c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 6801 (Kölbing) Quap king Angvisaunt: Woleway, þat ich euer bot þis day. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 286 Helas, mi Soster, wailaway, That euer I sih this ilke day! c 1440 *York Myst.* xxxii. 309 So wala way þat euer I was in witte or wille þat tristy trewe for to be-traye. 1596 SPENSER *F.Q.* v. i. 15 Ah woe is me, and well away (quoth hee) . . That euer I this dismall day did see.

† *d.* Followed by a sb. = alas for . . , woe worth. . . Also with *to* or *for* + sb. **Obs.**

a 1300 *K. Horn* 956 Walawai þe stunde! Wailaway þe while! 13.. *Guy Warw.* (1891) 400 Wayle-way þat stounde. c 1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* III. 1078 Allas þi wyle Serueth of nought, so wel-away þe while. *Ibid.* 1695 But cruel day, so wel-away þe stounde, Gan for to aproche. c 1400 *Emare* 812 He wepte and sayde, Welle-a-wey, For my sone so dere! a 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 4564 Wailaway to wriches, & wa is 3ow in erthe. c 1440 *York Myst.* vi. 93 Sa welaway for harde peyne. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* sept. 58 Wel-away the while I was so fonde.

B. sb. 1. The utterance of this exclamation. Hence, lamentation, a lament.

a 1300 *K. Horn* 1478 (Camb.) He makede Rymenhilde lay, & heo makede walaway. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 24352 Bot quen i raxsild vp in rage, I ne wist bot wail wai [*Gött.* wailaway, *Edinb.* walewai]. 1450 *Cov. Myst.*, *Cain & Abel* 193 Now wyl I go wende my way With sore syng and wel away. 1552 LYNDESAY *Monarchie* 5474 With lowde allace and welaway. 1553 BRADFORD *Serm. Repent.* (1574) To Rdr. Bijb, Then was weale away, mourning and woe. 16.. J. D. *Mare of Collington in Watson's Collect. Sc. Poems* (1706) I. 42 With mony a Shout and Wallaway. 1820 KEATS *Isabella* Ixi, Spirits of grief, sing not your 'Well-a-way!' For Isabel, sweet Isabel, will die. 1823 GALT *Entail* II. 160, I wish that I was dead, but I'm no like to dee, as Jenny says in her wally-wae about her father's cow and auld Robin Gray. 1884

WOOLNER *Silenus* 22 Syrinx he saw . . plunge in the stream And her young spirit pass into the reeds That now were whispering her sad well-away.

b. trans. A cause of lamentation.

1593 G. HARVEY *New Let. Notable Cont.* A 3b, Who honouret not . . the very name of the renowned Lepanto: . . the Halleluia of Christendome, & the Welaway of Turkey?

† 2. Sorrow, distress, misery, woe. **Obs.**

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* I 1222 So, betwyxe fals and coueytous, ys welaweie broȝt to hous. c 1375 *Cursor M.* 22472 (Fairf.) Quar-to sulde we be borne to-day & se bot sorou & waleway. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XVIII. 227 Wote no wighte . . what is witterly wel til weyllowey hym teche. 1402 *Fr. Daw Topias in Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 112 Thou shalt have the weleaway of Gelboth hilles, the sorowe of Sodome, and al sinful citeis. 1597 *Guistard & Sismond* I. B 3b, Bringing forth the night, and care, and wele-away. 1640 SIR A. JOHNSTON (Ld. Wariston) *Diary* (S.H.S.) 240 Thou had sorrou fall the, and another tyme wallouway fall the.

† **well away**, *compound adv. Obs.*

1. Qualifying a comparative: Far and away, much. Cf. WELLA B.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. XI. 215 þis is þe lif of þis lordis . . And wel-a-wey wers and I shulde al telle. 1377 *Ibid.* B. XII. 263 þe larke, þat is a lasse foule, is more louelich of ledne, And wel away of wenge swifter þan þe pecok. ? a 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 119 And sondele lasse it [the river] was than Seyn But it was straighter wel away.

2. Used elliptically with *can* and a verb implied: *well away with* = put up with, tolerate, endure. Cf. AWAY 16.

1569 BLAQUE *Sch. Conceytes* 2 Whose pride I could not well away with. 1587 HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 27/1 He . . could well awaic with bodilie labour [1577 II. 334/2 could well endure trauaile and bodily labour]. 1612 T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* II. 14. (1619) 532 They can well away with either religion, but care greatly for neither. 1622 GATAKER *Spiritual Watch* (ed. 2) 70 It is no small degree of euill, when a man can well away with euill in others. a 1629 HINDE *J. Bruen* xxxvii. (1641) 116 This Master Done being young and youthly, . . could not well away with the strict observation of the Lords day.

b. To bear or submit to (do something).

1579-80 NORTH *Plutarch, Alcib.* (1595) 234 Notwithstanding the people of Athens could well away to lue like subjects vnder the gouernement of a fewe.

well-a-wins, *int. Sc.* In quots. will-, weel-, wull-. Altered form of WELLAWAY.

a 1774 FERGUSSON *Poems* (1789) II. 79 Ah! willawins for Scotland now. a 1800 *Lady Jane*, in Jamieson *Pop. Ballads* (1806) II. 81 O willawins! that graceless scorn Should love like mine repay. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* xi, Wull a wins! —such a misfortune to befa' the House of Ravenswood, and I to live to see it! 1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 51 But will-a-wins! Your hands are toom. 1871 W. ALEXANDER *Johnny Gibb* iii. 23 Weel-a-wuns, than, Jinsie, . . we'se lat 'im rest's banes in peace an' quaetness.

† **wellawo**, *int. and sb. Obs.* Forms: *a.* 1 wá lá wá, 3-4 walawa (4 walwa, walaiwa). *β.* 3 wala-, 4 walewo; 3 wola-, 4 wole-, 5 wolowo. *γ.* 3, 5 welawo, 5 wellawoo; 4-5 welleaway, wellowoy. *δ.* 4 weilawo, 4-5 weylawo (5 weyle a woo). [OE. *wá lá wá*, f. *wá* woe *sb.* and *lá lo* *int.*; cf. WALE *int.* In the *γ*-forms the first element has been assimilated to *wel* WELL *adv.* (cf. OE. *wel lá* WELLA), and in the *δ*-forms to ME. *wey-* in *weylawey*: see WELLAWAY.]

1. *int.* = WELLAWAY A.

a. c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxix. §1 Walawa þæt ða ungesæligan menn na mazon gebidon hwonne he him to cume. c 900 *Bæda's Hist.* II. i. (1890) 96 Wala wa: þæt is sarlic, þætte [etc.]. a 1122 O.E. *Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1086, Wala wa, þæt ænig man sceolde modigan swa. c 1205 LAY. 19632 Wa la wa [c 1275 Wo la wo] þat hit sculde iwurðen swa. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 15367 Ful walwal þan mai he sing. c 1300 *Ibid.* 15279 (Gött.) He mai sai walawa his werd þat forwid him es laid.

β. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 88 Weilawei & wolawo, heo seið. a 1250 *Owl & N.* 412 þu singest a wynter wolawo. c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 742 (Kölbing) Wolewo, mi swete maide. c 1400 *Pride of Life* 327 (Brandl) 3e world is nou, so wo lo wo, in suc bal i bound.

γ. *δ.* 13.. *Minor Poems of Vernon MS.* xxxvii. 225 Weilawei & weilawo, þæt synne was I-wrouȝt! c 1400 *Arth. & Merl.* 120 (Linc. Inn) Syngand allas and weylawo. c 1425 *Processional Nuns Chester* (1899) 31 Thy white body was blacke and bloo. Oure synnes it made so weyle A woo. c 1500 *Gest of Robyn Hode* st. 438 in *Child Ballads* (1888) III. 77 Alas and well a woo!

2. *sb.* = WELLAWAY B. 2.

c 1275 LAY. 26769 Welawo was 3am ibore þat in hire wey were bivore. c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 142 (Kölbing) To Winchester þai flouen þo Wip mani sȝingh & walewo. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIV. 235 He hath a greuous penaunce, þat is welawo whan he waketh.

well(-)baked, *ppl. a.*

1632 ROWZEE *Queenes Welles* 67 Bread of good pure wheate, well handled . . and well baked. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Hor. Sat.* II. viii. 89 A guest like me, polite to entertain With bread well baked, with sauces season'd right. 1811 *Regul. & Orders Army* 169 Each Soldier is to receive, as his Allowance for Four Days, a well-baked Loaf.

† **well-baken**, *ppl. a. Sc.* Well-baked.

1549 *Extracts Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 269 Breid, that be guid stuf, . . and weill bakin.

well-balanced, *ppl. a.*

This is prob. the true reading (as suggested by Rowe) in Shaks. *Meas. for M.* IV. iii. 104, for 'weale-ballanc'd' of the Folios.

1. Exactly poised or equilibrated.

1629 MILTON *Hymn Nativ.* xii. While the Creator Great His constellations set, And the well-ballanc't world on hinges hung.

2. Having an orderly or harmonious disposition of parts.

1859 J. WHITE *Hist. France* 69 A tumultuous republic of knights and barons had become a well-balanced kingdom.

3. Having or betokening a good balance of the mental faculties; sane and sensible; not flighty or eccentric.

1861 BUCKLE *Civiliz.* II. vi. 424 Hutcheson..rightly supposed, that an admiration of every kind of beauty..is essential to a complete and well-balanced mind. **1890** BESANT *Demoniac* i. 7 A perfectly healthy, steady, and well-balanced young man. **1912** *World* 7 May 679/1 Mr. Long's speech was a practical, well-balanced, and thoroughly sane fighting speech.

well-'beaten, *ppl. a.* (BEAT *v.*¹ 3, BEATEN 2.)

a 1794 LOCKE *Cond. Underst.* §28 Their Master's Rules..mislead those who think it sufficient to excuse them, if they go out of their way in a well beaten Tract. **1860** TYNDALL *Glac.* i. xxiii. 165 Ascending the mountain by a well-beaten path. **1883** MISS BROUGHTON *Belinda* i. x, The well-beaten pathway.

well(-)'be'coming, *ppl. a.* Highly befitting or suiting.

1530 PALSGR. 329/1 Well becommynge, *bien aduenant*. **1611** COTGR., *Bienseant*,..well-beseeming, well-becoming. **1662** GUNNING *Lent Fast* 44 This is the well-becoming order which all Churches..do observe. **1697** DRYDEN *Æneis* xi. 94 A well becoming, but a weak Relief. **1831** SCOTT *Ct. Robt.* xxxiii. A fate well-becoming his odious crimes. **1864** BURTON *Scot Abr.* i. ii. 102 On the brow of the industrious crofter..we may yet see the well-becoming pride..that, in the fifteenth century, took the honours and distinctions of France as a natural right.

well-'bedded, *ppl. a.*

1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Country Farm* v. xviii. 557 Then you shall lay it on a well-bedded kilne.

well-be'fitting, *ppl. a.*

1845 POE *Haunted Palace* 23 A throne where, sitting..In state his glory well-befitting, The ruler of the realm was seen.

† **well be'gone**, *ppl. a. Obs.* Also 4 wel bigoo. [See BEGO *v.* 8.]

1. Well-contented, cheerful, joyous.

? **a 1366** CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 693, I was neuer...So iolyf nor so wel bigoo Ne merye in herte as I was thoo. **c 1381** — *Parlt. Foules* 171 But lord, so I was glad and wel begoon.

2. Fortunate, well off.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* ii. 294 Yif me youre hond, for yn þis world is noon, If þat you lyst, a wyght so wel begon. **c 1400** *Rom. Rose* 5533 And certeyn he is wel bigone Among a thousand that fyndith oon. **1421-2** HOCCELEVE *Min. Poems* xx. 11 How welthe a man be or well be-gone, Endure it shall not. **1530** PALSGR. 844/1 Well bygone, *bien a poynt*, or *bien aye*.

well(-)'be'gun, *ppl. a.* Favourably or fully started. Chiefly in proverb (see quot. 1639).

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Aphor.* 38 For accordyng to our englishe prouerbe, a thyng wel begoonne, is more then halfe dooen. **1639** J. CLARKE *Paræm.* 3 Well begun is halfe done. **1742** YOUNG *Nt. Th.* ix. 2066 And dost thou chuse what ends, ere well-begun?

well-be'hated, *ppl. a.*

1771 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Mann* 22 Oct., His cousin..is going to him with a commission from Louis the well-behated. [Instead of 'well-beloved'.]

well-be'haved, *ppl. a.* **1.** Displaying good conduct or manners; decorous.

1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* ii. i. 59 Hee...gaue such orderly and well-behaued reproofe to al vncomelinesse. **1633** FORD *'Tis Pity* ii. vi. A very modest wellbehau'd young Maide. **1725** DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 235 His sons were very pretty, wellbehaved youths. **1863** KINGSLEY *Water-Bab.* iii. 126, I have met one or two creatures like you before, and found them very agreeable and well-behaved. *absol.* **1828** P. CUNNINGHAM *N.S. Wales* (ed. 3) II. 253 To give all due encouragement to the well-behaved.

2. *Math.* Applied to different entities with varying implications as to their susceptibility to manipulation, as continuity or differentiability (of a function), convergence (of a series).

1939 C. B. BOYER *Concepts of Calculus* vi. 246 Inasmuch as Euler restricted himself to well-behaved functions, he did not become involved in those subtle difficulties connected with the notions of infinity. **1965** PATTERSON & RUTHERFORD *Elem. Abstr. Algebra* iii. 60 Of the two operations in a ring *R*, addition is 'well-behaved' in that it satisfies the commutative and associative laws and there exist an identity element and inverses... Multiplication is not so well-behaved. **1968** FOX & MAYERS *Computing Methods for Scientists & Engineers* i. 13 Since $x = 0$, and $f_0(x)$ is perfectly 'well-behaved', then also $y'(0) = 0$.

3. Of a computer program: communicating with hardware via standard operating system calls rather than directly, and therefore able to be used on different machines.

1984 *Austral. Microcomputer Mag.* Jan. 42/1 The disk drives can read and write IBM-PC format disks, and of several programs tried on the system, those that were 'well behaved' worked and those, such as word processors, that tend to directly address the machine's hardware would not always work. **1984** *Austral. Personal Computer* May 65/3 PC mode handles all well-behaved programs... In the case of direct hardware calls, problems usually arise if a 'not quite IBM-compatible' machine is used.

well-being (wɛl'bi:ɪŋ, older 'wɛl,bi:ɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [Cf. F. *bien-être*, mod.L. *bene esse*.]

Occas. written without the hyphen, as one word or two.

The state of being or doing well in life; happy, healthy, or prosperous condition; moral or physical welfare (of a person or community).

a 1613 OVERBURY *A Wife*, etc. (1638) 46 Man did but the well-being of this life From Woman take; her Being she from Man. **1617** WOODALL *Surgeon's Mate* (1639) Pref. 1 So many waies in use for the health and well-being of man-kinde. **1646** BENBRIDGE *Usura Acc.* 8 The publicke-Weale wherein our owne Being, and Well-being are wrapped up. **1705** F. FULLER *Med. Gymn.* (ed. 2) 32 An erect Position is essential to the well being of the Body of Man. **1713** BERKELEY *Ess. Guardian* xiv. Wks. III. 191 That behaviour which best suits with the common well-being. **1741** A. MONRO *Anat. of Nerves* (ed. 3) 10 Circumstances..necessary to the Being or Wellbeing of this or that particular Creature. **1756** C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* i. 168 Water..is necessary to the well being of man in all ages. **1837** LOCKHART *Scott* IV. iv. 121 That paternal solicitude for the well-being of his rural dependants. **1849** CORDEN *Sp.* 56 High prices are incompatible with the well-being of this country. **1861** LOWELL *E Pluribus Unum* Writ. 1890 V. 46 A living fact with a direct bearing on the national well-being. **1865** PUSEY *Truth Engl. Ch.* 38 A body of faith,..which to 'know and believe', essential to the well-being of all Christians. **1883** J. M. FOTHERGILL *Indigestion* etc. 275 Most healthy persons feel...a sense of well-being after a meal.

b. Satisfactory condition (of a thing).

1702 CALAMY *Abridgm. Baxter's Life & Times* vii. 137 He says, That Imposition of Hands is...a proper means necessary not to the Being, but the Well-being of Ordination. **1837** DICKENS *Pickw.* xxii, His loudly-expressed anxiety at every stage, respecting the safety and well-being of the two bags, the leather hat-box, and the brown-paper parcel. **1849** RUSKIN *Seven Lamps* Intro. 4 The principles necessary to the well being of the art.

c. pl. (= individual instances of welfare).

a 1672 WILKINS *Nat. Relig.* 207 He is the Author of our beings and our well-beings. **1714** J. FORTESCUE-ALAND *Pref. Fortescue's Abs. & Lim. Mon.* 4 So that it may be said with Justice, that we owe our Beings to God, and under him our Well-beings to the Law.

† **well-be'known**, *ppl. a. Obs.* In 6 Sc. weilbiknaw. Well-known.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* vii. ii. 17 On bankis weilbiknaw and fluidis bay.

† **well-be'lieving**, *ppl. a. Obs.* Easy of belief, credulous.

c 1710 CONGREVE tr. *Ovid* Wks. 1730 III. 314 But let not powder'd Heads, nor essenc'd Hair, Your well-believing, easie Hearts ensnare.

well-be'loved, *ppl. a. and sb.*

A. ppl. adj. **1.** Dearly loved, greatly beloved.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 215 And wel biloued and famulier was he With frankeleyns ouer al in his contree. **1422** YONGE tr. *Secreta Secret.* 247 Wyth lefe and welbelowid Pepill lagh and Play. **c 1440** tr. *Bonaventura in Hampole's Wks.* (1896) I. 218 Mari Mawdeleyne, þat wele-beluffed discypulas of Ihesu. **1526** *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 8 The chrysten man, as the welbeloued chylde of god. **1601** SHAKS. *Jul. C.* III. ii. 180 Through this [rent], the wel-beloued Brutus stabb'd. **1648** *Bury Wills* (Camden) 202 Susan Despotin, my well-beloued wife. **1799** Ht. LEE *Canterb. T.* *Old Woman's T.* (ed. 2) I. 335 Lothaire..was the trusty and well-beloved page of Louis IX. **1831** SCOTT *Ct. Robt.* iii, Our well-beloved and highly-gifted daughter. **1850** TENNYSON *In Mem.* cii, We leave the well-beloved place Where first we gazed upon the sky.

2. In letters, decrees, etc., of a sovereign or lord, prefixed to the names or designations of the persons addressed or referred to. Usually '(right) trusty and well-beloved'; cf. TRUSTY *a.* 2. Also *absol.* (with omission of sb.), and †(*Sc.*) with plural ending.

1423 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 248/2 Ryght worshipfull and worshipfull Faders in God, oure ryght trusty and welebeloued. **1443** HEN. VI in *Ellis Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. i. 79 Our right trusty and right welbelouyd Cousin Thierl of Suffolk. **c 1450** *Godstow Reg.* 603 Our welbeloued in crist the Abbesse and Govent of Godestow. **1516** *Reg. Privy Seal Scot.* I. 423/2 Our welebelovit knyght and counsalour William Scot of Balwery. **1524** HEN. VIII in *Ellis Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. 1. 239 Trusty and welbiloued we grete you wele. **1544** in Rymer *Foedera* (1710) XV. 19 Oure Welebelouittis Hew Cunnyghame, and Thomas Bischop. **1648** *Hamilton Papers* (Camden) 241 Our right trustie and right welbeloued cousin the Earle of Lauderdale. **1803** in *Nairne Peerage Evid.* (1874) 111 Our right trusty and welbeloued George Keith baron Keith of Stone Haven. **1814** SCOTT *Let.* in *Lockhart* (1837) III. x. 311 He would tell you of my departure with our trusty and well-beloved Erskine. **1884** *Rep. Comm. Housing Working Classes* Pref. 3 Victoria [etc.]. To Our right trusty and well-beloved Councillor Sir C. W. Dilke. **1924** *Burke's Peerage* 2 Barons are..addressed officially by the Crown, 'Our Right trusty and well-beloved'. *Ibid.* 3 A Viscount..is officially addressed by the Crown as 'Our right trusty and well-beloved Cousin'.

B. sb. A dearly loved one.

1432-50 tr. *Higden* VI. 79 Technyge Beda his welbelovdyde while that he lyvede. **1575** GASCOIGNE *Glasse of Govt.* III. iii. Wks. 1910 II. 47 Nowe my welbeloued, and what sayth the...Markgrave unto you? **1611** BIBLE *Cant.* i. 13 A bundle of myrrhe is my welbeloued vnto me. **1795-1814** WORDSW. *Excurs.* vii. 342 The great, the good, The well-beloved, the fortunate, the wise,—These titles emperors and chiefs have borne. **c 1805** H. K. WHITE *Hymn*, 'Awake, sweet harp' iii, God sees his Well-beloved's face. **1891** KIPLING *Light that Failed* xv. 317 Then he comes back to me, for his well-beloved is here.

well-benched, *a.* [WELL *adv.* 32.] Used to render Homer's *εὐσελμος*, epithet of a ship.

1848 BUCKLEY *Iliad* II. 33 Let him lay hands upon his well-benched black ship. **1870** BRYANT *Iliad* vii. 522 From their well-benched ships The Achaians also issued. **1887** MORRIS *Odys.* II. 414 They brought forth all and laid it within the well-benched keel.

well-'beneficed, *a.*

1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* (1904) I. 678 A wealthy well-beneficed clergyman.

well(-)'be'seeming, *ppl. a.* = WELL-BECOMING. Hence **well-be'seemingly** *adv. rare*—0.

1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* II. iii. 56 (Qo. 1600) Romes royall Emprise, Vnfnurnisht of her well beseeming troope? **1596** — *1 Hen. IV.* I. i. 14 In mutuall well-beseeming ranks.

1611 COTGR., *Bienseant*,..well-beseeming, well-becoming. *Ibid.*, *Bienseamment*, comelly, agreeably, well-beseemingly.

† **well be'seen**, *ppl. a. Obs.* Also 4 bebiseye. [See BESEE *v.* II.] Good-looking, of good appearance; well appointed or apparelled; well furnished *with*; versed or accomplished *in*.

? **a 1366** CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 821 Fetys he was and wel beseye [Cointes fu et de bel atour]. **1390** GOWER *Conf.* I. 302 My wif..Which is with reson wel besein. *Ibid.* III. 121 Sche [Virgo] is with sterres wel beseie. **c 1440** *Generydes* 1978 Tentys large, full riche and wele besen. **c 1470** HENRY WALLACE i. 213 Likle he was, richt byge and weyle beseyne. **1530** PALSGR. 844/1 Well bysene, *bien accoustré*. **1576** R. PETERSON *G. della Casa's Galateo* 10 A Noble gentleman, courteous and well beseene in all good behaiour. **a 1578** LINDSAY (Pitcottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 147 Teodor Gaza ane weil besene man baith in Lattine and greik. **1591** SPENSER *Virgil's Gnat* 651 Eftsoones he gins to fashion forth a place,..squaring it in compasse wel beseene. **1596** — *F.Q.* v. viii. 29 The Briton Prince him readie did awayte, In glistering armes right goodly wel beseene. **1736** W. THOMPSON *Epithal.* xiv, Our dearling Prince to meet Augusta well-beseen. **a 1911** Æ. J. G. MACKAY *Pitcottie* Gloss. s.v. *Beseine*, Still used. 'Ye are weel besene the day', i.e. well clothed or fit to look upon.

† **well be'spoken**, *ppl. a. Obs.* Fair-spoken, of courteous speech.

1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) I. 73 Archas...was right wise and wel bespoken. **1474**, **1483** — [see BESPOKEN 1]. **1490** — *Eneydos* x. C viij, Fayr and wel byspoken.

† **well-be'strutted**, *ppl. a. Obs.* Amply distended or plumped out.

1648 HERRICK *Hesper.*, *Oberon's Feast* 34 He...eates the saggie And well-bestrutted Bees sweet bagge.

† **well-be'teemingness**. *Obs. rare*—1. In quot. -beteam-. [BETEEM *v.*¹] Readiness to vouchsafe or grant.

1642 D. ROGERS *Naaman* 178 That it [Grace] may appeare in all the excellency and fulnesse, freedome, bounty, unchangeableness and welbeteamingnesse thereof.

well-blacked, *ppl. a.*

1822 SCOTT *Nigel* ii, His low, flat..cap, and his well-blacked, shining shoes, indicated that he belonged to the city. **1860** G. H. KINGSLEY in Galton *Vac. Tour.* 140 A basin..and a well blacked crock.

well-blended, *ppl. a.*

1708 J. PHILIPS *Cyder* II. 663 Whose liquid Store Abundant, flowing in well blended Streams The Natives shall applaud.

† **well-'blooded**, *a. Obs.* Also 7 -bloudied. [See WELL *adv.* 32 and BLOODED *a.* 2.] Having plenty of blood.

16.. MIDDLETON, etc. *Old Law* v. i, Trust me, a lusty woman, able bodied, And well blooded cheeks. *Clo.* Oh she paints my Lord. **a 1662** HEYLIN *Laud* (1668) 542 His Countenance chearful and well-bloudied.

'well-boat. [See WELL *sb.*¹ 6 b.]

1. A fishing-boat provided with a well or tank for the storage and transport of live fish.

c 1600 [see TODE *sb.*¹]. **1614** GENTLEMAN *Engl. Way to win Wealth* 19 And these be Pinks and Wel-boats of the burthen of fourty Tunnes. **1653** H. COGAN tr. *Pinto's Trav.* xxx. 121 Others..get their living by selling fish alive, which to that purpose they keep in great well-boats. **1769** PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* III. 301 They [carp] are there a great article of commerce, and sent in well-boats to Sweden and Russia. **1800** COLQUHOUN *Comm. Thames* xv. 438 Fish wasting in Well-boats at Gravesend. **1883** *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 211 Severn Fisheries Board..Model of Trunk or Well Boat.

† **2.** A flat-bottomed boat for landing troops and stores. *Obs.*

1692 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) II. 482 The 40 well boats built at Deptford, which carry about 20 or 30 oars each, to land men in shoal water. **1693** MSS. *Ho. of Lords* (N.S.) I. 187 An able seaman to take charge of the well-boats at Portsmouth and the stores to be put on board them. **1693** *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2926/3 Three of the Bomb Ships, with the Brigantines and Well Boats went in and Anchored within half a Mile of the Town.

well-'boden, *ppl. a. Sc.* [See BODEN *ppl. a.*] Well provided or furnished; fully armed or equipped.

c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* viii. xxxviii. 6833 Weil bodyn Frankis men. **1496** *Extracts Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 60 That al fremen...compeir..at the Cunneger hill, welbodin and abilgeit for weir in ther personis. **1598** FERGUSON *Sc. Prov.* (S.T.S.) 49 He is weil bodden ther ben that neidis nather borrow nor lend. **1808** JAMIESON s.v. *Boden*, *Weil-boden*, or *ill-boden*, well or ill provided in whatever respect.

well-'bodied, a. [WELL *adv.* 32.] Having good bodily development.

1481 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 59 Sche ys as goodly a zeunge whome as fayr as whelbodyd [etc.]. 1484 CAXTON *G. de la Tour Ciiij* b, Loo ther is a welbodyd woman which is wel worthy to be belouyd of somme knyght. 1594 *Knack to know a Knaue* E 4, My Lord, she is. . Well bodied, but her face was something blacke, Lyke those that follow household businesse. a 1653 BINNING *Comm. Princ.* Wks. (1735) 28/2 By this he grew to the Stature of a tall and well-bodied Christian. 1728 POPE *Dunc.* II. 42 All as a partridge plump, full-fed, and fair, She form'd this image of well-body'd air.

well-'boding, ppl. a.

1719 OLDISWORTH *Callipædia* II. 517 Or when the Lyon or the Centaur shines, Or the auspicious and well-boading Twins.

well-boiled, ppl. a.

1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* XI. 812 A knotty Lance of well-boil'd Oak he bore [*telum solidum nodis et robore coto*].

well-boned, a. [WELL *adv.* 32.]

1. Having large or strong bones.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 8571 þikke mon he was ynou. . wel iboned [MS. *γ* boned] & strong. 1530 PALSGR. 329/1 Well boned, *ossu*. 1553 ASCHAM *Rept. Germany* 16 Marches Albert is. . rather wel boned for strength, then ouerloded with flesh.

2. Properly stiffened with whalebone.

1871 [see BONED *ppl. a.* 2.]. 1901 *Daily News* 12 Jan. 6/7 It is made over a carefully fitted, well-boned lining.

well-'booted, a. [WELL *adv.* 32.]

1647 TRAPP *Comm. Ephes.* vi. 15 (1656) 772 As one that is well booted or buskind can walk unhurt amidst bryers and brambles. 178. BURNS *Ronalds of Bennals* 41 Though I canna ride in well-booted pride, And flee o'er the hills like a crow, man. 1894 A. LANG *Ban & Arrière Ban* 45 Lady, lady neat. . Wherefore dost thou hie, Stealthy, down the street, On well-booted feet?

well(-)born, ppl. a. [See BORN B. 1 d. Cf. Da. *velbaaren*, Du. *welgeboren*, G. *wohlgeboren* (MHG. *wolgeborn*).

The lack of examples in ME. is noticeable.]

1. Of good birth or lineage, of gentle blood.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke xix. 12 Monn sum wel-boren [L. *nobilis*] forde on lond un-neh. c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Deut.* i. 15 Ic nam wise menn and welborene [Vulg. *nobiles*].

1595 SHAKS. *John* II. i. 278 As many and as well-borne bloods as those. 1633 EARL MANCH. *Al Mondo* (1636) 146 To see well borne men to despise honest callings. 1667 DRYDEN *Secret Love* I. iii. (1668) 13 My Cousin is. . Valiant and wise; and handsome; and well born. *Qu.* But not of Royal blood. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* XIII. xii, There is a something in persons well-born, which others can never acquire. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair xlix*, Mrs. Crawley is not very well born. 1905 R. BAGOT *Passport* xiii. 120 You would not be considered well-born enough nor rich enough. b. *absol.*

the well-born: a nickname formerly given to the Federalists of the U.S., derisively adopted by their opponents from the serious use of the term by J. Adams (see quot. 1787).

1787 J. ADAMS *Def. Const. Govt. U.S.* Pref. I. p. x, The rich, the well-born, and the able, acquire an influence among the people, that will soon be too much for simple honesty and plain sense, in a house of representatives. 1788 *Amer. Museum* June (1792) 527 Under such a government, men of education, abilities, and property, commonly called *the well born*, will be the most likely to get into places of power and trust. 1841 HELPS *Ess., Domestic Rule* (1842) 52 The well-educated or the well-born. 1883 McMASTER *People U.S.* I. 469 In most of the squibs and pasquinades that filled the papers the Federalists were reviled under the name of 'the well-born'.

2. Having the personal qualities naturally associated with good birth; noble in nature or character. (In early use after F. *bien né*.)

c 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* xii. 16 He herde that the king of Denmark had .iij. faire doughtres well born [*moult bien nées*]. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* II. 455 Heav'n, that well-born Souls inspires, Prompts me. . To. . rush undaunted to defend the Walls. 1857 EMERSON *Poems, Celestial Love* 45 Counsel which the ages kept Shall the well-born soul accept.

well-'bottomed, ppl. a. Having a good foundation, firmly based.

1699 BOYER *Royal Dict., Eng.-Fr.*, Well-bottom'd, *bien fondé*. 1762 WILKES *Corr.* (1805) III. 33, I said. . that it would be soon seen how well-bottomed I was. 1874 MORLEY *Compromise* iii. 105 Obviously only three ways of dealing with the great problems of which we have spoken are compatible with a strong and well-bottomed character.

well-bought, ppl. a. † a. Bought at a fair price; worth the price paid. (See WELL *adv.* 6 d.) b. Valiantly won. (Cf. DEAR-BOUGHT.)

1480 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 56 Sum standares of mayll whelbhowte. 1576 *Ded. Verses* in Turberv. *Venerie*, A Booke well bought, God graunt it so be solde, For sure such Bookes are better worth than golde. 1811 SCOTT *Don Roderick* III. xiii, For never, upon gory battle-ground, With conquest's well-bought wreath were braver victors crown'd!

well-bound, ppl. a. Said of a book. Also *fig.*

1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch, Hen. IV* st. 265 Whose Volumes Numberless Nature doth Summe In one Compendious Abstract; Well-bound Man! 1781 COWPER *Table-T.* 745 To see the name of idol self, Stamp'd on the well-bound quarto, grace the shelf. 1845 *Penny Cycl.* Suppl. I. 220/2 Most well-bound books have a little appendage at the top of the back-edge, called the 'head-band'. 1880 *Daily News* 19 Oct. 4/7 The rubbishy but well-bound book keeps its place on the shelves.

well-braced, ppl. a. Firmly or healthily strung up.

1785 T. DWIGHT *Conquest of Canaan* VI. 141 The well-brac'd buckler glittered o'er his breast. 1859 MEREDITH R. *Feversel* xix, The young ladies. . looked. . anything but well-braced.

well-branched, a. [WELL *adv.* 32.]

1649 C. WASE *Sophocles, Electra* 22 A spotted well-brancht Stag.

well-brawned, a. [WELL *adv.* 32.]

1577, 1609 [see BRAWNED 1]. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 448/2 *Torosus*,. . well flesht;. . well brawned. 1615 CHAPMAN *Odys.* XIII. 155 From forth the hauens high crest, Branch the well-brawn'd armes of an Oliue tree.

well-breathed (-)briðd, -breðt, a. [WELL *adv.*

32 + BREATHED 1 and 6.] Sound or strong of wind; exercised so as to be in good wind; not out of breath.

1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* XVIII. xviii. 758 He is a noble knyghte, and a myghty man, and wel brethed. 1475 Bk. *Noblesse* (Roxb.) 76 To make hem hardie, deliver, and wele brethed. 1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 678 And on thy well-breathed horse keep with thy hounds. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iii. iii. *Law* 182 A well-breath'd Body, nimble, sound, and strong. 1673 DRYDEN *Marr. à la Mode* IV. i. 54, I, take heat after heat, like a well-breath'd Courser. 1720 POPE *Iliad* XXII. 244 As through the forest. . The well-breath'd beagle drives the flying fawn. 1828-43 TYTLER *Hist. Scot.* (1864) I. 120 Bruce. . saw, too, that his own infantry were still fresh and well-breathed. 1849 J. FORBES *Physician's Holiday* II. (1850) 13 The experienced, well-breathed, and robust traveller.

b. said of a speaker or reciter.

1647 N. WARD *Simple Cobler* (1843) 16 It is a most toylsome taske to run. . after a well-breath'd Opinionist. 1681 DRYDEN *Abs. & Achit.* I. 631 To speak the rest, who better are forgot, Would tie a well-breath'd Witness of the Plot. 1831 SCOTT *Cast. Dang.* ix, A less matter would hold a well-breathed minstrel in subject for recitation for a calendar month.

well-bred, ppl. a.

1. a. Of good family and bringing up. Usually: Displaying good breeding; having refined manners; courteous in speech and behaviour.

1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV.* I. i. 26 A Gentleman well bred, and of good name. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 2 If my thoughts haue wandred, I must intreat the well-bred Reader to remember, I haue wandred through many deserts. 1652 KIRKMAN *Clerio & Lozia* 100 Netling speeches, which well-bred women should avoyd as a dangerous Precipice. 1698 J. COLLIER *Immor. Stage* 60 A well Bred Man will no more Swear than Fight in the Company of Ladies. 1709 POPE *Ess. Crit.* 635 Tho' learn'd, well-bred; and tho' well-bred, sincere. 1752 CHESTERF. *Lett. to Son* 19 Sept., The officers, . . when of a certain rank and service, are generally very polite, well-bred people. 1781 COWPER *Conversat.* 193 A moral, sensible, and well-bred man Will not affront me, and no other can. 1813 JANE AUSTEN *Pride & Prej.* xlv, Whose endeavour to introduce some kind of discourse proved her to be more truly well bred than either of the others. 1886 RUSKIN *Præterita* I. x. 327 The first well-bred and well-dressed girls I had ever seen.

b. of speech, behaviour, etc.

1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* 251 I'll give him leave to tell me again in his well-bred way, That my head has no Brains in't. 1728 YOUNG *Love Fame* i. 115 It makes dear self on well-bred tongues prevail, And I the little hero of each tale. 1784 COWPER *Task* II. 413 With a well-bred whisper close the scene. 1808 MRS. C. KEMBLE *Day after Wedding* 27 You sit at such a well-bred distance from each other, one would swear you had been married 24 years, instead of 24 hours. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* I, Lady Staunton only answered this hint with a well-bred stare, which gave no sort of encouragement. 1867 LADY HERBERT *Cradle L.* vii. 173 His manner was grave to sadness, but extremely well-bred.

2. Of good breed or stock Said of animals.

1805 *Times* 7 Nov. 1/1 To be sold. . four capital well-bred hunters. 1815 *Sporting Mag.* XLVI. 118, I knew in their day, runners of fair repute, and as well bred as any horses upon earth. 1849 CLARIDGE *Cold Water Cure* 202 When the horse is well-bred, and his wind is unimpaired.

well-'breeched, ppl. a. Prosperous, well-to-do. Cf. BREECHED *ppl. a.* 4.

1821 P. EGAN *Life in London* II. ii. 178 Jerry is in Tip Street upon this occasion, and the Mollishers are all nutty upon him, putting it about, one to another, that he is a well breeched Swell. 1860 HOTTEN *Dict. Slang* (ed. 2) 104 *Breeched*, or *to have the bags off*, to have plenty of money; 'to be well breeched', to be in good circumstances. 1968 P. SCOTT *Day of Scorpion* I. ii. 64 Her first husband. . died well-breeched. 1980 *Jrnl. R. Soc. Arts* Apr. 266/1 That they had been able to become rich or well-breeched in a worldly sense is incidental. 1985 *Times* 22 Mar. 23/8 Britoil presents the spectacle of a fairly well-breeched oil group.

well(-)brewed, ppl. a.

1713 *Phil. Trans.* XXVIII. 135 A small and well brewed Beer. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Deronda* i, It was near four o'clock on a September day, so that the atmosphere was well-brewed to a visible haze.

† **well(-)broke, ppl. a.** *Obs.*

1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Tulipa*, These do, in time, break into various beautiful Stripes, according to the Ground of their former Self-colour: but this must be intirely thrown off, otherwise they don't esteem a Flower well broke. 1796 C. MARSHALL *Garden.* viii. (1813) 104 Having thrown on a little good and well-broke mould.

well(-)broken, ppl. a.

1580 BLUNDEVIL *Art of Riding* II. x. 19 b, To say the truth, wearines and lack of breath, may cause anie horse, be he neuer so well broken, to do the same. 1728 MANDEVILLE *Fab. Bees* (1733) II. 316 All horses are ungovernable, that are not well-broken. 1857 *Putnam's Monthly Mag.* Feb.

1731/1 Though his stud was not numerous or choice, it may be said to have been well broken. 1874 *Kennel Club Stud Bk.* 147 A brace of remarkably well-broken pointers.

well-brooked, a. Abounding in streams.

1887 MORRIS *Odys.* xv. 295 And by Crouni was she running, and the well-brooked Chalcis' shore [*Χαλκίδα καλλιρέεθρον*].

well(-)brought-up, ppl. a. [See BRING *v.* 27 b.]

1611 COTGR., *Morigené*,. . well brought vp. 1827 EARL MOUNT-EDGCUMBE *Mus. Remin.* (ed. 2) 112 She was the daughter of an English gentleman. . , and well brought up. 1861 MILL *Utilit.* iii. 40 An ordinarily well-brought up young person. 1896 MRS. CAFFYN *Quaker Grandmother* 6 She had an adaptable well-brought-up face.

well-browed, a. [See WELL-EYED 1483.]

well-browned, ppl. a.

1883 'ANNIE THOMAS' *Mod. Housewife* 59 A well-browned crust of bread. 1904 SLADEN *Lovers in Japan* II. vi, 'Won't a cigarette do?' he asked, pulling out a well-browned leather case.

well-brushed, ppl. a.

1817 SCOTT *Chron. Canongate* vi, His clean linen and well-brushed coat. 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Parl. Sk.*, A well-brushed suit of black.

'well'-bucket. [WELL *sb.* 1 3.] A bucket used to draw water from a well by means of a rope and pulley or windlass.

Often in pairs, one on each end of a rope, so arranged that the empty bucket descends while the filled one is raised.

1477-9 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 82 For a welbokette to harry Williamsons well, and for byndynge of the same, iij s. ij d. 1544 *Inv. in Surrey Archæol. Collect.* VII. 240 Itm a Well Bukket w' a rope & a Cheyne, xij^d. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 296/2 He beareth Argent, a Bucket, Sable, the Handle and Hoops, Or. This is termed for distinction, a Well Bucket. 1695 DRYDEN *Dufresnoy's Art Paint., Observ.* 120 The Muscles. . are so many Well-buckets; when one of them acts and draws, 'tis necessary that the other must obey. 1709 *Brit. Apollo* II. No. 6. 3/1 You like two Well-Buckets Appear, Which always must clash when they're near. 1823 COBBETT *Rur. Rides* (1885) I. 326, I saw a large well-bucket, and all the chains and wheels belonging to such a concern.

well-'built, ppl. a. Also 4 -bild. = next.

c 1400 MAUNDEV. ix. (1919) 38 An Abbeye of Monkes wel bylded. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1569 Grete palis of prise, plenty of houses, Wele bild all aboute on the best wise. 1535 COVERDALE *Jer.* ii. 7 When I had brought you in to a pleasaunt welbuylded londe. c 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XVIII. 332 Twentie Tripods. . To set for stools about the sides of his well-built hall. 1647 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. App. xcvi. 215 Saving those few that were kept safe in store In that well builded ship.

well-built, ppl. a.

1. Of a house, town, ship, nest, etc.

c 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* VI. 14 Axilus, that did dwell In faire Arisbas well-built towres. 1615 — *Odys.* XIII. 152 The well-built Ships. 1708 J. PHILIPS *Cyder* I. 196 The bastion of a well-built city. 1822 SHELLEY 'When the Lamp' 18 When hearts have once mingled, Love first leaves the well-built nest. 1858 W. ELLIS *Madagascar* xii. 329 The houses were all well-built, with clean swept court yards around them. 1872 JENKINSON *Guide Eng. Lakes* (1879) 239 On arriving at the well-built cairn, the prospect is magnificent.

2. *transf.* and *fig.* (e.g. of a person or animal, a suit of clothes, a poem).

1681 FLAVEL *Meth. Grace* xv. 292 This is well-built consolation which reaches the heart. 1706 [see BUILT *ppl. a.* 2]. 1707 PRIOR *Sat. Poets* 125 The Author then, whose daring hopes would strive With well-built Verse to keep his Fame alive. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* I. x, This Gentleman. . was of a middle Size, and what is called well built. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* I. 269 His tall, well-built figure was shown off to advantage by his magnificent dress. 1881 BESANT & RICE *Chapl. of Fleet* I. iii, She was a strong, well-built woman, of about six or seven and twenty. 1888 'J. S. WINTER' *Bootle's Child.* vii, He was wearing a remarkably well-built suit of rough yellowish stuff.

Hence well-'builtness. *nonce-wd.*

1899 H. WRIGHT *Depopulation* 2 One saw the city standing out in all its strength of substantial well-builtness.

well-'burnished, ppl. a.

1787 BURNS *To W. Creech* 2 Auld chuckie Reekie's sair distrest, Down droops her ance weel-burnish't crest.

well-burnt, -burned, ppl. a.

1727 DE FOE *Compl. Eng. Tradesman* I. iii. (1732) 33 The brick-maker's men. . turn'd their hands from the grey hard well-burnt bricks to the soft sammel half-burnt bricks. 1827 FARADAY *Chem. Manip.* xiii. (1842) 288 A piece of well-burned charcoal. 1890 J. WATSON *Conf. Poacher* (1893) 115 On a well-burnt moor the best poaching method is by using a silk net.

well-'calculated, ppl. a.

1884 J. TAIT *Mind in Matter* 157 Their convictions were matured by well-calculated expedients.

well-calved, a.

1744 *Essay on Acting* 14 A. . prominent Chest, and a well-calv'd Leg. 1825 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Man of Many Fr.* (Colburn) 136 A pair of superfine ladies' footmen, with well-calved legs and broad shoulders.

well-'cared-for, ppl. a. [See CARE *v.* 3.]

1942 W. FAULKNER *Go down, Moses* 129 He. . watched Lucas cross the Square, . erect beneath the old, fine, well-cared-for hat. 1959 J. CARY *Captive & Free* 116 An envied minority of cherished, well-bred, well-educated, well-cared-for families. 1979 V. L. PANDIT *Scope of Happiness* xx. 136 A lovely well-cared-for garden.

well(-)carriaged, a. See CARRIAGED.

well-carved, ppl. a.

1615 CHAPMAN *Odys.* viii. 614 Nausicaa... Stood by a well-caru'd Columne of the roome.

well-caulked, ppl. a.

1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* iv. 575 And well calk'd Gallies in the Harbour ride. 1969 *Jane's Freight Containers* 1968-69 464/2 Liberal use of adhesives and sealants to provide a well-caulked box.

well-changed, ppl. a.

1635-56 COWLEY *Davideis* i. 30 Lo, with pure hands thy heav'nly Fires to take, My well-changed Muse I a chaste Vestal make!

well-'characterized, ppl. a.

1839 MURCHISON *Silur. Syst.* i. xiv. 176 Further to the south... are flagstones, sandstones, and other well-characterized beds of the system. 1839 DE LA BECHE *Rep. Geol. Cornwall*, etc. ii. 31 Well-characterised hornblende slate.

†well-cheered, a. Obs. Of good cheer, cheerful.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* i. 3 God lufis wele chered gifers. 1435 MISYNN *Fire of Love* ii. viii. 89 þer doutles welcheryd þa sal hym see.

†well-choosing, ppl. a. Obs.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* iv. (1922) 110 Neither hath the one any feare, but a well choosing judgement.

†well-chose, ppl. a. Obs. = next.

1682 SHEFFIELD (Dk. Buckhm.) *Ess. Poetry* 139 Of well-chose words some take not care enough. 1751 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) XIV. 188 Confirm it by a few well-chose arguments.

well(-)'chosen, ppl. a. a. Carefully or happily selected.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* iii. (1922) 12 The girle thy well chosen mistresse, perchaunce shall defend thee. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, iv. i. 7 Heere comes the King. *Rich.* And his well-chosen Bride. 1635-56 COWLEY *Davideis* iv. last line, But, Lo! they 'arriv'd now at th' appointed place; Well-chosen and well furnisht for the Chase. 1697 WALSH *Dryden's Virgil* Life *4 A well-chosen Library, which stood open to all comers of Learning and Merit. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 93 ¶10 The Mind never unbends itself so agreeably as in the Conversation of a well chosen Friend. 1755 YOUNG *Centaur* i. 5 Well-chosen Pleasure is a branch of happiness. 1784 COWPER *Task* iii. 393 Then to his book, Well chosen, and not sullenly perus'd In selfish silence.

b. esp. of words or language. Freq. in phr. a few well-chosen words, a short and telling speech or piece of writing; also ironically.

a 1704 LOCKE *Cond. Underst.* §31 Well-chosen Similies, Metaphors, and Allegories. 1733 TRAV. *J. Massey* 21 The Terms in which he express'd himself were strong, and well-chosen. 1828 WHATELY *Rhet.* iii. ii. §9. 243 A well-chosen epithet may often suggest... an entire Argument. 1845 LONGE *Poets & P. Europe* (1871) 600 His language is simple, well-chosen, and beautiful. 1854 *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 423/2 Thomas Carlyle... has excelled all his contemporaries in the graphic pictures which he has painted in a few well-chosen and expressive words. 1912 BEERBOHM *Christmas Garland* 46 You figure him at the gate, shaking hands all round, and speaking perhaps a few well-chosen words about the future. 1957 D. ROBINS *Noble One* xix. 177, I can and shall go down and settle her with a few well-chosen words.

well-'circumstanced, a. In good circumstances, well off.

1861 M. ARNOLD *Pop. Educ. France* 99 Parents, even the well-circumstanced, receive gladly... this boon of free education for their children.

well(-)clad, ppl. a.

1484 CAXTON *Chivalry* vii. (Ellis) 91 To a Knyght aperteyneth... to haue fayr harnois and to be wel cladde. 1684 *List Military* To Rdr., Four Thousand advantageously Trained, and well clad Men. a 1796 BURNS *As on the banks* 19 When a' my well-clad banks could see Their woody pictures in my tide. 1907 MC CARTHY *Needles & Pins* xx, You shall be well clad, well weaponed, well horsed.

well-cleansed, ppl. a.

1598 CHAPMAN *Seven Iliads* vii. 135 Which when he had infusde Into the greene wel-clensed wound, the wound did bleede no more.

well-closed, ppl. a.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* iii. (1922) 27 But that it [her breath] hoped to bee drawne in againe to that well cloased paradise. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* ii. xiv. (1674) 152 Each of them [draws] a Ball from forth a well-closed Urne. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.* iii. 18 The dry mass is... transferred to well-closed bottles.

well-clothed, ppl. a.

1636 CRASHAW *Temperance* 21 A well-cloth'd soul; that's not opprest Nor choak't with what she should be drest. 1727 SOMERVILLE *Occas. Poems* 353 He bow'd, obey'd, well-cloth'd, well-fed, And with his Patron's Children bred.

well-'coloured, ppl. a.

c 1400 [see COLOURED ppl. a. 2]. 1445-50 METHAM *Wks.* 92 Qwan the myd lync ys...euynd and wele colourdyd, yt syngnyfth a mygthi stomake. 1535 COVERDALE *1 Sam.* xvii. 42 He was but a childe, well coloured, and beutyfull to loke vpon. 1591 SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI*, iv. ii. 37 These eyes that see thee now well coloured, Shall see thee withered, bloody, pale, and dead. 1662 CHARLETON *Myst. Vintners* (1675) 184 In which time the Wine usually becomes well-coloured and bright. 1731 POPE *Ep. Burlington* 153 The rich Buffet well-colour'd Serpents grace. 1913 *Oxford Mag.* 6 Nov. 67/1 The author writes... in a well-coloured and original style.

†well-co'mmended, ppl. a.

1603 R. PRICKET *Souldiers Wish* C 1, For God commands each well-commended means Be vsde to shield a kingdome from extreames.

well-com'pacted, ppl. a.

1628 VENNER *Baths of Bathe* 1 Bathe... is a little well-compacted Cittie. 1720 POPE *Iliad* xxii. 6 Advancing o'er the Fields Beneath one Roof of well-compacted Shields. 1725 — *Odys.* xxi. 253 At ev'ry portal let some matron wait, And each lock fast the well-compacted gate. 1825 SCOTT *Talism.* iii, The accuracy of proportion displayed in his nervous and well-compacted figure. 1854 MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* iii. v. (1864) II. 11 The solid and well-compacted body of Roman law. 1874 GEO. ELIOT *Coll. Breakf.-P.* 815 Close by the stream where well-compacted boats Were moored.

†well-com'plexioned, a. Obs. Having a good complexion (constitution, colour, etc.).

1413 [see COMPLEXIONED I]. 1622 S. WARD *Life of Faith in Death* (1627) 103 Such soules... as place all their felicitie to be in a full fedde, and well complexioned body. 1635 BRERETON *Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) 105 Proper, personable, well-complexioned men. 1688 COLLIER *Several Disc.* (1725) 15 And yet when Nature seems thus vigorous and strong, thus healthy and well complexion'd, 'twill then sicken, and sink on the sudden. 1715 [see COMPLEXIONED 3].

well(-)com'posed, ppl. a.

1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* iv. iv. 79 The Grecian youths are... well compos'd, with guilt of nature. 1651 GATAKER *Ridley in Fuller Abel Rediv.* 194 His very outward making, promised a well-composed inside. 1792 BURKE *Let. Sir H. Langrishe* Wks. 1907 V. 210 It was a complete system, ... well digested and well composed in all its parts.

well-con'cealed, ppl. a.

1925 F. SCOTT FITZGERALD *Great Gatsby* vii. 139 He put out his... hand with well-concealed dislike. 'I'm glad to see you, sir.' 1982 *N. Y. Times* 3 Feb. A 8/1 This correspondent visited the wellconcealed underground location of Venceremos radio in the mountains.

†well(-)con'ceited, a. Obs.

1. Displaying good fancy or invention; witty, ingenious.

1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, v. i. 39 Well conceited, Dauby. 1598 MARSTON *Seco. Villanie* ii. vi. E 6 b, Such straines of well-conceited poesie.

2. Of persons: Having a favourable opinion (of a person or thing).

1642 D. ROGERS *Naaman* 227 Weakely... affecting them who have bene... welconceited of me, tender and indulgent. 1649 [see CONCEITED ppl. a. 2]. 1673 RAY *Journ. Low C. Ded.*, I am not... so well conceited of any Composition... of mine, as to think I shall do you any Honour by this Dedication. a 1677 [see CONCEITED ppl. a. 2].

well-con'ceived, ppl. a.

1836 J. S. MILL in *London Rev.* II. 368 A well-conceived and well-executed work of fiction. 1862 — *Pol. Econ.* (ed. 5) II. v. ii. 395 Mr. Hubbard... whose well-conceived plan wants little of being... an approximation to a just settlement. 1919 W. S. CHURCHILL *Let.* 20 Jan. in M. Gilbert *Winston S. Churchill* (1977) IV. Compan. i. 472 Executive Heads of well-conceived Branches. 1979 *Jrnl. R. Soc. Arts* Apr. 259/2 The latter Council has gradually built up a series of well-sited, well-conceived and well-run centres.

well-con'certed, ppl. a.

1725 POPE *Odys.* xxiii. 33 With well-concerted art to end his woes. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* 1. 356 Death's subtle seed within... Smil'd at thy well-concerted scheme. 1768-74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 483 Wisdom... pursues invariably one grand and well concerted design. 1846 MRS. A. MARSH *Father Darcy* II. xvii. 282 By a well-concerted opposition and peaceable exposure of their grievances.

well-con'cocted, ppl. a.

1676 WISEMAN *Surg.* iv. vi. 324, I opened it by Incision, and discharged a well-concocted Matter. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* Ded., Sobriety in our riper years is the effect of a well-concocted warmth. 1781 COWPER *Truth* 496 The well concocted juice.

well-con'corded, ppl. a. Duly harmonized.

1811 *Henry & Isabella* I. 227 Of all the utilities of this well concorded creation, the propriety of calamities... is one of the last which we learn to comprehend.

well-con'ditioned, a.

1. Of good disposition, morals, or behaviour; having good 'conditions' or qualities; right-minded.

c 1482 *Monk Evesham* (Arb.) 75 He yat was so honeste of leuyng and wele condycyonde in hys demening. a 1500 *Promp. Parv.* 521/1 (MSS. K., H.) Well condiciond or maneryd, morosus, vel bene morigeratus. a 1500 *Flower & Leaf* 581 Alle that good and wel-conditioned be. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 30 Their King (then, sixteen yeares old, and well-conditioned). 1814 WORDSW. *Excurs.* v. p. 241 See, in this well conditioned Soul, A Third To match with your good Couple. 1835 POE *Hans Pfaall* (init.), The well-conditioned city of Rotterdam. 1860 EMERSON *Cond. Life, Worship* Wks. (Bohn) II. 398 See what allowance vice finds in the respectable and well-conditioned class. 1865 M. ARNOLD *Ess. Crit.* 285 (*M. Aurelius*) They sincerely regarded it [Christianity] much as well-conditioned people, with us, regard Mormonism. 1880 FROUDE *Bunyan* vii. 91 This book is wrought into the mind and memory of every well-conditioned English or American child. 1905 R. GARNETT *Shaks.* 56 And, for thy full assurance, I have feigned her Contrite and well-conditioned at the last.

2. a. Having a good physical condition; being in a sound, healthy, or satisfactory state.

a 1613 RALEGH *Let. to Pr. Henry* Sceptick, etc. (1651) 128 In a well conditioned Ship, these things are chiefly required. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* I. 240 Not a barrel that was missing, and... they were sound and well-

conditioned. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 541 Father Simon... was a jolly well condition'd Man, very free in his Conversation. 1725 *Bradley's Family Dict.* II. s.v. *Sugar*, The other well-condition'd Boilings. 1753-4 RICHARDSON *Grandison* II. xxiii. 172 A pretty estate, which, tho' not large, was well-conditioned, and capable of improvement. 1755 MAGENS *Insurances* II. 5 The Goods are arrived and brought a-shore safe and well-conditioned at Ancona. 1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunters* xxvii. 205 The devoted horse is in fact a well-conditioned animal. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* xix, Surveying with an eye of satisfaction his... well-conditioned cattle.

b. spec. in *Surg.*

1672 WISEMAN *Wounds* II. iii. 12 If you judge the Wound to be so well conditioned that there is neither fear of Putrefaction nor Mortification. 1676 — *Surg.* II. i. 165 If the Constitution be good, and the Serum well-conditioned. 1883 OGILVIE (Annandale), *Well-conditioned*,... in *surg.* being in a state tending to health; as, a well-conditioned wound or sore.

c. *Surveying and Math.* Such that a small error in measurement or change in data gives rise to only a small change in the calculated result.

1882 J. L. ROBINSON *Treat. Marine Surveying* viii. 141 If the equilateral triangles are not obtainable, then they must be as 'well-conditioned' as possible, i.e. the angles must lie between 30° and 75°. 1952 D. R. HARTREE *Numerical Analysis* viii. 155 The normal equations are less well-conditioned than the original equations. 1973 C. W. GEAR *Introd. Computer Sci.* vi. 261 Is the problem of computing the hypotenuse of a right-angled triangle, given the other two sides, well-conditioned?

3. Established on good terms or conditions.

1645 FULLER *Gd. Th. in Bad T.* iv. vi. 205 A well-conditioned Peace. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Deronda* lxviii, An irksome submission to restraint, only made bearable by his thinking of it as a means of by-and-by securing a well-conditioned freedom.

well-con'ducted, ppl. a.

1. Properly directed, managed, or carried out.

1749 FRANCIS tr. *Horace, Art P.* 34 note, A regular well-conducted Piece. 1752 MASON *Elfrida, Lett. Drama* iii. p. ix, The advantage the Audience receiv'd from a well-conducted Chorus. 1803 CHALMERS in *Life* (1851) I. 479 A series of judicious and well-conducted experiments. 1842 J. AITON *Dom. Econ.* (1857) 185 Hence land, after a well-conducted fallow, is always more productive of good grain than when it has undergone any other preparation. 1884 E. YATES *Recoll.* I. 157 Every well-conducted restaurant nowadays is conducted on these principles.

2. Displaying exemplary conduct, well-behaved.

1838 DICKENS *Nickleby* iv, Whether you consider me a highly virtuous... and well-conducted man in private life. 1853 THACKERAY *Sorrows of Werther* 15 Charlotte... Like a well-conducted person, Went on cutting bread and butter. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 302 Well-conducted and meritorious citizens.

well(-)co'nnected, ppl. a.

1. Linked together in good order or sequence; exhibiting proper sequence or coherence of thought.

1734 BERKELEY *Analyst* ii. 5 When from the distinct Contemplation and Comparison of Figures, their Properties are derived, by a perpetual well-connected chain of Consequences. 1781 JOHNSON *L.P., Milton* I. 262 It [*Samson Agonistes*] wants that power of attracting the attention, which a well-connected plan produces. 1824 [see CONNECTED ppl. a. 2].

2. Of good family and connexions.

1840 [see CONNECTED ppl. a. 4]. 1856 MISS YONGE *Daisy Chain* i. i, He learnt from other sources that the Ernsliffes were well connected. 1871 LE FANU *Rose & Key* I. xiv. 126 The vicar is a well-connected old gentleman. *absol.* 1882 W. S. GILBERT *Iolanthe* I. (*Ballad*), Spurn not the nobly born With love affected, Nor treat with virtuous scorn The well-connected.

well-conned, ppl. a.

1808 SCOTT *Marm.* III. Introd. 229 From me, thus nurtur'd, dost thou ask The classic poet's well-conned task?

†well-'conscienced, a. Obs. [WELL *adv.* 32.]

14... T. BECKINGTON'S *Corr.* (Rolls) II. 168 Such wele consyenced persones. 1534 [see CONSCIENCED].

well-con'senting, ppl. a.

1715 POPE *Iliad* I. 370 Let both unite, with well-consenting mind.

well-con'sidered, ppl. a.

1. That has received due heed or consideration; carefully reflected on.

1769 BURROW *Rep. K.B.* (1776) IV. 2347 A solemn well-considered Determination. 1774 BURKE *Sp. Amer. Tax.* Sel. Wks. 1897 I. 107 We besought the King, in that well-considered address, to inquire into treasons. 1784 COWPER *Task.* v. 75 The cock... wading at their head With well-consider'd steps. 1860 GEO. ELIOT *Mill on Fl.* III. iii, Mrs. Deane was a thin-lipped woman, who made small well-considered speeches on peculiar occasions. 1865 [see CONSIDERED ppl. a. 2].

2. Highly esteemed.

1886 STEVENSON *Kidnapped* xii. 112 He... was a well-considered poet in his own tongue.

well-con'sorted, ppl. a.

1590 SPENSER *F.Q.* II. iii. 11 So forth they pas, a well consorted paire.

well-'constituted, ppl. a. Of good make or constitution; rightly formed or framed.

a 1763 SHENSTONE *Ess.* Wks. 1768 II. 279 If we should strive to please a well-constituted taste. 1833 J. H. NEWMAN *Arians* II. i. (1876) 145 So reluctant is a well-constituted mind to reflect on its own motive principles. 1836 A. COMBE

Physiol. Digestion (ed. 2) 263 A healthy and well-constituted nurse. 1873 SYMONDS *Grk. Poets* iii. 74 When asked what made an orderly and well-constituted state, Solon answered, 'When the people obey the rulers, and the rulers obey the laws.'

well-con'structed, *ppl. a.*

1784 COWPER *Tiroc.* 523 If shrewd, and of a well-constructed brain. 1893 W. S. GILBERT *Utopia (Limited)* 1. 25 Oh admirable art! Oh neatly-planned intention! Oh happy intervention—Oh well-constructed plot! 1915 A. J. BALFOUR in M. Gilbert *Winston S. Churchill* (1972) III. Compan. II. 1281 Well-constructed trenches.

Hence **well-con'structedness**.

1975 *Studies in Eng. Lit.: Eng. Number* (Tokyo) 138 The defect of Mr. Halliburton's well-constructed volume, it seems to me, lies in its well-constructedness.

well(-)con'tent, *a.* Highly pleased, gratified, or satisfied.

c 1440 [see CONTENT *a.* 2]. c 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xxvi. 557 When rowlande sawe that they were armed, he was not well contente wyth it. 1556 *Extracts Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 298 Off the quhilk sowme forsaide I grant me well content, satisfiit, and pait. 1645 WALLER *Battle Summer Isl.* iii. 32 Now would the men with half their hoped pray Bee well content. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 805 He that finds One drop of heav'n's sweet mercy in his cup, Can dig, beg, rot and perish, well content. So he may wrap himself in honest rags At his last gasp. 1786 [see CONTENT *a.* 2]. 1864 TENNYSON *En. Arden* 373 So Philip rested with her well-content.

well(-)con'tented, *ppl. a.*

1555 R. POWNALL *Musculus' Temporis* iii. Ejb, Being wel contented to suffre & indure al that the Lord hath ordeined for me, in that behaff. 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* xxxii, If thou suruiue my well contented daie. 1611 *Tarlton's Jest*s (1638) B2, The Gentleman noting his mad humour, went his way wel contented: for he knew not how to amend it. 1661 HOLYDAY *Juvenal* xiii. (1673) 238 Then there was no such rout Of gods, as now: a few did serve throughout The well-contented skies. 1842 TENNYSON *Gard. Dau.* 88 From the woods Came voices of the well-contented doves. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* III. II. 431 Unless The dawn . . should creep Cold-footed o'er their well-contented sleep.

well-con'tenting, *ppl. a.*

1646 TRAPP *Comm. St. John* xxi. 24. 151 Humility . . would chuse to live and dye in its well-contenting secrecy.

well-con'tested, *ppl. a.*

1804 *Oxf. Jvnl.* 28 Jan. 1/2 Wimbledon Common, . . where Belcher has fought many a well-contested round. 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, River*, A well-contested rowing-match on the Thames, is a very lively and interesting scene.

well-con'tinued, *ppl. a.* Diligently carried on or maintained.

1534 MORE *Comf. agst. Trib.* III. xvii. (1553) Qviiijb, Howbeit, if this persecution come, we be by this meditacion and well continued entente and purpose beefore, the better strenghted and confirmed. 1644 MILTON *Educ.* 2 Their untutor'd Anglicisms, . . not to be avoided without a well continu'd and 'udicious conversing among pure Authors.

well-con'trived, *ppl. a.*

1613 ZOUCHE *Dove* B1b, Like Natures rarest workmanship, the Eye, The well contriued instrument of seeing. 1622 [see SQUARE *sb.* 20b]. 1715 LEONI *Palladio's Archit.* (1742) II. 56 The well-contriv'd Stair-case of the Castle of Chambor. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 603 Nor taste alone and well-contriv'd display Suffice to give the Marshall'd ranks the grace Of their complete effect. 1808 FORSYTH *Beauties Scot.* v. 23 A deep large well-contrived ditch secures it from the north.

well-con'trolled, *ppl. a.*

c 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* IX. 128 Twelue yong horse, well shap't and well controld.

well-cooked, *ppl. a.*

1611 [see COOK *v.* 2]. 1836 A. COMBE *Physiol. Digestion* (ed. 2) 285 Plain well-cooked animal food, not too recently killed. 1865 MRS. GASKELL *Wives & Dau.* xxviii, Then the meals, light and well-cooked, suited his taste and delicate appetite so much better than [etc.].

well-co-ordinated, *ppl. a.*

1940 W. FAULKNER *Hamlet* II. ii. 127 Precocious, well-co-ordinated and quick to learn . . he acquired enough credits in three years to enter college. 1983 *N. Y. Times* 7 May 1. 14/5 A buoyant and wellcoordinated performance of the Vivaldi.

well-corked, *ppl. a.*

1774 E. LONG *Jamaica* III. 886 A scorpion, a house-spider, and a cockroach, were put all together for experiment into a well-corked phial.

well-corned, *ppl. a.*

† 1. Covered with a good crop of corn. *Obs.* 1652 MAYNE tr. *Donne's Epigr.* Paradoxes 98 Glebes, which were long of sun and skie bereav'd, Now the Dutch Plowman sees wel corn'd & sheav'd.

2. Of cereals, beans, peas: Bearing a good head of grain or seeds.

1800, 1861 [see CORNED *a.* 1 4].

3. Of beef: High-cured by salting.

1772 *Ann. Reg.* 221 While I, half-famished, ev'ry hour Biscuit and well-corn'd beef devour.

4. Exhilarated with liquor. *Sc. and dial.*

1825 JAMIESON *s.v.* CORN *v.* 2.

well-co'rrected, *ppl. a.* Properly disciplined or regulated.

1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 100 ¶4 When a well-corrected lively Imagination and good Breeding are added to a sweet Disposition.

well-couched, *ppl. a.*

1. Of a structure; Firmly bedded or based.

1538 [see COUCH *v.* 1 3 b]. 1608 BP. HALL *Char. Virtues & Vices* II. 104 He is the wheele of a well-couched fire-worke, that flies out on all sides, not without scorching it selfe. 1639 [see TRUNCHEON *sb.* 6]. 1675 [see COUCHED *ppl. a.*].

2. Of speech: Skilfully framed or expressed.

1625 K. LONG tr. *Barclay's Argenis* v. i. 325 He, in well-couched Language, beseeches Poliarchus to use his fortune moderately. 1644 MILTON *Educ.* 6 Logic . . with all her well coucht heads and Topics. 1649 — *Eikon.* iv. 28 Wee have heer . . a neat and well-couch'd invective against Tumults. 1714 MANDEVILLE *Fab. Bees* (1723) I. 158 Whilst harmonious Musick and well-couch'd Flattery entertain his Hearing by Turns.

3. Skilfully or craftily planned.

1671 MILTON *P.R.* I. 97 Not force, but well couch't fraud, well woven snares.

well-'counterfeited, *ppl. a.*

1625 K. LONG tr. *Barclay's Argenis* I. xi. 29 With well-counterfeited griefe.

well-coupled: see COUPLED 3.

well-'covered, *ppl. a.* a. In *gen.* use; b. *spec.* thickly covered with flesh; hence in *colloq.* use of a person: plump, corpulent; cf. WELL-UPHOLSTERED *ppl. a.*

1697 WALSH *Dryden's Virgil* Life **2 In other Writers there is often well cover'd Ignorance; in Virgil, conceal'd Learning. 1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* an. 1776 (1904) II. 46 My worthy booksellers and friends, Messieurs Dilly in the Poultry, at whose hospitable and well-covered table I have seen a greater number of literary men, than at any other. 1853 SOYER *Pantropheon* 121 They are then cooked without water, in a well-covered vessel. 1865 MRS. GASKELL *Wives & Dau.* xxxiii, Till he had placed him, nothing loth, at the well-covered dining-table. 1884 *Nonconf. & Indep.* 9 May 445/3 Thrusting his elbow into the well-covered ribs of Mr. W. H. Smith. 1943 D. WELCH *Maiden Voyage* xvii. 136 A mild, well-covered person, with crinkly hair and rather piggy eyes. 1972 'E. FERRARS' *Breath of Suspicion* i. 7 He was rosy, bland and very well-covered.

well-'crafted, *ppl. a.* [CRAFT *v.* 2.]

1976 *Nature* 15 July 169/3 A well-crafted murder mystery. 1983 *Listener* 16 June 29/3 It is gripping, slick, well-crafted and beautifully shot.

well-crammed, *ppl. a.*

1743 BLAIR *Grave* 324 Where are thy boasted implements of art, And all thy well-cramm'd magazines of health?

well-'creamed, *ppl. a.*

1922 JOYCE *Ulysses* 527 Your wellcreamed braceletted hands.

† **well-created**, *ppl. a.* *Obs.* Noble, valiant. (Cf. *obs. F. bien créé.*)

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* IV. (1922) 130 She strengthened her well created heart.

well-cress. Now *dial.* [OE. *wyllecærse*, -*cerse*: see WELL *sb.* 1 and CRESS.] Water-cress, *Nasturtium officinale*.

c 1000 Sax. *Leechd.* I. 140 Seoð mid wylle cærsan [L. *cum fæno græco*]. c 1000 Ags. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 298/16 *Fenegreco*, wyllecerse. 1393 LANGLAND *P. Pl.* C. VII. 292 3ut were me leure. . lyue by welle-carse(s) þan haue my fode and my fyndyng of false menne wynnynge. 14. . *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 597/24 *Nasturcium*, walcarse. *Ibid.* 712/17 *Hoc nastucium*, welcresse. 1597 in *Spalding Club Misc.* (1841) I. 105 Sche commandit the said Johne . . to eat valcarss. 1808 JAMIESON, *Well-kerse*s, water-cresses, called also *wall- or well-grass*. 1894 *Northumbld. Gloss.* *s.v.* Kars, *Watter-kars*, water-cress; also called *well-karse*s.

well(-)'crested, *a.* [WELL *adv.* 32.] Furnished with a good crest; *fig.* proud, high-spirited.

1642 HOWELL *For. Trav.* (Arb.) 76 It being the greatest glory of a King, to be King of a free and well-crested people. 1682 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1768/4 A White grey Roan Gelding, . . well Crested.

well-cropped, *ppl. a.* Bearing a good crop.

1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. 235 These rich meadows, and well-cropt acres.

well-crushed, *ppl. a.*

1860 GEO. ELIOT *Mill on Fl.* I. xii, The precious inland products, the well-crushed cheese and the soft fleeces.

well-'cultivated, *ppl. a.*

c 1710 CONGREVE tr. *Ovid* Wks. 1730 III. 304 And plenteous Crops of golden Grain are found, Alone, to grace well-cultivated Ground. 1755 SMOLLETT *Quix.* (1803) IV. 221 A student of acute parts, and a well-cultivated understanding. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xxx. III. 171 The banks of the Rhine were crowned . . with elegant houses and well-cultivated farms. 1847 MRS. GORE *Castles in Air* I. ix. 181 The thriving, cheering aspect of our well-cultivated kingdom. 1879 MRS. HAWES *Art of Dress* 124 We are offending well-cultivated eyes and well-regulated minds.

well-'cultured, *ppl. a.*

1683 J. REID *Scots Gard'ner* (1907) 87 Kitchen-herbes and roots require very fat, light, warme, and well-cultured ground.

† **wellcurds** (also *weale*, *wel-*), *obs.* var. *welled curds*: see WELLED *ppl. a.*

1538 ELYOT *Dict.*, *Schiston*, the mylke that remayneth after that the mylke is soddien, whiche is callyd well courdes. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus*, *Schistum*, weale cruddes. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. 148 Of the Whay that commeth from the Cheese, being sodde with a soft fyre, tyl the fatnesse of the Cheese swym aloft, are made Welcurdes [*Margin* Wellcurds].

well-cured, *ppl. a.*

1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* xvii (ed. 1), A side of streaky, well-cured bacon. 1875 'S. BEAUCHAMP' *N. Hamilton* I. 256 The kitchen . . was well furnished, too, with well-cured hams and good thick sides of bacon.

well-curled, *ppl. a.*

1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* 177 See that they [*sc.* sheep] . . have a soft greasie well curled close Wooll. 1833 T. HOOK *Parson's Dau.* I. xi, The well-curled damsels, standing at the shop-doors. 1859 *Habits Gd. Society* iv. 186 The feather . . should be full, well-curled, long and firm.

well-'curried, *ppl. a.*

1815 W. H. IRELAND *Scribbleomania* I My palfrey a long-ear'd and well-curried ass.

well-curved, *ppl. a.*

1813 VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* 117 The light Dorset swing-plough . . has a well-curved iron breast.

well-'cushioned, *a.*

1862 MISS YONGE *C'tess Kate* i, Round, white, well-cushioned limbs. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 7 May 2/1 So he speedily settles down to his well-cushioned life.

well(-)'customed, *ppl. a.*

1594 PLAT *Jewel-ho.* 1. 66 But this [trick of the vintners] is dangerous vnlesse it bee in a house well customed. 1681 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1578/4 A Large and well customed Inn.

well(-)cut, *ppl. a.*

1635-56 COWLEY *Dauides* iv. 288 His Ephod, Mitre, well-cut Diadem on. a 1691 SIR G. MACKENZIE in *Watson's Collect. Sc. Poems* II. (1709) 79 A well cut Cristal, in a richer Case, Covers and Shews at once that Virgin's Face. 1721 in *New Collect. Poems by Prior* etc. (1725) 18 Close, Carver! by some well-cut Books, Let a thin Busto tell; In spite of plump and pumper'd Looks, How scanty Sense can dwell! 1841 EMERSON *Conservative* Wks. (Bohn) II. 274 Your roads are well cut and well paved. 1849 C. BRONTE *Shirley* xi, A well-cut, well-made gown. 1896 H. G. WELLS *Wheels of Chance* x, A well-cut holiday suit.

welld, *obs.* form of WIELD *v.*

well-'dealing, *ppl. a.* Fair in dealing or business with others.

1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* I. i. 7 The rancorous outrage of your Duke, To Merchants our well-dealing Countimen.

well-dealt, *ppl. a.*

1859 *Habits Gd. Society* v. 191 One well-dealt blow settles the whole matter.

'well-deck. [WELL *sb.* 1 9 b.] An open space on the main deck of a ship, lying at a lower level between the forecastle and poop; also *attrib.* Hence 'well-decked *a.*, furnished with a well-deck. Also 'well-decker, a ship with a well-deck.

1888 *Daily Tel.* 22 Mar. 2/1 The objection to the well-deck ship is not due to structural form. 1888 *Engineer* 8 June 468/3 Steamers of the 'well-deck' type. 1888 *Iron* 22 June 554 A well-decked steamer of 270 feet length. 1888 *Ibid.* 20 July 65 The *Hurworth* has a poop, long raised quarter-deck, long bridge . . and a topgallant forecastle, leaving only a short well-deck. 1889 *Engineer* 1 Mar. 192/2 A large proportion of the steamers built and owned at West Hartlepool are 'well-deckers'. 1898 KIPLING *Day's Work* 83 The deck amidships, which was a well-deck sunk between high bulwarks.

well(-)decked, *ppl. a.* [DECKED *ppl. a.*]

1. Finely adorned.

? a 1500 [see DECKED *ppl. a.* 1]. 1530 PALSGR. 329/1 Well apparayled or well decked, *gorrier*. c 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* x. 4 As quicke lightnings flie From well-deckt-Iunos souveraigne, out of the thickned skie. 1865 [see DECKED *ppl. a.* 1].

2. Built with a good deck.

1887 MORRIS *Odys.* IX. 127 The well-decked ships.

† **well-'deeded**, *a.* *Obs.* [f. WELL *adv.* 32 + DEEDED. Cf. WEL-DEDE.] Characterized by good deeds.

1612 R. CARPENTER *Soule's Sent.* 92 The witnes and inward testimony of a well-deeded life . . will relieue and comfort you in death. 1623 — *Conscionable Chr.* 69 There is a reward in heaven for all well-deeded Christians prepared. 1650 TRAPP *Comm.*, *Numb.* xxii. 18 A well-spoken and well-deeded person.

† **well-'deemed**, *ppl. a.* *Obs.* Of good report, much accounted of.

1591-5 SPENSER *Colin Clout* 695 By slaundring his well deemed name.

† **well-'de'fenced**, *ppl. a.* *Obs.*

1616 [see DEFENCED]. a 1618 RALEGH *Apol. Voy. Guiana* (1650) 15 From hence . . we sayled to Gomarrah, one of the strongest and well defended places of all the Islands.

well-'de'fended, *ppl. a.*

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. xxviii. (1912) 516 Pressing upon Zelmane in such a wel defended manner, that [etc.]. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* v. i. 407 Whose salt imagination yet hath wrong'd Your well defended honor. c 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XVIII. 244 Vaine entrie seeking vnderneath our well-defended walls. 1697 DRYDEN *Aeneis* IX. 933 Soon repuls'd they fly, Or in the well-defended Pass they dye. 1829 SCOTT *Anne of G.* xxxiii, Instead of attempting to secure a well-defended frontier. 1870 BRYANT *Iliad* I. 169 We . . freely will appoint for thee Threefold and fourfold recompense, should Jove Give up to sack this well-defended Troy.

well-de'fined, *ppl. a.* Clearly indicated, marked, or determined.

1704 NEWTON *Optics* II. i. (1721) 171 When the Rings . . appeared only black and white, they were very distinct and well defined. 1835 J. DUNCAN *Beetles* (Nat. Libr.) 154 A numerous and well-defined family, including nearly 200 known species. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* II. xxviii. 279 There was one well-defined lead which . . lost itself to seaward. 1865 LUBBOCK *Prehist. Times* 146 Its well-defined geographical and historical range. 1899 CROCKETT *Kit Kennedy* xxxix. 278 If Kit had looked closely he would have seen that his frankness had brought a well-defined blush to her cheek.

well-de'fivered, *ppl. a.*

1869 BOUTELL *Arms & Armour* iii. 52 These cuirasses . . were not proof against a well-delivered thrust of the point of sword or spear.

well-de'meaned, *ppl. a.* Of good manners or behaviour.

1634 MASSINGER *Very Woman* III. v. (1655) 54 A very handsom fellow, And well demean'd. 1838 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* Ser. II. xii. The young queen . . was . . well-dressed and well-demeaned.

well(-)de'rived, *ppl. a.* Of good descent or stock.

1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* v. iv. 146 Thou art a Gentleman, and well deriu'd. 1601 — *All's Well* III. ii. 90 My sonne corrupts a well-deriued nature With his inducement.

well(-)de'scended, *ppl. a.* Of good descent.

1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* v. v. 303 Stay, Sir King. This man is better then the man he slew, As well descended as thy selfe. 1650 HEATH *Clarastella* 13 But she is high and well-descended; true; My birth stiles me as freeborn too. 1828 MISS MITFORD *Village Ser.* III. 269 A rich and well-descended country gentleman.

well(-)de'served, *ppl. a.* Rightfully merited or earned.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. xxii. §9 We . . caused the wicked Historian to conclude his history, with his owne well-deserved death. 1590 SPENSER *F.Q.* I. vi. 20 The lignage right, From whence he tooke his well deserued name. 1619 DRAYTON *Bar. Wars* II. xlv. 25 Your Bayes must be your well-deserved blame, For your ill actions quench my sacred flame. 1756 C. SMART tr. *Horace* (1826) II. 95 He who derived a well-deserved title from the destruction of Carthage. 1825 SCOTT *Talism.* v. Until his awful judge shall at length appoint the well-deserved sentence to be carried into execution. 1889 J. B. BURY *Later Rom. Emp.* I. 76 The Gildonic war, through which Stilicho won well-deserved laurels.

† **b.** In active sense or loose construction = 'having well deserved it.' *Obs.*

1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* II. i. 192 If I breake time, or flinch in property Of what I spoke, unpittied let me die, And well deseru'd.

† **well-de'server**. *Obs.* One who deserves well (of another).

1617 A. NEWMAN *Pleasures Vision* 32 Then well-deseruers well regarded Would be. 1622 F. MARKHAM *Bk. War* I. vi. 22 This Reward of martiall excellence . . extended fourth it-selfe, euen to the lowest souldier in his Campe and meanest wel-deseruer. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* Ded., The Court: A place of forgetfulness, at the best, for well deservers. 1709 STEELE & SWIFT *Tatler* No. 70 ¶6, I shall think my self a Well-Deseruer of the Church, in recommending all the dumb Clergy to the famous speaking Doctor at Kensington.

† **well-de'serving**, *vbl. sb.* *Obs.* Good desert.

1609 BIBLE (Douay) 3 *Kings* vi. Contin. Ch. & Relig. 704 Booz . . prayed God to render to Ruth a ful reward for her well deserving. 1620 GAINSFORD *Glory Eng.* II. xxviii. (ed. 2) 331 Whether I flie with the wings of vaine-glorie, in the ampiation of our well deseruing. 1622 WITHER *Faire-Virtue* K 4 b, Shall a Womans Virtues moue, Me, to perish for her loue? Or, her well-deseruing knowne, Make me quite forget mine owne?

well-de'serving, *ppl. a.* Highly meritorious or worthy.

1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 117 How deeply the common wealth is growne in your debte, for your meritorious and wel deseruing behaiour. 1591 HARINGTON *Orl. Fur.* Apol. Poetrie ¶iij b, Traitors that sell their princes fauours, and rob weldeseruing seruitors of their reward. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* II. 66 The . . Generals diuided innumerable spoyles, to their well-deseruing Captaines. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 784 Now what avails his well-deserving Toil. 1798 WORDSW. *Peter Bell* 936 Calm is the well-deserving brute.

absol. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 100 To defend and relieue the distrest and wel-deseruing. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. v. (1674) 8 Only the most vertuous and well-deserving commanded.

Hence well-deservingness.

1631 MABBE *Celestina* xii. 141 The gentlenesse and well-deservingnesse of Melibea.

well-de'signed, *ppl. a.*

1709 ATTERBURY *Serm.* (1726) II. 231 The Ill Success, that has been observed to attend well-design'd Charities. 1934 *Archit. Rev.* LXXXV. 39/1 Well-designed manufactures are, after all, not so rare in England. 1975 *Language for Life* (Dept. Educ. & Sci.) xxvi. 540 There is evidence in some schools that well-designed measures can be successful.

well-de'signing, *ppl. a.*

1716 ADDISON *Free-holder* No. 14 ¶5 Under the name of Tories, I do not here comprehend multitudes of well-designing men, who were formerly included under that denomination, but are now in the interest of his Majesty and the present government.

well(-)de'sired, *ppl. a.* Much sought after.

1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* II. i. 206 (Hony) you shall be well desir'd in Cyprus.

well-de'termined, *ppl. a.*

1905 W. JAMES *Ess. Radical Empiricism* (1912) iv. 128 Its successors differ from it in another well-determined way. 1968 FOX & MAYERS *Computing Methods for Scientists & Engineers* iii. 50 If the problem is well-conditioned the constants of this combination are well-determined.

well-de'veloped, *ppl. a.*

1835-6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 435/2 Well-developed systems of arteries. 1861 MILL *Utilit.* iii. (1863) 49 Any mind, of well developed feelings.

well-de'vised, *ppl. a.*

1825 SCOTT *Talism.* xv, Some well-devised stratagem. 1861 BROUGHAM *Brit. Const.* v. (1862) 77 A well-devised system of registration.

well(-)dieted, *ppl. a.* Subjected to a good regimen of diet.

1475 J. PASTON in *P. Lett.* III. 142, I may not ete halff inough, when I have most hungry, I am so well dyettyd. 1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* I. iv. 1 What! the wel-dieted Amorphus become a water-drinker? 1605 [see DIETED *ppl. a.*].

well(-)di'gested, *ppl. a.*

† 1. Of good digestion; *fig.* able to assimilate one's learning. *Obs.*

1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* v. iii, If they should confidently praise their workes, In them it would appeare inflation: Which in a full, and wel-digested man Cannot receiue that foule abusive name.

† 2. Fully matured or ripened. *Obs.*

1657 JER. TAYLOR *Disc. Friendship* 12 Some have splendid fires, aromatic spices, rich wines, and well digested fruits. 1768-74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 111 The strong tone of its vessels and its precipitant circulation drive on the juices before well digested, and are apt to throw crudities into the fruit.

3. Carefully and methodically arranged.

1708 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* II. III. xi. 540 The College . . has . . a well digested Library. 1731 *Hist. Lit.* III. 255 At the end of each Volume [is] a copious well-digested Index. 1748 HARTLEY *Observ. Man* I. iii. §2. 354 Regular and well-digested Accounts of the Phaenomena of the Natural World.

4. Carefully pondered or thought out.

1768-74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 284 Each man, whatever his peculiar notions be, if he has any serious well-digested ones, may find something in them, which [etc.]. 1826 *Art Brewing* (ed. 2) Pref., The well-digested plan which the large brewers have acted upon. 1867 A. BARRY *Sir C. Barry* viii. 281 A scheme . . which will probably be thought to show well-digested principle.

well(-)di'rected, *ppl. a.* Aimed, addressed, guided, conducted, with skill and care.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. xi. §2 With a number of well directed Pioners. 1694 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* II. xx. §18 (ed. 2) 123 The pleasure . . of well directed study in the search . . of Truth. 1743 FRANCIS tr. *Hor.*, *Odes* III. ii. 3 To hurl the well-directed spear. 1768-74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 606 Any well-directed industry. 1781 COWPER *Expost.* 239 They breath'd in faith their well directed pray'rs. 1800 *Hull Advertiser* 7 June 2/4 The Penelope . . whose well-directed fire . . had shot away the main and mizentopmasts. 1836 A. COMBE *Physiol. Digestion* (ed. 2) 279 The power we possess of modifying the constitution by well-directed regimen is very great. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xii. III. 236 The Dartmouth poured on them a well directed broad-side. a 1871 GROTE *Eth. Fragm.* ii. 36 If . . we . . explain it only as a well-directed choice and discretion on the part of the individual.

well(-)'disciplined, *ppl. a.*

1. Kept under good discipline; strictly trained or controlled.

1595 [LEWKENOR] *Estate Engl. Fugitives* Riv, Like well disciplined souldiers that keepe still good and warie watch, though they be neuor so farre from the enemy. 1642 EARL OF CORK in Earl Orrery *St. Lett.* (1742) 8 These seasoned and well disciplined companies. 1702 J. DENNIS *Ess. Navy* title-p., England's Advantage and Safety, prov'd Dependant on a Formidable and well-Disciplined Navy. 1768-74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 339 A well-disciplined imagination. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 528 The power of self-government which is characteristic of men trained in well disciplined camps to command and to obey. 1849 C. BRONTE *Shirley* x, At first sight, all but peculiarly well-disciplined minds were apt to turn from her with annoyance.

2. Soundly flogged.

1659-60 *Arsy Versy* vi, It did now, like a Truant's well-disciplined Bum, With the rod of affliction harder become.

well-dis'guised, *ppl. a.*

1724 FIDDES *Morality* Pref. p. lxxv, What we term public spiritedness . . is nothing more than a refined and well-disguised hypocrisy.

well-di'spersed, *ppl. a.*

1732 POPE *Ep. Bathurst* 236 In heaps, like Ambergrise, a stink it lies, But well-dispers'd, is Incense to the Skies.

well(-)di'sposed, *ppl. a.*

† 1. In good physical condition, healthy. *Obs.*

c 1386 [see DISPOSED 2]. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P.R.* v. xli. (1495) 157 Yf these [organs] ben in good state and yf they ben hoole and well dysposed, the beest is al hoole. 1422 YONGE tr. *Secreta Secret.* 247, I shall you say shortly What thynges makyth the body fat, moiste, and well dysposid. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* II. xxix. §4 Such a full and evident perception as it [the mind] does receive from an outward object operating duly on a well-disposed organ. a 1716

SOUTH *Serm.* (1842) III. 475 An healthful body and a sound mind, vigorous faculties and well-disposed organs.

† **b.** Of reason: ? Sound, sane. *Obs.*

c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. iii. 148 Wherfore no doom of weel disposid resoun reproueth and weerneth the seid hauyng and vsing of ymagis in the chirche.

† **c.** Of the weather: ? Temperate, fair. *Obs.*

c 1477 CAXTON *Jason* 54 b, The fayr sonne shone clere . . and the weder was softe and well disposed.

2. Suitably or skilfully placed, arranged, or adjusted.

c 1470 ASHBY *Active Policy* 307 Be ye rather clept an executer Of wisdom . . Than to be proclaimed a wise speker, . . Of bothe, weldisposed, fame shal arise. 1576 R. PETERSON *G. della Casa's Galateo* 71 Long and continued talke: which would be well disposed, wel vttered & very wel set forth. 1725 *Bradley's Family Dict.* s.v. *Vine*, To plant an Acre of such Ground with Vines, in some well-disposed place on the declivity of an Hill. 1748 MELMOTH *Fitzosborne Lett.* lxi. (1749) II. 116 The grace and harmony of well-disposed lights and shades.

3. Of a good disposition; *esp.* disposed to be friendly or favourable, well-affected.

1455 *Rolls of Part.* V. 325/1 Every wele disposed persone of yis lande. 1456 *Paston Lett.* I. 392 The Comons of Kent . . er not all weel disposid. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 15 b, An honeste or weldisposed manne. 1570 ELVIDEN *New Yr.'s Gift* (Huth 1875) Bij, Though the wicked syer Shoulde seeme for to prouoke His well disposed sonne to yll. a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. xvii. (1912) 259 A certain sparke of honour, which rose in her well-disposed minde, made her feare to be alone with him, with whom alone she desired to be. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II.* II. i. 206 You loose a thousand well-disposed hearts. 1622 WITHER *Faire-Virtue* K 4 b, Should my heart be grieved . . Cause I see a Woman kind? Or a well disposed Nature, Ioyned with a louely Feature? 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 286, I was in a humour so well disposed that I accepted very willingly. 1665 BOYLE *Excell. Theol.* (1674) 139 Studious and well-dispos'd Readers may certainly understand such [truths] as are necessary for them to believe. 1709 SHAFESB. *Charac.* (1711) II. 74 While he . . stands so well-dispos'd towards the Laws and Government of his higher Country. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W.N.* I. ii, The charity of well disposed people . . supplies him with the whole fund of his subsistence. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* lii, An obliging, well-disposed, and civil neighbour of mine. 1856 *N. Brit. Rev.* XXVI. 95 The Government should have done their best to secure a well-disposed House.

absol. 1659 SOUTH *Serm.* (1679) 72 The Unprepossessed on the one hand, and the well disposed on the other. 1861 BROUGHAM *Brit. Const.* xv. 235 The indolence and timidity of the well-disposed enabled the enemies of the people to prevail.

Hence well-di'sposedness. *rare.*

1621 BP. HALL *Heaven upon Earth* §10 By a well-disposednesse of mind, we may correct the iniquity of all hard euent.

well-di'sputed, *ppl. a.*

1697 DRYDEN *Aeneis* VIII. 902 Amid the Main, two mighty Fleets engage Their Brazen Beaks; . . Actium surveys the well disputed Prize. 17 . . CONGREVE *Homer's Hymn to Venus* Wks. 1730 III. 369 The Martial Maid . . O'er War presides, and well-disputed Fights. 1728 POPE *Dunciad* II. 245 This well-disputed game.

well-di'ssected, *ppl. a.*

1708 J. PHILIPS *Cyder* I. 353 Thy Specular Orb Apply to well-dissected Kernels.

well-di'ssembled, *ppl. a.*

1693 *Dryden's Juvenal* iv. (1697) 84 Unhappy Youth! whom from his destin'd End, No well-dissembled Madness could defend. 1697 DRYDEN *Aeneis* III. 394 The Grove it self resembles Ida's Wood; And Simois seem'd the well dissembl'd Flood. 17 . . CONGREVE *Homer's Hymn to Venus* Wks. 1730 III. 370 While to conceal the Theft from Juno's Eyes, Some well-dissembled Shape the God belies. 1746 THOMSON *Spring* 383 The well-dissembled fly, The rod fine-tapering with elastic spring. 1765 COLMAN *Terence, Andrian* I. i. 15 Then! there! the frighted Pamphilus betrays His well-dissembled and long-hidden love. 1817 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xiv, The cup went round amid the well-dissembled applause of the courtiers.

well-di'stinguished, *ppl. a.*

1706 WATTS *Horæ Lyr.* (1727) 70 Lo, from afar the promis'd Day Shines with a well-distinguish'd Ray. 1878 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* III. xxi. 538 Servants, all arranged in well-distinguished grades.

well-di'vided, *ppl. a.*

1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* I. v. 53 He was nor sad nor merrie. Cleo. Oh well diuided disposition. 1634-40 HABINGTON *Castara* (Arb.) 21 If the Swans of Thames . . Oth' sudden heare thy well-divided breath. [Cf. DIVIDE v. II.]

well-'documented, *ppl. a.* Supported or attested by much documentary evidence.

1937 *Burlington Mag.* Apr. 156/1, 1465, in which year he [sc. Bellini] produced his first well-documented painting. 1946 *Nature* 30 Nov. 770/1 Well-documented studies of the Tehuelche and Puelche of Patagonia. 1978 *Jrnl. R. Soc. Med.* LXXI. 697/1 The well-documented increases in prescribing represent therapeutic irresponsibility.

well-doer ('wel,dʊə(r)). One who does well; one who lives virtuously or acts uprightly.

c 1450 *Mirk's Festial* I To bryng . . weldoers to þe blys pat euer schall last. 1530 PALSGR. *Ep. to King* p. iv, Well doers in any kynde of vertue. 1648-58 HEXHAM II. s.v. *Wel, Een wel-doender, oft wel-dader*, a Benefactour or a Well-doer. 1684 *Contempl. St. Man* I. v. (1699) 51 Who is so general a well-doer, that no Body complains of him. 1961 NEW ENG. BIBLE *John* iii. 11 The well-doer is a child of God; the evil-doer has never seen God.

well-doing ('wel,du:ɪŋ), *vbl. sb.*

1. The action or practice of doing good; virtuous life and behaviour.

1414 BRAMPTON *Penit. Ps.* (Percy Soc.) 62 Slownes is a curid thing: For it is euer wery of weel doynge. c1450 *Knt. de la Tour* 3 Ladies... that... were... honoured... for her well-doing and goodnes. 1526 TINDALE 2 *Thess.* iii. 13 Brethren be not weary in well doynge. 1574 HAKE *Touchstone* E1 b, Of sinne commeth death: Of wel doing commeth life. 1663 PATRICK *Parab. Pilgr.* xv. (1687) 128 He suffered for well doing, and we for ill. 1736 BUTLER *Anal.* i. iii. Wks. 1874 l. 59 We are so made, that well-doing as such gives us satisfaction. 1824 SCOTT *St. Roman's* xiv, Laugh at your ain toom pouches—it will be lang or your weel-doing fill them. 1883 WHITELAW *Sophocles, Antigone* 703 Welldoing and fair fame of sire to son, Of son to sire, is noblest ornament.

†b. Valour, martial prowess. *Obs.*

c1450 *Merlin* xxvii. 550 But the cristin ne myght but litill space endure, ne hadde be the well doinge of the v knyghtes of the reame of logres.

c. *pl.* Good deeds or actions.

1552 LATIMER *Serm., 1st Sund. Epiph.* (1584) 300b, Seeing wee shall haue no rewarde for our well doynge.

2. Thriving condition; health, prosperity, welfare, success.

1387-8 T. USK *Test. Love* II. x. 120 In hope of weldoing, and of getting agayn the double of thy lesing. 1557 Q. MARY in Mary A. E. Wood *Lett. Roy. Ladies* (1846) III. 313 The lady Latimer, who, of a natural and motherly affection, doth tender the well-doing of her said daughter, hath been of late an humble suitor unto us for our letter, desiring [etc.]. 1579 *Manutius' Phrases Lat.* (1595) 154 Your welfare and weldoing reioyceth me as much as mine owne. 1625 LD. MOUNTAGU in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 262 We are glad to hear of your well doing. 1659 B. HARRIS *Parival's Iron Age* 215 He began to make head again, and was in a way of well-doing, when he received the Kings command to disband. 1763 MILLS *Syst. Pract. Husb.* II. 415 For... the increase and well-doing of the plants. 1800 WORDSW. *Michael* 432 A good report did from their Kinsman come, Of Luke and his well-doing. 1854 *Poultry Chron.* II. 338 Houses... for fattening wild fowl, whose well-doing was so considered, that [etc.]. 1924 ROSE *MACAULAY Orphan Island* ix. 93 'Our ten [children] have done well.' 'They certainly... seem to have had a fairly large allowance of descendants apiece, if that is well-doing.'

'well-doing, ppl. a.

1. That does good or acquits oneself well; †valiant; diligent in performance of work or duty; well-behaved, respectable.

c1330 *Arth. & Merl.* (Kölbing) 4773 Four score... Hardi & weel doinde knyghtes. 1597 SHAKS. *Lover's Compl.* 112 And controuersie hence a question takes, Whether the horse by him became his deed, Or he his mannadg, by th' wel doing Steed. 1612 T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* ii. 1, 331 That his Master may find him doing, yea welldoing. 1822 BYRON *Heaven & Earth* i. iii, I am safe, not for my own deserts, but those Of a well-doing sire, who hath been found Righteous enough to save his children. 1888 D. GRANT *Sc. Stor.* 76 Sic an honest, weel-daen woman as I kent my wife to be!

2. *Sc.* Well-to-do, prosperous, thriving.

1821 GALT *Ann. Parish* v. 59 He was a dounce and discreet man, fair and well-doing in the world. 1897 'L. KEITH' *My Bonny Lady* vii. 67 'Do you know nothing of her folk?' 'Nothing, forby that they are well-doing in the world.'

well(-)done ('wel'dʌn), *ppl. a.*

†1. Wise, prudent, virtuous. *Obs.*

c1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 29 Ðu ert wel don man, and þarto wurblich. c1205 [see YDO(N)].

2. a. Skillfully or rightly performed or executed.

c1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. viii. 190 It is a merytorie and a weel don deede. 1479 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 22 Hyt wher whell-doynt to enqwer... how he mythet be payd. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* I. v. 253 We will draw the Curtain, and shew you the picture... Ist not well done? 1606 — *Ant. & Cl.* v. ii. 328-9 What worke is heere Charmian? Is this well done? *Char.* It is well done, and fitting for a Princesse. 1890 *Hardwicke's Sci.-Gossip* XXVI. 82 This is a clear and well-done translation. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 5 May 2/1 A well-done landscape of late autumn.

b. as an exclamation, expressing approval of what some one has done.

c1460 *Towneley Myst.* xvi. 347 *Secundus Miles.* Well done! 1538 ELYOT *Dict., Euge.* well done. 1611 *Bible Matt.* xxv. 21 Well done, thou good and faithful seruant. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humphry Cl.* 3 Oct., Well done, my dear boy! — O bravo! 1791 BURNS *Tam o' Shanter* 189 Tam... roars out, 'Weel done, Cutty-sark!' 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 243 *Ion.* I obtained the first prize of all, Socrates. *Soc.* Well done.

c. quasi-*sb.* The utterance of this exclamation, as an expression of commendation.

1628 EARLE *Microcosm., Self-conceited Man* (Arb.) 32 Two excellent well-dones haue vndone him. 1790 *Proc. African Assoc.* 42 A single well-done from your Association has more worth in it to me, than all the trappings of the East. 1840 R. H. DANA *Two Yrs. bef. Mast* xi. (1854) 49 Fortunately I got through without any word from the officer, and heard the 'well done' of the mate, when the yard reached the deck.

†d. quasi-*sb.* What is well done. (In quot. personified.) *Obs.*

1602 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* ix. lii. 236 And curious thay That, dribling Almes by Arte, disband wel-Meant from wel-Dons pay.

3. Of meat: Thoroughly cooked.

1747 H. GLASSE *Art of Cookery* i. 4 Pork must be well done, or it is apt to Surfeit. 1846 SOYER *Gastron. Regen.* p. xxi, Veal and pork must be well done. Venison must be underdone.

well-'dowered, ppl. a.

1822 SCOTT *Nigel* iii, Unless you think rather of taking a pretty, well-dowered English lady. 1871 B. TAYLOR *Faust* II. iii. 253 Then each shall dwell in homes well-dowered.

well-'drained, ppl. a.

1871 W. ROBINSON *Subtropical Garden* II. 198 A well-drained, sandy soil... is the best for this plant. 1912 J. W. WHITE *Flora of Bristol* 251 The well-drained banks of railway lines. 1960 *Farmer & Stockbreeder* 15 Mar. (Suppl.) 10/3 Most herbs will grow in any ordinary well-drained ground.

well(-)drawn, ppl. a.

1. Skillfully delineated. Also of the human form: Well modelled or proportioned.

1679 C. NESSE *Antichrist* Ded., As a dark soil in a well drawn picture. 1709 SHAFESB. *Moralists* i. iii. 30 Not captivated by the Lineaments of a fair Face, or the well-drawn Proportions of a human Body. 1855 KINGSLEY *Glaucus* 162 Two little 'Popular' Histories... furnished... with well-drawn and coloured plates.

2. Strongly stretched, straightened out, etc.

1725 POPE *Odys.* VIII. 262 In fighting fields as far the spear I throw, As flies an arrow from the well-drawn bow. 1864 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XXV. 363 A thick coat of well-drawn dry wheat-straw is then laid over them [*sc.* the potatoes].

well(-)dressed, ppl. a.

1. Clothed in good and becoming attire.

1576 R. PETERSON *G. della Casa's Galateo* 20 They be neuer redie: euer a trimming: neuer well dressed to their mindes. 1712-14 POPE *Rape of Lock* ii. 5 Fair Nymphs and well-drest Youths around her shone. 1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* 19 Sept. 1777, A well-drest elderly housekeeper... shewed us the house. 1849 JAMES *Woodman* iv, This was no well-dressed and splendid assemblage. 1876 EMERSON *Lett. & Soc. Aims* ii. Wks. (Bohn) III. 177 The lady who declared 'that the sense of being perfectly well-dressed gives a feeling of inward tranquillity which religion is powerless to bestow'.

2. Properly prepared, cultivated, trimmed, cooked, etc.

1693 CONGREVE *Juv. Sat.* xi. 136 Scarce a Slave, but has to Dinner now, The well-dress'd Paps of a fat pregnant Sow. 1768 BOSWELL *Corsica* (ed. 2) 280 At dinner we had no less than twelve well-drest dishes. 1771 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 1) II. 211/2 The wool must be of a good quality, and well dressed. 1799 J. ROBERTSON *Agric. Perth* 465 The sloping banks of the Tay are finely wooded, with well-dressed walks on the top. 1870 *Ibid.* 470 Surrounded with well dressed fields to the south.

well-dried, ppl. a.

c1624 CHAPMAN *Hymn to Hermes* 93 Seuen strings, of seuerall tunes, Made of the Entrailes of a sheepe well dried. 1728 E. S[MITH] *Compleat Housew.* (ed. 2) 133 Then put in three quarters of a pound of Flour well dried. 1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. 467 The most proper fuel... for drying the flax, is either charcoal, or well-dried turf. 1880 C. R. MARKHAM *Peruv. Bark* xx. 225 At least 100,000 well-ripened and well-dried seeds were now gathered.

well-drilled, ppl. a. [See DRILL *v.* 3]

1. Thoroughly trained, exercised, or disciplined.

1817 LADY MORGAN *France* I. 53 A certain mechanical immobility of the well-drilled countenances. 1864 BURTON *Scot. Abr.* I. iv. 170 Immediately afterwards Richelieu handed over a well-drilled territory to Louis XIV. 1878 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVII. 257 Its vast and well-drilled army of Jesuits.

2. Skillfully pierced or perforated.

1873 W. PENGELLY *Cave Men Devon.* in *Manchester Sci. Lect. Ser. v. & VI.* 125 A bone needle with a well-drilled eye in it. 1896 KIPLING *Seven Seas, Story of Ung* 31 No store of well-drilled needles.

well-'driven, ppl. a.

1605 B. JONSON *Volpone* III. viii. (1607) H3 b, *Mos.* O, that his well-driu'n sword Had beene so courteous to haue cleft me downe, Vnto the nauill, ere I liu'd to see [etc.]. c1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* xi. 386 This said, he threw quite through his shield, his fell and well-driuen lance.

well-dunged, ppl. a.

1577 GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* i. 33b, The Beane delighteth in riche and wel dounge ground. 1760 R. BROWN *Compl. Farmer* II. 61 Barley, which delights in a well-dunged soil.

well-dying, vbl. sb.

1633 EARL MANCH. *Al Mondo* (1636) 77 Seldome doth hee dye well that liues ill; therefore in the course of your life practise well doing, and, at parting you shall haue the comfort of well dying. 1693 *D'Emilienne's Hist. Monast. Orders* 209 Of the Order of the Fathers of Well-dying.

well-dying, ppl. a.

1633 EARL MANCH. *Al Mondo* (1636) 104 But to assure there are joyes in Death, what saith the Scripture to well-dying men?

welle, obs. form of WEEL.

well(-)earned, ppl. a. Fully deserved or due; merited or acquired by good work or behaviour.

1730-46 THOMSON *Autumn* 343 The big hopes And well-earned treasures of the painful year. 1749 WARTON *Tri. Isis* 61 To wear the well-earn'd wreath that merit brings. 1814 WORDSW. *Excurs.* VIII. 593 The ruddy boys Withdrew, on summons to their well-earned meal. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xi. III. 75 Yet William might have had a more tranquil reign if he had postponed for a time the well earned promotion of his chaplain. 1855 PALEY *Aeschylus* (1861) Pref. vi, Its well-earned character for practical utility and careful editorial supervision. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* II. viii. 305 No pirate who ever swung on a well-earned gallows had committed darker crimes.

welled, ppl. a. [f. WELL *v.* 1 + -ED¹.]

†a. Of metal: Molten, cast. Also *welled together*, rendering *L. conflatis. Obs.*

c1300 *Seyn Julian* 54 A chetel wol of iwelled bras biuore þis maide was ibro3t. 1382 WYCLIF *Hab.* ii. 18 A wellid thing to gidre [Vulg. *conflatile*], and a fals ymage. c1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 520/2 Wellyd, as metel, *fusus*. c1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. vi. 173 And thilk ymage is clepid there a graued thing, and a wellid to gidere thing.

b. Of milk: Boiled, curdled. Of curds: Coagulated. Cf. WELLCURDS. *Obs. exc. dial.*

c1420 *Liber Cocorum* 53 Melle white brede in dysshes aboute, Powre in wellyd mylke. c1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 520/2 Wellyd, as mylke, *coagulatus, concoctus*. 1552 HULOET, Welled curdes, s[c]histon. 1750 W. ELLIS *Mod. Husbandm.* III. i. viii. 138 From the Whey, if set on the Fire, will arise wild Curds by putting new Milk and sour Butter-milk to it. 1879 *Shropsh. Word-bk.* s.v. *Walled*, I toud yo' to wesh 'em i' the walled w'ey.

welled, ppl. a. [f. WELL *sb.* 1 + -ED².]

1. Having a well or hollow on the surface, pitted.

1848 HARDY in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. 337 A series of ill-defined welled depressions. 1855 tr. *Labarte's Arts Mid. Ages* p. xxix, A broad flat border, with a welled centre, characterise this class of plates.

2. Having a tank or cistern in which fish are carried or preserved alive.

1864 *Rep. Comm. Sea Fisheries* (1866) II. 456 In the year 1712, at Harwich, welled smacks were first constructed, suitable for fishing in the North Sea for cod-fish, &c. 1870 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 24 Aug. 4 Your fish... are brought to the city alive in welled fishing boats. 1874 H. MAYHEW *Lond. Characters* 335 These salmon mostly come... in welled steamers.

well-edged, a. Having a sharp edge.

1615 CHAPMAN *Odys.* xi. 57 Then drew I from my Thy, My well-edg'd sword.

well-'educated, ppl. a.

1588 SHAKS. *L.L.L.* I. ii. 99 Define, define, well educated infant. 1704 SWIFT *T. Tub* iv. 103 Whoever went to take him by the Hand in the Way of Salutation, Peter with much Grace, like a well educated Spaniel, would present them with his Foot. 1828 LYTTON *Pelham* I. ii, I was reckoned an uncommonly well-educated boy. 1885 W. H. WHITE *M. Rutherford's Deliv.* iv, She was attractive and well-educated.

well-em'bodied, ppl. a.

1776 BRYANT *Anc. Mythol.* III. 55 Firm to their cause the Titans wide display'd A well-embodied phalanx. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Deronda* vi, Being the outcome of a happy, well-embodied nature.

well-en'dowed, ppl. a. a. gen.

1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* iv. iii. §20 Whilst the Desire of Esteem, Riches, or Power, makes Men espouse the well-endow'd Opinions in fashion. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* v. i. ¶65, I found myself a well-endowed widow. 1870 HULLAH *Speaking Voice* 4 A well-endowed but incomplete vocalist. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Deronda* LViii, In Rex's well-endowed nature... the passionate stirring had gone deep.

b. *spec.* with reference to sexual potency or size of sexual organs. *colloq.*

1951 N. MONTSARRAT *Cruel Sea* v. 302 'I'm not rich.'... 'You are doubtless well-endowed... It's better, really... A lot of women think so.' 1968 in H. & R. Greenwald *Sex Life Lett.* (1974) 79 By the age of ten, my member was already larger than that of a well-endowed adult. 1983 *Maledicta* 1982 VI. 157 He says he has been well endowed and you must know this means 'heavily equipped sexually'.

†**well-'entered, ppl. a.** Duly initiated.

1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* II. i. 6 'Tis our hope sir, After well entred souldiers, to returne And finde your grace in health.

|| **Wellentheorie** ('welənteəri). *Philol.* [G., f. *welle* wave + *theorie* THEORY¹.] The theory that linguistic changes spread like waves over a speech-area and the dialects of adjacent districts resemble each other most; = *wave theory* (b) s.v. *WAVE sb.* 10.

1939 L. H. GRAY *Foundations of Lang.* ii. 42 To account for the spread and relationship of languages, two main hypotheses have been advanced, both, it is true, primarily for the Indo-European group, but, in principle, equally applicable to all others. These are the *pedigree-theory* (*Stammbaumtheorie*) advanced by August Schleicher in 1866 and the *wave-theory* (*Wellentheorie*) proposed by Johannes Schmidt in 1872. 1964 R. H. ROBINS *Gen. Linguistics* viii. 349 The theory of common characteristics resulting from the spreading of linguistic features 'in waves' over adjacent dialects within a family is called the 'Wellentheorie'. 1965 [see STAMMBAUM]. 1975 *Amer. Speech* 1971 XLVI. 254 Real change... may in some sense be systematic (as in the analysis of style and social variables and the Wellentheorie of linguistic geographers).

well-en'titled, ppl. a. Obtained by good title.

1675 BROOKS *Golden Key* Wks. 1867 V. 519 The crown of life notes a well-entitled crown; a crown that comes by a true and noble title.

well-en'trenched, ppl. a.

1929 W. S. CHURCHILL *World Crisis* V. xix. 432 We had a rather restricted but well-entrenched and well-wired position. 1979 P. BUCKLAND *Factory of Grievances* v. 108 A handful of well-entrenched free-traders.

well-e'quipped, ppl. a.

a1854 MILL *Early Draft Autobiogr.* (1961) 120 A well-equipped ship. 1875 J. FORREST *Explor. Australia* 79 A well-equipped vessel might have landed explorers at various points. 1890 *Hardwicke's Sci.-Gossip* XXVI. 254/2 A well-equipped observatory.

† **weller.** *Obs.* Also 6 wellar. [f. WELL *v.* 1]

1. A caster or founder (of metal).

1388 WYCLIF *Jer.* vi. 29 Leed is waastid in the fier, the wellere [Vulg. *conflator*] wellide in veyn. *Ibid.* li. 17 [see WELLING *vbl. sb.* 2]. 1547 *Acts Privy Council* (1890) II. 445 The master wellar at xij⁹ the daye, and iij wellars with him at viij⁹ the daye.

2. A salt-boiler.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 441/1 Saltare, or wellare of salt, salinator. [1624: see SALTWELLER.]

Wellerism ('welərɪzm). Also **wellerism**. [f. the surname *Weller* (see below) + -ISM.] A speech or expression employed by, or typical of Sam Weller or his father, two celebrated characters in Dickens's *Pickwick Papers*; usu. *spec.*, a form of comparison in which a familiar saying or proverb is identified, often punningly, with what was said by someone in a specified but humorously inapposite situation.

1839 *Boston Morning Post* 9 Jan. 2/2 *Wellerisms*. — 'It does one's heart good to look at you,' as the fox said to the chickens, when he found he couldn't get over the barn-yard wall, to eat them. 1854 *Yankee Notions* III. 142 (*heading*) Phenological Wellerisms. 1886 (*title*) Wellerisms from 'Pickwick' and 'Master Humphrey's Clock'. 1931 A. TAYLOR *Proverb* iv. 219 Wellerisms involving a temporal clause, e.g. '*Much noise and little wool, 'said the Devil when he sheared a pig*, are largely used of women. 1959 [see *knock-knock sb.*, *v.*, and int. *s.v.* KNOCK-] 1975 *New Society* 25 Dec. 685/1 Sam Weller has joined Dr Spooner and fathered the *wellerism*: 'Meet you at the corner as one wall said to another,' but the *wellerism* can also be transformed into a riddle.

Also **Welleresque** (welə'resk), **Wellerian** (wel'liən), *adjs.*, typical or reminiscent of either of these characters.

1839 DICKENS *Let.* 25 Jan. (1965) I. 359 Your agreement is—in Wellerian phraseology—gammon. 1868 LOUISA M. ALCOTT *Little Women* x, 'I'm the wretch that did it, sir,' said the new member, with a Welleresque nod to Mr. Pickwick. 1886 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 20 Feb. 5/2 Sam Weller's story of the muffins is not Wellerian at all.

† **wellesay.** *Obs.* Also wele a saye, wyllossay. [var. of WELLAWAY: for the ending cf. HARMESAY.] *Alas!*

14.. *Lamentacio Peccatoris* 52 in *Relig. Pieces fr. Thornton MS.* (1914) 117 Euer per sang ys wyllossay. c 1440 *Bone Flor.* 1430 Sche caste up many a rewfull rerde, And seyde ofte Wele a saye! c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* viii. 91 Breris . . This sely innocentis wole vnclothe And wellesay to tere her skynnyis bothe.

well-e'stablished, ppl. a.

1709 SHAFTESB. *Inq. Virtue Charac.* (1711) II. 38 That sound and well-establish'd Reason, which alone can constitute . . . a uniform and steady Will and Resolution. 1741 WATTS *Improv. Mind* i. xviii. §27 We ought . . . to stand firm in such well-established principles, and not be tempted to change . . . for the sake of every difficulty. 1772 *Ann. Reg.* 188/1 There are therefore many well-established families in this last-mentioned place. 1865 LUBBOCK *Prehist. Times* xi. 337 Although there are some well-established cases of national decay. 1870 BOWEN *Logic* xii. 394 Any well-established Law of Nature. 1887 *Spons' Househ. Man.* 714 Some well-established shop, famed rather for the soundness of its goods than for their apparent cheapness.

well-e'steemed, ppl. a.

1749 CHETWOOD *Hist. Stage* 219 Mr. Sparks . . has, by incessant Attention to the Drama, arrived to be a well-esteemed Person in the Business of the Theatre.

wellewerd, var. WOOLWARD.

well-e'xamined, ppl. a.

1728 CIBBER *Provoked Husb.* i. i. 7 He is a Man too well-acquainted with the Female World to be brought into a high Opinion of any one Woman, without some well-examin'd Proof of her Merit. 1748 MELMOTH *Fitzosborne Lett.* lvi. (1749) II. 76 To descend to truth thro' the tedious progression of well-examined deductions, is considered as a reproach to the quickness of understanding.

well-executed, ppl. a.

1836 [see WELL-CONCEIVED *ppl. a.*] 1978 R. LUDLUM *Holcroft Covenant* xxxvii. 425 It was a well-executed trap.

well-ex'perienced, ppl. a.

1599 HAKLUTY *Voy.* II. i. 59 Concerning the foresaid islands I inquired of diuers well-experienced persons. 1608 SHAKS. *Per.* i. i. 164 Like an arrow shot from a well experiens Archer hits the marke. 1619 DRAYTON *Bar. Wars* iv. xv. 52 Men well experienc'd and of worthiest parts. 1662 GERBIER *Princ. Building* 22 A well-experienced Surveyor. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* Introd. §1. I. 10 This great and well-experienced judge. 1871 TYLOR *Prim. Cult.* I. 104 Of a well-experienced magician they say 'That is quite a Lapp'.

well-ex'pressed, ppl. a.

1845 MILL in *Westm. Rev.* XLIII. 331 It is a well-thought and well-expressed explanation. 1943 *Mind* LII. 354 What he [sc. Roger Bacon] has to say on *privatio* is sound and well-expressed.

† **well-eyed, a.** *Obs.* [WELL *adv.* 32.] Having good eyes; keen-sighted.

c 1400 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xviii. And also pat he be both in felde and at wode delyuere and wele y3ed and wele auysed of speche. 1483 CAXTON *Golden Leg.* 339/2 This ymage . . . was well eyed, well browed [etc.]. 1561 DAUS tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 59 Let the gallauntes of this world, . . . so well eyed, and gorgeously appparelled, marke these thynges well. 1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* lxxiii. 17 They doo nought else but dote, that wilbe well eyed and quiksyghted of themselves. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* July 154 Shepherd mought be . . . well eyed, as Argus was. 1596

— *State Irel. Wks.* (Globe) 626/1 Yet there appeareth amongst them some reliques of the true antiquitey, though disguised, which a well-eyed man may happely discover and find out.

well-'fabricated, ppl. a.

1709 SHAFTESB. *Moralists* III. ii. 215 But in Medals, and well-fabricated Pieces, you can discover Beauty, and admire the Kind.

† **well-faced, a.** *Obs.* [WELL *adv.* 32.] Having a fair face or good countenance. Also *fig.*

1553 ASCHAM *Rept. Germany* 29 He was now of the age of xxxii. yeares well faced. a 1569 KINGSMILL *Godly Advise* (1580) 13 Not so well faced as well lived, I meane not so well attired in the outward man as clothed in the inward manne. 1597 E. S. *Discov. Knts. Poste* A 4, If my credit be better then yours, with this my wel-faste hoastice. 1647 N. WARD *Simple Coblér* 2 Hee that hath any well-faced phansy in his Crowne. 1693 [? CALDER] *Sc. Presbyt. Eloq.* (ed. 2) Postscr. 102 A great Hantle of Bonnie braw well fac'd Lassies. 1707 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4368/4 On the 15th Instant a pretty well Fac'd Boy . . . went away from School.

well-famed, ppl. a. Of good fame, famous.

1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* iv. v. 173 My well-fam'd Lord of Troy. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* III. iv. 89 While he, forgetting clean The sorrow and the joy his eyes had seen, Lies quiet and well famed.

well-'fancied, ppl. a. Designed or devised with good invention and taste; displaying a happy fancy.

1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 248 ¶ 1 She was mounted on a Pad, with a very well-fancied Furniture. 1751 ELIZA HEYWOOD *Betsy Thoughtless* II. 102 This happened to be the first day of her putting on a very rich, and extremely well-fancied gown. 1772 FOOTE *Nabob* II. Wks. 1799 II. 304 What think you of a bracelet, or a well-fancied aigret? 1779 WARNER in *Jesse Selwyn & Contemp.* (1844) IV. 311 Rendering odious a well-fancied oath from the mint of the metropolis by his vile provincial pronunciation. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxx. The dress of Raleigh was a well-fancied and rich suit.

wellfare, obs. f. WELFARE.

well-'faring, ppl. a. *Obs. exc. arch.*

† 1. Of handsome or well-favoured appearance; good-looking; also, robust, healthy. *Obs.*

c 1369 CHAUCER *Dethe Blaunche* 452 Than founde I sytte euen vpright A wonder welfaryng knyght. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 240 Sche . . . thoghte hou nevere creature Was so wel farende as was he. c 1400 26 *Pol. Poems* ii. 51 Welfaryng men of armes. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* vi. i. 184 Hym thought he sawe neuer . . . soo wel farynge a man. a 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* vi. clvi. (1811) 144 He was fayre and welfaryng of body, and sterne of looke and of face. 1536 *Pilgr. Tale* 170 in *Thynne's Animadv.* 82 Ther I spyed walkyng a comely pryst, and a welfaryng. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 47/3 The entralles of a sownde and welfaring man.

† 2. Couched in proper or appropriate terms. *Obs.*

a 1400 *Isumbras* 333 A chartir was mad fulle wele farande, . . . That thofo he never come in his lande, That scho solde qwene bee.

3. *arch.* Doing well, prosperous.

The spelling indicates association with *welfare*.

1888 DOUGHTY *Arabia Deserta* II. 116 If only his Lord would leave him here other two or three years!—then would he be fully at his ease, and a welfaring person.

well-farmed, ppl. a.

1848 MILL *Pol. Econ.* I. i. xii. 214 The careful cultivation of a well farmed district. 1955 P. C. WINTERTON *Fifty Tumultuous Years* 216 Well-farmed land.

well-'fashioned, (ppl.) a.

1. Of good make or fashion; well made.

1580 BLUNDEVIL *Art of Riding* i. iii. 3 His thighs large and long, with bones well fashioned. a 1700 DRYDEN *Ovid's Art of Love* i. 579 Wear well-fashion'd Cloaths, like other Men. 1887 MORRIS *Odys.* xi. 108 When down in thy ship well-fashioned at last thou drawest anigh To the Three-horned Island.

† 2. Of polite manners or demeanour. *Obs.*

1611 COTGR., *Morigené*, . . . well behaved, of good carriage, well fashioned. 1625 K. LONG tr. *Barclay's Argenis* iv. xvii. 396 Behaving himselfe with so well-fashioned modesty. 1693 LOCKE *Educ.* §143 (1699) 259 First, a disposition of the Mind not to offend others; and, Secondly, the most acceptable, and agreeable way of expressing that Disposition. From the one, Men are called *Civil*; from the other *Well-fashion'd*. a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* an. 1646 (Chandos) 189 His daughter, a pretty well-fashioned young woman. 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 198 ¶ 2 A young Man of Two and twenty, well-fashioned, learned, genteel.

well-'fatted, ppl. a.

1725 POPE *Odys.* XVIII. 51 A Kid's well-fatted entrails (tasteful food!). 1791 COWPER *Iliad* ix. 578 Oxen and sheep they slaughter'd, many a plump Well-fatted brawn extended in the flames.

well-'favoured, a. a. Handsome or attractive in appearance, good-looking.

1420-22 LYDG. *Thebes* i. 754 He was a semly knyght, Wel fauoured in euery mannys sight. c 1430 — *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 40 Your weel favoured face. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* xiv. ii. Thy weel faverde and moost fayre lady. 1549 CHEKE *Hurt Sedit.* (1569) Biiij b, If one be well fauourder than another, will ye punishe him because ye looke for an equalitie of all things? 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* III. iii. 15. 1633 C. FAREWELL *E-India Colation* 15 A man of a liuely countenance and well fauored. 1684 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* II. (1900) 220 The Boy was in very mean Cloaths, but of a very fresh and well-favoured Countenance. 1787 BURNS *Song, There's a Youth* 3 He's bonie and braw, weel-favour'd

withal. 1848 AKERMAN *Anc. & Mod. Coins* v. 89 A well-fed and well-favoured man. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* i. vi, She was a tall, upright, well-favoured woman, though severe of countenance.

β. in *Sc.* form (*well* or *weel*) *faird, faur'd, far'd, far't, faurt*, etc.

1535 LYNDESAI *Satyre* 4333 Now, wallie fall that weill fairde mow! 15.. in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 399 A weillfaird may. 1719 D'URFEE *Pills* III. 307 There I met with a welfar'd Lass. 1781 BURNS 'On Cessnock banks' i. (var.) The graces of her weel-faur'd face. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* xlii, He's vera weel, . . . but no naithing so well-far'd as your colonel. 1830 A. PICKEN *Domitie's Legacy* III. 32 The delinquent and his wife want to get their own infamous conduct shifted now over upon that well fard boy. 1894 CROCKETT *Raiders* xxiii. 277 I'll never deny that in the days o' yer youth ye war a weel-faured lass.

b. of an animal, a locality, a plant.

1539 BIBLE (Great) *Gen.* xli. 4 The euyll fauored & leane flessed kyne did eate vp the seuen wealfauored & fatt kyne. 1854 S. THOMSON *Wild Flowers* 112 The purple goat's-beard, . . . the corn blue-bottle are well-favoured plants. 1861 W. F. COLLIER *Hist. Eng. Lit.* 403 This ill-named and not very well-favoured spot formed the nucleus of Abbotsford.

† c. *transf.* (cf. WELL-FAVOUREDLY b).

1746 FRANCIS tr. *Hor.*, *Sat.* i. v. 34 [He] bangs the mule at a well-favor'd rate.

† **well-'favouredly, adv.** *Obs.* In a well-favoured manner.

a. Beautifully, handsomely; attractively, gracefully.

1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 668/2 But now goeth Tindal well fauouredly forth with a great face of another ful solucion. 1538 ELYOT *Dict.*, *Pulchre*, an aduerbe, signifiyeth fayre, beautifully, well fauouredly. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 7 We dooe not put images to makyng but onely to suche werkemenne of whom wee see some noubre of images welfauouredly and mynionly made afore. 1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 143 Teatche me to shoote as fayre, and welfauouredly as you can imagen. 1562 TURNER *Bathes* 1 b, He that had ben in Italye and Germany, and had sene howe costly and welfauouredly the bathes are trimmed and appoynted there . . . woulde [etc.]. 1790 SHIRREFFS *Poems* Gloss. 39/1 *Weelfar'dly*, cleverly, with a good grace. 1825 JAMIESON, *Weil-faur'tlie*, *adv.* i. Handsomely, S.

b. Ironically, in reference to thrashing, punishment, etc.: Severely, soundly, 'handsomely'.

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 100 Diogenes . . . tooke abrode thongue . . . and the same well fauouredly bestowed about ye ribbes and pate of Midias. 1565 KYNG *Daryus* 404 (Brandl) He wil not away til I canuis him well fauouredly. 1579-80 NORTH *Plutarch, Antonius* (1595) 990 They them selues were oftentimes put to flight, and welfauouredly beaten. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* II. xxiv. (1640) 74 He would often give a smart jest, . . . and sometimes he was well-favouredly met with; as the best fencer in wits school hath now and then an unhappy blow dealt him. 1652 HEYLYN *Cosmogr.* II. 151 The [Russian] women . . . think themselves neither loved nor regarded, unlesse they be two or three times a day well fauouredly swaddled. a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, I *Swing'd him off*, I lay'd on and beat him well-favoredly. c. ? Lavishly, liberally.

1563-87 FOXE A. & M. (1596) 259/1 About the sute whereof when much monie was bestowed on both sides welfauoredlie.

d. By good fortune, happily. *Sc.*

a 1774 FERGUSSON *Poems, Eclogue* 96 Whan I shoot my nose in, ten to ane If I weelfardly see my ane hearthstane.

well-'favouredness. Now *rare* or *Obs.* The quality or condition of being well-favoured; beauty, comeliness.

1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 142 Nature it selfe taught men to ioyne alwayes welfauourednesse with profytablenesse. a 1575 tr. *Pol. Verg. Eng. Hist.* (Camden No. 36) 129 He is reported greatlie to have mervayled at their witte and welfaverdnes. 1607 MARKHAM *Caval.* i. (1617) 69 It maketh your Gelding haue a delicate fine leane head, of a comely shape, well-fauourednesse and proportion. 1642 HOWELL *For. Trav.* (Arb.) 75 The longevity, well fauourednesse and innated honesty of the people. 1780 M. MADAN *Thelphphora* (1781) I. 213 A worthy man, who was in love with a married woman upon account of her modesty, and well-favouredness of her children. 1825 JAMIESON, *Weilfaur'tness*, handsomeness. 1885 BURTON *Arab. Nts.* (abr. ed.) III. 33 Khalid . . . was pleased with his well-favouredness and elegant aspect.

well-'feasted, ppl. a.

1671 MILTON *Samson* 1419 The well-feasted Priests [are] then soonest fir'd With zeal, if aught Religion seem concern'd.

well-(-)'feathered, ppl. a.

1340-70 *Alisaunder* 269 Well fepered flon floungen aboute. 1591 SPENSER *Visions Bellay* xi, A Bird all white, well feathered on each wing. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* II. x. (1640) 58 And herein he discovered his want of judgement, being indeed like an arrow well-feathered, but with a blunt pile; he flew swift, but did not sink deep. 1671 WOODHEAD *St. Teresa* i. xiii. 75 Like some young Bird, not so well-feathered. 1855 *Poultry Chron.* II. 419 Short, well feathered legs.

well-'featured, a. Having good features. Formerly also in wider sense: Well formed or shaped.

c 1500 *Three Kings Sons* 111 And many tyme he wold . . . thinke yn his mynde that they were passing wele fetured and goodly folkes. 1590 *Tarlton's News out of Purg.* 11 A bare faced youth, well featured, of a liuely countenance. c 1600 IGNOTO in I. D. & C. M. *Epigr.* (? 1830) D 5 b, Wel featurde lasse, Thou knowest I loue the deere. a 1618 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Wits Pilgr.* etc. (Grosart) 27/2 Well featur'd Flesh too base a Subject is For Sou'raign Loues diuine, ay-blest, imbrace. 1688 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2354/8 An Indian Black,

about 18 years of Age, well featur'd. **1787** BURNS *Song*, 'There's a Youth' 10 Weel-featur'd, weel-tochter'd, weel mounted and braw. **1860** WHYTE MELVILLE *Mkt. Harb.* v. Who, to do him justice, was a gentleman-like, well-featured fellow enough. **1874** MOTLEY *John Barnev.* II. xvii. 226 A tall, . . well-featured, mild, gentlemanlike man.

well(-)fed, ppl. a.

? **a1366** CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 471 Al to selde iwys Is ony pouere man wel fedde. **1535** COVERDALE *Isa.* xxv. 6 Fat and welfed beastes. **1600** Sir J. Oldcastle III. i. 99 Weele strike the stagge our selues Shall fill our dishes with his wel-fed flesh. **c1611** CHAPMAN *Iliad* ix. 208 Then of a well fed swine A huge fat shoulder he cuts out. **1725** POPE *Odyss.* III. 535 Bid some swain to lead A well-fed bullock from the grassy mead. **1786** BURNS *The Vision* i. xiv. There, well-fed Irvine stately thuds. **1820** LAMB *Elia* i. *Christ's Hosp.*, Sleek well-fed blue-coat boys. **1828** DAVY *Salmonia* 49 A fine well-fed fish, not much less than 4 lbs. **1874** J. M. FOTHERGILL *Maintenance of Health* 344 Good meat has its red meat marbled or interstreaked with fat. This shows it is well-fed.

well-feed, -fee'd, ppl. a.

1684 *Contempl. St. Man* i. ix. (1699) 93 The rich Man shall not then have . . well-Fee'd Lawyers to defend his Process. **1897** *Westm. Gaz.* 28 Sept. 8/1 Twelve angry litigants, each assisted by bewigged and well-feed counsel.

well-feeding, ppl. a.

c1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* III. 282 On Troyes well feeding soyle [*ἐπὶ χθόνα πολυβούτειραν*].

†well-feeling, ppl. a. Obs. Sensible, intelligent.

1382 WYCLIF *Ecclus.* vii. 21 Wile thou not gone awei fro a wel felende womman [Vulg. *a muliere sensata*].

well-feigned, ppl. a.

1667 MILTON *P.L.* ix. 492 Under shew of Love well feign'd. **1725** POPE *Odyss.* xviii. 57 Ulysses then with art, And fears well-feign'd, disguis'd his dauntless heart. **1813** SCOTT *Rokeby* v. xix, [He] look'd with well-feign'd fear around. **1825** T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Man of Many Fr.* (Colburn) 136 The Colonel expressed a well-feigned astonishment at the appearance of the table.

well-fenced, ppl. a.

1705 MANDEVILLE *Grumbling Hive* 25 'Till some well-fenced Retreat is found; And here they die, or stand their Ground. **1719** DE FOE *Crusoe* (Globe) 148 Some enclosed Piece of Ground, well fenc'd either with Hedge or Pale.

well-fended, ppl. a.

1865 ALLINGHAM *50 Mod. Poems, Southwell Park* II. 118 The well-fended nunlike child.

well-fermented, ppl. a.

1731 ARBUTHNOT *Nat. Aliments* (1735) 193 Well fermented Bread, and well fermented Liquors.

well-filed, ppl. a.

1656 EARL MONM. II. *Boccalini's Advs. fr. Parnass.* II. xviii. 251 The best Poets, with their well filed, and long studied verses.

well-filled, ppl. a.

1615 CHAPMAN *Odyss.* XXI. 574 Giue banquet; and the rest (Poeme and Harpe) that grace a wel-fill'd boorde. **1725** POPE *Odyss.* ix. 5 The well-fill'd palace, the perpetual feast. **1781** CRABBE *Library* 148 The dull red edging of the well-fill'd page. **1786** BURNS *To Auld Mare* xii, But thy auld tail thou wad hae whisket, An' spread abreed thy weel-fill'd brisket. **1832** LONGF. *Coplas de Manrique* Ixi, He left no well-filled treasury. **1876** GEO. ELIOT *Deronda* xlii, Whose light-brown hair was set up in a small parallelogram above his well-filled forehead. **1878** J. BULLER *New Zealand* i. iv. 33 They came in fleets of their well-filled canoes.

well-finished, ppl. a.

a1763 SHENSTONE *Ess.* Wks. 1768 II. 173 One truly splendid action, or one well-finished composition, includes more than all the results from more trivial performances. **1901** *Scotsman* 3 Apr. 7/3 For cattle, well-finished animals met a brisk selling trade.

well(-)'fitted, ppl. a.

† **1.** Fully equipped or furnished. *Obs.* **1588** SHAKS. *L.L.L.* II. i. 45 A man of soueraigne parts he is esteem'd: Well fitted in Arts, glorious in Armes. **1656** COWLEY *Pindar. Odes, Resurrection* II, Lo how the Years to come, a numerous and well-fitted Quire, All hand in hand do decently advance.

2. Exactly adjusted, shaped, or suited.

1791 COWPER *Iliad* XVIII. 758 A pond'rous helmet bright Well-fitted to his brows. **1839** AINSWORTH *Jack Sheppard* III. ii, It was a night well fitted to their enterprise—calm, still, and profoundly dark. **1904** A. C. FRASER *Biogr. Philos.* iv. 142 An easy flow of well-fitted words.

well-fitting, ppl. a.

1857 DUFFERIN *Lett. High Lat.* vi. 59 A well-fitting white waistcoat. **1859** H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* xxvii, His well-fitting cord breeches. **1881** J. W. HAWARD *Orithop. Surg.* 72 Only well-fitting boots, with a sufficiently wide sole, should be worn.

well-fixed, ppl. a.

1. *lit.* **1718** P. RAE *Hist. Reb.* vi. 287 Followed by 40 or 50 stately Fellows. . . arm'd each of 'em with a well fix'd Gun on his Shoulder. **1848** BAILEY *Festus* (ed. 3) 246 The complete Well-fixed necessity and end of all things.

2. transf. Reasonably affluent, comfortably off. *U.S. colloq.*

1822 A. D. MURFHEY *Let.* 22 Aug. in *Papers* (1914) I. 263 His Brother is well fixed, has one of the best tracts of land in Tennessee, and is growing rich fast. **1912** N. M. WOODROW *Sally Salt* 228 I'm well to do, Hilda, well fixed in the world. **1952** J. STEINBECK *East of Eden* ix. 78 He was better than well fixed—he was rich. **1970** J. BLACKBURN *Land of Promise*

i. 11 He . . had become 'well fixed', as the family colloquialism expressed moderate wealth.

well(-)'flavoured, ppl. a. a. Having a good natural flavour. b. Mixed with an ingredient which imparts a good flavour.

1771 Phil. *Trans.* LXI. 311 The natural history of this well-flavoured fish. **1776** PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* III. 297 The flesh, when boiled, is of a pale red, but well flavoured. **1868** *Epicure's Year-bk.* 185 Serve it with a well-flavoured sauce or purée. **1884** E. YATES *Recoll.* I. iv. 154 The culinary preparations . . were well flavoured, highly seasoned, and much relished by us.

well-fledged, ppl. a. Well-feathered.

1743 R. BLAIR *Grave* 767 The weary bird, . . dozes till the dawn of day, Then elaps his well-fledg'd wings, and bears away. **1870** BRYANT *Iliad* IV. 148 A well-fledged arrow that had never flown.

well(-)fleece, ppl. a.

1616 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* II. ii. 46 Thou hast a well-fleece'd flocke feede to and fro. **1650** H. VAUGHAN *Silex Scint.* I. *The Search* 27 They . . drove home to the Tent Their well-fleece'd traine. **1724** [see FLEECE *ppl. a.*].

well(-)fleshed, ppl. a.

1. Well furnished with flesh; plump, brawny. Also *fig.*

1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 448/2 *Torosus*, . . well flesht. **1858** [see FLESHED *ppl. a.* 1]. **1876** GEO. ELIOT *Deronda* Ixix, Happiness is considered as a well-fleshed indifference to sorrow outside it. **1901** H. SUTCLIFFE *Mistr. Barbara Cunliffe* v. 76 Weel-fleshed men could niver stand up long agen an ale-pot.

2. Inured to or eager for bloodshed.

1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* I. (1594) 372 As gray-hounds well flesht follow after wilde beasts. **1693** DRYDEN *Epit. Sir P. Fairborne's Tomb* 11 Against the Moors his well-flesh'd Sword he draws.

well-fletched, ppl. a. Well-feathered.

1656 COWLEY *Pindar. Odes, 2nd Olym.* x, Leave, wanton Muse, thy roving flight, To thy loud String the well-fletcht Arrow put.

well(-)floored, ppl. a.

1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 194 Chambers boorded after the maner of owre waynscotte and well flowred.

well(-)floured, ppl. a.

1728 E. S[MITH] *Compleat Housew.* (ed. 2) 108 Put under it two or three Sheets of Cap-Paper well floured. **1905** *Daily Chron.* 3 Oct. 8/1 The potatoes and flour are worked into dough on a well-floured board.

well(-)'flowered, ppl. a. a. Richly embellished with flowers or figures of flowers. b. Bearing a good head of flowers.

1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* II. iv. 64 Why then is my Pump well flower'd. **1845** *Florist's Jnl.* 135 *Eriostemon cuspidatus*, well flowered.

well-'followed, ppl. a. (FOLLOW *v.* 6 b.)

a1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. viii. (1912) 390 Thus with the well-followed valure of Amphialus were the other almost overthowne.

well(-)'fore'warning, ppl. a.

1593 SHAKS. *2 Hen. VI.* III. ii. 85 What boaded this? but well fore-warning winde Did seeme to say, seeke not a Scorpions Nest.

well-forged, ppl. a.

1791 COWPER *Iliad* XIII. 233 The well-forged helmet. **1813** SCOTT *Rokeby* VI. ix, He school'd us in a well-forged tale, Of scheme the Castle walls to scale. **1896** KIPLING *Seven Seas, Song of English, Victoria*, The tested chain holds fast, The well-forged link rings true!

well-formed, ppl. a.

a. of persons and material things.

c1520 W. WALTER *Guystarde & Syg.* (Roxb.) Aijj, Of shape and persone she was well fourmed. **a1586** SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (1922) 58 The kissing of her wellformed mouth. **1645** WALLER *Poems, Palamede to Zelinde* 1 Fairest piece of well form'd earth, Vge not thus your haughty Birth. **1653** R. SANDERS *Physiogn.* 159 The well formed head is like a Mallet or a Sphæar. **1788** MRS. HUGHES *Henry & Isab.* xviii. II. 88 Not a pleasing view, . . or a well-formed tree, was passed without furnishing matter for her observation. **1805** WORDSW. *Prelude* VII. 206 A range Of well-formed characters, with chalk inscribed Upon the smooth flat stones. **1831** JAMES Phil. *Augustus* iv, A man of thirty-two or thirty-three years of age, tall, well-formed, handsome. **1863** A. C. RAMSAY *Phys. Geog.* 160 Well-formed flint hatchets. **1883** D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* xi, He had a large and well-formed body, plump but not corpulent.

b. of immaterial things.

1643 DORNEY (*title*), A briefe and exact Relation of . . Passages that happed in the late well-formed (and as valiently defended) Seige laid before the City of Gloucester. **1725** WATTS *Logic* IV. *Introd.*, A well-formed Proposition, or a just Argument. **1746** FRANCIS *Horace, A. P.* 230 The Child, who now with firmer Footing walks, And with unfaltering, well-form'd Accents talks. **1759** GOLDSM. *Pres. State Pol. Learn.* xi. (Globe) 444/2 In a well-formed education a course of history should ever precede a course of ethics. **1787** BURNS *Pro. spoken by Woods* 23 Well-form'd taste and sparkling wit.

(b) *spec.* formed according to stated grammatical rules.

1961 A. G. OETTINGER in *Proc. Symposia Appl. Math.* XII. 104 One important common problem is that of obtaining an algorithm for distinguishing sentences from nonsentences or . . well-formed strings from not well-formed strings. **1969** R. A. HALL in *Neuphilologische Mitteilungen* LXX. 204 The oft-repeated claim that all 'well-formed' sentences of a language are derivable from a

single syntactic kernel is clearly unfounded. **1980** *Amer. Speech* LV. 90 'Le crabmeat cocktail' is well-formed in that *cocktail* has been borrowed into French as a masculine noun.

c. Logic. Applied to any sequence of symbols conforming to the formation rules of a logical system. Esp. as *well-formed formula*.

1936 A. CHURCH in *Amer. Jnl. Math.* LVIII. 346 We select a particular list of symbols. . . And we define the word *formula* to mean any finite sequence of symbols out of this list. The terms *well-formed formula*, [etc.], . . are then defined by induction. **1954** I. M. COPPI *Symbolic Logic* vi. 184 In a logistic system . . any formulas which on the intended interpretation do not become significant statements are not well formed formulas. **1967** *Encycl. Philos.* V. 22/2 A formal language *L* is given by specifying (a) a list of symbols of *L* and (b) a set of formation rules for combining these symbols into acceptable, or well-formed, expressions (terms, formulas, sentences) of *L*. **1978** A. G. HAMILTON *Logic for Mathematicians* iii. 53 The use of parentheses in well-formed formulas is precisely given in the definition.

Hence *well-formedness* (chiefly in *Linguistics*).

1957 *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 306/1 The condition of well-formedness [in logical formulas]. **1961** N. CHOMSKY in *Word* XVII. 221 Information as to whether the sequence of phones is a properly formed or *grammatical* sentence and if not, in what respect it deviates from well-formedness. **1970** J. P. THORNE in J. Lyons *New Horizons in Linguistics* ix. 186 Between . . extremes of well-formedness occur sentences of varying degrees of grammaticalness. **1979** F. KERMODE *Genesis of Secrecy* iii. 64 We depend upon well-formedness . . in written language.

well-formulated, ppl. a.

1968 C. G. KUPER *Introd. Theory Superconductivity* i. 2 A well-formulated problem. **1977** P. STREVEN *New Orientations Teaching of Eng.* II. 23 Well-formulated propositions.

well(-)'fortified, ppl. a.

1538 [see FORTIFIED]. **1591** SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI.* IV. ii. 19 For I protest we are well fortified, And strong enough to issue out and fight. **1618** GAINSFORD *Glory Eng.* I. viii. 60 They can bring you into well fortified Cities. **a1625** MANWAYRING *Sea-mans Dict.* 68 If a Peece have much mettle in any part, they say, she is well fortified. **1692, 1757** [see FORTIFIED *ppl. a.*]. **1821** tr. *Iliad* II. I. 41 The well-fortified city of Ilium.

†well-'fortunate, a. Obs. = next.

1523 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 34 The well fortunate and sawge Capetayn, the yerle of Surrey. **a1533** BERNERS *Golden Bk. M. Aurel.* xliii. (1535) 84 Certainly the princis are glorious, and the people well fortunate, and the senate happy, whan all agree in one councill.

†well-'fortuned, ppl. a. Obs. Favoured by fortune.

c1374, 1484 [see FORTUNED]. **1471** CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 249 Grettyng. fro the esquier vnknown and well fortunéd. **1530** PALSGR. 329/1 Well fortunéd, *bien euré*. **1556** *Flores' Aurelio & Isab.* O 8, If anney lahey well fortunede founde you disposede in her fauour.

well-fought, ppl. a.

† **1.** Inured to fight. *Obs.*

1598 CHAPMAN *Seven Iliads* v. [IX.] 90 The Curets wars did hold With the well-fought Etolians [*Ἰταῶλοι μενεχάρμαι*].

2. Valiantly contested.

1717 TICKELL *Epist. fr. Lady to Gent at Avignon* 74 Our Sex has . . purchased Fame in many a well-fought Street. **1725** POPE *Odyss.* XIV. 401 Oh! had he perisht on some well-fought day. **1761** FOOTE *Lyar* I. ii. (1786) 17, I returned to reap the harvest of the well-fought field. **1814** SCOTT *Lord of Isles* IV. xx, Who in the well-fought conflict fell. **1818** NEWMAN *Poems* (1905) 48 The strange events of many a well-fought day.

†well-'foughten, ppl. a. Obs. = prec.

1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V.* IV. vi. 18 In this glorious and well-foughten field. **1622** DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xxii. 1577 Broughton. . . there lastly gaue his blood To that well-foughten Field.

well(-)found, ppl. a.

† **1.** **a.** Used in the vocative (like *welcome*) to greet a person when met. *Obs.*

c1350 *Ipomadon* 6715 (Kölbing) Well founde, mayde I mayne. **c1350** *Lybeaus Disc.* (Ritson) 1660 The constable seyde, Well founde, Noble knyght of the table rounde.

† **2.** Of tried goodness, merit, or value; well-approved, commendable. *Obs.*

In quot. 1887 prob. an echo of Shakspeare's use.

1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* II. i. 105 Gerard de Narbon was my father, In what he did professe, well found. **1607** — *Cor.* II. ii. 48 In our well-found Successes. **1887** MRS. LYNN LINTON in *Fortn. Rev.* May 728 Many [of the Athenian hetærae] lived comparatively well-found lives.

3. Fully furnished or equipped.

1793 [see FOUND *ppl. a.* 2]. **1864** BURTON *Scot Abr.* II. ii. 144 The garrison is large and well found. **1869** BLACKMORE *Lorna D.* x, He seemed very old, being over twenty, and well-found in beard. **1891** A. H. MARKHAM *Sir J. Franklin* 301 A well-found steamer.

well(-)'founded, ppl. a. a. Built on a good and solid base. *lit.* and *fig.*

c1369 CHAUCER *Dethe Blanche* 922 (Fairf.) And which a goodely softe speche Had that swete, . . So frendly, and so wel y-grounded, Vp al resoun so wel y-founded [*Fondée sur toute raison*]. **1671** WOODHEAD *St. Teresa* I. xxiv. 164 My Prayer began to settle itself, like a well-founded Building. **1706** CONGREVE *Pindar. Ode to Queen* 5 Britain's Queen, . . Fix'd on the Base of Her well-founded State. **1821** CRAIG *Lect. Drawing*, etc. vii. 366 We will for this purpose establish a set of well-founded principles for our standard.

b. esp. of a belief, sentiment, statement, etc.: Having a foundation in fact; based on good or sure grounds or reasons.

1782 MISS BURNAY *Cecilia* viii. vii, Her jealousy, already but too well founded, received every hour the poisonous nourishment of fresh conviction. **1814** SCOTT *Wav.* xl, A well-founded disbelief in the co-operation of the English Jacobites kept many Scottish men of rank from his standard. **1827** — *Two Drovers* ii, The Cumbrian Squire, who had entertained some suspicions of his manager's honesty, was taking occasional measures to ascertain how far they were well-founded. **1855** [see **FOUNDED** 1]. **1905** F. HARRISON *Chatham* iii. 42 There was no personal malignity in his accusations, he believed them to be well-founded.

Hence well-'foundedly *adv.*; well-'foundedness.

1888 *Sat. Rev.* 27 Oct. 486/2 They had prided themselves, not too well-foundedly, that... they had far the better of England. **1920** *Glasgow Herald* 25 Feb. 9/3 There can be no discussion... with regard to... the well-foundedness of the charges. **1970** B. BREWSTER tr. *Althusser & Balibar's Reading Capital* (1975) iii. i. 212 Interpretations... whose well-foundedness will, I hope, emerge later in the paper.

well-framed, ppl. a. Well shaped, fashioned, constructed, or composed.

a **1586** SIDNEY *Arcadia* v. (1922) 146 Like a man whose best building was a well-framed conscience. **1625** K. LONG tr. *Barclay's Argenis* iii. xi. 188 As soon as I shall come to shore... some well-framed lye shall happily bring me to her. **1718** PRIOR *2nd Hymn Callim.* 73 In the well-fram'd Models,... Thou shew'dst, where Towers or Battlements should rise. **1791** COWPER *Iliad* ix. 70 Yet when thy speech is to the Kings of Greece It is well framed and prudent. **1876** HARDY *Ethelberta* xxxv, A well-framed reflective man with a grey beard.

well-fraught, ppl. a.

1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* To Rdr., That well-fraught world of words that answers works. **1708** J. PHILIPS *Cyder* ii. 371 The well-fraught Bowl Circles incessant. **1808** MRS. ILIFF *Poems* (1818) 98 How wise Ulysses' well-fraught tale Did o'er Nausicaa's fears prevail.

well-'freckled, ppl. a.

1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch.* To Rdr. 140 For Leopard Learning is a finer Beast Than a Sire or Damme; well-freckled witts shew best. **1836** MARRYAT *Midsh. Easy* xxiv, He was broad-faced, broad-shouldered, well freckled, and pug-nosed.

well-'freighted, ppl. a.

1663 COWLEY *Country Mouse* 82 Loe, in the midst of a well fraited Pye, They both at last glutted and wanton lye.

well-fre-quented, ppl. a.

1715 PENNECUIK *Tweeddale* 10 An old and well frequented Inn. **1748** *Anson's Voy.* ii. xiii. 278 An amicable well frequented port. **1778** D. LOCH *Tour Scot.* 5 A well-frequented weekly market each Thursday. **1824** MISS MITFORD *Village Ser.* i. 289 The well-frequented Rose inn.

† **well-freshed, ppl. a.** *Obs.*

1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* ii. iii. iii. *Law* 970 In a bucket, that [shepherd] (Well-fresht himselfe) bears some unto his Flock.

well(-)'fruited, ppl. a.

1626 BP. HALL *Contempl.*, O.T. xx. xi. 251 So wee haue seene the kernell of a well fruited plant degenerate into that crab, or willow, which gaue the original to his stocke. **a** **1703** BURKITT *On N.T.* Mark xii. 8 A vineyard is... a place well planted, well fruited.

wellful, var. WEALFUL *Obs.*

well(-)'furnished, ppl. a. Amply provided, stocked, equipped, etc. (see **FURNISHED**).

1474 *Paston Lett.* III. 107 He... left a greet garnyson theer, weell fornysshyd in vytayll. **1553** [see **FURNISHED** 2 c]. **1566** PAINTER (*title*), The Palace of Pleasure, Beautified adorned and well furnished with pleasaunt Histories and excellent Nouels. **1618** GAINSFORD *P. Warbeck* 45 The Kings Forward being full of companie and well furnished. **1635-56** COWLEY *Dauides* iv. end, Lo! they 'arriv'ed now at th' appointed place; Well-chosen and well furnisht for the Chase. **1687** *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2240/4 A thick well furnished grey Gelding, full aged. **1710** CONGREVE *Doris* 11 Wks. 1730 III. 293 Her sparkling Eyes she still retains, And Teeth in good Repair; And her well-furnish'd Front disdains To grace with borrow'd Hair. **1852** GROTE *Greece* ii. lxix. (1862) VI. 193 A year's campaign... would enable them to return with a well-furnished purse.

b. esp. of a house or room.

1635-56 COWLEY *Dauides* i. 681 Well-furnisht-Chambers, for in each there stood, A narrow Couch, Table and Chair of wood. **1829** *Anniversary* 122 He has... a fair estate... a well furnished house, [etc.]. **1850** LYNCH *Theoph. Trinal* vii. 133 A well-clad woman in a well-furnished room.

Hence well-'furnishedness.

1653 H. MORE *Conject. Cabbal.* (1662) 118 In respect of the fulness and well-furnishedness of the Earth.

well-furred, ppl. a.

1611 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Scourge of Folly* (Grosart) 29/1 The well-furrd Deane. **1837** SIR F. PALGRAVE *Merch. & Friar* i. (1844) 22 These well-furred and awful plenipotentiaries. **1879** GEO. ELIOT *Theo. Such* xviii. 329 Well-furred skins.

well-'gaited, a.

1712 [see *gaited* ppl. a. (GAIT sb.¹)]. **1825** JAMIESON, *Weill-gaitit*,... applied to a horse that is thoroughly broke.

well(-)'garnished, ppl. a.

1597 [see **GARNISHED**]. **1838** MARG. FULLER *Wom. 19th C.* (1862) 265 More than one well-garnished mansion.

well-geared, ppl. a.

c **1470** [see **GEARED** 1]. **1899** F. T. BULLEN *Way Navy* 72 Like a well-geared piece of machinery.

well-'gifted, a.

1653 GAUDEN *Hierasp.* 20 Though Ministers might be well-gifted, and well-affected men. **1712** ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* iii. iii, Jack brag'd of greater Abilities than other Men; he was well-gifted, as he pretended.

well-girt, ppl. a. Firmly encircled or secured by a girdle or girth; esp., after Gr. *ἐξλωτος* (*avhōp*), girt up for exercise, in good trim for walking; hence *fig.* (of time) strenuously bestowed.

1647 N. WARD *Simple Cobler* 88 A well-girt houre gives every man content. **1798** WORDSW. *Idiot Boy* 39 The well-girt saddle. **1816** SOUTHEY *Poet's Pilgr.* i. iii. 1 Some three hours' journey for a well-girt man. **1845** FORD *Handbk. Spain* i. 57 To be Homerically well girt... is half the battle for the traveller in Spain. **1881** SAINTSBURY *Dryden* i. 3 A well-girt man can survey the whole in a day's walk.

b. *transf.* of a building or stronghold.

1756 HOME *Douglas* iv. i, The trembling mothers, and their children [are] lodg'd In well-girt towers and castles.

† **well(-)'given, ppl. a.** *Obs.* Well-disposed.

1535 [see **GIVEN** 2]. **1579-80** NORTH *Plutarch, Brutus* (1595) 1053 Cassius... was Brutus familiar friend, but not so well giuen, and conditioned as he. **1593** SHAKS. *2 Hen. VI.* iii. i. 72 The Duke is vertuous, milde, and too well giuen, To dreame on euill, or to worke my downefall. **1607** DEKKER & WEBSTER *Westw. Ho* ii. ii, Why are you a burden to the worlds conscience, and an eie-sore to wel giuen men? **c** **1611** CHAPMAN *Iliad* vii. 176 This said, the wel-giuen souldiers prayed.

well-glebed, a.

c **1645** W. E. in *Cleveland's Poems* (1677) 124 A well-glebd Vicarage.

well-glossed, ppl. a.

c **1611** CHAPMAN *Iliad* vii. 264 By Telamon was giuen A faire well glossed purple waste.

well-gloved, ppl. a.

1864 'ANNIE THOMAS' D. *Donne* III. 10 She laid her well-gloved hand on his arm.

well-going, ppl. a. (Said of an animal, a machine, etc.)

1623 LISLE *Ælfric on O. & N. Test.* (Crawford) 66 Make me now ready a well going horse. **1786** BURNS *Inventory* 10 My han' ahin's a weel gaun fillie. — *Addr. Unco Guid* 5 Whase life is like a weel-gaun mill, Supply'd wi' store o' water. **1789** COWPER *Let. to S. Rose* 5 June, It seems they are well-going clocks, and cheap. **1895** CROCKETT *Men of Moss-Hags* xxxii. 236 Her well-going talk eased my heart in the midst of so many troubles.

well-'gotten, ppl. a. Obtained by good means, honourably gained. (Cf. **ILL-GOTTEN**.)

1530 PALSGR. 844/1 Well gotten, *de bon acquist.* **a** **1533** BERNERS *Huon* lxviii. 235 Duke Naymes wolde take neuer a peny, for he thought al that rychys was not wel gotten. **1656** COWLEY *Mistr., Dialogue* ii, I'll the well-gotten Pleasure Safe in my Memo'ry Treasure. **1855** TENNYSON *Maud* i. iv. iii, Your father has wealth well-gotten, and I am nameless and poor.

well-'governed, ppl. a.

1. Following a good rule of life and behaviour; controlled by reason.

c **1410** *Lantern of Light* 10 Whanne pi neizbour is wise, wel governed. **c** **1449** PECOCC *Repr.* ii. vii. 179 Deuout and weel governed pilgrimes. **1592** SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* i. v. 70 Verona brags of him, To be a vertuous and well gouern'd youth. **1598** F. MERES *Pallad. Tamia* 281b, A man of vertuous disposition... and wel gouerned cariage. **1614** BP. HALL *Contempl.*, O.T. v. vi. 137 How highly God doth esteeme a well gouerned zeale. **1634** MILTON *Comus* 705 And that which is not good, is not delicious To a well-govern'd and wise appetite. **1865** DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* ii. vii, Yes, but... a well-governed mind can be soured sitting!

2. Of a state or society of men: Ruled by a good government.

1570 *Homilies* ii. *Disobed. & Rebellion* iv. (1574) 590 In anye well gouerned common wealth, where good lawes are in force. **1656** EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* i. xxv. (1674) 27 The rewards... which were practised in well-governed Common-wealths. **1748** *Anson's Voy.* iii. x. 413 The whole Empire was a well-governed affectionate family. **1816** COLERIDGE *Lay Serm.* i. (1852) 22 By the happy organisation of a well-governed society. **1875** JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 395 If you go away from well-governed states to... Thessaly, where there is great disorder and licence.

well-'governing, vbl. sb.

1649 MILTON *Eikon* xv. 141 Had he... known how to distinguish... between the wholesome heat of well Governing, and the feverous rage of Tyrannizing. **1656** EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* ii. li. (1674) 202 [His] Wit was miraculous in the well-governing of those people.

† **well-'government. Obs.**

1714 FORTESCUE-ALAND *Pref. Fortescue's Abs. & Lim. Mon.* p. xvi, Positive Institutions for the Well-government of the People.

† **well-'governor. Obs.** One who governs well.

1388 WYCLIF *1 Tim.* v. 17 The prestis that ben wel gouernours [1382 that ben wel bifore, Vulg. *qui bene praesunt*].

well-gowned, ppl. a.

1920 E. POUND *Hugh Selwyn Mauberley* 20 Doubtful, somewhat, of the value Of well-gowned approbation Of literary effort. **1975** S. MILLIGAN in C. Allen *Plain Tales from Raj* xv. 158 Always very pale and very beautiful and

well-gowned and never moving very fast if they were on horses.

† **well-graced, a.** *Obs.* Full of grace or graces. **1593, 1605** [see **GRACED**].

well-'graded, ppl. a. Having easy gradients.

1857 [see **GRADED** 3]. **1878** J. S. CAMPION *Spain* xxi. (1879) 266 The well-graded waggon-road to Lerida.

well-grassed, (ppl.) a.

1731 [see **GRASED** ppl. a. 1]. **1866** R. P. WHITWORTH *Bailliere's S. Austral. Gazetteer* Advts. p. xix, Large and well-grassed paddocks. **1890** 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* viii, An open, thinly-timbered, well-grassed country.

well-'gravelled, ppl. a.

1799 G. S. CAREY *Balnea* (ed. 2) 220 A beautiful well-gravelled walk.

well-greaved, a. Used to translate Homer's *ἐὐκνήμιδες* (pl.).

1848 BUCKLEY *Iliad* ii. 331 But come, ye well-greaved Greeks, remain all here. **1870** BRYANT *Iliad* i. 23 Well-greaved Achaïans. **1887** MORRIS *Odyss.* ii. 402 Telemachus now already are thy well-greaved fellows there.

† **well-'grinded, ppl. a.** *Obs.* Well ground.

1651 VAUGHAN *Praise Countrie-life* ii. Wks. 1914 i. 127 In populous Cities their Corne is either mouldie, or not well-grinded. **1670** EACHARD *Cont. Clergy* 92 A soft and well-grinded pouch of meal.

well-groomed, ppl. a. *a. lit.* of a horse.

1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Miner's Right* xvi, The well-groomed, high-conditioned team... plunged at their collars. **1900** E. H. COOPER *Monk wins* vi. 40 Young men in smart riding suits on well-groomed hacks.

b. of persons: Neat and trim, spick and span, with hair, skin, etc. carefully tended.

1886 [see **WELL-TAILORED**]. **1889** *Daily News* 9 Dec. 5/5 He had a well-groomed air, though he seemed carelessly dressed. **1907** H. WYNDHAM *Flare of Footlights* i, Tables crowded with well-groomed men and pretty women.

Hence well-'groomedness.

1902 *Blackw. Mag.* Apr. 553/2 The first thing I observed, when he was shown in, was his well-groomedness.

well-'grounded, ppl. a. Of immaterial things: Based on good grounds, firmly founded, having a good basis or foundation.

c **1369** [see **WELL-FOUNDED**]. **1579** E. K. in *Spenser's Sheph. Cal. Ded.*, What in most English wryters vseth to be loose, ... in this Authour is well grounded. **1611** A. STAFFORD *Niobe* i. 162, I would onely desire to see my natue countrye voide of erroneous doctrine, and flourish vnder a liuely, well grounded faith. **1644** (*title*) Humble Desires and Propositions for a Safe and Well-grounded Peace. **1648** [see **GROUND** 1 b]. **1654** T. BROOKS (*title*), Heaven on Earth, or a Serious Discourse touching a well-grounded Assurance of Mens Everlasting Happiness. **1671** T. JORDAN *London's Resurr.* 11 A Vnion well-grounded no Malice can hurt. **1709** BERKELEY *Ess. Vision* Ded., The great and well-grounded esteem I have conceived for you. **1753-4** RICHARDSON *Grandison* i. xi. 60 No man... can be well-grounded in any branch of learning, who has not been at one of our famous Universities. **1776** LOWTH *Larger Confut. Bp. Hare* 58 The whole of this evidence must be laid together, before we can... proceed to a well-grounded conclusion. **1837** LOCKHART *Scott* II. ii. 38 His well-grounded knowledge of the jurisprudence of his country. **1840** THIRLWALL *Greece* lvi. VII. 132 It was not through a paltry jealousy, but from a well-grounded anxiety. **1866** LOWELL *Study Wind., Swinburne's Trag.*, Indeed, we have some well-grounded doubts whether England [etc.]. **1888** ANNA K. GREEN *Behind Closed Doors* ii, To determine whether our fears are well-grounded.

well-grown, ppl. a. Showing a satisfactory growth or development.

1597 MARKHAM *Devoreux* 20b, As... well-growne Cedars [exceed] marish-shaken Reeds. **c** **1611** CHAPMAN *Iliad* iii. 219 A well growne Bel-weather. **1628** FORD *Lover's Mel.* iii. ii, Twines of Luie round The well growne Oake. **1765** *Museum Rust.* IV. 213 Especially if his pasture be not large and well grown. **1801** *Farmer's Mag.* Aug. 359 The last Winter and Spring have been remarkably mild; and well-grown fleeces, and great crops of lambs are the consequence. **1842** LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 446 The leaves of any well-grown pine plant cannot be tied up without injuring them. **1881** J. M. FOTHERGILL *Food we eat* 116 A well-grown, yet growing girl. **1907** J. H. PATTERSON *Man-Eaters of Tsavo* xvii. 189 The second rhino proved to be a well-grown youngster.

b. *Ship-building.* (See quot.)

1805 *Shipwright's Vade-M.* 141 *Well-grown.* This term implies that the grain of the wood follows the shape required, as in knee timber, &c. **1867** SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*

well-'guarded, ppl. a.

1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* vi. 252 We set forward, being wellguarded round about with our keepers. **1720** POPE *Iliad* xxii. 651 Whom Ilion calls Astyanax, from her well-guarded Walls. **1846** *Commercial Mag.* Oct. 135 The compensation, to which the proprietors are as much entitled as his lordship is to his well-guarded purse.

well-'guided, ppl. a.

a **1586** SIDNEY *Arcadia* ii. xiii. (1912) 234 They set upon Tiridates campe, with so well-guided a fiercenes, that... he was like to be overthrown. **1590** SPENSER *F.Q.* i. vii. 42 His goodly reason, and well guided speach. **a** **1656** BP. HALL *Soliloquies* xiv. Wks. 1662 III. 427 A tender, and well-guided Conscience. **1709** PRIOR *Cupid Mistaken* ii, Swift to His beauteous Parent's Heart The too well-guided Arrow flew.

well-'guiding, vbl. sb.

1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* xvii. xcvi, Through my well guiding is your voiage donne.

well-'guiding, ppl. a.

1603 DRAYTON *Bar. Wars* iii. xxxii. 59 Torleton. On the Queenes part with all his might doth stand, To lay this charge on her well-guiding hand.

well-hained, ppl. a. Sc. a. Of a person: In good condition; well-preserved.

1722 W. HAMILTON *Wallace* 39 But English-Men, who wanted not for Gear, Were well hain'd Callans, and had ay good Chear. 1830 GALT *Lawrie T.* vi. x, Some buxom widow, or well-hained spinster.

b. Carefully saved up or hoarded.

1785 BURNS *Cotter's Sat. Nt.* xi, The Dame brings forth. To grace the lad, her weel-hain'd kebbuck, fell. 1787 — *Brigs of Ayr* 173 Wha waste your weel-hain'd gear on d—d new Brigs and Harbours!

well-haired, ppl. a. Having a good growth of hair.

c 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* xviii. 339 Whom first, faire well-haired Charis saw. 1683 G. M[ERITON] *Yorks. Dial.* (1684) 76 As weel hair'd as thy sell. 1766 [see HAired ppl. a.]. 1897 O. THOMAS in *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 434 Tail well-haired.

† well-haled, ppl. a. Obs. Pulled up properly, drawn tight.

13. . *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 157 Heme wel-haled hose of pat same grene.

well-'hallowed, ppl. a.

1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V.* i. ii. 293 To put forth My rightfull hand in a wel-hallow'd cause.

well-'hammered, ppl. a.

1714 GAY *Trivia* i. 33 Let firm, well-hammer'd soles protect thy feet Thro' freezing snows.

well-'handed, ppl. a. Obs. exc. dial. Dexterous, clever.

c 1520 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 2230, I know well inough ye are bothe well handyd To grope a gardeuyance, though it be well bandyd. 1639 LD. DIGBY *Lett. conc. Relig.* (1651) 116 Giving us the right and well-handed interpretations of Scriptures. 1902 CROCKETT *Dark o' Moon* vii. 46 A weel-handed, through-gaun wifie.

well-'handled, ppl. a.

1477 Paston *Lett.* iii. 188, I thynke notte a mater happy, nor weell handelyd, nor poletyky dalte with, when it can never be fynysshyd with owte an inconvenience. 1676 WISEMAN *Surg.* iv. iii. 254 If the Habit of Body be tolerably good and the Ulcers well-handled. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 27 Sept. 4/2 A small and well-handled force of mounted men.

† well-hanged, ppl. a. Obs. = WELL-HUNG 1 a.

1611 COTGR., *Couillatris*, well hangd (betweene the legs).

well-'hardened, ppl. a.

1663 COWLEY *Ess. Verse & Pr.* iv. (1906) 409 Here a well hard'ned active youth we see, Taught the great Art of chearful Poverty.

† well(-)'harnessed, ppl. a. Obs. Well armed or equipped.

c 1400 T. CHESTRE *Launfal* 377 Than come ther thorwgh the cyte ten Well yharneysyth men. 1480 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 55, I troste to Jhesu that I am whel-harnest to kepe London w^t. 1535 COVERDALE *1 Macc.* iv. 7 They sawe that the Heithen were mightie and wel harnessed. 1606 [see WELL-HEARTED].

well-'havened, a. Provided with a good haven.

1790 COWPER *On Receipt Mother's Pict.* 90 As a gallant bark. . . Shoots into port at some well-haven'd isle.

'well-head. [WELL sb. 1]

1. a. The place at which a spring breaks out of the ground; the head-spring or source of a stream or river.

1340-1 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 539 In structura unius domuncule supra le Welleheued, 23s. 6d. 13. . *E.E. Allit. P.* B. 364 Waltes out vch walle-heued, in ful wode stremez. *Ibid.* 428 To-walten alle pyse welle-hedez & pe water flowed. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P.R.* xiii. iii. (1495) 441 Euery ryuer. . . spryngith out in welle heedes. 1574 *Cal. Laing Charters* (1899) 225 Vp the face of the hill to a ne lang veit welheid onder the craigis. 1590 SPENSER *F.Q.* ii. ii. 6 Great Dame Nature, from whose fruitfull pap Their wellheads spring. a 1628 PRESTON *New Court.* (1629) 160 There would be different streames, there would be divers well-heads. 1832 TENNYSON *Eleanore* 16 From old well-heads of haunted rills. 1838 ARNOLD *Hist. Rome* i. xi. 195 By the well-head of the water of Ferentina. 1886 STEVENSON *Kidnapped* xxiv. 240 We. . . travelled on eerie mountains and among the well-heads of wild rivers.

b. Sc. A spring in a marsh or morass.

1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* xv, The charger on which he was mounted plunged up to the saddle-girths in a well-head, as the springs are called which supply the marshes. 1862 WHYTE MELVILLE *Queen's Maries* xxxi, The horse. . . had got bogged up to the girths in a well-head, as those particularly soft pieces of morass are called, which abound on the Scottish moorland. 1884 SPEEDY *Sport in Highlands* xvii. 299 Extensive unfrozen marshes, abounding in 'well-heads'.

2. fig. The chief source or fountain-head of anything.

1542 BOORDE *Dyetary* Pref. (1870) 226, I. . beynge at the well-hed of Physycke [sc. at Montpellier]. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* ii. 18 The Veynes are spred forth throughout the whole bodie, howbeit from one welhead, that is to say from the Liuer. 1596 SPENSER *F.Q.* v. ix. 26 Or that he likened was to a welhed Of euill words and wicked sclaunders by him shed. 1606 BRYSKETT *Civ. Life* 42 Knowing that the well bringing up of children, was the spring or wel-head of honest life. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 309 We must suffer

our understanding to be directed to the well-head of the history it selfe. 1654 PAGITT *Heresiogr.* (ed. 5) 141 Oxford, and Cambridge, two Well-heads of Divinity. 1820 HAZLITT *Lect. Dram. Lit.* 20 It was the spring, the well-head from which every thought and feeling gushed into act. 1842 BORROW *Bible in Spain* iii. 20 The Bible, which is the well-head of all that is useful and conducive to the happiness of society. 1854 PATMORE *Angel in Ho., Betrothal* 15 As Poets of grammar, Lovers are The well-heads of morality. 1890 *Spectator* 28 June, The County Council. . . had better endeavour to find some well-head of money which has hitherto remained untapped.

3. a. The top of a draw-well. Also a more or less elaborate structure erected over this.

1613 J. SARIS *Voy. Japan* (Hakl. Soc.) 133 At euery fiftie paces there is a Well-head, fitted very substantially of free-stone, with buckets for the neighbours to fetch water. 1891 *Builder* 28 Nov. 403/1 Wrought-iron Well-head. 1908 W. C. GREEN *Old Cottages Surrey* 69 Fig. 102 shows one of these well heads with a rough roof over it. 1913 *Eng. Hist. Rev.* July 553 The thoroughly characteristic Italian well-head of the twelfth century in the Lateran cloister.

b. The structure surmounting an oil- or gas-well. Freq. attrib.

1951 *U.S. Rep.* 1950 CCCXL. 180 The issue in this case is the power of a state to fix prices at the wellhead on natural gas. 1969 *Times* 16 Dec. (Bahrain Suppl.) p. iv/3 (Adv.), Well-head structures for undersea drilling. 1972 L. M. HARRIS *Introd. Deepwater Floating Drilling Operations* ix. 93 The wellhead is installed on top of, and run with, the conductor pipe. 1983 *Fortune* 13 June 60/2 For each \$1 drop in the wellhead price, producers' net income falls only 25 cents.

well-'headed, a.

1610 MARKHAM *Master-piece* 1. ci. 201 The Greeke horse. . . is. . . swift, bold, well headed. 1641 [see HEADED 3]. 1725 *Bradley's Family Dict.* s.v. *Potage*, Well-headed Cabbages.

well-'hearted, a.

† 1. Stout-hearted, courageous. Obs.

1606 G. WOODCOCKE *Hist. Iustine* xxxviii. 121 The Scithians besides that they be well harnessed, and well harted [praeter arma virtutemque animi]. a 1614 J. MELVILL *Autob. & Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 223 But nocht half so resolut and well-harted to fecht in the quarrell as our men war. 1714 R. SMITH *Poems of Controversy* (1853) 61 Athols souldiers, . . Quick, Swift, well hearted & most prompt in hands.

2. Well-disposed, kind-hearted, generous.

1766 LD. KAMES in *Complete Farmer*, s.v. *Flax* 3 M 1 b, This prospect must be agreeable to every well-hearted Briton. 1861 QUINN *Heather Lintie* (1863) 36 But then his son Is a well-hearted winsome chiel, And's fond o' fun. 1920 MRS. HARKER *Montagu Wycherly* i. 22 Kind little girl! . . so transparently 'well-hearted' towards all the world.

well-'heated, ppl. a.

1845 ELIZA ACTON *Mod. Cookery* (ed. 2) 185 Bake the meat from five to six hours in a well-heated oven. 1886 W. J. TUCKER *E. Europe* xiv. 82 There were wooden benches round a well-heated earthenware stove.

well-'heeled, ppl. a.: see HEELED ppl. a. 2 b.**† well-'heling, vbl. sb. Obs. [See HELING.]**

Good concealment (in quot. a personification).

c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5857 Thanne shal delite and wel heelynge [Fr. *Bien-Celer*] Fonde shame adowne to brynge.

well-'hewn, ppl. a.

1656 COWLEY *Pindar. Odes, Life & Fame* ii, A lasting Life in well-hew'en Stone they rear.

well-'hinged, ppl. a.

1868-70 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* I. ii. 510 And there he saw a door within the wall, Well-hinged, close shut.

† well-'hired, ppl. a. Obs. Receiving a good salary.

1705 MANDEVILLE *Grumbling Hive* 20 That a poor Bee should Ten times come, To ask his Due, . . And by some well-hir'd Clerk be made, To give a Crown, or ne'er be paid.

well-'hoarded, ppl. a.

1786 BURNS *Halloween* vii, The auld Guidwife's weel-hoarded nits Are round an' round divided. 1842 D. VEDDER *Poems* 200 Sae Ranald shoold out, in the shape o' a fee, A weel-hoarded guinea frae out o' his spleuchan.

well-hole. [WELL sb. 1]

1. a. An opening through a floor or series of floors, for a staircase, chimney-stack, or for the admission of light, etc.

1680 LEYBOURN *Primatt's City & Country Purchaser* iii. 187 Note. . . that. . . you do afterwards take the dimensions of the Well-hole for the Stairs. 1690 — *Curs. Math.* 901 In the measuring of flooring, . . you must deduct out of it the Well-holes for the Stairs and Chimneys. 1791 SMEATON *Edystone L.* (1793) §42 A Well Hole was begun to be left upon these courses for stairs in the center. 1819 REES *Cycl., Well-hole*, in Building, is the hole left in a floor, for the stairs to come up through. 1892 *Dict. Arch.* (Arch. Publ. Soc.), *Well-hole*, . . the opening through a floor or floors, in a large warehouse, whereby light can be obtained from a glass roof over it, to each floor.

b. The empty space round which the stairs of a winding staircase turn.

1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Builder* 185 Stairs that have a well-hole, or hollow in the centre, are called geometrical stairs. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 597 A cylinder. . . of the size of the well-hole of the staircase. 1833 LONDON *Encycl. Archit.* §423 The well-hole of the stair is shown at m.

c. A vertical passage-way (for machinery, a lift, etc.); a shaft.

1841 BRES *Gloss. Civil Engin.* 297 *Well-hole*, a hole connected with some mechanical contrivances, and adapted for the reception of a counterbalancing weight, and for other

purposes. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib.* II. x. 5 The uprights or guides of the shaft or well-hole [of a lift].

2. The compartment at the lower end of a ship's pump.

1774 *Phil. Trans.* LXIV. 412 If. . plates of copper. . . were. . . continued down the main-top-gallant-mast, the main-top-mast, and part of the main-mast, into the well-hole.

well-'horned, a.

1725 POPE *Odyss.* xx. 368 Where to the pastern-bone by nerves combin'd, The well-horn'd foot indissolubly join'd. 1900 ELWORTHY *Horns of Honour* ii. 125 A bull with a human head, well-horned.

well(-)'horsed, ppl. a. Furnished with, mounted on, drawn by a good horse or horses.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* VII. 359, I and þow be here allone, iliche wel i-horsed and i-wepened. c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* viii. xvi. 2484 Twenty thousande men Weil armyt and weil horsst. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* i. x. 48 Vlfyus and Brastias. . . rode forth wel horsed and wel armed. a 1533 [see HORSED 1]. 1656 COWLEY *Pindar. Odes, To New Year* ii, His well-horst Troops, the Months, and Days, and Hours. 1666 EARL ORRERY *St. Lett.* (1742) 200 Nothing now being talked of but war, whoever has money will not spare it to be well horsed. 1884 [see HORSED 1 b]. 1899 *Scribner's Mag.* XXV. 66/2 The smart and well-horsed army service wagon. 1901 *Scotsman* 3 Apr. 8/2 The force was well-armed and well-horsed.

well-'housed, ppl. a.

1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* xxiii, It was a night for the well-housed and fed to draw round the bright fire and thank God they were at home. 1846 McCULLOCH *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) I. 445 A well-fed, well-clothed, and well-housed population.

well-'hued, a.

a 1568 R. SEMPLE *Ballat* 75 in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 357 With vlis to rennew it and mak it weill hewit. 1615 [see HUED].

† well(-)'humoured, a. Obs. [WELL adv. 32.]

Good-humoured. 1683 DRYDEN *Life Plutarch* 12 As we say in English, a well humour'd man and a good companion. 1711 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* III. 108 He, who had the better of the Argument, would be easy and well-humour'd.

well-'hung, ppl. a.

1. a. Furnished with large pendent organs; spec. (of a man) having large genitals.

1611 COTGR., *Oreillé*, eared; well hung, or hangd; which hath great eares. 1681 DRYDEN *Abs. & Achi.* i. 574 In the name of Dulness be The well-hung Balaam and cold Caleb free. 1823 EGAN *Grose's Dict. Vulg. T.* 1868 *Index Expurgatorius of Martial* 3 In Rome well-hung youths made a good profit by their amours. 1958 L. DURRELL *Balthazar* v. 103 They love a well-hung diplomat. 1977 D. WILES *Death Flight* xviii. 177 Hey, man. . . You sure is well hung for a priest!

b. Decorated with rich hangings or tapestry. a 1667 COWLEY *Ess. Verse & Pr.* i. (1906) 389 A painted Cage; Or the false Forest of a well-hung Room.

2. Of the tongue: Working readily and freely; glib, fluent.

1678 QUACK'S *Acad.* 6 If niggardly Nature or more penurious Education have not afforded you a Tongue well hung. 1790 J. FISHER *Poems* 57 Be sure to keep a well hung tongue, Your knav'ry to defend. 1853 HICKIE *Aristoph.* (1872) II. 576 Thou well-hung tongue.

3. Suspended or attached so as to hang well. Said, e.g., of a window-sash, a carriage, a gate, a lady's skirt.

1762 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* v. xvii, Susannah did not consider that nothing was well hung in our family, — so slap came the sash down like lightning upon us. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humphry* Cl. 26 June, The carriage is remarkably commodious and well hung. 1847 SURTEES *Hawbuck Grange* xi. 224 Some well-hung green gates. 1847 MRS. GORE *Castles in Air* I. x. 204 The light, easy, well-hung, well-finished brouche. 1896 *Daily News* 4 July 6/3 Nothing is fresher or prettier than a well-hung skirt of white or cream colour.

4. Of meat or game: Hung up for a sufficient time.

1877 *Cassell's Dict. Cookery* 1079/2 Well-hung four-year-old mutton. *Ibid.* 1080/1 A fine, well-hung neck of venison.

well-'husbanded, ppl. a.

1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* ii. liv. 383 You shall plant their shootes after the same manner, in a well husbanded and digged ground. 1641 MILTON *Animadv.* 52 A well-husbanded nursery of plants and fruits. 1885 RUSKIN *Ulric Farm Serv.* Pref. p. v, In the quiet mornings of his well husbanded and well spent days.

wellie: see WELLY.**well-'imagined, ppl. a.**

1798 SOPHIA LEE *Canterb. T., Young Lady's T.* II. 13 A well-imagined, or well-timed compliment. 1809 [see IMAGINED 1].

well-'imitated, ppl. a.

1744 ARMSTRONG *Preserv. Health* iii. 91 With the well-imitated fly to hook The eager trout.

well-'improved, ppl. a.

1641 [see IMPROVED 2]. 1709 T. MOLYNEUX in *Ir. Archæol. Soc. Misc.* (1846) I. 177 From thence to Moat, thro' a well improv'd, well planted country. 1735 BERKELEY *Querist* §413 A handsome Seat amidst well-improved Lands.

well-in, *adj. phr.* *Austral.* [f. dial. use of *in* = furnished, provided, 'off'.] Well-off, well-to-do.

1845 T. McCOMBIE *Arabin* 241 They had a pretty little farm, and were well in. **1891** 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Sydney-side Sax*. Intro., He's a well-in squatter, that took up runs or bought them cheap before free selection.

well-in'clined, *ppl. a.* Of good natural inclination or disposition; well-disposed.

a1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. xxvii. (1912) 323 These words being spoken (like a furious storme) presently caried away their well inclined braines. **1611** RICH *Honest. Age* (1615) 12 Zelous, and well inclined married wifes. **1615** CHAPMAN *Odys.* vii. 235 The well-inclin'd, And sacred order of Alcinous mind. **1683** H. PRIDEAUX in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 185 We looke on him as a studious well-inclined yong Gentleman. **1709** ATTERBURY *Serm.* (1726) II. 237 For the sake of those, who... may be well-inclin'd to Works of Mercy. **1710** STEELE *Tatler* No. 207 ¶1 A well inclined young Man... must needs take Delight in being agreeable to his Elders. **1881** GLADSTONE *Let. to Forster* 8 Sept. in R. B. O'Brien *Life Parnell* (1898) I. 304 To reduce the following of Parnell by drawing away from him all well-inclined men.

well(-)in'formed, *ppl. a.* Well equipped with information; fully furnished with knowledge, whether of a special subject or of things in general; having a well-stored mind.

c1440 [see INFORMED *ppl. a. 2b*]. **c1611** CHAPMAN *Iliad* Ep. Ded. 94 Great Princes, well inform'd and deckt With gracious vertue. **1614** [see INFORMED *ppl. a. 2b*]. **1752** CHESTERF. *Lett. to Son* 23 June, He is a very pretty and well-informed man. **1791** BOSWELL *Johnson* an. 1783 (1904) II. 485 This great man... was yet well-informed in the common affairs of life. **1794** MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* i, A well-informed mind... is the best security against the contagion of folly and of vice. **1827** SIR J. BARRINGTON *Pers. Sk.* I. 351 Colonel Burr was... a well-informed, sensible man. **1856** RUSKIN *Mod. Painters* IV. v. §20 The perfect and well-informed decision of Albert Durer and his fellow-workmen. **1863** B. WOODCROFT *Brief Biogr.* 18 Crompton... was intelligent, though not what is generally called 'well-informed'. **1898** WATTS-DUNTON *Aylwin* i. v, Her aunt, who was no doubt a well-informed woman, had been attending to her education.

absol. **1824** LANDOR *Imag. Conv.*, Bacon & Hooker II. 65, I have observed, among the well informed and the ill informed, nearly the same quantity of infirmities and follies. **1842** DICKENS *Amer. Notes* iii, Not to impress the thoughtful and the well-informed, but the ignorant and heedless. **1922** G. K. CHESTERTON *Man who knew* vii. 124 It startled the well-informed by being a new and fantastic idea they had never encountered.

welling ('welɪŋ), *vbl. sb.*¹ [f. WELL *v.*¹ + -ING¹.]

1. The action of boiling or scalding. Also comb. **welling-lead**, a cauldron.

1371-3 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 577 In emendacione unius Wellynglede in pistrino. **c1440** *Promp. Parv.* 521/1 Wellynge, of mylke and oþer lycure, *coagulacio*, *decoccio*. **1588** L. M. tr. *Bk. Dyeing* 22 Take so much water as will go into the small kettle, so let it have a welling or two on the fire. **1691** RAY S. & E. Co. *Words*, 'Welling of whey' is heating it scalding hot, in order to the taking off the curds.

b. The boiling up (of a liquid in a pot).

c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 521/1 Wellynge, or boylynge of playnge pottys, *ebullicio*, *bullicio*.

† **2. a.** The melting or founding of metals. *Obs.* **1388** WYCLIF *Jer.* li. 17 Ech wellere togidere is schent in a graun ymage; for his welling togidere is fals [Vulg. *quia mendax est conflatio eorum*]. **c1440** *Promp. Parv.* 521/1 Wellynge, of metel, *fusio*.

† **b.** = WELDING *vbl. sb.* Also *attrib. Obs.*

1660 tr. *Paracelsus' Archidoxis* i. vii. 109 Smiths... compactly consolidated their Irons together as if they had been conglutinated with a true compaction, or welling. **1795** G. PEARSON in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXV. 328 The substance made white hot, by the forge, had the glassy smooth surface of iron, in what is termed the welding or the welling state.

3. The bubbling up and overflowing (of water); the flowing forth or out (of a stream); the swelling (of flood-water, the sea).

c1400 *Contin. Brut.* ccxxiv. 292 þere arose suche a sprynggyng and wellinge op of wates and floodes, bothe of þe see and also of fresshe ryvers & sprynges, þat [etc.]. **c1440** *Promp. Parv.* 521/1 Wellynge, or boylynge vp as water fro þe erthe or spryng, *scaturicio*. **a1500** R. Bale's *Chron. in Six Town Chron.* (1911) 135 The ix day of Octobre was such a welling and spring of waters... that [etc.]. **1867** MYERS *St. Paul* (1896) 38 Welling of waves, disconsolate and tender, Sighed on the shore. **1871** MACDUFF *Mem. Patmos* xxiv. 326 The welling up of the Jordan in the cavern at the base of giant Mount Hermon.

b. fig.

1857 LIVINGSTONE *Trav.* xiv. 259 The notes... strike the mind by their loudness and variety, as the wellings forth from joyous hearts, of praise to Him who fills them with overflowing gladness. **1896** F. M. CRAWFORD *Corleone* xxvii. (1897) II. 121 With a wild welling up of hope, Francesco galloped along the road. **1916** MRS. H. WARD *Lady Connie* i. v. 95 It was a moment for her of strong reaction, of a welling-up and welling-back of life, after a kind of suspension.

'**welling**, *vbl. sb.*² [f. WELL *sb.*¹ + -ING¹.] The action of making a well or shaft; in quot. *concr.*, shaft-work.

1865 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 10 Oct. 7 He was assisting in placing a pile in the 'wellings' when the chain slipped from the 'crab'.

welling ('welɪŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. WELL *v.*¹ + -ING².]

1. Boiling; said of a liquid, of molten metal, etc.; also of a pot. **welling hot**, boiling hot.

a1300 *Cursor M.* 21042 In a tun was welland hat fild of oyle he did him schott. *Ibid.* 26753 Alle your entrailles ilkon

in welland pottes sal be don. **1303** R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 6578 Whoso handlyth pycche wellyng hote He shal have fylthe thereof sumdeyl. **1340** HAMPOLE *Pr. C.* 7126 It salbe þe hatter þan ever was Molten led or welland bras. **1370-80** *Visions of St. Paul* 134 in O.E. Misc. 227 And þei sodun euerichon In wellyng pich and Brumston. **a1400-50** *Wars Alex.* 4080 Till he come blesenand on a brym was welland hate. **c1440** *Gesta Rom.* lxviii. 385 Sone after come ij. deuyls yellyng, and broughtyn a Cawderon full of hote wellyng bras.

† **b. fig.** in phr. **welling woe** (of hell). Cf. *to well in woe*, WELL *v.*¹ 3 b. *Obs.*

a1300 *Cursor M.* 21836 He demed me in-till hell depe, Euer in welland wa to wepe. **c1375** *Sc. Leg. Saints* xvi. (*Magdalena*) 634 [Christ] tholit þare dyspituise ded, Fra welland wa vs al to led.

† **c. welling wood**, raging mad. (Cf. WALLING *ppl. a.*¹ 1.) *Obs.*

13... *St. Cristofer* 53 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 455 Bathe togedir away þay 3ode Als þay hade bene welland wode. **c1460** *Towneley Myst.* viii. 344 Thes folk shall flyt no far, If he go welland wode.

2. Of a spring, tears, etc.: Flowing abundantly, surging. Also *fig.*

1387-8 T. USK *Test. Love* i. i. 86 Or els to see the sight that might al my wellinge sorowes voyde. **1388** WYCLIF *Gen.* xxvi. 19 Thei diggiden in the stronde, and thei founden wellynge watir. **1548** UDALL *Erasm. Par. N. T.* Pref. 7 He was a continual wellyng fountayne of eloquence... a botom-lesse spring of largesse. **1567** TURBERV. *Ovid's Ep.* 50 Alongste my stayned cheekes eche houre the welling teares doe trill. **1819** S. ROGERS *Human Life* 741 Their questions, their replies, Fresh as the welling waters, round him rise. **1850** DISRAELI in G. E. Buckle *Life* (1914) III. viii. 238 There should be more variety in the movement. Something to break the low, tho' welling, chorus of the agrestic multitude. **1858** FARRAR *Eric* i. xiii, Soft hair, tangled with welling blood. **1890** H. H. JOHNSTON in *Nature* 13 Nov. 46 A welling, brackish pool.

3. That pours out a stream or streams. Of a wound, etc.: Bleeding copiously. Also *fig.*

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* i. iii. 181 The Sun... and Windes... Extract as much still of her humours thin, As weeping Aire, and welling Earth pours in. **1814** BYRON *Lara* II. xvii, Kneels Kaled watchful o'er his welling side. **1910** *Sat. Rev.* 19 Feb. 225/1 His speeches... have the air of happy improvisation, as though they came from a welling heart.

welling, *obs. dial. var.* FELLING *vbl. sb.*

1513 *MS. Acc. St. John's Hosp., Canterb.*, For wellyng of ij elmys jd. **1520** *Ibid.*, Payd for wellyng off xv pyesys off tymber.

welling, *obs. form of WILLING* *vbl. sb.*

Wellington ('welɪŋtən). Also **wellington**. [Named after Arthur, first duke of *Wellington*, 1769-1852.]

1. *attrib. a. Wellington boot* = sense 2 a and b.

1818 M. BIRKBECK *Notes Journ. Amer.* (ed. 4) 88 Americans... in pantaloons and Wellington boots. **1839** DICKENS *Nickleby* ii, Grey mixture pantaloons, and Wellington boots drawn over them. **1860** *All Year Round* No. 64. 331 The Wellington boot at present worn by our dragoons under their trousers. **1884** E. YATES *Recoll.* I. ii. 46 No gentleman could wear anything in the daytime but Wellington boots, high up the leg, over which the trousers fitted tightly, covering most of the foot, and secured underneath by a broad strap. **1971** [see DELPHINIUM b]. **1980** L. LEWIS *Private Life of Country House* vi. 79 Snowboots... were virtually superseded by rubber wellington boots, which I first saw when I was about eleven [i.e. c. 1920].

b. Used to designate other articles of clothing introduced by the Duke, or named after him, as *Wellington coat, hat, trousers*.

1815 [see *half-dress* s.v. HALF- II. n]. **1818** SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* i, The preposterous length of their great-coats, and the equally fashionable latitude and longitude of their Wellington trousers. **1828** CREEVEY *Papers* etc. (1904) II. 155 Yesterday morning he made his first appearance in a new 'Wellington' Coat (a kind of a half-and-half great Coat and undercoat, you know, meeting close and square below the knees). **1832** MARRYAT *N. Forster* xxxii, The above look much more scientific than Wellington trousers. **1893** GEORG. HILL *Hist. Eng. Dress* II. 254 Wellington hat with the yeoman Crown.

c. Wellington chest (of drawers): a tall narrow chest of drawers used for keeping specimens. *Occas. ellipt. as Wellington.*

1953 'N. BLAKE' *Dreadful Hollow* iv. 50 There was the wellington to which Stanford Blick had directed him. Nigel opened one of its drawers. **1960** H. HAYWARD *Antique Coll.* 304/2 *Wellington chest*, a tall narrow chest containing about a dozen drawers which can be locked by a single hinged flap securing all the drawers. **1971** *Country Life* 7 Oct. (Suppl.) 23 (Advt.), A small antique mahogany Wellington chest of drawers measuring only 19½ inches wide, 14 inches deep and 41 inches high. **1982** 'J. GASH' *Firefly Gadroon* v. 53 There's a space where I used to have my Wellington chest before I flogged it for bread.

2. *a.* A high boot covering the knee in front and cut away behind. Also a somewhat shorter boot worn under the trousers.

1817 MONCRIEFF *Giovanni in Lond.* i. iv, And wear of wellingtons a pair, To shine from top to toe, sir! **a1821** KEATS *Modern Love* 8 Miss's comb is made a pearl tiara, And common Wellingtons turn Romeo boots. **1854** C. KNIGHT *Once upon a Time* II. 266 The tops lasted till Wellingtons and trousers drove them out. **1869** E. A. PARKES *Pract. Hygiene* (ed. 3) 416 The cavalry have Wellingtons and jackboots. **1906** *Stores' Price List*, 2 Pairs Calf Wellingtons.

b. A waterproof boot usu. reaching the knee, worn in wet or muddy conditions. *Usu. pl.*

1907 *Yesterday's Shopping* (1969) 326/1 Black glazed rubber boots. Ladies' Wellingtons. **1944** D. WELCH *Jrnl.* 25 Jan. (1973) 107 He wore an old thick jersey, and grey

flannels tucked into Wellingtons. **1984** *Brian Mills Catal.* Spring & Summer 337/4 Waterproof wellington in PVC.

3. A variety of cooking apple, large, roundish, and with yellowish white flesh. Also *W. apple*.

1821 *Trans. Hort. Soc.* (1822) IV. 529 Mr. Richard Williams sent... specimens of an Apple called the *Wellington*, a very handsome and long keeping variety. **1839** C. McINTOSH *Orchard* 18 Dumelow's Seedling [Syn. *Wellington Apple*, Dumelow's Crab]. **1882** *Garden* 18 Mar. 182/3 Cooks go generally for the *Wellington* as a cooking Apple.

wellingtonia (welɪŋ'təʊniə). [Named by Lindley after Arthur, first duke of Wellington (1769-1852): see -IA¹.] The popular name in England of *Sequoia* (*Wellingtonia*) *gigantea*, a large coniferous tree, native of California; the 'big tree' or Washington cedar.

[**1853** *Gard. Chron.* 24 Dec. 820/1 *Wellington* stands as high above his contemporaries as the Californian tree above all the surrounding foresters. Let it then bear henceforward the name of *Wellingtonia gigantea*.] *Ibid.* 823/3 These considerations seem to leave no room for doubt that *Wellingtonia* is an entirely new coniferous form. **1868** *Morning Star* 18 June, A group composed of three gigantic *Wellingtonias*. **1880** MISS BRADDON *Just as I am* xxvii, Gardens rich in monkey-trees, deodaras, *Wellingtonias*.

Wellingtonian (welɪŋ'təʊniən), *a.* [See prec. and -IAN.] Belonging to or characteristic of the duke of Wellington.

1854 *Poultry Chron.* I. 439/2 She performs this duty, too, in a true *Wellingtonian* spirit, coming off her nest with quiet dignity. **1889** *Academy* 14 Sept. 159/1 The *Wellingtonian* legend was once as strong in England as the Napoleonic in France. **1907** *Nation* 5 Oct. 9/1 There is a *Wellingtonian* vigour in his way of stating a case.

† **well-in'habited**, *ppl. a. Obs.* Populous.

1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 286 The Ilande of saynt Laurence... beinge well inhabited and of temperate ayer. **1585** T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholas's Voy.* i. xvi. 17 The Bourg... [is] well inhabited. **1709** T. MOLYNEUX in *Jr. Archæol. Soc. Misc.* (1846) I. 169 It seems to have been of old a well inhabited and thriving town. **1709** SHAFTESB. *Moralists* II. i. 40 At its foot a River and well-inhabited Plain. **1780** COXE *Russ. Discov.* 30 Two well-inhabited islands.

wellink ('welɪŋk). *dial.* Also **wallink**. [app. worn down from **well* (WELL *sb.*¹) -*lemke*: see LEMEKE and BROOKLIME.] A provincial name of the Brooklime, *Veronica Beccabunga*.

1831 W. PATRICK *Plants Lanark.* 46 Brooklime... The Wallink of the village herbalist. **1878** *Cumberld. Gloss.*, Well ink. **1881** *Hardwicke's Sci.-Gossip* XVII. 278 Brooklime. 'Wellink'... co. Antrim.

well-instituted, *ppl. a.*

1644 MILTON *Areop.* (Arb.) 49 No Nation, or well instituted State, if they valu'd books at all, did ever use this way of licencing.

well-in'structed, *ppl. a.*

1553 [see INSTRUCTED]. **1560** BIBLE (Geneva) *Ecclus.* xxvi. 14 There is nothing so muche worthe as a woman wel instructed. **1781** COWPER *Conversat.* 903 But let the wise and well-instructed hand Once take the shell beneath his just command. **1835** *Court Mag.* VI. 224/2 A well-instructed appreciation of his public claims. **1838** FR. A. KEMBLE *Jrnl. Resid. Georgia* (1863) 24 Mary's brother... performs all the offices of a well-instructed waiter with great efficiency. **1865** PUSEY *Truth Eng. Ch.* 224 Deadly sins could hardly be committed in ignorance by any one of well-instructed conscience.

Hence **well-in'structedness**. *rare* -1.

1628 [see INSTRUCTEDNESS].

well-integrated, *ppl. a.*

1943 *Mind* LII. 127 A well-integrated body of... laws. **1976** B. GIBSON *Birmingham Bombs* ix. 74 They got on with their neighbours and most of them were regarded as well-integrated members of the community.

well-in'tended, *ppl. a.* Characterized by a right and sincere intention; well-meant.

a1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. xiv. (1912) 437 Especially setting forth their noble gratefulness, in never forgetting well-intended services. **1628** FELTHAM *Resolves* i. xxvi. 83 So, by bad circumstances, [we] poyson a well-intended principall. **1768-74** TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 263 The meanest, well-intended labours may claim thy patronage. **1777** JOHNSON *Let. to Dr. Dodd* 26 June in *Boswell*, In requital of those well-intended offices which you are pleased so emphatically to acknowledge. **1827** HIGGINS *Celtic Druids* 66 The perhaps well-intended but nonsensical and fruitless efforts of our priests. **1834** *Tait's Mag.* I. 208/2 The pamphlet is well-intended, sensible, and temperate.

† **well(-)intentionated**: see INTENTIONATED.

well-in'tentioned, *ppl. a.*

1. Of a person: Having good intentions. **1598** PARSONS in *Archpriest Controv.* (Camden) I. 25 Yf the magistrates were known to be godly and well intentioned men. **1716** ADDISON *Freeholder* No. 50 ¶2 Among us, This has been a mark of such well-intentioned persons, as would betray their country, if they were able. **1768-74** TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 681 Believing me a well-intentioned body, but a little bewildered by dealing too much among heathen authors. **1828** MISS MITFORD *Village Ser.* III. 115 Dame Banks was in fact a well-intentioned, worthy woman. **1839** BURGON *Sir T. Gresham* I. ii. 65 The truth seems to be, that however well intentioned, he did not possess the requisite abilities for the office he filled. **1857** BUCKLE *Civiliz.* I. vii. 327 These well-intentioned, though mistaken, men.

2. Of actions, utterances, etc.: Due to or based upon good intentions.

1848 DICKENS *Dombey* iii, Polly triumphed not a little in the success of her well-intentioned scheme. 1875 JEVONS *Money* viii. 81 Many well-intentioned efforts to reform a currency have thus been frustrated. 1885 *American* XI. 44 A well-intentioned argument.

Hence well-in'tentionedness.

1799 COLERIDGE *Lett.* (1895) 315, I see enough of the boy to be fully convinced of his goodness and well-intentionedness.

well-in'vented, *ppl. a.* Cleverly fabricated or made up. Cf. It. *ben trovato*.

Well invented occurs as pa. t. in Spenser's *F.Q.* iv. ii. 2, iv. xii. 2.

1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* II. 206 He full of fraudulent Arts This well invented Tale for Truth imparts. 17.. BYSSHE *Art Engl. Poetry* (1762) I. Pref. p. vii, The well-invented Fables of the Antients were design'd only to inculcate the Truth with more Delight.

wellish ('welʃ), *adv. dial. and colloq.* [f. WELL *adv.* + -ISH.] Pretty well. *wellish off*, fairly well to do. Also *not wellish* adj., rather unwell.

1737 BYROM *Rem.* (1856) II. i. 122 Mr. Lloyd complained of being hot, faint, not wellish. 1830 H. COCKBURN *Lett.* 30 Dec. (1932) 30 How are you? All wellish here. 1856 D. G. ROSSETTI *Lett.* 6 Mar. (1965) I. 293, I fancy it will pay wellish, too. 1875 'S. BEAUCHAMP' *N. Hamilton* II. 134 They [the hops] looks mighty koin'd so fur, an they bin a taakin hold wellish. 1899 *Cumbld. Gloss.*, *Wellish off*, in easy circumstances. 1934 E. BOWEN *Cat Jumps* 230 [Do you] know him fearfully well? 'Wellish,' said Rachel.

† **well-i'toʒe(n, -i'towe(n, ppl. a. Obs.** [See TEE *v.* 1 and cf. UNTOWEN, WANTON.] Well trained or instructed; well-conditioned, modest.

c 1205 LAY. 10099 Lucus wes wel iotoʒen. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 204 þe Scoriun of Lecherie . . hæuð swuche kundles þet in one wel itowune muðe hore summes nome ne sit nout uorto nemnen; uor þe nome one muhte hurten alle wel itowune earen. c 1230 *Hali Meid.* (1922) 35 Muče dale laðluker þen eni wel-itoe muð for schome mahe seggen. c 1275 LAY. 12913 A child þat was wel itowe.

well-joined, *ppl. a.*

1553 ASCHAM *Rept. Germany* I If proper and naturall wordes, in well ioyned sentences do lyuely expresse the matter. a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. xvii. (1912) 260 Alas, how painefull a thing it is to a devided minde to make a well-joyned answer? c 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XIII. 626 As through fallow fields, Blacke Oxen draw a well-ioyn'd plough. 1615 — *Odys.* XXI. 197 Thus, below A well-ioyn'd boord he laide it. 1645 MILTON *Tetrach.* 38 The intolerable yoke of a never well joyn'd wedlocke.

well-jointed, *ppl. a.*

1413 [see JOINED]. 1874 J. M. FOTHERGILL *Maintenance of Health* 282 The rain should be collected into sufficient and well-jointed spouting.

well-judged, *ppl. a.* Marked by sound judgement, judicious; wisely estimated, correctly calculated.

1725 BERKELEY *Proposal* Wks. III. 230 An extensive and well-judged charity. 1780 COWPER *On Burning Ld. Mansfield's Libr.* 7 The well-judg'd purchase. 1841 ELPHINSTONE *Hist. India* II. 59 His next measure . . was perfectly rational and well-judged. 1868 GEO. ELIOT *Ess.* (1884) 325 A vast crop, that . . can be come at, not at all by hurried snatching, but only by a well-judged patient process. 1895 *Daily News* 7 Sept. 7/3 Stoddart being out to a well-judged catch at long-on.

Hence well-'judgedly, *adv.*

1768 MISS BURNEY *Early Diary* (1889) I. 18 Never was parent so properly, so well-judgedly affectionate!

well-'judging, *ppl. a.* Having or exercising or characterized by sound judgement.

1751 *Pope's Wks.* V. 240 note, An Age so distinguished for well-judging Patrons. 1755 YOUNG *Centaure* i. 5 Well-judging Wit is a flower of wisdom. 1789 COWPER *Catharina* 34 When the mind is endued With a well-judging taste from above. 1815 JANE AUSTEN *Emma* viii, He always speaks to the purpose; open, straight forward, and very well judging. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xxxviii, A good and prudent and well-judging woman. 1868 GEO. ELIOT *Ess.* (1884) 334 The foresight, the conscience, that will make him well-judging and scrupulous in the use of it [sc. the franchise].

well-kempt, -kemmyt, ppl. a. Carefully combed. Also tidy, well cared for.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* x. xiv. 13 Hys weyll kemmyt berd, hyngand full straucht Apon his breist. 1540 J. HEYWOOD *Four PP.* 878 Theyr hornes well gylt, theyr clowes full clene, Theyr taylles well kempt. 1922 JOYCE *Ulysses* 212 A wellkempt head, new-barbered. 1934 P. FLEMING *One's Company* II. xviii. 306 The numerous temples were so well-kempt. 1973 *Observer* (Colour Suppl.) 23 Sept. 43/1 Tall, improbably athletic, handsome, bearded, he looked like a well-kempt prophet.

well-kenned, -kent, ppl. a. Sc. Well-known, familiar.

a 1796 BURNS *On Willie Chalmers* 9, I doubt na, lass, that weel-kend name May cost a pair o' blushes. — *Epigr. to Artist* 7 You'll easy draw a weel-kent face, But no sac weel a stranger. 1886 STEVENSON *Kidnapped* i, Others, all well-kenned gentlemen, had pleasure in his society. 1895 CROCKETT *Men of Moss-Hags* xxvii. 205 So I was here upon well-kenned ground.

well-kept, *ppl. a.* Carefully preserved or stored; faithfully observed or guarded; maintained in good order or condition.

14.. in *Rel. Ant.* I. 233 He shall never have good larder, faire gardeyn, nor wele kepte counsell. 1613-16 W. BROWNE

Brit. Past. I. ii. 43 That well kept Register wherein is writ All ils men doe. c 1670 O. HEYWOOD *Diaries* (1881) II. 348 How much reall comfort a Christian hath in a well-kept fast. 1763 *Museum Rust.* I. 143 A well-kept garden. 1865 *Dublin Univ. Mag.* I. 19 Ruddy as a well-kept apple. 1871 LE FANU *Rose & Key* II. 271 A well-kept road across a melancholy moor. 1898 MISS YONGE *Keble's Parishes* xiv. 157 Well-kept, picturesque cottages. 1915 *Edin. Rev.* July 101 The well-kept secrets of the older Gods.

well-knit, *ppl. a.*

1. Firmly conjoined or compacted; closely linked or connected.

1445 tr. *Claudian* 43 in *Anglia* XXVIII. 261 Ner for noise of lital offence [Fidelity] dissolutyht not knottis wele knytte. 1635-56 COWLEY *Dauides* I. 380 His spirit contains The well-knit Mass. 1708 J. PHILIPS *Cyder* II. 458 Anger-kindling Taunt, the certain Bane Of well-knit Fellowship. 1871 TYLOR *Prim. Cult.* II. xiv. 122 Declaring the will and answers of the gods . . in well-knit harangues.

2. Of a person, his frame: Strongly and compactly built, not loose-jointed.

1588 SHAKS. *L.L.L.* I. ii. 77 O well-knit Sampson, strong ioynted Sampson. 1674 COTTON tr. *B. de Montluc's Comm.* 179 He was . . strong and well knit. 1726 POPE *Odys.* XVIII. 259 Thy well-knit frame. 1861 DICKENS *Gt. Expect.* iv. 9, Jey was a well-knit, characteristic-looking blacksmith. 1890 'R. BOLDBREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* xv, The square form and well-knit figure of an ordinary English aristocrat.

fig. 1867 M. ARNOLD *Immortality* 13 His soul well-knit, and all his battles won.

well-'knotted, *ppl. a.*

1855 D. COSTELLO *Stories fr. Screen* 122 Bundles tied up in well-knotted handkerchiefs. 1888 F. H. WOODS tr. *Montelius' Civil. Sweden* 61 Upon the head was a well-knotted worsted net.

† **well-'knowing**, *ppl. a. Obs.* Intelligent and well-informed.

1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 5 Most well-knowing men have been wary of speaking it out. 1709 SHAFESB. *Moralists* I. iii. 30 Knowing as you are (continu'd I) well-knowing and experienc'd in all the Degrees and Orders of Beauty.

well-'knowledge, *ppl. a.* Furnished with sound knowledge.

1858 J. BROWN *Horæ Subs.* (1882) I. 407 He had the momentum of a strong, clear, well-knowledge mind.

well(-)known, *ppl. a.*

1. Known to many, widely or generally known.

c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* I. 11 It is weyle knawyne on mony diuers syde, How thai haff wrocht in to thair mychty pryde. 1479-80 *Paston Lett.* III. 269 He is well knowe in London. 1568 TURNER *Herbal* III. 8 Medewurte is an herbe well knowne unto all men. a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* I. vii. §2 He by enquire gotte to the well-knowne house of Kalandar. 1613 CHAPMAN *Rev. Bussy D'Ambois* III. i, Ile not wrong My well knowne Brother for Anonymos. 1621 BP. MOUNTAGU *Diatribæ* 19 The well-knowne and avowable practice of the Ancients. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* III. 141 The fruitful Isle of Crete, well known to Fame. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 127 ¶3 It is well known we have not had a more moderate Summer these many Years. 1780 *Mirror* No. 87 She instanced the well-known lines of Shakespeare. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xxxiii, The well-known leader of the Porteous mob. 1837 PENNY *Cycl.* IX. 163/1 Dry Rot, a well-known disease affecting timber. 1850 McCOSH *Div. Govt.* II. i. (1874) 140 It is well known that art has in general preceded science. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 46 His father being a very well-known man. 1907 J. A. HODGES *Elem. Photogr.* (ed. 6) 95 Any well-known brand [of Bromide paper].

2. Intimately or thoroughly known.

1590 SPENSER *F.Q.* III. v. 17 A narrow foord, to them well knowne. 1596 *Ibid.* v. viii. 40 The dreadful sight did them so sore affray, That their well known courses they forwent. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 391 The Stallion snuffs the well-known Scent afar. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 4 ¶2 There are . . many to whom my Person is as well known as that of their nearest Relations. 1726 POPE *Odys.* XVI. 9 Some well-known friend (Eumæus) bends this way. 1796 MME. D'ARBLAY *Camilla* x. xii, A well-known voice reached her ears. 1805 SCOTT *Last Minstr.* IV. xxv, The boy . . Implor'd for aid each well-known face. 1867 MORRIS *Jason* II. 15 So lightly through the well-known woods he passed. *absol.* 1890 *Hardwicke's Sci.-Gossip* XXVI. 158/2 It is always best to begin with the well-known, and proceed to the less known or altogether unknown.

Hence well-'knownness.

1961 D. J. BOORSTIN *Image* viii. 162 The star system . . puts a premium on well-knownness for its own sake. 1978 J. PEARSON *Façades* xxiii. 401 A celebrity has been defined by Daniel Boorstin as a person who is known for his well-knownness. 1984 *Listener* 15 Mar. 31/2 Telly persons are, as it were, well known for their well-known-ness.

wellkyn, var. WILKIN *Obs.*

well-'laboured, *ppl. a.* Skilfully wrought or elaborated; thoroughly tilled.

1708 J. PHILIPS *Cyder* I. 343 When they to the vocal Shell Warble melodious their well-labour'd Songs. 1718 POPE *Iliad* XXIV. 287 A large, well-labour'd bowl. 1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 41 Lancashire is the fertile and well-laboured soil in which the seed of factory knowledge will bring forth fruit one hundred fold.

well-'labouring, *ppl. a.*

1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV.* I. i. 127 Whose well-labouring sword Had three times slaine th'apparence of the King.

well-laced, *ppl. a.* (See LACED 6.)

1826 J. F. COOPER *Last of Mohicans* vi, A powerful draught of the woodman's high flavoured and well-laced compound.

well-'laden, *ppl. a.*

1697 CONGREVE *Mourn. Bride* Epil. 22 Devoutly praying . . That some well-laden Ship may strike the Sands.

well-laid, *ppl. a.* Also with *adv.*, as *in, on*.

1679 OLDHAM *Sat. Jesuits* I. (1681) 19 That damn'd Committee, whom the Fates ordain Of all our well-laid Plots to be the bane. 1826 GALT *Last of Lairds* iv. 31 A well-laid-on whack o' the tawse. 1847 SURTEES *Hawbuck Grange* xii. 247 Our friends now got among nice, level, well-laid, well-pleached fences. 1854 — *Handley Cr.* li. (1901) II. 92 Jorrock, who is well-laid in on the road for a view, screeches and holloas them on.

† **well-'landed**, *ppl. a. Obs.* Possessed of much land.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XVIII. iii. I. 550 Rich and substantial men were teamed in Latine, Locupletes, as one would say, Loci-pleni, [i. well-landed]. a 1623 CAMDEN *Rem. Armories* (1636) 212 Ralph de Curva Spina or Creythorne, descended from an Ancestor well landed in Kent.

well-'language, *a.* Now *arch. a.* Having a good command of language. Also, skilled in languages.

1340-70 *Alex. & Dind.* 171 A wel-langaged lud. 1523 [see LANGUAGE 2]. 1561 T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtier* I. (1577) Ejb, margin, Men that will be demed to be well language. 1616 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* II. ii. 37 Well-languag'd Danyel. 1639 SALTMARSH *Policy* 231 Where entreaties are of moment, use well language men; thus were the men of Lystra perswaded. 1671 [see LANGUAGE 1]. 1954 L. HOTSON *First Night of 'Twelfth Night'* I. 29 The well-language Elizabeth kept helping Lord Grey interpret the gist of it.

b. Expressed in good language, well-worded.

1692 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* II. 169 His . . well languag'd Sermons. 1938 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 20 Aug. 548/2 Sir Robert Cordell, whose well-languageed seventeenth-century will . . makes interesting reading.

† **well-'leared**, *ppl. a. Obs.* = next.

c 1400 *Rule of St. Benet* (Prose) 5 Euer sal be in his poht þat his munkis be wel lered. a 1774 FERGUSSON *Poems, Drink Ecl.* 53 As weel-lear'd trav'lers tell.

well-'learned, *ppl. a.* Now *rare.* Having sound knowledge or instruction; deeply read or versed (in a subject).

1426 *Paston Lett.* I. 25 Maister Iohn Blodwelle, a weel lerned man holden. c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* I. xx. 129 A sad and weel leerned clerk in moral philosophie. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III.* III. v. 100 With reuerend Fathers and well-learned Bishops. a 1600 HOOKER *Ecll. Pol.* VII. xxiv. §5 And for discharge of a Bishops Office, to be well minded is not enough, no not to be well learned also. 1641 MILTON *Prel. Episc. Wks.* 1851 III. 90 He that thinks it the part of a well learned man . . to be no stranger to the volumes of the Fathers. 1709 STRYPE *Ann. Ref.* I. xxxiii. 336 A Man he was well learned in the Scripture. 1871 W. ALEXANDER *Johnny Gibb* xii. 90 He's a weel-meanin' man, an' a weel-leern't. 1887 MORRIS *Odys.* XI. 432 She, well-learned in sin.

b. Of a weapon: Skilfully directed. *poet.*

1596 SPENSER *F.Q.* VI. vii. 11 His well learned speare Tooke surer hould.

well-'leaved, *a.* Full of foliage.

1616 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* II. iii. 52 A little Robin Red-brest . . Sate sweetly singing on a well-leau'd Thorne. 1901 H. SEEBOHM *Birds of Siberia* xxx. 307 A well-leaved branch of a pine-tree.

well-'led, *ppl. a.*

1633 BP. HALL *Hard Texts*, Heb. xiii. 7 Their well-led lives. 1678 DILLINGHAM *Serm. Funeral Lady Alston* 26 A Survey of an holy and well-led Life. 1890 KIPLING *Departm. Ditties*, etc. (ed. 4) 48 Ere two well-led cottillions Have danced themselves away.

well(-)'left, *ppl. a.* (See LEAVE *v.* 1 2 b.)

1620 T. MAY *Heir* I. (1633) B 1, I must expresse a grieft Not vsual, not like a well left heire For his dead father. 1898 'C. HARE' *Broken Arcs* viii. 102 A widow 'well left', who kept a small shop.

well-'legged, *a.*

1552 HULOET, Brawned or well armed, or legged, *torosus*. 1593 *Pass. Morrice* (1876) 82 Some were . . perfect of bodie, yet ill legged; other, which were well legde, shaled with their feete. a 1779 D. GRAHAM *Writ.* (1883) II. 53 For his mither tell'd him the women look'd ay to the men's legs or they marry'd them, and the well-legged louns gade ay best aff.

well-'lettered, *ppl. a.* Having a good knowledge of letters; imbued with learning.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 7894 (Bodl. MS.) Prest weyl letted ys to blame þat letteþ nat . . To pleye wyþ wymmen. c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 217 A bisshop þat was a passyng sutell clerk, & a well-lettered. 1483 CAXTON *Golden Leg.* 427/1 The which . . was . . also in theologie wel letterd. 1597 BEARD *Theatre God's Judgem.* (1612) 265 Quintius Valerius, a wise and well lettered man. 1858 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Audi Alt.* lvi. I. 220 Happy and well-lettered peasantry. 1870 DISRAELI *Lothair* xlii. 212 The Bishop . . would not himself have made a bad cardinal, being polished and plausible, well-lettered, yet quite a man of the world.

well-'lighted, *ppl. a.*

1631 MILTON *Epit. March. Winch.* 20 With a scarce-well-lighted flame. a 1865 MRS. GASKELL *Wives & Dau.* xxvi, The rooms are not well-lighted to-night, are they, Mr. Preston? 1867 H. LATHAM *Black & White* 84 Each family occupies a separate corridor, high, well-lighted.

well-'liked, *ppl. a.* [Cf. OE. *wel-gelīcod*, glossing L. *beneplacitum*.] Regarded with much affection or approval. Also † *well liked of*.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (1922) 12 This their well liked fellowship. 1670 COTTON *Esperton* I. iv. 174 To put himself

into possession of his new, and well lik'd of charge. 1820 A. McNAY *Poet. Wks.* 33 (E.D.D.) The herd came rinnin' o'er the lea, His weel-liked cur to see. 1896 *McChure's Mag.* VI. 446/1 A good politician, and, on the whole, a very well-liked man.

† **well-'liking**, *vbl. sb. Obs.* [Cf. OE. *wellicung*, glossing L. *beneplacitum*.] Favourable regard, fondness; approbation or love (of).

1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* lv. 12. 214 All well-lyking of reason and honestie was quite banished. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 401 But this man lacking luck, did also lacke wel lyking. 1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretorie* II. (1625) 46 Whilest by an outrageous well-liking of your selfe, you become ignorant of your owne mischiefs. 1603 DANIEL *Def. Ryme Wks.* (1717) 6 Drawn farther on by the Well-liking and Approbation of my worthy Lord. 1654 GATAKER *Disc. Apol.* 65 His approbation and well-liking of those Innovations. 1679 PEPYS *Let.* 6 May, Which you were pleased . . . to express your well-liking of.

well-'liking, *ppl. a.* [Cf. OE. *well-licendlic* adj., pleasing. For †*well like* v. see **WELL** *adv.* 31.]

1. In good condition and of lusty appearance; thriving, healthy, plump. *arch.*

13.. *Prose Psalter* xci. 14 Hij shul ben wele likand. ? a1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 1564 Aboute it is gras spryngyng, For moiste so thikke and wel likyng That it ne may in wynter dye. c1440 *Partonope* 1087 Strong he was and wele lykyng. 1539 BIBLE (Great) *Ps.* xcii. 13 They . . . shalbe fat and wel lyking [1611 flourishing]. 1561 DAUS tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 119 The Popes clergie shal be well fed, faire and welliking. 1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 46 Houselike . . . is alwaies greene and well liking. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* i. ii. 11. i. 90 A Carthusian of a ruddy colour, and well liking. 1685 H. MORE *Illustration* etc. 1 They refusing the King's portion, grow fair and well liking with pulse and water. 1753 MISS COLLIER *Art Torment*. Introd. 16 But be very careful daily to observe whether your patient continues in good health, and is fat and well-liking. 1795 *Jemima* I. 176 His Lordship . . . looks altogether smug and well-liking. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* xxix, There came into the camp at Brandon, riding on an ambling pad, himself fat and well-liking, none other than Sir Deda. 1891 M. MURIEL DOWIE *Gill Karp.* 121 There was a tendency in the conditions at the farm to make one fat, lazy, and well-liking.

fig. 1588 SHAKS. *L.L.L.* v. ii. 268 Wel-liking wits they haue, grosse, grosse, fat, fat. 1642 D. ROGERS *Naaman* Ep. Ded. 3 To grow wel-liking and flourishing in goodnessse.

† 2. Pleasant, agreeable. *Obs.*

1586 T. B. LA *Primaud. Fr. Acad.* i. xlvii. 478 It besemeth a man . . . to be well liking, gentle and acceptable [se rendre plaisant, doux et agreeable] to an honest and vertuous wife.

well-limbed, *a.* Having good or fine limbs.

1412-20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* i. 2043 [Jason] So wel l-lemed and compact by mesure. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 151 Thinhabitantes are of high and goodly stature, well lymmed and proportioned. 1626 MALDON (Essex) *Documents* Bundle 208 No. 9 A well-lymb'd gelding. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 14 The people are . . . well limmed and proper, nor want they courage . . . to their limmes. 1706 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4249/4 Lost . . . a . . . Horse . . . a very strong well-limb'd Punch. 1792 *Ann. Reg., Charac.* 359 She was well limbed though so low of stature. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U.S.* V. liv. 137 He was tall and slender, well-limbed, of a graceful address.

well-limmed, *ppl. a. lit. and fig.* Also 7-limb'd, lim'd, limmed. (See **LIMN** v. 3, 3 b.)

Quot. 1616 perh. belongs to **WELL-LIMBED**.

1597 MIOOLETON *Wisd. Solomon* xiv. 18 The crafts-man . . . makes the idoll comely, faire, and great, With well limnd visage, and best fashioned shape. 1616 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* II. i. 20 Neere this the curious Pencell did expresse A large and solitary wilderness, Whose high well limmed Oakes in growing show'd As they would ease strong Atlas of his load. 1637 S. MARMION in T. Heywood *Descr. H.M. Ship* (1638) To Author A3b, Now for a Homer whose immortal Verse In well lim'd lines, and raptures might rehearse The bravery of this Vessell. 1652 F. GREVILLE *Sidney* Ep. Ded., Both your Bloud and Vertues do so strongly Intitle you to this well-limb'd Piece. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 468 It is the part of Poetry to have a judicious Reception of a well-lim'd Notion.

well-lined, *ppl. a.* [See **LINE** v.¹ 1, 3.] Furnished with a good lining. Also *fig.*

1562 BULLEIN *Bulw. Def., Sick Men* (1579) 6 The pacyent to haue light warme clothes, and slyppers, cleane, & well lyned. c1611 CHAPMAN *Iliaid* xvi. 338 Well couer'd in a well-lin'd shield. 1784 COWPER *Task* II. 737 His cap well lin'd with logic not his own.

b. *spec.* Of a purse: Full of money. †Of a person: Affluent. *Obs.*

1611 COTGR., *Aisé en son mesnage*, of good estate, well lined, well to lue. 1677 MIEGE *Fr.-Eng. Dict.* s.v. *Chaud*, He wants for nothing, he is warm, or well lined. 1691 [see **LINEO** *ppl. a.*]. 1820 [see **LINE** v.¹ 3]. a1832 BENTHAM *Constitut. Code* Wks. 1843 IX. 102 It is the interest of all highway constitut., not only that travellers should be numerous, but that their purses should be well-lined. 1831 JAMES PHIL. *Augustus* xxxvii, A well-lined pouch of chamois leather.

† **well-'liquored**, *ppl. a. Obs.* Stocked with liquor.

1623 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Praise of Hempseed* 6 His blushing Lattice would looke pale and wan, Nor could he long be a well liquord man.

well-lit, *ppl. a.*

1866 GEO. ELIOT *Felix Holt* III. xlix. 249 Esther had to seat herself in the . . . drawing-room, in a well-lit solitude. 1931 W. S. CHURCHILL *World Crisis* VI. xii. 179 Hindenburg, who was waiting in the 'well-lit station hall' at Hanover. 1965 *Motor* 17 July 5/1 Dipped headlights are probably of benefit on less well-lit roads.

well-'liveried, *a.*

1835 LYTTON *Rienzi* II. iv, Thinking of his own well-liveried menials.

well-'living, *vbl. sb.* A virtuous manner of life.

c1400 *Rule of St. Benet* (Verse) 243 For who to wele-lifing sall win, With greuauns grete pain bus bigin. 1656 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* v. (1687) 162/2 The first [part of Philosophy], concerning well living.

well-'living, *ppl. a.* That leads a good life.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B. x.* 431 þere aren witty and wel libbynge [justi atque sapientes], ac her werkes ben yhudde In þe hondes of almi3ty god. c1400 26 *Pol. Poems* iii. 76 Wel lyuyng man [is] hardy of kynde. 1596 in *Spalding Club Misc.* I. 87 Thi self wsand thy witchecraft, altogidder contrarius to the natour of weill leuand personis. 1870 NEWMAN *Gram. Assent* i. iv. 55 The piously-minded and well-living people in all ranks of the community.

well-'loaded, *ppl. a.*

1781 COWPER *Conversat.* 196 Were I empow'r'd to regulate the lists, They should encounter with well-loaded fists. 1821 tr. *Iliaid* ix. I. 275 When I have dragged to the sea my well-loaded vessels.

well-'lodged, *ppl. a.*

1781 COWPER *Table-t.* 221 His form robust . . . Supplies with warm activity and force A mind well-'lodg'd.

well-'looked, *a. Obs. exc. Sc.* [See **WELL** *adv.* 32 and **LOOKED**².] Of good appearance, good-looking.

1664 PEPYS *Diary* 19 Aug., His lady . . . is a well-'looked, fat, short, old Dutchwoman. 1722 W. HAMILTON *Wallace* VIII. (1816) 145 Nine thousand Scots . . . All swinging, able, lusty, well look'd men. 1737 *Gentl. Mag.* VII. 651/2 The Officers were very apt to discharge an old Soldier, as often as they could find a clever well-'look'd young Fellow ready to list in his Stead. 1756 MRS. CALDERWOOD in *Coltness Collect.* (Maitl. Club) 154 A very genteel well-'looked man. c1817 HOGG *Tales & Sk.* III. 126 A worthy excellent woman rather well looked. 1849 C. BRONTË *Shirley* vii, A well-'looked, well-meant, and . . . well-dispositioned girl. 1897 J. WILLOCK *Shetland Minister* 30 (E.D.D.) Well-'looked ladies.

well-'looking, *ppl. a.* Of good or attractive appearance, good-looking: a. of persons.

Formerly very common, but now less usual than **GOOD-LOOKING**.

1702 STEELE *Funeral* i. i. 4 That Hale Well-'looking Puppy! 1737 *Gentl. Mag.* VII. 176 A well-disciplin'd Army of above 7000 Collectors, and a peaceable well-'looking one of 18000 Men. 1772 GRAVES *Spir. Quixote* III. ix. (1783) I. 151 A well-'looking elderly gentleman. 1811-13 JANE AUSTEN *Mansfield Park* xix, You should tell your father he is not above five feet eight, or he will be expecting a well-'looking man. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xli, The sisters were rather well-'looking young women. 1874 R. TYRWHITT *Sketch. Club* 6 He was . . . well-bred, and something more than well-'looking. 1895 J. G. MILLAIS *Breath fr. Veldt* (1899) 66 His brother Piet (a fine well-'looking fellow).

transf. 1773 GOLDSM. *Stoops to Conquer* I, Tell me, Constance, how do I look this evening? . . . Is it one of my well-'looking days, child? am I in face to-day?

b. of an animal, plant, building, etc.

1772 *Ann. Reg.* 7 The blades . . . produced well-'looking ears; but these were hollow, and totally destitute of grain. 1796 W. H. MARSHALL *Planting* II. 8 This [the horse-chestnut] is a large well looking tree. 1819 E. RIGBY tr. *Chateauxvieux' Italy* 76 Almost every farm maintains a well-'looking horse, which goes in a small two-wheeled cart. 1832 G. C. LEWIS *Lett.* (1870) 18 Avignon is a well-'looking town. 1860 GEO. ELIOT in *Cross Life* (1885) II. 171 The well-'looking lines of building on each side of the Arno. 1886 FROUDE *Oceana* xi. 189 The houses of the wealthy and moderately wealthy classes are solid and well-'looking.

c. *fig.* Of an idea: Specious, attractive.

1811 *Henry & Isabella* II. 174 The well looking idea of befriending an inexperienced young woman.

well-'lost, *ppl. a.* Lost in a good cause or for a good consideration.

a1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* IV. (1922) 112 Never can God himselfe perswade me, that Pyrocles life is not well lost, for to preserve the most admirable Philoclea. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* I. iii. 254 Would your honor But giue me leaue to trie successe, I'de venture Your well lost life of mine, on his Graces cure, By such a day, an houre. 1678 DRYDEN (*title*) All for Love, or the World well Lost.

well-'lotted: see **LOTTED** b.

well-'loved, *ppl. a.* = **WELL-BELOVED**.

a1300 *Cursor M.* 7288 Prophet he was, sir samuel, Wel lued wit godd, for he was lel. 1473 *Rental Bk. Cupar Angus* (1879) I. 166 Our landis of Cragenady in Glenyleff to our welluyvt frend Wilzam coly. 1842 TENNYSON *Ulysses* 35 This is my son, mine own Telemachus, . . . Well-loved of me. 1887 MORRIS *Odys.* II. 415 E'en so as they had been bidden by Odysseus' well-loved son. 1895 *Catholic Mag.* Aug. 228 St. Cuthbert's well-loved Melrose.

well-'lunged, *a.* Furnished with good lungs.

1693 DRYDEN *Persius* v. 3 Whether to the well-'lung'd Tragedians Rage They recommend their Labours of the Stage.

well-'made, *ppl. a.* Also 5-'makyd.

1. Of a person or animal: Well-proportioned, of good build.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 8527 Quarre he was & wel ymad vor to be strong. a1310 in *Wright Lyric P.* 36 Heo hath a mete myddel smal, Body ant brest wel mad al. c1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* i. 385 Off lymmys he wes weill maid, With banys gret & schuldrys braid. 1422 YONGE tr. *Secreta Secret.* 226 Tho men whyche haue wel-'makyd and synowy and stronge legges. c1475 *Rauf Coilyear* 486 War he ane manly man, as he is weill maid, He war full michtie. 1513 MORE in *Grafton Chron.* (1568) II. 786 She was . . . moderate of

stature, well made, & very wise. 1664 PEPYS *Diary* 15 Aug., He is a comely and well-made man. 1707 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4391/4 A bay gelt Horse . . . well made and well ribb'd. 1783 MRS. COWLEY *Bold Stroke* v. (1784) 75 Let me see—a good air, and well made, you are the man for a dancer. 1849 C. BRONTË *Shirley* iv, His stature was rather tall, and he was well-made and wiry. 1856 KANE *Arctic Explor.* II. xx. 204 She was a tall, well-made woman.

2. Of things: Skillfully fabricated, constructed, or contrived. Also *well-made play* [tr. F. *pièce bien faite*], a type of play written according to a prescribed formula and aiming at neatness of plot and dramatic incident rather than profundity of characterization, truth to nature, etc.

15.. DUNBAR *Poems* xxviii. 21 3e tailjouris, with weillmaid clais Can mend the werst maid man that gais. 1577 GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* 1. 42b, We content ourselves with our earthen floores, well made and of good earth. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* IV. iii. 254 Halfe won is match well made. 1621 in *Foster Eng. Factories Ind.* (1906) 258 Greater quantities of well-made cloth. 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Mr. Watkins Tottle* i, Her complexion . . . was as clear as that of a well-made wax doll. 1887 *Spons' Househ. Man.* 715 A well-made toque is graceful, becoming, and comfortable. [1895 G. B. SHAW in *Sat. Rev.* 2 Nov. 576/1 Then 'The New Magdalen' was a fashionable and well-made piece.] 1897 *Daily News* 5 Jan. 6/1 There has been . . . a very decided reaction against the 'well-made' novel—that is the novel cunningly planned and ingeniously conducted to a definite dénouement. 1910 G. B. SHAW *Brieux* 13 Commercially, the classic play was supplanted by a nuisance which was not a failure: to wit, the 'well made play' of Scribe and his school. The manufacture of well made plays is not an art: it is an industry. 1962 *Listener* 11 Oct. 574/1 The merits and the demerits of a Galsworthian 'well-made' play.

well-'managed, *ppl. a.*

1. Carefully and skilfully controlled, handled, carried on, or dealt with.

1665 WALLER *Upon H.M. New Buildings* 25 From a confin'd, well-manag'd Store, You both employ, and feed the Poor. 1677 DRYDEN *State Innoc.* 1. 5 A well-manag'd War. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 800 When his vote, Well-manag'd, shall have earn'd its worthy price. 1842 W. C. TAYLOR *Tour Manuf. Districts Lancs.* 137 The operatives in a well-managed country mill. 1845 *Florist's Jnl.* 211 A collection of 15 stove and greenhouse plants . . . which contained many well-managed plants. 1876 MISS YONGE *Womankind* iii. 17 Many well-managed children are uncomfortable if they do not repeat 'their Catechism' straight through on the Sunday. 1884 E. YATES *Recoll.* I. 203 In those days the little Adelphi was a popular and well-managed resort.

2. Of a horse (see **MANAGED** 1).

1697 DRYDEN *Jænes* x. 1226 His Courser . . . Well mouth'd, well manag'd. 1814 SCOTT *Wav. xiii.* The Baron . . . mounted on an active and well-managed horse.

well-'manned, *ppl. a.* Equipped with a proper complement of men.

c1450 *Contin. Brut* 469 Grete vessels, . . . stronge and well-manned. 1482-3 *Paston Lett.* III. 294 With ij, good carts well mannyd and horsyd. a1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. xviii. (1912) 460 A well-mand Galley. 1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. ii. 191 Then should the sucking Elephant support Upon his shoulders a well-manned Fort. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 2 Six great and well-mann'd ships. a1684 R. LEIGHTON *Comm. Pet.* i. 5 (1693) 64 So long as the place . . . is of sufficient strength and well man'd . . . they are in safety. 1720 RAMSAY *Prosp. Plenty* 181 A wood o' masts, wiel mann'd. 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, River*, A well-manned galley shoots through the arch. 1869 A. R. WALLACE *Malay Archipelago* II. 59 Their long well-manned praus.

well-'mannered, *a.*

† 1. Endowed with good morals, displaying virtuous conduct and behaviour. *Obs.*

1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* xi. 260 A mayde wel ymanerd, of good men yspronge. c1400 *Destr. Troy* 6320 Patroclus, þe proud kyng, was . . . Wel manert & meke. c1450 tr. *De Imitatione* i. xxv. 37 Hou swete it is . . . to se fervent & deuoute brepren & wel manerd [bene morigeratos] & under discipline. a1475 ASHBY *Dicta Philos.* 113 Wele manered people bene of goode lif. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 45 Welche were in theyr conuersacyon ryght honest & well manerd. 1570 T. NORTON tr. *Novel's Catech.* 78 In Chirches well ordered and well mannered [In ecclesiis bene institutis atque moratis] there was [etc.]. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 235 A man quha feiret God, and Was Weill maneret, and of singular conditionis [singulari morum probitate praedito]. 1597 J. KING *On Jonas* (1618) 382 To nurse you vp in a ciuil & well-mannered country.

2. Displaying good manners, courteous.

1547 BOOROE *Introd. Knowl.* iii. (1870) 132 The people of the Englyshe pale be metely wel manerd, . . . but naturally they be testy. 1574 HELLOWES *Guenara's Fam. Ep.* (1577) 74 Haue a care to be well manered: for with good manners, more than with any other thing we withdrawe our enemies, and do susteine our friends. 1682 DRYDEN *Medall* Ep. to Whigs, By which well-manner'd and charitable Expressions, I was certain of his Sect, before I knew his name. 1693 *Juv. Ded.* (1697) p. lxxv, A Well-manner'd Court-Slave. 1714 MRS. MANLEY *Adv. Rivella* 38, I was too well manner'd to take the Black, and leave none to attend your Ladyship. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* II. 227 Where's your well-manner'd Deceiver gone, Child? says she. 1847 MRS. GORE *Castles in Air* vi, Though good-looking, and even well-mannered, because courteous and unaffected, they had no pretension to be ladies. 1847 LYTTON *Lucretia* i. i, The boy . . . was so lively, yet so well mannered.

absol. 1856 LEVER *Martins of Cro' Martin* xxiii. 244, I have given up association with the well-bred and the well-mannered, to rub shoulders with the coarse-minded, the rough-hearted, and the vulgar.

well-marked, *ppl. a.* Clearly defined or outlined, easy to distinguish or recognize.

1797 M. BAILLIE *Morb. Anat.* (ed. 2) 71 Any well marked example of this disease. 1830 WHEWELL *Archit. Notes German Ch.* 43 These arches have well-marked mouldings. 1855 ORR'S *Circ. Sci., Inorg. Nat.* 74 Shells... of large size, and well-marked forms. 1861 PALEY *Æschylus* (ed. 2) *Supplices* 894 note, A play which has several well-marked resemblances to this. 1875 WHITNEY *Life Lang.* ix. 175 Even languages of so limited area as the Basque in the Pyrenees, have their well-marked dialectic forms. 1875 HUXLEY & MARTIN *Elem. Biol.* 243 Each [cell] has a well-marked oval nucleus. 1886 DRUCE *Flora Oxf.* 348 This well-marked plant occurs on wall-tops and dry banks.

well(-)married, *ppl. a.* Fortunate in one's marriage. Also, †legally married.

1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* iv. v. 77 Shee's not well married, that lues married long, But shee's best married, that dies married yong. 1600 — *A. Y. L.* iii. iii. 94 He is not like to marrie me wel: and not being wel married, it will be a good excuse for me heereafter, to leaue my wife. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. xxii. 273 Is it not a sad thing to think of, that ladies, let them be young or old, well-married or ill-married, cannot live without intrigue?

well-marshalled, *ppl. a.*

1645 WALLER *At Pens-hurst* II. 16 If shee walk, in even ranks they stand, Like some well marshall'd and obsequious band.

well-masked, *ppl. a.*

1860 PUSEY *Min. Proph.* 212 Vice imagines virtue to be well-masked vice.

well-matched, *ppl. a.*

1687 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* I. 356 And sacrilege and she, A well-match'd pair, got graceless heresie. 1749 G. WEST tr. *Pindar, Olymp. Odes* v. (1753) I. 46 The well-match'd Coursers. 1807 CRABBE *Par. Reg.* II. 358 Now to be wed a well-match'd couple came. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* liii. You are a well-matched pair of mean, rascally, pettifogging robbers. 1854 *Poultry Chron.* II. 310 All perhaps very good birds, but... not forming a well-matched pen.

well-mated, *ppl. a.*

1899 CROCKETT *Kit Kennedy* xxi. 142 Then the well-mated pair proceeded to hold high discourse of fate and freewill.

well-matured, *ppl. a.*

1676 EVELYN *Terra* 53 Cast... on this a layer of well-matur'd Dung. 1748 MELMOTH *Fitzosborne Lett.* lvi. (1749) II. 81 Sound thought and well-matured reflection. 1897 *Century Mag.* May 104 This quiet but intense thinking and the well-matured ideas which resulted from it.

† **well-meaned**, *a. Obs.* [See *WELL adv.* 32 and *MEANED*.] Furnished with considerable means.

1605 MARSTON *Dutch Courtesan* v. [iii.] H 2 b, He thats of faire bloud, well meand, of good breeding.

† **well-meaned**, *ppl. a. Obs.* [MEAN *v.* 1]

1. Kindly disposed. *Sc.*

c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* xi. 1041, I haiff spokyn with lord Clyffurd that knyght, Wyth thair chyftanys weill menynt for your lyff.

2. = WELL-MEANT.

a 1711 KEN *Hymnarium* Poet. Wks. 1721 II. II. 94 Well-mean'd, tho' wandering Pray'rs. 1761 *Brit. Mag.* II. 606 *The Christian Common Prayer Book*... Sensible, moderate, and well-meaned.

well-meaner. One who means well or is well-intentioned.

1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* To Rdr. A6b, With well-meaners even good Meanings and Aimes in Authors attone their Failings. 1683 DRYDEN *Vind. Dk. Guise* 59 Deluded well-meaners come over out of honesty, and small offenders out of common discretion, or fear. 1700 — *Pal. & Arc.* III. 205 Well-meaners think no Harm. 1855 M. BRIDGES *Pop. Mod. Hist.* 432 On its benches sat many enthusiasts, no sages, a few well-meaners, and some colossal scoundrels.

well-meaning, *vbl. sb.* Disposition to do what is right; good intentions.

1569 ELVIDEN *Closet of Counsels* (1573) To Rdr., I craue thy curtesie to respect of my well meaning, rather than of my abilitie. a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (1922) 57 The almightie powers, whom I inuoke as triers of mine innocencie and witnesses of my well meaning. 1667 H. MORE *Div. Dial.* v. xxvi. (1713) 487 If that be at the bottom... their well-meaning is commendable. 1703 EARL ORRERY *As you find it* III. ii. 38 Sir, your Deportment has been very surprizing to me, but your Youth and Well-meaning may in a great measure excuse you. 1744 MASON *Musæus* (1748) 13 Let my well-meaning mend my ill essay. 1768 *Woman of Honor* I. 209 A few men of good sense, and real well-meaning. a 1849 H. COLERIDGE *Ess.* (1851) II. 254 Though I give the Bishop credit for well-meaning in his refusal of the pictures offered to St. Paul's.

well-meaning, *ppl. a.* Having, or actuated by, good intentions; animated by a kindly purpose or friendly disposition.

Often with a somewhat derogatory implication of inefficiency or unwisdom.

1387-8 T. USK *Test. Love* II. v. 117 Right as see yeveth flood, so draweth see ebbe, and pulleth ayen under wawe al the firste out-throwe, but-if good pyles of noble governance in love, in well-meninge maner, ben sadly grounded. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 124 And albeit that he were not lerned, yet was he a vertuous and well meanyng man. a 1557 GRIMALD in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 106 That nothing hynder your welmeanyng minde. 1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Fam. Love* Bij, Take this briefe freindly and well meaning answer to your exceptions in good part. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II.* II. i. 128 My brother Gloucester, plaine well meaning soule. 1649 MILTON *Eikon.* xvii. 158 What a Cordial and well meaning helper they had of him

abroad. 1673 *True Worship of God* p. iv, Some out of a well meaning mistake, thinking that which they call Preaching, the only means of Salvation. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg. Ded.* ¶ 1 'Tis the fault of many a well-meaning Man, to be officious in a wrong place. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 299 ¶ 3 She... treats me like a plain well-meaning Man, who does not know the World. 1828 LYTTON *Pelham* lxxxii, The annuity we have agreed upon, is only to be given in case of success—not merely for well meaning attempts. 1857 MRS. MATHEWS *Tea-Table Talk* I. 342 The well-intentioned but injudicious actions of what are called well-meaning people. 1919 *Eng. Hist. Rev.* July 440 The paternal attitude of the Tudor monarchy was at least well-meaning towards the education of the poor.

Hence **well-meaningly** *adv.*; **well-meaningness**.

1680 I. C. VIND. *Oaths & Swearing* (ed. 2) 37 That some expedient may be found out for their ease in this Point, to such especially as do erre ignorantly and well-meaningly. 1900 *Spectator* 13 Jan. 52/1 Sloppiness, mental and moral, and vague well-meaningness.

well-meant, *ppl. a. a.* Rightly, honestly, or kindly intended; said or done with good intention.

? 1476 J. PASTON in *P. Lett.* III. 159, I have herd oft tymys Rychard Stratton sey that ye can and wyll take every thyng well that is well ment. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI.* III. iii. 67 His demand Springs not from Edwards well-meant honest Loue, But from Deceit, bred by Necessitie. 1628 R. HAYMAN in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* (1918) Jan. 31 The poore successe of diuers of these well meant general treatises. 1707 ATTERBURY *Vind. Doctr. Funeral Serm. Bennet* 4 Had I err'd in this case, it had been a well-meant Mistake. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* xxxviii, My ill-timed, though well-meant, request. 1886 BESANT *Childr. Gibeon* II. xxiv, Valentine's well-meant, but perhaps injudicious interference.

b. quasi-sb. (with personification).

1602 [see WELL-DONE 2 d].

c. Of persons: well-meaning. *rare.*

1849 C. BRONTË *Shirley* I. vii. 153 A well-looking, well-meant, and on the whole, well-dispositioned girl.

well-measured, *ppl. a.*

1. Composed in good measure or rhythm.

c 1645 MILTON *Sonn. to Laves* 1 Harry whose tuneful and well measur'd Song First taught our English Musick how to span Words with just note and accent. 1839 HALLAM *Hist. Lit.* II. II. vii. § 9 Puttenham is perhaps the first who wrote a well-measured prose.

2. Wisely calculated or adjusted.

1839-40 WORDSW. *Punishm. Death* viii, Yet, as she may, for each peculiar case She [the State] plants well-measured terrors in the road Of wrongful acts.

well-meated: see MEATED *a.*

well-merited, *ppl. a.*

1827 J. S. MILL in *Arch. für Sozialwissenschaft.* LXII. 456 Reformed patriots whose exertions in the cause of liberty have at length earned the well-merited award of a place. 1899 BELLOC *Moral Alphabet* 48 So he wrote, without stopping, for several days In terms of extreme but well-merited praise. 1946 *Nature* 26 Oct. 576/2 Under his wise guidance a well-merited reputation both in teaching and in research was rapidly built up.

well-met, *ppl. a.* (See also MEET *v.* 4 b and HAIL-FELLOW *A. b.*)

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. xi. (1912) 223 To stand upon the best defensive gard he could;... sometime with strong and well-met wards. 1707 E. SMITH *Phædra & Hipp.* v. 57 Haste then, let's joyn our well-met Hands together.

well-metalled, *ppl. a.* Liberally supplied with precious metal; well paid or remunerated.

1609 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Humours Heaven* (Grosart) 38/1 But, Fortune from the same these Scripts did pull, And in exchange fill'd either fist with Gold: For, while they had but Papers they were dull; But being wel-mett'd they were blithe and bold. a 1734 [see METALLED 3].

† **well-mettled**, *ppl. a.* [METTLED 1.]

1639 T. DE GREY *Compl. Horsem.* I. iv. (1656) 37 Horses... must have also good eyes, obedient mouthed, and well mettled. 1693 J. D. MARSH in Congreve *Old Bachelor* To Author, Like a well-metled Hawk you took your flight Quite out of reach.

well-minded, *a.*

1. Having, or actuated by, a good disposition or intention; right-minded, loyal; †generously or favourably disposed, benevolent.

1522 MORE *De quat. Noviss.* Wks. 74/1 By whiche thy speache and talking, thou shalt not onely profite thy selfe as thou sholdest haue done by thy well minded sylence, but also [etc.]. 1524 Q. MARG. in Mary A. E. Wood *Lett. Roy. Ladies* (1846) I. 324 Your grace shall understand that there is many lords well-minded to the same. a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* I. xiii. (1912) 88 An honest and well-minded gentleman. 1621 SANDERSON *Serm., Ad Pop.* iv. (1689) 211 By their affected poverty diverting the Charity of well-minded people from those that were truly poor. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* iv. § 233 Sober, well-minded men, who were real lovers of the peace of the kingdom. 1651 GATAKER *Bale in Fuller Abel Rediv.* 507 Being ransomed by certaine charitable and well-minded Merchants. 1824 SOUTHEY *Life* (1849) I. 115 He was a well-minded boy, and has made a very respectable man. 1869 TROLLOPE *He knew* etc. I. ii. 12 Had he been perfectly well-minded in the matter, he would have gone too.

2. Wishful or determined (*to do something*).

1859 LD. LYTTON *Wanderer* 243 Forty thousand weather-cocks Each well-minded to keep his place.

well-mingled, *ppl. a.*

1706 WATTS *Horæ Lyr.* II. (1727) 231 How blest the lovely Pair, Beyond Expression, if well-mingled Loves And Woes well-mingled could improve our Bliss!

well-mixed, *ppl. a.*

1599 SIR J. DAVIES *Nosce Teipsum* 10 Others thinke the name of Soule is vaine, And that we onely well mixt bodies are. 1680 OTWAY *Compl. Muse* xv, How to frame a Commonwealth, And Democracy, by stealth; To palliate it at first, and Cry 'Twas but a Well-mixt Monarchy. 1733 POPE *Ess. Man* iii. 294 Th' according music of a well-mix'd State.

well-modelled, *-moduled*, *ppl. adjs.*

1621 [see MODULE *v.* 2]. 1666 BURNET *Mem. in Miscell. Sc. Hist. Soc.* (1904) II. 340 We enjoy the purity of Religion under a well modelled government.

well-modulated, *ppl. a.*

1845 POE in *Broadway J'nal.* II. 354/2 The rhythm is... well-modulated. 1934 C. LAMBERT *Music Ho!* iv. 235 Mr. Christopher Stone whose well-modulated voice has doubtless given pleasure to millions.

† **well-moneyed**, *a. Obs.* Well supplied with, having plenty of, money.

1479 [see MONEYED 1 b]. 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* II. i. I iij, The storer of some well moneyed mayster [cellarius cuiuspiam nummatoris domini]. 1591 SAVILE *Tacitus, Hist.* II. lvi. 86 The soldiers... designed out the well moneyed masters [dites dominos] to pray vpon. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* iv. viii. 180 So well-moneyed he was, that for ten yeares together he might for every day expend an hundred marks. 1756 C. SMART tr. *Horace, Epist.* I. vi. 38 The goddesses, Persuasion and Venus, grace the well-monied man.

well-moralized, *ppl. a.* Regulated by good morals.

1652 [see MORALIZED 3]. 1691 NORRIS *Pract. Disc.* 69 There are more Examples of ill Living than of ill Thinking, and a well-moralized Conversation, is a greater Rarity, than an Orthodox Head. 1727-46 THOMSON *Summer* 1578 Chaucer, whose native manners-painting verse, Well-moraliz'd, shines thro' the Gothic cloud.

† **wellmost**, *adv. Obs.* Also 6-7 welmost(e).

[Formed after ALMOST, by substitution of *well* for *all*. See *WELL adv.* 18.] Almost, well-nigh.

1550 CROWLEY *Epir.* 166 There are pore people, welmoste innumerable, That are dryuen to begge. *Ibid.* 324 They had boeth sore legges, . . . Al rawe from the fote welmost to the knee. 1556 T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtier* Transl. Epist. A ijb, In this point . . . Englishmen are muche inferiour to well most all other Nations. 1619 W. SCLATER *Exp. 1 Thess.* To Rdr., Which hath made me welmost a meere Peripateticke in my studies. 1622 R. HARRIS *Sermon* To Rdr., Our vnthankfulnes and vnfruitfulness hath welmost vndone vs. 1626 — *Hezekiah's Recov.* (1630) 30 It [sickness] turnes him well-most into an Image.

well-motivated, *ppl. a.*

1965 N. CHOMSKY *Aspects of Theory of Syntax* 210 A stronger but rather well-motivated condition is proposed by Postal. 1977 P. STREVEN'S *New Orientations Teaching of Eng.* v. 59 A theory of language teaching, on the other hand, with well-motivated links to specific areas of linguistics and psychology—that might be attractive.

well-motived, *ppl. a.*

1844 KINGLAKE *Eothen* xxv. 377 This villanous, though well-motived trick of his.

well-moulded, *ppl. a.*

1847 TENNYSON *Princess* II. 91 A quick brunette, well-moulded, falcon-eyed. 1890 L. C. D'OYLE *Notches* 39 The well-moulded form in which those bones had once been encased.

well(-)mounted, *ppl. a.*

1. Seated on a good horse.

1595 SHAKS. *John* v. vi. 42 These Lincolne-Washes haue deuoured them, My selfe, well mounted, hardly haue escap'd. 1630 CAPT. J. SMITH *True Trav.* vii. 12 Turbasha with a noise of Howboyes entred the fields well mounted and armed. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Dotage* i, Shadows well-mounted, dreams in a career. 1708 BOYER *Siege Toulon* II. 18 A Trooper well mounted and armed. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* ix, He was accosted by a well-mounted stranger. 1841 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* x, He was well-mounted upon a sturdy chestnut cob.

† 2. ? Having a good bodily carriage, well-developed, 'well set up'. Also *fig. Obs.*

1607 BEAUM. & FL. *Woman-hater* iv. ii, A handsome, young, fair enough, and well mounted wench. 1621 FLETCHER *Wild-goose Chase* II. ii, Of a small body, she has a mind well mounted.

3. Fully equipped, well-appointed.

1846 MRS. GORE *Engl. Char.* (1852) 11 Sir Gordon Mosley and his white cravat are essential portions of every well mounted dinner-table. 1853 GROTE *Greece* II. lxxxviii. XI. 495 After all the wants of a well-mounted peace-establishment were satisfied.

4. Skilfully fixed or fitted.

1889 *Hardwicke's Sci.-Gossip* XXV. 47/2 Offered in exchange for two well-mounted slides, or other unmounted micro material.

well-mouthed, *a.* Having a good mouth (in various senses).

14.. in *Harrow. Hell* Introd. 25 The horss... well-mouthid, well-wyndyd. 1547 BALDWIN *Mor. Philos.* 73 b, The master that instructeth, ought first to giue to his scholler a strong bridle and sharpe bit, to the intent he may be well mouthed, so that no man take him with lies. 1590 COKAINE *Treat. Hunting* B 3 b, Hounds... well mouthed, cold nosed. 1606 CHAPMAN *Gentil. Usher* I. i, With harmonie Of well mouthed hounds. 1641 *Best Farming Bks.* (Surtees) 13 Such [jews] as are whole and well wool'd, and indifferent

well mouthed. 1685 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2056/4 Sixteen Couple of middle sized Harriers, well mouthed. 1692 *SIR W. HOPE Fencing Master* 122 A well mouthed horse, that will answer your Bridle-Hand and spurs. 1737 *POPE Hor. Epist.* II. i. 123 One Tragic sentence. Which..well-mouth d Booth with emphasis proclaims. 1842 *J. AITON Dom. Econ.* (1857) 237 The muton of a well-mouthed wether is better than that of a young wether.

well(-)named, ppl. a.

1. Called by an appropriate or suitable name. 1445 *tr. Claudian in Anglia XXVIII.* 269 This damysel corrupcion is right wele namyd. 1861 *L. CAMPBELL Theatetus* p. vii, 'It was written' (so the last page informs us) 'by the hand of John', (well-named) 'Calligraphus'. 1879 *SYMONDS Shelley* v. 129 This poem [*Prometheus Unbound*], they cried, is well named, for who would bind it?

†2. Having a good name or reputation. Obs.

1390 [see NAME v. 1 2b]. c1450 *Knt. de la Tour* ix. 12 A good woman, well named and charitable. 1460 *Paston Lett.* I. 535, I comonyd late with a worschipful and wele namyd, a good thrifty man of this cuntre. a1533 [see NAME v. 1 2b].

well-natured, a. rare (now chiefly Sc. and dial.).

1. a. Having, or showing, a good or benevolent disposition; kindly, good-natured.

1561 *T. NORTON Calvin's Inst.* II. 86 For which reason we feare not in common speache to call one man well natured, and an other of euell nature. 1579 *TOMSON Calvin's Serm.* Tim. 443/2 A quiet and well natured mind. c1655 *DOR. OSBORNE Lett.* xlix. (1903) 222 If this be a fault in me, 'tis at least a well-natured one. c1656 *SIR H. CHOLMLEY Mem.* (1787) 28 He was a well-natured man, charitable to the poor. 1677 *DRYDEN State Innoc.*, Apol. Her. Poetry c1b, These four lines, which have been sufficiently canvas'd by my well-natur'd Censors. a1721 *SHEFFIELD (Dk. Buckhm.) Wks.* (1729) II. 212 This great satisfaction of mind in doing any generous well-natur'd action. 1759 *ADAM SMITH Theory Moral Sentim.* IV. i. (1781) 276 The social and well-natured James the First of Great-Britain. 1814 *SCOTT Wav.* xxv, His brother's disgrace seemed to have removed from his well-natured bosom all recollection of their differences. 1818 *HALLAM Mid. Ages* v. (1819) II. 97 Brave indeed, well-natured, and affable. 1888 *D. GRANT Sc. Stor.* 37, I ken that he's well-natured an' richt kind-haired. 1921 *GALSWORTHY To Let* II. i. 119 He went as a well-natured dog goes for a walk with its mistress, leaving a choice mutton-bone on the lawn.

b. fig. Accommodating, obliging.

1711 *Countrey-Man's Lett.* Curat 74 So well natur'd are some Arguments that they can equally serve two contending Parties.

†2. Of soil: Kindly, fertile. Obs.

1675 *EVELYN Terra* (1676) 51 This [trenching] is to be done in severals, as deep as you think fit, that is, so far, as you find the Earth well natur'd.

Hence well-naturedness.

1679 *PENN Addr. Prot.* II. (1692) 225 You had better leave off valuing your selves upon the Mercy and Well-natur'dness of that Tenet.

well-near, adv. Obs. exc. dial. [Early ME. *welner*, f. *WELL* *adv.* 18 + *NEAR* *adv.* 2] = *WELL-NIGH*.

c1200 *ORMIN* 15517 An wif, patt wass purrh blodless fiod Well ner all brohht to dæpe. a1300 *Cursor M.* 4760 þan iacob and his suns warn For default wel ner for-farn. 1338 *R. BRUNNE Chron.* (1810) 191 Welnere he com to late. 13.. *E.E. Allit.* P. B. 1585 So was þe wyȝe wytes, he wed wel ner. c1460 *Towneley Myst.* xiii. 387 Welner at the fyrst cok. c1470 *HENRY Wallace* I. 438 He for wo weyle ner worthit to weide. a1547 *SURREY in Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 6 He lettes me to pursue a conquest welnere wonne. c1578 in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1600) III. 68 The day was welneere spent. 1623 *FAVINE Theat. Honour* II. i. 69 Who liued (well-neare) at the same time as the Geographer. 1627 *DRAYTON Nimphidia* 471 Who then had well-neere crack'd her spleene With very extreame laughter. 1656 *HEYLIN Surv. France* 298 Well-near three miles in circuit. 1701 *W. WOTTON Hist. Rome* iv. 60 The Public Stock was well near exhausted. 1719 *De Foe Crusoe* I. (Globe) 45 The last time of those two had well near been fatal to me. 1869 *STEWART Rhymes* 5 (E.D.D.) Trees bow'd weel-near uprootin'. 1880 *W. Cornw. Gloss.* s.v., There were well-near a hundred people in the field. 1881 *Leicestersh. Gloss.*, *Well-near*, an occasional var. of *Welly*, but not nearly so common.

† well-necked, a. Obs.

1538 *BALE Thre Laves* II. Bvii b, The fellowe is wele deked, Dysgyssed and wele necked. 1578 *J. JONES Preserv. Bodie & Soule* I. iii. 6 [The nurse shall be] broad breasted, and wel neckt.

wellness ('welns). [f. *WELL* *a.* + *-NESS*.] The state of being well or in good health.

Rather a nonce-wd. than of settled status like *illness*.

1654 *SIR A. JOHNSTON (Ld. Wariston) Diary* (S.H.S.) II. 197, I..blessed God..for my daughter's wellnesse. c1655 *DOR. OSBORNE Lett.* xxviii. (1903) 126 You..never send me any of the new phrases of the town... Pray what is meant by wellness and unwellness? 1791 *T. TWINING Recreat. & Stud.* (1882) 145 When I say 'well', I can't be supposed to mean the wellness that one should predicate of a professor who makes those instruments his study. 1836 *CARLYLE New Lett.* (1904) I. 33, I feel really very well at present; and could almost persuade myself it were the natural state of wellness. 1864 *MRS. CARLYLE Lett.* III. 210 Some weeks of such comparative ease and well-ness. 1896 *MRS. DREW in A. Benson Life Abp. Benson* (1899) II. 774 We were all struck by his wellness. 1905 *H. H. COLVILL Stepping Stone* 264 With an old man like that, wellness was illness, and illness didn't seem not so very different from wellness.

well-nigh ('welnai), *adv.* Also as one word or two. [OE. *wel nēah*, *nēh*, f. *WELL* *adv.* 18 + *NIGH* *adv.*] Very nearly, almost wholly or entirely.

a1122 *O.E. Chron.* an. 999 (MS. F.) Welneah eall West Cent. a1135 — an. 1132 (Laud MS.) Sua ðæt te king was wel-nēh bepaht. c1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 33 Hie forwundenen him welneih to deaðe. a1250 *Owl & Night.* 44 Hire horte was so gret, þat welneȝ hire fnast atschet. c1275 *Passion our Lord* 477 in *O.E. Misc.* 50 Hit wes welneyh mydday þo þusternesne com. 1387 *TREvisa Higden* III. 281 Wel nyh alle his lyf tyme. a1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 539 Of werke well ne I wede. 1449 *PECOCK Repr.* I. i. 7 Weelnȝ thoruz al the chapter. 1581 *RICH Farew. Milit. Prof.* Pj, There was alreadie a whole yeare and a halfe welnie paste. 1599 *SHAKS. Much Ado* v. iv. 81 (Qo.) They swore that you were welnigh dead for me. 1604 *T. WRIGHT Passions* I. vi. 22 The experience is common (welnie) in all beasts. 1612 *Two Noble K.* III. ii, Tis now welnigh morning. a1657 *W. BURTON Itin. Anton.* (1658) 34, I had wel-nigh forgotten the distance. 1780 *S. J. PRATT Emma Corbett* (ed. 4) I. 6 The blow which killed a son had wel nigh killed a father also. 1848 *WHITTIER Pean* 2 The dreary night has welnigh passed. 1864 *DASENT Jests & Earnest* (1873) II. 263 Though before they were well-nigh beggars. 1896 *Law Times* C. 489/2 Suspicion pointed strongly, well-nigh overwhelmingly against the prisoner. 1920 *Eng. Hist. Rev.* Jan. 144 The amiable and welnigh faultless hero.

† well-nosed, a. Obs. Keen-scented.

1611 *COTGR., Nazilleux*, well nosed. 1615 *CHAPMAN Odys.* xvii. 433 He was a passing wise, and well-nos'd Hound. 1625, 1709 [see NOSED 1b]. 1718 *Entertainer* No. 41. 280 Like a cunning and well-nosed Blood-Hound.

well-noted, ppl. a.

1595 *SHAKS. John* IV. ii. 21 In this the Anticke, and well noted face Of plaine old forme, is much disfigured.

well-nourished, ppl. a. [See further s.v. NOURISHED 1, 2.]

1422 *YONGE tr. Secreta Secret.* 237 The body..may endure longe tyme, yf the kynde of man be Well y-noryschid..by ettynge and drynkynge. 1883 *J. M. FOTHERGILL Indigestion* etc. 280 Stout, well-nourished persons do not die of wasting maladies. 1894 *J. T. FOWLER Adamnan* Introd. p. lxxv, His ruddy cheeks, and his well-nourished appearance.

well-nurtured, ppl. a.

1535 *COVERDALE Eccles.* xxvi. 14 A well nurtured mynde. 1605 *R. F. Dedekind's Sch. Slovenrie* (1904) 4 Well nurturde youth. 1781 *COWPER Table-T.* 634 A well-nurtur'd train Of abler votaries. 1850 *THACKERAY Pendennis* iii, A well-nurtured boy, brave and gentle.

well-oared, a.

1772 *MURPHY Grecian Dau.* I. 1, A well-oar'd galley. 1870 *BRYANT Iliad* II. 362 On board his well-oared bark.

well off, *adv.* and *a.* [See OFF *adv.* 11 and quot. 1636 in *WELL* *adv.* 6b.]

1. In predicate, normally without hyphen:

a. Favourably circumstanced, fortunately situated; b. well provided, having no lack (const. *for*, *†in*); esp. c. in easy circumstances, well-to-do.

a. 1733 *Trav. J. Massey* 18, I was well off if he only call'd me a Libertine. 1762 [see OFF *adv.* 11]. 1796 *T. MORTON Way to get Married* I. (1800) 5 Why don't you go to the other inn? I'll tell you—cause you know when you are well off, ha, ha! a1865 *MRS. GASKELL Wives & Dau.* I, She was a silly little thing, and did not know when she was well off.

b. 1800 *COLERIDGE Let. to Poole* in *J. D. Campbell Life* (1894) 115 In gardens, etc., we are uncommonly well-off. 1879 *MEREDITH Egoist* viii, We are well-off for wild-flowers here.

c. 1849 *LEVER Con Cregan* vi, I began to conceive a great grudge against all who were well off in life. 1854 *SURTEES Handley Cr.* II. (1901) I. 16 He was pretty well off, that is to say, he had more than he spent. 1866 *TROLLOPE Claverings* iv, If he dies, she will be well off, of course. 1889 *J. S. WINTER Mrs. Bob* I, He was rich (or at least certainly well off).

2. *attrib.* or *adj.* (with hyphen). In sense 1 c. Also *absol.*

1884, 1888 [see OFF *adv.* 11]. 1893 *FURNIVALL Child-Marriages* Pref. 49 A well-off widow. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 301 The poor and hard-working are subject to mental upset during nursing in much larger numbers than the well-off. 1908 *Sociolog. Rev.* Apr. 131 The long-continued refusal of the well-off classes to enter public hospitals.

Hence well-'offness. nonce-wd.

1866 *MRS. OLIPHANT Madonna Mary* vi, Hesketh's well-off-ness..was trying to a man. 1915 *H. JAMES Sense of Past* (1917) 289 His being in 1820 as 'rich' as he is, or was, in 1910 — which counts for an immense well-offness at the earlier period.

well-oiled, ppl. a. (lit. and fig.).

1740 *SOMERVILLE Hobbinal* II. 34 The well-oil'd Champion shone. 1820 *W. IRVING Sketch Bk.* (1821) I. 54 Rip Van Winkle..was one of those happy mortals, of foolish, well-oiled dispositions, who take the world easy. 1847 *TENNYSON Princess* III. 117 Sir, I was courteous, every phrase well-oil'd, As man's could be. 1897 *Outing* XXIX. 536/1 Since then she [the gun] has slumbered in well-oiled security. 1899 [see OILED ppl. a. 3].

well-omened, a.

1754 *FRANCIS Constantine* v. v. 56 These well-omen'd Thunders..Shall drown the Cries of Death. 1849 *Blackw. Mag.* Feb. 211 Not a very complimentary or well-omened name, certainly.

† well-o'pinioned, a. Obs. Having a good opinion (of oneself).

1615 *T. ADAMS White Devil* 61 The insolent hauty, well-opinioned of themselues. 1628 *EARLE Microcosm.* (Arb.) 47

He is not so well opinion'd of himselfe, as industrious to make other.

well-'orchestrated, ppl. a.

1947 *A. EINSTEIN Mus. Romantic Era* xvii. 315 The opinion that has become current with critics and with the public that the *Capriccio* is an unusually well-orchestrated piece is wrong: the *Capriccio* is a splendid composition for orchestra. 1979 *Wall St. Jnl.* 20 Dec. 6/3 Why has such a well-orchestrated masking of political repressions been necessary?

well-ordered, ppl. a.

1. Exhibiting good order; rightly regulated; carefully arranged; following good lines of conduct or procedure.

1606 *SHAKS. Tr. & Cr.* II. ii. 180 There is a Law in each well-ordred Nation To curbe those raging appetites that are Most disobedient and refracturie. 1615 *CHAPMAN Odys.* XIX. 158 Nothing else, the cause Of all these blessings, but well order'd Lawes. 1668 *R. STEELE Husbandman's Calling* v. (1672) 96 Well-ordered charity makes no man poor. 1710 *ATTERBURY Serm.* (1734) I. 318 A Vertuous and Well-ordered Life. 1712 *ADDISON Spect.* No. 417 ¶ 5 The *Æneid* is like a well ordered Garden. 1768-74 *TUCKER Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 23 It is of the utmost importance to have a well-ordered imagination. 1781 *GIBBON Decl. & F.* xviii. (1787) II. 116 The well-ordered ranks of Romans and Barbarians. 1841 *DICKENS Barn. Rudge* xl, White, well-ordered teeth. 1877 *HUXLEY Techn. Educ. Sci. & Cult.* (1881) 77 A well-ordered elementary school. 1886 *PASCOE London To-day* xx. (ed. 3) 193 To church or chapel in the morning, at least, is the custom of most well-ordered persons in London.

2. *Math.* [tr. *G. wohlgeordnet* (G. Cantor in *Math. Ann.* (1883) XXI. 548, (1898) XLIX. 207).] Of an ordered set: having the property that every non-empty subset of it has a first or least element.

1902 *Amer. Jnl. Math.* II. 384 The usual notation $\alpha + \beta + \gamma + \dots$ is only suitable for a finite, or at least for a well-ordered set of numbers. 1931 *P. DIENES Taylor Series* iii. 95 All these definitions..extend to every type of transfinite sequence (well-ordered set) of numbers. 1975 *R. A. SILVERMAN tr. Kolmogorov & Formin's Introd. Real Analysis* I. 23 The set M of rational numbers in the interval $[0, 1]$ is ordered but not well-ordered.

well-ordering, *vbl. sb.* a. *gen.* The property of being well-ordered.

a1586 *SIDNEY Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 21 The well ordering of a banquet. 1614 *MARKHAM (title)* Cheape and Good Husbandry, for the well-Ordering of all Beasts, and Fowles. 1668 *PEPYS Diary* 16 Sept., The well-ordering of the men [at a muster of the Guards].

b. *spec.* in *Math.*; also, a well-ordered set. *Freq. attrib.*

1941 *BIRKHOFF & MACLANE Survey Mod. Algebra* i. 9 The integers have one further important property, not characteristically algebraic and not shared by other number systems. This is the well-ordering principle. 1963 *W. V. QUINE Set Theory* 145 Well-orderings are notable for their exemplary behavior. 1966 *Math. Rev.* XXXI. 6/1 Only denumerable well-orderings are considered. 1970 *A. G. HOWSON Handbk. Terms Algebra & Analysis* xvi. 80 Zermelo's Well-Ordering Theorem states that if X is any set whatsoever, then there exists a well-ordering of X .

So well-order *v. trans.*, to arrange the elements of (a set) in such an order as to produce a well-ordered set.

1944 *Ann. Math. Stud.* XIII. 117 For a finite set can be well-ordered in obvious fashion and hence must obey the axiom of choice. 1966 *McGraw-Hill Encycl. Sci. & Technol.* XII. 206/1 One considers the collection Z of all subsets of X , selects a point $x_n = f(z_n)$ from each element z_n of Z , and well orders X so that [etc.].

well-ordering, ppl. a.

1668 *R. STEELE Husbandman's Calling* x. (1672) 246 The over-ruling and well-ordering hand of God.

well-organized, ppl. a.

1857 *RUSKIN Pol. Econ. Art* i. §14 A well-organized nation. 1877 *H. SMART Bound to Win* III. 151 A well-organized robbery.

well-packed, ppl. a.¹ [PACKED¹.] Closely and compactly put together; in quot. of a horse = compactly or solidly built.

1842 *J. AITON Domest. Econ.* (1857) 243 A stumpy, sturdy, well-packed [horse].

well-packed, ppl. a.² [PACKED².] Skilfully selected or manipulated.

a1716 *SOUTH Serm.* (1715) IV. 163 The Legerdmain of a well packed and paid Jury. 1834 *AINSWORTH Rookwood* IV. ii, 'Mod. Greek', Blind-hookey sees how well I squeeze The well-packed cards in shuffling.

well-'padded, ppl. a. Provided with sufficient padding. Also *transf.* and *fig.*

1933 *J. BUCHAN Prince of Captivity* II. ii. 190 What has become of the nice, easy-going, well-padded people with soft voices and wide smiles. 1945 *WYNDHAM LEWIS Let.* 29 June (1963) 384 However well-padded with dollar-bills you might be. 1976 *R. GORDON Doctor on Job* vii. 62 Mr Clapper rocked back in his well-padded chair.

well(-)paid, ppl. a.

† 1. Highly pleased or satisfied. *Const. of.* (See PAID 1, PAY v. 1.) *Obs.*

c1400 [see PAID 1]. c1450 *Godstow Reg.* 166 Iohn, bisshop of exetur, was plesid & well paide of þe gifte. c1460 *Towneley Myst.* xiii. 425, I hope they wyll nott be well payde when thay thare shepe lak. a1846 in *M. A. Richardson Local Hist. Table-bk.*, Leg. III. 259 If he's struck my daughter I shall make him a weel-paid wife.

2. Liberally remunerated.

1590 SIR J. SMYTH *Disc. Weapons* Ded. 4b, Souldiours well payd, and chiefly being subjects to the Prince that they serve. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* III. i. 32 With his Banners, and his well paid ranks. *a* 1603 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xviii. 147 The well-pay'd Incomes of Regenting-Doctors. 1726 *Learned Diss. Dimpling* (ed. 4) 17 The Well-Fed, Well-Read, Well-Pay'd C—J—Esq. 1832 HT. MARTINEAU *Hill & Valley* iv. 63 It is the duty of well-paid labourers to become capitalists if they can. 1845 SYD. SMITH *Ir. R.C. Ch. Wks.* 1859 II. 334/1 A well-paid Protestant clergyman.

well-painted, *ppl. a.* (lit. and fig.).

1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 1443 To this well painted peece is Lvrece come. 1604 — *Oth.* IV. i. 268 Oh well-painted passion. 1901 J. BLACK'S *Carp. & Build., Home Handier.* 67 The rule in building should be good joints and well-painted joints.

well-paired, *ppl. a.*

1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 18 Man and wife, like well paired Heyfers, beare all burthens together. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* xv. 98 The well-pair'd mules. 1729 JENYNS *Art of Dancing* III. 84 Rang'd on each side the well-pair'd Couples stand.

well-parked, *ppl. a.*

1760-72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 115 A very beautiful and well-parked farm.

well-paved, *ppl. a.*

c 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XXIV. 77 Of all that trod The well-pau'd Iliion. 1735 SOMERVILLE *Chase* i. 157 From the full Cistern lead the ductile Streams, To wash thy Court well-pav'd.

well-penned, *ppl. a.* Well written.

1598 MARSTON *Sco. Villanie* H4, His huge long scraped stock Of well penn'd playes. 1603 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Microcosm.* (Grosart) 81/2 A well-penn'd Poem. 1622 FLETCHER *Beggars' Bush* i. ii. He will not . . . lend Upon the assurance of a well-penn'd Letter. 1757 [see PENNED *ppl. a.* 2] 1. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxx. The stranger then, in a well-penned speech, announced herself as that famous Lady of the Lake.

well-peopled, *ppl. a.* Full of inhabitants; populous.

1588 [see PEOPLED b]. 1628 R. B[ELING] *Sixth Bk. Sidney's Arcadia* (1629) 504 The desolation of their well-peopled country. 1718 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to Abbé Conti* 31 July, The Isle . . . is but ten miles in circuit, but in those days very rich and well-peopled. 1817 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xx. II. 196 A well-peopled hive. c 1850 *Arab. Nts.* (Rildg.) 279 Large, flourishing, and well-peopled towns.

well(-)placed, *ppl. a.* Set in a good place or position; rightly, fittingly, or judiciously placed.

1606 CHAPMAN *Gentl. Usher* IV. i. How strong an influence works in well plac'd words. 1607 B. JONSON *Volpone* v. iii. To cosen him of all, were but a cheat Well plac'd. 1635-56 COWLEY *Davidids* i. 595 A well-plac'd Tapers light, Adds a becoming horror to the sight. 1674 *Barbette's Chirurg.* (ed. 2) 5 The Bone is well-placed, if in the second dressing, you find all even. 1753 MISS COLLIER *Art Torment.* i. iii. (1811) 86 Well-placed kindness. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* 96 They have perverted in themselves . . . all the well-placed sympathies of the human breast. 1876 *Coursing Calendar* 21 Filey . . . after losing ground at the start, got well placed.

b. Holding a good social position. In quot. *absol.*

1863 JEAFFRESON *Sir Everard's Dau.* 204 That distrust and commiserating disdain which the rich and well-placed are so prone to feel for the poor.

well-placing, *vbl. sb.*

1672 DRYDEN *Conq. Granada*, Def. Epilogue 167 Well placing of Words for the sweetness of pronunciation was not known till Mr. Waller introduc'd it. 1674 *Barbette's Chirurg.* (ed. 2) 4 A broken Bone requirith four Manual Operations: Extention, Conjoining, Ligature, Well-placing. 1715 LEONI *Palladio's Archit.* (1742) I. 34 Great care taken in the well-placing of Stair-cases.

well-planned, *ppl. a.*

1735 J. NIXON in Somerville *Chase* To Author, The well-plan'd System. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* xviii. A large, strong, well-planned stockyard.

well-planted, *ppl. a.*

1. Well stocked with growing plants. *a* 1703 BURKITT *On N.T.* Mark xii. 8 A vineyard is a place enclosed, a place well planted, well fruited. 1872 GEO. ELIOT *Middlem.* IV. Where the fine old turf sloped . . . towards a lilled pool and well-planted mounds.

2. Of a blow or the like: Skilfully placed, directed, or delivered.

1755 SMOLLETT *Quix.* (1803) IV. 271 Sancho . . . held out his face and beard to the first, who treated him with a well-planted twitch. 1847 C. BRONTE *Jane Eyre* xxvi, He could have settled her with a well-planted blow.

well-pleased, *ppl. a.*

† 1. Received with approval. *Obs.* —¹ 1382 WYCLIF *Ps.* cxl[i]. 5 In the wel plesid thingus of hem [Vulg. in *beneficitiis eorum*].

2. Highly gratified or satisfied.

c 1420 ? LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 180, I am wellplesyd, quod thys Eolus. 1539 BIBLE (Great) *Matt.* iii. 17 This is my beloued sonne, in whom I am well pleased. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI.* IV. x. 25 Sufficeth, that I haue maintaines my state, And sends the poore well pleased from my gate. 1619 DRAYTON *Bar. Wars* III. lxxxiv. 48 Where Welcome look'd with a well-pleased face. 1707 E. SMITH *Phædra & Hipp.* III. 26 The well pleas'd Sun With all his Beams survey'd their guiltless Flame. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* Concl. 118 And home well-pleased we went. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* III. ix, 'I drink to my hostess and her family,' says the Prince, with no very well-pleased air.

Hence well-pleasedly *adv.*, well-pleasedness.

1633 D. R[OGERS] *Treat. Sacram.* II. 36 So that former anger is turned into welpleasednesse. 1644 HAMMOND *Tracts, Cons.* §58 Serving God *εὐπρόσως* (i.e. either well pleasedly, cheerfully, willingly, or well pleasingly, so as God may and will accept). 1658 *Whole Duty Man* vii. §1. 158 This contentedness is a well-pleasedness with that condition . . . that God hath placed us. 1701 BEVERLEY *Praise of Glory of Grace* 21 The pure and perfect Eudokia, or the Well-Pleasedness of his Will in it self.

well-pleasing, *vbl. sb. rare.* The fact of being highly pleased, or of giving great pleasure.

1382 WYCLIF *Ps.* lxxxviii. 18 In thi wel plesing [Vulg. in *beneficito tuo*] shal ben enhaucid oure horn. c 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* III. liv. 130 Ioy pou . . . in my welpleasing & worship [in *rei solius beneficito ac honore*]. 1625 BACON *Ess.*, *Unity Relig.* (Arb.) 423 The Fruits of Vnity (next vnto the well Pleasing of God, which is All in All) are two.

well-pleasing, *ppl. a.* Giving great pleasure or satisfaction.

1382 WYCLIF *Col.* iii. 20 This is wel plesynge to the Lord. 1607 *Statutes in Hist. Wakefield Gram.* Sch. (1892) 66 Thus the displeasing hardnes of learninge shalbe made easie in the welpleasing manner of teachinge. 1611 BIBLE *Phil.* iv. 18 A sacrifice acceptable, well pleasing to God. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* x. 856 My Sister Goddess, and well pleasing Wife. 1718-19 ATTERBURY *Serm.* (1734) II. 76 Upon such Principles and Grounds as are well-pleasing to God. 1875 MANNING *Mission H. Ghost* xii. 344 We ask the Holy Spirit of counsel to give us light to know what is right, what is well-pleasing.

Hence † well-pleasingly *adv.*

1644 [see WELL-PLEASEDLY *adv.*].

well-plenished, *ppl. a.*

1856 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* xlii. V. 56 Surely there was no room, behind so well-plenished an equipage, for the slave who [etc.]. 1897 'SARAH TYTLER' *Lady Jean's Son* 274 A well-plenished dower-house.

† well-plighted, *ppl. a.* *Obs.* [= *pleated*: see PLIGHT v. 2]

1590 SPENSER *F.Q.* III. ix. 21 Her well plighted frock.

well-plucked, *a. colloq.* [PLUCKED *a.*] Plucky, fearless.

1873 M. A. BARKER *Station Amusements in N.Z.* 148 He was a well-plucked one . . . He told me it took five mortal hours to come the last mile. 1936 M. DE LA ROCHE *Whiteoak Harvest* xviii. 230 'That gray one is a 'andful for you' . . . 'I'm not afraid.' 'You're wot I call a well-plucked 'un.'

well-plumed, *ppl. a.*

1616 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* II. iii. 55 The well-plum'd Goshawke. 1743 R. BLAIR *Grave* 156 But see! the well-plum'd Herse comes nodding on Stately and slow.

'well-point. Civil Engin. [WELL sb. 1] One of a system of pipes sunk into the ground around an excavated area in order to lower the water-table. Hence as *v. trans.*, to supply with well-points.

1951 *Engineering* 4 May 536/3 The consulting engineers considered . . . that lowering of the ground-water level by means of well-points would be the most efficient method of keeping the excavation dry. 1958 J. S. SCOTT *Dict. Civil Engin.* 409 An excavation in sand cannot become quick if effectively wellpointed. 1971 O. H. BULLITT *Search for Sybaris* xvii. 169 The most effective way of dewatering an area . . . would be by means of a well-point system.

well-pointed, *ppl. a.*

1590 SPENSER *F.Q.* III. xi. 55 Her welpointed weapons. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 349 A well-pointed punch of German steel.

well-poised, *ppl. a.* = WELL-BALANCED, WELL-WEIGHED (lit. and fig.).

1616 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* II. i. 14 The well poys'd Oares Of the poore Fisher-man that dwelt thereby. 1642 CHAS. I *Answ. XIX Propositions* 17 The ancient, equall, happy, well-poised . . . Constitution. 1663 PATRICK *Parab. Pilgrim* (1687) 409 Humility and Charity . . . are sufficient to carry us thorow this evil World with an equal and well-poised mind. 1678 DRYDEN *All for Love* Ep. Ded. A 2 b, We who have the happiness to be born under so equal, and so well-poised a Government. 1777 POTTER *Æschylus, Agamem.* 271 Comes sloth, and from her well-pois'd sling Scatters the piled up stores. 1781 COWPER *Hope* 611 By this he forms . . . His well-pois'd estimate of right and wrong. 1791 BURKE *Let. Member Nat. Assembly* (near end), They were offered a well-poised, free constitution. 1803 JANE PORTER *Thaddeus* ii, The well-poised mind of the veteran. 1864 BURTON *Scot Abr.* II. i. 30 Announcing the moral . . . in well-poised sentences.

† well-policed, *ppl. a.* *Obs.* = next.

1591 LAMBARDE *Archeion* (1635) 65 The necessitie of an Officer of this sort is inevitable in every well-polliced Kingdome. 1651 HOWELL *Venice* 198* This powerfull and so well policed Common-wealth.

† well-policiéd, *ppl. a.* *Obs.* Having a good polity or government.

1647 COTTERELL *Davila's Hist. Fr.* I. 4 Well policed Government. 1662 PETTY *Taxes* 19 This, I conceive, were the worst of Taxes in a well policed State. 1768-74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 11 In every well-policiéd kingdom.

well-polished, *ppl. a.* (lit. and fig.).

1615 CHAPMAN *Odyss.* v. 312 A faire wel polisht helme. 1625-8 tr. *Camden's Hist. Eliz.* II. (1675) 246 Campian was . . . of a sweet Disposition, and a well-polished man. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. tr. Parnass.* I. xxxiii. (1674) 39 You have lived in the well-polisht Court of Rome. 1661 WALLER *St. James's Park* 57 Here a well-polisht Mall gives us the joy To see our Prince his matchless force employ. 1717 POPE *Ep. Jervas* 40 This small, well-polish'd Gem, the work of years. 1853 HICKIE tr. *Aristoph.* II. 577 Say something clever and well-polished.

† well-po'ssessed, *pa. pple.* *Obs.* Having large possessions.

1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* I. i. 100, I am my Lord, as well deriu'd as he, As well possesst.

well-'practised, *ppl. a.* Skilled through long or good practice.

1596 SPENSER *F.Q.* VI. ix. 43 He through long and perfect industry, Therein well practisd was. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV.* v. ii. 121, I will . . . humble my Intents, To your well-practis'd, wise Directions. 1633 FORD *Love's Sacrif.* II. E 3 b, He's a well practiz'd gamester. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 310 Without the sure guess of well-practiz'd feet. 1701 NORRIS *Ideal World* I. i. 21 A well-practised Musitian. 1845 J. COULTER *Adv. Pacific* xii. 159 They . . . paddle [the canoe] with a well-practised arm. 1855 TENNYSON *Maud* I. IV. vii, An eye well-practised in nature.

well-pre'pared, *ppl. a.*

1596 SPENSER *F.Q.* v. iv. 37 With weapons well prepar'd. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V.* I. ii. 234 Now are we well prepar'd to know the pleasure Of our faire Cosin Dolphin. 1603 DRAYTON *To K. Jas.* A 3, Well-prepared pollicie. 1661 BOYLE *Physiol. Ess.* (1669) 67 A well-prepar'd Medicine of dully refin'd Silver. 1703 KELSEY *Serm.* 153 We bring not good, well-prepared Minds to them. 1868 GEO. ELIOT *Ess.* (1884) 325 He knows that for an article to be worth much . . . there must be well-prepared material.

well-pre'served, *ppl. a.*

(Often used to describe elderly persons who carry their years well.)

1854 *Weekly Oregonian* Dec. 9 (Thornton) Antiquated gentleman . . . well preserved, but somewhat wrinkled. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *Adam Bede* v, Her well-preserved faculties, and her old-fashioned dignity. *a* 1865 MRS. GASKELL *Wives & Dau.* vi, All the furniture in the room was as old-fashioned and as well-preserved as it could be. 1871 'M. LEGRAND' *Cambr. Freshm.* 10 They were well-preserved women for their time of life.

well-primed, *ppl. a.* (See PRIMED, under PRIME v. 1).

1705 TATE *Warriour's Welcome* xxxiv, Then try your Skill: a well-prim'd Canvass stretch.

well-'principled, *a.* Holding, actuated by, or founded upon, good principles.

1691 NORRIS *Pract. Disc.* 133 A Pious and well-principled Education. 1691 *Moralist* title-p., By way of Dialogue, between a Well-Principled Lay-man, and a Professor of Theology. 1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* an. 1754 The wild and pernicious ravings, under the name of Philosophy, which were thus ushered into the world, gave great offence to all well-principled men. 1828 P. CUNNINGHAM *N.S. Wales* (ed. 3) II. 60 An intelligent, spirited, and well-principled population. 1837 HT. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 157, I should like to see a well-principled reformer in diet tried. 1873 MRS. BROOKFIELD *Not a Heroine* i. 5 Four children had grown up—amiable, well-principled, and good-looking.

well-printed, *ppl. a.*

1778 E. HARWOOD *Eds. Classics* (ed. 2) 53 This Edition of Polybius . . . is a well printed book, and very correct. 1852 COTTON *Eds. Bible* (ed. 2) 70 This is a well-printed book.

well-prized, *ppl. a.*

c 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad*. XI. 478 Loth he should taint the wel-prisd fat, of any stall-fed steere.

† well-pro'portionated, *ppl. a.* *Obs.* = next.

1647 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. App. lv. 205 Keeping a well-proportionated space One from another. 1657 [see next, quot. 1579-80].

well-pro'portioned, *ppl. a.* Having good or correct proportions.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Squire's T.* 184 The hors of bras . . . So wel proportioned for to be strong. 1430-40 LYDG. *Bochas* III. 3293 He was . . . Weel proporciownd. 1538 ELYOT *Dict. Add.*, *Amusitatus*, made by line, welle proporcyoned. 1579-80 NORTH *Plutarch, Lycurgus* (1595) 55 If they found him . . . well proportioned [ed. 1657 p. 41 well proportionated] of all his limmes. 1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 290 When a Painter would surpasse the life In limning out a well proportioned steed. 1661 COWLEY O. *Cromwell*, 'Curst be the man' ii, Who would be rather a great Monster, than A well-proportion'd Man. 1663 GERBIER *Counsel* 18 Well proportioned Doores and Windows. 1709 POPE *Ess. Crit.* 247 When we view some well-proportion'd dome. 1812 JANE AUSTEN *Pride & Prej.* xliii, A large, well-proportioned room, handsomely fitted up. 1831 SCOTT *Anne of G.* iii, A young man, unusually tall, well-proportioned and active. 1890 *Spectator* 3 May, He does not present us with a clear and well-proportioned historical sequence of events and dates.

well-proved, *ppl. a.*

c 1449 PECOCC *Repr.* III. viii. 331 Weel proued men in leernyn and in luyung. *Ibid.* v. x. 537 For such pretendid and weel proued causis. 1590 SPENSER *F.Q.* II. xi. 17 His well proued weapons. c 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XII. 357 The well-prou'd mightie Lycian Chiefs. 1717 POPE *Iliad* x. 309 A well-'provd casque, with leather braces bound.

well-proven, *ppl. a.* = prec.

1877 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines* 283 Old and well-proven mines.

well-'provendered, *ppl. a.*

1584, 1707: see PROVENDER v. 2. 1861 LD. LYTTON & FANE *Tannhäuser* 79 When he [winter] Closed his well-provender'd days.

well(-)pro'vided, *ppl. a.*

1736 J. CAMPBELL *Milit. Hist. Pr. Eugene* etc. I. 385 The Garrison was far from being strong or well provided. 1799 HT. LEE *Canterb. T., Old Woman's T.* (ed. 2) I. 381 His eyes silently rested on . . . the height of the walls, the well-provided state of the ramparts.

well-'publicized, ppl. a.

1973 G. TALBOT *Ten Seconds from Now* xii. 165 The Queen's well-publicised love of horses. 1979 *Jrnl. R. Soc. Arts* CXXVII. 645/2 The discussion should be open and well-publicized.

well(-)'qualified, ppl. a.

1607 BEAUM. & FL. *Woman-hater* i. iii. You shall present me as a Gentleman well qualified, or one extraordinary seen in divers strange mysteries. 1621 *Relat. Exec. Prague* A 2, States-men Directors and other excellent and well qualified personages. 1720 T. INNES *Crit. Essay* (1879) 278 Among so many able and well qualified men. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 31 William Cavendish, Earl of Devonshire, took the lead in the Upper House; and he was well qualified to do so.

† well-'qualitied, ppl. a.

1600 [see QUALITIED *a.*]. 1689 N. LEE *Princ. Cleve* III. i. 36 Are your Wives handsome and well qualified? 1790 COWPER *Odys.* XVIII. 335 A wife Well-qualitied and well-endow'd.

well-'quartered, ppl. a. (Said of animals.)

1641 *BEST Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 3 Goode, fatte, and well-quartered lambes. 1682 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1770/4 A thick well quartered Horse.

† **well-queme, a.** *Obs.* In 3 wel-, wilcweme. [f. *WELL* *adv.* 33 + QUEME *a.* (cf. OE. *wel-ȝecwēme*, -ȝecwēmnness), or *wil-* as in *wilcume* WELCOME.] Well-pleased, content, satisfied.

1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1744 Porphire & Auguste wurden of peos wordes... swiðe wilcweme [v.r. welcweme]. 1225 *Juliana* 32 Ah habbich pin anes help, ich am wil cweme.

Also † **well-queme sb.**, -quemeness, that which is pleasing or agreeable to one. † **well-'queming ppl. a.**, pleasant, pleasing.

1300 *E.E. Psalter* lxxxviii. 18 In þi welequeme [in *benefacito tuo*] vphouen bes oure horne. *Ibid.* xci. 15 Yhite felefold in elde ofe fulhed þai sal, And welquemand be. *Ibid.* cxl. 5 In welequemenesses ofe am [in *benefacitis eorum*].

well-raised, ppl. a.

1581 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 65 The Tragedy shoulde be still maintained in a well raised admiration. 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* II. 113 Not suffering well-raised Troy to fall. 1649 [see COUPLED *ppl. a.* 3]. 1884 *Century Mag.* Apr. 919 The cleanliness, comfort, and well-raised foundation of the Fijian houses.

well-ranged, ppl. a.

1635-56 COWLEY *Davideis* I. 671 An inward Square by well-rang'd Trees was made. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 74 A curious frame of well-ranged bulks. 1708 J. PHILIPS *Cyder* II. 61 The well-rang'd Files of Trees. 1752 'SIR H. BEAUMONT' *Crito* 16 The Teeth should be middle-sized, white, well-ranged, and even. 1791 COWPER *Odys.* IX. 666 They, all obedient, took their seats on board Well-ranged.

well(-)'read, ppl. a.

1. Well-informed by reading, learned in (a subject). Also *gen.*, versed or skilled (in).

1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* I. ii. 170 This young man... well read in Poetrie, And other bookes. 1607 BEAUM. & FL. *Woman-hater* I. iii. A Gentleman, well read, deeply learned, and thoroughly grounded in the hidden knowledge of all Sallads and Pot-herbs whatsoever. 1623 MASSINGER *Dk. Milan* III. i. We embrace you, As one well read in all the points of honor. 1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* II. II. 150 All the world holds him very well read in the Art of dissembling. 1700 DRYDEN *Fables, Pythag. Philos.* 15 Then thus a Senior of the Place replies, (Well read, and curious of Antiquities). 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 8 ¶ 7 As I am very well read in *Waller*, I repeated to her the four following Verses. 1756 BURKE *Subl.* & B. IV. xxiv. The author, so well read in human nature. 1772 BARRINGTON in *Phil. Trans.* LXII. 312 Not only a well-read naturalist, but an active sportsman. 1864 PUSEY *Daniel* (1876) 380 Well-read as he was in Greek. 1876 EMERSON *Lett. & Soc. Aims, Quot. & Orig.* Wks. (Bohn) III. 212 Our high respect for a well-read man is praise enough of literature.

2. Of a book: Attentively perused; read in a proper or profitable way.

1865 RUSKIN *Sesame* II. §77, I speak therefore of good novels only... Well read, indeed, these books have serious use.

well-'readied, ppl. a. *Sc.* [READY *v.* 3 b.] Well-cooked.

1827 CARLYLE *Germ. Rom.* IV. 50 An old serving-maid brought in a well-readied meal.

† well-reared, ppl. a. *Obs.* [REAR *v.* 1 b.]

1648 DIGBY *Closet Opened* (1671) 149 Put this into coffins of fine light well reared Crust.

well-'reasoned, ppl. a.

1834 J. S. MILL in *Monthly Repos.* VIII. 593 Lord Brougham... delivered a firm, steady, and well-reasoned opinion. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* II. III. 45 Whether from constitutional temperament, or well-reasoned argument, I find our state far from desperate. 1871 EARLE *Philol. Eng. Tongue* ix. 457 A well-reasoned book.

well-re'corded, ppl. a.

1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* II. lxxxv. So perish all in turn, save well-recorded Worth.

well-reeved, ppl. a. Securely fastened.

1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* II. xviii. The well-reeved guns, the netted canopy.

well(-)'re'fined, ppl. a.

1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* lxxxv. Euery Himne that able spirit affords, In polisht form of well refined pen. 1611 BIBLE *Isa.* xxv. 6 A feast... of wines on the lees well refined.

well-re'formed, ppl. a.

1656 COWLEY *Pindar. Odes, Plagues Egypt* xvi. The sacred chaire That new begins their well-reformed Year. 1657 J. GAUDEN in J. Watts *Scribe* etc., To Rdr. 9 A bed-rid Church (whose once well reformed Religion seems not onely decayed, but dying and deplored).

well-re'freshing, ppl. a.

1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* IV. (1922) 118 The noble Pamela having delivered over the burthen of her fearefull cares to the naturall ease of a well refreshing sleepe.

well-'regulated, ppl. a.

1709 SHAFESB. *Moralists* II. iv. 108 If a liberal Education has form'd in us... well-regulated Appetites, and worthy Inclinations. 1714 R. FIDDES *Pract. Disc.* II. 250 The practice of all well regulated courts of justice in the world. 1812 J. JOYCE *Sci. Dial.*, *Astron.* xii. II. 126 The equation of time... is the adjustment of the difference of time, as shown by a well-regulated clock and a true sun-dial. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lviii. A remissness for which I am sure every well-regulated person will blame the Major. 1862 MRS. H. WOOD *Mrs. Hallib.* I. v. 27 It appeared, to her well-regulated mind, like a clandestine proceeding. 1894 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* June 165 The newspaper, a never wanting adjunct to every well-regulated American embryo city.

† **well re'leased, a.** *Obs.* [See RELEASE *sb.* 2, *v.* 2.] Clear in utterance, melodious.

1483 *Liber Niger* in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 50 Chapleynes and clerkes of the Chapel... clene voysed, well released and pronouncynge.

† well-'relished, a. *Obs.* Savoury. (*lit.* and *fig.*)

1594 [see RELISHED *a.*]. 1687 MIEGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II. s.v. *Relish*, well relished, *qui a bon goût.*

† **well-'relishing, ppl. a.** *Obs.* Having a good flavour. (*lit.* and *fig.*)

1651 VAUGHAN *Praise Countrie-Life* II. Wks. 1914 I. 127 The Husband-man... is alwaies furnished with well-relishing bread. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boecalin's Advs. fr. Parnass.* II. xiv. (1674) 155 A well-relishing Latine Writer of the Annals of his times.

well(-)'re'membered, ppl. a.

1. Appropriately or appositely brought to mind.

1482 J. PASTON in *P. Lett.* III. 290 And, well remembered, I wot well ye ought not to have me in jelusye. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* II. viii. 26 Marry well remembered. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* xxxviii, 'Aye, that is well remembered,' said Dorothee.

2. Clearly or distinctly remembered.

1638 [see REMEMBERED *ppl. a.* 2]. 1760 A. MURPHY *Deserted Isl.* II. 18 Each well-remember'd object strikes my view. 1798 SOPHIA LEE *Canterb. T.*, *Young Lady's T.* II. 446 Emily [was] going to hail the well-remembered old ferry-man. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xviii. The well-remembered voice of my godmother. 1890 'R. BOLDEWOOD' *Col. Reformer* xiii, He whirled... along the well-remembered road.

well-re'plenished, ppl. a.

1616 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* II. iii. 53 Fly to the well-replenish'd Groues. 1829 *Anniversary* 115 A well replenished house.

well(-)'re'puted, ppl. a. Held in good repute.

1591 SHAKS. *Two Gentl.* II. vii. 43 Fit me with such weedes As may beseme some well reputed Page. 1601 — *Jul. C.* II. i. 295 A Woman well reputed. 1642 MILTON *Apol. Smect.* viii. 37 The most of them being... of knowne and well reputed ancestry.

well-re'searched, ppl. a.

1958 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 15 Aug. 13 (Advt.), This well-researched book has been highly acclaimed. 1966 [see RESEARCHED *ppl. a.* 2]. 1978 *Jrnl. R. Soc. Med.* LXXI. 697/1 There is a respectable weight of well-researched evidence.

† well(-)'re'solved, ppl. a. *Obs.* Resolute.

1613-16 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* I. v. 96 Like a valiant well resolved man. 1627 [? FALKLAND] *Hist. Edw. II* (1680) 114 Three hundred well-resolved Gallants. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 408 Who with a grain of manhood well resolv'd Might easily have shook off all her snares.

well(-)'re'spected, ppl. a. † **Duly** considered or regarded (*obs.*); highly esteemed.

1596 SHAKS. *I Hen. IV.* IV. iii. 10 If well-respected Honor bid me on. 1633 BP. HALL *Hard Texts, Hos.* xi. 4, I did to them, as a kind husbandman to his well-respected teame; I tooke off the yoke from them. 1829 *Anniversary* 122 He... is... well connected, and well respected.

well-'rested, ppl. a.

1890 W. JAMES *Princ. Psychol.* II. xvii. 15 Successive contrast... can be avoided only by carefully fixating with the well-rested eye a point of one's field. 1965 J. A. MICHENER *Source* (1966) 798 At dusk on the afternoon of Tuesday, April 13, the Palmach men roused Ilana and her two well-rested companions.

well-ribbed, a.

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 74 [Cows] wel ribbed. 1707 [see RIBBED *ppl. a.* 1]. 1847 W. C. L. MARTIN *Ox* 80/2 A heavy and well-ribbed carcass. 1908 *Westm. Gaz.* 25 Apr. 3/1 Large, well-ribbed umbrellas warranted not to blow inside out.

well-rigged, ppl. a.

1. Said of ships.

1502-9 [see RIGGED *ppl. a.* 1]. 1590 SPENSER *F.Q.* II. xi. 4 The Ferriman... With his well rigged boate. 1612 DRYTON *Poly-olb.* ix. 313 Madock... Put forth his well-rigg'd Fleet. 1715 POPE *Iliad* I. 405 Mean time Atrides launch'd with num'rous Oars A well-rigg'd Ship.

2. Of a person: Well dressed or clothed.

1743 OZELL tr. *Brantôme's Sp. Rhodom.* (1744) 18 A well-rigg'd, spruce, proper Man. 1838 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* Ser. II. ii, A tidy, well-rigged nigger help.

well-ringed, a.

1838 LYTTON *Alice* XI. v, Warming his white and well-ringed hands by the fire.

well-'ripened, ppl. a.

1660 DRYDEN *Astræa Redux* 170 'Twas not the hasty product of a day, But the well ripened Fruit of wise delay. 1842 LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 459 With good culture, in twelve months, they will have... 4 feet of well-ripened cane.

well-'risen, ppl. a. † **a.** Of a horse or deer: ? Having an erect chest and well-carried neck. *Obs.* **b.** Of bread or paste (see RISE *v.* 10 c).

1639 T. DE GREY *Compl. Horsem.* I. iv. (1656) 37 Those three [properties] of a Hart, are to have lean and dry legs, to be well risen before, and a lean head. *Ibid.*, Horses... to have a great belly, well risen before, straight bakt. 1728 E. SMITH *Compleat Housew.* (ed. 2) 133 When 'tis well risen, put in a pound of Carraway-comfits.

† well-rode, ppl. a. Skilled in riding.

1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* III. 269 The wel-rode Peeres of Troy.

well-rolled, ppl. a.

1784 COWPER *Task* I. 351 We tread the wilderness, whose well-roll'd walks [etc.]. 1865 LUBBOCK *Prehist. T.* ix. 288 This layer... contains many well-rolled tertiary pebbles.

well-roofed, ppl. a.

1831 JAMES *Phil. Augustus* xxii, Like a heavy shower of hail upon some well-roofed building. 1845 SYD. SMITH *Ir. R.C. Ch. Wks.* 1859 II. 334/1 A well-windowed and well-roofed house.

well(-)'rooted, ppl. a. **a.** Firmly implanted. **b.** Well furnished with roots.

1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XII. 138 Two high hill-bred Okes, Well rooted in the binding earth. 1627 MAY *Lucan* I. A 3 b, And round about well rooted Trees doe grow. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* 4 A well rooted Set. 1842 LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 253 The advantage of taking off cuttings in spring is, that they can be well rooted before winter. *fig.* 1876 HARDY *Ethelberta* xxxiii, Well-rooted local people. 1878 [see ROOTED 2 *fig.*].

well-'rotted, ppl. a.

1796 BOYS *Agric. Kent* (ed. 2) 120 Fifty cart-loads of well rotted farm-yard dung and mould. 1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) I. 91 Each pot is half filled with well-rotted manure. 1858 GLENNY *Everyday Bk.* 82/1 Top-dress Strawberry-beds with a coat of well-rotted dung.

well-'rounded, ppl. a. **a.** *lit.*

1752 'SIR H. BEAUMONT' *Crito* 17 The Knee should be even, and well-rounded. 1860 GEO. ELIOT *Mill on Fl.* III. vi, Such things bring lines in well-rounded faces.

b. fig. (Cf. ROUNDED 6, 6 b.) Of a person, his life: Complete and symmetrical. Of a period: Full and well turned.

18... LONGFELLOW (Cent.) Something so complete and well-rounded in his... life. 1875 PLUMPTRE in *Expositor* I. 414 His well-rounded periods would be to such an one what the rhetorical morality of Cicero was to Augustine. 1889 GRETTON *Memory's Harkback* 277 Assuredly the preacher mistakes his errand... when he strives after fine phrases... well-rounded periods. 1897 PEERY *Gist of Japan* 224 The great variety of work necessitates a well-rounded man.

well-rowed, ppl. a.

1725 POPE *Odys.* xv. 596 Swift to the town the well-row'd gally flew.

well-ruled, ppl. a. (See RULED I a.)**well-'ruling, ppl. a.**

1596 SPENSER *F.Q.* v. v. 25 T'obay the heasts of mans well ruling hand.

well-run, ppl. a.

1876 *Coursing Cal.* 38 A well-run course of good length.

well-'running, ppl. a. (*lit.* and *fig.*).

1400 Ywaine & Gaw. 1067, I have a wele rinand page, Wil stirt thider right in a stage. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* Ded. (e) 2 If I shou'd instruct some of them to make well-running Verses, they want Genius to give them strength as well as sweetness.

well-'sailing, ppl. a.

1608 SHAKS. *Per.* IV. iv. 17 Well sayling ships, and bounteous winds Hauē brought This king to Tharsus.

well-'sanded, ppl. a.

1707 [see SANDED *ppl. a.* 5 c]. 1843 Chambers' *Edin. Jrnl.* 45/2 A smiling infant... crawling over the well-sanded floor.

well-'saved, ppl. a. Carefully kept, stored, or hoarded.

1600 SHAKS. *A.Y.L.* II. vii. 160 His youthfull hose well sau'd, a world too wide For his shrunke shanke. 1851 H. MELVILLE *Whale* xx. 107 She herself owned a score or two of well-saved dollars. 1890 'R. BOLDEWOOD' *Col. Reformer* xiii, Their racks full of well-saved oaten hay.

well-'savouring, ppl. a. Sweet-scented.

1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 171 Many wele-saueryng spycis. 1551 TURNER *Herbal* I. Eij b, Folfoote is a well sauringe herbe.

well-'saying, vbl. sb. *nonce-wd.*

1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII.* III. ii. 152 King. You haue said well. *Car.* And euer may your Highnesse yoake together... my doing well With my well saying.

well-scented, *ppl. a.* a. Keen-scented. b. Sweet-scented.

1579 [see SCENTED 1]. 1618 GAINSFORD *P. Warbeck* 105 Well-scented hounds. 1726 J. LAURENCE *Agric.* 268 Its beautiful well-scented Flowers.

well-schemed, *ppl. a.*

1728 FROWDE in *Theobald's Double Falsehood* Prol., Most modern Authors... The well-schem'd Plan keep strict before their Eyes. 1909 H. BALFOUR in *Museums Jnl.* IX. 14 A well-schemed plan of campaign.

well-scrubbed, *ppl. a.*

1916 JOYCE *Portrait of Artist* (1969) ii. 64 A well-scrubbed kitchen. 1949 C. FRY *Lady's not for Burning* II. 49 Always fornicate Between clean sheets and spit on a well-scrubbed floor. 1976 'R. GORDON' *Doctor on Job* iii. 18 A small, round, well-scrubbed looking man.

well-seasoned, *ppl. a.*

1. Said of meat or drink (see SEASON *v.* 1). 1684 EARL ROSCOM. *Ess. Transl. Verse* 248 Well-season'd Bowls the Gossyps Spirits raise. 1694 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* II. xxi. §69 The eating of a well season'd dish suited to a Man's palate. 1851 D. JERROLD *St. Giles* xxxii. 330 He took the same pleasure in falsehood that an epicure receives from a well-seasoned dish.

2. Well matured and fit for use. Chiefly of timber: Thoroughly dried and hardened. Also fig.

1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* I. Djb, These be well seasoned reasons, and substantiall asseuerations in deed. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* ii. 27 Letter-Boards... ought to be made of clean and well-season'd Stuff. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* XIV. 26 To form strong buskins of well-season'd hyde. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* iv, Well-seasoned timber is an expensive article.

3. Of persons or animals: Fortified by training or experience. Also, injured *to*. (Cf. SEASONED 3 c.)

1756 C. SMART tr. *Horace, Sat.* II. v. 55 A well-seasoned lawyer. 1834 JAMES J. MARSTON *Hall* x, Our horses were strong and well-seasoned to hard work. 1849 — *Woodman* iv, My well-seasoned staves would have drank the whole beer in the town without rolling. 1855 MOTLEY *Dutch Rep.* v. iv. (1866) 741 Twenty thousand well-seasoned and disciplined veterans.

well-seated, *ppl. a.* Having a good seat or site.

1579-80 NORTH *Plutarch, Camillus* (1595) 150 Eightene fayre great cities... all of them very strong, and well seated. 1621-1720 [see SEATED 2]. 1705 MANDEVILLE *Grimbling Hive* 22 The once gay, Well-seated Houshold Gods.

well-seeing, *ppl. a.* Sharp-sighted.

1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* cxlviii, O cunning loue, with teares thou keepst me blinde, Least eyes well seeing thy foule faults should finde.

well-seeming, *ppl. a.* Presenting a good or specious appearance.

1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* I. i. 185 Mishapen Chaos of welsee[m]ing formes. 1603 — *Meas. for M.* III. i. 232 This well-seeming Angelo.

well(-)seen, *ppl. a.*

†1. Well provided or furnished. Const. *of*. Obs. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1011 O selenes es it [Paradise] wel sene. c1450 [see SEEN 1 c].

2. Skilled, versed, proficient *in* (some subject or affair). Now *arch.*

1528 [see SEEN 2]. c1545 J. HEYWOOD *Four P.* (W. Copland) Bj, Syr, ye seme wel sene in womens causes. 1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 80 Matthiolus a man otherwyse well sene in symples. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* II. xiv. 63 He was... excellently well seen in all martiall affairs. a1676 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* 13 A man well seen in Natural Causes and Effects. 1681 W. ROBERTSON *Phrasel. Gen.* 1107 Well-seen in a business, *callentissimus*. 1759, 1886 [see SEEN 2].

†3. Plainly visible, evident. Obs.

c1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 66 Now be we caytyues, as it is wel seene. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* lxvii[i]. 24 It is well sene (o God) how thou goest. a1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (1922) 20 Her perfections then should have beene as well seene as Pamelas. 1725 RAMSAY *Gent. Sheph.* I. i, Daftly wad ye hide Your well-seen love and darty Jenny's pride.

well-se'lected, *ppl. a.*

1808 SCOTT in *Lockhart* I. i. 54 There is generally, in a well-selected society of this nature, talent sufficient to meet the forwardest. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* Ixi, My cellar of well-selected wine in Baker Street.

well-selling, *ppl. a.*

1606 CHAPMAN *Gentl. Usher* III. i, Some words, pickt out of Proclamations, ... or well-selling Pamphlets.

well-served, *ppl. a.* [Cf. *F. bien servi.*]

1747 *Gentl. Mag.* XVII. 344 A numerous and well serv'd artillery. 1849 LEVER *Con Cregan* xviii, A well-served table. 1876 *Coursing Cal.* 26 A party of upwards of thirty sat down to a capital and well-served dinner. 1880 RUSKIN *Bible of Amiens* I. i At this halting-place... there is a well-served buffet. 1882 SIR G. WOLSELEY in C. ROYLE *Egypt. Campaigns* (1886) I. 319 In full view of the enemy, and under the fire of his well-served artillery.

well(-)set, *ppl. a.*

1. Skilfully, fittingly, or happily placed, fixed, settled, arranged, or adjusted.

c1369 CHAUCER *Dethe Blaunche* 828 So had she Surmountyd hem all of beaute... Of stature and of well set gladnesse. c1400 MAUNDEV. (1919) vi. 25 The town & the cytee weren full well sett in a fair contree. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 228 For that requeris obligacioun and trow consent, with wit seker and wele set. 1475 Bk. *Noblesse* (Roxb.) 75 The peple that were welle set. 1513 MORE in

Grafton *Chron.* (1568) II. 787 She vertuously denied hym, but... with so good maner & words so well set, that she rather kindled his desire then quenched it. 1535 COVERDALE *Isa.* iii. 24 For wellset hayre there shalbe baldnesse. c1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XVIII. 51 Like a well-set plant In best soiles. 1635-56 COWLEY *Davidis* I. 348 Above the well-set Orbs soft Harmony. a 1743 SAVAGE *On False Historians* 129 Well-set in plan, and polish'd into style, Fair and more fair may finish'd fraud beguile. 1776 [see WELL-WRITTEN]. 1895 CROCKETT *Men of Moss-hags* xxxviii, The air of well-set distinction which marks the man of ancient family.

b. with *on*.

1639 T. DE GREY *Compl. Horsem.* I. iv. (1656) 41 The Trunchion small, long, well set on. 1854 SURTEES *Handley Cr.* I, A light, well-set-on head.

†c. Of a blow: Well planted or delivered. Obs.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. viii. (1912) 391 While Ismenus doubled two or three more valeiant, then well set blowes.

2. Of a person, animal, the limbs: Strongly built, firmly knit.

13... *Guy Warw.* 6015 He was michel & wele y-sett. 1530 PALSGR. 715/2 The felowe is well sette, or well pyght. a 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV.* 250 This kyng Edward was... brode brested and well set. 1579 LYL Euphues (Arb.) 115 If shee be well sette, then call hir a Bosse. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 74 [Cows] Wel set and compacted legs. *Ibid.* 666 A thicke, round, and well set Hogge. 1666 W. BOGHURST *Loimographia* (1894) 25 Strong well sett men dyed commonly in two dayes. 1727 A. HAMILTON *New Acc. E. Ind.* II. liii. 273 The Tartar was a lusty Man, and the Sailor short, but well set. 1774 *Pennsylv. Gaz.* 21 Dec. 4/2 Run away... a clever smart looking boy, well set. 1883 D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* I, His figure was well set.

b. Now usually *well set-up*. (Cf. SET *ppl. a.* 10.)

1867 [see SET *ppl. a.* 10]. 1869 BLACKMORE *Lorna D.* xxvii, Very pretty damsels, and well set up. 1890 'R. BOLDEWOOD' *Col. Reformer* xxii, The men's... muscular, well set-up figures.

†3. Well-disposed. *Sc. Obs.*

1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* To Rdr., Referring the well set Reader to the History it selfe. a 1670 SPALDING *Troub. Chas. I* (Bannatyne Club) I. 5 The marquess of Huntly, and some well sett freinds settled this feid.

†4. Of wine: Matured by keeping.

1720 RAMSAY *Edinb.'s Salut. Ld. Carnarvon* iv, The wale of well sett ruby juice... I can afford.

5. *Cricket.* Said of a batsman who is playing the bowling with ease and seems unlikely to get out.

1880 J. LILLYWHITE'S *Cricketers' Annual* 62 There were only 49 runs left to get with six wickets to fall, one batsman thoroughly well set, and the ground by no means favourable for the bowlers. 1903 JEPHSON in Hutchinson *Cricket* 112 A bowler that... might bowl a man at any period of his innings, however well set he might be.

well-settled, *ppl. a.*

1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* II. xxxi, She could not alter his well settled thought. 1625 K. LONG tr. *Barclay's Argenis* v. xiv. 382 He delivered this severe speech with so mild and well-settled a countenance. 1691 MAYDMAN *Nav. Spec.* 177 In all well-settled Governments. 1711 SHAFESB. *Charac.* III. 4 In which the most confus'd Head, if fraught with a little Invention, ... might exert it-self to as much advantage, as the most orderly and well-settled Judgment.

well-shading, *ppl. a.*

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* I. x. ¶7 The grasse (which plentifully grewe, brought vp vnder the care of those wel shading trees). 1616 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* II. iii. 64 Here the fine setting of well shading trees.

†well-shape. Obs. In 4-5 -schap(p. [irreg. f. WELL *adv.* + SHAPE *sb.*¹, perh. after *well-shape* pa. pple. (see below).] Shapeliness, beauty of figure.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 4 Proude of worldly goodes, of beaute, of welschap, of strengpe of body. c 1440 *Jacob's Well* 69 Prowde of pin herytage, & of pi bewte, & of pi wel-schapp.

well(-)shaped, *ppl. a.* Having a good shape, form, or figure.

1340-70 *Alisaunder* 186 Schuft shulders aright, well ischaped armes. c 1532 DU WES *Introd. Fr. in Palsgr.* 917 The man is well shaped. c 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* x. 372 Steeds More white then snow, huge, and well shap't. 1654 LIGON *Barbados* 72 This tree... is well shap'd, her body straight, her branches well proportion'd. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 53 ¶8 A delicate well-shaped Arm held a Fan over her Face. 1725 *Bradley's Family Dict.* s.v. *Pears*, A very large wellshaped Pear. 1831 JAMES *Phil. Augustus* xxxix, A... small, well-shaped mouth. 1880 J. B. BURY *Later Rom. Emp.* I. 173 He was of middle height... well shaped, so that his body was neither too weak nor too weighty.

well(-)shapen, *ppl. a.* Now *arch.* Also 4-5 shape (schape, i-shape). = *prec.*

a. c 1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* III. 411 Be she neuere so faire or wel I-shape [v.r. wel schape]. 14... in *Wr.-Wulcker* 584/14 *Formosus*, Welshape. c 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* ix. 232 Reynawde had xvi. fete of lengthe, & was well shape of body after y^e gretreues.

β. a 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat.* *Fistula* etc. 6 Clene handes and wele shapen naillez. c 1500 *Melusine* xxxiii. 235 His fayre & wel shapen body. 1580 BLUNDEVIL *Order Dieting Horses* ix. 4 b, A well shapen horse. 1687 BLOME *Pres. St. Amer.* 41 Chusing them [sc. Negroes] as men do Horses in a Fair, and according as they are handsom, lusty, well shapen, and young. 1710 SHAFESB. *Adv. Author Charac.* (1711) I. 164 'Tis the Unhappiness of those Wits, ... that... they can bring nothing well-shapen or perfect into the World. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *Adam Bede* vi, A good-looking woman, ... well-shapen, light-footed.

well(-)sharpened, *ppl. a.*

1682 DRYDEN *Mac Flecknoe* 45 At thy well sharpened thumb from Shore to Shore The Treble squeaks for fear, the

Bases roar. 1706 WATTS *Horæ Lyr.* II. (1727) 206 So whole Forests fall... by one single Ax, And Steel well-sharpened. 1871 B. TAYLOR *Faust* II. III. 207 And let the knife, well-sharpened, fail not finally.

well-shaved, *ppl. a.* = WELL-SHAVEN *ppl. a.*

1940 W. FAULKNER *Hamlet* I. i. 15 He just sat there... well-shaved and clean in his perfectly clean faded shirt.

well(-)'shaven, *ppl. a.*

1542-3 *Act 34 & 35 Hen. VIII.* c. 6 The Shanke [of the pin] well shaven, the pointe well and rounde fyled. 1842 D. VEDDER *Poems* 200 M'Lauchlan, the priest, wi' his well-shaven crown.

well-sheltered, *ppl. a.*

1796 MARSHALL *Planting* II. 14 The white-flowering Almond... in well-sheltered places. 1880 C. R. MARKHAM *Peruv. Bark* 389 Lebong, a well-sheltered spur below Darjiling.

well-shod, *ppl. a.*

1580 BLUNDEVIL *Dieting of Horses* xix. 15 First then see that he be well shod, that is to say, with shooes that be neither too short nor too long. 1647 N. WARD *Simple Coblur* 22 It ill becomes Christians any thing well-shod with the preparation of the Gospel, to meditate flight from their deare Countrey. 1782 COWPER *Gilpin* 82 Finding soon a smoother road Beneath his well-shod feet. 1916 JOYCE *Portrait of Artist* (1969) v. 227 He... passed out, his wellshod feet sounding flatly on the floor.

†well-shooted, *ppl. a.* Obs. [app. f. *shooted*, irreg. wk. pa. pple. of SHOOT *v.*] Well grown or developed.

1633 T. ADAMS *Comm.* 2 *Pet.* i. 14. 270 A well shooted beard striving for length with the cassocke, makes not a Priest.

well-showered, *ppl. a.*

1728-46 THOMSON *Spring* 186 Thus all day long the full-distended clouds Indulge their genial stores, and well-shower'd earth Is deep enrich'd with vegetable life.

Wellsian ('welziən), *a.* (and *sb.*) Also Wellsean. [f. the name of H. G. Wells (1866-1946) + -IAN.] Of, pertaining to, or resembling the ideas and writings of H. G. Wells, esp. in his science fiction, social comment, etc. Occas. as *sb.*, a devotee or follower of H. G. Wells.

1912 *Westm. Gaz.* 9 Nov. 4/2 The delightful comments on the Wellsian philosophy. 1916 J. FREEMAN *Moderns* 93 The extension of such a rigid word as morality, until it includes its own contradictions, is typically Wellsian. 1916 G. B. SHAW *Pygmalion* 200 The new-born Wellsian had to find her bearings almost as ridiculously as a baby. 1923 A. HUXLEY *Antic Hay* iv. 55 'Let me put you down for a couple of pairs [of pneumatic trousers].' Mr. Mercaptan shook his head. 'Too Wellsian,' he said. 'Too horribly Utopian.' 1946 R. G. COLLINGWOOD *Idea of Hist.* 252 Some Wellsian machine for looking backwards through time. 1962 E. SNOW *Other Side of River* (1963) lxvi. 503 One Wellsian exhibit showed the long-range plan of a canal and river system which would virtually encircle China. 1977 M. DRABBLE *Ice Age* I. 69 He thought of a Wellsian paradise, a Welwyn Garden City, with neat boxes.

well-sifted, *ppl. a.* (*lit.* and *fig.*).

1833 *Farm Rep.* 120 in *Lib. Usef. Knowl., Husb.* III, A coat of newly-slacked and well-sifted lime. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 9 Dec. 3/3 A veritable mine of well-sifted information.

†well-sighted, *ppl. a.* Obs. Having good sight or mental discernment.

c 1522 SKELTON *Why nat to Courte* 531 Haue ye nat harde this, How an one eyed man is Well syghted when He is amonge blynde men? 1613 HAYWARD *Will.* I. 6 Hee was... of a piercing wit, blind in no mans cause, and well sighted in his owne. 1630 LENNARD tr. *Charron's Wisd.* I. lix. (1670) 199 What good is it to a blind man, that his parents have been well-sighted? 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Aduts. fr. Parnass.* I. lix. (1674) 77 Good Officers... known to be well-sighted in forbidding faults.

well-sited, *ppl. a.*

1925 J. G. MACLEOD in *Oxf. Poetry* 27 Or that old solemn cormorant Who sits like a well-sited statue carved in black. 1979 [see WELL-CONCEIVED *ppl. a.*]

†well(-)sitting, *ppl. a.* Obs. See SITTING *ppl. a.* 1, 2.

well(-)'situated, *ppl. a.*

1618 GAINSFORD *Glory Eng.* I. xv. 129 A well scituated Castle. 1828-32 WEBSTER s.v. *Situated*, A town well situated for trade or manufactures.

well-sized, *ppl. a.* Of a good size.

1615 CHAPMAN *Odyss.* VIII. 589 A well-siz'd Caldron. 1642 MILTON *Apol. Smet.* iii. 28 Instead of well-siz'd periods, he greets us with a quantity of thum-ring posies. 1725 [see SIZED *ppl. a.* 1 b]. 1833 T. HOOK *Parson's Dau.* II. xv. Only half a well-sized loaf remaining on the table.

well(-)skilled, *ppl. a.*

a 1553 UDALL *Royster D.* v. ii. (Arb.) 80 By your leaue I am not halfe well skilled in that arte. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich.* III. iv. 116 O thou well skill'd in Curses, stay a-while, And teach me how to curse mine enemies. 1615 CHAPMAN *Odyss.* XI. 472 This then must stand, If while I liue, I rule in the command Of this well-skild-in-Navigation State. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 620 A certain Shepherd Lad... well skill'd In every vertuous plant and healing herb. 1715 POPE *Iliad* III. 477 She seem'd an ancient maid, well-skill'd to cull The snowy fleece. 1808 SCOTT *Marmion* VI. xx, O for one hour of Wallace wight, Or well-skill'd Bruce, to rule the fight. *absol.* 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 15 Jan. 1/3 Whist must be played by the unskilled as well as by the well-skilled.

well-smelling, *ppl. a. arch.* Fragrant.

c 1400 [see SMELLING *ppl. a.* 1]. 1534 BERNERS *Golden Bk. M. Aurel.* xviii. (1535) 31 He wolde washe his handes with very well smellyng waters. 1698 *Phil. Trans.* XX. 362 There were found many well-smelling Trees. 1887 MORRIS *Odyss.* II. 339 Well-smelling oil.

well-soled, *ppl. a.*

1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. ii. 426 Well-sol'd Boots.

† **well-sounding**, *vbl. sb. Obs.* Tunefulness.

1668 DRYDEN *Def. Ess. Dram. P. Ess.* (Ker) I. 118 The copiousness and well-sounding of our language.

well-sounding, *ppl. a.*

c 1325, 1486 [see SOUNDING *ppl. a.* 1 b]. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VII. xii. 147 Weill soundand wribilis. 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* XIX. lviij, Trumpets, clarions, and well sounding bras. 1729 T. COOKE *Tales* etc. 204, I am certain that the passed Tenses of *sit* and *see*, which are *sat* and *saw*, will not be well sounding if this Rule is observed. 1781 [see SOUNDING *ppl. a.* 1 b]. 1828 WHATELY *Rhet.* III. i. §5. 189 To be able to pour forth with fluency an unlimited quantity of well-sounding language. 1865 'ANNIE THOMAS' *On Guard* III. 40 The phrase was a nice, magnanimous, well-sounding one.

well-spaced, *ppl. a.* Of items that are neither too close nor too far apart from each other.

1939 M. SPRING RICE *Working-Class Wives* iv. 70 She . . has four children, well-spaced. 1962 E. SNOW *Other Side of River* (1963) lxxv. 576 Large blocks of well-spaced three-story apartments. 1977 N. SAHGAL *Situation in New Delhi* xiii. 128 Sometimes during a Cabinet meeting he said not more than five well-spaced words of one syllable each.

† **well-speaking**, *vbl. sb. Obs.* Eloquence; good delivery.

1557 CHEKE in Hoby tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* ad fin., The roundnes of your saienes and welspeakinges of the saam. 1561 Hoby *Ibid.* I. Ij b, I am sure he would muche sooner haue desired wel doing in himself then wel speaking in an other. 1634 W. TIRWHYTT tr. *Balzac's Lett.* Aiv, A man no less versed in the art of well-speaking then himself. 1694 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* III. vii. §2 *margin*, In them [*sc.* the connecting particles] consists the art of well speaking.

† **well-speaking**, *ppl. a. Obs.* Eloquent. (See SPEAKING *ppl. a.* 1 b.)

well-spel, -speeding: see SPEED *v.* 7, SPEEDING *ppl. a.* 1.

well-spent, *ppl. a.*

1. Of time, life: Passed profitably and virtuously.

1534 MORE *Dial. Comfort* III. xvii. (1553) Q. viii b, The well spent time. 1662 G. WHARTON *Cal. Carol.* Feb. B 5 b, Who . . laid down Their well spent Lives for Charles's Injur'd Crown. 1711 POPE *Temp. Fame* 330 The constant tenour of whose well-spent days No less deserv'd a just return of praise. 1780 *Mirror* No. 90 An old man, looking back on a well-spent life. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lii, She beats all the women I have ever seen in the course of all my well-spent life.

2. Expended judiciously or to advantage.

1749 B. FRANKLIN *Poor Richard* (1890) 188 'T is a well spent penny that saves a groat.

well-spiced, *ppl. a.*

1644 MILTON *Areop.* (Arb.) 63 Some well spic't bruage. 1708 W. KING *Art of Cookery* (1709) 75 Well-spiced Hippocras. 1829 A. CUNNINGHAM in *Anniversary* 137 Bowls well spiced and reeking.

well(-)'spoken, *ppl. a.* Also 5 -spoke.

1. Of a person: Gifted with good or ready speech; courteous and refined in speech.

c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 394 When pis chylde was waxen he was fayr & sernely & wele-spoken. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 138/2 Eloquent, or welle spoke man or woman, *eloquens*. 1476 *Paston Lett.* III. 157 He is wel spokyn in Inglyshe, metly well in Frenshe. 1552 LATIMER *Serm. Christmas Day* (1584) 273 b, Shee did not as our welspoken dames do: Shee tooke not in hand to preach. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III.* I. iii. 348 For Clarence is well spoken, and perhappes May moue your hearts to pity, if you marke him. 1604 BACON *Apol. Earl Essex* 37, I told her, my Lord was an eloquent and well spoken man. 1715 ADDISON *Drummer* v. end, Mr. Vellum, you are a well-spoken Man: Pray do you thank my Master and my Lady. 1816 JANE AUSTEN *Persuasion* iii, A very well-spoken, genteel, shrewd lady, she seemed to be. 1844 EMERSON *Ess., Nom. & Real.* ¶3 Strong, punctual, practical, well-spoken England. 1899 *Daily News* 5 June 4/7 A pretty, well-spoken girl of 18 years.

transf. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III.* I. i. 29 Since I cannot proue a Louer, To entertaine these faire well spoken dayes. 1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* Induct. i, I vrg'd it . . the rather To giue these ignorant well-spoken daies Some tast of their abuse of this word Humor.

2. Of words: Spoken well or with propriety.

a 1592 GREENE & LODGE *Looking Gl.* (1598) E 1 b, Well spoken fellow in thine owne behalfe. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* II. ii. 488 Fore God, my Lord, well spoken, with good accent, and good discretion. 1605 ——— *Lear* II. iv. 239 Is this well-spoken?

3. With of: Favourably mentioned.

1538 ELYOT *Dict. Add., Bene audire*, to be well spoken of. 1778 JOHNSON in *Boswell* (1904) II. 252, I have heard Henry's *History of Britain* well spoken of. 1963 WODEHOUSE *Stiff Upper Lip, Jeeves* II. 18 Knowing where I could get a couple of tickets for a well-spoken-of musical.

Hence well-spoken-of-ness. *nonce-wd.*

1872 W. H. GILLESPIE *Argum. Being & Attrib. God* v. ii. (ed. 6) 179 The word *Blessedness* . . may stand for consummate *Well-thought-of-ness*, or *Well-spoken-of-ness*.

well-spread, *ppl. a.*

1. Widely extended; † *spec.* of a horse, broad in the rear (*obs.*).

1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. 115 b, If he be brode hanched, & well spread behind, and goeth wide, his pace wilbe the surer. 1592 GREENE *Black Book's Messenger* Wks. (Grosart) XI. 18 Hee was a faire large Gelding well spread and forheaded. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 395 An ancient and well spread Family. 1639 T. DE GREY *Compl. Horsem.* I. iv. (1656) 37 He must have . . large Thighes, round well spread Buttocks. 1676 WORLIDGE *Vinetum Brit.* 51 Any Fruit on a low well-spread Tree, is better and fairer than that on a tall Tree. 1685 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2062/4 Lost a black Coach Mare . . , well spread behind. 1708 ROWE *Royal Convert* II. i. 18, I took my usual Way, To seek the Coolness of the well-spread Shade. 1748 ANSON'S *Voy.* III. ii. 308 Woods of tall and well-spread trees.

2. Of a surface: Plentifully or elegantly covered with articles spread over it. Of a table: Laid out for a good meal.

1777 POTTER *Æschylus, Choeph.* 356 The well-spread couch Inviting soft repose. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 408 Proud of his well-spread walls. 1825 SCOTT *Betrothed* viii, A well-spread bleaching-field! 1837 LOCKHART *Scott* IV. v. 166 The curious neophytes that surrounded the well-spread board. 1854 SURTEES *Handley Cr.* xxiv, The pawing of a horse . . caused him to look up from his well-spread table.

'well-spring. [OE. *welspryng*, *wylspring*: see WELL *sb.* 1 and SPRING *sb.* 1]

1. The source or head-spring of a stream; a fountain-head.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 22 God . . asende ren of heofonum feowertig daga togædere, and geopenode þær togeanes ealle wylspringas. *c* 1100 *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 178/9 *Latex*, welspreng. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1243 An angel . . Taȝte her ðor a welle spring. *c* 1305 *St. Kenelm* 293 in *E.E.P.* (1862) 55 A wil spring vp þere stod Of þe stede þer he lai on. *c* 1450 *Merlin* xx. 338 A litill brooke that com rennyng of two welle sprynges of a mountayne. 1549-62 STERNHOLD & H. Ps. xlii. 1 Like as the hart doth breath and bray the well-springs to obtaine. 1613-16 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* I. i. 12 When of that streame he had discovered The fount, the well-spring, or the bubling head, He there would sit. 1645-50 BOATE *Ireland's Nat. Hist.* vii. (1652) 54 The water of these Well-springs is for the most part cool, clear, and pure. 1796 MARSHALL *Rur. Econ. Midl.* II. *Gloss.*, Well-spring. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. 290 Such ditches . . should be cut at the feet of the adjacent rising grounds . . so as to intercept the well-springs and land-floods. 1877 J. D. CHAMBERS *Div. Worship* 233 The Water . . drawn recently from a well-spring.

2. *fig.* A source of perennial emanation or supply.

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past.* C. lxxv. 467 Dæs wæterscipes welspryng is on hefonrice. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 52 Seo soðe lufu is wylspring and orðfruma ealra godnyssa. *a* 1240 *Ureusin* in *O.E. Hom.* I. 195 Al englene were . . Siggeð and singeð þet to ert lues welsprung. 1534 MORE *Conf. agst. Trib.* II. Wks. 1208/1 Surely y^e riche mannes substance, is y^e welspring of the poore mannes liuing. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* I. vi. 54 True fayth is the welspryng and roote of all vertues. 1611 BIBLE *Prov.* xvi. 22 Understanding is a well-spring of life vnto him that hath it. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* II. 75 This City was the Mother & Well-spring of all liberall Arts and Sciences. *c* 1710 PRIOR *My Birthday* 13 Well-spring of all my joy and woe, Clotilda. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxix, It was because they bore in their own hearts an inexhaustible well-spring of affection and devotion. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U.S.* II. xxii. 21 War for liberty became unexpectedly a well-spring of opulence.

well(-)squared, *ppl. a. lit. and fig.* (like Gr. *τετράγωνος*).

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* IV. (1922) 126 Thinking it want of a well squared judgement to leave any meane unassayed of saving their lives. 1613-16 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* I. iv. 79 A large well squared stone.

well-stacked, *ppl. a.*

1784 COWPER *Task* IV. 444 The well-stack'd pile of riven logs.

well-stained, *ppl. a.*

1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* IX. 70 The well-stain'd canvas, or the featur'd stone.

well-starred, *ppl. a.* Born under a lucky star, fortunate.

1867 M. ARNOLD *New Poems* 133 *Him*, I count *him*, well-starr'd. 1892 W. WATSON *Poems* 83 Friend, in whose friendship I am twice well-starred.

† **well(-)stayed**, *ppl. a. Obs.* Steady, sober.

1550 HARINGTON tr. *Cicero's Bk. Friendship* (1562) 33 A wel stayed mind. *Ibid.* 48 In full grown ages and well stayed wyttes.

well-steeled, *ppl. a.* Stoutly armed with steel.

1613 WITHER *Abuses* II. iv. S6, Let's trim our rusty Armes, and scoure Those long vn-vsed, well-steeld blades of our. 1751 [see STEELED *ppl. a.* 1]. 1867 MORRIS *Jason* II. 701 The well-steeled spears.

well-steered, *ppl. a.*

1749 G. WEST *Odes Pindar, Iphigenia in Tauris* II. (1753) I. 169 Swift the well-steer'd Vessel sails. 1809 WORDSW. *Epit. Chiabrera* iv, Fifty years Over the well-steered galleys did I rule.

well(-)stocked, *ppl. a.* [STOCKED 6.]

1634 MILTON *Comus* 152, I shall e're long Be well stock't with as fair a herd as graz'd About my Mother Circe. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. 235 In this happy dwelling, and this well-stocked farm. 1796 BURNS *Hey for a Lass* 4 O, gie me the lass wi' the well-stockit farms. 1832 G. DOWNES *Lett. Cont. Countries* I. 255 Several handsome, well-stocked shops. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xviii, A well-stocked

orchard. 1876 C. GIBBON *Robin Gray* v, He had a well-stocked steading.

† **well-'stomached**, *ppl. a. Obs.*

1478 *Paston Lett.* III. 222, I wolde be gladde to have a weell stomakyd felawe that wolde for my sake everye daye see the seyde woodes . . and to knowe iff any weer fellyd heer afftre. 1530 PALSGR. 329/1 Well stomaked, *bien encouragé*.

well-stopped, *ppl. a.*

1626 T. H[AWKINS] *Caussin's Holy Crt.* 291 Keepe the vessell of your hart, as a wellstopped pot. 1774 E. LONG *Jamaica* III. 775 The fruit when . . dried is packed in well-stopped bottles. 1836 J. M. GULLY *Magendie's Formul.* (ed. 2) 197 The lozenges should . . be kept in a well-stopped glass.

well(-)stored, *ppl. a.* Amply stocked or furnished.

1591 SAVILE *Tacitus, Hist.* II. lvi. 86 The wellstoared groundes [*refertos agros*]. 1616 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* II. iii. 54 From one well-stor'd garden to another. 1656 COWLEY *Pindar. Odes, Plagues of Egypt* xii, The well-stor'd Egyptian year Began to cloath her Fields and Trees anew. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* IX. 184 His head . . well stor'd with suttile wiles. *a* 1704 LOCKE *Cond. Underst.* §18 His Head was so well stor'd a Magazine. 1718 POPE *Iliad* xv. 520 The well-stor'd Quiver on his Shoulders hung. 1806-7 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* (1826) VII. lxx, While you are attentively listening to the information or opinion of a well-stored man. 1835 [see STORED *ppl. a.* 2].

† **well-strained**, *a. Obs.* [*f.* STRAIN *sb.* 1] Coming of a good stock or breed.

a 1710 CONGREVE *To Earl Godolphin* 85 And now a while the well-strain'd coursers breathe.

well-strained, *ppl. a.* [*f.* STRAIN *v.*]

1867 MORRIS *Jason* XII. 264 And ye may hear across the well-strained shrouds The longed-for wind. 1883 'ANNIE THOMAS' *Mod. Housewife* 53 Put a layer of well-strained boiled rice into the dish.

† **well-strand**. *north. and Sc. Obs.* [*f.* WELL *sb.* 1 + STRAND *sb.* 2] A small stream flowing from a spring.

a 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 123 We wol wassche us . . bi pis welle strende. *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* 4618 Of whilk like welle strondys thi blode brast out freely. 1802 C. FINDLATER *Agric. Peebles* 16 *note*, The designation of the smallest rill of water is a syke, or a well-strand, if from a spring-well. 1898 LD. E. HAMILTON *Maukin of Flow* II. 21 The little well-strand that trickled into the burn at our feet.]

† **well-stream**. *Obs.* [OE. *wylle-stréam*: see WELL *sb.* 1 and STREAM *sb.*] A stream flowing from a spring.

a 1000 *Phoenix* 105 Swa se æpela fugel . . wunað wylle-streamas. *c* 1205 LAY. 2849 King Bladud baðen iwohrote . . mid ane stæn-cunne . . þe he leide in ane walle stream. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 6058 þe blod of kniztes dede & of destres & of stede Ran hem after al day so 3erne, So water out of wel streime. *c* 1381 CHAUCER *Parl. Foules* 187 Colde welle stremys . . That swemyn ful of smale fischis lite. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 93 For wher the hullen ben most hyhe, Ther mai men welle stremes finde.

well-stricken, -strooken, -strucken (*in years or age*): see STRICKEN A., STRUCKEN A.

1526 TINDALE *Luke* i. 7 Booth were wele stricken in age. 1576 R. PETERSON *G. della Casa's Galateo* 11 The same gentleman . . was a man well strooken in yeares.

well-structured, *ppl. a.*

1974 tr. *Wertheim's Evolution & Revolution* 97 To provide a model of an integrated, well-structured whole in which any conflict could be smoothed down. 1978 *Language* LIV. 205 There is a well-structured account for Korean by Martin 1962.

well-strung, *ppl. a.*

c 1600 DRAYTON *Mis. Margaret* xciv, Out goe the Browne Bills, with the well-strung Bowes. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* XVIII. 85 Gods! how his nerves . . Swell o'er his well-strung limbs. 1875 HELPS *Soc. Press.* iii. 45 The man of hard, well-strung, healthy nerves.

well-studied, *ppl. a.*

1. Produced or devised by careful study.

1644 MILTON *Educ.* 7 While . . the whole Symphony with artfull and unimaginable touches adorn and grace the well studied cords of some choise composer. 1717 POPE *Epist. Jervas* 33 Here thy well-study'd marbles fix our eye. 1853 KINGSLEY *Hypatia* xxii, Orestes . . waved his hand for silence, and began his well-studied oration. 1855 PALEY *Æschylus* Pref. p. xxiv, The well-studied wisdom of iambic verses.

† 2. Of a person: Well read, learned. Also, versed or proficient *in* (a subject). *Obs.*

1596, 1602 [see STUDIED 2]. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* II. ii. 45 An excellent book-man in reading of men, and otherwise well studied. 1651 FULLER etc. *Abel Rediv.*, *Bolton* 587 He was also well studied in Metaphysicks, Mathematicks, and School-Divinity. 1707 NORRIS *Treat. Humility* i. 9 A well-studied Divine. 1810 [see STUDIED 2].

well-stuffed, *ppl. a.*

1483 [see STUFFED *ppl. a.* 1]. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* vii. 75 This stronglie to performe, a well stuff braine would need. 1824 W. IAVING *T. Trav.* III. (1848) 227 The carriage . . moved slowly under the weight of so many well-stuffed trunks and well-stuffed travellers.

† **well-suc'ceeding**, *ppl. a. Obs.* Having a happy issue.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. xxi. §2 She vsing so straunge, and yet so well-succeeding a temper, that she made her people by peace, warlike.

well(-)'suited, *ppl. a.* 1. [SUIT *v.* 10 b.]

The examples in quotes 1771 and 1837 can equally be analysed as *well adv.* + *suit* rather than as a *ppl. adj.*

1771, 1837 [see SUIT *v.* 10 b.]. 1950 T. S. ELIOT *Cocktail Party* II. 109, I consider That you are exceptionally well-suited to each other.

2. [SUITED *ppl. a.* 2.]

1855 W. WHITMAN *Leaves of Grass* 69 Do you think I could walk pleasantly and well-suited toward annihilation? 1980 D. K. CAMERON *Willie Gavin* xiii. 127 His likeness... shows him as well suited as any eminent Edwardian, the wide skirt of the jacket falling away from a high button.

well-sung, *ppl. a.*

1717 POPE *Eloisa to Abelard* 365 The well-sung woes will soothe my pensive ghost. 1785 BURNS *To W. Simpson* vi. Till echoes a' resound again Her well-sung praise. 1818 BYRON *Ch. Har.* IV. xxx. Here repair Many familiar with his well-sung woes.

well-su'stained, *ppl. a.*

1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* IV. 41 Our Comment on the Comedy, Pleading Reflections on Parts well-sustain'd, Or purpos'd Emendations. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* 249 A slow but well-sustained progress. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* lii. The bugler, lifting his instrument to his lips, gave one long well-sustained blast.

well-swelled, *ppl. a.*

1786 BURNS *To a Haggis* iv. Till a' their weel-swallow'd kytes belyve Are bent like drums.

well-swollen, *ppl. a.*

1728 YOUNG *Love Fame* II. 225 The well-swoln ties an equal homage claim.

well-tailored, *ppl. a.*

1886 PASCOE *Lond. To-day* IV. (ed. 3) 60 For aught one can see in Rotten Row on a Midsummer morning, all the world may be prosperous, dignified, well-tailored, and well-groomed. 1899 T. M. ELLIS *Three Cat's-Eye Rings* 36 The... well-tailored, dapper little man.

well-taken, *ppl. a.* (In various senses: see e.g. TAKE *v.* 3, 33 b, 42.)

1639 DAVENPORT *Too late to call* 18 Times oft Wel-taken Lock. 1761 FOOTE *Liar* I. Wks. 1799 I. 288 Some compliments in verse... well-tim'd, and, what was better, well-taken. 1788 MRS. HUGHES *Henry & Isab.* I. xii. 175 Mrs. Maitland's dressing-room was ornamented with many well-taken copies and elegant designs.

well-tamed, *ppl. a.*

1805 WORDSW. *Prelude* VI. 538 While Winter like a well-tamed lion walks.

well-tanned, *ppl. a.* Of skin, hide, etc. Now chiefly with sense 'tanned by the sun, sunburnt'.

1784 COWPER *Task* I. 51 The rest... content With base materials, sat on well-tann'd hides. 1867 W. WHITMAN *Leaves of Grass* (ed. 4) XLVII. 89 Preferring... those well-tann'd to those that keep out of the sun. 1892 MARK TWAIN *Amer. Claimant* xvi. 164 He had a well-tanned complexion. 1916 JOYCE *Portrait of an Artist* (1909) II. 60 Uncle Charles was a hale old man with a welltanned skin.

well-tasted, *a.* Now *rare*. [See TASTED B.]

1. Having a good taste or flavour.

1635-56 COWLEY *Davideis* I. 673 A pure, well-tasted, wholesome Fountain. 1700 EVELYN *Diary* Aug. 1645, In this place are excellent oysters, small and well tasted like our Colchester. 1771 in *Phil. Trans.* LXI. 321 Carp... will grow within two Summers... to be fleshy and well-tasted. 1803 A. HUNTER *Georg. Ess.* I. 429 Sweet and well-tasted butter from the milk of cows fed upon turnips. 1850 GOSSE *Rivers of Bible* (1878) 232 The water was found by this traveller to be well-tasted.

fig. 1641 MILTON *Prel. Episc.* A 2 b, To uphold their now well-tasted Hierarchy by what faire pretext soever they could. 1746 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* IX. 2183 With thee bring, Not hideous visions, as of late; but draughts Delicious of well-tasted, cordial, rest; Man's rich restorative.

2. Of a person: Gifted with good taste.

1911 R. BROOKE in *Memoir* (1918) p. lxvii, So many intelligent and well-tasted people didn't seem to have any idea what I was driving at.

well-taught, *ppl. a.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Prolog.* 127 At mete, wel ytaught was she with alle. c 1470 HENRY WALLACE I. 294 He was... Nocht large of tong, weille taucht and debonayr. 1560 BIBLE (Geneva) *Ecclus.* xxxi. 19 How litle is sufficient for a man wel taught? 1594 KYD *Cornelia* v. 52 Our warie wel-taught troops. 1605 B. JONSON *Volpone* IV. v. When that well-taught dame Had her Qu: guien her, to vie out a rape. 1645 WALLER *Poems, To Flavia* II. The graces of a well taught minde. 1711 POPE *Temp. Fame* 165 Wise Aurelius, in whose well-taught mind With boundless pow'r unbounded virtue join'd. 1854 *Poultry Chron.* II. 155 Some of the German birds are well-taught musicians.

absol. a 1879 GEO. ELIOT *Leaves fr. Note-bk.* *Ess.* (1884) 361 The well-taught, an increasing number.

well-taxed, *ppl. a.*

1775 BURKE *Sp. Concil. Amer.* *Sel.* Wks. 1897 I. 226 If you tax the import of that rebellious Colony, what do you tax but... the goods of some other obedient and already well-taxed Colony? 1856 KANE *Arctic Expl.* II. v. 59, I labored... with all the ingenuity of a well-taxed mind, to keep up the spirits of my comrades.

well-tempered, *ppl. a.*

1. † a. Having a good bodily 'temperament' or constitution. *Obs.*

1422 YONGE tr. *Secreta Secret.* 220 Rede colore tokenyth complexion wel temperit. 1625 K. LONG tr. *Barclay's Argenis* III. xi. 189 His well-tempered veynes. c 1655 A. SYDNEY in *19th Cent.* (1884) Jan. 63 Like a strong well-tempered stomach. a 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (1842) IV. 270 He

sends them into the world with a well-tempered and rightly-disposed body.

b. Having a well-balanced mental temperament (*obs.*). In later use, good-tempered.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* I. iii. (1912) 19 [Arcadia is noted for] the well tempered minds of the people. 1595 SPENSER *Amoretti* lxxxiv, Modest thoughts breathd from wel tempred sprites. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Pisc. Eclog.* VI. xx, Thy wel-temper'd soul. 1657 J. GAUDEN in J. Watts *Scribe* etc., To Rdr. 3 One of the most learned, judicious, grave, and well tempered Divines in this County of Essex. 1691 MAYDMAN *Nav. Spec.* 199 Therefore, I wish him to furnish himself with a well-tempered Disposition, To be as Wise as a Serpent, and as Harmless as a Dove. 1710 NORRIS *Chr. Prud.* viii. 347 Christian Wisdom... depends not so much upon great parts, as a willing and well-temper'd Mind. 1773 GOLDSM. *Stoops to Conquer* II, Yet she appears to me a pretty well-tempered girl. 1852 GROTE *Greece* II. lxxi. IX. 193 A discreet and well-tempered officer. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 538/2 Crowds were walking in the middle of the roadway—merry and well-tempered.

transf. 1790 G. WALKER *Serm.* II. xxv. 216 Christianity is a mild, pleasant, and well-tempered religion.

† 2. Of climate or season: Temperate. *Obs.*

1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. ii. iii. *Colonies* 65 Well-tempered Sumater Sub-equinoctiall. 1601 *Mary Magd. Lament.* vi. (Grosart) 123 A calme and bright well-temper'd day. a 1628 F. GREVILLE *Sidney* II. (1652) 30 That well-tempered, though over-zealous, and superstitious Region of Italy.

3. a. Of steel: Brought to the right degree of hardness and elasticity.

1597 C. MIDDLETON *Chinon* (1925) 18 His well tempered sword. c 1662 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) II. 263 A well-tempered Turkish or Persian Scymetere. 1697 DRYDEN *Aeneis* XI. 734 His Back and Breast, Well temper'd Steel and scaly Brass invest. 1807 SYD. SMITH *Lett. Catholics* I. Wks. 1859 II. 136/2 No power in Europe, but yourselves, has ever thought... of asking whether a bayonet is Catholic, or Presbyterian, or Lutheran; but whether it is sharp and well-tempered. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 735 The pallet-knife, is mostly a thin well-tempered blade of steel.

fig. 1662 GAUDEN in *Hooker's Wks.* Ep. to King A 3 b, Agreeable to right Reason and true Religion (which makes this well-tempered Peice a file capable to break the teeth of any that venture to bite it). 1726-46 THOMSON *Winter* 676 That wit... which with Attic point And kind well-tempered satire, smoothly keen, Steals through the soul, and without pain corrects.

b. Of clay or mortar: Well mixed or compounded.

1746 FRANCIS tr. *Horace, Epist.* II. ii. 9 Like Clay, well-temper'd with informing Skill, He may be moulded to what Shape you will. 1833 *Wauldy Farm Rep.* 120 in *Libr. Usef. Knowl.*, *Husb.* III. On this lime a bed of well-tempered clay is directly laid. 1860 RUSKIN *Unto this Last* II. § 28 The builder who lays good bricks in well-tempered mortar.

4. *Mus.* Tuned in equal temperament.

Only in renderings of G. *das wohltemperirte Klavier*, the title of Bach's double set of 48 Preludes and Fugues in all the keys. Cf. TEMPERED *i.e.*

1820 tr. J. N. Forkel's *Life John Sebastian Bach* 93 The well-tempered clavicord; or preludes and fugues in all the keys. 1884 CLARA BELL & FULLER-MAITLAND tr. Spitta *Bach* II. 6 note, The Well-tempered Clavier. 1889 *Grove's Dict. Mus.* IV. 482 The well-tempered Clavicord.

well-tended, *ppl. a.*

1795-1814 WORDSW. *Excurs.* II. 167 Many a sheltered and well-tended plant. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* I. 97 The sloping hill-side... is covered with well-tended vineyards.

wellthe, *obs.* form of WEALTH.

† **well-thewed**, *ppl. a.* *Obs.* [See THEWED.] Having a good character or disposition; well-conducted, well-mannered, virtuous.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 41 þe wise manne and pat wel-peaud child habbeð boðe on laye. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1914 He wulde ðat he sulde hem ten ðat he wel-ðewed sulde ben. 1387 TREvisa *Higden* V. 89 Tweye zongelynges... wel i-pewed [moribus compositos]. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 51 It sit a prest to be wel thewed, And schame it is if he be lewed. 1430-40 LYDG. *Bochas* IV. 1121 This Calistenes, in youthe riht weel thewed. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 413/1 Wele thewyd, morigeratus. a 1529 SKELTON *Agst. Garnesche* IV. 147 Malapert, medyllar, nothyng well thewe. 1642-7 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. i. 1. xxiii, Well thewed minds the mind do always setten free.

b. *transf.* of speech, etc.

c 1522 SKELTON *Why nat to Court?* 328 Thy tonge is nat wel thewe. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Feb. 96 To nought more... my mind is bent, Then to heare nouells of his devise: They bene so well thewed [E. K. *Glosse*, that is Bene morate, full of morall wisesnesse]. 1594 *Zepheria* I. 2 Many their well thewd rimes doe fayre attempter Vnto their amours. 1624 BP. MOUNTAGU *Immed. Addr.* 35 The Prayers of the Church, in our Common Liturgies, are very well thewed and composed for the nonce, to fit the dispositions and affections of men.

† **well-'thinking**, *ppl. a.* Judging rightly and fairly.

1593 'Silence augmenteth grief' 13 in R. S. *Phoenix Nest* 11 He was... to ech well thinking minde, A spotlesse friend, a matches man.

well-thought, *ppl. a.* In comb. with a prep. or adv., as *of*, *on*, *upon*, *out*.

1579 GOOGE *Lopez de Mendoza's Prov.* Ep. Ded., This gentleman... deserueth of all men to be welthought of. a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* v. (1922) 173 Philanax... beganne a well thought on discourse. 1611 COTGR., *Bienvoulu*, well beloued, well thought of. 1648-58 HEXHAM II, *Wel-bedacht*, Well-advised, or well thought upon. 1865 tr. *Erckmann-Chatrian's Waterloo* II. 10, I had rather remain poor and hardworking, than become rich and well-thought-

of in this manner. 1901 E. PHILLPOTTS *Striking Hours* 250 You'm gwaine to blacken your awne name, an' that of a well-thought-on fam'ly. 1902 J. CHAMBERLAIN in *Scotsman* 13 Jan. 7/7 Well-thought-out plans.

Hence **well-thought-of-ness**.

1872 [see WELL-SPOKEN 3].

well-'thriven, *ppl. a.*

c 1375 *Cursor M.* 14806 (Fairf.) þis man is wele þriuen [Cott. fast es he throd and thriuen]. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) II. 7 Then I have a quarrel against his face, though in his person, for a well-thriven man, tolerably genteel. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* XVII. 698 A well-thriven ox.

well-thumbed, *ppl. a.* Bearing marks of frequent handling.

1826 MISS MITFORD *Village* III. 271 She used to hear me read French out of a well-thumbed copy of Telemaque. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xxvii, A couple of well-thumbed tambourines. 1884 E. YATES *Recoll.* I. 254 A large collection of greasy well-thumbed *Miscellany* volumes.

well-'timbered, *ppl. a.*

1. Strongly built or constructed of wood.

1596 SPENSER *F.Q.* v. xi. 29 As when the Mast of some well timberd hulke Is with the blast of some outrageous storme Blowne downe. 1852 DUBOURG *Violin* (ed. 4) 344 Instruments... should be sufficiently well-timbered; their durability is much affected when they are finished off too weak in wood.

2. Having a good structure or constitution; well-framed, well-built. Chiefly of persons and animals.

1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* Ind. iii, A well-timberde fellow, hee woulde ha' made a good colunne and he had ben thought on when the house was a building. 1639 T. DE GREY *Compl. Horsem.* I. iv. (1656) 40 A well timberd Horse. 1668 R. L'ESTRANGE *Vis. Quev.* (1708) 269 The Devil of Subornation eame next, which was a good complexion'd, and a well-timber'd Devil. 1697 COLLIER *Ess. Mor. Subj.* II. 76 Let them [sc. the 'animal spirits'] be as sleek and well timber'd, as those Atoms Epicurus made his Soul of. 1769 *Stratford Jubilee* II. i, I'm as well timbered about the legs and face, as one can meet. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* IV. Niel, a clean, tight, well-timbered, long-winded fellow. 1861 *Times* 27 Sept. 5/5 Cart-horses, young, and well-timbered, and quick walkers, .. 50 to 65 guineas.

3. Well-wooded.

1701 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3724/4 Piggott's Farm... within a Mile of the Thames, being well Timbred, having a new-built House [etc.]. 1847 DISRAELI *Tancred* I. iv, You descend into a well-timbered enclosure. 1904 A. C. FRASER *Biogr. Philos.* I. 26 The charming well-timbered parks which surround it.

well-timed, *ppl. a.*

1. Occurring, done, or made at a good or fitting time; timely, opportune.

1635-56 COWLEY *Davideis* III. 839 But Jonathan... With well-tim'd zeal, and with an artful care, Restor'd, and better'd soon the nice affair. 1735 POPE *Ep. Lady* 225 But Wisdom's triumph is well-tim'd Retreat. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vicar W.* v, This well-timed present pleaded more powerfully in his favour, than anything I had to say could obviate. 1788 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xli. IV. 504 Their well-timed and rapid charge decided the conflict. 1855 PALEY *Aeschylus* Pref. p. xix, By a well-timed humility they might have escaped the curse of ancestral guilt. 1874 R. TYRWHITT *Sketch. Club* 149 A slight and well-timed frost next morning. 1902 J. BUCHAN *Watcher by Threshold* 76 The question was well-timed.

2. Actuated in regular time or at the right moment.

1697 TUTCHIN *Search Honesty* VI. 9 Two gentle Charons, Rowing, he espy'd, With Well-tym'd Oars, upon the Ebbing-Tyde. 1707 E. SMITH *Phædra & Hipp.* III. 26 Ev'n now the well tim'd Oars With sounding Stroaks divide the sparkling Waves. 1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* I. lxxxvi, With well-timed croupe the nimble coursers veer.

well-tochered *Sc.*: see under TOCHER *v.*

'**well-to-'do**, *adj. phr.* [See WELL *a.* 3.]

1. Possessed of a competency, in easy circumstances; thriving, prosperous:

a. as predicate (with or without hyphens).

1825 BROCKETT *N.C. Words* 230 *Weel-te-dee*, well to do—living comfortably. 1840 MARRYAT *Poor Jack* III, Her husband had returned well, and well to do. a 1845 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.*, Jerry Jarvis's Wig, A reputable grazier of Ivychurch, worthy and well-to-do. 1864 TENNYSON *En. Arden* 310, I am rich and well-to-do. 1874 SYMONDS *Sk. Italy & Greece* (1898) I. vi. 119 For Corsicans they [the Napoleon family] were well-to-do.

b. in fuller form *well to do in the world*.

Cf. *well in the world*, WELL *a.* 3.

1825 MRS. CAMERON *Crooked Paths* (Houlston *Tracts* I. xxv.) 6 He is what is called very well to do in the world. 1854 SURTEES *Handley Cr.* xiii. (1901) I. 93 They are very respectable—that's to say... people well-to-do in the world. 1861 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 48 The Corporation of the Steelyard were too well to do in the world to be other than... thoroughly Anglican. 1885 *Law Times Rep.* LII. 647/2 Both were well to do in the world.

c. *attrib.* (with hyphens).

1839 THACKERAY *Stubbs's Cal. Jan.*, My father was... a well-to-do gentleman of Bungay. 1850 E. FITZGERALD *Lett.* (1889) I. 202 It is only idle and well-to-do people who kill themselves. 1865 TROLLOPE *Belton Est.* xiii. 143 The well-to-do squirearchy of England. 1892 GARDINER *Student's Hist. Eng.* 489 The Colony of Virginia grew into a tobacco-planning, well-to-do community.

d. *absol.* (as pl.).

1851 D. JERROLD *St. Giles* xiv. 136 He has strayed into the paradise of the well-to-do. 1891 MRS. OLIPHANT *Jerusalem* IV. ii. 441 The well-to-do of every village gathered conspicuous on the road.

e. *transf.* Indicative of easy circumstances, prosperous-looking.

1863 MRS. GASKELL *Sylvia's L.* vi. Still, in spite of disorder like this, there was a well-to-do aspect about the place. 1883 D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* i. A comfortably furnished apartment, where shaded lamps and handsome curtains gave things a well-to-do and homelike look.

2. Of an animal or plant: Thriving.

1875 F. I. SCUDAMORE *Day Dreams* 16 The cattle in the forealls were sleek and well-to-do. 1881 *Leicestersh. Gloss.*, *Well-to do*, . . . thriving, applied to trees, cattle, &c., as well as men. 1908 R. BAGOT *A. Cuthbert* iii. 25 Fat and well-to-do rabbits.

3. Pleased or satisfied *with oneself*. *rare*⁻¹.

1854 [see WELL a. 2 c].

Hence **well-to-do-ism**, **well-to-do-ness**, prosperity.

1848 CLOUGH *Poems* (1862) Mem. p. xv, Well-to-do-ism shakes her Egyptian scourge, to the tune of 'ye are idle, ye are idle'. 1849 LYTTON *Caxtons* II. iii. The house had an air of solidity, and well-to-do-ness about it. 1882 MRS. OLIPHANT *Lit. Hist. Eng.* III. 134 Even the poverty of wealth is better than the well-to-do-ness of the humble. 1887 E. MONEY *Dutch Maiden* xxii, 'It [an inheritance] is nothing wonderful,' he added, 'but well-to-doism for a fellow like myself.' 1925 J. BONE *London Perambulator* 127 All the nice well-flavoured old things [at a pastry-cook's in High Street] that suggested Kensington 'well-to-do-ness'.

well-told, *ppl. a.*

1713 STEELE *Guardian* No. 42. ¶3 Yet the very same Occurrences shall please them in a well-told Story. 1884 J. HALL *Chr. Home* 88 It must be a well-told tale that holds its place in the memory for thirty or forty years.

well to live, *adj. phr.* Now *rare*; latterly *Sc.* and *U.S.* [See WELL a. 3.] Prosperous, well to do. Also *well to live in the world*.

1579-80 NORTH *Plutarch, Aristides* (1595) 349 And further-more, to shew that hee was well to lue, and that his house was rich and wealthie, he bringeth forth these proofes. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* II. ii. 55 His Father. . . is an honest exceeding poore man, and God be thanked well to lue. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 95 Shee . . . was married in the end to one of an honest condition, and well to lue. 1673 RAY *Journ. Low C.* 249 The Piemontese are generally well to live. 1796 *Hist. Ned Evans* I. 137 He was well to live, and was said to have plenty of money besides his stock. 1829 *Anniversary* 171 They were. . . well to live in the world, extensive dealers in corn and cattle. 1836 CARLYLE in *Atlantic Monthly* (1868) Sept. 295/1 The Doctor looks very well and sonsy; he seems in good health and well to live.

attrib. 1897 *Boston (Mass.) Jnl.* 4 Jan. 10/1 Unable to collect money from well-to-live people who have owed it to her for six months.

b. Partly intoxicated.

1619 R. HARRIS *Drunkard's Cup* Ep. Ded. A2 b, One is coloured, another is foxt, a third is gone to the dogs, a fourth is well to live. 1825 JAMIESON, *Well to live*. 2. Tipsy, elevated with drink, half seas over. 1860 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* [New England.]

well-toned, *a.* Having a good tone, in various senses: see TONED.

c 1460, 1742 [see TONED 1 a, 1 b]. 1771 C. BURNEY *Pres. St. Mus. France & Italy* (1773) 145 The voice, which was a woman's, was well toned. 1827 EARL MOUNT-EDGUMBE *Mus. Remin.* (ed. 2) 74 David. . . was. . . the first tenor of his time, possessing a powerful and well-toned voice. 1874 H. H. COLE *Catal. Ind. Art S. Kens. Mus.* 213 Harmonious and well-toned colouring. 1879 H. SPENCER *Data of Ethics* x. §64. 176 The. . . consequent discolouration, caused in a person of lax tissues by a blow which leaves in well-toned tissues no trace.

† **well-tongued**, *a. Obs.* Gifted with good speech.

1538 ELYOT *Dict.*, *Benedicus*, a man wel tunged, or faire spoken. 1602 *Narcissus* (1893) 462, I was a well tounge'd nimphe. 1603 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Microcosm.* (Grosart) 95/1 Which wel-tongu'd Mercury shal faire relate.

† **well-took**, *ppl. a. Obs.* (See TAKE v. A. § 8 and B. 19 b.)

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* II. ii. 83 Meane time we thanke you, for your well-tooke Labour.

well to pass, *adj. phr.* Now *Sc.* [See WELL a. 3.] a. In predicate: Well off, well to do. Also *well to pass in the world*.

1610 T. SCOTT *Philomythie* (1616) A7 His Mothers Husband. . . being rich and well to passe. c 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* v. xv. (1650) 152 Their Masters are both of them very well to pass, and of good repute. 1702 W. J. tr. *Bruyn's Voy. Levant* ix. 29 Those who are well enough to pass in the World. 1784 R. BAGE *Barham Downs* II. 100, I. am mistress of this inn, and thank God well to pass. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xxxvii, Our poor friend has died well to pass in the world. 1901 G. DOUGLAS *House with Green Shutters* 11 They were an able lot, and. . . most of them were well enough to pass. *Ibid.* 266 Johnny Coe, idle and well-to-pass.

b. attrib. (with hyphens).

1908 LD. E. HAMILTON *Mawkin of Flow* xvii. 228 With a neatness that any well-to-pass housewife might have envied, were ranged sack upon sack of oatmeal, barley and peas. c. *absol.* (as pl.).

1902 BARRIE *Little White Bird* xii. 124 They were children of the well-to-pass.

d. Well provided, well off for (something).

1809 E. S. BARRETT *Setting Sun* I. 65 Charles XII. of Sweden (although himself a king, and not very well to pass for sense even among them).

Hence † **well-to-passer** *nonce-wd.*, a person of good estate.

1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 504 Horace met with such Selfe-applauding well-to-passers, triumphing over anothers inferiority in Estate.

well-tossed, *ppl. a.*

a 1593 MARLOWE *Ovid's Eleg.* III. ix. [x.] 31 When well-toss'd [*bene jactati*] mattocks did the ground prepare.

† **well-traced**, *a. Obs.* ? Having a good foot-print.

c 1400 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xxii, þer both some hyndes wele traced, þe whiche haueth þe soole of þe foote as a staggard.

well-'traded, *a.* Having a good trade.

1585, 1610 [see TRADED 3]. 1687 MIEGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II. s.v. *Well*, A well-traded Town, *une Ville fort marchande*.

well(-)trained, *ppl. a.*

c 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* IV. 350 His well-train'd Athenian troopes. 1618 GAINSFORD *Glory Eng.* II. ii. 164 A hundred well trained and ordered souldiers will beat a thousand of them. 1683 J. REID *Scots Gard'ner* (1907) 103 Well-trained trees in a nurserie. 1735 SOMERVILLE *Chase* I. 297 A pilf'ring Race; well-train'd and skill'd In all the Mysteries of Theft. 1847 DISRAELI *Tancred* II. xi, The well-trained ear of this guardian of the gate. 1868 RUSKIN *Pol. Econ. Art* II. §105 A well trained youth. 1894 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* June 184 Well-trained dogs transmit these qualities.

well-'travelled, *ppl. a.* That has travelled far; experienced in travel; also *fig.*

In the first quot. the word may be = well travailed; the Fr. probably means 'active', 'energetic'. Cf. also quot. c 1420 s.v. TRAVAILED.

1525 BERNERS *Froiss.* (1812) II. 469 Sir Johne Rosseau, who was a well trauelled knight and well known [*bien trauaillant et congneu en plusieurs terres*]. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 208 Hystories. . . wrytten by wyttie and expert men well traulyed in the worlde. 1656 COWLEY *Pindar. Odes, To Dr. Scarborough* iv, And Thy well-travell'd knowledge too does give No less account of th' Empire Sensitive. 1870 DK. of ARGYLL *Ionai* i. 2, I have heard well-travelled men declare that nothing they had seen in any part of the world had ever produced such an effect upon them [as Fingal's Cave].

† **well-tricked**, *ppl. a. Obs.* Artfully adorned.

1599 DRAYTON *Idea* Son. iii, Many there be excell'ing in this kind, Whose well trick'd rimes with all inuention swell.

well-tried, *ppl. a.* Often tried or tested with good result; thoroughly tried.

c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* III. vi. 312 Neither bi eny sufficient euydence of Holi Scripture or of other special and peculiar sure weel tried reuelacioun. 1590 SPENSER *F.Q.* II. x. 40 [They] ransackt Greece we'll tryde, when they were wroth. a 1631 DONNE *Eleg.* xiv. 60 The bright Signe of a lov'd and wel-try'd Inne. 1670 EACHARD *Cont. Clergy* 33 Physick. . . is made up of severe reason, and well-tryed experiments. 1725 POPE *Odys.* XVI. 263 Thy well-try'd wisdom, and thy martial fame. 1784 COWPER *Task* I. 148 Love, Confirm'd by long experience of thy worth And well-tried virtues. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxxviii, A well-tried friend has appointed to meet me in this neighbourhood. 1856 KANE *Arctic Expl.* II. i. 20 Our sledge then is made of well-tried oak.

well-trimmed, *ppl. a.* (In various senses of TRIM v.)

1667 DRYDEN & DK. NEWCASTLE *Sir M. Mar-all* III. (1668) 26 A Woman's in a sad condition, that has nothing to trust to, but a Perriwig above, and a well-trim'd shoe below. 1728 GARDINER tr. *Rapin Of Gardens* II. (ed. 3) 90 When with a low and well-trim'd Head They [sc. cypresses] circling round adorn some flow'ry Mead. 1825 SCOTT *Talism.* xxiii, The mass of hair (now limited to a well-trimmed beard). 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* ix, A well-trimmed lamp. 1842 — *Amer. Notes* v, The well-trimmed lawns and green meadows of home are not there. 1856 KANE *Arctic Expl.* I. xxx. 412 His coil of walrus-hide, a well-trimmed line of many fathoms' length.

well-trod, *ppl. a. poet.* = next.

1632 MILTON *L'Allegro* 131 Then to the well-trod stage anon.

well-'trodden, *ppl. a.* Frequently trodden; much used to walk on. Also *fig.*

1825 WATERTON *Wand. S. Amer.* 164 A smooth and well-trodden part of the road. 1825 J. NEAL Bro. *Jonathan* II. 141 A solid, hot, stone pavement is not so agreeable. . . as the cool, fresh turf, or the well-trodden path. 1881 TYLOR *Anthropol.* xv. 387 We need not go over the well-trodden ground of later history.

well-trussed, *ppl. a.*

† 1. Of the human or animal frame: Well-knit; firmly and compactly built. Also with *together*.

1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* II. xxii. 392 Men of my stature, well-trust, short and tough. 1639 T. DE GREY *Compl. Horsem.* i. iv. (1656) 37 He must have. . . a well-trussed together Body. 1741 *Compl. Family-Piece* II. i. 304 The Tumbler. . . is a well-truss'd Dog.

2. Securely tied in a bundle.

1633 HERBERT *Temple, Ch.-porch* xxiv, Man is a shop of rules, a well truss'd pack, Whose every parcell under-writes a law.

well-'trusted, *ppl. a.*

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (1922) 23 Like the clyent that committes the cause of all his worth to a well trusted advocate. a 1667 COWLEY *Ess. Verse & Pr.* (1906) 412 (tr. 'Beatus ille') How is he pleas'd th' encreasing Use to see Of his well trusted Labours bend the tree? 1856 KANE *Arctic Expl.* II. xxiii. 233 My well-trusted friend.

well-tuned, *ppl. a.* Melodious, in good tune.

1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* cl. 5 Prayse him vpon the welltuned cymbals. 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* II. iii. 18 The Hounds, Replying shrilly to the well tun'd Hornes. 1591-5 SPENSER *Colin Clout* 418 That well tuned song Which late he sung

vnto a scornfull lasse. 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* viii. 5 The true concord of well tuned sounds. 1653 H. MORE *Antid. Atheism* II. viii. (1712) 62 A Pack of well-tuned Hounds. 1660 J. BROOKBANK (title) *The Well-tuned Organ*. 1844 MRS. BROWNING *Drama of Exile* 1212 What I see well-formed or hear well-tuned.

transf. 1613-16 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* i. ii. 41 Whose well-tun'd eares, chaste-obiect-louing eyne Ne'er heard nor saw the workes of Aretine.

well-turned, *ppl. a.* [TURN v. 4, 5.]

1. Skillfully turned or rounded.

[a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 22 July 1670, The arches of the cellars beneath are well turn'd by Mr. Samuel the architect.] 1725 POPE *Odys.* XVIII. 77 His nervous thighs By just degrees like well-turn'd columns rise. 1811 J. MILNER *Eccles. Archit. Eng.* Pref. p. xv, The well-turned arches of the intercolumniations. 1813 VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* 117 The slice, gradually ascending along this well-turned plate, operates with an equal friction on its whole surface.

2. Of the body or limbs: Symmetrically shaped or rounded.

1616 B. JONSON *Devil an Ass* II. vi, To play with this smooth, round, And well torn'd chin, as with the Billyard ball. 1687 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2281/4 A large well turn'd Chesnut, . . . 15 hands. 1693 DRYDEN *Ovid's Met.* I. 670 Her well-turn'd Neck he view'd. 1728 RAMSAY *Bonny Kate* iv, How straight, how well-turn'd and genteel, are Her limbs! 1835 W. IRVING *Tour Prairies* 29 They are a well-made race, . . . with well-turned thighs and legs. 1886 J. CORBETT *Fall of Asgard* II. 66 Her well-turned form, so girlish and dainty still.

3. Of speech: Neatly finished, felicitously expressed.

1623 B. JONSON in *Shaks. Wks.* To Mem. Author 68 In his well turned, and true-filed lines. 1668 DRYDEN *Of Dram. Poesie* 59 The labour which is requir'd to well turn'd and polish'd Rhyme. 1714 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 556 ¶3, I made a Speech consisting of about half a Dozen well-turned Periods. 1773 BOSWELL *Tour Hebrides* 22 Oct. (1785) 431 It contains a just and well-turned compliment to my illustrious friend. 1888 BURGON *Twelve Good Men* I. 41 Enshrining the friend's name in a note, commonly with the addition of. . . some well-turned phrase.

† 4. Of the mind: Having a good bent, well disposed. *Obs.*

1798 SOPHIA LEE *Canterb. T., Young Lady's T.* II. 354 Nothing then remains, even in minds well turned, but a sense of mutual duty.

5. *well turned-out*: smartly dressed, well-groomed.

1903 [see CLASSY a.]. 1919 E. P. OPPENHEIM *Strange Case Mr. Jocelyn Thew* I. ii. 17 A very distinguished-looking and exceedingly well-turned-out caller. 1976 G. EWART *No Fool* I. 20 Well-turned-out were the waisted women.

well-'tutored, *ppl. a.*

1648 J. QUARLES *Fons Lachrym.* 41 Let thy well tutor'd grief Know rather how to purchase a relief, Than plagues and torments. 1784 COWPER *Tiroc.* 195 And thus, well-tutor'd only while we share A mother's lectures and a nurse's care. 1791 — *Iliad* XVIII. 744 They, with well-tutor'd step, now, nimbly ran The circle.

well-'twisted, *ppl. a.*

c 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XXIII. 106 Well-twisted cords. 1616 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* II. iii. 81 Well-twisted threds. a 1687 WALLER *Maid's Trag. altered* (1690) 42 Like a well twisted Cable, holding fast The anchor'd Vessel in the lowest Blast.

well-understood, *ppl. a.*

a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 25 Mar. 1644, A skreene. . . accurately cutt in topiary worke, with well understood Architecture. 1792 BURKE *Sp.* (1816) IV. 55 Without the guide and light of sound well-understood principles. 1845 G. DODD *Brit. Manuf.* IV. 101 She only followed a well-understood practice among her countrywomen. 1868 GLADSTONE *Juv. Mundi* IV. 113 Homer may seem, then, to designate, though not as by absolute and well-understood synonyms, but rather with a certain vagueness, substantially the same persons.

well-upholstered, *ppl. a.* Having soft and thick upholstery; usu. *transf.* in *colloq.* use, plump, 'well-covered'.

1932 H. R. WAKEFIELD *Ghost Stories* 44 Mrs. C., a handsome well-upholstered matron, had a shrewd Scottish flair for entertainment. 1939 H. HODGE *Cab, Sir?* v. 48 She looks a bit second-hand, though she's well-upholstered. 1964 in Hamblett & Deverson *Generation X* 171, I have a preference for dark girls with warm brown eyes and I like them well-upholstered. 1971 E. LEMARCHAND *Death on Doomsday* II. 26 Well-upholstered elderly women.

well-urged, *ppl. a.*

c 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* x. 378 Till your well vrg'd and rich returne proue my relation sound. 1748 THOMSON *Cast. Indol.* I. lxvii, Now the heart he shakes, And now with well-urg'd sense th' enlighten'd judgment takes.

wellus, var. VELLOUS *Sc. Obs.*

well(-)used, *ppl. a.*

† 1. Well practised or exercised. *Obs.*

c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* III. 379 For thai war wicht, and weill wsyt in wer.

2. a. Rightly or effectively used.

1594 *Selimus* xx. H2 b, A societie of puddings, did you marke that well vsed metaphor? 1667 MILTON *P.L.* IV. 200 [He] only us'd For prospect, what well us'd had bin the pledge Of immortalitie. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* III. xvii, As she stands above him with her hardened manner, and her well-used eyes.

b. Much or often used.

1728-46 THOMSON *Spring* 36 Where the well-us'd plough Lies in the furrow. 1835 WILLIS *Pencilings* I. viii. 54 A little further on was a baker's shop, with a well-used oven. 1840

DICKENS *Old C. Shop* liii, That's the sexton's spade, and it's a well-used one, as you see.

well-varied, *ppl. a.*

1608 CHAPMAN *Byron's Trag.* i. i. In the well varied seasons of the year. 1764 DODSLEY *Descr. Leasowes in Shenstone's Wks.* (1765) II. 293 A small lawn of well-varied ground.

well-ventilated, *ppl. a.*

1818 KITCHINER *Cook's Oracle* (ed. 2) Pref. p. xlv, A well-ventilated larder. 1887 *Spons' Househ. Man.* 39 A well-ventilated drain.

wellvet, obs. Sc. form of VELVET.

† **well-visaged**, *ppl. a. Obs.*

c1420 *Prose Life Alex.* 74 Bizonde pat riure pay saw wonder faire & wele vesaged women cledid in foule clethyng. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* vii. i. 213 He was.. brode in the sholders & wel vysaged.

† **well-voiced**, *a. Obs.* Having a good or powerful voice.

1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 86 A well voiced boy.. sings Eulogies to Mahomet. 1822 SCOTT *Nigel* i, The aforesaid.. able-bodied and well-voiced apprentices.

† **well-waiting**, *ppl. a. Obs.* Compliant in attendance.

1581 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 38 Poetrie euer setteth vertue.. out in her best cullours, making Fortune her well-waiting hand-maid.

well-waled, *ppl. a. Sc.* Well-chosen.

1718 RAMSAY *Christ's Kirk Gr.* III. xx, She her man like a lammy led Hame, wi' a well-wail'd wordy.

well-walled, *a.* Having good walls. (Cf. Gr. *εὐτεῖχος*.)

c1400 [see WALLED 1 b]. c1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* i. 130 The sacke of well-wall'd Troy. 1618 GAINSFORD *Glory Eng.* i. xv. 126 Valenciens.. is very spacious, well walled, and full of ancient buildings. 1867 MORRIS *Jason* III. 153 Admetus from the well-walled Phææ came.

well-warded, *ppl. a. Sc.* [See WARE v. 2 d.] Well spent or bestowed.

1637 RUTHERFORD *Let. to Parishioners* 13 July, O then well-warded painted breast and sore back.. in speaking early and late to you! 1856 G. HENDERSON *Pop. Rhymes Berwick* 14 The best fish i' the Tweed.. Shall be thy weel war'd meed.

well-warmed, *ppl. a.*

1838 STERLING in Carlyle *Life* II. vii. (1872) 143 We slept.. at the Village of Simpton, in a very fair and well-warmed inn. 1891 KIPLING *Light that failed* 136 Men.. who've done their work in a well-warmed studio all their lives. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 5 May 4/7 The sturdy beggars.. who are just now making their annual exodus from well-warmed workhouses to a life of freedom on the road.

well-warranted, *ppl. a.* Authorized, guaranteed, or approved by good warrant.

1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* v. i. 254 You, my noble and well-warranted Cosen. 1644 MILTON *Judgm. Bucer* Postscr., A well-warranted rule. 1648 BP. HALL *Sel. Th.* lxxxi. 239 His well-warranted judgment. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Deronda* xxxvii, He was rather ashamed that Hans's hopes caused him uneasiness in spite of his well-warranted conviction that they would never be fulfilled.

well-washed, *ppl. a.*

1727-46 THOMSON *Summer* 384 Repeated this, till deep the well-wash'd fleece Has drunk the flood. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* 377 If a dilute solution of glycerin be mixed with well-washed yeast. 1900 H. LAWSON *On Track* 70 She wanted to make out she was nice, and wholesome, and well-washed, and particular.

'well-water, [WELL sb.¹ Cf. WFr. *welwetter*.]

Water issuing, or drawn, from a well or spring.

c1000 Sax. *Leechd.* i. 330 Seode pone his sceallan on yrnendum wylle wætere. c1205 LAY. 19792 We habbeoð þe ibroht.. cæld welle water. c1375 Sc. *Leg. Saints* vi. (Thomas) 94 Vith þat þat serwand mad hym zare.. þe velvatter for to byrynge. c1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* viii. 129 For meth.. A sester of vnscomed hony do In sestris vj of welle water cleer. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. xi. 45 They haue none other water to drinke then well water. 1630 BP. HALL *Occas. Medit.* li. 123 All experience teacheth vs that Well-waters arising from deepe springs, are hotter in Winter, then in Summer. 1745 P. THOMAS *Jrnl. Anson's Voy.* 164 Well-water is to be found at a small Depth almost in every Part of the Island. 1860 *Family Economist* 28 Apr. 271/1 Some of the well waters of London contain eighty grains of chalk in a gallon. 1911 MARY JOHNSTON *Long Roll* v. 49 Lifting the gourd of well water to his lips.

fig. c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 159 þe ter þet Mon wepð for laðe of þisse liue is inemned welle water, for he welleð of þe horte swa doð water of welle.

well-watered, *ppl. a.* [WELL adv. 28.]

Plentifully supplied or moistened with water.

c1450 Bk. *Curtasye* 438 in *Babees Bk.*, Litere.. Wele watered, I-wrythen, be craft y-trode. 1611 BIBLE *Gen.* xiii. 10 Lot.. beheld all the plaine of Iordane, that it was well watered euery where. 1621 [see SEATED ppl. a. 2]. 1784 COWPER *Task* i. 323 The Ouse, dividing the well-water'd land. 1867 MORRIS *Jason* III. 170 A plain well-watered, set with trees. 1919 *Q. Rev.* Apr. 347 The stirring population.. of well-wooded and well-watered Asturias and Galicia.

well-weaponed, *ppl. a.*

c1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2479 He.. bad him nimen him feres mide, Wel wopnede men. c1425 *Eng. Conq. Ireland* 8 Knyghtes and þe skyers well I-horsed and well y-wepened. c1450 *Robin Hood & Monk* viii. in Child *Ballads* III. 97/1 Take twelue of þi wyght zemen, Well weppynd, be þi side. 1586 J. HOOKER *Hist. Irel.* 162/2 in *Holinshead*, A thousand

well weaponed and appointed men. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* IV. 108 The foresaid Arch-Bishops.. attended with a numerous train of well-weaponed servants. 1670 MILTON *Hist. Brit.* II. 61 Thick unto the shoar stood several gross bands of men well weapn'd. 1917 KIPLING *Diversity of Creatures* 405 To the sound of trumpets shall their seed restore my Cities, Wealthy and well-weaponed.

well-wearing, *ppl. a.* [WEAR v.¹ 15.]

a1568 [see WEAR v.¹ 15]. 1803 SYD. SMITH *Wks.* (1859) I. 29/1 A man.. composed of those well-wearing materials, which adapt a person for situations where genius and refinement would only prove a source of misery and of error. 1824 MISS MITFORD *Village* I. 55 One is never thoroughly sociable with flowers till they are.. provided with decent, homely, well-wearing English names.

well-weaving, *vbl. sb.*

a1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. xxv. (1912) 310 The same disdainfull scorne, which Pallas shewed to poore Arachne, that durst contende with her for the prize of well weaving.

well-weighed, *ppl. a.*

1. Carefully estimated; duly pondered or considered.

1581 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 70 Liuely to expresse diuers passions, by the low and lofty sounde of the well-weyed silable. a1644 QUARLES *Sol. Recant.* vii. 34 The well-weigh'd works of the Almighty hand. 1649 MILTON *Eikon.* xxviii. 236 A deliberate and well-weighed Covnant. 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Chr. Mor.* III. xviii. (1716) 106 The well weighed thoughts of their Hearts. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* Ded. (e) 4 A well-weigh'd Judicious Poem. a1704 LOCKE *Cond. Underst.* §26 Well-weighed Reasons are to determine the Judgment. 1732 POPE *Ep. Bathurst* 229 To Worth or Want, well-weigh'd, be Bounty given. 1754 MISS BOOTHBY in *Life Johnson* (1805) 76 Not without deliberation and well-weighed choice. 1829 SOUTHEY *All for Love* IV. ix, Nor ever might light motive him From well-weigh'd purpose bend. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xiii. III. 278 The well weighed and prudent letter of William was read. 1883 R. B. SMITH *Ld. Lawrence* II. 556 In this document he had set forth, in well-weighed language, alike his methods and his motives.

† 2. Of persons: Displaying deliberate purpose and balanced judgement. *Obs.*

1701 COLLIER *M. Anton.* (1726) 135 He was a person modest, prudent, and well-weigh'd. 1709 STRYPE *Ann. Ref.* I. xlii. 428 This Bullinger was a right prudent, peaceable, well-weighed, and learned Man.

well-weighing, *vbl. sb.*

1657 RAWLEY *Resusc. Bacon* Life (c2), Which may be imputed.. to the well weighing of his Sentence, by the Scales, of Truth, and Reason. 1767 MANSFIELD in Burrow *Rep. Cases* (1776) IV. 2016 Barbut's Case.. was solemnly argued before and determined by Lord Talbot, on considering and well-weighing.. all the foreign Authorities.

well-weighing, *ppl. a.* Heavy.

1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* IV. iii. 203 Or whether he thinks it were not possible with well-weighing summes of gold to corrupt him to a reuolt.

well-whipped, *ppl. a.*

1738 POPE *Epil. Sat.* Dial. i. 70 All the well-whipt Cream of Courtly Sense. 1840 MARRYAT *Olla Podr.* (1849) 277 She spins round like a well-whipped top.

well-wigged, *ppl. a.*

1792 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) I. 11 The well-wigged justices. 1832 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Exerc.* (1842) II. 177 Our well-wigged ancestors.

† **well-will**, *v. Obs. rare. trans.* To wish (one) well, to regard with favour.

a1618 SYLVESTER *Maidens Blush* 688 Weening therefore these Augures all fulfill'd In Joseph now, him every one well-will'd. 1639 DU VERGER tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* 217 He.. is well-knownne in Court, and well willed by great Ones.

well-willed, *a. Obs. exc. Sc. and north.* [See WILLED a. 2.] Kindly or favourably disposed.

1398 TREvisa *Barth. De P.R.* xvii. clxxxv. (1495) 727 Of good men and well willed: dronkenesse makyth euyl men and wycked. c1412 HOCCEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 2186 Thogh I be nat wys, Wel-willed am I. 1484 RICH. III. in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. I. 166 Oure sayde soverayn Lord, as a wele-willed, diligent, and courageous Prince. 1530 PALSGR. 329/1 Wellwylled, *de bono volenté*. 1598 D. FERGUSON *Sc. Prov.* (S.T.S.) 82 Nothing is difficile to a well willit man. 1891 ATKINSON *Moorland Par.* 65 This was but one of the many exploits of a like nature achieved by this well-willed being. 1899 J. SPENCE *Sheld. Folk-lore* 212 The weel-willed man is the beggar's bridder.

b. Const. *to, unto; also to* (do something) or *that* (something be done).

1417 E.E. *Wills* (1882) 38 Y pray hem þat þey be well wyllet.. to here. c1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 295 And puf all he war not welwelligid þerto, yit he was compellid to drynk. c1465 *Eng. Chron.* (Camden 1856) 5 All the Cite was vnto thaym frendly and wellwillid. 1465 MARG. PASTON in *P. Lett.* II. 202 As for the woman that made the clayme, .. he ys wellwillyd that she shold be seyn to in the way of almys. c1473 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 27, I will be as wellwillid to doe things for your pleasure. 1477 *Rolls of Parl.* VI. 178/1 Wherunto the more partie of the inhabitants.. be right welwilled and agreeable. 1523 BERNERS *Froiss.* I. ccxi. 254 Certayne yonge knyghtes.. well wylled to do some dede of armes. 1871 W. ALEXANDER *Johnny Gibb* xxii. 163 But see sic a han'le as that state o' matters gies to them that's but owre weel-will't to be lords owre God's spiritual heritage.

'well-willer. Now rare. [See WILLER 1 and cf. GOODWILLER.] One who bears good will or wishes well (to another, to a cause, etc.); one who is disposed to be kind or friendly.

In very frequent use from 1450 to 1700. Since then largely superseded by WELL-WISHER.

1448 *Paston Lett.* I. 69 All hys mene, and all that ben hys wele wyllers. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* x. xxxi. 465 Wherefor he thoughte to slee hym and alle his wele wyllars in that cuntry. 1581 PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* (1586) II. 78 Those with whome we are conuersant, being rather well-willers, than true friendes. 1583 BABINGTON *Commandm.* (1590) 121 Is the diuell our friende or our foe, our welwiler or our enemy? a1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. x. (1912) I. 209 No man durst shew himself a well-willer of mine. 1604 T. WRIGHT *Passions* v. iv. 242 We may have many well-willers, but very few speciall friends: well-willers be general friends. 1659 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) IV. 148, I feare our inland friends will not be sufficient, vnlesse our well-willers abroad clubb to y^e reckoninge. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* VI. 61 Every body and every-thing had a black and a white side, as ill-willers and well-willers were pleased to report. 1826 HOR. SMITH *Tor Hill* (1838) II. 101 Evi befall the foul fiend and all his well-willers. 1875 MORRIS *Æneids* vi. 280 And those Well-willers' iron beds [ferreique Eumenidum thalami]. 1908 HARDY *Dynasts* III. After Scene 351 The Well-willer, the kindly Might That balances the Vast for weal.

b. Const. *of, to (unto, Sc. till).*

1463 *Irish Acts* 3 Edw. IV c. 68 Gouuernyng.. by theim that ben welwillers to the Kyng. c1477 CAXTON *Jason* 78 b, Som of the welwillars of the king apollo. a1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* i. (Arb.) 82 They.. scornfullie mocke his worde, and also spitefullie hate and hurte all well willers thereof. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxxii. §14 If now the Communion booke make for them too.. it may be hoped that being found such a welwiler vnto their cause, they will more fauour it then they haue done. 1634 PEACHAM *Compl. Gentl.* v. (1906) 38 Give mee leave.. as a well-willer unto you and your studies, to beare you company part of the way. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 67 Lovers and Well-willers of Art. 1698 F. B. *Free but Modest Censure* 4 A friend and well-willer to that Cause. 1871 W. ALEXANDER *Johnny Gibb* xxxvi. 253 Ye ken brawly that I never was a weel-wuller till gyaun awa' fae the Pairis' Kirk. 1874 SWINBURNE *Bohtw.* i. i. (1882) 6 Men Who are well-willers to this common state.

† c. One who is addicted or devoted to a study (esp. astrology). *Obs.*

1634 HEYWOOD & BROME *Lanc. Witches* v. L2, Though he be no witch, he is a wel-willer to the infernal science. 1653 W. RAMESY *Astrol. Restored* 18 For the satisfaction of the well-willers to Astrology. 1654 CLEVELAND *Char. Diurnal-maker* 5 He is the first tincture and rudiment of a Writer, dip't as yet in the preparative blew, like an Almanack well-willer. 1664 BUTLER *Hud.* II. iii. 240 [He] with the Moon was more familiar Than c'er was Almanack well-willer. 1668 DRYDEN *Dram. Poesy* 4 One that is so much a well-willer to the Satire, that he spares no man. 1671 BLAGRAVE *Astrol. Pract. Physick* 188 To all such who are Students, and well-Willers unto this most excellent Science of Astrology. a1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) II. 185 A Virtuoso is a Well-willer to the Mathematics. 1686 GOAD *Celest. Bodies* II. vii. 245 To us Well-Willers nothing can be plainer, than that Comets are Flammeous, or Lucid Expirations.

† **'well-willing**, *vbl. sb. Obs.*

1. The act of wishing well (to another); good will, favour, kindly regard.

a1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* cxlvi. 12 Wellwyllynge is til lord on dredand him [Beneplacitum est domino super timentes eum]. c1450 *Merlin* xxvii. 505 Better he cowde enforme hem of youre volunte, for he is with hem a-queynted and theire welwillinge. 1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* xviii. 67 By thy well wyllynge, and by the yeftes & alle other thynges that I haue doon vnto the. 1583 MELBANCKE *Philotimus* CcJ, In those daies I wearied thee with my welwilling and yet I am not tired to procure thy welfare. 1640 tr. *Verdere's Rom. of Rom.* II. xx. 75 It begot a well willing in her towards him. a1708 BEVERIDGE *Thes. Theol.* (1710) I. 30 Benevolence, or Well-willing, to the Object beloved.

2. (One's) good pleasure; what it seems good to a person to do, intend, or allow.

a1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* cxl. 7 My prayere in paire welwyllyngis [oracio mea in beneplacitis eorum]. c1449 PECCOCK *Repr.* IV. iv. 439 This was doon.. bi Goddis welwilling that it schulde be doon. c1450 tr. *De Imitatione* II. ix. 50 He chose þe welwilling of god [divinum beneplacitum] before mannys solace. *Ibid.* III. iv. 132 Do wiþ me þi desired welwilling [desideratum beneplacitum tuum].

3. Right or virtuous intention; willing what is good.

a1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xvii. 27 Eftere my rightwisnes.. That is eftere my welwillinge þat is in my saule. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 355 Pes to the men of welwillinge In erthe be among ous here [Lk. II. 14]. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxxxi. §12 Simplicie to will proceedeth from nature, but our welwilling is from grace.

'well-willing, *a. (and sb.)* Now rare or dial. [Cf. Du. *welwillend*.]

A. *adj. a.* Wishing well to another; disposed to be kind or friendly; benevolent, propitious; loyal, well-affected.

c1000 *Rule of Chrodegang* viii, Ne beon hig modige.. ac.. welwyllynde, & mildheorte. c1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* xxvi. 59 þæt he hræde dæde pearfum and wærdum mid wellwendum mode. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* v. 41 How that he fand nane weill willand, Bot all war fais that euir he fand. c1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 214 This fowle is sacred unto Jupiter, The lord of briddis in the highe heven, Wele wyllyng planete beholding from so ferre. 1448 HEN. VI *Will* in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 379, I.. pray my said heirs.. that they shewe them self welwilling feithful and tender lovers of my desire in this behalf. a1533 FRITH *Disput. Purgat.* i. D iij b, Goddes law requyareth a thyng to be done wyth a well wyllynge harte. 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* Ep. Ded. Aij b, The louyng and well wyllyng subiectes. a1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 120 His folkis.. was nocht so weil willing as he requyred. 1597 J. MELVILL *Autob. & Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 410 They cam in a loving and weil-willing maner to inquire. 1611 COTGR., *Bienveillant*, well-willing, favourable. 1931 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 20 Aug. 631/1 Not even the most well-willing of critics can escape from its two main flaws.

absol. c897 ÆLFRED Gregory's *Past.* C. xxxiv. 229 Ða welwillendan [L. *benevoli*]. 1569 Reg. Privy Council Scot. I. 677 That the weil willing may be rememberit, and the obstinat constrict to their dewitie.

b. Const. *to, towards, unto.*

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 18 It semeth love is welwillende To hem that [etc.]. c1440 Generydes 964 To ther desire the kyng was welwilling. 1461 Paston Lett. (1904) IV. 14, I knew . . . not whedyr they wer well wyllyng to yow or not. 1549 J. OLD *Eras.* Par., *Ephes.* Prol. Dij, Sondry other curates & ministres. . . are honest and diligently well wyllyng towards the trueth. 1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Fam. Love* 50b, Those which stand welwilling vnto his instructions. 1598 R. BERNARD Terence, *Hecyra* v. 1. (1607) 338 Your speach hath made mee fauorable and welwilling towards you now. 1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* Transl. to Reader, Through the persuasions of diuers well-willing Dutchmen to the English natione. 1888 STEVENSON *Black Arrow* Prol. 20 He was one of those who are . . . ruggedly faithful and well-willing to their friends.

c. Ready or desirous *to* (do something).

c1440 Generydes 2181 To wayte on hym there were [they] well wyllyng. 1585 Burgh Rec. *Edin.* (1882) IV. 437 Sic persouns. . . as ar knawin to be. . . maist cairfull and weil willing to seik the saiftie and preseruation of the same.

† **B. sb.** One who is well disposed to another; a (person's) well-wisher or friend. *Obs.*

In pl., either unaltered or with *s*.

c1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 8948 He spak so wyþ þe kyng of þat land, þat he was his wel willand Vpon Breteigne a route to reuge. 1340 *Ayenb.* 112 þe echedayes dol pet god yefþ to his wel wilynde. c1375 Lay-Folks *Mass Bk.* (MS. B.) 368 Oure sib men and oure welwillandes. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 299 If that thou wistest al, What Cheste doth in special To love and to his welwillinge. 1423 in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 1430, 30/2 Til al lordis our frenddis and wele willand effectusly we praye. c1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* vii. ix. 3048 Oþir gudis. . . þat langit til hym or til his men, Or til his weil willandis þen. c1450 *Godstow Reg.* 12 To aloure frendes, and wel wyllynges. 1463 Paston Lett. II. 138 Wretyn. . . Be your welwilland, Abbot of Langeleye.

Hence † well-willingness.

c1000 ÆLFRED *Saints' Lives* xxxi. 44 Embe his efencempan he hæfde welwillendnyse and miccle lufe. a1390 Wyclif *Bible, Eccles.* Prol., I monest þou to comen with wel willingness [Vulg. *cum benevolentia*].

well-willy, a. *Obs. exc. dial.* [See WILLY *a.* Cf. Sw. *välvillig*, Da. *velvillig*.] Full of good will, benevolent, well-disposed, generous; = GOODWILLY *a.*

c1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* III. 1257 Venus mene I, þe wel willy planete. c1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* iii. (Andrew) 807 Al þai þat vele willy was to þe apostil. c1402 LYDG. *Compl. Bl. Knt.* 627 Al fairè lady! welwilly founde at al. c1425 *St. Mary of Oignies* II. iii. in *Anglia* VIII. 158 Pees in londe to men þat are wele willy. c1449 PECOCK *Repr.* v. vii. 522 Wherefore ther mai not so greet a multitude be weel willi to religioun, if [etc.]. 1808 JAMIESON, *Weill-willie, Weill-willit*, Liberal, not niggardly. 1881 *Leic. Gloss.*, *Weill-willing*, and *Weill-willy*, favourable to; having a kindly feeling towards; bearing good will towards.

well-winded, a. Sound or strong of wind.

14. . in *Harrow. Hell* Introd. p. xxv, The horss hath xxv properties. . . After this asse, well-mouthid, well-wyndyd.

well-windowed, a.

1845 [see WELL-ROOFED].

well-winged, a.

1613-16 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* I. iv. 66 He past them o'er, quick, as. . . well-wing'd Shaft forth of a Parthian bowe. 1619 DRAYTON *Bar. Wars* II. xxxvi. 23 Those well-wing'd Weapons. . . Slip'd from the Bow-string, impotent and slacke. 1649 [see CANCELEER *sb.* b].

well-winnowed, ppl. a.

1685 DRYDEN *Threnod. August.* xiii. 375 A plenteous Crop . . . Of pure and well winow'd Grain. 1827 LYTTON *Pelham* II, Seldom seen at large assemblies, she was eagerly sought after in the well-winnowed soirées of the elect.

well-wired, a.

1825 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Man of Many Fr.* (Colburn) 117 Artificial flowers were taught to twine round mock marble columns, and fragrant lights to spring spontaneously from well-wired boughs of trees.

well-wish, sb. Now *rare*. An act of wishing well to another; a good wish. Const. *to, for.*

1621 LADY M. WROTH *Urania* 435 If. . . these speeches haue proceeded only from your well-wishes to mee, I must be sorry for them. 1623 BP. HALL *Best Bargaine* Wks. (1625) 518 Our zealous well-wishes. . . for the vndoubted truth of our Maker and Redeemer. 1643 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* II. §13 If this be true, I must confesse I am charitable only in my liberral intentions, and bountifull well-wishes. 1654 J. SHERMAN (*title*) *White Salt*: or, A Sober Correction of A Mad World, In some Wel-wishes to Goodness. 1708 ADDISON *Pres. St. War* 8 Any one that hath. . . a well Wish for his Friends or Posterity. 1709 HEARNE *Collect.* (O.H.S.) II. 288 Sends hearty wellwishes to Barnes'. . . design. 1816 KEATS *Lett.* Wks. 1889 III. 46 You know with what Reverence I would send my Well-wishes to him. 1872 MICHIE *Deaside Tales* xiv. (1908) 138 The bridegroom. . . got presents o' corn an' i' ther gear in token o' their well wishes. 1889 *Hardwicke's Sci.-Gossip* XXV. 226 Testifying their thanks and well-wishes to the captain and steward. 1908 *Westm. Gaz.* 5 June 2/2 The exhibition has received the well wishes of the Archbishop of Canterbury.

† **well-wish, v.** *Obs. intr.* To wish well unto (another).

1586 A. DAY *Engl. Secretorie* I. (1625) 14 Thinke how exceedingly I have always well-wished unto you.

† **well-wished, ppl. a.** *Obs.* Attended by good wishes.

1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* II. iv. 27 Euen so The generall subiect to a wel-wisht King Quit their owne part, and in obsequious fondnesse Crowd to his presence.

'well'-wisher. One who wishes well to another, a cause, etc. Const. *to, of, or with* possessive.

1590 *Tarlton's Neues Purgatorie* 1 Amongst the rest of whose welwishers my selfe being not the least. 1639 G. PLATTES *Discov. Subterr. Treas.* To Rdr., So I take my leave and rest, Your hearty Well-wisher. G. P. 1670 EACHARD *Cont. Clergy* 8 All well-wishers either to the clergy or learning. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 10 ¶7, I know several of my Friends and Well-wishers are in great Pain for me. 1772 *Phil. Trans.* LXII. 356, I am. . . a constant well-wisher to the progress of arts and sciences. 1780 *Mirror* No. 82 Yet the tale has a moral, by no means flattering to the well-wishers of this country. 1788 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 24 July, He seemed to feel that he spoke to a safe and a sympathising well-wisher. 1836 C. WORDSWORTH *Athens* xi. (1855) 66 Some wise well-wisher to the Areopagus. 1849 C. BRONTE *Shirley* i, It would be a nice opportunity for any of his well-wishers to pay him a visit. 1905 *Times* 10 May 10 Those who are not well-wishers of either country.

† **b.** One who aspires to (be or become). *Obs.* 1710-11 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 7 Mar., The latter has a good deal of learning, and he is a well-wisher to be an author.

well-wishing, vbl. sb. The action of wishing well to another; also, an expression of good wishes.

1569 ELVIDEN *Closet of Counsels* (1573) Ep. Ded., Wherefore. . . I haue beene bolde to offer you this same, as a token of my well wishing. 1586 A. DAY *Eng. Secretorie* I. (1625) 14 Not forgetting our accustomed greetings and interchangeable wel-wishings. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 29 Hee who knowes so to live with Italians. . . as he can gain their well-wishing. a1672 WILKINS *Nat. Relig.* 326 Religion. . . will teach them. . . to be generous and large in their well-wishing and their well-doing. 1909 J. R. HARRIS *Side-Lights N. T. Research* II. 78 There is much hand-shaking and well-wishing. 1911 CRAIK *Clarendon* xxi. II. 190 Some one, 'who was believed to wish well to the King'—with that sort of well-wishing which characterized the time-serving of Bennet and his confederates.

well-wishing, ppl. a. That wishes well to others, benevolent; †loyal. Also *transf.*

1597 C. MIDDLETON *Chinen of Engl.* iii. (1925) 20 Flying with the fauorable fortune of well wishing windes. 1623 T. SCOT (*title*) An experimentall Discoverie of Spanish Practises or the Covnsell of a well-wishing Souldier. 1768-74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 279 Thy candid well-wishing eye. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xvii, And glass after glass they did drink in all sorts and shapes of well-wishing toasts. 1896 BLACK *Briseis* xviii. 229 Marked by a perfect self-possession—a self-possession sweet and serene and well-wishing.

† **well'-witted, a.** *Obs.* Gifted with good wits.

c1450 METHAM *Wks.* 147 He that ys born that day schuld be trwe and wele-wyttid. 1476 Paston Lett. III. 156 Thys man is. . . well wittid, well manerd. 1529 *Commons' Petition* in Froude *Hist. Eng.* I. 198 Such subtle interrogatories. . . as are able quickly to trap a simple unlearned, or yet a well-witted layman without learning. 1552 HULOET, Able to receyue, or well wytted, *capax*.

well-won, ppl. a. Gained by hard or honourable effort.

1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* I. iii. 51 (Qq.) My well-won [Ff. -worne] thrift Which he calls interest. 1786 BURNS *To Auld Mare* iv, Tho' it was sma', 'twas weel-won gear. 1791 — *To R. G. of F.* 43 His well-won bays, than life itself more dear. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xxxix, I. . . will not lose weel-won gear with the like of him if it may be helped. 1842 J. AITON *Domest. Econ.* (1857) 59 A well-won penny is worth an ill-won pound. 1879 R. LOWE in *19th Cent.* June 992 The great and well-won reputation of Mr. Wallace as a scientific observer.

well-wooded, a. Covered with growing trees.

a1550 LELAND *Itin.* (1764) III. 28 The Soile. . . very good, and enclosid, and metely wel woddid. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* I. xi. (1824) 248 This pretty well-wooded and well-watered estate. 1780 COXE *Russ. Discov.* 211 Well-wooded mountains. 1885 E. P. WARREN & CLEVERLY *Wanderings 'Beetle'* 120 Past long well-wooded islands. 1914 D. MACMILLAN *Robert Flint* v. 111 The land is fertile and well-wooded.

well'-wooing, ppl. a.

1818 KEATS *Endym.* I. 101 Rain-scented eglantine Gave temperate sweets to that well-wooing sun.

† **well-woolled, a.** *Obs.* Having a thick or rich fleece.

1611 COTGR., *Mouton à la grande laine*, a Sheepe well-woolled, of great burthen. 1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 13 A score of large and well-woolled weathers.

† **well-word, v.** *Obs. trans.* To eulogize.

1605 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Humours Heaven* 19 The other twaine. . . Whiles he was speaking, his speech seem'd to praise, . . . And now, by word, well-word they what he saies.

well'-worded, a. Couched in proper terms.

1656 COWLEY *Pindar. Odes, The Muse* i, Figures, Conceits, Raptures, and Sentences In a well-worded dress. 1841 LONGF. *Childr. Lord's Supper* 87 The fathers and mothers Stood behind them in tears, and were glad at the well-worded answer. 1865 PUSEY *Truth Eng. Ch.* 127 Yet even from Italy came a distinct, well-worded objection from the Bishop of Mondovi. 1907 J. H. MCCARTHY *Needles & Pins* x, I thought that some at least of what I said was rather well-worded.

well-worked, ppl. a. *a.* Thoroughly operated. *b.* Skilfully wrought.

1801 *Farmer's Mag.* Jan. 43 On very middling soils. . . thirty bushels an acre is considered as only a decent crop, after tolerably well-worked fallow. 1865 LUBBOCK *Preh. Times* 195 The well-worked implements of the tumuli.

† **well'-worker.** *Obs.* One who does good.

c1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* CXXV. iv, As the well-workers, soe the right beleevers, Lord favour further.

well'-working, vbl. sb. † *a.* Doing good, well-doing. *Obs. b.* Skilful fashioning or forging. *c.* Successful activity or operation.

1611 *Norton's Calvin's Inst.* Table of Contents Xxx i b, Against all them which say that if this doctrine [of Predestination] take place, all endeouour of well working decayeth. 1691 T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* 79 According to the goodness and well working of the Iron, some prove of longer durance than other. 1879 SPENCER *Data of Ethics* vi. §34. 84 The well-working [of pleasure and pain] in essential matters is ignored; and the ill-working in unessential matters is alone recognized.

† **well'-working, ppl. a.** *Obs.* That does good, virtuous.

a900 ÆLFRED *Blooms* I. in Cockayne *Shrine* (1864) 169 Ic þe halsie, þu arfesta, wel wilende & wel wyrcente drihten. c1460 Towneley *Myst.* iii. 120 Thou was alway wel wirkand, to me trew as stele.

well-worn, ppl. a.

1. Much worn or used; *fig.* trite, hackneyed. 1621 T. WILLIAMSON tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* 53 It is a well worn saying, That [etc.]. 1786 BURNS *Tam Samson* Epit., Tam Samson's weel-worn clay here lies. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xii, The old man was seated by the fire with his well-worn pocket Bible in his hands. 1842 TENNYSON *Gard. Dau.* 108 A well-worn pathway. 1849 SIR F. B. HEAD *Stokers & Pokers* iii. 39 That variety of free and easy well-worn costumes in which quiet-minded people usually travel. 1858 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* liv. (1863) VI. 411 The mind of the educated classes still flowed freely enough in the well-worn channels of literature. 1905 'G. THORNE' *Lost Cause* v, It is a trite and well-worn aphorism that no event is trivial.

2. Becomingly carried or displayed.

1814 BYRON *Lara* I. xxvii, To whom he showed nor deference nor disdain, But that well-worn reserve which proved he knew No sympathy with that familiar crew.

well(-)'worthy, a. Worthy in a high degree.

1597 MARKHAM *Devoreux* 35 b, Thou liuely worke of her great excellence, Wel-worthy Matter for her powre to frame. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gi. Brit.* ix. ix. §91 Behold here good people, my Sonne Edmund. . . how comely and well worthy he is of all your fauors. 1784 COWPER *Tiroc.* 918 Unless the world were all prepar'd t'embrace A plan well worthy to supply their place. 1796 *Seward's Anecdotes* III. 145 The Admiral [Coligny] approaching the Emperor with a reverence well-worthy of the greatness of the Prince. . . said [etc.].

wellwott, obs. Sc. form of VELVET.

† **well'-woulder.** *Obs. nonce-wd.* A conditional or would-be well-willer.

1643 *Plain English* 28 These are well-woulders to the Parliament and Kingdome.

† **well-wove, ppl. a.** *Obs.* = next.

c1710 CONGREVE tr. *Ovid Wks.* 1730 III. 305 The well-wove Tours they wear, their own are thought; But only are their own, as what they've bought.

well'-woven, ppl. a. *lit.* and *fig.*

1591-5 SPENSER *Astrophel* 97 There his welwouen toyles and subtil traines He laid, the brutish nation to enwrap. 1663 SOUTH *Serm.* (1727) V. 206 No such Instrument to carry on a refined, and well-woven Rebellion, as a tender Conscience, and a sturdy Heart. 1671 MILTON *P.R.* I. 97 Not force, but well coueh't fraud, well woven snares. 1768-74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 279 When thy well-woven bands unite societies. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* xviii. 741 Ev'ry maiden neat-attir'd In finest linen, and the youths in vests Well-woven. 1883 WHITELAW *Sophocles, Trachin.* 602 This well-woven robe. 1887 MORRIS *Odys.* v. 58 The Nymph. . . of the hair well-woven.

well-wreathed, ppl. a. Skilfully twisted.

1615 CHAPMAN *Odys.* II. 609 They. . . with well-wreath'd halsers hoise Their white sails. *Ibid.* xxi. 543 As one. . . doth. . . In tuning of his Instrument. . . lend To euery wel-wreath'd string, his perfect sound.

† **well'-writing, vbl. sb.** *Obs.*

1668 DRYDEN *Dram. Poesie* 33 All passions may be lively represented on the Stage, if to the well-writing of them the Actor supplies a good commanded voice.

well'-written, ppl. a.

1598 BARNFIELD *Poems* (Arb.) 119 Drayton, whose well-written Tragedies, And sweete Epistles, soare thy fame to skies. 1776 BURNAY *Hist. Mus.* I. 171 A well-written and well-set scene of recitative. 1779 *Mirror* No. 36 A well-written preface. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* xi. vi. (Ruldg.) 405 This well-written statement. 1911 G. B. SHAW *Blanco Posnet* Pref. 360 An able and well-written statement of the case.

well-wrought, ppl. a.

1. Well made or fashioned, skilfully constructed or put together: *a.* of material things.

1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 341 To Westmynster þei hym brouht, Biside his fadere is laid in a tounbe wele wrouht. ? a1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 1024 Hir nose, hir mouth, and eyhe and cheke Wel wrought [bien fait]. c1400 *Destr. Troy* 1739 We haue a Cite. . . Well wrought for the

werre, wallie full high. **1538** ELYOT *Dict. Add.*, *Adfabrum*, well wrought. **c1611** CHAPMAN *Iliad* xi. 202 Yet pierc't it not his well-wrought zone. **1640** HABINGTON *Castara* iii. (Arb.) 120 And so I in thy favour dye, No memorie For me a well-wrought tombe prepare. **1723** MANDEVILLE *Fable Bees* (ed. 2) i. 185 From Caves... we are come to warm and well-wrought Houses. **1732** POPE *Ess. Man* ii. 208 Tho' each by turns, the other's bound invade, As, in some well-wrought picture, light and shade. **1864** EARL DERBY *Iliad* v. 22 Idæus from the well-wrought chariot sprang.

b. of immaterial things, esp. literary or musical composition. Also with *out*.

c1460 Towneley *Myst.* xvi. 370 This is well wrought ere that euer may be. **1668** DRYDEN *Dram. Poesie* 20 The Plots of their Plays being narrow, and the persons few, one of their Acts was written in a less compass then one of our well wrought Scenes. **1711** STEELE *Spect.* No. 11 ¶4 In Answer to your well-wrought Tale, I will give you... the History of Inkle and Yarico. **1849** HELPS *Friends in C.* ii. i. (1854) i. 269 A store of goodly thoughts in well-wrought words. **1876** *Mus. Times* 1 June 492/1 Concluding his performance with a well-wrought-out fugue on this subject.

†2. Of ale: Thoroughly 'worked' or fermented.

1694 SALMON *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 26/1 Put them in new well-wrought Beer or Ale.

†3. Of a convert: Fully persuaded. *Obs.*

1684 I. MATHER *Rec. Illustr. Provid.* ix. 291 He is... judged to be a well wrought Convert and real Christian.

welly ('welɪ), *adv. dial.* [Colloquial reduction of WELL-NIGH.] Well-nigh, almost, nearly.

1615 W. GODDARD *Neaste of Waspes* No. 81 Shee screakes, cryes shees soe full, she burst-shall wellie. *Ibid.* No. 82 Shee scarce gone, hir back not turned wellie. **1641** BROME *Jovial Crew* iii. (1652) G4, Your Worships Charity to a poore Crytur welly starv'd. **1649** *Man in the Moon* No. 30. 235 Our long night of sorrow is now welly past over. **1717** *Obliging Husband* 10 You've welly gally'd me with ta'king on't. **c1746** J. COLLIER (Tim Bobbin) *View Lancs. Dial.* Wks. (1862) 40 Beleemy, Tummus, I welly lost my wynt. **1855** MRS. GASKELL *North & S.* xvii, A pack of spiritless, down-trodden men; welly ellemmed to death. **1859** GEO. ELIOT *Adam Bede* lii, I should ha' been sure of her then, as she wouldn't go away from me to Snowfield, welly thirty mile off.

welly ('welɪ), *sb.* Also wellie. Abbrev. of WELLINGTON 2 b. a. *colloq.* A wellington boot. Also *Comb.*, as *welly-boot*.

1961 *Guardian* 2 June 9/5 The ground floor we converted back into a hall, for coats and wellies, etc. **1971** J. OSBORNE *West of Suez* 1. 42 Huge surgeons who tower over you in green and rubber wellies. **1972** D. HASTON *In High Places* i. 15 We only have welly boots and gym-shoes. **1976** *Printing World* 30 Apr. 8/2 Wellington, who, as we all know, has a boot named after him... The influence of the child is apparent today as I gather it is now widely known as a 'wellie'. **1982** S. RADLEY *Talent for Destruction* iii. 20 Perhaps it wasn't done for a parson to wear welly boots under his cassock.

b. *slang.* A kick, acceleration. Also *fig.*

1977 *Daily Mirror* 10 May 23/1 The girl they call 'Daredevil Divi' gave the car a bit more wellie. In racing language, this meant she was stepping on the accelerator. **1979** *Guardian* 12 Feb. 20/3 The tactic most likely to succeed in the conditions was the long welly upfield. **1983** D. GETHIN *Wyatt & Moresby Legacy* xxv. 174 'When I say go, give it some welly... Go'... Explosions sounded.

Hence welly v. *trans.*, to kick or trip up with one's foot. *slang.*

1966 F. SHAW et al. *Lern Yerself Scouse* 48 *Eee wuz wellied*, he was kicked. **1980** D. MORRIS *Tribal Words* (typescript), *Wellied*, heavily tackled and brought down. To *welly* is to make a savage tackle, boot-first... 'He must expect to be wellied a few times' is a typical expression.

welm(e, var. ff. WALM *sb.*, v. and WHELM v.

†**welmish**, a. *Obs. rare.* Also 7 *whelmish*. [Origin obscure. Cf. QUALM *sb.*³] Of colour: Pale, sickly (?).

1688 HOLME *Armoury* i. 13/1 Sky colour, or a light welmish Blew. *Ibid.* ii. 23/2 If it [the rainbow] consist all of Yellow, this is palish; if white, its defiled, or *whelmish*. *Ibid.* iii. 147/1 Green Verditer, a Welmish or Willow green.

welmost(e, var. forms of WELLMOST *adv.*

welogh, obs. form of WILLOW *sb.*

welonye, obs. form of VILLAINY.

welp, obs. form of WHELP.

wels (wels, vels). [a. Ger. *wels*.] = SHEAT-FISH.

1880 A. C. L. G. GÜNTHER *Introd. Study of Fishes* 565 The species which has given the name to the whole family is the 'Wels' of the Germans, *Silurus glanis*. **1905** D. S. JORDAN *Guide to Study of Fishes* II. ix. 182 The huge sheatfish, or wels, next to the sturgeon, is the largest river fish in Europe. **1931** J. R. NORMAN *Hist. Fishes* vii. 138 The Wels or Glanis... of Europe normally feeds on fishes, frogs, and crustaceans. **1969** A. WHEELER *Fishes Brit. Isles & N.W. Europe* 221/2 Wels have been introduced in a number of private lakes in southern England.

Welsbach ('vɛlzbax). The name of Carl Auer Freiherr von *Welsbach* (1858-1929), Austrian chemist and engineer, used *attrib.* to designate the gas mantle (MANTLE *sb.* 5g), invented by him, and the lamps employing it.

A proprietary name in the U.S.

1887 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 18 Mar. 12/1 The Welsbach burner would produce a purer light... with two cubic feet of gas per hour. **1901** *Daily Colonist* (Victoria, B.C.) 1 Oct. 5/4 The Victoria Gas Co., Ltd., are now installing complete

Welsbach Lamps free of cost, charging the nominal sum of 5 cents per lamp per month for mantle renewal. **1912** A. BENNETT *Matador* 308 The Welsbach incandescent mantles on the chandelier saved thirty per cent in gas-bills while increasing the light by fifty per cent. **1964** *Official Gaz.* (U.S. Patent Office) 21 July TM 119/2 The Welsbach Corporation, Philadelphia, Pa... *Welsbach*. For gas lamps... and gas mantles. **1980** *Sci. Amer.* May 123/2 The Welsbach mantle, a type of gas burner widely used for home lighting around the turn of the century, proved to be a rich source of N rays.

Welsh (welʃ), a. and sb. Forms: a. 1 Wilisc, Wilsce, 1-2 Wylisc, 2 Wylsc. β. 1 Uuelesc, 1-3 Welisc, 4-5 Welische (Welisse); 2-3 Welsce, 4 Welsce, 6 Welshe (7 Welse), 6-9 Welch, 6-Welsh. γ. 1-2 Wælisc, 3 Walisc, 4 Walish, Walysch, 5 Walische, Walysse, Wallish, Wallych, 6 Walyssh; 2 Wælsce, 3 Wailsc, 3-4 Wals, 4-5 Walsch(e, Walssh, 4-6 Walshe (6 Walche), 5 Walshe, 6-7 Walsh. [OE. (West Saxon) *Wilisc*, *Wylisc*, (Anglian and Kentish) *Welisc*, *Wælisc*, f. *Wealh*, *Walh*, Celt, Briton, = OHG. *Walh*, *Walah* (MHG. *Walch*, G. *Wahle*) Celt, Roman, etc., ON. **Valr* (pl. *Valir*, Gauls, Frenchmen): see etym. note to WALNUT, and cf. WALACH and VLACH. To the English adj. correspond OHG. *wal(a)hisc*, *waleisc* (MHG. *walh*-, *wälhisch*, *walsch*, etc., G. *wälsch*, *welisch*), Roman, Italian, French, Du. *waalsch* Walloon, ON. *valskr* Gaulish, French (MSw. *valskr*; Sw. *välsk*, Da. *vælsk* Italian, French, southern); cf. the note to WALSHNUT.

In OE. the final h of the stem normally disappeared before the adjectival ending. The West Saxon type **Wielisc* (from *Wealh*) did not survive beyond the OE. period; the two Anglian and Kentish types (from *Walh*) existed concurrently till the 16th cent., after which *Welsh* became the sole form in general use, *Walsh* remaining only as a surname. (The AF. *Waleis*, which is rarely employed in ME., also survives in the surname *Wallace*.)

The spelling *Welch* is retained in the title of the Royal Welch Fusiliers.]

A. *adj.*

1. Of persons: a. Originally: belonging to the native British population of England in contrast to the Anglo-Saxons. *Obs. exc. Hist.* b. In later use: belonging to Wales by birth and descent; forming (part of) the native population of Wales.

a. **688-695** *Laws Ine* §32 Be Wilisces monnes lond-hæfene. 3if Wilisc mon hæbbe hide londes [etc.]. **c1000** *Ags. Laws, Dunsetas* §3, 2, xii lahamen scylon riht tæcean Wealan & Englan: vi Englice & vi Wylisce. **c1100** O.E. *Chron.* (MS. D.) an. 1052 Griffin se Wylisca cing. *Ibid.* (MS. C.) an. 1055 Tremerig se Wylsca biscop. *Ibid.* (Laud MS.) an. 1097 Ða Wylisce menn syððon hi fram pan cyngre gebugon.

β. **c1100** O.E. *Chron.* (MS. C.) an. 1052 Eac man sloh Hris pæs Welscan cynges broþer. **c1205** LAY. 31632 þa iwarð abolgen a Welisc king in þe hepe. **1360-1** *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 562 Cuidam Welsharpour d'ni Will' de Dalton, 3s. 4d. **1513** *Life Hen. V* (1911) 10 And this sufficeth of the Welsh conspiracies and batailles. **1598** SHAKS. *Merry W.* ii. i. 209 Sir, there is a fray to be fought, betweene Sir Hugh the Welch Priest, and Caius the French Doctor. **1628** *Mad Pranks Robin Goodfellow* (Percy Soc.) 9 As infamous as a Welch-harper that plays for cheese and onions. **1647** CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* vi. §135 Here a Welsh regiment of the King's... assaulted the works. **1796** MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 147 Henry I of England, planted a colony of Flemings on the frontiers of Wales, none of the Welsh princes being powerful enough to oppose them. **1836** SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) IV. 475 Here I have found out who the Welsh attorney was who [etc.]. **1862** BORROW *Wales* xlix, Why, you told me you were of Welsh parents. **1905** 'G. THORNE' *Lost Cause* x, The sly Welsh girl was indubitably awed.

γ. **c1100** O.E. *Chron.* (MS. D.) an. 1050 Mid Gryfines fultume pæs Welscan cynges. **1338** R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1725) 241 Had þei had a spie among þe Walssh oste... þei had bien men lyuand, þat þe to dede went. ? **a1400** *Morte Arth.* 320 'Al! Al!' sais the Walsche kyng 'wirchipid be Cristel' **c1420** *Contin. Brut* 368 þere was a man þat was clepid 'þe walsch clerke', and apelyd a kniȝt... of treson. **1470-85** MALORY *Arthur* xviii. xxiii. 767 And there with al he aspyed a walysshe knyghte where he was to repose him. [a1577] SIR T. SMITH *Commonw. Eng.* i. xiii. (1583) 15 To defende themselves yet from them which were walsh and strangers, [they] agreed... to consult in common.]

2. a. Of things: Of or pertaining to Wales or its inhabitants, for to the British race in Anglo-Saxon times.

In OE. the wider sense of 'foreign' appears also to have been current, but clear instances are rare.

688-95 *Laws Ine* §46. 1 Gif hit ðonne bið Wilisc onstal, ne bið se að na ðy mara. *Ibid.* §70, xii ambra Wylisc ealað. **805-10** in Birch *Cantab. Sax.* i. 459 Selle mon... xxx. ombrā godes uuelesces aloð. **a1122** O.E. *Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 852 Wulfred scolde gifen... twa tunnan fulle hlutres aloð... & ten mittan Wælscas aloð. **c1205** LAY. 13021 Vortiger hafde Walisc [c1275] Wals lond. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) App. G. 146 Fram þe walsche se ywis, Fram seint dauid to þe see. **1300-1400** R. Gloucester's *Chron.* (Rolls) App. XX. 591 Edward his sone... þat of þe welische londe claniche al out I wan þe seignorie. **1532** *Prayer & Compl. Plowman* Fj, They haue enclosed it [God's leasow]... so hygh, there may no shepe come there within, but yef it be a walyssh lepre [= leaper] of the mountaynes. **1555** L. SAUNDERS in Coverdale

Lett. Martyrs (1564) 188 Not in hope of rebellion or fulfilling vnprofitable, yea pestilent welshe prophecies. **1599** SHAKS. *Hen. V.* iv. vii. 112 All the water in Wye, cannot wash your Maiesties Welsh blood out of your pody. *Ibid.* v. i. 83 Henceforth let a Welsh correction, teach you a good English condition. **1612** SELDEN *Illustr. Drayton's Poly-olb.* ix. 390 In the Welsh Proverb *Mon mam Cymbry*. **1761** GOLDSM. *Ess.*, *Taste*, The native, genuine, and salutary taste of Welch beef. **1771** SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* 26 Apr. (1) At eight... we go... to the Pump-room; which is crowded like a Welsh fair. **1774** JOHNSON in Boswell *Life* (1904) II. 538 Yesterday I returned from my Weleh journey. **1781** GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xxxviii. (1787) III. 623 Their subjects, of Welsh or Cambrian extraction, assume the respectable station of inferior freemen. **1862** BORROW *Wales* I, I reached a large village, the name of which, like those of most Welsh villages, began with Llan.

Proverbial (and allusively). **a1661** FULLER *Worthies, Wales* (1662) 7 As long as a Welsh pedigree. **1725** YOUNG *Love of Fame* iii. 121 Till I surpass in length... A Welch descent. **a1764** CHURCHILL *Serm.* Ded. 60 (1771) p. iii, When thou art to thyself, thy Sire unknown, A whole Welsh genealogy alone?

b. In the names of various products of, and commodities obtained from, Wales, as †Welsh cloth (see *Welsh cotton*); Welsh coal, coal obtained from the South Wales coal-fields; anthracite; †Welsh cotton, a kind of woollen cloth with a nap; Welsh dresser (see quot. and DRESSER¹ 2); Welsh flannel (see quot. 1858); †Welsh frieze = *Welsh cotton*; Welsh glaive (see quot.); Welsh lay, a class of roofing-slates; †Welsh lining, a woollen cloth without a nap (cf. COTTON *sb.*² and FRIEZE *sb.*¹ 1); Welsh lump, a kind of fire-brick made in large pieces; Welsh mutton, mutton obtained from a small breed of sheep pastured on the Welsh mountains, highly esteemed for the delicacy of its flavour; Welsh oilstone (see quot.); †Welsh plain = *Welsh flannel*; Welsh rag = RAG *sb.*² 1 b; †Welsh scarlet (see SCARLET *sb.*); Welsh snuff (see quot.); †Welsh stone-coal = *Welsh coal*. Also WELSH BILL, WELSH HOOK.

1566 Act 8 Eliz. c. 7 §1 *Welsh Clothe and Linyng, commonly called Cottons Fryzes and Playnes. **a1618** RALEGH *Invent. Shipping* 41 Our Newcastle, or our *Welsh Coales. **1743** London & Country Brewer iii. (ed. 2) 177 At a famous Town in the West for brewing Beer, they burn this Welch Coal in a moveable Iron Grate. **1842** LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 211 Welsh coal... is a very durable fuel, peculiarly well suited to these boilers. **1546-7** in Feuillerat *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 5, iij yarges d. *wellshe Cotton at vj^d yard. **1551-2** Act 5 & 6 Edw. VI, c. 6 §1 And that... Walshe Cottonne... shall not be stretched on the Tentor... above a naye of a yarde in bredith. **1580** Welsh cotton [see MANCHESTER I]. **1910** *Encycl. Brit.* VIII. 578/1 A peculiarly effective combination of oak and mahogany is found in the dressers... made on the borders of Staffordshire and Shropshire... The expression *Welsh dresser... is now no more than a trade term... applied to all dressers of this type. [1598] Welsh flannel; used allusively in referring to a Welshman: see FLANNEL i d.] **1771** SMOLLETT *Hump. Cl.* I. 126 These sums she has more than doubled, by... dealing in cheese and *Welsh flannel, the produce of his flocks and dairy. **1858** SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Welsh-flannel*, the finest kind of flannel, made from the fleeces of the flocks of the Welsh mountains. **1860** HUNT *Ure's Dict. Arts*, etc. s.v. *Flannel*, Wales is the country in which flannel was originally made, and the Welsh flannel is still held in much estimation. **1551-2** Act 5 & 6 Edw. VI, c. 6 §1 All *Walshe Friees... made and wrought within the Shires of Cardigan and Pembroke... or elsewhere of lyke making. **1786** GROSE *Anc. Armour* 56 The *Welch glaive is a kind of bill, sometimes reckoned among the pole axes. **1891** *Century Dict.* s.v. *Lay*¹ n. 8 *Welsh lay, a slate measuring 3 by 2 feet. **1557-8** Act 4 & 5 Phil. & Mar. c. 5 §5 Everie Gode of *Welche lynying shall... be three quarters of a yarde in Breadthe. **1833** LOUDON *Encycl. Archit.* §599 The most convenient fire bricks are what are called *Welsh or Stourbridge lumps. **1842** GWILT *Archit.* §1826 Fire bricks... This sort of brick is made also in various parts of Wales, whence they are called Welsh lumps. **1892** *Dict. Arch.* (Arch. Publ. Soc.) *Welsh lump*... It can be had up to 3 ft. long, 10 ins. by 5 ins. thick. **1771** SMOLLETT *Hump. Cl.* II. 228, I dined upon a delicate leg of *Velsh mutton and cully-flower. **1830** LE KEUX *Illustr. Nat. Hist.* I. 141 The genuine Welsh mutton is highly esteemed. **1910** *Encycl. Brit.* XIII. 653/1 Idwal or *Welsh oilstone, used for small articles. **1584** in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 370 For ix yarges of *welshe playne. **1725** [see PLAIN *sb.*¹ 9]. **1823** NICHOLSON *Pract. Builder* 396 Patent slating was originally composed of slates called the *Welsh Rags. **1887** *Dict. Arch.* (Arch. Publ. Soc.), *Rag slate*, or *Welsh rag*. **14...** *Langland's P. Pl.* A. v. 113 (MS. T.), I may hit not leue He scholde wandre on þat *walsche scarlet, so was it pred-bare. **1845** DODD *Brit. Manuf.* v. 148 There are many kinds of snuff called 'high-dried', such as *Welsh' and 'Lundyfoot'. **1833** N. ARNOTT *Physics* (ed. 5) II. 143 *Welsh stone-coal.

c. in the names of plants, beasts, insects, etc., indigenous to or found chiefly in Wales, as *Welsh cattle*, *pony*, *runt* (see RUNT *sb.* 2); *Welsh Black*, a black-coated ox or cow of a breed originally developed in north Wales, now usually kept for both meat and milk production; *Welsh clearwing*, *club-moss* (see quotes.); *Welsh hound*, a dog similar to an English foxhound but wire-haired; *Welsh mountain* (sheep), a small, hardy sheep of a breed developed in high regions of Wales; *Welsh poppy*, a perennial poppy of the genus *Meconopsis* (see POPPY *sb.* 3); *Welsh sorrel*, *speedwell*, *wave* (see quotes.); *Welsh terrier*, a

stocky, rough-coated, usually black and tan terrier with a square muzzle and drop ears, belonging to a breed originally developed in Wales to hunt vermin.

1919 K. J. J. MACKENZIE *Cattle* xi. 149 *Welsh Black Cattle. Some 20 years ago there were two distinct types of black cattle in Wales. **1953** A. FRASER *Beef Cattle Husbandry* ix. 134 The modern Welsh Black is the outcome of two types or breeds. **1977** S. *Wales Guardian* 27 Oct. 2/3 (Adv.), Welsh Black cow, 5th calver, with Cross-Friesian Steer calf at heel. **1747** H. GLASSE *Art of Cookery* xiii. 129 Take the leg of a fat but small Beef, the Fat Scotch or *Welsh Cattle is best. **1834** YOUATT *Cattle* 47 Howell Dha... describes some of the Welsh cattle in the tenth century, as being 'white with red ears'. **1869** E. NEWMAN *Brit. Moths* 15 The *Welsh Clearwing (*Sesia scolioformis*). **1796** WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) III. 759 *Pilularia annotinum*... *Welsh Clubmoss. On the mountains of Caernarvonshire. **1893** R. B. LEE *Mod. Dogs (Sporting Division)* iv. 86 The harrier is oftener coarser in his coat than the foxhound, which may be ascribed to crossing with a rough *Welsh hound that I believe is still to be found in some parts of the principality. **1930** J. D. D. EVANS in C. Frederick et al. *Foxhunting* xxxi. 306 The Welsh hound is probably in some degree of later origin. **1973** *Country Life* 27 Dec. 2173/2 The three Welsh hounds he is shown holding have long, hairy coats, whitish-grey in colour. **1899** W. J. MALDEN *Sheep Raising & Shepherding* ii. 5 Such breeds as the *Welsh Mountain... have soft short wool. **1960** [see EXMOOR]. **1979** *Country Life* 7 June 1769/3 A black version of the Welsh Mountain sheep. **1771** SMOLLETT *Humph. Cl.* 26 Apr. (3), Patience is like a stout *Welsh poney; it bears a great deal, and trots a great way; but it will tire at the long run. **1831** YOUATT *Horse* 58 The Welsh pony... has a small head, high withers, deep yet round barrel, short joints, flat legs, and good round feet. **1741** *Compl. Family-Piece* II. iii. 374 *Welsh-poppy. **1829** LOUDON *Encycl. Plants* (1836) 462 *Meconopsis cambrica* Vig. Welsh Poppy. **1882** *Garden* 20 May 353/1 A broad blue china bowl is brilliant with... Welsh Poppy. **1659** HOWELL *Lex. Tetragl.*, *New Sayings* v. 8/1 He thrives as well as a *Welsh Runt in Rumney Marsh. **1727** E. LAURENCE *Duty of Steward* 76 The Steward should be advis'd to stock the Ground with Scotch Keylys or Welch Runts. **1768**, **1886** [see RUNT sb. 2]. **1910** *Encycl. Brit.* V. 540/2 Welsh cattle are well known in the Midland counties... where, under the name of 'Welsh runts', large herds of bullocks are fattened on the pastures. **1640** PARKINSON *Theat. Bot.* VI. x. 745 *Acetosa Cambro-Britanica Montana*. Mountaine *Welsh Sorrell. **c 1710** PETIVER *Cat. Ray's Eng. Herbal* Tab. iii. Welsh Sorrel. **1731** MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Veronica*, *Welsh spiked Speedwell, with a hairy Bugle Leaf. **1796** WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 12 *Veronica hybrida*... Welsh Speedwell. Bugle-leaved Speedwell. **1885** *Kennel Chron. & Pedigree Register* VI. 161/1 *Welsh terriers. -Dog: 2nd, W. C. Whiskin (Welsh Dick). **1894** R. B. LEE *Mod. Dogs (Terriers)* x. 231 The dog of which I write as a Welsh terrier was unknown until some eight years... ago. Then he appeared in some of our shows; he was given a place in the Stud Book; a club was formed in 1886 to look after his welfare. **1950** A. C. SMITH *Dogs since 1900* xi. 193 In 1942 Welsh Terriers came into prominence in the United States. **1980** E. LEATHER *Duven Letter* i. 13 The Welsh terrier removed himself from the tapestry-covered Gainsborough chair. **1869** E. NEWMAN *Brit. Moths* 76 The *Welsh Wave (*Venusia cambricaria*).

d. in other collocations: Welsh acre (see quot.); Welsh ambassador, a name for (a) the cuckoo; †(b) the owl (cf. *Welsh falconer*); Welsh aunt (see quot.); Welsh bait, a rest, without other refreshment, given to a horse on reaching the top of a hill (see BAIT sb. 5); also fig.; † Welsh brief (meaning obscure); Welsh cake, a kind of individual spicy cake made in Wales with currants and ginger; Welsh carpet (see quot.); † Welsh comb (see quot.); hence Welshcomb v. *trans.*, to comb one's hair by using one's thumb and fingers instead of a comb; Welsh cornice (see quot.); † Welsh cricket, a louse; Welsh diamond (see quot.); Welsh dragon, a heraldic dragon as the emblem of Wales; also fig.; Welsh drake, the gadwall or gray duck, *Chaulelasmus streperus*; † Welshdraper, a maker of, or dealer in, 'Welsh cotton'; a woollen draper; Welsh ejectionment (see quot.); † Welsh falconer = *Welsh ambassador* (b); † Welsh fiddle (see quot.); Welsh groin, groining *Arch.* (see quot.); Welsh ham (see quot.); Welsh main *Cockfighting* (see MAIN sb. 3); Welsh mile, a distance of a mile and more; a long and tedious mile (chiefly proverbial); Welsh mortgage (see quot.); Welsh Nationalist, someone wanting home rule for Wales; *spec.* a member of the Welsh Nationalist Party; Welsh niece, a first cousin (cf. *Welsh aunt*, *W. uncle*); Welsh Office, an administrative department of the British Government with responsibility for Welsh affairs; the building where this is housed; Welsh onion = CHIBOL 1; † Welsh parsley (see quot.); † Welsh pearl, ? an inferior or counterfeit pearl; † Welsh-pot shell (see quot.); Welsh road (see quot.); Welsh springer, a kind of spaniel (see SPRINGER 8 b); Welsh uncle (see UNCLE 1 d); Welsh vault, vaulting *Arch.* = *Welsh groin*, *groyning*; Welsh Wales *colloq.*, the parts of Wales where Welsh culture is especially strong or which are most distinctively Welsh; Welsh wig, a worsted cap; Welsh wizard or Wizard, a nickname for David Lloyd George (1863-1945), Welsh politician

and British prime minister. Also WELSH BEAN, WELSH HARP, WELSH RABBIT.

1704 *Dict. Rust.*, *Welch-acre; it's usually two English Acres. **1608** MIDDLETON *Trick to catch Old One* iv. H 1, Thy Sound is like the cuckowe, the *welch Embassador. **c 1620** *Welsh Embass.* iv. 1501 (Malone Soc.) Pray m^r Reese... what is the reason that wee english men when the Cuckoe is yppon entrance saie the welsh embassador is Cominge. **1637** in *Retrospect. Rev.* (1853) I. 312 Two dozen of Welsh ambassadors. **1683-4** in *Macray Reg. Magd. Coll. N.S.* IV. (1904) 135 Mr. Clerke, commoner, complain'd of Sir Chernock, demy, for abusing him... calling him foole, Welsh ambassadour (an expression for an owle). **1894** G. F. NORTHALL *Folk-phr. Four Counties* 25 The Welsh ambassador = The cuckoo. **1878** N. & Q. 10 Aug. 105/1 Some Radnorshire Words... *Welsh Aunt, first cousin of father or mother. **1603** T. POWELL (title) *Welch Bayte to spare Prouender. Or, A looking backe vpon the Times past. **1658** HARRINGTON *Prerog. Pop. Govt.* i. vi. 32 In this place he takes a Welsh bait, and looking back makes a Muster of his Victories. **a 1661** FULLER *Worthies, Wales* (1662) 7 The Proverbs... Give your horse a Welch-bait. **1626** B. JONSON *Staple of N. v. i*, It is a thing of greater consequence, Then to be borne about in a blacke boxe, Like a Low-countryre vorloffo or *Welsh-briefe. **1932** DYLAN THOMAS *Sel. Lett.* (1966) 6 Mother has made *Welshcakes. **1975** B. MEYRICK *Behind Light* xiv. 184 Sandwiches, spice buns, Welsh cakes and bread and margarine. **1980** B. FREEMAN *First catch your Peacock* viii. 163 *Welsh Cakes (Pice ar y maen)*. There are two ways of making these traditional little spicy cakes. The most usual is on the bakestone or griddle, which produces them in a rather dry, biscuity form... The other method is to make them... in a Dutch oven, and this produces cakes which are firm on the outside, soft and melting within. **1854** *Household Words* 2 Sept. 53/1 This *Welsh carpet is a pattern produced on the brick floor by staining the brick squares in figures with dockleaf juice. **1796** *Grose's Dict. Vulgar T.* (ed. 3), *Welch Comb, the thumb and four fingers. **1922** JOYCE *Ulysses* 125 He took off his silk hat and... *welshcombed his hair with raking fingers. **1971** 'A. BURGESS' *MF* x. 111 Dressed and welshcombed, I pocketed my luggage and went downstairs. **1833** LOUDON *Encycl. Archit.* §459 These walls... should have what is called a *Welsh cornice (two or three oversailing (protruding) courses of brickwork, one of which has dentils formed by the ends of bricks projecting at equal and regular distances) to finish with at top. **1592** GREENE *Upst. Courtier* D 2, A... Gentle-man Marchant Tailor, giuing armes and the holye Lambe in his creast, where before he had no other cognisance, but a plaine Spanish needle with a *welsh cricket on the toppe. **1884** F. J. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 215 Rock crystal... also known as 'Bristol', '*Welsh'... or 'Irish' diamond, is also used by watch jewellers. **1857** C. M. YONGE *Dynevor Terrace* I. xxi. 349 If she had let the *Welsh dragon show his teeth in style, he would only have had to make unpleasant apologies. **1909** A. C. FOX-DAVIES *Compl. Guide Heraldry* xiii. 225 His Majesty the King has recently added the Welsh dragon differenced by a label of three points argent as an additional badge to the achievement of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. **1980** *Times* 16 Dec. 3/6 They... see the Welsh dragon flying over public buildings in the principality. **1844** J. P. GIRAUD *Birds of Long Island* 306 At Egg Harbor a few [gadwalls] are seen... and are there known by the name of '*Welsh Drake' or 'German Duck'. **1481** *Coventry Leet Bk.* 480 Hugh Walker... *welch-draper. **1811** *Lex. Balatron*, *Welsh Ejectionment, to unroof the house, a method practised by landlords in Wales to eject a bad tenant. **a 1647** FLETCHER, etc. *Lovers Progr.* 111, I hear by th' Owls, There are many of your *Welch falkoners about it [sc. a house]. **a 1700** B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Welsh-fiddle, the Itch. **1778** W. PAIN *Carpenter's Repos.* Pl. 58 Make a semi-circular Arch... that is commonly called a *Welch Groin. **1875** *Encycl. Brit.* II. 465/2 Groins, Welsh, or Underpitch... The system of vaulting is called underpitch groining, or, as termed by the workmen, *Welsh groining. **a 1878** SIR G. SCOTT *Lect. Archit.* II. 173 Vaulting... in which the side vaults... cut the higher and main vault at a level lower than its crown... is vulgarly known as 'Welsh' groining. **1877** *Cassell's Dict. Cookery* 1107 A *Welsh ham is simply the name given to a fat leg of mutton which has been cured and smoked like an ordinary ham. **c 1450** *Merlin* xv. 247 All the contrey was of hem covered the length of a *walshe myle. **1652** J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Journ. Wales* (1859) 21, I hired a guide who brought me to Swansey (sixteen well stretch'd Welch mountainous miles). **1796** *Grose's Dict. Vulgar T.* (ed. 3), *Welch Mile*. Like a Welch mile, long and narrow. His story is like a Welch mile, long and tedious. **1818** *Cruise Digest* II. xv. i. §19 There is another kind of mortgage... called a *Welsh mortgage, in which there is a perpetual right of redemption. **1911** *Encycl. Brit.* XVIII. 878/1 A Welsh mortgage is one in which... a creditor... takes the rents and profits in lieu of interest... the estate being redeemable at any time on payment of the principal. **1891** *Dod's Parl. Compan.* 1890-91 246 George, David Lloyd... 'A *Welsh Nationalist', supporting 'Home Rule', 'Temperance', 'Disestablishment', and other items in the programme of the Advanced Liberal Party. **1925** *North Wales Observer* 13 Aug. 5/3 The proposals of the new Welsh Nationalist Party were calmly received... at the Baptist Church, Pwllheli, on Thursday. **1937** W. H. JONES *What is happening in Wales?* iii. 9 What makes the Welsh Nationalist movement essentially a literary movement? **1966** M. WOODHOUSE *Tree Frog* xviii. 131 'Patriotism dictates,' he said. 'Don't give me that,' I said. 'I'm a Welsh Nationalist.' **1972** *Guardian* 19 June 24/8 Welsh Nationalists intend to set up a mobile pirate radio station. **1886** SIR F. H. DOYLE *Remin.* viii. 156 A young cousin, or rather... *Welsh niece of mine. **[1964** *Times* 20 Nov. 6/7 Mr. Harold Wilson, Prime Minister... in a statement defining the responsibilities of the Secretary of State for Wales, said:— The interests of Wales are now represented in the Cabinet by the Secretary of State... He will have a Welsh office in Cardiff... and a small ministerial office in London.] *Ibid.* 22 Dec. 10/4 Mr. Griffiths, Secretary of State for Wales, yesterday opened the first permanent home of the *Welsh Office in London. **1976** S. *Wales Echo* 26 Nov., Demonstrations by angry parents outside the Welsh Office now seem certain after South Glamorgan County Council's controversial decision to turn a Cardiff high school into a Welsh-speaking secondary. **1976** *Flinthshire Leader* 10 Dec. 1/2 The call for a crossing did not meet Welsh Office conditions because there were not enough houses or people living in the village. **1977** *Western*

Mail (Cardiff) 5 Mar. 3/2 The council has had to go to the Welsh Office for money for industrial development. **1731** MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Cepa* Mm/1 The *Welch Onions are only propagated for Spring Use also: These never make any Bulb, and are therefore only fit to be us'd green for Sallads, &c. **1824** LOUDON *Encycl. Gard.* (ed. 2) §3813 Welsh onion, or ciboule (*Allium fistulosum*, L.). **1778**, **1832** [see CIBOL]. **a 1625** FLETCHER *Elder Brother* i. ii, In tough *Welsh Parsly, which, in our vulgar Tongue, is strong Hempen Halters. **1638** RANDOLPH *Hey for Honesty* iv. i. (1651) 30 This is a Rascal deserves... To dance in Hemp *Derricks Caranto*: Lets choke him with Welch Parsley. **1681** GREW *Museum* i. §vi. ii. 146 *Welsh-Pearl... They are most of them flatish, and of a shining blackish colour. **c 1711** PETIVER *Gazophyl.* vii. Tab. 69 Fig. 5 Carolina Lattice furrowed, *Welsh-pot Shell... Like our Garden Snail, but Lattice-furrowed and waved with yellow, like our Welsh Pot-ware. **1890** O. CRAWFORD *Round Calend. in Portugal* 212 The scent of those deep, damp lanes, green with ferns, which in this county [Monmouthshire] we call '*Welsh roads'. **1910** *Encycl. Brit.* VIII. 375/2 [Dogs.] *Sporting*... spaniel... *Welsh springer. **1848** RICKMAN *Styles Archit. Eng.* p. liii, This [roof] is distinguished from the previous examples by having what are called *Welsh vaults over the clerestory windows. **1835** R. WILLIS *Archit. Mid. Ages* vii. 78 note, Such cells are termed *Welsh vaulting cells. **1858** *Ecclesiologist* XIX. 165 North transept, Welsh vaulting from circular shafts. **1954** G. DANIEL *Welcome Death* x. 125 'The Vale of Glamorgan is legally Wales, isn't it, although no one speaks any Welsh here?' 'Quite right... This is Wales, if not *Welsh Wales'. **1971** D. AYERST *Guardian* xxi. 290 In the hills behind the coastal resorts, Welsh Wales with its roots in the chapels had an intense cultural life of its own. **1983** A. BEEVOR *Faustian Pact* i. 8 The sight of the sheep-cropped hills... There was Welsh Wales. **1842** J. WILSON *Chr. North* (1857) I. 2 Uncle Ben... is seen galloping, in a *Welsh wig and strange apparel, in the rear of a pack of Lilliputian beagles. **1848** DICKENS *Dombey* iv, His Welsh wig... was as plain and stubborn a Welsh wig as ever was worn. **1859** SALA *Gaslight & D.* xi. 129 Disguised in lamp-black, pomatum, Welsh wigs dyed black. **1917** M. MACDONAGH *Diary* 9 July in *London during Gt. War.* (1935) III. iv. 203 Is not 'L.G.' known as the '*Welsh Wizard'. **1922** *National Rev.* July 652 We are told... that several of His Majesty's Ministers are acutely uncomfortable in the impasse into which they have allowed themselves to be manoeuvred by the Welsh Wizard. **1976** W. J. BURLEY *Wycliffe & Schoolgirls* vii. 126 There had never been a real statesman since the little Welsh wizard.

3. As the designation of the language of the Welsh people; hence, written or spoken in the Welsh language; of or belonging to the language or literature of Wales.

1547 SALESBURY *Dict. Engl.-Welsh* Ded., Seyng ther is many of your graces subiectes in Wales that readethe partytlye the welsh tonge... I haue written a lytle englyshe dictionary with the welshie interpretation. **1587** PENRY *Equity Supplic.* 48 Vngodly welsh bookes are fraught with these Idolatries. **c 1643** LD. HERBERT *Autobiog.* (1824) 32 Where I might learn the Welch tongue. **1682** W. RICHARDS *Wallogr.* 121 One in our Company... having got a Welch Polysyllable into his Throat, was almost choak'd with Consonants. **1729** T. INNES *Crit. Ess.* (1879) 257 Mr. Edward Lhuyd, in his Welsh preface to his *Archæologia*. **1756-9** A. BUTLER *Lives Fathers, Beuno* (1821) IV. 226 Vawr, as the Welsh adjective Mawr great, is writ in several parts of Wales. *Ibid.*, *Wenefride* XI. 75 Llyudh, in his catalogue of Welch manuscripts. **1840** W. J. REES (title-p.) *The Liber Landavensis*... Published for Tbe Welsh MSS. Society. **1877** RHYS (title) *Lectures on Welsh Philology*. **1888** JACOBI *Printers' Vocab.*, *Welsh cases*, cases of special lay for composing works in that language.

B. sb. (Elliptical uses of the adj.)

1. a. pl. The Britons as distinguished from the Anglo-Saxons. *Obs. exc. Hist.*

c 1100 O.E. *Chron.* (MS. D.) an. 1050 On þam ilcan geare comon upp on Wylisce Axa of Yrlande. **a 1122** *Ibid.* (Laud MS.) an. 1121 þa Wyliscean him ongan coman. **c 1205** LAY. 5574 Bruttes & Wailsee [c 1275 Walse]. **c 1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 9392 Of the welsh pat mid him bep ne dorre 3e no3t drede. **1729** T. INNES *Crit. Ess.* (1879) 40 The old Midland Britains... known... by the name of Walenses (Welsh, a common name to all that spoke the British language). **1839** KEIGHTLEY *Hist. Eng.* I. 14 The Britons or Welsh, as they were named by the conquerors, were thus driven back to the western side of the island.

b. The inhabitants or natives of Wales.

1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1725) 237 þe Walsh wer alle day slayn. **1530** TINDALE *Answ. More* II. xi. Wks. (1573) 299 Then he bringeth in how the wilde Irish and the Welch pray, when they go to steale. **1596** SPENSER *State Irel.* (Globe) 635/2 The same was also common amongst the Brittons, and is not yet altogether left off by the Welsh which are theyr posteritye. **1610** HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 652 These are distinctly known still from the Welsh, both by their speech and manners. **1612** SELDEN *Illustr. Drayton's Poly-olb.* ix. 320 So that the Welsh may challenge priority, of finding that new world, before the Spaniard. **1797** *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 699/1 The Welsh, in their own language, call their country Cymry, and their language Cymraeg. **1825** SCOTT *Betrothed* viii, Two very strong bodies of Welsh attempted to carry the outer defences of the castle by storm. **1862** BORROW *Wales* lviii, Amongst the proverbial sayings of the Welsh, which are chiefly preserved in the shape of triads, is [etc.]. **1882** RHYS *Celtic Britain* 130 The more legendary traditions of the Welsh.

† c. sing. A Welshman. *Obs.*

1362 LANGL. P. Pl. A. v. 167 Godfrei of Garlesschire and Griffin þe walsche. **1387** TREVISA *Higden* VIII. 265 þe false Walsche David roos a3enst kyng Edward in Palme Sonday. **[1601** F. TATE *Househ. Ord. Edw.* II §91 (1876) 55 Annotate the walsh.] **1646** R. BAILLIE *Anabaptism* (1647) Epist. *4 At Naisby... to beat nine thousand... soldiers, the most part raw and new levied Welshes.

2. a. The Welsh language.

O.E. *Chron.* (Laud MS.) Pref., Her sind on þis iglande fif geþeode: Englisc, & Brittisc, & Wilsce [MS. D. Bryt-wylsc], & Scyttisc [etc.]. ? **a 1400** *Arthur* 7 Pendragon ys in walsch 'Dragones heed' on Englysch. **1470-85** CAXTON *Malory's Arthur* Pref. (Sommer) 3 Many noble volumes be made of hym... which been not had in our maternal tongue, but in

walshe ben many & also in frensshe, & somme in englysshe. 1547 W. SALESBURY (*title*) A Dictionary in Englyshe and Welshe. a1550 LELAND *Itin.* v. (1908) II. 82 It [Shrewsbury] is comonly caullyd now in Walche Moythik. Writers in Walsche caul it Penguern, *id est*, *caput Aineti*. 1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV.* III. i. 193 My Wife can speake no English; I no Welsh. 1656 J. LEWIS in *Baxter's Certainty Worlds Spirits* (1691) 130 He could perceive the whisper of a Voice in Welch, bidding him hold his peace. 1668 SHADWELL *Sullen Lovers* IV. 74 If I don't... speak Spanish, Italian, Welch and Irish. 1788 PRIESTLEY *Lect. Hist.* IV. xxv. 191 The next remains of the Britons, are Hoel Dha's Laws... Of these there are several copies, both in Welch and Latin. 1820 SCOTT *Let. to C. Scott* 19 Dec. in *Lockhart*, You hear the Welsh spoken much about you. 1862 BORROW *Wales* lix, I learned to read Welsh and to write it at the same time. 1882 RHYS *Celtic Britain* 145 The latter [sc. Clyde], being... Clut in old Welsh, could only yield Clùd in later Welsh.

b. transf. A strange language; speech that one does not understand.

1648 WINYARD *Midsummer-Moon* 5 Hebrew to them is Welch. a1661 FULLER *Worthies, Wales* (1662) 33 Amelcorne. This English Word (which I find in the English Camden) is Welsh to me. 1888 *Sheffield Gloss.* Suppl. s.v. *Welsh*, 'He's talking Welsh!' 'That's Welsh!' means 'I don't understand you'.

3. Short for: Welsh coal.

1898 KIPLING *Fleet in Being* iv. 44 We're supposed to be burning No. 2 Welsh. 1905 *Blackw. Mag.* Jan. 26/2 Have you got that 'Welsh' trimmed?

C. Comb.: Welsh-begotten, -born, -English, -like, -rooted, -speaking, -wrought adjs.; **Welsh-Briton** = WELSHMAN 1a; **Welsh-Keltic** a., **Cymric**.

1615 J. STEPHENS *Satyr. Ess.* 291 He is the onely friend of Lawyers (if they be *Welch begotten). 1898 WATTS-DUNTON *Aylwin* xv. xii, I wonder whether any one who is not *Welsh-born can understand my delight. 1670 MILTON *Hist. Brit.* iv. 165 Kentwin the other West-Saxon King... chad'd the *Welch-Britans... to the very Seashoar. 1759 T. RICHARDS (*title*) *Antiquæ Linguae Britannicæ Thesaurus*: being a British, or *Welsh-English Dictionary. 1883 D. H. WHEELER *By-Ways* Lit. 100 It is believed that the *Welsh-Keltic manuscripts are unusually vicious in the texts. 1844 *Brereton's Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) 96 note, Of this *Welch-like name [Aphthomas] I am unable to offer any explanation. 1863 W. BARNES *Dorset Gloss.* 8 Their *cadwyn*... is a *Welsh-rooted word. 1893 *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 43/1 A *Welsh-speaking rebel against the tithes. 1876 MORRIS *Sigurd* III. 202 And they see the sheathed Wrath shimmer mid the restless *Welsh-wrought [= foreign] swords.

welsh (welʃ), *v.* Also **welch**. [Of obscure origin.]

1. trans. To swindle (a person) out of money laid as a bet (see WELSHER¹). Hence **welshing** *vb.* **sb.** and *ppl. a. Racing.*

1857 *Morn. Chron.* 8 June 8/3 He got his living by 'welching' and taking in the 'flats'. 1867 *Sporting Life* 21 Sept., Money which people have been 'welshed' out of. 1868 *Morn. Star* 26 Mar., Some two or three of the prolific 'welshing' fraternity did manage to carry on their nefarious operations. 1887 *Daily Tel.* 12 Mar. 5/2 He will receive his winnings and run no risk of being 'welshed'. 1894 HENTY *Dorothy's Double* I. 57 He... had a narrow escape of being lynched by the crowd for welshing. 1902 *Times* 8 Mar. 14/3 In France... betting... had increased... because people were not now afraid of being welshed.

2. intr. Const. on. To fail to carry out one's promise to (a person); to fail to keep (an obligation).

1932 H. CRANE *Let.* ? Jan. (1965) 395, I really can't welsh on Eyler Simpson (who is equally responsible, since he signed the lease with me). 1971 H. WOUK *Winds of War* i. 4 The real shadow on this couple was that Commander Henry thought Rhoda had welshed on their courtship understanding. 1974 *Socialist Worker* 2 Nov. 5/1 When the brothers were captured on a bank raid, the British government welched on them, dropped them like a hot penny. 1978 *Lancashire Life* Apr. 73/4 Very few people welsh on paying their taxi fare. 1982 T. KENEALLY *Schindler's Ark* v. 72 Across his desk... had crossed copies of angry SS memoranda addressed to army officials and complaining that the army was welching on its arrangement.

†Welsh bean. *Obs.* Also 6 **Welch**. [ad. G. *welsche bohne*: see WELSH a. and BEAN *sb.*] The French or kidney bean (*Phaseolus vulgaris*).

1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 110/1 *Phaseolus, dolichus*,... Welch beanes: beanes of Rome, or kidney beanes. 1598 FLORIO, *Faglioli, Fagioli*, a kind of pease like vnto a beane, called faseoles, french peason, welsh beanes, or kidney beanes.

†Welsh bill. *Obs.* In 5 **Walshe**, **Wallish**, **Wallych**, 7 **Welch bill**. [f. WELSH a. + BILL *sb.*¹ 4.] = WELSH HOOK.

1475 *Maldon* (Essex) *Court-Rolls* Bundle 49, No. 8 Insultum fecit... cum 1 Walshe byll, precii xxd. 1484 *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) I. 310 Cum quodam Wallishbyll... in capite percussit. [Cf. *ibid.* 311 Cum quodam le Forest byll.] 1485 in *Sanctuarium Dunelm.* & *Beverlacen* (Surtees) 13 Jacobus Manfeeld... insultum fecit, et eundem in corpore cum uno le wallych byll felonice percussit. a1625 FLETCHER *Nice Valour* iv. 1, *Lapet*. Did not I say, this Whirrit, and this Bob, Should be both Pica Roman. *Clown*. So said I, Sir, both Picked Romans, And he has made 'em Welch Bills.

welsher¹ ('welʃə(r)). Also **†welcher**. [Cf. WELSH *v.*] A bookmaker at a race-meeting, who takes money for a bet, and absconds or refuses to pay if he loses.

1860 LD. W. LENNOX *Pict. Sporting Life* I. 119 A gang of miscreants called Welchers, who make bets with the unwary, which they never dream of paying if they lose. 1868

E. YATES *Rocks Ahead* III. v, I know him, a defaulting ringman, a mere common welsher. 1912 *Times* 24 Apr. 3/4 Counsel said... the real definite charge was that the plaintiff was a welsher.

transf. 1863 MISS BRADDON *Aurora Floyd* xvii, He was... a 'welsher' in the matter of marbles and hardbake before his fifth birthday. 1904 SLADEN *Playing the Game* II. iii, The Japanese traders who dealt with them were, many of them, welshers who looked to repudiations for their profits.

'Welsher². *nonce-wd.* [f. WELSH a. + -ER¹.] A Welshman.

1862 BORROW *Wales* I. v. 47 [A waggoner *loq.*] They are small men mostly, Measter, them Welshers.

Welsh harp. [WELSH a.] A name specifically applied to the triple-strung harp; also called **Welsh triple harp**.

a1637 B. JONSON *Masque, For Honour of Wales* Wks. (1641) 33 Yow s'all heare the true Pritan straines now, the ancient Welse Harpe. a1700 EVELYN *Diary* 13 June 1649, With him was one Carew, who play'd incomparably on the Welsh Harp. 1753 *Scotts Mag.* May 215/1 A Welch-harp. 1876 STAINER & BARRETT *Dict. Mus. Terms* s.v. *Harp*, The triple or Welsh harp, with three rows of strings, two rows tuned diatonically in unisons or octaves, the third or inner row arranged to supply the accidentals, sharps or flats. 1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 489/2 The comparatively modern Welsh triple harp is always strung with gut. 1889 GROVE *Dict. Mus.* IV. 443 Welsh Triple Harp.

†Welsh hook. *Obs.* [WELSH a.] A billhook; a weapon of this form. Cf. WELSH BILL.

a1593 MARLOWE *Edw. II.* IV. vi, [2nd Stage dir.] Enter with Welch hookes, Rice ap Howell, a Mower, and the Earle of Leicester. 1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV.* II. iv. 372 Hee of Wales, that... swore the Deuill his true Liege-man vpon the Crosse of a Welch-hooke. 1599 G. SILVER *Paradoxes* Def. 31 The Welch hooke or Forrest bill, hath aduantage against all maner of weapons whatsoever. 1611 COTGR., *Riveran*,... a Welsh hooke, or hedging bill made with a hooke at the end. 1617 J. SWETNAM *Sch. Sci. Defence* 143 When you encounter with any man that hath a Staffe, a Welch-hooke, or a Halbert. 1618 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Penniless Pilgr.* B4 b, A Watch-mans bill, or a Welch-hooke falles not halfe so heauy vpon a man. a1637 B. JONSON *Masque, For Honour of Wales* Wks. (1641) 33 Owen Glendower, with a Welse hooke, and a Goats skinne on his backe. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* v. vii. 25 Their Claws... grow as crooked as a Welch Hook, or a Hedging Bill.

Welshie, var. WELSHY *sb.*

'Welshify, *v. nonce-wd.* [f. WELSH a. + -FY.] *trans.* To give a Welsh form to (a word).

1889 GRETTON *Memory's Harkback* 320 Are we to account for this, and so many other traces of Latin words Welshified, by the Roman occupation of the country?

'Welshly, *adv. nonce-wd.* [-LY².] In a Welsh manner.

The allusion is probably to the proverbially long Welsh mile (see WELSH a. 2 d).

1629 BP. FIELD in *St. Papers Dom.* Chas. I, CL. 110 A sooner journey willbe very cumbersome & jeopardous in regard of wayes, now deepe and dangerous, at all times steepe, craggy, and welshly tædious.

Welshman ('welʃmən). Forms: see WELSH (also 4 **Welss**-, **Weliss**-, 6 **Wealch**, **Welsch**; 4 **Walss**-, **Waliss**-, **Walesch**, 5 **Walliss**-, 6 **Walls**-), and **MAN sb.** [f. WELSH a. + **MAN sb.**]

1. †a. A native Briton. *Obs.* **b.** A native of Wales.

In the early examples the adj. and noun are still separate words.

a. 688-95 *Laws Ine* § 32 3if Wilisc mon hæbbe hide londes, his wer bið cxx scill. c1000 *Ag. Laws, Dunsetas* § 6 Nah naðer to farenne ne Wilisc man on Ænglisc land ne Ænglisc on Wylisc ðe ma, butan gesettan landmen. c1100 *O.E. Chron.* (MS. C) an. 1053 Eac Wylsce menn geslogan mycelne dæl Englisces folces.

β. c1205 LAY. 2120 þat Cambrie wes ihaten þat is þat wilde lond þat Welse [c 1275 Walse] men luuiēð. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5140 Here we englisne men mowe yse some, Mid woche riȝte we bep to pis lond ycome; Ac þe wreche wellesmen bep of þe olde more. 1513 *Life Hen. V* (1911) 9 Manie Welshmen, and... the greater parte of all Wales, were confederate wth these rebellis. 1579 FULKE *Refut. Rastel* 764 The Welshmen that vnderstand not english, haue their common prair in their Welse tongue. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III.* IV. iv. 477 You cannot gesse wherefore the Welchman comes. 1598 BASTARD *Chrestol*. III. xxxiii. 72 A Wealch and English man meete on the way. 1607 DEKKER & WEBSTER *Northw. Hoe* I. B4, The Northerne man loues white-meates, .. the Welshman Leekes and Cheese. 1663-4 PEPYS *Diary* 22 Feb., The Duke of Monmouth's mother's brother... being a Welchman. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xxxviii. (1787) III. 625 note, The malicious Welshman [= Giraldus Cambrensis] insinuates, that [etc.]. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* II. 250/2 The men... are about three-fifths Irishmen, a fifth Welchmen, and the remainder Englishmen. 1882 RHYS *Celtic Britain* 145 The northern portion... is spoken of in the Saxon Chronicle as that of the Strathclyde Welshmen.

γ. c1205 LAY. 2124 For þan duke Gualun Welse [c 1275 Walse] men me heom hateð. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1725) 35 Edgar... went to Kerlion, þe Walsch men he band With homage & feaute. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* II. 35 In Seint Edward his tyme Walsche men schulde not passe þat diche wip wepoun vpon a grete payne. c1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 93 He commanded... alle þe Britones... To ben y-cleped Wallisshemen. *Ibid.* 96 Saxones clepud hom... Walschmen. 1473 WARKW. *Chron.* (Camden) 6 Ther was the Erle of Pembroke takene... and two M^l. Walschmenne slayne. 1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* II. 510 Whiche kyng expulsed... All brutes and walschmen clere out of his londe. 1565 STAPLETON *Fortr. Faith* 132 b, Inhabited by the olde Britons and walsch men.

2. U.S. A name applied locally to the black bass (*Micropterus*) and other fishes.

1714 J. LAWSON *Hist. Carolina* 159 The brown Pearch, which some call Welch-men, are the largest sort of Pearches that we have. 1884 *Century Mag.* Apr. 908/1 A black bass... becomes... a 'welshman' in North Carolina. 1888 GOODE *Amer. Fishes* 55 On the Tar River of North Carolina, it [the Black Bass] is called 'Chubb', and on the Neuse, 'Welshman'.

3. Possessive combinations. **Welshman's button** = **hazel-fly** HAZEL¹ 4c. **†Welshman's hose**, in phrases like *to make a Welshman's hose of*, *to make like a Welshman's hose*, to stretch or wrest the meaning of (a word, sentence, etc.); cf. *shipman's hose* SHIPMAN 3b. **Welshman's hug** (see quot.)

1787 *BEST Angling* (ed. 2) 117 The *Welchman's Button or Hasle comes on about the latter end of July. 1880 F. FRANCIS *Angling* vi. (ed. 5) 230 The Welshman's Button; where it is found, it is a capital fly. 1523 SKELTON *Garl. Laurel* 1239 And after conueyauns as the world goos, It is no foly to vse the *Walshemanny's hoos. a1529—*Col. Cloute* 780 A thousand thousande other, That... make a Walshmans hose Of the texte and of the glose. 1559 *Mirr. Mag., Robt. Tresilian* xi, And wurdts that wer most plaine whan thei by vs wer skande, We turned by construction lyke a welch-mans hose. 1583 *Leg. Bp. St. Androis* 737 Of omnigatherine now his glose: He maid it lyk a Welchman hose: *Tempora mutantur* was his text. 1886 W. SOMERSET *Word-bk., Scotch-Fiddle*. 2. The itch, more commonly called the *Welshman's hug.

Welshness ('welʃnis). [f. WELSH a. + -NESS.] Welsh character.

1682 W. RICHARDS *Wallogr.* 82 The shabbiness of their Bodies and the Baoticalness [?] = Boeotian dullness] of their Souls, and that, which cannot any otherwise be exprest, the Welchness of both. 1797 T. TWINING in *Recreat. & Stud.* (1882) 203, I was much amused with the extreme Welshness of the good lady. 1894 *Athenaeum* 22 Dec. 866/3 Prof. Rhys... is not backward in recognizing what may be called the Welshness of the whole body of histories concerned with the 'blameless king' and his knights of the Round Table. 1912 AMELIA H. STIRLING *Life J. H. Stirling* iv. 68 In spite of the strangeness, the *Welshness*, of Pontypool, Stirling had been disappointed to find that it was not in Wales.

Welsh rabbit. [WELSH a. + RABBIT *sb.*¹ Cf. *Scotch rabbit* SCOTCH a. 4, and, for the jocular use of the noun, *CAPON sb.* 3.] A dish consisting of cheese and a little butter melted and mixed together, to which are added ale, cayenne pepper, and salt, the whole being stirred until it is creamy, and then poured over buttered toast: also, simply, slices of toasted cheese laid on toast.

1725 J. BYROM *Rem.* (1854) I. i. 108, I did not eat of the cold beef, but of Welsh rabbit and stewed cheese. *Ibid.* 109, I had a scollop shell and Welsh rabbit. 1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* ix. 97 To make a Welch-Rabbit. Toast the Bread on both Sides, then toast the Cheese on one Side, and lay it on the Toast, and with a hot Iron brown the other Side. 1771 in Mme. D'Arblay *Early Diary* (1889) I. 130 When we meet to browse over a pot of Castalian Porter and a Welsh Rabbit. 1825 SCOTT 12 Oct. in *Fam. Lett.* (1894) II. xxiii. 354 A welch rabbit and a tankard of ale. 1854 THACKERAY *Newcomes* i, A desire for welsh-rabbits and good old glee-singing led us to the Cave of Harmony. 1876 FR. E. TROLLOPE *Charming Fellow* II. xi. 164 She had... prepared a welsh rabbit... for a little party of friends.

Welsh rarebit. [An etymologizing alteration of *prec.* There is no evidence of the independent use of *rarebit*.] = *prec.*

1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T.* *Rabbit*, a Welch rabbit, bread and cheese toasted, i.e. a Welch rare bit. 1845 ALB. SMITH *Fort. Scatterg.* *Fam.* xliii, One of those inextricable visions which are alone dependent upon love, or Welsh rare-bits, for their origin. 1865 *Morn. Star* 10 Apr., Then you advance to steaks...thence to marrow-bones, thence to Welsh rarebit. 1905 H. G. WELLS *Kipps* I. vi. §6 He had also eaten two Welsh rarebits—an unusual supper.

Welshry ('welʃri). Also 4 **Walschrie**; 7 **Welshrye**, 9 **Welshery**. [f. WELSH a. + -RY, or ad. med.L. *Walescheria* (1249).]

†1. Welshmen or Welsh people collectively. *Obs.*

1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) II. 244 After þam alle he sent, To fend þe Walschrie with him at þer powere.

2. That part of a town or county (inhabited by English and Welsh) which is appropriated to the Celtic population, as distinguished from the ENGLISHRY.

1603 G. OWEN *Pembrokeshire* iv. (1891) 38 This Shere is taken to be deuided into two partes, that is to the Englishrie, and Welshrye as shall be more lardgile declared hereafter. 1804 J. EVANS *Tour S. Wales* 256 This country [in Pembrokeshire] is still divided into what is called the Englishry and Welshery; the latter, containing the original inhabitants. 1862 BORROW *Wales* II. xxx. 347, 'I have no Welsh, sir,' said she. 'How is that?' said I; 'this village is I think in the Welshery'. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* I. v. 338 Up to the time of Æthelstan Exeter had remained... a common possession of Teutonic and Celtic inhabitants. No doubt there was an English and a Welsh town, an Englishry and a Welshry.

3. Welsh origin or nationality.

1894 GRANT ALLEN in *Westm. Gaz.* 21 Sept. 2/1 Sometimes... I have even known them indignantly deny the imputation of Welshry.

Welshwoman ('welʃ,wʊmən). Also **Welsh woman**. [f. WELSH *a.* + WOMAN *sb.*] A woman of Welsh nationality.

1442 *Rolls Parl.* V. 45/1 So that the saide William to a Walsshwoman in no wise marie him. **1586** J. HOOKER *Givald. Irel.* in *Holinshead* II. 24/2 There came vnto him a Welsh or a Camber woman. **1656** S. HOLLAND *Zara* II. v. 112 Thy Mother sure was some Welsh woman, who instead of her own fostered thee with Mares Milk. **1801** MAR. EDGEWORTH *Moral T., Angelina* iii, Bartrand,—you have no ears, Welshwoman as you are! **1964** C. MACKENZIE *My Life & Times* 111. 282 Nurse Williams.. was a plump little Welshwoman from Rhyl.

Welshy ('welʃi), *a. rare*. In 8 **Welchy**. [f. WELSH *a.* and *sb.* + -y¹.] Resembling that of Wales or its inhabitants; Welsh-like.

1794 MRS. A. M. BENNETT *Ellen* II. 210 [Her name, Winifred] had such a welchy vulgar sound, she chose to be called Maria. **1848** *Bentley's Misc.* Jan. 106 Then we get towards a wild and Welshy country.

Welshy ('welʃi), *sb. slang*. Also **Welshie**. [f. WELSH *a.* and *sb.* + -y².] A Welshman or Welshwoman.

1951 E. COXHEAD *One Green Bottle* ii. 46 You'd think I was a Welshy by my name, Gwen Evans, but I'm a proper Cockney. **1978** E. MALPASS *Wind brings up Rain* ii. 23 Alice was still staring at her unblinking. 'You deep little Welshie', she said.

welsom(e, -sum): see WEALSOME, WILSOME *a.*¹

welt (welt), *sb.*¹ Forms: *a.* 5 walt, 6 walte; *Sc.* 6 wat, 6, 9 waut, 9 waat; *north. dial.* 9 wolt, wote, woat, waut. *β.* 5–6 weltte, welte, 6 wealte, 6–welt. [Of obscure origin; the variation in the vowel suggests an OE. *wealt, with Anglian variant *walt.]

1. **Shoemaking**. A strip of leather placed between and sewn to the edge of the sole and the turned-in edge of the upper in soling a boot or shoe.

a. **14..** *Garlande's Dict.* in *Wright Voc.* (1857) 125 *Pictaciarii* (clowtars) *viles sunt, qui consuunt sotulares veteres, renavandopictacia* (clowtys), *et intercucia* (waltys), *et saleas, et impedeas*. **1500** *Ortus Vocab., Intercucium*, anglice a walte of a shoghe. **1508** *DUNBAR Flying* 213 *Stra wispiis hingis owt* [of thy boots], quhair that the waltis [v.r. waltis] ar worne. **1899** *Leeds Merc. Suppl.* 14 Oct. (E.D.) If tha doesn't mind, the'll court thisen off o' t' waltis.

β. **c.1425** *Voc.* in *Wt.-Wülcker* 664/35 *Hoc intercucium*, weltte. **c.1440** *Prompt. Parv.* 521/1 Welte, of a schoo, *incucium, vel intercucium*. **1483** *Cath. Angl.* 414/1 A Walte, *intercucium*. **1530** *PALSGR.* 287/2 Welte of a shoe, *oureleure*. **1737** *DYCHE & PARDON Dict., Welt*, that Slip of Leather, or Part of a Shoe that joins and holds the Sole and upper Leather together. **1880** *Times* 21 Sept. 4/4 To attach a narrow strip of flexible stout leather (the welt) to the outer edge of the upper, and the two to the insole. **1895** *Boot Mending & Making* (ed. P. N. Hasluck) vi. 95 Whether the work is to be.. left plain, which is called a 'blind-welt', or the stitch sunk, and the welt fudged to imitate stitching.

2. *a.* A narrow strip of material put on the edge of a garment, etc., as a border, binding, or hem; a frill, fringe, or trimming.

Frequently associated with *GUARD* (*sb.* 11).

a. **1506** *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scat.* III. 115 Item, for ane waut of Rislis broun to it [a kirtle], iij.s. **1804** W. TARRAS *Poems* 38 Gin onie chiel had coolie scaw't, Sic's groogl't crown, or raggit waut, Wad we na jeer't.

β. **1530** *PALSGR.* 287/2 Welt of a garment, *ourelet*. **1547** in *Feuillerat Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 9 One half having a border of black Letters & thother half having ij Rounde welttes of black vellett. **1582** *BRETON Flourish Fancy* etc. (Grosart) 15/1 Whereof good stoare of cloathe.. in fashions may be spent: In gards, in weltes, and iaggies. **1611** *SPEED Hist. Gt. Brit.* VII. iv. §3. 202 Their Cassocks were.. of linnen, trimmed and set out with very broad Gards or Welts. **1698** *FRYER Acc. E. India & P.* 355 A Scarlet Cloak, edg'd with a Welt, Was thrown him o're. **1748** *Earthquake Peru* i. 63 Their Habit is grey, with a purple Welt. **1820** *SCOTT Manast.* xxix, The unction with which he dilated upon welts, laces, slashes, and trimmings. **1831** *CARLYLE Sartor Res.* i. vii, Welts, a handbreadth thick, .. waver round them by way of hem. **1894** J. DAVIDSON *Ballads & Songs* 113 Maid Marian's kirtle, somewhat old, A welt of red must now enhance. **1903** *Times* 8 Sept. 10/4 Very particular attention is devoted.. to the welts on the undress overalls. Some Fusilier battalions substitute a narrow stripe stitched on in place of the orthodox welt.

fig. **a.1637** B. JONSON *Discov.* (1641) 91 There are certaine *Scioli*.. that are busie in the skirts.. of Learning.. They may have some edging, or trimming of a Scholler, a welt, or so: but it is no more.

†*b.* Phrase. *without welt or guard*: without ornamentation or trimming. *Obs.*

1592 *GREENE Upst. Courtier* B3b, I sawe they were a plaine payte of Cloth breeches, without eyther welt or garde. **1631** *JORDAN Nat. Bathes* Ded. (1669) 4 A plain sute of our Country Cloth; without welt or gard. **1679** *Hist. Jetzer* 36 He was cloath'd in a close Coat of coarse cloth, without welt or guard.

†*c.* *fig.* (Also *without welt or cover*.)

c. **1590** *GREENE Fr. Bacon* 2140 Marke you maisters, heers a plaine honest man, without welt or garde. **1594–1692** [see *GUARD* *sb.* 11 b]. **1603** *HARNET Popish Impost.* 167 Loc heere .. plaine Gentilisme, without welt or couer. *a.1734* *NORTH Examen* i. i. §7 (1740) 18 And of these irrefragable Authorities some he affords great Encomiums to, others pass without Welt or Guard.

d. Used by R. Holme (and hence by later compilers) as a heraldic term, in contrast to *border*.

1688 *HOLME Armoury* I. 31 An edg, or hem, or welt, only runs on the sides of the Ordinary; but the Border .. goeth clear round the same. *c.1828* *BERRY Encycl. Her.* I. Gloss., *Welt*, or *Edge*, a narrow kind of border to an ordinary, or charge, sometimes improperly called a fimbriation, but the cross .. should have the fimbriation run all round it, .. which the *welt* or *edge*, does not. [Hence in *OGILVIE* (1850) and in later Dicts.]

†3. A binding strip or band. *Obs.*

In quot. 1607 perhaps an error for 'netts'.

1607 *TOPSELL Four-f. Beasts* 215 Having found out the field or hill where the beasts are lodged, they compasse it .. with welts and toils inuented for that purpose. **1693** *EVELYN De la Quint. Compl. Gard.* I. iii. xxi. 183 The Edges [of the baskets] both above and below [must] be so well wrought as not to unravel; There must be also a Welt round about the middle for the same reason. **1698** *FRYER Voy.* 133 Their Privy-parts, which they cover with a little Cotton-welt [Fr. *ceinture de coton*], that hangs down by their Legs.

4. *a.* A narrow ridge, a raised stripe. *Obs.*

1599 *NASHE Lenten Stufe* 5 Their hauen .. hauing but as it were a welte of land .. betwixte it and the wide Maine. **1614** *SYLVESTER Bethulia's Rescue* iv. 375 Her muskie Mouth .. A swelling Welt of Corall round behems, Which smiling shows two rows of orient Gems. **1614** *MARKHAM Cheap & Good Husb.* II. Of Hawks i. 137 And these Stones if they be full of crests and welts, they are the better. *a.1682* *SIR T. BROWNE Tracts* i. (1683) 78 The Trunk or Body thereof [of the palm tree] is naturally contrived for ascension, .. having many welts and eminencies. **1694** *MOTTEUX tr. Rabelais* v. xxiii. 107 Their dainty Chops and Gullets were lin'd through with Crimsin Satin with little Welts, and Gold Purls.

b. spec. in *Nat. Hist.* Now rare.

1578 *LYTE Dodeens* II. xxxv. 192 Of Floure Deluce or Iris. .. In the leaues [of the flower] that hang downewardes, there are certaine rough or hearie weltes lyke vnto a mans browes. **1597** *GERARDE Herbal* i. xxxv. §5. 50 Flowers of a purple or violet colour, .. with a white hairie welt downe the middle. **1658** *ROWLAND tr. Maufet's Theat. Ins.* xiv. 958 Upon the shoulders [of the butterfly] there is a kinde of sandy dusky coloured roll or welt. **1698** *FRYER Voy.* 131 The Toucan, .. whose bill is .. all over nothing but black and white welts or streaks, like Ebony and Ivory interlaid. **1707** *SLOANE Jamaica* I. 94 On the upper margin of them, in a ferrugineous welt, lies the seed. **1713** *PETIVER in Phil. Trans.* XXVIII. 208 Its Leaves generally single, .. with a large forked welt which saddles the Stalk. **1892** A. A. CROZIER *Dict. Bot. Terms*, *Welt*, a broad, raised stripe or ridge upon the surface of a fruit, as is occasionally seen in the orange and lemon.

c. A ridge on the flesh, esp. the mark of a healed wound; a seam.

1800 *Phil. Trans.* XCI. 8 The cicatrix formed a hard welt, tender to the touch. **1842** *LOVER Handy Andy* iv, From shoulder to flank, sir, I am one mass of welts and weals. **1876** *E. Wagner's Gen. Path.* 30 If the actual cautery be applied upon a corpse, there arise only .. more or less hard or leathery welts. **1883** *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 534/1 The slight welt of a sabre cut on one cheek.

transf. and fig. **1882** G. F. PENTECOST *Out of Egypt* i. 12 Who can tell what the first hot and burning welt of pain was which followed the first stroke of passion's whip? **1892** *KIPLING Barrack-room Ballads* L'Envoi 53 O the blazing tropic night, when the wake's a welt of light.

5. Technical uses. *a.* A flange on a horse-shoe.

b. **Saddle-making**. A narrow strip of leather stiched in between the skirts and the seat. *c.* **Glove-making**. (See *quots.*) *d.* **Knitting**. (See *quots.*) *e.* A strip or fillet laid over a seam or joint or placed in an angle to secure or strengthen it. *f.* The lap or fold of a welted joint (see *WELTED ppl. a.* 4). See also sense 1.

a. *c.1770* T. FAIRFAX *Campl. Sportsm.* 21 [Horse] Shoes with swelling welts, or borders round about them, are used in Germany, &c. **1831** J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* I. 171 Ordinary [horse] shoes .. are either light flat disks, .. or of much greater strength, with welts or knobs on the toes.

b. **1871** *Saddlers' Gaz.* 1 Nov. 10/1 The skirts being properly edged up, you will now make the welt and fix it to the skirt. **1904** *Saddlery* (ed. P. N. Hasluck) iii. 29 Place the thin hogskin welt along the upper edge of the seat and stitch the skirt and welt together... From the point to which the seat is stitched, a wider welt doubled like the narrow one must be stitched to the skirt.

c. **1883** S. W. BECK *Gloves* xii. 179 One minor .. process, known as 'felling the slit-welt'—that is, the turning over and hemming of the welt on the edge of the opening of the gloves. **1886** *Chamb. Jnrl.* 10 Apr. 226/2 Out of the parts left he cuts pieces .. for the binding round the top and the opening [of a glove] .. which are called 'welts'.

d. **1869** *Lonsdale Gloss., Welt*, ribbed knitting. **1875** *KNIGHT Dict. Mech., Welt*, (Knitting-machine) a flap of work (as a heel-piece) disengaged laterally and knitted separately from the main body, and subsequently joined thereto by re-engagement of loops or by hand-knitting. **1879** *Shropsh. Ward-bk.* s.v., The ribs of knitting at the top of a sock or stocking are called welts.

e. **1875** *KNIGHT Dict. Mech.* s.v. *Carvel-built*, The edges of the plates are brought flush together and riveted to a lap or welt in the rear. **1888** *Lockwood's Dict. Mech. Engin., Welt*, the covering strip used in butt riveting.

f. **1888** J. W. CLARKE *Plumbing Pract.* viii. 81 A mandrel must be fixed inside for the welt to be worked in quite closely.

6. A stroke with a lash or pliant stick; also, a heavy blow with the fist. (Cf. *WELT v.*¹ 5.)

1863 *Cornhill Mag.* VII. 453 There's thirteen of us to do the punishment, and we must have two welts a piece. **1900** A. MCLLOY *By Lane Craig-Linnie Burn* v. 54 Every man claimed the right of bestowing a 'welt' on a restive horse with his ash 'plant' as he passed.

7. *attrib. and Comb.*, in the names of shoemakers' tools, appliances, and materials, as *welt-beater*, *-cutter*, *file*, *-guide*, *-knife*, *-leather*, *-machine*, *-mill*, *shoulders* (cf. *SHOULDER sb.* 5 b), *-trimmer*. welt pocket, a slot pocket having

a welt on the lower edge that extends upward to cover the slit.

1812 *Sporting Mag.* XL. 14 Cobler's-wax and welt-leather. **1862** *Catal. Internat. Exhib.* Brit. II. No. 4671, Curried Welt Shoulders. **1875** *KNIGHT Dict. Mech.* 2760 Welt-cutter, -guide, -knife, -machine, -trimmer. **1895** *Boot Making* (ed. P. N. Hasluck) v. 83 If they are too thick, reduce them on the flesh side in a welt mill or skiving machine. *Ibid.* vii. 107 The welt file, used for smoothing the welt. **1897** C. T. DAVIS *Manuf. Leather* 637 To dress .. welt leather and flexible splits. **1932** D. C. MINTER *Mod. Needlecraft* 134/1 Welt pocket. .. Mark opening with tack 4½ inches long. Cut welt 5 inches long and width required. **1978** *Detroit Free Press* 5 Mar. A 16/2 (Adv't.), Single-breasted styling with self-belt, epaulets, welt pockets.

†**welt**, *sb.*² *Obs. Cant.* (See *RUM a.*¹ 2 b.)

welt (welt), *sb.*³ *dial.* [Origin unknown.] The practice by which some members of a gang of dockers take an unauthorized break while the rest work, and so turn and turn about. Hence as *v. intr.*, to take a break thus; 'welting' *vbl. sb.*³

1964 *Guardian* 7 Dec. 4/1 It is 1.30 p.m. .. and the afternoon 'welt' is settling in. *Ibid.*, 'Welting'—the practice whereby part of a gang takes an unofficial break while the rest continues working—is firmly entrenched in Liverpool. **1965** *Wall St. Jnrl.* 13 Jan. 11 A visitor dropping into almost any waterfront cafe beside the forest of ship masts rising along the River Mersey in Liverpool will quickly discover one reason. He'll find stevedores 'welting' or enjoying their stout and porter at the bar on company time. Work crews allow members to 'welt' on a share-and-share alike basis. **1967** *Economist* 4 Nov. 490/1 Ending the welt would make possible higher basic rates of pay. **1977** *Guardian* 4 Sept. 2/2 In some docks .. there is still tension because of managers' attempts .. to crack down on the 'welt'.

welt (welt), *v.*¹ Forms: *a.* 5 *Sc.* and *north.* walte, waut, 6 *Sc.* walt, wawt, wate, vat. *β.* 6 welte, wealt, 6–welt. [f. *Welt sb.*¹]

1. *trans.* To furnish (shoes) with welts; to repair or renew the welts of.

a. **1483** *Cath. Angl.* 407/1 To Walte, *intercuciare*. **1500** *Ortus Vocab., Intercutio*, to walte a schoghe.

β. **1720** P. WALKDEN *Diary* (1866) 49 Paid for welting and soling my shoes, rs. 6d. **1854** G. BORROW in *Shorter B. & his Circle* xxxii. (1913) 374 My boots were worn up by the time I reached Swansa and was obliged to get them new solved and welted. **1914** *Daily News* 30 June 4, I cannot canonise the machine which stitches uppers and welts soles.

2. To border, hem, or ornament (a garment) with welts or strips of material. Also with *about*. Also *absol.* (Cf. *WELTED ppl. a.* 1 a.) Now rare or *Obs.*

a. **1489** *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scat.* I. 162 Thre quartaris of veluus to waut hir gowne. **1541** *Ibid.* VIII. 22 For grene velvet to walt ane cote. **1546** *Ibid.* 438 'Tua elnis.. blak velvot .. to walt the said gown and kirtill.

β. **1580** *HOLLYBAND Treas. Fr. Tong, Barden & couvrir le bord*, to border, to welt. **1592** *GREENE Upst. Courtier* D 1 b, In making of veluet breeches, where there is required silke lace, .. and such eostly stuffe, to welt, gard, whip, stitch, edge, face, and draw out. **1755** *JOHNSON, To Welt*, to sew any thing with a border.

†3. ? To bind in strips. *Obs. rare.*

1613 *PURCHAS Pilgrimage* (1614) 412 If any be sicke, a speare is set vp in his Tent with blacke Felt welted about it.

4. Technical uses: *a.* To bind with strips or a strip of leather, spec. in *Glove-making* and *Carriage-building*.

1795 [see *WELTING vbl. sb.* 1 b]. **1862** MRS. H. WOOD *Mrs. Hallib.* i. xviii, Some welted, or hemmed the gloves round at the edge of the wrist.

b. **Plumbing**. To join (the ends of a pipe, etc.) by turning the edges one over the other and pressing them together. Cf. *WELTED ppl. a.* 4.

1888 J. W. CLARKE *Plumbing Pract.* viii. 81 At a sanitary exhibition .. were exhibited some joints .. made by welting the ends of the pipes together.

5. To beat, thrash.

1823 *MOOR Suffolk Wards, Welt* .. to beat severely—so as to raise wales or weals. **1837** *HALIBURTON Clockm.* Ser. II. xxii, And they gist fell to and welted him all the way into the town with the tip eend of their lassos. **1855** F. C. ARMSTRONG *Warhawk* I. xii. 248 I'll welt you with a rope's end if you don't mizzle. **1894** *ASTLEY 50 Years Life* I. 105 My ribs ached as though they had been welted with a single-stick. **1901** E. PHILLPOTTS *Striking Hours* 12 Next time .. I'll welt the hide off your bones.

welt, *v.*² *Obs. exc. dial.* Pa. t. 4–5 welt(e. [a. ON. *welta intr. strong verb (Icel. and Norw. *velta*, MSw. *válta*), and trans. weak verb (Icel. and Norw. *velta*, MSw. and Sw. *válta*, Da. *vælte*); the latter corresponds to OE. -wæltan (Angl.), wyltan, OHG. walzen, welzen (MHG. wälzen, G. wälzen), Goth. waltjan, f. the *a*-grade of the stem welt-, walt-: see *WALT a.* and *v.*]

1. *intr.* To roll or turn over (also with *over*); to fall over (also with *backward*); to sway or be unsteady.

13.. *St. Cristofer* 651 in *Horstm. Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 462 Whene þe kynge hade of hym syghte In his chayer he welte vpyrghte. *c.1400* *Destr. Troy* 7488 Philoc with felle angur frusschet to Remo, Till bothe welt backward of hor bare saddles. **1513** *DOUGLAS Æneis* x. x. 136 So tyll hys hart stoundis the prik of deith, He welteis our, and 3aldis vp the breith. *Ibid.* xi. xii. 83 And stedis throwand on the ground that welteis. **1570** *LEVINS Manib.* 59/1 To Welt, *neuter*, *decidere*. **1703** *THORNTON Let. Ray, Welt*, to totter. **1876** *Whitby Gloss.* s.v., 'T' cart coup'd, an' 'we com welting into

t' gutter. **1895** *Lakeland Gloss.*, *Welt*, to roll or roll over, to incline on one side.

fig. 13. *E.E. Allit. P. C.* 115 Hit was a wenyn vn-war pat welt in his mynde. **c 1400** *Destr. Troy* 4891 We, as vnwise men, welt into pride, Answarth hym awterwart with angur & skorne.

b. To gush out. Cf. *WALT v.* 4.

a 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 839 (MS. Ashm.) So hard him hittis on the hede his hernes out weltid [*MS. Dublin* weltyne].

2. *trans.* To cast or throw down; to throw to the ground; to overturn; to beat down; also to roll, trundle. Cf. *WALT v.* 2.

? **a 1400** *Morte Arth.* 3152 Walles he welte downe. **c 1400** *Destr. Troy* 7490 Aither wegh other woundit, & welt to þe grene. **1513** DOUGLAS *Æneis* iv. vii. 76 The burgeonit treis on buird thai bring for airis, Weltis down in woddis gret mastis. *Ibid.* ix. viii. 127 Down welting eik of huge wecht gret stanys. *Ibid.* x. iii. 21 Ane Agmon of Lyrnesya fast tharby Presys, wyth all the fors in his body, A felloun stone to welt the wallys tyll. **1570** LEVINS *Manip.* 59/1 To Welt, *actiue, euertere.* **1703** THORESBY *Let. Ray, Welt*, . . . overturn cart or wain. **1828** CARR *Craven Gloss.*, Grass or corn is said to be welted when it is beaten down by wind or rain, &c. **1869** Lonsdale *Gloss.*, *Welt*, v. t. to overset, to overturn. **1898** B. KIRKBY *Lakeland Words*, *Welt*, upset.

welt (welt), *v.*³ Chiefly *dial.* [? Alteration of *WELK v.* Cf. the earlier *WELTER v.*² and *WILT v.*] a. *trans.* Of the sun or weather: To wither (cut grass, etc.). Chiefly *pass.* b. *intr.* To become withered by exposure to the sun and air.

1764 *Museum Rust.* III. 333 That wheat which is mowed will require many days of hot weather to welt the grass and weeds. **1830** SPURDENS *Forby's Voc. E. Anglia* App., *Wilted*, shrivelled as an apple. Also *Wetted*: the same word. **1854** MISS A. E. BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.* s.v. *Wetted*, 'It is well wetted' or 'It is not fit to carry, it wants a good welting first'. **1863** *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XXIV. 11. 350 Mown grass becomes first *welted*, then ferments. **1865** *Ibid.* 2nd Ser. I. 11. 412 It is good management to give these turnips on grass, and to let them 'welt', or become dry from exposure to the sun and air.

Hence 'welting *vbl. sb.*

1766 *Museum Rust.* VI. 388 Cut the herb in the morning; and put it into the vats as soon as possible, in order to prevent its welting or heating. **1854** [see above].

welt, obs. form of *WEALTH*.

welt, welte, obs. contr. ff. *wieldeth, wielded*: see *WIELD v.*

|| **Weltanschauung** ('veltan'ʃauŋ). Also with small initial. Pl. -ungen. [Ger., f. *welt* WORLD *sb.* + *anschauung* perception.] A particular philosophy or view of life; a concept of the world held by an individual or a group; = *world-view* s.v. *WORLD sb.* 26.

1868 W. JAMES *Let.* in R. B. Perry *Tht. & Char. W. James* (1935) I. viii. 160, I remember your saying . . . that the characteristic of the Greek 'Weltanschauung' was its optimism. **1906** *Nature* 10 May 26/2 In 1863 Haeckel entered the lists as the champion of the evolutionist 'Weltanschauung'. **1917** A. S. PRINGLE-PATTISON *Idea of God* iv. 60 The intimate appreciation of living experience forms the basis of the whole *Weltanschauung* which he [sc. Bergson] offers us. **1934** M. BODKIN *Archetypal Patterns in Poetry* 326 A man's philosophy . . . is his *Weltanschauung*—the individual vision, or perspective of reality. **1938** E. QUINN *Mission of Austria* iii. 30 Both Catholicism and National Socialism are *Weltanschauungen*. **1952** G. SARTON *Hist. Sci.* I. iv. 121 The creation of that astrological *Weltanschauung* which dominated late ancient and medieval thought and is not yet extinct today proves the survival through the Dark Interlude of some astronomical ideas of immemorial antiquity. **1958** J. Jocz *Theol. of Election* i. 11 The impact of the Christian *Weltanschauung* upon the Jewish mind. **1972** *Science* 2 June 988/1 The main reason why evolutionism . . . made such slow progress is that it was the replacement of one entire *weltanschauung* by a different one. **1978** N. JARDINE in Hookway & Pettit *Action & Interpretation* 124 Speakers of different cultures, having different *Weltanschauungen*, ideologies, interests, paradigms, etc.

|| **Weltansicht** ('veltanzɪçt). *rare.* [Ger., f. as prec. + *ansicht* view.] A world view.

1892 W. JAMES *Let.* 19 Sept. (1920) I. 324, I realized how exactly a philosophic *Weltansicht* resembles that from the top of a mountain. **1977** *Archivum Linguisticum* VIII. 49 The following statement that every language represents a 'Weltansicht' (world view) of its own also proves the significance of the non-uniformity of languages for von Humboldt.

|| **Weltbild** ('veltbilt). [Ger., f. as prec. + *bild* picture.] A view of life.

1934 L. MUMFORD in W. Frank et al. *Amer. & Alfred Stieglitz* ii. 47 Stieglitz . . . helped restore those values that had been left out of the narrow *Weltbild* of his contemporaries. **1963** J. LYONS *Structural Semantics* iii. 40 The suggestion that we are influenced in our 'Weltbild' by the language we have been brought up to speak is open to different interpretations. **1973** I. ROBINSON *Survival of Eng.* iii. 82 The automatic wage-increase is so much taken for granted as a necessary part of the world that it is perhaps more *Weltbild* than what is usually thought of as language. **1983** *Bull. Amer. Acad. Arts & Sci.* Oct. 35 Mahler's *Weltbild* bore the marks not only of intellectual populism but of his class and ethnic origins.

welted ('weltɪd), *ppl. a.* Also 8 *welted*. [f. *WELT v.*¹ or *sb.* + -ED.]

1. a. Furnished with a welt as a border or edging. Of a gown, etc.: Adorned or trimmed

with 'welts' (hence of a person with reference to this). ? *Obs.*

Freq. in 16th cent. in const. *welted with*.

(a) **c 1507** in *Etoniana* (1865) 214 Servants cots of black cotton welted with yellowe. **1540** *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 111 My blake gowne of cloth weltede with velvet. **1592** GREENE *Upst. Courtier* G 1, I saw fūe fat fellows all in damaske cotes and gowns welted with Veluet very braue. **1679** *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1378/4 A Bar Gown faced and welted with Velvet.

fig. 1631 J. BURGESS *Answ. Rejoined* 435 It stands . . . welted and guarded with so many reasons.

(b) **1595** LODGE *Fig for Momus* Sat. iv. E 4, They say thy welted gowne, and ruffles of lawne, When thou wert warden last was but a pawne. **1606** DEKKER *Newes fr. Hell* Wks. (Grosart) II. 137 Hce shall meet a number there, who once went in black veluet coats, and welted gownes. **1606** — *Seven Deadly Sins* 10 The welted Vsurer, and the politick Bankrupt. **1654** GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* III. xii. 157 When in your gowne (not a Clericall habit of any Learning) but welted and crosse-lac'd.

b. Of boots or boot-soles: Furnished with a welt. *welted work*: the making of welted boots.

1895 *Daily News* 20 Apr. 2/1 A piecework statement for welted work at Northampton should be prepared. **1905** *Westm. Gaz.* 30 Oct. 7/3 Hitherto America has produced practically all the machinery for the making of welted boots.

2. *Nat. Hist.* Furnished with a raised welt or projecting edge. *welted thistle*: see *THISTLE* 3.

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* I. xxxv. §8. 50 The flower [of the Germaine Flower de-luce] . . . consisting of sixe great leaues, . . . welted downe the middle. **1599** — *Catal. Arb. in horto* 4 *Brassica fimbriata*. Welted Colewoorts. **1703** PETIVER in *Phil. Trans.* XXIV. 1424 (2) These Leaves very much resemble the Virginian Sumach, with a winged or welted Stalk. **1712** J. MORTON *Nat. Hist. Northampt.* 429 Fowls of the Fin-toed Tribe, that is, such as have their Toes welted or Finn'd, as it were, all along on each Side with appendant Membranes; but not webb'd together, by an intervening Skin, as are those of Ducks. **1713** *Phil. Trans.* XXVIII. 51 Its deep Scarlet Flowers, and square welted Pods.

b. Marked with a ridge or with ridges.

1899 BARING-GOULD *Bk. West* II. v. 61 The face of the moor is in places welted to such an extent that it alters the character of the scene.

3. Marked with a welt or raised wound or mark of a lash.

1855 WISEMAN *Fabiola* II. xxi, The mangled limbs, and welted backs, of the tortured Christians. **1908** *Westm. Gaz.* 15 Jan. 3/1 The unfortunate servant of the Christian was set free and given 5 dols. Hassani, to heal his welted skin.

4. *welted joint*, a plumbers' joint made by turning the edges to be joined, one over the other, and pressing them together.

1888 J. W. CLARKE *Plumbing Pract.* ix. 94 About two years ago, a series of lectures was given by a master plumber . . . and he showed a specimen of a welted joint. **1892** *Dict. Archit.* (Arch. Publ. Soc.), *Wetted joint*. The old system of making a junction of the sides of two lengths of lead on a church roof, is preferred to the present system of a deal roll.

welter ('welʔə(r)), *sb.*¹ [f. *WELTER v.* Rare before 19th cent.; cf. *WALTER sb.*]

1. A state of confusion, upheaval, or turmoil.

Freq. from *c* 1870, often with suggestion of 2 or 3.

1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 277 He feiret be that coniunctione soll follow sum Welter in the religioun, casting doune of the Kirkes, Monasteries and siklike. *Ibid.* 465. **1619** BP. ANDREWES *96 Serm.*, *Nativ.* xiii. (1629) 125 Away with peace, *moveatur terra*, let all the earth be on a welter. **1837** CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. vi. ii. 355 [Danton] was heard to ejaculate, 'I leave the whole business in a frightful welter (*gâchis épouvantable*): not one of them understands anything of government'. **1864** — *Fredk. Gt.* xv. v. IV. 81 What a downrush of confusion there ensued. . . Belleisle himself must have paused uncertain over such a welter. **1888** *Sat. Rev.* 26 May 621 They are not precisely the strongest party in the present welter of English politics.

2. The rolling, tossing, or tumbling (of the sea or waves).

1849 CUPPLES *Green Hand* iv. (1856) 47 'The long welter of the sea when the ship eased down. **1863** WHITTIER *Andrew Rykman's Prayer* 88 In the welter of this sea Nothing stable is but Thee. **1898** KIPLING *Fleet in Being* i. 10 He . . . went out serenely to take his boat home through the dark and the dismal welter.

fig. 1873 DOWDEN in *Contemp. Rev.* XXII. 177 It is rather the oscillation, the refluxence and welter of the great social and moral wave flung forward by the wind of revolution.

3. A surging or confused mass: a. of material things, persons, etc.

1857 KINGSLEY *Two Y. Ago* iii, A confused welter and quiver of mingled air, and rain, and spray. **1891** *Spectator* 18 July, A 'World's Fair' is apt to call up sickening recollections of . . . a vast welter of 'miscellaneous exhibits'. **1893** MCCARTHY *Red Diamonds* III. 235 Covered with the wreck and welter of the ruined building.

b. of immaterial things.

1851 CARLYLE *Sterling* III. v. (1872) 206 His talk . . . went tumbling as if in mere welter of explosive unreason. **1864** MITCHELL *Wet Days at Edgewood* 306 Losing point and force and efficiency in a welter of words. **1880** MCCARTHY *Own Times* IV. lxvii. 533 The historian is constantly involving himself in a welter of inconsistencies and errors.

welter ('welʔə(r)), *sb.*² [f. *WELT sb.*¹ + -ER¹.] A worker who makes or inserts the welt (in a manufactured article).

1862 MRS. H. WOOD Mrs. Hallib. *Troub.* I. xviii, Some welted, or hemmed the gloves round at the edge of the wrist; these were called 'welters'. **1866** *Lond. Rev.* 27 Oct. 459/2 There are various epithets for shoemakers; . . . there are welters . . . clickers, blockers . . . closers. **1881** *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 75 Hosiery manufacture. . . Welter. *Ibid.* 76 Glover, glove maker. . . Welter.

welter ('welʔə(r)), *sb.*³ [? f. *WELT v.*¹ 5.]

1. a. A heavy-weight horseman or pugilist. Cf.

WELTER WEIGHT.

1804 *Sporting Mag.* XXIII. 293 The high weights, among the Subscribers called the Welters. **1863** E. FARMER *Scrap Book* (ed. 3) 61 Leaving 'Welters' and 'Craners' and 'slow-uns' behind. **1869** *Contemp. Rev.* XI. 365 There is a pleasing representation of the Teddworth Hunt, who seem from it to be an awful lot of welters.

b. *Horse-racing*. Used attrib. with the meaning 'for heavy-weight riders', as *Welter Cup, Welter Stakes; welter handicap, race*. Also *ellipt.* (= *welter race*, etc.).

1820 *Sporting Mag.* VI. 2/1 A capital gentleman jockey for a *Welter* stake. **1843** W. RUFF *Guide to Turf* 36 The Welter Stakes of 20 sov. each. **1850** *Ibid.* 64 The Cheshire Welter Cup. **1880** W. DAY *Racehorse in Training* 198 The runners in the welter races have surpassed those in the light-weight handicaps by two. **1897** N. GOULD *Seeing him Through* xxv, The welter-handicap for amateur riders. *Ibid.*, There were ten starters for the amateur welter.

2. Something exceptionally big or heavy of its kind. *colloq. and dial.*

1865 J. SLEIGH *Derbysh. Gloss.* in *Reliquary* (Jan. 1866) 171 *Welter*, a large person. **1888** *Sheffield Gloss.*, *Welter*, anything large, as a large stone. **1899** KIPLING *Stalky* ii. 49 Then he gave us eight cuts apiece—welters.

welter ('welʔə(r)), *v.*¹ Forms: 4-7 *weltre*, 4-6 *Sc. weltir*, 5-6 *weltir*, 5- *welter* (5 *Sc. veltir*). [a. MDu. *welteren* or MLG. (also LG.) *weltern* (hence NFris. *wälteri*, Sw. *vältra*), MHG. *welzern*, frequentative f. the stem *welt-*: see *WELT v.*² and cf. *WALTER v.*¹]

1. *intr.* 1. To roll or twist the body; to turn or tumble about; to lie and roll about; to writhe, to wriggle. Also with *about*. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

a 1300 [implied in sense 2]. ? **a 1400** *Morte Arth.* 890 He weltirys, he wristeles, he wrynges hys handes! *Ibid.* 1142. **c 1440** *Alphabet of Tales* 411 Sho was gretelye turment, to so muche at sho wold som tyme weltir in þe fyre. *Ibid.* 488 He feld a blak myrk thyng weltir betwix hym & his wyfe. **1470-85** MALORY *Arthur* v. v. 168 And thenne Arthur weltred and wrong, that he was other whyle vnder and another tyme aboue. *Ibid.* xi. viii. 582 She wrythed and weltred as a mad woman. **1667** MILTON *P. L.* I. 78 There [in Hell] the companions of his fall. . . He soon discerns, and weltring by his side One . . . nam'd Beëlzebub. **1727-46** THOMSON *Summer* 265 They . . . weltering in the bowl, With powerless wings around them wrapt, expire. **1751** CHESTERF. *Let. to Son* 13 June, In mixed companies with your equals . . . you may . . . sit, stand, or occasionally walk, as you like; but I believe you would not think it very *bienséant* to . . . welter in an easy chair. **1815** SCOTT *Lord of Isles* iv. x, And the shy seal had quiet home, And welter'd in that wondrous dome.

b. To roll about (in the mire, etc.). Chiefly *fig.* Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1530 PALSGR. 779/2 Thou welterest in the myer, as thou were a sowe. **1583** GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* xxi. 122 Verie fewe of them vouchsafed to consider that: for all of them lay weltring stil in their owne dung. **1603** HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 264 Oftentimes he will welter and wallow in the mire, confessing . . . what sinnes . . . he hath committed. **1641** MILTON *Church Govt.* II. 63 Such principles of earth as these wherein she [Prelaty, bred up in slime and mud] welters from a yong one. **1706** tr. *Liger's Compl. Florist* 167 Fowls are apt, after a great Drought, to welter in the Ground, or Dust, to cleanse their Feathers. **a 1732** T. BOSTON *Crook in Lot* (1805) 110 Man threw himself into the mire at first, and now he is justly left weltering in it.

c. To roll or lie prostrate (in one's blood); hence (hyperbolically) to be soaked with blood or gore; also *fig.* of a nation, etc. Now only *poet.*

1590 GREENE *Orl. Fur.* (1599) 10 Till all these Princes weltring in their bloods, The Crowne doe fall to Countie Sacrepant. **a 1593** MARLOWE *Edw. II.* II. v. 1181 Vpon my weapons point here shouldst thou fall, And welter in thy goare. **1643** *Decl. Commons Reb. Ireland* 26 Two Protestant Nations [were] ready to welter in each others blood. **1697** DRYDEN *Æneis* xi. 1218 Prostrate on the Plain, Welt'ring in Blood, she sees Camilla slain. **1744** P. WHITEHEAD *Gymnasiad* III. 73 Down dropt the Hero, welt'ring in his Gore. **1783** JUSTAMOND tr. *Raynal's Hist. Indies* I. 252 Three successive generations were doomed to welter in their own blood. **1803** *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 4/2 The deceased . . . was weltering in his blood, and bore every indication of having been robbed as well as murdered. **1849** D. G. MITCHELL *Battle Summer* (1852) 35 They lie—the fifty corpses—weltering in their blood. **1887** BOWEN *Æneid* II. 667 Slaughtered, and weltering each in the blood from the others that flows.

2. *fig.* † a. To revel, live at ease. *Obs. rare.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4503 Man þat weltres in his welis And, thoru his welth, na fautes felis. **1581** MULCASTER *Positions* xxxvi. (1887) 140 The middle sorte of parentes which neither welter in to much wealth, nor wrastle with to much want.

b. = *WALLOW v.*¹ 6. Now *rare*.

1535 COVERDALE *Eccl.* xxiii. 12 But they y^e feare God, eschue all soch and lye not weltringe in synne. **1561** DAUS tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 13 b, Who in the meane tyme swell with pride, and welter away in filthy pleasures. **1577-87** HOLINSHED *Chron.* I. 12/2 He suffered his owne bodie to welter in all vice and voluptuousnesse. **1611** SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* VII. i. 192 Numbers of them lay senseless and weltring in wine. **1646** H. P. *Medit. Seige* 7 *Luxury* . . . in which thou hast weltred with securitie. **1867** TENNYSON *Holy Grail* 767 Happier are those that welter in their sin.

c. To be sunk or deeply involved in.

1629 J. COLE *Of Death* 192 Let us then no longer lye weltring in sorrow, lest by overlong lamenting wee encrease Gods wrath. **1642** PRYNNE *Sov. Antidote* Pref., To make England in the selfsame desperate deplorable condition, as Ireland now lies weltring in. **1642** D. ROGERS *Naaman* 16 Suffers them to welter in their fears, doubts and complaints.

1856 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* I. (1865) VI. 153 We seem, indeed, in perusing the narrative before us, to be weltering in a dream of horrors. **1871** R. CHAMBERS in *Casq. Lit.* (1874) Ser. II. I. 264 They..leave you weltering in astonishment.

d. *transf.* of inanimate things.

1847 KINGSLEY *Poems, Sappho* 4 Upon the white horizon Atho's peak Weltered in burning haze. **1849** BRYANT *Hymn of Sea* 42 The fertile plain Welters in shallows.

3. Of a ship: To roll to and fro (on the waves). Also *fig.* Cf. WALTER v. 1 b.

1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* xxiv, We pullit vp saile, and furth our wayis went. Vpon the wawis weltering to and fro. **1609** HEALEY *Discov. New World* I. II. vii. 92 But our boat..did so welter from side to side. **1822-56** DE QUINCEY *Confess. Wks.* (1856) V. 266 My mind tossed, as it seemed, upon the billowy ocean, and weltered upon the weltering waves. **1876** J. SAUNDERS *Lion in Path* ix, The soldier's barque was weltering aimlessly, helplessly, hopelessly upon the waves. **1876** MORRIS *Sigurd* iv. 350 The keels roll down the seadale, and welter up the steep.

b. Of a dead body: To be tossed or tumbled about (on the waves); to roll or tumble about (in water). Also *fig.*

1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* 14 All the sinnes of the first World now welter, souse, & beate vniquietly in the Sea. **1637** MILTON *Lycidas* 13 He must not flote upon his watry bear Unwept, and welter to the parching wind. **1718** POPE *Odyss.* xiv. 155 But he whose name you crave Moulders in earth, or welters on the wave. **1791** COWPER *Odyss.* III. 115 Whether he on the continent hath fall'n By hostile hands, or by the waves o'erwhelm'd Of Amphitrite, welters in the Deep. **1806** SCOTT *Poems, Palmer* 40 A corpse amid the alders rank, The Palmer welter'd there. **1823** S. ROGERS *Italy* xxi. *Campagna of Florence* 149 Arno, .. where, exulting, he had felt A swimmer's transport, there, alas, to float And welter.

4. To roll down in a stream; to flow.

c 1375 Sc. *Leg. Saints* xlii. (*Agatha*) 306 A gret hyl..brak owt in fyre & brynt don, weltrand, as a borne had bene. **1508** DUNBAR *Tua Mariit Wemen* 439 With that wateris myn ene, and welteris doune teris. **1835** LYTTON *Rienzi* I. xii, From the left arm..the blood weltered slowly. **1846** KEBLE *Lya Innoc.*, *Sleeping on Waters* 44 And Nile, soft weltering nigh, Sings him to sleep. *Ibid.*, *Bathing* 2 Around the rushy point comes weltering slow The brimming stream.

† b. To flutter (down). *rare*—1.

c 1470 Gol. & Gaw. 290 [It] sall be licht as leif of the lynd lest, That welteris doun with the wynd, sa wauerand it is.

5. Of waves, the water, sea: To roll; to toss and tumble; to surge. Also *fig.* Now only *poet.*

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* III. 700 The strem sa sturdy was, That wawys wyd (that) brekand war Weltryt as hillys her and thar. **c 1480** HENRYSON *Paddock & Mouse* 179 The water is the world, ay welterand With mony wall of trubulation. **1581** A. HALL *Iliad* II. 23 As oft the seas we see The storme the boistrous surge to raise, weltring now low now hie. **1787-9** WORDSW. *Evening Walk* 122 There, waves that, hardly weltering, die away, Tip their smooth ridges with a softer ray. **1816** J. WILSON *City of Plague* II. i. 203 The sea that welters drearily Around the homeless earth! **1821** BRYANT *Ages* xviii, Till the North broke its flood-gates, and the waves Whelmed the degraded race, and weltered o'er their graves. **1865** SWINBURNE *Poems & B.*, *Song in Time of Order* 7 It swells and welters and swings, The pulse of the tide of the sea.

b. *transf.* Of a mass of persons or things: To be in a state of agitation, turmoil, or confusion.

1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. I. i, When a Nation..must now seek its wild way through the New, Chaotic,—where Force is not yet distinguished into Bidden and Forbidden, but Crime and Virtue welter unseparated. **1848** KINGSLEY *Saint's Trag.* II. iv, We sit in a cloud..while right below Welters the black fermenting heap of life On which our state is built. **1853** — *Hypatia* xxix, The mob had weltered and howled ineffectually around the house for some half-hour. **1889** JEROME *Idle Thoughts* 128 Huddled like vermin in sewers, they welter, and sicken, and sleep. **1897** 'MARK TWAIN' *Man that corrupted* etc. (1900) 317 The whole Left was surging and weltering about the champion, all bent on wringing his hand.

6. † a. Of a vehicle: To sway or rock unsteadily; to overturn. *Obs. rare.*

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* xl. 25 A litill stane oft, as men sayis, May ger weltir ane mekill wane. **1535** COVERDALE *Nahum* II. 4 The charettes rolle vpon the stretes, & welter in the hye wayes.

b. To go with a heavy rolling gait; to flounder. Also *dial.*, to reel, stagger.

1595 R. JOHNSON *Seven Champions* II. (1608) 52 Oh that some ravenous harpey woulde welter from his denne. **1674-91** RAY N.C. *Words, Welter*, to goe aside, or heavily, as women with child, or fat people. **1855** BRAN *New Wark* (E.D.S.) 188 Should a kraken welter up the sands..ye mud weel be astonished. **1822** SCOTT *Pirate* xvii, [The whale] was lying perfectly still, in a deep part of the voe into which it had weltered. **1851** MAYNE REIO *Scalp Hunt*. xli. 324 With desperate energy I plunged and weltered through it [the water]. **1884** D. GRANT *Lays & Leg. North* 75 [She] Weltered hame through bogs an' hillocks Aifter mony a weary fa'.

fig. **1837** CARLYLE *New Lett.* (1904) I. 70 On the eighth day after this I am to make my appearance as a Lecturer!..Some way or other we shall 'welter through it'.

II. *trans.* † 7. To move, turn, or force by rolling. *Obs.*

? **a 1400** *Morte Arth.* 1140 3itt es pe warlow so wyghte, he welters hyme vndere. **1513** DOUGLAS *Aeneis* VI. ix. 183 For sum weltris a gret stane wp the bra. **1520** M. NISBET *N.T. Scots* Matt. xxvii. 60 He welতির a gret staan to the dure of the beriele. **1535** COVERDALE *Prov.* xxvi. 27 And he yt weltreth a stone, shal stamble vpon it hymselfe.

refl. **1535** COVERDALE *Prov.* xxvi. 14 Like as the dore turneth aboute vpon the tresholde, euen so doth the slouthfull welter hymself in his bedd. — *Micah* i. 10 Thou at Betaphra, welter thy self in the dust and ashes.

† b. In pa. pple. with *in*. *Obs.* (Cf. 1 b, 2 b.)

1535 COVERDALE *Judith* xiv. 15 Then sawe he the deed body of Holofernes.., weltrid in his bloude vpon the earth. **1578** BANISTER *Hist. Man* VIII. 110 In whiche absurditie many are weltrid. **1632** J. HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Eromena* 30 Foure bodies lying weltrid in bloud. **1652** *Persuasive* 26 Princes, who are..weltrid in their own blood. **1673** HICKERINGILL *Greg. Father Greybeard* 257 England, as well as other Countries, has been disciplin'd, 'till weltrid in blood and ruine.

† 8. To cause to roll; to toss up and down. *Obs.*

c 1425 Macro *Plays, Cast. Persev.* 2003 Byttyr balys pei [his enemies] brekyn on brode, Mankynde in wo to weltyr & wau. **1513** DOUGLAS *Aeneis* III. iii. 90 The wyndis welteris the see continually. **a 1547** SURREY *Aeneid* II. 536 Fomy Nereus.. From bottoms depth doth weltrre up the seas. **1594** MARLOWE & NASHE *Dido* I. i. 223 And they so wrackt and weltrid by the waues, As euery tide tilts twixt their oken sides.

9. To overthrow, overturn, upset: also with *doun*. Chiefly *Sc.*

c 1450 Gol. & Gaw. 469 Wrightis welterand doune treis. **c 1480** HENRYSON *Test. Cressid* 436 All is decayit, thy weird is welterit so. **1513** DOUGLAS *Aeneis* VII. xi. 51 This cruell dochtir of the auld Saturn The marbyll hyrst can weltyr and ourturn. **1571** [see WALTER v. 1] 7. a **1663** SANDERSON *Serm.* (1681) II. 257 Were it but an ox, or an ass..that lay weltrid in a ditch. **1808** JAMIESON s.v., *To welter a cart*, to turn it upside down.

† 10. To wear out (one's days) in a state of trouble or disquiet. *Obs.*—1

1642 D. ROGERS *Naaman* 138 They returne to their old acquaintance with selfe, and so welter out their daies in utter misery.

Hence 'weltered ppl. a.

1590 T. WATSON *Melibeus* Poems (Arb.) 175 Castor and Pollux, ..two welcome messengers, Conuey great comfort to the weltrid minde.

'welter, v. 2 *Obs. exc. dial.* [Cf. WELT v. 3 and -ER²; the ending may have been suggested by 'wither'. Cf. WILTER v.] *intr.* To wither. Hence 'weltered, 'weltering ppl. adjs.

1645 BP. HALL *Remedy Discontentm.* v. 24 As for Beauty, what is it, but..a flower, which with one hot Sun gleam weltrith and fals? **1657** F. COCKIN *Div. Blossomes* 18 Your fading honour I esteem as dung, Earth's weltering glory as the dirt in street. **1855** DELAMER *Kitch. Gard.* (1861) 62 These vermin prefer weltered and flagging leaves to those that are quite fresh. **1860** I. TAYLOR *Ultimate Civiliz.* I. I. v. 40 The weltered hearts, and blighted memories of those whom we have..gathered from out of the..lost and wretched. **1887** *Kentish Gloss.*, *Welter*, to wither. 'The leaves begin to welter.'

weltring ('wɛltərɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. WELTER v. 1 + -ING¹.]

1. The action of turning or twisting the body about (on the ground), rolling (in the mire), wallowing (in sin), etc. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1448-9 METHAM *Amoryus & Cl.* 1631 This lyoun..Wypt on the gres hys bloody mouth; and in hys weltringyng Made alle bloody Cleopes kerchyff in hys wyptyng. **1520** M. NISBET *N.T. in Scots*, 2 Pet. ii. 22 The hound turnit agane to his spewing, and a sow [that] is weschin in weltring [Wycl. walwyng] in fenn. **1586** T. B. LA. *Primaud. Fr. Acad.* I. 206 All kind of superfluitie, riot, and weltring in pleasures.

† 2. The action of rolling or turning round; unstable condition; political agitation. *Obs.*

1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* clxiii, To se the sudayn weltring Of that ilk quhele [of Fortune]. **a 1586** STONEY *Astr. & Stella* Sonn. xxx, If in the Scottish Court be weltring yet. **1588** in *Rep. Commiss. Univ. Scot.* (1837) III. 193 In this confused tyme (quhen all folkis ar loukand to the weltring of the world).

3. The rolling and tossing (of waves); the surging (of water, the sea). Also *fig.*

1805 WORDSW. *Prelude* VI. 138 The surpassing life..incapable of change, Nor touched by weltrings of passion. **1827** POLLOK *Course T.* v. 595 And oft in dreams, the..sinner..heard the weltring of the waves of wrath. **1851** TRENCH *Poems* 73 'Mid the long weltring of the dreariest surge. **1867** MORRIS *Jason* IV. 681 A figure standing, with wide wings of gold, Upright, amid the weltring of the sea.

'weltering, ppl. a. [f. WELTER v. 1 + -ING².]

1. Of the sea: That tumbles and tosses; raging, surging.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* III. 719 The Se wald rys on sic maner, That off the wawys the weltrand hycht Wald refe thaim oft off thar sycht. **c 1420** WYNTOUN *Cron.* IV. 203 Qwhil pe weltrande wawis keyn Sulde a part asswagit beyn. **1423** JAS. I *Kingis Q.* c, In the huge weltering wawis..Off lufis rage. **1587** TURBERV. *Trag. Tales, Epit.* etc. 170 No..wrath of weltring waues could stay, those martiall mates at home. **1629** MILTON *Hymn Nativ.* xii, While the Creator Great..bid the weltring waves their oozy channel keep. **1771** BEATTIE *Minstr.* I. liv, The deep roar Of the wide-weltring waves. **1820** W. IRVING *Sketch Bk.* (1859) 7 The straining and groaning of bulk-heads, as the ship laboured in the weltring sea. **1870** BRYANT *Iliad* XIV. 20 As when the face Of the great deep grows dark with weltring waves. **1897** F. T. BULLEN *Cruise of 'Cachalot'* 306, I trembled for his life in such a weltring whirl of rock-torn sea.

b. That is in a state of agitation, turmoil, or confusion.

1831 CARLYLE *Misc.*, *Nibelungen Lied* (1840) III. 71 A firm sunny island amid the weltring chaos of antique tradition. **1850** KINGSLEY *Alton Locke* xxviii, The weltring mass of bullocks, pigs, and human beings. **1879** FARRAR *St. Paul* I. xviii. 320 That vast weltring mass of idolatry and corruption. **1890** J. PULSFORD *Loyalty to Christ* I. 195 You restless, heaving, weltring kingdoms of Time, moek us not. † 2. *Sc.* a. Moving clumsily or unsteadily. b. Rolling. *Obs.*

c 1480 HENRYSON *Trial of Fox* 111 The wyld Once, the Buk, the Uelterand Brok. **1501** DOUGLAS *Pal. Hon.* III. xl,

Thair micht I se..The welterand stone wirk Sisipho mich cair.

3. That is tossed about on or by the waves.

1609 HEALEY *Discov. New World* III. ii. 129 They..hold it fondnesse to hazard their liues either on a stumbling iade, or in a weltring barge. **1810** SCOTT *Lady of Lake* VI. xx, Another flash!—the spearman floats A weltering corse beside the boats. **1879** FARRAR *St. Paul* II. xliii. 377 They had drifted fourteen days, tossed up and down on the heaving waves of Adria, a weltering plaything for the gale.

4. Lying prostrate in blood; saturated with blood.

1816 BYRON *Ch. Har.* III. li, And Slaughter heap'd on high his weltering ranks. — *Siege of Cor.* xvii, It is humbling to tread O'er the weltering field of the tombless dead.

welter weight. [WELTER sb.³]

1. † a. Heavy weight (of a horseman). *Obs. rare.*

1825 *Sporting Mag.* XVI. 280 He was always well mounted for his welter weight.

b. A heavy-weight rider.

1832 Q. *Rev.* XLVII. 240 'Out upon this great carcass of mine,' says one of the best of the welter-weights. **1850** 'H. HIEOVER' *Pract. Horsemanship* 191 A horse belonging to a friend, a welter weight. **1883** PENNELL-ELMHIRST *Cream Leicestersh.* 344 A welter weight never went better to hounds in a fast run. **1897** *Daily News* 12 Mar. 3/4 Horses equal to carrying a welter-weight of fifteen stone or more.

c. *Horse-racing.* An extra weight sometimes imposed in addition to weight for age.

1880 W. DAY *Racehorse in Training* 201 They have..added to other improvements the introduction of welter-weights; so that it only requires a little alteration—more long races with heavy weights, and fewer short courses with light weights—to complete the reform.

2. A boxer or wrestler whose weight is between that of a light-weight and a middle-weight. Also *attrib.*

1896 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 3 Oct. 3/1 Welterweight champion of California. **1903** *Daily Chron.* 19 Sept. 3/3 Not even an indomitable spirit will bring a bantam-weight and a welter-weight together. **1910** *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 351/2 The boxing rules of the American Amateur Athletic Association differ slightly from the British... The recognized classes by weight are: Bantam, .. Feather, .. Light, .. Welter, 145 lb and under; Middle.. and Heavy.

welthe, weltht, obs. forms of WEALTH.

welting ('wɛltɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* Also *Sc.* and *north.* 6 wawting, 7 valting, 7-8 waltig, 8 ? waiting; 7, 9 waltin, 9 wattin. [f. WELT v. 1 + -ING¹.]

1. The action of furnishing with a welt. a. The edging, binding, or ornamenting (a garment) with a welt or welts; chiefly *concr.*, an edging, a border, fringe.

1508 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* IV. 135 Item, for grathing of foure saddles..and wawting of thaim with wellus, xlviii s. **1552** in Feuillerat *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 119 The garmentes weltd aboute with blew & yellow gould tinsell conteyning xxxⁱⁱ yardes weltinge. **1558** — *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 23, viii plackardes of the same Maske and the welting and jagginge therof. **1600** ROWLANOS *Letting Humours Blood* II. 54 The welting hath him in no chardges stood, Being the ruines of a cast French hood. **1647** *Caldwell Papers* (Maitl. Club) I. 100 Item for 4 elnes of Tours waltings to his claithes 0 10 0. **1737** *Ochertyre House Booke of Accomps* (S.H.S. 1907) 80 For 3 of a year of cherry waiting [sic: the *Glossary* gives wating]. **1875** *Plain Needlework* 16 They can be stitched (like welting) and finished off with strings. **1881** *Leicestersh. Gloss.*, *Welting*, ..a seam; a seaming.

transf. **1894** BLACKMORE *Perlycross* xxi, A westerly breeze played with the half ripe pods of gorse, and the brown welting of the heather.

b. in techn. senses, esp. in shoemaking.

1795 W. FELTON *Carriages* (1801) II. Gloss., *Welting* is the sewing a narrow strip of leather over the corner seams, .. which..keeps out the wet. **1889** *Pall Mall Gaz.* 15 Jan. 6/2 [Shoe trade.] Welting machinery is making progress, and hand labour for welting is being trained. **1893** ELIZ. ROSEVEAR *Text-bk. Needlework* etc. 405 Welting or Ribbing is usually knitted at the top of stockings, socks, muffatees, and sometimes throughout a garment.

2. A beating, a thrashing.

1840 COCKTON *Val. Vox* xii, Do you want a good welting? any say, and you shall catch, my dear, the blesseddest rope's-ending you ever had any notion on yet. **1862** H. MARRYAT *Year in Sweden* I. 233 She received a sound welting..from her father. **1887** G. MEREDITH *Poet. Wks.* (1912) 191 He [a dog] bewhippered his welting, and I Scarce thought it enough for him.

3. *attrib.*, as *welting cord*; † *welting stake*, some kind of armourer's anvil.

1660 in Meyrick *Ant. Armour* (1824) III. 128 Welting stakes. **1887** JAMIESON *Suppl.*, *Waltin-Cord*, *Wattin-Cord*, cord used in forming welts for seams and hems of gowns.

weltir, weltre, obs. forms of WELTER.

¶ Weltliteratur ('veltli:te:ratur). Also -litteratur. [Ger., f. welt WORLD sb. + literatur LITERATURE.] A literature of all nations and peoples; a universal literature.

[**1827** GOETHE *Gespräche mit Eckermann* (1836) I. 325 National-Literatur will jetzt nicht viel sagen, die Époque der Welt-Literatur ist an der Zeit.] **1913** E. POUND *Lit.* 7 Nov. (1971) 24 Until 'we' accept what I've been insisting on for a decade, i.e., a universal standard which pays no attention to time or country—a Weltliteratur standard—there is no hope. **1962** *Listener* 6 Sept. 358/2 It gives a new meaning to Goethe's dream of Weltliteratur. **1974** *Times Lit. Suppl.* 17 May 526/2 A truism, that Pound and Eliot were rebels against American provincialism and proponents of a Weltliteratur.

|| **Weltpolitik** ('vɛltˌpɒliːtɪk). [Ger., f. as prec. + *politik* politics.] International politics; world affairs from a political standpoint; a particular country's policy towards the world at large.

1903 J. BAILEY *Diary* 19 Feb. (1935) 90 Lord George Hamilton said... that the one thing needed to make the U.S.A. friends with us was their going into *Welt Politik*. 1905 D. M. WALLACE *Russia* II. xxxviii. 428 Never, perhaps, has the construction of a single line [sc. the Trans-Siberian Railway] produced such deep and lasting changes in the sphere of *Weltpolitik*. 1941 N. & Q. 26 July 43/2 The ineffectiveness of the Kruger telegram opened German eyes to the need of a fleet if Germany was to play a successful, or even a real, part in *Weltpolitik*. 1979 G. ST. AUBYN *Edward VII* vii. 363 The Triple Entente was a direct reaction to Germany's *Weltpolitik*.

|| **Weltschmerz** ('vɛlt-ʃmɛrts). Also *weltschmerz*. [Ger., f. as prec. + *schmerz* pain.] A weary or pessimistic feeling about life; an apathetic or vaguely yearning attitude.

1875 J. A. SYMONDS *Renaissance in Italy* I. iv. 232 The *Weltschmerz* did not exist for the men of the Renaissance. 1896 W. CALDWELL *Schopenhauer's System* 523 His philosophy is a study of the *Weltschmerz* that we all feel at times. 1923 A. HUXLEY *Let.* 2 Sept. (1969) 218, I have also been having a... jaundice lying on my liver, which reduced me to a fearful state of *weltschmerz* and incapacity to do anything. 1935 C. ISHERWOOD *Mr. Norris changes Trains* ix. 150 'What's the matter?' I asked. 'Things in general... The state of this wicked world. A touch of *Weltschmerz*, that's all.' 1947 [see ACCIDIA]. 1960 C. GEERTZ *Religion of Java* vi. 75 He said... the young good ones... die early, as a kind of reward, for it is a good thing to be dead. He spoke happily, not in any *Weltschmerz* mood. 1965 W. GOLDING *Hot Gates* 136 The sadness, the *weltschmerz* resulting from the constant movement of the ship. 1981 J. D. MACDONALD *Free Fall in Crimson* i. 6 'It is like *weltschmerz*.' 'Which, as you have so often told me, is homesickness for a place you have never seen.'

weluette, -uot, -wet, etc., obs. ff. VELVET.

|| **Welwitschia** (wɛl'wɪtʃɪə). [mod.L., named by J. D. Hooker (1862) after Dr. Friedrich Welwitsch (1806-72), Austrian botanist: see -IA.] A genus of gymnospermous plants (N.O. *Gnetaceae*) consisting of one species *W. mirabilis*, native to the sandy regions of western Africa. 1862 *Trans. Linnean Soc.* (1864) I. 1 On *Welwitschia*, a new Genus of *Gnetaceae*. By Joseph Dalton Hooker. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*

welwot, obs. Sc. form of VELVET.

welwous, variant of VELLOUS (velvet).

wely, var. WEALY *a.*¹ *Obs.*; obs. form of WILY.

wem (wɛm), *sb.* *Obs. exc. arch.* Forms: 3- *wem* (5 *Sc. vem*), 3-7 *wemme*, 4 *wembe* (6 *wemb*), 4-6 *weme*, 6 *weam*(e). [ME. *wem*, substituted for OE. *wam*(*m*), *wom*(*m*) (see WAM), under the influence of the verb.]

1. Moral defilement; stain (of sin). Chiefly in phr. *without(en) wem* = IMMACULATE *a.* I. *Obs. exc. arch.*

(a) *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 10 Cleane religiun & wiðuten wem is iseon & helpen widewen [etc.]. *c* 1290 *St. Cecilia* 10 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 490 Lat, louerd, myn herte wipoute wem be. *c* 1330 *Assump. Virg.* (B.M. MS.) 647 Marie... Cleane maide and clene wyf, Cleane widewe with oute wem. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xviii. 14 If thar were nocht lordid of me, than i sall be withouten wem. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 304 Jamus tellip of two religions; þe first is clene wit-oute wem... þe secounde is veyn religioun. *c* 1460 Towneley *Myst.* x. 37 My son shall in a madyn light... wythouten wem, os son thugh glas. *c* 1475 *Partenay* 466 That god... of the virgyn unfold Was born without wemme in hir attamed. 1538 BP. LONGLAND *Serm. bef. King* in Foxe *A. & M.* (1570) 1253/2 Impollutus. He was vndefyled. He lyued cleane, without spotte or blotte, without wemme or stayne. 1561 DAUS *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 29 Therefore was the Church of Smyrna right excellent, howbeit not vterly without any wem. 1858 MORRIS *Def. Guenevere* etc. 123 Rapunzel sings... Mary, maid withouten wem, Keep mel

(b) 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 3111 Make not thy soule so wykked a wem To do wykkedness for pryde of hem. *Ibid.* 7446 þe þredde [sin] ys þe werste wem. 1387-8 T. USK *Test. Love* i. i. 74, I wot wel, wem ne spot may not abyde there so noble vertue haboundeth. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Soule* (Caxton 1483) i. xxii. (1859) 26 So clene of wem, that no thyng nedeth the To weyle, ne to wepe thy sinnes fore?

† **b.** With defining term, as of *sin*, etc. *Obs.* *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xviii. 14, I sall be withouten wembe [v.r. wem] of dedly gilt. *c* 1340 — *Prose Tr.* 38 For in hir [Mary] was full-hede of all vertu with-owtynne weme of synn. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* xxi. 136 A mayde... With-oute wommanes wem in-to þis worlde brouhte hym. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 11208 (Trin.) Iesu hir childe bar she pore... Mayden wipouten wem of flesshe. *a* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 77 Oure Lord Ihesu Crist pat oure lady conceyuet of þe Holy Gost wythout wem of hyr body. *c* 1450 *Cov. Myst.* Prol. 5 Mary... wold not be defylde With spot nor wem of man. 1510 HORMAN *Vulg.* 8b, Our lady bare a chylde without any spot or wem of her virginite.

2. Material blemish, defect, injury, or stain. *Obs. exc. dial.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 378 Hwon þe gost iwent ut... wið-ute bruche & wið-ute wem, of his two huses. 13... *E.E. Allit. P.* A. 1003 Safer helde þe secounde stale, þe calydoyne penne withouten wemme. ? *a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rase* 930 That other bowe was of a plante Withoute wem, I dar warante. 1387 TREVISIA *Higden* I. 185 Vppon pat hulle lettres þat were i-write in poude were i-founde wip oute wem [L. *illibata*] at þe 3eres ende. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 4228 Alle herre clothus

... were... clene w'outt spotte ore wemme. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* ix. 157 Yf hit [water] be cleer apperyng like the skie, Withouten wem or signe of thingis vile. 1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* II. 114 A bowe... not marred with knot, gaulle, wyndeshake, wem, freate or pynche. 1553 *Respublica* II. iii. 565 Naie, Honestie will not see a wemme on your Cote. 1565 STAPLETON tr. *Bede's Hist. Ch. Eng.* 151 All the clothes, that were about hym, semed... without wem or any blemish. 1657 C. BECK *Universal Char.* M.3 A wemme, v. *flaw*. 1691 RAY S. & E. *Country Words*, *Wem*, a small fault, hole, decay, or blemish; especially in cloth, *Essex*. *a* 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Wem*, a small fretted place in a garment. 1889 N.W. *Linc. Gloss.* s.v., I'd no idee that tree was so full o' wems as I've fun it oot to be.

† **b.** Hurt, harm, injury. *Obs.* -1

1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1725) 76 So grete vengeance he nam of men of holy kirke, þat not did no wem tille him ne no trespas.

† **c.** *fig.* A break or pause (in time). *Obs.*

1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* 43 This scuffling or bopeepe in the darke they had a while without weame or bracke.

3. Bodily blemish, disfigurement, or defect; also, the mark of a bodily injury, a cicatrix, a scar. *Obs. exc. arch.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6897 3if. . hire vet in eny wemme be ybrost, Holdep hom gulti of þe dede. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 19721 Men lete him dun Vte ouer þe walles o þe tun, Witvten ani wond or weme. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2460 þat barn þe best adoun sette Wipoute eny maner wem þe worse it to greue. 1382 WYCLIF *Exod.* xii. 5 It shal ben a lombe with-outen wemme [Vulg. *absque macula*]. 1387 TREVISIA *Higden* IV. 231 He schewed opounliche þe wemmes of the sore woundes [L. *vulnerum cicatrices*] þat he hadde i-fonge in Egypt. *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 247 Macula is a wem in a mannys ije. 1448-9 METHAM *Amoryus & Cl.* 1866 Hole and sound, with-owte wemme off yowre woundys, Nowe vpryse. *a* 1500 *Hist. K. Boccus & Sydracke* (? 1510) Zijj, If a man... haue a wemme in a lym Shal a man vpbreyde it hym. 1526 R. WHYTFORD *Martiloge* 122b, A martyr slayne by ye swerde, whose holy body... was founde .xl. dayes after his dethe. . hole w'out wemme. 1577-87 HOLINSHED *Chron.* I. 92/1 There appeared in his head the signes and prints of ten wounds or more: all the which were growne into one wem. 1580 LYLly *Euphues* (Arb.) 463 This is the Glasse Ladies wher-in I woulde haue you... rubbe out the wrinkles of the minde, and be not curious about the weams in the face. *a* 1613 BRERWOOD *Lang. & Relig.* 196 Although the wound be in some sort healed, yet the wem or scar still remaineth. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* x, 'It is even so,' he added, 'neither wem nor wound—not as much as a rent in his frock!'

fig. 1513 DOUGLAS *Aeneis* iv. i. 46, I knaw and felis the wemmys and the way Of the ald fyre and flam of luffis heit. 1623 BINGHAM *Xenophon, Comp. Rom. Manner of War* X 2b, You spots and wems of noble Mars [tr. Lipsius *vos maculae et vibices generosi Martis*], which make the warres a refuge and sanctuarie for your villanies.

4. (By confusion with WEN¹.) A raised spot; a protuberance.

1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 36b, Theophrast sayth that it [the Cedar tree] is of marvellous highe growth... about the bodie without wem or knot. 1584 D. FENNER *Def. Ministers* (1587) 123 Wemmes, bunches, and needlesse waigtes of fatte. 1610 DONNE *Pseudo-Martyr* iv. §31. 138 The Reformers... thought to... take off euery Mole, and paire away euery Wemme.

wem, var. *whem* WHIM *sb.*¹

1769 *Ann. Reg., Nat. Hist.* 101/1 Four horses... at a common wem or engine, are sufficient to keep the mine clear.

† **wem**, *v.* *Obs.* Forms: 1 *wemman*, 3 *wemmy*, 5 *wemme*; *pa. t.* 1-2 *wemde*, 4-5 *wemmed*; *pa. ppl.* 3 (*Orm.*) *wemmedd*, 3 *y-*, 4 *i-*, 4-6 *wemmed* (3 *y-wemmed*); 3 *i-*, 4 *wemmid*, 4-5 *wemmyd*; 3 *i-wemmet*, 5 *Sc. wemmyt*; 4 *wemed*, 6 *wembde*. [OE. *wemman* (and *gewemman*), f. *wamm* WAM. Cf. AWEM *v.* and OHG. *bi-*, *giwemman*, Goth. *anawammjan* to blame.]

1. *trans.* To disfigure, mutilate (a person, his body); to impair (the mind); to injure (a thing).

c 900 tr. *Baeda's Hist.* iv. xxxii. (1890) 382 Was in ðæm mynstre sum geong monn, ðam unwlitig swyle & atollic his eagan wyrd & wemde. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1426 Ah þæt wæs miracle muchel, þæt nowðer nes iwemmet clað þæt ha hefden. *c* 1275 LAY. 6380 þat porh his wrappe his wit was i-wemmid. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6965 Ledep me þanne to mi sone, þat he mowe yse Min fet aboue & ek binepe, wer hii ywemmed be. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 22824 If þat ani... Was wemed, or on fote or on hand, . . . it sal na wem o þam be sene. *a* 1375 *Joseph Arim.* 678 þenne com on fro þe fiht þat foule was wemmed, Was striken of þat on Arm and bar hit in þat oper. 1387 TREVISIA *Higden* V. 213 He ordeynde þat a man þat were i-wemmed in his body [L. *vitiatus corpore*] schulde fonge non ordres.

2. To desecrate or violate; to hurt or harm. *a* 1000 *Ag. Ps.* (Spelm.) lxxxviii. 31 8yf rihtwisnys min hi wemmap [L. *profanaverint*]. *a* 1000 *Ag. Laws* (Thorpe) II. 142 8if he oðres ceorles wif wemme [L. *maculaverit*]. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4197, & þe wulle he wolde þis tendre þing wemmy foule ynou. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 19504 (Fairf.) For god him gette, þat knawes al gode, þat he wemmed neuer sacles blode.

3. To spot or stain with sin or impurity. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 83 Also þe liuendes godes sune in to þe meidene com & ho of hire meiden-had nawiht ne wemde. *c* 1200 ORMIN 2326 Sannte Marje sahh, þatt 3ho þa sholde wurpenn Wiþp childe, swa þatt 3ho þærpurh Ne sholde nohht ben wemmedd. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 10021 Hir maiden-hed... neuer wemmed was a dele. 1387 TREVISIA *Higden* V. 213 Also he seide þat Adam his synn wemmed [L. *laesit*] Adam alone. *c* 1449 PECOCC *Repr.* II. vi. 174 If the hous of Laban hadde be wemmed so cursidli as with the synne of ydolatrie. *a* 1500 *Hist. K. Boccus & Sydracke* (? 1510) Gijb, And she after chylde berynge Shalbe wemmyd of nothyng.

4. To stain; to mark with spots.

1398 TREVISIA *Barth. De P.R.* viii. xxix. (Tollem. MS.) Whan sche [the moon] passeþ upwarde to þe heyer cerclis, sche is bryzte and clene; and þan sche semep nouzt wemmid with no splek and suttynge. 1567 DRANT *Hor. Art Poetrie* Ded. *ijj, The verie Crownes and Scepters of best Monarks and princes had bene rustie, wembde, and warpde with obliuion.

Hence † **wemmed** *ppl. a.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxviii. (Margaret) 697 God forþed þat I With wenemyt [read wemmyt] handis sla þe in hy. 1382 WYCLIF *Deut.* xii. 15 Other vnclene it were, that is, wemmed and feble, other cleene, that is, hool and withouten wemme.

wem, obs. form of WAME.

† **wemay**, *int.* *Obs.* Also *wemo*, *wemmow*. [Cf. WE *int.*] An exclamation, app. denoting impatience or surprise.

c 1460 Towneley *Myst.* ii. 148 We! ryn on... Before! Wemay, man, I hold the mad! *Ibid.* 198 Wemo, wemo, foure [sheaves], lo, here! *Ibid.* xxvii. 291 Lucas. wemmow! where is this man becom?

wemb(e): see WAME, WEM *sb.*

wemble, var. WAMBLE.

weme: see WAME, WEM *sb.*

wemed, **wemel**: see WEMOD, WAMBLE.

wemen, obs. pl. of WOMAN.

† **wemless**, *a.* *Obs.* [f. WEM *sb.* + -LESS. Cf. Icel. *wamlauss* faultless.]

1. Without stain of sin; undefiled, immaculate.

c 1275 *Orison Our Lord* 10 in *O.E. Misc.* 139 þo þu hire to come heo mayde wes, And mayde heo wes after wemles-les. *a* 1300 *E.E. Psalter* xiv. 2 Lauerd, in þi telde wha sal wone? . . . Whilke þat incomes wemles, And ai wirkes rightwisenes. 13... *Bonaventura's Medit.* 812 My sone ys slawe here afore myn ye þe whyche y bare wemles of my body. *a* 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 151 Are I þat worthliche wrethe, þat al þis world wrouzt, Betere is wemles weende of þis world wyde. *c* 1420 LVDG. *Ballad* 104 Minor P. (1911) I. 258 O wemles mayden, embelyssed with his byrthe.

2. Free from material blemish or imperfection; spotless.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 18839 His for-hed fair, wemless to sight, Wit-vten ani runkel slight. 13... *E.E. Allit. P.* A. 736 This makellez perle... is wemlez, clene & clere. 1398 TREVISIA *Barth. De P.R.* viii. xxviii. (1495) 338 Noo thyng [is] more Impassyble and wemles... than lyght.

3. Free from hurt or harm; uninjured.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* *Wace* (Rolls) 7906 He bar hym so in þat pres þat of wounde he was wem-les. *a* 1400 *Mirror St. Edmund in Hampole's Wks.* I. 222, I... þanke þe þat me... þou hase kept, . . . in þis nyghte... hale, safe, and wemles. *a* 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 4066 [He] wendis a-way with that word & wemles paim leuys. *c* 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 99 Bot thou mend hym that mys... Thow sall rew in thi ruse... Or thou wend of this wane wemles away!

wemlock(e), var. forms of WAM-LOCK.

† **wemming**, *vbl. sb.* *Obs.* Also 3 *wemmunge*, 3-4 *wemning*(e, -ynge, 4 *wemmyne*. [f. WEM *v.* + -ING¹.] The action of the verb; defilement; injury.

1100 *Aldhelm Gloss.* 1. 4317 (Napier 113) *Lenocinii* wemmunge. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* (1922) 19 Alsua deð meidenhad [preserve] meidenes cwike flesch, wiðute wemmunge halt alle hire limen & hire wittes. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6895 [Let them step on red-hot shares] & 3if hire vet bep panne sauf wipoute wemmunge [v.r. wemninge, wemmynge] Graunteþ hom alle quit. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 11208 Ihesu crist hir barn sco bar, . . . and maiden neuer less, Wit-vten wemming of hir fless. 1300-1400 *Ibid.* App. XX. 236 Heo 3af out þe king & hadd hure broþer wipoute wemning. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvii. (*Macchar*) 201 Angelis . . . It kepit elyk fare fra wemmyne of þe fyr... opir in body or in claiht.

wemmow, **wemo**: see WEMAY *int.*

† **wemod**, *a.* *Obs.* Forms: *a.* 1 *wéamód*, 2-3 *wemod*, 3 *weamod*, 4 *waymot*. *β.* 3 *wamed*, *wemed*. [OE. *wéamód*, f. *wéa* affliction, trouble, malice + -*mód*: see MOOD *sb.* The *β*-forms may represent an OE. variant **wéaméde*.] Passionate, angry.

a. *c* 897 *Ælfred Gregory's Past.* C. xl. 289 Ongean ðæt sint to manianne ða weamod & ða gramþæran [L. *iracundi*]. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 5 Ne beo þu þereuore prud ne wilde ne sterc ne wemod ne ouer modi. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 118 Pellican is . . . so weamod & so wreful þæt hit sleað ofte uor grome his owne briddes . . . þis pellican is þe weamode ancre. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg., St. George* 690 He is . . . Proud and wemod, and drinkare; and in wrathþe al-mest wod. 13... *E.E. Allit. P.* C. 492 Why art þou so waymot wyze for so lyttel?

β. *c* 1205 LAY. 6368 Of alle þingen heo weore god 3if heo neore to wamed. A-nan se he wes wrað wid eni mon i þan stude he hine wolde slæn. 13... R. GLOUC. (Rolls) App. H 25 A knyht he was swiþe god, & to wemed of ynou.

wempel, -pill, obs. forms of WAMPLE.

wen¹ (wɛn). Forms: 1 *wænn*, *wenn*, 2 *wean*, 4, 7-8 *wenn*, 5-7 *wenne*, 4- *wen*. [OE. *wen*(*n*), *wæn*(*n*) = Du. *wen*, WFlem. *wan*, app. related to MLG. *wene* (1403), LG. *wehne*, *wähne* tumour, wart; the ultimate etym. is obscure.]

1. † **a.** A lump or protuberance on the body, a knot, bunch, wart. *Obs.* **b.** *Path.* A sebaceous cystic tumour under the skin, occurring chiefly on the head.

c 1000 Sax. Leechd. II. 34 Wip wenne on eagon genim þa holan cersan [etc.]. *Ibid.* III. 46 3if men synd wænnas gewundon on þæt heafod foran oððe on ða eagan. *c 1050 Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 422/2 *Impetigo*, eagan wenn. *c 1400 Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 8 In doyng away þat is to myche skyn: as wertis or wennys. *c 1440 Promp. Parv.* 522/1 Wenne, *verucca*, . . gibbus. *c 1475 Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 791/7 *Hic gibbus*, a wenne. *1555 EDEN Decades* (Arb.) 57 As he that wolde haue slaine Prometheus, wounded his wenne with his swoorde, whereby he was healed of that disease. *1597 GERARDE Herbal* i. li. 72 The seede of Darnell . . consumeth wens, hard lumps, and such like excrescence in any part of the body. *1626 BACON Sylva* §997 It would be tried, with Cornes and Wenns, and such other Excrescences. *1672 WISEMAN Treat. Wounds* II. ii. 10, I saw the Bullet lye like a small Wen or Scrophul, thrusting out under the Skin. *1711 ADDISON Spect.* No. 59 ¶4 Cicero, who was so called from the Founder of his Family, that was marked on the Nose with a little Wen like a Vetch. *1794 R. J. SULLIVAN View Nat.* I. 290 Others . . exposed to fewer exhalations . . will merely be deformed with wens and swellings about the joints. *1819 KEATS Otho* II. ii, Erminia has my shame fixed upon her, sure as a wen. *1840 DICKENS Old C. Shop* xi, A tall, meagre man, with a nose like a wen, *1884 T. BRYANT Pract. Surg.* (ed. 4) I. iii. 188 The acquired sebaceous cysts . . are more common on the head and face than elsewhere . . : when on the scalp they are known as 'wens'.

Comb. *1861 WYNTER Soc. Bees* 120 That cabinet of wen-like tumours.

c. Applied to the swelling on the throat characteristic of goitre. Also *Comb.*

1530 PALSGR. 287/2 Wenne in the throte, *gouoystre, gouistre*. *1617 MORYSON Itin.* i. 67 The men and women have great wens upon their throats, with drinking the waters that passe the Mines. *a 1700 EVELYN Diary* ? Apr. 1646 (Alps), People having monstrous gullets or wens of fleshe growing to their throats. *1832 R. & J. LANDER Exped. Niger* I. v. 204 Others who have unseemly wens on the throat, as large as cocoa-nuts. *1852 Meanderings of Mem.* I. 111 The wen-necked women.

d. An excrescence or tumour on the body of a horse.

1559 in Richmond Wills (Surtees) 133 One grey nagge with a wen in his side. *1600 SURFLET Country Farm* i. xxviii. 188 For the wen [Fr. *louppe*], open it when you shal perceiue it to be full of matter. *1649 J. TAYLOR* (Water P.) *Wand. Wonders West* 19, I hired a Horse . . , she had two wens as big as clusters of Grapes hung over both her eyes. *1677 Lond. Gaz.* No. 1240/4 A black Coach Horse . . , a wen upon the far foot behind. *1845 W. C. SPOONER Veterinary Art* 77 Wens are oval or round bodies, found floating loosely under the skin.

†e. An excrescence on a tree. *Obs.*

1538 ELYOT Dict., Molluscum, the wenne of a tree. *1577 B. GOOGE Heresbach's Husb.* II. 108 With this wood [Maple] tables are couered . . and other fine workes made, specially of the knobbes or wennes that growe out of it. *1707 MORTIMER Husb.* 330, I think those of eight or ten Inches circumference to grow better than smaller ones, provided the Bark be smooth, tender and void of Wens. *1725 T. TAYLOR in Portland Papers* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) VI. 88 One old oak . . had a kind of excrescence or wen upon it, . . its semi-circle was thirty-two feet. *1791 COWPER Yardley Oak* 66 And sides emboss'd With prominent wens globose.

f. *transf.* and *fig.*

Sometimes applied *spec.* to London: cf. quotes. 1783, 1821. *1597 SHAKS. 2 Hen. IV.* II. ii. 115 *Prince*, I do allow this Wen [Falstaff] to bee as familiar with me, as my dogge. *1640 BASTWICK Lord Bps.* iv. D 1 b, They are not the Body it selfe of the Church, but wennes, or swellings grown up, and . . incorporated into the Body. *1649 J. TAYLOR* (Water P.) *Wand. Wonders West* 12 Saint Michaels Mount . . is a barren stony little wen or wart. *1678 CUDWORTH Intell. Syst.* Pref. **1 b, This Digression of ours . . is no Wen, or Excrescency, in the Body of this Book; but a Natural and Necessary Member thereof. *1765 in Eliz. Carter's Lett.* 3 Sept. (1809) III. 118 This hot weather makes me languid . . In Stoic language, I feel myself to be a wen. *1783 TUCKER Four Lett. Nat. Subj.* iii. 45 If . . the Increase of Building [in London] . . was looked upon to be no better than a Wen, or Excrescence, in the Body Politic. *1821 COBBETT Rural Rides* (1885) I. 52 But what is to be the fate of the great wen of all? The monster, called . . 'the metropolis of the empire'? *1854 H. ROGERS Ess.* (1874) II. 6 Locke at once applies the knife to those huge wens of 'ontology' . . which had so long impoverished . . philosophy. *1871 KINGSLEY At Last* iii, Port of Spain would be such another wen upon the face of God's earth as . . the city of Havanna.

†2. A spot, blemish, stain. *lit.* and *fig.* *Obs.* (Confused with WEM sb.)

1340 Ayenb. 262 þis boc is y-mad . . Ham uor to berze uram alle manyere zen pet ine hare inwytte ne bleue no uoul wen. *1398 TREvisa Barth. De P.R.* xviii. clxxviii. (1495) 720 The rote [of the wyldc vyne] sod in reyne water and medly wyth wyne dooth awaye wennes [L. *maculas*]. *1535 COVERDALE Lev.* xxii. 22 Yf it be blynde, or broken, or wounded, or haue a wen . . they shal offre none soch vnto the Lorde. *1552 HULOET*, Wenne or fleshe spotte, *neus*. *a 1593 MARLOWE Ovid's Elegies* i. v. 18 Not one wen in her body could I spie.

3. *Comb.* wen-man *nonce-wd.*, a city-dweller. *1937 AUDEN Lett. from Iceland* viii. 102 The mountain-snob is a Wordsworthian fruit . . He calls all those who live in cities wen-men.

wen². Formerly the usual form of WYN, WYNN².

wen, repr. a pronunc. of WHEN *adv.* (*conj.*, *sb.*) in dialect or in uneducated speech.

1893 H. A. SHANDS Some Peculiarities of Speech in Mississippi 67 *Wen*, sometimes used by illiterate whites and negroes for *when*. *1901 M. FRANKLIN My Brilliant Career* iii. 16 It puts me in mind ev the time wen the black fellers made the gins do all the work. *1952* [see QUEEN sb. 5 c]. *1979 Amer. Speech* LIV. 67 W'en you see the fire come from the brimstone . . this earth ain' gon' be burnin'.

wen: see WEEN sb. and v., WHEN, WHENNE.

†wenbote, var. WAINBOTE. *Obs.*

c 1250 Rentalia Glaston. (Somerset Rec. Soc.) 83 Debet habere wenbote, scilicet, unum quodque plaustrum, unum lignum. *Ibid.* 96, 133.

wench (wenʃ), sb. Forms: 3-7 wenche, (4 weynche, 5 wenge, 6 wensche, whence), 4-wench; *Sc.* 6 winsch, wynch, vinche, 8-9 winch. [ME. *wenche*, shortened form of early ME. *wenchel*: see WENCHEL.]

1. a. A girl, maid, young woman; a female child. Now *dial.*

c 1290 S. Eng. Leg., St. Kath. 75 Nou is pis . . gret schame . . to sende a-boute . . After þe gretteste Maistres, for-to despuyti a-zen a fol wenche. *a 1300 E.E. Psalter* lxvii. 27 Bifor come princes samened to singand þar, In midde wenches of timpans war. *c 1350 Will. Palerne* 1901 William & his worpi wenche [sc. Melior, his betrothed] þan were blipe of þe help. *c 1380 WYCLIF Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 59 Crist came to þe hous of þis prince þat þe wenche lay deed inne. *a 1450 Mirk's Festial* 201 Then cryed þe fende and sayde: 'Alas, . . al my myst ys lorne, now such a 3eong wench hath ouercomen me'. *1519 Interl. Four Elem.* (Percy Soc.) 25 Than we wyll have lytell Nell, A proper wenche, she daunsith well. *1548 UDALL Erasm. Par., Luke* i. 57, 58 To whom it had been an happie chaunce to haue brought foorth a wenche, but a muche more luckie hadde it was, to haue brought foorth a soonne. *1586 in Wadley Bristol Wills* (1886) 250 If my wief be with Child whether it bee a Boye or a wenche I doe geve and bequeath vnto yt xx^{li}. *1606 SHAKS. Ant. & Cl.* i. ii. 36 Prythee how many Boyes and Wenches must I haue. *1648 CROMWELL Let. to Norton* 3 Apr., The money I shall need for my two little Wenches; and thereby I shall free my Son from being charged with them. *1665 Wood Life* (O.H.S.) II. 53 One Mr. John Viccaridg his child (a wench) of 11 years old. *1787 BURNS Let. W. Nicol* 1 June, A clean-shankit, straught, tight, weel-far'd winch. *1860 GEO. ELIOT Mill on Fl.* i. ii. 'It seems a bit of a pity, though', said Mr. Tulliver, 'as the lad should take after the mother's side i'stead o' the little wench'. *1895 CROCKETT Men of Moss Hags* xl. 287 For she was ever the most spirity wench in the world.

b. A girl of the rustic or working class.

1575 G. HARVEY Letter-bk. (Camden) 145 She was but a milkaide, and a plaine cuntry wench. *1590 SPENSER F.Q.* i. iii. 11 She to her gan call, . . But the rude wench her answer'd nought at all. *1620 SHELTON 2nd Pt. Quix.* x. 59 Seeing none but the three wenches, he was somewhat troubled. *1717 LADY M. W. MONTAGU Let. Pope* 1 Apr., These wenches [daughters of Greek gardeners] . . pass their time at their looms. *1843 JAMES Forest Days* v, His taste lies amongst country wenches.

c. As a familiar or endearing form of address; used chiefly in addressing a daughter, wife, or sweetheart. Now only *dial.* or *arch.*

1581 A. HALL Iliad v. 97 [Juno to Pallas] Go we my wench, and let vs shew this dizarde here at ful, What power . . we two haue. *1613 SHAKS. Hen. VIII.* iv. ii. 167 [Katharine to Patience, her woman.] When I am dead, good Wench, Let me be vs'd with Honor. *1826 SCOTT Woodst.* ii, 'I fear ye lie, wench,' said her father. *1848 MRS. GASKELL Mary Barton* iii, Thou't have enough to do and to bear, poor wench, to-morrow. *1856 MRS. BROWNING Aur. Leigh* III. 1056 The mother held her tight, Saying, 'Why wench, why wench, The squire speaks to you now'. *1885 J. PAYN Talk of Town* I. 189 Of course it annoyed me, wench, to see Frank so obstinate.

2. A wanton woman; a mistress. *Obs. exc. arch.* More explicitly *common, light, or wanton wench, wench of the stews.*

1362 LANGL. P. Pl. A. Prol. 51 Ermytes on an hep wip hoteide staues, Wenten to Walsyngham & here wenchis affir. *1377 Ibid.* B. xix. 433 Wenches of þe stuwes. *c 1386 CHAUCER Merch. T.* 958, I am a gentil woman and no wenche. *1390 GOWER Conf.* I. 263 Envie . . Is of the Court the comun wenche. *c 1420 Chron. Vilod.* 3360 Kyng Edgarus douster yche wene he was, Y-kete bot vpon a wenche. *a 1529 SKELTON Col. Clout* 970 Vpon these beestes rydyng, Naked boyes strydyng, With wanton wenches winkyng. *1535 COVERDALE Isaiah* xxiii. 16 Take thy lute (saie men to her) and go aboute the citie, thou art yet an vknowne wensche. *1590 SHAKS. Com. Err.* iv. iii. 55 Nay, she is worse, she is the diuels dam: And here she comes in the habit of a light wench. *1607 DEKKER & WEBSTER Northw. Hoe* i. B.1, A lodging of your prouiding? to bee cal'd a Lieutenants, or a Captaines wench! *1666 PEPPYS Diary* 6 Aug., Find my wife mightily out of order, and reproaching of Mrs. Pierce and Knipp as wenches, and I know not what. *1698* [see LIG-BY]. *1765 FRANCIS tr. Hor., Sat.* (ed. 7) i. iv. 65 His spendthrift Son, who spurns the portion'd Bride, And keeps a common Wench. *1781 JOHNSON in Boswell* 8 May, Chief Justice —, who loved a wench, summed up favourably, and she was acquitted.

3. A female servant, maidservant, serving-maid; also †handmaid, †bondwoman.

1380 Lay Folks Catech. (L.) 861 Thy neȝboris hows, wenche ne knaue Coueyte hem noȝt. *c 1384 CHAUCER H. Fame* 206 Lord and lady, grome and wenche Of al the Troyan nacioun. *c 1400 Apol. Loll.* (Camden) 74 As God bad bi Sara, Kast out þe wench and her son. *c 1491 Chast. Goddess Chyld.* 86 He [Peter] that for a worde of a wenche forsoke hym. *1526 TINDALE Mark* xiv. 66 There cam won of the wenches off the hyst preste. *1578 T. N. tr. Cong. W. India* 27 He determined to send one of the wenches to call her maister. *1659-60 PEPPYS Diary* 10 Mar., My wife was late making of caps for me, and the wench making of a pair of stockings. *1710 STEELE Tatler* No. 248 ¶5 The Wench in the Kitchen sings and scowers from morning to night. *1740 RICHARDSON Pamela* (1824) I. iv. 19 O! said she, if the wench, (for so she calls us maiden-servants,) takes care of herself she'll improve. *1758 JOHNSON Idler* No. 26 ¶3 Scarcely a wench was to be got for all work. *1819 SCOTT Bride Lamm.* vi, It is the wench of the house clattering to the well in her pattens. *1843 LEFEVRE Life Trav. Phys.* I. 8, I . . was informed by a dirty looking wench who opened the door, that the young ladies were gone. *1883 MISS BROUGHTON Belinda* III. viii, Tea . . is brought out to mess, in an arbour overlooking the stream, by a stout wench.

attrib. *1552 HULOET*, Wenche seruauante, *ancilla* . . A . . maid seruauante, or pore wenche seruauant.

b. *U.S.* (See quotes.)

1765 Boston Gazette 17 June (Thornton) 'Tis said the Fire was occasioned by a Negro Wench carrying a Quantity of Ashes. *1828-32 WEBSTER, Wench.* 3. In America, a black or colored female seryant; a negress. *1848 BARTLETT Dict. Amer.* *1891 Century Dict., Wench.* 3(c) A colored woman of any age; a negress or mulattress, especially one in service. (Colloq.)

4. *Comb.* wench-like a., girlish.

1552 HULOET, Wenche lyke, *puellaris*. *1611 SHAKS. Cymb.* IV. ii. 230 Do not play in Wench-like words with that Which is so serious.

wench (wenʃ), v. *Obs. exc. arch.* [f. WENCH sb.] *intr.* To associate with common women. †to wench out (time): to spend (it) in wenching.

1599 PORTER Two Angry Wom. Abington H 1, Indeed tis true, I am thus late a wenching, But I am forc't to wench without a wench. *c 1624 CHAPMAN Hymn to Hermes* 324 Tis better here to Imitate the Gods, And wine or wench out all times Periods. *1634 PEACHAM Compl. Gentl.* i. (1906) 10 To be drunke, swear, wench . . are the attributes and markes now adayes of a great part of our Gentry. *1668 DRYDEN Even. Love* IV. ii, As I am a Gentleman, a man of the Town, one who wears good Cloathes, Eates, Drinks, and Wenches abundantly. *1722 STEELE Conscious Lovers* IV. ii, Sir, I never saw a Man that wench'd soberly and discreetly, that ever left it off. *1809 MALKIN Gil Blas* IX. i. (Rldg.) 311 Tell me where Signor de Santillane is fallible. Is he fond of play? does he wench?

†wenchel. *Obs.* Forms: 1, 3 wencil, (1 wincel), 3 wenchel, (*Orm.* wenchell), wancel. [OE. *wencil* n.:—*wankil-, prob. related to *wancol* WANKLE a. The form *wincel* may represent a variant *winkil-.] A child (of either sex); also, a servant or slave; also, a common woman.

c 890 WÆFERTH tr. Gregory's Dial. 11/20, & þa arn an wencil [L. *mancipium*] mid treowenum æscene . . to þære wyllan. *c 1000 St. Basil's Admonitio* II. (1849) 34 And he for his wife ne for his wencilum ne dearr hine sylfne beladian. *c 1200 ORMIN* 3356 Forr 3uw iss borenn nu to daz3 Hælennde off sure sinness, An wencilchatt patt iss Jesu Crist. *c 1205 LAY.* 31834 Quelæn þa wifmen, quelen þa wanclen. *a 1225 Ancr. R.* 334 And hu [he] biseinte Sodome & Gomorre, men & wummen & children [MSS. T, C, were & wif & wencilch]. *c 1300 11,000 Virg.* 98 in *E.E.P.* 68 His Cardynals were þerason þat he his dignete gan reue Wip wencden [S. Eng. Leg. 89/96 fole wummen] forto go.

wencher ('wenʃə(r)). Also 7 wentcher. [f. WENCH v. + -ER¹.] One who associates with common women.

1593 Passionate Morrice (1876) 82 Those I suspected to be wenchers. *a 1625 FLETCHER Noble Gent.* i. 1, I am a whoremaster, And such a one as dare be . . pointed at to be a noble wench. *a 1654 SELDEN Table Talk, Clergy* ¶5 Like the Fellow that was a great Wench. *1667 PEPPYS Diary* 29 July, My cozen Roger told us . . that the Archbishop of Canterbury, that now is, do keep a wench, and that he is as very a wench as can be. *1701 GREW Cosm. Sacra* II. vii. 76 He must be . . no Gamester, Wench, Fopp. *1712 STEELE Spect.* No. 274 ¶1 Impotent Wenchers.

wenching ('wenʃɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. WENCH v. + -ING¹.] The action of the verb: also *attrib.*

1601 HOLLAND Pliny xxxv. x. II. 545 Given he was exceedingly to wenching. *c 1620 FLETCHER False One* IV. ii, You were told what this same whorson wenching long agoe would come to. *1672 DRYDEN Assignment* II. i, Love alone, is either plain wenching, where every Curtizan is your Mistriss, . . or else, . . plain whining after one Woman. *1712 ADDISON Spect.* No. 383 ¶5 [They asked] whether he was not ashamed to go a Wenching at his Years? *1775 SHERIDAN St. Patrick's Day* II. i, Between ourselves, he is most confoundedly given to wenching. *1811 BYRON Hints fr. Horace* 706 The youth who trains . . Must bear privations . . Be call'd to labour when he thinks to dine, And, harder still, leave wenching and his wine. *1873 L. O. PIKE Hist. Crime* I. 93 In reality the Priest took to Money-getting and Wenching.

attrib. *1590 Tarlton's Newes Purgatorie* 5 And some I can tell you haue come thither for wenching matters. *1592 Def. Conny catching in Greene's Wks.* (Grosart) XI. 62, I omit Miles the Millers coosenage for wenching affairs. *1607 DEKKER & WEBSTER Northw. Hoe* IV. i. E3 b, I hope you thinke my wenching daies are past.

'wenching, *ppl. a.* [f. WENCH v. + -ING².] That habitually associates with common women.

1606 SHAKS. Tr. & Cr. v. iv. 35 Whats become of the wenching rogues? *1719 D'URFEE Pills* V. 268 To Wenching Smell-smocks give I these. *1913 Sat. Rev.* 11 Oct. Suppl. p. iv/1 Fox was himself a gambling, drinking, wenching . . rascal.

'wenchless, a. *rare*—¹. [f. WENCH sb. + -LESS.] Unprovided with a wench or wenches.

1608 SHAKS. Per. IV. ii. 5 Mettelyne is full of gallants, wee lost too much money this mart by beeing too wenchlesse.

wencus, obs. *Sc.* form of VANQUISH v.

Wend (wend), sb. Also Vend; 8 Winde. [ad. G. *Wende*, *Winde* (pl. *Wenden*, *Winden* = Da. *Vender*, ON. *Vindr*, OHG. *Winida*, OE. *Winedas*, *Weonod*-, med.L. *Venedi*, *Veneti*), of doubtful origin.]

1. A member of the Slavonic race now inhabiting Lusatia in the east of Saxony, but formerly extending over Northern Germany; a Sorb.

1786 tr. J. R. Forster's Hist. Voy. North 101 note, The Vandals mentioned here, are indubitably the Wends, or that tribe of the Slavonians which opposed the Moguls and the Tartars. *1788 Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) II. 700/1 (*Austria*), The

Windes, who are mixed with the Germans in these countries. 1830 *Encycl. Metrop.* XXI. 340 The Vends are a well-made, strong, courageous, and industrious people. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 206/1 The language of the Vends . . . dates its first literature from the Reformation. 1861 *PEARSON Early & Mid. Ages* 155 Canute was still unable to subdue the Wends, who . . . made the Baltic a Slavonian lake. 1886 *BARING-GOULD Germany* xliii. 264 Henry I. had created the Margrave of Brandenburg as a bulwark against the heathen Wends, who lived on the Baltic.

2. Southern Wends: (see quot.).

1822 *Encycl. Brit.* Suppl. V. 242 In 640, the Slavonians took possession of Illyria, . . . and they still retain it, under the names of Servians, Croats, and Southern Wends. *Ibid.*, The southern Wends . . . are now mixed with Germans in Carniola, Carinthia, and Lower Stiria.

wend (wënd), *v.*¹ *Pa. t.* and *pa. pple.* wended ('wëndid). Forms: *Infin. a.* 1 wendan (*North. wēnda*), 2 wænden (wanden), 3-4 wenden (3 *Ormin* wendenn), 5 wendyn, *Sc.* wendin; 3-6 wende (4 whende), 4-5 *north.* and *Sc.* vend, 4-wend; 3 *sing. pres.* 1-4 went (2 want); β. 3 wiende, 4-5 weende, *north.* and *Sc.* 4-5 weind, weynd, 5 weynde; γ. 4 winde, wind, 5 wynde, wynd; δ. 4-6 went. *Pa. t.* 1-4 wende (3 *Ormin* wennde); 2 wænte (wante), 4-5 wente, 4- went (5 whent); *north.* 4 weint, 4-5 wynt; 6- wended (5 *north.* weyndut). *Pa. pple.* 1 gewend, 3-4 iwend, 4 ywend, -e (wende), 3-5 wend (3 *Ormin* wennd); 2 i-want, 3-5 i-, iwent, went, wente, 4 y-, ywent, 5 i-wante; *Sc.* 6 wynt; 1, 4, 6- wended. [Common Teutonic: OE. *wendan*, = OFris. *wenda* (WFr. *weine*, *wine*, NFr. *wēn*, *wān*), MDu. (and Du.) *wenden*, OS. *wendian* (MLG. and LG. *wenden*, LG. *wennen*), OHG. *wentan* (MHG. and G. *wenden*), ON. and Icel. *venda* (Norw. *venda*; Sw. *vānda*, Da. *vende*), Goth. *wandjan*; f. *wand-, the preterite stem of *windan* WIND *v.*¹, of which *wendan* is the causative. The original forms of the *pa. t.* and *pa. pple.* are respectively *wende* and *wended*, *wend*, but the forms *wente*, *went* appear beside these from c 1200, and latterly become the more usual; in the refl. and intr. senses *went* finally replaced the older preterites belonging to *go*, and from c 1500 is most naturally regarded as the *pa. t.* of that verb, while *wend* was provided with the new form *wended*.

The following are illustrations of the less usual forms of the infinitive and present. The β-forms represent a normal lengthening of the vowel in certain dialects. The γ-forms are merely graphic (by confusion with WIND *v.*¹), as the rhymes regularly indicate *wēnd* or *wënd*. The δ-form is due to the influence of the *pa. t.* and *pa. pple.* in the form *went(e)*.

β. c 1290 *St. Silvester* 23 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 391 To-night þou schalt . . . wiende to þe pine of helle. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 2363 3ee sal weind til a better land. 13 . . . *Northern Passion* 198 (Camb.) Vnto þat cite sone gan þai weynd. 1362 *LANGL. P. Pl. A. x.* 171 Elles schal al dye, and to helle weende. ?a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 450 Thow weyndeþ by Watlyng-strette, and by no waye elles. 1421 *Hoccleve Minor P.* xxii. 561 On my behalue to thy lady wende [rhyme seende = send]. c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* ii. 132 Good brother, let vs weynd sone. γ. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3564 Til vnwelth windes al his wald. *Ibid.* 8619 Haf god-dai, for nov wind i. a 1400 *R. GLOUC.* (Rolls) 805 (MS. B.) þat ich was wond to wynde Mid so mony hundred knyghtes a boutte in eche ende. a 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 2014 (Ashm.), I warne þe, or I wynd. *Ibid.* 2150, 2177, etc. c 1435 *Torr. Portugal* 107 He takythe leve at lordrys hend, And on hys wey gan he wynd. a 1500 *Coventry Corpus Chr. Pl. i.* 330 To hys blys that ye may wynd At your last day.

δ. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 27748 It wentes man fra godd his will. *Ibid.* 28681 þou fand . . . all for to went his will. 1375 *BARBOUR Bruce* iv. 257 and thi Ferrand . . . Sall richt to Paris went. c 1400 *Rule St. Benet* 2027 When þai sal went in cuntre. c 1470 *HENRY Wallace* 1. 330 Scho prayde he wald to the lord Persye went. 1560 *ROLLAND Seven Sages* 75 Thow seruis better for to haue punischement, . . . nor halie gaitis to went.]

1. Transitive and reflexive senses.

1. †a. To alter the position or direction of; to turn (something) round or over: also with *across*, *adown*, *away*. *to wend down*: to overthrow, destroy. *Obs.*

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* i. § 2 þa wendon hi me heora bæc to. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 191 Petrus cwæþ, þa he com to þære rode, . . . 'Wendap min heofod ofdrune', a 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 16 Clæm ðonne on arfæt; læt standan nygon niht; wende man ælce dæge. c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke vi. 29 And þam ðe þe slyhð on þin gewenge, wend oðer ongean. c 1050 *Voc.* in *Wr.-Wülcker* 377/18 *Conuoluens*, wendende. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 161 Hie wenden þe eorðe & wurpen god sad paronne. c 1205 *LAY.* 46 Layamon leide peos boc & þa leaf wende [c 1275 tornde]. *Ibid.* 26559 Bos . . . his hors wende wunder ane swiðe. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 62 Louerd, seið Dauid, wend awei mine eien vrom þe worldes dweole. *Ibid.* 430 He . . . went þe neruwe ende of þe horne to his owne muðe. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1649 Iacob wið hie wende ðat ston. a 1300 *E.E. Psalter* ix. 7 þair cites doune dide þou wende. c 1330 *Assump. Virg.* 711 (Add. MS.) Here moupes were to here nek went. 13 . . . *Gaw. & Gr. Mnt.* 2152 Bi þat þe wyze in the wod wendex his brydel. 1398 *TREvisa Barth. De P.R.* xvii. lxxii. (1495) 646 Heye is ofte reyssed torned and wended. *Ibid.* cxlvii. 702 It falleth to powder while it is tornyd and wende and kneden in the honde. c 1400 *Beryn* 2837 They made hir takelyng redy, & wend þe sail a-cros.

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* vi. 13 And yf the rayn bishoure, Wende hit [hay] not til hit be parfit drie. a 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 1349 Bors de gawnes stille stode And wrothe a-way hys ygen wente.

absol. 1475 *Partenay* 6566 Ho it metre will, . . . Be it in baledre, uers, Rime, or prose, He most torn and wend, metrely to close.

†b. *fig.* To turn over, revolve (thoughts, etc., in the mind). *Obs.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 98, & 3et hwon he is forðe, heo went in hire puhte ofte swuche words.

†c. *to wend away*, to take away, remove. *Obs.*

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2613 Egipte wimmen . . . boden ðe childe letten ðer, Oc [3]he wente it awei wið rem. c 1440 *York Myst.* ii. 42 Oway I will it wende full wyght. *Ibid.* 46 Now sene þe erthe þus orlandes, . . . to growe with gres, and wedis þat sone away bese went.

d. *Naut.* To turn (a ship's bow or head) to the opposite tack. Also with *about*, *aloof*. (Cf. 6 c below, and WIND *v.*¹ 8.)

to wend (a boat) *off*: to float (a stranded boat) by this operation.

1556 *J. HEYWOOD Spider & Fly* lvii. 206 Better wende your ship a loofe: and take sea roome: Then roon here on rocks. 1622 *R. HAWKINS Voy. S. Sea* xxxiv. 84 And laying out an Anchor, we sought to wend her off. 1631 *PELLHAM Gods Power* 6 Some of our companie . . . were perswaded, to wend about the Boates head the second time, unto the Southwards. *Ibid.* 7 We wended the Shallop . . . unto the Northward. 1635 *Adm. Court Exam.* 52, 22 Oct., The Neptune being then newly wended from the Shoare. 1704 *J. HARRIS Lex. Techn.*, *Wending*, is a term for bringing a Ships' Head about. 1834 *MARRYAT P. Simple* xlii, He hauled-to the launch, and wending her bow to the privateer, directed her carronade . . . to where the Frenchmen were crowded the thickest. 1867 *SMYTH Sailor's Word-bk.*

†2. *fig. a.* To turn (one's mind, thoughts, will, etc.) in a new direction; to alter (one's mind or intention). *Const. from, to. Obs.*

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxiii. § 4 Ic wolde nu þæt ðu wende þin ingeþonc from þæm leasum gesealdum. *Ibid.* xxxv. § 7 Swa hwa swa . . . his mod went to ðæm yflum ðe he ær forlet. c 1205 *LAY.* 8836 Nu ich wulle wende mi mod, azenes uuel ich wulle don god. c 1290 *St. Kath.* 16 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 92 Sire, heo seide, . . . þow scholdest þi wisdom and þi wit to some guode wende. c 1290 *Beket* 998 *Ibid.* 135 All we worpez i-brougt to nougite, bote þow þi pougt wende. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 10646 Al hir might and all hir tent To godds seruis had sco went. c 1330 *R. BRUNNE Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 7807 Anon tys wið his wille he went. 1390 *GOWER Conf.* i. 235 If hire lord his herte wente To love in eny other place.

†b. To turn (a person) to or from a course of life or condition; to alter (a person's will or purpose). *Obs.*

c 1200 *ORMIN* 3441 Forþpi þatt he þeggm wolde þa To rihtte læfe wendenn. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 110 Forte wenden us uromard þe licunge þet flesches lustes askeð. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 693 To wenden men fro godes reed, To newe luue and to newe dred. 13 . . . *Cursor M.* 24824 (Gött.) þaa þat he had na giftes till, wið hightes faire he went pair will. 1338 *R. BRUNNE Chron.* (1725) 194 My broþer. Is riche of tenement, his sonnes strong & stith, þer wille wille not be went.

†3. *a.* To change the character of; to alter. *Obs.*

Rarely also with adj. complement.

a 1000 *Guthlac* 730 [758] by læs þa tydran mod þa gewitnesse wendan þurfe. 1154 *O.E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1137 He . . . makede mani weorkes & wende þe tun betere þan it ær was. c 1205 *LAY.* 7128 þe uncufte weoren . . . wenden heore [sc. the burghs'] nomen. c 1230 *Juliana* 38 Ant he wende heowes & warð swuch as he her wes unwilt of helle. c 1290 *St. Kenelm* 60 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 347 þe king of kent was þo kyng of al þe londe of kent, þat weren inne tweie bischopriches, and geot nis it nougt i-went. 1390 *GOWER Conf.* II. 144 That sche ne mai . . . speke a word, ne ones loke, That he [a spy] ne wol it wende and croke And torne after his oghne entente.

†b. To 'turn' from one language into another; to translate. *Const. on* (= into), *till* (= to). *Obs.*

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past.* C. Prolog. 7 Ða ongan ic . . . ða boc wendan on Englisc. ?c 900 — *Boeth.* Proem, Ælfred kuning was wealstod ðisse bec, & hie of boclædene on englisce wende. c 1200 *ORMIN* Ded. 113 3iff man wile wifenn . . . Whi icc till Ennglissh hafe wennd Goddspellless hallþe lare.

†c. To change the form or nature of; to transform, transmute, or turn to, into. *Obs.*

c 1000 ÆLFRED *Hom.* (Thorpe) I. 168 3if ðu Godes Sunu sy, wend þas stanas to hlafum and et. a 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Thorpe) cxiii. 8 He wendeð stan on widne mere. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 78 þer, þurh hire bone, was water iwend to wine. a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1464 (Cott.) þat child bi me hit understood An his unred to red went. c 1275 in *O.E. Misc.* 90 Selcup dude vre dryhtin þat he water wende to win. a 1300 *K. Horn* (Cambr. MS.) 470 þanne is mi pralhod Iwent in to kniþhod. 1340 *Ayenb.* 60 Hi alle . . . wendelþ to guode al þet þe guodemam dep oper zayp. c 1350 *Libeaus Desc.* (Kaluza) 2132 þour3 har chauntement To worme þey hawe went.

†d. To bring (into a certain state). *Obs.*

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2896 Louered, qui was ic hider sent? ðin folc is more in sorwe went.

†4. *refl.* To turn, direct, or betake (oneself). *Freq. with advs. or preps. Obs.*

Orig. in purely reflexive use, with the accusative of the pronoun, which is subsequently replaced by the dative.

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xl. § 1 Ic wolde . . . ðæt wit unc wenden sume hwile to pises folces spræce. c 893 — *Oros.* III. vii. § 4 [He] hiene sippan wende on his þrie gebroðor. a 900 *O.E. Chron.* an. 894 þa se cuning hine þa west wende. c 1000 ÆLFRED *Gen.* xlii. 24 He wende hine lithwun fram him and weop. c 1200 *ORMIN* 6576 þatt sume off ure little flocc . . . Hemm wendenn oper stund fra Crist. *Ibid.* 11320 Forþriht se Jesus fullhtnedd wass, He wennde him intill weste. c 1205 *LAY.* 24177 Wend þe hider Howeldin . . . hawe

þu Bulune. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 18 þer efter wendeð ou to vre Læfdi onlicnesse, and cneoleð mid fif auez. c 1250 *Kent. Serm.* in *O.E. Misc.* 27 þo kinges hem wenten and hi segen þo sterre. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 5693 þir wimmen went þam ham a-gain. c 1374 *CHAUCER Boeth.* III. met. xii. (1868) 107 He wente hym to þe houses of helle. 1390 *GOWER Conf.* II. 238 And fro his lond with Sail updrawe Thei wente hem forth. c 1425 *Eng. Conq. Irel.* 30 He went hym to þe kyng henry, & hym swith besoght [etc.]. 1586 *J. HOOKER Hist. Irel.* in *Holinshed* II. 11/2 He thought long yer he could wend himself ouer into Ireland. 1635 *J. HAYWARD tr. Biondi's Banish'd Virg.* 163, I know it stands us upon to wend us hence assoone as we conveniently can.

†b. *lit.* of a vane: To revolve (*with the wind*).

1340 *Ayenb.* 180 Hi byep ase þe wedercoc þet is ope þe steple, þet him went mid ðe wynde.

II. Intransitive senses.

†5. Of events, etc., or impers. with *it*: To have or take a certain course; to take place, happen, or come about. *Obs.*

Beowulf 1739 Ac him eal worold wendeð on willan. c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxix. § 2 Ac ic wundrie swiðe swiðlice forhwit hit swa went swa hit nu oft deð. 1297 *R. GLOUC.* (Rolls) 9400 Cuþeþ to day þoure manheþe þat it mowe wende To þou & to þoure children to honour wiþouten ende. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 18789 Bot godd for-bede sua þat it weind, þat we vr fa mak of ur freind. 13 . . . *Ibid.* 7662 (Gött.) þare mani a man fel vnder schild, Bot wið dauid went þe feld. 1340 *Ayenb.* 262 Nou ich wille þet ye ywyte hou hit is y-went þet þis boc is y-write mid englis of kent. 1377 *LANGL. P. Pl. B.* 111. 280 For so is þis worlde went wiþ hem þat han powere That who-so seyth hem sothes is sonnest yblamed. 1390 *GOWER Conf.* II. 276 If myn happ were so well went, That for the hole I mihte have half. c 1400 *Beryn* 1264 Then Beryn . . . seid, 'is this a sermon or a prechement? Yee were nat wont her-to, how is this I-went?'

6. †a. *to wend again*: to turn back, to return. *lit.* and *fig. Obs.*

In OE. also without adv., and with *on bæc*.

O.E. Chron. an. 895 þa hie ða eft ut of Norð Wealum wendon mid þære here hyðe þe hie ðær genumen hæfdon. c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke xvii. 31 And se ðe bið on æcere ne went he on-bæc. *Ibid.* xxiv. 33 And hi3 arison . . . & wendon [c 1160 *Hatton* wenten] to hierusalem. c 1205 *LAY.* 1590 He wende on þean sone & he ohtliche feaht. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 979 An angel . . . bad hire sone wenden agen. *Ibid.* 3724 We wilen . . . wenden in-to egipte agen. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3027 þai went again to bersabee. c 1375 *Ibid.* 1867 (Fairf.) Agayne he dide þe waters wende, þe ship on lande bigan to lende. c 1430 *Chev. Assigne* 137 Wende þou aþeyne, malkedras, & gete me þe cheynes.

†b. Of the wind: To change in direction. *Obs.*

c 1205 *LAY.* 9407 þe wind wende forð riht framward þan stronde in to pissen londe. c 1400 *Gamelyn* 703 And sente . . . For to seke Gamelyn . . . To telle him tydinges how the wind was went.

†c. *Naut.* Of a ship: To turn her head about (see 1 d above). *Obs.*

1297 *R. GLOUC.* (Rolls) 21 Wateres . . . 3ware bi þe ssipes mowe come fram þe se & wende And bringe alonde god ino3. 1530 *PALSGR.* 779/2, I wende, I turne, as a shyppe dothe with he tyde. 1537 *Adm. Court Oyer & Term.* 73. No. 38 The said wood hoye . . . dyd wende abowte for to cum to an anker. a 1609 *SIR F. VERE Comm.* (1657) 32 About me the Gallions let slip Cable in the haulse, and with their top sails wended and drew towards the shore on the left hand of the Bay. a 1618 *RALEGH Observ. Royal Navy* (1650) 9 The lesser [ship] will turne her broad sides twice, before the greater can wend once. 1630 *J. TAYLOR* (Water P.) *Praise of Hempseed* Wks. III. 65 East and by South, West and by North she wends. 1704 *J. HARRIS Lex. Techn.* s.v. *Wending*, . . . They say, How wends the Ship? i.e. Which way does her Head lie?

†7. To turn from one condition or form to another; to change to or into. *Obs.*

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* iv, Forþan went nu fulneah eall moncyn on tweekunga, gif [etc.]. c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 248 þonne ne magon þas ping helpan for þon ðe þæt wile wendan on wæter bollan. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 321 [Lucifer] Wente in to a wirme, and tolde eue a tale. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3564 His blode . . . waxus dri and cald, Til vnwelth windes [v.r. wendis] al his wald. 1340 *Ayenb.* 6 þe wone is kueduol and may wel wende to zenne dyadliche bot yef him ne loki. *Ibid.* 69 þet him solde by triacle, to him went in to uenym. 1377 *LANGL. P. Pl. B.* xviii. 202 Wo in-to wel mowe wende atte laste. 1422 *YONGE tr. Secreta Secret.* 153 Be-holde thy-Selfe, that thou arte Erthe and into Erthe thou shalte wende. 1579 *SPENSER Sheph. Cal. Feb.* 11 Must not the world wend in his common course From good to badd, and from badde to worse?

†8. Of persons: To turn in thought or purpose to or from (a person, course of action, etc.); to betake oneself (to something different); to change or vary one's purpose. Said also of the heart. *Obs.*

For further illustration see 17 a.

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xlii, Forðæm hit nis nu unnet þæt we hopien to Gode, forðæm he ne went no swa swa we doð. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 92 Euer so þe wittes beoð more ispreinde untwardes, se heo lesse wendet inwittes. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3510 Oc horedom ðat ðu him ne, Ne wend no lecherie to. c 1300 *Havelok* 1705 From him ne mithe [might] his herte wende, Ne fro him, ne fro his wif. 13 . . . *Cursor M.* 23049 (Edin.) [They] went vnto religioun, And did pair bouitis in prison. 1340-70 *Alex. & Dind.* 804 For 3e ben couaitouse kid & kunne nouht blinne, But euere wenden to winne wordliche godus. c 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Verse) 313 þair-for of þam I spek no fare, Bot to þe first I wend o-gayn. 1565 *J. HALL Crt. Vertue* 132 b, Can plague nor payne Make you reffrayne, Nor from wickednes wende? 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 35 Christ . . . To saif vs is ful playbill, Gif we repent and to him wend.

†9. To turn round, over, or from side to side; to turn or twist the body. *Obs.*

a 1310 in *Wright Lyric P.* vi. 28 Nihthes when y wende ant wake. c 1330 *R. BRUNNE Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 8197 When þey [the dragons] hadde longe to-gyder smyten, . . . Wypþyng wyþ wenges, ouer-wepen & went. 1390 *GOWER Conf.* i. 43

Forthi may no certineite Be set upon his jugement, Bot as the whiel aboute went He yifth his graces undeserved. **c1475** *Partenay* 2095 In on estat ne myght he noght sogourn; Here on bakke laide, efte the bely vppon, Torning and wending euer enuiron. **15..** *Schole Ho. Women* 1014 in Hazl. *E.P.P.* IV. 115 Rub a scald horse vpon the gall, And he wil bite, wins and went. **1542** *UDALL Erasm. Apoph.* Pref. *vj. [Wrestlers] haue... certain suer ppointes and wayes bothe to catche holde, and also to wend out of holde. **1561** *HOLLYBUSH Hom. Apoth.* 4 He wendeth and waltereth, and happely his head and fete do mete together.

fig. c1374 CHAUCER *Anel. & Arc.* 187 Hir daunger made him boope bowe and beende, And as hir lyste made him tourne and wende.

† **b.** to wend to ground, to fall from one's horse. **c1430** *Chev. Assigne* 302 What yf grace be [that] we to grownde wenden?

10. To go off, away, or out; to depart. Also with preps., as *into*, *to*, *from*, or *to* with *inf.* Now *arch.*

In later use not clearly distinguishable from sense 13. **c1000** *ÆLFRIC Saints' Lives* xxv. 425 Oð þæt hi oncneowon þæt se cēna iudas him wið-feohtende wæs and wendon ða to horsum. **c1200** *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 87 Ihe wile turnen agen to mine huse þe ich er ut of wende. **a1225** *Ancr. R.* 162 As ofte as ich euer was, he seið, among men, ich wende from ham [L. *recessi*] lesse mon þen ich er was. **c1290** *Beket* 840 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 130 þo pov wendest of his seruise he ne Axede þe no-ping. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 860 Wen Adam sagh he had misdōn He went to hide him al-son. *Ibid.* 14186 Yee sal Vnto lude wend wit me nu. **1362** *LANGL. P. Pl. A.* xi. 112. I... askede hire þe heije wey wher Clergye dwelleþ, ... for tyme is þat I wende. **c1386** CHAUCER *Prolog.* 21 In Southwerk at the Tabard as I lay Redy to wenden on my pilgrymage. ? **a1400** *Morte Arth.* 2493 Thare salle weende to this viage sir Gawayne hym selfene. **c1400** *Beryn* 523 In soth, quod he, I woll nat fro þe dorre vend. **c1440** *Gesta Rom.* 246, & þere for withe owten lenger delay he made alhyndre Redy for to wende. **a1500** *Hist. K. Boccus & Sydracke* (? 1510) Xjb, Whan the soule at the ende Shal out fro the body wende. **1568** *GRAFTON Chron.* II. 80, I may not wende out of my lande, for mine awne sonnes will rise against me, when I were absent. **1603** *SHAKS. Meas. for M.* iv. iii. 150 Wend you with this Letter. **1819** *SCOTT Ivanhoe* xx, Wend on your way, in the name of God and St. Dunstan. **1879** *BUTCHER & LANG Odys.* 11 To the end that after thou hast bathed... thou mayst wend to the ship joyful in spirit.

b. with advs., as *away*, *out*, *hence*.

c1100 *O.E. Chron.* (MS. D.) an. 1050 Se cyng þa sende æfter þam scyppum... þe ær ham wendon. **c1200** *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 161 *Hinc ex quo ueteres emigrare coloni.* Aure seððen þe ealde tilie henne wenden. **a1225** *Ancr. R.* 50 Witeð þe our eien, leste þe heorte etfleo & wende ut. **c1250** *Gen. & Ex.* 623 He and hise wif wenten ut fre. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 6160 Quen þis time was al broght to end, Of egypte godds ost vte vend. **c1350** *Will. Palerne* 329 Seppe þou schalt hennes wende, whanne þou komest to kourt... bere þe boxumly & bonure. **1377** *LANGL. P. Pl. B.* xii. 82 þe iewes knewe hemseluen Gultier... and wenten away for schame.

c. In various obs. phrases, as *to wend to bed*, *to church*, *to meat*, *to seat*.

c1300 *St. Brandan* 221 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 225 þe monkes wende to bedde & slepe; þo soper was ido. **13..** *Cursor M.* 19046 (Gött.) Petre and iohn... went to kirc to make þair bone. **13..** *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 72 When þai had waschen, worþpyly þay wenten to sete, þe best burne ay abof. **c1400** *Destr. Troy* 2558 Than comaund the kyng the courtte for to ryse; Askit wene wightly, wenton to meyte. **c1430** *Chev. Assigne* 161 And whenne it drowþe to þe nyȝte he wendethe to bedde.

† **11.** To depart by death. Usu. with advb. phr., as *to wend of* or *from life*, (*out*) *of this world*, *forth*, *hence*, *to death*, etc. (See also 17 d.) *Obs.*

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 195 Forþon ure yldran swultan & swipe oft us from wendan. **a1250** *Prov. Alfred* 172 in *O.E. Misc.* 112 Not no mon... þene ende hwenne he schal heonne wende. **c1250** *Gen. & Ex.* 3884 Aaron ðo wente of liwe ðor. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 1272 þou prai him þat he word me send Quen I sal o þis world wend. **c1340** *HAMPOLE Pr. Consc.* in *Archæologia* XIX. 323 The time of deth at our last end, When that we schul from henns wend. **1362** *LANGL. P. Pl. A.* i. 152 For þe same Mesure þat 3e Meten A-mis oþer elles, 3e schul be weyen þer-with whon 3e wenden henns. **c1400** *Pety Job* 652 in *26 Pol. Poems* 142 But oute of the world sone shal I wende. **1421** *HOCLEVE Minor P.* xxiii. 136 Lord god shal y now die and henns wende? **c1470** *Gol. & Gaw.* 1081 Quhasa with wourship sall of this world wende. **1563** *B. GOOGE Eglogs* etc. (Arb.) 73 The enuyous fates... in the mydst of all his toyle, dyd force hym hence to wende. **1567** *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 13 Grant vs grace, quhen we sall die, And fra this present lyfe we wend.

b. Similarly *to wend to*, *into* (heaven, hell, bliss, etc.).

c1200 *ORMIN* 8426, & sippenn shall all Cristess hird Wipp Crist till heoffne wendenn. **c1250** in *O.E. Misc.* 186 Alle bac-biteres wendet [c1275 wendeþ] to helle. **c1305** *St. Andrew* 99 in *E.E.P.* (1862) 101 þat list ileste iwis Forte þe holi soule wende þerwip to heuene blis. **1340** *HAMPOLE Pr. Consc.* 3557 þan sal his saul wende Til blis. **1340** *Ayenb.* 13 And uor þo scele wolde he efter his dyape wende in to helle. **1362** *LANGL. P. Pl. A.* xi. 269 3if I... for here werkis & for here wyt wende to pyne, þanne wrouȝte I vnwisly. **c1400** *Rule St. Benet* (Verse) 55 þe whylk, yf þay dyde wele, myght wend To blys þat es with-outyn end. **c1480** *HENRYSON Sheep & Dog* 119 And after deith [thay will] to lestand panis wend.

† **12.** *transf.* and *fig.* of things: To pass away; to disappear, perish, decay. Also with *away*. *Obs.* For further illustration see 17 c.

a1000 *Guthlac* 57 (Gollancz) ðesihð he þa domas... wonian & wendan of woruld-ryhte. **a1300** *Seven Sins* 46 in *E.E.P.* (1862) 19 To world-is wel nab þou no triste, hit went awei so dop þe miste. **c1386** CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 2167 The grete toures se we wane and wende. **c1480** *HENRYSON Age & Youth* 46 Quhen thy manheid sall wendin as the mone. **1560** *ROLLAND Seven Sages* 118 This being done, the well away sall wend.

13. To go forward, proceed; to journey, travel; to take one's way. Now *arch.*

a1122 *O.E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 999 Her com se here eft abuton in to Temese & wendon þa up andlang Medewægan to Hrofe ceastre. **a1200** *Moral Ode* 86 He ane is eue an ilche stude, wende þer þu wende. **c1386** CHAUCER *Priores' T.* 6 And thurgh the strete men myghte ride or wende. **1393** *LANGL. P. Pl. C.* xvi. 161 And bere hit in py bosom abowte wher þou wendest. **c1400** *Parce Michi* 1 in *26 Pol. Poems* 143 By a forest syde, walkyng as I went, Disporte to take. **c1480** *HENRYSON Fox & Wolf* 96 Neid causis me to steill quhair euer I wend. **1600** *FAIRFAX Tasso* xii. xxxii, Downe from the tree I came in hast, And tooke thee vp and on my journey wend. **1613-16** *W. BROWNE Brit. Past.* i. iii. 54 Vpon her walkes she all the day attends, And by her side she trips where ere she wends. **1775** *J. TAIT Land of Liberty* i. xlv. 23 The hero saw, amaz'd, A crowd of nobles o'er er the country wend. **1814** *SCOTT Lord of Isles* iii. xxiv, For know, that on a pilgrimage Wend I. **1837** *CARLYLE Fr. Rev.* i. 1. ii, The Merovingian Kings, slowly wending on their bullock-carts through the streets of Paris. **1850** 'SYLVANUS' *Byelanes & Downs* ii. 21 This 'racing-man'... to whose cottage I was wending so pleasantly.

b. with advs. Now *arch.*

c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 79 Ho him forwundenen... and wenden forð. **c1205** *LAY.* 29517 At Tanette he com hider in & swa he up is iwend. **1297** *R. GLOUC.* (Rolls) 823 þo þis King [Leir] adde iwend aboute in such soruol cas Attelaste he com to carric. *Ibid.* 11317 þe king was among þe freres & hii manion Radde him vor to wenden in. **c1350** *Will. Palerne* 3338 Men... wendeþ ouȝt wiȝtli & wip þour for metep. **c1380** *WYCLIF Wks.* (1880) 427 Collegians wenden out & prechen & quykenen many partis of england. **c1400** *Beryn* 675 The knyȝt & al the felishipp, forward gon þey wende. **c1470** *Gol. & Gaw.* 790 Than schir Gawine the gay Prayt for the journaȝ, That he myght furth weynd. **1581** *A. HALL Iliad* ix. 171 Vlysse the wisest takes his leaue, and forth doth for-most wend. **1590** *SPENSER F.Q.* i. 1. 28 Then mounted he vpon his Steede againe, And with the Lady backward sought to wend. **1635** *J. HAYWARD tr. Biondi's Banish'd Virg.* 13 Whither away wend you so late? **a1653** *CHALKHILL* in *Walton Angler* iii. 76 Then care away, and wend along with me. **1796** *COLERIDGE Sonnet to Stanhope* i, Since scorning Faction's low and partial aim Aloof thou wendest in thy stately pace. **1841** *DICKENS Barn. Rudge* xvi, It was not unusual for those who wended home alone at midnight, to keep the middle of the road. **1848** *LYTTON Harold* i. v, When I depart, Rolf, thou wendest back to thy marches. **1865** *KINGSLEY Herew.* ix, To avoid which end the disappointed palmer wended homeward once more.

† **c.** With predicative adj.: To go or move about in a certain state. *Obs.*

1340-70 *Alex. & Dind.* 34 Nouth welde we now but naked we wende. **13..** *Gosp. Nicodemus* (G.) 476 We war vnclene, 3e ken, hale thurgh his word we wend.

14. *transf.* and *fig.* of things: To move, flow, run (in a specified course or direction); to go up or down. Of a road: To extend or stretch in a continuous line.

c1205 *LAY.* 29914 Else þet watre Desse wendeð into pere sæ. **1297** *R. GLOUC.* (Rolls) 179 Fos me clupeþ þilke wei þat bi mani a god touþ dep wende. **a1400-50** *Wars Alex.* 37 As wide as þe werd was, went worde of paire teching. **c1400** *tr. Secreta Secret.* 80 And þanne it [the blood] wendys vp to þe haterell. **1433** *Rolls of Parl.* IV. 447/2 He smote... his wiff on the hede, that the brayne wende oute. **c1450, a1500** [see 17 g]. **1622** *DRAYTON Poly-olb.* xxvi. 373 That assist Her weaker wandering Streame tow'rds Yorkshire as she wends. **1816** *SHELLEY Sonn. Dante* 4 Ascend A magic ship, whose charmed sails should fly With winds at will where'er our thoughts might wend. **1821** *SCOTT Kenilw.* xxiii, Adieu, and may the blessing of God wend with you! **1863** *BARING-GOULD Iceland* 230 A river wending towards a portal of black rock. **1866** *J. B. ROSE Ovid's Met.* iii. 99 The hero started, as the tremors wend Through every vein.

15. With adverbial accusative, esp. *way*: To go or journey in a certain way or direction. Also, †to go on (an errand, voyage). Now only with possessive pron., *to wend one's way* (†*gate*, †*ride*), a phrase which was revived c 1800, and is now the most familiar use of the verb.

c1250 [see 17 h]. **c1250** *Gen. & Ex.* 3950 To madian lond wente he his ride. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 10365 Quen þou again sal wend þi gate, þou sal mete at þi wiȝf anna. *Ibid.* 13087 Nu yee sal mine arden wend, Til þat gret lauerding iesu. *Ibid.* 14194 Qua has to wenden ani wai God es to go bi light o dai. *Ibid.* 14942 Sex dais forwit pask-dai Wit his he went þe strete. **c1325** *Song Deo Gratias* 41 in *E.E.P.* (1862) 125 Out of þat chirche i. went my way. **c1380** *WYCLIF Wks.* (1880) 153, & so þei... maken þe peple... to wende þe weie to helle whanne þei wenen to goo to heuene. **a1400-50** *Wars Alex.* 428 And þen he went furth his way. **c1420** *Avow. Arth.* xli, I haue my ways for to weynde, For to speke with a frynde. **c1435** *Torr. Portugal* 115 He that schall wend soche a wey, Yt were ned for hym to pray. ? **a1500** *Chester Pl.* *Last Judgm.* 138 But well I wott that ilke way that Abraham went, weind I may. **a1547** *SURREY Æneid* iv. 616 She was left alone Uncompanied, great viages to wende In desert land. **a1586** *SIDNEY Arcadia* iii. (1922) 42 The turning of Zelmanes eye, was a strong sterne enough to all their motions, wending no way, but as the inchanting force of it guided them. **1810** *SCOTT Lady of Lake* ii. xxvi, Now back they wend their watery way. **1829** *G. HEAD Forest Scenes* N. *Amer.* 109 We wended our way down the ravine. **1837** *DICKENS Pickw.* xxxiii, Mr. Weller turned, and began wending his way towards Leadenhall Market. **1839** — *Nickleby* xi, As she wended her way homewards. **1866** *NEALE Sequences & Hymns* 186 Wending my way to the City. **1883** [see FAIRWAY]. **1885** *SLADEN Poetry of Exiles* (ed. 2) I. 27 Pleasant it was to wend his way back to familiar Kent.

transf. and *fig.* **a1300** *Cursor M.* 29222 For-þi to weind þe seker wai, I rede we be in panance ai. **1860** *MAURY Phys. Geog.* viii. §394 On the Australian side, an ice-bearing current is found wending its way from the Antarctic regions.

† **16.** *fig.* (of persons). To go to and fro on business or procedure; to busy oneself; to fare, 'get on'. *Obs.*

1297 *R. GLOUC.* (Rolls) 4063 For 3if we in þisse manere wendeþ, we ne fayleþ on none wyse þat we ne wollep abbe þe maistrie, wanne we defende vre franchise. **a1400** CHAUCER *Amorous Compl.* 78 (Skeat) Ever have I been, and shal, how-so I wende, Outher to live or dye, your humble trewe. **c1400** *Beryn* 1522 Fawnus had so goon a-bout I-turned & I-went, That he had brouȝt his sone to-forþe þe Emperour [etc.].

† **17.** The compound tense *is, was*, etc. *went* (or *wend*), originally a true passive (= 'is, was turned'), was used as the perfect of the prec. intrans. senses = has, had gone, departed, etc.:

a. in sense 8.

1297 *R. GLOUC.* (Rolls) 567 King lotrines herte was al & clene vp hire went. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 3113 In wrechedom er now all went, To lare o godd gif þai na tent. **1303** *R. BRUNNE Handl. Synne* 791 þat shal y shewe when we be went Vnto þe pryde comaundement. **a1400** *Minor Poems Vernon MS.* xxi. 51 Whon I was went from him wip wronge. **c1400** *Rom. Rose* 6185 They ben fro clene Riligioun went.

b. in sense 10.

c1205 *LAY.* 17574 To pere sæ beoð iwende Gillomar & Passen. **1297** *R. GLOUC.* (Rolls) 1377 Androge þat was to rome mid þe emperour went. *Ibid.* 11857 [They] were in hor dedut iwend an hontinge. **1340-70** *Alex. & Dind.* 53 þanne weren from hem went wifis & children. **c1386** CHAUCER *Miller's T.* 479, I trow that he be went For tymber, ther our Abbot hath hym sent. **a1450** *Le Morte Arth.* 3025 To a wyldernesse he is went. **c1460** *Towneley Myst.* xxx. 116 All oure saules ar wente, and none ar in hell.

c. in sense 10 b.

1297 *R. GLOUC.* (Rolls) 2599 þo hii were alle henne ywend. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 5994 All þe fleies ware went awai. **c1380** *WYCLIF Sel. Wks.* i. 119 Whan an unclene spirit is went out from a man. **c1386** CHAUCER *Man of Law's T.* 75 Hoom to Surrye been they went ful fayn. **c1440** *York Myst.* xxii. 33 To wildernesse he is wente owte. **14..** in *Babes Book* (1868) 357 Whan he fro the ys wente A-way.

d. in sense 11.

1303 *R. BRUNNE Handl. Synne* 605 God 3yue vs grace, or we be went, To kepe pys fyrst comaundement. **c1412** *HOCLEVE De Reg. Princ.* 2876 Whan þat he is out of þis worlde went. **c1425** *Macro Plays, Cast. Persev.* 1664 þe sekatouris schul seyn it is here be-houe to make us mery, for he is went, þat al þis good gan owle. **1600** *FAIRFAX Tasso* xii. lxx, But when he saw her gentle soul was went.

e. in sense 12.

a1300 *Cursor M.* 1640 Al rightwisnes awai es went. **a1352** *MINOT Poems* vi. 9 When all yowre wele es went. **a1400** in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 257 Loue is out of lond went. **1426** *AUDELAY Poems* 19 When al the welth of this world is went from hem away. **c1440** *York Myst.* xli. 347 My age is went, I feyll no fray. **c1460** *Towneley Myst.* xxx. 388 This wykyd world away is wente. **c1470** *Gol. & Gaw.* 1132 As all his welthis in world had ben away went. **1552** *LYNDESAY Monarchie* 4142 For, sicleky as the snaw doith melt in May... Thir gret Impyris rychtso ar went away.

f. Of a period of time, a season, etc. = is gone, past, elapsed, or ended. Also with adv., as *out*, *over*.

13.. *Guy Warw.* 326 (Caius) Thus lyueth Guy in grete turmente Till the feest was ouer wente [*Auchin.* was al to-went]. **c1386** CHAUCER *Priores's T.* 88, I wol do my diligence To konne it al er Cristemasse is went. **c1400** *Destr. Troy* 4586 Winter was went. **c1400** *Laud Troy-Bk.* 10045 The nyȝt is went, the day dawes. *Ibid.* 17071 Terme is went out of the trewe. **15..** *Tayis Bank* 42 (Bann. MS.), Wod Winter with his wallowand wynd But weir away wes went.

g. in sense 14.

c1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 1271 þou hase so ferr to ryde þat þe sonn sall be went doune Or þou come whider þou ert boune. **a1500** *Hist. K. Boccus & Sydracke* (? 1510) Zjb, Whan some [stars] go doune, some up are went With meuyng of the fyrmament.

h. with *one's way*: see 15.

c1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1429 Eliezer is went his wei. **c1440** *York Myst.* xxxviii. 245 He is resen and wente his way.

† **wend**, *v.* *2* *Obs.* [f. *wend(e)*, obs. pa. t. and pa. pple. of *WEEN v.*] *intr.* To think, suppose.

1581 *A. HALL Iliad* iv. 63 And that now of his enterprise none of them all should wende, He caused his souldiours hap him wel with buckler and with targe. **a1600** *MONTGOMERIE Misc. Poems* xxxix. 39 Hir freindis ay weindis To caus hir to revok. **a1650** *Merline* 1280 in *Percy Folio MS.* i. 462 See yee nought the young man that the shoone hath bought? he wendes to liue them to weare.

wend(e), obs. pa. t. and pa. pple. of *WEEN v.*; obs. ff. *WIND sb.*¹

† **Wendagains-lane.** *Obs.* [f. *wend v.* (see 6 a) + genitival *again* (see AGAIN).] The name of a cul-de-sac in London. Cf. *turn-again lane* s.v. *TURNAGAIN* 4.

1308-9 *Cal. Wills Crt. Husting, Lond.* i. (1889) 204 [The lane called] Wandayeneslane. **1328** *Ibid.* 335 Wandayeneslane. **1337** *Ibid.* 422 Wandageynslane. **1348-9** *Ibid.* 531 Wandageynslane.

wendage, var. *VENDAGE*.

1496 *Dives & Pauper* vii. xiii. (W. de W.) s iij b, *Diues.* Of what thyng is a man bound to tythe. *Pauper.* Of corn in heruest, of wyne in wendage, of fryute, [etc.].

† **wenday.** *Obs.* —¹ [f. *wen-*, comb. f. *ME. wēn*, OE. *wān*, *wāgn* *WAIN sb.* Cf. *WENSEVES*.] A day allowed to a tenant for preparing his wain in order to carry grain in harvest.

c1250 *Rentalia Glaston.* (Somerset Rec. Soc.) 83 Et debet habere j wenday, scilicet, unum diem ad carrum suum preparandum antequam cariet, quietum de omni alio opere.

'wended, *ppl. a.* [f. WEND *v.* + -ED¹.] Twisted, plaited.

1719 D'URFEY *Pills* IV. 137 Her Bongrace of Wended Straw.

'Wendian, *rare*⁻¹. [f. WEND *sb.* + -IAN.] = WEND *sb.* 1.

1838 Penny *Cycl.* XII. 345/1 Russniaks, Slovacs, Croats, Wendians.. (these four.. are of Slavonian origin).

Wendic ('wendik), *a.* and *sb.* Also Windic. [f. WEND *sb.* + -IC. The form *Windic* is after G. *Winde*, var. of *Wende* WEND. Cf. *Windish* = WENDISH.] *a. adj.* Of or pertaining to the Wends. *b. sb.* The language of the Wends, Sorabian. (For a wider use see quot. 1861.)

1848 Rep. Brit. Assoc. Adv. Sci. 1847 267 The Old Slavonic of the Bible and of Nestor, the Russian, Servian, Croatic, and Wendic. **1856** MAX MÜLLER in *Oxford Ess.* i. 14 We know nothing of the Arian race, before it was broken up into different nationalities, such as Indian, German, Greek, Roman, Windic, Teutonic, and Celtic. **1861** — *Lect. Sci. Lang.* 186 The fifth branch, which is commonly called Slavonic, I prefer to designate by the name *Windic*. *Ibid.* page-heading, Windic class. **1868** Chamb. *Encycl.* X. 139 Those remnants of the Slavic population of Lusatia who still speak the Wendic tongue. **1883** MORFILL *Slavonic Lit.* ii. 56 The Wendic mountains.. are mentioned by the geographer Ptolemy.

wendigo, var. WINDIGO.

'wending, *vbl. sb.* *Obs.* [f. WEND *v.* + -ING¹.] †1. The action of turning or changing; a change or turn. *Obs.*

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past.* C. xlii. 306 Hit geded hit self him selfum suide ungelic for ðære gelomlican wendinge. **a 1050** Liber *Scintill.* xi. (1889) 63 Earfoðe ys færlic wending [L. *permutatio*]. **c 1440** Pallad. on *Husb.* ii. 12 But at the weending [L. *ubi ad versuram venerint*] slake The yook, thyn oxon nekkis forto cole.

2. The action of going; *esp.* a going away, departure.

13.. K. *Alis.* 920 Nis in this world so siker thyng So is deth, to olde and yying! The time is nygh of heore wending! **13..** Guy *Warw.* 1218 He goþ him to his fader þo, þat for his wending was ful wo. **c 1340** HAMPOLE *Psalter* civ. 36 Egipet was fayn in thaire wendinge [L. *in profectiōne eorum*]. **c 1374** CHAUCER *Troilus* iv. 1630 And by my pryft my wendinge out of Troye A-noper day shal torne vs alle to loye. — *Boeth.* ii. pr. i. (1868) 32 If pou wilt write a lawe of wending and of dwellyng to fortune. **c 1430** Syr *Gener.* (Roxb.) 9967 She went ageyn with hir meigne; The third day aftir hir wending, [Generides] ther was crowned king.

†3. A journey. *Obs.*
13.. K. *Alis.* 3284 (Laud MS.), And þer he ordeyneþ his wending Toward Darrye þe riche kyng. **1338** R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 207 Jon dred þat wending, to France wild he nouht. *Ibid.* 260 þei hed redy wending, at Douer þei toke lond. **1878** SEELEY *Stein* II. 489 Accordingly appeared 'My Wendings and Wanderings with the Imperial Baron']

'wending, *ppl. a.* [f. WEND *v.*] Going, proceeding. (In comb., as *backward-wending*.)

1896 A. AUSTIN *England's Darling* 1. i, Egbert's true grand-child..backward-wending pilgrims say, was seen [etc.].

Wendish ('wendɪʃ), *a.* and *sb.* Also 7, 9 Windish, 9 Vendish, Vindish. [f. WEND *sb.* + -ISH, or ad. G. *Wendisch*, *Windisch*.] *A. adj.* Of or pertaining to the Wends.

1614 [see VOIODE β]. **1788** Engl. *Rev.* Dec. 479 The people..are called in Saxony *Wenden*, i.e. Wendts, or Vandals, or Wendish. **1790** DORNFORD *Pütter's Develop. Germ. Emp.* III. Index, Wendish or Venedic countries. **1822** DOWNES *Lett. fr. Mecklenburg* 157 Pribislaus, a Wendish chief. **1822** *Encycl. Brit.* Suppl. V. 242 The Wendish dialect of the Slavonian. **1892** DOUGHTY *Wherry in Wendish Lands* 113 Country places are still known by their Wendish names.

B. sb. The language of the Wends, *esp.* the Sorabian tongue spoken in Saxony.

1617 MORYSON *Itin.* 1. 68 In the villages of Carinthia.. the Countrey people speake Wendish, or the tongue of the old Vandals. **1788** Engl. *Rev.* Dec. 480 Every Saturday one of them preaches, in Wendish, a sermon in the university church. **1822** *Encycl. Brit.* Suppl. V. 243 A language consisting of a mixture of Wendish and German. **1887** MORFILL in *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 150/1 The Slovenes are sometimes called 'Wends' and their language 'Windish' or 'Wendish'. **1915** 19th *Century* Nov. 1045 Carniola, where Vendish, a Slav dialect, is spoken.

†**'wendling**, *sb.* *Obs.*⁻¹ (Possibly f. WEND *v.*, and = 'wanderer', 'vagabond', but more prob. an error for *findling* 'foundling'.)

c 1300 K. Horn (Hall) 729 (Laud MS.) Henne pou foule wending [Horn. fundlyng] Out of boure flore.

Wendo- ('wendəʊ), combining form of WEND *sb.*

1853 FREUND in *Jrnl. Ethnol. Soc.* (1856) IV. 77 The boundary-line of Low-German and Wendo-Slavonian. *Ibid.*, Wendo-Slavonic cities.

wendoye, *obs.* form of WINDOW.

Wendy house. Also with small initial or hyphen. [Named after the small house built around Wendy in J. M. Barrie's play *Peter Pan* (1904).] A small house-like structure for children to play in.

1949 M. ATKINSON *Junior School Community* 11 Wendy house—made by a joiner: two large pieces of plywood hinged together. **1957** *Listener* 9 May 743 There is a

Wendy-house in the corner [of the class room]. **1971** *Where* Dec. 356/1 They have performed wonders in getting the bus and re-equipping it with ladders, a wendy house and even a telephone. **1977** J. McCURE *Sunday Hangman* viii. 80 The rocking horse was legless..., the pedal car was a write-off, and the Wendy house had been trampled flat.

wene, pseudo-arch. var. WANE *sb.*²

1813 HOGG *Queen's Wake* II. (1814) 174 In yon green-wood there is a waik, And in that waik there is a wene. *Ibid.*, In that green wene Kilmeny lay.

wene: see WEAN *v.*, WEEN *sb.* and *v.*

wenem, **-im**, **-ym**, *obs.* forms of VENOM.

wenene, var. WHENNE *Obs.*, whence.

weneth(e, var. ff. UNEATH *adv.*

1422 YONGE tr. *Secreta Secret.* 136, 187.

weng(e, *obs.* forms of VENGE *v.*, WING.

†**wengand**, variant of (or error for) *wenyand* WANIAND.

1587 *Mirr. Mag.*, Sir N. Burdet lii, Wyldre wengand on such ire, wherby the realme doth lose.

wenge ('wengeɪ). [Local name in Zaïre.] The dark brown timber of *Milletia laurentii*, a tree of the family Leguminosæ found in Central Africa.

1963 House & Garden Feb. 60 (caption) Seating unit series..teak and wenge frame, latex foam cushions. **1972** *Handbk. Hardwoods* (Building Res. Establishment) (ed. 2) 164 The timber wengé..from Zaïre is generally similar in appearance and properties to panga panga.

wengeance, **-aunce**, *obs.* forms of VENGEANCE.

wenhill, *obs.* form of WEANEL, WENNEL.

1711 B.N.C. (Oxf.) *Docum.* A³. 20 One Bull, eight Wenhill Calves.

weniaunce, *obs.* form of VENGEANCE.

†**wening**, var. of WAINING or WONING *vbl. sb.*
c 1425 Eng. *Conq. Irel.* xxi. 54 Who-so had I-hard þe wepynge, & þe wenyng, & the sorow that thay mad.

||**wên jên** (wən ʒən, wən rən). Also with hyphen. [Chinese *wên rên* man of letters, f. *wên* writing + *rên* (jên in Wade-Giles) man.] Chinese men of letters.

1958 W. WILLETS *Chinese Art* II. vii. 509 From early Ming times until quite recently, the history of Chinese painting has been written by that highly articulate but alarmingly unanimous body of people, the *wên jên* or *literati*. **1970** Oxf. *Compan. Art* 232/2 Though *wên-jên*, many of them were also professional painters.

||**wen li** (wən li). Also wenli and with capital initial. [Chinese *wén lǐ* grammar, literary style, f. *wén* writing + *lǐ* texture, reason.] = WEN-YEN.

The synonymy is based on a misconception of the Chinese meaning, and does not exist in that language.

1887 *Chinese Times* 11 June 502/1 The bishop's style, call it *Wen li* or *Mandarin*, is admirably clear and idiomatic. **1917** S. COULING *Encycl. Sinica* 597/2 The term *Wên li* is now in constant use especially among foreigners, to denote the Chinese literary style, which differs in degrees of conciseness or obscurity, and hence is sometimes divided into 'high' and 'low' *Wên li*. **1972** E. A. NIDA *Bk. of Thousand Tongues* 70/1 Wenli was a written language which could be used throughout the whole of China. **1977** C. F. & F. M. VOEGELIN *Classification & Index World's Lang.* 114 The descendant of an earlier form of Chinese known as Wen Yen or Wen Li continues to be used by all educated Chinese..for special purposes.

†**wenlich**, *a.* *Obs.* [OE. *wēnlic*, f. WEEN *sb.* + -LY¹. Cf. OS. *wānlik* beautiful, MHG. *wænlich*, early mod.G. *wahnlich*, *wähnlich* probable, supposed.] *a.* Beautiful. *b.* ? Worthy, excellent.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC in Assman *Ag. Hom.* 108 Heo was swiðe wlitig & wenlics hiwes. **c 1200** *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 29 þe shadewe [i.e. her reflection in a mirror] hire tacheð hwu hie mai hire seluen wenlukest makien. *Ibid.* 83 And swa wæð iturnd þat folc of ateliche to wenliche. **a 1250** Prov. Ælfred 105 in *O.E. Misc.* 108 þe mon þe on his youhpe yeorne leorneþ..may beon on elde wenliche lorpeu.

Wenlock ('wenlək). The name of a town in Shropshire, used attributively in Wenlock formation, group, a formation of Upper Silurian age, typically developed near Wenlock. Also Wenlock limestone, shale, slate. In mod. use, the name of the middle of three divisions of the Silurian, lying below the Ludlovian and above the Valentian (Llandoveryan); used *attrib.* and *absol.*

1834 MURCHISON in *Proc. Geol. Soc.* II. 14 The lower part of this formation is termed the 'Wenlock shale'. *Ibid.*, The shale beneath the Wenlock limestone. *Ibid.* 15 The Ludlow and Wenlock formations appear in the same escarpment. **1843** HUMBLE *Dict. Geol.* etc., *Wenlock slate*. Called also Wenlock shale. **1890** *Hardwicke's Sci.-Gossip* XXVI. 247 Splendid examples of Wenlock fossils. **1946** [see LUDLOVIAN *a.j.*] **1969** BENNISON & WRIGHT *Geol. Hist. Brit. Isles* vi. 116 A great deal of relatively recent work has been done on the limestone and shale shelf-sea facies of Wenlock and Ludlow age in the Welsh Borders. **1979** R. ANDERTON et al. *Dynamic Stratigr. Brit. Isles* vii. 96/1 Turbidity currents deposited sands in a separate turbidite zone during the Wenlock and lower Ludlow.

Hence wen'lockian *a.*, of or belonging to the Wenlock formation or series. *Freq. absol.*

1855 J. PHILLIPS *Man. Geol.* 104 The genera being mostly Wenlockian and Ludlovian. **1946** [see LUDLOVIAN *a.j.*] **1969** BENNISON & WRIGHT *Geol. Hist. Brit. Isles* vi. 124 The thickness of the Wenlockian strata may amount to about 25,000 feet. **1974** *Encycl. Brit. Macropædia* XVI. 774/2 The Llandoveryan..saw the beginning of a sharp distinction between basin graptolitic shale facies and calcareous and..sandy shelf facies. This distinction was well marked in the Wenlockian.

wenne: see WIN *sb.*², WHEN.

wennel: see WEANEL.

wennesone, *obs.* Sc. form of VENISON.

wennion, variant of WANION.

'wennish, *a. rare*⁻¹. [f. WEN¹ + -ISH.] Of the nature of a wen.

1614 WOTTON *Let.* 16 June *Reliq. W.* (1672) 434 The incision of a wennissh tumour grown on his thigh.

wennome, *obs.* Sc. form of VENOM *sb.*

'wenney, *a.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* [f. WEN¹ + -Y.] 1. Of the nature of or similar to a wen.

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. clxvi. 463 A remedie against..hard wennie swellings. **1611** COTGR. s.v. *Goitrons*, The wennie bags that breed vnder the throats of the most inhabitants of the Alpes. **1672** WISEMAN *Wounds* II. App. i. 79, I have had some persons..so deformed with these [cicatrices], as they have suspected them to be wenney. **1748** *Phil. Trans.* XLV. 536 Wenney Tumours of a monstrous Size. **1766** *Compl. Farmer* Dd 1, *Capellets*, in horses, are particular swellings..of a wenney nature, which grow on the heel of the hock, and on the point of the elbow.

2. Afflicted with wens; goitrous.

1630 R. Johnson's *Kingd. & Commw.* 60 The women are..for the most part wenney, that is, having great bunches under their chinnes with drinking snow water. **1786** tr. *Beckford's Vathek* 110 Others..with hump-backs, wenney necks, and even horns.

wenomose, *obs.* Sc. form of VENOMOUS.

wenquis, *obs.* Sc. form of VANQUISH *v.*

wenscote, **-skot**(te, etc., *obs.* ff. WAINSCOT.

†**wenseves**. *Obs. rare.* [f. *wen-* (see WENDAY) + *seves* pl. of SHEAF *sb.*] Sheaves given as payment for carrying grain in harvest.

c 1250 *Rentalia Glaston.* (Somerset Rec. Soc.) 88 Nec aliud debet recipere..nisi wensenes [read wenseues] quando cariat bladum. *Ibid.* 135, ij garbas que vocantur wensewes.

wenskett, *obs.* form of WAINSCOT.

Wensleydale ('wenslɪdeɪl). The name of a district of North Yorkshire, used *attrib.*, and hence *ellipt.* as *sb.*, to designate *a.* A breed of long-woolled sheep originally raised there; *b.* A local variety of blue-mould cheese; also, a white cheese (see quot. 1963).

1881 J. P. SHELDON *Dairy Farming* 250 Though the Wensleydale cheese are so small. **1893** J. WRIGHTSON *Sheep* 39 The Wensleydale is a large, high standing sheep, with a characteristic blue in the skin of the face and ears. **1896** J. BENSON & J. LONG *Cheese* 105 The Stilton-shaped Wensleydales are..classed as British blue mould cheeses. **1963** A. L. SIMON *Guide Good Food & Wines* 648/2 The best-known variety of Wensleydale cheese, cylindrical in shape, like Stilton, but of smaller dimensions, which grows 'blue' when ripe, like Stilton... The other sort of Wensleydale cheese is a flat-shaped, white cheese which is eaten fresh and does not generally go blue. **1985** D. CLARK *Performance* iv. 105 Brawn and Wensleydale cheese sandwiches.

went (went). *Obs. exc. dial.* Also 5 went, 6 *Sc.* went, 8 wont, 9 *dial.* want, wint. [Related to WEND *v.*¹]

1. A course, path, way, or passage. *Obs. exc. dial.*

In later use *esp.* in pl. with *three* and *four*; also in combs. *three-went-way* THREE B. III. 2, and *four-went-way*.

c 1250 Gen. & Ex. 136 Ilc sterre..He settes in ðe firmament, Al abuten ðis walkne went. **c 1369** CHAUCER *Dethe Blaunche* 398 (Fairf.) Hyt forthe went Dovey by a floury grene went Ful thikke of gras. **c 1384** — *H. Fame* 182 In a forest, as they wente, At a turninge of a wente. **1418-20** J. PAGE *Siege Rouen in Hist. Coll. Citizen Lond.* (Camden) 17 Govnnys goode and redy bente, They were layde in many went. **1426** LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 10320 By peryllous weyes and by wentys I hadde þat gret adversyte. **1513** DOUGLAS *Æneis* III. iv. 40 Ontill ane cave we went, Vndir a hingand hewch, in a derne went. *Ibid.* 113 And followit furth the samyn went we haue, Quhar so the wynd and sterisman ws draue. **1570** LEVINS *Manip.* 66/8 A went, lane, viculus. **1596** SPENSER *F.Q.* iv. ii. 47 To the three fatal sisters house she went. Farre vnder ground from tract of liuing went. **1640** SOMNER *Antiq. Canterb.* 20 The Iron crosse, which sometime stood at the East-end of Castle-street, at the meeting of the foure wentes. **1682** WHEELER *Journ. Greece* vi. 475 Where these ways part was called by the ancients Τρεῖς Κεφαλαί, or, the Three Heads, signifying I suppose the same we do by *Three Wents*. **1854** W. GASKELL *Lect. Lancs. Dial.* 20 We have also.. 'wint',...a passage. **a 1896** BARDSLEY *Dict. Surnames* (1901) 802 There are one or two wents, still so called, in my late parish [Ulverston].

fig. **1513** DOUGLAS *Æneis* i. Prol. 384 Logitaniis knawis heirin myne entent, Ondir quhais boundis lurkis mony strange went.

†*b.* A journey, course of movement. *Obs.*

1430-40 *LYDG. Bochas* viii. 2145 [They] . . ful accordid be Thoruh Itaille for to make her went Toward Roome. **1596** SPENSER *F.Q.* iv. v. 46 But here my wearie teeme nigh ouer spent Shall breath it selfe awhile, after so long a went.

†2. A course of action or plan for attaining some end; a trick, contrivance, device. *Obs.*

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 529 þe bysshop made a clerk þan wryte Al þat she seyde. . . And alle how she made here went. **1390** GOWER *Conf.* II. 218 The Steward tok the gold and wente, Withinne his herte and many a wente Of covetise thanne he caste. **1393** LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* vii. 263 Ich made meny wentes, How ich myght haue hit, al my wit ich caste. **c1440** CAPGRAVE *St. Kath.* iv. 929 Thanne do ye wrong ageyn her entent On what-maner wise 3e make your went.

†3. A turn or course of affairs; an occasion or chance. *Obs.*

1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 63 Do him vnto þe suerd, withouten judgement, If 3e may Griffyn take bityme at any went. **1513** DOUGLAS *Aeneis* iii. x. 123 Eneas. . The fatis of goddis . . . Rehersing schew, and syndry strange wentis. **1596** SPENSER *F.Q.* vi. vi. 3 He knew the diuerse went of mortall wayes.

†4. A turn or change of direction; a turning about. *Obs.*

c1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* II. 63 For which yn wo to bedde he wente, And made er it was day ful many a went. *Ibid.* v. 1104 Vp on þe walles made he many a wente. **1412-20** *LYDG. Troy Bk.* i. 2713 Vn-to hir chambre in hast sche is goon, Where vp and down sche made many went. **1471** CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 219 The monstre wente here and there, And made many wentes wyth oute seeyng and knowing where he wente.

†b. ? A turning or winding of a stair. *Obs.*

1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 73 b, The staier of the saied halpas was caste of passage by the wentes of brode steppes.

went, pa. t. (and pa. pple.) of WEND *v.*¹: now used as the pa. t. of GO *v.*

†**went**, app. used as pa. pple. of WIND *v.*

c1500 *World and Child* 46 (Manly), I am not worthely wrapped nor went, But powerly prycked in pouerte.

†**wentle**, *v.* *Obs.* [ad. MDu. *wentelen* (also mod.Du.) = MLG. and LG. *wentelen*, G. dial. *wenzelen*.] *intr.* To roll or tumble about. (Used only by Caxton.)

1481 CAXTON *Reynard* viii. (Arb.) 18 Whan he was so wery, he wentled and tombled nyghe half a myle. . . And whan he was seen so comyng for ferre, Some doubted what it myght be that cam so wentelyng. **c1489** --- *Sonnes of Aymon* xxii. 475 Al nyghte he coude not fall a slepe, but wentled in his bed without any rest.

wentletrap ('wɛnt(ə)ltræp). Also 8 ventle-. [a. Du. *wenteltrap* winding stair, spiral shell, = G. *wendeltreppe*.] A marine shell of the genus *Scalaria* or the family *Scalariidae*, esp. *Scalaria pretiosa*.

1758 H. WALPOLE *Lett. to Mann* 9 Feb., I have seen a little ugly shell called a Wentle-trap sold for twenty-seven guineas. **1776** MENDES DA COSTA *Elem. Conchol.* 151 Gualtieri ranks the famous Shell the Wentletrap, or Stair-case, with Vermiculi. **1815** S. BROOKES *Introd. Conchol.* 157. **1851** S. P. WOODWARD *Mollusca* 16 note, A Wentle-trap which fetched 40 guineas in 1701 (Rumphius) was worth only 20 guineas in 1753, and now may be had for 5s. **1861** P. P. CARPENTER in *Rep. Smithsonian Instit.* 1860, 188 Family *Scalariidae*. (Wentle Traps).

†**Wentsunday**. *Obs.* -¹ [Of obscure origin.] The Sunday after Michaelmas.

c1350 *Westminster Chapter Muniments* No. 27926 Usque diem dominicam proximam post festum Sancti Michaelis que dicitur Wentsunday.

wenyand(e), variant forms of WANIAND.

||**wen-yen** (wən jən). Also wenyān, wenyen, and with capital initial. [Chinese *wényán*, f. *wén* writing + *yán* speech, words.] The traditional literary language or style of China, superseded in the twentieth century by PAI-HUA.

1936 N. WALES in E. SNOW *Living China* 336 Until 1917 there existed in . . . stalemate three fairly distinct strata of literature: (1) the ancient cult of the *literati* in the dead *wen-yen* classical written language, . . . (2) the healthy parvenu *pai-hua*, 'plain speech', literature of the people in the spoken language, and . . . (3) the story-tellers' literature in the provincial dialects. **1964** *Anthropol. Linguistics* Mar. 31 Many words which require two characters in Han Chinese can be written with one character in Wenyen. **1968** [see PAI-HUA]. **1969** *Language* XLV. 690 One is the Classical Chinese, *wényán*, which has been used from antiquity up to recent years. **1980** *Times Lit. Suppl.* 27 June 725/1 He has been engaged . . . in an immense study of the ancient Chinese classics written in the elegant but archaic *wenyen* Chinese favoured by old-fashioned scholars—a language almost as remote from present-day speech as Latin from the modern European vernaculars.

wenym, obs. form of VENOM.

wenyson, wenysonne, obs. ff. VENISON.

weod, obs. form of WEED; variant of WOOD *a.*

weofud, -od, -ed: see WEVED *Obs.*, altar.

weol, obs. form of WHEEL.

weolde, obs. form of WIELD *v.*

weole, obs. form of WEAL *sb.*¹, WHEEL.

weolk, obs. pa. t. of WALK *v.*

weolthe, obs. form of WEALTH.

weoman, obs. form of WOMAN.

weonlete, variant of WAY-LEET *Obs.*

weonne, obs. form of WHEN.

weop(e), obs. forms of WEEP *v.*

weopmonne, variant of WAPMAN *Obs.*

weorc, obs. form of WORK.

weord, obs. form of WORD.

weore, obs. form of WERE: see BE *v.*

weor(e)ld(e, -uld), obs. forms of WORLD.

weork, obs. form of WORK.

†**weorne**, *v.* *Obs.* [OE. *weornian* (also *forweornian*), possibly related to *wisnian* to wizen.] *intr.* To wither.

a1380 *Virg. Antioch* 215 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 29 þe riht hond. . . Of him weorned and wox al drie [*L. aruit*].

weorne, obs. form of WARN *v.*¹

weote, variant of WITE.

†**weothe**, *v.* *Obs.* -¹ [Of obscure origin.] *intr.* ? To rush.

c1205 LAY. 6508 þat deor to-dede his chæfles and to þan king weoðede, and for-bat hine amidden a twa.

†**weothele**, *v.* *Obs.* -¹ [ME. *weoðelen*, *wiðelen*, = MHG. *wedeln* to flutter, etc.] *intr.* To become unsteady or uncertain.

c1205 LAY. 2885 þe wind him com on wiðere, weoðeleden his fluhtes [*c1275* wipeloode his fliptes].

weouede, variant of WEVED.

weovil, obs. form of WEEVIL.

wep, obs. variant of WAP *v.*²

c1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xv. (Barnabas) 206 Al þe fyre . . þai wepyt in a clath of lede. *Ibid.* xxvii. (*Machar*) 221 Weppit in clathis þe barn can lay.

wep(e), obs. forms of WEEP *v.*, WIPE *v.*

wepen(e, -in), obs. forms of WEAPON.

wepentake, obs. form of WAPENTAKE.

wepit, variant of WHIPPET *sb.*

wepman, -mon(ne, var. ff. WAPMAN *Obs.*

wepne, weppen, -on, -un, -yn: see WEAPON.

wept (wept), *ppl. a.* [pa. pple. of WEEP *v.*]

a. Of tears: Shed in weeping. Also *fig.* of poetry. b. Of a person: Mourned for, lamented, with tears. Also *absol.*

1594 *Zepheria* ix. C1, He wip't wept teares from Tellus bosome. *Ibid.* x. C1 b, Since that, how often haue they sent wept Elegies To beg remorse at thy obdurat hart? **1729** SAVAGE *Wanderer* II. 83 Near the wept Fair, her Harp Cecilia strung. **1829** J. F. COOPER *Borderers* I. 1 heading, The Borderers; or the Wept of Wish-Ton-Wish.

wepte, weput, var. ff. *wiped* pa. t. of WIPE *v.*

wepun, -yn, obs. forms of WEAPON.

wepyntaille, -tale: see WAPENTAKE.

wer, dial. f. OUR; Sc. var. VER *sb.*¹; obs. f. WAR *sb.*¹, *v.*¹, WAR, WAUR *a.* and *adv.*, WARE *a.*, WEAR *v.*; var. WERE *sb.*², *sb.*³, *v.*; var. WERE, pa. t. of BE *v.*; obs. f. WHERE, WHETHER.

wer-, variant of WERE-.

[**1802** SCOTT *Minstrelsy* II. 100 A wild story of a warwolf, or rather a war bear.] **1838** *Court Mag.* XIII. 261 A curious story of a *wer-bear* . . . is quoted by Sir Walter Scott. **1902** *Folk-lore* June 157 note, The *wer-tiger* beliefs, which are held . . . by the Peninsular Malays. **1904** G. C. KEIDEL *Man-Fox in Japanese Tradit.* 1 (MS.) The *werfox*, if we may so call him, is invisible. **1925** C. K. MEEK *North. Tribes Nigeria* I. 184 The villagers next day taxed the British officer with the death of the Galadima, who was known to be a *wer-hyena*.

weraly, obs. form of VERILY.

weratie, obs. Sc. form of VERITY.

weray, obs. Sc. f. VERY; var. WARY *v.* *Obs.*

werbi, -by, obs. forms of WHEREBY.

werble, -ul, variant forms of WARBLE *sb.*¹, *sb.*³

1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Fusée, avec ses pesons*, the quill of threed, or the spindle and threed with the werble.

werc, obs. form of WORK.

werce, obs. form of WORSE.

werch, obs. Sc. form of WRETCH.

werch(e, werck), obs. ff. WORK.

†**wercock**. *Obs. rare* -¹. [f. COCK *sb.*, with obscure first element.] Some kind of bird.

1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 36 Oper smalle bryddes . . As osel, smityng, laveroc gray, Pertryk, werkock.

werd, obs. form of WEIRD *sb.*, WORD, WORLD.

†**werde**, *v.* *Obs.* Also 1 woerda, 3 weordenn. [OE. (Anglian) *werdan* (Northumb. *wærda*), = WS. **wierdan*, *wyrdan*, f. the stem *ward-* (WS. *weard-*), which appears also in OS. *a-wardian*, -*werdian*, OHG. *wart(i)an*, *wertan* (MHG. *werten*), *far-warten*, Goth. *fra-wardjan* to spoil, corrupt, injure, etc., with cognates in the Slavonic languages.] *trans.* To harm or injure.

c725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) O 136 *Offici*, werdit. **c950** *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke viii. 45 Ða menigo ðec geðringað & woerdað [*L. affigunt*]. **c1000** *Ag. Ps.* (Thorpe) lxxvi. 4 Wæron eagan mine eac mid wæccum werded swype. **c1100** *Ælfred's Boeth.* (Bodl. MS.) xvi. §2 þa smalan wyrmas, þa ðone mon ge innan ge uton werdaþ [*Cott. MS.* wyrdap]. **c1200** ORMIN 4251 þe flæshess fule wille, þatt allre werst . . Werdeþþ þe wreche sawle. *Ibid.* 6249 Ne birþ þe shendenn nani mann Ne weordenn þine þannkess.

werde, obs. pa. t. of WEAR *v.*, WERE *v.*; obs. f. WEIRD *sb.*, WORD, WORLD.

†**werder**. *Obs.* -¹ (Meaning obscure.)

c1350 *Will. Palerne* 3185, I a-wede neiez of wit for þo werder bestes, þat folwe þour felachip, so ferli þei are.

werdingale, var. FARTHINGALE, VARDINGALE.

werdliche, obs. form of WORLDLY.

Werdnig-Hoffmann ('v3:dnig). *Path.* The names of Guido *Werdnig*, 19th-century Austrian neurologist, and Johann *Hoffmann* (HOFFMANN 3), who described the disease in 1890 and 1893 respectively, used in the possessive and *attrib.* to designate a fatal familial disease that is present at birth or develops soon afterwards and is characterized by muscular atrophy, paralysis, and loss of sucking ability.

1903 *Trans. Clin. Soc.* XXXVI. 226 (*heading*) Three cases of family progressive spinal muscular atrophy (Werdnig-Hoffmann [*sic*] type). **1920** *Brain* XLIII. 170 The case was scarcely one of amyotonia congenita, but rather was related to Werdnig-Hoffmann's progressive muscular atrophy, in spite of there being no obvious element of heredity. **1978** *Arch. Dis. Childhood* LIII. 921/1 Werdnig-Hoffmann disease—the acute severe infantile form of spinal muscular atrophy—often presents in the neonatal period with profound weakness.

werdour, var. *verdour* VERDOUR *Obs.*

werdy, Sc. variant of WORTHY *a.*

†**were**, *sb.*¹ *Obs.* Forms: 1 wer, 2-3 were. [Common Teutonic: OE. *wer* = OFris., OS., OHG. *wer*, ON. and Icel. *verr*, Goth. *wair* = L. *uir*, OIr. *fer* (Gael. *fear*), W. *gŵr*, related to Lith. *vyras*, Skr. *virā*, man, hero.]

1. A male person; a man.

Beowulf 993 Fela þara wæs werea and wifa. *Ibid.* 1352 Oðer . . . on weres wæstmum wræclastas træd. **c900** *Laws Ælfred* §21 ðif oxa ofhnite wer oððe wif. **971** *Blickl. Hom.* 11 Salomones reste wæs . . . ymbseted . . . mid syxtigum werum. **c1000** *Sax. Leechd.* I. 156 þeos ylce wyrt gedep þæt ægþer ge werea ge wifa feax wekep. **c1175** *Lamb. Hom.* 111 Wisdom biriseð weran. *Ibid.* 131 Bitwuxe were and wife nes nefre mare mon penne he. **c1200** ORMIN 7615 þatt hallþhe were Symeon Himm toxt bitwenenn armress. **c1250** *Gen. & Ex.* 532 And on ðe sexte hundred 3er Wimmen welten weres mester. *Ibid.* 3977 So was ðis were to wunder bro3t, ðho3 ðe asse spae, frigtede he no3t.

2. A husband.

c893 *ÆLFRED Oros.* I. x. §1 Heora wif. . . sædon . . . hie him woldon oðerra werea ceosan. **a900** *Laws Ælfred-Ine* §38 (*title*) Be ðon ðe rihtgesamhiwan bearn habban, ond ðonne se wer gewite. **971** *Blickling Hom.* 185 Wif ic lærde þæt hie heora weras lufedan. **c1000** *ÆLFRED Exod.* xxi. 22 Bete swa micel swa ðæs wifes wer gýrnð. **a1200** *Moral Ode* 31 Ne lipnie wif to hire were, ne were to his wive. **c1230** *Hali Meid.* 7 Hire laterere were. . . lesse haueð þen hauede ear hire earre. **a1250** *Owl & Night.* 1341 For god wif may . . . Bet luuyen hire owe were, þan on oper hire copinere. **c1275** *Wom. Samaria* 30 in O.E. *Misc.* 85 Go and clepe þine were and cumeþ hider y-mene.

were (wɔ(r)), *sb.*² *Hist.* Also wer. [OE. *were*, var. of *wer* (dat. *were*), abbreviation of *were-*, *wergild*.] = WERGELD.

1607 COWEL *Interpr.* **1628** COKE *On Litt.* 127 Wera or Were sometimes signifeth americiament or compensation. **1660** R. COKE *Power & Subj.* 190 Who shall commit perjury upon holy things, let him lose his hand, or half his were. **1819** LINGARD *Hist. Eng.* I. iii. 124 He paid the were for the death of Ælfrin. **1842** SIR H. TAYLOR *Edwin the Fair* II. v. He that within the palace draws his sword Doth forfeit an Earl's were. **1872** E. W. ROBERTSON *Hist. Ess.* 236 note, In later days it was a principle of Land-right that no free-man should be amerced 'above his wer'.

†**were**, *sb.*³ *Obs.* Forms: a. 3-5 were (5 *Sc.* vere), 4-5 wer (4 werr, 5 *Sc.* ver), 4, 5-6 *Sc.*, weyr, (9 *Sc.*) weir (5 *Sc.* weyre, veir), 5 weere (8 *Sc.* weer). β. 4 wehere, 4-5 where, 5 wher, wheer. γ. 5 wyre. [Of doubtful origin, but possibly the

same word as northern ME. and Sc. *were*, var. of ME. *werre* WAR sb.¹, retaining the original sense of 'confusion', 'perplexity', which is prominent in OHG. *werra*, etc. The form agrees with north-eastern OF. *were* (also *weire*, *wiere*, *wyere*), which is the immediate source of ME. and Sc. *war* 'war'.

In R. Brunne *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 2126 and *Rom. Rose* 5699 the use of *were* is suggested by *guere* and *guerre* in the French originals. Although employed by some midland and southern writers, the word is chiefly characteristic of northern texts and latterly confined to Scottish use. Except in senses 5 b, 6, and 7, it most frequently occurs in the phrase in (a) *were*.]

1. Danger, peril, jeopardy.

c 1250 Gen. & Ex. 1788 Engel wiro a-gen him cam, Als it were wopnede here, Redi to silden him fro were. *1338 R. Brunne Chron.* (1810) 319 His life was alle in wehere. He bed grete catelle, his lif forto saue. *c 1375 Sc. Leg. Saints xxvii. (Machar)* 274 He pat quyk sawit moyses... has defendit pis barne here, pat lyk was to be in gret were. *c 1400 Beryn* 2850 They had levir saille forth, pen put[ten] hem in were, Both lyve & goodis. *c 1400 Destr. Troy* 8266 All in were for to walt, wayueronde he sote, But he held hym on horse. *1500-20 DUNBAR Poems xxxvi.* 1 Sen thy lyfe is ay in weir, And deid is evir drawand neir.

b. in were of, in danger of. Also Sc. *in weres to* (with inf.).

c 1400 Destr. Troy 7498 Bothe were pai bold men borne to be grene, Woundit full wickedly in wer of hor lyues. *Ibid.* 13901. *1412-20 LYDG. Chron. Troy* iv. 75 For outterly pei and her cyte Shal mor & mor in were of deth depende. *1804 TARRAS Poems* 42 Lums [= chimneys] in wiers to get a dird [= shock] Or downward flung.

2. A condition of trouble or distress.

a 1300 Cursor M. 2425 Qui did pou vs pus in were, pat said pi wijf pi sister were? *c 1330 R. Brunne Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 828 He regned foure & prytty 3er In pes wypouten wo & wer. *1352 MINOT Poems* (ed. Hall) iii. 95 þe Inglis men put pam to were Ful baldly, with bow and spere. *c 1400 Rom. Rose* 2827 Swete speche That hath to many oon be leche To bringe hem out of woo and were. *c 1400 Minot's Poems* (Hall) App. ii. 79 þan sal þe land duel in were. *c 1407 LYDG. Reson & Sens.* 3061 Fro day to day most ful of moone, Solytarye, and allone, As a woman in gret wer. *c 1460 Towneley Myst.* iv. 22 Adam... liffy... In sorow and in trauell strang, And euery day he was in were. *c 1500 Lancelot* 84 O woful wrech, that levis in to were.

b. A state of uncertainty or instability.

c 1375 Sc. Leg. Saints vi. (Thomas) 460 þis present lyfe Is vndirout to chanis sere, sa pat men liffis ay ine vere. *1390 GOWER Conf.* I. 8 Bot we that duelle under the mone Stonde in this world upon a weer. *c 1400 Pety Job* 129 in 26 *Pol. Poems* 125 Thus mannes tyme ys in a were; But thy tyme stonde in oo degre.

3. Apprehension, fear, dread.

a 1300 Sarmun lix. in *E.E.P.* (1862) 7 Loke pat 3e nab no were, for seue 3er 3e habbip to pardoun. *1338 R. Brunne Chron.* (1810) 228 þe Soudan was in wehere þe Cristen had sulik oste, Sir Edwarde's powere ouer alle he dred moste. *c 1375 Sc. Leg. Saints i. (Petrus)* 318 Sin effir can crist appere To petir, at wes in sic were, and sad [etc.]. *a 1400 Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 259, I am pi broþer, be nout in wer, be nout agast to come me ner. *1412-20 LYDG. Chron. Troy* iv. 3420 He was boþe ferful & in were, In gret dispeire and inly ful of drede. *1426 — De Guil. Pilgr.* 21663 For dred off hyre, I was in were. *c 1440 York Myst.* ix. 146 Loke in and loke with-outen were. *15.. Colkelbie Sow* 541 (Bann. MS.) Is nocht this a nyce caiss, That... in so mony dengeris, He eskapit with weris?

1808 JAMIESON s.v. Were, I haif nae weir of that, I have no fear of it, S.B.

b. A state of mental distress or trouble.

1303 R. Brunne Handl. Synne 5676 Pers... on hys dreame gan pyne, Syghyng with mornynge chere, As man pat was yn grete were. *c 1385 CHAUCER L.G.W.* 2686 (Fairf.) Drede of dethe doth hir so moche woo That thries doun she fele in swiche a were.

4. Perplexity; confusion of mind; doubt or uncertainty how to act or regard one's position, etc. Also with a.

(a) *1338 R. Brunne Chron.* (1810) 81 William was in wehere, when he herd pat tiping. ? *a 1400 Hampole's Prose Tr.* 35 Be pou noghte in dowte ne in were when pou prayes or thykenes one Godd. *c 1400 Destr. Troy* 13160 A myst & a merkes mynget with rayn, þat wilt vs in were & our way lost. *1500-20 DUNBAR Poems xxx.* 50 He vaneist away with stynk and fyrie smowk;... And I awoik as wy that wes in weir.

(b) *1377 LAngl. P. Pl. B. xi.* 111 In a were gan I waxe and with my-self to dispute. *1390 GOWER Conf.* I. 107 Ha, fader, be nocht in a wer: I trowe ther be noman... That halt him lasse worth thanne I To be beloved. *c 1400 Pety Job* 129 in 26 *Pol. Poems* 297 Thus he wandreth in a were As a man blynde. *c 1407 LYDG. Reson & Sens.* 2901 And thus I stood al in a rage... Wavering as in a were. *1412-20 — Chron. Troy* i. 4273 But in a were he abydyng longe, Afor hym sawe þe myty Grekis stronge.

5. A (subjective) state of doubt or uncertainty with regard to the truth or reality of anything; undecidedness of belief or opinion. Const. of, what, that, etc. Also with a and pl.

(a) *a 1300 Cursor M.* 7069 Her-of thar naman be in were. *Ibid.* 17069 All men was in dute and wer bot pou, leue hali mail *1338 R. Brunne Chron.* (1810) 306 For þei were euer in wehere... Whilk was best banere, with pat side forto hold. *1357 Lay Folks Catech.* 204 If the prest be in were [v.r. dowte] of him that sal take it [baptisme] Whether he be baptized or he be nocht. *1412-20 LYDG. Chron. Troy* iii. 3993 So pat 3e shal of no þing be in were Of al pat euer pat I seie 3ou here. *1426 — De Guil. Pilgr.* 22228, I stood in a maner wher, What tokenes that it myght be, The thynges that I dyde se. ? *a 1500 Chester Pl.* xxiii. 74 Fowle haue we leued many a year, and of our weninge bene in were. *1500-20 DUNBAR Poems lxxii.* 89 In weir that he was sit on lyf, Thai ran ane rude speir in his syde.

(b) *c 1350 Will. Palerne* 3513 William was in a wer pat it were him-selue. *1377 LAngl. P. Pl. B. xvi.* 3 Ac set I am in a were, what charite is to mene. *a 1395 HYLTON Scala Perf.* ii. xi. (W. de W. 1494), Therefore they falle ofte in suche weeres and doubtes of hemself. *c 1420 ? LYDG. Assembly of Gods* 1872 All that tyme stood I in a wyre [rhyme desyre] Whyche way furst myn hert wold yeue more To looke. *1500-20 DUNBAR Poems xc.* 30 Sa that thi confessor be wyss and discreit, That can the discharge of every doute and weir. **b. to have no were**, to be in no doubt. Also Sc. *to have weres*.

c 1375 Cursor M. 12135 (Fairf.) Of pine elde we haue na were; vnnepes artow of vij. 3ere. *c 1430 Hymns Virgin* (1867) 116 For of reward sche hap no were pat pus abidip in charite. *1513 DOUGLAS Æneis* Dyrect. Bk. 80 Of 3our moblys and all other geyr 3e will me serf siklyke, I haue na weyr. *1535 W. STEWART Cron. Scot.* I. 5 So that it be substantious of sentence In plane termis, thairfor half thow no weir. *1768 ROSS Helenore, Songs* 129, I thought ere I died to have anes made a web, But still I had weers o' the spinning o't.

6. The condition of being (objectively) doubtful or uncertain; a state of affairs such as to give occasion for hesitation or uncertainty; a matter of doubt.

a 1300 Cursor M. 20794 Disput, he sais, es na mister Bituix te wis in swilk a wer. *13.. Ibid.* 23824 (Edinb.) þat ilke dai we se and here, we ah it noht to hald in were. *1303 R. Brunne Handl. Synne* 462 þan ys doute & grete were [v.r. weyr] To wyte where-of dremys come. *c 1375 Sc. Leg. Saints ii. (Paul)* 378 For-thy it is in wer gyff þis be paulis hewid or nocht. *c 1475 Rauf Coilgear* 706 3one is Wymond, I wait, it wothis na weir. ? *c 1500 Clariodus* i. 1320 Quhair-for this knicht we tuike in this maner To save our aithes, traist weith this is no weir.

7. Often in phr. (usually introduced as a mere tag) but, forouten, out of, without were, without doubt. Also occas. with any.

(a) *a 1300 Cursor M.* 2157 Arphaxat liued wit-outen were Threhundret aght and tuenti 3ere. *c 1340 HAMPOLE Pr. Consc.* 2296 þan er we certayn, with-outen were, þat at our last ende pai sal apere. *c 1380 Sir Ferumb.* 2872 Hast pou gode chere þy faire tour to gete aȝan wyþ-oute any where. *c 1407 LYDG. Reson & Sens.* 51 To yive me drynke of her tonne, Of which she hath, with-oute wer, Couched tweyn in hir celler. *c 1485 Digby Myst.* iii. 1027 With-owtyn ony wyre, per xall ye se hym. *c 1530 Songs, Carols*, etc. (E.E.T.S.) 83 This worde was wretyn without were For many a man, pat shuld drede. *1552 LYNDESAY Monarchie* 5288 Elie sayis, withouttyn weir, The warld sall stand sax thousand 3eir.

(b) *c 1305 Land Cokaygne* 21, I sigge for sop, bout were, þer nis lond on erthe is pere. *c 1375 Sc. Leg. Saints xv. (Barnabas)* 70 We lat 3ow wyt, but ony ver, pat of lord cristv ihesu... we are þe seruandis & mene. *1456 Sir G. HAYE Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 109 That he is his soverane... is but were. *c 1475 Rauf Coilgear* 499 For na gold on this ground wald I, but weir, Be fundin fals to the King. *1567 Gude & Godlie B. (S.T.S.)* 37 Thay within ane lytill stound Began to myrrie be but weir. *1574 Satir. Poems Reform.* xlii. 390 Thair suld be plantit throw this land At euerie Kirk... Ane Preichour at the leist but weir.

(c) *1375 BARBOUR Bruce* iv. 222 Bot he wes fule, forouten weir, That gaf treuth to that Creature. *c 1475 Rauf Coilgear* 288 He will be found in his fault that wants, foroutin weir.

(d) *a 1425 Cursor M.* 3799 (Trin.) He seide, oure lord out of were I wist not his wonyng here. *c 1475 Rauf Coilgear* 230 'Out of weir', said the King, 'I wayndit neuer to tell'.

were, sb.⁴ rare. [f. WERE v.]

†1. A defender, protector. *Obs.*

c 1250 Gen. & Ex. 2680 Moyses was louered of ðat here, ðor he wurð ðane egyptes were.

2. Sc. Defence.

a 1878 AINSIE Land of Burns (1892) 237 At guard an wier lay Andro Keir—He faught to haud his ain.

were (wɪə(r)), v. *Obs. exc. Sc. Forms:* 1 *werian* (werzan, werizean), 2-3 *werien* (3 *weriū*, 5 *weryyn*), 3-4 *werie*, 4 *werye(n)*; 2-3 *weren* (3 *Orm. werenn*), 4-5 *were*, *wer* (4 *werr*, 5 *werre*), 5 *weire*, 5-6, 9 *Sc. weir*, 6 *weere* (9 *dial. weer*), *weare*, 8-9 *Sc. wear*. *Pa. t.* 1-4 *werede* (1 -ode), 4 *wered*, -id, *werde*, 5 *werit* (*Sc. -yt*); 5 *were*, *wore*, *Sc. wor*. *Pa. pple.* 4 *werd*, 9 *dial. weard*. [Common Teut.: OE. *werian*, *wergan* = OS. *werian*, *werean* (MLG. and LG. *weren*), OFris. *wera* (WFr. *weare*, *warre*; NFr. *weert*, *wiare*), MDu. and Du. *weren*, OHG. *warian*, *werian*, etc. (MHG. *wergen*, *weren*, *wern*, G. *wehren*), ON. and Icel. *verja* (Norw. *verja*; Sw. *värja*, Da. *værge*, *verge*), Goth. *warjan*. The extent to which the two senses of preventing or checking, and defending or protecting, are represented, varies in the different languages; the greater currency of the second in English, though already prominent in OE., may have been assisted by the agreement with ON. *verja*.]

1. trans. To check or restrain; to ward off, repel. Also with *away*, *off*. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

a 900 Andreas 743 Stan... septe sacerdas sweetulum tacnum, witig werede & worde cwæð. *c 925 Laws* ii. *Edward* §4 þæt ælc man hæbbe symle þa men gearowe... ðe læden ða men ðe heora aȝen secan willen, and hy for nanum medsceattum ne werian. *c 1220 Bestiary* 102 [He] Of hise eȝen wereð ðe mist, wiles he dreccheð ðore. *c 1250 Gen. & Ex.* 2898 Ic sal hem lesen fro, And here fon weren wið wo. *c 1320 Sir Tristr.* 2543 His gloue he put þer inne þe sonne to were away. *13.. Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 2015 Fyrst he clad hym in his clopez, þe colde for to were. *c 1375 Leg. Rood* viii. 297 þe Cros I calle þe heordes ȝerde... And wiþ þe ȝerde þe wolf he werde. *a 1470 HARDING Chron.* xcvi. xii. (1812) 181 By whiche he maye the wolf werre [v.r. bete] from the gate.

c 1480 HENRYSON Test. Cress. 182 Of his Father the wraith fra vs to weir.

1791 LEARMONT Poems 47 Lord wear aff the featour's blow Frae honest fock! *1829 BROCKETT N.C. Words* (ed. 2), *Weer*, or *Wear*, to stop or oppose, to keep off, to guard.

2. To defend, guard, or protect from assault or injury.

Beowulf 1205 Siððan he under seȝne... wælreaf werede. *Ibid.* 1327 Donne we on orlege hafelan weredon. *a 900 O.E. Chron.* an. 755 Se cyning on þa duru eode, & þa unheanlice hine werede. *971 Blickl. Hom.* vi. 79 Hie for þæm hungre þa burh werian ne mihton. *a 1122 O.E. Chron.* an. 1016 (Laud MS.), His rice he heardlice werode þa hwile þe his tima wæs. *c 1175 Lamb. Hom.* 81 Al þos godnesse hom ne mihte werien, þet ho ne wenden alle in to hellic. *c 1200 ORMIN* 5305 þa birrþ þe stanndenn þær onnȝæn, & werenn Cristess þeowwess. *c 1205 LAY.* 5696 And swiðe wel heom wereden þa walles of Rome. *a 1250 Owl & Night.* 834 Bute he can clymbe swiwe wel; þar myd he wereþ his greye vel. *a 1300 Cursor M.* 23766 Eth es for to win wit heer, þe ture þat nan es bute to were. *1340 Ayeub.* 129 þou hest kuede þeawas þet þe ssolle lede to þe dyape of helle bote þe grace of god þe ne werie. *1375 BARBOUR Bruce* xx. 379 All tym had I Handis, myne hede for till were. *c 1412 HOCLEVE De Reg. Princ.* 2546 He of iustice is bounden hem to were And to diffende. *c 1440 Promp. Parv.* 522/2 Weryyn', *idem quod* defendyn. *c 1470 HENRY Wallace* iii. 183 Wallace... Wichtly him wor [v.r. did him weir], quhill he a suerd had tayne.

a 1800 in Chambers Pop. Rhymes Scot. (1870) 151 He tethered his tyke ayont the dike, And bade him weir the corn. *1807 J. STAGG Misc. Poems* (1808) 40 For tho' wi' witch wood weard, yet weel They kend auld Hornie's tricks.

†b. *Const. with or against, from (or of). Obs.*

(a) *a 1000 Exodus* 237 þa þe... ne mihton... breostnet werea wið flane feond folmum werizean. *c 1175 Lamb. Hom.* 13 Ic eou wille werien wið elcne herm. *c 1200 ORMIN* 10227 To fihhtenn forr þe leode, To werenn hemm wiþ wiperrpeod þat wolde hemm oferrgannenn. *c 1315 SHOREHAM* i. 1244 þe pryde hys icleped 'coniurement' Aȝenys þe foule þynge to werie þe. *1390 GOWER Conf.* II. 248 Hir enchantement Ayein the Serpent scholde him were.

(b) *a 1300 Cursor M.* 11168 Hir sun he sal and fader baþe Be to wer his folk fra waþe. *c 1400 Ywaine & Gaw.* 3284 And fro my liown i sal the wer. *1402 Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 44 For holy chirche hath us... happid with grace, to were us from wederes of wynteres stormes. *c 1425 Macro Plays, Cast. Persev.* 2046 Fro seuene synnys we schul hym were. *c 1470 Gol. & Gaw.* 58 Luke that wisly thow wirk, Criste were the fra wa!

(c) *1801 HOGG Sc. Pastorals* 23 For wearin' corn of hens an cocks... His match was never made.

†c. To defend, uphold, or give support to (a cause, etc.); to maintain (one's opinion). *Obs.*

c 1250 Gen. & Ex. 3714 Burȝes stronge and folc [v-n]frist, stalwurð to weren here riȝt. *a 1300 Cursor M.* 1476 Wit antecrist þan sal [Enoch] fight for to wereye cristen riȝt. *1340 Ayeub.* 69 þer byȝe zome... þet none guode techinge ne onderuonȝeþ, ak alneway wereȝe hare sentense huet þet hit by.

d. To keep or hold (a means of entrance or exit); †to have or possess as one's own.

c 1330 R. Brunne Chron. Wace (Rolls) 9312 þe Erl... þoughte no feyp til [him] wold here, But he in pes his wyf myght were. *c 1470 HENRY Wallace* ix. 1965 At Sterlyng bryg he ordand thaim full ryȝt, And thar to byd, the entre for to wer. *1802 Fray of Suort* ii. in Scott *Minstrelsy* I. 187, I set him to wear the fore-door wi' the speir. *a 1894 J. SHAW in R. Wallace Country Schm.* (1899) 355 To wear a gate at sheep-shearing, to open and shut it.

†e. To protect or save by removing. *Obs.*

c 1460 Towneley Myst. viii. 151 If thay with wrong away wold wrast, outt of the way I shall the were.

†3. *refl.* To defend or guard (oneself, etc.); often followed by *against*, *from*. (Cf. 1 b.) *Obs.*

Beowulf 541 Wit unc wið hronfisas werian pohton. *993 Battle of Maldon* 82 Ælfere & Maccus... hi fæstlice wið ða fynd weredon. *c 1175 Lamb. Hom.* 69 Crist... ȝeue us weþne... Mid gode werkes for us to weren. *c 1200 ORMIN* 1406 Aec þu miht werenn þe fra þeȝm þurh rihte læfe o Criste. *a 1225 Ancr. R.* 400 Were þe, ȝif þu konst, aȝean me. *c 1250 Gen. & Ex.* 2083 Ðor-for ic am in sorge and hagt, for ic ne migte me nogt weren. *a 1300 Cursor M.* 2227 þai culd find on no manere How to wer þam fra þe flode. *c 1315 SHOREHAM Poems* i. 114 For we beþ of nonn power To weryen ous fro schame. *c 1380 Sir Ferumb.* 845 Olyuer tok is spere & eke ys scheld & heng hit on þer-wiþ him-self to were. *c 1386 CHAUCER Knt.'s T.* 1692 Foyne if hym list on foote, hym self to were. *c 1407 LYDG. Reson & Sens.* 1195 From al hir fon hir self to were, In her ryȝt honde she had a spere. *c 1470 HENRY Wallace* v. 901 A suerd he drew, ryȝt manlik him to wer.

†4. *absol.* a. To make a defence, to offer resistance. *Obs.*

c 1200 ORMIN 2046 þuss mihhte ȝho bitellen wel & werenn þurh þatt bisne. *c 1200 Mor. Ode* 325 in Trin. Coll. Hom. 230 Ne muȝe we werien naðer ne wið þurst ne wið hunger. *c 1250 Gen. & Ex.* 851 Fowre [kings] on-senken and fifue weren. *13.. K. Alis.* 3533 The spies on bothe sydes goth, Of Alisaundre, and eke Darie, How eche schal from othir were.

†b. To act as a shield or protection. *Obs.*

c 1375 Cursor M. 21840 (Fairf.) Hit is our shilde & our spere, a-gainis þe feinde for to were. *c 1400 Destr. Troy* 11108 Sho... Hade no helme on hir hede for harmys to weire. Hence †wering *vbl. sb.*

a 1300 E.E. Psalter xxi. 20 And þou, lauerd, ne fer pi help fra me; At mi weringe bihald and se. *13.. K. Alis.* 2798 The saut com so thikke and swithe, That no weryng ne myghte heom lithe. *a 1310 in Wright Lyric P.* xxv. 75 Send mi soule god weryyng.

were: see BE v. A. 6, 7.

were, var. or obs. f. VERE sb., VERY, WAR sb.¹, v., WAR, WAUR a. and adv., WARE a., WEAR v., WEIR, WHERE, WHETHER, WIRE sb.

were- (wǣ(r)). The first element of WEREWOLF used in combination, chiefly with names of animals, to indicate a human being imagined to be transformed into a beast; as *were-animal*, *-ass*, *-bear*, etc.; also *were-man*. Cf. WER-. 'were-jaguar', in Olmec mythology, a creature partly human and partly feline.

1873 LONGF. *Wayside Inn* 111. Interl. v. 4 The were-wolf is a legend old, But the were-ass is something new. **1883** J. F. M'LENNAN in *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 90 The Arcadians, or bear-tribe, sprang from the were-bear Callisto. *Ibid.*, In Ashango-land, . . . a were-leopard was . . . charged with murder and metamorphosis. **1894** *Sat. Rev.* 15 Sept. 289/2 The simple explanation . . . that that beast was a were-calf. **1897** SIR H. H. JOHNSTON *Brit. Centr. Afr.* 439 In this respect the belief in 'were' animals . . . is nearly universal. **1967** L. DEUEL *Conquistadors without Swords* xviii. 235 Today, . . . more than 400 years after the Spanish Conquest and 2,000 . . . years since its origin, the were-jaguar, the *nawal*, is still invoked to frighten children who will not go to sleep. **1967** E. P. BENSON *Maya World* ii. 24 Olmec art is full of creatures who are part human and part feline. . . . Often they are a combination of human infant and jaguar. They are called 'were-jaguars'. **1979** E. ABRAMS tr. *H. Stierlin's Precolombian Civilizations* 68 This werejaguar figure tenoned into the wall of the pyramid at Chavin.

wereangel, **-angle**, var. forms of WARIANGLE.

† **wered**. *Obs.* Forms: *a.* 1 werud, -od (2 wærod), 1-3 wered; 1 weorod, 1, 3 weored; 1 *north.* uorud, 3 wored. *β.* 2-3 werd, 3 word, 3-4 wurd, 4 weurd. [OE. *werod*, *weorod*, etc., without parallels in the cognate languages.] A band, troop, company, host.

a. **c 725** *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) A 407 *Agmen*, weorod. **971** *Blickl. Hom.* 131 Ac se heaprym pæs Godes hades pæm englicum weorodum simle ondweard wæs. **c 1000** *Ag. Gosp.* Matt. xiii. 34 Ealle pæs ping se hæled spræc mid biȝ-spellum to pæm werodum. — Mark xv. 16 Hi tosomne eall werod clypedon. **c 1205** *LAY.* 2598 He bi-com . . . vppen ane weorde of wilfan awedde. **a 1225** *Ancr. R.* 30 Ase þer beoð niene englene ordres [MSS. *B.* C weoredes]. **a 1240** *Ureisin in Cott. Hom.* 195 Al englene were[d] and alle holie ping Siggeð and singeð pet tu ert liues welsprung. **c 1205** *LAY.* 509 ȝif he heom mihte bi-winnen mid his wored strenche.

β. **c 1160** *Hatton Gosp.* Luke vi. 17 He stod on feldlicere stowe & micel werd hys leorningcnihte. **a 1225** *St. Marher.* 22 Hali is . . . þe lauerd of heouene riche wordes. **c 1250** *Gen. & Ex.* 1786 Als he cam ner cananear, Engel wið [sic] a-gen him cam. *Ibid.* 1790 Ðor ðis wið of engles metten him. **a 1275** *Prov. Alfred* 697 in *O.E. Misc.* 138 Bi ford dages he is afeð of sticke & ston in huge werd. **a 1300** *Cursor M.* 20282 He þat i bar, þat bligh brid, Sal me send of heuen wird [Gött. weurd].

† **'wereful**, *a. Sc. Obs.* -1 [f. WERE *sb.*³ + -FUL.] Doubtful.

1456 SIR G. HAY *Gov. Princes Wks.* (S.T.S.) II. 104 To geve the ensample and instruction to wysly governe the in many thingis that now ar werefull to the.

weregeld, **-gild**, var. forms of WERGELD.

wereit, *obs. pa. t. and pa. pple. of WORRY.*

† **werel**. *Obs. rare* -1. [Of obscure origin: cf. MHG. *wedel*, *weegel*.] A fan or fly-whisk.

a 1390 *Wycliffite Bible*, Job Prol. II. 672 For the werelis, lepis, basketis [L. *pro flabello*, *calathis*, *sportellisque*], and litle ȝiftis of munkis, these spirituel . . . ȝiftis . . . taketh.

werelbone, *obs. form of WHIRLBONE.*

wereld(e), *obs. forms of WORLD.*

werelie, *obs. Sc. form of VERILY and WARLY.*

werelike, *obs. Sc. form of WARLIKE.*

werely, *obs. Sc. var. WARLY a.*

werena, *Sc. = were not: see NA adv.*³

weren't, colloq. contraction of 'were not'.

werew, *obs. form of WORRY v.*

† **werewall**. *Sc. Obs.* Also 5 wer-, 6 weir-. [f. WERE *v.* + WALL *sb.*] A bulwark, rampart. In quots. *fig.*

c 1450 *HOLLAND Howlat* 382 The armes of the Dowglass . . . Of Scotland the wer wall. **1533** *BELLENDEN Livy* II. xxii. (S.T.S.) I. 222 þai war campit to be ane were-wall for defence of Veanis. **1536** — *Cron. Scot.* XIV. viii. (1821) II. 383 The . . . surname of Dowglas, quhilkis war evir the sicker targe and weirwal of Scotland aganis Inglismen.

werewolf, **werwolf** ('wǣ-, 'wɜ:wulf). Forms: *a.* 1 werewulf, (3 -wulf), 7-9 -wolf; *pl.* 5 -wolves, 9 weir-, werewolves. *β.* 4-7, 9 werwolf (6 *Sc.* -woif); *pl.* 4 -wolves, -wolves, 9 werwolves. *γ.* 5-7 *Sc.*, 9 warwolf, 5-7 -wolfe, (7 *Sc.* warewolf, warwoof); *pl.* 6 *Sc.* -wo(o)lfes, 7 *Sc.* -woophs. *δ.* 9 wehrwolf. [OE. *werewolf* (once), = MDu. and Du. *weerwolf*, MHG. *werwolf* (G. *wer-*, *wehrwolf*), LG. *werwolf*; also WFr. *waerûl*, *warûle* (and *waerwolf* after Du.), Da. and Norw. *varulv*, Sw. *varulf*. The latter may represent an ON. **varulf-r*, whence ONF. *garwall* (Marie de France, *c 1175*), later *guaroul*, -ou, *garoul*, -ou, *warou*, -eu (mod.F. *loup-garou*); ON. *vargulf-r*

(by association with *varg-r* wolf) occurs only in the translation of Marie's lay of Bisclavret.

The first element has usually been identified with OE. *wer* man WERE *sb.*¹, but the form *were-* in place of *wer-* (cf. however *were-* and *wergild* WERGELD), and the variants in *war-*, *var-*, makes this somewhat doubtful.

Evidence for the real currency of the word (chiefly in the *β* and *γ* forms) is rare, and confined to *Sc.*, after the 17th cent. In modern use it has been revived through folk-lore studies, and until recently the most usual form has been *werewolf*, and occas. *wehrwolf* from German.]

1. A person who (according to mediæval superstition) was transformed or was capable of transforming himself at times into a wolf; †also, an exceptionally large and ferocious wolf.

a. **c 1000** *Laws Cnut* xxvi. (Lieberm.) þæt se wodfrea werewulf to swyðe ne slite, ne to fela ne abite of godcundre heorde. **c 1212** GERVASE OF TILBURY *Otia Imper.* xv. in Leibnitz *Script. Brunsv.* (1707) I. 895 Quod hominum genus *gerulfos* Galli nominant, Angli vero *Werewolf*, dicunt. **c 1400** *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) vi. þer beth some [wolves] þæt eten children and men. And þei be cleped werewolves, for men shulde be were of hem, or þe mann see hem. **1605** VERSTEGAN *Dec. Intell.* 237 The were-wolves are certain sorcerers, who hauing annoynted their bodies, with an oyntment which they make by the instinct of the deuil; and putting on a certaine enchanted girdel, do not only vnto the view of others seeme as wolves, but to their own thinking haue both the shape and nature of wolves, so long as they weare the said girdel. [Hence in BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (1656), etc.] **1818** *Q. Rev.* XIX. 68 The weir-wolves of the wilds of Indiana. **1831** A. HERBERT in *Will. & Werwolf* (Roxb.) 4 As a punishment for his ferocity he [sc. Lycæon] was deprived by Jupiter of the human form, and ended his days a werewolf. **1863** W. K. KELLY *Curios. Indo-Europ. Tradit.* 253 Stories about werewolves are still current in Germany. **1871** TYLOR *Prim. Cult.* I. iii. 77 The old doctrine of Werewolves, not yet extinct in Europe. **1891** FARRAR *Darkn. & Dawn* xxvi. 213 Stories of magic and vampires and were-wolves told them by travelled youths.

fig. **1872** LONGF. *Wayside Inn* 11. Interl. i. 23 The brutes that wear our form and face, The were-wolves of the human race!

β. **c 1350** *Will. Palerne* 15 þat while was þe werwolf went a-boute his praye. *Ibid.* 3836, I wold him hunte as hard as euer hounde in erthe honted eny werwolf. **c 1394** *P. Pl. Crede* 459 þei ben wilde wer-wolves, þat wiln þe folk robben. **1470-85** MALORY *Arthur* XIX. xi. 793 His wyf . . . made hym seuen yere a werwolf. **1508** KENNEDIE *Flying w. Dunbar* 251 Wod werwolf [v.r. werwolf], worme and scorpion venemous. ? **1605** DRAYTON *Poems Lyr. & Past.*, *Man in Moore* G 8 b, About the fields religiously they went, with halowing charms the Werwolf thence to fray. **1816** SCOTT *Antiq.* xxv. All the German superstitions of nixies, oakings, wer-wolves, hob-goblins. **1868** LOWELL *Among my Bks.* Ser. I. (1870) 115 Lycæon, . . . after passing through all the stages I have mentioned, becomes the ancestor of the werwolf. **1912** E. O'DONNELL *Werwolves* xiii. 212 As in France, the werwolf, in Belgium, is not restricted to one sex. *fig.* **1902** *Spectator* 5 July 17/1 When from that underworld. . . The werewolves of the darkness pour by night And show . . . their misery and their guilt.

γ. **c 1480** HENRYSON *Parl. Beasts* xiv. The warwolf and the pegase perillous. **1483** *Cath. Angl.* 409/1 A Warwolfe, *ravus*. **a 1533** BERNERS *Huon* clvi a. 602 Huon the souerayne kyng of the fayry . . . wolde condempne hym parpetually to be a warwolfe in the se [Fr. *luyton de mer*]. **1576** TURBERV. *Venerie* lxxv. 206 Some Wolues . . . kill children and men sometimes: and then they neuer feede nor pray vpon any other thing afterwards. . . . Such Wolues are called *War-wolves*, because a man had neede to beware of them. [Cf. *c 1400* in *a.*] **1597** JAS. VI *Dæmonol.* 111. i. 61 And are not war-wolfes one sorte of these spiritres also. . . ? **c 1622** ROWLEY, etc. *Birth of Merlin* v. i. 106 Where no Night-hag shall walk, nor Ware-wolf tread. **1665** SIR J. LAUDER (Fountainhall) *Jrnl.* (1900) 83 Instead of our red dragons and giants they have *lougurous* or *warwoophs*. **a 1800** KEMPION xvii. in Scott *Minstrelsy* (1802) II. 96 O was it warwolf in the wood . . . ? **1817** COLERIDGE *Zapolya* II. i. 1. 337 Madam, that wood is haunted by the war-wolves. **1897** BARING-GOULD *Guavas* xvi. They hold Loup [a tamed wolf] to be naught else but a war-wolf.

δ. **1834** W. J. THOMS *Lays & Leg.*, *France* 57 The Lay of Bisclavret; or, the Wehr-wolf. **1855** D. COSTELLO in *Bentley's Misc.* XXXVIII. 361 Lycanthropy in London; or The Wehr-Wolf of Wilton-Crescent. **1884** J. DAVIDSON *Bruce* iv. iv. The wehrwolf, ravening in the warren, growls. **1913** R. HODDER *Vampire* viii. 43 The wehrwolf who discards his human form to bury his fangs in the throats of sleeping children.

2. *Sc. dial.* (See quot.)

1808 JAMIESON, *Warwolf*. . . 2. A puny child or an ill-grown person of whatever age; pron. warwoof, Ang.

3. A member of a right-wing paramilitary German underground resistance movement.

1945 in *Amer. Speech* (1949) XXIV. 289/2 It boasted that . . . underground killers—'Werewolves'—had carried out the sentence. **1946** E. LINKLATER *Private Angelo* xxi. 266 A company of Free Austrians who . . . handed him over to a ridiculous little party of people who called themselves Werewolves. **1950** C. MACINNES *To Victors the Spoils* i. 111 Isn't it going to be dangerous . . . ? What about the Gestapo and the werewolves? **1982** C. THOMAS *Jade Tiger* 48 The subject matter of the interrogation—local conditions, Werewolf units, SS and Gestapo individuals' whereabouts.

4. *attrib.*, as *werewolf nails*, etc.; *werewolf girdle*, the enchanted girdle by means of which a man could transform himself into a wolf.

15. *Rowll's Cursing* 192 (Bannatyne MS.), Dragoun heidis and warwolf nalis, With glowrane evne as glitterand glass. **1863** W. K. KELLY *Curios. Indo-Europ. Tradit.* 255 In Germany . . . the skin of a man that has been hanged makes as good a werewolf girdle as the skin of a wolf. **1879** M. D. CONWAY *Dæmonol.* I. 158 The Were-wolf superstition, which exists still in Russia. **1883** STALLYBRASS *Grimm's Teut. Mythol.* III. 1096 Bodin's *Dæmonomanie* . . . has several werewolf stories.

Hence 'werewolfery', = LYCANTHROPY 2; 'werewolfish *a.*'; 'werewolfism', = LYCANTHROPY 2.

1831 A. HERBERT in *Will. & Werwolf* (Roxb.) 3 It is obvious to suspect that the most ancient Lycians were proficient in 'werewolfery'. **1912** E. O'DONNELL *Werwolves* i. 3 Persons accused of werewolfery. **1891** *Century Dict.*, 'Werewolfish. **1865** BARING-GOULD *Werewolves* viii. 100 The traditional belief in 'were-wolfism' must, however, have remained long in the popular mind. **1901** *Edin. Rev.* July 198 In fact 'were-wolfism' is now known to have made the round of the globe.

|| **werf** (werf). *S. African.* Also werft. [Older and dial. Du. *werf* (werft) = NFr. *werw*, *werrew*, LG. *warf*, in the same sense; orig., a raised plot on which a house is built, and identical with the same forms in the sense of 'wharf': see WHARF *sb.*¹] The Cape-Dutch name for a homestead or the space surrounding a S. African farm.

1818 LATROBE *Jrnl. S. Afr.* 191 We therefore took leave, pitched the tent on the werft, and kindled a fire. **1861** ANDERSSON *Okavango River* xvi. 179 Five minutes' further walk brought us to a werft consisting of between twenty and thirty huts. **1888** A. BRIGG *Sunny Fountains* 231 A Dutchman calls his homestead his werf. **1895** *Times* 19 Jan. 5/3 They arrived at the deceased's werf on November 7, possessed themselves of the guns and arms on the werf . . . and then shot Mr. Christie.

werfore, *obs. form of WHEREFORE.*

† **werg**. *dial. Obs.* (See quot.)

1707 E. LHUYD *Archæol. Brit.* I. 14/3 A Willow-Tree was Anciently call'd *Willig*; whence the Modern *Werg* [a Willow] us'd in Berkshire and some other Countreys, seems corrupted.

wergeld ('wɜ:geld), **-gild**. *Hist.* Forms: *a.* 3 *Sc.* weregeheld, 5 weregylt, 7-9 weregild, 9 -geld. *β.* 5 *Sc.* wargeld (7 vergelt), 7, 9 wergeld; 9 wehrgeld. *γ.* 8-9 wergild. [ad. OE. (Anglian and Kentish) *wergeld*, (WSaxon) *wergield*, -gild, -gylt, late *weregild* (f. *wer* man WERE *sb.*¹ + *geld*, *gield* YIELD *sb.*) = OFris. *wergeld*, -ield, OHG. *wer-*, *werigelt* (MHG. *wergelt*, G. *wer-*, *wehrgeld*, Du. *weergeld*); the equivalent ON. term is *manngjöld*.

The three OE. types *wergeld*, *wergild*, and *weregild* are represented in the modern forms; the spelling *wergeld* is due to the incorrect German form.]

In ancient Teutonic and Old English law, the price set upon a man according to his rank, paid by way of compensation or fine in cases of homicide and certain other crimes to free the offender from further obligation or punishment.

a. **a 1214** *Assise Will.* c. 14 in *Acts Parl. Scot.* (1844) I. 375 De weregehelde furis. De unoquoque fure per totam Scociam est weregehelde xxxiiiij vacc. et dimid. **14.** *Ibid.*, Of þe law þat is callt weregylt. **1614** SELDEN *Titles Honor* 389 *Were* is before deliuerd in *Weregild*, and is calld *pretium Redemptionis* in the laws of the Confessor. **1714** J. FORTESCUE-ALAND *Prof. Fortescue's Abs. & Lim. Mon.* 32 A Payment in Money called the *Veragelt*; from which no Body can doubt, but our Saxon Ancestors had their *Were-gild*. **1761** HUME *Hist. Eng.* (1762) I. App. 1. 156 The price of the king's head, or his weregild, as it was then called, was by law 30,000 thrimsas. **1769** BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. xxiii. 308 In those times, when a private pecuniary transaction, called a *weregild*, was constantly paid to the party injured, or his relations. **1818** HALLAM *Mid. Ages* ii. ii. (1819) I. 230 Such were the weregilds of the barbaric codes. **1848** LYTTON *Harold* v. vi. There is no weregild for manslaying on the head of him who smiles so in death on his old comrades in life! **1863** H. COX *Inst.* II. x. 533 The *Weregild*, or compensation for murder was regulated according to the rank of the person slain. **1864** KINGSLEY *Rom. & Teut.* vii. 193 He . . . died, like Samson, says old Paul, having got good weregeld for the loss of his eyes.

β. **a 1250** *Reg. Maj.* iv. xii. in *Acts Parl. Scot.* (1844) I. 634 De unoquoque fure . . . est wargeld triginta vacce et vna iuuencia. **1609** SKENE tr. *Reg. Maj.* iv. xix. 70 b, The Vergelt, or Ranson of ane thief, throw all Scotland is threttie kye; and ane zounge kow. **1614** SELDEN *Titles Honor* 204 This weregeld or werigeld is often met with in the Salique laws. **1848** MRS. HORROCKS tr. *Menzel's Hist. Ger.* I. 33 The Wergeld or fine seems to have been introduced at a later period. **1854** MILMAN *Lat. Chr.* III. v. I. 395 In the Burgundian law . . . the life of every man . . . is assessed . . . at a certain value, and the wehrgeld may be received in atonement for his blood. **1902** F. SEEBOHM *Tribal Custom Ags. Law* i. 1 The Anglo-Saxon weregelds were stated, with perhaps one exception, in silver scillings.

γ. **1762** M. FOSTER *Rep. Proc. Surry* etc. 287 The Anglo-Saxons . . . in Case of Homicide contented themselves with a pecuniary Compensation, which they called the *Wergild*, the Price of Blood. **1802** A. RANKEN *Hist. Fr.* II. 249 Culpable homicide was punished with banishment, besides the wargild [sic], or fine, paid to the nearest kin of the deceased. **1860** HOOK *Lives Archbpps.* I. v. 243 His position in society was, according to the custom of the age, marked by the amount of his wer-gild. **1870** FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (ed. 2) I. App. 629 By this treaty provision is made for weregilds.

† **wergeldthief**. *Old Eng. Law. Obs.* Forms: 1 wergeldtheof (-gild-), 3 wergeth thef; 3-5 wer(e)gelthef (4 wergiltif, 5 werkelthef). [OE., f. prec. + *þeof* THIEF.] A thief or other criminal whose 'wergeld' was paid as a satisfaction for his crime; also *ellipt.* jurisdiction over a thief of this description.

c 690 *Laws Ine* §72 ȝif mon wergildðeof gefehð. **781** in *Birch Cartul. Sax.* I. 334 Nec etiam fures illos quos Saxonicæ dicimus uuergeldtheos alicui foras reddant.

1235 in *Cal. Charter Rolls* (1903) I. 208 [With] soc and sac, .. infangenthef, utfangenthef, wergeldthef, hamsocn [etc.]. **c 1290** *Fleta* I. xlvii. (1647) 62 Weregelt thef, latronem qui redimi potest. **13..** HIGDEN *Polychron.* (Rolls) II. 94 De quibus [legibus] nonnulla vocabula adhuc frequentata. hic inserere dignum duxi: .. Wergelthef, id est, solite de laroun escape. **c 1437** JOHN BROMPTON in *Twysden Hist. Angl. Script.* (1652) 957 *Weregeltthef* est solutio latronis evasi, i. soute de latrone escape.

weri, var. **WARY** *sb.* *Obs.*, obs. f. **WEARY** *a.*

werid, var. **WARIED** *ppl. a.* *Obs.*; obs. pa. pple. of **WEAR** *v.*

werie, obs. f. or var. **VERY**, **WARY** *v.* *Obs.*, **WEARY** *a.*

werielie, **werietie**, obs. Sc. ff. **VERILY** *adv.*, **VERITY**.

werihede *Obs.*: see after **WEARY** *a.*

wering, obs. var. **WARRING** *vbl. sb.*

weris(s)he, obs. ff. **WEARISH**.

werius, obs. f. **VERJUICE** *sb.*

werk(e), obs. ff. **WARK** *sb.*¹ and *v.*, **WORK**.

† **werke**. *Obs. rare.* [a. MLG. *werk* (LG. *wark*): see **WORK** *sb.*] **Honey-comb.**

The quots. refer to Hanseatic traders of 1395-8. **1598** HAKLUYT *Voy.* I. 167 Fiue pieces of waxe, foure hundred of werke, and halfe a last of osmundes. *Ibid.*, Diuers goods and marchandizes, namely oyle, waxe, and werke, to the value of 300. pounds.

† **werkhop**. *Obs.* [Of obscure origin.] A measure containing two bushels and a half.

c 1300 *Battle Abbey Customals* (Camden) 55 Cottarii maiores.. debent triturare.. unum werkhop, quod continet .ij. bussellos et dimidium, scilicet de frumento.. De ordeo vero, .ij. werkhops ejusdem mensuræ.

werkyn, **werkyng**, obs. ff. **WORK**, **WORKING**.

werlaugh(e), **werlaw(e)**, etc.: see **WARLOCK**¹.

werld(e) obs. forms of **WORLD**.

† **werle**. *Obs.*⁻¹ [?f. *were* **WEAR** *v.* + -LE.] ? Covering, attire.

13.. E.E. Allit. *P. A.* 209 A py3t coroune 3et wer pat gylre, .. Hi3e pynakled of cler quyt perle, .. To hed hade ho non oper werle.

werlik, **werlot**, obs. Sc. ff. **WARLIKE**, **VARLET**.

werlðe, obs. f. **WORLD**.

werlyng, var. **WARLING** *Obs.*

werm, obs. f. **WORM**.

† **wermod**. *Obs.* Forms: 1, 3-5 **wermod** (1 **wær-**, **wyr-**, 4 **wr-**), 2 **wermot**; 1, 5 **weremod**; 4-5 **wermode**, **wormod(e)**. [OE. *wermod* = OS. *wer(i)mōda*, *wermōde* (MLG. *wermede*), OHG. *wer(i)muota*, *wer-*, *wormōta*, etc. (MHG. *wermuote*, -*muot*, G. *wermut*, -*muth*, whence F. *vermout* **VERMOUTH**), of obscure origin.] = **WORMWOOD**.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) A9 *Absinthium*, **wermod**. **a 1000** *Riddles* xli. 60 Swylce ic eom wrapre þonne **wermod** sy. **c 1000** *Sax. Leechd.* I. 216 Deos wyrt þe man **absinthium** & oprum naman **wermod** nemneð. **a 1100** *Voc.* in *Wt.* Wülcker 296/24 **Wermod**. **a 1200** *Ibid.* 544/35 **Wermot**. **1382** *Wyclif Prov.* v. 4 Bitter as **wormod**. — *Lam.* iii. 19 *Reorde*.. of **wrmod** [**1388** **wermod**] and of galle. **1402** *Friar Daw* in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 52 **Wermode**, Jak, moost verrelle was **Wiclif**, 3our maister. **c 1440** *Pallad. on Husb.* xi. 344 The soure almaund & **wermode** & feyn greek. **c 1450** *Alphita* (Anecd. Oxon.) 1 *Absinthium*.. gallice aloine, anglice **wermode**.

wern(e), obs. ff. **WARN** *v.*¹; var. ff. **WARN** *v.*² *Obs.*

wernage, Sc. var. **VERNAGE**, **WARNAGE**.

† **wernard**. *Obs.* [a. AF. **wernard* = OF. *guernart* 'trompeur' (Godefroy).] A deceiver, liar.

1362 *LANGL. P. Pl. A.* II. 98 For wel 3e witen, **wernardes**, but 3if or wit fayle, þat fals is a faytur. *Ibid.* B. III. 179 Wel þow wost, **wernard**, but 3if þow wolt gabbe, þow hast hanged on myne half elleuene tymes. **c 1386** *CHAUCER Wife's Prol.* 260 (Corpus) þus saistow, **wernard**, god 3iue þe meschance.

Werner ('wɜ:nə(r), || 'vɜ:nər). *Path.* [The name of Carl W. O. *Werner* (b. 1879), German physician, who described the syndrome in 1904.] *Werner's syndrome*: a rare hereditary syndrome whose symptoms include short stature, endocrine and vascular disorders, and premature ageing and death.

1934 *OPPENHEIMER & KUGEL* in *Trans. Assoc. Amer. Physicians* XLIX 359 After careful consideration we have selected the patronymic name, *Werner's syndrome*, rather than *Rothmund's syndrome*, for on reading *Rothmund's* original paper (1868).. we are convinced that he described a quite different condition. **1962** A. SORSBY in A. Pirie *Lens Metabolism Rel. Cataract* 298 The association of cataract with such affections as.. *Werner's syndrome* has been

known for many years. **1980** *Practitioner* Nov. 1170/2 Rapid whitening of scalp hair associated with rapid ageing of the face.. are features reported in *Werner's syndrome*, a heredo-familial disease in young adults who age rapidly.

Wernerian (wɜ'nɛəriən), *a.* and *sb.* [See -IAN.]

A. adj. Of or relating to A. G. *Werner* (1750-1817), a German mineralogist and geologist, who advocated the theory of the aqueous origin of rocks; favouring *Werner's* views; agreeing with *Werner's* system or theory.

1811 *Edin. Rev.* XIX. 222 We cannot help thinking, that the *Wernerian* geology is faulty. **1842** *SEDGWICK* in *Hudson's Guide Lakes* (1843) 226 The *Wernerian* hypothesis has now passed away. **1859** J. HAMILTON *Mem. J. Wilson* i. 12 The discussion.. between *Wernerian* and *Huttonian* theorists.

B. sb. A supporter of *Werner's* theory; a *Neptunian*.

1815 W. PHILLIPS *Outl. Min. & Geol.* 183 These two parties are termed volcanists and neptunists; or more familiarly by geologists, *Huttonians* and *Wernerians*. **1858** *SCROPE Geol. Extinct Volcanos Central France* Pref. p. vi, The error of the *Wernerians* in undervaluing.. the influence of volcanic forces. **1890** *Nature* 3 July 218/1 The *Wernerians* were retreating before the *Huttonians*.

Hence *Wernerianism*, the *Wernerian* or *Neptunian* theory or system.

1892 *Athenæum* 6 Aug. 181/3 Ignoring the importance of volcanic action as a geological agent, *Wernerianism* saw even in such lava-like rocks as basalt nothing more than precipitates from aqueous solutions.

wernerite ('wɜ:nərait). *Min.* [Named in honour of A. G. *Werner* the German mineralogist: see -ITE.] Silicate of aluminium and calcium, the most important member of the scapolite group.

1811 *PINKERTON Petrol.* I. 205 *Wernerite* is generally reddish. **1823** H. J. BROOKE *Crystallogr.* 489 *Scapolite*.. *Wernerite*. **1851** *MANTELL Petrifications* iv. §1. 364 *Felspathic substances*. *Triphane*;.. *Wernerite*.

Wernicke (v-, 'wɜ:nɪkə). *Path.* The name of Karl *Wernicke* (1848-1905), German neurologist, used in the possessive to designate:

a. A neurological disorder in which there is an inability to understand speech and, usually, to speak sensibly, caused by a lesion of *Wernicke's area*, an area of the cerebral cortex comprising parts of the temporal and parietal lobes.

1887 *VICKERY & KNAPP* in *Strümpell's Text-bk. Med.* 679 The word, when it is heard, may fail to call up the appropriate mental image. *Kussmaul* has given this condition the name of word deafness (*Wernicke's* sensory aphasia). The patient is not really deaf, for he hears everything, but he no longer understands what he hears, and has forgotten what the words signify. **1907** *Practitioner* Oct. 545 In the *Aphasia of Broca*.. the cases.. closely resemble those of *Wernicke's* aphasia, with the difference that, in *Broca's* aphasia, the patient cannot speak. **1908** A. GORDON *Dis. Nervous Syst.* vii. 118 *Pierre Marie*.. holds that aphasia.. is caused by a lesion in the lenticular nucleus and in *Wernicke's* zone; the latter comprises the following portions: supra-marginal gyrus, angular gyrus, the posterior portions of the first two temporal convolutions. **1965** [see *LOGORRHEA*, *LOGORRHEA*]. **1976** *New Yorker* 15 Nov. 152/2 There are two areas of the cortex that have been shown to be directly involved in speaking. Those areas—known since the late nineteenth century as *Broca's* area and *Wernicke's* area—are on the side of the brain (usually the left) that is dominant for speech. **1979** *Sci. Amer.* Sept. 161/1 In *Wernicke's* aphasia speech is phonetically and even grammatically normal, but it is semantically deviant.

b. An encephalopathy caused by vitamin B₁ deficiency and characterized by mental confusion and uncontrolled movements, esp. of the eyes. So *Wernicke-Korsakoff* [see *KORSAKOFF*], applied to *Wernicke's* syndrome and *Korsakoff's* syndrome when both are present in an individual.

1910 E. E. SOUTHAIR in *Osler & McCrae Syst. Med.* VII. xiii. 631 (heading) Hemorrhagic superior polienccephalitis (*Wernicke's* disease). *Ibid.*, The non-alcoholic and the alcoholic forms of *Wernicke's* disease are considered. **1939** *Jrnl. Path. & Bacteriol.* XLVIII. 259 We suggest therefore that, as in chronic alcoholism so in pregnancy, B₁ deficiency may play a part in producing *Wernicke's* encephalopathy as well as polyeuropathy. **1966** *Trans. Amer. Neurol. Assoc.* XCI. 31 The *Wernicke-Korsakoff* syndrome is.. both a clinical and a pathological entity. **1978** *Sci. Amer.* Oct. 76/3 The *Wernicke-Korsakoff* syndrome is a neurological disorder that begins with an acute phase characterized by palsy and poor muscular coordination; with treatment the acute phase gives way to a chronic phase, *Korsakoff's* psychosis, characterized by severe amnesia.

wernne, var. **WARN** *v.*² *Obs.*

wernysh-, obs. form of **VARNISH** *v.*

werowance ('wɜ:əwɑ:ns, -æ-). Forms: 6-7 **wer-**, **wiroance**, **wiroans**, 7 **wyroaunce**, -**ance**, **wyroun(n)ce**, 7-9 **werowance**. [Amer.-Indian.] A chief of the Indians of Virginia and Maryland in early colonial days.

1588 *HARRIOT Brief Rep. Virginia* E2, One onely towne belongeth to the government of a *Wiroans* or chiefe *Lorde*. *Ibid.* E3b, What subtilty soeuer be in the *Wiroances* and *Priestes*, this opinion worketh so much [etc.]. **a 1589** R. LANE in *Hakluyt's Voy.* 738 There be sundry *Kings*, whom they call *Werowances*. **c 1608** E. M. WINGFIELD *Discourse Virginia* in *Capt. J. Smith's Wks.* (Arb.) I. p. lxxvi, Both these *wyroaunces* haue euer since remayned in peace and trade with vs. **1612** *CAPT. J. SMITH Map Virginia* Wks.

(Arb.) I. 81 This word *Werowance* which we call and conster for a king, is a common worde whereby they call all commanders. **1635** *Relat. Maryland* 26 Their Government is Monarchicall, he that governes in chiefe, is called the *Werowance*. **1705** *BEVERLEY Hist. Virginia* III. xi. (1722) 194 A *Werowance* is a Military Officer, who of Course takes upon him the Command of all Parties.

1893 M. A. OWEN *Old Rabbit* i. 3 She was accepted as a child of the *Werowances*. **1899** *Atlantic Monthly* June 725/2 The canoe of the *Nansemond werowance*.

werp(e), obs. forms of **WARP** *sb.* and *v.*

werr, obs. f. **WAR**, **WAUR** *a.*, **WEAR** *v.*²

werra, -**ly**, -**ment**, obs. Sc. ff. **VERY**, **VERILY**, **VERAMENT**.

werrand: see **WARRANT**.

† **werrar**, *a.* *Obs. rare.* [f. *werr* **WAR**, **WAUR** *a.* + -ER.] = **WORSER** *a.*

c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 49 þey semen **werrar** þan þe fend, þat asked stonis to be turnid in to bred.

werrate, obs. Sc. f. **VERITY**.

werray: see **VERY** *a.*, **WARRAY** *v.*

werrayour: see **WARRIOR**.

werre, variant of **VERE** *Obs.* spring-time.

1436 *Libel Eng. Policy* in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 194 In tyme of wynter and of **werre** [*v.r.* *veer*] Whan boistous wyndes put see-men into ferre.

werre, obs. f. **VERY**, **WAR**, **WARE** *a.*, **WORRY** *v.*

werrei, var. **WERRAY** *v.* *Obs.*

werreles, obs. f. **WARLESS** *a.*

† **werrell**. *Obs.* (See *sea-poult* **SEA** *sb.* 23 d.)

1658 *SIR T. BROWNE Gard. Cyrus* iii. 53 The handsome Rhombusses of the *Sea-poult* or *Werrell*, on either side the Spine.

werrest, obs. f. **WORST**.

werrey, obs. f. **VERY**.

werrey(e), var. ff. **WARRAY** *v.* *Obs.*, **WORRY** *v.*

werreyoure, -**iour**, obs. ff. **WARRIOR**.

werrie, obs. Sc. f. **VERY**.

werrit ('wɛrit), *v.* *dial.* [Local variant of *WHERRIT* or *WORRIT*.] *trans.* To tease, annoy. Also '**werriting** *ppl. a.*

1808 E. WEETON *Let.* 5 Oct. in *Jrnl. of Governess* (1969) I. III, I was laughed at, or found I had displeased. I had a most werriting life of it. **1825** *BROCKETT N.C. Words*, s.v., He would request not to be *werrited* so much about it. **1828** *CARR Craven Gloss.* **1865** W. S. BANKS *Wakefield Words* 80 *Werritin*, wearying; fretful and tiresome. 'What a werritin barn thah are!'

werrse, **werrseenn**, obs. ff. **WORSE**, **WORSEN** *v.*

werry, var. **VERRY** *a.* *Obs.*

1486 *Bk. St. Albans, Coat-arm.* b.v.b, The threde [coat-armour] is called **werry**, when the felde is made like gobolettys of dyuerse colowris.

werry, obs. or *dial.* f. **VERY**; var. **WARRAY** *v.* *Obs.*, **WARY** *v.* *Obs.*; obs. f. **WORRY** *v.*

werryo(u)r, obs. f. **WARRIOR**.

wers(e), obs. ff. **VERSE**, **WORSE**.

wersell, obs. f. **WRESTLE**.

werset, obs. f. **VERSET**.

wersh (wɜ:ʃ; Sc. wɜ:ʃ, wɜ:ʃ, wɜ:ʃ), *a.* *Sc.* and *north dial.* Forms: 5 **warsch(e)**, 6 **wairsche**, 7-9 **warsh**, 9 **wairsh**, **wearsh**, **whersh**, 8- **wersh**. [Prob. a contracted form of **WEARISH**. Cf. **WERSHED** *a.*]

1. *a.* Of persons: Sickly or feeble in appearance. Also Comb. **wersh-like**, -**looking**.

c 1480 *HENRYSON Orpheus & Eur.* 233 Lene and dedelike, pitouse and pale of hewe, Rycht **warsch** [*v.r.* *warsche*] and wan, & walowit as a wede. **1842** *CARLYLE* in *Froude Mem.* (1884) I. 244 A harmless, intelligent enough, rather *wersh-looking* man. **1871** W. ALEXANDER *Johnny Gibb* xli. 289, I thoct she was luikin' **warsh-like**.

b. Physically weak or sickly; squeamish.

1755 R. FORBES *Ajax* etc. *Jrnl.* to Portsmouth 29 It was enough to gi' a **warsh-stamack'd** body a scunner. **1872** *MRS. LYNN LINTON Joshua Davidson* vi. 119 We were getting **whersh** and weak for want of food.

2. Destitute of savour; insipid, tasteless, or sickly-flavoured; unsalted. = **WEARISH** *a.* 1. Also *fig.*

fig. **1599** *ROLLOCK Serm. Epist. Paul* viii. Wks. 1849 I. 398 He callis it not simple and bairlie with ane **wairsche** warsh, the gospell, .. bot he callis it the licht of the gospell. **1618** W. BARCLAY *Well at King-horne* A vij, So ceasing to prosecute this warsh matter of water, I will never cease to continue Your L. most humble and obedient seruitour. **1633** W. STRUTHER *True Happiness* 48 This was Balaams warsh wishing, his desires were so weak, that they pearced not his heart, how could they pearce the heaven? **1720** *RAMSAY Wealth* 133 And *Helicon's* **wersh** well thou ca'st divine. **1820** *Blackw. Mag.* VIII. 80 As articles, they were not so musty

as those of the old Scots Magazine . . . nor so wersh. 1884 SWINBURNE in *19th Cent.* Oct. 556 Charles Reade's Dominican is worth a dozen such 'wersh', ineffectual, invertebrate studies.

lit. 1823 J. WILSON *Marg. Lyndesay* xxix, Water's unco wersh, and does na sloken weel. 1831 *Blackw. Mag.* XXX. II. 345/2 Sage-stuffing and apple-sauce—without which indeed your goose is wersh. 1853 SHERER *Gold-Finder Australia* 261 It is my opinion, this mutton's unco wersh, Watty. Ha'e ye ony saut? 1861 E. B. RAMSAY *Remin.* Ser. II. 61 It's a' vera true, but a kiss and a tinniefu' o' cauld water maks a gey wersh breakfast. 1921 *Glasgow Herald* 2 May 8 To be sure, unfermented wine is wersh stuff.

3. Of weather or wind: Unrefreshing; raw.

1830 GALT *Lawrie T.* VII. vi, The breeze, as it comes from the surrounding lofty woods, is wersh. 1894 CROCKETT *Raiders* xl. 336 The yellow mist . . . had a wersh (raw) unkindly feel about it.

† **wershed**, *a.* *Obs.* -¹ [Cf. *prec.*] Tasteless.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P.R.* xvi. xcv. (Tollemache MS.) With oute salte nyze all mete is werschid [1535 werishe] and unsauery [*insipidus et insalsus*].

'**wershly**, *adv.* *Sc.* [f. WERSH *a.*] Insipidly; without animation or cordiality.

1633 W. STRUTHER *True Happiness* 101 The Scribes spake warshly, as men doing some other businesse; or as Boyes in the Schoole, rehearsing other mens inventions. 1676 ROW *Suppl. Blair's Autobiog.* xi. (1848) 364 The Moderator thanked him as slenderly and wershlie as before.

wersikill, *obs.* *Sc. f.* VERSICLE.

wersil, **werssle**, *obs.* *ff.* WARSLE.

wersslete, error for BERCELET *Obs.*, hunting dog.

c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* vi. 1610 *note*.

werst, *obs.* 2 sing. pa. ind. and subj. of BE *v.*

werst, *obs.* *f.* FIRST, WORST.

werst(e), *obs.* *ff.* VERST.

werstil, **-tle**, *obs.* *ff.* WARSLE.

wert, 2 sing. pa. ind. and subj. of BE *v.*

wert(e), *obs.* *ff.* WART, WORT.

werteous, *obs.* *f.* VIRTUOUS.

Werterean, **-ian**, **-ism**: see WERTHERIAN, -ISM.

wertew, *obs.* *f.* VIRTUE.

|| **wertfrei** ('vertfrai), *a.* [Ger., *f.* *wert* value, WORTH *sb.*¹ + *frei* FREE *a.*] Free of value-judgements; morally neutral. Hence 'wert-freiheit (also with capital initial) [-HOOD], the quality of being *wertfrei*.

1909 W. M. URBAN *Valuation* xiv. 422 The more neutral or 'wertfrei' judgments of science. 1944 H. A. HODGES *Wilhelm Dilthey* v. 80 It is generally recognized that the natural sciences have no interest in judgments of value. Their *Wertfreiheit* is one of their most treasured attributes. 1964 ROUSSEAS & FARGANIS in I. L. Horowitz *New Sociol.* 289 Max Weber distinguishes between science as being *wertfrei* and *wertlos*. *Wertfrei* is defined as being free from prevailing passion and prejudice. 1975 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 25 July 848/1 What specially distinguishes Ontology, American Style, however, is that it is far more *wertfrei*, uncommitted, cool, detached and technical. c 1978 C. R. TAME *Against New Mercantilism* 8 No one would abandon the heritage of *wertfreiheit* in economics and the social sciences.

werth(e): see WORTH *sb.*, *a.*, *v.*

Wertherian (vɜː'tʃəriən), *a.* Also Werterian, -ean. [f. G. *Werther*, the hero of Goethe's romance 'Die Leiden des jungen Werther' (1774) + -IAN.] Morbidly sentimental.

1831 CARLYLE *Sartor Res.* II. v, Their mad Petrarchan and Werterean ware. 1850 *Fraser's Mag.* Sept. 249 Some who are accustomed to consider that poem [*Locksley Hall*] as Wertherian and unhealthy. 1850 THACKERAY *Pendennis* xli, The Byronic despair, the Wertherian despondency. 1857 TROLLOPE *Barch. T.* xxxiv, An ancient love-lorn swain . . . full of imaginary sorrows and Wertherian grief.

Wertherism ('vɜːtʃəriʒ(ə)m). Also Werterism. [f. as *prec.* + -ISM.] Morbid sentimentality.

1831 CARLYLE *Charact. Ess.* 1872 IV. 26 Werterism, Byronism, even Brummelism, each has its day. 1856 MRS. BROWNING *Aur. Leigh* III. 471 My German stopped At germane Wertherism. 1873 HAMERTON *Intell. Life* x. ii. 345 Goethe . . . cured himself very soon, and the author of 'Werther' had no indulgence for Wertherism.

wertow, **wertu**, *obs.* *ff.* VIRTUE.

wertual(l, **wertuo**(u)sse, *obs.* *ff.* VIRTUAL, VIRTUOUS.

'**werturn**. [var. of *wartern*, dial. *f.* QUARTERN *sb.*² 3 c (quot. 1883).] A particular weight of wool (see *quots.*).

1853 IBBERSON *Woollen Manuf. Guide* 13 Threads of slubbing, varying from 4 to 12 skeins per werturn. *Ibid.* 89, 1,520 yards are a standard skein. Six pounds, or 1,536 drams, are a standard werturn.

wertu(u)s, **wertuwisse**, **wertuz**, *obs.* *ff.* VIRTUOUS.

wertwale, var. WARTWALE.

werty, *obs.* *f.* WORTHY.

† **werve**. *Obs.* [OE. *weorf* (rare) a beast of burden.] A 'beast' for riding on.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 79 [He] bond his wunden & brohte him huppen his werue. *Ibid.* 85 Uppen his werue [= Lk. x. 34.]

wervel, variant of VARVEL.

werwolf: see WEREWOLF.

wery, *obs.* *f.* VERY; var. WARY *v.*; *obs.* *f.* WEARY, WORRY *v.*

weryauns, *obs.* *f.* VARIANCE.

† **weryer**. *Obs. rare* -¹. [f. ME. *werien* WERE *v.*] A defender, guardian.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 926 After ðis spac god to abram: 'ðin ber3 and tin wer3er [OE. *wergend*; L. *protector*] ic ham.

weryfy, **weryly**, *obs.* *ff.* VERIFY *v.*, VERILY.

weryouns, *obs.* *f.* VARIANCE.

weryson, var. WARISON *Obs.*

weryte, *obs.* *Sc. f.* VERITY.

wes, *obs.* *f.* *was*, pa. t. of BE *v.*

wesage, *obs.* *Sc. f.* VISAGE.

Wesak, var. VESAK.

wesand(e, -a(u)nt, etc., *obs.* *ff.* WEASAND.

wesar, *obs.* *Sc. f.* VISOR.

wesch, *obs.* *f.* WASH.

weschael(le, -ail, -ale, -all, *obs.* *Sc. ff.* VESSEL.

weschcraft, *obs.* *f.* WITCHCRAFT.

wesche, *obs.* *f.* WASH, WISH.

weschel, **-ele**, **-ell**, etc., *obs.* *Sc. ff.* VESSEL.

wese, *obs.* pres. imper. of BE *v.*; *obs.* *f.* VIZY *v.*

we'se = *we shall*: see SHALL *v.* A. 5.

† **wesel**. *Obs. rare.* (Meaning obscure.)

c 1420 *Liber Cocorum* 52 For wesels. Fyrst grynde porke, temper in fere With egges [etc.].

wesel(e, *obs.* *ff.* WEASEL *sb.*

wesell, *obs.* *f.* WEASEL *sb.*; var. WEEZLE *Obs.*

|| **Wesen** ('veɪzən). *rare.* [Ger.] *a.* A person's nature (as shown in characteristic behaviour).

1854-5 GEO. ELIOT in J. W. Cross *George Eliot's Life* (1885) I. vi. 353 Fräulein Solmar is . . . probably between fifty and sixty, but of that agreeable *Wesen* which is so free from anything startling in person or manner. 1884 MRS. H. WARD *Miss Bretherton* i. 10 And then her *Wesen* is so attractive; she is such a frank, unspoilt, good-hearted creature.

b. The distinctive nature or essence of anything.

1959 *Listener* 22 Oct. 689/2, I believe myself that it is only in the totality of its historic manifestations that Christianity can be understood, and that so long as it does survive, its *Wesen*, its nature, will continue to reveal new potentialities.

weser, *rare obs.* *Sc. f.* WIZARD.

wesh, dial. *f.* WASH *sb.* and *v.*

we-ship. *nonce-wd.* [f. WE *pron.* (2 b) + -SHIP (3 b).] *his we-ship*, a mock title applied to a writer who has used the impersonal 'we'.

1673 MARVELL *Rehearsal Transp.* II. 105 'Tis most graciously done that his We-ship will allow them it.

wesil, *obs.* *f.* WEASEL *sb.*

wesill, *obs.* *f.* WEASEL *sb.*; var. WEEZLE *Obs.*

wesing, *rare obs.* *f.* WEASAND.

wesit, *obs.* *Sc. f.* VISIT *v.*

wesle, *obs.* *f.* WEASEL *sb.*

Wesleyan ('wesliən, 'wezliən, 'wez'li:ən), *a.* and *sb.* Also 8 Weslean, Wesleian. [f. the name of John Wesley, 1703-1791, originator of Methodism + -AN. The accepted pronunciation among Methodists is ('wesliən).]

A. adj. Of or pertaining to Wesley or his teaching; belonging to the Wesleys as a religious organization.

1771 J. W. FLETCHER *Checks to Antinom.* Wks. 1795 II. 277 Upon the scheme of what you call the 'Weslean orthodoxy', Christ is really the Saviour of all men. 1791 HAMPTON *Mem. Wesley* III. 77 A circumstance, in the Wesleian æconomy, as remarkable as any, is the admission of lay-preachers. 1843 THACKERAY *Irish Sk.-bk.* viii, A trim Wesleyan chapel, without any broken windows. 1872 MARCH. DUFFERIN *Canad. Jnrl.* (1891) 39 D. and I drove to

see a fine Wesleyan church. 1878 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVII. 56 A Wesleyan meeting.

b. **Wesleyan Methodist**, a member of the society of Methodists as constituted by John Wesley; also *attrib.* passing into *adj.*, of or pertaining to the Wesleyan Methodists as an organization. **Wesleyan Methodism**, the religious principles, practice, and organization of the Wesleyan Methodists.

1796 MORSE *Amer. Univ. Geog.* I. 280 In 1788, the number of Wesleian Methodists in the United States, stood thus. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 142/2 Since his decease, the prevalence of Wesleyan Methodism in North America has been very great. *Ibid.*, The Wesleyan Methodist church in Upper Canada. 1858 [see METHODIST 4 a]. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 186/1 Herein was the actual and vital beginning of the Wesleyan Methodist Society, that is, of Wesleyan Methodism.

B. sb. A follower of John Wesley; a member of the Wesleyan Methodist Society, a Wesleyan Methodist.

1791 *Gentl. Mag.* LXI. 1. 20/1 The Wesleys found fault with the curate for the topics of his discourses. 1832 in Flor. M. Hawtreay *Hawtreay Family* (1903) II. 25 That John should leave the Westlians [*sic*] puzzles me. 1877 F. G. LEE *Gloss. Liturg. Terms, Wesleyan*, a person who belongs to the sect of Arminian Methodists founded by John Wesley.

Wesleyanism ('wesliənɪz(ə)m). Also 8 Wesleianism. [f. WESLEYAN + -ISM.] The system of Arminian theology introduced and taught by John Wesley; the doctrines and church polity of the Wesleys; Wesleyan Methodism.

1774 J. FLETCHER *Hist. Ess.* Wks. 1795 IV. 20 They have departed from what we call Christianity, and what you are at full liberty to call Wesleianism. 1842 PUSEY *Present Crisis* 163 Wesleyanism then was said to be 'degenerating into a developed heresy,' in that it substitutes for the Catholic teaching, a doctrine of justification, for which there is 'no warrant in the Word of God'. 1861 R. S. HAWKER in *Life* (1905) 345 No sooner did he find that Wesleys formed the majority of — Parish, than he began to preach and to talk Wesleyanism. 1904 *Q. Rev.* July 243 Wesleyanism was traditional in the family.

'**Wesleyanized**, *pa. pple.* [f. as *prec.* + -IZE + -ED.] Affected by Wesleyanism.

1849 KEBLE in J. T. Coleridge *Mem.* xv. (1869) 353 [Isle of Man] The clergy a nice set, but rather Wesleyanized. c 1905 J. HUNTER in L. S. Hunter *Life* (1921) 220 The English Congregational Union. Its churches and ministry . . . are getting to be religiously more and more 'Wesleyanised'.

Wesleyism ('wesliɪz(ə)m). *rare.*

= WESLEYANISM.

1847 H. MILLER *First Impr. Eng.* xx. 394 Wesleyism also flourishes. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 22 Apr. 3/3 Wesleyism and Quakerism . . . had no hold on him.

'**Wesleyite**. *nonce-wd.* = WESLEYAN *sb.*

1807 J. HALL *Trav. Scot.* II. 594 Among the Wesleyites, and some other denominations of Dissenters.

weslyng, var. WISSELING *Obs. Sc.*

wesp, *obs.* form of WISP.

wess, *obs.* *f.* WASH *v.*

wessande, *obs.* *f.* WEASAND.

wessayle, *obs.* *f.* WASSAIL.

wessch, *obs.* *f.* WASH *v.*

wesschael(le, *obs.* *Sc. ff.* VESSEL.

wesse, *obs.* *f.* WASH *v.*; *obs.* pa. t. of BE *v.*

wessel, *adv. Sc.* Also westle, wastle, wassel, etc. [f. WEST *adv.*: cf. EASSEL.] Westward.

Awestill 'to the west of' occurs in 16th c. *Sc.*

1815, 1829 [see EASSEL]. 1897 LD. E. HAMILTON *Outlaws of Marches* xiv. 157 We was jickering along wessil, as I say, wi' our heads bent to the weather.

wessel(e, -ell(e, *obs.* *ff.* VESSEL.

Wessex ('wesiks). [OE. *West Seaxe* West Saxons.] 1. The name of a kingdom in south-west England in Anglo-Saxon times, used by Thomas Hardy as the name of the county in which his stories are set (corresponding approximately to Dorset, Somerset, Hampshire, and Wiltshire) and since used as a name for south-west England or this part of it.

1868 W. BARNES *Poems of Rural Life in Common Eng.* Pref., As I think that some people, beyond the bounds of Wessex, would allow me the pleasure of believing that they have deemed . . . my homely poems in our Dorset mother-speech to be worthy of their reading, I have written a few of a like kind, in common English. 1874 HARDY in *Cornh. Mag.* Nov. 624 Greenhill was the Nijni Novgorod of Wessex; and the busiest . . . day of the whole statute number was the day of the sheep-fair. 1876 *Examiner* 15 July 794/1 The Wessex man knows that these passages have in them the real ring, all equally true to life and scenery. 1938 *Proc. Prehistoric Soc.* IV. 52 The work . . . was . . . undertaken with a view to examining the cultures of the geographical area usually comprised in the term 'Wessex' in the period immediately following the Beaker phase. 1979 *N. & Q.* June 193/2 All [volumes] share a chronology of the life and works, Hardy's General Preface to the Wessex Edition, and notes on Wessex and Wessex names.

2. *attrib.* = SADDLEBACK *sb.* 4 h.

1919, etc. [see SADDLEBACK *sb.* 4 h]. 1919 [see KILLER 4 b]. 1978 A. WILLIAMS *Backyard Pig Farming* iv. 27 There used to be a Wessex Saddleback originating in Dorset; it had black back legs.

3. *Archæol.* Of, pertaining to, or designating an Early Bronze Age culture in southern England, c 2000–1500 B.C., represented by grave-goods of native and European provenance.

1938 S. PIGGOTT in *Proc. Prehistoric Soc.* IV. 52 Many elements... here described as typical of the Wessex Culture of the Bronze Age are... found in associations which are late and outside the main culture-area. 1954 *Antiquity* Mar. 28 The axes... of this broad-buttied type... characteristic... of Piggott's Wessex Culture. 1963 E. S. WOOD *Collins Field Guide to Archaeol.* i. iv. 64 The Wessex nobility seem to have come from Germany. 1975 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 14 Mar. 282/1 The unlikelyhood of Mycenaean influence on Stonehenge and the 'Wessex culture' of southern England. 1983 P. A. CROWL *Prehist. Britain* i. 33 The Wessex urns... lacking the refinement one would have expected of this... culture.

wesseyl(e, obs. ff. WASSAIL.

wessh(e, obs. ff. WASH.

wessie, obs. f. VIZY *v.* Sc.

west (west), *adv.*, *sb.*¹, and *a.* Forms: 1– west (1 wæst), 3 *Orm.* wesst, 3–7 weste (5 *Sc.* veste), *Sc.* 5, 7–9 wast, 6–7 weast(e, (6 *Sc.* weist, weyst, 7 *Sc.* vaist). [Com. Teutonic: OE. *west* *adv.* = OFris. *wes* (WFr. *wes*, NFr. *west*, *wäst*), OS. *-west* (in *north-*, *súthwest*; MLG. and LG., MDu. and Du. *west*), OHG. *west-* (G. *west*), ON. and Icel. (with *-r*-suffix; cf. *austr* EAST, etc.) *vestr* (MSw. *våster*, Sw. *vester*); MSw. *väst* (rare), Norw., Sw., Da. *vest* (prob. after LG.); not recorded in Gothic. The primitive Germanic stem **wes-* appears to be an extension of the **wes-* found in Gr. *ἑσπερος*, *ἑσπέρα*, L. *vesper*, *vespera* evening, west. In HG. dialects *abend* is similarly used for 'west'.

In OE. *west* occurs only as an *adv.*, the use as noun and *adj.* being a later development. In the cognate languages it is usually (in some exclusively) a noun in the earlier periods, the adverbial use coming later, and the adjectival being represented only by the first element in compounds (OE. *west-* in *west-dæl*, etc.).

The fact that the Romanic forms for 'east' (F. *est*, etc.) have been adopted from English indicates that this, rather than any other Germanic language, is also the source of F. *ouest* (OF. *west*), Sp. and Pg. *oeste*.)

A. *adv.* Towards or in the direction of that part of the horizon where the sun sets.

1. **a.** With reference to movement, extension, or direction.

In Sc. (and Anglo-Irish) use freq. added to verbs of going or coming to indicate the general direction; see quotes. under (b).

(a) O.E. *Chron.* an. 886 Her for se here eft west þe ær east gelende. 944 *Charter of Eadmund* in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* II. 541 þonne west andlang weges on ðone lytlan beorg. c.995 *Battle of Maldon* 97 Wodon þa wælwulfas... west ofer Pantan. 1033 in Kemble *Cod. Dipl.* IV. 45 Of ðam herpæde west... on ðone stan; of ðon stane west... on Fiducforda. c.1205 LAY. 1278 Heo ferdan forð & euer heo drowen west & norð. c.1350 *Libeaus Desc.* 1068 (Kaluza) Whan sche was take wip gile, He fliz for greet perile West into Wirhale. c.1440 *York Myst.* xxxvii. 333 *Sattan*... I schall walke este and waste, And garre þame werke wele werre. 1489 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 116 A man to pass to Edinburgh to haist the gunnis west. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 35b, Where it weneth to go east, it gothe west. 1581 *Borough Discourse Var. Cumpas* (1585) Gj, The course set downe from Sillie to Cape Raso is due West. 1601 *SHAKS. Twel. N.* III. i. 145 There lies your way, due West. 1724 *De Foe Tour Gt. Brit.* I. iii. 1, I intended once to have gone due West this Journey. 1760 R. ROGERS *Jrnl.* (1769) 197 We... kept the following courses... west-by-north one mile, west two miles. 1848 B. WEBB *Cont. Ecclesiol.* 480 If the basilica orientated west. *Ibid.* 484 The remaining three... have their altars facing due west. 1859 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* xxv, Splendid pastures, which stretch west farther than any man has been yet. 1892 *Kipling Barrack-room Ballads* etc., L'Envoi, It's North you may run to the rime-ringed sun... Or West to the Golden Gate.

(b) a 1724 *Ew-bughts, Marion* 32 in Ramsay *Tea-t. Misc.*, And soon as my chin has nae hair on, I shall come west, and see ye. c.1730 *Burt Lett. N. Scot.* viii. (1754) I. 181 He told us we must go West a Piece (though there was no Appearance of the Sun) and then incline to the north. 1887 ANNIE S. SWAN *Gates of Eden* i. 14 Weel a weel, tell them I'll come west when I'm ready.

b. In special applications: (a) to go west, of the sun; also *fig.*, to die, perish, disappear. (b) To America, or to the Western States.

Also (c) in Highland Sc. and Anglo-Irish use freq. rendering Gael. *siar*, *iay* (= west, back) in the sense of 'back', 'away', 'up', or 'down'.

The immediate source of the modern use in (a), which became common during the Great War, has not been established.

(a) c.1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 13365 For hit was nyght, the sonne goth west. c.1500 *Chaucer's L.G.W.* 61 (Trin. Camb.) Assone As the son gyneth go west. 15... *Poems Gray MS.* vi. 42 (S.T.S.) 55 Women and mony willows wy as wynd or wetter ar gane west. 1915 E. CORRI *Thirty Yrs. Boxing Referee* 2, I shall once again be in the company of dear old friends now 'gone West'. 1919 J. B. MORTON *Barber of Putney* ix, 'All the Lewis guns gone west,' someone said.

1919 *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 368/2 Their parcels... went persistently 'west'. 1925 COLE *Death of Millionaire* vi. 57 Wilson sighed. 'There's valuable evidence gone west', he said. 'It may be hard to pick up the trail now.'

(b) 1839 MRS. KIRKLAND *New Home* xviii. 122, I could not help thinking that one must come 'west' in order to learn a little of everything. 1851 J. L. B. SOULE in *Terre Haute Express* (Hoyt) Go West, young man! Go West. 1878 W. NASH *Oregon* 6 After some debate we settled to go West by the Pennsylvania railroad, going South... to Philadelphia, and thence West by way of Pittsburg. 1879 W. SAUNDERS *Through Light Cont.* 35 'Go West, young man,' was Horace Greeley's advice, and West I went accordingly.

(c) 1893 W. R. LE FANU *70 Yrs. Ir. Life* vii. (ed. 2) 90 'Why didn't you wash the back of your neck?' 'Twas too far west, my lady.'... 'Tis not a cold I have at all... 'tis a fly that's gone west in my stomach.'

2. **a.** With reference to place or location.

c.888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxix. §13 Se... æfensteorra, þonne he bið west gesewen, þonne tacnað he æfen. a.900 O.E. *Chron.* an. 894 þa he þa wið þone here þær wæst abissod wæs. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 129 ðerusalem... is west ponon from þære stowe on anre mile. c.1200 ORMIN 12125 þa fowwre daless alle þatt Æst, & West, & Sup, & Norrp þiss middellærd bilukenn. a.1250 *Owl & N.* 923 East & west, soup & norp, I do wel fayre my mester. c.1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xviii. 59 Whether y be south other west. c.1350 *Libeaus Desc.* 2128 Est, west, norp and soupe, Be maistris of har moupe Many man coup þey schende. 14... *Sailing Directions* (Hakl. Soc. 1889) 18 Lunday and the old hede of Hindiflore lye west and by north. 1559 CUNNINGHAM *Comogr. Glass* 172 Fiue llandes... Of which that whiche is most west, is called properlye Ebuda. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 459 Where it [Suffolk] lieth West and toward Cambridge-shire. a.1626 BACON *New Atlantis* 14 The Phœnicians... had great Fleetes. So had the Carthaginians their Colony, which is yet further West. 1719 *De Foe Crusoe* II. (Globe) 379 One of the Islands which lay West. a.1788 BURNS *Ploughman* 9, I have been east, I have been west. 1890 *Hardwicke's Sci.-Gossip* XXVI. 256 Another imaginary line so many degrees east or west of the meridian of Greenwich. 1905 H. G. WELLS *Kipps* II. v. §1 We shall have a nice little flat somewhere, not too far west.

b. Followed by *of*.

1577 HARRISON *England* II. i. 49b/1 in *Holinshed*, The Kenet ryseth aboute Ouerton, v or vi myles west of Marleborow. 1597 *SHAKS. 2 Hen. IV.* iv. i. 19 West of this Forrest, scarcely off a mile, In goodly forme, comes on the Enemie. 1728 [see WESTERLING]. 1784 *FILSON Kentucky* 22 Lees town is west of Lexington. 1807 *SOUTHEY Espriella's Lett.* II. 219 The Lakes... lay south-west, and west of Keswick. 1875 *RUSKIN Morn. Florence* i. 5 A few hundred yards west of you... is the Baptistery of Florence.

c. U.S. In the West, out West. (Cf. C. 3 b.) 1888 HOWELLS *Annie Kilburn* xi. 126 One of 'em married West, and her husband left her.

3. With modifying addition (in senses 1 and 2), as *west by south*, etc. Also WEST-NORTH-WEST, -SOUTH-WEST.

1577 HARRISON *England* II. i. 48b/1 in *Holinshed*, The Winrush... meeteth wyth the Isis west by south of Northmore. 1760 R. ROGERS *Jrnl.* (1769) 197 We... then steered... west-by-south two miles, west-by-north four miles.

4. *Sc.* Ellipt. as *prep.* a. At, in, or to the west of. b. Towards the west along (a road, etc.).

1587 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 480/2 Insuper creavit dictum Burgum de Anstruther super occidentali torrentis (west the burne). 1589 *Ibid.* 573/1 Strekan west the bie streit to the dyk. 1728 *RAMSAY Monk & Miller's Wife* 48 But step ye west the Kill A Bow-shot, and ye'll find my Hame. *Mod.* I saw him rinnin' west the road. He bides wast the town.

B. 1. Quasi-sb. = C.

c.1200 ORMIN 11258 All þiss middellærd iss ec O fowwre daless dæledd, Onn Æst, o West, o Sup, o Norrp. a.1300 *Cursor M.* 22139 Fra est to west, fra north to soth, He sal do mak his sarmin cuth. a.1300 K. Horn 1177 (Camb. MS.) Ihe babbe go mani Mile, Wel feor bi zonde weste. c.1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* I. §15 A longe croys in 4 quarters from est to West, fro south to north. c.1400 26 *Pol. Poems* xxiv. 208 Lord, whenne þou comest to deme so Al þe world be fyre, bope est and west. 1500–20 *DUNBAR Poems* xxiv. 23 Thocht he this world had eist and west, All wer pouertie but glaidness. 1575 A. FLEMING *Virg. Bucol.* II. 67 Th' increasing shadowes doleth the sunne going downe at West. 1577 D. SETTLE *Frobisher's Voy.* Biiij, Wee... followed our course between West and Northwest, vntill the 4. of Iulie. 1611 *SHAKS. Cymb.* v. v. 471 The Romaine Eagle From South to West, on wing soaring aloft Lessen'd her selfe. 1648 T. SHEPARD *Clear Sun-shine of Gosp.* 30 A brighter day... wherein East & West shall sing the song of the Lambe. 1674 SIR J. MOORE *Math. Compend.* 93 From West to East the account is by degrees and parts, or by hours. 1789 S. SHAW *Tour W. Eng.* 444 The principal street extending from east to west is remarkably paved. 1819 *KEATS Song Four Faeries* 45 So you sometimes follow me To my home, far, far, in west. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* II. 64 Our statues!—not of those that men desire, ... Nor stunted squaws of West or East. 1892 *Kipling Barrack-room Ballads* etc. 75 Oh, East is East, and West is West, and never the twain shall meet. 1904 H. BELLOC *Old Road* 31 Sea-going vessels... would have calm water... so long as the wind was south of west.

2. **by west.** †a. In the west; on the west side; also westward *of*. *Obs.*

13... K. Horn 5 (Harl.) Kyng he wes by weste. c.1300 — 1366 (Laud) He wonop alby weste. c.1305 *St. Kenelm* 18 in *E.E.P.* (1862) 48 Temese into pe est see, & seuerne bi weste. c.1315 *SHOREHAM* VII. 64 By weste hy grendep, alle þyse, And comeþ aþen per hy aryse. a.1400 *Minor Poems Vernon MS.* (1901) 696 As I wandrede her bi weste flaste vnder a forest syde. c.1470 *Gologas & Gaw.* 419 Quhare wourschip walkis be west. a.1550 *LELAND Itin.* (1764) III. 7 A Castel a Mile by West from Markesin. 1577 HARRISON *England* II. i. 50/1 in *Holinshed*, The Weie or the Waye rising by west, cometh from Olsted. *Ibid.* 53/2 By west of Auterton point also lyeth another hauen. 1596 *SPENSER F.Q.* v. vi. 22 Not farre away, but little wide by West, His dwelling was.

†b. As a compound prep.: On the west side of, to the west of (see BY *prep.* 9 c). Also *fig.* (quot. 1612). *Obs.*

c.1275 LAY. 2136 Camber hafde al him seolf bi weste Seuarne. 14... *Sailing Directions* (Hakl. Soc. 1889) 16 And by west belille and Ortingere southwest. 1482 *Rolls of Parl.* VI. 203/1 In Southe Wales, by west the blak Montayne. 1525 in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 1527, 96/1 Nixt befor Sanct Michaelis altar be West the said altar. 1612 DAVIES *Why Ireland* etc. (1787) 177 Whereupon grew that bye-word used by the Irish, viz. that they dwelt by west the law, which dwelt beyond the river of the Barrow. 1661 LAMONT *Diary* (Maitl. Club) 139 The Earle of Weyms be-ganne to build a new harbory for shipping, a little be west Saltgreine. 1714 R. SMITH *Poems of Controv.* (1853) 2 Let all be-west the Spittel come.

c. *Naut.* Indicating certain points of the compass (see BY *prep.* 9 b).

14... *Sailing Directions* (Hakl. Soc. 1889) 14 Huschaunt and the pople hope lien north and by west south. *Ibid.* 20 For cause of that Rok ye must go north and by west. 1598 W. PHILLIP tr. *Linschoten* I. xciii. 165 We held our course... from thence south West and by West, vnto the cape de Bona Speranza. 1762 *FALCONER Shipwr.* II. 242 South and by west the threatening demon blew.

3. **Bridge.** (With capital initial.) The player sitting opposite and partnering East, and having South to his right.

1926 [see EAST *sb.* 4]. 1958 *Listener* 2 Oct. 541/1 West was a good enough player to have a chance of succeeding. 1974 *Country Life* 3 Oct. 975/1 Warned off Hearts and Clubs, West had to lead a Spade or a Diamond.

C. *sb.* (Usually with *the*.)

1. **a.** That one of the four cardinal points which lies opposite the east and at right angles to the north and the south; that part of the horizon or of the sky which is near the place of the sun's setting.

in the west, of the wind, = blowing from the west.

c.1180 *Newminster Cartul.* (Surtees) 118 Inde versus le West per viridem viam. a.1225 *Ancr. R.* 94 Ase is þe sunne gleam, þet smit from east into þe west. c.1290 *Brendan* 48 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 221 We comen to a watur... þat euere fram-ward þe est, toward þe west it drovz. c.1305 *St. Kenelm* 13 in *E.E.P.* (1862) 48 Engeland... is... two hundred [miles] brod iwis Fram þe est in to þe west. 1382 *WYCLIF Exod.* x. 19 The Lord... made blow the moost hidows wynde from the west. 1387 *TREvisa Higden* I. 45 þe lengpe of þe erpe þat men wonop ynnre from þe est to þe west, þat is from Ynde to Hercules is pilers. c.1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) v. 46 Toward the West, is the Contree of Coston. a.1450 *Mirk's Festial* 294/28 þan is hys hed leyde into þe west and hys fette into þe est. 1526 *TINDALE Luke* xii. 54 When ye se a cloude ryse out off the west, strayght waye ye saye: we shall have a shewer. 1577 *GOOGE Heresbach's Husb.* I. 42 Leauing open a space for two doores, a fore doore and a backe doore, but so, as neyther of them open to the West. 1614 E. WRIGHT *Dialling C2*, Your face being turned towards the North, your right hand sheweth the East, your left hand the West. 1667 *DRYDEN Ind. Emp.* v. ii, I in the Eastern Parts, and rising Sky, You in Heav'n's Downfall, and the West must lie. 1712 J. MORTON *Nat. Hist. Northampton.* 422 Pikes... never bite more freely, than when the Wind is in the West. a.1723 *BINGHAM Antiq. Chr. Ch.* XI. vii. §6 In renouncing the Devil they had their Faces to the West. a.1748 *WATTS Summer Evening* 5 Now the fair traveller's come to the west... He paints the sky gay, as be sinks to his rest. 1805 *SCOTT Last Minstrel* III. xxiv, Her blue eyes sought the west afar. 1848 B. WEBB *Cont. Ecclesiol.* 156 A rood... between which and the communion-table was a small prayer-desk facing the west, i.e. the people. 1876 *BRIDGES Growth of Love* xxix, I travel to thee with the sun's first rays, That lift the dark west and unwrap the night. 1925 J. METCALFE *Smoking Log*, etc. 116 When the wind was in the west.

transf. and *fig.* 1613 *DONNE Epithal.* 181 May never age, or error overthwart With any West, these radiant eyes, with any North, this heart. 1649 C. WASE *Sophocles, Electra* 47 O joyfull day! Thou bast restord our light, Wrapt up in constant night, In one continu'd West. 1655 *FANSHAWE Camoens' Lusiad* I. xxxii. 7 But now he fears that Glorie's neer it's West, In the black Water of Oblivion.

b. That quarter which with regard to the speaker or some particular place lies in a westerly direction.

1537 *Registr. Aberdeen.* (Maitl. Club) I. 412 His tenment lyand in Auld Abirdene afornert þe cors of þe samynge one þe west. 1671 *MILTON P.R.* IV. 448 A Sunny hill... Back'd on the North and West by a thick wood. 1773 *NOORHOUCK Hist. Lond.* 597 Cordwainers-ward... is bounded... on the west by Bread-street-ward. a.1857 *KEMBLE Horæ Ferales* (1863) 25 The Lithuanians of Prussia on the west.

c. Followed by *of*.

1613 *ZOUCHE Dove* B 6 b, About Iudæa, bord'ring on the West Of great Armenia, lesser Asia lyes. a.1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archaeol. Soc.) I. 152 The armie marched to Bellaghnegrege on the waste of Aleage. 1715 tr. *Gregory's Astron.* (1726) I. 318 According as the Meridian of the one lies to the East or to the West of the Meridian of the other. 1789 S. SHAW *Tour W. Eng.* 563 To the west of this... lies Overton. 1834 *AINSWORTH Rookwood* IV. ii, Harrow-on-the-Hill... lying to the west of the green on which they walked.

2. **spec. a.** The western part of the world. Now commonly, Europe as distinguished from Asia.

c.1205 LAY. 1231 Bi-zende France i þet west þu scalt finden a wunsum lond. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2 Engeland his... I set in þe on ende of þe worlde as al in þe west. 1382 *WYCLIF Matt.* viii. 11 Many shulen come from the est and west. c.1420 *Anturs of Arth.* 703 Waynour gared wisely write in þe west, To al þe religious to rede and to singe. 1593 *SHAKS. 2 Hen. VI.* I. i. 154 All the wealthy Kingdomes of the West. 1613 *ZOUCHE Dove* B 4, First Bacchus... set vp trophees in the conquer'd East: Oh would he had gone on as he begunne, And neuer turned to subdue the West! 1761 *GRAY Desc. Odin* 63 In the caverns of the west. 1784 *COWPER Task* VI. 811 Eastern Java there Kneels with the native of the farthest west. 1802 *WORDSW. Extinction of Venetian Rep.* 2 Once did She hold the gorgeous east in fee;

And was the safeguard of the west. **1864** TENNYSON *Aylmer's F.* 348 He never yet had set his daughter forth Here in the woman-markets of the west, Where our Caucasians let themselves be sold. **1892** KIPLING *Barrack-room Ballads* etc: 188 The Lords of their Hands assembled; from the East and the West they drew. **1902** A. S. HURD *Naval Efficiency* 109 In the West there seems to be an impression that the fleet of Japan is a mere matter of show.

b. The western portion of the Roman world after its division into two empires in A.D. 395.

1577 HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist., Socrates Schol.* vi. i. 360 When y^e Emperour Theodosius had departed this life... his sonnes tooke in hand the government of the Romaine empire. Arcadius ruled the East and Honorius the West. **1610** R. FIELD *Fifth Bk. Ch.* xxxv. 194 The Bishop of Rome... called a Synode of all the Bishops of the West. **1781** GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xxxiii. (1787) III. 327 Honorius, emperor of the West. **1790** PRIESTLEY *Gen. Hist. Chr. Ch.* II. 332 Having seen what was doing in the East, let us now turn our eyes towards the West, where Valentinian governed. **1840** MILMAN *Hist. Chr.* II. viii. II. 207 Of the persecution under Severus there are few, if any, traces in the West. **1865** BRYCE *Holy Rom. Emp.* iii. (1866) 27 Odoacer... resolved to... extinguish the title and office of Emperor of the West.

c. The western parts of Europe.

1916 J. BUCHAN *Nelson's Hist. War XIII.* 121 A strong offensive in the West might induce the Allies to make a premature counter-attack.

3. The western part of a country, region, or area; *spec.* a. of England, Great Britain, Scotland, or Ireland.

14... *Trevelyan Papers* (Camden) 67 'The Boor' is farr in to the west, That shold vs helpe wth shild and sper'. **15...** *Ladye Bessie* (Percy Soc.) 53 When thou rydest into the weste, I pray the take noe companye But such as shall be of the beste. **1631** HEYWOOD (*title*) The Fair Maid of the West. **1651** J. NICOLL *Diary* (Bannatyne Club) 54 Thir ministeris... held their awin secret meetings in the west. **1666** EARL ORRERY *St. Lett.* (1742) 158 From Kingsale I intend to go to Bandon to settle that town, and all the West. **1693-4** LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) III. 248 Letters from the west say, our Streights fleet are clear of the Lands End. **1731** *Flying Post* 10 Aug. 2/1 Edinburgh... The Earl of Aberdeen is set out for the West to visit his daughter. **1734** WODROW *Collect. Lives Reformers* (1834) I. 109 Mr. Willock was appointed... Superintendent of the West. **1793** COLERIDGE *Sonn. River Otter* 1 Wild streamlet of the West! **1836** SOUTHEY *Let.* (1856) IV. 465 My purpose is to... take Cuthbert with me into the West by way of Bristol. **1841** LEVER *O'Malley* xii, He was peaceably taking his departure from the West on Saturday. **1869** A. MACDONALD *Love, Law & Theol.* xii. 189 The aunt... resided in the vicinity of the capital of the west [i.e. Glasgow].

b. The western States of North America.

Formerly the country west of the original thirteen states, now usually taken to mean the country west (or north-west) of the Mississippi River. Sometimes limited, as *The Far, Middle West*. See also WILD WEST.

1796 G. WASHINGTON in *Claypoole's Amer. Daily Advertiser* 19 Sept. 2/2 The West derives from the East supplies requisite to its growth and comfort. **1829** EVERETT *Orat. & Sp.* (1850) I. 203, I have made a journey of between three and four thousand miles in the west. **1837** PECK *Gaz. Illinois* Introd. p. vi, No state in the 'Great West' has attracted so much attention... as that of Illinois. **1855** *Putnam's Monthly Mag.* Apr. 380/2, I am disgusted with the West. If ever you catch me at large, anywhere west of the Alleghanies, again, you may shoot me. **1872** SCHELE DE VERE *Americanisms* 165 The States west of the Mississippi continue to be called the West. **1878** H. H. VIVIAN *Notes Tour Amer.* 101 Omaha is the last city of the West. After you pass it you are in the 'Far West'—in the State of Nebraska. **1886** F. M. CRAWFORD *Tale Lonely Parish* v, In the mining districts of the West, in up-country stations in India.

c. The western part of a specified country, etc.

1613 ZOUCHÉ *Dove B5*, The west of Asia, once Earths Paradise. **1789** S. SHAW (*title*) A Tour to the West of England. **1838** DOWLING *Introd. Eccl. Hist.* 37 The political and social condition of the west of Europe. **1840** DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xxxvii, Pretty nigh all over the West of England.

clipt. **1894** C. VICKERMAN *Woollen Spinning* 232 Our super west cloths are all tender... when finished. [*Ibid.* 271 A plain super west of England cloth.]

d. The West End of London.

1823 W. T. MONCRIEFF *Tom & Jerry* III. iii, Let the West boast of their highflyers as they will, you'll find there are still some choice creatures of society left here. **1871** A. AUSTIN *Golden Age* 34 In one brief hour behold him curled and drest, And borne on wings of fashion to the West!

e. (With capital initial). The non-Communist states of Europe and America.

1946 H. NICOLSON *Diary* 22 Aug. (1967) 75 He is convinced that the Russians wish to dominate the world... The only way in which the West can counter this is to pool their philosophy of liberalism, put up a united front. **1951**, etc. [see EAST sb. 2 b]. **1957** *Ann. Reg.* 1956 228 Some 5,000 citizens a week continued to flee to the West. **1964** M. McLuhan *Understanding Media* (1967) ii. 40 Competitive sports between Russia and the West. **1979** T. BENN *Arguments for Socialism* i. 38 It is not only in the West that Marxism is seen as one of the main sources of democratic socialist philosophy.

4. *Ch. Hist.* The Catholic Church in the Western Roman Empire and countries adjacent to it; the Roman or Latin Church.

1586 [? J. CASE] *Praise Mus.* ix. 94 Look vpon the East and the West, the Greeke and Latine Churches, and you shall finde this to be true. **1652** E. SPARKE *Scint. Altaris* 4 Do not all the golden Fountains of the Fathers (both of the East and West, the Greek and Latine Church) flow with the same streams? **1790** PRIESTLEY *Gen. Hist. Chr. Ch.* II. 314 Though the bishops of the West had been deceived at Ariminum, they had all abjured the blasphemies of that council. **1850** NEALE *Hist. Eastern Ch.* I. Introd. 9, I shall constantly reckon among the Saints those whom the Eastern Church, whether with or without the consent of the West, so

accounts. **1877** J. D. CHAMBERS *Div. Worship* 233 According to the universal custom of the West, this water should be cold.

5. a. The west wind.

1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* III. v. 133 They have reckoned two other windes, the East of summer, and the East of winter, and by consequence, two Weasts. **1725** POPE *Odys.* XII. 478 Now out flies The gloomy West, and whistles in the skies. **1814** SCOTT *Lord of Isles* vi. xxi, Dark rolling like the ocean-tide, When the rough west hath chafed his pride. **1865** SWINBURNE *Poems & Ballads* Ser. 1. 128 As roses, when the warm West blows, Break to full flower.

b. A westerly direction of the wind.

1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* xvi, Some nautical authority had told me a day or two previous, 'anything with west in it, will do'.

D. *adj.*

1. a. Lying towards the west; situated at or in the west; western, westerly. †Of a planet: Seen in the western part of the sky (tr. L. *occidentalis*).

c **1375** *Sc. Leg. Saints* ii. (Paul) 70 Syne Nero In pe weste partis has lattyn hym go. **1398** TREvisa *Barth. De P.R.* IX. xxiv. (1495) 361 A weste sterre that hyghte Vesperus. c **1400** MAUNDEV. (1839) v. 44 At Marrok, upon the West See, duelte the Calyffee of Barbaryenes. c **1460** Oseney *Reg.* 176, j. rodde of Arable londe vppon Otehulle at forthsheter, pat is to say, the more weste Rodde. **1482** *Rolls of Parl.* VI. 204/1 Grete part of the Westbordures of Scotlande. a **1550** LELAND *Itin.* (1764) III. 9 The very Westeste Pointe of Cornewaulle. *Ibid.* 46 The Est and the West Gates be now the fairest. **1577** D. SETTLE *Frobisher's Voy.* title, A true reporte of the laste voyage into the West and Northwest regions. *Ibid.* Bviii, On this West shore we found a dead fishe floating. **1789** N. PORTLOCK *Voy.* 314 There is anchorage to the Northward of the West point of Morotoi. **1895** 'P. HEMINGWAY' *Out of Egypt* II. 185 The west sky grew pale and gold.

b. Of western Europe, as opposed to the east; *esp.* belonging to the Roman or Latin church; = WESTERN 4. Now rare or Obs.

1553 BECON *Reliques of Rome* (1563) 141 b, The Occidental or west Churches thorow out all Europe. **1565** HARDING *Answ. Jewel's Challenge* 86 b, Yet had they of that nation their Service then in Latine, as all the West churehe had. **1577** HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist., Socrates Schol.* v. xxiv. 358 In the West empire there was one Eugenius, [etc.]. **1594** HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* IV. xi. §12 The West Church vsing vneauened bread, as the Iewes in their passouer did. **1628** BP. HALL *Old Reliq.* xii. 116 The most eminent Diuines of both East and West Churches.

c. *spec.* the West Bank, a region west of the River Jordan and north-west of the Dead Sea which became part of Jordan in 1948 and was occupied by Israel in the Arab-Israeli War of 1967; hence West Banker, an inhabitant of the West Bank; †west isles, the western isles of Scotland; †west world, the new world, America.

1587 HARRISON *Descr. Eng.* I. x. 39/1 in *Holinshed*, The Iles that lie about the north coast of... Scotland... are either occidentals, the west Iles, [etc.]. **1613** S. DANIEL *1st Pt. Hist. Eng.* 5 As now, we see all the West world (lately discovered) to bee. **1967** *Times* 3 Aug. 16/7 Making the Israeli pound legal tender side by side with the Jordanian dinar on the Israeli-occupied West bank should go a long way towards increasing imports of goods from Britain. *Ibid.* 10 Aug. 7/1 Even those Israelis who would gladly abandon Sinai, Gaza and the West Bank would prefer to keep the Syrian heights overlooking the Sea of Galilee. **1968** *N.Y. Times* 22 Dec. IV. 4/6 The many interviews given by King Hussein who often refers to granting more self-government to the West Bankers. **1972** *Guardian* 10 Apr. 11/3 Hussein... is seeking to prevent disaffected West Bankers... from reversing their links with the Hashemite throne. **1978** *Internat. Relations Dict.* (U.S. Dept. State Library) 35/2 These groups rejected... the establishment of a Palestinian state on the West Bank. **1983** 'J. LE CARRÉ' *Little Drummer Girl* II. 32 Miss Bach had been talking wistfully of taking up the wagon-trail life of a West Bank settler.

d. Of or pertaining to the west.

1572 TWYNE *Dionysius' Surv. World* Bvj b, Two winds, ... the Hesperian or Sicilian wynde, whiche is West, and the Southeaste, whiche bloweth from the sea Aegæum. **1697** DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 549 All the West Allies of stormy Boreas blow. **1900** H. S. HOLLAND *Old & New* 97 Whether East or West, we all with one consent excuse ourselves from our responsibilities.

2. With proper names: a. Denoting the western part of a country, district, etc., or the more westerly of two places having the same name.

1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* v. ii. 162 The lord of westwalis promysed to brynge xxx M men. **1530-1** *Act 22 Hen. VIII.* c. 17 §10 In West Depyng or Est Depyng yn the countie of Lyncoln. **1645** BOATE *Irel. Nat. Hist.* (1652) 6 East-Meath and Catherlogh or Carlo... West-Meath, Kildare, Kilkenny, [etc.]. **1646** R. BAILLIE *Let.* (Bannatyne Club) II. 388 The French are like this year to have very bad successe, both in Italie, Spaine, and West Flanders. **1714** in *Jrnl. Friends Hist. Soc.* (1918) 27, I... set forward through west and East Jarsey. **1794** MORSE *Amer. Geog.* 566 The principal town in West Florida is Pensacola. **1811** WILLAN (*title*) A List of Ancient Words at present used in the mountainous district of the West Riding of Yorkshire. **1886** KINGTON *OLIPHANT New Engl.* I. 44 The term *wench* is used in the honourable sense of the West Midland.

b. Denoting the western division of a race, nation, or people. *West Briton*: †(a) a native of Wales; (b) a native of Ireland; in mod. use, (chiefly derogatory) one who favours a close political connection with Great Britain; hence *West Britonism*. Cf. WEST SAXON.

1561 DAUS *Bullinger on Apoc.* lxi. 430 The Westegoths possessed all Spayne. **1712** P. LEIGH *Life S. Wenefride* 46 Whatever this incredulous Age may think of... our Saint's Return to Life; it appear'd so evident to the West Britains... that many Pagan People... came... to receive Baptism. **18...** T. C. LUBY *Life & Times O'Connell* 342/1 Thomas Spring Rice... was probably the first Irishman who nicknamed himself 'a West Briton'. **1816** J. GIFFARD *Let. to Sir Robert Peel* 19 Mar. (Brit. Library Add. MSS. 40,253, f. 258), The periphrastic Title of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland... goes out of its way—to remind people that they were once disunited and to keep them so—had the whole been called by one common name *Britain*—we should have had the Inhabitants proud of the glorious Title *Britons* and we West *Britons* would have been as much conciliated and attached as the North Britons are. **1836** D. O'CONNELL in J. O'Connor *Hist. Ireland 1798-1924* (1925) I. vii. 226 The people of Ireland are ready to become portion of the Empire, provided they be made so in reality and not in name alone; they are ready to become a kind of West Britons, if made so in benefits and justice; but if not, we are Irishmen again. **1909** JANE BARLOW *Irish Ways* 3 Not to believe in, at least, fairies, argues you a west-Briton, if nothing worse. **1910** D. HYDE in R. M. DORSON *Peasant Customs* (1968) II. 718 The men who... while protesting... against West Britonism, have helped... to assimilate us to England and the English. **1918** West Britonism [see SHONEEN]. **1925** in J. O'CONNOR *Hist. Ireland 1798-1924* II. xxiv. 368 The American friends of Irish liberty are both grieved and resentful at some of the recent exhibitions given there of the revival of West Britonism. **1944** JOYCE *Stephen Hero* xvii. 54 No West-Briton could speak worse of his Countrymen. **1960** C. C. O'BRIEN *Shaping of Mod. Ireland* 19 When Moran and his friends talked of West Britons they had in mind, I imagine, some archetype of a dentist's wife who collected crests, ate kedgeree for breakfast and displayed on her mantelpiece a portrait of the Dear Queen. **1962** B. INGLIS *West Briton* viii. 143, I never heard of West Briton being used except pejoratively. **1972** C. C. O'BRIEN *States of Ireland* iv. 77 Protestant loyalists—that is to say, most Protestants—also came inevitably under attack, usually as West Britons.

c. With sbs. and adjs. derived from the names of countries, districts, or peoples.

1614 SELDEN *Titles Honor* 80 Kings of West-gothicque bloud. **1824** COLLIER & MACCARTHY (*title*) West-African sketches. **183**. GRAVES *Rom. Law in Encycl. Met.* (1845) II. 765/1 A manuscript of the Westgothic compilation, called the *Breviarium Aniani*. **1848** GOULD *Birds Australia* I. Pl. 18 West-Australian Gos-Hawk. **1852** HENFREY *Veget. Eur.* 160 Thus we get four sections of Germanic plants, viz.:... c. the west-Germanic. **1863** *Irish People* 5 Dec. 24/3 The West-British press chimed in. **1865** R. F. BURTON *Wit & Wisdom from W. Afr.* iii. 121 The practical selfishness and feelinglessness of the wild West African, who, when, tamed by slavery, becomes one of the most tender of men. **1877** *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* I. 363 The West African River Shrew. **1925** J. O'CONNOR *Hist. Ireland 1798-1924* II. xxiv. 373 People dance the same dances as were the fashion in the old West-British days. **1950** *New Yorker* 16 Sept. 83/1 They [sc. the Germans] think that German rearmament is inevitable, and suggest that a sort of Foreign Legion... be activated immediately, in which all West European men willing to go to war against Communism could volunteer. **1958** *Listener* 11 Dec. 977/2 He [sc. Herr Brandt] is coming gradually to symbolize for many West Berliners their determination to remain free. **1969** A. MARIN *Rise with Wind* (1970) vi. 75 Clay sank into a chair, his eyes fixed coldly on the West German. **1973** *Times* 27 Nov. 9/1 (*heading*) Fewer West Berliners visit the East. **1976** W. LAQUEUR in D. VILLIERS *Next Year in Jerusalem* 86 The non-Jewish Jew is a specifically West European phenomenon. **1976** M. BIRMINGHAM *Heat of Sun* iii. 34 To build a house in his home town, to which all West Africans dream of retiring. **1981** J. JOHNSTON *Christmas Tree* 114 It wasn't that I objected to De Valera's neutrality... I had no political feelings of being West British... no Crown fever. **1983** *Spectator* 14 May 8/1 It is unsettling to find a pillar of West German industry collecting Nazi memorabilia.

d. With abstract sbs. derived from the sbs. and adjs. of prec. sense.

1895 *Dundalk Examiner* 24 Aug. 2/6 A slogan cry which would... sound the death-knell of ascendancy and West Britishism in this country? **1971** J. SPENCER *Eng. Lang. W. Afr.* 28 There is certainly a sufficiency of terms and expressions peculiar to the use of English in this region to justify the term West Africanism. **1980** *English World-Wide* I. 1. 76 AVE [sc. African Vernacular English] is... characterized by a vocabulary adapted to its environment, which shows itself in oft-quoted West Africanisms.

3. *Eccl.* Situated in or at that part of a church (normally the actual west) which is farthest from the altar or high altar.

1412 *Catterick Ch. Contract* (1834) 9 The lenght of the body of the Kirke... with the thickness of the west walle. a **1700** EVELYN *Diary Aug.* (end) 1641, There hang near the West window [of the church] two modell of shippis. **1773** NOORTHOUCK *Hist. Lond.* 629 The west front [of St. Paul's] is graced with a most magnificent portico. **1818** RICKMAN *Engl. Archit.* 72 The west doors of York are of the richest execution. *Ibid.* 92 The west window of St. George's, Windsor, has fifteen lights in three divisions. **1896** HARDY *Under Greenw. Tree* Pref., The Mellstock choir and its old established west-gallery musicians.

4. Facing to the west.

1593 T. FALE *Horolog.* 7 b, The making of the East and West Erect Dials. **1638** S. FOSTER *Art of Dialling* 13 Those plains are called East and West incliners, whose horizontall line lyeth full North and South, and their inclination is directly towards either East or West. **1642** FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* III. vii. 167 In a West-window in summer time towards night, the Sun grows low. **1832** *Planting* (Libr. Usef. Knowl.) 26 The soil of the nursery must be... under a south, east, or west exposure.

E. In combination: a. with vbl. sbs. and ppl. adjs. as †west-coming; west-facing, -going, †walling adjs.

1592 in *Mail. Club Misc.* I. 53 That thai report testimoniall heirintill agane thair first west cuming in this

cuntrey. 1595 MARKHAM *Trag. Sir R. Grinville* xxxiv, The great west-walling boisterous sea. 1866 *Good Words* 1 June 390/1 During the first two days we passed upwards of a hundred west-going waggons. 1898 *Contemp. Rev.* Aug. 181 A long . . . west-facing gallery.

b. with advbs., as *west-about*, *-away*.

1579 in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 1581 73/1 Thairfra passand west about as the new stank braa lysis. 1891 *Century Dict.*, *West-about* adv., around toward the west; in a westerly direction. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxvii, Will onybody . . . grumble at the treaty that opened us a road west-awa' yonder? 1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* xxx, If you sailed right west away far enough, you'd surely come to the edge, and fall over cleve. 1875 *Andridera* II. xi. 195 Three ships ran down the coast westaway.

c. With adjs., as *west-central* *a.*, belonging to the western half of the central postal division of London.

1860 *All Year Round* No. 66. 372 A small street off one of the west-central squares. 1865 'ANNIE THOMAS' *On Guard* II. 265 The show-room of the west-central Mantalini for whom she worked.

west (west), *sb.*² *Obs. exc. dial.* [Of obscure origin.] A sty or inflammatory swelling on the eyelid.

1569 ANDROSE tr. *Alexis' Secr.* IV. i. 4 To heale a West that riseth vpon the eye liddes. 1705 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4185/4 A down Look, having a West in one of his Eyes. 1847 HALLIWELL. 1899 C. K. PAUL *Memories* 250, 'I have a west coming in my eye'.

west (west), *v.* Also 4 *weste*. [f. *WEST* *adv.*] *intr.* To move towards the west. Chiefly of the sun: To draw near to the west, to sink in the sun.

c 1381 CHAUCER *Parl. Foules* 266 On a bed of gold sche lay to reste Tyl that the hote sunne gan to weste. c 1385 — *L.G.W.* 61 Whanne the sunne be-gynnys for to weste. 1596 SPENSER *F.Q.* v. Intro. viii, Foure times his place he shifted hath in sight, And twice has risen, where he now doth West, And wested twice, where he ought rise aright. 1607 WALKINGTON *Optic Glass* 162 Phæbus beginneth low to west. 1807 J. BARLOW *Columb.* x. 213 From Mohawk's mouth, far westing with the sun, Thro all the midlands recent channels run. 1888 DOUGHTY *Arabia Deserta* I. 443 The sun at length westing to the valley brow. 1889 in F. W. H. MYERS *Human Personality* (1903) II. 340 A ship going round the world making east all the way would gain a day, and by westing would lose one.

west, *obs.* *Sc.* f. *VEST* *v.*; *obs.* *pa. t.* and *pa. pple.* of *WIT* *v.*¹

westar, *obs.* *Sc.* form of *WASTER* *sb.*¹

'west-bound, *a.* [*WEST* *adv.*] Travelling to the west or in a westerly direction; connected with travel in this direction.

Orig. *U.S.* of railway-trains. In more general use from c 1900, freq. of Transatlantic steamers.

1881 *Chicago Times* 12 Mar., The west-bound express was laid up all night at Kearney. 1889 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 3 Sept. 2/3 He will at once give you a west-bound ticket to Chicago. 1891 C. ROBERTS *Adrift Amer.* 67, I watched my chance . . . and got on a west-bound freight train. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 22 Oct. 1/3 The West-bound traveller . . . would choose his 'bus . . . along the Embankment.

† **'Westbury apple.** *Obs.* (See quot. 1676.)

1676 WORLIDGE *Vineta Brit.* 160 The Westberry-Apple, taking its name from Westberry in Hampshire, . . . its one of the most solid Apples that grows, of a tough rind, [etc.]. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* 537 The Westberry Apple [1721 The Westbury Apple]. 1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* xxi. 164 Pippins, . . . Westbury Apples, Russetting.

west-by(e ('west'bai), *adv.* *Sc.* [f. *WEST* *adv.* + *BY* *adv.* 1.] In a westerly direction, westwards.

1790 A. SHIRREFS *Poems* 72 We met wi' Bessy . . . Wha taul's ye gaed west-by a wee before. 1864 LATTO *Tammas Bodkin* xxvii. 283 Tibbie's letters bein' aye left wastbye at Janet Wabster's to be forwarded.

west coast. 1. The western coast of a country or region; in some cases with capital initials as a proper name. Also *attrib.*

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xviii. 113 þere I sawe sothely . . . Out of þe west coste a wenche, as me thougte, Cam walkynge in þe way. 1689 *Acts Parl.* Scot. (1875) XII. 54/2 That two friggettes be gott to cruse on the west coasts. 1801 M. DOWNIE *Observ. Atmosphere* 89 Those parts of the West coasts of Africa which lie between the Tropics. 1845 *N.Z. Jnl.* 13 Sept. 234/2 Of the west coast of the Middle Island, commonly called by the whalers the 'West Side', we heard a good deal. 1850 *Calif. Courier* (San Francisco) 2 Dec. 2/1 Our position here on the West Coast has been and still is a peculiar one. 1862 *Jnl. R. Geogr. Soc.* XXXII. 294 Arrangements entered into with the Provincial Government of Nelson for the survey of the West Coast district of that province. 1897 M. KINGSLEY *Trav. W. Afr.* 8 Sound knowledge . . . collected during an acquaintance with the West Coast of over thirty years. 1926 A. HUXLEY *Jesting Pilate* iv. 287 The stranger coming to the West Coast will be astonished by the amount of casual embracement. 1959 A. McLINTOCK *Descr. Atlas N.Z.* p. xvi, The road . . . here swings in a northerly direction . . . towards Arthur's Pass, 3,020ft, and thence to the West Coast. 1971 *Country Life* 9 Dec. 1642/2 Last year . . . the west-coast herrings proved to be the only plentiful supply in northern Europe. 1977 H. FAST *Immigrants* II. 88 We're the lifeline, the West Coast, San Francisco.

2. (Usu. with capital initials.) Used *attrib.* with reference to a style of modern jazz playing that was centred on Los Angeles in the 1950s, typified by small ensembles, technical sophistication, and elaborate writing. orig. *U.S.*

Cf. *West Coaster* below, quot. 1954.

1954 *Downbeat* 7 Apr. 6/1 The latest example of this thinking-by-pigeonholes is the attempt to convince the populace that there is a growing west coast school of jazz. *Ibid.* 19 May 16/3 Nat Hentoff's comments on 'west coast jazz' aroused considerable comment. 1959 *News Chron.* 12 Aug. 6/5 He is not only benevolent about West Coast jazz but aware of its technical ins and outs. 1961 *Times* 4 Feb. 11/5 Music of considerable variety, ranging from some vigorous Dixieland . . . to West Coast Jazz (with Palm Court cello). 1962 *Melody Maker* 21 July 7/1 Some of the 1954 tracks have a nostalgic, almost dated, appeal, in the writing, it is so typical of West Coast jazz of the time—neat, smooth and often very clever. 1980 *New Grove Dict. Mus.* XX. 371/2 Miles Davis's 1949–50 recordings were an initial influence as is shown by such archetypal West Coast performances as Rogers's *Didi* (1951).

3. Used *attrib.* to designate a kind of large rear-view mirror (see quot. 1963). orig. *U.S.*

1963 *Amer. Speech* XXXVIII. 46 *West coast mirror*, . . . a large, square, rear-view mirror attached to the side of a cab. 1968 *Globe & Mail* (Toronto) 17 Feb. 41 (Advt.), Mercury 1 ton pickup . . . 4 speed transmission, west coast mirrors. 1980 *Truck & Bus Transportation* (Austral.) Mar. 96/1 All-round vision is generally good, but Cronulla Carrying have gone one step further by replacing the meagre standard mirrors with the efficient west-coast type.

Hence **West Coaster**, (*a*) one who lives on the West Coast; *spec.* (*N.Z.*) = COASTER 3 c; (*b*) a player or devotee of West Coast jazz.

1896 *N.Z. Alpine Jnl.* II. 157 He was . . . not a native born West Coaster. 1936 'R. HYDE' *Passport to Hell* ii. 54 He washed shirts for the brawny West Coasters. 1941 O. DUFF *N.Z. Now* v. 71 The people are never 'Southlanders' . . . as the people of the West Coast are 'West Coasters'. 1949 M. STEEN *Twilight on Floods* II. ii. 198 Eighty-five per cent West Coasters die of fever, or return home total wrecks! 1954 *Time* 1 Feb. 38/2 Today, the liveliest center of developing jazz is California . . . The West Coasters include such names as . . . Shelly Manne . . . Shorty Rogers . . . Gerry Mulligan and Stan Getz . . . Dave Brubeck. 1958 K. GOODWIN in P. GAMMOND *Decca Bk. Jazz* xiii. 148 Groups from four to nine pieces have been most popular among the West Coasters. 1974 M. BRAITHWAITE *Ontario* ii. 7 It is nonsense to maintain that there are no special characteristics of Canadians from different regions of the country. West Coasters are different from those who live on the East Coast. 1977 *Times* 16 May 8/7 Their effect on humourless West Coasters [sc. in California] was . . . devastating.

west country. [*WEST* *a.*] The western part of any country; the district or region towards the west; *spec.* of England or of Scotland.

Usually the remoter counties west (or south-west) of the speaker, or of London (in Scotland west of Edinburgh); sometimes *spec.* the south-western counties (Somerset, Devon, etc.).

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P.R.* xi. iii. (Bodl. MS.) In þe est londes and contreyes is more plente of fruytes and floures þanne in þe northe and in þe weste contreys. c 1400 *Brut* ccxviii. 301 In þe same 3ere, aboute þe Sowth-cuntreys and also in þe west cuntres, þere fell so much reyne . . . þat [etc.]. c 1470 HENRY Wallace IV. 171 Our west contre that statute is so strang, Into the north my purpos is to gang. 1473 WARKW. *Chron.* (Camden) 10 The Erle of Warwyke londede in the west countrey. 1534 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 395 Ye do deteyne . . . certeyne londes in the weste cuntrey contrary to all right. 1570–6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1596) 474 At Dartmouth in the West countrey. 1639 G. PLATTES *Discov. Subterr. Treas.* xi. 51 Every one may see in the west Country, where such a multitude of Firre trees doe lie covered so deepe in the earth, that [etc.]. 1827 SCOTT *Let. in Lockhart* (1837) I. v. 136, I had very little acquaintance . . . with the gentry of the west country. 1845 CARLYLE *Cromwell* xlii. 1. 359 The Whiggamore Raid, all the force of the West Country, 6,000 strong, is already there. 1906 J. E. VINCENT *Highways Berks.* ix. 241 It is a little strained, perhaps, to include Berkshire in the West country.

b. *attrib.* (Frequently hyphenated.)

a 1653 BINNING *Usef. Case Cons.* (1693) 40 They think these Malignants better than the West-Country forces. 1678 T. JORDAN *Tri. Lond.* 14 Zome honest plain West-Country-mon. 1690 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2579/2 Edinburgh . . . Several Thousands of the West-Country Men have offered to Serve Their Majesties against the Highlanders. 1720 *Ibid.* No. 5895/4 Speaks in a broad West-Country Dialect. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. 435 Sheep . . . of the Devonshire, or west-country breed. 1820 SCOTT *Monast. Intro.* Ep., A west-country whig frae Kilmarnock. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew. v.* Why should he know our West country ways? 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 586 One branch of her family, living in a west-country town.

fig. 1853 W. D. COOPER *Sussex Gloss.* (ed. 2) 85 *West-country Parson*, the Hake; so called from the black streak on the back, and from its abundance along the West Coast.

† **westdeal.** *Obs.* In 1 *westdæl*, 3 *westdel*, *Orm.* *wesstdeal*. [See *WEST* *adv.* and *DEAL* *sb.*¹] The western part or district, the west.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* lxxiv. 7 Ne from eastdæle ne from westdæle. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 93 þy fifan dæge . . . se heofon tobyrst from þæm eastdæle oþ þone westdæl. c 1200 ORMIN 16406 Wesstdale off all þiss werelld iss Dysiss bi name nemmedd. a 1300 *E.E. Psalter* cii[j]. 12 Hou mikle estdel stand westdel fra, Fer made he fra vs oure wickenes swa.

† **weste**, *sb.* [Reduced form of OE. *wēsten* (see WESTERN *sb.*²), or f. next.] A desert, wilderness.

c 1200 ORMIN 11747 þær i þe wesste þær he wass Himm ane. *Ibid.* 17408 Alls he comm wiþþ all þe folc Inntill a wilde wesste. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 127 On his 3uweþe he fleh fro folke to weste. *Ibid.*, Weste was his wunienge.

† **weste**, *a.* *Obs.* Also 3 *west*. [OE. *wēste*, earlier *wēste* = OFris. *wōste* (Wfris. *woast*), MDu. and Du. *woest*, OS. *wōsti* (MLG. *wōst*, *wūst*, LG. *wōst*), OHG. *wōsti*, *wuosti* (MHG. *wüeste*,

G. *wüst*), f. the stem **wōst-*, related to L. *vāstus*: see WASTE *a.*]

1. Of places: Uninhabited and uncultivated or untended; desert, desolate, waste.

Beowulf 2456 [He] gesyhð sorhcearig . . . winsele westne. c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* lxxviii. 26 Sie eardung heara woestu. *Ibid.* lxxiv. 7 From woestum muntum. c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* I. xv. 52 Is sæd of þære tide . . . þæt hit [sc. þæt land] weste wunige. c 1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Matt. xiv. 15 Deos stowe ys weste. c 1200 ORMIN 1417 All forrþi wass heoffness ærd Swa summ itt wesste wære. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 127 He . . . perfore ferde into weste wilderne. c 1205 LAY. 10591 Al þat lond heo makeden west. *Ibid.* 17330 Ich wulle . . . maken him weste paðes & wildernes monie. c 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1528 Woves weste [v.r. west] and lere huse. a 1300 *Maximian* 211 (MS. Digby 86) þis world me pinkeþ west.

2. *west(e) land*, waste land; desert.

c 1030 *Sherburn Surv.* in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* (1912) Jan. 18 Ond þys synd weste land: Ane is Sal-lege; oþer is Grante-lege. c 1200 ORMIN 9239 Sannt Johan i westeland Wass wurpenn cup þatt time. *Ibid.* 11429 All swa summ westeland iss all Forworppenn & forlætenn. c 1205 LAY. 16268 He funde west lond [c 1275 in west lond], leoden of-slægene.

† **weste**, *v.* *Obs.* [OE. *wēstan* (:—*wōstjan*: see WESTE *a.*) = OS. (*ā*)*wōstian*, OHG. *wuostan* (MHG. *wuesten* G. *wüsten*.)] *trans.* To lay waste.

c 893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* I. x. §1 Hie . . . wæron fiftene gear þæt lond herigende & westende. c 1000 *Ag. Ps.* (Th.) lxxviii. 7 Hi . . . his wic-stede westan. *Ibid.* lxxix. 13 Hine . . . wilde deor westað and frettað. c 1205 LAY. 1754 þus heo westen þæt lond. *Ibid.* 20941 Heo . . . sæiden þæt heo wolden . . . westen Arðures lond. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3915 Ðis folc . . . his lond tok, . . . And westen al to flum iordan.

weste, *obs.* *pa. t.* and *pple.* of *WISH* *v.*, *WIT* *v.*¹

westecoateer, var. WAISTCOATEER.

westelur, var. WISSELER *Obs.*

† **'westen**, *a.* *Sc.* *Obs.*—¹ [f. *WEST* *adv.* Cf. EASTEN *a.*] Western.

1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 61 The feyrd cardinal vynd is callit faonius or occidental, quhilk vulgaris callis vestin vynd.

† **westen**, *adv.* *Obs.* [OE. *wēstan* (f. *west* *adv.*) = OFris. *westa*, OS. *wēstan* (*wind*), ON. and Icel. (Norw., Sw.) *vestan* (Da. *vesten*): cf. WESTENE *adv.* and BEWEST.] From the west. Also with *fro*.

a 900 *Genesis* 806 5if her wind cymð westan oððe eastan. c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 274 Se pridda heafod-wind . . . blæwð westan. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3096 On wind cam fro westen, and ðo [h]opperes nam.

west end. [OE. *west-ende* (see *WEST* *adv.*) = Du. *westeinde*, Wfris. *westein*, MLG., G. *westende*. In later use f. *WEST* *a.*]

1. The western end or extremity of anything.

c 893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* I. i. §3 Hire on westende is Scotland. c 1050 O.E. *Chron.* (MS. C) an. 1036 Syððan hine nam byrigde . . . æt þam west ende, þam stýple ful gehende. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 244 Toward þe west ende of þe worlde. a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 1733 A selly noubre Of wrichis & wirlings out of the west endis. 1408–17 in *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1905) Intro. p. xcvi, A Tent without the west ende of the church yerd made of Clothe. a 1550 LELAND *Itin.* (1764) II. 7 The West Ende of Ewelme Parochie Church. *Ibid.* IV. 124 There be 2. Wooden Bridges at the West Ende of the Towne. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* v. iii. 9 Goe thow with her to the West end of the wood. a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 25 Mar. 1644, Having two spires and middle lanterne at the West end. 1711 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4906/3 We met an English Runner off the West-end of this Island [Jamaica]. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* III. iv, He privately took a lodging at the west end of the town. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* vi, The west end of the defile formed by the Luckenbooths was secured in the same manner. 1847 [see RESPOND *sb.* 2]. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* vii, A fashionable neighbourhood at the west end of the town. 1874 MICKLETHWAITE *Mod. Par. Churches* 59 The upper row of stalls . . . at the west end of the chancel.

2. *spec. the West End*, that part of London lying westward of Charing Cross and Regent St. and including the fashionable shopping district, Mayfair, and the Parks; also, those living within this area.

1776 *Gazetteer & New Daily Advertiser* 11 Sept. in Bond & McLeod *Newslett. to Newspapers* (1977) III. 186 A gentleman in a certain coffeehouse at the Westend of town. 1807 tr. *Goede's Trav.* I. 38 The devices at the west end, are usually crowns, stars, crescents. 1815 ZELUCA III. 143 As you're staying with a relation at the west end . . . there's no harm in making a genteel acquaintance—eh? 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Dancing Academy*, It was not in the West-end at all — it rather approximated to the eastern portion of London. 1863 O. W. HOLMES *Old Lon. Life* (1881) 97 We know what the West End of London wishes may be result of this controversy. 1882 BESANT *All Sorts* vii, She was setting up a dressmaker's shop; . . . she had hopes of support, even from the West End, where she had friends.

b. The theatres of the West End, or their personnel.

1894 *Theatre* Oct. 155 The influence of the west end is felt both in the cheaper London houses and throughout the provinces. 1979 *Listener* 16 Aug. 206/3 No one wanted a National Theatre. The West End didn't want it because they feared a new rival.

3. *transf.* The fashionable or aristocratic quarter of a town or other place.

1823 BYRON *Juan* XI. xlv, The great world . . . Meaneth the west or worst end of a city. 1830 CARLYLE *Misc. Ess., Richter* (1872) III. 35 Richter, for his part, was quite excluded from the West-end of Hof: for Hof too has its West-end . . . So poor Richter could only be admitted to the West-end of the

Universe. **1840** HOOD *Up Rhine* 159 There was, however, a sort of West-end to the room, where the fashionables and the Vons seemed instinctively to congregate. **1854** tr. *Hettner's Athens & Pelop.* 28 This is the fashionable part, or 'west end' of New Athens. **1863** SPEKE *Source Nile* xii. 339 A number of huts... were at once assigned to me, on the face of a hill... It was considered the 'West End'.

4. *attrib.* (from senses 2 and 3.) Also passing into *adj.*

1835 *Court Mag.* VI. 4/1 A refuge for the West-end destitute of all denominations. **1848** DICKENS *Dombey* i, Doctor Parker Pep's West End practice. **1863** MISS BRADDON *Aurora Floyd* xxxiii, A colour that West-End tailors had vainly striven to emulate. **1888** *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 28/1 Spacious west-end quarters in cities. **1889** LOWELL *Latest Lit. Ess.* (1891) 67 With that West-End view of the realities of life which Englishmen of a certain class feel it proper to take. **1890** G. B. SHAW *London Music 1888-89* (1937) 322 The more commercial atmosphere of the West-end theatre. **1890** O. WILDE *Pict. Dorian Gray* iii, in *Lippincott's Monthly Mag.* July 29, I will take a West-End theatre and bring her out properly. **1928** A. HUXLEY *Point Counter Point* x. 159 So well travelled, so brilliantly cosmopolitan and West-End. **1936** N. COWARD *To-Night at 8.30* I. 103 If you're so bloody West End why the hell did you leave it? **1954** 'M. COST' *Invitation from Minerva* 171, I got my first West-End engagement. Since then, I've never looked back. **1983** S. VIZINCEY *Innocent Millionaire* iii. 14 Occasionally his London agent got him a part in the West End production of an American play.

Hence, **West-'ender**, one who lives at the west end of a town, *esp.* of London; **West-'endian** (*a*) *sb.* = prec.; (*b*) *adj.* = next; **West-'endy** *a.*, characteristic or suggestive of a west end, *spec.* that of London; **West-'endish** *a.*, of or characteristic of the West End; **West-'endism**, West-end quality or character.

1833 *Chambers's Jnl.* 30 Mar. 66/2 There have been instances of 'west-enders' going on a tour of discovery... within the precincts of Wapping. **1839** DICKENS *Nickleby* xxxvii, A pleasant fiction invented by jealous 'West-enders. **1874** H. MAYHEW *London. Characters* 299 Already there is a sort of *esprit de locale*... amongst the inhabitants of the new quarters that the old West Ender never dreamed of. **1825** HOR. SMITH *Gaieties & Grav.* II. 322 *West-endians and Bond-street loungers. **1856** J. M. LUDLOW *Let. Nov.* in C. L. Graves *Life & Lett. A. Macmillan* (1910) ii. 91 [A London shop] more West-endian than Bell's or Nutt's. **1909** *Daily Chron.* 9 June 5/4 An advanced... *West-endish sort of woman. **1875** BLACKIE *Introd. to C. Blackie's Etymol. Geog.* 33 Such-like apish mimicry of metropolitan *West Endism. **1911** J. BONE *Edin. Revisited* i. 12 A minister of the Gospel from the West Coast identified Edinburgh as an 'east-windy, *west-endy city'. **1959** *New Chron.* 25 July 4/5 Most of it proved too precious and West Endy for television.

† **westene**, *adv.* *Obs.* [OE. *westane* = OS. *westane*, OHG. *westana*: cf. WESTEN *adv.*] From the west.

c893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* i. i. §24 Ða beorgas... onginnað westane fram þæm Wendelsæ. **c1205** LAY. 25591 þa com þer westene winden mid þan weolcnen a berninge drake.

wester ('westə(r)), *a.* Chiefly *Sc.* Also *1* *westra*, *Sc.* 4 *westyr*, 4-6 *westir*, (5 *vestir*, 6 *vester*, *weister*), 7 *waster*. [OE. *westra* (f. *west* WEST *adv.*) = ON. and Icel. *vestri*, *vestari* (Norw., Sw., Da. *vestre*). The comparative ending is different from that which appears in OHG. *westar-*, MHG., LG., Du., Fris. *wester-*, western.] Lying (more) towards the west; western.

963 in *Birch Cartul. Sax.* III. 363 Se *westra* crochyrst. **967** *Ibid.* 486 Se *westra* eale healh.

1365 *Antiq. Aberd. & Banff* (Spald. Club) IV. 158 Omnes terras... de *Westir* Drummelochi. **1389** *Ibid.* III. 261 Terras de *Westir* Badfothellis. **1438** *Exch. Rolls Scotl.* V. 56 De medietate terre de *Westerloveth* in *Strathdone*. **1474** *Acta Auditorum* (1839) 33/1 þe landis of þe *westir* part of *Strathery*. **1490** *Acta Dom. Concil.* (1839) 131/1 þe landis of ester *Copmalindy* and *Wester Copmalindy*. **1520** in *Laing Charters* (1899) 82 Of the whiche two chambres the oone is called the *wester* chambre. **1584** R. NORMAN tr. *Safeguard of Sailors* 7 Keep off from the *wester* shore, for... the *easter* shore is deeper. **1613** J. SARIS *Voy. Japan* (Hakl. Soc.) 43 He was gone to the *Wester* side of the Iland. **1633** T. JAMES *Voy.* 35 We had... coasted the *Wester* side. **1680** A. HAIG in J. Russell *Haigs* xi. (1881) 309 The apple trees which is within the uppermost *waster* quarter. **1708** *London Gaz.* No. 4430/5 The Magistrates and Town-Council of *Anstruther-Wester*. **1777** WATSON *Philip II* (1793) I. x. 448 From the *Easter* to the *Wester* Scheldt. **1891** *Hartland (Devon) Gloss.*, *Easter*, eastern. Similarly we have *Wester*, *Nother*, and *Suther*. Fields are frequently distinguished as *Easter* and *Wester*. **1898** A. BALFOUR *To Arms* vi, Away in the wilds of *wester* Dumfries.

† **b. Naut.** (Cf. *EASTER a.* and *BOARD sb.* 15.)

1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* I. 81 But the Winds hanging in the *westerbord*, and blowing hard, oft put us by our *Topsails*; so that we could not fetch it.

wester ('westə(r)), *v.* [f. WEST *adv.* + -ER⁵.]

1. *intr.* Of the sun, moon, or a star: To travel westward in its course; to draw near the west. (Freq. after **1850**.)

c1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* II. 906 þe sonne Gan *westren* faste. **1412-20** LYDG. *Chron. Troy* Prol. 136 And *Esperus* gan to *wester* down. To haste hir cours ageyn þe morwe graye. *Ibid.* i. 2674 Vp-on þe point whan *Phebus* with his list l-westrif is.

1790 COWPER *Iliad* XXIII. 195 And now the lamp of day, *Westering* apace, had left them still in tears. **1837** CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. i. ii, The Sun shines; serenely *westering*, in smokeless mackerel-sky. **1850** DOBELL *Roman* II. Poet. Wks. 1875 I. 36 The little star... *westers* to its setting. **1889** CLARKE RUSSELL *Marooned* vi, The moon was *westering* and

looking over our foretopsail yard-arm. **1922** A. E. HOUSMAN *Last Poems* xxvi, The half moon *westers* low.

fig. **1845** R. W. HAMILTON *Pop. Educ.* x. 330 Instead of turning to the sun of a once mighty prosperity as now fast *westering* and going down.

2. Of the wind: To shift to the west.

1580 H. SMITH in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 468 The wind did *Wester*, so that we lay South southwest with a flawne sheete. **1628** DIGBY *Voy. Mediterr.* (Camden) 93 The wind northered vpon vs. Att night it *westered* againe. **1699** T. ALLISON *Voy. Archangel* 11 We... began to consider... as to our safety in that place, should the Wind *Wester*. **1823** SCORESBY *Jrnl.* 373 The wind having unfortunately *westered*. **1913** M. ROBERTS *Salt of Sea* x. 233 The wind *westered* so fast that I nearly jibed the mainboom.

3. To be moved farther west. *nonce-use.*

1803 W. TAYLOR in *Ann. Rev.* I. 361 Let Germany awake, and give herself a better constitution... and the frontiers of France will *wester* again.

wester, var. **WASTER** *sb.*³

westeria, var. **WISTARIA**.

'**westering**, *vbl. sb.* [f. WESTER *v.*] Westward movement, declension westwards.

c1410 LYDG. *Life Our Lady* lxxi. (MS. Ashm. 39 lf. 89) This sterre... To shewe hys light in euery shrowed & shade With out westrynge or drawynge to declenye.

westering ('westərɪŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. WESTER *v.*]

1. That declines from the meridian towards the west. (Said chiefly of the sun when it is nearing the western horizon.)

In very common use from **c1840**.

1637 MILTON *Lycidas* 31 Oft till the Star that rose, at Ev'ning, bright Toward Heav'ns descent had slop'd his *westering* wheel. **1790** COWPER *Odys.* xi. 19 Earthward he slopes again his *westering* wheels. **1795** SOUTHEY *Lett. Spain* (1799) 34 Hills beyond hills... part involved in shadow, and the more distant illumined by the *westering* sun. **1802** LEYDEN *Lord Soult's* xx, And bloody set the *westering* sun. **1831** MOORE *Summer Fête* 132 Warned... by the daylight's *westering* beam. **1859** GEO. ELIOT *Adam Bede* liii, The low *westering* sun shone right on the shoulders of the old Binton Hills. **1894** BLACKMORE *Perlycross* vii. 56 By the light of the *westering* moon.

fig. **1851** MRS. BROWNING *Ca Guidi Wind* i. 403 Learn The strong man's impulse... and discern By his clear *westering* eye, the time of day. **1885-94** BRIDGES *Eros & Psyche* March xiv, *Eros*... was Cupid named anew In *westering* aftertime of latin lore.

2. That moves in a westward direction. Of the wind: That shifts to the west.

1747 COLLINS *Ode Liberty* 84 Mona... Where thousand Elfin Shapes abide, And Wight who checks the *west'ring* Tide. **1871** SWINBURNE *Songs bef. Sunrise, Eve of Rev.* 66 Asia, that sawest their *westering* waters sweep With all the ships and spoils of time to carry. **1896** KIPLING *Seven Seas, Three Sealers* 142 There comes no good o' the *westering* wind that backs against the sun.

'**westerliness**, [-NESS.] Westerly situation.

1730 BAILEY (Folio) s.v.; also s.v. *Occidentalness*. **1927** [see *EASTERLINESS*]

† **'westerling**, *Obs.* [f. WESTER *a.* + -LING.] An inhabitant of a western country or district.

1630 CAPT. J. SMITH *True Trav., Adv., & Observ.* xxiii. (Arb.) 891 The Country being then reputed by your *westerlings*, a most rockie, barren, desolate desert. **1631** BYFIELD *Doctr. Sabb.* 85 The *Westerlings*, the *Easterlings*, the Europeans, and the Asians. **1687** A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* i. 150 The Magrebins, or *Westerlings*, comprehending those of Barbary, Fez, and Morocco, who meet at Caire. **1728** MORGAN *Algiers* II. i. 215 The common appellation of *Westerling*, they [Turks] give to all such as inhabit West of Egypt. **1845** T. COOPER *Purgatory of Suicides* i. lxxx, Some hoary teacher... Whose wisdom's lustre doth... transcend The glimmering lights your *westerlings* reverse.

westerly ('westəli), *a.* and *sb.* [f. WEST *adv.* Cf. *easterly*, etc., and next.]

A. adj.

1. Coming from the west.

1577 GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* i. 20 What time so euer it be doone, you must looke that the winde be *Westerly*. **1608** SHAKS. *Per.* iv. i. 51 Is this wind *Westerlie* that blowes? **1690** in *Foster Eng. Factories Ind.* (1906) 221 A fine gentle *westerlie* sea winde blowing. **1748** ANSON'S *Voy.* II. iii. 140 The *westerly* winds... are almost perpetual in that part. **1849** MACAULAY *Hist. Eng. x.* II. 641 She... had been detained in Holland... by strong *westerly* winds. **1855** KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* xxxii, They got on a lee shore in Cardigan Bay, before a heavy *westerly* gale. **1886** STEVENSON *Kidnapped* xiii, She tore through the seas at a great rate, pitching and straining, and pursued by the *westerly* swell.

Comb. **1868** JOYNSON *Metals* 116 Even the weather has to be consulted,—a *westerly*-wind day is the best.

2. Situated in or towards the west.

1577 HARRISON *England* II. i. 49b/1 in *Holinshed*, Two waters... whereof the *westerly* called Basingwater, commeth from Basingstoke. **1584** R. NORMAN tr. *Safeguard of Sailors* 10 The most *westerly* houses of Wieringhen. **a1609** SIR F. VERE *Comm.* (1657) 51 Flores and Corvo, the *westerliest* Islands of the Azores. **1610** HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 677 But the more *Westerly* part is not so fruitful. **1669** STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* iv. iii. 147 This Table... sheweth how much a Ship is more... *Easterly* or *Westerly*, by sailing upon any Point... of the Compass. **1765** R. ROGERS *Concise Acc. N. Amer.* title-p., The Interior, or *Westerly* Parts of the Country, upon the Rivers St. Laurence, the Mississippi, [etc.]. **1825** J. NEAL *Bro. Jonathan* III. 381 All the water on the *westerly* side of the town, was of a clear wine colour. **1870** *Daily News* 1 Feb., The eight twelve-pounders moved forward from one of the more *westerly* batteries.

b. Of a person: Dwelling in the west.

1865 W. G. PALGRAVE *Arabia* II. xiv. 241 Nor are more *westerly* historians always exempt from similar weaknesses.

3. Situated near the western horizon.

1801 SOUTHEY *Thalaba* vi. v, Nor stay'd he till over the *westerly* heaven The shadows of evening had spread. **1829** SCOTT *Anne of G.* xxx, The distant landscape, partly illumined, with ominous lustre, by the now *westerly* sun.

4. Extending towards the west; facing the west. Of motion, progress, etc.: Directed towards the west or the western horizon.

1637 R. NORWOOD *Sea-mans Pract.* ix. (1655) 115 Then shall you have... the Latitudes and Longitudes of all Places as you saile, which may more easily and exactly be exprest upon this Chart, then the *Easterly* or *Westerly* distances. **1669** STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* iv. iii. 153 The *Westerly* [distance] is 16¹⁰/₁₀₀ Leagues. **1802** C. FINDLATER *Agric. Peebles* 18 The hills... of a southerly or *westerly* exposure, are generally more verdant. **1843** PRESCOTT *Mexico* (1850) I. 336 Where the vapours from the ocean, touching in their *westerly* progress, maintain a rich verdure throughout the year. **1878** NEWCOMB *Pop. Astron.* i. ii. 58 The *westerly* motion of the latter [planet]. **1897** MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 362 This... leads from Ntamo to the Atlantic in a nearly due *westerly* direction.

B. sb. pl. The prevailing *westerly* winds found in certain latitudes.

1876 SPRY *Cruise of 'Challenger'* 109 The strong *westerlies* caused the weather to be of such a boisterous character. **1897** F. T. BULLEN *Cruise of 'Cachalot'* 86 The dirty weather and variable squalls, which nearly always precede the 'westerlies'. **1898** *Jrnl. Sch. Geog.* (U.S.) Oct. 303 The beginning of the régime of the prevailing *westerlies* came at about latitude 40° S.

westerly ('westəli), *adv.* [f. as prec. Cf. ON. *vestarlaga*.]

1. In a westward direction; towards the west.

1625 HYNMERS tr. *Blaeu's Sea-Mirr.* III. 3 You must goe first southwest or somewhat *westerly* to the Helder. **1669** STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* iv. iii. 154 S.W.b.W. 1/4 *Westerly* 190 Leagues. **1680** J. COLLINS *Plea Irish Cattle* etc. 7 Our Ships... *Westerly* or *Southerly* bound, Victual here. **1722** DE FOE *Col. Jack* viii, We began to steer away *westerly*. **1771** COOK'S *1st Voy.* 26 A small white cloud... from which a train of fire issued, extending itself *westerly*. **1795** VANCOUVER *Agric. Essex* 87 Crossing the great road, and proceeding thence *westerly* through Shenfield. **1835** W. IRVING *Tour Prairies* 70 Our plan was... to keep *westerly*, until we should pass through... the Cross Timber. **1863** *Daily Tel.* 6 Apr., The principal channel... running in a straight line with the opening between the heads, *westerly*, out to sea. **1891** CLARK RUSSELL *Marriage at Sea* ii, We're going to get a breeze...; nothing to harm... if it don't draw *westerly*.

2. (Blowing) from the west.

1708 *London Gaz.* No. 4443/3 The Wind blowing fresh *Westerly*, oblig'd 'em to anchor. **1748** ANSON'S *Voy.* II. vii. 214 We found the wind to hang *westerly*. **1816** TUCKEY *Narr. Exped. R. Zaire* ii. (1818) 51 The winds now came more *westerly*.

† **westermore**, *adv.* *Sc.* In 5 *westermar*, 6 *westirmair*. [Cf. next and -MORE.] Farther west.

c1470 HENRY WALLACE i. 307 Wallace ansuerd, said; 'Westermar [1570 *Westir* mair] we will.'

'**westermost**, *a.* Now rare or *Obs.* [f. WESTER *a.* + -MOST.] Lying or situated farthest west; = WESTERNMOST.

1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 381 The *Westermost* poynte of the Trepoyntes. **1598** HAKLUYT *Voy.* I. 337 The riuer Ob is the most *Westermost* part thereof. **1625** N. CARPENTER *Geog. Del.* i. iii. (1635) 65 The Meridian about the *Westermost* of the Azores. **1697** DAMPIER *Voy.* I. 421 Three of the Islands were pretty large; the *Westermost* is the biggest. **1727** A. HAMILTON *New Acc. E. Ind.* II. 24 Sagor the *wester-most* Chanell of the Ganges. **1775** ROMANS *Florida* App. 37 At the east end of the *westermost* key is another channel 8 feet deep. **1821** SOUTHEY *Vis. Judgement* i. 10 From far Glaramara, Bleacrag, and Maidenmawr, to Grizedal and *westermost* Withop.

western ('westən), *a.*, *sb.*¹, and *adv.* Forms: 1, 6-7 *westerne*, (1, 6 *weasterne*); 4-6 *western*, 6-*western*; 1 *wæstrene*, 2 *westrene*, 4-7 *westren*. [OE. *westerne* (f. *west* WEST *adv.* + -ERN): cf. OS. and OHG. *westrōni*, ON. *vestrœnn* (Norw. dial. *vestrøn*).]

A. adj.

1. Coming from the west. Of the wind, a gale, etc.: Blowing from the west. Of a current of water: Flowing from the west.

c1050 Bæda's *Hist.* v. xix. (MS. B.) Sona ðæs þe he on scip eode, ða astah *westerne* wind & blew. **a1100** *Aldhelm Gloss.* in Napier *O.E. Glosses* xxiii. 17 *Zepheri*, *westernes* winde. **1398** TREvisa *Barth De P.R.* XII. xv. (Bodl. MS.) Whanne þe *western* winde blowip. **1530** PALSGR. 288/1 *Westerne* wynde, *le vent daual*. **1581** A. HALL *Iliad* II. 23 When as the *western* winde doth meete a field of graine, In haruest time. **1604** E. GRIMSTONE tr. *Acosta's Hist. Indies* III. iv. 128 They saile with a *western* winde vntill they come to the burning Zone. **1613-16** W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* i. iv. 79 A *western* milde, and pretty whispering gale. **1673** RAY *Journ. Low C. Rome* 386 The commixture of the warm *Southerly* and *Western* air, with the cold *Northerly* and *Eastern*. **1748** ANSON'S *Voy.* i. x. 103 The *western* winds which blew almost constantly there. **a1771** GRAY *Song* 9 *Western* gales and skies serene Speak not always winter past. **1796** NELSON *Let.* in *Nicolas Disp.* (1846) VII. Add. p. lix, I am endeavouring to get to the Eastward, but we have an amazing strong *western* current. **1802** LEYDEN *Mermaid* viii, Softly blow, thou *western* Breeze! **1827** STEUART *Planter's G.* (1828) 331 Removed Trees... appearing unaffected by the *western*, and southwestern blasts. **1867** MORRIS *Jason* IV. 94 The piping of the following *western* breeze.

2. a. Dwelling in the west (of a country, esp. of England or Scotland); *spec.* living or originating in the 'West country' or south-western counties.

c 1100 O.E. Chron. (MS. D.) an. 1013, & com Æpelmar ealdorman pyder & þa wæstrena ðegenas mid him. 15. Ladye Bessie (Percy Soc.) 61 Hee . . drew an eagle upon the entrye, That the western men myghte yt see. 1570 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1576) 316 Muche are the Westerne men bound . . to Polydore, who . . remouing the infamous reuenge from Dorsetshyre, laieth it vpon our men of Kent. 1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* i. i. 4 A Western man [would speak it] thus, *Chud eat more cheese an chad it.* 1693 T. PITTS *New Martyrol.* (ed. 4) 527 The . . Christian Courage of the Western Sufferers. 1822 SCOTT *Halidon Hill* i. ii. 497 O, were my western horsemen but come up, I would take part with you! 1841 LEVER *O'Malley* xiii, Few Western gentlemen were without constant intercourse with the Athlone attorney. 1869 A. MACDONALD *Love, Law & Theol.* xxv. 576 There was a respectable muster of western folks got up for the occasion.

b. Of things; Of or belonging to the south-western counties.

1545 *Rates Custom-ho.* dvjb, A dossen karsay, iij. A westerne dossen, ii. 1653 W. J. True *Gentlew. Delight* 85 To scald Milk after the Western Fashion. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 129 ¶3 Being a Lawyer of the Middle-Temple, a Cornishman by Birth, I generally ride the Western Circuit. 1782 R. LOCKE (*title*) *The Western Rebellion.* 1886 KINGTON OLIPHANT *New English* i. 564 The Western dialect appears, as *ch'am, ich cham, vilthy.*

3. a. Having a position relatively west; lying towards or in the west. *Western Approaches*, the area of sea immediately to the west of Britain; *Western hemisphere*: see HEMISPHERE 3; *Western Islands* = *Western Isle* (a), (b); *Western Isle*, (a) *pl.*, the Hebrides; cf. *west isles* s.v. WEST a. 1 c; (b) *pl.*, the Azores; †(c) Ireland (*rare*!); *Western Ocean*, the Atlantic.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P.R.* viii. ix. (Tollemache MS.) Amonge pese tripliciteis of houses, þo þat þey in þe Este ben stronger in her worchyng . . þan þe Western. 1584 POWELL *Lloyd's Cambria* 96 With a great armie out of Mercia and other westerne countries. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* 694 *Pennigent*, which among the Westerne hills mounteth aloft about the rest. 1649 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Wand. Wonders West* 14 The farthest Western Parish of . . Cornwall. 1671 MILTON *P.R.* iv. 25 He brought our Saviour to the western side Of that high mountain. 1691 SIR G. MACKENZIE *Vind. Govt. Scot.* 12 As to the bringing in the Highlanders on the Western shires . . it is answered, that [etc.]. 1697 W. DAMPIER *New Voyage round World* v. 107 The most remarkable places that I did ever hear of for their breeding, is at an Island in the West Indies called Caimanes, and the Isle Ascension in the Western Ocean. 1748 ANSON'S *Voy.* ii. ix. 224 Tempestuous weather from the western quarter. 1758 J. ARMSTRONG *Let.* 21 Oct. in *N. & Q.* (1797) Feb. 44/2, I hope you have had an agreeable View of the Western Isles. 1760 F. FAUQUIER *Let.* 28 Oct. in G. Reese *Official Papers* (1880) 422 The Vessel is cleared out for Gibraltar, and then under pretence of being drove by stress of Weather into Madeira or some of the western Isles. 1775 JOHNSON (*title*) *Journey to the Western Islands of Scotland.* 1776 GIBBON *Decl. & Fall* i. i. 5 The western isle might be improved into a valuable possession. 1784 COWPER *Task* vi. 484 Where England, stretch'd towards the setting sun, . . o'erlooks the western wave. 1805 in *Naval Documents U.S. Wars with Barbary Powers* (U.S. Office Naval Rec.) (1944) V. 366 It is my opinion, she is competent to be sent across the Western Ocean, and should it be deemed necessary to send her to the Mediterranean, she could be speedily equipped. 1810 J. E. CALDWELL *Tour through Part of Virginia* (ed. 2) (1951) 47 The Azores, or Western Islands, are nine in number. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* i. viii, The Hunter marked that mountain high, The lone lake's western boundary. 1848 B. WEBB *Cont. Ecclesiol.* 117 The plan is quite basilican, containing a western bay between two western towers. 1870 W. H. KNIGHT *W. Australia* i The colony of Western Australia was founded on the 1st June, 1829. 1870 GODMAN (*title*) *Natural History of the Azores, or Western Islands.* 1886 STEVENSON *Kidnapped* xxiv, We were to pass through the western end of the country of Balquhadder. 1920 *Times* 1 Mar. 9/3 The title of Admiral Sir Reginald Tupper . . has now been changed to Commander-in-Chief of the Western Approaches. There are three captains, R.N., in charge of Naval Areas under his orders. Captain Denis B. Crampton . . commands the Irish Sea Area; Captain William D. Church . . the Kingstown Area; and Captain E. G. Lowther-Crofton . . the Buncrana Area. 1935 J. MASEFIELD *Victorious Troy* 8 Did you ever see a storm, a real storm, a Western Ocean Hurricane? 1946 W. S. CHURCHILL *Secret Session Speeches* 38 The powerful reinforcement of large-range aircraft . . which were sent . . to the Western Approaches are now active. 1961 G. FOULSER *Seaman's Voice* ii. 33 Western Ocean gales are notorious for their ferocity. 1976 *Mariner's Mirror* LXII. 177 Sometimes homeward-bound convoys would be routed away from the Western Approaches, the Bay of Biscay, and the English Channel. 1976 *Scotsman* 15 Dec., The rents of the 2000 local authority houses in the Western Isles are to be increased by £39 a year from April. 1979 *N. & Q.* Feb. 44/2 We can now be fairly certain that John Wilkes . . also made a journey to the Western Islands of Scotland.

b. of the sky or the horizon, esp. as the place of the sun's setting; also of the sun, or the evening star (cf. WEST a. 1).

1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* v. i. 1 The Sun begins to guild the westerne skie. 1596 SPENSER *F.Q.* v. ix. 35 As the bright sunne, what time his fierie teme Towards the westerne brim begins to draw. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* vi. lxxvii, But see, the stealing night, with softly pace, To flie the Westerne Sunne, creeps up the East. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* x. 92 Now was the Sun in Western cadence low From Noon. 1718 PRIOR *Solomon* ii. 370 The Sun declin'd had shot his Western Ray. 1747 COLLINS *Ode to Evening* ii, The bright-hair'd Sun Sits in yon western Tent. 1805 SCOTT *Last Minstrel* iii. xxiv, Her blue eyes sought the west afar, For lovers love the western star. 1853 A. SMITH *Life-Drama* iv. Poems (1854) 60 From yonder trees I've seen the western

sky All washed with fire. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* i. xxi. 146 The sun was near the western horizon.

c. Of or belonging to the west; found or produced in the west.

1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* ii. i. 166 Yet markt I where the bolt of Cupid fell. It fell vpon a little westerne flower. 1764 GOLDSM. *Trav.* 318 My genius spreads her wing, And flies where Britain courts the western spring. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xxi. (1856) 161 He himself would take the western search.

†d. *Western barge* (boat, or wherry), a barge, etc., used on the Thames westward of London. Hence *Western bargee*, *pug*, *man*, a navigator of a Western barge or boat.

1505-6 *Will of J. Rede* (Somerset Ho.), My body . . in the nyghte season . . to be layde in . . a bote or A westurne barge. 1591 LYLly *Endym.* iv. ii, In a Westerne barge, when with a good winde and lustie pugges one may goe ten miles in two daies. 1592-1611 Western pug [see PUG sb.² 3]. 1603-4 *Act 1 Jas. I c.* 16 §1 Westerne Barges Milboates and all other Vessells ordinarilie serving for other uses then the carryinge of Passengers. 1607 DEKKER & WEBSTER *West-w. Hoe* ii. ii, The Lob has his Lasse, . . the Westerne-man his Pug, [etc.]. 1666 Western bargee [see BARGE]. a 1704 T. BROWN *Walk Lond. & Westm.* Wks. 1719 III. 324 A Western-Boat, stow'd with a Mixture of both Sexes. *Ibid.* 328 Others crowded into Boxes, like Passengers into a Western Wherry. *Ibid.* 329 He was a Western Bargeman.

e. in the specific names of animals or plants.

1784 PENNANT *Arctic Zool.* (1792) II. 289 Western Duck. *Anas Stelleri*, Pallas. 1824 STEPHENS in *Shaw Gen. Zool.* XII. ii. 206 Western Pochard. (*Fuligula dispar.*) 1848 GOULD *Birds Australia* I. Pl. 12 *Teracidea occidentalis*, Gould. Western Brown Hawk. 1876 F. G. WATERHOUSE in *Harcus S. Austral.* 288 Western gerygone. *Ibid.* 292 Western ground parakeet.

f. *Western Front*, the front in Belgium and northern France in the wars of 1914-18 and 1939-45.

[1914 *Parl. Deb. Written Answers (Commons)* 12 Nov. 167 The British casualties in the Western area of the war up to 31st October are, approximately, 57,000. 1914 M. HANKEY *Memo.* 28 Dec. in M. Gilbert *Winston S. Churchill* (1972) III. Compan. 1. 337 The remarkable deadlock which has occurred in the western theatre of war.] 1914 LLOYD GEORGE *Memo.* 31 Dec. in *Ibid.* 352 These objects cannot be accomplished by attacks on the Western Front. 1915 *Times* 7 Jan. 9/6 Lord Kitchener . . explained that the operations on the Western front have for some time resolved themselves into a state of siege warfare. 1915 A. BENNETT (*title*) Over there: war scenes on the Western Front. 1917 *Weekly Dispatch* 3 June 1/3. (*heading*) Mystery of the Western Front. 1939 *War Weekly* 3 Nov. 35/1 The incalculable factor on the Western Front is the mind of Hitler. 1983 P. A. CROWL *Intelligent Traveller's Guide Historic Britain* x. 502 What was lost were thirty-six Czech divisions delivered to Hitler free of charge at Munich plus a greatly improved German position on her western front.

g. *Western American*: = *general American* s.v. GENERAL a. 2 a.

1919 G. P. KRAFFT *Pronunc. of Standard Eng. in Amer.* 147 If your own speech is of the Eastern American type, transcribe a passage illustrating it into Western American speech. 1925 — *Eng. Lang. in Amer.* II. i. 30 The consonant *r* is more distinctly sounded in northern British and Western American. 1936 MENCKEN *Amer. Lang.* (ed. 4) vii. 358 The chief characters of Western, or General American and of New England and Southern American have been indicated. 1959 L. M. MYERS *Guide to Amer. Eng.* (ed. 2) ii. 30 Three major dialect areas have long been recognised in American English—New England, Western or General American, and Southern. Linguistic geographers now prefer the terms Northern, Midland, and Southern.

h. *Western European Union*, an association formed in 1955 from the former Western Union, with the addition of Italy and (West) Germany, in order to coordinate defence and promote cooperation in economic matters and (until 1960) in social and cultural ones; abbrev. W.E.U. s.v. W 3; *Western Union*, an association of West European nations (Belgium, France, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, and the United Kingdom) which was formed in 1948 for purposes of military and economic cooperation and became the Western European Union in 1955.

1948 E. BEVIN in *Hansard Commons* 22 Jan. 390 The European Recovery Programme brought all this to a head, and made us all face up to the problem of the future organisation. We did not press the Western Union . . in the hope that when we got the German and Austrian peace settlements, agreement between the Four Powers would close the breach between East and West. 1950 *Times* 22 Aug. 4/6 About 50 squadrons of fighters and bombers will take part in the first Western Union air defence exercise. 1954 *Times* 11 Nov. 8/7 Some of the preparations for bringing the Western European Union into existence have been made by a committee in London. 1973 B. COCKS *European Parliament* viii. 67 The Assembly of the international organisation known as Western European Union has a close relationship with the Council of Europe since its entire membership is composed of the Representatives from the seven WEU countries to the Consultative Assembly. 1974 P. GORE-BOOTH *With Great Truth & Respect* 351 Mr Brown has recounted the strategem he employed at a Ministerial Western Union meeting to ensure that the application was formally presented in a way that could not run into procedural objections. 1976 J. WHEELER-BENNETT *Friends, Enemies & Sovereigns* iv. 125 He . . expressed considerable concern as to what the effect would be of Germany's rearmament in accordance with her membership of the European Defence Community (or, as it turned out to be, the Western European Union).

4. a. Of or pertaining to the Western or European countries or races as distinguished from the Eastern or Oriental. In mod. use also *spec.* (a) applied to the countries of western Europe that opposed Germany in the wars of 1914-18 and 1939-45; (b) of, pertaining to, or designating the non-Communist states of Europe and America.

1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* iv. xvi, These westren rebels, with your power withstand, Plucke vp these weedes, before they ouergroe The gentle garden of the Hebrewes land. 1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 121 For such an other piece of ground . . is not to be found againe in all our western world. 1704 ATTERBURY *Serm.* (1726) I. 339 Those Conspiracies and Rebellions, with which they have . . disturb'd the Quiet of this Western World. 1771 C. BURNEY *Pres. St. Mus. France & Italy* (1773) 272 *note*, As yet there is no regular catalogue of the western MSS. in the Vatican library. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIII. 307/1 The little intercourse that subsisted between the inhabitants of India and the Western nations. 1847 MRS. A. KERR tr. *Ranke's Hist. Servia* 449 They who are desirous of ascertaining . . the reaction of Eastern on Western affairs, may examine the Egyptian question. 1883 T. WATTS in *19th Cent.* Mar. 413 The mystic type of all Eastern, and yet the mother of all Western, beauty.

(a) 1914 *Times* 23 Nov. 9/2 The appearance of Turkey as the ally of Germany and Austria against the Western Powers and Russia necessarily put an end to negotiations between Sofia and Constantinople. 1917 I. F. MARCOSSON *Rebirth of Russia* viii. 141 German imperialism, after having defeated our Western Allies, will turn against us the whole power of its arms. 1938 E. AMBLER *Cause for Alarm* viii. 132 The Nazis and the Fascisti . . agreed to present a united front to the Western powers. 1940 *Economist* 13 Jan. 51/2 The outbreak of open hostilities between the U.S.S.R. and the Western Powers. 1974 *Encycl. Brit. Macropædia* XIX. 958/1 The Russian Revolution of March . . 1917 dismayed the western Allies and delighted the Central Powers. *Ibid.* 1006/1 'The western Allies' 'Operation Overlord' . . took place on June 6, 1944.

(b) 1918 *Times* 4 June 5/2 The greatest question in the world to-day is whether Russia is to be abandoned, or whether she is to be saved; whether Western ideals are to prevail in the country whose potential power will be the balance in history. 1947 *Ann. Reg.* 1946 218 A pointed appeal to the Russian people to regard their two Western Allies [sc. Great Britain and the United States] as the only blot on the Soviet horizon. *Ibid.* 219 The need [of Russia] for an American loan and the consequent recognition of the desirability of making some concessions to the Western Powers. 1956 *B.B.C. Handbk.* 1957 60 The jamming . . of certain language transmissions of the BBC and other Western Bloc broadcasters. 1959 *Daily Tel.* 18 Dec. 1 Expectations of some progress in Western politics rose in Paris to-night on the eve of the 'Western Summit' meetings which will take place here this weekend. 1982 *Ann. Reg.* 1981 67 The fourth [proposal] called on the Soviet Union to accept Western plans for reducing the risks of surprise attack.

Comb. 1880 L. WALLACE *Ben-Hur* 6 After years of residence with the Bedawin, the Western-born . . will stop and wait the passing of the stately brute.

b. *Western Church*, the Latin as distinguished from the Greek or Eastern Church; also, one or other of the early Churches of Western Europe.

1628 BP. HALL *Old Relig.* viii. 72 The Westerne, or Romane Church. 1659 H. THORNDIKE *Wks.* (1846) II. 557 Those controversies about which a settled division is once formed, as now in the western Church. 1838 W. PALMER *Ch. Christ* I. 276 The Western churches . . were in communion . . with the great apostolical church of Rome. 1850 NEALE *Hist. Eastern Ch.* I. Introd. 9 The tendency of the Western Church . . has been to embroil herself with the kings and kingdoms of this world.

c. Of or belonging to, connected with, characteristic of, the Western Church.

1699 BURNET *39 Articles* xxi. (1700) 201 All the First General Councils were made up for most part of Eastern Bishops; there being a very inconsiderable Number of the Western among any of them. 1755 AMORY *Mem.* (1769) I. 83 *note*, The eastern christians, called in contempt Arians by the western tritheists. 1790 PRIESTLEY *Gen. Hist. Chr. Ch.* II. 311 The Western bishops in general and Liberius himself at their head, were the avowed advocates of the Nicene faith. 1850 NEALE *Hist. Eastern Ch.* I. 317 The whole body of Eastern and Western Liturgies may be divided into four branches. 1853 C. HARDWICK *Chr. Ch., Mid. Age* 263 Gregory VII., who seems to have expected that Crusades, while strengthening his throne, would tend to reunite the Eastern and the Western Christians. 1880 A. P. STANLEY in *Fraser's Mag.* May 600 The Roman Church . . remains the great trunk from which the other communions have been divided in Western Christendom.

d. *Western Empire*, the more westerly of the two parts into which the Roman Empire was divided in 395 A.D. So *Western emperor*, etc.

1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xxvii. (1787) III. 38 Maximus would have obtained, without a struggle, the sole possession of the western empire. 1790 PRIESTLEY *Gen. Hist. Chr. Ch.* II. 332 After the death of Constantine, the Western emperors were of the Nicene faith. 1840 MILMAN *Hist. Chr.* iii. i. II. 343 In the Western provinces, Gaul, Spain, and Britain . . the constitution of society was very different. 1865 BRYCE *Holy Rom. Emp.* 69 Odoacer . . did not abolish the Western Empire as a separate power.

e. *western man* (also with either one or two initial capitals): man as shaped by the culture and civilization of Western Europe and North America.

1909 CHESTERTON *Orthodoxy* i. 14 An active and imaginative life . . a life such as western man at any rate always seems to have desired. 1927 WYNDHAM LEWIS (*title*) *Time and western man.* 1962 E. CLEAVER in A. Dundes *Mother Wit* (1973) 10/2 The traditional judgments which Western Man has made . . are now . . the cause of very serious maladjustments in our society and . . the world at

large. 1970 C. C. O'BRIEN *Comus* 1. 27 The role often claimed for Camus, as an expression of the conscience of Western man. 1981 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 20 Mar. 321/2 Edward Bond's cloudy gropings towards a view of Western man.

5. a. With *States*: Constituting the more westerly of the United States of America: cf. WEST sb. 3 b.

1794 T. COOPER *Some Information respecting Amer.* 8 These parts... furnish yearly a very considerable number of emigrants to the middle and western states. 1829 EVERETT *Orot. & Sp.* (1850) I. 206 Allow me... to propose the following sentiment:—The Eastern and Western States. 1879 W. SAUNDERS *Through Light Cont.* 131 The conditions under which first-class stall-fed beef may be produced in the Western States.

b. Of or belonging to the Western States. *western equine encephalitis* or *encephalomyelitis*, a mosquito-borne viral encephalitis in the U.S., South America, and eastern Europe that affects chiefly horses but also people and is sometimes fatal, esp. to children; *western roll* (Athletics), a method of high-jumping in which the athlete jumps from the inside foot, swings up the other leg, and rolls across the bar on his side; *Western saddle* (see quot. 1946); *western sandwich* (N. Amer.), a sandwich in which the filling is an omelette containing onion and ham.

Freq. in the names of animals and plants resembling those of the Atlantic coast but whose habitat is west of the Mississippi.

1703 in *Moss. Hist. Soc. Coll.* (1838) 3rd Ser. VII. 61 Letters from Piscataqua come in the Western mail. 1784 G. WASHINGTON *Diary* 4 Oct. (1925) II. 326 The Western Settlers—from my own observation—stand as it were on a pivot. 1834 R. C. SANDS *Writings* II. 179 One of the favorite and most expressive words of Western invention. 1835 C. F. HOFFMAN *Winter in West* I. 284 Adding, in western phraseology, 'The way in which folks'll stare, squire, will be a caution'. 1845 P. B. ST. JOHN *Trapper's Bride* 69 The Eutaws reined in as the two hunters faced them with the deadly western rifle levelled in their direction. 1871 *Leisure Hour* 336/1 A quality of tobacco, the 'stemmed' variety commonly called in the trade 'Western Strips'. 1880 *Fraser's Mag.* June 747 The changing conditions in agriculture caused by Western competition. 1929 G. M. BUTLER *Mod. Athletics* viii. 108 (caption) The 'western roll'. 1933 *Proc. Soc. Exper. Biol. & Med.* XXXI. 217 (heading) A serological difference between Eastern and Western Equine Encephalomyelitis virus. 1946 M. C. SELF *Horseman's Encycl.* 346 The Western or cowboy saddle which is similar to that used... in all countries where men spend long hours in the saddle... is characterized by its deep seat, high cantle and pommel... The stirrups are set about midway and the cowboy rides with an almost straight leg. 1959 M. CALLAGHAN in R. Weaver *Conod. Short Stories* (1968) 2nd Ser. 8 He thought of having a western sandwich in the café across the road from the hotel. 1959 *Jrnl. Infectious Dis.* CV. 295 A similar situation may exist with respect to western equine encephalitis infection in swine. 1961 *Conod. Jrnl. Microbiol.* VII. 295 Western equine encephalitis has been a disease of public health importance in Saskatchewan since it was first recognized in 1935. 1964 *Western roll* [see SCISSORS sb. pl. 2 b]. 1964 M. McLUHAN *Understanding Media* (1967) xxxi. 341 The varied and rough textures of Western saddles, clothes, hides. 1973 D. HUGHES *Along Side Road* xx. 155 He stopped to have a western sandwich and a cup of tea. 1976 *Western Mail* (Cardiff) 27 Nov. (Advnt.), Just arrived from America: New selection of Western saddles. 1978 G. WRIGHT *Illustr. Handbk. Sporting Terms* 23/3 The western roll is rarely practised today, the favoured methods being the straddle and the flop. 1983 *Amer. Rev. Respiratory Dis.* CXXXVII. 132/3 We report here a patient with western equine encephalitis who developed hypoventilation. 1983 *Amer. Jrnl. Trop. Med. & Hygiene* XXXII. 1130 *Culex tarsalis* was a less competent vector of western equine encephalomyelitis (WEE) virus after 2–3 weeks' extrinsic incubation at 32°C than after incubation at 18° or 25°C.

c. *western hemlock*, a conifer, *Tsuga heterophylla*, native to the western coast of North America; also, its light brown timber; *western red cedar*, a large columnar conifer, *Thuja plicata*, native to western North America; also its reddish-brown timber; *western white pine*, a pine with grey-green needles, *Pinus monticola*, native to high ground in western North America; *western yellow pine* = PONDEROSA.

1869 *Amer. Notulist* III. 410 Western White Pine... I found scattered trees of this beautiful species on the highest parts of the Rocky Mountains. 1886 J. MACOUN *Cotol. Conod. Plants* 1. 461 [*uniperus*] *occidentalis*, Hook. Western Red Cedar... I place all our western 'red cedar' under this species. *Ibid.* 471 [*Tsugo*] *Mertensiana*, Carr. Western Hemlock... In the Selkirk Mountains it is a tall, beautiful tree, over 150 feet high. 1901 *World's Work* July 888/2 The wood of the western yellow pine... is used by them for mine timbers. 1905 *Bull. Bureau of Forestry* (U.S. Dept. Agric.) LXVI. 33 The rock pine, western red cedar... have, without doubt, come down from the Rocky Mountains. 1908 N. L. BRITTON *N. Amer. Trees* 67 Western Hemlock... grows in rich, moist soil. 1923 Western yellow pine [see *heavy-wooded pine* s.v. HEAVY o. 1 30]. 1957 *Handbk. of Softwoods* (Forest Products Res. Lab.) 22 Consignments of western hemlock frequently contain a percentage of fir. 1963 Western hemlock [see KAPUR]. 1969 Western red cedar [see RED CEDAR a]. 1977 *Weekly Times* (Melbourne) 19 Jan. 4/1 (Advnt.), The following is included in your kit: Council plans and specifications, flooring... glazed Western Red Cedar windows, [etc.]. 1978 W. H. HARLOW et al. *Textbk. Dendrology* (ed. 6) 66 Western white pine was first observed along the banks of the Columbia and Spokane Rivers in 1831.

d. (Also with capital initial.) Applied to the films and novels called 'westerns' (see sense B. 4 below). orig. U.S.

[1909 *Moving Picture World* 6 Nov. 638 The success of their Western series of last year was abundantly satisfying and added greatly to the reputation of the firm. *Ibid.*, Western subjects, in which the wild and woolly plays the leading part, have won immense popularity.] 1910 *Ibid.* 21 May 834/1 It is almost impossible to criticize these Wild Western films, because cowboys are likely to do almost anything. 1913 *Moving Picture Ann.* 1912 29 Many film makers still turn out great quantities of so-called Western and Indian pictures. 1931 *Ann. Reg.* 1930 49 Garry [sic] Cooper has revived the popularity of Western pictures. 1959 *News Chron.* 5 Aug. 6/4 Many Western novels are abominably written. 1967 M. ARGYLE *Psychol. Interpersonal Behaviour* 1. 28 An indirect form of aggression will occur, which may consist of... mere aggression in fantasy, such as watching western films or wrestling matches. 1974 *Encycl. Brit. Micropædion* X. 624/2 The western film can be dated from *The Great Train Robbery* (1905).

6. Directed towards the west; facing westward.

1589 HAKLUYT *Voy. To Rdr.* P. 7 Touching the western Navigations, and traualles of ours, they succede naturally in the thirde and last roome. 1706 LONDON & WISE *Retir'd Gard'ner* I. 21 Of the Western Aspect... The Western Exposition begins at half an Hour after Eleven, and continues 'till the Sun sets. 1713 ADDISON *Guard.* No. 107 P. 8 A ship at sea has no certain method, in either her eastern or western voyages... to know her Longitude. 1766 *Midnight Spy* vi. 52 The passengers on the western road must furnish him with his demands. 1784 *FILSON Kentucky* (1793) 13 Salt river... runs a western course near ninety miles. 1795 COWPER *Morolizer Corrected* 18 Distant a little mile he spied A western bank's still sunny side. 1819 KEATS *Eve of St. Mork* 6 And on the western window panes, The chilly sunset faintly told Of unmat'ur'd green vallies cold. 1886 *Lond. Society* Aug. 128 Hunstanton... is the only watering-place on the east coast of England with a western aspect.

7. fig. Of a person's life or days: Declining.

1615 TOMKIS *Albumazar* v. vi, Fye, that a gentleman... Crown'd with such reputation in your youth, Should in your Western dayes, loose th' good opinion Of all your friends. 1879 LONGF. in *Life* (1891) III. 299 We, who are on the western side of life, must forget ourselves a little, and see with their eyes, who are looking out at the eastern windows.

8. Hinder, posterior. Cf. WEST adv. 1 b (c).

1829 MARRYAT *F. Mildmay* xxiv, What have you done to the western side of your gown? 1840 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* Ser. III. ix, I'd a-kicked them till I kicked their western ends up to their shoulders.

9. Comb. (chiefly in sense 4 a), as *western-educated*, *-European*, *-style*, *-trained*, *-type* adjs.

1933 N. WALN *House of Exile* I. vi. 96 A Western educated woman doctor. 1974 M. FIDO *R. Kipling* 50/2 Kipling['s]... generation made 'Bengali' almost a synonym for 'western-educated Indian', and always used the word with a touch of contempt. 1949 M. MEAD *Male & Female* vi. 132 Almost any Balinese male placed in a series of western-European males would look 'feminine'. 1969 'E. LATHEN' *When in Greece* ii. 17 Greece... was an associate in the Common Market, which would bring every Western European banker into the picture. 1895 *Montgomery Word Cotel.* Spring & Summer 330/1 Three-Horn Western Style Side Saddle. 1953 *Archit. Rev.* CXIV. 255/2 Peking of course offers a complete contrast to such cities as Shanghai where large areas have been covered with western-style multi-storey buildings. 1977 P. JOHNSON *Enemies of Society* xi. 160 The abolition of western-style academic research, and the substitution of acupuncture for standard medical practice. 1962 E. SNOW *Other Side of River* (1963) xlii. 309 Since 1958 all Western-trained doctors have been required to devote at least six months to the study of Chinese medicine. 1958 *Times* 13 Aug. 12/4 In West Africa they hold to the traditional styles, though the more sophisticated often keep western-type frocks in their wardrobe.

B. sb.

1. A member of a Western race; a native or inhabitant of the West, as distinguished from an Oriental or Asiatic.

1708 OCKLEY *Hist. Sorocens* (1848) 337 The folly of the Westerns in despising the wisdom of the Eastern nations. 1863 *Smith's Dict. Bible* II. 295/2 (*Medicine*) He [Hippocrates] extols the discernment of Orientals above Westerns, and of Asiatics above Europeans, in medical diagnosis. 1882 J. NEIL *Polestine* 44 The former figure 'wings of the morning' to a Western is not a little obscure. 1884 *Athenæum* 12 Jan. 54/3 It may not be altogether superfluous to remind Westerns that Russia is now celebrating the three hundredth anniversary of her first printer, Ivan Fedorof. 1917 T. R. GLOVER *From Pericles to Philip* vii. 218 The employment of the camel in war strikes the Western oddly.

2. A member of the Western or Latin Church.

1860 W. BRIGHT *Hist. Ch.* 313–451, 50 Among the bishops who had received the sympathy of the Westerns was Paul of Constantinople. 1865 PUSEY *Truth Engrl. Ch.* 60 S. Basil... blamed the Westerns for their 'pride, haughtiness, precipitancy'. 1902 J. K. MANN *Hist. Popes* I. 1. 30 Despite the express declaration of Justinian... some of the Westerns persisted in maintaining [etc.].

3. U.S. An inhabitant or native of the Western States.

1846 G. WARBURTON *Hocheloga* II. 22 There were Southerners and Northerners, Downeasters, and Westerns. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commu.* III. lxx. II. 480 He was a raw rude Western, a man of the people.

4. (Also with capital initial.) A film or novel belonging to a distinct genre in which life in the American West in the nineteenth century is portrayed, usu. through idealized stock situations and characters, esp. cattlemen (cowboys) and gun-fights. Cf. sense A. 5 d above. orig. U.S.

1912 *Moving Picture World* 27 July 306 (Advnt.), 'The Fight at The Mill'... A powerful Western, distinctly unusual among typical 'Westerns' containing a beautiful story and a dashing Indian battle that will interest and instruct. 1915 [see SUPP.]. 1918 *Wells Fargo Messenger* VI. 178/1 What would the good old 'Western' be without the historic Wells Fargo stage coach and its treasure box? 1923 *Time* 11 June 15/1 Love stories are their first choice, comedies second, society life as known to the De Mille brothers third, and then come the Westerns. 1927 *Sat. Rev. Lit.* 15 Oct. 232 (Advnt.), The Gun-Slinger by George M. Johnson. A Western with the kick of a .45. 1930 *Publishers' Weekly* 8 Feb. 689 (Advnt.), Five sure-shot Westerns... Salesmen and booksellers everywhere report to us a keen and growing demand for this type of story. 1954 E. E. CUMMINGS *Let.* 9 Mar. (1969) 227 'William S. Hart' was a vastly popular... hero of our early Westerns: i.e. melodramatic movies featuring terrific battles between noble & wicked hardriding sharpshooting super cowboys. 1958 *Listener* 9 Jan. 60/1 Twenty-five per cent of the best television time is still given over to 'Westerns'. 1962 L. DEIGHTON *Ipcress File* xviii. 110 On the army table were a few books; German grammar... two paperback westerns. 1977 B. PYM *Quartet in Autumn* xviii. 171 Watching a Western on the other channel.

C. adv. *Equestrianism*. In the manner of a cowboy; in a relaxed style with a deep-seated saddle and almost straight legs.

1972 *Country Life* 5 Oct. 817/1 In a year Lady Sarah was so used to riding Western that she found it almost strange to revert to English for hunting. 1980 *Times* 28 June 13/7 Riding western is not like riding Badminton style.

†western, sb.² Obs. [Old Northumbrian *wæstern*, var. of OE. *wæsten*, *wésten*, f. the stem *wōst-: cf. WESTE a. The ending -ern for -en(n) also appears in *efern* EVEN sb., *fæstern* FASTEN sb. and **lencstern* LENTEN sb.] A desert, wilderness.

c.950 *Lindisf. Gosp. Matt.* iii. 1 In woestern iudeæ [in deserto iudæoe]. *Ibid.* Mark viii. 4 On woestern [in solitudine]. c.1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 129 Ich am his steuene þe remeð in pis westerne. *Ibid.*, For þi is pis westren forgrouwen mid brimles and mid fornes. c.1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xviii. (*Egipciane*) 1298 3arne he lukyt one ilke syd of þat westerne, brad & wyd.

†western, sb.³ Obs. Also 6 westorne. [Of obscure origin.] The sand-martin, *Cotile riparia*.

1556 WITHALS *Dict.* (1562) 5/2 A westorne or marten, whiche breedeth in water banks, *ripario*. 1589 *RIDER Bibl. Schol.* 1. 1702 Birds, A Marten, or westerne. *Ibid.* 1705 A westorne, vide marten. 1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 90 *Hirundo Riporia*... the Sand, or Bank Marten, or Western.

'western, v. [f. WESTERN a.] intr. Of the sun: To decline in the west. (Cf. WESTER v. 1.) Hence 'westerning ppl. a.

1851 PUGIN *Chancel Screens* 83 The warm tints of a westerning sun. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 28 Oct. 5/4 The sun was rapidly westerning.

†westernais, adv. Obs.⁻¹ [App. an alteration of OF. *bestorneis*.] Wrongfully, perversely.

13.. *E.E. Allit. P. A.* 307 3e setten hys wordez ful westernays þat louez no þynk [= thing] bot 3e hit sy3e.

westerner ('westənə(r)). [f. WESTERN a. + -ER.]

1. An inhabitant or native of the Western States of America.

1837 HT. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 21 'We are apt to think,' said a westerner to me, 'that... we are just as great and good.' 1872 HOWELLS *Wedd. Journ.* (1892) 196 Those expressions of surprise at the existence of civilisation in a westerner which westerners find it so hard to receive graciously. 1888 *Century Mag.* Feb. 502/2 Cowboys, like most Westerners, occasionally show remarkable versatility in their tastes and pursuits.

2. One belonging to a western race, as distinguished from an Oriental.

1880 W. JAMES in *Atlantic Monthly* Oct. 449/2 Not to fall back on the gods, where a proximate principle may be found, has with us Westerners long since become the sign of an efficient... intellect. 1910 *Times* 5 Mar. 6/1 The crowd crushing at the window at Peking clamouring for tickets... is a spectacle which affords constant amusement to the Westerner. 1919 RIBBANY *Syrian Christ* 146 Some Westerners have an exaggerated idea of Oriental generosity.

3. One who lives in, or is a native of, the west part of a country.

1905 *Daily News* 24 Apr. 2 The Westerners [Gloucester and Bristol ringers] hope to eclipse this performance with a peal containing 12,345 changes.

4. *Hist.* An advocate of or believer in the concentration of forces on the Western Front during the war of 1914–18.

1928 F. B. MAURICE *Rawlinson of Trent* p. xi, Upon the problems of the Great War, Rawlinson has naturally much light to throw. Who was right, the Easterner or the Westerner? 1931 W. S. CHURCHILL *World Crisis* VI. xix. 282 Falkenhayn was a convinced and inveterate 'Westerner'. 1960 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 20 May 318/3 Captain Falls is a firm 'Westerner' although he believes that the Dardanelles enterprise was 'a well-inspired venture'. 1977 G. H. CASSAR *Kitchener* xiv. 295 Kitchener's difficulties were exacerbated by the two prevailing schools of strategical thought, the Easterners and the Westerners.

5. a. *Hist.* A 19th-century Russian who adopted or advocated Western attitudes and behaviour.

1949 I. DEUTSCHER *Stalin* vi. 207 But Lenin remained a 'Westerner' in several senses. 1950 E. H. CARR *Bolshevik Revolution* I. i. 8 The westerners held that it was the destiny of Russia, as a backward country, to learn from the west.

b. One belonging to the non-Communist West.

1964 M. McLuhan *Understanding Media* (1967) xxi. 222 Are we to suppose that this kind of media illiteracy is characteristic only of Westerners, and that Russians know how to correct the bias of the medium? 1975 P. THEROUX *Great Railway Bazaar* xxx. 330, I was now the only Westerner on the train.

'westernism. [f. WESTERN *a.* + -ISM.]

1. An idiom or expression peculiar to the Western States of America.

1838 *Knickerbocker* XI. 447, I now recollect but few specimens of Jack's westernisms, and these I think were not his best. 1884 *Home Missionary* (N.Y.) Jan., A Westernism originating in Nebraska, I believe. 1885 *American* IX. 378 It will become better known if he keeps his strength, as an alleged Westernism has it. 1886 *Harper's Mag.* Oct. 773 'It hasn't—ah—panned out.' He involuntarily made a droll face as he uttered this Westernism.

2. Western characteristics, practices, etc., as distinguished from Eastern or Oriental.

1892 W. W. PEYTON *Memor. Jesus* 298 Our theology is too Eastern: we want our Westernism in it. 1907 *Daily Chron.* 20 Feb. 3/4 A great moral conflict between the teachings of two schools, the Slavophiles and Westernism.

westernize ('westənəɪz), *v.* [f. WESTERN *a.* + -IZE.] *a. trans.* To make western in character; esp. to make (an eastern country or race) more western in regard to its institutions, ideas, etc.

1842 *Tait's Mag.* IX. 617 She herself pleads to having become so Westernized, as no longer to be a competent painter of Western peculiarities. 1848 *Eerie Laird* 247 A remnant of it [sc. the palace], rather clumsily Westernized, is now the official habitation of the British resident at Delhi. 1888 *Sat. Rev.* 22 Sept. 340/1 Bulgaria is being... more and more Westernized.

b. *intr.* To become western in character. *rare.* 1903 L. F. WARD *Pure Sociol.* 33 Some of the nations of the East, notably Japan, are rapidly westernizing.

Hence 'westernized *ppl. a.*; 'westernizer, one who makes a country or culture more Western; 'westernizing *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*; also 'westernization.

1893 *Sketch* 1 Feb. 38/2 The westernizing of India is... shown in the most curious ways. 1900 *Speaker* 9 June 284/2 The Young Turkish or Westernizing party. 1903 FAIRBAIRN in *Camb. Mod. Hist.* II. xix. 701 He regarded Aristotle as a westernised Mohamadan rather than as a Greek. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 19 Feb. 3/3 The process that is generally called the Westernisation of Japan. 1935 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 2 May 287/2 French and English incursions... entered [Afghanistan] from the East, and... carried Dravidian ideas with them against that tide of Westernizers of whom Alexander was one of the earliest. 1958 *Listener* 27 Nov. 864/2 Arab Westernizers. 1964 *Economist* 13 June 1251/2 Ch'en Tu-hsiu was a westerniser. 1976 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 23 Apr. 490/3 The dispute between Slavophiles and Westernizers, originally a literary controversy, spawned a vast secondary literature, first in Russia and then in the wider world.

westernly ('westənli), *a.* Now *rare*. [f. WESTERN *a.* + -LY¹. Cf. WESTERLY *a.*]

1. Situated in or towards the west.

1622 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.*, *Descr. Univ. Maps* (ed. 6) 790 The Westernly [1597 Westerly] 18 Meridians. 1657 J. WATTS *Scribe* etc. *Dipper Sprinkled* 50 Our Westernly Northern Climate is colder much than those Easternly Southern.

2. Directed towards the west; extending westwards.

c 1595 CAPT. WYATT *Dudley's Voy.* (Hakl. Soc.) 52 Wee... after altered that course and bear for the coste of Florida, a more westernlie course. 1643 G. WILDE *Serm. bef. Ho. Comm.* 3 Mar. 27 To look East upon the Rising Laity, and to reflect a Westernly Glance upon the declining Clergy. 1848 B. WEBB *Cont. Ecclesiol.* 482 Thus nineteen [churches] have an easternly orientation:—and exactly nineteen also have a westernly direction. 1897 *Daily News* 21 May 5/5 The road... next turns in a westernly direction.

'westernly, *adv.* [f. WESTERN *a.* + -LY².]

†1. Towards the west. *Obs.*

1590 GREENE *Never too late* (1600) B 3 b, France... beeing westernly seated neere great Brittain. 1691 RAY *Creation* 136 Why the same Eclipse... should be seen to them that live one degree more Westernly.

2. In a Western manner.

1588 [see KENTISHLY *adv.*]. 1976 M. H. KINGSTON *Woman Warrior* (1977) 59 The one [Chinese] faculty member in the western suit smiles westernly. 1982 C. THOMAS *Jade Tiger* iii. 59 A stylised, dignified, almost Westernly-handsome Chinese. 1983 *Christian Science Monitor* 15 Feb. 12/1 Dressing more stylishly—and often, more Westernly—is a preoccupation... Young Russians pass quick and critical judgement on the clothes of their peers.

'westernmost, *a.* [f. WESTERN *a.* + -MOST. Cf. WESTERMOST.] Farthest towards the west; most westerly.

1703 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3937/3 The Westernmost Rocks of the Minques. 1778 FORSTER *Observ. Voy. World* 197 There is a small species of scorpion in the tropical isles of the South-Sea, but more common to the Westernmost than the Society Isles. 1846 G. WARBURTON *Hochelaga* II. 191 Not more than four thousand square miles of all this westernmost country is capable of cultivation. 1884 HELEN JACKSON *Ramona* ii. The two westernmost rooms had been added on. 1892 J. L. ALLEN *Blue-Grass Region* etc. (1900) 259 Pine Mountain, the westernmost ridge of the Alleghany system.

westernness ('westənɪs). Also with capital initial. [f. WESTERN *a.* + -NESS.] The quality of belonging to a Western country or culture, or having Western attitudes and ideas.

1953 *Essays in Crit.* III. 132 We become aware... in the work of Conrad of the co-existence of two 'moralities': that derived from a simple tradition of 'Westernness'... and that derived from an awareness of the force... of 'égoïsme' in a decaying order. 1977 P. LASLETT *Family Life & Illicit Love in Earlier Generations* i. 13 Westernness or any other cultural attribute.

westerveldite ('westəvɛldɪt). *Min.* [f. the name of Jan Westerveld (1905–62), Dutch geologist + -ITE¹.] An orthorhombic arsenide of iron or iron and nickel (see quot. 1972).

1972 I. S. OEN et al. in *Amer. Mineralogist* LVII. 354 A Co-bearing nickel-rich iron monoarsenide corresponding in composition and structure to a Ni-rich member of the orthorhombic FeAs-(Fe,Ni)As solid solution series of synthetic alloys occurs in chromite-nicolite ores from La Gallega, Spain. The name westerveldite is proposed for minerals in this solid solution series. 1977 *Neues Jahrb. f. Mineral. Abhandlungen* CXXX. 209 Recently westerveldite with the ideal composition FeAs was found at four localities within the Ilmaussaq alkaline intrusion in South Greenland.

westfalite ('westfəlaɪt). Also -falit, -phalite. [ad. G. *Westfalit*, f. *Westfalisch* (Westphalian), in the name of the original manufacturing company.] An explosive compound, used in three varieties, of which the principal ingredient was ammonium nitrate.

1896 *Glasgow Herald* 29 Feb. 7/7 The high explosives, ammonite... securite, and westfalit. 1896 *Daily News* 5 Dec. 7/4 The manufacture of the high explosive known as Westphalite. 1906 SANFORD *Nitro-Explosives* (ed. 2) 294 West Falite No. 1. West Falite No. 2. 1909 GUTTMANN *Manuf. Explosives* 52 Saxonite... Bobbinite... Westfalite.

†west-half. *Obs.* [OE. *westhealf*; see WEST *adv.* and HALF *sb.*] The western side, the west.

c 893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* i. i. §8 On westhealfe [is] se sæ þe mon hætt Propoditis. a 1122 O E. *Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1016 [Hic] drogon heora scipa on west healfe þære brycge. c 1205 LAY. 29287 An æst halue, an west halue, wa was Brutten pere. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 20993 On þe west half o þat cite Bird o cristen men was be. 13... K. *Alis.* 6334 (Laud MS.) A Folk per woneþ in þe west half þat etep noþer Cow ne chalf. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* xvi. 550 Quhill thai, besyde Euerkethyne, On vest half, toward Dunfermyne, Tuk land.

West Highland. Used *attrib.* and *absol.* to designate animals associated with the West Highlands of Scotland, as (a) a breed of cattle also called kyloes (see KYLOE); (b) a kind of terrier (see POLTALLOCH).

1875 *Encycl. Brit.* I. 389/1 The Kyloes or West Highland cattle are the most prominent of this group [sc. mountain breeds]. 1906 *Our Dogs* 15 Sept. 548/1 White West Highland Terriers.—Here truly may be written there is ample room for improvement. 1910 'SAKI' *Reginald in Russia* 28 A lady... was expressing to me... her interest in West Highland terriers. 1950 [see POLTALLOCH]. 1953 A. FRASER *Beef Cattle Husbandry* ix. 122 This breed, sometimes called the 'West Highland' or 'Kyloe', is descended from the native breed of the Scottish highlands. 1968 P. DICKINSON *Skin Deep* ix. 174 She's a nice lass, Roedean, breeds West Highlands down at Sonning. 1976 *Daily Record* (Glasgow) 4 Dec. 25/3 (Adv.), West Highland pups... suitable for Christmas. 1978 *Country Life* 24 Aug. 489/3 The White West Highland was let out of the front door.

So West Highlander, a kyloe.

1832 *Chambers's Edin. Jnl.* I. 70/2 On many farms I observed a variety... resembling the heavy class of our West Highlanders. 1882 [see KYLOE]. 1979 *Country Life* 22 Nov. 1950/1 No breed of cattle more perfectly graces its native habitat than the West Highlander.

westie ('westi). Also westy. [f. WEST *a.* + -IE, -Y⁶.] A West Highland white terrier.

1959 *Observer* 1 Feb. 12 The 'Westie' is one of the few terriers to maintain its position. 1978 *Country Life* 24 Aug. 489/3 The Westy returned and sat down. 1979 *Daily Mail* 26 Oct. 25/4 Mr Definitely-Disgusting... [is] particularly partial to 'Westies' as he calls West Highlands.

westinary, error for WESTMONY (q.v.).

West 'India. Now only *attrib.* Also 7 *pl.* India's. [WEST *a.* Cf. EAST INDIA.]

†1. = WEST INDIES. Also *pl.* *Obs.*

1555 EDEN (title) *The Decades of the newe worlde or west India.* 1578 T. NICHOLAS (title) *The Pleasant Historie of the Conquest of the West India, now called new Spayne.* 1598 *Cures of Diseased C.* A great Fruit that grows in the West India, called *Pina*. 1648 GAGE (title) *The English-American his Travail by Sea and Land: or, A new Survey of the West India's.*

2. *attrib.* (sometimes hyphenated.) Of or pertaining to, connected with, the West Indies. *West India Islands*, the islands lying between North and South America.

1656 WHITELOCKE *Mem.* (1853) IV. 281 An account of the engagement with the West India Spanish fleet. 1709 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4522/3 Three other of the West-India Ships were also taken. 1731 ARBUTHNOT *Aliments* (1735) 177 The West-India dry Grips are perhaps occasion'd by the too great Quantities of Acids. 1757 [BURKE] *Europ. Settlemt. Amer.* vii. xxviii. II. 273 All sorts of lumber for the West-India trade. 1774 E. LONG *Jamaica* III. 806 West India Tea—*Capraria, erecta ramosa* &c. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) I. 644/1 In Jamaica and others of the West India islands. 1818

Mathews's Bristol Directory 28 West India Brokers. *Ibid.* 41 West India Merchants. 1847 C. BRONTE *Jane Eyre* xxvii, The thin partitions of the West-India house.

West-Indiaman. [f. prec. 2.] A vessel engaged in the West India trade.

1689 *Treas. P.* III. 196 (P.R.O.) The French Fleet has taken 5 dutch West Indiamen that came from Cuiresoe. 1769 *Ann. Reg.* 161 The steward of a West-Indiaman. 1794 *Plan London-Dock* 11 Whether the London-Dock... cannot be of extensive usefulness to West Indiamen...? 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxvii, A voluminous silk handkerchief, like the main-sail of one of his own West-Indiamen. 1861 BROUGHAM *Brit. Const.* xx. 393 Compare the numbers of men in a West Indiaman and in a Baltic or Hamburgh trader.

West 'Indian, sb. and a. Also 9 (*vulgar*) -injine; 20— (as one word) Westindian. [f. WEST INDIA.]

1. *sb.* †*a. pl.* The original inhabitants of the West Indies. *Obs.*

1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witcher.* III. xv. 50 The West Indians doo the like. 1597 J. KING *Jonas* (1618) 177 Those [cruelties] that were practiced by the Spanish nation vpon the west Indians. 1618 W. LAWSON *New Orch. & Gard.* xii. (1623) 41 Also I read in the History of the West-Indians, out of Peter-Martyr, That [etc.]. 1658 PHILLIPS, *Weroance*, a name given to any great Lord, among the West-Indians.

b. An inhabitant or native of the West Indies, of European origin or descent.

1661 E. HICKERINGILL *Jamaica* 100 The Major part of the Inhabitants being old West-Indians. 1757 [BURKE] *Europ. Settlemt. Amer.* vi. x. II. 112 In the foregoing manner the West-Indian would state some part of what he conceives to be his grievances. 1764 FOOTE *Patron* I. (1781) 11 This is one of Lofty's companions, a West-Indian of an over-grown fortune. 1771 CUMBERLAND (title) *The West Indian.* 1817 JANE AUSTEN *Sanditon* (1925) 78 And I have heard that's very much the case with your West-injines. 1873 B. HARTE *Fiddletown*, etc. 97 Yet here sat that young West Indian... Alexander Hamilton. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Deronda* I. iii. She had no notion how her maternal grandfather got the fortune inherited by his two daughters; but he had been a West Indian—which seemed to exclude further question.

c. A person of West Indian ancestry.

1928 *Times* 25 June 5/1 The out-cricked of the West Indians on Saturday indicates that the compliment, which has been paid to them, has not been prematurely offered. 1957 *Times* 18 Feb. 4/7 Statistics show that more than 26,000 West Indians migrated to Britain during 1956. 1961 *Ann. Reg.* 1960 122 In his message to West Indians on Christmas Day the Prime Minister of the Federation, Sir Grantly Adams, spoke of West Indian unity. 1971 *Observer* 21 Feb. 5/1 The Scots West Indian... Born in Edinburgh, he has Jamaican blood from his father's side. 1973 *Montserrat Mirror* 23 Mar. 5/2 Trinidad is the home of calypso but this form of music belongs to all Westindians. 1981 *Westindian World* 31 July 2/3 My findings demolished a myth about Westindians.

2. *adj.* a. Of or pertaining to, situated in, connected with, the West Indies.

1611 COTGR., s.v. *Araroye*, A round... ornament of feathers, worn by the West-Indian Savages at their backs. 1647 N. WARD *Simple Cobler* 4 The Sub-planters of a West-Indian Island. 1667 EARL ORRERY *St. Leit.* (1742) 239 The West-Indian fleet consists of an hundred and thirty five sail. 1681 GREW *Museum* I. §iv. iv. 80 A Great Nest of an other West-Indian Bird. a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Rum*,... a West-Indian Drink stronger than Brandy. 1754 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Bentley* 3 Nov., The West Indian war has thrown me into a new study. 1821 T. DWIGHT *Trav.* II. 458 Horses they sell at New-Haven and Hartford for the West-Indian market. 1835 MOODIE *Ten Yrs. S. Afr.* I. 20 Some cold rum-punch... made... in the West Indian fashion. 1885 TENNYSON *Wreck* iii. 6 A rich West-Indian isle.

b. in specific names.

1781 LATHAM *Synopsis Birds* I. i. 287 West Indian Green Parrot. 1804 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* V. 108 West Indian Pike. 1815 BURROW *Elem. Conchol.* 200 *Voluta Musica*, West Indian Music Shell. 1864 GRISEBACH *Flora W. Ind. Isl.* 788 West-Indian-bark, *Exostemma caribæum*.

Hence West Indianness, West Indian quality or character.

1953 *Caribbean Q.* III. III. 181 We are... still trying to discover what... makes us characteristically West Indian, or if you like, what is the essence of our West Indianness. 1972 RAMCHAND & GRAY *West Indian Poetry* 89 The West Indian poet's confidence about his West Indian-ness.

West Indie, obs. var. WEST INDY.

West 'Indies. [WEST *a.* See INDIES and cf. EAST INDIES.] †*a.* The parts of America first discovered by Columbus and other early navigators. *Obs.* b. The West India Islands.

1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 208 Suche thynges as I haue seene in yowre Empyre of the West Indies. 1577 EDEN & WILLES (title) *The History of Trauayle in the West and East Indies.* 1594 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.*, *Descr. Univ. Maps* (1597) 368 b, America, which we now call the West Indies. 1625 BACON *Ess.*, *Viciss. Things* ¶1 The great Burnings by Lightnings, which are often in the West Indies. 1647 COWLEY *Mistr.*, *Leaving Me* 15 Mine too her rich West-Indies were below, Where Mines of Gold and endless treasures grow. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacra* III. iv. §4 All those strange species of animals seen in the West-Indies. 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Melo*, Those Melons which are produc'd in the West-Indies are generally very large. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vicar* xx, He was heir to a fortune... left him by an uncle in the West Indies. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxvii, Providing the infant negroes in the West Indies with flannel waistcoats.

Comb. 1616 CAPT. J. SMITH *Descr. New Eng. Wks.* (Arb.) 225 The next was a West Indies man, of 160 tuns. [Cf. next and WEST INDIAMAN.]

West Indy, -ie, obs. or vulgar var. **WEST INDIA**. *West Indy man* = **WEST INDIAMAN**.

1616 CAPT. J. SMITH *Descr. New Eng. Wks.* (Arb.) 225 Within two days after, we were hailed by two West Indy men. *Ibid.* 226 Under the colour to take Pirates and West Indie men. **1642** HOWELL *For. Trav.* (Arb.) 45 Her West Indy Fleet... is subject to casualties of Sea. **1650** E. WILLIAMS *Virgo Triumphans* 42 The West Indie Potatoe. **1817** JANE AUSTEN *Sanditon* (1925) 77 A West Indy Family and a school. That sounds well.

westing ('westɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. **WEST** *adv.* or *v.*]

1. *Naut.* The net distance made by a vessel towards the west. (Cf. **EASTING** *sb.* 1.)

1628 DIGBY *Voy. Mediterr.* (Camden) 91 But for easting and westing, great diligence is required not to fall into error. **1669** STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* iv. xvii. 202 In the eighth, ninth, tenth, and eleventh Columns, set down the Northing, Southing, Easting, and Westing. **1690** LEYBOURN *Curs. Math.* 641 The Lesser Easting or Westing, subtracted from the Greater, shall give you the Departure. **1726** SHELVOCKE *Voy. round World* 384 The Westing we should gain in going to California would make amends for what we should lose. **1777** G. FORSTER *Voy. round World* II. 579 After leaving Ascension we made a good deal of westing. **1820** SCORESBY *Arctic Reg.* II. 369 A decrease of the variation of the compass, tends to give them more westing than they calculate upon. **1839** MARRYAT *Phantom Ship* ix, Their easting and westing could only be computed by dead reckoning. **1858** *Merc. Marine Mag.* V. 257 Furthest westing N. of Equator 26½° W.

2. Direction or course towards the west.

1825 SCOTT 29 June in *Fam. Lett.* (1894) II. 280 How sets the vane...? Due north I hope, with a westing towards Abbotsford. **1857** LIVINGSTONE *Trav.* xviii. 330 The westing we were making brought us among people who are frequently visited by the Mambari, as slave-dealers. **1872** — *Let. to N. Y. Herald* (Feb.) in *Daily News* 29 July 5/6, I... at last found that the mighty river left its westing and flowed right away to the north.

b. *Astron.* Attainment of the western limit of the apparent course.

1883 PROCTOR *Gt. Pyramid* iii. 139 The easting, southing, westing, and northing of heavenly bodies.

3. Of winds: The fact of blowing from, or shifting to, the west.

1860 MAURY *Phys. Geog. Sea* (Low) iv. 79 Hitherto winds with westing in them have been most prevalent. *Ibid.* v. 127 The forces of diurnal rotation assist to give these winds their westing. **1883** *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 144/1 The westing of these great aerial currents is due to... the rotation of the earth round its axis.

'**westing**, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec.] Tending towards the west.

1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* iv. ii. 147 In the like manner you must do if your Course were North or Westing. **1836** Scott. *Monthly Mag.* July 207 The westing sun's beam Cast gold on the grass. **1880** MRS. WHITNEY *Odd or Even?* xxvi, A shade against the westing sun.

Westinghouse ('westɪŋhəʊs). The name of George Westinghouse (1846–1914), U.S. inventor and manufacturer, used *attrib.* and *absol.* to designate a kind of air brake he invented in 1868 for use on railway trains, operated by compressed air on a fail-safe principle.

a **1877** KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* I. 356/1 The Westinghouse Atmospheric Brake... was patented in 1869, and has been adopted on many railway lines in the United States and Europe. **1886** *Encycl. Brit.* XX. 248/2 The Westinghouse brake was greatly in advance of previously existing systems. **1933** *Times Lit. Suppl.* 2 Nov. 738/3 Many will regret the gradual abandonment of the Westinghouse brake on steam-hauled trains. **1949** D. M. DAVIN *Roads from Home* i. v. 75, I jammed on the Westinghouse, saying to myself I'd look a fine bloody fool if I'd stopped the train for nothing. **1967** G. F. FIENNES *I tried to run a Railway* iv. 40 Only the Stratford District had kept the Westinghouse brake.

Hence **Westing'housian** *a. (fig. nonce-use)*.

1948 V. NABOKOV in *New Yorker* 31 July 20/1 The train stopped with a long-drawn Westinghousian sigh.

'**westland**. Chiefly *Sc.* Also *Sc.* 6 *vestland*, 6, 9 *wastland*, 8 *westlan*'. (Cf. **WESTLIN** *a.*) [f. **WEST** *a.* (or OE. *west-*) + **LAND** *sb.* 1']

1. The western part of a country; *esp.* the West of Scotland.

1489 Acc. *Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 107 To pass with letteres of the Kingis for the Lordis of the Westlande. a **1578** LINDESAY (Pittscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 291 He passit... to the toune of Air and to the pairtris of the wastland. **1818** SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xxxv, He uses maist partly the west-land of Scotland. **1894** K. HEWAT *Little Scot. World* v. 58 It was understood Montrose would make a descent on the Westland.

2. *attrib. a.* Of persons: Living in, coming from, the West of Scotland.

c **1470** HENRY Wallace vii. 776 A hundyr fyrst till him self he has tayne, Off westland men. *Ibid.* x. 308. **1522** Q. MARGARET in *MS. Cott. Calig. B.* vi. fol. 270b, On the on syde, the vestland lordys and my lord of Angus vas forth. a **1578** LINDESAY (Pittscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 205 All the rest of the norland men and wastland men mett the King at Stirling. **1651** SIR A. JOHNSTON (Ld. Wariston) *Diary* (S.H.S.) II. 74 The vyle band which seven Westland gentlemen had subscribed. **1818** SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* xxiv, When he raised his militia... against the wrang-headed wastland whigs. **1827** — *Two Drovers* i, The strong west-landman laughed aloud. **1828–43** TYTLER *Hist. Scot.* (1864) II. 239 On the rear division were the westland and Stirlingshire men.

b. Of places: Situated in the west.

1523 Q. MARGARET in *MS. Cott. Calig. B.* vi. fol. 440 The erl of Huntlay hath all the ruil of the north partys, the erl of

Lenoss all the vestland part. **1650** J. NICOLL *Diary* (Bannatyne Club) 30 Ane Associatioun concludit and drawn up among the Westland schyres. c **1670** in *Jrnl. Friends Hist. Soc.* XXI. 69 Throughout the Westland presbyteries belonging to that synod [sc. Glasgow]. **1834** Tait's *Mag.* I. 608/1 Had she not given... reason to believe she thought them the greatest people on Westland ground. **1875** MORRIS *Aeneids* viii. 148 All the Westland earth beneath their yoke shall lie.

c. Proceeding from the west; blowing from the west, westerly.

1650 SIR A. JOHNSTON (Ld. Wariston) *Diary* (S.H.S.) II. 30 They censured the Westland Remonstrance mor nor Northland Band. **1847** EMERSON *Poems, Monadnoc* 136 Smoking in a squalid room Where yet the westland breezes come.

Hence 'westlander; -landways *adv.*

a **1676** H. GUTHRIE *Mem.* (1702) 238 The West-Landers advanced towards Edinburgh. *Ibid.* 240 The Westlanders... were all poor ignorant Creatures, taken from their Husbandry. **1814** SCOTT *Wav.* xxxvi, A few shots were exchanged betwixt them and the Westlanders. **1820** — *Monast.* xxxv, Instead of that comes near that he has gone west-landways about some tuilzie in Ayrshire.

'**westlin**, *a. Sc.* Also 8 -len. [var. of *westlan* 'WESTLAND 2.] Western; westerly.

17... *Patie & Peggy* Chorus in *Ramsay Tea-t. Misc.*, Sun, gallop down the westlin skies. **1721** RAMSAY *Keitha* 27 Ye westlin Winds that gently us'd to play On her white Breast. **1728** — *To Starrat* 6 Welcome, as Westlen Winds, or Berries ripe. **1785** BURNS *Ep. to Davie* 6 To... spin a verse or twa o' rhyme, In hamely, westlin' jingle. **1813** HOGG *Queen's Wake, Kilmeny* ii, When the fringe was red on the westlin hill. **1830** GALT *Laurie T.* i. ii, The goodwill of the westlin winds. **1898** J. LUMSDEN *Edin. Poems & Songs* (1899) 168 A-doun the Westlin welkin.

'**westlins**, *adv. Sc. rare*—1. [f. **WEST** + -lins -LING².] Westwards.

1718 RAMSAY *Christ's Kirk Gr.* III. i, Frae East Nook of Fife the Daw'n Speel'd Westlines up the Lift.

† **west-looker**. *Obs.*—1 [f. **WEST** *adv.*] A name for the hare.

a **1300** *MS. Digby* 86 fol. 168b, þe westlokere... þe sidlokere and eke þe roulekere [read -lokere].

† **westly**, *adv. Obs.*—0 [f. **WEST** *adv.* Cf. **MLG.** *westelik*, *G. westlich*, *Da.* and *Sw. vestlig*.] Towards the west.

c **1440** *Prompt. Parv.* 523/1 Westward, or westly, occidentaliter.

westm, var. **WASTUM** *Obs.*

Westmark ('westmɑ:k, || 'vestmark). Also **west-mark**, **west mark**. [Ger., f. *west* **WEST** *sb.* 1 + *mark* **MARK** *sb.* 2 2c.] The currency unit of West (formerly western) Germany, as distinguished from the **OSTMARK** of East Germany.

1948 *Times* 2 Sept. 4/6 In view of the report that the east-mark is going to be recognized Berliners have been getting rid of the west-mark. **1959** [see **OSTMARK**]. **1964** L. DEIGHTON *Funeral in Berlin* v. 31 'How much money are you carrying?' I spread the few Westmarks and English pounds on the desk. **1980** A. SCHOLEFIELD *Berlin Blind* iii. 129, I have postcards in the bus which you may buy with Westmarks. **1980** *Times Lit. Suppl.* 31 Oct. 1230/3 In Germany... the Bundesrepublik offers 10,000 west-marks as the Thomas Mann prize, and the DDR 18,000 east-marks for the Heinrich Mann.

westment, obs. form of **VESTMENT**.

'**Westminster**.

1. a. The name of the abbey on the north bank of the Thames at London, used *attrib.*, *esp.* with reference to Westminster Hall as a court of justice, to the assembly of divines held in 1643, or to St. Peter's School.

1549 LATIMER *1st Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 28 Thus thys bargayne became a westminster matter; the lawyers gotte twyse the value of the horse. a **1614** TIMME *Silver Watchbell* vii. (1634) 140 If his neighbor do damne him but the value of two pence, he will prouide a consuerue of Westminster-hal wormewood for him out of hand. **1671** (title) Westminster Drillery. Or a choice Collection of the Newest Songs & Poems. **1691** *Hist. Rel. Late Presbyt. Gen. Assembly* 12 The Minister of Abbots-Hall was accused for neglecting the Catechism of the Westminster Divines. **1693** Acc. *Establ. Presbyt. Govt. Scot.* 43 Such a vast number of Propositions as are contained in the Westminster Confession. **1698** *Concubinage Disprov'd* 5 It does not appear by anything our Author says, that his Marriage with Mary Tomkins was any other than *Congressus Furtivus*, a Westminster Wedding. a **1700** B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, Westminster-Wedding, a Whore and a Rogue Married together. **1719** *Collect. Conf. Faith Ch. Scot.* I. Pref. p. xi, Every body knows in what unhappy distracted Times, the Westminster Assembly met and compos'd that Confession of Faith. **1720** Pref. to *Addit. Westminster Confession* 182 Other catechisms, which... are for no other valuable quality any ways comparable to the Westminster Catechisms. **1747** MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* ix. 79 A Westminster-Fool. Take a Penny-loaf, cut it into thin Slices, wet them with Sack... take a Quart of Cream, beat up six Eggs... [etc.]. **1837** DICKENS *Pickwick* xxxv, The waiters, from their costume, might be mistaken for Westminster boys. **1843** HETHERINGTON (title) History of the Westminster Assembly of Divines. **1856** SARA T. L. ROBINSON *Kansas* (ed. 3) 38 The old Westminster catechism allows works of necessity and mercy to be done on the Sabbath day. **1880** GOLDW. SMITH *Cowper* i. 13 The Nonsense Club, consisting of seven Westminster men who dined together every Thursday.

b. *ellipt.* A present or former pupil at Westminster School.

1690–1 SMALDRIDGE in *Epist. Corr. Atterbury* (1783) I. 17, I suppose you expect to do little good but upon the Westminsterers. **1880** GOLDW. SMITH *Cowper* i. 13 The set was strictly confined to Westminsterers. Gray and Mason, being Etonians, were objects of its literary hostility. **1895** *Spectator* 23 Nov. 729 The Busby Trust, managed by thirteen trustees, who must be old Westminsterers.

2. a. The Palace of Westminster; hence, Parliament, of which the Palace is the seat. *Freq. attrib.*

The present Palace of Westminster (built 1840–67) is more commonly known as the Houses of Parliament.

1807 *Morning Chron.* 13 Apr. 3/2 The Westminster Company of Independent Performers being lately dissolved. **1869** TROLLOPE *Phineas Finn* II. lxxiv. 306 The girl whom he loved... better even than Westminster and Downing Street. **1918** G. FRANKAU *One of Them* xvii. 127 What art thou, Westminster? A caucused lobby? An oratorical-acrobatic stadium...? Or art indeed the Common Weal's palladium? **1961** S. A. DE SMITH in *Jrnl. Commonwealth Political Stud.* I. 3 In its narrow sense the Westminster Model can be said to mean a constitutional system in which the head of state is not the effective head of government; [etc.]. **1972** *Guardian* 11 July 13/8 It is sometimes suggested that what de Gaulle did for France in Algeria, Westminster should do for Britain in Ulster. **1977** *Time* 27 June 20/1 One of the most frequently heard catch phrases has to do with moving away from the 'Westminster system' of parliamentary representation toward some form of presidential or federal system.

b. *Westminster chimes* or *quarters*: the pattern of chimes struck at successive quarters by Big Ben in the Palace of Westminster, and used for other clocks and (more recently) door chimes; it uses four bells struck in five different four-note sequences, each of which occurs twice in the course of an hour.

1860 E. B. DENISON *Rudimentary Treat. Clocks* (ed. 4) p. vii, Cambridge and Westminster chimes. *Ibid.* 191 A very grand G hour bell to the BAGD bells of the peel, on which the Cambridge and Westminster quarters might then be struck. **1923** W. I. MILHAM *Time & Timekeepers* xvii. 298 To make and place a clock... striking the hours and Westminster quarters on five bells. **1924** *Eng. Clocks & Watches* (Horol. Jrnl.) 42 The clock can be fitted with Whittington and Westminster Chimes. **1962** V. NABOKOV *Pale Fire* 43 Four hundred thousand times The tall clock with the hoarse Westminster chimes Has marked our common hour. **1967** 'R. SIMONS' *Taxed to Death* iv. 63 When Wace pressed the bell-button they heard Westminster chimes ringing in the hall. **1980** *New Grove Dict. Mus.* IV. 244/2 The best known of all clock chimes, the Westminster Quarters... was derived from a quatrain in Handel's *Messiah*. In 1794 William Crotch wrote four variations on the fifth and sixth bars of 'I know that my Redeemer liveth'... for the new Cambridge University clock in Great St Mary's Church. They were accepted, and in 1845 were copied on the Royal Exchange clock, London. **1981** *Country Life* 12 Feb. 362 (Advt.), A superb clock... the three chimes, Westminster, Whittington and Winchester, obtainable at will.

Hence 'Westminsterism, the principles characteristic of the Westminster Assembly of 1643.

1884 CALDERWOOD in *U.P. Mag.* July 366 Several things had occasioned opposition to the admission of the Cumberland Church, such as these:—its deliberate alteration of the Westminster Confession, its avowed antagonism to what was often named 'Westminsterism'.

Westmona'sterian. *rare*—1. [f. *Westmonasterium*, Latinized f. **WESTMINSTER**.] One educated at Westminster School.

a **1695** WOOD *Life* (O.H.S.) I. 274 Richard Rhodes... a confident Westmonasterian.

† '**Westmony**. *Obs.* [ad. Icel. *Vestmannaeyjar* (Da. *Vestmnaer*).] A group of islands off the south coast of Iceland. In quot. *attrib.*

Erroneously printed *Westinary* in Binnell *Descr. Thames* (1758) 260.

1663 Act 15 *Chas. II*, c. 7 § 13 For the Encouragement of the Herring & North-Sea, Island [= Iceland], & Westmony Fisheries.

'**westmost**, *a.* Forms: 1 *westmæst*, 1, 6 *Sc.*, *westmest* (1 *weste-*), 6 *Sc.* -*mast*, 6–7 *Sc.* -*maist*; 3, 6– *westmost* (9 *Sc.* *wastmost*). [f. **WEST** *adv.* + -*MOST*.] Most westerly; westernmost.

825 in *Birch Cartul. Sax.* I. 542 Ærest of þam west mæstan æwylle... upp to þam ealdan hereþaþe. c **893** ÆLFRED *Oros.* vi. i, Romana [onweald]... is mæst & westmest. *Ibid.*, On þam westemestan [onwealde], þæt is Roma. c **972** in *Kemble Cod. Dipl.* III. 262 þæs landes gemæra þe gebyriað into þære westemestan hilde. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4495 Fram þe weste syde of þe world to þe moste ende, þo adde king ærþure ywonne fram þe west moste se. **1456** *Exch. Rolls Scot.* VI. 224 Onerat se... de ix li. de Mydmeststede de Warmwod. Et de ix li. de Westmeststede ejusdem. Et de ix li. de Estmeststede de Langhop. **1510** in *Laying Charters* (1899) 70 The haile foirland of the said tenement with the westmost sharde. **1595** *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 90/2 To the westmest dyk of the eistmest cornefauld. **1632** LITHGOW *Trav.* i. 23 Gayetta, the West-most confine... of the Neapolitan Kingdom. **1800** W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* VIII. 684 They are the westmost portion of the horde. **1805** *State, Leslie of Powis* etc. 56 (Jam.) That the westmost sight was above the Flucky-shot. **1871** *Daily News* 27 Jan., A vague... attempt on the part of the French... batteries at St. Ouen to enfilade our westmost one at Ormeson.

West Nile. *Med.* [f. **WEST** *a.* + name of the river Nile.] Used *attrib.* to designate a mosquito-

borne virus and the disease it causes, usu. a mild fever but sometimes a fatal encephalitis.

1940 K. C. SMITHBURN et al. in *Amer. J. Trop. Med.* XX. 471 The purpose of this paper is to report the isolation of one such [infective] agent, which we call the West Nile virus, and to describe some of its properties. 1955 *Sci. Amer.* Mar. 64/3 He concluded that West Nile fever was predominantly a disease of childhood. 1961 M. HYNES *Med. Bacteriol.* (ed. 7) xxv. 392 Antigenically related viruses have a similar ecology... in central Africa (West Nile encephalitis). 1983 *Oxf. Textbk. Med.* I. v. 104/2 Recognizable disease due to West Nile virus infection has been observed in Israel... No vaccine is yet available.

west-north-west, *adv.*, etc. [See **WEST** *adv.* and **NORTH-WEST**. Cf. **MLG.** *westnortwest*, Du. *-noord-*, G. *-nord-*.] In or from the direction situated midway between west and north-west. Also as *sb.* and *adj.*

14.. *Sailing Directions* (Hakl. Soc., 1889) 11 The Ilonde and Berwik haven lien west north west and Est South est. *Ibid.* 18 The streamys of Briggewatir sit west norwest. c1490 *BOTONER Itin.* (1778) 287 Anglice west-north-west versus Seynt Davyes. a1550 *LELANO Itin.* (1764) III. 30 The second [creke] lyith West North West. 1555 *EDEN Decades* (Arb.) 70 Proceeding... at the lengthe towards the weste northe weste. 1625 *HYNNERS tr. W. Blaeu's Sea Mirr.* II. 112 When that Lagernessee is westnorthwest from you, then goe on southeast. 1685 T. PHELPS *Acc. Captivity* 22 Our course by the North-Star was West-North-West. 1715 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5360/5 With little Wind at West North West. 1725 *DE FOE Voy. round World* (1840) 111 The land lying away from the west-north-west to the south-east-by-south. 1855 *KINGSLEY Westw. Ho!* xxxi, A strong west-north-west breeze. 1883 R. H. SCOTT *Elem. Meteorol.* 359 The wind flies round to West, or West-north-west.

Hence **west-north-westerly** *a.*

1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 7 Oct. 5/2 She met with a tremendous west-north-westerly gale.

West of England. Also with hyphens. The name of a region of England, used *attrib.* and *absol.* to designate high-quality woollen broadcloth for which it has long been noted.

1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 555/2 In the West of England... each workman confines himself exclusively to a particular branch of the manufacture; and this has been supposed to have led to the excellence of the West of England cloth. 1882 *Queen* 23 Dec. (Adv.), Homespun, Tweeds... West of England cloths. 1936 'N. BLAKE' *Thau Shell of Death* i. 8 His waistcoat... [of] West-of-England cloth. 1972 E. KERRIDGE in J. G. Jenkins *Wool Textile Industry in Gt. Brit.* 33/1 The same [sc. a more intensive use of capital and skilled labour] was true to a lesser extent... of the new superfine West of Englands. 1976 F. GREENLAND *Misericordia Drop* i. vii. 49 He wore... grey West-of-England flannels.

Weston ('westən). The name of Edward Weston (1850-1936) English-born electrical engineer, used *attrib.* a. In *Electr.*, designating a primary cell with electrodes of mercury and of cadmium amalgam and electrolyte of cadmium sulphate, used as a standard voltage source for calibrating electrical instruments.

1901 [see METASTABILITY], 1963 G. L. PICKARD *Descriptive Physical Oceanogr.* vi. 94 The Weston cell has a limited sensitivity. 1972 *Physics Bull.* Jan. 40/2 The Bureau is... interested in the Josephson effect for possible use in electrical standards, although for the moment the standard Weston cell is preferred for convenience.

b. In *Photogr.*, designating an obsolescent system of film speeds based on exposure meters made by the Weston Electrical Instrument Company or its successors.

1940 *Chambers's Techn. Dict.* 905/2 Weston film-speed. 1950 W. F. BERG *Exposure* 167 The introduction of Weston speed figures was of considerable importance. 1963 JERRARO & McNEILL *Dict. Sci. Units* 105 The Weston number, the British Standards Institute speed number and the American Standards Association system also indicate the speed of the emulsion at its maximum sensitivity.

weston(e), obs. forms of WHETSTONE.

westour, obs. Sc. form of WASTER *sb.*¹

Westphalia (west'feihə). Also 7 Westfalia. [med.L., f. OHG. *Westfalo* (G. *-fale*, *-phale*) an inhabitant of the district now called *Westfalen* in German.] The name of a region of West Germany (part of the *Land* of North Rhine-Westphalia) lying between the Netherlands, Hanover, Hessen, and the Rhine (formerly a Prussian province), used *attrib.* with *bacon*, *gammon*, or *ham*.

c1650 TOWNSHENO *Paems* (1912) 8 Give us a salt Westphalia Gammon, Not meat to eat, but meat to drink. 1656 BLOUNT *Glassgr.*, Westphalia Bacon. 1664 F. HAWKINS *Youths Behav.* II. 178 A Westfalia Ham of Bacon. *Ibid.* 180 A Westphalia Ham. 1682 N. O. Boileau's *Lutrin* I. 178 His face... recalls the good Westphalia-Ham. 1710 P. LAMB *Royal Cookery* 66 To make a Westphalia-Ham. 1715 LAOY G. BAILLIE *Househ. Bk.* (S.H.S.) 102 For 17½ lb. westfalia hamb at 11d., o 15 7.

Westphalian, *a.* and *sb.* [f. prec.] *A. adj.* Of or belonging to, connected with, Westphalia.

1604 MARSTON & WEBSTER *Malcontent* IV. iii, The sallo-westfalian-gamon-faced zaza. 1668 J. WILSON *Erasm. Praise of Folly* (1913) 25 As plump and round as a Westphalian Hogg. 1708 AODISON *Present St. War* 34 The Westphalian Treaty. 1764 FALCONER *Poems*, Demagogue 128 Her vital blood, that pour'd from every vein, So late, to fill th' accurs'd Westphalian drain. 1820 *Mem. Crt. Westphalia* 220

The Westphalian troops performed miracles at Moskwa. 1824 BYRON *Juan* xv. lxx, They also set a glazed Westphalian ham on. 1842 *Borrow Bible in Spain* xviii, I have seen many a Westphalian hog quite as tall.

2. *Geol.* [ad. F. *westphalien* (A. de Lapparent *Traité de Géologie* (ed. 3, 1893) 819).] Of or belonging to a stratigraphic division of the Upper Carboniferous in Europe, above the Namurian and below the Stephanian. Also *absol.*

1901 [see STEPHANIAN *a.*], 1915 C. SCHUCHERT *Text-bk. Geol.* II. xl. 729 The Coal Measures formation is again divided into two series, the earlier half, or Middle Carboniferous, being widely known as the Westphalian... when coal bearing. 1969 BENNISON & WRIGHT *Geol. Hist. Brit. Isles* ix. 221 In Britain the greater part of the Coal Measures belongs to the Westphalian. 1976 *Nature* 22 July 277/1 The age of this late retrogression... is synchronous with the intrusion of younger Variscan granites, a major break in sedimentation and the main phase of Hercynian folding (Sudetic phase: Westphalian in age).

b. *sb.* A native or inhabitant of Westphalia. 1778 WARTON *Hist. Eng. Poetry* II. 311 Wernerus Rolewinck, a Westphalian. 1820 *Mem. Crt. Westphalia* 220 The Westphalians lost, in this battle, many valuable officers.

† **Westphalie**, *-phaly*, obs. varr. WESTPHALIA.

1577 GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. 148 The Gamonds of Fraunce, ... which I suppose were none other but the flyches of Westphaly, so greatly esteemed at this day. 1661 RABISHA *Cookery* 20 A good piece of Westphalie Bacon. *Ibid.* 136 A Westphalie Gammon of Bacon. 1725 MANOEUVILLE *Fable Bees* (ed. 4) I. 263 For the Small Beer they sent abroad, they receiv'd large Returns of Westphaly-Hams [etc.].

West-Pointer. U.S. [f. *West Point*, the name of a village on the west bank of the Hudson River in the state of New York.] An officer trained at the United States military academy at West Point.

1863 *Congr. Globe* 16 Jan. 327/3 There have been wounded since this war opened, from thirty to forty general officers, many of them were West Pointers. 1878 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVI. 85 A West-Pointer enjoying the *soubriquet* of 'Shanks'. 1895 J. L. ALLEN *Kentucky Cardinal* xiii, The West-Pointer had been writing for some months in regard to the wild behaviour of his cousin.

Westralian (we'streilən), *a.* and *sb.* [f. *Westralia*, a telegraphic abbrev. of *West Australia*.] *a. adj.* Of or pertaining to West Australia. *b. sb.* A native or inhabitant of West Australia; *pl.* West Australian mining shares.

a. 1896 *Economist* 14 Mar. 325/1 The position of the Westralian Government in the matter is a serious one. *Ibid.* 25 Apr. 532/2 Westralian shares have been somewhat more freely dealt in. 1896 *19th Cent.* Nov. 711 (*title*) The Westralian Mining 'Boom'. 1900 *Speaker* 12 May 153/1 The Westralian Outlander complains that all the taxation falls on the gold-mines. 1904 *Blackw. Mag.* Mar. 398 Westralian finance copied the bad features of the Kaffir Circus.

b. 1896 *Economist* 20 June 809/2 Westralians have been weak on balance. 1896 *19th Cent.* Nov. 711 When... every department of the Stock Exchange was inactive, Westralians came to the rescue. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 17 Aug. 7/1 The boom in Westralians which does not come off.

Hence **Westralianism**.

1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 1 May 9/1 Statements... on the subject of Westralianism. 1905 *Daily Report* 9 Sept. 6/1 Scandals, such as during recent years have made the term 'Westralianism' one of evil significance.

westre, obs. form of VESTRY.

westring, var. of WESTERING.

West 'Saxon, *sb.* and *a.* *Hist.* Also West-Saxon. [f. **WEST** *a.* + **SAXON** *sb.* and *a.*, after OE. *West-seaxan* pl.]

A. *sb.* 1. *pl.* The division of the Saxons in England occupying the area south of the Thames and westward from Surrey and Sussex; also *sing.* an individual belonging to this group or area.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* VI. 403 Plegmundus... ordeyned... fyve [bishops] to be lond of Giweysys, þat beep West Saxons. 1432-50 tr. *Higden* VII. 99 Edmundede Irensyde... subdued to hym the Westesaxons anon. 1513 BRAOSHAW *St. Werburge* i. 155 The thyrd [realm] was West Saxons, famous and myghty. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 232 Aidan winnis the feild vpon the Pectis and Westsaxonis. a1643 BAKER *Chron.* (1653) 7 The third Kingdome of the Heptarchie, was of the West Saxons. 1714 AODISON *Spect.* No. 569 ¶ 1, I was the other Day with honest Will. Funnell the West Saxon. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Maney*, Ina King of the West-Saxons. 1781 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xxxviii. (1787) III. 618 *nate*, Cerdic, the West Saxon. 1877 TENNYSON *Harold* iv. i, Thou art but a West-Saxon: we are Danes!

2. The dialect of Old English used by the West Saxons.

1844 GARNETT in *Prac. Phil. Soc.* II. 17 The plural... totally unknown in West-Saxon. *Ibid.* 18 The discrepancies from the ordinary West-Saxon are specified. 1876 SWEET *Ags. Reader* p. xii, The West Saxon of the eleventh century differs in many respects from that of Alfred's reign. 1893 A. C. CHAMPNEYS *Hist. English* 85 Northumbrian retains some very ancient forms not found in West Saxon.

B. *adj.* Of or pertaining to, characteristic of, the West Saxons or their speech.

1570 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1576) 20 Kent was vnited by King Egbert... vnto the Westsaxon Kingdome... and... gouerned after the Westsaxon law. 1670 MILTON *Hist. Brit.* III. 121 Before the West-Saxon Kingdome. 1842 *Penny*

Cycl. XXII. 231/2 During the West Saxon, Anglo-Saxon, and Anglo-Danish dynasties. 1848 LATHAM *Eng. Lang.* (ed. 2) 91 The Psalter also exhibits this West-Saxon form. 1876 SWEET *Ags. Reader* p. xii, The old Northumbrian poems were also copied in the West Saxon dialect. 1893 A. C. CHAMPNEYS *Hist. English* 86 The Southern or West Saxon plural, *-ap*.

Hence † **West-'Saxonry**, the kingdom of the West Saxons.

1650 ELOERFIELO *Civil Right of Tythes* x. 70 Kenulph King of West-Saxon-rie.

† **West-sexene**, ME. form of OE. *West-se(a)xena*, gen. pl. of *West-se(a)xan* (see prec.). ? a1300 *Shires Eng.* in O.E. *Misc.* 146 On is west-sexene lawe.

west side. Also west-side. [**WEST** *a.* Cf. **WFRis.**, **MLG.** *westside*, Du. *-zijde*, G. *-seite*.] *a.* The side situated in or lying towards the west.

c1290 *Kenelm* 62 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 347 þe bischopriche of Roucestre þat in þe west-side is next. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 5127 Als þe leuenyng out gas in short tyde Fra þe est, and shewes it in þe west syde. c1386 CHAUCER *Clerk's T.* I. Ther is at the West syde of Ytaille... A lusty playne. c1391 — *Astrol.* I. §6 The west side is cleped the left side. 14.. *Sailing Directions* (Hakl. Soc. 1889) 17 On the west side of Milforde. 1503 *Surtees Misc.* (1890) 30 The utter west syde of his swynstye. 1597 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 211/2 At the west syde of the Blak-tour. 1669 EARL WINCHILSEA *True Relat. Mt. Etna* 16 The two Torrents of Fire forward... had on the West-side branched it self into several Streams. 1681 in *Nairne Peerage Evid.* (1874) 6 The west syde of the high way. 1789 S. SHAW *Tour W. Eng.* 378 A pleasant little town on the west-side of a hill. 1896 BAOEN-POWELL *Matabele Campaign* iv, On the west side of this road Umlugulu's impi was stationed.

b. *transf.* (Cf. **WESTERN** *a.* 8.)

1829 MARRYAT *F. Mildmay* xxv, Rubbing herself on her 'west' side, as the Philadelphia ladies call it.

c. Also **West Side**. That district of New York City which lies on the west side of Manhattan. Also *attrib.* U.S.

1858 *Harper's Mag.* July 283/2 As our friend entered the door a well-known 'West side' operator made his bid. 1903 *Ibid.* July 213 The abysmal craving of New Yorkers—West Side or East Side—is for friends. 1958 A. LAURENTS (*title of play*) *West Side story*. 1976 BOTHAM & DONNELLY *Valentino* iii. 25 He left the West Side and moved into a stable garret adjoining the home of millionaire Cornelius Bliss. 1981 J. VALIN *Dead Letter* xix. 182 That region of worn houses... that is the westside ghetto.

West Sider. U.S. [-ER¹] A resident of Manhattan's West Side.

1903 *N.Y. Even. Post* 14 Nov. 4 The persistence with which the West Siders have followed up this question of the Broadway trees. 1914 G. ATHERTON *Perch of Devil* I. 2 Ida, forced... to accept employment with a fashionable dressmaker and consumed with envy of the 'West Siders' whose measurements she took. 1980 *N.Y. Times* 21 July A-8/2 Because the West Sider usually has so much money and time tied up in his lawn, plants and trees... he finds himself in a constant struggle to keep growing things from turning brown.

† **west-south**, *sb.* *Obs. rare.* [See **WEST** *adv.* and **SOUTH** *adv.* OE. had *westsūðwind*.] The south-west.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 476 To be on ende of engelond, as in þe west soup A lute bi norpe cornewaile.

west-south-west, *adv.* etc. [See **WEST** *adv.* and **SOUTH-WEST**. Cf. **MLG.** *westsūtwest*, Du. *-zuid-*, G. *-süd-*.] In or from the direction situated midway between west and south-west. Also as *sb.* and *adj.*

a. *adv.* 14.. *Sailing Directions* (Hakl. Soc. 1889) 11 It flowith west southwest. *Ibid.* 13 Yif... the wynde be west south west. c1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* III. 470 And west south-west [L. in *faunium*] hem for to order best is. 1513 SIR E. HOWARD in *Ellis Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. I. 214 On monday the wynd cam west south west. 1584 R. NORMAN tr. *Safe-guard of Sailors* 21 b, The floud sets east northeast, and the ebbe west southwest. 1698 HENNEPIN *New Discov. Amer.* I. 78 Steering our Course West-South-West, with a favourable Wind. 1760 R. ROGERS *Jrnl.* (1769) 197 We... kept the following courses: west-south-west two miles, west-north-west three miles. 1833-4 J. PHILLIPS *Geol. in Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VI. 544/1 Less certain and continuous fissures passing nearly East North-East and West South-West.

b. *adj.* 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P.R.* XI. iii. (1495) 386 The weste Southweste wynde hyghte Zephirus. 14.. *Sailing Directions* (Hakl. Soc. 1889) 14 All the havens be full at a west south west moone. a1550 *LELANO Itin.* (1764) III. 12 An Hospital of S. John yet stonding at the West South West End of the Town. 1611 COTGR. *Vent d'aval*, a West South-west wind. 1632 LITHING *Trav.* III. 123 The West South west end of this once Regall Towne.

c. *sb.* 1555 *EDEN Decades* (Arb.) 77 The shores bended... sumetyme towards the Weste and westesouthwest. a1592 GREENE & LOOGE *Looking Gl.* (1598) E1, Now the wind doth serue, And sweetly blowes a gale at West, Southwest. 1837 W. IRVING *Capt. Bonneville* I. iii. 61 One of these branches rises in the west south-west. 1839 DE LA BECHE *Rep. Geol. Cornwall*, etc. i. 8 On the west-south-west of the same district.

Hence **west-south-'westerly** *a.*

1881 W. POWELL in *Prac. R. Geog. Sac.* (N.S.) III. 92 A long straight piece of coast, running in a west-south-westerly direction.

westum, var. **WASTUM** *Obs.*

† **westvale**. *Obs.* Also 4 -fale, 4-5 -vall (-uall), 5 westevale. [a. **MLG.** *Westvale*, -val

Westphalian.] A variety of cloth of Westphalian origin.

1385 in S. Bentley *Excerpta Hist.* (1831) 139 Item lego ducentas vlnas de Westfale ad faciendum lintheamina. **1391** *Exped. Earl Derby* (Camden) 35 Pro ix vlnis Westuall. . . emptis pro trussura dictorum pannorum. *Ibid.* 168 Pro coopertorio tele Westvall pro dresseur. **1396** *Will of Hervey of Kedwelly* (Comm. Ct. London), Lego Waltero Burtone vnum lectum de Westuale. **1397-8** *Exped. Earl Derby* 356 Westuall de worsted. **1403** *Will of R. de Chestrefeld in Lincoln Chapter Acts* (MS.), Cum vno Doser de Westvale steined cum ymaginibus. **1423** *For. Acc. 1 Hen. VI*, I. (P.R.O.) Computat in. . . westevale, pellibus lanutis [etc.].

westward ('westwəd, *adv.*, *sb.*, and *a.*¹ Also 5 *weste*-, 5-6 *westwarde*, 7 *westheard*. [OE. *westweard*, f. *WEST* *adv.* + *-WARD*. Cf. *MLG.* *westwart*, *-wert*, *-wort*.]

A. adv. 1. Towards the west; in a westerly direction: **a.** Of motion or direction.

For Westward ho! see *HO* int.¹ 2b.
900 *O.E. Chron.* an. 893, Her. . . for se micle here. . . of þam eastrice westward to Bunnan. c. **1000** *Sax. Leechd.* III. 270 þa seofon steorran. . . gangende ean westward. *O.E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1052 Hi. . . gewendon heom þa westward oð þet hi comon to Portlande. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1039 So þat he drou him westward. . . þe se he wende nei & bihold west. **1377** *LANGL. P. Pl. B.* xviii. 118 Her suster. . . cam. . . Eueue out of þe est, and westward she lokod. c. **1391** CHAUCER *Astrol.* II. §17 Espie diligently whan this same firste sterre passeth. . . westward. c. **1400** MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxviii. 127 It lastez westward to þe ryuer of Phison. c. **1407** *LYDG. Reson & Sens.* 658 Whan that he hath hys cours [y]-goon. . . Ageyn westwarde he doth repara. **1473** WARKW. *Chron.* (Camden) 9 Thei fledde westwarde to the see syde, and toke there here schippys. **1535** COVERDALE *Ezek.* xlv. 7 As farre as reacheth westwarde and eastwarde. **1593** T. FALE *Horolog.* 9b, If the declination of your plat be Westward, or from C. toward B. **1613** *DONNE Poems* (1633) 170 Goodfriday, 1613. Riding Westward. a **1661** FULLER *Worthies, Somerset* (1662) 32 Hence forward the Sun of the Kings cause declined, verging more and more Westward, till at last it set in Cornwall. **1697** DRYDEN *Æneis* XI. 1316 But westward to the Sea the Sun declin'd. **1752** *BERKELEY Verses Planting Arts & Learn. Amer.* 21 Westward the course of empire takes its way. **1783** J. KING *Thoughts Difficulties* iii. 29 We were told by a priest. . . that all the virtues were flying westward. **1816** KEATS *Ep. Geo. Keats* 141 Why westward turn? 'Twas but to say adieu! **1822** SCOTT *Nigel* v. The citizen. . . rode on westward along the Strand. **1848** B. WEBB *Cont. Ecclesiol.* 160 Projecting westward from the nave-arch is a stone rood-loft. **1877** RUSKIN *St. Mark's Rest* iii. 40 Look, as you recross its bridge, westward, along the broad-flowing stream.

b. Of relative position.

c. **1386** CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 1036 Estward ther stood a gate of Marbul whit, Westward right swich another in the opposit. **1390** GOWER *Conf.* III. 103 And thanne upon that other syde westward. . . The brother. . . Aufrique nam. **1472-75** *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 157/2 Almaner Woll. . . execept Wolle to be shipped westward in Galees or Carrykkes, to be shipped and caried out of this Reame, shal be conveyed to the Staple of Caleys. **1530** TINDALE *Exod.* xxvii. 12 And in the bredth of the courte westwarde, there shalbe hangynges of fyfye cubetes long. **1598** W. PHILLIP tr. *Linschoten* I. xciii. 171 We. . . compassed about y^e other corner that lay westward from vs. **1601** HOLLAND *Pliny* VI. xxx. 1. 147 He telleth. . . that Westward there are people. . . whose king hath but one eie. **1631** WEEVER *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 642 A certaine holy Crosse, found farre Westward, and brought hither by miracle. **1773** NOORTHOUCK *Hist. Lond.* 742 From Bedford house on the same line westward, is Great Russel street Bloomsbury. **1810** SCOTT *Lady of L.* I. xxvi, Due westward, fronting to the green, A rural portico was seen. a **1861** CLOUGH 'Say not, the struggle nought availeth' 16 In front, the sun climbs slow, how slowly, But westward, look, the land is bright!

c. Followed by *of*.

1691 *Hist. Rel. Late Presbyt. Gen. Assembly* 6 For twenty Miles Westward of Perth, there were but two or three Ministers. **1762** FALCONER *Shipwr.* III. 238 Westward of these. . . lies The long-lost isle of Ithacus the wise. **1821** *Acc. Peculations in Coal Trade* 4 Their papers should not be sent from the ship until she has arrived westward of Blackwall. **1842** *Borrow Bible in Spain* xxxvii, It is situated about twelve leagues. . . westward of Madrid.

d. Comb., as westward-blowing, -flowing, etc.
1871 TENNYSON *Last Tourn.* 584 Those far-rolling, westward-smiling seas. **1875** *Encycl. Brit.* III. 105/1 The problem of the destination of the westward-flowing rivers. **1891** *Nation* (N.Y.) 19 Nov. 393/1 The westward-looking portion of this volume. **1895** *Daily News* 24 Dec. 6/1 That fierce westward-blowing gale of fire.

†2. spec. In allusive use: To Tyburn. *Obs.*

1600 *Looke about You* A 2b, If they doe so, faith, westward then with Skinke. **1605** CHAPMAN etc. *Eastw. Hoe* II. i. B 3b, *Touch*. Sir, Eastward hoe, will make you go Westward hoe. **1607** DEKKER & WEBSTER *Westw. Hoe* IV. ii. G 1b, You. . . look as if you were going westward indeed. **1626** H. PARROT *Cures for the Itch* A 2b, If any thing happen. . . it must accree from the next Sessions, provided there be some to trauel westward. **1647** A. B. [? Brewer] *Countrie Girle* I 3b, *Greg.*. . . Is't not time he should now goe downward? *Hu.* And time, that you should goe Westward.

3. quasi-sb. = next.

1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* IX. 909 Like the Storm that flies From Westward, when the Show'ry Kids arise. **1810** SCOTT *Lady of L.* IV. vii, My followers guard each pass's mouth, To east, to westward, and to south.

B. sb. That direction or part which lies to the west of a place, etc.

1652 H. PHILLIPES *Geometr. Sea-man* 79 Which. . . differs in longitude from the former place 90 degrees to the Westward. **1673** in Picton *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1883) I. 316 To make cleare and pave the street on the cock of the Castell to the westheard. **1695** *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3099/3 The same day passed by the *Hastings*, with about 12 sail to the Westward. **1725** DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 308 They. . . saw two

rockets rise up from the westward. **1762** FALCONER *Shipwr.* III. 571 The prow, swift wheeling, to the westward flies. **1838** STERLING in Carlyle *Life* II. vii. (1872) 145 The highest part. . . which commands a view. . . of the vale of the Arno to the westward. **1874** J. FORREST *Explor. Australia* (1875) 224 Sure enough there were the tracks of horses coming from the westward.

b. Const. of.

1766 SMOLLETT *Trav.* xii. I. 213 The river Var falls into the Mediterranean. . . about four miles to the westward of Nice. **1776** *Trial of Nundocomar* 60/1 Q. Where is that place? A. To the westward of Sasserum. **1796** MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 138 Directing his course to the westward of Cape Fare-well. **1896** BADEN-POWELL *Matabele Campaign* xv, About three miles to the westward of the mountain.

C. adj. Having a westerly situation or direction; lying, facing, moving, etc., towards the west.

1872 JENKINSON *Guide Eng. Lakes* (1879) 333. On completing the worst part of the climb, and obtaining a westward prospect. **1886** C. E. PASCOE *London To-day* xxvi. (ed. 3) 241 Let us retrace our steps. . . to the westward end of Cheap-side. **1896** HOWELLS *Impress. & Exp.* 282 One of the west-ward avenues. **1900** *Jrnl. Sch. Geog.* (U.S.) Apr. 134 A further link in the westward series. . . was finished in 1837.

†westward, a.² *Obs.* [OE. *westweard*: cf. *prec.*] Westerly (= the west, or western part, of).

847 *Charter in Sweet O.E. Texts* 434 Ðonon on ða lytlan burg westwearde. c. **893** ÆLFRED *Oros.* i. i. §3 Se west-spende Europe. . . is in Ispania westweardum. c. **1205** LAY. 25657 He seide þat þer wes icumen a scaðe liðe of westward Spaine. c. **1440** *Prompt. Parv.* 523/1 Westward, *occidentalis*.

'westwardly, a. [f. *WESTWARD* *adv.*]

1. a. Of wind: Blowing from the westward.

1653 *Nissena* 107 [They] hoist up their Sails, the wind being Westwardly, and good for their intended Navigation. **1706** LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) VI. 10 The wind being westwardly, a general embarkation. . . is making at Harwich for Holland. **1805** *Phil. Trans.* XCVI. 249 *note*, He expected a continuance of fine, clear weather, with westwardly winds. **1876** DAVIS *Polaris Exp.* 259 The pack was driven in by a westwardly wind.

b. Moving or flowing westward.

1870 PROCTOR *Other Worlds* iv. 108 *note*, The relatively cold and westwardly equatorial currents.

2. Situated to the westward.

1704 *Phil. Trans.* XXV. 1634 The Section [seemed] to be a small matter more Westwardly. **1703** *Act* 33 *Geo. III* c. 131 title, The road leading from Uttoxeter to the westwardly part of Hardwidge heath.

'westwardly, adv. [f. as *prec.*] In or to the westward; in a westerly direction.

1519 *Interl. Four Elem.* (Percy Soc.) 27 And next from them westwardly, Here by hymselfe, alone doth ly Ireland. a **1631** *DONNE Poems, Love-Lect. Shadow* 19 If love once faint, and westwardly declayne. **1756** TOLDERVY *Hist.* 2 *Orphans* IV. 76 After steering their course westwardly a few days, they met with a shabby company of strollers. **1794** VANCOUVER *Agric. Cambridge* 69 Thence extending westwardly. **1837** W. IRVING *Capt. Bonneville* I. v. 96 The travellers took final leave of the Sweet Water. . . keeping westwardly. **1892** A. E. LEE *Hist. Columbus* (Ohio) I. 327 Westwardly. . . traveled an interminable caravan of emigrants.

'westwardmost, a. [f. as *prec.* + *-MOST*.] Most westerly; farthest west.

1685 W. HEDGES *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 175 We. . . came to an anchor. . . on y^e Westwardmost Brace. **1788** J. WHITE *Jrnl. Voy. N.S. Wales* (1790) 109 The westward-most point of a very large bay. **1894** *Daily News* 7 May 6/3 They propose to commence at once on the westwardmost bay of the chapel.

'westwards, adv. and *sb.* Also 6 *-wardes*. [f. *WESTWARD* *adv.* + *-s*¹. Cf. *Du. westwaarts*, *G. westwärts*, and *OE. westweardes* (once).]

A. adv. = *WESTWARD* *adv.* 1 a.

1540 *Act* 32 *Hen. VIII* c. 17 The way from the barres in Holborne westwardes to the farre ende of high holborn. **1581** *BOROUGH Discourse Var. Cumpas* (1585) Fiv, From hence Westwardes to Meta Incognita. **1614** E. WRIGHT *Dialling* E 1 An occidental Dial looketh directly Westwards. **1652** HEYLYN *Cosmogr.* IV. 96 He. . . informs us that he sailed not Westwards, but more towards the South. **1915** J. BUCHAN *Nelson's Hist. War* V. 126 The bulk of the Russian army went westwards to reinforce the van.

b. = *WESTWARD* *adv.* 1 b.

1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholas's Voy.* II. vii. 37 b, A mountaine Westwardes, and fiv miles from the Citie. **1599** E. WRIGHT *Haven-finding* Art 11 Helmsshade (which place is Westwards from the North Cape of Finmark). **1854** tr. *Hettner's Athens & Pelop.* 162 Westwards yonder, towards the sea, lies Lerna.

B. sb. = *WESTWARD* *sb.* (Also with *of*.) Now *rare*.

1574 W. BOURNE *Regiment for Sea* 47 To the Westwardes of your towne. **1581** *BOROUGH Discourse Var. Cumpas* (1585) Gij, Whereas y^e Narue. . . should be from S. Nicholas. . . to the Westwardes. **1584** R. NORMAN tr. *Safegard of Sallers* 37 Then he shall see the towne to the westwards before him. **1602** CAREW *Cornwall* 28b, Vpon the North coast, and to the Westwards of Foy, few or none are taken. **1669** EARL WINCHILSEA *True Relat. Mt. Etna* 22 The other Torrent. . . in probability could not easily overflow to the Westwards. **1728** CHAMBERS *Cycl* s.v. *Wind*, The Easterly Trade-Winds blowing to the Westwards thereof.

west wind, west-wind. [OE. *westwind*, = OS., *MLG.*, *MDu.*, *G. westwind*, *WFr.* *westewyn*, *NFr.* *wästwinj*. OE. had also *westanwind* =

ON. *vestanvindr* (Norw. *vestan*-, Da. *vestenvind*), *MHG.* *westewint*.]

a. The (or a) wind blowing from the west. Also with *a* and *pl*.

c. **900** *Bæda's Hist.* v. xix. (1890) 458 Sona þæs þe he on scyp eode. . . blew westwind. a **1400** *Nominale* (Skeat) 567 *Vent galerne*. . . west-wynde. c. **1440** *Prompt. Parv.* 523/1 West wynde, *zephyrus*. **1495** *Trevisa's Barth. De P.R.* XI. iii. 386 Faunius, the Weste wynde arysyth in the Weste. **1535** COVERDALE *Exod.* x. 19 The Lorde turned a marvelous stronge west wynde. **1577** D. SETTLE *Frobisher's Voy.* B vij, Within foure dayes. . . the Northwest and West wynde dispersed the yce into the Sea. **1634** MILTON *Comus* 989 And West winds, with musky wing About the cedar'n alleys fling Nard. **1645** BOATE *Irel. Nat. Hist.* (1652) 176 As the West-winds are much more common in Ireland. . . than the East. **1715** POPE *Iliad.* IV. 319 The Cloud condensing as the West-Wind blows. **1819** WORDSW. *Sonn. 'Lone Flower'* 11 Bright jonquils, their odours lavishing On the soft west-wind and his frolic peers. **1892** KIFLING *Barrack-room Ballads* etc. 178 The West Wind called.

attrib. **1601** HOLLAND *Pliny* x. lx. I. 301 Some are of opinion that the wind will engender them: for which cause also they are called Zephyria [i. West-wind-eggs].

b. (Usu. with capital initials.) One of the four 'tiles' or discs called winds in the game of mah-jong; the player who takes this tile at the beginning of the game and sits opposite East Wind, or a player who succeeds him in being so designated.

1922 R. E. LINDSELL *Ma-Cheuk or Mah-Jongg*, 13 East discards a West wind. North. . . exposes a pair of West winds. **1952** M. STEEN *Phoenix Rising* vii. 154 She slid the West Wind on to her ebony rack. **1960** [see EAST WIND b]. **1976** R. C. BELL *Discovering Mah-jong* 15 The third round is West Wind's round.

Hence **west-winded, west-windy** adjs.

1851 G. W. CURTIS *Nile Notes* xlv. 221 That west-winded, rose-odoured street. **1850** HAWTHORNE *Amer. Note-bks.* (1883) 379 It being a bright, westwindy, bracing day.

†westy, a.¹ *Obs.* Also 4 *wysty*. [OE. *wæstīg*, *wēstīg*, f. *wæste*, *wēste* *WESTE* *a.* Cf. *WASTY* *a.*¹] Desolate, waste.

c. **950** *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark i. 35 [He] eode on woestigum stowum [c. **975** *Rushw.* in westige stowe]. a **1122** *O.E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 449 Of Angle. . . se a syððan stod westig betwix Iutum & Seaxum. c. **1205** LAY. 1120 Leode nere þa nane, ne wapmen ne wifmen, bute westige pædes [c. **1275** *weste* papes]. c. **1230** *Hali Meid.* 42 (Bodley MS.) þet tu. . . schalt grenin godles in-wið westi [Titus wasti] wahes. **13..** *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 2189 Now iwyssse, quop Wowayn, wysty is here; þis oritore is vgly.

'westy, a.² *Obs.* exc. *dial.* [Of obscure origin.] Confused; giddy.

1599 BP. HALL *Sat.* IV. i. 158 While hee lies wallowing with a westie hed And palish carkasse, on his brothel-bed. **1674-91** RAY *N.C. Words, Westy*, dizzy, giddy. **1867** *Cornh. Mag.* XV. 741 He's a bit westy by times is Ashford. **1881** EVANS *Leicest. Gloss.* s.v., My head's very westy and bad.

westy, var. *WESTIE*.

wesy, obs. f. *VIZY* *v.* *Sc.*

wesyng, rare obs. f. *WEASAND*.

wesz, obs. f. *was*, pa. t. of *BE* *v.*

wet (wæt), *sb.*¹ Forms: a. 1 *wæt*, 3 *wet* (*dat.* *wete*), *Orm.* *wæt* (*dat.* *wæte*), 3-6 *wete*, (5 *whete*), 4-6 *weete*, 4-5, 6- *Sc. weet*, 6 *weat*(e, 5-6 *north* and *Sc. weytt*, 5-7 *Sc. weit*. β. 4 *north. wat*(e. γ. 6-*wet*, 6 *wette*, 7 *wett*. δ. 9 *Sc. wat*. [OE. *wæt* neut. (substantival use of *wæt* adj., = *WFr.* *wiet*), giving normally ME. *wēt*, *wete*, *weete* and later *weat*(e). The other ME. and mod. forms are due to the influence of the adj. OE. had also *wēta* wk. masc., represented in ME. by *WETE*; in later use the two become undistinguishable, and some of the examples given here (in sense 1) may really be survivals of *wēta*.]

1. Moisture; liquid or moist substance.

In occasional use applied to water, blood, sweat, sap, etc. a. c. **888** ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxiii. §5 Swa þæt heora nan oðres mearce ne ofereode, & se cile geprowode wið ða hæto, & þæt wæt wið þam drygum. c. **1220** *Beshiary* 73 Hise fedres fallen for ðe hete, And he dun mid to ðe wete Falleð in ðat welle grund. a **1240** *Ureisin* in *O.E. Hom.* I. 187 Hwa is penne unwaschen þe haueþ þis halwende wet inwið his heorte. c. **1290** *St. Michael* 668 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 318 Man hath of corpe al is bodi, and of watere he hauez wete. c. **1386** CHAUCER *Can. Yeom. Prol.* & T. 634, I se wel how y^e swete, Hauē heer a cloom, and wipe awey the wete. c. **1400** *Beryn* 1022 [He] smote þe Damesell vndir þe ere, þe weet gon vpward spyn. **1412-20** *LYDG. Chron.* Troy IV. 3375 Whan he [Phoebus] . . . driep vp þe moysture & þe weete Of herbe & floure with his feruent hete. **1483** *Cath. Engl.* 415/1 Weytt, *maditas*. a **1500** *Hist. K. Boccus & Sydracke* (? 1510) Mijb, After a man hath in hym most Of wete of dryeth her or colde Shall his complexyon be tolde. **1523-34** FITZHERB. *Husb.* §124 The quykset wyll take no rote, execepte it haue grete weate. γ. **1597** SHAKS. *Lover's Compl.* 40 Like vsery applying wet to wet. **1633** G. HERBERT *Temple, Providence* xxix, When th' earth was dry, thou mad'st a sea of wet. **1709** J. WARD *Yng. Math. Guide* (1734) 437 Divide the Sum of all those Dips or Wet Inches by the Number of Places you dipp'd in, and the Quotient will be the Mean Wet of all those Dips. **1784** TWAMLEY *Dairying* 32 If you cut the Cheese when young, you will find, that there is a Moisture, or Wet, in every Place where the Eye is, . . . which Wet or Moisture is called Tears. **1848** DICKENS *Dombey* liv, The foam was on his lips; the wet stood on his forehead. **1894** K. GRAHAME *Pagan* P. 129 The

drippings made worms of wet in the thick dust of the road. **1897** MAX PEMBERTON *Queen of Jesters* iii. 105 The floor of the staircase was covered with wet and slime.

2. a. Rainy or damp weather.

a. **c1200** *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 123 Man... poleð... hwile druie and hwile wete, hwile chele, wile hete. **1362** LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. vi. 21, I have walked full wyde In weete and in druye. **c1400** MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) vi. 23 þer falles oft sithes grete derth of corne... by cause of ouer mykill wete. **c1460** Towneley *Myst.* xii. 4 Now in hurt, now in heyll, now in weytt, now in blast. **c1480** HENRYSON *Garm. Gude Ladeis* 24 Hir mantill of humilitie, To tholl bayth wind & weit. **1650** J. NICOLL *Diary* (Bann. Club) 27 That nicht being... full of wind and weit. *Ibid.* 32 Tempestis of weit and wind. **1790** BURNS *Young Jockie* iii, Thro' wind and weet, thro' frost and snaw.

β. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 6365 Ne for na drught, ne for na wat, Changed neuer þai þare state. **1340** HAMPOLE *Pr. Cons.* 7611 In wate and drete, in hate and cald.

γ. **1573-80** TUSSEY *Husb.* (1878) 92 By sowing in wet, is little to get. **1577** GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* i. 28 There is nothyng more hurtfull to Winter Corne, ... then the wette of Winter. **1601** SHAKS. *All's Well* i. iii. 157 This distempered messenger of wet, The manie colour'd Iris. **a1715** BURNET *Own Time* II. (1724) I. 801 Great numbers came to see him. But, after they had stood long in the wet, he disappointed them. **1801** WORDSW. *Sparrow's Nest* 8 The Sparrow's dwelling, which... in wet or dry My sister Emmeline and I Together visited. **1840** DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xviii, Make haste in out of the wet, Tom. **1860** FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* xxxiii. VI. 419 The sermon intended to be preached at the stake was adjourned, in consequence of the wet, to St. Mary's. **1905** *Sat. Rev.* 15 July 82/1 It is the alternation of wet and fine which brings every crop in its season.

b. Atmospheric moisture precipitated as rain, mist, or dew.

a. **c1290** St. Michael 604 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 317 3wane þe sonne hath pudere idrawe þene mist for hete, It ne may no feor for þe colde, ake bicometh al to wete, And gaderez þare to one water-cloude. **1533** BELLENDEN *Livy* i. vii. (S.T.S.) I. 41 Ane horribill tempest... made this nobil prince... Invisibill with thick schoure of wete and myst. **1794** BURNS *My Nannie's Awa'* 6 And violets bathe in the weat o' the morn.

γ. **1613** T. CAMPION *Relat. Royal Entert.* A 4 b, Because some wet had fallen that day in the forenoone... all her foot-way was spred with broad cloth. **1617** MORYSON *Itin.* II. 68 The Pace of the Moorye, by reason of much wet lately fallen, ... was hard to passe. **1671** MILTON *P.R.* iv. 433 And now the Sun... Had... dry'd the wet From drooping plant, or dropping tree. **1830** HERSCHEL *Study Nat. Phil.* II. vi. (1851) 159 When no rain or visible wet is falling. **1883** BLACK *Shandon Bells* xxiv, The silent thin wet that seemed to hang in the atmosphere like a vapour. **1901** A. M. FAIRBAIRN in *Selbie Life* (1913) 385 Nothing but wet and water fills the whole scene.

c. Rain, water, or damp regarded as deleterious or detrimental. Also, standing water which collects in pools, or which makes the ground muddy.

a. **c1400** *Destr. Troy* 2006 þre dayes þroly þai... duret vnder hache, For wete of þe waghes þat wastis ouer hed. *Ibid.* 9653 [They] Turnit to pere tenttes... Thurgh the rug, & the rayn, þat raiked aboue, All wery for wete, & for wan strokes. **c1480** HENRYSON *Swallow & Birds* 212 The woddiss grene wer wallowit with the weit. **1523-34** FITZHERB. *Husb.* §54 Pelte-rotte... commeth of greatte wete, specially in woode countreys. **1545** *Acc. Ld. High. Treas.* Scot. VIII. 341, xxiii pyonaris... quihilis drew the cannonis and artalze... within the munition hous to saife the stokis thairof from weit. **1595** in J. Bulloch *Pynours* (1887) 68 Salt and vther girmell guid subject to the perrell of weytt and rayn. **a1670** SPALDING *Troub. Chas. I* (Bann. Club) I. 207 Monro caused bigg up betuixt the croces ane court de guard, for saiffeing his souldiers frae weitt and cauld on the night.

γ. **1684** J. S. *Profit & Pleasure united* 74 The Infirmitie of this Creature [the Ass] is mostly in the Feet, occasioned by standing or travelling in the wett. **1710** HILMAN *Tusser Rediv.* Feb. (1744) 16 The reason why unharrowed Beans set in Clay are apt to dye, is because the Wet fills the Holes and rots them. **1730** SWIFT *Panegy. Dean* 109 Familiar grown to dirt and wet, Though daggled round, I scorn to fret. **1853** DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* lix, The wet had penetrated my dress. **1858** J. McD. STUART *Jrnl. Explor. Australia* (1864) 18 All our rations... being perfectly saturated with wet. **1862** H. MARRYAT *Year in Sweden* I. 74 On high, safe out of wet's way. **186**. WHITMAN *Amer. Feuillage* Poems (1868) 95 Parties of snowy herons wading in the wet to seek worms. **1883** HARDY *Wessex Tales* (1888) I. 5 The gable-end of the cottage was stained with wet.

Comb. **1902** *Daily Chron.* 30 June 3/7 Wet-proof wire coverings.

d. (With pl.) A burst, storm, downpour, shower, or spell of rain.

a. **c1440** *Alphabet of Tales* 217 On þe day at he was berid on, þer fell suche a wete and a rayn, þat ij dayes after þai mott nott berie hym. **1513** DOUGLAS *Æneis* v. xii. 53 A huge weit gan down pour and tumbill. **1545** TAVERNER *Erasm. Prov.* 53 A mysyelling rayn gendreth a great weat. **a1578** LINDSEY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 312 Terribill windes with raine and weittis quihilk continewit xlviii hours togidder. **1606** in *Sel. Rec. Kirk Sess. Aberd.* (Spalding Club) 53 The grypt inuadition of weittis liklie to rott the cornis. **1650** J. NICOLL *Diary* (Bann. Club) 8 Much unseasonable weather, the lyke quhair of wes not usall for weittis, cold, frostes and tempestis. **1661** CHILDREY *Brit. Baconica* 65 Earthquakes always succeed great wets.

γ. **1611** SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* ix. xxi. (1632) 1011 The weather extreme in wets and frosts. **1726** J. LAURENCE *Agric.* 281 Gardens which... are apt to be overflowed or soak'd with Water in the Winter, (for Summer Wets never hurt them). **1733** W. ELLIS *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 47 The Wets that generally fall then. **1851** *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* xii. 11. 391 The weather often turning into sudden wets.

3. Liquor, drink. In mod. use only slang; esp. in heavy-wet, malt liquor.

a. **c960** ÆTHELWOLD *Bened. Rule* xliii. 69 Ac he ana gereorde... and be dæle æt and wæt gewanod sy. **c1000** ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 66 He ne mæg ætes oððe wætes brucan. —

Saints' Lives xvi. 270 He... to micel nimð on æte oððe on wæte [c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 103 on ete oððe on wete]. **c1200** ORMIN 7852 Himm birrþ lokenn himm full weft Fra luffsumm æte & wete.

γ. **1821** EGAN *Life in London* iii. 226 The soldiers and their trulls were seen tossing off the heavy wet and spirits. **1821** [? EGAN] *Real Life Lond.* I. xviii. 392 note, Heavy wet—A well-known appellation for beer, porter, or ale. **1839** J. GRANT *Trav. Town* I. 167 Pots of foaming heavy wet. **1894** ASTLEY *50 Years Life* II. 197 After a lot of talk and a certain amount of 'wet' he and I made three matches.

†4. Phr. without wet, without being wetted. to take wet, to be injured by damp. Obs.

a **1300** *Cursor M.* 18547 Apon þe see wit-vten wete Gangand als apon a strete. **1513** [see TAKE v. 44 b]. **1609** HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* 378 After they had bene weakened with this daungerous wet that they tooke. **1631** PELLHAM *Gods Power* 24 Wee found that all our Frittars of the Whale were almost spoyled with the wet that they had taken. **1693** LOCKE *Educ.* §7 He that considers how Mischievous and Mortal a thing, taking Wet in the Feet is to those, who have been bred nicely. **1712** [see TAKE v. 44 b].

†5. in wet = in fresco (see FRESCO sb. 2). Obs.

1622 PEACHAM *Compl. Gent.* (1634) xii. 141 He wrought in distemper (as we call it) or wet with size, sixe histories of patient Iob. *Ibid.* 149 Making in his Cloyster many Histories in wet, after Masaccio's manner.

6. A 'wet' person (see WET a. 15 b); spec. a politician with liberal or middle-of-the-road views on controversial issues (often applied to members of the Conservative Party opposed to the monetarist policies of Margaret Thatcher).

1931 F. L. ALLEN *Only Yesterday* x. 254 The Government putting wood alcohol and other poisons into industrial alcohol to prevent its diversion, and the wets thereupon charging the Government with murder. **1933** D. L. MURRAY *Eng. Family Robinson* vii. 159 He's quite right... You are a wet! Who does pay regularly? **1939** G. HEYER *No Wind of Blame* xvi. 299 He's a regular wet, that chap: doesn't hold with blood sports. **1948** C. DAY LEWIS *Otterbury Incident* ix. 111 Don't be a wet. We'll get off all right. **1961** C. WILLOCK *Death in Covert* ix. 201 'That wet,' said fford, reverting to a school-boy expression. 'Wet he may be, but he knows about lighters.' **1974** I. MURDOCH *Sacred & Profane Love Machine* 76 You've made me into a bloody wet. I'm a fighter and you've made me into a weak person. **1976** C. BARSTOW *Right True End* iii. xii. 180 She likes to throw out these challenges that put me to the test and make feel a weak-kneed wet. **1980** B. W. ALDISS *Life in West* ii. 42 He's a bit of a wet, but quite a sound art-historian.

1980 *Sunday Tel.* 6 Apr. 9 At least Sir Ian Gilmour and other political wets do not have their hair pulled. **1980** *Times* 7 Apr. 9/1 Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Employment, is described in one Sunday paper as 'the champion of the Tory wets'. *Ibid.*, Who... are to be counted among the wets? The answer seems to be anybody who crosses the Prime Minister in fashioning a particular policy. **1980** W. WHITELAW in *Observer* 23 Nov. 11, I don't really know what a wet is. **1983** *Age* (Melbourne) 5 Oct. 13 [Of U.K. politics] In contrast to the expansionist, protectionist and welfare-oriented Wets, the Dries stand for small government, economic rationality and individual responsibility.

7. U.S. slang. = wetback s.v. WET a. 21.

1973 *Daily Tel.* (Colour Suppl.) 16 Feb. 13/1 In the past, unscrupulous employers would employ a 'wet' for a month, then denounce him to the Immigration authorities before pay day. **1979** *Time* 8 Oct. 33/1 A group of 'wets', or 'undocumented workers', as official jargon calls them. Most of the Mexican aliens are poor, frightened and docile people whose only crime is seeking to find work and a better life in the U.S. **1979** G. SWARTHOOT *Skeletons* 104 Why doesn't this [system] detect every wet who puts a toe across the line?

wet, sb.² colloq. [f. WET v.]

1. A drink or draught of some alcoholic beverage; a glass of liquor.

In the 18th c. app. sometimes confused with WHET sb. 2 b. **1719** D'URFEY *Pills V.* 125 At Noon he gets up for a wet and to Dine. **c1752** *Narr. Journ. Ir. Gentl. Eng.* (1869) 47 Valerius protested he could not walk back to dinner until he had taken a wet, as he called it; and... he went into a tavern... and produced some cold roast beef, Cheshire cheese, and a cool tankard. **1789** *Trifler* No. xxxviii. 487 John Whip enquired of his knot of brethren on the roof whether they would take a wet. **1880** BARING-GOULD *Mehalah* xxiv, Do you, Elijah, hand a wet round. **1881** A. C. GRANT *Bush-Life Queensland* iii. (1882) 22 No bargain could be completed without a 'wet' over it. **1890** *Beeton's Christmas Ann.* 17 You look dry; let's have a wet. **1910** LOUISE GERARD *Golden Centipede* x, Chrys won't dare to hide the wets when there are visitors in the house.

2. slang. Urination, the act of urinating; urine. rare.

1925, 1975 [see WET v. 17].

wet (wet), a. Forms: a. 1-2 wæt (wát), 1 *Anglian* wēt (uēt), 3-4 wet, 3-6 wete, 4-5, 9 *Sc.* weat, 4-6 weate, 5 weiete, *north.* weytt, 5-7 *Sc.* weit, 6 weat(e. β. 4 *north.* wat, 4-5 *north.* and *Sc.* wate, *midl.* wote, 5-6 *Sc.* wait. γ. 4- wet, 4-7 wette, 4-8 wett, (6 whet). δ. *Sc.* 6 watt, 6- wat. [Three distinct types are represented here: (1) the a-forms, originating in OE. wæt adj. = OFris. wēt (WFrís. wiet, dial. weet; NFrís. wiat, wīt), ON. vátr (Icel. votur, Norw. vaat; Sw. vāt, Da. vaad), a word not found outside of the Anglo-Frisian and Scandinavian groups; (2) the β-forms resulting from the adoption of the OScand. *wāt- (ON. vátr), giving the common northern ME. wate, wait, and the rare midland wote; (3) the γ-forms, properly the pa. pple. of the verb, which finally supplant the others

except in dialect. The Sc. wat may either be a variant of this or of the earlier wate.]

1. Consisting of moisture, liquid. Chiefly as a pleonastic rhetorical epithet of water or tears.

In OE. used with ref. to mediaeval physiology = MOIST 1 d, HUMID b.

c888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxiii. §5 Sie corðe is dryge & ceald, & þæt wæter wæt & ceald. **c1000** ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* xxx. 441 Forgif, drihten, þæt pyses fyres hæto sy gecyrrd on wærne deaw. **c1220** *Bestiary* 752 Al ðat eure smelleð swete, be it drie, be it wete, **a1300** *Cursor M.* 23679 Waters renand alwais wat. **13..** K. Horn 970 (Harl. MS.) Horn... spec wip wete tearen. **c1330** R. BRUNNE *Chron.* Wace 9952 þre dayes hit was þey nought etc, Ne nought drank þat was wete. **c1374** CHAUCER *Compl. Mars* 89 This cely Venus nygh dreynt in teres wete. — *Troilus* v. 1109 Phebus with his hete Gan... to warnen of þe See þe wawes wete. **1513** DOUGLAS *Æneis* vii. v. 82 Careit throu feill large haw stremys wait. **1605** SHAKS. *Lea* iv. vii. 71 Be your teares wet? Yes faith: I pray weepe not. **1862** MRS. BROWNING *Last Poems, My Heart & I* iii, Our voice which thrilled you so, will let You sleep; our tears are only wet. **1894** *Pall Mall Gaz.* 20 Dec. 3/1 At Suez, Padishah gave way to tears—actual wet tears—when Potter became the owner of the birds. **1896** KIPLING *Seven Seas* 85 But, oh, the little cargo-boats, that sail the wet seas round!

Comb. **1597** MIDDLETON *Wisd. Solomon* xix. 18 The drieland foule, did make the sea their nest, The wet-sea fish did make the land their rest.

2. a. Of weather, a period of time, a locality: Rainy.

c893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* iii. iii. 102 Of untidlican gewideran, þæt is, of wætum sumerum, & of drygum wintrum. **c1380** WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* I. 96 As wete somers nurishen sicke tares. **c1461** *Bale's Chron.* in *Six Town Chron.* (1911) 145 Upon Thursday which was a wete day. **1577** GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* i. 21 b, You must not plowe in wette weather. **1634** MILTON *Comus* 930 Wet Octobers torrent flood. **1685** in *Verney Mem.* (1907) II. 382 The wettest and windiest day that I have seene. **a1700** EVELYN *Diary* 6 Oct. 1679, A very wet and sickly season. **1785** BURNS *Halloween* xv, The simmer had been cauld an' wat. **1849** C. BRONTË *Shirley* xii, They had passed a long wet day together without ennui. **1861** J. H. BENNET *Shores Medit.* i. vi. (1875) 161 [In] the Riviera... it is seldom or never, at the same time, cold and wet. **1863** [see SOAKING ppl. a. 6]. **1877** HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 46 The wettest spot in England being near Seathwaite in Cumberland.

b. Of the air, wind, etc.: Holding or carrying moisture in the form of vapour.

c1400 *Destr. Troy* 12474 Wintur vp wacknet with his wete aire. **1883** STEVENSON *Silverado Sq.* (1886) 42 In the tunnel a cold, wet draught... blew.

c. Of a star: Bringing rain.

c1425 *MS. Digby* 233 lf. 225/1 At holy rode day... bygynneþ þe myzt & þe strengþe of þe wete sterre arture.

d. transf. and fig. (Cf. RAINY 2 b.)

a1661 FULLER *Worthies*, Gen. xi. (1662) 38 Ergo, saith the Miser, part with nothing, but keep all against a Wet day. **1691** NORRIS *Pract. Disc.* 34 The children of this World... will [not] let slip any other advantage... of providing against a Wet Day. **1865** J. HATTON *Bitter Sweets* v, You'd most likely come down topsy-turvy, and have a werry wet welcome at the end of it. **1872** BLACK *Adv. Phaeton* xxix, Scotland was evidently bent on giving us a wet welcome.

e. Comb. (adj. + sb. used as an attrib. phr.).

1883 MISS BROUGHTON *Belinda* iii. vi. It was an innocent enough wet-day amusement! **1897** MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 96 The torrential downpour of the wet-season rain. **1901** C. HOLLAND *Moussmé* 323 Their huge wet-weather hats.

f. absol. = wet season. Freq. with def. article and also with capital initial. colloq. (chiefly Austral.).

1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 371 When the Ogowe and its neighbouring rivers come down in the 'long wet'. *Ibid.* 375 In February comes the short dry, then the short wet till May. **1908** MRS. A. GUNN *We of Never-Never* i. 5 He... wired an inane suggestion about waiting till after the Wet. **1934** *Bulletin* (Sydney) 29 Aug. 20/4 In the 'wet' it became a miniature lake at which one cocky's horses were wont to drink. **1941** I. L. IDRIESS *Great Boomerang* vii. 51 An early and heavy wet would set in that would spill water for a thousand miles south-west. **1968** S. L. ELLIOTT *Rusty Bugles* in E. Hanger *Three Austral. Plays* i. ii. 41 That's what everyone tells me. Wait until you've done a Wet. **1981** P. CAREY *Bliss* iii. 135 Each year when the wet ended she found herself looking forward to it again.

3. a. Of land or soil: Holding water, saturated with water, heavy.

a900 *Leiden Riddle* 1 Mec se ueta uong, uundrum freorig, ob his innadae aerest caendæ. **c1000** *Sax. Leechd.* I. 90 Deos wyrt... bið cenned gehwær on smecum landum & on wætum. **a1023** WULFSTAN *Hom.* (1883) 249 *Loca humentia*, þæt beoð wæte stowa. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 1318 Gyson, fison, tigre, eufrate, þis four mas al þis erth wate. **1375** BARBOUR *Bruce* XIX. 692 For I haf gert spy ws a gat. Suppos that it be sum-deill wat, A page of ouris we sall nocht tylene. **1377** LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xiv. 41 þe wyld worme vnder weat erthe. **c1425** WYNTOUN *Cron.* i. xi. 968 þe watyr of Nyle our fletis it all Withe mowynge spryngis wip outtyn spate, Qwen Egipte nedis to be wate [MS. W. wait]. **c1470** *Golagros & Gaw.* 35 Sa wundir wait wes the way. **1523-34** FITZHERB. *Husb.* §14 [Oats] wylle grow on weter grounde than any corne els. **1557** TUSSEY *100 Points Husb.* §38 When pasture is gone, and the fildes mier and weate. **1596** DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 286 Thay contendet to cum out of that narrow and watt place ful of dubis and myres. **1625** G. MARKHAM *Inrichment Weald Kent* 9 A cold, stiffe and wet clay. **1784** *Young's Annals Agric.* II. 43 In many of their fields they are troubled with springs; they call the wet spots squalls. **1842** BISCHOFF *Woolen Manuf.* II. 383 This is not, however, a turnip soil, being much too wet and heavy. **1847** [see SOAKING ppl. a. 6]. **1911** G. MACDONALD *Roman Wall Scot.* 132 The field at the bottom is still wet and marshy.

absol. **1824** SCOTT *St. Ronan's* viii, Miss Clara cares little for rough roads... Zounds! she can spank it over wet and dry.

fig. 1824 W. IRVING *Tales Trav.* II. *Club Queer Fellows*, A good joke grows in a wet soil, . . . but withers on your d—d high dry grounds.

Comb. 1778 [W. MARSHALL] *Minutes Agric.*, *Digest* 70 A wet-land Farm.

b. Of a crop: Grown in a moist or watery soil. 1885 W. W. HUNTER *Imp. Gaz. India* (ed. 2) II. 63 The most valuable of the 'wet' crops is sugar-cane.

4. Made damp or moist by exposure to the elements or by falling in water; sprinkled, covered, or permeated with rain, dew, etc. Const. with, *to f.* a. of things, esp. clothing.

c 900 *Bæda's Hist.* v. xii. (1890) 436 Næfre he ða his wætan hræl & þa cealdan forlætan wolde, oðþæt hig eft of his seolfes lichoman gewermedon & adrugedon. c 1290 *St. Bridget* 39 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 193 So gret rein ore louerd to eorpe sende þat hire clōpes al wete weren. c 1385 CHAUCER *L.G.W.* 775 Aurora with the strems of hir hete Hadde dreyed vp the dew of erbis wete. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 523/1 Weet, wythe reyne, *complutus*. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 281 As for hercules all that he had vpon hym was weat and nothing drye. 1596 RALEGH *Discov. Guiana* 9 The wete clothes of so many men thrust together. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV.* v. i. 95 O you shall see him laugh, till his face be like a wet Cloake, ill laid vp. 1725 MANDEVILLE *Fab. Bees* (ed. 4) I. 271 In comes the nimble Messenger smoking hot, with his Cloaths as wet as Dung with the Rain. 1800 WORDSW. *Two Thieves* 9 The traveller would hang his wet clothes on a chair. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* li. The sky was dark and gloomy, . . . the streets wet and sloppy. 1853 — *Bleak Ho.* xviii. She . . . slipped off her shoes, . . . and walked deliberately . . . through the wettest of the wet grass. 1866 SWINBURNE *Poems & B.*, *An Interlude* 2 In the greenest growth of the Maytime, I rode where the woods were wet, Between the dawn and the daytime. 1884 PAE *Eustace* 13 Eustace . . . was not long in divesting himself of his wet garments.

b. of persons (together with their clothes) or a part of the body. Also of animals.

c 1205 LAY. 2808 þa wese ich al wet, & weri of sorȝen and seoc. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* IV. 380 Thouch þai wate war and wery. c 1386 CHAUCER *Reeve's T.* 187 Wery and wect as beest is in the reyn Comth sely Iohn. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 279 Wherof hercules and exione were all wette of the wasshing and springing of the waves. 1523 BERNERS *Froiss.* I. ccxxiv. 205 b. Suche as were wete & colde made fyres to warme them. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV.* III. i. 27 Canst thou (O partial Sleeper) giue thy Repose To the wet Sea-Boy, in an hour so rude. 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* I. xiv. He . . . shooke his wings with roarie May-dewes wet. 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 2 Oct. 1641. We were forced to walke on foote very wett and discompos'd. 1728 RAMSAY *Anacr. Love* 8 A poor young wean a' wat! 1789 W. BLAKE *Songs of Innoc.*, *Little Boy Lost* 6 The child was wet with dew. 1825 COBBETT *Rur. Rides* (1885) I. 399 The farm-house . . . from the warmth and good fare of which we do not mean to stir, until we can do it without the chance of a wet skin. 1849 JAMES *Woodman* xlv. Set me a seat by the fire, . . . and then call in the slave. He is wetter than we are. 1861 E. D. COOK *P. Foster's Dau.* i. Besides, I hate to get wet. 1918 *Chamb. Jnl.* 1 Oct. 678/2 Mad as a wet ben because I refuse to take his word for it that the titles are O.K.

c. with prefixed intensive pple., as *wringing* (see *WRINGING ppl. a.*), *dripping*, *dropping* *wet*. *wet through, to the skin*: having one's clothes completely saturated (cf. *WET v. 4 c*).

a 1500 *Flower & Leaf* 406 Wberewith they made hem statly fyres grete To dry their clothes that were wringing wete. 1526 A. C. *Merry Tales* No. 82 (facs.) 22 b. There fel a good shoure of rayn that the skoler was well wasshyd and wete to y^e skyn. 1591, 1770 [see *DROPPING ppl. a.* 1 c]. 1611, 1764 [see *SKIN sb. 6 e*]. 1798 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) I. 61 But all this does not make it the more agreeable to get wet through. 1835 W. IRVING *Tour Prairies* xiii. Some dripping wet, having fallen into the river. 1840 LONGF. in *Life* (1891) I. 359 The last eighteen miles it rained like fury, and I reached Hartford wet through. 1859 F. E. PAGET *Curate Cumberworth* 343 The rain set in . . . so heavily, that in half an hour I was wet to the skin.

d. absol. *the wet* = one's wet clothes.

17.. *The Ploughman* iii. in *Herd Songs* (1776) II. 145 Cast aff the wet, put on the dry, And gae to bed, my deary. 1816 SCOTT *Antig.* xxvi. And then the man casts aff the wat and puts on the dry, and sits down. . . ahint the ingle.

e. Applied to a removable liner for the cylinder of an internal-combustion engine that has cooling water flowing between it and the cylinder wall.

1935 *Jnl. R. Aeronaut. Soc.* XXXIX. 470 The four cylinders 63 m/m. bore by 120 m/m. stroke were steel jacketed, wet liners, having four valves per cylinder. 1959 *Motor* 14 Oct. 304/2 Cylinder blocks with individual wet liners of cast iron. 1975 M. J. NUNNEY *Automotive Engine* iii. 94 Positive sealing arrangements must be made with wet cylinder liners to prevent leakage of coolant into the crankcase. 1981 H. E. ELLINGER *Automotive Engines* x. 157/2 Coolant flows around the cylinder sleeve, so this type of sleeve is called a wet sleeve.

5. a. Suffused with tears; moist with weeping or with being wept upon. Const. with, *to f.*

c 1205 LAY. 30268 Wete weoren his wongen. a 1225 *Anac.* R. 278 Bihold mid wet eien pine scheomeful sunnen. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2356 Euerile he kiste, on ilc he gret, Ilc here was of is teres wet. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 25999 þat pou mai sai al wit þe prophet, Mi weping mas mi bed al wet. c 1386 CHAUCER *Knt's T.* 422 The pure fettes on his shynes grete Weren of his bitre salte teres wete. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 98 Hire yhen smale and depe set, Hire chekes ben with teres wet. c 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* ix. 226 His eyen waxed weete agen for pite. 1500–20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxii. 133 Repentance ay with cheikis wait, No pane nor pennence did eschew. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* v. v. 35 These her Women . . . who with wet cheekes Were present when she finish'd. 1667 DRYDEN & Dk. *Newcastle Sir M. Mar-all* IV. i. Lord! her innocency makes me laugh my Cheeks all wet. 1785 COWPER *Task* IV. 17 Epistles wet With tears, that trickled down the writer's cheeks. 1871 BRYANT *Odys.* v. 105 Gazing with wet eyes upon the barren deep. 1885–94 BRIDGES *Eros & Psyche*

May xxvi. And when at night her lover kisst her, lo! Her tender face was wet with tears of grief.

b. Suffused or covered with blood; dripping or oozing with blood. (Only of wounds, or with explicit mention of blood.)

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 15628 þat was blod þan of him ran, þe place was þar-wit wett. *Ibid.* 24082 His bodi al blodi wat. 13.. *Sir Orfeo* 80 Sche froted hir honden and hir fet, And crached hir visage, it bled wete. c 1320 *Cast. Love* 1433 þe woundes grene and weet, W3uche þat weoren on honden and feet. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1329 Wyde woundes & wete. c 1440 *York Myst.* xxxviii. 283 þat swete, þat for my loue tholed woundes wete. 1804 W. L. BOWLES *Spir. Discov.* IV. 24 The evil of his march through cities stormed, And regions wet with blood!

c. Moist or damp with perspiration.

c 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 8436 Of his forhede barst the swote, That al his face ther-of was wote. 1803 *Med. Jnl.* X. 84 After violent perspiration, a linen or cotton shirt becomes wet.

d. to get wet: to lose one's temper, become angry. *Austral. slang* (? Obs.).

1898 *Bulletin* (Sydney) 17 Dec. Red Page, To get narked is to lose your temper; also expressed by getting dead wet. 1916 C. J. DENNIS *Songs of Sentimental Bloke* 42 Romeo gits wet as 'ell. 1945 BAKER *Austral. Lang.* 121 A man in a temper is said . . . to get wet.

e. to get (someone) wet: to gain the upper hand over; to have at one's mercy. *N.Z. slang*.

c 1926 'MIXER' *Transport Workers' Song Bk.* 29 He skites about in-fighting. Stick to him, Mick; you've got him wet. 1941 *Coast to Coast* 1941 124 'Got you wet, haven't they?' He flung the remark over his shoulder as he went over to his bed. 1945 F. SARGESON *When Wind Blows* vi. 40 Now we've got 'em wet.

f. Of those activities of intelligenece organizations, esp. of the K.G.B., that involve assassination. *slang*.

1972 A. PRICE *Col. Butler's Wolf* vi. 58 The Russian slang for Spetsburo Thirteen was *Mokryye Dela*—'The department of wet affairs' . . . and to get wet was the feared, inevitable fate of traitors pursued by the special bureau. 1975 J. GRADY *Shadow of Condor* ii. 47 'The courier made other mistakes. . . . It was a wet affair.' . . . Ryzhov like to use the old KGB liquid euphemism for executions. 1980 J. GARDNER *Garden of Weapons* II. vii. 191 He had seen men killed: and killed them himself: he had directed 'wet operations', as they used to be called.

6. a. Made moist or damp by dipping in, or sprinkling or smearing with, water or other liquid.

Freq. of new-printed matter (newspapers or books), esp. in the phr. *wet from the press*.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 264 Tho lay ther certein wode eleft, Of which the pieces nou and eft Sche made hem in the pettes wete, And put hem in the fyri hete. 1398 TREvisa *Barth. De P.R.* vii. lxiv. (1495) 280 The water slydeth of as it were of a wete hyde. c 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 48 Wete þin dyssche in þe bony, & with þe wete dyssche ley þe malmenye & þe cofyns. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* I. 267 Then the white neckes schalle be humecate or made weiete with golde. c 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 191 Byd hym goo ynto þe chirch, and se how al þe pament set ys wete of þe holy watyr. 1644 *MILTON Areop.* (Arb.) 53 Do we not see . . . weekly that continu'd Court-libell . . . Printed, as the wet sheets can witnes, and dispers't among us for all that licencing can doe? 1721 E. WARD *Wand. Spy* I. (1729) 3 Then a wet Finger does its Duty, And robs the Bar-board of its Beauty. 1754 *Connoisseur* No. 29 ¶ 1, I snatch up the favourite sheets wet from the press and devour every syllable. 1798 COLERIDGE *Recantation* xx. With the morning's wet newspaper. 1804 *Med. Jnl.* XII. 494 It should be afterwards cleaned with a wet sponge. 1835 *New Monthly Mag.* XLIV. 337 Just published, and wet from the press, 'The Stranger's Guide through Little Pedlington'. 1838 DICKENS *Mem. Grimaldi* I. vii. 186 No sooner did they arrive wet from the press, than men on horseback were immediately despatched with them to Canterbury. 1839 DE QUINCEY *Wordsw. & Southey* Wks. 1889 II. 316 Wordsworth's habits of using books . . . were not vulgar; not the habits of those who turn over the page by means of a wet finger. 1850 F. K. HUNT *Fourth Estate* II. 220 Just as the wet Newspaper, fresh from the News-boy, is being opened at the eight o'clock breakfast table. 1859 FITZGERALD *Omar* xxxvi, I watch'd the Potter thumping his wet Clay.

† b. (a) with a wet finger: easily, with little effort. Also (b) readily, without hesitation; (c) slightly, lightly. Obs.

Perh. from the practice of wetting the first or second finger on one's tongue in order to facilitate turning over the leaves of a book or to rub out writing on a slate. Cf. quotes. 1721 and 1839 in 6.

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* To Rdr. *iv. A large and plain table . . . whereby . . . to any good matter in the booke contened, readie waye and recourse maye with a weat fynger easily bee found out. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 78 With a wet fynger ye can fet, As muche as maie easily all this matter ease. 1589 *Rare Tri. Love & Fortune* III. C4. And I can finde One with a wet finger that is starke blinde. 1593 G. HARVEY *Pierces Super.* 2, I hate brawles with my hart; and can turne-ouer A volume of wronges with a wett finger. 1600 *Wisd. Dr. Dodypoll* III. E3 b, *Flo.* Canst thou bring me thither? *Pea[sani]*. With a wet finger sir. 1644 FEATLY *Roma Ruens* 5, I could with a wet finger produce diuers decrees of Popes. . . flat repugnant one to the other. 1690 C. NESSE O. & N. *Test.* I. 293 How easily . . . even with a wet finger, (as we say) could God . . . have overturned Jacob. 1728 [DE FOE] *Street-Robberies* 47 When our Tryal came on, we got clear with a wet Finger, as the Folks say. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) V. 152 If thou likest her, I get her for thee with a wet finger, as the saying is! 1754 FOOTE *Knts.* I. 15 If Dame Winifred was here, she'd make 'em all out with a wet Finger; but they are above me. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xii. If we could but find any one to say she had given the least hint o' her condition, she wad be brought aff wi' a wat finger.

(b) 1583 STUBBS *Anat. Abus.* II. 39 The broker will giue mony for them, with a wet finger. 1604 DEKKER *Honest Wh.*

1. A4. If ever I stand in neede of a wenche that will come with a wet finger.

(c) 1586 [? J. CASE] *Praise Mus.* vii. 79 To let passe all generalities which I touched before with a wet finger. 1624 GATAKER *Transubst.* 45 The slightnesse and slendernesse of his Answeres, with a wet finger (as we say) passing by the manifold allegations produced.

c. in other proverbial expressions.

to cover oneself with a wet sack: see *SACK sb.* 1 3.

1561 tr. *Calvin's 4 Serm. Idol.* i. Aij b, Thinking that he is escaped when he is couered, as the common saying is, vnder a wette sack. 1578 H. WOTTON *Courtlie Controv.* 61 For so many pleasures vanished, as an Ele through a wette hande. 1579, a 1651 [see *SACK sb.* 1 3]. 1616 DRAXE *Bibl. Scholast.* 218 He holdeth a wet eele by the taile. 1679 *Lett. Gent. Romish Rel.* to Brother 32 There being no more hold of them than of a wet Eel by the tail.

d. to come with a wet sail: to make swift progress to victory, like a ship with sails wetted in order to keep close to the wind.

1876 *Coursing Calendar* 326 Westeria, coming with a wet sail, rushed by and ultimately killed. 1901 *Daily Express* 18 Mar. 8/1 Bury, who were expected to come with a wet sail, went down before their local rivals at Bolton.

7. Of timber: Full of sap, unseasoned.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Knt's T.* 1480 And as it queynte, it made a whistlynge, As doon thise wete brondes in hir brennynge. 1468–9 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 103 Let not hit be wete rymbyr in hond. 1900 HEFFER in *Academy* 18 Aug. 127/2 The wet-wood smoke drives us winking blind. 1906 H. VAN DYKE *Ideals* xii. 266 Wet wood will not burn.

8. Of paint, varnish, ink: Not yet dry, sticky, liable to smudge.

1519 [see *BLOTTING-PAPER*]. 1552–3 in Feuillerat *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 139 For drying of stayning paynting and other wett pasted and mowlded woorkes. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* v. iii. 81 The ruddinesse vpon her Lippe is wet: You'le marre it, if you kisse it. 1850 MISS MULOCK *Olive* xx. (1890) 157 Ha! don't come near my picture. The paint's wet. Gct away. 1883 M. E. JAMES *How to Decorate* 19 Remember that tempera is many shades lighter when it is dry than when it is wet. 1914 'BARTIMEUS' *Nav. Occas.* vii. (1916) 50 The younger girl wiped a foot of wet paint off the coaming of a hatch, and said sweetly it didn't matter in the least.

9. Fort. Of a ditch: Containing water.

For the sense cf. *WET DOCK*.

1590 SIR R. WILLIAMS *Discourse War* 50 No drie ditch can bee compared for strength vnto a wet ditch. 1813 *Ann. Reg.*, *App. to Chron.* 130 The whole of the fortification is surrounded by a wet ditch. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* II. 193 The citadel is separated from the mainland by a wet ditch of artificial construction.

10. Of fish: a. Cured with salt or brine. b. Fresh, not dried.

a. c 1580 in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* (1914) July 523 Wett newland fishe, ye c, 1 li. Drye fishe, the hondert, oli. 10 sh. 1580 R. HITCHCOCK *Polit. Plat* a iiv, Twentie thousande of the beste and middle sort of wette fishe (at the leaste) called blankfishe, and tenne thousande drie fishe. 1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4421/7 The Cargo of the Prize-Ship Margaret of Nantz, consisting of about 11000 Wett, or Mud-fish. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 64 The preparation of white herrings . . . consists of packing the fish in salt, which soon turns to brine, and this method of preparation is termed the 'wet cure'.

b. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 62/2 All fresh fish is 'wet'; all cured or salted fish, 'dry'. 1899 *Daily News* 14 Jan. 5/1 The inexpensive kinds of fish are cod, hake, skate, sprats, and 'wet' haddock.

11. Of confections: Preserved in syrup; of a syrupy nature. Of surgical or natural-history specimens: Bottled in spirits.

1612 *Sc. Bk. Rates in Halyburton's Ledger* (1867) 312 Wett confectionis—Preserved barbareis . . . Marmalad [etc.]. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 259 Sweat-meats Dry and Wet, upon small Porcelaine Plates. 1836 [MRS. TRAILL] *Backw. Canada* 46 The American Crab, these beautiful little scarlet apples so often met with as a wet preserve among our sweetmeats at home. 1867 LATHAM *Black & White* 87 The 'wet specimens,' those bottled in spirits. 1891 *Century Dict.*, *Wet preparation*, a specimen of natural history immersed in alcohol.

12. Of measure: Used for liquid articles. ? Obs.

1597 SKENE *De Verb. Signif.* s.v. *Gangiatiores*, Al measures, & weichts, baith dry & weete. 1622 MALYNES *Lex Mercat.* 39 The Romanes in times past, called the wet Measure by Ounces, as wee doe the weight. 1638 L. ROBERTS *Merch. Map Comm.* II. 238 Wet Measures are also derived from this pound Troy.

13. *Med.* a. Designating certain diseases which are characterized by moist secretions.

1565 BLUNDEVIL *Curing Horses Dis.* lxix. (1580) 29, I call it the wet cough, because the horse in his coughing, will void moiste matter at his mouth. *Ibid.* cxxvii. 58 Of the wet Spauen, or 'through Spauen. 1898 P. MANSON *Trop. Diseases* xiv. 232 The paralytic-atrophic cases are designated 'dry beriberi' or beriberi atrophica; the dropsical eases, 'wet beriberi' or beriberi hydropes. 1899 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Wet brain*, *Wet scald*, *Wet tetter*.

b. *wet cup, cupping*: see *CUPPING vbl. sb.* 1.

1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 175 Wet-cupping the loins to the extent of several ounces may be of service. 1913 DORLAND *Med. Dict.*, *Wet-cup*, a cupping-glass to be used after scarification.

c. Designating various modes of hydropathic treatment, as in *wet bandage, compress, pack, packing, sheet*.

1843 SIR C. SCUDAMORE *Med. Visit Gräfenberg* 16 Wet Bandages. 1848, 1870 [see *COMPRESS sb.* 1]. 1859, 1899 [see *PACK sb.* 1 11]. 1874 [see *PACKING vbl. sb.* 1 1 c]. 1874 BUCKNILL & TUKE *Psychol. Med.* (ed. 3) 754 The Wet Sheet or Wet Pack . . . acts as an energetic sudorific.

fig. c 1864 J. B. PATON in *Life* (1914) 85 We cannot submit to have these men . . . wrapped in the eternal wet-sheet of a monastic college.

14. *colloq.* a. Primed with liquor; more or less intoxicated. (Cf. WET *v.* 7b.)

1704 PRIOR *Celia to Damon* 66 When my lost Lover the tall Ship ascends, With Musick gay, and wet with Iovial Friends. 1834 COLERIDGE *Table T.* 20 Jan., Some men are like musical glasses;—to produce their finest tones, you must keep them wet.

b. Addicted to drink.

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Wet-Quaker*, a Drunkard of that Sect. c 1713 in Aitken *Steele* (1889) I. 395 It's a very wet town, and the voters are wet too. 1825 BROCKETT *N.C. Words, Wet-hand*, a drunken person. 1900 'R. GUTHRIE' *Kitty Fagan* 207 It might keep some o' the wet hands oot o' the pub.

c. *transf.*

1592 NASHE *P. Penilesse Wks.* (Grosart) II. 57 Those that keep a wet corner for a friend, and will not thinke scorn to drinke with a good fellowe and a Souldior. 1805 [see BARGAIN *sb.* 1 7]. 1824 W. IRVING *Tales Trav.* II. *Club Queer Fellows*, His jokes, it must be confessed, were rather wet, but they suited the circle over which he presided. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xi, As he knew he should have a wet night, it was agreed that he might gallop back again in time for church on Sunday morning. 1905 VACHELL *The Hill* iii. 49 Some of us had a wet night of it, last night.

15. *colloq.* a. Of a Quaker: Not very strict in the observances of his sect. (See also 14b.)

1700 T. BROWN *Amusem. Ser. & Com. Wks.* 1720 III. 29 Would you buy any naked Truth, or Light in a dark Lanthorn? Look in the Wet-Quakers Walk. a 1708 T. WARD *England's Reform.* II. (1710) 44 Quakers, and Wet-Quakers, or Merry-ones. 1785 GEO. A. BELLAMY *Apol. Life* (ed. 3) I. xiii. 78, I had not indeed dressed myself with the studied formality of a rigid Quaker, but only so plain and neat as to entitle me to the denomination of a wet Quaker; a distinction that arises chiefly from the latter's wearing ribbands, gauzes, and laces. 1838 *Bentley's Miscell.* IV. 297 Who has not heard of... a wet Quaker? who *thees* and *yays*, wears no collar to his coat...; but is in other respects... living that sort of life which, in England, is called that of a jolly dog. 1839 MARRYAT *Diary Amer.* Ser. I. I. 255 Mr. Buffum... was dressed as what is termed a wet Quaker. 1866 CARLYLE in Mrs. Carlyle *Lett.* II. 53 An enthusiastic young 'Wet-Quaker'.

transf. 1831 W. IRVING *Life & Lett.* (1864) II. 461 Mine host, the Rev. C. R. Reaston Rodes... is a kind of wet parson, if I may borrow that phrase from the Quakers. 1855 NEWMAN *Callista* vi. (1856) 48 Agellius is but a wet Christian;... not obstinate, like his brother there. 1876 MARCH. DUFFERIN *Canad. Jnl.* (1891) 205, I believe our one friend here is a 'wet' Mormon, and at his house, where we spent the evening, we only met one-wifed men.

b. Inept, ineffectual, effete; also as quasi-*adv.* and in comb. *wet fish*, a wet individual, a 'drip'. Also *spec. in Politics* (see quotes. 1981 and 1983). Cf. WET *sb.* 1 6.

1916 'TAFFRAIL' *Pincher Martin* ii. 27 I'll give yer a clip 'longside the ear'ole if you ain't careful. Don't act so wet. 1924 P. MARKS *Plastic Age* 94 They attended a performance of Shaw's 'Candida' given by the Dramatic Society and voted it a 'wet' show. *Ibid.* 192 A man is wet if he isn't a 'regular guy'; be is wet if he isn't 'smooth'; he is wet if he has intellectual interests...; and he is wet... if he is utterly stupid. 1938 E. BOWEN *Death of Heart* II. iv. 239 Cecil is so wet! Coming early like that, then sticking round like that. 1944 A. CHRISTIE *Towards Zero* 86 Audrey marry that wet fish? She's a lot too good for that. 1963 *Wet fish* [see MOOSE¹ c]. 1969 K. AMIS *Green Man* iv. 180 The Jesus of the Gospels can be a bit of a wet liberal at times. 1973 P. O'DONNELL *Silver Mistress* iv. 74 Don't talk wet, Jan. There's nothing you could do. 1980 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 28 Nov. 1355/2 The contrast between the splendid façade and the rather wet interior of the man [sc. Havelock Ellis], who was kind and gentle and distinguished, but also distressingly absent, indifferent and faint.

1981 *Observer* 26 July 12/3 The term 'Wet' was originally used by Mrs Thatcher, who meant it in the old sense of 'soppy', as in 'What do you mean the unions won't like it, Jim? Don't be so wet.' It meant feeble, liable to take the easy option, lacking intellectual and political hardness. Like so many insults, it was gleefully adopted by its victims, and so came by its present meaning of liberal, leftish, anti-ideological. 1982 *Listener* 23/30 Dec. 6/3 In considering the promotion of wet (or wettish) Ministers, she will tell herself that Pope was right. 1983 *Age* (Melbourne) 5 Oct. 13 Britain's Tory Prime Minister, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, began this vogue terminology by contemptuously dismissing dewy-eyed dissenters from her arid Right-wing policies as 'wet'.

c. *all wet*: mistaken, completely wrong, orig. and chiefly U.S.

1923 *N. Y. Times* 9 Sept. VII. 2/1 *All wet*, all wrong. 1931 *Kansas City Times* 29 Aug., Alfalfa Bill Murray may be 'all wet' in his state-line bridge and oil production controversies. 1940 G. ADE *Let.* 5 June (1973) 221 Regarding the Rotary Clubs, I... am an honorary member. I think the organization is alright and that Sinclair Lewis was all wet when he tried to poke fun at the small town booster. 1941 E. B. WHITE *Let.* Summer (1976) 216, I haven't had much time to think things over and I am probably all wet on a lot of things in here. 1951 A. BARON *Rosie Hogarth* 282 You're all wet if you think I'm giving up that easy.

d. *wet behind the ears*: see EAR *sb.* 1 1 c.

16. a. Consisting of alcoholic liquor.

1770 *Remembrancer* VIII. 277 Saturday last arrived here from Cadiz, a polacre, with a large and general assortment of dry and wet goods. 1837 J. COTTLE *Early Recoll.* I. 320, I think he carries on a snug business in the smuggling line, and... is on the look-out for some wet cargo. 1882 *Daily News* 31 Jan. 2/1 The central office for 'wet goods', i.e. wines and spirits. 1884 *Chamb. Jnl.* 26 Jan. 58/2 Casks of vinous liquors, technically known as 'wet goods'.

b. Concerned with the sale and consumption of alcoholic liquor.

1892 [see DRY *a.* 11 a]. 1899 H. WYNDHAM *Queen's Service* 97 Canteens... are known as either 'wet' or 'dry'. In the former, beer, porter, and stout, but no spirits, are sold. *Ibid.* 98 The hours during which 'wet' Canteens are open. 1913

R. H. GRETTON *Mod. Hist. Engl. People* I. 90 Whereas at ports the customs arrangement allowed 'bonding' on a large scale, there was no such possibility in inland towns, except in some 'wet' trades.

c. orig. and chiefly U.S. Permitting the sale of alcoholic liquor: accepting or adhering to this as a principle; opposed to the prohibition of the liquor traffic. Freq. in recent use. Hence as quasi-*adv.* in phr. *to go or vote wet*. Cf. DRY *a.* 11 a.

1870, etc. [see DRY *a.* 11 a]. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* liv. II. 350 note, Some States, e.g. Georgia, have adopted a local option system, under which each county decides whether it will be 'wet' or 'dry' (i.e. permit or forbid the sale of intoxicants). 1888 *North American* (Philadelphia) 3 Apr. 1/1 Forty-nine counties have voted 'dry', and thirty-three 'wet'. ... Thirteen of twenty towns voted 'dry', and seven 'wet'. 1908 *Westm. Gaz.* 20 May 12/1 A map of the United States, with prohibition States white, licence States black, and States partly 'dry' and partly 'wet' under local option indicated by shading. 1919 H. L. WILSON *Ma Pettengill* 36 Like a cow-hand with three month's pay hitting a wet town. 1954 K. AMIS *Lucky Jim* 109 The still recent tradition of a 'wet' Summer Ball. 1974 *Times* 7 Oct. 4/1 Flintshire, Radnorshire, Breconshire... voted to go wet. *Ibid.* 4/2 That poll ended the curious situation of one inn which straddled on the wet-dry border... The public bar was dry and empty, but the lounge bar was wet and crowded.

d. *absol.* or quasi-*sb.* (from prec. sense).

1888 *Battle Creek* (Michigan) *Weekly Jnl.* 29 Feb., This is the first great victory for the 'wets'. 1896 [see DRY *sb.* 5]. 1906 *Mission Field Aug.* 144 The 'wets' would carry such cities as Guthrie, Oklahoma City and Shawnee. 1919 *Blackw. Mag.* Nov. 657/1 The party calling themselves 'The Wets' still believed that the President would intervene to avert such legislation. 1920 [A. G. GARDINER] *Windfalls* 17 The wasp... shares man's weakness for beer. In the language of America, he is a 'wet'. 1968 *Daily Tel.* 8 Nov. 1/4 The 'wets' gained three counties... in the Welsh referendum on Sunday drinking.

17. a. Designating various technical processes or operations.

1807 AKIN *Dict. Chem.* II. 427 Tin is soluble in acid of tartar, and this solution is of importance in manufacture, as it is the method by which wet tinning is performed on copper and brass. 1854 C. TOMLINSON *Obj. Art-Manuf., Paper* 24 The paper... is subjected to a second pressure, called wet pressing, by which a further portion of the water is got rid of. 1859 REEVE *Britany* 6 The wet collodion process. 1878 ABNEY *Treat. Photogr.* vii. 50 The following are collodions... for the wet process. 1882 *Imperial Dict., Wet-putting*, in metallurgy, pig-boiling. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 989 The dangers consequent upon the manufacture of arsenic have been much diminished... by what is technically known as the 'wet method'.

b. Designating chemical tests and analysis involving the use of solvents or other liquids; = HUMID *a.* c; so *wet-chemical* adj. Cf. WAY *sb.* 1 4 c.

1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* I. 398 Analysis by the wet way. 1858 *Phil. Mag.* XVI. 331 This method is particularly adapted... when the substances of this group occur in so small quantities that they are no longer recognizable in the wet way. 1887 *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 70/2 A convenient wet-way method for small quantities is to boil the recently precipitated chloride... with caustic soda-ley. 1932 F. SODDY *Interpretation of Atom* xv. 253 Almost all the ordinary chemical tests for the common elements, by which they are identified in the ordinary reactions of 'wet' analysis, are not tests for the elements, but for their ions. 1967 *Electronics* 6 Mar. 29 (Advt.), You can be sure of a complete refinery service... Including, under one roof... laboratory facilities for wet chemical analysis and electrolytic methods of analysis. 1973 *Nature* 8 June 365/1 Since the Second World War, physical methods of analysis... have increasingly displaced wet chemistry from the industrial routine analytical laboratory. 1977 *New Scientist* 17 Feb. 384/1 Traditional methods of detecting nitrogen oxides as air pollutants monitor the change in colour of an acid permanganate solution as the oxides are absorbed. These wet-chemical methods... require relatively large samples of gases.

18. *Naut.* Of a vessel: Liable to ship water over the bows or gunwale.

1832 MARRYAT *N. Forster* x, She was what sailors term rather a wet one, and the sea broke continually over her bows. 1884 CLARK RUSSELL *Jack's Courtship* xvii, The *Strathmore*... had the reputation of being a very fast sailer, though what is termed a wet ship. 1891 M. ROBERTS *Land-travel & Sea-faring* 9 The *Seringapatam* was a very 'wet ship', that is, she was very much inclined to ship heavy seas.

19. Of natural gas: containing significant amounts of the vapour of higher hydrocarbons.

1926 *Daily Colonist* (Victoria, B.C.) 18 July 16/7 Wet gas flow of 3,000,000 feet a day was struck at McLeod No. 2 well in Turner Valley last night. 1948 *Petroleum Handbk.* (Shell Petroleum Co. Ltd.) (ed. 3) ix. 154 Gases produced in contact with oil can be either 'dry' or 'wet', depending on the nature of the crude oil and the method of separating the gas from the oil. 1982 *Shell Briefing Service* No. 5. 5/2 LPG is essentially a mixture of propane and butane stored at ambient temperature under moderate pressure. It can be derived from the gas associated with crude oil or from 'wet' natural gas directly at the well.

20. In combination with pa. pples.: a. predicative, as *wet-crushed*, *-picked*, *-plucked*, *salted*, *situated*, *spun*, *woaded*.

1877 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines* 419 The cost of drying the wet-crushed ore. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XVIII. 225/2 It [esparto] is again 'wet-picked' after boiling. 1960 *Farmer & Stockbreeder* 19 Jan. Suppl. 41/3 At slaughter the birds are all... wet-plucked by machine and then eviscerated. 1969 R. ADLARD in R. Blythe *Akenfield* xiv. 234 The feathers are no use because the chickens [in factory farms] are wet-plucked, so there is only a mess. 1885 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 274/1 Hides brought to the tannery in this condition are known as 'wet salted'. 1765 A. DICKSON *Treat. Agric.* (ed.

2) 471 When clay land is *wet situated. 1901 *Scotsman* 1 Apr. 11/1 The demand for *wet spun yarns. 1660 FULLER *Mist Contempl.* xlix 76 What may be the cause why so much cloth so soon changeth colour? It is because it was never *wet wadded, which giveth the fixation to a colour.

b. parasynthetic, as *wet-bottomed*, *-eyed*, *-feeted*, *-footed*, *-lipped*, *mouthed*.

1812 SIR J. SINCLAIR *Syst. Husb. Scot.* I. 222 *Wet-bottomed land. 1886 C. SCOTT *Sheep-Farming* 89 Much wet-bottomed land... is ill suited for rearing lambs. 18... LEIGH HUNT *Robin Hood & Outlaws* xvii, Never woman [came] for redress, And went away *wet-eyed. 1891 HARDY *Tess* xl, He knelt down at the bedside wet-eyed. 1864 DICKENS *Mrs. Lirriper's Legacy* i, It was in vain for me to... tell him he'd be... *wet-feeted to death by the slop and mess. 1833 HOOD *Public Dinner* 174 *Wet-footed, spoilt-beaver'd, ... You haste home to supper. 1856 MISS YONGE *Daisy Chain* i. vi, She has come home wet-footed and cold. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* III. iv. 232 The *wet-lipped west wind. 1951 DYLAN THOMAS *Sel. Lett.* (1966) 352 [Fresh recruits] see before them in the hot moonlight wetmouthed Persian girls from the bazaar.

21. Special collocations (see also 13 above): *wetback* orig. and chiefly U.S., an illegal immigrant who crossed the Rio Grande from Mexico to the U.S.; also *attrib.* and *transf.*; *wet bar* *N. Amer.*, a bar or counter in a private house from which alcoholic drinks are served; *wet bargain* (see BARGAIN *sb.* 1 7); *wet bob* [BOB *sb.* 7], a boy at Eton who devotes himself to boating; also *gen.*; so *wet bob v. intr.*; *wet-bobbing vbl. sb.*; *wet-bulb*, designation of that one of the two thermometers of a psychrometer the bulb of which is covered with muslin, which is wetted at the time of observation so as to indicate the 'temperature of evaporation'; † *wet cloth*, cloth that has been wetted in the process of fulling; *wet cooper* (see COOPER *sb.* 1 1); *wet diggings* orig. U.S., gold diggings in or near a river or stream; cf. *dry diggings* *s.v.* DRY *a.* C. 3; *wet dream*, an erotic dream which causes a man or boy to have an involuntary sexual orgasm during sleep; also *fig.*; *wet-eared* = *wet behind the ears* *s.v.* EAR *sb.* 1 1 c; *wet end*, that end of a paper-making or drying machine into which the wet material is passed; *wet fly* *Angling* (see quot. 1875); also *attrib.*; *wet frost*, a frost accompanied by damp air; † *wet glover* (see GLOVER¹ b); † *wet larder*, one where moist or liquid provisions were stored; *wet lease* (see quot. 1979); so *wet lease v. trans.*, *wet-leased ppl. a.*; *wet leg slang*, a self-pitying person; *wet look* [LOOK *sb.* 2 f], an appearance of a wet or shiny surface; usu. *attrib.*, esp. of fabrics (see quot. 1968); *wet meter*, a gas-meter in which the gas passes through a body of water; *wet pack*, a compact waterproof bag which folds or rolls up and is designed for carrying toilet articles; *wet plate Photogr.*, a sensitized collodion plate exposed in the camera while the collodion is moist; also *attrib.*; *wet-point a.*, of villages, settlements, etc.: having an available water supply; *wet process*, a manufacturing process involving the use of water or other liquid; freq. *attrib.*; *wet rent*, a levy paid to a brewery by a publican in a tied public house in proportion to the amount of beer sold (see also quot. 1907); *wet rot*, decay in timber caused by excessive moisture; † *wet-salter* (in contrast to DRY-SALTER); *wet shave*, a shave (SHAVE *sb.* 2 2) carried out with the aid of a razor, soap, and water as opp. to a (usu. electric) razor alone; so *wet shaver*, someone who shaves by this method; *wet shaving vbl. sb.*; *wet smack slang* (chiefly U.S.), a spoil-sport; *wet spinning*, (a) spinning of natural fibres when they are wet from passage through a water bath; (b) spinning of man-made fibres in which the spinneret extrudes the streams of liquid into a coagulating bath; so *wet-spin v. trans.*, *wet-spun ppl. a.*; *wet steam* (see quot.); *wet strength*, the strength of paper and textiles when wet; *wet suit*, a suit, usu. of rubber, worn by divers, surfers, etc., to protect them from the cold; hence *wet-suited a.*; *wet time*, in the building trade, time during which work cannot be carried out owing to bad weather; *wet trade* (see quotes.); *wet-weather a.*, (a) associated with or occurring in rainy weather; (b) designed for use in rainy weather; *wet-white*, liquid white theatrical make-up; *wet wing* *Aeronaut.* (see quot. 1969); usu. *attrib.*

1929 *Foreign Affairs* Oct. 101 The peon walks or swims across... and is welcomed by his countrymen here as a 'wet back'. 1972 *Observer* (Colour Suppl.) 28 May 28/1 Last year in California alone, border patrols turned back 27,000 wetbacks (the contemptuous name derives from their practice of swimming the Rio Grande to reach the US). 1978 *N. Y. Times Mag.* 23 July 23/2 Wetbacks (a derogation of Mexicans swimming the Rio Grande to slip into the U.S.) became illegal aliens, and are now referred to as undocumented persons. 1979 *Guardian* 8 June 5/2 Illegal

migrants from South China... are getting into Hong Kong... usually swimming the last part of the trip. The total of Chinese 'wetbacks' intercepted... in the first week of June alone came to 3,722. 1982 T. BEATTIE *Diamonds* xii. 100 It might be that wetback job I did... But they can't prove anything. 1968 *Globe & Mail* (Toronto) 15 Jan. 23/6 (Adv't.), Panelled family room, games room, *wet bar. Real executive home! 1978 R. THOMAS *Chinaman's Chance* xx. 206 Ploughman turned to find Reginald Simms standing by a small wet bar across the room. 1865, 1886 *wet bob [see BOB sb.]. 1872 *Daily News* 7 Aug., The 'wetbobs' of the Solent are not so absolutely the creatures of the weather office as the 'drybobs' of Canterbury. 1901 D. SLADEN *My Son Richard* i. Only on the river they have this much mutual respect for each other—each recognises that the other is a good wetbob. 1884 J. MONTAGU *Ed. Mar. in Troubridge & Marshall John Ld. Montagu of Beaulieu* (1930) 31, I have been out *wet-bobbing several times and am getting coached. 1901 G. FRANKAU *Eton Echoes* 40 (heading) Wet Bobbing. 1926 *Spectator* 3 July 11/1 Any alternative summer game or sport... such as is provided by 'wet-bobbing' at a school like Eton. 1849 EASTWICK *Dry Leaves* 228 The *wet-bulb Thermometer was generally 10° lower than the dry one till the beginning of June. 1916 *Lancet* 15 Jan. 142/2 A man... can do far more work with less fatigue at a low wet-bulb temperature than at a high one. 1435 *Cowentry Leet Bk.* 172 No walker... Shall Rakke no Clothe on the Teyntur that shall be solde for *wette-clothe. 1439 *Rolls of Parl.* V. 30/2 Mesuryng for the dosenne of wete Clothe xii yerdes and xii ynches, and of secce Clothe nought wete, xiii yerdes and xiii ynches. 1849 J. WYLD *Geogr. & Mineral.* Notes 21 The works are divided into two classes, —Dry Diggings and *Wet Diggings. 1862 J. L. C. RICHARDSON *Sk. Otago* 48 See how the wet diggings will pay in the summer time. 1935 E. B. BUCKBEE *Saga Old Tuolumne* 11 He worked ceaselessly throughout the day lifting gold from the 'wet diggings'. 1965 G. J. WILLIAMS *Econ. Geol. N.Z.* vii. 72/1 The conglomerates accumulated on the slopes of the mountains are the proper field for the 'dry diggings', while from the gravel and sand of the beds of rivers and smaller streams the gold is obtained by 'wet diggings'. 1851 W. ACTON *Pract. Treatise Diseases of Urinary Organs* (ed. 2) i. ii. 226 Spermatorrhoea... is known... as nocturnal or diurnal emissions, pollutions, *wet-dreams, [etc.]. 1921 H. CRANE *Let.* 11 Feb. (1965) 53 The wet-dream explosions of Virgil Jordan and McAlmon. Their talk is all right—but what is true of it has been said adequately before. 1946 B. MARSHALL *George Brown's Schooldays* 170 Well, what are you standing there looking like a wet dream for? 1963 A. HERON *Towards Quaker View of Sex* ii. 16 It is at this stage that nocturnal emissions or 'wet dreams' as they are often called, are frequently the first clear sign of sexual maturity in the boy. 1971 B. W. ALDISS *Soldier Erect* 10 Jesus, what a wet dream of a party that was! 1978 A. NEAVE *Nuremberg* viii. 86 He was said by the prosecution to have boasted to his chauffeur of nightly wet dreams and exhibited the semen to prove it. 1967 E. MCGIRR *Hearse with Horses* iii. 50 If a race was fixed they wouldn't need a *wet-eared kid mixed up with it. 1971 F. FORSYTH *Day of Jackal* i. i. 21 Apart from a few wet-eared ninnies who refused to come, Rodin led his entire battalion into the military putsch of April 1961. 1888 CROSS & BEVAN *Text-bk. Paper-Making* x. 154 This part of the machine, which is called the 'wet-end', is placed at a slight slope. 1927 T. WOODHOUSE *Artif. Silk* iii. 25 The wet pulp is now run on to the feed end, usually termed the 'wet-end', of the drying machine. 1962 *Wet end* [see *dry end* s.v. DRY a. C. 3]. 1875 F. FRANCIS in *Encycl. Brit.* 11. 38/2 In the majority of instances it is the custom to let the tackle soak, and when fishing to allow the fly to sink a little under the surface—to fish with a 'wet fly', as it is called. 1904 GALLICHAH *Fishing Spain* 207 The ordinary winged patterns used for wet-fly fishing. 1832 COBBETT *Rur. Rides* (1885) II. 382 Wall-fruit is, when destroyed in the spring, never destroyed by dry-cold; but ninety-nine times out of a hundred, by *wet-frosts. 1688, 1724 *wet glove [see GLOVER b.]. 1726 *Dict. Rust.* (ed. 3) s.v., The Wet-glover is for Sheep, Goats, Lambs, and Castlings Skins...; for the dressing whereof, he only uses Lime and Bran. 1544 *Inv. in Surrey Archaeol. Collect.* VII. 238 The dry larder... The Kechyn... The *Whet larder. Itm in the Wett larder A mystern quern, iiii d. 1574 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 247 In the wett larder ii kymlinges, one trowghe. 1605 in *Archaeologia* XIII. 330 The Clarke of the Kitchine... is to see into the wette and drie larders, what provisions there be. 1962 *Aeroplane & Astronautics* CII. 88/2 Philippine Air Lines has *wet-leased (i.e., aircraft plus flight crew) a Boeing 707 from Pan American. 1977 *Indian Express* 18 May 1/2 The Airbus will be either wet leased or chartered by Air-India. 1979 *Daily Tel.* 8 June 36/6 Aircraft can be leased by the hour, day, week, month, quarterly or longer on a 'dry' lease which means that crews are not provided, or on a 'wet' lease which means that the owner of the aircraft also supplies crew and, in some cases, the necessary fuel. 1978 *Observer* 29 Jan. 1/5 These too will have to be taken out of service for modifications, and their place taken by *wet leased foreign aircraft (that is, planes taken complete with their own crews). 1922 D. H. LAWRENCE *Let.* 12 Oct. (1962) II. 726 Being too much of a *wet-leg, as they say in England, nakedly to enter into the battle. 1929 — *Pansies* 124 It is strange to think of the Annas, the Vronskys, the Pierres, all the Tolstoyan lot Wiped out... And the Tchekov wimbly-wambly wet-legs all wiped out. 1981 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 3 July 745/1 We know how much Auden hated wet-legs, how constantly he repeated his many litanies of his own good fortune. 1968 J. IRONSIDE *Fashion Alphabet* 102 The 'Wet Look' is a chemical finish to fabrics to make them appear shiny and wet. 1969 *Times* 24 Nov. 16/2 Natural coloured python or wet-look patent are the most fashionable finishes for day. 1970 D. UHNAK *Ledger* (1971) ix. 114 Her lips, shining with a wet-look lipstick, quivered. 1971 *Daily Tel.* 2 Feb. 11 (caption) The chair and stool covered in white wet-look fabric. 1981 *Westindian World* 31 July 14/2 (Adv't.), Hot & cold straightening, curly perm, wet look. c1865 LETHEBY in *Wylde's Circ. Sci.* I. 127/1 There are two objections to the *wet meter, which are insurmountable. 1869-71 *Cassell's Househ. Guide* 11. 17/2 The gas meters now in general use... are known as 'wet' and 'dry' meters. 1928-9 *Army & Navy Stores Catal.* 419/1 *Wet Pack. Fitted with comb and nail file, etc. Size closed, 5½ x 4½ in. Pigskin 12/- 1974 *Harrods Christmas Catal.* 18/2 For travelling men... Two wet packs with waterproof linings. 1859 REEVE *Britany* 123 Our camera, already charged with

a *wet plate. 1878 ABNEY *Treat. Photogr.* xi. 77 Wet-plate photography. 1920 *Wet-point [see *dry-point* village s.v. DRY a. C. 3]. 1969 G. C. DICKINSON *Maps & Air Photographs* xiv. 216 (heading) 'Wet-point' sites—i.e. places with an available water supply. 1909 WEBSTER, *Wet...* Chem., etc. Employing, or done by means of, or in the presence of, water or other liquid... The *wet process or way. 1930 *Engineering* 3 Jan. 18/3 The Assano Portland Cement Company's works at Nishitama. This is a wet-process plant. 1945 H. D. SMYTH *Gen. Acct. Devel. Atomic Energy Mil. Purposes* vii. 75 Study of product recovery processes as a whole (wet processes, physical methods). 1969 *Wet process* [see BY-PRODUCT b.]. 1907 F. E. E. BELL *At Works* v. 122 Some of the yearly benefit clubs of which the head-quarters are at public-houses demand... an extra contribution, from 1d. to 3d., what is called the 'wet rent', which is quite deliberately allowed for drink each meeting-night. 1967 *Economist* 29 Apr. 480/2 The Jones board has implicitly accused the brewers of subsidising too many low volume country pubs, by charging less than the market rents but rather more for their beer, a practice known in the trade as a 'wet rent'. In actual fact, wet rents are steadily becoming proportionately less important, and the brewer's idea is to protect the publican against the ups and downs of trade by charging him, in effect, a rent that varies slightly with beer sales, thus identifying his interest more closely with that of the brewer. 1978 *Times* 3 May 19/6 The brewers... continue phasing out 'wet' rents under which a tenant pays more or less to the brewery according to the amount of beer sold through the pub. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* i. viii, Sparrows were there, cats were there, dry-rot and *wet-rot were there. 1876 PREECE & SIVEWRIGHT *Telegraphy* 161 Wet-rot is the destructive agent at work more or less on all telegraph poles. 1726 DE FOE *Eng. Tradesman* I. viii. 98 The orange-merchants and *wet-salters about Billingsgate. 1976 *NBR Marketplace* (Wellington, N.Z.) III. 2/1 Something over 50 per cent of the estimated 900,000 regular shavers in New Zealand prefer a *wet shave start to the day. *Ibid.* 2/3 About 94 per cent of wet shavers use the safety razor with double-edge blades or the modern single-edge blade systems. 1964 *Financial Times* 25 Feb. 11/8 The chief obstacle at present is the *wet-shaving industry's promotion of the new stainless steel blades. 1980 'D. KAVANAGH' *Duffy* iii. 44 They only took the television set and his electric razor... He went back to wet shaving. 1927 *Amer. Speech* III. 221 *Wet smack... something unsatisfactory; applies particularly to an individual who spoils a party; a kill-joy. 1929 WODEHOUSE *Mr. Mulliner Speaking* i. 33 The man is beyond question a flat tyre and a wet smack. 1977 *Maledicta* Summer 17 If she is actually frigid, she's a wet smack. 1963 A. J. HALL *Textile Sci.* ii. 75 Some of these polymers are soluble in organic solvents... and thus allow the preparation of solutions which can be dry spun... or *wet spun—that is, extruded into a coagulating bath. 1973 *Materials & Technol.* VI. iv. 328 Polyacrylonitrile solutions have been wet-spun... into a coagulating bath. 1864 *Wet spinning [see *dry spinning* s.v. DRY a. C. 3]. 1927 T. WOODHOUSE *Artif. Silk* 28 The coagulation by means of liquid of any kind has given rise to the term 'wet spinning', whereas the term 'dry-spinning' has been applied in all cases where the solvent is vaporized. 1969 A. J. HALL *Stand. Handbk. Textiles* (ed. 7) iii. 127 In wet spinning the roving is led through a trough of hot water... so that the fibres are softened. 1973 *Materials & Technol.* VI. iv. 205 Another method of taking up the *wet spun yarn. 1858 R. MURRAY *Marine Engines* (ed. 3) 237 *Wet steam is steam which holds watery particles in mechanical suspension. 1960 R. W. MARKS *Dymaxion World of B. Fuller* 59/1 Even in 1954 Kraft paper having exceptional 'wet tensile strength' had been developed—'wet strength' meaning the ability of the paper to retain its structural quality when saturated. 1962 J. T. MARSH *Self-Smoothing Fabrics* xiv. 211 These examples of dimensional stability are of some consequence, and indeed of great consequence with fibres of regenerated cellulose whose low wet-strength is a serious defect but one which is remedied by the crease-resisting process. 1973 *Nature* 27 Apr. 588/1 Cross linking has been used for over thirty years in making 'wet strength' papers. 1955 *Wet suit [see *dry suit* s.v. DRY a. C. 3]. 1964 *Skin Diver* Oct. 19 An American skin diver aboard an Irish fishing boat... had a difficult time convincing the skipper that his 'wet' suit would save a man's life if he fell into the freezing water. 1970 *Daily Tel.* (Colour Suppl.) 18 Sept. 12 On deck three of us, clad in rubber wetsuits, prepared to slip over the side. 1972 *Islander* (Victoria, B.C.) 4 June 16/1 The wet suit, worn to keep the diver warm, is almost a necessity in these northern waters. 1984 S. TOWNSEND *Growing Pains A. Mole* 78 She looked dead erotic in her black wetsuit and crash helmet. 1972 *Nat. Geographic* Oct. 584 *Wet-suited author examines the giant wraparound grin of a right whale. 1978 D. WILLIAMS *Treasure up in Smoke* xix. 174 The alerted wet-suited figure had... waded to the beach. 1938 *Times* 5 May 10/4 For nearly 20 years the building trade operatives have... claimed that for uncontrollable irregularities of employment... there should be a scheme of compensation for loss of earnings. The phrase which they used to focus the claim was 'payment for *wet time'. 1952 *Economist* 12 July 118/2 Steel erectors on American building sites do not enjoy either a guaranteed week or payment for 'wet-time'. 1962 *Listener* 26 July 154/3 The 'do-it-yourself' enthusiast who is preparing to tackle garden operations involving the use of cement, lime, and water—the so-called 'wet trades'. 1973 *Times* 24 Feb. 13/1 The shortage of skilled workers, particularly in the 'wet trades' of bricklaying and plastering. 1858 T. S. WOODWARD *Let.* 20 Dec. in *Reminisc.* (1939) 157 Fortunately, we found a little *wet-weather spring near the top. 1901 [see WET a. 2c]. 1922 M. A. VON ARNIM *Enchanted April* i. 8 Big grey eyes almost disappearing under a smashed-down wet-weather hat. 1934 M. V. HUGHES *London Child* iii. 28 The boys were off on some long wet-weather tramp. 1978 'D. RUTHERFORD' *Collision Course* 182 I'm gambling on rain... We're giving you wet-weather tyres. 1922 M. ARLEN *Piracy* III. xiv. 256 Just look how depraved they are! They are covered with verdigris, but they call it *wet-white! 1976 'D. FLETCHER' *Don't whistle 'Macbeth'* 51 The first time I sang Elvira, I had to cover myself from head to toe with wet-white. [1958 *Flying Rev.* Oct. 37/1 Scheduled to Supplement earlier Stratofortresses currently serving with the Strategic Air Command, the B-52G employs a 'wet' integral-tank wing which substantially increases the bomber's unrefuelled range.] 1961 *Flight* LXXIX. 818/2 These new *wet wing versions, with greatly increased weight and machined-plank wing skins, have suffered local

stresses greater than any experienced with the earlier versions of lower weight and performance. 1969 *New Scientist* 25 Sept. (Microbes in Industry Suppl.) 23/2 In modern 'wet-wing' aircraft, such as Concorde, the fuel is simply pumped into the wings which are coated internally with sealants. In older aircraft... the fuel is contained in rubber bags in the wings.

wet (wet), *v.* Forms: *a. Inf.* 1 wētan, *Anglian* wētan, 3-6 wete, (5 *Sc.* wet, vete), 4-7 weete, (6 *pa. t.* weeted), 5-6 *Sc.* weit, 6 weate, 7 weat, 6- (chiefly *Sc.*) weet. *Pa. t.* 1 wætte, 3 watte, 4 wat, (5 *pl.* watten), 6- *Sc.* wat; 4-5 wete, (5 *Sc.* vet), 4-6 wette, 4-7 wett, 5- wet. *Pa. pple.* 4-5 y-wet, y-wette, 4-6 i-wet, wette, (5 *Sc.* wete, vete), 5-7 wett, 4- wet. *β. Inf.* 5-6 wette, 6-7 wett, 6- wet. *Pa. t.* and *pple.* 6- wetted. [OE. *wētan* (Angl. *wētan*), *f. wēt* (*wēt*) WET a., = ON. *væta* (Icel., Norw. *væta*, Sw. *väta*, Da. *væde*). The normal shortening of the vowel in the *pa. t.* and *pa. pple.* in ME. was finally extended to the infin. and present.]

1. *trans.*

1. *a.* To make (an object) humid or moist by the application of water or other liquid; to suffuse, sprinkle, moisten, drench, bathe *with* (water, etc.); to dip, steep, soak *in*, *þon*.

1950 *Guthlac* xxii. (Prose) Heo... genam þa þæs gehal-godan seates... and wætte and drypte in þa eagan. *a. 1000* *Riddles* xii[i]. 10 Hwilum mec... dol druncmenn... wæteð in wætre. *c. 1000* *Sax. Leechd.* II. 134 Wæt þæt līp mēcēde. *Ibid.* 350 Wæt þæt gewrit on þam drence. *c. 1275* *Passion of Our Lord* 103 in O.E. *Misc.* 40 þat bred þæt ich on wyne wete. *a. 1300* *Cursor M.* 17682 And wit a deu mi face he wete. *c. 1374* CHAUCER *Troilus* III. 1115 Therwith his paws and pawmes of his hondes They gan to frote, and wete his temples tweyne. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 36 Send Lazar doun... And do that he his finger wete in water. *? a. 1400* *Morte Arth.* 2332 There barbour was bownne, with basyns one lofte, With warme watre i-wys they wette theme fulle sone. *c. 1400* MAUNDEV. xviii. [xiv.] (1919) 105 3if a man... wete hem with may dew ofte sithes. *c. 1430* *Two Cookery-bks.* 52 Take fayre Paynmayn y-wette in Wyne. *? 1550* W. P. tr. *Curio's Pasquin in Trance* 24 They... wet the graue with vnholv water, and they perfumed it with Frankincense. 1560 WHITEHORNE *Ord. Souldiours* (1588) 39b, A stoppell of cotten wet in oyle of gineper. 1677 J. WHITE *Rich Cabinet* 143 You must let the Paper dry of it self after you have once wetted it. 1684 J. S. *Profit & Pleasure united* 23 Cleansing their mouths... with a spung or Linnen cloath wett in Beer. 1707 *Ir. Act 4 Geo. I.* c. 11. §13 If any of the persons aforesaid shall... wet their hay, or use any other fraud or deceit to make any carr-load of hay to be of the weight prescribed. *c. 1770* T. FAIRFAX *Compl. Sportsm.* 31 Then having wetted your hand in water, rub his body all over. 1813 SOUTHEY *Nelson* I. 235 All the shrouds and sails of his ship, which were not absolutely necessary for its immediate management, were thoroughly wetted. 1859 *Handbk. Turning* 83 A small camel's-hair brush... used for wetting postage stamps. 1869 CLARIDGE *Cold Water Cure* 190 Her head, throat, and chest, were frequently wetted with cold water. 1907 J. A. HODGES *Elem. Photogr.* (ed. 6) 103 As soon as the paper is wetted with the solution.

Proverb. 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* II. v. (1867) 58 He loueth well sheeps flesh, that wets his bred in the wul.

b. Sci. Of a liquid: to cover or penetrate (a substance or object) readily, so that a small quantity spreads uniformly over it rather than lying as droplets upon it.

A common criterion of wetting is the angle that the surface of a droplet makes, at its point of contact, with the surface on which it rests (as measured through the liquid); the liquid is said to wet or not to wet the surface according as the angle is less or greater than 90 degrees.

1855 D. LARDNER *Hand-bk. Nat. Philos.: Hydrostatics* I. v. 69 If a liquid be poured into a vessel whose sides are of such a nature as to be wetted by it, the liquid... will be curved upwards near the points where it touches the side. 1884 A. DANIELL *Text Bk. Princ. Physics* xi. 246 Objects which are wetted by the liquid in which they float are thus apparently attracted by it; those which are not so are apparently repelled. 1932 *Phytopathology* XXII. 92b The presence of an appreciable quantity of sodium hydroxide... increases the ease with which the leaves can be 'wetted' in the solution. 1967 M. CHANDLER *Ceramics in Mod. World* vi. 171 Silicon nitride... is not wetted by molten metals. 1974 *Encycl. Brit. Macropædia* XI. 782/1 The adhesion of water to glass at an air-water-glass interface is greater than the cohesion of water, and hence water is said to wet the glass... The cohesion of mercury is greater than its adhesion to glass and it does not wet the glass. 1978 *Nature* 20 July 237/1 An example of this is a droplet of the liquid resting on a solid surface. When the contact angle is less than 90°, the liquid wets the solid. Molten beryllium does not wet BeO because the contact angle exceeds 90°.

2. To suffuse with tears, bedew with weeping. Also said of the tears.

c. 825 *Vesp. Psalter* vi. 7 Mid tearum strenne mine ic wetu. *a. 1300* E.E. *Psalter* vi. 6 With mi teres in mi bede Sal i wete mi liggyng-stede. *a. 1310* in Wright *Lyric P.* xv. 47 Unwonne haveth myn wonges wet. *c. 1375* *Sc. Leg. Saints* xviii. (*Egipciane*) 950 Quhen I had lange tyme gret, & al myn face with teris wete. 14... *Sir Beues* p. 35 (M.E.) So moche rewepe he hadde þere þat pe teres watten hys lere. 1596 SPENSER *F.Q.* I. iii. 44 And all the way she wets with flowing tears. *c. 1600* SHAKS. *Sonn.* ix. 1 Is it for feare to wet a widdowes eye, That thou consum'st thy selfe in single life? 1614 J. COOKE *Greene's Tu Quoque* B3b, Giue not your friends cause to wet their handkerchers. 1616 B. JONSON *Epigr.* xxxiii, Who wets my graue, can be no friend of mine. 1682 BUNYAN *Holy War* (1905) 289 Then they... kissed his feet, and wetted them with tears. 1742 FIELDING *J. Andrews* III. xii, A river of tears ran down her lovely cheeks, and wet the handkerchief which covered her bosom. 1836 LANDOR *Pericles & Asp.* lx, Her tears wetted my cheek. 1868 LOUISA

M. ALCOTT *Little Women* xii, Laying her head on her arm, Jo wet her little romance with a few happy tears.

†3. Of wine: To moisten, fill with moist 'humours'. *Obs.*

c1000 Sax. *Leechd.* II. 246 Ne þæt win is to piçenne þætte hæteþ & wæteþ pone Innop. 1560 GOOGE tr. *Palingenius' Zodiac* III. (1561) Fijj, Apace we feede and scarce canne ryse, so wetes the wyne our brayne.

4. To make moist or damp by exposure to rain, by a fall into water, or the like. *to wet through, to the skin*: to drench the clothes of (a person).

a. Said of water, rain, etc.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6578 þat water... wax euer uaste, & wæte is sson & is vet. a1300 *Cursor M.* 23685 Waters þat wete þan cristes flexs. 1387 *TREvisa Higden* II. 25 þe water wolde... wete [MS. y weete] al her clothes. c1480 *HENRYSON Age & Youth* 4 Perly dropis of þe balmy schowris þir wadis grene hed with þe water wet. 1530 *PALSGR.* 780/2 In the begynnynge of the yere the dewe weteth the grounde swetely. 1589 *Pappe w. Hatchet in Lyly's Wks.* (Bond) III. 394 We care not for a Scottish mist, though it wet vs to the skin. 1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 218 Men... of as bad a nature and base a mould as euer water wete, or winde dried. 1658 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) IV. 57 Wee had not above 4 shots of powder and that the worst that euer water wet. a1700 *EVELYN Diary* an. 1646, These waters in some places breaking in the fall wet us as if we had pass'd through a mist. 1719 *DE FOE Crusoe* II. (Globe) 554 The Place was not deep, but it wetted me all over. 1795 *SOUTHEY Lett. fr. Spain* (1799) 60 The clouds wetted me as they passed along. 1816 *TUCKEY Narr. Exped. R. Zaire* v. (1818) 179 During the night we had two smart showers of rain, which... wetted us through. 1839 *DICKENS Nickleby* xiv, 'It doesn't take much to wet you and me through, Mr. Crowl,' said Newman, laying his hand upon the lapel of his threadbare coat. 1858 *LARDNER Hand-bk. Nat. Phil.* 73 If a capillary tube be plunged in a liquid which wets it. 1874 *MARCH. DUFFERIN Canad. Jnl.* (1891) 171 A thunder-shower... which wetted us to the skin. 1884 *Law Times Rep.* L1. 229/2 The water... soaked under the wall and wetted the mud below it.

fig. a1340 *HAMPOLE Psalter* xvii. 17 *Apparuerunt fontes aquarum*... þat is þe sothfastnes of prechours is seen, þat wetis men wiþ halesome lare. 1627 *E. F. Edw. II* (1680 fol.) 93 What can he do to England, which hath a wooden wall will wet his courage?

b. *absol.*

c1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* 10340 Wyþ rysyng wawes, .. Fer aboute hym wil he [the lake] wete. *Ibid.* 10343 þe wawes þat so wetes. a1600 *MONTGOMERIE Misc. Poems* v. 44 All is not gold that gleitis... Nor water all that wetis. 1600 *SHAKS. A. Y. L.* III. ii. 27 The propertie of raine is to wet, and fire to burne. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 373 All they ever have is a dew, which is so slender it never wets at all. 1661 *BOYLE Physiol. Ess.* (1669) 187 Though every wetting Liquor be fluid, yet every fluid Body does not wet. 1756 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* I. 82 The purest water wets soonest and most.

c. *passive*. Often to be wet through, (also † *thorough* or *through* wet), *wet to the skin* (cf. a).

The form *wet* of the pa. pple. is sometimes difficult to distinguish from *WET* a. c.

c1400 tr. *Higden* VII. 151 In processe of tyme þat body y-wette wiþ dewy droppes knewe þe comoun corrupcioun of dedly men. c1400 *Laud Troy* Bk. 12942 So faste doun the water set, That they were alle thorow wet. 1497 *Naval Acc. Ilen.* VII (1896) 129 The Newe making of a last of gonnepoudre wett in saltwater. 1535 *COVERDALE Dan.* iv. 15 With the dew of heauen shall he be wet. 1542 *UDALL Erasm. Apoph.* 99 b, But if he had been wetted from toppe to toe, no man standing by to see it, then had he been miserable in veraye deede. 1589 *PUTTENHAM Eng. Poesie* III. xvii. (Arb.) 189 As the drie ground that thirstes after a shower Seemes to reioyce when it is well iwet. 1594 [see *THROUGH* adv. 4]. 1639 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Part Summers Trav.* 44 So that the miserable Stipend... will hardly buy wood to make a fire for him when hee comes home to dry him, when hee is through wet. 1659 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) II. 141 Hee... was wett to the skin before he came half way. 1759 *JOHNSON Idler* No. 71 ¶9 He... heard with great delight a shower, by which he was not wet, rattling among the branches. a1766 Mrs. F. SHERIDAN *Sidney Bidulph* (1796) IV. 53 The bottom of that vile ditch into which he had fallen was full of water, and he had been wet quite through. 1775 A. BURNABY *Trav. N. Amer.* 36, I had been wet to the skin in the afternoon. 1820 *SOUTHEY Wesley* I. 78 Having slept on the floor one night, because his bed had been wetted in a storm. 1842 *Min. Proc. Inst. Civil Engin.* II. 78 Some of the compressed trenails had been wetted by accident, and could not be afterwards driven into the holes in the chairs. 1856 *HAWTHORNE Engl. Note-bks.* (1870) II. 14 We were caught in two or three showers... but got back... without being very much wetted. 1898 A. BALFOUR *To Arms* vii, The street was paved with large, rounded stones, which... were splashed and wetted by dirty water thrown from above. 1904 A. N. COOPER *Quaint Talks* 10 Few things have struck people as more wonderful than how I have survived being wet through so often.

5. a. Of a person or animal: To get (oneself, one's body or clothes, also another person or object) moist or damp by contact with, or immersion in, water or other liquid.

1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 204 Sir kyng ryse vp & skip, for þou has wette þi hater. c1386 *CHAUCER Prolog.* 129 She leet no morsel from hir lippes falle Ne wette hir fyngres in hir sauce depe. c1400 *MAUNDEV.* (Roxb.) vi. 21 þat wymmen schuld moy wade ouer and no3t wete paire kneesse. 1589 *HAKLUYT Voy.* 542 When they can flye no further [they] fall into the water, and hauing wette their wings take a newe flight againe. 1639 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Part Summers Trav.* 40 You know you need not wet your foot to seek them, they are your own already. 1770 C. JENNER *Placid Man* v. vii. II. 142 If you can be contented... to return at night, having in four or five hours tired a pair of coach-horses, wetted two servants to the skin [etc.]. 1816 G. S. FABER *Orig. Pagan Idol.* I. 398 Every morning they [certain aquatic birds] repaired to the sea, wetted their wings, and sprinkled the sacred edifice. 1818 *SCOTT Br. Lamm.* xiii, Twa finer

dentier wild-ducks never wat a feather. 1846 Mrs. A. MARSH *Father Darcy* xlv, In traversing the ford of the Stour... they have wetted the bag of powder. 1873 *MARCH. DUFFERIN Canad. Jnl.* (1891) 82 The gentlemen... in getting into the canoe... were upset, and wet all their clothes.

b. *Proverb.*

c1384 *CHAUCER H. Fame* 1785 For ye be lyke the sweynthe catte, That wolde haue fisch but... He wold no thinge wete his clothes. 1390 *GOWER Conf.* II. 39 As a cat wolde ete fisses Withoute wetinge of his cles. c1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 405 þou woldest not weten þy fote, & woldest fisch kacchen. 1545 *TAVERNER Erasm. Prov.* 59 b, The cat wold fyshe eate, but she wold not her fete weate. 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* I. xi. (1867) 28. 1639 J. CLARKE *Paræm.* 234 The Cat loves fish well, but is loath to wet her foot.

c. To void urine in (one's bed, clothes). *to wet one's pants* fig., to become excited or upset (as if to the extent of involuntarily voiding urine).

1767 *Ordinary's Acc. Eliz. Brownrigg* 10 The deceased child had wetted the bed. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 259 The man who wets his bed, rather than take the trouble to get out and make water, is insanely idle. 1979 'M. UNDERWOOD' *Smooth Justice* i. 35 There are quite a few people who'll wet their pants if I get sent down. 1981 A. PRICE *Soldier no More* 184 We did see the *Histories* season at Stratford, I grant you. But I don't remember any schoolgirls wetting their pants next to me.

d. *refl.* To urinate involuntarily. Also fig. (as at sense 5 c above).

1922 *JOYCE Ulysses* 730 What do I care with it dropping out of me and that black closed breeches he made me buy takes you half an hour to let them down wetting all myself. 1970 G. F. NEWMAN *Sir, You Bastard* 258 The Sunday editors would wet themselves; they liked nothing better than a sordid purge in an institution. 1976 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 30 Jan. 100/5 She also sweats, weeps, vomits and wets herself.

6. Of a river, sea, etc.: a. To water, irrigate (land).

1382 *WYCLIF Josh.* xiii. 3 The trubli flood that weethith [Vulg. irrigat] Egypt. a1425 *Cursor M.* 1318 (Trin.) Fison, gison, tigre & eufrate, Al erpe pese weten erly & late. 1773 *FERGUSON Leith Races* iv, I dwell among the caller springs That wet the Land o' Cakes.

b. To lave, border with water (a coast, country). *rare.*

1572 T. TWYNET. *Dionysius' Surv. World* A v, The Sea... which... wetting the cuntries Issica... is called Issicum. a1774 *FERGUSON Auld Reekie* 319 As lang as Forth weets Lothian's shore.

7. a. to wet (one's) *whistle, weasand, mouth, beak, beard*, etc.: to take a drink. See also *CLAY sb.* 4 b.

c1386 [see *WHISTLE sb.* 2]. c1460 *Towneley Myst.* xiii. 103 Had she oones Wett Hyr Whystyll She couthe Syng full clere Hyr pater noster. 1530, 1653 [see *WHISTLE sb.* 2]. 1611 *COTGR., Croquer la pie*, to wet the whistle, or weason, thoroughly; to drinke hard. 1682 N. O. Boileau's *Lutrin* II. 154 Wetting their Whistles with the good Ale-pot. 1722 *CROXALL Fables Æsop* xcvi. 169 I'll give you a Dram to wet your Whistle. a1774 *FERGUSON Auld Reekie* 4 Whare couthy chiels at e'ening meet Their bizzing craigs and mous to weat. 1785 *BURNS Scotch Drink* xiv, Monie daily weat their weason Wi' liquors nice. 1850 *DICKENS Copperfield* vii, The wine shall be kept to wet your whistle. 1888 R. BUCHANAN *Heir of Linne* i, I ne'er can sing till my throat's wetted, Tammas. 1910 W. H. HUDSON *Sheph. Life* xi. 135 The starlings... singing and talking and swallowing elderberries between whiles to wet their whistles. 1939 T. S. ELIOT *Old Possum's Bk. Pract. Cats* 16 For to the Bell at Hampton he had gone to wet his beard. 1978 J. CARROLL *Mortal Friends* I. v. 53 Is there a public house here where a fellow could wet his beak?

†b. *passive*. To be primed with liquor. (Cf. *WET* a. 14 a.) *Obs.*

c1440 *Partonope* 5198 And so they dronke þat bope they bene Welle I-wette [Rawl. MS. Well wet]. 1540 *HYRDE tr. Vives' Instr. Chr. Wom.* III. i. (1557) 130 At bankettes and festes, whan they be well wette with drynke.

†c. *refl.* To imbibe liquor, take drink. *Obs.*

c1440 *York Myst.* xxx. 94 Itt were appree to my persone þat preuely 3e paste me, Or ye wente fro this wones Or with wyne 3e had wette yowe. 1672 R. WILD *Poet. Licentia* 27 And if the fiery trial should return, Most of you wet your selves too much to burn.

d. *to wet the other* (or *t'other*) eye: to drink one glass after another.

1745 *Life Bampfylde-Moore Carew* 89 The Officers... filled him out a Bumper of Cherry Brandy, which when he had drank they forced another upon him, persuading him to wet the other Eye. 1840 J. T. J. HEWLETT P. *Priggins* xiii, Take one more jug of beer—wet t'other eye, we call it. 1840 *DICKENS Old C. Shop* lxii, Moisten your clay, wet the other eye, drink, man! a1845 *BARHAM Ingol. Leg., Hints Hist. Play* 47 There's not a drop left him to 'wet t'other eye'.

e. *absol.* To drink alcoholic liquor; to 'liquor up'.

1783 J. WOODFORDE *Diary* 9 Oct. (1926) II. 97 With the latter I walked to the Swan and there wetted with him that is, drank a glass of Wine. 1840 *HALIBURTON Clockm.* Ser. III. xi. 147 But come, let's liquour; I want to wet up. 1880 *BARING-GOULD Mehalah* lxii, I'm dry after my row and want a wet. As I wet I will talk.

f. To accompany (solid or dry food) with liquor.

1878 T. HARDY *Ret. Native* VI. iv, Maul down the victuals from corner-cupboard... and I'll draw a drop o' sommat to wet it with.

8. a. To celebrate by drinking; to have a drink over.

The earliest use is *to wet a commission* (in the Army or Navy).

a1687 *VILLIERS* (Dk. Buckhm.) *Milit. Couple* Wks. 1715 I. 128 He was as Drunk as a Chaplain of the Army upon wetting his Commission. 1698 J. H. FARQUHAR'S *Love & Bottle* Prolog., Come on then; foot to foot be boldly set, And our young Author's new Commission wet. 1710 C.

SHADWELL *Fair Quaker Deal* II. 27 Crib. Ay, the two Ships would serve us nicely. *Easey*. Then we should have Commissions to wet. 1711 *STEELE Spect.* No. 88 ¶4 Three Quarts to my new Lord for wetting his Title. 1829 *MARRYAT F. Mildmay* xvi, They... declared I should give them a dinner to wet my commission. a1854 L. BEECHER *Lect. Intemperance* 23 Until in some places a man can scarcely wear an article of dress, or receive one of equipage or furniture, which has not been 'wetted'. 1876 *HINDLEY Cheap Jack* 268, I shall be back again shortly, when we will wet the deal. 1894 A. ROBERTSON *Nuggets* 16 Drinks is to be redooed to-day from a shillin' to sixpence, so we'll wet the occasion.

b. *to wet the baby's head* and varr.: to drink to celebrate the birth of a child. *colloq.*

1885 W. WESTALL *Old Factory* xxiv. 161 'We'll wet little Mabel's head with some of it.' 'What mean you?'... 'Why my wife was brought to bed last night of a little lass as we are going to call Mabel, and I'd like us to drink to her health. That's what we call wetting a child's head in these parts.' 1924 *LAWRENCE & SKINNER Boy in Bush* xiv. 210 Come along in—all welcome!—an' wet the baby's eye. 1953 E. SIMON *Past Masters* III. v. 173 At the party given to 'wet the baby's head' the McGillivrays' friends and relations produced only large and expensive gifts. 1970 *Guardian* 2 May 3/7 If he had not been wetting the baby's head, and so been slightly above proof, he might have run for it.

9. †a. *Naut.* To cast or drop (an anchor). *Obs.* a1600 *MONTGOMERIE Misc. Poems* xviii. 168 We wat an anchor evin betuixt they tua. 1638 *MAYNE Lucian* (1664) 95 One Anchor more, perhappes, I have never yet cast, or wet, which is to pretend old age, sickness, [etc.].

b. *to wet one's line*: to start fishing, to fish.

1653 *WALTON Angler* iii. 80, I have not yet wet my line since I came from home. 1898 G. A. B. DEWAR *In Pursuit of Trout* 165 On days when nothing was doing... he might not rarely be heard remarking that he had not wetted his line.

10. a. To steep or soak (grain) in water in order to convert it into malt.

1695 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3076/4 A large Mault House that wets 700 Quarters per Annum. 1742 *Lond. & Country Brew.* I. (ed. 4) 22 In a great Brew-house... they wetted or used a considerable Quantity of Malt in one Week. 1844 J. T. HEWLETT *Parsons & W.* xxv, The farmer would get a good price for his barley, the poor man would be able to 'wet' and convert into malt enough for his family.

b. To infuse (tea) by pouring boiling water on the leaves; also with tea-leaves as *obj.* *dial.* and *colloq.*

1902 *Cornh. Mag.* Dec. 776, I ha' wetted th' tea pretty nigh half-an-hour ago. 1905 H. G. WELLS *Kipps* III. ii. §3 Ann... stooped with the kettle-holder to wet the tea. 1916 *Blackw. Mag.* Apr. 499/1 'Aye, aye, sir,' replies the duty servant. 'Tea just being wetted.' (We never 'make' tea, we always 'wet' it!) 1939 *JOYCE Finnegans Wake* 585 You never wet the tea! 1944 M. LASKI *Love on Supertax* viii. 77 Make yourself at home, and I'll just wet the tea-leaves. 1978 I. MURDOCH *Sea* 419 'I'll wet the tea,' said Hartley and disappeared into the kitchen.

11. *to wet down*, to damp (sails, paper, embers) with water.

1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* iv, We... continued wetting down the sails by buckets of water whipped up to the mast-head. 1888 *JACOBI Printers' Vocab., Wetting down*, the process of damping paper for printing purposes. 1891 *Daily News* 26 Sept. 2/5 Holland said that when he came on his watch there was no supply of coal in the bunkers, and that Jensen would not wet down his ashes.

12. *Dyeing. to wet out*, to soak in water.

1882 *CROOKES Dyeing* 106 The yarns or pieces are first wetted out uniformly with water. 1900 *Jnl. Soc. Dyers* XVI. 8 Before dyeing, the bodies [of hats] are well wetted-out in boiling water.

13. *Glass-making. to wet off, up.* (See *quots.* and cf. *WETTER* I b, *WETTING vbl. sb.* 3 d.)

1849 A. PELLATT *Curios. Glass Making* 85 The pontil secures the whole preparatory to its being whetted [sic] off the bowl... by the touch of the cold pucellas. 1908 *ROSENHAIN Glass Manuf.* 57 The virgin clay and chamotte having been intimately mixed, the whole mass is 'wet up' by the addition of a proper proportion of water and prolonged... kneading. *Ibid.* 99 The blower... detaches the bottle from the pipe... by locally chilling the glass—a process known by the descriptive term of 'wetting off'.

II. *intr.*

14. To become wet. Also *to wet through*.

a1310 in *Wright Lyric P.* ix. 36 The water that it [sc. a stone] wetes yn, Y-wis hit wortheth al to wyn. 1757 in *Phil. Trans.* L. 361 The millers do not deny... that some whiting is carried to all the great mills. The excuse alleged for it is, that it makes the flour wet, and consequently bake, the better. 1902 S. E. WHITE *Blazed Trail* xviii, I thought any leather would wet through in the snow!

15. To rain, drizzle. *dial.*

1740 *RICHARDSON Pamela* II. 88 Dont you think that yonder Cloud may give us a small Shower? and it did a little begin to wet. 1825 *JAMIESON, To weit, to wet*, to rain. 1828 *CARR Craven Gloss.*, Wit, to rain gently. 1886 *Chesh. Gloss.*, *Weet* or *wet*, to rain slightly.

16. *Naut.* Of a vessel: To ship water.

1875 *BEDFORD Sailor's Pocket Bk.* vi. 214 A reef should be taken in directly the boat begins to wet.

17. To urinate. Also fig.

1925 D. H. LAWRENCE *Novel in Reflections on Death of Porcupine* 122 But see old Leo Tolstoy wetting on the flame. As if even his wet were absolute! 1935 V. WOOLF *Let.* 21 June (1979) V. 403 The marmoset is just about to wet on my shoulder. 1954 J. STEINBECK *Sweet Thursday* xiv. 82 Housebroken dogs wet on the parlor rug. 1975 J. CLEARY *Safe House* ii. 71 The children want to wet... Come on, love. Have your wet.

III. 18. The vb. stem in comb., as *wet-bed* = *bed-wetter* s.v. *BED sb.* 19.

1934 'J. SPENSER' *Limey breaks In* iv. 61, I lay awake for so long that I heard the night watchman come to call the wet-

beds. 1960 J. STROUD *Shorn Lamb* xviii. 204 Does he enurete?.. I've got four chronic wet-beds already.

wet, *adv.* *rare*⁻¹. [f. WET *a.* in WET NURSE.] As a wet nurse.

1697 VANBURGH *Relapse* v. v, I who had suckled it, and swaddled it, and nursed it both wet and dry.

wet, *obs.* form of WHAT, WIT *v.*

weta ('wɛtə). N.Z. [Maori.] Any of several wingless orthopteran insects of the genus *Deinacrida*, *Pachyrhamma*, or *Hemideina*.

1843 E. DIEFFENBACH *Trav. N.Z.* II. iii. 396 Weta—an insect so called. 1857 C. HURSTHOUSE *N.Z.* I. v. 123 The Weta, a suspicious-looking scorpion-like creature, apparently replete with 'high concocted venom', but perfectly harmless. 1863 S. BUTLER *First Year in Canterbury Settlement* ix. 441 One of the ugliest-looking creatures... is called 'weta', and is of tawny scorpion-like colour, with long antennae and great eyes, and nasty squashy-looking body, with (I think) six legs. 1888 *Trans. N.Z. Inst.* XXI. 41 Not a sound was heard in that lonely forest, except... the sharp noise produced by the weta. 1949 [see HUH] 1961 R. PARK *Hole in Hill* (1962) xiv. 115 A giant glistening black insect... waving its antennae... 'It's only a weta!' 1975 E. HILLARY *Nothing Venture, Nothing Win* ii. 40 When I was making up the bed I found a huge weta... in one of the blankets.

wetale, *obs.* Sc. form of VICTUAL.

wet blanket.

1. A blanket that has been drenched in water; esp. one used for quenching a conflagration. Chiefly in allusive use.

1662 ATWELL *Faithf. Surveyor* 95 Of quenching an house on fire. The Instruments...are...forks, wet-blankets, ladders...pails, &c. *Ibid.* 97 Cover the out-side with wet blankets, hair-cloths, &c. that neither the flame get out nor air get in. 1702 BAYNARD *Cold Bathing* II. (1709) 264 At Whitney in Oxfordshire, those who work at the Blanket-Mills, carry wet Blankets in their Arms next their Breast, Winter and Summer, and never catch Cold. 1772 CUMBERLAND *Fashionable Lover* i. i. 4 His humours damp all mirth and merriment, as a wet blanket does a fire. 1821 BYRON *Juan* III. xxxvi, Lambro's reception at his people's banquet Was such as fire accords to a wet blanket. 1838 PUSEY in Liddon *Life* (1893) II. xxi. 54 It seems like a wet blanket cast upon all the fire we have been fanning.

2. *fig. a.* Something that acts as a damper to activity, enthusiasm, or cheerfulness.

1810 SIR G. JACKSON *Diaries & Lett.* (1873) I. 143 It would have been a cruel stroke of fate...if...a wet blanket [had] been thrown over them [*sc.* gaieties]. 1829 *Sporting Mag.* XXIII. 426 All was in readiness...when a wet blanket was thrown upon all their hopes. 1848 MRS. GASKELL *Mary Barton* II. It was an unlucky toast or sentiment... It was a wet blanket to the evening. 1894 JESSOP *Rand. Roaming* vi. 195 That chilling maxim—the wet-blanket of enthusiasm.

b. A person who has a depressing or dispiriting effect on those around him.

1857 MRS. MATHEWS *Tea-Table* T. I. 185 Such people may be termed the wet blankets of society. 1875 S. BEAUCHAMP *N. Hamilton* II. 18 As he is of course the wet blanket of the party, they are none of them sorry when he leaves again. 1883 MISS BROUGHTON *Belinda* II. iv. She would spoil the whole thing; she is such a wet blanket. 1897 MRS. OLIPHANT *W. Blackwood* I. iii. 128 Sometimes he called her a wet blanket, when she thus damped his ardour.

Hence **wet-blanket** *v. trans.*, to throw a damper on, discourage, depress. Also (*nonce-*ws.) **wet-blanketting** *ppl. a.*; **wet-blanketiveness**; **wet-blanketty** *a.*

1866 J. D. COLERIDGE *Let. in Life* Ld. Coleridge (1904) II. 140, I think any one would have felt *wet-blanketed by the utter commonplaceness of the whole affair. 1868 LOUISA M. ALCOTT *Little Women* xxi, I know Meg would wet-blanket such a proposal, but I thought you had more spirit. 1893 W. A. SHEE *My Contemp.* iii. 47 Such people...should...not be allowed to wet-blanket the world with their stolid stare. 1901 *Scotsman* 12 Mar. 9/5 Power traction...had been effectively wetblanketed for fully two generations. 1843 J. F. MURRAY *World of London* I. 131 The impossible-mongering, cold-water-throwing, *wet-blanketting-fellows, howled in this way about the Thames tunnel. 1834 *Fraser's Mag.* X. 412 Throwing off the *wet-blanketiveness which usually extinguishes your social qualities. 1848 *Zoologist* VI. 2048 Adapting my phraseology to the author's, I would say such parts of the book are very *wet-blanketty.

wetche, *obs.* form of WATCH.

wetched, *-et*, *obs.* forms of WATCHET.

wet dock. (In contrast to DRY DOCK.)

†1. = DOCK *sb.*³ 1 (where see quot. 1627). *Obs.* 2. (See DOCK *sb.*³ 4.)

1661-2 [see DOCK *sb.*³ 4]. 1689 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2512/4 A Pink about 30 Tun, lying in the Wet-Dock at Deptford. 1724 *Ibid.* No. 6321/3 The great wet Dock in Rotherhith. 1753 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) I. vii. lxxxvii. 400 The harbour or wet-dock...will contain eighty men of war. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* xviii. The little inlet of water...where, as in a wet-dock, the skiff...was still lying moored. 1839 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jnl.* II. 26/1 It is proposed to construct a ship canal from Newhaven Harbour to Lewes, with a wet-dock and basin at Lewes. 1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 466.

†**wete**. *Obs.* [OE. *wāta* wk. masc. In later ME. merged in *wet sb.*¹ 1.] Moisture; a liquid, liquor, drink.

897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past.* C. xi. 73 Se wæta ðara innoða [*humor viscerum*]. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 209 Swipe wynsum ond hluttur wæta utflowende. c1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke viii. 6 Hit forscanc forþam þe hit wætan nafde. c1000 ÆLFRED *Hom.* II. 298 Ne dranc he wines drenc, ne nan ðæra

wætena þe druncennysse styriað. c1205 LAY. 19769 Vt heo droegen sone amppullen scone ifilled mid attere, weten alre bitterest. a1225 *Ancr. R.* 164 Hwo pet bere a deorewurðe licur, oðer a deorewurðe wete, as is bame, in a feble uetles.

wete, *obs.* f. WEET *v.*¹, WET, WHEAT, WIT.

weter, *obs.* f. WATER *sb.*

weteri, *-y*, *obs.* ff. WATER *v.*

weterly, *var.* WITTERLY.

wetewold, *obs.* f. WITTOL.

†**weth**, *var.* WAITH *sb.*²

1602 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 476/1 Cum parvis custumis... wrak, wair, weth et proficiis quibuscumque. 1631 *Ibid.* 633 Cum lie gressingis, scheillingis, multuris wraik, wair, weth.

†**wethe**, *v.* *Obs. rare.* [Of obscure origin; perh. an alteration of *weve* (cf. BIWEVE *v.*¹ 2), or related to south-western dial. *weath* pliant, supple.] *trans.* To twist or twine.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P.R.* xvii. cxliv. (Bodl. MS.), Som wepies bep...so pliaunte þat þei brekeþ nought but bep made stronge wiþ weþing [ed. 1495 weuyng] and windinge as prede is w^t twynnyng. c1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* iv. 676 Too bowes...they take And bynde, and wethe [L. *torques*] hem so that germynnyng Commixt vp go.

wethe, *obs.* form of WITHY.

†**'wethead**. *Obs. rare.* In 4-5 wetehead(e. [f. WET *a.* + -HEAD.] Wetness.

1379 *Glouc. Cath. MS.* 19 No. 1. i. iv. 11 b, And wirketh as frost doth in the wetehead. c1440 *Jacob's Well* 238 Moysture, wetehead, sofhed & nesched.

wethen, *var.* WHETHEN *Obs.*, whence.

wether ('wɛðə(r)). Forms: *a.* 1, 3 weðer, 3-4 weþer, 4-5 wethur, -ir, 5 wethyr, -ire, 6 wethar, 6-9 weather, 4- wether; 4-5 whethir, -ur, 4-6 whether, 5 whetther. *β.* 4, 6 weder, wedir, 5 wedyr, wedor; 5-9 wedder (5 -ur, -yr); *Sc.* 5-6 vedder, weddir, 6 wadder, wodder, weadder. [Common Teutonic: OE. *wēðer* = OFris. **wether* (Nfris. *wether*, Wfris. *weer*), OLFrank. *wither* (MDu. *weder*, Du. *weer*), OS. *withar*, -er (MLG. *weder*, *wêr*, LG. *weer*), OHG. *widar*, -er, -ir (MHG. *wider*, G. *widder*), ON. and Icel. *veðr* (Norw. *veder*, *ver*; MSw. *vāþur*, *wādhur*, etc., Sw. *vādur*, Da. *væder*), Goth. *wiprus* (= lamb), prob. related to L. *vitulus* calf.]

1. A male sheep, a ram; esp. a castrated ram. See also BELL-WETHER.

a. c890 WÆRFERTH tr. *Gregory's Dial.* 34 He breac on þam hælfre for bridelse & weþera fella for sadole. c1000 ÆLFRED *Hom.* II. 576 His bigleofa wæs ælce dæg...hundteontig weþera. c1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3998 On ilc alter fier alderneðer, And ðoron an calf and a weðer. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1210 Vourti poussend of ruþeren he let quelle þe to, & of fatte weþeren an hondred poussend also. a1300 *Cursor M.* 11649 Wolf and weþer, leon and ox, Sal comen samen, and lamb and fox. 1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* xxx. 35 And he seuerde that day the she geit, and the sheep, and the hȳe3 geit, and the wetheres. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* viii. x. (1495) 310 As a whether in lyenge vpon oo syde tornyth and chaungyth by egall tymes. c1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* (Roxb.) 81 Ysaac...was deluyvred fro dede And a wethire cleaving in breres sacrificed in his stede. 1533 in *Weaver Wells Wills* (1890) 2 John Horley on whether...ii yewes. 1588 LAMBARDE *Eiren., Precedents* (1591) Y yj b, Tres oues castratas (anglicè vocatas Wethers). a1589 MASCALL *Cattle, Sheep* (1596) 236 In some places they doe...point the wethers, the yeaws, and the lambes ech by themselves. 1599 SHAKS. etc. *Pass. Pilgr.* 272 My wethers bell rings dolefull knell. 1616 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* II. iv. 95 The Wethers bell that leads our flocks around. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 538 Who shore me Like a tame Weather, all my precious fleece. 1676 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1122/4 Lost or stolen...45 Sheep, called Western Wethers. 1727-46 THOMSON *Summer* 409 Some mingling stir the melted tar...; Others the unwilling wether drag along. 1747 SMOLLETT *Reprofr* 71 All senior members of the horned race.—The weather, goat, ram, elk and ox were there. 1807 CRABBE *Par. Reg.* II. 343 Two pigs, a cow, and wethers half a score, Increased his stock. 1861 *Times* 7 Oct., For wethers the average prices obtained were 38s. to 56s. 1870 BRYANT *Iliad* XII. 541 As when a shepherd carries home with ease A wether's fleece.

β. a1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* lxiv. 14 Cled ere wedirs of shepe. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* VII. 115 And ane of thame apon his hals A mekill bundyn weddir bare. *Ibid.* 152 Thai slew the veddir at thai bar. 1387 TREVISA *Hidgen* III. 127 Daniel seiþ þe fiftē sijt and visoun of þe weder þat hadde hornes noujt al i-liche. c1425 *Non-Cycle Mystery Plays* (1909) 33 Turn þe & take þat wedyr there, & sacrificy hym on þat awtere. c1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 290 At ans he wolde ete a quarter of a weddur, or ij hennys, or a guse. 1479 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 53 And also the same Edmund haue cccc weders in my flokke of Ryngmer. 1523-34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* §53 It is than best tyme to...seuer theym in dyuers sortes...the lambes by theyme-selfe, wedders and the rammes by themself. 1552 LYNDESAY *Monarchie* 5443 Quhat holynes is thare within Ane wolf cled in ane Wodderis skin? a1585 MONTGOMERIE *Flying* 205 Fore store of lambes and langtailde wedders. c1610 SIR J. MELVILLE *Mem.* (Bannatyne Club) 382 Bot some yearly number of wethers wilbe easely granted, be them that possess presently the saidis stoir rowmes. 1681 COLVIL *Whigs Supplic.* (1751) 85 Two three beggars...Who stealing public geese and wedders, Were freed, by rendering skin and feathers. 1796 W. MARSHALL *West Eng. I.* 263 The wedders, of the best sort, fat perfectly well, at two years old. 1830 *Cumb. Farm. Rep.* 55 in *Libr. Usef. Knowl.*, *Husb.* III, Sheep generally fed off by turnips are the best description of Cheviot wedders. 1861 *Times* 16

Oct., Wedders commonly clip 7½lb. of wool. 1888 J. INGLIS *Tent Life Tigerland* 96 What might be the price of wedders now in Australy?

b. transf. of a man; *spec.* a eunuch.

1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* (1550) 187 b, So the great wether which is of late fallen...so craftly, so scabedly, ye & so vntruly iuggled wyth the kynge, that [etc.]. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* IV. i. 114, I am a tainted Weather of the flocke, Meetest for death. 1724 GAY *Captives* Epil. 19 But the soft voice of an Italian weather, Makes them all languish three whole hours together.

†2. Occasional uses. *a.* A battering ram. *b.* The zodiacal sign of the Ram.

14... MS. *Digby* 233 lf. 182/1 As þe instrument þat hatte þe wether smyteþ þe walles of a cyte þat is bysegd. 1565 GOOGE tr. *Palingenius' Zodiac* xi. PP vij, The other by the Balance runnes, and by the Wethers face.

3. **grey wethers**: boulders of hard sandstone found lying on the surface of the Downs in Wiltshire and Devon.

1661 CHILDREY *Brit. Baconica* 49 Upon the Downs between Marleborough and Aubury...are to be found abundance of great stones, commonly called by the Country thereabout, the Gray Weathers. 1681 GREW *Museum* III. 291 A course sort of Jasper Stones, knockt off from those in Wilts-shire near Marleborough, called The Grey-Weathers. 1743 STUKELEY *Abury* 48 An infinite quantity of immense stones, or sarsens, or gray-weather. 1801 H. SKRINE *Rivers Gt. Brit.* 331 Those vast stones called 'The Grey Withers [*sic*]', are scattered irregularly about the country. 1835-95 [see GREY *a.* 8].

4. *Comm.* The fleece obtained from the second or any subsequent shearing of a sheep.

1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 260/1 (Wool) To good, healthy, sound fleeces more than one year old the term 'wethers' is given. 1895 *Agric. Gaz.* 17 June 538/3 Super-super wethers, 9½d.;...selected Yorkshire wethers, 7½d.; deep wethers, 9d.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as **wether fleece**, **-flock**, **haggis**, **-mutton**, **-skin**; **wedderbouk** *Sc.*, the carcass of a wether; **wether-gammon**, a leg of mutton; †**wether gang** *Sc.*, a pasture or right of pasturage for wethers (see *GANG sb.*¹ 4c); **wether-getter**, a ram kept for breeding wethers; †**wether goat**, a castrated goat; **wether head**, a sheep's head; *fig.* a stupid person; **wether hog**, a male sheep (castrated or not) before its first shearing; also **wether hog sheep** (cf. *HOG sb.*¹ 4); chiefly *Sc.* and *north.*; **wether lamb**, a male lamb; †**wether-silver** *Sc.*, money in lieu of a wether paid as a customary rent or tax; **wether teg** = **wether hog**. Also WETHER SHEEP.

15... *Aberd. Reg.* (Jam.), ijs. Scottis for half ane *wedderbouk. 1422 YONGE tr. *Secreta Secret.* (1898) 163 Pelleus...Sende...Iason...into the Ile of Calcos to wyn the *wethyr fleis of golde. a1722 LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 321 In favour rather of keeping a *weather-flock than an ewe-flock on the hill-country. 1886 C. SCOTT *Sheep-farming* 31 Wedder flocks are generally kept on the highest hirsle of the farm. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* xi, The wether flock which had been lost. a1774 FERGUSON *Poems, Drink Eclogue* 84, Wi' skelps like this fock sit but seelil down To *wether-gammon. 1561 in *Dunfermline Reg.* (Bannatyne Club) 427 Item the bouplaces and *wedder gangis within the parrochin of Dunfermling, lxxxvii. li. 1609 in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 1610, 154/1 Cum pastura super Pidmidle et lie Weddergang earundem. 1790 W. MARSHALL *Midland Co. I.* 422 The characteristic difference between what is called a 'ramgetter', and a *weddergetter or a 'good grazier's sheep'. 1671 T. HUNT *Abeced. Scholast.* 52 *Caper*, a *Weather-Goat. 1772 NUGENT *Hist. Friar Gerund* I. 35 To drub this Signior Barbi-castron, this false-bearded wether-goat. 1789 BURNS 'Ken ye ought' 8 Is he slain by Highlan' bodies?... And eaten like a *wether haggis? a1796 — *Grace bef. Dinner*, And send us from thy bounteous store A tup or *wether head! 1869 LE FANU *Wyeern Myst.* II. 102 Why didn't ye tell me, ye d—d wetherhead? 1537 N.C. *Wills* (Surtees 1908) 103, I geve unto...John half a hundreth of share *wedder hogges. 1541 in *Gage Hengrave* (1822) 118 Item, lix wether hogg shepe at xiiij. the pece. 1614, 1794 [see *HOG sb.*¹ 4b]. 1776 *Compl. Grazier* (ed. 4) 149 So of the male sheep, we may reckon them wedder or wedder hoggs, after they are...of a year's growth. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 38 [In Scotland] a female is called a *ewe-hogg*, a male a *tup-hogg*, and a castrated male a *wether-hogg*. c1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 758/12 *Hic agnus*, a *wedrylombe. 1595 *Nottingham Rec.* IV. 62 Unus agniculus (Anglice 'a wether lambe'). 1801 *Farmer's Mag.* Aug. 360 Wedder lambs...are selling from 10s. to 12s. and 13s. per head. 1815 *Sporting Mag.* XLV. 227 She...gave me a detail of their management in buying their wether lambs and fattening their wethers. 1886 C. SCOTT *Sheep-farming* 115 The best ewe lambs...are retained, and all the wether and the second ewe lambs are sent to the market. 1707 J. STEVENS tr. *Quevedo's Com. Wks.* (1709) 171 She never dress'd *Weather-Mutton, when she could get Ewe or Goat. 1824 in *Spirit Publ. Jnl.* (1825) 281 Does Mr. Giblet, the butcher, reserve his...weather-mutton for better customers? 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 100 Wether-mutton is the meat in perfection. 1557 in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 1598, 223/1 Custum-mert-sylver, custum-*wadder-silver. c1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* II. 128 Bettir we bath wer byand hyddis And *weddir skynnis at hame. 1917 *Blackw. Mag.* Nov. 676/2 [temp. 1750-90] Wood and wedder-skins and grain packed for export to the South. 1550 in *Phillipps Wills* (c1830) 180 Forty *Wether Teggs. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 39 In England...sheep bear the name of lamb until 8 months old, after which they are called ewe and wether teggs until once clipped.

wether, *obs.* f. WEATHER, WHETHER, WHITHER.

wethering(e), *obs.* forms of WEATHERING.

wether sheep. = WETHER 1.

13.. *St. Peter & Paul* 244 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 79 Jan Nero gart his heuede of strike, For pe wedir schepe was him like. **1504** *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* II. 449 For tedderis to tua wedder scheip. .xxjd. **1563** *HYLL Art Garden.* (1593) 31 If that you take the maw of a weather sheepe new killed. **1583** in Philipps *Wills* (c 1830) 273, I bequeath unto my Sonne . . . six wether shepe. **1607** TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 638 Of the Weather-sheep. . . Al Nations do distinguish him from the ram, because of one property or defect in him, for that hee is not fit for generation. **1669** STURMY *Mariner's Mag., Penalties* 5 Such Weather-sheep. . . as are. . . for the Ships use. **1733** W. ELLIS *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 284 Fattening of Oxen, or Wether Sheep. **1834** *Brit. Husb.* I. 506 The next year it carried upwards of forty wether sheep.

wetherun, wetherwine, var. ff. WITHERWIN *Obs.*

wethewinde, obs. f. WITHWIND.

wethir, obs. f. WEATHER, WETHER, WHETHER.

wethirwyne, var. WITHERWIN *Obs.*

wethring, obs. f. WEATHERING.

wethy, obs. f. WITHY.

wethyr, obs. f. WEATHER, WETHER.

weting(e), obs. ff. WEETING, WETTING.

wetish, var. WETTISH.

wetland ('wɛtlænd). [f. WET *a.* + LAND *sb.*] An area of land that is usually saturated with water, often a marsh or swamp. Also *attrib.* Also *pl.* (sometimes const. as *sing.*).

1743 M. CATESBY *Nat. Hist. Carolina* II. p. iv, On this wet Land grows a variety of Evergreen Trees and Shrubs. **1847** H. Howe *Hist. Coll. Ohio* 98 'Wet land'. . . by judicious cultivation. . . rapidly improves in fertility. **1955** *Sci. News Let.* 29 Oct. 281/2 The wetland partridge is about twice the size of the valley quail. **1965** *New Scientist* 17 June 763/3 Wetlands are defined to include marshes, bogs, swamps and any still water less than six metres deep. **1969** *Nature* 19 Apr. 239/2 Wetland ecosystems in the limited sense of this work are defined as ecosystems with a watertable, above, at or very near the substrate surface, the substrate remaining saturated throughout the year. **1979** *Daily Tel.* 25 Oct. 11/4 Plans to protect the Somerset wetlands—an area of rare wildlife, whose future has been in dispute—are to be prepared. **1980** *National Trust Spring* 16/3 We intend to preserve this swamp area in its natural state as a haven not only for wetland flora but also for birds and animals. **1985** *Daily Hampshire Gaz.* (Northampton, Mass.) 9 Aug. 17/5 Under state law construction can not take place on a wetlands unless there are plans to replace the wetlands.

'wetly, adv. Also 6 weatly. [f. WET *a.*] In a wet manner or state.

a. **1562** J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* Dd iv b, Walke thou weatly, walke thou dryly: In thy walke, walke not hyly. **β.** **1822** BYRON *Werner* I. i. 254 *I den.* How fares he? *Gab.* Wetly and wearily, but out of peril. **1866** R. BUCHANAN *Poems* (1884) 163 For the world rolls on with air and ocean Wetly and windily round and round. **1890** MISS BROUGHTON *Atlas* II. vii, February has come wetly in, with rain wildly weeping against the casements. **1893** J. A. BARRY *Steve Brown's Bunyip* 3 The immense beast, black, shining wetly. **1975** *Times Lit. Suppl.* 12 Dec. 1486/3 Raffles's relations with his accomplice, Boswell, and room-mate, the wet and unendearing Bunny. Bunny . . . went to prison. . . to shield A. J., who rather let him down; but Bunny wetly forgave him. **1978** *Guardian Weekly* 12 Mar. 21/3 A peaceable fellow-officer, played slightly wetly by the American Beau Bridges.

Wetmore ('wɛtmɔ:(r)). The name of Alexander Wetmore (1886–1978), American ornithologist, used *attrib.* in *Wetmore order* to designate the system of bird classification developed by him.

1965 *Jrnl. Lancs. Dial. Soc.* Jan. 5 They are listed in Wetmore Order, i.e. the system of classification which is generally accepted in modern bird books. **1979** *Nature* 29 Mar. 490/1 Indeed Wetmore's name has become a household word among ornithologists, for his classification of the birds of the world, forming the basis for the well known 'Wetmore order', has, with modifications necessitated by new knowledge, become the generally accepted arrangement, as adopted in Peters' *Checklist of Birds of the World* and other authoritative compilations.

'wetness. Also 1 wétnis, 5–6 wetenes, 6 -ness(e), 7 weatness; 4–6 wette-, wetnes(se). [f. WET *a.* + -NESS.] **a.** The fact or condition of being wet; also *concr.*, moisture, wet.

a. **c 950** *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke viii. 6 Oðer feall ofer stan and . . . forðrugade forðon ne hæbde wetnisse. **c 1430** *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 546 The king. . . of that wetenes [*sc.* tears] was affraied That by his arme and his shuldres ran. **1530** *PALSGR.* 288/1 Wetenesse, *moilleure, moisture.* **1546** *Yorks. Chantry Surv.* (Surtees) 285 The wetness of the ground and grete inundations of waters. **1573** *Kent & Surrey Sewers Comm.* (1909) 163 These men. . . were extreemly hindred thorowe the extreamenes of the wetenesse of the wether. **1664** J. CARSTAIRS *Lett.* (1846) 149 See that it be kept verie dry, the least wetness will much prejudice me.

β. **c 1330** R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* 10352 Schal he neuere take scathe, Ne haue wetyngne [*Petyt MS.* haf wetenes] ne wape. **c 1400** tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 149 A lanterne. . . pat myst nouȝt be quenched nouȝt wip wynde ne wip none moisture ne wetnes. **1573–80** TUSSEY *Husb.* (1878) 99 What worser for barlie than wetnes and cold? **1577** GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. 141 b, The wettenesse hereof doth not onely hurt. . . their feete, but also spoyleth their coates. **1645–50** BOATE *Ireland's Nat. Hist.* xxi. §3 (1652) 165 Which inconstancy and wetness of the weather is. . . troublesome to

men. **1699** MEAGER *New Art Garden.* 42 If the Vine stands against damp Walls, the wetness perishes the Clusters that touch it. **1765** A. DICKSON *Treat. Agric.* (ed. 2) 136 The wetness of land from its situation may be prevented. **1794** VANCOUVER *Agric. Cambridge* 57 This meadow land. . . in that state of wetness. **1846** *J. Baxter's Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) I. 229 The suffocating wetness and cold of the furrows. **1871** B. STEWART *Heat* §152 The sensation of dryness or wetness does not depend upon the absolute amount of aqueous vapour present in one cubic foot of air.

b. A wet spot or patch of ground.

1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. Pl. XLVI, The plan of draining wetnesses on the tops of hills and banks.

c. Feebleness, ineptness. Cf. WET *a.* 15 b.

1977 *Times* 29 Sept. 4/1 It was surely not Liberal 'wetness', as the incoming president, Mr. Gruffydd Evans, termed their traditional virtues of niceness and fairmindedness. **1981** R. D. EDWARDS *Corridors of Death* vii. 33 A profession which regards loyalty as weakness and decency as wetness. **1983** *Times* 4 Nov. 7/1 The idea that an ally has a right to independent judgment is too easily dismissed as what Mrs Thatcher might describe. . . as wetness.

wet nurse, wet-nurse, sb. A woman who is hired to suckle and nurse another woman's child. Cf. DRY-NURSE.

1620 MIDDLETON *Chaste Maid* II. ii, I call the Wet Nurse hither. **a 1633** AUSTIN *Medit.* (1635) 45 Shee was both wet-Nurse, and dry-Nurse herself. And yet this his handmaid was his Mother. **1689** *Full Answ. Depos. Birth Pr. Wales* 7 Query, Whether she did not use to provide a Wet-Nurse, at her other Deliveries. **1776** *Pennsylvania Even. Post* 8 Feb. 70/2 Wants a place, as Wet Nurse, a young woman with a good breast of milk. **1888** MISS BRADDON *Fatal Three* I. iii, A wet-nurse being wanted at the great house.

transf. and *fig.* **1826** HOOD *Irish Schoolm.* xxi, How Romulus was bred in savage wood, By wet-nurse wolf, devoid of wolfish rage. **1884** GILMOUR *Mongols* xxxii. 375 China has acted the wet-nurse to Mongolia, and discharged her duty well.

wet-nurse, v. trans. To serve as wet nurse to, suckle (another woman's infant). Also *transf.*

1784 *Morn. Chron.* 13 Apr. 4/4 Advt., Wanted, a Child to Wet Nurse, by a Young Woman, with a good breast of milk. **1786** MRS. A. M. BENNETT *Juvenile Indiscr.* III. 62 At the house of the woman who had wet-nursed him. **1860** O. W. HOLMES *Professor* I. 25 *A mythus*. . . Such as Livy told about the wolf that wet-nursed Romulus and Remus.

b. fig. To treat tenderly or take under special care, as if helpless.

1873 *Siliad* 109 A curious youth. . . Who, ere his whiskers had completely grown, Possessed a comic paper of his own; But though wet-nursed by someone in Debrett, It died quite young. **1891** *Telegr. Jrnl.* 13 Feb. 205/2 The system of wet-nursing adopted by the Post Office authorities in the case of the telegraph service has not been one of uniform success. **1893** *Westm. Gaz.* 7 Feb. 6/1 A member of independent spirit—not wet-nursed for party purposes by political gold. **1917** *Blackw. Mag.* Nov. 584/1, I was wet-nursed by an elderly old buffer of a General.

wet-saffe, obs. form of VOUCHSAFE.

wet-shod († -shoed), *a.* *Obs. exc. dial.* Forms: **a.** 4–5 wete-schood, -shoed, -shode; 5 wetschoede, -schode, -shood (wethshood), 6 -shoode, 7 -shooed; 5 watschoed, -schood. **β.** 4–6 wete-shodde, 5 wate-shodd; 5– wet-shod (5 -schod, 7 -shodde; 5 wadsshod, 7 ? wet-shot). (Also in many dialect forms: see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*) [f. *wete, wate* WET *a.* + SHOED, SHOD, *ppl. adjs.*] Having the feet wet.

a. **1377** LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XVIII. 1 Wolleward and wete-shoed went I forth after. **1393** *Ibid.* C. XVII. 14 And jut is wynter for hem wors, for wet-shod þei gangen. ? **a 1400** *Arthur* 469 þere men were wetschoede All of brayn & of blode. **a 1470** GREGORY *Chron. in Hist. Collect. Cit. Lond.* (Camden) 207 They fulle ungodely smote owte the heddys of the pypps and hoggs hedys of wyne, that men wente wete-schode in wyne. **1650** FULLER *Pisgah* II. v. §2 Moses foretold that he should be wete-shod in oile.

β. **1377** LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIV. 161 And þit is wynter for hem worse, for wete-shodde thei gange. **1393** *Ibid.* C. XXI. 1 Wowerie and wetschod wente ich forth after. **c 1440** *Alphabet of Tales* 172 A preste pat hight Stephan on a tyme was wate-shodd. **a 1510** STANBRIDGE *Vulgaria* (W. de W.) Bvj, I am wete shodde, *Pedes humectant.* **1542** BOORDE *Dyetary* xxx. (1870) 293 Beware of takyng colde in the legge, or ryding, or goyng wethshod. **1592** LVLV *Gallathea* I. iv. 10 Ile warrant by this time he is wethshod. **1627** DRAYTON *Agincourt* cxcii, Scarce a man but wet-shod went in gore. **1657** T. M. *Life Sat. Puppy Nim* 10 They which followed the Coffin to buriall, went wethshod in those affectionate Teares. **1684** BUNYAN *Pilgr.* II. (1900) 235 So he went over [the river] at last, not much above wet-shod. **1742** RICHARDSON *Pamela* IV. 320 Your Billy has not yet been accusom'd to be wethshod. **1775** CHANDLER *Trav. Asia Minor* 41, I passed the stream several times without being wet-shod. **1825–** in many dialect glossaries (cf. *Eng. Dial. Dict.*).

b. fig. (or in figurative context).

1575 FENTON *Golden Epist.* (1582) 249 You seeme. . . to wade continually wethshoode in the laake of this miserable worlde. **1589** ? LVLV *Pappe w. Hatchet* Bjb, He will make their wits wethshod, if the ale haue his swift current. **1622** MASSINGER & DEKKER *Virg. Martyr* III. iii, All my hopes are seam-rent, and go wet-shod. **a 1652** BROME *City Wit* IV. i, Virtue goes often wethshod, and is forc'd to be cobled up with base means, to hold out water and cold necessity. **16..** *Times* I in *Cleveland's Wks.* (1687) 239 To speak in wet-shod Eyes, and drowned Looks.

wetshode, obs. form of WATCHET.

'wetable, a. [f. WET *v.*] Admitting of being wetted.

1885 H. O. FORBES *Nat. Wand. E. Archip.* 484 His only wettable garment being his loin-cloth. **1903** W. R. FISHER tr. *Schimper's Plant-Geogr.* III. i. 225 The foliage in a constantly humid climate is as a rule easily wettable. **1955** [see CAPTAN]. **1976** McGraw-Hill *Yearbk. Sci. & Technol.* 208/2 Spraying the wettable powder or flowable formulation results in distribution patterns that are particulate in form rather than lamellar.

Hence **wettability**, the property of being wettable; the degree to which something may be wetted (WET *v.* 1 b).

1913 *Chem. Abstr.* VII. 3441 The wetting of glass by different pairs of liquids was investigated with special reference to the effect of prolonged wetting upon the 'wetability'. **1933** *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* XXV. 329 The 'wettability' of the particle in water. **1973** *Nature* 2 Mar. 14/1 The wettability of leaf surfaces is influenced by the fine structure and chemical composition of the wax. **1977** J. L. HARPER *Population Biol. Plants* xi. 379 *Larrea* affects the water relations of the soil surrounding the plants, reducing soil wettability.

wette, var. WIT *sb.* and *v.*

'wetted, ppl. a. [f. WET *v.*]

1. Made wet; moistened, damped.

1615 CHAPMAN *Odyss.* xxii. 561 Clense each boord & Throne With wetted Sponges. **1719** *Phil. Trans.* XXX. 1084, I touch'd the end A with a wetted Finger. **1762** FALCONER *Shipwr.* II. 249 They sound the well, and. . . Along the line four wetted feet appear. **1774** GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VI. 402 The eggs are covered with a tough white skin, like wetted parchment. **1848** MRS. GASKELL *Mary Barton* xxxiii, He saw her sitting up in bed, . . . her head bound round with wetted cloths. **1887** *Harper's Mag.* July 170/1 Spreading over it a strip of wetted paper.

2. *Aeronaut.* Of an aircraft surface: in contact with the moving airflow.

1916 F. W. LANCHESTER *Flying Machine from Engin. Standpoint* 110 If the direct resistance is properly assessed on the basis of 'wetted' surface, whether we call it a *surface* coefficient or a *skin-friction* coefficient is merely a question of terminology. **1958** *Observer* 11 May 13/4 The plan form of the 'nicked delta' or delta with the inner middle rear part cut out, was adopted to reduce to a minimum the 'wetted' area or part over which air flows, without reducing the part that does useful work. **1983** D. STINTON *Design of Aeroplane* v. 208 When an aeroplane is very clean and highly streamlined, parasite drag may be attributed to skin friction drag. . . For this we need to work out wetted area.

'wetter. [f. WET *v.*]

1. One who wets; *spec.* one who damps paper to be used in printing.

1737 CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gl. Brit.* (ed. 33) II. 93 Wetters of paper for [rolling-press]. **1760** *Court & City Reg.* 130, 7 Layers of Paper, and 2 Wetters of ditto. **1888** JACOBI *Printers' Vocab.*, *Wetter*, the workman whose duty it is to 'wet down' paper preparatory to printing.

b. wetter-off, in glass-making, a workman who detaches glass by wetting it. (Cf. WET *v.* 13.)

1883 H. J. POWELL *Glass-making* 86 If the bottle be large it is handed, whilst still attached to the blowing-iron, to the 'wetter off', who detaches it by applying a moistened tool to the neck. **1888** *Daily News* 14 Feb. 6/7 The glass is never attached to any part of the machine, and so the 'wetter-off' is dispensed with.

2. colloq. A wetting, soaking.

1885 SLADEN *Poetry of Exiles* (ed. 2) I. 28 Unheedful of the dew. . . Until a shiver told him that he'd 'had a thorough wetter'.

wetter, dial. form of WATER; var. WITTER *sb.*²

wetterly, var. WITTERLY *adv. Obs.*

'wetting, vbl. sb. [f. WET *v.*]

1. The action of making wet, or the fact of becoming wet; also (with *a* and *pl.*), an instance of this: **a.** Of persons, esp. by rain or falling into water.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 268 þo Marie hadde i-blessed þat watw with hire honde, With-oute wetingue þare-ouer heo 3eode. **c 1330** [see WETNESS β]. **c 1400** *Destr. Troy* 1579 Pight vp with pilers. . . [for] Weghis into walke for wetyng of rayn. **1610** SHAKS. *Temp.* IV. i. 211 That's more to me then my wetting. **1645** BP. HALL *Remedy Discont.* 149 It must be our wisdom. . . some whiles to abide a wetting; that, if need be, wee may endure a drenching also. **a 1700** EVELYN *Diary* 5 May 1645, So that one can hardly step without wetting to the skin. **1836** SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) IV. 490 At the cost of a thorough wetting under a succession of heavy showers. **1849** C. BRONTË *Shirley* xxvi, Many a wetting we got amongst the mountains. **1876** SMILES *Sc. Natur.* xii. (ed. 4) 250 The sea was like a sheet of glass; so that he had little fear of getting a wetting during his few hours' stay.

b. In general use. Also in *fig. context.*

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* I. 3 He sall be as a tre that . . . has ay wetyngne of the watirs of grace. **c 1380** WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 27 þat men þoru hem moun take weetyngne of hevenly dew to her drie hertis. **1390** GOWER *Conf.* II. 39 As a cat wolde ete fisshes withoute wetinge of his cles. **c 1440** *Prompt. Parv.* 523/2 Wetyngne, *madefaccio, madidacio.* **1577** GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. 119 b, Your stable must be buylt in a dry place, for wetting the Horses hoofs. **1623** in *Foster Eng. Factories Ind.* (1908) II. 285 The wettinge and late cominge downe of thier goods. **1693** EVELYN *De la Quint. Compl. Gard.* II. 59 The second thing that is to be done, after having remov'd Fig-Trees out of the Conservatory, . . . is (to use the Phrase of Gard'ners) to give them a good Wetting in every Case; which is, one good substantial Watering. **1725** *Bradley's Family Dict.* s.v. *Narcissus of Japan*, They must have a sound wetting, steeping the Pots in Water until you find it swims upon the Surface. **1789** T. WRIGHT *Meth. Watering Meadows* (1790) 23 It can be of no service to the lowest parts of the meadow, unless as a wetting in Spring or Summer. **1815** J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* I. 255 The wetting of the slate was merely superficial. **1863** P. BARRY

Dockyard Econ. 197 The only sensible effect is the wetting of the wires. 1886 *Athenaeum* 20 Feb. 268/1 It is functionally protective against undue wetting by rain.

2. The action of moistening the throat with liquid; a small quantity of water or liquor used for this purpose.

1340-70 *Alex. & Dind.* 1033 Drink may him helpe, A litil wettinge of watur his wo wol amende. 1835 J. M. WILSON *Tales of Border* I. 118 It is seldom a thimblefu' that fa's to my share, . . . mony a time, no a weetin'. 1884 *Punch* 11 Oct. 180/1 'Twas like the free run of a Bar, And Politics wants lots o' wetting. 1906 *Times* 6 Mar. 9/6 Drinks and 'wetting', ruinous to health and morals, are part of the business plant.

3. The action of making wet or moist as part of a special process: a. Of cloth. (Also in fig. contexts.)

1463-4 *Rolls of Parl.* V. 501/2 That every Cloth of Kersey . . . be partly wette, and after that wetyng redy to the sale, . . . conteinige in lengh xviii yerdes. 1540, 1592 [see SHRINK v. 2 b]. 1593 GREENE *Mamillia* II. E.4, The cloath is not knowne till it come to the wetting. 1616 DRAKE *Bibl. Scholast.* 189 He will not abide the touchstone. He shrinketh in the wetting. 1627 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Navy Land Ships* B.5, Like No[r]therne Cloth shrunke in the wetting. 1631 R. BOLTON *Conf. Affl. Cons.* iv. (1635) 16 A professour of the truest and heavenliest dye that holds out in the wetting and shrinkes not in the Day of adversitie. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2415/2 The stretch is taken out of it by repeated wettings and stretchings.

b. The steeping of barley in the process of malting; the quantity steeped at one time.

1467 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 46 That the occupier . . . shall haue his wetyng of his barley in the fate of the seid Denyse during malyng tyme, . . . the seid Denyse on wetyng and the seid occupier an other wetyng. 1702 *London Gaz.* No. 3790/4 Every Cistern . . . or other Vessel, . . . made use of for the Wetting or Steeping of Corn. 1720 *Ibid.* No. 5864/2 The intire wetting . . . shall be charged with the Duty of 6d. per Bushel.

c. fig. (Cf. WET v. 11.)

1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 53 He must have his double Jug, before he weighs, . . . because wetting of his Sails, will make him run the faster.

d. Glass-making. (See quot. and WET v. 13.)

1888 *Daily News* 14 Feb. 6/5 The bottle is . . . cut off from the blow pipe by means of a steel chisel and cold water. This is called 'wetting' or 'wetting off'.

4. *concr.* A liquid mixture employed to wet something else. (See also E.D.D., *Wetting* sb. 3.)

1728 E. S[MITH] *Compleat Housew.* (ed. 2) 134 Make a Hole in the midst of the Flour, and pour all the wetting in.

5. Urination, usu. resulting from incontinence or stress.

1943 [see SOILING vbl. sb.¹ 1 b]. 1960 I. BENNETT *Delinquent & Neurotic Children* viii. 252 Soiling, wetting, and difficult behaviour.

6. *attrib.*, as *wetting-board*, *-machine*, *-place*, *-trough*.

1790 *Act 31 Geo. III.*, c. 7, §18 The Cistern, Uting-fat, or other Wetting-place or Utensil. 1800 *Act 41 Geo. III* c. 6 §3 Damaged Barley in the Cistern, . . . or other wetting Place. 1888 JACOBI *Printers' Vocab.*, *Wetting boards*, the boards placed between the different reams in the press in the wetting department. *Ibid.*, *Wetting machines. Ibid.*, *Wetting trough.*

'wetting, ppl. a. [f. WET v.]

a. That makes wet or moist.

1661 BOYLE *Physiol. Ess.* (1669) 187 The distinction betwixt a fluid Body and a wetting Liquor. a 1668 LASSELS *Voy. Italy* (1698) I. 134 Here you have the Grotto of Cupid with the wetting-stools, upon which sitting down, a great spout of water comes full in your face. *Ibid.* 159 The great variety of water-works, grotts, and wetting sports. 1718 ROWE tr. *Lucan* I. 403 The wetting winds had thaw'd the Alpine snows. 1842 LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 397 The plant . . . is regularly drenched with heavy wetting dews. 1854 H. MILLER *Sch. & Schm.* vi. (1858) 120 There came on a thick, wetting drizzle. 1902 MABEL BARNES-GRUNDY *Thames Camp* 296 The chilly evenings and the heavy wetting mists in the morning. 1948 *Nature* 28 Feb. 313/2 A non-polar 'wetting' liquid such as carbon tetrachloride is floated on mercury in the reservoir beneath the U-tube. 1980 *Brit. Med. Jnl.* 18 Oct. 1047/2 A wetting solution coats a hard lens with a chemical that permits water to spread and form a surface that is less traumatic to eye tissues.

b. *wetting agent*, a chemical that can be added to a liquid to reduce its surface tension and make it more effective at wetting.

1927 *Chem. Abstr.* XXI. 414 The Na salts of the products may be used as wetting agents. 1950 *Engineering* 5 May 517/1 The success of Teepol as a wetting agent is due to its effectiveness in reducing the surface tension of water. 1977 J. HEDGECOE *Photographer's Handbk.* 39 Rinsing the film in 'wetting agent' (weak detergent) at the end of washing helps to prevent the accumulation of drops of water.

'wettish, a. [f. WET a. + -ISH.] Somewhat wet.

1648 R. JOSSELYN *Diary* (Camden 1908) 53 A wett night, and wettish day. 1651 in *Hartlib's Legacy* (1655) 99, I have been with Doctor D. about Lucern, who tells me that it groweth best in wettish grounds. 1733 W. ELLIS *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 47 This loose Earth . . . should be ploughed and sowed in a wettish Time. 1764 J. FERGUSON *Lect.* 59 Wettish or sandy ground. 1788 LD. AUCKLAND *Corr.* (1861) II. 98 It continues wettish and windy. 1812 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* XXXIV. 16 Flowers are odoriferous in wettish air. 1828 CARLYLE in Froude *Life* (1882) I. 424 She looked . . . eastward with wettish eyes. 1871 — in *Mrs. Carlyle's Lett.* III. 192 Weather mild though dim and wettish. 1882 *Garden* 6 May 305/1 Particularly in deep, wettish soils.

Hence 'wettishness.

1727 BAILEY (vol. II), *Moistness*, wettishness, dampness.

wettrien, obs. f. WATER v.

wetty, obs. f. WITTY a.

weturly, var. WITTERLY adv. Obs.

wetware ('wetwɛə(r)). [f. WET a. after hardware, software.] Chemical materials organized so as to perform arithmetic or logical operations; brain substance, as having this ability.

1975 *Nature* 23 Oct. 634/1 An electronic computer is made up of hardware and software; a chemical automaton needs an additional component, a chemical reaction system which might be called 'wetware'. 1977 *N.Y. Times* 8 May 1. 34/6 Computer scientists have lately begun talking about 'wetware', which is the human brain. 1984 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 14 Dec. 1442/3 There is no obvious reason why biological 'wetware' should be any better at imbuing internal structures with semantic significance than silicon 'hardware'. 1985 *Listener* 10 Jan. 9/3 The whole claim of strong AI is that the physical and chemical hardware or wetware of the system are quite irrelevant.

wetye, var. WITIE v. Obs.

wetyng(ly, obs. ff. WEETING(LY.

weuch, Sc. var. WOUGH sb. Obs.

we-uns ('wi:ʌnz), pron. U.S. dial. Also we uns, we'uns. [f. WE pron. + uns, dial. var. ones (ONE pron.).] Used in place of WE or US pron.

1864 *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 16/2 'What for you uns', said they, in their barbaric dialect, 'come down here to fight we uns?' 1865 O. L. JACKSON *Colonel's Diary* (1922) 208 If we 'uns were to go down to Goldbro or Raleigh, do you think we 'uns could get any old creetur? . . . A horse or a mule? 1907 H. B. WRIGHT *Shepherd of Hills* xi. 105 You can get out o' these hills an' be somebody like we'uns. *Ibid.* xii. 109 He sure talks so we'uns can understand. 1913 H. KEPHART *Our Southern Highlanders* xiii. 286 Let's we-uns all go over to yourunses house. 1938 C. H. MATSCHAT *Suwannee River* iii. 53 We-uns'll . . . light for home.

†weve, sb. Obs. —1 [f. next.] A short or quick movement. *in little weve*, in a moment.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 22927 All þe flexs þat was o þe man . . . sal be delt in littel weue [*Edinb.* wefe]; þat was o best [= beast] al sal bileue [= remain].

†weve, v.¹ Obs. Forms: 3-5 weve, 4-5 wefe; *pa. t.* 3 wefde, weft; *pa. pple.* 4 y-, i-weved, weved. [Perh. a dial. var. of WAIVE v.² (a. ON. *veifa*); possibly repr. an unrecorded OE. **wæfan* = ON. *veifa*. Cf. BIWEVE v.² Although disappearing from literary use in ME., the verb appears to have survived in speech, and to be represented in mod.Eng. by WEAVE v.²]

1. *intr.* Of persons: To go from one place to another; to travel, wander, pass.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 85 Denne þe iuele gost fareð ut of þe manne and weueð wide . . . sechende reste. c 1290 *Beket* 2053 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 165 Into þe cloistre of Caunterburi with grete noyse heo comen weue. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1475 3ef he com mid is ost in to þis lond weue. 13.. *E.E. Allit. P.* A. 318 þou wynlez ouer pys water to weue.

b. Of things: To go, pass, make way. c 1275 LAY. 28049 And ich ig[rap] my gode sword. . . and smot of Modred his hefd, þat hit wefe [c 1205 wond] a [the] felde. c 1400 *Rowland & O.* 545 He hitt hym a-bown appon þe heuede, þat to þ^e scholdire þ^e swerde wefede. *Ibid.* 564 Otuell says 'my suerde kan schere', & in to þ^e erthe it weuede.

c. To move to and fro; to toss about.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 24839 þe weder . . . son bigan to rug and reth, þat ilk wau til oper weft, And bremli to þo barges beft. c 1300 *Metr. Hom.* 40 But thurt him noht haf tint his heued, Yef he als red [= reed] wald haf weuid. c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 4368 To cold coles sche sehal be brent 3it or come eue, & þe aschis of hire body with þe wind weue.

2. *trans.* To move or remove from one place to another; to convey or bring; to strike down.

13.. *K. Alis.* 3807 With his sword he wolde his heved Fro the body have y-weved [*Bodl. MS.* yreued]. 13.. *Sir Beues* 954 A leide on wiþ þe bor is heued, Til þat hii were adoun i-weued. c 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 40 Gif me in a disce weued Sain Jon the Baptist heued. 13.. *E.E. Allit. P.* A. 976, I an-endez þe on þis syde Schal sve [= follow], tyl þou to a hil be veued.

b. To wave or brandish (a weapon). Also *absol.*, to beckon, make signals.

c 1325 *Metr. Hom.* (1862) 122 Hir ald fader bird hir lefe, And on hir lemman clep and wefe. *Ibid.* 123. c 1325 *Metr. Hom.* (MS. Ashmole 42) fol. 100 Borne he was bothe doumbe & defe and peres on him gon call & wefe. c 1350 *Libeaus Desc.* 544 His brof aboute he weved; All þat he hitte he cleved. c 1440 [cf. WEAVING vbl. sb. below].

c. ? To toss about, trouble.

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 922 Auntrose is þin euel, ful wonderliche it þe weues; wel i wot þe sope.

3. a. *to weve up*: to open (a window, a gate): = WAIVE v.² b. *to weve off*: to throw off (a garment). Cf. WAIVE v.² 4 a.

a. c 1205 LAY. 19003 þa cnihtes weoren swide [*sic*] whæte, and wefden up þa castles 3æte, & letten hine binnen fare. c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2978 [She] weued vp a window þat was toward þe place.

b. c 1290 *Beket* 951 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 133 þo seint thomas hadde is masse i-songue: his chesible he gan of weue.

4. To give (to a person).

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1976 þe lorde Gawayn con ponk, Such worchip he wolde hym weue. *Ibid.* 2359 Hit is my wede þat þou werez, . . . Myn owen wyf hit þe weued, I wot wel for sope.

Hence †weving vbl. sb.

c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 523/2 Wevynge, or wevynge wythe tokne, annutus.

†weve, v.² Obs. —1 [OE. *wæfan* to wrap. Cf. BIWEVE v.¹] *trans.* To wrap up, cover.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P. R.* II. viii. (1495) b v b/2 The name of Seraphyn menyth thyng that is not weyled [= veiled] neyther weuyd.

weve, obs. form of WEAVE v.

we've, contracted f. *we have* (HAVE v. A 2 d).

1742 RICHARDSON *Pamela* III. 313 When, too late, we see what we've miss'd. 1882 BESANT *All Sorts* xxvi, Do you mean to say that we've got to have dinner?

†weved. Obs. Forms: a. 1 wio-, weobud, weofud, -od, weofed-, 3 weofed (*dat.* weofde), weoued. β. 1 wefod, 3-4 wefed (*dat.* wefde), 3-5 weued (4 -yd), 4 weued (*dat.* weyfe). [OE. *wéofud*, -od, earlier *wéo-*, *wiobud*, f. *wéoh-*, *wioh-*, *wih-* (*wig-*) holy, sacred + *béod* (masc.) table. In OE., however, the second element very commonly appears as -bed (in the forms *wio-*, *wéo-*, *wig-*, *wibed*) and was evidently identified with the noun *bed*, being sometimes inflected -beddes, etc.; in agreement with this the usual gender of *wéofod* is neuter. As an independent word the first element in OE. is a noun meaning 'idol', corresponding to OS. *wih*, ON. *vé* holy place, sanctuary, and OHG. *wih* (MHG. *wich*, G. *weih-*), Goth. *weihs* adj. holy.] An altar.

a. c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past.* C. 217 3if se weobud ufán hol nare. *Ibid.*, Hwæt elles 3etacnað 3æt weobud buton ryhtwisra monna saula? c 960 ÆTHELWOLD *Bened. Rule* lxii. 113 Healde he simle þone styde . . . butan þære þenunge anre þæs halgan weofodes. c 1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Matt. xxiii. 35 Zacharias . . . þone 3e oflogon betweox þam temple and þam weofode. c 1205 LAY. 31951 He Peteres weofed þere wunliche isohte. a 1225 *Ancre R.* 346 Ualleð biuoren ower weoued a creoiþ to þer eorðe. a 1240 *Lofsong* in O.E. *Hom.* I. 209 Ich . . . bi-seche þe . . . þurh pine eadi flesche and pine iblescede blode i-sacred oðe weouede.

β. c 1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Matt. v. 23 3if þu bringst pine lac to wefode . . . læt þær pine lac beforan þam altare. c 1130 O.E. *Chron.* an. 1125, He sang ðone hehmesse on Eastren dæi æt Cristes wefod. c 1205 LAY. 28747 Meleon . . . fleh to ares chirche and forð riht anan wende forn to ane wefde. c 1290 *Beket* 1082 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 137 He let maken is bed . . . Op in þe heie chirche bi-twene twei weuedes. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4593 At glastinbury . . . at uore þe heye weued amyde þe quer. 1340 *Ayrenb.* 14 þe sacrement of þe weyfe. *Ibid.* 236 Godes table is þe weued. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* I. 161 þe auters and weuedes of þat peple. c 1425 *Eng. Cong. Ireland* xviii. 42 Yn the modyr chyrche, . . . & to-for the weued.

wevede, obs. pa. t. and pa. pple. of WEAVE v.

wevel(l, wever(e, obs. ff. WEEVIL, WEAVER.

†wevesterte. Obs. In quot. *wewestrete*. [f. WEVE v. + START sb.¹ Cf. WAGSTART.] The wagtail.

14.. in Wr.-Wülcker 617/44 *Truga, quedam avis*, a *wewestrete*.

'wevet. south-west. dial. [f. WEAVE v. Cf. WEFT sb.¹] A cobweb. †Also *collect*.

1499-1500 *Churchw. Acc. S. Edmund, Sarum* (1896) 51 To Will. Belynger for Strykyng downe of the Weuet in the Church. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ.* *Osor.* 56 b, Ye skyppe over the open Oracles of truth, and are entangled in the wevett of errour. [Cf. *spider-wevet* s.v. SPIDER 10.] 1825 JENNINGS *Observ.* *Dial. W. Eng.* 134 Tha church war durty. —Wetves here Hang'd danglin vrom tha ruf. 1886 W. BARNES *Dorset Gloss.*, *Wevvet, wivet*, a cobweb.

wevil(l, -yl(l, obs. forms of WEEVIL.

wew, obs. Sc. f. VIEW; var. WHEW int.

wewe, obs. f. VIEW sb., WEAVE v.

wewell, obs. form of WEEVIL.

wex(e, obs. ff. VEX v., WAX sb. and v.

wexin, obs. f. WAXEN.

wey¹ (wei). Forms: 1 wæȝ (wéȝ), wæȝe, 4-8 weye, 5- wey (5 wegh), 5-7 way (6 waye, waie), 7 waigh(e, 7- weigh. [Identical in origin with WEIGH sb.¹ Cf. WAY sb.² and WAW sb.²]

1. A standard of dry-goods weight, varying greatly with different commodities. (See quotes.) a. Of cheese.

805-10 in *Birch Cartul. Sax.* I. 459 3if hit ðonne festen dæȝ sie, selle mon uaxe cæsa & fises. c 833 *Ibid.* 577 An weȝ spices & ceses. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. v. 93, I wolde be gladder . . . Than þouȝe I had þis weye ywonne a weye of essex chese. 1542 RECORDE *Gr. Arts* K v b, The very weights of it [sc. cheese] are cloues and weies, so that a cloue shoulde contayne 7 pounde; and a wey 32 cloues, that is 224 poundes. 1590 PAYNE *Brief Descr. Irel.* (1841) 8 You may haue yeerely . . . fortie great wayes of cheese, of the milke gathered betwixt May and Michaelmas. 1596 *Recorde's Gr. Arts* 162 And so much [256 pound] weyeth the weigh of Suffolke cheese. . . The Wey of Essex Cheese containeth 16 score, and 16 pound. 1638 L. ROBERTS *Merch. Map Comm.* II. 239 The true weight of cheese and butter, called the Waighe. *Ibid.*, The Waighe of Suffolke cheese being 256 li. and the waighe

of Essex cheese 336 li. averdupois. **1725** *Bradley's Family Dict.* s.v. *Clove*, In Suffolk they allow forty two of these Cloves or three hundred thirty six pounds to the Wey. **1846** *J. Baxter's Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) II. 429 A wey in Suffolk 32 cloves, or 256 lbs. A wey in Essex 42 cloves, or 336 lbs. **b.** Of wool.

a 975 *Laws Edgar III.* §8 Ga seo wæge [*v.r.* wæg] wulle to exx. p[enninga]. [*c 1300* *Fleta* II. xii. (1647) 73 Et duæ wayæ lanæ faciunt unum saccum.] **a 1500** *Arnolde's Chron.* (1811) 100 Of the sac wulle goyng out of London of iij. weys, . . the Sheref ow' to haue xi.d'. **1638** L. ROBERTS *Merch. Map Comm.* II. 239 The sacke of wooll formerly so famoused by the staplers, did weigh 364 li. averdupois, two waighes of wooll make a sacke, and 12 sacks make a laste. **1665** W. SHEPPARD *Office Clerk of Market* 65 The Sarplar is the Case wherein the Wooll is, and the Waigh respecteth the quantity of the Wooll it self. **1688** HOLME *Armoury* III. 261/1 A Wey [of Wool] contains six Tods and a half. **1844** H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 888 Wool. . is weighed out in double stones of 48 lb., each being called a weigh.

c. Of salt.

1443 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 83 In 2 Wegh et di. grossi salis empt., 50 s. **1451** *Paston Lett.* I. 228 That ye sold a wey salt but for xx s. that she might hafe had xls for every wey. **1459** Maldon (Essex) *Court Rolls* Bundle 34 No. 1, vi weyes do baysalt, prec. le wey xxvi s. viii d. **1533-4** *Durham Househ. Bk.* (Surtees) 255, 2½ qu. [salis] vocata ½ wey. **1545** *Rates Custome ho.* cv b, Salte called baysalt the waye xiii s. iiiii. d. **a 1585** in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* (1914) XXIX. 517 You must lade for every thousand fishe a weye of salte or rather more. **1611** in *Picton L'pool. Munic. Rec.* (1883) I. 179 Ev'ry Way of Salt, conteynyng by measure x barrells. **1615** E. S. *Britain's Buss* in Arber *Garner* III. 635 Likewise, the Buss cannot conveniently stow, at once, above ten Weys of salt. **1638** L. ROBERTS *Merch. Map Comm.* II. 248 A tunne of Salt at Plimouth is greater than a weigh of London by 32 gallons. **1674** JEAKE *Arih.* (1696) 70 Salt is reckoned by the Hundred and Wey. In 1 Hundred of Salt 10½ Weyes, in 1 Wey 40 Bushels. **1704** *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4060/5 About 50 Weigh of Salt, out of the La Senie. **1748** W. BROWNRIFF *Art making Salt* 214 The law now allows three bushels duty free, for every wey (or forty bushels) of British salt carried coastwise.

d. Of coal, corn, etc., or in general use.

? **c 1300** in *Rep. Comm. Weights & Meas.* (1758) 19, xiv petræ faciunt unum pondus, quod Anglice dicitur weye. **a 1400** *Rel. Ant.* I. 70 Sevene waxpund makiet onleve ponde one waye, twelf weyen on fothir. **1471** *Churchw. Acc. Yatton* (Somerset Rec. Soc.) 107 For ij wey cole, x s. **1542-3** *Act 34 & 35 Hen. VIII.* c. 9. §5 The said common meater to haue for the measuring of euery way of corne. ii. d. **1560** *MS. Acc. Bk. Butchers' Co., Lond.*, The price of a Waie of tallowe was this yere Rated. . at 30/. **1656** BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Weigh*, . . in some parts of this land it signifies a quantity of Corn (most commonly of Barley or Malt) containing six quarters. **1660** F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 385 Out of the Mounts of Libani in Cuba, there was one [piece of gold] taken weighing 3310 weights. **1706** PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Wey*, the greatest Measure for dry things, containing five Chaldron: *Weys* or *Weights*, are also 165 Pounds, 180 Pounds, or 200 Pounds and a half for a Charge. **1725** *Bradley's Family Dict.* s.v. *Wey*, A Weigh of Barley or Malt, is six Quarters or forty eight Bushels. **1813** VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* 54 During which time five or six weys of culm were raised. **1823** J. GUY *Tutor's Assist.* 51 How many weys and bushels, in 72 lasts? *Ans.* 144 weys, 5760 bus. **1891** L. CLARK *Dict. Metric Measures* 97 *Wey*, or *Load* (dry measure) = 40 bushels = 5 quarters.

attrib. **1603** G. OWEN *Pembrokeshire* (1892) 137 Neither ys the Cranoke or Wey measures vsed in selling thereof [corn].
† **2.** ? A pound. (Vulg. *libras centum.*)

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 372 Nicodemus brouhte uorte smurien mid ure Louerd an hundred weien of mirre & of aloes.

† **wey.**² *Obs. rare.* [Of obscure origin; the variation in the stem-vowel would normally indicate an OE. *wæg̃, wāg̃-*.] ? A bill or halberd.

c 1205 LAY. 30982 Breken bræde weiges [*c 1275* weyes], brustleden scattes. *Ibid.* 21505 Cheorles. . mid clubben swiden græte, mid spæren and mid græte wajen. *Ibid.* 21596 Moni eniht mid heore wahzen [*c 1275* wawes].. ualden heom to grunden.

wey, obs. f. WAY *sb.*, WEIGH *v.*, var. WY *Obs.*, man.

weyard, obs. var. WEIRD *a.*

wey-bit, var. WAY-BIT *Obs.*

weybred, obs. var. WAYBREAD.

weyche, obs. Sc. f. WITCH *sb.*

weycht, obs. Sc. f. WEIGHT, WIGHT.

weydde, obs. f. WEED *v.*¹

weyde, obs. f. WIDE *adv.*

weydraught, obs. f. WITHDRAUGHT.

† **weye**, *v. Obs. rare.* Also waye. [OE. *wāgan* to delude, deceive.]

1. *trans.* To deceive, lead astray.

c 1315 SHOREHAM *Poems* I. 370 þat he ne may nauzt yweid be Wip blanding ne wip boste. *Ibid.* VII. 648 The deuel. . dorste nauzt adam asaylly, Al for to waye.

2. *intr.* To go astray.

c 1315 SHOREHAM *Poems* I. 301 Bote hi arizt icristned be, Fram heuene euere hi weyep.

weye, obs. f. WAY *sb.*¹, WEIGH *v.*, WHEY; var. WY (man) *Obs.*

weyfe, obs. f. WAIF *sb.*¹, WAIVE *v.*¹

weyffe, obs. f. WIFE.

weyghe, **weyghte**, obs. ff. WEIGH(T).

wey-hey, var. WEHEE *v.*

weyhte, obs. f. WEIGHT.

weyit, obs. Sc. f. WET *v.*

weyk(e), obs. ff. WEAK *a.*, WICK.

weylawey, obs. f. WELLAWAY.

weyld, obs. f. WIELD *v.*

weyle, obs. f. WAIL *v.*, WALE *v.*¹, WEEL².

weyle a woo, var. WELLAWO *Obs.*

weylecott, var. WYLIECOAT *Sc.*

† **weyleyship**. *Obs.*—¹ [f. *wey* WEIGH *v.* Cf. METLEYSHIP.] The office of weigher.

1587 LD. BURGHLEY in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. VII. (1890) 12 [Concerning the office of the] weyleyship and metleyship [in Penrith].

weylico(i)tt, obs. ff. WYLIECOAT *Sc.*

weylsum, var. WEALSOME *a. Obs.*

weyme, obs. f. WAME.

weymen, obs. pl. WOMAN.

weyment(e), var. ff. WAYMENT.

Weymouth ('weiməθ). 1. [The title of the first Lord *Weymouth*, by whom the tree was extensively planted after its introduction into England in 1705] *Weymouth Pine*, the American white pine, *Pinus Strobus*.

[1731 P. MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Pinus*, *Pinus Americana*, . . Lord Weymouth's Pine.] **1766** *Complete Farmer* s.v. *Aphernousli*, The white Canada-pine, which is better known in England by the name of Weymouth-pine. **1781** *Westminster Mag.* IX. 133 The Weymouth-pine has been long naturalized here; the patriarch plant still existing at Longleat. **1791** W. GILPIN *Forest Scenery* I. 82 The Weymouth-pine has very little picturesque beauty to recommend it. **1862** ANSTED *Channel Isl.* IV. xxi. (ed. 2) 496 The Weymouth pine, the stone pine, . . and the larch, are all occasionally seen. **1882** *Garden* 16 Sept. 251/2 Weymouth Pine, Scotch Spruce, and Silver Fir timber sold at a low figure.

2. *Horseriding*. Designating a type of curb bit (see quot. 1963) or a double bridle comprising this bit and a snaffle with two sets of reins.

1792 T. H. MORLAND *Every Man his Own Judge* 70 A Weymouth bridle, with bit, and bradoon, is in my opinion preferable to any other sort for the road. **1919** R. S. TIMMIS *Notes on Riding & Driving* iii. 39 A few good snaffles, both racing and exercising (with cross-pieces outside the cheek), and a Weymouth or a Pelham bit and bridoon are all that are necessary for practically all horses. **1938** F. C. HITCHCOCK *To Horse!* ix. 274 The only objection to a double bridle is that its use entails two separate mouthpieces in the horse's mouth. The usual pattern bit used is called the Weymouth. **1946** M. C. SELF *Horseman's Encycl.* 433 The Weymouth bridle consists of a bit and bridoon. It is the bridle most usually used for the finished saddle horse. **1963** BLOODGOOD & SANTINI *Horseman's Dict.* 21 *Weymouth* or *Ward Union bit*, bit consisting of straight, moderately long cheek-pieces, stationary or sliding mouthpiece, either straight or with a slight Muller or Cambridge port. Simplest of all curb bits and most generally used. **1965** C. E. G. HOPE *Riding* v. 59 The curb used with a double bridle, known as the Weymouth or Ward Union, invariably has a plain port mouth.

weyn, obs. f. VAIN *a.*; north. f. WEEN *sb.*, *v.*

weynd(e), obs. ff. WEND *v.*

weyne, obs. f. VEIN, WAIN *sb.*¹, WINE; north. f. WEEN *sb.*, *v.*

weyng(e), obs. ff. WING.

weynscot, -scotte, skot, obs. ff. WAINSCOT.

weynt, ? var. *queynt*, pa. pple. of QUENCH *v.*
a 1450 MYRC *Par. Pr.* 1102 Hast þou for slowpe I-be so feynt þat al py wyll has be weynt.

weype, obs. form of WIPE *v.*

† **weyr**. *Obs.* [Of obscure origin.] Some piece of timber in the structure or fittings of a vessel.

1296 *Acc. Exch. K.R.* 5/20 m. 2 b, In xiiij lignis de longitudine .i. pedum emptis. . ad Weyres. *Ibid.* m. 3 b, In duobus Weyris ad Bargiam emptis de Henrico de Wermue. *Ibid.* m. 4 b, In Weyris Spurchis et aliis emendacionibus factis in Galea et Borgia.

weyr, Sc. var. VER spring. *Obs.*

weyre, Sc. var. WERE *sb.* doubt, etc.

weyrly, var. WARLY.

weysand(e), obs. ff. WEASAND.

weysse, obs. f. WISE *a.*

weyst, obs. Sc. f. WEST.

weyte, obs. f. WHITE.

weyth, obs. f. WITHE.

† **weythernoy**, error for **vethervoy*, south-western var. *fetherfoy*: see FEATHERFEW.

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* Suppl., Weythernoy is Feuerfew. [**1665** LOVELL *Herball* (ed. 2) 465 Weyther-ney, see Feaverfew.]

weythwynde, obs. f. WITHWIND.

weyve, obs. f. WAIVE *v.*¹; var. WAIVE *v.*² *Obs.*; obs. f. WEAVE *v.*

weyward, = *weyard* obs. var. WEIRD *a.*

wezand, **wezen**, **wezzand**, obs. ff. WEASAND.

wezeer, obs. f. VIZIER.

wezill, var. WEEZLE *Obs.*

wez(z)on, obs. ff. WEASAND.

wh, a consonantal digraph, normally represents initial *hw* in words of OE. origin, as in *hwæt* what, *hwisprian* to whisper. In words of other origin, its occurrence may be due to analogy resting on the supposed phonetic appropriateness of the 'aspirate' sound, as in *whip*, *whisk*; it sometimes varies with *h* or simple *w*; e.g. *whortleberry* and *hurtleberry*, *whoop* and *hoop*, *welked* and *welked*. Historically OE. initial *hw* represents OTeut. *xw* (under which Indo-Eur. *qʷ* and *kw* were levelled), which appears as *hw* in the early forms of the Germanic languages, but is variously modified in their modern forms, appearing in High and Low German as *w*, in the Scandinavian languages, according to dialect, as *hv*, *kv*, and *v*, in English as *wh*. For typical forms see WHAT.

The normal OE. spelling *hw* was generally preserved in early ME. till late in the 13th century, e.g. in the Nero MS. of Ancren Riwe (with occas. variants in *w*, as *wase* whoso), and the pieces contained in An Old English Miscellany (E.E.T.S.); it persists in the Ayenbite of Inwyt in the form *hu*, as *huich*. The modern spelling *wh* is found first in regular use in the Ormulum, e.g. *whillc* which; it is the commoner spelling in the earlier text of Layamon's Brut (with frequent variants in *w*), the Harl. MS. of King Horn, and the earliest MS. of Robert of Gloucester's Chronicle, and continues thence without interruption to the present day; sporadic anticipations occur in the 11th century in the interlinear Rule of St. Benedict, as in *xiwhepera* (ed. E.E.T.S., p. 81), *whænne* (ib. 103), and in the 12th century in the Peterborough Chronicle (e.g. *whilc*, an. 675), and the Lambeth and Cotton Homilies. A few instances of the omission of *h* occur in some early texts (e.g. *sinuurbul* 'teres' in Epinal Gloss., *wilum* 'nunc' in 9th century Bede Glosses), and there are some in the 11th century Rule of St. Benedict (e.g. *wylce* which, *wanon* whence); it becomes more frequent in the 12th century, chiefly in words of the interrogative class, e.g. *wilc*, *zewilcum*, *wat*, *wænne*, and (*sum*)*wile*, for *hwilc*, *zewhilcum*, *hwæt*, *hwænne*, and *hwile* (Cato Glosses, Canterbury Psalter, Peterborough Chronicle, Homilies, etc.). Many examples of simple *w* are to be found in the two versions of Layamon and other 13th century texts, and this variant spelling continues in widespread use till 1500.

Strong enunciation of the back (guttural) element in the pronunciation of (hw) is shown by the spellings *chua*, *chuæt*, *chwæm*, *chuelc* = *hwá*, etc. of the Lindisfarne Gosp., and began to be denoted in ME. of the 13th century by the use of *qu* (*quu*, *qw*), first in East Anglian texts (once in the Bestiary, *qual* whale; regularly but not exclusively in Genesis and Exodus). It remained a feature of East Anglian spelling till *c 1450* (as in the Paston Letters and the works of John Metham), but after 1300 it became more especially a characteristic feature of northern English, surviving in Scottish, esp. in the form *quh*, till the 18th century. (For the converse use of *wh* for *qu* (kw), see the letter Q.)

Early in the 15th century appear spellings with *wh* of words with initial *h* followed by an *o*-sound. It occurs first before *ō* (:—*ā*), e.g. *whom* for *hōm* (OE. *hām*) in Brut *c 1420* (E.E.T.S.), pp. 346, 370, *wholle* for *hōle* (OE. *hāl*) in Chron. Vilod. *c 1420*, 3368, and Camb. MS. of Guy of Warwick 3422, *whote* for *hōt* (OE. *hāt*) in Partonope, *whore* for *hōre* hoar (OE. *hár*) in Revel. Monk of Evesham (1482); *wholy* for *hōly* is used by Tindale, 1526. Later, other words normally spelt with initial *ho-* (of

whatever origin) became subject to the same variation of spelling; e.g. *whore* for *hōre* (OE. *hōre*), *whole* for *hōle* (OE. *hol*), *whood* for *hood* (OE. *hōd*), *whoord* for *hōrd* 'hoard' (OE. *hord*). Some of these spellings were especially frequent in the 16th century; thus *whood* 'hood' is used by Hall the chronicler, Nashe, Harvey, John Davies of Hereford, and Sylvester. The *wh*-spelling has become standardized in two of these words, viz. *whole* and *whore*, and their derivatives, in which it became common c 1600. The corresponding labialized pronunciation is current dialectally only in *whole*, but it survives in several other words where the standard form has preserved the original *ho-*, as in *hoard*, *hold*, *hole*, *home*, *hot*; in *home*, pronunciations such as (wɒm), (wʊəm), (wam) cover a wide area. For details of the evidence see the various words in this Dict. and Eng. Dial. Dict.

Spellings of *how* *adv.* with initial *hw*, *wh*, and (consequently) *quh* are on a different footing, as they are due in the first place to association of the word with the interrogative *why*, *where*, etc.

From the fourteenth century onwards there are sporadic instances of initial *whr* for *wr*, as *whrightes* (R. Brunne's Chron. Wace 8711), *whrassid* 'wrested' (St. Cuthbert, 6041), *whretchedly* (Bale, 1560). For the relationship of *hurlpool*, *hurlwind*, *hurtleberry* to *whirlpool*, *whirlwind*, *whortleberry*, etc., and of *thwack*, *thwang* to *whack*, *whang*, etc., see these words.

Pronunciation. In OE. the pronunciation symbolized by *hw* was probably in the earliest periods a voiced bilabial consonant preceded by a breath. This was developed in two different directions: (1) it was reduced to a simple voiced consonant (w); (2) by the influence of the accompanying breath, the voiced (w) became unvoiced. The first of these pronunciations (w) probably became current first in southern ME. under the influence of French speakers, whence it spread northwards (but ME. orthography gives no reliable evidence on this point). It is now universal in English dialect speech except in the four northernmost counties and north Yorkshire, and is the prevailing pronunciation among educated speakers. The second pronunciation, denoted in this Dictionary by the conventional symbol (hw), and otherwise variously denoted by phoneticians, (wh), (w), (ʍ), (ʌ), is general in Scotland, Ireland, and America, and is used by a large proportion of educated speakers in England, either from social or educational tradition, or from a preference for what is considered a careful or correct pronunciation.

The 15th or 16th century Welsh transcript of the English Hymn to the Virgin (E.D.S. Misc. 3, p. 27) shows the voiceless pronunciation, rendering *where* by *hwier*, and the evidence of the 16th century and later orthoepists goes to show that this was the prevailing pronunciation among cultured speakers, but there are indications that it was not of universal currency. Towards the end of the 18th century the voiceless was ousted by the voiced sound, and the lexicographer John Walker (1791) notes that in London speech 'the aspirate *h* is often sunk', and includes the voiced pronunciation of *wh* among the four faults of the speech of the metropolis. The restoration of the voiceless pronunciation which took place in the 19th century was due in part to Scottish and Irish influence, and in part to conscious reference to the spelling. Some early orthoepists admitted a pronunciation of *whole*, *wholesome* with (hw). This must have been familiar to Samuel Johnson, for in the Grammar prefixed to his Dictionary he remarks that 'in *whore* only, and sometimes in *wholesome*, *wh* is sounded like a simple *h*'. The dialectal pron. (woɪ, wʊl) are widespread.

In Sc. dialects north of the Tay the voiceless bilabial (hw) has become the voiceless labio-dental (f) in interrog. prons. and advs., as *fa* *how*, *fat* *what*, *fan* *when*; in Aberdeen and Banff in other words also, as *fite* *white*, *folp* *whelp*, *fup* *whip*. (Cf. FALL sb.³).

1. (Also wh-, wh') Informal written abbrev. of WHICH *a.* and *pron.*, in relative use.

c1858 E. DICKINSON *Poems* (1955) I. 16 Sleep is the station grand Down wh', on either hand The hosts of witness stand! 1865 HARDY *Let.* 20 Oct. (1978) I. 5 You will know wh. part of the Abbey I mean if you think of Salisbury Cathedral & of the row of small arches over the large arches. 1889 W. WHITMAN *Daybks. & Notebks.* (1978) II. 528 Paid \$3.15 for insurance for \$300 on stock at 1213 Filbert st. wh- is continued on to Feb: 8 '90.

2. Linguistics. A symbol representing an interrogative or relative pronoun (most of which begin with the digraph *wh*). Freq. *Comb.*, as *wh-clause*, *-question*, *-transformation*, etc.

1957 N. CHOMSKY *Syntactic Struct.* vii. 69 In the morphophonemics of English we shall have rules: *wh* + *he* → /huw/, *wh* + *him* → /huwm/, *wh* + *it* → /wat/. 1960 *Internat. Jnl. Amer. Linguistics* XXVI. III. ii. 36 Again adopting Chomsky's excellent analysis of interrogative sentences, we wish now to produce those structures introduced by words beginning, for the most part, with *wh-*, i.e. WH-questions and their affirmative counterparts, relative clauses and question-word clauses. 1962 N. CHOMSKY in *3rd Texas Conf. Probl. Linguistic Anal. in Eng.* 147 Application of the *wh*-transformation is conditional on

the interrogative transformation 3. 1964 *Language* XL. 5 The interrogative specifier *Wh* can remain unattached or can have attached to it (indicated by +) various elements of the sentence. 1966 G. N. LEECH *Eng. in Advertising* vi. 61 It is the type which consists of an embedded *wh*-clause. 1975 J. GOULET *Oh's Profit* v. 31 *Trabasso*: You mean he demonstrates nonkernel sentences? *Liedlich*: Passive, interrogative, imperative, and he's beginning to get the hang of WH-subordination, too. 1980 B. NEWMAN in *Bible Translator* XXXI. 326 Lengthy sentences are found throughout NIV... Romans I. 1-4 is a single sentence consisting of 72 words, involving at least one case of ellipsis, one dash, one colon, two 'wh'-clauses, and several appositions. 1981 R. BURCHFIELD *Spoken Word* 30 *Wh*-questions: Which hotel is he staying at? Who are you voting for?

wha(a, dial. forms of WHO; var. WHAU int.

whaaped, var. WHAPED *pa. pple.* *Obs.*, WHAUP.

whack (hwæk), *sb. colloq.* Also 8-9 *Sc. whawk*, *whauk*, 9 *wack*. [? Echoic: perh. an alteration of THWACK.]

1. a. A vigorous stroke with a stick or the like; a heavy resounding blow; also the sound of this.

1737 RAMSAY *Sc. Prov.* (1750) 13 As sair greets the bairn that's paid at e'en, as he that gets his whawks in the morning. 1823 E. MOOR *Suffolk Words* 477 *Whack*, a blow, a thump. 1832 BARRINGTON *Pers. Sk.* III. xviii. 242, I never saw... any dangerous contusion from what they called 'whacks' of the shillelah. 1854 SURTES *Handley Cr.* lxxiii, Bill gave the boy two or three more hearty whacks, and then kicked him into the hosier's shop. 1860 THACKERAY *Lovel* v, Bessy's 'Ahl' or little cry was followed by a *whack*, which I heard as clear as anything I ever heard in my life.

b. to have or take a whack at: to make an attempt or attack upon. *U.S.*

1891 *Boston (Mass.) Jnl.* 22 June 2/2 There are thousands... who... are anxious to have a whack, at the polls, at the party that deceived them. 1894 *Advance* (Chicago) 20 Dec. 418/1 Mother's got over her long weak spell, and is able to take a whack at doings.

2. a. A portion, share, allowance; *esp.* a full share, a large portion or amount.

Chiefly in phr. *to get, have, take one's whack*. 1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T.*, *Whack*, a share of a booty obtained by fraud. 1790 ALEX. WILSON in *Poems & Lit. Prose* (1876) II. 51 Whawks o' guid ait-farll cowins Synet down wi' whey. 1805 C. PAGET in *P. Papers* (1896) II. 162 My whack of prize money... will be about fifty thousand Pounds. 1830 MARRYAT *King's Own* xxiv, 'I'll punish the port to-morrow...' 'I'll take my whack to-day.' 1874 *Slang Dict.* 338 To go whacks, to divide equally; to enter into partnership. 1894 ASTLEY *Fifty Yrs. Life* II. 119 He could not trust himself to take a fair whack of liquor without taking too much. 1918 *Blackw. Mag.* July 43/2 I've had a run for my money this whack of leave.

b. A dividing up of accounts. Also more generally, a sharing-up or distribution.

1885 HORNADAY *Two Yrs. in Jungle* xxiv. 284 When the Colombo rice merchants, shopmen, the hotel-keepers have their quarterly 'whack-up' with the government. 1896 ADE *Artie* xii. 107 He hadn't been in on the whack-up six weeks till he was wearing one o' them bicycle lamps in his neck-tie. 1912 R. A. WASON *Friar Tuck* xi. 85 'What ya goin' to kill her with?' he asked, his eyes dancin' like an Injun's at the beef whack-up.

c. U.S. A bargain or agreement. Esp. in phr. it's (or that's) a whack.

1860 *Johnson's Orig. Comic Songs* (ed. 2) 45, I axed her for to marry me, she said it was a whack. 1876 'MARK TWAIN' *Tom Sawyer* vi. 70 'I'll stay if you will.' 'Good—that's a whack'. 1884 J. HAY *Bread-Winners* x. 149 Say the word, and it's a whack. 1903 A. D. McFAUL *Ike Glidden in Maine* xviii. 146 'I'll guarantee to get him to take you to Grand Menan with him.' 'It's a whack,' said Jim. 1911 *Dialect Notes* III. 540 *Whack*,... an agreement, a 'go'; e.g., 'That's a whack'!

3. As int. or adv.: With a whack (in sense 1). 1812 H. & J. SMITH *Rej. Addr., Archit. Atoms*, Jill... bobbs plump against him, whack! 1836 MARRYAT *Midsh. Easy* v, Whack came the cane on Johnny's shoulders. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* i. ii, Whack, whack, whack, come his blows.

4. out of whack: disordered, malfunctioning; out of order or alignment. Cf. WACKY *a.* Chiefly *U.S.* *a.* Of a person or a part of the body.

1885 C. A. SIRINGO *Texas Cowboy* v. 33, I was too weak to walk that far on account of my back being out of whack. 1899 ADE *Doc* *Horne* viii. 79 My stomach seems to be out of whack. 1903 A. M. BINSTAD *Pitcher in Paradise* vi. 146 At last he utterly gets his thinker out of whack an' goes back to the villa. 1918 H. A. VACHELL *Some Happenings* xii. 205 His liver is out of whack and no mistake. 1969 'V. PACKER' *Don't rely on Gemini* (1970) xviii. 150 Margaret had had symptoms of early menopause last winter: that had thrown her way out of whack, could conceivably explain such erratic and erotic behaviour.

b. Of a mechanism.

1906 *McClure's Mag.* Feb. 34 Being able to get at any part of the mechanism which may be 'out of whack' is important. 1934 D. HAMMETT *Thin Man* xi. 77 The phone in the apartment was out of whack. 1949 *Time* 30 May 53/2 With normal vibration a lot of them would have gone out of whack. 1975 *New Yorker* 28 Apr. 40/3 He sends no message on the tape recorder to the little boys, because they have already put the machine out of whack. 1985 *Mail on Sunday* (Colour Suppl.) 3 Mar. 20/2 The body's like an automobile. You have to rest and repair it, not run with the motor out of whack.

c. fig.

1952 C. ARMSTRONG *Black-Eyed Stranger* xiv. 117 Ambielli's got principles. They are a little off, slightly out of whack. 1973 in G. GIBSON *Eleven Canad. Novelists* 123, I don't know whether it is because my own sense of sexual timing or whatever is out of 'whack' with everybody else's. 1975 M. AMIS *Dead Babies* v. 33 Everything is out of whack

at Appleseed Rectory; its rooms are without bearing and without certainty. 1978 S. BRILL *Teamsters* vi. 250 In the next decade... the bad loans and poor investment management would... start to throw the cash-flow projections out of whack.

whack (hwæk), *v. colloq.* Also 8-9 *Sc. whauk*. [See prec.]

1. a. trans. To beat or strike vigorously, as with a stick; to thrash.

1721 *Ramsay's Poems* I. Gloss. 1742 RICHARDSON *Pamela* III. 334 Many and many a good time have I whacked the Rascal's Jacket. 1847 ALB. SMITH *Chr. Tadpole* Introd. (1879) 3 The sheriffs... whacked each other soundly with their wands. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 225 When the husband loses his temper... he whacks his wife.

absol. or intr. 1852 C. W. DAY *Five Yrs.' Resid. W. Indies* I. 304 Whacking away, I finally severed his head from his body. 1898 M. MURIEL DOWIE *Crook of Bough* xxiii, Her tough tweeds whacked on the ivory lintel.

b. fig. To beat in a contest.

1877 *Holderness Gloss.* s.v., Ah can whack him onny day at sums.

2. transf. and fig. Substituted for 'put', 'bring', 'get', etc., with implication of vigorous or violent action; cf. *knock up*.

1719 RAMSAY *3rd Answ. to Hamilton* viii, Why should we... thole sae aft the Spleen to whauk us Out of our Reason? 1861 J. BARR *Poems* 154 (E.D.D.) A rotten stump my brain had rakkit... Till Doctor Manning oot did whack it. 1872 C. KING *Mountain. Sierra Nev.* x. 219 If I design to paint a head, or a foot, or an arm, I get my little old Sarah Jane to peel the particular charm, and just whack her in on the canvas. 1897 KIPLING *Capt. Cour.* v. 115 When they whacked up a match 'twix' his sister Hitty an' Lorin' Jerauld. 1903 — *Their Lawful Occas.* 1. in *Traffics & Discov.* 117 Can we whack her [sc. a torpedo-boat] up to fifteen, d'you think?

3. [See prec. 2.] To share, divide. Also with up.

1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict.*, *Wack*, to share or divide any thing equally. 1821 *Life D. Haggart* (ed. 2) 94 We got twenty-two screaves by this adventure, which we whacked. 1888 'R. BOLDEWOOD' *Robbery under Arms* xlviii, We hadn't much trouble dividing the gold, and what cash there was we could whack easy enough. 1893 H. A. SHANDS *Some Peculiarities of Speech in Mississippi* 77 *Whack up*, an expression employed by all classes, probably as semi-slang, to mean *to divide, to share*. 1961 *Coast to Coast* 1959-60 126 I'll whack up the breakfast, then, and see how poor bloody Bill's getting on. 1981 *Amer. Speech* LVI. 27 The DARE project has turned up *whack it up, whack up* (two informants for each).

4. intr. With off: to masturbate. *U.S. slang.*

1969 P. ROTH *Portnoy's Complaint* 78 Did I mention that when I was fifteen I took it out of my pants and whacked off on the 107 bus from New York? 1969 *Listener* 17 Apr. 538/3 Fellatio with the Monkey does not present the same practical difficulties as whacking off in Momma's bathroom. 1977 *Transatlantic Rev.* LX. 36 'What-in-hell you do for sex anyway?' he asked the boy one night. 'Whack off into the tin pot where they keep the mashed potatoes?'

whack, dial. form of QUACK *v.*²

1807 HOGG *Mountain Bard, Pedlar* xxiv, The ducks they whackit, the dogs they yowled.

whack, var. WACK.

whacked (hwækd), *ppl. a. slang*. [f. WHACK *v.* + -ED¹.] **1.** Tired out, exhausted.

1919 *Athenaeum* 15 Aug. 759/1 'Whacked to the wide' means to be tired out. 1952 J. CANNON *Body in Beck* v. 82 He had been on the job since dawn, was whacked and must call it a day. 1960 L. MEYNELL *Bandaberry* vi. 100 I'm whacked. How far have we done? 1976 J. SNOW *Cricketer Rebel* 118 In addition to recovering from the injury to my right hand I was whacked when I arrived back in England from the MCC tour.

2. whacked out: mad, crazy; *spec.* intoxicated with drugs. Cf. WACKY *a. U.S.*

1969 *Current Slang* (Univ. S. Dakota) Summer 17 *Whacked out*, unorthodox; inclined toward foolish acts. 1969 'V. PACKER' *Don't rely on Gemini* (1970) i. 8 You Cancers are whacked out because the moon rules you. 1975 *High Times* Dec. 68/3 Then there's the pilot who was whacked out of his skull and landed a hundred-grand rented Cessna 411 gear up in Las Vegas. 1980 W. SAFIRE in *N.Y. Times Mag.* 14 Sept. 11/2 In America, the term 'whacked-out' is current, as an intensified form of 'spaced out' or 'zonked out', meaning soft-headed after prolonged and excessive use of drugs.

whacker ('hwækə(r)). *colloq.* [f. WHACK *v.* + -ER¹.]

1. a. A heavy blow. *dial.*

1823 E. MOOR *Suffolk Words* 477 *Whacker*, a blow, a thump.

b. A driver of animals, a drover. U.S.

1880 *Harper's Mag.* LX. 679 The whacker's long whip cracking... as he lashes his unwieldy beasts [sc. oxen] into position. 1889 H. O'REILLY *Fifty Yrs. on Trail* xvi. 172 To search round for bull-whackers to drive them over.

2. Anything abnormally large of its kind; esp. a 'thumping' lie; a 'whopper'.

1825 BROCKETT *N.C. Gloss.*, *Whacker*, a lie. 1828 *Sporting Mag.* (N.S.) XXII. 416 Though the fences are whackers, the brooks they are small. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* II. iv, Oh, there's a whacker!... we haven't been within a hundred yards of his barn. 1872 J. R. GREEN *Let. to E. A. Freeman* 18 Sept., The Dome which ought to be a whacker is a poor wee thing.

whacking ('hwækɪŋ), *vbl. sb. colloq.* [f. WHACK *v.* + -ING¹.] The action of the verb WHACK.

1. a. Beating.

1862 MRS. H. WOOD *Channings* i. Then take your whacking! **1887** *Pall Mall Gaz.* 14 Nov. 2/2 There is a sound of the whacking of staves and sticks.

attrib. **1886** *Pall Mall Gaz.* 19 June 5/1 We turned away followed by the beaters, one of whom tucked his long whacking-stick under his chin.

b. transf. A beating or defeat in a contest; a 'thrashing'.

1951 *Sport* 27 Apr.-3 May 3/2 If Wednesday gets a whacking from Spurs this time... they can hardly grumble.

2. Dividing up or sharing.

1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* II. 154 At last Long J—and I got to quarrel about the 'whacking'; there was cheatin' a-goin' on.

whacking ('hwækɪŋ), *ppl. a. colloq.* [f. WHACK(ER) + -ING².] That is a 'whacker'; abnormally large; 'thumping', 'whopping'.

Often quasi-advb. in *whacking big, great*.

1806 J. DAVIS *Post Captain* iv. 19 She looks... like a whacking frigate. **1819** J. THOMSON *Poems* (ed. 2) 201 A whakin' fee gets tauld them down for sorry haet, I trow. **1823** SCOTT *Quentin D.* Introd. ¶7 A certain whacking priest in our neighbourhood. **1829** — *Jrnl.* 16 Apr. (1890) II. 268 This whacking reason. **1853** G. J. CAYLEY *Las Alforjas* II. 193 We saw a whacking great building. **1873** C. M. DAVIES *Unorth. Lond., Waltham Jumpers* 91 A good whacking kiss that echoed all over the archway.

whacko (stress variable), *int.* Also wacko. [f. WHACK sb. + -O².] An exclamation of delight or excitement: Splendid! Excellent! Hurrah!

1941 BAKER *Dict. Austral. Slang* 81 *Whacko*, good! Hurrah! A popular ejaculation. **1944** A. F. BRUNO *Desert Daze* 7 Chips let his [Mills bomb] go... Whacko! **1961** J. MACLAREN-ROSS *Doomsday Book* i. vii. 74 'All's well', Marsh said elatedly... 'Whacko!' Eustace cried. **1967** *Southerly* XXVII. 75 This is the message, 'Home Friday. Wacko.' **1978** L. DAVIDSON *Chelsea Murders* xvii. 94 After all it was only two days to—whacko!—Monday.

whacko, whacky, *varr.* WACKO, WACKY.

whad, whaddie: see WHAT, WADDY¹.

whadd(a)ya, etc., *repr. colloq. pronunc.* of 'what do you'.

1927 C. HOPLEY-WOOLRICH *Children of Ritz* iv. 72 Gaffney shook hands. 'Whaddya know, eh?' he greeted him breezily. **1945** A. KOBER *Parm Me* 33 'Waddeya mean,' she says back to me. **1952** E. WILSON *Equations of Love* 34 'Well, whaddaya know!' exclaimed Mort. **1955** W. GADDIS *Recognitions* II. iv. 446 Whadda you say? **1967** J. WAINWRIGHT *Talent for Murder* 205 Wadya mean, copper? **1975** *New Yorker* 20 Oct. 38/2 'Hey, hey, whaddaya say!' he shouts. **1981** J. D. MACDONALD *Free Fall in Crimson* xiii. 147 'Peter Kesner in, please?' 'Whaddaya want with him?'

whaey, whafer, whaff, whaffle: see WHEYEY, WAFER sb., WAFF v.¹, WAFFLE v.

whahoo, variant of WAHOO¹.

whaies: see WHY.

whaiet, obs. dial. f. QUIET.

1581 N. WOODS *Confl. Consc.* III. iv, Ay wawd he wer brunt that ay mawght be whaiet.

whaile, obs. var. QUAIL v.², to curdle.

c. 1440 *Anc. Cookery in Househ. Ord.* (1790) 453 At the first boyling take hom off the fyre that they whaile noght.

whaint, whair(e), whaish, whais(h)le, whaizle, whaite, whake: see QUAIN, WHERE, WHEYISH, WHEEZE, WHEEZZLE, WAIT v.¹, QUAKE.

|| **whakapapa** (faka'papa). [Maori.] (Maori) genealogy; a genealogical table.

1960 N. HILLIARD in C. K. Stead *N.Z. Short Stories* (1966) 249 You don't even know your own whakapapa! **1966** *Encycl. N.Z.* II. 438/2 Most Maori traditional narrative includes some whakapapa or genealogical record of a connection between the characters in the story. The web of the tale is often so entwined as to require the explanation afforded by the whakapapa. **1974** *N.Z. Listener* 20 July 10/4, I can... make a brief and somewhat tentative reference to the links in our whakapapa, between our tribes they are a long way back. **1975** D. BAGLEY *Snow Tiger* iv. 53 Turi's whakapapa stick, his most prized possession, which gave his ancestry.

Whaker, north. dial. form of QUAKER.

1700 in Sir C. Sharp *Chron. Mirab.* (1841) 51 Att ye Whakers metting house. **1802** R. ANDERSON *Ball. Cumblid.* (1805) 22 The neist was a Whaker, caw'd Jacob, He turn'd up the wheyte o' his een.

whale (hwell), *sb.* Forms: 1 hwæl, 3-4 whal, wal, 4-5 wall, 4-7 whall, 5 wale, 5-6 whalle, 7 whaill, wheal, 4- whale; chiefly Sc. and north. 3 qual, 4 quale, 5 qwal, qwall(e), qwaylle, 5-6 quhail(l), 6 quhale, quhell. [OE. *hwæl*, corresp. to OHG., MHG. *wal* (G. *walfisch* WHALEFISH, q.v.), ON. *hwalr* (Sw., Da. *hval*), related to OHG. *wâlira*, *welira*, MHG. *wâlre*, and MHG., G. *wels* (—**χwalis*) sheath-fish; cf. Pruss. *kalis* sheath-fish.

The present form *whale* represents oblique forms (OE. *hwalas*, etc.); the OE. nom. *hwæl* gave 14th-17th cent. *whall* (cf. *small*, *awl*, †*all*, from *smæl*, *æl*).]

1. a. Any of the larger fish-like marine mammals of the order *Cetacea*, which have forelimbs like fins and a tail with horizontal flukes, and are hunted for their oil and whalebone; in

wider (scientific) use, any cetacean of the groups *Mystacoceti* or whalebone-whales, and *Odontoceti* or toothed whales (which are distinguished by the names dolphin, grampus, porpoise, etc.).

c. 893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* I. i. §16 Se hwæl bið micle læssa þonne oðre hwalas. **c. 1000** ÆLFRED *Gen.* i. 21 God gesceop þa þa micelan hwalas and eall libbende fisc-cinn. **c. 1055** *Byrhtferth's Handboc* in *Anglia* VIII. 310 þa myclan hwælas, & þa lytlan sprottas. **c. 1220** *Bestiary* 735 He is blac so bro of qual. **c. 1300** *Havelok* 753 He tok þe sturgiun, and þe qual. **c. 1325** *Metr. Hom.* 136 Riht als the quale fars wit the elringe, And riht als sturionun etes merling. **c. 1330** *Arth. & Merl.* 1495 He hadde a bodi as a whal. **c. 1386** CHAUCER *Sompn. T.* 222 Me thynketh they been lyk Iovinyan Fat as a whale and walkynge as a swan. **14..** *Metr. Voc.* in *Wr.* Wüllerke 625/11 Wale, cete. **14..** *Nom.* *ibid.* 704/15 *Hic cetus*, a whale. **c. 1440** *Promp. Parv.* 523 Whale, or qwal, grete fysche. **1513** DOUGLAS *Eneis* VII. Prol. 23 Fludis monstreis, sic as meirs wyne or quhailis. **1606** SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* v. v. 23 And there they flye or dye, like scaled sculs, Before the belching Whale. **1707** *Curios. Husb. & Gard.* 140 Steep your Corn, or any other Seed, in Oil of Whale. **1769** PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* III. 35 Whales are still seen one hundred and sixty feet long. **1843** *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 272/2 The Toothed Whales are subdivided into those which have teeth in both jaws and those which have teeth in the lower jaw. **1860** GOSSE *Rom. Nat. Hist.* x. 259 The pursuit of the whale, whether that species which our hardy mariners seek amidst the ice-floes of the Polar Seas, or the still huger kind which wallows in the boundless Pacific.

collective sing. **1637** I. JONES & DAVENANT *Brit. Tri.* 15 And then on Rock he [sc. the giant] stood to bob for Whale. **1845** COULTER *Adv. Pacific* vii. 78 While cruising for whale, the look-outs are on the cross trees.

b. (a) With defining words for various species:

e.g. BOTTLE-NOSE(D w.), CA'ING-WHALE, FIN-, FINBACK(ED, FINNER, GREENLAND, GREY (a. 8 b), HUMPBAC, ICE-¹, PIKE-, PIKED, PIKE-HEADED, PILOT, ROSTRATED, *round-lipped* (ROUND a. 16 b), SCRAP (sb.¹ 5), SPERMACE TI w., SPERM WHALE, WHALEBONE-, WHITE w. Also beaked, black, bowhead, Sowerby's whale: see quot.

1755 tr. *Pontoppidan's Nat. Hist. Norway* II. 123, I shall call it Balæna rostrata, or Nebbe-hval, the 'Beaked Whale'. **1920** *Brit. Mus. Return* 89 Cuvier's Beaked Whale (*Ziphius cavirostris*). **1831** in R. McNAB *Old Whaling Days* (1913) i. 3 The 'black whales visit the bays and coasts of New Zealand for the purpose of calving. **1834** DEWHURST *Cetacea* 16 note, *La Baleine Franche*,... Common Black Whale. **1840** MARRYAT *Poor Jack* vi. The sparmacity don't take the harpoon quite so quietly as the black whale does. **1843** *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 296/1 The Whalebone Whale or Black Whale of the South Seas. **1883** *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* (ed. 4) 201 Slabs of whalebone of 'Bowhead Whale. **1920** *Brit. Mus. Return* 101 Tooth of a 'Sowerby's Whale (*Mesoplodon bidens*).

(b) right whale, a whalebone-whale, esp. of the genus *Balæna*. Hence *right-whaling*, *right-whaler*, etc.

1725 P. DUDLEY in *Phil. Trans.* XXXIII. 256 The Right or Whalebone Whale is a large Fish, measuring sixty or seventy Feet in Length. **1824** J. F. COOPER *Pilot* xvii, 'Tis a right whale... I saw his spout. **1849** H. MELVILLE *Mardi* I. i. 5 This horrid and indecent Right Whaling... is as the butchery of white bears upon blank Greenland icebergs. **1874** DARWIN *Desc. Man* II. xvii. (ed. 2) 516 The males of the right-whales do not fight together. **1888** *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 527/2 A right whale fishery of great importance. **1895** *Pall Mall Gaz.* 16 Dec. 2/1 Just before I took to 'right' whaling.

2. Applied to the 'great fish' which swallowed Jonah (*Jonah* i. 17).

c. 950 *Landisf. Gosp. Matt.* xii. 40 Suæ forðon wæs ionas in innað vel in wom huales ðrim dagum & ðrim næhtum. [1382 WYCLIF As Jonas was in the womb of a whall three days and three nigtis]. **13..** *E.E. Allit.* P. C. 247 Now is ionas þe Iwe iugged to drowne... A wyldre walterande whal... bi þat bot flotie. **c. 1450** *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 572 Grete god... þat sauæd þe prophete with in þe whall. **1548** UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Acts* ii. 22-28 Euen as did y^e whale reuomit the prophet Ionas. **a. 1586** MONTGOMERIE *Misc. Poems* xxxi. 35 Ionas, in þe quhellis bellie, þow safit three dayis. **1687** A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 41 Jona's Whale is also to go to Paradise.

† **3. whale of the river, river-whale**: = SHEAT-FISH¹, a large freshwater fish, *Silurus glanis*. *Obs.*

1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 69/2 *Silurus*,... a fish much like a Sturgeon: a sheathfish; a whale of the river. **1611** COTGR., *Silure*, the raueingn sheat fish, or Whall of the river.

4. transf. (from 1). An object resembling a whale; *Astron.* (with cap.) the constellation *Cetus*.

1551 RECORDE *Cast. Knowl.* (1556) 267 The greate Whale, contayning 22 starres. **1664** *Phil. Trans.* I. 5 In the evening of that day it [sc. a comet] was to come into the jaw of the Whale. **1760** *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 66/1 The comet... passed... toward the whale's jaw. **1866** LOCKYER *Guillem's Heavens* (ed. 2) 356. **1905** F. M. CRAWFORD *Glean. Venet. Hist.* I. 5 When the first fugitives, blind with terror, stumbled ashore upon the back of one of the sand whales in the lagoon.

5. Allusive, proverbial, transf., and fig. uses of sense 1. a. Prov. phr. (to throw out) a tub to the whale: see TUB sb. 9 b. *very like a whale* (after Shaks. *Ham.* III. ii. 398): see quot. **1859**.

[1591 *1st Pt. Troub. Raigne K. John* (1611) C3 b, The mariner, Spying the hugie Whale, whose monstrous bulke Doth beare the waues like mountaines fore the wind, That throwes out empte vessels, so to stay His fury.]

1859 *Slang Dict.* 115 *Very like a whale*, said of anything that is very improbable.

b. allusively.

1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* IV. iii. 249 A... lasciuious boy, who is a whale to Virginitie, and deuours vp all the fry it finds.

1606 DEKKER *Seuen Deadly Sinnes* Wks. (Grosart) II. 27 Be wise therefore... play with these Whales of the Sea, till you escape them that are deuourers of your Merchants. **1914** MARRIOTT in *Edin. Rev.* July 1 Amid a shoal of minnows they promptly pose as authoritative whales.

c. fig. phr. a whale on..., having a great capacity or appetite for... very good at or keen on... *a whale of* (orig. U.S.): 'no end of'. *colloq.*

1893 MCCARTHY *Red Diamonds* xxiii, He was not, as he put it himself graphically, a whale on gcography. **1899** A. MARSHALL *Peter Binney* xvi. 326, I should be a whale on parental authority myself if I were in your place. **1913** *19th Cent.* Sept. 621 [They] had what the Americans call 'a whale of a good time'. **1921** *Chambers's Jrnl.* May 308/1 He had come here to have one whale of a time. **1938** G. HEYER *Blunt Instrument* iii. 45 It doesn't look such a whale of a case to me. **1954** J. B. PRIESTLEY *Magicians* i. 15 An equally dashing, whale-of-a-fellow, R.A.F. type. **1963** N. MARSH *Dead Water* (1964) i. 22 She's having a whale of a time with Mr. Joyce. **1980** B. CASTLE *Castle Diaries* 363 They regaled us with drinks and a superb buffet and we had a whale of a time.

6. a. attrib. and Comb., as whale-blubber [BLUBBER sb.¹ 4], -butt, -calf [CALF¹ 3], -catching, -cry, -cub, -cutter, -drive [DRIVE sb. 1 c], -duty, -ground, -guts, -hole, -hunt, -hunter (cf. OE. *hwælhunta*), -hunting (cf. OE. *hwælhuntap*), -killer, -killing, -kind, -meat, -spoilt, -steak, -striker, -striking, -trade, -vessel; also in names of weapons, etc. used in hunting whales, as whale-gun, -lance, -line, -net, -pike, -pole, -rope, -spade; also whale-blue, -like, -mouthed, -shaped, -tailed adjs. **b. Spec. Combs.:** whale-acorn-shell (see quot.); whale-barnacle = CORONULE 2; whale-brit [BRIT sb.¹] = whale-food; whale-deep = whale-hole; whale-feed = whale-food; whale('s) food [tr. G. *walfischaas*, 1747], a general name for the small animals upon which whales feed; *spec.* a mollusc, *Clio borealis*; whale-foots [FOOT sb. 22], the refuse in refining whale-oil, used by soap-makers and tanners; whale-gull, the ivory gull (GULL sb.¹); whale-head, the shoebill or whale-headed stork, *Balaniceps rex*; also called whale-headed stork; † whale-horn, whalebone; whale-laid a. of a rope (see quot.); whale-louse, a small crustacean of the genus *Cyamus*, parasitic on whales; whale-mouse = whale's guide; whale-pool humorous, the Atlantic ocean (cf. *herring-pond*); whale's belly, -tail, etc., stars in the constellation *Cetus* (see 4); † whale's guide, the animal called by Pliny *musculus piscis* (cf. note s.v. MYSTICETE¹); whale-shark, (a) a very large shark, *Rhinodon typicus*; (b) the basking-shark (BASKING ppl. a. 2); whale-ship = WHALE-BOAT; † whale-shot [SHOT sb.¹ 19], spermaceti. Also WHALEBACK, -BIRD, -BOAT, -BONE, -FIN, etc.

1815 BURROW *Elem. Conchol.* 194 *Balanoides*, Small, striated Acorn S[hell]. *Diadema*, *Whale Do. **1854** A. ADAMS, etc. *Man. Nat. Hist.* 305 *Whale-Barnacles (*Coronulidæ*). **1844** H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 646 *Whale-blubber... forms a good compost for turnips. **1845** DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* x. 214 A piece of putrid whales-blubber. **1946** DYLAN THOMAS *Deaths & Entrances* 55 The coast Blackened with birds took a last look At his thrashing hair and *whale-blue eye. **1835** BATMAN in K. Cornwallis *New World* (1859) I. 369 The 'Belinda', of Sydney, with a cargo of *whale-butts. **1867** SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Whale-calf, the young whale. **1685** R. TURNER in W. Penn *Furth. Acc. Pennsylv.* 13 Three Companies for *Whale catching. **1851** H. MELVILLE *Moby Dick* II. xii. 78 The ancient *whale-cry upon first sighting a whale from the mast-head. **1885** J. G. WOOD in *Longm. Mag.* Mar. 552 The *whale-cub, when first formed, has no balen. **1631** PELLHAM *Gods Power* A4 b, Thomas Ayers, *Whale-cutter. **1668** PRYNNE *Aurum Reg.* 127 This *Whale Duty hath been totally suspended... from the death of King Henry the 8, till the first year of King James, for want of a Queen Consort. **1853** *Househ. Words* VI. 402/1 The little red creatures ('*whale feed', sailors call them) are retained by the fringe [of the baleen]. **1767** tr. *Crantz' Hist. Greenland* I. 109 This *whale's-food is found in the greatest quantity between Spitzberg... and Greenland. **1865** GOSSE *Land & Sea* 166 The immense aggregations of close-packed swimming invertebrata so well known to mariners in Arctic regions under the appellation of 'whale-food'. **1851** *Whale-ground [see oil-ship s.v. OIL sb.¹ 6 e]. **1852** MACGILLIVRAY *Brit. Birds* V. 508 *Cetosparactes eburneus*. The Ivory *Whale-gull. **1858** Merc. *Marine Mag.* V. 149 The crew... murdered the Captain and third officer by shooting them with a *whale-gun. **1780** COXE *Russ. Discov.* 256 Cloaks, ... made of thin *whale guts. **1884** COUES *Key N. Amer. Birds* (ed. 2) 654 *Balaniceps rex*, the Shoe-bill or *Whale-head, of Africa. **1875** *Encycl. Brit.* III. 759/1 The gigantic *Whale-headed Stork, *Balaniceps rex*. **1897** KIPLING *Captains Courageous* v. 111 *Whale-hole... He had led them to the edge of the barren Whale-deep, the blank hole of the Grand Bank. **1562** in *Inv. Mary Q. Scots* (Bannatyne Club) Pref. p. xxviii. note, xij bowtis of *quhail horne. **1851** H. MELVILLE *Moby Dick* III. xix. 134 The far different nature of the *whale-hunt. **1598** HAKLUYT *Voy.* I. 4 He was come as far towards the North, as commonly the *whale hunters vse to trauell. **1851** H. MELVILLE *Whale* xvi, Some of these same Quakers are the most sanguinary of all sailors and whale-hunters. **1615** *Trade's Incr.* 52 The Greenland company, out of the pretence of their first *Whale-hunting. **1868** GORRIE *Summ. & Wint. in Orkneys* viii. 323 The whale-hunting fleet. **1613** *Voy. Spitzbergen in Archæol. Amer.* (1860) IV. 305 When he enters into the sounds, our *whal-killers doe presentlie sallie forth to meet him. **1625** PURCHAS *Pilgrims* III. iii. 461 The first settled, ordinary, and orderly Voyages for the *Whale killing. **1703** DAMPIER *Voy.* III. ii. 57 About Christmas

these are mostly employed in Whale-killing. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Manati*, a Fish of the *Whale-kind that breeds about the Island of Hispaniola. 1812 MANBY *Ess. Preserv. Shipwr. Persons* 17 It may likewise be coiled in the manner used in the whale fishery. *Whale laid. 1823 SCORESBY *Voy. N. Whale-fishery* 112 Armed only with a *whale-lance, he . . set out on his adventurous exploit. 1608 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. *Schisme* 1016 This mighty Fish, of *Whale-like hugeness. 1855 LEIFCHILD *Cornwall* 166 The large whale-like back of a prostrate pillar. 1785 *Act 25 Geo. III* c. 56 §2 Short Chucking, Half Clean, *Whale-line, or other Toppings. 1897 F. T. BULLEN *Cruise of 'Cachalot'* 12 The whale-line, manilla rope like yellow silk, 1½ inch round, was brought on deck. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1824) III. 21 A small animal, of the shell-fish kind, called the *Whale-louse, that sticks to its body. 1916 R. C. ANDREWS *Whale Hunting* xxi. 248 This growth [on the snout of the right whale] is produced by whale lice. 1952 J. FISHER *Fulmar* xviii. 423 He writes of the fulmars 'searching out' whale-lice. 1972 *Nat. Geographic* Oct. 579 (caption) Communities of whale lice . . some of them half an inch long, cling to the growths [on the head of each right whale]. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* s.v. *Whalebone*, Time has passed since the people of England reveled in *whale meat. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 504 A little fishe called . . in Greeke *Mystocetos*, the *Whale-mouse. 1656 OSBORN *Adv. Son* (ed. 4) To Rdr., As I did then, in imitation of Sea-men by designe, so I may perhaps now cast out some empty stuffe, to find play for the *Whale-mouth'd gapers after Levity. 1952 L. MACNEICE *Ten Burnt Offerings* ii. 23 'The whale-mouthed arch the bones of the future. 1853 KANE *Grimmell Exp.* xlv. (1856) 426 Stalwart fellows, practiced in the kayak, and the sledge, and the *whale-net. 1851 H. MELVILLE *Moby Dick* II. xii. 94 The valiant Captain danced up and down with a *whale-pike. *Ibid.* xiv. 124 The flag of capture lazily hanging from the *whale-pole inserted into his spout-hole. a1876 M. COLLINS *Pen Sketches* (1879) II. 145 This is one of the good turns for which I am grateful to our friends across the *whale-pool. 1849 H. MELVILLE *Redburn* I. xx. 194 Coiled away in a tub. Like a *whale-rope. 1857 in Trevelyan *Comp. Wallah* (1866) 342 A coil of whale rope. 1573 W. BOURNE *Regim. Sea* (1580) 59b, The names of the Starres. . . *Whales backe. Whales belly. . . Whales tayle. 1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 125 *Cetorum Dux* . . the *Whales Guide. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. 6), *Mysticetus*, a Fish, call'd the Whale's Guide. 1930 *Times Educ. Suppl.* 25 Oct. p. iv/1 In the *whale-shaped head is a window for the driver. 1978 M. PUZO *Fools Die* ii. 16 White-dotted red square dice were dazzling flying fish over the whale-shaped crap tables. 1884-5 *Riverside Nat. Hist.* (1888) III. 78 The Rhinodon-tidæ embraces only two species of large sharks, one of which well deserves the name *whale-shark, which is applied to it. 1820 SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* II. 199 The crew of a *whale-ship usually consists of 40 to 50 men. 1612 *Sc. Bk. Rates in Halyburton's Ledger* (1867) 332 *Whale shot the barrell, xx li. 1852 MUNDY *Antipodes* (1857) 104 The harpoon, the axe, the lance, and the *whale-spade. 1836 *Uncle Philip's Convers. Whale Fishery* 349 They heard *whale-spouts near them. 1851 H. MELVILLE *Moby Dick* II. xii. 166 Don't I always say that to be good, a *whale-steak must be tough? 1969 *Listener* 14 Aug. 206/3 What did we eat? Well, we ate whale-steak for one thing. 1613 *Voy. Spitzbergen in Archæol. Amer.* (1860) IV. 289 Then the Basks, our *whale-strikers, went presentlie back againe to the Foreland wth their shallops. 1821 SCOTT *Pirate* xx, No *whale-striking, bird-nesting favourite for me. 1781 PENNANT *Hist. Quadrap.* II. 537 *Whale-tailed Manati. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* v, He had been forty years in the *whale-trade. 1821 SCOTT *Pirate* xxxviii, A garland of faded ribbons, such as are used to decorate *whale-vessels.

whale (hweɪl), *v.*¹ [f. prec.] *intr.* To engage in whale-fishing; see also WHALING *vbl. sb.*¹

c1700 in *Cheever's Whalem. Adv.* i. (1850) 5 [To] whale out in the deep for sperm whales. 1812 *Sydney Gaz.* in O'Hara's *Hist. N.S. Wales* (1817) 386 The brig Active . . was at Frederick Henry Bay whaling.

whale, *v.*² Now *U.S. colloq.* [Of obscure origin. Commonly regarded as a spelling of WALE *v.*¹, but there are difficulties of form, chronology, and meaning. Perhaps orig. = to thrash with a whalebone whip (see WHALEBONE 3 b).]

1. *trans.* To beat, flog, thrash.

1790 GROSE *Prov. Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Whale*, to beat with a horsewhip or pliant stick. 1801 COL. G. HANGER *Life* II. 162 Whaling a gentleman is but a vulgar revenge. 1884 'MARK TWAIN' *Huck. Finn* iii, He used to always whale me when he was sober and could get his hands on me.

2. *transf. intr.* To do something implied by the context continuously or vehemently.

a1852 F. M. WHITCHER *Widow Bedott Papers* (1883) vi. 67 You remember that one that come round a spell ago a whalin' away about human rights. 1886 *Harper's Mag.* July 322/1 In tones of wrath. . . he whaled it at his opponent throughout the fifteen minutes allotted to him. 1897 BARRÈRE & LELAND *Dict. Slang*, To whale away, (Amer.), to preach, talk, or lecture away continuously or vehemently. 1908 H. DAY *King Spruce* xxiv, You don't think I've whaled up here. . . to . . talk about women, do you? 1915 *Morning Post* 1 June 4/4 They . . snatched these rifles up, and whaled away at our chaps.

whale, var. WALE.

whaleback ('hweɪlbæk). [f. WHALE *sb.* + BACK *sb.*]

1. An arched structure over the deck of a steamer; = TURTLE-BACK 1.

1886 *Times* 20 Apr. 10/2 He was standing under the whaleback.

2. A kind of steam vessel having a spoon bow and the main decks covered in and rounded over, suggesting the back of a whale.

1891 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 10 June 2/2 The Americans claim that, in Captain Macdougall's steel 'whalebacks', they possess the universal ship of the future.

3. *Geol.* A large mound of the shape of the back of a whale. More widely, any land form or

land mass likened to the back of a whale; *spec.* (a) = ROCHE MOUTONNÉE; (b) an elongated sand dune.

1893 HOWORTH *Glacial Nightmare* II. 774 Glaciers cannot explain the mounds called eskers, kames, or whalebacks. 1913 *Proc. Geologists' Assoc.* XXIV. 247 A characteristic rounded form resembling . . the 'whale-back' of glaciated areas. 1918 *Geogr. Jnrl.* LI. 23 In these whalebacks and crescents the cross-section that has the longest base passes through the summit of the dune. 1928 *Chambers's Jnrl.* Jan. 1/2 Behind all, a dim whale-back that might be Strom, or Ultima Thule. 1933 *Geogr. Jnrl.* LXXXII. 125 A whaleback is a flat-topped ridge of sand anything up to 100 miles in length, of the order of half a mile wide, and up to 100 feet high. 1952 V. CANNING *House of Seven Flies* xi. 155 A long stretch of sand . . the long ridges of wave marks from the last tide shadowed across the rising whaleback. 1955 *Geogr. Jnrl.* CXXI. 476 Some British whalebacks are undoubtedly *roches moutonnées*, some others, and probably many tropical examples, are genetically related to tors. 1974 M. GILBERT *Flash Point* x. 82 Behind the whaleback of Kinder Low and Edale Head a storm was brewing up. 1977 A. HALLAM *Planet Earth* 67/2 Where folds can be traced in three dimensions, it is found that the structures die out along their fold axis and where suitably exposed, form whalebacks.

4. *attrib.* or as *adj.* Furnished with a whaleback (sense 1); of the shape of the back of a whale.

1891 *Daily Graphic* 24 July 14/1 The first 'whaleback' boat which has crossed the Atlantic arrived at Liverpool on Monday. 1894 *Engineer* 13 July 33/3 A new craft is expected to take part in the yacht races at Galveston. She was built in Fort Worth, and may be classed as a whale-back yacht. 1908 *Daily Chron.* 29 July 4/4 Beneath a hot sun Belgrade lies bleaching on her whaleback promontory.

Hence 'whalebacked a., shaped like a whale's back; 'whalebacker, a whaleback steamer.

1869 'MARK TWAIN' *Innoc. Abroad* 441 We can see the long, whale-backed ridge of Mount Hermon projecting above the eastern hills. 1879 *Daily News* 8 Nov. 5/7 Whale-backed station of the London and South Eastern Railway Company. 1891 *Daily Graphic* 24 July 14/1 These 'Whalebackers' as they are termed offer very little resistance to the sea. 1903 KIPLING *Five Nations, Sussex* 19 Our blunt, bow-headed, whale-backed Downs.

'**whale-bird**. Name of various birds which inhabit the places where whales are found, or which feed on their oil or offal: (a) a petrel of the genus *Prion* or *Procellaria*; (b) the turnstone, *Streptilas interpres*; (c) the red or grey phalarope; (d) the ivory gull.

1768 *Phil. Trans.* LX. 117 Another bird, not much unlike a quail, which they call here the whale-bird, from its feeding on the offal of those fish. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Whale-bird*, a beautiful little bird seen hovering in flocks over the Southern Ocean. 1875 MELLISS *St. Helena* 200 The Whale Bird (*Procellaria glacialis*). 1879 *Bulletin U.S. Nat. Mus.* No. 15. 85 *Phalaropus fulicarius*, . . 'Shatgak', Cumberland Eskimo. 'Whale-bird', or 'Bow-head Bird', of whalemén.

'**whale-boat**. A long carvel-built boat, sharp at both ends, and steered with a rudder or an oar, used in whale-fishing. b. A boat of this kind carried as a life-boat by large passenger-steamers and warships.

1756 R. ROGERS *Jnrls.* (1769) 13 Our rendezvous was appointed at Albany, from thence to proceed in four whale-boats to lake George. 1824 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* IV. iv. (1849) 415 A picked crew of daring fellows set off for her in a whale-boat. 1871 *Good Words* 713 Having come to her moorings, she is immediately surrounded by a multitude of whale-boats.

whalebone ('hweɪlbəʊn), *sb.* Forms: see WHALE *sb.* and BONE *sb.*; also 4 huelbon, 7 whel-, whal-, whalebone, quhallbon; (in sense 1) whales bone, etc.

†1. Ivory from the walrus or some similar animal confused with the whale: chiefly in phr. *white as whale's bone*. *Obs.*

c1205 LAY. 2363 þe walles of stone, þe duren of whales bone [c1275 wales bone]. a1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xi. 38 A wayle whyt as whalles bon. 13.. *E.E. Allit. P.* A. 212 Her ble more blayt þen walhez bon. a1400 *Sqr. lowe Degre* 537 Lady, as whyte as whales bone. ? 1467 *Paston Lett.* II. 298 But yef ye purposid to falle hastily in my Lady Anne P. lappe, as white as whales bon, &c. c1520 SKELTON *Garl. Laurel* 472 An hundred steppis mountyng to the halle, One of iasper, another of whalis bone. 1567 TURBERV. *Epit.*, etc. 138 Hir Mouth so small, hir Teeth so white as any Whale his bone. 1588 SHAKS. *L.L.L.* v. ii. 332 This is the flower that smiles on euerie one, To shew his teeth as white as Whales bone. 1590 GREENE *Never too Late Wks.* (Grosart) VIII. 213 Legges as white as whales bone. 1610 TOFTE *Hon. Acad.* IV. 162 Her hands were white, as Whale his bone. 1848 KINGSLEY *Saint's Trag.* III. i, Purer than white whales' bone.

β. 13.. *Coer de L.* 62 All it was whyt of huel-bon. c1400 *Destr. Troy* 3055 Alse qwyte & qwem as any qwalle bon. 1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxi. 46 Tounge now are maid of quhyte quhall bone, And hairtis ar maid of hard flynt stone.

2. The elastic horny substance which grows in a series of thin parallel plates in the upper jaw of certain whales in place of teeth; baleen: used esp. for stiffening parts of the dress, etc.

Formerly supposed to be obtained from the whale's fins. 1604 *Lismore Papers* Ser. II. (1887) I. 107 For whelbone to ye bodes ix^d. 1613 *Voy. Spitzbergen in Archæol. Amer.* (1860) IV. 311 They cut of his head, containing his tounge and his finnes, commounlie called whalbone. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 127 ¶4 A Female who is thus invested in Whalebone is sufficiently secured against the Approaches of an ill-bred Fellow. 1712 BURGELL *ibid.* 277 ¶8 The Petticoat has

no Whale-bone. 1820 SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* I. 457 Fifteen feet is the greatest length of the whalebone. 1878 J. W. HAYES *Draper & Haberd.* (ed. 4) 87 Stay Whale-bone is prepared and cut into suitable lengths for corsets. *Ibid.*, Dress Whalebone is sold in lengths varying between 27 in. and 54 in. 1887 RUSKIN *Præterita* II. xi. 390 At a Christmas party, [she] acted any part—that depended on whalebone [*i.e.* stays]—admirably.

3. a. A strip of whalebone, esp. used as stiffening in women's stays, dresses, etc.

1601 [? MARSTON] *Jack Drums Entert.* IV. F 4, Oh I could crack my Whalebones, breake my Buske, to think what laughter may arise from this. a1635 CORBET *Iter Bor.* 391 She was barr'd up in Whale-bones that did leese None of the Whales length, for they reach'd her knees. 1674 tr. *Scheffer's Lapland* 107 If they fish with a Cane or Whale-bone. 1712-14 POPE *Rape Lock* v. 40 Fans clap, silks rustle, and tough whalebones crack. 1871 *Figure Training* 106 In order to insure a good fit, and to keep it perfectly in place, the busk in front, and the whalebones behind, are made somewhat longer than the present fashion.

b. A riding-whip of whalebone.

1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* iii, Smarting under a sense of injury and whalebone. 1867 A. L. GORDON *Poems* (1912) 96 Ah! there goes Fred's whalebone a flanker.

4. The jaw-bone of a whale. (Cf. G. *walfischbein*.)

1846 R. E. E. WARBURTON *Hunting Songs* viii. 25 Where 'twixt the whalebones the widow [sc. Maria Hollingsworth, a German by birth] sat down.

5. a. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *whalebone-cutter*, *-kind*, *-man*; *whalebone-hair*, the hairy fringe of whalebone; *whalebone-tree*, an Australian urticaceous tree, *Pseudomorus brunoniana*; *whalebone-whale*, a whale of the family *Balænidæ*, having plates of whalebone developed from the palate instead of teeth; a right whale.

1761 *Brit. Mag.* II. 672 Philip Benton, of Gainsborough, . . *whalebone-cutter and merchant. 1820 SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* II. 451 Large shreds of old thin canvas, *whalebone-hair, and a quantity of ashes. 1708 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* II. i. iii. (1743) 331 Great whales of the Baleen, or *whale bone kind. a1637 B. JONSON *Underwoods* lx. Wks. (1641) 208 The *whale-bone man That quilts those bodies, I have leave to span. 1889 MAIDEN *Useful Pl. Australia* 591 *Pseudomorus Brunoniana*, . . called *Whalebone Tree in Southern New South Wales. 1725 *Whalebone whale [see WHALE *sb.* 1 b (b)]. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 272/2 The Toothless or Whalebone Whales.

b. as *adj.* Stiffened with strips of whalebone; made of or containing whalebone; also *fig.*, 'stiff', affected.

1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* II. i. (1905) 28 Your whalebone-bodies. 1603 in 10th Rep. *Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. 1. 31 Ane par of quhallbon bodis. 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* 193 And to that end . . shut up their Wastes in a Whale-bone prison. 1711 SWIFT *Jnrl. to Stella* 10 Nov., Have you got the whalebone petticoats among you yet? . . a woman here may hide a moderate gallant under them. 17.. in *Lyra Elegant.* (1867) l. 3 Last Sunday at St. James's prayers I, drest in all my whale-bone airs. 1802 MARIA EDGEWORTH *Moral T.*, *Good Fr. Gov.*, A few words in defence of sacks, long waists, and whalebone stays. 1807 W. IRVING *Salmag.* No. 6 (1811) I. 119 A plentiful stock of whims, and oddities, and whalebone habits. 1866 LE FANU *All in Dark* lxviii, To make his bow before the world in the picturesque long robe and whalebone wig which everyone of taste admires. 1908 [ELIZ. FOWLER] *Betw. Trent & Ancholme* 382 A light umbrella was one not made with whalebone ribs.

Hence whaleboned ('hweɪlbəʊnd) *pa. pple.* and *ppl. a.*, stiffened with whalebone; 'whaleboning', a beating with a piece of whalebone (sense 3).

1641 J. DAY *Parl. Bees* (1881) 29 Such whale-bon'd bodied rascals. 1835 *Court Mag.* VI. p. vii/2 A mantelet . . whale-boned in such a manner as to prevent it from crushing the dress. 1851 H. MELVILLE *Moby Dick* I. xxx. 205 Only a whaleboning that he gave me—not a base kick. 1908 EDITH WHARTON *Hermit*, etc. IV. 150 A laced, whaleboned, frizzle-headed, high-heeled daughter of iniquity.

whale-eyde, obs. f. WALL-EYED.

'**whale-fin**. ? *Obs.* Also 7 whales-finne. Whalebone, formerly supposed to be the fin of the whale.

1612 *Sc. Bk. Rates in Halyburton's Ledger* (1867) 332 Whale fin the fin, xl s. 1614 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* IV. xvii. (ed. 2) 433 The Inhabitantes holde trade with other Samoeds . . for. . . Beauers, Downe, Whales-Finnes. 1741 *Daily Post* 11 Apr. 1/3 On Tuesday was imported . . from Holland 9 C. Whale-fins. 1809 KENDALL *Trav.* II. lii. 207 By whale-fin has always been meant the barb, from which the whale-bone is really obtained. 1820 SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* II. 415 Whale-bone, or whale-fins, as the substance is sometimes, though incorrectly named.

† **whalefish**. *Obs.* Also 6 wall-, whal(le)-, 6-7 wale-. [repr. unrecorded OE. *hwælfisc, or a. MLG., MDu., Du. *walvisch* = OHG. *walvisc* (MHG. *-visch*, G. *walfisch*), ON. *hvalfiskr*: see WHALE *sb.* and FISH *sb.*] A whale.

c1511 1st Eng. *Bk. Amer.* (Arb.) Introd. 28/1 There be many walefysshes & flynyng fysshes. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* cxlviii. 7 Prayse the Lorde vpon earth, ye walfishes and all depes. 1546 Gassar's *Prognost.* Av b, The Son in the same euening shall go doune or set with the tayle of the Whalle fish. 1582 N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Cong. E. Ind.* I. ii. 6b, These people doe mainteine themluelus with rootes of hearbes, with Sea Woulfes, and Whale fish. 1615 R. COCKS *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 91, 2 pec. wale fyshe. 1635 R. JOHNSON *Hist. Tom a Lincoln* (1828) 105 The whale fishes lay wallowing in the waves. 1712 *Phil. Trans.* XXVII. 440

About two Years ago there came a Stranger to me, who had two Penis's of the Whale Fish.

'whale-fisher. [f. WHALE-FISHING: see -ER¹.] = WHALER 1. So **'whalefisherman**, = WHALER 1 and 2; **'whale-fishery**, (a) the occupation or industry of whale-fishing; (b) a locality where whale-fishing is carried on or where whales abound.

1773 BERRIDGE *Chr. World Unmasked* (1805) 43 In Greenland among the *whale-fishers. 1820 SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* I. 271 The salt in the sea... destroys the tenacity of the bay-ice, and, in the language of the whale-fisher, completely rots it. 1874 A. H. MARKHAM *Whaling Cruise* i. 1 Hither [sc. to the Arctic Regions] our brave whale-fishers have annually ventured for many years. 1724 *Phil. Trans.* XXXIII. 193 Our *Whale Fishermen of Nantucket. 1820 SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* II. 74 Foreign Protestants also, who had served three years on board of any British whale-fishermen. 1704 *Phil. Trans.* XXIV. 1723 When our Ships return'd from the *Whale-Fishery. 1752 J. HILL *Hist. Anim.* 555 About Greenland, and in other places where there are whale-fisheries, 1820 SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* II. 76 The British whale-fishery of 1758 was very unsuccessful. 1874 A. H. MARKHAM *Whaling Cruise* i. 8 The ships engaged in the whale fishery are all most substantially built.

'whale-fishing. [f. WHALE *sb.* + FISHING *vbl. sb.*] The occupation of taking whales, whaling.

1580 in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 460 To the end we may turne our new found land fishing or Island fishing or our whale-fishing that way. 1699 T. ALLISON *Voy. Archangel* 109 A Flemish Fly-boat bound to Greenland, for Whale-fishing. 1722 ELKING *View Greenland Trade* (1859) 95 We can... carry on the whale-fishing trade... much cheaper than the Hollanders. 1820 SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Reg.* I. 257 Ice becomes exceedingly fragile towards the close of the whale-fishing season. 1889 C. EDWARDS *Sardinia* xviii. 345 The industry [of tunny-fishing] is as speculative as whale-fishing or silver-mining.

whal eie, obs. f. WALL EYE.

whaleman ('hweilmən). [MAN *sb.*¹ 4p, 14.]

1. = WHALER 1.
1716 B. CHURCH *Hist. Philip's War* (1867) II. 133 And Whale-men then will be very serviceable in this Expedition, which having a promise made to them, that they shall be released in good season to go home a Whaling in the Fall. 1850 H. MELVILLE *White Jacket* I. iv. 21 He launched out... into tremendous laudations of whalemen; declaring that whalemen alone deserved the name of sailors. 1898 F. T. BULLEN *Cruise of 'Cachalot'* xvi. 198 A smarter whaleman than Mistah Jones did not live.

2. = WHALER 2.
1767 M. CUTLER in *Life*, etc. (1888) I. 19 Whalemen fitted out for the Straits of Belle Isle, and Davis Straits. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* vii. The ship was the Cortes, whaleman, of New Bedford. 1860 *Merc. Marine Mag.* VII. 254 There were two or three whalemen in port.

'whale-oil. Oil obtained from whale-blubber.

1435-6 in Heath *Grocers' Comp.* (1869) 418, ii shippes of waloill, conteynyng xlviii.⁰ iii. v. oyll. c 1580 in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* (1914) July 520 Whale oyles that come frome newfound Land. 1672 *Act 25 Chas. II c. 7* §4 Noe English built Shipp... importing Whale oyle or Blubber or other Fish, Oyle. 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 157 We have Oil of Camomile and Linseed... when Train or Whale-Oil is dear. 1896 BRANNT *Anim. & Veg. Fats* (ed. 2) II. 57 The pure whale oils, pale, brownish-yellow or brown.
attrib. 1853 *Zoologist* XI. 4044 Syringing the young tree well with whale-oil-soap. 1885 *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 368/2 Flavilla lit the... whale-oil lamp.

whaler ('hweilə(r)). [f. WHALE *sb.* or *v.*¹ + -ER¹.]

1. A person engaged in whaling; a whale-catcher.

1684 *Roxb. Ball.* (1885) V. 457 Without you do now employ the Wheelers to do 't, Ye ne'r will be able to bring all about. 1775 ROMANS *Florida App.* 79 The North, or Grand Bahama bank, is little frequented but by whalers and turtles. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 752/1 The whalers kill the calves in order to capture the mother. 1895 GORE-BOOTH *Sea Fishing* (Badm. Libr.) xvi. 476 Two bollard heads (pronounced 'bullet heads' by the Scotch whalers).

2. a. A vessel used in whale-fishing. b. = WHALE-BOAT b.

1806 *Sydney Gaz.* in O'Hara's *Hist. N.S. Wales* (1817) 270 Arrived... same day, the Aurora south whaler. 1817 BYRON *Beppo* lxi, Stopp'd by the elements, like a whaler. 1893 *Times* 3 July 6/2 Some loose oars... with which I supported myself until picked up by the Dreadnought's whaler. 1898 KIPLING *Fleet in Being* v. 62 The First Lieutenant... had the whaler's crew sleeping all handy by. 1909 *Athenæum* 13 Mar. 320/1 The original plan was to descend the Mackenzie to the Beaufort Sea, leaving the stores to come round by whaler.

3. Anything unusually large of its kind; a 'whacker', 'whopper'. *U.S. slang.*

a 1860 *Georgia Scenes* 184 (Bartlett) 'He's a whaler!' said Rory; 'but his face is mighty little for his body and legs.' 1873 LELAND *Egypt. Sketch-Bk.* 25, I shared... a cabin with a captain who had been a whaler for forty years; and he was a whaler! and great at 'whalers'.

4. Also waler. [ellipt. f. *Murrumbidgee w(h)aler* s.v. MURRUMBIDGEE: (see also quot. 1945).] A tramp or 'sundowner'. *Austral. slang.*

1883 R. E. N. TROPENY *Town Life in Australia* 244 A 'waler' is a bushman who is 'on the loaf'. He 'humps his drum', or 'swag', and 'starts on the wallaby track'. 1886 F. COWAN *Australia* 31 The Whaler: of the Murrumbidgee and the Darling, when it suits his pleasure and convenience, a dolce-far-niente outcast in the fertile valleys of the rivers named, beyond the running of a warrant or a writ. 1903 'T. COLLINS' *Such is Life* 4 Willoughby, who was travelling loose with Thompson and Cooper, was a whaler. 1945

BAKER *Austral. Lang.* v. 102 According to an old-timer correspondent: 'They were so apt to lie about the size of the 'whales' they caught that a generic name for this class of unemployable traveller came into being.' This explanation is open to some doubt... In our early days New South Wales horses exported to India for army use were known as *walers*. The original *Murrumbidgee whalers* may therefore have been N.S.W. tramps... Blood brethren of the *whaler* (this spelling is retained because tradition holds mainly to the 'whale' theory)... are the *Domain dossier*, [etc.]. 1963 A. MARSHALL *In Mine Own Heart* (1964) xx. 164 The whaler, a term that had originated from the name given to those swagmen who in the early days spent their time moving up and down the Murrumbidgee River... now applied to those who walked from town to town in preference to jumping trains. 1965 B. WANNAN *Fair Go, Spinner* II. 53 After drinking some Wilcannia beer, a whaler I once saw got up and started to fight with himself.

5. Special Combs. **whalerman** = WHALER 1; **whaler shark**, any of several sharks of the genus *Galeolemma*, found in Australasian waters.

1891 R. L. STEVENSON *In South Seas* (1896) I. xiii. 128 Captain Chase, they called him, an old whaler-man. 1963 *Times* 18 May 9/7 The first big bang was at night and the Norwegian whaler men heard it six miles away. 1974 G. JENKINS *Bridge of Magpies* II. 33 Old whaler-men's graves in New England. [1882 J. E. TENISON-WOODS *Fish New South Wales* IV. 92 The following list [of sharks] includes all that are known to occur in our seas:... the Whaler, [etc.].] 1937 Z. GREY *Amer. Angler in Austral.* VII. 70 Among the trawlers it was not unusual to see a dozen whaler sharks all in a bunch. 1972 *Islander* (Victoria, B.C.) 9 Apr. 7/1 A whaler shark darting over the reef flat with a sudden burst of speed.

whalery ('hweiləri). [f. WHALE *sb.* + -ERY.]

1. The industry of whale-fishing, or the establishment for carrying it on.

1683 W. PENN *Let. to Free Soc. Traders* 9 The Whalery [is conveniently posted] for a sound and fruitful Bank. 1685 — *Furth. Acc. Pennsylv.* 8 We justly hope a considerable profit by a Whalery. 1878 SUSAN PHILLIPS *On Seaboard* 15 Since I sailed away to the whalery, When I was a bit of a lad. 1899 *Daily News* 2 Dec. 6/4 South Sea whaleries.

2. A tank to keep a whale in.

a 1880 F. T. BUCKLAND *Notes & Jottings* (1882) 345 When the whale had been in his whalery about three hours, he had quite recovered himself both in mind and body.

whales bone: see WHALEBONE.

whaling ('hweilɪŋ), *vbl. sb.*¹ [f. WHALE *sb.* or *v.*¹ + -ING¹.] 1. a. The action, practice, or business of catching whales.

1716 B. CHURCH *Hist. Philip's War* (1867) II. 133 Whalemen... having a promise made to them, that they shall be released in good season to go home a Whaling in the Fall. 1851 H. MELVILLE *White Jacket* xvi, 'But what takes thee a-whaling?'... 'Well, sir I want to see what whaling is.' 1895 GORE-BOOTH *Sea Fishing* (Badm. Libr.) xvi. 497 The Arctic seem to have an extraordinary and incomprehensible attraction for some people; and when it is coupled with whaling, to the author it becomes almost irresistible.

b. *attrib.* or as *ppl. a.*

1722 *New-England Courant* 18 June 2/2 Huffey of Nantucket... went out from thence on the Whaling Account. 1767 M. CUTLER in W. P. & J. P. Cutler *Life & Corr. M. Cutler* (1888) I. i. 19 'Our whaling vessels sailed for the Western Islands. 1782 J. H. ST JOHN DE CRÈVEŒUR *Lett. from Amer. Farmer* v. 158 They have greatly cheapened the fitting out of their whaling fleets. 1821 SCOTT *Pirate* v, Ill-faured tools they had in their hands, whaling knives they called them. 1823 SCORESBY *Voy. N. Whale-fishery* 34 The practice of such kinds of harmless frolic, as the circumstances of a whaling voyage will admit. 1836 *Uncle Philip's Convers. Whale Fishery* 6 There was a whaling ship fitting out for her voyage. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 752/1 The number of whales has greatly decreased on the whaling-ground. 1860 WRAXALL *Life in Sea* II. 33 He listened to the brilliant promises of a whaling captain. 1863 MRS. GASKELL *Sylvia's Lovers* xvi, Stores had to be purchased by the whaling-masters. 1890 'R. BOLOREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* xvi, The barque was empty and the whaling gear in trim.

2. Comb. **whaling station**, a land base where whales which have been caught are flensed and rendered.

1874 C. M. SCAMMON *Marine Mammals N.W. Coast N. Amer.* III. v. 247 At the point where the enormous carcass was stripped of its fat, arose the 'whaling station', whose trypots were set in rude furnaces... and capacious vats were made of planks, to receive the blubber. 1930 L. G. D. ACLAND *Early Canterbury Runs* 1st Ser. vi. 116 The country... was accessible on foot from the old shore whaling station. 1963 L. DIACK *Labrador Nurse* v. 25 One night we tied up at a whaling station. 1977 C. MCCULLOUGH *Thorn Birds* II. 20 The eleven men... came out at the whaling station of Hobart.

'whaling, *vbl. sb.*² *dial.* and *U.S.* [f. WHALE *v.*² + -ING¹.] Beating, thrashing.

1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xxxvi, How did yer whaling agree with yer, Tom? 1885 'C. E. CRADDOCK' *Proph. Gt. Smoky Mts.* II. 44 From fear of a whaling by his active parent.

whalish ('hweilɪʃ), *a. rare.* [f. WHALE *sb.* + -ISH¹.] Of the nature of or resembling a whale.

a 1892 G. H. KINGSLEY *Sport & Trav.* (1900) 424 A big, wide-flipped whalish-looking creature.

whalke, **whall(e)**: see WALK *sb.*¹, WALL.

whallabee, var. WALLABY.

whallup, obs. f. WALLOP *v.*

whally ('hwo:li), *a. rare.* Also 9 -ey. [? f. *whall*, WALL *sb.*³, 'whally eyes' being equivalent to 'eyes

of wall', i.e. wall-eyes.] Of the eyes: ? Showing much white, glaring.

1590 SPENSER *F.Q.* I. iv. 24 A bearded Goat, whose... whally eyes (the signe of gelyosy). 1828 J. WILSON in *Blackw. Mag.* XXIV. 669 His low vile forehead, whalley eyes, pendulous cheeks.

whalm, **whalp**: see WALM, WHELM, WHELP.

whaly ('hweih), *a. rare.* [f. WHALE *sb.* + -Y¹.] Of whales.

1600 TOURNEUR *Transf. Metam.* xxxix, The ocean's monarch... The great controller of the whaly ranckes.

† **wham**, *sb.*¹ *Obs. nonce-wd.* [A factitious word made by altering the vowel of WHIM.] A whimsical or fantastic person.

1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* II. 253 The Author of it was a whim and a wham, a Fellow that invented ridiculous Principles.

wham (hwæm), *sb.*² *colloq.* [Echoic. Cf. WHAM *v.*] 1. A heavy blow; the sound of a heavy blow (or of an explosion, etc.). Also, a resounding success, a 'knock-out'; an attempt at something (cf. WHACK *sb.* 1 b).

1923 *N. Y. Times* 9 Sept. VII. 2 *Wham*, a success, a knock-out. 1924 *Dialect Notes* V. 257 Onomatopoeic words... bam, blam, ca-blam, slam, wham, zam... (all = sound of blow). 1949 J. R. COLE *It was so Late* 90 The occasional echoing wham of a charge of gelly. 1957 'J. WYNOHAM' *Midwich Cuckoos* IV. 38 Might be a good idea to have a wham at it. 1973 C. BONINGTON *Next Horizon* VIII. 121 Have another try... This time the peg held, another half-dozen whams of the hammer, and it was in to the hilt.

2. As *int.* or *adv.*: with a wham.

1924 E. HEMINGWAY *In our Time* 10 The bull rammed him wham against the wall. 1934 J. M. CAIN *Postman always rings Twice* xi. 126 And then, wham, I pleaded her guilty. 1948 'J. TEY' *Franchise Affair* VIII. 90 They go that short step too far and wham! out comes that business-like paw. 1958 P. MORTIMER *Daddy's gone a-Hunting* xxx. 170 He... walked through the front door and wham. She did it with a clock. 1965 M. FRAYN *Tin Men* xxvi. 144 When the iron was hot, wham!—he would come out like a tiger and knock it for six. 1975 A. AYCKBOURN *Norman Conquests* 5 It was just wham, thump and there we both were on the rug.

wham (hwæm), *v. colloq.* [Echoic. Cf. WHAM *sb.*².]

1. *trans.* To strike violently; to propel with great force, by hitting, throwing, kicking, etc. Also *fig.*

1925 *Sat. Even. Post* 14 Feb. 16 The wow finish, properly, is the legitimate successor to the old apple-sauce flag-waving finish for whamming an audience. 1930 E. FERBER *Cimarron* xxi. 349 Standing Bear whams it out so straight and so far that he makes the [golf] pro look like a ping-pong player. 1933 J. THURBER *My Life & Hard Times* IV. 57 She... picked up a shoe, and whammed it through a pane of glass across the narrow space that separated the two houses. 1950 A. BUCKERIDGE *Jennings goes to School* xii. 239 You must have put all your weight behind it, or you wouldn't have gone down flat like that, after you'd whammed it in. 1951 *Sport* 7-13 Jan. 15/2 Basically the same team, which had been languishing generally on the wrong side... whammed in six against Derry. 1962-3 E. BIRNEY *Sel. Poems* (1966) II. 59 Nine shoeboys wham their boxes Slap at my newshined feet. 1971 C. BONINGTON *Annapurna South Face* xiii. 161 He whammed in the ice-hammer, pulled up on it, kicking with the two front points of his crampons into the ice.

2. *intr.* To pound or strike violently; to move with speed, violence, or noise. Also *fig.*

1948 W. C. WILLIAMS in *Poetry* June 147 Each time he'd swing the axe and I heard it wham into the wood, I'd let out a wild cackle of delight. 1948 D. BALLANTYNE *Cunninghams* 135 The nausea rushes that made his head wham. 1954 A. C. CLARKE *Silence Please in Tales from White Hart* (1957) 3 Bert's blast whammed overhead. 1962 K. KESEY *One flew over Cuckoo's Nest* I. 51 The black boy whammed flat against the wall and stuck, then slid down to the floor. 1973 P. WHITE *Eye of Storm* xii. 586 A partition of the door still in motion whammed against an ear and sent his hat spinning. 1980 *Daily Tel.* 27 Aug. 2 (Adv.), 'The incredible Casio FX39... whams through complicated equations and elementary statistical formulae.

wham, Sc. and north. dial. form of WHOM.

wham-bam, **-bang**, *adv.* (or *int.*), *a.*, (*sb.*). [f. WHAM *sb.*² 2 + BAM *int.* or BANG *v.* 8.]

A. *adv.* or *int.* With a wham and a bang: used to denote a sudden or forceful effect (*lit.* or *fig.*); *spec.* with reference to sexual intercourse conducted quickly and without tenderness, esp. in phr. *wham, bam, thank you ma'am*.

1956 B. HOLIOAY *Lady sings Blues* (1973) II. 22 With my regular white customers, it was a clinch. They had wives and kids to go home to. When they came to see me it was wham, bang, they gave me the money and were gone. *Ibid.* 25 'I thought I was giving you a chance,' she spouted at me. 'But you turned out to be a girl of bad character.' Wham, bang, four months she handed me. 1971 S. FIRESTONE *Dialectic of Sex* VI. 152 Men are interested in nothing but a screw (wham, bam, thank you M'am!). 1977 *Ripped & Torn* VI. 9/1 We play a set that starts at the beginning and goes Wham Bam Bam to the end. 1977 *Playgirl* May 13/1 Not all men are 'wham bam thank you ma'am' types.

B. *adj.* Loud, violent, forceful (see also quot. 1960).

1960 WENTWORTH & FLEXNER *Dict. Amer. Slang* 573/1 *Wham-bam*, quick(ly) and rough(ly); displaying more energy than finesse. 1976 *Publishers Weekly* 4 Oct. 65/2 Harbinson on Elvis... ticks off the outrageous 'Hound Dog' of pop music in wham-bam style. 1977 *Listener* 20 Oct.

498/3 Screenwriters..know that it's mainly wham-bang shock effect that sells.

C. sb. A sudden, violent effect.

1975 *Listener* 17 July 68/3 Now it is the big wham-bang of sudden [price] rises.

whamble, var. **WHEMMEL** *Sc.*, overturn.

whame. *Obs.* or *dial.* A gadfly.

1658 ROWLAND tr. *Moufet's Theat. Ins.* 937 This Fly [*Curvicauda*] the English in their proper tongue call a Whame and a Burrell-fly. **1775** ROMANS *Florida* App. 51 note, *Tabona* [*sic*] is Spanish for a whame or horsefly. **1829** *Glover's Hist. Derby* I. 177 *Oestrus Bovis*, Whame or Burrell Fly. **1881** BLACKMORE *Christowell* ii, He mistook a large stone-fly..for a genuine oestrus, a bot-fly, whame, or tabanus.

whamera, var. **WOOMERA**.

whamire, dial. var. **QUAMIRE** *Obs.*

whammel, var. **WHEMMEL** *Sc.*, overturn.

hammer ('hwæmə(r)). *Mountaineering.* [f. **WHAM** *v.* + -ER¹.] A kind of piton hammer.

1971 [see *piton hammer* s.v. **PITON** 3]. **1974** H. MACINNES *Climb to Lost World* ix. 142 The Whillans 'Whammer'—a multi-purpose piton hammer.

whammo (hwæməʊ: stress variable), *int.* Also **whamo**. [f. **WHAM** *sb.*² + -O².] = **WHAM** *sb.*² 2; an exclamation suggesting a sudden violent blow or surprising event, etc.

1932 *Fitchburg* (Mass.) *Sentinel* 7 May, But the heavy comes to, and Whamo! The boy goes down bam. **1945** *Record* (Philadelphia) 4 July 11/1 'Ring out the tidings, Grandpa! and the old gent spit on his hands, and Whammo! went the Liberty Bell. **1959** N. MAILER *Advts. for Myself* (1961) 97 They meet again in New York..and whammo do they get together. I mean drinking and making love, nothing can stop them. **1969** P. DICKINSON *Pride of Heroes* i. 45 Everyone a bit nervy for about a fortnight, and then, whammo, something happens. **1981** *Daily Express* 24 July 14/4, I put the telephone down and whammo! Another 'little twinge'.

whammy ('hwæmi). *colloq.* (orig. and chiefly *U.S.*). [f. **WHAM** *sb.*² + -Y⁶.] An evil influence or 'hex'. From the 1950s, often with reference to the comic strip Li'l Abner (see quot. 1951), esp. in phr. *a double whammy* and varr. Hence, an intense or powerful look, etc.; something effective, upsetting, problematic, etc.

1940 J. R. TUNIS *Kid from Tomkinsville* x. 151 Interest round the field now centered in the Kid's chances for a no-hit game... On the bench everyone realized it too, but everyone kept discreetly quiet on account of the Whammy. Mustn't put the Whammy on him! **1951** *Al Capp's Li'l Abner* July, *Evil-Eye Fleegle* is th' name, an' th' 'whammy' is my game. Mudder Nature endowed me wit' eyes which can putrefy citizens t' th' spot!.. There is th' 'single whammy'! That, friend, is th' full, pure power o' one o' my evil eyes! It's dynamite, friend, an' I do not t'row it around lightly!.. And, lastly—th' 'double whammy'—namely, th' full power o' both eyes—which I hopes I never hafta use. **1952** B. MALAMUD *Natural* 75 They were afflicted with more than the usual number of hexes and whammies and practised all sorts of magic to undo them. **1964** J. MASTERS *Trial at Monomoy* ii. 66 You heard that our local witch has put her whammy on you now? **1970** *Daily Tel.* (Colour Suppl.) 30 Oct. 19/2 That smile, a huge, sweet, melting smile, a whammy of an MRA smile, a West-Coast switched-on-sincere smile, which envelops just everybody. **1976** *New Yorker* 16 Feb. 107/1 In the Germany scenes, Wertmuller achieves the effect of liveliness through one whammy after another. The starving prisoners in the camp are beaten and murdered to the tune of the Ride of the Valkyries. **1979** C. JAMES *Pillars of Hercules* III. xi. 122 Holmes was a nonconformist in a conformist age, yet still won all the conformist rewards. It was a double whammy.

whampee, var. **WAMPEE**.

whan, obs. f. **WHEN**, **WHOM**; obs. pa. t. of **WIN**.

whand, *Sc.* var. **WAND** *sb.*

whane, **whanene**: see **WHEN**, **WHENNE**.

whang (hwaŋ), *sb.*¹ Also **wang**. Also 6 *Sc.* quhayng, quhaing, 7 whange, 9 *Sc.* quhang; 7 whanck, 7- whanck. [Variant of *thwang*, **THONG**.] 1. = **THONG** *sb.* *Sc.* and *dial.*

1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* (1821) II. 32 Quhen Hengist had gottin the grant of sa mekill land as he micht circle about with ane bull hide, he schure it in maist crafty and subtell quhaingis. **1578** LINDESAY (Pittscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 117 Ane gret scheiff of arrowis knet together in ane quhange of leathir. **1598** D. FERGUSSON *Scot. Prov.* (1785) 647 Mony ane tines the haiff-merk whinger for the halfpenny whang. **1670** *Rav Prov.* 289 Of other mens lether, men takes large whanges. **1691** — *Coll. Words* (ed. 2) 151 Shoe-whang. **1717** DE FOE *Mem. Ch. Scot.* III. 268, I had not the worth of a Spur Whang of any Man's, but was mounted of Horse and Arms of my own. **1737-8** *MS. Par. Bk., Pannal, Yks.*, Church gae mending a beast face and Whangs, is. od. **1818** SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxxiii, Never weigh a MacGregor's bluid against a broken whang o' leather. **1837** SIR F. PALGRAVE *Merch. & Friar* i. 16 Their sacks..tightly bound by many a whang and thong.

2. A large or thick slice, esp. of cheese, bread, etc. *Sc.* and *dial.*

1684 MERITON *Yorksh. Dial.* 57 What a whanck's there. **1700** *Gaberlunzie Man* viii. in Ramsay *Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) I. 86 The twa, with kindly sport and glee, Cut frae a new cheese a whang. **1818** HOGG *Tales & Sk., Adv. Allan Gordon* (1836) I. 264 A good whang of solid fish. **1866** W.

HENDERSON *Folk Lore N. Counties* 3 The whang must be taken from the edge of the cheese, and divided into portions. **1879** STEVENSON *Trav. Cevennes* 33 With a glass, a whang of bread, and an iron fork, the table is completely laid.

3. The penis. *slang* (orig. and chiefly *U.S.*).

1935 H. L. DAVIS *Honey in Horn* iii. 34 Leave them horses alone or I'll cut your whang off. **1949** H. MILLER *Sexus* viii. 250 You say he's got a terrific wang, Bill. I don't know how he ever gets it in there. **1952** N. MAILER *Barbary Shore* x. 89 Guinevere..went on at length with one of her inexhaustible stories about a lover and his whang. **1959** M. RICHLER *Apprenticeship D. Kravitz* 1. x. 60 He's got a whang that could choke a horse. I know, we had a leak together once. **1969** K. VONNEGUT *Slaughterhouse-Five* v. 115 Montana was naked, and so was Billy, of course. He had a tremendous wang. **1981** G. HAMMOND *Revenge Game* ix. 102 Maybe you're not as ready with your whang as you were, or maybe you couldn't keep it up—.

whang, *sb.*² Chiefly *dial.* [Echoic. Cf. **WHANG** *v.*²] A resounding blow or stroke, or the sound of such a blow; a bang.

1824 MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl.*, *Whang*..a blow, or rather a lash with a whip. **1868** KINGLAKE *Crimea* IV. v. 279 The 'whang' of the round-shot. **1889** 'Q' *Splendid Spur* ix. 130 Soon the whang-whang! of the hammer below rous'd me. **1891** *Century Mag.* Dec. 246 Our gear came down with a whang as the ship forged ahead.

whang, *v.*¹ Also **wang**. [Variant of **THONG** *v.*; cf. **WHANG** *sb.*¹]

1. *a. trans.* To beat as with a thong; to lash (also *fig.*); *gen.* to beat, strike, hit or knock violently. *Sc.* and *dial.*

1684 MERITON *Yorksh. Dial.* 54 If she hear she'll whang me varra sayer. **1786** BURNS *Ordination* iii, Heresy is in her pow'r, And gloriously she'll whang her. **1889** BADEN-POWELL *Pigsticking* 21 A savage would consider it the height of sport to go and whang a pig on the head.

b. To throw, drive, pull, etc. with force or with violent impact. *trans.* and *intr. dial.* and *colloq.*

1820 CLARE *Rural Life* (ed. 2) 60 I'd just streak'd down, and with a swish Whang'd off my hat soak'd like a fish. **1899** CROCKETT *Black Douglas* xix, Whang the steel bolt through his ribs. *Ibid.* xxxiv, Bring back every true lad that can whang bow, or gar sword-iron whistle. **1905** in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* VI. 439/2 He wanged a stone at me. **1914** C. MACKENZIE *Sinister Street* II. iii. i. 500 The governor wanged them into my lap. **1965** *Punch* 22 Sept. 420/1 Anybody wanting to wang up a skyscraper or indeed any building of size and importance will have to publish a comprehensible model or drawing. **1980** D. BOGARDE *Gentle Occupation* ix. 249 Suddenly a stone spun out of nowhere and whanged harmlessly against the bonnet of the car. **1984** *New Yorker* 23 Apr. 80/3 Bad bush pilots..cross the margins of heavy weather and whang into mountains. *Ibid.* 29 Oct. 140/3 Mondale was ready for him and whanged the line back.

2. To cut in 'whangs' or large slices. Also *absol.* or *intr.* *Sc.* and *dial.*

1743 ARGYLL is my name in Whitelaw *Bk. Scot. Song* (1866) 224 I'll aff to the Highlands as hard's I can reel. And whang at the bannocks o' barley meal. **1801** W. BEATTIE *Tales* (1813) 8 At last, came cheese..My uncle set it to his breast And whang'd it down.

whang, *v.*² Also **wang**. [Cf. **WHANG** *sb.*²] *a. intr.* To make a loud resounding noise, as of a heavy blow or explosion, of shot flying through the air, of a loudspeaker, of a speeding car, etc.

1875 KINGLAKE *Crimea* V. vi. 426 Another of the mighty 18-pounder shot flew whanging over the heads of our soldiery. **1912** MASEFIELD *Widow in Bye Street* II. liv, The organ whangs, the giddy horses reel. **1952** *Observer* 2 Nov. 3/5 The words from the loudspeaker wang back from the quiet village houses, but the doors remain closed. **1977** *Motor* 19 Feb. 24/1 You rush from the pits just as the leading Porsches wang past.

b. The vb.-stem used adverbially: cf. **BANG** *v.* 8.

1844 KINGLAKE *Eothen* xxi. 335, I..went falling, and falling through air till my crown came whang against the ground. **1855** BROWNING *Up at a Villa* ix, Bang, whang, whang goes the drum.

whang, dial. f. **WANG**¹.

whangdoodle, **whang-doodle**. *N. Amer.* Also **whangydoodle**. [Fanciful.] *a.* An imaginary creature. *b.* Something unspecified, a 'thingummy'. (See also quot. 1904.)

1858 H. T. LEWIS in *Salem* (Illinois) *Advocate* 27 Jan. 1/2 They shall..flee unto the mountains of Hepsidam, where the lion roareth and the wang-doodle [Yankee *Notions* Feb. 52/1 whang doodle] mourneth for his first-born. **1870** *Punchinello* (N.Y.) 9 Apr. 30/1 In his own State the K-Klux raged, together with the fierce whang-doodle. **1890** *Boston Jrnl.* 24 July 2/5 The rougher element among the boys..formed the 'Whang Doodle' Club for the purpose of settling him. **1904** R. F. FOSTER *Practical Poker* 11 The 'whangdoodle', a round of compulsory jack-pots after a big hand has been shown. **1923** *Nation* (N.Y.) 22 Aug. 179 The downtrodden and oppressed force on the *Gazette*..has to live with this old whang-doodle and listen to his preterbacious scandalizations. **1931** *Amer. Speech* VI. 259 Whangdoodle, whangy-doodle, what have you, whatsis, whatsit, [etc.]. **1979** *Globe & Mail* (Toronto) 24 Jan. 6/1 In 1976... A new company sprang to the fore in Quebec... PQ Productions claimed to have invented the whangdoodle.

whangee (hwæŋ'gi:). Also **w(h)anghee**. [Chinese *huang* bamboo sprouts too old for eating, a hard white-skinned bamboo (Giles).] A cane made of the stem of one or other species

of *Phyllostachys*, Chinese and Japanese plants allied to and resembling bamboos. Also *whangee-cane*.

1790 in W. Routhead *Bad Companions* (1930) 6 He.. sometimes wears a cocked hat, and generally carries a Wangee cane in his hand. **1813** W. MILBURN *Oriental Comm.* II. 545 Wanghees, sometimes called Japan canes, should be chosen pliable, tough, round and taper. **1836** *Act 3 & 4 Will. IV*, c. 56 Duties of Customs Inwards... Canes, viz... Whangees, Jumbos..and other Walking Canes or Sticks, the 1,000..0.5.0. **1891** A. DOBSON *Hogarth* ii. 31 A short-trowsered tar of the Tom Bowling era is deliberately executing a nautical *pas seul*..with the aid of a whangee. **1906** OXENHAM *Profit & Loss* vi, A tough flexible whangee cane.

whanger ('hwæŋə(r)), *sb.*¹ [f. **WHANG** *v.*¹ + -ER¹.] (See quot.)

1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Whangers*, or Cod-whangers. Fish-curers of Newfoundland. An old term for a large sword.

whanger ('hwæŋə(r)), *sb.*² *U.S. slang.* Also **wanger**. [f. **WHANG** *v.*¹ + -ER¹.] = **WHANG** *sb.*¹ 3.

1939 J. STEINBECK *Grapes of Wrath* ii. 14 An' there we spied a nigger, with a trigger that was bigger than an elephant's proboscis or the whanger of a whale. **1976** M. MACHLIN *Pipeline* xiv. 160 She didn't get the idea so fast, so he whipped the old wanger out of his union suit and laid it on the table in front of her.

whanhope, obs. form of **WANHOPE**.

whank, **whanker**, occas. varr. **WANK**, **WANKER**.

whanne, obs. f. **WHEN**; var. *wan*, obs. pa. t. of **WIN** *v.*

whannen, var. **WHENNE** *Obs.*, whence.

whannes, obs. f. **WHENCE**.

† **whannow**, *int.* *Obs.* Also **wannowe**. [? f. **WHAT** + **NOW**. Cf. **WHAU**, which is similarly used.] What! I say! Come, come!

c1450 *Northern Passion* (MS. Addit.) 147/59* 'Wannowe', sayde kayme, 'her es Envy; My smoke gose down and thynne gose hye.' **c1460** *Towneley Myst.* xxviii. 184 *Thomas*. Whannow, peter! art thou mad?

whanse, var. **WANZE** *v.* *Obs.*

whante, **whantite**, obs. ff. **QUANT**, **WANT**, **QUANTITY**.

whap, var. **WAP** *v.*³ *Obs.*, to bark, **WHAUP** *Sc.*, curlew, **WHOP**.

† **whaped**, *pa. pple.* *Obs.* Also 4 **whaped**, 5 **waped**. [Cf. **AWHAPE**.] Bewildered, dismayed.

c1374 CHAUCER *Anel. & Arc.* 215 Turnid is in quakyng all my daunce My suretee in a whaped [*v.rr.* waped, waped, whaped] countenance. **c1403** *LYDG. Temple of Glas* 401 That pei wip derknes were waped & amate. **1426** — *De Guil. Pilgr.* 1297, I was so whapyd & amaat.

whapper, etc.: see **WHOPPER**, etc.

whappet ('hwɒpɪt). *dial.* Also 9 **wappet**. [f. **whap*, **WAP** *sb.*² + -ET¹.] A small dog addicted to 'wapping' or yelping.

1577 HARRISON *England* III. vii. (1878) 48 The whappet or prick-eard curre. **1622** S. WARD *Life of Faith* (1627) 62 As the sturdie Steede dashes out the little Whappets braines, so easily doth Death with the least kicke..the stoutest Constitution. **a1825** FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Wappet*, a yelping cur.

whapple, var. **WARPLE**.

whapto, var. **WAPPATO**(O).

whar, obs. f. *were*, pl. pa. t. indic. of **BE** *v.*; obs. f. **WARE** *a.*; *Sc.* and *n. dial.* f. **WHERE**; obs. contr. f. **WHETHER**.

† **whar**, *v.* *Obs.* Imitative of a rumbling sound. **13**.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 2203 What! hit wharred, & whette, as water at a mulne.

|| **whare** ('fare, 'hwɒri, 'wɒri). Also 9- **wurrie**, **ware**, **warree**, **warré**, **wharre**, **wharry**. [Maori *whare*, *ware* house.] 1. A Maori hut or native dwelling.

1807 J. SAVAGE *Some Acct. N.Z.* xi. 77 *Wurrie*, a house, or hut. **1817** J. L. NICHOLAS *Voyage to N.Z.* I. xii. 352 A young woman..beckoned to me to accompany her to her *warree* or hut. **1833** H. WILLIAMS in H. Carleton *H.W.* (1874) 151 The Europeans, who were near us in a raupo whare (rush house). **1852** MUNDY *Antipodes* (1857) 179 A capital breakfast..was served in a handsome glass-windowed and carpeted warree. **1865** *Pall Mall Gaz.* 28 Sept. 9/2 Lounging among the wharres of a pah. **1875** WOOD & LAPHAM *Waiting for Mail* 31 He pulled up..beside a wharry. **1892** E. REEVES *Homeward Bound* 63 A smart man he, and transacted his business in a very handsome wharè.

2. Hence *gen.*, a hut or shed; *spec.* on a sheep station, a building where the hands sleep or eat. Also with defining word.

1853 A. S. ATKINSON *Jrnl.* 26 Oct. in *Richmond-Atkinson Papers* (1960) I. 135 James and I went to the site chosen for our new whare. **1853** J. M. RICHMOND *Let.* 11 Nov. in *Ibid.* 133 Their 'wharre', as it is called, is a most romantic tho' not v. commodious dwelling;..it is in fact a roof on the ground, thatched with nikau, a palm, the only one in N.Z. **1891** R. WALLACE *Rural Econ. Austral. & N.Z.* xv. 225 Pioneering,

or cutting a place out of the bush and building a log 'whare', is extremely rough and lonely work. 1904 'G. B. LANCASTER' *Sons o' Men* 4 He scudded across the tussock flat to the eating-whare; burst open the door, and cast the word loose on the boys. 1926 A. F. WEBB in D. M. Davin *N.Z. Short Stories* (1953) 205 We had dinner at twelve and made a plum duff because there was time to cook it while we were all about the whare. 1939 J. MULGAN *Man Alone* viii, 95 You'll be sleeping in the whare down there... There's no room in the house. 1963 B. PEARSON *Coal Flat* vii, 141 Eventually Miss Dane said: 'Time I got back to the whare.' 1972 M. SHADBOLT *Strangers & Journeys* i, 29 They found he had built a whare. A one-room shack of roughly-split timber.

3. Special combinations. **whare puni**, a (Maori) family sleeping-house (see also quot. 1911); **whare runanga** [RUNANGA], a Maori council chamber.

1911 W. H. KOEBEL in *Maoriland Bush* xx, 262 It is regrettable that the interpretations of the carvings upon the beams and panels of the old *whare-punis* or meeting-houses have been lost. 1926 H. GUTHRIE-SMITH *Tutira* (ed. 2) 86 A *whare-puni* or sleeping-house. 1950 *N.Z. Jnl. Agric.* May 502/2 The great michi, the barge boards of a *whare-puni* (a sleeping house). 1891 R. WALLACE *Rural Econ. Austral.* & *N.Z.* xiv, 218 A special house of assembly, the *whare runanga*. is set apart in which to receive and entertain strangers. 1910 J. COWAN *Maoris of N.Z.* xii, 163 Most Maori villages of any importance contain at least one *whare-whakairo*, a large house. used as the communal assembly hall, council-place (*whare-runanga*), and guest-house (*whare-manuhiri*). 1955 W. J. PHILLIPS *Maori Carving Illustr.* 40 The Assembly House or *whare runanga* is often well adorned with carvings.

whare, obs. shortened form of WHARROW.

1688 HOLME *Armoury* iii, 272/1 A Ropers Whare or Wharve, or Whele Spindle.

whare, obs. form of WHERE.

wharel, obs. f. QUARREL *sb.*², quarry.

c 1356 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 557 Wharel-wegges.

wharf (hwɔ:f), *sb.*¹ Pl. wharfs (hwɔ:fs), wharves (hwɔ:vz). Forms: 1 hwearf, wearf, hwerf, 1, 4 warf, 4 wherf(e, warffe, wharghffe, quarf, 5 qwerf, 5-7 warff, wharff(e, 5-8 wharfe, 6 quarfe, (wharthe), 7 hwarf, 7- wharf. [Late OE. *hwearf* (cf. earlier poetical comp. *merehwearf* sea-shore), corresp. to MLG. *warf*, *werf* mole, dam, wharf, raised site protected from flooding (LG. *warf*), whence EFr. *warf*, *werf*, Du. *werf* shipyard, G. *werf* wharf, pier, *werft* dockyard. Ultimately related to WHARF *sb.*², WHARVE *sb.* and *v.*

Mr. Pickering notices this form of the plural of *wharf*, as peculiar to Americans. The English say *wharfs*. In the Colony and Province Laws of Massachusetts, Mr. Pickering says he has observed the plural *wharfs* (or *wharves*) as late as the year 1735; but after that period the form *wharves* is used' (Bartlett *Dict. Amer.*, 1848.)

1. A substantial structure of timber, stone, etc., built along the water's edge, so that ships may lie alongside for loading and unloading.

Often with prefixed *sb.*, as *fish-wharf*, *gun-wharf*.

10. *Charter of Eadweard* in Kemble *Cod. Dipl.* IV, 221 Ic wille ðat sainte Petre and ða gebroðera in Westmestre habben ðat land and ðone wearf. . . ðe Ulf and his wif. . . gafon. 1067 in *Charter Roll* 9 *Edu.* III, m. 18 De uno hwearfo quod est ad applicationem navium ad caput pontis illius civitatis [sc. London]. 1080-5 in H. W. C. Davis *Regesta Regum Anglo-Norm.* (1913) 126 Unum warf quod est ad caput pontis Londonie. c 1320 *Domesday of St. Paul's* (Camden) 158* An qwarvæ sive kayæ, muri sive wallæ. debite reputantur. 1320 *Rolls of Parlt.* I, 370/2 In shopis suis super Warfam predictam. 1397 *Ibid.* III, 371/1 De la novell Keyc autrement appelle le Wherf [1432 *Act 10 Hen. VI*, c. 5 § 2 Qwerf] a le cost du dit Port de Caley. 1442 *Ibid.* V, 54/2 Diverse Wharves and Keyes beyng by the water sides. 1485 *Cal. Pat. Rolls* 6 [Keeping the] hawes and wharves of Walton and Waybrige. 1503-4 *Act 19 Hen. VII*, c. 37 § 5 Too Cotages or Meses with Howses & Wharves. . . in Stepeney. 1669 *STURMY Mariner's Mag., Pen. & Forf.* 8 If any Custom-house Officer. . . keep any Wharfe, or hold any Hostelry, or Tavern. a 1700 *EVELYN Diary* 17 Aug. 1654, A wharfe of hewn stone, which makes the river appeare very neate. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* I, 241 Its [sc. Blackfriars bridge] length, from wharf to wharf, is about nine hundred and ninety-five feet. 1834 *DICKENS Sk. Boz, Steam Excurs.*, The bell at London-bridge Wharf rang; and a Margate boat was just starting. 1878 *NARES Polar Sea* I, i. 1 H.M. ships 'Alert' and 'Discovery' cast off from the dockyard wharf, Portsmouth. 1882 J. RHYS *Celtic Brit.* ii, 46 The wharfs for the tin-barges were erected.

† 2. a. An embankment, mole, or dam. *Obs.*

1038 *Charter of Harold* in Thorpe *Charters* 341 þa grynðe he þæt he moste macian foran gen Mildrype æker ænne hwerf wið þon wodað to werianne. 1567 *GOLDING Ovid's Met.* xv, 196 b, Untill that hee the bowwing wharf besyde the hauen tooke [orig. *Tendit ad incurvo munitos aggere portus*]. 1600 *HOLLAND Livy* xl, li, 1091 Lepidus. . . raised the great causey or wharfe at Tarracina. 1601 — *Pliny* vi, xxviii, I, 140 The Apamians. . . set open the sluces, and breake up the wharves and bankes that keepe these two rivers asunder.

† b. A terrace or raised platform. *Obs.*

1533 in W. H. St. John Hope *Windsor Castle* (1913) I, 249 The making off a new wharff upon the north syde of the said Castell. 1535 *Ibid.* 262 The buttresses made on the bakesyde of the new Wharffe.

c. † The bank of a river (*obs.*); also, a gravel or sandbank.

1602 *SHAKS. Ham.* I, v, 33 The fat weede That rots it selfe in ease, on Lethe Wharfe. 1606 — *Ant. & Cl.* II, ii, 218 From the Barge A strange inuisible perfume, hits the sense Of the adiacent Wharves. 1867 *SMYTH Sailor's Word-bk.*,

Wharf, in hydrography, is a scar, a rocky or gravelly concretion, or frequently a sandbank, . . . where the tides throw up dangerous ripples and overfalls.

† d. A large raft. *Obs. rare.*

1662 J. BARGRAVE *Pope Alex. VII* (1867) 119 They were brought upon warffs or rafts of many pines and firs.

e. A place raised or otherwise marked out on which stuff is deposited for subsequent removal to another place.

1725 in *Dig. Proc. Crt.-leet Savoy* (1789) 22 For making a dung wharfe or lay stall at the lower end of Fountain Court.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *wharf-end*, *frontage*, *-head*, *-holder*, *-house*, *-labourer*, *-land*, *-man*, *-master*, *-measure*, *-property*, *-shed*, *-side*, *-stead*, *-wall*; *wharf-boat*, (a) U.S. a boat supporting a platform and moored at a bank, used as a wharf; (b) a boat employed about a wharf; *wharf crane*, a crane fixed in position on a wharf (see quot. 1968); a wharf-side crane; † *wharf-gelt*, ? an impost levied on shipping for the use of a wharf; *wharf-lumper Austral.* [LUMPER *sb.* 1 a], a wharf-labourer; *wharf-rat*, (a) the common brown rat, *Mus decumanus*, which infests wharfs; (b) a man or boy who loafs about wharfs, often with the intention of stealing (*slang*).

1849 *LYELL 2nd Visit U.S.* II, 227 In the *wharf-boat. . . I expected to find a bed for the first night. 1860 *BARTLETT Dict. Amer. s.v.*, On the Western rivers the height of the water is so variable that a fixed wharf would be useless. In its place is used a rectangular float. . . It is generally aground on the shore side, and is entered by a plank or movable platform. This is a *wharf-boat*. 1878 *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVII, 225 She was used as a 'wharf-boat' or store-ship. 1893 K. P. DAHLSTROM in *Weisbach & Herrmann's Mech. Hoisting Machinery* vi, 243 The ordinary *wharf crane with capacity to lift 100 to 200 cwt. 1903 J. HORNER *Elem. Treat. Hoisting Machinery* xvii, 195 There is a class of fixed jib cranes which have no other name than that which designates the nature of their service, fixed wharf cranes. . . But by the term wharf crane, a broad type only is understood. 1968 *Gloss. Terms Materials Handling (B.S.I.)* iv, 14 *Dockside or wharf crane*, a jib crane designed for loading and unloading ships, consisting of a full or semi-portal, fixed or rail mounted, supporting a revolving superstructure and jib. 1897 *KIPLING Capt. Cour.* iv, 95 Her rigging flew knotted and tangled like weed at a *wharf-end. *Ibid.* x, 216 Statistics of boats, gear, *wharf-frontage, capital invested, . . . and profits. 1505 *Cal. Pat. Rolls Hen. VII*, 404 [Without paying any] sandegelt, *wharf gelt. 1800 *Asiat. Ann. Reg.*, *Chron.* 35/1 All goods whatsoever, that are not disembarked at the *Wharf Head. 1883 *Law Rep.* 11 *Q.B. Div.* 486 Whether the persons for whom the weighing was done were *wharfholders or not. 1698 in *Hertford Sess. Rolls* (1905) I, 428 [Encroaching upon the river Lea] by building a *wharfe house. . . thereon. 1890 *Evening Post* (Wellington, N.Z.) 11 July 2 A *wharf-labourer who stands charged with the theft of an oil skin coat. . . The accused was at work discharging coal on the Mawhera. a 1948 L. G. D. ACLAND *Early Canterbury Runs* (1951) xi, 321 Trouble with wharf labourers. . . kept them six weeks in Auckland. 1895 *Daily Tel.* 5 Aug. 5/3 Converting a piece of *wharf land on the Isle of Dogs into a public pleasure-ground. 1906 E. DYSON *Fact'ry 'Ands* iii, 39 Three weeks. . . later, Sarah was married to a *wharf-lumper. . . and Fuzzy's dream of love was over. 1951 V. PALMER in *Landfall* V, 292 In Victoria. . . it was read by nearly everybody, from wharf lumps to politicians. 1848 *MILL Pol. Econ.* 1, ii, § 6 Bargemen, sailors, *wharfmen. a 1618 *RALEIGH in Rem.* (1661) 179 From any Port Town. . . the Bridge-master or the *Wharfmaster. . . will deliver a true Note of the number of Lasts of Herrings brought to their Wharves. 1836 J. M. PECK *New Guide for Emigrants to West* xii, 320 The following, from the register of a wharf master, will exhibit the commerce for 1835. 1968 M. M. SIBLEY *Port of Houston* iii, 59 Wharfmaster Daniel G. Wheeler reported that in that year [sc. 1844] 6,892 bales passed over the Houston wharves. 1821 *Acc. Peculat. Coal Trade* 13 All coals sent out, *wharf measure. 1877 *BURROUGHS Taxation* 140 The whole *wharf property. . . was liable to be taxed. 1823 J. F. COOPER *Pilot* II, i, 13 To burrow like a rabbit, or jump from hole to hole, like a *wharf-rat. 1836 *Franklin Repository* (Chambersburg, Pa.) 4 Oct. 1/3 I've an idea, my man, that you are one of the wharf rats; and, if so, the less lip you give me the better. 1860 *BARTLETT Dict. Amer.*, *Wharf-Rats*. 1. Rats that inhabit wharves. 2. Thieves that infest the wharves of seaport towns. 1863 *HAWTHORNE Our Old Home, Boston* I, 269 Lolling on long-boats, . . . as sailors and old wharf rats are accustomed to do. 1952 R. FINLAYSON *Schooner came to Atia* xi, 61 In the . . . market place by the *wharfshed. 1842 *DICKENS Amer. Notes* xi, A crowd of high-pressure steam-boats, clustered together by a *wharf-side. 1891 *MEREDITH One of our Conq.* xxv, A hanged heavy look, suggestive of a wharfside crane. 1828 *Craven Gloss.*, *Wharf-stead, a ford in a river. In Ray, it is *warstead*, q.d. waterstead. 1831-3 in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII, 604/1 A *wharf wall. . . at the East end of His Majesty's dock-yard, Woolwich.

† **wharf**, *sb.*² *Obs.* [OE. *hwearf* (poet., alliterating on *w*), corresp. to OS. *hwearf* crowd, MLG. *warf*, *werf* circle, assembly sitting in a circle, court of justice, OHG. *warb* (MHG. *warp*, *warf*): cf. prec.] A crowd, assembly.

In the first quot. from *Lazamon* perh. = change (OE. *hwearf*: cf. OFris. *hwearf*, *werf*, OHG. *warba*, MHG. *warbe* (with numerals) time(s), (M)LG. *werf*, *warf*, (-ve) turn, time; cf. WHARVE *v.*).

a 1000 *Guthlac* 234 Beorg ymbstodan hwearfum wræcmaecas. c 1205 *LAY.* 2070 þus is þis eitlond igon from honde to hond, þet alle þa burhis þe Brutus iwrohte. . . beoð swiðe afelled purh warf of þon folke. *Ibid.* 17485 þider com Aurilie. . . & al his folc mid him. Whiten-sunendæge he þer warf broughte [Wace *Altre gent assés assambla Feste tint*].

wharf (hwɔ:f), *v.* Also 7 warfe. [f. WHARF *sb.*¹]

† 1. *trans.* To strengthen or make firm (e.g. the bank of a river) with a wall of timber or stone. *Obs.*

1569 *Surrey & Kent Sewers Comm.* (1909) 6 To. . . cope and wharfe xxiiij^{te} rodde of the walle. 1615 *Crt.-roll of Gt. Waltham Manor, Essex* (MS.), Preceptum est. . . sufficienter cumulare (Anglicè, to wharfe) fossatum suum. 1618 in F. Devon *Issues Exch.* (1836) 335 For three bridges to go over the sewers, and for wharfing the sides with strong timber. 1674 *JOSELYN Two Voy. New-Eng.* 162 The houses are for the most part raised on the Sea-banks and wharfed out with great industry and cost. a 1700 *EVELYN Diary* 6 Mar. 1667, I proposed to my Lo. Chancellor Monsieur Kiviet's undertaking to warfe the whole river of Thames, or Key, from the Temple to the Tower. . . with brick. 1724 [see WHARFING 2]. 1793 R. MYLNE *Rep. Thames* 37 The Road ought to be raised and wharfed.

transf. 1628 *WITHER Brit. Rememb.* 1, 192 Is this that Iland, which our love. . . Did wharfe about (within her watry Dike) With mighty Rocks, and Cliffs?

2. To bring to shore or discharge at a wharf. 1629 *WADSWORTH Pilgr.* viii, 87 A Master of an English Barke. . . who had wharft ouer a hundred French. 1694 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3024/4 Goods will be Wharfed here at easier Rates than heretofore. 1798 in *Spirit Publ. Jnls.* (1799) II, 351 Every species of property (whether landed, funded, wharfed, warehoused, or shipped). 1803 W. TATHAM *Rep. Imped. Thames* 73 Nor would it be a very difficult matter to dock or wharf the whole of their commerce.

3. To accommodate (vessels) at a wharf.

1902 *Times* 1 Nov. 5/6 A large stone basin, capable of wharfing a dozen battleships of the first class.

4. *intr.* To come to wharf.

1891 *Voice* (N.Y.) 1 Jan., When the Mayflower wharfed at Plymouth Rock. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 4 June 3/4 The Royal Squadron wharfed. . . at half-past seven.

wharfage ('hwɔ:fidʒ). Also [3 wheruagium, 4 querfage, werphagium], 5, 8 wharfage, 6 warfage, 8 warf(f)age. [f. WHARF *sb.*¹ + -AGE.]

1. The provision of or accommodation at a wharf; the stowage of goods on, or loading or unloading at, a wharf.

[1295 *Memoranda K. R.* 23 & 24 *Edw. I* (P.R.O.), In cariagio dicte lane. . . vsque London. . . cum wharuagio et portagio eiusdem. 1376 *Rolls of Parlt.* II, 351/1 Ore sont ils constreintz de paier pur Messuage de chescune Sarp' ob. Et un autre ob. pur Querfage. 1395 *Compotus Will. Chert custodis collegii Cantuar.* *Oxon.* (1881) 28 Item pro werphagio eiusdem (meremii capelle) iijs. iiij. d. 1469-71 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I, 106 Paid. . . for C and vj. l. of Iren, iiij. s. v. d. for the wharfage, j. d., for bringyng of the seid stuffe to Derteford, vj. d. a 1552 *LELAND Itin.* (1768) II, 29 There is great Warfage of Timbre and fier Wood on the West Ende of the Bridge. c 1640 J. SMYTH *Lives Berkeleys* (1883) I, 341 Renting out the Toll or profit of the wharfage. 1687-8 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II, 545 Expences for sawing, carriage, and wharfage of Cedar. 1795 J. PHILLIPS *Hist. Inland Nav.* Addenda 109 For wharfage exceeding six months, to make a reasonable recompence. 1848 *MILL Pol. Econ.* III, v, § 3 The rents of wharfage, dock and harbour room. 1885 *Law Times* LXXIX, 189/2 Duties for defraying the expenses of pilotage, wharfage, lighthouses, and lights and buoys.

2. The charge or dues exacted for the use of a wharf.

1535 *Act 27 Hen. VIII*, c. 26 § 23 Lordes Marches. . . shall have within. . . their said Lordeshipp. . . wreke de mere, wharfage and customes of Strangers. 1598 *HAKLUYT Voy.* I, 135 All marchants. . . may come into our kingdome. . . without paying wharfage, pontage, or pannage. c 1683 *Citizens Loss in Somers Tracts* (1748) I, 180 Wharfage, with Power to distrain for the same. 1715 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5387/3 The Wharfage, Duties, and Profits arising. . . by and out of Billingsgate-Dock. 1795 J. PHILLIPS *Hist. Inland Nav.* Addenda 105 Wharfage for more than twenty-four hours, to be a reasonable allowance. 1894 *Times* 25 Aug. 5/4 The company is gradually issuing through rates, inclusive of Ship Canal toll and wharfage.

3. Wharfs collectively; wharf accommodation.

1807 *Ann. Reg.*, *Chron.* 406 The company assembled on the insular wharfage. 1836 *JESSE Angler's Rambles* 295 The little secluded harbour, with its small planked wharfage. 1848 *MILL Pol. Econ.* 1, i, § 4 The wharfage or harbour-room. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 26 Sept. 9/1 At the terminus of the railway the Dominion Government is erecting complete wharfages to make the harbour suitable for oil vessels.

4. *attrib.*

1714 *LADY G. BAILLIE Househ. Bk.* (S.H.S.) 30 For warfage porters carts to the Lodging etc., 1. 9. 1. . . For warfage bale and caring to the Lodging, o. 2. 6. 1862 G. T. LLOYD 33 *Yrs. Tasmania* xvi, 415 Wharfage accommodation. 1867 *SMYTH Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Wharfage dues*, the dues for landing or shipping goods at a wharf; customs charges in particular. . . Wharfage charges are demanded even from a ship of war!

Wharfe (hwɔ:f). Short for Wharfedale (machine): see quotes.

1888 *JACOBI Printers' Vocab.*, *Wharfedale machine*, a cylindrical machine manufactured in Yorkshire and called after the place of that name. *Wharfe*, short term for the Wharfedale printing machine. 1890 W. J. GORDON *Foundry* 210 The Wharfedales, Bremners, and other machines on which is printed most illustrated work. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 3 Dec. 9/7 Printer's Minder, 31, seeks Situation; Wharfes., platens, gas engine.

wharfie ('hwɔ:fi). *Austral.* and *N.Z. colloq.* [f. WHARF *sb.*¹ + -IE.] A wharf-labourer; a stevedore or docker.

1912 *Lone Hand* 1 May 40 The best testimonial to Hughes' ability is the fact that he has so often swayed the unruly 'wharfies', and controlled their organisation for so long. 1926 J. DEVANNY *Lenore Divine* vii, 47 Imagine Holly haranguing the wharfies from the soap-box. 1928 *Bulletin*

(Sydney) 21 Mar. 12/1 'Twas Bill the wharfie grinned and stuck his hook into his belt. 1938 W. E. DEXTER *Rope Yarns* 234 Ships arrived [at Melbourne] with general cargo—oddmoments from a needle to an anchor—and were looked upon as legitimate prey by the warfies and lumpers. 1949 D. M. DAVIN *Roads from Home* 226 They...watched the wharfies unloading. 1963 B. PEARSON *Coal Flat* xx. 355 Sid Holland would put those bloody wharfies and miners in their place. 1978 B. MASON in *Islands* (N.Z.) Aug. 18 But one of his wharfie mates had given him a ticket for his birthday. 1981 *National Times* (Austral.) 25-31 Jan. 24/2 A lazy wharfie would be known as 'the Judge' because he was always sitting on a case, and another 'the London Fog' because he would never lift.

wharfing ('hwɔ:fn̩). [f. WHARF *sb.*¹ + -ING¹.]

†1. = WHARFAGE 1, 2. *Obs. rare.*

1466-7 Mann. & House. Exp. (Roxb.) 392 Item, fore warffenge at the keye, ob.

2. A structure in the form of a wharf; materials of which a wharf is constructed; the facing of sea-walls, etc. by planks secured by ties.

1691 T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* p. lxxviii, To go into the Thames...will cost a Man 300l. with the slighter sort of Wharfing. a1700 EVELYN *Sylva* 1. ii. (1776) 49 A...strong stone-wall, which was a kind of wharfing against a river running by it. 1724 DE FOE *Tour Gt. Brit.* 1. iii. 87 The Mill Tayl, or Floor for the Water below the Wheels is Wharft up on either Side with Stone...at the End of this Wharfing is a Grating of Wood. 1791 R. MYLNE *2nd Rep. Thames* 7 An old Wharfing, bent over into the Stream, which formerly supported a Parish Road along the Shore. 1809 *Naval Chron.* XXIII. 81 The destruction of the wharfing of the basin. 1897 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* Dec. 612 Wharfing along the sides with short posts and rough boards.

wharfinger ('hwɔ:findʒə(r)). Also 8 wharfenger. [app. for earlier **wharfager* (f. WHARFAGE + -ER¹), like *harbinger*, *passenger*, *messenger* for earlier *harbege*, *passager*, *messenger*.] An owner or keeper of a wharf.

1552-3 *Act 7 Edw. VI.* c. 7 §3 No person...shall buy any suche Wood Coles or Fuell but onelye suche as will...consume the same...without fraude or covine, or Wharfingers or Bargemen. 1642 *Two Orders of Lds. & Comm.* 3 Dec. 2 No Carrier, Waggoner, Watchman, Wharfinger. 1704 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4024/4 Francis Haslewood, of London, Cornfactor, and Wharfenger. 1761 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 119 Whether the wharfingers are accountable for the thefts committed on board their lighters. 1858 REDFIELD *Law Railways* xvi. §7. 250 note, A delivery to the wharfinger without notice, if warranted by the usage of the place, was sufficient. 1911 SIR H. CRAIK *Life Clarendon* 1. ii. 42 Their goods were thus delayed at the caprice of the wharfinger.

wharfless ('hwɔ:flis), *a.* [f. WHARF *sb.*¹ + -LESS.] Having no wharf.

1822 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Rev.* XCVII. 35 Wharfless shores. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 10 Mar. 1/7 Exercises in embarkation and disembarkation on a wharfless beach.

wharl (hwaɪl), *v.* Also 5 warl-. [Imitative.] *intr.* To pronounce the letter *r* with a burr or guttural sound; = BURR *v.*³ 1. Hence *wharl sb.* = BURR *sb.*⁶, 'wharler', 'wharling *vbl. sb.*

c1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 37/2 Blaffoorde or warlare, traulus. (P. Traulus peccat in R, peccat in S sidumus.) *Ibid.* 523/2 Wha[r]lare, in speche. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* 1. 517 As for Carleton, as one would say, the husband-mens towne, ..wherein...all in manner that are borne, ..have an illfavoured, untunable, and harsh maner of speech, fetching their words with very much adoe deepe from out of the throat, with a certaine kind of wharling. 1634 W. WOOD *New Eng. Prosp.* 11. xviii. 92 The Tarrenteens, whose Tongues runne so much upon R, that they wharle much in pronunciation. 1656 DUCH. NEWC. *Natures Pict.* etc. 376 Not stuttering, nor wharling in the throat, or speaking through the Nose. 1661 CHILDREY *Brit. Bacomica* 109, I have heard from some that were this Country [Leicestershire] men, that it is Breson that is the Town of the Wharlers, and not Carleton. 1769 *De Foe's Tour Gt. Brit.* (ed. 7) III. 251 The Northumberland R, or Wharle. 1825 JAMIESON.

wharl(e): see QUARREL *sb.*¹, ², WHORL.

Wharncliffe ('hwɔ:nklɪf). The name of James Archibald Stuart-Wortley-Mackenzie, 1st Baron *Wharncliffe* (1776-1845), used *attrib.* and in the possessive to designate a standing order in Parliament which requires the directors of a company wishing to promote any private Bill for the extension of the company's powers to secure the consent of its members or shareholders, or a meeting at which this consent is sought.

1846 *Hansard Lords* 23 Apr. 874 Their Lordships had already required further securities, in particular cases, by the Order called Lord Wharncliffe's Order, which required in the case of established companies, if they...demanded powers beyond their original powers—that...a meeting consisting of three-fifths of the company should have sanctioned the proposed alteration. 1851 ERSKINE MAY *Law of Parl.* (ed. 2) xxvii. 560 It is directed by an order commonly known as 'Lord Wharncliffe's order'. 1887 F. CLIFFORD *11st. Private Bill Legislation* 11. xx. 784 In order to prevent directors of companies from promoting Bills without the knowledge or sanction of shareholders, the House of Lords framed, in 1846, a series of Orders, under which 'Wharncliffe meetings', as they were afterwards termed, must be held, to consider each Bill so promoted. 1923 *Daily Mail* 24 Feb. 3/2 Your approval will be asked at a Wharncliffe Meeting which will be held in the near future. 1948 O. C. WILLIAMS *Hist. Devel. Private Bill Procedure* 1. vi. 166 The Wharncliffe Order, then, was not first framed in 1846, as Clifford says, but in 1838; it was not one of a series of orders, but developed into a series by processes of division

and addition; its object was *not* simply to prevent directors of companies from promoting bills without the knowledge and sanction of shareholders but to prevent the promotion of bills to obtain further powers (especially to construct branch lines—always a speculative project) without such sanction.

wharp, *erron.* form of WARP *sb.* (sense 6).

wharre, **wharry**, **wharrel**, *var.* WHARE, QUARREL *sb.*², quarry.

wharrow ('hwærəʊ). Also 6 whar(r)owe, wherrow(e, 9 worra. [By-form of WHARVE *sb.*] = WHARVE *sb.* *Obs. exc. dial.* (= grooved pulley in spinning-wheel). Also *attrib.* *wharrow-spindle* (a heraldic bearing).

[c1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 794/18 *Hoc vertebrium*, a aworowylle.] 1519 HORMAN *Vulg.* 149 b, I wotte nat where is my spyndel with the wharowe. a1529 SKELTON *E. Rummyng* 298 Theyr wharrowe, Theyr rybskyn and theyr spyndell. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* vi. xxix. 695 The fruite whiche is large, and almost fashioned lyke to a wherrowe or buckler. 1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* iv. vii. 204 The round Ball at the lower end seruth to the fast twisting of the threed, and is called a Wharrow: and thereof this is called a Wharrow Spindle. 1716 S. KENT *Gram. Her. s.v. Trefuses of Cornwall*, A Chevron between three Wharrow Spindles Sable. 1825 JENNINGS *Obs. Dial. W. Eng.* 84 The spill and worra are attached to the common spinning-wheel. c1828 BERRY *Encycl. Her.* 1. Gloss., *Wharrow-Spindle* is represented in heraldry with a hook at the end, to spin with a distaff.

wharry, *dial. f.* QUARRY *sb.*²

whart(e), **wharter**, **whartfull**: see QUART, THWART, WART, QUARTER, QUARTFUL *a.*

wharth, *obs. var.* WARTH.

c1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 5717 How anes at eland at full sce, On þe wharth sodanly, A way wex dry. *Ibid.* 5797-9.

Whartonian (hwɔ:təʊniən), *a. Anat.* Applied to certain structures discovered or described by Thomas Wharton, English anatomist (1610-73), as *Whartonian* (also *Wharton's*) *duct*, *gelatine* (*jelly*): see *quots.*

1840 W. J. E. WILSON *Anat. Vade M.* 474 The excretory duct (Wharton's) of the submaxillary gland commences upon the papilla, by the side of the frænum linguæ. 1857 BULLOCK tr. *Cazeaux' Midwifery* 209 These vessels are surrounded by a gelatinous substance called Wharton's gelatine. 1860 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, Whartonian Duct. 1874 C. H. JONES & SIEV. *Path. Anat.* (ed. 2) 137 The Whartonian jelly of the umbilical cord.

wharve (hwɔ:v), *sb.* Forms: 1 hweorfa, 5-7 wherve, (5, 7, 9 warve, 9 warf), 9 wharve. [OE. *hweorfa* = OHG. *werbo*, *werfo* wk. masc., *werbâ* wk. fem. rotating object, whirl, vortex: —**χwerbon*, f. *χwerb-*, as in OE. *hweorfan*, Goth. *hwairban* (see next).] The whorl of a spindle.

c1000 Sax. *Leechd.* 11. 310 Wið ceoc adle, nim pone hweorfan þe wif mid spinnad. 14... *Lat.-Eng. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 618/46 *Vertebrium*, a wherve, or a reele. 14... *Metr. Voc.* *ibid.* 627 Colus cum fuso uertebrium [glossed warve, misprinted warbe] filum, alabrumque. 1538 ELYOT, *Spondilus*, a wherue, whyche is a rounde thyng of stone, or wodde, or leaddle, put on a spyndell to make it runne rounde. 1582 STANYHURST *Eneis*, etc. 95 Three wheru's [orig. *radios*] fyerd glystring, with Soutwynds ruffled huffling. 1590 BARROUGH *Meth. Phisick* v. xxiv. (1596) 339 He did lay and bind vnto Ganglium, a thick round peece of lead like vnto a wherue. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* xi. xxiv. I. 323 So fine...a thread she [sc. the spider] spinnes, hanging thereunto her selfe, and using the weight of her owne bodie in stead of a wherve. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* iii. xxi. (Roxb.) 266/2 The Warve or small Pullas, a1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* iii. xxviii. 237 Wouldst thou...blunt the Spindles, joyn't the Wherves, slander the Spinning Quills, ...of the weer'd Sister Parques? 1805 in *Abridgm. Specif. Patents Spinning* (1866) 125 The making the haft or warf at times to shift or remove from off the spindle. 1831 *Ibid.* 236 The warve is driven by a band passing round it and round the spindle drum. 1884 W. S. B. McLAREN *Spinning* (ed. 2) 171 The wharve, B, together with sliding tube, C, runs loosely on the spindle and carries the bobbin.

†**wharve**, *v.* *Obs.* Forms: 1 hwearfian, hweorfan, hwierfan, hwerfan, hwyrfan, 2 hwærfan, 3 whærfe, whærue, weruen, hwarefen, warfen, (*Orm.*) wharrfenn. [Three (for the most part) synonymous vbs. existed in OE.: (1) *hweorfan* = OFris. *hwerva* to turn, OS. *hwerban* to turn, change (MLG. *werven* to be active or busy, gain, obtain), OHG. *hwerban*, *hwerfan* (MHG. *werben*, *werfen*) to be active, turn, return, set or be in motion, ON. *hverfa* to turn, return, disappear, Goth. *hwairban* to go; (2) *hwearfian* = OS. *hwarbôn*, OHG. *warbôn*, *warpôn* to wander, proceed, ON. *hvarfa* to turn round, wander, Goth. *hwarbôn*; (3) *hwierfan*, *hwirfan*, etc. = OS. *gihverbian* to turn, change, OHG. *hwarban*, *hwerban* (MHG. *werben*) to turn, roll, return, *giwerben* to turn, divert, ON. *hverfa* to cause to turn: all f. *χwerb-*: *χwarb-* to turn (cf. *prec.* and WHARF *sbs.*¹ and ²).]

1. *trans.* To change, turn. Cf. BLINDWHARVED. c897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past.* C. xxxvi. 256 He hwierfde his stenne nalles his mod. c1200 ORMIN 13289 & forrpi

wass he wurp þatt Crist Hiss name himm sholldhe wharrfenn. *Ibid.* 14137 Forr þatt he wollded...þurh þe zife off Hali3 Gast Uss wharrfenn all fra sinne. c1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 173 Gief hie wuniunge hwarefēð, hie turnēð fram iuele to werse. c1205 LAY. 6319 Alfred...whærfde hire nome on his dæge and cleopede heo Mærcene laze. *Ibid.* 30738 Wið him warfte Brien al his iweden. [13... *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 2220 He rusched on þat rurde,... & wyth quetting a-wharf, er he wolde lyzt.]

2. *intr.* To turn, revolve.

c888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxix. §3 þære eaxe þe eall þes rodor on hwerfð. c1200 ORMIN 3641 All piss middellærdesc ping A33 turnneþ her & wharrfeþ...swa summ þe wheol.

3. To roam, wander.

c890 WÆRFERTH tr. *Gregory's Dial.* iv. lix. (1900) 347 Swa oft swa he wæs hwearfiende mid þam ilcan scipe. c1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 87 He wandrede wide weruende longe sechende him. c1205 LAY. 31680 Eiðer freten oðer, swa hund deð his broðer, and leten heore whelpes whærueen heom bi-sides elc oðer quelle.

4. To proceed, turn out, happen.

c888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* iv. 5if seo wyrd swa hweorfan mot on yfelra manna gewill. c1200 ORMIN 8420 Swa shall itt tanne wharrfenn Bitwennenn Cristess hall3 þeod & deofless lape genge.

Hence †**wharfed** (*wherrfedd*, *warrfedd*) *ppl. a.*, perverse; whence †**wharfedlaik**, perversity, error.

c1200 ORMIN 9721 Forrpi þatt wherrfedd folc hemm hallt Forr gode & forr rihtwise. *Ibid.* 9825 & tatt wass mikell wherrfeddle33c þatt dide hemm swa to wenenn.

wharve(s): see WHARF *sb.*¹

whas, *obs. f.* *was*, *pa. t.* of BE, WASH *v.*

whas(e): see WHOSE, WHOSO.

whasche, etc.: see WASH *v.*

whasp(e), *obs. ff.* WASP *sb.*¹

whassa ('hwɔ:sə). Also *wassa*. Repr. colloq. or careless pronunc. of 'what is the (matter, etc.)'. Cf. WHAT'SA MATTER.

1906 E. NESBIT *Railway Children* ii. 28 Roberta woke Phyllis... 'Wassermarrer?' asked Phyllis. 1942 BERREY & VAN DEN BARK *Amer. Thes. Slang* §256/14 *What's the matter?*...wha'sa mat?, wha'sa matter?...wazzo maro? 1951 C. M. KORNBLUTH *Marching Morons in Best of C. M. Kornbluth* (1977) 156 'Wassamatter?' snorted her husband. 1967 'W. WRIGHT' *Shadows don't Bleed* v. 84 Whassa matter? You don't believe me? 1973 J. DRUMMOND *Bang! Bang! You're Dead!* xxv. 86 'Wassermatter?' 'I want to join, is all.' 1978 M. KENYON *Deep Pocket* ix. 102 'Whassa time?' A quarter to three.

what (hwɔt), *pron., a.*¹, *adv., conj., int.* (*sb.*) Forms: 1 hwæt, huæt, huæd, 1-4 hwet, 2-4 hwat, wet, 2-5 wat, 3 (*Orm.*) watt, hwæt, wæt, (waht, wæht, whæht, weht, 3wat), 3-4 whet, (4 huet, wad), 3 (*Orm.*), 5 whatt, 3-6 whate, (5 whad, wath), 5-6 whatte, (*9 dial.* or *vulgar wot*), 3-what; 3-5 *north.* quat, (3 quuat, 4-5 quatt, qwat, 5 qhat), 4-8 *Sc.* quhat. [OE. *hwæt* = OFris. *hwet*, *wet*, *haet*, *hat*, etc. (Fris. *wæt*, *wat*, *wut*, *haet*, etc.), OS. *huat*, (M)LG., (M)Du. *wat*, OHG. *hwaz*, *waz* (MHG. *waz*, *G. was*), ON. *hvat* (Sw. *vad*, Da. *hvad*), Goth. *hwa*:—OTeut. **χwat*:—Indo-eur. **qʷod* (cf. L. *quod*), neut. sing. of the interrog. pron. **qʷos* WHO, q.v.]

Of the various possible arrangements of the uses of this word the following has been adopted as likely to be most convenient to the reader. The main classification is according to meaning: Branch A. comprises the uses of *what* as an Interrogative, B. as an Exclamatory word, C. as a Relative, D. as an Indefinite (non-relative), and E. as a Substantive. Within these divisions meanings and uses are arranged according to the part of speech; the following is a key to this arrangement:—Pronominal and substantival uses, A. 1-12, B. 6, C. 1-7, D. 1, E. 1-3; Adjectival, A. 13-18, B. 5, C. 8-10; Adverbial or Conjunctional, A. 19-21, B. 4, C. 11-12, D. 2; Interjectional, B. 1-3.

A. Interrogative and allied uses.

1. *pron.* * In direct questions.

1. As the ordinary interrogative pronoun of neuter gender, orig. sing., in later use also pl., used of a thing or things: corresponding to the demonstrative *that* (THAT *dem. pron.* B. 1 a).

c888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xvi. §1 Hwæt mæg ic þy mare secgan be þæm weorðscipe. i. þisse worulde? 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 15 Hwæt wilt þu þæt ic þe do? a1000 *Sal. & Sat.* xix. (1848) 184 Hwæt hatte Noes wif? a1175 *Coll. Hom.* 233 Unwraste man, wat lacede 3eu an alle mire rice? c1200 ORMIN 10970 Whatt wass þatt te Faderr self þær off hiss Sune se33de? c1205 LAY. 3004 Waet seist tu? *Ibid.* 29623-4 Whæt penchest þu, Austin, what penchest þu, leof min? 12... *Moral Ode* 46 (Egerton MS.) Wet sulle hi segge oper don at þe muclehe dome? 1340 *Ayeb.* 265 Slep3e zayp, 'God, wet ssolle we do?' a1400 *Pistill of Susan* 287 What signefyes, gode sone, pese sawus þat þou seist? c1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 50 þe furste question was þis, What was þe grettest mervayle & fayrest ping þat evur God made in leste rowme? 1470-85 *Malory Arthur* vi. xiv. 205 What is your broders name? c1485 *Digby Myst.* iii. 1249 Qwat sey 3e? 1560 *Bible* (Geneva) Ezra v. 4 What are the names of the men...? — Zech. xiii. 6 What are these woundes in thine hands? 1582

ALLEN *Martyrdom Campion* (1908) 65 One demanded, 'What do you mean by Catholic Religion?' 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* x. 949 What will they say of their deserting Chief? 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* viii. xii, 'Nubbing Cheat', cries Partridge, 'pray, Sir, what is that?' *Ibid.* xv. xii, 'What is the Name of the Street?' cries Jones. 1782 MISS BURNLEY *Cecilia* vii. ii, Odd people? and in what are we so very odd? 1853 MISS YONGE *Heir of Redclyffe* xxv, What has come to you? 1863 THACKERAY *Round. Papers, Autour de mon Chapeau*, What are the technical words...? 1884 W. S. GILBERT *Princ. Ida* ii, *Flo*. But what are these? *Hil.*... Why, Academic robes, Worn by the lady undergraduates, When they matriculate. 1905 R. BAGOT *Passport* xx, I do not find the female society of Montefiano very—what shall I say?—sharpening to the intellect.

2. Of a person (or persons), in predicative use (cf. *THAT dem. pron.* B. 1 b): formerly generally, in reference to name or identity, and thus equivalent to *who*; in later use only in reference to nature, character, function, or the like. Also in phr. † *what for a*... = what kind of: see *FOR prep.* 19 c.

For the OE. construction with a partitive gen. see 13. c 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) xxiii[i]. 10 Hwæt is se gewuldroda kyning? [L. *Quis est iste rex glorie?*] 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* xxvii. 32 þa cwæð Isaac: Hwæt eart þu? He andwilde and cwæð: Ic eom Esau. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 167 Hwat is þis þe astiðhð also dai rieme? c 1205 LAY. 25869 Hwat ært þu, fære wiht [MS. whiit]? eart þu angel, eart [þu] cniht[t]? *Ibid.* 27372 What beoð þeos ut-læzen? a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3685 'And quod art pou?' þe fader said, 'Sir, i esau, þi met es graithid.' *Ibid.* 13592 'Quat haldes þou pat man?' said þai, 'A prophet,' said he. 1362 LINGL. P. Pl. A. II. 15 'What is þis wommon', quod I, 'þus wonderliche A-tyret?' c 1400 *Sowdone Bab.* 1623 What be ye, That make here this ruly moone? c 1430, c 1440, 1470-85 [see HIGHT v. 1 B. 58b, d]. c 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* iv. 120 What ben ye, lordes, that are soo countrefayt, are ye paynemes, or of what countrey ben ye? 1526 TINDALE *Rev.* vii. 13 What are these which are arayed in longe whyte garments? a 1596 *Sir T. More* i. i. 47 What art thou that talkest of reuendge? 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* iv. ii. 62 *Tra.* What is he Biondello? *Bion.* Master, a Marcantant, or a pedant, I know not what. 1604 — *Oth. i. i. 94 Bra.*... What are you? *Rod.* My name is Rodorigo. 1691 in J. Russell *Haigs* (1881) 325 For it is not now as it was of old, *What is he?*... but, *What has he?* 1753 FOOTE *Englishm. in Paris* i. 1, *Buck.*... And what are you, hey? *Barb.* Je suis Peruquier, Monsieur. 1781 COWPER *Hope* 497 What were they? what some fools are made by art, They were by nature, atheists. 1860 DICKENS *Uncomm. Trav.* v, 'You noticed that young man, sir, in at Darby's?' 'Yes. What is he?' 'Deserter, sir.' 1871 TENNYSON *Last Tourn.* 75 About his feet A voice clung sobbing till he question'd it, 'What art thou?'

3. a. In rhetorical questions, implying an emphatic contrary assertion.

what am I but...? is equivalent to 'I am nothing but...', *what did he (do) but*...? to 'He actually did...', *what can he not do*? to 'He can do anything'.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* i. 346 Hwæt sind þas buton ðrymsetl heora Scyppendes, on ðam ðe he wunigende mannun demb? c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 17 Hwet balt þe wredðe? 1340 *Ayenb.* 137 Huet am ich bote essse and spearken? c 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* iii. 546 What did this Eolus but he Toke out his blake trumpe of bras. c 1440 LYDG. *Hors. Shepe & G.* 420 What but thi wolle was cause of al the striff? c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xl. 159 What dude he but purveyde him of so muche mony? 1535 COVERDALE 2 *Esdras* xvi. 5 Plages are sent vnto you, & what is he that wyl dryue them awaye? 1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 414 What could he see but mightily he noted? What did be note, but strongly he desired? 1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* 48 What did me he, but... chopt aloft. 1611 *Bible* Judges xiv. 18 What is sweeter then honie? and what is stronger then a Lion? 1681 DRYDEN *Abs. & Achit.* i. 303 What cannot Praise effect in Mighty Minds? 1780 *Mirror* No. 96 ¶6 Give a young woman admiration, and what more can she wish for? 1798 WORDSW. *We are Seven* 4 A simple Child, That lightly draws its breath, What should it know of death? 1866 GEO. ELIOT *Ess.* (1884) 329 What else is the meaning of our Trades-Unions?

b. In predicative quasi-adj. use: Of what account, consequence, value, or force?

c 825 *Vesp. Ps.* cxliiii[i]. 3 *Quid est homo quia innotuisti ei?* hwet is monn ðæt ðu cubades him? 1388 WYCLIF 2 *Sam.* vii. 18 Who am I, my Lord God, and what is myn hows, that thou broughtist me hidur to? 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 77 What is a workman, without his tooles? 1734 POPE *Ess. Man* iv. 237 What's Fame? a fancy'd life in others' breath. 1781 COWPER *Truth* 107 Your sentence and mine differ. What's a name? 1841 BROWNING *Pippa passes* iii. ad fin. (Song), What's death? You'll love me yet! 1851 *Househ. Words* 6 Sept. 553/1 What are my strength and weight compared with that one pillar? 1885 'MRS. ALEXANDER' *At Bay* ix, I am an Englishman of unblemished character. What would your assertion be against mine?

4. a. With ellipsis, esp. of the remainder of the question; hence (*colloq.*) short for 'What did you say?' or 'What is it?'

13... *Seuyn Sag.* (W.) 2193 'On the falle... swich a maner vileynie, As hadde the burgeis for his pie.' 'O, maister, he saide, what? what? I the praie, tel me that.' c 1460 Towneley *Myst.* iv. 183 *Isaac.* A, good sir, abide; fflader! *Abraham.* What son? *Isaac.* to do youre will I am redy. 1534 MORE *Conf. agst. Trib.* iii. Wks. 1224/1 Why wife quod her housebande what woulde you doe? What? by God goe forwarde with the beste. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* ii. 165 What when we fled amain, ... and besought The Deep to shelter us? 1834 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Steam Excurs.*, 'Oh! oh!—I'm so frightened!' 'What at, dear?—what at?' said the mother. 1837 — *Pickw.* xix, 'What's your name?' 'Cold punch,' murmured Mr. Pickwick, as he sunk to sleep again. 'What?' demanded Captain Boldwig. No reply. 1898 M. M. DOWIE *Crook of Bough* i, 'That's a queer start o' young Sam's', said one voice. 'Wot is?' said another.

b. Substituted for a word or phrase of which explanation is asked.

1676 SHADWELL *Virtuoso* i. 11 *Sir Sam.* Gad I'll do't instantly, in the twinkling of a Bed-staff... *Bruce.* In the twinkling of what? a 1814 *Manœuvring* i. i. in *New Brit.*

Theatre II. 78 Sure enough, my lady's the greatest policizer under the sun. *Kit.* Polly what? 1825 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Passion & Princ.* xi. III. 218 'Here, Sir, take away the Tiffin'. 'The what, Sir Frederick?' said the principal waiter. 'The Tiffin, Sir', repeated his Excellency, in a voice of thunder. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xlii, 'Your chummage ticket will be on twenty-seven, in the third.' 'Oh', said Mr. Pickwick. 'My what, did you say?' 1880 MRS. PARR *Adam & Eve* II. 47 'Bacause—' 'Because what?'... 'Because you've —' but before the sentence could be finished, Eve had flown upstairs.

c. As an interrogative expletive (sometimes with *eh*) usually at the end of a sentence, esp. in recent trivial or affected colloq. use.

1785 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 19 Dec., He [sc. George III] said, 'What? what?'—meaning, what say you?... 'it is not possible. Do you think it is?—what?' 1850 *Househ. Words* 16 Nov. 177/2 What is all that about the—eh—what—law of ex—what?—pansion—eh? c 1891 'J. S. WINTER' *Lumley* xv, But then, she's so beastly *chic*, dontcherknow—eh, what! 1906 MANSFIELD *Girl & Gods* xvi, Good-bye, Miss Thornton, awfully jolly evening—what? 1914 A. N. LYONS *Simple Simon* i. i. 16 Can't say I've read it. It's a bit too literary for me. What? But they say it's jolly clever. You had it at school, I dare say. What?

5. Phrases. a. In elliptical phr. with adv., conj., or prep., the precise sense of which varies with and may usually be inferred from the context or circumstances: cf. defs. below.

what else? what else should be the case?; used as an emphatic affirmative reply: = certainly! † *what for-ty?* what of that? (see *FOR-THY conj.* b); also parenthetically as advb. phr. = in spite of that, nevertheless. *what if* († *what and, what an* (d if arch.))...? what is or would be the case if...? what will or would happen if...? what does it matter if...? etc.; often expressing a hypothesis or proposal: = 'suppose...', 'supposing...'. *what of*...? what is to be said of...? what do you think of...? what comes of or follows from...? etc. *what then?* what happens or would happen in that case? what of that? (see *THEN adv.* 4); so *what next?* *what though*...? (somewhat arch.) what happens or would happen in view of the fact that, or on the supposition that...? (nearly = *what if*...), but implying some opposition between the circumstance mentioned and the possible one implied: cf. *THOUGH* 4); †also absol. *what though?* what if it is (or were) so? what does it matter? what then? See also WHAT-NOT.

c 1200 ORMIN 8105 Acc whatt forþi nass patt noht don. c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 18/591 'Swat nou?' quath þis bolde maister: 'þwy ne habbe 3e him i-brou3t?' c 1420 *Wyclif's Bible, Pref. Ep.* St. Jerome ii. 63 What if thilk beest 3e hadden herd tellinge his owne wordis! c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 74 Saynt Basil said; 'what & I dye nou to tomorn?' 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* xvi. (1555) K j, What thoughe quod he, draw you not abacke. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* iv. ProL. 200 Quhat of bewte, qubar honestie lysis deid? 1564 [see *THEN adv.* 4]. 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* iv. iv. 9 What and if His sorowes hae so ouerwhelm'd his wits? 1590 — *Mids. N.* i. i. 228, I am thought as faire as she. But what of that? Demetrius thinks not so. 1591 LVLV *Midus* iv. iii, *Pet. Wel.* tis hard to haue ones browes imbroidered with bugle. *Licio.* But canst thou blowe it? *Hunts.* What els? *Min.* But not away. 1600 SHAKS. *A.Y.L.* iii. iii. 51 Heere we haue no Temple but the wood... But what though? Courage. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* II. 174 What if all Her stores were op'n'd, and this Firmament Of Hell should spout her Cataracts of Fire. 1742 POPE *Dunc.* iv. 255 What tho' we let some better sort of fool Thrid ev'ry science, run thro' ev'ry school? 1766 GOLDSM. *Vicar W.* xx, My ship sails to-morrow;... what if you go in her as a passenger? 1819 KEATS *Otho* i. i, To me! What of me, ba? 1827 HERBER *Hymn*, 'From Greenland's Icy Mountains' ii, What though the spicy breezes Blow soft o'er Ceylon's isle... In vain with lavish kindness The gifts of God are strown. 1847 C. BRONTE *Jane Eyre* xix, But if... they dropped off and left me one by one, what then? 1876 BROWNING *Fears & Scruples* x, What, and if your friend at home play tricks? 1889 'J. S. WINTER' *Mrs. Bob* ii, 'Did anybody tell you about the Manor Lodge?' 'No, not a word; what about it?' 1914 'IAN HAY' *Knt. on Wheels* xiii. §5 Game and rubber...! Now, what about bed?

b. In various other phr. (See also 8, 10, 11.) † *what is thee?* [THEE pron. 1 b], what is the matter with thee? † *what lack you?* or *what do you lack?* [LACK v. 1 3], a salesman's cry; hence as an appellation for an itinerant vendor or pedlar. *what say you* (mod. *what do you say*) to...? *what think you* (mod. *what do you think*) of...? are you inclined for...? how would you like...? *what say?* (*slang*, orig. U.S.), what did (or do) you say? shall we? (cf. *SAY v.* 2 m). *what's my thought?* a guessing game (the same as *yes and no*; see *YES* 1 b). *what's with*...? (*colloq.*, orig. and chiefly U.S.), what's the matter with...? what has happened to? (see also quot. 1962). See also WHAT-D'YE-CALL, WHAT'S-HIS-NAME.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2720 þo sede on to an oþer, merlin, wat is þe? þou faderlese sſrewe, yu misdostou me? c 1300 *Havelok* 1951 Bernard, hwat is þe? Hwo haues þe þus ille maked?

1589 GREENE *Menaphon* Wks. (Grosart) VI. 14 A secular wit that hath liued all daies of his life by what doo you lacke. 1597 BRETON *Wil's Trenchmour* Wks. (Grosart) II. 16/2 The sonne of What lacke you, was become the onely right worshipfull. 1614 J. COOKE *Greene's Tu Quoque* B1, What lacke you sir? faire stuffes or veluets? 1663 KILLIGREW *Parson's Wedd.* i. i, His Father was a... Pedler, a what do you lack, Sir.

1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* iv. iii. 17 What say you to a Neats foote? 1649 DK. NEWCASTLE *Country Capt.* II. i. 23 Betweene us too, what thinke you of a wench? 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* x. iv, 'What think you of some Eggs and Bacon, Madam?', said the Landlady. 1793 COWPER *Beau's Reply* 27 What think you, Sir, of killing Time With verse address'd to me?

1825 J. NEAL *Bro. Jonathan* I. 357 'Was he hurt, uncle Harwood?' 'What say?' 1855 W. G. SIMMS *Forayers* 52 'What say, boys—won't a back-and-rush of the nags do it?' 1934 S. LEWIS *Work of Art* 294, I think it would be fun to run up the Hudson to Ye Bunche of Grapes some noon. What say? 1966 *New Yorker* 24 Dec. 25 What say we skip a few 'fa-la-las'? 1972 'B. GRAEME' *Tomorrow's Yesterday* iii. 32 What say we have coffee at home for once?

1847 TENNYSON *Princess* ProL. 188 We... like as many girls... play'd Charades... And *what's my thought and when and where and how*.

1940 J. O'HARA *Pal Joey* 125 Nick what's with the free food? Explain. 1960 'E. MCBAIN' *Killer's Choice* ix. 97 'What's with this kosher bit?' he asked. 'Get me some butter.' 1962 *Amer. Speech* XXXVII. 203 The elliptical 'What's with...?' (*Vos iz mit*...?) also has occurred, not only in the sense of 'What's new?'... but also as a substitute for 'What's the matter with...?' (a sense common in Yiddish). 1976 *National Observer* (U.S.) 24 Jan. 1/1 But it's not easy, because an interloper keeps asking depressing questions—such as: How do you feel about the state of the country? What's with the economy? 1977 H. FAST *Immigrants* III. 172 There are ways to find out what's with Jake.

¶ *but what?* (a Gallicism = *mais quoi?*): but, after all.

1586 T. B. La Primaud. *Fr. Acad.* 1. 59 Ye shall have verie few, but saie, that they are enemies to evill... But what? As they never knew what goodnes ment, so they know as litle of the contrarie. 1605 ERONDELLE *Fr. Gard.* N.7b, O Marguerite!... thou hast beene heeretofore greatly esteemed in France, but what? all other thinges doe wither,... as well as flowers.

c. *what about it?*: an enquiry as to the course of action to be adopted.

1927 H. A. VACHELL *Dew of Sea* 259 Your head keeper says we must have two guns apiece. Now—what about it? 1935 D. L. SAYERS *Gaudy Night* viii. 163 'I say,' said Mr. Farrington, '... you simply must come.'... 'What about it?' said Harriet, deferring to Mr. Pomfret.

** In dependent clauses. (In early use occas. followed by *that* (THAT conj. 6).)

Here the interrogative force varies according to the nature of the principal clause; after verbs or phrases of asking, wondering, or the like, the dependent clause is more or less explicitly an indirect question (e.g. 'I asked him what he meant' = 'I asked him "What do you mean?"'); after verbs or phrases of knowing, saying, or the like, it is only implicitly so, but the sense is essentially the same, and is to be distinguished from the compound relative (= 'that which': see C. I.* below), which however it sometimes closely approaches, the construction being often identical; cf. 'I did not know what he meant' (which implies the mental question 'What did he mean?') with 'I did not hear what he said' (where *what* simply = 'that which').

The dependent clause may by inversion of construction become a subject-clause: e.g. 'What he meant was unknown to me' = 'I did not know what he meant.' (Cf. quot. 1766 s.v. *HOW adv.* 8 a.)

6. In indirect questions, and clauses of similar meaning (see remarks above): corresponding to the direct use in 1. Of a thing: either (a) in finite clause, or (b) as obj. of a following infinitive (cf. *TO prep.* B. 16).

735 BÆDA *Death song* 4 To ymbhyccgannae... huaet his gastae... doemid uueortbae. c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past.* C. lii. 405 He... him getæhte bwaet him on ðæm don sceolden, hwæt ne scolden. 1154 O.E. *Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1137 Nu we willen sægen sumdel wat belamp on Stephnes kinges time. a 1200 *Moral Ode* 79 He wat wet þenkeð and hwet doð alle quike white. c 1200 ORMIN 2904 Josæp... mikell umbbepohhte, Off whatt himm were betstt to don. *Ibid.* 2992, 3 þatt birp uss lokenn whatt itt iss & whatt itt wile seggenn. c 1205 LAY. 25334 Ær heom mihte iwurðen waht heo don wolde. a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1441 Hit nuste neuer hwat hit was. c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 11/350 He... Axede heom of þe croyz 3wat were þe tokingne. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 9249 To loke wat were best to do. 1340 *Ayenb.* 264 Me him acseþ huo he ys, huannes he comp, huet he heþ ysoze. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* l. 3 What schal befalla hereafterward God wot. 1450 *Paston Lett.* Suppl. (1901) 31 Qhat the cawse is I wote nott. 1501 DOUGLAS *Pal. Hon.* i. lxii, He demandit myn answer, quhat I said? 1533 GAU *Richt Vay* 7 It is neidful first to ane seik man to know quhat is his seiknes. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 89 Demaunding of them what the matter was. 1588 SHAKS. *L.L.L.* III. i. 160 O thou knowest not what it is. 1601 — *Twel. N.* III. iii. 9 Iealousie, what might befall your trauell. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 1346, I am sorry what this stoutness will produce. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* xv. vii, No to be sure, it signifies nothing what becomes of them. 1773 GOLDSM. *Stoops to Cong.* II. i, I believe they are in actual consultation upon what's for supper. 1782 MISS BURNLEY *Cecilia* x. ii, Something strange... must have happened, but what, she had no means to know. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. l. 540 What such a force... could effect... was proved, a few years later, at Killiecrankie. 1850 *Househ. Words* 15 June 285/1 It will be time enough then to think what next. 1889 STEVENSON *Master of Ballantrae* vi. 186 Has it never come in upon your mind what you are doing? 1891 *Speaker* 2 May 532/2 The Socialist no longer thinks of dictating to society what it ought to be.

(b) c 1400 R. Gloucester's *Chron.* (Rolls) 9237 (MS. B.) Hii nuste wat to do. 1581 MARBECK *Bk. Notes* 1171 Haue alwaies what to doe in your hands. 1624 CAPT. J. SMITH *Virginia* i. 16 We tooke more Cod then we knew what to doe with. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* iv. 423 Jove will inspire him, when, and what to say. 1713 BERKELEY *Hylas & Phil.* i. (1725) 47, I know not what to think of it. 1883 D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* ii, Cousin Mark was not burdened with more money than he knew what to do with.

7. Of a person, in predicative use (with distinctions of sense as in 2).

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past.* C. xxi. 158 Ðonne eow misliciað þa medtrymnessa þe ge on oþrum monnum gesioð, ðonne geðence ge hwæt ge sien & hwelce ge sien. c 1290 *St. Brandan* 627 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 237 Ich eschte him 3wat he were. He seide, 'ich am þin Abbot.' 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 919 þe king eschte wat hii were. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4931 þe folk asked quat þai suld be, 'Theues,' coth ioseph. c 1386 CHAUCER *Can. Yeom. ProL.* & T. 63 Is he a clerk or noon? telle what he is. c 1489 CAXTON *Blanchardyn* xxvi. 99 The kyng, that gretli desired to knowe of his estate, asked of hym what he was, of what lande and of what lynage. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* Table Xiiij, Athlete [= -æ], what they be that are so called. 1596 [see 2]. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* iv. i. 74 And knowing what I am, I know what she shall be. 1605 in Dixon *Tower* (1870) II. xi. 104 To ansoure to formall interrogatours... as quhat he is, for I can neuer yett heare of

any man that knowis him. **1697** DAMPIER *Voy.* I. 301 To write a Letter to the Governor, to inform him what we were, and on what account we came. **1697** DRYDEN *Æneis* vi. 1194 He . . ask'd his airy Guide, What, and of whence was he. **1832** DISRAELI *Cont. Fleming* vii, I was to be something great, and glorious, and dazzling; but what, we could not determine. **1854** R. S. SURTEES *Handley Cr.* ii, Who or what he was, . . no one ever cared to inquire.

8. Phrases. **a. to know what's what** [KNOW *v.* 15]: to understand the qualities or values of things; to have a good judgement or apprehension; to have clear or full knowledge of the matter in hand, or of the state of the case; to know what is fitting or profitable. So with other verbs, as *perceive, show, etc. colloq.*

c 1400 Ywaine & Gaw. 432 Ful sarilly than thare i sat, For wa i wist noght what was what. **1421-2** HOCCEVE *Dial.* 778 in *Min. Poems* 138 They me oghten haue in greet cheerte, And elles woot I neuere what is what. **a 1500** CHAUCER'S *Dreme* 1296 Neither knew I kirke ne saint Ne what was what ne who was who. **a 1553** UDALL *Royster D.* i. ii. (Arb.) 17 Enamoured quod you? haue ye spied out that? Ah sir, mary nowe I see you know what is what. **1600** ROWLANDS *Lett. Humours Blood* Epigr. xxv. 31 Tut, tell me not whats what; I know the law. **1663** BUTLER *Hud.* i. 1. 149 He knew what's what, and that's as high As Metaphysick Wit can fly. **1737** BRACKEN *Farriery Impr.* (1757) II. 215, I dare venture to say . . that not a common Farrier in the Universe knows what's what. **1860** THACKERAY *Lovel v.* I had so much claret on board, I did not much know what was what. **1911** *Times* 26 Oct. 8/4 My distinguished friend . . who appeared as a witness had told me what was what.

b. Phrases used as sbs. I know or wot not (mod. *I don't know*) *what, Lord or God knows what* (LORD *sb.* 6b, GOD 10b), *who knows what?* † *know-not-what* (see KNOW-), *watna what* (see WATNA), etc.: something unknown or only vaguely apprehended or suggested; cf. L. *nescio quid*, F. *je ne sais quoi*. So . . . and (*I don't know*) *what all* (*colloq.*) = ' . . . and various other things unknown or unspecified', ' . . . and all sorts of things besides'. *you know what*, † (*you*) *wot what*: something that need not be specified (see YOU 11).

a 1000 Riddles liv. [lv], Hyse . . hrand under gyrdels hyre stondendre stipes nathwæt. **c 1560** A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) xxx. 39 Thay lueve no man effeminit, And haldis thame, bot I wat not quhat, That can nocht be w'out thame. **1568** GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 765 Sent, no man wist whether, to be done wyth, God wot what. **1570** SATIR. *Poems Reform* xv. 115 3e worke maist lyke 3e wat not quhat With your Politick heidis. **1587** in W. M. Williams *Ann. Founders' Co.* (1867) 70 Which when they did see they putt theyre hands they could not tell to whatt. **1603** HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 154 When he was about to speake (I wot not what) as touching painting-craft. **1662** RUMP *Songs* 1. 52 Next come those idle Twittle-twats, Which calls me many God-knows-whats. **1701** WALLIS in *Collect.* (O.H.S.) I. 330 Under penalty of . . (who knows what?). **1702** S. PARKER tr. *Cicero's De Finibus* Transl. Pref., The Grandeur, Eloquence, Neatness, and I know not what all, of an Author's Expression. **1823** [see GOD 10b]. **1840** THACKERAY *Barber Cox* Aug., Shouting out, 'Aha!' and 'Sapprrrrristiel' and I don't know what. **1856** THOREAU *Let. to Mr. B.* 21 May, So we shall save some of our money . . and lose—I do not know what. **1859** DICKENS *Haunted House* vii. 33/1 There's examinings, and catechizings, and I dunno what all for him to be put through. **1901** H. SUTCLIFFE *Barbara Cunliffe* 9 Some reckon Tib helps him wi' his black magic, an' his turning stones to gold, an' what all. **1942** W. FAULKNER *Go down, Moses* 76 My mind gonter change about whatall I seed. **1947** E. MEYNELL *Sussex* ix. 225 Sheep are most unfortunate creatures in the infections to which they are liable—the foot rot . . and the liver-fluke and what all. **1957** J. KEROUAC *On Road* (1958) III. iv. 202 Weariness and . . sorrow and what-all was on his mind. **1962** A. LURIE *Love & Friendship* vii. 123 That old Mr Higginson . . Got his house full of bird dirt and what-all.

c. to know what it is: to apprehend what it implies or may involve; hence, to have had experience of it. Usually with *inf.*

1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 615 Thou know'st not what it is, With iaelings point a churlish swine to goare. **1608** KELLISON *Reply to Sotcliffe's Answ.* Ep. Ded. av, Till miserie had taught the prodigal Sonne wit, he neuer knew what it was to lue at home in his Fathers howse. **1711** ADDISON *Spect.* No. 26 ¶ 7 Though I am always serious, I do not know what it is to be melancholy. **1860** THACKERAY *Round. Papers, On Two Children in Black*, As for the first night at a strange school, we most of us remember what *that* is. **1901** W. R. H. TROWBRIDGE *Lett. her Mother To Eliz.* xiii. 58 To know what dust is, you must come to Switzerland in August; the road was like driving through sand.

d. ellipt. for 'what it is', 'what is the truth of the matter', 'what is the thing to do', or the like, in *I'll tell you what* (and similar phrases now *obs.* or *dial.*), used to emphasize or call special attention to what is said (= 'let me tell you'), or (*mod. colloq.*) in making a proposal. Also *that's what; you know what?*

c 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* III. 694 Ye be lyke the swynt catte That wolde haue fisshe, but wostow whatte He wold no thinge wete his clowes. **1576** GASCOIGNE *Steele Glas* (Arb.) 78 Disdaine him not: for shal I tel you what? Such clime to heauen, before the shauen crownes. **1592** SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* I. v. 86 This trickie may chance to scath you, I know what, You must contrary me. **1594** — *Rich.* III. III. ii. 02 Wot you what, my Lord, To day the Lords you talke of, are beheaded. **1596** — *Merch. V.* i. 1. 86, I tell thee what Antonio, I loue thee. **1657** in *Brand's Pop. Antiq.* (Bohn) I. 121 I'll tell thee what, To-morrow thou shalt see Me weare the willow. **1773** G. A. STEVENS *Trip Portsma.* i. 10 *Sir Flimsey*. I'll tell you *what*, madam—, *Miss Flirt*. And I'll tell you *when*, *Sir Flimsey*. When you take a lady out with you, you don't domineer so. **1872** *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* June

442/1 I'll tell you what, we'll row down. **1899** H. WYNDHAM *Soldiers of Queen* viii. 176 Tell you what, Bill, you can start your stock with one of my old shirts for the price of a quart. **1902** *Dialect Notes* II. 247 *That's what*, exclamation of affirmation or assent. **1908** L. M. MONTGOMERY *Anne of Green Gables* xv. 165 She'll . . be ready enough to go back of her own accord, that's what. **1960** H. PINTER *Room* 98 You know what though? It looks a bit better. It's not so windy. **1965** 'LAUCHMONEN' *Old Thom's Harvest* ii. 29 'You don't bring anybody.' . . 'Oh—oh. That's what. **1982** H. ENGEL *Murder on Location* xviii. 164 'You know what, Chris?' 'What?' 'You know it stinks to heaven as well as I do.'

*** Various special uses and collocations (in direct questions or in dependent clauses). See also 17.

For *what becomes* (is become, etc.) of . . . see BECOME *v.* 4. **9. With intensive additions, as what the deuce** (*devil, dickens, etc.*), *what in the name of . . .*, *what in the world, what on earth, etc.*: see also the sbs. (Cf. HOW *adv.* 1 b.)

c 1385—[see DEVIL *sb.* 20]. **1596**—[see PLAGUE *sb.* 3 d]. **1600**—[see DICKENS a.]. **1614** JACKSON *Creed* II. 133 What a Gods name, hinders him from doing it? **1709** STEELE & ADDISON *Tatler* No. 110 ¶ 4 What-a-Pox hast thou to do with Ladies and Lovers? **1757**—[see DEUCE² b¹]. **1818** SHELLEY *Ess. & Lett.* (1852) II. 116 What on earth does he mean by some of his inferences? **1829** SCOTT *Anne of G.* xii, Thinking what in the universe it could be made of. **1836** [see HELL *sb.* 9]. **1897** S. CRANE *Third Violet* xv. 101 What the mischief have I done? *Ibid.* xvi. 105, I wonder what in blue thunder you mean.

10. Of quantity, amount, or price: How much, how many. So of the time of day, in what's o'clock, what's the time (see CLOCK *sb.* 1 3, 5, TIME *sb.* 13).

The orig. use was with partitive gen.; later, partitive of occurs.

c 1000 Ags. 'Ps.' (Th.) cxviii[i]. 84 Hwæt synt pinum esne ealra daga? **c 1420** *Avow. Arth.* xxxiii, Quat is thi rawunsun opon ryste? **c 1425** *Crafte Nombryne* (E.E.T.S.) 26 Yf pou wold wete qwat is 4 hundryth times 4. **1508** DUNBAR *Gold. Targe* 274, I know quhat thou of rethorike hes spent. **c 1525** *Vox Populi* 374 in Hazl. *E.P.P.* III. 281, I knowe not whates a clocke, But by the countre cocke. **1557** *Order of Hospitalis* Cvijb, That there be geven Warrants. . . what shall be paid to any such Pencenior wekly. **1600** SHAKS. *A.Y.L.* III. ii. 319, I pray you, what i'st a clocke? **1669** STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* i. ii. 34 As 16 to 7: So is 8 to what? **1814** J. H. MOORE'S *Pract. Navig.* (ed. 19) 130 What is Greenwich Time when it is Noon 75°, or Five Hours, West of Greenwich? **1816** SCOTT *Bl. Dwarf* ix, But I'll see what o' them can be gotten back. **1835** DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Parlour Orator*, He can tell what's o'clock by an eight-day, without looking at the minute hand, he can. **1859** *Habits Gd. Soc.* xi. 305 What of that essential harmony . . can there possibly be between a hundred . . people? **1904** SIR H. HAWKINS *Remin.* II. 2 Lloyd must have made £20,000 a year . . ; what I made is of no consequence.

11. a. what for (introducing a clause (a non-standard use); sometimes written as one word; Sc. and north. dial.; earlier north. ME. †for *what*, replacing OE. *for hwan*); now, in polite colloq. use, only *what . . for* (in independent or dependent clause), or *what for?*: for what purpose, with what object? for what reason, why, wherefore? Also †*through what*: how? So †*what to (till)*: to what end, whereto.

c 1200 ORMIN 199 þurh whatt ma33 icc nu witenn piss? *Ibid.* 4814, 5 Forr whatt iss Drihhtin me puss wrap? *Ibid.* 14113 Forr all manninn to shawenn swa Forr whatt he commonn erpe. **c 1250** *Gen. & Ex.* 1657 Iacob tolde him for quat he swanc So fer. **1375** BARBOUR *Bruce* XI. 28 (Camb. MS.) God . . wat quhat-to [Edin. MS. quhat-till] all thing efferis. **c 1760** D. HUME in *Ramsay's Remin.* v. (ed. 18) 116 What for should I burn a' my . . bukies? **1799** BURNS 'What ails ye now', ix, 'Geld you!' quo' he, 'and whatfor no?' **1823** GALT *R. Gilhaize* lx, The children wondered whatfor an honest man should be brought to punishment. **1857** HUGHES *Tom Brown* II. i, The boot he had just pulled off flew straight at the head of the bully . . 'Confound you, Brown, what's that for?' **1879** F. W. ROBINSON *Coward Consc.* i. viii, What are you staring at a fellow like that for? **1948** E. WAUGH *Loved One* 51 What for you want new ideas? **1984** J. PLATT et al. *New Englishes* vii. 127 *What for* you want to do that?

b. When subordinated what . . for comes to mean 'the reason why'.

1714 R. FIDDES *Pract. Disc.* II. 236 But what I cited all these passages for is to show [etc.].

c. As sb. phr. in the slang phr. to give (one) *what for* = to inflict severe pain or chastisement. Also, to show (someone) *what for*: to make him take notice; to show who is in charge.

1873 *Routledge's Yng. Gentl. Mag.* Feb. 137/1 It'll give you what for if it touches your lips. **1894** DU MAURIER *Trilby* I. 31 Taffy . . was a match for any *maitre d'armes* in the whole French army, and Svengali got 'what for'. **1960** N. HILLIARD *Maori Girl* 142 If a man came here I took a liking to, I'd show him what-for soon enough. **1966** *Listener* 18 Aug. 229/1 The stereotype of 'the wily oriental gentleman . . the half-civilized levantine . . the type of fellow who must be shown what for'.

12. As indefinite final alternative in a disjunctive question. Chiefly colloq.

1766 J. ADAMS *Diary* 29 July, Wks. 1856 II. 198 In what is this man conspicuous?—in reasoning, in imagination, in painting, in the pathetic, or what? **1769** G. WHITE *Selborne, To Pennant* 28 Feb., Is it owing to the vast, massy buildings of that place, to the many waters round it, or to what else? **1842** E. FITZGERALD *Let. to Barton* 16 Sept., Have you supposed me dead or what? **1884** tr. *Lotze's Logic* 341 We shall further discover whether the true path is a circle, an ellipse, an oval, or what.

II. adj.

13. a. (a) As the ordinary interrogative adjective, sing. or pl., used of a thing or things, a person or persons, in direct questions: often with ellipsis, as *what cheer?* (CHEER *sb.* 1 3 b), *what news?* etc.

The meaning was expressed in OE. by *hwæt* with a partitive gen.

[*Beowulf* 237 Hwæt syndon 7e searohæbbendra byrnnum werede? **c 897** ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past.* C. xxi. 164 Hwæt is ðinga þe biterre sie on ðæs lareowes mode . . ðonne se anda ðe for ryhtwisnesse bið upahafen?] **a 1225** *St. Marher.* 4 Hwet godd heiestu ant hersumest? **a 1300** *Cursor M.* 29034 Quat bote is fra mete to min And dedeli for to lig in sin? **1382** WYCLIF 1 *John* iii. 12 And for what thing slew he him? **c 1384** CHAUCER *H. Fame* II. 525 'And what sovne is it lyke?' quod hee. *Ibid.* III. 1058 And eueryche cried, what thing is that? And somme sayde, I not neuer what. **a 1400-50** *Wars Alex.* 683 Quat sterne is it at 3e stody on? **a 1425** *Cursor M.* 13154 (Trin.) What maner þing. **c 1440**—[see CHEER *sb.* 1 3 b]. **1500-20** DUNBAR *Poems* xiii. 3 Quhat tydingis gossep, peax or weir? **a 1586** SIDNEY *Arcadia* I. ii. (1912) 14 What cause then . . made you venter to leave this sweete life? **a 1596** *Sir T. More* I. iii. 71 Sirra, what newes? **1610** SHAKS. *Temp.* II. i. 88 What impossible matter will he make easy next? **1749** FIELDING *Tom Jones* x. ix, What saucy Fellow. . . told you any Thing of my Lady? **1815** SCOTT *Guy M.* xi, 'What Mr. Bertram?' . . 'not Mr. Bertram of Ellangowan, I hope?' **1853** C. BRONTE *Villette* xxxvii, A story! What story? **1880** 'MARK TWAIN' *Tramp Abr. Sc.* But what good would it do?

(b) what way (Sc. and north.): how? why? **1570** LEVINS *Manip.* 197/3 Whatway, quā, quomodō? **1719** RAMSAY *To Arbuckle* 6 [He] disna care for A how, a what way, or a wherefore. **1799** MITCHELL *Scotticisms* 95 What way did it happen? **1902** J. J. BELL *Wee Macgregor* v, Macgregor, . . whit wey did ye strike puir Wullie Thomson?

b. In rhetorical questions, implying a contrary assertion: cf. 3.

c 1420 *Sir Amadace* (Camden) xxviii, Quat wundur were hit, thazhe him were wo? **1513** DOUGLAS *Æneis* vi. Prol. 105 Quhat cristnit clerk suld hym haue consalit bettir, Althocht he nevir was catholik wight? **1592** SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 565 What waxe so frozen but dissolues with tempring? **1697** DRYDEN *Æneis* XI. 770 With what becoming Thanks can I reply! **1790** BURNS *Ball. Dumfries Election* xx, What Whig but wails the good Sir James Dear to his country by the names, Friend, Patron, Benefactor! **1821** SHELLEY *Hellas* 387 What hope of refuge, or retreat, or aid? **1848** KINGSLEY *Yeast* xiii, What wonder if the children take them at their word and act accordingly?

14. a. In indirect questions, and dependent clauses of similar meaning, with varying interrogative force, sometimes approaching the compound relative use (C. 8): cf. I.* above.

c 1200 ORMIN 722 Godess ennegg sel3de himm þær, Whatt name he sholde settenn Uppo þatt ilke child. **a 1300** *Cursor M.* 34 Bot be the fruit may scilwis se, O quat vertu is ilka tre. **c 1330** R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 2746 þey 3ede spiande her & þer In what bataille þe kynges wer. **c 1450** *Mirk's Festial* 33 Tell þes men whad pou hast yseyne, and whad joy þes men han lost. **1470-85** MALORY *Arthur* x. xxix. 460 Thenne sire Tristram lete deuyse the bataille in what manere that it shold be. **1548-9** (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer, Collect 1st Sund. after Epiph.*, Graunt that they maye both perceyue and knowe what thynges they ought to do. **1597** HOOKER *Ecll. Pol.* v. xlviii. §2 To examine . . what dependencie it hath on God. **1667** MILTON *P.L.* II. 741 Till first I know of thee, What thing thou art. **c 1720** DE FOE *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 25 They called frequent councils of war what course to take. **1835** DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Mr. Watkins Tottle* ii, How, or at what hour, Mr. Watkins Tottle returned . . is unknown. **1918** *Cornh. Mag.* June 637 He made no attempt . . to suggest upon what lines that future might be shaped.

b. I know not what, Heaven knows what, etc. used as adj. phr. = some unknown or undefined . . . , some . . . or other: cf. 8 b.

a 1635 in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* (1906) III. 43 There was present on horse-backe, I knowe not what poetical preacher, named Pourcase. **1670** G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* II. III. 205 There has been already some disgusts . . , about I know not what redumecment of the Light-horse. **1824** SCOTT *St. Ronan's* viii, And I know not what other menaces of formidable import.

15. In reference to quality or character: = What kind of (= L. *qualis*). Also followed by a (dial.).

† *what done, what dones*: see DONE *ppl. a.* 2. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 225 He wolde iwite 3wat man þe child ssolde be. *Ibid.* 315 Brut sende þu pere þre hondred men . . to loke 3wat lond þat were. **c 1385** CHAUCER *L.G.W.* 1305 *Dido*, Allas what weman wele 3e of me make? **a 1400** *Pistill of Susan* 314 Tel nou me trewly, vnder what tre? **1445** in *Anglia* XXVIII. 269 þou . . askist what life this man hath had. **1577** GOOGE tr. *Heresbach's Husb.* 17 b, It is to be learned . . in planting, what ground is best for Unnes, what for other trees. **1605** A. WARREN *Poor Man's Pains*, etc. H. 2, I dare not call thee Asse, but aske thy selfe, What eares thou hast. **a 1715** BURNET *Own Time* (1724) I. II. 318 It was a common piece of raillery in the Court, upon the death of any Prince, to ask what a person his widow was. **1853** MAURICE *Proph. & Kings* vi. 98 He wants a God as the support of his authority; what God he cares very little. **1879** F. W. ROBINSON *Coward Consc.* I. vi, 'What wine is this, Fisher?' 'Johannisberg, sir.'

16. In reference to quantity or amount: How much, how many.

Cf. the OE. use with partitive gen. (10 above). **1375** BARBOUR *Bruce* XIX. 293 'Quhat folk ar thair?' 'Schir, mony men.' **1605** SHAKS. *Macb.* III. iv. 126 *Macb.* . . What is the night? *La.* Almost at oddes with morning, which is which. **1654** *Kirk Sess. Rec.* in *Jas. Campbell Balmerino* (1899) 408 To stent and sie what bolis of victuell everie heritor was. **1820** DIBDIN *Ivanhoe* II. i, Pray thee what money hast thou brought? **1867** SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*

728 What water have you? The question to the man sounding, as to the depth of water which the lead-line gives. *Mod. colloq.* What pudding is there left?

17. In predicative use, corresponding to a predicative adj. in direct statement: usually referring to quality (cf. 15) = of what kind, character, or disposition.

Syntactically indistinguishable from the pron., but essentially adjectival in meaning, and sometimes implying ellipsis of sb.: e.g. in quot. a 1450 *whad*... more = 'what more wits'.

1340 *Ayenb.* 264 'And huet is helle?'... 'Helle is wyd wye-oute metinge, dyep wye-oute botme.' c 1400 *Anturs Arth.* viii. What is pi good rede? a 1450 MYRC 1333 Here ben pe wyttus fyue, How pey ben spende, telle me blyue, And whad pou hast in herte more. 1526 TINDALE *James* i. 24 He goeth his waye, and hath immediately forgotten what his fassion was. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* i. v. 269, I see you what you are, you are too proud. 1605 — *Lea* ii. ii. 121 What was th' offence you gaue him? 1697 DRYDEN *Aeneis* vii. 178 To search the Land, and where the Cities lye, And what the Men [Virg. *quive habeant homines*]. *Ibid.* xi. 516 Noble his Mother was, ... But what his Father's Parentage, unknown. 1828 DUPPA *Trav. Italy*, etc. 3 What the Transfiguration may have been, as to execution and colouring, I cannot tell. 1905 R. BAGOT *Passport* xvi, You know what he is about anything disagreeable—how he simply ignores its existence.

18. In parasyntetic compounds, as *what-fashioned*, *-natured* adjs. (= of what fashion, nature). So *what countryman* (= a man of what country): see COUNTRYMAN 1.

1559 AYLMER *Harborowe* P 1 b, Some of you knowe what natured men they be. 1607 R. C[AREW] tr. *Estienne's World of Wonders* 237 [One] may well doubt whether locke-smithes... used files... or rather what fashioned files they had. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf*. ii. 302 He began to aske of me what Country-man I was? I told him that I was of Seville. 1796 SOUTHEY *Lett. fr. Spain* (1799) 196 Turning round to Manuel, he asked him what countryman he was. 1807 [see COUNTRYMAN 1].

III. adv.

† 19. For what cause or reason? for what end or purpose? why? *Obs.*

what need (s: see NEED v. 2 1 b, 2 b, 5 b).

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xiv. §2 Hwæt murecnast þu þonn[c] æfter þam þe þu forlure? 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 137 Hwæt secestu minne naman, forþon he is mycel & wundorlic? c 1205 LAY. 13632 Whæht [c 1275 w] is þæt þu murnest. c 1385 CHAUCER *L.G.W.* 2218 *Ariadne*, What shulde I more telle hire compleynynge? c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5097 Without more (what shulde I glose?). c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* ii. v. 162 What ben þe greouse to this womman? 1579 FULKE *Heskins' Parl.* 148 But what stand we trifling about this testimonie? 1611 *Bible Transl.* Pref. ¶ 4 But what mention we three or foure vses of the Scripture? 1667 MILTON *P.L.* ii. 329 What sit we then projecting Peace and Warr? a 1677 BARROW *Serm.* I. 7 What should I mention beauty; that fading toy?

20. a. In what way? in what respect? how? *Obs.* or *arch.* (See also AIL v. 4, quots. c 1450–c 1817.)

c 1200 ORMIN 14018 Ure Laferrd Jesu Crist þuss se33de till hiss moderr; Whatt falleþ þiss till me wiþþ þe, Wifmann, þiss þatt tu mælesst? 1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* xx. 9 What han we synned in thee? a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 2523 Quat knawis þu þat? 1457 HARDING *Chron.* in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* (1912) Oct. 744 What hath Englonde so felly the offende, This noble pryncce... To Rauysse so fro vs? c 1460 in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1866) 250 A, ihesul quat hast þu gylt? 1535 COVERDALE *Baruch* iv. 17 But alas, what can I helpe you? 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xv. It just cam open o' free will in my hand—what could I help it? 1842 TENNYSON *Morte d'Arth.* 250 For what are men better than sheep or goats... If, knowing God, they lift not hands of prayer...?

b. To what extent or degree? how much?

Chiefly with such verbs as *avail*, *care*, *matter*, *signify*, or with the and comparative, as *the better*; cf. NOTHING B. 1, 2 c, NONE C. 1 b. Also † *quhat fele* (Sc. obs.) = how many? 1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* xxxvii. 26 What shal it profit vs if we sleen oure brother? c 1420 ? LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 1664 What were they bothe amendyd that day? c 1450 HOLLAND *Houlat* 627 Quhat fele armes on loft, ... The said persewant bure. a 1535 FISHER *Spir. Consol.* Wks. (1876) 357 And what am I now the better for all this? 1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 207 What were thy lips the worse for one poore kis? *Ibid.* 285 What cares he now, for curbe, or pricking spur? 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* iii. 784 Now what avails his well-deserving Toil! 1757 [see SIGNIFY 7]. 1865 RUSKIN *Sesame* i. §32 What do we, as a nation, care about books?

21. As mere sign of interrogation, introducing a question. *Obs. exc. dial.* (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*).

Often taken as interjection (cf. B. 1), and printed with following comma or mark of exclamation.

c 1000 *Lamb. Ps.* Cant. vi. Hwæt la [Vulg. *Numquid*] nis he fæder þin? a 1300 *Cursor M.* 5182 Quat ha yee broght him wit yow hider? 13... *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 309 'What, is þis Arþures hous,' quod þe hapel þenne. 1592 MARLOWE *Mass. Paris* 938 Come on sirs, what, are you resolutely bent? 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* i. v. 57 What dares the slauce Come hither... To flæere and scorn at our Solemnitie? 1602 — *Ham.* i. i. 19 Say, what is Horatio there? 1677 RAVENSCROFT *Wrangling Lovers* ii. i. 13 What's he a Spy too? 1741 tr. *D'Argens' Chinese Lett.* xxxii. 243 What have they been extinguish'd by Sorcerers, as they had been form'd by supernatural Prodiges?

B. Exclamatory and allied uses.

I. int. † 1. Used to introduce or call attention to a statement: Lo; now; well. *Obs.*

Beowulf i Hwæt! we Gar-Dena in geardagum, peodcynninga þrym gefrunon. c 1000 ÆLFRED *Hom.* II. 130 Hwæt ða gelyfdon for wel menige, and on Godes naman gefullode wurdon. c 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 856 He seyde syn I shal bigynne the game What welcome be the cut a goddes name.

2. a. As an exclamation of surprise or astonishment (sometimes mixed with indignation): usually followed by a question.

c 1200 ORMIN 19429 Whatt Abraham, whatt Moyses, Whatt tiss & tatt profete, Ne sæ3henn þe33 nohht Drihtin Godd Inn hiss goddcunnde kinde? a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1298 Hwat, heo seyde, vle, artu wod? 13... *Cursor M.* 10456 (Gött.) Quat? wenis þu i be a fole? 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xiii. 184 'What?' quod clergie to conscience 'ar þe couiteouse nouthe After 3eressyues?' 1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* i. 2900 What, hath sche nat fro deth and fro distresse Preserued þe, and 3it þu takest noon hede? 1589 R. HARVEY *Pl. Perc.* (1590) 5 What, what, latine in the mouth of a plaine fellow? 1633 FORD 'Tis Pity iv. iii, What, crying, old Mistress! 1639 J. CLARKE *Parcem.* 303 What againe? quoth Paul when his wife made him cuckold the second time. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* xv. vii, 'O, Mr. Jones, I have lost my Lady for ever.'—'How! what! for Heaven's Sake tell me.' 1810 CRABBE *Borough* xxii. 74 None put the question,—'Peter, dost thou give The boy his food?—What, man! the lad must live.' 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* ii. 33 What! are the ladies of your land so tall? 1886 BARING-GOULD *Crt. Royal* xii, 'What!—not Sunday clothes?' 'Sunday is nothing to us.' 'What! no go-to-meeting clothes?'

b. With intensive additions, as in A. 9 (of which use this may be partly an elliptical variant).

c 1420 ? LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 425 'Ys hit thus!' quod Attropos, 'what in the deuylls date!' c 1520 SKELTON *Magnys.* 795 What the deuyll! can ye agre no better? 1754 RICHARDSON in J. Duncombe *Lett.* (1773) III. 13 What a duce, must a man be always writing! 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* i. iii, If there is a word... that I abominate, it is energy... What the deuce! Am I to rush out into the street [etc.]

3. Used to hail, summon, or call the attention of a person; also formerly for incitement, or as an expression of excitement or exultation. *arch.* and *dial.* Earlier in phr. WHAT HO!

c 1386, etc. [see WHAT HO int.]. a 1553 UDALL *Royster D.* i. iii. (Arb.) 22 What Tibet, what Annot, what Margerie. Ye sleepe, but we doe not. 1581 A. HALL *Iliad* ii. 29 What? courage sirs my fellows al. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* i. iii. 3, 4 Nurse... I bad her come, what Lamb: what Ladi-bird, God forbid, Where's this Gille? what Iuliet? 1607 DEKKER & WEBSTER *Northw. Hoe* v. i, Chamberlain, call in the music, ... What! we'll make a night of it. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* iv. i. 33 What Ariell; my industrious seruant Ariell. *Ar.* What would my potent master? here I am. 1633 B. JONSON *Tale Tub* i. iii, Here they are both! What Sirs, disputin. 1878 HARDY *Ret. Native* iii. viii, What, Diggory? You are having a lonely walk.

II. 4. *adv.* To what an extent! in what a way! = HOW *adv.* 7. *Obs. exc. dial.*

Beowulf 530 Hwæt þu worn fela... beore druncen ymb Breccan spræcel a 900 CYNEWULF *Juliana* 167 Juliana hwæt þu glæm hafast. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 33 Eala hwæt Drihten deofles costunga 3eþyldelice abær. ? c 1250 in *E.E. Lyrics* (1907) i Ei, ei, what this night is long! a 1300 *Cursor M.* 23175 Quat he war wijs þat moght Stedfast halþ þis dai in thought! 13... *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 2203 What hit wharred, & whette, as water at a mulne. 1340 *Ayenb.* 51 A god huet we hedde guod wyn yesteneuen & guode metes. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* i. 215 Al quhat thai dempt thaim felonly! c 1440 *York Myst.* xiv. 71 Al lorde, what the wedir is cold! 1556 *Chron. Grey Friars* (Camden) 60 What rebellious they were. *Mod. Sc.* What bonny!

III. 5. a. *adj.* Used (as *sing.* or *pl.*) to express the surprising or striking nature of the thing(s) or person(s) denoted by the sb.; in *sing.* usually, now always, followed by the indef. art., exc. with a sb. in collective or abstract sense. Often with ellipsis (cf. A. 4, 13).

Formerly usually, and still in archaic style, with inverted construction as in a direct question; being distinguished from this by intonation, and in the (non-collective) *sing.* by the presence of the indef. art.; cf. 'What a place is this!' (mod. 'What a place this is!') with 'What place is this?'

c 1315 SHOREHAM II. 119 O swete leuedy, wat þe was wo, þo ihesus deyde on rode! a 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 530 O, worthy god, what wele is me! 1450–1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* II. 119 O wyth what reuerence, ... wyth what inwarde deuocyon ... oughte we to haue vs in euery place. c 1485 *Digby Myst.* iv. 1157 What a fawte it was, The seruante, alas, His master to forsake! 1509 BARCLAY *Shyp of Follys* (1874) II. 105 O what a Cyte, and what a se royall Hath had first name of pore men and rurall. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* iii. i. 48 What a coile is there Dromio? who are those at the gate? 1596 — *Merch. V.* i. iii. 161 O father Abram, what these Christians are. 1601 — *Jul. C.* i. iii. 42 Cassius, what Night is this? 1602 — *Ham.* ii. ii. 315 What a piece of worke is a man! 1611 — *Cymb.* iv. i. 16 What Mortalitie is? 1615 W. LAWSON *Country Housew. Garden* (1626) 32 What rottennesse? what hollownesse? 1633 A. STAFFORD *Fem. Glory* 133 O what proficients in Faith did these rusticall Swaines prove in a moment! 1705 ADDISON *Italy* 307 What a strain'd unnatural Similitude must this seem to a Modern Reader? 1776 EARL CARLISLE in *Jesse Selwyn & Contemp.* (1844) III. 160 What a house! What people! what manners! 1798 G. HAY in *Ushaw Mag.* (1913) Dec. 288 What shocking times we live in! 1825 SCOTT *Talism.* i, What was the surprise of the Saracen, when, dismounting to examine the condition of his prostrate enemy, he found [etc.]. 1847 C. BRONTE *Jane Eyre* ii, What a consternation of soul was mine that dreary afternoon!... Yet in what darkness, what dense ignorance, was the mental battle fought! 1855 BROWNING *A Lovers' Quarrel* i, Oh, what a dawn of day! How the March sun feels like May! 1888 RIDER HAGGARD *Col. Quaritch* xli, What rubbish you talk.

b. In dependent clauses, after verbs of thinking or perceiving.

Here the exclamatory force varies as the interrogative force does in the corresponding interrogative use (A. 14), with which this often nearly coincides: cf. remarks under A. 1.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1610 Quat was his reut [= ruth] þan al mai see. 1554 in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* (1913) July 528 When I cōsider euer what seruants of God they were and so dyed. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III.* i. iv. 21 Me thought what paine it was to drowne. 1610 — *Temp.* i. ii. 251 Do'st thou forget From what a torment I did free thee? 1708 CALDWELL *Papers* (Maitland Club) I. 216 You cannot imagine what a parcel of

cheating brutes the work people here are. 1713 ADDISON *Guardian* No. 119 ¶ 1 We may see after what a different manner Strada proceeds. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* ii. vi, See what a woful look was given. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* lxi, You may judge with what devotion he... clung to this girl. 1916 SANDAY *In View of End* 93 Let... the ordinary church-goer call to mind what a large proportion of the best of our hymn-tunes are German.

IV. † 6. *pron.* Used in exclamation to denote something surprising or striking; sometimes with inverted construction, as in 5. *Obs.*

1382 WYCLIF *Num.* xxiii. 23 In his tymes it shal be seide to Jacob and to Yrael, What the Lord hath wrougt! [Vulg. *quid operatus sit Deus*]; 1611 What hath God wrought! 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 54 Lo now, my Sone, what it is A man to caste his ye amis. c 1460 *Wisdom* 1121 in *Macro Plays* 72 Haue mynde, Soule, wat Gode hath do!

C. Relative and allied uses. (In early use often followed by *that* (THAT *conj.* 6), rarely *as*.)

I. *pron.* * as compound relative (combining antecedent and relative).

1. a. (a) That which, the thing which. (Sometimes with pleonastic correlative *that*.) Also *occas.* (b) more generally, A thing which, something that.

Not used of persons, exc. in the idiomatic phr. *but what*: see 5 below.

The line of division between the dependent interrog. use (see A. I **) and the pure relative use is in certain conditions, esp. in the early periods, difficult or impossible to draw.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 191 *Quod pungit ueneno afficit*... Hie... attreð hwat heo prikeð. c 1205 LAY. 31618 3e habbeoð alle iherd hwæt Penda king hafueð iseid. c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2578 Mekli þan to meliors he munged what he þougt. c 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) Prol. 12 This booke tretith of what shalbe in euery sesoun moste durable. c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* ii. vi. 172 That thou wolt folowe Holli Writt, and take for the lawe and seruice of God what that Holli Writ allowith. 1521 *Perth Hammermen Book* (1889) 16 Item giffin to Andro Scot of quhat was awand him, ... iij s. 1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 88 So offers he to giue what she did craue. 1596 DANETT tr. *Comines* (1614) 219 Notwithstanding what I haue heard, that I will report. 1599 *George a Greene* G j b, What as Bradford holdes of me in chiefe, I giue it frankly vnto thee for euer. 1649 MILTON *Eikon.* iv. 36 He... justifi'd and abetted them in what they did. 1724 RAMSAY *Vision* xii, I ken sum mair than ye... Of quhat sall afterwart befall. 1731–8 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* Intro. p. lxxxi, So incurable is the Love of Detraction, perhaps beyond what the charitable Reader will easily believe. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* cxxiv, And what I am beheld again What is. 1851 *Househ. Words* 6 Sept. 560/1, I was going to ask you to dine with me on what I have left. 1865 RUSKIN *Sesame* i. §20 Milton means what he says. 1884 W. S. GILBERT *Princ. Ida* II, What we have Of hair, is all our own. 1886 *Law Rep.* 32 *Chanc. Div.* 71 It appears to me that they acted very resonably in what they did. 1889 MRS. E. KENNARD *Landing a Prize* i. (1891) 2 His duties were performed with the precision of an automaton. What he did one day, that he did the next.

(b) 1697 J. LEWIS *Mem. Dk. Gloucester* (1789) 56 Dr. Radcliffe... finding him feverish, prescribed what restored him to health in five days. 1784 COWPER *Task* i. 55 If cushion might be call'd, what harder seem'd Than the firm oak of which the frame was form'd.

b. In reference to a prec. sb., esp. after *but*, *except*, *only*, *than*, *like*, etc., with quasi-adj. force: The one which; chiefly as *pl.* those which; † also (*rare*) of persons, those who.

1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV.* iv. iv. 4, Wee will... draw no Swords, but what are sanctify'd. 1611 *Bible* 2 Cor. i. 13 We write none other things vnto you, then what you reade or acknowledge. 1664 PEPPYS *Diary* 2 Jan., To the King's house, and saw *The Usurper*, which is no good play, though better than what I saw yesterday. 1676 DRYDEN *Aurengz.* II. i, An easier yoke than what you put on me. 1677 *Essex Papers* (Camden) II. 118 Ye Parties which lost it now was greater than wt carried it when ye perpetuating clause was lately ordered. 1681 M. FOX in *Jrnl. Friends' Hist. Soc.* (1912) July 139 Hauing noe body to bee with at home but what is noe Friends. 1758 S. HAYWARD *Serm.* xvi. 475 He was under no obligations to take human nature, only what arose from his free... promise. 1762 KAMES *Elem. Crit.* (1774) I. i. 24 We feel a gradual dilatation... of mind, like what is felt in an ascending series. 1824 L. MURRAY *Engl. Gram.* (ed. 5) I. 233 All fevers, except what are called nervous. 1868 M. ARNOLD *Sch. & Univ. Cont.* 21 The Revolution made a clean sweep of all old endowments; what exist date from a time since the Revolution.

2. With special implications. a. Expressing quantity or amount (cf. A. 10): So much (or many) as, as much as.

1646 in M. Sellers *Eastland Co.* (Camden) Intro. 66 They desire, that what as hath already bene equallie disburt, ... be brought to account, and what as remainyd in Cash be returned up. 1664 PEPPYS *Diary* 18 Mar., Their service was six biscuits a-piece, and what they pleased of burnt claret. 1718 *Free-thinker* No. 62. 44 The Romans learnt, what they knew of this Mysterious Doctrine, from the Etrurians. 1789 *Massachusetts Spy* 9 Apr. 3/2 What of the votes in Newhamshire for President, we have seen, are nearly equally divided.

b. Expressing quality or character (cf. A. 2, 15, 17): Such as; the kind of thing (or person) that.

a 1658 CLEVELAND *Rustick Ramp.* 114 He delighted to be... acknowledged for what he was. 1697 DRYDEN *Aeneis* x. 901 And what Aeneas was, such seem'd the Shade. 1756–7 tr. *Keyser's Trav.* (1760) IV. 468 The court is still very splendid, though much altered from what it was in the year 1716. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 185 The country was not what it had been twenty-two years before. 1861 THACKERAY *Round. Papers, On being Found Out*, Would you have your wife and children know you exactly for what you are? 1891 *Speaker* 2 May 533/1 The book is very much what might have been expected from the author.

c. Expressing parallel relation or correspondence (with *to* in principal clause and in relative clause).

1673-4 GREW *Anat. Pl.* III. (1682) 127 And what the Mouth is, to an Animal; that the Root is to a Plant. **1732** BERKELEY *Alciph.* IV. §21 Intellect is to the mind what sight is to the body. **1853** RUSKIN *Stones Venice* III. iv. §11 What the elm and oak are to England, the olive is to Italy. **1914** *Month* Dec. 608 Jingoism is to true patriotism what bigotry is to true religion.

3. a. In a parenthetical phrase (chiefly with *call*) qualifying a following word or phrase; equivalent to an adjective phrase, or to a following phrase with *as*: e.g. *what is called*... = 'the so-called...', or '... as it is called'.

1697 J. LEWIS *Mem. Dk. Gloucester* (1789) 15. A fortification, mounted with small guns, and what were stiled his great ones, which were four little brass cannon. **1794** in *Jrnl. Friends' Hist. Soc.* (1918) 8 Other demonstrations of what they call Loyalty. **1801** COLERIDGE *Lett.* (1805) 346 Calvert is... what is well called a handy man. **1828** *Life Planter Jamaica* 211 A very small pea, ... a kind of what is called squashes. **1856** MRS. BROWNING *Aur. Leigh* I. 9, I, writing thus, am still what men call young. **1908** R. BAGOT *A. Cuthbert* v. 40 She is what she calls 'taking your measure'.

b. Introducing a prefatory (usually parenthetical) qualifying clause, equivalent to a following clause with *which* (or to an adv., e.g. *what is more* = furthermore, still more).

1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* I. 5 Where we saw (what we always feared) a Ship [etc.]. **1713** POPE in Earl Orrery *Rem. Swift* (1752) 36 If it be true, what I have heard often affirmed by innocent people, That [etc.]. **1743** BULKELEY & CUMMINS *Voy. S. Seas* 40 And, what was reckon'd very odd, the Cabbin-Bell came ashore. **1818** SCOTT *Rob Roy* v. She wore, what was then somewhat unusual, a coat, vest, and hat, resembling those of a man. **1839** THACKERAY *Fatal Boots* Feb., I got from him... a silver-laced waistcoat... and, what's more, I had no less than three golden guineas in the pocket of it. **1966** I. MURDOCH *Time of Angels* iii. 32 Pattie resented too, what before she had scarcely noticed, Carel's assumption that Muriel and Elizabeth were socially her superiors. **1970** C. W. K. MUNDLE *Critique Linguistic Philos.* 16 Their claim is sometimes that so and so is... incorrect English, sometimes (what is very different) that it is absurd or meaningless. **1976** *Times* 7 June 14/6 To this he added, what could hardly be encouraging to other aspirants to riches, 'In building a large fortune it pays to be born at the right time.'

4. a. (a) In generalized or indefinite sense: Anything that: = **WHATEVER** 2a. Now only in such phrases as *what you please, come what may*, or esp. *(b) for what I know, care, can tell*. †Formerly also in a qualifying dependent clause: = **WHATEVER** 3a.

c 1315 SHOREHAM IV. 159 Ac tyde þe what by-tyde. **1340** *Ayenb.* 43 Oper be uenym, oper ine opre manere, huet pet hit by. **1340-70** *Alex. & Dind.* 68 What it be þat 3e bidde, your bonus i graunte. **a 1425** *Cursor* M. 13148 (Trin.) He bad hir aske what [Cott. quatsum, Fairf. quateuer] she wolde. **1469** *Bury Wills* (Camden) 50 To make therof qwat that he can. **1535** COVERDALE *Gen.* i. 24 Catell, wormes and what as hath life vpon earth. **1601** SHAKS. (*title of play*) Twelfth Night, Or what you will. **1655** VAUGHAN *Silex Scint.*, Mt. *Olives* i, Such ill-plac'd wit, Conceit, or call it what you please, Is the braines fit, And meere disease. **1670** in *Marvell's Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 299 Its therefore my request to you to... be assisting to him with your Certificates, or in what else you can serve him. **1680** MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* xii. 208 With your Flat Chissel or Gouge, (or what is nearest at hand) knock softly. **1749** HARTLEY *Observ.* Man I. i. §1. 20 Be the Cause what it will. **1859** H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* ix, One thing she was determined on, not to give up her lover, come what would. **1908** S. E. WHITE *Riverman* xix, To sacrifice his pride, his ambition, his what-you-will.

(b) **1697** J. LEWIS *Mem. Dk. Gloucester* (1789) 55 You may have half a dozen [legs] for what I know, as it is difficult to discover any under the petticoats you wear! **1798** CHARLOTTE SMITH *Yng. Philos.* I. 22 She may die for what you know. **1818** SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xxii, It may have been murdered, for what I can tell. **1875** RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* ix. 332 You may think, for what I care, what you please in such matters.

†**b.** Of a person or persons: Whoever. *Obs.* **c 1340** HAMPOLE *Prose Treat.* 43 Ilke man, what þat he be, þat in-calles þe name of Godd, þat es to say askes saluacione by Ihesu and by his passionne. **c 1430** *Freemasonry* (1840) 445 And whad he be, let hym be sowjht. **1448-9** METHAM *Amoryus & Cl.* 916 He redy schuld be For hys lady sake to iuste, ayens yche knyght in general, ... and qwat he were myght yeue hym a falle. **1591** SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI.* v. iii. 45 Be what thou wilt, thou art my prisoner. **1613** — *Hen. VIII.* v. iii. 47 That... my Accusers, Be what they will, may stand forth face to face.

c. with the indefinite sense indicated by *ever*, *so*, etc. following (now only immediately following: see **WHATEVER**, **WHATSO**, etc.): cf. 9b below.

c 1200 ORMIN 2504, & all wass mænlike þing Whatt littles se þe33 haffdenn. **1390** GOWER *Conf.* I. 20 What as eny man accuse. *Ibid.* 103 What as euer that ye seie. **1464** *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 68 What that euer he wer to by straw, he must pay in honde. †**1481** CAXTON *Chesse* III. iv. (ed. 2) g v, To alle trewe marchantis and other what that som-euer [ed. 1474 other what som euyr] they be.

d. what else: orig. ellipt. = whatever else there may be; hence, with loss of the relative force, anything else, anything and everything.

1579 *Expos. Termes Law* s.v. *Reservation*, Theyr reseruacions was wel... in vittailis, whether flesh, fishe, corne, bread, drinke, or what els, as in money. **1585-6** EARL LEYCESTER *Corr.* (Camden) 85 Impostes, customes, and what ells that yeld them money. **1593** SHAKS. *3 Hen. VI.* III. i. 51 Warwick... in conclusion winnes the King from her, With promise of his Sister, and what else, To strengthen and

support King Edwards place. **1659** in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* (1919) July 287 That... you will afford the best of your assistance... and what elce needfull. **1873** RUSKIN *Crown Wild Olive* App. xi. 201 The right to keep everything and every place about you in as good order as you can—Prussia, Poland, or what else.

e. what have you: anything else (similar) that there may be, or that one can think of. orig. *U.S.*

1925 *New Yorker* 10 Oct. 28/2 New Yorker, Newarker, or what have you? **1930** H. CRADDOCK *Savoy Cocktail Bk.* I. 113 Fill the said tumbler with Water, Ginger Ale, or What Have You, until almost to the top. **1944** AUDEN *For Time Being* (1945) 115 Disguising himself as a swan or a bull or a shower of rain or what-have-you. **1956** A. WILSON *Anglo-Saxon Attitudes* 163 Too busy or going on leave or what-have-you. **1968** K. WEATHERLY *Roo Shooter* 110, I must have been away about two hours, buying the stores and what-have-you. **1973** C. BONINGTON *Next Horizon* iv. 66, I was eager to snatch at every opportunity to get myself established as a writer, film-maker, what-have-you, in an effort to find a clearly defined career.

5. a. but what (after a negative expressed or implied): except what (or who); which (or who) . . . not (= BUT C. 12b); see also BUT C. 30.

1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* v. ii. 14 Padua affords nothing but what is kinde. **1662** EVELYN *Sculptura* Table, Never any of the Antients excelled in these Arts, but what were Gentlemen. **1688** SOUTH *Serm.*, Matt. xxii. 12 (1697) II. 333 Few are Confident, but what are first Careless. **1747** *Gentl. Mag.* 247/2 Of the sails that were left, I believe there is not a cloth but what has a shot through it. **1780** BENTHAM *Introd. Mor. & Legisl.* xiv. (1789) p. clxxxv. note, There are few madmen but what are observed to be afraid of the strait waistcoat. **1796** CHARLOTTE SMITH *Marchmont* IV. 133 Not one of these insinuations but what gathered something from malevolence.

b. loosely as conjunctive phr.: But that, that . . . not (= BUT C. 12); see also BUT C. 30. *colloq.*

¶ In quot. 1807 exceptionally without preceding negative: = BUT C. 11a.

1662 [see BUT C. 30]. **1753** A. MURPHY *Gray's Inn Jrnl.* No. 43 There hardly arose an Incident, but what our Fellow-Traveller would repeat twenty or thirty Verses in a Breath. **1807** W. IRVING *Salmag.* No. 9 (1824) 144 In vain did the wind whistle and the storm beat—my aunt would waddle through mud and mire, over the whole town, but what she would visit them. **c 1883** E. FITZGERALD *Let.* in A. C. Benson *E. Fitzgerald* (1905) i. 19 Never having read his father's [poems]... till drawn to them by me... Not but what he loved and admired his father in every shape but that. **1894** DU MAURIER *Trilby* vi. (1895) 284 Not but what many changes had been wrought. **1908** R. BAGOT *A. Cuthbert* vii. 257 You should have kept quiet in the house to-day. Not but what you are certainly looking better than you did early this morning.

6. Used redundantly after *than* or *as* introducing a clause. *dial.* or *vulgar.*

1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xxx, I think I laughed heartier than what I do now. **1960** M. SPARK *Ballad Peckham Rye* iii. 29 'He's the same as what we are,' Dixie said. **1966** P. WILLMOTT *Adolescent Boys* ii. 26 They're all about the same age as what we are.

**** 7.** As simple relative (*sing.* or *pl.*): Which (or who); that. **a.** referring to a pron. (demonstr. or indef.), occas. to a noun; orig. introducing a dependent question in apposition with it (A. 6); esp., in later use only, in *all what* (now *dial.* or *vulgar*).

Apparent instances in OE. are due to imitation of Latin: [c 1000 *Ag.* *Gosp.* Luke vi. 3 Ne rædde ge þæt hwæt dauid dyde? (Vulg. *nec hoc legis quod fecit D.*?). **11..** *Ælfred's Boethius* xl. §7 (Bodl. MS.) Eall hwæt [Cott. MS. þ] he willniap hi bigitap. **c 1200** ORMIN 1115 Nu icc wile shæwenn juw all þatt hwæt itt bitacnepp. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4862 þe king... wende toward bangor þo To destruye þe brutons, wat he founde mo. **c 1440** *Alphabet of Tales* 86 He told þaim all what at he saw. **c 1449** *PECOCK Repr.* II. ix. 191 Aftir al this what he is tretid upon the firste... gouernauncis. **1532** TINDALE *Expos. Matt.* v-vii (c 1550) 20b, Here seist thou y' vtermost what a christen man must looke for. **1557** NORTH *Gueuara's Diall* Pr. 244 They do al thinges what they lyst, and nothing what they ought. **1597** G. HARVEY *Trimming of Nashe* Wks. (Grosart) III. 53 The beast Ephemeron, which because shee hath but one day to liue, hath manie legs, foure wings, and all what Nature can afford, to giue her expedition to see about the world. **1645** FULLER *Good Th. in Bad* T. (1841) 36 For matter of language there is nothing what grace doth do, but wit can act. **1657** S. TITUS *Killing no Murder* 9 They... thought it not adultery what was committed with her. **1718** HICKES & NELSON *J. Kettlewell* III. §78 He continued Unmoveable in all what he Believed to be his Duty. **1740** RICHARDSON *Pamela* xxiii. I. 57 Do you think that so dutiful a Son as our Neighbour... does not pride himself, for all what he said at Table, in such a pretty Maiden? **1919** J. B. MORTON *Barber of Putney* xv, If I sat down to write a book, I'd want to shove in all what I saw.

†**b.** in dependence on a prep.; spec. in phr. *for what* (replacing OE. *for hwon*) = for which purpose or reason, wherefore. *Obs.*

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 81 þis monne me mei sermonen mid godes worde, for hwat he scal his sunne uor-saken and bileuen. **c 1200** ORMIN 2831 Ure preost... noht he mihtte trowwenn þatt word tatt himm þurh Gabriel Wass se33d o Godes halffe, Forr hwatt himm wass hiss spæche... þurh Drihtin all biræfed. **c 1200** *Vices & Virtues* 39 Gif ðu na þing ne luest... ðurh hwat ðu miht forliessen godes luue. **a 1225** *Ancr. R.* 66 Kumeð þe coue... & fret al þet of hwat he schulde uorð bringen hir ewike briddes. *Ibid.* 382 He... bid me ofte techen him sum þing mid hwat he muhte his licome deruen. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2533 Hengist... him grantede... is do3ter abbe to wif, Vor 3wat þe king 3eue him þe contreie of kent. **a 1300** R. Gloucester's *Chron.* 3451 (MS. B.) Hii vnder 3ete a welle... Of wat [MS. A. wan] þe king ofte dronk. **a 1300** *Seven Sins* 11 in *E.E.P.* (1862) 19 þi fair schrute mid whate þou art ischrid aboute.

c. gen. (Now *dial.* or *vulgar*.)

a 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* II. (Arb.) 121 In folowyng so preciselie, either the matter what other men wrote, or els the maner how other men wrote. **1621** ELSING *Debates Ho. Lords* (Camden) 34 To add that to the weight what the washers had taken away. **1668** WILKINS *Real Char.* 122 That inclosure or resemblance of cutting what is common to most of them [sc. insects]. **c 1842** in T. W. Reid *Life Forster* (1888) I. v. 144 Be like Long Forster, what walked to Colne and back before breakfast. **1865** DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* III. ii, Them's her lights, Miss Abbey, wot you see a-blinking yonder.

II. adj. (*sing.* or *pl.*, of things or persons; always as compound relative exc. in 10b.)

8. That (or those)... which (or who); such... as; often expressing quantity, So much (or many)... as: cf. C. 1, 2a.

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1114 Fondes to do þe duk what duresse 3e may. **a 1400** *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 608 Tak what þing þe profred is Whon þou maist redi haue. **1579** FULKE *Heskins' Parl.* 150 By what things I was confoyned vnto you, those things... I haue giuen vnto you. **1605** SHAKS. *Lear* III. vi. 2, I will peece out the comfort with what addition I can. **1677** in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 36 Lord Purbecke makes what hast he can to consume his ladie's fortune by gameing. **1710** STEELE *Tatler* No. 169 ¶ I Do we... destroy the use of what organs we have? **1795** SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* vi. 388 What few to guard the town Unwilling had remained, haste forth to meet The triumph. **1874** RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* xlii. 129, I will take what indulgence the... reader will give me.

9. a. In generalized sense: Any... which (or who), any... that: = **WHATEVER** 2b. Now only in certain collocations: cf. C. 4. Also = **WHATEVER** 3b.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 311 What man seiþ heyl to siche antecristis shal haue part of heere werkis for assent þat he 3iueþ. **1393** LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. III. 34 What man þat me louyep and my wille folweþ, Shal haue grace. **1422** *E.E. Wills* (1882) 50, I bequeþ to what thenge þat is most necessary in þe same Chirch, v. marc. **1470-85** MALORY *Arthur* x. xxxviii. 475 What Knyghte maye ouercome that Knyght... shal haue me and alle my landes. **1567** MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 101 Into what cleare Fontaine or Riuier he swimmeth, he infecteth it. **1592** SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* II. vi. 3 Come what sorrow can. **1665** HOOKE *Microgr.* 149 Provide a good large Box... and of what depth you shall judge convenient. **1712-14** POPE *Rape Lock* I. 70 Spirits... Assume what sexes and what shapes they please. **1852** THOREAU *Summer* 23 June, The red color of cattle also is agreeable in a landscape, or let them be what color they may. **1891** MORRIS *Poems by Way* 126 Unmoved I stand what wind may blow.

b. with the generalized sense indicated by *ever*, *so*, *soever*, or *somever* following (now only, exc. with *soever*, immediately following: see **WHATEVER**, **WHATSO**, **WHATSOEVER**, **WHATSOMEVER**).

c 1200 ORMIN 10111 Whatt mann se itt iss þatt hafepþ twe33enn kirtless, 3ife he patt an patt illke mann þatt iss wiþputenn kirtell. **13..** *Cursor* M. 1149 (Gött.) To quat contre so þu wend, Sal þu na man find to freind. **c 1440** *Gesta Rom.* i. 1 (Harl. MS.) That knygt shall dye by my crafte, yn what cuntre of the wordle so euer þat he be ynne. **c 1450** *Merlin* i. 5 In what nede that euer ye haue. **1470-85** MALORY *Arthur* x. xli. 481 What knyght someuer he were that smote doune sir Palomydes shold haue his damoyseil to hym self. **1472** in P. H. Hore *Hist. Wexford* (1900) I. 230 A strange marchant... what that ever condicon he be of. **1558** Q. KENNEDY in *Wodrow Soc. Misc.* (1844) 98 Quhat sect or opinioun that evir thou be of. **1588** SHAKS. *Tit. A.* v. i. 82 By that same God, what God so ere it be. **1676** SHADWELL *Virtuoso* IV. 66 Let what harmony soever be between Lovers at first, in a short time it turns to scurvy jangling. **1716** POPE *Iliad* VIII. 567 What Pow'r soe'er provokes our lifted Hand. **1822** K. H. DIGBY *Broadstone Hon.* Pref. p. v, The Gentlemen of England, of what rank or estate soever they may be. **1868** MORRIS *Earthly Par.* (1870) I. II. 460 All people ceased What talk they held soever.

c. Usually with *soever*, in indef. (non-relative) sense (cf. 4d): Any... at all, any whatever: = **WHATEVER** 4a, **WHATSOEVER** 3a.

In first quot. 1856 = some... or other.

1597 J. PAYNE *Royal Exch.* 18 Let all right belevers... be of good comforth vnder what cross or distress soever. **1608** CHAPMAN *Byron's Conspir.* v. i. Plays 1873 II. 243 Rise then for euer Quit of what guilt soeuer. **1611** SHAKS. *Wint. T.* I. ii. 44, I loue thee not a larre o' thy Clock, behind What Lady she her Lord. **1664** POWER *Exp. Philos.* II. 91 At which Angle of Inclination the perpendicular will be equal to 29 inches, let the Tube be of what length soever. **1725** DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 197 Not to come any nearer, upon what occasion soever. **1736** *Gentl. Mag.* Dec. 721/2 Goods, Chattels, and Things of what Nature or Value soever. **1825** SCOTT *Talism.* xx, She wore not upon her person any female ornament of what kind soever. **1856** EMERSON *Eng. Traits, First Visit Eng.*, Mr. Landor... has a wonderful brain... by what chance converted to letters. *Ibid.*, Whatever is didactic—what theories of society, and so on...—might perish quickly. **1881** SWINBURNE *Mary Stuart* I. ii. (1899) 52 We took in hand to cut this peril off By what close mean soe'er and what foul hands Unwashed of treason.

10. a. what time (later also † *at what time*), as conj. phr.: At the time, or at any time, at which; when; whenever. So *what day, what while*. Now only *poet.*

1357 *Lay Folks' Catech.* (T.) 65 Teche tham thair childir... What tyme so thai er of eld to lere tham. **c 1380** *Antecrist* in Todd *Three Treat.* Wyclif (1851) 124 Seynt Jon... seide what tyme he lyved þat penne weren many antecristis. **c 1440** *Generydes* 4225 What tyme that eny kyng weddid shuld be... The kyng and she shuld neuer togeder mete. **1535** COVERDALE *Zech.* viii. 14 Like as I deuyded to punysh you, what tyme as youre fathers prouoked me vnto wrath. **1637** MILTON *Lycidas* 28 What time the Gray-fly winds her sultry horn. **1648** EVELYN *Let.* to R. Browne 18 Dec., Abstaining from using uncivil terms at what time they

differed in judgment. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* xx. 190 What time the monster of the Deep pursued The Hero. 1861 D. G. ROSSETTI tr. *Dante's Vita Nuova* in *Early Italian Poets* 11. 299 It is your fickleness... makes me tremble thus What while a lady greets me with her eyes. c 1882 G. M. HOPKINS *Poems* (1967) 93 Walked with the wind what while we slept. 1885-94 R. BRIGGS *Eros & Psyche* Sept. ii, Was the trial waged What day the Sirens with the Muses strove. 1936 W. B. PEMBERTON *Carteret* ix. 253 He and his brother were quietly mobilising their forces what time a rollicking... Carteret dictated optimistic despatches. 1945 R. HARGREAVES *Enemy at Gate* 24 One side getting ready for the next time what-time the other as carefully and methodically prepared themselves to fight the last.

†b. (with *what* as simple rel.): At which time; when; and then. *Obs.*

1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 65 The kinges Ambassadors repulsed of the French king returned, at what tyme he sent another Ambassade vpon the lyke cause. 1630 R. JOHNSON'S *Kingd. & Commw.* 128, I read... that it was builded... in the time of Edward the third of England; at what time our Kings... had as yet nothing to doe in this Citie. 1653 H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* III. ix. §3 He gave up the Ghost about the third hour of the night, at what time a black Cat... ran to his bed.

III. conj.

†11. a. During the time that; while. *Obs. rare.* c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 11 Muchel is us penne neod... wet we on pisse middelerd liuen, sod scrift.

†b. Up to the time that; till, until. (See also ALLWHAT.) *Obs.*

a 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 235 Si laze... adilizede... wat hit com to pa time pe god sende pe halie witiye. c 1250 *Kent. Serm.* in *O.E. Misc.* 30 þu hest i-hialde þet beste wyn wat nu. c 1315 SHOREHAM v. 245 Fram crystes resurreccoun, Wat comep hys ascensiou. 13... *Guy Warw.* (A.) 4902 In þat cite þai bileued pere What Tirry was hole & fere. c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 5022 No fined þai neuer swiche a sleijt, What þai to Gaheriet com rist. 1340 *Ayenb.* 87 Wypoute comynge ayen of huyche pinges, non ne is ury in pise wordle, huet hi is y-do.

12. To the extent that; as much as, so far as. (Cf. C. 2 a, 8.) *Obs. exc. dial.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* IV. 35 Ector... Caste on a day wip Grekes for to fighte As he was woned to greue hem what he myghte. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1794 He... welcomyt hym worthely as a wegh noble, And fraynt hym with friendship qwat the fre wold. 1561 T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtier* III. (1577) Q viij b, As though shee woulde... allure what she can the eyes and affection of whoso beholdeth hyr. 1647 WARD *Simple Cobler* (1843) 52, I speak these things to excuse, what I may, my Countrymen in the hearts of all. 1690 PENN *Rise & Progr. Quakers* (1834) 6 They changed what they could, the kingdom of Christ... into a worldly kingdom.

†13. (?) after F. *que...ou.* Whether (with correl. *or*).

c 1550 ROLLANO *Crt. Venus* I. 797 Befoir my Maiestie... Or my deputis quhat they be greit or small.

D. Indefinite (non-relative) uses.

I. *pron. (sb.)*. †1. Something; anything; only OE. exc. as surviving in phrases in which *what* is qualified by a quantitative or identifying word, (sometimes a genitive), e.g. ANYWHAT, ELSEWHAT (OE. *elles hwæt*), LITTLE-WHAT (OE. *lytles hwæt*, ME. *littles what*, *what littles*, LITTLE B. 3 c), MANYWHAT, MOSTWHAT, MUCHWHAT (also *mickle what*, MICKLE A. 3), NOWHAT, OTHERWHAT, SOMEWHAT, q.v., whence was evolved a subst. use of *what* = thing. *all what*: all sorts of things. *Obs.*

c 1200 ORMIN 9035, & 3et forr all an operr whatt Se33de pe laffid; Marje, þatt Josæp Cristess faderr wass. *Ibid.* 18553 þatt all patt strenedd iss off Godd, Off Godess æghenn kinde, All iss itt all patt ilke whatt þatt Godd iss inn himm selfenn. c 1290 St. Edmund 408 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 442 3wat lutles it was þat he et, was al of grete pingue. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 5963 3yf þou receyuedyst any what Of one þat hys þyng forgat. c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* IV. pr. vi. 104 (Camb. MS.) She a lytel what smyllynge. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 98 Florent... syh this vecke wher sche sat, Which was the lothlieste what That evere man caste on his yhe. a 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 3046 So fell fligt was of flany... Of arrows & of all quat. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 112 Doo, say, or syng, in any what, Thou art a minion marmats. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* July 31 Come downe, and learne the little what, that Thomalin can sayne. 1596 — *F.Q.* VI. ix. 7 They... gauge him for to feed Such homely what, as serues the simple clowne.

II. adv. or conj.

(Often, esp. in early examples, capable of being construed as a pronoun = 'some'.)

2. a. Introducing (a) each, or (b) only the first, of two or more alternative or co-ordinate words or phrases: (a) *what...what*, (b) *what...and* (†as, †so) = Some...others; both...and; including...and; as well...as; partly...partly. Now *rare exc.* with special implication (see b).

(a) a 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 237 Of þe folce we siggeð þat hit cump laffides... wat frend, wat fa. 1287 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1152 Hor folc hii lore... Wat in bataile, wat in þe se, and hore hors nei echon. *Ibid.* 5548 Wat þoru is stalward-hede, wat þoru godes grace, Mony was þe gode body, þat he slou. *Ibid.* 8289 Wat adreint, wat aslawe, tulf princes þer were ded. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 2293 Quat for luee and quat for doute. *Ibid.* 3907 Quat of his wiues tuin in spus, And wat of hand wimmen in hus, Tuelue suns had he o þaa. c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 8873 What wip wristling, wat wip togging, What wip smiteing & wip skirminge, On bope half so þai wrouzten, Her kinges on hors þai brouzten. c 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* III. 968 The thinges that I herde there What a love, and what in ere. c 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxv. 118 Fyfty comacy of men, wat of hors men, wat of fote men. c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* II. viii. 189 He schal, wat in the firste partie, and wat in the iij. partie, fynde herto proof yuous. 1531 TINOALE *Prol. Jonas* Wks. (1573) 28/2 All the noble bloud

was slayne vp, and halfe the commons thereto, what in Fraunce, and what with their owne sword, in fighting among them selues for the crowne. a 1548 HALL *Chron.*, *Hen. IV* 13b, These Lordes had much people folowing them what for feare and what for entreatie. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* 1. 634 The Severn sea... what beeing driven backe... with a Southwest winde, and what with a verie strong pirrie from the sea troubling it, swelled [etc.]. 1654 EARL MONM. tr. *Bentivoglio's Wars Flanders* 122 Most of the Kings ships which, what great, what little, were about forty. 1670 COTTON *Esperson* II. VIII. 350 A hundred and fifty Horse (what Gentlemen, and what of his own Guards). a 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. i. 19 Seven Children at the least (what Male what Female) were brought forth. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xxvi, I conceive they may be—what of yeomen—what of commons, at least five hundred men.

(b) c 1400 MAUNDEV. (1919) xxviii. 170 What on horse & on fote, mo þan CC. M. perones. 1442 *Beckington's Jnl.* (1828) 101 There is in pypes, what in the towne so in the castel, moo than CC legge herneys. c 1450 *Brut* II. 483 What of rayne, thondere and lightnyng and hayll. c 1500 *Melusine* 240 Many riche rayments... were made what for the spouse as for the ladyes & damoyelles. *Ibid.* 266 About xviii. C what balesters as Archers. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* III. iii, The very perfect bryghtnes, What of the tower, and of the cleare sunne. 1523 LO. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. ccxxiv. 119b/1 They rode so long what night and day. 1670 COTTON *Esperson* III. IX. 441 They had been mann'd out with above four hundred and fifty, what Mariners, and Souldiers.

b. Introducing advb. phrases formed with prepositions (in the earliest periods chiefly *for*, later usually, now almost always, *with*), implying (in early use only contextually) 'in consequence of, on account of, as a result of; in view of, considering (one thing and another)'. In quot. 1591 without alternative: *whatfor* simply = 'for, because of'.

(a) c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 145 Alle we beoð in monifald wawe... hwat for ure eldere werkes, hwat for ure asyne gultes. c 1290 *Beket* 391 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 117 3wat for ei3e, 3wat for loue, no man him ne with-seide. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Conse.* 7100 What for sorow, and what thurgh smoke And what thurgh cald, and what thurgh hete... þai salle ay grete. c 1450 St. Cuthbert (Surtees) 1743 What for hungry, what for thriste, þe shipmen of na lykyng lyste. 1476 *Paston Lett.* III. 161, I ame somewhatt crased, what with the see and what wythe thys dyet heer. 1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* II. (1895) 116 The... ii. corners, what wythe fordis and shelles, and what with rockes, be very ieopardous. 1570 FOXE A. & M. (ed. 2) 209/2 What for the pillage of the Danes, and what by inward theues and bribers: this land was brought into great affliction. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* I. ii. 83 What with the war; what with the sweat, what with the gallowes, and what with poerty, I am Custom-shrunke. a 1672 WILKINS *Nat. Relig.* I. iii. (1675) 36 What through their vicious affections...; what through their inadvterency or neglect... they are not to be convinced. 1673 MARVELL *Reh. Transp.* II. 181 The Penalty of the Bonds should have differ'd, what in case he run the Subject only into Errour, and what in case of Sin. 1678 J. WILLIAMS *Hist. Gump-Treas.* 18 What for avoiding the Report of too much Credulity... what from the care of doing any thing that might redound to the blemish of the Earl of Northumberland... it was resolved [etc.]. 1756 *Monitor* No. 35. I. 325 What by... diminution of trade: what by the immense weight of taxes;... some were actually ruined. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xlii, Athelstane's spirit of revenge, what between the natural indolent kindness of his own disposition, what through the prayers of his mother Edith... had terminated [etc.]. 1842 DE QUINCEY *Mod. Greece* Wks. 1890 VII. 331 What through banks, and what through policemen, the concern has dwindled to nothing. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* II. The track, what with pack-horses' feet, and what with the wear and tear of five hundred years' rainfall, was a rut three feet deep and two feet broad.

(b) c 1386 CHAUCER *Sgr.'s T.* 46 The fowelles... What for the seson and the yonge grene Ful loude songen hire affections. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. xviii. 85 What þowr werre and wrake and wycked hydes. a 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 781 Quat of stamping of stedis & stering of bernes, All dymed þe dale. c 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 3173 What by-cause of þe hele of þis gode wyff, & also of þe meracle þe whiche þer was do. c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 13 What for calde & for holdyng in þe watir, I was nere-hand slayn. 1579 TWYNE *Phis. agst. Fort.* I. xxx. 41 What by the wonderfulness and number of the woorkes, there was nothing in all the whole world to be wondred at, but Rome. 1591 GREENE *Maiden's Dream* 154 She... wrong out sighes so sore: That what for grief her tongue could speak no more. 1665 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 166 What by Themistocles on shore, and Leonidas at Sea, at Salamis and Thermopylæ, his huge Army melted away. 1702 DE FOE *Shortest Way w. Dissenters* 29 Alas the Church of England! What with Popery on one Hand, and Schismatics on the other; Now has she been Crucify'd between two Thieves. 1768 STERNE *Sent. Journ.*, *Fragment* I. 106 What for poisons, conspiracies and assassinations... there was no going there by day—'twas worse by night. 1822 COBBETT *Cott. Econ.* (1823) §108 What of Excise Laws and Custom Laws and Combination Laws and Libel Laws, a human being... scarcely knows what he dares do or... say. 1867 PARKMAN *Jesuits in N. Amer.* xxiii. (1875) 346 What with hunting, fishing, canoe-making, and bad weather, the progress of the august travellers was so slow. 1870 DASENT *Ann. Eventf.* Life xxxvi, Aunt Mandeville... what between the White Lady and the warm verses, was quite upset.

* For other indefinite (non-relative) uses see C. 4 d, 9 c.

E. Substantial nonce-uses (from A., B., C.). 1. The question 'What?', 'What is it?', or the like, or the answer to such question; the essence or substance of the thing in question.

1656 COWLEY *Pindar. Odes, Extasie* vi, An unexhausted Ocean of delight Swallows my senses quide, And drowns all What, or How, or Where. 1796 MME. D'ARBLAY *Camilla* v. vi, 'What, ma'am?—how?—what?' 'Nay, nay, don't be frightened. Come down to dinner, and we'll talk over the hows? and the whats? afterwards.' 1832 MOTLEY in *Corr.* (1889) I. 18, I was summoned before the Senate of the University, and then wrote my name and my whences and whats, etc., etc., in a great book. 1844 L. HUNT *Blue-*

Stocking Revels II. 171 Poems 114 My lady will know all the what and the why. 1861 J. BROWN *Horæ Subsec.* Ser. II. 101 Desiring to divine the essences rather than the appearances of things—in search of the *what* chiefly in order to question it, make it give up at whatever cost the secret of its *why*. 1884 tr. *Lotze's Metaph.* 431 It must seem utterly inconceivable that we should ask for the 'what' of a thing, and yet look for the answer in anything except that which this thing is and does.

2. A something.

1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 149 We have seen the Pittfull who's, and in short the slender whats are against modest Learning in Religious Division. 1903 A. MACLAREN *Last Sheaves* 54 We are not seeking a What; we are seeking a Whom.

3. An instance of the exclamation 'What!'

1779 WARNER in *Jesse Selwyn & Contemp.* (1844) IV. 254 His partner... gave... a 'What!' of such sharp, shrill astonishment, that you could not but have laughed at it. 1785 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 16 Dec., The *What!* was then repeated.

†*what*, a.² *Obs.* Forms: 1 hwæt, 3 hwat, whæt, wat. [OE. *hwæt* = OS. *hwat* keen, bold, OHG. *hwaz*, *waz* sharp, rough, severe, ON. *hvatr* bold, vigorous: related to WHET v., q.v.] Quick, active; stout, brave.

Beowulf 1601 Næs ofgeafon hwate Scyldingas. a 1000 *Bi Monna Cræftum* 81 Sum bip to horse hwæt. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 183 To gode þu ware slau and let; and to euele spac and hwat. c 1205 LAY. 7137 þer weoren eorles swiðe whæte [c 1275 wate] and leiden þene king bi æne zate.

what, Sc. f. WHET v.

whata, var. FUTTAH.

whatabout(s) ('hwɒtəbaʊt(s)). *rare*. [f. WHAT *pron.*, after *whereabout*(s).] What one is about; doings, occupations.

1830 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) IV. 170 Then you might know of all my... whatabouts and whereabouts from Henry Taylor. 1841 N. HAWTHORNE in *N. H. & Wife* (1885) I. 227, I bethink me that you may have no objections to hear something of my whereabouts and whatabout. 1868 ELIZ. PRENTISS *Life & Lett.* (1882) 244, I was right glad... to learn of your whereabouts and whatabouts.

†*what-call-ye-him*. *Obs.* Also simply *what-call*. = WHAT-D'YE-CALL-'EM (-UM), -HER, -HIM, -IT.

1473 SIR J. PASTON in *P. Lett.* III. 104 Ber the cuppe evyn, as What-calle-ye-hym seyde to Aslake. 1592 NASHE *P. Penilesse* Wks. (Grosart) II. 130 His Page shal say... he is so busie with my L. How-call-ye him, and my L. What-call-ye him. 1598 *Servuigman's Conf.* (1868) 166 M. what-call-you-hims man. 1609 *Ravenscroft's Deuteronomia* 21 This other day I start a hare On what-call Hill.

whatcha ('wɒtʃə, 'hw-), repr. a colloq. or vulgar pronunciation of *what do* (or *are*, or *have*) *you?* See WATCHA.

1934 J. T. FARRELL *Calico Shoes* 43 H'lo, baby! Whatcha say, kid! 1966 M. & G. GORDON *Undercover Cat prowls Again* (1967) v. 44 Whatcha getting me today, Tim? 1973 *Black World* June 65 Awwwwh, Baby what'cha done to mee. 1978 'M. CRAIG' *Were he a Stranger* xvi. 128 'Whatcha want?'... 'We're looking for a man, Ted called.

whatchamacallit ('wɒtʃməkəlɪt, 'hw-), repr. a pronunciation of *what-you-may-call-it* (see WHAT-D'YE-CALL-'EM, etc. γ). Chiefly U.S.

[1928 M. OSTENSO *Mad Carews* xii. 160 It's your—whatcha-may-call-it—your dowry!] 1942 BERREY & VAN OEN BARK *Amer. Thes. Slang* §75/4 *Contrivance*... gadget, whatchamacallit. 1974 R. B. PARKER *God save Child* (1975) II. 13 A pet whatchamacallit... Guinea pig. 1979 *Globe & Mail* (Toronto) 24 Jan. 6/2 Wouldn't everyone feel silly if it turned out... that the whang-doodle was just a whatchamacallit with speed stripes?

what-d'ye-call-'em (-um), -her, -him, -it ('hwɒtdʒə-, 'wɒtʃəkəlɪm, etc.). *colloq.* Less commonly *what-do-you-call-'em*, etc.; also variously abbreviated (see quotes.); also simply 7-8 *what-d'ye-call*. See also β. below. [WHAT *pron.* A. I.] An appellation for a thing or person whose name the speaker forgets, does not know or wish to mention, or thinks not worth mentioning. Also *occas.* substituted for any word (e.g. an adjective) which the speaker fails to recall.

1639 [J. TAYLOR (Water-P.)] *Divers Crabtree Lect.* 217, I... gave her a sound spurme upon the Buttocks... O my what doe you call't, said shee. 1641 COWLEY *Guardian* v. v, *Dog*... How the what-d'ye-call-'um runs? What do ye call it? *Pun.* Time, Sir. c 1646 MILTON *Sonn.*, *On new forcers Consc.* 12 By shallow Edwards and Scotch what d'ye call. 1678 DRYDEN *Kind Keeper* III. i, His Father was Squire what-d'you call him, of what d'you call 'em Shire. 1704 SWIFT *T. Tub* Pref. 17 Spoken by Mr. Whaticall'um. 1752 FOOTE *Taste* II, She was a kind of a what d' ye call 'em... a sort of a Queen or Wife, or something or other to somebody, that liv'd a damn'd while ago. 1765 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* VIII. xix, There being so many tendons and what d'ye call-'ems all about it. 1773 H. WALPOLE *Let. to W. Cole* 8 Jan., Mr. What-d'ye-call-him's pamphlet. 1779 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 16 June, Miss What-d'ye-call-her. 1806 SURR *Winter in Lond.* III. 257 We... went to that public house or what-d'ye-call, in Piccadilly. 1827 SCOTT *Chron. Canongate* III, There is good accommodation at the what-d'ye-call-'em arms. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* xxv, To break up old associations and what-do-you-callems of that kind. 1870 LOWELL *Study Wind.* 74 As legitimate a subject of human study as the glacial period or the silurian what-d'ye-call-ems. 1875 F. E. TROLLOPE *Charm. Fellow* i, College is out of

the question... unless he entered himself as a what-do-you-call-it?... A sizar.

†**β**. In contracted forms *whatd'ecalt*, *what d'ee cal't*, *what-d'ye-caw't*, *whatchicallt*, *what-sha-callum*, etc. (cf. WASHICAL): sometimes analysed as = *what shall I call...? Obs.*

1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super. Wks.* (Grosart) II. 57 Hollinsheads engrosing; some-bodies abridging; and what-chicaltes translating. 1598 B. JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* i. ii. (1601) B4, Didst thou not see a fellow here in a what-sha-callum doublet? 1632 BROME *North. Lasse* v. v, Your great acquaintance, and alliance in the Whatshicall Court *Non obstante*. 1641 — *Jov. Crew* II. (1661) F1, Rogue enough though, to offer us his whatd'ecalts? his Doxies. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 121 What think you Sir of your what-sha'come Water and Diascord? 1658 A. FOX tr. *Wirtz' Surg.* II. xxviii. 188 It is called also the not-named, or (a whats you call) an unknown Sore, no body knows what it is. 1673 *S'too him Bayes* 55, I came onely to... be a witness for the orthodoxy of what d'ee cal't. 1691 MRS. D'ANVERS *Academia* 10 'Tis, let me see, now, whach'ee call, Syncategorematical. a1807 J. SKINNER *Songs & Poems* (1859) 43 That camste-d'y-e-caw't? (I think it's genius, walie fa't). 1820 SCOTT *Abbot* xxvi, My Lady What-shall-call 'um's powder.

γ. **So what-ye (or -you) -call(-it, etc.)**, later usually **what-you-may-call-it** [WHAT *pron.* C. 4].

1598 CHAPMAN *Blinde Beg. Alexandria* Plays 1873 I. 28 *Eli*. Why hees a what you calt. *Mar.* A what you call it can you not name it. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* III. iii. 74 Good euen good Mr what ye cal't. 16... MIOLETON, etc. *Old Law* III. ii. *Lis*. Heeres your first weapon ducks meat. *Sim.* How, a dutch what you call em, Stead of a German falchion. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xxvii, There is no What's-his-name but Thimgummy, and What-you-may-call-it is his prophet! 1870 MARY BRIGGMAN *Robt. Lynne* xxiv, Fine place, Bob; built by the what-you-may-call-its. 1891 KIPLING *Light that Failed* ix, Say good-bye to the what-you-call-um girl.

†**whate, sb. Obs.** Forms: 1 *pl. hwata*, 3 *hwat*, 3-4 *quate*, 3-5 *wat(e, what(e, qwate)*. [OE. *pl. hwata*, **hwatan* (gen. *hwatena*), related to *hwata* *augur, hwatung* divination.]

1. Divination, augury; ? foreboding.

c1000 ÆLFRIC *Lev.* xix. 26 Ne eton ge blod, ne ne gimon hwata ne swefnal c1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 11 Warienge, and handselne, and time, and hwate, and fele swilche deueles craftes. c1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1054 3et sat loth at ðe burȝes gate, After sum geste stod him quake [read quate]. c1375 *Cursor M.* 19567 (Fairf.) Of wate he [sc. Simon Magus] was ful wonder wise.

2. Fortune, destiny, fate, luck.

c1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 105 þe unbileffulle... Werpeð þat gilt... uppen hwate, and seið, nahte ich no betere wate. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 802 Alas alas þou luper wate [MS. ð fortune], þat vilest me þus one. *Ibid.* 8519 Vor gode wate afterward he nadde in none dede. 13... *St. Gregory* (Vernon MS.) 294 þis is a child of goode wate. c1400 *Destr. Troy* 13681 þen fortune his fall fellis aspies, Wnqwemys his qwate, & þe qwele turnys. 14... *MS. Cantab. Ff.* v. 48, lf. 94 (Halliw.) To bilde he hade gode quate.

b. ? Good fortune, luck.

c1330 *Florice & Bl.* (1857) 14 And be hit erli and be hit late To thi wille thou schalt haue whate.

†**whate, adv. Obs.** [f. WHAT *a.* 2] Quickly.

The identity of the word in the phr. *alse (h)wat se* (= as soon as) is uncertain.

c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 79 Al se hwat se he forgulte wes... þet him er luedeð ho him for wunden. c1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 71 Alse wat swo þe man his sinne sore bimurneð, ure drihten ledeð þe sinne bendes. 13... *K. Alis.* 2639 (Laud MS.) To Tebes ward hij wendeþ whate, Hij shetep æzeins hym þe gate. a1400 *Lybeaus Disc.* 1741 Lambard ladde hym forth well whate.

whate, obs. north. f. WOT.

whatever (hwɔt'evə(r)), *pron.* and *a.* Also *poet.* *whate'er* (hwɔt'ɛə(r)); 6-7 *whatere*. [Orig. two words, *what* (A. B. and EVER *adv.* 8e.)]

1. *interrog.* An emphatic extension of *what*, used in a question (direct or indirect), implying perplexity or surprise. Now *colloq.*

(More properly written as two words: see EVER *adv.* 8d.)

a. *pron.*

13... *Seuyn Sag.* (W.) 3514 Son, what may al this noys be, .. Whatuer sal it sygnify? 14... in *Anglia* XXVII. 285 Scho... thought: what euer menes þis message to me. c1440 *York Myst.* xxiii. 85 *Petrus*. Brethir, what eueure 3one brightnes be? 1823 *Spirit Publ. Jnrls.* 409 Whatever possessed her, I know no more than the child unborn. 1856 F. E. PAGET *Owlet of Owlst.* xiv. 143 'Gracious heart alive, whatever in all the world was that?' asks one. 1880 MRS. OLIPHANT *He that will not* etc. xxiii, Whatever can you want to emigrate for?

b. *adj.*

Mod. Whatever [or What ever] contrivance is that? I wonder whatever [or what ever] queer thing he'll do next.

2. As compound relative, in a generalized or indefinite sense: see EVER *adv.* 8e. (Occas. with correl. demonstrative following.) a. *pron.* Anything at all which, anything that; sometimes contextually (esp. *poet.*), all that, everything that.

c1375 *Cursor M.* 321 (Fairf.) Quat euer þe haly gaste wille, þe fader and sone wil tyte fulfil. c1450 *Godstow Reg.* 31 Holdynge ferme & stable what euyr he wolde do ther-with. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 228 Quhateuer sik men dois, it is comperit to the dede of a beste. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 39 Quhat euer I haif, all that is thyne. 1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 623 Being mou'd he [sc. the boar] strikes, whate're is in his way. 1671 MILTON *P.R.* 1. 149 Whose constant perseverance overcame Whatere his cruel

malice could invent. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* IV. v, It is a Maxim among these Men, That whatever has been done before may legally be done again. 1832 HT. MARTINEAU *Life in Wilds* vii. 88 In a few months we shall have stores of whatever we want. 1883 D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* i, We'll lay in whatever you want to-morrow.

b. *adj. (sing. or pl., of things or persons):* Any... at all which (or who), any... that; sometimes (*poet.*), all or every... that.

c1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 343 Whatever reason men maken of Crist, of Petir, or oper good ground, it goip opinli aȝen sich a pope. 1382 — *Ezek.* xxxiii. 12 The riȝtwijsnesse of a iust man shal not delyuere hym, in whateuer day he shal synne. c1449 PECOCK *Repr.* IV. viii. 463 What euer gouernance God in his Holi Scripture of the Newe Testament blameth. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 29 Quhateuir thing the handis of men had twechet... frome al sik thay abstained mony dayes thaireftir. 1692 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* vi. 22 What-ever successive Duration, shall be bounded at one end, and be all past and present, must come infinitely short of Infinity. 1764 GOLDSM. *Trav.* 113-117 Whatever fruits in different climes were found... Whatever blooms in torrid tracts appear... Whatever sweets salute the northern sky...; These, here [sc. in Italy] disporting, own the kindred soil. 1821-2 SHELLEY *Chas. I.* II. 374 They will hear homilies of whatever length Or form they please. 1887 GOLOW. SMITH in *Contemp. Rev.* July 3 The Governor-General has been stripped of whatever little authority he retained.

3. Introducing a qualifying dependent clause equivalent to a conditional or disjunctive clause, often with verb in subjunctive (*whatever happen* = 'if any (sort of) thing happen', 'whether one thing or another happen'). a. *pron.* = 'No matter what'; frequently implying opposition (equivalent to a conditional clause with *though*): = 'Notwithstanding anything that'.

As predicate sometimes (esp. of persons) expressing quality or character, and thus approaching a pred. adj. (cf. WHAT *A.* 17). Often with ellipsis (*whatever its merits* = 'whatever its merits may be').

13... *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* xlix. 344 Whon þe þef passeþ quyt a-way, þe trewe mon hap schome, what-euer men sai. a1425 *Cursor M.* 11143 (Trin.) But what euer he had in þouȝt Mis-likynge chere had he nouȝt. 1559 *Mirr. Mag.* Jack Cade i, Whateuer it were this one poynt sure I know. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* III. i. 100 Take no repulse, what euer she doth say. c1600 — *Sonn.* cxiii. 11 Whateer thy thoughts, or thy heart's workings be, Thy looks should nothing thence, but sweetness tell. 1600 — *A. Y. L.* II. vii. 109 What ere you are That in this desert... Loose, and neglect the creeping houres of time. 1606 — *Tr. & Cr.* IV. v. 77 *Æne.* If not Achilles sir, what is your name? *Achil.* If not Achilles, nothing. *Æne.* Therefore Achilles; but what ere, know this. 1623 HEMINGE & CONDELL *1st Folio Shaks.* A3, But, what euer you do, Buy. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 162 Whatever doing, what can we suffer more...? 1668 DRYDEN *Secret Love* I. iii, *Phil.* And yet, there is a thing, which time may give me The confidence to name. *Lys.* 'Tis yours whatever. 1697 — *Æneis* vi. 526 Mortal, what e're, who this forbidden Path In Arms presum'st to tread, I charge thee stand. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 497 ¶3 Whether it were from Vanity... or whatever it was, he carried it so far, that [etc.]. 1780 WARNER in *Jesse Selwyn & Contemp.* (1844) IV. 342, I am glad to hear you speak of a little horse, what-ever his colour be. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* lxxiii, So Richard asked her; whatever she said, it wasn't No. 1842 — *Amer. Notes* iii, Whatever the defects of American universities may be, they disseminate no prejudices. 1856 NEWMAN *Univ. Sk.* (1902) 191 Men of one idea and nothing more, whatever their merit, must be to a certain extent narrow-minded. 1857 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* II. 326, I have had nothing to suffer from heat, whatever else.

b. *adj.* = 'No matter what...'; often implying opposition: = 'Notwithstanding any... that'.

Also (after a prep.) with ellipsis, passing into sense 4a (a). 1561 WINSET *Bk. Questions* Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 77 We addict our selfs to the doctrine of na man, of quhateuir leirning and auctoritie he be. 1595 SHAKS. *John* IV. i. 84. 1692 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* v. 17 What-ever Considerations of this nature you propose to this Atheist... he hath this one subterfuge from them all. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 142 ¶10 Money, in whatever hands, will confer power. 1794 PALEY *Evid.* (1825) II. 74 Whatever fables they have mixed with the narrative, they preserve the material parts. 1889 *Nature* 19 Sept., Rocks of whatever origin, crushed and ground to pieces... reconstruct themselves into new forms. 1906 H. BELLOC *Hills & Sea* 176 In whatever place a man may be the spring will come to him.

c. *adv.* Whatever may be the case, at all events. *dial.* (and *colloq.*).

1870 'R. PIKETAH' *Forness Folk* 15, I cudden leave t' please whatevver wi'out seein' her. 1900 'A. RAINE' *Garthowen* 93 She's got a tidy pair of ankles, whatever. 1933 'R. CONNOR' *Girl from Glengarry* 120, I am doing my utmost whatever. 1960 R. WILLIAMS *Border Country* I. ii. 58 What do it matter it's down?... He is Will whatever. 1962 *Amer. N. & Q.* I. 15/1 Whatever, from the early 1700s to the present day... it was the musical that struck root as an indigenous form. 1980 *New Musical Express* 12 Jan. 33/1 Whatever, the myth looks momentous in its sleek new American threads.

4. As indefinite adj. or pron., with loss of the relative force: cf. WHAT *D.*

a. *adj. (sing. or pl., of things or persons):* Any... at all. †(a) preceding the sb.: cf. WHAT *C.* 9c. *Obs.* or merged in the elliptical use under 3b. c1383 in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* (1911) Oct. 742 Prelatis curatis & preestis or what eueure cleriks: shulen not do symonie. c1449 PECOCK *Repr.* I. xvii. 99 Lete hem not come into what euer examynacioun of argumentis whiche mowe be mad ther upon. 1620-55 I. JONES *Stone-Heng* (1725) 11 Accounting it their chiefest Glory to be wholly ignorant in whatever Arts. 1667 MILTON *P. L.* II. 442 If thence he scape into what ever world, Or unknown Region. 1709 SHAFTESB.

Charac. II. II. i. iii. 93 The Bull alone makes head against the Lion, or whatever other invading Beast of Prey.

(b) following the sb.: usually, now only, after any, no, all (anything, nothing), etc., which it qualifies like an adv. = 'at all': cf. EVER 8.

1623 N. ROGERS *Str. Vineyard* 78 We see that the Barke of the Vine seemeth more withered and dry than the... Barke of any other Tree whatever. 1681 CHETHAM *Angler's Vade-m.* IV. §13 (1689) 42 The most holding Bait of all other whatever. 1718 PRIOR *Poems* Ded. (1905) p. xx, He was so strict an Observer of his Word, that no Consideration whatever, could make him break it. 1749 FIELOING *Tom Jones* II. i, I shall not look on myself as accountable to any Court of Critical Jurisdiction whatever. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* xvii, Fortifying her strong castle against all assailants whatever. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* IV, I know nothing whatever of Mr. Jellyby. 1855 BAIN *Senses & Int.* I. ii. 195 All bodies whatever are liable to the state of sonorous vibration. 1884 *Marshall's Tennis Cuts* 94 That a player using a racket had no chance whatever against an opponent catching and throwing the ball.

b. *pron.* Anything at all: cf. WHAT *D.* 1. *rare.* 1637 EARL MONM. tr. *Malvezzi's Romulus & Tarquin* 211, I surely should not put this behind what ever else. 1892 M. DOOS *Gosp. John* II. xiv. 218 The torrent bursts in on me and pours over my wasted bulwarks, resolves, high aims, and whatever else.

c. *or whatever*: used after a noun (or nouns) to suggest that some other unspecified term might be employed instead, as being more usual, preferable for any reason, or more applicable; or something similar; or the like. *colloq.*

1905 W. JAMES *Let.* 25 Apr. (1920) II. 225 Poor Professor De Sanctis, the Vice President or Secretary or whatever. 1913 E. POUNO *Let.* 7 Nov. (1971) 24 If Chicago (or the U.S.A. or whatever) will slough off its provincialism, if it will begin to be aware of Paris (or of any other centre save London)... there is no reason for Chicago or Poetry or whatever not being the standard. 1917 H. JAMES *Sense of Past* II. 83 One of those concentrated terms of pious self-dedication or whatever by which the aspirants of the ages of faith used to earn their knighthood. 1958 P. SCOTT *Mark of Warrior* II. 167 I'd get on to battalion or brigade, or whatever, and tell 'em. 1964 [see KIWANIS]. 1975 I. MURDOCH *Word Child* 47 And even if we are all thoughts in the mind of God or whatever why should you be able to become God? 1981 'M. INNES' *Lord Mullion's Secret* II. 21 There isn't a handy second title around. Viscount Tom Noddy, or whatever. 1984 J. BARNES *Flaubert's Parrot* x. 129 Bourgeois monarchy, or bureaucratised totalitarianism, or anarchy, or whatever.

d. Similarly replacing other parts of speech.

1947 *Periodical* XXVII. 93 It was in one with a brown (or whatever) cover. 1976 *Church Times* 6 Aug. 9/1 Now that the Archbishop of Canterbury has 'relinquished', 'delegated' or whatever his metropolitan authority to the local Arab Anglicans... is it not proper [etc.].

what ho (hwɔt'həʊ), *int.* and *a.* *A. int.* An exclamation used to call the attention of a person, or as an expression of excitement or exultation. Cf. WHAT *B.* I. 3. Now *arch.* or *affected.*

c1386 CHAUCER *Miller's T.* 251 What how, what do ye maister Nicholas? 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* July 5 What ho, thou iolly shepheards swayne, Come vp the hyl to me. c1590 MARLOWE *Faustus* III. iv. (1616), What ho, Officers, Gentlemen, Hye to the presence to attend the Emperour. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* I. ii. 313 What ho: slau: Caliban. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* II. xxxv, 'Malise, what ho!'—his henchman came. 1864 BALLANTYNE *Lifeboat* x, 'What ho! Coleman,' cried Bax, 'have you actually acquired the art of sleeping on a donkey?' 1899 H. WYNOHAM *Soldiers of Queen* vi. 137 'What ho! Did you get your bloom'n' ticket this time?' demands a brother 'Lancer'.

B. (hyphenated) as *adj.* Superior, smart, stylish; designating the type of person supposed to use the exclamation, esp. the heartier kind of officer and gentleman.

1937 in *Amer. Speech* (1938) XIII. 239/1 At the time of their installation the elevators at the Ritz Carlton were considered the What-ho-iest in town. 1973 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 21 Sept. 1074/3 Those who survive to be relieved by what-ho young soldiers in scarlet tunics and white bandoliers. 1977 *Time* 22 Aug. 37/1 The Legionnaires are a carefully assorted lot... a soulful French musician, a what-ho English blueblood, a hulking Russian who once guarded the Czar's family, and so on.

what-if ('hwɔtɪf), *a.* and *sb.* [An extended use of the phr. *what if...?*: see WHAT *A.* I. 5a.] (That involves) speculation as to what might have been, had antecedent conditions been different; an instance of this.

1973 *Nation Rev.* (Melbourne) 31 Aug. 1455/1 The whatif game, a futile exercise in hindsight, poses such unanswerable questions as whatif Romulus and Remus had fallen foul of a hostile... wolf? 1974 J. IRVING *158-Pound Marriage* (1980) III. 57 Joseph Stalin... was himself a figure surrounded by a horde of what if's. 1977 *New Yorker* 29 Aug. 66/2 'The Eagle Has Landed', one of the current unalarming terror films about what-if, the what-if being, in this case, what if the Germans had tried to capture Churchill? 1982 *Times* 14 Jan. (Information Technology Suppl.) p. v/4 *What-If Games*. Computer software is available which allows users to change one variable in a set of data, and see how this affects all the other variables. 1984 *Computers in Teaching* No. 1. 29 All of the models are theoretically realistic and allow the undergraduate student to pose the 'What if...?' kinds of question, which are so difficult to answer without recourse to simulation.

what-is-it, var. WHATSIT.

†**whatkin**, *sb. Obs. rare* -1. [f. WHAT *D.* I + -KIN.] A little 'something'; a minute particle.

1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 112 It self [*sc.* a leasting or atom] being an unthroughfaresom whatkin.

†whatkin, -kins, a. Sc. and n. dial. Obs. (Sometimes as two words.) Forms: see **WHAT** *pron.* and **KIN** *sb.*¹; also 5 what skynnes. [*f.* **WHAT** *a.*¹ + **KIN** *sb.*¹ 6 b. In later use *Sc.*; cf. **WHAT'N**.]

1. Interrogative or exclamatory: Of what kind; what kind or sort of; what.

a1300 *Cursor M.* 963 Tell me. . . Howgat and wit quatkin-thing, I sal couer pi saghteling. **13..** *E.E. Allit. P. A.* 771 Quat-kyn þyng may be pat lambe, þat þe wolde wedde vnto hys vyf? **13..** *Gosp. Nicodemus* (G.) 28 We wate wele Ioseph was a wright, . . . and mari vs menes his moder hight, we, whatkin goddes er pise? **c1400** MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xvi. 76 If 3e will wit whatkyn letters þai vse, here 3e may here þam. **c1425** WYNTOUN *Cron.* II. Prol. 1 Now haf 3he herd on qwhatkyn wyse I haf contenyt pis tretyis. **c1475** *Rauf Coilgear* 592 Quhat kin a fallow was that ane? **1561** WINÆT *Bk. Questions* Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 60 Quha declaris expreslie quhatkin a faith thai haif in God.

β. 13.. *Cursor M.* 3687 (Gött.) 'Sir, . . . þi mete es graid.' 'And quatkines mete?' 'sir, venisun.' *Ibid.* 10442 Ne wate þu noght. . . Quatkines a fest it es to day? **a1450** MYRC *Par. Pr.* 1526 Take gode hede on hys de-gre, Of what skynnes luyunge pat he be. **1457** HARDING *Chron. in Engl. Hist. Rev.* (1912) Oct. 751 To spye. . . whatkyns passage wer for an hoste to ryde.

2. Relative: That kind of. . . which, such. . . as; usually in generalized sense (sometimes with *so* or *soever*): Whatever.

a1300 *E.E. Psalter* lv. 10 [lvi. 9] In what-kin dai I cal the nou, Loke, I knew that mi God art þou. **c1380** WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III 515 Men clepid men of holi Chirche may. . . do what kynne sinne, what kynne tresoun, likeþ hem. **1435** MISYN *Fire of Love* I. vii. 14 Slike one & so grete he is, whatkyns or so mykill none odyr is, no neuer may be. **a1450** MYRC *Par. Pr.* 210 On what skynnes maner so hyt be wro3t, Dedly synne hyt ys forthe broght.

†whatliche, adv. Obs. Forms: 1 hwætlice, 3 hwatliche, *Orm.* whattlike; *comp.* 3 watloker, 4 whatloker(e, -likere; *sup.* 4 whatlokest. [OE. *hwætlice*, *f.* *hwæt* **WHAT** *a.*² + *-lice* -LY².] Quickly.

a1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) cxxxvii[i]. 4 [3] 3ehyr me hwætlice. **c1200** ORMIN 12166 þatt deofell let te Lafernd seon Whattlike inn an hanndwhile Off all piss wide middellærd þe kinedomess alle. **a1250** Owl & Night. 1708 þeos hule spac wel baldeliche, For þah heo nadde swo hwatlice Ifare after hire here, Heo walde neopesles 3efe answece.

b. comp. Sooner, more readily, rather; *sup.* soonest.

c1200 *Vices & Virtues* 87 Bute ðu iswikk, ðe hwatliker hit te scall æure ma rewen. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 8846 Worri he wolde watloker mid worde þan mid arme. **c1300** *Beket* (Percy Soc.) 1249 And whatlokere [*v.r.* wel rapur] scholde such an he3 man ne come he no3t so sone. And nother ich ne he habbeth with oure bischops to done. **a1305** *St. Kenelm* 315 in *E.E.P.* (1862) 56 Wþeher of puse tuiet schires whatlokest myste awake Al sauf scholde wende forþ. **13..** *Leg. Rood* 30/142 þe rapur [*v.r.* whatlikere] it him was uor3eue.

what-like, interrog. a. (sb.) arch. and dial. (Also as two words.) [orig. *Sc.*: *f.* **WHAT** *pron.* + **LIKE** *a.* (q.v. 1 b ¶), as in 'What is he like?', after SUCH-LIKE.] **a.** Of what appearance or aspect; of what kind or character. (Usually predicative.)

1719 A. RAMSAY *Poems* (1945) I. 214 To speer what like a Carlie is he. **1810** R. H. CROMEK *Remains of Nithsdale & Galloway Song* 37 What like may your lassie be? **1821** SCOTT *Kenilw.* xi, I should be glad to know myself what like the fellow was. **1857** JAS. HAMILTON *Less. Gt. Biog.* 309 It would be interesting to know what like man was in the primeval paradise. **1861** DICKENS *Gt. Expect.* ix, What like is Miss Havisham? **1865** DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* II. III. ii. 16 She knows Miss Abbey of old, remind her, and she knows what-like the home, and what-like the friend, is likely to turn out. **1876** MORRIS *Aeneids* i. 751 Meanwhile unhappy Dido. . . asked. . . With what-like arms Aurora's son had come unto the King. **1905** in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* VI. 443/1 What-like hat had he on? **1953** 'N. BLAKE' *Dreadful Hollow* xii. 150 Now you tell me—what like are the Blick laddies?

b. as *sb.* Aspect, appearance. *nonce-use.* **1853** C. C. LEITCH in *Mem.* (1856) 125 The. . . questions of the whereabouts and the what-like of a new bungalow.

Whatman ('hwɒtmən). [From the name of the maker.] In full *Whatman paper*: the proprietary name for a kind of paper, made in various qualities, used for drawings, engravings, etc.

[1876 *Trade Marks Jnl.* 8 Nov. 748 *J. Whatman.* . . W. and R. Balston, Springfield, Maidstone, Kent; Paper Manufacturers. . . Writing paper and drawing paper.] **1880** *Macm. Mag.* No. 245. 380 For rapid sketching, thin rough Whatman, properly stretched upon a board, is as good as any other paper. **1886** H. R. ROBERTSON *Art of Pen-and-Ink Drawing* 37 Some old Whatman paper. **1916** *Trade Marks Jnl.* 26 July 763 W. E. R. Balston Limited Genuine Whatman folded filter papers. **1976** *Ibid.* 28 Apr. 890/2 *Whatman.* . . paper and paper articles. . . not including printed publications. Whatman Limited, Springfield Mill, Maidstone, Kent, Paper manufacturers.

what'n, whatten ('hwɒt(ə)n), *a. Sc. and n. dial.* Forms: 6 quahaten, quhattane, -in(e, whattin, 9 whaten, -an, whatten. Also *β.* (with indef. art.) what'n a, whatna. [Reduced form of **WHATKIN**

a.; cf. **THAT'N**, **THISSEN**.] Properly, What kind of; hence, what.

a1510 DOUGLAS *K. Hart* i. 245 Quhat will 3e saye me now for quahaten plycht? **c1560** A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) xxviii. 16 Quhattane ane glaikit fule am I. **1561** WINÆT *Bk. Questions* Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 57 Quhattin a Papist I am in this samin ruid Buik of Questionis. . . I tak on hand to preue. . . the maist haly Martyris, . . . to hef bene the samin Papistis. **1600** [? LYL] *Maydes Metam.* III. ii, Priapus quoth a? Whattin a God might that bee? **1818** SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xxxix, I wish I had whaten books ye wanted. **1825** BROCKETT *N.C. Gloss.*, Whatten o'clock is't? **1891** MORRIS *Poems by the Way* 157 And whatten a bed for me?

β. **a1796** BURNS 'There was a lad', But what'n a day o' what'n a style I doubt it's hardly worth the while To be sae nice wi' Robin. **1816** SCOTT *Antiq.* xxxix, But whatna wife's this, wi' her creel on her back? **1899** CROCKETT *Kit Kennedy* ix, Think, oot o' whatna pit the laddie has been digged.

whatness ('hwɒtnɪs). [*f.* **WHAT** *pron.* + *-NESS*; transl. *L. quidditās* QUIDDITY.] That which makes a thing what it is; essential nature, essence: = QUIDDITY I.

1611 FLORIO, *Quidditā*, the whatnesse of any thing. **1627** W. SCLATER *Expos.* 2 *Thess.* (1629) 39 The kinde or quality, or if you'll so terme it, whatnesse of it. **1656** [? J. SERGEANT] tr. *T. White's Peripat. Inst.* 198 The Understandableness of a thing, or the quiddity, the Whatnesse. **1870** MORLEY *Stud. Lit.* (1891) 266 Pressing for definition, you never get much further than that each given quiddity means a certain Whatness. **1889** MIVART *Truth* 212 We must. . . have the conception of the kind of thing the object is—'what' it is, or the idea of its 'whatness'.

†b. Used by N. Fairfax for: Statement of what a thing is, definition. *Obs. nonce-use.*

1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 80 The definition or whatness of a thing ought to be of a thing as a thing.

what-not, whatnot ('hwɒtnɒt). [Properly an ellipt. interrog. phr. (see first quot. below, and cf. **WHAT** A. 5).]

1. *a.* Usually and preferably as two words ('hwɒtnɒt): Anything whatever; everything; 'anything and everything'; 'all sorts of things': mostly, now only, as final item of an enumeration: = anything else, various things besides; 'whatever you like to call it'. (Also occas. of persons.)

1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* v. ii. Yijjb, Excesse of fleshely pleasures. . . hath taken awaye all thynges. . . my gooddes or substance, my name .i. my good name and fame, my frendes, my glory .i. my renoume or estimation, what not? .i. what thyng is it that she hath not taken from me? **1576** FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 185 His minde was so altered, his conditions so changed, and what not in him so alienated. **1596** SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* v. ii. 110 Marrie peace it boads, and loue, and quiet life, An awfull rule, and right supremicie: And to be short, what not, that's sweete and happie. **1602** MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* v. iv, I have. . . Borne out the shock of war, and done, what not, That valour durst. **1663** PEPYS *Diary* 21 Dec., The strange variety of people. . . bakers, brewers, butchers, draymen, and what not. **1718** POPE *Lett.* (1735) I. 263 Our evening Walks in the Park, our amusing Voyages on the Water, our Philosophical Suppers, our Lectures, our Dissertations, our Gravities, our Reveries, our Fooleries, our what not? **1741** RICHARDSON *Pamela* I. xix. 46 A Gentleman. . . who is my Master, and thinks himself intitled to call me Bold-face and what not. **1849** in B. Gregory *Side Lights* (1898) 462 Well off with the profits of his books and whatnot. **1852** THACKERAY *Esmond* II. iii, The blessed king's rosaries, the medals which he wore, the locks of his hair, or what not. **1872** BLACK *Adv. Phaeton* xxix. 391 We had our chops and what not in the parlour of the inn. **1876** E. W. HEAP *Diary* 11 June in *Publ. Amer. Dial. Soc.* (1969) LII. 56 [We] all started out on our grand excursion Picnic fishing party or what not. **1890** 'R. BOLDEWOOD' *Col. Reformer* xiii, Fencing, dam-making, cattle-droving, what not. **1911** *Athenæum* 24 June 711/1 They were too apt to go to law and fight over their lands and fishing rights and what-not.

b. A thing or person that may be variously named or described; a nondescript. *rare.*

1602 *How Chuse Good Wife* v. i. 12, Why you lacke sawce, you Cuckold, you what not. **1903** ALICE M. EARLE *Two Cent. Costume Amer.* II. 481 Besides the furbelows and *prêt-à-tailles*, or 'whatnots', were hurly-burlies and *fanfreluches*.

¶ Confusedly used in *pl.* for 'various things'.

a1861 T. WINTHROP *Life in Open Air* (1863) 53 Passengers who are constantly to make portages will not encumber themselves with what-nots. **1862** THACKERAY *Philip* ix, I profess to be an impartial chronicler of poor Phil's fortunes, misfortunes, friendships, and what-nots.

c. Used as a euphemism for something the speaker does not wish to name.

1964 in Hamblett & Deverson *Generation X* 85 By the time I was fourteen I'd been a court witness in an indecent exposure case after an Indian doctor had been caught flashing his whatnot at me in an Adventure Playground. **1977** *Custom Car* Nov. 28/2 What ho, a twile of the fairer whatnot in the old Panther eh? **1977** M. RILEY *Ideal Friend* iv. 30 She said. . . tapping the Cellophane-covered éclairs, 'I don't know about you but these always put me in mind of nignogs' whatnots.'

2. An article of furniture consisting of an open stand with shelves one above another, for keeping or displaying various objects, as ornaments, curiosities, books, papers, etc.

1808 SARAH, LADY LYTTELTON *Corr.* (1902) 54 The old chairs, tables, what-nots, and sofas. **1831-4** R. S. SURTEES *Jorrock's Jaunts* (1838) 330 There was a 'what not' on the right of the fire-place. **1862** *Catal. Internat. Exhib., Brit.* II. No. 5674, Canterbury what-not. **1863** HAWTHORNE *Our Old Home, About Warwick* I. 140 Such delicate trifles as we put upon a drawing-room table. . . or a whatnot.

Hence 'whatnotism, any or every kind of 'ism' (as a final term in an enumeration of 'isms').

1915 GALSWORTHY in *Fortn. Rev.* 1 Nov. 928 What is wanted in a work of art is an. . . adequate correspondence between fancy and form. . . so that one shall not be distracted by its naturalism, mysticism, cubism, whatnotism. **1951** KOESTLER *Age of Longing* I. v. 113 Those convicted of formalism, neo-Kantianism, . . . and whatnotism were given their deserved punishment.

what-now. nonce-wd. = QUIDNUNC.

1890 C. MARTYN W. Phillips 236 The wits of the pot-house and the what-nows of society were. . . mightily amused.

what reckon, whatreck, interrog. phr. (adv.) Sc. Also 6 quhat ra(c)k, quhattrak, quattrack, 9 fouterack. [*f.* **WHAT** *a.*¹ (13 b) + **RECK** *sb.*¹ 2.] What matter? what does it matter? Also parenthetically as *adv.*: For all that, nevertheless.

1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxviii. 30 Thocht a man haif a brokin bak, Haif he a gude crafty telour, quhattrak, That can it cuver with craftis slie. **1535** LYNDESAY *Satyre* 3292 The Mers sould find me beif and kail. Quhat rak of bread! **a1586** MONTGOMERIE *Poems* (S.T.S.) 280 'And thou steill a cow, cairle, thair they will hang the.' 'Quattrack, Lord, of that? For anis mon I die.' **1787** BURNS *When Guilford good our Pilot stood* ii, But yet, whatreck, he, at Quebec, Montgomery-like did fa', man. **1808** A. SCOTT *Poems* 114 Yet they whatreck in population spread. **1825** JAMIESON s.v. *Fouterack*, One, who hears any unexpected news, exclaims, Fouterack! i.e., Indeed! Is it really as you say? **1847** J. HALLIDAY *Rustic Bard* 165 But yet, what reckon?

So **whatrecks** (6 quhatt rax, 9 *Sc.* fatrecks) [*WHAT* *adv.* (20) + **RECK** *v.* 8 b] in same sense.

1535 LYNDESAY *Satyre* 1540 (Bann. MS.) Now quhill the king is sound sleipand, Quhatt rax to steill his box? **1724** RAMSAY *Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) I. 108 Her mill into some hole had fawn Whatrecks, quoth she, let it be gawn. **1804** TARRAS *Poems* 12 'Fatrecks!' quo' Will, 'it needs nae badder.'

whatsaile, -saill, obs. ff. WASSAIL.

what'sa matter ('wɒtsə'mætə(r), ,wh-). Also **whatsamatter**, etc. Repr. colloq. or careless pronunciation of 'what is the matter?' Cf. WHASSA.

1935 *New Yorker* 12 Jan. 18/3 What'sa metta with Kitty Shapiro? **1950** *Commentary* Sept. 255/2 'Whatsa-matter,' he shouted at Rosa, 'you want her blood?' **1960** 'E. MCBAIN' *Heckler* (1962) xiv. 136 Whatsa matter? Something wrong? **1977** D. E. WESTLAKE *Nobody's Perfect* (1978) II. i. 102 Whatsa matter don't you wanna go home!!!

what-sha-callum, what-sha'-come, etc.: see **WHAT-D'YE-CALL-'EM**.

what's-her-face ('wɒtsə'feɪs, 'hw-), occas. U.S. var. *what's-her-name* s.v. **WHAT'S-HIS-NAME**. Cf. **WHATSISFACE**.

1980 in S. Terkel *Amer. Dreams* 5 Several times during my year as what's-her-face I had seen the movie *The Sting*.

what's-his-name ('hwɒtshɪzneɪm). *colloq.* Also **whatsisname**. Substituted for the name of a man or boy (loosely, of a thing) which the speaker forgets, does not know, or is unwilling to mention. So **what's-her-name** (of a woman or girl), **what's-its-name** (of a thing), **what's-your-name** (of a person addressed).

whatsename (quot. 1866) represents an ambiguous form which is not uncommon. *what's-their-names* (quot. 1773) is very rare.

1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Past.* III. 61 Two Figures on the sides emboss'd appear; Conon, and what's his Name who made the Sphere. **1757** FOOTE *Author* 1, Look ye here, Mr. What's-your-name? **1773** G. A. STEVENS *Trip Portsm.* ii. 28 The what's-their-names at uproars squall. **1816** SCOTT *Old Mort.* Concl., 'And what became of old Mrs What's her name, the housekeeper?' 'Mrs Wilson, madam', answered I. **1829** MARRYAT *Frank Mildmay* xxiii, Mr. Thingamy, you will take the what's-his-name. **1838** DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* xxxi, Those great folks in what's-its-name Place. **1846** — *Cricket on Hearth* i, There was soon the very What's-his-name to pay. **1848** — *Dombey* xxi, 'But seclusion and contemplation are my what's-his-name—' 'If you mean Paradise, Mamma, you had better say so, to render yourself intelligible.' **1866** READE *Griffith Gaunt* xv, He. . . almost persuaded Whatsename, another heathen gentleman, to be a Christian. **1872** EARL PEMBR. & G. H. KINGSLEY *S. Sea Bubbles* i. 29 The back-sliding individual is looked upon. . . by the more. . . decent of the community as little better than one of the what's-his-names. **1880** 'OUIDA' *Moths* i, It makes one feel like What's-her-name in the 'Trovatore'. **1942** W. FAULKNER *Go down, Moses* 87 Is that so? Look here, Mister What's-your-name—. **1943** K. TENNANT *Ride on Stranger* x. 114 And then Bleeby. . . accusing me. . . of turning Whatsisname against him. **1979** S. WILSON *Glad Hand* 1. i. 11 Marilyn. What is going on? Brian. Same old thing: raising the whatsis-name—the Antichrist.

whatsisface ('wɒtsɪzfeɪs, 'hw-), U.S. var. **WHAT'S-HIS-NAME**.

1967 *Current Slang* (Univ. S. Dakota) Spring 5, [1964] *What's his face*, one whose name is forgotten. **1977** J. WAMBAUGH *Black Marble* (1978) vi. 79 They're having another Save Harry Whatsisface party there today. **1978** *N. Y. Times Mag.* 23 July 23/3 The derivation of some vogue phrases is a mystery: . . . What visual need caused the unforgettable 'whatsisname' to become **whatsisface**?

whatsit ('wɒtsɪt, 'hw-). *colloq.* Also **what-is-it**, **what's-it**, and (*U.S.*) **whassit**. [The phr. 'what is it?' used as a *sb.*: see **WHAT** A. I. 1.] = **WHAT'S-**

HIS-NAME, WHAT'S-ITS-NAME, etc. (used variously of a person or thing); a 'thingummy'.

a 1882 *Philad. Times* in *Dict. Americanisms* (1951) II. 1855/1 The two negro girls, who figure as 'what-is-its', are paid \$200 a week. 1898 J. D. BRAYSHAW *Slum Silhouettes* 158 'Now,' said Joe, 'who says pudden? Mister What's It—a little piece?' 1922 S. LEWIS *Babbitt* vi. 77 He's a what-is-it from Columbia. 1931 *Kansas City Times* 29 Sept., A Whassit. Excitement... Friday afternoon was caused by the appearance of an insect which [etc.]. 1954 P. FRANKAU *Wreath for Enemy* III. v. 215, I couldn't even walk along the passage to the whatsit. 1979 P. ALEXANDER *Show me Hero* xvii. 178 Suddenly you're a man. Not just because you happen to have a couple of whatsits, but because you *feel* it. 1984 B. FRANCIS *AA Car Duffer's Guide* 14 Do you think I ought to check the strength of the whatsit—electrolyte—while I'm at it?

whatso ('hwɒtsəʊ), *pron.* and *a. arch.*, chiefly *poet.* [ME. *w(h)at so*, *quatso*, *hwat se*, (Orm.) *whattse*, reduced form of OE. *swā hwæt swā*, early ME. *swa hwet swa*, generalized form of *hwæt* WHAT *pron.*: see *so adv.* 17 d.]

1. *a. pron.* = **WHATEVER** 2 a.

c 1200 ORMIN 426 Forr swa we don unnhazherri3 Whattse we don to gode. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1324 Oc abraham it wulde wel Quat-so god bad. *c* 1275 LAY. 25703 We leteþ him one don wat so [c 1205 Faren heu swa] he wolde. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 255, & quat so py wylle is, we schal wyt after. 1340-70 *Alex. & Dind.* 359 What so we worchen in þis worlde, For his sake þat it sente soþli we worchin. 1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles Col.* 36 Mekely to suffre what so him sente were. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilþear* 511 And thow mat me ony mair, cum efter quhat sa may, Thow and I sall dyntis deill. 1594 R. C[AREW] *Tasso* (1881) 7 When Sire eternall... Lookes downe, and... in one vew, Comprizeth all what so the world can shew. 1622 WITHER *Faire-Virtue* N 2 b, And, my Care, it addes not to What-so, others say, or doe. 1795 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* 1. 70 And whatso He commands, that I must speak. 1876 MORRIS *Æneids* xii. 182 Whatsoever God is in the air, or whatso rules the blue sea with its rod. 1900 BEECHING *Confer. Bks. & Men* Ded., Despatches, sermons,—whatso goes into their brain comes out as prose.

b. adj. = **WHATEVER** 2 b.

1591 SPENSER *Virg. Gnat* 682 And whatso other hearb... The ioyous Spring... brings forth... He planted there. 1868 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* I. Prol. 17 His fleet held whatso keel could swim From Jutland to Land's End. 1891 C. E. NORTON *Dante's Hell* vii. 31 Whatso power he have.

2. *a. pron.* = **WHATEVER** 3 a.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 9036 Ne [er] þe gode þe wers to prais, Quat-so men o þe wick sais. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 382 Gawan I hatte, þat bede þe pis buffet, quat-so bi-fallez after. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. x. 128 Al worth as þow wolte, what so we dispute. 1457 HARDING *Chron.* in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* (1912) Oct. 747 What so men gat couetyse nocht hym fylde. *a* 1542 WYATT *Poems*, *Synce loue wyll nedes* iii, Whatso befall, till that I sterve By proof full well it shall be known. 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* v. lxxviii, Loue calles it follie, what so wisdom saith. 1868 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* (1870) I. i. 445 And fearless will I enter here And meet my fate, whatso it be. 1870 *Ibid.* L'Envoi (1890) 444/1, I love thee, whatso time or men may say.

† *b. Of a person: Whoever. Obs.*

c 1205 LAY. 6555 What se [c 1275 wose] hæfde richedom, he hine makede wræcche mon. *a* 1225 *Ancre.* R. 66 Ancre, hwat se heo beo, also muchel ase heo euer con & mei, holde hire stille. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 522 But it were any persone obstinat, What so he were, of heigh or lough estat Hym wolde he snybben. 1412 in *Laing Charters* (1899) 24 The forsaide lord or his ayris qwhat sa thai be for the tyme. 1565 J. HALL *Crt. of Virtue* 103 b, The poore man, As well as he, What so he be, That ryches doth endure.

c. adj. = **WHATEVER** 3 b.

1867 MORRIS *Jason* vi. 456 Whatso thing the next day bring, Right merrily shall pass these coming hours.

3. *adj.* = **WHATEVER** 4 a.

1902 A. AUSTIN *Crowning of Kingship* ii, And, like the sea, let whatso tempests shrill, One, world-wide, and free.

whatsoever ('hwɒtsəʊ'evə(r)), *pron.* and *a.* Also *poet.* **whatsoe'er** ('hwɒtsəʊ'evə(r)). Also 5 quat-sever, 6 whats'ever. (In early use often as two words or three.) [f. WHATSO + EVER *adv.* 8 e; cf. SOEVER.]

1. *a. pron.* = **WHATEVER** 2 a.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 270 Wisdom ðe made ilc ðing of no3t, Quat-so-eure on heuone or her is wro3t. *c* 1320 *Cast. Love* 420 Riht ne spareþ for to juggle What-so-eure Sop wol sugge. *c* 1420 *Sir Amadace* (Camden) xlvii, Quat-seuer 3e wille with the kingus men do. 1509 FISHER *Funeral Sermon*, *C'tess Richmond* Wks. (1876) 301 What so euer thou wylt aske of god thy fader I knowe wel he wyl graunte it vnto the. 1526 TINDALE *John* xiv. 13 Whatsoever ye axe in my name, that will I do. 1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* i. i. 252 Whats'ever now the Heav'n's wide arms embrace. 1597 HOOKER *Ecl. Pol.* v. xlvii. §2 Whosoever hath the name of a mortal man, there is in him whatsoever the name of vanitie doth comprehend. 1664 BUTLER *Hud.* ii. iii. 297 He knew whats'ever's to be known. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* iv. xii, Whatsoe'er my wakened thoughts create. 1874 PUSEY *Lenten Sermon*. 103 More grievous will be that fire, than whatsoever man can suffer in this life.

b. adj. = **WHATEVER** 2 b.

1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* vi. ii, None, for what so euer myght that he haue ought not to despreye the other. 1526 TINDALE *Phil.* iv. 8 Whatsoever thyngs are true, whatsoever thyngs are honest, those same have ye in youre mynde. 1564 BULLEIN *Dial. agst. Pest.* (1888) 139 Whatsoever thyngs are seen with bodily iyen. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* iv. 587 In whatsoever shape he lurk, of whom Thou telst. 1868 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* (1870) I. i. 71 Whatsoever things We asked for, those were ours.

2. *a. pron.* = **WHATEVER** 3 a.

13.. *Cursor M.* 10508 (Gött.) þu ma gode chere Quat so euer þu se or here. *c* 1450 *Merlin* ii. 37, I will knowe the soth, what-so-euer it coste. *a* 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* xliii. 143, I

woll not be dyspleased what so euer thou sayest. 1582 ALLEN *Martyrdom Campion* (1908) 16 Meaning by the state (whatsoever they otherwise pretende)... the welfare of some few... upholden by this new religion. 1676 DRYDEN *Aurengz.* iv. 61 And, whatsoe'r my Letter did pretend, I made this meeting for no other end. 1681—*Abs. & Aclit.* 797 Whatsoe'r their Sufferings were before, That Change they Covet makes them suffer more. 1794 R. J. SULIVAN *View Nat.* I. 113 Any force by which bodies tend towards each other, whatsoever be the cause. 1825 J. NEAL *Bro. Jonathan* III. 187 They froze me, or affronted me... whatsoever I did.

† *b. Whoever:* = **prec.** 2 b. *Obs.*

c 1430 LYDG. in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 46, I Counsell, what-so-euer thou be. 1573 TUSSEY *Husb.* (1878) 122 Pay iustly thy tithes whatsoever thou bee. 1588 A. KING tr. *Canisius' Catech.* 69 Quhatsoever 3e be yat ar baptized in Christ 3e haue put on Christ. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* i. iii. 124. 1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. [I.] xi. 29 Could'st thou that readest this, whatsoever thou art...?

c. adj. = **WHATEVER** 3 b.

a 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* cxlix. 568 Ye ought to praise our lord god, what so euer losse ye haue had. 1546 in Lindsay (Pittscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 68 Quhat-soevir estait or ordour he be of. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 1 Afore the eyne baith of our Nobilitie, and of the lai people, in quhatsoever state or degrie. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 125 ¶8 Those whom they ought to look upon as their Common Enemies, whatsoever Side they may belong to. 1849 RUSKIN *Seven Lamps* i. (1885) 7 The art which so disposes and adorns the edifices raised by man, for whatsoever uses, that [etc.]. 1874 L. MORRIS *Songs of Two Worlds* Ser. II. *Reply* ii, Whatsoever chance befall, Of myself I'd die possest.

3. *a. adj.* † (*a*) = **WHATEVER** 4 a (*a*). *Obs.*

1589 in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* V. 177, I wil put it in practice, notwithstanding whatsoever inclination to the contrary. 1605 A. WOTTON *Answ. Popish Pamph.* 76 [We] who submit whatsoever our expositions to be compared with the Scriptures. 1611 *Bible Transl.* Pref. ¶3 He would not suffer it to be broken off for whatsoever speeches or practises. 1611 W. SCLATER *Key* (1629) 125 Fornication... is any what-soeuer breach of Chastitie. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* 232 One True God, from whom is all Whatsoever Nature. *a* 1679 HOBBS *Rhet.* Pref., The Art of speaking, which... is able to bring about whatsoever Interest.

(*b*) = **WHATEVER** 4 a (*b*).

1472-3 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 34/1 In this Parlement, or any other Parlement afore this tyme holden whatsoever notwithstanding. 1549 WRIOTHELEY *Chron.* (Camden) II. 9 This realme of Englande and other the Kinges dominions whatsoeuer. 1582 in Allen *Martyrdom Campion* (1908) 80, I build not my faith upon any one man whatsoever. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* i. ii. 216, I promist we would be Contributors, And beare his charge of wooing whatsoere. 1692 HICKERINGILL *Good Old Cause* Wks. 1716 II. 535 You may easily know to get an Antidote against Death, and Losses, and Crosses, whatsoever. 1792 ALMON *Anecd. W. Pitt* II. xxix. 127 In every circumstance of government and legislation whatsoever. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* ix, He felt in himself no title whatsoever to that epithet.

† *b. pron.* = **WHATEVER** 4 b. *Obs.*

1579 TOMSON *Calvin's Sermon*. *Tim.* 1023/1 Other wil become horne madde and be at defiance with whatsoever. 1583 STOCKER *Civ. Warres Lowe* C. III. 134 It was also well furnished... with whatsoever els necessary for a Trench. 1641 EARL MONM. tr. *Biondi's Civil Wars* III. 152 The pompe and solemnity exceeded whatsoever of former times.

† **whatsome**, *pron. Obs.* In 4 quat-sum, -sim. [f. WHAT *pron.* + SUM *rel. adv.*] Whatever.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 792 Quat sum first þar was gain saw, Al for nocht þai ette it bath. *c* 1375 *Ibid.* 9036 (Fairf.) Quat-sim men of þe wikked saise.

whatsomever ('hwɒtsəm'evə(r)), *pron.* and *a. Obs. exc. dial.* (In early use often as two words or three.) [f. *prec.* + EVER *adv.* 8 e.]

1. *a. pron.* = **WHATEVER** 2 a.

c 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxvi. 123 þai will graunt þam what sum euer þai asch. *c* 1530 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. I. 312 Yf your Grace wold witsaffe to wryght iij. wordes to the sayd Archbishoppe shewyng hym, whatt so mever hathe ben wrytyn. 1581 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xlv. 274 The vther number of the congregation, Redaris, exhortaris, or quhatsumeur thay be. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* i. ii. 249 And what soeumer els shall hap to night, Giue it an understanding but no tongue. 1648 EARL WESTMLD. *Otia Sacra* 67 Whatsome'r both Earth and Air afford.

b. adj. = **WHATEVER** 2 b.

c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5041 But what some euer woo they fele, They wole not pleyne. 1523-34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* §168 Whatsomeuer thyng is gyuen vnto them for the loue of hym, he taketh it as it were done to hym-selfe. 1588 A. KING tr. *Canisius' Catech.* 58 Quhatsumeur things ar treue, quhatsumeur things ar honest. *c* 1610 SIR J. MELVIL *Mem.* (1683) b 2 b, Favourites... who... take pleasure of whatsoever Recreation they find the Prince inclined to. 1634 in J. Russell *Haigs* (1881) 207 Whatsomever bonds are in Moneys in my behoof.

2. *a. pron.* = **WHATEVER** 3 a.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 10508 'Anna,' he said, 'þou ma god chere Quat-sum euer þou se or here.' *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 2804 Wel am I wroken on the, What som euer fal on me. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* III. 1235 Whatt-so-mewer yow be-tyde. 1508 FISHER *7 Penit. Ps.* ii. Wks. (1876) 35 Alwaye content what soeumer god sent vnto them. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. ccxii. 106 b/2 Our subiectes, comons, colleges, vniversities, or singular personnes, what soeumer they be. 1603 *Philotus* lxxvii, Quhat sumeur me befall.

† *b. Whoever:* = **WHATSO** 2 b. *Obs.*

c 1450 in *Three 15th Cent. Chron.* (Camden) 98 That the justice may do upon them trew judgement, what some evar they be. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilþear* 398 Quhat sumeur that he be, Bring him haistly to me. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) I. 641 Nor na other, quhatsumeur that thai be, Haldis of 30w or 30ur auctoritie. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* III. v. 54 What somere he is He's brauely taken heere.

c. adj. = **WHATEVER** 3 b.

1482 CAXTON *Trevisa's Higden* (Rolls) I. 363 No man... schal be i-saued, but he be verrey repentaunt, what somm-euer penance he doo. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. ccxii. 107 b/1 Subiectes, (whatsomeuer estate or condicion they be of). 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* i. Prol. (S.T.S.) I. 7 In quhatsumeur way It sall happin. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* II. vi. 102 All mens faces are true, whatsomere their hands are.

3. *a. adj.* = **WHATEVER** 4 a.

1429 in *15th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. VIII. 10 Any other accyons qwatesumewer be twyx thaim. 1482 in *Charters Edin.* (1871) 155 Ony vther place quhatsumeur neidful, or amangis quhatsumeur merchandis. 1588 in *J. Melvill's Autob. & Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 266 All and whatsumever persones, avowit or suspected to be Papists. 1678 G. MACKENZIE *Crim. Laws Scot.* II. xi. §5, (1699) 202 In all the Courts of Bishops, Abbots, and the Lords whatsumever. 1711 in *Nairne Peerage Evid.* (1874) 132 Him his heirs and successors whatsumever. 1842 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg. Ser.* II. *Dead Drummer*, I can't see no Drummer-boy here whatsumdever. 1894 CROCKETT *Raiders* xviii, Silver Sand had no cloak or plaid whatsumever.

† *b. pron.* = **WHATEVER** 4 b. *Obs.*

1648 EARL WESTMLD. *Otia Sacra* 54 Our Lust, our Pride, Ambition, Or whatsome'r beside.

whatstane, *obs.* form of WHETSTONE.

whatte, *obs.* form of WOT.

whatten, *-in:* see WHAT'N.

what-the-hell, *v. slang.* [The phr. 'what the hell?' used as an expression of irritation: see HELL *sb.* 9.] *intr.* To exclaim 'what the hell...?'; to make an angry demand for an explanation.

1924 WODEHOUSE *Leave it to Psmith* x. 211 While everybody's cutting up and what-the-helling. 1939 H. HODGE *Cab, Sir?* 181 The yawper, of course, is convinced that if he doesn't what-the-hell a little... we shall deliberately go a long way round. 1963 WODEHOUSE *Stiff Upper Lip*, *Jeewes* xvii. 132 This telephone call was Aunt Dahlia what-the-helling.

what-the-hell, *adj. phr. slang.* [Cf. *prec.*] Casual, insouciant, devil-may-care.

1968 *Listener* 1 Aug. 130/1 Much of this is due to his casual 'What the hell?' attitude to the over-familiar pomposities of public life. 1977 *Time* 19 Dec. 47/2 The only real stumbling block is fear of failure. In cooking you've got to have a what-the-hell attitude.

whatway: see WHAT A. 13 (*b*).

what-wise, *adv. phr. rare.* [Properly two words, WHAT *a.* (13) + WISE *sb.*] In what manner; how. Also in *whatwise*.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 20398 Of vs es nan þat wat for quam, Ne wat quat-wis we heder cam. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 904 Seie me in what wise þat þat hache þe haldes. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxix. 36, I shall you tell what-whyse and how. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* iv. Prol. 188 With Venus henvifis quhat wyse may I fite? 1905 J. B. BURY *Life St. Patrick* vii. 139 Tell us how we may know him, in what-wise he will appear.

what-you-(may-)call-it, etc.: see WHAT-D'YE-CALL-'EM.

whau, *int. north. dial.* Also wha, whaugh. [A natural exclamation; perh. also contained in WHANNOU.] Well! Why! Also = WAUGH a.

1589 'MARPRELATE' *Hay any Work* 30 Whau, whau, but where haue I bin al this while. 1684 MERITON *Yorksh. Dial. Gloss.*, *Whaugh*, a word of Admiration, as God bless us, etc. 1828 *Craven Gloss.*, *Wha*, well. 1832 LYTON *Eugene Aram* iv. ix, Depend on it, they are two of a trade—augh!—bother!—whaugh! 1847 HALLIWELL, *Whau*, why; yes. *North.*

whau (fau, wau), *sb. N.Z.* Also wou. [Maori.] A shrub or small tree, *Entelea arborescens*, of the family Tiliaceæ, native to New Zealand and bearing serrate leaves and clusters of small white flowers; = CORKWOOD 2. Also, the light wood of this tree.

1840 J. S. POLACK *Manners & Customs New Zealanders* 263 *The Pongo and Wou*... are varieties of the cork-tree. 1868 *Trans. N.Z. Inst.* I. III. 35 For floats, the light wood of the small tree Whau... was used. 1889, 1946 [see CORKWOOD 2]. 1980 J. T. SALMON *Native Trees N.Z.* 120 Whau is an attractive New Zealand tree with an unusual, almost tropical appearance.

whaule eyed, *obs.* form of WALL-EYED.

whaup (hwɔ:p, hwa:p), *sb. Sc. and north.* Forms: 6 quha(i)p, 7 whoup, 7-9 whap, 8-9 whaap, 8- whaup, (8 whalp, wap, 9 whaup, quhaup). [Perhaps for *whalp and allied to OE. *huilpe* (Seafarer 21), = early WS. **hwilpe*:—**xwalpjon*-, f. *xwalp*:- *xwelp*- a stem imitative of the bird's cry, and represented also in LG. *regenwylp*, -wylp sandpiper, WFr. *(greate) wylp* curlew (reen-, *wetterwylp*, *lytse wylp* Numenius phæopus), Du. *wulp*, *wilp* curlew. (WFr. *wettergulf*, LG. *regengilp* show a variant with g.) The dial. name *curlew-help* may be for **curlew-whelp*, and so attest the former existence of a variant **whelp*; but cf. the form *hilpe* (1530 in *Ancestor* XI. 179).] The larger curlew, *Numenius arquata*.

Also † *great whaup*, *stock whaup* (see STOCK *sb.* 1 64). 1538 *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1871) II. 92 A quhap that is greitt xij d. 1553 *Ibid.* 185 The best quhaip viij d. 1549 *Compl.*

Scot. vi. 39 Quhilk gart the quhapis for fleyitnes fle far fra hame. 1683 ALEX. GARDEN in *Macfarlane's Geogr. Collect.* (S.H.S.) II. 133 The Whap also uses to be eaten. 1733 T. GIFFORD *Zetland Isl.* (1786) 26 Wild fowl... such as plivers, whapes. 1793 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* V. 188 The wild land fowls are plovers, pigeons, curlews, (commonly called whaap). 1839 STODDART *Songs & P.* 18 An' his dirges lang and dreary Pipes the grey whaup to the morn. 1895 CROCKETT *Men of Moss-Hags* xxxix, Not so much as a whaup came near me on that great, wide, dappled hill.

whaur, Sc. f. WHERE.

wha(u)ve (hwɔ:v), *v. dial.* Also 7 whoave, 9 wauve. [ad. ON. *hvalfa*, *holfa*: see WHELVE.]

1. *trans.* To turn upside down; to turn (pottery) when drying.

1611 COTGR. s.v. *Dent*, *Mettre un pot &c. à dents*, to turne it vpside-down, to whauve it with the mouth downwards. 1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 123 When the Potter has wrought the clay either into hollow or flat ware, they are set abroad to dry... turning them as they see occasion, which they call whaving.

2. *a. trans.* To cover over. *b. intr.* To hang over.

1674 RAY *N.C. Words*, To *Whoave*; *Chesh.* to cover or whelm over. We will not kill but whoave. *Prov. Chesh.* ab A.S. *Hwulf*, *Hwalf*, a covering or canopy; Verb. *Hwalfian*, camerare, fornicare. 1828 *Craven Gloss.*, *Whauve*,... to whelm. 1847 HALLIWELL, *Whave*, to cover, or hang over.

Hence *whauve sb.*, (*a*) *techn.* the amount of the dish (DISH *sb.* 5) of a wheel; (*b*) *dial.* the arched covering of turf over a grave (*Shropsh. Word-bk.*); 'whaver' (in quois: see quot. 1818).

1674 WHAVER [see RINER]. 1818 WILBRAHAM *Gloss. Cheshire* 25 in *Archæologia* XIX, A Riner is when the Quoit touches the peg or mark. A whaver is when it rests upon the peg, and hangs over. 1869 *Eng. Mech.* 31 Dec. 389/3 Add to this twice the wauve (dish) of the wheels, *i.e.* 5 in.

whaw, obs. form of VAU.

1758 WISE *Some Enq. Eur.* 137 note, The Hebrew 1 Vau or Whaw.

whawl, **whax**, **whay**, **whayle**, **whaynt**, **whayte**, **whazle**, **whe**, **wheadle**: see WAUL, WAX, WAY, WHEY, WHOLE, QUAIL, QUAIN, WAIT, WHEEZE, WE, WHO, WHEEL.

wheak, *v. dial.* Also 6 qu(h)aik, 6, 9 wheek, 9 weak, week. [Imitative.] *intr.* To squeak, whine. So *wheak sb.*, a squeak or whine.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* vii. ix. 79 With mony pant, and fellown hauchis and quhaikis. 1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witcher.* xiii. viii. (1886) 245 The wheeking of a little pig. 1828 *Craven Gloss.*, Wheek.

† **wheal** (hwi:l), *sb.*¹ *Obs.* Forms: 5-6 whele, (5) whelle, wheel, 6 wheell, wele, 6-7 wheale, 7-8 wheal. [OE. **hwele* (Somner), related to WHEAL *v.*¹: cf. WHELK².] A pimple, pustule.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 523/2 Whele, or welke, soore (*K.* whelle, *S.* welke, *P.* wheel), *pustula*. 1530 PALSGR. 288/1 Whele in the hande, *boubette*, *bubette*; uessie. 1545 RAYNALDE *Byrth Mankynde* 120 Sumetymes happeneth to y^e chyl dren wheles and blysters on theyr tounes and mouth. c 1550 LLOYD *Treas. Health* U vj, Applye it to the scrupules and weles, it killeth and brekyth them. 1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* K 3, I durst not let out a wheale for feare through it I should bleede to death. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* xxxii. vi. II. 437 It killeth the itch, and healeth angrie wheals. 1623 HART *Arraignm. Ur.* ii. iii. 46 Small wheales like the small Poxe. 1706 *Phil. Trans.* XXV. 2317 When she scratched the little Pimples or Wheals that arose on its surface.

fig. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 71 The assembles of y^e people swarmyng about the same oratours, he called the pyples or little wheales of glorie.

b. attrib. wheal-worm, an insect producing wheals, as the itch-mite or harvest-bug.

1648 WILKINS *Math. Magick* i. xvi. 115 What strang discoveries of extreame minute bodies (as lice wheal-worms, mites, and the like). 1658 ROWLAND tr. *Moufet's Theat. Ins.* 1095 The most vertuous Lady of Penruddock... was for ten years troubled with these wheal-worms. 1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 56 Syrones in cute, Wheal-worms. [1829 GOOD *Study Med.* (ed. 3) V. 663 From the glossy wheals which its [sc. the harvest-bug's] bite produces, it has sometimes been called Wheal-Worm.]

Hence † *whealy a.*, pimplly.

1611 COTGR., *Bothoral*, whealie, poukie, pushie.

wheal (hwi:l), *sb.*² [Misspelt form of WEAL *sb.*² Cf. WHEAL *v.*²] *a.* The ridge raised on the flesh by a blow: = WALE *sb.*¹ 2, WEAL *sb.*²

1811 L. M. HAWKINS *C'tess & Gertr.* i. 26 Cover her neck over that I may not see the wheals on it. 1825 *Gentl. Mag.* May 396/2 Each blow raised a wheal upon the place where it fell. 1836 MARRYAT *Midsh. Easy* v, Without supper—covered with wheals. 1887 RIDER HAGGARD *Jess* ix, Across his face was a blue wheal where the whip had fallen.

b. In modern medical use, a flat, usually circular, hard elevation of the skin, esp. that characteristic of urticaria.

So called because resembling the 'wheal' raised on the skin by a blow.

1808 WILLAN *Cutan. Dis.* i. p. xi, Wheal; a rounded, or longitudinal elevation... with a white summit... not containing a fluid, nor tending to suppuration. 1818-20 E. THOMPSON tr. *Cullen's Nosologia* (ed. 3) 326 It [sc. Urticaria] is distinguished by those elevations of the cuticle, which are usually denominated wheals. 1876 BRISTOWE *Theory & Pract. Med.* 290 A wheal may be regarded as a form of tubercle.

Comb. 1876 BRISTOWE *Theory & Pract. Med.* 542 The internal coat of translucent wheal-like thickenings.

c. gen. A ridge.

1855 NEWMAN *Callista* xv, They [sc. locusts] moved right on like soldiers in their ranks... they carried a broad furrow or wheal all across the country. 1898 H. G. WELLS *War of Worlds* xii, The water in its track rose in a boiling wheal crested with steam.

wheal, *sb.*³ *local.* [Cornish *huel*.] A mine.

1830 *Eng. & For. Mining Gloss.* 1857 C. M. YONGE *Dynevor Terrace* i. iii. 38 The last unfortunate wheal failed when the rope broke.

† **wheal**, *v.*¹ *Obs.* Forms: 1 hwelian, 5 whelyn, 6 whele, 6-7 wheale, 6- wheal. [Late OE. *hwelian*; *pa. pple.* *gehweled*, *f. *hwele* WHEAL *sb.*¹]

1. *intr.* To suppurate, gather; to develop or become affected with wheals.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 282 ðif þæt lic heard si, utan lege on þane læcedom þe þæt heard forði hwelige. a 1050 *Liber Scintill.* xv. (1889) 77 Multi... de bonorum profectibus inuidie luore tabescunt, Mænige... be goddra fremum andan mid wunde hweliab. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 523/2 Whelyn, as soorys... *pustulo*. 1530 PALSGR. 780/2 Outher you have many wormes, or els you be nat well in your lyver, for your handes wheale a pace. 1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* v. i, Now gin the leprous cores of ulcered sins Wheale to a heade. 1829 BROCKETT *N.C. Gloss.* (ed. 2).

2. *trans.* To suppurate or bring to a head; to affect with wheals. Only in *pa. pple.* suppurated, pustuled, pimpled.

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past.* C. 275 Forðamðe hie [sc. speech]... ðæt gehwelede on ðæm oðrum geopenað & utforlæt. c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 208 Sippan þæt geswel biþ gehweled & tobyrst. 1522 SKELTON *Why not to Court* 1182 Domingos nose that was wheled. 1556 WITHALS *Dict.* 76 b/2 Matter, as in a wounde when it is whealed, *pus.* 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 651 If they be whealed and filled with matter. 1676 WISEMAN *Surg.* i. xiii. 63, I... washt the Parts whealed and swelled with *spir. vini*.

Hence † *whealing vbl. sb.*, suppuration.

c 1440 [see VENTOSING *vbl. sb.*]. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 523/2 Whelynge, of sorys, *pustulacio*.

wheal (hwi:l), *v.*² [Misspelt form of WEAL *v.*]

1. *trans.* To mark with wales or weals.

1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 135 Batts and Wasps... following their Aggressors till they have Whealed them into Conitration for their unadvised Provocation. 1701 STANHOPE *Pious Breathings* vii. xii. 339 His Body rent and whealed with Scourges. 1813 *Sporting Mag.* XLi. 24 The horse... would have been whipped and whealed. 1845 S. JUDD *Margaret* i. ii, His eyes were bloodshot, his cheeks whealed and puffed. 1868 BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* v. 135, I... now am whealed, one wide wound all of me.

2. *intr.* To be marked with weals or ridges.

1570 GOOGE *Pop. Kingd.* iii. 34 b, The bloud sprang out a pace, and eke their backe did swell and wheale With multitude of stripes.

wheale, **whealke**, **wheam**, **whean**, **wheang**, **whear**: see WEAL, WHEEL, WHELK, QUEME, QUEAN, WHEEN, WHANG, WHERE.

† **whease**, *v. Obs.* [?] *trans.* To signal.

1602 R. CAREW *Cornwall* i. 32 b, By crying with a loud voice, whistling through his fingers, and wheazing certing diuersified signes, with a bush, which hee holdeth in his hand. 1650 J. REYNOLDS *Flower Fidel.* 151 The Master upon the Poop with his silver Sword to whease them to Lee-ward.

whease, **wheasle**: see WHEEZE, WHEEZE.

wheat (hwi:t), *sb.* Forms: 1 hwæte, 2-3 hwete, 3-6 wete, 4-5 wheet(e, whet, 4-6 whete, 6-7 wheate, (1) huæte, 3 whæte, hweate, 4 huete, whyte, wit, 5 wheytt, white, 5-6 wheett(e, whyt, 6 wheitt, whaytt, whiett, wett(e, weate), 6- wheat; *Sc.* and *north. dial.* 4-5 quhet, qwet, 5-6 quhete, qwhet, 5-7 quheit (4 quete, 5 qw(h)ete, qwhet, qhete, qwete, qwyte, qwyet, quhe(y)t, 6 quheitt, quhait, quheite, qwheytte, queat, quhyt(t, vhyt). [OE. *hwæte* str. m. = OFris. **(h)wête* (Nfris. *wêtte*), OS. *hwêti* (MDu. *weite*, Du. *weit*), MLG. *weiten*, *wêten* (LG. *weten*), OHG. *weizzi*, (MHG. *weize*, *weitzge*, G. *weizen*), ON. *hveiti* (Sw. *vete*, Da. *hvede*), Goth. *hwaiteis*:— OTeut. **xwaitjaz*, derivative of **xwit*- WHITE.]

1. *a.* The grain of a cereal (see sense 2), furnishing a meal or flour which constitutes the chief breadstuff in temperate countries.

c 825 *Vesp.* Ps. lxiv. 14 [lxv. 13] *Conualles abundant frumento*, dene genyhtsumiað hwæte. c 1000 *Ag. Gasp.* Matt. iii. 12 He gegaderað hys hwæte on his bern. c 1200 ORMIN 10527, I þa þatt sweltten winndwepp Crist & clennsepp here hiss whæte. c 1220 *Bestiary* 292 in O.E. Misc. 10 De mire suned ðe barlic, ðanne 3e fint te wete. a 1225 *Ancl. R.* 270 Ane wummon... þet windwede hweate. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 18 Vor engelonde is vol ino3, of frut, & ek of tren, Of wit [v. rr. whyte, whyt] & of wolle god. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 10091 þe vble ys made of whete, þe louelyest corne pat men etc. 13... *Cursor M.* 22327 (Gött.) þe mett of qwet, als it es tald, For a peni it sal be sald. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvi. (Nycholas) 214 In þe hawine schipis gret Ware arywit, chargit with quhet. c 1480 HENRYSON *Two Mice* 361 Full benelic stuffit... Of beinis, and nuttis, peiss, ry, and quhite. 1485 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 291 The bussell of whete be boghte for xii. d. c 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* viii. 187 The rasour of whete was solde for forty shelynges and twenty pence. 1550-3 *Decaye Eng.* in S. Fish *Supplic.*, etc. (1871) 99 Allowe to euery person ij. quarters of wate. 1556 *Chron. Grey Friars* (Camden) 4 Thys yere a bushelle of wett was at five shillings.

1569 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 218, L. stroke queat unbarrowed. 1603 DEKKER *Batchelars Banquet* Wks. (Grosart) I. 176, I can tell you their mouths will not be stoppt with a bushell of wheat that speake it. 1833 TENNYSON *Lotos Eaters* 167 An ill-used race of men... Storing yearly little dues of wheat, and wine and oil.

b. in allusive and proverbial use: often opposed to *chaff*, *tares*.

a 1225 *Juliana* 79 Hwen drihtin o domes dei windweð his hwæte. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 59 It were a schort beyete To winne chaf and lese whete. 1561 WINSET *Bk. Questions* Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 120 Guid and euill, expressit in the Euangell, be the similitude of quheit and fiteche. 1611 COTGR. s.v. *Pain*, *Quiers tu meilleur pain que de fourment?* Wouldst thou have better bread then's made of wheat? 1639 J. CLARKE *Paræm.* 46 Malt is above the wheat with him. *Cylicum remiges.* 1874 *Sankey's Sacred Songs* (1878) 11 Let us keep the wheat and roses, Casting out the thorns and chaff. 1874 C. E. NORTON *Lett.* (1913) II. 38 He had now got a good handful of pure wheat to offer in the place of his common sackful of the most unnutritious chaff.

2. *a.* The cereal plant (closely related to barley and rye) which yields this grain, esp. common wheat, *Triticum vulgare* (*sativum*), cultivated in temperate climates.

With qualification denoting a particular kind, as DUCKBILL *wheat*, goat's-wheat (GOAT 4 c), GUINEA *wheat*, Indian *wheat* (INDIAN a. 4 b), *Lammas-wheat* (LAMMAS *sb.* 4), POLAND¹ *wheat*, pollard *wheat* (POLLARD *sb.*² B. 1), RED WHEAT, rivet-wheat (RIVET *sb.*² b), spelt-wheat (SPELT *sb.*¹ 2), summer *wheat* (SUMMER *sb.*¹ 4 c), TURKEY WHEAT, WHITE *wheat*, WINTER *wheat*; also applied to some plants of other genera, as BUCKWHEAT, COW-WHEAT, *French wheat* (FRENCH a. 5).

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xiii. 25 Mið ðy utedlice geslepdon... ða menn cuom fiond his & ofer-geseawu... siððe In middum hwæte. 1340-70 *Alex. & Dind.* 692 Hue tiled in hur time on þe touh erpe, & whete sopliche sew. 1398 TREvisa *Barth. De P.R.* xvii. clxviii. (W. de W.) Vij/2 Of whete is dowle kynde: One manere kynde is red without... and is moost whyte wythin, & heuy... The other manere whete is yelowewy without and clere and whyte wythin: and is lyghte. c 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxx. 134 In pis cuntree es lyttl qwhet or barley. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* vii. xi. 80 Sithis, and all hukis that scheris quheit. 1580 TUSSEY *Husb.* (1878) 49 Graie wheat is the grosest, yet good for the clay... Much like vnto rie be his properties found. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* i. i. 185 When wheate is greene, when hauthorne buds appeare. 1603 G. OWEN *Pembrokeshire* (1892) 60 A third kinde of wheate... which is called holie wheate or sommer wheate. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* ix. 415, I found the Wheat here growing higher then my head. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 846/1 The three principal kinds of bad wheat are, the blighted, the smutty, and the worm-eaten. 1867 H. MACMILLAN *Bible Teach.* v. (1870) 103 Wheat will not thrive in hot climates. 1868 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* (1870) I. ii. 587 The tall wheat, coloured by the August fire Grew heavy-headed.

b. The pale gold colour of ripe wheat. Also *wheat-gold*.

1915 WODEHOUSE *Something Fresh* iii. 83 Joan Valentine was a tall girl, with wheat-gold hair. 1965 [see *French roll* s.v. FRENCH 3 b]. 1970 *New Yorker* 8 Aug. 1 (Adv.), Great embroidered coat of cotton-polyester in wheat with pumpnickel trim. 1977 M. HERR *Dispatches* 175 He was wearing a denim workshirt and wheat jeans. 1983 *Harrods Mag.* Spring & Summer 104/2 Cotton trousers in White, Wheat, Slate Blue or Navy. 1984 H. HIRT *Heat of Winter* i. 2 His face was... very fair—what the Indian matrimonial advertisements describe as a 'wheat' complexion.

3. *pl.* Wheat-plants; crops of wheat; kinds of wheat.

1795 *Scots Mag.* LVII. 544/1 In Lancashire... their wheats are not yet on the bloom. 1797 *Sporting Mag.* X. 297 The new Wheats already thrashed out. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* i. 429 They are frequently also sown on the young wheats and clovers in the spring. 1812 SIR J. SINCLAIR *Syst. Husb. Scot.* i. 339 The bread of Perth in particular, where those wheats are alone used, equals any in the united kingdom. 1888 *Daily News* 13 Oct. 2/6 Foreign white wheats... have hardened to a small advance on the week. 1894 *Times* 22 Jan. 4/1 The young wheats... looking little or none the worse for their week beneath the snow.

4. *a. attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *wheat-acre*, *-area*, *-awn*, *-barn*, *-belt* (BELT *sb.*¹ 5 a), *-blade*, *-blossom*, *-blossoming*, *-braid*, *-bran*, *-bread*, *-breeder*, *-breeding*, *-cake*, *-chaff*, *-close* (CLOSE *sb.*¹ 2), *-cocky* Austral. (COCKY *sb.*² 2), *-colour*, *-country*, *-crop*, *-crust*, *-drill*, *-eddish*, *-fallow*, *-farm*, *-farmer*, *-farming*, *-feed*, *-field*, *-firlot*, *-flour*, *-futures* (FUTURE *sb.* 6), *-garner*, *-glean* (GLEAN *sb.*¹ 1), *-grain*, *-ground*, *-grower*, *-harvest*, *-haulm*, *-house*, *-loaf*, *-loft*, *-lumper*, *-lumping*, *-malt*, *-mill*, *-mow*, *-pit* (PIT *sb.*¹ 11), *-plant*, *-producer*, *-production*, *-ranch*, *-rancher*, *-reed* (REED *sb.*¹ 2 c), *-rick*, *-ridge*, *-ripping*, *-screenings* (cf. SCREEN *sb.*¹ 5), *-scrip* (SCRIP *sb.*⁴), *-seed*, *-seeding*, *-sheaf*, *-sowing*, *-stack*, *-stalk*, *-starch*, *-straw*, *-stubble*, *-threave*, *-wine*; *wheat-bellied*, *-blazing*, *-coloured*, *-fed*, *-growing*, *-hid* adjs.; applied to insects, fungi, etc. destructive to wheat, as *wheat-bug*, *-caterpillar*, *-gall-fly*, *-gnat*, *-insect*, *-joint-worm*, *-louse*, *-maggot*, *-midge*, *-mildew*, *-mite*, *-moth*, *-plant-louse*, *-weevil*, *-worm*; applied to implements used in obtaining or preparing the wheat-grain, as *wheat-brush*, *-dryer*, *-flail*, *-heater*, *-ridder*, *-riddle*, *-separator*, *-sieve*. *b.* Special Combs.: wheat-barley = *naked barley* (NAKED a. 12 c); wheat berry, the grain of wheat; wheat-bird, a bird that feeds on wheat, esp. the chaffinch; also, in North America, the horned

lark, *Eremophila alpestris*; wheat bulb fly, the larva of a muscid fly, *Hylemyia coarctata*, which attacks the base of wheat stems; wheat-duck, the American widgeon, *Mareca americana*, found in flocks in wheat-fields; wheat-fish, the squeteague; wheatflakes *sb. pl.* (orig. U.S.), a breakfast cereal made from flaked and flavoured wheat (cf. *cornflakes sb. pl. s.v. CORN sb.*¹ 11); wheat-fly, name for various insects whose larvae infest the wheat plant, as the Hessian fly, the wheat-midge, etc.; wheat germ, the embryo of the wheat grain, extracted during milling, and valued as a source of vitamins; wheat-grass, (a) name for various species of the genus *Triticum*, esp. couch-grass, *T. repens*; (b) a creeping perennial grass of the genus *Agropyron*; wheat-lay *dial.*, the sowing of land with wheat; wheat-ment, in the Channel Islands, wheat paid as rent (cf. *QUARTER sb.* 4 b); wheat roll, a roll made of wheatmeal bread; Wheat State, in the U.S., a popular nickname for Kansas or Minnesota; also used of South Australia. See also WHEAT-CORN, etc.

1876 G. M. HOPKINS *Poems* (1967) 177 The blue *wheat-acre is underneath. 1884 *Spectator* No. 2932. 1165 Whether the *wheat-area of the world will be maintained. 1869 BLACKMORE *Lorna D.* lxxiv. I caught a limb, and tore it (like a *wheat-awn) from the socket. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* iv. viii. 460 *Hordeum Nudum*. Naked or bare Barley, *Wheat Barley. 1377 in *Cal. Close Rolls* 509 [The grange called the] *wheteberne. 1474-5 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 156 Pro tectura. super le Whetebarn Manerij de Eluet. 1543 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 42 In the whiett barne, whaytt and rye. 1922 JOYCE *Ulysses* 196 Eve. Naked *wheatbellied sin. 1863 *Harper's Mag.* Oct. 718/1 The enterprising town... is the wheat-market for a considerable section of the *wheat-belt of the state. 1910 *Chambers's Jnl.* Mar. 205/2 The laying out of ready-made farms in the wheat-belts of North-West Canada. 1980 *Jnl. R. Soc. Arts* Mar. 175/2 In the wheat belts in the USA and Australia there were... large areas still undeveloped. 1848 *Rep. Comm. Patents* 1847 (U.S.) 373 Taking the outer coating or bran from the *wheat berry previous to grinding produces the following important results. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 20 Sept. 8/1 The wheataberry, to become blood, bone, and flesh, must be broken up. 1746-7 M. CATESBY in *Phil. Trans.* XLIV. 444 They [sc. exotic birds] arrive [in Virginia] annually at the time that Wheat... is at a certain Degree of Maturity... They have attain'd the Name of *Wheat-Birds. 1865 *Wheat bird* [see PEABODY]. 1917 T. G. PEARSON *Birds Amer.* 11. 212 Horned Lark... [also called] Prairie Bird; Road Trotter; Wheat Bird. 1867 EMERSON *Poems*, May-day 201 The dead log touched bursts into leaf. The *wheat-blade whispers of the sheaf. 1937 BLUNDEN *Elegy* 60 Seek the wide *wheat-blazing plain. 1733 TULL *Horse-hoeing Husb.* xiii. 154 The nipping Winds... which... might destroy the tender *Wheat Blossoms. a 1722 LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 299 The cows milk abates about *wheat-blossoming time. 1825 HONE *Every-day Bk.* I. 150 The *wheat-braird was strong. 14... *Sir Beues* (C.) 1622 + 21 3yt was he wonte before eche day... Of *whyte brawne to haue a messe. a 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat.* *Fistula* etc. 75 Tak whete branne als myche as sufficep. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* 257 If a little Wheat-bran is boiled in our ordinary Beer. 1946 *Nature* 31 Aug. 293/1 The fungus was grown in various modifications of Czapek-Dox medium with addition of manganese sulphate, in some cases with... autoclaved wheat-bran extract. 1377 LANGE. P. Pl. B. vii. 120 pougħ *whete bred me faille. 1552 2nd *Prayer-bk. Edu.* VI. *Commun.* rubric. The best and purest wheat bread, that conueniently maye be gotten. 1703 J. BRAND *Descr. Orkney* 18 As for Wheat-bread it is rare. 1862 M. D. COLT *Went to Kansas* 83, I live entirely on food made of corn... leaving the wheat bread for grand-ma and grand-pa. 1880 [see SOUTHERN A. 4 c]. 1978 *Listener* 10 Aug. 180/3 Oatcakes, potatoe and wheat bread were cooked deliciously on a griddle. 1912 *Rep. 13th Meeting Australasian Assoc. Adv. Sci.* 536 (heading) The realization of the aims of William J. Farrer, *wheat breeder. 1974 *Encycl. Brit. Macropædia* III. 1157/2 Wheat breeders regularly produce new varieties. 1898 W. J. FARRER *Let.* 30 Aug. in R. Archer *William James Farrer* (1949) xiv. 109, I should continue to carry on the *wheat-breeding work at Lambrigg. 1965 *Austral. Encycl.* IX. 284b (caption) Wheat-breeding plots at the Temora Experiment Farm. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech. Suppl.* 945/1 *Wheat Brush, a device for scouring grain. 1860 CURTIS *Farm Insects* Index, *Wheat-bugs. *Miris tritici* and *M. erraticus*. 1883 E. A. ORMEROD *Rep. Observations Injurious Insects* 1882 20 *Wheat-bulb fly... was observable early in March. 1921 *Jnl. Agric. Sci.* XI. 98 Wheat-bulb fly... does not appear to do much harm in a wet, cold, or damp summer. 1975 *N.Z. Jnl. Agric.* Sept. 67/1 The topics covered in the first few months of the scheme include cereal mildew, wheat bulb fly, yellow rust. 1772 M. PATTEN *Diary* (1903) 293 His wife baked a parcel of *Wheat Cakes for me when I went up to Cockermouth. 1865 A. D. WHITNEY *Gayworthys* 218 There are wheat-cakes and maple syrup for your breakfast. 1981 J. DUNNING *Deadline* (1982) xix. 191 Trudy fixed him a breakfast of eggs and bacon and wheat cakes. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xxxi. III. 277 This door is to serve the moth for its exit, like that formed by the *wheat-caterpillar. 1573-80 TUSSEUR *Husb.* (1878) 46 *Wheat chaffe lay vp drie. 1847 W. C. L. MARTIN *Ox* 149/1 Supposing that the stomach be distended by light materials, as wheat-chaff, chopped straw. 1599 *George a Greene* Cjb, Madge pointed to meete me in your *wheate close. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xxix, He's in Gaffer Gabbledwood's wheat-close. 1933 *Bulletin* (Sydney) 1 Mar. 13 A good, typical S. Australian public man—a *wheat cocky. 1941 K. TENNANT *Battlers* xxi. 228 Like many another broken 'wheat cocky'... Jim might be packing his kids and wife into his old truck any time now. 1711 HEARNE *Collect.* (O.H.S.) III. 150 The hair on the upper [lip] being thin and short of a *wheat Colour. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 10 Mar. 3/2 The *wheat-coloured straw. 1776 *New-York Gaz.* 24 June 3/3 To be Sold... a very good Grist-Mill... in a very good *Wheat Country. 1890 *Stock Grower & Farmer* 29 Mar. 5/3 The panhandle country... is

a fine wheat country. 1979 TANOUS & RUBINSTEIN *Wheat Killing* (1980) ix. 55 We were in the flat wheat country drained by the Missouri River. 1581 *Durham Wills* (Surtees) II. 42 All the *wheat crope, that is sowed upon my farmhold. 1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. 338 That my wheat-crops would be hurt by the north-easterly winds. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* (1862) xiii. §1. 834 Land which might have been supposed to have been exhausted of its phosphates by a previous wheat-crop. 1615 MARKHAM *Eng. Housew.* 11. ii. 65 Your course *wheat-crust would be kneaded with hot-water. 1733 TULL *Horse-hoeing Husb.* xxii. 318 In the Side of a Mortise of a *Wheat-Drill. 1884 *Health Exhib. Catal.* 113/1 Model of the Patent *Wheat Dryer. 1888 G. Trumbull *Names & Portraits of Birds* 21 He found this species [sc. the American widgeon] in enormous flocks on the wheat-fields, and... it was there called the *wheat-duck. 1917 T. G. PEARSON *Birds Amer.* I. 120 Wheat Duck... is very fond of wild celery. 1980 *Hunting Ann.* 1981 40/3 A widgeon in one region would be called a baldpate in another area or wheatduck in another. 1764 *Museum Rust.* II. xxiv. 76 Immediately after harvest I turn them on the *wheat eddishes. a 1722 LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 20 They... will not allow a load of... dung at harvest to come through their *wheat-fallow. 1958 *Publ. Amer. Dial. Soc.* xxx. 6 Farmers who have large *wheat-farms. 1870 *Rep. Comm. Agric.* 1869 (U.S. Dept. Agric.) 5 The *wheat farmer... is not joyous over his market returns. 1959 *Cape Times* 18 July 2/5 Wheat farmers welcomed the good rains. 1965 *Austral. Encycl.* IX. 285/2 The most spectacular change in *wheat-farming practice in recent years. 1892 *Times* (weekly ed.) 2 Feb. 89/3 The *wheat-fed pork of the North West. 1932 *Daily Tel.* 8 Oct. 4/2 Oats quiet of sale... Millers' *wheatfeed quiet. 1960 *Farmer & Stockbreeder* 29 Mar. 4/2 Demand for wheatfeed is steady. 1425 in *Rep. MSS. Ld. Middleton* (1911) 108 That no man take away his bestes for the comyn herd... to go in the *qwete feld to lese the qwete. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 209 By laying corner-grounds and wheat-fields to his owne demaines. 1840 LONGF. *Sp. Stud.* 111. i. Over the wheat-fields, where the shadows sail. 1771 *Encycl. Brit.* 11. 706/2 That the *wheat firloft shall contain 19 pints and two joutcases. 1888 GOODE *Amer. Fishes* 111 The Squeteague... Some old authorities use the name *Wheat-fish. 1903 *Bull. Maine Agric. Exper. Station* No. 84, 143 Fruen's Best *Wheat Flakes, 'made from the best Pacific Coast White Wheat'. 1939 G. GREENE *Lawless Roads* ii. 45 He looked up from his dry wheat flakes. 1970 M. KELLY *Spirit* ix. 37 A grocer size wheatflakes box. a 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat.* *Fistula* etc. 31 When... per is added pecto white of eiren and oyle, wip wax and *whete flour. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps. lxxx[i]*. 16 He shulde fede them with the fynest wheate flour. 1639 O. WOOD *Alph. Bk. Secrets* 102 Fry them together till they be thick with a little wheateflower. 1766 *Phil. Trans.* LVII. 456 A mucilaginous vegetable paste... as wheat-flower and water. 1847 W. C. L. MARTIN *Ox* 175/1 Gruel made of fine wheat-flour. 1798 NEMNICH *Polygl.-Lex.*, *Virginian* *Wheat fly, a mischievous insect in the American state: It eats the grain, and is a moth in a perfect state. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 951 The wheat-fly, *Cecidomyia tritici*. 1908 'O. HENRY' *Strictly Business* 252 After I had taken some \$9,000,000 out of the soap business I made the rest in corn and *wheat futures. 1979 TANOUS & RUBINSTEIN *Wheat Killing* (1980) ii. 13 The rise in the wheat price will mean a fortune to them if they own the wheat futures. 1453-4 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 634 Operanti... super... emendacionem de le *Whet-garner. 1897 *Sears, Roebuck Catal.* 15/3 *Wheat Germ Meal... Cooked in 5 minutes. 1933 *Discovery* May 160/1 The richest source of vitamin E is wheat germ. 1980 *Sunday Times* (Colour Suppl.) 20 Jan. 57/3 Wheatgerm Loaf. A good hearty farmhouse loaf. c 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 96 The *whete glene crowned above the greyne. 1826 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xlv. IV. 221 The Ichneumon of the *wheat-gnat. c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5590 An hundred mavis [i. moths] of *whete greyne. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. iv. iii. It has now... sifted out the true wheat-grains of National Deputies. 1918 *Chamb. Jnl.* Aug. 520/1 For years millers have laboured to provide us with a perfectly white loaf, throwing away some of the most valuable parts of the wheat-grain in so doing. 1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* 73 *Wheat-grass... either the greater used for the making of fraills: or the lesser. 1762 W. HUDSON *Flora Anglica* 45 Common Wheat-grass, Dog's-grass, Quick-grass or Couch-grass. 1766 *Museum Rust.* VI. 442 Common Wheat-grass, or Couch-grass. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) 11. 173 Sea Wheat-grass. Rush Wheat. 1871 *Harper's Mag.* July 187/2 Among the more important of these plants the wheat-grass stands pre-eminent. 1968 F. W. GOULD *Grass Systematics* 186 Several species of *Agropyron* are important forage grasses on western rangelands, outstanding among which are... bluebunch wheatgrass, and... western wheatgrass. a 1722 LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 17 He sows on his *wheat-ground... about February. 1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. 348 That is a profit more than the rent of the ground, and half as much again above the profit of the *wheat-grower. 1868 *Rep. U.S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 18 The pioneer upon the prairie is a wheat-grower. 1840 BUEL *Farmer's Comp.* 23 Pennsylvania, then one of the best *wheat-growing States. 1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* xxx. 14 And Ruben goon out in tyme of *wheat huseft into the feild. 1733 TULL *Horse-hoeing Husb.* xiii. 154 If their wheat Harvest in Sicily be about the 20th of May. c 1000 Sax. *Leechd.* II. 130 ðenim gate tord & *hwæte healm gebærn to duste. 1748 *Lond. & Country Brewer* IV. (ed. 2) 255 Wheat Straw under a Hair-Cloth is reckoned the best Fuel by most, Rye-Straw next, and Wheat-Haulm worse. 1827 CLARE *Sheph. Cal.* 50 And lonely chirp the *wheat-hid quails. 1559 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 143 For covering y^e whete house ut patet per billam. 1710 HILMAN *Tusser Rediv.* June (1744) 72 Lay it in the best Place you have, for which the Wheat-Houses now in request... are I think the best. 1819 D. B. WARDEN *Acc. United States* II. 53 The Hessian fly, or *wheat insect (*Tipula tritici*). a 1722 LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 324 It may be proper to fold till Christmas, and then go on the *wheat-lay. 1534 *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden Soc.) II. 208 The Baillye... Weyed ageyn his bredde wiche was to leight in the 1st *Whete loffe iij ounces. 1587 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 26 [A] *wheate loft. 1934 *Bulletin* (Sydney) 3 Jan. 14/3 Harrison, a Wallendbeen (N.S.W.) *wheat-lumper, carried 1170 bags of wheat the other day. 1957 *Wheat-lumping [see RING v¹ 11]. 1452 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) 275 Drege malte, pese, benes, *whetmalte. 1743 *Lond. & Country Brewer* II. (ed. 2) 93 Wheat-Malt also differs much from Barley-Malt. 1840 J. & M. LOUDON tr. *Köllar's Treat. Insects* 11. 123 The

*Wheat Midge... The perfect insect has a distant [sic] resemblance to the common midge, but is smaller. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 304 The wheat-midge (*Cecidomyia tritici*). 1931 K. M. SMITH *Textbk. Agric. Entomol.* xi. 169 Wheat midge was especially destructive in 1926 in the eastern counties. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 185/1 *Chondrocopium farreum*... a *wheate mill or (as some say) an otemeale mill. 1860 CURTIS *Farm Insects* Index, *Wheat-mite. An acarus infesting stored corn. 1862 T. W. HARRIS *Insects Injur. Veget.* (ed. 3) Index, *Wheat moths. c 1700 *Bagford Ballads* (1876) I. 66 Both his *Wheat Mows & his Hay, By Flames of Fire are consum'd away. 1808 COBBETT in *Friendsh. Mary R. Mitford* (1882) I. 43 The hares will be heard squeaking like rats on the breaking up of a wheat-mow. 1884 DEPEW in *Harper's Mag.* (1886) XII. 217 In the *Wheat Pit at Chicago in a single year was buried more of the future prosperity of this republic than the sum of all the traffic which flows through that great city in a decade. 1733 TULL *Horse-hoeing Husb.* xi. 112 If the How-Plow goes so near to the Rows as it ought, it would be apt to tear out the *Wheat-Plants along with the Stubble. 1868 *Rep. U.S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 17 A disposition to increase the breadth of *wheat-planting. 1860 CURTIS *Farm Insects* Index, *Wheat plant-louse, *Aphis granaria*. 1908 *Westm. Gaz.* 1 July 6/3 Canada aims at being the great *wheat-producer of the world. 1884 *Spectator* No. 2932. 1165/2 To increase *wheat-production in India. 1874 *Wheat ranch [see *sheep ranch s.v. SHEEP sb.* 7c]. 1947 *Mazama* Dec. 1/1 An overnight trip to the 500-acre wheat and stock ranch... near Wamic. 1947 *Chicago Tribune* 1 Nov. 11/4 A former life term prisoner... admitted the... slaying of a retired Canadian *wheat rancher. 1977 J. GILLIS *Killers of Starfish* (1979) v. 32 Maybe he was a big wheat rancher. 1813 T. DAVIS *Agric. Wilt's Gloss.*, *Wheat-reed, straw preserved unthrashed for thatching. 1682 WARBURTON *Guernsey* (1822) 94 A man, that has either house or land which he wishes to dispose of, ... sells it to another to hold to him and his heirs for ever, paying yearly so many quarters... of *wheat rent. 1694 FALLE *Jersey* iii. 95 Together with several Parcels of Lands and Meadows, Wheat-Rents, Escheats. a 1722 LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 182 In that fashion, without thatching, they make *wheat-reeks in the Isle of Wight. 1823 COBBETT *Rural Rides* (1885) I. 255 A... farm-house... with a wheat-rick standing in the yard. c 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 32 Take a seve or a *wheterydoun. 1733 W. ELLIS *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 200 Our Wheat-riddle Sieves. 1479-80 *Priory of Finchale* (Surtees) p. ccxlvii, ij *whetridils, iij haveridils, et ij cribris. 1729 WALKDEN *Diary* (1866) 45 Windowed my wheat the chaff out of it, but, for want of a wheat riddle, we could dress it no further. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 281 A wheat-riddle of wood. 1733 TULL *Horse-hoeing Husb.* xi. 110, I find by measuring my *Wheat Ridges in the Spring, that none of them are quite a Foot High. 1860 R. S. HAWKER in *Life* (1905) 323 No one ever remembers the aspect of the wheat-ridges so mournfully unpromising. 1382 WYCLIF *Judges* xv. 1 Whanne the dais of *whete rypynge stooden yn. 1962 E. SNOW *Other Side of River* (1963) lix. 447 The dining room I saw was serving *wheat rolls, turnips, cabbage and spinach which looked adequate and wholesome. 1978 H. McLEAVE *Borderline Case* (1979) iv. 49 Shigo brought hot coffee, wheat rolls baked on the spot, butter. 1855 *Poultry Chron.* III. 343 *Wheat-screenings, cracked corn, ... or buckwheat, may be added to their diet. 1733 W. ELLIS *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 309 The... *Wheat-seed Plough. 1810 *Sporting Mag.* XXXVI. 225 He... had worked with other horses all the wheat-seed time. 1631 WEEVER *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 724 Certaine waxe candles, which euer and onely they used to light in *wheat-seeding. 1729 WALKDEN *Diary* (1866) 44 When he ended his wheat seeding. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech. Suppl.* 946/1 *Wheat Separator. The separation of mustard, cockle, and grass seed from the wheat is effected by passing the mixed grains over inclined plates perforated with holes. c 1530 in *Gutch Coll. Cur.* II. 329 Item a greate Bason withe a *Wheyte Sheffe in the bottom. 1600 NASHE *Summers Last Will* Wks. (Grosart) VI. 127 God knowes who shal pay Goodman Yeomans, for his wheat sheafe. 1782 HIGHMORE *Ramble Coast Sussex* (1873) 15 Nature... shewed us her Wheatsheaf — and her Autumn Horn. 1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) II. 403 A wheat-sheaf should never contain more than two or three handfuls. 1897 *Alibutti's Syst. Med.* IV. 375 The cones [of the kidney] which are often compressed in their centres to the well-known wheat-sheaf shape. 1834 *Brit. Husb.* I. 390 It should be pounded till it will run through a *wheat-sieve. 1557 TUSSEUR *100 Points Husb.* xxv, October for *wheate sowing, calleth as fast. 1825 COBBETT *Rural Rides* (1885) II. 178 Wheat-sowing is yet going on, on the Wold. 1778 [W. MARSHALL] *Minutes Agric., Digest* 126 To-day... nine men,—three boys,—three teams,—and four carriages, have made a very handsome *Wheat-Stack of eighteen harvest loads. 1577 GOOGE tr. *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 28 The stalke or steale thereof [sc. of rye] is smaller then the *Wheate stalke. 1733 TULL *Horse-hoeing Husb.* xiii. 158 The lower parts of the Wheat-stalks must receive the greater share of Heat. 1880 MEREDITH *Phoebus with Admetus* iv, Stately stood the wheatstalk, with head bent high. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 109/2 *Amylon*... *wheate starch. 1854 *Pereira's Polarized Light* (ed. 2) 154 Tapioca-meal, East Indian arrow-root... wheat-starch. 1911 D. MALLOCH *Resaved Fables* 65 He had a Friend in the Retail Lumber Business... and he sent him enough Money to get Home to the *Wheat State. 1945 BAKER *Austral. Lang.* x. 187 Popular names for the various Australian states are: South Australia: the Wheat State. 1950 R. MEYER *Festivals U.S.A.* 225 Kansas is sometimes called the Wheat State, but it is more familiarly known as the Sunflower State. 14... *Stockholm Med. MS.* ii. 755 in *Anglia* XVIII. 325 His stalke is gret as *whete-stro. 1523-34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* §27 The wheate strawe, that they purpose to make thacke of. 1789 T. WRIGHT *Meth. Watering Meadows* (1790) 43 The hay is almost as long, coarse, and dry, as wheat-straw. 1813 VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* 90, 100 sheaves of wheat-straw recd. 1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 303 It is... said that Wheat-straw may be melted into a colourless glass with the blow-pipe. c 1903 O. READ in *Library Southern Lit.* (1909) X. 4374 The Squatter, with his wheat-straw beard, his hay hair and his autumn leaf complexion. 1941 L. B. LYON *Tomorrow is Revealing* 44 A son with a bird's glint, and wheat-straw hair. 1760 R. BROWN *Compl. Farmer* 11. 48 They plough in the *wheat stubble in December. 1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) II. 337 The wheat stubbles are ploughed as soon as the wheat sowing is over. 1812 SIR J. SINCLAIR *Syst. Husb. Scot.* I. 330 The *wheat-

threave consists of twenty-eight sheaves. 1862 T. W. HARRIS *Insects Injur. Veget.* (ed. 3) 83 The true grain-weevil or *wheat-weevil of Europe. 1954 E. POUND *Cantos* liii. 281 With gold cup of *wheat-wine that he go afield to spring ploughing. 1982 C. THOMAS *Jade Tiger* 52 Wheat wine, almost pure alcohol. 1862 T. W. HARRIS *Insects Injur. Veget.* (ed. 3) 453 They have been called 'wheat-worms, gray worms, and brown weevils... The name of grain-worms has likewise sometimes been applied to them.

Hence 'wheatless *a.*, having no wheat.

1868 LYNCH *Rivulet* CXXXVII. iii, I opened many a . . . book, . . . But all the leaves were wheatless straws. 1870 LOWELL *Among my Bks.* Ser. 1. (1873) 336 The laity look on while theologians thrash their wheatless straw. 1917 *Times* 30 May 7/4 What will be the attitude of those portions of Greece . . . if they remain wheatless.

wheat, *v.* [f. prec.] *trans.* To crop with wheat. 1847 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* VIII. 1. 61 The land must not be wheated oftener than the soil will admit.

wheat, *obs.* form of WHITE.

'**wheat-corn**. Now rare. [OE. *hwætecorn* = MHG. *weiz(en)korn* (G. *weizenkorn*), ON. *hveitikorn* (MSw. *hvetekorn*, etc.): see CORN *sb.*']

1. A grain of wheat.

c1000 Sax. *Leechd.* II. 34 ðenim hnutcyrnla & hwæte corn. a1175 *Cott. Hom.* 241 þis bread was imaced of ane hwete corne. 13. . . *Propr. Sanct.* (Vernon MS.) in Herrig's *Archiv* LXXXI. 102/4 But jif þat a whete-corn fflalle into þe eorþe lowe. c1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 165 He vsid to putt whete-cornys in his ere, & he lernyd a white dowffe to stand opon his shulder & take þaim oute. 1526 TINDALE *John* xii. 24 Except the wheate corne fall into the grounde and deye, it bydeth alone. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* xxvii. xiii. II. 291 Little berries. . . of the bignesse of wheat corns. 1854 SPENCER in *Brit. Q. Rev.* July 140 Our own systems [of weights], both troy and avoirdupois, are derived primarily from wheat-corns.

†2. = WHEAT *sb.* 1. *Obs.*

1425 in *Rep. MSS. Ld. Middleton* (1911) 108 Nother comyn herd ne sched herd com in the qwyte corn feld to the korn be lad away. 1764 *Museum Rust.* III. 1. 1 The wheat-corn was remarkably backward, though it, in general, promised to be a good crop.

wheatear¹ ('hwit:ə(r)). [EAR *sb.*²] 1. An ear of wheat.

c1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) vii. 27 þe seuen barayne 3eres þat ware betakyn þe seuen deed qwhete eres. [1688 HOLME *Armoury* 1. 103/3 Our old English terms were these . . . Whet-herys, Wheat Ears.] 1798 BLOOMFIELD *Farmer's Boy*, *Summer* 52 Shot up from broad rank blades that droop below. The nodding wheat-ear forms a graceful bow. c1840 ELIZA COOK *Song of Sun* iv. Who else can purple the grape on the vine, Or flush the wheat-ear with gold? 1878 MEREDITH *Love in Valley* 158 Slain are the poppies that shot their random scarlet Quick amid the wheatears.

2. A pattern in embroidery, lace, weaving, etc., or an ornament in wood-carving, etc., resembling an ear of wheat.

1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework* 195/2 *Wheatear Stitch*. This stitch is a combination of Point Naté and Chain Stitch. 1911 *Encycl. Brit.* XIII. 306/1 The backs of Hepplewhite chairs were often adorned with galleries and festoons of wheat-ears or pointed fern leaves. 1919 T. WRIGHT *Romance Lace Pillow* ix. 83 The ancient pattern called the *Wheat-ear* and *Cornflower* . . . is still made. 1955 R. W. MILLAR tr. *Daniel-Rops' Jesus in His Time* ix. 366 Heavy columns of porphyry with rather ungainly capitals carved with grapes and wheat-ears. 1957 SIMPSON & WEIR *Weaver's Craft* xii. 151 The patterns most generally used for tweeds are . . . Twill . . . Goose eye . . . Wheatear. [1977 *Penguin Dict. Decorative Arts* 374/2 Typical of the [Hepplewhite] style are . . . wheat-ears with which the central splat of shield-back and other chairs are decorated.

Hence 'wheat-eared *a.*, full of wheat-ears.

1792 *Ess. towards new Ed. Tibullus* 1: Be thine, blond Ceres, from my wheat-ear'd field, A pendant crown thy temple's doors to grace.

wheatear² ('hwit:ə(r)). Also 6 whekere (?), 7 wheat ears, wheatgear (?). [Early evidence wanting prob. on account of local origin; but the orig. form is app. still represented in the 17th cent. by *wheatears* (a 1661) for **whiteeres*, f. *whit-*, WHITE *a.* (cf. for the phonology the place-name *Whittern*, OE. *hwitærn*) + *eeres*, *ers*, ARSE, the name being given in allusion to the bird's white rump; cf. Cornish dial. form *whiteass*, the similar dial. names *white rump*, *wittol* = *white-tail* (in Cotgr. *whittale*, glossing F. *culblanc* 'white-rump'), and Du. *witstaart*, G. *weiss-schwanz*. From *wheatears*, taken as pl., a supposed sing. *wheatear* was inferred, and association with WHEAT *sb.* (see quot. 1653, etc.) established the spelling of the first syllable.]

A small passerine bird, *Saxicola oenanthe*, widely distributed over the Old World, having a bluish-grey back, white belly, rump, and upper tail-coverts, and blackish wings; esteemed as a delicacy.

1591 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 70 A courleve xvjd; thrie whekeres [so printed], xvjd; larkes and yowloringes, iiijd. 1653 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Cert. Trav. Uncert. Journ.* 17 There were rare Birds I never saw before. . . Th'are called *Wheat ears*, less then Lark or Sparrow. . . The name of *Wheat ears*, on them is ycleap'd, Because they come when wheat is yearly reap'd. a1661 FULLER *Worthies* (1662) 111. 98 Wheat-ears is a bird peculiar to this County [i.e. Sussex], hardly found out of it. It is so called, because fastest when Wheat is ripe, whereon it feeds. . . That Palateman shall pass in silence, who being seriously

demanding his judgment concerning the abilities of a great Lord, concluded him a man of very weak parts, because once he saw him at a great Feast feed on Chickens when there were Wheat-Ears on the Table. a1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Wheat-gear*, a Bird smaller than a Dottrel. 1724 DE FOE *Tour Gt. Brit.* I. ii. 57 The Bird call'd a Wheatear, or as we may call them, the English Oortolans. 1770 CUMBERLAND *West Indian* III. ii. A hot-brain'd headlong spark, that would run into our trap, like a wheat-ear under a turf. 1883 *Century Mag.* XXVII. 111 The wheat-ear uncovered its white rump as it flitted from rock to rock. 1894 R. B. SHARPE *Hand-bk. Birds Gt. Brit.* I. 291 The winter home of the Wheatear extends from the North-western Himalayas to Persia, and also to North-eastern and Eastern Africa, as well as to Senegambia.

wheaten ('hwit:ə)n, *a.* Forms: 1 *hwæten*, *huaeten*, 3 *zweten*, 4 *hueten*, 5, 6 *whetyn*, 6 *whettyn*, *we(a)ton*, 7 *wheten*, 6- *wheaten*. [OE. *hwæten* = MDu. *weiten*, MHG. *weizîn*: see WHEAT *sb.* and -EN⁴.]

1. Composed of the grain or flour of wheat.

Sometimes applied *spec.* to bread made of the whole grain ('wholemeal') as distinct from white bread.

805-31 in Sweet O.E. *Texts* 444, cxx *huaetenra* hlafa & xxx *clenra*. c1000 Sax. *Leechd.* I. 322 Mid *hwæten* meluwe. c1290 *St. Cuthbert* 52 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 360 Clene *zwetene* flour. 1340 *Ayenb.* 82 þe wyfman grat myd childe, þet more hi uynt smak in an zoure epple panne ine ane *huetene* lhoue. c1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 33 Bynd hym vppe with flour of Rys, oþer with whetyn flour. 1530 PALSGR. 288/1 *Whetynbreed*, *pain bourgeois*. c1530 *Songs, Carols*, etc. (E.E.T.S.) 120, I clynye as doth a wheton cake. 1577 HARRISON *England* III. i. 95 b/1 in *Holinshead*, Wheaton bread, so named because the colour . . . resemblen the graie wheat. 1608 in J. Nicholl *Comp. Ironm.* (1866) 140 Wheate . . . to be ground into meal and baked into white and wheten bread, and the wheaten to contayne xj oz. the penny wheten loffe, and the three-halfpenny white loves after the same rate. 1638 PENKETHMAN *Artach.* H2, The Law doth appoint three sorts of Bread only to be made, viz. white, wheaten, and household. 1709 *Act 8 Anne* c. 19 Table, The White Loaves are One Half, and the Wheaton Three Quarters of the Weight of Household Loaves. 1727 DE FOE *Syst. Magic* I. i. (1840) 4 Our penny wheaten brown bread loaves. 1818 COLEBROOKE *Import Colon.* Corn 69 The bread made of this mixed flour is found to be . . . better . . . than that made with plain wheaten meal. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 367 Rye-bread is denser than wheaten-bread. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.*, *Org.* (1862) xiii. §2. 839 Bread made from wheaten flour. 1919 *Q. Rev.* July 182 The food and fuel regulations respecting wheaten bread, sugar, and 'lightless nights' had been withdrawn. 1922 JOYCE *Ulysses* 503 Wheatmeal with honey and nutmeg. 1944 L. MUMFORD *Condition of Man* vi. 202 Wheaton bread.

2. Of or belonging to wheat as a plant; made of the stalks or straw of wheat.

c1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John xii. 24 þæt hwætene corn wunað ana, buton hyt fealle on eorþan & sy dead. 1552 HULOET, *Wheaten* branne. 1565 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* II. (1587) 17 There waited summer naked starke all saue a wheaten hat. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* I. i. 1 Apparent shew of wheaten leaues. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* v. ii. 41 As Peace should still her wheaten Garland weare. 1681 GREW *Museum* IV. iii. 376 The Stalk as thick as a Wheaton-straw. 1730 THOMSON *Autumn* i. Crown'd with the sickle and the wheaten sheaf. 1827 CLARE *Sheph. Cal.* 49 Oft making 'love-knots' in the shade, Of blue-green oat or wheaten blade. 1865 SWINBURNE *Poems & Ball.*, In *Mem. Landor* g. In many a tender wheaten plot Flowers that were dead Live.

†3. *wheaten plum* = WHEAT-PLUM. *Obs.*

1542 [see WHEAT-PLUM, quot. 1538]. 1552 HULOET, *Wheaten* plummes, whiche be whyte or yelowo plummes, *cærea pruna*. 1594 BARNFIELD *Affect. Sheph.* II. xlii, Bullas and wheaton Plumbs.

4. Of a pale honey colour. *wheaten terrier*, a soft-coated terrier belonging to a breed originally developed in Ireland and distinguished by its pale golden wavy coat. Also *absol.* as *sb.* denoting the dog (also, the colour).

1943 *Our Dogs* 5 Mar. 234/5 The soft-coated Wheaton Terrier has now been recognised by the English Kennel Club. *Ibid.* 19 Mar. 281/2 There were 30 entries of Wheatens at the Irish Kennel Club show. 1945 C. L. B. HUBBARD *Observer's Bk. Dogs* 146 Wheaton-coloured Terriers of soft coats have existed in Ireland for a considerable time. 1959 *Times* 14 Aug. 1/7 (Advnt.), Soft-coated Wheaton Terrier puppies. 1971 F. HAMILTON *World Encycl. Dogs* 480 The mature Wheaton is an attractive, compact, well-built dog, strong and energetic. 1975 *Country Life* 6 Feb. 311 The Border terrier . . . coat of either wheaten, red, grizzle and tan, or blue and tan.

Wheaties ('hwit:iz), *sb. pl.* Also *wheaties*. [f. WHEAT *sb.* + -IE.] The name of a breakfast cereal made from wheat.

A proprietary name in the United States. 1925 *Official Gaz.* (U.S. Patent Office) 24 Mar. 738/2 Washburn Crosby Company, Minneapolis, Minn. *Wheaties* . . . Cereal food products. 1935 *Good Housekeeping* (N.Y.) June (Advnt., rear cover), Wheaties bring real whole wheat. . . in a ready-to-serve form that children adore. 1952 *Galaxy* Sept. 50/1 An institution is where they put Aunt Maggy when she started collecting Wheaties in a stamp album. 1968 *Shakes. Q.* Winter 38 For Ryot. . . to tempt Youthe with archery, would be as if Gluttony tried to corrupt his appetite with a bowl of wheaties. 1981 I. ST. JAMES *Balfour Conspiracy* vii. 241 Their morning wheaties came wrapped in a . . . Press Release.

'**wheat-land**. Land on which wheat is grown or suitable for growing wheat on.

977 *Charter of Oswald* in Kemble *Cod. Dipl.* III. 159 Buton .lx. æcran ðæt hæft se arcebisceop genumen into Cymesige to his hame him to hwæte-lande. 1573-80 TUSSEY *Husb.* (1878) 128 Thry fallow once ended, go strike by and by, Both wheat land and barlie. 1603 G. OWEN *Pembrokeshire* (1892) 59 *marg.*, Wheate lande howe dressed.

1763 MILLS *Pract. Husb.* II. 12 He gave five plowings to a piece of wheat-land. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstrel* I. 173 The same Power. . . That browns the wheat-lands in their summer-stain. 1916 *Times* 27 Nov. 10/4 Many thousand acres of our richest wheatland is to-day totally uncultivated.

wheatmeal ('hwit:mi:l). [OE. *hwætemelu* = MHG. *weiz(en)mel* (G. *weizenmehl*), ON. *hveitimiol* (MSw. *hvetemiol*, etc.): see MEAL *sb.*'] Meal or flour of wheat. Also *attrib.*

c1000 Sax. *Leechd.* II. 354 ðebriw wel swipne briw þær on mid hwæte melwe. 1382 WYCLIF *Exod.* xxix. 2 Of puyr whete meele thou shalt make alle thingis. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P.R.* xvii. clviii. (W. de W.) Tviiij b/1 The flour of whete meele hyghte Simula: and is the cheyf meele of whete. a1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 72 Tak cow mylk, and put þerto a subtille whete meel. 1579 in J. Nicholl *Comp. Ironm.* (1866) 103 Wheat meale the best iij^a the bushell. 1681 GREW *Museum* II. ii. 222 It must be mixed nothing near so stiff as our Wheat-Meal. 1767 *Ann. Reg.*, *Hist. Eur.* 61 The bill to continue . . . the free importation of wheat and wheat-meal. 1870 *Daily News* 6 Dec., The mixed diet of linseed cake, barley, beatmeal, wheatmeal, peameal. 1915 *Ibid.* 5 Jan. 4 It is specially necessary that the sick and wounded should not go short of wheatmeal bread.

†**wheat-plum**. *Obs.* (or *dial.*) [orig. a misinterpretation of L. *cærea pruna* waxen or wax-coloured plums (Virgil, *Ecl.* ii. 53), *cærea* being misapprehended as **cærea* wheaten (f. *Ceres* wheat, corn); subsequent association with *white* is probable (cf. WHEATEAR² and Du. *witte pruim*).] Name of a supposed variety of plum.

1538 ELYOT *Addit.*, *Cærea pruna*, wheate [ed. 1542 wheaten] plummes. 1573-80 TUSSEY *Husb.* (1878) 76 Januaries abstract. Of trees or fruites to be set or remooued. . . Wheat plums. 1577 GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* II. 96 Wheate Plomes, and horse Plomes, wherewith they vse to fatte Hogges. 1611 COTGR., *Prune blanche*, the wheat, or white Plumme. 1657 C. BECK *Univ. Char.* M3, A wheat plum-tree. 1676 *Phil. Trans.* XI. 629 There groweth wild in some places of the Woods a Plum somewhat like our Wheat-Plum. 1793 M. CUTLER in *Life*, etc. (1888) II. 294, I am uncertain what he intends by the Wheat-plum. 1847 HALLIWELL, *Wheat-plum*, a large fleshy plum, sometimes called a bastard Orleans plum. *Linc.*

Wheatstone ('hwit:stən). [Called after Sir Charles Wheatstone, who in 1843 brought into notice the 'differential arrangement' apparatus, which had been invented by S. Hunter Christie in 1833.] *a.* In full, *Wheatstone's* bridge: a simple circuit for measuring a resistance by connecting it so as to form a quadrilateral with three known resistances and applying a voltage between a pair of opposite corners: a galvanometer connected between the other two corners registers no current when the ratios of the two pairs of adjacent resistances are equal.

1872 *Jrnl. Soc. Electr. Eng.* 8 May 196 A Differential Resistance Measurer,—or, as it is commonly called, a 'Wheatstone's Bridge'. 1885 WATSON & BURBURY *Math. Th. Electr.* I. 221 The principle of the instrument known as Wheatstone's Bridge. 1901 *Phil. Trans. R. Soc. A* CXCVI. 29 The two grids A and A' formed two arms of a Wheatstone bridge. 1953 A. SMITH *Blind White Fish in Persia* i. 25 He had with him . . . a Wheatstone's bridge—a gadget of complex appearance for measuring the electrical resistance of the soil. 1979 E. N. LURCH *Electric Circuit Fundamentals* ix. 296 The Wheatstone bridge . . . is the elementary bridge circuit that is the prototype of all the more complex bridges used in electric circuit analysis.

b. Used in the possessive, *attrib.*, and *absol.* to denote forms of electric telegraph invented by Wheatstone.

1858 FARADAY in *Notices of Proc. R. Inst.* II. 555 (*heading*) On Wheatstone's electric telegraph in relation to science. 1881 *Ibid.* IX. 302, I found that one of our Wheatstone instruments was actually working at the rate of 180 or 190 words a minute. 1898 *Daily News* 21 May 7/4 The clicking of the needles, the tapping of the Wheatstones. 1922 GLAZEBROOK *Dict. Appl. Physics* II. 788/2 Wheatstone simplex circuits are used extensively for the transmission of press telegrams to all parts of Great Britain. 1949 *Brit. J. Psychol.* XL. 37 A Wheatstone transmitter was driven at 6 and 14 words a minute by a variable speed gear.

'**wheaty**, *a.* [f. WHEAT *sb.* + -Y¹.]

†*a.* Containing grains of wheat. *Obs.*

1598 YONG *Diana* 259 Ripening fruit, and wheatie ears. 1611 COTGR., *Fourmentier*, wheat-yielding, wheatie. a1623 H. AINSWORTH *Annot. Deut.* xxxii. 14. Ee 2 b/2 With fat of wheatie kidneyes fine [see KIDNEY 4].

b. Of or pertaining to wheat.

1933 L. I. WILDER *Farmer Boy* vii. 47 The wheaty smell of new bread.

wheay, **wheaze**, **whetch**(e), **whecker**, **whed**(d)er, **whed**(d)le: see WHO, WHEASE, WHEEZE, WHICH, WHITCH, WITCH, WHICKER, WEATHER, WHETHER, WHITHER, WHEEDLE.

whee ('hwi:), *int.* [Echoic.] An exclamation of joy, exhilaration, astonishment, etc. *Occas.* as *sb.*, a high-pitched sound resembling this.

[1918 E. A. MACKINTOSH *War, the Liberator* IV. 145 Whee-ee-ee-errump! The air was full of dust and smoke from a little way up the trench.] 1920 S. LEWIS in *Sat. Even. Post* 11 Dec. 10/1 'Whee!' . . . He sprang up, posed like the Statue of Liberty, hurled a pillow at her. 1944 E. S. GARDNER *Case of Black-Eyed Blonde* (1948) xx. 205 The little boy shrieked with delight. 'Whee-eee-ee,' he cried. 1960 M. MACDONALD in G. Maxwell *Ring of Bright Water* xii. 168 Her [sc. the otter's] basic conversational vocabulary

was a high-pitched whistling 'Whee'. With loud and soft, short and long and other variations of 'Whees' she had quite a lot to say. 1978 N. FREELING *Night Lords* v. 24 Whee, thought Castang: he has worked fast. 1981 *Studia Mystica* IV. iv. 34 A cry of 'Whee!'

whee (hwɪː), *v.* [f. prec.] *a. trans.* With *up*. To stimulate, excite. *U.S. colloq.* *b. intr.* To utter a high-pitched sound.

1949 *Sat. Even. Post* 3 Dec. 3/3 And did that whee him up to do his Christmas shopping early? 1960 M. MACDONALD in G. Maxwell *Ring of Bright Water* xii. 171 She [sc. an otter] would lie on the floor. . . 'wheeing' plaintively. 1966 *N.Y. Times* 17 Apr. v. 2, I was all wheed up, feeling great, I knew I would win. 1971 *Atlantic Monthly* Mar. 36, I got so patriotically wheed up that I ended by calling for three cheers for General Douglas MacArthur.

whee: see QUEY.

wheedle ('hwɪd(ə)l), *sb.* Now *rare*. Forms: see the *vb.* [f. next.]

1. An act or instance of wheedling; a piece of insinuating flattery or cajolery; also *gen.* wheedling speech.

1668 ETHEREDGE *She wou'd if she cou'd* i. i, Dost thou think to pass these gross Wheedles on me too? 1681 HICKERINGILL *Black Non-Conf.* vii. Wks. 1716 II. 61 It looks like a Wheedle, or a Trepan, to drill a Man into a Court by Process in a feigned Suit. 1687 SEDLEY *Bellamira* iv. i, You have several times talked to me of a sister of mine, lost from our house in Devonshire; but I always look'd upon it as a meer wheedle. a 1708 T. WARD *Eng. Ref.* II. (1710) 87 In Cant and Wheedle most Expert They were. 1755 SHEBBEARE *Lydia* (1769) II. 284 She. . . by a soft insinuating wheedle, took possession of the divine's good opinion. a 1814 *Word of Honor* III. i. in *New Brit. Theatre* I. 368, I cannot stand this wheedle. 1861 THACKERAY *Round. Papers, Ogres*, So were the Sirens ogres—pretty blue-eyed things. . . singing their melodious wheedles.

† 2. A wheedler. *Obs.*

1673 WYCHERLEY *Gent. Dancing-Master* IV. i. *Hipp.* You saw I cou'd dissemble with my Father, Why shou'd you think I cou'd not with you? *Ger.* So young a Wheedle! 1681 OTWAY *Soldier's Fort.* III. i, Dainty Wheedle, here's a Fellow for ye. a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Parasite*, a Trencher Friend, a meer Wheedle. *Ibid.*, Wheedle, a Sharper.

wheedle ('hwɪd(ə)l), *v.* Also 7 wheed(d)le, 7-9 wheadle. [Origin obscure. Possibly a survival in a specialized application of OE. *wæddlian* to beg, orig. to be poor, f. *wædl* poverty.]

1. *trans.* To entice or persuade by soft flattering words; to gain over or take in by coaxing or cajolery.

1661 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 2), *Whead* or *Wheadle*, is a late word of fancy, and signifies to draw one in, by fair words or subtle insinuation, to act any thing of disadvantage or reproach. 1668 SHADWELL *Sullen Lovers* IV. 52 Come Sir, don't think to Wheadle me at this rate! 1675 TULLY *Let. to Baxter* 23 To be wheadl'd with bare Talk. 1726 DE FOE *Hist. Devil* I. i. (1840) 12 He wheedled Eve, deluded Adam. 1814 WORDSW. *Excurs.* II. 254 Smooth words he had to wheedle simple souls. 1850 DICKENS *Dav. Copp.* xxxii, He was crossing you and wheedling you. 1888 BRUCE *Amer. Commw.* xxxix. II. 78 The citizens are too numerous to be all wheedled or threatened.

b. with various preps. and advs., or with *inf.*: To bring into a specified condition by such action.

1667 *Leathermore: Advice conc. Gaming* (1668) 7 If the Winner be bubbleable, they will. . . wheadle him into play and win all his Money. 1669 WORLDIDGE *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 247 By laying the Net in such haunts, and wheedling them [sc. pigeons, etc.] in by a Stale. 1672 MARVELL *Reh. Transp.* I. 129 To wheedle one almost to make himself away. 1673 DRYDEN *Amboyne Prol.*, Religion wheedled you to Civil War. 1687 in *Magd. Coll.* (O.H.S.) 167 They were wheedled off of it by some few sugar words. 1722 DE FOE *Col. Jack* i. (1840) 12 The major. . . was wheedled away by a couple of young rogues. 1726 — *Hist. Devil* I. i. (1840) 12 How he wheedled the people. . . into the absurd. . . undertaking of building a Babel. 1860 DICKENS *Uncomm. Trav.* I. 1. . . should have no idea. . . how to wheedle a man into ordering something he doesn't want. 1869 MRS. STOWE *Oldtown Folks* xl. (1870) 467 He has a tongue that could wheedle a bird out of a tree. 1876 C. M. DAVIES *Unorth. Lond.* (ed. 2) 184 Whom he wheedled over not to betray him. 1891 KIPLING *Light that Failed* xii. 232, I have seen you wheedle an angry Mahdiah woman into giving you dates.

2. To do (a person) *out of* a thing, or to get (a thing) *out of* a person, by such action.

1670 WOOD *Life* (O.H.S.) II. 196 The M[asters] are wheedled out of one [Act]. 1700 CONGREVE *Way of World* III. xviii, I have already a deed of Settlement of the best part of her Estate; which I wheadl'd out of her. 1759 FRANKLIN *Hist. Penn.* Wks. 1840 III. 529 These proprietaries. . . would have either bullied or wheedled the inhabitants out of the privileges they were born to. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* iii, I wheedled an old woman out of these [ballads]. 1831 — *Cast. Dang.* xi, I suffered the abbess to wheedle the secret out of me. 1886 STEVENSON *Kidnapped* xxiv, Wheedling my money from me while I lay half conscious.

3. *absol.* or *intr.* To use soft flattering words; (of an animal) to fawn; † to wheedle *in with*, to curry favour with; † to wheedle *with* = sense 1.

1664 BUTLER *Hud.* II. iii. 335 His bus'ness was to pump and wheedle. 1712 HEARNE *Collect.* (O.H.S.) III. 290 Lancaster goes down to the Dean of X^t. Church, and began to wheedle with him. 1716 SWIFT *Phyllis* 87 Johnny wheedled, threaten'd, fawn'd, Till Phyllis all her trinkets pawn'd. 1726 DE FOE *Hist. Devil* II. i. (1840) 183 Secretly wheedling in with the dignified clergy. 1811 *Ora & Juliet* I. 204 She wheedled with the housekeeper, till she insured a glass of cordial from her. 1847 TENNYSON *Princ.* v. 151

Wheedling and siding with them! 1865 SWINBURNE *Poems & Ball.*, *Satia te Sanguine* xiv, As a tame beast writhes and wheedles.

b. Cant. = WHIDDLE *v.*

1710 PALMER *Proverbs* 197 Sing in the Proverb, is the same that our Newgate-Birds call Wheedle; which is, when one of the Gang Tattles, Confesses, and Accuses the Rest.

Hence 'wheedled *ppl.* *a.*; 'wheedling *vbl.* *sb.* and *ppl.* *a.* (chiefly of conduct, manner, etc.); whence 'wheedlingly *adv.*; also 'wheedler; 'wheedlery, wheedling; 'wheedlesome, 'wheedly *adjs.*, of a wheedling character.

1675 R. HEAD *Proteus Rediv.* 226 His gulled or *Wheedled Patient. 1773 AINSWORTH'S *Lat. Dict.* II, *Delinitor*, . . . a cajoler, or *wheedler. a 1861 T. WINTHROP *Life in Open Air* (1863) 41 Smith, wheedler of trout. 1868 L. M. ALCOTT *Little Women* xiv, You get everything you want out of people. . . you are a born wheedler. 1909 'G. G.' *Winkles* 58 The fond daughter continued her *wheedleries. 1863 L. M. ALCOTT *Hosp. Sk.*, etc. 94 Anything more irresistibly *wheedlesome I never saw. 1674 R. HEAD *Jackson's Recant.* Bjb, Incomparable at the Art of *wheedling, which some call Complaisance. 1702 POPE *Wife of Bath* 163 By murmur'ing, wheedling, stratagem, and force, I still prevail'd. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* v, Notwithstanding all kinds of coaxing and wheedling, there were Mr. Winkle and the horse going round and round each other for ten minutes. 1859 MEREDITH *R. Feverel* xxxi, Wheedling availed as little as argument. 1668 SHADWELL *Sullen Lovers* IV. 60 Pox on't what a *wheedling Rogue art thou now? 1694 F. BRAGGE *Disc. Parables* II. 41 His sly and wheedling insinuations. 1713 ROWE *Jane Shore* I. i, A laughing, toying, wheedling, whimpering she. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* lii, 'I wonder Master didn't take you with him, Rob,' said the old woman in a wheedling voice. 1856 MEREDITH *Shav. Shagpat* i. 18 *Wheedlingly she looked at him. 1904 W. S. GILBERT *Fairy's Dilemma* I, *Al.* (wheedlingly). What am I to get for this, eh? 1838 SARAH, LADY LYTTELTON *Corr.* (1912) 282 The maids of honour. . . are very coaxy and *wheedly with me.

wheef(f)le, *Sc.* forms of WHIFFLE.

wheel (hwɪ:l), *sb.* Forms: 1 hweogol, -ul, -el, hweowol, -ul, hweowl, hweohl, 1-3 hweol, hwel, 3-4 weole, wel, 3-6 whel, 3-7 whele, 4-5 wele, (whiel), *north.* quele, 4-6 *Sc.* quhele, 4-7 wheele, *Sc.* quheill, (1 hwiol, 3 hweol, weol, 3weol, 3wele, 4 wheole, woel, huezel, whewel, *north.* quel, quile, quil, *Sc.* quhel, 5 wheyle, whelle, whyll, wyle, *north.* quheyll, qweyll, qwell, 5-6 wheyille, *north.* qwhele, qwele, quheill(e, quhell, 6 wheill, whefyll, wheale, whieale, weil, whyl(l)e, qwyl, *Sc.* vheill, vhel(e, while, 7 *Sc.* quheele), 4- wheel. [OE. *hweogol*, *hweowol*, *hwéol* = OFris. **hwêl* (Efris. *weel*, *wêl*, Nfris. *well*), (M)LG. *wêl*, (M)Du. *wiel* (whence G. *wiel* in technical senses), ON. *hjól* (Sw., Da. *hjul*), *hwél*:—OTeut. **χwe(ǵ)ula-*, **χweχula-*:— Indo-Eur. **q^wew^helo-*, repr. by Skr. *cakrá-* circle, wheel, Zend *caχrəm*, Gr. *κύκλος*; reduplicated f. **q^welo-*: **q^wolo-*, repr. by ON. *hvel*, *hvela* (Norw. *kvel*), OPruss. *kelan* wheel, Gr. *πῶλος* axis, pole, ploughed-up land, L. *colus* distaff, OSI. *kolo* wheel; the root meaning of *q^wel-* is 'to turn' (cf. Skr. *cārati* to move, Zend *čaraiti* 'versatur', Gr. *πέλεσθαι* to be in motion, L. *colere* to till, *in-quit-īnus* sojourner).]

1. A circular frame of wood, metal, or other hard substance (sometimes in the form of a solid disc, but usually of a ring (*rim* or *felloe*) with spokes radiating from the central part or *nave*) attached or capable of being attached at its centre to an axle around which it revolves; used, in many different forms and sizes, for communicating, facilitating, or equalizing motion, and for other purposes.

a. In a vehicle, plough, locomotive engine, etc., each of two or more such appliances which support it and, by rolling upon the ground or other surface, enable it to move along with the least possible friction.

at or *in the wheel*, of horses, next to the carriage, in the place of the wheelers (see *WHEELER* 3) as opposed to the leaders. *on the wheel*, *on wheels*, riding in wheeled vehicles. (See also 13 b.)

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxix. §7 Swa swa on wænes eaxe hwearfiað pa hweol. a 900 O.E. *Martyrol.* 26 Dec. 8 An plegende cild arn under wænes hweowol and wearð sona dead. c 1000 Sax. *Leechd.* III. 270 Se firmanentum went on ðam twam steorran swa swa hweogel [v. rr. hweogul, hweowul] tyrnð on eaxe. a 1225 Ancr. R. 356 Elies hweoles pet weren furene. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 8437 An quointe tour hii lete make. . . Vpe four woelcs. . . it was idriue. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 21267, I sal tell. . . Quat mai be yock, and quat quele [*Fairf.* quile, *Trin.* wheel] mai be, Bridel quat es, and quat axeltre. c 1315 SHOREHAM IV. 223 Me makeþ prynses þe host to gourni, And ase whewelen þe linses To-gadere heldeþ hy. c 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxv. 118 He rydez in a chariot with foure whelez. 1523-34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* §2 In Kente they haue other maner of plowes, somme goe with wheles, as they doo in many other places. 1573-80 TUSSEY *Husb.* (1878) 130 Hoy out (sir carter) the hog fro thy wheele. 1599 *Lanc. Wills* (Chetham Soc.) III. 9 Two turfe waynes furnished with whiles axeltres. a 1600 MONTGOMERIE *Misc. Poems* xlviii. 185 The bouand dolphin, tumbland lik a vhele. 1630 R. JOHNSON'S *Kingd. & Commw.* 490 They. . . have moving houses built on wheeles. 1782 COWPER *John Gilpin* 41 Smack went the whip, round went the wheels. 1820 A. SUTHERLAND *St. Kathleen* III. 216 It widna be Christian-

like to stay cosie at hame, an' a' the countryside on the Wheel. 1883 E. PENNELL-ELMHIRST *Cream Leicestersh.* 223 Noble lords were now and again to be seen following the chase on wheels. 1884 J. E. T. ROGERS *Work & Wages* 23 Plain wheels—that is, wheels formed from the trunk of a tree, with holes bored through them for the axles to run on. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* xiii, Three leaders and a pair of great upstanding half-bred horses at the wheel. 1893 DUNMORE *Pamirs* II. 298, I took my tarantass with five horses attached, three in the wheel and two leaders.

b. Generally, in machinery or mechanical apparatus of any kind.

a 1100 *Aldhelm Gloss.* 1. 502 (Napier 15/1) *Rota hauritoria*, hlædtrendle, hweowla, hweowl. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 600 *Panus, virgula illa circa quam trama involuitur. Idem et canellus dicitur, a Quele.* 14.. *Nom.* *ibid.* 696/10 *Hoc vertubrum, a wheelle.* c 1440 *Jacob's Well* 260 A carte-qweel, drye & vngrecyd, cryeth lowdest of opere qwelys. 1479-81 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 101 Nayle to amende the whele of the Sanctus bell. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 41 5/2 A Wheylle of A drawe wele, *anclea.* 1495 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII.* (1896) 189 Wheles for to wynde up the Mayne Sayle. 1516 *Stratton Churchw. Acc.* in *Archæologia* XLVI. 204 A new wheyll for the gret bell. 1545 *Ludlow Churchw. Acc.* (Camden) 21 A while to the secounde tenor. 1590 SIR J. SMYTHE *Disc. Weapons* 47 Whereby they should faile to strike iust vpon the wheeles being fire-lockes. 1616 T. SCOT *Philomythie* H 6, Some wheels were taken off. . . And some stood vlessele, so the Clock was spoild. 1768 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* I. i. iii. 59 A curious engine compounded of wheels screws and pulleys whereby a lady with a single hair of her head might raise a stone of two hundred weight. 1803 MRS. P. L. POWYS *Pass. fr. Diaries* (1899) 354 Before you enter the [silk-]manufactory you pass an immense wheel; by that one 99,947 other wheels are all turn'd. 1845 G. DODD *Brit. Manuf.* IV. 185 Other wheel and pinion work. . . modifies this motion.

c. wheel and axle (or †*axis*), as one of the mechanical powers: see *POWER sb.* 12.

1773 W. EMERSON *Princ. Mech.* (ed. 3) 284 *Wheel and axle*, a machine to raise weights. One of the mechanic powers. 1799 JAS. WOOD *Princ. Mech.* iv. (ed. 2) 63 The wheel and axle consists of two parts, a cylinder *AB* moveable about its axis *CD*, and a circle *EF* so attached to the cylinder that the axis *CD* passes through it's center, and is perpendicular to it's plane. 1821 R. TURNER'S *Arts & Sci.* 85 In using the wheel and axis as the weight is raised, the rope coils round the axis and enlarges the diameter, hence the advantage of the power is diminished. 1862 SPENCER *First Princ.* II. xiv. §114 (1875) 325 The advance from the lever to the wheel-and-axle is an advance from a simple agent to an agent made up of several simple ones.

d. With prefixed defining words indicating kind, structure, use, etc.

There are numerous compounds, as CART-WHEEL *sb.*, COG-WHEEL, DRIVING-WHEEL, FLY-WHEEL, etc., etc. *fifth wheel, idle wheel*: see FIFTH A. 1 c, C, IDLE a. 5 b.

II. A wheel or wheel-like structure, or an instrument or appliance having a wheel as its essential part, used for some specific purpose.

2. *a.* A large wheel, or contrivance resembling one, used in various ways as an instrument of torture or punishment. *to break on the wheel*: see BREAK *v.* 7 b.

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxv. §7 þæt unstille hweol ðe Ixion wæs to gebunden. c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* xiv. 86 Het se arleasa casere gebindan georium on anum bradam hweowle. a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1965 Ha schal bene tohwideret, wið þe hweoles swa, in an hondhwile. c 1290 *St. George* 58 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 295 So sone ase huy pis guode man a-boue pusse 3weole brouzte, þat 3weol to-brac. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxiii. (George) 545 þare brocht wes a quhele made Awfule & hye, & in it hade Sharpe swerdis scherand in al syde. c 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 134 A whele set full of howkes yn þat on syde of þe whele, and swerde poyntys in þat opyr syde aseyne þat. 1578 H. WOTTON *Courtlye Controv.* 111 By the same iudgement was Ponifre. . . broken vpon a wheele. 1608 DEKKER *Dead Tearme* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 11 As if hee were a Male-factor, and hadde beene tortured on the Germaine Wheele. 1709-10 ADDISON *Tatler* No. 133 ¶3 To rescue him from the Ignominy of the Wheel. 1764 *GOLDSM. Trav.* 435 The lifted axe, the agonizing wheel. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xli, He was swoln like a corpse three days exposed on the wheel.

b. wheel of Ixion (Astron.): see *quat*.

1590 T. HOOD *Use of Celestial Globe* 39b, *Corona Austrina*, the South garland. . . Others call it the wheele of Ixion.

3. Various mechanical contrivances. *a.* The revolving part of a turning-lathe, or of a potter's lathe (*potter's wheel*: see POTTER *sb.* 1 3); also allusively, as in *phr. on the wheel* = in process of being fashioned, in the making. *b.* = MILL-WHEEL. *c.* = SPINNING-WHEEL. *d.* = TREAD-WHEEL; also, a treadmill. † *e. musical wheel*, the revolving barrel of a barrel-organ or musical box. *f.* An instrument for measuring distances: = PERAMBULATOR 2. *g.* = *grinding-wheel*: see GRINDING *vbl.* *sb.* 2. *h. Naut.*, etc. = *steering-wheel*: see STEERING *vbl.* *sb.* 3 b. Now usu. of the steering-wheel of a motor vehicle. *i.* = PADDLE-WHEEL.

a. 1382 WYCLIF *Jer.* xviii. 3 And Y cam down in to the hous of the crockere, and lol he made a werc vp on a whel. 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* III. v. Rijb, As well proportioned as if it had ben made of a tourners hande, at his wheele. 1677 GILPIN *Dæmonol.* 1. xviii. 153 While they are upon the Wheel (as a Potters vessel in the Prophet) they are often marred. 1695 J. SAGE *Fund. Charter Presbytery* (1697) 9 Our Reformation was on the Wheel. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Pottery*, The Wheel and Lathe are the Chief, almost the only Instruments, used in Pottery. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 47 Potters. . . have their wheel at hand, that they may work a little when they please.

b. c 1400 Pilgr. Soule (Caxton) I. xxv. (1859) 30 The whele of a mylle lyghtly torneth alway to ther that he bygan. 1484

CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* v. x. For the swyftnesse of the water he must nedes passe vnder the whele of the mylle. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* i. 115 b. Of an milne and ane man slane with the quheill thereof. 1833 TENNYSON *Miller's Dau.* 102, I loved the . . . dark round of the dripping wheel.

c. 1467 Maldon, Essex, Crt. Rolls, Bundle 43, no. 14 (MS.) vii cushiones, i whyll, i par cardarum, i hemper. c1525 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 10 Item j qwele, j par of kayrds, j rakyncrok, xij^d. 1617 in W. F. Shaw *Mem. Eastry* (1870) 229 One payer of wollen cards two wollen whiles. 1651 J. NICOLL *Diary* (Bann. Club) 61 Sum pure pepill quha wer spyning that day loist thair quheillis and wer brokin. 1729 WALKDEN *Diary* (1866) 57 A Jersey wheel to wind spoyles on. 1834 D. CROCKETT *Life* iv. 32 My wife had a good wheel, and knowed exactly how to use it. 1890 HARTLAND *Sci. Fairy Tales* i. (1891) 7 The women at their wheels; and while they spin they sing love ditties.

d. 1623 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *New Discov.* A6, In a Whele I saw a comely Asse . . . draw as it were from the infernall pit . . . So . . . coole a water. 1697 COLLIER *Ess. Mor. Subj.* II. (1703) 114 Envy is . . . a vice they say which keeps no holidays, but is always in the wheel, and working upon its own despair. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* III. 331 To climb daily Life's worn wheel, Which draws up nothing new. 1827 SCOTT *Jrnl.* 22 Mar., It . . . makes one feel like a dog in a wheel, always moving and never advancing. 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Box, Last Cab-driver*, He positively refused to work on the wheel; so after many trials, I was compelled to order him into solitary confinement.

e. 1659 LEAK *Waterwks.* Iijb, Let there be a Musical Wheel . . . so when the said water Wheel shall turn it shall cause the Musical Wheel to turn.

f. 1666 Phil. Trans. XIX. 319 One by the Wheel was Sixteen Perches round, another in walking Seventy six Paces. 1774 M. MACKENZIE *Marit. Surv.* iii. 7 Some Surveyors measure their Distances by a Wheel.

g. 1707 J. STEVENS tr. *Quevedo's Com. Wks.* (1709) 433 Running at the Grinder, [he] made him quit his Wheel. 1831 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* I. 289 The blades, after being hardened, are directly carried to the grinding-mill, or wheel, as the establishment is called.

h. 1743 BULKELEY & CUMMINS *Voy. S. Seas* 8 There broke a Sea in the Ship, which carried me over the Wheel. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xxxiii, It took two men at the wheel to steer her. 1883 D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* xxxiii, Most of the people were below, and the few on deck were clustered near the wheel. 1906 C. N. & A. M. WILLIAMSON *Car of Destiny* xxxiii, Taking the wheel himself, . . . he backed the big, reddish-brown car off the barricade. 1929 J. B. PRIESTLEY *Good Compan.* I. ii. 67 For the next hour she sat at the wheel under his tuition. 1972 T. P. McMAHON *Issue of Bishop's Blood* (1973) xvi. 229 The long-haul truckers drove themselves right into a ditch after too many hours at the wheel.

i. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* i, The two great wheels turn fiercely round for the first time; and the noble ship . . . breaks proudly through the . . . water.

†4. A turnstile or similar contrivance at the entrance of a convent. Also *turning-wheel* (TURNING ppl. a. 7). Obs.

14. . . in Aungier *Syon* (1840) 257 The keepers of the wheyles, grates, gates, or entres into the clausures. a1652 BROME *City Wit* III. i, He never sung to the wheele in Saint Brides Nunnery yonder. 1669 WOODHEAD *St. Teresa* II. xxxi. 192, I wished him to go, and put up a Wheele, and a Grate, in the House appointed for the Nuns dwelling.

5. In full *wheel of fortune* (see 12 a): = *lottery-wheel*: see LOTTERY 5. Also *allusively*.

1698 *Post Boy* 3 Jan. in Hone *Every-day Bk.* (1827) II. 1422 We have divers wheels agoing. 1750 *New Jersey Archives* Ser. I. (1895) XII. 640 The [Lottery] Ticketts will be putting into the wheels on Wednesday. 1763 *Brit. Mag.* IV. 548 Beware the Wheel of Fortune—'tis a gin, You'll lose a dozen times for once you win. 1774 FOOTE *Coseners* II, I believe Toby will hardly thank me for going into the wheel. 1801 T. MOORE *To the Large & Beaut. Miss* — 4 But how comes it that you, such a capital prize, Should so long have remained in the wheel? 1834 L. RITCHIE *Wand. Seine* 167 Stalls, provided with wheels-of-fortune, at which the Norman lass boldly ventures her solid sous for empty hopes. 1880 A. McKAY's *Hist. Kilmarnock* (ed. 4) 121 Wheel-of-fortune men, offering to make all rich in a jiffie.

6. a. A rotatory firework in the form of a wheel. (See also CATHERINE WHEEL 3, PIN-WHEEL 2.) b. *wheel of colour*: = CHROMATROPE. c. *wheel of life*: = ZOETROPE.

1629 in Hodgkin *Rariora* (1904) III. *Fireworks* 16 Girondelles or Fierie Wheeles. 1653 *Van Etten's Math. Recreat.* 272 How to make Wheels of Fire. 1826 HOOD *Vauxhall* 13 Wheels whiz—smash crackers—serpents twist. 1872 *Wheel of life* [see ZOETROPE]. 1877 WOOD *Nature's Teach.*, *Optics* II. 306 The Chromatope, or Wheel of Colour.

7. a. orig. and esp. U.S. A bicycle or tricycle; also *abstr.* (with def. art.) the practice of riding on one, cycling; (with indef. art.) a cycle-ride.

1880 *Scribner's Monthly* Feb. 483/1 A few possessors of the birotate chariot, numbering some forty odd, enjoyed a 'wheel around the Hub'. 1882 *Wheelman* I. 13 'I love my wheel,' he said, 'as the yachtsman loves his boat.' 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 305/1 The wheel was a new thing in New York ways. 1888 P. FURNIVALL *Phys. Training* 3, I am more accustomed to the wheel than the pen. 1893 *Outing* (U.S.) XXII. 140/2 It would have been a most lovely wheel had we chosen to explore it on bicycles. 1896 H. G. WELLS *Wheels of Chance* vii, Hoopdriver . . . felt a pleasing sense of having duly asserted the wide sympathy that binds all cyclists together, of having behaved himself as becomes one of the brotherhood of the wheel.

b. to be on someone's wheel: to be close behind someone, to be on his track; to put pressure on someone (to do something). *slang* (chiefly *Austral.*)

1941 V. DAVIS *Phenomena in Crime* vi. 78 Don't come here if there's a busy on your wheel! 1954 V. KELLY *Shadow* 89 Down there the cops'll give you a go. Here they're on your wheel all the time. 1959 A. UPFIELD *Bony & Mouse* 104 I'll be ready for it. I'm going to be right on Tony's wheel when

it happens. 1969 O. WHITE *Under Iron Rain* 118 The inspector's been on my wheel to trace him.

c. pl. A car. *slang* (orig. U.S.).

1959 *Esquire* Nov. 701, *Wheels*, car. 1970 K. PLATT *Pushbutton Butterfly* (1971) v. 51 'Can I drive you to where you're agitating today?' 'Beautiful. I don't have wheels,' he said. 1971 'H. CARMICHAEL' *Quiet Woman* iv. 33 I'd be out and about if I had wheels. Damn car won't be ready until tomorrow. 1982 G. LYALL *Conduct of Major Maxim* xxv. 222 'Did you find me some wheels?' . . . 'Yep: a Renault 16TX.'

8. *we had one but the wheel came off*, *joc. phr.* used to indicate that the speaker has not understood the subject of the foregoing conversation.

1937 PARTRIDGE *Dict. Slang* 366/1 *Had one and (or but) the wheel came off* (we), a lower-class and military c.p. directed at an unintelligible speaker or speech. 1974 P. WRIGHT *Lang. Brit. Industry* xiv. 128 If asked for something foolish, you can say, . . . 'I had one but the wheels came off.'

III. Something resembling a wheel in form or movement.

9. An object having the form or figure of a wheel; a circle, or something circular; a disc.

spec. a. (a) in *Needlework*, an open pattern or decoration with radiating threads; (b) in *Arch.* an ornament with radiating tracery (cf. *wheel-window* in 19); (c) in *Zool.* a wheel-like structure, as the *wheel-organ* of a rotifer, or a *wheel-spicule* in an echinoderm or sponge.

a900 O.E. *Martyrol.* 5 May 74 He sæde pæt pæ drihtnes fotlastas wæron beworht mid ærne hweole. c1000 *Hymns* (Surtees) 22/25 bære sunnan hweogul [orig. *solis rotam*]. c1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* II. 286 Yf that thow Thorwe on water now a stoon Wel west thou hyt wol make anon A litel roundell . . . And . . . thow shalt see wel That whele sercle wol cause another whele. a1500 *Assemb. Ladies* 55 With stayres going down Inmidde the place, with turning wheel, certayn. 1556 *Aurelio & Isab.* (1608) Fvj, The pecocke puttes in a whylle his geltede fethers. 1611 CORGER, *Rouë de mer*, the sea-wheele; a buge, round, and monstrous sea-fish. a1651 SIR J. SKEFFINGTON *Heroe of Lorenzo* (1652) 71 Let the Peacock please himself with the glorious wheel of his train. 1835 R. WILLIS *Archit. Mid. Ages* vi. 64 Wheels occur mixed with the tracery and panningell of the Italian Gothic. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Forms Anim. Life* 550 The calcareous deposits . . . are . . . represented . . . by wheels (= rotulae), e.g. in *Chirodota*. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 3 Oct. 8/3 Trimmed with smart wheels and tassels of brown silk.

b. U.S. *slang*. A dollar; = CARTWHEEL 2.

1807 H. TUFTS in E. Pearson *Autobiogr. of Criminal* (1930) II. iv. 293 *Wheel*, a dollar. 1825 J. NEAL *Brother Jonathan* I. 160, I shows bim a double handfull o' the royal gold; the ginoinoe yellor stuff—wheels. 1902 W. N. HARBEN *Abner Daniel* 143 How will fifteen hundred round wheels strike you? 1907 C. E. MULFORD *Bar-20* v. 47, I paid twenty wheels for that eight years ago.

c. A whole cheese, flan, or other food which is made with a circular form but may be cut into sections. *Usu.* with *of* and defining term.

1977 *New Yorker* 3 Oct. 53/3 A feast of varied delicacies, its principal ornament a small wheel of Camembert. 1978 C. CONRAN *British Cooking* 233/2 On May Day in the city of Gloucester a huge golden wheel of cheese, festively garlanded, used to be carried in procession round the town. 1978 NEUMAN-MARCUS *Christmas Bk.* 93 A full three pound wheel, covered with protective black wax. 1982 M. BABSON *Death warmed Up* viii. 75 The wheels of pizza and quiche lorraine in the makeshift rack. 1985 *Sci. Amer.* May 67/1 The semisoft, blue-mold cheese is made from sheep's milk and formed into wheels weighing about 2.5 kilograms (5.5 pounds) each.

10. The celestial sphere or firmament, or one of the spheres of the planets, etc. in the ancient astronomy, regarded as revolving like a wheel.

Obs. or merged in figurative senses (see 13, 14).

c1200 ORMIN 17531 burrh whatt wass heffness whel forrgart To drezhenn helle pine? c1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* I. met. v. (1868) 21 O pou maker of þe whele þat bereþ þe sterres. 1387-8 T. USK *Test. Love* II. i. (Skeat) I. 124 The shynny sonne of vertue in bright whele of this Margaryte beholde. c1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. xl. (1869) 24 The wheel in whiche the moone gooth alwei aboute. c1449 PECKOCK *Repr.* II. xvi. 242 The fix steris with her orbe or whele. 1814 CARY *Dante, Parad.* I. 62 Her eyes fast fix'd on the eternal wheels [i.e. the heavens].

11. One of the wards of a lock, which are rotated by the key. *techn.*

1784 BRAMAH in *Repert. Arts & Manuf.* (1796) V. 218 The inserting . . . between the key-hole and the bolt, a greater or less number of wheels or wards. 1846 *Penny Cycl.* Suppl. II. 212/1 These prominent rings are the wards, or in technical language, wheels, which impede the introduction of a false key.

IV. Figurative, allusive, and abstract uses.

12. a. The wheel which Fortune is fabled to turn, an emblem of mutability. (See also 5.) So *wheel of Providence* (rare).

Phr. to set or sit high on the wheel (of Fortune): to make or be highly fortunate; *the wheel has come full circle* and *varr.* (in allusion to SHAKES. *King Lear* v. iii. 174), the same situation has come about again, things have returned to their original position.

c888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* vii. §2 Wenst þu pæt ðu pæt hwerfende hweol þonne hit on ryne wyrð mæge oncerann? a1300 *Cursor M.* 23719 Dame fortune turnes þan hir quele. 1340 *Ayenb.* 24 Huanne þe ltheuedi of hap þeþ hire huezet ly-went. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* xlii. 637 Fortoune . . . This mychty kyng of Yngland Scho had set on her quheill on licht. c1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 67 Thanked be flortune and hire false wheel. a1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 4660 þe qwele of quistounes þoure qualite encreses. 1448-9 METHAM *Amoryus & Cl.* 389 O fortune, . . . Qwy chongydydyst thow thi qwele causeles? 1596 T. WILSON *Diana* (1921) 34 Fortunes

turning whyle. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 448 Fortune turned her wheele and downe went this Colony. 1622 BACON *Hen. VII* 228 So fatal a thing it is, for the greatest and straitest Amities of Kings, at one time or other to haue a little of the Wheele. c1645 HOWELL *Lett.* IV. xxix. (1890) 608 Till the great Wheel of Providence turn up another spoke. 1760-2 GOLDSM. *Cit. W.* vii, The wheel of fortune turns incessantly round. 1859 TENNYSON *Marr. Geraint* 347 Turn, Fortune, turn thy wheel and lower the proud. 1916 L. TRACY *Day of Wrath* v, The turn of fortune's wheel was distinctly favourable. 1944 W. S. MAUGHAM *Razor's Edge* v. 176 The wheel comes full circle. . . There was a time when the black sheep of the family was sent from my country to America; now apparently he's sent from your country [sc. America] to Europe. 1954 J. A. SHEARD *Words we Use* iv. 158 Old English had a derivative noun, *godspellere*, but this . . . was later replaced by a foreign loan-word, . . . *evangelist*. . . But in recent years the wheel has come full circle, and by a new process of derivation the Americans have their *hot gossipellers*! 1966 W. H. LEWIS in *Lett. C. S. Lewis* 24 The wheel had come full circle: once again we were together in the little end room at home. 1977 J. CROSBY *Company of Friends* xviii. 117 The wheel was coming full circle. The public was fed to the teeth with disclosure. It yearned for the security of secrecy.

b. With allusion to the wheels of the chariot of the Sun. *poet.*

1557 PHAER *Æneid* VII. (1558) Sijb, The golden morning bright with roset wheles dyd mounting ryse. 1727 BROOME *Iliad* XI. Poems 177 While with his morning Wheels, the God of Day Climb'd up the Steep of Heav'n.

13. In direct fig. use from 1, esp. 1 a, chiefly in reference to the course or sequence of events, procedure, the passage of time. a. from 1 a.

a1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xix. 8 þai ere draghen aboute with þe whels of couatys. 1390 GOWER *Conf. I.* 18 Whos carte goth upon the wheeles Of covetise and worldes Pride. ?1613 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Wks.* (1630) II. 174/2 The wheele of Time would turne. a1628 F. GREVILLE *Calica* viii, Furrowes not worne by time, but wheeles of anguish. 1668 PEPYS *Diary* 27 Dec., All they can hope for to do out of the King's revenue being but to keep our wheels a-going on present services. 1675 OWEN *Indwelling Sin* xvi. (1732) 219 To oyl the Wheels of Mens utmost Endeavours. 1679 EVERARD *Disc.* 20 All these States may be in a condition to nail the Wheel, and to produce an Universal Peace in Christendom. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India* & P. 86 On these Wheels moves the Traffick of the East, and has succeeded better than any Corporation preceding. a1716 SOUTH *Serm., Luke* xii. 15 Wks. 1727 IV. 438 Covetousness has been . . . the principal . . . Spring of Motion; and . . . hypocritical Prayers and Fastings, the sure Wheels, by which the great Work . . . has still gone forward. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W.N.* II. ii. 1. 346 The great wheel of circulation [sc. money] is altogether different from the goods which are circulated by means of it. 1821 LAMB *Elia* Ser. I. *South sea House*, Night's wheels are rattling fast over me. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* i, 'This present writer . . . is anxious . . . to help the wheel over, and throw bis stone on to the pile. 1884 J. PARKER *Apost. Life* III. 73 A little recognition of merit, a kindly reference to loving service done . . . helps the wheel of life to run round more smoothly. 1907 *Standard* 19 Jan. 6/6 The wheels of progress might be unduly impeded.

b. *on wheels*: (a) With rapid and continuous movement or action; chiefly in *phr. to go or run on wheels*, to proceed swiftly or uninterruptedly; to go smoothly, make good progress; to go on actively or incessantly; (humorously, of a clock) to go too fast or irregularly; (b) In working order, in normal condition for action (*dial.*); (c) used as an intensive: in the extreme.

1547 GARDINER in FOXE *A. & M.* (1563) 734/2 The euell willers of the realme will take corage and make accompt . . . that all goeth on wheles. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* III. i. 317 Then may I set the world on wheeles, when she can spin for her liuing. 1600 BRETON *Pasquil's Passe* Wks. (Grosart) I. 8/2 From the blaines and kibes vpon my heeles; And from a madding wit that runnes on wheeles, . . . The blessed Lord of heau'n deliuer me. 1675 HOBBS *Odyssey* XVIII. 31 While his tongue Thus runs on wheels. 1731-8 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* 108 *Col.* Pray, my Lord, what's a Clock by your Oracle? *Ld. Sparkish.* Faith, I can't tell, I think my Watch runs upon Wheels. 1820 J. CLARE *Poems* 89 If fate's so kind to let's be doing, That's—just keep cart on wheels a going. 1831 Mrs. SHERWOOD *Henry Milner* III. xv. 307, I can . . . let my jointure run up to liquidate debts; and then, when it is clear, we shall be on our four wheels again. 1914 [see JOB sb.² 4 d]. 1943 S. LEWIS *Gideon Planish* 127 Looks just like a sweet little ivory statue, but is she hell on wheels! 1958 M. DICKENS *Man Overboard* iv. 59 It was his wife. She's a bitch on wheels, from what he tells me. 1970 'D. HALLIDAY' *Dolly & Cookie Bird* iv. 42 Look at the time . . . If you're going to show us your balloons, you'll have to do it on wheels. 1978 S. BRILL *Teamsters* vii. 275 In the 1930s and '40s and into the '50s, truck driving was sweatshop labor on wheels. 1980 N. FREELING *Castang's City* xxv. 174 Local wine-shipper in quite a high-class way . . . The business ran on wheels.

†c. a word on its (or upon the) wheels: an echo of the marginal 'Heb. spoken vpon his wheeles' in the A.V. of Proverbs xxv. 11, where the text has 'fitly spoken'. Obs.

Heb. 'ophnāw (dual or pl.) of this passage is now regarded as ἀναξ λεγόμενον, and 'al-'ophnāw interpreted as 'in its turns', 'in (right) circumstances'; formerly referred to 'ōphen a wheel.

1655 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* I. (1669) 36/1 A word in season is a word on its wheels. c1657 P. HENRY in *Life* (1699) 23 There never was Truth . . . more seasonable to any than this was to me: It was a word upon the Wheels.

d. *silly as a wheel*: extremely silly. *Austral. slang.*

1952 T. A. G. HUNGERFORD *Ridge & River* 57 Oscar was sound, but silly as a wheel. 1966 J. MORRISON in *Coast to Coast* 1965-66 157, I warned Rose. She was as silly as a wheel, too, but a man's got to do what he can to protect his daughters.

14. a. With allusion to sense 1 b, denoting a constituent part or element of something figured as a machine.

1625 BACON *Ess., Seditions* (Arb.) 405 So that if these three wheeles goe, Wealth will flow as in a Spring tide. a 1628 PRESTON *Saints Daily Exerc.* (1629) 116 It sets all the wheeles of the soul the right way. 1692 W. LLOYD *Pret. Fr. Invas.* 15 The French King (the main Wheel in this designed Restauration). 1768 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 363 Nor does He find the wickedness of men improper wheels for carrying on His most important designs among them. 1771 WESLEY *Jrnl.* 31 Mar. (1827) III. 415 In the Methodist discipline, the wheels regularly stand thus: the Assistant, the Preachers, the Stewards, the Leaders, the people. 1916 19th Cent. Apr. 822 The protagonist sets the wheels of fate in motion.

b. *wheels within wheels*, less usually *a wheel within a wheel* (after Ezek. i. 16): a complexity of forces or influences; a complication of motives, designs, or plots; also *gen.* any complexity.

1679 FRANCE *Add. Narr.* 32 Yet the Wheel within the wheel moved upon other grounds, God making use of his Sovereignty over his Creatures, in raising and stirring up One Nation or Person to punish the Evils of Another. 1709 SHAFESB. *Charac.* (1711) I. 114 Thus we have Wheels within Wheels. And in some National Constitutions... we have one Empire within another. a 1754 E. ERSKINE *Serm. Wrath of Man* Wks. (1791) 711/2 There is a wheel within a wheel, which will turn matters about so, as the wrath of man shall praise God, and advance his interest, instead of ruining it. 1824 L. MURRAY *Engl. Gram.* (ed. 5) I. 457 They are wheels within wheels; sentences in the midst of sentences. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.* s.v., There's a wheel within a wheel, or you wouldn't have got that. 1861 GUROWSKI *Diary* (1862) 75 McClellan ought to... have direct action; and not refer to Scott. What is this wheel within a wheel? 1900 'H. S. MERRIMAN' *Isle of Unrest* vi. There are wheels within wheels... in the social world of Paris.

c. *to see (what makes) the wheels go round* and *varr:* to see how things work; chiefly *fig.* with reference to the operation of a business, organization, etc. *colloq.*

[1876 J. HABBERTON *Helen's Babies* 11 'I want to see the wheels go round,' said Budge.] 1922 *Broadcaster* Oct. 149/1 The natural indifference of the fair sex to any knowledge of what 'makes the wheels go round.' 1923 R. D. PAINE *Comrades of Rolling Ocean* ix. 160, I want to watch a supercargo and see his wheels go round. 1979 P. LEVI *Head in Soup* iii. 58 How amateur we were. Those who know how the wheels turn are always bored. 1980 N. FREELING *Castang's City* xv. 100 There's any amount of what makes the wheels go round... Feather-bedding and barrel-rolling.

d. = *big shot* s.v. SHOT sb.¹ 22 c. Cf. *big wheel* (b) s.v. BIG a. B. 2. *slang* (orig. and chiefly U.S.).

1933 *Amer. Speech* VIII. ii. 55/2 *Wheels*, substitute for big shots, leaders of a gang. 1956 B. HOLIDAY *Lady sings Blues* (1973) xviii. 149 After I got to be a wheel in the kitchen, I used to take care of Marietta by saving her the best of the food. 1963 J. N. HARRIS *Weird World Wes Beattie* (1966) iii. 36 Well, in business, Howie is a sort of minor wheel... He owns pieces of things. Radio stations, a commercial film company, a night club. 1975 *Globe & Mail* (Toronto) 12 Sept. 27/8 If politicians and business people and other wheels don't like it, he couldn't care less. 1980 A. FOX *Kingfisher* *Scream* vi. 94 Some Pentagon wheel's flying in and Don feels he has to travel up there with him.

15. *fig.* A reiterated or recurring course of actions, events, or time; an endless round or cycle.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 322 Uorte leren us pet we of pe worldes torpelenesse, & of sunne wheol, ofte gon to schrifte. a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xi. 9 Erthly godes pat tornes wip be whele of seuen dayes. 1382 WYCLIF *James* iii. 6 The tunge... set afire of helle, enflaumeth the wheel of oure birthe. 1871 ALABASTER *Wheel of Law* Pref. p. xiii, All Buddhists... call their religion the doctrine of 'The Wheel of the Law'.

† b. *Alch.* A series of operations by which one element was supposed to be converted into another.

1471 RIPLEY *Comp. Alch.* in Ashmole (1652) 133 The Whele of Elements thou canst turne about. *Ibid.* 187 Then to wyn to thy desyre thou needst not be in dowte, For the Whele of our Phylosophy thou hast turnyd abowte. 1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* ii. iii, I' haue another worke;... That three dayes since, past the Philosophers wheele, In the lent heat of Athanor; and 's become Sulphur o' nature.

† c. = TURN sb. 28. *Obs. rare.*

1422 YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* 214 Me sholde ordeyne that euery gouernoure had tene Vicaries in his hoste, and euery vicarie ten lederis in his whele.

16. [Partly f. WHEEL v.] A movement like that of a wheel. a. A movement in a circular or curved course; a circling motion (usually, through a single complete circle); a revolution.

1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* vi. xxviii. 493 In these daunces they made twoo circles or wheeles [orig. *dos ruedas de gente*]. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* iii. 741 Satan... Throws his steep flight in many an Aerie wheele. 1805 CARY *Dante, Inf.* xvi. 21 They... Whirl'd round together in one restless wheel. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* ii. xxxi, Amid his senses' giddy wheel. 1815 — *Guy M.* xxii, A rough terrier dog... scampered at large in a thousand wheels round the heath. 1847 LONGF. *Ev.* i. iv. 34 Merrily whirled the wheels of the dizzying dances.

b. A movement about an axis or centre; a rotation; a turn (usually, not completely around); *spec. (Mil.)* such a movement of a rank or body of troops about a pivot (PIVOT sb. 2); occas. = CART-WHEEL sb. 3.

a 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) I. 69 The captain mounting on a white horse, did leade the musketires, without any wheeles, but went the high beaten

way. 1672 T. VENN *Milit. Discipl.* 19 There may be a Counter-march for the gaining of Ground; but I conceive them wholly useless but where you have not ground to make your Wheels. 1788 D. DUNDAS *Princ. Mil. Movem.* App. 5 All wheels or flings made from the halt into column or line, are made at a quick step. 1797 J. BAILEY & CULLEY *Agric. Northumbld.* 123 At the first appearance of any person they set off in full gallop; and at the distance of two or three hundred yards, make a wheel round, and come boldly up again. 1832 *Prop. Reg. Instr. Cavalry* ii. 10 Right Wheel. 1854 R. S. SURTEES *Handley Cr.* xl, Tea and coffee were enlivened by a collision between the footboys. Stiffneck with the tea-tray made a sudden wheel upon No. 2 with the coffee-tray. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* xxviii, The reckless speed and practised wheel of the trained stock horses. 1904 JOHNSTON *H. P. Liddon* xi. 301 The 'gamins', who used to wheedle pennies from him by making 'wheels' for his amusement.

c. In *Rugby Football*. (See quot. 1897.)

1897 [see BACK a. 1]. 1927 H. WALPOLE *Jeremy at Crale* xvi. 284 Back they went, down again, the ball flung in. The Callendar forwards had it and manœuvred the finest wheel of the match, swinging round against all opposition.

17. *Prosody*. A set of short lines forming the concluding part of a stanza, usually five in number, varying in form and length, but generally having the first line riming with the last, and often the intervening three riming with each other; the first line in some types is very short, and is then called the *bob*.

1838 GUEST *Engl. Rhythms* II. 290 Besides the staves which originated in mixed and continuous rhyme, there are others, which have sprung from the use of the Wheel and Burthen. By the latter of these terms I would understand the return of the same words at the close of each stave, and by the former the return of some marked and peculiar rhythm. *Ibid.* 332. 1906 SAINTSBURY *Hist. Engl. Prosody* I. 105 The bob being of two syllables, and the wheel an irregular but unmistakable ballad-quatrain.

V. Combinations.

18. General: a. *attrib.* Of, pertaining to, consisting of, or connected with a wheel or wheels, as *wheel alignment*, *arch*, *bearing*, *-belt*, *-box*, *-boy* (cf. WHEELMAN 1), *brake*, *-cage*, *-case*, *-circle*, *-coultter*, *-flange*, *-grease*, *-lathe*, *-mark*, *-nave*, *-rim*, *-ring*, *-road*, *-rod*, *-rut*, *-spoke*, *-sweep* (SWEEP sb. 17 c), *-timber*, *-tire*, *-tooth*, *-top*, *-track*, *-train* (TRAIN sb.¹ 15), *-tread* (TREAD sb. 10 b), *trim*, etc.; furnished with or moving on a wheel or wheels (of vehicles = 'wheeled'), as *wheel-arquebus*, *-bier*, *-bridge*, *-clock*, *-crane*, *-harrow*, *hoe*, *loader*, *-machine*, *mail*, *-sled*, *-vehicle*.

1908 *Motor Man.* (ed. 10) vi. 165 (*heading*) To test *wheel alignment. 1971 'D. RUTHERFORD' *Clear Fast Lane* 70 I'm not going on till we've had the wheel-alignment checked. There's... a service station ten kilometres on. 1935 *Automobile & Carriage Builders' Jnl.* Mar. 45 (*caption*) Details of the *wheelarch, scuttle ventilator and rear locker. 1983 *Buses* Feb. 57/1 Longitudinal seating provided over the rear wheelarches. 1855 tr. *Labarte's Arts Mid. Ages* x. 369 These arms were denominated *wheel-arquebuses [F. *arquebuses à rouet*]. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 390 The castors at the front feet work upon *wheel bearings. 1884 W. S. B. McLAREN *Spinning* (ed. 2) 158 There can be no slipping of the twine *wheel-belt. 1898 F. D. How *Bp. Walsham How* 371 A simple *wheel-bier decorated with flowers received the coffin. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* liii, [A carriage] with silver *wheel-boxes. 1892 BLACK *Wolfenberg* xi, The solitary figure slowly pacing up and down by the wheel-box [of a ship]. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 423 Little or no attendance is required from *wheel-boys or followers. 1936 *Discovery* July 228/2 The average pilot regards his *wheel brakes as an assistance to ground taxying rather than as a means of arresting his run. 1974 *Encycl. Brit. Macropædia* I. 378/1 Wheel brakes are generally hydraulically operated. a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 7 Aug. 1641, The *wheel-bridg, which engine his Excellency had made to run over the moate when they storm'd the castle. 1889 MIVART *Orig. Hum. Reas.* 268 A squirrel or white mouse which turns in its *wheel-cage. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Wheel-case, a stout paper case, filled with composition, tied to the rim of a wheel or rotating piece of fire-works. c 1384 *Whele sercle [see 8].

1671 HUNT *Abeed. Schol.* 110 By the Press we make men immortal, by *Wheel-clocks we are made companions of time. 1839 ÜRE *Dict. Arts* 77 Automata... are certainly not older than wheel-clocks. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Wheel-colter, a sharp-edged wheel running in advance of the breast of the plow, to cut the sod or weeds in the line of the furrow. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780) ii, *Crone*, a *wheel-crane, built on a wharf. a 1663 KILLIGREW *Parson's Wedd.* ii. vi. (1664) 99 Ever since yellow starch and *wheel Fardingales were cry'd down. 1859 Newton's *Lond. Jnl.* *Arts* 1 Feb. 115 The pressure of the *wheel-flange will tend to crush any obstructing substance upon the chairs. 1585 HIGINS *Jumius' Nomencl.* 269/1 *Axungia*,... *wheele grease. 1901 *Academy* 8 June 495/2 Derby, with its locomotives and everlasting Midland wheel-grease. 1404 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 399, j *qwele harow. 1858 C. FLINT *Milch Cows* 193 In weeding, a little *wheel-hoe is invaluable. 1911 *Daily Colonist* (Victoria, B.C.) 22 Apr. 9/6 (Advt.), We carry a full line of Garden Drills, Double and Single Wheel Hoes. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Wheel-lathe, a lathe for turning railway-wheels and other large work. 1971 *Wheel loader [see DOZER²]. 1770 FORBES *Jnl.* (1886) 288 A Wooden Bridge... by which Horses and *Wheel-machines do easily Cross the Water. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* xxvii, It was problematical whether the contractor was running a *wheel mail or not. 1854 R. S. SURTEES *Handley Cr.* xxxix, Following the old *wheel-marks on the gravel. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* 332 The Witch-Elm... is good for *Wheel-naves. 1513 DOUGLAS *Eneis* xii. Prol. 162 The payntit povne... Kest vp his tail, a provid plesand *quheil rym. 1893 *Outing* (U.S.) XXII. 133/2 My rear wheel-rim. 1766 *Complete Farmer* s.v. *Fence*, This timber is of excellent service... for ploughs, axle-trees, *wheel-rings, harrows, &c.

1824 SCOTT *St. Roman's* i, To my own contemporaries, who have known *wheel-road, bridle-way, and footpath for thirty years. 1882 MORRIS in Mackail *W.M.* (1899) II. 67 The wheel-roads across the downs are doubtful. 1598 HAKLUYT *Voy.* I. 95 The breadth between the *wheele-ruts of one of their cartes. 1829 CARLYLE *Misc.* (1857) II. 59 Little is laid open to us but two wheel-ruts and two hedges. 1570 *Rec. Inverness* (New Spalding Club) I. 195 That na *quheill sleddis... cum vpon the brig. 1556 WITHALS *Dict.* (1562) 19/1 A *whele spoke, *radius vel modiolus*. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* 326 Oak... for... Shingles, Wainscott, Wheel Spoakes. 1891 HARDY *Tess* xxxiii, It had stout wheel-spokes, and heavy felloes. 1833 LOUDON *Encycl. Archit.* §1244 The Pulborough stone paving of the *wheel sweep. 1376 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 584 Rob'o Yoill, carpentario, culpanti *qweltimber. 1573 *Lanc. Wills* (Chetham Soc. 1893) 139 Item bords cowerp tymber wheles and whele tymber. 1662 ATWELL *Faithf. Surveyour* 132 Plow-timber, cart-timber, wheel-timber. 1792 *Descr. Kentucky* 41 In 1787 were exported Sets of wheel timbers 1,056. 1831 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* I. 145 According as the metal is intended to be reduced to the strength of *wheel-tyre, hoop-iron, or different sized bars. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 509 The points of the *wheel-teeth must not be rounded off. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* xxvii. (Percy Soc.) 118 Beholdyng Mars how wonderly he stode, On a *whele top with a lady of pryde. 1552 HULOET, *Whele tracte or rutte, *orbita*. c 1820 S. ROGERS *Italy, Naples* 115 The wheel-track worn for centuries. 1859 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* (1871) II. 285 A vineyard, with a wheel-track through the midst of it. 1888 Cassell's *Encycl. Dict.*, *Wheel-train, a number of wheels so arranged that the revolution of one causes the revolution of all. 1735-6 *Wheel-tread [see TREAD sb. 10 b]. 1976 *Ilkstone Advertiser* 10 Dec. 3/4 (Advt.), Morris 1800 (Princess style) Saloon (1975 'P')... Fitted radio, *wheel-trims etc. 1983 *Which?* Sept. 435/2 However, all of the 'MG' wheel trims fell off at some time. 1734 J. ROWE (*title*) All sorts of wheel-carriage improved;... Waggon, Carts, Coaches, and all other *Wheel-Vehicles. 1836 CARLYLE *New Lett.* (1904) I. 48 The wheel-vehicles making no noise.

b. Objective, as *wheel-bearer* (= ROTIFER), *-cutter*, *-maker*, *-tapper*, *-turner*, *wheel-bearing*, *-changing*, *-cutting*, *-greasing*, *-resembling*, *-turning* sbs. and adjs.; instrumental, as *wheel-driven*, *-going*, *-made*, *-marked*, *-smashed*, *-spun*, *-turned*, *-worn* adjs.; similitative, parasynthetic, etc., as *wheel-broad*, *-footed*, *-like* adjs.

1861 H. J. SLACK *Marv. Pond-life* 23 Following the Protozoa, come the Rotifera, or *Wheel-bearers. 1877 WOOD *Nature's Teach.*, *Optics* ii. 306 Soon after the powers of the microscope became known, these Wheel-bearers were discovered. 1846 PATTERSON *Zool.* 6 The order itself Rotifera, or *wheel-bearing. 1974 Harrod's *Christmas Catal.* 69/2 Lotus... scale model: complete with *wheel brace for wheel changing. 1670 DRYDEN *Conq. Granada* i. Prol., *Wheel-broad hats. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 308/2 *Wheel-cutting... comprehends the modes of cutting the teeth in the wheels used by watch and clock makers. 1884 F. J. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 88 The circular brass plate in a wheel-cutting engine. 1972 *Wheel-driven [see SALT a.¹ 1 c]. 1788 COWPER *Gratitude* 9 This *wheel-footed studying chair. 1844 KINGLAKE *Eothen* i, At Semlin... I had come, as it were, to the end of this *wheel-going Europe. 1835-6 Todd's *Cycl. Anat.* I. 607/1 The cilia constitute the... *wheel-like organs of the Rotiferous Infusoria. 1888 *Jnl. Derbysh. Archaeol. Soc.* X. 50 *Wheel-made pottery in the barrows of the district. 14... *Nom.* in Wr. -Wülcker 688/15 *Hic rotarius*, *wheelmaker. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 1154 The principle which directs the modern wheel-maker. 1894 *Outing* (U.S.) XXIV. 398/1 Along a wide and *wheel-marked trail. 1596 R. LINCHE *Diella* (1877) 68 Great Gouernour of (*wheele-resembling) Heauen. a 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Wheelspun, very stout worsted yarn, spun on the common large wheel. 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) Index 178 *Wheel tapper. 1837 WHEELWRIGHT tr. *Aristophanes* II. 293 O thou clear lustre of the *wheel-turn'd lamp. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Wheel-turning Lathe, one with two very solid head-stocks with large face-plates, and two slide-rests operated by a ratchet-feed from an overhead rock-shaft. 1727 BROOME *Jason & Medea* Poems 242 Along the *Wheel worn Road they hold their way. 1781 COWPER *Expost.* 21 The chariots bounding in her wheel-worn streets. 1944 BLUNDEN *Shells by Stream* 13 Its kingdom is the farm, the farmer's lane Its wheelworn churchway from the lonely road.

19. Special Combinations: *wheel-animal*, *-animalcule* = ROTIFER; *wheel arrangement*, the relative positioning of driving wheels and idle wheels on a locomotive; *wheel-assembler*, one who fits together the parts of the wheels of bicycles, etc.; so *wheel-assembly*, the operation of doing this; *wheel-back*, a back resembling a wheel, characteristic of chairs made by Heppelwhite about 1775; also a chair with such a back; *wheel balance Mech.*, an even distribution of mass about the axis of a wheel so that it rotates without wobbling or vibrating; so *wheel balancing*, the process of achieving this for the wheels of a motor vehicle; *wheel-barometer*, a mercurial barometer having a float attached to a string passing over a pulley-wheel on which the index turns; *wheel-base*, the distance between the points of contact of the front and back wheels of a vehicle, as a bicycle or railway-carriage, with the ground or rail; *wheel bay* = *wheel well* below; † *wheel-bed*, a trundle-bed; *wheel-bird*, a local name for the night-jar or goat-sucker, from its cry suggesting the noise of a spinning-wheel; *wheel-boat*, a boat with wheels, *esp. (Sc.)* a steamboat with paddle-wheels; *wheel brace*, (a) a tool for screwing and

unscrewing nuts on the wheel of a vehicle; (b) a kind of hand drill worked by the turning of a wheel; **wheel-bug**, a large reduviid insect (*Prionidus cristatus*) of the southern United States and W. Indies, with a semicircular serrated crest suggesting a cog-wheel; **wheel-car**, a simple farm-cart (see quot. 1931); **wheel-chain** (see quot.); **wheel clamp**, a clamp designed to be locked to one of the wheels of an illegally parked motor vehicle to immobilize it; hence as *v. trans.*; so **wheel clamping** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*; **wheel-cross**, a variety of ring-cross with arms radiating from a small circle in the centre of the ring; **wheel-dog** *Canad.*, the dog harnessed nearest to the sleigh in a dog team; **wheel-draught**, a current of smoke and hot air in a steam-engine, circulating continuously in one direction; **wheel-dwelling**, -hut *Archæol.* = **WHEEL-HOUSE** 3; † **wheel-fire** [mod.L. *ignis rotæ*], in *Old Chem.*, a fire completely encompassing a crucible; **wheel-guard**, (a) a circular guard on a sword or dagger; (b) a guard to protect a wheel from dirt or injury, or to prevent it from chafing some other part of the vehicle or machine; **wheel-head**, (a) the nave or central part of a wheel; (b) 'the headstock of a spinning-mule' (*Eng. Dial. Dict.*); (c) 'the lathe-head of a seal-engraver's engine' (*Cent. Dict.*); **wheel-horse**, a horse harnessed between the shafts of a vehicle, next to the wheels, as distinguished from a *leader*; *fig.* a person who bears the chief burden of a business; **wheel-insect** = **wheel-animal**; **wheel-iron** (see quot. 1837); **wheel-ladder** (see quot. 1888); **wheel landing** *Aeronaut.*, a landing (of an aircraft with a tail-wheel or tail-skid) in which the main wheels touch down first, followed by the tail; **wheel-map** (see quot. 1899); **wheel-money**, name for certain prehistoric metallic objects, supposed by some to be money, made in the form of a wheel, i.e. of a cross surrounded by a ring; **wheel-organ** *Zool.*, the trochal disc of a rotifer; **wheel-pair**, a pair of wheel-horses; **wheel pants** *Aeronaut.* (see quot. 1956); **wheel pen**, a pen with a small toothed wheel instead of nibs, for tracing dotted lines (Webster 1920); **wheel-piece**, (a) a lateral part of a car-truck, supporting the pedestals or axle-boxes; (b) a post fixed beneath a door-sill on each side, to take the strain of the wheels of a vehicle when passing over it; **wheel-pit**, (a) a space enclosed by masonry for a large wheel, as a fly-wheel or turbine, to turn in; (b) *dial.* a whirlpool; **wheel-plate**, (a) the part of a solid wheel between the rim and the hub; (b) see quot. 1892; **wheel-plough**, a plough having wheels running on the ground to reduce the friction or regulate the depth of the furrow; **wheel-press**, (a) a form of rotary printing-press; (b) a hydraulic press for moulding a solid wheel, or for fixing it on the axle; **wheel-race**, the part of a mill-race in which the mill-wheel is fixed; **wheel-rood** = **wheel-cross**; **wheel-rope**, *Naut.*, † (a) cf. quot. 1495 in 1 b; (b) a rope passing round the barrel of the steering-wheel to the tiller; **wheel-seat**, the part of an axle encircled by the wheel (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1884); **wheel-set**, a pair of wheels attached to an axle; **wheel-shaped a.**, having the shape of a wheel; *spec. in Bot.* = **ROTATE a.**; † **wheel-sick a.**, giddy; **wheel-skate**, a roller-skate; so **wheel-skater**, -*skating*; **wheel slip**, the failure of the wheels of a vehicle to grip the surface on which they are travelling, so that they slip instead of rolling; also (*rare*) as *v. intr.*; **wheel-spicule**, *Zool.* one of certain disk-shaped calcareous concretions, with an appearance of radiating spokes, in the skin of some holothurians; also, a wheel-shaped spicule on sponges; **wheel spin**, the spinning of the wheels of a vehicle, caused by hard acceleration of the engine combined with the failure of the wheels to take a grip on a slippery surface; **wheel-spur** (ME. -*spore*), the ridge on the inner side of a wheel-rut (cf. *SPOOR sb.*¹, and *cart-spur s.v. CART sb.* 6); **wheel-stitch** (see quot.); **wheel-stock** (*local*), (a) the nave of a wheel, or timber to be used for this; (b) wood materials for wheel-making; **wheel-stone**, a fossil consisting of a detached joint of the stem of an encrinite, and having the form of a circular disk with a central perforation; an entrochite; **wheel-swarf** [*SWARF sb.*³], the pasty substance produced by the friction of a grindstone and the cutlery ground upon it, consisting of a mixture of particles of stone and steel, and used as an air-tight coating

in steel-manufacture; **wheel-tax**, a tax on wheeled carriages; **wheel-tracery**, tracery radiating from a centre, as in a **wheel-window**; **wheel-tree**, (a) a S. American tree (*Aspidosperma excelsum*), also called **paddle-wood** (cf. quot. 1866 s.v. **PADDLE sb.** 11); (b) an Australian tree (*Stenocarpus sinuatus*) with flowers in circular clusters; (c) *Mining* (see quot. 1886); **wheel vat**, in *Tanning* = **PIN-WHEEL sb.** 3; **wheel-way**, a way, road, or track along which wheeled vehicles run; also *fig.* (cf. *RUT sb.*² 1 c); **wheel well**, the recess, under the wing of a vehicle, into which the wheel fits, or, on an aircraft, into which the landing gear is retracted; † **wheel-whirl** (see quot.); **wheel-window**, a circular window with mullions radiating from the centre like the spokes of a wheel (= **CATHERINE WHEEL** 2); **wheel-wise adv.**, in the manner or form of a wheel; (of swimming) with the arms moving like the spokes of a wheel; **wheel wobble**, vibration of the wheels of a vehicle in motion, usu. when travelling at some speed; also *fig.* See also **WHEEL-BAND**, **WHEELBARROW**, etc.

1788 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 28/1 The *Wheel-Animal, or Vorticella... is found in rain water that has stood some days. 1834 *Lancet* 24 May 290/2 We see in this *wheel-animalcule, the *hydrotina senta*, many of those muscular bands passing down longitudinally from the head, nearly as we saw in the large holothuria. 1912 *Railway Mag.* Mar. 203/1 Of the total number of engines mentioned, 80 were of the 2-2-2-0 *wheel arrangement. 1966 K. MÖLLER *Amer. & Brit. Railway English* 43, 0-8-0 is a notation for a wheel arrangement of eight driving wheels and no leading or trailing wheels. A great number of wheel arrangements have special names, originating with the railway on which they were first used. 1897 *Outing* (U.S.) XXX. 277/2 All through the arts of the *wheel-assemblers. *Ibid.* 279/2 They are then sent to the *wheel-assembly department, to receive the bearings, spokes and rims. 1902 W. H. HACKETT *Decorative Furnit.* xi. 133 A set of six typical Heppelwhite [*sic*] chairs... had *wheel backs, on taper legs, with cross stretchers. 1909 G. O. WHEELER *Old Engl. Furnit.* (ed. 2) 489 Heppelwhite's wheel-back chair... may be found with cabriole legs, and later with typical straight tapered ones. 1927 W. E. COLLINSON *Contemp. Eng.* 90 The revival of Welsh dressers, wheel-backs and ladderbacks. 1968 J. ARNOLD *Shell Bk. Country Crafts* 133 In the hand made 'wheel-back' there is the vestigial hub in the centre, but for economy this is absent from the factory-made splat. 1946 W. H. CROUSE *Automotive Mech.* xxiv. 533 *Wheel balance can be checked in several ways. 1962 *Which? Car Suppl.* Oct. 139/2 Severe vibration developed throughout the car at speeds over 65 mph and a further check of wheel balance failed to overcome this. 1951 I. FRAZEE et al. *Automotive Suspensions* x. 276 (*heading*) *Wheel balancing. 1977 Wheel balancing [see SHIMMY *sb.*² 2]. 1665-6 *Phil. Trans.* I. 155 My *Wheel-barometer I could never fill so exactly with Mercury, as to exclude all Air. 1840 *Hutton's Recr. Math.* 652 Several expedients have been adopted for lengthening the scale of the barometer... The most popular expedient is that adopted in what is called the wheel barometer. 1886 *Jrnl. Franklin Inst.* Mar. 201 The distance between the supporting wheels is four feet, which thus forms the rigid *wheel-base of the truck. 1976 'A. HALL' *Kobra Manifesto* xv. 200 The problem was to keep my body arched against the curved top of the *wheelbay, giving me a chance of escaping the wheels when they slammed home and locked. 1556 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 92 On pare of bed stocks, one pare for a *wele bedd. 1589 *Lanc. Wills* (Chetham Soc. 1860) 206 One standinge bedd and a wheelebed in y^e parlor. 1619 *Shuttleworth's Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 238 For a wheele bedd vj^a. 1817 STEPHENS in *Shaw Gen. Zool.* X. 1. 147 This species [European Goatsucker] makes a... noise, which has been compared to that of a large spinning wheel... and has on that account been called the *wheel bird. 1862 [see WHEELER 6]. 1834 MARRYAT *Peter Simple* viii, 'How did you come from Glasgow?' 'By the *wheel-boat, or steam-boat, as they ca'd it, to Lunnon.' 1864 WEBSTER, *Wheel-boat*, a boat with wheels, to be used either on water or upon inclined planes or railways. 1920 *Motor Man.* (ed. 23) xiv. 144 The most popular form of fitting is by means of separate bolts carried on the fixed hub, to which the pressed-steel wheel is held by a number of capped nuts which can be detached by a *wheel brace. 1964 F. PRESTON *Man makes Hole* 6/2 The hand drill or wheel brace is of fairly recent origin, although it derives from the so-called bevel drill widely made in Germany. 1974 *Wheel brace* [see *wheel changing*, sense 18 b above]. 1975 R. A. SALAMAN *Dict. Tools* 187/2 *Drill, hand* (Wheel Brace...) The modern form of Hand Drill was an American innovation of about 1870 which reached this country about the turn of the century. 1984 B. FRANCIS *AA Car Duffer's Guide* 38/2 Then, with the wheelbrace, slacken off all the wheel nuts about half a turn. 1815 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* iv. (1818) I. 110 The *wheel-bug can... communicate an electric shock to the person whose flesh it touches. 1868 *Rep. U.S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 316 The *Reduvius*, or wheel-bug, is found in gardens, feeding voraciously upon caterpillars. 1931 *Antiquity* June 185 The special features of the *wheel-car are... (a) the great length... of the body...; (b) the position of the axle tree *above*... the main beams of the frame; (c) the bumpers...; and (d) the embryo car structure. 1968 J. ARNOLD *Shell Bk. Country Crafts* xi. 163 Round about Clun, they knew it [*sic* a gambo] as a wheel-car. 1891 H. PATTERSON *Naut. Dict.* 194 *Wheel Chains, chains used in place of the rope for connecting the steering wheel and the tiller. 1980 *Daily Tel.* 2 Jan. 3 (*heading*) Car park offenders face *wheel clamps. 1981 *Times* 19 Nov. 3 Illegal parking in London has become so widespread that the Government may bow to police demands to be allowed to use wheel clamps to immobilize offending vehicles. 1983 *Daily Tel.* 14 July 19/1 Cars belonging to diplomats will no longer be wheel-clamped. 1980 *Daily Tel.* 2 Jan. 3/2 More officers will be available to tow away dangerously parked vehicles and the use of the 'Denver Shoe' a *wheel clamping device, is being

considered. 1983 *Sunday Tel.* 15 May 3/1 The wheel clamping team... will consist of one sergeant, eight police constables, 28 vehicle removal officers and eight traffic wardens. 1882 *WORSAAE Industr. Arts Denmark* 66 The ring-cross was sometimes employed indiscriminately with the *wheel-cross to indicate the wheels of the sun-carriage. 1922 G. C. F. PRINGLE *Tillicums* 85, I put a smaller dog... in the lead and hitched Steal up next the sleigh as my *wheel-dog'. 1965 A. V. WILSON *No Man stands Alone* 29, I firmly believe that the 'wheel-dog', next to the sled, can upset one any time he wishes. 1871 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 529 A *wheel-draught; that is to say, the current of flame and smoke, after passing along the bottom of the boiler, rises up at the end. 1931 V. G. CHILDE *Skara Brae* vii. 174 The Jarlishof hut... illustrates... the normal construction of a *wheel-dwelling. 1662 R. MATHEW *Unl. Alch.* 165 Make a good fire of Charcole about it, wch is called a *Wheel-fire of cementation. 1860 HEWITT *Armour* II. 258 The guard took a variety of forms, as the cross-guard, that composed of two knobs, and the *wheel-guard. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Wheel-guard Plate*, (*Ordnance*), an iron plate on each side of the stock of a... gun-carriage to prevent its being chafed by the wheels when turning. 1845 S. JUDD *Margaret* i. vi, On naked beams above were suspended... *wheelheads, &c. 1900 *Daily News* 17 Jan. 7/1 The wheel-head crosses of Ireland. 1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4424/1 Which enjoins Waggoners to draw with a Pole between the *Wheel-Horses. 1827 *HARE Guesses* Ser. 1. 10 He falls into it as certainly as a new wheel-horse in a mail. 1911 H. S. HARRISON *Queed* xxvii, The only speech was made by the Solon who had the bill called up, a familiar organization wheelhorse. 1931 V. G. CHILDE *Skara Brae* vii. 173 The relics from the *wheel-huts round the broch of Jarlishof cannot be distinguished from those from the broch itself. 1800 J. ANDERSON *Recreat.* II. 257 There has been discovered among the *animalcula infusoria*, one which... has been called by the English, the *wheel insect. 1829 *Sporting Mag.* (N.S.) XXIII. 388 What we call a *wheel-iron, placed, as usual on the nose of an axle-tree. 1837 W. B. ADAMS *Carriages* 87 Splinter Bar Stays, to resist the action of the draught. Formerly these were affixed to the ends of the axles, and called 'wheel irons'. 1573-80 *Tusser Husb.* (1878) 36 *Wheele ladder for haruest. 1710 *HILMAN Tusser Rediv.* Sept. (1744) 117 Cart Ladders and Wheel Ladders are Frames on the Sides and Tail, to support light Loads as Hay, &c. 1888 ELWORTHY *W. Somerset Word-bk.*, *Wheel-ladder*, a lade for the back part of a wagon, having a small roller or windlass attached, by which the ropes for binding the load can be strained tight. 1928 N. MACMILLAN *Art of Flying* x. 142 With many aeroplanes... too slow speed of approach makes the elevator unable to apply the necessary load quickly enough. This results in a *wheel landing with the tail up. 1942 *R.A.F. Jnl.* 13 June 8 The second pilot... said that the impact was no worse than a bad wheel landing. 1899 *Geog. Jnl.* Mar. 226 The mediaeval *wheel-maps, in which Jerusalem was accepted as the centre of the world, whence the main geographical lines radiated like the spokes of a wheel. 1907 T. C. MIDDLETON *Geogr. Knowl. Discov. Amer.* 18 The 'wheel-maps' of the globe, devised by St. Isidore. 1861 *Archæol. Cambrensis* Ser. III. VII. 215 These specimens of *wheel and ring money, which were fabricated in the latter place [*sic* Calcu]. 1878 *BELL tr. Gegenbauer's Comp. Anat.* 138 This *wheel-organ --so-called from the movement of its elia--varies greatly in character. 1794 in *Chamb. Jnl.* (1858) 9 Oct. 234/1 The postilion so managed the *wheel-pair, that the princesses... were... enabled to leap from the carriage without injury. 1956 *U.S. Air Force Dict.* 567/1 *wheel pants, a set of streamlined fairings around each wheel in certain fixed landing gears. 1971 *Flying Apr.* 40/1 The 172 did appear with clean, 175-style wheel-pants. 1833 *LOUDON Encycl. Archit.* §889 The sill of the door... sunk level with the threshing-floor, and supported by two stout posts or *wheel-pieces. 1828 *Craven Gloss.*, *Wheel-pit, a whirlpool. 1850 S. JUDD *R. Edney* iii. 43 The subordinate branches were carried on below, under the 'bed' or main floor of the mill, near the wheel-pit. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Wheel-pit*, a walled hole for the heavy fly-wheel of a train of rolls, etc. 1859 *Carriage Builders' Art Jnl.* 1. 7/2 In Broughams, ... when a *wheel-plate twenty-two inches in diameter is used, a shortening of nine inches is gained between the fore and hind wheels. 1881 J. W. BURGESS *Coach-Building* 92 The central circle is the wheel-plate, or, as the Americans term it, the fifth wheel. 1892 *Lockwood's Dict. Terms Mech. Engin.*, *Quadrant Plate*, or *Wheel Plate*. —The plate which carries the stud wheels in the change wheel series for screw cutting in the lathe. 1707 *MORTIMER Husb.* 38 The Hertfordshire *Wheel-Plough. 1710 *HILMAN Tusser Rediv.* Sept. (1744) 119 A Wheel-Plough for Stony, and a Swing Plough for Clay. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* I. 646 It must be admitted, even by the advocates of the wheel-plough, that... they cannot by any means be brought so handily to follow the undulations of the surface. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Wheel-press, a hydrostatic press for forcing car-wheels on to their axles and removing them. 1890 W. J. GORDON *Foundry* 185 The wheel-press of Benjamin Dearborn. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 104 The *wheel-race should always be built in a substantial manner with masonry. 1862 H. MARRYAT *Year in Sweden* II. 259 Here, above the chancel arch, hung a *wheel-rood of exceeding beauty. 1485 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII.* (1896) 37 *Whele Ropes feble... j. 1820 *SCORESBY Acc. Arctic Reg.* II. 483 The pressure of the helm strained a new wheel-rope. 1823 — *Jnl.* 358 We lay to under a close-reefed main top sail, until new wheel-ropes were arranged. 1969 *Jane's Freight Containers* 1968-69 102/1 Provision has to be made for *wheelsets to be available at the destination terminal. 1980 *Sci. Amer.* Aug. 33/3 A revolutionary bogie design which prevents wear on the wheel flange as the train negotiates a bend. No longer is the wheelset banging from side to side, abrading the flanges. 1775 J. JENKINSON *tr. Linnæus' Brit. Plants* 231 *Wheel-shaped. 1895 R. DAVEY *Sultan & Subj.* (1897) I. 15 An enormous wheel-shaped box, divided into compartments. 1670 *BAXTER Cure Ch. Div.* 141 As boyes when they have made themselves *wheel-sick with turning round will lay hold on the next post to keep them from falling. 1870 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* Suppl. 8/1 A pair of *wheel skates. 1876 'OUIDA' *Winter City* vi, The *wheel-skaters, and poker-players... of our time. 1875 *Field* 2 Jan. 1/3 The *wheel-skating at Brighton and at Prince's. 1945 H. J. MASSINGHAM *Wisdom of Fields* x. 193 A tractor was ploughing in the stubble... The machine was wheel-slipping. *Wheel-slip means [*sic*, causes] soil-panning and winter-souring of it;... it means waste. 1960 *Times* 14

Mar. 21/2 Wheel-slip, with wheeled tractors, can be an intolerable nuisance. **1983 Austral. Transport** Feb. 21/2 The locomotives are equipped with greatly improved wheel slip controls. **1877 Encycl. Brit.** VII. 639/2 *Wheel-spicule of *Chirodota vitiensis*. **1928 Daily Tel.** 11 Sept. 15/6 He took a grassy approach too wide, and had a *wheel spin, from which he cleverly recovered. **1937 Times** 13 Apr. p. xvi/4 On a sandy gradient of about 1 in 2, the vehicle was stopped and started, ascending and descending. No wheel spin or baulking was noticed. **1956 Railway Mag.** Nov. 722/1 Steps already had been taken to check wheelspin. **1979 R. Lewis Violent Death** i. 7 The van came lurching... from under the trees... Wheel-spin threw up a mist of pine needles. **c 1440 Promp. Parv.** 524/1 *Whele spore (K., *H. welspore*), *orbita*. **a 1825 FORBY Voc. E. Anglia** s.v., If, to avoid the deep rut, a carriage drawn by a single horse was ventured upon the quarter, the horse was obliged to make the wheel-spur his path, often a very unsafe one, particularly in stiff soils. **1882 CAULFIELD & SAWARD Dict. Needlework** 195/2 *Wheel Stitch, a stitch resembling a spider's web, and worked into the material, and not over an open space, like English wheel and other lace Wheels. **1835 DAV. WEBSTER Rhymes** 11 (E.D.D.) My mither... bang'd her bobbin down on the *wheel stock. **1884 C. S. SARGENT Rep. Forests N. Amer.** 515 Manufacturers of cooperage and wheel stock. **1888 EL WORTHY W. Somerset Word-bk.**, Wheel-stock... the nave of a wheel. **1846 PATTERSON Zool.** 46 The detached vertebrae are well described by the common English name of 'wheel-stones'. **1831 J. HOLLAND Manuf. Metal** 1. 229 In Sheffield, a mass of the stiff ferruginous mud, called *wheelswarf, is generally used. **1780 A. YOUNG Tour in Ireland** II. xvii. 75 Taxes are considerable, for there is no land tax, no poor rates... only half a *wheel tax. **1888 Daily News** 5 Dec. 5/4 There had been enough of this sort of wheel-tax policy tried in other places. **1913 M. BARRETT Scott. Monast. of Old** II. v. 178 The west window contained a splendid specimen of *wheel tracery. **1882 J. SMITH Dict. Pop. Names Plants** 438 *Wheel Tree, or Paddle-wood (*Aspidosperma excelsum*)... when cut transversely the section has the appearance of the rays of a wheel. **1886 J. BARROWMAN Sc. Mining Terms** 72 Wheel-tree, a prop to which the pulley on a short self-acting incline is fastened. **1885 *Wheel vat** [see WHEEL v. 17]. **a 785 Charter of Offa** in Birch Cartul. Sax. I. 342 And on *hweogel weg to þan rahhege. **1829 I. TAYLOR Enthous.** vi. (1867) 114 Tolle supine in the ruinous wheel-way of chance. **1889 Century Mag.** Aug. 570/2 Nearer the wheelway and upon the outer edges of the public road. **1959 F. D. ADAMS Aeronaut. Dict.** 181/2 *Wheel well, a recess or hollow in a wing, fuselage, etc. for a retractable landing-gear wheel. **1961 N. D. VAN SICKLE Mod. Airmanship** (ed. 2) iv. 103 Having the openings closed while the gear is down is advantageous because the tires will not throw foreign matter into the wheel well during ground movement. **1974 Hot Rod Yearbk.** XIV. 219/1 Epoxy paint... was also sprayed on rear inner wheel wells. **1975 Times** 31 Mar. 4/1 (caption) A Boeing 727 arrives at Saigon airport... with the body of a South Vietnamese soldier hanging from the wheelwell. **1608 TOPSELL Serpents** 213 The tayle [of the Newt] standeth out betwixt the hinder-legges in the midle, like the figure of a *wheele-whirle [tr. Gesner: *rhombi figuræ quadam similitudine*]. **1821 M. BROWNE Jnl.** 2 May in *Diary of Girl in France* (1905) 25 There are [in Amiens Cathedral] two pretty painted *wheel-windows. **1835 R. WILLIS Archit. Mid. Ages** vi. 63 Wheel windows are exceedingly prevalent in Italy; unfortunately the tracery is often removed. **1594 NASHE Unfort. Trav.** Wks. (Grosart) V. 105 Embossed christall eies affixed, wherein *wheelewise were circularly ingrafted sharpe pointed diamonds. **1859 W. H. GREGORY Egypt** I. 276 Swimming as schoolboys call it wheel-wise. **1930 Engineering** 7 Feb. 163/1 Concerned with problems of suspension and *wheel wobble and shimmy. **1961 Times** 17 Jan. 14/1 Apart from an alarming wheelwobble early in their second innings West Indies have had by far the best of today's play. **1978 A. WAUGH Best Wine Last** vii. 56 It [sc. a car] developed a wheel wobble at between forty-eight and fifty miles an hour.

wheel, v. Forms: see prec. [f. WHEEL sb.]

I. To move like a wheel (and connected senses).

* **1. a. intr.** To turn or revolve about an axis or centre, like a wheel on its axle; to rotate; to whirl.

a 1225 Ancr. R. 356 Heo beoð her hweolinde ase hweoles pet ouerturneð sone, and ne lesteð none hwule. **c 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE Ps.** CVII. x. Now shipp with men do touch the skies... For now the whirlwinde makes them wheele: Now stop'd in midst of broken round As drunckards use, they staggering reele. **c 1645 HOWELL Lett.** I. v. xi. (1890) 262 His Glory sound thou first Mobile, which mak'st all wheel In circle round. **1796 H. HUNTER tr. St. Pierre's Study Nat.** (1799) I. 426 If the Earth wheels around it's axis. **1813 SCOTT Trierm.** III. xxi. When the whirlwind's gusts are wheeling. **1819 SHELLEY Mask of Anarchy** lxxviii. Let the horsemen's scimitars Wheel and flash, like sphereless stars. **1886 F. HARRISON Choice of Bks.** i. 23 The gates which lead to the Elysian fields may slowly wheel back on their adamantine hinges.

b. *fig.* of time, the seasons.

1660 STANLEY Hist. Philos. XIII. (1687) 859/2 When they beheld the course of the Heavens, and the various Seasons of the year, to wheel about, and return in certain order. **a 1849 MANGAN Poems** (1859) 35 When Years have wheeled. **1871 B. TAYLOR Faust** (1875) II. II. iii. I wait, and Time around me wheels.

c. To reel, as from giddiness; to be affected with giddiness. Also *fig.*

1593 NASHE Christ's T. Wks. (Grosart) IV. 183 Why doe not all thinges wheele and swarue topsie-turuy? **1620 [G. BRYDGES] Horæ Subs.** 116 If these giddy goers bee forced to giue a reason for their wheeling vp and downe the streets. **1638 'R. JUNIUS' Drunkard's Char.** 154 No man ever saw mee so much as wheele in the streets; I am therefore no drunkard. **1832 MARRYAT Newton Forster** xxvi. [His] head wheeled with the sudden change in his prospects.

2. **a. trans.** To turn (something) on or as on a wheel; to cause to revolve about an axis; to rotate; to cause to move in a circle or cycle.

Used with variety of context, lit. and *fig.*

c 1374 CHAUCER Troylus I. 139 Fortune on loft And vnder eft gan hem to whielen bothe. **c 1480 HENRYSON Fox, Wolf & Husb.** xxvii. This fair is of fortoun: As ane cummis vp, scho quheillis ane vther down. **1593 Q. ELIZ. Boeth.** III. met. ix. 3 Thou... who time from first Bidst go, and stable stedy all elz dost while. **1613 PURCHAS Pilgrimage** III. xvii. 284 In the execution of their rites, shaking and wheeling their heads like madde men. **1635 R. N. tr. Camden's Hist. Eliz.** IV. 532 Affaires in Court were not long wheeled about upon one Axell-tree. **1654 SIR A. JOHNSTON Diary** (S.H.S.) II. 197 The Lord semes to be wheeling al things about to the re-establishing of that Covenant agayne. **1667 MILTON P.L.** VII. 501 Now Heav'n... rowld Her motions, as the great first-Movers hand First wheeld thir course. **1668 CULPEPPER & COLE Barthol. Anat.** IV. ii. 161 Others will have the Arm to be wheeled about by the *Infraspinalis*. **1820 KEATS Lamia** II. 64 While through the thronged streets your bridal car Wheels round its dazzling spokes. **1855 E. FORBES Lit. Papers** ix. 250 The Lamas, whose temples, modes of worship... compendious methods of wheeling their prayers, [etc.]. **1875 BROWNING Aristoph. Apol.**, *Herakles* 1397, I shall play Ixion's part quite out, the chained and wheeled.

b. *spec.* To twirl or flourish (a stick) in menace or challenge. Also *absol.* (in Irish use).

1617 MORYSON Itin. I. 243 If at any time we went slowly, hee wheeled his cudgell about his head, and crying *Wohovee Roe* [etc.]. **1875 Daily News** 26 Feb., 'Wheeling,' said he, 'is one of those challenges which is given by this energetic population to express their own anxiety for a free fight.' **1893 LE FANU 70 Yrs. Irish Life** III. 32 One man 'wheeled,' as they called it, for his party; that is, he marched up and down, flourishing his blackthorn, and shouting the battle-cry of his faction.

3. **Mil. a. intr.** Of a rank or body of troops: To turn, with a movement like that of the spokes of a wheel, about a pivot (PIVOT sb. 2), so as to change front.

1579 DIGGES Stratiot. 111 The Ruyters vse to Wheele about with their whole Troupe. **1671 MILTON P.R.** III. 323 He saw them in thir forms of battell rang'd, How quick they wheel'd. **1672 VENN Milit. Discipl.** 62 Right half ranks, wheel about to the right until they be even a breast with the front half files. **1744 M. BISHOP Life** 212 The Colonel... said, wheel to the left of the Battalion. **1815 SCOTT Guy M.** xlviii. Leading file, to the right wheel—trot. **1859 F. A. GRIFFITHS Artil. Man.** (1862) 9 Left wheel into line. Quick march.

b. *trans.* To cause (a rank or body of troops) to turn in this way.

1634 PEACHAM Compl. Gentl. xx. 245 *margin.* Wheele the Body to the right hand. **c 1720 DE FOE Mem. Cavalier** (1840) 104, I wheeled off my troop. **1814 SCOTT Wav.** xxxix. He wheeled his little body of cavalry round the base of the castle. **1833 Regul. Instr. Cavalry** I. 34 The ranks are then wheeled up.

4. **a. intr.** To turn so as to face in a different direction; to turn round or aside, esp. quickly or suddenly. Often with *round, about, toff*.

1639 FULLER Holy War III. xi. 127 The French and English wheeling about, charged the Turks most furiously. **1644 SYMONDS Diary** (Camden) 148 The rebels wheeled off behind their owne cannon and musqueteers. **1735 SOMERVILLE Chase** III. 105 How to the Head they press, Justing in close Array, then more diffuse Obliquely wheel. **1784 COWPER Task** VI. 518 His steed Declin'd the death, and wheeling swiftly round... Baffled his rider. **1827 SCOTT Highl. Widow** v. A party of five Highland soldiers... wheeled suddenly into sight. **1867 J. T. HEADLEY Farragut & Nav. Comm.** 575 [The captain] wheeled out of line and ran with a full head of steam on straight into the ironclad monster. **1888 'J. S. WINTER' Bootle's Childr.** vii. He wheeled round from the window as if he was about to confront Halliday and offer to fight him on the spot.

b. *fig.* To change or reverse one's opinion, attitude, or course of action; to turn aside, deviate, decline from some course or attitude.

1632 G. HERBERT Church Militant 54 Plato and Aristotle were at a losse, And wheel'd about again to spell Christ-Crosse. **1663 HEATH Flagellum** (1672) 27 Who had wheeled from his Loyalty during the War. **a 1716 SOUTH Sermon**, 2 *Thess.* II. 11 II. Wks. 1727 IV. 413 From Independents they improved into Anabaptists. From Anabaptists into Quakers: From whence being able to advance no farther, they are in a fair Way to wheel about to the other Extreme of Popery. **1784 P. WRIGHT New Bk. Martyrs** 807/2 Jeffreys summed up the evidence against the parson, but wheeled at last into this.

c. *trans.* To turn (a person, animal, or thing) round or aside.

1805 SCOTT Last Minstr. II. viii. So had he seen, in fair Castile, The youth in glittering squadrons start, Sudden the flying jennet wheel, And hurl the unexpected dart. **1829 G. HEAD Forest Scenes N. Amer.** 121 Wheeled round every now and then by the wind, we were enveloped in clouds. **1842 LOVER Handy Andy** xix. Wheeling his horse suddenly round, he charged along the advancing front of the people.

** **5. a. intr.** To move like a point in the circumference of a wheel; to move in a circle, spiral, or similar curve; to circle, revolve; to go round about.

1600 HOLLAND Livy XXXIV. xiv. He commaunded two elect cohorts of footmen to wheele about the right flanke of the enemies. **1607 SHAKS. Cor.** I. vi. 19, I was forc'd to wheele Three or four miles about. **1617 MORYSON Itin.** I. 185, I might see him send two horsemen after me, who wheeling about the mountaines... suddenly rushed vpon me. **1665 Phil. Trans.** I. 72 These two Planets have Moons wheeling about them. **1703 POPE Thebais** 441 The son of May... wheeling down the steep of heav'n he flies, And draws a radiant circle o'er the skies. **1726-46 THOMSON Winter** 145 The cormorant on high Wheels from the deep. **1850 TENNYSON In Mem.** xcvi. When all is gay... With sport and song... And wheels the circled dance. **1863 DICKENS Uncomm. Trav.** xxiv. The gulls that wheel and dip around me. **1892 KIPLING Barrack-room Ballads, L'Envoi** ix. The old lost stars wheel back, dear lass, That blaze in the velvet blue.

fig. **1661 J. STEPHENS Procurations** 128 But I wheel too far about. **1698 FRYER Acc. E. India** & P. 132 Those occurrences which wheeled in their Sphere. **1749 SMOLLETT Regic.** IV. ii. Love, Jealousy, implacable Despair In Tempests wheel.

b. *trans.* To cause (something) to move in this way; to perform (a movement), trace (a course), spend (a time) in this way.

1725 POPE Odys. IV. 704 'Till the twelfth moon had wheel'd her pale career. **1750 GRAY Elegy** II. Save where the beetle wheels his droning flight. **1808 SCOTT Marm.** VI. xx. Wheeling their march, and circling still, Around the base of Flodden hill. **1817 COLERIDGE Sibyl. Leaves, Happy Husband** III. Transient joys, that... into tenderness soon dying, Wheel out their giddy moment. **1839 KEMBLE Resid. Georgia** (1863) 21 Hawks of every sort and size wheel their steady rounds above the rice-fields. **1846 TENNYSON Golden Year** 24 The Sun flies forward to his brother Sun; The dark Earth follows, wheel'd in her ellipse.

6. **transf. a. intr.** To extend in a circle or curve. ? *Obs. rare.*

1648 GAGE West Ind. xvii. 114 In a narrow passage where the way went wheeling. **1789 J. WILLIAMS Min. Kingd.** I. 112 Coal and coal metals... wave and wheel. **1791 W. GILPIN Rem. Forest Scenery** II. 120 A forest-lawn... which wheeled around us in the form of a crescent.

† b. *trans.* To encircle, surround, encompass. *Obs. rare.*

1582 STANYHURST Æneis II. (Arb.) 55 He spied his person with Troian companye wheeled. **1667 MILTON P.L.** IV. 783 Half these draw off, and coast the South With strictest watch; these other wheel the North.

*** **7. intr.** To roll along like a wheel. *rare.*

1667 MILTON P.L. XII. 183 Haile mixt with fire must rend th' Egyptian skie And wheel on th' Earth, devouring where it rousls. **1875 F. T. BUCKLAND Log-Bk.** 355 The waves at the outer end wheeled at a swift gallop.

II. To move on, or by means of, wheels.

* **8. a. trans.** To convey in a wheeled vehicle, or on a chair, sofa, etc. moving on wheels.

1601 Shuttleworth's Acc. (Chetham Soc.) 139 For whellinge forth xxv quarters of colles, vjd. **1740 Mrs. E. MONTAGU Corr.** (1906) I. 41 Lord Berkshire was wheeled into the rooms on Thursday night, where he saluted me with much snuff and civility. **1761 COLMAN Jealous Wife** I. 22 You shall clap Her into a Post-Chaise, ... wheel Her down to Scotland. **1853 DICKENS Bleak Ho.** xxix. Let the gardener... press the leaves into full barrows, and wheel them off, still they lie ankle-deep. **1888 'J. S. WINTER' Bootle's Childr.** vi. She was able to totter to the sofa and be wheeled into the adjoining room.

b. *fig.* To pass or convey easily or smoothly, as if on wheels. *rare.*

1658 HARRINGTON Oceana 23 Through the paucity of her Citizens, her greater Magistracies are continually wheeled through a few hands. **1689 HICKERINGILL Ceremony Monger** vi. Wks. 1716 II. 444 We'll have as many Organs... if we have nothing else to do with our Money; or cannot tell how to wheel off an hour or two in Devotions. **1851 Mrs. BROWNING Casa Guidi Wind** II. 309 As some smooth river which has overflowed Will slow and silent down its current wheel A loosened forest.

c. *colloq.* To bring (someone) in, as for an interview, meeting, performance, etc. Also, with similar meaning, const. *on, out.* Also *fig.*

1970 New Yorker 28 Feb. 29/3 The Administration wheels out what are at the moment issues... which everyone can agree on. **1977 M. ALLEN Spence in Petal Park** xviii. 78 Wheel Prendergast straight in when he arrives. **1978 Daily Mirror** 12 Jan. 2/4 The agreed quota for Japanese car imports in 1977 should be wheeled out again for 1978. **1983 Listener** 20 Oct. 27/1 'Celebrities' were wheeled in before a studio audience. **1984 Times** 9 Feb. 11/5 This new element is wheeled in when cousins come to stay. *Ibid.* 15 Aug. 11/1 Kenny Everett... was wheeled on with other celebrities to warm up a Conservative rally for the Leader in the course of last year's general election campaign here. *Ibid.* 8 Dec. 6/4 Although his field is limited to southern France from the fourteenth to the eighteenth century, the French media wheels him out to make pronouncements on Giscard's reign, his reservations about Mitterand's regime, or whether Nazi war criminals like Barbie should be executed.

9. *intr.* To travel in or drive a wheeled vehicle; to go along on wheels, as a vehicle; *mod. colloq.* to ride a bicycle or tricycle, to 'cycle'.

1721 RAMSAY Content 351 He found he could not walk, ... and wheel'd away. **1768 STERNE Sent. Journ., The Address.** By the time he [sc. a coachman] had wheel'd round the court, and brought me up to the door. **1798 JANE AUSTEN Northang. Abb.** xx. The chaise and four wheeled off with some grandeur. **1884 Century Mag.** Sept. 643/2 A youth on a bicycle, who wheeled attentively by her side. **1898 HAMLEN Gen. Manager's Story** v. 48 Both trains were wheeling down under the bridge at a forty-mile gait.

10. **a. trans.** To push or draw (something) on wheels.

1784 COWPER Task IV. 37 Let fall the curtains, wheel the sofa round. **1832 LYTON Eugene Aram** I. v. The sofa was wheeled into the hall where they dined. **1848 DICKENS Dombey** xlix. He wheeled the table close against Florence on the sofa. **1885 Law Times** LXXXIX. 47/1 A porter... put all the luggage on a trolley... and wheeled the trolley on to the platform. **1896 H. G. WELLS Wheels of Chance** ix. The other man in brown had a bad puncture and was wheeling his machine.

b. To drive a car slowly, as when manœuvring into or out of a car park.

1962 R. UNEKIS Chase (1963) vii. 20 Grozzo wheeled the Olds into the big parking area. **1974 N. FREELING Dressing of Diamond** 182 It was Castang who wheeled the Citroën out of the parking-lot. **1976 National Observer** (U.S.) 11 Dec. 8/2, I wheeled the bright-blue test car into a parking space.

** † **11. ?** To wind up the mechanism of: in quot. *fig. Obs. rare.*

1632 *Mason's Turke* (ed. 2) Argt., There are other passages of Triuall Inferior persons, Interwouen into this peice, which serue as a foyle to the Brauery and hight of the Tragedy, yet are Instruments aptly set going to wheele vp the worke.

III. Miscellaneous uses.

† **12. intr.** Of a peacock: To spread the tail in a circular form like a wheel. Also *trans.* with the tail as *obj.* *Obs.*

1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* I. 1805 Prowde as a Pecocke whelynge full bryght. **1600** SURFLET *Country Farm* I. xix. 115 You neede no other signe then his [sc. the peacock's] viewing of himselfe, and couering of his whole bodie with the feathers of his taile, and then we say hee wheeleth. **1656** W. DU GARD tr. *Comenius' Gate Lat. Unl.* §137 The most fair is the Peacock, ever and anon wheeling his glorious tail. **1745** tr. *Columella's Husb.* VIII. xi.

13. trans. To make like a wheel; to give a circular or curved form to. *rare.*

1656 W. DU GARD tr. *Comenius' Gate Lat. Unl.* §203 The hair covereth the choiest part of the head, being wheeled on the crown [*capilli . . . rotati in vertice*]. **1808** SCOTT *Marm.* v. vi, At every turn, with dinning clang, The armourer's anvil clash'd and rang; Or toil'd the swarthy smith, to wheel The bar that arms the charger's heel.

14. To furnish with a wheel or wheels.

1661, 1698 [see *WHEELING vbl. sb. f.*] **1802** H. MARTIN *Helen of Glenross* I. 46 She begged leave to paint, glaze, new carpet, and new wheel the old coach.

† **15. To torture or 'break' on a wheel.** *Obs. rare.*

1611 [implied in *WHEELING vbl. sb. h.*]

16. To form or shape on a wheel, as pottery.

17. Tanning. = PIN-WHEEL *v.*

1885 C. T. DAVIS *Manuf. Leather* 530 The skins next go into the England wheel vat . . . and are 'wheeled' in sumach liquor.

wheel: see WEEL, WHEAL.

wheelage ('hwi:ldʒ). [*f. WHEEL sb. + -AGE.*]

1. A toll paid for the passage of wheeled vehicles; cost of carriage in a wheeled vehicle, cartage. *Hist.*

1611 COTGR., *Droict de Roilage*, wheelage. **1672** (title) Deed between William Osbolston . . . and the Mayor and Corporation of London, relates to the Collection of Tolls, or Wheelage over Old London Bridge (MS.). **1765** *Lond. Chron.* 25 Apr. 398 The Committee . . . lett . . . the toll of carts and wheelage over London-Bridge. **1808** *Hist. Worcester* 93 A ton of coal, threepence for wheelage. **1894** C. WELCH *Tower Bridge* 48 The Sheriffs never had anything to do with the wheelage, which was collected by a City-officer.

† **2. Wheel-making.** *Obs. rare*—⁰.

1681 W. ROBERTSON *Phraseol. Gen.* 1312 Wheelage, or wheel-work, *rotarum fabricatio*.

wheel and 'deal, v. colloq. (orig. and chiefly U.S.). Pa. t. wheeled and dealed. [*f. WHEEL sb. 14 d + DEAL v.*] **1. intr.** To engage in scheming or shrewd bargaining, esp. of a political or commercial nature. Cf. WHEELER-DEALER.

1961 WEBSTER, *Wheel and deal*, to take the part of a leader or wheel and to take charge of affairs or arrangements (showed the town how an absolute dictator wheels and deals —*Newsweek*). **1962** 'K. ORVIS' *Damned & Destroyed* vii. 53 You don't act like you really know where to wheel-and-deal yet. **1967** *National Observer* (U.S.) 3 July 13 Reagan could break loose votes from the Democrats if he really wanted to. You can always wheel-and-deal and get at least part of what you want. **1967** *Listener* 24 Aug. 250/1 Frost is wheeling and dealing off camera. **1974** *Publishers Weekly* 24 June 58/1 Lads who . . . wheeled and dealed with megacorporations. **1976** J. I. M. STEWART *Memorial Service* xiv. 234 'What's in the wind is a little quiet wheeling and dealing about the black sheep of the family.' . . . 'Why should the Provost wheel and deal about you?'

2. trans. To obtain by scheming; to deal or bargain in.

1971 R. DENTRY *Encounter at Kharmel* xii. 217 In other words, if we agree to shut up, you'll wheel and deal some pin money for us. **1974** *Scottish Daily Express* 16 Apr. 4/3 Dr. Henry Kissinger, due here shortly to wheel and deal his way to stilling the guns. **1979** *Tucson Mag.* Mar. 49/1 The Inn was originally built to wheel and deal Arizona land.

Hence wheeling and 'dealing' *vbl. sb.* Cf. *wheeler-dealing vbl. sb. s.v. WHEELER-DEALER.*

1969 *Listener* 9 Jan. 60/3 As a proof of his mischievous intentions, he [sc. Henry II] invites the devious King of France to this gathering. It would need a Norman Mailer to describe accurately the wheeling and dealing that follows. **1976** [see sense 1 above]. **1981** *Beautiful Brit.* *Columbia Summer* 9 When silver prices rode the crest and silver-miners and promoters flocked to the Slocan . . . the streets of New Denver . . . were alive with wheeling and dealing.

'wheel-band. [*f. WHEEL sb. + BAND sb.*]²

† **1. The tire of a wheel.** *Obs.*

1392-3 *Earl Derby's Exp.* (Camden) 202 Item pro j whele-band, j scho pro curru, et emendacione currus, v. gr. **1557** *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 93 In the hay housse . . . iiii. qwele bannes. **1598** CHAPMAN *Ilkad* vii. R3b, [xi. 466] The chariote tree was dround in bloode, and th' arches by the seat Disperpled from the horses houes, and from the wheelbandes beate.

2. A band or strap that goes round a wheel, as the driving band of a spinning-wheel. *dial.*

a **1656** *Roxb. Ball.* (1881) IV. 101 It is a well twined Wheelband. **1693** C. MATHER *Wind. Invis. World* (1862) 159 One Susanna Sheldon . . . had her hands Unaccountably ty'd together with a Wheel-band. **1705** *Phil. Trans.* XXV.

2166 To prevent the Recipients being drawn from its place by the motion and tug of the Wheel-band.

wheelbarrow ('hwi:l,bærəʊ), *sb.* Forms: see *WHEEL sb.* and *BARROW sb.*³; also 4 wil-, 6 whil-; 4 -bargh, 5 -berghie, -berwe, 6 -barugh, -berow, 7 -barrough. A barrow or shallow open box mounted between two shafts that receive the axle of a wheel at the front ends, the rear ends being shaped into handles and having legs on which it rests; also applied to similar contrivances with more than one wheel.

c **1340** *Nominale* (Skeat) 218 Sikeman lith in hors-bere . . . And the crepul in the wilbarewe. **1394** in *Archaeologia* XXIV. 308 Et in j welbargh empt' pro stauro Maner' xij d. **14. . .** *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 572/1 *Cenovectorium rotatum*, a whelberwe. **1533** *MS. Rawl. D.* 776 lf. 149 Whele-barrowes ffor laborers to serve bryklayers with. c **1563** *Jack Juggler* (1912) Bivb, I shall make thee not able to goo nor ryde But in a dungcart or a whilberow lyiing on on syde. **1598** *BARRET Theor. Warres* v. ii. 131 Hand-barrowes, and wheele-barrowes to carrie earth. **1678** *OTWAY Friendship* in F. III. i, I can act the rumbling of a Wheelbarrow. **1700** T. BROWN tr. *Fresny's Amusem.* 20 Another Fellow driving a Wheel-Barrow of Nuts. **1855** *DELAMER Kitch. Gard.* (1861) 8 Two doors, . . . wide enough to admit a wheel-barrow, or a small cart.

† **b. transf.** applied to a light carriage. *Obs.*

c **1600** DAY Begg. *Bednall Gr. v.* (1881) 114 To be jaunted up and down London Streets in a lethern wheelbarrow. **1625** B. JONSON *Staple of News* II. iii, You thinke I can runne like light-foot Ralph, Or keep a wheele-barrow, with a sayle in towne here To whirle me to you. **1778** *Eng. Gazetteer* (ed. 2) s.v. *Yarmouth*, People are carried here all over the town . . . for 6d. in what they call a coach, but it is only a wheelbarrow, drawn by one horse. **1794** WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Pindariana, Hymn to Adversity, Morality* . . . may . . . Throw by his wheel-barrow, and keep a carriage. **1819** SCOTT *Let. in Lockhart* (1837) IV. 290 You know of old how I detest that mania of driving wheel-barrows up and down, when a man has a handsome horse and can ride him.

c. In allusive and proverbial phr.: see *quots.*

1597 BRETON *Wits Trenchmour Wks.* (Grosart) II. 9/1 It is not a little treason in youth, to catch age in a wheele-barrow. **1618** T. ADAMS *Gods Bountie* i. Wks. 864 This oppressor must needs goe to heauen, . . . But it will bee, as the by-word is, in a Wheele-barrow; the fiends, and not the Angels will take hold on him. **1675** COTTON *Burlesque upon B.* 128 When drunk as Drum, or Wheelbarrow. **1677** W. HUGHES *Man of Sin* II. ii. 36 Behold the Reason of the Wheelbarrow! That goes to rumble. *Ibid.* x. 159 The Believing Collier whirles right to Heaven in a Wheel-barrow. **1709** [see *DRUNK ppl. a.* 1 b].

d. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *wheelbarrow-load, -man, race, tub; wheelbarrow fashion* advb. phr.; *wheelbarrow-machine* (see *quot.*).

1834 M. SCOTT *Cruise Midge xviii*, Laying hold of the navigator *wheelbarrow fashion. **1863** HAWTHORNE *Our Old Home, Outside Glimpses Engl. Pov.*, The wealthier inhabitants purchased their coal by the *wheelbarrow-load. **1856** *Jrnl. Soc. Arts* IV. 402 Mr. Applegarth . . . has also invented a beautiful little machine for printing the borders on silk handkerchiefs, called the *wheelbarrow machine, from its being worked by the hand round the cloth, which remains stationary. **1712** J. JAMES tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 109 The *Wheelbarrow-Men make five or six Stages, according to the Length of the Way. **1788** *Massachusetts Spy* 26 Nov. 2/1 It is said the perpetrators were of that class called wheelbarrow men, but this is rather improbable, as their object did not appear to be plunder. **1837** D. WALKER *Sports & Games* 341 *Wheelbarrow Race. . . Along this course, over the bridge, and up to the goal, the candidates must drive their barrows blindfolded—if they can. **1833** LOUDON *Encycl. Archit.* §731 More economical to convey the milk thither in *wheelbarrow tubs.

Hence *wheelbarrow v. trans.*, to convey in a wheelbarrow (whence 'wheelbarrower'); 'wheelbarrowful, as much as a wheelbarrow holds. See also WHEELBARROWING *vbl. sb.*

1721 AMHERST *Terræ Fil.* No. 44 (1726) 244 The greatest part of his heavy compliments are *wheel-barrow'd from the lime-kiln. **1887** BARING-GOULD *Gaverocks* xiv, Onions . . . wheelbarrowed into the town. **1893** W. WALLACE *Scot. Yest.* 73 He became the regular *wheelbarrower at the Castle. **1837** THACKERAY *Ravenswing* viii, The theatre servants wheeled away a *wheelbarrow-full. **1851** *B'ham & Midl. Gard. Mag.* Apr. 31 At the rate of one wheelbarrow full to every twelve of soil.

'wheelbarrowing, vbl. sb. [*f. WHEELBARROW sb. + -ING*]. **1. Conveyance in a wheelbarrow.**

1893 W. WALLACE *Scot. Yest.* 74 Often I saw him pausing in his wheelbarrowing.

2. Aeronaut. Landing where only the nose-wheel (of an aircraft with a tricycle undercarriage) is in contact with the ground.

1977 *Flight* 13 Aug. 480/2 We found the nose could be held up. We thought that there could be little excuse for nosewheel landings or wheelbarrowing. **1983** D. STINTON *Design of Aeroplane* x. 370 Sloopier landing habits, failure to get the tail down on landing . . . cause too many ballooning, wheelbarrowing and mishandling incidents.

'wheel-carriage.

1. Carriage (CARRIAGE 1) or conveyance by wheeled vehicles.

1733 W. ELLIS *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 30 Ashes or Soot . . . are seldom used, because they generally lie too distant for Wheel Carriage from London. **1765** *Museum Rust.* IV. 247 Where the country proves clay, marl, or rich or spungy soil, . . . and yet much wheel-carriage necessary, and no turnpike.

2. A carriage (CARRIAGE 23) moving on wheels, a wheeled vehicle; also as a part of a machine (CARRIAGE 29).

1733 W. ELLIS *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 319 Its fore-part lying on the Stock of the Wheel-Carriage as the Fallow-plough does. **1756** WASHINGTON *Lett. Writ.* 1889 I. 369 The only gap of the Alleghany at present made passable for wheel-carriages. **1845** G. DODD *Brit. Manuf.* IV. 123 The wheel-carriage on which the roller rests is then wheeled onward. **1883** S. C. HALL *Retrospect* II. 304 The roads . . . that led from town to town were barely passable to wheel-carriages.

wheel-chair. [*f. WHEEL sb. + CHAIR sb.*]¹ Also *wheelchair, wheel chair*. **1. A chair on wheels used by invalids or the disabled; also = Bath-chair s.v. BATH sb.**² **2.**

a **1700** EVELYN *Diary* 11 Jan. 1662, My Lord Aubignie . . . shew'd us . . . his wheele-chaire for ease and motion. **1817** JANE AUSTEN *Let.* ? May (1952) 497, I . . . am to . . . be promoted to a wheel-chair as the weather serves. **1841** THACKERAY *Second Funeral of Napoleon* iii. 77 A servant passes, pushing . . . a shabby wheel-chair. **1890** *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 613/1 Mrs. Aydler flitted backward and forward in her wheel chair. **1904** *LEE Recoll. Gen. R. E. Lee* 196 When put in her wheel-chair, she could propel herself on a level floor. **1958** *Times* 15 Sept. 11/1, I was in no condition to register the details of arriving in the hospital ward in a wheelchair. **1977** *Whitaker's Almanack* 1978 584/2 Britain banned a team of 5 White and 5 Black young Rhodesians confined to wheelchairs from coming to the U.K. to participate in games for the disabled at Stoke Mandeville, Bucks. **1981** *Sunday Times* 14 June 86 A lot of people seem slightly on edge at meeting me in a wheelchair but my main aim is to dispel this straight away.

2. attrib. and *Comb.*, as *wheelchair patient, wounded; wheelchair-bound, -ridden* adjs.; also with reference to sporting events for those confined to wheelchairs, as *wheelchair athlete, games, Olympics, slalom*.

1972 *Wheelchair athlete* [see *wheelchair games* below]. **1981** *Daily Mail* 17 June 38/5, I am fortunate enough not to be wheelchair-bound. **1972** R. C. ADAMS et al. *Games, Sports & Exercises* (ed. 2) iii. 10/2, 1960 . . . marked the first time the wheelchair games were held along with the Olympic Games. . . Wheelchair athletes from all over the globe were greeted by the Pope. **1972** *Even. Telegram* (St. John's, Newfoundland) 5 Aug. 18/1 The Wheelchair Olympics . . . were started after the Second World War for crippled war veterans. They have since become games for athletes with spinal cord injuries or those who have been paralysed by polio. **1970** *Stoke Mandeville Dict. Managem. Paraplegic Patients* 4 Occasionally indicated on the stiff hip or knee of wheelchair-patients. **1968** T. STOPPARD *Real Inspector Hound* 16 Magnus, the wheelchair-ridden half-brother to her ladyship's husband Lord Albert Muldoon. **1964** *Times* 12 Nov. 11/3 Carol Bryant . . . won a gold medal in the wheelchair slalom. **1982** *Daily Tel.* 5 Oct. 15/1 He would not change his mind about excluding 'wheelchair wounded' from the Falklands victory parade.

Hence 'wheel-chaired a., in or confined to a wheelchair.

1938 *Amer. Speech* XIII. 196 Wheel-chaired. **1973** *Times* 11 Apr. 8/6 A mini-bus is used in one of our split-sit comprehensives to carry wheelchaired pupils from building to building. **1977** *New Scientist* 3 Mar. 499/1 Another council decision . . . caused the AAAS's wheel-chaired delegates to wheel themselves out of the room in disgust.

wheldom ('hwi:ldəm). *nonce-wd.* [*f. WHEEL sb. + -DOM.*] The domain or 'world' of wheeled vehicles, esp. bicycles or users of them.

1887 *Cycl. Tour. Club Monthly Gaz.* Mar. 123 A prominent interest in matters pertaining to wheldom.

wheeled ('hwi:ld, poet. 'hwi:ld), *a.* Also *7 wheeld, whilde*. [*f. WHEEL sb. + -ED*]. (In OE. in parasynthetic comb. *fýrhweohlod* four-wheeled, *héhhwíolad* high-wheeled.)

1. a. Furnished with a wheel or wheels, or with any revolving disc; *esp.* of a vehicle, mounted or moving on wheels. Also in parasynthetic comb., as *two-wheeled*, etc. Also freq. in *wheeled chair*, = WHEEL-CHAIR.

1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* IV. xiv. 75 The wheel'd seate Of Fortunate Cæsar. **1633** T. STAFFORD *Pac. Hib.* III. viii. (1821) 322 Pickaxes and Whildebarrowes. **1765** A. DICKSON *Treat. Agric.* (ed. 2) 219 The wheeled plough. **1815** ELPHINSTONE *Acc. Caubul* (1842) I. 378 An inland country, destitute of navigable rivers, and not suited to wheeled carriages. **1836** PRICHARD *Phys. Hist. Man.* (ed. 3) I. 258 Ever shifting their wheeled houses. **1847** DICKENS *Dombey & Son* (1848) xxx. 300 Withers the page, released . . . from the propulsion of the wheeled-chair. **1855** HEWITT *Anc. Armour* I. p. xxii, The knights appear to have rejected with particular obstinacy the innovation of the wheeled spur. **1856** STANLEY *Sinai & Pal.* II. 134 Roads for wheeled vehicles are now unknown in any part of Palestine. **1875** REYNARDSON *Down the Road* 107 A tinker with one of those wheeled grinding-stones. **1911** F. H. BURNETT *Secret Garden* xx. 213 The strongest footman in the house carried Colin down-stairs and put him in his wheeled chair. **1981** J. MANN *Funeral Sites* i. 11 I'm too fat for an operation, they say. . . It's endurance or a wheeled chair.

b. transf. Effected on wheels or by wheeled vehicles.

1845 STOCQUELER *Handbk. Brit. India* (1854) 348 Wheeled carriage is unknown: . . . no wheeled conveyances could be used. **1882** T. G. BOWLES *Flotsam & Jetsam* 110 The almost entire absence of wheeled traffic. **1906** *Blackw. Mag.* May 640/2 The country through which we passed in our wheeled pilgrimage to Land's End.

2. Of the form of a wheel. *poet. rare.*

1820 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* IV. 233, I see a chariot. . . Its wheels are solid clouds, . . . A guiding power directs the chariot's prow Over its wheeled clouds.

'wheel-engraving. [*f. WHEEL sb. + ENGRAVING vbl. sb.*] The art or craft of engraving patterns,

etc., on glass by means of a rotating copper wheel and an abrasive mixture of emery and oil, sand and water, or the like.

1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech. Suppl.* 946/1 *Wheel Engraving*. . . As distinguished from sand-blast engraving or acid etching. See *Glass Engraving*. **1929** W. BUCKLEY *Diamond Engraved Glasses of 16th Cent.* 8 Wheel engraving became common before the end of the 17th century and superseded the use of the diamond as the usual method of engraving glasses. **1957** *Encycl. Brit.* X. 413/1 By the end of the [17th] century this type of diamond point work was superseded in popularity by wheel engraving. **1975** *Oxf. Compan. Decorative Arts* 403/2 English glass. . . was greatly in demand in the Netherlands for the flourishing school of wheel-engraving in the German manner.

Hence (as a back-formation) 'wheel-engrave' *v. trans.*; also 'wheel-engraved' *ppl. a.*; 'wheel-engraver'.

1926 B. RACKHAM in W. Buckley *European Glass* p. x, The wonderful skill of technique shown in the finest German wheel-engraved glasses may make up for the loss of nobility involved. **1937** *Burlington Mag.* Nov. 221/1 The lines are crudely wheel-engraved. **1961** E. M. ELVILLE *Collector's Dict. Glass* 55/2 There are quite a number of diamond point and wheel engravers today who have constant employment in such work. **1972** *Country Life* 30 Nov. 1490/1 A later tumbler in the same sale was wheel-engraved with a bust portrait of Prince Charles Edward. **1979** *Homes & Gardens* June 83/1 Often these declare their purpose at a glance, with wheel-engraved patterns of the ale brewer's hop leaves and barley.

wheeler ('hwi:lə(r)). Also 4 whelere, 5-6 wheler. [f. WHEEL *sb.* and *v.* + -ER¹.]

I. Senses derived from the *sb.*

† 1. *wheeler dog*, ? orig. a turnspit dog; *transf.* a roasting-jack or similar instrument. *Obs. rare.*

1379 *Will of Carter* (Comm. Crt. London), Vnum instrumentum vocatum a whelere dogge.

2. A wheelwright or wheel-maker.

1497 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 109 Wheelers and Smythes toles. **1549** *MSS. Dk. Rutland* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) IV. 570 A wheler to make wheles. **1666** *Bedloe's Narr. Popish Plot* 6 A Paper with a Ball of Wild-fire. . . was found in the Nave of a Wheel, in a Wheelers-yard. **1733** W. ELLIS *Chiltern & Vale Farm*. 19 The Stones that . . . ever will be the Cause of a greater Charge of Smith's and Wheeler's Bills. **1830** *MISS MITFORD Village Ser.* iv. 84 The wheeler's shop, always picturesque, with its tools, and its work. **1876** VOYLE & STEVENSON *Milit. Dict.* 468/1 *Wheelers*, . . . the mechanics of a battery engaged in setting up the wheels of the gun-carriages. **1901** *Daily Chron.* 8 May 11/2 Wheelwrights.—Wanted 2 good wheelers.

3. A wheel-horse (see WHEEL *sb.* 19) or other draught-animal in the same position; often opp. to *leader* (LEADER¹ 6b).

1813 COL. HAWKER *Diary* (1893) I. 82 My leader took fright. . . but luckily I kept my wheeler in. **1842** DICKENS *Amer. Notes* xiv, Now, the coach was lying on the tails of the two wheelers; and now it was rearing up in the air. **1885** *New Bk. Sports* 171 Few things are more distressing than to see . . . one wheeler hanging away from the pole, and the other hugging it.

4. One who attends to the wheel in a spinning-machine.

1876 SMILES *Sc. Natur.* iii. 47 Each spinner had three boys under him—the wheeler, the pointer, and the stripper.

5. *Needlework*. One who makes 'wheels': see WHEEL *sb.* 9a(a).

6. = *wheel-bird*: see WHEEL *sb.* 19.

1862 JOHNS *Brit. Birds* 625 Wheel-bird, or Wheeler, the Nightjar.

7. Something, as a vehicle, a boat, etc. furnished with a wheel or wheels: chiefly in compounds, as FOUR-WHEELER, STERNWHEELER, etc.

1886 A. WATT *Electro-Depos.* 314 The whole bicycle fraternity, who had been accustomed to plain steel or painted wheelers.

8. ? A nail used in fixing the parts of a wheel.

1873 *Iron* 1 Feb. 75/1 Nails. . . Wrought. . . Best Derby Countersunk Dub deep Wheelers, 3 [lbs.], 2/9.

II. Senses derived from the verb.

9. One who wheels a vehicle, or conveys something in a wheeled vehicle (esp. a wheelbarrow).

1683 J. REID *Scots Gard'ner* (1907) 55 With wheelbarrows; three barrows for two wheelers and one filler sometimes doth well. **1688** HOLME *Armoury* III. 261/1 *Wheeler*, is him that carryeth the Clay from the Pit, to the Moulding Board foot. **1862** SMILES *Engineers* III. iii. 24 The younger boys worked as wheelers or pickers on the bank-tops. **1884** C. T. DAVIS *Bricks, Tiles* etc. (1889) 131 The wheeler gathers the stones and hard lumps of clay that have been thrown out . . . and wheels them to some out of the way place.

† 10. One of a series of projecting stones in a battlement: see quot. *Obs. rare.*

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 470/2 A Tower with a plain Battlement; that is, the Battlement is not made with Wheelers and Kneelers, but is straight, and even in the Walk of the Wall. *Ibid.* 472/1 (Terms of the Fractable on a Gable end) A Wheeler, are wrought stones that ly levell and straight, yet make outward Angles when other stones are ioyned to them.

11. *Mil.* The man at the outermost end of the rank in wheeling.

1798 SIR W. YOUNG *Instr. Armed Yeom.* 13 The man on the other Flank, or Wheeler, will move round square, to Dress by the Pivot Man.

12. One who turns so as to face another way; *fig.* one who changes his opinion or attitude, a turncoat, a 'weathercock'.

1836 *Tait's Mag.* III. 40 He. . . is one of the most notorious wheelers in Parliament.

13. One who rides a bicycle or tricycle, a cyclist. *colloq.*

1886 H. BAUMANN *Londinismen* 232/1 *Wheeler*, velocipedist. **1897** BARRÈRE & LELAND *Dict. Slang.* **1929** *Newport & Market Drayton Advertiser* 28 June 3/4 Shropshire wheelers. Sunday's run to Bala. **1979** *Guardian* 8 Aug. 7/4 A posh camping shop. . . no shop for humble wheelers.

wheeler-dealer. *colloq.* (orig. and chiefly U.S.). [f. WHEEL AND DEAL *v.*: cf. -ER¹.] A schemer, esp. in business or politics; one who wheels and deals (see quot. 1960).

1960 WENTWORTH & FLEXNER *Dict. Amer. Slang* 574/2 *Wheeler-dealer*. . . one who wheels and deals; an adroit, quick-witted, scheming person; a person with many business or social interests. **1963** *Economist* 24 Aug. 666/1 Two Dallas oil millionaires. . . described as 'a pair of old-line Texas wheeler-dealers'. **1968** G. WYCKOFF *Image Candidates* iii. 20 Ted had been known as the Wheeler-Dealer because he always had important phone calls to make from his hotel room when we arrived on location. **1973** *Guardian* 23 Mar. 15/3 Old-style American corruption of the wheeler-dealer variety. **1978** L. HEREN *Growing up on The Times* ix. 301 He [sc. Lyndon Johnson] was a shop-soiled old politico, a wheeler dealer, and past master of consensus politics.

Hence *wheeler-dealing*, the activity of a wheeler-dealer; = *wheeling and dealing* *vbl. sb.* *s.v.* WHEEL AND DEAL *v.*

1968 *N.Y. Times* 1 Feb. 42 Wondering what wheeler-dealing was going on over telephone lines among the various managements. **1976** *Listener* 5 Feb. 135/3 To ensure that . . . councils (or the community) got the upper hand in any wheeler-dealing between councils and developers. **1979** *Daily Tel.* 27 Apr. 36/6 Mr Prior also stressed that voting liberal could mean another 'hung' Parliament which would mean more 'wheeler dealing' at Westminster. **1984** *Listener* 22 Mar. 4/1 It is here in the intricate wheeler-dealing of the Common Market, the Atlantic alliance and international trade and finance that the 'diplomatic' reputations of the future will be made.

wheelerite ('hwi:lərait). *Min.* [Named from Lieut. G. M. Wheeler, of the U.S. Army: see -ITE¹.] A yellowish fossil resin occurring in lignite in the cretaceous strata of New Mexico. **1874** *Amer. Jnrl. Sci.* Ser. III. VII. 571.

wheelery ('hwi:ləri). *rare.* [f. WHEEL *v.* + -ERY.] Wheeling, circumgyration.

1847 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg. Ser.* III. *Truants*, With curlings and twistings, and twirls and wheeleries.

'wheel-house. Also wheel house, wheelhouse.

1. A structure enclosing a large wheel, *e.g.* a water-wheel; *spec.* a house or superstructure containing the steering-wheel, a pilot-house; also, the paddle-box of a steam-boat.

1835 J. H. INGRAHAM *South-West* I. xxiii. 247 The pilot (as the helms-man is here called) stands in his lonely wheel-house. **1846** A. HAWKINS *Let.* 20 Nov. in N. E. Eliason *Tarheel Talk* (1956) 304 The carpenter in coming out of the wheel house where he had been mending the wheel dropped the candle on some loose cotton. **1850** B. TAYLOR *Eldorado* i. (1862) 3 On the morning of July 5th, I took a station on the wheel-house. **1883** GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-Mining* 285. **1892** J. S. FLETCHER *When Chas. I was King* (1896) 26 The mill at Wentbridge, where the stream was pouring through the wheel-house like a cataract. **1906** 'MARK TWAIN' *Autobiogr.* I. 310 Rush. . . astern to the solitary lifeboat lashed aft the wheelhouse on the port side. **1976** *Southern Even. Echo* (Southampton) 2 Nov. 20/1 On the roof of the main building is a full size replica of a ship's wheelhouse which is used for training.

2. a. A building in which cart-wheels are stored.

1813 VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* 472 The wheel-house under the barn, 25 feet square.

b. = ROUND-HOUSE *sb.* 3 a.

1971 [see ROUND-HOUSE *sb.* 3 a].

3. *Archæol.* A circular stone dwelling of the late Iron Age of a type widespread in northern and western Scotland, having partition walls radiating from the centre. Cf. *wheel-dwelling*, -hut *s.v.* WHEEL *sb.* 19.

1935 V. G. CHILDE *Prehist. Scotland* x. 217 A wheel-house is in essence a walled area roughly circular or oval. . . divided up into a number of voussoir-shaped rooms or compartments by radial walls arranged like the spokes of a wheel. **1957** T. C. LETHBRIDGE *Gogmagog* viii. 149 A considerable mass of pottery of what must be considered Iron Age culture, though of Roman date, has now been recovered from brochs and wheel-houses in the Hebrides. **1970** BRAY & TRUMP *Dict. Archæol.* 254/2 Wheelhouses survived well into the Roman period as dwellings and farmhouses.

wheelie ('hwi:li). *slang.* Also (*rare*) wheely. [f. WHEEL *sb.* + -IE.] 1. orig. U.S. a. The stunt of raising the front wheel off the ground while riding a bicycle or motor-cycle.

1966 *N.Y. Times* 12 Nov. 45 A popular sport for young bicycle riders is 'doing a wheelie'. This means lifting the front wheel off the ground and balancing on the rear wheel alone. **1969** *Oz* Apr. 31/1 Odd Job tries to do a few wheelies but can't quite get the front wheel off the ground. **1975** *Courier-Mail* (Brisbane) 6 Dec. 2/4 Wheelies are no trouble to the world 125cc motocross champion. . . But. . . it's a

technique he uses strictly off the road. **1982** *Daily Tel.* 25 June 6/7 Acquiring a motor-cyclist. . . of careless driving by performing a 'wheelie'—driving with his front wheel off the road. **1985** *Daily Mail* 6 Apr. 25/1 That's the bike seen on TV with crash-hatted kids doing wheelies.

b. *transf.* In skateboarding, the stunt of riding on only one pair of wheels, with either the nose or tail of the board in the air. (In quot. 1978 further *transf.*)

1976 A. CASSORLA *Skateboarder's Bible* 10 Many of the tricks now popular originated that year, including nose and tail wheelies. **1978** *Evening Standard* 10 May 8/1 Wheelies centre rolls to a close. A pioneer skateboard centre is closing through lack of support. **1979** W. JONES in *Voices* 20 Autumn 43 Down the subway he doth go. . . Out the other end and into a wheely.

2. A sharp U-turn made by a motor vehicle, causing skidding of the wheels. orig. *Austral.*

1973 *Sunday Mail* (Brisbane) 29 July 3/1 'Hoons' felt free to do 'wheelies'—making U-turns at high speed to make their tyres scream. **1977** *Custom Car* Nov. 63/2 One of the most hair-raising wheelies I've ever seen. . . necessitating an extensive chassis rebuild. **1982** J. S. BORTHWICK *Case of Hook-Billed Kites* xxxvi. 122 Tom did a wheelie into Route 77.

3. *Austral.* A person in or confined to a wheelchair.

1977 *Courier-Mail* (Brisbane) 14 Nov. 2/3 Terry Valentine braces the wheelchair as wheelie-shotputter Rene Ahrens. . . prepares to make his toss. **1978** *Sunday Mail* (Brisbane) 10 Sept. 34/3 So many places and things are inaccessible to the 'wheelie'. **1981** *Telegraph* (Brisbane) 14 Jan. 44/2 The wheelie symbol on selected parking spaces. . . is often ignored.

wheeling ('hwi:lɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. WHEEL *v.* + -ING¹.] The action of the verb WHEEL, in various senses.

a. Turning or revolution about an axis or centre; rotation. Also *fig.* b. *Mil.* (See WHEEL *v.* 3.) Also *attrib.* c. A turning aside or in a different direction, deviation; also *fig.* d. Motion (or *transf.* extension) in a circle or curve; circling, circuitous movement; also *fig.* e. Conveyance of something in a wheelbarrow or the like; travelling in a wheeled vehicle, or (*colloq.*) on a bicycle or tricycle; also, the condition of a road suitable for the passage of (wheeled) vehicles. Also *attrib.* f. Furnishing or fitting with a wheel or wheels. g. *Needlework*. The making or working of 'wheels': see WHEEL *sb.* 9a(a); *attrib.* as in *wheeling stitch*, *yarn*, etc. † h. Torturing or 'breaking' on a wheel. *Obs.* i. The process of shaping or forming something by means of a wheel; in quot. *attrib.* j. *wheeling and dealing*: see WHEEL AND DEAL *v.* Also *wheeling-dealing* *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

a. **1483** EARL RIVERS *Ball.* 6 in *Ritson Anc. Songs* (1877) 150 This world being Of such whelyng Me contrarieng. **1587** GOLDING *De Mornay* xiii. 223 The wheelings about of the Skye. **1594** NASHE *Terrors Nt. Wks.* (Grosart) III. 269 As the firmament is still moving and working, so vncessant is the wheeling and rolling on of our braines. a **1680** BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) I. 318 All Rotations and Wheelings cause a kind of Giddiness in the Brain. **1773** MRS. GRANT *Let. fr. Mount.* (1807) I. xiii. 105 The 'boiling' and 'wheeling' of the waters below.

b. **1623** 'JACK DAWE' *Vox Graculi* 38 What wheelings, what windings, what summoning to parlees. **1625** MARKHAM *Souldiers Accid.* 22 Wheeling (as by conversion or turning to either hand). **1796** *Instr. & Reg. Cavalry* (1813) 15 In division Wheelings, the whole keep closed lightly towards the hand they wheel to, and must avoid pressing the pivot man off his ground. **1832** *Prop. Regul. Instr. Cavalry* II. 10 Wheeling should at first be practised in single rank. **1833** *Regul. Instr. Cavalry* I. 20 The Wheeling Step, or March, is 120 steps of 30 inches each, or 300 feet in a minute. **1894** *Outing* (U.S.) XXIV. 236/1 The wheelings and dress are fully equal to the best regular regiments.

c. a **1660** *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) I. 182 His unconstant whilings to Ormond. a **1711** KEN *Anodynes* Poet. Wks. 1721 III. 431, I sooner cou'd of shifting Wind, The Rise, Recess, and Wheelings find, Than of my heart detect the Wiles.

d. **1674** N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 24 After all this wheeling about, we are not a step further than we were. **1789** J. WILLIAMS *Min. Kingd.* I. 15 A different dip or declivity of the strata, which is occasioned by the waving and wheeling of the strata. **1839** MRS. KIRKLAND *New Home* xvi. 101 We had been watching the wheelings and fittings of a flock of prairie hens. **1876** GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* xxx, The hovering and wheeling of Grandcourt's caprice.

e. **1805** R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. 113 When stones can be got within a wheeling distance, or about sixty or seventy yards. **1850** L. SAWYER *Jnrl.* 3 July in *Way Sketches* (1926) v. 81 Our road lay over deep barren sand, which rendered the wheeling very difficult. **1864** *Ret. Agric. Soc. Maine* 52 The January thaw. . . gives us bare hills and wheeling. **1873** 'G. HAMILTON' *Twelve Miles* ii. 25 He told her he would give her a sleigh-ride when it came wheeling. **1882** *Prospectus Cycle Touring Club*, The encouragement of all that is admirable in the art of wheeling. **1883** *Harper's Mag.* Oct. 727/2 Travelling in the saddle was. . . a necessity, wheeling is now everywhere easy.

f. **1661** in Swayne *Churches. Acc. Sarum* (1896) 334 Stocking and wheeling of the same [sc. bells]. **1875** *Carpentry & Join.* 120 Far more suitable for amateurs than building or 'wheeling' as it is termed. **1898** *Daily News* 21 Feb. 6/5 The gearing and wheeling of the cars.

g. **1808** JAMIESON, *Wheelin*, coarse worsted. **1862** *Catal. Internat. Exhib.*, Brit. II. No. 4032, Fingering, lambs-wool, and wheeling hosiery. **1880** *Plain Hints Needlework* 29 Wheeling yarn.

h. **1611** CORYAT *Crudities* 388 The fifth and last punishment is wheeling, which is only for murderers.

i. **1882** *Standard* 16 Sept. 8/2 Brickmakers' plant and stock, comprising. . . iron wheeling plates. **1884** *B'ham Daily Post* 23 Feb. 2/4 Tin and Iron-plate workers, &c. . . Wireing, Swaging and Wheeling Machines.

j. **1973** *Guardian* 21 June 2/3 The cliché of the moment is that Mr Brezhnev is. . . a sort of wheeling-dealing gladiator. **1977** *Guardian Weekly* 28 Aug. 22/4 The wheeling-dealing that went on within the tribunal when it came to considering the verdicts.

wheeling ('hwɪ:lɪŋ), *ppl.* *a.* [f. WHEEL *v.* + -ING².] That wheels, in various senses.

a. Turning like a wheel; revolving about an axis; rotating, rolling, whirling, swirling. Also *fig.* of a recurring or 'revolving' period of time. *b. Mil.* (See WHEEL *v.* 3.) *wheeling flank*, the outward flank in wheeling, which describes the largest curve. *c.* Turning round or aside; changing direction. *d.* Moving, or executed as a movement, in a circle or similar curve; circling. †In first quot., wandering about, roving. *e.* Moving on wheels.

a. 1628 MILTON *Vac. Exerc.* 34 Where the deep transported mind may soare Above the wheeling poles. 1635 L. FOXE *N.-W. Fox* 187 Wheeling streames like eddie tides. 1636 W. CARTWRIGHT *Royal Slave* v. ii, Hemm'd in on every side With Beauties, which his wheeling eye runs o're All in a Minute. 1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* iv. ii, With Patience then I'll wait each wheeling Year. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* ix. 1274 What arm Almighty put these wheeling globes In motion? 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxxiii, The deep and wheeling stream of the river.

b. 1796 *Instr. & Reg. Cavalry* (1813) 41 An officer or under officer from the wheeling flank... of each squadron. 1833 *Reg. Instr. Cavalry* i. 23 The outward wheeling man... lengthens his step.

c. 1716 POPE *Iliad* v. 53 As he to Flight his wheeling Car address. 1769 FALCONER *Shipwr.* iii. 388 The pilots... Still with the wheeling stern their force repel. 1882 'OUIDA' *Bimbi* vi. 186 He endeavoured to soothe his fretting and wheeling beast.

d. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* i. i. 137 Tying her Dutie, Beautie, Wit, and Fortunes In an extrauagant, and wheeling Stranger. 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* 263 We are faine to use a wheeling-stride, and go as it were in orbe. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* iv. 803 Dark as a Cloud they make a wheeling Flight. 1730-46 THOMSON *Autumn* 487 Happy he who tops the wheeling chase. 1805-6 CARY *Dante, Inf.* iii. 93 Around whose eyes glared wheeling flames. 1827 KEBLE *Chr. Y., 20th Sunday after Trin.*, The wheeling kite's wild solitary cry. 1905 TREVES *Other Side of Lantern* ii. xxii. 142 Pigeons sweep round this square in wheeling flocks.

e. 1596 SIR J. DAVIES *Orchestra* cxv, A wheeling Cart. 1637 WHITING *Albino & Bellama* 21 Goe harness straight my wheeling chaire. 1773 LADY MARY COKE *Jrnl.* 22 Aug. (1896) IV. 225 He was placed in a wheeling chair, as he has not the use of his legs. 1902 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 12 Apr. 907/2 A new stretcher, which could be used either as a light portable or as a wheeling stretcher.

Hence 'wheelingly *adv.* on wheels. *rare.*

1611 FLORIO, *A ruōta*, wheelingly.

wheelless ('hwɪ:lɪs), *a.* [f. WHEEL *sb.* + -LESS.] Without a wheel or wheels; having no wheels; not adapted to wheeled vehicles.

1824 MISS FERRIER *Inher.* xxvii, The carpet... was... strewn with headless dolls, tailless horses, wheelless carts. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xxxvii, Withers... stood upright... behind her wheel-less chair at dinner-time. 1897 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 470 In many a rollicking expedition in wheelless Liddesdale.

'wheel-lock. [f. WHEEL *sb.* + LOCK *sb.*²]

1. A form of gun-lock in which the powder was fired by the friction of a small wheel (wound up with a spring) against a piece of iron pyrites. Also *attrib.*

1670 COTTON *Esperson.* i. iv. 181 The wheel-lock of a Pistol, ready wound up. 1677 PLOT *Oxfordsh.* 71 These... have been much used for Carabines and Pistols, whilst Wheel-locks were in fashion. 1821 EDGEWORTH *Mem.* (ed. 2) I. 279 Guns... some with old match-locks... and others with wheel-locks. 1860 HEWITT *Anc. Armour* III. 589 Their [sc. German Reiters' or pistoliers'] characteristic arm, the wheel-lock pistol. 1904 TYLOR *Anthropol.* i. 17 The match-lock led up to the wheel-lock, and that again to the flint-lock musket.

2. A form of letter-lock (see LETTER *sb.*¹ g) with a series of wheels or disks upon the edges of which the letters were inscribed.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*

3. *a.* (See quot.)

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Wheel-lock*, a wagon-lock, to retard the revolution of the wheels in descending a hill.

b. = LOCK *sb.*² 15.

1927 *Observer* 20 Feb. 21/3 The majority of our fire-fighting appliances are not provided with adequate wheel-locks.

wheelman ('hwɪ:lɪmən). *Pl.* -men. Also *wheelsman*. [f. WHEEL *sb.* + MAN *sb.*¹]

1. A man who attends to a wheel in some piece of mechanism; *U.S.* a helmsman.

1865 *Oregon State Jrnl.* 12 Aug. 2/5 The wheelman says that large fragments of the bottom and a part of the rudder were afterwards seen alongside the wreck. 1866 'MARK TWAIN' *Lett. from Hawaii* (1967) 195 Four other gentlemen and the wheelsman were all assembled on the little after portion of the deck. 1885 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 643/1 The... wheelsman... tries to entice her up to his pilot-box, which towers above the vessel. 1886 J. BARROWMAN *Sc. Mining Terms* 72.

2. A man who rides a bicycle or tricycle; a male cyclist. *colloq.*

1881 *Tribune* (N.Y.) 5 Apr., An enthusiastic wheelman of Boston had not up to January 1, missed but one day riding on his 'steely steed' since the winter season commenced. 1887 *Morning Post* 8 Apr., A reconnaissance can be carried out more quickly... by wheelmen than by horsemen.

3. A driver, *spec. (Criminals' slang)* the driver of a getaway vehicle. *orig. U.S.*

1935 J. HARGAN *Gloss. Prison Lang.* 8 *Wheelman*, driver of a getaway car. 1962 'K. ORVIS' *Damned & Destroyed* xii. 80 Later on... he began driving a cab. Also being a wheel-man for the mobs. 1967 M. PROCTER *Exercise Hoodwink* vi. 44 The thieves had locked themselves in, and when they had emptied the safe, they had phoned for their wheel man like calling for a taxi. 1975 *Publishers Weekly* 27 Jan. 283/3

(Advnt.), When a young California hoodlum blew the brains out of a helpless store clerk last year Ken Pestana was the unwitting wheelman waiting outside.

So 'wheelwoman, a female cyclist.

1884 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 5 Sept. 11/2 Wheelmen and wheelwomen.

wheelwork ('hwɪ:lwɜ:k). [f. WHEEL *sb.* + WORK *sb.*] *a.* A set of connected wheels forming part of a machine or mechanical contrivance.

1670 EVELYN *Sylva* xxiii. (ed. 2) 115 The Cornel-tree... is exceedingly commended for its durableness, and use in Wheel-work, Pinns, and Wedges. 1772 C. HUTTON *Bridges* 99 Pile Driver, is an engine for driving down the piles... It is worked... either with or without wheel work. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 347 These spindles are connected with wheel-work. 1845 G. DODD *Brit. Manuf.* IV. 29 This axle, by the aid of intervening wheel-work, is set into rotation.

b. Applied to the trochal apparatus of a rotifer or *wheel-animalcule*.

1778 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 2) I. 448/2 The most remarkable part of this animalcule is its wheel-work.

c. Applied to the works of a watch or other time-piece. Also *fig.*

1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 107/2 In a repeater there is an additional train of wheels between the frame-plates, called the runners, or little wheel-work. 1868 *Chambers's Encycl.* X. 82/1 The arrangement of the wheel-work in a watch. 1890 W. JAMES *Princ. Psychol.* II. xix. 112 There seem no good grounds for supposing this additional wheelwork in the mind. 1981 *Times* 2 May 15/4 Examination of the instrument reveals nothing inconsistent with it being a bench-timer, possibly contrived from an early frame and wheel work.

wheelwright ('hwɪ:lraɪt). *Forms:* see WHEEL *sb.* and WRIGHT.

1. A man who makes wheels and wheeled vehicles.

1281 *Pat. 9 Edw. I* m. 22 d. in 50th *Rep. Dep. Kpr. Rec.* 22 Richard le Whelwryht. 1482 *Howard Househ. Bks.* (Roxb.) 198 To the whele wryte of Boxford for exyng of a carte v.d. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 415/2 A Whele wryght, *rotarius*. 1523-34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* §134 If there be assches in it, [I advise thee] to sell... the gret assches to whele-wryghtes. 1534 *Nottingham Rec.* III. 373 Thomas Hobe... the qwyl-wryght. 1662 in *Proc. Suffolk Inst. Archæol.* (1883) VI. 90 To Jno Blomfield Whealewright as by his bill, 01 05 00. 1799 *Monthly Rev.* XXX. 486 They carry with them only their best wood for spars and wheelwright's work. 1866 GEO. ELIOT *F. Holt* *Introd.*, The wheelwright putting the last touch to a blue cart with red wheels.

†2. One who works at or turns a wheel: applied to Fortune (cf. WHEEL *sb.* 12a). *Obs.*

a 1300 *Poem on Fortune* v. in *Rel. Ant.* II. 8 A wifman of so much myyth, So wonder a whelwryth, Sey I never with syyth. c1420 *Anturs of Arth.* xxi. (Thornton MS.) False fortune in fyghte, That wondirful whele wryghte.

Hence 'wheelwrighting, the business of a wheelwright: the making of wheels and wheeled vehicles.

1883 *Rep. Indian Affairs* (U.S.) 253 Carpentry, harness-making, wheelwrighting. 1894 *Review of Rev.* Apr. 441/2 Wheel-wrighting also grows of necessity out of the making and care of the wagons and other vehicles of the farm.

wheely ('hwɪ:lɪ), *a. rare.* [f. WHEEL *sb.* + -Y¹.] Of or pertaining to a wheel.

c1626 BOSWORTH *Arcadius & Sepha* 1. 957 Fortune (whose continual wheely force Keeps constant course). 1708 J. PHILIPS *Cyder* ii. 80 To exercise the pointed Steel On the hard Rock, and give a wheely Form, To the expected Grinder.

wheem(e, dial. forms of QUEME *a.*

when (hwɪ:n), *a.* and *sb. Sc.* and *north. dial.* *Forms:* 4-5 quheine, qwehyn(e, 4-6 quheyn(e, -en(e, (5 qwhayne, 7 whein, wheene, 9 whean), 7-9 whin, 7- wheen. [Represents OE. *hwêne* (*hwæne*, *hwæne*) in some degree, somewhat, instrumental case of *hwón* WHON = (a) few, the meanings of which it took over in ME.]

1. Few, not many.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* II. 244 Thocht thai war qwehyn, thai war worthy. *Ibid.* xi. 605 Quhenar be full fer war thai Than thair fayis. c1400 *Sc. Trojan War* (Horstm.) II. 2283 þe quheyne folk þat ware Liffand. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* i. iii. 43 On the huge deip quhen salaris did appear. 1557 *Extr. Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 303 Within thir quheyne last immediat yeiris. 1894 *Northumbld. Gloss.* s.v., Aa hevn't seen him these wheen days.

absol. c1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xl. (*Ninian*) 921 þe best part of paim ves slane, &... quheine eschapit. c1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* iv. vii. 740 Qwhayne had toyme par aynde to draw. 1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* xiv. 14 So quhene the Psalme and Testament to reid Within this land was nevir hard nor sene.

2. *a when* (of), a few: in recent use = a 'good few', a fair number.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* VIII. 368 The king... With a quheyn [*Edin. MS.* quhone] lik poueralze, Vencust him vith a gret menze. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* III. vi. 45 Of mony wordis, schortlie, a quhene sall I Declair. 1680 in *Proc. Soc. Antiq. Scot.* XLV. 237 A when of... canny wise professors. *Ibid.* 241 A whin knaves. 1682 PEDEN *Lord's Trumpet* 20 O sirs! Christ had a whein noble worthies in Scotland. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* lxxv, What use has my father for a whin bits o' scared paper? 1816 — *Antiq.* xxiv, There will be a wheen idle gowks coming to glower at the hole as lang as it is day-light. 1886 STEVENSON *Kidnapped* iii. 23, I wouldnae like the Balfours to be humbled before a wheen Hieland Campbells. 1901 G. DOUGLAS *Ho. w. Gr. Shutters* 71 'Have the carriers a big load?' 'Andy has just a wheen parcels, but Elshie's as fu' as he can haud.'

3. *a when* as advb. phr.: A little, somewhat. 1869 C. GIBBON *Robin Gray* x, The auld wife's a when better.

when(e, obs. or dial. ff. QUEEN sb.

1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* v. 4463 þe qwene [*MS. Bowes* 136 wheene] of Amazons.

when, wheenerd, wheenge: see WHINE, WINNARD, WHINGE.

whee-oh, -oo. Imitative of the cry of some birds, of a bullet whistling through the air.

1892 LOWNDES *Camping Sk.* 19 The shrill 'whee-oh' of the widgeon. 1915 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 5 June 426/1 Whee-oo! whistled a bullet... uncomfortably close to my head.

wheep, sb. [Echoic.] A long-drawn sound of a steel weapon drawn from its sheath.

1891 KIPLING *Life's Hand., Head Distr.* v, The soft wheep, wheep of unscabbarded knives. 1905 CROCKETT *Cherry Ribband* xlv, With the long clean wheep of steel leaving steel, he unsheathed his sword.

wheep (hwɪ:p), *v. Sc.* and *north. dial.* [Imitative.] = WHEEPLE *v.*

1808 JAMIESON, *To Wheep*, 1. To give a sharp whistle at intervals. 2. To squeak. 1894 A. REID *Sangs o' Heatherld.* 39 The plover wheepit owre the lea.

wheep, Sc. form of WHIP.

wheep ('hwɪ:p(ə)l), *v. Sc.* and *north. dial.* [Imitative.] *intr.* To utter a somewhat protracted shrill cry, like the curlew or plover; also, to whistle feebly (*intr.* and *trans.*). So **wheep** *sb.*

1793 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* VII. 601 *note*, I wad na' gie the wheep of a whaup for a the nightingales that ever sang. 1818 HOGG *Brownie of Bodsbeck, Hunt of Eildon* v, Like Redwings wheepling through the mist. a1837 R. NICOLL *Poems* (1843) 284 We've a' been heathens—now we pray, And sing and wheeple. 1901 G. DOUGLAS *Ho. w. Gr. Shutters* 80 He sometimes wheepled a tune.

wheer, wheese, wheesh, wheesht, wheest, Wheeson: see WHERE, WEESE, WHEEZE, WHISH, WHISHT, WHIST *int.*¹, WHITSUN.

wheetle ('hwɪ:t(ə)l), *v.* Chiefly *Sc.* [Imitative: cf. *wheep*.] *intr.* To whistle shrilly. Also reduplicated.

1825 JAMIESON, *Wheetle*, sharp peeping sound made by young birds. 1849 CUPPLES *Green Hand* xvi, A loud clear wheetle-wheetling note from some curious fowl. 1865 H. KINGSLEY *Hillyars & Burtons* I, Parrots... who, crowded in long rows, kissed one another, and wheetled idiotically.

wheetle, Sc. var. WHEELDLE.

wheeze (hwɪ:z), *sb.* [f. next.]

1. An act of wheezing; a whistling sound caused by difficult breathing.

1834 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 477 *note*, A loud sibilant or dry sonorous rhoncus, corresponding with the loud sighing wheeze, audible by the naked ear. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xx, A wheeze very like the cough of a horse. 1872 CALVERLEY *Fly Leaves* 90 A ladylike sneeze, Or a portly papa's more elaborate wheeze.

b. transf. A sound resembling this.

1835 LONGF. *Outre-Mer, Vill. Auteuil* (1886) 55 The last wheeze of the clarinet died upon my ear. 1880 SWINBURNE *Stud. Shaks.* 220 A somewhat hoarse and reedy wheeze from the scrannel-pipe of a lesser player than Pan.

c. Phonetics. A whisper (see WHISPER *sb.*) intensified by further contraction of the glottis.

1890 SWEET *Primer of Phonetics* (1902) 12 Wheeze. If we strongly exaggerate an ordinary whisper, we get that hoarse, wheezy sound known as the 'wheezing' or 'stage whisper'.

2. *orig. Theatr. slang*, A joke or comic gag introduced into the performance of a piece by a clown or comedian, esp. a comic phrase or saying introduced repeatedly; hence, (*gen. slang* or *colloq.*) a catch phrase constantly repeated; more widely, a trick or dodge frequently used; also, a piece of special information, a 'tip'.

1864 P. PATERSON *Glimpses Real Life* 131 The art of getting up 'wheezes', as the clown's jokes are called. 1884 G. MOORE *Mummer's Wife* xiv, Up to the present, only one 'wheeze' had been found. 1885 *Longm. Mag.* Nov. 18 He [sc. the comedian]... would, for a quarter of an hour together, improvise 'wheezes' to keep the house in a roar. 1890 *Spectator* 17 May 698/2 The now hackneyed wheeze, 'A sudden thought strikes me, let us swear eternal friendship,' is taken from 'The Rovers'. 1903 *Blackw. Mag.* Oct. 534/1 He is now wisely convinced that this wheeze is played out. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 30 Aug. 2/6 Someone gave the defendant the wheeze. 1910 *Dundee Adv.* 2 July 6 The old wheeze about one touch of nature making the whole world kin.

wheeze (hwɪ:z), *v.* *Forms:* 5 whese, 6 whiese, wease, 6-8 whease, wheese, 6-9 wheaze, 8 wheez, 7- wheeze. [prob. *a.* ON. *hwæsa* to hiss (MSw., Sw. *hwäsa*, Da. *hwæse*). (There is no connexion with OE. *hwōsan*, 3rd pers. pres. ind. *hwést*, pa. t. *hwéos* to cough, dial. HOOSE.)]

1. *intr.* To breathe hard with a whistling sound from dryness or obstruction in the throat, as in asthma.

c1460 Towneley *Myst.* xvi. 472, I lagh that I whese. 1538, etc. [see WHEEZING *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*] c1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* xv. 222 Not stretch upon his bed, Nor wheasing with a stopt-up spirit. 1648 WINYARD *Mids.-Moon* 6 Hee'l shortly

be a Baptist without a voice, and wheases already, as if he fed on nothing but Locusts and Grashoppers. **1679** DRYDEN *Troil. & Cress.* i. i. Tickling his spleen, and laughing till he wheeze. **1684** SOUTHERNE *Disappointment.* II. i. I must laugh at him; not sooth him in his vanity, nor tickle him, till he wheeze. **1697** R. PEIRCE *Bath Mem.* II. ii. 278 She.. wheeased, as they vulgarly term it here, when the Windpipe makes a Noise in Breathing. **1809** W. IRVING *Knickerb.* VII. ix. Wheezing as he went with corpulency and terror. **1869** TROLLOPE *He knew.* etc. li. (1878) 281 'I'm not a bit afraid to die', said the old woman, wheezing. **1875** WHYTE-MELVILLE *Katerfelto* xiv, He chatted, he chuckled, he coughed and wheezed, and told his stories.

b. transf. To make a similar sound.

1854 G. W. CURTIS *Potiphar Papers* iv. (1866) 127 That elegant youth has pumped life dry, and now the pump only wheezes. **1895** S. CRANE *Red Badge* v, Like a firework. . . It wheezed and banged with a mighty power.

2. trans. To utter with a sound of wheezing.

1849 LEVER *Con Cregan* xiv, 'If you'll look in that glass yonder, which is opposite the mirror, you'll soon see!' wheezed out the old man, maliciously. **1880** P. LUDLOW *Nick Hardy at Coll.* vi, A hand-organ grinder.. began to wheeze forth the entrancing strains of 'Old Dog Tray'. **1905** A. T. SHEPPARD *Red Cravat* III. x. 362 A barrack clock, wheezing out the hour. **1905** F. YOUNG *Sands Pleas.* II. vii, Listening to the strain of *Dies Irae* wheezed out on an old harmonium.

3. Comb., as wheeze-belly used attrib.

1728 VANBR. & CIBBER *Prov. Husb.* I. i, We were in hopes to ha' come Yesterday, an' it had no' been that th' owld Wheeze-belly Horse tyr'd.

wheeze, obs. form of WEESE, to ooze.

wheezer ('hwi:zə(r)). [f. WHEEZE *v.* + -ER¹.]

One who wheezes; *esp.* a broken-winded horse.

1831 YOUATT *Horse* x. 196 The Wheezer utters a sound not unlike that of an asthmatic person when a little hurried. **1844** H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 227.

transf. **1915** *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 259/1 Beastly cold on top of this old wheezer [sc. omnibus].

wheezing ('hwi:zɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. WHEEZE *v.* + -ING¹.] The action of the verb WHEEZE.

1538 ELYOT *Addit., Asthma.* a synckesse, where one maye not fetcche his wynde but with moche difficultie, with weasyngne [1565 COOPER wheezing] of the breast. **1576** [T. TWYNE] *Schoolm.* I. xxviii. Dijb, Cresses.. clense the Lungs, and take away the wheezing. **1683** TRYON *Way to Health* 178 Coughs, Wheezings, Shortness of Breath. **1758** *Phil. Trans.* L. 572 She had a frequent and severe cough, with great shortness of breath and a wheezing. **1848** DICKENS *Dombey* xxvi, The Major.. fell into a fit of wheezing. **1898** *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 283 In the treatment of the attacks of wheezing, so often met with in emphysema. *transf.* **1862** SMILES *Engineers* III. 9 The working of a Newcomen engine is.. accompanied by an extraordinary amount of wheezing, sighing, creaking, and bumping.

wheezing ('hwi:zɪŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. WHEEZE *v.* + -ING².] That wheezes; characterized by wheezing.

1560 GOOGE tr. *Palingenius' Zodiac* III. (1561) Fiv, Heare soundes with wheasyng noyse, The boxen shalme. **16..** MIDDLETON, etc. *Old Law* II. ii, A cough o' the lungs, or say a wheezing matter. **1697** DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 745 The wheasing Swine With Coughs is choak'd. **1730** SWIFT *Panegy. Dean* 278 Wheezing asthma, loth to stir. **1874** LISLE CARR *Judith Gwynne* i, The.. dismal droning of the wheezing old organ. **1905** TREVES *Other Side Lant.* II. xii. 90, I entered the hallowed town in a wheezing carriage.

Hence 'wheezingly *adv.*

1886 *Homilet. Rev.* (U.S.) Nov. 412 Wheezingly saying to himself in secret, 'Soul, be of good cheer'. **1895** ZANGWILL *Master* II. ix. 233 He laughed wheezingly.

wheezle ('hwi:z(ə)l), *v.* Chiefly *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Also 8-9 wheazle, whaizle, 9 wha(i)sle, wheasle, wheezel, whazle, whozzle, etc. [f. WHEEZE *v.* + -LE.] *intr.* To wheeze. Hence 'wheezling *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1779 *Mirror* No. 40 ¶3 One of your damnation apoplectics kill'd him in the chucking of a bumper; you could scarce have heard him wheazle! **1786** BURNS *Auld Farmer's Salut. Mare* x, But sax Scotch miles thou try't their mettle, An' gart them whaizle. **1808** MAYNE *Siller Gun* II. xxii, Tho' whozzling sair and cruppen down Auld Saunders seem'd. **1839** *Whistle-Binkie* Ser. I. 83 Gin the win' were out o' your whaishing hauze, I'd marry again and be voggie, O. **1880** *Antrim & Down Gloss.* s.v. *Wasslin'*, Do you hear the chile wasslin' in his chest?

So 'wheezle *sb., a wheeze.*

1822 HOGG *Perils of Man* II. 346 My voice went away to a perfect wheezle. **1825** BROCKETT *N.C. Gloss., Whazle*, an indication of asthma.

wheezy ('hwi:zi), *a.* [f. WHEEZE + -Y¹.] Characterized by wheezing; resembling a wheeze.

1818 KEATS *To a Cat* 10 The wheezy asthma. **1822** *Good Study Med.* I. 466 Many persons have a thick or wheezy respiration. **1843** THACKERAY *Fitz-Boodle's Conf., Ottilia* II, The Chancellor is.. too fat and wheezy to preside at the Privy Council. **1892** 'F. ANSTEY' *Voces Pop.* Ser. II. 13 A couple of Matrons converse in wheezy whispers.

b. transf. Making a wheezing sound.

1847 THACKERAY *Love Songs, Cane-bottomed Chair*, The rickety, ramshackle, wheezy spinet. **1859** H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* xii, A lean, wheezy old clock. **1889** JEROME *Three Men in Boat* ix, The strains of 'He's got 'em on', jerked.. out of a wheezy accordian.

Hence 'wheezily *adv., 'wheeziness.*

1884 *Punch* 27 Dec. 306/2 Breath that comes not wheezily. **1898** *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 288 More or less wheeziness and constriction of the chest.

wheft, variant of WAFT *sb.*¹

whefyll, obs. form of WHEEL.

whegh, var. WIE, WY, man.

wheill, obs. form of WHEEL.

whein, wheint, obs. dial. ff. QUEAN, QUAIN *a.*

wheire, obs. form of CHOIR, QUIRE.

1528 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) V. 248 In the hie wheire of oure Blisside Ladie in the pariche church of Ellughton.

wheisht, wheit, wheither: see WHISHT, WEIGHT *sb.*², WHET, WHETHER.

whel, whele, obs. forms of WEEL, WHEEL, WHEEL, WHILE.

whelk¹ (hwelk). Forms: *a.* 1 wioloc, wiloc, wyloc, (2 wilque), 4-5 wyлке, 4-8 wilke, 5-9 wilk. β. 7-9 whilk. γ. 1 weoloc, -uc, (2 welche), 2-7 welke, 4-7 welk, 6 wealk. δ. 5-6 whelke, 7-whelk. ε. 5 wolke, 5-6 walke. [OE. *wioloc*, *weoloc* = WFlem. *willok*, *wullok* (whence OF. *willo*): of obscure origin. The unetymological spelling with *wh* begins in the 15th cent.] *a.* A marine gastropod mollusc of the genus *Buccinum*, having a turbinate shell, esp. *B. undatum*, common on the European and North American coasts, much used for food.

Also applied, esp. with qualifying word, to molluscs of allied genera, as the hairy or ribbon whelks of the genera *Fulgur* and *Sycotypus*, the red whelk (*Chrysodomus antiquus*), the rough whelk (*Urosalpinx cinerea*), the DOG-WHELK of the genus *Nassa*; see also quotes.

a. **c725** *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) C865 *Cocum*, wioloc. **c875** *Erfurt Gloss.* 267 *Cochleas*, uuylocas. **1312-13** *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 10 In lempetis, Wylkes. **c1425** *Voc. in Wr.* Wülcker 642/6 *Hec tortuga*, wyлке. **1500-20** *DUNBAR Poems* lxxxii. 24 At your hie Croce, . . thair is bot crudis and milk; And at your Trone bot cokill and wilk. **1565** GOOGE tr. *Palingenius' Zodiac* VII. A aj, Scallops of the baye, And Wilks, & Irchin eke. **1624** CAPT. J. SMITH *Virginia* v. 180 One.. hid himselfe in the Woods, and liued onely on Wilkes and land Crabs. **1782** P. H. BRUCE *Mem.* XII. 424 Their shell-fish are conques, perriwinkles, coneyes, sogers, wilkes, etc. **1835** DICKENS *Sk. Box, Greenwich Fair*, Divers specimens of a species of snail (*wilks*, we think they are called). **1841** J. T. HEWLETT *Parish Clerk* III. 232 Searching for.. wilks, periwinkles, and other shellfish.

β. **1668** CHARLETON *Onomast.* 182 *Cochleæ*, Sea-Snails, Whilks, or Porwinkles, & Periwinkles. **1713** TYLDESLEY *Diary* (1873) 79 Cos Tom Carus and his lady sup^d with us on whilkes in the shell. **1773** JOHNSON *Let. to Mrs. Thrale* 30 Sept., Muscles and whilks in their natural state. **1823** E. MOOR *Suffolk Words*, Whilk or Whelk.

γ. **c900** tr. *Bæda's Hist.* I. i. (1890) 26 Her beoð swype genibtsume weolocas, of þam bið geweorht se weolocreada tælgþ. **c1050** in Wr.-Wülcker 293/25 *Coclea*, weoloc. **c1170** MARIE DE FRANCE *Fables* XII. 3 Une welke [v. rr. welche, wilque] trua entire. **1290** in *Archæologia* XV. 352 Pro ij lampred' iij^a pro welkes vi^d. **13..** *Liber Albus* (Rolls) I. 244 Oysters, welkes, muskeles ou soel. **1339** *Little Red Bk. Bristol* (1900) II. 23/1 De angullis, ostris, conchiris, welkes, floundris et aliis quibuscunque minutis piscibus venalibus. **c1420** *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 17 Take welkes and wasshe fayre. **1555** EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 237 The shelles of certeyne great welkes. **1606** N. B[AXTER] *Sydney's Ourania* D 1 b, There growen the Scallop, Cockle, Welke, and Oyster. **1668** WILKINS *Real Char.* II. v. §7. 129.

δ. **14..** *Metr. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 625 *Whelke, concha*. **1583** in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 361 For mendinge of iij whelkes shelles and Coulouringe them. **1655** MOUPET & BENNET *Health's Improv.* 164 Perwinkles or Whelks, are nothing but sea-snails, feeding upon the finest mud of the shore and the best weeds. **c1711** PETIVER *Gazophyl.* VIII. 77 Limington Bottle Whelk. **1815** S. BROOKES *Conchol.* 202 *Strombus Lucifer*, Spiked Whelk. **1862** *Macm. Mag.* Oct. 503 The whelks, clams, . . and occasionally the crabs, are used by the fishermen as bait for their white fish lines. **1874** A. H. MARKHAM *Whaling Cruise* II. 19 By way of supper I was initiated into the mysteries of 'whelks'.

ε. **c1430** *Two Cookery-bks.* 23 Take Walkeys an sethe in Ale. **1444** *Maldon, Essex Crt.-rolls* Bundle 26 No. 1 b (MS.) Vendidit in mercato pisces fetentes, viz. wolks. **1589** RIDER *Bibl. Schol.* I. 1724 A walke, or wrinkle, turbo.

†b. The shell of this mollusc, or a representation of it. *Obs.*

1575 LANEHAM *Let.* (1907) 52 Tunneyz, Conchs, & wealks: all engrauen by exquisit deuize and skill. **1605** JONSON *Masques, Of Blacknesse* Wks. (1616) 894 Torch-bearers.. all hauing their lights burning out of whelks, or murex shells.

†c. A structure resembling a whelk-shell; a testudo. *Obs.*

1408-9 tr. *Vegetius De Re Milit.* IV. xiv. (Roy MS. 18 A. XII) lf. 105 The gynne that is cleped the snayle or the welke. *d. attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *whelk-boat*, *-man*, *-pot* (POT *sb.*¹ 5 b), *-shell*, *-snail*, *-tribe*; *whelk-like*, *-shaped* adjs.; *whelk-stall*, a stall at which whelks are sold; freq. in phr. to be *unable to run a whelk stall* and varr., to be incompetent, esp. in business; *whelk-tingle*, = *TINGLE sb.*³

1419 *Liber Albus* (Rolls) I. 343 Item, quantum dabit *welkbot de v tandles. **1900** *Daily News* 17 Aug. 7/1 Two fishermen went off in a whelk boat. **1861** P. P. CARPENTER in *Rep. Smithsonian Inst.* 1860, 180 A *whelk-like dentition. **1851** MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 163/2 The *whelkmén, who are the biggest rogues in Billingsgate. **1883** *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 10 Set of *Whelk Pots with Gear. **1861** P. P. CARPENTER in *Rep. Smithsonian Inst.* 1860, 185 One group.. in which the shell is thin and *whelk-shaped. **c725** *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) C530 *Conquiliu*, *wiloc scel. **c1440**

Astron. Cal. (MS. Ashm. 391), Capricorne pat is pe signe of a goot in a welke shelle. **1681** GREW *Musæum* I. VI. i. 131 'Tis usual to give Drink to Children that have the Chin-Cough, out of a Wilk-shell. **1891** *Science-Gossip* XXVII. 71 The hermit crab.. which always lives in empty whelk shells. **1681** GREW *Musæum* I. VI. i. 131 The *Wilk-Snail winding, from the Mouth towards the right Hand. **1842** *Punch* III. 74/2 The adjacent *whelk-stall. **1894** J. BURNS in *South-Western Star* 13 Jan. 3/4 From whom am I to take my marching orders? From men who fancy they are Admirable Crichtons, . . but who have not got sufficient brains and ability to run a whelk stall? **1928** 'N. SHUTE' *So Disdained* iv. 159 If you try to run him as a manager as well, then your luck'll be out. . . He couldn't run a whelk stall to make it pay. **1960** C. STORR *Marianne & Mark* III. 42 The beaches and the whelk stalls. **1965** O. MANNING *Friends & Heroes* xiv. 148, I said we were all disgusted at the way the School had gone down; and I said things would be no better under Callard. I said Callard couldn't run a whelk-stall. **1966** *Hansard Commons* 22 Nov. 1283 The great majority of hon. Gentlemen opposite have not the qualifications to run a whelk stall profitably. **1980** M. DRABBLE *Middle Ground* 25 Which should she pick? . . vain Albert from the whelk stall? **1981** *Financial Times* 1 Apr. 15/2 None of them [sc. the 364 economists] has had enough practical experience to run the proverbial whelk stall. **1882** *Standard* 26 Sept. 2/2 The dog-whelk or *whelk tingle'. **1959** *Times* 25 Aug. 5/6 A survey of the damage done on English oyster beds by the American whelk tingle.. has just been concluded. **1835** KIRBY *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* I. ix. 279 The Buccinidan or *Whelk tribe.

whelk² (hwelk). Forms: 1 hwylca, 4-7 whelke, 5 qwæлке, 5-6 welke, 6 whealke, 8-9 welk, 9 *dial.* w(h)ilk, 5- whelk. [Late OE. (WS.) *hwylca*, prob. for *hwelca (cf. late *hwylp* for *hwelp*), f. *hwelian* WHEAL *v.*¹ For the formation cf. *swelca* swelling, f. *swellan* to swell.]

1. A pustule, pimple; = WHEAL *sb.*¹

c1000 ÆLFRIC *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 161/17 *Uarix*, cwydele, uel hwylca. **c1386** CHAUCER *Prol.* 632 Ne oymement that wolde clense and byte, That hym myghte helpen of the whelkes white. **1388** WYCLIF *Lev.* xiv. 56 This is the lawe of al lepre. . . and of litle whelkis [1382 bleyne; Vulg. *papularum*] brekyngne out. **1398** TREVISIA *Barth. De P.R.* VII. lxxiv. (1495) s j b/2 In the face ben redde pymples & whelkes, out of whom oft renne blood & matere. **c1400** *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 241 *Obtoluta* is clepid a whit' welke or a reed poynt'. **1545** RAYNALDE *Byrth Mankynde* 116 Whelkes or bladders on the body. **1599** SHAKS. *Hen. V.* III. vi. 108 His face is all bubukles and whelkes, and knobs, and flames a fire. **1612** WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1653) 198 If the patient sick of the Collick have certain small whelks or pushes arising upon his belly. **1632** tr. *Bruel's Praxis Med.* 398 Purple colour spots, or else little whelks arise. **1865** R. HUNT *Pop. Rom. W. Eng.* Ser. II. 240 Those little gatherings which occur on the eye-lids of children, locally called 'wilks'.

Comb. **1585** HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 72/2 *Mordella*, . . a whelke flie, or blister flie.

2. Used by confusion for WEAL *sb.*², WALE *sb.*¹

a1761 CAWTHORN *Poems, Wit & Learn.* (1771) 153 I'll lay thee, miscreant! on my knee, And print such welks thy naked seat on. **1791** COWPER *Iliad* XXIII. 894 And on their flanks and shoulders, red The whelks arose. **a1825** FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Welk, well*.. to give a sound beating, which is likely to raise weals, welks, or welts. **1870** BRYANT *Homer* I. II. 47 A bloody whelk Rose where the golden sceptre fell.

whelked, welked (hwelkt, welkt), *ppl. a.* Also 7 welkt, welk't, weakled. [f. WHELK¹ + -ED².]

1. Formed like a whelk; twisted, convoluted, or ridged like the shell of a whelk.

a1560 PHAER *Æneid* x. (1562) Ggij, Him Triton combrous bare that galeon blew w^t whelkid shell [orig. *concha*]. **1567** GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* v. 61 b, With crooked welked [orig. *recurvis*] hornes that inward still doe terue. **1605** SHAKS. *Lear* IV. vi. 71 Hornes weak'd [Qos. welkt, welk't], and waued like the enraged [Qos. enridged] Sea. **1627** [R. NICCOLS] *Beggars Ape* A 4, He with.. shaggy beard And welked hornes so Satir-like appeared. **1876** A. S. PALMER *Leaves Word-Hunter's Note-Bk.* IV. 73 Look up at its [sc. the tree's] towering expanse of branches, observe its whelked and furrowed bole.

2. Marked with ridges on the flesh, waled, wealed: cf. WHELK² 2. (Sometimes as pa. pple. of an assumed verb *welk: see also below.)

1727 GAY *Fables* I. xlv, The smacking lash he smartly plies; His ribs all welk'd, with howling tone The puppy thus exprest his moan. **1812** W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* XXXIV. 235 Stripes from the fiend attain her heart, And the whelk'd bosom scar. **1828** SCOTT *F.M. Perth* xxii, The labour of their welked hands. **1829** — *Anne of G. xxx*, My hand has been too much welk'd and hardened by practice of the bow.

¶ In the following Scott uses *welk* as an intr. verb (? = rise in ridges) in the collocation *welk and wave* based on a misunderstanding of Shaks. *Lear* IV. vi. 71, which he echoes directly in quot. **1827**.

1821 SCOTT *Pirate* II, The.. boatmen saw the horns of the monstrous leviathan welking and waving amidst wreaths of mist. **1827** — *Napoleon* I. VIII. 331 Looking out upon the tumultuary sea of pikes, agitated by the fifty thousand hands, as they rose and sunk, welked and waled.

†'whelky, *a.*¹ *Obs. nonce-wd.* [f. WHELK¹ + -Y¹.] Formed in a shell.

1591 SPENSER *Virg. Gnat* 105 Ne ought the whelky pearles [orig. *conchea bacca*] esteemeth hee, Which are from Indian seas brought far away.

whelky ('hwelk), *a.*² *rare.* Also welky. [f. WHELK² + -Y¹.] Pimplly.

1822-29 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 3) II. 357 A welky or bubukled face. **1845** S. JUDD *Margaret* I. xvii, His shining bald pate and whelky red face streaming with moisture.

whell(e: see QUELL *v.*¹, WHEEL, WHILE.

whelm (hwelm), *sb.* Also 6 whealme, 6-7 whelme. [*f.* WHELM *v.*]

1. A wooden drain-pipe: orig. a tree-trunk halved vertically, hollowed, and 'whelmed down' or turned with the concavity downwards to form an arched watercourse. Now *dial.*

*c*1576 in *Catal. Archives All Souls' Coll.* (1877) 37 Quidam truneus vocatus a whelme. 1584 *Crt.-roll Wormingford, Essex* (MS.), Cursus aquae vocat. The whealme est in decasu. 1613 *Ibid.*, [To place] sufficientem truncam (Anglice a whelme) in regia via. 1797 A. YOUNG *Agric. Suffolk* 157, I strongly recommend these carrier ditches to be open, though at the expence of a whelm at the bottom of a field where a cart-way is necessary. 1823 E. MOOR *Suffolk Words* 478.

2. The overwhelming surge of waters. *poet.*

1842 *Blackw. Mag.* LII. 287 Dark yawn'd a cleft in the midst of the whelm. 1888 SWINBURNE *Armada* VI. iii. Poems 1904 III. 203 They sink in the whelm of the waters.

whelm (hwelm), *v.* Forms: 3-5 quelm, 4 welme, 4-7 whelme, 5-6 *Sc.* quhelm, 8-9 'whelm, 5-whelm; 9 *dial.* whalm, whawm, welm. Also WHEMMEL. [*?* representing OE. *hwelman, parallel to *hwelfan WHELVE.]

†1. *intr.* To overturn, capsize. *Obs.*

In second quot. perh. pass. of sense 4.

*a*1300 *Cursor M.* 24862 þaa sori loket ai sua for-suonken, Quen þe scip suld quelm and drunken. *a*1513 *FABYAN Chron.* VII. (1811) 599 By the mysydyng of the sterysman, he was set vpon the pyllys of the brydge, and the barge whelmyd.

2. *trans.* To turn (a hollow vessel) upside down, or over or upon something so as to cover it; to turn with the concave side downwards. Now *dial.*

*c*1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 360 *Apres beyuer hanap endente*, welme the cuppe. *c*1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 524/1 Whelmyn a vessel, *suppino*. 14.. *Med. Receipts in MS. Lincoln A. i.* 17, lf. 285 (Halliw.) Tak a bryghte bacyne, and anynte it with mylke reme, and whelme it over a prene. 1513 *DOUGLAS Eneis* v. xii. 18 And, with that word, his helm Befoir thair feit all void down did he quhelm. 1530 *PALSGR.* 780/2 Whelme a platter upon it, to save it from flies. 1590 *LUCAR Lucarsolace* IV. i. 147 Whelme a new elme bole in the bottome of the said hole. 1604 N. F. *Fruit. Secr.* 18 Whelme downe the maunds, emptying them gently, into small baskets. 1618 *BOLTON Florus* (1636) 201 The barbarous whelmed their shields over their heads. 1643 *LIGHTFOOT Glean. Ex.* (1648) 47 On the top... lay a golden dish whelmed downe. 1657 S. PURCHAS *Pol. Flying-Ins.* 178 A tub... which as soon as you have emptied, suddenly whelm it upside down. 1687 *SETTLE Refl. Dryden* 2 That the Earth is like a Trencher, and the Heavens a Dish whelmed over it. 1712 *Phil. Trans.* XXVIII. 254 It was found with the Mouth whelm'd downward. 1796 *TROUTBECK Scilly Isl.* 171 Their ovens are large iron pots which they whelm over things to be baked, upon heated iron plates. 1842 *Florist's Jnl.* (1846) III. 24 Pansies that were planted out in the autumn, should be protected by whelming a small pot over each plant. 1854 *MISS BAKER Northampt. Gloss.* s.v., Whelm that dish over them currants.

†b. *gen.* To turn downwards: in quotes. with reference to Fortune's wheel. *Obs.*

*c*1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 1225 Quhan on-fortone quhelmys the quheil. 1532 *Chaucer's Wks.*, *Troilus* I. 139 And thus Fortune a lotte And vnder efte gan hem to whelmen [*MSS.* whielen, weyle(n) bothe.

†c. To cover (a thing) by turning a vessel, etc. upside down over it. *Obs.*

*a*1400-50 *Bk. Curtasye* 703 in *Babees Bk.*, A qwyte cuppe of tre per-by shalle be, þer-with þo water assay sehalle he; Quelmes hit agayn by-fore alle men. 1532 *TINDALE Expos. Matt.* v. (c 1550) 24 b, As men lyghte no candle to whelme it vnder a bushell. *a*1651 *GATAKER Parker in Fuller Abel Rediv.* 524 Those that are wont to wrap up their talent in a towell, and whelm their light under a bushell.

d. To throw (something) over violently or in a heap upon something else, esp. so as to cover or to crush or smother it.

1624 *DONNE Serm.* xix. (1640) 185 Hill upon hill whelmed upon it. 1637 *POCKLINGTON Altare Christianum* 96 This Milstone of a consequence the Author has whelmed upon himself. 1686 *PLOT Staffordsh.* 166 Fig. 3. is to be whelmed upon Fig. 2. so that A. in Fig. 3. touch A. in Fig. 2. 1752 *YOUNG Brothers* I. i. Not seals of adamant, not mountains whelm'd ON guilty secrets, can exclude the day. 1888 *Sheffield Gloss.* s.v. *Whawm*, Whawm that cloth over that pancheon. 1894 *BLACKMORE Perlycross* vi, With... a broad hat whelmed down upon his hairless white face.

†e. To turn over (soil, etc.) so as to expose the under parts. Also *absol.* *Obs.*

1652 *BLITHE Eng. Improver Impr.* xxviii. 193 The phin made broad, descending or whelming to the right hand. 1759 *MILLS tr. Duhamel's Husb.* I. ix. 49 In this plough, the place of breast-board must be supplied by an iron plate, which... is... carried back, and gradually brought to whelm, as if it would fall upon the furrow. 1795 *VANCOUVER Agric. Essex* 180 To bury every weed by whelming the slice or furrow completely over.

†3. *intr.* (*poet.*) To come or pass over something so as to cover it. *Obs.*

*c*1440 *Bone Flor.* 683 Garcy hyt Otes on the helme, That upon hys hedd hyt can whelme. 1690 *DRYDEN Don Sebastian* I. i, The Waves whelm'd over him. 1697 — *Eneis* ix. 725 The Tow'r that follow'd on the fallen Crew, Whelm'd o're their Heads, and bury'd whom it slew. 1700 *BLACKMORE Job* 98 Dismal floods of grief whelm o'er thy head.

4. *trans.* a. To cover completely with water or other fluid so as to ruin or destroy; to submerge, drown; occas. to sink (a boat).

1555 *PHAER Aeneid* I. (1558) A ij, Let out thy windes & all their ships do drown w^t waters wyld, Disperse them all to sondrie shores or whelme them downe w^t deepe. 1598 *SHAKS. Merry W.* II. ii. 143 Giue fire: she is my prize, or Ocean whelme them all. 1697 *DRYDEN Aeneis* VI. 455 He saw his Friends, who whelm'd beneath the Waves, Their Fun'ral Honours claim'd. 1725 *POPE Odys.* IV. 658 Whelm'd in the bottom of the monstrous deep. 1818 *SCOTT Battle of Sempach* xxxvi, He 'whelmed the boat, and as they strove, He stunn'd them with his oar. 1830 *LYELL Princ. Geol.* I. 295 Marsh land... has at last been over-flowed, and thousands of the inhabitants whelmed in the waves. 1889 *JESSOPP Coming of Friars* II. 105 Flocks, and herds, and corn and hay being whelmed in the deluge.

b. To bury under a load of earth, snow, or the like.

1555 *WATREMAN Fardle Facions* I. iii. 35 So whelmed in sande and grauell, that there is nothing but mere barreinesse. 1583 *MELBANCKE Philotimus* X iv, Whelmed be the World with fire and brimstone, that [etc.]. 1601 *HOLLAND Pliny* xxxii. vi. II. 437 To coole oisters forsooth, they must needs whelme and cover them all over with snow. 1611 *SPEED Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. xiii. §60. 601 A courageous Esquier of Yorkshire, whom the sodaine ruine of a Tower... whelmed and slew outright. 1668 *CULPEPPER & COLE Barthol. Anat.* I. xiii. 32 The Pancreas doth lie out of the reach of Medicaments, being deeply whelmed among the Bowels. 1793- AIKIN & MRS. BARBAULD *Even. at Home* (1805) IV. 3 He... dug over the whole bed, and whelmed all the relics of his flowers deep under the soil. 1801 *Farmer's Mag.* Jan. 52 A size of furrow-slice is raised sufficient to overlap or whelm up all the weeds. 1883 *MISS BROUGHTON Belinda* II. viii, A day that wrecks ships by fleets;... that whelms trains in snowdrifts.

5. *transf.* To engulf or bear down like a flood, storm, avalanche, etc.; hence, to involve in destruction or ruin. a. in material sense.

1667 *MILTON P.L.* VI. 141 Who... with solitarie hand... at one blow Unaided could have finish't thee, and whelm'd Thy Legions under darkness. 1740 *DYER Ruins Rome* 529 The Goth and Vandal... Rush, as the Breach of waters, whelming all Their Domes. 1817 *SHELLEY Rev. Islam* VI. vi, The files compact Whelmed me. 1847 *TENNYSON Princess* Prol. 45 Some were whelm'd with missiles of the wall. 1864 — *En. Ard.* 668 Where either haven open'd on the deeps, Roll'd a sea-haze and whelm'd the world in gray. 1883 *Fortn. Rev.* Feb. 162 The wind that would whelm the wilderness.

b. in immaterial sense.

1553 *Primer Edw. VI, Prayer for ryche menne*, Lustes, whyche whelme men into perdition and destruction. 1571 *GOLDING Calvin on Ps.* xliii. 2 The light of lyfe driueth away the mist vnder which we were whelmed in heauinesse. 1598 R. BERNARD tr. *Terence, Andria* v. iv, My minde is so whelmed with feare, hope, ioy. 1622 *MABBE tr. Aleman's Guzman d' Alf.* II. 265, I lay buried and whelmed-over head and eares in a well of miseries. 1791 *COWPER Iliad* II. 204 Sorrow whelm'd his soul. 1832 *CAMPBELL Ode to Germans* II, And the tyrants now that whelm Half the world shall quail and flee. 1860 J. P. KENNEDY *Life W. Wirt* I. xx. 302 Many other ladies were also whelmed in this awful catastrophe. 1891 A. P. PEABODY *King's Chapel Serm.*, *Acts xiv.* II. 138 Christ... whelmed with his forgiving love the penitent who wept at his feet.

Hence whelmed *ppl. a.*, 'whelming *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1819 *KEATS Otho* I. i, In my grave, Or side by side with *whelmed mariners. 1842 *LOUDON Suburban Hort.* 145 A common saucer and whelmed pot. 1898 *MEREDITH Odes Fr. Hist.* 75 These tortures to distraet her [*sc.* France] underneath Her whelmed Aurora's shade. *c*1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 524/1 *Whelmyng, *suppinacio*. 1670 *RAY Prov.* 282 (Scott. Prov.) If I can get his cairt at a whelming [1678, p. 379 at a wolver], I shall lend it a put. 1637 *MILTON Lycidas* 157 Under the *whelming tide. 1652 *BLITHE Eng. Improv. Impr.* xxviii. 194 The Coumb or Wing so fixed... to the Share, with its true whelming, hollow, cross winding, compass, just answring the cast or turn of the Furrow. 1658 W. BURTON *Itin. Antonin.* 92 The all-whelming deluge of Time. 1725 *POPE Odys.* I. 210 Doom'd to welter in the whelming main. 1792 *WORDSW. Descrip. Sketches* 207 By Him who saves Alike in whelming snows and roaring winds. 1799 *COWPER Castaway* 13 Not long beneath the whelming brine, Expert to swim, he lay. 1821 *CLARE Vill. Minstr.* cxviii, If he may live for joys or sink in 'whelming pain. 1861 *BERESE. HOPE Eng. Cathedr.* 19th C. 166 At a crisis of growing darkness and whelming confusion. 1891 *ATKINSON Last of Giant-Killers* 145 Hidden by a whelming mass shot down from the hill above.

whelm, variant of WALM *v.* *Obs.*

†whelmer. *Archit. Obs.* [*?* *f.* WHELM *v.* + -ER¹.] ? A stone placed horizontally. (But cf. WHEELER 10.)

1618 in *Willis & Clark Cambridge* (1886) I. 207 Doresteds with... whitestone heads with whelmers and kneelers over the same of free stone. 1688 *HOLME Armoury* III. 472/2 A Wall whose Door head, Cap, or Cover is called a Square, or a Cover of Whelmers and Kneelers.

whelp (hwelp), *sb.*¹ Forms: 1 hwelp, (hwoelp, hwelp, hwealp, hwyelp), 1, 4 welp, (3 hwoelp, 3welp, (*Orm.*) whelp, wheolp, 3-7 welpe, 4-5 welpe, 6 whelppe, 4- whelp; *Sc.* and *north.* 4 quelp(e, quelp(e, 4-7 quhelp(e, 5 qwelp(e, quhalp, quholp(e, 8-9 whalp. [*OE.* hwelp = OS. hwelp, (*M*)LG., (*M*)Du. welp, OHG. (*h*)welf (*MHG.*, G. welf), ON. hvelpr (*Sw.* valp, Da. hvalp): further relations uncertain.]

1. The young of the dog. Now little used, superseded by puppy.

*c*950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xv. 27 Soð hiu cweð gee drihten forðon & hwoelpas brucas of screadungum ða ðe falles of beað hlaferda hiora. *c*1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 368 ðyf þu on forewardum sumera pigest hwylyne hwelpan þonne gyt ungesæondne. *Ibid.* II. 172 ðif þu wille þæt wif cild hæbbe oppe tife hwelp. *c*1000 *Ags. Voc.* in *Wright Voc.* 78 *Catulus*,

hwyelp. *c*1205 *LAY.* 31679 Let þu þa hundes... eifer freten oðer swa hund deð his broðer, and leten heore whelpes whæruen heom bi-sides. *c*1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxiii. (*George*) 278 He folouyt hyre as it had bene þe mekeste quhelpe wes euir sene. *c*1430 *Chev. Assigne* 61 Seuenne whelpes she sawe sowkyng þe damme. 1579 *GOSSON Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 19 So must I dispraise his methode in writing, which following the course of amarus Poets, dwelleth longest in those pointes, that profite least; and like a wanton whelp, leaueth the game, to runne riot. 1607 *TOPSELL Four-f. Beasts* 139 That Whelpes... of one and the same Bitch, be neuer suffered to couple. *a*1682 *SIR T. BROWNE Tracts* v. (1684) 119, I kept an Eagle two years, which fed upon Kats, Kittlings, Whelps and Ratts. 1709 *STEELE Tatler* No. 37 ¶ 2 Trips, a Whelp just set in. 1765 *GOLDSM. Elegy on Mad Dog* iv, Both mongrel, puppy, whelp, and hound. 1816 *SCOTT Let. to Terry* 18 Apr. in *Lockhart*, His whole pack rushed out upon the man of execution, and Dandie followed them... exclaiming, 'the tae hauf o' them is but whalps, man.' 1859 *GEO. ELIOT Adam Bede* I. v, I want to call at the Hall Farm on my way, to look at the whelps Poyser is keeping for me. 1894 *KIPLING The 'Mary Gloster'* Verse 1919 I. 175 Mean as a collier's whelp Nosing for scraps in the galley.

b. † (*great*) with whelp, now in whelp: (of a bitch) pregnant, in pup.

1398 *TREvisa Barth. De P.R.* xviii. xxv. (Bodl. MS.) lf. 260 b/2 þe bitches goþ wip whelp in here wombe iiij^{xx} daies. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 203 Thy bytch great with whelpes. 1634 *BRERETON Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) 37 A bitch in whelp. 1887 *Field* 19 Feb. 227/2 All the bitches that missed last year have this season got in whelp, and mostly to the same dogs.

2. The young of various wild animals, esp. and now only (chiefly as a literary archaism) of such as the lion, tiger, bear, and wolf, to the young of which the name *cub* is now usually applied.

*c*825 *Vesp. Psalter* xvi[i]. 12 Swe swe hwelp leon eardiende in degulnissum. *a*1050 *Liber Scintill.* xxiv. (1889) 95 *Raptis foetibus*, gegripenum hwealpum. *c*1200 *ORMIN* 5838 For leness whelp þær þær it iss Whellpedd, tar liþ it still þie daghess. *c*1290 *St. Edmund* 72 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 299 And rist ase he [*sc.* a wolf] wolde is owene 3welp with wilde bestes it wuste. *a*1300 *Cursor M.* 7103 A lion quile þat ran ouer-thuert, Rampand to sampson he stert. *c*1386 *CHAUCER Spr.'s T.* 491 As by the whelpes chasted is the leon. 1398 *TREvisa Barth. De P.R.* xiii. xxvi. (Bodl. MS.) lf. 137 b/1 [The whale] louep his whelpes with a wonder loue. *c*1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 307 þer was wulfe-whelpis perin. *Ibid.* 478 þe propurtie of þe ape is to hafe ij whelpis. *c*1440 *Gesta Rom.* lix. 243 (Harl. MS.) We haue longe tyme fedde pere with þe serpente & hir whelpes. *a*1578 *LINDESAY (Pittscottie) Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 302 Ane kow of Sauchie that califfit xxv grew quholpis. 1677 N. COX *Gentl. Recr.* I. (ed. 2) 134 When the she-Bear perceiveth her self with whelp, she withdraws her self into some Cave. 1774 *GOLDSM. Nat. Hist.* (1776) III. 233 To let the lioness suckle her own whelps. 1825 J. NEAL *Bro. Jonathan* III. 265 The whelp of a bitch-catamount. 1859 *DARWIN Orig. Spec.* xiii. 439 Stripes can be plainly distinguished in the whelp of the lion. 1870 *BRYANT Iliad* xvii. 161 Firm as stands A lion o'er his whelps.

b. *transf.* A young child; a boy or girl. Now only *jocular*.

1483 *CAXTON Gold. Leg.* 265/1 Thou arte moder of a right noble whelp. 1573-80 *TUSSER Husb.* (1878) 185 Not rod in mad braines hand is that can helpe, But gentle skill doth make the proper whelp. 1591 *MORVSON Let in Itin.* (1617) I. 14 Imbrace in my name our common friend G. B. and of my loving hosts family let not a whelp geoe unsaluted. *c*1591 *Rob Stene's Dream* (Maitl. Club) 5 Bot 3e sowld cheifly mene his caice, To quhalpis ar of his nobill raice. 1852 *KINGSLEY Let. in Life* x. (1879) I. 273, I and my gardener George, and my little whelp Maurice and Dandy, Went out this afternoon fishing.

c. *fig.* (from 1 or 2) with literal language retained, often with implication as in 3.

lion's whelp is used allusively, partly after Shaks. *1 Hen. IV.* III. iii. 167, *Hen. V.* I. ii. 109, for 'a valorous youth sprung from a valorous race'.

*a*1225 *Ancr. R.* 200 þe Unicorn of Wreððe... haueð six hweolpes. þe uormest is Cheaste, oðer Strif. 13.. *Sir Beues* (A.) 1733 'A-jilt þe,' a seide, 'þow fox welp.' *c*1450 *Cov. Myst.* v. (Shaks. Soc.) 51 And save thi seruaunt from helle quelp. 1588 *SHAKS. Tit. A.* II. iii. 281 Two of thy whelpes, fell Curs of bloody kind Hauē heere bereft my brother of his life. 1596-7 *Min. Archd. Colchester* (MS.) lf. 147 Calling them [*sc.* neighbours] doggs, slye whelpes, and that they might have barked before they had bitt. 1631 A. WILSON *Swisser* II. i, And ther's a whelp [points at *Alcidonus*] wo'd haue a Marybone. 1663 *COWLEY Cutter Coleman* St. IV. vi, This bouncing Bear of a Colonel will break the Baek of my little Whelp of a Captain. 1831 *JAMES Philip Aug.* xxvii, You were but a whelp, where you are now a lion! 1922 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 23 Feb. 123/1 A time when young Englishmen were just as formidable lion's whelps as they are to-day.

3. a. Applied depreciatingly to the offspring of a noxious creature or being. (Cf. *son of a bitch*.)

1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1725) 281 Cambinhoy beres him coy, þat fendes whelp. *a*1340 *HAMPOLE Psalter* lvi. 5 Warldis lufers þat ere the whelpis of deuels. 1560 *BECON New Catech.* Wks. (1564) I. 497 Those whelpes of Rome. 1580 H. GIFFORD *Gilloflowers* (1875) 6, I would... liken all such whelpes of Zoilus, to that... canckerly naturde curre. 1590 *GREENE Mourn. Garm.* (1616) C2, Use not dice, for they be fortunes whelpes. 1610 *SHAKS. Temp.* I. ii. 283 The Son, that she did littour heere, A frekelld whelp, hagborne. 1634 *CANNE Necess. Separ.* 105 Their vngracious Bishops, these whelpes of Antichrist.

b. An ill-conditioned or low fellow; later, in milder use, and esp. of a boy or young man: A saucy or impertinent young fellow; an 'unlicked cub', a 'puppy'. Also *attrib.*

*c*1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 4516 Him to helpe, To fist o3ain þe Sarrazin welpe. *c*1460 *Towneley Myst.* xii. 426 Thou art an yll qwelp flor angre. 1611 B. JONSON *Catiline* I. i, Let me but finde you againe with such a face: You Whelp. 1710 *Brit. Apollo* III. No. 20. 3/2 He's... a Silly Whelp. 1711 *SWIFT Lett.* (1767) III. 161 Sir Thomas Mansel and Tom Harley

met me in the Park, and made me walk with them till nine, like unreasonable whelps. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) l. 11 When she was beginning to complain of the whelp lord's impertinence. 1768 GOLDSM. *Goodn. Man* II. i, Stupid whelp! But I don't wonder: the boy takes entirely after his mother. 1809 SCOTT *Let.* 7 Aug. in *Lockhart*. It is funny enough to see a whelp of a young Lord Byron abusing me. 1823 'JON BEE' *Dict. Turf* 192 *Whelp*, a boy with dog's-tricks. 1834 MARRYAT *Peter Simple* III, Bad company, you whelp! 1866 MISS BRADDON *Lady's Mile* i, The shabby whelp gambling for marbles in the gutter. 1888 *Sat. Rev.* 20 Oct. 458/1 These whelps have been before the magistrates charged on their own confession with murder.

4. *Naut.* One of the longitudinal projections on the barrel of a capstan or the drum of a windlass.

The object designated in the first quot. is uncertain.

1356 in *Pipe Roll* 32 *Edw. III* m. 34/1 Idem computat expensisse... in factura... Whelpes j. grossi Wynche... c. lb. a 1625 *Nomenclator Navalis* (Harl. MS. 2301), The Whelps are like Brackets, sett to the bodie of the Capstaine close vnder the Barrs, downe to the Decke, and are theie which giue the Sweepe to the Capstaine. Theis are made soe in partes that the Cabell maie not be so apt to surge, as it would if it did run vpon a whole round bodie. 1627 CAPT. J. SMITH *Sea Gram.* II. 8 The Whelps are short peeces of wood made fast to it, to keepe the Cable from coming too high in the turning about. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1776) s.v. *Capstern*. 1847 KEY *Recov. H.M.S. Gorgon* 19 The space between which had been filled up with wood, like the whelps of a capstan.

b. One of the teeth of a sprocket-wheel (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875).

†5. *Naut.* One of a fleet of auxiliary war vessels established in Charles I's reign, app. orig. so called because designed to attend upon H.M.S. Lion. *Obs.*

1628-9 *Cal. St. Papers, Dom.* (1859) 455 [When she [sc. a small man-of-war] heard] our Whelps bark so loud and saucy, and saw them put up the King's colours, [she endeavoured to escape]. 1631 SIR J. PENNINGTON *Jrnl.* in *14th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. IV. 276 Our whole fleet being 4 sayle in all, vizt the Convertive, Admirall, the Assurance, Vize Admirall, the Tenth Whelpe, and the Second Whelpe. 1634 BRERETON *Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) 158 Here we saw the 9th Whelp lying at anchor, to guard the fleet which now is ready to go hence to Bristol fair. 1641 PRYNNE *Disc. Prel. Tyrr.* II. 135 Being imbarqued... in one of the Kinges Whelpes, he landed at Dover. 1660 BURNIEY *Képiotov Δάρον* 53 When he visits the Navy, and even boards the Whelps and Frigots. 1804 C. N. ROBINSON *Brit. Fleet* 227 A class of smaller craft, each of 185 tons, was decided on. They were called 'whelps', and were vessels built for sweeps as well as sails.

6. *Comb.*, as *whelp-robbed* adj.

1627 MAY *Lucan* v. H 8b, Swifter then whelp-robbed Tyger.

Hence 'whelphood, the condition of being a whelp; 'whelpish *a.*, of, resembling, or characteristic of a whelp; 'whelpless *a.*, having no whelps, deprived of whelps; †'whelplich [-LY²] *adv.*, like a whelp; 'whelping, a young whelp; also contemptuously of a person.

1847 E. BRONTË *Wuthering Heights* l. xiii. 325 It [sc. a dog] had spent its 'whelphood at the Grange. 1886 SWINBURNE *Misc.* 211 A vapid and effeminate rhymester in the sickly stage of whelphood. 1586 WHITNEY *Choice Emblems* 49 Though 'whelpishe daies, his nature did disguise Yet time at length vnto my euell lucke Bewray'de his harte. 1687 MIEGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.*, Whelpish, *mechant, mauvais*. 1711 G. CARY *Phys. Phylactic* 334 You mightily hugged this whelpish Thought. 1883 J. CHRISTIE in *Mod. Scott. Poets* Ser. VI. 263 Thou gar'd the rocks and hallows ring Wi' whelpish glee. 1598 YONG *Diana* 9 Angry more then *whelplesse Beare. 1814 BYRON *Lara* II. xxv, Her eye shot forth with all the living fire That haunts the tigress in her whelpless ire. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* VI. 83 The old lion, glaring with his whelpless eye. c 1400 Beryn 481 He... scaprid the dorr *welplich. a 1618 SYLVESTER *Profit of Imprisonment* Wks. (1621) 625 As, when the Lion fierce... Runnes midst a million swords, his *whelpplings to defend. 1782 ELPHINSTON *Martial* xli. cxxxi. [l. lxxxiii.] 460 On thy lov'd lips, the whelping lambent hung. 1889 FARRAR *Lives of Fathers* I. v. 222 That whelping [L. *canicula*] Diogenes sought to find a man.

whelp, *sb.*² Erron. for WELT *sb.*¹

1912 in *Dialect Notes* III. 593 She whipped the horse till she raised great whelps on him. 1952 *Publ. Amer. Dial. Soc.* xvii. 34 Time was in the upcountry when the teacher would, with a hickory, raise whelps on the legs of a recalcitrant pupil. 1962 W. FAULKNER *Reivers* viii. 181 How the hell did Sugar Boy ever let him get this far without at least one whelp on him? 1980 *Verbatim* Autumn 17/2 A quite common mispronunciation is 'whelp' for 'welt': 'He has some big whelps on his arm.'

whelp (hwelp), *v.* [f. WHELP *sb.*¹]

1. *trans.* To bring forth (a whelp or whelps).

c 1200 ORMIN 6029 þatt deor þatt wass i leoness like, þatt riseþp o þe þridde daz3 Affter þatt itt iss wheollpedd. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 200 Monie mo hweolpes þen ich habbe inempned hæuþ þe Liun of Prude ihweolped. 1398 TREVISIA *Barth. De P.R.* xviii. i. (Bodl. MS.) lf. 241 b/2 þe female wolfe whelpþ manye whelpes as þe bitche doþe. 1493 *Festivall* (W. de W. 1515) 145 Whan a lyon hath yonge whelpes they shall lye as deed thre dayes after y^e they ben whelped. 1577 GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. 155b, As soone as they be Whelped, cast away such as you mislike. 1677 N. COX *Gentl. Recr.* 1. (ed. 2) 135 [Bears] are whelped most commonly in March, sometimes two, and not above five in number. 1731 *Gentl. Mag.* Aug. 352/2 A Litter of young Lions was whelped at the Tower, from a Lioness and Lion whelp'd there 6 years before. 1775 *Phil. Trans.* LXVI. 103 They all come on shore in December, to whelp their young. 1861 HUGHES *Tam Brown at Oxf.* iii, Jack's the dog as can draw a brock... agin any Lonnun dog as ever was whelped. 1892 *Brit. Fancier* 19

Feb. 71/2 His bitch Dainty... has just whelped a... fine litter to Mrs. Dainty's Dictator.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* To bring forth: often with contemptuous implication.

1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 82b, Two detestable lyes whelped at one lytter (so pregnant is this worme). 1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* II. iv, Vnlesse shee had whelp't it her selfe, shee could not haue lou'd a thing better. a 1641 BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 422 Antigonus, Boethus, Sadoc, and such mungrels were scarce whelped in Epiphanius his dayes. 1675 HOBBS *Odyss.* VIII. 472 Sing now of the Horse of Wood... Which in Troy-Town destruction to it whelp't. 1781 COWPER *Table-T.* 536 Having whelped a prologue with great pains. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xix, Out, you diminutive pint-pot, whelped of an overgrown reckoning! 1902 WISTER *Virginian* xv, None of 'em was whelped savage enough to sing himself bloodthirsty.

2. *intr.* To bring forth whelps.

1398 TREVISIA *Barth. De P.R.* xviii. lxxiv. (Bodl. MS.), þat weselles conceyue atte moupe and whelpiþ atte ere. a 1400 *Octouian* 470 The tygre aftry thys batayle, Whelpede sone for hyr trauayle. 1605 B. JONSON *Volpone* II. i, Your lyons whelping, in the Tower. 1660 BOYLE *New Exp. Phys.-Mech.* Digress. 368 A Bitch that was said to be almost ready to whelp. 1798 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* V. 208 On Paris' tomb The flocks insulting frisk, And whelps the lioness in Priam's hall. 1887 SWINBURNE *Locrine* IV. II. 98 No she-wolf whelps upon the wood Whose brood is like thy mother's.

fig. 1821 SHELLEY *Hellas* 874 The foliage in which Fame, the eagle, built Her aerie, while Dominion whelped below.

Hence whelped *ppl. a.*, whelping *vbl. sb.* (also in *whelping ice* (see quots.)).

1398 TREVISIA *Barth. De P.R.* xviii. xxvi. (Bodl. MS.), In bicches melk is founde many daies before þe whelpinge. 1625 K. LONG tr. *Barclay's Argenis* II. xiii. 105 She was then lately dead in whelping. 1804 W. TAYLOR in Robberds *Mem.* (1843) I. 491 Licking the whelped bears into courtliness at one's leisure. c 1900 J. P. HOWLEY in *Regional Lang. Stud.*—Newfoundland (1978) VIII. 23 Whelping ice. The part of an ice field where they [sc. seals] bring forth their young. 1907 R. LEIGHTON *New Bk. Dog* 578 Breeding and Whelping. 1919 W. T. GRENELL *Labrador Doctor* (1920) ix. 174 The smoother, whiter variety known as 'whelping ice'—that is, the Arctic shore ice... on which the seals give birth to their pups. 1969 H. HORWOOD *Newfoundland* xii. 83 The drift ice where they [sc. seals] give birth to their young is the whelping ice.

whels, obs. form of WHILES.

whelve (hwelv), *v.* Obs. exc. *dial.* Forms: 1 hwylfan, 3 hwelfen, 5- whelve, (9 whilve). [Late OE. *hwylfan* = **hwiefan*, Anglian **hwelfan* (also in compounds *á-*, *be-*, *ofhwylfan*) = OS. *bihwelbian* to cover over, (M)Du., (M)LG. *welven*, OHG., MHG. *welben*, *welwen* (G. *wölben*) to vault, arch, ON. *hwelfa* to arch, turn upside down:—O'Leut. **xwalbjan*, causative vb. f. *xwalb-* (: *xwelb-*, *xulb-*), whence OE. *hwealf sb.*, arch, vault, adj. vaulted, OHG. *walbe* (MHG. *walbe*), curved object, gutter-tile, roof-gutter, *walbî* 'volubilitas', *walbên* to roll, ON. *hvalf* vault, concavity, *hvalfa*, *holfa* to capsize (see WHAUVE); further related to Goth. *hwilfstri* coffin, Gr. *κόλπος* bosom: the radical notion being 'rounded, arched'.]

1. *trans.* To turn (a vessel, etc.) upside down so as to cover something; *gen.* to turn or roll over, overturn; to upheave. *to whelve over*, to overwhelm: = OVERWHELVE.

c 1000 in *Teichner's Zeitschr.* (1885) II. 125 Donne þu hlid habban wylle, þonne hafa þu pine wynstran hand samlocene and eac swa þa swypran and hwylf hy syppan ofer þa wynstran eal swylce þu cuppan hlide. [c 1000 *Regius Psalter* etc. (Roeder) 276 Cneoris min alæd & ofhwylfed [Vulg. *conuoluta*] is fram me.] c 1275 *Passion our Lord* 513 in O.E. *Misc.* 51 He hwelfde at þære sepulchre-dure enne grete ston. [c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* II. met. iii. (1868) 39 þe horrible wynde aquilon moeueþ boylngn tempestes and ouer whelwep þe see.] c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 161 For harm & stryf of that vpon thy selue May rise, yþe & perchaunce ouer thee whelue [v.r. the overhelue]. 1854 *Trans. Philol. Soc.* 84 (Surrey) I'll whelve a pot over 'em, to keep off the sun. 1854 N. & Q. 1st Ser. X. 479 (Cornwall) *Whelue* or *Whilue*, to turn upside down any hollow vessel.

†2. To cover over with anything; to hide, bury.

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* IV. 393 Ek whelue a seriol ther-out that hawe Grauel vp to the myddes. 1566 W. P. tr. *Curio's Pasquine in Traunce* To Rdr., The candell whelued vnder the Busshell wil burne a hole through. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *To Whelm* or *Whelue*, to cover.

wheme, var. QUEME *sb.* and *v.* Obs.

whemen, obs. f. *women*, pl. of WOMAN.

whemmel ('hwem(ə)l), *sb.* Sc. and *dial.* Forms: see next. [f. next.] An overturn, upset, overthrow; a state of confusion.

1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxii, Nae doubt, nay doubt—ay, ay—it's an awfu' whummle—and for ane that held his head sae high too. 1822 GALT *Sir A. Wylie* civ, The chaise made a clean whamle, and the Laird was lowermost. 1830 — *Lawrie T.* III. v, Many a joint-dislocking jolt, and almost headlong whamle. 1887 Jamieson's *Sc. Dict.* Suppl., *Quhemle*... a rock, toss; a rocking, tossing. 1895 CROCKETT *Men of Moss-Hags* xviii, His horse also fell from rock to rock, and among a great whammel of stones, reached the bottom of the defile.

whemmel ('hwem(ə)l), *v.* Sc. and *dial.* Forms: 6, 9 quhemle, quhomle, 7-9 whemmel, 8-9 whomel, whemle, 9 w(h)emmlle, whammle,

wham(b)le, whommle, whum(m)el, etc. (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*). [Metathetic form of WHELM *v.*]

1. *trans.* To turn upside down; to overturn, capsize; to drink off (liquor) to the bottom; also *transf.* and *fig.* to upset, throw into confusion.

1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Proheme* II. (1541) Fiv, And schyll Triton with his wyndy horne Our quhemlit all the flowand ocean. 1684 [MERITON] *Yorksh. Dial.* 47, I whemmled Dubler ovr'th Meat, To keep it seaf and warm for you to Eat. 1715 RAMSAY *Christ's Kirk Gr.* II. xix, On whomelt tubs lay twa lang dails. 1721 — *Prospect of Plenty* 196 Healthfou hearts shall own their honest flame, With reaming quaff, and whomelt to her name. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xl, I think I see the coble whombled keel up. *Ibid.* xli, He took the curbstone, and he's whomled her as I wad whomle a toom bicker. c 1850 Denham *Tracts* (1895) II. 31 Put into a wheelbarrow and whemmeled over upon the muck-midden. 1883 *Trans. Amer. Philal. Soc.* 55 Whammle, 'to turn a trough, or any vessel, bottom upwards, so that it will drain well'; used in West Virginia.

b. To cover (something) by turning a vessel, etc. upside down over it.

1790 GROSE *Prov. Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Whemle*, to cover with a bowl. 1824 MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl.* s.v. *Whommled*, To be whommled beneath a bushel. 1855 [J. D. BURN] *Autobiog. Beggar Boy* (1859) 57, I was, like the turkey, whomalled under a tub.

2. To submerge in or as in a flood; to drown.

1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* IV. 51 Quhomlit in sorow and plunget in cair. 1824 MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl.* s.v. *Whommled*, 'To be whommled by a wave,' to be whelmed in the deep.

3. *intr.* To tumble over, capsize; also, to move unsteadily, stumble about.

1895 CROCKETT *Men of Moss-Hags* xxiii, The deil whummelt on his hearthstane! 1897 — *Lads' Love* iii, When... your hoggs [are] whammelin' in the black hags by the score.

when (hwēn), *adv.* (*conj.*, *sb.*) Forms: *a.* 1-3 hwonne, (1 huonne), 3 wonne, 3-4 whonne, 6 Sc. quhone. *β.* 1-3 hwanne, 3 wæne, quanne, (quanne, 3wanne, 3wane), 3-4 wane, 3-5 whanne, wanne, quane, 4 huanne, 6 whane, Sc. quhane. *γ.* 1 hwenne, hwænne, (hoenne), 2-3 wenne, 3 hwenne, weonne, 3-5 whenne, 4 quenne, qwenne, quene, Sc. qwene, qwhene, 4-6 Sc. quhene, 5 whene. *δ.* 3-4 hwon, won, (4 w3on), 4-5 whon, 5 qwon. *ε.* 3-4 hwan, (3 quuan, quæn), 3-5 wan, quan, 3-6 whan, (4 van, 5 whann), 5-6 Sc. quhan. *ζ.* 3 hwen, 3-5 wen, 4-5 quen, (4 qwheyn, 5 qwen, qwhen), 4-8 Sc. quhen, 4- when. [OE. *hwanne*, *hwonne*, *hwenne*, (Nth. *hwænne*), late WS. *hwænne*, corresp. to OFris. *wanne*, (h)wenne until, if (Fris. *wan* when, if), OS. *hwan* when, *hwanna* at some time, when, (MLG. *wan*, *wen*, *wanne*, *wenne*, MDu. *wan*, *wen*, surviving in Du. *wanneer* when = OS. *hwan* *ēr* as soon as), OHG. *wanne*, *wenni*, -e (MHG. *wanne*, *wenne*, G. *wann* when, *wenn* if), Goth. *hwan* when, how: a derivative of the interrog. stem *xwa-* WHO, WHAT, as *then* is of the demonstrative *þa-*; cf. Avestic *kəm* how, L. *quom*, *cum* when, OPruss. *kan* if, OIr. *can*, W. *pan*.

The formations present points of difficulty; the following related forms have a dental suffix: OFris. *hwande*, *hwante*, *wande*, *want*, *hwende*, *hwente* (Fris. *want*) for, because, as, OS. *hwanda*, *hwand* when, for, because (MLG. *wande*), OHG. (h)wanta why, L. *quando* when (cf. Skr. *kadā* when, Lith. *kadā* where, etc.).]

1. Interrogative uses.

1. *a.* In a direct question: At what time? on what occasion? Sometimes passing into the sense: In what case or circumstances? (cf. 8). Also with ellipsis of the remainder of the question (see also b).

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xxv. 37 Hwænne gesawe we ðe hingrigende, & we ðe feddon? c 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) xl[i]. 5 Hwonne ær he beo dead, oþþe hwenne his nama aspringe? c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 65 Wenne scal þos bode us god don? 1382 WYCLIF *Ps.* xl[i]. 3 When I shal come, and apere before the face of God? c 1412 HOCCEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 864 Whan schol ye pre to vs be reconciled? 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* IV. v. Vjb, Thou shalt haue gold tolde out to the. La. Whan, at the Grekish calendes? 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* II. II. 13 When spake I such a word? 1681 DRYDEN *Abs. & Achit.* I. 387 When should People strive their Bonds to break, If not when Kings are Negligent or Weak? 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* III. 537 When shall I die?—when shall I live for ever? 1841 *Punch* 24 July 21/2 When is a horse like a herring?—When he's hard rode. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* III. xiv, When shall I come to see you, Mr. Boffin? 1867 TENNYSON *Holy Grail* 255 Who shall blazon it? when and how?

†b. *ellipt.* as an exclamation of impatience. *Obs.*

1592 KYD *Sp. Trag.* III. i. 47 No more, I say: to the tortures, when! 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* IV. i. 147 Off with my boots, you rogues: you villaines, when? 1623 MIDDLETON *Mare Dissemblers* v. i. (1657) 66 Why when? begin Sir: I must stay your leisure.

2. In a dependent question or clause of similar meaning: At what time; on what occasion; in what case or circumstances. Also *ellipt.*

say when, colloq. formula used by a person pouring out drink for another, to ask him to say when he shall stop; also *ellipt.*, as a reply to this formula.

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. II. 7 Herodes... befran hi georne, hwænne se steorra hym ætewode. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 5446

Nou rek i neuer quen i dei. c1375 in Horstmann *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 124/1 Alle 3e haue herd told & rad How & whanne god pis world mad. 1535 COVERDALE *Lev.* xiv. 57 That it may be knowne, whan eny thinge is vncleane or cleane. 1676 N. FRENCH *Vnkinde Deserter* i. 22 To know when to speake, and when to be silent. 1710 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 7 Oct.. I wonder when this letter will be finished. 1854 R. S. SURTEES *Handley Cr.* i. (1901) I. 11 He knew when to lay hold of his hounds, and when to let them alone. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* iv. iii, Say when you've put it safe back, Mr. Venus.

a1225 *Ancr. R.* 144 Deað þet we beoð siker of & unsiker hwonne. c1400 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 263 Deje we ssulin sikerliche; bot god wot wanne & were. 1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* ii. (Arb.) 125 Whych matter was onse excellently disputed vpon, in the Scooles, you knowe when. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* iii. i. 39 Ile tell you when, and you'll tell me wherefore. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* x. 409, I am to bruise his heel, His Seed, when is not set, shall bruise my head. 1779 H. WALPOLE *Lett. to Selwyn* 5 July, Can you tell me if the Duchess of Leinster still goes to Aubigny; and, if she does, when? 1828 HAZLITT *Self Love & Benev.* Sk. & Ess. (1872) 104 What might be the consequence to myself the Lord knows when? 1883 STEVENSON *Treas. Isl.* xi, Well, now, if you want to know, I'll tell you when. The last moment I can manage; and that's when. 1888 'J. S. WINTER' *Bootle's Childr.* ii, I haven't seen such food I don't know when. 1889 *Mod. Society* 6 June (Farmer's *Slang*) 'Say when,' said Bonko, taking up a flagon of whiskey and commencing to pour out the spirit into my glass. 1911 *Maclean's Mag.* Oct. 297/2 'Say when?' I held the glass with a shaking hand: 'When.' 1931 A. POWELL *Afternoon Men* i. 13 'Say when, sir,' said the waiter. 'When,' said Pringle. 1948 E. WAUGH *Loved One* 3 'When,' he added aside to the young man, who helped him to whisky. 'Right up with soda, please.'

3. After a prep. (esp. *since, till*), in a direct or a dependent question: = What time?

Cf. F. *depuis quand, G. seit wann*. a1300 *Cursor M.* 5670 Sin quen was þou vr dempster? 1583 MELBANCKE *Philotimus* Niv, If any circumstance of where, or when, or whome, may make a probable Argument. 1828 SCOTT *F.M. Perth* xiv, Since when is it, good Father, that the principal libertine has altered his morals so much? 1861 H. KINGSLEY *Ravenshoe* xix, 'Since when have you missed her?' 'Since yesterday afternoon.'

II. Relative and conjunctive uses.

Formerly (now *arch.*) also followed by *that* (THAT *conj.* 6).

4. As compound relative (cf. WHAT C.*), or as correlative to *then* (implied and sometimes expressed): At the (or a) time at which; on the (or an) occasion on which.

Also *ellipt.* with only the predicate expressed, e.g. *when a boy* = when he (I, etc.) was a boy; *when cold* = when it is cold.

a. In reference to a definite actual occurrence or fact, chiefly with verb in past tense: At the time that, on the occasion that; sometimes with verb in present tense = now that (sometimes with mixture of sense 9 a).

a1000 *Guthlac* 209 Hwonne hy mid menzu maran cwome, þa þe for his life lyt sorgedon. c1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 576 Sexe hundred 3er noe was hold Quan he dede him in ðe archewold. a1300 *Cursor M.* 8958 Quen þat sco to þe cite com Sco com in at pat ilk yatte, þar þis tre lai in hir gatt. c1350 *Will. Palerne* 2484 Wan þei pider come, þei founde al awei far. c1400 *Destr. Troy* 1689 Qwen when this Citie was set . . . Then meuyt to his mynde [etc.]. c1420 *Sir Amadace* xxix, Qwen he was gone on this kin wise, Thenne iche mon sayd thayre deuse. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* x. lxx. 536 Whanne he saw her make suche chere he ferd lyke a lyon that there myghte no man withstande hym. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* v. xxiv. (S.T.S.) II. 230 We suld nocht leif oure ciete now quhen It hes sa mony ruynous housis. 1577 HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* 239 When that he was certified . . . that the Ethnicks offered sacrifice . . . in that place . . . he sharply rebuked Eusebius. 1581 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xlii. 154 Sone efter that the Counsell cround þoursell, Quhan godly Murray as a regent rang. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* ii. ii. 27 Listning their feare, I could not say Amen, When they did say God blesse vs. 1763 J. BROWN *Poetry & Mus.* v. 67 Music had then its greatest Power, when the Melody was most confined in its Compass. 1775 HARRIS *Philos. Arrangem.* Wks. (1841) 339 It was by being attacked when asleep . . . that the gigantic Polypheme fell a sacrifice to Ulysses. 1779 *Mirror* No. 23. ¶3 He lost his father when an infant. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* liii, It was ten o'clock when he woke up. 1863 DICKENS *Uncomm. Trav.* xxvi, When I was a child . . . I used to think that I should like to play at Chinese Enchanter. 1894 BARING-GOULD *Bk. Fairy T.* 70 It is not the time for violets, when the snow lies deep?

(b) With ellipsis of following clause: in the past, in the old days (*N. Amer. colloq.*).

1962 M. RICHLER in *Kenyon Rev.* Winter 88 Six months from now . . . I'll be saying I knew you when. 1968 H. WAUGH '30' *Manhattan East* (1969) 163 She needn't try those airs with me. I knew her when. 1984 M. HINKMAN *Night they murdered Chelsea* viii. 65 The Hearst newspaper group are even flying in Gloria Beesley to cover the case. She knew Charlotte when.

b. In reference to a future time (whether in the present or the past).

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 97 He sceal winnan & sorgian, hwonne se dæg cume. c1275 LAY. 643 He . . . þrettede þan castle, and þat folk wið ine, wanne he hit mihte awinne. c1350 *Leg. Rood* (:871) 21 Vr lord bi-het me pere Wiþ Oyle of Milce smere me whonne hit tyme were. c1420 *Avout. Arth.* xxiv, Quen thou art armut in thi gere, Take thi schild and thi spere. 1560 *Bible* (Geneva) i Sam. iii. 12 When I begin, I wil also make an end. 1588 SHAKS. *L.L.L.L.* iv. iii. 145 What will Berowne say when that he shall heare Faith infringed? 1646 in *Row Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) p. xxxi, I desyrt our people to convein quhen the bellis suld be rung. 1769 MRS. RAFFALD *Eng. Housekpr.* (1805) 109 When your head is boiled, rub it over with the yolk of an egg. a1814 [see THAT *conj.* 6]. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* xxxi, Pray St. Etheldreda to be with us when the day shall come. 1889 TENNYSON *Crossing the Bar* 16, I hope to see my Pilot face to face When I have crost the bar. 1915 'IAN HAY' *First Hundred Thou.*

ii. xx. 303 The Oxford Dictionary of the English Language will have to be revised and enlarged when this war is over.

c. Indefinitely or generally: At any time, or at the several times, at which; on any occasion that: most commonly with vb. in pres. tense.

c1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 147 Wanne hie sejen men wanred polien oðer on sinne bifallen . . . þer-of hie hadden reuðe. c1220 *Bestiary* 16 in *O.E. Misc.* 1 Wanne he is ikindled Stille lið ðe leun. a1250 *Owl & Night.* 324 Ich singe an eue a riste time & soppæ won hit is bedtime. 1340 *Ayenb.* 27 Huanne he yziþ oþer yherp þe guod of oþren . . . þanne him comp a zorge to þe herte. 1461 *PASTON Lett.* I. 541 To see that the contre be allweys redy to come bothe fote men and hors men, qwen they be sent for. 1553 *Respublica* 894 Solace we muste nedes have whan that we are werie. 1591-5 SPENSER *Astrophel* 29 There was no pleasure nor delightful play, When Astrophel so euer was away. 1639 J. CLARKE *Paræm.* 87 When God will, all winds bring raine. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 26 ¶7 When I look upon the tombs of the great, every emotion of envy dies in me. a1774 GOLDSM. *Elegy Mrs. Mary Blaize* 16 She never slumbered in her pew,—But when she shut her eyes. 1827 SCOTT *Highl. Widow* v, The answers which he received from him, when conversing on religious topics. 1860 DICKENS *Uncomm. Trav.* ii, I am overpowered when I think of you and your hospitable home.

5. Introducing a clause as the object of a verb, or (later) governed by a preposition: = The or a time at which; þa case in which (cf. 8).

This use arises from the dependent interrog. use (sense 2), and the OE. examples are only particular cases of this.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 227 Hine ðæs heardost langode hwanne he of ðisse worulde moste. a1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 1433 Hæleð langode . . . hwonne hie of nearwe . . . stæppan mosten. c1375 *Cursor M.* 5939 (Fairf.) Sette us terme & quenne [Cott. term wen] we salle pray for þe & pi men. c1412 HOCCEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 113 Passe ouer whanne þis stormy nyght was gon, And day gan at my wyndowe in to pryde. 1487 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 166 They loke euery cwe when the comens of the town schall ryse. 1568 [see LOOK v. 3 c]. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* II. ii. 11, I haue seene When after execution, Iudgement hath Repented ore his doome. 1648 HERRICK *Hesper., To the Lark*, And know thy when To say, Amen. 1689 MILWARD *Selden's Table-t.* Ded., In your Fancy carry along with you, the *When* and the *Why* many of these things were spoken. 1838 S. SHARPE *Hist. Egypt under Ptol.* 186 As to the when, the why, or by whom the pyramids were built. 1867 MORRIS *Jason* xvii. 100 Since when I am dead, By none but him the people shall be led. 1868 — *Earthly Par.* Prolog. 202 Expecting when our turn shall come to die. 1884 *Dailys of Soddan Fen* x, I was a grown young man of twenty by when it happened.

6. a. As simple relative (cf. WHAT C.**): At which time, on which occasion; and then. Sometimes implying suddenness: = and just then, and at that moment.

a1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 1265 Siððan hundtwelftig geteled rime wintra on worulde wræce bisgedon fæge þeoda; hwonne frea wolde on wærlagon wite settan. 1461 *PASTON Lett.* I. 541 Wrytyn the xxiiij. day of Janware in haste, wan I was not well at hesse. 1562 WINSET *Cert. Tractates* Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 2 Haistelle maid one Pasche twisday, . . . 1562, quhen thair appetit aine dangerous seditioun in Edinburgh. 1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 32o His testie maister goeth about to take him, When lo the vnbackt breeder full of feare, . . . swiftly doth forsake him. 1634 FORD *Perkin Warbeck* II. E 2 b, There haue been Irish-Hubbubs, when I haue made one too. 1711 BUDGE *Spect.* No. 77 ¶1 We took a turn or two more, when, to my great Surprise, I saw him squirr away his Watch a considerable way into the Thames. 1780 *Mirror* No. 78 ¶3, I had not been above three years at college, when the death of an uncle put me in possession of a very considerable estate. 1820 KEATS *Lamia* II. 26 There came reposed, . . . When from the slope side of a suburh hill, . . . came a thrill Of trumpets. 1893 *Law Times* XCV. 62/2 An inspector . . . tested the drain, when he found that the joints of the pipes were not properly cemented. 1894 BARING-GOULD *Bk. Fairy T.* 58 Scarcely had she touched the spindle when she pierced her hand with it.

b. As quasi-pronoun after a preposition (esp. *since* or *till*): = which time.

13.. *Cursor M.* 20180 (B.M. Add. MS.) Hauþ he me sette any day Aþens when I me greithe may? 1581 A. HALL *Iliad* i. 12 But then a suter will I be, til when I wish (my child) You from the battayle do abstaine. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI* II. ii. 89 *Ed.* I was adopted Heire by his consent. *Cla.* Since when, his Oath is broke. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 145 Since when it [sc. Persia] was vanquished by Tangrolipix the Turke, an. 1030. 1712 MRS. CENTLIVRE *Perplex'd Lovers* III. i, Till when, thou Charmer of my Soul, Farewel. 1820 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* III. ii. 40 Thy steeds will pause at even, till when farewel.

7. With *time, day*, etc. as antecedent: = at or on which.

The following OE. quot. exemplifies the kind of context out of which this constr. might arise:—*Guthlac* 82 Fyrst was on godes dome, hwonne Guðlace on his ondgietan engel sealde þæt [etc.].

c1200 ORMIN 133 Att ænne time whanne hiss lott Wass cumenn up to þeowtwnn. a1300 *Cursor M.* 19716 To wait þe time Quen þai moght cum to murder him. 1362 LINGL. *P. Pl. A. Prol.* 1 In A somer sesun whan softe was þe sonne. 1406 HOCCEVE *La Male Regle* 326 Nat tell I can the tyme Whan they to bedde goon, it is so late. c1440 *Gesta Rom.* xii. 38 (Harl. MS.) A day was set whanne the king shold come and see hire. 1596 SPENSER *F.Q.* VI. vii. 32 On a day when Cupid kept his court. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 79 A time will come, when my maturer Muse, In Cæsar's Wars, a Nobler Theme shall chuse. 1788 COWPER *Lett. to S. Rose* 29 Mar., At all times, when it shall suit you to give us your company. 1845 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 9 The ages of faith, the ages when the Church bore sway over every action of life. 1865 NEWMAN *Hist. Relig. Opin.* iv. 201 Charges . . . which . . . I fully believed at the time when I made them. 1876 SWINBURNE *Nat. Engl. Repub.* 16 Time was when England herself might have claimed . . . this noblest of human rights. 1876 MEREDITH *Beauch. Career* iv, There are times when an example is needed.

8. a. With the notion of time modified by or merged in that of mere connexion: In the, or any, case or circumstances in which; sometimes nearly = if. Often *ellipt.* with only the predicate expressed.

The clause with *when* is often equivalent to a phrase with preposition and gerund (*when he sees* or *saw* = 'on seeing'; *when he says* or *said* = 'in saying').

c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 153 Mildheortnesse me kuð him soluon, h[w]enne he him biþengð þet he isuneþed haueð and þet sare bimurneð. c1220 *Bestiary* 502 in *O.E. Misc.* 16 3ef ðu it soze wan it flet. 1357 *Lay Folk's Catech.* (T.) 518 That is when we will noght do to god almightyen, . . . That us augh for to do. 1370-80 *Visions St. Paul* 198 in *O.E. Misc.* 228 He opened þe Mouþ of pat put, Hit stonk foule w3on hit was vn-schut. c1400 tr. *Secr. Secr., Gov. Lordsh.* 63 3ers and reals dedys shal bettir come to a kynges mynde whon enhyed. c1460 FORTESCUE *Abs. & Lim.* Mon. iv. (1885) 117 Whan a kyngye rulith his reaume only to his owne profite . . . he is a tyrant. 1588 A. KING tr. *Canisius' Catech.* 181 The quhilk thing the scriptur meanes quhen it sayis [etc.]. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* v. iv. 44 Oh tis the curse in Loue . . . When women cannot loue, where they're belou'd. 1643 TRAPP *Comm. Gen.* xxxv. 1 God . . . takes his opportunity, (for we are best, when at worst). 1724 DE FOE *Tour Gt. Brit.* 15 When I have said this, I think I have done Malden Justice. 1781 COWPER *Table-T.* 148 Most confident, when palpably most wrong. 1859 RUSKIN *Two Paths* i. §42 A painter designs when he chooses some things, refuses others, and arranges all. 1890 J. CHAMBERLAIN *Sp.* 7 May in W. S. Lilly *1st Princ. Pol.* 161 note, When great national interests are at stake, . . . the party system breaks down.

b. As simple relative (cf. 6): †(a) with *case* as antecedent: = in which: (b) in which case; whereupon; and then.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 2 Except in case whan you vnderstande not y^t ye rede therin. 1803 *Med. Jrnl.* X. 564 It may be opened with a lancet or a needle, when the fluid will run out. 1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 695/1 The ribbon . . . is sometimes couped or cut short, when it becomes a bâton.

9. With the notion of time passing into that of cause or contrast. a. It being the case that, seeing that, considering that, inasmuch as, since. (Often, and now only, with implication of opposition or contrast, thus approaching b.)

c1230 *Hali Meid.* 9 Hwen þus is of þe riche, hwat wenes tu of the poure? 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2215 Wanne 3e abbeþ fourme of men, beþ men an alle wise. a1330 *Otucl* 1272 Otuelw, whan it is so, Tak þe bataille a godes name. c1420 *Sir Amadace* xxviii, Quat wundur were hit, thaþhe him were wo, Quen alle his godus were spendutte him fro. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, IV. i. 112 What madnesse rules in braine-sicke men, When for so slight . . . a cause, Such factious æmulations shall arise? a1637 B. JONSON *Timber* Wks. (1641) 118 And indeed when the attaining of them [sc. all knowledges] is possible, it were a sluggish and base thing to despair. 1764 GOLDSM. *Trav.* 64 But where to find that happiest spot below, Who can direct, when all pretend to know? 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* IV. iii, What's the good of my pretending to stand out, when I can't help myself? 1886 [E. H. DERING] *In Light of 20th Cent.* iv. 85 'If you would only . . . look at the question without prejudice—' 'Prejudice! I like that, when you are full of prejudices about it.'

b. In adversative sense: While on the other hand, while on the contrary, whereas.

†In quot. c1489 = although.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 7770 Hii wolde eueure abbe ynou, wanne þe pouere adde wo. c1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* vi. 153 And whan the kyng gaaff you not his suster þat a simple damoyseyl, yet oughte you to beleve hym. a1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* II. (Arb.) 145 To follow rather the Gothes in Rymyng, than the Greekes in trew versifying, were euen to eate ackornes with swyne, when we may freely eate wheate bread emonges men. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* II. i. 139 You rub the sore, When you should bring the plaister. a1654 SELDEN *Table-T.* (1689) 26 Little things do great works, when great things will not. 1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* IV. ii, An estate like yours yields braw content, When we but pike it scanty on the bent. 1836 MARRYAT *Japhet* lvii, I . . . received fifty shillings, when I ought to have received, at least, ten pounds. 1888 F. HARRISON *Cromwell* vi. 118 He was solemnly debating a treaty, when he never intended to keep any treaty at all.

III. Indefinite and substantival uses.

†10. a. *adv.* At some time (only OE. with *nú, seld(um); when* and *when*, at one time and another, now and then. *Obs. rare.*

c900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* II. i. (1890) 94 He nu hwonne on pam ilcan bið on wuldre arisende mid oþrum hyrdum þære halgan cyricean. c1470 HARDING *Chron.* cxxi. iv, And Scottes also that false wer when and when.

b. As the second element of a compound: see ANYWHEN, AYWHEN, ELSEWHEN, EVERYWHEN, NOWHEN, SELD-when, SOMEWHEN.

11. as *sb.* The time at which something happens (or did or will happen): = *time when* (see 7); also *vaguely*, Time, duration.

Often conjoined with *where* or *how* similarly used.

1616 B. JONSON *Epigr.* xxxiii. Wks. 777 Thou art but gone before, Whither the world must follow. And I, now, Breathe to expect my *when*, and make my *how*. 1765 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* VII. xxi, The gardener . . . troubled his head very little with the *hows* and *whens* of life. 1819 SHELLEY *Ode to Heaven* 6 Deep, immeasurable vast, Which art now, and which wert then Of the Present and the Past, Of the eternal Where and When. 1864 NEWMAN *Apol.* vi. 362, I have very little reason to doubt about the issue of things, but the when and the how are known to Him. 1867 CARLYLE *E. Irving in Remin.* (1881) 101 The *when* of my first call there I do not now remember. 1885 TENNYSON *Anc. Sage* 104 Thin minds, who creep from thought to thought, Break into 'Thens' and 'Whens' the Eternal Now.

when, var. **WHENNE** *Obs.*, whence.

whenabouts ('hwenabauts). *nonce-wd.* [f. **WHEN**, after *whereabouts*.] The time (or the approximate time) at which a thing happened. Also *interrog.*

1898 L. A. TOLLEMACHE *Talks with Gladstone* i. 19 The whereabouts and the whenabouts of my interviews with him. 1952 V. GOLLANCZ *My Dear Timothy* 74 By eighteen hundred and ninety-eight, when or whenabouts I first heard it. 1966 A. E. LINDOP *I start Counting* xx. 247 'When? Whenabouts?' '... Lemme see. Be about four o'clock in the afternoon.'

whenas, **when as** (hwen'æz, 'hwen æz), *adv.*, *conj. arch.* [f. **WHEN** + **AS** *adv.* 27.]

1. At the, or a, time at which; in a case in which: = **WHEN** 4, 8.

1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* ii. Quhen as I lay In bed allone waking, ... Fell me to mynd of many diuerse thing. 1550 LEVER *Serm. 4th Sund. Lent* A vij b, Ye shall heare, when as much people comynge vnto Iesus, ... what Iesus did. 1574 T. HILL *Art Garden.*, *Bees* 66 This is a great token of raine to follow, when as the Sunne in the day time, and the Moone in the night, do appeare pale, or blackish of colour. 1602 KYD *Sp. Trag.* iii. H 2 b, At the mid of noone, When as the Sun-God rides in all his glorie. 1638 QUARLES *Hieroglyph.* vii. iv, Subjects must vail, whenas their Sov'reigne's by. 1748 THOMSON *Cast. Indol.* i. lxxv, Whenas we found he would not here be pent, To him the better sort this friendly message sent. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* i. xxviii, Whenas the Palmer came in hall, Nor lord, nor knight, was there more tall. 1904 M. HEWLETT *Queen's Quair* ii. vi, Whenas he hesitated, ... she came forward in a pretty, shy way.

† b. At which time; and then; whereupon: = **WHEN** 6. *Obs.*

1553 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Mary* (1914) 159 Vntill the xxvijth daye of the same monethe wen as the same... seursed. 1631 WEEVER *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 254 Hugh had scarce continued one yeare of probation, when as the fore-said Abbot Wido departed the world. 1697 J. SERGEANT *Solid Philos.* 205 Where's that Other Duration or Succession before Time, ... whenas 'tis confessed there was none.

2. a. Seeing that, inasmuch as: = **WHEN** 9 a.

1551 TURNER *Herbal* i. Bij b, When as the greater Galanga is... without any... euell sauoure I wold rather take great Galanga for ACORUS, then the comon calamus. 1644 MILTON *Areop.* (Arb.) 57 How can he be a Doctor in his book... whenas all he teaches... is but under... the correction of his patriarchal licencer? 1728 in *Seawall's Letter-bk.* (1886) II. 240, I may well condole the bereavement, whenas so much personal friendship is therewithall vanished. 1899 C. W. DOYLE *Taming of Jungle* i, Whenas my back smarted... from the blows of the chuprassi's shoe, ... I took the oil from my chirag and anointed my back therewith.

b. In adversative sense: Whereas: = **WHEN** 9 b.

1578 TIMME *Calvin on Gen.* 95 They doe verie childishly erre, which do consider original sinne onely... in the inordinate motion of appetites: when as it fulfillth the seate of reason and the whole hart. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI.* v. vii. 34 So Iudas kist his master, And cried all haile, when as he meant all harme. 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* 272 He brings in this Date of Solon's Death, out of Phanias: as if it was a point uncontroverted, and allow'd by Plutarch himself. Whenas Plutarch barely mentions it. 1711 SEWALL *Diary* 14 May (1879) II. 311 Through the Goodness of God I had little or no hurt, when as my Horse's Nose bled for it.

whence (hwens), *adv.*, *conj.* (sb.) Forms: 4-5 whannes, whennes, (4 huannes, wannes, whennus, -ys), 4-6 whens, 5 qwns, 6 whence, *Sc.* quhens, quhence, 6- whence. [13th c. ME. *whannes*, *whennes*, f. *whanne*, **WHENNE** + -s suffix¹. In all senses often preceded by redundant *from*, †*fro* (FROM 15 a), occas. *of* (obs. or arch.).]

1. Interrogative uses. (Now replaced in ordinary colloquial speech by *where*...*from*.)

a. From what place? a. in a direct question.

a 1300 K. Horn 161 (Camb. MS.) Whannes beo 3e, faire gumes, þat her to londe beoþ icume. 1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* xvi. 8 Whens comyst thou, and whithir gost thou? c 1430 Syr Tryam. 431 What do ye here, madam? Fro whens come ye? [ed. Copland (c 1550) Of whens be you...?]. 1526 TINDALE *John* vi. 5 Whence shall we bye breed that these might eate? 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* ii. v. Nij, From whence haste thou brought hym hyther? 1547 BOORDE *Introd. Knowl.* xxvii. (1870) 192 Of whens be you? I am of England. 1596 SHAKS. *Tem. Shr.* ii. i. 103 Of whence, I pray? Tra. Of Pisa, sir. 1697 DRYDEN *Aeneis* x. 945 Whence am I forc'd, and whether am I born? 1720 DELANY *News fr. Parnass.* 19 From whence is this Fool? 1773 GOLDSM. *Stoops to Conq.* v. My wife, as I'm a Christian. From whence can she come? 1855 TENNYSON *The Brook* 22 O babbling brook, ... Whence come you?

b. in an indirect question.

c 1300 St. Brandan 288 We nuteth no3t bote thurf God whannes hit is i-brou3t. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. v. 532 þis folke frayned hym firste fro whennes he come. c 1450 Merlin 44 They axed hym of whens he was. 1526 TINDALE *John* ix. 29 Thys felowe, we knowe not from whence he ys. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* May 261 The Kidd.. Asked.. who, and whence that he were. 1697 DRYDEN *Aeneis* vi. 1193 He... ask'd his airy Guide, What, and of whence was he. *Ibid.* viii. 150 Resolve me, Strangers, whence, and what you are. 1710 DE FOE *Ess. Public Credit* 6 We... hardly know whence it [sc. the wind] comes, or whither it goes. 1802 MARIA EDGEWORTH *Moral T., Forester* v, He inquired whence the water came. 1886 STEVENSON *Kidnapped* xxv, There was no question put of whence I came or whither I was going.

2. *gen.* and *transf.* From what source, origin, or cause? a. in a direct question.

c 1305 Pop. *Treat. Sci.* (1841) 139 Loke hou crokede thu were ther, ... Whannes [earlier text Fra 3wam] cometh hit siththe to bere the so he3e? 1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* xxi. 25 Of whennes was the baptem of Joon; of heuene, or of men?

1526 TINDALE *Luke* i. 43 Whens hapeneth this to me, that the mother off my lorde shulde come to me? 1697 DRYDEN *Aeneis* x. 9 From whence these Murmurs, and this change of Mind? 1759 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* II. xvii, But whence... have you concluded... that the writer is of our church? 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xix, From whence have we derived that spiritual profit?

b. in an indirect question.

1485 CAXTON *Chas. Gt.* 53, I am wel admeruaylled fro whens that cometh to the suche presumption to speke so hastily. 1599 Broughton's *Lett.* viii. 28 There are some that can tell... from whence you borrow... your much brag-of Concent. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* v. 856 Strange point and new! Doctrin which we would know whence learnt. 1718 PRIOR *Solomon* i. 459 Ask Reason now, whence Light and Shade were giv'n. 1781 COWPER *Truth* 237 An apt similitude shall show Whence springs the conduct that offends you so. 1849 C. BRONTE *Shirley* vii, The laughter and mirth of her uncle, and Hannah, and Mary, she could not tell whence originating. 1859 TENNYSON *Pelleas* 520 For so the words were flash'd into his heart He knew not whence or wherefore. 1867 F. HARRISON in *Questions Ref. Parl.* 255 No man can say from whence the greater danger to order arises.

II. Relative or conjunctive uses.

3. From which place; from or out of which.

Also with ellipsis of *there* or *thither* in the main clause. 1382 WYCLIF *Ps.* cxx[i]. i, I rered vp myn e3en in to the mounteynes; whennys [1388 fro whannus] shal come helpe to me. 1535 COVERDALE *Deut.* xi. 10 The londe of Egipte, whence ye came out. 1560 Bible (Geneva) Isa. li. 1 Loke vnto the rocke, whence ye are hewen. a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 30 June 1644, A dreadfull cliff, from whence the country and river yeald a most incomparable prospect. 1728-46 THOMSON *Spring* 910 Mossy rocks, Whence on each hand the gushing waters play. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* xxxiv, The little room... looked into a garden, whence a wicket-gate opened into a small paddock. 1887 SWINBURNE *Stud. Prose & Poetry* (1894) 141 The quarter from whence the following lucubration is addressed.

1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* iii. i. 37 Let him walke from whence he came. 1591 — *Two Gent.* ii. iv. 122 Now tell me: how do al from whence you came? 1611 Bible Job x. 21 Let me alone that I may take comfort a litle, Before I goe whence [COVERDALE thyther, from whence] I shall not returne.

† b. as *compound relative*: From the place in which, from where. *poet. Obs. rare.*

1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* iii. ii. 124 Come thou home Rossillion, Whence honor but of danger winnes a scarre, As oft it looses all. 1607 — *Timon* i. i. 22 Our Poesie is as a Goume [printed Gowne] which vses [i.e. oozes] From whence 'tis nourisht.

4. *gen.* and *transf.* From which source or origin (as a product); from which cause (as a result); from which fact or circumstance (as an inference).

a 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* i. (Arb.) 61 This opinion is not French, but plaine Turckishe: from whens, som French fetche moe faultes, than this. 1590 SPENSER *F.Q.* iii. iii. 1 Vertue... Whence spring all noble deeds and neuer dying fame. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* 32 To lay down such Principles, as from whence it would follow, that any Real Entity in Nature did come from Nothing and go to Nothing. 1731-8 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* Introd. 29 From whence I did then conclude... that Wine doth not inspire Politeness. 1781 COWPER *Expost.* 111 Faith, the root whence only can arise The graces of a life that wins the skies. 1859 JEPHSON *Brittany* vi. 81 St. Ives... became a successful advocate, whence he is now venerated by Breton lawyers as their patron. 1885 GOODALE *Physiol. Bot.* 400 During its revolution a tip bows or nods successively to all points of the compass; whence the name nutation.

III. 5. as *sb.* (*nonce-use*.) That from which something comes or arises; place of origin; source.

1832 MOTLEY in *Corr.* (1889) I. 18, I was summoned before the Senate of the University, and then wrote my name and my whences and whats, etc., etc., in a great book. 1869 MRS. WHITNEY *Hitherto* xviii. 242 We start from some whence, and are expressed through to somewhere. 1875 E. WHITE *Life in Christ* i. iv. (1878) 30 Uncertain as to the Whence and Whither of humanity.

whenceforth, *adv. rare.* [Properly two words, **WHENCE** and **FORTH** *adv.* 3.] † a. Forth from which. b. From which time onward: cf. *henceforth*. (With redundant *from*.)

1590 SPENSER *Muiopt.* 316 The God of Seas... strikes the rocks with his three-forked mace; Whenceforth issues a warlike steed in sight. 1658 HARRINGTON *Prerog. Pop. Govt.* 34 From whenceforth God proposeth unto the People no otherwise then by Moses.

whence'forward, *adv. rare.* [Properly two words, **WHENCE** and **FORWARD** *adv.*; cf. **HENCEFORWARD**, **THENCEFORWARD**.] a. = *prec.* b. b. From which place onward.

a 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Shropshire* (1662) iii. 16 Whence forward and not before, his Forces deserved the name of an Army. 1899 *Daily News* 1 July 4/6 From hence it is no great way to Woodford, whenceforward the return journey is but a repetition of the outward.

† **whence-from**, *adv. Obs.* [An inversion of *from whence*: cf. **HENCE-FROM**, **THENCE-FROM**.]

1. *interrog.* = **WHENCE** I.

1579 TOMSON *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 29/2 Whence-from did our Lord Iesus Christe and his Apostles drawe their doctrine, but out of Moses? 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* ii. ii. Ark 306 Whence (shall I say) then, whence-from comes it... That [etc.]. 1604 T. WRIGHT *Passions* Pref., I have divers times weighed with my selfe, whencefrom it should proceed [etc.].

2. *rel.* = **WHENCE** II.

1666 J. SMITH *Old Age* (1676) 236 Whereunto all the blood... doth naturally tend;... and whence-from it will in no wise depart.

whenceness ('hwensnis). *rare.* [f. **WHENCE** *adv.*, *conj.* (sb.) + -NESS.] The place or source from which something comes or arises; place of origin.

1922 JOYCE *Ulysses* 388 All is hidden when we would backward see from what region of remoteness the whatness of our whoness hath fetched his whenceness. 1980 Dædalus Spring 248 Given the group's oblique disposition, the 'whenceness' of this saved soul seems unmistakable.

whencesoever (hwenssəʊvə(r)), *adv.*, *conj.* Also *poet.* -soe'er (-səʊ'ə(r)). (In early use as two words.) [f. **WHENCE** + **SOEVER**.] From whatever place or source; wherever... from. (Also with redundant *from*.)

1511 *Guyllfords Pilgr.* (Camden) 22 This Cytie of Jherusalem... stondeth vpon suche a grounde that from whens soever a man comyth theder he must nede ascende. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II.* ii. iii. 22 It is my Sonne, young Harry Percie, Sent from my Brother Worcester: Whence soever. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* 208 (1) Whencesoever the name came, it is antient. 1670 DRYDEN *1st Pt. Conq. Granada* iv. ii, From whence-soe're their Hate our Houses drew, I blush to tell you, I have none for you. 1759 JOHNSON *Rasselas* xxxviii, Whoever or whencesoever you are. 1842 MANNING *Serm.* i. (1848) I. 2 Whatsoever or whencesoever be the origin of Sin. 1887 MORRIS *Odyssey* i. 10 O Goddess, ... from whencesoever ye may, Gather the tale. 1912 G. B. GRAY *Crit. Introd.* O.T. 200 He re-moulds his material, whencesoever derived.

whencever (hwens'evə(r)), *adv.*, *conj.* Also *poet.* *whence'er* (hwens'evə(r)). Earlier as two words, *whence ever*. [See **EVER** *adv.* 8e.] = *prec.*

1718 PRIOR *Solomon* ii. 793 Whence ever I thy cruel Essence bring, I own thy Influence. 1888 CLOUGH *Poems, Fragm. Myst.* Fall xii, A thing, whence'er it came, To be forgotten and considered not. 1899 BELLOC *Danton* iv. 119 The enthusiasms which, from whencever they blow, are the fresh winds of the soul.

† **whenceward**, *adv. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. **WHENCE** + -WARD: cf. **THENCEWARD**.] *From whence*.

1701 RAY *Creation* ii. (ed. 3) 366 In those Ponds from whenceward they steered their course.

whench, variant of **QUENCH** v.

† **whene**, v. *Obs.* Also *wene*, 3wene. [Aphetic f. **AWHENE** (OE. *āhwēnan*).] *trans.* To afflict, trouble, offend.

a 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* 49 Lyare wes mi latymer, Sleuthe ant slep my bedyuer [= bed-fellow; *printed* bedyner], that weneth me unbe-while. Umbe-while y am to whene, when y shal murthes metan. c 1315 SHOREHAM 1. 1908 And þay pat lawe for-bede naust þat man and wyf ymene Toe-hebbe a child, zet scholdy naust Honestete so 3wene. c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 6887 'Lord,' he seyde, '3ow þar nought wene, Why y am comen 3e may wel mene.'

whene, obs. f. **QUEEN**, **WAIN**, **WHEN**.

whenever (hwen'evə(r)), *adv.*, *conj.* (In early use as two words.) Also *poet.* *whene'er* (hwen'evə(r)). [f. **WHEN** + **EVER** (see below).]

I. As relative adverb or conjunction: cf. **WHEN** 4.

1. [EVER *adv.* 8e.] At any time when; every time that, as often as. In a qualifying (conditional) clause, the meaning becomes: At whatever time, no matter when. Also with the idea of time weakened or lost (cf. **WHEN** 8): In any or every case in which. Also as *adv.* with loss of relative force: at whatever time (*colloq.*).

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 354 As þe popis clerkis feyren þat þei doue miraclis whanne evere þei syngen, moo and more woundirful þan evere dide Crist or his apostlis. c 1440 Generydes 1245 Ser, on to hir loggynge, When ever I please yow, I shall be your gyde. c 1449 PECOCC *Repr. Prol.* 2 Whanne euer he takith vpon him for to... correpte his Cristen neizbour. 1509 Reg. *Privy Seal Scot.* I. 293/2 Landis... that sall happin to cum in the Kingis hands... throu the said Henrys deceis quhenever it sall happin. 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* iv. ii. 15 When euer you haue need, You may be armed and appointed well. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* x. 771 His doom is fair, That dust I am, and shall to dust returne: O welcom hour whenever! 1678 Yng. *Man's Call.* p. xiv, So might you welcom your death with pleasant smiles when ere it comes. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vicar W.* xxx, You may, at a minute's warning, send them over England whenever your honour thinks fit. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* ix, Whenever an Englishman would cry 'All right!' an American cries 'Go ahead!' 1865 RUSKIN *Sesame* i. §25 Roguery and lying... are instantly to be flogged out of the way whenever discovered. 1891 FARRAR *Darkn. & Dawn* xiv, She still had access to the Emperor whenever she desired. 1917 H. JAMES *Ivory Tower* in *Amer. Novels* iii. v. 221, I said to myself... three weeks ago, or whenever, that it wasn't for that I was going to come over. 1921 Oxford *Mag.* 28 Jan. 163/1 When the official story... is published, whenever that may be, minor details... will require correction. 1982 J. D. MACDONALD *Cinnamon Skin* xi. 107 Maybe we can leave it that you can come over to Lauderdale when-ever.

2. [EVER 8c.] At the very time or moment when; as soon as. (Now only in *Sc.* and *Irish* use.)

1655 tr. *Sorel's Com. Hist. Francion* viii. 7 He gave me a good supper last night when ever I came within his doors. 1800 *Monthly Mag.* IX. 323/2 We will go to our dinner whenever the clock strikes two. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 589

One-third of the mixture is introduced at first; whenever this is melted, the second third is thrown in. **1875** A. WILSON *Abode of Snow* xxxviii. 360 And whenever my tent was set up I went to sleep in spite of the wind.

II. 3. As interrogative adverb, an emphatic extension of *when*. (Properly two words, and usually so written: see EVER 8d.) Now *colloq.*

1713 ADDISON *Cato* I. i. When-e're did Juba, or did Portius, show A Virtue that has cast me at a Distance? *Mod.* When ever I did I say that? I waited and waited, and wondered when ever he would come.

† **whenne, when, adv., conj.** *Obs.* Forms: *a.* 1 hwanone, 3 hwanene, whanene, wanene, hweonene, wheonene, wenene, whonene, whonnene, wonene, (whænnenen). *β.* 2 hwonne, 3 hweonne, whone, wanne, 3-5 whenne, 4 *Sc.* quhene. *γ.* 1 hwanon, -an, -un, hwanan, -on, 3 hwannen, whannen, -in, wannen, wanen. *δ.* 1 huona, hwona. *ε.* 4 wen, wan, *north.* quen, *Sc.* quhen, 4-5 when. See also WHYNE. [OE. *hwanone*, *hwanon*, *hwanan* = OS. *hwanon*, -en, whence (*nêthwanen* from somewhere or other), OHG. (*h*)*wanana*, *wanân*, *wannen* (MHG. *swannen* = **sô wannen sô* whencesoever): a derivative of the interrog. stem *χwa-* WHO, WHAT, AS HEN, HENNE (= hence) is of *χi-* HE, and THENNE, THEN (= thence) of *pa-*.]

1. interrog. = WHENCE 1, 2.
Beowulf 333 Hwanon ferigeað ʒe fætte scyldas? *Ibid.* 2403 Hæfde þa gefrunen, hwanan sio fæhð aras. **c888** ÆLFRED *Boeth.* v. §3 Wast þu hwanan ælc wuht cume? **c950** LINDISF. *Gosp.* Luke i. 43 *Unde hoc mihi ut ueniat mater domini mei ad me*, huona [*Rushw.* hwona; *Ags.* hwanun; *Hatton* hwanen] ðis me þætte cyme moder drihtnes mines to me? **a1000** *Gosp. Nicod.* iv. (Thwaites) 2 Hwanone sceoldest þu specan on Hebreise? **c1200** *Vices & Virtues* 69 Ic ðe warni... ðat tu... understande and lierne fastliche ða zekyndes of sinnes, hwanen and hwanne he cumen. **c1205** LAY. 1430 Whonene [**c1275** Wanene] beo ʒe cnihtes? *Ibid.* 6193 He... hæhte heom suggen wannen heo weoren. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2407 He esste hom wanan [*v.r.* of wanne] hi were & wo him pider broȝte. **13...** *Guy Warw.* (A.) 1724 Gij... seyde, 'wen comestow, pilgrim?' **1362** LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. xii. 75 He... asked him after, Of when þat he were. **c1380** *Sir Ferumb.* 2547 'Ihesu lord', quap Olyuere; 'fro wan comeþ al þis gold?' **1390** GOWER *Conf.* I. 265 Of Envie noman knoweth Fro whenne he cam bot out of helle. **a1425** *Cursor M.* 13929 (Trin.) Whenne he shal com shal noon knowe. **1483** *Cath. Angl.* 416/1 Whenne, vnde.

2. rel. or conj. = WHENCE 3, 4.
c1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xviii. 25 þa he næfde hwanon he hyt agulde. **c1175** *Lamb. Hom.* 61 Parais, from hwonne þe engles a-dun follon. **c1205** LAY. 2034 He hire sette name on... to munien his ikunde whone he icomen weore. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4298 Toward þe wode wanene [*v.r.* fram wanne] hii come þe brutons gonno to fle. **1390** GOWER *Conf.* I. 212 To... go... To Rome, whenne that sche cam.
b. Qualified by ever: = WHENCESOEVER.
1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 156 He which was a Bachelor, Mi fader, is now mad a Pier; So whenne as evere that I cam, An Erles dowhter now I am. **c1440** *Ipomydon* 497 Where [*v.r.* when] he euer come or what he is.

whenne, whennes, -us, obs. ff. WHEN, WHENCE.

'whennes. nonce-wd. [f. WHEN + -NESS.] Condition in respect of time.

1710 DE FOE *Ess. Public Credit* 6 It has no Whereness, or Whennes, Scite, or Habit.

whens, whense, obs. ff. WHENCE.

whenso ('hwensəʊ), *adv., conj.* Forms: see WHEN and SO *adv.* and *conj.* [ME. *hwense*, representing OE. **swá hwanne swá*: see WHEN and SO *adv.* 17d.]

† **1.** = WHEN 4. *Obs.*
c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 85 In þe deie of liureisun hwense god almihtin wule windwin þet er wes iporschen. **c1205** LAY. 15054 Weonne so ich beo uorð faren, Hengest eow wul makien kare. **a1225** *Ancr.* R. 412 3e ʒet moten chaungen ham hwonse ʒe euer willeð. **1423** JAS. I *Kingis Q.* cxviii. Quhen so my teris dropen on the ground, ... the lytill birdis smale Styntith thaire song. **1567** *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 522 Quhen swa this cruell murthour wes committit, ... nevir ceissit he of his wickit... pretense.

2. = WHENEVER I. *arch.*
c1200 ORMIN 1466 Whannse þu forrȝifesst tuss þin wrappe & ec þin wræche, A33 þanne lakesst tu þin Godd Gastlike i pine pæwess. **c1400** *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 861 When so we ʒern ony thing þat may fall vnto flesch likyng, Thinke we god waites vs weterly! **c1425** *Cast. Persev.* 2542 in *Macro Plays* 153 It is good, whon-so þe wynde blowe, A man to haue sum-what of his owe. **1473** *Rental Bk. Cupar-Angus* (1879) I. 178 He sal haue the fredome of hosliary quhenswa at it be sufficiand. **1591** SPENSER *M. Hubbard* 829 Whenso loue of letters did inspire Their gentle wits. **1866** NEALE *Sequences, Hymns*, etc. 216 Whenso that battle seems going against us, remember the legend. **1879** BUTCHER & LANG *Odyssey* III. 40 Phrontis, ... who excelled the tribes of men in piloting a ship, whenso the storm winds were hurrying by.

whensoever ('hwensəʊ'evə(r)), *adv., conj.* Also *poet.* *whensoe'er* ('-ɛə(r)). [f. prec. + EVER *adv.*; cf. SOEVER.] = WHENEVER I.

c1320 *Cast. Love* (Halliiv.) 177 That whensoever the appul he ʒete, Thorwhe deth that lyfe he shulde forelete. **c1450** *Godstow Reg.* 532 To... whom-so-euer or which-so-euer and whan-so-euer he wolde yeve bequeth... hit. **1486** *Bk. St. Albans* dijb, Whensoeuer and whersoever thay se any tame Dookes. **1526** TINDALE *Mark* xiv. 7 Ye shall have povre with you all wayes: and when soever ye will, ye maye

do them goode. **1603** SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* v. i. 158 What he with... all probation will make vp full cleare Whensoeuer he's conuented. **a1716** SOUTH *Serm., James* iii. 16 Wks. 1727 V. 397 Whensoeuer the Romans conquered an Enemy, it was indeed the General himself only, who was said to triumph. **1815** W. H. IRELAND *Scribbleomania* 20 Whensoeuer Mr. Southey issues from the press, we find him arrayed in a different costume. **1819** SHELLEY *Peter Bell* 3rd v. x. 3 Whensoeuer he should please, He could speak of rocks and trees In poetic metre. **1853** ROCK *Ch. Fathers* III. II. 51 The bishop first blessed the attire with which those ministers were to be arrayed whensoever they had to go about their holy office.

b. ellipt. with loss of relative force: At any time.

1604 SHAKS. *Ham.* v. ii. 210 (Qo. 2) If his fitnes speakes, mine is ready: now or when soeuer, provided I be so able as now. **1651** tr. *Life Father Paul Sarpi* 10 Either rising from the board, or from his bed at midnight, or whensoever applying himself wholly... to the subject.

whensomever ('hwensəm'evə(r)), *adv., conj.* Now *dial.* or *vulgar.* [See SOMEVER 2.] = prec.

a1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula* etc. 61 When-someuer þe pacient felep tyklyng or ychyng or prykyng in þe lure. **1507** *Cov. Leet Bk.* 608 When-some-euer and as often as the case shall require. **1558** Q. KENNEDY *Compend. Tract.* in *Wodrow Soc. Misc.* (1844) 99 Quhensumevir questionn or debat rysis. **1611** in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 547 The next degree I expecte is some violent fryars and Jesuites inciting... the Catholick Princes against hereticks... Which whensomever it bee I confidently beleewe you shall see y^e tragedie begin in France. **1810** *Splendid Follies* III. 112 You have my consent, sir, to marry the girl whensumdever it's convenient.

whent, wheoder, wheol(e: see QUAIN T A., WHETHER, WHEEL.

wher, obs. f. were, pa. t. indic. pl. of BE v.; obs. f. WHERE; obs. or dial. contr. f. WHETHER.

wherble, obs. form of WARBLE.

where (hwɛə(r)), *adv. and conj.* Forms: *a.* 1-2 hwær, (1 huoer, hwoer, wær, uer), 1-3 hwer, 1-4 huer, (3 whær(e, wær), 3-5 wer, 3-6 wher, 4 hwere, 4-6 were, 6 whear, *Sc.* wher, 6-7 wheare, 7 (9 *dial.*) wheer, 4- where; *Sc.* and *north. dial.* 3-5 quer, 4-5 quere, 5 qwer(e, qwher, 6 quheir, 7 quher(e. *β.* 1-3 hwar, (1 hwara, 2-4 war, (3 wahr, ʒwar, ʒware), 3-5 ware, (8 *Sc.*) whare, (8-9 *Sc.*) whar, 4 hware, 5 whaire, 6-7 vhair, (9 *Sc.*) whair, 9 *Sc.* whaur; *Sc.* and *north. dial.* 3-4 quar, 4-5 quare, 4-6 quhar, quhare, 5 qwar, qware, qwhar, qwhare; 5-6 quair, 5-8 quhair, 6-7 quhaire. *γ.* 3 wor, quor, quoor, 4 hwore, quore, 4-5 whore, 5 whor. *δ. n.e. Sc.* 6 for, 9 faur (*Irish* far). [OE. *hwær*, *hwār*, corresp. to OFris. *hwêr*, OS. *hwâr* (MLG. *wâr*, LG. *waar*, woor, MDu., Du. *waar*), OHG. (*h*)*wâr*, *wâ*, MHG. *wâ*, G. *wo* (*wâr* surviving in G. *warum*). A disyllabic OE. form *hwára* (ME. *whôre*) also existed; cf. *pára* there. Forms with short vowel appear in OE. *hwar*, *hwara*, (ME. *whar*, *whare*), OS. *hwar*, OHG. *wara*, MHG. *ware*, *war* whither, ON. *hvar* (Sw. *var*, Da. *hvor*), Goth. *hwar* where.

Derived from the interrog. stem *χwa-*, as HERE is from *χi-* HE, and THERE from *pa-*; cf. Lith. *kuř* where, L. *cūr* (:-**quōr*) why, Skr. *kár-hi* when.]

I. Interrogative uses.

In dependent clauses formerly sometimes followed by *that*: see THAT *conj.* 6. For the distinction between the dependent interrogative and the relative use, cf. WHAT A. I.**

1. In or at what place (region, country, etc.)? *a.* in direct questions.

c825 *Vesp. Psalter* xli. 4 [xlii. 3] Hwer is god ðin? **c1000** ÆLFRED *Gen.* iii. 9 God... cwæð: Adam, hwar eart þu? **a1175** *Cott. Hom.* 241 þis is hare bread, hwer scule we win finden? **c1200** ORMIN 12734 Lef ma33stre, whære biggesst tu? **c1205** LAY. 4454 Whær beo ʒe mine cnihtes, whar beo ʒe mine kempen? **c1250** *Gen. & Ex.* 356 Du, nu, quor art, adam, adam? *Ibid.* 1311 Quar sal ben taken De offrende ðat ðu wilt maken? **a1300** *Cursor M.* 1123 Caym ware es pi broiþer abell? **1382** WYCLIF *Gen.* iii. 9 The Lord God clepide Adam, and seide to hym, Where art thou? **a1400-50** *Wars Alex.* 683 Quat sterne is it at ʒe stody on, quare stekis it in heuyn? **1456** SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 6 The secounde questionn that is to say quhare was bataill first fundyn. **c1460** *Towneley Myst.* xiii. 402 *Primus pastor.* Bot I will go before, let vs mete. *ijus pastor.* where? *ijus pastor.* At the crokyd thorne. **a1600** MONTGOMERIE *Sonn.* lvi. 13 Vhair go they then? **1637** MILTON *Lycidas* 50 Where were ye Nymphs when the remorseless deep Clos'd o're the head of your lov'd Lycidas? **1779** WARNER in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1844) IV. 285, I have been preaching this morning, and am going to dine, -where? -in the afternoon. **1838** P. EGAN *Pilgr. Thames* 259 Where the deuce am I? **1848** DICKENS *Dombey* xxvi, My dearest Edith, ... where on earth have you been? **1896** BARRIE *Sentim. Tommy* iii. 34 Whaur heard you that name?

b. (a) in dependent clauses.

c893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* iv. x. §3 ðesecgað me nu Romane, cwæð Orosius, hwonne þæt ȝe wurde oppe hwara [etc.]. **971** *Blickl. Hom.* 241 þine stefne ic ȝehiere, ac ic ne wat hwær þu eart. **c1200** *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 143 3e hereð, ware heo com to ure helende. **a1240** *Ureisun* 106 in O.E. *Hom.* I. 197 Ful wel þu me iscie. Hwar ich was and hwat i dude. **c1290** *S. Eng. Leg.* 10/325 He wuste ʒware þe rode lai. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 157 Hit sal be reddynn þanne... How he was born and quen and ware [*v.r.* quare, where]. *Ibid.* 17288 + 223 þai haf taken my lord, ... and doyne him lene wrote where. **13...** E.E.

Allit. P. A. 65, I ne wyste in þis worlde quere þat hit wace. **1461** *Paston Lett.* II. 17, I have knowledge quere the shipping chall be. **1470-85** MALORY *Arthur* x. lviii. 511 Yet wold not sire Launcelot telle me certeunte of you where I shold fynde yow. **1573-80** TUSSEUR *Husb.* (1878) 117 Where hops will growe, here learne to knowe. **1645** in *Spalding Club Misc.* I. 56 Ye will certainly know whair to find ws with the Regimentis. **1648** CROMWELL *Let. to T. Saunders* 17 June in *Carlyle*, You may send to Colonel Herbert, ... who will certainly acquaint you where he is. **1724** RAMSAY *Vision* vii, I... Speird, quhair he had been sae lang? **1784** COWPER *Ep. to J. Hill* 47 An emp'ror, a wise man—No matter where, in China or Japan. **1822** SCOTT *Nigel* iii, You did not tell him where I lived, you knave? **1860** DICKENS *Uncomm. Trav.* ii, Little does it signify to us, when the soul has departed, where this poor body lies. **1882** BESANT *All Sorts* xv, You come from no one knows where; you live no one knows how.

(*b*) in dependence on an int. or vb. of looking: *lo, see, look, behold where* (he comes) = Here or there (he comes)! *arch.*

c1205 LAY. 5029 Leo war here þa wombe þe þu læie inne swa longe. **c1420** *Chron. Vilod.* 3117 Lowe where is a lomb! a fayre whyte lomb! lo! lo! **1591** SHAKS. *Two Gent.* v. i. 7 See where she comes. **1593** — 3 *Hen. VI.* I. i. 50 My Lords, looke where the sturdie Rebell sits. **1605** — *Mach.* v. viii. 55 Behold where stands Th' Vsurpers curs'd head. **1681** DRYDEN *Abs. & Achit.* II. 1125 See where the Princely Barque in loosest Pride, With all her Guardian Fleet, Adorns the Tide! **1742** GRAY *Spring* i, Lo! where the rosy-bosom'd Hours, Fair Venus' train, appear. **1839** HOOD *Quakers' Conversaz.* II. 29 Lo! where the Soldier walks, alas! With Scars received on foreign Grounds.

c. colloq. with *from* or *to* at the end of the sentence or clause: *where... from?* = whence? *where... to?* = whither?

1760-72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) II. 103, I must go suddenly, but where to? **1835** DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Parish* iii, Where on earth the husband came from. **1914** 'IAN HAY' *Knt. on Wheels* xiii, Where do these brats hail from?

2. In general and fig. senses: In what position, situation, or circumstances? at what point or stage (of action, speech, or thought)? in what passage or part (of a writing)? in what particular? in what respect? in what? also (contextually, with *get*, etc.) from what source?

a1225 *Ancr.* R. 8 Askeð him, Hwat beo ordre, & hwar he ifinde in holi write religiun openlucker descriued... pen in sein Iames canoniel epistle? **a1250** *Owl & Night.* 892 & þan sunfulle ic helpe al so Vor ic him teche hwar is wo. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 2800 Godd... þat made þat sinful folk sa madd, þat þai ne wist war þai war stad. **c1450** *Mirk's Festial* 4 Hys angyll... tellyng hym redely wher and how oft he hæpe don amys. **1531** ELYOT *Gov.* I. xiii. (1883) I. 131 In defendynge of oratours and poetes I had all moste forgotten where I was. **1599** SHAKS. *Hen. V.* III. v. 15 Where haue they this mettell? Is not their Clymate foggy, raw, and dull? **1600** — A. Y.L. v. ii. 32 O, I know where you are. **1641** MILTON *Ch. Govt.* I. vii. 28 If there were no opposition where were the triall of an unfained goodnesse and magnanimity? **1728** LAW *Serious* C. ix, You must not deceive yourself with saying, Where can be the harm of clothes? **1847** C. BRONTE *Jane Eyre* xxxii, 'But where is the use of going on,' I asked. **1882** BESANT *All Sorts* xxii, 'I see... You were attracted by the ancient inscriptions?' 'Naturally: without inscriptions, where are you?' **1908** R. BAGOT *A. Cuthbert* v. 47 That is all very well; but where do I come in?

3. To what place? Now, in ordinary use, taking the place of WHITHER; cf. HERE *adv.* 7, THERE 8. (Formerly freq. with BECOME, q.v. 1 b.)

c1000 *Wanderer* 92 Hwær cwom mearg? hwær cwom mago? **c1205** LAY. 21913 Wær scullen we bicumen? **a1300** *Cursor M.* 13748 Quar ar þai cummen, pin wiperwins þat þe had nummen? **1303** R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 7492 þat prestel sagh he no more; Hyt become, he ne wyst whore. **1377** LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. Prol. 166 Were þere a belle on here beiz... Men myȝte wite where þei went and awei renne! **1470-85** MALORY *Arthur* xxi. iv. 846 Where are al my noble knyghtes becomen? **1587** HARRISON *England* I. xi. 47/1 in *Holinshead*, Whose eies are so blinded with the thickness of that element, that they cannot see where to become. **1590** SHAKS. *Mids. N.* III. i. 166 Where shall we go? **1611** — *Wint. T.* IV. iv. 304 *Aut.* Get you hence, for I must goe Where it fits not you to know. *Dor.* Whether? **a1708** T. WARD *Eng. Ref.* I. (1710) 86 His Soul departed, God knows where. **1730** A. GORDON *Maffei's Amphit.* 289 We shall now mention where every one of those Entries... lead. **1809** MALKIN *Gil Blas* III. iii. §8 Unconscionable dogs! Where do they expect to go when they die? **1860** DICKENS *Uncomm. Trav.* iii, Who departed this life I don't know when, and whose coaches are all gone I don't know where.

4. In rhetorical questions having the effect of emphatic negations (cf. WHAT A. 3): e.g. *where is* —? implying or suggesting '— has vanished' or 'there is no — anywhere'; *where not* = everywhere (cf. WHAT NOT).

c888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xix, Hwær synt nu þæs Welondes luke, oððe hwa wat nu hwær hi wæron? **c1000** *Ags. Gosp.* Luke viii. 25 Da cwæp se hæland, hwar is eower ȝeleafa? **c1300** *Havelok* 1083 Hwere mithe i finden ani so heȝe So havelok is, or so sleȝ? **c1430** *Hymns Virgin* (1867) 86 Where is bicome cesar, þat lorde was of al? **c1520** SKELTON *Magnyf.* 2055 Where is nowe my Welth and my noble estate? **1567** *Satir. Poems Reform.* iv. 174 Quhair sall men find steidfast Stablines? **1600** W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 34 All went to wracke in England, Scotland, Flanders, Germanie, Polony, and where not. **1709** PRIOR *Henry & Emma* 282 And where is Emma's Joy, if Henry flies? **1842** MRS. TROLLOPE *Vis. Italy* I. iii. 49 As to pictures, where could I find foolscap enough to catalogue the multitude I have seen? **1865** DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. v, Where would be the good of Mrs. Boffin and me quarrelling over it? **1906** BIGG *Wayside* Sk. vi. 154 Where shall we find him [sc. the perfect reformer] except in the Son of Man?

II. Relative and conjunctive uses.

Formerly often followed by *that* (THAT *conj.* 6).

* In senses referring to physical position.

5. as compound relative, or as correlative to *there* (implied and sometimes expressed; cf. WHAT C.*, WHEN 4): In or at the (or a) place in or at which; at the part at which.

[c950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. vi. 21 *Ubi enim est thesaurus tuus ibi est et cor tuum*, ðer vel huer forðon is strion ðin, ðer is & hearta ðin.] 13.. *Northern Passion* I. 138 þei souhte anoper where þei myhte. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1725) I. 22 þer where he was schotte. c1400 tr. *Secr. Secr., Gov. Lordsh.* 89 A hors shal neuer henny where he dwellys. 1483 *Acta Audit. in Acta Dom. Conc.* II. Intro. 102 The Lordis .. ordanis that letters be writin to the schireffis quhar the said landis liis. 1548-9 [see THITHER 1 c]. 1583 MELBANCKE *Philotimus* Ej, Wher God buildes a church, the deuill builds a chappell. a1592 GREENE *Orpharion* Wks. (Grosart) XII. 33 Where the sea is most deepe, there it is most calme. 1639 J. CLARKE *Paræm.* 48 He is where he would be. 1779 COWPER *A Tale, 'Where Humber'*, Where Humber pours his rich commercial stream, There dwelt a wretch, who breath'd but to blaspheme. 1810 CRABBE *Borough* ii. 45 Where the common eye Can but the bare and rocky bed descrie, There Science loves to trace her tribes minute. 1859 RUSKIN *Two Paths* i. §2 Inverness, placed where it might ennoble one of the sweetest landscapes. 1893 MAX PEMBERTON *Iron Pirate* iv, I shall stay where I am.

b. To the (or a) place in or at which (= *thither where*).

[c950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John xi. 32 *Cum uenisset ubi erat iesus*, Miðdy cuome ðer vel huor uas se hæland.] c1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* i. (*Petrus*) 100 To þe prince sa spak he pane, þat quhare petire we, he wane. a1500 *Hist. K. Boccus & Sydracke* (? 1510) Nj, They fare as a lefe on the tre That turnes where the wynd wylbe. c1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* LXXXIV. iii, Me seemes I see them going Where mulberies are growing. 1671 MILTON *P.R.* iii. 244, I will bring thee where thou soon shalt quit Those rudiments. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* xi. 44 He took his Way, Where, new in Death, lamented Pallas lay. *Mod.* I'll take you where we shall get a better view.

6. Introducing a clause as obj. of a verb or prep., or as predicate: = a or the place in (or to) which.

Originating in, and not always distinguishable from, the use in indirect questions (1 b).

[c950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. viii. 20 *Filius.. hominis non habet ubi caput reclinet*, Sunu.. monnes ne hæfis huer [*Rushw.* wær] heafud gehlutes; 1382 WYCLIF but mannes some hath nat wher he reste his heued.] c1200 ORMIN 12985 þe33 tokenn þær to fra3ynenn Crist Of whære he was att hame. 1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Fam. Love* Brief Descr., Not hauyng where they durst at any tyme rest. 1590 SPENSER *F.Q.* iii. iii. 27 From where the day out of the sea doth spring, Untill the closure of the Euenyng. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* ii. xvii. 170 The Iewes will not quite empty any place of water, that on the Sabbath these ferie soules may finde where to coole them. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vicar W.* v, Within about twenty paces of where we were sitting. 1766 — *Hermit* 3 And guide my lonely way To where yon taper cheers the vale With hospitable ray. 1876 TENNYSON *Harold* v. i, I can see it From where we stand. 1882 BESANT *All Sorts* iv. (1898) 42 He.. showed her where the liquor stood to ferment.

7. as simple relative. a. With antecedent *place*, or some sb. denoting a place or receptacle; introducing a defining or restrictive clause completing the sense: In or at which.

c1250 *Kent. Serm.* in O.E. *Misc.* 27 Al-wat hi kam over þo huse war ure louerd was. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 324 He bad his man to gon and spire A place wher sche myhte abyde. c1400 *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 1666 And honest place for to be in, Whor þai mai sit with-outyn dyn. 1457 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) II. 207 Att Saynt Nicholas auter before the stall quer I sitt at mese. 1539 in *Extr. Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 150, I sell leid the to the place for the freir swewyt the. 1567 *Sc. Acts Jas.* VI (1814) III. 23/2 The Superintendent, and Ministeris of that Province quhair the benefice lyes. a1600 MONTGOMERIE *Sonn.* xlviii. 2 In hathornes vher thou hyds thy self and hants. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* iv. 752 Th' unhappy Climes, where Spring was never known. 1788 PICKEN *Poems* 27 At yon burnie. . Whar the shinan peebles lie. 1835 MARRYAT *Jacob Faithful* xlv, I hastened to the black hole where Tom was confined. 1893 MAX PEMBERTON *Iron Pirate* iii, Looking for all the world like some great dog that has entered a house where dogs are forbidden.

b. Introducing an additional statement, the sense being complete without the relative clause: In or at which place; and there.

a1300 *Cursor M.* 950 Vnto þe wreched werld to gang, Quare pou sal thinc pou liues to lang. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* i. 354 To Sanct Andrews he come. . Quhar the byschop.. Resavyt him. c1420 *Anturs Arth.* xxxvii, By þat on plumtone land a palais was pi3te, Were neuer freke opone folde had fouytene biforne. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 5b, Theyr probacyon in deserte, where god proued theyr fayth and hope. a1586 MONTGOMERIE *Misc. Poems* xlviii. 222 Then to the Douns, vhair that we raid a space. 1632 MILTON *L'Allegro* 72 Russet Lawns, and Fallows Gray, Where the nibling flocks do stray. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vicar W.* xiv, We were shewn into a little back room, where there was only a venerable old man. 1820 KEATS *Lamia* i. 380 A pillar'd porch.. Where hung a silver lamp. 1882 BESANT *All Sorts* xxviii, I have been in America, where, if anywhere, the people have it their own way.

8. as compound or simple relative: (In, or to, the place) to which; whither.

13.. *Cursor M.* 1154 (Gött.) Wid all þu sal biholden vile, Quar þu wendis in exile. 1508 *Reg. Privy Seal Scot.* I. 250/2 Quether the saidis P. and J. pass in the realme of France or uther partis quhare ples thaim. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich.* III. i. ii. 106 He is in heauen, where thou shalt neuer come. 1655 in *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) III. 209 A letter.. which.. hee vnderooke to transmitt where it was directed. 1774 CHESTERF. *Lett.* I. i. 2 Holland, where you are going, is, by far, the finest.. of the Seven United Provinces. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's* C. xxvi, Tom.. looked up for help where he had always been used to look. 1893 MAX

PEMBERTON *Iron Pirate* i, Him I am going to meet in this Paris where I go without aim.

9. In generalized or indef. sense: In, or to, any (or every) place in, or to, which; wherever.

The indef. sense is more explicitly expressed by the addition of *ever*, *so*, *þsum*: see WHEREVER, WHERESO, WHERE SOME, WHERE SOMEVER.

c1200 ORMIN 5904 Where o lande summ itt iss þatt mann off Goddspell spellepp. c1205 LAY. 3320 Lete we sum þis mochele folc fare wher [*later text woder*] ha wulleð. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6617 Euer ware he com gode lawes he bro3te. 13.. *Cursor M.* 6136 (Gött.) Mas sacrifics your lauerd vntill, Quar and hou so pat 3e will. a1352 MINOT *Poems* (ed. Hall) ix. 20 None letes him þe way to wende where he will. 1395 E.E. *Wills* 8 Ware that euer I deye. 14.. in *Tundale's Vis.* (1843) 99 Lett thi name wher we rydy or gon. . Be owre defence ageyn owre mortal fon. 1552 HULOET, Where you will, *ubilibet*. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* iv. v. 10 Where he arriues, he moues All hearts against vs. 1781 COWPER *Table T.* 208 Sing where you please. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* III. viii, I won't stand in your way. Go where you like.

** In general and figurative senses.

10. as compound relative. a. In the passage or part (of a writing) in which; at, or to, the point or stage (of action, speech, etc.) at which.

c1400 *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 206 In his godspel, whaire he says þus: 'Nolo mortem peccatoris'. c1450 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Aug.* Prol., In þe first capitle Ad Romanos, where he saide þat he was dettoure on-to wise men and onwise. 1580 R. PARSONS *Brief Disc.* 40 Throughe out the scripture, where Idoles are forbidden, they translate it Images. 1622 PEACHAM *Compl. Gent.* xi. 97 But we returne where we left. 1661 in *Extr. St. Papers rel. Friends* Ser. II. (1911) 126, I marked the booke where there is a passage full of treason. 1907 *Blackw. Mag.* Jan. 136/2 Where Powell parted company most fiercely from the Radicals was in his steadfast patriotism.

b. (a) In a or the case in which (often nearly = WHEN 8); in the circumstances, position, or condition in which; in that respect or particular in which. (Sometimes with implication of contrast or opposition: cf. 12 b.)

1387 TREVISIA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 227 Were þe socour of the watir faillede pere men schulde defende hem in þe lond by help of þe wal. c1420 ? LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 1634 He wold deele where he had no charge. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* iv. Prol. 199 Quhar schame is lost quyte schent is womanheid. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* v. iv. 44 When women cannot loue, where they're belou'd. 1635 QUARLES *Embl.* i. xii, Ther's nothing wholesome, where the whole's infected. 1766 FORDYCE *Serm. Yng. Women* (1767) I. v. 192 We cannot be easy, where we are not safe. 1824 SCOTT *St. Ronan's* xxii, 'By my soul, Clara, I will make you repent this' said Mowbray, with more violence than he usually exhibited where his sister was concerned. 1850 NEWMAN *Diff. Anglicans* ix. 221 They are rude where they should be reverent. 1918 *Act 8 Geo. V* c. 5. §1 (1) Where it is proposed to make any such Order.. a draft of the Order shall be presented to each House of Parliament.

(b) Contextually indicating a person or persons as the object of love or marriage.

1611 BEAUM. & FL. *King & No K.* III. i, O she is far from any stubbornness, .. and no doubt will like Where you would have her. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *Adam Bede* i. iv, These know'st we canna love just where other folks 'ud have us. 1878 HARDY *Ret. Native* i. iv, I saw that .. it would be better she should marry where she wished.

c. with construction as in 6: = þa case in which; þa person to whom; the point or particular in which. (Cf. WHEN 5.)

a1300 K. *Horn* 691 (Camb. MS.), Ihe herde whar he sede, & his swerd forþ leide, To bringe þe of lyue. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* xi. 39, I herd neur quhar so lang varnyng Wes gevin. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* i. ii. 59, I haue heard, Where many of the best respect in Rome. . Haue wish'd that Noble Brutus had his eyes. 1611 — *Cymb.* II. iv. 111 The Vowes of Women, Of no more bondage be, to where they are made, Then they are to their Vertues. *Mod.* That was where he failed. (*colloq.*) That's just where it is!

(b) In U.S. use freq. equivalent to THAT *conj.* (see also quot. 1931).

1927 E. O'NEILL *Marco Millions* II. ii. 122, I can see where I'll have to be telling her what to do every second. 1931 G. O. CURME *Syntax* 245 This old use of *where* with the force of a noun + *in which* is still heard in colloquial speech: 'This morning I read in the Tribune *where* (in the literary language *an account in which*) a boy killed his father.' 1938 D. RUNYON *Furthermore* iii. 51, I see by the papers where three Brooklyn citizens are scragged. 1958 T. CAPOTE *Breakfast at Tiffany's* 110 [I] had read where the Trawlers were countensing for divorce. 1965 *New Yorker* 15 May 45, I see where the St. Regis has changed hands again. 1976 *National Observer* (U.S.) 14 Aug. 2/4, I can see where people might think that Kelley doesn't know what's going on in his own organization.

d. In *colloq.* phr. *where it's (he's, she's) at*: the true or essential nature of a situation (or person); the true state of affairs; a place of central activity. Cf. *at prep.* 1 d. orig. U.S.

1903 [see *At prep.* 1 d]. 1965 *Daily Mail* 2 Oct. 5/2 What's the phrase you use for being in touch? .. Where it's at. 1967 *Listener* 26 Oct. 522/3 As Dylan says, 'I'll let you be in my dream, if I can be in yours.' I think I know where he's at. 1971 *Melody Maker* 9 Oct. 17/5 The musicians frequently became frustrated.. not really believing their own bands were where it was at. 1974 R. M. PIRSIG *Zen & Art of Motorcycle Maintenance* x. 117 That, today, is where it is at, and will continue to be at for a long time to come. 1977 W. J. WEATHERBY *Home in Dark* xiii. 69 She was always a housewife at heart. She just took too long to find out where she was at.

e. U.S. *dial.* to *where*, to or at a point, position, etc., such that; to such an extent that. *Occas.* with omission of *to*.

1933 M. K. RAWLINGS *South Moon Under* xvi. 157 Is your loggin' to where you kin leave it for a while? 1938 — *Yearling* xvi. 181 My grand-pappy got hisself stung oncet to where he was in the bed a fortnight. 1960 H. LEE *To kill Mockingbird* xi. 109 Having developed my talent to where I could throw up a stick and almost catch it coming down. 1969 B. K. GREEN *Wild Cow Tales* 247, I would pitch a rope over a steer's neck and give it a whip-like motion to where the knot would come back under his neck on the ground back on my side. 1974 N. GUIDICI in S. Terkel *Working* vi. 316, I want to have enough money where I wouldn't have to be a bum on the street.

11. as simple relative. a. Introducing a defining or restrictive clause (cf. 7 a): In or at which; *þrarely* with person as antecedent, In whom.

c1500 *Melusine* 238 She consyderyng the daunger where bothe she & her peple had be. 1585 JAS. VI *Ess. Poesie* (Arb.) 53 Ignorants obdurde, quhair wilful errorr lyes. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich.* II, v. ii. 5 *York.* Where did I leau? *Duch.* At that sad stoppe, my Lord, Where rude misgourn'd hands.. Threw dust.. on King Richards head. 1692 DRYDEN *St. Euremont's Ess.* 98 There is no life so regular, where particular Actions don't sometimes exceed the general habit and conduct. 1792 *Jrnl. Ho. Comm.* XLVII. 641/1 In a Case where the Officers had broken into a Bedchamber. 1887 W. P. FRITH *Autobiogr.* I. xxi. 284 It is difficult to put one's finger on the precise spot where confidence merges into conceit.

b. Introducing an additional statement (cf. 7 b): In or at which; and there; hence, *þwhereupon*, and then.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. v. 283 Who so leueth nouste þis be soth loken in þe sauter glose, In *miserere mei deus*, where I mene treuthe. 1423 JAS. I *Kingsis Q.* lxi, With that anon ryght sche toke vp a sang, Quhare come anon mo birdis and alight. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* i. i. 29 To be in loue; where score is bought with grones. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 67 The Agent for the English Merchants inuited vs to a Banquet, where he shewed a heartie Entertainment. 1694 tr. *Marten's Voy. Spitzbergen in Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* II. 128 The Seamen let them alone until the Whale be killed, where they take him without any trouble. 1781 COWPER *Truth* 372 The controversial field, Where deists, always foil'd, yet scorn to yield. 1831 SCOTT *Kenilw.* Intro. d., The Yorkshire Tragedy, a play erroneously ascribed to Shakspeare, where a Rake.. throws his wife down stairs.

c. to *the point where*, to a situation, condition, extent, etc., such that.

1938 F. SCOTT FITZGERALD *Let.* 22 Feb. (1964) 569 If it ever came to the point where you thought you ought to lay up under medical care, his is the sanitarium which I should choose. 1960 *Radio Amateur's Handbk.* (ed. 37) 190/2 Adjust the potentiometer.. to the point where the oscillator cannot be heard between dots and dashes at normal keying speed. 1968 CHOMSKY & HALL *Sound Pattern Eng.* 329 Our investigations of these features have not progressed to a point where a discussion in print would be useful. 1970 P. WHITTLE *Probability* v. 100 Models which can be simple, without being idealized to the point where they have no practical value.

12. † a. It being the case that; in view of the fact that; forasmuch as, inasmuch as: = WHEREAS 2; cf. WHEN 9 a. (Chiefly in legal or other formal documents.) *Obs.*

1411 *Rolls of Parlt.* III. 650/1 First, where the forsaid Lord the Roos.. compleyneth hym by a Bille, surmetting on the same Robert [etc.]. c1450 *Godstow Reg.* 25 Women of relygyone, in redynge bokys of latyn, byn excusyd of grete vnderstondyng, where it is not her modyr tonge. 1548-9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer* Pref., And where heretofore, there hath been great diuersitie.. within this realme: Now from henceforth, [etc.]. 1562-3 N.C. *Wills* (Surtees) II. 36 Where that.. Hadoile the smythe hathe gyven to me his eldest sonne Christopher as my owne, I will he be put unto the schoale. 1599 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 336 Where it is considered by the Maior, Sheriffs, and citizens of this citie how greatly the city is impoverished. 1637 *Bk. Com. Pr. Scot.* Table & Kal., And where [1662 whereas] the Cxix. psalme is diuided into xxij. portions, .. it is so ordered [etc.].

b. In adversative sense: While on the contrary: = WHEN 9 b, WHEREAS 3.

c1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 358 It fordoip Cristis pryvilege, þat where Cristene men shulden be free, now þei ben neddid to hire a preest. c1440 *Generydes* 1134 Now A dayis I lese all that I wanne, Where here before I was a threfty man. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 62 Purple in those dayes was for the wearyng of none but kynges & princes, wher now it is commonly taken vp with eueri sowter. 1596 *Edw.* III iv. iii, And, where tofore I loued thee as Villeirs, Heereafter Ile embrace thee as my selfe. 1668 ROLLE *Abridgm., Action sur Case* 40 He swore, that the Wood was worth 40s. where it was dear of 13s. 4d. 1681 in *Pepys Diary & Corr.* 11 Apr., All Baptist's bases are singable, where many of Pedro's are not so. 1929 R. A. CRAM *Catholic Church & Art* iv. 57 Where the pagan architecture had been an exterior art.. and where Roman and Byzantine art had striven to achieve space in its simplest form, the North worked for interior space.

III. Indefinite and substantival uses.

13. With preceding qualifying words (*one, other, etc.*), forming adverbial phrases: In or at (one, another, etc.) place.

Chiefly as second element in compounds: see ALLWHERE, ANYWHERE, AYWHERE, EACHWHERE, ELSEWHERE, EVERYWHERE, MANYWHERE, NOWHERE, ONEWHERE, OTHERWHERE, SOMEWHERE, WIDE-WHERE.

1508 in *Dunbar's Poems* (S.T.S.) II. 321 Suth it is, and sene in all our quhare, No erldy thing bot for a tyme may lest. 1526 TINDALE *Luke* xiii. 33 For it cannot be that a prophet perissh eny other where save att Jerusalem. 1528 — *Obed. Chr. Man* 74 We must stery vp some warre one where or a nother. c1550 *Syr Tryam.* in *Utterson E.P.P.* (1817) I. 58 They hunted and rode many a where. c1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* cvii. xii, How many where doth he convert Well watred grounds to thirsty sand? 1650

AMBROSE *Ultima* (1659) 186 His Apostles are scattered in the garden, his garments at the Crosse, his blood how many wheres! *a 1694 TILLOTSON Sermon*. VII. 108 Though they be very active, yet they can be but one where at once. *1722 DE FOE Col. Jack* i. (1809) 10 He got victuals enough one where or other. *1815 J. FOSTER in Life & Corr.* (1846) I. 453, I still preach, one where or other.

14. as *sb.* Place, locality; in mod. use *esp.* the place at which the thing spoken of is or happens.

1443-9 PECOCCO *Donet* xvi. (1921) 92 More of pis mater... may be seen... in pe book of dyuyne office in manye a wher. *c 1449* — *Repr.* 1. v. 27 In othere wheris of my writings. **1560** PHAER *Aeneid*. IX. 58 He troub[l]ous vewes their wals, & ryding sekcs ech entring where. **1563** SACKVILLE *Induct. Mirr. Mag.* lxvi. In euery where or sword or fyer they taste. **1590** SPENSER *F.Q.* III. iv. 19 Finding the Nymph a sleepe in secret wheare. **1635** J. HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Banish'd Virg.* 36 Resolved to leave no where thereabouts unsearched for her. **1720** DE FOE *Ser. Refl. Crusoe, Vis. Angelic World* iv. (1801) 223 For if we are to be, we must have a where. **1813** BYRON *Corsair* i. xiv. The why—the where—what boots it now to tell? **1863** LONGF. tr. *Dante, Parad.* xxvii. 109 In this heaven there is no other Where Than in the Mind Divine. **1896** A. AUSTIN *England's Darling* i. i. While he roams abroad, ... Spying the where and whither of his foes.

IV. 15. In senses of branches I and II, in comb. with advs. and preps.

For history of this use see *HERE adv.* 16; cf. *THERE* 17.
a. With advs., as †*whereforth*; *whereaway*, *whither*, in what direction. **b.** With preps.: = what or which (†*occas.* whom), as *whereagainst*, *wherealong*, *whereamong*(st), †*wherenigh*, *whereover*, *whereround*, †*wherewithout*. See also main words, WHEREABOUT to WHEREWITHAL.

1526 TINDALE *Luke* xxi. 15, I will geve you a mouth and wysdom *were agaynst alle youre adversarys shall not be able to speake. **1607** SHAKS. *Cor.* IV. v. 113 That body, where against My grained Ash an hundred times hath broke. **1622** MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* 1. 251, I was... driven to seeke out some Wall, where-against to leane. **1768** TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* I. i. vii. 201 The organs or other channels *wherealong they pass. **1582** MUNDAY *Engl. Rom.* Lyfe v. 55 Reliques, *where among he named the Nayles, that nailed Christe on the Crosse. **1620** tr. *Boccaccio's Decam.* 160 Isabella fell into abundance of teares, where-among she mingled many sighes and groanes. **1929** R. BRIDGES *Testament of Beauty* i. 17 Where-among hath the sceptic honourable place. **1578** LYTE *Dodoens* iv. xxviii. 485 Growing almost as high as the wheat or corne... *whereamongst it groweth. **1535** STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) II. 637 And *quhair awa, quhither to hevyn or hell. **1842** Whistle-binkie *Ser.* III. 84 He daunert on, ne'er thinkin' whar-awa. **1867** SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Where away?* in what bearing? a question to the man at the mast-head to designate in what direction a strange sail lies. **1885** Harper's *Mag.* Jan. 212/2 Much pondering where-away The Northeast Passage lay. *c 1290 St. Cuthbert* 77 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 361 He ne mizte nouzt finde is fore, *3ware-forth he wende a-wei in snowe ne in pe flore. **1393** LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. xvii. 339 Ac porw werkes pou myght wite wher forþ he walkep. **1642** Iack Puffe 16 in *Hazl. E.P.P.* IV. 315 The shockt mount, wherewith a Mouse did clime. **1658** BURTON *Comm. Itin. Antoninus* 90 Our learned Antiquary therefore hath shewed very good judgement in descryng the ground, *where-nigh it stood of yore. **1475** Bk. *Noblesse* (Roxb.) 72 It was never seen that any countre... did encrease welle *wherover many needles officers... was reignyng... over them. **1583** STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 74 Wherouer the holie Ghost hath made them ouerseers. **1853** T. PARKER *Disc. Death Webster* Wks. 1865 XII. 18 A great gulf..., whereover neither Dives nor Abraham, nor yet Moses himself, can pass. **1883** SWINBURNE *Cent. Roundels* 68 Love lies bleeding in the bed whereover Roses lean. **1910** *Spectator* 4 June 92/2 The storm-grey Manse, *Where-round tall rhododendrons dance. **1567** JEWEL *Def. Apol.* v. xiii. 572 The conductes of Water, *wherewithout menne cannot commodiously liue. **1578** Bk. *Chr. Prayers* Bij, Thou light, wherewithout all things are deepe darcknesse. **1899** BEERBOHM *More* 95 Mere masses of colour, crude intensity of conception, wherewithout posters fail, were quite unnecessary.

where, obs. f. CHOIR, WERE, WHETHER.

whereabout ('hwɛərə'baʊt: stress var.), *interrog.* and *rel. adv.*, *sb.* [f. WHERE 15 + ABOUT.]

1. a. interrog. About where? in or near what place, part, situation, or position? Now *rare*: replaced by WHEREABOUTS 1.

a 1300 Cursor *M.* 15429 Quar abute abide yee nu? **1484** CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* IV. xiii. My broder and my frend where aboute is thy sore? *c 1566* J. ALDAY tr. *Boaystuaui's Theat. World* (1581) K iij, My shoos is new, ... wel made, but you know not where about it doeth hurt & grieue me. **1665** Phil. *Trans.* I. 39 His Ephemerides directing where-about it is to be. **1720** S. SEWALL *Diary* 4 Nov. (1882) III. 274, I ask'd her Whereabout we left off last time. **1736** BUTLER *Anal.* i. iv, One irregularity after another embarrasses things to such a degree that they know not whereabout they are. *c 1850* Arab. *Nts.* (Rtldg.) 175, I desired the owner of the ass to enquire whereabout the house... was. **1861** H. KINGSLEY *Ravenshoe* xviii, She... used to look over to where the ship lay beneath the sea, and wonder whereabout it was. **1908** KIPLING *Lett. Trav.* (1920) 188 'And where-about do they go?' I asked. 'Oh, all about anywhere.'

(b) Contextually, with *love*: cf. WHERE 10 b(b).
15... in *Dunbar's Poems* (S.T.S.) 308 Fane wald I lue, bot quhair abowt? Thair is so mony luvaris thairout, That thair is left no place to me.

†**b. rel.** About or near which place; in the neighbourhood of which. *Obs. rare.*

1722 WHISTON *The Earth* II. 218 At..Pekin.. whereabout probably Noah liv'd immediately before the Deluge.

2. † a. interrog. About or concerning what? on what business or occupation? *Obs.*

13... *Northern Passion* (1913) I. 85/2 We wist nocht whare about pou went. *c 1425* Cast. *Persev.* 2367 in *Macro Plays* 148 Where-a-bowte stonde 3e al day? **1560** Bible (Geneva) 1 Sam. xxi. 2 Let no man knowe whereabouts I send thee. **1596** SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV.* II. iii. 107, I must not haue you henceforth, question me, Whether I go: nor reason where-about. **1598** R. BERNARD tr. *Terence, Andria* IV. iii, Where-about goest thou?

b. rel. About, concerning, or in regard to which. ? *Obs.*

1538 ELYOT *Dict.*, *Operatio*, the wark, or that wherabout a man laboureth. **1597** HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxvii. § 12 Those things whereabouts they differ. *a 1653* BINNING *Serm.*, *Rom.* viii. 2 Wks. (1735) 200 That whereabouts the Thoughts and Discourses of Men now run.

3. rel. About or around which. ? *Obs.*

1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 267/2 *Axis*,... the axeltree or the axetree where about the wheeles turne.

4. as *sb.* ('hwɛərə'baʊt). [from 1.] With possessive or *of*: The place in or near which a person or thing is; (approximate) position or situation. Now replaced by WHEREABOUTS 3.

1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* II. i. 58 For feare Thy very stones prate of my where-about. **1786** COWPER *Lett. to Bagot* 17 Nov., Wks. 1836 II. 263 That... I shall derive considerable advantage... from the alteration made in my *where-about*. **1814** CARY *Dante, Parad.* XII. 27 A voice That made me seem like needle to the star, In turning to its whereabouts. **1831** CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* III. ix, By degrees, the eye grows accustomed to its new Whereabout. **1861** MUSGRAVE *By-Roads & Battle-F.* 170 Both armies... were then within a few days of each other's whereabouts.

'wherea'bouts (stress var.), *adv.*, *sb.* [f. prec. + advb. -s: cf. HEREABOUTS, THEREABOUTS.]

1. a. interrog. = prec. 1 a. Also *fig.*

c 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 167 Sonne, whereabouts art pow? **1540** PALSGR. *Acolastus* II. v. Njb, Wherabouts is our hostes house? **1621** I. C. in *T. Bedford's Sin unto Death* ¶ vj, Except they know... whereabouts the danger is. **1648** DUPPA *Soules Solil.* 2 Many... go away informed... where abouts the Spleen lies, or where the Liver. **1791** GOUV. MORRIS in *Sparks Life & Writ.* (1832) I. 357, I ask him whereabouts he is with the claims of the German Princes. **1837** DICKENS *Pickw.* liii, Whereabouts were your apartments, Mr. Pickwick? **1893** SELOUS *Trav. S.E. Africa* 97 The natives pointed out to me whereabouts they passed in the valley below.

†**b. rel.** About the amount at which. (Cf. THEREABOUTS 2 b.) *Obs. rare.*

1766 J. INGERSOLL *Lett. rel. Stamp-Act* 6 note, The Parliament have... settled the above Duties just whereabouts they are stated in the above Letter.

†**2. interrog.** and *rel.* = prec. 2 a, b. *Obs.*

1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* 1. i. Dj, What studyeth he i. wherabouts gothe he? **1576** FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 224 Neyther had I any thing at all, where abouts to occupie my penne. **1630** BEDELL in *Ussher's Life*, etc. (1686) 452 Only he labours about Kildromfarten: Whereabouts I purposed to have spoken with your Grace.

3. as *sb.* ('hwɛərə'baʊts). [from 1.] = prec. 4. Also *fig.*

1795 T. TWINING *Lett. to Parr* 15 Feb. in *P.'s Wks.* (1828) VIII. 273 By way of giving you the whereabouts of my present political opinions. **1836** DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Scot.-Yard*, Not all his knowledge of the history of the past... may help him to the whereabouts... of Scotland-yard. **1878** BAYNE *Purit. Rev.* i. 12 Bunyan wrote the Pilgrim's Progress... without giving a hint of his ecclesiastical whereabouts. **1903** *Times* 3 May 3/6 The prisoner... succeeded in concealing his whereabouts.

whereafter (hwɛə'rɑ:ftə(r), -æ-), *rel. adv.* Now formal or *arch.* [WHERE 15.] After which.

c 1375 Sc. *Leg. Saints* xxii. (Laurentius) 113 He tane had halely pe tresoure, Quhare-efyre socht pe emperoure. *c 1410* Master of Game (MS. Digby 182) Prol. 7 He hath ynogh at done... to loke wherafter he hunteth. **1577** T. KENDALL *Flowers Epigr.* 78 So loste he that he had, and that where-after he did snatche. **1631** WEEVER *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 819 The Parish and Lordship of Clipesby... gave name... to a familie of ancient note... whereof there hath bene diuers Knights; where after it had passed in the names of Algar, Elfled, and Odberd, all sirnamed de Clipesby. *a 1641* BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* viii. (1642) 489 The image and similitude of God, whereafter God made man at first. **1847** HARE *Vict. Faith* 68 Whereafter in another generation Consciousness was asserted to be the ground of all existence. **1885** SWINBURNE *Misc.* (1886) 163 The judicious Dr. Nott has written in the margin 'This is much too unqualified': whereon—or at least, as I presume, whereafter—a pen was struck through the last fourteen words.

So †*whereafterward rel. adv. Obs. rare*—1.

1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 354 b/1 Wherafterward... it was shewed... that by cause that place was ouer lytil... they shold do make... another chirche.

whereagainst, -along, etc.: see WHERE 15.

whereanent (hwɛərə'nɛnt), *rel. adv.* Orig. and chiefly *Sc.* [f. WHERE 15 + ANENT *prep.* II.] Anent or concerning which.

1579 Sc. *Acts Jas.* VI. lxii. (1814) III. 182/2 The auld fundationis... notw'standing q'anent his ma^{tie}... dispensis. **1609** SKENE *Reg. Maj.* i. 7b, The debatable matter, quhairanent the summons is made. **1681** in *Nairne Peerage Evid.* (1874) 15 That the said letters... passe the great seale per saltum whereanent these presents shall be a sufficient warrant. **1899** tr. *Dante's Paradiso* xxxi. 379 To question my Lady concerning things whereanent my mind was in suspense.

whereas (hwɛə'ræz), *rel. adv.*, *conj.* (*sb.*). In early use as two words.

I. As relative adv. or advb. phr.: cf. *where that* s.v. WHERE II.

†**1.** = WHERE 5, 7-11. *Obs.* or *rare arch.*

c 1350 Will. *Palerne* 1782 þei... tok forþ here wey... to sum wildernesse where as þei bredde. *c 1386* CHAUCER *Frankl. T.* 74 Nat fer fro Pedmark ther his dwelling was Where as he lyueth. *c 1400* Rom. *Rose* 1966 The helthe of loue[rs] mut be founde Where as they token firste hir wounde. *c 1450* Merlin 242 The grete distruxion where-as the kyng Aguyсанx hadde I-be. **1548-9** (Mar.) Bk. *Com. Prayer*, Collect 4th Sund. aft. Easter, That...oure heartes may surely there be fixed, where as true ioyes are to be founde. **1567** J. SANFORD *Epictetus* 23 Whereas vtilitie is, there is pietie. **1578** LYTE *Dodoens* II. xx. 172 Auicularia groweth... in fields amongst wheate, or where as wheate hath growen. **1578 Bible (Geneva) To Rdr., Whereas the Ebrewe speache seemed hardly to agree with ours, we haue noted it in the margent. **1601** HOLLAND *Pliny* II. lxxxv. I. 39 All that leuell whereas the river Mæander now runneth by goodly meadows. **1663** GERBIER *Counsel* 12 Ornaments on that upright, whereas the Southerly windes raise much dust. **1868** MORRIS *Earthly Par.* (1870) I. II. 655 And quickly too he gat Unto the place whereas the lady sat.**

II. As illative or adversative conjunction.

2. In view or consideration of the fact that; seeing that, considering that, forasmuch as, inasmuch as. (Chiefly, now only, introducing a preamble or recital in a legal or other formal document.)

1424 *Information against Walter Aslak in Paston Lett.* I. 16 Where as the seyd William Paston, by assignement and commaundement of the seyd Duk of Norfolk... was the Styward of the seyd Duc of Norfolk. **1488-9** *Act 4 Hen. VII* c. 2 Where as it was of old tyme..., that ther was for the weale of the Kyng... Fynours and parters of Gold and Silver [etc.]. *a 1533* LD. BERNERS *Huon* civ. 345 Where as thou sayest I am a traytoure I shall shewe the how thou lyeest. **1539 Bible (Great) 1 Kings viii. 18 Where as it was thyne hert to buylde an house unto my name, thou dydest well, that thou wast so mynded. **1635** R. N. tr. *Camden's Hist. Eliz.* 1. 31 Whereas the Emperour and the Catholice Princes by many Letters made intercession, that the displaced Bishops might be mercifully dealt withall... shee answered [etc.]. **1713** *Act 13 Anne* c. 28 § 1 Whereas Part of the Highway... is become so very ruinous that [etc.]. **1918** *Act 8 Geo. V* c. 6 Preamble, And whereas the Army Act will expire in the year, one thousand nine hundred and eighteen on the following days.**

3. Introducing a statement of fact in contrast or opposition to that expressed by the principal clause: While on the contrary; the fact on the other hand being that. (The principal clause usually precedes, but sometimes follows as in 2.)

†In quot. 1542, Notwithstanding that; though (*obs.*).

1535 COVERDALE 2 *Esdras* vii. 5 There are layed vp for vs dwelllynges of health & fredome, where as we haue lyued euell. **1542** UDALL *Eras. Apoph.* 7 This knaue, wheras he is the greatest glutton... that maye bee, yet is he the moste idle lubber. **1591** SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI.* II. v. 76, I deriued am From Lionel Duke of Clarence...; whereas hee, From Iohn of Gaunt doth bring his Pedigree. **1631** WEEVER *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 520 Hee might haue worne the Diadem many yeares, whereas he bare the title of King no longer than two moneths. **1749** FIELDING *Tom Jones* x. iii, Whereas he had received a very handsome fortune with his wife, he had now spent every penny of it. **1849** C. BRONTE *Shirley* xxvi, 'Yet, they are great whiskered fellows, six feet high each.' 'Whereas... Harry, you will never be anything more than a little pale lameter.' **1882** BESANT *All Sorts* xxiv, I brought him up in ignorance of his father, whom he had always imagined to be a gentleman; whereas he was only a sergeant in a Line regiment. **1892** *Photogr. Ann.* II. 519 Whereas a pinhole has no focus, every lens has a focus.

III. 4. as *sb.* (from 2). A statement introduced by 'whereas'; the preamble of a formal document.

1795 COLERIDGE *Plot Discov.* 23 While the contrary remains unproved, such a Whereas must be a most inadequate ground for the present Bill. **1796** GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T.* (ed. 3) s.v., To follow a whereas; to become a bankrupt...: the notice given in the Gazette that a commission of bankruptcy is issued out against any trader, always beginning with the word whereas. **1804** F. L. HOLT *Land we live in* II. i. (1805) 30, I am as long-winded as the Whereas of a proclamation. **1863** GUROWSKI *Diary* 18 Oct. (1864) 347 A new whereas calling for three hundred thousand volunteers.

whereat (hwɛər'æt), *adv.* Now formal or *arch.* [f. WHERE 15 + AT *prep.*]

1. interrog.: At what? *rare.*

In first quot. app. = for what cause or reason, wherefore: cf. AT *sb.* 34, 37.

c 1250 Gen. & Ex. 3237 Qvað god, 'quor-at calles ðu me?' *c 1480* HENRYSON *Cock & Fox* 563 Now Iuge 3e all quhairat Schir Lawrence leuch. **15**... *Adam Bel & Clym of Clough* cxlvii, 'I hold hym neuer no good archar That shuteth at buttes so wyde.' 'Wherat?' then sayd our kyng. **1540** PALSGR. *Acolastus* I. iii. Gj, Thou wottest fulle llyttell wherat thou reioycest. **1755** JOHNSON s.v., Whereat are you offended?

2. rel. At which. **a.** in local and allied senses.

c 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxvi. 121 A wyndowe, whare at þe light commez in. **1513** DOUGLAS *Aeneid* II. viii. 33 A little 3ett... Quhairat was wont alane Andromacha To entir. **1588** A. KING tr. *Canisius' Catech.* hiv, Giff 3ow wald knaw ye dominicall lettre of ony hundereth 3ere, quhairat ye ordre of ye first table according to ye awld kallendar is interrupted. **1613** PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* v. xi. 425 At this Cart hang many... Ropes, whereat all the people hale and pull. **1626** GOUGE *Serm. Dignity Chivalry* § 1 Take notice of the generall Scope wherat the Holy Ghost aimeth in this Chapter. **1688** HOLME *Armoury* II. 84/2 The Pit or Hole, from the Body, or stock there is whereat the branches sprout out. **1865**

SWINBURNE *Chastelard* II. i. 78 Albeit I think Ye have caught the mark whereat my heart is bent. 1891 C. JAMES *Rom. Rigmarole* 27, I returned to the spot whereat the Squire kept dreary watch.

b. in reference to occasion or cause.

1535 JOYE *Apol. Tindale* (Arb.) 11 Wherat many were offended. 1599 T. STORER *Life & D. Wolsey* F. 4, What had the wiser sort whereat to smile? 1667 MILTON *P.L.* II. 389 With full assent They vote: whereat his speech he thus renews. 1782 COWPER *Gilpin* 205 Whereat his horse did snort, as he Had heard a lion roar. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xlvii, Nell could not help weeping...; whereat... the simple schoolmaster shed a few tears himself. 1897 J. L. ALLEN *Choir Invis.* II. The inventor... said... that... he would demonstrate by his own model that some day navigation would be by steam: whereat they all laughed kindly at him for a dreamer.

whereaway: see WHERE 15.

wherebole, obs. form of CUIR-BOUILLI.

a 1400 *Warres of Jewes* (MS. Cott. Calig. A. ii) in Warton *Hist. Eng. Poetry* Sect. x. (1840) II. 106 Whippes of wherebole [*Laud MS.* quyrbole] bywent his white sides.

whereby (hwēə'bar), *adv.* [f. WHERE 15 + BY *prep.*]

I. 1. *interrog.* a. By, beside, or near what? in what direction? b. By what means? how? (BY 29, 30.) †c. For what reason? why? (BY 36).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7801 þat þai bath er slain, quar-bi Wat þou it es sua? c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2256 Wharbi seistow so so þe god help? 1377 *LANGL. P. Pl. B. x.* 436 Wherby wote men whiche is whyte if alle þinge blake were? a 1450 *MYRC Par. Pr.* 4 In-to þe dyche þey fallen boo, For þey ne sen whare by to go. 1470-85 *MALORY Arthur* VIII. xvi. 297 Be ye a knyght of Cornewaile? where by aske ye hit? said sir Tristram. 1526 *TINDALE Luke* i. 18 Wherby shall I knowe this? 1604 *SHAKS. Oth.* III. i. 9 *Clo.* Thereby hangs a tale. *Mus.* Whereby hangs a tale, sir? 1755 *JOHNSON s.v.*, Whereby wilt thou accomplish thy design?

II. *rel.* 2. By means of or by the agency of which; from which (as a source of information); according to which, in the matter of which, etc.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 81 We wolden sen sum fortocne of þe, Warbi we mihten cnowen gif it soð were þat þu seist. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 573 Mete quorbi ðei miȝten liuen. 1377 *LANGL. P. Pl. B. xiv.* 40 Lyfode... Wher-of or wherfore or where-by to lybbe. 1390 *GOWER Conf.* II. 294 A staf, wherby, he seide, he wolde That Adrian him scholde holde. c 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 195 Summe spyritual visyon wherby þat he myst haue ben confortyd yn sowle. 1450-1520 *MYRR. Our Lady* II. 234 A starre of bible wherby ys vnderstonde our lorde iesu cryste. 1560 *Bible* (Geneva) Jer. xxxiii. 8, I will cleanse them from all their iniquitie, whereby they haue sinned against me. 1584 J. MELVILL *Autob. & Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 192 The absolut power, wharbe... the hail privileges of the thrie Esteates of the Realme is weakned. 1662 *STILLINGFL. Orig. Sacrae* II. iii. §3 The rational evidence of that divine authority whereby Moses acted. 1667 *MILTON P.L.* v. 411 Every lower facultie Of sense, whereby they hear, see, smell, touch, taste. 1697 in *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* I. 516 His Return of rep[re]sentatives for Council was produced, q[ue]ry it appeared [etc.]. 1709 *BERKELEY Th. Vision* §61 Stated Lengths, whereby we measure Objects. 1794 R. J. SULLIVAN *View Nat.* II. 92 An universal plastic power, whereby every body in nature receives its... specific form. 1883 *WHITELAW Sophocles, Ajax* 1025 This... sword-point—this whereby Ebbod out thy life. 1918 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 14 Mar. 122/2 There is no convention in war whereby the loser can convert disaster into stalemate.

3. In consequence of, as a result of, or owing to which; from which (as a cause or reason); wherefore; sometimes practically equivalent to 'so that', 'in order that'. *Obs. exc. dial.*

c 1380 *WYCLIF Wks.* (1880) 310 þise men lousen crist þat maken hise membris heere special patrouns, & leuen to haue crist oonliche heere patroun, werbi þei lounen lasse crist. 1523 *LD. BERNERS Froiss.* I. c. 49b/1 The table rounde, wherby sprange the fame of so many noble knyghtes through out all the worlde. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 1 b, It was put in to my mynde to drawe it in the englysshe tonge, wherby it myght be the more accepte to many. 1596 *SHAKS. 1 Hen. IV.* v. 1. 67 We were inforc'd for safety sake, to... raise this present Head, Whereby we stand opposed by such meanes As you your selfe haue forg'd against your selfe. 1632 *LITHGOW Trav.* v. 232 Wee buried the slayne people in deep graues, whereby lackals should not open vp their graues. 1678 *WANLEY Wond. Lit. World* v. ii. §81. 472/2 He was suddenly seised with a Cancer in the Reins of his back, whereby he rotted above ground. 1844 *HOOD Univ. Feud* 105 Whereby it so may happen as that neither of them Scholars May be the proper Chairman for the Glorious Apollers! 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* xv, I ought to be... going peacefully to bed, whereby I should wake up with a clear head.

b. Upon which, whereupon. *dial.* ? *Obs.*

1597 *SHAKS. 2 Hen. IV.* II. i. 104 Goodwife Keech... telling vs she had a good dish of Prawnes; whereby y^e didst desire to eat some: whereby I told thee they were ill for a greene wound. 1748 *SMOLLETT Rod. Random* xxiv, Whereby he told the captain that... he would heave him overboard. *Ibid.*, We heard firing, whereby we made for the place.

4. Beside or near which; along, through, or over which. Now *rare*.

1297 *R. GLOUC. (Rolls)* 21 Wateres... 3ware bi þe sspis mowe come fram þe se. 14... *Master of Game* xix. (MS. Digby 182), A kenell shulde haue a gutter or two, wherby alle þe pisse of þe houndes... may renne oute. 1586 *LLOYD Pilgr. Princes* 154 b, Hee... hideth him selfe vnder some... rocke, or any other place, whereby hee semeth to bee. 1596 *DALRYMPLE tr. Leslie's Hist. Scot.* v. I. 293 He occupies and standes in a way quhairby the men of weir fled. 1818 *BYRON Ch. Har.* IV. xxxiii, The brawling brook, where-by... glide the sauntering hours With a calm languor. 1847 *TENNYSON Princess* IV. 359 Fear... wing'd Her transit to the throne, whereby she fell Delivering seal'd dispatches. 1885-94 *R.*

BRIDGES *Eros & Psyche* Feb. 10 At Aphrodite's golden gate —whereby They came as night was close on twilight dim.

where-ever: see WHEREVER.

wherefore ('hwēəfə(r)), wherefor (hwēə'fə(r)), *adv. (sb.)* Forms: a. 2-3 hwarfore, 3 waruore, quor-fore, 4 quar-fore, quer-fore, huervore, werfore, 4-5 warfore, 4-7 wherfore, 5 wharfore, wher-ffore, qw(h)erf(f)ore, *Sc.* qwharfore, 5-6 *Sc.* quharfore, 6 *Sc.* quhairfore. β. 3 werefore, ware uore, 4 warefore, where-fore, 5 wharefore, qwereffore, *Sc.* quharefore, 6 *Sc.* quherefore, 5-wherefore. γ. 4 wharfor, quarfor, querfor, 4-5 warfor, 4-6 *Sc.* quharfor, 5 werfor, qwer for, 5-6 wherff(f)or, 6 *Sc.* qwarfor, quhairfor, 6-8 *Sc.* quhairfor, 7 *Sc.* quherfoer. δ. 4 quere-for, 6, 9 wherefor. [f. WHERE 15 + FOR *prep.* Cf. Du. *waarvoor*, ON. *hvar fyrir*, MSw. *hvarfore*, Sw. *varfor*, Da. *hvorfor*, G. *wofür*. For the spellings cf. THEREFORE.]

I. Interrogative uses.

For the dependent or indirect interrogative use, and its distinction from the relative, cf. WHAT A. I.**

1. For what? *esp.* for what purpose or end? (Often scarcely distinguishable from 2.)

c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 45 þu first feawe ðe wile giuen ðe ani þing, bute hie witen hwarfore. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1296 Seth þen sette him spell o-nend And tald him warfor þat he was send. 13... *Ibid.* 1734 (Gött.), He teld þat resun to mani a man, Quarfor he sulik a schip bigan. 1476 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) II. 12 (MS.) I vnderstonde there schalle be a gret Counsell, wherefore I wat nere. 1555 in *Feuillerat Revels Q. Mary* (1914) 199 As herunder the parties names and somes of monye due and wherfore perticlerly ensue. 1590 *SHAKS. Com. Err.* III. i. 40 *E. Ant.*... Open the dore. *S. Dro.* Right sir, Ile tell you when, and you'll tell me wherefore. *Ant.* Wherefore? for my dinner. 1593 — *Rich.* II. II. iii. 122 Wherefore was I borne? 1667 *MILTON P.L.* IV. 657 But wherfore all night long shine these...? 1846 *MRS. A. MARSH Fr. Darcy* xxix, Here I am—wherefore come, I have to learn.

2. For what cause or reason? on what account? why? (Freq. with ellipsis; often coupled with *why* for emphasis.)

c 1230 *Hali Meid.* 15 þe feondes flan fleoð awei aȝain on him seluen, and loke hwarfore. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1632 Iacob calde ðat stede betel; Quor-fore he it dede, he wiste wel. c 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 31 His felau thoht herof ferly, And asked him quarfor and qui. 1423 *JAS. I Kingis Q.* ii, As I lay In bed allone waking... Fell me to mynd of many diuerse thing, Off this and that; can I noght say quharfore. 1535 *COVERDALE 2 Sam.* xii. 23 Now that it is deed, wherfore shulde I fast? 1585 *JAS. I Ess. Poesie* (Arb.) 54 Ze may maruell paraventure, quhairfore I sould haue writtin in that mater. 1663 *BUTLER Hud.* I. i. 8 Whose honesty they all durst swear for, Though not a man of them knew wherfore. 1781 *COWPER Truth* 12 Hard lot of man—to toil for the reward Of virtue, and yet lose it! Wherefore hard? 1809 *MALKIN Gil Blas* x. ix. (Ridg.) 362 You... ran away... without leaving me word why or wherefore. 1853 *DICKENS Bleak Ho.* xx, If he be ever asked how, why, when, or wherfore, he shuts up one eye and shakes his head. 1873 *LONGF. Michael Ang.* I. IV, But wherefore should I jest?

II. Relative uses.

3. For which. Now distinguished by stress and spelling (*where'for*).

†without anything wherefore, without a return or equivalent; †to do wherefore, to make a return, give an equivalent.

1297 *R. GLOUC. (Rolls)* 7526 Willam hit sende hire vaire inou wipoute eny þing ware uore. 1377 [see WHEREBY 2]. a 1400 in *Engl. Gilds* (1870) 353 No wollemongere... ne may habbe no stal in þe heye-stret of Wynchestre bote he do warfore. c 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (prose) 27/22 þa þat serue sal ta yeme til þam þat etes, þat tay haue na defeaute of þat tay sal haue, wharfore þai make na noise. 1530 *TINDALE Answ. More* III. i. Wks. (1573) 304/1 That we be bounde to beleue the church in thinges, wherefore they haue no scripture. 1551 *CROWLEY Pleas. & Payne* 62, I... gaue you that wherefore ye sought. 1599 *SHAKS. Hen. V.* v. ii. 1 Peace to this meeting, wherefore we are met. 1913 *Act 3 & 4 Geo. V* c. 20 §118 (1)(d) All sums (not exceeding... one hundred pounds) due in respect of compensation under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1906, the liability wherefor accrued before the said date.

4. On account of or because of which; in consequence or as a result of which. Chiefly with sb. (esp. *reason* or *cause*) as antecedent. *arch.*

c 1250 *Kent. Serm.* in *O.E. Misc.* 28 Gode werkes þet bieth þo offringes... werefore se christenman... of-seruet þo blisice of heuene. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 10784 þar es resuns... Quar-for godd wald sco spused were. 1340 *Ayenb.* 45 Greate blasfemies of god and of his halzen hueruore god him wreþeþ. c 1400 *MAUNDEV. (Roxb.)* xxxii. 145 þou schall fynd na thing with vs wharfore þou schuld werray apon vs. 1474 *CAXTON Chesse* I. iii. (1883) 13 The causes wherfore this playe was founden ben thre. 1495 *Liber Festivalis* viij/2, I denounce... all tho that purchasen lettres of any lordes courte wherfore letyng is made in cristen courte. 1597 *HOOKE Eccl. Pol.* v. lxiii. §1 The true reason wherfore Christ doth loue belieuers is because their belief is the gift of God. 1829 *SOUTHEY Sir T. More* II. 187 The reason is sufficiently manifest wherefore a preference for republican institutions should hitherto have been shown.

5. Introducing a clause expressing a consequence or inference from what has just been stated: On which account; for which reason; which being the case; and therefore. (Now always *'wherefore*.)

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 16806 þen com word to sir pilat... Of all thingez þat by-fell, Wharfor he wex radd. 1340 *HAMPOLE Pr. Consc.* 1194 Whar-for worldes worshepe may be cald

Noght elles. 1456 *SIR G. HAYE Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 232 This barne is all innocent... quharefore he aw nocht to be grevit. c 1500 *Melusine* 361 And ryght forth said geffray, 'I chalenge the, wherfor deffende the.' 1500-20 *DUNBAR Poems* xxviii. 15 Sowtaris, with schone weill maid and meit, 3e mend the faltis of ill maid feit, Quhairfor to Hevin þour saulis will fle. c 1620 *A. HUME Brit. Tongue* (1865) 10 Quherfoer in this case I wald commend to our men the imitation of the greek and latin. 1766 *GOLDSM. Vic. Wakef.* xxii, I could not continue a silent spectator of her distress: wherefore, assuming a degree of severity in my voice and manner [etc.]. 1842 *TENNYSON Morte d'Arth.* 248 More things are wrought by prayer Than this world dreams of. Wherefore, let thy voice Rise like a fountain for me night and day. 1882 *BESANT All Sorts* xxix, A person, you see, is an individual, or an indivisible thing. Wherefore, let us not despise our neighbour.

†b. Followed by *soever*: For whatever reason; on whatever account. *Obs. rare.*

c 1230 *Hali Meid.* 61 Sone so þu telles te betere þen an oðer —beo it hwerfore se hit eauer beo... þu marres ti meidenhad. c 1530 *LD. BERNERS Arth. Lyt. Bryt.* lxxv. (1814) 331 He is in a great study, wherefore so euer it be. 1587 *GOLDING De Mornay* xxxii. (1592) 514 But come they once in Question, wherefore soeuer it bee, let them not escape.

III. 6. as *sb.* A question beginning with *wherefore*, or (more usually) the answer to such question; cause, reason. Often following *why* similarly used.

1590 *SHAKS. Com. Err.* II. ii. 45 *Ant.* Shall I tell you why? *S. Dro.* I sir, and wherefore; for they say, euey why hath a wherefore. 1624 *FLETCHER Rule a Wife* III. i, Such as are understanding in their draughts, And dispute learnedly the whyes and wherefores. 1641 'SMECTYMNUS' *Vind. Answ.* xiii. 144 But let him first answer our *Therefores*, and wee will quickly answer his *Wherefores*. 1719 *RAMSAY To Arbuckle* 6 [He] disna care for A how, a what way, or a wherefore. 1838 *DICKENS O. Twist* xxxi, They will have the why and the wherefore, and will take nothing for granted. 1884 *ANNIE S. SWAN Dor. Kirke* xiv, I am carried back to the days when I rebelled and demanded the wherefore of all God's dealings with me.

†where'fro, *adv.* Chiefly *Sc. Obs.* (quhairfra). [f. WHERE 15 + FRO *prep.*]

1. *rel.* = next.

In quot. 1585 *ellipt.* = to the place whence.

c 1449 *PECOCK Repr.* IV. viii. 467 The occasion wherbi and wherfro the goostli harme and synne comen. 1508 *DUNBAR Gold. Targe* 57 Among the grene rispis and the redis, Arrivit sche, quhar for anonn thare landis Ane hundreth ladies. 1541 *COPLAND Galen's Terap.* Bjb, The thyng wherfro nothyng can be taken, nor put to it. 1585 *JAS. I Ess. Poesie* (Arb.) 48 He tolde me then, how she flew bak againe, Where fra she came. 1588 *A. KING tr. Canisius' Catech.* h. iv, It behoueth ye cowrse of ye dominicall lettre to be Interrupted, euerie hundereth zere quhairfra is subduced ane day. 1643 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* Ser. II. VIII. 66 Thomas Irwing... being verie seik in Quondale, quherfra he was fitting.

2. *indirect interrog.* = WHENCE 1 b.

1513 *DOUGLAS Æneis* IX. vii. 106 To se quhayrfra the grundyn dart dyd glyde. 1596 *DALRYMPLE tr. Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 25 This guse ȝeirle in the spring tyme returns to ws: quhairfra can na man tell.

wherefrom (hwēə'frɒm), *adv.* Now formal or *arch.* [f. WHERE 15 + FROM *prep.*] From which; whence.

1490 *CAXTON Eneydos* xii. 45 There is the Region of thire, wherfrom we haue wythdrawen... all this people. 1621 *SANDERSON Serm.*, 1 *Cor. vii.* 24 (1674) I. 205 Some Calling; wherfrom he may be altogether averse, and whereto altogether unfit. 1768 *TUCKER Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 40 We have none others wherfrom to describe anything conceivable to our imagination. 1837 *CARLYLE Fr. Rev.* I. IV. iv, Lofty galleries; wherfrom dames of honour... may sit and look. 1865 *KINGSLEY Herew.* xvi, Wherefrom Hereward opined that Gilbert had need of him. 1893 *J. CAIRD Fundam. Ideas Chr.* vii, Akin to the infinite source wherfrom they proceed.

†wherehen, -hence, *adv. Obs.* Forms: a. 4 whar hanne. β. 6 wherhens, wherhence, 6-7 where-hence, wherehence. [f. WHERE 15 + HENNE, HENCE. Cf. HEREHENCE, THEREHENCE.]

1. *interrog.* = WHENCE 1, 2.

c 1400 *R. GLOUC. Chron.* (Rolls) 7726 Wonder it was whar hanne [v.rr. wanene, whannen, whens] it com. c 1475 *Partenay* 3383 Off norreles Anon can hym to enquire; Where-hens he cam. 1567 *JEWEL Def. Apol.* III. ii. 336 Where hence haue Schismes, and Heresies spronge vp, or where-hence doo they springe, onlesse [etc.]. 1584 *Copie of a Letter* 78 And wherhence (I pray you) ensueth al this?

2. *rel.* = WHENCE 3, 4.

c 1475 *Partenay* 5489 Where-hens thay shull noght depart verily Fro thys vnto the day of Iugement. 1548 *UDALL Erasm. Par. Luke* II. 24 b, Not after the fleshe onely (wherhens in dede the begynnyn of this saluacion hath proceded). 1575 *TURBERV. Faulconrie* 27 But wherehence soeuer the name is deriued, this is most assured, that of all other birds of pray, the Falcon is most excellent. 1603 *J. DAVIES Microcosmos Wks.* (Grosart) I. 31/2 Dust of the earth... Wherehence we came, and wherenvto we must. 1611 *CORYAT Crudities* 448 This part of the country... was... inhabited by a kinde of people called Triboces... wherehence it was called *Tribocum regio*. 1647 *TRAPP Comm. Matt.* vii. 5 God will lay them in the slimy valleys... wherehence also they shall be brought forth to the day of wrath.

wherein (hwēə'rɪn), *adv.* Now formal or *arch.* [f. WHERE 15 + IN *prep.* Cf. Du. *waarin*, G. *worin*, MSw. *hvarinne*, Sw. *vari*, Da. *hvori*.]

I. Interrogative. 1. In what (thing, matter, respect, etc.)?

In quot. 1600 = in what dress? (IN *prep.* 6.)

For the distinction between the use in dependent clauses and the relative use, cf. WHAT A. I ** note.

c1230 *Hali Meid*. 39 Hare confort & hare delit, hwerin is hit? **c1460** *METHAM Wks.* (1916) 46 Clerkys wryte, off gret and smal, Her namys and naturys, and qwere-in thei noy be kend natural. **1509** *FISHER Funeral Sermon*. *C'tess Richmond Wks.* (1876) 289 To shewe wherein this . . prynces may wel be lykened. .vnto the blessyd woman Martha. **1535** *COVERDALE Exod.* xxii. 27 His rayment is his onely couerynge of his skynne: wherin he slepeth. **1600** *SHAKS. A. Y. L.* iii. ii. 234 How look'd he? Wherein went he? **1611** *Bible* Isa. ii. 22 Wherein is hee to be accounted of? **1671** *MILTON Samson* 564 To what can I be useful, wherein serve My Nation? **1728** *LAW Serious C.* x, Wherein does the sinfulness of this behaviour consist? **1850** *McCOSH Div. Govt.* i. iii. (1874) 60 It is not needful to show wherein the weakness of this theory lies. **1891** *FARRAR Darkn. & Dawn* xxii, Oh, Britannicus! wherein have we offended?

II. Relative. 2. In which (place, material thing, writing, etc.); where.

c1400 *MAUNDEV.* (Roxb.) vii. 26 A felde whare in bawme growes apon smale brusches. **1484** *CAXTON Fables of Alfonse* iv, A grette purse wherin were a thousand Crownes. **1523** *LD. BERNERS Froiss.* i. lxxv. 39b/2 The cytie. . was destroyed, and the churches of godde wherin that god was honoured. **c1620** *A. HUME Brit. Tongue* (1865) 14 Anie latin word, quaherein now we sound c as s. **1634** *MILTON Comus* 135 Stay thy cloudy Ebon chair, Wherin thou rid'st with Hecat'. **1711** *STEELE Spect.* No. 158. ¶ 5 Your Paper, wherein you fall upon us whom you envy. **1859** *GWILT Archit.* (ed. 4) 1027 A species of building wherein the faces of the stones are . . picked with the point of a hammer. **1888** 'J. S. WINTER' *Boote's Childr.* ii, Peering keenly into the shadow wherein she stood.

(b) with ellipsis of antecedent: cf. **WEREWITH** 2 b.

1674 *N. FAIRFAX Bulk & Selv.* 99 The world is made as much for stirring in its kind, as any share of it, if it had but a wherein to stir.

b. In, at, during, or in the course of which (time).

1535 *COVERDALE Ps.* lxxxix. [xc.] 15 The yeares wherin we have suffred aduersite. **1597** *MORLEY Introd. Mus.* Ded., We liue in those daies wherein enuie reigneth. **1629** *MILTON Nativity* i, This is the Month, and this the happy morn Wherin the Son of Heav'n's eternal King. . Our great redemption from above did bring. **1733** *BERKELEY Th. Vision Vind.* §70 In an Age wherein we hear so much of Thinking and Reasoning. **1819** *SHELLEY Cenci* i. i. 32 Length of days Wherein to act the deeds which are the stewards Of their revenue.

3. In which (matter, fact, action, condition, etc.); in respect of which.

c1400 *Apol. Loll.* 88 He hap god pis pat he moost lufi, and wer in he tristip, as in God. **c1440** *Alphabet of Tales* cli. 105 pies er sophyms & subtilties, where-in I wastis all my dayes. **1526** *TINDALE Luke* xi. 22 He taketh from him his harnes wherin he trusted. **1611** *Bible* Luke i. 4 That thou mightest know the certaintie of those things wherein thou hast bene instructed. **1711** *STEELE Spect.* No. 33. ¶ 1 Poor Daphne was seldom submitted to in a Debate wherein she was concerned. **a1774** *GOLDSM. Hist. Greece* i. 265 A very sharp action ensued, wherein. . the Athenians got the better. **1865** *SWINBURNE Chastelard* v. ii. 205 What'er this be wherein you were aggrieved. **1889** 'J. S. WINTER' *Mrs. Bob* xiv, There began a round of pleasure for Julia wherein she was the central figure.

(b) *ellipt.* or as *comp. rel.* = in that respect in which; that (one, something) in which.

1590 *SHAKS. Mids. N.* iii. ii. 179 Wherein it doth impaire the seeing sense, It paies the hearing double recompence. **1597** *HOOKER Eccl. Pol.* v. xlii. §2 There is wherein to exercise patience. **1628** in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* (1918) Jan. 30 Your Wisdom me will supply it, wherein it is defectiue. **1728** *H. HOME Decis. Crt. Sess.* 1716-28 To Rdr., No Decision is taken Notice of, but wherein some new Point is established. **1894** *Forum* (N.Y.) Oct. 248 This is wherein a bracing climate . . accounts for much with the New Englanders.

4. Into which: = WHEREINTO 1.

c1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) iv. xxxiii. 81 A coufre wherin that men shal put pryue thynges. **1526** *TINDALE John* vi. 22 There was none other shyppe there save that won wherin in his disciples were entred. **1585** *T. WASHINGTON tr. Nicholay's Voy.* ii. x. 44 We came to an anker very nigh the castle, wherin when our patrone would followe vs [etc.].

† **whereinne**, *adv.* *Obs.* [f. WHERE 15 + INE, INNE. In later instances perh. only a variant spelling of *wherein*.]

1. interrog. = prec. 1.

1382 *WYCLIF Matt.* v. 13 3if the salt shal vanyshe away, wherynne shal it be saltid? **a1425** *Cursor M.* 7208 (Trin.) Til she þe sope made him say Wher ynne al his strengþe lay.

2. rel. = prec. 2, 3, 4.

c1275 *LAY.* 26336 Ear hii come ride anon to þe tealdes dore war ine was þe caisere. **1297** *R. GLOUC.* (Rolls) 5026 An chirche of sein Martin. . War inne me ssolde godes seruise do. **1340** *Ayenb.* 23 þis zenne is þe dyeules panne of helle, huerinne he maketh his friinges. *Ibid.* 109 þe pridde bene huerinne we byddeþ oure uader of heuene þet his wyl by ydo. *Ibid.* 178 Uor þe zennes uenialis huerine me ualþ ofte. **1387** *TREvisa Higden* (Rolls) III. 475 þou hast not wereynne to doo suche a 3ifte, for þyn soule is ful of covetise. **c1400** *Rule St. Benet* (prose) 38 þis es þe rihte gate where-inne þu salle lise.

whereinso'ever, *adv.* Now formal or *arch.* [f. WHEREIN + SOEVER.] In whatever matter, respect, etc.

1526 *TINDALE 2 Cor.* xi. 21 Wherin soever eny man dare be bolde. . I dare be bolde also. **1552** *Bk. Com. Prayer, Communion* Exhortation, To examine your lyues. . and whereinsoeuer ye shall perceyue your selues to haue offended. . there bewaile your owne synful lyues. **1768** *TUCKER Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 456 That their own person, whereinsoever it consists, shall be made accountable for the actions performed by it in this life. **1845** *KEBLE in Newman's Lett.* (1891) II. 472 The impression. . of its being my own

fault, not theirs, whereinsoever I am found wanting. **1870** *MYERS Poems* 56 Whereinsoever breath may rise and die Their generations follow on.

† **wherein'till**, *adv.* *Sc. Obs.* In 6-7 quha(i)r-. [f. WHERE 15 + INTILL.] Wherein.

1516 in *Acts Partl. Scot.* (1875) XII. 36/2 For ye surty of oure Soveranis person quhairintill we confess we above all utheris bundin & oblist. **1567** *Abstr. Protocols Town Clerks of Glasgow* (1896) III. 99 The. . land of Craiginfecch quhairintill the saidis Lyounne was infest. **1652** *Z. BOYD Zion's Flowers* (1855) App. 24/2 Bands quhairintill hir name is insert.

whereinto (hwærin'tur, hwærin'tu), *adv.* *arch.* [f. WHERE 15 + INTO.]

1. Into which.

1539 *Bible* (Great) John vi. 22 None other shyp . . saue that one wher into his disciples were entred. **1569** *GOLDING tr. Heminge's Postill* Ded. avijb, The death whereintoo all mankynde was falne. **1641** *J. JACKSON True Evang.* T. III. 211 Proverbs, and Apophthegmes, whereinto a great deale of wisdomde is abridged. **a1676** *HALE Prim. Orig. Man.* (1677) 9 They find. . some things which they call by these Names, to be that whereinto Bodies are dissolved. **1768** *TUCKER Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 519 Voluntary agents. . can. . change the course whereinto bodies had been thrown by impulse. **1865** *CHR. ROSSETTI Memory* ii. i, I have a room whereinto no one enters Save I myself alone.

† **2. In which (cf. INTO 22).** *Sc. Obs.*

1560 *Diurn. Occurr.* (Bannatyne Cl.) 63 Ane buik, quhairinto was contenit, that thair sould be in this realme tuelf superattendentis.

† **wheremid**, *-mide*, *adv.* *Obs.* [f. WHERE 15 + MID *prep.*¹, MIDE. Cf. Du. *waarme(de)*, MSw. *hvarmädh*, Sw. *varmed*, Da. *hvormed*.] With which, by means of which, wherewith.

c1160 *Hatton Gosp.* Matt. xviii. 25 þa he næfde hwær-mid he hyt agulde. **a1240** *Lofsong in O.E. Hom.* I. 211 Nab ich waremid leden mi lif i þisse worlde. **c1300** *Vox & Wolf in Rel. Ant.* II. 274 Nothing he ne founde. . Wermide his hunger aquenche miȝtte. **1340** *Ayenb.* 266 þe tokenen of þe passion he heþ ine his bodye, huermide he ous bogte.

whereness ('hwænis). [f. WHERE + -NESS: cf. HERENESS, THERENESS.] The condition, quality, or fact of being where it is; position, situation, location, *ubi* (as an attribute of something, or vaguely of things generally).

1674 *N. FAIRFAX Bulk & Selv.* 43 It would crack my brain to find so many wherenesses there, to stow each of them in. **1701** *GREW Cosmol.* i. iii. 11 A Point. . hath no Dimensions, but only a Whereness. **1733** *WATTS Philos. Ess.* vi. v. (1734) 165 *The Ubi* or Whereness of a Spirit. **a1843** *SOUTHEY Doctor* xciii. (1848) 509, I. . . can never be lost till I get out of Whereness itself into Nowhere. **1887** *Mind* Jan. 18 Any special whereness or thereness. **1895** *G. MACDONALD Lilith* iii, You know nothing about whereness.

wherenigh: see WHERE 15.

whereof (hwær'ðv), *adv.* Now formal or *arch.* [f. WHERE 15 + OF *prep.* Cf. (M)Sw. *hvaraf*, Da. *hvoraf*; Du. *waarvan*.]

1. Interrogative. Of what.

1. †a. in various obsolete senses of OF: *esp.* From what source, whence; to what purpose, what. . for; for what reason, wherefore.

c1200 *ORMIN* 2931 He sahþ patt 3ho wiþþ childe wass, & nisste he noht whæroffe. **c1250** *Gen. & Ex.* 3530 Hu he sulen maken ðe tabernacle, and wor-of taken ðe gold, and siluer. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 9687 Quar-of serues ani a-sise Of sothfastnes, or of iustise, Bot for to yeme þe pes in land. **c1400** *Pety Job* 283 in 26 *Pol. Poems* 130 Wherof than shulde I presume To be hygh-hered or lightly wroth? **1528** *MORE Dyaloge* iv. Wks. 273/2 Wherof shal reason serue if man had no power of himself towards the direccion of his own workes? **1579-80** *NORTH Plutarch* (1595) 19 *marg.*, Manipulares whereof so called.

b. in various current senses of OF.

c1400 26 *Pol. Poems* 64 Where-of is mad al mankynde? **c1400** *MAUNDEV.* (Roxb.) xxxiii. 150 Where off þe wall es made, can na man tell. **c1400** *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton) v. i. (1859) 71, I not what to asken, ne wherof for to speke. **15. .** in *Dunbar's Poems* (S.T.S.) II. 310 Thus wait I nocht quhairof to wryte. **1596** *SHAKS. Merch.* V. i. i. 4 What stuffe 'tis made of, whereof it is borne, I am to learne. **1605** — *Leary* i. iv. 312 Now Gods that we adore, Whereof comes this? **1667** *MILTON P.L.* vii. 64 To know. . how this World . . first began, When, and whereof created. **1755** *JOHNSON s.v.*, Whereof was the house built?

II. Relative. Of which.

2. a. From or out of which (as source or origin, in the way of result or consequence, liberation or privation, etc.), whence (OF I-III).

a1225 *Ancr.* R. 12 Auh hwarse wummon lueð oðer mon bi him one. . of þingces wiðuten hwarof scandele ne kume, nis nout muche strence. **c1275** *LAY.* 26090 Telle of pine cunne war of pou hart ispronge. **1393** *LANGL. P. Pl.* C. iv. 60 A cours of kynde wher-of we comen alle. **1481** *CAXTON Godfrey* ccix. 305 The holy sepulchre where he laye deed in, and out wherof he aroos fro deth to lyf. **1562** *TURNER Herbal* ii. 96 b, [Polygala] hath sede besyde euery lefe, wherof it is called the male. **1567** *Satir. Poems Reform.* iv. 5 The ruite quhair of I did spring. **1611** *Bible* Deut. xxviii. 27 The itch, wherof thou canst not bee healed. **1613** *W. COWPER Holy Alph.* 236 Wherof we learn, that. . if when we haue fallen, we rise & repent, it is euer to be imputed to God that teacheth vs. **1688** *HOLME Armoury* iii. 259/2 For Avoir-du-pois Weight is weighed. . all things whereof comes waste.

b. Of which material substance (OF VII).

a1300 *Cursor M.* 368 þe mater of þe four elements. . Quar of was seren es sipeu scapen. **1594** *T. B. La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* ii. 49 That matter whereof Kernels are made. **c1620** *A. HUME Brit. Tongue* (1865) 10 These and al other

diphthonges I wald counsel the teachers not to name be the vouales quherof they are maed. **1667** *MILTON P.L.* vi. 518 Mineral and Stone, Whereof to found thir Engins. **1794** *R. J. SULLIVAN View Nat.* I. 107 The pre-existent. . matter whereof bodies are formed.

3. For, by reason of, because of, or on account of which; wherefore (OF 13, 14). Chiefly in constructional dependence on certain classes of words.

a1325 *MS. Rawl. B.* 520 lf. 80b, Send .iiij.i. chosene knyghtes. . to seon were he be sik ware of he soined him of sik bedde. **1411** *Rolls of Parl.* III. 650/2, I knowe wele that I haue failled. . yow. . wherof I beseke yow of grace and mercy. **1484** *CAXTON Fables of Arian xi*, [He] oughte to doo good. . wherof other may preye hym. **c1489** — *Sonnes of Aymon* iii. 106 He knewe well that they were of his faders folke. Werof he was full sory for it. **a1533** *LD. BERNERS Huon* lxii. 215 Huon gaue her a ryche gyft, wherof humbly she thanked hym. **1539** *Bible* (Great) Ps. cxxvi. 3 The Lorde hath done greate thynges for vs all ready, wherof we reioyse. **1606** *SHAKS. Tr. & Cr.* i. iii. 139 The Feauer, whereof all our power is sicke. **1618** *Southampton Crt. Leet Rec.* (1907) iii. 544 The wall. . is much impaired & verye daungerous whereof wee desier the same to be amendyd verye speedelye.

4. By means of which, with which, whereby, wherewith (OF VI). *Obs.* or *rare arch.* exc. with *full*, etc. (= of which).

Also with ellipsis of antecedent as obj. of a vb.: = that by which, that with which: cf. **WEREWITH** 2 b. **WEREWITHAL** 2 b.

1340 *Ayenb.* 119 þise byep þe graces huer-of he was al uol. **1377** [see **WHEREBY** 2]. **c1400** *MAUNDEV.* (Roxb.) Pref. 2 For þe whilk land ilke a gude Cristen man pat may, and has wharoff, suld enforce him for to conquire oure right heritage. **c1450** *Mirk's Festial* 4 3e hadden ynogh wherof to haue fed me. **1585** *T. WASHINGTON tr. Nicholay's Voy.* iv. xxxi. 154 [They] kept their wyues. . vnder lock and key, for feare least they should gette of theyr neighbours, whereof sometymes theyr iealous husbundes could not furnish them. **c1592** *MARLOWE Jew of Malta* iii. iv, Borgia's wine, Whereof his sire. . was poysoun'd. **1607** *SHAKS. Timon* iv. iii. 194 Dry vp thy Marrowes, Vines, and Plough-torne Leas, Whereof ingratefull man. . greases his pure minde.

5. a. About or concerning which; in regard to or in respect of which (OF VIII, IX, XI).

In quot. *c1400 ellipt.* or as *comp. rel.* = in that in respect of which.

a1300 *Cursor M.* 1624 Als it in noe flod be-fell, Quare of i sal yow sipeu tell. **c1400** *Rom. Rose* 2311 Where of that thou be vertuous, Ne be not straunge ne dangerous. **1526** *TINDALE Acts* xvii. 19 Thys newe doctrine wher off thou speakest. **1560** *T. WILSON Rhet.* Prol. to Rdr., That I was in farther perill, then wherof I was aware. **1585** *T. WASHINGTON tr. Nicholay's Voy.* i. xvii. 19b, He had vnderstanding, that the Frigate. . was of Malta, wherof he thought very strange. **1611** *Bible* i John iv. 3 This is that spirit of Antichrist, wherof you haue heard, that it should come. **1672** *MARVELL Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 408 We shall now shortly come to a good issue. Whereof therefore you may please to advertise your worthy Society. **1742** *H. WALPOLE Let. to Mann* 25 Sept., Our Duke goes. . they say, to marry a Princess of Prussia, whereof great preparations have been making. **1868** *MORRIS Earthly Par.* (1870) I. i. 382 More precious gifts. . Whereof not e'en in dreams they could haue thought.

b. *Phr.* to know whereof one speaks (or writes, etc.): to know what one is talking about, to speak from experience.

1922 *H. VAN LOON Story of Mankind* xliii. 256 He [sc. Erasmus] had travelled a great deal and knew whereof he wrote. **1967** *R. STEIN Great Cars* 165/1 Ettore Bugatti knew whereof he spoke when he advised people griping about hard starting to keep their cars in heated garages. **1975** *Publishers Weekly* 24 Mar. 42/2 Fischer has been a lifelong reporter on public affairs and was on LBJ's Commission on Rural Poverty, so he knows whereof he writes.

6. Of which, in objective senses (OF X).

1469 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 50 In wittenesse qwhereof I haue set to myn seale. **1561** *T. NORTON Calvin's Inst.* i. To Rdr., Whereof I geue to the godly reders a new profe in this setting fourth of this boke. **1592** *SHAKS. Ven. & Ad.* 880 Like one that spies an adder, . . iust in his way, The feare whereof doth make him shake, & shudder. **1647** *CLARENDON Hist. Reb.* i. §18 In dispensing whereof, he was guided more by the rules of Appetite, than of Judgement. **1676** *RAY Corr.* (1848) 123 Reputation (to the vanity of any affectation whereof I desire to be wholly mortified). **1827** *HOOD Plea Mids. Fairies* xxxv, We be the handmaids of the Spring, In sign whereof, May. . Hath wrought her samplers on our gauzy wing.

7. Of which or whom, in partitive sense (OF XIII).

Also with ellipsis of antecedent as obj. of a vb.: = some or something of which (OF 45).

c1390 in *Rel. Ant.* II. 54 To han wherof to spenden on these myraclis. **1459** *Paston Lett.* I. 473, xiiij. spones, wherof oon is gilt, weiyng xvij. unces. **1535** *COVERDALE Gen.* iii. 11 Hast thou not eaten of the tre, wherof I commaunded the, y^t thou shuldest not eate? **1593** *SHAKS. Rich.* II. i. ii. 11 Edwards seuen sonnes (whereof thy selfe art one). **1610** — *Temp.* v. i. 38 The greene sowre Ringlets. . Whereof the Ewe not bites. **1667** *MILTON P.L.* ii. 584 Lethe the River of Oblivion. . , whereof who drinks, Forthwith his former state and being forgets. **1726** *SWIFT Gulliver* ii. vii, Civil Wars, the last whereof was happily put an end to by this Prince's Grandfather. **1827** *LYTTON Pelham* lxix, I presume that you have many titles, whereof some are more grateful to your ears than others. **1865** *DICKENS Mut. Fr.* i. iv, The two bottles: whereof one held Scotch ale and the other rum.

8. Of which, in possessive and related senses (OF XIV).

a1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 4380 þe faire floryscht filds of floures & of herbys, Quare-of þe breth as of bawme blawis in oure noose. **1554** in *Strype Eccl. Mem.* (1721) III. App. xvii. 43 By reason wherof we affirm Purgatory. . to be the Doctrin of Antichrist. **1576** *TURBERV. Venerie* xxviii. 72 You shal seke the hart in heaths and broomie places, wherof they then delight to crop the flowers and toppes. **1661** *J. CHILDREY*

Brit. Baconica 23 Bodmin. . hath one street. . on the South side whereof it hath a great high hill. **1753** *Stewart's Trial* 219 In the eyes of those tenants whereof he had assumed to be protector. **1821** SCOTT *Kenilw.* xviii. Dangerous sickness, the issue whereof is in the will of Heaven. **1882** BESANT *All Sorts* xxxiii. All that work for your grandfather whereof you now sweetly reap the benefit.

†9. To which, whereto (OF 58). *Obs. rare*—1. **1659** LEAK *Waterwks.* 25 Let there be a water wheel to the Axtree, whereof let there be fastned a Wheel of thirty six Teeth or more.

Hence †where-'often *adv.*, in quot. in sense 5. **c1450** LOVELICH *Grail* xxxvii. 11 Where-often they spoken ful playn.

whereon (hwæʁɒn), *adv.* Now formal or arch. [f. WHERE 15 + ON *prep.* Cf. Du. *waaraan*, G. *woran*.]

I. 1. *Interrogative.* On what?

c1205 LAY. 15516 Ne mihten heo nauere finden. . whær on hit weore ilong. **c1250** *Gen. & Ex.* 1310 Do wurð ðe child witter and war Ðat ðor sal offrende ben don, Oc ne wiste he quuat, ne quor-on. **a1400-50** *Wars Alex.* 268 Quare-on muse 3e sa mekill, maister? **1600** SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* i. iii. 59 Tell me whereof the likelihood depends? **1602** — *Ham.* iii. iv. 124 Whereon doe you looke? **1611** *Bible* 2 Chron. xxxii. 10 Whereon doe ye trust, that yee abide in the siege in Ierusalem? **1755** JOHNSON *s.v.*, Whereon did he sit?

II. *Relative.* On which. 2. Of local position (ON *prep.* 1-4).

a1300 *Cursor M.* 16762 + 116 Til our lord in erth so mikel was not leued, Whar on þat he miȝt rest on is very heued. **c1400** MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xi. 48 A stane wharon oure Lord satt and preched. **a1508** DUNBAR *Tua Mariit Wemen* 5 Ane gudlie grene garth, . . Hegeit. . with hawthorne treis; Quhairon aine bird. . birst out hir notis. **1539** *Bible* (Great) Exod. iii. 5 Y^e place whereon thou stondest is holy grounde. **1603** SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* i. ii. 164 A horse whereon the Gouvernor doth ride. **1667** MILTON *P. L.* ix. 526 He [sc. the Serpent] lick'd the ground whereon she trod. **1812** BYRON *Ch. Har.* i. xlix. On yon long level plain, at distance crown'd With crags, whereon those Moorish turrets rest. **1896** A. MORRISON *Child Jago* xiv. The ground was bought whereon should be built a church.

3. Of time, esp. with antecedent *day* (ON *prep.* 6).

1588 A. KING tr. *Canisius' Catech.* hvj. The astrologians estimating ye haill varieties of ye change to tak end in 193eres and retorne yairefter to ye same dayes quhairon yai fell before. **1595** SHAKS. *John* iv. ii. 156 On that day at noone, whereon he sayes, I shall yeeld vp my Crowne. **1600** J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* iii. 138 Vpon eight seuerall daies of the yeere besides, whereon the Moores feastes are solemnized. **1817** SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* v. xxxvii. The eve of that great day Whereon the many nations. . Decreed to hold a sacred Festival. **1883** WHITELAW *Sophocles, Electra* 278 That fatal day whereon Our father by her treachery she slew.

4. Of immediately subsequent or consequent action (ON *prep.* 7). Now more usually WHEREUPON (sense 4).

1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV.* v. ii. 81 Your Hignesse. . strooke me. . Whereon (as an Offender to your Father) I. . did commit you. **1685** FOUNTAINHALL *Hist. Obs.* (Bannatyne Club) 146 He. . had very near shot Douglas himselfe dead, had not the Whig's carabine misgiven, wheron Douglas pistoled him presently. **1863** KINGSLEY *Water-Bab.* iii. Whereon she curled up her lip. **1885-94** R. BRIDGES *Eros & Psyche* Mar. xxi. Whereon she quickly led him down on earth, And show'd him Psyche.

5. Of motion or direction to or towards (ON *prep.* 14-16): Onto which.

a1300 *Cursor M.* 1896 Noc. . Lete vte a doue þat tok hir flight And fand na sted quare-on to light. **a1578** LINDESAY (Pitcottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 310 Ane skaffald quhairon they pat this innocent man. **1667** MILTON *P. L.* xi. 897 He. . will therein set His triple-colour'd Bow, whereon to look And call to mind his Cov'nant. **1728** CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *Glass*, The Table, whereon the Glass is to be run, is of Pot Metal. **1800** BLOOMFIELD *Farmer's Boy, Spring* 259 The oaken shelf whereon 'tis laid.

6. In reference to the object of an action, feeling, etc., and in various constructional uses (ON *prep.* 20-22, 29).

1340 *Ayenb.* 176 Verst be þe heauede, hueran me zet ofte grat cost. **1526** TINDALE *John* iv. 38, I sent you to repe that wheron ye bestowed no labour. **1591** SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI.* ii. iii. 47 To thinke, that you haue ought but Talbotts shadow, Whereon to practise your seueritie. **1594** HOOKER *Ecll. Pol.* i. iii. §3 If the string whereon he striketh chaunce to be vncapable of harmonie. **1611** SHAKS. *Wint.* T. i. i. 2 If you shall chance. . to visit Bohemia, on the like occasion whereon my seruices are now on-foot. **1781** COWPER *Conversat.* 676 Fly-blown flesh whereon the maggot feeds. **1821** SHELLEY *Ginevra* 193 A corpse whereon A vulture has just feasted. **1850** TENNYSON *In Mem.* xxi. I take the grasses of the grave, And make them pipes whereon to blow.

†7. Of which, whereof (ON *prep.* 27). *Obs.* **c1420** ? LYDC. *Assembly of Gods* 48 To declare her greefe of the gret offence To theym done by Eolus, wheron they compleynyd. **1525** LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. ccxxxiv. [ccxxx.] 303 b/2 The duke fell sycke, wheron he dyed. **1583** STOCKER *Civ. Warres Lowe* C. iii. 112 No milke to be solde, whereon butter might be made. **1624** QUARLES *Job Militant* Medit. 17 The parts, whereon the World consists.

whereout (hwæʁaʊt), *adv.* arch. [f. WHERE 15 + OUT *adv.* Cf. Du. *waaruit*, G. *woraus*.] Out of which, out from which (in various senses: see OUT *adv.* and OUT OF).

1340 *Ayenb.* 242 Lottes wyf lokede behinde hire þe eite þet bernde, huerout hi wes iguo. **1375** in Horstmann *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 132/1 þe tre of mercy. . Where out rennep oyle of lyf. **c1489** CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xix. 428 He hath betrayed me wythin his gynnes wheroute I can not scape. **1535** COVERDALE *Micah* ii. 3, I deuyed a plage, wherout ye shal not plucke youre neckes. **1578** in Feuillerat *Revels* Q.

Eliz. (1908) 300 In the whole—lxviii^{ij} d. whereout abate vj^{ij} d. **1606** SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* iv. v. 245 The very breach, where-out Hectors great spirit flaw. **1641** EARL MONM. tr. *Biondi's Civil Wars* vii. 75, I have not whereout to frame a History. **1768** TUCKER *Li. Nat.* (1834) I. 615 The general good becomes the root whereout all our schemes and contrivances. . are to branch. **1885** TENNYSON *Anc. Sage* 13 The heavens Whereby the cloud was moulded, and whereout The cloud descended.

†b. From which, whence (as an inference). *Obs.*

1569 J. ROGERS *Glasse Godly Love* (New Shaks. Soc.) 179 The wife must bee obediente vnto her husband, as vnto Christ himselfe; whereout it foloweth, that the saide obedience extendeth not vnto any wickednesse or euill. **a1626** W. SCLATER *Exp. 4th Ch. Rom.* (1650) 92 The end was, that he might be Father of Believers in both people: where-out amounts the conclusion intended.

†c. Also *whereout of* (cf. WHEREINTO). *Obs.*

1574 tr. *Marlorat's Apoc.* 21 Yet did hee sauour of the earth, wherout of his bodie was taken, and wherin hee was placed to liue. **1583** GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* xxiv. 142 Being humbled in our selues by beholding the miseries wher-out of we be waded. **c1632** in G. Barry *Orkney* (1805) 474 The Baillie of the paroch wherout of he has fled, shall cause him be jogged at the church.

whereover, wherend: see WHERE 15.

whereso ('hwæʁsəʊ), *adv., conj.* arch. [ME. *whær swa*, *se*, representing OE. *swá hwær swá*: see WHERE and so *adv.* 17 d; Ormin's form *whærs* is influenced by ON. *hvars* = *hvar* where + *es* rel. particle.]

1. = WHEREVER 2, 5.

1154 O.E. *Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1137 War sæ me tuede þe erthe ne bar nan corn. **c1200** ORMIN 1574, & whærts itt iss. *Ibid.* 4874, & whærse icc amm bitwenenn menn Icc hutedd amm & þutedd. **c1205** LAY. 9202 Ah whære swa he fonde enne gume: þe of Rome weore hider ieuemen, he lette smiten him of þet hæfde. **c1300** *Havelok* 1349 þou maght til he aren quike, Hwore so he o worde aren. **c1374** CHAUCER *Troilus* v. 1797 And red wher so þou be or elles songe, That þow be vnderstonde god beseche. **1393** LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. vii. 99 þenne was ich a-redy. . to lacke myn neghebores, Here werkes, here wordes wher-so ich sete. **c1460** *Play Sacram.* 337 Syr Almyghty god mott be yowt gyde And glad yow wher soo ye rest. **a1542** WYATT *How to use the court* 53 Stay him by the arme wher so he walke or goo. **1590** SPENSER *F. Q.* ii. i. 18 That short reuenge the man may ouertake, Where so he be. **a1850** ROSSETTI *Dante & Circle* i. (1874) 118 Since I find not one. . Whereso I be or whitherso I turn. **1870** W. MORRIS *Earthly Par.* IV. 163 Few indeed were there Who did not pray that well he still might fare Whereso he was. **1893** F. THOMPSON *Poems, Carrier Song* iv. Whereso you keep your state Heaven is pitched over you.

2. = WHEREVER 3.

c1290 *Beket* 1363 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 145 To spene to him and alle his 3ware-so heo euere come. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 1154 Quar-sa þou wendes in exile. **c1386** CHAUCER *Sqr.'s T.* 118 Wher so yow lyst. . Beren youre body in to euery place. **1596** SPENSER *F. Q.* vi. vi. 29 Ne would the Prince him euer foot forsake, Where so he went. **1600** FAIRFAX *Tasso* ix. xii. I follow thee, where so thee list to goe. **1851** NEALE *Med. Hymns* 154 On must the faithful warrior go Whereso the Chief precedeth.

3. = WHEREVER 4.

a1225 Hwarse [see WHEREOF 2]. **c1340** HAMPOLE *Prose Treat.* 2 Whare-so I be, whare-so I sytt, what-so I doo. **c1407** LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 3201 Wher so as her sort was set, The knot never was vnknnet. **a1547** SURREY *Poems*, 'Set me wheras the sonne' 11 Thrawle, or at large, aloue whersoo I dwell; Sike, or in healthe. **1667** MILTON *P. L.* xi. 722 Hee oft Frequented thir Assemblies, whereso met. **1868** MORRIS *Earthly Par.* Prol. 89 To seek your own land, whereso that may be.

4. = WHERE I b. *Obs. exc. arch. rare.*

13.. *Cursor M.* 8456 (Gött.) þe kind of thinges lered he, Bath of tres and grisses fele, Quilk war þair vertus lele. . Quer-so þai grew in wode or playn. **1889** 'MARK TWAIN' *Connecticut Yankee* xi. 130 Whereso if ye be minded. . it is in the east.

wheresoeuer (hwæʁsəʊ'evə(r)), *adv., conj.* Now formal or arch. Also *poet.* wheresoe'er (-'evə(r)); 7 -ere, -e're; also 4-5 *contr.* wher(e)sere. [f. WHERESO + EVER; cf. SOEVER.]

1. = WHEREVER 2, 5.

13.. *Cursor M.* 8931 (Gött.) Bot quar-sua-euer [Cott. quar-sum-euer] pis tre lay, God schued þar-on his mihtes ay. **13..** *Gaw. & Gr.* Kott. 644 Quere-so-euer pys mon in melly was stad, His þro þoȝt was in þat, þurȝ alle oþer þyngez. **a1400-50** *Bk. Curtasye* 105 in *Babees Bk.* 302 Where-sere þou sitt at mete in borde, Avoide þe cat. **1526** TINDALE *Matt.* xxvi. 13 Wheresoeuer this gospell shalbe preached. . there shall also thys thatt she hath done, be tolde for a memoriall of her. **1588** A. KING tr. *Canisius' Catech.* 35 We worshippe Christ him Selfe and his Sancts, quhairsoewir thay ar representit vnto vs be their images. **1671** MILTON *P. R.* iii. 79 Conquerours, who leave behind Nothing but ruin wheresoe're they rove. **1733** WATTS *Philos. Ess.* i. x. (1734) 35 Wheresoeuer Body is, there Space is not. **1859** RUSKIN *Two Paths* i. §23 Wheresoeuer the search after truth begins, there life begins. **1890** BRIDGES *Shorter Poems* iv. xxv. But wheresoe'er he take his way, He killeth our delight.

b. *ellipt.* = WHEREVER 2 b.

1561 T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtier* II. (1577) Hjb. Meeting in the market place or wheresoeuer anye friende. **1597** HOOKER *Ecll. Pol.* v. lv. §7 The person of Christ is whole, perfect God and perfect man wheresoeuer. **1633** J. DONE *Hist. Septuagint* 58 In all the Treasors, nyether in all the Cabinets, or other wheresoeuer, was not to bee found any thing so rich.

2. = WHEREVER 3.

c1320 *Cast. Love* (ed. Hall.) 431 Ne helpyth him nothing whersere he wynde. **c1400** *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 2215 And whor so euer þai gang o-boute, þe ȝonger sal þe elder loute.

1535 COVERDALE *Mark* xiv. 14 Where so euer he goeth in, there saye ye to the good man of the house [etc.]. **1600** SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* i. iii. 77 And wheresoeere we went, like lunos Swans, Still we went coupled and inseperable. **1697** DRYDEN *Æneis* xi. 1124 This way and that his winding Course he bends; And wheresoe're she turns, her Steps attends. **1711** STEELE *Spect.* No. 134 ¶6 [She] still goes on laying waste wheresoeuer she comes. **1818** SHELLEY *Eugan. Hills* 30 Wander wheresoe'er he may. **1865** TENNYSON *Captain* 20 He. . Hoped to make the name Of his vessel great in story, Wheresoe'er he came.

3. = WHEREVER 4.

a1450 MYRC *Par. Pr.* etc. 64 Hit is to tyȝe [= type]. . Off hey, where-sere hit growes. **c1475** *Rauf Coilgear* 759 The nixt vacant. . That hapnis in France, quhair sa euer it fall, . . I gif the heir heritabilly. **1573** D. P. *Cert. Rules Geog.* A iv. Where so euer you are, imagine a poynt or priek directly ouer your head, which is called Zenith. **1645** VANE *Lost Sheepe* 267 Wheresoeere they are, or whatsoeuer doing, they soe behaue themselves, as if with Saint Hierome, they heard the sound of the Archangells trump. **1853** KINGSLEY *Hypatia* xxx. Wulf, too, had gone to his own place, wheresoeuer that may be.

†**wheresome, adv., conj.** *Obs.* [f. WHERE + -SOME³, SUM *rel. adv.* 2.] = WHEREVER.

c1200 ORMIN 6411 Sone summ 3e findenn himm, Whær summ he beop onn eorpe, Wipp ȝure maddmess lakepp himm. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 18957 þat ilk tung quar-sum þai war, Til ilk lede þai gaf ansuar. **c1400** *Ywayne & Gaw.* 30 On ilka syde wharesum þai yede.

whersomever (hwæʁsəm'evə(r)), *adv., conj.* *Obs. exc. dial.* [f. WHERE + SOMEVER.]

1. = WHEREVER 2, b.

a1300 *Cursor M.* 8931 Bot quar-sum-euer pis tre lai, Godd sceud þar-on his mightes ai. **1452** *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 131/1 All and sindri my landis. . within the realme of Scotland quaharesumever. **1490** CAXTON *Eneydos* xvi. 62 Hys grete wynges. . that bare hym. . hyghe and lowe, where some-euere he wolde be. **c1500** *Melusine* xxxvi. 275 And take there your lodgys tofore them whersomeuer it playse you. **1502** ATKYNSON tr. *De Imitatione* II. i. (1893) 179 Whersomeuer we be in this worlde, we be as pylgrims and straungers. **1619** J. WILLIAMS *Serm. Apparell* (1620) 30 The soules house is there, whersomeuer it worketh.

2. = WHEREVER 3.

1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* vii. vi. 221 Where someuer ye goo I wyll folowe you. **1501** in *Lett. Rich. III & Hen. VII* (Rolls) I. 136 Whersomeuer it shuld please the king to sende theym. **a1592** GREENE *Alphonus* i. ii. Arragon, Who. . Doth play the diuell where some ere he comes.

3. = WHEREVER 4.

1477 EARL RIVERS (Caxton) *Dictes* 21 Whersomeuer one dye the weye to the other worlde is alle like. **c1489** CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xxiv. 533 Mawgys habandoned never reynawd whersomeuer he went. **1599** SHAKS. *Hen. V.* ii. iii. 7 Would I were with him, whersomere hee is. **1837** R. BIRD *Nick of Woods* iii. 43 He haunts about our woods. . and kills 'em [sc. Indians] whersomeuer he eatches 'em.

†**where'thorough, adv.** *Obs.* [f. WHERE 15 + THOROUGH *prep.*] = next.

a1225 *Ancr.* R. 210 þeo þet drone eni drunch, oðer el þing dude hwarðuruh no childe ne schulde beon of hire istreoned. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1393 Echman paide a peni. . War þoru he wuste hou moni men in al þe worlde were. *Ibid.* 2463 Tounes grete & heye Ware þoru him & is men in vair warison he broȝte. *Ibid.* 7493 He nadde no wounde war þoru he ssede an drope blod. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 6446 (Cott.) Ietro gaue him consail Vnder baillis for to sett, Quar thoru in right þai suld be gett. **c1375** *Ibid.* 984 (Fairf.) Quen he con breke þe comandement Quar þorow his ospringe was shent. **c1440** *Gesta Rom.* liii. 234 (Harl. MS.) And thenne yaf him medesyne, wherthorowe he was hole. **a1450** *Knt. de la Tour* 45 Hit happed on a day her chapelein was sike that he might not syngre, wherthorow she must go home withoute masse. **1470-85** MALORY *Arthur* x. xxxviii. 475 A posterne where thorou he shold flee. **1503-4** *Aci 19 Hen. VII* e. 34 §10 Offices and inquisicions dailly be founde. . wherethorow suche Maners. . be seased into the Kinges handes. **1583** STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* i. (1879) 80 The Authors of these new toys, wherthorow they offended, shalbe giltye of their deathes. **1627** SPEED *England* x. §2 The ayre. . is cleansed. . by the Billowes that ever worke from off her environing Seas, where-thorow it becommeth pure and subtile.

wherethrough (hwæʁθruː), *adv.* Now formal or arch. [f. WHERE 15 + THROUGH *prep.* Cf. Du. *waardoor*, G. *wodurch*.] Through which (in various senses of THROUGH *prep.*).

1. In reference to movement or direction in space, etc., or to duration in time (THROUGH *prep.* 1-4).

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 170 Veire weies. . ȝwar þoȝz me mai wende Fram þe on ende of engelond vop to þe oþer ende. **c1400** MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) viii. 30 Him behoues passe by þe Reed See. . where thurgh þe childer of Israel went drye fote. **1568** *Bible* (Bishops') Wisd. xix. 8 The drye earth appeared. . ; Wherethrough all the people went that were defended with thy hande. **c1600** SHAKS. *Sonn.* xxiv. Mine eyes haue drawne thy shape, and thine for me Are windowes to my brest, where-through the Sun Delights to peepe, to gaze therein on thee. **1632** LITHTOW *Trav.* vi. 281 The top is couered, and hath three holes, where-through they let the dead Christians fall downe. **1842** TENNYSON *Ulysses* 19 All experience is an arch wherethro' Gleams that untravell'd world, whose margin fades For ever and for ever when I move. **1870** MORRIS *Earthly Par.* II. iii. 349 The many years Wherethrough thou waitedst. **1896** A. MORRISON *Child Jago* v. A hole where-through a very small boy might squeeze.

2. In reference to agency or instrumentality (THROUGH *prep.* 7): By means of which, whereby, wherewith. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

13.. *Northern Passion* I. 25/22 It es my fless þat I ȝow gif, Whar thurgh ȝe may þe better lif. **13..** *Gosp. Nicodemus* (G.) 284 We say a spirit enclosed he had, wharthurh all thinges

he wate. **1422** YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* 128 Force of Powere, wher-throgh he may his reme kepe, mayntene, and defende. **1470-85** MALORY *Arthur* XIII. xviii. 638 Whanne shalle the holy vessel come by me where thurgh I shalle be blessed. **1577** HOLINSHED *Chron.* II. 1868/2 A great tempest... wherethrough sixe houses in that towne were borne downe. **1678** R. BARCLAY *Apol. Quakers* xiii. §2. 446 That... Spiritual Body of Christ; whereby, and wherethrough, he communicateth Life to Men.

3. In reference to reason or cause: By reason of which, on account of which, wherefore; in consequence of which, from which, whereby, whence (as result or inference); rarely referring to a person = by whom: cf. THROUGH *prep.* 8. *arch.*

c 1220 *Bestiary* 779 in O.E. *Misc.* 25 Amonges men a swete smel He let her of his holi spel, Wor-burȝ we muȝen folgen him In-to his godcundnesse fin. **a 1225** *Leg. Kath.* 236 Ne nis na ping hwerpurh monnes muchele madschipe wreððeð him wið mare. **c 1300** *Beket* 839 Whar thurf me thingth that of nothing thu ne schalt ansuere noȝt. **1375** BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 170 Schir Ihon the Balleoll... Assentyt till him, in all his will; Quhar-throuch fell eftir mekill ill. *Ibid.* vii. 89 Quhar-throu. **1500-20** DUNBAR *Poems* xxvii. 103 For lawchtir neir I brist; Quhairthrow I walknit of my trance. **a 1578** LINDSAY (Pittcottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 27 This was done without the chancellaris counsall quhair throw he was hichlie offendit. **1638** PENKETHMAN *Artach.* I. 3, There could be none found for money, where-through many poore people were constrained to eat Barks of Trees. **1819** SCOTT *Leg. Montrose* ii, Your Spaniard... is a person altogether unparalleled in his own conceit, wherethrough he maketh not fit account of such foreign cavaliers of valour as are pleased to take service with him. **1870** MORRIS *Earthly Par.* II. iii. 7 Folk cried the name Of him wherethrough the weary struggle came.

wheretill (hwɛə'tɪl), *adv.* In later use *Sc.* [f. WHERE 15 + TILL *prep.* Cf. (M)Sw. *hvar till*, Da. *hvertill*.]

1. interrog. †a. = next, 2. *Obs.*
a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7291 'Lauerdinges,' he said, 'sais me quartill Hafyee me fott?' **c 1400** tr. *Secr. Secr., Gov. Lordsh.* 113 bis ys þe flygure of wys ypocras; whare-tyll haue 3e askyd me þerof?

b. To what place, whither.
1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 31 She tauld the friskie fairy thing Whairtill to flee on rapid wing.

2. rel. = next, 3.
1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* clxx, Though thy begynnyngh hath bene retrograde, Be froward opposyt quhare till aspert, Now sall thai turn, and luken on the dert. **1535** STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) I. 562 How Carentius schew his Desyre to thir Tua Kingis, quhairtill thai grantit baith richt glaidlie.

wheretō (hwɛə'tuː), *adv.* Now *formal* or *arch.* [f. WHERE 15 + TO *prep.* Cf. Du. *waartoe*.]

1. Interrogative.
1. To what? (in various senses of TO *prep.*); in what direction, whither?

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 24488 Quen i sagh son warto þai tight, Al mi licam can þai light, And mi mude a-mend. **c 1400** *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 293 Whar-to so þai turn þair mode. *Ibid.* (prose) 38 þan sal man rede hir þe reule, þat sho may wite witerli whar-to sho salle halde hir. **c 1400** in 26 *Pol. Poems* 149 Wherto ys a man more lyke, Then to a flourte that spryngeth in may? **1484** *Cely Papers* (Camden) 152 Wherto thys schall growe I can nott saye. **1570** LEVINS *Manip.* 154/40 Wherto, *quorsum*. **1590** SHAKS. *Mids. N.* iii. ii. 256 Lysander, wheretō tends all this? **1855** EMERSON *Misc.* vii. 56 What is matter? Whence is it? and Wheretō?

†**2. [TO *prep.* 8.] To what end? for what purpose? for what reason? wherefore? what... for? *Obs. exc. arch.***

a 1225 *St. Marher.* 16 Hwerto schuld i tellen þe... of ure cunde? **a 1250** *Owl & Night.* 464 Wan min erende is ido, Sholde ich bileue? nai: war to? **1382** WYCLIF *Matt.* xxvi. 50 Jhesus seide to hym, Frend, wherto art thou comen? **1390** GOWER *Conf. I.* 287 How sche that scharpe swerdes blad Receive scholde and do withal So as sche wot wherto it schal. **c 1400** MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxxii. 145 Qwhare to þan... gaders pou þe riches of þis werld? **c 1420** *Prose Life Alex.* 46, I ame... sent vn-to þe fra kyng Alexander to wiete where to þou tariest to come till hym to gyffe hym batelle. **c 1470** HENRY WALLACE xi. 311 Quhar to suld I her off lang process mak? **1484** CAXTON *Fables of Poge* iv, What is that wichche thou berest on thy fyste and wher to is it [sc. a spere-hawk] good. **1561** NORTON & SACKV. *Gorboduc* iv. ii, We marueyle muche wherto this lingeryng staie Falles so long. **a 1585** MONTGOMERIE *Cherrie & Slae* 653 Quhairto suld he come heir? **1602** SHAKS. *Ham.* iii. iii. 46 Wheretō seruies mercy, But to confront the visage of Offence? **1790** SHIRREFFS *Poems Sc. Dial.* 144 But whare-to did ye't, oman, lat me hear? **1900** A. MEYNELL *John Ruskin* vii. 119 Wheretō, then, is the persuasion of this book directed?

II. Relative.

3. a. To which (in various senses of TO *prep.*).

1340 *Ayenb.* 169 þeruore is þe zeuende stape of þise uirtue þe ilke þet oure mayster Iesu crist dep þerto huerdo þe filozofes ne mizte come. **c 1440** *Gesta Rom.* xxxiii. 352 The sone of a maide hath not wherto he may lay his hede. **1526** *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 21 b, The fruytes of the heuently countre, wherto they go. **1592** SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* i. ii. 21 This night I hold an old accustom'd Feast, Wherto I haue inuited many a Guest. **1602** — *Ham.* v. i. 234 That Lome (wherto he was conuerted). **1667** MILTON *P.L.* viii. 398 Wheretō th' Almighty answer'd, not displeas'd. **1768** TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 356 The perfection wheretō their natures are destined. **1810** VINCE *Astron.* xxi. 230 A matter wheretō I gawe not all the attention requisite. **1887** MORRIS *Odys.* xii. 162 The mast-step, wheretō shall the cords be tied.

†**b. In addition to or besides which (TO *prep.* 15).**

1568 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xlvii. 27 Quhairto, till deif 3ow w'tome clatter, Ar nane sic in the floit as scho.

†**4. For which (purpose): cf. TO *prep.* 8. *Obs.***

1535 COVERDALE *Isa.* lv. 11 The worde also that commeth out of my mouth...shal...prosper in the thinge, wherto I sende it.

Hence wheretō'ever, wheretoso'ever *advbs.*, to whatever place, whithersoever. *rare.*

1609 *Bible* (Douay) I *Sam.* xviii. 5 David also went forth to al thinges wheretosoever Saul sent him. **1635** PERSON *Varieties* i. 5 Because the Heavens, of all the parts of the World are most conspicuous, as that wheretoeuer we bend our eyes, being the most glorious Creature.

whereunder (hwɛə'rʌndə(r)), *adv. arch.* [f. WHERE 15 + UNDER *prep.* Cf. Du. *waaronder*, Da. *hvorunder*, G. *worunter*.] Under which.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1348 Him thocht it raght fra erth till hell, Quare vnder he sagh his broper abell. **1340** *Ayenb.* 221 þe mayde marie made of spoushod hire mentel hueronder wolde by godes zone y-conceyued and y-bore. **1550** BALE *Image Both Ch.* ii. Djb, Thus haue we heere what is done already, and what is it to come vnder this sixt trompet blowing (where vnder we are now) which al belongeth to the second wo. **1600** FAIRFAX *Tasso* xv. lxii, Her amber tresses... Where vnder loue himselfe in ambush placed. **1615** *Southampton Crt. Leet Rec.* (1907) iii. 493 He ought to shutt downe the Sluce where vnder the water Runeth. **1627** W. SCLATER *Expos. 2 Thess.* (1629) 162 The miserable bondage vnder sinne and Satan, whereunder who groanes not? **1836** LANDOR *Pericles & Aspasia* I. xxiv. 49 The flowery bank of youth, whereunder runs the stream that passes irreversibly! **1888** 'H. S. MERRIMAN' *Yng. Mistley* x, Snowy froth whereunder lay the wise trout.

whereuntil (hwɛə'rʌn'tɪl), *adv. dial.* [f. WHERE 15 + UNTIL] = next.

1588 SHAKS. *L.L.L.* v. ii. 493 Wee know where-vntill it doth amount. **1818** SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xxxix, This victim, who is rescued from the horns of the altar, whereuntil she was fast bound by the chains of human law.

whereunto (hwɛə'rʌn'tuː, -'antuː), *adv.* Now *formal* or *arch.* [f. WHERE 15 + UNTO.]

1. interrog. Unto what? †to what end? for what purpose? wherefore? = WHERETO 1, 2.

1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* lxviii, Than said I thus, 'quhare-unto lyve I langer?' **1490** CAXTON *Eneydos* liv. 149 Alle they that ben here, knowe well wheronto the thyng is come. **1526** TINDALE *Matt.* xi. 16 But wherevnto shall y lyken this generacion? — *Acts* v. 24 When... the hye prestes herde these thynges, they doubted of them, where vnto this wolde growe. **1552** LATIMER *Serm., St. Andrew's Day* (1562) 119 When Andrew hearde wherunto Christ was come, he forsoke his maister Iohn, and came to Christe. **1865** PUSEY *Eirenicon* 174 Which, whereunto it may lead, one had rather not think.

2. rel. Unto which: = WHERETO 3.

1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* xxix. 111 The operacyons and wodnesses of helle... wherunto she hath subdued and submytted herself. **1526** TINDALE *Acts* xiii. 2 Separat me Barnabas and Saul for the worke where vnto I have called them. *Ibid.* xxvii. 8 A place called Goode porte. Neye where vnto was a citte called Lasea. **1530** in *Leadam Sel. Cases Star Chamber* (Selden Soc.) II. 50 Decrees... whervnto the seid Abbott was neuer partye. **1560** *Bible* (Genev.) Deut. iv. 26 The land, whereunto ye go ouer Iorden to possesse it. **1596** DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 24 The Water of fforth is ane arme of the Sea, and a place quhairwnto the sey flowis and ebbis. **1611** SHAKS. *Cymb.* iii. vii. 13 With those Legions Which I haue spoke of whereunto your leuie Must be suppliant. **1646** SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* i. ii. 6 The omniscience of God, whereunto there is nothing concealable. **a 1687** PETTY *Pol. Arith.* iv. (1690) 76 It is also material to examin, how many of them do get more than they spend, and how many less. In order whereunto it is to be considered, that [etc.]. **1760-72** H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) IV. 128 Your family-vault... whereunto even my Harry must finally adjourn. **1832** G. R. PORTER *Porcelain & Gl.* xiv. 302 The too sudden variations of temperature where-into the glass would be subjected. **1846** TRENCH *Mirac.* xxxiii. (1862) 464 Unlike as was his outward appearance to that whereunto their eyes were accustomed. **1871** T. R. JONES *Anim. Kingd.* (ed. 4) 552 The lower valve of the shell being fixed immediately to the rock whereunto the animal is attached.

whereup (hwɛə'rʌp), *adv. (conj.) rare.* [f. WHERE 15 + UP *prep.*]

†**1. = WHEREUPON 2, 3 b. *Obs.***
1340 *Ayenb.* 251 Hy comp down of þe heze roche hueroppe hi ys yzet. **1425** *Paston Lett.* I. 21 Wher up... I prey yow hertily to sette al these matieres in continuance.

2. Up which; upwards along which.
1880 *Athenæum* 17 Apr. 502/3 The spiral track Whereup... flash perfect Souls. **1916** H. E. G. ROPE *Relig. Ancilla* 29 The never-ending ranks of vine... Whereup the purple haze of even climbs.

whereupon (hwɛə'rʌpən), *adv.* Now *arch.* or *formal exc.* in sense 4. [f. WHERE 15 + UPON.]

1. 1. Interrogative. Upon what? = WHEREON 1; †in early use = at what? about or concerning what? upon what ground, wherefore?

13.. *Cursor M.* 18774 (Gött.) God men of galile, Quarapōn sua wonder 3e? **1535** COVERDALE *Job* xxxviii. 6 Where wast thou, when I layed y^e foundations of the earth?... Where vpon stonde the pilers of it? **1581** A. HALL *Iliad* x. 183 So that I to him brought From out your campe some certain newes, & whervpon you thought, Whether you meant to take the sea, or to your tackle stand. **1596** SHAKS. I *Hen. IV.* iv. iii. 42 The King hath sent to know The nature of your Griefes, and whereupon You coniure from the Brest of Ciuill Peace, Such bold Hostilitie. **1597** — 2 *Hen. IV.* ii. iv. 99 Neighbour Quickly (says hee) receiue those that are Ciuill; for (sayth hee) you are in an ill Name; now hee said so, I can tell whereupon. **1666** MARVELL *Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 192 The sense of the nation's extreme necessity makes us exceeding tender whereupon to fasten our resolutions.

II. Relative. Upon which.

2. Of local position: = WHEREON 2. (In first quot. *fig.*)

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 42, I thenke...speke of thing [sc. love]... wherupon the worldt mot stonde, And hath don sithen it began. **c 1400** MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxxiv. 154 In þe myddes... es a lytill hill, whare apon es a lytil palace. **c 1460** *Towneley Myst.* xxiii. 259 Godys son... hase not where apon his hede to rest. **1535** COVERDALE *Judges* xvi. 26 The pilers wher vpon the house stonde. **1585** HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 51/1 *Ouum vrinum*,... an addle egge, whereupon the hen sitteth not. **c 1660** in *Verney Mem.* (1907) II. 262 A small hill whereupon is built a strong castle. **1853** G. JOHNSTON *Nat. Hist. E. Bord.* I. 20 The site whereupon stood the Bastle.

†**b. Over which, as superior. *Obs. rare*—¹.**
1450-1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* 97 Thys monastery of Syon, where vpon our lady is chyef lady & quylene.

3. Upon which as a basis of action, argument, etc., and in various constructional uses.

1521 FISHER *Serm. agst. Luther* i. Wks. (1876) 313, .iii. great groundes wher vpon Martyn dothe stable in maner all his articles. **1566** in *Maitl. Club Misc.* I. 46 For payment of the sowmis quhairvpoun the samin [landis] lyeis in wadset. **a 1572** KNOX *Hist. Ref.* Wks. 1846 I. 55 In his death... he fand the mercy of his God, whereupoun he ever exhorted all men to depend. **1596** DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 114 Our king... hes, of seirleie rentis, quhairvpoun he royallie may susteine his court. **1610** HEALEY *St. Aug. Cite of God* xvii. iv. 625 The text wherevpon all this prophetesses words haue dependance. **1643** in *Spalding Club Misc.* I. 15, I haue at this place found a very concerning occasion whervpoun to renew my desyre. **1710** in *Nairne Peerage Evid.* (1874) 152 We declare that the not delivery herof... shall be no... ground whereupon to reduce quarrell.

†**b. (with clause as antecedent.)** On which account, for which reason, wherefore; (of derivation or inference) from which, whence. *Obs.*

1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 80 Force is ane of the principale foundementis of bataill, quhareapon men suld wit that syndry folk... has the body rycht lytill, and jit thai haue the hert and the curage grete. **1567** MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 17 Panteron is a stone of all colours... wherevpon it is so named. **1611** SHAKS. *Wint. T.* iv. iv. 763 One that will eyther push-on, or pluck-back, thy Businesse there: where-upon I command thee to open thy Affaire. **1617** MORYSON *Ilin.* iii. 137 It seemes a worke hanging in the Ayre, where-upon it is called Stoneheng vulgarly, and is reputed among Miracles. **1674** PLAYFORD *Skill Mus.* (ed. 7) i. xi. 46 In the which [sc. Airy Musicks]... that liveliness of Singing is in that place to be omitted, and not any Passion to be used which savoureth of Languishment. Whereupon we see how necessary a certain judgment is for a Musician.

4. Upon (the occurrence or occasion of) which; immediately after and in consequence of which; and when that happened, or was done or said.

The chief current sense; resembling 3 b in having a clause or statement as antecedent, but expressing a different shade of meaning.

1461 *Paston Lett.* II. 17 The said the Kyng hade wretōn to dyvers persones here quych hade promysed men, quer-upon I promysed a man. **1582** N. T. (Rhem.) *Matt.* xiv. 7 The daughter of Herodias daunced before them: and pleased Herod. Wherevpon [TINDALE, Wherefor] he promised with an othe, to giue her whatsoever she would aske of him. **1634** SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 121 Sultan Tokomac... assailed him, whereupon ensued a most bloody and furious battaile. **1727** DE FOE *Engl. Tradesm.* ii. (ed. 2) 18 Last month I receiv'd my fortune...; whereupon I have taken a house in one of the principal streets of the town of —. **1818** *Cruise Digest* (ed. 2) V. 269 The lord of the manor... sold the lands to John Podger in fee, who... died two years after; whereupon the estate descended to his son Marmaduke. **1885** SWINBURNE *Misc.* (1886) 331 She assented on condition that the divorce could be lawfully effected without impeachment of her son's legitimacy; whereupon Lethington undertook... that she should be rid of her husband without any prejudice to the child.

5. Upon the subject of which; about, as to, or concerning which. Now rare.

a 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* iii. 4 Then they... shewyd hym there conclusion where a pon they were agreyd. **1611** *Bible* Acts xxvi. 12, I persecuted them euen vnto strange cities. Whereupon [TINDALE, About the which thynges; R.V. 1881 *margin*, On which errand], as I went to Damascus [etc.]. **1613** SHAKS. *Hen. VIII.* ii. iv. 201, I did steere Toward this remedy, whereupon we are Now present heere together.

6. Of motion or direction towards something, etc.: = WHEREON 5, 6.

1560 *Bible* (Genev.) Amos iv. 7 One piece was rained vpon, and the piece whereupon it rained not, withered. **c 1600** SHAKS. *Sonn.* xx. 6 An eye... Gilding the obiect where-vpon it gazeth. **1611** *Bible* Ezek. xxiv. 25 The desire of their eyes, and that whereupon they set their minds. **1640** tr. *Verdere's Rom. of Rom.* II. 22 This young Prince... took infinite delight in the object of this picture, whereupon his eies were incessantly fixed.

wherever (hwɛə'rɛvə(r)), *adv., conj.* contr. (*poet.*) where'er (hwɛə'rɛə(r)). Originally as two words (and so still in sense 1); subsequently often with hyphen, *where-ever* (*where-e'er*), etc.; now always in contracted spelling *wherever* (*where'er*), the final *e* of *where* coalescing with the initial *e* of *ever*. [f. WHERE + EVER *adv.* 8 d, e.]

1. interrog. An emphatic extension of *where?* implying perplexity or surprise. Now *colloq.*

More properly written as two words: see EVER *adv.* 8 d. **[971]** *Blickl. Hom.* 167 Hwær aȝylte he æfre on his ȝegerelan, se þe mid þon anum hrægle wæs ȝeȝyrwed þe of oflenda hærum awunden wæs? **c 1275** LAY. 2612/7 þo hii þat heued isceȝen, sellich heom þohten were eucere onder heauene soch heued were ikenned. **c 1435** *Torr. Portyngale* 625

'Seynt Marre', seyð the chyld so fre, 'Wher euyr my jentyll squyer myght be, That I with me to wod browght?' 1864 T. A. TROLLOPE *Beppo* III. vi. Where ever am I to find a girl that can pull me up out of my chair in the way you do? 1875 PARISH *Sussex Dial.* s.v. *Mask*, Why! you're one mask! Wherever have you been? 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* xvii, Wherever did the cayenne come from?

2. a. *rel.* At (or to) any place at which.

Ocas. introducing a subject-phrase = any place at which; also with correlative *there, thither*.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4672 Joseph. Did gader sariantz and squier. Quar-euer þat [Gött. Quare þat euer] þai funden were. 1382 WYCLIF *Luke* xvii. 37 Where euer the body schal be, also the eglys schulen be gederid to gidere thidur. 1508 DUNBAR *Flying* 67 Quhair evir we meit thairto my hand I hecht, To red thy rebald ryming with a rowt. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich.* II, v. iii. 141 Good Vnckle helpe to order seuerall powres To Oxford, or where ere these Traitors are. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 423 ¶ 2 Where-ever you are Damon appears also. 1796 BURNEY *Mem. Metastasio* I. 227 Wherever a great personage happens to be, will become the principal place. 1857 PUSEY *Real Pres. Doctr. Engl. Ch.* iii. 325 Wherever our Lord and Saviour is, there He is to be adored. 1882 BESANT *All Sorts* xxviii, Wherever there are Englishmen, working, fighting, or sporting, there are some of those families among them.

b. *ellipt.* (with loss of relative force): At any place whatever, at some place or other. Now usu. preceded by *or*, whatever place. Cf. *WHATEVER pron.* and a. 4 c; *WHENEVER adv., conj.* 1. *colloq.*

1667 MILTON *P.L.* XII. 449 Not onely to the Sons of Abrahams Loines. but to the Sons of Abrahams Faith wherever through the world. 1671 — *P.R.* IV. 404 Our Saviour. Hungry and cold betook him to his rest, Wherever, under some concourse of shades Whose branching arms. might shield. his shelter'd head. 1917 H. JAMES *Sense of Past* IV. iii. 242 A pot of about the size. of that one. on the cabinet or wherever. 1952 A. HOCKING *Best Laid Plans* vi. 90 This committee will now adjourn to The Pig and Whistle or wherever, for liquid refreshment. 1976 *Bookseller* 24 Apr. 2088/1 A jet flies off to London, New York, Paris, or wherever. 1978 *Jrnl. R. Soc. Arts* CXXVI. 220/1 In time of trouble, whether in Cyprus, or Karachi, or wherever, you would see everybody tuning in to the BBC. 1981 W. BRONK *Life Supports* 31 The terrible world where hollow catastrophe Hangs wherever.

3. To (or at) any place to which; whithersoever.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xviii. (*Egipciane*) 741 Send me quhare-ewyr þu wil. c 1375 *Cursor M.* 1154 (Fairf.) Wip al pou sal be halden vile Quare-euer [Cott. Quarsa] pou comys in exile. c 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 302 Myn arme is roted away þat was to peynte an ymage of þe whereuer I went. a 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 25 Quhair evir he raid he was convoyit with ane thowsand horsmen. 1692 PRIOR *Ode Imit. Hor.* x, Where-e'er old Rhine his fruitful Waterturns. 1740 GRAY *Let. to his Mother* 2 Apr., I desire you to give my duty to my father, and wherever else it is due. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* i. I. 147 Wherever he came, the gentry flocked round him. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* iii, 'Don't you want to go there?' 'Where, sir?' 'Where? Why, wherever you are going,' said the gentleman.

4. Introducing a qualifying (equivalent to conditional or disjunctive) dependent clause, often with verb in subjunctive: In (or to) whatever place; whether at one place or another; no matter where.

c 1430 *Syr Tryam.* 1461 In worlde where ever he be bestedd, And he wyste of thys case, Hyddur he wolde take hys pase. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* June 99 Flye to my loue, where euer that she bee. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* VIII. 170 Of other Creatures, as him pleases best, Wherever plac't, let him dispose. 1703 EARL ORRERY *As you find it* II. ii. 28 Where-ever they come from, they have perform'd very well. 1771 MRS. GRIFFITH *Hist. Lady Barton* I. 45, I should not chuse to be farther removed from that blessed spot, where ere it be. 1854 J. S. C. ABBOTT *Napoleon* (1855) I. xxii. 352 England claimed the right of visiting and searching merchant ships, to whatever nation belonging, whatever the cargoes, wher-ever the destination. 1854 MRS. JAMESON *Comm.-pl. Bk.* 69 Unhappy that nation, wherever it may be, where the question is yet pending between servitude and civil war!

5. *gen. or fig.* In any case, condition, or circumstances in which (cf. *WHERE* 10 b).

1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* III. v. 87 *Phy.* Why I am sorry for thee gentle Siluius. *Sil.* Where euer sorrow is, reliefe would be. 1695 WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Earth* VI. 246 Where-ever he hath receded from the Mosaick Account of that Earth, he hath. receded from Nature, and Matter of Fact. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vicar W.* xx, For wherever there is genius there is pride. 1799 *Med. Jrnl.* I. 422 Whereever the state of the patient's strength is sufficient to undergo the process. . . it ought frequently to be practised. 1884 FAIRBAIRN in *Congregationalist* Apr. 288 Wherever the laws of mechanics rule, necessity rules; wherever necessity rules, freedom is absent.

wherewith (hwæw'wið), *adv. (sb.)* Now *formal* or *arch.* [f. *WHERE* 15 + *WITH prep.*]

I. 1. *Interrogative.* With what?

c 1200 ORMIN 1718 & tiss me birþ nu shawenn 3uw Whatt itt 3uw mazz bitacnenn, & whærwiþ itt mazz festnenn 3uw Inn 3ure rihthe læfe. c 1386 CHAUCER *Wife's T. Pro.* 131 Wher with sholde he make his paiement If he ne used his sely Instrument? 1539 *Bible* (Great) Judges vi. 15 Oh Lord, wher with shall I saue Israel? 1577 N.T. (Genev.) Matt. v. 13 But if the salte haue lost his sauour wher with shal one salt? 1588 SHAKS. *L.L.L.* i. i. 264 Which with, O with, but with this I passion to say wherewith.

II. *Relative.* With which.

2. In instrumental and allied senses: By means of which; whereby.

Sometimes followed by *to* and *inf.* (see *TO prep.* B. 16, and cf. b c below).

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 585 Min handax. . . 3ware wip ich abbe geans & maniman aslawe. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 5399 Now haue we nocht ware-wit we mai Lenght our liue wit fra þis dai. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Cons.* 3835 þe pape þe kays bers, Whar-with he bathe opens and spers. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 214 Sche. . . hath ynow wherwith to plesse Of worldes good whom that hire liste. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Esop* v. vii, He brake the cord wherwith he was bounden. 1526 TINDALE *Eph.* ii. 4 The grete love wherwith he loved vs. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* i. vi. 17 Those honors. . . Wherewith your Maiestie loades our House. c 1730 RAMSAY *Wyfe of Auchtermuchty* x, He gat water in a pan, Quherwith he slokend out the fyre. 1880 SWINBURNE *Stud. Shaks.* 29 That royal robe of heroic verse wherewith he had clothed the ungrawn limbs of limping. . . tragedy. 1904 J. T. FOWLER *Durh. Univ.* 5 Without even a shirt of his own wherewith to cover his body.

b. With ellipsis of antecedent, or as compound relative involving antecedent (cf. *WHAT C. I. **): That, or something, with which; the means by which. (a) with following clause, usu. with *to* and *inf.*; (b) with ellipsis of following clause.

(a) c 1230 *Hali Meid.* 11 As gentille wimmen mest alle nu o worlde þat nabbeð hwerwið buggen ham brudgume. c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 419/46 Me pinchez. . . þe feste feble were Bote Men hadden 3ware-with þe wombe loye a-rere. c 1386 CHAUCER *Pro.* 302 And bisily gan for the soules preye Of hem þat yaf hym wher with to scoleye. c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 6710, I wole. . . Telle how a man may begge at nede That hath not wherwith hym to fede. a 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* liv. 181 He had not wherwith to arme him. 1611 *Bible* Ps. cxix. 42 So shall I haue wherewith to answer him that reprocheth me. 1788 PRIESTLEY *Lect. Hist.* v. lviii. 460 They will have wherewith to purchase the produce of other countries. 1856 MISS YONGE *Daisy Chain* II. iv, Here is wherewith to build the school. a 1891 R. W. BARBOUR *Thoughts* (1900) 80 Where is one to get wherewith to help another if not from the healed scars in himself?

(b) 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* VII. 317 Roberd þe ryfeler on *reddite* lokede, And for þer was nat wher-with he wepte ful sore. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. ccv. 99 They. . . taryed. . . to refreshe theym. . . for they founde in that abbey well wher-with. 1550 CROWLEY *Way to Wealth* 21 Holde the candle to them that haue wherewith, and wyll sette lustily to it.

c. = *WHEREWITHAL* 2 c, which is more usual.

(a) 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 99 A least bitling is made as much for cleaving, if it had but a wherewith to be cloven. 1876 SPENCER *Princ. Sociol.* § 15. I. 19 Heavily taxed in providing the wherewith to meet excessive loss by radiation.

(b) 1825 JENNINGS *Obs. Dial. W. Eng., Wherewi'*, property, estate; money.

3. With which as cause or occasion; in consequence of which; on account of or by reason of which, whereat; by the agency or effect of which, whereby.

c 1440 *Generydes* 3577 Where with the Sowdon was full wele apayde. 1561 WINSET *Bk. Questions* Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 67 In any controuersie affirmit be zou, quharewith thai be offendit. 1651 in Fuller *Abel Rediv.*, *Melancthon* 239 He fell into an Ague, wherewith in few dayes he dyed. 1663 PATRICK *Parab. Pilgr.* (1687) 346 The World will need such a good example, to reform the evil wherewith it abounds. 1814 SCOTT *Let. in Lockhart* (1837) III. x. 313 Every body that I see talks highly of your steady interest with the public, wherewith. . . I am pleased but not surprised. 1891 FARRAR *Darkn. & Dawn* xxiii, I have far too much wherewith to reproach myself.

4. Along with or together with which; against which; in addition to or besides which.

14. . . *Ephyphanye in Tundale's Vis.* (1843) 123 Saf among we knele among the racke Wherewith the son was somtyme thi plesaunce. 1611 *Bible* 2 Chron. xxxv. 21, I come not against thee this day, but against the house, wherewith I haue warre. 1658 EARL MONM. tr. *Paruta's Wars* Cyprus 81 To boot wherewith, he had secret instructions given him.

b. With which occurrence, act, etc.: whereat, whereupon, 'and with that'. *arch.*

a 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lvii. 193 As sone as the lady saw Gerames she knew him, wherwith she began to change colour. 1575 Bp. T. Cooper's *Reg.* (Linc. Episc. Rec. 1912) 123 He gott her neck under his arme & with his leyshe woulde haue bound her wherwith she cried out. 1581 A. HALL *Iliad* IV. 61 Yet after this he wils hir hast, wherewith such speed she makes. 1648 GAGE *West Ind.* 187 We saw the monster stir and move, . . wherewith we made hast from him. 1871 ROSSETTI *Poems, Last Confess.* 133 Then all the blessed maidens. . . laughed up at once. . . Wherewith I woke.

wherewithal (hwæw'iðo:l), *adv. (sb.)* [f. *WHERE* 15 + *WITHAL.*]

I. 1. *Interrogative.* = *prec.* 1. *arch.*

1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* cxviii[i]. 9 Where withall shall a yonge man clense his waye? 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* II. iii. Mijb, Where withal I beseeche the. . . shall men bye or make prouysion for our cates? 1611 *Bible* Matt. vi. 31 Wherewithall shall wee be clothed? 1798 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Yng. Philos.* III. 96 He never was so hard run for money. Knew not wherewithal to pay his duties.

II. *Relative.*

2. = *prec.* 2. *arch.*

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* III. xxvii. 353 The iuyce of Aloë. . . openeth the belly, in purging. . . humours, especially suche wherewithal the stomacke is burdened. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich.* II, v. i. 55 Northumberland, thou Ladder wherewithall The mounting Bullingbrooke ascends my Throne. 1615 WITHER *Sheph. Hunt.* IV. E5, The rest Wherewithall thy mynde is blest. a 1673 HORTON *Expos. Ps. lxxiii.* 7 (1675) 590 He is not like the Egyptian Task-masters, which require brick, and give no straw wherewithal to make it. 1769 ROBERTSON *Chas. V.* VIII. III. 88 The. . . marks of his good-will and gratitude wherewithal they had been honoured. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xxxi, Mrs. Miff has heard. . . that the lady hasn't got a sixpence wherewithal to bless herself. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* II. III. 344 The love I had therefor was not so much above That wherewithal I loved the silver ring.

b. With ellipsis of antecedent, or as compound relative: = *prec.* 2 b. (a) followed by *inf.* with *to*; (b) with ellipsis of *inf.* (See also c.) *arch.*

(a) 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 93 If he haue not wherewithall to maintaine his estate. 1659 MILTON *Hirelings* 32 No people to pay him tithes, but his own children and servants, who had not wherewithall to pay him, but of his own. 1693 *Mem. Count Teckely* III. 66 Teckely being in the Neighbourhood, without having wherewithal to attempt any thing by force. 1742 FIELDING *J. Andrews* IV. i, When your ladyship's livery was stripped off, he had not wherewithal to buy a coat. 1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* xxxi, They gave him what they had, and lulled him with every shot. . . He had not wherewithal to return the compliment.

(b) 1605 Lond. *Prodigal* I. ii, The charge is small charge, syr; I thanke God my father left me wherewithal. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII.* I. iii. 59 That Churchman Beares a bounteous minde indeed. . . His dewes fall euery where. . . L. San. He may, my Lord, H'as wherewithall. 1663 DRYDEN *Wild Gallant* I. ii, My husband and I cannot live by Love, as they say; we must haue wherewithal, as they say. 1730 RAMSAY *Fables* VI. 21 Them that wanted wherewithal, He dang them back. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* xix, 'Here is wherewithal', said Martin.

c. Preceded by the definite (rarely the indefinite) article, which qualifies the omitted or implied antecedent: (a) followed by *inf.* with *to* = means by which, resource with which (to do something); (b) with ellipsis of *inf.* (chiefly *colloq.*), thus becoming a *sb.* = means, *esp.* pecuniary means; resource or supply (*esp.* money) needed for the purpose in view.

(a) 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* I. viii. ¶ 2 There is a wherewithal to satisfy your craving. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Manch. Strike* xii. 127 A. . . hope. . . that this day's post would have brought the wherewithal to build up new expectations. 1917 *Engl. Hist. Rev.* Oct. 490 To supply him with the wherewithal to pay for the defence of the border.

(b) 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* VII. xii. ¶ 13 How the devil does she mean that I should get the wherewithal? 1861 MUSGRAVE *By-Roads & Battle-F.* 14 The design comprised a harbour for vessels carrying forty guns; but the wherewithal failed. 1890 BESANT *Demoniac* III, Our English girls, when they have got the wherewithal, do in the second generation easily assume the aristocratic manner and appearance.

† 3. = *prec.* 3. *Obs.*

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 695 He forgot Diana, wherewithall she was very angry. 1640 tr. *Verdere's Rom. of Rom.* II. 23 The accents of the voice. . . made him conclude that they proceeded from a person very much afflicted: wherewithall he was so moved to pity, [etc.].

4. = *prec.* 4. *Obs. or rare arch.*

1618 WITHER *Motto, Nec Curo* 193 A knowledge wherewithall He is prepar'd for whatsoe're may fall. 1846 HAWTHORNE *Mosses* II. *P.'s Corr.*, With precisely the same complacency of conscience, wherewithal he contemplates the volume of discourses above-mentioned.

† b. = *prec.* 4 b. *Obs.*

a 1542 WYATT *Poems*, 'The longe love, that in my thought' 9 Where with all, vntoo the herte forrest hee fleith. 1640 tr. *Verdere's Rom. of Rom.* II. 39 Wherewithall considering the. . . obligation wherein he was bound to her affection, he resolved to let her see how sensible he was of a benefit.

wherewithout: see *WHERE* 15.

wheritte, wherk: see *WHERRET*, *WORK*.

wherk, dial. var. *QUIRK sb.*¹

1747 HOOSON *Miner's Dict.* Y 2 b, *Wherk* [is] a small and unlooked for turning in the Stone, Side, or Ore.

wherken, dial. var. *QUERKEN*, to suffocate.

wherl, etc.: see *WHIRL*, etc.

¶ **whern(e)**, error for *wheru(e)*, *WHARVE sb.*

1552 HULOET, *Wherne*. Loke in whorle. 1631 ANCHORAN *Comenius' Gate Tongues* 98 [They] draw their threads, whether it be with a reele, or with a spindle, and a wherne. 1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* Alph. Dict., Wherl, Whern.

wherne, obs. form of *QUERN*¹.

wherpole, -pool, obs. ff. *WHIRLPOOL*.

wherret ('hwerit), *sb.* Now *dial.* Forms: 6 wheritte, whyrit, -rret, 6-8 whirrit, 6-9 whirret, 7 wheret, -it, 7-9 wherrit, 7- wherret. [? Echoic.] A sharp blow; esp. a box on the ear or slap on the face.

1577 KENDALL *Flowers Epigr.* 17 b, Thou fearest a pat on pate, or els a whirrit on the eare. 1581 RICH *Farew.* (1846) 208 And with this up with his fiste, and gave Phylotus a sure wheritte on the eare. 1589 [? NASHE] *Martins Months Minde* Ep. Ded. A 2, I haue giuen them both now one Cuffe more: which albeit in truth bee but a whirret. 1621 MOLLE *Camerar. Liv. Libr.* v. ii. 324 He. . . gaue one of them such a whirret with his sword-hilts, that [etc.]. 1664 [J. SCUDAMORE] *Homer à la Mode* 25 She striking him two or three wherets O'th ears, tooke hold of's bunch of carrets. 1727 'S. BRUNT' *Voy. to Cackl.* 67, I returned the Compliment with a Wherret of my Fist, which knock'd him over. 1881 *Isle of Wight Gloss.* s.v., I'll ghee thee a wherret in the chops.

fig. 1715 C'tess D'Aunoy's *Wks.* 116 Let her Conduct be never so void of Offence, she cannot shun the Whirrits of their Malice.

b. *Comb.*: † wherret-stopper, a contrivance on a boat to prevent injury from collision, etc.

1708 *Constit. Watermen's Co.* liii, Owners. . . shall Mark and Number. . . Boats, with plain Figures on the Linings on each side, just abaft the Wherret-Stoppers of every Boat.

wherret ('hwerit), *v.* Now rare. [Cf. prec.] *trans.* To give a blow or slap to; †occas. *transf.* with the blow as object. Also *fig.*

1599 MINSHEU, *Cacheteado*, whirreted on the cheek. 1678 LITTLETON *Lat. Dict.* II. s.v. *Pugnis*, To box or wherret one. a1693 *Urhari's Rabelais* III. vi. 59 Their most considerable Knocks had been..jerked and whirrited within the Curtines of his Sweet-heart. 1711 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 30 Sept., The Whigs are in a rage about the peace, but we'll wherret them, I warrant. 1866 WHITTIER *Marg. Smith's Jrnl.* Prose Wks. 1889 I. 49 The Deacon..seeing him in this way, wherreted him smartly with his cane.

'wherrit, *v. dial.* [Possibly local form of *thwert*, THWART *v.* Cf. *dial. whart* and *whartle* (beside *thwartle*, *thurtle*). See WERRIT.] *trans.* To tease, pester, annoy.

1762 BICKERSTAFF *Love in Village* I. ix. (1763) 17 Find some other road, can't you? and dont keep wherretting me with your nonsense. 1767 *Woman of Fashion* I. 35 What the dickens! Must I be wherretted with your Advice too? 1787 GROSE *Prov. Gloss.*, *Wherrited*, teased. 1888 FENN *Dick o' the Fens* xxi, With..the missus a-nigh wherritted to death wi' trouble.

wherrow, var. WHARROW.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* v. xxiii. 579 The roote is rounde lyke a wherrow or wherle, or rather like a litle round appel.

wherry ('hweri), *sb.*¹ Also 5-6 whery(e, 6 wherrye, -ey, where, whirre, whyr(i)e, wherry(e, -ie, wheary, 6-7 wherie, whirr(e)y, -ie, 7 wheery, 9 whurry. [Etymology obscure; perh. *f.* WHIRR with suggestion of rapid movement.]

1. A light rowing-boat used chiefly on rivers to carry passengers and goods.

1443 *For. Acc. 21 Hen. VI G dorso* (P.R.O.), Vnius Batelle vocate Whery. c 1515 *Coke Lorell's B.* 6 There came suche a winde for wynchester That bleweth these women ouer the ryuer, In wherye. 1534 WRIOTHESLEY *Chron.* (Camden) I. 24 For murdering of two straungers in a wherie in the Thames. 1536 MSS. *Dk. Rutland* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) IV. 277 Payd to Robert Day..for 1 day with his where with my Lady,..viij d. 1555 *Act 2 & 3 Phil. & Mary c.* 16 Preamble, The Wheries & Boates nowe occupied & used and of late tyme made for Rowing upon the said Ryver [Thames]. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 635 He toke a Wherry, and so escaped to London. a1591 H. SMITH *Six Serms.* (1594) 83 They tremble for feare, like women that shriek at every stir in the wherry. 1666 PEPPYS *Diary* 13 Sept., My pictures and fine things, that I will bring home in wherrys. 1689 WOOD *Life* (O.H.S.) III. 302 John Temple..flung himself over a wherry when it was shooting London bridge. 1723 SWIFT *Judge Boat* 24 Our Boat is now sail'd to the Stygian Ferry, There to supply old Charon's leaky Wherry. 1759 *Universal Chron.* 14-21 July 23/1 Two young fellows going up the Isis in a wherry with a sail, were overset by a sudden gust of wind. 1780 FALCONER *Dict. Marine, Yawl*, a wherry or small ship's boat, usually rowed by four or six oars. 1857 DICKENS *Dorrit* II. ix, Nothing moving on the stream but watermen's wherries and coal-lighters. 1861 *Chamb. Encycl.* II. 177/2 The Thames wherry..is stoutly built and is constructed to carry about eight passengers. It is usually managed by one sculler or two oarsmen. 1877 BLACK *Green Past.* xxvii, Smaller craft—wherries, steam-launches, tenders, and what not.

2. A large boat of the barge kind: see *quots. local.*

a1589 R. LANE in *Hakluyt's Voy.* 740, I tooke a resolution with my selfe..to enter presently so farre into that Riuer with two double whirries, and fourtie persons one or other. 1691 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2672/3 Four large Wheries..which we brought..from Dublin, in which were put 150 Granadiers. a1788 in *Orig. Forty-Five* (S.H.S. 1916) 260 They werec alarmed by five wherries, the same, as they supposed, that landed the Campbells the night before... The wherries sailed by to the southward without ever stopping. 1829 BROCKETT *N.C. Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Whurry, wherry*, a large boat—a sort of barge or lighter. 1857 WRIGHT *Prov. Dict.* s.v., A wherry..on the East-Norfolk and East-Suffolk rivers it is a large sailing boat, carrying from 15 to 35 tons of merchandise. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Wherry*..a decked vessel used in fishing in different parts of Great Britain and Ireland. 1891 *Daily News* 3 Oct. 3/8 A coal wherry belonging to Atkinson, Shields.

3. A large four-wheeled dray or cart without sides. *local.*

1881 [see *wherry driver* in 4]. 1886 *Leeds Mercury* 1 Apr., One new light Spring Wherry, carry one ton.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as (sense 1) *wherry-boat*, *-rower*, *-slave*, *-wharf*, (sense 2) *wherry yacht*, (sense 3) *wherry-driver*. Also WHERRYMAN.

1538 FITZHERB. *Just. Peas* 134 Passynge the riuers of Thames or Medwaye by barge or *wherbote. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* xxv. x, The Captaine..escaped to the key, where he tooke a small barge or whirrie-bote. 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) Index 178 *Wherry driver. c 1515 *Coke Lorell's B.* 11 Bargemen, *whery rowers, and dysers. 1569 JEWEL *Def. Apol.* (1571) 202 You maie remember, that Iulius the 2..from a *whearyslaue, not longe sithence became a Pope. 1884 'H. COLLINGWOOD' *Under Meteor Flag* xxiv, We reached the *wherry-wharf at Kingston. 1896 *Daily News* 3 June 5/6 At Lowestoft..Dr. Jameson..boarded a *wherry yacht.

Hence *wherry *v. trans.*, to carry in or as in a wherry; *wherrying *vbl. sb.*, the plying of a wherry.

1827 MONTGOMERY *Pelican Isl.* I. 244 Buoyant shells, On stormless voyages..Wherried their tiny mariners. 1902 *Longm. Mag.* Nov. 41, I chucked up th' wherryen' and went deek-drawn'. 1909 *Daily Chron.* 30 Dec. 3/1 [They] are men who have always picked up their living by wild fowling, poaching, wherrying.

'wherry, *sb.*² *dial.* = WHERRET *sb.*

1726 VANBRUGH *Journ. Lond.* I. (1728) 14 Somewhat fetcht me such a wherry a-cross the Shins, that dawn came I flop o' my Feace.

wherry, obs. var. WHIRRY *v.*

wherryman ('hwerimən). Pl. -men. Forms: see WHERRY *sb.*¹; also 6 whirriman, 6-7 wherriman. [*f.* WHERRY *sb.*¹ + MAN *sb.*¹ 4p.] A man employed on a wherry (sense 1 or 2).

1535 COVERDALE *Ezek.* xxvii. 28 All whirry men, and all maryners vpon the see. 1542 in *Sel. Pleas Cr. Admiralty* (Selden Soc.) I. 116 John Peers..of the parishe of Sainte Olyff in the Burge of Sowthwerke wherryman. 1549 LATIMER *6th Serms. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 176 There is neuer a whirriman at Westminster brydge, but he can answer to thys. 1593 BACON *Let. to Earl of Essex* 10 Nov., As he that is an excellent wherryman, who you know looketh towards the bridge when he pulleth towards Westminster. 1661 in *Extr. St. Papers rel. Friends* Ser. II. (1911) 130 Thomas Tracey of Great Yarmouth..wherryman. 1766 ENTICK *London IV.* 145 The society of watermen and wherryman. 1905 A. I. SHAND *Days of Past* II. 19 They had run the old wherryman and scullers off the Thames.

1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) Index 178. 1893 P. H. EMERSON (*title*) On English Lagoons, being an account of the Voyage of Two Amateur Wherryman on the Norfolk and Suffolk Rivers and Broads. 1897 *Daily News* 14 Dec. 5/3 Wherryman and anglers report the destruction of large numbers of coarse fish in the lower reaches of the Norfolk tidal rivers.

whersere, obs. contr. *f.* WHERESOEVER.

whersh, variant of WERSH *a.*

whert, var. QUART, QUERT *a.* and *sb.*¹ *Obs.*

wherve, variant of WHARVE.

wherville, **whery**, **whes**, **Whesen**, **whesille**, **whess**, **whest**, **whestion**, **wheston**: see WHIRL, VERY, WHOSE, WHITSUN, WEASEL *sb.*, WASH *v.*, QUEST *sb.*¹, QUESTION, WHETSTONE.

whet (hwet), *sb.* [*f.* WHET *v.*]

1. An act of sharpening; *transf.* the interval between two sharpenings of a scythe, etc.; also *fig.* an occasion, turn, 'go'. Now *dial.*

a1628 J. PRESTON *Saints Daily Exerc.* (1629) 32 The whetting of the sithe, though there be a stop in the work for a time, yet, as our common saying is, a whet is no let. 1641 *BEST Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 32 A good mower will goe the breadth of those broad-landes with a whette. 1849 C. BRONTE *Shirley* xxx, If the afflatus comes, give way, Robert; never heed me: I'll bear it this whet (time). 1892 HOLE *Mem.* xvi. (1893) 194 'Well, Booth,' a visitor said to his sick neighbour, 'thee'd like to get better, wouldn't thee, Booth? But thee mun dee, this whet.'

2. *fig.* Something that incites or stimulates desire; an incitement or inducement to action.

1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 112 *margin.*, The sloth of the Moors a whet to the Banyans. 1710 S. PALMER *Proverbs* 6 Diversion shou'd never be any more than a Whet in order to the better..Pursuit of our Work. 1770 *Ann. Reg.*, *Hist. Eur.* 32/2 The carnage at Patras gave a new whet, which was not at all wanted, to the..revenge of the Greeks. 1846 LOWER *Hand-bk. Lewes* 24 Should any facts I may state serve as a whet for the visitor's curiosity. 1880 J. CAIRD *Univ. Addr.* (1898) 134 For some minds..the whet of society is indispensable in order to the attainment of the right temper and use of their powers. 1882 STEVENSON *Across the Plains* iii. (1892) 123 Solitude: an excellent thing in itself, and a good whet for company.

b. Something that whets the appetite; chiefly, light refreshment taken as an appetizer or to stave off hunger till the next meal; *esp.* an appetizer in the form of a small draught of liquor; a dram, a drink (cf. *wet*).

1688 SHADWELL *Sqr. Alsatia* II. 23 Let's whett; bring some Wine. Come on; I love a Whett. 1692 RAY *Disc.* II. v. (1693) 191 The President of the Council..engaged me to take a Glass of Wormwood Wine as a whet before dinner. 1693 CONGREVE in *Dryden's Juvenal* xi. 209 An Iv'ry Table is a certain whet; You would not think how heartily he'll eat. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 279 Fruit, Wine, Tobacco, and Salt Bits for a Whet, being placed before them, they continue Drinking till Midnight. 1736 FIELDING *Pasquin* I. 6, I have brought the Colonel to take a Morning's Whet with you. 1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1785) III. 360 They whipt out two Bottles of Champagne instantly, for a Whet, as they called it. 1760 MRS. RAFFALD *Engl. Housekpr.* (1778) 139 To make a nice Whet before Dinner. Cut some slices of bread.., fry them in butter, [etc.]. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humphry Cl.*, *To Sir W. Phillips* 8 Aug., I have seen turnips make their appearance, not as a dessert, but by way of *hors d'œuvres*, or whets. 1803 *Med. Jrnl.* X. 477 As he walks out in the morning he takes what is called a small glass (half a gill) of bitters..at the first grog-shop he passes; and commonly takes a second whet (another half gill) before he gets to work. 1833 in F. D. PALMER *Diary of C. J. P.* (1892) 112 The Corporation gave a 'whet' at the Town Hall. 1852 W. JERDAN *Autobiogr.* I. xxiii. 189 He..swallowed his two dozen of green oysters as a whet, and proceeded to dine. 1879 STEVENSON *Trav. Cevennes* 90 Father Michael..gave me a glass of liqueur to stay me until dinner... The whet administered, I was left alone.

whet (hwet), *v.* Forms: 1 hwettan, 4 quette, 4-7 whette, 5-7 whett, (5 wete, qwete, *Sc.* quhete, 6 wette, wheit), 7-8 wet, 6- whet; *pa. t.* 1 hwette, 3 whætte, 3wette, 4 wette, 4-6 whette, 6-7 whet, 8 *Sc.* whatt; *pa. pple.* 3 iwhæt, 4-5 ywhet(t, whette, 4-8 whet; *pa. t.* and *pa. pple.* 4-5 whettid, 5-whetted. [OE. *hwettan* = (M)Du., (M)LG.

wetten, OHG. *wezzan* (MHG. *wezzen*, G. *wetzen*), ON. *hvetja* (Sw. *vässa*, Da. *hvæsse*):—OTeut. **χwatjan*, *f. χwat-* (whence OE. *hwæt*, etc.: see WHAT *a.*².)]

1. *a. trans.* To sharpen, put a sharp edge or point upon.

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past.* C. xxvi. 186 Swæ se læce grapað, & stracað, & hyt his seax & hwett [v.r. hwæt]. 971 *Blickl. Gloss.* 259 Hy hwetton, *exacuerunt.* c 1205 LAY. 14215 He..whætte his sares also he scharen wolde. c 1290 *St. George* 84 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 296 Heore wepne huy drowen forth and 3wetten hem. c 1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* v. 1760 Ofte tyme I fynde pat þey mette with bloody strokes.. Assayinge how here speres were whette. 1412-20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* I. 4306 A swerde, sharp[e] grounde & whet. 1530 PALSGR. 780/2, I love better whettyng of knyves afore a good dyner than whettyng of swordes and bylles. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III.* I. iii. 244 Foole, foole, thou whet'st a Knife to kill thy selfe. 1596 in *Archæologia* LXIV. 379 For a fylle to wheit the blakstone saw iiiii d. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* I. viii. 42 b, Like an ill Mower, that mowes on still, and neuer whets his Syth. 1698 *Phil. Trans.* XX. 418 It became very hot towards the Point, the Edge being whet away to a Wire. *Ibid.* 419, I whet it again strongly in the same manner, and it changed again. 1721 E. WARD *Merry Trav.* I. (1729) 12 The Butchers..Some wetting Knives upon a Steel. 1728 YOUNG *Love of Fame* II. 121 As in smooth oil the razor best is whet. 1825 SCOTT *Talism.* iii, Thou whett'st our very banquet-knives To tools of death and war. 1865 SWINBURNE *Chastelard* IV. i. 115 You do not think It is my wrath or will that whets this axe Against his neck?

b. Of a boar or other animal sharpening its tusks or teeth in preparation for an attack.

c 1000 *Eccl. Inst.* in Thorpe *Anc. Laws* (1840) II. 396/6 Of..þæm undeadicum wyrnum þa hwettað hyra blodigan teð to þon pet hig..urne lichoman wundian. 13.. *K. Alis.* 6607 (Laud MS.) In her mouþ ben teep trebble sset, None bores better ywhett. c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 178 þai whettid þer tethe agayns þaim. 1553 EDEN *Treat. Neue Ind.* (Arb.) 16 He fyleth and whetteth his horne on a stone. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 387 Boars whet their Tusks; to battel Tygers move. 1747 W. DUNKIN in Francis tr. *Hor.*, Ep. II. ii. 42 A very Wolf..Now whetting keen his wide devouring Jaw. 1799 SOUTHEY *God's Judgem. Wicked Bp.* 77 They have whetted their teeth against the stones, And now they pick the Bishop's bones. 1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* II. xlii, The eagle whets his beak.

c. In allusive and *fig.* phrases (in which the literal language is freq. retained, e.g. *to whet the teeth*, *the sword*, etc.) usually expressing preparation for attack; often in echoes of Ps. lxiv. 3, cxl. 3.

c 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Spelman) cxxxix. [cxl.] 3 Hi hwetton tungan heora swa swa nædran. c 1374 CHAUCER *Anel. & Arc.* 212 þe swerd of sorowe whett with fals plesaunce. 14.. *Tundale's Vis.* (1843) 95 For to skape the cruell vyolence Of nedis swyrd whettyng with violence. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Worthy receauing Sacr.* I, Therefore (saith Ciprian) when we do these thynges, we nedet not to whet our teeth. 1573 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 6 A hie point forsooth for them to whet there tungs about. 1581 PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* (1586) 7 They..had not yet whetted their tongues to slaunder their neighbours, gaue not their mindes to cruelties. 1633 COWLEY *Poet. Blossoms, Constantia & Philetus* 74 Yet hee by chance had hit his heart aight, And on Constantia's eye his Arrow whet. 1674 W. SHERLOCK *Disc. Knowl. Christ* 56 That now we may look Iustice in the face, and whet our Knife at the Counter door, all our Debts being discharged by Christ. 1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St. Pierre's Study Nat.* (1799) III. 266 'Combined Nations,' says she, 'and formidable cities whet the sword against me.' 1833 I. TAYLOR *Fanat.* II. 26 The writer who is seen to be thus whetting afresh his words. 1866 LIDDON *Divin. Our Lord* vii. (1875) 357 The edge and point of every weapon that might be forged or whetted by the ingenuity of passionate animosity.

d. *absol.*; also *fig.* to get ready for an attack (like a boar whetting his tusks).

1398 [see WHETSTONE 1]. c 1460 Towneley *Myst.* xvi. 318, I mon whett lyke a bore. 1642 D. ROGERS *Naaman* 19 Those who cease whetting at Gods secrets..(as not belonging to them)..have a marke upon them of such as shall be saved. 1680 DRYDEN *Limberham* IV. i. 47 I have been whetting all this while. 1682 — *Medall* 240 They..grin and whet like a Croatian band.

† 2. *fig.* To incite, instigate, egg or urge on to or to do something. *Obs.*

Beowulf 204 Done siðfæt him snotere ceorlas lythwon logon,..hwetton higerofne. a 1000 *Sal. & Sat.* 493 Oðer [gast] hine tyhteð & on tæso læreð..& ðurh ðæt his mod hwetæð. c 1000 *Malchus* in Cockayne *Shrine* (1864) 41 þa gehyrde hio fram me þæt ic hig hwette to fleanne. c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 2828 On was þer þat ful euele spak To whette Brenne to reyse kontak. 1412-20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* IV. 1354 Liche a lyoun whetted wip woodnes. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 461 b, Certen biting libelles..wherin were some thinges to whet the people. 1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Fam. Love* 26 b, By David George his Maisters whettyng him forward..he became the sonne of perdition. 1595 SHAKS. *John* III. iv. 181 Now that their soules are toptull of offence,..I will whet on the King. 1621 SANDERSON *Serm.*, *Ad Clerum* II. (1689) 37 If he would whet them up to the battle. 1624 QUARLES *Job Militant* Medit. 3 A gloomie night Whets on the morning, to returne more bright. 1649 MILTON *Eikon.* xxvii. 214 They..are but whetted and inrag'd by what they suffer'd, against those whom they look upon as them that caus'd their sufferings. 1718 HICKES & NELSON *J. Kettlewell* I. § 8 He would be often discoursing..about Points..of Religion, that he might thereby whet those who sat at Table with him. 1761 CHURCHILL *Rosciad* 491 When she to murder whets the tim'rous Thane.

3. To sharpen, render (more) acute, keen, or eager (a person's wits, appetite, interest, curiosity, etc.). Also with *up*.

a 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 2420, I attellyd neuer athens with armes to entre, Bot you questions to enquire to wete [*Ashm.*

qwete] with my wittes. c1400 *Rom. Rose* 6197 How high that euer his heed he shere With resoun whetted neuer so kene. 1402 *Hoccleve Let. Cupid* 243 They that to wommen ben ywhett so kene. 1561 T. NORTON tr. *Calvin's Inst.* III. 262b. The very weight of y^e thing it self shal whet our endeuor. 1579 *LYLY Euphues* (Arb.) 187 Diuers coulours offende the eyes, yet hauing greene among them, whette the sight. 1601 *SHAKS. Twel. N.* III. i. 116 Madam, I come to whet your gentle thoughts On his be-halfe. 1612 *DEKKER If it be not good* Wks. 1873 III. 282 [He] seekes new wayes to whet dull appetite. 1617 *MORYSON Itin.* III. 9 Aduersities doe often whet our wits. 1648 W. MOUNTAGU in *Buckleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 309 This I confess whets my prayers for your Lordship's health. 1752 *HUME Pol. Disc.* III. 48 Their industry only whetted by so much new gain. 1759 — *Hist. Eng., Tudors II. Eliz.* III. 547 Theological controversy daily whetted the animosity of the sects. 1823 T. BEWICK *Memoir* (1975) xii. 105 The extreme interest I had always felt in the hope of administering to the pleasures & amusement of youth... whetted me up & stimulated me to proceed. 1840 *DICKENS Old C. Shop* xxxii, Efforts to stimulate the popular taste and whet the popular curiosity. 1861 *BUCKLE Civiliz.* II. III. 210 The desire of revenge whetted their exertions.

absol. 1626 *BACON Sylva* §831 The Cause, why Onions, and Salt, and Pepper, in Baked Meats, moue Appetite, it is by Vellication of those Nerues; For Motion whetteth. 1877 'MARK TWAIN' in *Atlantic Monthly* Nov. 586/2 You see 'em begin to whet up whenever they smell argument in the air. 1893 — in *Century Mag.* Jan. 342/2 The people were still in the drawing-room, whetting up for dinner.

†4. In renderings of Deut. vi. 7 and echoes of it, translating Heb. *shānan* lit. to sharpen, fig. to inculcate. (Const. on, upon.) *Obs.*

1528 *TINDALE Obed. Chr. Man* To Rdr. 13 Moyses saith Deutro. vj. Heare Israel let these wordes which I commaunde the this daye steke fast in thine herte, and whette them on thi childerne. 1548 *BECON Sol. Soul* Wks. 1564 II. 115b, And euer bee whettyng of that in thy mynde. 1612 *BRINSLEY Lud. Lit.* xxii. (1627) 255 Use all diligence to apply every piece unto them, to whet it upon them. a1665 J. GOODWIN *Being filled with the Spirit* (1867) 229 Was it thoroughly known, and frequently whetted upon the thoughts and minds of men [etc.].

†5. Of a bird: To preen (the feathers). *rare.* a1678 *MARVELL Garden* 54 There like a Bird it sits, and sings, Then whets, and combs its silver Wings.

6. †a. *intr.* To take an appetizer. b. *trans.* in phr. to whet one's whistle (in which whet has been substituted for the earlier *wet*): to clear the throat or voice by taking a drink.

1674 *FLATMAN Belly God* 46 First whet thy whistle with some good Metheglin. 1688 [see WHET sb. 2b]. 1742 *FIELDING J. Andrews* II. xi, Give the gentleman a glass to whet his whistle before he begins. 1809 in *Sir G. Jackson's Diaries & Lett.* (1873) I. 20 Punch... served very agreeably to wet, or whet, my whistle. 1908 *HARDY Dynasts* III. III. vi, See that they have plenty of Madeira to whet their whistles with.

7. *Comb.*: whetsaw, a bird allied to the cuckoo, so called from its making a noise like the whetting of a saw; whet-slate, a hard slate used for hones; novaculite.

1778 J. CARVER *Trav. N. Amer.* xviii. 475 The Whetsaw is of the cuckoo kind, being like that a solitary bird, and scarcely ever seen, ... it makes a noise like the filing of a saw. 1839 *ÛRE Dict. Arts* 1141 *Whet-slate*, or *Turkey hone*, is a slaty rock, containing a great proportion of quartz. 1856 *PAGE Adv. Text-bk. Geol.* viii. (1876) 161 Among the minor products may be mentioned whet-slate and ragstone.

whet, obs. f. WAIT sb., WHAT, WHEAT.

whetblowe, obs. f. WHITLOW.

whete, obs. f. WET, WHEAT.

† **whethen**, *adv.* *Obs.* Forms: 3 *weðen*, *queðen*, 4 *whēpin*, -yn, *whethene*, *queþen*, *quiþen*, *queiþin*, *queyþen*, *weþen*, *wethen*, *wythenne*, 4-5 *whēþen*(e, *whethen*, *quethen*, 5 *whēþon*, *whethyn*, *whythene*, -yne, *quethin*, qu-, *qwethun*. [a. ON. *hvaðan* (MSw. *hwäðhan*, MDa. *hvæden*; f. root of WHO + *ðan* as in *heðan*, *peðan*), with vowel-assimilation to HETHEN, THETHEN.] = WHENCE; and, like that word, often preceded by redundant *fro* (occas. *of*).

1. *interrog.* = WHENCE I, 2. c1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 127 Weðen is me cumen þat mi louerdas moder cumeð to me? c1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1401 Al he tolde hem þro queðen he cam. 13... *Cursor M.* 2619 (Gött.) 'Agar,' he said, 'queþen comes þou, Or queperward wil þu ga nou?' 13... *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 461 Neuermore þen pay wyste fram queþen he was wonnen. c1400 *Anturs Arth.* xxviii, Whēþene [*v.r.* whythene] is þe comli kniȝte? c1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 535 þe kyngre askede anone what was his name And what mon And whethen þat he wasse.

2. *rel.* = WHENCE 3. a1340 *HAMPOLE Psalter* cxx. 1, I liftid myn eghyn in hillis whēþen help cum till me. 1340 — *Pr. Consc.* 5205 Ierusalem... fra whethen þe crosse for yhow I bare. c1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 4118 That he was lord of that kyndome Fro whethen alle that riches is come. b. In generalized or indefinite sense: From whatever place, whencesoever. 13... *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 871 Whēþen in worlde he were, Hit semed as he myȝt Be pryncyng with-outen pere.

Hence † **whethenward** *adv.* *Obs.*, in phr. *fra whethenward* [cf. -WARD 4, 7], from whence, whence.

c1200 *ORMIN* 16668 þu ne mahht nohht witenn... Fra whēþennwarð gast cumeþþ forþ.

whether ('hwæðo(r)), *pron., adj., conj. (sb.)* Forms: see below. [OE. *hwæper* and *hweper*, corresp. to OFris. *hwēd(d)er*, *h(w)oder*, *ho(e)r* (Nfris. *wader*), OS. *hweðar* one of two, whether, OHG. *hwedar*, *wedar* which of two, neut. whether, either, (MHG. *weder*, surviving in G. *weder* neither), ON. *hvaðarr*, nom. pl. *hvárer* (whence sing. *hvár*), which of two, each, neut. whether (Sw. *hvar* each, mod. Icel. *hvorr*), Goth. *hwapar* which of two:—OTeut. **hwaparaz*, **hwē-*, f. *hwa-*, *hwē-* WHO + comp. suffix (Indo-eur. -tero-) as in OTHER (cf. Skr. *katará-*, Gr. *πόρος*, Lith. *katràs*). *Either* (OE. *æghwæper*) is a compound of *whether*. With forms of the *γ*-type cf. OHG. *diu hwiduru*, *thoh-widaro* THOUGH-WHETHER, early mod. G. *wider* neither; with forms of the *δ*-type OFris. *hwoder*; and with forms of the *ε*-type OFris. *hoer*, *hor* (but in ME. north. texts *hwor* may represent ON. *hvár*)].

A. Illustration of Forms.

a. 1 *hwæðer*, -þer, -der, 1-3 *hwaþer*, 3 *whæðer*, *whaðer*, -der, (wahðer), 3-4 *waþer*, 4 *quaþer*.

8... in O.E. *Texts* 444 Sue hwaeder suae. *Ibid.* 452 *Hwaþer*. 900-30 O.E. *Chron.* an. 894 (Parker MS.) Bi swa hwaþerre efes swa hit þonne fierðleas wæs. c1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John iv. 33 *Hwæðer* ænig man him mete brohte? c1205 *LAY.* 20877 *Hwæðer* [c1275 *waþer*] swa ich wulle don oðer slæn oðer ahon. *Ibid.* 23593-5 *Whaþer* unkere... *wahðer* vinkere. 13... *Cursor M.* 13596 (Gött.) To mistrouu... *Quaþer* forwid blind al had he bene. c1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 486 *Waþer* þe wil or no.

β. 1 *hueðer*, 1-3 *hweðer*, -þer, 3 *weðer*, -þer, *queðer*, (3*weðer*, -ur), *Orm.* *wheþþr*, 4 *wheiþer*, *queþer*, *quedir*, -ur, *Sc.* *quethyr*(e, 4-5 *wheþer*, -ire, -ur(e, whethere, -ir(e, -yr, *wethir*, *quethir*, -þir, *wheðir*, -ur, *queder*, 4-6 *wheder*, *Sc.* *quethir*, *quedir*, 4-7 *wheither*, 5 *whethur*, *wheithir*, *whedere*, -yr(e, *wedir*, *quethire*, -ur, *qweþer*, -ther, -þire, *Sc.* *quheþer*, -ir, *quheythir*, *qwheþir*, -dyr, -yar, 5-6 *wheddur*, 6, 9 *dial.* -er, *Sc.* *quether*, 4- whether.

c825 *Vesp. Ps.* cxxxviii[i]. 24 *Et vide si via iniquitatis in me est, & geseh hweðer weg unrehthwisse in me is.* c950 *Lindisf. Gosp. Matt.* xxvii. 17 *Quem uultis dimitam uobis, hueðerne wallas gie ic forleto iowh?* a1122 *O.E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1101 *Loc hweðer þæra gebroðra oðerne oferbide.* c1200 *ORMIN* 526 *Ille an hird wel wisse inoh, Wheþþr itt to serrfenn sholde [etc.].* c1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 155 *On is weðer þe eorðe beo bicumeliche to se sede, þat uwer weðer hit beo riht time per to.* c1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1471 *Queðer here sulde biðen bi-foren.* c1290 *St. Austin* 60 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 25 *Are ich habbe more vnderȝite: 3wēþur þis Message beo trewe.* a1300 *Cursor M.* 44 *Queder [v.r. queþer, wheþer] pai be worthi or bale or bote.* c1300 *Havelok* 2008 *Betera is i go myself, and se Hweþer he sitten nou, and wesseylen.* 13... *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1109 *Sware with trawpe, Queþer, leude, so lomp lere oþer better.* 13... *Northern Passion* 1006 (Camb. Gg. 5. 31) *Wheder he will hym safe or spyll.* c1325 *Spec. Gy Warw.* 272 *Wheþer peih wolen, or peih nelle.* 1340 *HAMPOLE Pr. Consc.* 1829 *He es uncertayne Whether he sal wend til ioy or payne.* c1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints i.* (Petrus) 421 *Quhedir he A lele man or a lear be.* c1420 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 276 *þo iewys kestyn to þe dys Qweþer xuld han hys cloth.* 1456 *SIR G. HAYE Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 5 *The ferde question is quheythir bataill be lefull to be done.* c1500 *Lancelot* 1186 *Qwheþar if yone bee Our presoner, my consell is we see.* 1523 *LD. BERNERS Froiss.* I. cccxiv. 195 b/1 *The kyngre lende or gaue him I can nat tell wheder, a .lx. thousande frankes.* 1526 *TINDALE Matt.* xxi. 31 *Whedder of these ij fulfilled there fathers wyl?* 1533 *GAU Richt Vay* 80 *Quhedir he be pape or patriarch.* 1585 *Jas. I Ess. Poesie* (Arb.) 60 *Quether the lyne be lang or short.*

γ. (1 *hwīðer*), 4 *whydyr*, 5 *whyder*, *qwydyr*, 5-6 *Sc.* *quhither*, 5-7 *Sc.* *quhidder*, 6 *Sc.* *whidder*, *quhidir*, *qwhider*, 6-7 *whither*, 7 *Sc.* *quither*.

9... *ÆLFRED Gregory's Past.* C. xlv. 330 (Cott. MS.) *Hwonne bið ðæt, ðæt ðu nyte hwīðer ðu maran wilniȝe?* 13... *Lay Folks' Catech.* (L.) 1258 *Noman wot whydyr he may be wopy to haue hate or loue of god.* c1400 *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 92 *Here may we chese, Whyder we our-self wyl saue or lese.* 1450-1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* i. xviii. 48 *Whither comest thou to chyrche to slepe or to wake?* c1460 *METHAM Wks.* (1916) 146 *Qwydyr y[t] schuld preue fayr or foule.* c1480 *HENRYSON Sheep & Dog* 1199 (Harl. MS.) *Quhidder the scheip suld answer in iugement Before the wolf.* 1535 *STEWART Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) II. 144 *Quhither it wes, thairof haif I no feill.* 1546 *Suppl. Poore Commons* (E.E.T.S.) 4 *Whither this lawe be indifferent or not.* 1583 *Leg. Bp. St. Androis* 285 *Whidder hir malisone tuike effect, Or gif it was the gude wyne sect.* 1614 *SIR W. MURE Misc. Poems* iii. (title), *Beaun reply to I cairr no quither I get hir or no.* a1699 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* xviii. cix, *Yet whither you will bow down your Consent To our meek Doctrines.*

δ. 4 *woper*, *wother*.

13... *Northern Passion* 1984 (Camb. Gg. i. 1) *Ihesus... bad scho suld to Petir gane... Wother a ben in boure or halle.* a1400 *R. Glouc. Chron.* (1724) 388 *Woper of hem tuyege lenger alyue were.*

ε. *contr.* 3 *whær*, *wer*(e, *ware*, 3-5 *whar*, 4 *hwere*, *hwor*, *war*, *quer*(e, 4-7 *wher*, (9 *dial.*) *where*, 5 *wherr*?, *quar*, *quare*, 7 *wher*?

Editors of Shakespeare have printed *whēr*, *whē'er*, and *whē'r*, with no authority from the folios or quartos.

c1205 *LAY.* 13839 *Of eou ich wulle iwiten... whar þe wullen beon treowe.* *Ibid.* 18545 *Ah inæt whær [c 1275 *ware*] heo hine luuede.* 1297 *R. GLOUC.* (Rolls) 2747 *He esste at is clerkes, were it to leue were.* *Ibid.* 6923 *þe king hire esste sturneliche wer heo wolde þe dom do.* a1300 *Cursor M.* 13451, I dar noht sai Quere þis was pat ilk or nai. *Ibid.*

23803 *We haf us forwit waies tua, þe tan to wel, þat toþer wa, Quer we will freli mai we ta.* c1300 *Havelok* 1119 *Godrich... seyde, 'hwor þou wilt be Quen and leuedi ouer me?'* c1380 *WYCLIF Wks.* (1880) 84 *Ony synful wrecche, þat wot neuere where he schal be dampnyd or sauýd.* c1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1381 *þat mayde... askede wat he hed On his body any wounde.* c1386 *CHAUCER Knt.'s T.* 1539 *Ne reccheth neuere wher I synke or fleete.* ?1462 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 55 *Where ye wil come in to Devenshire to abide other no.* 1567 *TURBER. Ovid's Ep.* xv. (? 1580) *Miv, I doubtfull stooðe where powre or vertue were the best of twaine.* 1595 *SHAKS. John* i. i. 75 *But where I be as true begot or no.* 1618 *WITHER Motto, Nec Habeo* 196, *I care not wher' they thinke I loue or no.* 1660 *WOOD Life* (O.H.S.) I. 334 *The captain... asked him where he was willing to shed blood.* 1825 *JENNINGS Obs. Dial. W. Eng.* 180 *I'll him auer an zee where I can't help 'em.*

B. Signification.

I. *pron. and adj.* Which of the two. *Obs., arch., or dial.*

Occas. used loosely of more than two: cf. EITHER A. 2 c, 4 c. The *pron.* is occas. found with the gen. inflexion -es, -s.

1. In direct questions. a. *pron.*

c1000 *Ags. Gosp. Matt.* xxi. 31 *Hwæðer para twegra dyde þæs fæder willan? a 1225 Ancr. R.* 284 *Hweðeres fere wult tu beon? Ibid.* 364 *Of two men, hweðer is wisure? a 1300 Cursor M.* 14045 *Queþer o þir tua aȝht luue him mare? c1400 Laud Troy Bk.* 3477 *And whether schulde Mayster be, Thei of Grece or Troye Cite? 1528 MORE Dyaloge* i. Wks. 163/2 *Whether of them would ye beleue best? 1583 STUBBES Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 73 *There is both a reading and a preaching ministerie: whether doe you prefer before the other? 1601 SHAKS. All's Well* iv. v. 23 *Whether doest thou profess thy selfe, a knaue, or a fool? 1662 H. MORE Antid. Ath.* II. xi. §13 (1712) 78 *Whether of them, think you, is the plainer pledge of a knowing and a designing Providence? 1753 RICHARDSON Grandison* (1754) II. v. 71 *Perturbations delightful, or undelightful, Harriet, whether? 1872 TENNYSON Gareth & Lynette* 333 *Whether would ye? gold or life?*

b. *adj. (rare.)*

1629 *GAULE Pract. Theories Christ* 115 *We know which Sex Fell first; whether can boast of more honour in the Recouerie? 1671 H. M. tr. Erasm. Colloq.* 524 *Whether thing is heavier water or wine?*

2. In indirect questions, or dependent clauses of similar meaning. (Cf. note s.v. WHAT A. I **.) a. *pron.*

c1000 *ÆLFRED* *Hom.* I. 256 *ȝif man openað deaðdra manna byrgyn, nast ðu hwæðer beoð þæs rican mannes ban, hwæðer þæs ðearfan.* c1055 *Byrhtferth's Handboc in Anglia* VIII. 303 *Cweð hwæðer þe selre pince.* c1200 *Moral Ode* 240 (Trin. Coll. MS.) *Niten hweðer hem doð wers.* 1297 *R. GLOUC.* (Rolls) 2564 *Me nuste to weþer hii bicom pe children þat hii bere.* 1357 *Lay Folks' Catech.* (L.) 970 *Ilke man þat hap resun wot wheþer ys better to chese.* 1424 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 35 *þe processe is... retournable at þe oepertes or þe quynisme, I not qwether.* 1470-85 *MALORY Arthur* vii. xvii. 238 *There was none that beheld them myghte knowe whether was lyke to wyne the bataill.* a1568 *ASCHAM Scholem.* I. (Arb.) 82 *Now new, now olde, now both, now neither, To serue the worldes course, they care not with whether.* 1613 *JACKSON Creed* i. II. x. §3 *They did not rightly apprehend the manner of the worlds destruction by them, nor whethers course was first passed.* 1624 *MASSINGER Parlt. Love* i. v, *I am troubled With the toothach, or with love, I know not whether.* 1726 *SWIFT Gulliver* II. i, *We came in full View of a great Island or Continent, (for we knew not whether).* a1794 *SIR W. JONES in Parr's Wks.* (1828) VII. 210 *It is indifferent to me, as a friend to the people, whether of the two sit in Parliament.* 1852 *ROBERTSON Serm.* Ser. III. xii. (1857) 172 *The question... whether of the two sections held the abstract right.*

b. *adj.*

c803 *ÆLFRED Oros.* III. i. §6 *þæt is mid Crecum þeaw þæt mid ðam worde bið gecyþed hwæðer healf hæfð þonne sige.* 1297 *R. GLOUC.* (Rolls) 773 *He nuste to 3wēþer doȝter betere truste þo.* 1390 *GOWER Conf.* I. 217 *Whan the fader... shi to whether side it drowh.* 1432-50 *tr. Higden* (Rolls) V. 405 *The manifestacion of a notable signe wheder parte awe to be folowede.* 1598 *SYLVESTER Du Bartas* II. i. 1. *Eden* 655 *What children there [sc. in Eden] they earned, and how many, Of whether sex.* 1613 *DAY Dyal* ix. (1614) 218 *A controversie there is which they are that are in whither Table.* 1656 *BRAMHALL Replie.* i. 43 *Whether the separation be criminous, whether party made the first separation... whether side gave the cause... is not so easy to be discerned.* 1690 *T. BURNET Rev. The Earth* 46 *You know in whether Scale the Natural Reasons are to be laid.* 1702 *H. DODWELL Apol.* in *S. Parker Cicero's De Finibus* a8, *The Dispute... whether Life is the more to be preferred, the Active, or the Contemplative.*

c. Phr. *whether is whether*, which is which (of the two). *Obs. or dial.*

1303 *R. BRUNNE Handl. Synne* 3447 *þan wete men neuer, wheþer ys wheþer.* c1375 *Cursor M.* 9290 (Fairf.) *Wele salle he knaw queþer is quik.* 1596 *SPENSER F.Q.* IV. ix. 10 *She vneath discerned, whether whether wear.* 1828 *Craven Gloss.* s.v. *Whether*, *I cannot tell whether is whether.*

3. In generalized or indef. sense: Whichever of the two: (a) as *comp. relative*, the implied antecedent belonging to the principal clause; (b) introducing a qualifying clause: No matter which of the two. a. *pron.*

(a) c1205 *LAY.* 23593 *Whaþer unkere swa beoð þere sone he bið þe labere.* 1297 *R. GLOUC.* (Rolls) 7967 *Hii acordede... þat weþer of hom tuyege lengore aliuere were þat he ssolde be opeser eir.* 13... *Cursor M.* 7463 (Gött.) *And queþer may opeser ouercome in feild, þe toþer folk all to him helde.* c1386 *CHAUCER Wife's T.* 371 *Now chese your seluen whether þat yow liketh.* c1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 33 *Serue it forth for a potage, or for a gode Bakyn mete, wheder þat þou wolt.* 1551 *ROBINSON tr. More's Utopia* i. (1895) 86 *To kepe still the one of this .ii. kingdomes, whether he would.* 1611 *Bible Ecclus.* xv. 17 *Before man is life, and death, and whether him liketh shalbe giuen him.* 1663 in *Picton L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1883) I. 333 *You are to p'sent noe... p'son both for lands and goods, but for wheth'r you estimate to be of the better value.*

1692 BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* v. 29 Let them take whether they will. **1764** ELIZA MOXON *Engl. Housew.* (ed. 9) 123 Put it into your sillabub-glasses or pots, whether you have.

(b) **a1300** *Cursor M.* 2463 Queder þou ches, on right or left, I sal ta me þat þou haues left. **c1400** *Gamelyn* 249 Weper þat it be, He þat comes ones in pine hande schal he neuer þe. **1583** GREENE *Mamillia* 1 It was in doubt, whether he wanne more fauour for his wit, or feare for his ryches. . . but sure whether it were, he had gayned the heartes of all the people. **1632** BROME *Novella* II. ii, There is some hidden vertue in this fellow, Or dangerous ill: but whether let it be.

b. *adj.*

c1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 404 Wheper pope men nennē, þei bileven not þat he is Cristis viker. **c1430** *Hymns Virgin* 32 Bothe zonge & oolde, whepir 3e be, in cristis name good cheer 3e make. **1523-34** FITZHERB. *Husb.* §144 Nowe arte thou at thy liberty, to chose whether waye thou wylt. **1600** HOLLAND *Livy* v. i. 179 It seemed, whether þart were vanquished, should come to finall destruction. **1654** GATAKER *Disc. Apol.* 15 But cal the day by which, or whether term of them you please. **1671** J. WEBSTER *Metallogr.* i. 3 Whether way soever it be taken, it is apparent [etc.].

†c. With the indef. sense expressed by adding an intensive *adv.*: see **WHETHEREVER**, **WHETHERSO**, **WHETHERSOEVER**, **WHETHERSUM**. *Obs.*

II. *conj.*

1. As an interrogative particle introducing a disjunctive direct question, expressing a doubt between alternatives. Usually with correlative *or*; occas. repeated before the second alternative (cf. 3). *Obs.* or *rare arch.*

c1000 *Ags. Gosp. Matt.* xxi. 25 Hwæðer wæs iohannes fulluht, þe of heofonum, þe of mannum? *Ibid.* Luke v. 23 Hwæðer is eðre to cwepenne, þe synd pine synna forgyfene; hwæper þe cwepan, aris & ga? **a1300** *Cursor M.* 12292 Leif sun, me sai, Queper þou put barn or nai? **1382** WYCLIF *Matt.* xxvii. 17 Whom wole 3ee, I leue, or delyuere, to 3ou? wher Barabas, or Jhesu. **c1400** *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton) 1. xxx. (1859) 34 Whether shal the lord refuse this seruauent either els he shal receyue hym? **1535** LYNDSEY *Satyre* 2255 Sir, quihidder is 3our pardon black, or blew? **1595** SHAKS. *John* 1. i. 134 Whether hadst thou rather be a Faulconbridge, . . . Or the reputed sonne of Cordelion? **1596** — *Merch. V.* III. ii. 117 Moue these eies? Or whether riding on the bals of mine Seeme they in motion? **1610** HEALEY *St. Aug. Citie of God* x. xxvi. (1620) 375 Whether would he haue us subiect to those Angels that declare the wil of the Father vpon earth, or vnto him whose will they declare? **1713** BERKELEY *Hylas & Phil.* 1. (1725) 5 Whether does Doubting consist in embracing the Affirmative or Negative Side of a Question? **a1822** SHELLEY *Ion Pr. Wks.* 1888 II. 115 Whether do you demonstrate these things better in Homer or Hesiod?

†b. Introducing an alternative statement, or standing at the end of a disjunctive question or phrase with *or* (cf. **EITHER** B. 5). *Obs.* *rare.*

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 203 Wheper hade he no helme ne hawbergh nauþer, . . . Ne no schafte, ne no schelde, . . . Bot in his on honde he hade a holyn bobbe. **1599** SHAKS., etc. *Pass. Pilgr.* vii. 17 Was this a louter, or a Letcher whether? **1608** BP. HALL *Pharis. & Chr.* (1609) B3, The Sect (or order whether) of the Phariseis ceased with the Temple.

†2. Introducing a simple direct question, thus becoming a mere sign of interrogation (but often with verb in subjunctive, and almost always without inversion of subject and verb, as if depending on a principal clause understood: cf. 4). *Obs.*

c1000 *Ags. Gosp. Matt.* xx. 15 Hwæper þe pin eage manful ys, forþam þe ic god eom? **a1300** *Cursor M.* 5178 Lauerd! quer i sal him euer sei? **c1300** *Havelok* 292 Godrich . . . seide, 'Hweper she sholde be Quen and leuedi ouer me?' **13..** *Bonauentura's Medit.* 102 Eche lokod on ouper . . . And seyd, 'lorde wheper hyt be y?' **1382** WYCLIF *Matt.* xiii. 55 Wer is nat this sone of a smyth, or carpenter? Wer his modir be nat seid Marie? **c1420** *Chron. Vilod.* 1213 Wher þe holy gost wolnot as gladlyche wone Vnder a mantyl y-furned w' beuer. . . As vnder a mantyl y-furned w' a row gotus felle? **1483** *Cath. Angl.* 415/2 Whedirnot, *eciam*, *numquid*, *nonne*. **1549** LATIMER *1st Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 38 Whither wyl he alowe a subiect to much? . . . Whether haue any man here in England to much? **1588** A. KING tr. *Canisius' Catech.* 67 Quhat is Baptisme? and quihidder it be necessare to all mankynd?

3. Introducing a disjunctive dependent question or its equivalent expressing doubt, choice, etc. between alternatives: usually with correlative *or* (†*other*, †*þe*, etc.). Sometimes repeated after (or without) *or* before the second or later alternative. Often with verb in subjunctive (and so in following senses); also with *to* and *inf.*

c1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 120 Eft ða Gregorius befran, hwæðer þæs landes folc cristen wære ðe hæben. **c1205** LAY. 905 þer wæs moni riche mon þe cuðe lutel reden weðer [c1275 wæper] heom weore wnsomme to faren þe to wonien. **a1225** *Leg. Kath.* 2312 Loke nu, . . . hweðer þe beo leouere don þat ich þe leare. . . oðer þis ilke dei. . . dei. **c1250** *Gen. & Exod.* 3272 Egipcienes woren in twired wen quæðer he silden folgen or ðen. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4507 In woch half turne he nuste þo weper est þe west. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 4918 Now wel is sene Queper þat yee be fule or clene. *Ibid.* 13451 [see A. e.] **1377** LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XII. 268 And where he be sauf or nougt sauf þe sothe wote no clergie. **c1385** CHAUCER *L.G.W.* Prol. 499 [487] 'Wostow' quod he 'wher this be wif or maide?' **1412-20** LYDG. *Chron. Troy* III. 4866 She lorkid hym vnder swiche a keye, þat he wot nat wher to lyue or deye. **1528** MORE *Dyaloge* II. Wks. 177/2 There was principally in question whither woorthyping of ymages. . . were lawfull or not. **1535** STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) II. 172 The Scottis than weil wist nocht in that caice, Quihidder to byde or follow on the chace. **1580** LYLly *Euphues* Wks. 1902 II. 176 If I shoulde aske you whether in the making of a good sworde, yron were more to bee required, or steele.

1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* v. i. 123 Whether this be, Or be not, I'le not swear. **1658** W. BURTON *Anton. Itin.* 102 There remain yet two doubts: First: whether this Præterture, or Wall, was made of Stone, or of Turfs. **1707** MORTIMER *Husb.* (1721) I. 63 He does not remember whether every Grain came up or not. **1819** SHELLEY *Lett. Prose Wks.* 1888 II. 292, I am exceedingly interested in the question of whether this attempt of mine will succeed or no. **1849** MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iv. I. 464 His neighbours might well doubt whether it were more dangerous to be at war or at peace with him. **1872** MORLEY *Voltaire* i. 3 More than two generations had almost ceased to care whether there be any moral order or not.

4. By suppression of the second alternative, *whether* comes to introduce a simple dependent question, and becomes the ordinary sign of indirect interrogation = IF 9.

c1000 *Ags. Gosp. Matt.* xxvi. 25 Cwyst þu, lareow, hwæðer ic hyt si? *Ibid.* xxvii. 49 Utun geseon hwæper helias cume & wylle hyne alysan. **a1023** WULFSTAN *Hom.* xlv. (1883) 233 Ðonne se ðe oðerne tælan wille, þonne. . . beþence [he] hine sylfne. . . hwæðer hine ne mæge ænig man gætælan. **c1175** Lamb. *Hom.* 121 Lokiað hweðer enies monnes sar beo iliche mine sare. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6471 Me ne dar noht esse, weper he were kene þo & prout. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 13097 Yee ask him if he be þat gom þat for man sauete suld com, . . . Or his word he send vs þan Queper we sal bide a-noper man? **c1386** CHAUCER *Squire's T.* 571 Wer he was wo, that is no question I kan nat make of it discription. **c1395** *Plowman's T.* 834 Ech man loken whether that I ly. **1470-85** MALORY *Arthur* vii. xx. 244 He mette with a poure man. . . & asked hym whether he mette not with a knyghte. **1521** FISHER *Serm. agst. Luther* iv. Wks. (1876) 317 Se now here wheder chryst was not the mouthe of Peter when he promoted his cause. **1597** HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxxvii. §9 Some are doubtfull whether any man may seeke for it [sc. the ministry] without offence. **1616** B. JONSON *Epigr.* xcvi. Who shall doubt, Donne, where I a Poet bee, When I dare send my Epigrammes to thee? **1676** RAY *Corr.* (1848) 122 Tell me whether any such bird be known to you. **1712** ADDISON *Spect.* No. 383 ¶1 A loud chearful Voice enquiring whether the Philosopher was at Home. **1818** SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* xxxi, Uncertainty. . . whether her letter had been ever forwarded. **1849** MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 390 Thither the Londoners flocked. . . to hear whether there was any news.

5. Introducing a disjunctive clause (usually with correlative *or*) having a qualifying or conditional force, and standing in adverbial relation to the main sentence (cf. **WHATEVER** 3, **WHEREVER** 4): *whether* . . . *or* = whichever of the alternative possibilities or suppositions be the case; in either of the cases mentioned; if on the one hand . . . and likewise if on the other hand.

Sometimes repeated with each alternative (occas. with omission of *or*, or substitution of *and*); but most frequently with ellipsis in the second alternative, the *or* connecting two predicates, objects, etc., or the second alternative being reduced to a simple negative or the like (*or not*, or *otherwise*, etc.; see also **NO** *adv.* 2, and 6 b below).

a1250 Owl & Night. 1360, 1362 (Cotton MS.) Wummon mai pleie under cloþe Weper [Jesus MS. hweper] heo wile wel þe wrope & heo mai do bi mine songe Hwæper [Jesus MS. hweper] heo wile wel þe wronge. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 6618 O þis watur he gert ilkan Drinc, quer he wald or nan. **13..** *Ibid.* 10205 (Gött.) If þai ani child miht haue, Queper þat it ware scho or he. **c1380** WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* I. 321 þat þis world is beterid bi everyþing þat falliþ þerinne, where þat it be good or yvel. **1470-85** MALORY *Arthur* II. v. 81 Ye shal abyde whether ye will or nyll. **1590** SHAKS. *Mids. N.* III. i. 156 Thou shalt remaine here, whether thou wilt or no. **1611** Bible Rom. xiv. 5 Whether [TINDALE yf] we liue, we liue vnto the Lord: and whether [TINDALE yf] we die, we die vnto the Lord; whether [so in TINDALE] we liue therefore or die, we are the Lords. **1678** BUTLER *Hud.* III. ii. 174 For Loyalty is still the same, Whether it win or lose the Game. **1732** POPE *Ess. Man* II. 12 Alike in ignorance, his reason such, Whether he thinks too little, or too much. **1796** BURNEY *Mem. Metastasio* II. 389 Now I am forced to finish my letter, whether I will or no. **1818** COLERIDGE *Friend I.* 335 That Reason which remains always one and the same, whether it speaks through this or that person. **1857** BUCKLE *Civiliz.* I. vii. 347 Whether it is fair, or whether it is wet, he pursues his labours with equal success.

b. with ellipsis in both alternatives: often virtually equivalent to *either*.

c1205 [see **WHETHER** A. a]. **1594** WILLOBIE *Avisa* xxxiii. vi, But what to me? where false or true, Whether liue or die, for aye Aduē. **1606** BP. HALL *Medit. & Vows* i. x, So great distrust is there in man, whether from his impotencie or faithlesnes. **1667** MILTON *P.L.* III. 523 The Stairs were then let down, whether to dare The Fiend by easie ascent, or aggravate His sad exclusion from the dores of Bliss. **1732** BERKELEY *Alciph.* vii. §11 This, I say, whether right or wrong. **1766** GOLDSM. *Vicar W.* iii, I knew he would act a good part whether vanquished or victorious. **1849** MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iv. I. 463 All other governments, whether republican or monarchical, whether Protestant or Roman Catholic. **1867** FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* I. App. D. 627 William, whether by accident or by design, was not admitted. **1913** *Daily Graphic* 19 Feb. 8/1 The increase in the number of officials . . . which should give pause to every man, whether Liberal or Tory.

6. *whether* or *no* (NO *adv.* 2), less freq. *not*. a. as *conj. phr.* introducing a dependent interrog. clause, as in 3.

1650 SANDERSON *Cases* (1678) 93 The next enquiry must be, Whether or no the words of the Engagement must be reasonably bear such a construction. **a1657** SIR W. MURE *Ho. Rowallane* Wks. (S.T.S.) II. 240 Not verie certaine whey? or not brethren y'of at one & the same time, do beare the armes of the paternall coat. **1711** ADDISON *Spect.* No. 92 ¶5 Whether or no they are real Husbands or personated ones I cannot tell. **1852** THACKERAY *Esmond* i. ix, What matters whether or no I make my way in life. **1871** MORLEY *Crit. Misc.* Ser. I. 174 As Protestants always ask of so much of Catholicism as they have dropped, whether or no it is true.

b. introducing a qualifying clause, as in 5.

1665 BOYLE *Occas. Refl.* II. iv. 27 They . . . help to make the man good, whether or no they make his style be thought so. **1868** SWINBURNE *Blake* 88 The shape or style of workmanship each artist is bound to look to, whether or no he may . . . trouble himself about the moral . . . bearings of his work.

c. *ellipt.* as *adv. phr.* In any case, at all events.

1784 *Unfortunate Sensibility* I. 182 Whether or no, this coat shall be my favourite coat. **1840** DICKENS *Old C. Shop* lxviii, Was it natural that at that instant, without any previous impulse or design, Kit should kiss Barbara? He did it, whether or no. **1873** MORLEY *Struggle Nat. Educ.* 79 You may say that this is to degrade the state. Possibly. But whether or no, this is the principle already . . . acted upon. **1904** WEYMAN *Abb. Vlaye* xiii, 'God help us whether or no!' the Vicomte answered in senile anger.

7. *whether* for a penny: undecided, uncertain. *dial.*

1672 W. WALKER *Paræm.* 28, I am unresolved; I am whether for a penny.

8. as *sb.*, with pl. *whethers*. a. In *phr. at whethers*: see quot. *dial.*

1828 Craven *Gloss.* s.v. *Whethers*, 'To be at whethers', to be in a state of doubt or uncertainty. 'I stand at whethers'.

b. *nonce-use* (from 4).

1827 HOOD *Kangaroos* 68 In weighing every why and whether. **1836** DICKENS *Sk. Box, Sentiment*, Whether she was engaged, whether she was pretty, . . . and many other *whethers* of equal importance.

†**whether**, *adv.* *Obs.* Forms: 1 hwæp(e)re, 2 hweðer(e, 4-5 queper, qwhethir, 5 qwhedyr, queder. [OE. hwæp(e)re, *advb.* formation from hwæper **WHETHER** *pron.*] Nevertheless, however, and yet, for all that.

Beowulf 555 Hwæpre me zyfepe wearð, þæt ic aȝlæcan orde gesehte, hildebille. **c1000** Sax. *Leechd.* II. 256 Ne sceal mon hwæpere pisne drincan sellan on forewardne pone ece. **a1175** Cott. *Hom.* 225 He cweð þat him of-puhte þat he fere mancinn ȝeseceop þa wes hweðere an man richwis et-foran gode. **13..** *Cursor M.* 4622 (Gött.) 'Do queper,' he said, 'þar-of na strijff.' **13..** *S. Erkenwolde* 153 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 269 Queper mony porer in þis place is putte into graue. **a1400-50** Wars *Alex.* 581 Queper ȝit, for any quat a quyle latt him kepe. **c1425** WYNTOUN *Cron.* VIII. xxviii. 4791 He said: 'Na hast'; qwhedyr perfay His folk walde fayne haf beyn away.

b. in comb. **THOUGH-WHETHER** (*the-whether*), *q.v.*

12.. *Moral Ode* 131 (Egerton MS.) þeh [v.r. þeih] hweðer we it iluuet wel. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 11009 þair modres þo-queper bath mild, Yoede at ans wit þair child. **1375** BARBOUR *Brue* 1. 332 The quethir he glaid was and ioly. **c1425** WYNTOUN *Cron.* VIII. xxxix. 6949 þe qwhēpir oft ryot walde pai ma To preik and poynde.

¶*never þe queder*: app. a confusion of *nevertheless* and *the-whether*.

a1400-50 Bk. *Curtasye* 715 in *Babees Bk.* 323 The ouer bassyn þay halde neuer þe queder, Quylle þo keruer powwe water in-to þe nedur.

c. app. as *adversative conj.* Although.

a1400-50 Wars *Alex.* 2090 Quethire days þre þurȝe-out thraly we foȝten, . . . And ȝit þe lawest at þe last vs limpid to bee.

whether, *obs.* f. **WEATHER**, **WETHER**, **WHITHER**.

'**whethered**, *ppl. a. dial.* So *whethering vbl. sb.* (See quotes.)

1614 MARKHAM *Cheap Husb.*, *Bull* etc. xxxvi. 60 Of a Cow that is whethered. This disease is when a Cow after her calving cannot cast her cleaning. **1847-54** WEBSTER, *Whethering*, the retention of the after-birth in cows. *Gardner*.

†**whether'ever**, *pron. Obs.* [**WHETHER** *pron.* + **EVER** *adv.* 8e.] Whichever of the two.

1621 BP. HALL *Heav. upon Earth* §23 Whether euer ouercommeth, is troubled both with resistance and victorie. **1632** SANDERSON *Serm.* 13 But whether ever beginneth, he may be sure the other will follow.

†'**whetherso**, *pron. and conj. Obs.* (Mostly as two words.) [**WHETHER** + **SO** *adv.* 17d. In OE. *swā hwæper swā*, reduced to *swæper* (*swā*).]

1. *pron.* = *prec.*

c1200 *Vices & Virtues* 113 He hadde auȝene kere to donne hwaðer swo he wolde. **1357** Lay *Folks Catech.* (L.) 482 Ylke man answere for his owne dedys and be dampnyd or sauȝd wheper-so [v.r. whethir-sum] þey haue seruyd. **1389** *Engl. Gilds* (1870) 74 To come to þe exseques of hym or of hir þat is deede, whethir-so it be. **c1400** *Cursor M.* 28788 (Cott. Galba) Whether so askes more rightwisly, Sall be herd of god almighty.

2. *conj.* = **WHETHER** B. 5 (the addition of *so* emphasizing the idea of indefiniteness).

c1220 *Bestiary* 357 in *O.E. Misc.* 12 Alle ðe oðre foleȝen, weðer so he swimmeð er he wadeð. **c1250** *Gen. & Ex.* 491 Queðer so it ðhoȝte hem iuel or good. **c1325** *Song Deo Gratiis* 59 in *E.E.P.* (1862) 126 Wheper so þou beo in bale or blis. **c1386** CHAUCER *Frankl. T.* 50 Ye shul it lerne wher so ye wole or noon. **1426** LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 2560 Wherso be he yong or old. **c1475** Rauf *Coilȝear* 381 Quihidder sa it gang to greif or to gawin.

,**whetherso'ever**, *pron. and conj.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* [See **SOEVER**.]

1. *pron.* = *prec.* 1.

1531 TINDALE *Expos. i John* v. 1-3 (1538) 70b, So that whether so euer I fele fyrst, the same certifieth me of the other. **1600** W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 307 Whether soeuer or who else besides winne it by conquest. **1613** DAY *Dyall* ix. (1614) 238 Whether soeuer of you had bene slaine in that quarrell. **1630** BP. HALL *Occas. Medit.* 219 What matters it whether I go for a flower, or a weed, here;

whethersoever, I must wither. **1679** CHEYNEY *Vind. Ooths* 19 Whethersoever be named, both are included.

2. conj. = prec. **2.**

13.. *E.E. Allit. P. A.* 606 Queper-so-euer he dele nesch oper harde. *c 1400 Rule St. Benet* (verse) 1763 Wheder so euer pai sit or stand. **1747** HOOSON *Miner's Dict.* R.2, Whethersoever the Lids be Stone, Mixt-beds, &c.

† **'whethersum, pron. and conj.** *Obs.* [See **SUM** *rel. adv. and conj.*] = prec.

a 1300 Cursor M. 10205 Queper-sum it war sco or he. *Ibid.* 10503 Quersum i haf, maiden or knaue. **1357** [see WHETHERSO 1].

whetile, whetned, whetsaw: see WITWALL, WHETTEN, WHET *v.* 7.

whetstone ('hwetstəʊn). Forms: see WHET *v.* and STONE *sb.*; also 4 whestoun, 4-5 wheston, weston(e, 4-6 whestone, 5 whestoon, watstone, quetstone, 5-6 whatstane; *β.* 6 *Sc.* quhitstane, 7 whitston, 8 whitstone. [OE. *hwetstān* (*huete-, huetistān*) = (M)Du. *wetsteen*, MLG. *wettestēn* (LG. *wettstein*), OHG. *wetz(z)istein* (MHG. *wetz(e)stein*, G. *wetzstein*): f. WHET *v.* + STONE *sb.*]

1. A shaped stone used for giving a smooth edge to cutting tools when they have been ground.

c 725 Corpus Gloss. (Hessels) C 746 Cox, huetestan. *c 893 ÆLFRED Oros.* iv. xiii. §5 Hit biþ eac geornlic þæt mon heardlice gnide pone hñeseetan mealstan æfter þam þæt he þence pone soelestan hwetstan on to geræceanne. *c 1374 CHAUCER Troylus* i. 631 A wheston [*v.r.* weston] is no keruyng Instrument, And yet it maketh sharpe keruyng tolys. **1398** TREVISA *Barth. De P.R.* xvi. xxiii. (Tollem. MS.), Ben diuerse maner of whetstones, and some neden water and some neden oyle for-to whette. **1472 Durham Acc. Rolls (Surtees) 247, j whatstane. **1573-80** TUSSEY *Husb.* (1878) 61 Get grindstone and whetstone, for toole that is dull. **1584** COGAN *Haven Health* cxcii. 150 And, as it is saide a good Cooke can make you good meate of a whet-stone. **1587** HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 916/1, I am.. taken suddenlie with a thing about my stomach, that lieth there along as cold as a whetstone. **1606** DEKKER *Newes from Hell* Wks. (Grosart) II. 99 Some pittifull fellows (that haue.. wittes colde as Whetstones, and more blunt). **1692** SOUTH *Serm., John vii.* 17 (1697) I. 270 Diligence is to the Understanding, as the Whetstone to the Razor. **1794** KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 239 Some argillites and sandstones; these last form the coarser whet-stones. **1857** MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* xi. §2. (1862) 775 The.. skins.. are carefully smoothed with a whetstone upon a beam. **1896** J. DAVIDSON *Fleet St. Ecl.* Ser. II. 14 Still and anon The whetstone shrieked against the curving blade.**

β. **1513** DOUGLAS *Æneis* VII. xi. 62 Sum.. on quhitstanis thair axis scharpis at hame. **1533** BELLENDEN *Livy* i. xv. (S.T.S.) I. 84 þow suld cut þat quhitstane in þi hand with ane rasoure.

b. Any hard fine-grained rock, as novaculite, of which whetstones are made; hone-stone.

1578 T. PROCTOR *Gorg. Gallery* H iij b, Like as what stone, .. hardest is with toole to bee graue, Doth sooner breake in peeces, then it bendeth. **1661** J. CHILDREY *Brit. Baconica* 111 This shire is well stored with Milstones, Crystal, Alabaster and Whetstone. **1788, 1806** [see HONE *sb.* 3, 4]. **1894** *Northumbld. Gloss.*, *Whetstone*, or *Whetstone-sill*, strata of argillaceous and siliceous hazle-stone in the carboniferous limestone formation.

c. transf. (See quotes.)

1580 T. NEWTON *Approved Med.* 93b, A Mole in a womans body, otherwise called a whetston, or a moone Calfe [*i.e.* a false conception]. **1683** THORESBY *Diary* (ed. Hunter) I. 155 This place [Grantham] is.. chiefly noted of travellers, for a peculiar sort of thin cake, called Grantham Whetstones. **1886** *Cheshire Gloss.*, *Whetstun*,.. any hard swelling. **1887** *S. Cheshire Gloss.*, *Whetstone*, a lump in the udder of a cow, consequent upon the ducts having been overcharged.

2. Allusive and fig. uses. **a. gen.** with reference to the use of a whetstone.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 341 He.. whette þe rude soules to goode wiþ þe whestoun of vertues. **1547-64** BAULDWIN *Mor. Philos.* (Palfr.) 111 Except the sinful heart of man.. be often scoured with the whetstone of aduersity. **1589** NASHE *Martin Marprel.* Wks. (Grosart) I. 157 Shooting out their venomous shafts, with mischeuous heads, sharpened vpon Martins most malicious whetstone. **1603** DEKKER *Wond. Year* Wks. (Grosart) I. 147 The very name of Londoners being worse then ten whetstones to sharpen the sword of Iustice against them. **1654** WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 165 Rhetorical Topicks are such Whetstones, that even the Sword of the Spirit (that two-edged Sword) hath often used. **1763** COLMAN *Jealous Wife* iv. 59 He serves for nothing but a mere Whetstone of your Ill-humour. **1818** BYRON *Ch. Har.* iv. xxxviii, Boileau, whose rash envy could allow No strain which shamed his country's creaking lyre, That whetstone of the teeth—monotony in wire. **1821** SCOTT *Kenilw.* xv, The face of the Sovereign was a whetstone to the soldier's sword.

b. in allusion to the former custom of hanging a whetstone round the neck of a liar; esp. in phr. *to lie for the whetstone*, to be a great liar.

[**1364** *Liber Albus* (Rolls) iv. 601 Juggement de Pillorie par iii heures, ove un aque pier entour soun col, pur mensonges controvees.] **1418** *Cal. Let.-Bks. Lond., Let.-Bk. I* (1909) 197 He, as a fals lyere.. shal stonde.. upon þe pillorye.. wiþ a Westone aboute his necke. *c 1460 Towneley Myst.* xxi. 80 A, good sir, lett hym oone; he lyes for the quetstone, I gyf hym the pryce. **1472** *Cov. Leet Bk.* 372 Nor that they frohensfurth enbrase eny jure, vppon the peyn to lese at þe first defalt, Cs., and at þe ij de defalt to haue the wheston aboute their nekkes. **1570** FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 196/1 Peradventure he that was the inuention fyrst of thys tale of the stone, was disposed to lie for the whetstone: Wherefore in my mynde he is worthy to haue it. **1577** FULKE *Confut. Purg.*

437 You haue sayd enough, M. Allen, to winne the whetstone, if it were as bigge as any mountaine in the worlde. **1579** — *Confut. Sanders* 596 Of all the lowde lyes that euer I heard, this may goe for the whetstone. **1592** NASHE *Strange Newes* Wks. (Grosart) II. 267 Ware stumbling of whetstones in the darke there, my maisters. **1593** G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 211 He might.. for his labour challenge to be preferred to the Clarkship of the whetstone. *Ibid.* 215 Our worshipfull Clarkes of the whetstone, Doctour Clare [etc.].. diuers late Historiologers, and.. this new Tale-founder himselfe. **1600** NASHE *Summer's Lost Will* Wks. (Grosart) VI. 98 O intolerable lying villayne, that was never begotten without the consent of a whetstone! **1607** TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 639 They wil presently giue both these Authors and me the Whet-stone for rare vntruths. **1658** [H. EDMUNDSON] *Fellow-trav.* 285 A great Person.. had in a frolick set on some wanton wits to lye for the Whetstone. **1709** MRS. CENTLIVRE *Busie Body* III. iv, If you be not as errant a Cuckold, as e're drove Bargain upon the Exchange,.. I am the Son of a Whet-stone. **1792** BUDWORTH *Ramble to Lakes* vi. **1881** *Leic. Gloss.*

β. **1778** *Exmoor Courtship* (E.D.S.) 79 What a gurt Lee es thatel.. thek Man shou'd a' had the Whitstone.

c. Something that sharpens the wits, desires, etc., or incites to action.

1551 T. WILSON *Logic* Ep. A iij, I professe it to be but a spurre, or a whetstone, to sharpe the pens of some other. **1551** RECORDE *Pathw. Knowl.* Ep. to King, By the readyng of wyttie artes (which be as the whette stones of witte). **1583** GREENE *Mamillia* 8 b, The court Mamillia, is y^e whet-ston of lust, the baite of vanity, the call of Cupid. **1588** — *Pandosto* B i b, Preferment to a meane man, is a whetstone to courage. **1618** J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Pennyles Pilgr.* B.3, Wits whetstone, want. **1657** R. LIGON *Barbadoes* (1673) 37 For a whetstone, to pull on a cup of wine, we have dyed Neats tongues. **1691** WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* I. 358 The Wits.. made him their Whetstone. **1752** HUME *Pol. Disc.* ii. 31 Anger, which is said to be the whetstone of courage. **1821** SHELLEY *Epipsych.*, *Passages* etc. 100 Let them read Shakespeare's sonnets, taking thence A whetstone for their dull intelligence. *a 1857* R. A. VAUGHAN *Ess. & Rem.* (1858) I. 7 Their wit could content itself with no less royal a whet-stone than himself and his son Pius.

β. **1617** R. COCKS *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 240, I am of opinion that Goresano, our late jurebasso, is a whitston to egg hym on against us.

3. attrib. and Comb., as *whetstone-mountain*; *whetstone-shaped* adj.; † *whetstone-leasing* (LEASING *sb.*): cf. 2 b above.

1598 BP. HALL *Sat.* iv. vi, *Whet-stone leasings of olde Maundeulle. **1851** B. THORPE *Northern Mythol.* I. 71 The club was dashed in pieces, of which one portion fell on the earth, whence come all the *whetstone mountains. **1883** *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 680/1 *Whetstone-shaped crystals. **1888** ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 114 The mucus.. contains whetstone-shaped bodies.

† **Whetstones-park.** *Obs.* (See quot. *a 1700.*) Hence † **Whetstone** *whore*.

1682 *News fr. France* 4 You may as soon make those of Whetstones-park among you blush, as put them out of countenance. **1684** DRYDEN *Ovid's Amours* II. xix. 31 Let him who loves an easie Whetstone Whore, Pluck leaves from Trees, and drink the Common Shore. *a 1700* B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Whet-stones-park*, a Lane betwixt Holborn and Lincolns-Inn-fields, fam'd for a Nest of Wenches, now de-park'd.

whett, obs. form of WHEAT.

whetted ('hwetɪd), *ppl. a.* [f. WHET *v.* + -ED¹.] **Sharpened.**

1563 *Mirr. Mag., Hastings* lxx, The whetted tuske, and furrowed forehead hye. **1693** DRYDEN *Juvenal* x. 365 One, who at sight of Supper open'd wide His Jaws before, and whetted Grinders try'd. **1794** COLERIDGE *Fall of Robespierre* I. 185 Who from a bad man's bosom wards the blow Reserves the whetted dagger for his own. **1870** MORRIS *Earthly Par.* II. III. 391 Then light the torch, and draw the whetted sword! **1876** MISS BROUGHTON *Joan* II. iv, Every one else.. beginning to eat with the whetted appetite that going to church always seems to engender.

whet-tell, dial. form of WITWALL.

† **whetten**, *v.* *Obs.* [f. WHET *v.* + -EN⁵.] *trans.* To whet.

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 79 My mynd was greedeley whetned Too parle with the Regent. **1597** J. PAYNE *Royal Exch.* 22 Sathan now whettens his hornes.. to goore the more dyrefully. **1624** BURTON *Anat. Mel.* III. ii. II[I]. iv. (ed. 2) 386 To..make him..more icalous, to whetten his loue.

whetter ('hwetə(r)). [f. WHET *v.* + -ER¹.]

1. A sharpener of an instrument.

1556 WITHALS *Dict.* (1562) 20 a/2 A whetter, *acutor, qui instrumenta acuit*. **1611** COTGR., *Affileur*, a whetter, or sharpener of edg'd tooles. **1781** J. MOORE *View Soc. It.* lxxi. II. 363. **1875** KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Whetter*, a sharpener; as a whetstone, hone. **1881** *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 45 Blade Whetter.

† **2. fig.** One who urges on. *Obs.*

1579 FENTON *Guicciard.* XVIII. 1096 The blacke bands.. serued as good examples and whettens on of the residue of his armye.

3. fig. One who or that which sharpens, stimulates, or incites the intellect, desires, appetite, etc.

1617 FLETCHER *Valentinian* IV. i, You whettens of my follies. **1653** H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* II. xii. Wks. (1712) 82 Sympathy and Antipathy..are notable whettens and quickeners of the Spirit of Life in all Animals. **1695** CONGREVE *Love for L.* I. i, The Air upon Banstead Downs is nothing to it for a Whetter. **1742** FIELDING *J. Andrews* III. ii, Love, like other sweet things, is no whetter of the stomach. **1830** SCOTT *Jrnl.* 11 July (1890) II. 348 No whetter of genius is necessity, though said to be the mother of invention.

b. spec. A habitual drinker of 'whets' (WHET *sb.* 2 b); a dram-drinker. ? *Obs.*

1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 138 ¶4 A sort of Persons commonly known by the Name of Whettters, who drink themselves into an intermediate State of being neither drunk or sober before the Hours of 'Change. **1725** *View Lond. & Westm.* 38 Here is likewise a religious Ambulatory for the Whettters and Wenchers.

c. = WHET *sb.* 2 b. ? *Obs.*

1755 *Connoisseur* No. 87 ¶1 They frequently have recourse to whettters and provocatives, to anticipate the call of hunger. **1824** in *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* (1825) 205 Fifty verses we've sung—and we scarce can do better, Than to finish our ditty by taking a whetter.

whetting ('hwetɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. WHET *v.* + -ING¹.] The action of the verb WHET.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P.R.* xvi. xxiii. (Bodl. MS.), þe whestone hap þre propretees þi' it serueþ anopre þinge in whettinge and wastey hym silfe some and some. *c 1440 Promp. Parv.* 524/1 Whettyng, or scharpyng, *acucio*. **1574** W. BOURNE *Regim. Sea* vi. (1577) 28 b, I would not wish them to meddle with..whettyng of the side of the needle. **1616** DRAKE *Bibl. Scholast.* 176 Whetting (viz. of kniues and sithes) is no letting. [Cf. quot. *a 1628* s.v. WHET *sb.* 1.] **1633** BP. HALL *Occas. Medit.* (ed. 2) §131 Recreation is intended to the minde, as whetting is to the sith. **1667** *Decay Chr. Piety* xiv. 344 That we should sacrifice the one [sc. the Churches peace]..to the whetting and inflaming of the other [sc. curiosity]. **1774** G. WHITE *Selborne, To Pennant* 2 Sept., The titmouse..early in February begins to make two quaint notes, like the whetting of a saw. **1852** M. ARNOLD *Empedocles* II. 164 With one arm over his head, Watching how the whetting sped.

attrib. **1678** MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Join.* v. ¶26 They wedge the blade of the Saw hard into the *Whetting Block. **1825** HONE *Every-day Bk.* I. 1081 It..furnishes shoemakers with..*whetting-boards to smooth the edges of their knives upon. **1706** FARQUHAR *Twin Rivals* I. i, I have brought you a *Whetting-Glass, the best Old Hock in Europe; I know 'tis your drink in a Morning. **1432-50** tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 417 A *qwettenge-ston.

whettle, dial. form of WHITTLE.

whew (hwju:, hju:, wju:), *sb.*¹ Forms: 5 *Sc.* qwe, whewe, 6 *Sc.* quhew, 7, 9 *dial.* whue, 9 wheugh, 7-*whew*. [Echoic.]

† **1.** A musical instrument, a pipe. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 6051 For to wacche and to wake for wothis of harme, With qwistil & qwes, & other quaint gere. *c 1475* *Cath. Angl.* 415/2 (Addit. MS.), A Whewe, *fistula*.

2. a. A sound as of whistling or of something rushing through the air; *spec.* the cry of the plover.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VII. xi. 46 Than from the hevin dovne quhyrland wyth a quhew Come queyne Juno. *c 1610* *Robin Hood & Curtall Fryer* xxxi. (Ritson), The fryer set his fist to his mouth, and whuted whues thre. **1710** RUDDIMAN *Gloss. Douglas's Æneis, Quhew*, the sound which a bird's wings make in the air. Scot. Bor. *a Few*, vox ex sono conficta. *a 1784* *Rookhope Ryde* x. in Scott *Minstrelsy*, Then oer the moss, where as they came, With many a brank and whew. **1837** CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. v. vi, The whew of lead still singing in their ears. **1845** DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* xiii. 289 The yelping of the guid-guid, and the sudden whew-whew of the cheucau. **1851** H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* (ed. 2) II. 22 The shrill whew of the plover.

b. dial. A factory hooter.

1869 J. HARTLEY *Halifax Clock Almanack* 48 Yond's th' whew, soa we mun goa an' do another bit for th' maister. **1929** J. B. PRIESTLEY *Good Compan.* iv. 118 Bruddersford has an elaborate system of factory buzzers—usually known as whews. **1934** — *Eng. Journey* vi. 194 Time for them had been marked by the sound of its [sc. the mill's] hooter—locally known as a 'whew'.

3. An utterance of the interjection *whew!*

1751 SMOLLETT *Per. Pickle* xxii. [xix], He uttered a long and loud whew! which was succeeded by an exclamation of 'Damn my old shoes! a bite by G—!' **1847** *HELPS Friends in C.* I. iii, A sound from the old oak, like an 'ah' or a 'whew'. **1855** KINGSLEY *Westw. Hol* xix, At sight of which Yeo gave a long wheugh.

4. (Also whew-duck) = WHEWER.

1804 BEWICK *Brit. Birds* II. 352 Wigeon. Whewer, Whim, or Panded Whew. **1852** MACGILLIVRAY *Brit. Birds* V. 83 *Mareca Penelope*. The European Wigeon. Common Wigeon. Whew Duck. Pandle-Whew.

whew, sb.² *dial.* [f. WHEW *v.*²] A hurry; *esp.* in phr. *all of a whew*, in a hurry, impatient or excited.

1905 in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* VI. 453/1 See a whew he's in. **1922** A. BROWN *Old Crow* xi. 119 He wants me to go down in his river pastur', choppin'. All of a whew to git at it.

whew (hwju:, hju:, wju:), *v.*¹ Also 6 *Sc.* quhew. [Echoic.] *intr.* To whistle; to make a whistling or rustling noise; to utter the interjection *whew!* Hence '*whewing* *vbl. sb.*

c 1475 *Cath. Angl.* 415/2 (Addit. MS.), To Whewe, *fistulare*. **1590** BUREL in Watson *Coll. Sc. Poems* (1709) II. 31 Evrus.. With quhewing, renewing, His bitter blasts againe. **1609** DEKKER *Gull's Horn-bk.* vi. 32 Mewe at passionate speeches, blare at merrie,..whew at the childrens Action, whistle at the songs. **1765** [see WHEW *int.*]. **1801** ROBT. WALKER (Tim Bobbin 2nd) *Plebeian* Pol. 23, I met two pa'sns weh grete geawns on, whewink i' th' wind. **1818** HOGG *Brownie of Bodsbeck* iii, I heard them [sc. the plovers] aye whewing e'en an' morn. **1848** AIRD *Mother's Blessing* I. i, Down all at once a wind Came whewing from the hollow of the hill. **1896** *Idler* Mar. 324 Friend: 'Whew—w!' Man in Love (irritably) 'Don't go "whewing" all over the place like that.'

whew (hwju:, wju:), *v.*² Also wheugh, whue, whiew. [perh. the same as prec.] **a. intr.** To

move quickly; to hurry away, depart abruptly (*dial.*); to bustle about (*U.S.*).

1684 OTWAY *Atheist* III. i. Methought indeed the Coach whew'd it away a little faster than ordinary. a 1743 RELPH *Misc. Poems* (1747) 17 Seel ovr the field the whurlin sunshine whiews. 1828 Craven *Gloss*. s.v., 'To whew off,' to turn off abruptly, to depart without ceremony. 1873 MRS. WHITNEY *Other Girls* xxxiii. (1876) 427 Bel Bree had not been brought up in a New England farm-house, and seen her capable stepmother 'whew round', to be hard put to it now over half a dozen cups and tumblers more or less.

whew (hwju:, hju:), *int.* Forms: 5 *Sc.* quhewe, 7 wheu heu, 7-8 wheu, 8 whieu, whu, 8-9 whuh, 9 wheugh, 6- whew. An exclamation of the nature of a whistle uttered by a person as a sign of astonishment, disgust, dismay, etc.

The identity of the word in the first quot. is uncertain. c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* VIII. xxix. 4949 (MS. Auchinl.) 3hit pai wipin set wp a schout And cryit lowde and said 'Quhewel! [v.r. Quhow] Now haif we heire the Montagew'. 1596 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV.* II. ii. 30 A plague vpon't, when Theeues cannot be true one to another. *They Whistle.* Whew: a plague light vpon you all. 1601 W. PERCY *Cuckqueanes* etc. III. iv. (Roxb.) 38 *Don.*... Come on thy ways. *Joi. I* come. *Pig.* Wheu heu, wheu heu, now goe thy ways. 1728 RAMSAY *The Lure* 110 Whieu,—Whieu,—he whistled. 1765 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* VII. xxii. Whu—v—w—whew—w—w—whued Margarita. 1766 *Ibid.* IX. xxxiii. Wheu—u—u—cried my father; beginning the sentence with an exclamatory whistle. 1770 CUMBERLAND *West Indian* II. viii. Whuh! What's the hurry the man's in? 1800 E. D. CLARKE *in Life* (1824) v. 433 And now let the scene change—Whew!—away with inscriptions! 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xxxix. 'But how did your joint production look the next morning?'... 'Wheugh! capital—not three words required to be altered.' 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* xlii. Whew! said the housebreaker, wiping the perspiration from his face. 1898 'H. S. MERRIMAN' *Roden's Corner* xxxii. 'Whew!' ejaculated Roden, when the danger seemed to be past, and they could breathe again.

whew, obs. form of HUE *sb.*¹

whewellite ('hju:əlait). *Min.* [f. the name of Professor William Whewell (1794-1866) + -ITE¹.] Calcium oxalate, occurring in colourless or white monoclinic crystals.

1852 BROOKE & MILLER *Phillips' Elem. Introd. Min.* 623.

hewer ('hwju:ə(r)). *dial.* [app. f. WHEW *v.*¹ + -ER¹.] The female wigeon, *Mareca penelope*.

1634 Althorp *MS.* in *Simpkinson Washingtons* (1860) p. xxi. Peckards 3—broadbills 5—hewers 2. 1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 100 *Boscas*, alius *Anas Fistularis*. the Whewer, or Whistling Widgeon. 1674 in *Corr. J. Ray* (1848) 16, I have put up in a box... a Widgeon and a Whewer. 1734 ALBIN *Nat. Hist. Birds* II. 88. 1804 [see WHEW *sb.*¹ 4].

hewl (hwju:l, wju:l), *v.* Now *dial.* Forms: 6 whewl, 7, 9 whule, 9 wewl. [Echoic.] *intr.* To cry plaintively, moan, whine, howl. Hence 'hewling *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

a 1560 PHAER *Aeneid* x. (1562) Dd 4 b, Whiles hewling sad he sat. 1567 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* VII. 497 Lamenting for his sonnes mischaunce with hewling in the Aire. 1609 *Old Meg of Herefordsh.* Ded. (1816), Tweire-pipe that famous Southren Taberer... who for whuling hath beene famous through the Globe of the world. 1615 CHAPMAN *Odys.* XII. 135 For here, the whuling Scylla, shrowds her face. 1616 S. S. *Honest Lawyer* II. D 4 b, A Virgin... Could not with whuling nay's be so peruerse. *Ibid.* IV. H 4 b, You know the layle. Ha you neuer bin hir'd to yawle for the whole prison? and while to the passengers? 1847 HALLIWELL, *Whule*, to whine; to howl. *Suffolk.* 1895 E. *Anglian Gloss.*, *Wewling*, a plaintive note in crying, commonly with a view to excite charity.

whew (hwei), *sb.* Forms: 1 hwæḡ, hweḡ, hwæiḡ, 3 weḡe, wei, hwey, 4 qwhew, 4-5 wheye, 5-6 way, 5-7 (9 *dial.*) whay, 6 qway, quay, *Sc.* quhay(e, 6-7 whaye, wey, 9 *dial.* whew, 5- whew. [OE. *hwæḡ*, *hweḡ* = OFris. **wei*, (WFr. *wæi*, NFr. *wâi*, EFr. *wôî*), MDu. *wey* (Du. *wei*, LG. *wei*, *waje*):—OTeut. **χwajo-*, of which an ablaut-variant is found in MLG. *huy*, *hoie* (LG. *hui*, *hoi*, Du. *hui*):—**χujo-*.]

1. a. The serum or watery part of milk which remains after the separation of the curd by coagulation, esp. in the manufacture of cheese.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) S 272 *Serum*, hwæḡ. a 1050 *Rect. Sing. Pers.* § 14 (Liebermann) 451 *Sceaphyrdes* riht is, pæt he hæbbe... blede fulle hwæḡes oððe syringe ealne sumor. 12... *Sidonius Glosses* (Anecd. Oxon.) I. v. 34/3 *Hoc serum*, i. weḡe. a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1009 (Cotton MS.) Hi drinkem mīlc & wei [Jesus M.S. hwey] par to. 13... in *Rel. Ant.* I. 9/2 *Cerum*, i. *quidam liquor*, qwhew. c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 200 A purgacioun with gotis whey. c 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 56 Take croddys of pe deye, & wryng owt pe whey. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 43 That maid grit cheir of... curdis and quhaye. 1587 MASCALL *Cattle, Oxen* (1596) 56 See... that your cheese be well and close gathered, in pressing forth cleane all the whay. 1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* I. xiv. 90 The whaie may serue for the feeding of the hogs and dogs. 1732 ARBUTHNOT *Rules of Diet in Aliments*, etc. I. 252 Of all Drinks, Whey is the most relaxing. 1791 SCOTT *Let. in Lockhart* (1837) I. vi. 183 My uncle drinks the whey here, as I do ever since I understood it was brought to his bedside every morning at six, by a very pretty dairy-maid. 1893 J. P. SHELDON *Brit. Dairying* xv. 163 On dairy farms where cheese and butter are made, pigs are useful to consume whey and skim-milk.

b. with qualification: *whey of butter*, buttermilk; *alum whey*, whey formed in the

coagulation of milk by powdered alum; *celery whey*, *mustard whey* (MUSTARD *sb.* 4 c), *sack whey* (SACK *sb.*³ 2), *wine whey*, names of beverages or medicinal drinks; *white whey* (see quot. 1837).

1530 PALSGR. 288/1 Whay of butter, *babeure*. 1733 CHEYNE *Engl. Malady* III. i. (1734) 268 To drink plentifully of small Sack Whey, or Water-Gruel. 1747 WESLEY *Prim. Physick* (1762) 80 Drink half a Pint of Cellery Whey. 1769 MRS. RAFFALD *Engl. Housekpr.* (1778) 313 To make Wine Whey. Put a pint of skimmed milk, and half a pint of white wine into a bason. 1784 J. POTTER *Virt. Villagers* II. 88 Wine and mustard wheys. 1837 *Brit. Husb.* II. 424 (Libr. Usef. Knowl.), That which is pressed by hand from the curd, is termed 'white whey', and contains a considerable portion of oily matter. 1856 EMERSON *Engl. Traits* xiv. 246 The making a better sick-chair and a better wine-whey for an invalid. 1883 MRS. G. L. BANKS *Forbidden to Marry* viii. To prepare a whey of alum-and-milk.

† 2. The serum of the blood. *Obs.*

1578 BANISTER *Hist. Man* v. 82 The whay of blood ought by the reynes to be strayned out. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 95 The whey is deriued by the vreters into the bladder. 1718 CHAMBERLAYNE *Relig. Philos.* I. v. § 4 The afore-mention'd Food mixes itself with another Humour, Water, or Whey, which the Anatomists call the *Lympha*.

3. a. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *whey-bath*, -colour, -curd, -house, -lead (LEAD *sb.*¹ 5), -pot, -tub; *whey-drinker*; *whey-colour(ed)*, -hued, -like, -sour adjs.; in reference to the pale colour of whey, as *whey beard*, *countenance*, *face*; *whey-bearded*, -pale adjs.; *whey-bacon*, bacon from a *whey-pig*; *whey-beard*, (a) a person having a 'whey beard'; (b) the whitethroat, *Sylvia cinerea*; *whey-bird*, the woodlark, *Alauda arborea*; also = *whey-beard* (b); † *whey-blooded a.*, cowardly; † *whey-brained a.*, weak-brained; *whey-brose*, brose made with whey instead of water; *whey-butter*, butter made from whey or from *whey-cream*; *whey-cream*, the cream which remains in the whey after the curd has been removed; *whey-drop*, -eye, a hole in an imperfectly pressed cheese in which the whey collects; *whey-face*, a person having a pale face; so *whey-faced a.*; *wheygoose* *nonce-wd.*, used as a term of opprobrium; *whey-pig*, a pig fed with whey; *whey-porridge*, porridge made with whey instead of water; *whey-spring* = *whey-drop* above; *whey-whig*, a beverage made of whey flavoured with herbs; *whey-worm*, see quot. 1828; *fig.* a whim; hence *whey-wormed a.*, marked with whey-worms.

a 1722 LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 431 The latter end of November or December, when all the *whey-bacon is gone. 1888 RAE *Austrian Health Res.* viii. 169 The spoiled daughters of luxury... indulge in *whey baths. 1614 R. TAILOR *Hog hath lost Pearl* iv. F 3 b, Father *whay-beard. 1647 LILLY *Chr. Astrol.* xv. 84 He is leane, crooked, or beetle-browed, a thin whay Beard. 1831 RENNIE *Montagu's Ornith. Dict.*, *Whey beard*, a name for the White Throat. 1553 GRIMALDE *Cicero's Offices* I. (1556) 46 b, As soone as he waxed *whey-berded. 1825 JAMIESON, **Whey-bird*, the wood-lark, ... Lanarks. 1862 JOHNS *Brit. Birds* 625 *Whey-bird*, the Whitethroat. 1675 DUFFETT *Mock Tempest* I. i. The *Whey-Blooded Rogue looks as if his heart were melted into his Breeches. 1660 TATHAM *Rump* I. i. A *Whey-brain'd fellow. 1894 LATTO *Tam. Bodkin* viii. The *whey-brose was perfection. a 1722 LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 406 They skimmed the cream off to make *whey-butter. 1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) I. 211 The quantity of whey-butter per cow is about half a pound per week. 1662 R. VENABLES *Exper. Angler* ix. 80 When... the river... looketh of a *whay colour. 1684 J. S. *Profit & Pleas. United* 171 If the weather be dark or Whey-colour. 1845 JAMES *Arrah Neil* II, That indistinct hue which may be called whey-colour. 1602 SHAKS. *Merry Wives* Biii, I take it hee is somewhat a weakly man: And he has as it were a *whay coloured beard. a 1735 ARBUTHNOT *Diss. Dimpling Misc.* Wks. 1751 I. 67 A goodly Whey-colour'd Beard. 1836 COMBE *Digestion* I. v. A semi-transparent whey-coloured fluid. 1604 T. M. *Black Bk.* E 1 b, A *whay countenance, short stooppes, and earthen dampish-voyce. 1750 W. ELLIS *Mod. Husb.* IV. 1. 170 When Butter is wholly made with *Whey-cream, it is then justly named Whey-butter. 1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict.*, *Requeson*, *whey cruds. 1740 BAYNARD *Health* (ed. 6) 20 Such a Tormenter never rages 'mong *Whey-Drinkers in poor cottages. 1811 W. AITON *Agric. Surv. Ayr.* 452 (Jam.) Putrifying holes, which, in the dairy language of Ayrshire, are termed *whey-drops. *Ibid.* 455 Whey-springs, or *eyes, are seldom met with in the cheeses of Ayrshire. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* v. iii. 17 *Macb.*... What Soldiers, Patch?... What Soldiers *Whay-face? *Ser.* The English Force, so please you. 1753 JANE COLLIER *Art Torment.* I. ii. 46 If her complexion is fair, call her Whey-face. 1824 MISS MITFORD *Village Ser.* I. Mrs. Mosse, A little... man, with a Jerry-Sneak expression in his pale whey-face. 1649 DAVENANT *Love & Hon.* IV. iv. 20 Marke, sir, that *whey-fac'd fellow in the red. 1697 PRIOR *Ep. to Sir F. Sheppard* 49 That sneaking Whey-fac'd God Apollo. 1753 FOOTE *Englism. in Paris* I. i. One whey-fac'd Son of a Bitch... call'd me Bête. 1847 C. BRONTE *Jane Eyre* xvii. Your tutor, whey-faced Mr. Vining. 1949 C. FRY *Lady's not for Burning* I. 8 What shall I do With this nattering *wheygoose, Alizon? Shall I knock him down? 1663 PEPPYS *Diary* 10 June, To the Royal Theatre... Thence to the *whay-house, and drank a great deal of whay. a 1915 JOYCE *Giacomo Joyce* (1968) 2 Smitten by the hot creamy light, grey *wheyhued shadows under the jawbones. 1872-4 JEFFERIES *Toilers of Field* (1892) 164 Against one wall are the *whey-leads. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) IV. 174 A *whey-like juice. 1822 GOOD *Study Med.* II. 189 Whey-like urine. 1916 JOYCE *Portrait of Artist* v. 193 He saw in a moment the student's *wheypale face. 1978 H. WOUK *War &*

Remembrance xiii. 129 Ascher's whey-pale face wanly lit up at the comparison. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 51/1 *Porcus serarius*,... a *whey pig. 14... *Metr. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 624/4 Whey i. olla *whey potte. 1922 JOYCE *Ulysses* 29 With her weak blood and *wheysour milk she had fed him. 1784 TWAMLEY *Dairying Exemph.* 13 Faults... in Cheese such as... *Whey Springs. 1811 [see *whey-eye*]. 1813 RUDGE *Agric. Glouc.* 299 Butter-milk... is sometimes saved in the *whey-tub. 1811 WILLAN in *Archaeologia* XVII. 163 **Whey-Whig*, whey impregnated with mint, balm, and walnutleaves. a 1548 HALL *Chron.*, *Edw. IV* 222 The Essex men hauynge wyld *whaye wormes in their heddes. 1828 Craven *Gloss.*, *Whey-worms*, pimples, from which exudes a wheylike moisture. a 1529 SKELTON *E. Rummyng* 553 A sory face *Wheywormed about.

b. as *adj.* Whey-coloured (cf. *whey beard*).

1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. i. 245 His tawny Beard... The upper part thereof was Whey, The nether Orange mixt with Grey.

† **whey**, *v.* *Obs.* [f. *prec.*] *trans.* To separate the whey from (milk); hence in *vbl. sb. attrib.*, as *wheying cloth*; also, to make (the blood) wheyish or thin.

1660 in *Sir R. Sadler's St. Papers* (1809) III. 358 Two fleeting dishes, six turning cloathes, and five wheying cloathes. 1661 FELTHAM *Resolves* (ed. 8) II. xi. 201 It is most true that in matters unjust, Christian Religion wheyes the blood and makes a Coward of man. 1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* III. 73 The Idolatry of Covetousness... had so whey'd or coagulated all it's Mass of Blood. 1728 E. SMITH *Compl. Housew.* (ed. 2) 85 Take the Curd of a gallon of Milk, and whey it well. *Ibid.* 105 Take a gallon of new Milk, set it as for a Cheese, and gently whey it.

whey, north. f. QUEY, heifer, WAY *int.*

wheyey ('hwen), *a.* Forms: 6 wheye, 6-7 whayey, 7 whayie, wheyie, whaey, 7- wheyey. [f. WHEY *sb.* + -Y¹.] Of the nature of whey; consisting of, containing, or resembling whey.

1547 RECORDE *Judic. Uryne* 13 b, Urine is the superfluitie or wheye substance of the bloude in the hollow vayne. 1572 J. JONES *Buckstones Bathes Benefyte* 18 The wheyey, thinnie, and subtyl humoures. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 95 The serous or wheyie part of the bloud. 1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 23. 2/1 The more Wheyey Parts of the Chyle. 1778 PENNANT *Tour in Wales* (1883) I. 54 Discolored by a wheyey tinge. 1822 GOOD *Study Med.* IV. 81 The surface of which [sc. the bladder] pours forth a cheesy or wheyey fluid. 1847 W. C. L. MARTIN *Ox* 29/1 A separation of the buttery and wheyey parts.

Hence 'wheyiness, wheyey quality.

1662 J. CHANDLER *Van Helmont's Oriat.* 220 They prefer Asses milk before the rest, by reason of its thin substance, and very much wheyiness.

wheyish ('hwenʃ), *a.* Also 6 whaish, 6-7 whayish(e. [f. WHEY *sb.* + -ISH¹.] Having the nature or quality of whey; like or resembling whey in consistence, colour, or other quality; watery, thin; palish.

1565 RAYNALDE *Byrth Mankynde* 46 b, The vayne... whiche bryngeth the whayishe humour into the left kydney. 1572 TWYNE *Dionysius' Surv.* World Evij, A wheyish Topase. 1585 BANISTER *Tumors* xxxiv. Wks. (1633) 114 A watrish or whayish and unprofitable substance. 1625 B. JONSON *Staple of News* II. 22 Intermeane, If it be fresh and sweet butter; but say it be sower and wheyish? 1683 TRYON *Way to Health* 150 Some River-Water will look of a wheyish whiteish Colour. a 1722 LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 295 A cow... lately had the yellows, and the first coming of them to be known was by her milk being wheyish. 1801 BEDDOES *Hygeia* VI. (1802) 43 These break... and discharge the ill-conditioned, wheyish, and curdy matter. 1807 JAS. HALL *Trav. Scot.* II. 327 The liquid oozing from the roof in a few minutes seems to be formed into a wheyish substance.

Hence 'wheyishness, wheyish quality; also *fig.*

1637 MARKHAM *Engl. Housew.* II. (ed. 5) 107 To prevent the wheyishnesse of the Custard. 1803 SOUTHEY in Robberds *Mem. W. Taylor* (1843) I. 453, I have read Cowper's 'Odyssey'... to cure my poetry of its wheyishness.

wheyl(l)e, obs. forms of WHEEL.

wheyn, var. WHYNE *Obs.* whence.

wheynte, obs. f. QUAIN *a.*

wheyte, north. f. QUIT *v.*

whhi-hhee: see WEHEE.

whi: see WEHEE, WHY, WIE.

whib(b)le, etc., obs. variants of QUIBBLE, etc.

1604 BABINGTON *Comf. Notes Exod.* II. 25 Whiblers and prating pick-thanks, tatlers, and tale-tellers. 1624 GEE *Foot out of Snare* (ed. 3) 82, I do not heare, that any of those snarling whibbling Curres can barke. If they dare open their snapping mouths, let them doe it whilest men liue that may refute them. a 1626 MIDDLETON *Mayor Quin.* v. i. (1661) 63, 2 *Cheat.* The Whirligig, the Whibble, the Carwidgen. *Sym.* Hey day, what names are these! 2 *Cheat.* New names of late.

whibibbe, obs. form of CUBEB.

1355-6 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 555 Et in una libra de Whibibes prec. iiij s.

† **whiblin**. *Obs.* Of doubtful origin and meaning; perh. a slang term denoting 'thingumbob', 'what-d'ye-call-it'; but cf. WHIBBLE and QUIBLIN.

With quot. 1604 cf. WHIFLING, WHIMLING.

1604 DEKKER *Honest Wh.* I. i. ii. Hees a very mandrake, or else... one a these whiblins, and thats worse, and then all the children that he gets lawfully of your body sister, are bastards by a statute. 1613 MARSTON *Insat. C'tess* II. Djb,

A rare whiblin. To be reueng'd, and yet gaine pleasure in't. **1623** J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *World runs on Wheels* Wks. (1630) II. 234/1 Proiects... of planting the Ile of Dogs with Whiblins, Corwhichtes, Mushromes and Tobacco. **a1652** BROME *Lovesick Court* v. i. Come, Sir, let go your whiblin. (*Dis. snatcheth his sword away.*)

whicche: see WHITCH, WITCH.

which (hwitf), *a.* and *pron.* Forms: see below. [OE. *hwelc*, *hwilc*, *hwylc* corresp. to OFris. *hwelik*, *hwel(e)k*, *hwek*, *hulk*, *huk*, *hok* (Fris. *wolk*, *wæk*, *huk*, etc.), OS. *hwilic*, MLG. *welik*, *welk*, MDu. *welc*, (LG., Du. *welk*), OHG. **hwalih*, *uualih*, *hwelih*, *welih*, *-ich*, *-eh* (MHG. *welh*, *welch*, G. *welch*), Goth. *hwileiks*:—OTeut. **xwalik-*, **xwilik-* 'of what form', f. *xwa-*, *xwi-* (Indo-eur. *q^wo-*, *q^wi-* WHO, etc.) + **liko-* body, form (cf. LIKE *a.*). OE. *hwelc* (OWS. and Anglian), *hwælc* (Northumb.) and *hwilc* (chiefly WS.), represent primitive **hwalik-* and **hwilik-* respectively; later OE. has a rounded form *hwylc* of *hwilc*. The three OE. types *hwelc*, *hwilc*, *hwylc* gave three ME. types **hwelch*, *hwilch*, *hwülch*, which became, by loss of *l* (cf. SUCH), *hwech*, *hwich*, *hwüch*; the second of these types alone has survived in mod. English, the other two not remaining current after the 15th century. The forms with non-palatization of the final consonant *whilk* (*quhilk*), occas. *quhik*, are northern (in ME. also East Anglian); cf. SWILK, SIC. Forms showing the absorption of *w* as in *hulch*, *huch* (cf. *such* for *swuch*, and OFris. *huk*) are rare.

Certain continental forms are compounded with other derivatives of the same pronominal stem; Goth. *hwēleiks* with the instrumental *hwē* (cf. *hwēlaups* how great); ON. *hwilkr* (MSw. *hwiliken*, *huilkin*, *hu(h)kin*, Sw., *Da. hwilken*) with the locative *hwi*; OHG. *hwēolih*, *wiolih* (MHG. *wielich*) with the adv. *hweo*, *weo* (G. *wie*) how.

For the compounds *gehwiic*, *æghwiic*, see EACH.]

A. Illustration of Forms.

1. *hwelc*, *huelc*, *hwælc*, *huælc*, *huoelc*, 3 *hwælc*, 4-5 *weche*, *weche*, 5 *wech*, *qwech(e)*, *queche*, (*qheche*); 3 *qwel*, 4 *quelk*.

[**c725** *Corpus Gloss.* Q74 *Quo cumque modo*, *gehwelci wega*.] **c825** *Vesp. Psalter* xviii. 13 [xix. 12] *Delicta quis intellegit*, *scylde hwelc ongeteð?* **c950** *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark ix. 34 *Disputauerant quis esset illorum maior*, ... *gefliton hwa vel hwele woere hiora mara*. *Ibid.* xii. 19 *Si cuius frater mortuus fuerit*, ... *gef huælc vel anig broðer dead sie vel bið*. **c1200** *Vices & Virtues* 21 *An hwælc wise ic mihte betst sahtlin wið mine halend Criste*. **c1250** *qwel* [see B. 8]. **c1375** *Cursor M.* 27236 (Fairf.) *pe prest agh spire*. Of men *pæt ar in religioun Quelk reccheles prelat is*. **1387** *E.E. Wills* (1882) 2 *The cheste*. *weche they haue of myn*. **1418** *Ibid.* 44 *pe money pe qweche Oliuer hath in his hand*. **14**... *Cast. Love* 578 (MS. Bodl. Add. B. 107), *Herkeneth whiche loue, wych bucsomnesse, Whiche grace & whiche swetnesse, That goodt from hevyn to alyght ches!* **1449** MARG. PASTON in *P. Lett.* I. 82 *Abok of sofystre*. *the qheche my seyð brother behestid my moder*. **c1450** CAPGRAVE *Life St. Aug.* xxiii, *pæt pei schuld not denye o tyme wech pei graunted anoper tyme*. **1461** *Paston Lett.* II. 10, *I am enformyd, ye schall recuver of hard and but a part, the qwech schuld be dere of the sute*.

2. *a.* 1-3 *hwilc*, *wilc*, 3 *hwilch*, *w(h)ilch*, *whilc*, *Orm.* *whillc* (*gen.* *whillkess*, *pl.* *whillke*), 3-4 *wilk*, 4 *wylke*, 4-5 *whylke*, 4-6 *whilke*, 4-6, 7-9 *dial.* *whilk*, 5 *wilke*, 5-7 *dial.* *whylk*, (6 *Sc.* *vhilk*, *pl.* *vhilks*, 6-8 *Sc.* *pl.* *whilks*); 3-4 *quilk*, *quille*, 4 *qwilk*, *quylk*, *quhylk*, (*quill*), 4-5 *quilk*, 4-8 *Sc.* *quhilk* (*pl.* 5-7 *quhilkis*, 6 *quhilks*).

a950 *Ælfred's Boeth.* xxiv. §10 *Hwile ure mæg areccan medemlice ures scyppendes willan?* **c975** *Rushw. Gosp.* Matt. xxi. 24 *Ik ec eow sæge in wilce mæh[t]le ic pæs do*. **c1200** ORMIN 471 *whille* [see B. 4]. *Ibid.* 5283 *O whillkess kinness wise*. **c1200** *Vices & Virtues* 77 *Whilch lean aust ðu te haufen of godd?* *Ibid.* 125 *3if þu wilt witen wilke eizene ðe herte muze habben*. **c1200** *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 179 *Hlisteð nu for hwat o wilche wise*. **13**... *quhylk* [see B. 7a]. **13**... *Northern Passion* 256 (MS. Camb. Gg. 5. 31), *þai lukyd*. *Whylke* [*v.r.* *wylke*] of *payme* it myght be fall. **1424** *E.E. Wills* (1882) 57, *I wul my wyf haf my best ambeler, and my sone*. *wylk him likeþ best*. **1585** JAS. I *Ess. Poesie* (Arb.) 14 *The vapouris*. *Whilks syne in cloudys are keiped closs and well*. **c1634** W. CARTWRIGHT *Ordinary* iv. i, *Lere me whylk way he wended*. **1711** in *Nairne Peerage Evid.* (1874) 132 *To be*. *granted to the said deceast Robert lord Nairn and the airs male of his body whilks failzieing to the said Margaret now lady Nairn his daughter*. **1819** SCOTT *Leg. Montrose* iii, *Their damnable skirlin' pipes, whilk they themselves pretend to understand*.

c1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2350 *Seið him quille min blisses ben*. *Ibid.* 3631 *Quilk frud, quat offrende, quilk* [MS. *quill*] *lage*. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 4788 *Lok quilk of us sal tak on hand For vs alle do pis trauail*. *Ibid.* 8454 *pe kind o thinges lerd he*. *Quil war pair mightes soth and lele*. **1387** in *Edin. Charters* (1871) 35 *In fourme the quylk efter folowys*. **1456** SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* 1 *The rubryis*. *be the quhilks men may better knaw* [etc.]. **a1592** *whilke* [see B. 2b]. **1637-50** ROW *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) 123 *The bukes of the Assemblies, all quhilks I had preserved hoke*. **1724** RAMSAY *Vision* xvii, *Starrie gleims, Quhilk sprinkled*.

β. 2 *hwic*, *wic*, 2-3 *hwich*, (*3wich*), 3-6 *wyche*, *wich*, 4 *hwych*, *pl.* *huiche*, 4-5 *wiche*, 4-6 *whiche*, *whyche*, *wych*, 5 *whyche*, (*wycche*, 6 *wycch*, *Sc.* *vich*, *vhich*), 4- *which*; 4-5 *quiche*, *quyche*, 5 *quich*, *quych*, *qwiche*, *qwycche* (e, 5-6 *Sc.* *quhich*; 5 *Sc.* *quhik*).

a1175 Cott. *Hom.* 238 *Wic 3eie, wic drednesse wurð per*. *Ibid.* 243 *Hwic scule beon ure sceld, sanctus paulus hwa seið*. **a1200** *Moral Ode* 136 *Lutel he hit scaweð hwice hete is per þa saule wuneð*. **c1200** *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 141 *Lusteð*. *wicwe hie hine bisohte and hwich andswere he hire gief*. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 326 *Vor to wite in 3wiche stede is woni[n]gge were*. **c1300** *Beket* (Percy Soc.) 974 *In whiche manere*. **1340** *Ayenb.* 129 *Yzi3 wrechche ine huiche 2or3es and ine huiche perils pou art*. **c1375** *Cursor M.* 21136 (Fairf.) *pæt folk ilkane walde oper steuuen Quiche must come titist to heyuen*. **c1380** *Sir Ferumb.* 511 *A costrel*. *hwych ys ful of pæt bame cler*. **1390** *which* [see B. 7b]. **1415** in *43rd Rep. Dep. Kpr. Publ. Rec.* 584 *On ye morou ye Fryday ye quich was yis day fourteneghte*. **1471** *Paston Lett.* Suppl. (1901) 138 *Wycche mony I pray zow that [ye] bestowe yt as I wryth to zow*. **a1500** *Bernard. de cura rei fam.* 215 *A mane*. *quhik al his fantasy Has geffyne to vice*. **1551** CROWLEY *Pleas. & Payne* 63 *Ye*. *Wych without me had come to nought*. **1585** T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* 1. vii. 6 *The master of my skiffe, whiche presently*. *was made fast by the leg*. **a1600** MONTGOMERIE *Sonn.* lvi. 6 *My teirs which so abound*.

3. *a.* 1 *hwylc*, 2 *hwulch*, *hulch*, 2-3 *wulc*, 3 *whulc* (h, *wulch*, 5 *whulche*.

871-889 *Charter in O.E. Texts* 452/52 *Swa hwylc mon swa hio wonie & breoce*. **c1175** *Lamb. Hom.* 15 *Hwulc mon is þet nauet to broken elche dei þas godes laze þe ic eou nu cweð*. *Ibid.* 27 *hulche* [see B. 6]. *Ibid.* 49 *Nu 3e habbeð iherd wulc hit is for iheren godes weordes and heom ethalden*. **c1205** LAY. 2303 *þu nast of whulche londe heo com heder liðen*. *Ibid.* 20735 *For whulches cunnes pingel lige we þus here*. **c1400** *St. Alexius* (Vernon MS.) 207, *I wolde fayn, & i wuste whulche*.

β. 3 *hwuc*, *hwu(c)ch*, *wucch*, 3-5 *wuch* (e, *woch* (e, 4 *whuche*, (*w3uch*), 4-5 *whuch*, *whoche*, 5 *whoch*, *huch*.

c1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 189 *And to-zenes hwuch fo man agh furdien seið þe holi apostle*. *Ibid.* 219 *For woche pingel he nemmede* [etc.]. **a1225** *hwuc* [see B. 1]. **a1250** *Owl & Night.* 1378 *Bo wuch ho bo*. **c1320** *Cast. Love* 110 *Allas w3uch serue and deol per wes!* **c1400** *Beryn* 176 *Huch þe Pardonere, & he, pryuel in hir pouchis þey put hem aftirward*. **1401** 26 *Pol. Poems* iii. 36 *Whoche party may strengere be*. **1422** YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* 143 *Wylde bestis, amonge woche euery olt hym abow hym to whome he is prere* [? *pre*].

B. Signification.

I. Interrogative and allied uses.

For the distinction between the dependent interrogative and the relative, cf. note s.v. WHAT A. I.**

†1. *adj.* Most usually *predicative*: Of what kind, quality, or character; also *attrib.* what kind of: = L. *qualis*. (The interrogative corresponding to the demonstrative SUCH.) *Obs.*

In attrib. use (in *sing.*) sometimes followed by *a.*

c897 *ÆLFRED Gregory's Past.* C. lxx. 467 *Ðær ic hæbbe getæht hwelc hierde bion sceal*. **c1000** *Ags. Gosp.* Luke vii. 39 *He wiste hwæt & hwylc þis wif wære*. *pæt heo synful is*. **c1205** LAY. 10120 *Men*. *talden him tiðende of alle pere fore þe Petrus dude in Rome, and whulcne* [**c1275** *wochne*] *martirdom Petrus hauede vnder-fon*. **a1225** *Ancr. R.* 64 *Hwon Godes prophete makede swuche mone of eien, hwuc mone wenestu is to moni mon*. *icumen*. *of hore eien?* **c1250** *Gen. & Ex.* 3212 *Ðor he stunden for to sen Quilc pharaon wið hem sal ben*. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1189 *So hi mihte lerni wiche brutons were*. **c1320** *Cast. Love* 53 *To w3uche a Castel he alihte, þo he wolde here for vs fihte*. **1388** WYCLIF *James* i. 24 *Anoon he forȝat which he was*. **c1400** tr. *Secr. Secr.*, Gov. *Lordsh.* 104 *Whiche ys þy fayth, and þy lawe?* **a1400-50** *Bk. Curtasye* 301 in *Babees Bk.*, *To aske his nome, and qweche he be*.

2. As general interrogative. (Mostly *Obs.*) †*a. adj.* = WHAT A. 13, 14. *Obs.* (or merged in 3 a.)

c900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* iv. xx[i]v. (1890) 348 *Hwylc pearf is ðe husles?* **c1000** *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xxiv. 3 *Sege us*. *hwilc tacn siþ pines to-cymys*. **c1200** *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 33 *þe engel*. *seweð a whilche wise and þuregh hwam þis blisse cumen sholde*. **c1290** *Beket* 2323 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 173 *In 3wat manere he was a-slawe and 3wuch tyme he was ded*. **c1305** *Jud. Isc.* 101 in *E.E.P.* (1862) 110 *Sippe ic fond me louerd aslawe y not in whiche wise*. **a1340** HAMPOLE *Psalter* Cant. 515 *He leryd him in wilk degre*. *and how he sould luf him*. **1588** SHAKS. *L.L.L.* iv. i. 105 *Clo.* *From my Lord to my Lady. Qu.* *From which Lord, to which Lady?* **1715** LEONI *Palladio's Archit.* (1745) II. 65 *Nor ought any one to wonder, which way such vast Quantities of earthen Ware came here*. **1752** CHESTERF. *Lett.* ccxcvi. (1792) IV. 6 *In some congratulatory poem prefixed to some work, I have forgot which*.

b. pron. = WHAT A. 1, 6. Also (OE. and occas. later) = Who. *Obs.* exc. as a *dial.* or humorous substitute for *what*.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 169 *Hwylc æteowde eow to fleonne fram ðon toewardan Godes erre?* **c1290** *St. Brendan* 569 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 235 *Man mai i-seo 3wuch it is to 3yuen opur mannes ping with wou3*. **a1400** *Minor Poems* fr. *Vernon MS.* 240/738 *Afttur þis schaltou witen þen Wyche ben þe comaundemens ten*. **c1400** *Brut* 22 (*heading*), *How iiii kynges curteisly helde al Britaigne; and whiche beth here names*. **1548-9** *Bk. Com. Prayer, Catech.*, *Tell me how many* [commandments] *there bee*. *Tenne*. *Whiche be they?* **a1592** GREENE *Jas. IV.* i. 657 *Sike is the world, but whilke is he I sawe?* **1599** SHAKS. *Much Ado* II. i. 107, *I haue manie ill qualites?* *Bene*. *Which is one?* *Mar.* *I say my prayers alowd*. **1648** G. SANDYS's *Par. Ps.* cxiv. 9 *Recoyling Seas, which* [*ed.* 1638 *what*] *caus'd your dread?*

1835 A. PARKER *Trip to West & Texas* 88 *Ask a question, and if they do not understand you, they reply 'which?'* **1848** DICKENS *Dombey* xxxviii, *'I want a so-and-so'* he says—some hard name or other. *'A which?'* says the Captain. **1891** KIPLING *Light that Failed* ix, *Who's interfering with which?* **1910** P. W. JOYCE *Eng. as we speak it in Ireland* 348 *When a person does not quite catch what another says, there is generally a query*. *Our people often express this query by the single word 'which?'* **1938** J. W. FAULKNER *Unvanquished* 83 *Yankee say, 'Sartoris, John Sartoris,' and Marse John say, 'Which? Say which?'* **1950** — *Coll. Stories* 752 *'Here,*

Weddel said, extending the tumbler. . . The Negro stopped. . . 'Which?' he said. He looked at the glass.

3. In limited sense, expressing a request for selection from a definite number: What one (or ones) of a (stated or implied) set of persons, things, or alternatives. (The current use.) *a. adj.*

Sometimes, as in *which way*, indistinguishable from 2 a. **c1000** *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. vii. 9 *Hwylc man is of eow gyf his sunu hyne bit hlafes sylst þu him stan?* **c1386** CHAUCER *Reeve's T.* 158 *Whilk way is he geen?* **c1400** *Destr. Troy* 12659 *þen þai fraynet qwiche freke, pæt schuld first enter*. **1535** COVERDALE 2 *Kings* iii. 8 *Which waye wil we go vp?* **1562** J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* I iv, *I know on which syde my bread is buttred*. **1596** SHAKS. *Merch. V.* II. ix. 11 *Neuer to vnfold to any one Which casket 'twas I chose*. **1667** MILTON *P.L.* iv. 73 *Which way shall I fie?* **1770** FOOTE *Lame Lover* II. A wise man should well weigh which party to take for. **1882** BESANT *All Sorts* xxi, *Bound for some American port—I forget which*. **1916** T. R. GLOVER *The Jesus of Hist.* iv. 70 *When the question is asked, 'Was Jesus the Messiah?' the obvious reply is, 'Which Messiah?'*

b. pron. (†occas., in dependent clause, with *the*.)

c950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. vi. 27 *Quis autem uestrum*. *hualc uutetlice iurree?* **c1000** *Ags. Gosp.* John xix. 24 *Ne slite we hy, ac uton hleotan hwylces ures heo sy*. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 928 *Among him*. *strif me mihte ise* *Woch meist* *maisters were*. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 15275 *Ful wel i wat þe quilk o yow þe tresun has puruaid*. **13**... *St. Alexius* 207 (MS. Laud 108) *Lauedi, I wille ful fayn, and I wiste wilk*. **1402** *Jack Upland* 28 *Frere, how many orders be in erthe, and which is the perfetest order?* **c1470** *Gol. & Gaw.* 919 *Quhilk that happynit the lak, Couth na leid say!* **1526** TINDALE *John* viii. 46 *Which of you can rebuke me off synne?* **1573-80** TUSSEY *Husb.* (1878) 77 *In making or mending as needeth thy ditch, get set to quick set it, learne cunningly which*. **1599** SHAKS. *Much Ado* v. iv. 72 *Which is Beatrice?* *Beat.* *I answer to that name*. **1601** R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commu.* 2 *Of these two I doe not know which to prefer*. **1611** SHAKS. *Wint. T.* iv. iii. 94, *I cannot tell*. *for which of his Vertues it was*. **1660** FULLER *Mixt Contempl.* xiii. 21 *Two young Gentlemen were comparing their revenues together, vying which of them were the best*. **1791** COWPER *Let. to W. Bagot* 18 Mar., *Indisposed*. *with gout or rheumatism*, (for it seems uncertain which). **1857** RUSKIN *Pol. Econ. Art* Addenda 191 *note*, *The contest between them is not*. *which shall get everything for himself*. **1889** STEVENSON *Ballantrae* iii, *But which is it to be? Fight or make friends?*

4. *adj.* and *pron.* Repeated (in sense 3): *a.* in each of two (or more) separate clauses, usually connected by a conj.

c897 *ÆLFRED Gregory's Past.* C. lix. 451 *He us getacnode for hwelcum ðingum we sceolden ure godan weorc helan, & for hwelcum we hi sceolden cyðan*. **c1200** ORMIN 471-2 *Prestess*. *... & dæcness*. *Shifftedenn hemm bitwennn Whillic here shallde serrfenn frirst, Whillic sippenn i þe temmple*. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2562 *Me nuste Woch was on ne woch was oper*. **c1330** R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) *Prole*. 17 *To here*. *whilk were foles, & whilk were wyse*. **1575** TURBERV. *Faulconrie* 159 *To note the naturall disposition of his Hawkes: as, whiche will flee beeing high*. *... and whiche best, when she is kepte lowe, whiche will flee best when she is set most sharpe and eager, and whyche contrary, and whiche in a meane betweene both*. **1849** MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. 1. 407 *Which ballot boxes were to be green and which red, which balls were to be of gold and which of silver*. *and a hundred more such trifles, were gravely considered*. **1880** SHORTHOUSE *John Inglesant* xxvii, *Trying*. *to make out*. *which was noble and which was groom*.

b. in the same clause, in abbreviated expressions, esp. *which is which* = which is the one and which is the other; so *which goes with which*, etc.; also with another interrog., as *who is to have which*.

A jocular variant is contained in the phr. *to tell tother from which*.

a1300 *Cursor M.* 9290 *Wel sal he cun knau quilk es quilk, Fra the wick þe god to scil*. **1398** TREVISIA *Barth. De P.R.* XII. iii. (Bodl. MS.), *þe furste manere hawkes takeþ onelich here praiæ fleinge briddes and þe secunde manere haukes*. *... reesep on briddes þæt setteþ one þe grounde*. *And þe briddes knowiþ whiche is whiche*. **c1412** HOCLEVLE *De Reg. Princ.* 445 *Som tyme, afer men myghten lordes knowe By there array, from oper folke; but now A man schal*. *musen a long throwe Whiche is whiche*. **1559** AYLMEY *Harborowe* K 4, *It was not to bee iudged by the greatnes or smalnes, but which was whose*. **1564** HARDING *Answ. Jewel* 73 *It is hard to fynde which keye serueth which locke*. **1582** N.T. (Rhem.) Mark xv. 24 *Casting lottes vpon them, who should take which*. **1605** SHAKS. *Macb.* III. iv. 127 *What is the night? Almost at oddes with morning, which is which*. **1711** STEELE *Spect.* No. 41 ¶4 *There does not need any great Discernment to judge which are which*. **1849** C. BRONTE *Shirley* xxiii, *Caroline, looking round, met a new Robert, the real Robert*. *'Well,' said he, 'which is which?'* **1881** MISS BRADDON *Asphodel* xii, *To see which went best with which*.

II. Exclamatory use.

†5. *adj.* (in non-collective sing. followed by *a*): = WHAT B. 5, 5 b. *Obs.*

c888 *ÆLFRED Boeth.* xvi. §2 *3if ge nu gesawan hwelce mus pæt wære hlaford ofer oðre mys*. *... mid hwelce hleahtre ge woldon bion astered*. **a1175** [see A. 2ß]. **c1175** *Lamb. Hom.* 19 *Nimað 3eme*. *hwilche 3ife he us jefð*. **a1225** *Ancr. R.* 134 *þenc hwuch pinen he polede*. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 7237 *Hii seye þe soppesne In wuch lecherie & oper sunne þe prestes songe hor messe*. **c1305** *11,000 Virgins* 62 in *E.E.P.* (1862) 67 *Louerd, which a cuppaingne of clene maideness was pere*. **1377** LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. x. 27 *Whiche lordes beth þis shrewes!* **c1386** CHAUCER *Frankl. T.* 714 *Lo which a wyf was Alcestem*. **a1400-50** *Wars Alex.* 1807 *He tellis quyche a tunne of tresoure he hauys*. **c1430** *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* III. v. (1869) 139 *Harrow, which gret wood-shipe is þis*. **c1440** *Jacob's Well* 102 *Lo, whiche a worschip sche hadde, & whiche a ioye*.

III. Relative uses. * as simple relative.

Formerly in Sc. with pl. inflexion *-s, -is*: see A. 2 a. For the construction with a prep., cf. 7 a.

c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 27 þesne mon ic habbe itaken to mine aþene bihofpe. Ma monna ic scolde biþeten swa, bi hulche monna seið drihten in his spelle þa he þus cwep [etc.]. **c1250** *Kent. Serm.* in *O.E. Misc.* 30 Lecherie, spusbrecche, Roberie, . . . and alle opre euele deden, þurch wyche pinkes man ofserueth þet fer of helle. **13.** *Northern Passion* 1309 (MS. Camb. Gg. I. 1) þe tre of lif On woche [v.r. wilke] tre þæt appil grewe. **c1400** *Brut* 229 His flesshe was restorede aþein, . . . for whiche miracle þe good man & his frendes louede God and Seint Thomas. **1432-50** tr. *Higden* (Rolls) II. 101 The thrydde realme was of Estesex. . . The kynges of whiche place . . . were obediente to other kynges. **1460** *CAPGRAVE Chron.* (Rolls) 166 He fond him ontretable; for which cause the bishop cursid him. **1526** *TINDALE Col.* iii. 6 Fornicacion, vnclennes, . . . and covetousnes. . . for which thynges sakes the wrath of god falleth on the chyl dren off vnbeleue. **1585** *JAS. I Ess. Poesie* (Arb.) 55 They are figures of Rhetorique and Dialectique, quihikis airtis I professe nocht. **1610** *SHAKS. Temp.* 1. ii. 277 She did confine thee. . . Into a clouen Pyne, within which rift Imprison'd, thou didst painfully remaine A dozen yeeres. **1719** *DE FOE Crusoe* 1. (Globe) 71 It rain'd all Night and all Day, . . . during which time the Ship broke in pieces. **1800** *WORDSW. Hart-Leap Well*, The monuments spoken of in the second Part of the following Poem, which monuments do now exist as I have there described them. **1831** *CARLYLE Sart. Res.* 1. i. Concerning which last, indeed. **1892** *Photogr. Ann.* II. 883 A 5 × 4 camera. . . (which size is now the most popular).

7. pron. The ordinary relative pronoun introducing an additional statement about the antecedent, the sense of the principal clause being complete without the relative clause; thus sometimes equivalent to 'and that (it, they, etc.)'. (Cf. *THAT rel. pron.* 2.)

In this and following senses formerly sometimes followed by *that* (*THAT conj.* 6), occas. by *as* (cf. *AS adv.* B. 27).

a. As obj. of a prep., which usually precedes *which*, but occas. stands at the end of the clause.

If the prep. depends on some other word (e.g. a sb. or numeral), that word (with any that qualify or govern it) usually stands immediately before the prep.

c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 11 Drihten him bi-tahte twa stanene tables breode on hwulche godalmihtig heofde iwriten þa ten laze. **13.** *Cursor M.* 9540 (Gött.) Ilk-an gaf he substance an, . . . Widuten quhylk on nan manere Miht he in pes his kingeriche zeme. **1423** *JAS. I Kings Q.* iii. A boke. . . Off quich the name is clepit. . . Boece. **1451** *Paston Lett. Suppl.* (1901) 35 A letter. . . qwyche I send yow a copy of. **1590** *SPENSER F.Q.* 1. xi. 29 A springing well, From which fast trickled forth a siluer flood. **1603** in *Gage Hengrave* (1822) 32 One payer of little organyes wth a board wth they stand on. **1687** *A. LOVELL tr. Thevenot's Trav.* 1. 17 Our Ship stuck a ground, with the noise of which, our Captain awoke. **1726** *Adv. Capt. R. Boyle* (1768) 113 Their Beards & Mustachoes . . . which they take a particular Pride in the Length or Largeness of. **1858** *CARLYLE Fredk. Gt.* II. vii. 1. 131 The Pope. . . being held. . . at a distance, the result of which was what we see. **1893** *MAX PEMBERTON Iron Pirate* ii, A. . . Scotsman, who carried the economy of his race even to the extent of flesh, of which he was sparse.

b. As subject or object of a verb.

Formerly sometimes used where *as* is now idiomatic, as in quot. 1688: cf. 10.

a1300 *E.E. Psalter* ix. 16 In pis snare wilke þai hid swa. **1390** *GOWER Conf.* III. 132 His herbe propre is Rosmarine, Which schapen is for his covine. **c1400** *Cursor M.* 25391 (Cott. Galba) þe blis of heuyn, Whilk seuyn vertuse vntill vs wins, And als fordoe seuyn dedly sins. **1485** *CAXTON Chas. Gt.* 193 Eche took an hors. . . which ranne at al aduenture. **c1550** *ROLLAND Crt. Venus* Prol. 11 Complexiounis. . . Quhilkis ar thir four. . . Phlegmatike. . . Sanguineane. . . Colerike. . . Melancolie, Quhilkis of nature ar wonder different. **1552** *LYNDEYAT Monarchie* 4373 This is ane maruellous Monarchie, Quhilk hes power Imperiall Boith of the body and the Sault. **a1613** *BRERWOOD Lang. & Relig.* (1622) 201 The Italian, French, and Spanish: all which in a barbarous word haue bene called Romanse. **1650** *FULLER Pisgah* 1. xiii. 41 The Hebrews measuring their land by a bow-shot, . . . which. . . admits of variation. **1688** *HOLME Armoury* iii. 331/2 The Pitchfork (or Pikel, which we vulgarly call it). **1719** *DE FOE Crusoe* 1. (Globe) 48, I spy'd a small Piece of a Rope, which I wou'd I did not see at first. **1825** *T. HOOK Sayings* Ser. II. *Passion & Princ.* x. III. 209 'And so good night'; saying which, he urbanely shook hands. **1872** *MORLEY Voltaire* i. 3 Ideas. . . whose forms were old. . . but which were full of seemingly inexhaustible novelty. **1875** *JEVONS Money* xix. 246 The United States government tried a similar experiment, which was soon discontinued.

c. Referring to a fact, circumstance, or statement. Now very common in spoken English.

Quot. 1950 is a mixed construction. Cf. *AND conj.* 11 a. **1390** *GOWER Conf.* I. 12 To make pes between the kynges . . . Which is the propre duete Belongende unto the presthode. **1516** in *E. Lodge Illustr.* (1838) I. 17 He would advise me to get me to some little house, with a few persons with me, which I have done. **1521** in *Essex Rev.* XIII. 221 If she [sc. the ship] come not well home, which God forbende. **1597** *SHAKS. 2 Hen. IV.* v. ii. 34 You must now speake Sir Iohn Falstaffe faire, Which swimmes against your streame of Quality. **1669** *BOYLE Contr. New Exper.* 1. xxxiv. 118, I order'd the Air to be let in very leisurely, upon which we could plainly see [etc.]. **1699** *BENTLEY Phal.* xii. 320 The last part of the Sentence not. . . answering to the first; which is the proper definition of a Solæcism. **1760** *STERNE Tr. Shandy* III. xxiv. I dragged her after me, by means of which she fell backwards soss against the bridge. **1787** *J. FEA Fish. Sc. Isl.* 31 We have no Methodists settled amongst us, which is very fortunate. **1836** *DICKENS Sk. Box, Sentiment*, Looking as amiable as they possibly could— which, by the by, is not saying much for them. **1839** *URE Dict. Arts* 1076 Yellow rosin contains some water, which black rosin does not. **1886** [E. H. DERING] *In Light of 20th Cent.* iv. 65 Observation. . . only shows what is visible, which life is not. **1902** *H. JAMES Wings of Dove* I. iv. 85 He imaged it—which was enough as some proved vanity. **1914** 'IAN

HAY' *Knt. on Wheels* xiii. § 3 They conformed to the rules, . . . observing the spirit rather than the letter of the law. Which was just as well. **1950** *PATTERSON & CONRAD Scottsboro Boy* II. v. 122 He. . . said, 'Haven't I told you black sons of bitches about talking after bed hours?' 'I wasn't talking,' I said. And which I wasn't. **1981** *London Rev. Bks.* 19 Feb.-4 Mar. 9/2 To be fair, Frances Partridge is concerned in this book to put the record straight on the central episode of Carrington's suicide: to emphasize Ralph Partridge's fear that this would happen, and his desperate efforts to avert it. Which is reasonable enough.

d. With a conjunction in the relative clause, usually following *which*, rarely preceding. *arch.*

In early use more frequently with pleonastic personal pronoun (see 14). For sylleptic uses see 15.

[1510: see 13 b.] **a1548** *HALL Chron., Edw. IV* 214 b, To conuey hym selfe into some other place, without delay, which if he did they assured hym, y^t he should haue neither hurte nor damage. **c1643** *LD. HERBERT Autobiog.* (1824) 193 Oliver Herbert was forced to fly France, which, that he might do the better, I paid the said fencer 200 crowns. **1752** *FIELDRING Amelia* III. viii. The tears began to overflow—which, when he perceived, he stopt. **1796** *MRS. INCHBALD Nature & Art* xi. (1820) 29 Explanations followed all these questions; but which. . . require no recital here. **1835** *CHATTO Rambles Northumbld.* 106 A girl. . . returning home from milking. . . saw many fairies gamboling in the fields, but which were invisible to her companions. **1871** *RUSKIN Fors Clav.* iii. 14 It was not [then] esteemd of absolute necessity to put agreements between Christians in writing! Which if it were not now, you know we might save a great deal of money. **1883** *R. W. DIXON Mano* II. iv. 76 Which when he saw, thither full fast ran he.

e. Introducing a parenthetical qualifying clause inserted in the principal clause. (Cf. sense 11, quots. 1599, 1719.)

1560 *ROLLAND Seven Sages* (Bann. Club) 50 He purposit, quihik was wors, My awin Lady. . . to defors. **1611** *BEAUM. & FL. Maid's Trag.* III. ii, Are not you, Which is above all joyes, my constant friend? **1640** *E. REYNOLDS Passions* xvi. 174 Strange Sinnes too (which is the curiositie and corruption of Nature) are marvellous attractive. **1862** *RUSKIN Unto this Last* ii. 40 Primarily, which is very notable and curious, I observe that men of business rarely know the meaning of the word 'rich'. **1882** *BESANT All Sorts* vii. When, which happened every day, they forgot their disguises for a while, they talked quite freely.

8. a. Introducing a clause defining or restricting the antecedent and thus completing the sense. Regularly so used after the antecedent *that* (*THAT dem. pron.* 6), or after a prep. (see b); in other cases the more regular relative is *that* (*THAT rel. pron.* 1).

In modern printing usually distinguished from 7 by the absence of a comma before the relative (as in speech by the absence of a pause).

fall which continued in literary use till c1850.

c1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 170 So made god. . . Al erue, and wrim, and wilde der, Qwel man mai sen on werlde her. **c1320** *Cast. Love* 1434 þe woundes. . . Wyuche þat weoren on honden and feet. **c1400** *Apol. Loll.* 42 Man was maad to lord in alle creaturis, and forfeitid not þat wyche synnyþ not. **1598** *B. JONSON Ev. Man in Hum.* II. ii. (1601 Qo.), That land or nation best doth thrive, Which to smoothe-fronted peace is most procliuie. **1610** *SHAKS. Temp.* v. i. 204 It is you, that haue chalk'd forth the way Which brought vs hither. **1611** *Bible Gen.* i. 7 God. . . diuided the waters, which were vnder the firmament, from the waters, which were about the firmament. **1619** in *Hales' Gold. Rem.* II. (1673) 125 This is all which is done this week. **1774** *GOLDSM. Nat. Hist.* (1776) II. 335 Repairing the destruction, which they must often suffer, by their quick reproduction. **1824** *L. MURRAY Engl. Gram.* (ed. 5) I. 74 After all which can be done, to render the definitions. . . comprehensive and accurate. **1834** *NEWMAN Par. Serm.* I. xix. 293 This is the path which leads to death. **1848** *PUSEY Paroch. Serm.* I. iv. (1873) 71 All which we are, except sin, He became. **1875** *JEVONS Money* xx. 254 Let us suppose that there is a town which is able to support two banks. **1918** *Act 8 Geo. V. c. 5* §4 (2), If any person. . . makes . . . any statement which is false.

b. As obj. of a prep., which usually precedes the relative as in 7 a.

c1250 *Kent. Serm.* in *O.E. Misc.* 31 Alle þo sennen þurch wiche me liest þo lue of gode almichti. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 17288 + 74 þat friday was our leuey day On wlk our lord slayn was. **c1386** *CHAUCER Sqr.'s T.* 17, 18 And of the secte of which þat he was born He kepte his lay to which þat he was sworn. **c1450** *Merlin* ii. 32, I moste go in to that contre fro wiche these be come to fecche me. **1663** *Extr. St. Papers rel. Friends* Ser. II. (1911) 173 Many more things which the controuersy of the Lord is against. **1700** *CONGREVE Way of World* II. iii, The Guilt with which you wou'd asperse me. **1830** *MACAULAY Ess., Moore's Life Byron* (1843) I. 336 They wrote concerning things the thought of which set their hearts on fire. **1839** *DE LA BECHE Rep. Geol. Cornw.*, etc. xiv. 459 A bar upon which the sea breaks occurs at the entrance of the Kingsbridge estuary.

¶ **c.** In anacoluthic construction, as in *THAT rel. pron.* 8. *rare.*

1729 *LAW Serious C.* ix, Direct your common actions to that end which they did.

9. Used of persons. Now only *dial.* except in speaking of people in a body, the ordinary word being *who* (objective *whom*) or (in sense b) *that*.

a. Introducing an additional statement, as in 7: thus sometimes = 'and he (they, etc.)'.

a1300 *E.E. Psalter* cxlv[i]. 3 Traiste never. . . in men sones, in wilk hele e s nane. **c1386** *CHAUCER Frankl. T.* 94 Hire freendes wiche þat knewe hir heuy thoght Conforten hire. — *Shipman's T.* 153 Yow which I haue loued specially. **1447** *BOKENHAM Seyntys, Caecilia* 201 Lord Jhesu Cryst, wych al thyng knowyst. **a1450** *Knt. de la Tour* 65 The holy man wiche had pitee of his newew, soruful he yede into his chapell. **c1489** *CAXTON Sonnes of Aymon* xxvi. 547 Charlemagne toke a messenger wiche he sente to reynawde. **1526** *TINDALE J. Cor.* xv. 57 Thankes be vnto God, wchyl hath geuen vs victory. **1548-9** *Bk. Com. Prayer, Matins* 2nd

Collect, O God, which art author of peace, and louter of concorde. **1610** *SHAKS. Temp.* 1. ii. 342, I am all the Subjects that you haue, Which first was min owne King. **1692** *O. WALKER Grk. & Rom. Hist.* II. 310 He had nine Wives, all which he cast off successively. **1703** *MOXON Mech. Exerc.* 254 The Master-Bricklayer, or else his Foreman (which ought to be an ingenious Workman). **a1774** *GOLDSM. tr. Scarron's Com. Rom.* (1775) 1. 200 A couple of women. . . one of which. . . leaned on the other's shoulder. **1837** *DICKENS Pickw.* xxxiv, Had been told it herself by Mrs. Mudberry which kept a mangle, and Mrs. Bunkin which clear-starched. **1899** *Scribner's Mag.* XXV. 114/1 His mother had ten children, of which he was the oldest.

b. Introducing a defining clause, as in 8.

1338 *R. BRUNNE Chron.* (1810) 224 When þei were inowe, on wilk þei mot afie. **c1386** *CHAUCER Pars. T.* ¶ 981 If ther be a confessor to which he may shriuen hym. **1483** *Acta Audit.* in *Acta Dom. Conc.* II. Introd. 106 Because he mariit without his consent quihik is his ourlord. **1526** *TINDALE Matt.* v. 10 Blessed are they which suffre persecution for rightewesnes sake. **a1548** *HALL Chron., Hen. IV* 28 b, Entending to be reuenged on them wiche he sought for. **1600** *SURFLET Country Farm* VI. xxii. 803 The reader which is carefull of his health, may learne to make choise of such wine. **1605** *SHAKS. Lear* IV. vi. 215 Euery one heares that, which can distinguish sound. **a1703** *BURKITT On N. T.* Luke iv. 24 That Minister which prostitutes his Authority, frustrates the end of his Ministry. **1774** *J. BRYANT Mythol.* I. p. xiv, Those people which, I term Amonians. **1836** *JAS. GRANT Random Recoll. Ho. Lords* x. 224 Dugald Stewart, one of the greatest men which Scotland has produced. **1841** *ALISON Hist. Eur.* IX. lxix. 202 The wounded, which were carried past. . . never failed to salute the Emperor. **1909** *Westm. Gaz.* 9 July 2/2 He is on the high road to get all the men for which he has asked.

c. Still regularly used of a person in reference to character, function, or the like, in which case the sense is really 7 or 8.

1645 *HOWELL Twelve Treat.* (1661) 233 The subject of this Discours were more proper to One of the long-Robe, which I am not. **1797** *BP. WATSON Apol. Christ.* vi. (ed. 6) 180 He put two maid servants, which were called ministers, to the torture. **1842** *BORROW Bible in Spain* (1843) II. x. 208 He was by no means the profound philologist which the notary had represented him to be. **1855** *NEWMAN Callista* xii. 108 He was not quite the craven. . . which she thought him.

10. Rarely used after an antecedent to which the ordinary correlative is *as*. *a.* after *same*: = *THAT rel. pron.* 4. *b.* after *so* or *such*: often equivalent to 'that it (he, etc.)'.

1340, etc. [see SAME A. 1 a]. **c1386** [see SUCH B. 12]. **1550** *VERON Godly Sayings* Ep. Ded. (1846) 19 Who is so dul, . . . whiche. . . would not be moued too thankfulness? **1596** 'L. PIOT' *Silwayn's Orator* 401 No man ought to bind himselfe vnto such couenants which hee cannot. . . accomplish. **1605** *CAMDEN Rem., Names* 45 *Baruch*, *Hebr.* the same which Bennet, blessed. **1607** *TOPSELL Four-f. Beasts* 326 A kind of wilde horsse which hath hornes like a Hart, and therefore I take it to bee the same which is called Hyppelaphus. **1709**, **1888** [see SUCH B. 12]. **1802-12** *BENTHAM Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) V. 321 There is not any argument so absurd, which is not daily received.

** as compound relative (or with ellipsis of antecedent).

† **11. pron.** That which, one which, something that: = *WHAT C.* 1, 3 a; also of a person, One who; *pl.* Those which or who. *Obs.*

c1205 *LAY.* 2167 Al Albanakes folc folden i-scohten Buten while þat per at wond þurh wode burge. **c1430** *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 8837 He dremed of you which him affrayed. **c1470** *HENRY Wallace* XI. 321 Na men he tuk bot quihik he hydder brocht. **1548** *UDALL, etc. Eras. Par. John* vii. 31 Should he do greater thynges then whiche this man doeth? **1579** *FULKE Heskins' Parl.* 105 They interpret literally, which the doctors did write figuratiuely. **1599** *SHAKS. Much Ado* IV. ii. 83, I am a wise fellow, and which is more, an officer, and which is more, a housholder. **1643** *DIGGES Unlawf. Taking up Arms* 8, I shall desire one thing especially may be remembred, as which hath great influence upon all cases. **1654** *Z. COKE Logick* 16 An ambiguous word is which indistinctly signifieth things that in nature are diuers. **1719** *DE FOE Crusoe* 1. (Globe) 75, I had the loose Earth to carry out; and which was of more Importance, I had the Cieling to prop up.

12. In generalized sense (*adj.* or *pron.*), with or without qualifying adv. (*ever*, *so*, etc.): Any (person or thing) that, whatever; usually, now always, with limitation of reference, as in 3: = *WHICHEVER* 1; also (with *ever* or *soever*) = *WHICHEVER* 2.

OE. swā hwile (swā), ME. hwilch. . . so, se (see *WHICH-SO*), north. *quilk sum*, were ultimately superseded by *which ever, soever* (see *WHICHEVER, WHICHSOEVER*).

a890 *Charter in O.E. Texts* 451 Swa hwylic minra fædrenmeþa swa ðæt sio. **900-30** *O.E. Chron.* an. 755 (Parker MS.), þæs cynynges þegnas. . . pider urnon swa hwile swa þonne gearo wearþ. **c1000** *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) cxxxviii[i]. 4 [3] Swahwylce daga ic þe deorne gife. **c1220** *Bestiary* 5 in *O.E. Misc.* 1 Bi wilc weie so he wile. **a1225** *Ancr. R.* 8 O hwuche wise se heo euer wule. **1297** *R. GLOUC. (Rolls)* 497 Brut bad corineus for to chese of ech contrei. . . 3wich. . . him likede best. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 16373 Ask quilk sum yee wilk haue. **c1400** *Rule St. Benet* (prose) liii. 35 þabbesse. . . oupir a-nopir nunne, wilke sam sho cumandis. **1464-5** in *Acts Parli. Scot.* (1874) XII. 31/1 Thai personis. . . sall outhir entire þe kingis ward. . . or thane dewoide þe realmes. . . quihik þat salbe seine maist expedient. **1523** *LD. BERNERS Froiss.* I. ccxcli. 217/2 Whiche of them y^t euer should breake this peace. . . shoulde rynne in the sentence of the pope. **1545** *RAYNALDE Byrth Mankynde* 134 Whiche of these wayes so euer it cume it shall be very good to bathe the chylde. **1602** *SHAKS. Ham.* IV. vii. 13 My Vertue or my Plague, be it either which. **1633** *G. HERBERT Temple, Home* ix, Nothing but drought and dearth. . . Which way so-e're I look, I see. **1667** *MILTON P.L.* IV. 75 Which way I fie is Hell; my self am Hell. **1690** *CHILD Disc. Trade* (1698) 10 Which way ever we take our

measures, to me it seems evident [etc.]. 1753 JOHNSON *Adventurer* No. 69 ¶10 Which way soever he turned his thoughts, impossibility and absurdity arose in opposition. 1824 SCOTT *St. Ronan's* xvi, [He] lets a' things about the manse gang whilk gate they will. 1844 S. R. MAITLAND *Dark Ages* xv. 243 The table was so large that, place it which way they would, it could not be prevented from shewing above water. 1877 TENNYSON *Harold* II. ii. 141 But wherefore is the wind, Which way soever the vane-arrow swing, Not ever fair for England?

*** 13. the which. *arch.* a. as *adj.* = 6.

13.. *Cursor M.* 9434 (Gött.) þe first law was cald 'of kinde,' .. þe toþer has 'possitiue' to name; þe whilk lawe was forþed Adam. Forþo ete þat fruit. 1447-8 J. SHILLINGFORD *Lett.* (Camden 1871) 26 The whiche copies all y pray yow ayysely to over rede. 1526 TINDALE *Heb.* x. 10 By the which will we be sanctified. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 466 There was a lionesse which had whelpes in her den, the which den was obserued by a Beare, the which Beare on a day finding the den vnfortified, .. entred .. and slew the Lions whelpes. 1820 BYRON *Mar. Fal.* note, Wks. (1842) 193/1 Finished copying August .. 1820; the which copying makes ten times the toil of composing. a 1850 ROSSETTI *Dante & Circle* i. (1874) 98 Of the which thing I bethought me to speak unto her.

b. as *pron.* (a) = 7.

1340-70 *Alex. & Dind.* 1127 Wo & wikkede paine, þe whiche þe heie godus haten. 1461 *Paston Lett.* II. 42 Desiering to herre of your welfar and good prosperite, the gwyche [sic] I pray God encesse. 1510 in Leadam *Sel. Cases Star Chamber* (Selden Soc.) II. 69 If the whiche shuld contynewe .. your seid Towne .. shall wexe empty. 1526 TINDALE *Gal.* v. 21 The dedes of the fleshe .. off the which I tell you before, as I have tolde you in tyme past. 1590 SPENSER *F.Q.* I. i. 36 Sweet slombring deaw, the which to sleepe them biddes. 1682 BUNYAN *Holy War* iii. (1905) 209 He told too, the which I had almost forgot, how Diabolus had put the Town of Mansoul into Arms. 1812 CARY *Dante, Parad.* xxii. 146 [This world] o'er the which we stride So fiercely. 1884 TENNYSON *Becket* Prol., He help the King to break down our castles, for the which I hate him.

(b) = 8.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 146 How god bigan þe law hym gyfe þe quilk the luus in suld life. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* xx. vii. 809, I told hym the peryl the which ben now fallen. 1526 TINDALE *Acts* xxvi. 16 To make the .. a witness both off the thynges which thou hast sene and off tho thynges in the which I will apere vnto the. 1611 *Bible* James ii. 7 Doe not they blaspheme that worthy Name, by the which ye are called?

†c. as compound relative: = 11. Also qualified by *soever*: = 12. *Obs.*

1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. xx. 11/2, I knowe y^t the most worthy .. knight of my realme shall acheue for me, the whyche I coulede neuer attayne vnto. 1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* I. (1895) 89 For there is no way so proffitable .. as the whiche hath a shewe and coloure of iustice. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ.* *Osor.* 67 We follow not your fayth, as the which we have tasted to bee .. most detestable. 1660 HEYLIN *Hist. Quinquart.* II. 7 To put his hunting spear amongst them, and the which of them soever should lay hold upon it, should be .. drawn out of the water.

†d. Of persons: = 9.

1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 52 Emme þe quene .. of þe whilk was born Alfred & Edward. c 1386 CHAUCER *Frankl. T.* 452 This Briton clerk hym asked of felawes The whiche þat he had knowe in olde dawes. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* I. xviii. 64 Kyng Ryence of North walys the whiche was a myghty man of men. c 1500 Lancelot 184 The metire and the cuning .. Quhilk I submyt to the correccioun Of yaim the quich that is discret & wys. 1567 Gude & Godlie B. (S.T.S.) 172 Geue Christ, the quhilk hes me redrest, Be on my syde. 1596 SHAKS. *I Hen. IV.* II. i. 78 There are other Troians that y^e dream't not of, the which (for sport sake) are content to doe the Profession some grace. 1606 G. W[OODCOCKE] *Hist. Iustine* xxiii. 85 He the which was Lord of infinit riches to daie, was scarce maister of any to morrow.

**** Peculiar constructions. (See also 7 d, 8 c.)

14. a. (as *pron.* or *adj.*) With pleonastic personal pronoun or equivalent in the latter part of the relative clause, referring to the antecedent, *which* thus serving merely to link the clauses together: (a) with the pers. pron. (or the antecedent noun repeated) as subj. or obj. to a verb (principal or subordinate) in the relative clause, which is usually complex; (b) with genitive of pers. pron. (or equivalent, as *thereof*), *which* together with this being equivalent to the genitive of the relative (*whose*, *of which*): cf. *THAT rel. pron.* 9.

(a) c 1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* II. 654 þis is he, which þat myn vncler swereth he mot be ded. 1449 *Paston Lett.* I. 84 Yowr wurschupfull ustate, the whyche All myghte God mayntayne hyt. 1481 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 493 Which yf it so be, we haue gret cause of displeasure. 1526 TINDALE *John* xxi. 25 There are also many other thynges which Jesus did, the which yf they shulde be written every won, I suppose [etc.]. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Engl. Poesie* III. iv. (Arb.) 159 Ye finde these words, *penetrate*, *penetrable*, *indignitie*, which I cannot see how we may spare them. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* ix. vi. §27. 175 A Schedule containing his heresies, (which what they were may be collected by that which ensueth). 1690 LOCKE *Govt.* II. v. §42 (1694) 196 Provisions .. which how much they exceed the other in value, .. he will then see. 1726 SHELVOCKE *Voy. round World* Pref. p. vii, Scandalous and unjust Aspersions .. which, how far I deserve them, I shall leave to the candid opinion of every unprejudiced Reader. 1768 STERNE *Sent. Journ.* II. *Fragment*, The history of myself, which, I could not die in peace unless I left it as a legacy to the world.

(b) c 1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* II. 318 þe kynges dere sone, .. which alwey for to do wel is his wone. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* xvii. xi. 705 Ther is in this Castel a gentylwoman whiche we and this castel is hers. c 1530 LD. BERNERS *Arth. Lyt. Bryt.* (1814) 270 To do many thynges, the whyche the hurte therof lygheteth on theyr owne neckes. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 164 Take away .. mens credits,

and estates .. which lies not afterwards in their power to make restitution thereof. 1721 BRADLEY *Philos. Acc. Wks. Nat.* go Bulbous-rooted Plants, which when the Leaves of them decay, a new framed Root .. supplies their Loss.

¶b. Hence, in vulgar use, without any antecedent, as a mere connective or introductory particle.

1723 SWIFT *Mary the Cook-Maid's Lett.* 13 Which, and I am sure I have been his servant four years since October, And he never call'd me worse than sweetheart, drunk or sober. 1862 THACKERAY *Philip* xvi, 'That noble young fellow', says my general .. Which noble his conduct I own it has been. 1870 BRET HARTE *Truthful James, Answ. to Lett.* viii, Which I have a small favor to ask you, As concerns a bull-pup, which the same, — If the duty would not overtask you, — You would please to procure for me, game. 1905 *Daily Chron.* 21 Oct. 4/7 If anything 'appens to you' — which God be between you and 'arm' — I'll look after the kids.

¶15. In sylleptic construction, e.g. as obj. of two different verbs, or of a prep. and a verb, or as obj. of one verb and subj. of another; giving the effect of ellipsis of a personal pronoun (*it*, *them*).

1687 WOOD *Life* (O.H.S.) III. 238 Dr. Dolbein .. did read much of his sermon before the king .. which the king telling him of, he never after did. a 1697 HORNECK *Gt. Law Consid.* v. (1702) 302 To see me roll Sisyphus his Stone, which when I have brought to such a pitch, rolls down again. 1741 JOHNSON'S *Debates* (1787) I. 390 A quality .. which, if we could obtain, would add nothing to our honour. 1796 ELIZA HAMILTON *Lett. Hindoo Rajah* (1811) II. 271 They still retained an authority over his mind, at which, though his pride revolted, his understanding could not conquer. 1818 H. F. CLINTON *Lit. Rem.* (1854) 24 These were works which, though I often inspected, I did not accurately study.

16. Preceded by *and*. a. in regular construction, and connecting two relative clauses, or an adjectival phrase and a relative clause, qualifying the same sb.

1579-80 NORTH *Plutarch, J. Caesar* (1595) 771 An army vnuincible, & which they could not possibly withstand. 1668 DRYDEN *Dram. Poesy* Ess. 1900 I. 78 We have many plays of ours as regular as any of theirs, and which, besides, have more variety of plot and characters. 1779 JOHNSON *L.P., Addison* (1868) 225 Two books yet celebrated .. for purity and elegance, and which, if they are now less read, are neglected only because [etc.]. 1804-6 SYD. SMITH *Mor. Philos.* (1850) 284 The habit of contradicting, into which young men .. are apt to fall; and which is a habit extremely injurious to the powers of the understanding. 1810 SOUTHEY *Ess.* (1832) I. 40 The subject .. was one of great difficulty and which required very serious consideration. 1876 RUSKIN *Fors. Clav.* lxx. VI. 315 If the dog have the good fortune to find a master, he has a possession .. better than bones; and which, indeed, he will .. leave, not his meat only, but his life for.

¶b. in erroneous or illogical use, either *and* or *which* being superfluous.

1606 G. W[OODCOCKE] *Hist. Iustine* etc. L13, Galeaze .. who had conquered a great part of Italy, and which inheritance descended to his Nephews. 1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* 288 His forefeet being like hands, are forked and twisted very strong, & with which it figheteth and taketh his prey. 1748 G. WHITE in *Jrnl. Sacred Lit.* (1863) July 209 For the proper return to virtue and Good-works is Honour, & Love; this is their Due, and which ought to be rendered to them by all people. 1796 MRS. INCHBALD *Nature & Art* xvi. (1820) 42 The dean had just published a pamphlet in his own name, and in which that of his friend the bishop was only mentioned with thanks for hints. 1848 W. TEMPLETON *Locomot. Eng.* (ed. 2) 71 A recent occurrence .. seems .. to have established the fact of steam being highly charged with electricity, and which may .. be the means of increasing our knowledge [etc.]. 1861 DASENT *Burnt Njal* I. p. lviii, Every temple must contain a ring of at least two ounces in weight, and which the priest was to bear on his arm.

'which-a-way, *pron.* U.S. colloq. and dial. [Cf. WHICH a. and *pron.* B. 12; every which way s.v. EVERY a. I f.] Which way, in what direction. Cf. THAT-A-WAY adv.

1909 *Dialect Notes* III. 381 Which-a-way, .. which way. 1938 M. K. RAWLINGS *Yearling* i. 13 Which-a-way will we begin huntin' him? 1968 O. SPANN in P. Oliver *Screening Blues* iii. 125 Well, you know I'm so mad this morning, don't know whichaway to go.

which(ch)e, var. WHITCH *Obs.*, chest.

whichever (hwɪtʃ'evə(r)), a. and *pron.* [Orig. two words, WHICH and EVER adv. 8 e.]

1. As compound relative: Any or either (of a definite set of persons or things, expressed or implied) that ...; that one (or those) who or which (with implication that it is unknown or undetermined which). †Formerly also without restriction to a definite set: = WHATEVER 2.

Often following, and in apposition with, a pair or set of alternatives connected by *or*; the construction is then app. identical with that in 2, but is really different, and distinguished by intonation.

1388 WYCLIF *Ps.* i. 3 Alle thingis which euere [first vers. what euere] he schal do schulen haue prosperite. 1418 in *Engl. Gilds* 445 þat the bretheren and susteren .. jereley chese on Alderman and Maistres, .. qwicheuer [hem] thinketh most best. c 1449 PECOKE *Repr.* I. xix. 112 He .. allowith which euer of thilk weies and meenis be take. 1754 in *Nairne Peerage Evid.* (1874) 48 Upon their attaining their respective ages of eighteen years compleat or their being lawfully married whichever of these events should first lappen. 1802 MARIA EDGEWORTH *Moral T., Forester* xi, At a walk, trot, or gallop, whichever you please. 1844 ALB. SMITH *Adv. Mr. Ledbury* xlii, They were .. permitted to go whichever way they chose. 1872 BLACK *Adv. Phaeton* x. 145 To dinner—or supper, whichever it ought to be called. 1880 HARDY *Trumpet-Major* I. ix. 178 Whichever of us she likes best, he

shall take her home. 1911 *Act 1 & 2 Geo. V* c. 46 §16 (1) Copyright shall subsist during the life of the author who first dies and for a term of fifty years after his death, or during the life of the author who dies last, whichever period is the longer. 1919 G. B. SHAW *Inca of Perusalem* in *Heartbreak House* 205 The Inca is to come and look at me, and pick out whichever of his sons he thinks will suit.

2. Introducing a qualifying dependent clause: Whether one or another (of a definite set); no matter which.

1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* II. xvii. §3 Which-ever [ed. 1714 Whichsoever] of these he takes, and how often soever he doubles .. it, he finds [etc.]. 1704 SWIFT *Batt. Bks.* Misc. (1711) 226 Both Sides hang out their Trophies too, which ever comes by the worst. 1769 JUNIUS *Lett.* xxiii. (1788) 135 Whichever way he flies, the Hue and Cry of the country pursues him. 1847 DE QUINCEY *Joan of Arc* Wks. 1890 V. 390 On whichever side of the border chance had thrown Joanna, the same love to France would have been nurtured. 1856 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* xlii. V. 29 To whichever of the two camps .. he should repair, his own jealous nature feared to awaken the jealousy of the other. 1882 BESANT *All Sorts* xxviii, In politics you are used as the counters of a game. ... You get nothing, whichever side is in.

†'which-like, a. *Obs.* rare-1. [f. WHICH + LIKE a., after *such-like*.] Of which kind.

1641 SANDERSON *Sermons* (1681) II. 4 By long accustoming themselves to which-like outward observances, they had almost lost the vigor and soul of true religion.

'which-so, *pron.* *arch.* [= WHICH and SO adv. 17 d.] †a. Whoever, whatever. b. Whichever. c 1230 *Hali Meid.* 26 Hwuch-se wule beon of þe lut of his leoueste freond. *Ibid.* 45 Beo he cangun ofer crupel, beo he hwuch-se he eauer beo. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 771 He is kniȝtes echone, Vor coust binome him, bote an vif men one, Wuche so hii were to serui him. a 1325 *MS. Rawl. B.* 520 lf. 31 Wuche so a uinden þer of gulti, a sullen punissen hoem. 1890 W. MORRIS in *Engl. Illustr. Mag.* June 695 Let the Hoary One .. carry me to life or death, which-so he will.

whichso'ever, *pron.* *arch.* [f. WHICH: see SOEVER.]

1. = WHICHEVER 1.

c 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 532 To the said Alisaundre and molde his wyf and to ther heires or ther assignes or whom-so-euer or which-so-euer and whan-so-euer he wolde yeve bequeth selle or assigne hit. 1795 WASHINGTON *Lett.* Writ. 1892 XIII. 65 To go to whichever [side] their interest, convenience, or inclination, might prompt them. a 1843 SOUTHEY *Cid* II. xiv, Saying that to whichever God should give the victory, to him also would he give up the kingdom. 1862 JOHNS *Brit. Birds* 235 Hunting .. for whichever article of their diet happens to be in season.

2. = WHICHEVER 2.

a 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* xxi. 64 Welche so euer way ye take, it shall not be without me. 1691 T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* f9, [The] Proposal of an obvious .. Remedy to the said Evil, to whichever of the supposed Causes the same should be found imputable. 1714 [see quot. 1690 s.v. WHICHEVER 2]. 1769 ROBERTSON *Chas. V* x. III. 248 Whichever of these authors an intelligent person takes for his guide .., he must discover [etc.]. 1828 SCOTT *Tales of Grandfather Ser.* I. (ed. 6) II. 274 To whichever he might attach himself, he was sure to become an object of hatred and suspicion to the other. 1853 DICKENS *Repr. Pieces, Noble Savage*, Yielding to whichever of these agreeable eccentricities, he is a savage. 1853 — *Bleak Ho.* x, With whichever of the many tongues of Rumour this frothy report originated, it .. never reached .. the ears of young Snagsby.

'whichway(s, *adv.* Chiefly U.S. = every which way s.v. EVERY a. I f. Often prec. by *all*.

1961 in WEBSTER, Leaving her towel and brush and comb lying whichway. 1968 'J. WELCOME' *Hell is where you find It* xiv, 166 He told me they [sc. drugs] took everyone all whichways. If you'd ever had a drink or two before, you want a lot more where you were on the pills kick—sometimes. 1975 'MISS READ' *Battles at Thrush Green* i. 16 What chance is there of pushin' a mower up these 'ere paths with the graves all going which-way? *Ibid.* xix. 223 He was on a bike far too big for him—sawing away he was, wobbling all whichways. 1978 *People's Friend* 13 May 191 She pictured the scene and winced at the idea of Gregory seeing her without make-up, her hair all-which-way from the steam.

†whick, v. *Obs.* rare. [Imitative.] *intr.* To squeak, as a pig.

a 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xiii. 107 The .. whicking of Pigs, gushing of Hogs.

whick(e, etc.: see QUICK, etc.; WICK a.²

whicker ('hwɪkə(r)), v. *dial.* and U.S. Also 9 wicker, whecker, whihher. [Imitative. Cf. *nicker, snicker*, and MHG. *wiheren* (G. *wiehern*).]

1. *intr.* To utter a half-suppressed laugh; to snigger, titter.

a 1656 USSHER *Ann.* VI. (1658) 284 Having never seen the like done before, he fell a whickering. c 1730 HAYNES *Dorset. Voc.* in N. & Q. 6th Ser. (1883) VIII. 45/2 To whicker, to laugh. 1808 JAMIESON, *Whihher*, ... to titter. 1891 HARDY *Tess* I, The green-spangled fairies that 'whickered' at you as you passed.

2. Of a horse: To whinny; also of a sheep or goat, to bleat, of a dog, to whine, etc.

1753 J. POULTER *Discoveries* (ed. 5) 7 The Horse, as soon as the others past began to whicker, so that we were obliged to gag him. 1808 JAMIESON, *Whihher* .. to wicker, to neigh or whinny. 1825 JENNINGS *Obs. Dial. W. Eng.*, To Whecker, .. to neigh. 1888 ELWORTHY *W. Somerset Word-bk.* s.v. *Wickery*. 1893 KIPLING *Many Inwent.* 215 The mare whickered. 1912 MASEFIELD *Widow in Bye St.* VI. xxxii, The wall-top grasses whickered in the breeze.

3. To make a sound as of something hurtling through or beating the air.

1926 *Spectator* 28 Aug. 313/2 Bid Jove send down a thunderbolt to whicker through the sky. 1965 G. MAXWELL *House of Elrig* xiii. 167 My aunt's black-and-white nun pigeons whickered past my window and drank at the bird-table.

So 'whicker *sb.*, a snigger; a whinny; also, the sound of something beating the air; hence 'whickering *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1882 *Harper's Mag.* June 53 The whicker of old Molly at the foot of the lane, and the answer of the colt in the lot. 1899 SOMERVILLE & 'ROSS' *Some Experiences Irish R.M.* xi. 277 A pale, yellow foal sprinted up beside us, with shrill whickerings of joy. 1909 'O. HENRY' *Roads of Destiny* ix. Through the intense silence, he heard the whicker of a horse. 1920 J. MASEFIELD *Right Royal* 73 Far over his head with a whicker of wings Came a wisp of five snipe from a field full of springs. 1937 E. SITWELL *I live under Black Sun* i. iii. 48 The door of her room . . . opened with a dark strawy noise like the whickering voice of a bear. 1940 H. SPRING *Fame is Spur* i. 11 And so great was the silence that the whickering of banners could be heard. 1965 G. MAXWELL *House of Elrig* ii. 27 Black rock cliffs with deep mysterious caves full of the whicker of rock-pigeons' wings.

whid (hwid), *sb.*¹ Forms: 6 whydd, 7- whid, 9 *Sc. whud*. [Origin uncertain. That it is a dial. variant of OE. *cwide* speech (otherwise not represented in the language) is possible, but the absence of parallels is a serious objection. The sense-development is remarkably similar to that of YED.]

1. A word. (Usually in *pl.*). *Thieves' cant*. 1567 HARMAN *Caveat* (1869) 84 To cutte bene whydds, to speake or geue good wordes, to cutte guyre whyddes, to geue euell wordes or euell language. *Ibid.* 86 Stowe your bene, cufe, and cut benat whydds. 1673 R. HEAD *Canting Acad.* 49 Be wary. Stow your whids. 1728 [DE FOE] *Street Robberies Consider'd* 34 Plant the Whids, take Care what you say. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* x. The swaggering vein will not pass here, you must cut boon whids. 1861 READE *Cloister & H.* iv. I pray Heaven thou mayest prove to paint better than thou cuttest whids.

2. A lie, fib, falsehood; an exaggerated story. *Sc.*

1791 BURNS *Death & Dr. Hornbook* i. Ev'n Ministers, they hae been kenn'd, . . . A rousing whid, at times, to vend, And nail't wi' Scripture. 1863 M. DODS *Early Lett.* (1910) 330 Your πρώτον ψεύδος, i.e. Your fundamental whid. 1894 CROCKETT *Raiders* xlvii. Kennedy thinks no more o' tellin' a whud (lie) than o' slappin' a cleg that nips him on the hench bane.

3. A dispute, quarrel. *dial.*

1847 HALLIWELL, *Whid*, a dispute; a quarrel. *East.*

whid (hwid), *sb.*² *Sc.* Forms: 6 quhyd, 8-9 whid, whud. [? a. ON. *hviða* squall = OE. *hwipa*.]

† 1. A squall, blast of wind. *Obs.*

1590 BUREL in Watson *Coll. Sc. Poems* II. (1709) 24 The wind, with mony quhyd, Maist bitterly thair blew.

2. A quick noiseless movement, esp. of a hare. *in* or *wi' a whid*, in a trice.

1719 RAMSAY *2nd Answ. to Hamilton* i. Wi' a Whid, . . . She'll rin red-wood. 1785 BURNS *To W. S****** n xii. Jinkin hares, in amorous whids. 1788 R. GALLOWAY *Glasgow Fair* II. vi. He lent a blow at Jonny's eye, That rais'd it, in a whid.

whid (hwid), *v.*¹ *Sc.* Also whud. [f. WHID *sb.*¹] *intr.* To talk cant; to lie, fib. Chiefly in *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1823 EGAN *Grose's Dict. Vulgar T., Whidding*, talking cant. *Scotch cant.* 1881 WALFORD *Dick Netherby* v. A fair-farrend, whuddin' youngster. 1891 'H. HALIBURTON' *Ochil Idylls* 90 Whiddin' an airt.

whid (hwid), *v.*² *Sc.* Also 9 whud. [f. WHID *sb.*²] *intr.* To move nimbly without noise.

c 1730 RAMSAY *1st Answ. to Somerville* 94 You range after the fox or whidding hare. 1790 BURNS *Elegy on Capt. M——* H—— vi. Ie maukins whiddin thro' the glade. 1816 SCOTT *Bl. Dwarf* iii. Ye see yon other light that's gaun whiddin' back and forrit.

whidah, whydah ('hwida). [Name of a town in Dahomey, West Africa. *Whidah bird* is an alteration of WIDOW-BIRD, q.v., due to association with this as one of the habitats of these birds.]

1. In full *whidah-bird*, etc.: = WIDOW-BIRD.

1783 LATHAM *Gen. Synopsis Birds* II. i. 178 Whidah B[unting]. . . Rather less than a Hedge Sparrow. *Ibid.*, note, Whidah Bird. 1872 LIVINGSTONE *Last Jnl.* 19 June (1874) II. vii. 199 The young whydah birds crouch closely together at night for heat. *Ibid.*, Whydahs, though full fledged, still gladly take a feed from their dam. 1896 G. E. SHELLEY *For. Finches* 273 The Whydahs . . . form a natural group of Finches, nearly allied to the Weavers.

2. *whidaw goat*, a West-African species of goat, *Capra reversa*. w. thrush, *Pholidauges leucogaster*.

1781 PENNANT *Hist. Quadrup.* I. 57 Goat. . . Whidaw. *Capra reversa*. . . From Juda or Whidaw, in Africa. A small kind: the horns short, smooth, and turn a little forwards. 1783 LATHAM *Gen. Synopsis Birds* II. i. 58 Whidah Thr[ush]. Size of a Lark, or rather less: . . . the plumage in general is violet, excepting the belly, which is white. . . Inhabits the kingdom of Whidah, in Africa.

whiddelynge, obs. f. WHITLING.

whidder: see WHETHER, WHITHER *sb.* and *v.*

whiddle ('hwid(ə)l), *v. slang*. Also 8 whidle, whidel, widdle. [? f. WHID *sb.*¹] *intr.* a. To divulge a secret, turn informer, 'peach'. b. See quot. 1725. Hence 'whidder.

c 1661 *Marq. Argyle's Last Will in Harl. Misc.* (1746) VIII. 28/1, I understand . . . he hath made so large a Progress in Discovering, that he can pay it now to himself—The Devil was in me to suffer such a pitiful Fellow to whiddle before me. a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Whiddler*, a Peach (or rather Impeacher) of his Gang. 1725 *New Cant. Dict.*, To Whiddle, to enter into a Parley, to compound with, or take off by a Bribe. 1756 J. COX *Narr. Thief-takers* 66 The Prisoner. . . then swore he wished he had cut off his Head, for then he would not have whiddled again. 1781 G. PARKER *View Soc.* II. 133 About Darkey [i.e. twilight], or when Oliver don't widdle [footn. The Moon not up]. 1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict.* s.v., Don't you whiddle about so and so, that is, don't mention it.

whider, whie, whieale, whiel, whiet, whieu, whiew, whife: see WHITHER, QUEY, WHY, WHEEL, QUIET, WHITE, WHEW, WIFE.

Whieldon ('hwi:ldən). The name of Thomas Whieldon (1719-95), Staffordshire potter, used *attrib.* to designate the kind of coloured earthenware made in his factory (founded 1740). Also *Comb.*, as *Whieldon-type* adj., resembling this ware.

1869 C. SCHREIBER *Jrnl.* 1 Oct. (1911) I. 42 One Wheildon [sic] Ware plate. 1900 F. LITCHFIELD *Pott. & Porc.* vii. 317 Whieldon ware is peculiarly light and the articles well potted. 1929 H. READ *Staffordshire Pottery Figures* Pl. 14 (caption) The term 'Whieldon type' [is used] when the figure depends entirely for its decoration on coloured glazes. 1942 *Burlington Mag.* Oct. 260/1 Most dangerous are the increasingly skilful fakes of Astbury and Whieldon figures. 1968 *Canad. Antiques Collector* July 13/1 What is Whieldon Ware? This is a term referring to all types of ware of a mottled, cloudy or splashed character. 1978 *Times* 28 Jan. 12/6 (caption) A Whieldon-type teapot and cover, c. 1765. 1983 *Country Life* 2 Dec. (Suppl.) 72/2 A Whieldon pottery horse, decorated in underglaze colours of green, yellow and brown.

whiff (hwif), *sb.*¹ Also 6-7 whiffe, 8-9 whif. [? Partly an alteration of ME. WEFPE (= offensive odour or taste, vapour, hoisted signal), partly a new onomatopœic formation. The senses are in part identical with those of WAFF *sb.* and WAFT *sb.*¹]

I. 1. a. A slight puff or gust of wind, a breath. 1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* i. iv. 334 The Winde . . . Whirls with a whiff the sails of swelling clout. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* II. ii. 495 With the whiffe and winde of his fell Sword, Th' vnnerued Father fals. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* i. 195 Their ensignes . . . Waue to and fro with whiffes of wind. 1786 in *Mme. D'Arblay's Diary* 6 Oct., A whiff [of wind] from the King's stairs, enough to blow you half a mile off! 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* xxxix. Give her a whiff of fresh air with the bellows, Charley.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* A 'breath', 'blast', 'burst'. 1644 MILTON *Areop.* 24 That the whiffe of every new pamphlet should stagger them out of their catechism. 1649 — *Eikon.* xxvii. 222 Deny'd and repuls'd by the single whiffe of a negative. 1766 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* IX. ii. A whiff of military pride had puffed out his shirt at the wrist. 1817 BYRON *Beppo* liii. They had their little differences, too; Those jealous whiffs, which never any change meant. 1851 BRIMLEY *Ess., Wordsw.* (1858) 174 The Quarterly Review . . . issued a mild whiff of qualified approval. 1878 HARDY *Ret. Native* v. ix. There seemed to be not a whiff of life left in either of the bodies. 1883 STEVENSON *Treas. Isl.* xx. This little whiff of temper seemed to cool Silver down. 1912 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 13 June 241/1 Factories . . . brought with them the first whiff of cotton-spinning democracy.

c. A slight attack, 'touch'; = WAFF *sb.* 3 b. 1837 CARLYLE *New Lett.* (1904) I. 58, I have twice had flying whiffs of cold.

d. *U.S. slang.* A miss, a failure to hit (a ball). 1952 *N. Y. Herald Tribune* 15 May 21/6 On the first tee he took a careful stance and then fanned the air four times. After the fourth whiff he growled, 'This is the hardest course I ever played.'

2. a. An inhalation of tobacco-smoke; smoke so inhaled; in early use also, †the 'taking' of tobacco, smoking (*to take the whiff*, to smoke).

1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* Dram. pers., His chiefe exercises are taking the Whiffe, squiring a Cocatrice, and making priuy searches for Imparters. *Ibid.* III. i. *Sog.* . . . Doe you professe these sleights in Tabacco? . . . *Punt.* But you cannot bring him to the Whiffe so soon? 1600 MARSTON, etc. *Jack Drums Entert.* i. (1601) B3, Iust like a whiffe of Tabacco, no sooner in at the mouth, but out at the nose. 1603-37 BRETON *Poste with Packet Lett.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 35/2 Tobacco is like to grow a great commoditie, for there is not an Ostler nor a Tapster, but will be at his whiffe or two. 1607 WALKINGTON *Optic Glass* ix. 54 Tobacco . . . must needs be very pernicious in regard of the immoderate & too ordinary whiffe. 1690 J. STEVENS *Jrnl.* (1912) 139 Seven or eight will gather to the smoking of a pipe and each taking two or three whiffs gives it to his neighbour. a 1718 PRIOR *Epigr., Frank carves very ill*, Four Pipes after Dinner he constantly smokes; And seasons his Whiffs with impertinent Jokes. 1742 FIELDING *J. Andrews* iv. xvi. Gaffer Andrews . . . complained bitterly that he wanted his pipe, not having had a whiff that morning. 1812 HEYNE *Tracts on India* (1814) 392 The Malays . . . roll a little tobacco in a small piece of plantain leaf, . . . and after it is lighted, take only a few whiffs, and throw the rest away. 1841 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* i. He had taken his pipe from his lips, after a very long whiff to keep it alight. 1886 G. R. SIMS *Ring o' Bells* ProI. 1 He took a couple of whiffs at his long churchwarden.

† b. A sip or draught of liquor. *Obs.*

1605 *Tryall Chev.* III. i. Ejb, I had but a whiffe or two; for I was passing dry. 1624 BP. HALL *True Peacemaker* Wks. (1625) 539 In beds of lust, chests of Mammon, whiffes and draughts of intoxication. 1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* i. vi. 31, I will yet go drink one whiffe more [orig. *encores quelque venguade*].

3. a. A wave or waft of (usually unsavoury) odour.

1668 R. L'ESTRANGE *Vis. Quev.* (1708) 137 The Poysonous Whiffs she sends from her Toes and Arm-Pits. 1731 SWIFT *Strephon & Chloe* 12 No noisom Whiffs or sweaty Streams . . . Could from her taintless body flow. 1774 BURKE *Sp. Amer. Tax.* Wks. 1842 I. 172 To whom a single whiff of incense withheld gave much greater pain, than he received delight in the clouds of it. 1784 COWPER *Task* IV. 469 A whiff Of stale debauch. 1844 DICKENS *Mart. Chuz.* v. That whiff of russia leather, too, and all those rows on rows of volumes, neatly ranged within. 1872 BLACK *Adv. Phaeton* xiii. 182 A whiff of honeysuckle was borne to us as we passed. 1884 MRS. C. PRAED *Zero* i, Is not the very name Monte Carlo like a whiff of some intoxicating draught?

b. *fig.* Flavour, savour.

1872 MORLEY *Voltaire* vii. 321 Apologising for some whiffs of orthodoxy which Voltaire scented. 1895 RASHDALL *Univ. Eur.* II. 514 note, There is a whiff of the Renaissance about the very words of the Statute.

4. a. A puff of smoke or vapour, esp. of tobacco-smoke.

1714 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 568 ¶ 1, I lighted it at a little wax candle . . . and, after having thrown in two or three whiffs among them, sat down. 1752 *Lady's Curiosity* 10 He . . . knocks you down with a whiff, or a f—, if you ask for an argument. 1839 LONGF. *Wreck of Hesperus* 19 The skipper he blew a whiff from his pipe. 1875 HOWELLS *Foregone Conclus.* vii. The . . . heaven, in whose vast blue depths hung light whiffs of pinkish cloud.

b. *transf.* A cigarette or small cigar.

1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 60 Cheroot Maker. . . Whiff Maker. 1896 *Daily News* 9 Mar. 5/4 The popular form of these daintily-got-up cigarettes is a 'whiff' of about two inches in length.

5. a. A puffing or whistling sound, as of a puff or gust of wind through a small opening; a short or gentle whistle; hence freq. = WHEW (also as *int.*).

1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* IV. i. Nic. . . pull'd out a Boat-swain's Whistle; upon the first Whiff, the Tradesmen came jumping into the Room. 1828 LYTTON *Pelham* xxxii[i], Sir Willoughby . . . made . . . no other reply than a long whiff, and a 'Well, Russelton, dash my wig . . . but you're a queer fellow.' 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* Concl. 58 But yonder, whiff! there comes a sudden heat. 1854 R. S. SURTEES *Handley Cr.* ix. Now we read the 'Hercules' on the engine, and anon it pulls up with a whiff, a puff, and a whistle. 1869 LOWELL *Cathedral* 74 Sunshine, whose quick charm . . . wiled the bluebird to his whiff of song. 1876 BRISTOWE *Theory & Pract. Med.* (1878) 387 A like whiff or blowing sound follows each sonorous expiratory shock of cough.

b. A discharge of shot or explosive.

1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. vii. vii. Six years ago, this Whiff of Grapeshot was promised. 1870 ROUTLEDGE'S *Ev. Boy's Ann.* Feb. 90 He might clear the gangway for the boarders with a 'whiff' of this terrible projectile [i.e. grape-shot]. 1915 'IAN HAY' *First Hundred Thou.* II. xviii. 251 A whiff o' shrapnel.

6. *in a whiff*: in a short time, in a jiffy. *dial.*

1800 M. EDGEWORTH *Parent's Assistant* (ed. 3) VI. 158 Lean on my arm, madam, and we'll have you in and at home in a whiff. 1825 BROCKETT *N.C. Gloss.* s.v., In a whiff, in a short time. 1888 LIPPINCOTT'S *Mag.* Apr. 454 All this passed through his mind in a whiff.

II. 7. A flag hoisted as a signal.

Cf. WAFF *sb.* 1 b, WAFT *sb.*¹ 6, WAIF *sb.*² 2, WEFPE, WHIFFLER² 3, WHIFT *sb.* 2.

1693 LYDE *Retaking Ship* 20, I took a Sash from one of them, . . . and put it out for a Whiff. 1832 MARRYAT *N. Forster* xlviii, The stranger . . . hoisted a whiff, half-mast down.

III. 8. A light kind of outrigger boat for one sculler, used on the Thames.

1859 *Guardian* 13 Apr. 331/1 The accidental upsetting of a pleasure-boat, called a 'whiff', on the river Cherwell. 1875 H. R. ROBERTSON *Life Upper Thames* 209 A funny is an open, out-rigger sculling-boat, having stem and stern alike, the keel falling away in a sloping curve from either end. A whiff resembles a funny in every point, except that the stern is upright, and not sloped away as the bows are. 1880 *Daily News* 2 Mar. 5/1 Every Etonian who has passed an examination in swimming may boat . . . in skiffs or whiffs, gigs and outriggers. 1910 *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 100/1 Whiff. Length. 20' to 23'. Beam. 1' 4" to 1' 6" . . . Whiff Gigs. 19' to 20'. 2' 8" to 2' 10".

whiff, sb.² [? Same word as prec.] A name for various flat-fishes or flounders, as the sail-fluke or mary-sole, *Rhombus megastoma*, the smear-dab, *Pleuronectes microcephalus*.

1713 JAGO in *Ray's Synopsis Piscium* 163 Passer Cornubiensis asper, magno oris hiatu. A Whiff. 1836 YARRELL *Brit. Fishes* II. 251 The Whiff. The Carter, *Cornwall.* 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, Whiff, the *Rhombus cardina*, a passable fish of the pleuronect genus. 1873 T. GILL *Catal. Fishes E. Coast N. Amer.* 17 *Citharichthys microstomus*. . . Whiff.

whiff, v.¹ [f. WHIFF *sb.*¹]

1. a. *intr.* To blow with a whiff or slight blast; to move with or make the sound of this. Chiefly in *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* i. ii. 545 When through their green boughs whiffing winds do whirl With wanton puffs their waving locks to curl. 1608 *Ibid.* II. iv. *Schism* 620 A sudden whirl-winde, with a whiffing Fire. *Ibid.*, *Decay* 652 The whiffing flashes of this Sword so quick. 1645 Z. BOYD *Holy Songs in Zion's Flowers* (1855) App. 12/2 Their head on neck could not abide, off chop't with whiffing steele. 1851 WALSHE *Dis. Lungs* 93 The character of the murmurs is

hollow, whiffing, and moderately metallic. **1866** J. MACGREGOR *Rob Roy on Baltic* x, The whiffing of the strong wings of the wild goose. **1890** *Daily News* 12 Dec. 3/1 A raw and biting breeze whiffing about his grey hairs.

b. trans. To utter with a whiff or puff of air. **1765** STERNE *Tr. Shandy* VIII. xxvi, Then whiffing out a sentimental heigh ho! **1889** 'MARK TWAIN' *Yankee Crt. K. Arth.* xxvi, They crossed themselves, and whiffed out a protective prayer or two.

2. a. trans. To drive or carry by or as by a whiff; to puff or blow away, etc.

1601 W. PERCY *Cuckqueanes & Cuck. Err.* i. ii. (Roxb.) 111, I take him by the sleuee, . . . bid him looke to himself, Then round as a Jugler's boxe, whiffe his vpper vestment, and away. *Ibid.* i. iii. 16 Neither keene knife, nor yet Thumbe, May whiff him by slit or by numbe. **1615** SYLVESTER *Job Triumph.* ii. 395 How oft, as Straw before the winde, are They, And as the Chaff with Tempest whift away? **1620** B. JONSON *News from New World* Wks. (1641) 42 The smoake took him and whift him up into the Moone. **1657** FARINDON *Serm.* v. 108 That joy which is . . . raised as a Meteor out of dung and is whiffed up and down by every wind and breath. **1812** W. TENNANT *Anster F.* ii. xii, John Frost. . . Whiff'd off the clouds that the pure blue conceal'd. **1837** CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* i. v. ii, And then his 'sincere attachment', how was it scornfully whiffed aside! *Ibid.* vi, A rabble to be whiffed with grapeshot. **1916** *Blackw. Mag.* Jan. 59/1 Troops would not always remain in the open to be whiffed out of existence by shrapnel.

b. intr. To move with or as with a puff of air. **1686** GOAD *Celest. Bodies* i. xvi. 105 The Index hath whiffed round all the points of the Compass. **1889** STEVENSON *Master of Ballantrae* ii, I have sought to stay myself. . . against what looked to be a solid trunk, and the whole thing has whiffed away at my touch like a sheet of paper.

3. a. trans. To puff out tobacco-smoke from a pipe, etc.; hence, to smoke. (With the smoke or the pipe, etc. as object.) Also *fig.*

1616 R. C. TIMES' *Whistle* v. 2218 Every . . . skip-iacke now will have his pipe of smoke, And whiff it bravely till hee's like to choke. **1617** BRATHWAIT *Sol. Jov. Disput.* etc. 171 These smokers of our Age; they whiffe me [Time] out in fume. **1628** *Mad Pranks Robin Goodf.* (Percy Soc.) 34 She whift her pipe, she drunke her can. **1646** QUARLES *Judgem. & Mercy* Medit. 16 What pleasure tak'st thou in that breath, which draws and whiffs perpetuall fears? **1756** MRS. CALDERWOOD in *Coltness Collect.* (Maitland Cl.) 166 He put his pipe in the cheek next him, and whifed it in his face. **1859** MEREDITH *R. Feverel* xxii, Richard . . . found him furtively whiffing tobacco. **1867** *Good Cheer* 7 These formal toasts . . . having been all drunk, the men whiffed their pipes.

b. absol. or intr. **1602** DEKKER *Satirom.* C4b, Morrow, Captaine Tucca, will you whiffe this morning? **1639** JUNIUS *Sin Stigmatized* 269 They are bound . . . to be powring in at their mouths, or whiffing out at their noses. **1713** TYLDESLEY *Diary* (1873) 88, I found honest Tho. Barton very harty and free, but the 2 Wadsworths only whiffed. **1714** tr. *Joutel's Jrnal. Voy. Mexico* (1719) 148 Then they made us all smoke round, and every one of them whiff'd in his Turn. **1862** H. A. KENNEDY *Waifs & Strays* 205 Luxuriously whiffing away at my after-breakfast cheroot.

† **4. trans.** To imbibe, drink (liquor). Also *fig.* **1609** DEKKER *Gull's Horn-bk.* iv. 18 Hee . . . that would strue to fashion his legges to his silke stockings, and his proud gate to his broad garters, let him whiffe downe these observations. **1650** TRAPP *Comm. Num.* vi. 20 The most generous wine in Lovain and Paris, is known by the name of *vinum theologicum*: the divines (those Sorbonists) do so whiffe it off. **a1693** *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xvii. 141 She whiffed off a . . . good Draught.

5. a. To inhale, sniff; also intr. to smell, sniff. **1635** QUARLES *Embl.* iv. vii. (1718) 213 Let us both retire, And whiff the dainties of the fragrant field. **1646** — *Sheph. Oracles* x. Wks. (Grosart) III. 231/1 Which like a Sun in this our Orbe, Whiffes up the Belgick fumes. **1854** R. S. SURTES *Handley Cr.* lviii, The pack . . . now whiffing with curious nose round the hollies, and now trying up the rides. *Mod. (slang)*, What a horrid smell! Can't you whiff it?

b. intr. To emit an unpleasant odour. *slang.* **1899** KIPLING *Stalky* iii. 79 Then she'll whiff. Golly, how she'll whiff!

6. U.S. slang. a. intr. Of a batter in Baseball or a golfer: to miss the ball. Cf. *FAN* v. 8b.

1913 *Wells Fargo Messenger* I. 93/2 When he has to line 'er out he does, but he doesn't whiff at random. **1926** *Amer. Speech* I. 369/2 He [sc. a baseball player] 'whiffs' when he fails to hit. **1942** BERRY & VAN DEN BARK *Amer. Thes. Slang* §677/34 *Miss the ball*, . . . whiff.

b. trans. = *FAN* v. 8a.

1914 R. LARDNER in *Sat. Even. Post* 7 Mar. 7/2, I whiffed eight men in five innings in Frisco yesterday. **1941** *Nebraska State Jrnal.* 20 June (heading), Hurler whiffs 20. **1951** in Wentworth & Flexner *Dict. Amer. Slang* (1960) 575/1 Vic Raschi whiffed twelve batters in gaining his 15th win of the year.

Hence 'whiffing *vbl.* sb.¹ (also *attrib.*) and *ppl.* a.; also 'whiffer, one who whiffs.

1591—**1866** [see sense 1]. **c1614** Tobacco-whiffer [see TOBACCO 3]. **1632** LITHGOW *Trav.* x. 435 The Alehouse is their Church. . . , their singing of Psalmes the whiffing of Tobacco. **1811** *Sporting Mag.* XXXVIII. 191 Opening his tobacco-box, soon commenced his whiffing operation.

whiff, *v.*² *Angling*. [Perhaps same as prec.] *intr.* To angle for mackerel, etc. from a swiftly moving boat with a hand-line towing the bait near the surface. Hence 'whiffing *vbl.* sb.² (also *attrib.*).

1836 YARRELL *Brit. Fishes* II. 172 Hand-line fishing for Pollacks is called whiffing. **1863** JOHNS *Home Walks* 164 We generally threw out our whiffing lines as we cruised about. **1886** *Globe* 22 July 3/1 When you 'whiff' at Scilly, you whiff for pollack.

whiffet ('hwifit). *U.S.* Also whiffit, wiffet. [? *f.* WHIFF *sb.*¹ + -ET¹.]

1. (Also whiffet dog.) A small dog.

1801 *Olio* (Philad.) 41 (Thornton) Who heeds the Whiffit's bark, when tempests howl? **1848** *Ladies' Repository* VIII. 315 The best protection to a house, with a family in it that can be named—that is, a little, barking, noisy, cowardly, whiffet dog. **1879** J. BURROUGHS *Locusts & Wild Honey* 30 The king-bird will worry the hawk as a whiffet dog will worry a bear.

2. transf. An insignificant person; a whipper-snapper. *colloq.* (Cf. WHIFLING.)

1839 *Congress. Globe* Jan., App. 105/3 There was not a Whig whiffet in the country but could ask [etc.]. **1876** WHITMAN *Specimen Days* 1 Sept., Writ. 1902 IV. 157 This gusty-temper'd little whiffet, man. **1883** L. A. LAMBERT *Notes on Ingersoll* xxii. 200 We hold ourselves responsible to him, and to all the glib little whiffets of his shallow school.

† The sense 'a little whiff or puff' given in Webster 1864 is not authenticated.

whiffle ('hwif(ə)l), *sb.* [*f.* WHIFF *sb.*¹ + -LE.]

† **1. Something light or insignificant; a trifle.** **1680** H. MORE *Apocal. Apoc.* 253 Such a childish trifle or sleight whiffle.

2. An act of whiffing; a slight blast of air; a veering round.

1842 in Gosse *Birds Jamaica* (1847) 366 At first two or three whiffles make darkened tracks on the glassy waters. **1870** MISS ALCOTT *Good Wives* xxi, Amy keeps me pointing due west most of the time, with only an occasional whiffle round to the south. **1909** BEGBIE *Cage* x, The whiffle in the air grew more distinct.

3. A soft sound as of gently moving air or water.

1972 F. FORD *Atush Inlet* i. 9 Their subdued cries could be heard faintly against the gentle whiffle of falling water. **1976** J. CROSBY *Snahe* (1977) xxx. 179 She listened to . . . the soft whiffle of her breathing.

4. Comb., as whiffle-ball *U.S.*, a light hollow ball used for playing a variety of baseball; also, a game played with such a ball; cf. WIFFLE; **whiffle-minded** *a.* (*U.K.* and *U.S. dial.*), changeable, fickle.

[**1931** *Official Gaz.* (U.S. Patent Office) 17 Nov. 573/2 *Whiffle*. For game apparatus of the type having ball receiving and discharging mechanism.] **1965** F. KNEBEL *Night of Camp David* xvii. 273 The boys of Saybrook were playing whiffle ball. **1970** *New Yorker* 11 July 20 Kids playing with whiffleballs and baseballs. **1976** WOODWARD & BERNSTEIN *Final Days* 242 He would get a whiffleball game going on the White House tennis court. **1980** *N. Y. Sunday News Mag.* 2 Mar. 12/2, I would chase the whiffleball across the street. **1985** T. BOYLE *Only Dead know Brooklyn* xvii. 133 Clusters of Puerto Ricans . . . swung plastic bats at whiffle balls. **1902** H. F. DAY *Pine Tree Ballads* 47 Hate to act so whiffle-minded, but my father used to say, 'Men would sometimes change opinions; mules would stick the same old way'. **1905** in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* VI. 456/1 'e's so 'whiffle-minded—'e dunna know 'is own mind two minutes together.

whiffle ('hwif(ə)l), *v.*¹ Also 6 wyffle, 7 whifle. [*f.* WHIFF *v.*¹ + -LE. Cf. *Flem. weyfelēn* 'vacillare' (Kilian).]

1. intr. To blow in puffs or slight gusts; hence, to veer or shift *about* (of the wind; hence, of a ship). Often *fig.* or in *fig.* context: To vacillate, to be variable or evasive. Now chiefly *dial.*

1568 [see WHIFFLING *ppl.* a.¹ 1]. **1671** R. BOHUN *Wind* 56 Near mountainous Islands, or shoares, they [sc. winds] whiffle up and down, and shift from one point of the Compass to another. **1697** DAMPIER *Voy.* I. 413 The Wind had been whiffing about from one part of the Compass to another. **1699** *Ibid.* II. III. 61 If the Winds also whiffle about to the South. **1737** OZELL *Rabelais* III. xxxv. 236 *note*, A Man who is continually turning and whiffing about to all the Points of the Compass. **1768** TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 155 Were we to give a full latitude to sympathy, we should whiffle about with every wind. **1801** *Spirit Publ. Jnals.* IX. 370 She yaws and whiffles about like a weathercock. **1812** TENNANT *Anster F.* iv. liv, The whizzing wind . . . whiffing through the wooden tubes so small. **1840** [LADY BURY] *Hist. Flirt* xii, They whiffle about like a weathercock. **1854** MISS BAKER *Northampton. Gloss.* s.v., The wind whiffles about so. **1881** *Nation* (N.Y.) XXXII. 400 Who like a manly man, will not whiffle, or quibble, or evade. **1903** F. HARRISON in *Westm. Gaz.* 24 Nov. 1/3 If he finally whiffle round to tax foreign food.

2. trans. To blow or drive with or as with a puff of air. Often *fig.*

1641 TRAPP *Theol. Theol.* viii. 335 Whiffled and tossed too and fro with every wind of doctrine. **1655** tr. *Sorel's Com. Hist. Francion* iv. 3, I so whiffled him on the face with my Torch [orig. *je lui passe le flambeau par devant le nez*] that I burned off almost all his beard. **1660** S. FISHER *Rusticus ad Acad.* Wks. (1679) 152 Like men in a Ship that are whiffled up and down in a troubled Sea. **1664** H. MORE *Expos. 7 Epist.* ix. 163 Such as would whiffle away all these Truths by resolving them into a mere moral Allegorie. **1684** HOWE *Redeemer's Tears* Pref., Swollen with the conceit, that they have whiffled Christianity away, quite off the stage, with their profane breath. **1817** MARIA EDGEWORTH *Ormond* xxvi, No easy dupe, to be whiffed off and on, the sport of a coquette. **1843** MIALl in *Nonconf.* III. 225 The world is not destined to be whiffled out of its own independent reason by a handful of priests and statesmen.

b. fig. To dismiss by evasion; to say or state evasively.

1654 VILVAIN *Theorem. Theol.* Suppl. 227 This he whiffles off slightly, that 'tis a Parabol. **1676** MARVELL *Mr. Smirke* 43 He whiffles, those were the Jewish Ceremonies.

3. intr. To move lightly as if blown by a puff of air; to flicker or flutter as if stirred by the wind. Often *fig.*

1662 HIBBERT *Body Div.* II. 26 Any anabaptistical humorist, who hath a company of phanatique toys whiffing about his understanding. **a1680** GLANVILL *Sadducismus* II. (1726) 452 A mind that useth to whiffle up and down in the levities of fancy. **a1774** HARTE *Poems, Eulogius* 546 Just as int'rest whiffled on his mind, He Anatolians left, or Thracians join'd. **1817** J. GILCHRIST *Intell. Patrim.* 148 Better chirp with the cricket, or chatter with the sparrow, than whiffle round this eternal monotony of futility. **1818** HAZLITT *Engl. Comic Writers* viii. (1907) 216 He whiffles about the stage with considerable volubility. **1866** MRS. H. WOOD *St. Martin's Eve* xvi, Suddenly the flame inside began to whiffle. **1870** JULIE P. SMITH *Widow Goldsmith's Dau.* xxxvii, She would whiffle and whirl up and down like a withered leaf.

4. intr. To talk idly; to trifle. *dial.* (See also WHIFFLING *ppl.* a.¹ 3.)

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *To Whiffle*, to trick one out of a thing, to stand trifling. **1847** HALLIWELL, *Whiffle*, to talk idly. *North.*

5. intr. To make a light whistling sound; *trans.* to utter with such a sound.

1832 *Fraser's Mag.* VI. 262 The two strangers whiffled and hissed together, in an unknown very rapid tongue. **1863** COWDEN CLARKE *Shaks. Char.* xvii. 448 Master Silence whiffing his scraps of ballads. **1893** *Daily News* 13 Feb. 6/1 Where a keen cold blast whiffles and blusters about the black and sullen monsters. **1909** *Ibid.* 14 Sept. 3 When a bear comes 'whiffing' about your snow hut. **1915** *Glasgow Herald* 9 Aug. 8 Shells flew 'whiffing' over our heads.

† **6. a. trans.** To smoke (tobacco). **b. absol.** To drink. *Obs.* (Cf. WHIFF *v.*¹ 3, 4.)

1683 TRYON *Way to Health* 165 The constant and common whiffing it [sc. tobacco]. **a1693** *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. Prol. 15 'Those . . . importunate sots who . . . constrain an easy, good-natured fellow to whiffle, quaff, carouse [orig. *tringuer, voire caros et alluz*].

Hence 'whiffing *vbl.* sb.¹

a1677 BARROW *Serm.* v. Wks. 1687 I. 65 Such as are . . . versatile whiffings and dodgings. **1681** J. SCOTT *Chr. Life* iv. 367 Too much whiffing up and down in the little levities of Fancy. **1692** L'ESTRANGE *Josephus, Antiq.* vii. ix. Wks. (1702) 203 In her Course, upon the whiffing of the Air, a snagged Bough of a Tree took hold of his Hair. **1841** J. F. COOPER *Deerslayer* I. i. 23, I would carry the gal off to the Mohawk by force, make her marry me in spite of her whiffing. **1866** MRS. H. WOOD *St. Martin's Eve* xvi, The whiffing of the flame was remedied now. **1882** 'F. ANSTEY' *Vice Versa* iv, This infernal whiffing and sniffing, sir, I will not put up with. **1906** *Springfield* (Mass.) *Weekly Republ.* 18 Oct. 3 This outcome of a week of doubt and whiffing will be viewed with mixed emotions. **1984** *Daily Tel.* 13 Feb. 12/5 When first I heard these whiffings, a couple of years ago, I thought they must be satiric.

'**whiffle**, *v.*² *nonce-wd.* [Back-formation *f.* WHIFFLER¹.] *intr.* To act as a whiffler.

1857 BORROW *Romany Rye* App. viii, Nobody can use his fists without being taught the use of them. . . no more than any one can 'whiffle' without being taught by a master of the art. . . The last of the whiffers hanged himself about a fortnight ago. . . there being no demand for whiffing since the discontinuation of Guildhall banquets. . . let any one take up the old chap's sword and try to whiffle.

whiffled ('hwif(ə)ld), *a. slang.* [Origin obscure: cf. SQUIFFY *a.*] Intoxicated, drunk.

1927 WODEHOUSE *Meet Mr. Mulliner* vi. 191 Intoxicated? The word did not express it by a mile. He was oiled, boiled, fried. . . whiffled, sozzled, and blotto. **1930** — *Very Good, Jeeves!* ii. 46 'Have you forgotten that I did thirty days . . . for punching a policeman . . . on Boat-Race night?' 'But you were whiffled at the time.' **1956** J. D. CARR *Patrick Butler for Defence* xiv. 157 Helen . . . was much too clear-headed . . . ever to let herself get whiffled.

'**whifflegig**, *a. colloq.* Trifling, 'whiffing'. Also 'whiffmagig' = WHIFFLER² 2.

1830 H. LEE *Mem. Manager* I. i. 10 Not one of your puny punsters, or . . . whiffle-gig word-snappers. **1871** MEREDITH *H. Richmond* liv, Plenty of foreign whiffmagigs are to be found, but you won't come upon a fellow like that.

whiffler¹ ('hwiflə(r)). *Obs. exc. Hist.* Forms: 6 viffleur, wyffler, wyff-, wiffeler, wyfler, weffler, 6-7 wiffier, whiffeler, 6-8 wifler, 7 whyfler, 7-8 whifler, 6- whiffier. [*f.* WIFLE javelin, axe + -ER¹; the spelling with *wh* is prob. due to association with WHIFF and WHIFFLE *v.*¹] One of a body of attendants armed with a javelin, battle-axe, sword, or staff, and wearing a chain, employed to keep the way clear for a procession or at some public spectacle.

Whiffiers formed a regular part of the Corporation procession at Norwich till 1835; they were employed also on 11 Sept. 1848, when the then Duke of Cambridge attended the triennial musical festival.

1539 in *Archaeologia* XXXII. 33 The chamberlayn & counsellors of the cytye, & the aldermens deputies whiche were assigned to be wyfflers on horsebacke, were all yn cotes of whyte damaske . . . w^t greate chaynes abowte theyre necks, & propre javylins or battle axes yn theyre hands. . . The wyfflers on fote were iiij. C propre lyght persones apparelyd yn whyte sylke or buffe jerkins, . . . every man having a slaugh sworde or a javelin to kepe the people yn araye, w^t chaynes abowte theyre necks. **1544** in Rymer *Foedera* (1719) XV. 53 [At the King's departure from Calais] Furst, the Drommes and Viffleurs, then the Trompets, then [etc.]. **1544** in *Lett. & Papers Hen. VIII.* XIX. II. 305 The captain of the Spaniards. . . asketh allowance for the wages of himself, his petty captain, his standard bearer, drum, fife, wifler, surgeon and priest. **1556** J. HEYWOOD *Spider & F.* LI. v, Drums, fiffes, flags, and wiffers. **1560**—**1** in *Old City Acc. Bk.* (Archæol. Jrnal. XLIII), Payde for iij staves for wefflers. **1599** SHAKS. *Hen. V* v. Chorus 12 The deep-mouth'd Sea, Which like a mightie Whiffler 'fore the King, Seemes to prepare his way.

1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. xiii. 50 They . . were . . scornfull toward particulars, which their manner was to vse. . . as . . Sargeants and Whiffers . . to make way . . for their opinions. **1618** BP. HALL *Righteous Mammon* Wks. (1625) 701 Some vaine whiffler, that is proud of a borrowed chaine. **1641** MILTON *Animadv.* iv. 30 His former transition was in the faire about the Jugglers, now he is at the Pageants among the Whiffers. **a1658** CLEVELAND *Poems*, etc. (1677) 112 First as a Whiffer before the show enter Stamford, one that trod the Stage with the first, travers'd his ground, made a Leg and Exit. **1707** E. WARD *Hud. Rediv.* vi. II. 23 The Colours that their Whiffers wear, And diff'rent Ensigns that they bear. **1712** ADDISON *Spect.* No. 536 ¶ 5 Our fine young Ladies . . retain in their Service . . as great a Number as they can of supernumerary . . Fellows, which they use like Whiffers. **1787** GROSE *Prov. Gloss.*, *Whiffers*, men who make way for the corporation of Norwich, by flourishing their swords.

b. transf. A swaggerer, braggadocio.

1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 113 Yet another place of S. Paule out of the whiche this wyldc whiffer may rushe upon us with his leaden dagger. **1607** DEKKER & WEBSTER *Northw. Hoe* II. i. Your right whiffer . . hangs himself in Saint Martins, and not in Cheape-side. **1644** FEATLEY *Levites Scourge* To Rdr., They fight . . rather like whiffers with vizards on their faces. **1881** SHORTHOUSE *John Inglesant* ix, A motley company of mummers, masques, fantastic phantoms, whiffers, thieves, rufflers. **1889** 'Q' *Splendid Spur* xiii, The crew of gipsies, whiffers, mountebanks, fortune-tellers.

¶ The sense 'piper, fifer' found in Dicts. from Kersey's ed. of Phillips (1706) onwards is baseless.

whiffer² ('hwiflə(r)). [f. WHIFFLE *v.*¹ + -ER¹.]

† **1.** A smoker of tobacco. *Obs.* (Cf. WHIFFER.)

1617 MIDDLETON & ROWLEY *Fair Quarrel* IV. i, How liketh thou this, whiffer? **1836** HOR. SMITH *Tin Trump.* 117 So may we allow Vesuvius and Etna to smoke, without conceding that tobacco to every puny whiffer.

2. A trifier; an insignificant or contemptible fellow (cf. WHIFFLING *ppl. a.*¹ 3); also, a shifty or evasive person.

1659 Lady *Alimony v. iv*, Such Whiffers are below my scorn, and beneath my spite. **1675** COVEL in *Early Voy. Levant* (Hakl. Soc.) 279 Here are every year abundance of Whiffers in those scraps of learning. **1678** H. MORE in *Glanvill Sadducismus* Postscript (1681) 45 O the impudent profaneness . . of perverse shufflers and whiffers. **a1745** SWIFT *Public Absurd. Eng. Wks.* 1841 II. 311/1 It is a common topic of satire, which you will hear . . from the mouths . . of every whiffer in office. **1809-12** MARIA EDGEWORTH *Absentee* iv, He was not a whiffer to stand upon ceremony about disturbing a gentleman in his last moments. **1866** J. MARTINEAU *Ess. I.* 187 These metaphysical whiffers draw no blood. **1896** *Advance* (Chicago) 25 June 935/2 [Giving the Gospel message] requires single-mindedness; no whiffer can succeed.

† **3.** A flag. *Obs. rare.* (Cf. WHIFF *sb.*¹ 7.)

1759 DURAND *Mem. Capt. Thurot* (Percy Soc.) 28 The commodore and second vessel carried white whiffers or pendants forward.

4. The whistling or golden-eye duck, *Clangula glaucion. local U.S.*

1888 G. TRUMBULL *Names of Birds* 79.

whiffery ('hwifləri). *nonce-wd.* [f. prec.: see -ERY.] Action characteristic of a whiffer; trifling.

1835 CARLYLE in Froude *T.C.* (1884) I. 60 Life is no frivolity, or hypothetical coquetry or whiffery.

whiffletree, U.S. variant of WHIPPLETREE.

1842 W. P. HAWES *Sporting Scenes* II. 69 Our whiffle-tree became detached from the vehicle, and fell upon the horse's heels. **1855** BRISTED in *Camb. Ess.* 65 Whiffle-tree, the invariable American for splinter-bar. **1868** Rep. *U.S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 256 A boy can lead a horse, with a suitable chain attached to the whiffletree. **1896** *Century Mag.* Nov. 23 With trace-chains rattling and whiffletrees snapping over the stumps of trees.

whiffing, *vbl. sb.*¹: see WHIFFLE *v.*¹

'**whiffing**, *vbl. sb.*² [f. WHIFFLE(ER)¹ + -ING¹.] The action of a whiffer in clearing the way; also *attrib.* or as *ppl. a.*, used by, or acting as, a whiffer.

1618 in J. Nicholl *Comp. Ironm.* (1866) 183 For 14 doz. of whiffing staves and 1 doz. of truncheons . . 2 li. 5 s. o. d. **1675** V. ALSOP *Anti-Sozzo* iii. § 2. 156 These whiffing Slanders do but make way for the Show. **1683** [J. NORRIS] *Murnival of Knaves* 16 The Rabbles Darling, small Birch-rod Of Loyalty, a Whiffing Blade.

whiffing ('hwiflɪŋ), *ppl. a.*¹ [f. WHIFFLE *v.*¹ + -ING².]

1. That whiffles; blowing, or blown, in light puffs; moving lightly as if driven by gusts of wind.

1568 T. HOWELL *Arb. Amitie* (1879) 68 Vphoyst by wyffling windes. **1660** INGELO *Bentiv. & Ur.* II. (1682) 205 The whiffing dust which flies in the faces of Travellers. **1685** WOOD *Life* (O.H.S.) III. 135 No raine fell from the 26 Jan. . . , only a little whiffing snow. **1713** ROWE *Jane Shore* IV. i, Like a dry leaf, an idle straw, a feather, The Sport of every whiffing Blast that blows. **1765** STERNE *Tr. Shandy* VII. xvi, Those whiffing vexations which come puffing across a man's canvas. **1800** HURDIS *Fav. Village* 32 The whiffing breeze . . among the bents. **1845** S. JUDD *Margaret* xvii, Where the whiffing winds had left the earth nearly bare [of snow].

b. Making or characterized by a light whistling sound.

1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* I. iv, Some whiffing husky cackinnation. **1911** GALSWORTHY *Patrician* xix, Rain, which the wind drove horizontally with a cold whiffing murmur.

2. Inconstant, shifting; evasive.

a1680 BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) II. 109 This puts him upon perpetual Apologies . . in a Kind of whiffing Strain. **1741** WATTS *Improv. Mind* ix. (1801) 79 A person of a whiffing and unsteady turn of mind, who cannot keep close to a point of controversy, but wanders from it perpetually. **1800** *Asiat. Ann. Reg., Proc. E. Ind. Ho.* 139/1 That it should be got rid of by the whiffing way of an adjournment. **1818** HAZLITT *Pol. Ess.* (1819) 343 A whiffing turncoat. **1835** W. IRVING *Tour Prairies* iv, Hee had . . a whiffing double voice, shifting abruptly from a treble to a thorough-bass. **1856** EMERSON *Engl. Traits* viii. 143 The national temper, in the civil history, is not flashy or whiffing. **1914** *Contemp. Rev.* Sept. 323 The whiffing and unsteady frame of mind of the Imperial workman.

3. Trifling, pettifoggng, fiddling, fussy; (passing into) paltry, insignificant, 'piffing'.

1613 HOBY *Counter-snarle* 3 Some vile blur, and maleolous aspersion, from one or other her suborned Pandars and whifling agents. **1671** CROWNE *Juliana* I. 8 A pittiful whiffing small-beer Duke. **1678** CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. v. 847 A meer Whiffing, Evand, and Phantastick thing. **1710** *Brit. Apollo* III. No. 7. 3/1 Whiffing, Noisy Whelp apace Barks. **1719** D'URFEY *Pills* (1872) IV. 107 The whiffing Gallants of the Inns of Court, Do hinder their Studies certainly. **1817** HAZLITT *Times Newsp.* Wks. 1902 III. 171 The low, whiffing, contemptible gratification of their literary jealousy. **1854** MISS BAKER *Northampton. Gloss.*, *Whiffing*, slight, slender, insignificant. 'A little whiffing fellow.' **1903** R. BRIDGES *To a Socialist in Lond.* 111 The least petty whiffing ephemeral insect.

Hence 'whiffingly *adv.*, in a trifling manner.

1668 H. MORE *Div. Dial.* II. 482 All the Articles of our Faith . . might be most frivolously and whiffingly allegorized into a mere . . Fable.

whiffing, *ppl. a.*²: see WHIFFLING *vbl. sb.*²

whiffow ('hwifləu). *Naut. slang.* [Fanciful formation.] (See quot. 1961.)

1961 F. H. BURGESS *Dict. Sailing* 222 *Whiffow*, an unnamed gadget; used when a proper name is forgotten. **1971** 'A. BURGESS' *MF v.* 64 The cabin was still a mess of smashed and battered whiffows.

whiffmagig: see WHIFFLEGIG.

whiffy ('hwɪfi), *a. slang.* [f. WHIFF *sb.*¹ + -Y¹.] Having an unpleasant smell. Also *fig.*

1849 H. MELVILLE *Mardi* II. xxvii. 109 A pithy, whiffy sentence or two. **1905** R. MARSH *Spoiler of Men* xvii. 149 It [sc. his tobacco] is a bit whiffy, ain't it? **1934** R. MACAULAY *Going Abroad* xi. 77 'A bit whiffy,' Hero said, as they passed among the cottages that encircled the muddy . . pool. **1962** AUDEN *Dyer's Hand* (1963) 520, I have always found the atmosphere of *Twelfth Night* a bit whiffy. **1978** *Birds* Summer 45/2 The area is dusty and whiffy with lorries arriving to tip every four minutes.

† **whiffing**. *Obs.* [f. WHIFF *sb.*¹ + -LING.] An insignificant creature. (Cf. WHIFFLER² 2.)

1635 GLAPTHORNE *Hollander* I. i, Hang him young whiffing, he know a Lady, pity of his life first.

whift (hwɪft), *sb. Obs. exc. dial.* Also wift. [var. of WHIFF *sb.*¹ with excrescent -t.]

1. A whiff or slight blast of wind, etc.; a snatch (of song).

1614 GORGES *Lucan v.* 202 So hauing said, the surging whifts The ship ten times together lifts. **1855** BROWNING *Fra Lippo Lippi* 52 A sweep of lute-strings, laughs, and whifts of song. **1905** *Westm. Gaz.* 16 June 2/1 A wift of white foam.

2. A small signal flag. (Cf. WHIFF *sb.*¹ 7.)

1644 True Narr. *Seige Plymouth* 5 Having . . given a signe . . by hanging out a Wift, that he was in distresse. **1839** BEALE *Nat. Hist. Sperm Whale* xii. 155 Two or three small flags, called 'whifts', which are inserted in the dead whale, in case the boats should leave it in chase of others. **1846** YOUNG *Naut. Dict.* 359 *Waft, Weft, or Whift*, a signal (most frequently for a boat) made by hoisting a flag rolled up lengthways and bound together with a few stops. **1901** W. CLARK RUSSELL *Ship's Adv.* vii, There's the barque that fouled us last night, sir. She's got a wift at her mizzen-peak.

† **whift**, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. WHIFF *v.*¹ (cf. sense 4) + -t = -ED².] Drunk, intoxicated.

1611 COTGR., *Entrebeu*, halfe drunke, almost whift.

whig (hwɪg), *sb.*¹ Now *Sc.* and *dial.* Forms: 6 whyg(ge, 6-7 whigge, 6-7, 8-9 *Sc.* wig, 7, 9 *Sc.* whigg, 7, 8-9 *Sc.* wigg, 9 *Sc.* quhig, 6- whig. [Of unascertained origin, but presumably related to WHEY. (The variation of *whig* and *wig* in *Sc.* is remarkable.)] Various applied to (a) sour milk or cream, (b) whey, (c) buttermilk, (d) a beverage consisting of whey fermented and flavoured with herbs.

1528 ROY *Rede me* (Arb.) 100 Lyvyng on mylke, whyg, and whey. **1561** B. GOOGE tr. *Palingenius' Zodiac* iv. Hv, My lusty gotes with kid they swel, ne want I whigge, nor whay. **1589** [? LVLV] *Pappe w. Hatchet* Wks. 1902 III. 406 Martins consence hath a periwig; therefore to good men he is more sower than wig. **1615** MARKHAM *Country Contentm.* II. iv. 114 As for the Whey you may keepe it also in a sweet stone vessell: for it is that which is called Whigge, and is an excellent coole drinke and a wholesome. **1633** HART *Diet of Diseased* II. xvii. 209 Sowre whey . . is in very great request in the Northerne parts of this Iland, where it is called of some whigge, and of others wigge. **1684** [MERITON] *Yorksh. Ale Gloss.* 114 *Whig* is Clarified Whey, put up with Herbs to drink. **1688** HOLME *Armoury* II. 173/1 Thick Milk, Buttermilk made thick through the heat of Summer, the bottom part falling to a Whigg. **1799** *Statist. Acc. Scot.* XXI. 142 Cream, too long kept, and purified by drawing off the thin part, or wig, for drink, was converted into butter. **1834**

Tait's Mag. I. 736/1 *Whig* . . is the provincial name in the south-west of Scotland for that blue-and-yellowish, thin sub-acid liquid which gathers on the surface of whey or butter milk.

fig. **1661** NEDHAM *Hist. Engl. Reb.* xlii, There lies the Cream of all the Cause; Religion is but Whig.

Whig (hwɪg), *sb.*² and *a.* Forms: 7 whige, whigh, whigüe, *Sc.* uhig, uig, 7-8 wig(g, 8 quig, 7-9 whigg, 7- whig. [Origin unascertained; prob. shortening of *whiggamer*, WHIGGAMORE; the occurrence of sense 1 (if it belongs to this word) some years before the date of the 'whiggamore raid' points to the existence of *whig* in a general sense before that event.

The supposition that this word is identical with WHIG *sb.*¹ (cf. the following quots.) has no historical foundation.

1717 DE FOE *Mem. Ch. Scot.* 111. (1844) 68/2 The word is said to be taken from a mixt Drink the poor Men drank in their Wanderings compos'd of Water and sour Milk. **1721** WODROW *Hist. Suff. Ch. Scot.* II. ii. I. 263 The poor honest People, who were in Rallery called Whiggs, y^e all of them answered the Motto, *veni, vidi, fugi*. **c1655** J. GWYNNE *Mil. Mem. Gt. Civil War* II. (1822) 90 Most of them were no souldiers, but countrey bumkins, there called Whigs.

A. sb. † **1.** A yokel, country bumpkin. *Obs. rare.*

c1645 T. TULLY *Siege of Carlisle* (1840) 3 And needs he [sc. Leslie] would retreat to Newcastle, till great Barwise set himself first into the water; and the rest, following him, so frightened y^e fresh water countrie whiggs, y^e all of them answered the Motto, *veni, vidi, fugi*. **c1655** J. GWYNNE *Mil. Mem. Gt. Civil War* II. (1822) 90 Most of them were no souldiers, but countrey bumkins, there called Whigs.

2. An adherent of the Presbyterian cause in Scotland in the seventeenth century; applied orig. to the Covenanters in the West of Scotland who in 1648 wrested the government from the Royalist party and marched as rebels to Edinburgh; in later years, to the extreme section of the Covenanting party who were regarded as rebels. *Hist.*

'By rigid Episcopalians, it is still given to Presbyterians in general; and, in the West of [Scotland], even by the latter, to those who, in a state of separation from the established church, profess to adhere more strictly to Presbyterian principles' (Jamieson, 1808).

1657 in Jas. Campbell *Balmerino* (1867) 213 Having fallen in among the Whigs of Kilmany. **1666** NICOLL *Diary* (Bannatyne Club) 452 The Generall [Dalyell] having marched towards the West, he took and killed sindrie persones, callit The Whigs. **1666** Cal. *State Papers, Dom.* 1666-7 (1864) 301 Now not one [sc. of the rebels] dares call himself a Whig. **1667** Lond. *Gaz.* No. 121/1 We were informed that the Whigs had privately in the night stolen down the heads of 4 of the Rebels that were set up in Glasgow. **1679** *Lauderdale Papers* (Camden 1885) III. 163 The Whiggs horse and foot fell in pell, mell, upon the Dragoons. **1683** CLAVERHOUSE in *Clavers, the Despot's Champion* (1889) xii. 142, I am as sorry to see a man day, even a whigüe, as any of themselves. **1684** *Bucleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm. 1903) II. 196 The beaver wil tell you the kindness the Whiggs has for your lordship, which is no ill argument of your lordship's zeal in the King's service. **a1699** KIRKTON *Hist. Ch. Scot.* (1817) 46 This was done at the Whiggs' Road, as was called. **1708** in Brand *Hist. Newc.* (1789) I. 424 note, [In St. Andrew's Register, November 1708, this burying-ground for dissenters is called] the Quigs burying-place. **a1715** BURNET *Own Time* I. (1724) I. 43 Those in the west [of Scotland] come in the summer to buy at Lieth the stores that come from the north: And from a word Whiggam, used in driving their horses all that drove were called the Whiggamors, and shorter the Whiggs. **1875** tr. *Ranke's Hist. Eng.* xvi. ix. IV. 121 Doubtless, in Scotland also, the republican tendencies appeared; for instance, in October 1680, the King and the Duke were excommunicated with due form; . . These were, however, rather Anabaptist than Presbyterian views; their adherents were indeed called Whigs, but 'wild Whigs'. **1888** M. MORRIS *Claverhouse* ix. 159 The men of the hill-sides and moorlands of the West, the wild Western Whigs, who feared . . the name of Claverhouse.

3. a. Applied to the Exclusioners (c 1679) who opposed the succession of James, Duke of York, to the crown, on the ground of his being a Roman Catholic. *Hist.* (Opposed to TORY A. 2.)

1679 WOOD *Life* (O.H.S.) II. 431 After the breaking out of the popish plot several of our scholars were tried and at length were discovered to be whiggs, viz. . . Georg Reynell of C.C.C., looked upon as alwayes a round-head. **1681** LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) I. 124 The latter party have been called by the former, whigs, fanatics, covenanters, bromigham protestants, &c.; and the former are called by the latter, tories, tantivies, Yorkists, high flown church men. **1682** *Tories Confess.* vi, What pimping Whig shall dare controule, or check the lawful Heir. **1683** [J. NORRIS] *Murnival of Knaves* 2 Whig and Tory. The one of Caledonian Race, T'other has an Hibernian Face. **1691** WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* II. 652 In 1678 . . he closed with the Whiggs, supposing that party would carry all before them. **a1734** [see etymology above]. **1827** HALLAM *Const. Hist.* xii. (1876) II. 439. **1905** C. S. TERRY *Pentland Rising* 84 The . . controversies which cleft the Whigs in 1679, to the paralysis of serious military achievement, were absent in 1666.

b. fig. A rebel.

1682 DRYDEN *Another Epil. Dk. Guise* 22 When Sighs and Prayers their ladies cannot move, They rail, write Treason, and turn Whigs to love.

4. Hence, from 1689, an adherent of one of the two great parliamentary and political parties in England, and (at length) in Great Britain. (Opposed to TORY A. 3.)

Since the middle of the 19th century mostly superseded (exc. as a historical term) by *Liberal* (see LIBERAL A. 5, B. 1b), but used occas. since then to express adherence to moderate or antiquated Liberal principles.

1702 Clarendon's *Hist. Reb.* I. Pref. p. viii, We have lived . . . to see the two great Parties, of late known by the Names of *Whig* and *Tory*, directly change their ground. **1704** C. LESLIE *The Wolf Stript* 82 A Whigg is a State-Enthusiast, as a Dissenter is an Ecclesiastical. **1713** *Guardian* No. 1. ¶ 4, I am, with relation to the government of the Church, a Tory, with regard to the State, a Whig. **a 1715** BURNET *Own Time* I. (1724) I. 43 All that opposed the Court came in contempt to be called Whiggs. **1741** HUME *Ess., Parties Gt. Brit.* 131 A Whig may be defin'd to be a Lover of Liberty, tho' without renouncing Monarchy; and a Friend to the Settlement in the Protestant Line. **1778** JOHNSON 28 Apr. in *Boswell*, 'And I have always said, the first Whig was the Devil.' *Boswell*. 'He certainly was, Sir. The Devil was impatient of subordination.' **1791** BURKE (*title*) An Appeal from the New to the Old Whigs, in consequence of some late discussions in Parliament, relative to the Reflections on the French Revolution. **1844** DISRAELI *Coningsby* vi. iii, 'I look upon an Orangeman,' said Coningsby, 'as a pure Whig.' **1852** LD. J. RUSSELL in S. Walpole *Life* (1889) II. 156 *note*, The term Whig . . . has the convenience of expressing in one syllable what Conservative Liberal expresses in seven; and Whiggism, in two syllables, means what Conservative Progress means in other six. **1883** *Sat. Rev.* 21 July 67/2 The Gladstonian Moderate, the 'Whig' as he is locally called, has ceased to have a reason for existence in Irish politics. **1911** B. HOLLAND *Spencer Compton* II. 129 Until this moment [1886] the word 'Whig' was still in common use to denote a connection loosely bound together, the moderate Liberals, led by the chiefs of certain families of long standing. Since 1886, the word has been used in a purely historical sense, while 'Tory' has still a living meaning.

5. *Amer. Hist.* a. An American colonist who supported the American Revolution.

1768 *New York Gaz.* 14 Mar., (*title of article*) The American Whig. **1768** *Boston Gaz.* 11 Apr. 3/1 On reading, in the American Mercury, an advertisement of a weekly paper to be published, under the title of *A Whip for the American Whig*; I could not help falling into a train of serious reflections, on the persecuting genius that inspires the high flying Tory party, in the episcopal church. **1775** THACHER *Mil. Jnl. Amer. Rev.* (1823) 12 The . . . majority . . . are united in resolution to oppose . . . the wicked attempts of the English Cabinet. This class of people have assumed the appellation of Whigs. **1775** JOHNSON in *Boswell* 21 Mar., When the Whigs of America are thus multiplied, let the Princes of the earth tremble in their palaces. **1812** *Niles' Weekly Reg.* 6 June 240/1 A great battle is said to have been fought about the 1st May, between the 'whigs' of Caracos and 'tories' of Coro, the latter being aided by some 'regulars' from Porto Rico. **1884** A. JOHNSTON *Hist. Amer. Pol.* (ed. 2) 6 As soon as independence was announced, in 1776, to be the final object of the contest, the names Whig and Tory lost, in America, whatever of British significance they had ever possessed.

b. A member of a party formed in 1834 from a fusion of the National Republicans and other elements opposed to the Democrats; it favoured a protective tariff and a strong national or central government, and was succeeded in 1856 by the Republican party. (See quot. 1905.)

1834 *Niles' Weekly Reg.* 12 Apr. 101/2 In New York and Connecticut the term 'whigs' is now used by the opponents of the administration when speaking of themselves, and they call the 'Jackson men' by the offensive name of 'tories'. **1839** *Congress. Globe* Jan., App. 105/1 In 1796, . . . Whig . . . was synonymous with Democrat, . . . in the Federal language of the times, was fit for the common people; . . . but now for political effect, the same party have taken the term Whig to themselves. **1888** BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* III. liii. II. 340 The majesty and beneficent activity of the National government . . . was generally in fact represented by the Federalists of the first period, the Whigs of the second, the Republicans of the third. **1905** A. JOHNSTON's *Amer. Pol. Hist.* II. 239 His [*sc.* James Watson Webb's] newspaper, the *Courier and Enquirer*, had originally supported Jackson, and had been driven into the opposition by the President's course. In February, 1834, he baptized the new party with the name of 'Whig', with the idea that the name implied resistance to executive usurpation, to that of the Crown in England and in the American Revolution, and to that of the President in the United States of 1834.

B. *adj.* That is a Whig; of, pertaining to, or characteristic of a Whig or Whigs: holding the opinions or principles of a Whig.

1681 T. FLATMAN *Heracitus Ridens* No. 32 (1713) I. 205 Oh there's a thick Disguise they say upon Affairs, and unless you have a pair of Whig-spectacles, there's no seeing through it. **1683** DRYDEN *Vind. Dk. Guise* 22 As for Knave, and Sycophant, and Rascal, and Impudent, and Devil, and old Serpent, . . . I take them to be only names of Parties: And cou'd return Murtherer and Cheat, and Whig-napper. **1683** LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) I. 279 Commenting on several proceedings of those called the whig party. **1719** T. GORDON *Char. Indep. Whig* (ed. 2) 19 Let them not . . . give up Whig Boroughs into Jacobite Hands. **1732** P. WALKER *Cargill in Biogr. Presbyt.* (1827) II. 100 They said 'Take up the old damn'd Whig-Bitch.' **1768** *Boston Gaz.* 21 Mar. 3/1 May the best of Heaven's Blessings ever attend the Whig Cause. **1818** SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* x, Free and safe as a whig bailie on the causeway of his own borough, or a canting presbyterian minister in his own pulpit. **1837** SYD. SMITH *Let. Archd. Singleton* Wks. 1859 II. 276/2 Lord John Russell, the Whig leader. **1839** WHITTIER *Pr. Wks.* (1889) II. 323 The late Whig defeat in New York. **1888** BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* III. liii. II. 333 The other section, which called itself at first the National Republican, ultimately the Whig party. **1912** G.

O. TREVELYAN *Geo. III & Fox* I. 292 A rallying point for the hardy Whig militiamen of the Carolinas.

C. *Comb.*, as *Whig-Radical* sb. and adj.; *Whig-defeating*, *-hunting* adjs.; *Whig* historian, a historian who interprets history as the continuing and inevitable victory of progress over reaction; *Whig* history, history written by or from the point of view of a Whig historian. † *Whigland* (*obs. slang*), the land of Whigs, esp. Scotland; hence † *Whiglander*, a native or inhabitant of 'Whigland'.

1682 T. FLATMAN *Heracitus Ridens* No. 65 (1713) II. 152 A Cause-confounding, *Whig-defeating . . . Dispensation. **1924** G. B. SHAW *Saint Joan* Pref. p. x, Her [*sc.* Joan's] ideal biographer . . . must understand the Middle Ages . . . much more intimately than our *Whig historians have ever understood them. **1980** H. TREVELYAN *Public & Private* 149 George Macaulay Trevelyan . . . was essentially a Whig historian, thus continuing the family tradition derived from his father and his kinsman Macaulay. **1931** H. C. BUTTERFIELD *Whig Interpretation of Hist.* i. 6 The truth is that there is a tendency for all history to veer over into *whig history. **1973** *Listener* 28 June 869/1 Macaulay . . . wrote consciously Whig history; yet . . . enunciated the principles of historical criticism which explains why Whig history is a distortion. **1905** C. S. TERRY *Pentland Rising* 2 The familiar *Whig-hunting duty of Claverhouse. **1681** T. FLATMAN *Heracitus Ridens* No. 45 (1713) II. 39 The Territories of *Whigg-land. **1683** [J. NORRIS] *Murnal of Knaves* 16 Patron of all Dissenters, and The Demogorgon of Whigland. **a 1700** B. E. Dict. *Cant. Crew*, Whig-land, Scotland. **1682** *Ballad, Happy Ret. Old Dutch Miller* i, I am so Zealous for *Whiglanders Crew, I'll cure their Distempers with one Turn or Two. **1820** J. RICKMAN *Extr. Life & Lett.* 10 Feb. 215 The address of the Yorkshire *Whig Radicals.

Hence (mostly *humorous* or *contemptuous* *nonce-wds.*) 'Whiggarchy' (-ɑ:kɪ) [Gr. ἀρχή rule], government by Whigs; 'Whiggess', a female Whig; 'Whiggify v., trans. to make Whig or whiggish (so 'Whiggification'); Whi'ggissimi [jocular f. with L. superl. ending], extreme or absolute Whigs; 'Whiggize v., intr. to act like a Whig, play the Whig; Whiggo'logical a., relating to Whig principles; 'Whiglet, 'Whigling, a small or petty Whig (also *attrib.*); 'Whigocracy [-CRACY], government by Whigs; *concr.* a body of Whig rulers; 'Whigship, the personality or quality of a Whig; † 'Whigster [-STER], a contemptuous appellation for a Whig.

1712-13 SWIFT *App. to Cond. Allies* Wks. 1841 I. 437/1 That they will not recognize any other government in Great Britain but *Whiggarchy only. **1776** *Pennsylvania Even. Post* 2 Jan. 3/2 A reasonable *Whiggess scorns all implicit faith in the state as well as the church. **1839** LADY LYTON *Cheveley* v, Whiggesses always make their 'début' later than other girls. **1832** J. WILSON in *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 387 We were all along against the *whiggification of the Tory System. **1682** 'PHILANAX MISOPAPPAS' *Tory Plot* II. 3 If he preach up nothing but Hell and Heaven, and a good Life, . . . D -- me, says he, this Fellow's *Whiggified. **1835** *Fraser's Mag.* XI. 364 They may aid . . . in whiggifying some of the propositions of the government. **1841** *Tait's Mag.* VIII. 484 A whiggified Radical is a jobber. **1725** SWIFT *Let. to Sheridan* 25 Sept., Because they are above suspicions, as *Whiggissimi and Unsuspectissimi. **1832** J. RICKMAN *Extr. Life & Lett.* 18 Apr. 294 Whigs, Whiggamores, Whiggissimi. **1832** J. WILSON in *Blackw. Mag.* XXXII. 708, I don't like a Whig . . . but . . . I have even less affection for a *Whiggizing Tory. **1817** *Q. Rev.* Oct. 135 Mr. Bentham will no doubt be thankful for so striking an illustration of his *whiggological theories. **1681** T. FLATMAN *Heracitus Ridens* No. 36 (1713) I. 232 Some tolerable Reasons why the little *Whiglets engag'd themselves in such an Affair. **1821** *Blackw. Mag.* X. 221 You have made some of the Radicals and Whiglets, both of Edinburgh and Glasgow, feel. *Ibid.* 3 Tears of joy and gratitude at beholding the *whiglings placed so near his Majesty's seat of honour. **1834** *Oxf. Univ. Mag.* I. 41 The carping jibes of Whigling envy. **1883** J. WILSON *Ess. Hist. & Biogr.* xvi. 289 The whole breed of Radicals, and Whiglings, and Cockneys. **1836** *Fraser's Mag.* XIII. 568 Any of the *Whigocracy. **a 1796** BURNS *Stanzas on Naething* 37 Her *whigship was wonderful pleased. **1846** LANDOR *Imag. Conv., Johnson & John Horne (Tookey)* Wks. I. 166/1 People of your cast in politics are fond of vilifying our country. Is this your whigship? **1683** *Romulus & Hersilia* Prol., Now I dare swear, some of you *Whigsters say, Come on, now for a swinging Tory Play.

whig, v.¹ *Sc.* [Cf. *fig* (vb.³), *frig*, *jig*.]

1. *trans.* To urge forward, drive briskly.

1666-7 G. BLACKHAD *Brief Narr.* (1844) §8. 163, I did sie the contrie people whigging their meres, to be tymously at the kirk.

2. *intr.* To jog along.

c 1690 Killiecrankie in C. Mackay *Jacobite Songs* (1861) 38 The solemn league and covenant, Cam whigging up the hills, man. **1701** DE FOE *Trueborn Eng.* 1. 222 Scots from the northern frozen banks of Tay, With packs and plods came whigging all away. **1815** SCOTT *Guy M.* xxiv, Just when I . . . was whigging cannily awa hame.

Whig, v.² [f. WHIG sb.²] *trans.* To behave like a Whig towards; *intr.* to play the Whig.

1681 T. FLATMAN *Heracitus Ridens* No. 39 (1713) I. 258 They will Whig us bravely indeed, if by the Pretences of the Fear of Popery and Arbitrary Government, Flanders and Germany should . . . fall into the Scale of France. **1695** in C. Mackay *Jacobite Songs* (1861) 43 Say, was it foul, or was it fair, To come a hunder mile and mair, For to ding out my daddy's heir, And dash him wi' the whiggin o't. **1816** SCOTT *Old Mort.* xxxvi, I think he will hardly neglect the parade of the feudal retainers, or go a-whigging a second time. **1832** LYTON in *Life*, etc. (1883) II. VIII. 1. 280 They Whiggied

everything they touched. They gauged and docketed all the objects of Poetry.

whig, v.³ *dial.* [f. WHIG sb.¹] *trans.* and *intr.* To turn sour; to curdle.

1756 F. HOME *Exper. Bleaching* 196 The milk is whiggied, and still pretty sour. **1825** JAMIESON s.v., Stale churned milk, when it throws off a sediment, is said to whig. **1835** DE QUINCEY *Tory's Acc. Toryism*, etc., Wks. 1863 XV. 224 If you pour milk upon rum, and do it so slowly or so unskillfully as to coagulate the mixture, you are said 'to whig it.'

whig(g, variants of WIG sb.¹, kind of bun.

whiggamore ('hwɪɡəmɔː(r)). *Hist.* Forms: 7 *whigmyre*, *whiggamaire*, *-mer*, *whigmuir*, *wickhamer*, *wiggomer*, 7- *whiggamore*, 8 *whiggamor*, *whigamoor*, 9 *whigamore*. [The form *whig(g)amore*, used by Bp. Burnet in the often cited passage given s.v. WHIG sb.² 2, and later popularized by Scott, is app. an erratic form (like *whigmuir*, *whigmyre*) of *wiggomer*, *whiggamaire*, which is prob. f. WHIG v.¹ + *mere*, *MARE* sb.¹

The word *whiggam* adduced by Burnet as a term used in driving horses is unsupported by evidence.]

Originally, One of a body of insurgents of the West of Scotland who in 1648 marched on Edinburgh, their expedition being called the 'whiggamore raid, road, or inroad'; later (*contemptuous*), = WHIG sb.² 2. Also *attrib.*

1649 SIR JAS. BALFOUR *Hist. Wks.* (1825) III. 388 Anent the Scotts last going into England, and the Englishe, with Cromwell and Lambert, ther heir-coming at the Whiggamaire roade. *Ibid.* 420 Since Julij last, 1649, and the Whigamore roade. **1654** in R. Baillie's *Let. & Jnl.* (Bann. Club) III. 568 Some hes maid a report . . . that we wer raying a Whigmyre road vnder Argyle. **1662** in *Wodrow Hist. Suff. Ch. Scot.* I. iii. (1721) I. 151 There was another Statue in a Whigmuir's Habit, having the Remonstrance in his Hand. **1666** *Cal. State Papers, Dom.* 1666-7 (1864) 302, 68 of the Wickhamers. **1666** in *Dom. State Papers Chas. II* CLXXIX. ff. 136 (MS.), The Whiggomers, for so they call the mutineers, being a middle sort betwixt Anabaptist and Presbyterian, are quite quell'd onely that they shiftt their quarters as they heare they are pursued. **1670** SIR JAS. TURNER *Mem.* (1829) 68 So soone as the news of our defeat [*sc.* of the Scots at Preston] came to Scotland, Argile and the Kirks partie rose in armes everie mothers sonne; and this was call'd the Whiggamore rode. **a 1715** [see WHIG sb.² 2]. **1816** SCOTT *Old Mort.* viii, There's a thousand merks on the murdering whigamore's head. **1818** — *Rob Roy* xxv, It isna good for my health to come in the gate o' the whigamore bailie bodies. **1821** — *Pirate* iv, 'Hear to him,' said an old whigamore carline. **1830** J. RICKMAN *Extr. Life & Lett.* 17 Sept. 267, I hear the Whiggamores begin to be frightened. **1886** STEVENSON *Kidnapped* ix. 77 *note*, Whig or Whigamore was the cant name for those who were loyal to King George [an. 1751]. **1891** GARDINER *Hist. Civil War* lxvi. III. 491 The Whiggamore leaders constituted themselves . . . into a Committee of Estates. **1898** W. S. DOUGLAS *Cromwell's Sc. Camp.* 9 It is certain that after the events of 1648 they must have considered the 'Whiggamores' more closely bound to their interest than that body proved to be.

Whiggery ('hwɪɡəri). [f. WHIG sb.² + -ERY.] Whig principles or practice; Whiggism. (Mostly *hostile* or *contemptuous*.)

1682 T. FLATMAN *Heracitus Ridens* No. 66 (1713) II. 161 What other Whiggery have you? **1714** G. LOCKHART *Mem. Scot.* (ed. 3) 128 The first of these was . . . after the Revolution, raised to the Bench upon Account of his Whiggery and Disloyalty. **1814** SCOTT *Wav.* xxx, That's a' your Whiggery, and your presbytery, ye cut-lugged, graining carles! **1843** E. QUINCY *Life of W. L. Garrison* iii. 92 Great opposition was made to David Lee Child on account of his bias towards Whiggery. **1849** MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 275 Noisy zealots, whose only claim to promotion was that they were always drinking confusion to Whiggery, and lighting bonfires to burn the Exclusion Bill. **1876** N. *Amer. Rev.* CXXIII. 213 Whiggery meant sound views on the tariff. **1885** COURTHOPE *Lib. Movem. Engl. Lit.* ii. 50 Whiggery, in Burke's days, meant simply adherence to the principles of the Revolution of 1688. **1908** *Sat. Rev.* 9 May 586/2 We must congratulate Mr. Asquith on disregarding the shrill cries of antiquated whiggery.

b. *fig.* Rebellion. (Cf. WHIG sb.² 3 b.)

1826 GALT *Last of Lairds* i. 3 When the day happened to be wet, the poultry were accustomed to murmur their sullen and envious whiggery against the same weather [etc.].

'*whiggish*, a.¹ *rare.* In 6 *whighish*. [f. WHIG sb.¹ + -ISH¹.] Pale as whey.

1590 FENNE *Frutes, Hecuba's Mishaps* Cc4, Whose whighish skin the muddy mire with filthy spots had hild.

Whiggish ('hwɪɡɪʃ), a.² Also 7-8 *whigish*, 8 *wiggish*. [f. WHIG sb.² + -ISH¹.] = WHIG a.; also, Having or indicating something of the character of a Whig, inclined to Whiggism. (Formerly usually *hostile* or *contemptuous*; now usu. with reference to historical interpretation: see *Whig historian*, *history* s.v. WHIG sb.² and a. C.)

1680 Roxb. *Ball.* (1883) IV. 637 Great York in favour does remain, In spite of all the Whigish train. **1681** T. FLATMAN *Heracitus Ridens* No. 23 (1713) I. 150, I scorn the Trade of Lying, if it were for nothing else, but that it makes a Man look so Whiggish. **1684** in T. Hutchinson *Hist. Mass.* (1795) I. 308 *note*, I suspect you, of the Massachusetts, are more whiggish, and your neighbours more toryish, to express it in the language of late in use. **1705** E. WARD *Hud. Rediv.* II. 20 Mix'd with some High Church Vindications Against false Whiggish Defamations. **1779** BURKE *Corr.* (1844) II. 270 Your liberal, wise, and truly whiggish principles. **1790**

BURNS *Epit. Capt. M*—H—viii, If any whiggish whingin sot, To blame poor Matthew dare, man. 1813 MISS MITFORD 11 Apr. in *L'Estrange Life* (1870) I. vii. 229 If not a Reformer I am nothing; for I have as pretty a contempt for the ministers as my whiggish papa. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* v. The whiggish and perverse opposition to established rank and privilege. 1975 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 28 Nov. 1404/3 The danger, ever-present in women's history (as in labour history) of whiggish perspectives: of self-indulgently allowing enthusiasm for the women's cause today to obstruct sensitive understanding of women's situation yesterday.

† **b. fig.** Rebellious, factious. *Obs. slang.*
a1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, Whiggish, Factious, Seditious, Restless, Uneasy.

c. transf. Liberal, 'broad': cf. LIBERAL *a.* 4 b.
1715 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* I. Pref. 17 In the same fourth Century there were some Whiggish Pamphlets publish'd by some Moderate Heathens. 1907 P. T. FORSYTH *Positive Preaching* iv. 120 They gave the gnostics a huge advantage over the whiggish apologists and their liberal Christianity. Hence 'Whiggishly adv.', 'Whiggishness'.

1681 T. FLATMAN *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 32 (1713) I. 209 That was as 'Whiggishly objected as ever I heard in my life. 1684 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) I. 295 There have been commissioners appointed, who... have turn'd out those persons in hospitals and other publick places who are whiggishly inclined. 1728 SWIFT *Let. to Sheridan* 18 Sept., I fancy you may do some good with the Primate, if you wheedle him and talk a little Whiggishly. 1818 HOGG *Brownie of Bodsbeck* xii, Whiggishly inclined. 1975 *University* (Princeton Univ.) Winter 4/1 This is not to say whiggishly that science at any juncture has been the only description of physical reality that was historically possible. 1980 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 25 July 837/1 Authors tend to win a place in the history of social and political thought by making what is usually, and whiggishly, referred to as a 'theoretical contribution'. 1889 *Academy* 16 Nov. 311/1 Mr. Walpole has himself that trait of 'Whiggishness which peculiarly fits him to paint the portrait of the chief of the Whigs. 1920 *Blackw. Mag.* Mar. 402/2 Johnson would have tolerated his coxcombry as little as he would have borne with his inveterate Whiggishness.

Whiggism ('hwɪɡɪz(ə)m). Also 7-8 Whigism. [*f.* as prec. + -ISM.] The principles, tenets, or methods of the Whigs; moderate or antiquated Liberalism. (Opposed to TORISM.)

? 1666 *Cal. State Papers, Dom.* 1666-7 (1864) 415 Extract of a Scotch letter, by M. L'Estrange; whiggism and treason. 1683 WOOD *Life* (O.H.S.) III. 6 Sept., To expell Mr. Parkinson from the University for whiggisme. 1702 DE FOE *Shortest Way with Dissenters* 15 We can never enjoy a settled uninterrupted Union and Tranquility in this Nation, till the Spirit of Whiggisme, Faction, and Schism is melted down like the Old-Money. 1776 J. ADAMS *Let. to Sergeant* 21 July, Wks. 1854 IX. 425 But when persons come to see there is greater danger to their persons and property from torism than whiggism, the same avarice and pusillanimity will make them whigs. 1813 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Rev.* LXXII. 275 An account of the Kit-cat club, throws light on the history of Whiggism. 1844 DISRAELI *Coningsby* vi. iii, I look upon an Orangeman... as... the only professor and practiser of unadulterated Whiggism. 1844 *Punch* VI. 46/1 The velocity with which Lord Brougham turns round from Whiggism to Torism. 1880 GREEN *Hist. Eng. People* IV. ix. i. 220 The King [*sc.* Geo. III] still called himself a Whig, yet he was reviving a system of absolutism which Whiggism... had long made impossible.

b. (with *pl.*) A Whiggish principle or tenet.
1830 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Exerc.* (1842) I. 222 The whiggisms that are abroad upon this question of representation.

whighen, obs. form of QUICKEN *sb.*¹

whighhie, var. f. WEHEE.

whight, whi3t: obs. forms of WEIGHT *sb.*², WHITE, WIGHT.

whigmaleery ('hwɪgmələri). *Sc.* Also -me-, -ie. [Origin obscure.] Anything fanciful or whimsical; a fantastic notion, whim, crotchety; a fanciful ornament, contrivance, etc. Also *attrib.*

1730 RAMSAY *Man with Two Wives* 18 But Bess the whig... Took figmaleries, and wald jump. 1786 BURNS *Brigs of Ayr* 96 Gin ye be a Brig as auld as me, There'll be, if that day come, I'll wad a boddle, Some fewer whigmeleeries in your noddle. 1793 — *Let. to Mrs. Dunlap* 5 Jan., I had two worthy fellows dining with me the other day, when I... produced my whigmaleerie cup. 1818 SCOTT *Rab Ray* xix, It's a brave kirk—nane o' yere whigmaleeries and curlic-wurlics and open-steek hems about it. 1878 MRS. OLIPHANT *Primrose Path* vii, A' the whigmaleeries of the auld steeple.

whigwham, variant of WIGWAM.

whiht, obs. form of WIGHT.

whik(k, -en), obs. dial. ff. QUICK, QUICKEN.

whil, whilberow, whilc, whilch, whilde, obs. ff. WHILE, WHEELBARROW, WHICH, WILD.

while (hwail), *sb.* Forms: 1, 4 hwil, (1 huil), 2-5 wil, 3 hwile, (3wile, 3wyle, 3uile), 3-5, 7 whil, 4 huile, (wyel), 4-5 whyl, whylle, 4-6 whyll, wyle, 4-7 whyle, (chiefly *Sc.*) whill, 4-5 wile, 5 wyl, wyll, (weil, whylghe), 5, 7 whille, 6 wylle, will, (whyell, vyl, *Sc.* whyle, vhill), 3- while; 3-4 quill, 3-5 quile, 4 quyl, quyle, quille, 4-6 *Sc.* quhile, qwhil, 4-7 *Sc.* quhil, (9 *arch.*) quhill, 4-8 *Sc.* quhyle, 5 qwile, qwyle, qwil, quill, *Sc.* qwhile, (qwhiel), qwhill(e, quhille, 5, 6 *Sc.* qwyl, 5-6 *Sc.* quhyl, qwhyl, 6 *Sc.* quhyll. *β.* 3 hwule, while,

wule. [OE. *hwil* str. fem. = OFris. *hwile*, *wile* (Fris. *wil*), OS. *hwil*, *hwila* time (MDu. *wile* hour, moment, Du. *wijl*), OHG. *hwil*, (*h*)*wila* point or period of time (MHG. *wile*, G. *weile*), ON. *hwila* bed (Sw. *hwila*, Da. *hwile* repose, refreshment), Goth. *hweila* time:—OTeut. **χwīlō*, the first syllable of which derives from Indo-eur. *qwi-*, represented by L. *quies* rest, *tranquillus* (= *-*quilnos*) quiet, OSI. *počiti* to rest; cf. the sense of ON. *hwila* and *hwild* rest, repose, and of the continental forms of the verb.]

I. 1. a. A portion of time, considered with respect to its duration; = TIME *sb.* 1, 2, rarely 4 or 6. Now almost exclusively in certain connexions (see below), the ordinary word being *time*. Formerly with gen. *while*'s. Rarely *pl.*

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 125 Hwilce hwile hine wille Drihten her on worlde lætan. a1250 Owl & Night. 1591 And swupe longe hire is þe hwile, An ek steape hire punp a mile. a1300 *Cursor M.* 22161 Als symon magus in his quile Right sua sal he þe folk bigile. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 12562 Holy cherche, despyse and fyle, þat wyl y bleply, alle my whyle. 1390 GOWER *Conf. I.* 221 He despaired for the while. 1473 *Paston Lett.* III. 89 They shall dwell ther I wot no whylghe. 1485 CAXTON *Paris & V.* (1868) 82 After a whyle of tyme. 1533 MORE *Answ. Poys. Bk. Wks.* 1053/2 Though ye see euery man dye here for the whyle, yet I shall... reyse them all vp... at the last day. 1547-8 in Feuillerat *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 32 During the whiles thies maskes were a makynge. a1613 OVERBURY *A Wife*, etc. (1638) 277 Have but that while's patience, you may passe it drie-foot. 1644 DIGBY *Nat. Bodies* xv. §7. 135 The fire, in all this while of continuall application to the body it thus anatomiseth [etc.]. a1683 OLDHAM *On Morwent Wks.* (1686) 75 Thy prudent Conduct had so learnt to measure The different whiles of Toil and Leisure. 1828 SOUTHEY in *Corr. w. C. Bowles* (1881) 133, I am now... stealing whiles of time for the *Colloquies*, which are approaching to their close. 1829 CARLYLE *Ess., Novalis* (1840) II. 228 After short whiles, all is again swimming vaguely before them. 1841 CATLIN *N. Amer. Ind.* liv, Filling up the while with nonsensical garrulity. 1894 in Milne *Rom. Pro-consul* (1911) 26 We had a capital while together.

b. with adj. expressing quantity, as *good* (GOOD *a.* 19), *great*, *little*, *long*, *short*; also *any*, *no*, *some*: forming esp. advb. phr. = for a (long, etc.) time.

Beowulf 146 Wæs seo hwil micel. a1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 486 Lytle hwile scoelde he his lifes niotan. a1175 *Cott. Hom.* 221 He wes to sume wile anstandende. c1200 ORMIN 2392 3ho bilæf wipþ hire frend 3et affter patt sumum while. c1290 *St. Dunstan* 51 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 20 A guode 3wyle it was a-gon. a1300 *Cursor M.* 3124 He began to luf him sua þat he moght na quill him for-ga. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 632 Whether he lyf lang or short while. c1450 *Mankind* 574 in *Macro Plays* 22 Ewysonge hath be in þe saynge, I trow, a fayer wyll; I am yrke of yt. 1533 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* II. xxviii. (1541) 45 To liue lesse while than other men. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 175 b, Philippus... had slept a great long while together. 1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 81 The shorter while you staie vpon the discord, the lesse offence you giue. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 506 Having enjoied these honors a small while. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 33 ¶ 1, I do not know any thing that has pleased me so much a great while. 1796 BURNEY *Mem. Metastasio* II. 201, I have not written to you a long while. 1836 NEWMAN *Lett.* (1801) II. 197, I am not more lonely than I have been a long while. 1871 RUSKIN *Fors. Clav.* ii. 15 A little while since, I was paying a visit in Ireland. 1897 FLOR. MONTGOMERY *Tony* i, The two sat for a little while at the other end of the carriage.

c. a while (also rarely *one while*): (*a*) as *sb.* phr., a time, esp. a short or moderate time (chiefly with certain preps., viz. *after*, *for*, *in*, *†within*); contextually = a considerable time, some time, as in *quite a while* (colloq.). (*b*) as advb. phr. = for a (short or moderate) time (see also AWHILE).

once in a while: see ONCE 8 c.

(a) [c.950 *Lindisf. Gasp.* Luke iv. 5 *In mamenta temporis*, in huil tides.] a1300 *Havelok* 722 Ne were neuere but ane hwile þat it ne gan a wind to rise. 13... *E.E. Allit. P. B.* 1620 þe burne byfore baltazar was bro3t in a whyle. c1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 4573 Wyppinne a wyle þer wer y-dy3t, Mo þan ten þousant of Sar3yns wy3t. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* vii. x. 226 Within a whyle they sawe a toure as whyte as ony snowe. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* iv. iv. 29 Quen Apollo list... leif the flude Exanthus, for a quihile, To vesy Delos. 1526 TINDALE *John* xvi. 16 After a whyle ye shall nott se me. a1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lxi. 213 They were within a whyell far fro y^e londes of y^e ii. admyralles sarazyns. 1561 T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtier* iv. (1577) V viij b, After a whiles silence. 1621 LADY M. WROTH *Urania* 218 Pleasantly they passed a while together. 1718 HUTCHINSON *Witchcraft* xv. (1720) 232 After a while's Practice. 1847 HALLIWELL s.v., A while's work, work requiring a certain time. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xlv, It is to be forgotten now; to be forgotten for a while. 1870 FREEMAN *Narm. Conq.* (ed. 2) I. App. YY 700 So Eadwig escapes, at least for one while. 1900 *Langman's Mag.* Mar. 450 She... rather enjoyed getting wet through once in a while. 1905 ELINOR GLYN *Viciss. Evang.* 149 It was quite a while before he elicited the facts from me.

(b) 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2352 He sede he moste wende a wule out of þis lond. a1300 *Cursor M.* 1309 Quen seth a quill had loked in, He sagh... mikel welth and win. *Ibid.* 3622 A wyl sco hir vmbithoght. 1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* ii, I... toke a boke to rede apon a quihile. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 97 The sayde league continued but a while. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* II. 918 The warie fiend stood on the brink of Hell and look'd a while, Pondering his Voyage. 1733 FIELDING *Don Quix.* in *Eng.* II. xiv, My landlord and the coachman won't overtake them one while, I warrant. 1781 JOHNSON *L.P., Fenton*, He was a while secretary to Charles earl of Orrery. 1816 J. WILSON *City of Plague* II. ii, I will sit down a while. 1873

SPENCER *Study Sociol.* vii. (1877) 148 The Smallpox epidemic, which a while since so unaccountably spread.

d. with demonstr. adj. that or this (now only with *all* preceding), forming advb. phr.

c1480 HENRYSON *Robene & Makyne* 59 Makyne, I haif bene heir this quihyle; at hame god gif I wair. 1590 SPENSER *F.Q.* II. ii. 16 Her other sisters... Who all this while were at their wanton rest. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* III. iv. 177, I haue this while with leaden thoughts beene prest. 1629 GAULE *Pract. Theories Christ* 355 The Iewes rested that Sabbath now; Christ rested that while in his Graue. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 51 ¶ 8 He would see he has been mistaken all this while. 1871 SMILES *Charac.* II. (1876) 34 All this while, too, the training of the character is in progress.

e. with qualifying sb.: The duration of, or time needed for (what is denoted by the sb.). *Obs.* or *arch.*

breathing-while, life-while, minute while, paternoster while, etc.: see the sbs.

13... [see TWELVEMOON 3]. 1377, 1591 [see MINUTE *sb.*¹]. c1430 Chev. *Assigne* 286 To speke with hym but a speche whyle. c1450 in Aungier *Syon* (1840) 274 Al the bellys schal be ronge one Miserere whyle at leste, and than the chaptyr belle schal be ronge oo Pater noster while. 1593, 1873 [see BREATHING *vbl. sb.* 10]. 1676 WYCHERLEY *Pl. Dealer* III. i, Stay but a making Water while, (as one may say) and I'll be with you again.

2. a. the while (OE. *pá hwile* accus.): (*a*) as advb. phr.: During the time, in the meantime, meanwhile; (*b*) followed by conj. *†the* or *that*, and later with ellipsis. *arch.* = WHILE conj. 1. **b. all the while** (with constructions as above): During the whole time (that). *†c. to while* (with constructions as above): For a time; for the time, meanwhile; for the time that, while. So *per hwile*, etc.: see THEREWHILE. *Obs.* *†d. in the while*: in the mean time, meanwhile. *Obs.* (For *in the mean while* see MEAN WHILE.) *†e. most while* (cf. MOST C.): on most occasions, for the most part. *†f. by while*: on occasion, from time to time. *over while*: at times. Cf. UMQUHILE.

a. (a) c960 ÆTHELWOLD Rule St. Benet (Schröer) ix. 33 Man þreo rædinga ræde and þry ræpsas, and ealle þa gebroþra þa hwile sittan. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1273 þe king þe wule londone bisegede uaste. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* vii. 8 What schul we wimmen worche þe while? a1425 *Cursor M.* 3889 (Trin.) þe while [Cott. to quils] holde lya in bedde þenne shal þou rachel wedde. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II* II. i. 211 He not be by the while. 1610 — *Temp.* III. i. 24 If you'll sit downe He beare your Logges the while. 1772 MACKENZIE *Man World* I. xi, 'I will go,' said she, sobbing, 'and pray for him the while.' 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xx, Mr. Chuckster... telling him he was wanted inside, bade him go in and he would mind the chaise the while. 1891 'J. S. WINTER' *Lumley* iv, Wouldn't you like some lollipops to eat the while?

(b) c888 ÆLFRED *Boethius* x, Eall hie [*sc.* earfoðnesse] to pyncaþ þy leohtan ða hwile þe þa oncras fæste bioð. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 35 Swa we sceolan þa hwile þe we lifaþ her on worlde. c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 7 þis witegeð dauid þe þe salm scop in þe saltere muchel erdþon þa wile he liuede. c1290 *St. Cuthbert* 3 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 359 þe 3wyle þat he was a 3ong child. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1962 þo was traen al a louerd þe wule it wolde ylaste. c1425 *Engl. Cong. Irel.* 16 The whill the host was thus in Ossory. 1594 MARLOWE & NASHE *Dido* I. i. A4, The while thine eyes attract their sought for ioyes. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* III. ii. 32 Vnsafe the while, that wee must laue Our Honors in these flattering streames. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Sacrifice* xxxviii, I for both have wept When all my tears were bloud, the while you slept. 1650 CARSTAIRS *Lett.* (1846) 68 Not the whyle I was at home with you nor since. 1820 KEATS *Lamia* II. 68 Beseeching him, the while his hand he wrung, To change his purpose. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* III. 380 The while his right [hand] did shade His eyes from the bright sun.

b. a1400 Minor Poems fr. *Vernon MS.* xxix. v. 49 For al þe while he was so seek, He feled neuere lisse ne lith, þerfore hym pou3te beter legles. 1482 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 109 Hyt was not comen to Bregys all the whyle he was there. 1539 *Bible* (Great) I Sam. xxii. 4 They dwelt w^t him all the whyle that Dauid kepte him selfe in hold. 1600 J. MELVILL *Autob. & Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 485 He remeanit in the town all the whyll. 1654-66 EARL ORRERY *Parthen.* (1676) 685 All the while I was speaking, I was much concern'd in Statira's looks. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* I. 539 All the while Sonorous mettall blowing Martial sounds. 1700 HICKES in *Pepys's Diary*, etc. (1879) VI. 206 She was shut up all the while we were there. 1844 DISRAELI *Caningsby* VIII. vi, The rogue had an eye all the while to quarter-day. a1864 HAWTHORNE *Septimius* (1872) 152 But all the while he was gone there was the mark of a bloody footprint impressed upon the stone doorstep of the Hall.

c. c950 Lindisf. Gasp. Luke viii. 13 *Qui ad tempus credunt*, ðaðe to tid vel to huil gelefað. c1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 348 þonne meaht þu hine betan to hwile. c1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1104 We sulen it fren, Ðor quile ðu wilt ðor-inne ben. 13... *Cursor M.* 22060 (Edinb.) An angel... To þe dragune suip he wanne... And in þat pitte him sperid faste, To-quile a thusanne 3ier to laste. c1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 4141 To whyle þe kyng & his cosyns In loue loken ar þer lynes, Richesse þey hadde ynow to wyll. 1338 — *Chron.* (1810) 71 To while þat he was fresch þei fond him full austere.

d. 1542 UDALL Erasm. Apaph. 77 Yet in y^e while, thei would neuer the more foloe the steppes of thesame good menne. 1605 B. JONSON *Sejanus* II. ii, In the while, Take from their strength some one or twaine, or more Of the maine Fautors. a1617 BAYNE *Lect.* (1634) 11 In the while, wee must labour to keepe a watch over our soules. 1760-72 H. BROOKE *Foal of Qual.* (1809) II. 111 Mary, in the while, being frighted almost to death.

e. c1383 in Eng. Hist. Rev. Oct. (1911) 742 Neipir preestis neipir dekenis shulden ben occupied in any secular office in lordis courtis most whil secular men ben sufficient to do suche secular office.

f. 13.. *Orfeo* 8 Sum [layes ben] of happes pat fallen by whyle. c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 97 He cessip to harme hem, or fendip hem ouer whyl.

3. *spec.* The time spent (connoting the trouble taken or labour performed) in doing something. † a. in phrases such as *to quit or yield* (one) *his while*, to repay (him) for his trouble, also ironically, to 'pay (him) out'; *to lose* or *spill* one's *while*, to waste one's time or effort. *Obs.*

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 137 Mon sullde his elmesse denne he heo 3efed sulche monne þe him deð. . wiken and cherres and dencheð mid his elmesse forzelden him ðeo hwile. a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1020 He mihte bet sitte stille Vor al his wile he sholde spille. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2476 Send after help. . & icholle hor wule 3elde. c 1386 CHAUCER *Miller's T.* 113 A clerk hadde litherly biset his whyle But if he koude a Carpenter bigyle. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 151 The proverbe is, who that is trewe, Him schal his while nevere rewe. c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 4392 If lelousie doth thee payne, Quyte hym his while thus agayne. c 1430 *How Good Wife taught Dau.* 111 in *Babees Bk.*, And he pat weel doop, þou qwite him weel his whyle.

b. Now only in phr. *worth the while* (now rare or arch.), *worth one's while*, *worth while*: often merely = worth doing, profitable, advantageous (the notion of time being weakened or lost). *to make it worth* (a person's) *while*, to give (him) sufficient recompense.

1387 *TREVISIA Higden* (Rolls) IV. 355 The queene. . beet Iudas ful ofte, but al for nougt, for it was not worþ þe while. 1639 LD. DIGBY *Lett. Conc. Relig.* (1651) 123, I would not think my pains lost, or study of the Fathers not worth the while. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacrae* III. i. §18 It had not been worth while for the soul to have been in the body. 1672 MARVELL *Reh. Transp.* I. 166 Nor is it worth ones while to teach him out of other Authors. 1755 MRS. F. BROOKE *Old Maid* No. 4. 24 In one word, madam, make it worth my while. 1842 LEVER *Jack Hinton* xxvii. It is worth while being a soldier in Ireland. 1861 MRS. H. WOOD *East Lynne* III. xix, 'Keep dark upon it, Bethel,' he said; 'I will make it worth your while.' 1877 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 93 It may be worth while to explain the kind of information which they give.

†4. (without article.) Sufficient or available time, leisure for doing something: = TIME sb. 8.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 32 3if 3e habbeð hwile, siggeð þesne psalm, 'Leuavi oculos meos'. 1387 *TREVISIA Higden* (Rolls) IV. 87 Whanne he myzte have while he wroot fables. c 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 125 On Settyrday pay myzt not haue whyll. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* VI. x, If they might have had while and time as well to follow it. a 1639 W. WHEATELY *Prototypes* I. xix. (1640) 233 He can have while to ruminate upon the evil things which Satan and the fleshe doe stirre up.

†5. a. Term or period of office; *transf.* office, function, 'place'. *Obs. rare.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xii. (*Mathias*) 351 Schaw quhill of þire tsa wal ve ches To supple þe quhytle of Iudas. c 1449 *PECOCK Repr.* III. xvi. 386 Thou3 this man which now lyueth performe not the deede for his while.

†b. Used in the Wycliffite Bible to render *L. vicissitudo* in senses of *turn*: (a) a service rendered (= TURN sb. 23); (b) by *whiles*, by turns (TURN sb. 28). *Obs. rare.*

1382 WYCLIF *I Sam.* xxiv. 20 The Lord 3eelde to thee this while [Vulg. *vicissitudinem hanc*], for that, that to day thou hast wroust in me. 1388 — *I Kings* v. 14 So that in twei monethis bi whilis they weren in her howsis.

II. 6. a. Time at which something happens or is done; occasion; †proper or suitable time; †season: = TIME sb. 13–15. *Obs. exc. arch. or dial.* (or as in e below).

Mostly with qualifying word, either with prep. preceding, or with ellipsis of prep. forming advb. phr. (cf. I b–d, 2), e.g. *that while* = at that time, on that occasion, then; *another while* = 'another time', on another occasion; *every while* (also as one word, after *everywhere*), †at every time, always (*obs.*): every time, on every occasion (*dial.*). See also below, and OTHERWHILE, SOMEWHILE.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xxvi. 55 *In illa hora* . . . in ðæm tid vel in ðære huile. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 51 þat israelisshe folc was walkende toward ierusalem. . . and þo wile was hersum godes hese. c 1375 *Cursor M.* 13130 (Fairf.) Seynt Iohn pis quile in prisson lay. c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 2140 þus wyle was he on halle sittynge with is puple atte mete, þan com per an hepenec kyng rydyng atte 3ete. c 1400 *MS. Serm.* (Tollem. MS.), We ben not sufficiant to knowe þe tymes or þe whilis þat þe fadir of þe Trynity hæp put in his owne power. 1418–20 J. PAGE *Siege Rouen in Hist. Coll. Cit. Lond.* (Camden) 33 The Fraynysche men in the same whyle, Forthe they went with Umfrevyle. c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* viii. 3 Whete heruest now in tempur lond is while Forto conclude. 1470–85 *MALORY Arthur* vii. v. 218 Hope ye so that I maye only while stand a proued knyght. 1503 *DUNBAR Thistle & Rose* vi, Thow did promyt, in Mayis lusty quhytle, For to dyscryve the Ross. 1552–3 in *Feuillerat Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 129 At dyuers other tymes betwene those whiles. 1579–80 *NORTH Plutarch* (1595) 842 The [dragon's] taile on a time fell out with the head, and complained, saying, it would another while go before, & would not alwaies come behind. 1648 *CRASHAW Steps, Hymn Epiph.* 30 But every where, and every while, Is one consistent solid smile. 1671 H. M. tr. *Erasm. Colloq.* 149 *Eu.* Were those women who encouraged thee with thee that while? a 1850 *ROSSETTI Dante & Circle* I. (1874) 100 What while a lady greets me with her eyes. 1884 *Cheshire Gloss.*, *Every while stitch*, every now and then; at times. 1886 *STEVENSON Kidnapped* xxii. There are whiles. . . when ye are altogether too canny and Whiggish to be company for a gentleman like me.

b. *one while* (adv. phr.): †(a) at one time, on one occasion, in one case (usually opp. to *another while*, sometimes to *then*, *again*, *anon*); also rarely = on some future occasion, 'some time' (*Obs.*); (b) *U.S.*, a long time.

1470–85 *MALORY Arthur* xvi. xvii. 688 Soo wente they dounward in the see one while bakward another while

forward. 1575 *Gammer Gurton* II. iii. 21 One while his tonge it ran and paltered of a cat; Another while he stammered styll vppon a rat. 1598 *SYLVESTER Du Bartas* II. i. III. *Furies* 450 One-while the Boulime, then the Anorexie, Then the Dog-hunger. 1664 *SOUTH Serm.*, *John xv.* 15 (1697) II. 86 Those, who are one while courteous. . . and obliging, . . but within a small time after, are so supercilious, sharp, [etc.]. 1744 ELIZA HAYWOOD *Female Spect.* v. (1748) I. 262 One while we are transmogrified into milk-maids—then into a kind of Amazonians. 1815 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* iii. (1818) I. 73 One while a silky fluid should be secreted, at another none. 1836 T. C. HALIBURTON *Clockmaker* (1837) 1st Ser. xvi. 136 You'll search one while. . . afore you'll find a man that. . . is equal to one of your free and enlightened citizens. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's Cabin* I. xi. 159 I'd mark him. . . so that he'd carry it one while. 1897 'MARK TWAIN' *Following Equator* liii. 511 If India knows about nothing else American, she knows about those, and will keep them in mind one while.

†c. With qualifying sb. (cf. TIME sb. 13 b), as *dinner while*, *mass while*, *service while*, *supper while*, etc.: see also the sbs. (Sometimes including the idea of duration, as in I e.) *Obs.* (or *rare arch.*).

13.. [see MASS sb. 7]. 1435 *MISYN Fire of Love* II. x, With desire in meet qwhiel to 3erne. 1557 *MACHYN Diary* (Camden) 148 My lord of London begane the durge, with ys myter [on] alle the durge wyll. 1597 *BEARD Theatre God's Judgem.* (1612) 119 The gouernour of Mascon, a Magitian, whom the diuell snatched vp in dinnerwhile. a 1667 C. HOOLE *Accidence* (1671) 110 *Inter cænandum*, at supper while. 1868 *BROWNING Ring & Bk.* I. 311 Be it but a straw 'twixt work and whistling-while.

d. In exclamations of grief: cf. similar use of *day*, *time*. Chiefly poet. *Obs.* or *arch.*

c 1402 *LYDG. Compl. Bl. Knt.* 244 This is the cold that wolde the fyr abate Of trewe mening; alas! the harde whyle! c 1440 *York Myst.* vi. 51 That we shulde haue alle welthis in walde, wa worthe þe whyle! 1513 *DOUGLAS Æneis* VI. viii. 77 Alas! the quhille! a 1586 *MONTGOMERIE Misc. Poems* xxi. 256 O! wayrit þe whyle That euer we wer acquailt 1596 *SHAKS. I Hen. IV.* II. iv. 146 God helpe the while, a bad world I say. 1810 *SCOTT Lady of L.* II. xv. Woe the while That brought such wanderer to our isle! 1825 — *Talism.* x, He conceives himself, God help the while, ungratefully treated.

e. Phr. with pl.: *at whiles*, at times, sometimes, at intervals. *between* (*betwixt* *obs.* or *arch.*) *whiles*: see BETWEEN-WHILES.

[c 1449 *PECOCK Repr.* II. xx. 273 Good and profitable to be had at certein whilis.] 1540 *PALSGR. Acolastus* v. i. Xiv b, Me semeth now and than, or at whiles that [etc.]. 1647 *TRAPP Comm. Rom.* II. 15 Meanwhile, or, Betwixt whiles. 1717 *BERKELEY in Mem.* (1784) 61 A sort of. . . dashing (as it were) of waves, and between whiles, a noise like that of thunder. 1802 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Gaston de Blond*. Wks. 1826 II. 62 To drive away the gloom, that yet, at whiles, hung upon his brow. 1865 *SWINBURNE Chastelard* II. i. 66 To think what grievous fear I have 'twixt whiles Of mine own self and of base men.

while (hwail, *adv.* (*adj.*), *conj.* (*prep.*)) Forms: 1–3 hwile; from c 1300 onwards as in *WHILE sb.*; also 4 quel, 5 whele, *Sc.* quhel, 6 whel, 8 wilc, 9 dial. whell; 6 whol, 9 dial. wol(l. [As *adv.*, OE. *hwile*, accus. of *hwil* *WHILE sb.*; as *conj.*, abbreviation of OE. phr. *pá hwile þe*, ME. *þe while þat* = 'during the time that' (see *WHILE sb.* 2 a), = OHG. *dia wila* (*unz*) so long as (MHG. *die wile* while, G. *dieweil* while, because), Du. *dewijl*; similar abbreviation has given G. *weil* because, Du. *wijl*, NFr. *wil*.

In senses A. 1 and 2, ME. *while* may be in some texts a reduced form of *whilen*, *WHILOM*.]

A. *adv.* (*adj.*)

†1. At a time or times, sometimes; *esp.* introducing each of two or more parallel phrases or clauses: At one time . . . at another time; now . . . then: = *WHILOM* I. *Obs.*

a 1000 *Hymns* iii. 44, 5 (Gr.) Hwile mid weorce, hwile mid worde, hwile mid gepohte pearle scyldi. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 133 Ure helend saweð his halie word hwile purh his azene muðe and hwile purh ðere apostlene muðe. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 207 Egen bihelden þat he ne sholden, wile idel, wile unnut, wile ifel. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7433 Quil wit gleu, and quil wit sang, . . þus he serued saul lang. 1375 *BARBOUR Bruce* I. 338 For knawlage off mony statis May quhile awailze full mony gatis. c 1425 *WYNTOUN Cron.* (Royal MS.) I. Prol. 32 For Romans to rede is delytabyle, Suppose that thai be quhytle bot fable. c 1470 *HENRY Wallace* v. 611 Quhill wald he think to luff hyr our the laiff, And othir quhill he thoct on his dissaiff. c 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) xxxi. 24 Lufe sall him hald Win the dungeoun of despair; Quhytle hett, quhytle cald. 1584 *HUDSON Du Bartas' Judith* VI. 91 While vp he lifts his head, while lets it fall. 1632 J. HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Eromena* 184 The intellect (fixing it selfe, while on one, and while on another wonder of matter and workmanship).

†2. a. At one time, formerly, once: = *WHILOM* 2.

c 1000 *Deor's Compl.* 36 (Gr.) Ic bi me sylfum secgan wille, þæt ic hwile was Heodeninga scop. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 17 Ne do þu þin uel on-gein uel swa me dude hwile. a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1016 þe3 eni god man to hom come, So wile dude sum from rome. c 1305 *St. Andrew* 29 in *E.E.P.* (1862) 99 þe gywes while nome And slowe him as he worpie was. c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 2580 þat god of mi3t. . . Hwich of marie þat mayde bri3t while tok flechs & blode. c 1425 *WYNTOUN Cron.* I. Prol. 15 Thai þat set haly þare delite Gestis or storys for to write. . . As Gwydo de Calumpna quhile.

†b. as *adj.* That formerly existed, occurred, etc.; former, 'late': = *UMQUHILE* B., *WHILOM* 2 b.

1399 *LANGL. Rich. Redeles* III. 363 þey. . . were y-dubbid of a duke ffor her while domes. c 1425 *WYNTOUN Cron.* II. viii. 756 For honoure of his modyr qwhile.

†3. For a or the time, temporarily; at the same time, meanwhile. (See also *THEREWHILE*.) *Obs. rare.*

a 1500 *Colkelbie Sow* 828 (Bann. MS.), Thocht he wald preve the thrid penny quhytle hid, Quhillk for the tyme no fruct nor proffeit did. 1508 *KENNEDIE Flyting w. Dunbar* 428 Thow beggit with a pardoun in all kirkis, . . And ondir nycht quhytle stall thou staggis et stirkis. c 1645 *HOWELL Lett.* I. II. x. (1690) 110 Yours while J. Howell.

B. *conj.* (or in *conj. phr.*) and *prep.*

1. a. *while* (*that*): during the time that. (Now expressed by *while* alone: cf. *THAT conj.* 7.)

Often with ellipsis before a pple. or other predicative word or phrase, e.g. *while walking*, *while at rest*, *while an infant*. 1154 *O.E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1137 Ðet lastede þa. xix. wintre wile Stephne was king. c 1200 *ORMIN* 2393 Whil patt 3ho wass Wipp hire kinn at hame. c 1275 *LAY.* 14873 þat we solle hatie wile þat we libbep [c 1205 þa while þa we luuien]. 13. . *Cursor M.* 6088 (Gött.) Ne honos noght quile 3e er etand. c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2537 While men hunted after hem þai han a-wai schaped. c 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton) II. lviii. (1859) 55 While that thou and I were coupled to geders, thou madest me to lede a ful vnthryfty lyf. 1513 *DOUGLAS Æneis* I. v. 71 Quhill that of Troy and Ilion stude the ring. 1599 *SHAKS. Hen. V.* I. ii. 178 While that the Armed hand doth fight abroad, Th' aduised head defends it selfe at home. 1611 *SIR W. MURE Misc. Poems* II. 67 Quhil in this weak estait, all meanes I soght To be aweng'd on him. 1667 *MILTON P.L.* IV. 977 While thus he spake, th' Angelic Squadron bright Turnd fierie red. 1779 *Mirror* No. 32 ¶6 While we were sitting together, talking of old stories, . . John entered. 1849 *MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* v. I. 662 Cornish was arrested while transacting business on the Exchange. 1882 *BESANT All Sorts* xv, While he was laughing the door opened.

b. With special reference (a) to the extent of the time: During the whole, or until the end, of the time that; as long as (see also 2 a); (b) to the limits of the time: Within, or before the end of, the time that.

(a) c 1230 *Hali Meid.* 6 He wule carie for hire . . hwil ha riht luueð him. c 1300 *Havelok* 301 Dapeit hwo it hire yeue Euere-more hwil i liue! a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 2255 Yf it worth sall to wy whil þe world standes. 1422 *YONGE tr. Secr. Secr.* 161 Whye an hooke is a yonge Spyre, hit may be wonde into a wyth. c 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 23 Wasshem. . . whele þey ben slepyr. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 742 Chylde, whyle hyt can not speke, *proles.* 1529 *MORE Dyaloge* I. xv. 20/1, I shall loue her yf worse whyle I lyue. 1610 *SHAKS. Temp.* III. ii. 120 While thou liu'st keepe a good tongue in thy head. 1706 *PRIOR Ode to Queen* xix, Nought done the Hero deem'd, while ought undone remain'd. 1742 *FIELDRING J. Andrews* II. iv, She told her 'while there was life there was hope'. 1848 *DICKENS Dombey* xxxii, The confidence of this house. . . is not to be abused. . . while I have eyes and ears.

(b) c 1300 *Havelok* 363 Him for to hoslen, and forto shriue, Hwil his bodi were on liue. 1393 *LANGL. P. Pl. C.* XI. 287 Whil þow art 3ong and 3ep, and þy wepne kene, Awreke þe þerwith. c 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 5 Wherfor, syrs, . . whyll 3e byn here, makyth amendes for your mys-dedys. c 1450 *Mankind* 77 in *Macro Plays* 4 Lett ws be mery wyll we be here! c 1550 *LYNDESAY Tragedie* 303 Amend your life now, quhill your day Induris. 1697 *DRYDEN Virg. Georg.* III. 263 Set him betimes to School. . . While yet his youth is flexible and green. 1825 T. Hook *Sayings* Ser. II. *Passion & Princ.* xi. III. 253, I wish. . . that to-morrow. . . you would step down to the Tower; . . while you are there, you might just go to the London Docks. 1866 *RUSKIN Crown Wild Olive* iii. 203 All the greatness she [sc. England] ever had, . . she won while her fields were green and her faces ruddy.

†c. Without necessarily implying duration: At the time that; when. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Fragm. Pop. Sci.* (Wright) 62 As me mai the mone i-seo while heo is nue ri3t. c 1320 *Cast. Love* (ed. Hall.) 403 For in tyme whill he fre was, He hede with him bothe Merc and Pes. a 1425 *Cursor M.* 15461 (Trin.) Whil 3e se me kisse him Leye hondes on him allone. 1477 *Rental Bk. Cupar-Angus* (1879) I. 209 We half grantyt to the forsad Paton and Jonat the tak of Rechy Jak quhel it ma vake.

d. During which time; and meanwhile.

c 1400 *Warres of the Jewes* in *Warton Hist. Eng. Poetry* (1774) I. x. 311 In Tyberyus tyme the trewe emperor Syr Sesar hym sulft sayed in Rome Whye Pylot was provost under that pryncce ryche. 1697 *DRYDEN Virg. Georg.* IV. 809 Thus have I sung of Fields, and Flocks, and Trees, . . While mighty Caesar, thund'ring from afar, Seeks on Euphrates Banks the Spoils of War. 1766 *GOLDSM. Vicar W.* vi, Moses sate reading, while I taught the little ones. 1820 *KEATS Lamia* I. 242 He pass'd. . . while her eyes Follow'd his steps. 1905 *ELINOR GLYN Viciss. Evang.* 79 Mr. Montgomery said rather gallant things to me. . . while the girls looked shocked.

2. *transf.* with various connotations. a. As long as, so long as (implying 'provided that', 'if only').

1375 *BARBOUR Bruce* I. 60 Thar mycht apoced na female, Quhill foundyn mycht be any male. c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* I. 14 þe kirk may not iustli priue þe comyning of cristun men, nor taking of þe sacraments. . . wyle he is iust. 1597 *HOOKE Ecccl. Pol.* v. xlviii. §4 Neither boldnes can make vs presume as long as we are kept vnder with the sense of our owne wretchednes; nor, while we trust in the mercie of God through Christ Iesus, feare be able to tyrannize ouer vs. 1849 *MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* I. I. 47 The encroachments of the ecclesiastical power. . . produced much more happiness than misery, while the ecclesiastical power was in the hands of the only class that had studied history.

b. At the same time that (implying opposition or contrast); *adversatively*, when on the contrary or on the other hand, whereas; *concessively*, it being granted that; sometimes nearly = *although*.

1588 *SHAKS. L.L.L.* I. i. 74 Painelessly to poare vpon a Booke, To seeke the light of truth, while trugth the while

Doth falsely blinde the eye-sight of his looke. **1617** SIR W. MURE *Misc. Poems* xxi. 23 Whill others aime at greatnes boght with blood, Not to bee great thou stryves, bot to bee good. **1662** STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacre* iii. i. §7 While they deny a Deity, they ascert other things on far less reason. **1719** WATTS *Ps.* xxiii; There would I find a settled Rest, (While others go and come). **1749** HARTLEY *Observ. Man* i. i. §2. 75 White is vulgarly thought to be the most uncompounded of all Colours, while yet it really arises from a certain Proportion of the Seven primary Colours. **1857** BUCKLE *Civiliz.* I. x. 608 While the object of the people was to free themselves from the yoke, the object of the nobles was merely to find new sources of excitement. **1864** BRYCE *Holy Rom. Emp.* v. (1875) 52 In rude and unsettled states of society men respect forms and obey facts, while careless of rules and principles. **1908** R. BAGOT *A. Cuthbert* vi. 51 While regretting the sorrow which had fallen upon him, Miss Cuthbert was nevertheless glad that her brother was free.

c. In modern colourless use: At the same time that, besides that, in addition to the fact that; often = and at the same time, and besides.

[**1750** SHENSTONE *Ode Rural Eleg.* 161 There, while the seeds of future blossoms dwell, 'Tis colour'd for the sight, perfum'd to please the smell.] **1860** LÖWENTHAL *Morphy's Games Chess* 165 A very good move, for while it brings the Queen into a more attacking position, it at the same time defends White's Queen's Pawn. **1904** *Times* 25 May 3/6 The walls . . . are decorated with white enamelled panelling, while the frieze and ceiling are in modelled plaster.

3. a. (†Also with *that*, at.) Up to the time that; till, until. Now *dial.* (chiefly *north.*).

Occas. with reference to place, etc.: †while it come to = as far as, up to.

13.. *Seuyn Sages* (W.) 1644 Dwell thou, wil ich arisen be. **1375** BARBOUR *Bruce* iv. 763 Man is in-to dreding, . . of thingis to cum, quhill he Haue of the end the certante. **1419** *Munim. de Melros* (Bann. Club) 502 þe qwhillkis Indentours þe forsaide Nychole has delyuerit til þe said abbot and Conuent. . . qwhile at þai be fully assythit of þe said fowrty pund. **c1420** *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 46 Fyrst sethe þy mustuls quhyshel of lepe In water. **c1460** *Battle of Otterburn* liv. (Child *Ball.* vi. 298). They swapped together whyll that they swette. **c1480** HENRYSON *Bludy Serk* 40 To fecht with him . . . Quhill ane wer dungin down. **1524** Q. MARG. in *St. Papers Hen. VIII.* IV. 129, I thowt best to put them both in the castel of Edynbrou, vhol that thay fynd a vay how the Bodarz may be vel reulyd. **a1578** LINDESAY (Pittscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 7 Thair was nevir perfytt stabilitie quhill that the Douglas was perisch deid and gane. **1586** MARLOWE *1st Pt. Tamburl.* iv. iv, Faste and welcome sir, while hunger make you eat. **1589** NASHE *Martin Marprel.* Wks. (Grosart) I. 117 Let him swell while he burst. **1688** BUNYAN *Heavenly Footman* (1724) 77 Run sweet Babe, while thou art weary, and then I will take thee up and carry thee. **1759** R. BROWN *Compl. Farmer* 9 Take horse-aloes . . . give him the purge . . . and ride him out again while he purges. **1813** HOGG *Queen's Wake* 81 They drank of the byshopis wyne Quhill they culde drynk ne mair. **1825** BROCKETT *N.C. Gloss.* s.v., Stay while I come back. **1872** *J. Hartley's Yorksh. Ditties* Ser. II. 17 We blushed wol us faces wor all in a blaze.

b. as *prep.* Up to (a time), up to the time of; till, until. Now *dial.* (chiefly *north.*).

c1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 1276 þat þou fast noȝt whil to morne. **1464-5** in *Acts Parlt. Scot.* (1874) XII. 30/2 þæt þe lew be proclamit to xiiij s. iiij d. fra fasterin sewyn furth next tocum and quhill thane to haue course as thai haue now. **1559** in *Wodrow Soc. Misc.* (1844) 268 Thay . . . wald not beleaf me . . . quhill now. **1587** GREENE *Euphues* Wks. (Grosart) VI. 251 Their commaunds were dated but while death. **1605** SHAKS. *Macb.* III. i. 44 While then, God be with you. **1662** GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* III. xxiii. §4 The Apothecary gathers his simples in Summer, which haply he may not use while Winter. **1720** *Lett. Lond. Jvnl.* (1721) 14 Tho' he sweat and scrub while Doomsday. **1722** in *Rutland Gloss.* (1891) 39, I was 2 dayes; And my Sor was 2 days. And the third day wile three a Clock. **1854** MISS BAKER *Northampton. Gloss.* s.v., It wants a quarter while nine o'clock.

4. *while* as (also occas. as one word, cf. WHENAS, WHEREAS). a. = 1. *Obs.* or *rare arch.*

1563 GOOGE *Eglogs* etc. (Arb.) 69 Whyle as the rauenyng Wolues he prayed his gytleles lyfe to saue. **1593** SHAKS. *2 Hen. VI.* i. i. 225 Pirates may make cheape penyworths of their pillage, . . . While as the silly Owner of the goods Weepes over them. **c1620** Z. BOYD *Zion's Flowers* (1855) 138 Hee spares while as the faults of men are young. **c1690** N. BURN in *Roxb. Ball.* (1888) VI. 608 Burn cannot his grief asswage, whileas his dayes endureth. **1786** *Har'st Rig* (1801) xci, But now, whileas the show'r does last, 'Tis no thought proper they shud fast. **1812** CARY *Dante, Parad.* xxv. 79 Whileas I spake. **1918** W. DE LA MARE *Motley* 68 How do the days press on, and lay Their fallen locks at evening down, Whileas the stars in darkness play.

†b. = 2 b. *Obs. rare.*

1625 HART *Anat. Ur.* i. ii. 13 The chiefe . . . part of Physicke diagnosticke . . . is neglected; while as the ordinarie sort of Physitians do onely labour to know . . . the nature . . . of the disease by the . . . indication of the . . . vrine. **1646** R. BAILLIE *Anabaptism* (1647) 98 To Christ they give but one nature, while as all Divines since his Incarnation give him two.

G. Combinations: †while-being a. temporary, or temporal (*rare*); while-ever (*whenever*) *conj.* [sec EVER *adv.* 8e; for the abbreviated spelling cf. *wherever*], as long as (*rare*); while-you-wait *adj.* or *adv. phr.* (orig. *U.S.*), designating a service that is performed immediately (as opp. to one for which the customer must leave his property and collect it later); also *fig.*; also *absol.* as *sb.*, an establishment providing such a service; freq. (in advertisements) spelt *while-u-wait*.

1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 40 This time-lasting World, and every while-being thing in it. **1776** *Ann. Reg.*, *Hist. Eur.* 73/1 He solemnly declared, that while-ever he sate in that house, he would not endure such language. **1878** JAS. THOMSON *Plenipotent. Key* 19 She had had her husbands five, And would have more whilever she was alive.

1929 *Amer. Speech* V. 24 Those who are selling 'service' are fond of using expressions of this sort: . . . Shine While U Wait, Hats Cleaned While U Wait, [etc.]. **1936** MENCKEN *Amer. Lang.* (ed. 4) 209 Q-room . . . While-U-wait, and Bar-B-Q . . . all of them familiar signs. **1965** H. GOLD *Man who was not with It* xxix. 271 We were at a low office block . . . shoe repair and while-you-wait. **1972** *Guardian* 11 July 10/6 The . . . catalogue essay . . . is a masterpiece of myth-making, art history while-u-wait. **1972** *Times* 9 Aug. 12/7 (caption) A while-you-wait parts replacement service. **1977** *Evening Gaz.* (Middlesbrough) 11 Jan. 13/2 (Advt.), M.O.T. test while-u-wait.

while, v. [f. WHILE *sb.*]

A new formation, having no continuity with early ME. *hwulen* to have leisure, or connexion with the continental forms OHG. *wîlon* (MHG. *wîlen*, G. *weilen* to stay, linger), ON. *hvila* (Sw. *hvila*, Da. *hvile*) to rest, Goth. *hveilan* to pause, cease (cf. WHILE *sb.* etym.).]

†1. *trans.* To occupy or engage (a person) for a time, or for the time; to fill up the time of. *Obs.*

1606 BP. HALL *Medit. & Vows* I. §88 Hee findes not any worthy employment to while himselfe withall. **1613** PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* vii. xi. 592 The . . . still Lakes, thicke Woods, and varietie of the Continent-observations, haue thus long whiled vs. **a1659** OSBORN *Misc.* Pref. B8, The First Cause of their projection, being rather, for the intent to While my Selfe, then Busie others.

†2. with *it*: To keep it up, 'stick it out'. *Obs.* **a1617** BAYNE *Lect.* (1634) 137 They are poore, not brought up to it, not able to while it, wife and children might begge, [etc.].

3. To cause (time) to pass without wearisomeness; to pass or get through (a vacant time), esp. by some idle or trivial occupation. Also, to divert the attention from, 'beguile' (sorrow, pain). Usually, now almost always, with *away*.

Possibly developed from sense 1 by transference of the object from the person to the time. Association with such *phr.* as *beguile the day*, *the time* (Shaks.), L. *diem decipere*, F. *tromper le temps*, has led to the substitution of WILE v. by some modern writers.

1635 CHARLES *Embl.* III. xiii. 34 Nor do I beg this slender inch, to while The time away, or falsely to beguile My thoughts with joy. **a1644** — *Sol. Recant.* solil. II. 36 And like a pain-afflicted stripling, play With some new Toy, to while thy grief away. **1706** BRAGGE *Disc. Parables* (ed. 3) I. i. 17 Those . . . who frequent our Religious Assemblies . . . to while away the Time that lies useless upon their Hands. **1726** POPE *Let. to Bethel* 9 Aug., Let us while away this life; and (if we can) meet in another. **1769** WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) XII. 374 There will be a danger likewise of whiling away time. **1796** MME. D'ARBLAY *Camilla* x. iii, Such dangerous expedients to while away chagrin. **a1800** PEGGE *Anecd. Engl. Lang.* (1814) 229 To while away so much time in perusing this Disquisition. **1807** W. IRVING *Salmag.* No. 13 (1811) II. 75 These moments of mental gloom, whiled away by the cheerful exercise of our pen. **1809** MALKIN *Gil Blas* XII. viii. (Rldg.) 434 A delightful residence, where he whiled away three weeks. **1813** BYRON *Corsair* i. xiv, Then shall my handmaids while the time along. **1840** DICKENS *Old C. Shop* ix, When she left her own little room to while away the tedious hours. **1882** Mrs. RAVEN *'s Temptation* I. 5 There was nothing for the young traveller to while the time with.

b. *intr.* Of time: To pass tediously. Now *dial.* **1712** [see WHILING ppl. a.]. **1898** HARDY *Wessex Poems* 106 All that year and the next year whiled, And I still went thitherward.

†4. *while off*: to put (a person) off for the time.

1646 LOCKYER *Serm.* 31 If you cast them off too, when they have cast off all for you, or if you shall while them off, when they tell you, Sir, this is our last meale in the barrill [etc.].

while, obs. f. WHEEL, WILE.

whileas: see WHILE *conj.* 4.

†*whilemeal*, *adv.* In 4 whilemele. [f. WHILE *sb.* + -MEAL.] Used to render L. *vicissim* by turns.

1382 WYCLIF *1 Kings* v. 14 Ten thousand bi eche moneth whilemele [1388 bi whilis].

whilen, obs. form of WHILOM.

†*whilend*, a. *Obs.* [OE. *hwilende*, rare var. of *hwilwende* (cf. WHILWENDLIC), f. *hwil* WHILE *sb.* + *wend*- to turn, WEND v.] Temporary.

a1050 *Liber Scintill.* ix. (1889) 49 Hi na to pære hwilendre mihtan dædbote becumen. **c1175** Lamb. *Hom.* 7 þeos world is whilende and onful and swiðe lewe. **a1225** *Ancre R.* 182 Vorte beon martirs efnig, puruh a wilinde [v.r. hwilinde] wo. **c1230** *Hali Meid.* 35 For þat hwilende [v.r. hwilinde] lust. **a1272** O.E. *Misc.* 94 þis world fareþ hwilynde hwenne on cumeþ an oþer goþ.

†*whileness*. *Obs. rare.* [Abnormally f. WHILE *sb.* + -NESS.] Used to render L. *vicissitudo* in senses (a) = TURN *sb.* 23 (cf. WHILE *sb.* 3 a, 5 b); (b) change, variation.

1382 WYCLIF *Joel* iii. 4, Y shal zeelde the whilnesse to 3ou on your heed. — *James* i. 17 The fadir of litis, anentis whom is not ouerchaunginge, nether schadewing of whileness, or tyme.

whilere (hwaile(r)), *adv. arch.* [Orig. two words, WHILE *adv.* 2 and ERE; for the abbreviated spelling cf. *wherever*.] A while before; some time ago: = EREWHILE.

a1000 *Judith* 214 þa þe hwile ær elðeodigra edwit poledon. **c1386** CHAUCER *Can. Yeom. Prolog.* & T. 775 Helpeth me now as a dide yow whil eer. **c1412** HOCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 1317 Whyler, my sone, tolde I nought to be What habundance in youth I hadde of good. **c1460** J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 377 Son, take þy knyfe as y taught þe whileere, Kut fraue in þe dische riȝt as hit liethe there. **1590** SPENSER *F.Q.* I. ix. 28

That cursed wight, from whom I scapt whyleare. **1610** SHAKS. *Temp.* III. ii. 127 Will you trouble the Catch You taught me but whileare? **1630** MILTON *Circumcision* 10 He who with all Heaven's heraldry whileare Enter'd the world, now bleeds to give us ease. **a1652** BROME *Weeding of Gov.-Gorden* i. i, Mark how he stands, as if he had learn't a posture at Knightsbridge spittle as we came along whileare. **1767** MICKLE *Concub.* i. ii, Melodious Mulla! when, full oft whyleare, Thy gliding Murmurs soothed the gentle Brest Of hapless Spenser. **1808** SCOTT *Marmion* v. Intro. 139 My harp . . . Whose Anglo-Norman tones whilere Could win the royal Henry's ear. **1884** J. PAYNE *Tales from Arabic* I. 225 How joyous and how solaceful was life in them whilere!

whiles (hwailez), *sb.* (*advb. gen.*), *conj.* (*prep.*), *adv.* *Obs.* or *arch.* Forms: 3 hwhiles, 3-4 wiles, 4-5 whilis, whylys, whilles, whils, 4-6 whyls, 4-8 whyles, 5 whilez, whilys, whylis, whyllys, wilis, wylys, whills, (whels), 5-6 whilse, 6 whylse, 4-5 whiles; 3-4 quiles, 4 quyles, quilis, quylis, qwylys, quilis, qwhylyles, *Sc.* quhillez, 4-6 *Sc.* quhillis, 6 *Sc.* quhillis, quhyllis, quhyles, quhylys, 7-8 *Sc.* quhiles. [orig. in *advb.* and *conj. phr.*, as *sumehwiles* formerly, *oðerhwiles* at times, *perhwiles* while, meanwhile, formed with *advb.* -s on *sumhwile*, *oðerhwile*, *perhwile* (see SOMEWHILE(S), OTHER-WHILE(S), THEREWHILE(S)); on this type were modelled the expressions *þis* or *þat quiles*, to *quiles*, *long whiles*, a (good) *whiles*, etc. and the simple *conj.* *whiles*.]

I. †1. Preceded by a demonstrative *adj.*, indefinite article, or other qualifying word, forming *advb. phrases*: e.g. *that whiles*, at or during that time; *long whiles*, for a long while, etc. *Obs.*

13.. *Cursor M.* 5495 (Gött.) þat quiles ras þar a neu king. *Ibid.* 5713 þis quilis [Fairf. alle þis quyle] was in israel þe folk ledd in mekil vnwele. **c1330** R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 10198 In þat lough ar sexti iles—In þo þe dwelte longe whyles. **c1430** *Two Cookery-bks.* 42 Lat it sepe esyli, . . . a good whylys. **c1450** LOVELICH *Merlin* 9833 Thanne schal neuere kyng Arthewr . . . his lond in þes thanne non whyles holde. **c1540** tr. *Pol. Verg. Engl. Hist.* (Camden 1846) 254 In the meane whiles. **1594** R. ASHLEY tr. *Loys le Roy* 85 b, It endured hut a whiles. **1607** J. CARPENTER *Plaine Mans Plough* 233 Ye haue beene as sheepe going a great whiles astray. **1633** PRYNNE *Histrio-m.* I. 52 All which, if our Actors . . . would but a whils consider [etc.]. **1651** H. L'ESTRANGE *Answ. Mrq. Worc.* 91 Where God one whiles insinuates himself into the conscience in the language of a familiar Friend, another while reclaims it with the indignation of an incensed Judge. **1654** GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* IV. 289 Nor have the Wardens ventur'd all this whiles, To lay, except my selfe, one in those iles.

2. *the whiles*, *advb.* and *conj. phr.* = *the while*, WHILE *sb.* 2 a, b. †Also (rarely) *in whiles* as *conj.*

a1300 *Cursor M.* 3309 Bot ai þe quilis he ne fan To behald þat leue maidan. **13..** *Ibid.* 1729 (Gött.) Bot euer þe quilis þat he [sc. Noah] wrought, þe folk to preeh forgat he noȝt. **1375** BARBOUR *Bruce* III. 435 The king, the quhillis . . . Red to thaim. . . Romanys off worthi Ferambrace. **14..** *Northern Passion* 430 (Camb. II. 4. g) Here 3e schuln me A byde þe qwylys [v.r. to whyls, whils] I go here be syde. **1540** PALSGR. *Acolastus* III. v. Rjb, We wyll walke vp and downe . . . the whyles. **1583** STOCKER *Civ. Warres Lowe* C. IV. 4 b, All suche pointes, as thei could iustly find them selues agreed, and in whiles he gouerned, diminished. **1590** SPENSER *F.Q.* II. vii. 62 The whiles my hands I washt in puritie, The whiles my soule was soyld with foule iniquitie. **1609** HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* XIX. xii. 141 Paulus all the whiles was the prompter . . . of these cruell enterludes. **1632** HOLLAND *Cyropædia* 144 Perceiving . . . draught-beasts to draw other things, and feeding the whiles. **1759** COLMAN *Ode in Prose Sev. Occas.* (1787) II. 277 His heel Sparkles refulgent with elastic steel: The whiles he wins his whiffing way. **1808** SCOTT *Marmion* I. xiii, They feasted . . . The whiles a Northern harper rude Chanted a rhyme of deadly feud.

†3. *to whiles*, *advb.* and *conj. phr.* = 2. Also as *conj.*, to the time that, until. *Obs.*

a1300 *Cursor M.* 1729 Ai to-quils þat [noe] sa wrought þe folk to preche for-gate he noȝt. *Ibid.* 3889 To quilis haa lya in þi bedd, For-soth þan sal þou rachel wedd. *Ibid.* 4923 þan war þaa breper . . . prisund til þe thrid morn. . . To-quils sent ioseph þe yepe Men þair harnais for to kepe. **1338** R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 220 Suilk ribaudie þi led. . . To-whils Sir Edward had seisd alie Euesham. **1357** Lay *Folks Catech.* (T.) 139 To whiles that his bodi lai in the graue, The saule with the godhede went untill heil. **a1400** R. Brunne's *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 2645 þe while [Petyt MS. Towhils] þer fader was on lyue For þe royalmne gon þey to stryue. **c1400** *Ywayne & Gaw.* 1079, I dar yow hight, To have him her or the thrid nyght; Towhils efter yowr kownsayl send.

II. 4. *conj.* = WHILE *conj.* 1; also with *that*, †as. **c1220** *Bestiary* 256 in O.E. *Misc.* 8 Ðus 3e tileð ðar, wiles 3e time haueð. **c1275** *Ibid.* 144 We schulde . . . vs ibidde nyht and day hwhiles þat we libbe. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 1833 For quilis þat godd þam raght his grace, Littel roȝht þam of his manance. *Ibid.* 1948 To lof leute quilis þou mai lif. ? **a1400** *Morte Arth.* 3651 Thies ware the cheefe armes Of Arthure . . . qwhylyles he in erthe lengede. **c1440** *Generydes* 4037 Whels he sleppe this cursyd creature Full trayturyl with hir is goo. **c1465** *Chevy Chase* xxxvii, Fyghte ye, my myrry men, whyllys ye may. **1526** TINDALE *Matt.* v. 25 Agre with thine adversary at once, whiles thou arte in the waye with hym. **1551** TURNER *Herbal* I. Prol. Aijb, He that whilst other men feight, standeth in the top of a tre. **1572** *Salist. Poems Reform.* xxxiii. 108 Thir vertewis all scho had, quhyls scho stude aw Of God Eterne. **1593** SHAKS. *3 Hen. VI.* III. i. 39 The Tyger will be milde, whiles she doth mourne. **1633** PRYNNE *Histrio-m.* I. Ep. Ded., The pressing importunity . . . drew me whiles I was yet a novice. **a1648** DIGBY *Closet Opened* (1669) 156 No longer then whiles you can say the Miserere Psalm very leisurely. **1756** Mrs. CALDERWOOD in *Coltness Collect.* (Maitland Club) 189

Whiles Mr Calderwood went through the collodge.. with the fathers, Daniel attended me. **1858** MORRIS *Welland River* 230, I pray you, nurse-tend me, my knight, Whiles that I have my breath.

† **b. transf.** = WHILE *conj.* 2. *Obs.*

1551 TURNER *Herbal* 1. Prol. Aijb, For now (say they) euery man with out any study.. will become a Phisician... Whilse by occasyon of thys boke, euery man, nay euery old wyfe will presume not without the mordre of many, to practyse Phisick. **1580** FULKE *Retentive, Discov. Dang. Rock* xii. 248 Whiles the one will vrge a prerogative of Peter, the other will forge a Byshoplike office in the Apostles. **1610** HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* 1. 71 Whiles Gallienus.. gave himselfe over to... riotousnesse, the State of Rome.. lay dismembred as it were. **1665** EVELYN *Let. to Sir W. Coventry* 2 Oct., Sir William D'Oyly and myself have near ten thousand upon our care, whiles there seems to be no care of us.

† **5. conj. and prep.** Till, until: = WHILE *conj.* 3. **1398** Munim. de Melros (Bannatyne Cl.) 489 To be.. haldene.. qwhillez p'. satisfactioun and payement.. be.. made. **a1400** Pistill of Susan 177 Whiles þe Morwen to Middai and mare. **c1450** St. Cuthbert (Surtees) 7492 þare he bade whils he ware deede. **1526** Pilgr. Perf. (W. de W. 1531) 259 Whyles the nexte matyns. **1545** ASCHAM *Toxoph.* 1. 37b, I coulede.. reken vp suche a rable of shoters that be named.. in poetes, as wolde holde vs talkyng whyles tomorowe. **1601** SHAKS. *Twel. N.* iv. iii. 29 He shall conceale it Whiles you are willing it shall come to note.

6. adv. † **a. Formerly:** = WHILE *adv.* 2. *Sc. Obs.* **c1375** *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxvii. (Vincencius) 3 þis name vincensius to say Is man þat ourcumys ay, As sancte vincent quhilis dide Thru his pacience. **1573** *Satir. Poems Reform.* xli. 94 That Bogill thair that 3e hard blaw, With quhome quhyles 3e wer small content.

b. Sometimes: = WHILE *adv.* 1. Chiefly *Sc.*

In mod. use apprehended as sb. pl.: cf. WHILE *sb.* 6e. **c1480** HENRYSON *Two Mice* 7 Quhylye vnder busk, quhylye vnder breir, Quhylyis in the corne. **c1550** ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* 1. 356 Lufe.. alteris ay to euerie kinde and stait: Quhylyis to, quhylyis fra. **a1557** GRIMALDE in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 103 Italian whiles, and Spanish you do hear, and know full well. **1661** R. BAILLIE in *Lauderdale Papers* (Camden 1884) 1. 96 My hert whiles trimbles for you. **a1722** FOUNTAINHALL in M. P. Brown *Suppl. Dict. Decis.* (1826) II. 460 She took whiles fits of distraction. **1829** BROCKETT *N.C. Gloss.* (ed. 2) s.v., It rains whiles. **1830** NEWMAN *Verses Var. Occas.* (1868) 42 Keen regret and tearful yearning, Whiles unfelt, and whiles returning. **1886** STEVENSON *Kidnapped* xxvi, So we lay.., whiles whispering, whiles lying still.

whilest, obs. form of WHILST.

whilie ('hwailh). *Sc. dial.* Also whiley, whyllie. [f. WHILE *sb.* + -IE.] A short time.

1819 J. BURNES *Plays* 29 Master Clinton is out a whyllie syne. **1908** *Old-Lore Misc.* I. iv. 183 After it was burned a whyley. **1920** J. L. WAUGH *Heroes* 18 When ye've been a whilie here. **1951** N. M. GUNN *Well at World's End* xxiv. 214 'Be quiet!' she said.. 'I just came for a whilie to see them.' **1981** G. HAMMOND *Revenge Game* vi. 55 The inspector's house.. was let to a retired couple for a whilie, but they moved away up to Inverness.

whiling ('hwailɪŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. WHILE *v.* + -ING².] Of time: Passing tediously, tedious: see WHILE *v.* 3b.

1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 448 ¶1 The whiling Time, the gathering together, and waiting a little before Dinner, is the most awkwardly passed away of any Part in the four and twenty hours. *Ibid.* 522 ¶1 To pass away the whiling Moments and Intervals of Life.

whilk (hwilk). [?] Local name for the scoter, a species of wild duck.

a1705 RAY *Syn. Avium* (1713) 138 *Anser maximus niger*, The Whilk dictus, ineunte Bruma primum adveniēns. [Hence in later books.]

whilk, var. WHELK; dial. f. WHICH.

whill, obs. form of WHILE.

whillaloo ('hwiləlu:), *sb. (int., v.) dial.* Also 7 fuillilaloo, 8 whilly lou, 9 whillaluh, whillilu, whillilew, whillalew. [Ir. *uileliugh*. Cf. ULULU.] A cry or song of lamentation; an outcry, uproar, hubbub. Also as *int.* and *v. intr.* Cf. PILLALOO *sb. (int.)*.

1663 R. HEAD *Hic et Ubique* 1. vi. 18 Enter Patrick crying.. Fuillilaloo! **1790** JAS. FISHER *Poems* 65 She's sleeping now! Yet wakens wi' a greeting eye, An' whilly lou. **1800** MARIA EDGEWORTH *Castle Rackrent* Tales 1832 I. 5 Then such a fine Whillaluh! you might have heard it to the farthest end of the county. [*Ibid.* 100 The declining taste for the Ullaloo in Ireland.] **1820** HOGG *Winter Even. Tales* I. 162 What whillilu is that, Thou keep'st a trilling at? **1841** LEVER *O'Malley* lxxx, And sure I set up a whillilew myself. **1899** [see PILLALOO *sb. (int.)*]. **1977** *Times Lit. Suppl.* 22 Apr. 480/4 All those uncles trailing their coats and shouting whillaloo and clear the way.

Whillans ('hwilənz). The name of Don Whillans (1933–85), mountaineer, used *attrib.* of objects devised by him for the assistance of climbers, as *Whillans box*, a kind of frame tent (see quot. 1971¹); *Whillans harness*, a harness designed for use by mountaineers climbing fixed ropes; *Whillans whammer*, a kind of peg hammer or piton.

1971 C. BONINGTON *Annapurna South Face* v. 66 At this stage, Base Camp was no more than a staging camp, with a two-man tent and two Whillans Boxes... We had been worried that ordinary tents might prove inadequate on the very steep ground... Don had come up with the solution, designing a prefabricated, box-like structure, with a

framework of timber and an outer covering of proofed nylon. *Ibid.* xii. 147 This [sc. being on an ice cliff] was one place where Dougal found a use for the Whillans Whammer, Don's space-age climbing tool, for its squat, triangular-shaped pick proved ideal for this type of ice. **1972** D. HASTON *In High Places* xi. 118 Huddled into the back of the Whillans box—a super-strong frame tent designed by Don—we could only sit and wait. **1974** H. MACINNES *Climb to Lost World* ix. 137 It was ironic that the designer of the Whillans harness was the only member of the expedition who didn't have... one which would fit his ample girth. **1978** P. GILLMAN *Fitness on Foot* v. 73 The Willans harness is manufactured by the Lancashire company Troll.

whille, -ll(e)s, -llest, -llom(e, -llon, obs. ff. WHILE, WHILES, WHILST, WHILOM.

whilly ('hwɪlɪ), *v. Sc.* [? Short for WHILLYWHA *v.*] *trans.* = WHILLYWHA *v.*

1721 RAMSAY *Addr. to Town-Council Edin.* 10 They.. The honest Lieges whilly'd. **1737**—*Sc. Prov.* (1797) 91 Wise men may be whilly'd wi' wiles. **1820** SCOTT *Abbot* xvi, These baptized idols.. whilled the old women out of their corn and their candle ends.

whillywha ('hwɪlhwa:; -ɔ:), *sb. Sc.* Also -whaw, -whaa, -wa, whillie(e)wha, whullywha. [Of obscure origin.]

1. A wheedling or insinuating person; a flattering deceiver. Also *attrib.*

c1680 [F. SEMPILL] *Banishm. Poverty* in Watson *Coll. Sc. Poems* (1706) 1. 12 We fear'd no Reavers for our Money, Nor Whilly-whaes to grip our Gear. **1714** RAMSAY *Elegy on Couper* v, He gather'd Gear.. and left it a'! May be to some sad Whillywhaw o' fremit Blood. **1824** SCOTT *Redgauntlet* ch. xii, He's a whilly-whaw body and has a plausible tongue of his own. **1890** SERVICE *Notandums* xix, Ony whillywha o' an Englisher.

2. Wheedling speech, flattery, cajolery.

1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* v, I wish ye binna beginning to learn the way of blawing in a woman's lug wi' a' your whilly-wha's. **1843** BALLANTINE *Gaberlunzie's Wallet* x. 225 'Gae wa' wi' your whillywhaws,' said Nanny.

whillywha, *v. Sc.* [See prec.] *trans.* To take in or persuade by flattery; to wheedle, coax, cajole.

1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* xl, He canna whillywha me as he has dune mony a ane. **1893** STEVENSON *Catrina* xv, The fower lads.. tried to whillywha him to be quiet.

whilmele, -nesse: see WHILEMEAL, -NESS.

whilom ('hwailəm), *adv. (adj.), conj.* Forms: 1 hwilum, -on, -an, -un, wilum, 3 (*Orm.*) whilumm, hwilem, (h)wylem, hwylen, 3wilene, wilen, 3-4 whilen, 4 whylon, (whillhom), 4-5 whilum, 4-6 whylome, 4-7 whylom, 5 whylum, whilene, 6 whillon, (*Sc.* vhylome), 7 *Sc.* whillome, 8 whillom, 4- whilome, whilom; 3-4 quilum, 4 *Sc.* qwhilom, 4-5 *Sc.* quhilom, 4-6 *Sc.* quhilum, quhyulum, 5 *Sc.* qwhilum, qwhylum, qwylum, 6 quilome. [OE. *hwilum*, later -on, -an, = OS. *hwilon* at times (MDu., MLG. *wilen* formerly, Du. *wijlen* late = deceased), OHG. *hwilōn*, -on (MHG. *wilen*, *wilent*, G. *weiland* formerly) dat. pl. of WHILE *sb.*]

A. adv. (adj.)

† 1. At times: = WHILE *adv.* 1, WHILES 6b. *Obs.*

a900 O.E. *Martyrol.* 7 July, Ymb twegen dāgas, hwilum ymb þry, hwilum æfter ealre wucan. **a1000** *Boeth. Metr.* xxix. 53 Hwilum cerreð eft on uprodor ælbeorhta leg, leoht lyfte; ligeð him behindan hefig hrusan dæl, peah hit hwilan ær eorðe sio cealde oninnan hire heold. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 25166 þar es resun qui vr bon Es noght granted us quilum sun. **c1350** *Will. Palerne* 1788 Whilum þei went on alle four.. & whan þei wery were þei went vp-rihtes. **?a1400** *Morte Arth.* 1145 Thai tiltine to-gederz; Whilome Arthure ouer, and other-while vndyre. **c1550** *Freiris Berwik* 353 in *Maitland Folio MS.* (S.T.S.) 143 And quhylum he sat still in ane studeying, And quhylum on his buik he was reyding. **a1600** MONTGOMERIE *Misc. Poems* xlii. 24 Flie vhylome love, and it will folow thee.

2. At some past time; some time before or ago; once upon a time: = WHILE *adv.* 2, WHILES 6a. *arch.*

c1200 ORMIN 4868 Ure Laferrd Crist himm selff Uss jaff heroffie bisne, þær þær he se33de himm selff whilumm þurh hiss prophetess tunge. **c1205** LAY. 28633 þa was hit iwurðen þat Merlin seide whilen. **c1250** *Kent. Sermon* in O.E. *Misc.* 27 Hi offrede Stor, þet me offrede wylem be þo ialde laghe to here godes sacrefise. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 6786 To cumlinges do yee right na suike, For quilum war yee seluen slike. **c1386** CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 1 Whilom as olde stories tellen vs Ther was a duc þat highte Theseus. **c1425** WYNTOUN *Cron.* II. Prol. 22 As Orosius qwhilum wrate. **1513** BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* II. 2021 Auncient poetes.. Whilom flouryng in eloquence facundious. **1581** A. HALL *Iliad* iv. 66 Oyntments.. T'aswage the paine: the which whilom the cunning Chyron taughte To Esculape. **1582** STANYHURST *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 72 This Polydor whillon.. Too king Treicius was sent. **1656** EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Adets. fr. Parnass.* II. lxi. (1674) 213 The whilome powerful Kingdom of Hungary. **1682** DRYDEN *Mac Flecknoe* 35 The Lute I whilom strung. **1749** FIELDING *Tom Jones* x. viii, The 'squire.. began to roar forth the name of Sophia as loudly.. as whilom did Hercules that of Hylas. **1808** SCOTT *Marmion* IV. xi, Where oft whilom were captives pent. **1879** JEFFERIES *Wild Life in S. Co.* i. 10 The wistful eyes which whilom glanced down.. upon the sweet clover fields.

b. as *adj.* That existed, or was such, at a former time; former; †of a person, 'late', deceased (*obs.*): = WHILE *adv.* 2b. *arch.*

1452 in Tytler *Hist. Scot.* (1864) II. 387 All them that had arte or parte of the slaughter.. of whylum William, Earle of Douglas, my brother. **1581** A. HALL *Iliad* iv. 70 Thy whilome sire.. neuer quaild in mortal ioyne. **a1657** SIR W. MURE *Hist. Wks.* (S.T.S.) II. 249 Designeing her the wife to whilome S' Adame Mure. **1837** CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. v. iii, General Doppel, a whilom Medical man. **1868** G. DUFF *Pol. Surv.* 151 Mexico.. that whilom dependency of the Spanish Crown. **1888** BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* lxxvii. III. 17 When superstition and the habit of submission have vanished from the whilome subjects.

† 3. At a future time, some time; in future.

a1300 *Cursor M.* 17732 Quilum sal pis ilk barn Be to sum men in uprising, Til oper sum in dun falling. **1513** BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* 1. 81 Therfore I purpose.. All suche ydlenes whylom to refuse.

B. conj. = WHILE *conj.* 1, 3. *dial.*

1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle*, etc. 121 A man.. With whom his father held much conversation Whilome he livde. **1647** WARD *Simple Cobler* 51 Subjects their King, the King his Subjects greets, Whilome the Scepter and the Plough-staffe meets. **1854** MISS BAKER *Northampton. Gloss.*, Whilom, whilst, during which time. 'Stay whilom I come.'

¶ *Aberrant uses. of whilom:* for some time past. So *this whilom*.

1619 FLETCHER *Mons. Thomas* iv. ii, This mony I do give ye, because of whilom You have been thought my son. **c1620** Z. BOYD *Zion's Flowers* (1855) 72, I wot not, what in mee is come to pass, In mee this whilome who most gladelly was.

Hence [with -s, after WHILES] † *whiloms adv. Sc. Obs.* (5 quhillumys, 6 quhyllum(m)s, quhylomis; cf. WFriss. *wilens*), at times, sometimes.

a1500 Bernard. *de cura rei fam.* 219 Gef quhillumys pleseis ioculatoris, Fenze þe þar fantasy to here. **a1585** MONTGOMERIE *Flying* 508 In þe bark of ane bowtrrie, quhyllumis they bed it. **1768** ROSS *Helenore* 1. 69 Whiloms they tented, an' sometimes they plaid.

whilse, obs. form of WHILES.

whilst ('hwailst), *adv., conj. (prep.)* Forms: 4 quilest, -ist, quylest, -ist, 5 qwhilste, whylst, 5-6 whylest, 6 whillest, whylyst, wylst, *Sc.* quhylest, 6-7 whilest, 7 whil'st, 6- whilst. [f. WHILES + -t as in *amongst*, *amidst*.]

1. *a.* In advb. phr. *the whilst* (obs. or rare arch.), also (rare) † to *whilst*, in *the whilst*, or as simple adv. *whilst* (obs. exc. dial.): During that time, meanwhile. Also † *a whilst*: for a time.

c1375 *Cursor M.* 6417 (Fairf.) þe quilest moises helde vp his hende Hit was wele in þe batel kende, For ay to quilest witerly Had goddis folk þe ouer maistri. **1595** in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. IV. 116, I served a whilst with the late Erle of Leycester. **1601** SHAKS. *Twel. N.* iv. ii. 4 Doe it quickly. He call sir Toby the whilst. **1613** BEAUM. & FL. *Cupid's Rev.* II. v, Go run, And tell the Duke; And whilst I'll close her eyes. **1646** H. LAWRENCE *Commun. Angels* 113 If God would doe all, and men might sleepe the whilst. **1671** H. M. tr. *Erasm. Colloq.* 228 Alway, except that in the whilst at the first, I lived four years at Padua. **c1672** ROXB. *Ball.* (1888) VI. 500 Though present you be, all the whilst that they dine. **1683** in *10th Vol. Walpole Soc.* (1922) 67 Pray.. forget not the proposal of Sr: Yours Really whilst F. Place. **1819** SCOTT *Ivanhoe* x, But a small sum; something in hand the whilst. **1895** JAS. PRIOR *Renie* xxi, Why don't you send for the p'liceman whilst?

b. the whilst, conj. phr. (also with *that*): During the time that; while; †when. *Obs.* or *rare arch.*

c1375 *Cursor M.* 2966 (Fairf.) þe folk ware ful of pride þe quylest he dwelled ham bi-side. *Ibid.* 15461 þe quilest þat 3e me se him kis Lay hande on him. **1582** STANYHURST *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 79 Thee whilst fayre Phæbus thee yeers course roundlye reuolued. **1595** SHAKS. *John* iv. ii. 194, I saw a Smith stand with his hammer (thus) The whilst his Iron did on the Anuile coole. **1625** FLETCHER & SHIRLEY *Nt. Walker* 1. i, Make your mirth, the whilst I bear my misery. **1798** *Anti-Jacobin* No. 25 (1799) II. 237 Each his head.. Shakes, the whilst his tale is told.

2. *conj.* (†also with *that*) = WHILE *conj.* 1, b, d, WHILES 4.

c1375 *Cursor M.* 2085 (Fairf.) He liued lelly quylyst he mozt. *Ibid.* 5491 Quylest atte Ioseph regned þare his breþer in egipte regnande ware. **1435** MISYV *Fire of Love* II. ix. 91 Slike frenschyp is fenyd, for it may not last bot qwhilst lust & profett bydis. **c1450** in Aungier *Syon* (1840) 308 A clothe, up on the which the professors must lygh prostrat whylst the letany is in syngyng aftr masse. **1569** *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* Ser. 1. II. 4 The parliament held quhylest scho was in Lochlevin. **1579** LYLly *Euphues* 1. Pijb, Whilest that the childe is young, let him be instructed in vertue and lyterature. **1598** SHAKS. *Merry W.* 1. i. 186 He nere be drunk whilst I liue againe, but in honest, ciuill, godly company. **a1631** DONNE *Serm.*, Ps. xxxii. 6 (1640) 597 Woe unto us, if we seeke him not whilst he affords us these helps. **1635** JACKSON *Creed* VIII. viii. 73 During the time of his humiliation here on earth, or whilst hee became hostage for our Redemption. **1669** WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* 222 The Trees.. and Fields are now naked, unless clothed in white, whilst the Countrey-man sits at home, and enjoys the Fruit of his past labours. **1703** DE FOE *More Reform.* 12 With lame pretences they revive Those Lines when Dead, he blush'd at whilst alive. **1782** ELIZ. BLOWER *Geo. Bateman* III. 7 All in less time than whilst one could cry—'A good riddance'. **1818** SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* xxi, Fetch us up a bottle of the Burgundy... And I say, Craigie, you may fetch up half-a-dozen whilst you are about it. **1848** THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxv, Be quiet whilst the tempest lasts. **1918** *Act 8 & 9 Geo. V* c. 17 Sched. 1. ii, Such revocation shall not be made whilst the Bill.. is pending in either House.

† *b. prep.* During. *Obs. rare*—1.

1591 SPARRY tr. *Cattan's Geomancie* 186 Whilest the time that the Emperour Charles the fift was at Nece.. I was requested.. to make him a fygure.

3. *transf.* = WHILE *conj.* 2 a, b, c.

1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Matt.* vi. 26 Whilest they catche after a vayne reward here, they be disapointed of that, whiche onelye aught to be desyred. 1586 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* i. 15 Whilest they [sc. the Stoics] granted to mans power such an excellent and divine disposition, they lift him up in a vain presumption. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* ii. i. 88 His company must do his minions grace, Whil'st I at home starue for a merrie looke. c 1600 — *Sonn.* xxxvii. 10, I am not lame, poore, nor dispis'd, Whilst that this shadow doth such substance giue. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* i. 1 There is a place... where... thousands of the Heads of Oxen were digged up, whereat the Ignorant wondred, whilest the Learned well understood them to be the proper Sacrifices to Diana. 1699 GARTH *Dispens.* ii. 20 Portia... Laments her barren Curse, and begs a Son. Whilst Iris, his cosmetic Wash, must try, To make her Bloom revive, and Lovers dye. 1741 MIDDLETON *Cicero* I. iii. 152 The Knights... considered him as the pride and ornament of their order, whilst he, to ingratiate himself the more with them, affected always... to boast of that extraction. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxix, Whilst her appearance was an utter failure... Mrs. Rawdon Crawley's *début* was, on the contrary, very brilliant. 1890 L. C. D'OYLE *Notches* 4 One day the right leg would be disabled, whilst the next day it would be the left leg that suffered. 1907 *Athenæum* 3 Aug. 129/2 It is not to be found in the Boston... or the Congress Libraries, whilst the copy at Harvard is imperfect.

4. *conj.* Till, until: = WHILE *conj.* 3, WHILES 5. *Obs. exc. dial.*

c 1520 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 324, I pray you, Larges, here to remayne, Whylest I knowe what this letter dothe containe. *Ibid.* 685 Tary whylyst that I come agayne. 1594 GREENE & LODGE *Looking Gl. Lond.* 451 My wife might blow whilst she burst. 1653 *Cloria & Narcissus* i. 308 There to remaine... whilst she heard some newes of Narcissus.

whilt(e, obs. north. ff. QUILT *sb.*¹

whilum, obs. form of WHILOM.

† whilwendlic, a. *Obs.* [OE. *hwilwendlic*, f. *hwil* WHILE *sb.* + stem of *wendan* to turn, WEND *v.* + *-lic* -LY¹.] Lasting for a time, temporary.

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xiii. 21 Hyt næfþ pone wyrtrum on him ac is hwilwendlic. c 1200 ORMIN 18825 þatt arke iss whilwendlike ping & eldeþþ & forwurrþeþþ.

whilwh, whily, obs. ff. WILLOW, WILY.

whim (hwim), *sb.*¹ Also 8 *whym*. [See WHIM-WHAM. The transference of meaning from branch I to branch II is similar to that in ENGINE and GIN *sb.*¹]

I. †1. A pun or play on words; a double meaning. *Obs.*

1641 BROME *Jov. Crew* i. (1652) B1b, There was the whim, or double meaning on't. *Ibid.*, One told a Gentleman His son should be a man-killer, and hang'd for't; Who, after prov'd a great and rich Physician, And with great Fame ith' Universitie Hang'd up in Picture for a grave example. There was the whim of that. Quite contrary! *Ibid.* B2b, Shall Squire Oldrent's Daughters Weare old rents in their Garments? (there's a whim too).

2. †a. A fanciful or fantastic creation; a whimsical object. *Obs.*

1678 BUTLER *Hud.* iii. 1. 108 When he... Had rified all his Pokes and Fobs Of Gimeracks, Whims and Jiggumbobs. 1712-13 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 16 Jan., I came home at seven, and began a little whim, which just came into my head; and will make a threepenny pamphlet. 1731 CHENY *List Horse-Matches* 89 This Prize is call'd a Whim or whimsical Plate, because the Conditions of running for the same, are different from those of all other Prizes. 1752 HUME *Ess. & Treat.* (1777) I. 275 Were the testimony of history less positive... such a Government [as that of Sparta] would appear a mere philosophical whim or fiction. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstrel* I. 111 Some may praise the grass-plat whims. Which the gard'ner weekly trims.

†b. A whimsical fellow. *Obs.*

1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 371 ¶2 That sort of Men who are called Whims and Humourists.

c. In ombre, the deciding on the trump suit by turning up the top card of the stock.

1874 H. H. GIBBS *Ombre* 41 *note*, Voltereta, though known in England (under the name of the Whim), was not appreciated there.

3. A capricious notion or fancy; a fantastic or freakish idea; an odd fancy.

1697 VANBRUGH *Prov. Wife* ii. ii, Walking pretty late in the Park... A Whim took me to sing Chevy-Chace. 1702 SAVERY *Miner's Friend* 80 Many such like Whims [as perpetual motion] are pretended to by Designing Men. 1713 HEARNE *Collect.* (O.H.S.) IV. 254 The New-Printing House just erected, wch is (it seems, out of a Whim) to be called Typographeum Clarendonianum. 1781 COWPER *Truth* 89 See the sage hermit... Wearing out life in his religious whim, Till his religious whimsy wears out him. 1832 HT. MARTINEAU *Ella of Gar.* viii, The scheme was no whim of the moment. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xlii, Mrs. Dombey may be in earnest, or she may be pursuing a whim, or she may be opposing me. 1899 CONAN DOYLE *Duet, Confessions*, There are all... degrees of love, some just the whim of a moment, and others the passion of a lifetime.

b. In generalized sense: Capricious humour or disposition of mind.

a 1721 PRIOR *Enigma*, 'Form'd half beneath, etc.' 7 They [sc. skates] serve the poor for use, the rich for whim. 1728 POPE *Dunc.* iii. 153 Sneering Goode, half malice and half whim. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* xii. i. (Rtldg.) 423, I came up to pay my devotions; but whim, or perhaps revenge... determined her to put on the stranger. 1884 STEVENSON *Mem. & Portraits* xvi. (1887) 275 Mr. Besant so genial... with so persuasive and humorous a vein of whim.

c. *Comb.*

1647 WARD *Simple Cobler* 25 These whimm' Crown'd shées, these fashion-fansying wits. 1786 BURNS *Bard's Epit.*

i, Is there a whim-inspir'd fool, Owre fast for thought, owre hot for rule... Let him draw near.

II. 4. A machine, used esp. for raising ore or water from a mine, consisting of a vertical shaft carrying a large drum with one or more radiating arms or beams to which a horse or horses, etc. may be yoked and by which it may be turned, the rope being wound on the drum by the horse's motion. Also *horse-whim*.

1738 MSS. *Dk. Portland* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) VI. 177 This Lord has destroyed the old ridiculous water works and whims that were then when made much in vogue. 1759 B. MARTIN *Nat. Hist. I. Cornwall* 11 A Wheel and Axle, (which they call a Whim). 1778 PRYCE *Min. Cornub.* 143 A proper working Shaft, upon which a Whym may be erected. 1859 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* xxxvi, They above... were rigging a rope to an old horse-whim. 1890 'R. BOLDEWOOD' *Miner's Right* xlv, The whole plant, the whim, the tools... —every mortal thing down to a worn-out hide bucket—was sold.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *whim-driver*, *-engine*, *-gin*, *-horse*, *-house*, *-kibble*, *-rope*, *-round*, *-shaft*.

1757 BORLASE in *Phil. Trans.* L. 504 The whim-house shook so terribly, that a man there at work ran out of it, concluding it to be falling. 1778 PRYCE *Min. Cornub.* 144 A whym Shaft to draw the Deads and Ore from the Sump of the Mine. *Ibid.* 150 Two horses... go round upon a platform named the Whym-round. *Ibid.* 165 In deep Mines, some whym ropes cost fifty or sixty pounds. *Ibid.* Gloss. s.v. *Kibbal*, A Whym-Kibbal is a larger [bucket], which... serves to draw water with, or bring up the Ore to grass. 1789 BRAND *Hist. Newc.* II. 684 In a whim gin the ropes run upon two wheel pulleys over the shaft. 1834 2nd *Rep. Cornwall Polytechn. Soc.* 41 The Steam Whim Engine. 1855 LEIFCHILD *Cornwall* 139 Shafts... intended for the extraction of ores (called whim-shafts where horse-whims are employed for extracting the produce). 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 84 Whim Driver. 1896 J. HOCKING *Fields of Fair Renown* i, The boy who drove the 'whim horse' cracked his whip.

¶ In sense 4 a variant *whin* is found.

1838 SIMMS *Publ. Wks. Gt. Brit.* ii. 3 Cutting the whin ropes nearly through. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech. Suppl.*, *Whin* (Mining), a machine for raising ores and refuse. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 9 June 5/3 Rolling a large oak tree with a timber whin.

Hence *whimmed* a., ? possessed with a whim or odd fancy; 'whimmery', a piece of whimsicality; 'whimship', mock title for a whimsical person.

1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* i. viii. 29 Our Don (or if Sancho had the braines, for the Squires were *whim'd in the whiske) might very well from that encounter have stil'd himself a Knight of Millan. 1837 *Fraser's Mag.* XV. 333 Had not Mr. Pugin's attention been too exclusively engrossed by that architectural *whimmery. 1906 T. SINTON *Poetry of Lochaber* 182 We can imagine the swing of his bow with many a pause and twirl carrying through the whimeries of the rhyme. 1793 *Ann. Reg.*, *Projects* 337 You're sure to find his *Whimship there.

whim, *sb.*² [Of unknown origin.] The European wigeon.

a 1705 RAY *Syn. Avium* (1713) 146 *Penelope* Aldrov. An *Anas fistularis*? The Wigeon, or Whewer, or Whim. [Hence in later works.]

whim (hwim), *v.* [f. WHIM *sb.*¹]

1. †a. *intr.* with *it*: To play the whimsical fellow. †b. *trans.* To put off by a whim or fancy. c. To desire capriciously, to have an odd fancy for. Hence 'whimming *ppl.* a., whimsical, capricious.

1704 T. BAKER *Act at Oxf.* iii. ii. 32 *Blo.* [*Aside*] The Rogue whims it rarely. 1710 R. WARD *Life H. More* 216 He knew not, how he came to be whimm'd off from it (as his expression was). 1787 HOWIE *Plain Reas. Diss.* 215 [The motion] was rejected on the whimpering pretence there was no present danger. 1842 MRS. TROLLOPE *Vis. Italy* i. x. 153 What he whimmed to will, that he had power to do. 1860 S. MARTIN *Westm. Chapel Pulpit* ii. 15 He expects us to do not what we whim.

2. *intr.* Of the head: To be giddy, to 'swim'. Now *dial.*

1700 CONGREVE *Way of World* iv. 61 My head begins to whim it about—Why dost thou not speak? thou art both as drunk and as mute as a Fish. 1716-20 *Lett. Mist's Jrnl.* (1722) I. 88 The first Night he retired to his Chamber, his Head whimm'd immediately.

whim, var. QUEME a., WHIN, WIM *v.*

whimberry ('hwimbəri), *local.* Forms: 1 winberige, 5 wyneberie, 7 win(ne)berry, 8 wind-berry, 9 winberry, w(h)imberry. [Assimilated f. *winberry*, alteration of *winberry* (representing, with normal vowel-shortening, OE. *winberige*; cf. WINEBERRY) by association with WHIN¹.] The bilberry or whortleberry.

a 1100 in Napier *O.E. Glosses* 132/5194 *Baccinarum*, winberigena. c 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 78 Aftur mete peeres, nottys, strawberies, wyneberies, and hardches. 1610 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 189 Given to a wenche which brought winberies from Burneley woode, iiii^d. 1611 COTGR., *Morets*, winne-berries, hurtle-berries. 1634-5 BRERETON *Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) I. 131 Winberries made me subject to fainting also, and are churlish things for the stomach. 1776 WITHERING *Bot. Arrangem.* 228 Blackworts... Biberries [sic]. Wind-berry. 1847 HALLIWELL, *Whimberries*, bilberries. 1857 PRATT *Flower. Pl.* III. 351 Bilberry, or Whortleberry... This elegant shrub... is sometimes called also Winberry. 1860 W. WHITE *Wrekin* viii. 74 Bilberries,—wimberries, as the rustics call

them. 1862 KINGSLEY *Water Bab.* i, The heath was full of bilberries and whimberries. 1882 LEES & CLUTTERBUCK *Three in Norway* xxi. 177 Four winberry tarts... and a venison pie. 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 24 Aug. 10/1 Bilberry... is merely the midland name for the bleaberry of the North, the whortleberry of the West, and the winberry of the Welsh Border.

whimble: see WIMBLE, WIMPLE.

whimbrel ('hwimbrel). Forms: 6 whympernell (?), 7, 9 wimbrel, 9 whimbrell, 7- whimbrel. [? f. WHIMP or WHIMPER *v.*, from the bird's cry. Cf. for the ending *dotterel*, *titterel*.] Applied to various small species of curlew, esp. the European *Numenius phaeopus*.

1530-1 *Durham Househ. Bk.* (Surtees) 46, 3 curleus et 1 whympernell 13d. 1678 RAY *Willughby's Ornith.* 294 The Whimbrel: Arquata minor... Mr. Johnson of Brignal, in his Papers communicated to us, describes this Bird by the name of a Whimbrel thus. It is less by half than the Curlew, hath a crooked Bill, but shorter by an inch and more. 1688 *Phil. Trans.* XVII. 997 Curlews something less than our English, tho' bigger than a Wimbrel. 1768 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* II. 514 The Whimbrel entirely leaves England in the Spring. 1863 BARING-GOULD *Iceland* vi. 100 Whimbrel and golden plover pipe and wail in all directions. 1897 *Spectator* 14 Aug. 210/1 On the fringe of a muddy creek... were some thirty whimbrel... with three or four curlews. 1898 J. A. GIBBS *Cotswold Village* 102 There are wimbrels and curlews that have been shot here... stuffed and hung up in glass cases.

†whimling. *Obs.* Also 7 -len. [Cf. WHIFLING and *whinnelling* s.v. WHINDLE.] A miserable or insignificant creature.

1612 BEAUM. & FL. *Coxcomb* iv. i, Go whimling, and fetch two or three grating loaves out of the Kitching. 1616 B. JONSON *Masques, Love Restored*, Before I could procure my properties, alarum came, that some o' the whimlen's had too much.

whimmy ('hwimi), a. Also 9 *whimy*. [f. WHIM *sb.*¹ + -Y¹.] Of the nature of a whim; full of whims; whimsical, capricious.

1785 *Strother's Jrnl.* (1912) 66 A whimmy thought struck him that Aram was following him for the bone. 1827 COLERIDGE in *Lit. Rem.* (1839) IV. 314 The study of Rabbinical literature either finds a man *whimmy*, or makes him so. 1880 ADEL. SARTORIS *Past Hours* I. 162 She is very uncertain and whimmy, and has an immense *amour propre* about it. 1889 MARY E. CARTER *Mrs. Severn* II. iv, 'Perhaps it is only a whim,' said Anna. 'She's not a *whimy* body'.

whimp (hwimp), *v. local.* In 6 *whympe*, 9 *wimp*. [Echoic.] *intr.* To whimper. Hence as *sb.*

1549 LATIMER *3rd Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 77 Sainte Paule sayed. There shall be intractables, that wil whympe and whine. 1890 *Glouc. Gloss.*, *Wimp*, to whine; of a dog. 1925 *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 169/2 'Don't whimper,' I said to Irene. 'I am not whimpering, daddy.' *Ibid.* 173/1 This was something beyond a whimper.

whimper ('hwimpə(r)), *sb.* [f. next.]

1. a. A feeble, broken cry, as of a child about to burst into tears; a fretful cry expressive of complaint or grief.

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Whimper*, a low, or small Cry. a 1734 NORTH *Exam.* iii. vii. §63. (1740) 550 After a few Whimpers and a Wipe, he said... That... he knew... he was in the Wrong. 1839 CARLYLE *Ess.*, *Sinking of Vengeur* (1857) IV. 218 Some vague faint murmur or whimper of admission. 1874 BURNAND *My time* xxvii. 256 A whimper in her voice expressive of utter helplessness.

b. A similar cry of dogs, etc.

1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* II. xxiv, The loved caresses of the maid The dogs with crouch and whimper paid. 1852 R. S. SURTEES *Sponge's Sp. Tour* lxviii. 383 The scent improved a little, and... a hound or two indulged in a whimper. 1859 BURTON *Centr. Africa in Jrnl. Geog. Soc.* XXXIX. 83 The hyena's whimper, and the fox's whining bark. 1906 TREVES *Highways Dorset* xiii. 197 The voice of the preacher is apt to be interrupted by the whimper of circling seagulls.

c. *transf.* Of inanimate things.

1895 W. WATSON *Hymn to Sea* 6 Braying of arrogant brass, whimper of querulous reeds. 1897 'O. RHOSCOMYL' *White Rose Arno* xxii, The clank of capstan and the whimper of sheaves.

2. *not with a bang but a whimper*: see BANG *sb.*¹ 2 a.

whimper ('hwimpə(r)), *v.* Also 6 *whymper*, *wimper*, *Sc. quhymp*. [Echoic. Cf. WHIMP.]

1. *intr.* To utter a feeble, whining, broken cry, as a child about to burst into tears; to make a low complaining sound.

1513 DOUGLAS *Aeneis* II. xii. 14 The jing childring, and frayit matrounis eik, Stude all on raw, with mony pteuous screik... quhympereand woundir sair. 1530 PALSGR. 781/1 The poore boye whympereth a lytell, but he dare nat wepe for his lyfe. 1589 NASHE *Martin Marprelate* Wks. (Grosart) I. 184 He whimpered and put finger in the eye. 1644 QUARLES *Sheph. Oracles* vii. (1646) 84 We... compose Strange ruffull faces; whimper in the nose. 1727 GAY *Begg. Op.* i. xiii, The Boy, thus, when his Sparrow's flown... Whines, whimpers, sobs and cries. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* iii, Get you away now you have said your lesson. You needn't whimper. 1912 MRS. ALLEN HARKER *Mr. Wycherly's Wards* xiv. 202 Baby began to whimper.

b. *fig.* To complain pulingly; to 'whine': esp. *for*, *after*, †to something.

1549 LATIMER *3rd Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 76 Was there euer yet preachers, but ther were gaynsaiars... yat whympered agaynste him? 1644 QUARLES *Sheph. Oracles* vii. (1646) 76 Time was, Adelphus, that my wants would whine And whimper in poore rags as well as thine. a 1653 G.

DANIEL *Idyll* iii. 43, I..whimper to the Teat, though Strong enough To digest meat. 1815 W. H. IRELAND *Scribblemania* 190 The great Grecian youth, Who whimper'd for more worlds to conquer. 1828 SCOTT *F.M. Perth* viii, Proudful... began to cry for assistance... and almost in the same breath to whimper for mercy. 1842 PEEL in *Croker Papers* 27 July (1884) II. 383 Farmers... were whimpering over advertisements offering fresh meat [etc.]. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lxvii, She is still whimpering after that gaby of a husband—dead... these fifteen years. 1894 JESSOPP *Rand. Roam* vi. 196 For ever whimpering for the days that are gone.

c. *trans.* To utter or express in a whimper. 1784 COWPER *Task* iv. 429 But poverty, with most who whimper forth Their long complaints, is self-inflicted woe. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xxviii, 'You deal with me better than your word, noble knight,' whimpered forth poor Wamba. 1820 HOGG *Tales, Allan Gordon* (1837) I. 314 The generous animal whined and whimpered her joy. 1891 FARRAR *Darkn. & Dawn* lxx, He still kept whimpering, 'Only to think that such an artist as I am must perish!'

2. *intr.* Of an animal, esp. a dog: To utter a feeble querulous cry.

1576 TURBERV. *Venerie* xxxix. 108 He [*sc.* a hound] will streyne and lappseye, or whympyr, or sometime call on plainly. 1641 W. CARTWRIGHT *Siege* i. iv, Whimpering at The Chamber door, like to the little Spaniel. 1825 J. NEAL *Bro. Jonathan* I. 335 The dog stopped; whimpered; looked him in the face. 1898 M. HEWLETT *Forest Lovers* xxx, The dogs whimpered and tugged at the leash; they doubtless knew that there was blood in her.

3. Of running water or the wind: To make a continuous plaintive murmur. Also *trans.*

1795 H. MACNEILL *Will & Jean* i. xx, In a howm, wha's bonnie burnie Whimperin row'd its crystal flood. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk.* II. 358 The little brook that whimpered by his school-house. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstrel* II. 106 The brook mourns dripping o'er its pebbly bed, And whimpers soothingly a calm serene. 1891 KIPLING *Engl. Flag* i. Verse 1919 I. 290 Winds of the World, give answer! They are whimpering to and fro—And what should they know of England who only England know?

Hence 'whimpered *ppl.* a. (sense 1 c). 1892 G. MEREDITH *Teaching of Nude* i. Poet. Wks. (1912) 410 A Satyr... fetching whimpered tunes For words.

whimperer ('hwɪmpərə(r)). [*f.* prec. + -ER¹.] One who whimpers.

1737 OZELL *Rabelais* II. vii. 66 *note*, *Marmiteux*, a Whimperer. 1739 JARVIS *Don Quix.* i. i. (1742) I. 3 No finical gentleman, nor such a whimperer as his brother. 1841 EMERSON *Ess.* Ser. i. ii. 75 We are become timorous, desponding whimperers. 1863 HOLME LEE *A. Warleigh* III. 241 When her wee whimperer would allow any voice but his own to be heard.

whimpering ('hwɪmpərɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [*f.* prec. vb. + -ING¹.] The action of the verb WHIMPER.

1522 MORE *De quat. Noviss.* Wks. 89 Yf we... liue in puling & whimpering & heuines of hert. 1621 T. GRANGER *Ecclies.* xii. 4. 320 The noise of little birds, the whimpering of mice, euery small strirage waketh them. 1621 MARKHAM *Hungers Prevention* 274 A kinde of whimpering and whining in his [*sc.* the dog's] voice. 1660 H. MORE *Myst. Godl.* x. vii. 509 He will not... be put off with solemn whimperings, Hypocritical Confessions, ruful faces. 1735 SOMERVILLE *Chase* i. 225 The... Hound... Bounds o'er the Lawn to seize his panting Prey And in imperfect Whimp'rings speaks his Joy. 1832 W. IRVING *Alhambra* II. 102 His wife received him... with whimperings and repinings. 1851 D. JERROLD *St. Giles* viii. 78 There was no sham whimpering... but the boy's heart seemed touched. 1902 L. STEPHEN *Stud. Biogr.* IV. v. 188 Many men of business... enjoy in strict privacy a little whimpering over a novel.

whimpering ('hwɪmpərɪŋ), *ppl. a.* [*f.* prec. vb. + -ING².] That whimpers, in various senses.

1598 E. GUILPIN *Skial.* (1878) 29 Their whimpring Sonnets, puling Elegies Slaunder the Muses. 1622 MASSINGER & DEKKER *Virg. Mart.* II. i, Our whimpring Lady and Mistresse sent mee. 1648 HERRICK *Hesp.*, To *Primroses fill'd with Morning Dew* ii, Speak, whimpring Younglings, and make known The reason, why Ye droop, and weep. 1735 R. SAVAGE *Progr. Divine* Wks. 1777 II. 121 Be yours the blubb'ring lip, and whimpring eye! 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* xxiv, With heads erect, and whimpering cry, The hounds behind their passage ply. 1840 THACKERAY *Paris Sk.-bk.*, *Mme. Sand*, Any one can see why Rousseau should be such a whimpering reformer. 1879 BROWNING *Ivan Ivanovitch* 205 The whimperingest cub that ever squeezed the teat!

Hence 'whimperingly *adv.* 1878 STEVENSON *Inland Voy.* 157 He would suddenly break away and begin whimperingly to commiserate the poor.

whimpe, whimsey: see WIMPLE, WHIMSY.

† **whimseycado**. *Obs. nonce-wd.* [*f.* WHIMSICAL + -ado Sp. suffix = -ATE¹.] (?) A whim.

1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* iv. v. 201 If *Amadis du Gaul* and *Palmerin* Be lies, what whimsey-cados are we in?

† **whimsic, a.** *Obs. rare.* [*f.* as next + -IC.] *whimsic chair* = WHIMSY *sb.* 5.

1684 *Ballads illustr. Gt. Frost* (Percy Soc.) 29 Dutch whirling, whimsic chair, Turning more swift than unrestrained air.

whimsical ('hwɪmzɪkəl), *a. (sb.)* Also 7 *whym-*. [*f.* WHIMS(Y + -ICAL).]

1. Of persons, their actions, thoughts, etc.: Full of, subject to, or characterized by a whim or whims; actuated by or depending upon whim or caprice.

1653 W. RAMESEY *Astrol. Rest.* To Rdr. 10 So they fell to words and at last (to end this Whimsical controversie) they resolved to kill one another. *Ibid.* 11 Were not they better be

grave, sober, serious, then whymiscal, fickle and fantastical? 1690 C. NESSE *O. & N. Test.* I. 251 So do the whimsical Enthusiasts... make long relations of strange dreams. 1703 EARL ORRERY *As you find it* III. i. 35 A Man with a fantastical, whimsical Stomach may starve in the midst of Plenty, not for want of Food, but such as he likes. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 101 ¶7 One Sir Roger de Coverley, a whimsical Country Knight. 1756 BURKE *Subl. & Beaut.* III. xi. (1759) 208 It has given rise to an infinite deal of whimsical theory. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* iv. vii. ¶2 One of those old codgers who have been a little whimsical or so in their youth. 1839 HALLAM *Lit. Eur.* II. vii. §20 It would be rather whimsical to deny this to be a principal merit in a comparison. 1875 J. E. T. ROGERS *Protests of Lords* I. Pref. p. lvi, Two whimsical dissents from Lords Radnor and Abingdon.

2. Characterized by deviation from the ordinary as if determined by mere caprice; fantastic, fanciful; freakish, odd, comical.

1675 E. WILSON *Spadacre. Dunelm.* Pref. B 5 b, Panacæa's, Universal Medicines, Secrets, and such like whimsical Remedies. 1687 T. BROWN *Saints in Uproar* Wks. 1730 I. 79 The most whimsical scene of the farce is still behind. 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 29 Nov. 1644, A whimsical chayre, which folded into so many varieties as to turn into a bed, a bolster, a table, or a couch. 1710 SWIFT *Lett.* (1767) III. 57 Is it not whimsical that the dean has never once written to me? 1769 BURKE *Corr.* (1844) I. 165 Matters here are in a situation whimsical enough. 1773 WESLEY *Jrnl.* 29 Nov., Wks. 1830 IV. 5, I went... to Sheerness; over that whimsical ferry, where footmen and horses pay nothing. 1826 F. REYNOLDS *Life & Times* I. 193 The Germans are whimsical animals in their appearance. 1836 BRANDE *Chem.* (ed. 4) 17 Alembics, stills, retorts, receivers, and a variety of whimsical and complex vessels. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* ix. 66 Our senator... looked after his little wife with a whimsical mixture of amusement and vexation. 1890 *Science-Gossip* XXVI. 85 All these whimsical prescriptions gradually fell out of the Pharmacopœias.

absol. 1740 CIBBER *Apol.* (1756) I. 112 Who... delighted more in the whimsical than the natural. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* xxiv, Hesitating between the respect he ought to assume, and his love of the whimsical.

† b. Subject to uncertainty or the 'caprice of fortune'. *Obs.*

1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 151 Must the bread of Life be ground only by the winde of every Doctrine? and whimsical Wind-Mills? 1700 CONGREVE *Way of World* II. vii, A Fellow that lives in a Windmill has not a more whimsical Dwelling than the Heart of a Man that is lodg'd in a Woman. There is no Point of the Compass to which they cannot turn. 1716 ADDISON *Freeholder* No. 18 ¶3, I shall only take notice of the whimsical circumstances a people must lie under, who can be thus made poor or rich by an edict. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) III. 191 Poor man! he stands a whimsical chance between us.

B. *sb.* (in *pl.*) A cant name for a section of the Tories in the reign of Queen Anne: see *quots.*

1714 SWIFT *Pres. St. Aff.* Wks. 1841 I. 492/2 That race of politicians, who in the cant phrase are called the whimsicals. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* xxvii, Many of the High Church party... affected to separate their principles from those of the Jacobites, and, on that account, obtained the denomination of Whimsicals.

whimsicality. [*f.* prec. adj. + -ITY.] The quality or state of being whimsical; whimsicalness; oddity, fantasticalness. Also with *a* and *pl.*

1760 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* III. xxxiii, The whimsicality of my father's brain was far from having the whole honour of this. 1800 MARIA EDGEWORTH *Belinda* ii, Lady Delacour... laughed affectedly at her own whimsicalities. 1844 HOOD (*title*) *Whimsicalities*, a periodical gathering. 1850 L. HUNT *Autobiogr.* vi. (1860) 117 Lewis was a comedian of the rarest order, for he combined whimsicality with elegance, and levity with heart. 1898 R. HICHENS *Londoners* ii, The expression of curious whimsicality that stole into her face.

'**whimsically, adv.** [*f.* prec. adj. + -LY².] In a whimsical manner; capriciously; oddly, fantastically.

1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 100 ¶4, I thought it was whimsically said of a Gentleman, That if Varilas had Wit, it would be the best Wit in the World. 1742 FIELDING *J. Andrews* i. xviii, Her passions... were not so whimsically capricious that one man only could lay them. 1775 SHERIDAN *Duenna* II. iv, Was ever truant daughter so whimsically circumstanced as I am? 1821 CROKER in *C. Papers* 1 Aug. (1884) I. 199 Our supper whimsically served; the first dish being green peas alone. 1861 T. WINTHROP *Life in Open Air* (1863) 103 The mist, white and delicate where we stood, but thick and black above, opened whimsically and delusively. 1888 BURGON *Lives* 12 *Gd. Men* II. v. 65 How whimsically Wilberforce was capable of blending the pathetic and the playful.

'**whimsicalness**. [*f.* prec. adj. + -NESS.] The quality of being whimsical; whimsicality.

1714 tr. à Kempis' *Chr. Exerc.* iv. xiv. 250 Lest Meditation should decline... into Melancholy and Whimsicalness. 1747 HOADLY *Suspicious Husb.* v. ii, I cannot sufficiently admire at the Whimsicalness of my good Fortune, in being so instrumental to this general Happiness. 1865 MRS. WHITNEY *Gayworthys* xxxii, 'Did you think I would?' cried Joanna, lifting up her head suddenly, with something of the old spirit of whimsicalness.

† **'whimsied, pa. pple. or a.** *Obs. rare.* [*f.* WHIMSY + -ED.] Filled with whims; made whimsical.

1624 FLETCHER *Rule a Wife* II. i, To have a mans brains whimsied with his wealth. 1628 FORD *Lover's Mel.* II. ii, You are but a little staring—there's difference betweene staring and starke mad. You are but whymsed, yet crotchetted, conundroun'd, or so. 1835 WILLIS *Pencilings* I. xxiii. 162 A whimsied madman.

whimsily, whimsiness: see after WHIMSY.

whimstone, variant of WHINSTONE.

1822 CONYBEARE & PHILLIPS *Outl. Geol. Eng.* 1. 204 Concretions are frequent... and are called whim-stones or potlids.

whimsy, whimsey ('hwɪmzi), *sb. (a.)* Forms: 7 *whim-*, *whymzie*, *whimsee*, 7-8 *whimzy*, 8 *whymsey*, 7-9 *whimsie*, *whims(e)y*. [See WHIM-WHAM.]

A. *sb.* 1. † 1. Dizziness, giddiness, vertigo. *Obs.* 16.. MIDDLETON, etc. *Old Law* III. ii, I ha' got the scotomy in my head already, The whimsey: you all turn round. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr., Scotomatical*, that is troubled with such a whimsey in the head.

† 2. A wench. *Obs. rare.*

1614 B. JONSON *Barth. Fair* II. iv, And shall we ha' smockes Vrsia, and good whimsies, ha? 1625 FLETCHER *Bloody Brother* IV. ii, You'll pick a bottle open, or a whimsey, As soon as the best of us.

3. a. = WHIM *sb.*¹ 3.

1605 B. JONSON *Volpone* III. i, I can feele A whimsey i' my blood: (I know not how) Successe hath made me wanton. 1628 VENNER *Baths of Bathe* (1650) 365 Such as have their pates full of outlandish whimsies. 1646 J. HALL *Horæ Vac.* 31 That whimsey of Pythagoras of the transmigration of Soules. 1713 DERHAM *Phys.-Theol.* i. i. 7 *note*, Our Inability to live in too rare and light an Air may discourage those vain Attempts of Flying, and Whimsies of passing to the Moon. 1803 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1830) III. 508 Plato, who only used the name of Socrates to cover the whimsies of his own brain. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* II. 1. 164 Both had what seemed extravagant whimsies about dress, diversions, and postures. 1891 BESANT *St. Katherine's* i. vi, Why, I was young once, and had my own whimsies like the rest.

b. = WHIM *sb.*¹ 3 b. *arch.*

1680 GLANVILL *Sadducismus* II. (1681) 50 All this is Whimsey and Fiction. 1709 SHAFESB. *Charac.* (1711) II. 337 In One there are the Marks of Wisdom and Determination; in the other, of Whimsy and Conceit. 1775 WRAXALL *Tour N. Eur.* 121 It may just as well be called an European structure, where whimsy and caprice form the predominant character. 1881 BLACKMORE *Christowell* xlviii, They winnow my gatherings on every wind of whimsy.

4. = WHIM *sb.*¹ 2 a.

1712 H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* III. ix. §2. Schol. 169 Engrav'd with Characters, and other Magical whimsies of this sort. 1785 J. COLLIER *Mus. Trav.* (ed. 4) 62 The Italian whimsies and tweedle-dums, that people played upon in these days. 1791 COWPER *Yardley Oak* 118 Thy root... A quarry of stout spurs, and knotted fangs, crook'd into a thousand whimsies. 1860-1 D. COLERIDGE in *Phil. Soc. Trans.* 164 The proposed Dictionary... must include many a mere whimsey and many a gross corruption. 1906 E. V. LUCAS *Wand. in Lond.* i. 14 The lodge in the garden of the Record Office. This little architectural whimsy may be the abode of an urban fairy or gnome.

II. † 5. A merry-go-round, roundabout. *Obs.*

1684 *Ballads illustr. Gt. Frost* (Percy Soc.) 4 There were Dutch whimsies turned swiftly round Faster then horses run on level ground.

6. a. = WHIM *sb.*¹ 4. *local.*

1789 J. WILLIAMS *Min. Kingd.* I. 430 This may be done... with a small horse-gin or whimsy, instead of a windlass, for drawing the water and work in sinking. 1836 HULL & SELBY *Railw. Act* 44 To make use of any gins, whimsies, tackling, ropes, machines. 1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts* III. 319 In Cornwall, a kibble, in which the ore is raised in the shafts, by machines called whims or whimseys.

b. (See *quot.*)

1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Whimsey*, a small crane for hoisting goods to the upper stories of warehouses.

7. a. *Glass-making.* (See *quot.*)

1856 H. CHANCE in *Jrnl. Soc. Arts* IV. 224/2 Still whirling, the table [of crown glass], as it is now called, is carried off, laid flat upon a support called a whimsey, detached by shears from the ponty, [etc.].

b. A small object made by a glass-maker or potter for his own amusement.

1938 A. FLEMING *Scottish & Jacobite Glass* ix. 109 Dame Fashion... seems to settle upon glass as a favourite and satisfactory medium of decoration. Other 'wimsies' are cheap little fantastic groups of figures, fruit and flowers delicately made from a tube modelled by a tool with infallible dexterity. 1976 *Canadian Collector* (Toronto) Mar.-Apr. 23/1 We were able to locate several more examples of the whimseys produced by the last potter.

B. *adj.* Whimsical.

1632 SHIRLEY *Hyde Park* II. ii, Ieere on, my whimsy Lady. 1867 LANIER *Strange Jokes* 7 Poems (1892) 217 Once in a whimsey mood he sat. 1913 MRS. STRATTON-PORTER *Laddie* xiv, Laddie studied the sky, a whimsy smile on his lips.

C. *attrib. and Comb.*, as *whimsy-pate*, -*shaft*; *whimsy-headed* *adj.*; † *whimsy-board*, ? a board or table used in some game of chance, or on which different objects were carried about for sale.

1704 T. BROWN *Lett. Living to Dead* Wks. 1720 II. 19, I am sometimes a small Retainer to a Billiard-Table, and sometimes, when the Master on't is sick, earn a Penny by a *Whimsy-Board. 1708 W. KING *Art of Cookery* (1709) 99 Then Pippins did in Wheel-barrows abound, And Oranges in Whimsey-boards went round. 1710 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4659/3 He frequents the Cock Pits and Gaming Houses, Whimsy Boards. 1698 E. WARD *Lond. Spy* III. (1706) 63 The first *Whimsie-headed Wretch of this Lunatick Family. 1682 WINYARD *Mercurius Menip.* 6 His *Whimsie-Meagrim must be an Ecstasie. 1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* III. iv. 88 What a company... doth this phantastical *whimzy-pate gather. 1821 W. FORSTER *Section of Strata* (ed. 2) 331 *Whimsey Shafts may be sunk to the depth of ten... fathoms.

Hence 'whimsily *adv.*, 'whimsiness.

1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* IV. iii. 188, I love Toboso, and I know not why, Only I say, I love her (whimsyly). 1909

Daily Chron. 14 Sept. 5/3 To...indulge his political whimsiness. 1980 P. MOYES *Angel Death* xviii. 237 The whimsily-drawn pamphlet which they gave to visitors.

whimsy-whamsy. [f. WHIMSY after next.] = next, 2. Also *attrib.*

1807 SOUTHEY *Lett. from England* III. lix. 109 An old Welsh baronet... chose some years ago to set up a heresy of his own... He himself called it Rational Whist; his friends, in a word of contemptuous fabrication, denominated it his *whimsy-whamsy*. 1871 CADDELL *Never Forgotten* ii, Maude always was obstinate when she had one of her religious whimsey whamsies in her head. 1900 'ANTHONY HOPE' *Quisante* v, The real reason... why the Dean hasn't risen higher is because he always has some whimsy-whamsy in his head. 1931 *Time & Tide* 26 Sept. 1118 Have we not whimsy-whamsy authors of our own without importing the too, too, quaint devices of foreign playwrights? 1945 S. LEWIS *Cass Timberlane* xl. 302 Sure, the jolly little playboy, and underneath his whimsy-whamsy, he's the coldest-hearted rich-man's lawyer. 1951 McLUHAN *Mech. Bride* (1967) 101/1 It is not a laughter or comedy to be compared with the whimsy-whamsy article of James Thurber.

whim-wham ('hwimhwæm). Also 6-7 *whym wham*, 7 *whimwhom*, 8-9 *whimwam*, 9 *wimwam*, *whim-*, *wim-wom*. [A reduplication with vowel-variation, like *flim-flam*, *jim-jam*, *trim-tram*, all of which are similarly applied to trivial or frivolous things.]

The history of the group of words of which WHIM sb.¹, WHIMSY, and this word are the chief members, is not clear. The existence in ON. of *hwima* to wander with the eyes as with the fugitive look of a frightened or silly person, and *hwimsa* to be taken aback or discomfited, suggests the possibility of an ultimate Scand. origin; but, seeing that *whim-wham* is the earliest recorded of the group (contemporaneously with the similar reduplicated forms mentioned above), an indigenous symbolic origin is more likely; in which case *whimsy* may be related to *whim-wham* as *fimsy* to *flim-flam*.]

1. A fanciful or fantastic object; *fig.* a trifle; in early use chiefly, a trifling ornament of dress, a trinket; later in various local uses (see *quots.*).

a 1529 SKELTON *E. Rummyng* 75 After the Sarasyns gyse, With a whym wham, Knyt with a trym tram, Vpon her brayne pan. 1602 DEKKER *Satirom*. F2. Dost loue that mother Mumble-crust, dost thou? dost long for that whim-wham? 1621 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Superbia Flagellum* C7 b, Whimwhams & whirlligigs to please Baboones. 1625 FLETCHER & SHIRLEY *Nt. Walker* 1. i, They'll pull ye all to pieces, for your whim-whams, Your garters and your gloves. 1641 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Reply as true as Steel* (1877) 6 He caus'd some formes of flowers... 'twixt the Beast legges be painted To hide his whim wham. 1659 TORRIANO, *Tencone*, ... a mans whim-wham. 1691 Mrs. D'ANVERE *Academia* 17 The Yat's [= gate's] all hung about with whimwhoms, As Fishes Bones, and other thingums. 1721 RAMSAY *Scriblers Lash'd* 197 Dealers in small Ware, Clinks, Whim Whams. 1808 HAN. MORE *Cælebs* (1809) II. 183, I have spent 700 pounds... for her to learn music and whim-whams. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* xi, Florentine and flames—bacon, wi' reverence, and a' the sweet confections and whim-whams. a 1842 HAWTHORNE *Twice-told T.* (1851) I. ix. 163 So much for the commencement of this long whim-wham. 1854 Miss BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.*, *Whim-wom*, a bird-boy's clackers for frightening birds from fruit or corn. 1860 *Slang Dict.*, *Whim-wham*, an alliterative term, synonymous with fiddle-faddle, riff-raff, etc., denoting nonsense, rubbish, etc.

2. A fantastic notion, odd fancy; = WHIM sb.¹ 3.

1580 FULKE *Stapleton Confut.* II. viii. 117 Voluntarie poutie in Augustine not found in the first planters of this newe trim tram. A matter worthie to be answered with a whim wham. 1588 J. HARVEY *Disc. Probl.* 40 Such blind vnreasonable blindwhams. 1621 FLETCHER *Wild-Goose Chase* III. i, Your studied Whim-whams; and your fine set faces. 1759 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* I. vii, Who... not only hit upon this dainty amendment, but coaxed many of the old-licensed matrons... to open their faculties afresh, in order to have this whim-wham of his inserted. 1807-8 W. IRVING *Salmag.* (1824) 123 He declared he would humour the weather no longer in its whim-whams. 1832 ROWL. HILL in *Life* (1834) 382 The pure and simple gospel of Christ, but not intermixed with the whim-whams of the present day. 1882 C. D. WARNER *W. Irving* iv. 50 The follies and 'whim-whams' of the metropolis.

whimpy: see WHIMMY.

whin¹ (hwin). Forms: 5 *quyn*, *qwynne*, *wyne*, 5-7 *whyn(ne)*, 6 *whyne*, *Sc.* *quyin*, 6-7 *whinne*, *whine*, *Sc.* *quhinn(e)*, 7 *win*, *whimme*, (9 *dial.*) *whim*, *Sc.* (9 *dial.*) *quhin*, 8 (9 *dial.*) *whinn*, 8-9 *Sc.* and *dial.* *whun*, 6- *whin*. [app. orig. northern, and prob. of Scand. origin (cf. Sw. *hven*, early Da. *hvine*, *hvinegræs*, -*strå*, Norw. *hvine*, *hvén*, *kvein*, applied to certain grasses); the evidence goes to show that gorse was formerly of economic importance in the areas of special Scand. influence.]

This origin is more probable than that which has been proposed from OWelsh *chwynn* weeds (mod. *chwyn*), cognate with Breton *chouenna* to hoe, weed.]

1. The common furze or gorse, *Ulex europæus*. Often *collect. pl.* and *sing.* for a clump or mass of the shrub, or a quantity of it used for fuel, fencing, etc.

c 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 159 A strete, Ful thik and hard, ... With thornes, breres, and moni a quyn. c 1425 *Voc.* in W. Wülcker 643/32 *Hec saluunca*, *wyne*. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 524/2 *Whynne*, *saluunca*. 1538 TURNER *Libellus, Paliurus*, *uarias habet subspcies, quarum una est frutex ille quem all[i]oqui a whyn all[i]j a furie nominant.* 1549 *MSS. Dk. Rutland* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) IV. 352 For fellyng and ledyng of xj lodes of whynnes... iij. viij. 1573-80 TUSSEER *Husb.* (1878) 119 With whinnies or with furzes thy houell

renew. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* VI. ix. 669 The common Whyn, or great Furze. 1606 in *Trans. Cumbld. & Westmld. Archaeol. Soc.* (1903) III. 152 That none... shall cutt any whinne to burne upon paine of vid. 1610 MARKHAM *Masterp.* II. xxiv. 258 Rough hay, full of whims [ed. 1636 whimmes, 1675 whins], thistels, or other pricking stuffe. 1698 A. DE LA PRYME *Diary* (Surtees 1869) 178 When all their fother was done, they took green whinz, ... stamp't them ... to bruise all their pricles, and then gave them to their beasts. 1721 RAMSAY *Ode to the Ph—* ii, Driving their Baws frae Whins or Tee, There's no ae Gowfer to be seen. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 597 Whins or common furze make a valuable fence. 1859 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* v, Down beyond down, a vast sheet of purple heath and golden whin. 1878 SUSAN PHILLIPS *On Seaboard* 254 Between the whin and the workhouse they pulled the old fox down. 1882 *Garden* 13 May 324/3 The double flowering Whin (Furze).

2. Applied to other prickly or thorny shrubs, as rest-harrow and buckthorn; also to heather.

1530 PALSGR. 288/1 *Whynne*, *bruiere*. Whynnes or hethe, *bruiere*. 1548 TURNER *Names Herbes* (E.D.S.) 13 Anonis called also Ononis is called... in Cambrgye Shyre a whyne. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 133/14 A Whin, *ramnus*. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Whin* or Petty Whin, a Shrub, otherwise call'd Knee-holm. 1854 Miss BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.*, *Whin*, the rest-harrow.

3. With distinctive additions, in local names of various prickly shrubs:

cammock, lady-, land-whin = petty whin (a); cat'(s) whin = petty whin; also dwarf furze, dog-rose, burnet-rose; heather-, moor-, moss-, needle-whin = petty whin (b); petty whin, (a) Turner's name for the Rest-harrow, *Ononis arvensis*; (b) the Needle-furze, *Genista anglica*.

14.. *MS. Laud* 553, lf. 18 *Reta bouis* is an herbe p^t me clepup camock whynne or calketrap. 1551 TURNER *Herbal* 1. Dj, Petye Whyne, or grounde Whyne, or lytle Whyne is called in latyn, & Greke ononis, and anonis... In cambrgye shyre thys herbe is called a whyne, but I putt pety to it, to make dyfference betwene thys herbe, and a fur: whyche in manye places of Englande is also called a Whyne. 1579 LANGHAM *Gard. Health* 527 Restharrow, Cammock, or Petywhin. 1650 [W. Howe] *Phytol.* 45 *Genistella*... Needle Furze or Petty Whin. 1684 MERITON *Praise Ale* 108 (E.D.S.) Our Land is tewgh, and full of... Cat-whins. 1763 *Museum Rust.* I. lxxxv. 377 Such barren sandy heaths where petty-whin, heather, and short furze, plentifully grow. 1788 W. MARSHALL *E. Yorksh. II. Gloss.* (E.D.S.) Cat-whin, sb. *rosa spinosissima*, burnet rose. a 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Land-whin*, s., the rest-harrow. 1853 G. JOHNSTON *Bot. E. Bord.* 51 *G[enista] anglica*. Moor-Whin: Heather-Whin: Moss-Whin. 1878 *Cumbld. Gloss.*, *Cat-whin*, the dwarf whin. *Ulex nanus*. 1886 BRITTEN & HOLLAND *Plant-n.*, Lady-whin, *Ononis arvensis*, .. *Encyclopædia* of Agriculture.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *whin-bloom*, -*covert*, -*cow* (COW sb.²), -*fence*, -*flower*, -*hack* (HACK sb.¹), -*pod*, -*prick*, -*prickle*, -*root*, -*seed*; *whin-kid*, a bundle of whin; hence *whin-kid* vb., to fence or thatch with whin; *whin-linnet* (see *quots.*); *whin-mill*, a mill for crushing whin for horse-feed; *whin-thrush*, a local name for the redwing, = WINNARD; *whin-wrack*, a species of grass (see *quot.*).

1824 MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl.*, **Whin blooms*, the yellow blooms of the whin. 1865 ALLINGHAM *50 Mod. Poems*, *Among the Heather* ii, Your mountain air is sweet... When... the whinbloom smells like honey. 1843 *Zoologist* I. 80 Walking through a straggling *whin-covert. 1826 SCOTT *Jrnl.* 28 Feb. in *Lockhart*, If you would have a horse kick, make a crupper out of a *whin-cow. 1797 J. BAILEY & CULLEY *Agric. Cumberld.* 185 Large tracts... inclosed by *whin-fences. 1897 WATTS-DUNTON *Aylwin* xvii, Making the gold coins round her neck shine like dewy *whin-flowers struck by the sunrise. 1585-6 *Wills & Inv. Durham* (Surtees) II. 131, iij *whine hacks. 1651 N. *Riding Rec.* V. 90 Six *whyn kidds. 1841 *Instit. Civil Eng. Min. Proc.* I. 141 The author... has lately been... warping silt, with whin or gorse kids, laid horizontally. 1876 *Mid-Yorks. Gloss.* s.v., The parcels of land [are]... whin-kydded about. 1837 MACGILLIVRAY *Brit. Birds* I. 371 *Linaria cannabina*. The Brown Linnet... *Whin Linnet. Greater Redpoll. 1862 JOHNS *Brit. Birds* 625 Whin Linnet, the Common Linnet. 1793 in *Trans. Buchan Field Club* (1935) XIV. 76 Carrying wood for the *whine mile. 1893 C. A. MOLLYSON *Parish of Fordoun* 188 With a plentiful supply of oilcake and other nutritious feeding stuffs there is no place now for the whin-mill. 1957 E. E. EVANS *Irish Folk Ways* viii. 110 The knocking stones... where the whins were 'melled' with a wooden maul, are sometimes to be seen in the farmyard, and there were a few water-driven 'whin-mills'. 1874 STEVENSON *Ess. Trav.*, *On Unpleas. Places* 246 The... crackling of the *whin-pods in the afternoon sun. 1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* 1. 13 The little white Field-Spider... imboss'd all over with black Knobs, out of... which grow bristles or prickles like *whin-pricks. 1899 CROCKETT *Kit Kennedy* xxxvi, As if they had been sitting on *whin prickles. 1586 *Depos. Durham* (Surtees) 320 My good man's horse fest at a *whinne roote. 1824 MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl.* 28 Harrows w' teeth o' whunroots. 1765 A. DICKSON *Treat. Agric.* (ed. 2) 122 Every time that the land is turned into grass, the *whin-seeds near the surface will vegetate. 1848 *Zoologist* VI. 2290 The redwing is in G[loucestershire] a *whin thrush'. 1853 G. JOHNSTON *Bot. E. Bord.* 212 *Holcus mollis*... *Whin-wrack,—so called because it is found to occupy places whence Whins have been removed.

whin² (hwin). *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Forms: 4 *quin*, 6 *Sc. quhin*, *quhyn(e)*, 6, 9 *whun*, 8 *whyn(n)*, 8- *whin*, (9 *whinn*, *Sc. whunn*, *fin*). [Origin obscure.] = WHINSTONE.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7531 He tok fue stans rond o quin, And put pam in his scrip wit-in. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* IV. vii. 8 Of ane cald hard quhyn, The clekkit that horrible mot, Caucasus hait. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) I. 56 Greit cragis of quhin. 1599 ALEX. HUME *Hymnes* iii. 133 The blew paymented whun [rime sun]. 1708 J. C. *Compl. Collier* (1845) 12 If a Whin (which is the hardest sort of Stone...) lye

in the way. 1799 KENDAL *Geol. Ess.* 310 Carbonated wood is frequently found under trap, whin, or basalt. 1864 A. MILLER *Coatbridge* ii. 8 Where the Ironstone comes into conjunction with whin it is... much impregnated with pyrites.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *whin boulder*, -*dike* (DIKE sb.¹ 9b), -*float* (FLOAT sb. 20 a), *gravel*; *whin-rock*, *whinstone*; *whin-sill*, a sill or layer of whinstone; also as a name for whinstone.

1873 GEIKIE *Gt. Ice Age* xi. 152 Gravel and stones with large *whin' boulders. 1789 J. WILLIAMS *Min. Kingd.* I. 29 Dykes of basaltes, or other hard stone, which are commonly called *whin dykes. 1825 E. MACKENZIE *View Northumbld.* (ed. 2) I. 81 The Whin-dikes are filled with basalt, which has apparently issued hot from the interior parts of the earth. 1845 J. PHILLIPS *Geol. in Encycl. Metrop.* VI. 619/1 A few faults in the magnesian limestone range of Durham and Yorkshire, as along the line of the great whindyke. 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-m.*, **Whin-float*, a kind of greenstone, basalt, or trap, occurring in coal measures. 1799 *Trans. Soc. Arts* XVII. 246 Clayey loams, limestone gravel, *whin gravel. 1683 G. SINCLAIR *Nat. Philos.* 277 An impregnable *Whin-Rock, or Flinty Stone. 1785 BURNS *Death & Dr. Hornbook* xviii, I might as weel hae try'd a quarry O' hard whin rock. 1806 FORSYTH *Beauties Scot.* IV. 58 All the hills are whin-rock. 1839 *URE Dict. Arts* 748 In Cumberland the metalliferous limestone includes a bed of trap, designated under the name of *whinsill. 1845 J. PHILLIPS *Geol. in Encycl. Metrop.* VI. 756/1 The origin of the whin-sill. 1869 PHILLIPS *Vesuv.* iv. 128 The toadstone in Derbyshire, or the whinsill in Teesdale.

whin: see WHEEN, WHIM sb.¹ ¶.

whinberry: see WHIMBERRY.

'whin-bush. Forms: see WHIN¹ and BUSH sb.¹; also 6 *wyn-*, 7 *wine-*. A furze-bush.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 416/1 A Whyn buske... *saluunca*, *saliuncula*, *paliurus*. 1563 FOXE *A. & M.* 1728/1 He tost a faggot at his face... and set a wynebush of thornes vnder his feete. 1644 W. CAVENDISH (Dk. Newc.) *Let. Life* (1886) 352 Through some fields of furze and whin bushes. 1721 RAMSAY *To the Whin-Bush Club* 19 To come beneath your Whin-Bush Shade. 1881 J. GRANT *Cameronians* iv, Masses of whin-bush (or gorse as it is called in England). 1889 CONAN DOYLE *Micah Clarke* x, The gentle murmur of the breeze amongst the whin-bushes.

whinch, obs. form of WINCE.

whinchat ('hwintʃæt). [f. WHIN¹ + CHAT sb.²] A small European bird, *Pratincola rubetra*, closely allied to the stonechat.

Also called locally *furze-chat*, *gorse-chat*. 1678 RAY *Willughby's Ornith.* 234 The Whin-chat, ... In bigness it scarce exceeds a Wagtail... The *Anthus* or *Florus* of Aristotle... differs from our Whin-chat in the colour of its Bill, and in the place where it lives; sith our Chat abides especially in heaths, and among Furze-bushes. c 1775 G. WHITE *Selborne*, *To Pennant* xli. (1789) 107 How the wheat-ear and whin-chat support themselves in winter cannot be so easily ascertained, since they spend their time on wild heaths and warrens. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 324/1 The flight of the Whinchat is undulating. 1894 R. B. SHARPE *Handbk. Birds Gt. Brit.* I. 300 As in Great Britain, the Whinchat is a summer visitor to most parts of Europe.

whinder, obs. var. WINDER sb., wigeon; var. WINDER v. *Obs.* to wither, etc.

whindle ('hwind(ə)l), v. *Obs. exc. dial.* Also 7 *whinil*, 7-9 *whinnel*. [app. f. WHINE v. + -LE.] *intr.* To whine, whimper. Hence 'whindling vbl. sb.'; 'whindling ppl. a.', weak, pining, puny; *fig.* trifling, petty. So 'whindle sb.', (a) a whining creature; (b) a low cry, a whine.

1601 MUNDAY & CHETTEL *Death Earl of Huntington* 1. iii. B2 b, He keeps a plettry whinling gille, And will not bed, forsooth, before he bride. 1609 B. JONSON *Silent Wom.* IV. v. (1620) L2, The other of a whiniling dastard. 1647 TRAPP *Comm. 1 Thess.* v. 16 [Rejoice evermore] A duty... little practised by many of Gods whinnels, who are ever puling and putting finger in the eye. 1648 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) I. 397 [He had intended to go with her to coast, but... his wife's] 'whinnelling'... [stopped him]. a 1652 BROME *Damoiselle* II. i, *Val. Wee'll* end the difference. *Broo.* By the Sword; no otherwise; No whinnelling satisfaction. a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Whindle*, a low or feigned Crying. 1709 *Mem. Signor Rozelli* 61 All the Women... fell a howling and whinneling. 1728 [DE FOE] *Street Robb. Consid.* 10, I [sc. an abandoned baby] began to Whindle, and Tune my Pipes. 1854 Miss BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.*, *Whindle*, to whine as a child.

whindle, variant of WINDLE, the redwing.

whine (hwain), sb. [f. next.] An act of whining; a low somewhat shrill protracted cry, usually expressive of pain or distress; a suppressed nasal tone, as of feeble, mean, or undignified complaint; a complaint uttered in this tone. Also *transf.* a sound resembling this.

1633 P. FLETCHER *Pisc. Ecl.* 1. xxii, The whistling windes joyn'd with the seas to plaine, And o're his boat in whines lamenting creep. 1691 SOUTH *Serm.*, 1 *John* iii. 21 (1697) II. 470 By a few demure Looks, and affected Whines, set off with some odd, devotional Postures and Grimaces. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 133 ¶ 2 The whine of condolance, or the growl of anger. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* IV. Intro. 70 With dejected look and whine, To leave the hearth his dogs repine. 1822 HAZLITT *Table-t.* Ser. II. i. (1869) 17 A peevish whine in his voice like a beaten schoolboy. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xxix. (1856) 244 The low whine which the ice gives out when we cut it at right angles with a sharp knife. 1897 Allbutt's *Syst. Med.* III. 623 The child utters a short cry or whine. 1928 E. WALLACE *Double* xx. 295 They heard

the whine of a car draw up on the ground below. 1942 W. FAULKNER *Go down, Moses* 143 The air pulsed with... the whine and clang of the saw. 1962 *Which? Car Suppl.* Oct. 127/2 Other noises of which our drivers complained were rear axle whine in all the cars.

whine (hwain), *v.* Forms: 1 hwinan, 4-7 whyne, 5-6 wyne, 6 *Sc.* quhyn, (7 wheen), 8 wine, 4- whine. [OE. *hwīnan* (only in *Widsið* 128, of the whizzing of an arrow) = ON. *hvīna* (Sw. *hvina*, Da. *hvīne*) to whiz, whistle in the air; the weak grade of the stem is represented in ON. *hvinr* whiz, late OE. *hwinsian* (of dogs) to whine (see WHINGE).]

1. *intr.* To utter a low somewhat shrill protracted sound or cry, usually expressive of pain or distress; to cry in a subdued plaintive tone: also occasionally merely referring to the tone. a. of persons.

c 1275 *Sinners Beware* 310 in O.E. Misc. 82 For chele hy gunne hwyne. For hunger hi hedde pyne. 13... in *Rel. Ant.* II. 245 Ich rede tha come nou to me, anaunter last ha whyne. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 158 Not chaunting nor brekyng your notes, nor whynyng in y^e nose as many women done. 1534 *MORE Conf. agst. Trib.* II. Wks. 1182/2 Yet canne thys peusyhe gyrl neuer ceace whining and pulyng for fear. c 1590 J. STEWART *Poems* (S.T.S.) II. 54 Scho quhyuns, Scho schrinkis, Scho vreyis, Scho vips for vo. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* III. xiii. 101 Whip him... Till like a Boy you see him crindge his face, And whine aloud for mercy. a 1654 SELDEN *Table-T.* (Arb.) 92 If a Man should make love in an ordinary Tone, his Mistress would not regard him; and therefore he must whine. a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew.* To Whine, to cry squeekingly, as at Conventicles. 1727 *GAY Begg. Op.* I. xiii. The Boy thus, when his Sparrow's flown... Whines, whimpers, sobs and cries. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* II. xiii. The crowd of beggars... whining for alms. 1868 LOUISA M. ALCOTT *Little Women* viii. You can't go, Amy; so don't be a baby and whine about it.

b. of animals, esp. dogs; also formerly, to whinny as a horse, or to cry as an otter.

13... *Guy Warw.* (A.) 1336 þe helmes þai seyen briȝt schine, þe stedes nyen, and togider whine. c 1386 CHAUCER *Wife's Prol.* 386 As an hors I koude byte and whyne [*v.r.* whine]. c 1400 *Beryn* 481 He... scrapid the dorr welplich, & wynyd with his mowith, Aftr a doggis lyden. 1481 CAXTON *Reynard* xxxiv. (Arb.) 97, I saide I was also hongry, thenne wente we... and fond nothyng, tho whyned he and cryed. 1576 TURBERV. *Venerie* 238 An Otter whineth. 1577 WHETSTONE *Gascoigne* xxix. The horse... will neither winch nor whine. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* IV. i. 2 Thrice the brindred Cat hath mew'd... Thrice, and once the Hedge-Pigge whin'd. 1735 SOMERVILLE *Chase* II. 118 Let each Lash Bite to the Quick, 'till howling he return And whining creep amid the trembling Crowd. 1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* I. song 'Good Night' ix, Perchance my dog will whine in vain, Till fed by stranger hands. 1835 W. IRVING *Tour Prairies* 272 Occasionally a scoundrel wolf would scour off... and... sit down and howl and whine.

c. *transf.* of inanimate objects.

1874 J. G. HOLLAND *Mistr. Manse* xviii. 52 Till the old chimney howled and whined. 1885 TENNYSON *Balin & Balan* 341 The canker'd boughs... Whined in the wood. 1901 *Munsey's Mag.* XXIV. 555/1 The bullets... whined through the air. 1962 *Which? Car Suppl.* Oct. 140/1 Engine always whined when started from cold. 1972 *Daily Tel.* 16 May 9 Two minutes after the jet engines whine to a standstill she walked slowly down the special lateral gangplank. 1974 S. MIDDLETON *Holiday* iv. 42 Lawn-mowers whined.

2. To utter complaints in a low querulous tone; to complain in a feeble, mean, or undignified way.

1530 TINDALE *Num.* xi. 18 Ye haue whyned in the eares of the Lorde saynge: who shall geue vs flesh to eate? 1568 *Hist. Jacob & Esau* II. iv. See and the knaue be not for his dinner whining. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 29 Since Life is but as a Game at Tables, if the fore-game be not to thy wish; neither whine nor Curse, but rowse thy care to an after-Game. 1756 JOHNSON in *Boswell*, I know not why any one but a school-boy in his declamation should whine over the Common-wealth of Rome. 1769 *Ibid.*, A man knows it [*sc.* death] must be so, and submits. It will do him no good to whine. 1880 DIXON *Windsor* III. xxiv. 238 He had whined and begged for liberty. 1891 KIPLING *Light that Failed* x, I won't whine when my punishment comes.

3. *trans.* a. To cause to pass away by whining; to waste in whining.

1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* v. vi. 98 At his Nurses teares He whin'd and roar'd away your Victory. 1656 OSBORN *Adv. Son* iii. (ed. 4) 100 That Taylor, reported to have whin'd away himselfe for the love of Queen Elizabeth.

b. To utter in a whining tone.

1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 282 At the Reading the Epistle and Gospel, they change their Cope, Mantle, and Hood, and Whine them forth. a 1699 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* I. ccxxiv, To sigh, and weep, and whine Out long complaints. 1781 COWPER *Conversat.* 577 Canting and whining out all day the word. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xxx, 'If one is to go on living through continual scenes like this,' she whined. 1880 MISS BRADDON *Just as I am* iii, Tomorrow morning he will be whining his recantation.

whine = *why not?* see WHY.

whineard, obs. form of WHINYARD.

whiner ('hwainə(r)). [f. WHINE *v.* + -ER¹.] A person or animal that whines.

1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* I. xix. (1632) 39 An armie of Physicians and whiners [F. *pleureurs*]. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 504 The Epithets of myce... whiner, biter. 1684 J. S. PROFIT & PLEAS. *United* 156 In the Composing, your Kenell, some whiners and treble crys will not do amiss, to make the opening of the Pack the more Musically. a 1734

NORTH *Life Ld. Kpr. North* (1742) 216 From a Whiner for Favour to Criminals, he proved the veriest Butcher of a Judge. 1832 HT. MARTINEAU *Homes Abroad* iii. 47 Don't have anything to say to the whiners at the gate. 1886 CORBETT *Fall of Asgard* II. 244 A cheery man fares better than a whiner.

whiney: see WHINY.

whing (hwin), *int.* and *sb.* [Imitative.] A word expressing a high-pitched ringing sound.

1912 FLORA A. STEEL *King-Errant* I. ix, The toneless treble of the old voice whining away like the fine whing of a mosquito. 1919 J. J. BENNETT *Dover Patrol* xi. 130 'Whing,' 'whing,' sings the shrapnel.

whing (hwin), *v.* [Onomatopœic; initial *wh*- (expressing forcible movement, as in *whack*, *whirl*) combined with the -ing of *fling*, *swing*.] *trans.* and *intr.* To move with great force or impetus.

[1673 *Sackfull of Newes in Shaks. Jest-Bks.* (1864) II. 176 Lob, I pray thee what was that the priest went so whinging whanging withal? Why Hob (qd the other)... It is frankincense.] 1882 FLOYER *Unexpl. Baluch.* 185 He whings the heavy mallet back over his head at arms' length. 1896 KIPLING *Seven Seas, McAndrews' Hymn* 43 Her time, her own appointed time, the rocking link-head bides, Till—hear that note?—the rod's return whings glimmerin' through the guides.

whing, obs. form of WING.

whinge (hwindʒ), *sb.* orig. *Sc.* and *dial.* [f. next.] A whine, esp. a peevish complaint.

1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxxii. 10 He [*sc.* a fox]... schuk his taill, with quhinge and ȝelp. 1825 CROKER *Fairy Leg. Irel.* I. 48 The whinge, and the yelp, and the screech, and the yowl. 1852 *Meanderings of Mem.* I. 170 With cur-like whinge to such soft cutting whip. 1938 S. BECKETT *Murphy* iii. 37 He threw his voice into an infant's whinge. 'I cudden do anything, Maaaammy.' 1947 I. L. IDRIESS *Isles of Despair* xxxviii. 254 The bull [whale] complained with a stupid little grumbling whinge and edged a few yards farther away. 1963 [see PEANUT 2b]. 1973 P. WHITE *Eye of Storm* i. 64 'You're so unfair!' A whinge developed through a moan into a downright blub. 1981 *Listener* 4 June 749/1 This is not just an envious whinge. 1982 J. THOMSON *To make a Killing* xiii. 231, I knew bloody well he'd shop me and make a fuss... He'd already had a whinge about the rubbish I'd left. 1985 *Times* 10 Jan. 10/6 In my one-but-last whinge I was going on about the burdensome duties of The Talk.

whinge (hwindʒ), *v.* orig. *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Forms: 6 quhinge, quhyng, 9 winge, wheenge, 8 whindge, 7- whinge, 20 winge. [North. form of OE. *hwinsian*, corresp. to OHG. *win(i)sōn* (MHG. *winsen*; cf. MHG., G. *winseln*):—OTeut. **χwiniſōjan*, f. root of *hwinan* to WHINE. For the suffix cf. OE. *clānsian* to CLEANSE, *bleisian* to BLESS, *ricsian* to rule, ON. *hreinsa* to cleanse; for the phonology of the form *whinge* cf. CLENGE, ringe, north. forms of CLEANSE, RINSE.] *intr.* To whine; esp. to complain peevishly. Hence 'whinging' (also w(h)ingeing) *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

a 1150 MS. C.C.C. *Camb.* 303 125/7 Mid hwinsunge & mid dreorigum mode hio [*sc.* the dogs] cerdon ealle onsean to pan huntun. *Ibid.* 126/14 þa hundes ne geswicon to hwinsianne mid ceariendre stæmne. 1513 DOUGLAS *Aeneis* xiii. iii. 28 The remanent of that questing sort... about the master hunter With quhyng and mouthis quaikand standis for feir. *Ibid.* 32 Thai hald thar mouthis still, Thar quhingeing and thar questing at his will Refrenis. 1562 WINSET *Cert. Tractates* Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 8 Dum doggis, quha... dar nother quhyrne nor quhyng. 1720 C'TESS COWPER *Diary* (1864) 152 The second Time she said, whingeing [etc.]. 1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* I. i, Daft Gowk! leave off that silly whinding Way. 1727 P. WALKER *Life Semple* etc. (1827) 316 You will die honourably before many Witnesses... and I will die whinging upon a Pickle Straw. 1728 RAMSAY *Last Sep. Miser* xviii, The mair they whing'd, it gart me hug My swelling Purses. 1760-72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1792) I. v. 159 A little beggar boy... whinging and shivering with cold. 1790 BURNS *Elegy Capt. M—H—* Epit. viii, Ony whiggish whingin' sot. a 1837 R. NICOLL *Poems* (1842) 17, I needna greet, What gude on earth was whingeing do? 1867 P. FITZGERALD *Seventy-five Brooke* St. I. xxi, This mean, whinging fellow. 1907 J. M. SYNGE *Let.* 31 Mar. (1971) 121 Forgive this contemptible sort of whinging. I am so lonely and miserable I cant help it. 1922 JOYCE *Ulysses* 10 You crossed her last wish in death and yet you sulk with me because I don't whinge like some hired mute from Lalouette's. 1946 K. TENNANT *Lost Haven* (1947) xvii. 272 She had lifted up her brief skirt... to exhibit her sand-fly bites... 'You don't want to whinge about them... You had a good time, didn't you?' 1955 S. BECKETT *Molloy* II. 172, I forgot that my son would be at my side... whinging for food. 1965 *Listener* 2 Sept. 339/2 There is a stinging phrase in use, 'wingeing Poms' (translate into 'complaining English'). 1969 *Advertiser* (Adelaide) 12 May 5/4 Stop whingeing and give a bloke a go, mates. 1973 B. BAINBRIDGE *Dressmaker* 8 If that girl didn't stop her wingeing, the neighbours would be banging on the wall. 1983 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 11 Mar. 236/1 In 1849, Arnold whinged to Clough that the age was '...unpoetical'. 1983 *Sunday Times* 31 July 33/1 'What sort of people do Australians hate most?' 'The whingeing Pom... Poms that come over and do nothing but whinge.' 1984 *Times* 20 Jan. 10/7 This is not the month for whingeing criticisms. 1984 *Sunday Times* 9 Dec. 7/1 All must drill most Tuesday nights... and not whinge when the trousers of their best suits are crumpled and smutted under the uniform.

whinger ('hwɪŋ(g)ə(r), 'hwɪndʒə(r)), *sb.*¹ Chiefly *Sc. Obs.* exc. *Hist.* Forms: 6 *Sc.* quhinger, -ger, -gre, quhinzear, -yeir, whingear, 6, 8 whingar, 9

dial. whinjer, 6- whinger. [Presumably related to the earlier synonymous WHINYARD. The pronunciation with (ŋ) or (ŋg) is vouched for by several instances in rime; that with (dʒ) is indicated by the spelling *whinjer* (quot. 1823) and implied by the form of Gael. *cuinnsear* dagger, sword, which is a loan-word from Sc.] = WHINYARD.

1540 *Rec. Elgin* (New Spald. Cl. 1903) I. 49 The quhingar... quhairwith the said bluid was drawin. 1560 ROLLAND *Seven Sages* (Bann. Club) 313 Incontinent his quhinzear furth he drew. 1566 *Diurn. Occurr.* (ibid.) 101 My lord gaif him twa straikis with ane quhingar at the paip. 1681 COLVIL *Whigs Supplic.* I. (1710) 7 Some had Cross-Bows, some were Slingers; Some had only Knives and Whingers. *Ibid.* 52 And other some get bloody Fingers, By grasping naked Knives and Whingers. 1715 *Act 1 Geo. I.* c. 54 §1 Poynard, Whingar, or Durk. c 1730 RAMSAY *Highland Lassie* v, I can wield my trusty sword, Or frae my side whisk out a whinger [*rime finger*]. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* xxvii, If there were a man left... who could draw a whinger. 1823 E. MOOR *Suffolk Words, Whinger*, a weapon, especially a large sword.

Hence 'whinger *v. trans.*, to stab with a whinger.

1892 *Longman's Mag.* Apr. 687 He and his brother were 'whingered' upon the spot.

whinger ('hwɪndʒə(r)), *sb.*² orig. *Sc.* or *dial.* [f. WHINGE *v.* + -ER¹.] A whiner.

1791 LEARMONT *Poems* 312 I'll nae act the whinger's part, Like bairnies discontentit. 1934 *Bulletin* (Sydney) 27 June 11/2 Touching the query about 'whinger'... 'winjer' was accepted slang for 'grumbler' at Q. Uni. a few years ago, and probably still is. I have seldom heard it elsewhere, and no one who uses it seems to know the derivation. 1959 I. & P. OPIE *Lore & Lang. Schoolch.* x. 186 Other local terms for crying... In Dublin the usual word is 'whinging', hence 'whinger', a term also still used in Cumberland, and occasionally heard in Liverpool. 1983 *Listener* 14 Apr. 17/2 Certainly, no whinger like me will ever turn Simon into a dissident.

whiniard, obs. form of WHINYARD.

whinid: see FINEWED.

whinil, obs. f. WHINDLE *v.*, to whine.

whining ('hwainɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. WHINE *v.* + -ING¹.] The action of the verb WHINE; the uttering of a low somewhat shrill cry or sound, or of a complaint in a low querulous tone.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 524/2 Whynynge, ululatus. 1508 DUNBAR *Test. A. Kennedy* 65 My fenzeing, and my fals wynyng, *Relinquo falsis fratribus.* 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 14 A bodye... maketh a great whynnyng, if he haue had any losse. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* II. ii. 25 One whom I will beate into clamor[ous] whining. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 138 The louder and shriller voice of a Dogge, is called barking, the lower and stiller, is called whining, or fawning. 1618 FLETCHER *Loyal Subj.* I. iii, Here will be trim piping anon and whining, Like so many Pigs in a storm. 1626 DONNE *Serm., John xi.* 21 (1640) 820 For the raling of a Coach, for the whining of a doore. a 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xiii. 107 The... wheening of Whelps. 1765 GOLDSM. *Ess., Eng. Clergy*, I am not for whining at the depravity of the times. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xlii. (1856) 386 A whining as of young puppies. 1859 JEPHSON *Britanny* vii. 86 The unmanly whining of disappointed vanity or morbid sentiment. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 908 The voice is enfeebled to whinings and fretful pulings.

b. *attrib. whining cross* = WEEPING cross.

1602 BRETON *Wonders worth Hearing* Wks. (Grosart) II. 12/1 These yong men... will... leaue vs to make our prayers at whining crosse.

'whining, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING².] That whines; characterized by whining. (*lit.* and *fig.*)

In some technical uses (quotes. 1625, 1679) = WEEPING *ppl. a.*

15... COSOWARTH in *Farr S.P. Eliz.* (1845) II. 406 This did my whynning life endure awhile. a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* I. x. (1912) 60 The houndes... with a whining Accent craving libertie. 1600 SHAKS. *A.Y.L.* II. vii. 145 The whining Schoole-boy with his Satchell. 1625 MARKHAM *Inrichm. Weald of Kent* 9 Winter-springs, or teares of water (for, which some call such, A whining or weeping ground). 1660 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) IV. 254 A whining puritanical tubb preacher. 1678 OTWAY *Friendship in F.* II. i, To have us two such whining crop-sick Lovers. 1679 EVELYN *Sylva* xx. (ed. 3) 87 Whynnyng, or shrivell'd-Gelster. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 142 ¶ 2 A Man of Honour, not a Romantic Hero or a Whining Coxcomb. 1773 GOLDSM. *Stoops to Cong.* v, The whining end of a modern novel. 1841 BORROW *Zincali* I. II. iv. 278 The whining, canting tones peculiar to the Gypsies. 1888 *Times* 2 Oct. 9/1 The English masses... cannot be got to take much interest in a whining poltroon. 1897 KIPLING *Capt. Cour.* v, The whining wheel.

Hence 'whingingly *adv.*

1660 INGELO *Bentiv. & Ur.* II. (1682) 21 [They] talk whingingly. 1689 T. PLUNKET *Char. Gd. Comm.* Prol., Making those swearers (whingingly) to yield. 1814 BYRON *Let. to Moore* 3 Aug., I have seriously and not whingingly neither hopes, nor prospects. 1888 GUNTER *Mr. Potter* xx, The dog becomes so fearfully restless and whingingly uneasy.

† **whinion**, obscure obs. var. WHINYARD.

1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* I. iii. 12 Be not afraid To gird thy whinion to thy trusty Thigh.

whinling, **whinnel**: see WHINDLE.

whinner ('hwɪnə(r)), *v. local.* [Frequentative of WHINE *v.*: see -ER⁵.] *intr.* To whine (feebly). Hence 'whinnering *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*; 'whinner *sb.*, a feeble whine.

c1700 KENNETT *MS. Lansd. 1033*. **1840** MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* (1883) I. 124 Lying on the floor insensible, or occasionally sitting up... executing a sort of whinner. **1854** THOREAU *Walden* xii. (1886) 227, I formerly saw the racoon in the woods, ... and... heard their whinnering at night. **1866** CARLYLE *Remin.* (1881) II. 212 Poor whinnering old moneyed women. **1888** Lippincott's *Mag.* Apr. 453 A fitful, whinnering gust.

whinnock¹ ('hwinək). *dial.* Also 6 qwenock, winock. [Celtic (Gael. *cuin(n)eag*, Ir. *cuinneog*, W. *cunnog*).] A pail, *esp.* a milk-pail.

1555 *Inv. R. Robinson, Kendal* (Somerset Ho.), A Qwenock & a skyl. **1594** *Inv. Cowper, Kendal* (ibid.), 2 flesh whinocks. **1691** RAY *Coll. Words* (ed. 2) 138 A Whinnock or Kit, a Pail to carry Milk in. **1787** GROSE *Prov. Gloss.*

'whinnock². *dial.* Also 9 whinock, winnick. [? *f.* the root of WHINE *v.* + -OCK.] The smallest pig in a litter.

1691 RAY S. & E.C. *Words* (ed. 2) 92 A Cadma, the least of the Pigs which a Sow hath at one fare; ... it is also called the Whinnock. **1864** WEBSTER, *Whinock*... the small pig of a litter. (*local U.S.*) **1905** Eng. *Dial. Dict.*, Winnick... 2. The smallest pig of a farrow. Wil.

whinny ('hwinɪ), *sb.*¹ [*f.* WHINNY *v.*] An act of whinnying; a (low or gentle) neigh, or similar sound.

1823 E. MOOR *Suffolk Words*, Whinny, the half neigh, half nigger, of a horse, mare, or colt. **1847** TENNYSON *Princess* v. 442 The gray mare Is ill to live with, when her whinny shrills From tile to scullery. **1870** MEREDITH *Let. to J. Morley* 27 Jan., Out flaps the big girl with a whinny, Fire! Fire! **1871** WHYTE-MELVILLE *Sarchedon* ii, A troop of wild asses standing at gaze for a moment, to disappear with snort and whinny. **1894** CROCKETT *Raiders* xli, I set my hands to my mouth, ... and made the whinny of the heatherbleat [= snipe] palpitate across the moor.

'whinny, *sb.*² *rare.* [*f.* WHIN¹, ? after *spinney*.] A thicket of whins or furze-bushes.

1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 4 Nov. 4/1 Portions of the common... retain the thick covering of gorse whinnies.

whinny ('hwinɪ), *a.*¹ [*f.* WHIN¹ + -Y¹.] Covered or abounding with whins or furze-bushes.

1482-3 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 648 Circa manuram de le Whynnyclose. **1607** MARKHAM *Cavel* vii. xxx. 49 Hay which growing in whinnie grounds is ful of sharp prickles and stumps. **1761** STERNE *Tr. Shandy* IV. xxxi, The Oxmoor... was a fine, large, whinny, undrained, unimproved common. **1824** MISS FERRIER *Inher.* xlv, The whinny braes of his native land. **1826** GALT *Last of Lairds* xxxv. 320 I've had a notion... that there's a mine o' copper ore aneath the whinny-knowes.

whinny ('hwinɪ), *a.*² [*f.* WHIN² + -Y¹.] Of the nature of or containing whin or whinstone.

1789 J. WILLIAMS *Min. Kingd.* II. 6 The whinny and the argillaceous regularly stratified mountain rock.

whinny ('hwinɪ), *v.* Forms: 6 whyn(n)ye, whiny, wyunny, -ie, 7-9 whinne, 9 winny, 6- whinny. [Imitative; cf. the earlier *whine* (14th cent.), *whrinny* (15th cent.), and L. *hinnire*.]

1. *intr.* Of a horse: To neigh, *esp.* in a low or gentle way; also occasionally of other animals, as calves or certain birds, or of inanimate objects making a similar noise.

1530 PALSGR. 781/1 My horse whynnyeth cherfully this mornnyng. *Ibid.* 782/2, I wyunny, as a horse dothe. **1592** [? GREENE] *Def. Conny Catch.* (1859) 19 After an amorous weke or two, as old Jades wyinnie when they cannot wagge the tayle. **1676** HOBBS *Iliad* xii. (1686) 173 The Horses when upon the Brink they were, Bogg'd and whinny'd, and refus'd to pass. **1683** SNAPE *Anat. Horse* ii. ix. (1686) 93 Does the horse neigh, or whinney as they call it in some Country? **1815** SCOTT *Guy M.* xxiii, Dumble... walked to his own stable-door, and there pawed and whinnied for admission. **1855** KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* vii, The colts in the horse-park... whinnied as they played together. **1858** O. W. HOLMES *Aut. Breakf.-t.* xii, French horns whinnied. **1885** MRS. C. PRAED *Head Station* xlvii, The calves whinnied in their pen as she approached. **1893** KIPLING *Many Invent.*, *Finest Story* 124 The gas-jet puffed and whinnied. **1894** CROCKETT *Raiders* xxxvii, Again the bird [sc. snipe] whinnied in the air.

2. *trans.* To utter with a whinnying sound; to express by whinnying.

1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* li, 'He who shot young Hazlewood—ha, ha, ho!' burst forth the Dominic, with a laugh that sounded like neighing... 'Accidental! ho, ho, ha!' again whinnied Sampson. **1859** MEREDITH *R. Feverel* xxiv, 'I can't move.' Benson made a resolute halt. 'I must be fetched', he whinnied. **1888** GUNTER *Mr. Potter* iv. 45 The donkeys... whinny their pleasure as they drink.

Hence **'whinnying** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.* (†also quasi-*adv.*).

1585 HIGINS *Junius* *Nomencl.* 358/2 *Hinnitus*,... the neying or whinnying of an horse or mare. **1595** NORTH *Plutarch*, *Sylla* 514 A sharpe voyce like the neying of a horse, or whynnying of a goate. **1607** MARKHAM *Cavel*. i. xvi. 63 Where they may neither heare the noyse of their dams, nor their dams heare their whinnying. **1675** COTTON *Burlesque upon B.* 40, I... run whynnying mad, For every woman that I see. **1819** SCOTT *Leg. Montrose* viii, His low whinnying neigh, his pricked ears [etc.]. **1837** W. IRVING *Bonneville* xli, The elk kept up a continual whinnying or squealing. **1876** GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* lxx, Several small, whinnying laughs. **1881** MRS. C. PRAED *Policy* & P. xvi, There was a whinnying call from one horse to another. **1895** CROCKETT *Men of Moss-Hags* xxv, The whinnying of swords as they whistled through the air.

† **whinny-whanny**. *Obs.* [Cf. WHIM-WHAM, WHIMSY-WHAMSY.] ? A trivial thing, trifle.

1673 *S'too him Bayes* 54 You may make an Egregious Play with the rest of your Whinny-whannies but where's the Plot?

whinse, *obs.* form of WINCE.

whinstone ('hwinstəʊn). Also WHIMSTONE. [*f.* WHIN² + STONE *sb.*] A name for various very hard dark-coloured rocks or stones, as greenstone, basalt, chert, or quartzose sandstone.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* vii. Prol. 39 On raggit rolkis of hard harsk quhyne stane. **1763** W. LEWIS *Phil. Comm. Techn.* 441 The stone called whynn stone, with which some of the streets of London have been lately paved. **1791** BEDDOES in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXI. 65 Whether the basaltes proceeds southward... till it join the Elvin or whinstone, and granite of Devonshire and Cornwall. **1802** PLAYFAIR *Illustr. Hutton. The.* 66 The strata are intersected by veins of whinstone, porphyry and granite. **1823** P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Builder* 289 In Scotland, whole towns are built of whin-stone. **1879** G. MACDONALD *Sir Gibbie* xxi, Granite red and grey, blue whinstone, yellow ironstone, were all mingled.

b. A boulder or slab of this rock. Often used *fig. or allusively*.

a **1585** MONTGOMERIE *Flying* 744 Except I wer to force the with quhin staneis. **1803** *Gazetteer Scot.* s.v. *Girvan*, The coast is generally flat and sandy, interspersed with large whinstones, with which most of the houses are built. **1816** SCOTT *Bl. Dwarf* xi, The despair he felt... was... such as would have melted the heart of a whinstane. **1827** — *Jrnl.* 15 Aug. in *Lockhart*, You might have been as well employed in buttering a whin-stone. **1865** G. MACDONALD *Alec Forbes* xiv, He's a blue whunstone that's hard to dress. **1899** CROCKETT *Kit Kennedy* xlvii, An old man... that you told me was breaking whin-stones on the roadside.

c. *attrib.* Pertaining to or consisting of whinstone; also *fig.* hard, tough.

1834 H. MILLER *Scenes* & *Leg.* xi. (1857) 167 The castle—a grey whinstone building. **1874** GREEN *Short Hist.* i. §3. 25 The scant herbage scarce veils the whinstone rock. **1910** BUCHAN *Prester John* v, I haven't your whinstone nerve.

whinta(i)ne, *obs.* forms of QUINTAIN¹.

whiny ('hwaɪni), *a.* Also whiney. [*f.* WHINE *sb.* or *v.* + -Y².] Characterized by whining; disposed to whine, fretful. Also *whin(e)y pin(e)y*; so *whiney-pine* *vb.* *intr.*, to make whining noises.

1854 MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.*, *Whiny piny*, fretful, complaining. **1885** T. MOZLEY *Remin. Towns*, etc. I. 377 The sweet but rather whiny sing-song of Northamptonshire. **1897** SARAH GRAND *Beth Bk.* iv. (1898) 29 Beth, you really are a whiny child, you always have a grievance. **1920** 'K. MANSFIELD' *Let.* 27 Sept. (1977) 182 Two infant wasps... each caught hold of a side of a leaf and began to tug... They became furious. They whimpered, whiney-pined—snatched at each other—wouldn't give way.

whinyard ('hwinjəd). Now *Hist.* Forms: 5 whyneherd, whyneard, 6 whynarde, whineyard, winniard, 7 whineyard, -yeard, whineard, whyniard, whinniard, 7-8 whiniard, 6- whinyard. [Of obscure origin; cf. WHINGER *sb.*¹] A short-sword, a hanger.

1478 Nottingham *Rec.* II. 296 *Cum quodam armicuduo vulgariter nuncupato Anglice 'a whyneherd'*. **1499** *Will of Love* (Somerset Ho.), A whyneard with a chape of siluer. **1529** SKELTON *Bouge of Court* 363 And by his syde his whynarde and his pouche. **1653** GATAKER *Vind. Annot. Jer.* 136 We shall not need to borrow great Alexanders whiniard to cut this Gordian knot. **1663** BUTLER *Hud.* i. iii. 480 His Pistol next he cockt anew, And out his nut-brown Whiniard drew. **1719** D'URFEE *Pills* III. 320 Who wav'd his Whiniard o'er her Loyn, as if he'd gone to Knight him. **1810** SCOTT *Lady of L.* i. viii, The hunter... For the death-wound... Muster'd his breath, his whinyard drew. **1856-9** R. BUCHANAN *Trag. Dramas*, *Wallace* i. viii, I'd liefer Plunge this Scots whinyard in thy felon breast, Than in the heart of Turk or Saracen.

† b. ? A subtle 'blade'. *Obs. nonce-use.*

1611 CHAPMAN *May-Day* i. i, *Lor.* It is not Hector but Paris, not the full armefull, but the sweet handfull that Ladies delight in. *Ang.* O notable old whyniard.

whio ('fiə, 'wi:əʊ). N.Z. Also 9 wihu, wio. [Maori.] The blue duck, *Hymenolaimus malacorhynchus*, native to New Zealand.

1847 T. BRUNNER *Jrnl.* 2 Apr. in N. M. Taylor *Early Travellers N.Z.* (1959) 272 Shot a *wihu*, or blue duck. **1855** R. TAYLOR *Te Ika a Maui* xxv. 407 *Wio*,... the blue duck, is found abundantly in the mountain streams of the south part of the North Island...; it takes its name from its cry. **1880** J. C. CRAWFORD *Trav. N.Z. & Austral.* 122 At Kai-inanga, Deighton shot a pair of *whio*, or blue-ducks. **1966** *Encycl. N.Z.* I. 499/2 The most peculiar is undoubtedly the blue duck, mountain duck, or *whio*.

whip (hwɪp), *sb.* Forms: 4-6 wippe, quippe, 4-7 whippe, 5-6 wyppe, whyppe, whyp, *Sc.* quhippe, (4 quyppe, 5 whipp, *Sc.* qwypp, quhippe, 6 *Sc.* quhup, quhipp, whupe), 5-7 *Sc.* quhip, 6-7 whipp, (9 *Sc.* whup), 5- whip. [Partly *f.* WHIP *v.*, *q.v.*; partly *a.* (M)LG. *wippe*, *wip* quick movement, leap, moment of time, lift for raising a well-bucket or hoisting cargo, lever, = Du. *wip* see-saw, strappado, swipe, skip (*in een wip* in an instant, *met een wip* at one sweep), OHG. *wipph* (MHG. *wipf*, *wif*) quick movement. Fris. *wip*, *wipp*, in some of these senses, also = mousetrap,

Sw. *vipp* pump-gear, early Da. *vip*, *wippe*, also *hvip* leap, skip, short distance, moment, swipe, flap, lappet, Da. *wippe* swipe, G. *wippe* see-saw, crane, swipe, windlass, pliable pole, etc. are from LG. (Early Flem. *wippe* whip, in Kilian, is dubious.)]

1. The instrument of flagellation, and connected senses.

1. a. An instrument for flogging or beating, consisting either of a rigid rod or stick with a lash of cord, leather, etc. attached, or of a flexible switch with or without a lash, used for driving horses, chastising human beings, and other purposes.

c1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 154 Ses chivaus deyt le charetter De sa fowette [*gloss* a quippe] ou de sa ryote gyer [*gloss* haling-wippe]. **c1340** *Nominale* (Skeat) 886 *Chareter ad sa reorte*, Carter hathe his wippe. **c1386** CHAUCER *Sec. Nun's T.* 406 For which Almachius dide hym so bete With whippe of leed, til he the lif gan lete. **c1450** *Cov. Myst.* (Shaks. Soc.) 315 Bynde hym to a pelere, ... Than skorge hym with quypys. **1535** COVERDALE *Prov.* xxvi. 3 Vnto the horse belongeth a whyppe, to the Asse a byrdle, and a rodde to the fooles backe. **1567** *Aldeburgh Rec.* in *N. & Q.* 12th Ser. VII. 142/2 P^d to Spomer for his attendans at ye churche with ye whyppe... x^d. **1597** in *J. Melvill's Autob.* & *Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 432 Into thy youthe, reiose to tholl the whupe. **1651** Maldon, Essex, *Burgh Deeds* Bundle 82 No. 2 (MS.), xiid. paid Samuell Sturgeon for punishing of three persons by the whipp. **1735** SOMERVILLE *Chase* 11. 112 The clust'ring Pack... hear with respect thy Whip Loud-clanging. **1807** SOUTHEY *Esperiella's Lett.* II. 48 The coachman smacked his whip. **1868** F. E. PAGET *Lucretia* 173 Flick, flick, flick, went the whip.

b. In *fig.* or *allusive* use: cf. SCOURGE *sb.* 2, 3. **c1386** CHAUCER *Merch. T.* 427 She may be youre purgatorie She may be goddes meene and goddes whippe. **1406** HOCCEVE *La Male Regle* 118 Seeknesse, y meene, riotoures whippe. **a1548** HALL *Chron.*, *Hen. VIII* 234 This act established chiefly sixe articles, wherof... of some it was named the whip with sixe strynges. **1588** SHAKS. *L.L.L.* 111. i. 176 And I forsooth in loue, I that haue beene loues whip! **1625** DEKKER *Rod for Run-awayes* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 278 Iehouah, when he is angry, holds three Whips... the Sword, Pestilence, and famine. **1647** (*title*) A Fresh Whip for all scandalous Lyers. **1700** ROWE *Amb. Step-Mother* 111. iii, Revenge shall... with her Iron whips Lash forth this lazy Ague from my Blood. **1817** D'ISRAELI *Cur. Lit.* III. 312 Fanatics, who had... smarted under the satirical whips of the Dramatists. **1881** SHELTON *Dairy Farming* 177/3 Artificial manures act as 'whips' or stimulants.

c. *transf.* The occupation or art of driving horses; coachmanship.

1792 HOLCROFT *Road to Ruin* 11. 25 You may challenge the whole fraternity of the whip to match you. **1818** SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* xxii, The coachman of the Marquis... observing the rival charioteer was mending his pace, resolved, like a true brother of the whip... to vindicate his right of precedence. **1851** APPERLEY *The Road* 58 The taste for the whip has undoubtedly declined.

d. Phrases. *a fair crack of the whip* (*colloq.*): a fair chance to participate or act. † *to drink or lick (up) on the whip*: to have a 'taste' of the whip, to get a flogging. † *a whip and a bell*: something that detracts from one's comfort or pleasure (in allusion to the ancient Roman custom of attaching a whip and a bell to the chariot of a triumphing general, to drive away evil). *whip and spur* (*advb.*, usually with *ride*): using both the whip and the spur to urge the horse on; at one's utmost speed, at a furious pace: cf. SPUR *sb.*¹ 2 a. *whip behind!*, a cry to the driver of a horse vehicle calling his attention to the presence of some one riding on the back of the vehicle without his knowledge.

c1460 Towneley *Myst.* iii. 378 For youre long taryyng Ye shal lik on the whyp. **1576** GASCOIGNE *Steele Glas* 688 He shal be sure, to drinke upon the whippe. **1644** CLEVELAND *Char. Lond. Diurn.* 4 In all this Triumph there is a whip and a Bell. **1681** T. FLATMAN *Heracitus Ridens* No. 19 (1713) I. 127 Care and the compleat Character-Man are riding Whip and Spur who shall have the next Vacancy in Bedlam. **1684** OTWAY *Atheist* i. i, To get rid of that Whip and a Bell, call'd thy Wife. **1742** POPE *Dunc.* iv. 197 Each fierce Logician... Came whip and spur, and dash'd thro' thin and thick. **1814** SCOTT *Wav.* lxvi, I rode whip and spur to fetch the Chevalier. **1835** CARRICK *etc.* *Laird of Logan* (1841) 307 Some wandeidy weans cried 'whip behind! whip behind!' **1929** K. S. PRICHARD *Coonardoo* 179 I'll see you get a fair crack of the whip now, Mr. Watt. **1944** L. GLASSOP *We were Rats* 2, I am sorry to have to tell you that the Lord's had a fair crack of the whip and He's missed the bus. **1957** *Technology* Oct. 271/1 We should give the technical high school a trial... with a fair crack of the whip when the talent is being handed round. **1971** *Radio Times* 19 Aug. 50/1 It is the first time in 4½ years that those opposing the present abortion law have been given a really fair crack of the whip on a B.B.C. panel.

2. a. An object resembling a whip: a slender flexible branch of a plant; a twig, sprig, switch; a collection or growth of such branches.

1585 HIGINS *Junius* *Nomencl.* 146/1 *Flagellum*,... the whip or smal toptwig of the vine. **1881** E. INGERSOLL *Oyster-Industry* 250 *Whips*, slender branches used to mark the bounds of oyster-beds. (Connecticut.) **1908** S. E. WHITE *Riverman* xv, What, in the early year, had been merely a whip of brush, now had become a screen.

b. = *whip aerial* *s.v.* WHIP-1 c.

1940 *Electronics* July 68/2 The whip is used to increase the capacitance and to carry some current to greater heights. **1960** *Practical Wireless* XXXVI. 342/2 The aerial is an 8 ft. 'whip' which is swung into the vertical on arrival at a

stopping place, being attached to the side of the caravan permanently, on an insulator. 1976 *Sg* (N.Y.) Feb. 34/1 They are factory pretuned... and will take up to 500 watts of power, radiating from a 46-inch stainless steel whip.

3. a. A blow or stroke with, or as with, a whip; a lash, stripe; *pl.* a flogging. Now only *Sc.*

c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* III. ii. 294 Wipe a cheik bane of ane as... He let about hym qwype for qwyte. 1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 145 He wyll gyue hym a whip. 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* v. 38 It war weill wairit he gat his quhippis. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. i. 70 For who would beare the Whips and Scornes of time? 1879 G. MACDONALD *Sir Gibbie* xxi, He's a coorse cratur, an' maun hae's whups.

b. *fig.* An attack, access (of illness or calamity). *Sc.* (Cf. WHIFF *sb.*¹ I c.)

1891 'H. HALIBURTON' *Ochil Idylls* 89 Ye chose me—at a whip o' dearth—To represent ye. 1894 'IAN MACLAREN' *Bonnie Brier Bush, Lachlan Campbell* iii, If a body hes a bit whup o' illness.

c. *pl.* Abundance, 'lots'. *dial., Austral., and N.Z.* (Cf. LASHING *vbl. sb.*¹ b.)

1888 G. G. B. SPROAT *Rose o' Dalma* Linn 242 He'll hae whups o' tabacca. 1897 I. SCOTT *How I stole 10,000 Sheep* vii. 29, I was glad to hear Jim come cantering up with 'whips' of b-read, cheese, beer and horse-feed. 1904 *Blackw. Mag.* Apr. 558/2, I must have lost 'whips' of blood. 1928 'BRENT OF BIN BIN' *Up Country* xi. 183 Whips of room for us both. 1948 R. FINLAYSON *Tidal Creek* i. vi. 59 'Didn't think old Podder would ever bother about that bit of land,' says Uncle Ted. 'Got whips of land.' 1961 G. FARWELL *Vanishing Australian* 182 Then you want capital—whips of it.

4. a. One who wields a driving-whip; a driver of horses, a coachman. (Usually with descriptive adj. or *phr.* expressing skill or style.)

1775 SHERIDAN *Rivals* i. i, None of the London whips of any degree of *ton* wear wigs now. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xiii, You're a very good whip, and can do what you like with your horses. 1855 SMEDLEY *H. Coverdale* v, The old boy is nothing of a whip. 1884 EARL MALMESBURY *Mem.* I. 16 He...drove four-in-hand better than any whip between Windsor and London.

b. *Printing.* A compositor who sets type speedily.

1890 BARRÈRE & LELAND *Dict. Slang* II. 409/1 Whip... (Printers), quick setter of type. a 1974 P. EVETT in J. Burnet *Useful Toil* (1974) III. 333, I was put into the piece 'ship' on the paper, where I can truly say I held my own, though I was no whip. 1978 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 15 Sept. 1022/4 An average compositor at that time would have set a thousand characters or ens an hour, and a 'whip', or fast setter on piece-work, would have set upwards of fifteen hundred.

5. *Hunting.* = *whipper-in* 1.

1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xlv, The two whips... possessing marvellous dexterity in casting the points of their long heavy whips at the thinnest part of any dog's skin who dares to straggle. 1860 LD. W. LENNOX *Pict. Sporting Life* I. 197 Gentlemen, I have been with you thirty-two years—one year as second whip, five as first whip, and twenty-six as huntsman.

6. A member of a particular party in Parliament whose duty it is to secure the attendance of members of that party on the occasion of an important division. Originally called *whipper-in* (WHIPPER-IN 2).

There is a variable number of Government Whips (under a Chief Whip) in both Houses of Parliament, who receive salaries paid out of public money. The Chief Whip in the Commons is the Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasury. In 1964, the additional post of Assistant Government Whip was created, several of whom are appointed.

1850 THACKERAY *Pendennis* II. vi. 52 Captain Raff, the honourable member for Epsom, retired after the last Goodwood races, having accepted, as Mr. Hotspur, the whip of the party, said, a mission to the Levant. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* lviii, The Whip for his party hands it about... to keep men together who want to be off. 1855 LD. LONSDALE in *Croker Papers* (1884) III. 323 There never was a division where the calculators and whips were more out of their reckoning. 1884 D. ANDERSON 'Scenes' in *Commons* 214 Mr. Sheil, a Parnellite Whip. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* I. xiv. 108 There is neither Government nor Opposition; neither leaders nor whips.

7. a. The action of 'whipping up' the members of a party for a Parliamentary division, or any body of persons for some united action.

1828 ELLENBOROUGH *Diary* (1881) I. 42, I hear Planta did not send out the notes for the division to-night till yesterday evening, so that there was a general idea it was not to be made a Government question... On the other side there is a perfect whip. 1832 LD. LYTTETON in *Corr. Sarah Lady L.* (1912) 271 The latter was shut out, consequently there would have been 152. There must have been a great Whip. 1862 STANHOPE *Pitt* IV. 157 An anxious whip was made by both parties. 1884 E. W. HAMILTON *Diary* 2 May (1972) II. 608 It was carried... by a majority of 2 to 1, owing no doubt in great measure to the whip-up which the Prince of Wales had made. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 8 Oct. 2/2 As a demonstration of Parnellism... it was mainly drawn from Dublin. The whip-up from the country was even less successful than formerly.

b. A call or appeal to a number of persons for contributions to a sum or fund; now usu. *whip-round*.

1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* iv, If they would stand a whip of ten shillings a man, they might have a new boat. 1865 *Slang Dict.*, Whip, after the usual allowance of wine is drunk at mess, those who wish for more put a shilling each into a glass handed round to procure a further supply. 1874 JEFFERIES *Toilers of the Field* (1892) 26 Wine 'whips' are formed, and the sherry circulates freely. 1874 HOTTEN *Slang Dict.* 339 Whip-round. 1887 *Echo* 23 Nov. 4/4 Neighbours, who knew that she had no money, instituted a 'whip round', and soon raised the necessary amount. 1888 *Daily News* 27 Dec. 3/7 A 'whip round' for the Robin Dinner Fund for poor children in London. 1948 M. LASKI *Tory Heaven* i. 12 The whip-round for garments and the

ladies' little cries when they were told that clothes were rationed at home. 1977 *Centuryan* (Office Cleaning Services) Christmas 2/3 It appears a whip-round for the drinks was suggested. 1980 A. MORICE *Death in Round* xiv. 107 She... handed over the money that had been raised by the whip round. 1985 *Times* 14 June 5 The extra money will have to be found by a nonrepayable whip-round among member states.

c. The written appeal or circular letter issued by a Parliament 'whip' to summon the members of his party.

1879 T. H. S. ESCOTT *England* II. 149 Having issued the whip, the great thing for the whip himself is to see that members do not slip through his fingers. 1884 *L'pool Mercury* 18 Feb. 5/6 The following five-lined whip, headed 'Most important', has been issued to members of the Opposition.

d. *the whip*: the discipline that goes with being a member of a party in Parliament; an MP's membership of a party.

1950 THEIMER & CAMPBELL *Encycl. World Politics* 458/2 To decline the whip is a method of resignation from the party. 1955 *Times* 24 May 15/1 Some effort had been made to arrive at a non-intervention arrangement, but it broke down when Mr. Walker was asked if he would accept the Conservative whip. 1966 *Listener* 25 Aug. 289/1 If he is a member of the Labour Party, he is bound by the standing orders of the Parliamentary Labour Party... To defy the standing orders may involve the withdrawal of the whip. 1980 B. CASTLE *Castle Diaries* 12 The bitterness intensified when, in October 1971, sixty-nine Labour MPs, headed by Roy Jenkins, defied the Labour whip and voted for Mr. Heath's motion.

8. A preparation of whipped cream, eggs, or the like.

1756 *World No.* 201. ¶3 If he will not be satisfied with whips and creams, he may carry his voraciousness to more liberal tables. 1813 *Sk. Char.* (ed. 2) I. 86 There's cold meat for the men, soups for the married ladies, and puffs and whips for the girls. 1883 *Amer. Dishes* 157 Chocolate Whips.

9. a. (associated or identified with sense 3.) A movement as of a whip or switch; a lashing motion; *spec.* a slight bending movement produced by sudden strain, as in a piece of mechanism, or in the barrel of a gun when fired.

1889 MRS. E. KENNARD *Landing a Prize* xv. (1891) 113 Harry gave one backward whip of the [fishing-] rod. 1898 *Jrnl. R. U.S. Instit.* Oct. 1140 The whip of the barrel when fired. 1907 *Westm. Gaz.* 5 Dec. 4/2 The... frame [of a motor-car] is deepened in the centre to prevent whip.

b. *Cricket.* A whipping or springy action of the batsman's or bowler's wrist in playing or delivering the ball.

1903 [see FLICK *sb.*¹ I d]. 1923 *Cricketer Ann.* 1922-3 78 Kilner bowls left hand slow... has a good action with a nice 'whip' in it.

II. A movement, and connected senses.

† 10. a. A sudden, brisk, or hasty movement; a start; *occas.* a sudden gust. *Obs.* (Cf. WHIP *int.*) † with a whip *Sir John*: 'before you can say Jack Robinson'.

a 1553 UDALL *Royster D.* i. iii. (Arb.) 20 No haste but good, Madge Mumblecrust, for whip and whurre The olde prouber doth say, neuer made good furre. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 94 The hare at pinche turnth from him at a whip. a 1578 LINDSAY (Pitseeottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 259 This man... wanischit away as he had bene... ane quihpe of the whirle wind. 1583 H. HOWARD *Defensable* E 4 b, The sodaine whippes of the wheele of fortune. 1631 MABBE *Celestina* III. 39 With a whip-Sir Iohn, e'r you could scarce say this, shee was heere againe.

b. *Fencing.* A thrust in which the blade slides along the adversary's blade.

1771 LONNERGAN *Fencer's Guide* 86.

11. The brief time taken by a sudden movement; a moment, instant. *Obs. exc. Sc.*

c 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 4577 Thre wawes... be whilk in to rede blode pan War turned with'in a whipp. 1808 JAMIESON *s.v.*, In a whip, in a moment. 1836 M. MACKINTOSH *Cottager's Dau.* 65 Syne in a whip she let him in.

III. Something moved briskly.

† 12. A 'spring trap' for catching vermin, etc. 1590 M[ASCALL] *Bk. Fishing*, etc. 63 The whippe or spring trappe. This Engine, is called the whip or spring. *Ibid.* 85 A whippe spring, made... to take Buzardes and Kites.

† 13. *Naut.* A handle attached to the tiller, formerly used in small ships: = WHIPSTAFF 2. *Obs.*

1611 COTGR. *s.v. Barre*, La barre du timon, the whip of the Rudder (of a ship). *Ibid.*, Molinet, the roll wherein the whip of a Rudders tiller goes. a 1625 *Nomenclator Navalis* (Harl. MS. 2301), The Whippe is that staff which the Steeres-man dooth houlde in his hand, whereby he gouernes the helme.... In greate shippes they are not vsed.

14. Each of the arms or radii carrying the sails in a windmill.

1759 SMEATON in *Phil. Trans.* LI. 149 *note*, The extreme bar is 1-3d of the radius (or whip, as it is called by the workmen), and is divided by the whip in the proportion of 3 to 5. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 599/1 In all the older windmills a shaft... carried four to six arms or whips on which long rectangular narrow sails were spread.

15. a. A simple kind of tackle or pulley, consisting of a single block with a rope rove through it (*single whip*); used on board ship, and in mining, etc. for hoisting, esp. light objects.

A double whip, whip on whip, or whip and runner consists of a standing block and a running block, the 'fall' or

rope of the former being attached to the latter. *whip and derry* = WHIPSY-DERRY.

1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine*, Whip, a sort of small tackle, generally used to hoist up light bodies, as empty casks, &c. out of a ship's hold, which is accordingly called whipping them up. 1778 PRYCE *Min. Cornub.* 179 In this winding by the whip, a strict attention should be paid to the filling the kibbals to the brim. 1834 MARRYAT *Peter Simple* xxviii, He... made a whip, and lowered me on deck. 1846 A. YOUNG *Naut. Dict.* 367 Whip-upon-whip, or a double Whip, is one whip applied to the fall of another. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, Whip and Derry, an arrangement for raising the kibble, by means of a rope merely passing over a pulley and attached to a horse. 1904 FITCHETT *Commander of 'Hirondelle'* xvii. 191 A whip was being rigged from the mainyard to hoist in the wounded.

b. (See quot.)

1808 JAMIESON, *Wheeps*, the name given to the instrument used for raising, what are called the bridgeheads of a mill.

16. A fairground roundabout in which a continuous revolving chain carries a number of cars or tubs round an oval track, the tubs being pivoted so as to swing freely about their point of attachment to the chain.

A proprietary name in the U.S.

1925 WODEHOUSE *Carry on, Jeeves!* vi. 152, I could hardly drag him away from the Whip, and as for the Switchback, he looked like spending the rest of his life on it. 1937 HULL & WHITLOCK *Far-Distant Oxus* xx. 277 Bridget, Anthony, and Peter went off for a ride on the 'Whip'. 1969 L. MOODY *Ruthless Ones* ix. 96 They went into the fun fair and tried the big dipper, the wheel, the whip. 1976 *Official Gaz.* (U.S. Patent Office) 8 June 1989 A. G. Mangels Co., Inc., Bay Shore, N.Y.... Whip. For carnival type amusement ride... First use since at least as early as 1914. 1979 C. WOOD *Bond & Moonraker* v. 61 'The Whip' of his childhood days, but revolving at a speed that would have... hurled it half-way across the fairground.

IV. 17. *Needlework.* A stitch of the kind described *s.v.* WHIP *v.* 18; an overcast stitch; the projecting portion of the stuff between such stitches.

1592 GREENE *Greene's Vision* Wks. (Grosart) XII. 226 A Stomacher of Tuft Mockado, and a Partlet east ouer with a prittie whippe. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), Whip, a round sort of a Stitch in Sewing. 1882 CAULFIELD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework* 519 Take up every Whip, or portion of the roll, between the stitches.

18. *Weaving.* (See quotes.)

1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 415 In the weaving of ribands and other ornamental works, many extraneous substances, totally unconnected with the warp or weft, are thrown in... These substances are merely held in the fabric by the intersection of... the warp and the weft, and are by the weavers denominated whips. 1863 J. WATSON *Weaving* vi. 206 Whip is the name given to that kind of yarn which is used for making the figures in lappet weaving, and it is made by twisting together so many ends of common yarn.

V. † 19. A bandage. *Sc. Obs.*

1504 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* II. 465 For clait to be wippes to Johne Balfouris sair leg. 1507 *Ibid.* IV. 15 For iiii elne Holland clath quihk was wippes to the Kingis arm that wes hurt.

† 20. A wreath, garland. *Sc. Obs.*

1513 DOUGLAS *Aeneis* XII. iii. 19 Thar hedis dycht In wyppis of the haly herb vervane.

whip (hwip), *v.* Pa. t. and pple. whipped (hwipt), whipt. Forms: 3 wippen, hwippen, 4 wippe, wype, 4-6 wypppe, whippe, 5 whyppe, 5-6 whyppe, 6 quip, wyp, *Sc.* quhip(pe, quhypppe, 8-9 *Sc.* wheep, 9 *Sc.* and *dial.* wip, 8- *Sc.* and *U.S. dial.* whup, 6- whip. [The early history of this verb and its related sb. is uncertain. The senses of both no doubt represent several independent adoptions or formations. With the earliest uses of the vb. cf. (M)LG., Du. *wippen* to move up and down or to and fro, swing, oscillate, leap, dance, = MHG. *wipfen* to dance; from LG. are app. derived early Da. *wippe* to raise with a swipe, clip coin, also †*hwippe* to move quickly, leap, beat with a whip (?), Da. *wippe* to toss, see-saw, Sw. *wippa*, G. *wippen* to rock, tilt, see-saw, strappado, Wfris. *wippe*, *wipje* to move quickly. The base *wip-* is also represented by forms cited *s.v.* WHIP *adv.*, and by several compounds, as (M)LG. *wipgalge*, Du. *wipgalg*, early Da. *wippegalge* strappado, Du. *wipbrug*, early Da. *wippebrygge* drawbridge, Du. *wiplank* see-saw, *wipstaart* wagtail, *wipvisite* flying visit, (M)LG. (G.) *wipper* money-clipper, LG. *wipwap* see-saw; and prob. G. *wipfel* tree-top, summit; Goth. *wipja* 'crown' represents a sense-development ('wind or bind round', branch III below) which is more extensively exemplified by the form derived from the variants *weip-*, *waip-* (Goth. *waips* wreath, crown, *weipan* to crown, ON. *veipr* head-dress, OHG. *weif* bandage; cf. WIPE). Cf. the parallel *sw-*formations *s.v.* SWEPE *sb.*¹, SWIP *v.*, SWOPE. The spelling with *wh* was presumably adopted as being symbolic.]

I. To move briskly, etc.

1. *intr.* † a. To flap violently with the wings. a 1250 *Owl & Night*. 1066 (Cotton MS.) bi song mai bo so longe genge bat þu shalt wippen [v.r. whippen] on a spreng. c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 8197 When þey hadde longe to-gyder smyten, Wyppynng wyp wenges, Cracchynng wip clawes.

b. gen. (†occas. *refl.*) To make a sudden brisk movement; to move hastily or nimbly; to slip or shift quickly; almost always with adverbial extension (*about, in, off, out, etc.*).

c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 363 Sho. . saw þe dure was oppyn, & whippid in & iokkid þe dure faste. **1542** UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 69 b, When he by chance sawe a mous rennyng and whippyng about from place to place. **1548** — etc. *Erasm. Par. Mark* ii. 13-17 The sickle of the palsey, when he whipt out of his bed, and went home vnto his house. **1592** GREENE *Disput.* B 4, Why then quoth shee, steppe into this Closet, hee whipt in hastily. **1599** SHAKS. *Much Ado* i. iii. 63, I whipt [Qo. whipt me] behind the Arras. **a 1604** HANMER *Chron. Irel.* (1633) 189 The Bishop seeing . . the imminent danger, whipt out at a backe doore. **1748** RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) IV. 261, I can land these Ladies in France; whip over before they can get a passage back, [etc.]. **1773** GOLDSM. *Stoops to Cong.* v. ii, If your own horses be ready, you may whip off with cousin. **1786** BURNS *Ordination* vii, Oh rare! to see our elbuckes wheep, And a' like lamb-tails flyin. **1852** MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xxxix, We'll whip in at the back door. **1876** *Coursing Calendar* 19 The hare then whipped downhill. **1883** STEVENSON *Treas. Isl.* xiii, He whipped out of sight in a moment. **1907** J. H. PATTERSON *Man-Eaters of Tsavo* xvii. 186 The moment he [sc. a rhinoceros] got wind of me, he whipped round in his tracks like a cat and came for me.

† **c.** with *it*, in same sense (see also WHIPPET *v.*); also *fig.* in phr. *to whip it in with*, ? to ingratiate oneself with. *Obs.*

1540 PALSGR. *Acolasius* ii. iv. M iv b, Whipping it aboute for ioye. **1694** MOTTEUX *Rabelais* iv. lv. 216 Let's whip it away. **a 1704** T. BROWN *Amusem.* iii. (1709) 40, I found my Neighbour K — . . was made a Commission-Officer by the Name of Captain Whip 'em, I. judg'd he had been Whipping it in with the Gentlewomen before mention'd.

2. a. trans. To move (something) in some way suddenly or briskly; to take, put, pull, push, strike, cut, flourish, etc. with a sudden vigorous movement or action; *fig.* to 'come out with', utter suddenly. Almost always with adverbial extension (*away, off, out, up, etc.*).

13. . *Gaw.* & *Gr. Knt.* 2249 When þou wypped of my hede at a wap one. **c 1380** *Sir Ferumbras* 1617 Wyp þat strok A wyppede of his hued. **c 1450** *Mankind* 788 in *Macro Plays* 29, I wyppe yt in þi cote; a-non yt wer don. **1513** DOUGLAS *Æneis* x. vii. 128 With hys brycht brand his ryght hand he of quhyppyt. **c 1540** *Bk. Fayre Gentyl-woman* BJ, She [sc. Fortune] whyppeh her wheele about. **1570** FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 2173/2, I stirred out of my bed & whipt on my hose. **1600** 1st Pt. *Sir J. Oldcastle* i. iii. 202 He . . leapes behind me, whippes my purse away. **1602** SHAKS. *Ham.* iv. i. 10 Hearing something stirre, He whips his Rapier out. **a 1704** T. BROWN *Char. Jacobite Clergy* Wks. 1711 IV. 262 If they can but get to be a Lord's Chaplain, they immediately whip on a long Scarf. **1740** RICHARDSON *Pamela* I. 165, I popt down, and whipt my fingers under the upper Tile. **1773** GOLDSM. *Stoops to Cong.* ii. ad fin., I'll engage to whip her off to France. **1821** *Life D. Haggart* (ed. 2) 98, I wheep't out my chive. **1827** LYTTON *Pelham* iii, 'Ah! Grant, Grant!' said Lord Vincent, eagerly, who saw another opportunity of whipping in a pun. **1829** GEN. P. THOMPSON *Exerc.* (1842) I. 6 When the Protestants found themselves in danger of being oppressed . . they whipt another king upon the throne, and kept him there. **1852** THACKERAY *Esmond* iii. v, Whipping a dozen into prison or into the pillory. **1889** W. CLARK RUSSELL *Marooned* ii. (1891) 6 These considerations . . made me whip out, 'Miss Grant, it is settled. We sail together.'

b. slang. To drink quickly, 'toss off'. Usually with *off* or *up*. Hence *fig.* (see quot. 1687).

a 1600 DELONEY *Gentle Craft* Wks. (1912) 164 When they had whipt off two or three quarts of wine. **1653** URQUHART *Rabelais* i. v. 24 Whip me off this glasse neatly [Fr. *Fouette moy ce verre qualemement*]. **1687** MIEGE *Gl. Fr. Dict.* II, To whip off a Thing, to make short work with it, *expedier* (*depecher promptement*) *quéque Chose*. **1692** L'ESTRANGE *Fables, Life Æsop* 11 The Fellow . . Whips up the Drink, and gives Xanthus the Pott again Empty. **1814** *Sporting Mag.* XLIV. 188 Two honest quarts . . down gullet whips he.

c. To make up quickly or hastily.

1611 COTGR., *Fesse-breviaire*, a Priest that quickly whips ouer, or mumbles vp, his Breuiarie. **1697** VANBRUGH *2nd Pt. Æsop* 6 Fix upon the place of Treaty, . . and whip up the Peace Like an Oyster. **1711** HEARNE *Collect.* (O.H.S.) III. 133 The Dedication to the Master was whipp'd up. **1861** FLOR. NIGHTINGALE *Nursing* 48 [The clever nurse] will not bring in the bad article, but not to disappoint the patient, she will whip up something else in a few minutes.

d. To pinch or steal, to make off with; †to swindle. *slang* (orig. *Criminals*).

1859 G. W. MATSELL *Vocabulum* 95 *Whipped*, cheated out of a share, or equal part of the plunder. **1904** 'No. 1500' *Life in Sing Sing* xiii. 259 *Holding the mark till the tool whips his stone*, Engaging a person's attention till the thief succeeds in stealing his diamond. **1946** G. KERSH *Clean, Bright & Slightly Oiled* ii. 11 Hi, you, you give me back that dog-end you whipped. **1958** M. K. JOSEPH *I'll soldier no More* 19 'Where's your hat, Barnett?' . . 'Dunno, Someone musta whipped it.' **1976** A. MILLER *Inside Outside* xi. 173 One of them was rightly furious as the escaper had whipped (stolen) his overcoat. **1981** P. O'DONNELL *Xanadu Talisman* ix. 182 The Shah must've whipped this . . . Stashed it away in a Swiss bank.

† **3.** To pierce with a sword-thrust; to run through. *Obs. slang.*

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Whipt through the Lungs*, run through the Body with a Sword. **1710** ADDISON *Tatler* No. 256 ¶ 1 To make the sun shine through the criminal, or, . . to whip him through the lungs. **1842** C. WHITEHEAD *R. Savage* xx, Why, you're not going there. . . This . . fellow . . would make nothing of whipping you through the body.

4. Fencing. intr. To make a thrust in which the blade slides along the opponent's blade. Also *trans.* with the blade as obj.

1771 LONNERGAN *Fencer's Guide* 90 By disengaging after you whip, you have Quarte-over-the-arm. **1861** G. CHAPMAN *Foil Practice* 13 Some fencers . . perform the Parries of Quarte and Tierce by whipping the blade, with a forward action, along that of the adversary's. **1889** W. H. POLLOCK *Fencing* iv. (Badm. Libr.) 82 The point must be raised towards the left shoulder, the hand drawn back a little towards the fencer's left breast, so that he may whip his blade neatly over the adversary's point.

5. Naut., etc. trans. To hoist or lower with a whip (WHIP *sb.* 15).

1769 [see WHIP *sb.* 15]. **1835** [see WHIPPING *vbl. sb.* 3 c]. **1872** Routledge's *Ev. Boy's Ann.* 336 The chair was 'whipped' up again instantly.

II. To use a whip, strike with a whip.

6. trans. To strike or beat with or as with a whip. **a.** To punish or chastise with a whip or rod; to scourge, flog. Also *loosely*, to beat (esp. a child) with the hand or otherwise, to spank.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* ¶ 716 Eek Dauid seith: that . . they shul nat been whipped with men. **1483** *Cath. Angl.* 416/1 To Whype, *flagellare*. **1583** *Aldeburgh Rec.* in *N. & Q.* 12th Ser. VII. 367/1 P^d for a cart th' gromes maide was whipte at vi^d. **1590** SHAKS. *Mids. N.* iii. ii. 410 Come thou childe, Ile whip thee with a rod. **1605** — *Learn* i. iv. 199 And you lie sirrah, wee'l haue you whipt. **1617** MORVSON *Itin.* i. 85 The pictures of Christ whipped, of Christ carrying his crosse, and of Christ praying in the garden. **1624** BURTON *Anat. Mel.* iii. ii. i. i. (ed. 2) 356 She . . whipped him [sc. Cupid] . . on the bare buttocks with her pantophle. **1664** in *Verney Mem.* (1904) II. 214 If the 'Whelps meddle with Sheepe, they must be tied to any Dead sheepe, and whipped soundly'. **1709** STEELE *Tatler* No. 76 ¶ 1, I must whip my children for going into bad company. **1726-31** WALDRON *Descr. Isle of Man* (1865) 32 Two or three of them seized ber, and pulling up her clothes, whipped her heartily: . . she ran home . . , telling what had befallen her, and showing her buttocks on which were the prints of several small hands. **1752** CHESTERF. *Let. to Dayrolles* 18 Oct., If a poor child is to be whipped equally for telling a lie, or for a snotty nose, he must of course think them equally criminal. **1813** E. S. BARRETT *Heroine* iii. (1909) 17 Master Bobby . . mewed like a cat, when he was whipt. **1859** THACKERAY *Virgin*. lxii, She deserves to be whipped, and sent to bed. **1868** BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* II. 1243 Ah, being young and pretty, 't were a shame To have her whipped in public.

1893 H. A. SHANDS *Some Peculiarities of Speech in Mississippi* 68 *Whup*, . . Negro for whip. **1929** W. FAULKNER *Sanctuary* (1981) xl. 132 You done whupped him. **1939** J. STEINBECK *Grapes of Wrath* xxviii. 504 Whyn't ya whup her, Ma? . . Go on, give her a whup. **1950** PATTERSON & CONRAD *Scottsboro Boy* iii. ii. 193, I told the warden I was not guilty of the charge and didn't want to be whupped. **1972** J. GORES *Dead Ship* v. 31 He might have come after Bart . . because he wanted to whup a nigger?

b. To drive away, out, etc. with a whip. Also *fig.*

1567 *Stanford Churchw. Acc.* in *Antiquary* XVII. 169/2 For whipping dogges from y^e church. **1599** SHAKS. *Hen. V* i. i. 29 Consideration like an Angell came, And whipt th' offending Adam out of him. **1667** POOLE *Dial. betw. Prot. & Papist* (1735) 100 Tho' he whipt some out of the Temple, yet he never whipt any into his Church. **1711** STEELE *Spect.* No. 157 ¶ 1 We have so many Hundred unaccountable Creatures every Age whipped up into great Scholars. **1712** — *Ibid.* No. 509 ¶ 2 The . . boys . . were whipped away by a beadle. **1821-2** SHELLEY *Chas. I.* ii. 58 If all turncoats were whipped out of palaces, poor Archy would be disgraced in good company. **1878** ROBT. DICK in *Smiles R. D.* viii. 82 The storm fairly whipped six vessels out of Scrabster Roads.

c. To drive or urge on (a horse, etc.) with strokes of a whip. Also (occas.) *absol.*

1587 MASCALL *Cattle, Horses* (1596) 118 Let him neuer vse to beat them [sc. horses] with the stock of the whip, but to whip them with the lash. **1598** CHAPMAN *Iliad* iv. [viii.] 70 Saturnia whipt her horse, And heauen gates guarded by the Howers, opte by their proper force. **c 1611** *Ibid.* xv. 319 All whipt their chariots on. **1794** MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* vi, The man whipped his mules till they went as fast as possible. **1838** DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* xix, The coach, and the coachman, and the horses, rattled and jangled and whipped. **1852** THACKERAY *Esmond* i. xiii, Your lordship will upset the carriage if you whip so hotly. **1859** H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* xiii, So, whipping up his horse, he drove there. **1889** GUNTER *That Frenchman* xiii. 164 The driver . . sees a chance to dodge through an opening in the crowded street, and suddenly whips up for the effort.

d. Hunting. whip in: to drive (hounds) with the whip back into the pack so as to prevent them from straying; *absol.* to act as whipper-in. *whip off:* to drive (the hounds) with the whip away from the chase; *absol.* to give over the chase.

1739 [implied in WHIPPER-IN 1]. **1859** *Sporting Mag.* Feb. 80 The hounds were whipped off, as the evening was closing on us. **1862** *Ibid.* Dec. 438 James Stacey . . formerly whipped-in to the late Lord Fitzhardinge's hounds. **1887** *Field* 19 Feb. 231/1 Morris Hills, who whipped in to the Queen's Stag-hounds under Davis and King.

e. To spin (a top) by striking it with a whip.

1588 SHAKS. *L.L.L.* v. i. 69 Thou disputes like an Infant: goe whip thy Gigge. **1598** — *Merry W.* v. i. 27 Since I . . plaide Trewant, and whipt Top. **1697** DRYDEN *Æneis* vii. 528 As young Striplings whip the Top for sport. **1874** RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* xxxvii. (1896) II. 273 A nice little girl whipping a top on the pavement.

7. a. Confectionery, etc. To beat up into a froth (cream, eggs, etc.) with a fork, spoon, or other instrument; to prepare (a fancy dish) in this way; also *fig.* See also quot. 1845.

1673, 1691 [see WHIPPED *ppl. a.* 3]. **1764** ELIZA MOXON *Engl. Housew.* (ed. 9) 123 Whip it with a whisk, take off the froth as it rises. **1845** G. E. DAY tr. *Simon's Anim. Chem.* I. 177 If the blood be whipt with due care, the fibrin is obtained as a thick . . mass, surrounding the twigs of the rod. **1849** C. BRONTE *Shirley* xxxvi, When did I whip up syllabus

sonnets? **1895** MONTRESOR *One who looked on* 7, I went to the kitchen to whip a strawberry cream.

b. intr. Of cream: to be capable of being whipped.

1943 *Mod. Lang. Notes* LVIII. 13 Cream whips quickly. **1979** A. PARKER *County Recipe Notebk.* viii. 108 Single cream . . will not whip.

8. Angling. To cast the line upon the water with a movement like the stroke of a whip; to draw a fly or other bait along the surface by such a movement; *intr.*, or *trans.* with the bait or (usually) the water as obj.

1653 [see WHIPPING *vbl. sb.* 1 d]. **1832** LYTTON *Eugene Aram* i. ix, Now be whipped it [sc. the fly] lightly on the wave; now he slid it coquettishly along the surface. **1838** JAMES *Robber* ii, He prepared to ascend the stream, whipping it as he went with the light fly. **1883** BLACK *Shandon Bells* xxix, He worked away, whipping industriously and mechanically. **1904** BINDLOSS *League of Leopard* ii, [He] whipped several pools unsuccessfully.

9. a. trans. To strike like a whip, lash; to move or drive in this way.

1699 DAMPIER *Voy.* II. iii. 69 The Wind . . blew so violently . . that the Boughs of the Trees whipt them . . before they got thither. **1796** [see WHIPPING *vbl. sb.* 1 b]. **1799** W. NICOL *Pract. Planter* iv. §9. 219 Suffer no plant to overtop or whip another; keep the extremities of all side branches just touching one another. **1848** THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxii, One gusty, raw day, . . the rain whipping the pavement. **1869** LD. LYTTON *Orval* 67 On the wind That whips one through this wither'd waste. **1882** *Garden* 14 Jan. 25/3 The foliage . . whipped by the branches of other trees. **1884** MARSDEN *Cotton Spinning* 90 The primitive method of whipping the cotton with willow wands.

b. intr. To lash, swish; also, to bend or spring like a whip or switch.

1872 Routledge's *Ev. Boy's Ann.* 44/1 Lest the twigs should whip back into my face. **1893** H. M. DOUGHTY *Our Wherry* 76 We could see the mast . . whip with the weight. **1894** CROCKETT *Raiders* iii, The chill wind whipping about my shanks.

10. trans. To bring, get, render, make, or produce by whipping (*lit.* or *fig.*).

1635 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Old, Old Man* D 3, Those Royall Opinions were whip'd out of him. **a 1716** SOUTH *Serm.* (1744) IX. 154 Those . . whose religion lies no deeper than their skin, may whip themselves holy. **1740** J. CLARKE *Educ. Youth* (ed. 3) 26 Having had *Lily* whipp'd into them at School. **1825** HONE *Every-day Bk.* I. 1190 A clown going round and whipping a ring: that is, making a circular space amongst the spectators with a whip. **1884** HAWES *My Musical Life* I. 42 He taught me how to whip instead of scraping the sound out [of the violin]. **1889** *Cornhill Mag.* Apr. 356 The cold has whipped red roses on her cheeks.

11. fig. To vex, afflict, torment; to punish, chastise; to administer severe satire or reproof to, 'lash', 'castigate'.

1530 PALSGR. 781/1, I whyppe with a shrode tourne, *je baille belle*. **a 1548** HALL *Chron.*, *Hen. VI* 178 b, With what great tormentes & afflictions God hath whyped & scorged this miserable Isle. **1588** SHAKS. *L.L.L.* iv. iii. 151 Now step I forth to whip hypocrisie. **1651** H. MORE *Enthus. Tri.* (1656) 71 So unmercifully to whip poor Aristotle. **1831** JAMES *Philip Aug.* xxx, More likely . . that some little unforeseen accident . . should prove our best calculations false, and whip us with our own policy! **1891** KIPLING *Light that Failed* xiv, He pressed the girl more closely to himself because the pain whipped him.

† **b. esp. imper.** as a mild execration: = 'confound', 'hang'. *Obs.*

1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* i. i. 49 Whip me such honest knaues. **1608** — *Per.* iv. ii. 91 Marie whip the Gosseling. **1759** *Compl. Letter-writer* (ed. 6) 221 And yet, whip it, there is a satisfaction in reflecting [etc.]. **1872** SPILLING *Giles's Trip* ix. (1920) 109 'Tarnin' round I'll be whipped if the same mischievous brute han't managed to get it throw them wires.

12. To overcome, vanquish, defeat; to surpass, outdo: = BEAT *v.* 10. Now *U.S. colloq.* Phr. *to whip one's weight in wildcats* and *varr.:* (to be able) to fight vigorously; to be fit and strong. Chiefly *U.S.* ? *Obs.*

1571 CAMPION *Hist. Irel.* II. i. (1633) 64 Reymond . . whipped the Rebels, quieted Leinster. **1571** *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxvi. 100 3e neid na ma bot Gedionis three hunder To quip your fais. **1638** BAKER tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. II.) 17 You will whip the Spaniards in point of generousness. **1828** *Spirit of Seventy-Six* (Frankfort, Kentucky) 17 Jan. 3/5, I can ride upon a streak of lightning, whip my weight in wild cats. **1834** *Sk. David Crockett* xiii. 164 I'm that same David Crockett, fresh from the backwoods, . . ; can whip my weight in wild cats. **1836** HALIBURTON *Clockm.* Ser. i. xxvi, The British can whip the whole airth, and we can whip the British. **1852** H. C. WATSON *Nights in Block-House* 20 Not as long as I can whip my weight in catamounts or bar, I'll never give in. **1861** LEVER *One of them* xl, We can whip all cre-ation. **1870** G. H. LEWES *Let.* 17 May in *Geo. Eliot Lett.* (1956) V. 96 We hope to see you both come back ready to 'whip your weight in polecats'. You will not find us in that vigorous condition! **1878** [see ONCE *adv.* A. 7]. **1901** R. S. WARREN *Bell Tales of Greyhous* 18 If Eccles uses his weight cleverly, Wardour will be whipped to a cert. **1906** *Dialect Notes* III. 164 *Whup*, . . to vanquish, to punish, to tire. 'That whups me.' **1968** *Punch* 25 Sept. 451/2 The Matt Dillon urge to 'whup' the Commies.

13. To urge, incite, rouse; to restore to energy or vitality, revive.

1573 HATTON *Let.* in *Ld. Campbell Chancellors* xlv. (1857) II. 265 Shame whippeth me forward. **1815** H. M. WILLIAMS *Narr. Events France* xi. 234 Their dormant patriotism was now awakened, bribed or whipped up. **1835** C. F. GREVILLE *Mem.* 18 July (1875) III. xxviii. 280 On this occasion I whipped up the old friendship. **1894** A. ROBERTSON *Nuggets* 29 He cuffed and whipped his brains to no purpose.

14. (orig. fig. from 6 d.) To summon to attend, as the members of a party for a division in Parliament, or any body of persons for some united action. Const. *in, up*; also simply or *absol.* Cf. WHIP sb. 6.

1742 H. FINCH *Let.* 18 Nov. in P. D. G. Thomas *House of Commons in 18th Cent.* (1971) vi. 114 The Whigs for once in their lives have whipped in better than the Tories. 1769 (May 8) BURKE in Sir H. Cavendish *Debates Ho. Comm.* (1841) I. 426/1 [Here Mr. Burke mentioned the ministry's sending for their friends to the north and to Paris,] whipping them in; [than which, he said, there could not be a better phrase]. 1805 M. CUTLER in *Life*, etc. (1888) II. 191 On the question of the Georgia claims... he undertook to whip in his party. 1833 MACAULAY *Let.* 28 Oct. in Trevelyan *Life & Lett.* (1876) I. v. 336 Lord Essex was there... whipping up for a dinner-party. 1857 TOULMIN SMITH *Parish* 62 With no room for trickery or cajolery, or whipping-up uninformed voters. 1886 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 4 Sept. 9/1 The Liberals will probably support it and whip for it. 1898 J. HOLLINGSHEAD *Gaiety Chron.* i. 23 A literary friend... whipped up a small syndicate of companions to support me.

†15. *pa. pple.* Streaked, striped. (After F. fouetté.) *Obs.*

1693 EVELYN *De la Quint. Compl. Gard.* I. 137 Another sort [of fig.]... is pretty black, having only its skin a little whipt with gray. 1699 L. MEAGER *Art of Gardening* 139 It hath white Leafs edged and whiped about, and feathered in the middle with a deep brown purple. 1721 MORTIMER *Husb.* II. 241 [Tulip] of a sad Red-colour about the Edges, whipped with Crimson.

16. Phrases. a. *to whip the cat*: used (chiefly dial. or *techn. colloq.*) in various senses, some of which are not satisfactorily explained.

†(a) To get drunk; ? = 'to shoot the cat'. (b) ? To lay the blame of one's offences on some one else. (c) To work as an itinerant tailor, carpenter, etc. at private houses by the day. (d) To play a practical joke, for description of which see CAT sb. 14. (e) To practise extreme parsimony. (f) To shirk work on Monday. (g) *Cards*. (See quot. 1854.) (h) *Austral.* and *N.Z.* To complain or moan. Cf. *whip-cat* (under WHIP-2). 1622 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Arrant Thiefe* (1625) C 2 b, To be a Drunkard, and the cat to whip. Is call'd the king of all good Fellowship. 1793 *Philadelphia Ledger* 19 June in *Daily Chron.* (1902) 5 July 5/1 'Whipping the Cat!':—'Mirabeau's ashes were dispersed as belonging to a traitor, by the patriot Brissot, who is styled a villain by the patriot Egalité,' [etc.]. 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia. To whip the cat*, to practise the most pinching parsimony, grudging even shreds and scraps to the cat. In Suffolk the phrase... is applied to a practice... of the village tailor going from house to house to work. 1845 S. JUDD *Margaret* iii, Made shoes, a trade he prosecuted in an itinerating manner from house to house—'whipping the cat,' as it was termed. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampton Gloss.* s.v., When one of the players at the game of whist wins all the tricks in one deal, he is said to whip the cat. 1859 *Slang Dict.*, *Whipping the cat*, when an operative works at a private house by the day... term amongst tailors and carpenters. 1892 *Bulletin* (Sydney) 7 May 10/3 Now he only 'whips the cat' at the bottom of the Carlton poll. 1897 BARRÈRE & LELAND *Dict. Slang*, To whip the cat is modern working-men's slang for shirking work and enjoying oneself on Monday. 1909 H. THOMPSON *Ballads about Business* 12 You could make tenners den like vinkin', dough Now you are vippin' der cat. 1911 *Triad* 10 June 18 Tell him [sc. a misled person] he has leave to go and whip the cat. 1948 V. PALMER *Golconda* xxiii. 194 If there's anything wants doing you've only got to ask Macy Donovan... And he makes light of it, too. No whipping the cat: no setting himself up as a little tin god.

b. *to whip the devil round the post* (U.S. around the stump): see DEVIL sb. 22 n.

1786 *Belknap Papers* i. (1877) 427 What the Virginians call 'whipping the devil round a stump'. 1841 *Congr. Globe* 7 July 132/3 Many men in the State Legislatures... have run their constituents so deeply in debt, that now they want to whip the devil around the stump, and get somebody else to tax them. 1887 *Japan Mail* in J. M. Dixon *Dict. Idiom. Phr.* s.v. *Devil*, It is asserted... that the devil might be whipped round the Tientsin Convention.

III. To bind round or over. (This group of senses is prob. represented earlier in the compound WHIPCORD, which appears 1318-19.)

17. a. *trans.* To overlay (a rope, string, or other object) with cord, thread, or the like wound closely and regularly round and round; to bind round or 'serve' (SERVE v. 1 54 a) with cord, etc. Also, to bind (cord, etc.) in this way round something.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 524/2 Whyppyn, as sylke womene (K., P. whyppyn or cloyshn threde in sylke), *obvolvo*. 1561 *Ludlow Churchw. Acc.* (Camden) 102 For whippinge the seconde belle rope... ij d. 1581 STYWARD *Mart. Discipl.* i. 44 They must haue... their [bow-]strings whipped & waxed ouer with glew. 1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Country Farm* iv. xvi. 512 Then with a silke thred, of the colour of your line, whip and warpe the hooke round about. 1651 T. BARKER *Art of Angling* (1820) 15 Lay... the point of the feather towards the shank of the hook, then whip it three or four time[s] about the hook with the... silk. 1676 COTTON *Angler* ii. v. 39 Take a strong small silk... and then whip it twice or thrice about the bare hook. 1681 CHETHAM *Angler's Vade-m.* i. §2. (1689) 2 Whale-bone made round & taper, & whiped with Shoemaker's Wax, and Silk. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine. To Whip*,... to tie a piece of pack-thread, spun-yarn, &c. about the end of a rope, to prevent it from being untwisted. 1770 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Printing* 330 He begin[s] at the opposite... corner of the Platin, and lashes and whips that. 1836 RONALDS *Fly-Fisher's Entom.* 28 Holding a fine thread well waxed... in one hand, whip a part of it three or four times round the end of the shank of the hook. 1887 RIDER HAGGARD *Allan Quatermain* iv, It was whipped round at intervals... with copper wire.

b. To fasten or 'seize' (SEIZE v. 10 b) by binding in this way.

1760 SIR J. HAWKINS *Walton's Angler* 254 note, For whipping on a Hook take the following directions. 1787 *Best Angling* (ed. 2) 10 Cut about six inches off the top of the rod, and in its place whip on a smooth, round and taper piece of whalebone. 1884 *St. James's Gaz.* 21 June 6/2 The old method of whipping on the wings... is objectionable for wet-fly fishing. 1885 LENO *Boot & Shoemaking* ix. 67 The side linings [of a Wellington] are whipped or hemmed on with either awl or needle.

18. *Needlework*. †a. ? To trim or ornament with embroidery (*obs.*). b. To sew over and over, to overcast. c. To draw into gathers, as a frill, by a combination of overcast and running stitch.

a 1548 [see WHIPPED ppl. a. 1]. 1592 GREENE *Upst. Courtier* Wks. (Grosart) XI. 221 Veluet-breeches... drawn ouer with the best Spanish Satine, and... curiously ouer whipt with gold twist. 1612 WEBSTER *White Devil* K 2, A Lawyer In a gowne whipt with veluet. 17... DRURY *Rival Milliners* i. ii, All the Day We're forc'd to whip and stitch the Time away. 1840 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg. Ser. II. Aunt Fanny* 61 Whipping the Frill. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xlv. (1856) 425 They have been busy... whipping and stitching the seal-skins with reindeer tendon thread.

†19. *trans.* To bind about, wreath, entwine. *Sc. Obs.*

c 1500 KENNEDY *Passion of Christ* 8 Haill, in my Hert with Lufe wippit Intern! 1508 DUNBAR *Gold. Targe* vii, Thair brycht harris... In tressis clere, wyppit [Bann. MS. wypit] wyth goldyn thredis. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* vii. vii. 114 To the, Bacchus, scho raisit... Gret lang speris... Wyth wyne tre branchis wyppit. 1802 SIBBALD *Chron. Scot. Poetry* IV. Gloss., *Quhip, Wipp, Wipe*, to bind about.]

†*whip, int. and adv. Obs.* [The vb. stem used as int. and adv.; cf. Du. *wip* (e.g. in *en wip was hij weg!*), and LG. *wip(p)s*.] Suddenly, forthwith, instantly, in a trice; quick! presto! Also in comb., as *whip-dash*, *-slap*.

c 1460 *Wisdom* 518 in *Macro Plays* 52 'Farewell', quod I; 'pe deuyll ys wppel' *Ibid.* 554 Wyppe wyrry & care a-weyl! [Cf. quot. a 1553 s.v. WHIP sb. 11.] 1525 W. SMITH *Wyddow Edyth* (1573) Fj, Whip quod Thomas and got him down ward And commeth agayne with the cup full. 1588 SHAKS. *L.L.L.* v. ii. 399 Whip to our Tents. 1676 SHADWELL *Virtuoso* II. 19 You should see how I wou'd shew my parts, Whip-slap dash. *Ibid.* 26 With a helter-skelter, whip-dash. 1699 A. ROBERTS *Voy. Levant* 5 If any one happen to say anything amiss, whip 'tis at the Captains ears. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* VII. 341 When I came, whip, was the key turned upon their girls. 1806 *Simple Narr.* I. 167 But whip, before I could say Jack Robinson, he sprung into the chaise.

whip- in combination.

1. Combinations of the sb. a. General attrib., as *whip-crack*, *-flick*, *-leather*, *-mark*, *-stroke*, *-thong*. b. Instrumental, objective, simulative, etc., as *whip-cracking* (*sb. and adj.*), *-maker*, *-making*, *-minder*, *-smacking*, *whip-corrected*, *-like*, *-scarred*, *-shaped*, *-wielding* adjs. c. Special combs.: *whip aerial*, *antenna*, an aerial in the form of a flexible wire or rod with a connection at one end; *whip-beam*, the white-beam (cf. *whip-crop* below); *whip-bird*, an Australian bird (*Psodophes crepitans*) with a note resembling the crack of a whip; also called *coach-whip bird*; †*whip-broth* (*obs. humorous nonce-wd.*), a 'taste of the whip', a flogging; †*whip-cart* (see quot.; cf. LG. ? *wipkarre*); *whip-club*, a driving-club (also *attrib.*); hence *whip-clubbist*, a member of a whip-club; *whip-craft*, the art of, or skill in, driving; *whip-crane*, a crane with a 'whip' (WHIP sb. 15) for hoisting; *whip-crop*, a local name for several shrubs or trees whose stems are used for whipstocks, as the white-beam (*Pyrus Aria*) and the wayfaring tree (*Viburnum Lantana*); *whip-fish*, a chætodont fish, *Heniochus macrolepidotus*, having a dorsal spine elongated into a filament like a whip-lash; *whip gin* = WHIP sb. 15; *whip-grass*, a species of *Scleria* (see quot. 1858); *whip-handle*, the handle of a whip, a whipstock; also fig. (see quot. 1653; with quot. 1861 cf. WHIP-HAND 2); *whip-hanger* = *whip-rack*; *whip-hem*, *Needlework*, a hem formed by 'whipping' or overcasting (see WHIP sb. 16, v. 18 b); *whip-hold*, control (cf. WHIP-HAND 2); *whip-horse*, a horse employed in hoisting by means of a 'whip' (WHIP sb. 15); †*whip-lade* [? LADE sb. 3] = *whip-cart*; *whip-land* (*local*): see quot.; *whip line*, (a) = WHIPCORD 1; (b) the line or rope of a 'whip' (WHIP sb. 15); *whip-net*, technical name of a simple kind of network; *whip-rack*, a rack with notches for hanging whips upon; *whip-ray*, a fish of the family *Trygonidæ*, having a long slender flexible tail resembling the lash of a whip, and armed with a serrated spine; a sting-ray; *whip-roll*, *Weaving* (see quot. 1875); *whip-scorpion*, an arachnid of the order *Pedipalpida*, having a flattened abdomen and long flagella attached to the first pair of legs; *whip-shaft* = WHIPSTOCK 1; †*whip-sloven*, ? a sloven who deserves whipping; *whip-socket*, a socket fixed to the dash-board of a horse-drawn vehicle to hold the

butt-end of the whip; *whip-stall Aeronaut.*, a stall in which an aircraft changes suddenly from a nose-up attitude to a nose-down one; *whip-stick*, (a) a whipstock, or a pliant stick used as a whip; (b) applied in Australia to a dwarf species of *Eucalyptus*; *whip tail*, a (dog's or horse's) tail resembling a whip (see also WHIPTAIL); *whip-thread*, †*whip-wood* (see quot.); *whip-worm*, a parasitic nematoid worm of the genus *Trichocephalus*, consisting of a stout posterior and slender anterior part, like a whipstock with a lash.

1941 *Electronics* Jan. 60/2 It was necessary to vary the height of the *whip aerial which was mounted on the top of the solenoid. 1979 A. JUTE *Reverse Negative* (1980) 42 The car had a prominent whip aerial of the kind police mobile patrols use mounted on its rear fender. 1943 F. E. TERMAN *Radio Engineers' Handbk.* 1019/2 (Index). *Whip antennas. 1974 R. B. PARKER *Godwulf Manuscript* xviii. 141 An aggressively nondescript car made noticeable by the big whip antenna folded forward over the roof and clipped down. 1733 W. ELLIS *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 180 A Sallow Hedge has the Advantage of most... others... because it may be thickened at Pleasure...; Beech and Hornbeam [sic] will grow after this manner;... Ash worse, Maple and *Whip-bean [sic] not at all. 1845 R. HOWITT *Australia* 177 The *whip-bird, which surprised I hear. 1893 MRS. C. PRAED *Outlaw & Lawmaker* xxx, The bell-bird rang its silvery peal, and the whip-bird gave its coachman's click. 1615 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Taylor's Rev.* Wks. 1630 11. 143 Where I was ill thought of... and... in a greater puzzell then the blinde Beare in the midst of all her *whip-broth. 1677 PLOT *Oxfordsh.* 257 A sort of Cart they call a Whip-lade, or *Whip-cart, whose hinder part is made up with boards after the manner of a Dung-cart, having also a head of boards...; which head being made so as to be taken out or left in, the Cart may be indifferently used to carry... dung, when the head is in, and Corn, etc. when taken out. 1808 *Monthly Pantheon* I. 416/1 A new *Whip-club is now about to be established. 1815 *Sporting Mag.* XLVI. 94 The 'Whip-club-blade' with four in hand 'handles the ribbons gay'. 1908 *Blackw. Mag.* Oct. 433 They belonged to a Spanish whip-club. 1809 E. S. BARRETT *Setting Sun* III. 39 If the nobility of France had not degenerated into *whip-clubbists, and opera-house committee-men. 1859 DICKENS *T. Two Cities* II. xxi, As an unruly charger *whip-corrected. 1893 F. ADAMS *New Egypt* 130 With... a cascade of *whip-cracks, the two light-footed Arab horses are at once *en route*. 1775 J. JEKYLL *Corr.* (1894) 62 An Englishman at Tours who took a lesson of *whip-cracking every day from a postillion. 1875 W. S. HAYWARD *Love agst. World* ii, The whip-crackings, and shouts of the whips as they encouraged... the hounds. 1934 WEBSTER, *Whip-cracking, adj.* 1939 R. CAMPBELL *Flowering Rifle* I. 17 For whom I sent the gay whip-cracking words To round them up in flabbergasted herds. 1976 A. MURRAY *Stomping Blues* ix. 166 He also behaves for all the world like a whip-cracking trail driver. 1865 *Athenæum* 4 Feb. 171/3 Divers turnings and *whipcraft feats. 1883 *19th Cent.* July 151 Half a dozen *whip-cranks... would... pull up these boxes with great rapidity. 1850 BROMFIELD *Flora Vectensis* (1856) 167 *P[yrus] Aria*,... White Beam-tree. Vect. *Whipcrop... The long, straight and very tough shoots are cut for whip-handles by waggons. *Ibid.* 235 The slender stems [of *Viburnum Lantana*] are used... for whip-handles... as might be inferred from the vernacular name of Whipcrop. 1960 C. DAY LEWIS *Buried Day* vi. 126 Our instructor... was a... man with... a word of command like a *whip-flick. 1976 *Sunday Sun* (Brisbane) 23 May 115/1 *The whip flick*. Done in a tight finish. You flick your whip across the other horse's nose, up goes his head and you have the advantage in the photo. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech. Suppl.*, *Whip Gin, a simple tackle-block, over which a hoisting-rope runs. 1814 O. RICH *Synopsis Genera Amer. Plants* 106 *Scleria*... *Whip-Grass. 1818 T. NUTTALL *Genera N. Amer. Plants* II. 205 *Scleria*, Gärtner (Whip-grass). [Cf. 1858 HOGG *Veg. Kingd.* 808 The long, straight leaves of *Scleria* flagellum are armed with fine sharp-cutting teeth, and are made into whips for flogging negro slaves in the West Indies.] 1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* II. xxvii. 176 These little ends of men and dandipratts, whom in Scotland they call *whiphandles [orig. *manches d'estrilles*]. 1861 in *Century Mag.* (1889) Oct. 932/2 They know that we shall keep the whip-handle. 1911 BEAN 'Dreadnought' of *Darling* xxxv, Joe Fagan... had taught him to make whip-handles. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Whip-hanger, an annular rim or bracket provided with notches, into which the ends of the suspended whips fit. 1866 MRS. WHITNEY *Leslie Goldthwaite* i, The bits of ruffling... with their edges in almost invisible *whip-hems. 1895 ANNA M. STODDART *J. S. Blackie* I. 211 He had recourse to... fines sternly imposed, and so kept moderate *whip-hold of the team. 1890 'R. BOLDEWOOD' *Miner's Right* viii, We... bought a *whip horse... which staunch and well-trained animal drew up the precious gravel. 1677 *Whip-lade [see whip-cart]. 1811 T. DAVIS *Agric. Wilts* 259 *Whip Land, land... measured out (when ploughed) by the whip's length. 1829 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Exerc.* (1842) I. 138 They could not pay for their *whip-leather. 1847-9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 8/2 A *whip-like moveable proboscis. 1883 SAVILLE-KENT in *Fisheries Bahamas* 40 The whiplike appendages or flagella of the cells. 1582 in *Feuillerat Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 353 For *whip lyne. 1894 *Times* (weekly ed.) 2 Feb. 91/3 The whip line of the apparatus [sc. breeches buoy]... got round the neck of the seaman. 1690 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2579/4 Mr. Richard Weller, *Whip-maker. 1859 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* xxxix, The most accomplished whipmaker. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech. Suppl.* 947/2 The main items of expense in *whip making material are rattan and whalebone. 1898 H. G. WELLS *War of Worlds* i. xvi, With the cabman's *whip-marks red across his face and hands. 1928 R. NEVILL *Romantic London* vii. 143 A quaint old-world calling... was that of *whip-minder; a number of people formerly making a living by looking after the whips of drivers of vehicles, while the latter were engaged on pleasure or business. 1961 *Times* 23 Mar. 17/3 When Covent Garden boasted *whip minders'. 1839 *URE Dict. Arts* 1235 The mail-net... is... a combination of common gauze and the *whip-net in the same fabric. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Whip-rack. 1699 DAMPIER *Voy.* II. II. 73 The

*Whipray differs from the other two sorts, having a . . . longer Tail and ending with a Knob, shaped like a Harpoon. 1873 T. GILL *Catal. Fishes E. Coast N. Amer.* 34 *Trygon centrura*. . . Sting-ray; whip-ray; stingaree. 1863 J. WATSON *Weaving* vi. 219 Below the yarn beam, on each side of the loom, the brackets are fixed for the gudgeons of the *whip rolls to run in. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Whip-roll* (Weaving), a roller or bar over which the yarn passes from the yarn-beam to the reed. 1849 J. R. LOWELL *King Retro in Nat. Anti-Slavery Standard* 10 May 199/2 From *whip-scarred flesh the soul can soar To him who made and sees us. 1966 R. HAYDEN in S. Henderson *Understanding New Black Poetry* (1973) 158 Harriet Tubman, Woman of earth, whips-carred, A summoning, a shining. 1912 J. H. COMSTOCK *Spider Book* i. 16 The common name *whip-scorpions was doubtless suggested by the slender caudal appendages of the Thelyphonidae. 1981 *Sci. Amer.* Dec. 32/1 Watch out for the fungus-ridden whip scorpion and the vampire bats. 1849 CUPPLES *Green Hand* xiv, The masts trembled, and the spars aloft bent like *whip-shafts. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, *Whip-shaped, flagelliform. a 1529 SKELTON *Agst. Garnesche* ii. 38 Thes twayne *whyp-slouens. 1845 POE in *Broadway Jrnl.* 2 Aug. 60/2 The 'Katherine and Petruchio' of Niblo's, is absolutely beneath contempt—a mere jumble of unmeaning rant, fuss, *whip-smacking, crockery-cracking, and other Tom-Foolery. 1879 ATCHERLEY *Trip Boerland* 259 He . . . set up an infernal whip-smacking. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Whip-socket. 1900 'H. S. MERRIMAN' *Isle Unrest* xvii, He twisted the reins round the whip-socket. 1927 C. A. LINDBERGH *We* ii. 33 For an instant we hung motionless in the perfect position for a *whipstall. 1936 *Aircraft Engin.* Apr. 111/1 The mechanics of the whip-stall or uncontrollable nose dive are simple. 1953 C. A. LINDBERGH *Spirit of St. Louis* ii. vi. 326 A whipstall at 1500 feet, with nothing but needles by which to orient myself! 1782 J. ADAMS *Diary* 26 July, Wks. 1851 III. 297 One of the grooms ran up to us with three *whip-sticks. 1850 R. G. CUMMING *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* xxx. II. 278, I resolved to have some fishing; . . . and sallied forth with one of the waggon whipsticks for a rod, and some string for a line. 1874 M. C. EXPLORERS 123 (Morris) A patch of whip-stick scrub. 1889 'MARK TWAIN' *Connecticut Yankee* xxvii. 354 A precaution which had been suggested by the *whip-stroke that had fallen to my share. 1958 L. DURRELL *Mountolive* xii. 229 Nessun felt the heat of the whip-stroke on his hand though the lash had not touched him. 1709 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4523/4 When taken away he had a *whip Tail. 1885 *Bazaar* 30 Mar. 125/2 Black and tan toy terrier dog . . . whip tail. 1827 *Hallowell (Maine) Gaz.* 20 June 4/5 They have also received a large supply of . . . Whips and *Whipthongs. 1897 *Outing* (U.S.) XXX. 252/2 If your whip thong gets caught in the harness. 1883 C. P. BROWN *Cotton Manuf.* 168 *Whip-thread, the crossing thread in gauze. 1838 W. TENNANT *Anster F.* i. xxxvi, An ass, With stout *whip-wielding [ed. 1812 whip-cracking] rider on his back. 1966 PLUKENET *Almagestum Opera* 1769 II. 395 Xylomastix arbor Americana *Whip-wood. 1875 T. S. COBBOLD *Tapeworms* (ed. 3) 70 My treatment not only expelled an ordinary tapeworm but also a solitary *whipworm.

2. Combinations of the vb. a. with second element in objective relation: †whip-arse, a schoolmaster (1611 s.v. ARSE 1 b); whip-belly (-vengeance), slang, weak thin beer or other liquor; †whip-can [see WHIP v. 2 b], a toper, tippler, 'toss-pot'; whip-cat, †adj. drunken [see WHIP v. 16 a (a)]; sb. (also *whip-the-cat*), a tailor or other workman who 'whips the cat' [see WHIP v. 16 a (c)]; †whip-king, one who drives or controls kings (as one does horses with a whip), a 'king-maker'. b. in attributive relation to second element: (a) = *whipping-*: whip-boy (*rare*!) = WHIPPING-BOY; whip-gig = *whip-top*; whip-post = WHIPPING-post; whip-top = WHIPPING-top (also *fig.*); (b) = *whipped*: whip-pan *Cinemat.* and *Television*, a panning movement fast enough to give a blurred picture; also as *v. intr.*; whip-rod, a fishing-rod 'whipped' or wound round with twine [WHIP v. 17]; whip-sillabub, whipped sillabub [WHIPPED *ppl.* a. 3]; also *fig.*

1731-8 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* ii. 166 Faith, it is mere *Whip-Belly-Vengeance. 1847 HALLIWELL, *Whip-belly*, thin weak liquor. 1845 JANE ROBINSON *Whitehall* iii, He had been . . . 'whip-boy' to the young heir. 1611 COTGR., *Bourrachon*, a tipler, quaffer, tossepot, *whip-canne. 1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* i. viii. 40 He would prove an especial good fellow, and singular whip-can [orig. *fesse-pinthe*]. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* v. Prognost. v. 236 Topers, Quaffers, Whipcans, Tossopps. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* iii. (Arb.) 81 With *whip cat bowling they kept a myrry carousing. 1611 FLORIO, *Parlære brianzesco*, to speake tipples, drunken or whip-cat language. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* (1861) II. 366 A tailor who 'whipped the cat', . . . the *whip cat's meals. 1912 R. M. FERGUSON *Ochil Fairy T.* 34 He plied his trade as a 'whup-the-cat' for fivepence a day and 'his meat'. 1781 COWPER *Hope* 190 The puny tyrant burns to subjugate The free republic of the *whip-gig state. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* i. 570 Richard Nevil, that *whip-king (as some termed him). 1960 D. DAVIS *Grammar of Television Production* 33 The *whip pan', a device . . . whereby the camera sees one object, then pans very quickly and sees another, is . . . legitimate because it does what the eye does and blurs the intervening detail. 1965 P. JONES *Technique of Television Cameraman* x. 136 Some television directors . . . instruct the cameraman to whip pan across a scene, but cut to the next static shot on another camera before the pan has ceased. 1979 *Observer* 26 Aug. 20/8 The cameras . . . zooming in and out, whip-panning, busying about the place looking for new angles. 1980 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 3 Oct. 1098/3 Unlike Brian De Palma in his movie version of King's earlier novel, *Carrie*, Kubrick doesn't use whip-pans, sudden zooms on neck-wrenching shocks: the horrors are revealed discreetly, almost lovingly. 1740 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. 6 Or rather Frenchify our English solidity into froth and *whip-syllabub. 1843 P. Parley's *Ann.* IV. 2 His snowy beard foaming on his bosom like whip syllabub. 1801 STRUTT

Sports & Past. iv. iv. §6. 288 We have hitherto been speaking of the *whip-top [under the name of 'top']; for the peg-top . . . must be ranked among the modern inventions. 1887 STEVENSON *Misadvent.* J. Nicholson iv, A man who was a mere whiptop for calamity.

whipcord ('hwɪpkɔːd), sb. [? f. WHIP v. III, with later association of WHIP sb. I + CORD sb. 1]

1. a. A thin tough kind of hempen cord, of which whip-lashes or the ends of them are made; in allusive use, the material of whip-lashes.

Perh. orig. Fine cord or twine for 'whipping' or binding closely round something.

1318-19 in G. Oliver *Lives Bps. Exeter* etc. (1861) 381 Wypp-cord, 3d. 1362-3 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 565 In xij peciis de Wyppcord empt. pro caretar. iiij d. 1465 MARG. PASTON in *P. Lett.* II. 215 Thei . . . bownde his armes be hynde hym with whippe cord like a theffe. 1487-8 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1904) 131 For lyne and whippcorde to serve the same clothe, ij d. 1541 in *Essex Rev.* XXI. 145 Payd for whippcorde for the pascall, ii d. c 1616 FLETCHER *Thierry & Theod.* v. i, Beg, beg, and keep Constables waking, wear out stocks and whippcord. 1675 *Three Inhumane Murders* 6 The Judge Caus'd his Thumbs to be ty'd fast together with whippcord. 1824 SCOTT *Redgauntlet* ch. xix, He will neither spare whippcord nor spur-rowel. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* xxxii, He looks as hard as iron, and tough as whippcord.

b. A piece of this material, as a whip-lash or its extremity.

? a 1500 *Chester Pl.* (E.E.T.S.) xvi. 430 Takes him here bounden fast, While a whippcord here will last. 1592 NASHE *P. Penilesse* (ed. 2) 17 As far as the whippcord would stretch. a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 11 Apr. 1645, Dashing the knotted and ravelled whippcord over their shoulders. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 63 One may break a whip-cord . . . with one's hand . . . by bringing one part of the rope to cut the other. 1856 KANE *Arctic Expl.* I. vi. 58 Our eight-inch hawser parted like a whip-cord.

c. attrib. Tough as whippcord.

1879 BROWNING *Halbert & Hob* 27 One whippcord nerve in the muscly mass from neck to shoulder-blade.

2. trans. a. A kind of catgut.

1880 SPON'S *Encycl. Manuf.* 11. 609 To produce a cord—known as 'whippcord'—from these intestines.

b. A close-woven ribbed worsted material used for dresses, riding breeches, etc. Also attrib.

1895 *Montgomery Ward Catal.* Spring & Summer 4/2 All Wool Black Whippcord Suiting . . . shows fine raised satin finished cords running diagonally through the cloth. 1897 *Daily News* 9 Mar. 6/3 Whippcord coatings, bengalines in silk and wool. 1900 *Ibid.* 16 Apr. 7/3, 60,000 pairs of whip-cord riding trousers. 1915 R. BEAUMONT *Woollen & Worsted* 305 Warp Twills. Fancy Twills—Included in the former are the standard makes of fabric known as whip cords.

3. Applied (simply or attrib.) to a species of willow with very flexible shoots, as *Salix purpurea* or *S. vitellina*; b. species of seaweed with long slender fronds, as *Chorda Filum* or *Chordaria flagelliformis*.

1812 J. WALKER *Hebrides* II. 273 *Salix vitellina* . . . is called . . . the whip-cord willow because its shoots are so tough and flexible, that they can be wrapt round the finger like a whippcord. 1850 MISS PRATT *Comm. Things of Sea-side* ii. 125 The Whippcord *Fucus* (*Chordaria flagelliformis*).

Hence 'whippcord v. trans., to furnish with whippcord; 'whippcordy a., resembling whippcord, sinewy.

1784 R. ROBINSON *Jrnl.* 26 May in *Belfast Monthly Mag.* (1809) June 435/1 Whip-corded the boys' plough whips. 1863 MRS. GASKELL *Cousin Phillis* i, in *Cornh. Mag.* Nov. 627 He has often to whip-cord the plough-whips. 1856 S. WILBERFORCE in *Life* (1881) II. 336 The Bishop (Exeter) wonderfully hale and *whippcordy.

'whip-grafting. Hort. Also †grafting. [f. WHIP v. 2.] (See quot. 1878.) Hence whip-graft v., trans. to graft in this way.

1657 R. AUSTEN *Fruit-Trees* (ed. 2) 47 *marg.*, Second Way of Grafting, called whip-grafting. 1660 SHARROCK *Vegetables* 63 The one of these ways is called shoulder-grafting . . . The other Whip-grafting, because the operator only makes his straight-down right cut and tarryes not to indent it at all. 1675 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* (ed. 2) 115 Taking a Graft or Sprig of the Tree you designe to propagate, and a small piece of the Root of another Tree of the same kinde, . . . Whip-graft them together. 1719 (see *tongue-grafting* s.v. TONGUE sb. 16). 1815, 1842 [see *splice-grafting* s.v. SPLICE sb. 3]. 1878 BALLET *Grafting* etc. 112 The old-fashioned system of 'whip-grafting', employed in England in the case of some kinds of trees in preference to budding, on account of the inclemency of the climate. The stock is headed down and cut on one side only to receive the scion, which is cut with a long splice-cut and partially cleft or notched.

whip-hand ('hwɪp'hænd). [f. WHIP sb. 1.]

1. The hand in which the whip is held in driving or riding; the driver's or rider's right hand.

1806 *Ann. Reg.* 1804 413/1 For a morning's ride this might be complimentary; but it was here depriving me of the *whip hand*. 1809 CHRISTIAN *Blackstone's Comm.* I. 74 The law of the road, viz. that horses and carriages should . . . keep the left side of the road, and consequently . . . pass each other on the whip-hand. 1838 *Bentley's Misc.* IV. 601 A thick gold ring on the little finger of his whip-hand. 1887 R. H. ROBERTS *In the Shires* ii. 27 Raising his whip-hand, which brings the cavalcade to a halt.

2. *fig. phr.* To have the whip-hand (of): to have the advantage or upper hand (of), control. Hence in similar phr.

1680 ALFOP *Mischief Impos.* ii. 8 When once they are got into the Saddle, and have the whip-hand of the poor Laity. 1690 CHILD *Disc. Trade* Pref. C8, Before the Dutch get too

much the whip-hand of us. 1694 ECHARD *Plautus* 204 A silent Woman has always the whip Hand of a Talker. 1849 DE QUINCEY *Engl. Mail-Coach* Wks. 1890 XIII. 307 In the art of conversation, . . . he admitted that I had the whip-hand of him. 1863 COWDEN CLARKE *Shaks. Char.* viii. 200 He has a secret of her own, and this gives him the whip-hand of her. 1884 RIDER HAGGARD *Dawn* xiv, For the sake of my own safety, I dare not abandon the whip hand I have of you. 1947 *Sun* (Baltimore) 22 Dec. 2/1 Its objective will be to outstrip the Marshall plan and so to gain the political whiphand over Europe. 1951 F. YERBY *Woman called Fancy* (1952) xvi. 302 In that election year of 1894, the white vote was so hopelessly divided that the blacks . . . held the whip hand. 1974 *Howard Jrnl.* XIV. 49 The white population who have for so many centuries held, both literally and metaphorically, the whip hand. 1977 M. THATCHER in *Observer* 25 Sept. 10/1 If trade unions hold the whip hand, upon whose back does the lash fall? 1985 *Times* 26 Jan. 21/2 Sir Owen, however, still has the whip hand: he has the money and can bail the banks out of the whole complex exercise.

whip-her-ginny, -jenny: see WHIPPER-GINNIE.

† **whip-jack** ('hwɪpdʒæk). *Obs.* [app. f. WHIP v. 6 + JACK sb. 1] A vagabond or beggar who pretends to be a distressed sailor. Also *gen.*

a 1556 PONET in *Maitland's Ess. Ref.* (1849) 74 One Boner (a bare whippie lacke) for lucre of money toke vpon him to be thy father. 1561 AWDELEY *Frat. Vacab.* (1869) 4 A Whypjacke is one that by coulor of a counterfaite Lisence doth use to beg lyke a Maryner. 1608 DEKKER *Belman of London* Wks. (Grosart) III. 102 Another sort of . . . knaues . . . are called Whypjacks: who talke of nothing but fights at Sea, piracies, drownings and shipwracks. 1753 RICHARDSON *Grandison* VI. xxv. 142 Sir Charles Grandison is none of your gew-gaw whip-jacks. [1834 AINSWORTH *Rookwood* III. v, 'And a rum'un he be', . . . returned the whip-jack, or sham sailor.]

b. Humorously applied to a book in blue binding. *nonce-use.*

1624 in *Cosin's Corr.* (Surtees) i. 33 He also sent me a little whypjack in a blew jacket, caled A Gagg for the newe Gospell.

'whip-lash, sb. Also whiplash. [f. WHIP sb. 1 + LASH sb. 1 2.]

1. The lash of a whip. Also *allusively* and *fig.*

1573-80 TUSSEY *Husb.* (1878) 36 Whiplash wel knotted, and cartrope ynough. 1774 *Pennsylv. Gaz.* 9 Feb. Suppl. 2/3 Silk whip-lashes. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* xxxii, He let out his whip-lash and touched up a little boy on the calves of his legs. 1891 KIPLING *Light that Failed* iv, 'He wants the whip-lash.' 'Lay it on with science, then.' 1894 *Athenæum* 11 Aug. 195/2 Nothing escapes the whip-lash of the 'college wit'. 1915 M. BAILLIE SAUNDERS *Captain the Curé* v, Listening to the sharp whip-lash of furious voices in the room below.

2. trans. An object resembling the lash of a whip, as the *vibraculum* of certain polyzoans; *spec.* a species of seaweed with long narrow fronds.

1850 MISS PRATT *Comm. Things of Sea-side* ii. 124 The two species of Sea Whiplash, . . . One kind of this whiplash (*Chorda filum*) grows attached to rocks and stones. 1857 GOSSE *Omphalos* 146 The long and tough whip-lash in which the point of each leaf terminates. 1865 — *Land & Sea* 225 In the Scuparia . . . there are some special organs of defence . . . One of these is called the vibraculum, or the whiplash.

3. An injury to the head, neck, or spine caused by the head's being dashed to and fro on the less mobile trunk when a seated person is jerked forwards or backwards, as in a car accident. *Usu. attrib.*, esp. in *whiplash injury*.

1955 *Jrnl. Amer. Med. Assoc.* 5 Nov. 983/2 Poor seat-design accounts for thousands of so-called whiplash injuries. 1962 *Times* 23 Jan. 5/5 They discount arguments that 'whiplash' injury is common among safety belt wearers. 1971 H. PACY *Road Accidents* i. 21 In damage to rear of vehicle think of whiplash. 1975 *Year Bk. Ear, Nose & Throat* 14 This article documents another useful study regarding the effects of cervical spine trauma, or 'whiplash' trauma. 1977 *Woman's Day* (Austral.) 24 Oct. 47/1 My husband had a car accident at the beginning of last year and received a whiplash injury. 1983 *Which?* Sept. 402/3 If no effective head restraint is provided, the head tends to get left behind, causing major bending and straining of the neck — 'whiplash' injuries.

whiplash ('hwɪplæʃ), v. [f. prec. sb.]

1. trans. a. To inflict sudden or severe harm on.

1957 A. MACNAB *Bulls of Iberia* viii. 83 The bull's trajectory is accordingly also bent in an arc . . . The bull is not now being violently whip-lashed as in the 'benders', but is being smoothly worn down. 1975 *Business Week* 14 July 50 Whether such a complex plan can be managed effectively, or whether it will be whiplashed by the short-term interest of elected officials and mired in a new super-bureaucracy is perhaps the most important unanswered question. 1980 *N.Y. Times* 28 June 9/5 Much of the playing was perfunctory. Mr. Getz had a ghastly time, whiplashed between feedback and reed trouble that led to a classic climactic squeak. 1982 *Christian Sci. Monitor* 5 Oct. B 2/2 Oil field service companies have been 'whiplashed' as profit-starved major oil companies have sharply cut back drilling programs.

b. To jerk in a contrary direction; *spec.* to cause a whiplash injury to.

1971 *Daily Colonist* (Victoria, B.C.) 27 May 55/1 Parents who shake their babies in a fit of temper are threatening their lives, a surgeon has warned. Severe shaking can 'whiplash' the baby's head, causing blood clots on the brain. 1980 *Washington Post Mag.* 30 Nov. 53/1 (*caption*) The final solution to the problem of the hook on your tape measure slipping off the edge of the credenza to which you've

attached it, whiplashing the tape into your eye. 1982 J. GARDNER *For Special Services* xiii. 133 The force of impact had whiplashed the man's head, breaking his neck.

2. *intr.* To move suddenly and forcefully, like a whip that is cracked. Also *fig.*

1963 *Lebende Sprachen* VIII. 169/3 [Drivers' vocabulary.] To whiplash. 1. his head whiplashed. 2. the trailer whiplashed. 1971 *Daily Tel.* 13 Dec. 3/2 The Environment Department is investigating methods used to fix posts for motorway crash barriers. It fears that if they have not been planted deep enough, a crash might uproot them and allow a stretch of high-tension metal barrier to 'whiplash' across the carriageways. 1972 D. DELMAN *Sudden Death* (1973) iii. 77 He set us against each other. And he figures... one of us... is going to whiplash with something he can use. 1977 *Washington Post Mag.* 27 Nov. 40/3 Conservatives say they can't do or say anything because it will hurt their careers. It's like the old backlash has whiplashed. 1983 *Washington Post* 20 Feb. C3/6 The cable that catches the planes when they come in snapped. It whiplashed around the deck and caught the Chief in the spine. 1983 D. BOGGIS *Women they sent to Fight* xxxviii. 220 Margaret released her... Zelazny whiplashed round... terrified.

'whiplless, *a.* [-LESS.] Of a Member of Parliament: having resigned, or having been deprived of, the whip.

1962 *Guardian* 13 Dec. 2/3 Mr Emrys Hughes, the 'whiplless' Labour member for South Ayrshire. 1967 R. BUTT *Power of Parliament* xii. 317 Opinions varied as to how far the 'Whiplless' MPs suffered from social or other pressures from the parties they had deserted during their period in isolation. 1976 *Times* 23 Feb. 13/2 A small and whiplless group of independent Labour MPs.

† **whipling**, *vbl. sb. Obs. rare* -1. [Cf. WHEEPLE *v.*] ? A 'piping' noise.

1522 SKELTON *Why not to Court* 347 There is a whyspring and a whipling, He shulde be hyder brought.

whipman ('hwipmən). Now *rare*. Pl. -men. [f. WHIP *sb.* 1.] A man who wields a whip; a driver of horses; *dial.* a carter. Hence 'whipmanship', the character or skill of a 'whipman', the art of driving.

1797 *Sporting Mag.* IX. 50 The school of whipmanship, for the young nobility and gentry. *Ibid.* X. 288 No sooner were the whipmen passed than the void part was filled. a 1825 DUFF *Poems, Old Horse* 84 (Jam.) Routhless whipmen, scant o' grace. 1834 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* I. No. 2. 45 The whip-men (carters) bought it.

'whipmaster. [f. WHIP *sb.* 1.] A master who uses the whip; a flogger.

1725 BAILEY *Erasm. Colloq.* (1878) I. 103 Wo to our Back-Sides, he's a greater Whip-Master [L. *flagellator*] than Busby himself. 1893 K. GRAHAME *Pagan Papers* 96 These whipmasters of ours.

whippable ('hwipəb(ə)l), *a.* [f. WHIP *v.* 6 + -ABLE.] Liable to be whipped.

1853 *Blackw. Mag.* Dec. 643 Two sorrowful, whippable *alumni* stood each beside a 'tree of knowledge'. 1881 PHIL ROBINSON *Under the Punkah* 216 The distinctive feature of this period of life [sc. boyhood], is popularly supposed to be that it is a whippable age.

'whippant, *a. humorous nonce-wd.* [f. as prec., after heraldic terms in -ANT.] That is frequently whipped.

1652 [see STOCKANT].

whipped (hwipt), *ppl. a.* Also 5-7 whipt. [f. WHIP *v.* + -ED¹.]

1. *Needlework.* (See WHIP *v.* 18.)

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 207 b, Frettes of whipped gold of damaske very riche. 1716 GAY *Trivia* II. 339 In half-whipt Muslin Needles useless lye.

† 2. *a.* (See quot.) *Obs. nonce-use.*

1562 V. LEIGH *Survey.* (1588) O iij, I call it... the whipped line, because I haue formed it... like a little whipcorde. 1619 H. LYTE *Art of Tens* 20 In the table on the left hand of the whipped line.

b. Bound with cord closely wound round: see WHIP *v.* 17.

1886 J. H. KEENE *Fishing Tackle* 159 Twisting a hackle... round the shank of a whipped hook.

3. *Confectionery*, etc. Beaten into a froth: see WHIP *v.* 7. Hence in figurative expressions denoting something 'frothy', flimsy, or unsubstantial.

1673 DRYDEN *Marr. à la Mode* iv. iii, The dull French Poetry... so thin, that it is the very Leaf-gold of Wit, the very Wafers and whip'd Cream of sense. 1691 SHADWELL *Scourers* II. i, To make clouted cream, and whipt Sillabubs. 1725 *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Sugar*, The White of a whipt Egg. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* lxxxv. VII. 117 To distinguish the froth and whipt-syllabub in them [sc. letters] from the cream. 1781 COWPER *Table-T.* 551 Summoning the Muse to such a theme, The fruit of all her labour is whipped cream. 1828 SCOTT *Jrnl.* 23 Apr. in *Lockhart*, Who cares for the whipp'd cream of London society? 1846 SOYER *Cookery* 209 Add a gill of whipped cream.

4. *a.* Beaten with or as with a whip; scourged, flogged, lashed.

1713 *Guardian* No. 8 ¶ 4 Saying, That it became not the Condition of a whipt Rascal to travel on Horseback. 1842 BORROW *Bible in Spain* xiv. 138 The two nationals, who sneaked away like whipped hounds. 1842 *Congr. Globe* 29 Jan. 183/2 A whipped cur was ever the most fawning dog.

b. *Farriery.* Of a horse: see quot.

1737 BRACKEN *Farriery Impr.* (1757) Pref. p. xi, You shall hear many a Horse praised for being a thorow-winded one, and a brave whipt-horse. *Ibid.* II. 122 He is a good whipt Horse, that is, he will answer the Whip well.

5. *Fencing.* (See WHIP *v.* 4.)

1771 LONNERGAN *Fencer's Guide* 90 If I whip along your Tierce-side, parry round with a whipped Quarte.

6. With *up*: Made up artificially, factitious.

1900 *Daily News* 8 Feb. 3/4 The recent agitation was a whipped-up thing. 1902 J. H. ROSE *Napoleon I*, I. xii. 274 His keen instinct for reality, which led him to scorn such whipped-up creeds as Robespierre's Supreme Being.

¶ 7. Used for WHIP-.

1680 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1561/4 Two Mares, one of them... whipt Tail'd, and Grizled. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. iii. 94/2 Little round holes whipt-stitched about.

8. Subject to a Parliamentary whip.

1970 P. G. RICHARDS *Parliament & Conscience* iii. 60 This was duly debated and defeated on a straight party whipped vote. 1976 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 12 Mar. 300/2 In the 1970-74 Parliament, two thirds of the Conservative members voted against their party whip on at least one occasion, and one (Enoch Powell) did so in 113 whipped divisions. 1981 MARSH & CHAMBERS *Abortion Politics* vii. 194 MPs... are subject to constituency and interest group pressure on whipped issues.

whippence: see WHIPPIN.

whipper ('hwipə(r)). [f. WHIP *v.* + -ER¹.] One who or that which whips, in various senses.

1. One who beats or chastises with (or as with) a whip; a scourger, flogger; *spec.* an official who inflicts whipping as a legal punishment. Also *fig.*

1552 HULOET, Whypper who whypeth beggers and vacaboundes, or others, *plagiarius*. 1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* v. iii, Ambitiously, affecting the title of the vnturers, or whippers of the age. 1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. [I.] 1. 147 It is the basest Office Man can fall into, to make his tongue the Whipper of the Worthy man. 1697 J. PARTRIDGE (*title*) *Flagitiosus Mercurius flagellatus*; or the Whipper whipp'd. 1813 E. S. BARRETT *Heroine* xvi. (1909) 88 At last, marrying some honest gentleman... she degenerates into a dangle of keys and whipper of children. 1841 ORDERSON *Creoleana* ix. 96 The brutal hand of the mercenary whipper. 1886 *8th Rep. Prison Comm. Scot.* 6 The case against the boy was accordingly delayed... because a whipper could not be found.

b. = FLAGELLANT *A.* 1.

a 1656 BP. HALL *Serm. 1 Cor. xi. 10* Wks. 1808 V. 487 A brood of mad heretics, whom they called Flagellantes, 'the whippers'; which went about... lashing themselves to blood. 1782 PRIESTLEY *Corrupt. Chr.* II. ix. 213 The whippers... ran about in promiscuous multitudes.

c. = WHIPPER-IN 1, 2. ? *Obs.*

1826 *Sporting Mag.* (N.S.) XVII. 366 John Roberts the huntsman, and Will Veale the whipper. 1884 GLADSTONE in *Western Daily Press* 12 July 8/1 The authority, for every loyal Liberal, of the whipper.

d. A kind of fishing-rod: see quot., and cf. WHIP *v.* 8.

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. iii. 103/1 A Whipper, or Whipping Rod is a slender top Rod, that is weak in the middle and top heavy, but all slender and fine.

2. A person or thing that surpasses others. (Cf. WHIP *v.* 12.) ? *Obs. exc. dial.* applied to a big active person.

c 1520 *Boke of Mayd Emlyn* 356 in Hazlitt *Early Pop. Poetry* IV. 94 Bycause he coude clepe her, She called hym a whypper. 1540 J. HEYWOOD *Four PP.* C ib, This relyke, her is a whipper... here is a slypper Of one of the seuen sleepers.

3. A workman who hoists coal with a 'whip': = COAL-WHIPPER. (Cf. WHIP *v.* 5.)

1835-6 BARLOW in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 87/1 The four whippers now run up a sort of step-ladder. 1836-9, etc. [see COAL-WHIPPER]. 1887 R. NEWMAN in *Charity Org. Rev.* July 275 Coal-whipping... has now all but ceased; but a similar class of men... are probably as numerous as were the whippers of twenty years ago.

4. One who runs the coloured thread along the edge of a blanket. (Cf. WHIP *v.* 18.)

1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 66 Blanket Manufacture; .. Tucker. Whipper. Binder.

whipperee (hwipə'ri:). *U.S.* Corrupt form of *whip-ray* (see WHIP- 1 c): cf. STINGAREE.

† **whipperginnie**. *Obs. slang.* Also 6 whipper-ienny, 7 whip her Ginny, whip-her-ginny, 8 whip-her-jenny. [Of obscure origin.]

1. A term of reprobation or abuse applied to a woman.

1593 *Tell-trothe's N.Y. Gift* (1876) 13 Shee fals so hot to scoulding with the whipperginne her ostice. *Ibid.* 21 That fornicators (after they had obtained their desires...) should... seeking other wenches, meet with whipper ginnies. 1599 PORTER *Angry Wom. Abingt.* (Percy Soc.) 103 What needst thou to care, whipper-ienny, tripe-cheeks?

2. *the land of whipperginnie*, app. a nickname for purgatory.

1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* C3 b, What newes from heauen, hell, and the land of whipperginnie.

3. Name of an old game at cards. *Obs. exc. arch.*

1622 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *O'Toole* Wks. (1630) II. 19/2 Thou hold'st it Valours ignominy, To spend thy dayes in peacefull whip her Ginny. 1629 — *Wit & Mirth* xix. *ibid.* 181/2 An vnhappy boy... would fall to Cards at the Cambrian game of whip-her-ginny, or English one and thirty. 1737 *Poor Robin* Dec. B7 b, Maw, Whip-her-jenny, Poor and Rich, With other fruitless Pastimes. 1923 R. GRAVES *Whipperginnie* 45 The minds of these two princes Were of such subtlety and such nimbleness That Whipperginnie on the fall of a card Changed to Bézique or Cribbage or Piquet.

'whipper'-in. [f. the phr. *to whip in*: see WHIP *v.* 6 d.]

1. *a.* A huntsman's assistant who keeps the hounds from straying by driving them back with the whip into the main body of the pack. Also called shortly a *whip* (WHIP *sb.* 5), or formerly occas. a *whipper* (WHIPPER 1 c).

1739 *Ess. Better Regul. Free-Thinking* 7 Should... the Postilion turn Cook, and the Whipper in resolve to be nothing less than Steward or Butler. 1742 FIELDING *J. Andrews* I. ii, He was soon transplanted from the Fields into the Dog-kennel, where he was placed under the Hunts-man, and made what Sportsmen term a Whipper-in. 1875 W. S. HAYWARD *Love agst. World* i, The brothers... ordered their whipper-in... to unkennel the hounds.

fig. c 1771 S. FOOTE *Maid of Bath* Prol. p. vi, To change the figure—formerly I've been To straggling follies only *whipper-in*. 1785 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Lyric Odes* iv. Wks. 1812 I. 87 My Muse is whipper-in. 1836 E. HOWARD *R. Reefer* xxxv, One of the two... brings that was to accompany us as whippers-in to the convoy.

b. In the game of hare and hounds, a runner whose business it is to keep the hounds in order.

1855 'G. FORREST' *Every Boy's Bk.* 11 The Hare should not be the best runner, but should be daring, and... prudent. .. A Huntsman and Whipper-in are then chosen... The Hare then starts, and has about seven minutes' grace, at the expiration of which time the Huntsman blows a horn... and sets off, the Hounds keeping nearly in Indian file, the Whipper-in bringing up the rear. 1901 R. S. WARREN BELL *Tales of Greyhouse* 47 The too impetuous hounds had to be curbed by the whippers-in.

c. *Racing slang.* The horse last in a race or at any given moment of a race.

1892 *Daily News* 8 Sept. 3/5 The field began to break up, and the whippers in became Curio and El Diabolo.

2. In parliamentary use, = WHIP *sb.* 6. *Obs. exc. Hist.*

1771 *Ann. Reg., Misc. Ess.* 196/1 He was first a whipper-in to the Premier, and then became Premier himself. 1792 *J. Pearson's Pol. Dict.*, *Whipper-in*, a fellow that sends for Members to carry a question when the Minister is hard run. 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Parl. Sk.*, He... will tell you how Sir Somebody Something, when he was whipper-in for the Government, brought four men out of their beds to vote in the majority. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 9 Oct. 12/1 At the beginning of the Canadian Parliamentary Companion' a whole page is headed in large capitals, 'Whippers-in.' Then follow the names of the various party 'Whips,' as we would call them.

'whipper-snap, *v.* [Back-formation f. WHIPPER-SNAPPER.] *intr.* To behave like a whipper-snapper; to be impertinent. Hence 'whipper-snapping (and varr.) *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1908 W. DE MORGAN *Somehow Good* xi. 100 The lines they might elect to whipper-snap on were not to be those of sentimental nonsense. 1913 D. H. LAWRENCE *Sons & Lovers* xiii. 349 Think I'm goin' ter have you whipperty-snappin' round? 1925 — *Refl. Death Porcupine* 231 Oh, the universe has a terrible hole in the middle of it, an oubliette for all of you, whipper-snapping mongrels. 1973 *Times* 11 Apr. 13/5 Jackie Rea, a former champion, there to match whipper-snapping with an old dog's tricks.

'whipper-snapper. [? A jingling extension of *whip-snapper, a cracker of whips (see WHIP *sb.* 1, SNAP *v.* 12), on the model of the earlier *snipper-snapper*.] A diminutive or insignificant person, esp. a sprightly or impertinent young fellow. Also rarely applied to a thing.

† In quot. 1674 app. A violent or dangerous person, a 'rough': cf. quot. 1589 s.v. WHIPSTER 1 a.

1674 HEAD *Jackson's Recant.* C2 b, Have a care of Marlborough Downs, there are a parcel of whipper Snappers have been very busie there of late. a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Whipper-snapper*, a very small but sprightly Boy. 1700 T. BROWN *Amusem.* xi. 136 A Grave Old Gentleman... thus reprimanded our Saucy Whipper-Snapper. 1827 SCOTT *Surg. Dau.* ii, A whipper-snapper of an attorney's apprentice... I'll teach him to speak with more reverence of the learned professions. 1840 THACKERAY *Paris Sk.-bk.* (1869) 15 Not that he feared such fellows as these—little whipper-snappers—our men would eat them. 1866 MRS. GASKELL *Wives & Dau.* xxii, A little whipper-snapper of a French watch. 1876 BLACK *Madcap Violet* xxxviii, It is only the whipper-snapper in criticism who is always crying out for a grand and tremendous motive.

attrib. 1742 FIELDING *J. Andrews* iv. vi, A Parcel of Whipper-snapper Sparks. 1856 MISS YONGE *Daisy Chain* I. xxix, A whipper-snapper school-boy.

whippet ('hwipit), *sb.* Also 6 wepiti, whippett, 9 whippit, wippet. [? partly f. WHIP *sb.* or *v.* + -ET¹, partly f. WHIPPET *v.*]

† 1. ? Some light wine. *Obs.*

c 1500 *Blowbol's Test.* 50 (MS. Rawl. C. 86 lf. 107 b) Good drynke he lound better than he did wepiti. *Ibid.* 337. 112 Malmasyes, Tires, and Rumneys... Whippett and Pynghmedo.

2. A lively young woman; a light wench; now *dial.* a nimble, diminutive, or puny person.

1550 CROWLEY *Epigr.* 1331 All modeste matrons I truste will take my parte, As for nice whippets, wordes Shall not come nye my hert. 1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* Wks. (Grosart) III. 158 Those worthlesse Whippets and Iack Strawes hee could get, he would seeme to enable and compare with the highest. 1597 BRETTON *Wit's Trenchmour* Wks. (Grosart) II. 15/1 Why, quoth this Whippet, if I should tell you I loue you [etc.].

† 3. A sudden brisk movement. *Obs. rare* -1.

a1603 T. CARTWRIGHT *Confut. Rhem. N.T.* (1618) 431 As soone as ever [the dog] seeth [the rost] taken from the fire, he giveth a whippet from his wheele.

4. a. A small breed of dog; now *spec.* a cross between a greyhound and a terrier or spaniel, used for coursing and racing, esp. in the north of England.

With the earliest examples cf. WHAPPET.

a1610 HEALEY *Theophrastus* (1616) 75 If a little dog or whippet of his dye, & hee makes him a tombe. *c1615* W. GODDARD *Mastiff Whelp* G.3, Too loude thou barkest Whelpe, I must haue whippets now, that doe but yelpe. *1630* J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Dogge of Warre* Wks. II. 232 The little Curre, Whippet, or House-dogge. *1645* MILTON *Colast.* 26 If a man cannot peaceably walk into the world, but must bee infested... with bauling whippets, and shimbarkes. *1665* in *Sporting Mag.* XLII. 10 To seize... all such greyhounds, beagles, or whippets [sic]. *1841* HARTSHORNE *Salopia Antiqua* 614 *Whippet*, a dog bred betwixt a greyhound and a spaniel. *1884* St. James's *Gaz.* 18 Oct. 6/2, I found a man training a wiry racing-dog... The 'whippet' strode along with great earnestness.

attrib. and Comb. *1885* *Bazaar* 30 Mar. 1260/3 Fawn whippet bitch for sale. *1894* F. LLOYD *Whippet & Race-Dog* viii. 45 The National Whippet-racing Club. *Ibid.* xi. 73 A most important personage on the Whippet-track is the clerk of the scales.

b. *transf. Mil.* The Medium Mark A 'tank', a light kind of 'tank' used in the war of 1914-18. Also called *chaser*. Usually *attrib.* as *whippet tank*.

1918 *Times* 15 Aug. 7/6 The... capture of Morlancourt, where light Tanks or whippets were used. *1918* E. W. FARROW *Dict. Mil. Terms* 664 *Whippet tank*, an English armored car equipped with caterpillar treads. *1920* J. C. F. FULLER *Tanks in Gt. War* 176 March 26 [1918] is an interesting date in the history of the Tank Corps, for, on the afternoon of this day, the Whippet Tanks made their debut. *1938* G. GREENE in *Spectator* 22 July 139/2 Whippet tanks—camouflaged as in war. *1946* *New Yorker* 9 Mar. 83/1 Solid city blocks of whippet and giant tanks.

† 5. A little whip. *Obs. rare*—1.

1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Country Farm* I. xxviii. 132 He shall not vse anie thing else to ride him [sc. horse] with, saue onely his whippet and trench.

† 6. 'A short light petticoat' (Forby). *dial. Obs.*

Hence *whippe'teer*, 'whippeter', a person who keeps a whippet (sense 4); 'whippeting', *sb.* the breeding, training, etc. of whippets; *a.* engaged in this.

1894 SIR J. ASTLEY *Fifty Yrs. Life* II. 337 The principal whippeteers are colliers in Lancashire. *1894* F. LLOYD *Whippet & Race-Dog* vii. 44 Everything connected with Whippeting. *Ibid.* ix. 58 Some Whippeting people. *Ibid.* xxiv. 174 Common names have been given by Whippeters to the dogs.

† *whippet*, *v.* *Obs.* Also 6 -yt. [app. the phr. *whip* it written as one word: see WHIP *v.* 1 c.] *intr.* To move briskly, bestir oneself, frisk.

1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* III. i. Niv, Lest he a camell shulde not skyp or whippet about. *c1550* Pryde & Abuse *Wom.* 57 in Hazl. *E.P.P.* IV. 234 Wyth whippet a whyle, lyttle preytone Pranche it, and hage it well. *a1553* UDALL *Royster D.* I. iii. (Arb.) 22 Nowe whippet apace for the maystrie. *1599* NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* Wks. (Grosart) V. 270 Whippet, turne to a new lesson, and strike wee vp Iohn for the King.

whippin ('hwipm). *dial.* Also 7 wippin, 8 whipping, 9 w(h)ippon, whippence. [Origin obscure.] = WHIPPLETREE². Also *whippintree*.

1697 in *Sussex Archaeol. Collect.* VI. 195 One wagon Ready to Runn... Six yokes... Five wippins. *a1722* LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 72 The plough-beam, sprinter, whippings, and traces must often break when they come against a great stone. *1778* [W. MARSHALL] *Minutes Agric.* 29 July 1775, I... intend that he... shall attend to the spread-bats and whippins. *Ibid.* 26 Dec. 1775, 7 Iron trace whippins, 2 Setts of hempen trace ditto. *1811* T. DAVIS *Agric. Wills* 263 Whippence, viz. the weigh-beam and bodkins, the fore carriage of a plough, as also of the harrow and drag. *1855* *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XVI. 1. 113 They [sc. horses drawing a plough] should be worked abreast (the attachment being by means of 'wippons'). *1884* *West Sussex Gaz.* 25 Sept., 10 sets of drag and small harrows, whippons and traces. *1919* R. P. CHOPE *Some Old Farm Implements* 13 The modern harrows are made entirely of iron, and the parts are not hinged together, but to a wooden cross-beam which is connected to the whippintree.

† *whippincrust*. *Obs. rare*—1. Some kind of wine; ? a perversion of HIPPOCRAS.

1616 Marlowe's *Faustus* Wks. (1910) 197 *Rob.* [the ostler]. If thou't go but to the Tauerne with mee, I'll gie thee... Sacke, Muskadine, Malmesey and Whippincrust.

whippiness ('hwipinis). [f. WHIPPY *a.* + -NESS.] Pliable quality; flexibility.

1881 *Sportsman's Year-bk.* 70 Some successful anglers use the two extremes of whippiness and stiffness [in fly-rods]. *1913* W. E. DOMMETT *Motor Car Mech.* 130 This control has the objection... that the gear box has to be long with possible whippiness of the shafting. *1975* *Daily Tel.* 5 Apr. 8/1 All you have to do is to choose a branch of sufficient whippiness to be pulled down to the ground and fixed there.

whipping ('hwipm), *vbl. sb.* Also (sense 2) *Sc.* wippen. [f. WHIP *v.* + -ING¹.]

1. The action of striking with or as with a whip.

a. The, or an, infliction of corporal punishment by strokes of a whip or rod; scourging, flogging, flagellation; *loosely*, beating with the hand or otherwise, slapping, spanking.

Also *fig.* chastisement, disciplinary correction; defeat, 'beating' (*U.S. colloq.*).

1566 Aldeburgh *Rec.* in *N. & Q.* 12th Ser. VII. 142/1 Pd for whyppyng of a man xii^d. *1602* SHAKS. *Ham.* II. ii. 556 Vse euerie man after his desert, and who should scape whipping. *1630* DONNE *Serm.*, *Matt. iv.* 18-20 (1640) 733, I am not bound... to teare my flesh by inhumane whippings, and flagellations. *1642* FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* II. xvi. 110 To such a lad a frown may be a whipping. *1720* SWIFT *Mod. Educ.* Wks. 1755 II. ii. 34 Whipping breaks the spirits of lads well born. *1752* CHESTERF. *Let. to Dayrolles* 18 Oct., Pray let my godson never know what a blow or a whipping is, unless for those things for which, were he a man, he would deserve them. *1835* F. A. CHARDON *Jrnl.* 10 July (1932) 37 Went to the Medicine dance last—Came back late and got a whipping from my Wife for my bad behaviour. *1866* Mrs. H. WOOD *Elster's Folly* xxxiii, She put him across her knee, pulled off an old slipper she was wearing, and gave him a sound whipping with its fat sole. *1880* MEREDITH *Tragic Com.* xii, If a letter had been withheld by her father it was a part of her whipping. *1916* *Contemp. Rev.* Nov. 623 The savage whippings of criminals. *1948* A. LOMAX in A. Dundes *Mother Wit* (1973) 481/1 Give him a whuppin'. *1974* W. GARNER *Big enough Wreath* vii. 94 You swore there never was a whipping could make you holler.

b. *gen.* or in other connexions, e.g. the driving of a horse, or spinning of a top, with a whip.

1577 GOOGE tr. *Heresbach's Husb.* 119b, It must be sene to, that they [sc. horses drawing together] be euen matched, least the stronger spoyle the weaker, while he dreads the rating, and whipping. *a1628* F. GREVIL *Let. Hon. Lady* iv, Our flesh being like a Toppe which only goes vpright with whipping. *1796* MARSHALL *Planting* I. 150 The plants... will... become liable to lash each other's tops, with every blast of wind. This evil is called whipping of tops. *1917* JOHN OXENHAM *Loosing Lion's Whelps* 21 Faces... bleached and sodden with the whipping of the wind.

c. *Confectionery*, etc. (See WHIP *v.* 7.)

1845 G. E. DAY tr. *Simon's Anim. Chem.* I. 156 The blood contains a certain amount of fibrin... which on whipping is separated in... stringy masses. *1854* R. S. SURTEES *Handley Cr.* iv, The whipping of creams, the stiffening of jellies, [etc.].

d. *Angling*. (See WHIP *v.* 8.)

1653 WALTON *Angler* xi. 205 There is no better sport then whipping for Bleaks in a boat in a Summers evening. *1787* BEST *Angling* (ed. 2) 60 To initiate a young angler... by his whipping for them in a hot summer's evening. *1844* J. T. HEWLETT *Parsons & Widows* v. What state is the river in? Will it do for whipping?

e. (See WHIP *v.* 6d, 14.)

1834 in Dk. Buckingham *Crts. Will. IV. & Vict.* (1861) II. 115, I rather think the Government, as they knew they would be weak, considered it... best... to take no pains in whipping. *1880* TREVELYAN *C. J. Fox* v. 196 It was an allusion which Burke made in the course of the evening to the industry of the Treasury officials that first rendered the term 'whipping in' classical. *1892* *Pall Mall Gaz.* 20 June 6/2 The Government is entitled to whatever credit is due to a good piece of whipping. *1901* R. S. WARREN *Bell Tales of Greyhound* 48 Wardour, a trifling weary of the arduous task of whipping-in, had forged ahead. *1903* *Times* 30 Mar. 7/6 Extra zeal... in the whipping-in of audiences.

f. The action of stirring up strong feelings or the like (see WHIP *v.* 13).

1952 C. DAY LEWIS *Grand Manner* 12 This whipping-up of words into a frenzy. *1955* *Times* 18 July 4/7 He had emphasized that the 'whipping up' of public opinion against South Africa... would... estrange the great majority of South Africans. *1959* *Daily Tel.* 29 Dec. 6 This prospect suggests a possible explanation for his deliberate whipping-up of patriotic frenzy.

2. a. The action of overlaying or binding with cord or the like wound closely round and round; *concr.* the cord, etc. so wound around something (or each turn of it).

1540 Ludlow *Churchw. Acc.* (Camden) 4 Payd for whyppyng of roopes... viij d. *1673* Wedderburn's *Vocab.* 38 (Jam.) *Baculi caulis*, the elub shaft. *Baculi manubrium*, the handle where the wippen is. *Baculi filum*, the wippen. *1683* MOXON *Mech. Exerc.*, *Printing* xxii. ¶ 5 [He] whips the Cord again about the Page..., taking care that the several whippings lye parallel. *1688* HOLME *Armoury* III. xvii. (Roxb.) 117/1 The whipping of the string, is that part where the arrow is set on. *1770* LUCKOMBE *Hist. Printing* 330 The lashings... will yield no longer to his whipping and pulling. *c1860* H. STUART *Seaman's Catech.* 28 For splicing an eye put on a good whipping. *1883* *Man. Seamanship for Boys* 112 To whip the end of a rope... The turns of the whipping are always passed up towards the end of the rope. *1887* J. H. KEENE *Fishing Tackle* 90 The whipping of hooks on gimp.

b. *Needlework*. (See WHIP *v.* 18.)

1814 MISS MITFORD in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) I. 274 Tell Mrs. Haw... to prepare for plenty of hemming and whipping. *1866* Mrs. WHITNEY *Leslie Goldthwaite* ix, All kinds of stitches—embroidery, and plain over-and-over, and whippings, and darns. *1882* CAULFIELD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework* 519 *Whipping*, a term... denoting a method of drawing up a piece of frilling... into gathers, by... sewing loosely over a delicately rolled edge of the same.

3. † a. = WHIP-GRAFTING. *Obs.*

1620 PARKINSON *Parad.* III. vi. 547 For whipping, the time is somewhat later then grafting in the stocke.

b. Hoisting with a 'whip' (WHIP *sb.* 15).

1835-6 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 87/1 There is no occasion in this case, in unloading a vessel of coals, to be confined to... what is called whipping. *1861*, *1887* [see COAL-WHIPPING].

4. *attrib. and Comb.* a. in sense 1, as *whipping-audit* (AUDIT *sb.* 3), *-bout*, *-day*, etc.; *whipping-bench*, a bench on which offenders are laid to be whipped; *whipping-block*, a block on which offenders are laid to be whipped; † *whipping-cheer* (humorous), flogging, flagellation; *whipping cream*, a grade of cream suitable for whipping; *whipping-girl* (cf. WHIPPING-BOY);

whipping-hand = WHIP-HAND; *whipping-house* *U.S.*, a building in which at one time Blacks were whipped; *whipping-place*, a place at which offenders are or were publicly whipped; *whipping-pole* = next; *whipping-post*, a post set up, usually in a public place, to which offenders are or were tied to be whipped; *whipping-stock*, (a) = WHIPPINCURST; (b) a person who is frequently whipped (cf. *laughing-stock*); *whipping-top*, a top spun by whipping; also *fig.*; *whipping-trade* (sarcastic), the occupation of a schoolmaster.

a1658 CLEVELAND *Char. Country-Comm.-man* Wks. (1687) 77 His Fate... is... a *whipping Audit, when he is wrung in the Withers by a Committee of Examinations. *1906* CROCKETT *White Plumes* xiv, The *whipping-bench and a good dozen spare rods are what they want. *a1877* SWINBURNE *Lesbia Brandon* (1952) 504 He... begged... that he might not be hoist across the *whipping-block by a servant. *1953* R. GRAVES *Poems* 26 And taught St. Dominic's to baulk At gown and hood and whipping-block. *1772* NUGENT *Hist. Fr. Gerund* I. 160 Her husband had still the marks of a *whipping-bout. *1578* WHETSTONE *1st Pt. Promos & Cass.* IV. i. 2 She fearde of late, of *whipping cheere to smell. *1647* HERRICK *Noble Numbers, Hell, Hell* is the place where whipping-cheer abounds. *1683-4* *Thamasis's Advice to Painter* 40 For his Cheat, the Man will pay full dear, Condemned by my Lord to Whipping Chear. *1924* *Tech. Bull. N.Y. State Agric. Exper. Station* No. 113. 3 Good whipping cream gave a reduced volume of whipped cream when compared to poor *whipping cream. *1978* *Chicago* June 248/2 Pure whipping cream for coffee and batters. *1712-13* SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 9 Jan., To-morrow... is his [sc. the Lord Treasurer's] day when all the ministers dine with him. He calls it *whipping-day... we do indeed usually rally him about his faults on that day. *1896* *Daily News* 30 Dec. 5/1 There will always be a devotee ready to stand as *whipping-girl between him and the strokes of fate. *1906* Mrs. CROKER *Youngest Miss Mowbray* viii, Ella did not speak; she did not even cry out, while she acted as the whipping-girl of her enemy. *1681* HICKERINGILL *Black Non-Conf.* Postser. Y, You have got the *whipping hand of him. *1852* Mrs. STOWE *Uncle Tom's Cabin* II. xxix. 147 It was the universal custom to send women and young girls to *whipping-houses. *1631* Aldeburgh *Rec.* in *N. & Q.* 12th Ser. VIII. 427/2 The *whipping place in the Markett. *1836* DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Crim. Crts.*, Often have we strayed here, in sessions time, to catch a glimpse of the whipping-place. *1862* H. MARRYAT *Year in Sweden* I. 360 note, In after times the Kaken or *whipping-pole, stood on the Stortorg. *1600* *Neue Metamorphosis* (Nares) Be brought to th' *whipping post... And as a rogue stande ready to be whipt. *1741* TAILFER etc. *Narr. Georgia* 37 Irons, Whipping-Posts, Gibbets, &c. were provided. *1849* THACKERAY *Pendennis* ii, He never was flogged, but it was a wonder how he escaped the whipping-post. *1854* — *Neucomes* ii, No whipping post... could have been leaner than Mrs. Newcome. *1703* De Foe *Hymn to Pillory* 250 In vain he struggl'd, he harangu'd in vain, To bring in *Whipping Sentences again. *1615* BRATHWAIT *Strappado* (1878) 174 Send them to th' *whipping-stock. *1678* PENN in *Life*, Wks. 1782 I. p. lxii, We have been as the wool-sacks, and common whipping-stock of the kingdom. *1809* MALKIN *Gil Blas* VII. i. (Rtldg.) 225, I am born to be the mere *whipping-top of fortune. *1885* MOZLEY *Remin. Towns* etc. II. 249 A boy's whipping-top. *a1704* T. Brown's *Wks.* (1711) IV. 185 By Nature meant, by Want a Pedant made, Bl—re at first profess'd the *Whipping-trade.

b. in sense 2, as *whipping cotton*, *silk*, *twine*.

1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* French terms, *Fisolle*, or *Ficelle*, whipping-twine. *1887* J. H. KEENE *Fishing Tackle* 102 A piece of gold tinsel is... secured by one turn of the loose whipping silk. *1893* ROSEVEAR *Text-bk. Needlework* 208 Whipping cotton must be very... strong, and yet fine.

c. in sense 3 c, as *whipping-hoist*, *jigger*.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Whipping-hoist*, a steam hoisting-device for use in buildings. *1895* *Daily News* 13 July 5/4 A crane lifting eight tons, fitted with 'whipping jigger'.

d. *whipping side Austral.* (see quot. 1965).

1957 STEWART & KEESING *Old Bush Songs* IX. 259 You see our ringer already turned and he's on the whipping side. *1965* J. S. GUNN *Terminol. Shearing Industry* II. 37 *Whipping side*, the name given to the last side of the sheep to be shorn and the blow here is down from the shoulder.

'whipping, ppl. a. [f. WHIP *v.* + -ING².] That whips, in various senses.

1. Moving briskly or nimbly; acting vigorously or violently; characterized by such movement or action. (See senses of WHIP *v.* I.)

[1530: see WHIPPILY below.] *1600* W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 17 A whipping Mistressse H. (whose toung goeth like the clacke of a Mill). *1656* (title) *Divine Fire-works*... hinting what the Almighty Emanuel is doing in these whipping times. *1700* R. CROMWELL in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* (1898) XIII. 120 A whippinge sneezing cold. *1741* RICHARDSON *Pamela* xxxiii. III. 323, I have a whipping Stomach, and were there fifty Dishes, I always taste of every one. *1895* MEREDITH *Amazing Marr.* xviii, At a whipping pace.

2. Beating with or as with a whip; flogging; lashing; also *fig.*

1598 R. BERNARD tr. *Terence, Andria* I The master of the rogues, a whipping Bedle. *1628* FELTHAM *Resolves* II. [I.] xxvi. 84 The whipping Satyrist. *1904* R. CULUM *Hound from North* ii, The whipping snow lashed their faces. *1919* 19th Cent. Nov. 968 To become the drilling and whipping masters of the despised soldiery.

b. *Whipping Tom*: a man who whips others or flagellates himself (see quot. for various uses).

1681 HICKERINGILL *Vind. Naked Truth* II. 2 A furious chastizing Pædagogue, another Whipping-Tom, that took pleasure to lash and slash. *1715* M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* I. Pref. 21 A Detachment of the same Croisade, or Holy War, call'd *Flagellantes* or Whipping-Toms. *a1728* W. KENNETT

in *Aubrey's Rem. Gentilisme* (1881) 59 A Whipping Tom in Kent who disciplined the wandering Maids and Women till they were afraid to walk abroad. 1791 THROSBY *Leicester* 356 These whip-men, called Whipping-Toms, are preceded by a bell-man [etc.]. 1846 *Local Act* (Leicester) 9 *Vict.* c. 29 §41. 1923 S. H. SKILLINGTON *Let. to Editor*, Early on Shrove Tuesday a crowd assembled in the Newark, Leicester. At the sound of the 'Pancake Bell' a number of men and youths began a game of hockey or shinney. About 1 o'clock the 'Whipping Toms', three men in blue smocks with very long wagon whips, began to try to drive the shinney players out with their whips. The game was suppressed by Parliament in 1846.

Hence **whippingly** *adv.*

1530 PALSGR. 844/1 Whypingly, hastily, *hastuement*. Whypingly, gorgyasly, *gorgiasement*.

'whipping-boy. A boy educated together with a young prince or royal personage, and flogged in his stead when he committed a fault that was considered to deserve flogging. Hence *allusively*.

1647 TRAPP *Comm. 1 Tim.* v. 20 Rebuke before all: yet not as if they were whipping boys. a 1715 BURNET *Own Time* 1. (1724) I. 59 William Murray of the bed-chamber, that had been whipping boy to King Charles the first. 1822 SCOTT *Nigel* vi, Sir Mungo had been attached to Court in the capacity of whipping-boy... to King James the Sixth. 1841 HELPS *Ess.*, *On Choice of Agents*, The choice of agents is a difficult matter, for you have to choose persons for whose faults you are to be punished; to whom you are to be the whipping-boy. 1914 PETRIE in *Anc. Egypt* 32 With some writers... Manetho is the whipping-boy, who must always be flogged whenever anything is not understood.

'whipping-snapping, *a. nonce-wd.* [Fanciful f. WHIPPER-SNAPPER.] Diminutive, insignificant.

1861 THACKERAY *Round. Papers, Ogres*, Though they had seven-leagued boots, all sorts of little whipping-snapping Tomb [*sic*] Thumbs used to elude and out-run them.

Whipple ('hwip(ə)l). *Path.* [The name of George Hoyt Whipple (b. 1878), U.S. pathologist, who described the disease in 1907 (*Bull. Johns Hopkins Hosp.* XVIII. 382).] *Whipple's disease*: = *intestinal lipodystrophy* s.v. LIPODYSTROPHY.

[1939 *Amer. Jnrl. Path.* XV. 483 (*heading*) Malabsorption of fat (intestinal lipodystrophy of Whipple).] 1945 *Ibid.* XXI. 1079 The pathological findings in Whipple's disease are characterized by deposits of fat and fatty acids in the small intestine and mesenteric lymph nodes. 1978 *Price's Textbk. Pract. Med.* (ed. 12) viii. 652/2 Whipple's disease, characterized by fever, joint pains, wasting, and diarrhoea, can initially be suspected [in cases of Crohn's disease].

† **'whippetree**¹. *Obs.* Of uncertain origin and meaning.

Usually glossed 'cornel-tree' and compared with MLG. *weipelbōm*, which, with *wiepen-* and *weipkenbōm*, glosses L. *cornus*. (In the absence of a French gloss in quot. 1530, the identity of the word intended is doubtful.)

c 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 2065 Mapul, thorn, bech, hasel, Ew, whippelre [*v.rr.* Whippul-, -il-, whipil-, wypul-]. 1530 PALSGR. 288/1 Whypple tree.

whippetree² ('hwip(ə)ltri:). [The first element is app. f. WHIP; cf. WHIPPIN.] = SWINGLETREE 2.

1733 W. ELLIS *Chiltern & Vale Farm*. 319 Two Whippetrees of two Foot sixteen Inches each, that the Horses draw by. 1790 *Trans. Soc. Arts* VIII. 244 A Spring and Index fixed to a Whipple-tree for ascertaining the force exerted in the Draught of Carriages. 1834 *Brit. Husb.* I. 165 These carts are capable of being drawn either by two horses abreast, or by the same number at length; for which purpose there are suitable staples fixed for hanging the whipple-tree upon. 1891 MALDEN *Tillage* 110 Iron Whippetrees for Two Horses Abreast.

'whip-poor'-will. Also 8 whipper-, 9 wipper-, -vill, whippo-. [Echoic, from the bird's note.] Popular name in U.S. and Canada for a species of Goatsucker, *Antrostomus* (*Caprimulgus*) *vociferus*.

1709 J. LAWSON *New Voy. Carolina* 146 Whippoo-Will, so nam'd, because it makes those Words exactly. 1747 G. EDWARDS *Nat. Hist. Birds* II. 63 The Whip-Poor-Will, or lesser Goat-Sucker... It is called in Virginia, Whip-Poor-Will, from its Cry. 1778 J. CARVER *Trav. N. Amer.* xviii. 468 The Whipperwill, or as it is termed by the Indians, the Muckawiss... acquires its name by the noise it makes. 1809 W. IRVING *Knickerb.* vi. iv. (1861) 198 The melancholy plaint of the Whip-poor-will, who, perched on some lone tree, wearied the ear of night with his incessant moanings. 1822 J. WOODS *Two Yrs. Resid. Illinois* 197 Wipperwill, or whip-poor-will, or wippervill, — a brown bird... is generally heard of an evening in spring and summer. 1884 'MARK TWAIN' *Huck. Finn* i, I heard... a Whippowill and a dog crying about somebody that was going to die. 1920 W. D. HOWELLS *Vacation of Kelwyns* 42 The whippoor-wills... whirled through the cool, damp air. 1938 J. M. GORDON *Canad. Mosaic* (1939) ix. 218 Dreamily lying with prairie for pillow Clear I hear calling the lone whip-poor-will. 1966 R. T. PETERSON *Field Guide Birds of Texas* 134 Whip-poor-will... Best known by its vigorous cry repeated in endless succession at night.

whippy ('hwipi), *a.* [f. WHIP *sb.* + -Y¹.] Resembling a whip; *esp.* bending like a whip, flexible, springy.

1867 F. FRANCIS *Bk. Angling* ix. 277 The Irish spliced rods are... rather too whippy or flexible. 1898 *Cycling* 25 An unduly whippy machine should be let alone.

whip-saw ('hwipsɔ:), *sb.* Also whipsaw. [f. WHIP *sb.* or *v.* + SAW *sb.*]

1. A frame-saw with a narrow blade, used *esp.* for curved work.

1538 ELYOT, *Runcina*, a whypsaue, wherwith tymber is sawen. 1552 in P. H. Hore *Wexford* (1901) 243 In the Storehouse at the Mynes... a whyppe sawe. 1556 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 100 In Maid's chamber... 11 old wood chests and a whype sawe. 1657 R. LIGON *Barbadoes* (1673) 107 Three whip-sawes, going all at once in a Frame or Pit. 1678 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* vi. 99 The Whip-Saw is used... to Saw such greater peeces of Stuff that the Hand-Saw will not easily reach through;... two men takes each an handle of the Saw. 1846 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* II. 701 The long saw, pit saw, or whip saw. *Ibid.* 703 The blade [of the pit frame-saw] is usually five or six feet long, and thinner than that of the whip saw. 1903 NANCY H. BANKS *Round Anvil Rock* ii, The rich dark wood of its walls and floor—all rudely smoothed with the broadaxe and the whip-saw.

2. *fig.* Something that is disadvantageous in two ways. orig. and chiefly U.S.

1873 *Kansas Mag.* Mar. 232/1 There was fifteen hundred on the turn—seven hundred and fifty on each side of it—and the run was tray, ace; a whipsaw. 1929 L. F. CARR *Amer. Challenged* 79 The whip-saw of paying high prices for what they bought and being forced to receive low prices for what they sold. 1967 *Listener* 23 Nov. 656/3 The wage push... and the rising interest rates... have together caught the American economy in a cruel and sharp whipsaw... The worst sort of inflation of costs and the worst sort of deflation of values. 1977 *Time* 25 July 48/3 By the spring of 1974, the whipsaw effect of recession and rising costs—particularly for oil which fuels 80% of Con Ed's generating capacity—left the company strapped.

Hence **whip-saw** *v., intr.* to work a whip-saw; *trans.* to cut with a whip-saw; *fig. (U.S. slang)* to have or get the advantage of thoroughly, to overcome completely, 'cut up'; also **whipsawing** *vbl. sb.* (lit. and *fig.*); **whip-sawyer**, a man who works a whip-saw.

1842 *Amer. Pioneer* I. 83 Dwellinghouses, made of wood, whip-sawed into timbers, four inches thick, and of the requisite width and length. 1873 *Kansas Mag.* June 497/1 On the next Budd whipsawed him, and that closed that deal. 1881 *Lumber World* (U.S.) Mar., Some of the first saw mills built in England... were destroyed... on the ground that it would ruin the occupation of the whip sawyers. 1884 *Hartford* (Conn.) *Post* Sept., Had Braddock been half as prudent as he was brave, he could... have whipsawed the French and Indians in that campaign. 1885 *Mag. Amer. Hist.* May 496/1 *Whip-sawing*, the acceptance of fees or bribes from two opposing persons or parties. 1903 *Sun* (N.Y.) 8 Nov. 10 The speculators have subjected themselves to the process known in Wall Street as whipsawing, that is, they have bought when the market was strong and sold when the market was weak, and found each time that they bought at the top and sold at the bottom. 1904 ELIZ. ROBINS *Magnetic North* ii. 26 He would... show us how to whip-saw. 1918 R. DOLLAR *Mem.* vi. 63 These [trees] are hewn in the woods either on two or four sides, and are then whip-sawn by the natives at the place of consumption. 1930 H. A. INNIS *Fur Trade in Canada* 11 v. 140 Men were engaged in cutting, squaring, whipsawing, and hauling timber for the construction and repair of the forts. 1957 *Listener* 12 Dec. 970/1 Mr [Adlai] Stevenson has been whip-sawed by conflicting advice. 1958 F. G. SLAUGHTER *Daybreak* III. xiii. 176 The tendency to whipsaw all society into robots who work, think and eat alike is hardly an end product of intelligence. 1969 D. BAGLEY *Spoilers* ii. 58 'Okay, so you've whipsawed me,' said Follet sourly. 1975 *Weekend Mag.* (Montreal) 12/1 Whip-sawing, industrial relations slang for the union practice of wringing a high settlement from a weak company and then using that settlement as a floor for bargaining with a big company, was rampant. 1976 *Billings* (Montana) *Gaz.* 27 June 8-c/3 A major problem occurs when one small union negotiates a salary increase for its workers and all other state employees in the same job classification want the same increase. The effect is to 'whipsaw' the state between their competing demands. 1979 C. E. SCHORSKE *Fin-de-Siècle Vienna* vii. 351 Schoenberg whipsaws us upward out of the crepuscular calm.

whipse-, **-sider(r)y**: see WHIPSY-DERRY.

whipship ('hwipʃɪp). *nonce-wd.* [f. WHIP *sb.* + -SHIP.] *a.* (with poss. pron.) Humorous title for a coachman. *b.* The post of a parliamentary 'whip'.

1817 KEATS *Let. to Fanny Keats* 10 Sept., I disembark'd from his Whipship's Coach. 1907 *Sat. Rev.* 1 June 671/2 Lord Ribblesdale has flung up the whipship of his party.

'whip-snake. Name for various serpents of long slender form like a whip-lash, as *Masticophis flagelliformis* of N. America, *Philodryas viridissimus* of Brazil, *Hoplocephalus flagellum* of Australia. In southern Africa, a grass or sand snake of the genus *Psammodphis*, *esp. P. notostictus*.

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VII. 203 In the tropical climates, the rattle-snake, the whip-snake, and the cobra di capello, are the most formidable. 1813 J. FORBES *Oriental Mem.* I. 199 The Concan abounds with serpents... one of the most dangerous is a long snake of a beautiful green; in form resembling the lash of a coach-whip, from whence it is called the whip-snake. 1825 WATERTON *Wand. S. Amer.* I. (1903) 9 The whipsnake, of a beautiful changing green... may be handled with safety. 1880 J. NIXON *Among Boers* ii. 45 He had all but put his foot upon a whip snake. These snakes are small and slender, being only as thick as the little finger. 1887 R. M. PRAED *Longleat Kooralbyn* xx, A whip-snake... made a dart at Barrington's arm. 1898 E. D. COPE *Crocodill.*, etc. N. *Amer.* (1900) 789 The species of this genus [*sc. Zamenis*] are elongate in form and active in movement, so that the popular names of 'whip-snake' and 'racer' are appropriate. 1912 F. W. FITZSIMONS *Snakes S. Afr.* (new

ed.) 462 The Grass and Sand Snake, when alarmed, glide off over the stunted herbage... Colonists know these as Whip Snakes. 1952 *Cape Times* 24 Apr. 9/2 As schoolboys were walking along the road... they saw a whipsnake.

whipstaff ('hwipstɑ:f, -æ-). [STAFF *sb.*]

1. = WHIPSTOCK 1.

1599 MIDDLETON *Micro-cynicon* B4b, With nailed shoes, and whipstaffe in his hand.

† 2. *Naut.* = WHIP *sb.* 13. *Obs.*

1627 CAPT. J. SMITH *Sea Gram.* ii. 12 The Whip-staffe is that peece of wood like a strong staffe the... Helmesman hath alwaies in his hand... made fast to the Tiller with a Ring. 1726 SHELVOCKE *Voy. round World* 305 My land Gentlemen... were now forced to learn to steer, and take their turns at the Whipstaff. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* French terms, *Manuelle*, the whip-staff of a helm;... now entirely disused.

whipstalk ('hwipstɔ:k). *dial.* = WHIPSTOCK 1.

1592 KYD *Sp. Trag.* III. (1602) G, Bought you a whistle and a whipstalke too. 1856 OLMSTED *Slave States* 329 Horrid belaboring of the poor horses' backs, with the butt-end of a hickory whip-stalk.

† **whipstart**. *Obs. rare*—1. [? f. WHIP *v.* Cf. UPSTART.] app. = next, 1 c.

1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ.* Osor. 437b, Whiles this whipstart [*sc.* a priest] alone have played all the partes of the Pageant.

whipster ('hwipstə(r)). [app. f. WHIP *v.* + -STER. Cf. prec. and WHIPPING *ppl. a.* 1.]

1. A vague term of reproach, contempt, or the like, with various shades of meaning. *a.* A lively, smart, reckless, violent, or mischievous person. *Obs.* or *dial.*

1589 R. HARVEY *Pl. Perc.* 3 They had neede be large long Spoons... if I come to feed with such whipsters. 1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super. Wks.* (Grosart) II. 63 You that intende to be fine companionable gentlemen, smirking wittes, and whipsters in the world. 1683 KENNETT tr. *Erasm. on Folly* 18 Cupid feigned as a boy... because he is an underwitted whipster [*orig. nugator*], that neither acts nor thinks any thing with discretion. a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Whipster*, a sharp, or subtil Fellow. 1822 W. IRVING *Braceb. Hall* (1845) 223 The whipsters roam in truant bands about the neighbourhood. 1906 SINTON *Poetry of Badenoch* 432 Like a whipster from school.

b. A wanton, lascivious, or licentious person, a debauchee. *Obs.* or *dial.*

1593 *Passionate Morrice* (1876) 81, I should quite fray away many of M. Anthonies companions from bestowing their affections on so liberal whipsters. 1667 DRYDEN & DK. NEWCASTLE *Sir M. Mar-all* iv. i, There were Whipsters abroad, i' faith, Padders of Maiden-heads. 1697 VANBRUGH *Prov. Wife* v. iii, To deliver up her fair Body, to be tumbled and mumbled, by that young Liquorish Whipster. [1898 R. BLAKEBOROUGH *Wit*, etc. N. *Riding Yorkshire Gloss.*, *Whipster*, a doubtful character.]

c. A slight, insignificant, or contemptible person. (The current literary sense, often with the epithet *puny*, after Shaks.)

1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* v. ii. 244, I am not valiant neither: But euery Punie whipster gets my Sword. 1682 D'URFEE *Inj. Princ.* iv. iv, A plaguy little Whipster this. 1708 ROWE *Royal Convert* Prol., Each puny Whipster here, is Wit enough. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* xxiv, When I first saw this whipster. 1840 THACKERAY *Paris Sk.-bk.* (1869) 42 Every little whipster of a French poet. 1882 STEVENSON *Across the Plains* iii. (1892) 141 No tearful whipster.

2. One who wields a whip: *a.* a driver of horses; *b.* one addicted to whipping or flogging, a scourger, lasher (also *fig.*). ? *Obs.*

1651 CLEVELAND *News from Newc.* 29 He'd leave the trotting Whipster, and prefer Our profound Vulcan 'bove that Wagoner. 1670 *Comenius Janua Ling.* §504. 132 A school master should take care of being crut (a whipster). 1707 J. STEVENS tr. *Quevedo's Com. Wks.* (1709) R2, The Whipsters... laid aside their Disciplines. 1825 LAMB *Ass Wks.* 1903 I. 304 To see one of those refiners in discipline himself at the cart's tail, with just such a convenient spot laid bare to the tender mercies of the whipster.

whip-stitch ('hwipstɪtʃ), *sb. (adv.)* [f. WHIP *sb.* 16, *v.* 18 + STITCH *sb.*]

1. *Needlework*. A stitch of the kind described s.v. WHIP *v.* 18; an overcast stitch: = WHIP *sb.* 17.

1640 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Praise Needle* A2, The smarting Whip-stitch, Back-stitch, & the Crosse-stitch. 1880 *Plain Hints Needlework* 22 Whip-stitch. This should be formed of a very neat tight roll, the raw edge being completely rolled in. 1885 LENO *Boot & Shoemaking* x. 88 When lasted, the upper is braced round with a single thread with a whip-stitch. 1893 ROSEVEAR *Text-bk. Needlework* 204 The stitch makes the roll on the material look like a whip-cord, and... this is probably the origin of the name of whip-stitch.

2. *Phr. (at) every whip-stitch*, at short or frequent intervals. Also (without *at*), each item without exception; 'every last thing'. *dial.* and *U.S.*

1824 P. HOBBY *Life of Marion* p. i, What can one do, when one's friends are... calling out at every whipstitch. 'Well, but sir, where's Marion?' 1888 F. R. STOCKTON *Dusantes* III. 130 Every whip-stitch of his bag and baggage shall be trundled after him. 1890 J. D. ROBERTSON *Gloss. Glouc.* s.v., 'He was in and out every whip-stitch,' meaning 'every now and then'. 1899 *Atlantic Monthly* LXXXIII. 757/2 Feast days occur at every whipstitch.

† 3. as *adv.* or *int.* expressing sudden movement or action. *Obs. slang or colloq.*

1676 SHADWELL *Virtuoso* IV. 74 I'll slide down from the window... and, Whip Stich, your Nose in my Breech, Sir Nicholas. I'll leave my Cloaths behind me. 1706 E. WARD

Wooden World Diss. (1708) 80 He shall cast ye a Knot, whip stich, in a Twinkling, as intricate as the Gordion one.

whip-stitch, *v.* *Needlework*. [Cf. *prec.*] *trans.* To sew with a whip-stitch: = **WHIP** *v.* 18.

1592 GREENE *Upstart Courtier* Wks. (Grosart) XI. 240 Silcke lace, cloth of golde, of siluer, and such costly stuffe, to welte, garde, whippstitch, edge, face, and draw out. 1887 *Harper's Mag.* July 179/2 If 'inserts' or 'plates' of single sheets are to form part of the book, these are usually pasted or 'whip-stitched' by hand upon or within the folded sheet.

whipstock ('hwipstɒk). [STOCK *sb.* 1]

1. a. The stick or staff to which the lash of a whip is attached; the handle of a whip.

1530 PALSGR. 288/1 Whypstocke, *manche dung fouet*. 1608 SHAKS. *Per.* II. ii. 51 He appears To haue practis'd more the Whipstocke, then the Launce. 1655 [G. HALL] *Tri. Rome* vi. 75 The Baalites spared their flesh lesse then her cruellest whip-stocks. 1850 'SYLVANUS' *Bye-lanes & Downs* iv. 52 Beating out the brains of one ruffian with a whip-stock he always carried. 1881 BESANT & RICE *Chapfl. Fleet* i. ii. Sitting down and leaning his chin upon his whipstock. 1895 J. G. MILLAIS *Breath from Veldt* 62 Having fishing material with us... I soon had the two whipstocks rigged up.

b. *transf.* A man who drives horses. *contemptuous*.

1615 TOMKIS *Albumazar* IV. iv. Out Carter. Hence durtie whipstocke.

†2. A whipping-post (= *whipping-stock* (a), **WHIPPING** *vbl. sb.* 4 a). *Obs.*

1619 H. HUTTON *Follie's Anat.* B 4 b, The beggers whip-stock, or the Gallows hire. 1638 BRATHWAIT *Barnabees Jrrl.* III. (1818) 113 Suspected for a picklock Th' beedle led me to the whip-stock.

†3. A person who is frequently whipped (= *whipping-stock* (b), **WHIPPING** *vbl. sb.* 4 a); in quot. = **FLAGELLANT** *sb.* *Obs.*

1640 BP. HALL *Chr. Moder.* I. iii. 24 Such were the famous whip-stocks in the time of Gregory the tenth.

†4. *Naut.* = **WHIPSTAFF** 2, **WHIP** *sb.* 13. *Obs.*

1682 WHEELER *Journ. to Greece* III. 286 In this Storm we broke the Whip-stock, and split the Stern.

5. *Oil Industry.* A long, tapered steel wedge which can be placed at the bottom of a hole to cause the drilling bit to deviate sideways, e.g. in directional drilling.

1903 *Dialect Notes* II. 345 *Whip-stock, n.*, an implement used in drilling past a set of tools when fast. 1935 *Econ. Geol.* XXX. 740 Controlled deflection of a hole toward a specific objective through the use of whipstocks, knuckle-joints and improved methods of well surveying has given added flexibility to rotary tools. 1973 J. W. JENNER in Hobson & Pohl *Mod. Petroleum Technol.* (ed. 4) iv. 128 The whipstock had to be pulled out of the hole and reset every 25 ft or so... in order to achieve sufficient angle build up.

6. *attrib.*: whipstock wise *adv. phr.*, in the manner of a whipstock: in quot. applied to **WHIP-GRAFTING**.

1608 PLAT *Garden of Eden* (1653) 117 Grafting whipstock wise, and letting in the cions into the stock by a slit, is good for young trees.

whipstress ('hwipstɹis). *rare* -1. [f. **WHIPSTER** 2 b: see -**STRESS**.] A female flogger.

1707 tr. *Wks. C'tess D'Anois* (1715) 366 The Whipstresses [orig. *fouetteuses*]... had so tir'd themselves, that they could no longer stir their Arms.

whipsy-derry. Also whipsider(r)y, whipsey-derry. [app. connected with **WHIP** *sb.* 15 and **DERRICK** *sb.*] A contrivance for hoisting (esp. ore in shallow mines), consisting of a derrick with a 'whip' or simple pulley attached, and worked by a horse or horses. Also simply *whipsy* and *whip and derry* (**WHIP** *sb.* 15).

1865 TREGELLAS *Tales* 146 (E.D.D.) 'What is a whipsiderry, sir?' said I. 'A whipsiderry,' said he, 'es a thing for rising traade, 'tes a sort of whem.' 1866 THORNBURY *Greatheart* xxxiv, Two waggons, laden with... whipsiderry pulleys, disjointed fragments of steam-engines, and miners' gads and crowbars. 1866 R. P. WHITWORTH *Bailliere's S. Austral. Gazetteer* 116 There are... 2 double whipseys, and several single whipseys. 1875 J. H. COLLINS *Metal Mining* 76 With the 'derrick' or 'whipsey-derry' the cost will be a little more than with the horse-whim.

whiptail ('hwipteɪl). [f. **WHIP** *sb.* 1 + **TAIL** *sb.* 1] Name used (simply or attrib.) for any one of various animals having a long slender tail like a whip-lash: see *quots.*

1771 J. R. FORSTER *Flora Amer. Septentr.* To Rdr. p. vii, Whiptail forked *Fistularia tabaccaria* [tobacco-pipe fish]. 1887 TYRWHITT *New Chum Queensland Bush* 145 (Morris) Kangaroos... of... different kinds, the smaller kind, known as pretty faces or whip tails. 1887 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* V. 748/1 The genus *Thelyphonus* (Whip-tail, Nigger Killer, Mule Killer...) [= whip-scorpion]. 1898 MORRIS *Austral Eng., Tasmanian Whiptail*,... *Coryphænoides tasmanica*,... an altogether different fish from *Myliobatis aquila*, the Eagle or Whiptail Ray [= whip-ray].

whip-tom-kelly. [Imitative, from the bird's note: cf. **WHIP-POOR-WILL**.] Popular name for the Red-eyed Greenlet or 'Flycatcher' (*Vireo olivaceus* or *Vireosylva olivacea*) of eastern N. America, and the Black-whiskered Greenlet (*Vireo barbatulus* or *Vireosylva calidris*) of the W. Indies, Bahamas, and Florida.

1756 P. BROWNE *Jamaica* 476 Whip-tom-kelly. I believe this to be a bird of passage. 1864-5 WOOD *Homes without H.* xii. 247 The Red-Eyed Flycatcher (*Muscicapa olivacea*) popularly known as 'Whip-Tom-Kelly,' from its peculiar

articulate cry. 1872 COUES *Key N. Amer. Birds* 120 *Vireo altiloquus var. barbatulus*. Black-whiskered Vireo. Whip-tom-kelly.

whir, *sb.* and *v.*: see **WHIRR**.

whirche, obs. var. **WORK** *v.*

whirken, obs. f. **QUERKEN** *v.*, to suffocate.

c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 101 þai war bothe whirkenid þer-with & deyid.

whirl (hwɜ:l), *sb.* Forms: 5 qwherel, qwerle, wherwille, *Sc.* quhirl(l, 6 whiruel(l, wherle, whyrle, whirroll, 6-7 whurle, 6-8 whirle, 7 wervell, whurl, 6- whirl. [Partly a. MLG., MDu. *wervel* or ON. *hvirfill* (see **WHIRL** *v.*), partly f. the verb itself. Cf. **WHORL**.]

1. Denoting a material object.

1. a. The fly-wheel or pulley of a spindle: = **WHORL** *sb.* 1.

1411 *Nottingham Rec.* II. 86, x. qwerles. 1479 *Paston Lett.* III. 270, vj. soketes, with branches to remeve. iij. wherwilles to the same. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 298/2 A Qwherel of A spyndylle [A. A Qworle of A roke], giraculum, neopellum, vertibrum. 1510 STANBRIDGE *Vocabula* (W. de W.) Cjb, Verticillum, a wherle [1525, a whorle]. a 1553 UDALL *Royster* D. i. iii. (Arb.) 20 Nourse medle you with your spyndle and your whirle. 1556 WITHALS *Dict.* (1562) 35/1 A whiruell, verticulum, verticulus, spondilus. 1585 W. WHITAKER *Answ. to Rainolds* 160 Among the other praises of a woorthy... woman that is one, that she putteth hir hande to the wherle. 1598 FLORIO, *Aspo*,... a whirroll. 1659 TORRIANO, *Cócca*, the wervell or button of a spindle. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 389 The revolution of the wheel,... conveyed by a band to the whirl, or pulley on the spindle.

†b. *transf.* A skein of thread sufficient to fill a spindle. *Obs.*

1560 W. BALDWIN *Funeralles Edw. VI, Death playnt* iii, Atropos did knap in two the string, Before her sisters sixtene whurles had spun.

c. *Rope-making.* A cylindrical piece of wood furnished with a hook on which the ends of the fibre are hung in spinning.

1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 58 Whirls are of beech or ash,... cylindrically formed, and fixed on iron spindles in the heads of wheels, with a hook at one end for the spinner to hang his hemp on. They are likewise used to hang the yarn on for hardening and laying ropes. 1797 [see *whirl-hook* under **WHIRL**]. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XX. 844/1 The point of the prolonged axis of the whirl is bent into a hook.

†2. = **WHIRL-WORM** 1. *Obs.*

1658 ROWLAND tr. *Moufet's Theat. Ins.* 1042 A Whirl or little hairy Worm with many feet. *Ibid.*, I collect that there is a house Whurl like to *Silphius*.

3. *Bot. and Zool.* = **WHORL** *sb.* 2.

1713 PETIVER in *Phil. Trans.* XXVIII. 194 The upper Whirls are guarded with round pointed Leaves. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 189 Whirls of leaves often so thickly set as partly to tile the stems. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 187/2 The numberless animals of the colony are grouped in whirls.

4. *Conch.* a. = **WHORL** *sb.* 3.

1681 GREW *Museum* I. VI. i. 125 A Shell... with a Knobed Turban or Whirle. 1851 WOODWARD *Mollusca* 45 The whirls of spiral shells are sometimes separated by the interference of foreign substances. 1861 P. P. CARPENTER in *Rep. Smithsonian Inst.* 1860, 186 In *Triforis*, the whirls turn the wrong way.

b. = **TOP** *sb.* 2.

1708 *Phil. Trans.* XXVI. 79 Trochites, The Whirle, or Top-shell.

5. A convolution, curl, spiral; = **WHORL** *sb.* 4.

1862 BURTON *Bk. Hunter* (1863) 399 The noses, the tails, the feet of the characteristic monster of the sculptured stones, all end in a whirl. 1884 *Jrnl. Frankl. Inst.* June 418 The reduction of friction and of whirls in the wheel.

6. *Angling.* A spinning bait.

1888 GOODE *Amer. Fishes* 71 Using two lines with spoon-baits or 'whirl'.

7. *Electr.* (See *quots.*)

1842 FRANCIS *Dict. Arts, Whirl, Electrical.* (See *Flyer*.) 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exh'ib.*, *Brit.* II. No. 5598, Series of apparatus... including Leyden jars... swan, spider, whirl or fly. 1893 SLOANE *Electr. Dict.* 577 A conductor carrying an electric current is surrounded by circular lines of force, which are sometimes termed an electric whirl.

II. Denoting a movement (and derived senses).

8. a. The action, or an act, of whirling; (swift) rotatory or circling movement, rotation, circumvolution, gyration; a (rapid) turn, as of a wheel, around an axis or centre.

spec. in *Fencing*: cf. quot. 1771 s.v. **WHIRL** *v.* 3. In *Kinematics*, a uniform rotation of a fluid about a fixed axis. c 1480 HENRYSON *Orpheus & Eurydice* 370 Wardly men sum tyme ar castin hie Apon the quhele, in grete prosperitee, And wyth a quhirle, vnwarly, or thai witte, Ar thravin down to pure & law estate. 1598 MARSTON *Scot. Villanie* III. x. H3, The whirle on toe, The turne aboue ground. 1609 *Bible* (Douay) 1 Sam. xxv. 29 In violence, and whurle of a sling. 1621 FLETCHER *Pilgrim* III. vi, What flaws, and whirles of weather. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* iv. 562 The good man... bids earth roll, nor feels her idle whirl. 1771 LONNERGAN *Fencer's Guide* 87 This [wrenching] differs from whirling; because you limit it not as you do the whirl, to get a good Repost. 1829 C. ROSE *Four Yrs. S. Africa* 146 A wild kind of dance, the principal motion of which was a whirl. 1856 KANE *Arctic Expl.* I. xvi. 186 The howling of the wind and the whirl of the snow-drift. 1878 W. K. CLIFFORD *Kinematic* 214 Whirls. Suppose next that the lines of flow are circles having their centres on a fixed axis, and their planes perpendicular to it, and that there is no spin except at the axis, and no expansion anywhere. 1894 *Phil. Trans.* CLXXXV. 1. 281 In an unloaded shaft, the period of whirl

coincides with the natural period of lateral vibration. 1908 S. E. WHITE *Riverman* xxvi, A whirl of the wheel to the right, a turn to the left.

b. Something, as a body of water or air, in (rapid) circling motion, or the part at which this takes place; an eddy, a vortex.

a 1547 SURREY *Æneis* II. 531 As wrastling windes out of dispersed whirl [orig. *rupto turbine*] Befight themselves. 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* II. 118/1 These whirls and eddies in a River... have... the nature and force of a Screw. 1753 FRANKLIN *Lett. Wks.* 1840 VI. 155 Still the tube or whirl of air may remain entire. 1798 COLERIDGE *Anc. Mar.* VII. x, Upon the whirl, where sank the ship, The boat spun round and round. 1847 STODDART *Angler's Comp.* 146 Trout... are found... close below banks, among side-runs and small whirls. 1902 *Words of Eye-witness* 101 A whirl of rifle-bullets beat upon the wet ground.

9. In extended use: Swift or violent movement, as of something hurled or flung, or of a wheeled vehicle, etc.; rapid course; rush, hurry. Also *fig.*

1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch.*, *Rich. II.* cix, The Noble Vere springs at a double whirl, Marquesse and Duke. 1725 POPE *Odys.* x. 52 Snatch'd in the whirl, the hurried navy flew. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* vi, The lively whirl of carriages is exchanged for the deep rumble of carts and waggons. 1882 T. G. BOWLES *Flotsam & Jetsam* 97 Such a wretched device for filling their holidays as a whirl from one place to another, and a whirl back.

10. *fig.* Confused and hurried activity of any kind; disturbance, commotion; tumult, bustle.

1552 HULOET, Whyrle or rage of a battayle. 1620 I. C. *Two Merry Milk-maids* i. iii. C4b, What whirle's this? 1780 MRS. COWLEY *Belle's Stratagem* II. i, The feelings of Wife, and Mother, are lost in the whirl of dissipation. 1827 KEBLE *Chr. Y.*, *Whit-Sunday* x, A giddy whirl of sin Fills ear and brain. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xxxix, Tomorrow was to be a half-holiday devoted to a whirl of entertainment. 1889 'J. S. WINTER' *Mrs. Bob* vi, Those who live in the whirl of London Society.

b. A confused, disturbed, distracted, or dizzy state of mind or feeling.

1707 ADDISON *Rosamond* III. iii, My soul is... in the whirle of passion lost. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* iv, In a whirl of wonder at the theatre. 1854 R. S. SURTEES *Handley Cr.* lxxv, His head was in a complete whirl. 1905 H. G. WELLS *Kipps* III. iii. §6 He departed in a whirl, to secure a copy of every morning paper.

11. *colloq.* (orig. U.S.). An attempt, esp. an initial or tentative attempt. Freq. in phr. *give it* (and *varr.*) a *whirl*. Cf. **BURL** *sb.* 2.

1884 C. B. LEWIS *Saved-Off Sk.* 277 After licking the best man in his own camp he came down to give us a whirl. 1889 'MARK TWAIN' *Connecticut Yankee* xix. 234 No sound and legitimate business can be established on a basis of speculation. A successful whirl in the knight-errantry line... It's just a corner in pork, that's all, and you can't make anything else out of it. 1904 'O. HENRY' *Sixes & Sevens* (1911) 75 I'd been saving up for a year to give this New York a whirl. 1922 S. LEWIS *Babbitt* vi. 90 But—I wish I could've had a whirl at law and politics. 1923 WODEHOUSE in *Strand Mag.* Apr. 335 Jeeves, if he cared to take a whirl at it, could be Prime Minister or something to-morrow. 1949 A. MILLER *Death of Salesman* 1. 66 Come on up. Tell that to Dad. Let's give him a whirl. 1965 K. ROBERTS in *J. Carnell New Writings in S-F* III. 127 I'm going up again next weekend. Give it another whirl. 1979 S. WILSON *Greenish Man* 11 You've nothing to lose. Give it a whirl, try it for a month. 1985 *Times* 28 Feb. 20/2 John Syer came to me and said he could help... So I thought I would give it a whirl.

whirl (hwɜ:l), *v.* Forms: 3 zwirle, 4 wyrle, 4-6 whyrle, 4-7 whirle, 5 quirle, 6 whyrl, *Sc.* quherle, quhir(l)e, vhirle, 6-7 whorle, whurl(e, 6- whirl. [prob. a. ON. *hvirfla* to turn about, whirl (Sw. *virfla*, obs. Da. *hvirle*, Da. *hvirle*), related to ON. *hvirfill* circle, ring, esp. crown of the head, top, summit, pole of the heavens (MSw. *hvirvil* crown of the head, Sw. *virvel*, obs. Da. *hvirrel*, Da. *hvirvel* eddy, etc.) = (M)Du., (M)LG. *wervel* †whirlpool, †spindle, vertebra, swivel, bolt, OHG. *wirbil*, *wirvil* whirlwind (MHG., G. *wirbel* whirlwind, whirlpool, giddiness, vertebra, swivel, sheave, tumult; cf. *wirbeln* to whirl, trill, *wirblig* rotatory, giddy):—OTeut. **χwerbil-*, f. *χwerb-* to rotate: see **WHARVE** *v.*, -EL¹, -LE 1, 3.

ON. *hwearftian*, *hwearftlian* 'errare' (Northumb. *hwearflung* 'error', 'vicissitudo') and **hwierftian*, *hwyrftlian* to rotate, do not appear to have survived; they are app. based on the variant *χwarb-*, which is otherwise widely represented (cf. late Northumb. *huarf* 'error', OE. **hwierfel*, *wirfel* in place names, OHG. *werbil* 'sistrum, plectrum', *warbelôn* 'rotari, versari', *warblich* 'versatilis', and forms s.v. **WHARVE** *v.*).

Contamination with *hurl* is seen in sense 6, as also in the variants **HURLPOOL**, **HURLWIND** of **WHIRLPOOL**, **WHIRLWIND**. Cf. similarly **THIRLPOOL** (association with **THIRL**, **THRILL**).

1. *intr.* To move in a circle or similar curve, to circle, circulate; more vaguely, to move about in various directions, esp. with rapidity or force; to go (wander, fly, etc.) about; to be in commotion.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 211/387 þe kniȝt ȝwirlede op in þis blast, ase speldene doth, wel wide. 1412-20 *LYDG. Chron. Troy* 1. 1873 As þe blase whirleth of a fire, So to and fro þei fleen. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 525/1 Whyrlyn a-bowte, yn ydynlesse... *vagor*. a 1475 ASHBY *Dicta Philos.* 259 This world is not certeine ne stable, But whirling a bowte and mutable. 1563 GOOGE *Eglogs, Cupido* 648 That vyle deformed Churle Whose foggy Mates... do thycke aboute him whurle. 1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* v. v, Then wil I daunce and whirle about the ayre. 1676 MACE *Musick's Mon.* 53 Let the Strings have scope enough to whirle about

with clearness of Sound. **1719** DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 331 His Spirits whirl'd about faster than the Vessels could convey them. **1853** KANE *Grinnell Exp.* v. (1856) 36 Rocks, about which the sea-swallow and kittiwake were whirling in endless rounds. **1860** TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xxvii. 210 Dense clouds of snow rose, whirling in the air.

b. fig.

1582 BENTLEY *Mon. Matrones* II. 3 His spirit whirling in my hart, greater than I can declare. **1834** WHITTIER *Mogg Megone* I. 426 What thoughts of horror and madness whirl Through the burning brain of that fallen girl! **1859** W. COLLINS *Q. of Hearts* I. A child of the new generation, with all the modern ideas whirling together in her pretty head. **1862** CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XII. ix. (1872) IV. 195 Breslau... is whirling with business.

2. To turn, esp. swiftly, around an axis, like a wheel; to revolve or rotate (rapidly); to spin.

In quot. **1588** fig. with allusion to the wheel of Fortune. In *Mech.* used *spec.* of a shaft revolving at excessive speed so as to become bent by the centrifugal force: see quot. **1894** s.v. WHIRLING *vbl. sb.* 1.

c 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* III. 916 This hous... was shapen lyke a cage... I the telle That but I bringe the therinne Ne shalt thou neuer kunne gynne To come in to hyt... So faste hit whirleth [v.r. whirleth, whirlyth] lo aboute. **1398** TREvisa *Barth. De P.R.* XIII. xvii. (1495) Cvijb, For his depnesse he [sc. the whirlpool] meuyth rounde aboute, whyrlynge & reboundyng. Therefore swymmers ben oft perishyd. **a 1400-50** Wars *Alex.* 5294 Twenti tamed Olifants turned it a-boute, Quirland all on queles. **1513** DOUGLAS *Æneis* VII. vii. 88 As sum tyme scolis the round top of tre, Hit with the twynit quhypp, dois quherle. **1563** *Mirr. Mag.* II. *Collingbourne* iv. We knowe... the course of Fortunes wheele, Howe constantly it whyrleth styll about. **1588** SHAKS. *L.L.L.* IV. iii. 384 Iustice alwaies whirles in equall measure. **a 1600** MONTGOMERIE *Misc. Poems* xlviii. 148 3on is Charybdis that whirlis ay about. **1633** T. JAMES *Voy.* 14 The eddies whirle into twenty manners. **1799** G. SMITH *Laboratory* I. 29 A fire wheel which is to whirl horizontally in the water. **1833** TENNYSON *Palace of Art* 15 While Saturn whirles, his steadfast shade Sleeps on his luminous ring. **1840** DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xli, Round whirled the wheels, and off they rattled. **1853** MRS. GASKELL *Ruth* vii, She sat down and could not speak—the room whirled round and round.

b. To turn round or aside quickly: = WHEEL *v.* 4.

a 1861 T. WINTHROP *Life in Open Air* xii. (1863) 91 Instantly at the lucky hackle something darted, seized it, and whirled to fly... up the [river]. **1884** 'MARK TWAIN' *Huck Finn* xxvii, The king whirles on me and rips out: 'None o' your business!' **1916** S. E. WHITE *Bobby Orde* xii, 'What's this?' asked Mr. Kincaid's quiet voice. The man whirled about.

3. *trans.* To cause to rotate or revolve, esp. swiftly or forcibly; to move (something) around an axis, or in a circle or the like: with various shades of meaning: to turn (a wheel, etc.), †twirl (a light object held in the hand), †roll (the eyes), flourish or swing round (a weapon, sling, etc.); *spec.* in *Fencing* (see quot. **1771**).

? **a 1400** Morte *Arth.* 3261 A-bowte cho whirllide a whele with hir whitte hondez. **c 1440** *Promp. Parv.* 525/1 Whyrlyn, as spynners wythe the whele. **1579** RICE *Insect. Vices* Civ, Seruantes lacke worke, and stande whirling their knife aboute their fingers. **1614** GORGES *Lucan* ix. 404 We cross the Axle of the world, And with the sphere about are whorled. **a 1633** G. HERBERT *Jacula Prudentum* (1640) 717 To whirle the eyes too much shewes a Kites braine. **1697** DRYDEN *Æneis* ix. 905 They whirl their Slings around. **1771** LONNERGAN *Fencer's Guide* Index, *Whirling*, is to whirl your adversary's blade about to the same parade again; that is, when you parry with a Half-circle, to whirl his blade round to a Tierce, and into a Half-circle again; or, you may whirl from one parade to another, as from a Quinte to a Quarte, &c. **1774** tr. *Helvetius' Child Nat.* lix. II. 308 Richard blushed through stupidity, and, whirling his hat, said he would please me. **1807** CRABBE *Par. Reg.* II. 489 One with whom oft he whirled the bounding flail. **1823** J. WILSON *Marg. Lyndsay* xix. 148 Widow Alison... was... whirling down a yard of twine from the roller, to tie a two-pound parcel of brown-sugar. **1830** HERSCHER *Study Nat. Phil.* II. vi. (1851) 149 A stone whirled round in a sling. **1835** DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Greenwich Fair*, The gentlemen... go down the middle and up again... and whirl their partners round.

† b. To twist or twine around something. *Obs.* **1676** COTTON *Angler* II. vii. 64 The dubbing of a Bears dun whirl'd upon yellow silk.

4. *intr.* To move along swiftly on or as if on wheels; to travel fast in a wheeled vehicle; *gen.* to go swiftly or impetuously, rush or sweep along.

13... *E.E. Allit. P.* B. 475 Ho [sc. the dove] wyrl[e]d out on þe weder on wynges ful scharpe. **13...** *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 2222 Whyrlande out of a wro, wyth a felle weppen. **c 1400** *Laud Troy Bk.* 13457 To Menelaus Troylus whirled. **a 1547** SURREY *Æneis* IV. 563 Whither whirles he? **1553** Douglas's *Æneis* XII. xiii. 158 The shaft thrawing, that quhirllis [v.r. quhirris] throw the skye. **1581** A. HALL *Iliad* x. 177 The Lyons... downe whirling from the rocke... for to assault the sheepe. **1588** SHAKS. *Tit. A.* v. ii. 49 Ile come and be thy Waggoner, And whirle along with thee about the Globes. **1697** DRYDEN *Æneis* ix. 956 A knotted Lance... Which roar'd like Thunder as it whirl'd along. **a 1716** SOUTH *Serm.* (1727) VI. 216 But the Report of it shall whirl and rattle over a whole Nation. **1722** E. WARD *Wand. Spy* II. 47 A Hackney Chaise came whirling by. **1816** SCOTT *Antiq.* xx, Who suld come whirling there in a post-chaise, but Monkbarns. **1859** KINGSLEY *Misc.* II. v. 230 Travellers... within an hour's run of the greatest metropolis in the world, whirling through miles of desert. **1877** BLACK *Green Past.* iii, The beautiful landscapes through which the train whirled. **1879** E. O'DONOVAN *Merv Oasis* xxiv. (1882) I. 415 Turcoman cavalry whirling down in their usual loose order.

† b. *trans.* To go swiftly about or around (a place). *Obs. rare*—1.

1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch.*, *Hen. V.* cccxc, While he lay Full at the Seige, the Dolphin whirles the Coast.

5. *trans.* To drive (a wheeled vehicle), or convey in a wheeled vehicle, swiftly; *gen.* to drive, impel, carry, or urge along impetuously, as a strong wind or stream (often and now only with implication of circular movement, as in 7).

c 1386 CHAUCER *Squire's T.* 663 Appollo whirleth vp his Chaar so hye. **c 1400** Rom. *Rose* 4362 She [sc. Fortune] canne... whirle adown, and ouer turne Who sittith hieghst. **1513** DOUGLAS *Æneis* XII. Prol. 30 So fast Phaeton wyth the quhip him quhirlys. **1616** S. S. *Honest Lawyer* II. D 4 b, A Coach, And praucing Coursers, that shall whirle thee through The popular streetes. **1725** RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* IV. i, Frae his Pouch he whirled forth a Book. **1781** COWPER *Retirem.* 393 He steps into the welcome chaise... behind four handsome bays, That whirl away from business and debate The disincumber'd Atlas of the state. **1835** LYTTON *Rienzi* I. iii, In popular commotions, each man is whirled along with the herd. **1848** DICKENS *Dombey* xx, The... speed at which the train was whirled along. **1850** TENNYSON *In Mem.* xv. 3 The winds begin to rise...; The last red leaf is whirl'd away. **1854** G. W. CURTIS *Potiphar Papers* IV. (1866) 126 He whirled her off into the dance. **1873** BLACK *Pr. Thule* II. The gallant little horses that whirled them... into the open country. **1879** FROUDE *Cæsar* xxiii. 308 He had been as a leaf whirled upon a winter torrent. **1907** J. H. PATTERSON *Man-Eaters of Tsavo* x. 111 The river... becoming a raging... torrent, tearing up trees by the roots and whirling them along like straws.

b. fig.

1578 WHETSTONE *Promos & Cass.* II. iv. ii, Such dunghyll churles, Such newes, as is in market tounes, about the country whorles. **1656** EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. lxxxvi. (1674) 114 The... fetches, by which unhappy mankind... is... with such publick calamity whirled about. **1837** HALLAM *Lit. Eur.* II. vi. §46 Juliet is a child, whose intoxication in loving and being loved whirled whirles away the little reason she may have possessed.

6. To throw or cast with violence, fling, hurl (*esp.* with rotatory movement, as from a sling). Also *absol.*

Formerly app. sometimes used by confusion for *hurl* (cf. *per contra* HURLPIT, -POOL, -WIND).

c 1440 Wyclif's Bible I Sam. xvii. 49 (MS. Bodl. 277) David... took o stoon, and he castide [v.r. whirle] with the slyng. **1542** UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 79 b, He taught them... to whurle with a slyng, and to... cast a darte. *Ibid.* 138 b, A... boye... was whurleyng litle stones among the thickest of y^e people. **1563** P. WHITEHORNE *Onosandro Platon.* 78 Molested of the weapons whorlde from farre of. **1579-80** NORTH *Plutarch, Crassus* (1595) 611 Who gallowping vp and down the plaine, whirled vp the sand hills from the bottome with their horse feete. **1591** SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. vi. 795 The boistrous Winde, that... proudest Turrets to the ground hath whurld. **1682** BUNYAN *Holy War* 104 Twelve slings, to whirle stones withal. **1718** POPE *Iliad* xvi. 585 Sarpedon whirld his weighty Lance. **1742** GRAY *Eton* 72 Whirl the wretch from high.

† b. *Gaming.* To cast (the dice). Also *absol.*

1579 RICE *Insect. Vices* Eij, Ye plaie naughteilye, whorle, take vp, the trickie is mine, shamfully caste. **1772** FOOTE *Nabob* II. (1778) 26 When you want to throw off six and four, ... you must... whirl the dice to the end of the table. *Ibid.* 27, I shall be able to tap, stamp, dribble, and whirl, with any man in the club.

7. *intr.* To be affected with giddiness, to reel: usually (now only) of the head or brain.

1561 HOLLYBUSH *Hom. Apoth.* 5 b, Many are whom the heade whyrleth so sore y^e he thinketh the earth turneth vpsyde-doune. *Ibid.* 42 A... feeler... wherewith men do whyrle and be dismaded. **1820** SHELLEY *Witch Atl.* v, The dim brain whirles dizzy with delight. **1880** 'OUIDA' *Moths* vi, You make my head whirl.

b. *trans.* To affect with giddiness; to put in a whirl or tumult. ? *Obs.*

1593 Q. ELIZ. *Boeth.* IV. met. v. 90 Hydden causes whyrls y^e mynd. **1606** SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* III. ii. 19, I am giddy; expectation whirles me round. **1685** F. SPENCE tr. *Varrillas' Ho. Medicis* 456 If he had not been whirld with a crotchet to buy a house. **a 1769** FALCONER *Shipw.* III. 627 Nor let this total ruin whirl my brain! **1829** GOOD *Study Med.* (ed. 3) IV. 540 Precipices, the sight of which has whirled all his brains while awake.

whirl(e, obs. var. HARL sb.¹, HERL.

1676 COTTON *Angler* II. vii. 64 A flie call'd the Peacock-fie; the body made of a whirl of a Peacocks feather.

whirl-, the sb. or vb.-stem in Combination: **whirl-brain**, a giddy-brained person (cf. G. *wirbelgeist* scatter-brain); † **whirl-crowned a.**, giddy-brained; † **whirl-fire**, a poetic or rhetorical name for lightning (? as associated with violent storms or whirlwinds); † **whirl-gate**, a turnstile; **whirl-hook**, in *Rope-making*, each of the hooks of a 'whirl' (see WHIRL *sb.* I c); † **whirl-jack** = WHIRLIGIG I (c); † **whirl-mint**, ? = whorled water-mint; **whirl-pillar**, -spout, a rotating column of water or dust, a waterspout or dust-whirl; **whirl-shaped a.**, whorled; † **whirl-snail**, † **whirl-stone** (see quots.); † **whirl-whale**, some kind of whale (cf. WHIRL-ABOUT I, WHIRLPOOL¹); **whirl-wheel** (tr. Fr. *rouet volant*), a kind of water-wheel (see quot.).

1817 COLERIDGE *Biog. Lit.* I. x. 179 He is a *whirl-brain that talks whatever comes uppermost. **1648** N. WARD *Petit. Eastern Assoc.* 20 Many *whirl-crown'd, and bragg-braind Opinionists. **1605** SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iii. *Law* 1011 The smoaking storms, the *whirl-fire's crackling clash. **c 1620** Z. BOYD *Zion's Flowers* (1855) 104 The whirle fire shall flash. **1550** Ludlow *Churchw. Acc.* (Camden) 44 The *whirle yate anont the college dore. **1797** *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVI. 483/2 This second spinner attaches his own help to the *whirl hook. **1653** URQUHART *Rabelais* I. xi. 57 That he

[sc. Gargantua] might play... after the manner of the other little children... they made him a faire weather *whirljack [1694 whirle-gig], of the wings of the windmill. **c 1710** PETIVER *Cat. Ray's Eng. Herbal* Tab. xxxi, Water *Whirl-mint. Cross Whirl-mint. **c 1850** Rudim. *Navig.* (Weale) 83 In some parts of the ocean the water-spout or *whirl-pillar is occasionally met with. **1761** Phil. *Trans.* LII. 359 Each series is of equal length, and placed in a wheel or *whirl-shaped form like the equisetum or horse-tail plant. **1681** GREW *Musæum* I. VI. i. 132 The *Whirl-Snail. *Turbocochlea.* **1737** [S. BERINGTON] *G. di Lucca's Mem.* (1738) 93 We saw... Ten Thousand little *Whirl-spouts of Sand. **1681** GREW *Musæum* III. I. i. 262 The Short *Whirl-Stone. *Trochites.* **1605** SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iii. *Law* 732 Another, swallowed in a *Whirl-Whale's womb, Is laid a-live within a living Toomb. **1853** GLYNN *Treat. Power Water* 37 An elaborate series of experiments and an excellent report on the useful effect of the ordinary horizontal water-wheel at present used in France. Those on which the experiments were made are at Toulouse... These wheels are of two kinds: those situate on the rivers are called bucket-wheels (*à cuve*)...; those which are placed on the canal are called *whirl-wheels (*rouets volants*)... and are turned by the percussion of the water upon curved floats.

'whirl-about.

† 1. A name for some kind of whale: cf. *whirl-whale* (WHIRL- in Comb.), WHIRLPOOL¹. *rare*—1.

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. v. 98 The monstrous Whirl-about [F. *l'énorme Senedete*], Which in the Sea another Sea doth spout.

2. The action of whirling about; something that whirls about, or is in a whirl; *attrib.* or *adj.* characterized by whirling about.

1786 C. MORRIS *Songs* (1788) 8 While thro' this whirl-about journey [sc. life] we reel. **1857** PALGRAVE *Norm. & Eng.* II. 30 There is such a whirlabout amongst the parties in these transactions, always changing sides. **1863** KINGSLEY *Water-Bab.* vii, His little whirl-about of a head.

whirlary: see WHIRLERY.

† **'whirlbat, 'whorlbat.** *Obs.* Forms: *a.* 6-7 *whorle-*, 7 *whoorl-*, 7-8 *whorlbat*. *β.* 7-8 *whirl(e)bat*. [Alteration of HURLBAT by substitution of WHIRL for the first syllable.]

1. Used in the 16th and 17th c. to render L. *cæstus*, which was defined as 'a weapon with plummets of leade, vsed in games for exercise' (Cooper's *Thesaurus*) and 'a certain game... among the ancients, wherein they whirled leaden plummets at one another' (Phillips, 1658); also in renderings of Gr. *πύξ*.

a. **1565** COOPER *Thesaurus* s.v. *Cæstus*, *Bellare cæstu*, to play as it were at the whorle bat. **1574** *Withals' Dict.* 51/2 *Cæstus*, an whorle batte, an instrument of leather couered with leade, to buffet one another. **1601** HOLLAND *Pliny* XI. xxxvii. I. 331 All the sort of Rams he armed with crooked hornes... as if they were gantlets or whorlebats [*cæstus*], given them by Nature to thumpe and jurre withall. **c 1611** CHAPMAN *Iliad* XXIII. 538 Your shoulders must not vndergo the churlish whoorlbats fall [οὐ γὰρ πύξ γε μαχήσεται]. **1614** RALEIGH *Hist. World* II. xiii. §6 He... compelled all strangers to fight with him, at whorlebattes. **1656** COWLEY *Pindar. Odes, Praise of Pindar* Note 3, The Cæstus, or Whorle-bats. **1697** DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 30 The Whorlbat, and the rapid Race, shall be Reserv'd for Cæsar.

β. **1615** CHAPMAN *Odys.* VIII. 285 At wrestling, buffets, whirlbat, speed of race [ἡ πύξ ἐξέπλην ἡ καὶ ποσὶν]. *Ibid.* XI. 406 Pollux, that exceld, in whirlbat fight [πύξ ἀγαθὸν Πολυδεύκεα]. **1617** MINSHEU *Ductor* 371 A Plummert, or whorle-bat, that vaulters, leapers, and dauncers vse. **1650** HORN & ROB. *Gate Lang. Unl., Foundation* C. §3 Slain by thee with the whirlbat [a te cestu cæstum]. **1685** COTTON tr. *Montaigne* I. xxii. (1711) I. 130 Fencers, inur'd to beating, when bang'd almost to Pulp with Clubs and Whirl-bats [tr. Cicero *pugiles cæstibus contusi*]. **1700** DRYDEN *Fables* Pref. *D 2, He rejected them as Dares did the Whirl-bats of Eryx.

2. A club.

1791 COWPER *Iliad* VII. 167 Where him his iron whirlbat [κορύνη] nought avail'd.

'whirl-blast. [f. WHIRL- + BLAST *sb.*]; app. a word of the Cumberland dialect, for which Wordsworth is the earliest literary authority.] A whirlwind, hurricane. Also *fig.*

1798 WORDSW. *Poems of Fancy* iii, A whirl-blast from behind the hill Rushed o'er the wood. **1807** STAGG *Misc. Poems, Return* xvi, Hark, the whirlblast loudly blusters. **1813** COLERIDGE *Nt.-Scene* 77 The whirl-blast comes, the desert-sands rise up. **1820** SHELLEY *Witch Atl.* xlviii, Which rain could never bend, or whirl-blast shake. **1851** MAYNE *Reid Scalp Hunters* xi, Vast towers of sand, borne up by the whirlblast, rise vertically. **1904** DOWDEN *Browning* 246 There is a fixity of grief which is more appalling than this whirlblast.

whirl-bone ('hwɜːlbəʊn). *Obs.* or *dial.* Forms: 4-8 *whirlebone*, 5 *whirle-*, *wherle-*, *whyrlebon*, *wherl-*, *werel-*, *qwhirl-*, *qworle-*, *qvyrlebone*, 5-6 *whyrle-*, *whorlebone*, 5-7 *whyrlebone*, 6 *whurle bone*, (7 *whall-bone*), 8 *hurle bone*, *dial.* *whirly bo oan*, 9 *Sc.* *whorle-bane*, 6- *whirlbone*. (Also with hyphen, or as two words.) [Replacing OE. *hweorf-*, *hwyrfbān*, *hwe(o)rban* knee-cap, by substitution of WHIRL for the first element; cf. MLG. *wervel(bēn)*, G. *wirbelbein* vertebra.]

1. The round head of a bone turning in the socket of another bone; *spec.* that of the thigh-bone at the hip-joint (in later use esp. in the horse).

1398 TREvisa *Barth. De P.R.* v. xxvii. (Bodl. MS.), bei [sc. bones of the arms] bep ykeured with ioynets whirlebones

and grustel bones. [Mistranslation; ed. 1582 They are covered in joynts and whirlbones with gristles; L. in *uncturis et vertebis cartillagine vestiuntur.*] c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 421/1 Qvyrlylebone, yn a ioynt, *ancha.* *Ibid.* 524/2 Whyrlebone, or hole of a ioynt (S. whylbone), *anca, vertebum, vertibulum, condulus.* 1548-77 VICARY *Anat.* ix. (1888) 75 Ech of these two bones . . . hath a great rounde hole, into the whiche is receyued the bone called *Vertebra*, or The whorle bone. *Ibid.* x. 84 *Vertebum*, or Whurle bone, . . . and is receyued into the boxe or hole of the hanche bone. 1685 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2046/4 A Black brown Gelding . . . a Strain in his Whirlebone. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Hurle Bone*, in an Horse, is a Bone near the Middle of the Buttocks very apt to go out of its Sockets with a Slip or Strain. 1753 J. BARTLET *Genl. Farriery* xxix. (1754) 240 A lameness in the whirle bone and hip, is discovered by the horse's dragging his leg after him. 1814 J. WHITE *Vet. Med.* (ed. 2) III. 192 Injury of the Hip Joint, commonly called Whirl, or Hurdle Bone, or Round Bone. 1825 JAMIESON, *Whorle-bane*, the hip-bone or joint, Fife.

2. The round bone of the knee; the knee-pan, patella.

14. . . *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 590/19 *Internodium*, . . . the kne-panne, or wherlebon. 1530 PALSGR. 288/1 Whyrlbone of ones kne, *pallette de genouil.* 1587 HARRISON *England* i. v. 11 in *Holinshead*, When the bodie of Aiax was found, the whirlebone of his knee was adiudged so broad as a pretie dish. 1611 COTGR., *La charniere des genoux*, the whall-bone, or whirle-bone, of the knees. 1634 T. JOHNSON tr. *Parey's Chirurg.* xv. xxii. (1678) 340 The Patella, or Whirl-bone of the Knee. . . is oft-times contused. c1746 J. COLLIER (Tim Bobbin) *View Lanc. Dial.* Wks. (1862) 52 He geete fro his Whirly boons, and sed. . . while his Heart beots an his Blood sarclates there's Hopes. 1828 *Craven Gloss.*, *Whirl-baan*, the cap of the knee.

†3. A vertebra of the spine. *Obs.*

c1400 *Lanfranc's Chirurg.* 3 Cap. vj. of woundis of pe rig-bon & of whirlebones [v.r. whirele bonys] of pe rigge. *Ibid.* 104 Make smale cauteries. . . bitwene ech whirlebon of pe necke. 1668 CULPEPPER & COLE *Barthol. Anat.* Man. iv. xiv. 349 Five Vertebrae or Whirle-bones of the Spina.

whirled (hw3:ld), a.

1. [f. WHIRL sb. + -ED². Cf. OE. *hwyrflod* round.] = WHORLED.

1715 *Phil. Trans.* XXIX. 307 Shells, whirled and single. 1796 *WITHERING Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) 823 Leaves expanding, a little bowed back at the ends; somewhat whirled. 1851 *WOODWARD Mollusca* 163 H[elix] epistylum, Pl. XII. fig. 7. Imperforate, globosely conoid, close-whirled, aperture lamellate within, lip sharp.

2. [f. WHIRL v. + -ED¹.] Rotated rapidly, etc. 1875 *FARRAR Silence & Voices* iv. 76 Could we . . . judge rightly of the . . . sun. . . if we only saw it glaring luridly through the whirled sands of the desert? 1895 *MEREDITH Amaz. Marr.* xlv. Lord Fleetwood's yet undocked old associates vowed he 'smelt strong' of the fumes of the whirled silver censer-balls.

whirler ('hw3:lə(r)). [f. WHIRL v. + -ER¹.]

1. A person who whirls.

1. One who turns or spins rapidly round; †one who wanders about (*obs.*); a 'whirling' dervish.

c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 524/2 Whyrlare a-bowte, or goare a-bowte in ydylness . . . ; *girovagus.* 1815 *Tweddell's Rem.* 229 plate, Dervish of the Order of Whirlers. 1832 LD. JEFFREY *Let. to Mrs. Rutherford* 1 Apr., The only chance is for one pair to cling close, like waltzers, and whirl lovingly among the whirlers. a1843 *SOUTHEY Comm.-pl. Bk.* Ser. III. (1850) 391/1 Sect of dancers and whirlers. 1873 *LELAND Egypt. Sketch-Bk.* 101 He promenaded around the performers, and taking his place in the ring began to spin—for there were during the entire performance one or two whirlers at work.

2. One who whirls something; †one who hurls or flings something, a hurler (*obs.*); one who turns a wheel or other revolving piece of mechanism.

1563 P. WHITEHORNE *Onosandro Platon.* 74 The whorlers of darts. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 466 For wash-bowls, dishes, or plates, the workman, called the whirler, uses a vertical spindle. 1889 *LIPSCOMB in Land Agent's Rec.* 6 Apr. 316 When flails were whirling for six months . . . in the tithe barns, while the whirlers and their families ate barley bread.

II. A thing that whirls.

†3. ? A whirlwind. *Obs. rare*—1.

1606 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. *Magnificence* 396 What boystrous lungs the roaring whirlers blown: What burning wings the Lightning rides upon.

4. A revolving piece of mechanism.

spec. a. A potter's whirling-table. b. An apparatus invented by Troughton to serve as an artificial horizon at sea, consisting of a rapidly rotating top with a mirror attached; also called *Troughton's top*. c. A device by which the strands are twisted together in spinning; in *Rope-making*, each of the rotating hooks by which the hemp or other fibre is twisted into yarn.

1860 W. WHITE *Wrekin* xxxi. 377 A revolving pedestal or 'whirler', on which the article to be ornamented is placed. 1867 *SMYTH Sailor's Word-bk.*, Whirler, or Troughton's Top. 1875 *KNIGHT Dict. Mech.* 1884 *Girl's Own Paper* Nov. 4/3 The females busy with a bunch of camel's hair and a 'whirler', making . . . the coarse . . . thread with which much of their rough sewing is done. 1898 *BINNS Story of Potter* 198 The wheel . . . at which he [sc. potter] stands is called, when revolved by some other power than himself, a 'jigger'; that which he turns with his own hand . . . is a 'whirler'. 1918 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 29 June 8/5 Lithographic plate whirler.

†'whirlery. *Obs. rare.* Also 6-ary. [f. WHIRL v. + -ERY.] Whirling, circling flight (or ? roaring noise: cf. WHURL v.). In first quot. as part of a jingling refrain.

c1560 *Doctour Double Ale* 436 in *Hazl. E.P.P.* III. 321 Fare well and a dewe; With a whirlyar whewe, And a tirlary type. 1582 STANYHURST *Aeneis* III. (Arb.) 77 With gagling whirlye flapping Theyr wings.

whirley, var. HURLY², influenced by WHIRL.

1886 J. BARROWMAN *Sc. Mining Terms* 72 *Whirley*, a hutch, hurley, or tub. 1886 *HODDER Life 7th Earl Shaftesb.* I. x. 413 A little child, . . . whose duty it was, on hearing the approach of a whirley, or coal-carriage, to pull open the door.

whirley: see WHIRLY.

'whirlcote. *Obs. exc. Hist.* Forms: 5 whirlecole, whirlecote, wherlecote, 6 wherli-, whirlcote, 8-9 whirlicot. [Form doubtful; app. orig. *whirlecole*, f. WHIRL v. + an unidentified element; recorded by Stow in the form *whirlcote*, whence in later use.] A coach, carriage.

c1381 *Anominalle Cron.* (MS. Stowe 1047) lf. 68 b, Le roy mesmes vient al mile ende et ouecque luy sa meir en vn whirlecole. c1450 *Brut* II. 386 pe Lorde Powys meyne broust hym out of Wallis to London yn a whirlecole [sic MSS. *Camb. and Reg.*; MS. B. Mus. *Add.* whirlecote; ed. *Caxton* (1480) wherlecote].

1598 *Stow Surv.* 65 Of old time coatches were not knowne in this Island, but chariots, or Whirlcotes. . . I reade that Rychard the second being threatened by the rebelles of Kent, rode from the Tower of London to the Myles end, and with him his mother in a Wherlicote. a1800 *PEGGE Curialia Misc.* (1818) 270. 1860 *Our Engl. Home* 75 The wheels of my lady's whirlicot or the franklin's plough were repaired in the kitchen. 1888 *FREEMAN in Stephens Life & Lett.* (1895) II. x. 385, I can't do much walking, but I go about in a whirli-cot. Is not that the oldest name for a coach or landau?

whirligig ('hw3:ligig), sb. Forms: 5 whyrlegygge, (whirlegogge), 5-7 whirllegig, 6 whirlygigge, whyrlegygge, worlegygge, 6-7 whirligig, 6-8 whirlegig, 7 whirllegig(e, whirligig(g)e), whirli-gig, 7-8 whirly(-)gig, (8 whirlagig, 9 whirlgig), 6-whirligig. [orig. (and still to some extent dial.) two words, f. WHIRL- and WHIRLY- + GIG sb.¹]

1. a. Name of various toys that are whirled, twirled, or spun round; *spec.* †(a) a top or teetotum (cf. GIG sb.¹ 1); (b) a toy consisting of a small spindle turned by means of a string; (c) a toy with four arms like miniature windmill-sails, which whirl round when it is moved through the air.

c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 525/1 Whyrlegygge, chyl dys game, *giraculum.* 1530 PALSGR. 288/2 Whirlygigge to play with, *pyrouette.* 1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. iii. 191 As a turning Whirli-gig goes round [Fr. *Comme la pirouette animee se tourne*]. 1659 *MOXON Tutor Astron.* v. 148 The Gnomon must appear on both sides like the stick in a Whirli-gig, which children use. 1686 *BLOME Gentl. Recr.* II. 148 Pulling the Line you may make the Looking-Glass play in and out as Children do a Whirlegig. . . Keep it turning that the twinkling of the Glass against the Sun may provoke the Larks to come to view it. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* III. 43 The Pummel [of the sword] . . . is neither Round nor Oval, but is flat above and below like a Whirligig. 1728 *POPE Dunc.* III. 57 As . . . whirligigs, twirl'd round by skilful swain, Suck the thread in, then yield it out again. 1801 *STRUTT Sports & Past.* iv. §6. 288 The peg-top . . . probably originated from the teetotums and whirligigs. 1811 *Sporting Mag.* XXXVIII. 220 They hold each other tight by the middle, and so go round like whirligigs. 1908 [ELIZ. FOWLER] *Betw. Trent & Ancholme* 77 A . . . figure of The Christ-Child playing with a 'Whirligig'.

b. *fig.* 'Plaything', 'sport'. 1624 *BURTON Anat. Mel.* III. ii. i. (ed. 2) 356 Thou art Cupids whirligigge. a1677 *BARROW Sermon.* (1683) II. 12 Turning him into . . . a whirligig of fate or chance.

2. Applied to various mechanical contrivances having a whirling or rotatory movement; *spec.* †(a) an instrument of punishment formerly used, consisting of a large cage suspended so as to turn on a pivot; (b) a roundabout or merry-go-round.

In quot. 1601 ? = GIG sb.¹ 2; in quot. 1623 ? allusively applied to a carriage; in quot. 1822 to a clock.

1477-8 in *Swayne Churchw. Acc. Sarum* (1896) 22 Pro vna pecia maeremii de nouo empto pro le Whirligigge'. *Ibid.* 23 For a pece of Tymber to the Whirlegogge. 1554 in Sir W. Parker *Hist. Long Melford* (1873) 365 Payde to Newman for mending of Hall Myll Bridge, and makynge of a worlegygge. 22d. 1601 *DEACON & WALKER Spirits & Devils* 230 The sillie poore birdes sit prying at, and playing with the whirligig. [Cf. quot. 1686 in 1.] 1617 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Three Weekes Observ.* E2, It is hanged on a turning Gybbet, like a Crane. . . It is bigge enough to hold two men, and . . . if any one or more doe rob gardens. . . he or they are put into this same whirligigge, or kickumbob, and the gybbet being turned, the offender hangs in this Cage. . . some 12 or 14 foot from the water, . . . and with a trickie . . . the bottome of the cage drops out, and the thiefe fals soderly into the water. 1623 — *World runs on Wheels* Wks. (1630) II. 238/2 The last Proclamations concerning the retiring of the Gentry out of the City into their Countries. . . how it cleered the Streetes of these way-stopping Whirligigges! 1788 *GROSE Milit. Antiq.* II. 204 One [punishment] formerly very common, for trifling offences, . . . was the whirligig; . . . a kind of circular wooden cage, which turn'd on a pivot; and . . . whirled round with such an amazing velocity, that the delinquent became extremely sick. 1816 E. WEEETON *Let.* 22 May in *Jrnl. of Governess* (1969) II. 145 Large caravans enter the town with . . . wooden horses, whirligigs, gambling tables, barrel organs. 1822 *SCOTT Nigel* v. Yonder hall-clock at Theobald's, and that other whirligig that you made for the Duke of Buckingham. 1839-41 *LANE Arab. Nts.* I. 71 In the outskirts of the cemeteries, swings and whirligigs are erected. 1853 *LYTTON My Novel* II. viii, One of those rotatory entertainments commonly seen in fairs, and known by the name of 'whirligigs' or 'roundabouts'.

3. a. *gen.* and *fig.*, in various applications: (a) Something that is continually whirling, or in constant movement or activity of any kind; †(b) a fantastic notion, a crotchet (*obs.*); (c) circling course, revolution (of time or events); (d) a lively or irregular proceeding, an antic; (e) a circling movement, or condition figured as such, a whirl.

1589 *Pasquil's Ret.* Bivb, Euery one that had a whirlegig in his braine, wold haue his own conceit to goe currant. 1599 *NASHE Lenten Stuffe* Wks. (Grosart) V. 237 *Quot capita tot sententiae*, so many heades, so many whirlegigs. 1601 *SHAKS. Twel. N.* v. i. 385 And thus the whirlegigge of time brings in his reuenges. 1631 *WEEVER Anc. Funerall Mon.* 11 The heathen gods and goddesses, with all their whirligigs. 1635 *SHIRLEY Coronation* III. (1640) E2, *Phi.* Tis a strange turne. *Lisa.* The whirligigs of women. 1654 *GAYTON Pleas. Notes* III. ii. 73 His braines . . . being as vertiginous as a whirle-pooles, presented ten thousand whirlygigs, Windmills, and Turne-pikes to his errantick soule. 1660 *HEXHAM, De Key Lotert hem*, he hath a Whirlegig in his head. a1670 *HACKETT Abb. Williams* i. (1693) 181 The Whirly-Gig of the Dispensation, which run round from Pope to Pope, and never could be said to settle. 1704 *PRIOR Ladle* 6 Since They [sc. the gods] gave Things their Beginning; And set this Whirligig a Spinning. 1781 *JOHNSON in Boswell* 1 Apr., She is the first woman in the world, could she but restrain that wicked tongue of hers; . . . could she but command that little whirligig. 1796 *MME. D'ARBLAY Camilla* VII. xiii, You'll put my poor head quite into a whirligig. 1809 *MALKIN Gil Blas* VII. xvi. ¶2 This ridiculous baboon. . . got back again to his old tricks and whirligigs. 1862 *HUXLEY in Life* (1900) I. xv. 198, I was . . . glad to get your letter at that whirligig of an association meeting. 1874 *SYMONDS Sk. Italy & Greece* (1898) I. ix. 186 The whirligig of events restored Francesco Sforza to his duchy. 1897 *MRS. RAYNER Type-writer Girl* xviii, Water-beetles who dart and dance. . . in interlacing whirligigs. 1911 *MARETT Anthropol.* vii. 186 When the whirligig of social change brings the uneducated temporarily to the fore.

b. A fickle, inconstant, giddy, or flighty person (cf. GIG sb.¹ 4); also, one who turns round or moves about actively, as in a dance.

1602 *DEKKER Satirom.* L3, No whirligig, one of his faithfull fighters. 1605 *CHAPMAN All Fooles* I. i. 281 To maintaine a wanton whirly-gig, Worth nothing more then she brings on her back. a1704 T. BROWN tr. *Aeneas Sylvius Lett.* lxxxii. Wks. 1709 III. II. 81 Woman is the Whirly-Gig of Nature; she changes so often and swiftly. 1711 *BUDGELL Spect.* No. 67 ¶9 An impudent young Dog. . . ran to his Partner [in a dance], . . . and whisked her round. . . just as my Girl was going to be made a Whirligig, I ran in, seized on the Child, and carried her home. 1796 *MME. D'ARBLAY Camilla* II. iii, Knowing you to be such a merry little whirligig. 1822 T. MITCHELL *Com. Aristoph.* II. 317 Give way, and make room for their play, . . . We'll sit here. . . and mark how these whirligigs whisk it!

4. A water-beetle of the family *Gyrinidae*, esp. the common species *Gyrinus natator*, found in large numbers circling rapidly over the surface of the water in ponds and ditches. Also *whirligig beetle*.

1713 *PETIVER Aquat. Anim. Amboinæ* Tab. iv, *Trochus Pyramidalis Indicus*. Indian Whirligig. 1855 *POULTRY Chron.* III. 378 The Gyrinidae, or whirligig beetles. 1874 *WOOD Insects Abr.* 69 The Gyrinidae, or Whirligig Beetles, of foreign countries . . . being scarcely larger than our familiar British species. 1877 F. P. PASCOE *Zool. Classif.* 110 Gyrinus (Whirligig).

5. *advb.* Like a whirligig; with rapid circling movement.

1598 E. GUILPIN *Skial.* (1878) 51 His head . . . Wherein ten thousand thoughts runne whirligigge. 1828 *SCOTT Jrnl.* 16 June, To dress my sails to every wind; . . . and spin round, whirligig

6. *attrib.* Resembling a whirligig; characterized by a whirling movement (*lit.* and *fig.*). See also 4.

1582 STANYHURST *Aeneis* IV. (Arb.) 120 With whirlygig eyesight Vp to the sky staring. 1614 *PURCHAS Pilgrimage* III. xiii. (ed. 2) 307 Continuing their whirlegigge-deuotions with continuall turnings (fitly agreeing to so giddie and brainsicke a Religion). 1688 *HOLME Armoury* IV. xiii. (Roxb.) 521/2 The memory of the heathen gods and Goddesses, with all their whirligigge fancies. 1807 W. IRVING *Salmag.* No. 13 (1811) II. 74 That intoxicating, inflammatory, and whirligig dance, the waltz. 1816 *SCOTT Antiq.* xiii, The changes of this trumpery whirligig world. 1840 *HOOD Kilmansegg, Fancy Ball* xxx, She finished off with a whirligig bout. 1879 *Punch* 31 May 256 The whirligig whims of the moment.

Hence 'whirligig v., *intr.* (also with *it*), to turn like a whirligig, to whirl or spin round (whence *whirligigging ppl.* a.).

1598 E. GUILPIN *Skial.* (1878) 35 This mad-cap world, this whirlygigging age. 1687 A. LOVELL *Bergerac's Com. Hist.* 57 These. . . have been constrained to whirlegig it. 1840 *HOOD Up Rhine* 188 Half a score of bouncing girls, ballad singing, and whirligigging. 1872 'ALIPH CHEEM' (Yeldham) *Lays of Ind* (1876) 6 The dancers. . . postured, bobbed, whirligigged, wriggled.

whirligoround: see WHIRLY-.

whirling ('hw3:ln), *vbl. sb.* [f. WHIRL v. + -ING¹.] The action of the verb WHIRL.

1. A turning (swiftly) round; (rapid) rotation, revolution, or circling movement: *spec.* of air or water, as in a whirlwind or eddy; also of persons in a dance, etc.

spec. in *Mech.* (quot. 1894): see WHIRL v. 2. c1398 *CHAUCER Fortune* 11 So mochel hath yit thy whirlynge vp and down I-tawht me. 1423 *JAS. I Kingis Q.* clxv, Sum were slungin, Be quhirlyng of the quhele, vnto

the ground. **1496** Bk. *St. Albans, Fishing* h.v. Yf that there be a manere whyrlunge of water. **1582** BENTLEY *Mon. Matrones* II. 3 This the same vnkowne gift or whirling in my hart, doth bring mee a new desire. **1616** HOLYDAY *Persius, Sat.* v. 138 A base horse-keeper... whom if's Master turne about, I' th' moment of the Whirling he goes out. **1633** T. JAMES *Voy.* 9 We came amongst the most strangest whirlings of the sea. **1636** in *Ann. Dubrensis* (1877) 7 The countrie Wakes, and whirling have appeer'd... like forraigne pastimes. **1699** DAMPIER *Voy.* II. 1. 170 The Sholes probably caused some whirling about of the Tide. **1825** T. Hook *Sayings* Ser. II. *Passion & Princ.* vii. III. 89 The rapid, and as he thought perilous, whirling of the... vehicle. **1835** HOOD *United Family* ix, We none of us that whirling [sc. the waltz] love, Which both our parents disapprove. **1838** HAWTHORNE *Amer. Note-bks.* (1868) I. 187 Where the whirlings of the stream had left the marks of its eddies in the solid marble. **1894** Phil. *Trans.* CLXXXV. 1. 279 The Whirling and Vibration of Shafts.

2. Giddiness, vertigo.

1561 HOLLYBUSH *Hom. Apoth.* 42 The same driueth away... the whirling in the head. **1892** MEREDITH *Poems, Empty Puse* 107 A whirling seized thy head.

3. Hurling, flinging.

1579 RICE *Insect. Vices* Biiij, The whorlyng of the Pottes about the house, the Cardes into the fire.

¶ Misused for HURLING *vbl. sb.* 2 a.

1721 PRIOR *Ess. Opin.* Wks. 1907 II. 201 Bodmin or Truro shal break more Bones at a Whirling in Cornwall than the ablest Surgeon in London shal be able to set.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *whirling speed*; *whirling disease*, a disease of trout caused by the parasitic sporozoan *Myxosoma cerebralis*, which affects the balance of the fish it attacks.

1961 J. I. LENGY et al. tr. A. V. Uspenskaya in G. P. Petrushevski *Parasites & Dis. Fish* 47 One of the most dangerous of the known parasitic diseases is the so-called 'whirling disease'. **1962** *Spec. Sci. Rep. U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service* No. 427. 2/2 Whirling disease appeared in brook trout at the Benner Spring Fish Research Station... in 1956. **1982** *Times* 12 Feb. 4/5 Whirling disease... is a parasite which gets into the skull of trout fry, causing a fish to lose its balance so that it swims round and round until it eventually dies. **1894** Phil. *Trans. R. Soc.* CLXXXV. 283 The whirling speed was taken to be at the commencement of whirl, that is to say, the lowest speed at which the shaft definitely whirled.

'whirling, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING².] That whirls, in various senses of the verb; turning (rapidly) round, rotating, revolving, circling (swiftly); eddying; moving impetuously, etc.

1382 WYCLIF 2 *Peter* ii. 17 Cloudis...driuun with whirling windis. **1387** TREvisa *Higden* (Rolls) II. 51 Woodnesse of... whirlingye water castep vp... grete hepes of grauel. **1450** *Mirk's Festial* 138 What by podyr and by layte... by whyrling-wynde, by mystes. **1545** [see PLAT *sb.*² 7]. **1572** BOSSEWELL *Armorie* II. 90b, The blinde goddess Fortune, with her doble visage, and whirlingye whele. **1581** MULCASTER *Positions* xix. (1888) 80 Children when they had their whirling gigges vnder the deuotion of their scourges. **1622** J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Farew. Tower-Bottles* A 2b, The whirling whele of fickle Fate. **1630** BP. HALL *Occas. Medit.* §13 That whirling Globe of earth. **1697** DRYDEN *Æneis* x. 1264 A whirling Dart he sent. **1762** COWPER *To Miss Macartney* 34 Some Alpine mountain... Thus braves the whirling blast. **1839** URE *Dict. Arts* 1296 The whirling public so blindly follows fashionable caprice in the choice of a carriage. **1872** YEATS *Techn. Hist. Comm.* 273 The whirling and complicated machinery. **1885** T. P. HUGHES *Dict. Islam* 118/1 [The Maulawiyah] are called by Europeans... the 'dancing', or 'whirling' darweshes.

b. fig.

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* 1. v. 133 (Qo. 1) These are but wild and whirling [1623 hurling] words, my Lord. **1633** BP. HALL *Occas. Medit.* §140 Those hurrying and whirling judgements of God. **1684** CRECH *Odes Hor.* III. xxx, Nor whirling Time, nor flight of Years. **1853** DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xxxvi, I cannot say what was in my whirling thoughts. **1855** MILMAN in *Mem.* (1900) 189 Quiet, though in the midst of the whirling city.

c. Special collocations: *whirling blue*, *whirling dun*, names of artificial flies used in angling; *whirling-board* = *whirling-table* (a); *whirling chair*, a chair contrived to rotate rapidly, used in the treatment of insane patients; *whirling-machine* = *whirling-table* (a); *whirling plant*, the 'telegraph-plant', *Desmodium gyrans* (see TELEGRAPH *sb.* 8); *whirling-table*, (a) a machine consisting essentially of a table contrived to revolve rapidly, used for experiments or demonstrations in dynamics or other branches of science; (b) a horizontally rotating disk in a potter's lathe, carrying a mould which shapes the inside of a plate, cup, or other circular piece of ware, while the outside is shaped by a templet above it.

1747 BOWLKER *Art Angling* 73 The little *Whirling Blue... This Fly is only to be Fish'd with... in warm Weather. **1764** J. FERGUSON *Lect.* ii. 19 Which weight... will draw the ball from the edge of the *whirling-board to its center. **1799** UNDERWOOD *Dis. Childhood* (ed. 4) II. 50 Exciting vertigo by placing the patient in a *whirling chair. **1676** COTTON *Angler* II. vii. 61 About the twelfth of this Month [Apr.] comes in the Flie call'd the *whirling Dun. **1843** PENNY *Cycl.* XXVII. 326/1 *Whirling-machine is an apparatus... for the purpose of determining the resistance of the air. **1866** TREAS. *Bot.* 1232/1 *Whirling Plant, *Desmodium gyrans*. **1764** J. FERGUSON *Lect.* ii. 18 The *whirling-table is a machine contrived for shewing experiments of this nature. **1830** KATER & LARDNER *Mech.* viii. 100 An apparatus called a whirling table... for the purpose of exhibiting illustrations of the laws of centrifugal force. **1840** PENNY *Cycl.* XVIII. 473/1 The workman stands at a bench provided with a whirling-table... which has its motion given by a horizontal pulley or

jigger. **1879** PRESCOTT *Sp. Telephone* 262 An attachment to the whirling-table for projecting sound-curves upon a screen.

Hence 'whirlingly *adv.*, with whirling movement (also *fig.*).

1812 W. TENNANT *Anster F.* II. lix, As they trip it whirlingly. **1902** S. E. WHITE *Blazed Trail* viii, The forces of nature... so whirlingly contemptuous of puny human effort.

† *whirling-bone. Obs.* = WHIRL-BONE.

14.. *Voc. Lat.-Angl.* in MS. Harl. 1002 (Varnhagen) 3/172 *Vertebra*, pe whyrlingbone of the kne.

† *whirlpit. Obs.* [f. WHIRL- + PIT *sb.*¹] = WHIRLPOOL² I.

1570 FOXE A. & M. (ed. 2) I. 94/2 [He] ranne into a whurlepyt, where he was drowned. **1599** B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* II. iii. (1600) G, The deepest whirlpit of the rau'nous Seas. **1632** T. TAYLOR *God's Judgem.* I. 1. ix. (1642) 22 To escape the hands of his enemies, he ran into a whirlpit and his body was never found. **1724** DE FOE *Tour Gt. Brit.* I. 92 As if the Water had at once ingulph'd itself in a Chasm of the Earth, or sunk in a Whirlpit.

fig. **1560** BECON *New Catech.* iv. Wks. 1564 I. 420b, To throwe vs headlong into the whourlepytte of euelsing dampnation. **1610** HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 143 England recovered out of the whirlpit of calamities.

† *whirlpool¹. Obs.* Also 6 wherpole, w(h)orpool, etc. [app. an alteration, by popular etymology, of THIRLEPOLL, q.v.] ? The large blowing whale.

1450 Brut II. 603 Ther wer sene in pe Temys at Londen, many whyrlepols, & anoper tyme a whale. **1508** STANBRIDGE *Vulgaria* (W. de W.) Bj, *Balena*, a whyrlepole. **1541** in *Lincoln Porpoise Acts* II. 49 (Linc. Rec. Soc. XII.), Sturgeon, seale, porpoise, wherpole, and such like. **1558** GESNER *Hist. Anim.* iv. 853. **1601** HOLLAND *Pliny* ix. iii. I. 235 The Whales and Whirlepoles called Balenæ. **1678** Yng. *Man's Call.* 301 At Quinborough three great dolphins were taken... and a while after three other fishes, called whirlpools were taken at Gravesend. **1694** MOTTEUX *Rabelais* iv. xxxiii. 131 A huge monstrous Phyetere, a sort of a Whale (which some call a Whirl pool).

whirlpool² ('hwɜ:lpu:l). Also 6 wherpole, whoorlpool, etc. [f. WHIRL- + POOL *sb.*¹ Cf. late OE. *hwyrfeþol* and *wirfelmere*.]

1. a. A place in, or part of, a river or the sea, where the water is in constant (and usually rapid) circular movement, due to the configuration of the channel or bottom, to some obstruction, or to the meeting of adverse currents or wind and tide; a (large and violent) eddy or vortex.

1530 PALSGR. 288/1 Whirpole a depe place in a ryver, where the water tourneth rounde. **1555** EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 75 Many whorlepooles and shelves. **1613** J. SARIS *Voy. Japan* (Hakl. Soc.) 66 Drowned in a wherpole. **1642** FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* II. xi. 94 A guilty conscience is like a whirlpool, drawing in all to itself which otherwise would passe by. **1774** PENNANT *Tour Scot.* in 1772, 359 Eddies and whirlpools rising...with furious boilings. **1815** ELPHINSTONE *Acc. Caubul* (1842) I. 150 The river of Caubul... forms numerous rapids and whirlpools. **1880** GEIKIE *Phys. Geog.* iii. 154 Where the tide is thrown from side to side against sunken rocks, or where two opposing currents meet... the water forms whirlpools.

transf. **1674** N. FAIRFAX *Bull & Selv.* 30 The whirl-pool of the spirits in the blood. **1799** W. TOOKE *View Russ. Emp.* I. 65 Which... buries both men and cattle in whirl-pools of snow and sand. **1903** AGNES M. CLERKE *Probl. Astrophysics* 446 Those cosmic 'whirlpools', every trait of which testifies to the counterplay of multiple activities.

b. *fig.* in various applications: *esp.* a destructive or absorbing agency by which something is figured as engulfed or swallowed up; a scene of confused and turbulent activity.

1529 S. FISH *Supplic. Beggers* 10 Howe all the substaunce of your Realme... rynneth hedlong ynto the insaciabill whyrlepole of these gredi goulafres. **1555** EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 63 Drowned in the whirlepoole of obliuion. **1571** GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* lix. 4 In y^e deepest whoorlpools of aduersities, faith may hold vs vp. **1642** MILTON *Apol. Smet.* x. Wks. 1851 III. 307 The non-resident... Prelats, the gulphs and whirle pooles of benefices, but the dry pits of all sound doctrine. **1654** WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 419 In the midst of the Whirl-pooles of Change. **1704** T. BROWN *Walk round Lond., Coffee-Houses* (1709) 36 The Whirl-pool of Poetry suck'd me in, and I fell a Rhiming. **1831** JAMES PHILIP *Aug.* xliii, What a whirlpool of contending feelings! **1863** DICKENS *Uncomm.* Trav. xxii, You may revolve in a whirlpool of red shirts, shaggy beards [etc.]. **1888** BRYCE *Amer. Commu.* xcvi. III. 362 Europeans... have assumed... that public life will draw... enough of the highest ability into its whirlpool.

c. A bath or pool with underwater jets of hot, usu. aerated, water, used for purposes of physiotherapy or relaxation; also, a pumping unit for producing such jets. *orig. U.S.*

1975 *Sports Illustrated* Aug. 41 Sportswriters let you know they are on such intimate terms with an athlete that they can interview him in 'the whirlpool'. *Ibid.* 42/3 Last year Underwriters' Laboratories... dropped its long-standing approval of portable whirlpools whose unit, motor and all, goes into the water. **1976** *Billings* (Montana) *Gaz.* 16 June 8-A/3 (Advnt.), Relaxing, soothing whirlpool... Directional nozzle, aerator, timer, handle. **1978** *Detroit Free Press* 5 Mar. D17/2 (Advnt.), Entertainment and dancing in the Wharf Lounge. Indoor pool, sauna, whirlpool, charming restaurants. **1980** D. WILLIAMS *Murder for Treasure* ix. 86 The heated indoor whirlpool... measures twelve feet across. **1985** *Brit. Med. Jnrl.* 6 Apr. 1024/1 The whirlpool or Jacuzzi is a North American invention which has flourished there since the early 1970s but has only

recently been introduced into Britain. Hot water is agitated mechanically through pressurised jets in a large tub and gives the bather a pleasurable sensation. Bathing in the company of others is usual.

2. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* iv. ii, They have...sunke the tossed galleasse in depth Of whirlepoole scorn. **1647** H. MORE *Song of Soul* iv. *Oracle* 34 Bitter wave of troubled flesh, And whirl-pool-turnings of the lower spright. **1664** POWER *Exp. Philos.* III. 159 To recoil by a double whirl-pool-motion. **1902** *Westm. Gaz.* 6 Mar. 6/2 The whirl-pool rapids [of the Niagara].

b. (In sense 1 c above.)

1950 *Life & Health* Oct. 8/2 Whirlpool baths have stimulating effects. **1972** 'E. LATHEN' *Murder without Icing* (1973) xii. 113 It's more like a country club...saunas and whirlpool baths, cocktail bars and singles nights. **1975** *Sports Illustrated* Aug. 42/2 Doctors generally agree on the salubrious effects of whirlpool therapy. **1978** *Official Gaz.* (U.S. Patent Office) 13 June TM 88/1 Jacuzzi Bros Inc., Little Rock, Ark... *Jacuzzi*... For hydro-therapy products...therapeutic whirlpool baths and parts thereof. **1984** *Miami Herald* 6 Apr. 150/5 (Advnt.), Bayside pool, sundeck and whirlpool spa. **1984** *Listener* 19 July 17/4 (Advnt.), For couples who want to get away together...4 poster beds, water beds—with whirlpool bath en suite.

Hence 'whirlpooling *ppl. a.*, circling or eddying like a whirlpool.

1861 T. WINTHROP *Life in Open Air* (1863) 48 A birch [canoe]...lies, light as a leaf, on whirlpooling surfaces.

'whirl-puff. *Obs. exc. dial.* (also whirli-puff). [f. WHIRL- + PUFF *sb.* after WHIRLWIND.] A puff or gust of wind such as raises dust in a whirl or eddy; also †a whirlwind. Also *fig.*

1382 WYCLIF *Wisd.* v. 24 As a whirle puff of wind. **1601** HOLLAND *Pliny* II. xlviii. I. 24 A whirlepuffe or gust called Typhon. **1609** — *Amm. Marcell.* 41 Whiles some... pestiferous whirle-puffe raiseth up still these miseries of common mischiefs in the State. **1637** WHITING *Albino & Bellama* 116 A shuffling whirle-puffe roar'd amongst the trees. **1640** G. ABBOT *Job Paraphr.* 183 As the whirlepufft [sic] lifts up the dust. **1854** MISS BAKER *Northampt. Gloss.*, *Whirli-puff*, a sudden gust of wind driving the dust into an eddy. **1899** DICKINSON & PREVOST *Cumbld. Gloss.*, *Whirl-puff*, a small whirl-wind such as will form dust spirals on a dusty road in summer.

† *whirlwater. Obs.* [f. WHIRL- + WATER *sb.*] A waterspout.

1626 in *Crt. & Times Chas. I.* (1848) I. 114, I hear of a whirlwater upon the Thames. *Ibid.*, The breaking...of the whirlwater, or, as some call it, the water-pillar.

whirlwig ('hwɜ:lwig). = WHIRLIGIG 4.

1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xvi. (1818) II. 4 The little beetles called whirlwigs (*Gyrinus*, L.),... seem to...form their assemblies... to enjoy together... the mazy dance. **1826** *Ibid.* xxix. III. 80 The whirlwig-beetle (*Gyrinus natator*). **1877** WOOD *Nature's Teach.*, *Nautical* ii. 22 The common Whirlwig-beetle... may be found in nearly every puddle.

whirlwind ('hwɜ:lwind), *sb.* [f. WHIRL- + WIND *sb.*, prob. after ON. *hvirfilvindr* (obs. Da. *hverrelvind*, Sw. *virvelvind*), whence Du. *wervelwind*, G. *wirbelwind*.]

1. A whirling or rotating wind; an atmospheric eddy or vortex; a body of air moving rapidly in a circular or upward spiral course around a vertical or slightly inclined axis which has also a progressive motion over the surface of land or water.

In its larger forms it constitutes a violent and destructive storm, as a cyclone or tornado; over a body of water it sometimes causes a waterspout, over a sandy or dusty region a sand-pillar or dust-whirl.

1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* Cant. 511 Cumand as whirlwynd to skatire me. **1387** TREvisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 159 Sodenly a whirlewynd comynge caste down the dores. **1400** *Gloss.* in *Rel. Ant.* I. 6/2 *Turbo*, the qwyrlwynde. **1440** *Alphabet of Tales* 321 be fend flow away in liknes of a whorle-wynd. **1585** FORMAN *Arg.* (MS. Ashm. 208, ff. 239b) Elyas was taken up Within a whorrell-winde. **1596** *Edw. III.* III. i, As when a wherle winde takes the Summer dust And scatters it. **1611** *Bible* Job xxxviii. 1 Then the Lord answered Iob out of the whirlewind. **1633** G. HERBERT *Temple, Giddinesse* iv, As if a whirlewinde blew And crusht the building. **1706** PRIOR *Ode to Queen* vii, Swift as the Whirlwind drives Arabia's scatter'd Sands. **1764** GOLDSM. *Trav.* 207 The loud torrent, and the whirlwind's roar. **1858** MAURY *Phys. Geog.* Sea ii. §94 All boys are familiar with miniature whirlwinds on shore...sweeping along the roads... raising columns of dust, leaves, etc., which...gyrate about the...axis of the storm. **1882** 'OUIDA' *In Maremma* viii, Herds of buffaloes...rushed, like a whirlwind themselves, towards the shelter of the thickets.

2. *transf.* and *fig.* Something rushing impetuously like a whirlwind; a violent or destructive agency; a confused and tumultuous process or condition.

to sow the wind and reap the whirlwind (Hos. viii. 7): to indulge in reckless wickedness or folly, and suffer the disastrous consequences.

1382 WYCLIF *Hosea* viii. 7 Thei shuln sowe wynd, and repe whirlwynd. **1590** *Tarlton's Neues Purgatorie* 3 Either a mans soule must in post haste goe presently to God, or else with a whirlewind and a vengeance goe to the diuell. **1609** HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* xv. iv. 35 A tempestuous whirlewind of new calamities. **1667** MILTON *P.L.* I. 77 O'rewhelm'd With Floods and Whirlwinds of tempestuous fire. **1714** [BLANCH] *Beaux Merchant* II. 18 What my Landlady put into her Soup, I can't tell; but...I had a Whirlwind in my Belly. **1816** SCOTT *Bl. Dwarf* xviii, It is sowing the wind to reap the whirlwind. **1837** DICKENS *Pickw.* xxviii, Mr. Pickwick concluded amidst a whirlwind of applause. **1840** ALISON *Hist. Eur.* lxii. VIII. 353 The foot

soldiers in the rear..were instantly enveloped by a whirlwind of horse. **1855** KINGSLEY *Glaucaus* 3 Free from the cares of town business, and the whirlwind of town pleasure. **1857** BUCKLE *Civiliz.* I. xii. 699 To see whether they who had raised the storm could ride the whirlwind. **1918** *Times Lit. Suppl.* 21 Mar. 139/1 The verbal whirlwind of his [sc. Swinburne's] later utterance.

3. attrib. Of or pertaining to a whirlwind; resembling a whirlwind, violent, impetuous; *spec.* applied to something done in great haste.

1614 GORGES *Lucan* v. 199 Rockes..ouerturn'd with whirle-wind shocks. **1750** GRAY *Long Story* 60 Upstairs in a whirlwind rattle. **1828** CARLYLE *Misc.* (1857) I. 120 With a whirlwind impetuosity he rushes forth. **1865** PARKMAN *Huguenots* ix. (1875) 157 A whirlwind visitation—to ravage, ruin, and vanish. **1942** [see ROMANCE *sb.* 5]. **1952** J. L. WATEN *Alien Son* 87 Auntie Fanny lived her own life, never commenting on her husband's whirlwind comings and goings. **1969** 'D. SHANNON' *Crime on their Hands* vii. 99 We only got engaged last week. It was a whirlwind romance. **1977** D. E. WESTLAKE *Nobody's Perfect* 65 Jet-setter Arnold Chauncey, just back from his whirlwind tour of Brasilia. **1984** *Times* 20 Feb. 10/2 His whirlwind investigation of NHS management.

4. Comb., as whirlwind-footed, -peopled, -rified *adjs.*; *whirlwind-like* *adj.* and *adv.*

1820 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* iii. iii. 77 *Whirlwind-footed coursers. **1876** SWINBURNE *Erechtheus* 433 A whirlwind-footed bridegroom. **1598** SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. *Handycrafts* 448 The flying ayre he catches, Born *whirl-winde-like. **1670** DRYDEN *Tyrannick Love* v. i. Who . . . Whirlwind-like, around him drove the Air. **1837** CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. i. ii, Democracy announcing, . . . that she is born, and whirlwind-like, will envelope the whole world. **1840** CHAMB. *Jrnl.* 18 Apr. 104/2 He had heard a whirlwind-like noise. **1820** SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* I. 204 *Mid *whirlwind-peopled mountains. **1818** — *Rosal. & Helen* 1158 *Whirlwind-rifted clouds.

Hence (*nonce-wds.*) **'whirlwind** *v., intr.* to rush impetuously like a whirlwind; **'whirlwindish, 'whirlwindy** *adjs.*, resembling a whirlwind.

1892 BLACK *Wolfenber* xxii, Thus bereft of her usual whirlwindish activity. **1894** 'MARK TWAIN' *Let.* 22 Dec. (1917) II. 617 These salvation-notions that were whirlwinding through my head. **1895** HOLMAN-HUNT in *Daily News* 14 Aug. 6/2 Paris, where young professors go whirlwinding in what they call study for a time. **1903** *Blackw. Mag.* Apr. 473/1 Its whirlwindy approach.

whirl-worm ('hw3:lw3:m). Also 7 whurl(e-). [f. WHIRL- + WORM *sb.*]

† **1. An insect larva destructive to plants.** *Obs.* In quot. 1643 tr. L. *convolvulus* a caterpillar that rolls itself up in a leaf; in quot. 1658 tr. mod. L. *verticillus*, Gr. *σφινδύλη*.

1643 HORN & ROB. *Gate Lang. Unl.* (1650) xix. §217 Earth-worms gnaw upon muck-hills. . . , moths on garments, . . . whirl-worms [margin, The divels gold-ring] on vines. **1658** ROWLAND tr. *Moufet's Theat. Ins.* 1042 The Northern English call it Andever; the Southern, Whurlworm, that is, a Whirl or little hairy Worm with many feet. . . I. . . collect. . . that there are two kinds of Whurlworms; one about houses, another in the fields.

2. A turbellarian worm. *rare*—0. (? An error.) **1891** in *Cent. Dict.*

whirly ('hw3:l), *a. rare.* Also -ey. [f. WHIRL *sb.* or *v.* + -Y¹.] Characterized by whirling or rotatory movement.

1806 *Spirit Publ. Jrnls.* X. 170 Thames, in whirly dimples flowing. **1887** MEREDITH *Poems, Last Contention* vii, A whirly tune These winds will pipe. **1895** — *Amazing Marr.* xxxvii, A skimming sense of a drop upon a funny, whirly world.

'whirly-, *obs.* or *dial. var.* of *whirl-* in comb., as † **whirly-bat**, † **whirly-pool**, **whirly-wind** = WHIRLBAT, -POOL, -WIND (cf. *whirligig* and *whirlgig*); also **whirly-go-round** (also *whirligoround*), a merry-go-round; † **whirly-hole** (see quot.); † **whirly-rock**, a spiral or turbinate fossil shell; **whirly-whirly**, (a) a dentist's drill (*nonce-use*); (b) *Austral.*, a whirling air current or dust cloud.

1725 BAILEY *Erasm. Colloq.* (1733) 42 The fighting with *Whirly-bats. **1865** MEREDITH *Rhoda Fleming* xliii, He was a faithful servant, till one day he got up on a regular *whirly-go-round, and ever since . . . such a little boy! **1871** — *Harry Richmond* xlvii, Like one who has been gazing on the whirligoround, he saw the whole of women running or . . . waiting . . . to run the giddy ring to perdition. **1886** PLOT *Staffordsh.* 172 At Kinfare Towne, . . . there goes another hole into the rock, . . . call'd *whirleyhole, from the Eddy of water the River makes at the mouth of it. **1727** BAILEY (Vol. II.), *Whirly-pool. **1892** MEREDITH *Ode, To Comic Spirit* 87 These . . . Would keep our life the whirly pool Of turbid stuff. **1904** RICKERT *Reaper* xix, There's often whirly-pools in the sea. **1681** GREW *Museum* 111. 1. i. 265 A piece of *Whirly-Rock. *Turbinites Saxum*. **1928** A. P. HERBERT *Trials of Topsy* xii. 73 He thrust the *whirly-whirly inch by inch into the very dome of a girl's head. **1930** V. PALMER *Men are Human* xiii. 112 A cool breeze . . . raised little whirly-whirlies of dust. **1959** *Listener* 15 Jan. 113/1 The dust whirls and capers into fantastic whirly-whirlies. **1972** *Southerly* XXXII. 4 A small whirly-whirly swept down the verandah, lifting dust and lolly papers in a mini-spiral. **14..** *Trevisa's Barth. De P.R.* xi. iv. (Bodl. MS.), *Whirly winde and a raynye cloude.

whirlybird ('hw3:lɪb3:d). *slang* (orig. U.S.). [f. WHIRLY- + BIRD *sb.*] A helicopter.

1951 *Air Facts* 1 July 30/1 The biggest untold story out of Korea is of a few score unarmed American helicopters and a handful of pilots who have flown themselves and their 'whirlybirds' into military history. **1959** *Sunday Times* 26 Apr. 31/4 The noise which piston-engined 'whirly-birds' inevitably make causes no nuisance to workers in London.

1983 *Chicago Sun-Times* 28 July 82/1 The Bellwood-based whirlybird company has asked Civil Aeronautics Board approval to operate regularly scheduled flights.

whirne, *obs.* form of QUERN *sb.*¹

1588 *Wills & Inv. Durham* (Surtees) II. 328, j paire off pepper whirnes.

whirr, whir (hw3:(r)), *sb.* Forms: 5 *Sc.* qwirre, 6 *Sc.* quhir, 6–7 whurre, 7 whirre, 7–8 whur, 8–9 whurr, 9 whirr, whir. [See next.]

† **1. Violent or rapid movement, rush, hurry;** the force or impetus of such movement. *Obs.*

Sometimes approaching sense 2; but in early use the stress is on the movement rather than the sound.

a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 560 All flames þe flode as it fire were, . . . And þan ouer-qwelmys in a qwirre. *Ibid.* 1854 In a qwirre [v.r. whirre] as þe quele turnes. **1513** DOUGLAS *Æneis* XII. v. 114 The sovir schaft flaw quhisland wyth a quhir. **a 1553** UDALL *Royster D.* i. iii. (Arb.) 20 No haste but good, . . . for whip and whurre The olde prouerbe doth say, neuer made good furre.

† **b. fig.** Commotion of mind or feeling; a mental or nervous shock. *Obs.*

1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. [i.] xl. 121 Knowing himselfe chollericke, and in that whirre of the mind, apt to rush vpon foule transgression. **1702** VANBRUGH *False Friend* v. i, I'm mightily muddled with a Whur—round about in my head. **1728** VANBR. & CIB. *Prov. Husb.* II. i, They slupt the Door full in my Feace, and gave me such a whurr here—I thought they had beaten my brains out!

2. A continuous vibratory sound, such as that made by the rapid fluttering of a bird's or insect's wings, by a wheel turning swiftly, or by a body rushing through the air.

1677 N. COX *Gentl. Recr.* II. 168 Whur is the rising and fluttering of Partridge or Pheasant. **1774** GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1824) II. 346 The Goat-sucker . . . makes a loud singular noise, like the whirr of a spinning-wheel. **1829** SOUTHEY *All for Love* II. x, A whirr of unseen wings he heard. **1837** CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. II. iii, The wide simultaneous whirr of shouldered muskets. **1847** LONGF. *Ev.* I. i. 23 Shuttles . . . Mingled their sound with the whir of the wheels. **1887** HALL CAINE *Son of Hagar* III. v, Between the whirrs of the wind he heard the tinkle of the signal bell. **1893** TOUT *Edw. I.* xi. (1896) 196 The king's horse took fright at the whirr of the sails of a windmill.

fig. **1874** MEREDITH *Let. to Capt. Maxse* 5 Aug., I do not see my way out of the encircling whirr of work.

whirr, whir, v. (adv., int.) Forms: 5 *Sc.* quirr(e, quir, quhir, 5–7 whirre, 6 *Sc.* quhirr(e, quhyrr(e, 7 whurre, 7, 9 whurr, 8 whur, 7– whirr, whir. [The early occurrence of this vb. and the related sb. in northern texts makes a Scandinavian origin probable; cf. Da. *hvirre*:—**hvirve*, Norw. *kvirra*, Sw. dial. *hvirra*, app. assimilated forms of a verb **hvirfa* (cf. ON. *hverfa* WHARVE *v.*), related to *hvirfill*, *hvirfla* WHIRL. In later use the Eng. verb has been reinforced by onomatopœia.]

1. trans. † **a.** To throw or cast with violence and noise; to fling, hurl. *Obs.*

a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 2226 Othire athils of armes Albastis bendis, Quirys [v.r. whirres] out quarrels. **1605** SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iii. *Captains* 516 The foremost Ranks it [sc. hailshot] whirr'd Upon the next, the second on the third.

b. To carry or hurry along, to move or stir, with a rushing or vibratory sound. (In mod. use *causal* from 2.)

1608 SHAKS. *Per.* IV. i. 21 A lasting storme, whirring me from my friends. **1909** *Nation* 27 Nov. 363/1 They whirred their wings. **1921** A. F. ROBERTSON *Story of Pam* ix, As he was 'whirred' through the night.

2. intr. To move swiftly in some way (rush, fly, dart, flutter, turn, etc.) with a continuous vibratory sound, as various birds, rapidly revolving wheels, bodies flying quickly through the air, etc.

a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 1556 All þe cite . . . felowis him eftir, Quirris [v.r. whirrez] furth all in quite. **1513** DOUGLAS *Æneis* XII. xiv. 96 Furth flaw the schaft. . . And quhirrand smait him throw the thee. **1605** SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iii. III. *Law* 779 As the poor Partridge, cover'd with the net, In vain doth strive, . . . For, the close meshes . . . Suffer the same no more to whurre aloft. **1606** CHAPMAN *Gentl. Usher* III. ii. 14 The great wheeles, Turning but softly, make the lesse to whirre About their businesse. **1728–46** THOMSON *Spring* 692 With stealthy wing, . . . Amid a neighbouring bush they silent drop, And whirring thence, . . . deceive The unfeeling school-boy. **1830** LYTTON *Paul Clifford* xii, The distant wheel of a carriage whirred on the ear. **1859** H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* xxviii, Through the grassy flat, where the quail whirred before them. **1864** SKEAT tr. *Umland's Poems* 356 Hark! arrows are whirring, swords clash in the fray. **1899** WERNER *Captain of Locusts* 25 The locusts whirred up round his horse's hoofs.

3. Without implication of onward movement: To make or emit a vibratory sound.

1804 A. WILSON in *Poems & Lit. Prose* (1876) II. 359 The squirrel chipped, the tree frog whirred. **1886** STEVENSON *Kidnapped* xxii, Grasshoppers whirring in the grass. **1899** J. L. WILLIAMS *Stolen Story* etc. 154 The telephone bell whirred. **1905** A. C. BENSON *Upton Lett.* 83 The casements whirr, the organ speaks.

b. dial. To snarl or growl; to purr.

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *To Whur*, to snarl, as a Dog does. **1843** J. BALLANTINE *Gabrielunzie's Wallet* 209 At your feet. . . Whurrs your wee catty. **1847** HALLIWELL, *Whurr*, to growl, as a dog.

4. The verb-stem as int. or adv., expressing a sudden or rapid movement with vibratory sound.

1600 *Dr. Dodypoll* III. D 4 b, Whirre, I haue strooke him vnder the shorte ribs. **a 1625** FLETCHER *Fair Maid Inn* v. i, You demand if I am guilty, whir says my cloak by a trick of Legerdemain, now I am not guilty. **1826** DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* VI. i, Whirr! the exploded cork whizzed through the air. **1836** T. HOOK *G. Gurney* v. (1850) I. 87 Whurr went the pheasants—bang went the barrels. **1844** KINGLAKE *Eothen* i, Whirr! whirr! all by wheels!—whiz! whiz! all by steam! **1858** THACKERAY *Virgin*. xxxix, Whirr came the wheels—the carriage stopped at the very door.

whirra ('hwɪrə). [f. WHIRR, WHIR *sb.*] A whirring sound that varies in quality. (The examples are *Austral.*)

1929 K. S. PRICHARD *Coonardoo* i. 14 The pigeon flew off with a whirra of grey silken wings. **1969** H. WILLARD in P. A. SMITH *Folklore Austral. Railwaymen* 174 Within two minutes whirra whirra whirra, the spears and boomerangs were coming over our heads.

whirra, -oo, whirret: see WIRRA, WHERRET.

whirrick, variant of WHERRET.

1760–72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) I. iii. 17 Harry . . . gave master such a whirrick, that his cries instantly sounded the *ne plus ultra* to such kind of diversions.

whirring ('hw3:ɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. WHIRR *v.* + -ING¹.] The action of the verb WHIRR; a continuous vibratory sound, or movement with such a sound.

1581 A. HALL *Iliad* II. 30 This speech . . . doth greatly ioy the Greekes, They such a noyse and whirring made. **1598** SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. *Furies* 115 The first-mov'd heav'n (in't self it self stil stirring) Raps with his course (quicker then windes swift whirring) All th' other Spears. **1811** SHELLEY *St. Iruyne* ix. Pr. Wks. 1888 I. 190 Save by the whirrings of the bats, the stillness . . . was uninterrupted. **1840** THACKERAY *George Cruikshank* (1869) 305 What a pious whirring of bible leaves one hears all over the church. **1863** BATES *Nat. Amazons* I. i. 9 The whirring of cicadas. **1918** H. BINDLOSS *Agatha's Fortune* II, An electric fan made an unpleasant whirring.

'whirring, ppl. a. [f. as prec. + -ING².] That whirrs; moving with or making a vibratory sound; also said of the sound.

c 1480 HENRYSON *Trial of Fox* 116 The quhuirand [v.r. quhryrand] quhitret with the quhasill went. **c 1611** CHAPMAN *Iliad* XVII. 399 The whirring chariot. **1611** COTGR., *Roncé*, hurled; or making a whurring noise, as a stone, &c., cast with violence. **1704** POPE *Windsor Forest* 111 From the brake the whirring pheasant springs. **1783** BURNS 'Now westlin winds' i, The moorcock springs, on whirring wings, Among the blooming heather. **1830** TENNYSON *Owl* i, The whirring sail goes round. **1841** JAMES *Corse de Leon* III, The whirring scream of the night hawk.

whirrit, whirroll, *obs.* ff. WHERRET, WHIRL *sb.*

'whirry, sb. ? *Obs.* In 7 wherry, whurrie. [Cf. next.] **a.** A rapid or sudden movement. **b.** Activity.

1611 COTGR., *Bacule*, a square, and heaueie dore. . . let fal (as a Portcullis) in a trice, with a whurrie. **1622** MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* 1. 229 A company of beetle-heads, dull-spirited fellows, that had no wherry in them. **1675** COVEL in *Early Voy. Levant* (Hakl. Soc.) 214 At last, with a merry wherry of their musick, they turn round (as the Dervises) a long time.

whirry ('hwɪrɪ), *v.* Now *Sc.* Forms: 6 whirrye, -ie, 7 whurru, wherry, 7, 9 *Sc.* whirry. [? f. WHIRR + -Y, after *hurry*.]

1. trans. To carry or drive swiftly; to hurry along. Also *fig.*

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 89 Hoyse me hence . . . too sum oother countrye me whirrye. **1621** T. BEDFORD *Sin unto Death* 29 The . . . sea that is . . . whirried and tossed with a tempestuous winde. **1660** BONDE *Scut. Reg.* 51 As the unruly quadrupedes whirried about the Chariot, . . . untill they had set the whole world on fire. **a 1756** HALKET in W. WALKER *Bards Bon-Accord* (1887) 205 Ill boding comets blaze o'erhead, O whirry whigs awa', man. **1820** SCOTT *Monast.* Introd. Ep., 'Some of the quality, that were o' his ain unhappy persuasion, had the corpse whirried away up the water.'

fig. **1619** SCLATER *Expos. 1 Thess.* v. 21. 548 Giddie and inconstant people, wherried about with every blast of vaine Doctrine. **1621** T. WILLIAMSON tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* 58 Whurried about with intemperate lusts and desires. **1675** T. BROOKS *Gold. Key* 4 A Christian is sometimes wherried and whirled away by sin before he is a ware.

2. intr. To move or go rapidly, hurry.

c 1630 *Robin Goodfellow in Roxb. Ball.* (1874) II. 82 Through pooles and ponds, I whirry, laughing, ho, ho, hol **1691** SIR T. P. BLOUNT *Ess.* 103 When once the spoke of the Wheel is uppermost, it soon whurries to the bottom. **1818** SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xviii, Her and the gudeman will be whirring through the blue lift on a broom-shank. **1920** BLUNDEN *Waggoner* 24, I whirry through the dark.

whirry ('hw3:ɪ), *a.* [f. WHIRR, WHIR *sb.* + -Y¹.] Characterized by, or of the nature of, a whirr.

1936 E. DARK *Return to Coolami* xiv. 142 There are the locusts beginning. . . A nice noise, whirry, hot, drowsy. **1982** *Financial Times* 25 Sept. 6/6 Intal suffered from the disadvantage that it could only be taken by the patient by means of a rather complex, whirry machine called the 'Spinhaler'.

whirry, *obs.* form of QUARRY *sb.*¹

whirtle, variant of WORTLE.

whiruel (1, obs. forms of WHIRL *sb.*

whish (hwɪʃ), *sb.* [Imitative.] A soft sibilant sound, as that of something moving rapidly through the air or over the surface of water. Cf. SWISH *sb.*¹ 1.

1808 JAMIESON, *Whish, whush*, a rushing or whizzing sound. 1850 MAYNE REID *Rifle Rangers* I. viii. 103 The 'whish' of a rocket attracted our attention. 1863 POWER *Arab. Days & Nts.* 25 The noises on deck, and the whish of the water through which we were rapidly . . . cutting our way. 1890 HALLETT *Thous. Miles* 453 The howls of these poor creatures, together with the whish of the cane, is heard through the city.

whish, *a.*¹ Obs. exc. *dial.* [Cf. WHISHT and WHUSH.] Hushed, silent: = WHISHT *a.*¹, WHIST *a.*¹

a 1612 HARINGTON *Epigr.* I. xxvii. (1618) B7, You tooke my answer well, and all was whish.

whish, *a.*² (*dial.*): see WISHT.

whish (hwɪʃ), *v.*¹ Also 6 *whysse*. [Imitative.] Hence **whishing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1. *intr.* To utter the syllable 'whish' or a sound resembling it; *trans.* to drive or chase by crying 'whish!'

1518 *Sel. Cases Star Chamber* (Selden Soc.) II. 133 [He] whysshyd them booth owte of the churche. 1538 BALE *Three Lawes* Biiijb. With whysperynge and whysshynge. 1842 *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 243/1 He [sc. an ostler] had relieved the process of whish—whishing at the horses, in imparting [etc.]. 1897 J. HOCKING *Birthright* ii, We heard them 'whishing' up the sheep.

2. To make a soft sibilant sound of this kind, as a body rushing through air or water, or the wind among trees, etc.

1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* Aa ivb, What a whishynge of the wynde is yonder. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Bruma spirans* . . whishyng with winde. 1856 S. ROGERS *Table-Talk* 11 You could hear the whishing sound of the ladies' trains. 1860 O. W. HOLMES *Prof. Breakf.-t. vi*, The lightning-express-train whishes by a station. 1929 R. GRAVES *Good-bye to all That* xiii. 153, I heard one shell whish-whishing towards me. 1939 L. MACNEICE *Autumn Jynl.* xiv. 54 The wheels whished in the wet. 1959 R. BRADBURY *Day it rained Forever* 214 Wouldn't it be nice to take a Sunday walk the way we used to do, with your silk parasol and your long dress whishing along?

whish, *v.*² Now *dial.* Also 6 *whysh*. [f. WHISH *int.*¹; cf. WHISHT *v.*, WHIST *v.*¹]

1. *trans.* To silence, put to silence, hush.

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 287b, Pompeius cooled & whyshed hym in this whyse. 1684 O. HEYWOOD *Diaries* (1885) IV. 111 Sir Jo. Kay silenced and whisht him.

2. *intr.* To be silent or quiet.

1607 TOMKIS *Lingua* iv. viii, Why do you whish thus? here's none to heare you. 1876 BLACKMORE *Cripps* xlix, Whish!—can't 'ee whish, with my name so pat?

whish, *int.*¹ Now *dial.* Also 9 *Sc. wheesh*. [Cf. HUSH *int.*, WHISHT *int.*] An exclamation to command silence: Hush!

1635 QUARLES *Embl.* II. viii. 9 Whish, lullaby, . . . What ayles my Babe to cry? 1675 COVEL in *Early Voy. Levant* (Hakluyt Soc.) 194 All the waiters cry'd: Whish, whish, etc. in token of silence. 1858 TROLLOPE *Dr. Thorne* xix, 'A good dinner now and then is a very good thing.' 'Yes; but I don't like eating it with hogs.' 'Whish-h; softly, softly, Mr. Gresham, or you'll disturb Mr. Apjohn's digestion.' 1876 [see prec. 2].

whish, *int.*² Also 6 *Sc. quishch*. Imitation of a soft sibilant or rushing sound, as of something moving rapidly through the air, etc.

1535 LYNDSEAY *Satyre* 1920 Gif that 3our mawline cryis quishch. 1692 D. LAWSON in G. L. BURT *Narr. Witchcraft Cases* (1914) 153 Makeing as if she would fly, stretching up her arms as high as she could, and crying 'Whish, Whish, Whish!' 1839 HOOD *Sonn. to Vauxhall* 9 Whish—ish!—On high The rocket rushes. 1849 CUPPLES *Green Hand* vii, Whish! rush! came the rain in sheets and bucketfuls. 1894 FENN *Real Gold* xxiii, Whish, whirr, came a peculiar sound.

whishin, obs. form of CUSHION.

whisht (hwɪʃt), *sb.* Also 9 *Sc. wheesht*, *wheisht*. [f. WHISHT *int.*]

1. An utterance of 'whisht!' to enjoin silence: cf. WHIST *sb.*² 1.

1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* 106 A Whisht is when we bid them holde their peace that haue least cause to speake. 1908 WEYMAN *Wild Geese* viii, What do you mean with your 'whisht's' and your nods?

2. Silence; in phr. to *hold one's whisht*, to keep silence. *Sc.*

1785 BURNS *Vision* I. 43, I held my whisht; The infant aith, half-form'd, was crusht. 1824 MACTAGGART *Gallowid. Encycl.* s.v. *Wheesht*, Haud your wheesht, be silent. 1895 CROCKETT *Men of Moss-Hags* xxxv, You ken naught about it. You had better hold your wheesht.

3. A whisper; with negative = 'not a whisper', not the least utterance. *Sc.*

a 1774 FERGUSSON *Ecl. Poet.* Wks. (1800) 89 Be you as calm's a mouse, Nor let your whisht be heard. 1881 WALFORD *Dick Netherby* v, There is na a wheesht against him.

whisht (hwɪʃt), *a.*¹ Now *dial.* Also 6 *whysht* (e, 9 *Sc. wheesht*. [A variant of WHIST *a.*¹; cf. WHISHT *int.*] Silent, quiet, still, hushed.

1570 T. WILSON *Demosth. Orat.*, *Life* 117 He desired . . . to tell them a merie tale. Where vpon when euery man was whisht and still, he sayde thus. 1615 BRIGHTMAN *Rev.* 143 Reprehensions are whisht, wickednes raigneth. 1802 R. ANDERSON *Cumbl'd. Ball.* (1805) 5 As whisht as a mouse. 1893 STEVENSON *Catrina* xv, Nights . . . when he was here on sentry, the place a' wheesht.

Hence 'whishtly *adv.*, silently, quietly.

1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. John* xvi. 23–28, I shall than speake vnto you whishtlye and without woordes.

whisht, *a.*² (*dial.*): see WISHT.

whisht, *v.* Now *dial.* Also 9 *Sc. wheesht*. [f. WHISHT *int.* Cf. WHISH *v.*², WHIST *v.*¹]

1. *intr.* To be silent, keep silence.

1815 SCOTT *Guy M. xlviii*, Wasp—Wasp, whisht, hinny . . . and let's hear what they're doing.—Deil's in ye, will ye whisht? 1894 'J. S. WINTER' *Red Coats* 50 'Whisht, woman, whisht,' interposed Trueman . . . 'No, I just won't whisht, William Trueman.'

2. *trans.* To put to silence, silence, hush.

1804 R. COUPER *Poetry* II. 11 (Eng. Dial. Dict.) A weel-claw'd luif whishts the harangue. 1897 C. M. CAMPBELL *Deilie Jock* iv, Wheesht your gab.

whisht (hwɪʃt), *int.* Now *dial.* Also 5 *whischt*, 7–9 *wheesht*. [A natural utterance, nearly identical with the 16th c. *huissht* (see HUSHT *int.*¹), and with WHIST *int.*¹] An exclamation enjoining silence: Hush!

14 . . Whisht, whisht [see quot. 1382 s.v. WHIST *int.*¹]. 1684 [MERITON] *Yorksh. Dial.* 53 Wheesht, wheesht, my Mother's coming up. 1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* III. i. Prol., But whisht! it is the Knight in Masquerade, That comes. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xlv, But whisht, I hear the keeper coming. 1893 STEVENSON *Catrina* xxx, 'Wheesht!' said he, 'this is my affairs'.

whisk (hwɪsk), *sb.*¹ Forms: 4–6 *Sc. wysk*, 5–6 *Sc. quhisk*, 5–9 *wisk*, 6 *whysk*, 6–7 *whiske*, 7 *wiske*, 6– *whisk*. [orig. *wisk*, *wysk*, and first in *Sc.* texts; partly f. WHISK *v.*, partly ad. Scandinavian *sb.* represented by ON. *wisk* wisp, Sw. *wiska* besom, wisp, swab, Norw. *wisk* wisp, cluster, pull, tug = OHG. *wisc* (MHG., G. *wisch*) wisp of hay, dish-clout, (M)DU. *wisch* wisp, LG. *wisk* quick movement, moment of time: see WHISK *v.*]

I. 1. A brief rapid sweeping movement; a sudden light stroke, rush, dart, etc.; a light stroke of a brush or other sweeping implement. Also *transf.* and *fig.*

In later use regarded as noun of action from the verb (*quasi* an act of whisking); but evidenced in quot. earlier than the verb.

with a *whisk* becomes phrasal = in an instant, in a flash: similarly in a *whisk*.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* v. 641 The king . . . Vaitit the sper . . . And with a wysk the hed of-strak. c 1480 HENRYSON *Paddock & Mouse* 122 With ane wysk . . . He claucht his cluik betuix thame. a 1510 DOUGLAS K. Hart 1. 199 Fresche Bewtie with ane wysk come vp belyve. 1577 STANYHURST *Deser. Irel.* 18/1 in *Holinshed*, Sodaynly it [sc. a salmon] fetetheth such a round Whiske, that at a trice it skippeth to the top of the rocke. a 1586 MONTGOMERIE *Misc. Poems* iii. 28 Quhen with a quhisk sho [sc. Fortune] quhiris about hir quheill. 1589 [? LYL] *Pappe w. Hatchet* To Rdr., To giue them a whiske with their owne wand. a 1625 FLETCHER *Noble Gent.* v. i, This first sad whisk [of the sword] Takes off thy Dukedom. 1644 BULWER *Chirolo.* 94 [He] brings in Cæsar in the whiske of one of his Epigrams. a 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xvii. 141 Three Whisks of a Broom Besom. 1821 SCOTT *Pirate* xxi, Come and gae like a glance of the sun, or the whisk of a whirlwind. 1853 LYTTON *My Novel* IV. xi, The pad [mare] . . . giving a petulant whisk of her tail. 1863 LOWELL *Two Scenes from Life of Blondel* II. v, If a whisk of Fate's broom span your cobweb asunder. 1863 *Reader* 7 Nov. 538 His [sc. tiger's] tail looks as if it had a whisk in it still. 1869 MRS. STOWE *Oldtown Folks* xxxiv. (1870) 407 These wild, sudden whisks of gaiety. 1896 CONAN DOYLE *Rodney Stone* xiii, He walked up and down the room . . . turning with a whisk upon his heel every now and then. 1900 ZANGWILL *Mantle of Elijah* II. xv, You see it all in a whisk.

II. 2. A neckerchief worn by women in the latter half of the 17th century. Obs. exc. *Hist.*

1654 in *Jeaffreson Midsx. County Rec.* (1888) III. 225 Six Corle Whiskes worth seventeen shillings, six Corle Gorgetts worth fourteen shillings, [etc.] a 1658 CLEVELAND *Zealous Disc.* Wks. (1687) 382 Pray rectifie my Gorget, smooth my Whisk. 1660 PEPYS *Diary* 22 Nov., My wife . . . bought her a white whisk and put it on. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. ii. 17/1 A Womens Neck Whisk . . . is used both Plain and Laced, and is called of most a Gorgett or a falling Whisk. 1706 E. WARD *Hud. Rediv.* (Nares) With whisks of lawn, by grammans wore.

3. An instrument, now freq. a bundle of wires, for beating up eggs, cream, or the like.

1666 BOYLE *Orig. Formes & Qual.* 111 By beating the White of an Egge well with a Whisk, you may reduce it from a somewhat Tenacious into a Fluid Body. 1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* xv. 140 First beat the Whites of the Eggs up well with a Whisk. 1882 *Worc. Exhib. Catal.* III. 38 Egg whisk for confectioners.

4. A bundle or tuft of twigs, hair, feathers, etc. fixed on a handle, used for brushing or dusting; also, a water-sprinkler.

1729 SWIFT *Direct. Serv.* viii. (1745) 75 If you happen to break any China with the Top of the Wisk. 1772 T. SIMPSON *Vermin-Killer* 18 With a whisk, sprinkle the corn . . . with it. 1834 MARRYAT *Peter Simple* xiii, Father M'Grath seized hold of the pot of holy water, and dipping in the little whisk,

began to sprinkle the room. 1844 G. DODD *Textile Manuf.* vi. 176 The reeler then takes a whisk of fine twigs bound together.

b. A slender hair-like or bristle-like part or appendage, as those on the tails of certain insects.

(In first quot. app. used for 'sting'.)

a 1618 SYLVESTER *Tobacco Battered* 290 The . . . piercing Poyson of a Dragon's Whisk, Or deadly Ey-shot of a Basilisk. 1676 COTTON *Angler* II. viii. 72 This . . . Stone-Flie . . . has two or three whisks . . . at the tag of his tail. 1747 BOWLKER *Art Angling* 64 The May Fly . . . with a long forked Tail made with the Hair or Whisks of a Fitchow's Tail. 1859 KINGSLEY *Glaucus* (ed. 4) 198 The Ephemeræ . . . throwing off the whole of their skins (even . . . to the skin of the eyes and wings, and the delicate 'whisks' at their tail). 1886 F. M. HALFORD *Floating Flies* 38 If the fly to be imitated has setæ or whisks. 1887 J. H. KEENE *Fishing Tackle* 181 Two whisks from a long fibre hackle, or two rabbit's whiskers.

c. The panicle or other part of certain plants used for making into brushes or brooms; *esp.* the panicle of the common millet or 'broom-eorn' (*Sorghum vulgare*); hence, the plant itself.

1757 [see *whisk* seed in 7]. 1805 *Trans. Soc. Arts* XXIII. 258 Whisk, the article of which carpet brushes are formed. 1874 *Treas. Bot. Suppl.*, *Whisk*, a trade name for the flower-spikes of *Sorghum vulgare*. 1893 *Let. to Editor from Director of Kew Gardens*, The fibrous root received for identification is that of *Chrysopogon Gryllus*, Trin. known as the Venetian or French Whisk. 1902 HANNAN *Textile Fibres* 157 Whisk, Mexican (*Epicampes macroura*). *Ibid.* 160 Whisk, Italian (*Sorghum*).

d. A small bunch, tuft, wisp.

1845 S. JUDD *Margaret* II. xi, The ceiling was divided by whisks of flowers. 1862 SMILES *Engineers* III. 318 Holding over their work large whisks of straw . . . to protect the bricks and cement.

e. A swarm of insects whisking or moving briskly about. *rare*—1.

1867 F. FRANCIS *Bk. Angling* vi. 202 The Fætid Brown, or mushroom fly . . . may be seen in small whisks or swarms skipping up and down over the water.

5. A name for various mechanical appliances having a whisking movement. a. A kind of winnowing-machine. b. A machine for winding yarn. c. A cooper's plane for levelling the chimes of casks.

1813 VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* 127 Few winnowing-machines, saving a common whisk or fly, are used in this county. 1825 JAMIESON, *Whisks*, a machine for winding yarn on a quill or clue. 1863 J. WATSON *Weaving* II. 57 In winding warp from the hank, swifts or whisks are used. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Whisk*, a cooper's plane.

III. †6. A whipper-snapper. Obs. *slang*.

1628 FORD *Lover's Mel.* III. i, No quarrels, good'ee Whiske. a 1652 BROME *Novella* IV. ii. L 7 b, Nic. This is the Gentleman. Pi. Tis the proud Braches whiske! a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Whisk*, a little inconsiderable impertinent Fellow.

IV. 7. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (Some of these may be regarded as *attrib.* uses of the stem of WHISK *v.*) **whisk broom** = sense 4; † **whisk-comb** (see quot.); † **whisk rod**, a rod consisting of twigs or the like (cf. WHISK *v.* 4); **whisk seed**, millet-seed (see 4 c); **whisk tail**, a tail that is or may be whisked; hence **whisk-tailed a.**, having a whisk tail.

1857 *Local Act 20 & 21 Vict.* c. cxlii. Sched. (B) *Whisk Brooms, loose, per 1,000 0 0 9. 1897 *Army & Navy Co-op. Soc., Ltd.* No. 4 Dept. Special List 193 Whisk Broom, Leather bound with handle. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xiv. (Roxb.) 13/1 The *Wiskecombe, haue teeth on one side, and are wide and slender. *Ibid.* vii. 312/1 The *Whisk Rod is used to correct Rebellious Youths. 1757 FRANKLIN *Lett.* Wks. 1887 II. 494, I enclose you some *whisk seed; it is a kind of corn, good for creatures. 1675 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 976/4 One Bay Mare, . . . with a *whisk Tayl. 1697 *Flying Post* 19–21 Oct. 2/2 A small Spaniel Lap-Dog, . . . a short whisk Tail. 1720 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5836/4 A well spread Mare, . . . with a sbort whisk Tail. 1675 *Ibid.* No. 952/4 Two Geldings, . . . both *whisk Tail'd. 1859 CHRISTINA ROSETTI *Goblin Market* 107 The whisk-tailed merchant bade her taste.

whisk, *sb.*² Obs. or *dial.* [? f. WHISK *v.*] The earlier name of the card-game now called whist (WHIST *sb.*³). Also *attrib.* Hence † **whisker** (wisker) *nonce-wd.*, a whist-player.

1621 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Motto* D 4, He flings his money free . . . At One and thirty, or at Poore and rich, Ruffe, slam, Trump, noddy, whisk. 1674 COTTON *Compl. Gamester* v. (1680) 61 The elder begins and younger follows in suit as at Whisk. [Elsewhere in the book Whist.] 1704 T. BAKER *Act at Oxf.* III. ii. 33 We'll sit down to Ombre, Picquet, Wisk, and Swabbers; or One and Thirty Bone-ace. 1723 LADY BRISTOL in *Lett.-bks. J. Hervey, 1st Earl of Bristol* (1894) II. 278 The wiskers have promised me some diversion. *Ibid.* 287, I reign Queen of the whisk party. *Ibid.* 291 He will be missd . . . as a whisk player. 1728 [see SWABBER?]. 1810 *Sporting Mag.* XXXVI. 75 Playing at whisk in an obscure village, in the Christmas holidays. 1829 BROCKETT *N.C. Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Whisk*, a vulgar pronunciation of whist. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampton Gloss.*, *Whisk*, whist, a game at cards. 1880 [see SWAB *sb.*²].

whisk, *v.* (*adv.*, *int.*) Forms: see WHISK *sb.*¹ [In early use *Sc.*; prob. of Scandinavian origin: cf. Sw. *wiska* to whisk (off), sponge, Da. *wiske* to wipe, whisk, rub, sponge (a gun), Norw. *wiska* to put straw, etc. together in a bundle = OHG. *wisken* (MHG., G. *wischen*) to wipe, † *intr.* to move lightly or briskly, LG. *wisken* to move quickly, wipe off, etc.: cf. WHISK *sb.*¹ The

spelling with *wh* was adopted as being symbolic (cf. *whip*).

1. *a. intr.* To move with a light rapid sweeping motion; to make a single sudden movement of this kind, to rush or dart nimbly; to move about or travel swiftly or briskly (occas. with *it*).

c 1480 HENRYSON *Swallow* xliii. Like to the mow before the face of wind Quhiskis away. 1513 DOUGLAS *Aeneis* III. iv. 68 Suddanlie away thai [sc. harpies] wisk ilk ane, Furth of our sicht, heich wp in the sky. *Ibid.* XII. xii. 172 Lyke as befor the hund wyskis the hair. 1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. James* iv. 7-17 You... whiskie about by sea and by lande, to get pelfe. 1592 R. D. *Hyperotomachia* 12 b. Their vestures whisking vp and flying abroad. 1623 JOHNSON *Golden Trade* 35 Beasts... will wiske with their tayles... to auoyde or be rid of them [sc. flies]. a 1699 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* xx. cxlvii. Sweets which each silly Wind that whisketh by, Snatcheth, and scattereth. 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 144 ¶ 2 We... watch an Opportunity to whisk cross a Passage, very thankful that we are not run over. 1719 D'URFEE *Pills* I. 172 Prickets from Thickets, Come whisk it and frisk it. 1800 MRS. HERVEY *Mourtray Fam.* III. 272 In whisking round a sharp angle, they over-set the carriage. 1837 W. IRVING *Capt. Bonneville* II. 133 The... beavers... chasing each other about the pond, dodging and whisking about on the surface. 1868 LOUISA M. ALCOTT *Little Women* iii. As Meg appeared, Scrabble [the pet rat] whisked into his hole. 1872 BLACK *Adv. Phaeton* xviii. 254 We whisked through Maghull village.

b. The vb.-stem used as *adv.* or *int.*: With a whisk, or sudden light movement.

1750 GRAY *Long Story* 79 Out of the window, whisk, they flew. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xlvii. He carried in his pocket... a fire-box of mysterious... construction; and as sure as ever Kit's mother closed her eyes, so surely—whisk, rattle, fizz—there was the single gentleman consulting his watch by a flame of fire. 1916 'BOYD CABLE' *Action Front* 12. I heard... something else goin' whisk like a cane switched past your ear. 1919 H. WALPOLE *Secret City* II. v. 353 A beautiful fruit just within his grasp... He's going to taste it, when whisk! it's gone.

2. *a. trans.* To move (something) about, away, back, etc. with a light sweeping motion.

1513 DOUGLAS *Aeneis* VIII. Prol. 163 Quhen I walkynnit, all that welth was wiskyt away. 1594 MARLOWE & NASHE *Dido* II. C 1 b. He... whiskt his sword about. 1675 HOBBS *Odyssey* XI. 576 A sudden winde... whiskt away the Twigs. 1711 BUDGELL *Spect.* No. 67. ¶ 9 [He] ran to his Partner... and whisked her round cleverly above ground. 1768 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 83 Burning a small stick at the end... and whisking it round to make gold lace, as we called it. 1784 COWPER *Task* VI. 317 The squirrel... there whisks his brush, And perks his ears. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* IV. The horses... whisked their tails about. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 24 Nov. 6/3 One cannot always guard against a whirlpool catching the rudder... and whisking the boat round. 1916 A. B. REEVE *Pois. Pen* iii. I forgot about it as I was whisked up in the elevator.

b. in reference to rapid travel: cf. *whirl*.

1694 N. H. *Ladies Dict.* 436 They whisk her to Bath, to Bristol. 1801 G. COLMAN *Poor Gentl.* IV. i. 59 There are four spanking greys... that shall whisk you to town in a minute. 1817 W. T. MONCRIEFF *Giovanni in Lond.* I. ii. Ply your oar, and wisk me over to the other side. 1872 BLACK *Adv. Phaeton* II. A solitary omnibus, which daily whisks a few country people... down to Uxbridge.

3. To brush or sweep lightly and rapidly from a surface, esp. with a light instrument, as a feather or small brush.

1621 G. SANDYS *Ovid's Met.* x. (1626) 214 Their tufted tails Whiske vp the dust. c 1790 *Imison's Sch. Arts* II. 26 Having drawn the outline... faintly with charcoal, whisking off the faulty part with a feather. 1822 W. IRVING *Braceb. Hall* II. 259 His... horse stood, stamping and whisking off the flies. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* xxiii. The beadle... finished a piece of toast; whisked the crumbs off his knees [etc.]. 1881 WALFORD *Dick Netherby* v. 'An' shame on you for thinkin' sae.' Mrs. M'Clintock whisked her apron from her eyes.

4. To beat or whip with a rod of twigs or the like. *Obs.* in *gen.* sense: in later use, To stir or beat up (eggs, cream, etc.) with a light rapid movement (= *WHIP* v. 7), esp. by means of a whisk (see *WHISK* sb.¹ 3).

1530 R. WHYTFORD *Werke for Housholders* Ei. Yf any chylde be... stubburne... let it... be whysked with a good rodde. 1703 [implied in *WHISKING* vbl.sb.]. 1710 T. FULLER *Pharmacopæia* 325 Whites of Eggs beat up and whisk'd 'till it stand all in froth. 1836 MOLLARD *Art of Cookery* 265 A tea spoonful of Gum Dragon whisked to a solid froth. 1846 SOYER *Cookery* 49 Using three whole and three yolks of eggs, but omitting the whisked whites. 1904 Cassell's *New Dict. Cookery* s.v. *Cream, Whipped*, Double cream may be simply whipped by whisking it with a wire whisk until it thickens.

† 5. *fig. app.* To hoax. (Cf. *FRISK* v. 4 b.)

1674 J. HOWARD *Engl. Mounseur* v. iv. Hark ye Mr. Frenchlove, I believe you and I are whisk't with a couple of Wives, for Mr. Welbred, and Mr. Comely pretended to be in love with them, and the Devil a bit there's any such thing.

whisker ('hwiskə(r)), sb.¹ Forms: 5-7 wisker, 6 whysker, (7 whisker, 9 whiscar), 7- whisker. [f. *WHISK* v. + -ER¹. Cf. Sw. *wiskare* sponge, swab, L.G. *wisker* a rubber, duster, G. *wischer* rubber, clout, (fig.) reprimand.]

1. Something that whisks or is used for whisking: applied to various objects, as a fan; a rod or switch; a bunch of feathers used as a brush (cf. *WHISK* sb.¹ 4); etc. *Obs.* or *dial.*

c 1425 *St. Mary of Oignies* II. iii. in *Anglia* VIII. 155 She sawe oure lady... as wip a wisker waftynge wynde vpon hir. 1567 HARMAN *Caveat* (1869) 89 A whyp is a whisker, that whyll wrest out blood. 1611 COTGR., *Housine*, a Switch, or Whisker. 1825 JAMIESON, *Whisker, whiscar*, a bunch of feathers for sweeping anything.

† 2. A person who whisks or moves briskly about; a lively young gallant: cf. *WHISKING* ppl. a. 1 c.

1595 GOSSON *Pleas. Quippes* vii. When young wiskers... in no good sort will spend the day, But be prophane, more then a Turke.

3. *slang* or *colloq.* Something great or excessive, a 'whopper' (cf. *WHISKING* ppl. a. 2); esp. a great lie, a 'bang'. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* 32 Relations belonging to Quantity... Greatness, Magnitude, ample, large, vast, huge,... whisker, magnifie, aggravate, exaggerate. 1672 EACHARD *Hobbs's State Nat., Let.* 35 It may be convenient for you to call this... a flam, a whisker, a caprice. 1694 EACHARD *Plautus* 9 Suppose I tell her some damn'd Wisker. [1858 WRIGHT *Dict. Obs. & Prov. Engl.* s.v., 'The dam of that was a whisker', a phrase used when a great falsehood was uttered.]

† b. A 'whisking' or blustering wind: see *WHISKING* ppl. a. 1 b. *Obs.*

1670 RAY *Prov.* 288 March whisker was never a good fisher.

4. The hair that grows on an adult man's face; formerly commonly applied to that on the upper lip, now called *moustache*, and sometimes to (or including) that on the chin (*beard*); now usu. restricted to that on the cheeks or sides of the face. *a. pl.*: usually collective; sometimes distributive, as *a pair of whiskers*, denoting the hair on the two sides.

c 1600 *Timon* II. ii. (1842) 27 My wiskers hanging o're the ouerlipp. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 259 Some spruce yonker, with a starch beard, and his whiskers turn'd vp. 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* Pref. The rank Mustachos into whiskers grown. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India* & P. 390 His [sc. Persian's] Beard is Cut neatly, and the Whiskers... encouraged from one Ear to the other, in fashion of an Half-Moon on the upper Lip, with only a decent Peak on the under. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 152 What grew on my upper Lip... I had trimm'd into a large Pair of Mahometan Whiskers. 1808 W. WILSON *Hist. Diss.* Ch. I. 141 The men members wore whiskers upon their upper lips. 1823 E. MOOR *Suffolk Words, Whiskers*, the hair on the upper lip, as until lately, I believe, all over England. Now, the hair under the ears, sometimes under the eyes also, bear[s] this term, and the labial comæ, are called moustaches. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xli. A tall fellow, with... very thick bushy whiskers meeting under his chin. 1854 R. S. SURTEES *Handley Cr.* iii. He grew whiskers under his chin. 1878 BESANT & RICE *Celia's Arb.* ii. His whiskers... were cut to the old-fashioned regulation 'mutton-cbop'. They advanced into the middle of the cheek, and were then squared off in a line which met the large stiff collar below at an angle of forty-five.

b. *sing.*: in earlier use, a moustache; now, the hair on one side of the face; also collectively.

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Whisker*, a tuft of Hair on the Upper Lip of a Man. 1762 STERNE tr. *Shandy* V. i. La Fosseuse... traced the outline of a small whisker... upon one side of her upper lip. 1836 H. GREVILLE *Diary* 24 June (1883) 91 The ball lodged in the lining of the carriage, and some of the wadding in his whisker. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* ii. He was a... shaggy fellow, with a good deal of hair and whisker. 1851 in *Kinglelake Crimea* (1863) I. xiv. 267 A mere lad without whisker or moustache. 1875 H. JAMES *Rod. Hudson* v. 173 A tall... gentleman... with a carefully brushed whisker.

† c. Applied to a lady's curl hanging over the cheek. (Cf. *whiskerette* below.) *Obs.*

1786 *Pogonologia* 55 About a century ago [in France] the ladies... curls hung down their cheeks as far as their bosom. These curls went by the name of whiskers.

d. Phr. *to have whiskers* and *varr.*: (of news, a subject, etc.) to be no longer novel or fresh; similarly *to grow whiskers*. Also *concr.*, of food: to become contaminated with mould.

1935 D. L. SAYERS *Gaudy Night* viii. 182 That old story... It's got whiskers on it—it's six years old. 1951 M. KENNEDY *Lucy Carmichael* VII. i. 345, I am putting on Capek's *R.U.R.* But it has got whiskers. It was quite a novelty when it was first put on. 1959 *Times* 6 May 4/6 The subject is beginning to grow whiskers. 1977 D. FRANCIS *Risk* vii. 78 The steak in the fridge had grown whiskers. 1977 D. O'SULLIVAN in D. Marcus *Best Irish Short Stories* II. 90 'Did I ever tell you the one about the Scotsman and the octopus?'... 'It has whiskers.'

5. *a.* Each of a set of projecting hairs or bristles growing on the upper lip or about the mouth of certain animals; also applied to a similar set of feathers in certain birds, and to mystacial markings.

1678 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1342/4 A light gray Gelding... with an iron mark of a G. on the near Buttock, and two whiskers on the upper lip. 1712 E. COOKE *Voy. S. Sea* 329 The Raccoon has... Whiskers and Nose like a Pig. 1747 *Gray Cat* iv. A whisker first and then a claw. 1752 J. HILL *Hist. Anim.* 352 The lesser Butcher-bird... there are about the angles of the beak certain rigid bristles or hairs, which serve as whiskers. 1830 M. DONOVAN *Dom. Econ.* II. 85 The sea-otter is a large animal;... the eyes are small; the whiskers are white, strong, and numerous. 1879 HUXLEY *Sensation Sci. & Cult.* (1881) 266 The 'whiskers' of cats owe their functional importance to the abundant supply of nerves to the follicles in which their bases are lodged.

b. *fig.* A very small distance or amount, a fraction: used chiefly in comparisons. *colloq.* (orig. U.S.).

1913 *Dialect Notes* IV. 6 *Whisker, n.*, a little; a trifle. 'Move it just a whisker.' 1953 *Wall St. Jnl.* 11 Aug. 1/5 The London price is still a whisker below the 30 cents a pound charged by major U.S. producers. 1973 P. O'DONNELL *Silver Mistress* i. 13 Sooner or later they would go on a job and not come back... Even in the past year they had come

within a whisker of it twice. 1980 *Jrnl. R. Soc. Arts Mar.* 236/2 In these storms at sea, sunsets, sunrises, cloud formations and light conditions, Turner was within a whisker of pre-empting the great Monet himself. 1983 *Times* 15 July 18/3 Yesterday the shares rose 2p to 99p—a whisker from the year's high. 1984 *Listener* 14 June 15/3 Someone shoots for goal, and he either misses it by a whisker or by miles.

c. *Electr.* A wire used to form a rectifying contact with the surface of a semiconductor; cf. *cat's whisker* s.v. CAT sb.¹ 18 and 19.

1915, etc. [see *cat's* whisker s.v. CAT sb.¹ 18 and 19]. 1949 *Ann. Reg.* 1948 418 By the addition of a second wire whisker touching the germanium within a few thousands of an inch of the first the diode was converted into a triode. 1959 K. HENNEY *Radio Engin. Handbk.* (ed. 5) ix. 15 These diodes are representative of a family of germanium point-contact diodes using unplated whiskers. 1975 D. G. FINK *Electronics Engineers' Handbk.* ix. 62 Until 1965 point contact diodes were fabricated utilizing moderately low resistivity material with the rectifying contact established by contacting the semiconductor surface with a metal whisker.

6. *Naut.* *a.* Each of two wooden or iron spars extending laterally on each side of the bowsprit, for spreading the guys of the jib-boom.

1844 MRS. HOUSTON *Yacht Voy. Texas* II. 15 Our fore-top-mast was carried away, as well as the larboard whisker. 1885 LADY BRASSEY *The Trades* 382 It was found that the whiskers of the jibboom had carried away. 1913 M. ROBERTS *Salt of the Sea* viii. 208 Between the whiskers and the fore-mast.

b. A lever for exploding a torpedo.

1880 SLEEMAN *Torpedoes* 135 In addition to the nose piece, horizontal and vertical levers, or whiskers, may also be used.

7. A single crystal that has grown in a filamentous form a few microns thick, characterized by a tensile strength much greater than the bulk material and used in quantity as reinforcing agents.

1946 *Monthly Rev. Amer. Electroplaters' Soc.* Jan. 28/1 The growth of needle-crystals on cadmium deposits has caused considerable annoyance in the radio industry. These crystals are known as 'whiskers'. They grow between condenser plates of variable condensers, and, being electrical conductors, actually short-circuit the plates. 1951 *Corrosion* VII. 329/1 An attempt was made to develop whisker growths in the laboratory. 1961 *New Scientist* 28 Dec. 776/3 Whiskers, the hair-like crystals which are far stronger than steel, are now being incorporated in bonding materials: for example, General Electric's silver reinforced with sapphire whiskers. 1973 *Sci. Amer.* July 44/2 Alumina whiskers have a tensile strength of up to three million pounds per square inch and a modulus of 62 million pounds per square inch.

8. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (in sense 4). *whisker pole* *Naut.* (see quot. 1976); = sense 6 a.

1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T.*, *Whisker splitter*, a man of intrigue. 1786 *Pogonologia* 80 It was then [sc. in Lewis XIV's reign] no uncommon thing for a... lover to have his whiskers... combed, and pomatumed by his mistress; and... a man of fashion took care to be... provided with... whisker-wax. 1813 MOORE *Post-Bag* viii. 14 When the rich rouge-pot... Tips even thy whisker-tops with red. 1853 'C. BEDE' *Verdant Green* I. xi. He told Verdant, that his claret had been repeatedly tapped... his whisker-bed [i.e. face] napped heavily. 1954 *Motor Boating* Dec. 27/1 *Iris* was flying all her kites—main, mizzen, genoa winged out on the whisker pole, and mizzen staysails. 1960 J. J. ROWLANDS *Spindrift* 204 On the yacht-club float a girl... is rubbing down the last coat of varnish on a whisker pole. 1976 *Oxf. Compan. Ships & Sea* 938/1 *Whisker pole*, a short bracing-out spar used in yachts and sailing dinghies to bear out the clew of the jib on the opposite side of the mainsail when running before the wind, thus obtaining some of the advantage which would be gained in a larger vessel when she sets a spinnaker. 1980 *Yachts & Yachting* 29 Feb. 651/2 'American Express' carried two poles that extended from 11.5 ft to 18 ft plus a standard pole of 7.5 ft. The long ones were used as a spinnaker pole in the collapsed position, as whisker pole in the fully extended position, and as a bowsprit in the 14ft length.

Hence 'whisker v. (*nonce-wd.*), *trans.* to furnish with whiskers; 'whiskerage, whiskers collectively, a growth of whiskers; 'whiskerer (*nonce-wd.*), a man who wears whiskers; 'whiske'rette, a small whisker; a curl at the side of a girl's face (cf. sense 4 c above); 'whiskerless a., destitute of whiskers.

1812 *Examiner* 5 Oct. 632/2 Deliberating how still further to Germanize and to 'whisker out British soldiers. 1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt. I.* i. (1872) I. 6 Fellows... with such a breadth of sabre, extent of 'whiskerage [etc.]. 1859 MEREDITH R. *Feverel* xxxvi. The trim of their whiskerage. 1717 *Entertainer* No. 1. 4 We are no 'Whiskerers of the Order of St. Jacobs. 1880 *Athenæum* 2 Oct. 440 Her hair is trimly curled in 'whiskerettes'. 1896 *Columbus* (Ohio) *Dispatch* 23 Sept., A man wearing whiskers... his chin shaven and allowing two distinct whiskerettes to be plainly discerned. 1843 DICKENS *Mart. Chuz.* (1844) ii. 10 His very throat was moral... Serene and 'whiskerless. 1848 — *Dombey* xxxi. Mr. Towlinson is whiskerless.

whisker, sb.², whist-player: see *WHISK* sb.²

whiskerandos ('hwiskə'rændɒs). *humorous*. [f. *WHISKER*, with ending in imitation of Spanish words.] Name of a character (*Don Feryolo Whiskerandos*) in Sheridan's play 'The Critic' (1779): hence *allusively* (more commonly in the form *whiskerando*, the -s being taken as sign of pl.), a (heavily) whiskered man. Hence *whiskerandoed* (-dəʊd) a., whiskered.

1807 *Sporting Mag.* XXIX. 179 The mustachio salute is not only sanctioned now by the dowagers of the whiskerando tribe, but even voted by the young smooth-lipped belles to be 'funny enough'. **1831** Jekyll *Corr.* (1894) 287 To the great dismay of a whiskerandos, second brother of my lord. **1838** SOUTHEY *Doctor* clvi. V. 227 To... what extravagances would the whiskerandoed macaronies of Bond Street... proceed, if the beard... were... to 'make the man!' **1894** STEVENSON *St. Ives* ii, Some of these old whiskerandos, originally peasants, trained since boyhood in victorious armies... could ill brook their change of circumstance.

whiskered ('hwiskəd), *a.* [f. WHISKER *sb.*¹ + ED².]

1. Having whiskers. *a.* Of men: see WHISKER *sb.*¹ 4.

1769 T. WARTON *Let.* 10 Oct. in D. Garrick *Private Corr.* (1831) I. 369, I went on board one of the Russian ships, and had the pleasure of being surrounded with a thousand whiskered sailors and soldiers from Archangel. **1784** COWPER *Task* III. 768 Our forefathers—a grave whisker'd race. **1809** W. IRVING *Knickerb.* v. vii, To have seen him... in martial array—booted to the middle—sashed to the chin—collared to the ears—whiskered to the teeth. **1840** THACKERAY *Shabby-Genteel Story* vii, A tall whiskered man, who... looked like a field-marshal.

b. Of animals: see WHISKER *sb.*¹ 5; *spec.* as a descriptive appellation of particular species, as *whiskered auk, fly-catcher, shrike, tern.*

1764 GRAINGER *Sugar Cane* II. 62 The whisker'd vermin race. **1783** LATHAM *Gen. Syn. Birds* II. 1. 364 Whiskered [Flycatcher]. **1788** COWPER *Death of Mrs. Throckmorton's Bulfinch* 35 A beast... Long-back'd, long-tail'd, with whisker'd snout. **1809** SHAW *Gen. Zool.* VII. 298 Whiskered Shrike. **1826** KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xlv. IV. 309 Whiskered (*Mystacinum*), when the upper lip is furnished with whiskers (*Mystax*), or bearded. **1872** COUES *N. Amer. Birds* 342 Whiskered Auk... two series... of filamentous white feathers on each side of head. **1897** R. B. SHARPE *Handbk. Birds Gt. Brit.* IV. 8 The Whiskered Tern is an accidental visitor to the British Islands.

2. Formed into or constituting whiskers. *rare*—¹.

1737 M. GREEN *Spleen* 761 Preferring sense, from chin that's bare, To nonsense thron'd in whisker'd hair.

whiskery, *a.* [f. WHISKER *sb.*¹]

1. Having large whiskers.

1848 THACKERAY *Bk. Snobs* xxxiv, The old lady is... as tall and whiskery as a grenadier.

2. Suggestive of or resembling whiskers or a whisker; having whiskers.

1927 H. V. MORTON *In Search of England* v. 98 The dark room smelt of... that indefinite whiskery smell of old men. **1959** *Times* 4 May 4/5 They fluffed a chip out of whiskery grass. **1984** *Listener* 10 May 3/1 Streets with a few measly roadside stalls peddling second-rate oranges and whiskery root vegetables.

whisket, var. WISKET *dial.*, a basket.

whiskey: see WHISKY.

whiskful ('hwiskfʊl). [f. WHISK *sb.*¹ + -FUL 2.] As much as a whisk will carry: see WHISK *sb.*¹ 4.

1840 *Dairy of a Nun* I. xiv. 200 As the animals are brought up... to be blessed, the priest mutters a few Latin words, and dashes a whiskful of water in their faces.

whiskied ('hwiskid), *a.* *rare.* Also -keyed. [f. WHISKY *sb.*¹ + -ED².] Saturated or tainted with whisky.

1850 THACKERAY *Pendennis* lvi, In his whiskeyed blood there was not a black drop, nor in his muddled brains a bitter feeling. **1919** *Blackw. Mag.* Dec. 767/2 He breathed whiskeyed breath at me.

whiskified ('hwiskifaid), *a.* Also -k(e)y-, *Sc. whus-*. [f. WHISKY *sb.*¹ + -fied, *pa. ppl.* ending corresp. to -FY.] Affected by excessive drinking of whisky.

1802 H. MARTIN *Helen of Glenross* III. 128 Paddy was only a little whiskified. **1850** THACKERAY *Pendennis* v, Fact and fiction reeled together in his muzzy, whiskified brain. **1864** LATTO *Tam. Bodkin* xiii. 126 'I shay—hic—open the door, will ye?'... quoth the whuskified voice. **1872** HOWELLS *Wedd. Journ.* viii, That poor, whiskeyfied, Irish tatterdemalion.

whiskijack, -john, var. WHISKY JACK, etc.

† **'whiskin'**. *north. dial. Obs.* [Of unascertained origin.] A shallow kind of drinking-vessel.

1635 HEYWOOD *Philocott*. 45 Noggins, Whiskins, Piggins. **1640** BRATHWAITE *Two Lanc. Lovers* 19 Wee will han a whiskin at every rushbearing. **1700** B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, Whiskins, shallow, brown Bowls to Drink out off. **1818** SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xxxii, A whole whiskin, or black pot of sufficient double ale.

† **'whiskin'**. *slang. Obs.* [Cf. *pimp-whisk(in.)* A pander.

1632 BROME *Northern Lasse* I. iv, Farewell old Whiskin. **1635** SHIRLEY *Lady Pleas.* IV. (1637) G 3 b, I am promis'd a convenient whiskin... That has read all Sir Pandarus workes. **1640** H. MILL *Nights Search* 145 To make him whiskin.

whisking ('hwiskin), *vbl. sb.* [f. WHISK *v.* + -ING¹.] The action of the verb WHISK, in various senses.

a 1553 UDALL *Royster D.* II. iv. (Arb.) 37 Is all your delite and ioy In whisking and ramping abroad like a Tom boy? **1594** MARLOWE & NASHE *Dido* II. C 3, The crye of beasts, the ratling of the windes, Or whisking of these leaues. **a 1625**

FLETCHER *Noble Gent.* v. i, With the whisking of my sword about. **1668** DRYDEN *Even. Love* I. i, The whisking of a Silk-Gown, and the rash of a Tabby-Pettycoat. **1703** THORESBY *Let. to Ray* (E.D.S.), Whisking, is also switching; 'there will be whisking for't'. **1797** MRS. INCHBALD *Wives as they were* II. i. 30 The whisking of a woman's gown made me give a sudden start! **1853** DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xlix, A rattling of tin mugs, a whisking of brooms. **1876** MISS BROUGHTON *Joan* I. i, A herd of deer... trooping from one glade to another, with a tossing of great horns and whisking of tiny tails.

'whisking, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING².]

1. That whisks, in various senses: see the verb.

1522 SKELTON *Why not to Court* 1161, I suppose that he is Of Jeremy the whyskyng rod, The flayle, the scourge of almighty God. **1591** SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. ii. 637 With whisking broom they brush and sweep. **1690** C. NESSE *O. & N. Test.* I. 268 This whisking tail of the dragon... may cast down some doctors of the church.

† *b.* Of the wind: Blowing briskly, forcibly, or freshly. *Obs.*

1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 156 A litle winde in a moystie day, stoppeth a shafte more than a good whyskyng wynde in a clere daye. **1591** SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. i. 817 As swiftly whirling as the whisking winde. **1635** SWAN *Spec. Mundi* v. §2. (1643) 171 If the exhalation be litle, tenuous or thin, then we have onely a pleasant whisking wind, by which the aire is gently moved. **1697** in *Nat. Hist. Irel.* (1726) 113 The air was somewhat troubled with little whisking winds, seeming to meet contrary ways.

c. Of a person: Moving actively, brisk, lively, smart. *slang* or *colloq.* ? *Obs.*

1611 MIDDLETON & DEKKER *Roaring Girl* I 1, What are your whisking gallants to our husbands. **1681** T. FLATMAN *Heracitus Ridens* No. 40. (1713) II. 2 If you talk of Rubbers and Whiskers... he's a whisking Rubber for you;... he can rub one Man into two. **1824** CARLYLE *Let. to Miss Welsh* 23 June, Captain Smith was... brisk... whisking, smart of speech.

2. Great, excessive, 'bouncing', 'whopping'. *slang* or *colloq.* (now only *dial.*).

1673 R. HEAD *Canting Acad.* 166 They have whisking water-works for evacuation. **1681** HICKERINGILL *News fr. Colchester Wks.* 1716 I. 394 With what astonishment the People... were struck, when they read... this Whisking Lye. **1706** PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Rousing Lie*, a whisking great one. **1792** BURNS *Willie's Wife* II, A whiskin' beard about her mou'.

† **'whiskish**, *a.* *Obs. rare*—¹. [f. WHISK *sb.*¹ or *v.* + -ISH¹.] Lively, frisky.

1599 *Sir Clyom.* xv. in *Peele's Wks.* (1888) II. 172 The whores be so whiskish.

whisky, whiskey ('hwiski), *sb.*¹ Also 8 -kie, -kee. [Short for WHISKYBAE, etc. (Gael. *uisgebeatha* lit. 'water of life'), though this is not actually evidenced so early (but Ramsay has *usque* for USQUEBAUGH, q.v., in 1728). In modern trade usage, Scotch *whisky* and Irish *whiskey* are thus distinguished in spelling; *whisky* is the usual spelling in Britain and *whiskey* that in the U.S.] *a.* A spirituous liquor distilled originally in Ireland and Scotland, and in the British Isles still chiefly, from malted barley (with or without unmalted barley or other cereals), in U.S. chiefly from maize or rye. With *a* and *pl.*, a drink of whisky.

Also in *whisky-and-milk, -soda, -water* (often so hyphenated), denoting mixed or diluted drinks.

1715 in *Maidment Bk. Scot. Pasquils* (1868) 404 Whiskie shall put our brains in rage. **1746** M. HUGHES *Jrnl. Late Reb.* 46 A double Portion of Oatmeal and Whisky. *note*, Whiskey is a hot Malt Spirit. **1753** *Gray's Inn Jrnl.* No. 48 Whiskey—Pol—Give me a Glass of that Rhenish. **1753** *Gentl. Mag.* Aug. 391/2 In one dram shop only in this town [sc. Dublin], there are 120 gallons of that accursed spirit, whiskey, sold. **1827** *Whitehall* II. iii, The Major then mixed himself a glass of whiskey and water in equal portions. **1835** DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Parl. Sk.*, He... went home... for his whiskey-and-water. **1884** G. MOORE *Mummer's Wife* xvi, 'I think I'll have a whisky.' 'Scotch or Irish?' asked the barman. **1894** K. GRAHAM *Pagan Papers* 76 Those of us who were left being assembled to drink a parting whisky-and-milk. **1898** G. B. SHAW *Mrs. Warren's Profession* II. 177, I could do with a whisky and soda now very well. **1903** *Times* 31 July 13/6 In less than an hour he sold 22 whiskies. **1924** H. CRANE *Let.* 30 Nov. (1965) 195 As whiskey and soda was served I quickly revived. **1979** G. ST. AUBYN *Edward VII* vii. 316 Offering him a whisky-and-soda and a cigar.

b. attrib. and Comb., as *whisky bottle, -brose* (cf. BROSE *b.*), -can, -cocktail, decanter, -drinker, -drinking *sb.* and *adj.*, -gill, glass, -peg (PEG *sb.*¹ 6), -punch, -shop, -still, -toddy; *whisky-gold, -soaked, -sodden* *adjs.*; *whisky-head U.S. slang*, one who consumes a great deal of whisky; *whisky-house Obs.*, a place where whisky is sold; *whisky insurrection or rebellion U.S. Hist.*, an outbreak in Pennsylvania in 1794 against an excise duty on spirits imposed by Congress in 1791; *whisky mac* (also *Whisky Mac*), whisky and ginger wine mixed in equal proportions; a drink of this; *whisky money Hist.*, the proportion of the beer and spirit duty which was allocated to technical education by the Local Taxation (Customs and Excise) Act of 1890; *whisky-poker* (see *quot.*); *whisky priest*, an habitually drunken priest; *whisky ring U.S. Hist.*, a combination of distillers and revenue officers formed in 1872 to defraud the

government of part of the tax on spirits; *whisky-skin U.S. slang*, a drink containing whisky; *whisky-soda* (not in U.K. use), whisky-and-soda; *whisky sour* *orig. U.S.*, a drink of whisky acidulated with the juice of citrus fruit; *whisky-straight U.S. slang*, whisky without water; *whisky voice*, a hoarse or alcoholic voice; *whisky-water = whisky-and-water.*

1843 'R. CARLTON' *New Purchase* II. lvi. 242 He abstained... from his *whiskey bottle. **1981** M. HATFIELD *Spy Fever* I. vi. 53 The whisky bottle was still in play, though its contents... had not shrunk catastrophically. **1822** A. CUNNINGHAM *Trad. Tales, Allan-a-Maut* (1887) 136 *Whisky-brose shall be my breakfast, and my supper shall be the untaken-down spirit. **1845** ELIZA COOK *Poems, Fisher Boat* 12 Jolly mates, a *whiskey-can, and trusty nets for mel! **1862** JERRY THOMAS *How to mix Drinks* Contents, *Whiskey Cobbler, Cocktail. **1931** M. ALLINGHAM *Police at Funeral* xi. 151 He... shot a hopeless glance at the *whisky decanter. **1976** E. WARD *Hanged Man* xxi. 120 Galbraith placed the whisky decanter within reach. **1771** WESLEY *Jrnl.* 18 June (1827) III. 424 The house... was filled with *whisky drinkers. **1905** ROLLESTON *Dis. Liver* 178 Hobnailed, Gin, or Whiskey-drinker's liver. **1883** 'MARK TWAIN' *Life on Mississippi* lviii. 571 *Whiskey-drinking, breakdown-dancing rapscallions. **1884** — *Huck. Finn* xxi. 212 There was considerable whisky drinking going on. **1891** C. ROBERTS *Adrift Amer.* 34 The row was the outcome of whiskey drinking. **1785** BURNS *Holy Fair* xix, Be't *whisky gill, or penny wheep, Or any stronger potion. **1940** R. CHANDLER *Farewell my Lovely* xiii. 82 She wore a hat with a crown the size of a *whisky glass. **1918** E. SITWELL *Clown's Houses* 15 The sunlight pours all *whisky-gold. **1944** S. BELLOW *Dangling Man* 179 'Took you in it at last, didn't I!' I exclaimed. 'You damned old *whisky-head.' **1968** P. OLIVER *Screening Blues* 23 Blues about liquor and the 'whisky-head man', about prostitution, gambling, vagrancy and intended violence, figure in the work of singers of all generations. **1767** *Scots Mag.* Apr. 222 Grant kept a *whisky-house. **1835** R. M. BIRD *Hawks of Hawk-Hollow* II. 6 You would have some of the wherewithall smuggled up to this identical old woman's whiskey-house! **1824** *Mass. Spy* 28 July (Thornton *Amer. Gloss.*), Tinctured with the duelling or *whiskey-insurrection mania. **1960** *Spectator* 14 Oct. 579 It [sc. Stone's Ginger Wine] is a little cloying taken neat, but mixed with an equal quantity of whisky it becomes *Whisky Mac'. **1961** L. PAYNE *Nose on my Face* iv. 63, I... said I'd have a whiskey mac. **1976** *Liverpool Echo* 22 Nov. 7/5 A thief stole a £45 cask of whisky mac from an off-licence in Pasture Road, Moreton. **1982** BARR & YORK *Official Sloane Ranger Handbk.* 92/2 You drink beer, whisky macs, cherry brandy, sloe gin—or neat whisky. **1911** *Encycl. Brit.* XXVI. 495/1 If the *whisky' money... were found to be well and carefully expended, no future Chancellor would be able to divert it to any other purpose. **1937** G. A. N. LOWNDES *Silent Social Revolution* II. 39 Action taken by the Technical Education Committees of the County Councils... to encourage the formation of classes and guarantee them financial support out of the 'Whiskey Money'. **1973** L. HOLCOMBE *Victorian Ladies at Work* II. 30 A portion of the 'whisky money', the proceeds from the increased duties on beer and spirits, to be spent on technical education by the county and county borough councils. **1889** CONAN DOYLE *Sign of Four* xii, There he sat... drinking *whisky-pegs and smoking cheroots. **1878** J. S. CAMPION *On Frontier* (ed. 2) 25 *Whisky-poker, a harmless non-gambling game, in which the winner gets a drink and the losers a smell at the cork of the bottle. **1939** G. GREENE *Lawless Roads* vi. 161 'He was just what we call a *whisky priest.'... He had taken one of his sons to be baptized, but the priest was drunk. **1971** H. C. RAE *Marksman* I. iii. 19 With cheap striped pyjamas buttoned close around his throat Doyle looked like a whisky priest in a penal settlement. **1977** *Times* 4 Aug. 10/5 The communist equivalent of one of those Greeneland fables wherein a whisky priest rallies... to strike a blow for the God he no longer believes in. **1785** BURNS *Scotch Drink* xvii, A glass o' *Whisky-punch. **1850** THACKERAY *Pendennis* xlii(i), His... utterance began to fail him, over his sixth tumbler of whisky-punch. **1863** in Thornton *Amer. Gloss.* s.v., The *whisky rebellion of Pennsylvania. **1884** *Boston (Mass.) Jrnl.* 25 Sept., The candidate of the *whisky ring. **1804** LEWIS & CLARK *Orig. Jrnls. Lewis & Clark Expedition* (1904) I. 10 Such as have made hunting... a pretext to cover their design of visiting a neighbouring *whisky shop. **1868** A. K. H. BOYD *Less. Middle Age* 29 The sight of a whisky-shop or a gin-palace is to such an overwhelming temptation. **1856** *Yale Lit. Mag.* XXI. 146 (Th.), Nine *whiskey skins, and our spirits rushed together. **1891** *Sunday Times* 22 Feb. 2/3, I heard of the contemplated establishment of a London American club, the scheme of which seemed to comprise unlimited cocktails, whiskey skins, corpse revivers, [etc.]. **a 1910** 'MARK TWAIN' *Autobiogr.* (1924) I. 209 Some old *whisky-soaked, profane... infidel of a tramp captain. **1978** R. LUDLUM *Holcroft Covenant* xiii. 153 Ellis made arrangements for the whiskey-soaked clothes to be picked up by the cleaners and returned by mid afternoon. **1915** H. L. WILSON *Ruggles of Red Gap* 50 Here, Charley, *veesky-soda! **1975** O. SELA *Bengali Inheritance* xxv. 220 Shaking heads over their whisky-sodas saying, what could you expect. **1883** 'MARK TWAIN' *Life on Mississippi* lvi. 548 A harmless *whiskey-sodden tramp. **1891** E. KINGLAKE *Australian at H.* 102 You whisky-sodden old miscreant. **1889** *Cent. Dict.*, *Whisky sour. **1904** R. M. LOVETT *Richard Gresham* 186 Bring a couple o' whisky sours there, barkeep. **1975** D. LODGE *Changing Places* iii. 116 The lavish whisky-sours and daiquiris being prepared by the host. **1980** L. BIRNBACH et al. *Official Preppy Handbk.* 102/2 Tailgate picnics, whiskey sours in the stadium, and the general complexity of the sport guarantee that nobody knows what is going on. **1785** BURNS *Scotch Drink* xx, Thae curst horse-leeches o' th' Excise, Wha mak the *Whisky Stells their prize! **1864** *Congressional Globe* 21 Apr. 1876/2 From the impassioned tone of the gentleman from Illinois... one would suppose that he had been investing in *whisky straight. **1872** 'MARK TWAIN' *Imoc. Abr.* xv. 106 We will take a whisky-straight. **1812** COL. HAWKER *Diary* (1893) I. 59, I sat down with some *whisky toddy. **1964** J. C. CATFORD in D. Abercrombie et al. *Daniel Jones* 32 Simultaneous whisper + voice + creak: one form of 'beery'

01 'whisky' voice. 1978 J. UPDIKE *Coup* (1979) vii. 294 The women in the soul, with those long red finger-nails and blue hair in bandanas and those creaked whiskey voices. 1919 'ETIENNE' *Strange Tales from Fleet* 5 'Thank you,' said the Captain, 'a *whisky water, please.' 1978 T. WILLIS *Buckingham Palace Connection* i. 7 The ice-machine had broken down and I had to put up with a tepid whisky-water. Hence **whisky** *v.*, *trans.* to supply with whisky, to give a drink of whisky to.

1830 G. COLMAN *Random Rec.* II. 139 Post-boys and waggoners water'd their horses, and *whisky'd* themselves. 1862 B. TAYLOR *Home & Abr.* Ser. II. 120 The horses were changed, and the passengers whiskied. 1882 [LEES & CLUTTERBUCK] *Three in Norway* ix. (1888) 65 We 'whisky' every one who turns up at camp.

whisky, whiskey, sb.² [app. f. WHISK *v.* + -Y¹, from its swift movement.] A kind of light two-wheeled one-horse carriage, used in England and America in the late 18th and early 19th c. Also called TIMWHISKY.

1769 *Lloyd's Even. Post* 3-5 July 15 As a Gentleman was returning to Battersea, in his whisky, his horse took fright, and ran away. 1784 ELIZ. CARTER *Let. to Mrs. Vesey* 30 July, Travelling over hill and dale in a whisky. 1794 W. FELTON *Carriages* (1801) I. 58 The gig from the whiskey also differs materially, the whiskey being constructed on the most simple plan, with the body united to the carriage. 1824 SCOTT *St. Ronan's* xiv. It was a two-wheeled vehicle, which aspired only to the humble name of that almost forgotten accommodation, a whiskey. 1837 W. B. ADAMS *Carriages* 245 The old One-horse Chaise, or Whiskey, was as heavy as the modern Cabriolet, without its grace of form. 1844 T. WEBSTER *Encycl. Dom. Econ.* §6672 A whiskey or chair is a small chair, not hung by braces, but placed on the shafts, having springs of some kind interposed between them and the axles... It is made low, and very light. 1879 LOUISA POTTER *Lanc. Mem.* 139 [She] but rarely went out of her own grounds except to church, in a machine which ninety years ago was called a 'whiskey'.

'whisky, *a. rare.* [f. WHISK *v.* + -Y¹: cf. prec.] Light and lively, flighty.

1782 MISS BURNAY *Cecilia* ix. iii. Talking in such a whisky frisky manner that nobody can understand him.

b. Comb. whisky-bobby, angler's name for some kind of artificial bait.

1904 F. WHISHAW *Lovers at Fault* vi. Flies, minnows or whisky-bobbies might be used.

whiskybae, whiskey-beath, var. USQUE-BAUGH. (Cf. 16th cent. *iskiebae*.)

1792 GALLOWAY *Poems* 72, I told him I ne'er drank no Whiskybae. 1792 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* III. 525 A refreshment... consisting generally of whiskey-beath, or some foreign liquor, butter and cheese.

whiskyish ('hwiskɪʃ), *a. rare.* [f. WHISKY, WHISKY *sb.*¹ + -ISH¹.] **a.** Inclined for whisky. **b.** Tainted with whisky.

1929 W. DEEPING *Roper's Row* ii. 11 Don't be in a 'urry, my lad. Wait till they're warm. If they're whiskyish, wait till the whisky's got 'em. 1929 E. BOWEN *Last September* vi. 73 Some one tried to kiss you with whiskyish breath.

whisky jack ('hwiskɪ dʒæk), Also 8 **whiski-jack**, 9 **whiskey jack**; also with hyphen. [Altered form of next by substitution of *jack* for *john* (cf. JACK *sb.*¹).] A popular name for the common grey jay of Canada, *Perisoreus canadensis*.

1772 Whiskijack [see next]. 1873 *Forest & Stream* 11 Dec. 273/3 Two whisky jacks are driven into camp, and now sit on the palisades over the fire. 1888 LEES & CLUTTERBUCK *B.C.* 1887 xxviii. (1892) 320 Those delightful birds known as the Camp Robbers or Whisky Jacks.

whisky john ('hwiskɪ dʒɒn). In 8 **whiski**; 20 **wiskajon**. [Corruption of the American Indian name (Cree *wiskatjan*, Montagnais *wishkutshan*).] = prec.

1772 *Phil. Trans.* LXII. 386 *Lanius*... *Excubitor*... Great Butcher-bird... Cinereous Shrike... White Whiskijohn at Hudson's Bay... *Corvus*... *Canadensis*... Cinereous Crow... These birds are called Whiskijohn and Whiskijack at the Hudson's Bay. 1856 BALLANTYNE *Fur Traders* xi. Whisky-johns are the most impudent, puffy, conceited, little birds that exist. 1912 E. T. SETON *Arctic Prairies* 301 Each morning... gray Wiskajon and his mate... came wailing through the woods.

whisle, -ler, -ling, obs. ff. WHISTLE, etc.

whisp, sb. rare. [Echoic: cf. WHISPER.] A slight blast or puff (of wind) or sprinkle (of rain). So **whisp** *v.*, implied in **whisping** *vbl. sb.*, used of a slight blast or a low rustling sound: see *quots.*

1379 *Glouc. Cath. MS.* 19. No. I. i. iii. lf. 5 b. The ers hole by egestion... schityng Crackynge & Whispyng by nethe is purgyng properly of the guttyes. 1884 *19th Cent.* Feb. 241 A whisp or two of cold wind. 1901 *Daily News* 2 Feb. 5/7 Nothing broke the stillness but the whisping of the waters. 1923 *Times* 27 Apr. 12/1 A whisp of rain... too light to be called a shower, touched the crowd here and there.

whisp, variant of WISP.

whisper ('hwɪspə(r)), *sb.* [f. WHISPER *v.*]

1. a. An act, or the action, of whispering, or speaking 'under one's breath'; the low non-resonant quality of voice which characterizes this (esp. in phr. *in a whisper*).

In *Phonetics* (equivalently), Speech or vocal sound without the musical or resonant tone produced by vibration of the vocal cords; a 'breath' sound, as distinguished from

'voice' (see BREATH 10, VOICE *sb.* 1 g); in strict use implying also contraction of the glottis: see also 4.

1608 SHAKS. *Per.* III. i. 9 The sea-mans Whistle Is as a whisper in the eares of death, Vnheard. 1626 BACON *Sylva* §174 The Inward Voice or Whisper can neuer giue a Tone. 1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No. 10 ¶9 Secrets which he always communicates in a whisper. 1778 MISS BURNAY *Evelina* (1791) I. xxiii. 124, I heard him say... in an audible whisper, —which is a mode of speech very distressing and disagreeable to by-standers [etc.]. 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Crim. Crts.*, Conversing in low whispers. 1837 — *Pickw.* xlv. Mr. Weller delivered this... with great vehemence of whisper. 1855 BAIN *Senses & Int.* II. iv. §35 (1864) 319 In a whisper there is no musical sound. 1877 SWEET *Handbk. Phonetics* 5 Whisper in popular language simply means speech without voice. Phonetically whisper implies not merely absence of voice, but a definite contraction of the glottis. 1882 BESANT *All Sorts* xxii, 'Mind, it's a secret.' He lowered his voice to a whisper.

b. A whispered word, phrase, remark, or speech.

1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V.* IV. Chor. 7 From Camp to Camp, . . . The Humme of eyther Army stilly sounds; That the fixt Centinels almost receiue The secret Whispers of each others Watch. 1624 MASSINGER *Parl. Love* v. i. She has put The judges to their whisper. 1770 GOLDSM. *Des. Vill.* 203 Full well the busy whisper, circling round, Convey'd the dismal tidings when he frown'd. 1821 BYRON *Sardanap.* III. i. 424 What, at whispers With my stern brother? 1829 SCOTT *Anne of G. xi.* The sage Persian comforted him by a long whisper, of which the last part only was heard. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Demerara* xi. Some relaxation of discipline allowed them to exchange a whisper from time to time.

c. pig's whisper: see PIG *sb.*¹ 14 c. **stage whisper**: see STAGE *sb.* 14.

2. A secret or slight utterance, mention, or report; a suggestion, insinuation, hint, light rumour (communicated in a whispering voice, or *fig.* by a soft rustling sound (cf. 3) or mentally); with negative, the slightest mention, the 'least word'.

1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 178 Not a word, nor quhisper in thair contrare. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* I. i. 80 At least the whisper goes so. *Ibid.* IV. v. 82 The people . . . vnwholsome in their thoughts, and whispers For good Polonius death. 1664 in *Extr. St. Papers rel. Friends* Ser. II. (1911) 191 Some whispers that the Judges would not proceede against any of the Quakers. 1677 W. HUBBARD *Pres. St. New Eng.* 43 The bullet passing through his own hair, by that whisper telling him that death was very near. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 64 ¶1 He [sc. a Courtier] deals much in Whispers, and you may see he dresses according to the best Intelligence. 1780 BENTHAM *Introd. Mor. & Legisl.* xvii. §11 (1789) 313 If the thunders of the law prove impotent, the whispers of simple morality can have but little influence. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D. vi.* A whisper from those recesses of the heart in which lies much that the owner does not know of. 1827 J. W. CROKER in *C. Papers* 17 Apr. (1884) I. 374 No one raises even a whisper of reproach against Peel. 1846 MRS. A. MARSH *Fr. Darcy* xxviii. He rejected the pleadings of pity—the whispers of conscience. 1873 BURTON *Hist. Scot.* VI. lxxii. 292 There were whispers that he was to be put to death without trial.

3. fig. A soft rustling sound resembling or suggesting that of a whispering voice.

1637 MILTON *Lycidas* 136 The milde whispers... Of shades and wanton winds, and gushing brooks. 1798 COLERIDGE *Anc. Mar.* III. xiii. With far-heard whisper, o'er the sea, Off shot the spectre-bark. 1842 TENNYSON *Gard. Dau.* 248 Whispers, like the whispers of the leaves That tremble round a nightingale. 1898 'H. S. MERRIMAN' *Roden's Corner* v. A silence, broken only by the whisper of the wind through the rigging.

4. attrib. Uttered in a whisper; in *Phonetics*, uttered without the vocal murmur, 'breath' (see BREATH 10); *whisper-like*, *-proof* adjs.; *whisper-shot* *nonce-wd.* [after *ear-shot*], the distance within which a whisper can be heard.

1626 BRETTON *Fantasticks* Wks. (Grosart) II. 6/2 The leaues of the trees are in whisper talks. 1838 E. GUEST *Engl. Rhythms* I. 9 It is... doubtful if there ever was a language which had its whisper letters perfect. *Ibid.* 10 The whisper sounds of the two liquids l, r, constitute two distinct letters in Welsh. 1846 *Proc. Philol. Soc.* III. 4 The sound of th, whether whisper or vocal. 1876 LANIER in *Atlantic Monthly* (1899) LXXXIII. 799/1 I... inserted a whisper chorus... to prepare by its straining pianissimo for the outburst of jubilation. 1876 *Gentl. Mag.* Sept. 339 To ascertain whether... our boasted right of asylum was really whisper-proof. 1890 W. S. GILBERT *Foggerty's Fairy* etc. 152 Informing everybody within whisper-shot... that this was my first brief. 1904 W. H. HUDSON *Green Mansions* iii. 45 The mysterious melody began... It was uttered by the same being heard on former occasions... that low, whisper-like talking. 1936 N. STREATFEILD *Ballet Shoes* xviii. 278 Petrova looked round to see that Popsy was out of whisper-shot. 1964 J. C. CATFORD in D. Abercrombie et al. *Daniel Jones* 37 What feels like *breath*... begins to sound more whisper-like at rates of flow above about 300 cl/sec.

Hence 'whisperhood *nonce-wd.*, the condition of being a whisper (in sense 2); 'whisperless *a.*, not uttering a whisper, or in which no whisper is heard; absolutely silent; 'whisperous (whence 'whisperously *adv.*), 'whispery *adjs.*, full of or characterized by whispers; resembling a whisper.

1710 SWIFT *Examiner* No. 15 ¶5, I know a Lie that now disturbs half the Kingdom with its Noise, which... I can remember in its 'Whisper-hood. 1863 P. S. WORSLEY *Poems & Transl.* 19 Crouching *whisperless. 1911 R. BROOKE *Coll. Poems* (1918) 74 The secret deeps are whisperless. 1884 LD. LYTTON in *19th Cent.* Dec. 898 The *whisperous, awe-struck tone of the voice. 1892 — *King Poppy* viii. 8 Waves that, hid in whisperous shadows, heaved. 1858 LYTTON *What will he do?* v. viii. The Duchess... sinks her voice, and gabbles on—*whisperously. 1834 MRS. HEMANS *Zegri Maid*

ii. Wks. 1843 VII. 25 In the *whispery olive shade. 1844 LOWELL *Columbus* 5 The reeling sea... falling Crumbled to whispery foam. 1861 L. L. NOBLE *Icebergs* 254 The whispery, hissing sound of smoothly sliding waters.

'whisper, *v.* Forms: 1 *hwhisprian*, 5 *qu-*, *qwysper*, 5-6 *whysper*, 6 *Sc. quhisper*, 7 *wisper*, 6- *whisper*. [OE. *hwhisprian* (only Northumb.) = Early Flem. *wisperen* (Kilian), G. *wispren*; cf. MLG., MDu. *wispelen*, OHG. (*h*)*wispalôn* (MHG. *wispeln*). ON. has *hwiskra*, Da. *hviske*, Sw. *viska* to whisper.]

1. a. intr. To speak softly 'under one's breath', i.e. without the resonant tone produced by vibration of the vocal cords; to talk or converse in this way, esp. in the ear of another, for the sake of secrecy. (See also 4 a.)

c950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John p. 4 *Murmurantes*, *hwhispreno*. c975 *Rushw. Gosp.* Luke xix. 7 And midðy zesezon alle hwhispredon [Vulg. *murmurabant*]. c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 421/1 Quysperon... *mussito*. *Ibid.* 525/1 Whysperyn. c1530 H. RHODES *Bk. Nurture* 373 in *Babees-bk.* 81 Whysper not thou with thy fellows oft. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* iv. iii. 329 Ile whisper with the Generall, and knowe his pleasure. 1610 — *Temp.* IV. i. 125 Iuno and Ceres whisper seriously. 1676 *Hatton Corr.* (Camden) I. 136 L^d Wharton, and L^d Mohun sat... wispring together. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 38 ¶8 He immediately runs into Secrets, and falls a whispering. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xlviii. Many ladies round about whispered and talked, and many gentlemen nodded and whispered.

b. trans. with *adv.* To bring by whispering.

1692 DRYDEN *Eleonora* 318 Her Soul was whisper'd out, with God's still Voice. 1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* xxiv, Cary... returned, and whispered Amyas away.

2. a. trans. To say, tell, communicate, utter, or express by whispering. (With simple obj. or obj. clause; often with the actual words uttered as obj.) See also 4 b.

1588 SHAKS. *L.L.L.* v. ii. 436 What did you whisper in your Ladies eare? 1601 — *Jul. C.* II. ii. 100 If Cæsar hide himselfe, shall they not whisper Loe Cæsar is afraid? a 1678 MARVELL *Last Instr. Painter* 937 His Fathers Ghost too whisper'd him one Note, That who does cut his Purse will cut his Throat. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* XII. 324 Rising Fears are whisper'd thro' the Crowd. 1712 MRS. CENTLIVRE *Perplex'd Lovers* I. i. She... whispers out her words, least I shou'd hear her. 1827 LYTTON *Pelham* viii. I took the opportunity... to approach Lady Roseville and whisper my adieus. 1836 E. B. BROWNING *Poet's Vow* v, in *New Monthly Mag.* XLVIII. 217 They whispered oft, 'she sleepeth soft'. 1891 'J. S. WINTER' *Lumley* iii. 'What is it?' he asked, in a loud whisper. 'Gooseberry', she whispered back—'come and sit here by me'.

b. intr. for *passive*. *rare.*

1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* iii. O Sorrow... What whispers from thy lying lip?

3. With the person, etc. as obj.: To address in a whisper; (with following clause or inf.) to tell, inform, bid, or ask in a whisper.

1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* I. i. D iij b, He hath whyspered the in the eare, or taught the thy lession in a corner. a 1591 H. SMITH *Serm., Satan's Compass.* (1592) 988 He will whisper the poore howe they shall come by riches. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* III. i. 4 Whisper her eare, and tell her I and Vrsula, Walke in the Orchard. 1611 — *Wint. T.* IV. iv. 827 Ile... whisper him in your behafes. 1626 BACON *Sylva* §946 He did first whisper the Man in the Eare, that such a Man should thinke such a Card. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 117 ¶5 He whispered me in the Ear to take notice of a Tabby Cat. 1758 GOLDSM. *Mem. Prot.* (1895) I. 34, I whispered my Companion softly, that as the Night was very dark, we might give him the Slip. 1777 SHERIDAN *Sch. Scandal* IV. iii. Re-enter Servant and whispers Joseph Surface. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 35 By whispering the rein-deer in the ear, they know the place of their destination. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* viii. Miss Jane... whispered her sister to observe how jealous Mr. Cheggs was. 1898 BESANT *Orange Girl* II. xxi. The Lord Mayor whispered the Judge again.

4. With special connotations. **a. intr.** To speak or converse quietly or secretly about something (usually implying hostility, malice, conspiracy, etc.); also (with negative) to speak ever so slightly, to say 'the least thing' about something. 1515 BARCLAY *Egloges* ii. (1570) Biv/1 That when other talke and speake what they will, Thou dare not whisper. 1539 *Bible* (Great) Ps. xli. 7 All myne enemies whisper together agaynst me. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 108 His companions whyspered and muttered ageynste hym. 1667 PEPYS *Diary* 28 June, And ne'er a prince in France dare whisper against it. 1824 MRS. HOFLAND *Patience* vii. 111 Mrs. Masterman... whispers every where about your wife's covetousness.

b. trans. To say, report, communicate, or utter quietly, secretly, or confidentially; also (with negative) to utter ever so slightly, to say the least word of. (With simple obj. or obj. clause; often in passive.)

1562 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 209 It is quhisperit and murmurit that sum suld forgett thair devoyr. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II.* II. iv. 11 Leane-look'd Prophets whisper fearful change. 1628 in *Foster Engl. Factories India* (1909) III. 202 This newes was first wispered here the 19th November. a 1708 T. WARD *Eng. Ref.* II. (1710) 38 This Matter whisper'd up and down, Was quickly spread thro' all the Town. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* lii. It is whispered about... that there is such a plan. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* lii. Some vague rumour... which had been whispered abroad. 1845 DISRAELI *Sybil* IV. xii. Whisper nothings that sound like something. 1887 R. H. ROBERTS *In the Shires* xiv. 246 It was whispered that a man answering to his description was keeping a very lucrative gambling-house in San Francisco.

c. trans. with *adv.* or *advb. phr.* To bring *into* or *out* of something, or to take *away*, by secret (esp. malicious or slanderous) speech.

1631 *Star Chamber Cases* (Camden) 24 He is to be admonished . . . not to whisper away the fame and credit of Deputies and governors. **1783** BURKE *Sp. Fox's East India Bill* 99 They cannot be whispered out of their duty . . . their public conduct cannot be censured without a public discussion. **1840** DICKENS *Old C. Shop* lviii, Are characters to be whispered away like this? **1872** BUSHNELL *Serm. Living Subj.* xiii. 257 The great majority . . . are led, drawn, beckoned, whispered into their calling.

5. intr. (*fig.* from 1.) To make a soft rustling sound resembling or suggesting a whisper.

1653 WALTON *Angler* ix. 185 There will the River whispering run. **1697** DRYDEN *Æneis* iv. 759 The Winds no longer whisper through the Woods. **1766** GRAY *Kingsgate* 10 No tree is heard to whisper, bird to sing. **1846** MRS. A. MARSH *Fr. Darcy* xxxiv, The autumn wind whispered low among the branches.

6. a. trans. (*fig.* from 2.) To suggest secretly to the mind; also, to express or communicate by a soft rustling sound (cf. 5).

1640 S. HARDING *Sicily & Naples* iii. i. 33 This day (There's something whispers to me) will prove fatal. **1667** MILTON *P.L.* iv. 158 Gentle gales . . . dispense Native perfumes, and whisper whence they stole Those balmy spoils. **1751** GRAY *Spring* 8 Whisp'ring pleasure as they fly, Cool zephyrs . . . Their gather'd fragrance fling. **1823** LAMB *Elia* Ser. 11. *Old Margate hoy*, The waves to him whispered more pleasant stories. **1837** DISRAELI *Venetia* ii. i, A strange sympathy which whispers convictions that no evidence can authorise. **1878** BROWNING *La Saisiaz* 150 Truth is truth in each degree, Thunderpealed by God to Nature, whispered by my soul to me.

b. with the person, etc. as obj. (*fig.* from 3). **1605** SHAKS. *Macb.* iv. iii. 210 Give sorrow words; the griefe that do's not speake, Whispers the o're-fraught heart, and bids it breake. **1713** ADDISON *Cato* ii. i, Something whispers me All is not right. **1761** A. MURPHY *All in Wrong* 1. 1 What devil whispered thee to marry such a woman? **1771** GOLDSM. *Hist. Eng.* II. 394 Adulation had whispered the king with such an opinion of his own ability. **1832** DISRAELI *Cont. Fleming* v, Nature seemed to whisper me the folly of learning words instead of ideas. **1849** T. WOOLNER *My Beautiful Lady, Noon* iv, Western wind . . . Whisper deliciously the trembling flowers.

Hence (*nonce-wds.*) **'whisperable a.**, that can be whispered; **whisperation**, whispering.

1830 *Blackw. Mag.* XXVIII. 893 All speak—talk—whisper—or smile, of all the speakable, talkable, *whisperable, and smileable . . . affairs. **1710** C. SHADWELL *Fair Quaker Deal* iii. 37 *Coxen*. Ah—when the Captain and Purser whispers, our Guts ought to grumble. **6** *Sailor*. Ay, Coxen, those *Whisperations are many an Ounce of Butter and Cheese out of our Way.

whispered ('hwɪspəd), *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + -ED¹.]

1. Uttered, said, or told in a whisper. **1567** *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 201 The quhisperit sinnis, callit cir Confessioun. **1746** CATHORTH *Poems* (1771) 59 The whisper'd tale. **1821** T. W. HILL *Sel. Papers* (1860) 26 Making the whispered *z* serve . . . for an unwhispered *s*. **1848** MRS. GASKELL *Mary Barton* xvi, A whispered earnest consultation took place. **1890** SWEET *Primer Spoken Engl.* 1 In whispered sounds [the vocal chords] are brought closer together, but without vibration.

2. Said or reported quietly or secretly; (with negative) uttered ever so slightly.

1605 SHAKS. *Lear* ii. i. 8 You haue heard of the newes abroad, I meane the whisper'd ones. **1748** RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) V. 35 Like a whispered scandal, it passed through several canals. **1897** *Daily News* 4 June 5/6 There is not even a whispered suggestion of repealing it.

whisperer ('hwɪspərə(r)). [f. as prec. + -ER¹.] One who whispers.

1. One who speaks in a whisper.

1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 79 b, The Crane by proper name should be called whisperer, or flackerer. **1711** STEELE *Spect.* No. 148 ¶4 Next to these Bawlers, is a troublesome Creature who comes with the Air of . . . your Intimate, and that is your Whisperer. **1740** RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1785) II. 375 As we walk'd up the Church . . . we had abundance of Gazers and Whisperers. **1832** BREWSTER *Nat. Magic* ix. 225 Where the whisperer is in the focus of one reflecting surface, and the hearer in the focus of another. **1876** J. SAUNDERS *Lion in Path* v, 'Hush', exclaims one of the whisperers to his neighbour.

b. An appellation for certain celebrated horse-breakers, said to have obtained obedience by whispering to the horses.

1810 H. TOWNSEND *Stat. Surv. Co. Cork* 439 He was an awkward, ignorant rustic . . . his name James Sullivan, but better known by the appellation of the whisperer, . . . from a vulgar notion of his being able to communicate to the animal what he wished, by means of a whisper. **1842** BORROW *Bible in Spain* xv, One who is an expert whisperer and horse-sorcerer.

2. One who communicates something quietly or secretly; *esp.* a secret slanderer or tale-bearer.

1547-50 BAULWIN *Mor. Philos.* II. Lijj, Caste whyspersers and tale bearers, out of thy company. **1611** *Bible* Prov. xvi. 28 A whisperer separateth chiefe friends. **1675** TEMPLE *Let. to King* Wks. 1731 II. 328 The Whisperers of this Story. **1707** NASH in *GoldsM. Life* (1762) 33 Whisperers of lies and scandal. **1751** JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 180 ¶10 The most officious of the whisperers of greatness. **1819** KEATS *Otho* iv. i, Whisperers . . . Hungry for evidence to ruin me. **1876** BESANT & RICE *Golden Butterfly* xviii, To be a Great Man's whisperer is a position coveted by many.

whisperhood: see after WHISPER *sb.*

whispering ('hwɪspərɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. as prec. + -ING¹.] The action of the verb WHISPER.

1. The action of speaking in a whisper; speech without vibration of the vocal cords; whispered talk or conversation.

c 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* John vii. 12 Hwisprunge micle [Vulg. *murmur multum*] wæs . . . in ðreote. **1412-20** LYDG. *Chron. Troy* 1. 2785 Whan sche heryth whispring eny-where. **1526** *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 159 b, Noyse of whispring with the lyppes. **1611** SHAKS. *Wint. T.* i. ii. 284 Is whispring nothing? Is leaning Cheeke to Cheeke? **1740** RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1785) II. 375, I was much less concerned . . . at the Gazings and Whisperings of the Ladies and Gentlemen. **1837** DICKENS *Pickw.* xxviii, After a little whispring with the other young ladies. **1863** A. M. BELL *Princ. Speech* 164 This whispring of the Voice Articulations is a remarkable characteristic of Gaelic, Welsh, and Irish speakers.

2. The action of saying or reporting something quietly or secretly; suggestion or insinuation (by whispered speech); faint mention or rumour; *esp.* (*obs.* or *arch.*) malicious insinuation, secret slander or detraction, backbiting.

c 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* iii. 868 That place . . . filde ful of tydynges Other lovde or of wisprynges. **c 1450** *Mirk's Festial* 279 Now hit ys made an hous . . . of whispring and rownyng. **1526** TINDALE *2 Cor.* xii. 20, I feare lest there be founde amonge you . . . whispringes, swellnynges and debate. **1546** W. THOMAS *Peregrine Wks.* 1774 i. 115 He had herd a whyspring amonge the souldieres how the sayde Earle . . . had gotten promes of ayde. **a 1548** HALL *Chron.*, *Rich.* III 53 Sekyng after his compaignie and yet not once heryng any noyse or whyspringe of them. **a 1586** [see WHISPERINGNESS]. **1605** SHAKS. *Macb.* v. i. 79 Foule whisp'ringes are abroad. **1734** tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* IV. 207 By false reports, whispering and calumny. **1828-43** TYTLER *Hist. Scot.* (1864) IV. 33 Rumours of war, and whisperings of the intrigues and conspiracies.

3. fig. a. Soft rustling sound resembling or suggesting whispered speech.

1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* 1. 564 The river . . . making a . . . gentle whispering. **1821** SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxvii, The garden . . . was silent, but for the whispering of the leaves, . . . and the plashing of the fountains. **1849** T. WOOLNER *My Beautiful Lady, Night* viii, The . . . hushed whispering of the vines. **1904** FITCHETT *Commander of 'Hironelle'* xx. 230 Her voice fell into the key of the mystical whispering of the sea.

b. Mental suggestion or intimation figured as whispered speech.

1672 SIR T. BROWNE *Let. Friend* §2 Some secret sense or intimation thereof by dreams, thoughtful whisperings, [etc.]. **1811** SHELLEY *Poems fr. St. Iruyne* 1. iii, Conscience in low, noiseless whispering spoke. **1848** MRS. GASKELL *Mary Barton* xv, The whisperings of her womanly nature . . . caused her to shrink from any unmaidenly action.

4. attrib.: whispering campaign, a systematic circulation of rumours, esp. in order to denigrate someone or something (orig. in *U.S. Politics*); **whispering-closet**, satirically for a private consulting-room; **whispering-gallery**, a gallery or dome, usually of circular or elliptical plan, in which a whisper or other faint sound at some point can be heard by reflexion at a distant point where the direct sound is inaudible; **whispering-hole**, a hole through which one whispers; **whispering-office**, nickname for a confessional; † **whispering-place**, = **whispering-gallery**; † **whispering-room**, a room for private interviews or consultations; † **whispering-trumpet** (*obs.*), **whispering-tube** = SPEAKING-TUBE 1; **whispering Willie** *slang* (see *quots.*).

1920 *Nation* (N.Y.) 10 Nov. 517/1 The scandalous underhandedness of the *whispering campaign of the Democrats . . . only prove[s] the spuriousness of all their protestations of belief in equal rights for black and white.

1949 'R. WEST' *Meaning of Treason* 1. vi. 118 A whispering campaign designed to weaken public confidence. **1962** D. LESSING *Golden Notebook* 1. 139 He was desperately depressed — a whispering campaign around the party and near-party circles, that he was and had been 'A capitalist spy'.

1978 D. BLOODWORTH *Crosstalk* viii. 69 The Chinese have been mounting a whispering campaign against the Soviet Union, quite distinct from their overt anti-Soviet propaganda. **1808** BENTHAM *Sc. Reform* 80 The Judge's *whispering-closet: from which all who have any interest in the discovery of the truth are carefully excluded. **a 1700** EVELYN *Diary* 31 July 1654, The Minster is indeede a noble fabric. The *whispering gallery is rare, being thro' a passage of 25 yards, in a many-angled cloister. **1812** *Examiner* 28 Dec. 827/2 The whispering gallery in St. Paul's. **1663** BUTLER *Hud.* 1. i. 518 Speaks . . . As though a Trunk, or *whisp'ring hole. **1712** ADDISON *Spect.* No. 457 ¶3 Peter Hush has a whispering Hole in most of the great Coffee-houses about Town. **1704** SWIFT *T. Tub* iv, The erecting of a *Whispering-Office.

1635 BRERETON *Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) I. 180 This *whispering place . . . is a vault or gallery. **1682** SIR T. BROWNE *Chr. Mor.* iii. §13 (1716) 97 The voice of Prophecies is like that of Whispering-places: They who are near or at a little distance hear nothing, those at the farthest extremity will understand all. **1746** *Phil. Trans.* XLIV. 219 As for whispering Places, the best I ever saw was that at Gloucester: But in Italy . . . I saw, in an Inn, a Room with a square Vault, where whispering, you could easily hear it at the opposite Corner. **1623** WEBSTER *Duchess Malfi* 1. ii, A Vizor and a Masque are *whispering rooms That were neu'r built for goodnesse. *Ibid.* iii. ii, His breast was fill'd with all perfection, And yet it seem'd a priuate whispring roome It made so little noyse of 't. **1688** HOLME *Armoury* iii. xvi. (Roxb.) 75/2 In the Base of this square, runing into the next, is a *Whispering Trumpett, a long straight hollow pipe. **1857** DUFFERIN *Lett. High Lat.* vi. (ed. 3) 65 The voices . . . became thin and low, as though they reached me through a *whispering tube. **1918** H. W. MCBRIDE *Emma Gees* 135 The . . . *Whispering Willies' belong to the class of

large caliber, long range naval gun shells which pass over the front line so high that only a sort of whistling sound is heard. **1937** PARTRIDGE *Dict. Slang* 952/2 *Whispering Willie*, a type of big naval gun used by the Germans: East African campaign of the G.W.

'whispering, ppl. a. [f. as prec. + -ING².]

1. That whispers; speaking in a whisper.

1596 SHAKS. *Merch.* V. 1. iii. 125 With bated breath, and whispering humbleness. **1716** LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Toilet* 46 Her Face may boast the Peach's Bloom; But does her nearer whisp'ring Breath perfume? **1770** GOLDSM. *Des. Vill.* 14 The Hawthorn bush, with seats beneath the shade, For talking age and whispering lovers made! **1890** 'R. BOLDEWOOD' *Col. Reformer* xv, A dozen smiling and whispering girls.

b. Uttered in, or of the nature of, a whisper.

1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* 1. v. 25, I . . . could tell A whispering tale in a faire Ladies care. **1649** J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Wand. Wonders West* 19, I spake to him . . . in a low whispering voice. **1760-72** H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 89 He held with them a long and whispering kind of conversation. **1846** MRS. A. MARSH *Fr. Darcy* xxxiv, In a low, whispering voice, rendered . . . faltering by their emotions.

2. Reporting something secretly or confidentially; *esp.* secretly slanderous, talebearing, backbiting.

1581 MUNDAY (*title*) An Aduertisement and defence for Truth against her Backbiters, and specially against the whispring Fauourers . . . of Campians. **1603** B. JONSON *Sejanus* II. ii. Wks. (1616) 378 Whispring fame Knowledge, and prooffe doth to the icalous giue. **1800** COLERIDGE *Christabel* 409 Whispering tongues can poison truth.

3. Making a soft rustling sound like a whisper. Also said of the sound.

a 1547 SURREY *Æneis* II. 963 Eche whispring wind hath power now to fray . . . my doutfull mind. **1575** A. F. *Virg. Bucol.* vii. 20 Vnder the whispering hollye. **1671** MILTON *P.R.* iv. 250 There Iliissus rous His whispering stream. **1770** GOLDSM. *Des. Vill.* 121 The watch-dog's voice that bayed the whispering wind. **1784** COWPER *Poplar-Field* 2 The whispering sound of the cool colonnade. **1795-1814** WORDSW. *Excurs.* iv. 1170 The whispering air Sends inspiration from the shadowy heights. **1847** LONGE. *Ev.* 1. iv. 137 She heard the whispering rain fall. **1850** TENNYSON *In Mem. c.* Low morass and whispering reed. **1890** 'R. BOLDEWOOD' *Col. Reformer* xxiii, The sighing, whispering, sad-voiced water-oaks.

Hence **'whisperingly adv.**, with a whispering voice or sound, in a whisper; † **'whisperingness**, whispering quality or character (in *quot.* in sense 2).

1580 in *Liturgies Reign Q. Eliz.* (Parker Soc. 1847) 572 Their speaking . . . is not softly and whisperingly. **a 1586** SIDNEY *Arcadia* iii. vii. (1912) 385 Bold onely in busie whisperings, and even in that whisperingnes rather indeed confident in his cunning, that it should not be bewraied. **a 1603** T. CARTWRIGHT *Confut. Rhem.* N.T. (1618) 247 A man is bound to discharge all his sinnes . . . whispering or secretly into the eare of a Priest. **1747** RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1748) I. 308 Thus she ran on, . . . but whisperingly, that my aunt might not hear her. **1872** GEO. ELIOT *Middlem.* xii, The pool . . . where the . . . trees leaned whisperingly. **1874** LISLE CARR *Jud. Gwynne* I. vi. 174 As the last words fell whisperingly from her lips. **1915** KIPLING *New Army* ii, Squad after squad . . . gathered up their target cards, and whisperingly compared them.

whisperless to whispery: see after WHISPER *sb.*

whispy, variant of WISPY.

whisquy-beath: see WHISKYBAE.

† **whiss**, *v.* *Obs.* Also 5 quysse, 6 whisse, whyss(e, wiss(e, *Sc.* quheiss. [Echoic. Cf. *Icel.* *hvissa* to whizz.]

1. intr. To make a sibilant sound of some kind; to whistle, hiss, whizz, or wheeze; *trans.* to whistle to. Hence † **'whissing vbl. sb.** and *ppl. a.*

a 1400 *Parlt.* 3 *Ages* 234 He [*sc.* falconer] quysse thaym [*sc.* hawks] and quotes thaym, quyppeys full lowde. **1555** EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 385 The whysyngge of a burninge forge. **1565** COOPER *Thesaurus* s.v. *Auster*, *Sibilus Austri*, the whissynge of the winde. **1583** MELBANCKE *Philotimus* T iij b, Like the sea which sodenlye with whissing noyse dooth moue, when with a little blast of winde it is but toucht. **1606** SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* v. i. 24 (Qo. 1) Whissing lungs. **1649** G. DANIEL *Trinarch.*, *Hen. V.* ccliii, Their fled Troops, met whissing in the Bound, Gave their owne Terror, in a Treble Sound. **1654** GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* II. iv. 49 Such a Nose is worth a double tost in a pot of Ale, and will make it whisse as well as a hot steele. **1847** HALLIWELL, *Whiss*, to whistle.

2. trans. ? To strike with something pliant, to flog; cf. *quot. c 1590* in *sb.* below.

c 1540 J. HEYWOOD *Wit & Folly* (Percy Soc.) 2 Some whysse hym, some whype hym.

Hence † **whiss sb.**, a blow with something pliant, a lash.

c 1590 J. STEWART *Poems* (S.T.S.) II. 235 Tak thair ane quheiss 3it vith my skoullon clout.

whiss, whisshe, *obs.* ff. WISH.

whissall, -el(l), -il(l), *obs.* ff. WHISTLE.

whisse, *obs.* pa. t. of WASH *v.*

whissle: see WHISTLE, WISSEL.

Whisson, dial. f. WHITSUN.

† **whist**, *sb.*¹ *Obs. rare*—¹. [Imitative.] A whistling sound, a whistle.

1579 TOMSON *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 268/2 If a sheepeheard .. giue a whist with his mouthe to gather his sheepe together.

whist (hwist), *sb.*² [f. **WHIST** *int.*¹ or *v.*¹]

† **1.** An utterance of the interjection 'whist!' as a command for silence. *Obs.*

1601 W. PERCY *Cuckqueanes & Cuckolds Errants* i. iii. (Roxb.) 15 With a whist and with a Hush Hast wee both Two to the Bush.

2. Silence: in phr. *to hold one's whist*, to keep silence. *Irish.* (Cf. **WHISHT** *sb.* 2.)

c1874 D. BOUCICAULT *Shaughraun* (c 1884), i. iii. 7/2 Hould your whist now! Wipe your mouth, an' give me a kiss! **1897** BARRÈRE & LELAND *Dict. Slang* s.v., 'Hold your whist,' i.e., hold your tongue, is an Irishism which has passed into English slang. **1898** MACDONAGH *Irish Life* 237 'Tis yer brother that's spakin' to yez, and askin' yez to hould yer whist!

whist, *sb.*³ [Altered f. **WHISK** *sb.*² explained as in quot. 1680.] **a.** A game of cards played (ordinarily) by four persons, of whom each two sitting opposite each other are partners, with a pack of 52 cards, which are dealt face downwards to the players in rotation, so that each has a *hand* of 13 cards; one of the suits (usually determined by the last card dealt, which is then turned face upwards) is *trumps* (see **TRUMP** *sb.*² 1); the players play in rotation, each four successive cards so played constituting a *trick* (**TRICK** *sb.* 12), in which each player after the leader must follow suit if he holds a card of the suit led, otherwise may either discard or trump; the winner of a trick becomes the leader of the next trick; points are scored according to the number of tricks won, and in some forms of the game also by the *honours* or highest trumps (**HONOUR** *sb.* 8a) held by each pair of partners.

dummy whist: see **DUMMY** *sb.* 2. *duplicate whist*, a form of the game in which the hands played are preserved and played again by the opposing partners. *long whist*, a form of the game in which the score is ten points with honours counting. *short whist*, the form now usual in England, in which the score is five points with honours counting.

1663 (spurious ed.) BUTLER *Hud.* II. i. 105 But what was this? A Game at Whist, Unto our Plowden-Canonist. **1680** COTTON *Compl. Gamester* (ed. 2) 83 Whist is a Game not much differing from [Ruff and Honours], only they put out the Deuces and take in no stock; and is called Whist from the silence that is to be observed in the play; they deal as before, playing four, two of a side, (some play at two handed, or three handed Whist). **1742** WALPOLE *Corr.* (1820) I. 225 Whist has spread an universal opium over the whole nation. **1758** JOHNSON *Idler* No. 33 ¶ 22 We sat late at whist. **1827** LYTON *Pelham* iii, Elderly ladies, who.. liked long whist. **1829** E. M. ARNAUD *Épître Whist* 29 The game is won by the party whose score first amounts to ten points in Long Whist, or five in Short Whist. **1842** LEVER *J. Hinton* ix, My little gains at short-whist. **1861** E. DUTTON *Cook Paul Foster's Dau.* viii, I should like... a good rubber of long whist. **1885** R. A. PROCTOR *Whist* *Intro.* 1 Whist, properly played, is the finest of all card games. **1891** J. T. MITCHELL (*title*) Duplicate-Whist.

b. attrib. and Comb., as *whist club*, *-like* adj., *memory, party, -play, -player, -playing* *sb.* and adj., *-table; whist-drive*, a party of progressive whist (see **PROGRESSIVE** *a.* 2 b) played for prizes, now often as a means of raising funds for charities.

1799 E. D. CLARKE in *Life* (1824) 349, I shall... ask him, if he will... belong to our *whist club. **1903** 'JAR' *Progr. Whist* 6 A *Whist Drive is a modification of Progressive Whist. **1915** T. BURKE *Nights in Town* 179 When I received the invitation to the whist-drive at Surbiton my first thought was, 'Not likely!' **1924** [see **INSTITUTE** *sb.*¹ 4]. **1959** [see *community centre* s.v. **COMMUNITY** 11]. **1977** *Lancs. Life* Nov. 73/1 They raised the money themselves (with hot pot suppers, whist drives, amateur drama and dances). **1981** G. MARKSTEIN *Ultimate Issue* 196 In the lobby of the officers' club the wives were having a whist drive. **1837** DICKENS *Pickw.* xxxv, Two other ladies of an ancient and *whist-like appearance. **1886** CAVENDISH *Whist* 136 With practice, you will acquire what may be termed '*whist memory'. **1744** S. FIELDING *Adv. David Simple* I. II. i. 144 One of the Ladies, who was of the *Whist-Party the Night before. **1828** SIR R. PEEL *Priv. Lett.* (1920) 109 A whist party consisting of the Duke of Wellington, Mrs. Arbuthnot, Lord Westmorland, Lady A. Beckett. **1861** LEVER *One of them* xxvii, His notion is, that life, like a whist-party, requires an accomplice. **1888** *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 544/2 All rules of *whist-play depend upon... general principles. **1744** S. FIELDING *Adv. David Simple* I. II. i. 147 Your Curiosity seems to be fully satisfied with what you have seen of the *whist-players **1770** in *Alex. Carlyle's Autobiog.* (1910) 560 He makes a very good livelihood... by betting on the whist-players. **1824** MISS MITFORD *Village Ser.* i. *Country Cricket-Match*, Feeling what a whist-player feels when he takes up four honors, seven trumps! **1837** DICKENS *Pickw.* vi, The whist-players were Mr. Pickwick and the old lady; Mr. Miller and the fat gentleman. **1837** LOCKHART *Scott* IV. i. 7 A few *whist-playing brother officers, that met for an evening rubber at Fortune's tavern. **1842** DICKENS *Amer. Notes* ii, There was less whist-playing than might have been expected. **1753** *Scots Mag.* XV. 36/1 Her absence rendered one *whist-table useless. **1877** MRS. FORRESTER *Mignon* i, There were whist tables in the library if any one cared to play.

Hence (*nonce-wds.*) **whist** *v.* (*a*) *trans.* to play out (a card) at whist; (*b*) *intr.* to play whist; 'whister, a whist-player; 'whisthood, age or state of ability to play whist; 'whisty *a.*, addicted to whist.

1810 *Splendid Follies* III. 6 She generally whisted out kings before aces, and revoked every deal. **1827** LADY GRANVILLE *Lett.* (1894) I. 433 Talking, singing, whisting. **1854** *Chamb. Jnl.* 2 Dec. 353/2 Young ladies, nearly arrived at whisthood. **1860** *All Year Round* No. 47. 482/2 Your erring mortal, your whister, .. rash with his aces, and a niggard of some beggarly small trump. **1884** JEAN MIDDLEMASS *Pois. Arrows* ix, The whisty old colonel. **1890** 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* xxii, Bankers... in great force... musical bankers, and bankers that danced, bankers that billiard and whisted.

whist (hwist), *a.*¹ *arch. and dial.* Also 6 *whyst* (e, whiste. [f. **WHIST** *int.*¹ Cf. **HUST**, **WHISHT**, **WHUSHT** *adjs.*] Silent, quiet, still, hushed; making no sound; free from noise or disturbance. (Usually *predicative*.)

Also *advb.* = silently, quietly, without noise.

14... *Chaucer's Boeth.* II. met. v (MS. B. Mus.) þo weren þe cruel clariouns ful whist [*MS. Camb. hust*] and ful stille. **1513** *Lydgate's Chron. Troy* I. viii. Ej b, Than Pelleus whan al was whyste [*MSS. huscht, hust, husshte*] and styll, Began ryght thus. **1528** *Roy Rede me* (Arb.) 65 Kepe thou silence and be whyst... For a lytell season. **1588** GREENE *Pandosto* C 1 b, The Noblemen seeing the King in choler, were all whist. **1590** — *Never Too Late* Wks. (Grosart) VIII. 228 The blythe and wanton windes are whist & still. **1610** SHAKS. *Temp.* I. ii. 379 Courtied when you haue, and kist the wilde waues whist. **1615** G. SANDYS *Trav.* 307 In nights whist calme. **1629** MILTON *Hymn Nativ.* v, The Windes, with wonder whist, Smoothly the waters kist. **1682** FLATMAN *Heracitus Ridens* No. 70 (1713) II. 179 Some few Relations... stand whist and silent, expecting the minute when she should depart. **1700** J. BROME *Trav. Eng., Scot.* II. (1707) 83 All was very whist and still. **1819** J. R. DRAKE *Culprit Fay* ii, The winds are whist, and the owl is still. **1890** BRIDGES *Shorter Poems* IV. xxviii. v, The huge unclouded sun, Surprising the world whist, Is all uprisen thereon. **1907** *Daily Chron.* 8 Apr. 4/6 The word 'whist' has still its... signification of silence in Kent, though it is pronounced 'wist.' This writer, not long ago, was threatening to come in late... to a country cottage lodging. 'You'll come in wist?' said the lady of the house.

b. Keeping silence in relation to something; saying nothing about the matter.

1577 STANNYHURST *Descr. Irel.* 6/1 in *Holinshead*, If he heard them, thank you that he would have bene whist, in hearing God so far blasphemed? **1609** J. DAVIES *Holy Rood* Wks. (Grosart) I. 8/1 The heau'ns are whist, whiles hell reuiles their Lord. **c1650** in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. ix. 140 Yet they can silent be, though, when they list, On Charles his Martyrdome they are all whist. **1880** MRS. WHITNEY *Odd or Even?* vii. 59 The Heybrooks were whist folks about their concerns.

c. transf. Attentive. nonce-use.

[**1580** LYLLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 283 All were whist to heare my judgement.] **1890** BRIDGES *Shorter Poems* IV. II. iv, My jealous ears grew whist.

whist, *a.*² (*dial.*): see **WISHT**.

whist, *v.*¹ Also 6 *whyst*. *Pa. t.* and *ppl.* whisted, whist. [f. **WHIST** *int.*¹]

1. intr. To become or be silent, cease or refrain from speaking, hold one's peace, keep silence. *arch. and dial.*

In the imperative coinciding with **WHIST** *int.*¹, q.v.

a1547 SURREY *Æneis* II. 1 They whisted all with fixed face attent. **1593** G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 79 Whist sory pen, and be aduised how thou presume aboue the highest pitch of thy possibility. **1856** P. KENNEDY *Banks of Boro* xli. (1867) 336 Can't you whist? **a1859** L. HUNT *Shewe faire Seeming* x, They whist, and still'd their joyous crowd.

† **b. trans.** To be silent about, pass over in silence, keep secret. *Obs.*

1570 T. WILSON *Demosthenes* 35 All these matters are now whist and kept in. **1573-80** TUSSEY *Husb.* (1878) 150 What ere he doth none ought dare say, but whist. **1594** O. B. *Quest. Profit. Concern.* 31 b, It seemed better vnto him to let fall his revenge, and to whist the matter.

† **2. trans.** To put to silence, to hush. Hence **whisted ppl. a.**, hushed, silent. *Obs.*

a1541 WYATT *Poems, Compl. upon Love to Reason* 145 Dere Lady: now we waite thyne onely sentence. She smiling, at the whisted audience: It liketh me (quod she) [etc.] **1596** SPENSER *F. Q.* VII. vii. 59 So was the Titaness put downe and whist. **1602** MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* I. B 2 b, The breath of darknesse, fatall when 'tis whist In greatnes stomacke; this same smoake, call'd pride.

† **whist**, *v.*² *Obs. rare.* [Imitative. (Perh. error for **WHISTER**.)] *intr.* To whisper, murmur.

a1555 BRADFORD in *Coverdale Cert. Godly Lett.* (1564) 478 No man may be admitted once to whist agaynste them.

whist (hwist), *int.*¹ Now *dial.* Also 6 *whyst*, *whuist*, *quist*, 9 *Sc. wheest*. [A natural utterance enjoining silence: cf. **HIST**, **HUST**, **IST**, **ST**, also **HUSHT**, **WHISHT**.] An exclamation to command silence: Hush! (Coinciding with the imperative of **WHIST** *v.*¹ 1.)

1382 WYCLIF *Judges* xviii. 19 Thei answerden, Whist [v.r. Whisht, Whischt; 1388 Be thou stille], and put fynger vpon thi mouth. **1575** A. F. *Virg. Bucol.* v. 14 Leauē of, whyst, say no more. **1593** G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 89 If... your tongue [be] soe laxatiue, .. whuist a while. **1598** R. BERNARD tr. *Terence, Adelphos* III. ii, Quist, quist, what man, art thou well in thy wits? **1611** J. DAVIES *Worthy Persons* Wks. (Grosart) II. 58/2 Whist, and me attend. **1611** COTGR., *Houische*, .. husht, whist, ist, not a word for your life. **1762** STERNE *Tr. Shandy* V. i, Whist! —cried one—st, st,—said a second—hush, quoth a third—poo, poo, replied a fourth—gramercy! cried the Lady Carnalivette. **1834** MARRYAT *Peter Simple* xiii, Whist—hold your tongue—you've not heard the end of it. **1859** H.

KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* xxxix, When I came to the door Donovan took me by the arm, and saying 'whist', led me into the sitting-room. **1891** ALEX. GORDON *Folks o' Carglen* 54 'Whist, whist,' cried Francie. **1894** LYTLE *Betsy Gray* iii, Wheest, man, or ye'll wauken up the waen!

whist, *int.*² Imitation of the sound of a whistle.

1861 LD. HADDO in *Mem.* xv. (1873) 212 It was puff, puff, —whist, whist;—and we were under weigh. **a1896** in *Life & Lett. Millais* (1899) II. 408, I said to a beautiful young person in the bar, 'I want a bedroom with a fire in it.' Off she went to a pipe, and said, 'Whist! No. 238 and a fire.'

whiste, *obs. f. wist*, *pa. t.* of **WIT** *v.*, to know.

whistel, *obs. form of WHISTLE.*

'**whister**, *v.* *Obs. exc. dial.* Also 5-6 *whyster*. [app. identical with OE. *hwæstrian* 'susurrare', 'murmurare', with root-vowel raised (from **whester*), partly by assimilation to *whisper*.] = **WHISPER** *v.* Hence 'whistering *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*; 'whisterer = **WHISPERER**.

1382 WYCLIF *Ecclus.* xii. 19 Grucchendeli whistrende. *Ibid.* xxviii. 15 The whistrende grucchere. **14...** *Chaucer's Troylus* II. 1753 (Harl. MS. 3943) Was Troilus not in a kankerdorte, þat lay & myght the whistryng [v.r. whyspryng] of hem here. **c1500** MEDWALL *Nature* (Brandl) I. 1087 Reason wyll whyster hym in the ere. **1519** HORMAN *Vulg.* 162, I hate whisterars. **1562** J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 97 Vnto them this lesson he whisters. **1565** T. STAPLETON *Fortr. Faith* 93 Pater Martyr... whistered to him in the care that he should plainly denie that any laying on of handes... was required. **1586** W. WEBBE *Engl. Poetrie* (Arb.) 75 Oft fine whistryng noise, shall bring sweete sleepe to thy seneces. **1610** HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* II. 147 She... whistereth a certain odde praier with a Pater Noster into his eare. **1746** *Exmoor Courtship* (E.D.S.) 624 Chell tell tha sometheng—Zart! whistery! **1888** DOUGHTY *Trav. Arabia Deserta* I. 556 Whistling—a surprising sound in the Arabic countries! where it would be taken for one's whistering to the jan.

'**whister-clister**, *dial. or slang.* A smart blow or cuff on the ear or the side of the head. So (in same sense) 'whisterpoop, 'whistersniff, †'whistersnivet, 'whister-twister.

1787 GROSE *Prov. Gloss.*, **Whisterclister*, a stroke or blow under the ear. **1866** THORNBURY *Greatheart* II, I thought... he was going to give me a 'whister-clister' (Devonshire for a blow on the ear). **1605** *London Prodigal* II. i. 68 Chee would a giuen thee zutch a *whisterpoope vnder the eare. **1778** *Exmoor Scolding Gloss.*, A *Whisterpoop*, a Sort of whistling, or rather whispering Pop,—a Blow on the Ear. **1818** SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xxxii, Keep hand off her, or I'se lend thee a whister-poop. **1883** *Hampsh. Gloss.*, **Whister-sniff*, a heavy blow. **1540** PALSGR. *Acolastus* IV. v. V i j b, You shall beare me oone *whystersniet, or gerte on the bare buttoke. **1542** UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 99 b, A good whistersnefet truly paid on his eare. **1825** JENNINGS *Obs. Dial. W. Eng.*, **Whister-twister*, a smart blow on the side of the head.

whistle ('hwis(ə)l), *sb.* Forms: 1-2 *hwistle*, *wistle*, 4-7 *whistel* (l, etc. (see the vb.), 4- *whistle*; also 4 *Sc. quyschile*, 5 *whystyl*, *Sc. qwistle*, *quhissle*, 6 *whisstill*, *Sc. qwystelle*, *qwissel*, *whissell*, 7 *Sc. whissille*, *whissall*, *whisle*, (8 *Sc. dial. fusle*), 9 *Sc. and north. whustle*, *whussel*. [OE. *hwistle* (also *wuduwhistle*), with a variant *wistle*, related to *hwistian*, *wistian* (see next). Sense 3 is prob. a new formation on the vb.]

1. a. A tubular wind instrument of wood, metal or other hard substance, having a more or less shrill tone, which is produced by impact of air upon a sharp edge; a shrill-toned pipe. Formerly also = pipe or flute.

Used in various forms and sizes for many different purposes: esp. (blown by the mouth) by boatswains, policemen, etc., for calling dogs or horses, or the like, or (blown by steam) on railway engines, steam-ships, etc., for giving a signal or alarm; also as a musical toy, usually of tin and pierced with six boles (commonly called *penny whistle*, *tin whistle*). † *Almain* or *German whistle*, a fife.

c950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke vii. 32 We gesungun iuh mið hwistlum. **c1000** *Voc.*, in Wr.—Wülcker 311/22, 27 *Musa*, pipe, oððe hwistle... *Fistula*, hwistle. **11...** *Ibid.* 539/24 *Musa*, pipe, *uel* hwistle. **a1340** HAMPOLE *Psalter* cl. 4 Orgyns pat is made as a toure of sere whistils. **c1375** *Sc. Leg. Saints* vi. (Thomas) 60 A madyne com... hafand a quyschile in-to hand. **1387-8** T. USK *Test. Love* II. iii. (Skeat) l. 55 The bird is begyled with the mery voice of the foulers whistel. **c1400** *Destr. Troy* 6051 With qwistlis, & qwes, & other qwaunt gere. **1427** *For. Acc.* 61 (P.R.O.), vj par' corn' voc' whisteles. **1463** *Bury Wills* (Camden) 41 My whistel of silvir. **1513** in *Lett. & Papers War France* (1913) 148 The boy... sawe hym [sc. the Admiral] take his whistill from aboute his neck, .. and hurlid [sic] it in to the see. **1532-3** *Act 24 Hen. VIII* c. 13 §1 It shalbe lefull for... maisters of the Shippes... and maryners to weare whistells of Silver. **1576** GASCOIGNE *Steele Glas* Epil. 19 The yonger sorte, come pyping... In whistles made of fine enticing wood. **1585** JAS. I *Ess. Poesie* (Arb.) 56 O Mercure, .. efter Pan had found the quhissill, syne Thou didt perfyte, that quihik he bot espyit. **a1610** HEYWOOD & ROWLEY *Fortune by Land & Sea* IV. i. (1655) 36 Boatswain with your whistle command the Saylor to the upper deck. **1661** BOYLE *Style Script.* 190 A Child, with a Whistle; a Trifle that onely pleases with a transient and empty sound. **1670-1** JAS. TURNER *Pallas Armata* III. xi. (1683) 219 The Bag-pipe... is not so good as the Almain Whistle. **c1770** BEATTIE *To Alex. Ross* ix, Where... shepherd lads on sunny knows Blaw the blythe fusle. **1819** SCOTT *Leg. Montrose* iii, They havena sae mickle as a German whistle, or a drum, to beat a march, an alarm, .. or any other point of war. **1836** MAYNE *Siller Gun* I. xxxix, Dangling like a baby's whustle, The Siller Gun... Gleam'd in the sun! **1840** R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xxvii, Everything man-of-war fashion,

except that there was no boatswain's whistle. **1898** FLOR. MONTGOMERY *Tony* i, The whistle sounded, and the train began slowly to glide out of the station.

b. Phrases, etc. †(a) *box* or (Sc.) *kist* of *whistles*, a contemptuous appellation for a church organ. (Cf. *a* 1340 above.) (b) In comparisons, e.g. *as clean, clear, dry as a whistle* (often with play on other senses of the adjs.: see *quots.*). (c) *to pay (too dear) for one's whistle* (and similar phrases), to pay much more for something than it is worth: in allusion to a story of Benjamin Franklin (*Wks.* 1840 II. 182). (d) *to blow the whistle on* (a person or thing): to bring an activity to a sharp conclusion, as if by the blast of a whistle; now usu. by informing on (a person) or exposing (an irregularity or crime). Also without *on*.

(a) **1678** ALSOP *Melius Inq.* I. ii. 99 Pope Vitalian . . first . . taught Mankind the Art of Worshipping God with a Box of Whistles. **1866** [see *KIST* sb.¹ 1].

(b) **1786** BURNS *Author's Earnest Cry* vii, Her mutchkin stowp as toon's a whissle. **1828** Craven *Gloss.* s.v., 'As clean as a whistle', a proverbial simile, signifying completely, entirely. **1842** J. WILSON *Chr. North* I. 84 By the time we reach the manse we are as dry as a whistle. **1849** W. S. MAYO *Kaloolah* v. (1850) 41 A first rate shot; . . head taken off as clean as a whistle. **1865** DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. xv, You're as clean as a whistle. **1880** A. GRAY *Lett.* (1893) II. 710 My throat was as clear as a whistle.

(c) **1851** TICKNOR *Life, Lett. & Jnls.* (1876) II. xiii. 271 Too much, he thought, for the price of such a whistle. **1854** R. S. SURTEES *Handley Cr.* vii, I should not like to pay too dear for my whistle. **1876** GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* xxxv, If a man likes to do it he must pay for his whistle.

(d) **1934** WODEHOUSE *Right Ho, Jeeves* xvii. 222 Now that the whistle had been blown on his speech, it seemed to me that there was no longer any need for the strategic retreat which I had been planning. **1953** R. CHANDLER *Long Good-Bye* vi. 38 Come on, Marlowe. I'm blowing the whistle on you. **1965** *Midnight* 12 July 20/1 More and more frequently though, a whistle is being blown on the more exuberant borrowers. **1978** S. WILSON *Dealer's Move* v. 98 So Arnie and Alfie blew the whistle on you all. What are you going to do about it? **1984** *Gainesville* (Florida) *Sun* 29 Mar. 5A/4 Jim Kirkland, the man who first blew the whistle on Gainesville's deteriorating financial condition, has resigned after less than three months on the job.

†c. *fig.* A person who speaks on behalf of another, an 'instrument', 'mouth-piece'; one who gives a secret signal (cf. *WHISTLE* v. 10). *Obs.*

c **1380** WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 2 Crist criede in desert, bi Baptist pat was his whistle. *Ibid.* 240 Poul whom God hap made his whistil. **1633** MASSINGER *Guardian* iii. vi. (1655) 51 Your neighbour, Your whistle, agent, parasite . . Should be within Call, when you hem.

d. *whistle and flute*: rhyming slang for 'suit' (*SUIT* sb. 19). Chiefly *ellipt.* as *whistle*.

1931 BROPHY & PARTRIDGE *Songs & Slang of Brit. Soldier, 1914-18* (ed. 3) 375 *Whistle and flute*, a suit (of clothes). **1941** G. KERSH *They die with their Boots Clean* i. 27 He is the one permanent type of Londoner . . the . . Cockney . . To Barker . . a suit is a Whistle, or Whistle-an'-Flute. **1960** A. PRIOR in *Pick of Today's Short Stories* XI. 180 Half-Nelson lives for clothes . . He never keeps a whistle more than a month. **1970** A. DRAPER *Swansong for Rare Bird* vii. 51 My best whistle was in a big heap on the floor. **1980** 'J. GASH' *Spend Game* ix. 97 'Him with the fancy whistle.' Whistle-and-flute, suit.

2. *colloq.* A jocular name for the mouth or throat as used in speaking or singing; chiefly in *phr. to wet* (erron. *whet*) *one's whistle*, to take a drink.

c **1386** CHAUCER *Reeve's T.* 235 So was hir ioly whistle wel y-wet. **1530** PALSGR. 780, I wete my whystell, as good drinkers do, *je croque la pie*. **1612** BEAUM. & FL. *Coxcomb* II. ii, Let's have no pity, for if you do, here's that shall cut your whistle. **1653** WALTON *Angler* iii. 75 Lets . . drink the other cup to wet our whistles, and so sing away all sad thoughts. **1674** [see *WHET* v. 6]. a **1680** BUTLER *Rem.* (1759) I. 216 He, that laugh'd, until he choak'd his Whistle. **1715** tr. *Panciroli's Mem. Things* I. i. xi. 28 They did not only moisten their Pates, but their Whistles too. **1787** WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Ode upon Ode Wks.* 1812 I. 447 Nor damn thy precious soul to wet thy whistle. **1836** [HOOTON] *Bilberry Thurland* II. 8 Let's have another drop to keep my whistle wet. **1840** MARRYAT *Poor Jack* xiii, Whet your whistle, Jim.

3. a. An act of whistling; a clear shrill sound produced by forcing the breath through the narrow opening made by contracting the lips; esp. as a call or signal to a person or animal; also as an expression of surprise or astonishment; rarely, the action of whistling a tune. Also, the act of sounding, or the sound made by, a whistle or pipe.

1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 151 Whan Marcurys whystyl hym dede streyne To hys deed slepe. **1586** [? J. CASE] *Praise Mus.* iii. 43 The ploughman & carter, are . . compelled to frame their breath into a whistle. **1607** TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 608 He requireth of a skilfull shepheard a voyce or whisell intelligible to the sheepe, whereby to call them together. **1634** MILTON *Comus* 346 The . . sound of pastoral reed . . Or whistle from the Lodge. **1671** TRENCHFIELD *Cap Gray Hairs* (1688) 53 When Dogs or Horses shew their ready motion at our Whistle or Chirrup. **1749** FIELDING *Tom Jones* vi. ii, She took an Opportunity . . to interrupt one of his Whistles in the following Manner. **1823** SCOTT *Quentin D.* xviii, Lucky that Klepper knows my whistle, and follows me as truly as a hound. **1848** DICKENS *Dombey* xxiii, There was nothing but a whistle emphatic enough for the conclusion of the sentence. **1856** Amy Carlton 13 The engine gave its warning yell, as Amy called

the whistle. **1896** CONAN DOYLE *Exploits Brig. Gerard* vi, The dry rattle of the drums and the shrill whistle of the fifes.

b. *fig.* or in figurative phrases: Call, summons.

Formerly often in *phr. not worth a whistle*; hence as a type of something worthless. Rarely with other implications: †A moment, instant (in *phr. in a whistle*): a 'whisper', slight mention (cf. *WHISTLE* v. 10).

a **1529** SKELTON *Col. Cloute* 238 They . . woteth neuer what thei rede, Paternoster, Ave, nor Crede; Construe not worth a whistle Nether Gospell nor Pystle. a **1553** UDALL *Royster D.* i. iv. (Arb.) 26 Kocks nownes what meanest thou man, tut a whistle. c **1580** Bugears III. ii, He red me a pistle and told a long round about not worth a whistle. **1583** STOCKER *Civ. Warres Lowe* C. ii. 67 That hee shoulde be brought to the whistle, or daunce after their pipe. **1605** SHAKS. *Lear* iv. ii. 29, I haue beene worth the whistle. **1639** J. CLARKE *Paræm.* 232 Ready to run at every mans whistle. **1641** MILTON *Animadv.* 57 Those drossy spirits that need the lure and whistle of earthly preferment. **1643** TRAPP *Comm. Gen.* vi. 3 It bloweth where it listeth, and will not be at your whistle. **1784** BAGE *Barham Downs* II. 273 He could do it in a whistle. **1855** MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xiii. III. 337 All his followers . . were ready at his whistle to array themselves round him. **1886** STEVENSON *Kidnapped* i, Can you forget . . old friends at the mere whistle of a name?

c. The clear shrill voice or note of a bird, or of certain other animals.

1784 COWPER *Death of Mrs. Throckmorton's Bulfinch* 10 With a whistle blest, Well-taught, he all the sounds express'd Of flagelet or flute. **1816** SCOTT *Antiq.* xxxvii, A miserable linnet . . began to greet them with his whistle. **1839** Penny *Cycl.* XV. 517/1 They [sc. Marmots] . . when angry or before a storm pierce the ear with their shrill whistle. **1860** TYNDALL *Glac.* i. xv. 103 To its [sc. a chamois] whistle our guide whistled in reply. **1881** JEFFERIES *Toilers of Field* (1892) 297 The blackbird's whistle is very human, like a human being playing the flute.

d. Any similar sound, as of wind blowing through trees or rigging, of a missile flying through the air, etc.

a **1648** LD. HERBERT *Occas. Poems, Ode whether Love shd. continue for ever*, Soft whistles of the wind, And whistling murmurs of a brook. **1826** J. F. COOPER *Last of Mohicans* xx, We . . are already nearly out of whistle of a bullet. **1867** MORRIS *Jason* xv. 435 Therewithal must I . . writhe beneath the whistle of the whip. **1888** BOTTONE *Electr. Instr. Making* (ed. 2) 30 To a practised ear the peculiar whistle tells when the glass is being cut, and when only scratched.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *whistle-call*; *whistle-belly-vengeance* (*slang*), bad liquor, such as causes rumbling in the bowels (cf. *whip-belly-vengeance* under *WHIP* 2a); *whistle-blower* chiefly *U.S.*, one who 'blows the whistle' on a person or activity (see sense 1b (d) above), esp. from within an organization; also *whistle-blowing* *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.* (lit. and *fig.*); *whistle-fish* [see *quot.* 1836], a name for different species of rockling or sea-loach; *whistle-grinder*, a contemptuous appellation for a church organist (cf. 1b (a)); *whistle-insect* (see *quot.*); *whistle-kist*, *Sc.*: see 1b (a); *whistle-language* = *whistle-speech* below; *whistle-line*, -*pull*, a line or cord by pulling which the whistle of a steamer is sounded; †*whistle-pipe*, a whistle for decoying birds; *whistle punk* *N. Amer. Logging*, a workman who sends signals by means of a whistle to those operating a donkey-engine; *whistle-ring*, a ring constructed to be sounded as a whistle; *whistle-speech*, a system of communication by whistling based on the spoken language, found esp. among peoples of mountainous districts and used to communicate over long distances; †*whistle-stalk*, a stalk made into a whistle or pipe, a 'reed'; *whistle-tankard*, a drinking-vessel fitted with a whistle, which sounds when it is emptied; *whistle-wing*, a name for the golden-eyed duck (*GOLDEN-EYE* 1a), from the shrill sound made by its wings in flying; *whistle-wood*, a name for various trees whose bark is easily peeled off, used by boys to make whistles, as the alder, bass-wood, mountain-ash, and various species of maple.

1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* xli, I thought you wouldn't appreciate the widow's tap. Regular 'whistle-belly vengeance, and no mistake. **1970** N. Y. *Times* 23 Mar. 40 When they reflect more fully on how well the majority leader handled a 'whistle-blower and protected their interests. **1983** *New Scientist* 23 June 83/1 A whistleblower who tries to alert his own organisation to a problem and fails will, if he feels strongly enough about the matter, go outside. **1971** *Ibid.* 9 Dec. 69 The Code [of Good Conduct of The British Computer Society] contains secrecy clauses that effectively prohibit Nader style 'whistle-blowing. **1978** *Monitor* (McAllen, Texas) 21 May 16A/6 He has introduced legislation to protect 'whistleblowing' federal employees from reprisals if they reveal wasteful, illegal or improper government activities. **1980** *Times* 1 Apr. 3/4 The growth in Britain of 'whistle-blowing' journalism (blowing the whistle on the secret parts of the state and its servants by disclosing their activities) would seem to have sealed the fate of the Donnotice system. **1983** D. DUNNETT *Dolly & Bird of Paradise* vii. 80 Whistle-blowing guys in white helmets. **1746** W. ELLIS *Agric. Improv'd* May xvi. 100 In a certain Park, where Pheasants and Partridges come at the 'Whistle-call. **1830** SCOTT *Demonol.* x. 393 Mariners conceive they hear the whistle-call. a **1672** WILLUGHBY *Hist. Pisc.* (1686) 121 Mustela vulgaris Rondeletii. A Sea Loche Cestriae. *Whistle-fish in Cornubia. **1769** PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* III. 128 The Irish have their song at the taking of the razor shell; and the Cornish theirs, at the taking of the whistle fish. **1836**

YARRELL *Brit. Fishes* II. 188, I believe . . that . . the term has been changed, . . and that for Whistle-fish we ought to read Weasel-fish. Both the Three and Five Bearded Rocklings were called *mustela* from the days of Pliny . . to the present time. **1843** BALLANTINE *Gaberlunzie's Wallet* 237 Doors were shut against the 'whistle-grinder'. **1760** G. EDWARDS *Glean. Nat. Hist.* II. 161 The head is made like that of a locust: the . . thorax is surrounded with many sharp points; . . I have called it the 'Whistle-Insect, because it very nearly agrees with another insect found in Africa, of which the natives make whistles to call their cattle together: these whistles consist of the whole outer cover of the insect. **1843** BALLANTINE *Gaberlunzie's Wallet* 139 Grinding muckle 'whistle-kists, Sic abomination. **1956** J. WHATMOUGH *Language* iii. 48 In this book we are not concerned with such departures from true speech as the so-called 'whistle 'languages' of Mazateco . . and of the Canary Islands. **1957** *Amer. Anthropologist* LIX. 487 My direct interest in the subject stems from a brief encounter with a whistle-'language' and a slit-gong xylophone . . among the Northern Chins of Burma. **1978** *Maledicta* II. 254 Whistle-Languages: Who knows whether there are insults or other abuses in whistled languages of the Canary Islands, Kuskoy/Turkey, etc.? **1898** 'H. S. MERRIMAN' *Roden's Corner* v. 46 The second mate, with his hand on the 'whistle-line, blared out his warning note every half-minute. **1570** Henry's *Wallace* viii. 1423 Ane 'quhissil pype. **1587** A. DAY *Daphnis & Chloe* (1890) 14 Vpon what occasion to vse the Whistle-Pipe, and how at another time to call with their voice alone. **1892** 'H. S. MERRIMAN' *Slave of Lamp* xxvi, Her captain swearing on the bridge, with the 'whistle-pull in his hand. **1925** *Amer. Speech* I. 136 The 'whistle-punk', who handles the signal wire that runs from the timber to the whistle of the donkey-engine. **1945** B. MACDONALD *Egg & I* xiv. 184 Sharp and clear came the whistle punk's signals for a skidder. **1965** M. MCINTYRE *Place of Quiet Waters* ix. 172 He might get a job as a whistle punk in a logging camp. **1877** W. JONES *Finger-ring* 534 *Whistle-rings, puzzle-rings, squirt-rings, &c. **1948** *Language* XXIV. 280 (heading) Mazateco 'whistle speech. **1972** HARTMANN & STORK *Dict. Lang. & Linguistics* 255/2 Young English children often use whistle speech as a game. **1979** L. CAMPBELL in Campbell & Mithun *Lang. Native Amer.* 958 Whistle speech is shared by Amuzgo, Mazatec, . . some Nahua dialects, and Mexican Kickapoo. a **1653** G. DANIEL *Idyll.* iv. 74 A 'whistle-Stalke. **1909** *Daily Chron.* 12 July 4/7 In the possession of the Corporation of Hull . . is a 'whistle tankard which belonged to Anthony Lambert, Mayor of Hull in 1669. **1872** COUES *Key N. Amer. Birds* 361 *Whistle-wing = Golden-eye. **1825** BROCKETT *N.C. Gloss.*, *Whussel-wood, the alder and plane-tree; used by boys in making whistles.

whistle ('hwis(ə)l), *v.* Forms: 1 *hwistlian*, *hwys(t)lian*, *huislian*, *wistlian*, 4 *wystel*, *whysle*, 4-5 *Sc. quhistle*, 4-6 *whistil(l)*, *whissil(l)*, 4-7 *whistel(l)*, 5 *whistyll(e)*, 5-6 *whystel(l)*, *whystle*, *Sc. quhissil(l)*, *quhisle*, 5-7 *wistle*, 6 *wysse*, 6-7 *whissel(l)*, *Sc. quhissel(l)*, 8 *Sc. whissle*, 9 *Sc. whussle*, 4- *whistle*. [OE. *hwis(t)lian*, also *wistlian*, f. an echoic root + -LE 3. Cf. ON. *hvisla* to whisper, MSw. *hvisla*, Sw. *vissla* to whistle, Da. *hvisle* to hiss.]

1. *Literal senses.*

1. intr. To utter a clear, more or less shrill sound or note by forcing the breath through the narrow opening formed by contracting the lips (the tone being produced merely by the resonance of the mouth-cavity, without vibration of the vocal cords): esp. as a call or signal to a person or animal, also as an expression of derision, contempt, etc., later more usually of surprise or astonishment; also, to utter a melody or tune consisting of a succession of such notes, esp. by way of idle diversion.

The common superstitious practice among sailors to whistle for a wind during a calm, and to refrain from whistling during a gale, is referred to in *quots.* c. 1515, etc. c **1000** *Gloss. Prudentius in Germania* (N.S.) XI. 398/176 *Hwyslap, exsibilat.* c **1000** Sax. *Leechd.* II. 258 *Wistlað* of þam dæle þe þæt sar bið. **1382** WYCLIF *Isa.* v. 26 He shall whistle [1388 *hisse*] to hym from the coestes of the erthe; and lo! hastid he shal come swiftli. a **1400** *Octouian* 1436 Clement nere the stede stapte, He whyslede and hys hondys clapte. c **1400** *Beryn* 3418 Geoffrey . . was evir wistlyng att euery pase comyng. **1423** Jas. I *Kingis Q.* cxxxv, The foulere quistlith in his throte Diuersely. c **1515** *Cocke Lorell's B.* (Percy Soc.) 12 Some stered at the helme behynde Some whysteled after the wynde. ? **1549** CRANMER *Serm.* Wks. (Parker Soc. 1846) 198 If we take it for a Canterbury tale, . . why do we not laugh it out of place, and whistle at it? **1570** *Satir. Poems Reform.* xvi. 83 They say he can baith quhissill and cloik, And his mouth full of meill. **1581** A. HALL *Iliad* x. 186 He whistled to him in his fiste. **1592** SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* v. iii. 7 Whistle then to me, As signal that thou hearest some thing approach. **1623** in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* ser. I. III. 140 That ye shoulde quhissell and sing one to another like Jakke and Tom for faulte of bettir musike. **1632** MILTON *L'Allegro* 64 The Plowman . . Whistles ore the Furrow'd Land. **1700** DRYDEN *Cymon & Iph.* 85 He trudg'd along . . And whistled as he went, for want of Thought. **1742** BLAIR *Grave* 59 The Schoolboy . . Whistling aloud to bear his Courage up. **1801** SCOTT *Eve St. John* vii, He whistled thrice for his little foot-page. **1827** in Hone *Every-day Bk.* II. 255 Our sailors . . whistle for a wind. **1844** HOOD *Captain's Cow* vii, The more we whistled for the wind The more it did not blow. **1882** BESANT *All Sorts* xxiii, Another discovery . . at sight of which he whistled and then shook his head. **1905** F. YOUNG *Sands of Pleasure* I. iii, Richard, whistling to the dog, led the way.

2. a. To utter a clear shrill sound, note, or song, as various birds and certain other animals; to pipe; †also formerly, to hiss, as a serpent.

a1100 Aldhelm Gloss 1. 4703 (Napier 121/2) *Sibilans*, hwiſtiende. 13.. *K. Alis*. 5348 (Laud MS.) Dragouns. . . pat grisely whistleden & blasten, And of her moupe fyre out casten. 1398 TREvisa Barth. *De P.R.* v. xxxvii. (Bodl. MS.), An adder. . . pat whistelep and blowith and corrupith pe aier. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* 1. x, [The serpent] whystled about the hows. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 39 The chekyns began to peu quhen the gled quhissillit. 1599 ALEX. HUME *Poems* (S.T.S.) *Hymnes* iii. 190 The Maveis and the Philomeen, The Stirling whissilles lowd. 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* 1. i. 54 Latine was no more difficile, Than to a Black-bird 'tis to whistle. 1766 J. COLLIER (Tim Bobbin) *Wks.* (1862) 344 They [sc. magpies] can whistle also! 1810 E. D. CLARKE *Trav. Russia* xii. 249 The Suroke, which is seen in all parts of the steppes, sitting erect, near its burrow, on the slightest alarm whistling very loud. 1820 KEATS *Autumn* iii, The redbreast whistles from a garden-croft. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xxxix. (1856) 359 The white whale. . . whistled while submerged. 1900 *Blackw. Mag.* July 60/1 It [sc. a buck] turned and crashed away into the forest, 'whistling' as it went.

b. Of a broken-winded horse: cf. WHISTLER 2 d, WHISTLING *vbl. sb.* 2 b.

1898 *Encycl. Sport* Mar. 183/1 Whether his most promising two-year-old. . . did or did not whistle—or worse—as she passed him.

3. a. To produce a shrill sound of this kind in any way, esp. by rapid movement, as the wind, a missile, the lash of a whip, etc.

c1480 HENRYSON *Test. Cress.* 20 The blastis bitterly Fra Pole Artick come quhisling loud and schill. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* iv. viii. 73 The souchand bir quisland amang the granis. 1581 A. HALL *Iliad* ii. 25 Making such noise as doth the sea, when. . . It makes the shoare whistle along, with beating on eche crag. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* xii. 404 The winged Weapon, whistling in the Wind. a1718 PRIOR *Henry & Emma* 392 When the Winds whistle, and the Tempests roar. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* ii. vi. 192 The first shot passed extremely near. . . whistling just over the heads of the crew. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* viii, The place became dilapidated, the wind whistled through the cracked walls. 1896 CONAN DOYLE *Rodney Stone* xxii, A whip whistled in the darkness. 1901 W. PETT RIDGE *Lond. only* i. 26 Mrs. Bell. . . turned up the gas until it whistled madly.

b. To rustle shrilly, as silk or other stiff fabric. *Obs.* or *dial.*

1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Quip* iv, Then came brave Glorie puffing by In silks that whistled. 1669 FLAVEL *Husb. Spir.* etc. 240 Under poor garments more true worth may be, Than under silks that whistle. 1858 A. MAYHEW *Paved with Gold* ii. vii, Making his nether garments 'whistle', as the noise produced by the friction of corduroy is musically styled by the vulgar.

4. To blow or sound a whistle; to sound, as a whistle.

1530 PALSGR. 781/1, I whystell in a whystell, or in my hande, *je ciffle*. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 40 The maister quhislit, and bald the mayrnalis lay the cabil to the cabilstok. 1608 SHAKS. *Per.* iv. i. 64 The Boatswaine whistles, . . the Maister calles. 1668 [see 7 a]. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* iv, She whistled on a small silver call. . . which. . . was sometimes used to summon domestics. 1849 THACKERAY *Contrib. Punch, Paris Revisited* ¶ 5 The engine whistled—the train set forth. 1896 *Law Times Rep.* LXXXIII. 614/2 The engine driver began to whistle about ten seconds before the train passed over the crossing.

5. *trans.* To produce or utter by whistling (in sense 1, 2, or 4), as a tune or melody; to express by whistling.

1530 LYNDESAY *Test. Papyngo* 88 To play platfute, and quhisill fute before. 1575 A. F. *Virg. Bucol.* x. 31 If that your pipe would whistle vp my loue, which boyles in brest [L. *Vestra meos olim si fistula dicat amores*]. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV.* iii. ii. 342 (Qo.) Those tunes. . . that he heard the Car-men whistle. 1709 T. ROBINSON *Vind. Mosaick Syst.* 89 They [sc. God's creatures] have all their several ways of Pleasure and Diversion, some by dancing around in the open Air, . . others by singing, or whistling out their cheerful Notes. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) V. 345 The linnnet and bull-finch may be taught. . . to whistle a long and regular tune. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* ii, The officer whistled a lively air. 1853 MRS. GASKELL *Ruth* xi, Miss Benson had some masculine tricks, and one was whistling a long, low whistle when surprised or displeased.

6. a. To shoot or drive with a whistling sound.

1697 DAMPIER *Voy. round World* (1699) 116 The Spaniards. . . began to whistle now and then a shot among them. 1829 SCOTT *Anne of G.* xiii, Sturdy young giants as ever climbed cliff, or carried bolt to whistle at a chamois. 1853 FERRIS *Mormons at Home* xv. (1856) 278 The wind. . . whistled the dust around us in clouds.

b. With *down, off*: To put on, or take off (the brakes of a railway engine).

1869 BRET HARTE *What Engines said* iii. Wks. (1872) 491 Said the Engine from the East. . . 'S'pose you whistle down your brakes. 1891 C. ROBERTS *Adrift Amer.* 172 The engineer whistled the brakes off.

c. To make (one's way) with whistling.

1853 MRS. GORE *Dean's Dau.* xxxvi, The steamer thumped and whistled its way athwart Cowes Roads. 1866 BLACKMORE *Craddock Nowell* xvi, He. . . whistled his way to the main front-door.

II. Extended, allusive, and figurative senses.

7. *trans.* a. To call, summon, bring, or get by or as by whistling; †*fig.* to entice, allure.

1486 *Bk. St. Albans* b iv b, Stonde styl and cherke hir, and whistyll hir. 1580 LVLV *Euphues* Wks. 1902 II. 197 If Argus with his hundred eyes went prying to vndermine Iupiter, yet met he with Mercurie, who whiselled all his eyes out. 1589 R. HARVEY *Pl. Perc.* (1590) 22 When I lead a horse to the water, if he will not drinke, what can I doo, but whistle him. 1623 SANDERSON *Serm., Job* xxix. 14-17 (1674) I. 98 Whether it be through his own cowardise or inconstancy, that he keepeth off; or that a fair word whistleth him off. 1623 MIDDLETON & ROWLEY *Sp. Gipsy* iv. (1653) H3, If you can whistle her To come to Fiest, make tryall, play the young Falconer. 1665 GLANVILL *Def. Van. Dogm.* 4 Whistling

their dependants into apparent precipices. 1668 H. MORE *Div. Dial.* ii. xxvi. 338 *Hyl.* If you fall a-drinking, I may well fall a-whistling on my Flagellet. *Cuph.* What, do you mean to make us all Horses, to whistle us while we are a-drinking? *Ibid.* xxix. 349 No Hags of Thessaly could ever whistle the celestial Dog out of the Sky. 1716 ADDISON *Freeholder* No. 22 ¶ 2 He. . . chanced to miss his dog. . . We stood still till he had whistled him up. 1759 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* I. xvi, Had he been whistled up to London, upon a Tom Fool's errand. 1774 GOLDSM. *Retal.* 108 He cast off his friends, as a huntsman his pack, For he knew when he pleased he could whistle them back. 1836 [HOOTON] *Bilberry Thurland* III. 3 A young man. . . came. . . and whistled her out through the palisadings of the area. 1876 *Field* 12 Feb. 156/2 The driver's whistle, as he tried to whistle the opposing signal down, would soon show to the man in the signal-box what was amiss. 1889 MRS. ALEXANDER *Crooked Path* iv, The polite man. . . whistled up a hansom for the two gentlemen.

b. (With *away, off*, etc.) To send or dismiss by whistling (esp. as a term of falconry); also *fig.* to dismiss, cast off, or abandon lightly: so to whistle down the wind (the hawk being usually cast off against the wind in pursuit of prey, but with the wind when turned loose).

c1555 HARPSFIELD *Divorce Hen. VIII* (Camden) 121 The which John Bacon was whistled and clapped out of Rome. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* iii. iii. 262 If I do proue her Haggard, Though that her lesses were my deere heart-strings, I'd whistle her off, and let her downe the winde To prey at Fortune. a1616 BEAUM. & FL. *Bonduca* iv. iii, This is he. . . that basely Whistled his honour off to th' wind. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* ii. ii. iii. 317 As a long-winged Hawke when he is first whistled off the fist, mounts aloft. a1721 SHEFFIELD (Dk. Buckhm.) *Jul. C.* i. ii, Those lofty Thoughts. . . now are whistled off With every Pageant Pomp, and gawdy Show. 1759 FRANKLIN *Ess.* Wks. 1840 III. 269 He first acknowledges that right, and then whistles it away. 1775 JOHNSON *Tax. no Tyr.* 83 The Dean of Gloucester has proposed. . . that we should. . . release our claims, declare them masters of themselves, and whistle them down the wind. 1792 HOLCROFT *Road to Ruin* 1. 14 Poverty is a trifle; we can whistle it off. 1840 MARRYAT *Poor Jack* xlv, To the winds have I whistled her long ago! 1860 TROLLOPE *Cas. Richmond* xiv, Having accepted my love, you cannot whistle me down the wind as though I were of no account. 1871 MEREDITH *H. Richmond* liii, You're going, are you? . . Then I whistle you off my fingers!

8. a. *intr.* To issue a call or summons, to call; whistle for, to summon. Now *rare* or *Obs.* (exc. as implied in sense 1 or 4).

1560 PILKINGTON *Ageus* (1562) 158 Drought, hunger, plague, sworde, do tarye. . . for God's callinge and as soone as he whystles, they come straighte. a1626 BACON *Adv. King Sutton's Est.* Wks. 1826 V. 381 The greatness of the reward doth whistle for the ablest men. . . to supply the chair.

b. whistle off: to go off, go away (suddenly or lightly). *collog.* ? *Obs.*

1689 SHADWELL *Bury F.* ii. 22 *Wild.* So, Madam, you have my Heart. . . *Gert.* 'Tis a light one, and always ready to whistle off at any Game. 1796 MME. D'ARBLAY *Camilla* vii. viii, [He] whistled off to his appointed chamber.

9. a. to go whistle: to go and do what one will, to occupy oneself idly or to no purpose (esp. in phrases expressing unceremonious or contemptuous dismissal or refusal, as to bid one go whistle; also without go). to whistle for: to seek, await, or expect in vain, to fail to get, to go without (cf. note under sense 1). *collog.*

1453-4 PECOCK *Fowler to Donet* 106 If eny man pretende so greet a curiosite anentis pe persoon of crist pat he lackid pe passioniu of angir, he may go whistle til he lerne bettir. 1513 MORE in *Hall Chron., Edw. V.* (1548) 9 b, There they spende and byd their creditours goo whystle. 1605 *Lond. Prodigal* ii. iv. 173 The Deuen-shyre man shall whistle for a wife. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* iv. iv. 715 This being done, let the Law goe whistle. 1642 PRYNNE *Pleas. Purge* 157 There is no Altar, Table in the Text. You may goe whistle then. 1677 *Govt. Venice* 271 Men are apt to promise any thing in danger, and to perform nothing when out of it, according to the Proverb of their Countrey. . . When the danger's past, the Saint may go whistle. 1741 SHENSTONE *Poet & Dun* 24 Your fame is secure—bid the critics go whistle. 1760 C. JOHNSTON *Chrysal* II. ii. xiv, 'Do not you desire to be free?' . . 'aye! that I do! but I may whistle for that wind long enough, before it will blow.' 1812 COLMAN *Br. Grins, &c., Low Ambit.* ii, You may as well go whistle as go think Of mending the confusion. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xviii, And sae we'll leave Mr. Sharpitlaw to whistle on his thumb. 1882 LADY G. BLOOMFIELD *Remin.* I. i. 14 She. . . rode off, telling him he might whistle for his money.

b. to whistle in the dark: to put on a brave front; to make a pretence of confidence. *collog.*

1939 [implied in WHISTLING *vbl. sb.* 1 d]. 1958 *Spectator* 8 Aug. 185/3 At his press conference, Mr. Dulles was whistling bravely in the dark. 1971 'L. EGAN' *Malicious Mischief* (1972) ii. 29 That fellow's whistling in the dark. And I think he knows it. 1983 S. HILL *Woman in Black* 92 'I am finding the whole thing rather a challenge.' 'Mr Kipps. . . you are whistling in the dark.'

10. *intr.* and *trans.* To speak, tell, or utter secretly, to 'whisper'; to give secret information, turn informer. ? *Obs.*

1599 SIR J. HAYWARD *Hen. IV.* 1. 27 Some of the secrete counsailors, or corrupters rather, and abusers of the King, whistled him in the eare, that his going to Westminster was neither seemly nor safe. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* iv. iv. 248 Is there not milking-time? When you are going to bed? Or kill-hole? To whistle of these secrets? 1627 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Armado* B 5, They dare speake felony, whistle treason. 1681 FLAVEL *Right. Man's Ref.* 195 The bird of the air that carries tidings, and whistles deeds of darkness. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xxxiii, I kept ay between him and her, for fear she had whistled. *Ibid.* 1, I wadna like. . . to gang about whistling and raising the rent on my neighbours. 1917 H. A. VACHELL

Fishpingle xii. 236 He hurried on, now doubly assured that Joyce had 'whistled'.

11. To smell unpleasantly or strongly. *slang.* *rare.*

1935 AUDEN & ISHERWOOD *Dog beneath Skin* ii. v. 113 Wot wouldn't I give fer a bath? Cor! I don't 'alf whistle!

whistle, change, exchange: see WISSEL.

whistleable ('hwis(ə)ləb(ə)l), a. [f. WHISTLE *v.* + -ABLE.] Of a tune, etc.: capable of being whistled; suitable for whistling.

1962 *Guardian* 9 Oct. 7/1 This movement contains no fewer than four very singable and whistleable tunes. 1973 *Daily Tel.* 19 Apr. 10/4, I want to sit light to the glorious fantasy, to let it ride through my mind like a whistleable tune.

whistle-ation: see -ATION.

whistled ('hwis(ə)ld), *ppl. a.* [f. WHISTLE *v.* + -ED¹.]

1. a. Uttered by whistling.

1816 J. HECKLEWELDER *Let.* 24 July in *Trans. Hist. & Lit. Comm. Amer. Philos. Soc.* (1819) I. 396 Where w in this language is placed before a vowel, it sounds the same as in English; before a consonant, it represents a whistled sound. 1864 J. C. ATKINSON *Stanton Grange* 195 In obedience to his whistled signal. 1918 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 29 June 5/3 A shrill whistled chorus of 'Jack's the Boy'.

b. whistled language or speech: = whistle-language, -speech s.v. WHISTLE *sb.* 4.

1948 *Language* XXIV. 283 Many words and phrases in Mazateco have identical tonal patterns. In the spoken language segmental phonemes usually distinguish tonally identical words and phrases. In the whistled language the absence of the segmental features gives opportunity for ambiguities. 1957 *Archivum Linguisticum* IX. 44 The Silbo Gomero is not the only whistled language in the world. . . but. . . is unique in being based not on prosodic but on purely articulatory features. 1978 *Verbatim* Sept. 13/1 Such systems of communication by whistling, based on the language of the user, are conventionally referred to as 'whistled languages' or 'whistled speech'.

2. Summoned by whistling.

1912 *World* 7 May 692/2 As they waited for the whistled cab to come.

3. Drunk, (mildly) intoxicated. *slang* (orig. *Mil.*).

The relationship, if any, to *whistled drunk* is obscure. 1938 G. MARCH-PHILLIPS *Ace High* ii. iv. 216 They would be drunk as lords, tight as owls, screwed, canned, whistled. 1942 H. E. BATES *Greatest People in World* 8 He bounced in very late. . . and then began to eat as if he had returned from a hunting expedition. 'Pretty whistled last night, boys,' he would say. 'Rather off my feed.' 1968 'O. MULLS' *Sundry Fell Designs* viii. 83 He'd taken a skinkful aboard, somewhere. He sounded more than a bit whistled. 1979 *Private Eye* 6 July 15/1 We all sidled off to a very nice little snug at the Golden Goose, where. . . all of us got faintly whistled.

¶ whistled drunk: see quot.

1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* xii. ii, He was indeed, according to the vulgar Phrase, whistled drunk.

whistler ('hwis(ə)lə(r)). Forms: see WHISTLE *v.*; also 6 *Sc.* quhuslar, 7 whisler. [OE. *hwistlere*, f. *hwistlian*, WHISTLE *v.*: see -ER¹.] A person, animal, or thing that whistles.

1. a. One who sounds, or plays upon, a whistle or pipe; a flute-player, piper, or fifer. Now *rare*.

c1000 *Ag. Gosp. Matt.* ix. 23 þa se hælend com into þæs ealdres healle, & ȝeseah hwistleras. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xv. 475 With wederes and with wondres, he warneth vs with a whistlere. 1538 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* VI. 399 In primis to iiii trumpetouris, iiii tabernouris, and iij quhislaris. 1538 in *Pitcairn Crim. Trials* I. 292* Deburat upoun þe Trumpetouris Tabernaris Quhuslaris and vtheris. 1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 30 The whistler with his iron Pipe encouraging the Marriners. 1844 MRS. BROWNING *Pain in Pleas.* 5, I desired the art Of the Greek whistler, who. . . Could lure those insect swarms from orange-trees.

b. One who whistles with the lips.

c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 525/1 Whystelare, ossinus, ossinator. 1542 [see BENCH-WHISTLER]. 1652 BENLOWES *Theoph.* xiii. lxxxii, But, hark, 'tis late; The Whislers knock from Plough. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 145 ¶ 4 Whistlers, Singers and common Orators. 1850 JAMES *Old Oak Chest* xxxviii, He was a great whistler, even when his thoughts were busiest. 1879 *All Year Round* 4 Jan. 184/1 He was a good whistler, and knew it.

c. *slang.* A keeper of a 'whistling-shop'; an unlicensed spirit-seller.

1821 W. T. MONCRIEFF *Tom & Jerry* iii. v, The whistler, otherwise the spirit-merchant. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xlv, 'Are these rooms never searched. . .?' said Mr. Pickwick. 'Cert'nly they are, sir,' replied Sam; 'but the turnkey knows beforehand, and gives the word to the whistlers, and you may wistle for it wen you go to look.'

2. a. A bird that whistles.

Applied locally to various species, as the golden-eye or whistle-wing (see WHISTLE *sb.* 4; also *whistler-duck*), the wedgeon, the ring-ouzel, the lapwing. Also *spec.* used of some nocturnal bird having a whistling note believed to be of ill omen: when flying in a flock, called the *seven whistlers*.

1590 SPENSER *F.Q.* ii. xii. 36 The Whistler shrill, that who so heares, doth dy. 1623 WEBSTER *Duchess Malfi* iv. ii, Hearke, now euery thing is still, The Schritch-Owl, and the whistler shrill. Call vpon our Dame, aloud, And bid her quickly don her shrowd. 1782 PENNANT *Gen. Syn. Birds* I. ii. 443 Whistler O[riole]. . . Inhabits St. Domingo, where it is called *Siffleur*. 1848 THOREAU *Maine W.* (1894) 19 The note of a whistler-duck. 1874 J. W. LONG *Amer. Wildfowl* xxix. 281 Local names: butter-box, butter-ball, and little whistler. 1883 *Leisure Hour* Dec. 733/1 Immense flocks of birds were flying about uttering a doleful shrill whistling. . .

they were what were called the 'Seven Whistlers', and... considered a sign of some great calamity. **1884** COUES *Key N. Amer. Birds* (ed. 2) 704 *Clangula glaucium*. Golden-eye. Whistler. Garrot.

b. [tr. Canadian Fr. *siffleur*.] A large species of marmot (*Marmota caligata*) found in mountainous parts of N. America; = SIFFLEUR.

1703 tr. *Lahontan's New Voy. N.-Amer.* I. 110 [We saw] little beasts called Siffleurs or Whistlers. **1820** HARMON *Jrnl.* 427 A small animal, found only on the Rocky Mountain, denominated, by the Natives, Quis-qui-su, or whistlers, from the noise which they frequently make, and always when surprised. **1829** J. RICHARDSON etc. *Fauna Boreali-Amer.* I. 150 The Whistler inhabits the Rocky Mountains from latitude 45° to 62°. **1866** J. K. LORD *Naturalist in Vancouver Island* II. 195 The Redskin is the whistler's most implacable enemy; he never tires of hunting and trapping the little animal. **1912** *Canad. Alpine Jrnl.* (Special No.) 28 The big hoary marmots are well named 'whistlers' by all mountain climbing people of the Canadian Rockies. **1973** *Islander* (Victoria, B.C.) 4 Feb. 4/3 Here we saw ptarmigan and heard the marmots, or whistlers.

c. = *whistle-fish*: see WHISTLE *sb.* 4.

1864 COUCH *Brit. Fishes* III. 105 Three-bearded Rockling. Whistler. Whistle-fish... *Motella vulgaris*.

d. A broken-winded horse that breathes hard with a shrill sound.

1824 PERCIVALL *Vet. Art* xxxiv. II. 243 We hear of pipers, wheezers, whistlers, high-blowers, and grunters: a cant in common use among our horse-dealers and horse-men, of the vulgar meaning of which no professional man should show ignorance. **1829** *Sporting Mag.* (N.S.) XXIII. 214 It is very common to hear a person say 'my horse is a bit of a whistler', when he means to imply he is not an absolute roarer. **1845** W. C. SPOONER *Vet. Art* (1851) 46 We have the names, whistlers, wheezers, and high-blowers, given by horse-dealers to horses that roar.

3. a. Something that makes a whistling sound.

1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict., Browns and Whistlers*, bad halfpence and farthings; (a term used by coiners). **1822** R. G. WALLACE *Fifteen Yrs. India* 118 The quarter-master will transport with the corps forty thousand rounds of spare ammunition, after completing each pouch with sixty whistlers. **1896** *Daily News* 7 Feb. 5/5 A breezy norther from the frozen steppes—a real Arctic whistler which makes one's face tingle.

b. An atmospheric heard as a whistle that falls in pitch, caused by radio waves generated by lightning and guided by the lines of force of the earth's magnetic field.

1928 *Nature* 17 Nov. 768/1 These observations refer to a peculiar class of atmospheric, which from their musical nature are appropriately termed 'whistlers'. **1963** G. M. B. DOBSON *Exploring Atmosphere* viii. 141 It is also possible to get some information about the ionization at very great heights above the earth from the curious phenomenon of 'whistlers' or 'whistling atmospherics'. **1974** [see MAGNETOSPHERIC *a.*]. **1979** [see WAVE GUIDE].

Whistlerian (hwɪ'slɜːrɪən), *a.* [f. the name *Whistler* + -IAN.] Of, pertaining to, or characteristic of the American painter and wit James Abbott McNeill Whistler (1834–1903) or his work; after the style of Whistler.

1891 E. DOWSON *Let.* 2 Feb. (1967) 183 Oscar arrived late looking more like his Whistlerian name, in his voluminous dress clothes, than I have ever seen him. **1905** W. J. LOCKE *Morals of Marcus Ordeyne* II. 19 A sort of Whistlerian nocturne of golden fog! **1927** CHESTERTON *Robert Louis Stevenson* iv. 92 We talk of some Whistlerian satire as a squib; but satire can only shine in the dark. **1956** D. JONES *Let.* 24 Aug. in R. Hague *Dai Greatcoat* (1980) III. 170 I'm glad to have found one surviving little oil study from this almost Whistlerian world. **1960** *Times* 15 Nov. 16/5 This is all very well in an aesthetic and Whistlerian sense. **1979** S. WEINTRAUB *London Yankees* vi. 180 His [sc. Sargent's] icily elegant and Whistlerian portrait... of Madame Judith Gautreau.

Also **Whistlerism** ('hwɪslərɪz(ə)m), the style or æsthetic theory of Whistler; 'Whistlerish *a.*

1912 C. ROWLEY *50 Yrs. Work without Wages* 147 We discussed the prevailing fashions of Whistlerism, Impressionism, and... post-Impressionism. **1918** G. B. SHAW *Pen Portraits* (1932) 40 They are art for art's sake: the political variety of Whistlerism. **1979** *Times Lit. Suppl.* 23 Nov. 10/4 The subject of the Thames... her Whistlerish visual evocations.

'**whistle-stop**, *sb.* orig. U.S. Also whistle stop. [WHISTLE *sb.*]

1. A small station or town at which trains do not stop unless requested by a signal given on a whistle.

1934 M. H. WESEEN *Dict. Amer. Slang* 418 *Whistle Stop*, a small town. **1944** *Sat. Rev.* (U.S.) 2 Sept. 2/4 The frank... and... challenging story of the men of the U.S. Foreign Service who represent America in the whistle-stops of the world. **1948** N. Y. *Times* 7 Sept. 18/8 President Truman told a railroad station crowd here tonight that 'before this campaign is over I expect to visit every whistle stop in the United States'. **1949** *Time* 9 May 29/3 To protest making Electra a whistle stop for express trains, he had thousands of plastic whistles molded in the shape of locomotives. **1949** 'H. ROBBINS' *Dream Merchants* (1950) 290 He thought Rock had been acting strangely yesterday when they had been married at that whistle stop just inside the California border. **1957** B. HUTCHISON *Canada* 217 The railway traveler sees only the dismal villages of the main line, the whistle stops around a wooden grain elevator... and a garage. **1965** S. G. LAWRENCE *40 Yrs. on Yukon Telegraph* xvii. 102 The railway company only recognized the town as a whistle stop.

2. One of a series of rapid, superficial visits.

1952 *Manch. Guardian Weekly* 7 Aug. 3 Truman opens his trap at the first whistle-stop. *Ibid.* 9 Oct. 3 As for Mr Truman's contribution by whistle-stop, his speeches have been... violently abusive. **1959** *Observer* 2 Aug. 9/4 We have

gone on the marathon round of the dress shows (making whistle stops at breakfast and lunchtime at the smaller houses). **1976** *Courier-Jrnl.* (Louisville, Kentucky) 17 Sept. A2/1 President Ford is making a three-day tour... that will include a series of 'whistlestops' aboard a Mississippi riverboat.

3. Used *attrib.* to designate a journey with a lot of brief halts; *spec.* one by a campaigning politician that takes in many undistinguished places in this way. Also *fig.*

1949 *Time* 6 June 22/1 Louis Johnson... raised enough money... to pay for Harry Truman's whistle-stop campaign. **1952** *Manch. Guardian Weekly* 18 Sept. 3/1 On the whistle-stop tour down California's Central Valley. **1959** *Manch. Guardian* 23 July 1/3 The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh... continued their 'whistle stop' journey to Moose Jaw. **1972** G. DURRELL *Catch me a Colobus* v. 94 Our whistle-stop tours of the villages round about had paid dividends and when we went to visit them again we rarely came away empty handed. **1973** M. TRUMAN *Harry S. Truman* i. 1 We had left Independence, Missouri, earlier in the day, and made a whistle-stop visit to Junction City, Kansas, at 11:05 p.m. **1976** *Times Lit. Suppl.* 23 July 904/4 She goes on to a whistle-stop history of attitudes to female inversion from Ancient Greece to the present day. **1978** *Broadcast* 17 July 15/1 BBC Radio 1's Roadshow set off again this week with a seven-week whistle stop tour of Britain's holiday resorts. **1981** N. & Q. Dec. 556/1 The result is an unremitting whistle-stop tour through barren regions.

Hence 'whistle-stop *v.*, (a) *trans.*, to travel through (a region) on a whistle-stop tour (*rare*); (b) *intr.*, to make a whistle-stop tour; also 'whistle-stopping *vbl. sb.*

1952 *News* (Birmingham, Ala.) 26 July 1/3 In a sort of swan song to the Democratic Party as its leader, he offered to whistle-stop the country for his successor. *Ibid.* 23 Sept. 14/5 Ike Eisenhower had settled down to whistle-stopping. **1952** *Time* 13 Oct. 23/3 In Michigan last week, nearly 100,000 people turned out to see Eisenhower as he whistlestopped across the state. **1957** *Ann. Reg.* 1956 183 Most of the 'whistle-stopping' was left to the assiduous Mr. Nixon. **1959** *Observer* 12 July 4/7 The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh have been whistle-stopping their way across British Columbia. **1964** J. RESTON in M. McLuhan *Understanding Media* xxxii. 339 Everybody's now whistle-stopping through somebody else's country, usually ours. **1972** *Observer* 23 Apr. 6/4 Italian politicians are whistle-stopping around the country this weekend in... the... election campaign. **1978** *Guardian* 14 Dec. 15/4 Howard Jarvis... the Messiah of taxpayers... has whistle-stopped across the United States with... 226 events every 10 days.

whistling ('hwɪs(ə)lɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* Forms: see WHISTLE *v.*; also 5 *Sc.* quhestlyng, 6 *Sc.* quhisling, 7 whisling. [OE. (*h*)wistlung, f. (*h*)wistlian, WHISTLE *v.*: see -ING¹.] The action of the verb WHISTLE, in various senses.

1. a. The action of producing a shrill note or notes by forcing the breath through the lips; the utterance of a tune, etc. in this way; †hissing: see WHISTLE *v.* 1, 5.

c897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xxiii. 173 Sua sua mid liðre wiðlunga mon hors gestilleð, sua eac mid ð ære illean wistlunga mon mæg hund astyrgean. **c**1100 *Voc.* in W. Wülcker 162/44 *Sibillatio*, whistlung. **1377** LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* xv. 456 Foules pat. folwed his whistellynge. **1382** WYCLIF 2 *Chron.* xxix. 8 He toke hem in to distourbylynge, and into deth, and in to whistlyng [Vulg. *sibillum*]. **1398** TREVISIA *Barth. De P.R.* xviii. xiv. (Bodl. MS.) lf. 255 b/2 An oxe heerde... plesep ham [sc. the oxen] wip whisteling and wip songe. **1577** GRANGE *Golden Aphrod.* K iijb, Vmanned Haukes forsake the lure, all whistlyng brings them not to fiste. **1663** COWLEY *Ess., Agric.* Wks. (1674) 106 Some swell up their slight Sails with poplar fame, Charm'd with the foolish whistlings of a Name. **1787** GROSE *Prov. Gloss., Superst.* etc. 66 Whistling at sea is supposed to cause an increase of wind, if not a storm. **1845** FORD *Handbk. Spain* I. 45 The same absence of thought which is shewn in England by whistling is displayed in Spain by singing. **1892** KIPLING *Let. Trav.* (1920) 65 He continued an interrupted whistling of 'I owe ten dollars to O'Grady'.

b. The action of sounding a whistle or pipe; piping.

c950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke xv. 25 Wæs ða sunu his ældra on lond & miððy geuome & geneolecde to huse geherde hwislung [L. *simphoniam*] & pæt song. **1576** CURTEYS *Tow. Serm.* Bivb. The Shephearde needeth a Whistle, and... a Dog and an hooke, that suche Sheep as wil not come in with whistling may be either baited in with a Dogge, or drawn in with a Hook. **1679** OATES *Myst. Iniq.* 14 The Master of a Galley... with once whistling makes all the Galley Slaves fall to their Oars. **1884** *Manch. Exam.* 6 Oct. 5/6 The occasional whistling of an engine.

c. In phrases alluding to the act of whistling by way of a call or summons, as for the whistling (= quite easily, without any trouble), *worth the whistling*.

1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* I. xi. (1867) 35 It is... a poore dogge, that is not woorth the whystlyng. **1601** W. CORNWALLIS *Ess.* II. lii. (1631) 334 Magnanimite, state, absolutenes are qualities worth the whistling. **1610** J. ROBINSON *Justif. Sep.* 152 In England a man may haue a Priest for the whistling. **1655** *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) II. 287 He may be had for whistling.

d. In *fig. phr.* *whistling in the dark*: see WHISTLE *v.* 9b.

1939 *Time* 18 Dec. 21/3 Since precious little German trade can be sailed, submarined or flown overseas, writing about 'new possibilities'... sounded like official whistling in the dark. **1968** J. M. WHITE *Nightclimber* xix. 132 He, like me, hated and feared being carried in this ship, for all his whistling in the dark. **1977** *Listener* 10 Feb. 169/3 Lenin and his wife... were not above a little whistling in the dark to keep up their spirits.

2. a. The utterance of a clear shrill note or notes, as the natural call of a bird or other animal; †also formerly, the hissing of serpents.

In quotes. 1375 app. an error for *questing* = baying (of dogs).

c950 *Guthlac* (Prose) viii. (1909) 139 Mislice fugela hwistlung. **13...** K. *Alis.* 5247 (Laud MS.) Grete Addren comen flynge And scorpions wip vile whistlyng. **1375** BARBOUR *Bruce* vi. 87 He herd... A hundis quhistlyng [ed. *Hart* whissilling, MS. *Edinb.* questionyng] apon fer. *Ibid.* 94 A hundis quhestlyng. **1426** LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 14140 Whan I here ther... whystlynges, For verray loy I hoppe and daunce. **1728** POPE *Dunc.* III. 156 Each Cygnet sweet... Whose tuneful whistling makes the waters pass. **1847** LEICHHARDT *Jrnl.* xiii. 461 The leatherhead with its constantly changing call and whistling. **1855** C. E. NORTON *Let. to Lowell* 6 Apr., There is scarcely a sound but the whistling of the frogs.

b. A form of broken wind in horses: cf. WHISTLER 2d.

1856 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Sports* II. III. ii. §1. 403 Roaring, whistling, and all defects of the wind, are easily discovered on the first smart gallop.

3. The production of any shrill sound of this kind, as by the wind, a missile, etc.

1513 DOUGLAS *Aeneis* I. ii. 6 Quhair Eolus... the wyndis lowde quhisling... by his power reffenis. **1596** SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV.* v. i. 5 The Southerne winde... by his hollow whistling in the Leaues, Fortels a Tempest. **1608** SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. *Schism* 932 Sea's angry noise, loud bellowing of the Winde... the tackles whisteling. **1609** *Bible* (Douay) 1 Kings xix. 12 And after the fire a whistling of a gentle winde. **1681-6** J. SCOTT *Chr. Life* (1747) III. 9 We regard what he saith no more than we do the Whistling of the Wind. **1801** STRUTT *Sports & Past.* II. i. 58 The arrows made a loud whistling in their flight. **1841** J. F. COOPER *Deerslayer* iii, At the report of the rifle and the whistling of the bullet. **1844** DUFFON *Deafness* 77 If there is mucus, then various kinds of gurgling and whistling will be evident. **1899** J. G. MILLAIS *Breathfr. Veldt* 337 Swishing their white tails... with such violence that the whistling caused by this movement can be heard nearly a quarter of a mile away.

4. attrib., as *whistling match*, *pipe*; *whistling-post*, a post beside a railway-line, on passing which the engine-whistle is sounded; *whistling-shop slang*, a room in a prison in which spirits were secretly sold without a licence (a signal being given by whistling to escape detection).

1837 D. WALKER *Sports & Games* 344 *Whistling Match. A match of this kind is recorded in a paper of Addison's. **1586** [? J. CASE] *Praise Mus.* i. 18 The *whistling pipes which were made for the most part, of reedes. **1898** HAMBLEN *Gen. Manager's Story* x. 140, I managed to see most of the *whistling-posts, ... and... I blew the crossing signal anyway. **1996** GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T.* (ed. 3), *Whistling shop, rooms in the King's Bench prison where drams are privately sold. **1821** W. T. MONCRIEFF *Tom & Jerry* III. v, Scene V.—Interior of Whistling Shop. **1837** DICKENS *Pickw.* xlv, A whistling-shop, sir, is where they sell spirits.

'**whistling**, *ppl. a.* Forms: see WHISTLE *v.*; also 6 whislyng. [f. as prec. + -ING².] That whistles, in various senses.

1. a. Of inanimate things: see WHISTLE *v.* 3.

whistling arrow, a toy arrow formerly in use, with a hollow head so constructed as to make a whistling sound in flying. *whistling buoy*, a buoy fitted with a whistle which is automatically sounded by the movement of the waves. *whistling kettle*, a kettle fitted with a device that emits a whistle as the water boils.

c1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 170 Men myghte his brydel heere Gynghen in a whistlyng wynd. **a**1547 SURREY *Aeneis* IV. 586 The whistlyng ayre among the braunches rores. **1590** SHAKS. *Mids. N.* II. i. 86 To dance our ringlets to the whistling Winde. **a**1593 MARLOWE *Lucan* I. 240 Shril cornets, whistling fifes. **1667** FLAVEL *Saint Indeed* (1673) 71 To a guilty Conscience, the whistling leaves are Drums and Trumpets. **a**1718 PRIOR *Henry & Emma* 333 Winged Deaths in whistling Arrows fly. **1784** COWPER *Task* III. 802 The whistling ball Sent through the trav'ller's temples! *Ibid.* VI. 941 The... haughty world... sweeps him with her whistling silks. **1842** TENNYSON *Sir Galahad* 59 Blessed forms in whistling storms Fly o'er waste fens. **1880** Cassell's *Fam. Mag.* 124/2 The Courtenay automatic whistling buoy. **1891** FARRAR *Darkn. & Dawn* xviii, The whistling strokes of the scourge. **1897** KIPLING *Capt. Cour.* viii, The *We're Here* crawled in on half-flood, and the whistling-buoy moaned and mourned behind her. **1928-9** *Army & Navy Stores Catal.* 173/4 *The Whistling kettle*. When the water boils the kettle whistles. **1961** J. STROUD *Touch & Go* iv. 43 The whistling kettle... burst into an unnerving shriek. **1974** R. INGHAM *Yoris* xx. 63 She put a small whistling kettle on the gas ring.

b. transf. of a time or place: Characterized by or full of whistling.

1623 WODROEPHE *Marrow Fr. Tongue* 475/2 A Whistling March, that makes the Plough Man blithe. **1638** SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 167 Our... journey... through whistling dales; in... which we were... weather-beaten with a raging storme. **1805** FORSYTH *Beauties Scot.* III. 227 The English Chapel [in Glasgow]... the common people... on account of its organ, stigmatize it with the contemptuous epithet of the whistling kirk.

c. Mil. Designating a missile which makes a whistling sound in flight, or a gun from which such missiles are fired. Freq. in the nicknames of these.

1864 J. BROBST *Let.* 28 May in M. B. Roth *Well, Mary: Civil War Lett. Wisconsin Volunteer* (1960) iv. 67 We dare not show our heads unless we want them to send one of their whistling jimmies at us. **1902** J. MILNE *Epistles of Atkins* iv. 67 At Ladysmith 'Sighing Sarah' and 'Whistling Willie' proclaim their own shots from Umbalwana. **1926** T. E. LAWRENCE *Seven Pillars* xcvi. 507 The aeroplanes circled round in their cold-blooded way, to drop whistling bombs

into its trenches. **1948** W. WHITE *Man called White* 256 Three heavy German guns which the Americans nicknamed 'The Anzio Express' and 'Whistling Willies'.

2. a. Of a sound: of the nature of a whistle; such as is produced by a whistle or shrill pipe.

1662 BOYLE *Exam. Hobbes* iii. 16 The external Air rushing in with a whistling noise at the . . . Orifice. **1668** WILKINS *Real Char.* 363 The u Gallicum, or whistling u, . . . cannot be denied to be a distinct simple vowel. **1750** G. HUGHES *Barbados* iv. 119 The Wind, blowing into the Cavities of these Husks, makes a very sonorous whistling Noise. **1831** SCOTT *Ct. Rob.* ii. They . . . beheld the barbarian . . . brandish high his formidable weapon, the whistling sound of which made the old arch ring. **1851** W. H. WALSHE *Dis. Lungs* 97 Sibillant rhonchus . . . two varieties, the short and the prolonged, or the clicking and the whistling.

b. whistling atmospheric: = WHISTLER 3 b.

1953 Phil. *Trans. R. Soc. A.* CCXLVI. 128 The main facts of observation concerning the whistling atmospheric . . . are summarized above. **1959** DAVIES & PALMER *Radio Stud. Universe* ix. 174 Storey at Cambridge in 1952 . . . was investigating a phenomenon known as whistling atmospheric or simply 'whistlers' which are groups of radio waves at audio frequencies (15 kc/s). **1963** [see WHISTLER 3 b].

3. a. Of a person: see WHISTLE v. 1, 4.

1630 B. JONSON *New Inn* i. i, I must ha' . . . whistling boyes to bring my haruest home. **1721** KELLY *Sc. Prov.* 33 A crooning Cow, a crowing Hen, and a whistling Maid boded never luck to a House. **1741** RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. xii. 250 Jackey . . . was the most thoughtless, whistling, sauntering fellow. **1802** WORDSW. *Poems, To Toussaint l'Ouverture* 2 Whether the whistling Rustic tend his plough Within thy hearing. **1850** N. & Q. 1st Ser. II. 164/1 A whistling woman and a crowing hen Is neither fit for God nor men.

b. That keeps a 'whistling-shop' (see prec. 4).

1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xlv, 'Any more?' said the whistling gentleman.

4. a. Of a bird or other animal: see WHISTLE v. 2.

Chiefly as a descriptive epithet of particular species, as in whistling dick, a name for various species of thrush, esp. of the Australian genus *Colluricincla*; whistling duck, various species of duck, as the golden-eye and the widgeon (cf. WHISTLER 2a); whistling eagle or hawk, a small eagle or large hawk (*Haliastur spheurnus*) of Australia and New Caledonia; whistling field bird or w. f. plover, the grey plover (*Squatarola helvetica*); whistling fish, = whistle-fish (see WHISTLE sb. 4); whistling marmot = WHISTLER 2b; whistling moth (see quot.); whistling plover, swan (see PLOVER 2, SWAN sb. 1); whistling thrush, a local name for the song-thrush.

1848 GOULD *Birds Australia* II. pl. 77 *Colluricincla Selbii*, . . . *Whistling Dick, of the Colonists of Van Diemen's Land. **1699** DAMPIER *Voy.* II. ii. 69 *Whistling Ducks are somewhat less than our Common Duck. . . In flying, their Wings make a pretty sort of loud whistling Noise. **1863** BATES *Nat. Amazons* vii. (1864) 165 Flocks of whistling ducks (*Anas autumnalis*), parrots, and . . . macaws . . . flew over. **1819** STEPHENS in Shaw's *Gen. Zool.* XI. ii. 467 [The Alwargim Plover] is called in America the Large *Whistling Field Bird, from its note, which is very shrill. **1872** COUES *Key N. Amer. Birds* 243 Whistling Field Plover. Bull-head. Ox-eye. **1763** in Pennant *Brit. Zool.* (1776) I. 143 The seals . . . are seen searching for their prey near shore, where the *whistling fish, wraus, and polacks resort. **1907** *Nature* 19 Sept. 516/1 The '*whistling (stridulating) moths' of the genus *Hecatesia* . . . emit sounds like the call of a Cicada. **1668** CHARLETON *Onomast.* 109 *Pluvialis Flavovirescens*, the green Plover, & *whistling Plover. **1725** DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 145 We . . . found . . . a great many of the whistling plover, the same with ours. **1785** PENNANT *Arctic Zool.* II. 542 The *Whistling Swan carries its neck quite erect. **1802** BINGLEY *Anim. Biog.* (1813) II. 319 The hooper, or whistling swan . . . is an inhabitant of the northern regions. **1896** R. B. SHARPE *Handbk. Birds Gt. Brit.* II. 246 The Trumpeter Swan (*Cygnus buccinator*) and the Whistling Swan (*C. americanus*). **1668** CHARLETON *Onomast.* 100 *Boscas*, alius *Anas fistularis*, . . . the Whewer, or *Whistling Widgeon.

b. whistling thorn, a small prickly tree, *Acacia drepanolobium* or *A. zanzibarica*, found in East Africa.

1949 R. O. WILLIAMS *Useful & Ornamental Plants in Zanzibar* 102 *Acacia zanzibarica* . . . Coast Whistling Thorn. A thorny tree . . . bearing balls of bright yellow flowers. **1966** C. A. W. GUGGISBERG *S.O.S. Rhino* iii. 53 The rapid spread of the whistling thorn over vast areas . . . is probably a result of the reduction . . . of this animal! **1976** K. THACKERAY *Crownbird* i. 9 The cab was full of whistling thorn, and swarming with red ants.

Hence 'whistlingly adv., with a whistle or whistling.

1851 H. MELVILLE *Whale* II. xlii. 285 Stubb whistlingly gathers up the coil of the warp. **1891** *Illustr. Sporting & Dram. News* Christmas No., 36/2 A wind got up, suddenly, whistlingly.

whistly ('hwis(ə)li), *a. rare.* [f. WHISTLE sb. or v. + -y¹.] Resembling a whistle.

1907 'Q' *Merry Garden*, etc. 146 Makes a whistly noise in his speech—do he—like a slit bellows?

whistly ('hwistli), *adv. arch.* [f. WHIST a.¹ + -ly².] Silently, quietly, softly, without noise.

a 1400–50 Wars *Alex.* 1851 Off þe whele of fortun & þe wene þat whistly chaungez. **1592** *Arden of Feversham* III. iii. 9, I vppon a little rysing hill Stodeo whistly watching for the herds approach. **1854** S. DOBELL *Balder* xxviii. 192 'Whistly, whistly,' said she: . . . 'He must not wake.'

†**whistness.** *Obs.* [f. WHIST a.¹ + -NESS.] Silence, stillness.

1609 W. M. *Man in Moone* (1849) 2 Whistnesse had taken possession of the woods. **1624** HEYWOOD *Hist. Women* 116 This universall whistnesse; where none come But Taciturnitie and Silence dombe.

whit (hwit), *sb.*¹ Now *arch.* or *literary.* Also 5–6 whyt, 6 whytt(e, wyt, *Sc.* quhit, quheet, quheit, vheet, 6–7 white, 6–8 whitt, 7–8 wit. [Early mod.E. *whyt, wyt, whitt*(t, app. an alteration of *wight, wite*, in any *wight, no wight, little wight* (see WIGHT sb.).]

1. A very small, or the least, portion or amount; a particle, jot, 'bit'. *a.* without negative: esp. in *every whit* = the whole.

c 1520 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 1271 What he sayth and she sayth to lay good ere, And tell to his sufferayne euery whyt. **1539** *Bible* (Great) 1 Sam. iii. 18 Samuel tolde him euery whyt, & hidd nothing from him. **c 1590** J. STEWART *Poems* (S.T.S.) II. 198 His maist prencelie Spreit, . . . vill appaise thy hoip in euerie quheit. **1665** BUNYAN *Holy Citie* (1669) 182 Thou must enter in by every whit of Christ, or thou shalt enter in by never a whit of him.

b. with negative expressed or implied: esp. in *never a whit, not a whit*, NO WHIT = none at all.

1480 Robt. Devyll (1798) 10 The devyll have the whyt that he was soreye therfore. **1528** ROY *Rede me* (Arb.) 65, I trowe thou arte a syngynge man? . . . The devil of the whit that I can. **1530**, etc. [see NO WHIT]. **1533** J. HEYWOOD *Johan, Tyb, & Syr Jhan Aj*, Thynke ye that she wyll amende yet? Nay by our lady the deuyll spede whyt. **1538** STARKEY *England* i. iii. (1878) 92 Some haue to much, some to lytly, and some neuer a wyt. **1610** HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* i. 713 It can shew scarce any whit of the ancient state it had. **1631** [MABBE] *Celestina* xviii. 183 The diuell awhit shall I be able to tell them. **1635** R. N. tr. *Camden's Hist. Eliz.* III. 284 Having sacked the Towne, they found not a whit of gold. **1678** R. BARCLAY *Apol. Quakers* iv. §2. 97 We do not ascribe any whit of Adam's Guilt to Men. **1830** TENNYSON *Owl* II. ii, Not a whit of thy tuwhoo, Thee to woo to thy tuwhit. **1870** FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* (ed. 2) I. App. B. 545 It was not their policy to destroy or to change one whit more than was absolutely necessary. **1874** C. E. NORTON *Let. to Ruskin* 10 Jan., No whit of faith in the good as good . . . has vanished from my soul.

2. Most commonly in phrases used adverbially: *a.* without negative: *a whit* = to a very small extent, a very little; *any whit, one whit* = to the least amount, in the least degree, at all; *every* (†*each*) *whit* = to the full amount, completely, altogether, thoroughly, quite (in later use almost always with *as* in comparisons of equality).

1526 TINDALE *John* vii. 23 Disdayne ye at mc: because I made a man every whit whoale on the saboth daye? *Ibid.* xiii. 10 He that is wesshed nedeth not but to wesshe his fete, but is clene every whit. **a 1529** SKELTON *E. Rummyng* 411 Elynour made the pryce For good ale eche whyt. **1555** in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) III. App. I. 161 Every Child . . . that can any whit speak. **1568** *Hist. Jacob & Esau* II. iv, He eate it vp euery whyt. **1574** WHITGIFT *Def. Aunsw.* ii. 104 Master Zuinglius (who woulde haue benee lothe one whit to strengthen the Papistes). **1618** in Foster *Engl. Factories Ind.* (1906) 49 Yf they be suffred but a whit longer, they will make claime to the whole Indies. **1672** VILLIERS (Dk. Buckhm.) *Rehearsal* II. ii, I have written . . . a whole cart-load of things, every whit as good as this. **a 1715** BURNET *Own Time* (1766) I. 384 Every whit as wild and extravagant. **1823** SCOTT *Quentin D.* xxiii, Were my situation one whit less perilous. **1869** FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* III. xii. 231 The narrative of this campaign . . . is every whit as puzzling. **1903** ZANGWILL *Grey Wig*, etc. vi. 110 Mrs. Drabdump felt a whit uneasy.

b. with negative expressed or implied: *never, not* (etc.) *a whit* (†*awhit, a-whit*), *any whit, one whit*; also *no whit* = not in the least, not at all.

1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cccxlv. 219 h/2 He loued hym nat one whyt the better. **1558** WARDE tr. *Alexis' Secr.* (1568) 7 Leauē the water vpon the fournesse, without mouing it any whit. **1564** Brief *Exam.* ****ij, You helpe your selues neuer awiht. **1567** Gude & Godlie B. (S.T.S.) 203 Be na quhit of thame agast. **1594** HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* i. ii. §6 Nor is the freedom of the wil of God any whit abated . . . by meanes of this. **1596** SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV.* II. iv. 408 *Falst.* Art not thou horrible afraid? . . . *Prin.* Not a whit. **1607** *Puritan* i. i. 33 Shee cryed nere a white at all. **1634** MILTON *Comus* 774 Natures full blessings would be well dispenc't . . . And she no whit encomber'd with her store. **1642** D. ROGERS *Naaman* 871 It never troubles you awhit! **1773** *Cook's Voy.* II. ix. in Hawkesworth III, Not a whit behind them in cheerfulness and vivacity. **1775** SHERIDAN *Rivals* IV. iii, You don't seem one whit the happier at this. **1809–10** COLERIDGE *Friend* (1865) 175 He . . . is not a whit the better Christian for being a bad patriot. **1873** SYMONDS *Grk. Poets* v. 135 Grief will profit us no whit. **1893** MAX PEMBERTON *Iron Pirate* II, The novelty . . . did not surprise me one whit.

†**3.** As a term of contempt or abuse. *Obs. rare*—1.

1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* IV. vii, Then you are an Otter, and a Shad, a Whit, A very Tim.

whit, int. (*adv.*), *sb.*², *v.* [Imitative. Cf. TUWHIT.] A word expressing a shrill abrupt sound, as of a bird's chirp, a bullet striking something hard, etc.; also as *vb.* (Also repeated.)

1833 M. SCOTT *Tom Cringle* viii, The musket-balls were . . . plumping into the timber whit-whit. **1854** R. S. SURTEES *Handley Cr.* v, 'Whit' cries the coachman to his horses, off they go. **1859** TENNYSON *Grandmother* x, And whit, whit, in the bush beside me chirrupt the nightingale. **1888** KIPLING *Ball. Boh Da Thone* 134 Where the *whit* of the bullet, the wounded man's scream Are mixed. **1900** *Longman's Mag.* Jan. 230 The whit-whit of the scraping knives. **1902** *Words of Eye-witness* 97 A storm of bullets . . . whit viciously upon the woodwork.

Whit (hwit), *sb.*³ [The first element of WHITSUN, WHIT SUNDAY, etc.] = WHITSUN 1, WHITSUNTIDE. Whit walk, a Whitsuntide event

in which church congregations walk in procession through the streets.

For *Whit Monday*, etc., and *Whit-week* see s.v. WHIT SUNDAY, WHITSUNDAY.

1959 I. & P. OPIE *Lore & Lang. Schoolch.* xii. 232 Well-dressing, . . . and the children's great Whit walks in Manchester and elsewhere, are undoubtedly exciting occasions in the lives of local youngsters. **1963** *Times* 5 June 7/1 (*heading*) Whit road toll down by 19. **1976** NICHOLS & ARMSTRONG *Workers Divided* 108 This morning our foreman told us that we've got to work Whit Bank Holiday. **1978** P. BAILEY *Leisure & Class in Victorian Eng.* ii. 46 The popular holiday ritual of the Whit walks—street processions of witness complete with flags and decorations and marching bands. **1979** *Guardian* 30 May 10/8 In Lancashire . . . Whit Walks in most towns and many villages.

whit, *obs.* f. QUITE, WHITE, WIGHT, WITH.

†**whitage.** *Obs.* (?)

1543 *Will of R. Elyot* (Somerset Ho.), The whitage of their kyne that was dewe unto me at Ester. **1618** DALTON *Country Justice* 282 The Master, or Mariners, transporting corne, Beere, Herring, Whitage, or Wood without license.

whitawer, whitawyer: see WHITTAWER.

whitbed ('hwitbed). Also 9 white bed. [f. WHITE a. + BED sb.] One of the upper beds of Portland Stone, lying next below the roach; stone from this, valued as a clean freestone for building.

1829 T. WEBSTER in *Trans. Geol. Soc.* II. 38, I obtained from the quarrymen the thickness of the several beds, and the names by which they distinguished them from each other: but . . . these local appellations are not used by London architects and builders, the whole together passing here under the name of Purbeck stone only. The following is a list of the strata of limestone . . . 13. White bed, excellent. **1860** R. DAMON *Handbk. Geol. Weymouth* 78 Whit Bed or Upper Tier.—This bed, the best stone that the island produces in point of quality, is of a whitish brown colour when first raised, but becomes paler on parting with its quarry water. **1911** *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 122/1 The Portland limestones have been much in demand for building purposes; at Portland the 'Top Roach', the 'Whit Bed' or top freestone, and the 'Best Bed' (or Base Bed) are the best known. **1925** J. BONE *London Perambulator* ii. 32 You can see shell imprints on the freshly cut whitbed stone on the top of the new Bush Building. **1934** *Archit. Rev.* LXXV. 27 (*caption*) A 'close up' of the polished Portland stone wall sheathing—a new compact crystalline limestone, with a lovely fossil formation, discovered under the tiers of whitbed at the Portland quarries. **1936** [see CURF]. **1980** *Univ. Coll. London Bull.* Mar. 2/2 The thickest and most sought after unit in the local sequence is the Whitbed, noted for its homogeneity stemming from its lack of fossils or flint masses which may blemish other horizons above or below in the succession.

whitblow(e, obs. forms of WHITLOW.

whitbre(a)d: see WHITE BREAD.

†**whitch.** *Obs. or dial.* Forms: 1 hwicce, 4 whichche, 4–5 whicche, whucche, 4–6 whiche, wyche, 5 whyche, wheche, whoche, wucche, 6 whytch(e, whiteche, (9 *dial.* wytch). [OE. *hwicce* (also in *cornhwycce*), cognate with the synonymous *hwæcce*.] A chest, coffer, ark; = HUTCH sb. 1, 1 b; a coffin.

a 1100 Aldhelm *Gloss* xviii^b. 11 (Napier 186/1) *Clustella*, hwicce. 13.. *Metr. Hom.* (Vernon MS.) in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* LVII. 254/1 Whon pis corn to pis kniht was solde He dude hit in a whueche to holde. 13.. *E.E. Allit* P. B. 362 Alle woned in þe whicche [sc. Noah's ark] þe wyld & þe tame. 1387–8 T. Usk *Test. Love* II. ii. (Skeat) 1. 29 Pannes mouled in a whicche [v.r. wyche]. 1415 *Somerset Med. Wills* (1901) 401 And nether wheche, ne leede to be layde in, bote a grete clothe to hely my foute caryin. **c 1430** *Hymns Virgin* (1867) 11 A table . . . Vnder pat auter In a whucche is done. 1541 *Will of John Hoper of Keynsham* 19 Jan. (MS.), ij coffers & ij whytchys. 1596 *Unton Inv.* (1841) 2, j olde whitchche, and one musterd mill. [1856 MORTON *Cycl. Agric.* II. 727 *Wytch*, (Herefords.), same as *hutch* [= body of a waggon].]

whitch, variant of WITCH, flat fish.

whiteche, whitchen, *obs.* ff. WITCH, WITCHEN.

whitchet, var. WICHERT.

white (hwait), *sb.*¹ Forms: see WHITE a. [Various absolute uses of WHITE a. Cf. L. *album*, F. *blanc* BLANK sb.]

1. The translucent viscous fluid surrounding the yolk of an egg, which becomes white when coagulated; = ALBUMEN 1. Usually in full, *the white of an egg* (or, as a substance, *white* or *the white of egg*), pl. *whites of eggs*.

c 1000 Sax. *Leechd.* II. 342 *Sedo æges hwit to.* **c 1000** ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 40 On anum æge . . . þæt hwite ne bið gemenged to ðam geolcan. **a 1300** *Fragm. Pop. Sci.* (Wright) 240 As the white goth aboute the yolke. 14.. *Stockholm Med. MS.* i. 432 in *Anglia* XVIII. 306 With eyes qwytyds do cleryn es clene. **c 1420** *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 24 Take whyzte of eyren harde sopun. **a 1425** tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 30 Putte perto als miche of whites of eiren, wele y-bette and scomed. 1528 PAYNELL *Salerne's Regim.* (1540) 20 b, The yolke is temperately hotte; The whyte is colde and clammye. 1535 COVERDALE *Job* vi. 6 What taist hath y^e whyte within the yoke an egg? 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* III. vii. 106 (Qo.) Ile fetch some flaxe and whites of eggs to apply to his bleeding face. 1629 Z. BOYD *Last Battell* 701 Like a squissed egge, whose yolke is mingled with its white. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1862) II. i. vi. 462 A mucus . . . like the white of an egg. 1883

Hardwich's Photogr. Chem. (ed. 9) 31 The white of egg, which is a very pure form of Albumen.

2. The white part (sclerotic coat) of the eyeball, surrounding the coloured iris. Usually in full, *the white of the eye*, pl. *the whites of the eyes*.

Often in *to turn up the whites of one's eyes* and similar phrases (usually, in affected devotion, but also in death, in astonishment, horror, etc.).

c 1400 Lanfranc's Cirurg. 19 A watir pat comeþ bitwene þe white of þe iȝen & þe appil. *c 1425 Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 634/5 *Hec albugo*, wyte of the hee. **1448-9** METHAM *Amoryus & Cl.* 1739 Amoryus vpward had turnyd the qwyght Off hys eyne: . . qwan sche sey hym ded Her chekys sche gan tere. *c 1480 HENRYSON Fox, Wolf, & Cadger* 103 (Harl. MS.) The quhite he turnit vp of his ene tway. **1523** FITZHERB. *Husb.* §55 If he [sc. a sheep] . . haue reed strydes in the white of the eye, than he is sounde. **1594** NASHE *Terrors Nt.* Wks. (Grosart) III. 280 Enthronizing graue zeale and religion on the eleuated whites of their eyes. *a 1600 Grim the Collier of Croydon* III. He, poor Heart, no sooner heard my newes, But turns me up his Whites, and falls flat down. **1601** HOLLAND *Pliny* XI. xxxvii. l. 334 The ball or apple in the midst [of the eye] is ordinarily of another colour than the white about it. **1657** HEYLIN *Ecclesia Vind.* 349 Lifting up both his hands, and whites to heaven. **1725** Bradley's *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Signs of Sickness*, When a Sick Horse turns up the Whites of his Eyes above, you may conclude that he is in Pain. **1771** SMOLLETT *Humphry Cl.* 10 June, Mrs. Tabitha . . threw up the whites of her eyes, as if in the act of ejaculation. **1796** WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Sat.* Wks. 1812 III. 409 Flimsy logic to surprise And raise the whites of Country Members' eyes. **1858** O. W. HOLMES *Aut. Breakf.-t.* xi. 108 The Professor showed the whites of his eyes devoutly. **1889** KIPLING *Ball. East & West* 28 And when he could spy the white of her [sc. the mare's] eye, he made the pistol crack.

Phr. [Cf. BLACK *a. 12.*] **1796** Grose's *Dict. Vulgar T.* (ed. 3) s.v. *Black Eye*, He cannot say black is the white of my eye; he cannot point out a blot in my character. **182.** G. SMEATON *Doings in London* 85 As Mother Cole said . . 'no one could say black was the white of her Eye'.

3. The white or light-coloured part of some substance or structure, as flesh, wood, etc.

c 1430 Two Cookery-bks. 14 Take þe Whyte of the lekys. *c 1475 Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 793/11 *Hoc mulsum*, the wyte of botyr. **1552** HULOET s.v. *Oister*, The white vnder the fysh cleaunge to the shell. **1665** Phil. *Trans.* I. 118 White . . like the white of a Custard. *a 1756* ELIZA HAYWOOD *New Present* (1771) 159 Mince . . the white of a chicken. **1815** J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* I. 95 The wood next the bark of a tree, called the white, or alburnum. **1854** MISS BAKER *Northampton Gloss.*, *White*, a name given by butchers to that piece of beef which joins the round: i.e. the flank.

†4. A white spot or mark. *Obs.*

1551 Knaresb. *Wills* (Surtees) I. 59 One oxe stirke with a whittle in his forehede. **1585** HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 38/1 *Exortus*, . . the white growing in the naile. **1623** COCKERAM III. *Selenite*, a stone wherein is a white, that decreaseth and encreaseth as the Moone groweth. **1687** Lond. *Gaz.* No. 2280 A bay Nag . . a white in one of his Eyes.

5. *Archery.* a. The white target usually placed on the butt. *arch.* or *Hist.*

[**1456**, *a 1533*: see 6.] **1577** HELLOWES *Guevara's Chron.* 467 They behaued themselves no more nor no lesse with the Germaines, then an archer with a white at a Butt. **1583** GREENE *Mamillia* 16 b, When the string is broken, it is hard to hit the white. **1618** BOLTON *Florus* III. viii. (1636) 195 A Boy gets no morsell at his Mothers hands, but that of which she makes a white, and which himselfe must hit. **1654** GATAKER *Disc. Apol.* 39 An Archer, . . when he hath hit the white or cloven the peg. **1714** E. WARD *Field-Spy* 13, I turn'd my Head to see the doughty Knight Stand ready drawn to hit the distant White. **1831** SCOTT *Cast. Dang.* viii. A good archer . . who . . seldom missed a handsbreadth of the white. **1843** LYTTON *Last Bar.* I. l, No marksman had hit the white.

b. In modern practice, a circular band of white on the target, or each of two such bands (*inner and outer white*); hence, a shot that hits this white.

1687 in *Gent. Mag.* (1832) CII. 1. 600/2 The third circumference, being usually knowne . . by the name of the inner white. . . The fifth circle, being white, and usually called . . the outer-white. **1865** Archer's *Reg.* 25 Ladies' Prizes. . . Miss Betham (less 113 for blacks and whites), 558.

6. *fig.* (or in *fig.* context). Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1456 SIR G. HAYE *Gov. Princes* Wks. (S.T.S.) II. 149 He that tuiſhis nerest the quhite and best gais nere the merche. *a 1533* LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) D ii, The life of the prince is but a whyte, for al other to shote at. **1580** LYLly *Euphues* (Arb.) 407 If the eye of man be the arrow, and beaute the white. **1596** SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* v. ii. 186 'Twas I wonne the wager, though you hit the white. **1597** BRETON *Auspicante Iehoua* Wks. (Grosart) II. 11/1 Bee Thou . . the note of my comfort, the white of my loue, and the light of my lyfe. **1656** COWLEY *Pindar. Odes, 2nd Olympique* x, Let Agrigentum be the But, And Theron be the White. **1698** NORRIS *Pract. Disc.* (1707) IV. 166 So the subject of the following Discourse may be the more distinct, and we may have a clearer White for our mark. **1862** B. TAYLOR *At Home & Abr.* Ser. II. 411 His [sc. Browning's] faculty of hitting the target of expression full in the white, by a single arrowy word. **1864** LOWELL *Fireside Trav.* 294 Byron hit the white, which he often shot very wide of. . . when he called Rome 'my country'.

7. a. *Printing.* The blank space in certain letters or types; a space left blank between words or lines (= WHITE LINE 2).

1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho.* III. 42 If the whites of certaine letters bee made of one equall bignesse with the o. **1683** MOXON *Mech. Exerc.*, *Printing* xxii. ¶4 In Marginal Notes . . the White between Words is often . . greater than between Line and Line. **1808** STOWE *Printers' Gram.* 163 To a solid page, two leads make the usual white after the head. **1885** LOCK *Workshop Rec.* IV. 213/1 (Electro-typing) It will be found that the 'whites' have been almost sufficiently raised.

b. *Drawing*, etc. *pl.* White or blank parts.

1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 421 If a plate is over-exposed the image will come up quickly, the whites will be muddy, and the blacks lacking in richness. **1894** *Daily News* 26 June 6/5 The Horses of Rhesus . . an ambitious picture of large size painted by Mr. Harington Bird, A.R.C.A., . . the scheme of whites appears to be well managed.

8. White cloth or textile fabric: applied *spec.*, with or without defining word, to various particular kinds; often in *pl.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 11923 Cope & oþer cloþes, hii lete make of wit. **1466** Paston *Lett.* II. 266 For xxiii. yerdes of brod wythys for gowns. **1503** Priuey *Purse Exp.* Eliz. York (1830) 104 For v yerdes of Streyt white. **1594** NORDEN *Spec. Brit.*, Essex (Camden) 9 Cogshull, wher are made the best whites in Englande. **1621** Reg. *Mag. Sig. Scot.* 45/1 Exceptis mantelliis lie plaidis et lie Galloway quhyte. **1742** De *Foe's Tour Gt. Brit.* (ed. 3) III. 134 Cloth in Imitation of Gloucester Whites. **1754** POCOKE *Trav.* (Camden) II. 135 They . . make . . cloths called Salisbury whites for the Turkey trade.

9. a. White clothing, apparel, or array: usually in *phr.* in *white*.

[*c 1000* Sax. *Leechd.* III. 198 Hwite oððe beorhte hine ȝescrydan wynsumnysse ȝetacnað.] *a 1300* Cursor *M.* 18772 Bi-side þam stode tua men in quite. **1387** TREvisa *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 321 Whan Pilatus sente Iesus i-cloped in white to Herodes. *c 1425* Cast. *Persev.* in *Macro Plays* 76 þe iiij doweris schul be clad in mentelys; Merci in wyth, Rythwynnesse in red [etc.]. *a 1548* HALL *Chron.*, Hen. VIII 228 On the Assencion day folowynge, the kyng ware whyte for mournynge. **1680** C. NESSE *Ch. Hist.* 272 Having decked her self with the White of Simplicity. **1768** GOLDSM. *Goodn. Man* IV, It's the worst luck in the world [to be married] in anything but white. **1815** Ann. *Reg.*, *Chron.* 49/2 The pall was supported by six young females attired in white. **1859** TENNYSON *Elaine* 1152 She herself in white.

b. *pl.* White garments or vestments: chiefly in specific uses, *esp.* (a) surplices worn by clergymen, choristers, etc. (now chiefly *Hist.*); (b) white trousers or breeches; (c) white clothes worn for sport (*esp.* Cricket and Lawn Tennis).

1622 S. WARD *Life of Faith in Death* 124 If we thoroughly beleued . . this to bee the state of our . . dead friends, . . could we . . mounne for them in blacks, whiles they are in whites? **1633** CHAS. I in *Bibliotheca Regia* (1659) 122 That the Dean of our Chapel . . come . . thither to Prayers upon Sundaies . . in his Whites. **1780** A. YOUNG *Tour Irel.* I. 283 The girls . . in their striped linens and whites. **1818** LADY MORGAN *Autobiogr.* (1859) 184 His tight whites and tight silk stockings showed his colossal legs . . to great advantage. **1828** JOLLY *Sunday Services* (1848) 220 [The newly baptized] appeared at church . . in their whites. **1840** THACKERAY *Barber Cox* Sept., I felt myself suddenly jerked by the waistband of my whites. **1840** J. T. J. HEWLETT *P. Priggins* xiv, Having his immaculate whites spotted and splashed by the spirts of Stephen, who . . pulled stroke. **1882** 'EDNA LYALL' *Donovan* vi, They say the [choir]-boys in their whites is very attractive. **1922** E. RAYMOND *Tell England* II. iv. 207 All honest boys, we know, fancy themselves in their whites. **1974** K. MILLETT *Flying* (1975) I. 101 Rich playing championship tennis . . in his whites. **1978** G. McDONALD *Fletch's Fortune* (1979) xiv. 96 Stop at the pro shop . . We'll fix you up with a racket and balls. . . Have whites?

†c. A white badge. *Obs.*

1647 in *Clarendon's State Papers* (1773) II. App. p. xlii, Perceiving Lilburne's regiment . . to appear . . with Whites in their hats. **1651** Lanc. *Tracts Civil War* (Chetham Soc.) 307 The enemies word was 'Iesu', and their signal a White about their Arme.

d. *pl.* White articles of washing.

1962 *Which?* Aug. 231/2 The programme you choose for the washing you want to do ('whites', for example, or 'delicate fabrics' are possible settings on both machines) automatically determines washing and spin drying times. **1979** A. PRICE *Tomorrow's Ghost* xiii. 229 It used to be right dirty rain. . . Woman couldn't put her whites out . . when it was raining.

10. a. †Silver money, 'silver' collectively, as distinguished from *red* or *yellow* = gold (*obs.*); also (with *pl.*) a silver coin (*slang*). Also (*sing.*) in general sense, money (*slang*).

c 1374 CHAUCEUR *Troilus* III. 1384 They shul for-go þe white and eke þe rede. **1390** [see RED *sb.* 3 a]. *c 1676* Roxb. *Ball.* (1889) VI. 15 A sawcy fellow! Come to me without his white and yellow. **1823** 'JON BEE' *Dict. Turf* 194 *Whites*, in the language of smashers, 'small whites' are shillings, 'large whites' half-crowns. **1903** A. M. BINSTAD *Pitcher in Paradise* viii. 204 Again and again the needy one implored his obdurate chum to shake out at least a deuce of whites. **1960** [see CABBAGE *sb.* 1 e].

b. = BLANK *sb.* 1. *Hist.*

1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* III. 79 'Twas made Felony . . to pay or receive a certain base Coyn, call'd Blank or Whites. **1877** STEVENSON *New Arab. Nts.*, *Lodging for Nt.*, Two of the small coins that went by the name of whites.

11. = WHITE WINE.

c 1386 [see RED *sb.* 3 b]. **1610** T. COCKS *Diary* (1901) 95 A quart of white, to make my skurvy-grasse drinke. *c 1640* Capt. Underwit IV. i. in Bullen O. *Pl.* II. 375 The Stillyards Reanish wine and Divells white. **1720** E. WARD *Delights of Bottle* 37 Where ev'ry one that's low in Spirits, May be reliev'd by Whites or Clarets. **1842** [see RED *sb.* 3 b]. **1961** [see RED *sb.* 5 b]. **1972** 'W. HAGGARD' *Protectors* ix. 111 He . . had drunk most of a bottle of wine. He had discovered the local whites with pleasure. **1978** T. L. SMITH *Money War* III. 182 He would have the filet of sole amandine. . . He couldn't quite make up his mind which of the wonderful whites to choose to go with it.

12. An animal of a species, breed, or variety distinguished by white colour; a white horse (*obs.*), butterfly, pigeon, pig, dog, cat, etc. (Chiefly as a fanciers' abbreviation.)

1530 PALSGR. 288/2 *White*, a horse of white colour, *cheual blanc*, *liort*. **1834** Proc. *Berw. Nat. Club* I. No. 2. 51 This fish I consider to be the *S. albus* of Fleming, the Herling . . of the

Scotch side of the Solway Frith, . . the *White* or *Phinnock* of Pennant. **1857** GOSSE *Omphalos* xi. 307 We never find the egg of the Peacock Butterfly adhering to the leaf of a cabbage, nor that of the Garden White to the leaf of a nettle. **1879** L. WRIGHT *Pigeon Keeper* 96 Whites are . . usually bred together. **1898** *Daily News* 5 Dec. 8/5 Pigs . . middle whites and large whites. **1907** R. Leighton's *New Bk. Dog* 429 The litter will consist of some whole-coloured blacks, and some whole-coloured whites.

13. A white man; a person of a race distinguished by light complexion: see WHITE

a. 4.

poor whites = 'poor white folks' (see WHITE a. 4); also *sing.* and *fig.*

1671 CHARANTE *Let. conc. Customs Tafiletta* 10 After him rained his Brother Muley Elwaly, who was a White, his Mother a Spanish Moor. **1726** Adv. *Capt. R. Boyle* (1744) 155 There may be about 20000 Whites (or I should say Portuguese, for they are none of the whitest,) and about treble that Number of Slaves. **1819** W. FAUX *Jrnl.* 28 July in *Memorable Days in Amer.* (1823) 118 The poor white, or white poor, in Maryland, . . scarcely ever work. **1826** J. F. COOPER *Last of Mohicans* xiv, Red-skins and whites. **1833** in *Maryland Hist. Mag.* (1918) XIII. 338 The poor whites at the South are not as well off in their physical condition as the slaves, and hardly as respectable. **1879** SIR G. CAMPBELL *White & Black* 163 A large number of very inferior whites, known as 'mean whites', 'white trash', and so on. **1886** J. A. FROUDE *Oceana* xviii. 326 When he dies, the Maori and the poor whites in New Zealand will have lost their truest friend. **1888** CHURCHWARD *Blackbirding* 7 Having been longer in Samoa than any live white in the place. **1896** R. WALLACE *Farming Industries of Cape Colony* 406 The so-called 'poor whites' are chiefly the descendants of French protestant refugees, and, in some districts, of early Dutch settlers. **1934** A. N. J. DEN HOLLANDER in W. T. COUCH *Culture in South* xx. 414 In discriminating southern speech, it was not used to include all white persons who were poor. . . The 'poor-whites' were those who were both poor and conspicuously lacking in the common social virtues and especially fell short of the standard in certain economic qualities. **1958** L. VAN DER POST *Lost World Kalahari* iii. 56 All who worked for my grandfather no matter whether Griqua, Hottentot, . . Cape-coloured or poor white, were ultimately held in equal affection. **1974** 'J. LE CARRÉ' *Tinker Tailor* i. 9 Jim Prideaux was a poor white of the teaching community.

14. †(a) A white square on a chessboard. (b) with *the*: Either of the white balls in billiards; also, the white ball in pool.

c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xxi, þe quene, that goth fro blak to blak, or fro white to white. **1562** ROWBOTHUM *Cheats* A v b, Because of his [sc. the knight's] marching forth, whiche is made from three into three places, to witte, from whyte into blacke, and from black into whyte. **1614** SAUL *Chesse-play* To Rdr., The Bishop blacke in blacke must march . . For in the white he may not come. **1750** 'PHILIDOR' *Chess Anal.* (1773) 7 *note*, When your Bishop runs upon White, you must strive to put your Pawn always upon Black. **1856** 'CRAWLEY' *Billiards* (1858) 29, I attempted a difficult cannon off the white. **1873** BENNETT & 'CAVENDISH' *Billiards* 213 The white will travel slowly on to the spot-white. **1981** P. QUINN *Tackle Pool* ii. 25 If the white is at point A it must be played into the black almost full ball.

15. a. (a) Applied variously to any white body or substance: see *quots.*

1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* II. iii. L iij b, That . . thou mayste haue a place worthy for the in our whyte. . . (Lyke as the pretours of Rome dyd set those mens names in a table hyghest, whose causes shulde first be pleaded, . . whiche table was called *Album prætoris* . . i. the whyte or table of the pretour). **1578** LYTE *Dodoens* III. lxxi. 413 Hauing at their extremities . . certayne whites fashioned like gripes, or claws. **1608** TOPSELL *Serpents* 237 Like as the windes drieue whites from top of thistle Cardus. **1896** KIPLING *Seven Seas, Rhyme Three Sealers*, They groped through the whirling white [*i.e.* mist].

†(b) *to spit white*: to eject frothy-white sputum from a dry mouth. (Cf. *to spit sixpences* s.v. SIXPENCE 2 d.) *Obs.*

[**1594** LYLly *Mother Bombe* III. ii, *Ri.* . . We dyd but a little parboile our liuers, they haue sod theys in sacke these fettle yeeres. *Hal.* That makes them spit white broth as they doo.] **1597** SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV.* I. ii. 237 If it bee a hot day, if I brandish any thing but my Bottle, would I might neuer spit white againe. **1622** MASSINGER & DEKKER *Virg. Mart.* III. iii, Had I bin a Pagan stil, I could not haue spit white for want of drinke.

b. As a specific name (chiefly in *pl.*) for various manufactured articles and products of a white colour; e.g. pins, sugar, flour, etc.

?**1690** *Pinnmakers' Case in oppos. to Killigrew's Bill* (Broadside, Brit. Mus.), Double long whites *alias* Calkins. **1826** *Haberdasher's Guide* 19 Short Whites, a smaller pin. **1844** H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 14 The same rule of storing a quantity . . is followed in regard to them as with the whites [sc. turnips]. **1883** N. D. DAVIS *Cavaliers & Roundh. in Barbados* 34 Not only were muscovadoes made, but the manufacture of 'whites' was accomplished. **1896** *Daily News* 8 Dec. 11/5 At a meeting of the London Flour Millers' Association, . . the following prices were fixed:—Town households, 28s.; whites, 31s.

c. A white diamond.

1878 [see OFF COLOUR, OFF-COLOUR *phr.* and a. 2]. **1895** [see BYWATER]. **1928** [see BYE *sb.* 3]. **1972** V. CANNING *Rainbird Pattern* xi. 227 The diamonds were genuine, . . blue whites, fine whites and whites. **1973** *Times* 25 Aug. 17/3 The (more or less) accepted English classes run thus in descending order: (1) finest fine white or river *alias* blue-white; (2) fine white; (3) commercial white.

d. A white ostrich-feather.

1881 A. DOUGLASS *Ostrich Farming S. Afr.* xiii. 81 The cocks' quill feathers . . he will . . sort first. . . Prime whites, first whites, second whites, tipped whites. **1890** A. MARTIN *Home Life on Ostrich Farm* vi. 103 A large and magnificent bunch of *wing*-feathers, the finest and longest of 'prime whites'.

e. slang. Morphine. Cf. *white stuff* s.v. WHITE a. 11e.

1914 JACKSON & HELLYER *Vocab. Criminal Slang* 87 *White*, noun, current amongst morphine habitues. Morphine. Example: 'How many times a day are you shooting the white?' **1977** N. ADAM *Triplehip Crackman* iii. 32 By 1965 they were growing poppies for half the world's white.

f. White bread; a white loaf. *colloq.*

1960 WENTWORTH & FLEXNER *Dict. Amer. Slang* 576/1 *White*, white bread. **1974** 'A. GILBERT' *Nice Little Killing* iv. 55 Last of all came the baker... Leave a small white to be on the safe side. **1977** D. E. WESTLAKE *Nobody's Perfect* 45 A luncheon-loaf sandwich on white with mayo in his left hand. **1978** R. WESTALL *Devil on Road* vi. 35, I got thick-sliced white and corned-beef.

g. An amphetamine tablet. *slang.*

1967 [see *PILL sb.* 1 d]. **1969** *Observer* 21 Dec. 1/1 The street pusher with his 'wanna score some whites (Benzedrine)? Dollar a roll.' **1972** H. C. RAE *Shooting Gallery* i. 19 He had anticipated a rash of arrests for possession of brown drugs and amphetamines—but not this, not a straight leap into the lethal whites.

16. pl. A popular name for leucorrhœa or 'white flux' (WHITE a. 11e).

1572 J. JONES *Bathes Buckstones* 4 b, Such as haue their whites too abundant. **1579** LAMHAM *Gard. Health* 147 Barren women, and such as are troubled with the whites. **1683** DIGBY *Chym. Secr.* II. 264 It cures... the Whites in Women. **1758** J. S. tr. *Le Dran's Observ. Surg.* (1771) Dict. Cc2, *Leucorhœa*, the Fluor Albus, or Whites in Women. **1822-9** GOOD *Study Med.* V. 68 Among novices there is some difficulty in distinguishing the discharge of whites from that of blenorhœa.

17. a. White colour or hue; white coloration or appearance; whiteness. Sometimes semi-concr.

c 1000 in *Anglia* I. 285 *Hwit* asolað, *mitor squalescit*. **a 1225** [see *BLACK sb.* 1]. **c 1315** SHOREHAM VII. 544 *Swype* fayr þyng his pat wyte, And per by-syde blak...; þe wyte hyt þe uayrer makeþ. **1390** GOWER *Conf.* II. 46 In kirtles and in Copes riche Thei weren clothed, alleliche, Departed euen of whyt and blew. **c 1400** *Destr. Troy* 10970 All paire colouris... were of cleane white. **a 1461** *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 241 Wyghte is wyghte, 3yf yt [ys] leyd to blake. **a 1548** HALL *Chron.*, *Hen. VI* 138 So depe a Snowe, that all the ground was covered with white. **1592** SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 398 Teaching the sheets a whiter hew then white. **1592** G. HARVEY *Four Lett.* Sonn. xi. Wks. (Grosart) I. 244 That whitest white on Earth. **1704** NEWTON *Optics* (1721) 133 Before I told him what the Colours were... I asked him, Which of the two Whites were the best? **1734** *Poor Robin* Feb. A6, It fills the Ditch with either black or white [= rain or snow]. **1777** ROBERTSON *Hist. Amer.* IV. I. 301 Their skin is covered with a fine hairy down of a chalky white. **1821** CRAIG *Lect. Drawing*, etc. iii. 175 We must take black and white into our list, as colours with the painter though not with the optician. **1847** W. C. L. MARTIN *Ox* 61/1 A broad line of white along the back. **1859** TENNYSON *Vivien* 141 The curl'd white of the coming wave. **1868** W. B. MARRIOTT *Vest. Christ.* Introd. p. xvii, In the ancient world... white was regarded as the colour... appropriate to things divine.

b. Whiteness or fairness of complexion.

In first quot. perh. confused with WHITE.

a 1225 *Anr.* R. 56 Nu cumeð forð a feble mon... & wule iseon junge ancren, & loken... hu hire hwite like him, þæt næueð nout hire leor uorberd iðe sunne. *Ibid.* 98 'þi stefne is me swete, & ti hwite schene...' 'vox tua dulcis, & facies tua decora.' **14...** *Voc.* in *Wr.*—Wülcker 626 White of þe face, *albus*. **1578** H. WOTTON *Courtlye Controv.* 225 The princesse blushing with roseall shame whyche beautified hir naturall white. **1697** DRYDEN *Æneis* XII. 102 Varying her Cheeks by Turns, with white and red. **1816** BYRON *Parisina* x, The smoothest white That e'er did softest kiss invite. **c. fig.** (or in fig. context) as a symbol of purity, goodness, truth, joy, etc.

[**c 1394** P. *Pl. Crede* 694 *Whijt*... bytoknep clenens in soule.] **1637** RUTHERFORD *Let. to Ld. Craighall* 10 Aug., Some few years will bring us all out in our black's and white's before our Judge. **1649** T. FORD *Lusus Fort.* 46 Our life is chequerd with the whites of pleasure and delight, and the blacks of sorrow and pain. **1680** C. NESSE *Ch. Hist.* 110 God Chequered his Providences... with the Black of Misery, and with the White of Mercy. **1818** KEATS *Endym.* III. 402, I loved her to the very white of truth.

d. Proverbial phr. to call white black, to turn white into black (and vice versa). Cf. WHITE a. 1 d.

1534 MORE *Conf. agst. Trib.* I. x. (1553) B viij b, More countmout may he haue in his heart, that where whyte is called blacke... abyde by the trueth. **1672** W. WALKER *Paræm.* 33 They turn black into white, and white into black. *Nigra in candida vertunt*, Juv. **1829** SOUTHEY *All for Love* IX. xxix, To prove... That right is wrong, and wrong is right, And white is black, and black is white.

e. Phr. white-on-white, used attrib. to designate articles made of white cloth with a white woven-in design; also fig.

1955 W. GADDIS *Recognitions* II. vii. 572 A bow tie of propeller proportions stood out over extra-length collar bills on a white-on-white shirt. **1958** J. BLISH *Case of Conscience* xi. 113 'Why don't you give me a chance?' Michelis said raggedly. Then he turned white-on-white. **1976** A. GOLDMAN in D. Villiers *Next Year in Jerusalem* 221 Perhaps it was radio... that forced American humor in the thirties to enter a phase of white-on-white neutrality. **1978** *Detroit Free Press* 5 Mar. 99/2 The Smithsonian Institution has several white-on-white quilts done in this manner.

18. a. A white pigment; often with defining word denoting a particular kind, as *Chinese, flake, Paris, pearl, Spanish, Venice white*, etc.: see these words.

1546 [see *SPANISH a.* 7]. **1650** NORGATE *Miniatura* (1919) 93 Whyte lead ground with Nutt oyle maketh a perfect Whyte. **1731** *Art of Drawing & Paint.* 20 These Colours... to shade the Whites. **1847** SMEATON *Builder's Man.* 139 The first white that was discovered... was extracted from the calx

of lead. **1859** GULLICK & TIMBS *Painting* 293 The terrene whites, from their alkaline nature, are injurious to many colours in water.

b. Her. Used by some modern writers for a white tincture reckoned among the furs, as distinct from *argent*.

1777 PORNY *Her.* (ed. 3) 25 White, the natural colour of a little beast called Ermine... is only to be termed so, when it is used for the doubling of Mantles.

19. a. A designation for a member of any one of certain political parties (from the colour of the badge worn, cf. WHITE a. 6 b); esp. a member of one of the two factions into which the Guelphs split (see BLACK sb. 8 a), or a Spanish Legitimist. Now usu., a member of any of various counter-revolutionary or strongly conservative parties.

1680 C. NESSE *Ch. Hist.* 428 The Guelphs... and the Gibellines... the Black and the White (as those Two Factions were called). **1802**, etc. [see BLACK sb. 8]. **1849** J. A. CARLYLE tr. *Dante's Inf.* 64 note, Florence was divided by two factions, the *Neri* and *Bianchi*, or Blacks and Whites. **1889** *Daily News* 4 Oct. 5/1 A true white—which is... of an infinitely more intense shade of Conservatism than the truest blue. **1892** *Nation* (N.Y.) 8 Sept. 177/1 The party of the Whites of Spain had been thrown into disorder. **1918** *Times* 9 Apr., Germany promised... to supply the Whites [of Finland] with arms and food. **1942** 'A. BRIDGE' *Frontier Passage* i. 6 There were a few Whites in Madrid... and... they had a pretty thin time of it. **1954** B. & R. NORTH tr. *M. Duverger's Pol. Parties* II. i. 216 In small French villages public opinion spontaneously distinguishes between 'Whites' and 'Reds', 'clerical' and 'anti-clerical'. **1965** M. MICHAEL tr. *Myrdal's Rep. from Chinese Village* (1967) IV. 186, I joined the Young Pioneers. There we had classes about which districts were red and liberated and which were held by the Whites or the Japanese.

b. spec. An opponent of the Bolsheviks during the Russian Civil War (1918-21).

1921 F. McCULLAGH *Prisoner of Reds* iii. 26 A few miles off, on the west, was a large force of whites, which intended to advance on Krasnoyarsk that night. **1924** E. G. JELICOE *Playing the Game* xiii. 224 Expeditionary Armies of Britain and the United States, invaded Northern Russia... in order to link up with Russian Whites against Russian Bolsheviks. **1944** M. LASKI *Love on Supertax* ix. 86 She is Russian... Her parents were Whites who fled to Paris just before the October Revolution. **1950** E. H. CARR *Bolshevik Revolution* I. 325 In all these regions the ultimate effect of the civil war waged by the 'whites' with foreign backing had been to consolidate the prestige... of the Russian Soviet Government. **1964** L. DEIGHTON *Funeral in Berlin* 318 Chekist operators... Originally these were an anti-sabotage, anti-revolutionary force... during the civil war... empowered to... execute Whites, or Reds who were getting a little bleached. **1976** [see *RED sb.* 6 b].

20. Short for white squadron: see WHITE a. 11 e.

[**16...** in MacGeorge *Flags* (1881) 69 The Lord Harvey was Rear Admiral... bearing... a white flag in the maine topp, and was Admiral of y^e squadron of white colours.]

1704 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* (ed. 21) 572 Admirals of the Fleet... White, Sir Cloudesly Shovel, Admiral. James Wishart, Esq. Vice-Admiral. **1751** *Crt. & City Reg.* 168 A List of the Admirals of the Royal Navy of Great-Britain... Admirals of the White. **c 1815** JANE AUSTEN *Persuasion* iii, He is rear admiral of the white.

21. The player who holds the white pieces at chess or any similar game.

1750 'PHILIDOR' *Chess Analysed* (1773) 59, I have no need to go further in this Game, since it is evident that the White must win. **1808** HOYLE's *Game of Chess* 32 White has the best of the game. **1867** BOHN's *Hand-bk. Games* 460 (*Draughts*) White to move and win.

22. Phrases. in black and white: see BLACK a. 15 b, c. **in the white:** said of cloth in an undyed state; hence of manufactured articles generally in an unfinished state. (Cf. quot. 1846 in WHITE a. 2.) **† white and black**, name of some game.

1555 *Act* 2 & 3 *Phil. & Mary* c. 9 Bowlyng Tenyse Dysyng White & Blacke Making & Marryng, & other unlauffull Games. **1810** *Risdon's Surv. Devon* p. xxv, The articles... are merely manufactured here, and sent in the white to London, where they are dyed. **1876** F. S. WILLIAMS *Midl. Railw.* 636 Furniture, made in London, but unfinished,—'in the white' it is called. **1957** N.Z. *Timber Jnl.* Aug. 59/2 *In the white*, applied to finished furniture ready for polishing or other treatment. **1965** *Wireless World* July 9 (Adv't.), This range includes... ready-assembled cabinets in the white for finish to own requirements. **1968** J. ARNOLD *Shell Bk. Country Crafts* 130 Factory-made chairs are often dispatched for later finishing, 'in the white' they call it. **1971** *Country Life* 10 June 1416/2 James Giles... bought consignments of Worcester porcelain in the white for decorating to commission. **1981** *Sci. Amer.* Oct. 134/3 Violinmakers often say that a violin sounds better in the white than it does after it is varnished.

23. Comb. white-exceeding a. (poet.), exceeding or surpassing white, 'whiter than white'; white(s)-only a., reserved for white people.

a 1618 SYLVESTER *Ode to Astræa* Wks. (Grosart) II. 50/2 The white-exceeding skin Of thy neck and dimpled chin. **1968** *Listener* 18 July 86/3 In 1958, the Court of Appeal supported the Musicians' Union in their boycott of a whites-only dance-hall in dear old Wolverhampton. **1971** *Sunday Times* (Johannesburg) 28 Mar. 1/3 It was a Whites-only compartment. **1971** *Guardian* 29 Sept. 19/2 In Salisbury [Rhodesia], there are perhaps half a dozen 'Whites Only' signs—mainly on public lavatories. **1980** *English World-Wide* I. 1. 55 In the 1950's Nassau's whites-only schools, cinemas, and restaurants were desegregated.

White (hwat), sb.² The name of Gilbert White (1720-93), English naturalist, used in the possessive, in *White's thrush*, to designate

Zoothera dauma, a yellowish-brown and white thrush with black markings native to Asia, eastern Europe, and Australia, and orig. named *T. whitei* in his honour by T. Eyton (1836).

1836 T. EYTON *Hist. Rarer Brit. Birds* 93 The general colour of White's Thrush, on the upper surface, is ochraceous yellow. **1893** *Ibis* 371 (*heading*) On the occurrence of White's thrush in European Russia. **1954** D. A. BANNERMAN *Birds Brit. Isles* III. 165 In its plumage White's thrush is characterized by the very prominent black crescentic markings.

white (hwait), a. Forms: 1-3 hwit, (1 huit, 3 zwit, 3wij3t), 3-4 wit, wyt, 3-6 (7-9 *dial.*) whit, (4 whijt, whijt(e, huýt, with, wythe, wyht, quihit, quitte), 4-5 wyte, quyt(e, quite, (wyth), 4-6 qwyte, Sc. quhit, 4, 5-7 Sc. quhite, 4-6, 7 Sc. whyt, whyte, 4-8 Sc. quhyt, (5 hwyte, whiyt, whyzte, why(g)th(e, wyghte, wytht, wytte, qwhy(t)e, qwhite, qwhyet, qwyght, Sc. qwhit), 5-6 whitt(e, (whight, whyght(e, Sc. quhytt), 5-7 Sc. quhyte, 6 whytt(e, (whith, whyth, whiet, wyet, wyght, wight, whait, weit, weyte, Sc. vhyt, quhet), 6-7 wheat, 3- white. Comp. whiter ('hwait(r)), sup. whitest ('hwaitst); also, with shortened vowel, 3 hwitt(e, -ore, -ure, 4-5 quitter, 4-6 whitter, (4 queper, 5 qwhittar); 5 whyttest. [OE. *hwit* = OFris., OS. *hwit*, OHG. (*h*)*wiz* (MHG. *wiz*, G. *weiss*), ON. *hwitr* (Sw. *vit*, Da. *hvid*), Goth. *hweits*—OTeut. **hwitaz*.

The shortened form *whit* (now dial.) was presumably generalized from the comp. *whitter* or from compounds like *whitbred*, *whitborn*, where shortening is normal.

The grade *hwit* is represented by OFris. *hwitt*, (M)Du., (M)LG. *wit* (-tt-):—**hwittaz*, prob.:—Indo-eur. **kwidnos*, **kwitnos*, the root of which is found also in Skr. **çvid* (perf. *çivinde*) to be white, Lith. *szvidūs* bright, Lett. *svist* to dawn, and Skr. **çvit* to be bright or white, *çvitrá*- whitish, white, Zend *spaeta* white, Lith. *szvintū* to be bright, OSI. *svitū* light, *svitati* to dawn.]

1. Of the colour of snow or milk; having that colour produced by reflection, transmission, or emission of all kinds of light in the proportion in which they exist in the complete visible spectrum, without sensible absorption, being thus fully luminous and devoid of any distinctive hue.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John xx. 12 Tuoege engles in huitum gegerelum. **c 1000** *Agg. Gosp.* Matt. v. 36 þu ne miht æne locc gedon hwitne oððe blacne. **c 1200** *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 57 Sume bereð clene cloð to watere to blechen him, þæt hit beo wit. *Ibid.* 163 Hire chemise is smal and hwit. **c 1250** *Gen. & Ex.* 2810 In hise bosum he dede his hond, Quit and al unfer he it fond. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2786 Tueye grete dragons... þe on was red þe oþer wyt. **a 1300** *Cursor M.* 17288 & 216 Two aungels... Cled in white clothez. **c 1300** *Hayelok* 1144 An hold with couel. **13...** *E.E. Allit.* P. A. 220 Bornyste quyte was hyr uesture. **1340-70** *Alex. & Dind.* 719 A swan swipe whit. **c 1380** WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 357 þe oost sacrid, whijt & round. **1423** JAS. I *Kingis Q.* xlvii, Hir goldin haire and rich atyre... couchit were with perllis quhite. **1471** CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 701 Myn eyen [are] dimmed with ouermoche lokyng on the whit paper. **1514** *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1904) 20 Oon hole sute of vestymettes, Whight or Blake. **1541** *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 135 A gowne... the one side blacke and the other side whitt. **1556** J. HEYWOOD *Spider & F.* ix. 5 With wheats tuskes fo[r]mde like a bore. **a 1586** MONTGOMERIE *Misc. Poems* xxv. 1 The tender snow, of granis soft & quhyt [rime delyte]. **1590** SPENSER *F.Q.* II. iii. 26 She... was yclad... All in a silken Camus lylly whight. **a 1650** NORGATE *Miniatura* (1919) 52 Instead of abortive parchment, by some called Gilding Vellum, make use of your pure white velim. **1733** BUDGELL *Bee* II. 924 It proving a Maiden Assizes, the Sheriffs, according to Custom, presented the Judges with white Gloves. **1806** SCOTT *Palmer* i, The glen is white with the drifted snow. **1833** TENNYSON *Miller's Dau.* 130 The lanes... were white with may. **1860** TYNDALL *Glac.* II. i. 227 White light... is made up of an infinite number of coloured rays. **1912** C. N. & A. M. WILLIAMSON *Guests of Hercules* xvii, A round white moon that flooded the night with silver.

b. Of the colour of the hair or beard in old age; also transf. of the person, white-haired, hoary.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 265/145 Hire her was hor and swipe 3wij3t, as þei it were wolfe. **1390** GOWER *Conf.* I. 111 Here berdes weren hore and whyte. **c 1440** *Partonope* 155 A knyghte, þe wyche hyte Nestor, Wyche for age was whyte and hore. **1448-9** METHAM *Amoryus & Cl.* 1027 The qwyght herys Off sapyens. **1596** SHAKS. *I Hen. IV.* II. iv. 514 That hee is olde... his white hayres doe witness it. **1684** BUNYAN *Pilgr.* II. Introd., Old Honest... With his white hairs treading the Pilgrim's ground. **1724** RAMSAY *Vision* v, His quhyt heid. **1887** F. M. CRAWFORD *Saracinesca* iii, His white hair and beard bristled about his dark face.

c. In comparisons usually hyperbolic.

esp. as *white as* (or *whiter than*) *snow*, *milk* (cf. SNOW-WHITE, MILK-WHITE); as *white as lily flower*, *glass*, a *swan* (cf. SWAN-WHITE), *whales bone*, *flour*, a *neap*, *wool*, *curds*, and (in sense 5) a *cloth*, *sheet*, *ghost*.

c 1000 *Agg. Gosp.* Matt. xvii. 2 Hys reaf wæron swa hwite swa snaw. **c 1200** *Vices & Virtues* 83 Danne wurð ic lænded of alle mine sennes, and hwitt(e) ðane ani snaw. **c 1290** *S. Eng. Leg.* 85/80 A coluere... so 3wijt so milk. **a 1300** *Cursor M.* 10380 Ten lambes, quite als milk. **a 1300** *K. Horn* 15 (Camb.), He was whit so þe flur [Harl. So whit so eny lylle flour]. **a 1330** *Syr Degare* 15 The kyng had... A daughter as whight as whales bone. **c 1330** R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 2081 Scheo hadde a mayden childe; Sabren hit highte, as whit as glas. **13...** *Seuyn Sages* (W.) 78 Faire of chere and white as swan. **1375** BARBOUR *Bruce* VIII. 232 Hawbrekis, that war quhit as flour. **c 1480** HENRYSON *Fox, Wolf & Husb.* 165 Quhyte as ane Neip, and round als as ane schell. **1508** DUNBAR *Gold. Targe* 51 A saill, als quhite as

blossom vpon spray. 1533 GAU *Richt Vay* 63 Giff thay be reid as purpur neuertheles yai sal be quhit as wow. 1590 SPENSER *F.Q.* i. i. 4 Vpon a lowly Asse more white then snow, Yet she much whiter. a 1732 GAY *Songs, New Song of New Similes* xiii. As smooth as glass, as white as curds. 1885 'MRS. ALEXANDER' *At Bay* iv. I am as white as driven snow compared to some blackguards.

d. In allusive or proverbial phr., chiefly in collocation with *black*: cf. WHITE sb. 17 d.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. x. 436 And wherby wote men whiche is whyte if alle pingre blake were? c 1403 LYDG. *Temple of Glas* 1250 White is whitter, if it be set bi blak. 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 56 Were not you as good than to say, the crow is whight. 1581, 1604 [see BLACKAMOR 1]. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacrae* i. v. §5, I think they have striven if not to make an Ethiopian white, yet an Egyptian to speak truth concerning his own Country.

e. *whiter than white*: extremely white; freq. fig.

In mod. use popularized as an advertising slogan for Persil soap-powder.

[1592: see WHITE sb. 17 a.] a 1924 N.E.D. s.v. *White* sb. 23. Exceeding or surpassing white, 'whiter than white'. 1949 D. SMITH *I capture Castle* vii. 95 The strangeness of her face: that look she has of belonging to a whiter-than-white race. 1962 *Daily Tel.* 28 June 1/3 He is said to have said that the report made out the BBC to be 'whiter than white'. 1974 'A. GARVE' *File on Lester* vii. 31 Where their leaders are concerned, the masses are puritan—they expect standards of personal behaviour whiter than white. 1979 K. BONFIGLIOLI *After you with Pistol* xxii. 180 My knuckles were now Whiter-Than-White.

f. *Sci. and techn.* Applied to (non-optical) radiation, esp. sound and X-rays, having approximately equal intensities at all the frequencies of its range; esp. *white noise* (also fig.).

This use arises by analogy with the spectral composition of white light.

1922 *Nature* 1 Apr. 414/2 Just as the spectrum of a hot body normally consists of a continuous spectrum of white light, together with certain spectrum lines the wave-lengths of which are characteristic of the radiating material, so an element emitting X-rays not only gives out 'white' radiation, but superposes its characteristic lines on the general spectrum. 1943 *Jrnl. Aeronaut. Sci.* X. 129/1 Inside the plane it is different; there all frequencies added together at once are heard, producing a noise which is to sound what white light is to light. . . That white noise is annoying needs little argument. 1948 *Bell Syst. Technical Jrnl.* XXVII. 642 If the noise is itself white. . . the result reduces to the formula proved previously. 1959 *Lancet* 12 Sept. 342/2 'White-sound' generators, which blind out extraneous noises, are unsatisfactory [for use in perceptual isolation experiments]. 1976 *Jrnl. R. Soc. Arts* CXXIV. 588/2 The proportion of power converted into the more penetrating 'bremsstrahlung'—or 'white' radiation—is approximately proportional to the atomic number of the target material. 1977 P. B. & J. S. MEDAWAR *Life Science* i. 14 When the noise signals are so subdued, random and heterogeneous that their pretensions to conveying information are negligible, we may speak of 'white noise', e.g. the sound—as of innumerable mice eating Rice Crispies—that sometimes accompanies long-distance telephone calls. 1980 P. WAY *Icarus* ix. 57 Maybe they could listen in, even through the white noise of the running water. 1984 *Mail on Sunday* (Colour Suppl.) 2 Dec. 6/2 (Advnt.), At standard or even very low listening levels, you will never be harassed by hum or white noise.

2. In looser or wider senses. a. Of a light or pale colour: applied to things of various indefinite hues approaching white, esp. dull or pale shades of yellow. (See also following senses, and WHITE BREAD, WINE, etc.)

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John iv. 35 *Uidetē regiones quia albæ sunt. . . ad messem, geseað ða lond forþon huito sint gēe. . . to hrippe.* c 1300 *Havelok* 1729 Win hwit and red, ful god plente. a 1400–50 *Bk. Curstasye* 701 in *Babees Bk.*, A qwyte cuppe of tre. c 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 29 Hwytē Hony or Sugre. 1523–34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* §13 Sprot-barley hath a flat eare. . . and the cornes be very great and white. 1626 BACON *Sylva* §874 Water of the Sea. . . looketh Blacker when it is moued, and Whiter when it resteth. 1664 EVELYN *Sylva* xix. 42 Such [osiers] as are for White-work (as they call it). a 1700 — *Diary* 22 Oct. 1685, The canal and fish ponds, the one fed with a white, the other with a black running water. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780), *Cordage blanc*, white, or untarred cordage. 1846 DODD *Brit. Manuf.* VI. 196 When a rope is to be used in the open air, but under cover, it is left in the 'white' state; that is, it is not coated with tar or any other substance.

(b) *spec.* applied to crops of corn or grain, formerly called *white corn* (cf. CORN sb.¹ 3), which turn 'white' or light-coloured in ripening, as distinguished from *black* and *green* crops: see CROP sb. 9. Hence *transf.* of land or soil adapted for such crops.

1523–34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* §27 The sherers of all maner of whyte corne. 1677 *Plot Oxfordsh.* 240 If it be of that poorest sort they call white-land, nothing is so proper as ray-grass mixt with Non-such, or Melilot Trefoil. 1780 YOUNG *Tour Irel.* I. 197 Pease esteemed a refreshment, and enables them to have one or two crops of white corn. 1799 J. ROBERTSON *Agric. Perth* 451 By the alternate changes of white and green crops. 1805 FORSYTH *Beauties Scot.* II. 66 The soils under tillage are commonly arranged into two kinds; . . . light and clayey. The former is called turnip or green soil; and the latter, white soil, because it is best adapted for growing oats, wheat, and other white grains. c 1830 *Glouc. Farm Rep.* 4 in *Libr. Usef. Knowl., Husb.* III. No white or corn crop should be repeated in too rapid succession.

b. Of metal, or objects made of metal, of a light grey colour and lustrous appearance. †Frequent in early use as an epithet of silver; hence = made or consisting of silver; also (of iron or steel

armour) burnished and shining, without colouring or stain. See also *white metal*, *money* (in 11 c), *rent* (in 11 e), WHITE IRON.

Also technically applied to silver ware chased or roughened with the tool, as distinguished from burnished silver.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Josh.* vii. 21 Twahund entsena hwites seolfres. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 152 Read gold & hwit seoluer. a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 129 Quadrentis coruen all of quyte siluyre. 1419 *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) III. 145 Et in D. de quytayles empt. eod. temp. 1506 *Lincoln Wills* (1914) I. 44 A whytepece with a coveyrng. 1530 *Palsgr.* 288/2 White harnesse, *blanche armure*. 1542 *Inv. Royal Wardr.* (1815) 72 Quhyt Werk. Item ane greit bassing for feit wesching. a 1627 MIDDLETON, etc. *Widow* iv. ii, A white thimble that I found i' moon light. 1667 DRYDEN & DK. *Newc. Sir M. Mar-all* v, Hang your white pelf. 1761 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 232 One of his majesty's best suits of white armour. 1816 *Scott Antiq.* xi, Four white shillings and saxepece. 1856 *Miller Elem. Chem., Inorg.* xv. §674 Tin is a white metal with a tinge of yellow.

c. Colourless, uncoloured, as glass or other transparent substance.

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxii. §3 Ægðor ge hwite gimmas ge reade. 1398 *Trevisa Barth. De P.R.* xvi. cii. (1495) M iv b/2 Those [sc. Zineth stones] that ben whyttest. . . ben not so precyous. a 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 54 Poudre of white glasse. 1662 MERRETT tr. *Neri's Art of Glass* 147 The pots wherein Enamels are made must be glazed with white glass and bear the fire. 1738 *Deering Catal. Stirp.* 128 Thousands of little white Bubbles filled with Water. 1890 C. H. MOORE *Gothic Archit.* x. 303 White glass is introduced here and there [in a stained-glass window] to heighten the effect.

d. Blank, not written or printed upon; †(of a document) unendorsed (cf. *white-backed* in 12 c).

1466 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 87 Ye seye þat ye have paid þe money: þer for y sende yowe the writte white. ? a 1550 *Faine wald I 33 in Dunbar's Poems* (S.T.S.) 311 Gif lytil rewarde be in wryting, Bettir war leif my paper quhyte. a 1600 *Flodden Field* lviii, Sweet sonne Edward, white bookes thou make, And euer haue pittye on the pore cominaltye. 1680, 1772, 1859 [see *white paper* (b) in 11 e]. 1683, 1770 [see WHITE LINE 2].

e. [tr. It. *voce bianca* white voice.] Of a singing voice or its sound: lacking any emotional coloration (such as may be imparted by vibrato). Also *transf.* Cf. *voix blanche* s.v. VOIX.

1884 F. NIECKS *Dict. Mus. Terms* 257 *Voce bianca* (It.), lit. 'white voice'. The female and children's voices, and also some bright-sounding instruments, are thus called. 1904 S. JOYCE *Dublin Diary* (1962) 39, I called McCormack's voice 'a white voice'—it is a male contralto. 1921 L. TETRAZZINI *My Life of Song* xix. 316 Be careful not to simulate too broad a smile. Too wide a smile often accompanies what is called 'the white voice'. This is a voice production where a head resonance alone is employed, without suffieient of the appoggio or enough of the mouth resonance to give the tone a vital quality. This 'white voice' should be thoroughly understood, and is one of the many shades of tone a singer can use at times. . . to produce certain atmospheric effects. For instance, in the mad scene in *Lucia*, the use of the 'white voice' suggests the babbling of the mad woman, as the same voice. . . in the last act of *La Boheme* suggests utter physical exhaustion, and the approach of death. An entire voice production on this colourless line, however, would always lack the brilliancy and the vitality which inspires enthusiasm. 1951 W. MORUM *Gabriel* i. iv. 56 That vibrato . . . [is] no use for symphony work. In the big orchestras the trumpeter employs what we call a *white* tone. A pure tone. 1957 V. NABOKOV *Pnin* 182 'I want a last piece of advice from you,' said Liza in what the French call a 'white' voice. 1961 *Times* 28 Sept. 16/1 An attractive, brightly ringing voice, rather white at the top but pleasantly dark below. 1975 *Gramophone* Dec. 1075/1 The soprano, Emma Kirkby, produces a 'white tone' which is scarcely distinguishable from that of a choir boy in some items, and this makes for a commendable purity of intonation. 1976 *Times* 8 Nov. 8/6 Where another team might produce a remote, 'white' sound, without vibrato. . . the Amadeus [Quartet] permitted a more human, warm tone. 1981 LD. HAREWOOD *Tongs & Bones* xiii. 209 He contented himself for the first act with accurate, small-scale singing in a rather small, white voice.

f. Of a drink of coffee: with milk or cream added.

[1900 G. BELL *Let.* 25 May (1927) I. 113 Besides the bitter black coffee, we were handed cups of what they [sc. Hasineh Arabs] called 'white coffee'—hot water, much sweetened and flavoured with almonds.] 1925 X. M. BOULESTIN *Conduct of Kitchen* 10 It is somewhat distressing. . . to have to stop at the coffee-stall on the way home for an honest sandwich and a cup of 'white' coffee. 1940 *Punch* 6 May (Summer No., unpaginated) (caption), Please don't hesitate to say if you prefer your coffee white. 1982 H. SHAW *Death of Don* i. 3 'Black or white, Master?' 'White, please.' . . They took their coffee and brandy and sat down.

3. Of or in reference to the skin or complexion: Light in colour, fair. (Often as a poetic term of commendation.) Now *rare* or *Obs.* exc. as in 4.

a 900 CYNEWULF *Elene* 73 Whitescyne. . . hwit & hwiþeorht hæleða nathwylc. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 116 Hire sylf biholden hire owne honden hwite. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 566 In þe worlde her pere nas, So 3wit ne of suich colour. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 28010 Yee leuedis, wit your quite hals. c 1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* II. 1062 þow Mynerua þe white, Yef þow me wit my lettre to deuyse. 1422 YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* 225 Pyteous and merciabill man tokenyth white colour and cleene. c 1480 HENRYSON *Thre Deid Pollis* 25 O laideis quhyt, in claithis corruscant. 15. . . DUNBAR *Poems* lxxxviii. 46 Fair be their wives, right lovesom, white and small. 1598 MARSTON *Pignall., Reactio* 35 Ye Granta's white Nymphs come. 1689 N. LEE *Princess of Cleve* II. ii, He has. . . a Skin so white—and soft as Sattin with the Grain.

4. Applied to those of ethnic types (chiefly European or of European extraction) characterized by light complexion, as distinguished

from *black*, *red*, *yellow*, etc. Also *transf.* See also *whitefellow*, *white slave*, etc. in 11 e, and WHITE MAN.

poor white folk(s) or trash: a contemptuous name given in America by Blacks to white people of no substance (1836, etc. in Thornton *Amer. Gloss.*); hence *poor-white-folksy*, *-trashy* adjs.; cf. TRASH sb.¹ 4, WHITE sb. 13. So *poor white*, *poor-white* as compound adj. (not always contemptuous, and in wider use, esp. in S. Afr.); also fig.

1604 E. G. [RIMSTONE] tr. *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* II. xi. 106 Under the same line . . . lies a part of Peru, and of the new kingdom of Grenado, which. . . are very temperate Countries. . . and the inhabitants are white. 1680 C. NESSE *Ch. Hist.* 27 The White Line, (the Posterity of Seth,). . . the black Line the Cursed brood of Cain. 1777 *Summary Acc. Tobago* 29 The white inhabitants. . . do not exceed seven hundred. The negroes, amounting to about twelve thousand, are kept in awe by an active militia. 1821 *Austin Papers* (1924) I. 446 My friend could probably take with him about twenty negroes and perhaps a poor white family consisting of a man and his wife. 1833 [see TRASH sb.¹ 4]. 1836 J. K. PAULDING *Slavery in U.S.* 205 The slave of a gentleman universally considers himself a superior being to 'poor white folks'. 1856 OLMSTED *Slave States* 84, I have been. . . told that the poor white people, meaning those, I suppose, who bring nothing to market to exchange for money but their labor, . . . are worse off in almost all respects than the slaves. 1864 *Harper's Mag.* Aug. 412/2, I wouldn't do my hair in a three strand braid on no account; it is too poor-white-folksy for me. 1865 WHITTIER *Lesson & our Duty* Prose Wks. 1889 III. 151 'The negro is to be left powerless in the hands of the 'White trash', who hate him with a bitter hatred. 1911 *Chambers's Jrnl.* Jan. 6/1 An effort has also been made to enrol men of the 'poor white' class in the police force, for which they appear well adapted. 1949 *Race Relations in S. Afr.* 413 It was not until 1898 that the first organized effort at their rehabilitation was made. In that year the Dutch Reformed Church in the Cape Colony established the Kakamas Labour Settlement for 'Poor White' families. 1951 H. GILES *Harbin's Ridge* 63 He never had been much account. Always content just to make out, which we considered poor-white-trashy in our parts. 1958 *New Statesman* 1 Feb. 143/1 In *The Hamlet* Faulkner describes the infiltration out of nowhere into. . . that sequestered poor-white corner of Yoknapatawpha County, Mississippi, of the Snopes family. 1958 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 13 June 328/5 Mr. Chase's thesis allows us to see them [sc. many popular American novels] as, so to say, poor-white relations of incomparably more distinguished works, relations that all the same show, in however degenerate a way, similar fundamental responses to the nature of American experience. 1958 A. JACKSON *Trader on Veld* 43 As a matter of course, every property was divided equally among the owner's sons upon his death. . . Few things contributed more effectively to the creation of a Poor White class than did this usage. 1979 J. DRUMMOND *Patriots* xv. 77 He'd been poor, the son of a poor-white farmer.

b. *slang* or *colloq.* (by extension from WHITE MAN 2b; orig. U.S.) Honourable; square-dealing. Also as *adv.*

1877 BESANT & RICE *Golden Butterfly* xviii, A good fellow is Rayner; as white a man as I ever knew. 1890 *Century Mag.* Feb. 523/2 There ain't a whiter man than Laramie Jack from the Wind River Mountains down to Santa Fe. 1913 EDITH WHARTON *Cust. Country* ix, Well—this is white of you. *Ibid.* xviii, I meant to act white by you.

c. Of or pertaining to white people.

1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xxiii, He had white blood in his veins. 1868 N.Y. *Herald* 4 July 5/2 The registered white vote has been very greatly increased. 1870 KINGSLEY *At Last* xvi, Exclusive sugar cultivation had put a premium on unskilled slave-labour, to the disadvantage of skilled white-labour. 1896 BADEN-POWELL *Matabele Campaign* xviii, The white power of South Africa. 1933, etc. [see *white jazz*, sense 11 e below]. 1937 L. & E. DOWLING tr. *H. Panassié's Hot Jazz* ii. 28 White musicians were playing. . . a so-called 'white' hot style intended to compete with the other style. 1944 *Living off Land* iv. 64 Natives are always hunting the coast for food. Also, there will be cattle stations, or white camps along the coast. 1959 'F. NEWTON' *Jazz Scene* iv. 70 The most characteristically 'white' style in the history of jazz. 1965 F. SYMINGTON *Tuktu* 59 Most missionaries tried to teach their charges how to cope with the 'white' culture and economy. 1968 P. OLIVER *Screening Blues* vi. 181 There appears to have been no relaxing of the strict segregation of record catalogues, nor any apparent attempt to secure a white market for Negro records of this [sc. pornographic] character. 1977 *Times of Swaziland* 25 Feb. 12 (Advnt.), Farming estate. . . Strategically situated in centre of largest white area of popular Natal Midlands. 1984 J. MCCLURE *Artful Egg* xi. 156 A couple. . . who affected sophisticated white manners and even spoke English with an almost white accent.

5. †a. In early use app. applied to illness marked by pallor. *Obs.* b. Pale, pallid, esp. from fear or other emotion. (Often in hyperbolic phr. as *white as a sheet*.) Also in allusive phrases expressing cowardice (cf. WHITE-LIVER, -LIVERED), and *transf.* (as in *white rage*, *terror*).

Phr. to *bleed white*: (a) *intr.* (hyperbolically) to shed colourless blood (*rare*); (b) *trans.* to drain completely of resources.

c 1403 CLANVOWE *Cuckow & Night.* 41, I am so shaken with the fevers whyte, Of all this may yet slepte I but a lyte. 1412–20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* iv. 2369 While he laie pus in his prowes white. a 1508 DUNBAR *Tua Marii Wemen* 426 Than lay I furtgh my bright buke on breid on my knee. . . And drawis my clok forthwart our my face quhit. 1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 643 Didst thou not marke my face, was it not white? Sawest thou not signes of feare lurke in mine eye? 1596 — *Merch. V.* III. ii. 86 How manie cowards. . . weare. . . The beards of Hercules and frowning Mars, Who inward searcht, haue lyuers white as milke. 1605 — *Macb.* II. ii. 65, I shame To weare a Heart so white. 1626 BP. HALL *Contempl.* XIII. *David & Gol.*, Now wee see. . . those, which haue giuen good proofes of magnanimitee, at other times, haue bewrayed white liuers. 1753 JANE COLLIER *Art Torment.* I. ii. 46 She. . . looks as white as a cloth. 1799 *Southery Bp. Hatto* 35 He had a countenance white with

alarm. 1841 S. WARREN *Ten Thou.* i. x, He hurried down... white with rage. 1854 DICKENS *Hard T.* i. ii, His skin was so unwholesomely deficient in the natural tinge, that he looked as though, if he were cut, he would bleed white. 1860 SHIRLEY BROOKS *Gordian Knot* ii, The most gentlemanly millionaire of them all has since been transported, and another is in white terror of a similar destiny. 1866 G. MACDONALD *Ann. Q. Neighb.* xxxii, She is as white as a sheet. 1885 'F. ANSTEY' *Tinted Venus* vi, He was in a white rage. 1897 HALL CAINE *Christian* iii. xii, The man... turned white as a ghost. 1935 *Sabbath School Worker* Nov. 6/1 'There are too many appeals for money', the people are 'bled white', and 'we can't give another penny'. 1945 R. CHANDLER in *R. Chandler Speaking* (1966) 113 It is the writers' own weakness as craftsmen that permits the superior egos to bleed them white of initiative, imagination, and integrity. 1982 'W. HAGGARD' *Mischief-Makers* i. 16 Her husband had been a wealthy man, the lady's solicitors sharp and ruthless, and her husband had been bled white to get rid of her.

6. a. Clothed or arrayed in white; *spec.* belonging to an ecclesiastical order distinguished by wearing a white habit (see also *white canons* s.v. CANON sb. 1, and WHITE FRIAR, WHITE MONK).

white ball: a ball at which all the ladies are dressed in white. *white nun*, a Cistercian nun (cf. WHITE MONK).

a1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1576 Ha seh sitten pis meiden mid monie hwite wurdliche men. a1400 *Prymer* (1891) 22 The white [L. *candidatus*] oost of martires. c1400 *Brut* 314 bere aros anoper companye of diuers nacions pat was called 'pe white companye,' pe whiche, in pe parties & cuntre of Lumbardy, dede myche sorwe. c1420 *Sir Amadace* (Camden) xxxviii, Quod the quite knyghte 'Quat mon is this?' c1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 178 The Se Mawis war monkis, the blak and the quhyte. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* xiii. ix. 623 He came to a whyte Abbay. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* v. v. 41 Fairies blacke, gray, greene, and white. 1895 *Pall Mall Mag.* Sept. 140 A month after Mamie's arrival Lidian gave a 'white ball' in her honour. 1877 J. PENDEREL-BRODHURST *Guide to Bosobel* v. 20 Whiteladies. . . The name is derived from the circumstance that the house was once a Priory of Cistercian or White Nuns. 1903 CHANDLER *Pilgr. Walks Rome* (1908) 128 The Olivetans or white Benedictines. 1954 A. SETON *Katherine* xxxii. 536 Katherine... surveyed the two nuns. . . White nuns, Cistercians, shrouded in snowy wimples and habits.

b. From the 17th century white has been specially associated with royalist and legitimist causes (e.g. the white flag of the Bourbons), and hence in recent times *white* has been applied to certain constitutional or anti-revolutionary parties and the policy for which they stand. In recent use applied to the Kuomintang in China and to the Christian Democrats in Italy. (See WHITE sb. 19, and cf. RED a. and sb.¹ 9 b.)

1749 J. RAY *Compl. Hist. Reb.* 331 She got together all her Clan, and marched at their Head (with a white Cockade, &c.) and presented them to the Mock Prince. *Ibid.* 341 The Rebel Army were assembled with their White Flags displayed. a1784 JOHNSON in *Boswell* an. 1763 note, Boswell, in the year 1745, . . . wore a white cockade, and prayed for King James. 1848 REDHEAD *Fr. Rev.* II. 302 Suppressing the tricolour, and substituting in its stead the white flag. 1849 W. C. TAYLOR *House of Orleans* III. 222 He had been one of the first to raise the White Flag in 1814; he had levied a regiment of Royalists during the hundred days. a1879 J. MACDONELL *France since 1st Empire* 117 The French ministers could show clemency at Paris, but they were not so well able to keep down the fury of the Royalists in the provinces. Thus was the Red Terror succeeded by the White. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 20 June 3/2 His position is that known in Italy as 'White', or constitutional, as compared with the clerical 'Blacks' and the republican 'Reds'. 1918 *Times* 9 Apr. 6/4 (Finland) Germany has secured a strong hold of the gratitude of 'White' public opinion. 1937 E. SNOW *Red Star over China* i. i. 21 To get in touch with Communists in the 'White' areas [of China] was extremely difficult. 1952 [see KUOMINTANG]. 1965 C. D. EBY *Seige of Alcázar* (1966) iii. 63 In less than forty-eight hours the Alcázar had become a solitary White island in the middle of a raging Red sea. 1965 M. MICHAEL tr. *Myrdal's Rep. from Chinese Village* (1967) iii. 131 My father was taken by the white bandits and beheaded. 1967 C. SETON-WATSON *Italy from Liberalism to Fascism* xii. 514 A left wing, led by Miglioli, the pacifist and 'white' trade unionist, called for a Christian proletarian party that would make capitalism its main enemy. 1973 P. A. ALLUM *Politics & Society in Post-War Naples* 326 The DC and PCI are heirs to particular Italian subcultures, the Catholic and the marxist. Both . . . ensure . . . the electoral strengths of both parties in North and Centre, and above all in those regions (e.g. the 'white' provinces of the NE and 'red' provinces of the Centre, etc.) where they organise specific populations.

7. *fig.* Morally or spiritually pure or stainless; spotless, unstained, innocent.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 147 Hwylc is of us Drihten þæt hæbbe swa hwite saule swa þeos halige Marie? a1225 *Ancr. R.* 324 Vor euere so heo [sc. the soul] he a witture, so þe fulðe is schenre. c1450 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Aug.* xv, Which seruauits our Lord God had brout fro þe grete blaknesse of synne on-to þe fair white vertuous luyung. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* III. ii. 198 Back wounding calumnie The whitest vertue strikes. 1608 BP. HALL *Char.* i. 21 Hee hath white hands, and a cleane soule. 1616 B. JONSON *Epigr.* xciii, I doe not know a whiter soule. 1645 G. DANIEL *Scattered Fancies* xxxiii, But Danger onlie gvilt attends; I bring White Thoughts. 1737 POPE *Hor. Epist.* II. i. 216 In our own [days] . . . No whiter page than Addison remains. 1859 HAWTHORNE *Marble Faun* xxiii, There can be no harm to my white Hilda in one parting kiss. 1862 TROLLOPE *Orley F.* xxxvi, It is I whose duty it is to see that your name be made white again.

b. Free from malignity or evil intent; beneficent, innocent, harmless, esp. as opposed to something characterized as *black* (cf. BLACK a. 8, 9): chiefly in phr. *white lie* (see LIE sb.¹ 1 b),

white magic (MAGIC sb. 1 b; cf. BLACK ART); see also *white paternoster* s.v. PATERNOSTER 2, and WHITE WITCH.

1651 C. CARTWRIGHT *Cert. Relig.* III. 36 He did not know whether his admonisher were black or white . . . an evil or a good spirit. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* II. v. §12 He made his Harp . . . make musick of it self; which no White Art could perform. 1718 BP. HUTCHINSON *Witchcraft* ii. 26 A Teacher of the White Magic, that pretends to deal only with Good Angels. 1749-50 RICHARDSON in Mrs. Barbauld *Corr.* (1804) IV. 316 Don't you think . . . that I have reason to exclaim against white fibs? 1828 MISS MITFORD *Village Ser.* III. *Admiral on Shore*, Julia . . . asserted her female privilege of white-lying, and declared [etc.]. 1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* iv, They be mortal feared of witches, . . . and mortal hard on 'em, even on a pure body like me, that doth a bit in the white way. 1914 SIR E. SHACKLETON in *Scotsman* 29 Oct. 3/8, I send you my last cable as we start for the Antarctic. We are leaving now to carry on our white warfare.

c. Of propaganda: truthful.

1965 B. SWEET-ESCOTT *Baker Street Irregular* i. 29 The Ministry of Information . . . confined itself to straight or 'white' propaganda in neutral and friendly countries. 1976 [see PROPAGANDA 3].

8. (Chiefly of times and seasons). Propitious, favourable; auspicious, fortunate, happy. Now *rare*.

1629 SHIRLEY *Grateful Serv.* II. i, Till this white houre, these walles were neuer proud, T'inclose a guest. 1638-56 COWLEY *Davidides* II. 830 Thy Fate's all white. 1660 DRYDEN *Astræa Redux* 292 And now times whiter Series is begun. 1728 RAMSAY *Bonny Christy* iv, He wisely this white Minute took, And flang his Arms about her. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* VIII. xi, What is called by Schoolboys Black Monday, was to me the whitest in the whole Year. 1830 LYTTON *P. Clifford* xxix, I will not even press you to appoint that day, which to me will be the whitest of my life. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xvii. IV. 2 That was one of the few white days of a life, beneficent indeed . . . but far from happy.

†9. Highly prized, precious; dear, beloved, favourite, 'pet', 'darling'. Often as a vague term of endearment. (See also *white son* in 11 e, and WHITE BOY.) *Obs.*

c1425 *Non-Cycle Myst. Plays* (1909) 33 Take vp Isaac, þi son so whyte. c1537 in *Ellis Orig. Lett. Ser.* III. 126 Master Pole . . . entred secretly in to a Monasterye . . . called Seynt Justyns, wheras he is ther wyte God and they his blacke angells. 1602 2nd Pt. *Return fr. Parnass.* II. vi, I shall bee his little rogue, and his white villaine for a whole weeke after. 1634 HEYWOOD *Lanc. Witches* I. i. Wks. 1874 IV. 184 A merry song now mother, and thou shalt be my white girle. 1646 *Extr. Kirk-Session Rec. Dunfermline* (1865) 17 Jonet Wely . . . had slandered grissell walwood spouse to Jon allison, wright, calling hir white bird. 1647 TRAPP *Comm. Matt.* xiv. 3 If Iohn touch Herods white sin . . . Iohn must to prison.

†10. Fair-seeming, specious, plausible. *Obs.*

c1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* III. 901, I . . . feffe hym with a fewe wordes whyte. *Ibid.* 1567 For alle youre wordes whyte. 1412-20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* III. 4272 Hir wordis white, softe, & blaundyshynge, Wer meynt with feynyng & with flaterie. c1480 HENRYSON *Cock & Fox* 205 Flatteraris with plesand wordis quhyte. 1513 DOUGLAS *Aeneis* I. xi. 34 The schyning vissage of the god Cupyte, And his dissemelit slekit wordis quhyte. 1612 SIR J. DAVIES *Why Ireland.* etc. 93 The faire and white promises of Lewes the II. 1613 CHAPMAN *Rev. Bussy d'Ambois* v. i, This bloud I shed, is to saue the bloud Of many thousands. *Guise.* That's your white pretext. 1721 KELLY *Sc. Prov.* 158 The Scots call Flatteries Whittings, and Flatterers white People. 1825 JAMIESON, *White-Wind*, flattery, wheedling, a cant term.

11. Special collocations. a. In names of species or varieties of animals distinguished by their white colour or colouring: as *white bear*, *fox*, *heron*, *herring*, *pelican*, *perch*, *shark*, *stork*, *trout*, *wagtail*, for which see the sbs.; also *white* †admirable, *admiral* [ADMIRAL sb. 6], a dark-coloured butterfly, *Limenitis camilla*, with white markings; *white baker* (see e below); *white-bird*, (a) a name for the spotted flycatcher; (b) see quot. 1875; (c) (without hyphen) in Irish folklore, a bird of fairyland; *white egret* = *white heron* (a) below; *white-fly*, a small bug of the family Aleyrodidae, usually covered with pale, powdery wax, esp. *Trialeurodes vaporariorum*, which is a pest of greenhouse plants; *white fox*, a small fox, *Alopex lagopus*, native to northern Canada, Greenland, and Iceland, which has white fur in winter; also, the fur of this animal; *white game* [GAME sb. 11] = *white partridge*; *white goat* = *Rocky Mountain goat* s.v. ROCKY a.¹ 1 c; *white grouse* = *white partridge*; *white grub*, the larva of the cockchafer or other scarabæid; *white heron* (usu. qualified by *great*), (a) the common egret, *Egretta alba*, a large white bird with a yellow bill and dark legs found in parts of Europe, Asia, North Africa, the Americas, and Australasia; (b) a white subspecies of the great blue heron, *Ardea herodias*, found in Florida; *white mouse* (see e below); *white owl*: see OWL sb. 1 b; *white partridge* ? *Obs.*, the ptarmigan; *white perch* U.S.: see PERCH sb.¹ 2; *white pointer*: see POINTER 12; *white rhino* (ceros), a large, wide-mouthed rhinoceros, *Ceratotherium simum*, native to parts of Sudan, Uganda, and South Africa; *white slipper* (limpet), snail (see quot.); *white steenbras*, a large marine food

fish, *Lithognathus lithognathus*, found in coastal regions of South Africa; *white whale* = BELUGA 2; *white worm* = *white grub*; see also WHITEBAIT, WHITEFISH, etc. b. In names of plants distinguished by white flowers or other parts, light-coloured bark, wood, root, fruit, seed, etc.; also applied to such flowers, wood, etc.: as *white beech*, *beet*, *bind*, *bine*, *broom*, *currant*, *dead-nettle*, *grape*, *hellebore*, *honeysuckle*, *horehound*, *jasmine*, *lilac*, *mustard*, *oats*, *peas*, *pepper*, *pine*, *raspberry*, *rye*, *sanders*, *willow* (see the sbs.); also *white ash*, (a) a species or variety of ash with light-coloured wood; *esp.* a North American ash, *Fraxinus americana*; hence (*colloq.*) an oar; also *attrib.* (jocular) as *white-ash breeze*, the impetus of the oar; (b) a S. African ornamental tree with white flowers, *Platylophus trifoliatus*, the white alder (ALDER sb.¹ 3); *white-bark pine*, a pine with pale, flaky bark, *Pinus albicaulis*, native to northwestern North America; *white bath* (see e below); *white birch*: see BIRCH sb. 1 b; *white box*, either of two Australian trees, the evergreen *Bursaria spinosa*, which bears clusters of fragrant white flowers, or a box eucalypt, *Eucalyptus albens*, which has pale leaves; †*white-bush* = WHITETHORN; *white campion*: see CAMPION²; *white cedar*, (a) any of several North American conifers, esp. one of the genus *Chamaecyparis*; (b) *Austral.*, a name used for species of *Melia*, deciduous trees native to the East Indies and Australia; *white clover*: see CLOVER 1 b; *white corn* (see 2 a (b)); *white elm*, the American elm, *Ulmus americana*; also, the European elm, *Ulmus laevis*, which resembles it closely; *white fir*, any of several North American firs, esp. *Abies concolor*, native to the south-western United States; *white grass*, (a) *Holcus lanatus*; (b) American species of *Leersia*, esp. *L. virginica*; *white mangrove*: see MANGROVE¹ 2; *white maple*, any of several maples with pale bark, esp. the silver maple, *Acer saccharinum*, or the mountain maple, *A. spicatum*; *white mulberry*, a round-topped mulberry, *Morus alba*, or its white or pink fruit; *white oak*, any of several species of North American oak, esp. *Quercus alba*, which is native to the eastern part of the continent; also, the wood of this tree; †*white plum*, (a) = WHEAT-PLUM; (b) a plum of Barbados having whitish bark; *white poplar*, (a) (see POPLAR 1 b); (b) *N. Amer.*, the aspen, *Populus tremuloides*; (c) *N. Amer.*, the tulip-tree, *Liriodendron tulipifera*; *white-rot*: see ROT sb.¹ 2 c and sense 11 e below; *white spruce*, a spruce with bluish foliage, *Picea glauca*, native to North America; *white-tree*, a name for different trees having light-coloured wood; esp. *Melaleuca leucodendron* of Australia and the Malay archipelago; *white vine*, (a) the common bryony, *Bryonia dioica*; (b) traveller's-joy, *Clematis vitalba*; *white walnut* = BUTTERNUT 1; *white wheat*, wheat with white or light-coloured grain; *white wood*, (a) the alburnum, or lighter-coloured outer wood of a tree; (b) any non-resinous wood. c. In names of minerals, and of chemical or other products, of a white colour: as *white amber*, *antimony*, *arsenic*, *clay*, *copper*, *dammar*, *enamel*, *feldspar*, (*iron*) *pyrites*, *precipitate*, *salt*, *schorl*, *soap*, *tellurium*, *tin*, *tombac*, *vitriol*, *wax*, for which see the sbs.; also *white ash*, refined soda-ash as distinct from the crude *black ash* (ASH sb.² 2); *white brass*, an alloy of copper and zinc, containing a large proportion of the latter; *white brick*, (a) app. Bath brick; (b) a hard, durable variety of brick made from gault; *white bronze*, any light-coloured bronze; *white cast iron* = WHITE IRON b; cf. *grey (cast) iron* s.v. GREY, GRAY a. 8 c; *white damp* [DAMP sb.¹ 1 b], carbonic oxide as occurring in coal-mines; *white earth*, earth material (as clay) that is light-coloured; *spec.* in *Painting*, white earth-colour; *white leather* (see LEATHER sb. 1 and WHITELEATHER); *white lights* *Obs.* exc. *dial.*, candles; *white metal*, a name for various alloys of a light grey colour (also *attrib.*); *white money*, silver money, silver coins; *white nickel*, a name for CHLOANTHITE or other native nickel arsenide; *white oil*, (a) crude oil that is pale in colour; (b) a colourless petroleum distillate; *spec.* a highly refined heavy distillate used medicinally and in the food and plastics industries; *white phosphorus*, (a) the white opaque incrustation that forms on phosphorus when it is kept under water (? *obs.*); (b) the ordinary allotrope of

phosphorus, a translucent waxy whitish or yellowish solid which unlike red phosphorus is poisonous and very reactive; † **white powder**, a supposed kind of gunpowder exploding without noise; **white precipitate**, either of two mercuric amidochlorides obtained by treating mercuric chloride with ammonia: *fusible white precipitate*, $\text{HgCl}_2(\text{NH}_3)_2$, and *infusible white precipitate*, HgClNH_2 (ammoniated mercury), obtained when there is excess ammonia and used in ointments against worm infection; **white rock**, a name applied to intrusive basaltic rocks, altered to a light colour, occurring in coal-measures; **white-row** (see quot.); **white rubber**, (a) caoutchouc whitened by admixture of a pigment; (b) the light-coloured caoutchouc obtained from the *white-rubber vine* (*Landolphia ovariensis*); **white rust** (see sense 11e below); **white sapphire**, a variety of corundum that is colourless owing to the absence of the impurities responsible for the blue colour of ordinary sapphire; **white spirit**, a volatile colourless liquid distillate of petroleum that boils between about 150°C and 200°C and is widely used as a paint thinner and solvent; † **white straits** (see quots. and STRAIT sb. 9); **white tin**, (a) refined metallic tin, in contrast to black tin; (b) the ordinary allotrope of tin, in contrast to grey tin; **white trap** = *white rock*; † **white wire**, iron wire coated with tin. **d.** In names of bodily parts or structures, and of diseases or abnormal bodily conditions, characterized by white colour: as **white blood**, blood with an excess of white corpuscles, as in leucæmia; † **white bone**, app. the costal cartilages; **white cell**, **corpuscle**, a colourless blood-corpuscle, a leucocyte; **white finger(s)** = *Raynaud's phenomenon* s.v. RAYNAUD; also *attrib.*; **white flood**, leucorrhœa; **white flux** (see e below); **white gangrene**, a form of gangrene in which the affected parts become whitish; **white haw**, an affection of the eye (see HAW sb. 3); **white jaundice** (see JAUNDICE sb. 1 b); **white matter**, the fibrous matter of the brain and spinal cord, as distinct from the *grey matter*; **white scour**, a disease of calves, freq. due to infection with *E. coli*, causing severe diarrhœa, dehydration, and often death; **white softening**, a variety of softening of the brain (see quot. 1873); **white swelling** (see SWELLING vbl. sb. 2); **white (fibrous) tissue**, white connective tissue, as distinct from *yellow tissue* (YELLOW a. C. 1 e).

1798 E. DONOVAN *Nat. Hist. Brit. Insects* VII. 75 The *White Admirable Butterfly feeds upon the common honey suckle or woodbine. 1906 R. SOUTH *Butterflies Brit. Isles* II. 59 The White Admiral (*Limenitis sibylla*). The 'White Admirable Butterfly', as it was called by some of the older English entomologists, needs only to be seen to be at once recognized. 1717 J. PETIVER *Papilionum Britannia Icones* 1/2 in *Opera* (1764) II. vii. *White Admiral. Found about Dullidge and Wickham near Croyden, as also at Henly upon Thames. 1826 J. CURTIS *Brit. Entomol.* III. 124 (heading) *Limenitis camilla*. The White Admiral. 1857 H. T. STANTON *Man. Brit. Butterflies & Moths* I. 33 White Admiral. Blackish brown, with a broad white band crossing the centre of the wings. 1922 V. WOOLF *Jacob's Room* ii. 36 He had seen a white admiral circling higher and higher round an oak tree, but he had never caught it. 1968 *Oxf. Bk. Insects* 46/2 White Admiral. . belongs to the same family as the Frithillaries. 1801 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* II. 315 The Leucoryx or *White Antelope. 1683 *Coll. New Hampshire Hist. Soc.* (1866) VIII. 146 [They] did feloniously. . use about one cord of *white ash. 1784 [see red ash s.v. RED a. 17d]. 1820 T. GREEN *Univ. Herbal* II. 856/2 *Fraxinus Americana*, American Ash-tree.—There are several varieties of this, White Ash, Red Ash, Black Ash, &c. 1851 H. MELVILLE *Whale* lxxxii. This clumsy lubber was striving to free his white ash. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, *White-ash* (Penn.). See *Coal*. 1882 *Garden* 23 Sept. 273/1 The white Ash of the United States may be taken as the type of most of the American kinds. 1892 *Labour Commission Gloss.*, *White Ash Finishers*, men in the chemical industry. . engaged upon the manufacture of soda ash. . from salts derived from black ash. 1950 *Chicago Tribune* 27 Apr. III. 10/1 Under each cutting spindle is placed a block of white ash. 1851 H. MELVILLE *Moby Dick* II. xxxix. 262 There she slides, now! Hurrah for the *white-ash breeze! 1906 KIPPLING *Puck of Pook's Hill* 101 We must wake the white-ash breeze. . . A long pull for Stavanger! 1908 N. L. BRITTON *N. Amer. Trees* 12 *White Bark Pine. . a rather small tree of alpine habitat. 1949 *Sierra Club Bull.* Dec. 24, I knew I could not get any sleep just by crawling under the low branches of a white-bark pine. 1974 *Blackw. Mag.* Oct. 307/1 Stands of whitebark pine mingled with spruce. . provide welcome shade. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* viii. iii. 620 There were *white Beares, and stagges farre greater then ours. 1852 SEIDEL *Organ* 169 The levers by which the tongues are kept upon the beaks are generally made of *white beech. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* II. 744 There is only one species of this plant [sc. hop] in cultivation, but which has several varieties, as the red-bind, the green-bind, the *white-bind, etc. 1789 J. MORSE *Amer. Geogr.* 197 On the high lands are . . beech and *white birch. 1961 H. MACLENNAN *Rivers of Canada* 48 Otherwise nothing but the immense low forest of spruce with the occasional splash of white birch. 1980 *Family Handyman* Sept. 63/2 Because hardwoods are more dense, there is more energy in a cord of oak, say, than a cord

of white birch or white pine. 1875 MELLISS *St. Helena* 98 *Gygis candida*, Wagl.—*White-bird. One of the most abundant sea-birds in the Island. 1892 W. B. YEATS *Countess Kathleen* 106 (title) The white birds. 1894 — *Land of Heart's Desire* 41 The Child (from the door): White bird, white bird, come with me, little bird! Maire Bruin: She calls my soul! 1940 E. POUND *Cantos* lvi. 60 May the white birds remember this warrior. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* vii. 85 Abstracting [by blister] a considerable portion of *white blood from the system. 1863 AITKEN *Sci. & Pract. Med.* (ed. 2) II. 270 White-cell blood, or White blood—*Leucocythæmia*. 1511 *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) I. 314 Quendam N. Wallez felonice percussit cum uno le dager in pectore super le *wythbone. 1909 A. E. MACK *Bush Calendar* 67 Flowers blooming [in January]. *Bursaria spinosa*. *White box or black thorn. 1923 *Census of Plants of Victoria* (Field Naturalists Club of Victoria) 46 *Eucalyptus albens* Miquel White Box. 1936 F. CLUNE *Roaming round Darling* xvii. 161 White box is a good burning wood, sheds a brown bark in springtime, then has a white surface. 1946 K. TENNANT *Lost Haven* (1947) xvii. 289 'What are those trees down there?' . . 'Blueberry ash, white box, whipwood.' 1965 *Austral. Encycl.* III. 406/2 White box. . having pallid glaucous foliage. 1538 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 136 One lytle pot of *whyte brasse. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1538 ELYOT *Dict.*, *Leucantha*, *white bryer. a 1756 ELIZA HAYWOOD *New Present* (1771) 252 Rubbing. . with scouring paper, rotten-stone, or *white-brick. 1845 J. H. PARKER *Gloss. Terms Archit.* (ed. 4) I. 72 In colour they are paler than ordinary red bricks, but are redder than the common white brick of Suffolk. 1969 R. BLYTHE *Akenfield* ix. 140 The school at Akenfield. . is a stark, knife-edged building constructed of Suffolk white-brick, [etc.]. 1979 *Guardian* 10 July 19/7 The famous Suffolk whitebrick which Georgian architects favoured for the region's grander houses. 1884 LOCK *Workshop Rec. Ser.* III. 28/1 This new kind of *white bronze' is not to be confounded with the alloy used in America under the same name. . which consists principally of zinc. 1882 *Garden* 3 June 384/1 The *white Broom and a sulphur-coloured Cytisus. 1676 M. COOK *Forest-Trees* xxxii. 97 If you would make a Fence of one particular sort of Wood, the very best is your *White-bush, or White-thorn. 1795 *White cast iron [see IRON sb. 1 2]. 1967 A. H. COTTRELL *Introd. Metall.* xxv. 518 In white cast irons, which are usually made by limiting the content of graphite-forming elements such as silicon to low levels. . all the carbon exists as cementite and the name white refers to the bright fracture produced by this brittle constituent. 1674 J. JOSSELYN *Acct. Two Voy. New England* 67 The *white Cedar is a stately Tree. 1709 [see PITCH PINE]. 1781-2 T. JEFFERSON *Notes Virginia* (1787) 62 White cedar, *Cupressus Thoides*. 1847 LEICHHARDT *Jrnl.* iii. 60 The white cedar (*Melia Azedarach*). 1856 [see CEDAR 3]. 1884 A. NILSON *Timber Trees New South Wales* 97 White Cedar.—An elegant tree. 1908 E. J. BANFIELD *Confessions of Beachcomber* i. 1. 20 The white cedar. . is a welcome and not unworthy substitute in appearance and perfume for English lilac. 1941 *Sun* (Baltimore) 12 Aug. 15/2 The hulls will be of two thicknesses, mahogany over white cedar. 1980 P. MOYES *Angel of Death* xi. 148 A fallen tree—a biggish white cedar with a trunk about a foot in diameter. 1861 *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* I. 167 Colourless corpuscles, or *white cells, exist in the blood in a comparatively small number. 1885, 1968 White cell [see RED CELL 1]. 1480 *White clay [see CLAY sb. 1 a]. 1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 122 White-clay, so called it seems though of a bluish colour, and used for making yellow-colour'd ware. 1783 J. WEDGWOOD *Let.* 13 Oct. (1965) 272 Having seen a specimen of fine white clay. . and being told it came from the Apalachian mountains. . I was so delighted with the appearance of this beautiful raw material. . that. . I determined upon sending an agent to the spot. 1852 in *Proc. Amer. Antiquarian Soc.* (1933) XLIII. 373 Mr Nichols. . has in contemplation the purchase of a tract of land containing a mine of white or China Clay. 1790 S. DEANE *New-England Farmer* 58/2 Red and *white clover are the only sorts known and esteemed in this country. 1884 F. J. LLOYD *Science of Agriculture* xv. 268 White or Dutch clover. . is a well-known variety of good feeding quality. 1977 J. L. HARPER *Population Biol. Plants* i. 25 The useful measure is the number of leaves, for example in. . white clover. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *White Copper, an alloy forming an imitation of silver. 1866, 1898 *White corpuscles [see LEUCOCYTOSIS, LEUCOCYTE]. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* i. lxxi. 107 The fifth. . may be. . called. . *white Crowfoote, & water Crowfoote. *Ibid.* II. xxviii. 180 [see WATER-LILY]. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, *White dammer. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, *White-damp, a poisonous gas sometimes (more rarely than fire-damp or choke-damp, etc.), encountered in coal mines. 1832 W. A. FERRIS *Diary* 8 May in *Life in Rocky Mts.* (1940) xxv. 143 It is sometimes found in various parts of the country, and is sometimes called *white earth'. 1910 A. P. LAURIE *Materials of Painter's Craft* iv. 42 Then among the whites we have a large number of white earths, of which chalk is of course the most important. 1969 R. MAYER *Dict. Art Terms & Techniques* 430/1 Because of its clarity and high absorptency, white earth is well suited for, and in limited use as, a base for certain lakes. 1835 J. J. AUDUBON *Ornith. Biogr.* III. 137 [The Louisiana Heron] is at all seasons a social bird, moving about in company with the Blue Heron or the *White Egret. 1872 E. COUES *Key to N. Amer. Birds* 267 Genus *Ardea* Linnaeus. . Great White Egret, White Heron. . *Egretta*. . Little White Egret, Snowy Heron. . *Candidissima*. 1939 *Florida* (Federal Writers' Project) 1. 26 The handsome white egret, once nearly extinct, is now protected. 1957 D. A. BANNERMAN *Birds Brit. Isles* VI. 68 The great white egret, though included in the genus *Egretta*, is in habit more like the grey heron and the purple heron and less like the egrets. 1770 J. R. FORSTER tr. *Kalm's Trav. N. Amer.* I. 67 *Ulmus Americana*, the *white elm. 1860 *Trans. Illinois Agric. Soc.* IV. 451 The White Elm. . is not good timber—is hard to split. 1948 N. W. OHIO Q. Winter 10 It was made of a strip of white elm bark about one foot wide. 1981 *Sci. Amer.* Aug. 40/3 Most European elms, including the European white elm (*U. laevis*), the English elm (*U. procera*) and the various cultivars of the species *U. carpinifolia* are also susceptible. 1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem. II.* 67 To make *white enamel, a hundred parts of lead and thirty of tin are generally calcined . . and. . mixed with a hundred parts of sand and twenty of potash. . the result is a milky white opaque glass, called White Enamel. 1839 DE LA BECHE *Rep. Geol. Cornwall*, etc. vi. 180 Plates of black mica and crystals of *white felspar. 1939 STEDMAN *Med. Dict.* (ed. 14) 1231/2 *White fingers, an

occupational disease occurring in operators of pneumatic hammers who are exposed to cold, affecting usually the fingers of the left hand. 1947 [see PNEUMATIC a. (sb.) 1 a]. 1971 *New Scientist* 15 Apr. 154/3 Researchers have found bone softening in chain saw operators and there is also the 'white fingers' complaint, with fingers going cold and numb. 1973 [see RAYNAUD]. 1978 *Kingston* (Ontario) *Whig-Standard* 18 July 15/2 Regular users of chain saws, grinders, and pneumatic hammers, drills and chisels often develop a condition called 'white finger' disease. 1850 A. J. ALLEN *Ten Years in Oregon* v. 52 They found the red and *white fir, spoken of by Clark and Lewis. 1897, 1913 [see *grand fir* s.v. GRAND a. 12]. 1948 *Pacific Discovery* Mar. 7/2 Sequoias become established most easily. . on cool north and east slopes with sugar pine and white fir. 1900 *Technical Ser. Div. Entomol., U.S. Dept. Agric.* No. 8 10 The minute *'white-flies' . . may be flying around. 1925 A. D. IMMS *Gen. Textbk. Entomol.* 360 The 'white flies' are a much neglected group. 1946 *Nature* 14 Dec. 852/1 A few [gall midges] are carnivorous, preying upon. . white-flies, other gall midges and the like. 1981 *Farmstead Mag.* Winter 35/3 Mites, aphids and whiteflies sometimes bother green-house cukes, but don't let this panic you into using a chemical spray. 1598 LYTE *Dodoens* i. lxx. 86 Wilde Tansie. . preuayleth. . agaynst the *white flood, or white fire. 1696 in H. KELSEY *Papers* (1929) 54 They [sc. Indians] brought nothing but 2 *white fox skins. 1774 *GOLDISM. Nat. Hist.* (1776) III. 333 The fur of the white fox is held in no great estimation. 1862 *Canad. Naturalist* May 138 White foxes have been killed on the south shore of Great Slave Lake. 1926 *Daily Colonist* (Victoria, B.C.) 22 July 19/6 The average price for white fox was \$34.85. 1930 R. W. SERVICE *Coll. Verse* 269 Fur had they, white fox, marten, mink, to trade. 1969 *Beaver* (Winnipeg) Summer 10/2 The white fox is the principal source of fur income at Rankin [Inlet] elsewhere. 1678 RAY *Willughby's Ornith.* 176 The *white Game, erroneously called the white Partridge, *Lagopus avis*. 1886 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* III. 300/2 *White' Gangrene seems to be simply a moist gangrene. . in which there is a serous exudate. 1877 C. HALLOCK *Sportman's Gazetteer* 40 The *White Goat is confined to the loftiest peaks of the Rocky Mountains. 1936 D. MCCOWAN *Animals Canad. Rockies* xiv. 122 A full grown male White goat has a body length of about five feet, stands approximately forty inches high at the shoulder and is from two hundred to two hundred and fifty pounds in weight. 1846-7 THOREAU *Walden* (1957) 114 The red pine and the black ash, the *white grape and the yellow violet. 1780 YOUNG *Tour Irel.* I. 382 Rye grass (*lolium perenne*) and *white grass (*holcus lanatus*) do well. 1891 *Cent. Dict.* s.v. *Leersia*, Three species occur in the United States, and are known as white-grass, especially *L. virginica*. 1797 BEWICK *British Birds* I. 303 *White Grouse. a 1817 T. DWIGHT *Trav. New Eng.*, etc. (1821) I. 77 The *white-grub has. . extensively injured meadows and pastures. 1551 TURNER *Herbal* i. Iv, The leues also broken in oyle are good for the *whyte hawe, or the perle in the eye. 1624, etc. *White heron [see HERON, HERN 1b]. 1813 A. WILSON *Amer. Ornithol.* VII. 106 The opportunities which I have. . had, of observing them with the train. . from its first appearance to its full growth, satisfies me that the Great White Heron with, and that without the long plumes are one and the same species, in different periods of age. 1846, etc. [see KOTUKU]. 1917 *Auk* XXXIV. 86 The Great White Heron is of more social habits than the Blue Heron. 1939 *Florida* (Federal Writers' Project) 1. 26 The great white heron, a Florida native, nests on the keys. 1957 D. A. BANNERMAN *Birds Brit. Isles* VI. 71 The great white heron is. . very rare in North Africa in winter west of Egyptian territory. 1964 A. L. THOMSON *New Dict. Birds* 367/2 The Great White Heron [*Ardea* 'occidentalis' of Florida. . may be no more than a local population of a colour phase. 1966 *Encycl. N.Z.* I. 209/1 Swamp and lake-edge birds include the rare white heron. . (*Egretta alba*). 1966 P. SHERLOCK *West Indian Folk-Tales* 57 A flock of white herons flew across the river. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* (1862) i. §3. 61 Blue indigo, under the combined action of protoxide of iron and alkalies, becomes converted into *white indigo. 1896 CHESTER *Dict. Names Min.*, *White iron ore, an early name for siderite. *Ibid.*, *White iron pyrites, a popular name for marcasite. 1526 in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 162 One torch, one pricket, two sises, one pound of *white lights, ten talshides, eight faggotts. 1610 *Ibid.* 335 Halfe a pounce of white lightes. . per diem. 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* 5 A b, The *White Lilac, or Pipe-Tree. 1882 *Garden* 6 May 317/2 A large bunch of white Lilac. 1774 in *Rep. Bd. Trustees Publ. Archives Nova Scotia* (1945) 34 This town. . affords a great store of fine timber. . white and black ash; *white maple; rock maple. 1832 D. J. BROWNE *Sylva Amer.* 101 The white maple puts forth green and yellow flowers early in the spring. 1916 E. T. SETON *Woodcraft Man.* 291 Silver Maple, White or Soft Maple. . usually a little smaller than the Sugar Maple. 1981 *Publ. Amer. Dial. Soc.* LXVII. 37 Sugar maple. . All of the Iron Range respondents [in Minnesota] use the generic maple. . On the Mesabi single instances of soft maple, sugar maple, and white maple are recorded. c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 525/2 *Whyte marbulle, *carnium*. 1849 BURKE *Landed Gentry* III. 27/2 The splendid mausoleum. . was magnificently sculptured in white marble. 1839-47 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* III. 695 A convolution [of the brain] consists of a fold of grey matter, enclosing a process of *white or fibrous matter. 1869 HUXLEY *Elem. Physiol.* (ed. 3) vi. 299 In the medulla oblongata, . . [as] in the spinal cord. . the white matter is external, and the grey internal. But, in the cerebellum and cerebral hemispheres, the grey matter is external and the white internal. 1613 in *Papers rel. Scots in Poland* (1915) 71 A *white metal cup. 1710 N. BLUNDELL *Diary* (1895) 86 We went to see y^m make White-Mettle Muggs. 1879 H. PHILLIPS *Addit. Notes upon Coins* 8 A number of medals in white metal and copper. 1884 LOCK *Workshop Rec. Ser.* III. 40/2 The term 'white metal' is applied to all alloys in which zinc, tin, or lead is in sufficient proportion to impart a white colour. 1482 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 116 The goldys and *whyte mony. . as they were corrant. 1593 GREENE *3rd Pt. Art Cony Catching* C3, There was seuen pound in Golde, beside thirty shillings and odde white money. 1611 COTGR. s.v. *Blanc, Monnoye blanche*, white money; coyne of brasse, or eopper, siluered ouer. 1696 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3162/4 Where all Persons may be Accommodated with any of their sorts for white Money, either Half-Crowns, Shillings, or Sixpences. a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 9 Mar. 1664, The fine new mill'd coin both of white money and guineas. 1809 BAWDWEN *Domesday Bk.* 405

Rutland pays to the King one hundred and fifty pounds white money. 1820 *Blackw. Mag.* May 158 My hand has nae been crossed with white money but ance these seven blessed days. 1610 *True Decl. Estate of Virginia* 55 There are innumerable *White Mulberry trees. 1737 J. WESLEY *Jrnl.* 2 Dec. (1910) I. 402 The white mulberry is not good to eat. 1850 [see MULBERRY 1]. 1957 M. HADFIELD *Brit. Trees* 248 The white mulberry... (so called from its white or pinkish, insipid fruit), is cultivated as the principal food plant of the caterpillar of the silkworm moth. 1975 E. WIGGINTON *Foxfire* 3 276 Dried white mulberries were used as a substitute for raisins or figs. 1868 DANA *Min.* (ed. 5) 70 Chloanthite;... *White Nickel. 1896 CHESTER *Dict. Names Min.* 287 *White nickel*. A syn. of both rammelsbergite and chloanthite. 1634 *White oak [see red oak s.v. RED a. 17 d]. 1770 J. R. FORSTER tr. *Kalm's Trav. N. Amer.* I. 65 *Quercus alba*, the white oak. 1873 'MARK TWAIN' & WARNER *Gilded Age* xvii. 163 You kin git all the rails you want outen my white-oak timber over thar. 1883 J. MACAULAY *Grey Hawk* iii. 44 The banks on both sides are covered with poplar and white oak and other trees, which grow to a considerable size. 1930 W. FAULKNER *As I lay Dying* 132 Tull take and cut them two big whiteoaks. 1941 *Sun* (Baltimore) 12 Aug. 17/2 They had in storage enough Dorchester county white oak to construct keels and frames. 1975 White oak [see pin oak s.v. PIN sb. 1 18]. 1721 BAILEY, *White oakham, a sort of Tow or Flax to drive into the Seams of Ships. 1913 V. B. LEWIS *Oil Fuel* 38 In some parts of the world small deposits of what are called 'white oil' are... found. 1919 *Electric Jrnl.* XVI. 336/2 Lactoseal transformer oil and white oil of paraffin have marked absorption. 1925 A. B. THOMPSON *Oil-Field Explor. & Development* I. xi. 504 The so-called 'white' oils occasionally encountered in oil-fields are usually transparent and amber or sherry tinted, and are evidently filtration products of darker varieties commonly found in the neighbourhood. 1938 F. M. ARCHIBALD in A. E. Dunstan et al. *Sci. of Petroleum* IV. 2838/1 Petrolatum liquidum is the highest grade of white oil. 1977 *Lubricants Business* (Shell Internat. Petroleum Co.) 4 Technical and medicinal white oils are also important. 1674 tr. *Scheffer's Lapland* 138 No bird abounds there more then the 'white Partridge. 1678 White partridge [see white game above]. 1747 G. EDWARDS *Nat. Hist. Birds* II. 72. 1775 A. BURNABY *Trav. N. Amer.* 15 These waters are stored with incredible quantities of fish, such as sheeps-heads, rock-fish, drums, *white perch. 1844 *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* XLVII. 58 *Labrax mucronatus*, Cuv., White Perch. 1851 T. A. BURKE *Polly Peablossom's Wedding* 129 The trout and white perch bit beautifully. 1949 *Sat. Even. Post* 12 Mar. 46/4 About the best fun was going out to the pond after white perch. 1849 H. WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Hand-bk. Chem.* II. v. 107 Phosphorus, kept under water... gradually becomes covered with an opaque crust which... afterwards turns white... This *white phosphorus retains its original appearance when dried over oil of vitriol. 1865 *Chem. News* 24 Nov. 251/1 He establishes that white phosphorus is neither a hydrate nor an allotropic state of ordinary phosphorus... but that it is, in fact, merely ordinary phosphorus irregularly corroded on the surface by the action of air dissolved in the water. 1884 FRANKLAND & JAPP *Inorg. Chem.* xxx. 371 Amorphous phosphorus, prepared by any of the above methods, invariably contains a small quantity of white phosphorus, the presence of which renders the product dangerously inflammable. 1976 *New Yorker* 15 Mar. 80/3 Two white-phosphorus rounds were exploded over the landing zone to indicate the 'all clear'. 1530 PALSGR. 288/2 *White plome, *prune blanche*. 1696 PLUKENET *Almagestum Opera* 1769 II. 306 *Prunus Sylvestris cortice albicante*,... White Plumme *Barbadensis dicta*. 1774 in J. L. Peyton *Adventures my Grandfather* (1867) 127 The forest of Kentucky consists of yellow and *white poplar, walnut, [etc.]. 1814 F. PURSH *Flora America Septentrionalis* II. 383 *Liriodendron*... generally known by the name of Tulip-tree, or White and Yellow Poplar. 1908 C. MAIR *Through Mackenzie Basin* 81 It was well timbered... with the finest white poplar I had yet seen. 1954 H. EVANS *Mist on River* 19 The wide and sunny freedom of his valley, with birches and white poplars between the belts of jackpine. 1613 BEAUM. & FL. *Honest Man's Fort*. II. i. That you were kil'd with a Pistoll charg'd with *white Powder. 1689 N. LEE *Princess of Cleve* II. ii. A Secret Lover's like a Gun charg'd with White Powder, does Execution but makes no noise. 1825 *Phil. Mag.* LXV. 227 With common salt I obtained the same results, mercury remaining, and *white precipitate being thrown down from the solutions, by liquid ammonia. 1887 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* IV. 743/2 Mercurammonic Chloride, NH₂HgCl. This salt, commonly known as white precipitate, is official in the U.S. 1923 J. W. MELLOR *Comprehensive Treat. Inorg. & Theoret. Chem.* IV. xxxi. 786 Conversely, infusible white precipitate is converted back to fusible white precipitate by the action of a soln. of ammonium chloride in liquid ammonia. 1956 J. S. ANDERSON tr. *Remy's Treat. Inorg. Chem.* II. ix. 474 The most important example of an ammonia addition compound is the 'fusible white precipitate', and important examples of mercury-substituted ammonia or ammonium derivatives are the 'infusible white precipitate' and 'Millon's base'. 1769 MRS. RAFFALD *Engl. Housekpr.* (1778) 213 To make *White Raspberry Jam. 1838 W. C. HARRIS *Narr. Exped. S. Afr.* xix. 184 A pair of *white Rhinoceroses opposed our descent. 1941 J. S. HUXLEY *Uniqueness of Man* viii. 184 The numerous creatures which would have become extinct but for vigorous protection... such as the... white rhinoceros. 1972 *Islander* (Victoria, B.C.) 9 July 2/3 In South Africa the white rhino has increased from 20 to 2,000. 1981 P. TURNBULL *Deep & Crisp & Even* vii. 125 He stuck out like a white rhino at a tea party. 1885 GEIKIE *Text-bk. Geol.* IV. viii. §2. 560 Microscopical examination shows that this 'white-rock' or 'white-trap' is merely an altered form of some diabasic or basaltic rock. 1712 *Phil. Trans.* XXVII. 542 A blewish Bat, in which the following Iron-Stone lyes, called the *White-Row. *Ibid.*, A hard blackish Iron Oar, lying in small Nodules, having between them a White Substance; and from thence by the Miners called the White-Row-Grains. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *White-rubber, caoutchouc mixed with... any white pigment [so] as to give a dead white color to it. 1887 MOLONEY *Forestry W. Afr.* 90 The white-rubber vine... grows in profusion in this part of the country. [1668 *White sapphire: see SAPPHIRE 1 b.] 1884 E. W. STREETER *Precious Stones & Gems* (ed. 4) III. ii. 160 The varieties of Precious Corundum ascertained to exist in the Burmese dominions are the Oriental Sapphire... the

Oriental Ruby... the Opalescent Ruby, the Star Ruby, the Green, the Yellow, and the White Sapphires, and the Oriental Amethyst. 1904 L. J. SPENCER tr. *Bauer's Precious Stones* 111. 566 Zircon and corundum ('white sapphire'). 1942 B. W. ANDERSON *Gem Testing for Jewellers* ix. 88 Perfectly colourless corundum, usually referred to as 'White Sapphire', is not common in nature... Synthetic corundum... is, however, manufactured on a large scale. 1744 W. ELLIS *Mod. Husbandman* Jan. xii. 79 He lost several of his Flock by the Gripes and the *White-scur. 1897 W. HOUSMAN *Cattle* viii. 251 Inflammation of the stomach and bowels [of calves]... is also commonly spoken of as 'white scour'. 1963 *Times* 17 May 5/7 (Advt.), Today the vet can control mortality from diseases like white scours. 1859 P. P. CARPENTER in *Rep. Smithsonian Inst.* (1860) 203 The *White Slipper [limpet] is known... by its shaggy light-green skin. 1523-34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* §54 *White snails be yll for shepe in pastures. 1881 E. INGERSOLL *Oyster-Industry* 250 *White-snails*, small species of mollusks noxious to the oyster-beds, particularly Urosalpinx and Natica. 1854 *White softening [see SOFTENING vbl. sb. 1 b]. 1873 T. H. GREEN *Introduct. Pathol.* 41 White Softening... is [mostly] a chronic condition, dependent upon disease of the capillaries and small arteries, which interferes with the circulation... There is no hyperæmia, and the colour either resembles that of healthy brain-tissue, or is an opaque dirty white. 1920 *Chem. Abstr.* XIV. 3786 Eight samples of light, medium and heavy types of petroleum distillate (*white spirit) were examd. and compared with turpentine as to boiling range. 1977 *Reader's Digest Bk. Do-It-Yourself Skills & Techniques* 11/2 For cleaning out oil-based paints, wash the brush in white spirit. 1770 G. CARTWRIGHT *Jrnl.* 27 Aug. (1792) I. 30 About four miles above, are several small low islands, on which grow many fine *white, and black spruces. 1832 [see SPRUCE sb. 4 b]. 1949 *Sat. Even. Post* 12 Mar. 50/3 Banks... were covered with a growth of fir and white spruce. 1968 R. KROETSCH *Alberta* iv. 164 Heavy stands of white spruce grow on the islands in Astotin Lake—the kind of spruce that covered much of the vicinity perhaps five hundred years ago. 1977 *New Yorker* 9 May 95/1 He thought that white spruce and other species could live farther north. 1801 *White steenbras [see STEENBRAS]. 1905 [see mussel-cracker s.v. MUSSEL sb. 4]. 1959 [see foul-hooked s.v. FOUL adv. 6]. 1974 *Stand. Encycl. S. Afr.* X. 263/2 White steenbras... One of the best-known angling-fishes in Southern Africa. 1792 PENNANT *Arctic Zool.* II. 157 *White Stork... primaries black: the rest of the plumage white. 1513 *Act 5 Hen. VIII* c. 2 Where... Clothes called *White Stripes be... made within the said Countie [of Devon]. 1672 MANLEY *Cowel's Interpr., White Straits*, a kind of coarse Cloth made in Devonshire, about a yard and half a quarter broad, raw. c 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 7 Take *whyte sugre an caste per-to. 1562 *Turner Herbal* II. 106 Take the water & put white sugar vnto it. 1772 D. MACBRIDE *Meth. Introduct. Physic* 194 Watery tumour of a joint, usually termed *White-swellings. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 185 *White tinne, that is molten into mettall. 1706 [see TIN sb. 1 b]. 1902 A. FINDLAY tr. *Ostwald's Princ. Inorg. Chem.* xli. 720 Besides the ordinary white tin, a grey form is also known which has a much smaller density. 1944 C. PALACHE et al. *Dana's Syst. Min.* (ed. 7) I. 127 Solid white tin (β-tin) by contact with gray tin (α-tin), alters to a gray powder ('tin plague'). 1950, 1965 [see grey tin s.v. GREY, GRAY a. 8 c]. 1973 J. J. LAGOWSKI *Mod. Inorg. Chem.* xi. 334 (caption) Each atom in white tin is surrounded by six other atoms arranged in a distorted octahedral structure. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* xxviii. 361 The vitality of the *white tissues is low. 1863 BATES *Nat. Amazons* ii. (1864) 38 Other grand forest-trees... were the Moira-tinga (the *White or King tree)—probably the same as, or allied to, the Mora Excelsa... in British Guiana [etc.]. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, White-tree, *Melaleuca Leucadendron*. c 1640 J. SMYTH *Hund. Berkeley* (1885) 319 The Salmon, *wheat trout or suen. 1542 ELYOT *Dict.*, *Atomum*... the leaues be lyke to the leaues of Withwynde or *whyte vyne. 1598 [see BRONYON 1]. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 188 Burne them with twigs of white vines. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1217/1 Vine, White, *Clematis Vitalba*. 1743 J. CLAYTON *Flora Virginia* 190 *Juglans alba*... *White Walnuts. 1822 J. WOODS *Two Years' Residence Eng. Prairie* 228 White-walnut, or butter-nut, and black-walnut, are not so good as the English walnut. 1916 E. T. SETON *Woodcraft Man.* 275 White Walnut, Oil Nut, or Butternut... rarely 100 feet high. 1958 G. A. PETRIDES *Field Guide Trees & Shrubs* 86 Butternut... also known as White Walnut, wood lighter in colour than that of its more valuable relative. 1545 *White wax [see wax sb. 2 c]. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 176 With bullis of leid, quhyte wax and reid, And vther quhylls with grene. 1815 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* x. (1818) I. 329 The wax (called *Pe-la*, white wax, because so by nature) begins to appear about the middle of June. 1697 H. KELSEY *Jrnl.* 6-7 July in *Papers* (1929) 88, 2 hands... brought news of a *white whale drove a shore. 1834 DEWHURST *Cetacea* 190 *Delphinapterus Beluga*, or the White Whale. 1923 *Beaver* June 340/2 Indian reports were received that porpoises, or white whales, were... making excursions... up a certain creek. 1978 *Weekend Mag.* (Toronto) 22 July 16/1 White whales or belugas... become progressively lighter with age. 1985 *Times* 6 Mar. 8/4 Soviet seaman trying to save a large pod of white whales... trapped in the ice. 1523-34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* §34 *Whyte wheate is lyke polerde wheate... but it hath anis, and... wyll make white breed; and in Essex they call flaxen wheate whyte wheate. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. 540 Among the numerous varieties of... wheat, the white and the red are the most esteemed in general. 1463-4 *Rolls Parl.* V. 507/1 Cardes for Wolle, or *Whitewyre. 1587 MASCALL *Cattle, Hogges* (1596) 274 Some doe ring them [sc. hogs] with red wyar... Others doe put rings of yron, some with horse nailles or strong white wyar, in the groine of their snoutes. 1678 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1302/1 It is Enacted... That no Iron Threed (commonly called White Wyer) nor Cards for Wooll, nor Card-Wyer, nor Iron-Wyer for making of Wooll-Cards, shall be Imported. 1765 *Newton* (Lincs.) *Enclosure Act* 13 Ash or other *white wood rails. 1812 P. GRAHAM *Agric. Surv.* *Stirling*. 40 The oaks are almost entire; the white wood, as it is called, or the outermost circles of the tree, only are decayed. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 348 The workman breaks these pieces of pots on his anvil, and mixes the pieces with charcoal of white wood. 1883 J. G. WOOD in *Longman's Mag.* Dec. 169 The terrible larva of the cockchafer, called, *par excellence*, the Grub, and sometimes known as the *White Worm.

e. Miscellaneous: White Africa, the white inhabitants of Africa; the parts of Africa ruled by white people; white ale, a Devonshire drink made of ale with flour, milk, and other ingredients (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*); White Army, any of the armies which opposed the Bolsheviks during the Russian Civil War (1918-21); also, a group which opposed the Red Guards in Finland in 1918; White Australia, used *attrib.* and *absol.* to designate a policy of restricting immigration into Australia to white people; white backlash, resentment felt by white people against demands made by, or concessions made to, Black people; hence white backlasher; white baker, † (a) a baker of white bread (also as one word); (b) a name for the spotted flycatcher; white bath, (a) an emulsion of oil and alkaline carbonates used in dyeing; (b) a name for white-flowered species of *Trillium*; white bonnet [BONNET sb. 8], a fictitious bidder at an auction; white book [tr. med. L. *liber albus*; cf. ALBUM], a book of official records or reports bound in white; *spec.* (with capital initials) the book first published in 1882 as *Annual Chancery Practice* and now entitled *Supreme Court Practice*; † white broth, some kind of broth of a white or light colour (see also BROTH sb. 3); white cane = WHITE STICK 3; white chauvinism orig. U.S., a white person's excessively high regard for his own race; so white chauvinist; white Christmas, a snowy Christmas; white coal (see quot. 1913); more commonly, flowing water as a source of energy; also, electricity; cf. white fuel (a) below; † white colours = white flag (a); white cooper (see COOPER sb. 1); white death [after black death], a name for tuberculosis (? as specially a disease of white men); white dominion, a dominion (sense 2 b) in which the majority of the inhabitants are white; white dwarf *Astr.*, a small, faint, very dense star (usu. but not necessarily white in colour) lying below the main sequence, and representing the stable phase assumed by stars having less than 1.4 solar masses when their nuclear reactions cease; (not regarded as a type of dwarf: see quot. 1978 and cf. DWARF sb. 2 b); white elephant: see ELEPHANT 2; white embroidery, white-thread embroidery on a white ground; = white work below; White English, term occas. used in contrast to Black English, in the sense 'the English of white speakers'; white ensign (see ENSIGN sb. 5); White Father, (a) a white man regarded as protecting or controlling people of another race; (b) [tr. F. *Père Blanc*], a member of the Society of Missionaries of Africa, a Roman Catholic order founded in Algiers in 1868; whitefellow, applied by Australian natives to a white man, in contradistinction to blackfellow; white flag, (a) a flag of a white colour displayed in token of peaceful or friendly intention, desire for parley (= flag of truce, FLAG sb. 4 1 b), or surrender; (b) the national flag of France before the Revolution (see 6 b); (c) used *attrib.* (with capital initials) to designate a communist group active in Burma since 1946; white flight chiefly U.S., the migration of white people from inner-city areas (esp. those with a large black population) to the suburbs; white flux, (a) leucorrhœa; (b) see FLUX sb. 11, quot. 1826; † white-folding, some kind of cloth; white folk(s), white-folk(s), applied by U.S. Blacks to white people; white frost, hoar-frost; white fuel, (a) flowing water as a source of power; cf. white coal above; (b) lead-free petrol; white goods, (a) domestic linens, as sheets, towels, etc. (now not necessarily white); (b) electrical goods that are conventionally white, such as washing machines and refrigerators; White Guard, Guardist, (a) a member of a force which fought for the Finnish government against left-wing insurgents in the civil war of 1918; (b) a member of a counter-revolutionary force in Russia during the civil war of 1918-21; also *transf.*; white hass, hawse, *Sc.* = white pudding (a); white hen, *fig.* in proverbial phr. a white hen's chick, etc. applied to a fortunate person or thing (cf. sense 8); White Highlands, an area in western Kenya formerly (1904-59) reserved for Europeans; hence White Highlander; white hole *Astr.* [opp. black hole], a celestial object which expands outwards from a space-time singularity emitting energy, in the manner of a time-reversed black hole; white hope, orig., a white boxer who might beat Jack Johnson, the first Black to be world heavyweight champion

(1908-15); hence, a person who, or a thing which, it is hoped will achieve much or on whom or which hopes are centred; **White Hun**, a member of a nomadic people of uncertain origin, also called Ephthalites or Hephthalites, who lived in Bactria in the fifth and sixth centuries A.D.; **white hunter**, a white man who hunts big game professionally; **white jazz**, jazz as played by white musicians; **white joint** (see quot.); † **white joke**, name of some dance; **white knight**, (a) (with allusion to a character in *Through the Looking-Glass*), an enthusiastic but ineffectual person; (b) a hero or champion; *spec.* (*Stock Exchange slang*) a company that comes to the aid of one facing an unwelcome take-over bid; **White Lady**, (a) a cocktail made of two parts of dry gin, one of orange liqueur, and one of lemon juice; (b) *Austral. slang*, a drink of methylated spirits, sometimes mixed with another ingredient; **white land slang**, open land that is not designated for development or change of use, or on which development is not allowed (so called from its being uncoloured on planning maps); **white leach** (see *LEACH sb.*¹ 2); **white letter Printing** [*LETTER sb.*¹ 2b], an occasional name for the (now) ordinary or 'roman' style of type, as distinct from *BLACK-LETTER*; **white level Television**, the signal level corresponding to the maximum brightness in transmitted pictures; **white lie**, (a) see 7b and *LIE sb.*¹ 1b; (b) see quot.; **white lightning slang** (orig. *U.S.*), (a) inferior or illicitly distilled whisky; (b) a kind of LSD; **white list colloq.** [after *BLACK LIST*], a list of people or things considered acceptable; **white-loose** (see quot.); † **white mark** = *WHITE sb.* 6; **white market** [after *BLACK MARKET*], authorized dealing in things that are rationed or of which the supply is otherwise restricted; **white mass** (see quot.); **white meter**, a meter that registers off-peak consumption of electricity; † **White Moors**, a nickname for the Genoese; **white mouse**, (a) an albino variety or fancy breed of the common house mouse; (b) a name for the collared lemming, *Cuniculus torquatus*, also called *snow-mouse*; (c) *fig.* applied to a person of mean or despicable character; **white mule U.S. slang**, a potent colourless alcoholic drink; *spec.* illicitly distilled whisky; **white Negro**, (a) a Negro, or a person with Negro ancestry, who has a pale or albino complexion; (b) a white person who defends the rights or interests of Negroes, or identifies with them; (c) *nonce-use* (see quot. 1949); **white nigger slang** (chiefly *U.S.*), (a) a derogatory term for a white person who does menial labour; (b) a Negro who is regarded as deferring to white people or accepting a role prescribed by them; (c) (see quot. 1970); **white night**, (a) (*tr. F. nuit blanche*), a sleepless night; (b) a night when it is never properly dark, as in high latitudes in summer; **white note Mus.**, (a) a note with an open head, as a semibreve or minim (opp. to *black note*); (b) a note corresponding to a white key on a keyboard; = *NATURAL sb.* 7a; **white paper**, (a) paper of a white colour (also *fig.*); (b) *techn.* blank paper, not written or printed upon; (c) an official document printed on white paper; *spec.* (with capital initials) before 1940, an Order Paper of the House of Commons which was a corrected and revised version of one issued earlier the same day (a Blue Paper); (d) (with capital initials) a government publication presented to Parliament and having white covers rather than blue ones (usu. less bulky than those with blue covers); *esp.* one outlining proposed legislation or stating policy; also *transf.*; **White Paper candidate** Naval slang (see quot. 1962); **white plague**, tuberculosis; cf. *white death*, *scourge*; **white port**, port wine made from white grapes; **white post (Paper-making)**, see *POST sb.*⁵ 1; **whitepox** [see quot. 1972], epithet of a pox-virus isolated from monkeys that is very similar to the smallpox virus; **white-print**, a document printed in white on a dark ground; **white pudding**, (a) a kind of sausage made of oatmeal and suet (cf. *BLACK PUDDING* and *PUDDING sb.* 1); (b) 'a pudding made of milk, eggs, flour, and butter' (*Cent. Dict.*); **white rabbit**, **White Rabbit**, used with allusion to the White Rabbit in Lewis Carroll's *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* (1865), who was running because he was in danger of being late; also as *adj.* and *adv. phr.*; **white racism**, belief in the superiority of the white race, leading to antagonism towards

people of other races; hence **white racist a.** and *sb.*; **White Rajah**, any of the three Rajahs belonging to the English family of Brooke who ruled Sarawak between 1841 and 1941; also *transf.*; **white rent** (*obs. exc. Hist.*), rent payable in silver money (see sense 2b, and cf. *BLACK MAIL sb.* 3); *spec.* in Devon and Cornwall, a rent or duty of eight pence a year payable by every tinner to the Duke of Cornwall; **white ribboner**, one who wears a white ribbon as a badge of temperance; a teetotaller; **white rod** = *WHITE STAFF*; **white room**, a clean and dust-free room used for the assembly, repair, or storage of spacecraft or delicate mechanisms; **white rose**, the emblem, and hence (with capitals) a designation, of the House of York in the Wars of the Roses (see *ROSE sb.* 6); also adopted by the Jacobites in the 18th c.; **white rot**, any of several fungal diseases of wood or living plants indicated by white patches of decay or mould (see also *ROT sb.*¹ 2c); **white rum**, a colourless variety of rum; **white rust**, (a) a fungus disease of certain plants indicated by white blisters on leaves or stems, esp. one caused by *Albugo candida* affecting cruciferous plants or one caused by *Puccinia horiana* affecting chrysanthemums; (b) a white coating that forms on zinc in air, consisting of some or all of the oxide, hydroxide, and carbonate; **white sale**, a shop sale of white goods and household linen; **white scourge**, tuberculosis (cf. *white death* above); **white settler**, (a) a white inhabitant of a non-white territory; (b) *transf.* (see quot. 1976); **white-sewing** = *white-seam* (*SEAM sb.*¹ 9); **white sheet** (see *SHEET sb.*¹ 1c); **White Sister**, a nun wearing a white habit; *spec.* a member of the Congregation of the Missionary Sisters of Our Lady of Africa, founded in 1869 to assist the White Fathers, or of the Congregation of the Daughters of the Holy Ghost, founded in 1706 in Brittany; **white slave**, a white person (sense 4) who is, or is treated like, a slave (cf. *SLAVE sb.*¹ 3); *spec.* a prostitute, esp. one trapped into prostitution by others; also (with hyphen) as *v. trans.*, to sell or trap (a girl) into enforced prostitution, esp. abroad; so **white slaver**, **white slavery** (*spec.* in reference to prostitution); **white-slaving vbl. sb.**; † **white son**, a beloved or favourite son; a boy or man who is specially favoured or petted (see 9); **white soup**, soup made with white stock; **white squadron**, one of the three squadrons into which the Royal Navy was formerly divided; **white squall** (see *SQUALL sb.*³ 1c); **white steep**, a process, or liquor, used in bleaching (see *STEEP sb.*¹ 1, 4, and cf. *grey steep s.v. GREY a.* 8); **white stock**, stock made with chicken, veal, or pork; **white stone**, **whitestone**, (a) in prov. phr. *to mark with a white stone*, to reckon as specially fortunate or happy (in allusion to the use of a white stone among the ancients as a memorial of a fortunate event); (b) a colourless gemstone; (c) a form of rendering; **whitestone v. trans.**, to whiten with stone (cf. *HEARTHSTONE sb.* and *v.*); **white stuff slang** (chiefly *U.S.*), morphine, heroin, or cocaine (cf. *WHITE sb.* 15e); **White Sunday**, an etymologizing modification of *WHIT SUNDAY*; **white supremacism**, a doctrine or the practice of white supremacy; hence **white supremacist sb.** and *a.*; **white supremacy**, domination by white races over non-white, esp. Black, races; **white supremacist rare** = *white supremacist sb.* above; **White Terror** (see *TERROR sb.* 4); also *spec.* a similar period in Hungary in 1919-20 and in China in the years following 1927; **white tie**, *spec.* a man's white bow-tie worn with a black tailcoat; also *ellipt.*, a man's formal evening dress including a white tie; freq. *attrib.*; **white trash**: see *TRASH sb.*¹ 4; **white war**, war without bloodshed; economic warfare; **white ware**, white goods or stuff, esp. white earthenware; **white way U.S.** (usu. with capital initials), a brilliantly lit city street; *spec.* (usu. *Great White Way*), the part of Broadway either side of Times Square, the heart of New York's theatre district, or a similar street in any other town; **whitewear** = *white goods* (a) above; **white wedding**, a wedding at which the bride wears a formal white dress; **white whisky**, colourless whisky; *spec.* (*N. Amer.*) home-made or illicit whisky; **white window**, a stained-glass window in grisaille (see *GRISAILLE*); **white wings fig.**, sails; † **white woman**, name for a 'female' ingredient in alchemy; **white work**, embroidery worked in white thread on a white ground.

1910 J. BUCHAN *Prester John* xxii. 353 The amnesty came... and *white Africa drew breath again. 1974 A. WILLIAMS *Gentleman Traitor* i. 16 The armies and police forces of White Africa. 1743 *London & Country Brewer* iii. 195 Devonshire *White-Ale. About 60 years ago this Drink was invented at or near Plymouth. It is brewed from pale Malt. 1806 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Tristia* Wks. 1812 V. 341 Your birthplace Dodbrook deign'd to bless Famed for white ale. 1813 VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* 390 The brewing of a liquor called white ale, is almost exclusively confined to the neighbourhood of Kingsbridge. 1879 N. & Q. 5th Ser. XI. 193/2. 1918 *Times* 9 Apr. 6/4, The *White Army... is overwhelmingly pro-German. 1960 O. MANNING *Great Fortune* ii. 109 It makes you look like a White Army officer. 1977 J. CLEARY *High Road* iii. 95 He had come out of Russia, a cavalry commander in one of the White Armies. 1921 *Round Table* Mar. 314 The *White Australia policy—the determination to keep Australia white, a home for European races. 1930 W. K. HANCOCK *Australia* iv. 77 The policy of White Australia is the indispensable condition of every other Australian policy. 1979 *Guardian* 5 Jan. 7/2 Mr Gough Whitlam's Labour Government abolished the 'white Australia' policy five years ago. 1964 *Courier-Mail* (Brisbane) 29 July 2 Goldwater is no racist, but there's little doubt that his supporters hope to win votes from the 'white backlash', the so-far unmeasured resentment among many whites to some of the negro demonstrations and riots. 1974 *Spartanburg* (S. Carolina) *Herald* 25 Apr. c2/1 He said a serious white backlash had developed against aboriginal advancement programs. 1966 *Economist* 17 Sept. 1130/2 The result leaves 'white backslashers' little choice in November: Mr Peabody, a staunch liberal..., will oppose a Negro, Mr Edward Brooke, who has won the Republican senatorial nomination. 1968 *Listener* 7 Nov. 625/1 The spies converge on Shaefer, and the homely white-backslashers adroitly lay them flat. 1968 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 325 No baker, be he *white baker or brown baker. 1633 *Stow's Surv.* 624 The Company of White-Bakers... were a Company of this City in the first yeere of Edward the second. 1725 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6379/5 Samuel Fryer, Whitebaker. 1862 *JOHNS Brit. Birds* 625 White Baker, the Spotted Flycatcher. 1857 *MILLER Elem. Chem., Org.* (1862) xi. §2. 775 In this condition it [sc. the skin] is ready for the operation of tawing, or passing through the *white bath. 1891 *Cent. Dict.* s.v. *Trillium*, The white species [are known] as *wake-robin*, *white bath*, *birthroot*. 1735 in R. Bell *Treat. Conveyance Land* (1815) 168 This too common practice of employing *white-bonnets at rousps was a manifest cheat. 1815 *Ibid.*, What is commonly called a white bonnet, that is, a person employed by the seller to raise the price, without any intention of buying for himself. 1866 *CARLYLE Remin.* (1881) I. 205 Hazlitt... was at the Fonthill Abbey sale... 'hired to attend as a white bonnet there', said he with a laugh. 1437 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) 294 The *Whit Boke. 1891 *Times* 4 Feb. 5/3 Another Whitebook on East African affairs has been presented to the Reichstag. 1895 *Law Times* C. 3/1 The judge and Master Macdonell hunted through the White Book, and unearthed a rule sufficiently elastic. 1911 B. NIGHTINGALE *Ejected of 1662* II. 1027 The White Book of Preston gives the following. 1965 J. DEDHAM *Young Man's Guide to Law* xiii. 150 Great industry has to be employed in really absorbing the procedure of the courts both from the 'White Book' (the High Court practice) and the 'Green Book' (the County Court practice). 1982 I. H. JACOB *Supreme Court Pract.* I. p. vii. It may fairly be claimed that the year 1982 is the hundredth anniversary of the White Book. 1606 *DEKKER Seven Deadly Sins* D, Heere and there (like a Prune in *White-broth) is stucke a spruce, but a meere prating vnpractised Lawyers Clarke all in blacke. 1691 *MRS. D'ANVERS Academia* 8 So shc... In White-broath, and Canary steeps him. 1973 *Times* 8 June 7/7 (Adv't.), Nowadays it takes more than a *white cane to help blind people. 1980 D. MACKENZIE *Raven & Paperhangers* vi. 85 There's a special place for blind men. And you get a white cane. 1946 *Political Affairs* XXV. 935/2 The corrupting influence of *white chauvinism has operated to maintain the most harmful division in the ranks of American labor. 1951 W. Z. FOSTER *Outl. Polit. Hist. U.S.* xxxiv. 563 White chauvinism—raee hatred—has been, and still is, a question of hard cash to the big capitalists and landowners of the United States. 1984 *Washington Post* 26 Feb. 10/1 White chauvinism in jazz writing has in large part replaced the tentative thrust toward 'ethnomusical' and socially aware analysis that were evident in the 60's and 70's. 1951 W. Z. FOSTER *Outl. Polit. Hist. U.S.* xxxiv. 563 Much of the race prejudice that does exist among the Latin American peoples... is due to the corrupting attitudes of *white chauvinists (diplomats, tourists, and businessmen) from the United States. 1857 C. KINGSLEY *Two Years Ago* III. x. 305 We shall have a *white Christmas, I expect. Snow's coming. 1913 *Collier's* 13 Dec. 8 (heading) A white Christmas. 1942 I. BERLIN (*song-title*) White Christmas. 1976 *Weekend Echo* (Liverpool) 4-5 Dec. 1/2 The weather men say the big shiver could bring our first white Christmas for years. 1885 *Neepawa* (Manitoba) *Star* 21 Aug. 2/1 Nor should those intrusted with the people's money... embezzle... the least portion of that money, under colour of black coal or *white coal, ditch contracts, or any other pretext. 1913 *WESTON & CREW Pitman's Dict. Econ. & Banking Terms* 149 *White Coal*, a fanciful name given to a glacier in so far as it is a reservoir of force. 1916 *Edin. Rev.* Oct. 397 Envy the Italians the clear atmosphere their towns... enjoy through the use of 'white coal' in place of black. 1963 *Daily Tel.* 18 Sept. 14 All may not think electricity the best heating or cooking or even lighting agent. But it is the cleanest and simplest and deserves its title of 'white coal'. 1971 *Nat. Geographic* July 25/2 Many former waterfalls now slip submissively through penstocks and turbines, and this abundant 'white coal' has drastically altered the country's age-old fish-forest-and-farm economy. 1676 *North's Plutarch, Add. Lives* 84 Sebastian... commanded one of his Soldiers to hold up the *white colours at his Spears-end, in token of his surrendering. 1688 *HOLME Armoury* III. vii. 317/2 The *White Cooper and Barrel Cooper... arc two distinct Trades. 1837 *WHITTOCK, etc. Bk. Trades* (1842) 162 (*Cooper*) The White-cooper makes all the wooden vessels required in household concerns, dairies, or private breweries. 1901 *Munsey's Mag.* XXV. 643/2 The *white death', as this most fatal disease is called, does not seem to horrify us as it should. 1966 *Guardian* 6 Sept. 8/4 Assuming that the crumbling process would continue, Britain would be left with the '*white dominions'. 1973 C. CARBINGTON in

Kipling *Compl. Barrack-Room Ballads* 23 After... 1871, there were no British regular troops in the new 'White Dominions'. 1977 A. WILSON *Strange Ride R. Kipling* v. 253 Canada was the white dominion that Kipling had known longest. 1924 *Monthly Notices R. Astron. Soc.* LXXXIV. 322 The *white dwarfs Sirius (*comes*) and O₂ Eridani. 1925 *Nature* 5 Dec. 834/1 Invoked to decide the truth of a suspicion of transcendently high density in the 'white dwarf' stars, it [sc. Einstein's theory of gravitation] has decided that in the companion of Sirius matter is compressed to the almost incredible density of a ton to the cubic inch. 1935 B. RUSSELL *Relig. & Sci.* viii. 217 If none of these things happen first, we shall in any case be all destroyed when the sun explodes and becomes a cold white dwarf. 1969 *Listener* 2 Jan. 10/3 White dwarfs are stars like the Sun which have collapsed into a sphere the size of a planet. 1978 PASACHOFF & KUTNER *University Astron.* x. 283 Do not confuse the term 'white dwarf' with the term 'dwarf'. The former refers to the dead hulks of stars..., while the latter refers to normal stars on the main sequence. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* II. iv. xxix. 223 Gwendolen... held a piece of *white embroidery which on examination would have shown many false stitches. 1931 A. K. ARTHUR *Embroidery Bk.* viii. 83 Bullion knots are frequently used in white embroidery. 1971 S. LEVEY *Discovering Embroidery of Nineteenth Cent.* 9 White embroidery flourished throughout the century. 1974 *Florida FL Reporter* XIII. 3/3 *Black English* origins are almost entirely, if not entirely, rooted in *White English dialect usage. 1974 *Newslet. Amer. Dial. Soc.* Nov. 44 Intonation patterns of Black English were studied and compared with those occurring in White English and formal Black English. 1879 *Queen's Reg. H.M. Naval Service* 19 All Her Majesty's Ships of War in Commission shall bear a *White Ensign. 1835 C. F. HOFFMAN *Winter in West I.* 251 The unfortunate agent... was shot in the act of appealing to the Indians as their friend and 'father',—the reply being... 'We have no longer any *white father.' 1889 R. F. CLARKE *Cardinal Lavigerie* i. iv. 100 The White Fathers—a name given to the Algerian missionaries on account of their wearing the long white robe of the Arab. 1894 *Harper's Mag.* Sept. 516/2 The White Father has sent me. 1969 *Telegraph* (Brisbane) 18 Sept. 2/2 The people we detest are the 'White Fathers'—those who control our destiny. 1977 B. LUCAS tr. *De Foucauld's Lett. from Desert* vii. 130 The Apostolic Prefect will probably tell him to spend a few days at Maison-Carrée, near Algiers, the mother-house of the White Fathers. 1832 *Whitefellow [see BUDGEREE a.]. 1853 C. B. HALL in T. F. BRIDE *Lett. Vict. Pioneers* (1898) 218 My black boy... showed me three or four bodies, partially concealed by logs. There were numerous tracks of horses round about. He explained the occurrence in his way—'I believe blackfellow bimbalee sheep all about. Then whitefellow gilbert and put 'em along o' fire.' 1870 J. O. TUCKER *Mute* 52 The natives, believing him to be the Spirit of their deceased King, welcomed him with every demonstration of joy; hence the well-known expression 'Go down blackfellow, come up whitefellow'. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* xxx. 765 There met him a ship of the Carthaginians, garnished with... *white flags of peace. 1695 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3101/2 The Enemy hung out a White Flag, and desired a Parley. 1815 *Ann. Reg., Gen. Hist.* 129 A white flag was hung out as a signal that the troops... had surrendered. 1949 *New Statesman* 12 Feb. 147/1 The story begins last March. Then the Communists (White and Red Flag), who had already gone underground, began guerilla warfare on Government treasuries. 1959 *Listener* 18 June 1051/1 The so-called White Flag Communists who followed the Stalinist line. 1974 White Flag [see RED FLAG 3 a]. 1967 *New Republic* 22 July 19/2 School quality is a far more important factor than racial feeling... in this *white flight from desegregated schools. 1975 *Political Sci. Q.* XC. 675 White flight from cities has been a much discussed phenomenon in the last decade. 1978 *Sci. News* 23 Sept. 216 Previous studies of this so-called 'white flight' phenomenon have been criticized for not taking into account the type of desegregation involved and for ignoring other factors that might have induced white families to leave the central city anyway. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 83 If a woman be troubled with the *white fluxe. 1827 FARADAY *Chem. Manip.* xiii. (1842) 301 White flux is made by deflagrating a mixture of equal parts of nitre and cream of tartar. c 1423 in *Raine Ch. Yk. & Abps.* (Rolls) III. 307 Pro xij. virgis de panno vocato *whytefaldyng. 1929 W. FAULKNER *Sound & Fury* 101 If it hadn't been for my grandfather, he'd have to work like 'whitefolks. 1932 E. CALDWELL *Tobacco Road* xv. 179 What's the matter with your automobile, white-folks? 1973 *Black World* May 20/1 In his essays on whitefolk, Du Bois invokes two specific historical occurrences which reflect the paradoxes, lies and hypocrisy of white civilization. 1981 A. MACKAY *Death on River* (1983) 120 She dressed conservatively. White folks' clothes, she thought wryly. 1382, 1563, 1739 *White frost [see FROST sb. 2]. 1780 W. FLEMING *Jrnl* 14 Mar. in N. D. Mereness *Trav. Amer. Colonies* (1916) 634 Monday night there was a smart white frost. 1835 J. MARTIN *Comprehensive Descr. Virginia* 66 Our white frost is generally harmless, it being simple dew slightly congealed. 1967 White frost [see HOAR-FROST a.]. 1913 F. SODDY *Matter & Energy* v. 135 The *'white fuel' of the Norwegian hill-sides. 1928 *Daily Tel.* 27 Mar. 10/7 Italy has... greater advantages for the development of 'white fuel', for Egypt has but one single river. 1958 *New Scientist* 6 Feb. 19 When the catalyst is used with 'white' or unleaded fuel (as on motorised trucks for indoor use in factories) this difficulty does not arise. 1900 T. EATON & Co. *Catal.* White Goods & Midwinter Sale 12 These prices for Shirt Waists and Wrappers are special for the *White Goods Sale only. 1943 L. I. WILDER *These Happy Golden Years* xxxi. 276 Busily working with the white goods, Ma and Laura discussed Laura's dresses. 1960 *Economist* 8 Oct. 158/1 Refrigerators, deep freezers, washing machines, clothes dryers and other so-called 'white goods'. 1976 *Which?* Mar. 61/1 Electrical equipment... includes things like washing machines and fridges (what the trade calls white goods) as well as TVs and audio (which the trade calls brown goods). Specialist TV and audio shops don't normally sell white goods. 1981 *Times* 9 Mar. 19/6 An abiding problem for the white goods manufacturers is the high level of imports. 1922 *White Guard [see RED GUARD 1 b]. 1970 G. HUIZER in I. L. Horowitz *Masses in Lat. Amer.* xiii. 454 Tapia continued to have meetings with peasants in their houses although the soldiers or 'white guards' sent by the Cantabria hacienda tried several times to capture him. *Ibid.* 497 'White guards'... were groups of armed men hired by the landowners [in

Mexico] to fight against those peasants who petitioned for land. 1971 H. TREVELYAN *Worlds Apart* xxiii. 267 The house was lucky to escape destruction during the Revolution, when it was said to have been for a time in the front line as a White Guard post opposite the Kremlin. 1974 J. WHITE tr. *Poulantzas's Fascism & Dictatorship* iv. iii. 210 The fascist phenomenon was constantly identified with the Russian White Guards, as a strong reaction to a revolutionary situation. 1951 in J. Degras *Soviet Documents on Foreign Policy* I. 131 A White Terror eclipsing the atrocities of the Finnish *White Guardists. 1964 V. NABOKOV *Defence* xiii. 211 Yes, yes, I know he's a chess player... But what is he? A reactionary? A White Guardist? 1971 S. TALBOTT tr. *Khrushchev Remembers* i. 15 Our army won many important victories against our White-Guardist class enemies in the first years of the Revolution. 1818 SCOTT Br. *Lamm*. xii. There is black pudding and *white-hass—try while ye like best. 1824 MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl.*, *White Hawse*, a favourite pudding. 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* II. iii. Lij b, May not I... be esteemed the sonne of a *whyte henne i. i. maybe not men... thinke, that I was borne in a good howre. 1630 B. JONSON *New Inn* i. iii. All... are not sonnes o' the white Hen. 1716 *Poor Robin* Feb. A6, Money is a Chick of the white Hen, he that hath it, hath Fortune by the forelock. 1976 P. DRISCOLL *Barboza Credentials* i. i. 24, I had seen Kenya... prosper in spite of the *White Highlanders sneering. 1935 E. HUXLEY *White Man's Country* I. ix. 208 In East Africa the settlers' principal anxiety was that Indians would permeate the relatively small area of land suitable for colonisation—the *'white highlands'. 1957 W. M. HAILEY *Afr. Survey* (rev. ed.) xi. 719 The reservation of the White Highlands for Europeans prevented the process of expansion by which the more populous tribes would normally have found relief from congestion. 1978 S. NAIAPUL *North of South* I. iv. 114 Soil erosion had been one of the great settler obsessions. The battle against it had become part and parcel of the battle for civilisation, providing a powerful argument for the preservation of the status quo in the 'White' Highlands. 1971 *Nature Physical Sci.* 3 May 20/1 Black holes... are related in a genitive manner to *white holes', defined to be singularities from which matter and energy emerge. 1977 N. Y. Rev. Bks. 29 Sept. 22/2 There is speculation... that every black hole is joined to a 'white hole'—a hole that gushes energy instead of absorbing it. 1911 *Daily Colonist* (Victoria, B.C.) 28 Apr. 11/4 A New York promoter has succeeded in arranging for a match between Albert Palzer, New York's most prominent *white hope, and Carl Morris, the giant locomotive engineer. 1912 I. S. COBB *Back Home* 233 Judge Priest was a celebrity, holding the limelight to the virtual exclusion of grand opera stars, favourite sons, white hopes, [and] debutantes. 1919 *Observer* 16 Nov. 12/6 In the south, based on the Black Sea and liberally furnished with British material, Denikin and his Cossacks were the 'white hope' of the anti-Bolsheviks. 1941 LD. BERNERS *Far from Madding War* iii. 50 He was a composer; the white hope (thus a critic had described him) of English music. 1948 *Time* 5 July 40/2 Idol of the Negro race, and so popular with the whites that the old cry for a 'white hope' never came up, Joe Louis... was a champion the whole U.S. was proud of. 1952 M. ALLINGHAM *Tiger in Smoke* iv. 81 Detective Coleman had been one of Luke's white hopes. He had liked the boy for his eagerness. 1969 *Daily Tel.* 6 Oct. 12 In the immediate post-war years cheap and almost limitless atomic power was the white hope of a small island sadly short of raw materials. 1979 *Nature* 23 Aug. 638/1 Interferon is the great white hope of cancer therapy. 1981 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* II. xxvi. 584 The *white Huns, a name which they derived from the change of their complexions. 1866 H. YULE *Cathay & Way Thither* I. p. liv, The Yueichi... who became known in the West as Indoscythians, and at a later date as White Huns. 1965 G. WHEELER *Soviet Central Asia* i. 5 In the fifth century southern Turkestan was conquered by the Ephthalites or White Huns. 1945 N. MITFORD *Pursuit of Love* xi. 90 She's happy now, isn't she, with her *white hunter? 1964 D. VARADAY *Gara-Yaka* xiv. 124 Two white hunters lay in wait, and each shot one of the pride. 1980 G. M. FRASER *Mr American* xxvi. 546 He's an elephant hunter to trade—what they call a white hunter. 1933 (record-title) *White jazz. 1946 R. BLES *Shining Trumpets* i. 23 No heterophony in white jazz except a chaotic sort in Chicago-style jazz. 1950 [see SCHMALTZ 2]. 1976 J. BERENDT *Jazz Bk.* 11 There seem to have been white bands almost from the start. 'Papa' Jack Laine led bands in New Orleans from 1891. He is known as the 'father' of white jazz. 1882 W. J. CHRISTY *Joints* 32 *White Joint.—One formed with ordinary mortar as distinguished from blue mortar. Or it is made by pointing with white putty. 1744 FIELDING *Tumble-Down Dick* Wks. 1766 IV. 250 Tho' all the earth was one continued smoke, 'Twould not prevent my dancing the *White Joke. 1895 M. KINGSLEY *Jrnl.* 23 May in *Trav.* (1897) vi. 110 The chief... bows with a jerk that causes the pantaloons to faint in coils, like the *White Knight in 'Alice in Wonderland'. 1956 N. MARSH *Off with his Head* (1957) ii. 41 'I believe I have made a really significant discovery...' cried Dr. Otterly with the infatuated glee of a White Knight. 1970 *Times* 23 Apr. 7 The Italian Communist Party... will take its members into the regional election campaign next month as white knights dealing with the joint evils of corruption and reaction. 1976 J. PHILIPS *Backlash* (1977) III. ii. 130 Woody would like nothing better than to play the white knight to my damsel in distress. 1979 N. Y. *Times Mag.* 30 Sept. 24/4 The Rangers' problems stemmed from the habit that... the team's general manager... had of hiring ineffectual cronies to coach the club, and then replacing them with himself when they failed—a kind of 'white knight' compulsion. 1981 *Guardian* 30 Oct. 15/1 Thomas Tilling... emerged yesterday as the white knight appointed by Berec to save the Ever Ready battery maker from the clutches of Hanson Trust. 1930 H. CRADDOCK *Savoy Cocktail Bk.* 1. 175 *White Lady Cocktail. 1 Lemon Juice, 1 Cointreau, 1 Dry Gin. 1935 K. TENNANT *Tiburon* 19 Two old men in the corner lying stupefied over a mixture of 'white lady'—boiled methylated spirit with a dash of boot polish and iodine. 1952 B. HAMILTON *So Sad, so Fresh* xviii. 117 He indicated a cocktail cabinet... and proceeded to mix two 'White Ladies'. 1964 *Telegraph* (Brisbane) 24 Sept. 5/2 Aborigines... used to swirl cheap wines and other concoctions like 'White Lady'—a fiendish brew of methylated spirit and powdered milk. 1975 R. BELBY *Brown Land Crying* 225 'Ya was on the White Lady at the finish, mixin' it with Coke...' 'But jees, meths'n Coca Cola.' 1978 White lady [see SIDECAR 2]. 1960 *Guardian* 14 July 8/5 How much *'white land' the planning

authorities have left between the limits of development shown on the town map and the beginning or inner edge of the green belt. 1971 P. GRESSWELL *Environment* 270 Open country and villages, both of which may be included in 'white land', have suffered. 1974 *Times* 19 Feb. 2/1 Mr. Rippon, Secretary of State for the Environment, should be challenged in the courts if he allows more 'white land' in the Worcestershire county structure plan to be used for development, a report by the county planning committee states. c 1450 *Brut* 447 A leych called *'whyte leych'. 1573, 1750 [see LEACH sb. 1 2]. c 1700 PEPYS in *Rollins Pepysian Garl.* (1922) Pref. p. vii, The Form... of the Black Letter with Pictures, seems (for cheapness sake) wholly laid aside, for that of the *White Letter without Pictures. 1717 HEARNE *Collect.* (O.H.S.) VI. 95 It is printing... in the white Letter, contrary to Mr. Urry's mind, who was resolved upon the black Letter and would not hear of the white. 1879 CHAPPELL *Roxb. Ball.* II. 450 Two of the copies were issued by Whitwood..., one by Norris in white letter. 1940 W. T. COCKING *Television Receiving Equipment* 298/2 (Index), *White level. 1950 RABINOFF & WOLBRECHT *Questions & Answers Television Engin.* x. 233 The maximum white level shall be 15 per cent or less of the peak carrier amplitude. 1953 AMOS & BIRKINSHAW *Television Engin.* I. i. 17 White level may be positive or negative with respect to black level. 1982 J. GOLDBERG *Fund. Television Servicing* I. 5 Television standards identify a white level and a black level of picture information. 1899 J. HUTCHINSON in *Archives Surg.* X. 146 The nail... exhibits white spots in consequence [of injury]—*'white lies'. 1921 *Double Dealer* July 20/1 The men lean or sit on the counter and talk politics, hard times... and more enthusiastically, the devastating and withering qualities of the current *'white lightning', 'white mule', or just plain 'corn', as the local moonshine whiskey is called. 1940 C. McCULLERS *Heart is Lonely Hunter* II. iv. 119 He had a pint of bootleg white lightning. 1969 *Times* 9 Dec. (Taiwan Suppl.) p. ii/3 The distillery's main product is kaoliang, a potent liquor made out of Quemo-y-grown sorghum and known as White Lightning. 1972 *Village Voice* (N.Y.) 1 June 77/3 Ellen... unfolded some tinfoil which she said contained three tabs of Owsley's original 'white lightning', the Mouton-Rothschild of LSD. 1975 B. GARFIELD *Hopscotch* xii. 128 It was white lightning country and the backhill bootleggers were numerous. 1979 R. L. SIMON *Peking Duck* vi. 50 Mao tai, the Chinese version of White Lightning. 1900 G. B. SHAW *Let.* 31 Aug. (1972) II. 182 The Labor Leader's *'white list' is the final stroke—the white flag held up to Liberalism at the moment when we are on the verge of victory over it. 1939 *Country Life* 11 Feb. p. xxi/1 (Advnt.), Furs.—Avoid those tortured to death. Buy only those named on the Fur Crusade White List. 1977 *Lancet* 30 Apr. 963/1 One idea is a 'white list' of preferred drugs or a list of excluded drugs for which the N.H.S. would not expect to pay. 1857 J. SCOFFERN etc. *Usef. Metals* 344 Parts which were unsound, occasioned, apparently, by a white powder embedded in the steel; to distinguish this from the effects of imperfect welding, it was called *white-loose. *Ibid.*, The files were without white-loose. 1603 J. DAVIES *Microcosmos* Wks. (Grosart) I. 9 Thou blessed Ile, *white Marke for Envie's aime. 1943 *New Yorker* 25 Dec. 36/2 Britons buying legally and mournfully on the *white market. 1973 *Times* 28 Dec. 1/4 A feature of the system would be a 'white market' in which unused coupons could be sold freely or bartered. 1895 *Atlantic Monthly* Mar. 333 His *white mass,—the first mass of a young priest. 1972 *Times* 2 Oct. 9/3 It is connected to a separate wiring circuit and an offpeak or *white meter. 1974 *Ecologist* Oct. 299/2 Measures such as low-tariff electricity ('White Meter') in off-peak periods only, have already made consumers prepared to group their demand for an intermittent supply. 1642 HOWELL *For. Trav.* (Arb.) 41 As it is proverbially said, there are in Genoa, Mountaines without wood, Sea without fish, Women without shame, and Men without conscience, which makes them to be termed the *white Moores. 1850 H. MELVILLE *White Jacket* II. xxvi. 167 A set of sly, knavish foxes among the crew... In man-of-war parlance, they [are called] fancy-men and *white-mice. 1900 *Daily News* 10 Mar. 6/5 The miserable, anaemic, shifty, human white-mice. 1889 H. H. MCCONNELL *Five Years a Cavalryman* 60 About this time I first became acquainted with a... drink known as 'pine-top' or *'white-mule' whiskey. 1928 *Collier's* 29 Dec. 8/1 What do you think about a bunch of boys and girls... stealin' a keg of white mule from a dealer? 1942 W. FAULKNER *Go down, Moses* 156 Gets himself a whole gallon of bust-skull white-mule whiskey. 1973 *Globe & Mail* (Toronto) 23 Feb. 37/8 At other times... the stuff would... lash out with its hind hooves at the little old winemaker like the white mule once so respected in the Ozarks. 1765 *Phil. Trans. R. Soc. LV.* 45 (heading) An account of the *White Negro shewn before the Royal Society. 1790 W. WILBERFORCE *Jrnl.* 5 Apr. in R. I. & S. WILBERFORCE *Life W. Wilberforce* (1838) I. vii. 264 Hard at work on Slave Trade evidence all day with 'white negroes', two Clarksons and Dickson. 1824 J. DODDRIDGE *Notes Settlement & Indian Wars W. Parts Virginia & Pennsylvania* 52 Mulattoes... are denominated white negroes. 1838 R. I. & S. WILBERFORCE *Life W. Wilberforce* I. vii. 255 Messrs. Clarkson, Dickson, &c. jocosely named by Mr. Pitt, his 'white negroes'. 1850 'M. TENSAS' *Odd Leaves Life Louisiana 'Swamp Doctor'* 76 He was one of that peculiar class called Albinoes, or white negroes. 1949 KOESTLER *Promise & Fulfilment* I. vii. 69 The Jewish Defence organization became another white negro, which changed its colour according to the political situation. 1957 N. MAILER in *Dissent* IV. 279 The hipster had absorbed the existentialist synopses of the Negro, and for practical purposes could be considered a white Negro. 1980 E. G. WILSON *John Clarkson* iv. 51 Both Clarksons were counted among the activists whom Pitt in a rare jest called the 'white Negroes'. 1837 R. M. BIRD *Nick of Woods* I. 170 Hanging too good for him, 'white niggah' t'ief, hah! 1871 E. EGLESTON *Hoosier Schoolmaster* 52 'Ole Miss Meanses' white nigger', as some of them called her, in allusion to her slavish life. 1934 *Equire* Feb. 96 Art Hickman and other purveyors of sweet rose to meteoric fame while white men who continued to play hot received the chauvinistic appellation of 'white niggers'. 1965 *Listener* 15 Apr. 545/2 The intellectual West Indian is being told to stand up and be counted. Will he commit himself to his people or remain what our radical Negroes in the Southern United States would call a 'white nigger'? 1970 R. D. ABRAHAMS *Positively Black* vi. 135 Hippies and other recent Bohemian groups have openly proclaimed themselves 'white niggers' by which they seem to mean that, like blacks, they represent an

alternative to the life style of majority-group American culture. **1975** *Times Lit. Suppl.* 7 Nov. 1320/4 Dr Marcus Foster, a black, . . . suggested that the children be equipped with identity passes. . . . The unfortunate Foster was widely accused of being an Uncle Tom and a white nigger. **1872** BROWNING *Fifine* xxxiii, O the knotty point—'white night's work to revolve. **1908** MISS BROUGHTON *Mamma* vii, The almost entirely white night she had just passed. **1960** G. BLANCHET *Search in North* ii. 28 There was a brief pause while the sun was just below the horizon—the 'white night' as it is called. **1981** *Times* 6 June 14/3 If you go to Leningrad at this time of year you catch the celebrated 'white nights', when there is only a brief twilight around midnight. **1959** D. COOKE *Lang. of Music* ii. 44 The 'white-note scales on C (Ionian mode) and A (Aeolian mode) were already our C major and A minor scales. **1983** *Listener* 14 July 35/3 With its use of the traditional plainchant melody of the Psalm, its 'white-note' counter-melodies and harmonisations. . . it struck a fresh note after the highly-wrought complexity and chromaticism of most of Goehr's earlier works. **1569** *Aldeburgh Rec. in N. & Q.* 12th Ser. VII. 184/2, ij quares of *whyte paper. **1680** *Debates in Parl.* (1681) 166 These Bills will. . . make your Banishing Bill, and Association-Bill too, as ineffectual as White Paper. **1683** Moxon *Mech. Exerc.*, printing 394 Although the first Form be Printed off, yet Press-men. . . call that Heap White-Paper, till the Reteration be Printed. **1687** *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2125/4 Linen Rags, and other Materials for making of White Paper. **1772** *Gentl. Mag.* Apr. 192/1 She's fair White Paper, an unsully'd sheet. **1859** *Stationers' Handbk.* 27 Printing papers, sometimes spoken of in a trade sense, as 'White papers'. **1899** *Daily News* 13 Mar. 5/1 An interesting White Paper has been published. . . giving reports from our Ambassadors and Consular officers abroad on the telephone services in the countries to which they are attached. **1906** *Minutes Evidence Sel. Comm. Official Publ.* 15/1 in *Parl. Papers* (Cd. 279) XI. 95 With regard to the White Paper, which is printed, and which is handed to Members with the notices of the day, that is printed from the same type, I presume, as the Blue Paper, which is sent to us in the morning? **1920** [see *white terror* below]. **1922** C. E. MONTAGUE *Disenchantment* viii. 115 Our rulers have continued to issue to the Press, at our cost as Blue Books and White Papers, long passages of argument and suggestion. **1924** H. B. LEES-SMITH *Guide to Parl. & Official Papers* ii. 19 Corrections in the Blue Paper, such as putting amendments to Bills in their right order, are made during the morning and sent to the printer in time for the White Paper. **1950** KERR & JAMES *Wavy Navy* 255 These ratings had been earmarked as suitable 'White Paper' candidates by their Commanding Officers and recommended to the Admiralty. **1955** *Times* 16 June 8/5 The text of the two agreements would be published in the next few days and laid before Parliament as White Papers. **1962** GRANVILLE *Dict. Sailors' Slang* 132/2 *White Paper candidate*, candidate for a temporary (wartime) commission in the RNVR. The White Paper was passed in Parliament for a scheme of promotion for suitable ratings who had served on the lower deck for at least three months in a ship at sea in time of war. **1967** *Listener* 8 June 739/2, I first hastened to read President Nyerere's 'White Paper' on education. **1971** H. WILSON *Labour Govt.* xiii. 201 Some of our major commitments. . . had been worked out only to White Paper stage. **1978** *Dædalus* Fall 3 He would have been . . . the venerable statesman who delivered the White Paper on Defense in the postwar period. **1906** *Daily Colonist* (Victoria, B.C.) 10 Jan. 2/2 To Fight *White Plague. . . The tuberculosis convention . . . has been a great success. **1926** H. V. MORTON *Spell of London* 68 The peril of youth, the horrible white plague. **1961** L. MUMFORD *City in Hist.* xvii. 547 As early as the eighteenth century Mercier had observed this metropolitan form of the White Plague. **1723** J. NOTT *Cook's & Confectioner's Dict.* sig. Pp. 7^v, Two Gallons of *White-port Wine. **1892** MEW & ASHTON *Drinks of World* 100 Of white Ports the best are *Muscatel de Jesus*, [etc.]. **1920** G. SAINTSBURY *Notes on Cellar-bk.* vi. 88 White Port. . . I think nearly deserving of the curse above pronounced on sparkling claret. **1978** M. WALKER *Infiltrator* xiii. 144, I was given a glass of white port. **1972** GISPEN & BRAND-SAATHOF in *Bull. World Health Org.* XLVI. 591/1 The parental Copenhagen virus. . . continually gives rise to a few white-pock forming virus particles by mutation. *Ibid.*, The occurrence of wild white poxvirus in healthy monkeys cannot be explained by the instability noted above.] **1977** *Brit. Med. Jnl.* 26 Feb. 530/2 Viruses as yet indistinguishable from variola virus were isolated from the kidneys of six healthy monkeys and two rodents; these have been termed '*whitepox viruses'. **1979** *Nature* 24 May 295/2 Vaccinia, cowpox and camelpox viruses lack continuous transmissibility in man, but the situation with monkeypox virus and whitepox virus deserves further comment. **1919** H. LEVERAGE *White Cipher* 84 He memorized the details like a draughtsman reading a *white-print. **1967** White-print [see ORAZLID]. **17** . . 'Get up and bar the door' vii. in *Herd Scot. Songs* (1776) II. 159 And first they ate the *white puddings, And then they ate the black. **1930** R. LEHMANN *Note in Music* iv. 154 'I must hurry, I must hurry,' she said. . . Like the *white rabbit, he thought. **1979** S. BRETT *Comedian Dies* v. 52 Her pretty little face looked anxious. . . 'Oh, um. If you'll excuse me. . . ' And she scuttled out, all White Rabbit. **1982** J. ELLIOTT *Country of her Dreams* xii. 144 Off he went, scuttling. . . , White Rabbit late for a date. **1970** *Rep. 20th Ann. Round Table Meeting Linguistics & Lang. Stud.* 221 Because such quasi-militants feel that Negro dialect is inherently 'bad' (as did conservative Negroes before them), they regard it as a product of *white racism. *Ibid.*, They see any attempt to describe and scientifically record Negro dialect as nothing more than a *white-racist exploitation of Negroes. **1973** *Black Panther* 17 Mar. 6/3 No charges were pressed against any of the club-wielding, epithet-spitting white racists clearly because the Navy felt that only 'they' (Blacks) had been in the wrong. **1977** M. WALKER *National Front* 9, I despise nationalism, whether it be British, White Racist or Martian. **1909** BARING-GOULD & BAMFYLDE (*title*) A history of Sarawak under its two *White Rajahs, 1839-1908. **1966** *New Statesman* 1 July 21/1 Her role is somewhere between a White Rajah and a VSO. **1974** *Radio Times* 19 Mar. 37/3 The story of the last White Rajah of Sarawak. **1463** *Bury Wills* (Camden) 24, xijs. of *white rente. **1630** DODRIDGE *Dutchy of Cornwall* 99 White rent. . . is a dutie payable yeerly by euery Tyner in the County of Deuon, . . . that is, of euery Tyner 8d. **1664** SPELMAN *Gloss., Quietus redditus*. . . Vulgo Quit rente, qui & alias White rente nuncupatur, quod in denariis & argento

penditur. **1717** *Northumbrian Docts.* (Surtees) 61 A white-
rent of 13s. 6d. from two or three freeholds in Woodburne. **1887** *Voice* (N.Y.) 15 Dec. 2/2 Brother Finch endeared himself to all *White Ribboners. **1970** 'O. HENRY' *Trimmed Lamp* 32 The 'demon rum'—as the white ribboners miscall whiskey. **1974** *Daily Tel.* 3 July 17/7 The National British Women's Total Abstinence Union, which has 6,000 members, still issues a white ribbon bow in the form of a badge to its followers, who are known as the 'white ribboners'. **17**.. *Song in Farquhar Beaux-Strat.* III. iii, *White rods are no trifles, I'm sure, Whatever their bearers may be. **1876** BANCROFT *Hist. U.S.* I. x. 347 A chancery court and a court-leet, sergeants and white rods. **1961** *Aeroplane & Astronautics* CI. 684/1 The new factory incorporates the latest production methods and in view of its development of special-purpose connectors—particularly in the micro-miniature field—a 'white room' is being fitted out so as to give the cleanest manufacturing conditions for this type of component. **1965** *Life* 5 Nov. 111/4 The capsule itself will be stored in the pristine solitude of a 'white room' near Cape Kennedy until Schirra and Stafford are ready to fly again. **1970** N. ARMSTRONG et al. *First on Moon* iii. 66 The other five members of the close-out crew were in the 'white room' on swing arm No. 9. **1558** G. CAVENDISH *Poems*, etc. (1825) II. 99 Adewe, my sonne Edward! sprong of the royall race Of the *white rose and the red. **1622** BACON *Hen. VII* 4 The People, who. . . had benee fully made capable of the clearnesse of the Title of the White-Rose or House of Yorke. **1716** HEARNE *Collect.* (O.H.S.) V. 237 Divers were destroyed by the Georgian Party, only for having white Roses, a way by which. . . the Cavaliers distinguished themselves. **1887** F. M. CRAWFORD *Saracinesca* i, Men flocked to the standards of the White Rose of York. **1906** M. C. COOKE *Fungoid Pests of Cultivated Plants* 155 *White rot of Grapes. . . occurs on the fruit, leaves, and rarely on twigs. **1946** CARTWRIGHT & FINDLAY *Decay of Timber* iv. 48 Decompositions of wood by fungi is of two main types, which have been described as brown rots and white rots respectively. . . In a white rot all the components of the wood, including the lignin, are decomposed. **1951** *Dict. Gardening* (R. Hort. Soc.) III. 1426/1 White Rot of onions due to the fungus *Sclerotium cepivorum* shows when. . . affected plants are seen to have rotten roots while the base of the bulb is covered with a very white, fluffy mycelium. **1969** G. BECKER in Krishna & Weesner *Biol. Termites* I. xi. 356 A large number of mold fungi, white-rot fungi, and bacteria can produce toxic substances. **1962** S. WYNTER *Hills of Hebron* xvi. 198 With the money he bought bags of rice. . . and even a few bottles of *white rum. **1972** *Times* 19 Aug. 10/1 White rum promises to be the spirit of the 1970s. **1848** M. J. BERKELEY in *Jrnl. R. Hort. Soc.* III. 266 Nothing can have been more general than the *white rust. . . which is so common on cruciferous plants. **1932** *Iron Age* Jan. 232/1 A common corrosion found on the surface of zinc-coated products has been called by the industry 'White Rust'. **1937** F. D. HEALD *Introd. Plant Path.* vii. 97 The greatest development of the white rusts is during the cool periods of early spring. **1976** A. R. L. CHIVERS in L. L. Schrier *Corrosion* (ed. 2) I. iv. 156 Zinc which has been properly aged. . . is safe against white-rust formation. **1981** *Daily Tel.* 16 May 19/2 Several cases of white rust. . . have been found in imported plants [sc. chrysanthemums]. **1914** *Photo-Era* XXXIII. 168 (*caption*) A spring *white-sale. **1970** *New Yorker* 10 Oct. 158/2 The season of White Sales. **1909** OSLER in Klebs *Tuberculosis* 7 Throughout the world the most intense interest has been stimulated in the fight against the *white scourge. **1937** K. BLIXEN *Out of Afr.* iv. 298 Kitosch was a young Native in the service of a young *white settler of Molo. **1969** J. MANDER *Statis Society* vi. 154 A White Settler minority, as in South Africa, can usually keep power if it is sufficiently determined and has a monopoly of arms. **1972** [see *holiday home* s.v. HOLIDAY sb. 4a]. **1974** *Daily News* (Tanzania) 13 Sept. 1/2 The three-day occupation of the main radio station here by the criminals (white settlers) protesting at the independence settlement, and the subsequent fighting and looting in the city's African suburbs, have shattered Portuguese hopes of a peaceful and amicable transfer of power in the colony. **1976** *Listener* 3 June 716/2 'White settlers' is a phrase now in common currency in the Highlands to describe refugees from that well-known rat race who buy any old wreck of a cottage, spend a lot of money on it and live there, many of them, for a month or so in the summer. **1922** CHRISTINE ORR *Kate Curlew* ii, She learned *white-sewing from an aunt. **1594** *Zepheria* xxxvi. F2b, Thy face being vayld, this pennance I award, Clad in *white sheet thou stand in Paules Churchyard. **1659** in Morris *Troubles Cath. Foref.* (1872) I. vi. 316 Seventy-two. . . were Nuns of the Choir, the rest *White Sisters and Lay-sisters. **1890** E. H. BARKER *Wayfaring in France* vi. 305 It was a White Sister kneeling and praying. **1901** RHYS *Celtic Folklore* I. v. 351 Old people still living remember men and women clad in white sheets doing penance publicly in the churches of Man. **1908** *Catholic Times* 6 Mar. 11/2 We have in the Katanga many missions. . . and everywhere are White Fathers, religious women (White Sisters). **1957** G. D. KITTLER *White Fathers* vii. 81 The answer, Lavigerie realized, would be in establishing the White Sisters. **1789** *Deb. Congress U.S.* 13 May (1834) 350 He hoped it would comprehend the *white slaves as well as black, who were imported from all the jails of Europe. **1807** SOUTHEY *Lett. from England* II. xxxviii. 150 Let us leave to England. . . the distinction. . . of being the white slaves of the rest of the world, and doing for it all its dirty work. c 1833 M. T. SADLER in *Mem.* (1842) 405 Their tender hearts were sighing As negro wrongs were told, While the white slave lay dying Who gained their father's gold! **1840** T. GORDON tr. *W. Menzel's Ger. Lit.* IV. 87 Seume. . . like many thousands of 'white slaves', that is, German subjects, who were then sold by their princes to the Dutch or English, had been shipped for the colonies. **1889** [see SLAVE sb. 1 3]. **1913** C. PANKHURST *Great Scourge* p. viii, Regulation of vice and enforced medical inspection of the White Slaves. **1917** A. HUXLEY *Lett.* May (1969) 125, I am safe from these body-snatchers, kidnappers, baby killers and white slave traffickers, the Recruiters. **1970** 'J. QUARTERMAIN' *Diamond Hook* xvi. 99 If you stop me. . . I'll white-slave Jessie to South America. **1977** D. WHEATLEY *Young Man Said* x. 147 Was she white-slaved—a fate which befell more than a few girls of her type and class in those days? **1922** *Times Lit. Suppl.* 27 Apr. 278/2 The villain of the piece. . . is a *white slaver [= procurer]. **182** G. SMEATON *Doings in London* 83 Here is, indeed, the British *white slavery [viz. of dressmakers]; only, with this difference, that

their more fortunate sufferers [sic] in the West Indies have regular food and appointed hours of work. **1835** *Edin. Rev.* July 463 These representations of the ruinous effects of what has been called white slavery. . . were. . . embodied in Mr. Sadler's famous Factory Report. **1857** W. ACTON *Prostitution* 94 The natural question, 'Why does not this woman escape from this white slavery?' is best answered by other queries—Whither can she fly? What can she do? **1960** D. LESSING *In Pursuit of English* i. 16 A father-figure. . . with a [sic] strong *white-slaving propensities. **1541** COVERDALE *Confut. Standish* (1547) liij b, Maruail not. . . though (when I se you folowe your vnholly mother. . .) I call you. . . her owne *whyte sonne. a 1553 UDALL *Royster* D. i. i, Be his nowne white sonne. **1601** YARINGTON *Two Lament. Trag.* iv. vi. G4 b, Young Allenso your white honnie sonne. a 1613 OVERBURY *A Wife* etc. (1630) P8 b, The Deuill calis him his white sonne. **1723** J. NOTT *Cook's & Confectioner's Dict.* sig. L8v, To make White Cullis. . . Use this with *White Soops and Ragoos. **1813** JANE AUSTEN *Pride & Prejudice* I. xi. 123 As for the ball. . . as soon as Nicholls has made white soup enough I shall send round my cards. **1977** J. AIKEN *Five-Minute Marriage* vi. 95 Next week Mrs. Andrews really must start making white soup; and I must write. . . to Gunter's about the ices. **1666** *Lond. Gaz.* No. 85/4 To steer after the Enemy, with the *White Squadron in the Van, and the Blew in the Rear. **1840** [see BLUE a. 5b]. **1891** [see RED a. 16d]. **1815** J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* 546 *The *White Steep*. This part of the process is precisely the same with the last [sc. grey steep], except that the sheep's dung is omitted in the composition of the steep. **1853** R. RIDDELL *Indian Domestic Econ.* 63 Take three quarts of good *white stock. **1905** *Tasty Dishes* (new ed.) 10, 3 pints of white stock. **1960** *Good Housek. Cookery Bk.* (rev. ed.) 196/1 Vegetable water or stock made from bones should be used for gravies and brown sauces; milk, or milk and white stock for white sauces. c 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* I. i. xiii. (1890) 38 You are one. . . whose Name I have mark'd with the *whitest Stone. **1748** SMOLLETT *Rod. Random* lii, 'God be praised! a white stone!' . . he alluded to the *Dies fasti* of the Romans, *albo lapide notati*. **1861** H. W. BRISTOW *Gloss. Mineral.* 320/2 When cut for jewelry, it [sc. rock crystal] is called by lapidaries, 'white stone'. **1885** HORNADAY *Two Yrs. in Jungle* xxvii. 318, I have marked that day with a white stone as being the one on which I ate my first durian. **1937** *Burlington Mag.* Nov. p. xix/2 A gold ring with a telling portrait carved in whitestone. **1941** F. THOMPSON *Over to Candleford* vi. 98 She kept the whole of the fair-sized house cleaned and polished and whitedstoned. **1963** *Times* 11 June 15/4 The whitestone and glass frontage gives the impression of verticality. **1978** R. DOLINER *On the Edge* (1979) iv. 62 A whitestone Italian Renaissance mansion on Sixty-third Street. **1908** J. M. SULLIVAN *Criminal Slang* 27 *White stuff, morphine. **1915** G. BRONSON-HOWARD *God's Man* i. iv. 39 There's quite a trade in laudanum. . . The 'White Stuff' on the up-and-up too. **1953** W. BURROUGHS *Junkie* (1972) xiii. 129, I had never been able to drink before when I was on the junk, or junk-sick. But eating hop is different from shooting the white stuff. You can mix hop and lush. **1967** N. LUCAS *C.I.D.* x. 135 Luckier still not to have graduated from pep pills to. . . 'The White Stuff', heroin. **1655** VAUGHAN *Silex Scint.* II. (*title*) *White Sunday. **1958** *Listener* 12 June 967/1 The steady propulsion towards *white supremacism. **1979** *Daily Tel.* 5 Sept. 6 He [sc. Ian Smith] is well aware that the noisy and active minority who regard him as the totem of white supremacism will call for his blood. **1959** *New Statesman* 30 May 751, I have wondered. . . whether there was any link between the demagogues of Notting Hill and *white supremacists elsewhere. **1961** *Spectator* 20 Jan. 65 A way of life. . . that is white-supremacist. **1964** L. NKOSI *Rhythm of Violence* II. i. 26 The White Supremacists will not get away so easily! **1977** *Times* 30 Aug. 10/3 Mr John Tyndall, the National Front's founder and chairman. . . describes himself as 'an unashamed white supremacist' and regards whites as intellectually. . . superior to blacks. **1981** *Times* 17 Mar. 12/3 The real contest in next month's general election will be between the ruling National Party and the white supremacist parties to the right of it. **1902** A. TOURGÉE *Lett.* 15 May in T. L. Gross *Albion W. Tourgée* (1963) viii. 143 It is the very highest form of blasphemy to claim that the idea of 'white supremacy' and the later barbarism which demands race-subjection or extermination is pleasing to God or conformable to the religion of the Man of Nazareth. **1931** W. S. CHURCHILL in J. C. Squire *If it had happened Otherwise* 179 Upon the rebound from this there must inevitably have been a strong reassertion of local white supremacy. **1981** *Times* 18 Mar. 8/6 The Rustenburg constituency. . . represents some of its most far-right votes for white supremacy. **1958** *Times Lit. Suppl.* 11 July 386/3 They imply that, had the Supreme Court said 'desegregate by the so-and-so of this year', and had President Eisenhower backed the Courts to the limit, the Southern *white supremacists would not have 'fought back', or would only have done so unsuccessfully. **1971** J. BISHOP *Days of Martin Luther King, Jr.* iv. 332 A few White Suprematists said that there was no doubt that the bombing was the work of. . . a militant black who wanted to incite his people to riot. **1920** *Glasgow Herald* 7 May 9 A report on the alleged existence of a *White Terror' in Hungary has been issued in the form of a White Paper. **1965** J. CH'EN Mao *& Chinese Revolution* (1967) I. v. 125 The less hesitant Wuhan declared the CCP [sc. Chinese Communist Party] outlawed on that fateful day of 13 July 1927. The so-called White Terror thus began and chaos ensued. **1970** G. HUIZER in I. L. Horowitz *Masses in Lat. Amer.* xiii. 480 The secretary-general. . . noted the continuous struggle of the CNC [sc. National Confederation of Peasants] against the 'white terror' of landowners and caciques. **1977** *Time* 21 Mar. 26/2 In the 1930s leftists lived in constant fear of the so-called White Terror imposed by the [Chinese] Nationalist secret police. **1980** *Times Lit. Suppl.* 25 Apr. 471/2 After the collapse of [Béla] Kun's regime, the White Terror raged, but Korda somehow survived unharmed. **1853** 'C. BEDE' *Adventures Verdant Green* vii. 65 You are going to wine with Smalls this evening. . . I suppose you would go properly dressed. . . *white tie, kids, and that sort of thing, eh? **1930** M. KENNEDY *Fool of Family* xx. 208 'Is it a grand party?' asked Caryl nervously. . . 'I mean is it white tie?' explained Caryl. 'Oh yes, of course it's white tie.' 'Then it is grand.' **1936** [see *black tie* s.v. BLACK a. 19]. **1942** D. POWELL *Time to be Born* iv. 83, I will give a white-tie dinner for eighteen. **1981** LD. HAREWOOD *Tongs & Bones* i. 29 The glamour of the occasion impressed me greatly—I was probably the only person in the boxes not in a white tie. **1932** H. G. WELLS *Work, Wealth &*

Happiness xii. 607 Tariff obstruction at this higher level is, for all practical ends, *war at the frontier*, *White War, the chronic as distinguished from that acute form in which invasion, bomb, bayonet and poison gas play leading parts, which more emphatic sort of warfare we may call Red War. 1939 *New Statesman* 3 June 878/2 Armament firms will boom more conspicuously, but the promised Government limitation of earnings or special taxations of 'whitewar' profits must deprive the armament or semi-armament equities of their usual attraction. 1577 in *Ellis Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. IV. 26 Their canvas and *whiteware. 1776 J. WEDGWOOD *Let.* 14 Jan. (1965) 189 But for *Usefull China*, or such a *white-ware* as you mention, I must beg a longer time. 1843 *Ecclesiologist* II. 31 A mean and uneclesiastical composition Font, containing a white-ware hand basin. 1909 *Sat. Even. Post* 20 Feb. 8/1 Start at Fifty-ninth Street and walk down what the Manhattanese call the 'Great *White Way'. 1920 S. LEWIS *Main Street* 416 Then, glory of glories, the town put in a White Way. 1933 E. CALOWELL *God's Little Acre* xi. 170 Out of the grey darkness of the building the girl suddenly appeared in the glow of the whiteway lights. 1939 *Florida* (Federal Writers' Project) II. 259 Central Avenue [in St. Petersburg], the city's 'White Way', extends rulerlike for 7 miles across the peninsula. 1977 *Washington Post* 30 Jan. E-1/1 When dancer-choreographer Merce Cunningham... appeared... at New York's Minskoff Theater recently... one might have supposed... that the Great White Way had suddenly gone avant-garde. 1980 *N. Y. Times* 10 Dec. A-14/2 'Welcome to Boston's Great White Way,' the sign on a theater marquee pridefully proclaimed. 1905 H. G. WELLS *Kipps* I. ii. 40 Cretonnes, chintzes, and the like; serviettes, and all the bright hard *whiteware of a well-ordered house. 1949 N. MITFORD *Love in Cold Climate* I. xvi. 170 She was awfully old for a *white wedding, thirty or something terrible. 1962 *Daily Herald* 8 Jan. 6/8, I had a lovely white wedding... Given my time again I would cheerfully splash everything on one. 1976 *Listener* 29 July 105/1 Young black girls [in Soweto] now demand white weddings with lots of bridesmaids and floating veils. 1901 G. PARKER *Right of Way* 23 Rouge Gosselin flung off his glass of *white whisky, and threw after it another glass of cold water. 1957 W. FAULKNER *Town* xxiv. 357 Ratliff... took a pint bottle of white whiskey from inside his shirt. 1968 'N. BLAKE' *Private Wound* I. 17 Padraig, another Jamieson for Mr. Eyre. The white whiskey, mind, this time. Did y'ever try Jamieson's white? 1913 EOEN *Anc. Glass* 45 A small *white window, made up of quarries (panes) decorated in brown enamel let in a white and coloured border. 1813 BYRON *Corsair* I. iii. How gloriously her gallant course she [sc. the ship] goes! Her *white wings flying. 1880 BLACK (*title*) *White Wings*: a Yachting Romance. 1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* II. iii. Your red man, and your *white woman, With all your broths, your menstries, and materials. 1863 MRS. GASKELL *Sylvia's Lovers* III. i. 2 Sitting in the dark parlour... and doing *white work', was... wearying to her. 1936, etc. [see MOUNTMELICK]. 1967, 1975 *White work* [see RICHELIEU].

12. Combinations.

a. with other adjs. (or sbs.) of colour (= whitish, light), as *white-blue*, *-brown*, *-fiery*, *-green*, *-grey*, *†-hoar*, *-lyard* (q.v.), *-red*, *-russet*, *-yellow*. Also with other adjs., as *WHITE-HOT*, q.v.; *white-sick* (see quot.).

1608 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. *Schim* 935 The Eastern winds drives on the roaring train Of *white-blew billows. 1643 BAKER *Chron.*, *Janes* (1653) 615 Course paper, commonly called *white brown paper. 1825 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Passion & Princ.* v. A small packet of white-brown paper. 1876 G. M. HOPKINS *Wreck of Deutschland* xiii, in *Poems* (1967) 55 Wiry and *white-fiery and whirlwind-swivelled snow. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* v. xii. 561 The white garden Succorie... hath... *whitegreene leaves. c 1533 in *Ellis Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. II. 32 Some faire white, or *white gray palfreies. 1556 *Chron. Grey Friars* (Camden) 28 The gray freeres chaungyd their habbets from London rossette unto whytt gray. 1812 J. SMYTH *Pract. Customs* (1821) 218 The hair of the wild Cat is very long, and of a fine white grey. 14... *Guy Warw.* (Camb.) 4775 Hys fadur ys olde and *white-hore. 1577 GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* 116 The best colours [for a horse]... the rone, the *white lyard, the bay, the sorell. 1607 [see LYARD]. a 1618 SYLVESTER *Woodman's Bear* xlv, Red-white hills, and *white-red plaines. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* xxxii. x. II. 446 A peece of cloth of a *white russet colour. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XIII. 538/2 The female [oyster] *white-sick (as they term it), having a milky substance in the fin. 1922 JOYCE *Ulysses* 179 He... felt a slack fold of his belly. But I know it's *whiteyellow.

b. with vbs. and pples., usually in instrumental sense = 'with white', 'in white (clothing or covering)', or with complemental force = 'so as to be, become, or appear white': as *white-paint* vb.; *white-bordered*, *-churned*, *-clad*, *-clothed*, *-enamelled*, *-flattened*, *-flecked*, *-heaped*, *-marked*, *-painted*, *-pointed*, *-quartered*, *-salted* (see HERRING I b), *-set* (SET ppl. a. 6 a), *-spotted*, *-spread*, *-tinned*; *white-flowing*, *-glittering*, *-looking*, *-shining*, *-steaming*, *-waving* adjs.; *white-burning* a., applied to clay that gives a white product when fired; *white-dominated* a., dominated by white people.

1830 *Withering's Brit. Pl.* (ed. 7) IV. 303 *White-bordered Cupping Peziza. 1965 G. J. WILLIAMS *Econ. Geol.* N.Z. xx. 359/2 The clays so formed are plastic, refractory and *white-burning. 1967 M. CHANDLER *Ceramics in Mod. World* II. 49 A small proportion of more plastic white-burning clay is sometimes included. 1823 *Coll. Poems* (ed. Joanna Baillie) 259 The *white-churn'd waters. 1886 *Cornh. Mag.* Sept. 249 *White-clad Arabs. 1896 A. HOPE *Phroso* II, Groups of *white-clothed women. 1960 *White-dominated [see QUESTION MARK 2]. 1981 *Listener* 31 Dec. 810/1 Blacks tend to regard journalists as part of the white-dominated, Establishment-prone media. 1915 'BARTIMEUS' *Tall Ship* iii. 51 Forward, the *white-enamelled bulkhead was pierced by two entrances. 1918 D. H. LAWRENCE *New Poems* 47 Oh, masquerader, With a hard face white-enamelled. 1922 JOYCE *Ulysses* 86 Nose *whiteflattened

against the pane. 1900 MARY E. WILKINS *Parson Lord, One Good Time* 196 Her black... gown was... *white-flecked... with... winged seeds of passed flowers. 1827 G. DARLEY *Sylvia* 5 Beautiful Glen of the *white-flowing torrent! 1729 SAVAGE *Wanderer* I. 75 *White-glittering ice, chang'd like the topaz, gleams, Reflecting saffron lustre from his beams. 1922 JOYCE *Ulysses* 39 Belly without blemish, bulging big, a buckler of taut vellum, no, *whiteheaped corn. 1870 P. M. DUNCAN *Blanchard's Transf. Insects* 121 A flabby... *white-looking grub. 1887 *Amer. Naturalist* XXI. 581 The *white-marked tussock-moth. 1897 *Mag. of Art* Sept. 268 He whitewashed and *white-painted what was coloured. 1828 P. CUNNINGHAM *N.S. Wales* (ed. 3) II. 157 Four *white-painted tarpaulings. 1948 D. BALLANTYNE *Cunninghams* 165 The dark blue sea, *white-pointed by the wave tops. 1962 *White-quartered [see *pink-scrolled* s.v. *PINK* a. C. b]. 1889 CONAN DOYLE *Micah Clarke* xxviii. The pile of bodies... with their twisted limbs and *white-set faces. 1851 J. G. WHITTIER *Benedicite* in *Nat. Era* 16 Oct. 166/5 God's love—unchanging, pure, and true—The Paraclete *white-shining through His peace. a 1973 J. R. R. TOLKIEN *Silmarillion* (1977) 262 A city white-shining on a distant shore. 1776 WITHERING *Bot. Arrangem.* 606 *White spotted Willow Lady-cow. 1903 CONRAD & HUEFFER *Romance* I. iv. A red, white-spotted handkerchief. 1918 D. H. LAWRENCE *New Poems* 26 Daisies that waken all mistaken *white-spread in expectancy. 1921 R. GRAVES *Pier-Glass* 26 And a *white-steaming mist Obscures desire. 1521-2 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1904) 313 A brase of iron for the sacryng bell that was *white tynned. 1822 CAMPBELL *Song of Greeks* 47 Our maidens shall dance with their *white-waving arms.

c. Parasynthetic Combinations, chiefly adjectives in -ED³, unlimited in number (many occurring in specific designations of animals or plants), as *white-aproned*, *-armed*, *-barked*, *-barred*, *-beaked*, *-bellied*, *-billed*, *-bloomed*, *-blossomed*, *-bodied*, *-bosomed*, *-breasted*, *-cheeked*, *-coated*, *-coned*, *-crested*, *-curtained*, *-faced*, *-fanged*, *-flannelled*, *-flowered*, *-frilled*, *-frocked*, *-fronted*, *-gaitered*, *-glanced*, *-gloved*, *-handed*, *-hatted*, *-hooded*, *-hoofed* (-hooded), *-horned*, *-jacketed*, *-leaved*, *-legged*, *-lipped*, *-listed* (LIST sb.³ 5), *-maned*, *-mantled*, *-naped*, *-necked*, *-plumed*, *-polled*, *-railed*, *-ribbed*, *-ribboned*, *-rinded*, *-robed*, *-roofed*, *-rumped*, *-shafted* (SHAFT sb.² 4b(a)), *-sheeted*, *-shouldered*, *-sided*, *-skinned*, *-sleeved*, *-smocked*, *-souled*, *-spatted*, *-stockinged*, *-stoled*, *-strawed*, *-throated*, *-tied*, *-tiled*, *-tilted* [TILT sb.¹], *-tipped*, *-tongued* (cf. 10), *-toothed*, *-topped*, *-tufted*, *-tusked*, *-veiled*, *-veined*, *-waistcoated*, *-walled*, *-wanded*, *-whiskered*, *-wristed*, etc., etc.; *white-arsed slang*, a term of abuse; *white-backed*, having a white back; *†in* early use (of a document), blank on the back, unendorsed; *white-backed vulture*, an African vulture of the genus *Pseudogyps*; *white-blooded*, having light-coloured or colourless blood, without red corpuscles, as most invertebrate animals; *white-breasted nuthatch*, a North American nuthatch, *Sitta carolinensis*; *white-crossed*, bearing the figure of a white cross; *white-crowned*, having a white crown; *white-crowned sparrow*, a North American sparrow, *Zonotrichia leucophrys*; *white-eyed*, having white eyes; having the iris of the eye white, or having white plumage around the eyes; *white-favoured*, wearing white favours (FAVOUR sb. 7b); *white-floured*, with the face whitened by flour; *white-hearted*, (a) faint-hearted, timid, cowardly (cf. sense 5 and WHITE-LIVERED); (b) pure-hearted, saintly (cf. sense 7); *white-horsed*, (a) bearing the figure of a white horse; (b) having or driving a white horse or horses; *white-looking*, having a white or pale look or aspect; *white-mouthed*, (a) having the mouth white with foam, foaming; (b) having a white mouth or lip, as a shell; *†white-rigged* (*whyt reged*), white-backed (see RIGGED a. 1); *white-throated sparrow* = PEABODY; see also WHITE-EARED, etc.; also *white-elephantine*, of the nature of a white elephant; uselessly splendid; *white-flesher*, a name for the ruffed grouse, from its light-coloured flesh or meat.

1868 J. G. WHITTIER in *Atlantic Monthly* 3 Jan. 1 Bare-armed... she came, *White-aproned, from her dairy. 1977 J. GILLIS *Killers of Starfish* x. 76 A white-aproned waiter appeared... bearing little plates of cheese squares. 1718 POPE *Iliad* xv. 98 The *white-arm'd Goddess. 1922 JOYCE *Ulysses* 587 He's a *whitearsed bugger. 1975 *Daily Colonist* (Victoria, B.C.) 18 May 1/1 Delegates... sat in shocked silence when an Indian leader accused them of being 'white-arsed Liberals'. 1466 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 87 Ye must gete lenger day of his parte, and per for y sende yow pe writte *white backed. 1783 LATHAM *Gen. Syn. Birds* II. 1. 82 White-backed Thrush. 1884 R. B. SHARPE *Layard's Birds* S. Afr. (ed. 2) 794 African *White-backed Vulture... General colour deep brown. 1964 D. VARADAY *Gara-Yaka* ix. 78 The sitters were white-backed vultures, the most common in this area [by the Limpopo]. They were so dark brown in parts that they looked dirty, but their lighter parts appeared immaculate in contrast. 1779 *U.S. Mag.* (Philadelphia) Feb. 85 The lowly man-grove fond of wat'ry soil; The *white barked gregory rising high in air. 1948 *White-barked* [see ENGELMANN]. 1869 NEWMAN *Bir. Moths* 16 The *White-barred Clearwing (*Sesia Sphegiformis*). 1811 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* VIII. 13 *White-beaked Hornbill. 1611

COTGR., *Carpion*, a kind of... *white-bellied Trout. 1774 *Phil. Trans.* LXV. 271 The *hirundo melba*, or great white-bellied Swift of Gibraltar. 1872 COUES *Key N. Amer. Birds* 82 White-bellied Nuthatch. 1782 LATHAM *Gen. Syn. Birds* I. II. 553 *White-billed Woodpecker. 1802 *White-blooded [see *red-blooded*, RED a. and sb.¹ 14a]. 1835-6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 165/1 The natural position of the white-blooded worms is by the side of those with red blood. 1922 BLUNOEN *Shepherd* 43 From *white-bloomed plum. 1911 J. MASEFIELDO *Everlasting Mercy* 79 That *white-blossomed pond. 1904 W. B. YEATS *King's Threshold* 55 It was praise of that great race That would be haughty, mirthful, and *white-bodied. 1793 COLERIDGE *Compl. Ninathoma* 8 They blessed the *white-bosom'd Maid. 1756 P. BROWNE *Jamaica* (1789) 470 The *white-breasted Guinea-Hen. 1808 A. WILSON *Amer. Ornithol.* I. 41 The White-breasted Nuthatch is common almost everywhere in the woods of North America. 1946 G. STIMPSON *Bk. about Thousand Things* 491 The white-breasted cormorant is largely responsible for the production of the vast guano deposits on the islands off the coast of Peru. 1972 L. HANCOCK *There's a Seal in my Sleeping Bag* I. 14 Searching for the white-breasted sea eagle. 1980 *Northeast Woods & Waters* Dec. 23/2 Hairy and downy woodpeckers, white-breasted nuthatches... attack the suet on the old pear tree. a 1593 MARLOWE *Ovid's Elegies* II. xviii. *White-cheek Penelope knewe Vlisses signe. 1781 PENNANT *Hist. Quadrap.* 331 White-cheeked Weasel. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* xv, A *white-coated, red-eyed dog. 1866 HOWELLS *Venetian Life* xii. 168 The white-coated sentinels. 1920 BLUNOEN *Waggoner* 40 Smoke's light blue pennants coil from *white-coned oasts. 1678 RAY *Willughby's Ornith.* 112 *White crested Parrot. 1848 C. C. CLIFFORD tr. *Frogs of Aristophanes* 34 Whitecrested morions. 1856 LEVER *Martins of Cro' M.* lviii. The wind-shaken foliage and the white-crested waves. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* VII. 329 *White cross'd. 1836 R. KING *Narrative of Journey* II. 196 The *fringilla leucophrys*, or *white-crowned finch... perched on the topmost branch. 1839 W. B. O. PEABODY *Rep. Ornithol. Mass.* 32 The *White-crowned sparrow... is one of the finest of this family of birds. 1894 B. TORREY *Florida Sketch-bk.* 235, I discovered... perched at the top of the oak, tossing back his head and warbling—a white-crowned sparrow. 1975 *Nature* 18 Sept. 182/1 The Californian scrub habitat is occasionally devastated by fire, so that the white-crowned sparrow population is reduced to a few birds living in isolated patches of surviving scrub. 1977 *New Yorker* 19 Sept. 123/1 The twisted fig tree, the almond, not yet white-crowned, the slow tendrils of grape reaching into the sky are companions for a time. 1914 D. H. LAWRENCE *Widowing of Mrs. Holroyd* I. i. 3 At the back is a *white-curtained window. 1959 *Economist* 28 Mar. 1152/1 The *white elephantine palace by the lake at Geneva may be good enough for the foreign ministers. 1971 A. SAMPSON *New Anat. of Britain* xvii. 335 Sir John Hill... had applied quite drastic economies to his white-elephantine operations [sc. those of the Atomic Energy Authority]. 1783 LATHAM *Gen. Syn. Birds* II. II. 475 *White-eyed Warbler. 1831 AUDUBON *Ornith. Biogr.* I. 328 The White-eyed Flycatcher... *Vireo noveboracensis*. 1833 TENNYSON *Palace Art* ix, White-eyed phantasms weeping tears of blood. 1595 SHAKS. *John* II. i. 23 That *white-fac'd shore. 1781 PENNANT *Hist. Quadrap.* 82 White-faced Antelope. 1856 STANLEY *Sinai & Pal.* v. 255 The white-faced hill... is the 'Blanche Garde' of the Crusading chroniclers. 1898 'H. S. MERRIMAN' *Roden's Corner* I, The children, white-faced and melancholy. 1952 C. DAY LEWIS tr. *Virgil's Aeneid* xi. 254 His head was helmeted in a wolf's mask Whose gaping mouth with its *white-fanged jaws served for a visor. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem. Concl.* 90 The time draws on, And those *white-favour'd horses wait. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* July 230/1 *White-flannelled cricketers. 1831 SIR J. RICHARDSON *Fauna Bor.-Amer.* II. 342 *Tetrao umbellus*... Ruffed Grouse... *White Flesher. 1925 E. SITWELL *Troy Park* 21, I saw the *white-floured zanies go. 1634 T. JOHNSON *Merc. Bot.* 40 *White flowered Rush-grasse. 1842 TENNYSON *Godiva* 63 The white-flower'd elder-thicket. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. iv. iv, Gilt-edged *white-frilled individuals. 1891 HAROY *Tess* II, The *white-frocked maids. 1768 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* II. 450 *White Fronted Wild Goose. 1908 E. J. BANFIELD *Confessions of Beachcomber* I. iii. 98 White-fronted Heron, *Notophox novæ-hollandiæ*. 1909 A. E. MACK *Bush Calendar* 23 Birds breeding in September... *Ephthiamura albifrons*. White-fronted chat. 1955 E. POUNO *Classic Anthol.* I. 60 Chariots, rank on rank With white-fronted horses. 1971 *Country Life* 27 May 1292/3 The famous Wexford Slobbs, main winter headquarters of the Greenland race of white-fronted geese. 1922 JOYCE *Ulysses* 558 His nag, stumbling on *whitegaitered feet, jogs along the rocky road. 1930 BLUNOEN *Poems* 290 Those *white-glanced pools. 1712-14 POPE *Rape Lock* v. 13 Why round our coaches croud the *white-glov'd Beaux? 1897 FLANDRAU *Harvard Episodes* 318 The big, white-gloved policeman at the door. 1588 SHAKS. *L.L.L.* v. ii. 230 *White handed Mistris, one sweet word with thee. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 213 O welcom pure-ey'd Faith, white-handed Hope. 1828 STARK *Elem. Nat. Hist.* I. 60 White-handed Lemur.—Inhabitants Madagascar. 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Last Cab-driver*, A brown-whiskered, *white-hatted, no-coated cab-man. a 1617 BAYNE *On Eph.* i. (1643) 8 Such *white-hearted Christians, who are ashamed of their Master. 1865 BURRITT *Walk to Land's End* 407 If the painter were a devout, white-hearted man. 1900 W. S. CHURCHILL in *Morning Post* 17 Feb. 8/1 *White-hooded, red-crossed ambulance waggons. 1927 A. CLARKE *Son of Learning* II. 38 The Abbot said There is a barrel of white-hooded ale here. 1832 TENNYSON *Enone* 50 A jet-black goat *white-horn'd, *white-hooved. 1832 J. BREE *St. Herbert's Isle* 5 War... her *white-horsed banner furls. 1872 CALVERLEY *Fly Leaves, Morning* i, The hour when white-horsed Day Chases Night her mares away. 1910 W. J. LOCKE *Simon the Jester* xxiii. 323 *White-jacketed waiters darting to and fro. 1980 H. R. F. KEATING *Murder of Maharajah* xiii. 156 White-jacketed Goan bearers. 1822 *Hortus Anglicus* II. 465 Chinese *White-leaved Nettle. 1716 GAY *Ep. to Earl Burlington* 16 Brentford... For dirty streets and *white-legg'd chickens known. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xxxvii, As he rode away upon his white-legged horse. 1841 *Florist's Jnl.* (1846) I. 78 *Oncidium leucochilum*, (*white-lipped). 1920 W. J. LOCKE *House of Baltazar* xxii, She replied, white-lipped: 'I'll never forgive you till I'm dead!' 1859 TENNYSON *Merlin & V.* 788 The tree that shone *white-listed thro' the gloom. 1690 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2596/4 He is a short thin-faced *white-

look'd Man. 1642 in J. Wilson *Ann. Hawick* (1850) 53 Ane foir meir, *quhyt mainet and quhyt taitlet. 1883 W. WHITMAN *Daybks. & Notebks.* (1978) II. 319 The sea-beach and surf—its myriad ranks like furious white-maned racers, urged by demoniac emulation to the goal, the shore. 1955 E. POUND *Classic Anthol.* iv. 212 White-maned black stallions Pull with due order. 1825 SCOTT *Betrothed* iv. The *white-mantled Welshmen. 1629 QUARLES *Argalus & P.* III. Wks. (Grosart) III. 283/1 Whereat the angry Knight... forsooke His *white-mouth'd Steed. 1639 G. DANIEL *Eccles.* xliii. 64 The white-mouth'd Billows of y^e vnsounded Deepe. 1815 BURROW *Elem. Conchol.* 200 *Voluta Ethiopica*, white-mouth'd Melon. 1932 *Discovery* July 232/2 The *white-naped ravens and the mountain buzzards swing overhead. 1975 *New Yorker* 24 Mar. 34/2 The white-naped crane, fifteen hundred left, fifty in 2005. 1912 J. STEVENSON-HAMILTON *Animal Life Afr.* xvii. 299 The ravens are represented by the *white-necked raven (*Corvultur albicollis*) in the south... of the Ethiopian region. 1965 G. B. SCHALLER *Year of Gorilla* vii. 161 The most regular visitors to our meadow were a pair of white-necked ravens, lovely birds with iridescent black plumage and a striking white collar around the neck. 1968 *Sunday Mail Mag.* (Brisbane) 8 Sept. 6/1 Only two species of seals now live on the southern Australian coast-line, namely the white-necked hair-seal [etc.]. 1627 P. FLETCHER *Locusts* II. iv. As when the angry winds with seas conspire, The *white-plum'd hills marching in set array Invade the earth. 1915 S. LEE *Lie Shakesp.* xii. 225 A white-plumed helmet. 1922 JOYCE *Ulysses* 537 Staggering Bob, a *whitepollared calf, thrusts a ruminating head... through the foliage. 1909 H. BEGBIE *Cage* iv. *White-railed cattle-pens. c1711 PETIVER *Gazophyl.* viii. 80 Small *white rib'd Barbadoes Limpet. 1885-94 R. BRIDGES *Eros & Psyche* Nov. xi, Taking his fair *white-ribbon'd herald's wand. 1568 *Wills & Inv.* N.C. (Surtees 1835) 293 One *whyrt reged cove. 1874 M. COLLINS *Frances* I. 214 Under a *white-rinded birch. 1625 MILTON *Death Fair Infant* 54 That crown'd Matron sage *white-robed Truth. 1816 WORDSW. *Ode, 'Imagination—ne'er before content'* 76 The white-robed choir. 1893 J. SHARP *in Mem.* (1910) 214 A white-robed Bedouin herding goats. 1863 MISS BRADDON *Eleanor's Vict.* i. The fruitful orchards and *white-roofed cottages. 1782 LATHAM *Gen. Syn. Birds* I. II. 544 *White-Rumped Black Cuckow. 1832 RENNIE *Butterfl.* & M. 230 The *White Shafted Plume [Moth] (*Pterophorus*) *tetradactylus*. 1881 E. F. POYNTER *Among the Hills* II. 317 The still, *white-sheeted meadows. 1892 E. REEVES *Homeward Bound* 209 We found the street... blocked up with white-sheeted figures. These were Arab... ladies escorting an intending bride... to the bath. 1781 LATHAM *Gen. Syn. Birds* I. 1. 190 *White-Shouldered Shrike. 1870 BRYANT *Homer* I. 1. 32 Juno the white-shouldered smiled. 1588 *Wills & Inv.* Durh. (Surtees) II. 33 One *white sided why. 1864-5 WOOD *Homes without H.* xiii. 234 That [nest] which is made by the White-sided Hill Star. 1523-34 FITZGER. *Husb.* §68 A white horse, so that he be not al *white-skynned aboute the mouthe. 1579-80 NORTH *Plutarch, Agesilaus* (1595) 656 They scorned their bodies, because they saw them white skinned, soft, and delicate. 1851 SCHOOLCRAFT *Amer. Indians* 164 Their white-skinned, auburn-haired, and blue-eyed progeny. 1802 WORDSW. *Valley near Dover* 4 Boys... In *white-sleeved shirts. 1922 JOYCE *Ulysses* 102 The *whitesmocked priest came after him tidying his stole with one hand. 1973 M. AMIS *Rachel Papers* 186 There—round-eyed, white-smocked and spotless—was Rachel. 1874 J. G. WHITTIER *Summer in Memorial to Charles Sumner* 100 He never brought His conscience to the public mart; But lived himself the truth he taught, *White-souled, clean-handed, pure of heart. 1902 G. W. E. RUSSELL *London's Log-Book* iii. 40 Sir William Harcourt as the white-souled champion of spiritual religion. 1922 *White-spatted [see SLEW-FOOT]. 1934 DYLAN THOMAS *Let.* 14 Jan. (1966) 93 The white-spatted representatives of a social system that has, for too many years, used its bowler hat for the one purpose of keeping its ears apart. 1916 E. POUND *Lustra* 48 Her *white-stockinged feet. 1957 J. AGEE *Death in Family* III. xvii. 284 Catherine stood... looking at the skirt and at her white-stockinged feet. 1790 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Rowland for Oliver* etc. 30 To clasp with kisses sweet his *white-stol'd Maid. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. 539 The *white-strawed wheat takes its name... from the colour of its ear. 1776 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* II. pl. xcviij, *White throated duck. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *Adam Bede* xviii, A white-throated stoat... had run across the path. 1811 A. WILSON *Amer. Ornithol.* III. 51 *White-Throated Sparrow... [winters] in most of the states south of New England. 1865, etc. White-throated sparrow [see PEABODY]. 1977 *New Yorker* 5 Sept. 23/3 Dozens of white-throated sparrows... have appeared among the cattails. 1848 A. H. CLOUGH *Bothie of Tober-na-Vuolich* i. 5 The Tutor... *White-tied, clerical. 1972 A. ROUDYBUSH *Sybaritic Death* (1974) ii. 5 Tail-coated, white-tied and silk-tailed men. 1924 G. B. STERN *Tents of Israel* xiii. 182 I've wanted things, too... Hundreds of baths; baths in *white-tiled rooms, and not skimping the hot water. 1978 T. GIFFORD *Glendower Legacy* (1979) 53 An ancient wino was mopping one corner of the long, narrow, white-tiled floor. 1939 F. THOMPSON *Lark Rise* i. 2 The baker's little old *white-tilted van. 1872 COUES *Key N. Amer. Birds* 184 The outer feathers *white-tipped. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Let. to Parishioners* 13 July, A heavey doom is for the liar and *white tongued flatterer. 1609 DEKKER *Gull's Horn-bk.* Proem. 5 The *whitest-toothed Blackamoore in all Asia. 1870 BRYANT *Homer* I. xi. 345 As when a hunter cheers His white-toothed dogs against some lioness. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* II. 639 The... *white topped... and the Dutch turnip. 1867 MORRIS *Jason* II. 624 The white-topped billows. 1650 W. HOW *Phytol. Brit.* 1 *White Tufted Wormwood. 1872 COUES *Key N. Amer. Birds* 302 White-tufted Cormorant. 1820 SHELLEY *Hymn Merc.* xcvi, The wild *White-tusked boars. 1856 MRS. BROWNING *Aur. Leigh* I. 81 The *white-veiled, rose-crowned maidens. c1711 PETIVER *Gazophyl.* vii. 61 Common *white-veined Butterfly. 1828 MISS MITFORD *Village Ser.* III. *Lost & Found*, A rich trail of the white-veined ivy, which crept... over the ground. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* ii, The *white-waistcoated gentleman. 1816 BYRON *Pris. Chillon* 339, I saw the *white-wall'd distant town. 1958 *Punch* 21 May 670/3 Dunlop white-walled tyres, white pedals, and white pump. 1985 A. McCANDLESS *Burke Foundation* i. 4 White-walled houses with red-tiled roofs. 1812 L. HUNT *in Examiner* 25 May 321/2 Any *white-wanded Lord at a levee. 1819 STEPHENS in Shaw's *Gen. Zool.* XI. 56 *White-whiskered Pigeon. 1916 CULLUM *Men*

who wrought x, The white-whiskered face of his host. c1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* xx. 110 *White-wristed luno.

d. with sbs., forming adjs. (or phrases used attrib.) in senses (a) 'of, pertaining to, or consisting of (a) white —', as *white-brick*, *-duck*, *-flower*, *-linen*; (b) 'resembling (a) white —', as *white-dough*, *-loaf*, *-rag*, *-sand*, *-satin*; (c) 'having or characterized by (a) white —', (equivalent to parasynthetic adjs. in -ed: see c), as *white-berry*, *-eyelid*, *-nose*, *-underwing* (see UNDERWING 2); *white-bead bandstring*, name for a species of coral resembling a string of white beads; *white-blood disease* (cf. *white blood* in 11 d) = LEUKÆMIA; *white hart silver* (see quot. 1658); *white-leaf*, applied to a species of frog with white spots; *white-shoe slang* (chiefly U.S.), effeminate, immature; *white telephone*, (of a film) telling an unrealistic story set in elegant surroundings; *white-wall*, (of a tyre) having white sidewalls. See also WHITE-EAR, -LINE, -SKIN adjs.

1696 PLUKENET *Almagestus Bot. Wks.* 1769 II. 118 *Corallina fistulosa Jamaicensis*,... *Nostratibus* *White Bead Bandstring dicta. 1814 LEWIS & CLARK *Trav. Missouri* xxvi. (1815) III. 124 *Whiteberry honeysuckle. 1866 AITKEN *Pract. Med.* II. 69 That the *white-blood' disease proceeded from a primary affection of the spleen and lymphatic glands. 1909 H. BEGBIE *Cage* v, A little *white-brick cottage. 1886 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* III. 275/2 *Agaricus castus*, *White dough mushroom. 1849 *White duck [see DUCK sb. 3]. 1925 H. CRANE *Let.* 19 Aug. (1965) 214 White undershirt and loose white duck pants. 1966 in *Islands* (N.Z.) (1978) Aug. 93 White-duck curtains... Hang at the windows. 1781 PENNANT *Hist. Quadrap.* I. 189 *White-Eyelid Monkey... The upper eyelids of a pure white. 1818 KEATS *Endym.* I. 669 Honey cells, Made delicate from all *white-flower bells. 1594 CAMDEN *Britannia* (ed. 4) 150 Ipsa prædia quæ illi tenerunt ad hanc usque diem quotannis multæ nomine pecuniam in fiscum regium persolunt, quæ *White hart Syluer... appellatur. 1658 PHILLIPS, *Blacklow Forrest*, Called The Forrest of Whitehart from a very beautiful Whitehart, which King Henry the third... taking great care to spare, was killed by T. de la Linde, which so incensed the King, that he set a perpetual Fine upon the Land, which at this day is called Whitehart silver. 1802 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* III. 127 *White-leaf Frog... Its colour is rufous above, variegated... with milk-white spots. 1756 F. HOME *Exper. Bleaching* 26 Lye which has been used to white linen, called *white-linen lye. 1813 VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* 161 The land sown... with the tankard and early *white loaf turnip. 1781 PENNANT *Hist. Quadrap.* I. 190 *White Nose Monkey. 1882 *White-rag Worm [see LURG]. 1822-7 GOOD *Study Med.* (1829) I. 326 Earthy or *white sand calculi. 1749 B. WILKES *Eng. Moths* etc. 21 The *white-satin moth. 1957 J. D. SALINGER *Zooey in New Yorker* 4 May 62/2 Phooey, I say, on all *white-shoe college boys who edit their campus literary magazines. Give me an honest con man any day. 1974 G. JENKINS *Bridge of Magpies* vi. 85 What sort of white-shoe captain are you? 1975 N.Y. *Times* 22 Sept. 33/1 Covert operations can be stripped from the CIA... So can such monkey business as dropping simulated poison cannisters in the New York subways—the games of white-shoe boys who never grew up. 1958 *Oxf. Mag.* 22 May 462/2 Then from Italy, which had hitherto only produced *white telephone' films, came this simple, humble and extremely moving story. 1975 *New Yorker* 5 May 24/3 This is an icy high-minded white-telephone movie. [1749 B. WILKES *Eng. Moths* etc. 23 The spotted red and *white under-wing moth.] 1909 *Westm. Gaz.* 9 Dec. 4/2 The common 'white underwing' moths. 1953 L. Z. HOBSON *Celebrity* viii. 116 A Buick Roadmaster... Fully equipped, radio, heater, *white wall tyres. 1965 *Punch* 20 Oct. 567/2 Then I shall buy this year's model, too, my beloved... with whitewall tyres and a cigar-lighter. 1978 *Listener* 2 Feb. 158/2 When film makers go 'period', as they did for *Chinatown*, the bulky Buicks and Oldsmobiles have to be lovingly rebuilt, white-wall tyres, teeth-like radiator grills and bonnet 'ventiports', almost from scratch.

e. sbs. in which the second element denotes a distinctive part or attribute of that which is denoted by the whole word: *white-back*, local name for (a) the canvas-back duck; (b) the white poplar (from the colour of the under side of the leaves); (c) collectors' name for a species of moth (see quot. 1832); *white-bark*, local name for various trees with white bark (see quotes.); *white-breech*, tr. L. *pygargus*, PYGARG 1; † *white-choker slang*, a clergyman (cf. CHOKER 2); so *whitechokerism*; † *white-cloak*, ? = WHITE MONK; *white-comb*, a form of favus attacking the combs of fowls; *white-eye*, name for various birds, either having a white iris, as the white-eyed pochard (*Nyroca ferruginea*) and the white-eyed fly-catcher (*Vireo noveboracensis*), or having white plumage around the eyes, as the species of the genus *Zosterops*, also called *silver-eye*; *white-front*, the white-fronted goose, *Anser albifrons*; *white-hat*, (a) one who wears a white hat (in quot. 1693, as *quasi-proper* name); (b) U.S. *Naval slang*, an enlisted man; (c) *slang* (orig. U.S.), a good man; a hero; *white-hood*, a regent member of the senate of the University of Cambridge (*obs. exc. Hist.*); *white-leg*, the disease *phlegmasia dolens* (see PHLEGMASIA); *white-nose* = *white-nose monkey*: see 12 d (c); *white point*, collectors' name for a moth (*Leucania albipuncta*) having a white dot

on each of the fore wings; *white-root*, the herb Solomon's seal, from its white creeping rootstock; *white-rump*, (a) the wheatear, *Saxicola ænanthe*; (b) the Hudsonian godwit, *Limosa hæmastica*; *white-sides*, *white-spot*, collectors' names for species of moths (see quotes.); *white-spur*, title of a class of esquires who wore silvered spurs; *white-stocking*, one who wears white stockings; in quot. applied to a horse with white legs; *white-straw*, name for a variety of wheat; *white-tip*, an artificial fly; *white-top*, (a) a N. American species of bentgrass, *Agrostis alba* (cf. RED-TOP 2); (b) an Australian tree, the Flintwood (*Eucalyptus pilularis*); *whitewall*, a white-wall tyre (see sense 12 d above); *white-wig*, one who wears a white wig. See also WHITEBEARD, -FEATHER, etc.

1814 ALEX. WILSON *Amer. Ornith.* (1832) III. 128 Canvass-back duck... on the Potowmac [they are called] *white-backs. a1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia*, *White-back*, the white poplar, *Populus alba*. So called from the whiteness of the under side of the leaves. 1832 RENNIE *Butterfl.* & M. 199 The White-back (*Yponomeuta pruniella*). 1700 PLUKENET *Mantissa Opera* 1769 III. 113 Lappula Althæoides Americana... *White-Barke, Barbadensis vulgo. 1889 MAIDEN *Useful Pl. Australia* 411 *Cupania semiglaucula*,... White Bark. *Ibid.* 421 *Elæocarpus cyaneus*,... White Bark. a1661 HOLYDAY *Juvenal* (1673) 216 Trypherus... Carves... th' Hare, Boar, the *White-Breech too, The Scythian Phesant,... And the Getulian Goat. 1903 A. H. LEWIS *Boss* xxi. 292 It's that same Reverend Bronson who gives Melting Moses th' office to dog me. I'll put Mr. *Whitechoker onto my opinion of th' racket. 1912 A. BENNETT *Matador of Five Towns* 100 You belong to that Methody lot... I seed you talking to them white-chokers. 1866 J. R. LOWELL *Let.* 10 Apr. (1894) I. 361, I don't understand your English taste for what you call 'respectability' (I should call it '*whitechokerism'), thinking, as I do, that the one thing worth striving for in this world is a state founded on pure manhood. 1621 LODGE *Summary of Du Bartas* II. 22 The *white Cloakes, the Carmes, The Augustines, the Bernardines, the Jacobins, the Cordeliers. 1854 *Poultry Chron.* II. 40 A list of diseases... Apoplexy, *white comb, cramp, [etc.]. 1848 GOULD *Birds Australia* IV. 81 *Zosterops Dorsalis*,... Grey-backed Zosterops; *White-eye. 1862 JOHNS *Brit. Birds* 625 White-eye, the Nyroca Pochard. 1912 E. T. SETON *Arctic Prairies* 277 Honkers, *White-fronts and Ducks. 1693 C. MATHER in G. L. Burr *Narr. Witchcraft Cases* (1914) 284 That spirit by them [sc. the Newfoundlanders] called *White-Hat, who ordinarily appears on the Shore, in a White-hat... a little before some dangerous Tempest. 1956 E. N. ROGERS *Queenie's Brood* 241 There's a white hat out here who has gone crazy. 1975 *Courier-Mail* (Brisbane) 28 Feb. 5/2 Laver's the last of the white hats (the good guys who wear the white hats in cowboy movies). 1975 W. SAFIRE *Before the Fall* III. vii. 191 Nixon and Haldeman clung to the original game plan... against the urging of... Garment, and other 'white hats'. 1978 *Guardian Weekly* 15 Jan. 18/2 His judgments of the men he dealt with... The white hats are Truman [etc.]. A prime villain in Britain's postwar foreign secretary. 1764 *Ann. Reg.*, *Chron.* 58 [Cambridge] There appeared among the black-hoods... placet, 103... Among the *white hoods the proctors accounts differed. 1811 R. HOOPER *Lexicon-Medicum* (new ed.) 615/2 *Phlegmasia dolens*... By the Germans it is called (Edema lacteum, and by the English the *white leg. 1860 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Phlegmasia Dolens*... the disease white-leg. 1899 [see milk leg s.v. MILK sb. 10a]. 1939 M. SPRING-RICE *Working-Class Wives* v. 122 She is very anæmic, has 'whiteleg', constipation and piles. 1976 *Lancet* 27 Nov. 1197/2 Iliac-vein thrombosis or 'white leg' affects the left side more commonly than the right. 1982 P. BARKER *Union Street* 250 After our May was born she never walked properly again. She had what they called the white leg. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1824) II. ix. 157 The seventh [monkey] is the Moustoc, or *White Nose. 1869 NEWMAN *Brit. Moths* 475 The *White-point (*Leucania Albipuncta*). 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. lxix. 102 *White roote or Salomons seale is of two sortes. 1797 BEWICK *Brit. Birds* I. 229 The *White-rump. Wheatear. 1817 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* X. 568 The White-rump has a very pretty song. 1888 G. TRUMBULL *Names of Birds* 209 *Limosa hæmastica*... [called] at West Barnstable, White-rump. 1832 RENNIE *Butterfl.* & M. 177 The *White Sides (*Pteronea albicostana*). *Ibid.* 56 The *White Spot (*Gr[aphophora] albimacula*). *Ibid.* 144 The White Spot (*Macaria unipunctata*). *Ibid.* 148 Ennychia... The White Spot (*E. octomaculata*). 1600 CAMDEN *Britannia* (ed. 5) 140 Rex... armigeros 'reat collum torque S.S. vel sigmatico argenteo, & candidis, & argentatis calcaribus exornans, vnde hodie in occidentalibus regni partibus vocantur *Whitespures ad discrimen Equitum auratorum qui auratis calcaribus vti solent. 1706 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4219/4 A Plate to be run for... by Galloways, not exceeding 13 hands and half high, (the Guilford *White-Stockings excepted). 1697 *Rector's Bk. Clayworth* (1910) 121 *White-straw & Joysting. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. 539 The white-strawed wheat... in other counties bears the appellation of the Kentish white-straw. 1867 F. FRANCIS *Bk. Angling* xii. 379 The *White Tip... is a standard Tweed pattern. 1819 WARDEN *United States* II. 8 The grasses are: White clover, *white top and red top. 1889 MAIDEN *Useful Pl. Australia* 502 *Eucalyptus pilularis*,... a Mountain Ash of Illawarra... Willow, or White Top... (New South Wales). 1958 *Autocar* 31 Oct. 675 (caption) Bentley Flying Spur, sans fins, sans *whitewalls, sans tinsel. 1968 *Globe & Mail* (Toronto) 5 Feb. 26/5 (Advt.). Hardtop, big 6 with automatic, radio and whitewalls. 1978 *Detroit Free Press* 5 Mar. c7/2 (Advt.). A built-in Scuff Bar that helps keep whitewalls white. 1673 DRYDEN *Marr. à la Mode* Prol., *White-Wig and Vizard make no longer jar.

f. with sbs., forming vbs. (chiefly *nonce-wds.*): *white-breast*, *white-ball*, to clean with a ball of whiting; *white-mail*, to seize or appropriate like blackmail, but for a good purpose; *white-tooth*,

to show one's white teeth at. See also WHITE-LINE v.

1780 *Mirror* No. 93 ¶ 12 The servants had their liveries new *white-ball'd. **a 1930** D. H. LAWRENCE *Mod. Lover* (1934) 11 The fallow flickered over with pink gleams of birds *white-breasting the sunset. **1861** READE *Cloister & H.* lii. He spent much of his gains . . . in . . . choice drugs, and would have so invested them all, but Margaret *white-mailed a part. **1876** A. J. EVANS *Through Bosnia* iii. 89 A dusky Ethiopian maiden *white-toothing us in the most coquettish fashion.

g. white-like a., whitish; somewhat pale.

1608 *Phil. Trans.* XX. 379 The Petroleum which is found in Italy is a white-like Spirit of Turpentine. **1893** STEVENSON *Catriona* xxii. She looked white-like as she beheld the bursting of the sprays.

white, v.¹ (Also 4-6 whitt-, whytt-) [OE. *hwitian*, f. *hwit* WHITE *a.* Cf. OHG., MHG. *wizen*, (G. *weissen*), Goth. *hweitjan*.]

1. a. intr. To become white: = WHITEN *v.* 2. *Obs.*

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* xxxiv. 113 Hwæs blod readap on rosan gelicnysse, and hwæs lichama hwitað on lilian fægernysse. **a 1225** *Ancre. R.* 150 þe bouh, hwon he adeaðeð, he hwiteð wiðuten. **c 1374** CHAUCER *Troilus* v. 276 Ful pale y-woxen was þe moone And whiten gan the Orisonte shene Al Estward. **1398** TREvisa *Barth. De P.R.* xviii. xl. (Bodl. MS.), In wynter . . . alle pinges whiteþ bi colde and bi froste. **1471** RIPLEY *Comp. Alch.* vi. viii. in Ashmole (1652) 163 Drynes procedyth as Whytyth the matter.

b. Const. out. Of vision: to become impaired by exposure to a sudden bright light (see also quot. 1981). Also *trans.*, to 'blind' (an audience in a theatre) by such means.

1978 'A. STUART' *Vicious Circles* 22 At once my eyes whited out—as disoriented by the brilliant evening sun as a bat caught by a searchlight. **1981** *Times Lit. Suppl.* 30 Jan. 112/1 As the women lie down to sleep in the hot summer morning, the stage lights white out to mime the atomic fireball. **1983** *Listener* 3 Feb. 32/3 In Bristol the Little Theatre performs the stage play, using lasers and whiting-out audiences.

2. †a. trans. To make white: = WHITEN *v.* 1. *Obs.*

a 1000 *Rhyming Poem* ii. 62 (Grein III. i. 162) Flan man hwiteð. **c 1325** *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 336 Be the hond i-whited, it shal go god i-nouh. **1340** *Ayeb.* 178 Ase pet line cloþ þet is y-huyted be offte wessinge. **1398** TREvisa *Barth. De P.R.* xix. xxiii. (Bodl. MS.), Colde. . . blakkep dry substaunce & whiteþ moiste substaunce. **1538** FITZHERB. *Just. Peas* 118b, Euerie person that vsith the occupacyon of making of tyles, shall make them good and able and thoroughly whyted. **1561** DAUS tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* 230 They haue washed and whited their garmentes in the blood of the Lambe. **1568** HACKET tr. *Thevet's New found World* vii. 10b, Milke. . . is but bloud whited in y^e dug. **1599** B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* iii. v, Your Passion hath sufficiently whited your Face. **1649** *Lanc. Tracts Civil War* (Chetham Soc.) 234 Who can white a Blackmore? **1721** E. WARD *Merry Trav.* i. (1729) 16 No yellow Fowl, or stale one, green, Can ever in his Shop be seen, Because he puts in use a strange Device, to white 'em when they change.

b. spec. To cover or coat with white; to whitewash; also *fig.*: = WHITEN *v.* 1 b, d. Now *rare*.

c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 15 Mannes pruh, þe is wiðuten ihwited, and wiðinne stinkende. **1377** LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. iii. 61, I shal keure 3owre kirke. . . Woves do whitten. **c 1430** *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* ii. cxxii. (1869) 121 As the snow embelisheth and whitheth a dong hep with oute. **1534-5** *MS. Rawl. D.* 777 lf. 72b, Pargyttyng and whytting the Stayers. **1572** *Ludlow Churchw. Acc.* (Camden) 149 For lyme, to make an end of whittinge the church. **1599** NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* 23 A farthing worth of flower to white him ouer and wamble him in. **a 1625** FLETCHER *Bloody Brother* iv. i, Thou . . . Whit'st ouer all his vices. **1631** WIDDOWES *Nat. Philos.* 25 As it were Lead whited with silver. **1777** BRAND *Pop. Antiq.* 270 note, At Oxford, at this Time, the little Crosses cut in the Stones of Buildings, to denote the Division of the Parishes, are whited with Chalk. **1823** SCOTT *Quentin D.* xxviii, When he had thus cleared his conscience, or rather whited it over like a sepulchre. **1833** LONDON *Encycl. Archit.* §235 The ceilings. . . as well as the pediment in front of the house, to be lath laid, set, and whited.

Proverb. **1596** DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 373 That at anes, as vses to be said, tha wil quhite tua walis. **1629** H. BURTON *Babel* n Bethel Pref. Ep. 19, I doe in this Booke . . . as the Proverbe is, white two walls with one brush.

c. To bleach; to blanch: = WHITEN *v.* 1 c.

1530 PALSGR. 457/1, I bleche, I whyte clothe. **1541** *Act 33 Hen. VIII* c. 15 §1 The said lynnyn yarne must lye w'oute. . . for . . . one half yere to be whyted. **1611** *Bible* Mark ix. 3 His raiment became. . . exceeding white as snow: so as no Fuller on earth can white them. **1658** EVELYN *Fr. Gard.* (1675) 208 The manner of whiting it [sc. lettuce] under earthen pots. **1714** *Fr. Bk. of Rates* 128 Wax, bleached or whited in Foreign Parts, and imported. **1972** E. WIGGINTON *Foxfire Bk.* 181 And it was the sulfur that whited the apples, and they had a little sulfur flavor.

d. pa. pple. Of a horse: see quot. 1737.

1737 BRACKEN *Farriery Impr.* (1757) II. 5 He is. . . called well Whited if his Hinder Feet be both White. **1760** HEBER *Harse Matches* ix. 147 He is a compleat strong horse, well whited. **1870** *Daily News* 6 June, Mr. Robson's His Majesty, in addition to being badly 'whited', had unpleasant action.

e. Printing. To space out (matter) with 'white'. **1892** A. OLDFIELD *Man. Typogr.* i. 15 Reglets for whiting out bills and placards are made of wood.

f. to white out: to obscure or cover with something white, esp. a white fluid used by typists. Also *fig.*

1975 J. BUTCHER *Capy-Editing* iii. 25 If you want to cancel an underlining for italic, white it out, or put two or three short lines through it, not a wavy line. **1978** M. DUFFY

Housespy vi. 141 Its long shop window was whited out. **1982** R. LEIGH *Girl with Bright Head* xi. 74 There's also a couple of places where she has had to white out mistakes and type over them. **1983** 'J. LE CARRÉ' *Little Drummer Girl* xiii. 224 She drove with her mind whited out and her thoughts deliberately foreshortened. **1984** *Times Lit. Suppl.* 13 July 771/3 The embarrassed printer explained that he'd whited the little dot out, thinking that it was a dust spot.

g. To make up (an actor) to look white.

1977 R. BARNARD *Death on High C's* xv. 148 He was already 'whited up' for the part of the Duke of Mantua. . . He must look odd, with his deadly white colouring and negroid lips.

white, v.² *Sc.* and *n. dial.* Also 6 *Sc.* quhite, 7 whyt, 9 *dial.* whit. [north. variant of THWITE. Cf. WHANG.] *trans.* To cut slices off (a stick, etc.) with a knife or other sharp instrument; to pare; to whittle.

1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 72 Stock and stane. . . Quhilk men may carfe or quhite. **1662** in W. Hunter *Biggar & Ho. Fleming* (1862) 4 Elf-boyis, wha whyttis and dyghtis thame [sc. arrow-heads] with a sharp thing lyke a paking neidle. **1799** J. ROBERTSON *Agric. Perth* 267 Boys, who white a stick. . . until it be so worn down that it become useless. **1890** *SERVICE Notandums* ix. 62 Ye can be whitin' a stick.

white: see QUIT, WEIGHT, WIGHT, WIT, WITE.

white acre. Also whit(t)aker, witacre.

†1. Law. An arbitrary name for a particular parcel of ground, distinguished from another called BLACK ACRE, q.v. *Obs.*

1642 tr. *Perkins' Prof. Bk.* viii. §561 If a man seised in fee of white acre and black acre devisable, and deviseth white acre unto I.S. [etc.]. **1698** [see BLACK ACRE].

2. A local name for white quartz.

1796 MARSHALL *Rural Econ. W. Eng.* I. 16 A species of crystal, or quartz—provincially 'whittaker'; which, in colour, is mostly white, sometimes tinged with red. **1839** DE LA BECHE *Rep. Geol. Carnw.*, etc. xv. 473 note, Quartz is commonly known. . . as whiteacre in eastern Cornwall and part of Devon.

white ant, sb. [f. WHITE *a.* + ANT.]

1. A very destructive social insect of the Neuropterous order, also called Termite.

[c. **1328, 1713:** see ANT 3.] **1684** LOCKE *Jrnl.* 17 Nov. in K. Dewhurst *Locke* (1963) 265 Told me of a sort of white ants that there mightily infests them. **1699** DAMPIER *Voy.* 127 Abundance of Ants of several sorts, and Woodlice, called by the English in the East Indies White Ants. **1729**, [etc. [see ANT 3]. **1849** EASTWICK *Dry Leaves* 86 The never-to-be-sufficiently execrated white ants, who, if they had their will, would reduce all created things to impalpable dust. **1908** E. J. BANFIELD *Confessions of Beachcomber* i. vii. 227 The 'white ant' (which is not an ant) . . . would literally eat us out of house and home. **1928** R. CAMPBELL *Wayzgoose* i. 20 White-ants and borers, turning boards to dust. **1938** X. HERBERT *Capricornia* (1939) viii. 102 The white-ants have eaten the wheels of my buck-board. **1974** D. STUART *Prince of my Country* v. 40 The wind and the rain and the white ants will level the camps.

2. In pl. With allusion to the supposed destruction of the brain by white ants, implying loss of sanity, sense, or intelligence. *Austral. slang.*

1908 H. FLETCHER *Dads & Dams: between Smokes* 64 It wants a fool or a very sane cove indeed ter live in ther lonely bush an' keep ther white ants out o' his napper. **1926** L. G. E. GEE *Bushtracks & Goldfields* 65 And so he rambles on . . . and in the unsteady glance of his honest, old eyes and his disconnected speech, I read the mark of the Australian solitudes—'white ants' they call it up north. **1938** H. DRAKE-BROCKMAN *Men without Wives* 27 "'Get the white ants?" What do you mean?' 'Go ratty. Mad.' **1948** V. PALMER *Golconda* vii. 49 They had a definite respect for Christy. He might have a few kinks. . . but there was something dinkum about him, and if there were white ants behind his forehead they had a lot of work ahead of them. **a 1951** E. HILL in Murdock & Drake-Brockman *Austral. Short Stories* (1951) 292 My brownie days are over. . . I reckon I've got white ants.

white-'ant, v. Chiefly *Austral.* [f. prec.] *trans.* To destroy in the manner of termites or white ants; to undermine, eat away, or sabotage.

1925 *Glasgow Herald* 14 Nov. 9/6 The extremists. . . have deliberately 'white-anted' the Labour movement. . . and squandered the funds of the wealthy unions. **1952** L. OVERACKER *Austral. Party System* vi. 182 The Communists have 'white anted' the unions, elected their members to offices in the Miners' Federation, the waterside workers' and ironworkers' unions, and developed 'shop committees' as basic units in the factories. **1962** R. WALLIS *Paint of Origin* 96 After hearing. . . about me. . . he decided he'd have to do his duty as a gentleman and tell Rockdale he was being white-anted. **1968** D. IRELAND *Chanticleer Bird* xi. 102 Television had white-anted their audiences, and they had to use the place for other things besides films.

Hence **white-'anted ppl. a., white-'anting vbl. sb.**

1936 F. CLUNE *Raaming round Darling* xx. 205 The piece of the boat is five feet long and is made of soft wood, badly white-anted. **1945** BAKER *Austral. Lang.* xiv. 245 White-anting. **1950** D. CUSACK *Comets Soon Pass in Three Austral. Three-Act Plays* ii. ii. 55 Dr. John. Each man must find his own pole to swing to. I have found mine. Mrs. Ellington-Brown. I think that's too wonderful, so mystic. Talbot. White-anting society! Jack Smith. Too mystic for my taste, Doc. I think you've got to get out and fight for things. **1973** *Sydney Morning Herald* 30 Aug. 6/4 We are promised largesse in the form of harbour-side parks in the same breath as the white-anting of a remote scenic gorge is sanctioned.

whitebait ('hwaɪtbɪt). Formerly white bait, white-bait. [f. WHITE *a.* + BAIT *sb.*; so called from its former use as bait.] A small silvery-white

fish, caught in large numbers in the estuary of the Thames and elsewhere, and esteemed as a delicacy.

Formerly reckoned by some as a distinct species, but now proved to consist of the fry of various fishes, chiefly the herring and sprat.

1758 *Descr. Thames* 227 A young Herring is by some termed a Yaulin, or a White Bait. **1763** in *Priv. Lett. Ld. Malmesbury* (1870) I. 93 We got back to Greenwich to dine. We had the smallest fish I ever saw, called whitebait; they are only to be eat at Greenwich, and are held in high estimation by the epicures. **1831** PEACOCK *Crotchet Castle* vii. As delicate as whitebait in July. **1836** MOLLARD *Cookery* 38 To dress White Bait. This is a fish peculiar to Greenwich and Blackwall. **1862** MISS BRADDON *Lady Audley* xxxiv, There are people who dislike salmon, and whitebait, and spring ducklings, and all manner of old-established delicacies.

b. attrib.

whitebait dinner: a dinner at which whitebait was eaten, held annually at Greenwich and attended by cabinet ministers from early in the 19th century till 1894. For the origin of the dinner see *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 11) XII. 554.

1836 DISRAELI *Let. to Ld. Glenelg* 12 Mar., His Majesty's Ministers may then hold Cabinet Councils to arrange a white-bait dinner at Blackwall. **1840** MARRYAT *Poor Jack* viii, Whitebait parties at the Ship. **1859** LEVER *Dav. Dunn* xxxvi, The Irishman that has soared to the realm of white-bait with a Minister. **1902** C. J. CORNISH *Natur. in Thames* 201 White-bait shoals swarmed in the Lower Thames and the Medway.

c. Applied to other small fishes in different parts of the world resembling this and used as food.

e.g. The Chinese and Japanese fishes of the family *Salangidae*, various N. American species of silversides, and various fishes of Australia and New Zealand (see quotes.).

1882 TENISON-WOODS *Fish N.S.W.* 85 Count Castelnau states that it [sc. *Engraulis antarcticus*] is very common in the Melbourne market. . . and goes by the name of 'White-bait'. **1883** *Royal Comm. on Fisheries of Tasmania* p. iv, Retropinna Richardsonii, whitebait or smelt. Captured in great abundance in the river Tamar, in the prawn nets. **1886** SHERRIN *Handbk. Fishes N.Z.* 141 Together with the young of *Retropinna Richardsoni*, they [sc. *Galaxias attenuatus*] are called whitebait.

whitebeam ('hwaɪtbi:m). Also white beam, white-beam. [Of uncertain origin. Perhaps an alteration of WHITTEN on the analogy of *quicken* and *quickbeam*.] A small tree, *Pyrus Aria*, having large leaves with white silky hairs on the under side. Also *whitebeam-tree* (incorrectly *white beam-tree*: see BEAM-TREE).

1705 S. DALE *Pharmacol. Suppl.*, Index, The White-Beam-Tree, *Aria*. **1770** *Phil. Trans.* LXI. 388 Of all soils this is the most favourable to beech, white-beam, [etc.]. **1800** [see BEAM-TREE]. **1902** C. J. CORNISH *Natur. in Thames* 152 The hawfinch is seen. . . picking up white-beam kernels.

white bear. Chiefly *N. Amer.* *a.* = polar bear *s.v.* POLAR *a. b.*

1600 HAKLUYT *Princ. Navigations* III. 6 The soile is barren in some places. . . but it is full of white beares. **1823** *Canad. Mag.* I. 394 The great white bear takes refuge in the most icy climates. **1860** P. H. GOSSE *Romance Nat. Hist.* 62 The white bear, seated on a solitary iceberg in the Polar Sea. **1953** W. B. MOWERY *Tales of Mounted Police* 149 [He had] several livid weals across his left cheek where a white bear had once clawed him.

b. A grizzly bear (*Ursus horribilis*) in a light-coloured phase.

1791 J. LONG *Voy. Indian Interpreter* 95 The large white bear, commonly called the grizzly bear, is a very dangerous animal. **1852** J. REYNOLDS *Hist. Illinois* 172 He was destroyed there [in the Rocky Mountains] by a white bear. **1952** J. JENNINGS *Strange Brigade* (1954) 105 There were also red deer or biche, and white bears and white partridges.

whitebeard ('hwaɪtbɪəd).

1. An old man with a white beard.

†Also as *quasi*-proper name: in quot. 1450 probably in allusion to the representation of God the Father as an aged man.

1450 SIR J. FASTOLF in *Paston Lett.* I. 131 They shall be quyt by Blackberd or Whyteberd; that ys to sey, by God or the Devyll. **1593** SHAKS. *Rich. II.* iii. ii. 112 Whitebeards [mispr. White Beares] haue arm'd their thin and hairlesse Scalps Against thy Maiestie. **1829** SCOTT *Anne of G.* xii, 'If she were worth twenty crowns,' . . . said the old whitebeard.

2. Name in Australia for the plant *Styphelia ericoides*, from the white hairs on the corolla.

1898 MORRIS *Austral Engl.*

white-'bearded, a. [WHITE *a.* 12 c.] Having a white beard. *a.* Of a man.

1596 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV.* ii. iv. 509 Falstaffe, that old white-bearded Sathan. **1914** D. H. LAWRENCE *Widowing of Mrs. Holroyd* iii. 81 A little stout, white-bearded man.

b. Of wheat.

1788 G. WASHINGTON *Diary* 8 Sept. (1925) III. 417 Also sowing. . . one bushel of the White bearded Wheat sent me by Beale Boardly. **1850** *Rep. U.S. Comm. Patents* 1849: *Agric.* 132 The white-bearded wheat, a valuable kind less liable to total failure than any other; not very popular with millers.

c. fig.

1920 E. SITWELL *Wooden Pegasus* 100 And, mourners too, white-bearded seas Walk slowly by them as they come. **1960** *Farmer & Stockbreeder* 19 Jan. (Suppl.) 1/1 Waves came solid green and white-bearded, like frost giants racing.

whiteblowe, obs. var. WHITLOW.

whiteboard ('hwaɪtbɔəd). [f. WHITE *a.* after *blackboard*.] A white surface for use like a

blackboard but accepting felt-tipped pens and wax crayons.

1966 'W. COOPER' *Mem. New Man* II. v. 160 He... went to the blackboard. (Actually it was an up-to-date plastic whiteboard, on which one wrote with a coloured wax crayon.) **1977** *Times Educ. Suppl.* 21 Oct. 28/1 (Adv.). They are whiteboards that stay white, year after year. **1978** J. McNEIL *Consultant* ix. 106 They came to a meeting room... The walls were bare except for a white-board. **1985** *Times Educ. Suppl.* 19 July 20/5 We should also bear in mind that partially-sighted pupils often fare better if a white-board is used rather than a blackboard.

white-bottle. *Obs. exc. dial.* [See BOTTLE sb.¹] **†a.** The ox-eye daisy, *Chrysanthemum Leucanthemum*. **b.** The bladder campion, *Silene inflata* (Treas. Bot.).

a 1400 Alphita (Anecd. Oxon.) 45 *Consolida media*,... habet... florem album latum et durum, similem camomille sed maiorem... ac, whit-bottel uel seynt Mary maythe. **1651** FRENCH *Distill.* ii. 56 Take... White-bottles, Scabius, Dandelyon,... of each one handfull.

white boy, 'whiteboy. Also 7 white-boy.

1. A favourite, pet, or darling boy: a term of endearment for a boy or (usually) man.

Cf. WHITE a. 9, and white son (WHITE a. 11 c). **1599** PORTER *Angry Wom. Abingt.* (Percy Soc.) 69 Whose white boy is that same? c **1600** Timon i. iii. (1842) 10 Gelas... What speake the virgines of me? *Pæd.* They terme you delight of men, white boye, Noble without comparison. **1639** FULLER *Holy War* i. xiii. 20 The Pope was loth to adventure his darlings into danger; those white-boys were to stay at home with his Holiness their tender father. **1690** C. NESSE O. & N. Test. I. 377 Joseph... was not only his earthly fathers white-boy, but his heavenly's also. **1821** SCOTT *Kenilto*. xvi. Were war at the gates, I should be one of her [sc. Q. Elizabeth's] white boys. **1919** T. S. ELIOT *Let.* 9 July in *Waste Land Drafts* (1971) p. xvii. The small public which I could bring to it [sc. the *Egoist*] now reads the *Athenaeum* every week. There I am a sort of white boy; I have a longish critical review about three weeks out of four.

†2. A surprised choir-boy. *Obs. nonce-use.*

1691 MRS. D'ANVERS *Academia* 32 The Organs set up with a ding, The White-men roar, and White-Boys sing.

3. (usually with capital.) A name adopted by or applied to the members of various illegal, rebellious, or riotous associations. *a. Eng. Hist.*

1644 (title) The Devils White Boyes: or, A mixture of malicious Malignants. **1684** DRYDEN tr. *Maimbourg's Hist. League* Postscr. 47 When a Body of white Boys was already appearing in the West. [Footnote by Sir W. Scott, White was the dress affected by those who crowded to see Monmouth in his western tour.]

b. Irish Hist. A member of a secret agrarian association formed in 1761: for the reason of the name see quot. 1762. Also *attrib.*

1762 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 84 Rioters... called Levellers... likewise called White Boys, from their wearing shirts over their other cloaths, the better to distinguish each other by night. **1808-** [see RIGHT BOYS]. **1842** MADDEN *United Irishmen* I. 25 The Whiteboy disturbances... had no more connection with religious controversy than with the disputes between the Scotists and Thomists. Whiteboyism was an association against high rents and rithes. **1842** S. C. HALL *Ireland* II. 79 Ambrose Power Esq., was murdered on his own hearth by a party of Whiteboys. **1881** DILLON in *Standard* 25 Jan., It was... a relic of the Whiteboy days.

c. transf.

1768 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Strafford* 25 June, Those black dogs, the whiteboys or coal-heavers, are dispersed or taken. **1825** J. NEAL *Bro. Jonathan* III. 290 Who knows but you are one o' the tories yourself; or one o' the whiteboys—or cow boys—or skinnners.

Hence whiteboyism, the principles or practices of the Irish Whiteboys (see 3 b).

1778 *Phil. Surv. S. Irel.* 313 Till some step is taken in favour of tillage and the poor Whiteboyism will probably remain. **1842** [see 3 b]. **1893** *Times* 2 Oct. 3/6 Five men who had been sentenced at the Kerry Assizes in 1888,—for moonlighting and whiteboyism.

white bread. [Cf. MHG. *wizbrot*, G. *weissbrot*, LG. *witbrôd*, Du. *wittebrood*.] Bread of a light colour, made from fine wheaten flour, as distinguished from BROWN BREAD.

13... in *Engl. Gilds* (1870) 354 Euerych bakere of pe town... sholde make whitbred. c **1450** *Customs of Malton in Engl. Misc.* (Surtees) 62 No bakar y' bakys qwhyte brede schall bake brown brede... nor he y' bakys brown brede schall bake no qwhyte brede. **1523-34** FITZHERB. *Husb.* §34 Polder wheate... is greater corne, and wyll make whyte breed. **1598** Epulario DjB, Putting vnto it crums of Whitebread. **1605** SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iii. *Law* 836 Thou, that from Heav'n thy daily White-bread hast. **1794** STEDMAN *Surinam* (1813) II. xxv. 248 The white bread, fruit, and Spanish wines... I received as a present.

whitecap, white-cap ('hwaɪtkæp), sb. [CAP sb.¹]

1. Name for several birds having a white or light-coloured patch on the head (see quotes.).

1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 78 *Passeres*... *Montanus*... the White-Cap. **1874** T. BELT *Nat. Nicaragua* 138 The white-cap (*Microchera parvirostris*, Lawr.), the smallest of thirteen different kinds of humming-birds that I noticed around Santo Domingo. **1885** SWAINSON *Prov. Names Birds* 13 Redstart... The male is called 'whitecap' in Shropshire, from its white forehead. *Ibid.* 22 Whitethroat... (from its grey head)... Whitecap.

2. pl. Local name for species of mushroom.

1818 *Withering's Brit. Pl.* (ed. 6) IV. 282 *Ag[aricus] Georgii*... Gathered in abundance for the London markets, where they are sold as Mushrooms, but by the more discriminating country people called White caps. **1866**

Treas. Bot., White-caps, ... Agaricus arvensis... Horse Mushroom.

3. A white-capped or crested wave; a breaker.

1773 *Phil. Trans.* LXIV. 458 None, or very few white-caps (or waves whose tops turn over in foam) appeared. **1838** ASA GRAY *Lett.* (1893) I. 71 We had a strong head wind... the surface of the lake was covered with white-caps. **1883** *Harper's Mag.* Aug. 375/1 Numerous reefs... marked by white-caps where the ebb tide rushed over them.

4. A person wearing a white cap; *spec.* one of a self-constituted body in the United States who commit outrages upon persons under the pretence of regulating public morals.

1891 *Tablet* 13 June 941 The Lynchers in such cases are usually called white-caps, regulators, &c. **1894** *Westm. Gaz.* 23 May 2/3 A White Cap... disguises himself and performs his errands at night.

So 'white-capped' (-kæpt) a., wearing a white cap or caps; capped with foam, covered with white-crested waves.

1880 'OUIDA' *Moths* iii. White-capped old women looked on. **1895** *Outing* (U.S.) XXVI. 447/2 A white-capped sea. **1899** *Scribner's Mag.* XXV. 75 The whitecapped cavalry were caught unawares by French's brigade.

'whitecap, v. U.S. [f. the sb., sense 4.] *trans.* To commit an outrage upon (a person) in the style of the whitecaps. Chiefly as 'white-capping' vbl. sb. Also 'whitecapper.'

1895 T. ROOSEVELT in *Century Mag.* Nov. 72/2 The law-breaker, whether he be lyncher or whitecapper, or merely the liquor-seller who desires to drive an illegal business. **1900** M. NICHOLSON *Hoosiers* 45 The milder form of outlawry, known as 'white-capping', has also been practised in Indiana occasionally. **1904** N.Y. *Even. Post* 28 Jan. 9 The Mississippi has voted Gov. Vardaman a special appropriation to enable him to suppress the 'white cappers'. **1908** D. G. PHILLIPS *Old Wives for New* iv. 68 If he wasn't such a wonderful doctor he'd have been white-capped long ago—tarred and feathered and railed out of town. **1943** A. G. POWELL *I can go Home Again* 167 During the short time I served as county judge, a series of 'whitecappings', directed against Negroes, occurred in the lower part of the county. **1970** [see KU-KLUX 1 a].

'whitecapping, a. rare-1. [f. as WHITECAP sb. + -ING².] Covering with or as with a white cap.

1912 J. LONDON *Son of Sun* v. ii. 175 Their long slopes... were broken by systems of smaller whitecapping waves.

Whitechapel ('hwaɪtʃæp(əl)). [Name of a district in the East End of London, traditionally one of the poorer parts of the capital.]

1. a. In various slang uses, mostly *attrib.* (see quotes.).

a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, White-chappel-portion, two torn Smocks, and what Nature gave. **1785** GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T.*, Whitechapel breed, fat, ragged, and saucy. *Whitechapel beau*, who dresses with a needle and thread, and undresses with a knife. **1860** *Slang Dict.*, *Whitechapel*, or Westminster Brougham, a costermonger's donkey-barrow. **1863** DICKENS *Uncomm. Trav.* xxv(ii), What is termed in Albion a 'Whitechapel shave' (and which is, in fact, whitening, judiciously applied to the jaws with the palm of the hand). **1865** *Slang Dict.*, *Whitechapel fortune*, a clean gown and a pair of pattens.

b. attrib. or absol. Applied to certain irregular or unskillful methods of play in whist and billiards: see quotes. *collog.*

1755 *Connoisseur* No. 60 ¶5 They know no more of the game [sc. whist] than what is called White-Chapel play. **1847** HALLIWELL, *Whitechapel-play* [= *Bungay-play*, a simple straightforward way of playing the game of whist, by leading all the winning cards in succession, without endeavouring to make the best of the hand.] **1866** N. & Q. 3rd Ser. IX. 372/2 The Saying at Whist, when you play ace and king of a suit—'That is Whitechapel play'. *Ibid.* 440 All billiard players know, that when an adversary 'pockets' your ball, it is called 'Whitechapel play', the act of doing so being considered anything but etiquette. **1899** A. MAINWARING *Cut Cavendish* 12 Avoid the hateful 'White-chapel', i.e. the lead from a single card.

2. Whitechapel needle: some particular make of needle; in quot. 1828 allusively. *U.S.*

1774 *Pennsylv. Gaz.* 10 Aug. Suppl. 2/2 Whitechapel and Glovers needles. **1828** *Lights & Shades* II. 188 He had pricked his fingers with 'Gammer Gurton's needle', in buying a Whitechapel one. *Note*, A cant phrase for a counterfeited copy of this old play.

3. In full *Whitechapel cart*, a kind of light two-wheeled spring cart.

1842 J. AITON *Dom. Econ.* (1857) 129 For a minister with a family, a whitechapel is, upon the whole, the best of the open conveyances... It carries six. **1859** *Carriage Builders' Art Jnl.* I. 26/2 A light Whitechapel Cart, suitable to the use of a country gentleman. **1875** *Hints to Yng. Tandem Drivers* 6 Whitechapels (from the fact that the passengers sit inside them instead of outside) are dangerous to get out of in any emergency. **1900** GUNTON *Patent Specif.* No. 1332 Improved seat-shifting fittings for Dogcarts, Whitechapels or any other vehicles.

4. as adj. Low, vulgar.

1901 *Scotsman* 11 Mar. 7/5 The humiliation of the party by the Whitechapel scene of Tuesday.

white cliffs, sb. pl. [f. WHITE a. + CLIFF.]

1. Chalk cliffs; *spec.* those of Dover, regarded as a symbol of Great Britain.

1879 [see CLIFF 1 b]. **1902** KIPLING *Just-So-Stories* 7 Take me to my natal-shore and the white-cliffs-of-Albion. **1940** N. BURTON (song) There'll be blue-birds over the white cliffs of Dover. **1940** R. S. LAMBERT *Ariel & All his Quality* iii. 84 Full of a mystic vision of Empire... inspired by the sight of the white cliffs of Dover. **1978** M. KENYON *Deep Pocket* xiv. 181 You'll be deported, you'll never see the White Cliffs again.

2. (With capital initials.) The name of a town in New South Wales, used *attrib.* to designate opals mined there.

1911 C. E. W. BEAN 'Dreadnought' of Darling xxv. 222 The Wilcannia banks live on the White Cliffs opal. **1936** H. P. WHITLOCK *Story of Gems* x. 127 The White Cliffs opals are not unlike those from Hungary, but they show broader flashes of colour. **1975** R. WEBSTER *Gems in Jewellery* xi. 57 The White Cliffs opal is cream in colour and found in seams in sandstone.

whitecoat ('hwaɪtkəʊt). Also white-coat, white coat.

1. a. A soldier wearing a white or light-coloured coat: cf. BUFF-COAT 2. (Also *attrib.*) *Obs. exc. Hist.*

1555 in Arb. *Garner* VIII. 60 A certain Band of White Coats... sent unto them from London. **1562** in *Archaeologia* XLVII. 221 Yt apareth a greate differens... betwene the exercised souldior and the rawe white coat. **1571** R. BANNATYNE *Mem.* (Bann. Club) 91 Thare began flyting, ... 'Away blewcoate!' 'I defy the whytcoite!' **1605** HEYWOOD *If you know not me* C 2, Enter three white-cote souldiers. **1631** — *Engl. Eliz.* 113 For her guard two hundred Northern White Coates were appointed... to watch about her lodging. **1644** in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* III. II. 634 The Marquess of Newcastle's Regiment of White Coats were almost wholly cut off for they scorned to fly. **1662** A. COOPER *Stratologia* vi. 115 In the main battail do our white Coats stand. **1840** HOR. SMITH *Oliver Cromwell* II. 159 Newcastle with all his whitecoats.

b. In modern times, an Austrian soldier.

1861 MEREDITH *Let. to Mrs. J. Ross* 19 Nov., Verona... is now less a City than a fortress. You see nothing but white coats—who form the majority of the inhabitants.

2. A young seal, having a coat of white fur; also the fur itself.

1792 G. CARTWRIGHT *Jrnl. Labrador* III. p. x, *Whitecoat*, a young seal, before it has cast its first coat, which is white and furry. **1892** *Daily News* 28 Mar. 6/2 The skin of the small pup seal... is of small value, being known as 'Whitecoat'.

3. A doctor or hospital attendant who wears a white coat.

1911 [see SCHMERZ]. **1932** 'Jock' *Dartmoor from Within* vi. 134 He makes straight for the tub, and 'White Coat' alters his course to cut him off. **1980** *Brit. Med. Jnl.* 29 Mar. 934/2 We roar into the hospital. White coats run out.

white-collar, sb. and a. orig. U.S.

A. sb. a. (As two words.) A white collar regarded as characteristic of a man engaged in non-manual work.

1919 U. SINCLAIR *Brass Check* xiii. 78 It is a fact with which every union workingman is familiar, that his most bitter despisers are the petty underlings of the business world, the poor office-clerks... who, because they are allowed to wear a white collar... regard themselves as members of the capitalist class. **1976** M. HINXMAN *End of Good Woman* i. 9 Tom emigrated to Canada. Dick put on a white collar and became a bank clerk.

b. A person engaged in non-manual work.

1930 A. P. HERBERT *Water Gipsies* iv. 39 That family over there... come here every Thursday for their lives for a little family reunion, and white collars, too, all of them. **1938** W. SMITTER *F.O.B. Detroit* 32 It wasn't long before the white-collars up front began taking notice of what was going on on the floor. **1954** E. PANGBORN *Mirror for Observers* (1955) i. 1. 19 A residential backwater for factory workers, white-collars, transients. **1962** 'K. ORVIS' *Damned & Destroyed* i. 12 A pair of white-collars from a near-by St. James Street brokerage office pounded the bar for fresh drinks. **1971** W. J. BURLEY *Guilt Edged* i. 5 [The] passenger ferry... had made only two return trips, one for the workers at seven-thirty and one for the white-collars at eight-thirty.

B. adj. a. Of a person: engaged in non-manual, esp. clerical, work.

1921 *Ladies' Home Jnl.* May 98/4 Urban chain restaurants have accustomed white-collar boys and girls to tasty viands, albeit in limited amounts. **1924** W. McDUGALL *Ethics & Some Mod. World Probl.* iv. 125 The strata of brain-workers made up the white-collar class or middle classes. **1937** *Atlantic Monthly* Dec. 750/1 Proletarian literature... has been accompanied by books on the white-collar worker, the storekeeper... the scientist, and the millionaire in situations equally disastrous or degrading. **1948** *Chicago Tribune* 3 Apr. ii. 1/4 The modern white collar girl wants a job which not only offers opportunities but advances as well. **1959** [see blue-collar s.v. BLUE a. 13]. **1969** *Times* 30 Apr. 26/6 The first strike action by manual workers against the British Steel Corporation's new policy of white collar union recognition broke out yesterday. **1982** D. GORHAM *Victorian Girl* ii. 29 Teachers and nurses... were of less importance numerically than [female] 'white collar' workers.

b. Of work or an occupation: not manual or industrial; spec. clerical.

1926 *Amer. Speech* II. 96/2 The uneducated and uneducable found a new field opening to them, and rushed in, to take advantage of the 'white-collar' work. **1937** 'G. ORWELL' *Road to Wigan Pier* xi. 205 The typical Socialist... is either a youthful snob-Bolshevik... or, still more typically, a prim little man with a white-collar job. **1962** AUDEN *Dyer's Hand* (1963) 123 He has a dingy white-collar job. **1979** T. BENN *Arguments for Socialism* i. 41 The definition of a worker is extended to include all wage and salary earners and paves the way for the extension of trade unionism into the realms of clerical white collar, scientific and technical and managerial work.

c. (See quot. 1937.) *U.S.*

1932 [see dirt farmer s.v. DIRT sb. 7 d]. **1937** *Amer. Speech* XII. 105 The adjectives *suitcase* and *bonanza* and *whitecollar* are applied in recently developed wheat-farming areas to large owner-farmers who live outside the community and appear during the sowing and harvesting seasons.

d. Applied to a person who takes advantage of the special knowledge or responsibility of his position to commit non-violent, often financial, crimes; also to the crime itself.

[1932 E. H. SUTHERLAND in *Publ. Amer. Sociol. Soc. Aug.* 60 The financial crimes of the white-collar classes.] 1934 — *Princ. Criminol.* ii. 32 These white-collar criminaloids ... are by far the most dangerous to society ... from the point of view of effects on private property and social institutions. 1964 M. ARGYLE *Psychol. & Social Probl.* v. 65 Older middle-class people are tempted to commit offences other than theft or violence, and the various kinds of 'white collar crime' are hard to detect—income-tax avoidance, bogus expense claims and complex business illegalities. 1977 *Wandsworth Borough News* 7 Oct. 5/3 Dangerous drivers and white-collar criminals are far more likely to receive lenient treatment than the petty habitual thief. 1984 *Daily Tel.* 12 Nov. 20/2 White-collar crime like fraud is ... on the increase ... and the computer has opened enormous vistas of extra opportunity.

white-collared, *a.* [-ED².] 1. Wearing a white collar; also *fig.*

1932 H. G. WELLS *Work, Wealth & Happiness of Mankind* vii. 237 The black-coated, white-collared clerk. 1947 J. MULGAN *Report on Experience* 18 Ten millions of the rest, bowler-hatted, white-collared, moved in monotonous rhythm. 1951 D. GLOVER *Sings Harry* 41 It's plain hard hazardous work To work with the white-collared wave.

2. = WHITE COLLAR *a.* a.

1933 *Sun* (Baltimore) 14 Apr. 4/6 Hands blistered and backs sore from hard physical labor, so-called 'white-collared men' of West Virginia are calling for more and yet more work. 1947 *Hist. 'The Times'* III. v. 117 That public was the great and growing, vigorous 'white-collared' lower-middle class. 1959, 1967 [see *blue-collared* *adj.* s.v. BLUE *a.* 13]. 1977 M. GREEN *Children of Sun* (rev. ed.) x. 460 *Lucky Jim* ... described a new class on the British scene, the white-collared proletariat, trained technicians but not educated gentlemen.

whited ('hwaɪtɪd), *ppl. a.* Now *rare* or *arch.*

1. [f. WHITE *v.*¹ + -ED¹.]

1. Covered or coated with white; *spec.* (a) plastered over with white, whitewashed, as a wall, building, etc.; now chiefly in the biblical phr. *whited sepulchre* (Matt. xxiii. 27) used allusively; † (b) of metal, tinned or silvered; also *occas. gen.*, e.g. of land covered with snow.

1340 *Ayenb.* 228 Huo pet is yhol of bodie and uoul ine herte is ase pe berieles yhuited. 1388 WYCLIF *Acts* xxiii. 3 Thanne Poul seide to hym, Thou whited wal, God smyte thee. 1552 HULOET, Whyghted or paynted with white leade, *cerustus*. 1645 MILTON *Hor. Ep. I. xvi.* 40 in *Tetrach.* 39 But his owne house, and the whole neighbourhood Sees his foule inside through his whited skin. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag., Penalties & Forfeit.* 2 Iron Wyre, or whited Wyre, are forfeited if any such be Imported. 1733 POPE *Donne's Sat.* iv. 151 He tells ... What Lady's face is not a whited wall. 1764 DODSLEY *Leasowes in Shenstone's Wks.* (1777) II. 305 A whited village among trees. 1835 J. E. ALEXANDER *Sketches in Portugal* i. 13 What a whited sepulchre we found the city to be! 1850 KINGSLEY *Alton Locke* iv. This old whited sepulchre, society. 1867 EMERSON *May-day* 104 The whited desert knew me not, Snow-ridges masked each darling spot.

2. Whited by deprivation of colour; *spec.* bleached, as cloth; also, peeled so as to expose the white interior.

1529 *Dunmow Churchw. MS.* lf. 10 b, xxv. ells of whytyd normyndy at vid the ell. 1692 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2814/4 A considerable quantity of White Linnen. 1794 *Trans. Soc. Arts* XII. 139 About a load and a half whited osiers. 1897 P. WARUNG *Tales Old Regime* 205 John Donnell ... brown complexion, ... whited raised spot on lower part of right eye.

† 3. *whited brown* (of paper); whitish brown, whity-brown. *Obs.*

1720 *Lett. Lond. Jnl.* (1721) 11 Having put up my Books [etc.] in a Sheet of whited-brown Paper. 1846 DODD *Brit. Manuf. Ser.* vi. 18.

II. [f. WHITE *sb.* I + -ED².]

4. Of an egg: Having white or albumen (of a specified kind). *rare*—¹.

1599 T. M[OUTER] *Silkwormes* 66 Whited alike, and yellow yolked all.

white-ear, *sb.* and *a.* [EAR *sb.*¹.] *a. sb.* A gastropod resembling, or having some part resembling, a white ear; e.g. one of the family *Vanicoridæ*, having a white-ribbed shell with a wide opening. *b. adj.* White-eared.

1815 BURROW *Elem. Conchol.* 204 *Helix Halitoidea*, White-ear Snail; Venus's Ear. 1826 STEPHENS in Shaw's *Gen. Zool.* XIII. ii. 57 White-Ear Owl. 1854 A. ADAMS *etc. Man. Nat. Hist.* 133 White-Ears (*Vanicoridæ*).

So 'White-eared (-rd) *a.*, having white ears; (of a bird) having white feathers around the ears; *white-eared flycatcher*, a monarch flycatcher, *Monarcha leucotis*, found in Australia; *white-eared pheasant*, an eared pheasant, *Crossoptilon crossoptilon*, found in forest regions of eastern Tibet and neighbouring China.

1783 LATHAM *Gen. Syn. Birds* II. i. 84 White-Eared Thr[ush]. 1869 J. GOULD *Birds Austral. Suppl.* 12 (heading) White-eared Flycatcher. [1918 W. BEEBE *Monogr. Pheasants* I. 187 Once only was a glimpse permitted to us of the wonderful White Eared-pheasants.] 1976 G. DURRELL *Stationary Ark* iv. 78 Our chances of establishing the White-eared pheasant in captivity seemed ... slim. 1980 G. PIZZEE *Field Guide Birds Austral.* 258 White-eared Monarch Flycatcher ... has been likened to a miniature Maggie Lark.

'white-face', *sb.* and *a.* Also whiteface, †white face. *A. sb.* † I. The widgeon. *Obs. rare.*

1709 [see BALD-FACE 1].

2. One of a Hereford herd of cattle. Now chiefly *N. Amer.*

1860 W. WHITE *Wrekin* xi. 93, I journeyed down ... into the fertile champaign of the whitefaces. 1965 E. McCOURT *Road across Canada* 152 Herds of white-faces dot the slopes ... grazing knee-deep in the lush grass of the wide valley-bottoms. 1970 M. G. EBERHART *El Rancho Rio* (1971) viii. 85 I've been breeding white-faces—pure-bred Herefords.

3. White or light-coloured make-up, esp. as worn by a clown, or by a Black actor playing a white character. *orig. U.S.*

1895 *N. Y. Dramatic News* 9 Nov. 14/4 Lew Dockstader, in his new white-face act ... will be seen at Keith's, November 18. 1947 *Partisan Rev.* Jan.–Feb. 65 The selection of Canada Lee, a negro in white-face, to play Bosola. 1948 M. WINTER in P. Magriel *Chron. Amer. Dance* 53/1 English clowns ... returned to whiteface, but kept certain characteristics of blackface performers. 1981 *Times* 11 Apr. 7/1 We find him grovelling on the floor like a mock Othello in whiteface.

B. adj. Of an animal: having a white face.

1785 T. JEFFERSON *Notes Virginia* vii. 126 White face teal. 1961 R. P. HOBSON *Rancher takes Wife* xvii. 217 There's a herd of top whiteface cows. 1978 *Detroit Free Press* 5 Mar. c20/5 (Advt.), Whiteface Capuchin male, 2 years old. 1984 *Properties Open in 1984* (National Trust) 40 A Country Park surrounds the property and contains a flock of Whiteface Woodland sheep.

white feather. In phr. *to show the white feather*, etc.: see FEATHER *sb.* I b. Hence *white-feather*, one who 'shows the white feather', a coward; *white-feathered a., lit.* having white feathers; *fig.* 'showing the white feather', cowardly; *white-featherism (nonce-wd.)*, cowardice.

1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T.*, *White feather, he has a white feather, he is a coward, an allusion to a game cock, where having a white feather, is a proof he is not of the true game breed. 1805 *Sporting Mag.* XXVI. 56 According to the boxing phrase, shewed the white feather. 1816 SCOTT *Bl. Dwarf* ix. 'He has a white feather in his wing' ... said Simon, ... somewhat scandalized by his ready surrender. 1825– [see FEATHER *sb.* I b. 1857 BORROW *Rom. Rye* xliii, Jack is a gentleman, ... whilst t'other, though bred a lord, is a screw, and a 'whitefeather'. 1816 *Sporting Mag.* XLVIII. 4 He was one of the *white-feathered sort. 1854 *Poultry Chron.* I. 49 All white-feathered poultry are tender, save Aylesbury ducks. 1843 [JAMES] *Commissioner* iv. 39 That he might show as little *white featherism as possible.

Whitefieldian, **Whitfieldian** ('hwaɪt-, 'hwɪtfi:ldɪən), *sb.* and *a.* [f. proper name *Whitefield* or *Whitfield* + -IAN.] *a. sb.* A follower of George Whitefield; a Calvinistic Methodist. *b. adj.* Of or belonging to George Whitefield or the Whitefieldians. So *White(e)fieldianism*, 'Whit(e)fieldism', the system or doctrines of the Whitefieldians; 'Whit(e)fieldite', a Whitefieldian.

1744 in G. T. S. FARQUHAR *Three Bps. Dunkeld* (1915) I. xi. 94 He is looked upon by Lyon at Perth ... as a Whitefieldian. 1748 *St. James' Even. Post* Oct., Hamburg. ... A new set of Methodists (much like our Whitefieldites). 1786 TOLD *Life* 87, I treated him with ridicule and contempt, he being a Whitfieldite. 1879 GLADSTONE *Glean.* VII. 224 Whitfieldism on the one hand, and the clericalism of the eighteenth century on the other. 1885 *Scribner's Mag.* XXX. 390/1 Puritanism, quakerism, and what may be comprehensively called Whitefieldism. 1915 G. T. S. FARQUHAR *Three Bps. Dunkeld* I. xi. 94 A ... discourse ... upon the Christian doctrine of Justification (evidently intended to test his Whitefieldianism).

whitefish ('hwaɪtɪfɪʃ). Also white-fish, white fish. [Cf. Du. *witvisch* bleak, LG. *witfisk*, med.L. *albus piscis*.]

1. A general name for fishes of a white or light colour (esp. those having silvery scales without spots or ornamental colours), as cod, haddock, whiting, etc.

1461–2 in 10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm. App. v. 301 Samon, heringe, hake, whitfish. 1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* (1821) I. p. xxxvii, This firth is rich plentius of coclis, osteris [etc.] ... with gret plente of quhit fische. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* ix. 131 Those White-fish that in her [sc. Lin] doe wondrously abound, Are neuer scene in him [sc. Dee]; nor are his Salmons found At any time in her. 1701 [W. PATERSON] *Counc. Trade* (1751) 28 The vast numbers of herring and white-fish in all our channels, inlets and lakes. 1787 BEST *Angling* (ed. 2) 133 Carshalton-river, abounding with trouts and other white fishes. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herev.* xxxi, The great pike ... sending the whitefish flying in shoals.

2. The Great Sturgeon (= BELUGA 1); the White Whale (= BELUGA 2).

1662 J. DAVIES tr. Olearius' *Voy. Ambass.* 165 A Fisherman ... took a *Bieluga* or white-fish, which was above eight foot long, and above four broad. 1698 A. BRAND *Emb. fr. Muscovy* 31 The Oby. abounds in ... Sturgeon, Whitefish or Belluja's, and others. 1743 *Phil. Trans.* XLII. 611 The White-fish are likewise in these Seas, like a Whale, but without Fins on the Back. 1792 G. CARTWRIGHT *Jnl. Labrador* III. p. x, *Whitefish*, a fish of the Porpoise kind.

3. A common name for the fishes of the genus *Coregonus*, of the family *Salmonidæ*, found in the lakes of North America, and valued as food.

1748 [see TITTYMEG]. 1778 T. HUTCHINS *Top. Descr. Virginia* 47 Lake Erie has a great variety of fine fish, such as Sturgeon, Eel, White Fish. 1873 T. GILL *Catal. Fishes E. Coast N. Amer.* 29 *Pomatomus saltatrix* ... Blue-fish ...;

white-fish and snap-mackerel (young). *Ibid.* 33 *Brevoortia menhaden* ... white-fish (Saybrook to Milford, Connecticut). 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* (ed. 4) 160A The famous *Corregonus albus*, or White Fish, of Canadian lakes.

Hence *white fisher*, one who catches white fish (sense 1); *white fishery*, fishing, the occupation of catching white fish.

1528 *Extr. Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 121 All the *quhit fischeris ... consentit to gif to thair chaplane ... xii d. in the yeir. 1601 *Ibid.* (1848) II. 217 Willeame Brabner, Patrik Huchoun, and James Symson, quhytfischeris in Futtie. 1772 *Newspaper Cutting* (Douce Prints S. 9. 109) Died at Montrose ... Thomas Milne, white-fisher, aged 100 years. 1892 *Daily News* 26 Mar. 3/3 The Committee have devised a *modus vivendi* by which the rights of the salmon fishers have been protected, and at the same time the rights of the white fishers have been established. 1791 NEWTE *Tour Eng. & Scot.* 168 Small vessels [employed] in the *White Fisheries. 1840 BLAINE *Encycl. Rur. Sports* VIII. ii. 955 The British fisheries, which, besides the herring, embrace the cod, the ling, haddock, skate, halibut, turbot, &c. are collectively termed the white fishery. 1600 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 341/1 Cum lie stelyair, halecum et salmonum piscationibus et lie *quhite-fischingis. 1703 J. BRAND *Descr. Orkney*, etc. 79 Excelling any other place of the King of Brittan's Dominions for Herring, White and Grey Fishing. 1802 *Rep. Solway White Fish. Comm.*, The white-fishing industry ... on the Scottish shores of the Solway Firth.

whiteflaw, obs. var. WHITLOW.

whitefoot ('hwaɪtʃʊt), *sb.* and *a.* [Cf. OE. *hwitfōt* *adj.*]

A. sb. 1. *Farriery.* A white marking on a horse's foot (see quot.); also, a horse with such a mark.

1753 *Chambers' Cycl. Supp.*, *White-Foot* ... called in French *Balzane*, is a white mark that happens in the feet of a great many horses, both before and behind, from the fetlock to the coffin.

2. Collectors' name for a species of moth.

1832 RENNIE *Butterfl. & M.* 161 The Whitefoot (*Spilonota fænella* ...). Wings ... dusky brown, ... with a large medial hook-shaped white band.

3. *Hist.* A member of a secret society in Ireland who committed murders and outrages about 1832. Pl. whitefeet (also irreg. used *attrib.*).

1832 in G. C. Lewis *Local Disturb. Irel.* (1836) 107, I find that the Whiteboy system has for the last sixty years continued under different names; as, Peep-o'-day-boys, ... Ribbon-men, the Lady Clares, the Terry Alts. ... Now we have the Whitefeet and Blackfeet. 1832 *Boston Herald* 6 Mar. 2 An armed party of Whitefeet paid the third visit to the house of the long-threatened Jeremiah Farrell. 1833 *Ibid.* 12 Mar. 3/6 James Jackman, a Whitefoot, for attacking the house of one Roche, and killing him, is to be hanged on Monday. 1886 *Irish Eccles. Gaz.* 4 Sept., The massacre of whitefeet men in the last days of that unfortunate secret society in the Queen's County.

B. adj. White-footed. *poet.*

1867 MORRIS *Jason* II. 359 White-foot Ino smiling, sat alone.

So 'white-footed *a.*, having white feet; *white-footed mouse*, any of several species of North American mice of the genus *Peromyscus*, esp. *P. maniculatus* or *P. leucopus*; 'whitefootism', the practices of Irish whitefeet.

14 ... *Voc.* in Wr. Wülcker 602/32 *Petulus*, ... whyt foted et dicitur de equo. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl. Supp.* s.v. *Chausse trop-haut*, A white-footed horse. 1757 in *Eliz. Carter's Lett.* 29 July (1809) II. 251 One of the prettiest little white-footed black cats ... you ever saw. 1781 PENNANT *Hist. Quadrup.* 91 The white-footed Antelope or Nil-ghau. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* x, His white-footed nag. 1832 in G. C. Lewis *Local Disturb. Irel.* (1836) 77 If they continue suffering under hardships, ... Whitefootism will revive again. 1857 *Rep. Comm. Patents* 1856: *Agric.* (U.S.) 86 The food of [the Northern shrike] ... consists almost wholly of arvicolae and a few white-footed prairie mice. 1869 *Amer. Naturalist* III. 120 When the axe-man struck the tree, a Whitefooted Mouse ... rushed from the nest. 1936 D. McCOWAN *Animals Canad. Rockies* viii. 68 The White-footed mouse is of medium size and has a silky coat that is dark brown above and light on the underparts. 1977 J. L. HARPER *Population Biol. Plants* xv. 465 The seed was collected and buried mainly by white-footed mice.

white friar. [WHITE *a.* 6 a.]

1. A Carmelite friar (whose habit is distinguished by a white cloak and scapular). Also, loosely, a Premonstratensian or White Canon.

1412 in *Laing Charters* (1899) 24 Willyam Cokar, than beande prouincial of the Quite Freris of Scotlande. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* III. ii. (1883) 88, I haue my self ben conversant in a religious hous of white freris at gaunt which haue all thyng in comyn. a 1550 *Lynn Chron.* in *Six Town Chron.* (1911) 198 In this yere one Willyam chysborow and a whyght ffryere was hanged drawn and quartered. 1603 *Stow Surv.* 312 The white Fryers church in Fleet-street. 1762 Bp. FORBES *Jnl.* (1886) 170 An Abbacy of *Præmonstratenses*, or White Friars. 1766 [see CARMELITE].

2. pl. The Carmelite convent in Fleet Street, London; hence, the district or neighbourhood in which it was.

'Having been formerly a sanctuary, it long retained the privilege of protecting persons liable to arrest, and thus became the resort of debtors ... and profligates' (Nares). Hence *attrib.*

1561 AWDELEY *Frat. Vocab.* (1869) 51 There came ... a Counterfet Cranke vnder my lodgyng at the whyte Fryares. 1609 B. JONSON *Silent Wom. Prol.*, Cates ... fit for Ladies; ... Some for your waiting wench, and city-wires; Some for your men, and daughters of White-Fryars. 1620 MELTON *Astrologaster* 36 Some of his White-Fryer Mistresses.

3. *colloq.* or *dial.* A flake or particle of white scum or froth floating on liquid.

1729 SWIFT *Direct. Serv.* i. (1745) 22 If the Cork be musty, or White Fryers in your Liqueur. 1856 P. KENNEDY *Banks Boro* xxv. 191 The white-friars came at last on the potatoes in the big pot: they then proceeded to boil.

white gold. 1. †a. Platinum. *Obs.*

1764 *Gentl. Mag.* XXXIV. 128/1 (*heading*) A farther Account of a Metal, called Platina, or White Gold. 1798 NEMNICH *Polygl.-Lex.* II. 936 White gold. The platina.

b. A name applied to various silvery-coloured alloys of gold with nickel, palladium, platinum, or silver.

1893 *Funk's Stand. Dict.* s.v. *Gold*, *White gold*, an alloy of about five parts of silver to one of gold. 1921 *Daily Colonist* (Victoria, B.C.) 12 Mar. 2/1 Modern Wedding Rings... White Gold Rings, \$10. 1940 *Chambers's Techn. Dict.* 382/1 *White gold* is usually an alloy with nickel, but as used in dentistry this alloy contains platinum or palladium. 1946 G. STIMPSON *Bk. about Thousand Things* 242 White gold jewelry nowadays differs from regulation gold, not in the quality or the quantity of gold used, but in the kind of alloy. 1956 J. N. ANDERSON *Appl. Dental Materials* vii. 78 Casting alloys [of gold] containing a large amount of palladium together with silver are called white golds. 1971 *Nature* 18 June 443/1 Two basically gold-silver alloys were known to the Greeks and Romans: (1) 'white gold'—a haphazard mixture derived from grains of weathered auriferous ore; and (2) 'electrum'—an alloy of controlled quality. 1974 *Country Life* 26 Dec. 2002/3 Platinum has largely been superseded by white gold as a jewellery metal. 1980 'E. McBAIN' *Ghosts* ii. 28 One rope choker of eighteen-karat yellow and white gold.

2. Any white substance regarded as valuable.

1966 *Times* 28 Feb. (Canada Suppl.) p. xi/1 Most of the subterranean 'white gold' [sc. potash] lies beneath Saskatchewan. 1974 G. JENKINS *Bridge of Magpies* ii. 27 My job was to police the Sperrgebiet from the sea... There is... on this God-forsaken shore: a string of rocky little inshore islands coated in bird guano—white gold, they call it.

white-gum¹. [after RED GUM¹, q.v.] An eruption of whitish spots with a red border (*Strophulus albidus*) incident to young children.

1799 UNDERWOOD *Dis. Childhood* (ed. 4) I. 81 Another species [of Red-gum]... often of a pearl colour and opaque, which has generally been accounted a kind of red gum, but it has of late been suggested might... be termed the white-gum.

white-gum². [GUM sb.² 5.] Any species of *Eucalyptus* with white or light-coloured bark. Also **white gum-tree**.

1827 P. CUNNINGHAM *Two Years in N.S. Wales* I. xii. 200 The red and white gums [so named] from their wood. 1827 *Trans. Linnæan Soc.* XV. 278 [The ground-parrot] chiefly breeds in a stump of a small White Gum-tree. 1891 *Argus* (Melbourne) 13 May, On the lower slopes [of the ranges] the bluegum trees become first commingled with trees locally designated whitegum and black butt.

white-haired, a. [Cf. ON. *hvíthárr*, -hærðr.]

1. Having white or hoary hair, esp. from age. Also, covered with white hairs or down, as a plant.

c 1400 [see HAIRED]. c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 519 Now I am olde & white-harid. 1530 PALSGR. 329/1 Whyte hearded, *chemnu*. 1726 *Papers rel. Scots in Poland* (S.H.S. 1915) 210 To two white-haired people... f. 24. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) III. 825 *Bryum canescens*... leaves... white haired at the ends. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* lxii, The white-haired gentleman's affection for the girl. 1885 'MRS. ALEXANDER' *At Bay* vii, A sweet gravity about her... as charming in her white-haired age as in her fair youth!

2. **white-haired boy**, a favourite. *colloq.* Cf. WHITE-HEADED a. 2 b.

1910 *Nat. Police Gaz.* (U.S.) 29 Jan. 3 (*heading*) The white haired boy. *Ibid.* 3/4 He, this white-haired Willie-boy, really wanted her to become his wife. 1923 H. C. BAILEY *Mr. Fortune's Practice* ii. 38 His mother's white-haired boy, he is. Not 'alf. 1936 J. DOS PASSOS *Big Money* 496 You're the white-haired boy around here. 1977 I. SHAW *Beggarmen, Thief* ii. iii. 147 Rudy... was the white-haired boy of the family.

Whitehall¹ ('hwa:θəl).

1. The name of a street in London, used to designate the government offices situated there, or the civil service in general.

1827 *Morning Post* 24 Mar. 3/2 In consequence of that accommodation, an equal amount of Exchequer Bills before locked up at Whitehall are afterwards to be locked up in Threadneedle-street. 1850 *Daily News* 13 Mar. 5/2 The infection of... 'Christian Socialism' is spreading to Whitehall. 1910 *Times Educ. Suppl.* 6 Sept. 13/2 The introductory remarks... breathe a very different spirit from that of earlier official utterances of Whitehall. 1946 C. S. FORESTER *Lord Hornblower* ix. 79 Heaven only knew what Whitehall and Downing Street would say. 1958 *Radio Times* 23 Feb. 6/1 This is a tense story of sea warfare... The mess-room talk is most authentic... and Mr. White is obviously familiar with his 'Whitehall types'. 1977 *Listener* 7 Apr. 442/1 British Leyland... is almost entirely a Whitehall creation.

2. Special Combs.: **Whitehall farce**, any of a series of bedroom farces produced at the Whitehall Theatre, London, esp. those presented between 1950 and 1967 by Brian Rix; **Whitehall Warrior slang**, a civil servant; an officer in the armed forces employed in administration rather than on active service.

1966 N. MARSH *Black Beech & Honeydew* x. 233 My uncle... was like a Professor in a Whitehall farce. 1966 *Guardian* 20 Aug. 4/4 Blackpool... fulfils a social need. Like a

Whitehall farce, it dictates its own terms and makes general criticism futile. 1976 M. GILBERT *Night of Twelfth* v. 42 The play [sc. *Twelfth Night*]... [is] a love story mixed up with a Whitehall farce. 1973 K. GILES *File on Death* vii. 174 I'm Quarles, a battered old Whitehall Warrior. 1976 W. WHITE *Long Silence* vii. 57, I didn't want anybody to think I was a chairbound officer, a Whitehall Warrior. 1978 P. O'DONNELL *Dragon's Claw* v. 81 Roger was a Whitehall Warrior until he retired.

Hence **Whitehall-ese**, jargon regarded as typical of the civil service; **Whitehallism**, attitudes or personnel regarded as typical of the civil service.

1915 LD. ESHER *Let.* 21 Oct. in M. Gilbert *Winston S. Churchill* (1972) III. Compan. ii. 1232 In the Navy... there seems to be a trifle too much of 'Whitehallism'. 1940 *Manch. Guardian Weekly* 15 Mar. 216 Shortage of paper may now prompt economy of speech, and if it sloughs away some of the pomposities of business English and Whitehall-ese, which is slightly more correct in its heavy Latinity but just as lacking in sense and suppleness, the war may be said to have done us a little good. 1958 *Times* 15 Nov. 8/3 At the time he said the Government were snubbing Wales and there was no prospect of 'Whitehallism' ever understanding Welsh aspirations. 1975 *Economist* 15 Feb. 115/2 In spite of long exposure to Whitehall-ese, she writes in English. He lapses far too often into gobbledygook. 1984 *Guardian* 1 Jan. 4 Phrases that take two words to say what one used to—'check out', 'meet with', 'consult with' (although Mrs Thatcher may shortly ban the last one from Whitehall-ese).

† **Whitehall**². *U.S. Obs.* The name of a district of New York, used *attrib.* to designate a type of rowing-boat. So † **Whitehaller**, one who uses a Whitehall boat.

1828 J. F. COOPER *Notions of Americans* I. 40 The latter [sc. New York boatmen], it appears, are of a class of watermen, that are renowned in this country, under the name of Whitehalls. 1835 C. J. LATROBE *Rambler in N. Amer.* i. 25 The light skilfully managed wherry of the Whitehaller. 1849 H. MELVILLE *Redburn* II. xxix. 289 The Whitehall boats were around us. 1890 N. P. LANGFORD *Vigilante Days* II. 129 To attempt the passage... in a whitehall boat would be madness.

whitehead ('hwa:θəd), *a.* and *sb.*¹ (In earlier use as a personal name, e.g. *Jon Hwitheaved* (1332 in *Lit. Cantuar.*, Rolls, I. 458).)

A. adj. 1. = WHITE-HEADED. *rare.*

1577 WOLTON *Cast. Christians* Evijj, Graue and whyte-headde Fathers. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* III. iv. 162 White-head waves.

B. sb. † 1. app. A white head-dress. *Obs.*

1587 *Acc. Mary Q. Scots* (Camden) 31 Parys heades... Whiteheades for gentlewomen attendaunte uppon the mourners.

2. A name for various species of birds having the head (wholly or partly) white: see *quots.*

1686 BLOME *Gentl. Recreat.* II. 37/1 Partridges; the first, when newly hatched, are called White-heads. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XVIII. 52/2 Two other small birds from New Zealand, where they are known as the 'Whitehead' and 'Yellowhead', were referred to the genus, under the names of *O[rthonyx] albic[ap]illa* and *O. ochrocephala*.

3. A West Indian feverfew, *Parthenium Hysterophorus*.

1864 GRISEBACH *Flora W. Ind.* Isl. 788.

4. Also **white head**. *a.* A disorder in which the scalp is covered with white spots or crusts. *b.* [After BLACKHEAD 4.] A white or white-topped pustule.

1911 *Trans. S. Afr. Med. Congr.: 12th Meeting* 165 The so-called 'white head', so often seen in Bechuanaland... is a pustular syphilide affecting the scalp. The pustules... tend to coalesce, forming thick whitish crusts... In some cases the head becomes covered, giving the appearance of a solid white cap. 1922 *Brit. J. J. Dermatol. & Syphilis* XXXIV. 267 The scalp condition we are about to discuss is known to the natives... by the name of wit kop, dikwakwadi, or white head. 1940 BECKER & OBERMAYER *Mod. Dermatol. & Syphilol.* xxix. 521 Miliium or 'white head' is the name for a tiny, pearly-white globular lesion... with a shiny, translucent surface. 1978 PARSONS & SOMMERS *Gynecology* (ed. 2) xx. 308/1 Closed comedones ('whiteheads') are the precursors of the inflammatory papules and pustules that commonly occur. 1982 P. M. MARGOLIN *Last Innocent Man* i. vii. 70 The boy's right hand raised slowly and began to pick at a whitehead on his cheek.

Whitehead, sb.² A kind of torpedo, invented by Robert Whitehead. Also *attrib.*

1877 *Sci. Amer.* 2 June 337/2 The Whitehead torpedo can be made to go at the rate of 20 knots for 1,000 yards, and at any depth that is desired from 1 foot to 30 feet. 1884 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 13 Nov. 5/2 A blow with even an ordinary Whitehead, let alone the improved Whitehead of the German navy, would practically rip the bottom out of the strongest ship afloat. 1898 KIPLING *Fleet in Being* v. 54 Fancy a Whitehead smitten on the nose by one little shell. You'd go up.

white-headed ('hwa:θəd), *a.*

1. Of an animal: Having the head (wholly or partly) white; having white hair, plumage, etc. on the head.

(Freq. in specific designations of various birds.) 1525 in *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 11 On whie whiteheded. 1547 *Knarsh. Wills* (Surtees) I. 53 One whiteheded calff. 1785 PENNANT *Arctic Zool.* II. 196. 1872 COUES *Key N. Amer. Birds* 192 White-headed Woodpecker.

2. *a.* Of a person: White-haired, esp. from age; also, having very light or fair hair, flaxen-haired.

1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* i, A great white-headed, bare-legged, lubberly boy of twelve years old. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xxv, A small white-headed boy with a sunburnt face. 1886

TENNYSON *Locksley Hall* 60 Yrs. after 38 This old white-headed dreamer.

b. In *colloq.* use, with *boy*: Favourite, darling: cf. WHITE a. 9 and WHITE BOY 1.

1820 MATURIN *Melmoth* i, He was always her 'white-headed boy', she said,—(imprimis, his hair was as black as jet). 1894 HALL CAINE *Manxman* II. xi, He was always my white-headed boy, and I stuck to him with life. 1933 A. CHRISTIE *Lord Edgware Dies* xxii. 186 You're positively convinced now that Ronald Marsh is a white-headed boy who can do no wrong. 1954 T. S. ELIOT *Confidential Clerk* II. 60 Perhaps you think it would be bad for your prospects Now that you're Claude's white-headed boy.

3. Of a wave: White-capped, white-crested; also of a sea covered with such waves.

1897 KIPLING *Capt. Cour.* viii, An angry, white-headed sea. 1909 E. PHILLIPOTS in *R.P.A. Ann.* (1910) 10 The riotous march of mad, white-headed waves.

Whiteheadian (hwa:θə'diən), *a.* [f. the name *Whitehead* + -IAN.] Of, pertaining to, or characteristic of the English mathematician and philosopher A. N. Whitehead (1861–1947) or his ideas.

1943 *Mind* LII. 68 The Whiteheadian attempt to reconcile permanence and flux, time and eternity. 1977 *Church Times* 25 Feb. 6/5 Process theology has taken over the Whiteheadian scheme and used it as a means of expounding the Christian faith. 1978 *Christian* IV. iv. 328 The last point... follows if it is true— as the Whiteheadian conceptuality to which I happen to subscribe would say—that 'a thing is what a thing does'.

'white-heart, sb. and *a.*

A. sb. 1. In full **white-heart cherry** (for *white heart-cherry*; cf. *black-heart* s.v. BLACK a. 19): A light-coloured variety of cultivated cherry.

1707 [see *black heart* s.v. BLACK a. 19]. 1733 W. ELLIS *Chilren & Vale Farm*. 143 The May-duke, White-hart, Black-Orleance and the Morella. 1869 BLACKMORE *Lorna D.* xxvi, The blackbirds eating our white-heart cherries.

2. **Metallurgy.** Malleable cast iron made by keeping white iron at a high temperature for several days in an oxidizing environment, so as to remove the carbon from the surface layers and increase the ductility and strength. *Freq. attrib.*

1925 *Jrnl. Iron & Steel Inst.* CXII. 433 The material examined consisted of metal from the open-hearth furnace only, corresponding to that used for whiteheart castings and blackheart castings in Europe and America. 1949 [see RÉAUMUR b]. 1960 [see GRAPHITIZE v. 1 b]. 1968 A. H. COTTRELL *Introd. Metallurgy* xxv. 519 Whiteheart malleable iron is made by heating the casting in an oxidizing environment.

B. adj. Having a white or light-coloured 'heart'.

1747 H. GLASSE *Art of Cookery* iv. 57 Take a fine White-heart Cabbage. 1900 *Daily Express* 25 Apr. 6/4 Fine white-heart lettuces.

white heat. [HEAT sb. 1 c.] That degree of heat or temperature (higher than *red heat*) at which metals and some other bodies radiate white light; the state of being white-hot.

1710 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* II, *White or Flame Heat*; is a Degree of Heat given by Smiths to their Iron... This is a less Heat than a Welding Heat. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 357 If a bar of iron or steel, at a white heat, be rubbed with a roll of sulphur, the two bodies combine... forming sulphuret of iron. c 1865 LETHEBY in *Circ. Sci.* I. 89/2, 2000° (or an incipient white-heat).

b. fig. A state of intense or extreme emotion.

1839 SYD. SMITH *Ballot* 8 There are politicians always at a white heat. 1870 LOWELL *Study Wind*. 148 Carlyle is one of the natures, rare in these latter centuries, capable of rising to a white heat. 1883 W. H. BISHOP *Ho. Merch. Pr.* xix. (1885) 292 There was a vixenish quality in her anger when at white heat.

white horse.

1. The figure of a white horse: see HORSE sb. 24. Also as the sign, and hence the name, of an inn.

1647 in Nightingale *Ejected of 1662* (1911) II. 909 Send one of Yor servants to the White horse without Creepie gate.

2. A crested wave: see HORSE sb. 24 b.

1849 KINGSLEY *Let. in Life* vii. (1879) I. 168 The bay is now curling and writhing in white horses under a smoking south-wester. 1888 RIDER HAGGARD *Mr. Meeson's Will* v, Looking at the 'white horses' chasing each other across the watery plain.

3. Local name for a species of ray (fish).

1710 SIBBALD *Hist. Fife* 51 *Raia aspera*, the White Horse.

4. The West Indian shrub *Portlandia grandiflora* (N.O. *Rubiaceae*), with large white flowers, cultivated in hot-houses.

1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1232/1.

5. A tough sinewy substance lying between the upper jaw and junk of a sperm-whale.

1846 J. R. BROWNE *Etchings of Whaling Cruise* 130 The white, hard blocks, containing but little oil, and which are found near the small, and at the flukes, are called 'white horse'. 1851 H. MELVILLE *Moby Dick* II. xcix. 173 White-horse, obtained from the tapering part of the fish, and also from the thicker portions of his flukes. 1874 C. M. SCAMMON *Marine Mammals* 312.

6. *Mining. (local.)* See *quot.* and HORSE sb. 11.

1886 J. BARROWMAN *Sc. Mining Terms* 72 *White horse*, intruded white trap in a coal seam.

white-hot, *a.* Also white hot (now *rare*). Heated to such a degree as to radiate white light; at white heat.

1820 SHELLEY *Ced. Tyr.* II. i. 172 Innocent Queens o'er white-hot ploughshares tread Unsinged. 1827 FARADAY *Chem. Manip.* xiii. (1842) 299 Even bright red hot fuel will cool a white hot crucible. 1871 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sci.* (1879) I. ii. 30 To display all these colours at the same time the wire must be white-hot.

b. transf. (rhetorically): Very bright and hot. 1858 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* (1871) II. 38 Cool and dim, after the white-hot sunshine.

c. fig.: ef. WHITE HEAT *b* and RED-HOT *2*. 1885 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 552/1 You occasionally turn white-hot. 1890 LE GALLIENNE *G. Meredith* 73 Not Carlyle himself had a more white-hot hatred of 'simulacra'.

white house. [HOUSE *sb.*¹] 1. (With capital initials.) *a.* The popular name for the official residence of the President of the United States at Washington; hence, the President or his office.

1811 F. J. JACKSON *Let.* 24 Apr. in H. Adams *Documents New-Eng. Federalism* (1877) 385 [Foster] goes... to act as a sort of political conductor to attract the lightning that may issue from the clouds round the Capitol and the White House at Washington. 1812 A. BIGELOW *Let.* 18 Mar. in *Proc. Amer. Antiquarian Soc.* (1930) XL. 331 There is much trouble at the white house, as we call it, I mean the President's. 1833 T. HAMILTON *Men & Manners Amer.* (1843) 300 The President... having politely intimated that he received company every evening, I ventured... to present myself... at the 'White House'. 1884 *Century Mag.* Apr. 803/1 There is no building quite as satisfying to my eye as the White House. 1927 S. BENT *Ballyhoo* iii. 80 Conversationally they referred to the 'White House Spokesman', when he existed, as the Executive Larynx or the Presidential Ghost. 1950 *Daily Ardmoreite* (Ardmore, Okla.) 14 Feb. 1/7 The White House said no further action on its part is contemplated at this time. 1958 *New Statesman* 11 Jan. 30/1 He has no influence in the White House, and in recent months the requests for his advice have been little more than perfunctory. 1977 M. EDELMAN *Political Lang.* vi. 111 The White House tapes exemplify this common form of public language.

b. transf. Applied to other buildings serving as official residences.

1860 *Southern Enterprise* 3 Oct. 2/5 He announces himself, in the event of Lincoln's election, as candidate for 'the White House' of the independent State of Georgia! 1878 *Trans. Illinois Dept. Agric.* XIV. 146 Tecumseh had his thousands of braves encamped above and below Vincennes, Indiana, where Gen. Harrison occupied the 'White House' of this great Northwest. 1947 F. D. DOWNEY *Our Lusty Forefathers* 101 George Washington had been elected President, inaugurated in New York, and had established his 'White House' at No. 3 Cherry Street. 1974 *Encycl. Brit. Micropædia* VIII. 844/1 It [sc. San Clemente] gained national prominence in 1969 when Pres. Richard M. Nixon purchased property there for use as a summer White House. 1975 *Caribbean Contact* Feb. 16/1 Speaking with Mr. Ebenezer Josbua at his 'white house' home overlooking the prison compound—as I did during my visit to St. Vincent to cover the recent election—one immediately appreciates the feelings of St. Vincent's radical and disenfranchised youth.

2. *Sc.* In north-western Scotland and the Hebrides, a house built of mortared stone; *spec.* one having single-thickness walls cemented with lime mortar. Cf. BLACK HOUSE *2*. *Obs. exc. Hist.*

1824 J. MACCULLOCH *Highlands & Western Isles* I. 112 The true white house consists of masonry and slate... but the heteroclite, 'kind of white house', is covered with thatch, and, what is much more essential, possesses a chimney. 1870 *Proc. Soc. Antiq. Scotland* VII. 154 The distinctive terms for a house built with lime-mortar, or without it, remain the same... In the northern islands it is still a White-house, and in the Western Highlands it is Tigh-gal. 1955 A. GEDDES *Isle of Lewis & Harris* i. 27 Here and there new houses stand out, the 'white houses' (*tighean geala*)... are usually grey... These dwellings have generally been stone-built and were often slate-roofed. 1974 *Northern Stud.* IV. 22 The 1924 [Crofters] Act afforded an opportunity to improve housing and in the next decade the 'white house' began to replace the traditional 'black house' or 'taigh dubh'.

white iron. [= med. *L. album ferrum*, F. *fer-blanc* tin-plate.] *a.* Tinned iron, tin-plate. *b.* Cast iron of a silvery colour containing most or all of its carbon in combination.

1532 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* VI. 155, vj mesouris of quhite irne for the hagbutis charge. 1632, 1745, 1881 [see IRON *sb.*¹ 2]. 1839 *URE Dict. Arts* 1252 The only alloy of iron interesting to the arts, is that with tin, in the formation of tin-plate, or white iron.

c. attrib. †white-iron man, smith, a tin-smith.

1731 in *Rec. Convent. Burghs Scot.* (1885) V. 528 Spurriers, gunsmiths, whiteiron smiths. 1765 WATT in *Muirhead Invent. Watt.* (1854) I. 13 My old white-iron man [footn., *Anglicé*, tin-man] is dead. 1785 BOSWELL *Hebrides* 19 Aug., James Hood, White Iron Smith. 1814 *Scott Wav.* lxiii, Deacon Clank, the white-iron smith.

white lead, *sb.* [LEAD *sb.*¹ Cf. *L. plumbum album* (in class. *L.* = tin), OF. *blanc plomb*.] A compound of lead carbonate and hydrated oxide of lead, much used as a white pigment; also called CERUSE.

c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 525/2 Whyte led, or blanke plumbe. c 1450-1844 [see LEAD *sb.*¹ 2]. 1634 PEACHAM *Compl. Gent.* xiii. (1906) 131 Your flesh-colour is commonly compounded of white lead, lake, and vermilion. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Builder* 410 White Lead, is the principal ingredient used in house-painting. 1827 FARADAY *Chem. Manip.* xviii.

(1842) 487 White lead ground up with oil, when spread upon slips of cloth, is very useful for making joints tight.

b. attrib.: white lead ore, native carbonate of lead, cerussite.

1706 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4216/4 The White Lead-House at Rotherhith. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 203 White Lead ore. 1849 NOAD *Electricity* (ed. 3) 179 The box... is put together with white-lead joints, as these are perfectly watertight.

Hence white-lead *v.*, *trans.* to cover or impregnate with white lead.

1863 W. C. BALDWIN *Afr. Hunting* i. 12 White-lead and varnished the boat. 1881 NEISON & KEMP *Pract. Boat Bldg.* I. 55 A piece of Stockholm tarred or white-lead paper.

†whitelewe, *a.* *Obs. rare.* [f. WHITE *a.* + -LEWE.] = WHITELY *a.*

1495, etc. [see quot. 1398² s.v. WHITELY *a.*].

white lime, white-lime, sb. Now *rare* or *Obs.* [LIME *sb.*¹] Lime mixed with water as a coating for walls, etc.; whitewash. Also *attrib.*

1528 PAYNELL *Salerno's Regim.* cjb, A playster made of Auripigmentum, Brymstoon, whyte lyme, and Sope, myngled to gether. a 1658 CLEVELAND *Plat. Love* iv. Wks. (1687) 212 Pictures might court each other and exchange Their white-lime Looks. 1824 SOUTHEY *Sir T. More* I. 173 The old cottages... Substantially built of the native stone... dirtied with no white-lime.

So 'white-lime *v.* *Obs.* or *dial.*, *trans.* to coat or cover with white lime; to whitewash; hence white-limed (-lamd) *ppl. a.*, white-liming *vbl. sb.*; also white-limer, one who white-limes, a whitewasher.

13... *Life of Jesus* (Horstm.) 422 þe roues þat beoth withoute *l3witlmede and iplande faire... And withInne fulle of caroyne. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* xv. 111 Ypocrysie... is lykned... to a wal þat were whitlymed and were foule wythinne. 1398 TREvisa *Barth. De P.R.* xvi. xxiv. (Bodl. MS.), Suche medleyng is... needful... to pargette and whitelyme walles. 1556 *Chron. Grey Friars* (Camden) 54 Alle churches new whytte-lymed, with the commandmentes wrytten on the walles. 1583 GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* xxvii. 2 The Iewes are commanded, To gather great stones, & to white-lime them ouer. 1602 Balliol *Coll. Oxf. Acc.* (MS.) Item for lyme, and the laborers work, to whytlym the Hall, xvi^d. 1634 BRERETON *Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) 13 The great church... most daintily... white-limed. 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* iv. ii. 98 Ye... shallow harted Boyes, Ye *white-limb'd [sic] walles. 1624 DONNE *Serm., Matt.* iii. 17 (1640) 426 If we be not onely *Dealbati Christiani*, (as S. Augustine speaks) White-lim'd Christians, Christians on the out-side. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* i. i. 13 As white-limed houses exceed those which are only rough-cast. 1611 COTGR., *Pinceau*,... a *Whitelimers Brush. 1622 R. HAWKINS *Voy. S. Sea* (1847) 121 Hayre, such as the whitelimers use. c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 525/2 *Whytlymyng, calcificacio. 1547-8 in Swayne *Churchw. Acc. Sarum* (1896) 275 To Lytcheffelde for whitelymyng of the same. 1611 COTGR., *Blanche*,... whiting or whiteliming.

white line, white-line, sb.

1. *Anat. a.* (tr. *L. linea alba*.) A longitudinal band of tendinous tissue extending from the sternum to the pubis. *b.* A whitish band in the pelvic fascia extending from the symphysis pubis to the spine of the ischium.

1598 FLORIO, *Linéa abba* [sic], the line or hollow tying from the nauell, the white line, the vmbellicall veine. c 1720 W. GIBSON *Farrier's Guide* i. ii. (1722) 6 The white Line... is... a tendinous Substance, form'd by the Endings of such of those Muscles as meet... in it. 1874 HEATH *Anat.* (ed. 3) 286 'White line' of pelvic fascia.

2. *a. Printing.* A line left blank between two lines of type.

1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.*, *Printing* xxiv. ¶7 That no Letters or Spaces lye in the White-lines of the Form. 1770 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Printing* 250 open matter, with leads and white-lines between. 1863 [see EM]. 1960 G. A. GLAISTER *Gloss. Bk.* 28/2 *Blank line*, a line which is filled with quads, leads, or blank slugs; a white line in which no letters or other type characters appear.

b. Engraving. An engraved line which prints white; the art or technique of using such lines.

1884 H. A. DOBSON *Thos. Bewick & his Pupils* 145 The other difference, of which Bewick is said to be the inventor, consisted in the employment of what is known technically as 'whiteline'. 1906 A. HAYDEN *Chats on Old Prints* iii. 86 He [sc. Bewick] was not the inventor of the white line, but he used it freely and adapted his designs accordingly. 1924 H. FURST *Modern Woodcut* i. 10 The black line method keeps the woodprint... in a servile reproductive state, the onus of design falling... on the original designer... The problem of the designer in white line is an entirely different one, requiring... more forethought. 1938 F. WEITENKAMPF *Illustrated Bk.* ii. 52 For the woodcutter the white line was assuredly an easier method of producing tonal effect than elaborate cross-hatching in black. 1973 *Times* 31 July 10/6 His first two prints were from wood blocks, the wood-engraver's 'white line' being used with decision in the silhouetted *Reclining Nude* of 1931.

3. *a.* = BOBBIN *sb.*¹ 2. *b.* An untarred 'line' or rope (cf. WHITE *a.* 2 *a.*, *quots.* 1769, 1846).

1824 J. F. COOPER *Pilot* xxvi. III. 35 'Bobbin, or white-line; they are the same thing,' added the young trader. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* s.v. *Line*, *White-line*, that which has not been tarred.

4. Alcohol as a drink; also, one who drinks alcohol. *U.S. slang.*

1908 J. M. SULLIVAN *Criminal Slang* 27 *White-line*, an alcohol drinker. 1914 JACKSON & HELLYER *Vocab. Criminal Slang* 88 *White line*, *white lime*. Current amongst yeggs and hoboes. Alcohol. Example: 'You'll have to go to the croker and get a stiff for the white line.' 1926 J. BLACK *You can't Win* vi. 66 'A four-bit micky, a fifty-cent bottle of alcohol

—Dr. Hall, white line,' he translated in disgust. 1926 *Flynn's* 16 Jan. 640/1 All we could glom was a shot of white line.

5. A narrow white strip painted on the road surface to guide or direct motorists; *esp.* one that separates adjacent traffic lanes.

1924 *Oxford Times* 29 Aug. 9/4 The experiment of the white line, which has proved so successful in encouraging the careful driving of motors round corners in Worcestershire, might with advantage be tried in this district. 1930 *Motor* 10 June 892/2 We do think that observations might be directed at white line offences where they occur in really dangerous places. 1971 *Daily Tel.* (Colour Suppl.) 22 Oct. 25/3 White lines broken but close together can mean a corner or hillcrest is coming. 1976 *Evening Chron.* (Newcastle) 26 Nov., Mr. Cook ruled that the council was guilty of maladministration because it could have speeded up the painting of white line markings.

6. *attrib.* or as *adj.* (with hyphen) = *white-lined* (see below); *white-line dart* (moth), *Euxoa tritici*.

1840 J. & M. LOUDON tr. *Köller's Treat. Insects* II. 102 The White-line Dart Moth... A moth injurious to buckwheat and autumn-sown grain. 1869 NEWMAN *Brit. Moths* 330 The White-line Dart (*Agrotis Tritici*)... There is generally a sinuous line or interrupted series of linear spots parallel with the hind margin. 1948 W. J. STOKOE *Caterpillars Brit. Moths* I. 178 The White-line Dart... is widely distributed.

So white-line *v.*, *trans.* to mark with white lines; so white-lined *a.*

1832 RENNIE *Butterfl. & M.* Index 285/1 White-lined Black. 1916 *Blackw. Mag.* Oct. 478/1 Rolled and white-lined for the game [of tennis].

'white-liver. ? *Obs.* [WHITE *a.* 5.] A 'white-livered' person, coward, dastard; 'a flatterer' (Jam. 1825).

1615 BP. HALL *Contempl. ix. Gideon's Prep.* 103 Oh thou white liuer! doth but a foule word, or a frowne scarre thee from Christ? 1673 HICKERINGILL *Greg. Fr. Greyb.* 207 Milk-sops, dastards and white-livers.

white-livered (-əd), *a.* Having (according to an old notion, still surviving locally) a light-coloured liver, supposed to be due to a deficiency of bile or 'choler', and hence of vigour, spirit, or courage; feeble-spirited, cowardly, dastardly.

1549 CHEKE *Hurt Sedit.* (1569) Fjb, What white lyuerd Cities hath not only not withstande them, but also with shame fauoured them. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V.* III. ii. 34 For Bardolph, hee is white-liuer'd, and red-fac'd; by the means whereof a' faces it out, but fights not. 1640 HARNSET *Gods Summons* 154 Assurance of victory puts courage... into the most white-livered, and fearful souldier. 1710 HEARNE *Collect.* (O.H.S.) III. 21 A white liver'd, sneaking, mean-spirited... Fellow. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* li, A double-faced, white-livered, sneaking spy. 1888 MRS. H. WARD *Robt. Elsmere* xviii, No need to be white-livered, but every need... to take no hasty needless offence.

whitelow, *obs.* form of WHITLOW.

whitely ('hwaɪtli), *a.* Now only *Sc.* Forms: 4 whitliche, 4, 7 whitly, 6 whitlie, whytley, whytely, 5- whitely; *Sc.* 5 quhitlie, 6 quhitly, quhytly, quhitlie. [f. WHITE *a.* + -LY¹.] Whitish; pale; light-complexioned, 'fair'.

1398 TREvisa *Barth. De P.R.* iv. ix. (Tollem. MS.), [A phlegmatic man is] whitly in face, ferful of herte. *Ibid.* xi. vi, Raueine briddes while þey ben whitliche [ed. 1495 whitew, 1535 whitelewe, 1582 whitelew] in fepers, or þey ben blake. c 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) iii, A Bucke is a diuerse beste; he hath nought his heer as an hert, for he is more whitely. c 1480 HENRYSON *Test. Cress.* 214 Four 3okkit steidis full different of hew,... The second steid... Quhitlie and pail. 1548 RECORDE *Urin. Physick* x. (1651) 82 If... the colour of the garland [of the urine] be white, or whitely, it is a token full of good hope. a 1578 LINDSAY (Pittscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 17 He was fair and quhitlie. 1588 SHAKS. *L.L.L.* III. i. 198 A whitly wanton, with a veluet brow, With two pitch bals... for eyes. c 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* II. xxii. (1890) 414 Those whitely Stars... Which make the Milky-Way. 1684 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* II. 141 You have his whitely Look. 1737 RAMSAY *Sc. Prov.* (1750) 112 Whitely things are ay tender. 1833 *New Monthly Mag.* May 65, I know him by his whitely eyes.

Comb. 1528 PAYNELL *Salerno's Regim.* (1541) ciiij, A flematike person is whytly coloured; the colerike is browne and tawny. 1588 *Cert. Advert. out of Irel. B.3*, The Prince of Asculé was a slender made man... whitely faced. 1656 *Mercurius Politicus* No. 330 Flaxen haired, whitely faced.

whitely ('hwaɪtli), *adv.* [f. WHITE *a.* + -LY².] So as to be or appear white; with a white colour or aspect.

1398 TREvisa *Barth. De P.R.* VIII. xxvi. (Tollem. MS.), Amonge all sterres Venus schineþ most comfortably and whitly. 1611 COTGR., *Candidement*, whitely, fairly, in white. 1818 KEATS *Endym.* i. 626 See her hovering feet, More bluely vein'd,... more whitely sweet Than those of seaborne Venus. 1844 BROWNING *Laboratory* i, These faint smokes curling whitely. 1876 HARDY *Ethelberta* i, A whitely shining oval of still water.

whitely, *var.* QUITELY *adv.*

white man. Also †white-man, whiteman.

†1. A man clothed in white: cf. WHITE *a.* 6. In quot. 1691, a surprised chorister. *Obs. rare.*

1691 [see WHITE BOY 2]. 1693 *D'Emilienne's Hist. Monast. Orders* xix. 216 Of the Order of the White Men. In the year 1399,... a certain Priest, came down from the Alpes into Italy,... Cloathed all in White,... great crouds both of Men

and Women. . followed him, and took White Cloaths likewise on their Backs.

2. a. A man belonging to a race having naturally light-coloured skin or complexion: chiefly applied to those of European extraction: see WHITE *a.* 4. *the white man's burden*: see BURDEN *sb.* 2a; *the white man's grave*, equatorial West Africa considered particularly unhealthy for white people.

1695 MOTTEUX tr. *St.-Olon's Morocco* 12 [The Moors of Tetuan] are White-men, pretty well Civiliz'd. 1791 W. BARTRAM *Carolina* 96 The centinels . . perceiving that I was a whiteman, ventured to hail me. 1835 C. F. HOFFMAN *Winter in West I.* 164 We white men have been spoiled by education; we have been taught to think many things necessary that you red men can do well without. 1836 F. H. RANKIN *White Man's Grave* I. p. viii, [Sierra Leone] bears the terrific and poetic title of the 'White Man's Grave'. 1897 M. H. KINGSLEY *Trav. W. Afr.* 2 My friends . . said, 'Oh, you can't possibly go there; that's where Sierra Leone is, the white man's grave, you know.' 1904 HAZZLEDINE (*title*) *The White Man in Nigeria*. 1924 MAURICE & ARTHUR *Life Ld. Wolesey* iv. 65 The Gold Coast had well earned the name of 'The White Man's Grave'. 1938 X. HERBERT *Capricornia* (1939) iii. 24 The whitemen left the hunting to the [Australian] natives. 1944 F. CLUNE *Red Heart* 19, I dug up his body, souvenired his false teeth and diaries, and reburied him in whiteman fashion. 1952 P. ATKEY *Juniper Rock* xiv. 127, I was a bride at eighteen. . . I went out to the white man's grave. 1956 A. SAMPSON *Drum* xi. 156 As whites regard Africans as natives or boys, not people or men so Africans never describe whitemen (which they spell, significantly, in one word), as *abantu*, or people. 1970 G. F. NEWMAN *Sir, You Bastard* ii. 67 The street in Hammersmith where Whitmarsh lodged was so overrun with immigrants that an English-speaking whiteman was a latterday Livingstone.

b. orig. *U.S. slang*. A man of honourable character (such as was conventionally associated with one of European extraction): see WHITE *a.* 4b.

1883 *Century Mag.* XXVI. 913/1 You've behaved to me like a white man from the start. 1887 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 22 June 5 Tricoupis the President is a white man—an extremely white man.

white meat, whitemeat. (Also with hyphen.) [WHITE *a.* 2, MEAT *sb.* 2. Cf. MSw. *hvitmater* pl. (Sw. *vitmat*).]

1. a. *collect. sing.* or *pl.* Foods prepared from milk; dairy produce (occas. including eggs). *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

c1425 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 661/11 *Hoc lacticinium*, wyttemet. c1450 *Mirk's Festial* 84 3e most fast from all maner flesch mete and whyt-mete. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 129/1 Without etyng fysshhe ne mylke egges or whyte mete. 1538 FITZWARREN in *Lett. Suppr. Monast.* (Camden) 216 Concernyng forbyddyng of whytmeates in Lente. 1577 GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* iii. 148 The olde wryters doo teache the making of a kinde of white meate, not much vnlike to Welcurdes. 1584 COGAN *Haven Health* xciii. 150 A thirde kinde of meats, which is neither fishe nor fleshe, commonly called white meates, as egges, milke, butter, cheese. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* iii. 148 The Cowes. . with large vdders, yeldyng plenty of whitemeates. 1620 BRENT tr. *Sarpi's Counc. Trent* i. 4 Giuing . . power to eate egges and whitemeats on fasting dayes. 1796 BP. G. HAY in *Ushaw Mag.*, Dec. (1913) 286 In those countries where people have nothing else to eat with their bread but whitemeats; these are more or less permitted in Lent itself; and in some places Eggs also. 1886 ELWORTHY *W. Som. Gloss.*

b. Certain white or light-coloured flesh foods (see quot. 1877).

1752 CHESTERF. *Lett.* (1774) II. 233 Pray leave off. . your . . pastry, fat creams, and . . dumplings; and then you need not confine yourself to white meats, which I do not take to be one jot wholesomer than beef, mutton, and partridge. 1877 *N.W. Linc. Gloss.*, *White meats*, the flesh of lamb, veal, and rabbits, . . chickens, pheasants, and partridges. 1973 *Guardian* 19 Mar. 7/sPeople in Britain ate less red meat last year, but more 'white' meat such as pork and poultry. 1975 P. V. PRICE *Taste of Wine* vii. 134/1 White meat is generally taken to include pork, veal, chicken and turkey, while the 'reds' are beef, lamb, duck and goose. 1985 *Which?* Feb. 54/2 In general, nutritionists recommend that the average British diet should contain less fat and more fibre. . . They say a good way to achieve this change is to eat more white meat (especially poultry) and fish in place of red meat.

†c. *attrib.*

1721 N. BLUNDELL *Diary* (1895) 175 April 25th. It being a White-Meat day I dined at a Table by myself at the Swan. †d. as *adj.* (*fig.*) Mean, pusillanimous. *Obs.* ? a 1611 BEAUM. & FL. *Four Plays* (1647) 33/1 Sirha, sirha, this whitemeat-spirit's not yours.

2. *slang* (chiefly *U.S.*). White women considered as sexual partners or conquests. Cf. MEAT *sb.* 3e.

[1937 *Printers' Ink Monthly* May 45/3 *White meat*, an actress.] 1940 'J. CRAD' *Traders in Women* v. 134 The . . liner took me to Shanghai, and here once again I met the European procurer and salesman of 'white meat'. 1972 [see HOME *sb.* 14]. 1976 M. MAGUIRE *Scratchproof* x. 152 I'm off white meat. I have a good thing going with a negro film editor. 1982 J. PHILIPS *Target for Tragedy* (1983) i. iii. 52 Some stranger who sees a piece of white meat he thinks might come his way.

white monk. [WHITE *a.* 6a: cf. WHITE FRIAR.] A Cistercian monk: so called from the colour of the habit of undyed wool.

1387 TREVISA *Hidden* (Rolls) VIII. 31 He made Baldewyn þe whizte monk archbisshop of Caunterbury. c1400 *Rom. Rose* 6695 These chanouns regulers Or white monkes or these blake. 1517 TORKINGTON *Pilgr.* (1884) 7 Seynt Elyn . . lith in a flayer place of religion of whith monks. c1630

RISDON *Surv. Devon* §136. (1810) 152 Duke Alfred erected a fair abbey for white monks of the order of Cistercians. 1799 J. ROBERTSON *Agric. Perth* 566.

whiten ('hwat(ə)n), *v.* Also 5 qwhittyn, 5, 9 *dial.* whitten, 6 whyten, whyghten. [f. WHITE *a.* + -EN⁵. Cf. ON. *hvítna* to become white.]

1. *trans.* To make or render white; to impart a white colour or appearance to. *a. gen.*

a 1300 *E.E. Psalter* I. 9 [li. 7] þou . . salt wasche me, . . And ouer snawe sal I whitenen be. 1552 HULOET, Whyghten, albo, . . candefacio. 1814 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* iii. xv, Whiten'd with foam a thousand streams Leap from the mountain's crown. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xxxiv, Take care, while you are young, that you can think in those days, 'I never whitenen a hair of her dear head.' 1873 BLACK *Pr. Thule* i, The sea whitenen by the rushing of the wind.

b. To cover, coat, or overspread with something white; *spec.* to whitewash; to coat (metal) with tin, to tin.

Also said (chiefly *poet.* or *rhet.*) of a white substance or a number of white objects covering or spread over a surface.

1435 MISYN *Fire of Love* ii. ix. 95 Of qwhome sum þer fowlnes to hyde or þer bewte þa study to increse with payntynge of begillynge avotre þer faces þa color & qwhittyn. 1664 in W. O. BLUNT *Ch. Chester-le-Street* (1884) 96 For whitening the church four pound ten shillings. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* ii. 88 In this Countrey of Persia, . . they whiten, or if you will, tinn, brass and copper otherwise than with us. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W.N.* i. i. 1. 6 To put it [sc. a pin-head] on, is a peculiar business, to whiten the pins is another. 1874 J. BIRCH *Country Archit.* 44 Lath, plaster, float, set and twice whiten all ceilings through-out. 1891 HARDY *Tess* li, I shall get the house swept out and whitenen to-morrow morning.

1703 POPE *Thebais* 391 Where . . human bones yet whiten all the ground. 1719 YOUNG *Busiris* i. i, Sails unnumber'd whiten all the stream. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* xxv, Meadows . . whitenen with the numerous tents of the Duke of Burgundy's army. 1854 J. S. C. ABBOTT *Napoleon* (1855) I. xxi. 335 The mountains, whitenen with snow, were swept by the bleak winds of winter.

c. To make white by depriving of the natural colour; to blanch; to bleach; to make pale.

1693 EVELYN *De La Quint. Compl. Gard.* II. 148 To tie up . . the tops of the Leaves of Long Lettuce. . to make them Cabbage, or at least to whiten them. 1726-31 WALDRON *Descr. Isle of Man* (1865) 15 A good air to whiten cloth. 1791 COWPER *Ihad* viii. 90 Fear whiten'd every cheek. 1791 HAMILTON *Berthollet's Dyeing* I. i. i. iii. 51 Oxygen is capable of whitening . . the colouring matter. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 767 (*Leather*) The effects of the paste are to whiten the skins, to soften them, and to protect them from the hardening influence of the atmosphere. 1860 GEO. ELIOT *Mill on Fl.* vi. xii, I've got cloth as has never been whitenen.

d. *fig.* To free or clear from evil, guilt, or the like; also, to cause to seem right, good, pure, etc.; to give a specious appearance to.

c1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 123 He went & shrafe hym of all his synys. . . And onone as he come in, þis man . . said; 'Al welcom, frendli com ner, for þou hase wele whitenen þe.' [1667 *Observ.* *Burning Lond.* 10 And which are never true but by a supposition that if they do not happen in our Countrey, they may happen in another, which is called to Whiten Black.] 1679 BURNET *Hist. Ref.* I. Pref. (c) 2b, Such remarkable blemishes, that . . no man . . can go about the whitening them. 1687 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* I. 44 The bristl'd Baptist Boar, impure as He, (But whitt'd with the foam of sanctity). 1873 H. SPENCER *Study Sociol.* ix. (1877) 220 By selecting the evidence any society may be relatively blackened, and any other society relatively whitenen.

2. *intr.* To become or turn white; to assume a white colour or aspect; *vaguely*, to appear white.

a 1633 G. HERBERT *Jacula Prudentum* 943 Thornes whiten yet doe nothing. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* 451 They [sc. Cardons Spanish] whiten in about three Weeks and are fit to eat. 1720 POPE *Ihad* xxi. 382 A Foam whiten on the purple Waves. 1725 — *Odys.* ix. 160 The sea whitens with the rising gale. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 152 When heated, it hardens and whitens. 1831 JAMES *Philip Aug.* xvi, Let his corpse remain unburied, and his bones whiten in the wind! 1833 TENNYSON *Lady of Shalott* i. ii, Willows whiten, aspens quiver, . . By the island in the river. 1853 LONGF. tr. *Dante, Purgat.* xvi. 143 Behold the dawn, . . Already whitening. 1914 'IAN HAY' *Knt. on Wheels* xiv, His hair was whitening.

b. To turn pale, esp. from fear or other emotion. (Cf. REDDEN *v.* 2 b.)

1783 JUSTAMOND tr. *Raynal's Hist. Indies* V. 192 All the human species, in general, whitens in the snow, and is tanned in the sun. 1821 SHELLEY *Ginevra* 66 The cheek that whitens. 1880 RHODA BROUGHTON *Second Thts.* iii. iv, 'I am very glad to hear it,' he says almost inaudibly, and whitening.

c. *fig.*: cf. I d.

1758 H. WALPOLE *Catal. Roy. Authors* (1759) I. 172 What character that he has censured, has whitenen by examination. 1801 S. & HT. LEE *Cant. T. V.* 90 It . . bids us whiten by a comparison with the imperfections of others.

Hence whitenen ('hwat(ə)nd), *ppl. a.*

a 1711 KEN *Hymns Evang.* Poet. Wks. 1721 I. 4 Patin and Chalice were of whiten'd Clay. 1860 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* xxiv. V. 37 The sunlight stared in white and stainless upon the whitenen aisles; the churches were new whitenen. 1879 JEFFERIES *Wild Life in S. Co.* ii. (1889) 18 That peculiar whitenen appearance left when water has passed over vegetation. 1881 — *Wood Magic* II. iv. 99 In his rage and fear, with whitenen face.

whiten, obs. or dial. f. WHITING *sb.* and *vbl. sb.*

whitener ('hwat(ə)nə(r)). [f. WHITEN *v.* + -ER¹.]

1. One who whitens, in any sense; *spec.* a person employed in bleaching or other whitening process.

1611 COTGR., *Blanchisseur*, . . a whitener of clothes. 1637 *Crompton's Jurisd.* 179 No tawer or whitener of skins shall remain in the forests. c1700 KENNETT *MS. Lansd.* 1033 *Bleacher*, a whitener or whiter of linnen. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) VII. lxxxiv. 291 A partial whitener of his own cause, or blackener of another's. 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 45 Pin Maker. . Whitener. 1895 *Daily News* 15 Nov. 7/1 Walter Wells, a silver-plater, in the employment of Messrs. Elkington, . . Frank Naylor, whitener and repairer, employed by Messrs. Elkington.

2. A thing that whitens; *spec.* a substance or agent used for whitening, bleaching, etc.

1686 GOAD *Celest. Bodies* i. ii. 6 Wind is a Dryer, . . Frost a Cooler, Dryer, a Whitener. 1971 D. POTTER *Brit. Eliz. Stamps* ii. 22 Optical whitener is used in the making of the paper.

whiteness ('hwaitnis). Also (with shortened root-vowel) 5 whitt-, whytnesse, 5-6 whitenesse. [OE. *hwitnes*: see WHITE *a.* and -NESS.] The quality or condition of being white; white colour or appearance.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 7 Seo readnes þære rosan lixep on þe, & seo hwitnes þære lilian scinep on þe. c1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) iv. iv. 60 The fayre blosme . . whos whytnes passyd the snowe. a 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula* etc. 47 þe wondes hap hardnes wiþ whitenes and redenens. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 416/2 Whitenesse, *albedo*. 1577 GOOGE tr. *Heresbach's Husb.* 39 The webbe is layde out in the hotte Sunne, . . whereby it is brought to a passing whitenesse. 1592 GREENE *Greene's Vis.* Wks. (Grosart) XII. 209 The whitenesse of their haies bewrayed the number of their dayes. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* viii. iii. 623 The brightnesse of the Starnes and whitenesse of the snow, not suffering them to be quite forlorne in darkenesse. a 1650 NORGATE *Miniatura* (1919) 98 Temper them with white lead to what whytnes you please. 1756 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* II. 52 Salts of different degrees of purity and whiteness. 1827 FARADAY *Chem. Manip.* xxiv. (1842) 648 Heat a little chloride of silver . . to whiteness. 1887 F. M. CRAWFORD *Saracinesca* iii, His very dark eyes and complexion made more noticeable by the dazzling whiteness of his hair.

b. Of the human skin or face: †(a) Lightness or fairness of complexion, (b) Paleness, pallor.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P.R.* xv. lxvi. (Bodl. MS.), Gallia . . hap þat name . . of whitenes of men for Gallia is grewe and is to menyngne mylke. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* iv. viii. 119 Their beautie, whitenesse, . . and shamefast grace. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV.* i. i. 68 The whitenesse in thy Cheeke is apter then thy Tongue, to tell thy Errand. 1794 S. WILLIAMS *Vermont* 389 The white men . . lose their whiteness and become brown or red. 1821 LAMB *Elia* Ser. i. *Old Benchers*, His cheeks were colourless, even to whiteness. 1857 G. A. LAWRENCE *Guy Liv.* vii, It was no blush now, but a dead waxen whiteness, that came over the beautiful face.

c. *quasi-concr.* A white substance or part of something.

1560 *Bible* (Geneva) Tobit ii. 10 A whiteness came in mine eies, & I went to the physicians who helped me not. 1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 1170 A purple flour . . checked with white, Resembling well his pale cheekes, and the blood, Which . . upon their whitenesse stood. 1650 JER. TAYLOR *Holy Living* iv. §10. 360 Those Creatures that live amongst the snowes . . turne white with their . . conversation with such perpetual whitenesses. 1651 FRENCH *Distill.* i. 34 These Rinds must be fresh, and (the inward whiteness being separated) be bruised. 1885 'F. ANSTAY' *Tinted Venus* v, [To a barber] Do you not swathe them in the garb of humiliation, and daub their countenances with whiteness? 1905 R. BAGOT *Passport* ix. 79 The water-lilies lifted their pure whiteness to the . . sunbeams.

d. *fig.* Purity, stainless character or quality.

1555 BRADFORD in Coverdale *Lett. Martyrs* (1564) 285 Sope, though it be blacke, soileth not the clothe, . . so doth the blacke crosse helpe vs to more whitenes. 1645 MILTON *Tetrach.* Wks. 1851 IV. 181 To vindicat the whitenes and the innocence of this divine Law, from the calumny it findes. 1663 COWLEY *Verses & Ess.*, *Horace* iii. i. 3 To Virgin Minds, which yet their Native whiteness hold, . . these truths I tell. 1816 BYRON *Ch. Har.* iii. lvii, He had kept The whiteness of his soul. 1884 HARROP *Bolingbroke* i. 44 Such . . was the whiteness of his record in this respect.

whitening ('hwat(ə)niŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. WHITEN *v.* + -ING¹.]

1. The action, or a process, of making white; bleaching, whitewashing, tinning, etc.; also *fig.* Also, the fact or process of becoming white.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* xxxi. xi. II. 423 An artificiall devise to make sponges looke white; . . if the softest . . be . . bathed . . in the fome of salt: after which they ought to be laid abroad in the moon-shine, . . that thereby they may take their whitening. 1705 ADDISON *Italy*, etc. 489 They have . . great Commodities for Whitening [= bleaching]. 1713 *Guardian* No. 109 ¶6 Our Faces debar us from all artificial Whitenings. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 956 Pin manufacture. . . 9. Whitening or tinning. 1854 R. H. PATTERSON *Ess. Hist. & Art* (1862) 34 Whitening of the seams—a disagreeable vestiarian phenomenon produced by the surface . . of the cloth being rubbed off. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.*, *Org.* (1862) xi. §2. 773 After another scraping on the flesh side, or whitening, it [sc. the skin] is ready to be stored away. 1877 *Paper hanger* etc. 69 If the ceiling is a new one, prime with water, soft soap, and a little lime before whitening. 1878 SEELEY *Stein* II. 401 That popular agitation, that first whitening of the waves for the storm of the Anti-Napoleonic Revolution, 1891 *Athenæum* 26 Dec. 870/2 It goes too far in its blackening of Macbeth and in its whitening of Lady Macbeth.

2. *concr.* = WHITING *vbl. sb.* 4.

1710 LADY G. BAILLIE *Househ. Bk.* (S.H.S. 1911) 84 For whitening to the wals is. 3d. 1823 J. BADCOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 29 Derbyshire stone, whitening and plaister of Paris. 1906 'G. TRAVERS' *Growth* i. 5 The smell of moisture and bathbrick and whitening.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1797 MME. D'ARLAY *Diary, Let. to Mrs. Francis* 16 Nov., The silver of our plated [spoons] having feloniously

made off under cover of the whitening-brush. 1800 *Hull Advertiser* 7 June 2/3 The warehouses, whitening-house, . . whitening and painting mills. 1826 GALT *Last of Lairds* xxxiv 304 Jenny . . was . . whitewashing the lintels of the lower windows with an old hearth-brush; her whitening-pot was a handless and cripple tureen. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Whitening-machine*, a machine for removing the red skin or cuticle from the grain of rice.

'whitening, ppl. a. [f. as prec. + -ING².] That whitens; making or becoming white.

1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang.* T. II. 143 The bleaching, whitening, . . cleansing quality of Christs blood. 1648 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* VII. IV. Made not by scorching but by whitening light. 1704 POPE *Spring* 19 Two Swains . . Pour'd o'er the whitening vale their fleecy care. 1821 SCOTT *Pirate* xxxvii, My whitening bones will swing in the gibbet-irons. 1859 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* (1871) II. 274 Marks of . . coming age in many a whitening hair. 1902 BUCHAN *Watcher by Threshold*, etc. 88 My whitening face must have told them a tale.

white-out ('hwaɪtaʊt). Also **whiteout**. [f. phr. *to white out* (cf. WHITE v.¹), by analogy with BLACK-OUT.] 1. a. *N. Amer.* A heavy snow-storm, a blizzard.

1942 *Sun* (Baltimore) 30 Mar. 8 (caption) Whiteout. 1980 *Sat. Rev.* (U.S.) May 66 Blizzards—white-outs they call them here [sc. in Labrador]—bring snow that whirls and thrashes and blinds, stinging noses, and cabins disappear in the whiteness.

b. A condition in which neither shadows nor the horizon can be seen and physical features are lost in the background, caused by an evenness of lighting such as sometimes occurs in cloud or in snow- or ice-covered regions.

1946 *Sun* (Baltimore) 20 Apr. 7/2 Hedine, of the United States Weather Bureau at Winnemucca, Nevada, described the 'Arctic whiteout' today, defining it as a condition of the snow country wherein all land features are camouflaged, 'blending earth and sky so that the horizon and all landmarks are indistinguishable'. 1955 *Sci. Amer.* Apr. 54/3 Lieutenant John P. Moore, a Navy pilot, was killed when his helicopter crashed during a 'white-out'. This condition, one of the chief hazards of Antarctic travel, occurs when sunlight diffuses through a solid overcast. 1959 V. FUCHS *Antarctic Adv.* vii. 96 A whiteout is something like a blackout in reverse. . . No surface irregularities in the snow are visible in the diffused, opaque light, but a dark object like a man or a vehicle may be clearly seen. 1966 F. HOYLE *October* 1st viii. 95 It was impossible to know whether you were looking ten yards . . or even a hundred miles. The effect . . was far more weird than the kind of white-out you sometimes get on a snowfield in the mountains. 1976 M. MACHLIN *Pipeline* i. 7 White-out had set in just after Takolik had seen The-Man-Who-Hides. 1980 *Daily Tel.* 30 July 16 Bad weather, including white-outs caused by low cloud, hampered the early stages and Bonington is reported as saying he can well understand why the peak has never been climbed before. 1984 *Times* 5 Jan. 9/4 When whiteout exists, by the interaction of sunlight, snow, cloud and reflection, it induces the belief in a pilot that he is flying over flat terrain with unlimited forward visibility.

2. A white liquid that can be brushed on to paper to obliterate marks and provide a white surface on which to type or write afresh.

1977 L. O'DONNELL *Aftershock* xiii. 180 You changed the date. . . Did you cover the original entries with a strip of paper, or did you use white-out? 1984 *New Yorker* 23 Jan. 44/2 A Chinese version of typists' white-out.

white pine. [WHITE a. 11 b.]

1. *N. Amer.* Any of several North American pines, esp. *Pinus strobus*, which is native to eastern and central parts of the continent; also, the pale soft wood of such a tree. Cf. WEYMOUTH.

1682 *Early Rec. Providence, Rhode Island* (1899) XIV. 113 From y^e said heape of stones to range north . . to a great white pine. 1767 *Quebec Gaz.* 8 Dec. 3/1 They are hereby forbid to cut down . . White Pine . . on the lands above described. 1785 MARTYN *Rousseau's Bot.* xxviii. (1794) 445 Weymouth Pine. . . In North America it is called White Pine, and is excellent for masts. 1893 *Scribner's Mag.* June 607/1 The white-pine supply of this country stands in the States of Michigan, Wisconsin, and Minnesota. 1901 J. BLACK'S *Carp. & Build., Home Handicr.* ix. 78 The material for a drawing-board that is . . most satisfactory in use, is white pine. 1948 *Reader's Digest* Jan. 68/2 Of all American woods none has been more significant than white pine. 1961 H. MACLENNAN *Rivers of Canada* 97 When Wright surveyed the Ottawa forests he found an abundance of white pine standing two hundred feet tall. 1973 A. H. WHITEFORD *North Amer. Indian Arts* 107 White pine bark canoes were made by the Kutenai. 1974 M. BRAITHWAITE *Ontario* ix. 134 All about him . . were great stands of white pines, tall trees stretching as straight as a ruler.

2. *Austral.* A tree belonging to any of several species of *Podocarpus* or *Callitris*. Cf. KAHIKATEA, *PODOCARP*.

1855 R. TAYLOR *Te Ika a Maui* 439 (*Podocarpus excelsus*.) This tree is generally called the white pine, from the color of its wood. 1888 *Cassell's Picturesque Australasia* III. 210 (Morris). 1898 MORRIS *Austral Eng. s.v.*, White P[ine]—(In Australia) *Frenela robusta*, . . *Podocarpus elata*. (In New Zealand) *P. dactyloides*. 1975 D. BAGLEY *Snow Tiger* ii. 33 Gone were the stands of tall white pine and cedar, of kahikatea and kohekohe.

3. **Special Combs.**: **white pine blister** (rust), a rust disease of certain pines, caused by the fungus *Cronartium ribicola*, which spends part of its life cycle on gooseberry or currant bushes; **white pine weevil**, the larva of a brown beetle, *Pissodes strobi*, which tunnels in new shoots of certain pines.

1911 *Bull. U.S. Bureau Plant Industry* No. 206. 9 The white-pine blister rust now imported into this country from Germany is caused by a heterocercous fungus. 1974 M. HOYT *Thirty Miles* vi. 66 We had currant bushes . . before anybody knew they were an intermediate host to . . white-pine blister. 1905 *Bull. Forestry Bureau* (U.S. Dept. Agric.) No. 63. 14 The white pine weevil . . is a reddish-brown snout beetle. 1976 *Columbus* (Montana) *News* 27 May (Joliet Suppl.) 4/5 Whitepine weevil . . can kill twigs and branches of some evergreens.

'white-pot, **whitepot**. Also 6-7 whitpot. [POT sb.¹ 1 b.] A dish made (chiefly in Devonshire) of milk or cream boiled with various ingredients, as eggs, flour, raisins, sugar, spices, etc.; a kind of custard or milk-pudding. Also attrib.

1577 BATMAN *Golden Bk. Leaden Gods* 30 Hee is caried on the Backes of foure Deacons, after the maner of caryng Whytspot Queenes, in Westerne Maygames. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* IV. xiv. 468 The meale of Bockeweate is vsed . . to make pappe, whitpottes and . . cakes of light digestion. 1589 R. HARVEY *Pl. Perc.* (1590) A ij b, Some ancient familiaritie betweene a western fellow, and a whitpot. 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Gt. Eater Kent Wks.* i. 146 The Norfolk Dumplin, and the Deuonshire White-pot. 1632 BROME *Northern Lasse* v. viii, Ha' you any Whitpots? 1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* II. iv. 19 They served in this whitepot-meat to him in a huge great Bell. 1708 W. KING *Cookery* (1709) 75 Cornwal Squab-Pye, and Devon White-Pot brings, And Lei'ster Beans and Bacon. 1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* ix. 79 A Rice White-Pot. 1880 HARDY *Trumpet-Major* xvi, Seventy rings of black-pot, a dozen of white-pot, and twenty-five knots of tender . . chitterlings.

whiteret, var. WHITRET, weasel.

White Russian, sb. and a. [f. WHITE a. + RUSSIAN sb. and a.; cf. BELORUSSIAN a. and sb.]

A. sb. 1. a. The East Slavonic language spoken in Belorussia, a district in the western part of Russia which is now one of the constituent republics of the Soviet Union.

1850 'TALVI' *Hist. View Lang. & Lit. Slavic Nations* II. i. 51 The White-Russian is the dialect spoken in Lithuania and a portion of White Russia, especially Volhynia. 1932 C. A. PHILLIPS tr. *H. von Eckardt's Russia* VI. ii. 475 Up to the sixteenth century the Lithuanian Grand Princes and boyars regarded White Russian as their language. 1949 ENTWISTLE & MORISON *Russian & Slavonic Lang.* i. 30 White Russian became a chancery language, not a literary tongue. 1960 W. K. MATTHEWS *Russian Hist. Gram.* i. ii. 34 There are seven groups of Slavonic languages, viz. the East Slavonic (Russian, White Russian, and Ukrainian) [etc.].

b. A native or inhabitant of Belorussia.

1886 [see RUSSIAN sb. 1 a]. 1912 D. M. WALLACE *Russia* xxxix. 726 [The first Duma] was composed of many nationalities clustering round the dominant race. The chief ethnographical groups were the Great-Russians (265), the Little-Russians (62), the White-Russians (12), the Poles (51), the Lithuanians (10), . . and the Bashkirs (4). 1918 R. WILTON *Russia's Agony* i. 9 The White Russians, a comparatively small section of the Northern Slav people, inhabiting Smolensk and the upper reaches of the Dnieper. 1960 W. K. MATTHEWS *Russian Hist. Gram.* III. ii. 309 The grammatical treatises of the time . . are mainly the work of non-Russian scholars—White Russians and Ukrainians.

2. = WHITE sb. 19 b.

1927 *Daily Tel.* 29 Mar. 11/6 The White Russians in the Northern Army . . were purely soldiers, while the Reds were carrying on propaganda. 1930 *Times* 17 Mar. 12/6 Yesterday afternoon 'White' Russians, most of them women, made a demonstration at the offices of Amtorg Trading Corporation, the Soviet's American commercial agency. 1943 tr. N. Basseches's *Unknown Army* iv. 59 If they were in the territory of the Soviets, they either broke through in time to join the White Russians or they were caught by the Red mobilization. 1973 'D. HALLIDAY' *Dolly & Starry Bird* xii. 184 Innes was sitting looking at the Director like a White Russian receiving word of Biological Ajax. 1976 *New Yorker* 15 Nov. 39/1, I was surrounded by . . some of those privileged White Russians who abandoned their first-adopted countries of Europe to come to the States at the onset of the Second World War.

B. adj. 1. Of or pertaining to Belorussia or its people.

1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 71/1 In 1879 in European Russia, —exclusive of six Lithuanian and White Russian governments, —42,530 persons were tried before the courts. 1918 TROFIMOV & SCOTT *Handbk. Russian* I. 1. 4 The White Russian dialect covers the smallest area of all the Russian dialects. 1926 L. H. GUEST *New Russia* i. 21 The following are Independent Republics: The Ukrainian Socialist Soviet Republic. . . The White Russian Socialist Soviet Republic. 1944 [see BELORUSSIAN a. and sb.]. 1960 W. K. MATTHEWS *Russian Hist. Gram.* II. xii. 276 In the latter part of the seventeenth century the influence of the White Russian and Ukrainian scholars and writers began to be felt.

2. Of or pertaining to the Whites in the Russian Civil War.

1929 W. S. CHURCHILL *World Crisis* V. xii. 247 We have seen them [sc. the Czechs] already in October 1918 . . exasperated by White Russian mismanagement. 1957 P. KEMP *Mine were of Trouble* iii. 39 The Requetés were raising two squadrons in Seville, under a White Russian colonel named Alkon. 1964 R. PERRY *World of Tiger* ii. 24 The White Russian hunter Yankovsky. 1974 *Encycl. Brit. Macropædia* XVI. 70/2 The Red Army . . drove him [sc. Wrangel] and his army into exile. There remained only the Japanese and White Russian forces in eastern Siberia.

'white-skin, a. and sb.

A. adj. ? Having or resembling a white skin. 1634 CHARLES *Mildredais* xv, The coorsegrain'd Lockrom, and the white-skin Lawne Are both subjected to the selfe-same Fate. 1823 JAS. KENNEDY *Poems* 85 (E.D.D.), Wauking some wife's white skin blankets, Or some flannel for her douf.

B. sb. A white-skinned man, a white man. (Cf. *redskin*.)

1826 J. F. COOPER *Last of Mohicans* xiv, 'Twould have been . . an inhuman act for a white-skin; but 'tis the . . natur' of an Indian. 1874 BLEEK in *Folklore* (1919) XXX. 155 The red Bushman looks down upon the black-man quite as much as any orthodox white skin does.

whitesmith¹ ('hwaɪtsmɪθ). [Cf. WHITE a. 2 b, and BLACKSMITH.] a. A worker in 'white iron'; a tinsmith. b. One who polishes or finishes metal goods, as distinguished from one who forges them; also, more widely, a worker in metals.

1302 in *Cal. Pat. Rolls* 50 John son of John le Whyte-smith. 1682 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1735/4 Joseph Carles of Birmingham in the County of Warwick White-Smith, having . . received several Edge-Tools to be mended. a 1708 T. WARD *Eng. Ref.* III. (1710) 2 For not a White-Smith nor a Black, Could frame such things as he would lack. 1778 *Eng. Gazetteer* (ed. 2), *Swindon, Staff* . . . is one of those places which have blade-mills, where scythes, axes, reaping-hooks, &c. after being prepared for it by the white-smiths, are ground to a fine edge. 1826 SCOTT *Prov. Antiq.* 104 He was a white-smith, and published various lucubrations under the title of the Tincarian Doctor. 1833 [see below]. 1866 ROGERS *Agric. & Prices* I. xxiii. 603 The brass was sometimes served out to the whitesmith to be manufactured. 1886 FENN *Patience Wins* xii, I arn't a blacksmith, I'm a whitesmith, and work in steel.

Hence **'white,smithery**, the occupation of a whitesmith.

1812 *Niles' Weekly Reg.* 25 Jan. 390/2 Emery . . is an article of the first consequence in the cotton and woolen manufactures, and in white smithery. 1833 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* II. 124 A modern whitesmithery establishment generally comprises the . . conveniences requisite for the production of every description of work, from what is called blacksmithing . . to . . machine-making or engineering. . . A first-rate whitesmith is not only required to understand generally the qualities of common iron and steel, and the methods of . . working them; he must likewise have a competent knowledge of the principles of mechanical science.

'whitesmith². [f. WHITE a. + the surname of Sir William Sidney Smith (1764-1840).] A variety of gooseberry with white fruit.

1860 R. HOOG *Fruit Man.* 89 Whitesmith (Woodward's). . . Skin white, and downy. 1900 *Daily Express* 24 July 5/6 The coster . . at Covent Garden exchanging his sixpences for 28lb baskets of 'White-smiths' or common reds according to the prevailing taste of his 'walk'.

whitesmithing ('hwaɪtsmɪθɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. WHITESMITH¹ + -ING¹.] = WHITESMITHERY.

1835 *Lexington* (Kentucky) *Observer* 10 June, Whitesmithing, Frederick Klaiber lately from Germany . . has just commenced the above business. 1900 *Daily Chron.* 2 Jan. 3/1 Part of the bench at which the missionary-explorer learnt whitesmithing is exhibited.

white staff. Pl. -staves. [STAFF sb.¹ 7.]

1. A white rod or wand carried as a symbol of office by certain officials, e.g. the steward of the king's household and the lord high treasurer; hence, the office held by these.

1581 J. HAMILTON *Cath. Traict.* in *Cath. Tract.* (S.T.S.) 90 Sa thair men be certane constitute vith thair quhyt staffas as sergeantis. 1640 [see STAFF sb.¹ 7]. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* I. § 101 Sir Richard Weston had been advanced to the White-staff, into the office of Lord high Treasurer of England. 1678 *Jynl. Ho. Comm.* IX. 554/1 The Lords . . have appointed the Lords of the White Staves to attend his Majesty. a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 27 Nov. 1666, Sir Hugh Pollard, Comptroller of the Household, died at White-hall, and his Majesty conferr'd the white staffe on my brother Commissioner for sick and wounded. 1714 DE FOE (title) *The Secret History of the White-Staff*, being An Account of Affairs under the Conduct of some late Ministers, and of what might probably have happened if Her Majesty had not Died. a 1715 BURNET *Own Time* II. (1724) I. 161 He [sc. Earl of Southampton] said, he would not . . see the ruin of his country begun, and be silent: A white staff should not bribe him. 1827 [see STAFF sb.¹ 7].

2. An official who carries a white staff (see 1). 1601 in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 282 These two [sc. Clerks Comptrollers] (under the white staves) bee comptrollers of all household affaires. *Ibid.* 293 That so the Lord Steward, the whitestaves, and officers, might have their diettes served orderly. 1674 *Essex Papers* (Camden 1890) 256 The Seals being signed the white staffe is to be changed. 1675 *Ibid.* (1913) 25 Ye House of Lords . . order their black Rod to apprehend ye Sergeant of ye House of Commons, and addresse to his Ma^{tie} by word of ye white-staves that another Sergeant might be appointed.

3. **attrib. white staff officer** = 2.

1671 E. CHAMBERLAYNE *Pres. St. Eng.* I. (ed. 5) 162 The Lord Steward is a White-staff Officer; for he is in the Kings Presence, carrieth a White-staff. . . This White-staff is taken for a Commission; at the death of the King, over the Herse made for the Kings Body, he breaketh this Staff, and thereby dischargeth all the Officers. a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 17 Jan. 1687, Much discourse that all the White Staff Officers . . should be dismiss'd for adhering to their Religion. 1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4488/2 Garter King of Arms proclaimed his Royal Highness's Stile, and the white Staff Officers broke their Staves, and threw them into the Vault.

white stick. [STICK sb.¹] †

1. A piece of white wood used as a tally. *Obs.* c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 233 Lordis many tymes . . taken pore mennus goodis & paen not perfore but white stickis. c 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* IV. xxxviii. (1859) 64 The kyng hath nought wherof to paye for his mete, but of white stickes that no thyng auailen.

2. = WHITE STAFF 1, 2.

1777 EARL MARCH in Jesse *Selwyn & Contemp.* (1844) III. 256 Lord Onslow [as Comptroller of the Household] has Sir W. Meredith's White Stick. **1792** WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Odes of Condol.* i. vi. Wks. 1812 III. 86 Then would they ponder on the white-stick row Of Uxbridge, Grey de Wilton, Leeds, and Co. **1812** BYRON *Waltz* xiii, New white-sticks, gold-sticks, broom-sticks, all new sticks! **1861** HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* iii, Lords and ladies in waiting, white sticks or black rods.

3. A white walking-stick carried by a blind person both as a distinguishing feature and to locate obstacles. Cf *white cane* s.v. **WHITE** *a.* 11 *e.*

1961 *A.A. Handbk.* 20 Responsible blind welfare organizations strongly recommend all blind persons to carry a white stick. **1967** S. BECKETT *Stories & Texts for Nothing* viii. 110 But what is this I see, and how, a white stick and an ear-trumpet. **1974** *Times* 21 Feb. 10 His first perilous adventures with the white stick. **1978** 'H. CARMICHAEL' *Life Cycle* xiv. 150 The man who doesn't admire you shouldn't be allowed out in the street without a white stick.

white-tail ('hwaɪteɪl). Also 7 whittail. [TAIL *sb.*']

1. = WHEATEAR² (q.v. for foreign equivalents). *Obs.* or *dial.*

1611 COTGR., *Cul blanc*, the bird called a Whittail. **1666** MERRETT *Pinax* 178 *Oenanthe*, the Wheat ear, or White tail ... in agro *Warwicensi* Fallow Smitters. **a1705** RAY *Syn. Avium* (1713) 76 *Oenanthe*... Alibi ab Uropygi colore White Tail dicitur ut *Italis Culo bianco*.

2. The white-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*), a common N. American species, having the under side of the tail white. Also *white-tail deer*.

1872 R. G. MCCLELLAN *Golden State* 241 There are several varieties: the mule-deer, black-tail, antelope, and white-tail. **1888** LEES & CLUTTERBUCK *B.C.* 1887 xxix. (1892) 323 Mule-deer and cariboo were numerous here, but the white-tail... was conspicuous by its absence. **1895** *Outing* (U.S.) XXVII. 43 The white-tail deer is especially prized as food. **1936** D. MCCOWAN *Animals Canad. Rockies* vii. 59 The hoofs of the wapiti and whitetail deer are too small to propel these animals through the water with any great speed. **1968** R. KROETSCH *Alberta* i. 12 White-tails and mule deer and mallards and grouse tumble before the unerring aim. **1980** *Hunting Ann.* 1981 29/1 My mountain-hunting buddy... came down out of his renowned mule deer country... to join me in a search of a big Colorado whitetail.

white-tailed ('hwaɪteɪld), *a.* [WHITE *a.* 12 *c.*] Having a white tail; *white-tailed deer* = WHITE-TAIL 2; *white-tailed eagle*, the European sea eagle (see EAGLE *sb.* 1 *a*); *white-tailed gnu*, the common (as distinct from the brindled) gnu, *Connochætes gnou*; *white-tailed ptarmigan*, a ptarmigan, *Lagopus leucurus*, found in western North America.

1642 Quhyt taitel [see *white-maned* s.v. **WHITE** *a.* 12 *c.*] **1678** J. RAY tr. *Willughby's Ornithol.* II. 61 Of the Pygarg or white-tail'd Eagle. **1832** W. A. FERRIS *Jrnl.* 27 Aug. in *Life in Rocky Mts.* (1940) 131 In the afternoon... we killed a white-tailed fawn. **1887** I. R. *Lady's Rancho Life* 45 This is the first wild animal I've seen, except antelope and white-tailed deer. **1889** *Cent. Dict.*, (caption s.v. *Gnu*) Common or White-tailed *Gnu*. *Ibid.*, White-tailed ptarmigan. **1912** J. STEVENSON-HAMILTON *Animal Life Afr.* vii. 106 There is no more remarkable beast, either in appearance or manners... than the white-tailed gnu. **1926** F. C. R. JOURDAIN in J. J. Walker *Nat. Hist. Oxford Distr.* 146 White-tailed Eagle... has occurred on Wantage Downs. **1941** J. S. HUXLEY *Uniqueness of Man* viii. 184 Other species now exist only in captivity. Such are the beautiful and fantastic white-tailed gnus. **1948** A. L. RAND *Mammals Eastern Rockies* 208 When the alarmed white-tailed deer goes bounding away, its tail usually stands straight up, and it is a great snowy banner that leaves no doubt of identity. **1968** R. KROETSCH *Alberta* ii. 59 Soon after, we saw two white-tailed deer, just on the timberline. **1973** *Islander* (Victoria, B.C.) 1 Apr. 2/2, I have found myself staring at a whitetailed ptarmigan in the high mountains believing that he was snow. **1981** *Birds Autumn* 55/3 (caption) White-tailed eagle—last bred in Britain in 1916... A scheme to reintroduce these birds to Scotland is now underway.

white-tawer: see WHITTAWER.

whitethorn ('hwaɪθɔ:n). Also with hyphen, or (now rarely) as two words. [WHITE *a.* and THORN *sb.*, after L. *alba spina* (whence F. *aubépine*); so MHG. *wîzdon* (G. *weissdon*).] The common hawthorn, *Crataegus oxyacantha*: so called from the lighter colour of its bark as compared with that of the BLACKTHORN.

In U.S. applied to *C. coccinea*, a species or variety with scarlet fruit.

c1265 *Voc. Plants* in Wr.-Wülcker 559/25 *Bedagrage*, *i. spina alba*, *i. witporn*. **1382** WYCLIF *Baruch* vi. 70 A whijt thorn, vpon which eche bridle sittith. **1398** TREvisa *Barth. De P.R.* xvii. clxvi. (Bodl. MS.), þese treen... haue prickes as a white porne. **1523-34** FITZHERB. *Husb.* §124 Gette thy quyckesettes in the woode-countreie, and let theym be of whyte-thorne and crabtree. **1637** MILTON *Lycidas* 48 When first the White thorn blows. **1733** W. ELLIS *Chiltern & Vale Farm*. 150 To be more sure of a strong Fence, White-thorn may be made every second Plant. **1870** MORRIS *Earthly Par.* III. II. 168 While round about the white-thorn shed Sweet fragrance. **1870** KINGSLEY *At Last* v, The Bauhinias, like tall and ancient white-thorns, which shade the road.

attrib. **1562** TURNER *Iherbal* II. 73 Matthiolus holdeth y^e our haw tre or whyte thorne tre is Oxyacantha. **1733** TULL *Horse-hoeing Husb.* xvi. 243 White-Thorns will not prosper set in the Gaps of a White-Thorn Hedge. **1813** *Ann. Reg.*, *Chron.* 74 He struck her so violently with a white-thorn stick... that she fell to the ground. **1827** CLARE *Sheph. Cal.* 45 Or short note of the changing thrush Above him in the white-thorn bush. **1842** LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 105 The

caterpillars of the white-thorn butterfly (*Papilio crataegi*)... had... stripped all the hedges. **1885** PATER *Marius* I. xiv. 248 The torch of white-thorn-wood.

whitethroat ('hwaɪθrəʊt), *sb.* (*a.*) (Also with hyphen, and formerly as two words.)

A *sb.* Name of several birds characterized by a white throat.

1. Any one of several species of warbler (*Sylvia*), esp. the common whitethroat, *S. cinerea*, and the lesser whitethroat, *S. curruca*.

1676 GREW *Musæum, Anat. Stomach & Guts* viii. 38 The White-Throat hath no small Gut. **1688** HOLME *Armoury* II. 247/1 The White Throat... hath... the upper surface of the Body red. **1774** G. WHITE *Selborne, To Pennant* 2 Sept., The note of the whitethroat, which is continually repeated, and often attended with odd gesticulations on the wing, is harsh and displeasing... In July and August they... make great havoc among the summer fruits. **1825** W. COBBETT *Rur. Rides* (1885) II. 320 The sweet and soft voice of the white-throat. **1839** MACGILLIVRAY *Brit. Birds* II. 345 *Sylvia hortensis*. The Garden Warbler or Pettychaps... Billy Whitethroat. *Ibid.* 357 *Sylvia garrula*. The White-breasted Warbler. Lesser White-throat. **1845** BROWNING *Home-thoughts from Abr.* ii, And after April, when May follows, And the whitethroat builds, and all the swallows!

2. The white-throated sparrow of N. America, *Zonotrichia albicollis*.

a1862 THOREAU *Maine Woods* (1864) 198 We heard the white throats along the shore. **1889** *Science-Gossip* XXV. 146 White-throated sparrows sing magnificently all winter long... Here... concerted action makes the charm. A single white-throat would prove a trifle monotonous. **1902** S. E. WHITE *Blazed Trail* xviii, The notes of the white-throat—the nightingale of the North. **1916** D. C. SCOTT *Poems* (1927) 47 A rocky islet followed With one lone poplar and a single nest Of white-throat-sparrows that took no rest. **1939** [see PEABODY]. **1978** A. LAMPMAN *Lyrics of Earth* 32 The white-throat's distant descant with slow stress Note after note upon the noonday falls.

B. *adj.* White-throated. *whitethroat warbler* = sense 1 above.

1876 *Rep. & Trans. Devonsh. Assoc.* VIII. 265 The White-throat Warbler... Common everywhere. **1884** W. C. SMITH *Kildrostan* 61 O white-throat swallow flicking The loch with long wing-tips.

whitewash ('hwaɪtwɒʃ), *sb.* [prob. *f.* the verb; cf. WASH *sb.* 4 *d.*]

†1. A cosmetic wash formerly used for imparting a light colour to the skin. *Obs.*

1689 *Several Disc. Vanities Modish Women* 175 Her Bottles of White washes, or Cosmeticks. **1713** ADDISON *Guardian* No. 116 ¶1, I have heard a whole Sermon against a White-wash. **1764** GRAY *Jemmy Twitcher* 2 When sly Jemmy Twitcher had smug'd up his face, With a lick of court whitewash, ... A wooing he went.

2. A liquid composition of lime and water, or of whitening, size, and water, for whitening walls, ceilings, etc.

1697 VANBRUGH *Relapse* v. iii, A little Glasing, Painting, Whitewash, and Playster, will make it [sc. the house] last thy time. **1751** JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 161 ¶4 The Plaisterer having... obliterated, by his White-wash, all the smoky Memorials which former Tenants had left upon the Ceiling. **1776** G. SEMPLE *Building in Water* 81 A Peck of Roach-lime was slacked into White-wash. **1853** MRS. GASKELL *Cranford* xv, A wholesome smell of plaster and whitewash pervaded the apartment. **1858** HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* (1872) I. 48 Before the whitewash of Cromwell's time had overlaid their marble pillars.

attrib. and *Comb.* **1814** *Austin Papers* (1924) I. 240, 1 White Wash Brush. **1848** D. G. ROSSETTI *Let.* 20 Jan. (1965) I. 34 All my traps have been moved up into an attic, to make room for ladders, whitewash-pails, and such-like gear. **1881** *Century Mag.* XXIII. 128/2 With whitewash brush in hand. **1887** HISSEY *Holiday on Road* 26 Art-ignoring, whitewash-loving churchwardens.

3. *fig.* Something that conceals faults or gives a fair appearance: cf. next, 2.

1865 W. G. PALGRAVE *Arabia* II. 21 Such liberal semblance is merely a surface whitewash. **1883** *Fortn. Rev.* Feb. 284 Washed white with the whitewash of diplomacy. **1898** 'H. S. MERRIMAN' *Rodens's Corner* xi. 116 You know your uncle's reputation—the past one, I mean, not the whitewash.

4. An act of 'whitewashing', as of a bankrupt; also (*colloq.*, orig. U.S.) a victory at baseball or other game in which the opponents fail to score; also, a victory in a series of games of which the opponents fail to win any.

1851 J. HENDERSON *Excurs. N.S. Wales* I. 64 When once in a twelvemonth your agent goes smash, And bolts to New Zealand, or gets a whitewash. **1867** *N.Y. Clipper* 31 Aug. 164/2 The first 'whitewash' of the [baseball] game was drawn by the Mutuals. **1874** *State Jrnl.* (Lincoln, Nebraska) 26 June 4/1 The second match game of croquet took place yesterday morning, and resulted in a second whitewash for the latter named gentleman. **1884** *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 13 Sept., The Bostons Give the Lawrence Team a White-wash Bath. **1920** *Westm. Gaz.* 22 May 2/2 The Report is a fairly comprehensive whitewash of everybody concerned. **1961** *Times* 4 May 4/6 Miss Truman who yesterday allowed Mrs. Cawthorn but 23 points in what the players of darts would term a 'whitewash'. **1962** *Times* 26 May 3/5 England nearly scored a whitewash over France... only the victory of G. Mourgue d'Algue standing between them and a 12-0 lead on the first day. **1977** *Evening Gaz.* (Middlesbrough) 11 Jan. 14/1 Only one whitewash this week in the Friendly League. **1978** *Rugby World* Apr. 4/1 Scotland must be bitterly disappointed that they have suffered their first whitewash for ten years.

†5. *slang.* (See quot. 1864.) Cf. WHITEWASHER 3. *Obs.*

1864 HOTTEN *Slang Dict.* 270 *Whitewash*, a glass of sherry as a finale, after drinking port and claret. **1879** TROLLOPE *John Caldigate* III. x. 142 'Take another glass of port, old boy.' Bagwax did take another glass, finishing the bottle... 'Take a drop of whitewash to wind up, and then we'll join the ladies.'

6. *Comb.*: **whitewash gum**, either of two eucalypts with powdery white bark, *Eucalyptus apodophylla* and *E. terminalis*, found in northern and central Australia.

[**1926** J. M. BLACK *Flora S. Austral.* III. 420 *E[ucalyptus] terminalis*... Whitewashed gum; bloodwood.] **1934** *Bulletin* (Sydney) 2 May 21/2 The whitewash gum... forms a striking feature of the landscape about Alice Springs. **1965** *Austral. Encycl.* III. 406/2 Whitebark or 'whitewash gum'... of Arnhem Land has perfectly smooth trunks covered with a white mealy 'bloom' that rubs off when touched.

'whitewash, *v.* [f. **WHITE** *sb.* 18 + WASH *v.* 9 *b.*]

1. *a. trans.* To plaster over (a wall, etc.) with a white composition; to cover or coat with whitewash. Also *absol.*

1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict.*, *Enxalvegar*, to white washe a house. **1707** J. STEVENS tr. *Quevedo's Com. Wks.* (1709) 329 She that White-washes her House, has a Mind to let it. **1780** COXE *Russ. Discov.* 216 The houses are... plastered and white-washed. **1818** SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xliii, There were workmen... altering, repairing, scrubbing, painting, and white-washing. **1834** L. RITCHIE *Wand. Seine* 104 To whitewash a church is, in our eyes, a profanity. **1877** C. GEIKIE *Christ* xxix. I. 485 The other [tomb]... whitewashed, to warn passers by not to defile themselves by too near an approach to the dead.

b. To apply a cosmetic 'whitewash' to.

1912 C. N. & A. M. WILLIAMSON *Guests of Hercules* xvii, She whitewashed her face and had strange eyes.

c. *intr.* To become coated with a white efflorescence: see WHITEWASHING *vbl. sb.* 1 *b.*

1889 C. T. DAVIS *Bricks, Tiles*, etc. (ed. 2) 90 The bricks made from them [sc. clays on the Hudson River] usually 'whitewash' or 'saltpetre' upon exposure to the weather.

2. *fig. a. trans.* To give a fair appearance to; to free, or attempt to free, from blame or taint; to cover up, conceal, or gloss over the faults or blemishes of.

With various shades of meaning; now usually somewhat contemptuous, and implying a false appearance of good.

1762 COLMAN *Prose Sev. Occas.* (1787) II. 34 Such as are blackened in the *North Briton* are... white-washed in the *Auditor*. **1764** HOR. WALPOLE *Mem. Reign Geo. III* (1845) II. 35 A poet and an author will go as far in whitewashing a munificent tyrant. **1809** SIR G. JACKSON *Diaries & Lett.* (1873) I. 36 To be entirely exonerated from all blame, or—in the familiar language of the day—to be whitewashed. **1833** MARRYAT *Peter Simple* xxxi, A quadron and white make the mustee or one-eighth black, and the mustee and white the mustafina, or one-sixteenth black. After that, they are whitewashed, and considered as Europeans. **a1845** BARHAM *Ingol. Leg. Ser.* III. *House-Warm*. x, Snore Hill (which we have since whitewash'd to Snow). **1856** *N. Brit. Rev.* XXVI. 87 Mr. Froude... makes no attempt... to whitewash Henry: all that he does is, to remove as far as he can, the modern layers of 'black-wash'. **1867** TROLLOPE *Chron. Barset* I. vii. 51 She would have given a finger to white-wash Mr. Crawley in the major's estimation. **1904** STUBBS *Lect. Eur. Hist.* II. viii. 229 Charles... had... whitewashed the cruel persecutions of Philip himself.

b. *spec.* To clear (a bankrupt or insolvent) by judicial process from liability for his debts. Also with the debts, etc. as obj., and *intr.* for *pass.* to go through the bankruptcy court.

1762 *Boston Evng. Post* 2 Aug. (Thornton *Amer. Gloss.*). **1773** FOOTE *Bankrupt* II. (1776) 37 Pass'd a few necessary notes to get him number and value, white-wash'd him, and sent him home. **1819** *Sporting Mag.* (N.S.) IV. 30 Two baronets' sons pleading to be white-washed, but remanded for fraud towards their creditors. **1832** *Egan's Bk. Sports* 99/2 The unthinking dashing sparks whitewash their long accounts for twist, tape, and buckram. **1837** THACKERAY *Ravenswing* i, If I'm dunned, I whitewash. **1881** E. J. WORBOISE *Sissie* xxvii, I am by no means sure that your father would not prefer to be made a bankrupt!... he would be 'whitewashed', in vulgar parlance.

3. In *Baseball* and other games: To beat (the opponents) so that they fail to score. Also *loosely*, to beat by a large margin. *colloq.* (orig. U.S.)

1867 *Chicago Republican* 6 July 2/6 The Unions were whitewashed 3 times, and the Forest Citys 5 times. **1884** *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 2 Oct. 4 Buffalo Whitewashes Providence, and Philadelphia Detroit. **1972** *Korea Times* 19 Nov. 1/5 Husky south Korean girls white-washed Thailand 106-17... in the second game. **1981** R. LEWIS *Seek for Justice* vi. 193 He took the first game [of darts]... He all but whitewashed Freddy in the second.

whitewashed ('hwaɪtwɒʃt), *ppl. a.* [f. prec. + -ED¹.]

1. Covered, coated, or marked with whitewash.

1770 GOLDSM. *Des. Vill.* 227 The white-washed wall, the nicely sanded floor. **1850** THACKERAY *Pendennis* I[i], A flaring new whitewashed mansion. **1882** HOWELLS in *Longman's Mag.* I. 56 To... chase the flying tennis-ball on the whitewashed lawn.

2. *fig.* Freed from blame or taint; glossed over with a fair appearance: see prec. 2.

1797 D. SIMPSON *Plea Relig.* (1808) 155 The white washed officer will... declare... that he trusts he is moved by the Holy Ghost. **1818** SCOTT *Rob Roy* vii, A white-washed Jacobite; that is, one who having been long a nonjuror... had lately qualified himself to act as a justice, by taking the oaths to government. **1859** HELPS *Friends in C.* Ser. II. II. x. 239 The whitewashed triumphs of despotism.

3. *whitewashed American, Yank, or Yankee*, a person who affects American manners, or who has spent a short time in America; also *transf.* 1855 in *Occas. Papers Univ. Sydney Austral. Lang. Res. Centre* (1966) No. 10. 26 'I have heard people say they would like to see us clear altogether of British rule.' 'Have you heard that said here?'—'Yes, by a few of those disaffected persons; very few; they are generally what are termed "white-washed Yankees".' 1898 A. J. BOYD *Shellback* 73 He was not one of the low, bullying, half-Irish, half-American sort of men who are called 'whitewashed Yankees'. 1926 W. S. DILL *Long Day* 147 This particular story concerns a 'white-washed American', i.e. a native of Canada who had been naturalized in the United States and then secured repatriation in his own country. 1938 F. A. WORSLEY *First Voy. in Square-Rigged Ship* 82 Whitewashed Yanks (Europeans who had served a voyage in American ships or spent a short period in the States) were numerous. 1970 J. F. LEAVITT *Wake of Coasters* 62/2 Some of the schooners in later years were 'white-washed yankees': American built vessels kept under U.S. registry but with the controlling interest actually owned across the border in New Brunswick or Nova Scotia.

whitewasher ('hwait,wɒʃə(r)). [f. as prec. + -ER¹.] One who or that which whitewashes.

1. One who lays on a coat of whitewash. In quot. 1752 contemptuously for a clumsy artist. 1733 *S. Carolina Gaz.* 24 Feb., He's a Bricklayer, Plaisterer and White-washer. 1752 FOOTE *Taste* 1, Thou Dauber, thou execrable White-washer. 1866 MRS. GASKELL *Wives & Dau.* xxv, The ladders of whitewashers and painters were sadly in the way of the ladies. 2. *fig.* One who (or something that) frees from blame, conceals faults, or imparts a fair appearance.

1820 M. WILMOT *Let.* 27 Sept. (1935) 84 On recollection his cause is too good to be successful in such clever hands as her [sc. Queen Caroline's] whitewashers. 1862 M. NAPIER *Visct. Dundee* II. 228 note, A devoted and skilful whitewasher of Scotch fanatics. 1889 MONA CAIRD *Wing of Azrael* xxxi, Death is... the great whitewasher.

3. *slang or colloq.* A final glass of white wine taken after dinner.

1881 J. GRANT *Cameronians* iii, The General... insisted... on one more glass of dry sherry, 'just as a white-washer'.

whitewashing ('hwait,wɒʃɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. WHITEWASH *v.* + -ING¹.]

1. The action or process of coating with whitewash.

1663 GERBIER *Counsel* 80 White-washing and stopping, at three pence a yard. 1732 *Phil. Trans.* XXXVII. 234 They use Glue made very thin... instead of Size, for White-washing. 1834 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Boarding-ho.* i, The area and the area steps, and the street-door and the street-door steps... were all as clean... as indefatigable white-washing, and hearth-stoning, and scrubbing and rubbing, could make them.

b. The production of a white efflorescence (saltpetre rot: see SALTPETRE 2) on a brick wall.

1889 C. T. DAVIS *Bricks, Tiles*, etc. (ed. 2) 97 In damp positions... brick walls are often covered with a crystalline substance of a white fleecy appearance, suggestive of hoarfrost, which... absorbs the humidity of the atmosphere... and carries off the paint in large patches, and the process is called by the English workmen 'saltpetreing', and sometimes in this country it is termed 'whitewashing'.

2. *fig.*: see WHITEWASH *v.* 2, 2 b.

1801 *Marvellous Love-Story* II. 320 To set at defiance the wholesome restrictions imposed upon society, by countenancing Mrs. Smaddy's white-washing [by marriage after an immoral connexion]. 1823 *Blackw. Mag.* XIV. 101, I have been white-washed by the Insolvent Court... let all my sins go with that white-washing. 1855 KINGSLEY *Misc.* (1859) I. 7, I think the book an altogether foolish... book... having but one object, the whitewashing of James.

3. *attrib.* (in *lit.* or *fig.* sense).

1817 W. T. MONCRIEFF *Giovanni in Lond.* i. iv, With your tailor debts contract, In the Bench for three months pack'd. Get out by the white-washing act, And be as clean as ever. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *White-washing-apparatus*... for whitening walls and ceilings. 1890 *Daily News* 28 Feb. 7/2 (Court of Bankruptcy) We allege that no assets have been recovered, and that this is a whitewashing case.

So 'whitewashing ppl. a.'

1883 *Harper's Mag.* Nov. 829/2 The reaction... against whitewashing churchwardens and... other Goths and Vandals.

white water, sb. (Also with hyphen.)

1. Shallow or shoal water; water with breakers or foam, as in shallows or rapids on the sea or a river. Also *attrib.*

1586 HARRISON *England* i. xi. 47 in *Holinshed*, The more that this river is put by of hir right course, the more the water must of necessitie swell with the white waters which run downe from the land. 1727 E. LAURENCE *Duty of Steward* 19 The... advantages which the Meadows near Rivers might receive by being flooded with Freshes and White-water. 1803 *Naval Chron.* IX. 440 The Bahama pilots make a distinction of *white water* and *ocean water*, applying the former term to the shallow banks contiguous to many of the islands. 1861 HULME tr. *Moquin-Tandon* II. III. iii. 92 The water by its [sc. the whale's] progress being somewhat disturbed, is known by the whalers under the name of 'White water'. 1884 'H. COLLINGWOOD' *Under Meteor Flag* xi, Keep a cool head, for it seems to me that you've white water all round you, whichever way you shape a course. 1902 S. E. WHITE *Blazed Trail* xviii, Men with a reputation as 'white-water birlers'—men afraid of nothing. 1911 — *Rules of Game* i. xiii, 'Why won't he make a good riverman?'... 'A good whitewater man has to start younger.'

2. Water mixed with oatmeal or bran, as a medicinal drink for horses.

1737 BRACKEN *Farriery Impr.* (1757) II. 202 Let him drink warm Water with Oat-meal, or what we term White-water. 3. A name for dropsy in sheep.

1801 *Farmer's Mag.* Nov. 372 The disorder... which in some places is called the blood or white water.

Hence **white-water v. intr.** (*Naut. colloq.*), of a whale, to splash with the flukes so as to make the water white with foam.

1891 *Cent. Dict.* s.v., There she white-waters!

whiteweed ('hwaitwi:d). Name in N. America for the Ox-eye Daisy (*Chrysanthemum Leucanthemum*).

1803 in *Mass. Hist. Soc. Coll.* (1804) IX. 200 On the upland and meadows grow burdens grass, ribwort, white weed, [etc.]. 1846-50 A. WOOD *Class-bk. Bot.* 343 [*leucanthemum*] *Vulgare*... White-weed. Ox-eye Daisy. 1869 B. TAYLOR in *Life & Lett.* (1884) II. 512 Thick as the white-weeds in my strawberry-patch.

white wine. [WHITE *a.* 2 a. Cf. L. *vinum album*, F. *vin blanc*, G. *weisswein*.] Any light-coloured transparent wine: a general designation for wines of various colours from pale yellow to amber, in contradistinction to *red wine*.

[a 1300: see RED *a.* and *sb.*¹ 16.] 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. Prol. 228 White wyn of Oseye and red wyn of Gascoigne. c 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 35 Draw vppe borw a straynoure with a lytly whyte Wyne & Sugre. c 1435 *Torr. Portugale* 202 Sche byvlyd whyt wyne and Rede. 1528 PAYNELL *Salerne's Regim.* Fijj, White wyne enflameth or heteth leest of all wyne. 1617 MOPSYON *Itin.* III. 133 France... yeelds great plenty of red and white wines. 1749 R. JAMES *Diss. Fevers* (ed. 2) 31 She set forward for London, and upon the Road drank near a Bottle of White-Wine. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xlvii, Even white wine and claret were got for nothing, since the Duke's... rights of admiralty gave him a title to all the wine in cask which is drifted ashore. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* (1862) iii. §1. 160 Red grapes may be made to yield a 'white' wine.

b. *attrib.*, as *white wine cask*; *white wine vinegar*, vinegar made from white wine; *white wine whey*, a medicinal drink consisting of white wine and whey (cf. WHEY *sb.* 1 b).

1567-8 in Swayne *Churchw. Acc. Sorum* (1896) 113 A *whyte wyne caske. 1620 VENNOR *Via Recta* vi. 97 *White wine Vinegar is generally to be preferred. 1769 MRS. RAFFALD *Engl. Househpr.* (1778) 27 Add to it a spoonful of white wine vinegar. 1749 LADY LUXBOROUGH *Let. to Shenstone* 8 Sept., Since blankets and *white-wine-whey have not cured you. 1824 MISS MITFORD *Village Ser.* i. *Old Bach.*, Andrews... regular as 'the chimes at midnight'. prepared his white-wine whey. 1890 R. C. LEHMANN *Harry Fludyer* 6 Blathers is... giving him some white wine whey cook has just sent up.

whitewing ('hwaitwiŋ). Local name for birds having white (or partly white) wings. a. The chaffinch. b. U.S. The white-winged scoter or surf-duck, *Oedemia fusca deglandi*. c. *whitewing dove*, a dove of the genus *Melopelia*.

1854 MISS BAKER *Northampton. Gloss.*, *White-wing*, the chaffinch. 1884 COUES *Key N. Amer. Birds* (ed. 2) 569 *Melopelia leucoptera*. White-wing Dove. 1901 *Shooting Times* 22 June 21/2 In Ireland, the chaffinch is commonly called the 'whitewing', owing... to the white patches... conspicuous on the wings of the male bird when in flight.

white-winged ('hwaitwiŋd, also *poet.* -,wiŋjd),

a. Having white wings: often in specific names of birds which have the wings wholly or partly white; also *fig.*

1594 *Selimus* K 1, White-wing'd victorie sits on our swordes. 1728 THOMSON *Spring* 645 Around the Head Of Traveller, the white-wing'd Plover wheels Her sounding Flight. 1757 DYER *Fleece* i. 157 White-winged snow, and cloud, and pearly rain. 1821 LATHAM *Gen. Hist. Birds* i. 8 Vulture... White-winged... some of the larger wing coverts, white, with black ends. 1821 CAMPBELL *Lover to Mistress* i. If any white-winged power above My joys and griefs survey. 1872 COUES *Key N. Amer. Birds* (ed. 2) 294 Velvet Scoter. White-winged Surf-duck.

white witch, sb. (Also with hyphen.) [WHITE *a.* 7 b.] A witch (or wizard) of a good disposition; one who uses witchcraft for beneficent purposes; one who practises 'white magic'.

1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* II. i. i. 289 Sorcerers are too common, Cunning men, Wisards, & white-witches, as they call them, in every village. 1689 C. MATHER *Mem. Provid.* (1691) 95 Creatures that they call White Witches, which do only Good-Turns for their Neighbours. 1715 ADDISON *Drummer* II. i, The common people call him a wizard, a white-witch. 1746 *Exmoor Courtship* (E.D.S.) 440 Tha Whit Witch. 1806 J. CARR *Stranger in Irel.* 265 The white witch... at Exeter, who has female agents to whom she has imparted a portion of her magic, in almost every village, who have the property of discovering pilferers and stopping blood. 1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* i, When he had warts or burns, he went to the white witch at Northam to charm them away.

Hence **white-witch v.** (*nonce-wd.*), *trans.* to bewitch by 'white magic', or in a beneficent way.

1917 *Contemp. Rev.* Nov. 585 The cows were white-witched. Milk came in such abundance as no memory records.

whitewood ('hwaitwud). (Also with hyphen; formerly sometimes as two words.) Name of various trees with white or light-coloured wood; also, the wood of any of these. (Also *attrib.*)

Among these are the N. American tulip-tree (*Liriodendron Tulipifera*) and bass-wood (*Tilia americana*); the W. Indian wild cinnamon (*Canella alba*, which furnishes white

cinnamon or whitewood bark), *Tecoma* or *Tabebuia Leucoxydon* (whitewood cedar) and *T. pentaphylla*, loblolly sweetwood (*Oreodaphne* or *Ocotea Leucoxydon*) and white sweetwood (*Nectandra leucantha* or *Antilliana*); the Australian cheesewood (*Pittosporum bicolor*), *Lagunaria Patersoni*, and *Panax elegans* (mowbular whitewood). Also locally applied in England to the lime-tree (*Tilia europaea*) and the wayfaring-tree (*Viburnum Lantana*); in quot. 1733, ? the white poplar (*Populus alba*). See also *white wood* s.v. WHITE *a.* 11 b.

1683 POYNITZ *Tobago* 29 The White-wood is a Tree of that singular virtue, the worm will seldom touch it. 1696 PLUKENET *Almagestum Opera* 1769 II. 215 Leucoxydon... Barbadosibus ostratibus White-wood, Tulip-flower & aliquando Trumpet-flower nuncupatur. 1733 W. ELLIS *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 183 On the level Ground of this Farm... grows several of these White-wood Trees [viz. poplars, etc.]. *Ibid.* 184 The low Country-men sometimes call it Dutch Arbel, but the common Name among them is White-wood. 1750 G. HUGHES *Nat. Hist. Barbados* v. 124 Where-ever a Manchanel-tree grows, there is found a White-wood, or a Fig-tree, near it. 1778 J. CARVER *Trav. N. Amer.* xix. 499 The Bass or White Wood is a tree of a middling size, and the whitest and softest wood that grows. 1847 HALLIWELL, *White-wood*, the lime-tree. 1858 O. W. HOLMES *Deacon's Masterpiece* v, The panels of white-wood, that cuts like cheese. 1864 GRISEBACH *Flora W. Ind.* 789 White-wood, *Oreodaphne Leucoxydon*, *Nectandra leucantha*, *Tecoma Leucoxydon* and *pentaphylla*. *Ibid.*, White-wood-bark, *Canella alba*. Whitewood-cedar, *Tecoma Leucoxydon*. 1884 MILLER *Plant-n.*, *Lagunaria Patersoni*, White-wood, of Australia, Cow-itch-tree, or White Oak, of Norfolk Island. 1908 KIPLING *Lett. Trav.* (1920) 133 The lard, the apples, the butter, and the cheese, in beautiful whitewood barrels.

whitewort. *rare.* ? *Obs.* [f. WHITE *a.* + WORT *sb.*, after Du. *witwortel* (G. *weisswurz*).] A name for several plants with white flowers or roots: a. Feverfew; b. Solomon's seal; c. a species of chamomile.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* i. xi. 19 It [sc. Parthenium] is called... in English, Feuerfew, & of some Whitewurte. *Ibid.* i. lxix. 103 Salomons scale is called... in English... White roote, or white wurte. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, Whitewort, *Matricaria Chamomilla*.

whitey ('hwait), *sb.* Also *whity*, *whitie*. [f. WHITE *a.* + -Y⁶.]

1. A white man or woman; white people collectively; in quot. 1828 as a *quasi-proper* name: cf. BLACKY *sb.* 1. (Also with capital initial.) Freq. derog. *slang* (chiefly *Blacks*).

1828 P. CUNNINGHAM *N.S. Wales* (ed. 3) II. 9 The instant *blacky* perceives *whity* beating a retreat, he vociferates after him—'Go along, you dam rascal'. 1942 BERREY & VAN DEN BARK *Amer. Thes. Slang* §385/2 *White person*,... *whitie*. 1952 S. SELVON *Brighter Sun* iv. 61 A white-skinned girl... was called 'Whitey cockroach'. 1964 *Time* 31 July 12/3 Harlem... is where the white man is no longer the 'ofay' but 'Mr. Charlie' or 'the man', and mostly 'whitey', derived from the Black Nationalist talk of 'the blue-eyed white devil'. 1967 C. DRUMMOND *Death at Furlong Post* xi. 138 Get to hell away from me! You Whities stink! 1968 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 4 Apr. 329/2 The world of 'Whitey' into which these Negroes no longer want to be integrated. 1971 A. KING *One Love* 19 There's a Whitey in every Black man that has to come out, or die, before he's ever himself. 1972 R. K. SMITH *Ransom* i. 24 We're gonna hit Whitey, and hit him again. 1976 *Listener* 15 Apr. 462/1 There is a pub in south London where black intellectuals meet, and if you happen to be a white man, the landlord—who is of West Indian origin—delights in calling you 'whitie'. As far as he is concerned, it's all in fun. 1977 *New Yorker* 26 Sept. 131/1 He's no more than a trivial whitey to be squished. 1980 *Amer. Speech* LV. 211 It encompassed a protest of whitey's 'theft' of yet another style of jazz—swing.

2. = WHITING *sb.* 1 b (a).

1912 A. MCCORMICK *Words fr. Wild-Wood* vi. 82, I had thrashed the stream... in the hope of getting a 'whitey'.

Whitfieldian, etc.: see WHITEFIELDIAN.

whitflaw, -flow, obs. var. WHITLOW.

Whitgiftian ('hwit'giftʌn), *sb.* and *a.* [f. *Whitgift* + -IAN.] A. *sb.* A pupil or former pupil of Whitgift School, Croydon. B. *adj.* Of, pertaining to, or characteristic of John Whitgift (c 1530-1604), Archbishop of Canterbury and founder of Whitgift School.

1880 *Whitgift Mag.* Jan. 13/2 We were glad to notice among the Chorus several 'Old Whitgiftians'. 1905 (*title*) The Whitgiftian. [*Previously* The Whitgift Magazine.] 1962 *Hist. Mag. Protestant Episcopal Church U.S.* XXXI. 128 The picturesquely rhetorical phrase of F. W. Maitland has been considered the most decent dismissal of the whole Whitgiftian flavour: 'a remorseless pre-destinarian'. 1967 P. COLLISON *Elizabethan Puritan Movem.* v. i. 245 Of this generation of clergy, few with minds of their own would subscribe to the Whitgiftian formula without a qualm. 1977 P. CLARK *Eng. Provincial Soc. from Reformation to Revolution* v. 184 In the county [of Kent]... the Whitgiftian reaction caused a marked polarisation between moderate Puritans and conformist Presbyterians on the one hand, and less respectable radicals and separatists on the other.

whith, obs. form of WHITE, WITH.

whither ('hwɪðə(r)), *sb.*¹ *Sc.* and *dial.* Forms: see the vb. [f. WHITHER *v.*] A violent or impetuous movement, a rush; an attack, onset; a smart blow or stroke; a blast or gust of wind; a quivering movement, a tremble; a rushing or whizzing sound; *fig.* an access or attack of illness.

c 1480 HENRYSON *Pract. Medecyne* 55 þat 3e tak sevin sobbis of ane selche, the quhiddir of ane quhaill. 1513 DOUGLAS *Eneis* v. x. 62 Than ran thai sammyn in paris with a quhiddir. *Ibid.* vi. v. 85 Quham . . . Saland from Troy . . . The deidlie storm ourquhelmit with a quhiddir. 1791 LEARMONT *Poems* 82 (E.D.D.) His dart Hits ane a whither. 1808 JAMIESON s.v. *Quhiddir*, A quhither of the cauld, a slight cold. 1825 BROCKETT *N.C. Gloss.* s.v. *Whidder*, A whither of cold, a shivering cold. 'All in a whither',—all in a tremble. 1853 C. BRONTE *Villette* xvi, The 'wuther' of wind amongst trees. 1887 JESSIE M. E. SAXBY *Lads of Lunda, Running Free* vii, 'Tak' pace till the whidders dill awa" (be patient till the gusts of wind quiet down).

whither, *sb.*²: see WHITHER *adv.* 6.

'whither, *v.* *Sc.* and *dial.* Forms: 5 quhedir-, -thir, qwedyr, 5–6 quhiddir, 6 -ir; 6–7, 9 whidder, 8–9 whedder, whuther, 9 whuddir, wuther, 8–whither. [a. ON. **hviðra* (cf. Norw. *kvidra* to go to and fro with short quick movements), related to *hviða* squall of wind (see WHID *sb.*²), fit (of coughing), OE. *hwipa*, *hwipu* (*hweopu*) 'aura': see WHY3T.]

1. *intr.* To move with force or impetus, to rush; to make a rushing sound, to whizz; to bluster or rage, as the wind.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* xvii. 684 The stane . . . flaw out quhedirand [MS. *Edin.* quethirand, ed. 1616 whiddering]. 1513 DOUGLAS *Eneis* v. vi. 65 Diore, quhiddirand at his bak fute hate. *Ibid.* xii. xiv. 86 Neuer sa swiftly quhiddirand the stane flaw. 15 . . . *Outlaw Murray* xvi. in Child *Ballads* (1894) ix. 191/2 He heard the . . . arrows whidderand near him by. *a* 1736 WHITTELL *Sauney Ogilby's* *Duel* iv. Poet. Wks. (1815) 170 She whither'd about, and dang down all the gear. 1825 JAMIESON, *To Whither*, to whirl rapidly with a booming sound. *Ibid.*, *To Whuddir*, to make a whizzing or rushing sort of noise. 1877 JESSIE FOTHERGILL *First Violin* vi. i, The wind wuthered wearily.

2. To tremble, shake, quiver.

c 1450 *Cov. Myst.* (Shaks. Soc.) 122 For joy I qwedyr and qwake. 1790 GROSE *Prov. Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Whedder*, to tremble. *Ibid.*, *Whither*, to quake or shake.

3. *trans.* To strike or beat forcibly; to throw violently.

1825 JAMIESON, *To Whither*, to beat, to belabour, Roxb. 1828 *Craven Gloss.*, *Whither*, to throw with violence.

Hence 'whitherer, a vigorous person or thing (cf. *thumper*, *whopper*); 'whithering *vbl. sb.*, a rushing, whizzing, blustering; 'whithering *ppl. a.*, rushing, whizzing, etc.; also, very large or vigorous (cf. *thumping*, *whopping*).

1513 DOUGLAS *Eneis* v. ix. 29 3oung Hippocaon . . . A quhiddirand arrow leit spang fra the string. 1585 JAS. I. *Ess. Poesie* (Arb.) 15 They heare the whiddering Boreas bolde. 1787 GROSE *Prov. Gloss.*, *Whithering*, a sudden great sound. 1790 *Ibid.* (ed. 2), *Whitherer*, a lusty, strong, or stout person, or thing. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* s.v., He's a girt withering tike. 1847 E. BRONTE *Wuthering Heights* i, Wuthering Heights is the name of Mr. Heathcliff's dwelling. 'Wuthering' being a significant provincial adjective, descriptive of the atmospheric tumult to which its station is exposed, in stormy weather. 1879 G. M. HOPKINS *Poems* (1967) 80 If a wuthering of his palmy snow-pinnions scatter a colossal smile Off him, but meaning motion fans fresh our wits with wonder. 1951 J. STRACHEY *Man on Pier* 20 The routine hours that are without inspiration in a day—those spent in buying stamps for letters, in filing receipts, in the dreary wuthering of machineries, in the changings from place to place.

whither ('hwidə(r)), *adv.* (*sb.*²) Forms: see below. [OE. *hwider*, earlier (Northumb.) *huidir*, later *hwyder*, f. Teut. *χwi-* (cf. WHICH); the synonymous Goth. *hwadrē* is f. Teut. *χwa-* (see WHO). Late and occasional OE. *hwæder* (see A. y) is prob. due to the analogy of *pæder* THITHER.]

A. Illustration of Forms.

a. 1–3 *hwider*, (1 *hw-*, *huid*(d)ir, *hwidder*, *huid*(d)er, 3 *Orm.* *whiderr*), 3–4 *wider*, *quider*, 4–6 *whider*, *whyder*, (4 *huidir*, *huyder*, *whidur*, *whydre*, *wyður*, *wyddere*, *quidder*, 4–5 *whidere*, *whidir*, *wyðer*, 5 *whidyr*, *whydyr*, *widur*, *wydyr*, *whiddir*, *whydder*, -ur, *whidre*, *widere*), 5–6 *Sc.* *quhiddir*, (6 -ir); 4 *whithir*, *quiper*, 5 *whiper*, *whythyr*, 5–6 *whyther*, *Sc.* *quhither*, 6–7 *wither*, 6– *whither*.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* cxxxviii[i]. 7 From onsiene ðinre *hwider* fleom ic? *a* 900 *Leiden Gloss.* in O.E. *Texts* 115 *Cujatis*, *huidirryne*. *g.* . . . ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxii. (MS. Cott.) A *pær* ðu ongeate *hwider* ic ðe nu tiohize to lædenne. *c* 1000 *Ritvale Dunelm.* (Surtees) 55 Svæ *hwidder*. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* xvi. 8 (MS. Laud Misc. 509, lf. 12) Hu færst þu oppe *hwider* wylt þu? *c* 1250 *Cursor M.* 64 Wydur [13 . . . *Gött.* *quiper*, *c* 1375 *Fairf.* *quidder*] to wende ne wat he noght. *c* 1300 *Harrow. Hell* (L) 118 Y ne recche *whyder* y go. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 586 He no wist *whider* to go. *c* 1400 26 *Pol. Poems* 22 Gostly blynd goþ, and not neuere *whidre*. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 211 Whydyr þat þay ledyn þe wayne. *a* 1483 *Whythyr* [see WHITHERSOEVER]. *a* 1500 *Cov. Corp. Christi* Pl. i. 230 Then forto goo wyst I nott *whyddur*. 1513 DOUGLAS *Eneis* vi. iii. 80 Behaldand . . . quhat singnis thai schaw, Or quhiddir thai mark. 1523 *Whyder* [see B. 4]. 1556 OLDE *Antichrist* 128 No *whider* elles. 1588 PARKE tr. *Mendoza's Hist. China* 254 They let their ship saile . . . *whither* as for fortune did cary them. *a* 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 29 Jan. 1645, The towne Aversa, *wither* came 3 or 4 coaches.

β. 1 *hwyder*, 3 *hwuder*, *whuder*(e), *wuder*.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 99 *Hwyder* gewiton . . . þa idlan blissa? *c* 1205 LAY. 1202 Wise mi . . . *whuder* ich mæi liðan. *Ibid.* 12169 Liðen *wuder* swa þu wult.

γ. 1 *hwæder*, 4 *whader* (?).

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* xxxii. 17 (MS. Laud Misc. 509, lf. 23) ðif . . . he eow axie, hwæs 3e sin[d] oððe *hwæder* [v.r. *hwyder*] 3e willon. *Ibid.* xxxvii. 30 (ib. lf. 25 b) Nys se cnapa her; *hwæder* ga ic? *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. viii. 19 Ic fylige þe, swa *hwæder* [v.r. *hwyder*] swa þu færst. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 1874 (Glasgow MS.), I rough of deth ne of lyf *Whader* that loue wolde me dryf.

δ. 3 *weder*, 4–5 *weder*, -yr, *queder*, 5 *whedir*, -ire, -ur, -yre, *wedder*, *qweder*, *quedire*, -ur, *Sc.* *qwhedyr*; 4 *whethir*, *queþer*, -ir, 4–5 *wheþer*, 5 *whethyr*, *weither*, *Sc.* *quhether*, *qw(h)eþir*, 5–6 *wether*, 5–8 *wether*, 6 *Sc.* *quethire*, 7 *wheather*.

a 1300 *Harrow. Hell* (O.) 110, I ne recche *weder* I go. *a* 1300 *Queder* [see WHITHERSUM]. 13 . . . *Northern Passion* (Harl.) 750 He spird . . . *Wheder* þai war went. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 3499 Pas *quedire* as him plese. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xxiii. 81, I wote not . . . *whether* to go. 1471 MARG. PASTON in *P. Lett.* III. 24 We wut not *qweder* to fle. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Fox, Wolf, & Husb.* 29 The Uolf said, 'quhether dryuis thow this, Pray?' 1589 NASHE *Anat. Absurd.* Wks. (Grosart) I. 70 *Whether* euery way leadeth. 1639 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) I. 95, I am newly come out of Scotland, *whether* I am instantly returning again. 1697 DRYDEN *Eneis* x. 514 *Whether* wou'd you run? 1722 DE FOE *Plague* (1754) 202 In Heaven, *whether*, I hope we may come.

ε. 3 *3wodere*, 3–5 *woder*, 4–5 *whoder*, -ir, 5 *whodere*, -yr, *wheoder*, *hoder*(e), 6 *whother*.

c 1275 *Woder* [see B. 4]. *c* 1290 *St. Christopher* 38 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 272 *3wodere* penxt þou gon? *c* 1300 *Beket* 1648 Ynot *whoder* thou wolt go. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 1560 *Whethen* he come & *hoder* he went, *knewe* *nomone*. *c* 1425 *Whodyr* [see WHITHERSO]. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xii. 38 *Whens* art þou, and *whodir* art þou boun? *c* 1475 *Partenay* 2764 Of your wif enquire . . . at no day . . . To what place she torn ne *hoder* wyll go. 1535 *Whother* [see B. 3a].

B. Signification.

Now, in all senses, only archaic or literary; replaced in ordinary use by *where*, or colloq. *where . . . to*: see WHERE 3, 1 c. (Cf. WHENCE I.)

I. Interrogative uses.

1. To what place? a. in direct questions.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Deut.* i. 28 *Hwider* fare we? *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 147 Ac *wider* 3eden hie? 13 . . . *Bonaventura's Medit.* 995 *Whedyr* shulde y wende, to frende, ouþer kyn? 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* vii. v. 219 Ther came a man feynge . . . *whether* wolt thou sayd Beaumayns. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* iv. i. 16 *Whether* trauell you? 1649 C. WASE *Sophocles, Electra* 15 *Whither* away? 1697 DRYDEN *Eneis* x. 945 *Whence* am I fore'd, and *whether* am I born? 1722 DE FOE *Plague* (1754) 143 *Whither* will you go? and what can you do? 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Box, Gt. Winglebury Duel*, 'Whither are we going?' inquired the lady tragically. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lxiii, What was the use of cavalry in a time of profound peace?—and *whither* the deuce should the hussars ride? 1884 GILMOUR *Mongols* xvii. 202 If souls do not transigrate, where do they come from at birth, *whither* do they go at death?

†*Humorous phr.* (as *sb.*). 1678 RAY *Prov.* (ed. 2) 346 How doth your *whither* goe you? (*your wife*). 1721 E. WARD *Northern Cuckold* 7 Not that our Northern Cuckold's *Whither* D'ye go, is such a Doxy neither. 1725 *New Cant. Dict.*, *Whither-D'ye-go*, an insolent prescribing Wife.

b. in dependent questions and similar clauses.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 151 Hie . . . nystan *hwyder* hie eodan. *Ibid.* 229 Hie sendon lolt him betweonum *hwider* hyra gehwylc faran scolde to laranne. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 17 þe inreste pesternesse is in ðare hieerte ðe ne wile forscæwin *hwider* he scal ðanne he henen farð. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 159 Lusteð nu . . . hwo hire ledde, and wu and *hwider*. *c* 1290 *St. Matthew* 140 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 81 Nou god it wot and saint Matheu 3wodere is soule wende. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2144 Hii nuste *wuder* drawe. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 701 It is a selcoupe, me pinkes, *whider* þat lady is went. *c* 1420 *Avow. Arth.* xxv, The blonke him a-boute bore, *Wiste* he neuyr *quedur*! 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* xxxiv. (Percy Soc.) 170 She . . . did aske me *whether* That I so rode, and what I would haue? 1589 NASHE *Anat. Absurd.* Wks. (Grosart) I. 70 Wee duely consider, *whether* euery way leadeth. 1660 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) IV. 216 Intimating that Alison was now gone he knew not *whither*. 1722 DE FOE *Plague* (1754) 65 If he knew *whether* to go. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xii, Wandering they knew not *whither*. 1882 BESANT *All Sorts* xxiii, What he did, *whither* he went, where he died, might be left to conjecture.

2. a. *gen.* or *fig.* with various shades of meaning: To what result, condition, action, subject, cause, etc.? †to what extent, how far?

g. . . . ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xl. (MS. Cott.), *Hwæðer* ðu nu ongite *hwider* þios sprace wille? *c* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1290 *Hwider* is ower wit & ower wisdom iwent? *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 236 *Whedir* schal þi soule in þin ende, to peyne or ioie? *c* 1491 *Chast. Goddess Chyld.* 12 *Wheder* is all this become? 1538 STARKEY *England* II. iii. (1878) 215 Wel, Master Lypset, I perceyue *wether* you go [= 'what you are driving at']. 1611 B. JONSON *Catiline* iv. ii. 13, *Whither* at length wilt thou abuse our patience? [*Quousque tandem* . . .]. 1625 BURGESS *Pers. Tithes* 31 Suspecting *whether* he may be drawne by yeelding that to be a Due. 1652 BR. HALL *Invis. World* i. §4 If there fall out . . . any direful prodigies . . . *whither* should they be imputed but to these mighty angels? *a* 1674 CLARENDON *Surv. Leviath.* (1676) 153 If they had known *whether* to have addressed their complaints. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Hor.*, *Sat.* II. vii. 29 Thou tedious varlet, *whither* tends This putrid stuff? 1820 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* III. iv. 122 *Whither* has wandered now my partial tongue? 1851 KINGSLEY *Yeast* x, Oh, Lancelot, Lancelot, *whither* are you forcing me?

b. Followed by a single word or short phrase.

1982 *English Studies* LXV. 90 The recently recycled interrogative adverb *whither* (as in *Whither Democracy*?).

II. Relative uses.

3. a. as compound relative: To the place to (or in) which. Also with correlative *thither*. Also *fig.* *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John xxi. 18 *Ambulabas ubi uolebas*, Ðu waldes geonga *huidir* ðu waldes. 1382 WYCLIF *John* viii.

21 *Whidur* I go, 3e mown not come. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* 683 To goo *whyther* the goddes wold consente that they shold dwelle. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 26 Prouyde suche money y' may brynge hym *whether* he entendeth. 1535 JOYE *Apol. Tindale* (Arb.) 18 And *whother* the head went *thither* must the bodye folow. 1561 DAUS tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* xxxvii. 237 Away with them and their sophistrie, *whither* they are worthe. 1682 N. O. *Boileau's Lutrin* II. 19 Then *whether* Honour calls thee, bravely follow. 1836 J. GILBERT *Chr. Atonem.* (1852) 343, I must go *whither* truth conducts me.

b. as simple relative: To which place; after a noun of place = to which; also with clippis = a place to which.

a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3231, I ne wiste no waye *whedire* þat I scholde. *c* 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 31 He assignid seuent and two disciplis, and sent hem . . . in to ilk place and cite *widir* he was to com. 1549 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Coll. Sun. after Ascension*, Exalte us unto the same place *whither* our sauour Christe is gone before. 1609 *Bible* (Douay) *Deut.* xix. 3 He which . . . is a fugitive, may have . . . *whither* to escape. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* 1. 42 Wee landed . . . in Freesland, at the Village Anion, . . . *whether* wee hired a sledge . . . and were drawne *thither* ouer the yce and snow. 1664 *Power Exp. Philos.* 1. 68 The sense and motion of that part *whither* that Nerve was propagated. 1722 DE FOE *Plague* (1754) i The *Plague* . . . had been very violent . . . at Amsterdam and Rotterdam, . . . *whether* they say, it was brought, some said from Italy, others from the Levant. 1821 SHELLEY *Hellas* 862, I come Thence *whither* thou must go! 1825 SCOTT *Jrnl.* 28 Nov., Dined at Melville Castle, *whither* I went through a snow-storm. 1893 MAX PEMBERTON *Iron Pirate* i, At Cowes, *whither* I had taken my yacht . . . for the Regatta Week.

4. In generalized or indef. sense: To (or in) any place to which; to whatever place; *whithersoever*.

Esp. with addition of †as, †that, †ever, so(ever): see also WHITHERSO, -SOEVER.

c 1275 LAY. 12169 Ich wolle . . . wende *woder* þat þou wolt. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 10812 Forto help hir in hir nede, *Quider* þat [*Laud* *Whethir* so, *Gött.* *Queper*-sua, *Trin.* *Whoder* so] sco rade or yede. 13 . . . tr. *Ælred in Engl. Stud.* VII. 324 3if þu folwe þis blessed mayde *whider*-þat-euer sche goþ. 1340 *Ayenb.* 235 Uor to uol3y þe lamb of mildenesse *huyder* hit gep to huam hi byep y-spoused. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 17 þe Holi Gost ledde *Jesus* *whidir* ever he wente, and what dedis euer he dide. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 53 *Whider* as euer he went, or what thyng som euer he did, he was euer sayand Ave Maria. *c* 1450 *Two Cookery-bks.* 101 Cary him *weper* euer þou wolt. 1523 L.D. BERNERS *Fortis.* I. cccxlii. 318 b/2, I haue hyred this shyppe . . . to sayle *wyder* as me lyst. 1596 SHAKS. *Hen. IV.* v. iii. 22 Go with thy soule *whether* it goes. 1648 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* vii. cxxi, *Whether* as he mounts, his News in every sphere He to th' inquisitive Spirits poureth forth. *a* 1672 WILKINS *Nat. Relig.* i. xvii. (1675) 241 We should . . . follow *whither* ever he shall lead us. 1722 DE FOE *Plague* (1754) 170 They were at Liberty to travel *whither* they pleased. 1873 BROWNING *Red Cott. Nt.-cap* III. 192 A spark From Paris, answered by a snap at Caen Or *whither* reached the telegraphic wire.

III. Indefinite and substantival uses.

5. With preceding qualifying words, forming compounds: see ANYWHITHER, EVERYWHITHER, NOWWHITHER, OWHITHER, SOMEWHITHER.

6. as *sb.* (nonce-use.) Place or state to which a person or thing moves or tends. (Cf. WHENCE 5.)

1875 [see WHENCE 5]. 1896 A. AUSTIN *England's Darling* i. i, He roams abroad . . . *Spying* the where and *whither* of his foes.

whither, obs. form of WHETHER.

† **whither-out**, *adv.* *Obs. rare.* [f. prec. + OUT *adv.*; cf. WHEREOUT.] a. *interrog. (irreg.)* Out of what, from what source, whence. b. *rel.* In the direction in which; nearly = whereabouts.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xvi. 12 If any wiste wyte *whider*-oute it groweth? 1393 *Ibid.* C. viii. 178 Coutheþt þow wisten ous þe way *whoder* out treute wonyep? *c* 1425 *Seven Sag.* (P.) 1929 [They] seten redy markys there *Wydyr*-out the coffyns were.

'whitherso, *adv.* *arch.* [ME. *hwiderse*, repr. OE. *swā hwider swā*: see SO *adv.* 17 d.] = next.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. viii. 19 *Quocumque ieris*, sua *huidir* ðu færæs [*Rushw.* *hwider* swa]. *c* 1205 LAY. 18969 *Faren* þu scalt bi ræðe *wuder* swa ich þe læde. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 31 Ha gað eauer nest godd, *hwiderse* he turneð. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4163 Hii ne mište no3t æzen hym do no weper so hii wende. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 6359 (*Fairf.*) *Quidder*-sa he welk here or þare þe wandis euer wip him he bare. *c* 1425 *Engl. Cong. Irel.* 40 Al the englysshe-men . . . shold ben . . . frely let goo *whodyr*so they wold. *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilgear* 381 That I haue hecht I sall hald, . . . *Quhiddir* sa it gang to greif or to gawin.

a 1850 ROSSETTI *Dante & Circle* 1. (1874) 118 Whereso I be or *whitherso* I turn. 1880 W. WATSON *Prince's Quest* ix. 31 Going *whitherso* the wild path went.

whithersoever ('hwidəsəv'evə(r)), *adv.* Forms: see WHITHER *adv.*, SO, and EVER *adv.*; also 4 *contr.* *whidur*-sever. (In early use as two or as three words.) [f. prec. + EVER *adv.* 8 e; cf. SOEVER.] To whatever place. a. To (or in) any place to which: = WHEREVER 3.

c 1230 *Hali Meid.* 25 Folhen godd almihti . . . *hwider* se he eauer wendeþ. *c* 1320 *Cast. Love* (ed. Hall.) 1785 Thei shul be so ly3ht and swyft, That *whidur*-sever they thenk they may be lyft. 1464 *Rolls of Parl.* v. 567/2 Over the See, or *whether* soo ever it please theym. 1535 COVERDALE 2 *Sam.* viii. 6 Y^e Lorde helped David *whither* so euer he wente. 1622 R. HAWKINS *Voy. S. Sea* §45. 111 The Marchant having bought the goods, hee might presently transport them *whethersoever* he would. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) VI. 277, I will . . . attend you *whithersoever* you please. 1863 HAWTHORNE *Our Old Home, Leam. Spa.* He has a right

to go whithersoever they lead him. 1885 *Spectator* 30 May 704/2 With Victor Hugo inspiration is...to be followed blindly whithersoever it may lead.

b. Whether to one place or another; no matter to what place: cf. WHEREVER 4.

1583 MELBANCKE *Philotimus* Fiv, I remit thy crime howsoever or whithersoever thou wentest. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* viii. x. Whoever you are, or whithersoever you are going, I have Obligations to you which I can never return. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* i. iv. iv, So walks Father Gérard; solid in his thick shoes, whithersoever bound. 1913 *Athenæum* 23 Aug. 183/3 Whatsoever you may be doing, or whithersoever you may turn.

So †whithersum, †whitherso'mever *advbs.* [see SUM *rel. adv.* 2, SOMEVER], in same senses.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 6359 Queder-sum he welk her or pare, þis wandes euer he wit him bare. *Ibid.* 6666 Til ilk sted Quider-sum he þat folk ledd. a 1483 *Liber Niger in Househ. Ord.* (1790) 19 Clerkes and yeomen...to precede the King...whythyr somever the King go. 1485 CAXTON *St. Wenefryde* 16 Eury man myght go...peasibly whyder someuer he wold. 1526 TINDALE *Matt.* viii. 19 Whythersumever thou goest.

whitherto ('hwɪðə'tu:, 'hwɪðə'tu:), *adv.* Now rare or *Obs.* [f. WHITHER *adv.* + to *prep.*; cf. HITHERTO.] To what place, state, result, etc.? to what? whither? whereto?

1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. Heb.* xii. 1-6 Whitherto came he? By despying of this lyfe, he attained immortalite. 1592 BRETON *C'tess Pembroke's Love Wks.* (Grosart) I. 27/2 All the world may see, From whence we came, and whetherto we must. 1624 BP. HALL *Art Medit., Medit. Death Wks.* (1625) 129 Whitherto haue tended all thy serious meditations? 1658 W. BURTON *Itin. Anton.* 125 Whitherto shall we refer that verb? 1751 R. PALTOCK *P. Wilkins* (1884) II. 252 Fearing whitherto it might grow.

whitherward ('hwɪðəwəd), *adv. (sb.) arch.* [f. WHITHER *adv.* + -WARD.]

1. *interrog.* Towards or to what place? in what direction? whither? †Also with reference to situation (nearly = whereabouts?). Also *fig.* or *gen.* Towards what?

c 1200 ORMIN 17295 þu ne mahht nohht...sen...Fra whepennward...he comm...ne whiderward he wendeþp. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 161 Ðan þe safarinde men seþ þe sa sterre, hie wuten sone wuderward hie sullen weie holden. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 307 Heo wende fram al hire kun... & nuste an erpe 3wderward, bote as þe wind blew. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1246 'þou most now ga þe paradís... 'Yai, sir, wist i wyderward þat tat vncuth contre ware.' 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 5916 3eueþ gode tent, Whederward þat Pers ys went. c 1386 CHAUCER *Frankl. T.* 782 He...asked of hire whiderward she went. c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* vi. xviii. 2008 For til wit...qweþirwart þe thayne of Fiff þat tyme past. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* vii. xiii. 232 Whether ward ar ye way ledyng this knyght? 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* v. v. Aaivb, Whytherwarde take I my iourneye? or whyther warde am I goynge? 1614 W. BROWNE *Sheph. Pipe* i. 510 Forth of auntere his way is went, But whither-ward he draw, he conceitlesse was. 1801 SOUTHEY *Thalaba* v. xiii, Unknowing whitherward to bend his way. 1851 CARLYLE *Sterling* i. xi, Whitherward to turn for a good course of life, was by no means too apparent. 1860 TROLLOPE *Framley* P. xlii, As one goes on pleasantly running down the path—whitherward?

2. *rel. a. as compound relative:* Towards the place that; usually in generalized or indefinite sense: Towards any place that, whithersoever.

c 1205 LAY. 9994 Whudereward þa ferde heore flæm makeden, þe eorles heom siȝen to. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 168 Uorte...uoluwen þe hwuderward so þu euer wendest. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 21228 O sant mathu þe gospel-bok Quider-ward sumeuer he scok...wit him he bar. c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2830 Whiderward as þei went al wast þei it founde. c 1375 *Cursor M.* 23523 (Fairf.) Quider-ward [Trin. Whiderward so] an wil loke þai loke al. 1398 TREvisa *Barth. De P.R.* xix. cxxix. (1495) nnijb/1 A way by the whyche a man maye goo whytherwarde that he woll. 1845 CARLYLE *Cromwell* I. 294 Shall he...conduct the King whitherward his Majesty wishes?

b. as simple relative: Towards which.

1398 TREvisa *Barth. De P.R.* xiii. iii. (Bodl. MS.), þe wel springe and þe finale ende whederward hit [sc. the river] rennep. 1582 ALLEN *Martyrdom Campion* (1908) 7 Whitherward by longe and great travail he came, going about by Rome...and by Remes. 1597 BEARD *Theatre God's Judgem.* xix. (1612) 353 Bombadilla...was called home againe into Spaine: whitherward...as hee imbarkeð himselfe...there arose...a horrible...tempest. 1895 *Sat. Rev.* 21 Sept. 374/1 Four guns are sent...to advanced posts up the nullah, whitherward they make their way by forest routes.

3. *sb. (nonce-use).* Place towards which one goes.

1877 BLACKIE *Wise Men* 325 Athens hath no clew To track his whitherward.

So †whitherwards *adv.*

13... K. *Alis.* 955 (Laud MS.), Who so wolde, he miȝth ryde...Whiderwardes so he wolde. c 1320 *Sir Beues* (A.) 2037 At þe kniȝt he askede þo 'Whider-wardes is Mombraunt?' 1909-10 SIR W. BUTLER *Autobiog.* xii. (1911) 186 Signs...indicating the whitherwards of coming events.

whiting ('hwaɪtɪŋ), *sb.* Forms: 5-6 whytynge, whytynge, 5 wytynge, -yng, 6 whytyng, -yng, whytyng, -inge, 7 whytting, *Sc.* quhiting, quhittine, 8 whitting, *Sc.* whyten, 8-9 *Sc.* whiten, 6- whiting. [ad. (M)Du. *wijting*, also †*wittingh*, MLG. *witink* 'aculeja', 'amia', 'asellus'; app. f. WHITE *a.* + -ING³. (The formal analogue ON. *hvítingr* = a kind of whale, etc.) Cf. WHITEFISH.]

1. a. A gadoid fish of the genus *Merlangus*, esp. *M. vulgaris*, a small fish with pearly white flesh,

abundant off the coast of Great Britain, and highly esteemed as food.

14... *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 705/23 *Hic glaucus*, a whytynge. c 1425 *Voc.* *ibid.* 642/8 *Hic clamitus*, wytynge. 1433 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 49 In xij podryd [= powdered] wytynge, viij d. a 1548 HALL *Chron.*, *Hen. VIII.* 23 b, He robbed certein poore Fissermen of Whytynge. 1620 VENNOR *Via Recta* iv. 76 The Whiting, notwithstanding that it is vnsauourie, and nourisheth very litle, is of some greatly...commended. 1664 in *Maitl. Club Misc.* (1840) II. 505 For a dishe of quhitingis 001 16 00. *Ibid.* 506 For a dishe of dried quhittines 003 00 00. 1721 in W. Macfarlane *Geogr. Collect.* (S.H.S.) I. 39 The seas abound with...Turbot, Scate, Mackerel, Haddock, whittings. 1724 RAMSAY *Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) I. 91 And there will be partans and buckies And whytens and speldings enew. 1760 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* III. 155 Whittings appear in vast shoals on our seas in the spring. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 347/1 Whiting...is easily distinguished from the cod, haddock, and bib by the absence of the barbule on the chin.

b. Locally applied to fishes of other genera.

(a) Some fresh-water fish found in Wales; also, a name on the Solway Firth and in the south of Scotland for a small fish of the salmon family, of uncertain identity, perhaps the young of the salmon-trout, *Salmo trutta* (cf. WHITLING). (b) In U.S., A fish of the genus *Menticirrhus*; also applied to the silver hake, and to the menhaden. (c) In Australia, A fish of the genus *Sillago*: see quot. 1882. (d) *blue whiting*, an oceanic fish of the cod family, *Micromesistius poutassou*, found in north-western Europe and the Mediterranean; = POUTASSOU.

1587 CHURCHYARD *Worthines of Wales* N, A Poole there is, through which this Cloyd doth passe, Where is a Fish, that some a Whiting call. 1774 *Ann. Reg.*, *Misc. Ess.* 163 [Bala] lake produces very fine trout, and a fish called whiting, peculiar to itself. 1795 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* XIV. 410 There is abundance of fish, in Esk, such as salmon, grilse, sea trout, and whitens. 1873 T. GILL *Catal. Fishes E. Coast N. Amer.* 18 *Merlucius bilinearis*. American hake; silver hake (Maine); whiting (Mass.). *Ibid.* 27 *Menticirrhus alburnus*. Carolina whiting. *Ibid.*, *Menticirrhus nebulosus*. King-fish; whiting. 1882 TENISON-WOODS *Fish N.S.W.* 65 The 'whittings' are not like those of Europe. There are...four Australian species—the common sand whiting (*Sillago maculata*),...the trumpeter whiting (*Sillago bassensis*),... *Sillago punctata*, the whiting of Melbourne...and *Sillago ciliata*. 1888 GOODE *Amer. Fishes* 81 The Norfolk Hog-fish *Pomadasys fulvomaculatus*...is the... 'Pork-fish' and 'Whiting' at Key West. 1959 A. C. HARDY *Open Sea* II. xi. 229 The blue whiting...lives over the deep water off the edge of the continental shelf. 1974 *Guardian* 20 Mar. 11/1 The blue whiting...cod-like in taste and texture, slender in shape, about a foot long. 1977 *Grimby Even. Tel.* 5 May 8/4 Certainly its size makes it an easier fish to process than the more publicised blue whiting.

2. Allusive uses of sense 1. a. In proverbial phr.

With quot. 1721 cf. WHITE *a.* 10. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 64 There lepte a whytynge (quoth she) and lepte in streite. 1570 *Marr. Wit. & Sci.* iv. i, But he that takes not such time while he maye, Shall leape at a whytynge when time is a waye. 1670 RAY *Prov.* 199 To let leap a whiting, i.e. To let slip an opportunity. 1721 KELLY *Sc. Prov.* 158 He gave me Whittings, but Bones. That is, he gave me fair Words. The Scots call Flatteries Whittings, and Flatterers white People. 1808 JAMIESON *s.v.* *Quhyte*, A proverbial phrase, still used to denote flattery: 'He kens how to butter a whiting.'

†b. As a term of endearment: cf. *whiting-mop* (see 5). Also *whiting's eye*, an amorous look, a leer.

a 1529 SKELTON *E. Rummyng* 223 He callyth me his whytynge. 1673 WYCHERLEY *Cent. Dancing-Master* iv. i, I saw her...give him the languishing Eye, the Whittings Eye, of old called the Sheeps Eye.

†3. = *white pudding*: see WHITE *a.* 11 e. *Obs.*

1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 159 As the Darbyshire huswife [sorts out] her puddings when she makes whittings and blackings, and liverings and hackings.

4. (See quot.)

1792 G. CARTWRIGHT *Jrnl. Labrador* III. p. x, *Whittings*, trees which have been barked, and left standing.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (in sense 1), as *whiting-ground* [GROUND *sb.* 12], *-monger*, *-season*; †*whiting-mop*, a young whiting; also as a term of endearment for a girl (see MOP *sb.* 4). Also in names of fishes resembling the whiting, as *whiting perch*, *POLLACK*, *POUT* (*sb.* 1), *salmon* (see quots.).

1891 *Daily News* 31 Oct. 6/5 About two hundred fishing boats were lying at anchor off the edge of the *whiting grounds about three miles outside Plymouth breakwater. 1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuff* 29 Colchester oystermen, or *whiting-mungers and sprout-catchers. 1803 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* IV. 548 *Whiting Perch. *Perca alburnus*. 1686 RAY *Willughby's Hist. Pisc.* iv. ii. 167 *Asellus Huitingo-Pollachius*:...A *Whiting Pollack. 1758 *Descr. Thames* 222 The Whiting-Pollack...has this Name given it here, from its Likeness to a Whiting. 1862 ANSTED *Channel Isl.* II. ix. 211 Next...in abundance are the whiting pollack...and the garfish or green bone. a 1672 WILLUGHBY *Hist. Pisc.* (1686) Tab. L. membr. i. n. 4 *Asellus mollis latus*. *Whiting Poutes *Londinensibus*. 1758 *Descr. Thames* 222 The Whiting-Pout is remarkably broad, in Proportion to its Length. 1804 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* V. 54 *Whiting Salmon, *Salmo phinoc*. 1791 W. GILPIN *Forest Scenery* II. 190 In the *whiting-season...fleets of twenty or thirty boats are often seen lying at anchor on the banks.

whiting ('hwaɪtɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* Forms: 1 hwiting, 5 whytyng(e, wytynge, whittyng, 5-6 whytyng, 6 whyghtynge, whighting, whitting(e, 6-7 whitinge, 7 whiteing, whyting, whytting, 8 whiten, 6-

whiting. [f. WHITE *v.* 1 + -ING¹.] I. The action of the verb.

†1. The action or process of making white; whitening. *Obs.* a. by covering or coating with white: Whitewashing. Also *fig.*

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* 1. 413 For whytynge that lyme is conuenient. 1495-6 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1904) 220 Payd to Symon dawber for whytting of the chyrch, v days iijs. 1540 *Dunmow Churchw. Acc.* lf. 31 (MS) For whyghtynge of the porche. 1605 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 169 A plasterer, viij days and halfe whytting of the dyning chamber roffe...iiij^d. 1663 GERBIER *Counsel* 81 Whiting and Stopping of fret seelings.

fig. 1628 A. LEIGHTON *Appeal to Parlt.* 186 In this case, the whiting, daubing, or palliating will not serve.

b. by depriving of colour: Bleaching.

1477 *Act 17 Edw. IV.* c. 4 Whityng & anelyng de tewle appelez pleintile. 1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho.* 1. 58 For the speedier whiting of yarne. 1620 in *Foster Engl. Factories India* (1906) 192 The whistler...detaynes them in whitinge and starchinge about three monthes. 1683 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1801/4 A convenient piece of Ground...for whiting of Linnen Cloth.

2. *Printing.* The use of 'white' (cf. WHITE *sb.* 7 a and a. 2 d).

1884 *Athenæum* 24 May 658 The variety of type and the liberal whiting are quite luxurious.

II. *concr.* 3. A preparation of finely powdered chalk, used for whitewashing, cleaning plate, and various other purposes.

In OE. only in Comb. *hwitingmelu* 'whiting meal'.

c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 525/2 Whytynge, or mater to make whyghte of... *albatra, candidacium*. 1633-4 *Althorp MS.* in *Simpkinson Washingtons* (1860) App. p. lxiii, 12 balls of whiteing to scowre the plate. 1690 SIR J. FOULIS *Acc. Bk.* (S.H.S.) 129 To meg for whytynge for teeth, 2 18 o. 1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* I. 143 Take some whiten, lay your foils upon it, and polish your foils. 1844 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jnl.* VII. 150/1 Anoint the segments...with thin putty, made with fine whiting and some of the linseed oil. 1880 BARING-GOULD *Mehalah* viii, You cannot clean a deck with whiting, you must take holystone.

III. 4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as (in sense 1 a) *whiting brush, work*; (in sense 1 b) *whiting ground, time*; (in sense 3) *whiting-manufacturer*.

1611 COTGR., *Escouët*,... *whiting brush. 1692 *Specif. Patent* No. 256 (Patent Office) Erected a bucking house, fitted and prepared a *whiting ground. 1813 *Examiner* 22 Mar. 183/2 M. Price,... *whiting-manufacturer. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* III. iiii. 140 It is *whiting time, send him by your two men to Datchet-Meade. c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* 1. 407 Eek *whyting werk is thyng of gret delyte.

whiting, *obs. form* of WHITTEN.

whitish ('hwaɪtɪʃ), *a. (sb.)* [f. WHITE *a.* + -ISH¹.]

1. Somewhat white; of a colour inclining to or approaching white.

1398 TREvisa *Barth. De P.R.* xviii. cl. (1495) T vj b/1 The leuys [of the trees of Sechym] ben rough and whitysshe. 1530 PALSGR. 329/1 Whytyshe, *blanchastre*. 1545 RAYNALDE *Byrth Mankynde* 122 Yf the wheles seme whitysshe. 1575 TURBERV. *Faulconrie* 17 Of the lesse Vulture, whiche is the browne or whitish Vulture. 1586 W. WEBBE *Eng. Poetrie* (Arb.) 74 When haire from my beard did ginne to be whitish. 1684 BOYLE *Exper. Poros.* Bod. II. vi. 105 A multitude of little cracks...which destroyed its former transparency, and made it [sc. a crystal] look whitish. 1790 *Cook's 1st Voy.* I. 17 A species of the Medusa...which emitted a whitish light. 1797 T. MORTON *Cure for Heartache* i. i. 6 How whitish and deadly bad he do look. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M. x.* A small swamp, the clay of which was whitish. 1897 *Albutt's Syst. Med.* III. 333 The mucous membrane will...appear whitish from the presence of partially shed epithelium.

b. as *sb.* A colour approaching white.

1815 STEPHENS in *Shaw's Gen. Zool.* IX. 1. 49 The shafts spotted with whitish, the feathers alternately banded with black and rufous.

2. a. Qualifying other adjs. (or sbs.) of colour, indicating a pale or light tint of the colour specified.

1653 R. SANDERS *Physiogn.* 166 A whitish-red colour. 1667 *Phil. Trans.* II. 430 Turquois...of the New [Rock] are of an ill whitish Blew. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 436 ¶1 A whitish brown Paper. 1869 MRS. STOWE *Oldtown Folks* iii, Her...whitish-blue eyes. 1883 D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* xvi, His swarthy face had taken an ugly tint of whitish-green.

b. In parasynthetic combinations.

1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Cassida*, The whitish-flowered cassida. 1800 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* I. 538 Whitish-tailed Shrew.

Hence 'whitishness, the quality of being whitish; whitish colour or tint.

1544 PHAER *Bk. Childr.* (1553) Tvijb, Yelownes or whittishnes of the eyes. 1660 BOYLE *New Exp. Phys. Mech.* xxxvii. 307 They were wont...by their whittishness, to emulate in some measure the apparition of Light. a 1722 LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 155 The best sort of barley...is of a pale lively yellow colour, with a bright whittishness in it. 1806 HERSCHEL in *Phil. Trans.* XCVI. 465 The north [polar regions of Saturn] retain...some whittishness. 1929 S. LESLIE *Anglo-Catholic* xii. 158 In the lamplight he noticed her deathliness of hue, the whittishness of lead-poisoning.

whitleather ('hwaɪlɛðə(r)). Forms: 4 witleȝtr, 5 whitlether, 5-7 whit(-)lether, 7-9 whit-leather, 6-whitleather. [WHITE *a.* 2 (with normal shortening in comb.) and LEATHER *sb.* For illustration of white leather see 1 β.]

1. a. Leather of a white or light colour and soft pliant consistence, prepared by tawing, i.e.

dressings with alum and salt, so as to retain the natural colour. Also *attrib.*

1366-7 *Priory of Finchale* (Surtees) p. lxxii, Cum ferrura, cingulis, capestris, witeltr' [scutes] [etc.]. **1487-8** *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 417 Pro whitelether pro lez bawdrikez, vjd. **1573-80** *Tusser Husb.* (1878) 36 Hole bridle and saddle, whit leather and nall. **1623** tr. *Favine's Theat. Hon.* 1. vi. 58 A large strong thong or strap of whit-leather. **1784** *TWAMLEY Dairying Exemph.* 40, I have seen one part of a Skin of a well coloured sound nature, another Part that had somewhat the look of rough Parchment, or hard Whit-leather. **1877** *N.W. Linc. Gloss.*, *Whiteleather*, sheep's-skins, prepared for thongs of flails, repairing harness, &c. Formerly used for baldricks of church-bells. **1960** G. E. EVANS *Horse in Furrow* xvii. 213 Sidney Austin, the harness-maker, still uses strips of whiteleather to repair... the collars of farm-horses.

β. c.1440, 1519 [see LEATHER sb. 1]. **1500** *Louth Church Acc.* in *N.W. Linc. Gloss.* (1889) s.v., For j horskyn & di. skyn whiet ledder. **1556** *Churchw. Acc. Minchinhampton* in *Archaeologia* (1853) XXXV. 423 For wyet lether, and making off bawryxes, xviii d. **1565** *COOPER Thesaurus* s.v. *Bos.*, *Bubuli cortabi*,... thonges of white leather. **1885** A. WATT *Leather Manuf.* 39 When tawed, or prepared with alum and salt, they [sc. sheepskins] form what is termed white leather.

attrib. and *Comb.* ? **a.1600** *MS. Lansd.* 247 (Halliwell) Thy gerdill made of the whittlether whange. **1635** J. GOWER *Pygmalion* C3. Then from thy flesh I'll draw thy hide, And have it thoroughly tann'd, and dry'd Whit-lether-like. **1854** MISS BAKER *Northampton Gloss.*, Whit-leather thongs.

b. In comparisons, or as a type of toughness, elasticity, softness, etc.; hence *fig.* Also *attrib.*

1605 *BRETUN I pray you be not angry* B4, I am thus handled... with this wicked olde peece of Whit-leather. **1610** BEAUM. & FL. *Scornful Lady* v. i, Hast thou so much moisture in the Whiteleather hide yet, that thou canst cry? **1622** MASSINGER & DEKKER *Virg. Mart.* iv. ii. 12, The guts of my conscience beginne to be of whit-leather. **1697** VANBRUGH *Relapse* v. iii, Nurse, I'll soon bring his Nose to the Grindstone. *C[oupler] aside.* Well said, old White-leather! **a.1713** ELLWOOD *Hist. Life* (1714) 316 My Sides are not of Iron, neither are My Lungs made of Whit-leather. **1830** JAMES DARNLEY v, Pray God to make all your bones as soft as whit-leather. **1839** MRS. KIRKLAND *New Home* xxxiv. 225 Her eyes grew preternaturally pale, and her lips waned as whit-leather. **1913** D. H. LAWRENCE *Love Poems & Others* 44 A widow o' forty-five As has sludged like a horse all her life, Till 'er's tough as whit-leather.

2. The tough ligament in the neck of an ox or other grazing animal, also called *paxwax*.

1713 DERHAM *Phys.-Theol.* vi. iii. 362 That... Ligament—Called the Whiteleather, Packwax, Taxwax, and Fixfax.

Whitley ('hwitli). The name of J. H. Whitley (1866-1935), chairman of a committee set up in 1916 to consider relations between employers and employees, used *attrib.* with reference to the recommendations of this committee concerning good industrial relations, etc.

1917 in *State Service* (1969) Sept. 226/3 The application of the Whitley report should be extended to occupations of a purely commercial or clerical character. **1919** *Manch. Guardian* 11 Feb. 7/3 (heading) The Whitley councils. **1923** *Daily Mail* 29 Jan. 7 Mistress and maid should be their own Whitley Council. **1924** *Glasgow Herald* 20 Sept. 11 During the war and after the war Whitley bodies were set up in industries which up till then had nothing of the kind. *Ibid.*, The Whitley machinery could be used to discuss reduction in wages. **1928** *Britain's Industr. Future* (Liberal Industr. Inquiry) iii. v. 174 It is important to understand the causes of the limited degree of success which has attended the Whitley scheme. **1976** *Star* (Sheffield) 3 Dec. 5/2 He recommends that a national forum be set up where Ministers can discuss policies with staff representatives, along with new regional Whitley Councils, and local committees.

Hence 'Whitleyism', the use of Whitley Councils or similar methods for dealing with relations between employers and employees.

1919 *Manch. Guardian* 28 Feb. 14/4 Judge Parry... criticised the bureaucracy for its failure to apply the principles of 'Whitleyism' to departments of the Government service. **1928** *Daily Tel.* 14 Aug. 10/6 There has now followed a striking development, completing the destruction of Whitleyism in the Post Office. **1969** *State Service* Sept. 226/1 (heading) Whitleyism in the Civil Service.

whitling ('hwitliŋ). *Sc.* and *north.* Also 6 whiddelynge, 9 whitlin. [f. WHITE a. + -LING. Cf. G. *weissling* whitling.]

Late OE. *hwitling* 'glaucus' is perh. the whiting.]

A fish of the salmon family, not certainly identified; app. the young of the bull-trout, *Salmo eriox*. Also *whitling-trout*. Cf. WHITING sb. 1 b (a).

1597-8 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 111 For floukes and eight whiddelynges, xviii d. **1769** J. WALLIS *Nat. Hist. Northumbld.* I. 389 The Whiting-Trout... is taken in the Till and Tweed from ten to twenty inches. **1793** *Statist. Acc. Scot.* VIII. 488 In some parts of the Ern, there are... great numbers of sea trouts... The fishermen call them whittings. **1830** in T. Doubleday *Coquet-Dale Fishing Songs* (1852) 84 The Tweed, he may brag o' his sawmon, An' blaw of his whittings the Till. **1867** F. FRANCIS *Bk. Angling* ix. 297 There is a disputed point as regards the bull-trout, whether or no he is the veritable 'whitling'.

attrib. **1769** [see above]. **1834** JARDINE in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* I. No. 2. 52 They... are taken with whiting flies. **1847** STODDART *Angler's Comp.* 84 On rivers, like the Tweed or Tay, I recommend the use of a whiting hook.

whitlockite ('hwitlɒkɪt). *Min.* [f. the name of Herbert P. Whitlock (1868-1948), U.S. mineralogist + -ITE¹.] A calcium hydrogen

phosphate containing ferrous iron and magnesium, Ca₉(Mg,Fe)H(PO₄)₇, found as transparent or translucent rhombohedral crystals of various colours and often occurring in dental calculi.

1940 C. FRONDEL in *Program & Abstr. 21st Ann. Meeting Mineral. Soc. Amer.* 7 Whitlockite is anhydrous calcium triphosphate... with Ca substituted for by Mg... and Fe... The mineral is named after Herbert P. Whitlock... at present Curator of Minerals and Gems in the American Museum of Natural History. **1971** *Nature* 3 Dec. 264/1 The rock contains relatively small amounts of the phases that we have found in other Apollo basalts (... whitlockite, baddeleyite). **1979** WILLIAMS & ELLIOTT *Dental Biochem.* xii. 226 Whitlockite is more common in subgingival compared with supragingival calculus.

whitlow ('hwitlɒ). Forms: *a.* 4-7 whitflawe, 5 whytflowe, 5-6 whitflowe, 6 whyte flaw, white flaw, 6-7 whiteflaw(e, 7-8 whit(-)flaw, whit(-)flow, (8 dial. whick-, 8-9 quickflaw). *β.* 5 whytlowe, whyte low, 6 whitlowe, 7 whitelowe, (whitloaf), 7-9 whitloe, 6- whitlow. *γ.* 6 whytflow, whitblowe, (whetblowe), whiteblowe, 6-7 whitblow. [app. orig. *whitflaw*, -flow = WHITE a. + FLAW sb.¹ (q.v. sense 4); but the similarity of the first syllable to early mod.Du. *vijt*, *fijt*, LG. *fit* 'whitlow' is remarkable and suggests the possibility of alien origin. The alterations to *whitblow*, *whitlow* are difficult to account for. The supposition that the original form was *whick-flaw*, dial. var. of *quickflaw* (Skeat), is not supported by the evidence.] A suppurative inflammatory sore or swelling in a finger or thumb, usually in the terminal joint; = PARONYCHIA I (cf. PANARICIUM).

a. **a.1400** *Alphita* (Anecd. Oxon.) 138 *Paniritula uel panaricium*, i. apostema inter digitos, ar. a whitflawe. **a.1425** tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 42 be fistule bredyng in pe extremitie of pe fynger deceyueþ sonner pe pacient þan in oþer places; for vnkunnyng seiþ þat it is þe whit-flowe, whiche þou shalt knowe þus. **1556** WITHALS *Dict.* (1562) 77 A whiteflaw, *rediuia*. **1562** TURNER *Herbal* II. 25 b, The ashes [of wild grapes]... are good for medicines for the eyes, and wyth hony it healeth whit flawes, agnayles & goomes bledinge. **1648** HERRICK *Hesper.*, *Oberon's Palace* 59 The nails fall off by Whit-flawes. **1707** J. STEVENS tr. *Quevedo's Com. Wks.* (1709) 340 A gold Ring does not cure a Whitflaw. **1746** Phil. *Trans.* XLIV. 228 Much used... in Cataplasms for the Fellon, or worst Kind of Whitflow. **a.1800** PEGGE *Suppl. Grose*, Whick-flaw.

β. **c.1440** *Prompt. Parv.* 525/2 Whytlowe (P. whytflowe sore), *panaricium*. **1603** *BRETUN Mad World* (1635) B8 b, Healing but a Whitloe on a Lords thumbe. **1658** ROWLAND tr. *Moufet's Theat. Ins.* 1049 A live Chislep laid to a whitloaf, cures it. **1669** W. SIMPSON *Hydrol. Chym.* 206 They are not certainly able to perform the cure of... so much... as a paronychia or whitlow. **1765** STERNE Tr. *Shandy* VII. xxi, A novice of the convent... had been troubled with a whitloe in her middle finger. **1813** J. THOMSON *Lect. Inflam.* 337 Where the matter is lodged, as in some cases of whitloe, in the sheaths of the tendons. **1843** R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* xxix. 371 A suppurating tumor resembling a whitlow. **1899** *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 575 Painless whitlow affects the fingers of patients suffering from peripheral nerve disease of the upper extremities.

γ. **1547** BOORDE *Brev. Health* lvi. 17 A white blowe, or a whyte flaw, the whiche doth grow about the rote of the nayle. **1547** SALESBURY *Welsh Dict.*, *Ewinor*, a whetblowe. **1598** FLORIO, *Panariccio*, a fellon, a whitblowe, that comes on ones finger tops.

b. attrib.: whitlow-grass, book-name of two early-flowering plants with white blossoms, formerly reputed to cure whitlows (cf. NAILWORT): *Saxifraga tridactylites*, Rue-leaved Whitlow-grass, and *Draba* (*Erophila*) *verna* (hence in mod. use extended to the whole genus *Draba*); whitlow-wort, a plant of the genus *Paronychia*, formerly reputed to cure whitlows. **1597** GERARDE *Herbal* II. clxxxvi. 498 Of Whiteblowe, or Whitlowe grasse. *Ibid.* 499 Rewe leaved Whitlowe grasse. Jagged Whitlowe grasse. **1634** T. JOHNSON *Merc. Bot.* 57 Rue Whitlow-grasse. **1650** [W. HOWE] *Phytol. Brit.* 88 *Paronychia altera*,... Rue Whitlow-grasse. *Paronychia major*,... Whitlow-wort... *Paronychia vulgaris*,... Chickweed Whitlow-grasse. **1785** MARTYN *Lett. Bot.* II. (1794) 31 Those whose seed vessel is a silicle... as whitlow-grass. **1822** *Hortus Anglicus* II. 143 D[raba] *verna*. *Common Whitlow Grass*... D. Aizoides. *Sen Green*, or *Alpine Whitlow Grass*... D. Pyrenaica. *Pyrenean Whitlow Grass*.

Whitmanesque ('hwitmə'nesk), *a.* [f. the name *Whitman* + -ESQUE.] Characteristic or suggestive of Walt Whitman (1819-92), U.S. poet, or of his poetry. **1882** *Good Lit.* Sept. 2 Clever persons can manufacture Whitmanesque verse quite equal to the average of the original. **1901** E. CROSBY *Edward Carpenter* 6 The long series of poems in Towards Democracy is with few exceptions written in the Whitmanesque meter, or lack of meter. **1913** W. DE LA MARE in *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 193 Eloquence and facility are the danger of Whitmanesque verse of this nature. **1934** C. LAMBERT *Music Ho!* v. 281 There is very little Whitmanesque acceptance of life about the artist of today. **1957** P. WILDERBLOOD *Main Chance* 152 They have a Whitmanesque simplicity that we've quite lost. **1977** *Time* 1 Aug. 50/2 Such a collage has an effect of Whitmanesque tenderness.

So (mostly somewhat *nonce*) *Whitma'nese*, the characteristic style or diction of Whitman; *Whit'mania*, (a) [-MANIA], (a punning word for)

exaggerated admiration for Whitman; (b) [-IA¹], writings pertaining to Whitman; *Whit'maniac*, a devotee of Whitman; *Whit'manian a.* = WHITMANESQUE a.; *Whit'manian sb.*, an admirer or imitator of Whitman; *'Whitmanish a.* = WHITMANESQUE a.; *'Whitmanism*, Whitman's metrical or poetical style; a feature of this; *'Whitmanist*, *'Whitmanite*, a Whitmanian; *'Whitmanize v. intr.*, to write in the manner of Whitman; *Whit'mannic a.* = WHITMANESQUE a.

1887 Whitmania [see BRONTËAN a.]. **1887** M. BERENSON *Lett.* 6 Jan. in Strachey & Samuels *M. Berenson* (1983) ii. 36, I was a Whitmanite at Smith College. **1889** *Pall Mall Gaz.* 25 Jan. 3/2 Having thus to a certain degree settled upon what one might call the *technique* of Whitmanism, he began to brood upon the nature of that spirit that was to give life to the strange form. **1893** R. LE GALLIENNE *Retrospec. Rev.* (1896) I. 213 'I see twenty-two young men from Foster's watching me, and the trousers of the twenty-two young men' is irresistible Whitmanese. **1894** *Nation* 7 June 433/1 One of the worst of Whitmanisms, the interlarding of foreign words. **1902** *Academy* 16 Aug. 173/1 Mr. Moody does not Whitmanise on the one hand, or follow the outworn Tennysonian convention on the other. **1906** *Dial* (Chicago) 1 Mar. 144/2 Much of the conversation reported is trivial to all but ardent Whitmanites. **1918** *Cambr. Hist. Amer. Lit.* II. iii. i. 267 Whitmanism... has already had the ironical fate of developing something not unlike a cult. **a.1930** D. H. LAWRENCE *Phoenix* (1936) 269 Whitmanish 'adhesiveness' of the social creature. **1934** *Times Lit. Suppl.* 30 Aug. 586/3 Before Rossetti established himself publicly as the principal English Whitmanist, 'Leaves of Grass' had been the subject of several reviews. **1948** L. SPITZER *Linguistics & Lit. Hist.* 218 The first [sc. the old alexandrine], Claudel replaced by the Biblical and Whitmanian verset. **1953** A. ALPERS *Katherine Mansfield* 124 Thus reminded that she had a country of her own, Katherine addressed to Wyspiański another of her Whitmanish declamations. **1959** *Times Lit. Suppl.* 16 Oct. 594/4 A foreword by Mr. Charles E. Feinberg, the noted Whitmaniac of Detroit. **a.1960** E. M. FORSTER *Maurice* (1971) 217 Edward Carpenter... was... a Whitmanic poet whose nobility exceeded his strength. **1964** *New Statesman* 13 Mar. 414/3 The presses groan with Whitmania. **1977** *Listener* 30 June 866/3 The Fabian Society... sprang from an idealistic society called the Fellowship of the New Life, much influenced by the Whitmanian, Edward Carpenter.

whitmeate, obs. form of WHITE MEAT.

Whit Monday: see after WHIT SUNDAY.

whitmoreite ('hwitmɔraɪt). *Min.* [f. the name of Robert W. Whitmore (b. 1936), U.S. mineral collector + -ITE¹.] A secondary hydrated basic phosphate of ferric and ferrous iron, Fe²⁺+Fe³⁺+2(PO₄)₂(OH)₂·4H₂O, found as twinned monoclinic crystals of a brownish colour.

1974 P. B. MOORE et al. in *Amer. Mineralogist* LIX. 900/2 Whitmoreite occurs as thin acicular crystals five to ten times as long as they are thick, which range from 0.1 to 2 mm in length. **1979** *Mineral. Abstr.* XXX. 450/1 The occurrence and parageneses of the following newly recognized secondary phosphates in the pegmatite of Hagendorf, West Germany, are recorded: whitmoreite, schoonerite, [etc.].

whitner, obs. form of WHITENER.

whitnes, -nesse, obs. ff. WHITENESS, WITNESS.

Whitney, erron. spelling of WITNEY.

whitneyite ('hwitniat). *Min.* [f. the name of J. D. Whitney, an American geologist: see -ITE¹.] A native arsenide of copper, of a reddish-white colour, found near Lake Superior and elsewhere in America.

1861 BRISTOW *Gloss. Min.*

whitour, obs. form of QUITTER sb.¹

whitpot, obs. form of WHITE-POT.

whitret ('hwitrɪt), **whitterick** ('hwitərɪk). *Sc.* and *dial.* Forms: *a.* 5 whytrate, (-rathe), whitratt, whytrat, *Sc.* quhitrat, 5, 9 whitratt, 6 *Sc.* quhitrat, quhitred, fittret, quhittret, 7-8 whitred, 7, 9 whittret, 8-9 whiteret, 9 whitteret, whittret, (whutthroat), 8- whittret. *β.* 8-9 whitrack, 9 whitrack, (w(h)uttrick, -ock, whuttorock), whitrack, whitterick. (See also *Eng. Dial. Dict.*) [The earliest known forms suggest a compound of WHITE a. and RAT sb.; the types *whitret*, *whitred*, *whitrack* exemplify *Sc.* tendency to modify the sounds of final syllables.] A weasel; also, a stoat.

a. **c.1440** *Prompt. Parv.* 525/2 Whytrate (K. whitratt, P. whytratche). **c.1480** HENRYSON *Trial of Fox* 116 (Harl. MS.) The quhuirand quhitret with the quhasill went. **1486** *Bk. St. Albans*, *Hunting fiiijb*, The Graye, the Fox, the Squyrell, the whitratt, the Sot, and the Pulcatte. **1536** BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* (1821) I. p. xxxiii, Martirikis, bevers, quhitredis, and toddis. **1590** BUREL in Watson *Coll. Sc. Poems* II. (1709) 21 The Fumart and the Fittret strau, The deip and howest hole to haue. *Ibid.* 22 Out come the Quhitret. **1639** SIR R. GORDON *Geneal. Hist. Earld. Sutherland* (1813) 3 Brooks, skuyrrells, whittrets, weasels, otters. **1681** COLVIL *Whigs Suppl.* (1751) p. xi, As harmless as a whited without teeth. **1684** SIBBALD *Scotia Illustr.* II. II. 11 Mustela vulgaris ea est, quæ Whited nostratibus dicitur. **1790** ALEX. WILSON *Disconsolate Wren* Poet. Wks. (1846) 96 Ony whitret's direfu' jaws. **1815** SCOTT *Guy M.*

xxiii, We maun off like whittrets before the whole clajamfray be doun upon us. 1824 MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl.* 275 The whut-throat or weazle, and the hoodie, have often bloodily wars with other. 1880 *Fraser's Mag.* May 646 When a whittret or a fox came prowling past.

β. c1800 R. Jamieson's *Pop. Ball.* (1806) I. 294 Her minnie had hain'd the warl, And the whitrack-skin had routh. 1802 G. V. SAMPSON *Statist. Surv. Londonderry* 455 The weazle (provincially *whitrack*). 1861 QUINN *Heather Lintie* (1863) 145 He yokes him fairly wi' his teeth As Brush wad dune a whitterick.

whitsour ('hwitsaʊə(r)). [? f. WHITE *a.* + SOUR *a.*] A variety of apple.

1733 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Apple*, The Whitsour. 1786 ABERCROMBIE *Gardener's Daily Assist.* p. xi, Apples valued principally for Cyder. White sour.

Whitstable ('hwitstəb(ə)l). The name of a coastal town in Kent, used *attrib.* and *absol.* to designate oysters bred there.

1883 *Queen* 20 Oct. (Adv.), Any others that are advertised at a low price... cannot possibly be the genuine Medina or Whitstable Oysters. 1940 A. L. SIMON *Conc. Encycl. Gastron.* II. 69/2 Most Whitstable oysters to-day are... relaid Brittany or Belons. The oysters known as *Royal Whitstables* are, however, genuine natives, taken from a breeding ground the boundaries of which were settled by law about 1900. 1960 *Times* 2 Nov. 13/6 They may not be Whitstables, but they are oysters of a kind. 1971 *Vogue* 15 Sept. 43/1 One of London's best fishmongers. Ask for fresh sardines, Whitstable oysters, game. 1973 'J. STURROCK' *Wicked Way to Die* x. 142 They've got as fine a barrel of Whitstables here as ever I've seen.

whitster ('hwitstə(r)). Now *local*. Forms: 5 *whytstar*, *wytstare*, *whystare*, *qwytstare*, *qwyster*, *quister*, 6 *whitstarre*, 6- *whitster*. [f. WHITE *v.* + -STER. Cf. Du. *witster* 'a Woman that whitens the walls' (Sewel).]

1. A bleacher.

c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 39/1 Bleystare, or wytstare (K. bleyster, H. bleystare or qwytstare, P. bleykester or whytster), *candidarius*. 1530 PALSGR. 283/2 Whitstarre, *blanchisseur de toilles*. 1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho.* II. 58 The whitsters, and dutch laundresses. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* III. iii. 11 Take this basket... and carry it among the whitsters in Dotcher Mead. 1667 PEPYS *Diary* 12 Aug., My wife and maids being gone over the water to the whitster's with their clothes. 1701 J. HOUGHTON *Collect. Improv. Husb.* No. 493 ¶ 5 The Whitsters do use these Pot-Ashes, in the whitening of their Yarn and Cloth. 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 72 Scourer, Bleacher... French Cleaner, Whitster.

2. A whitesmith.

1823 E. MOOR *Suffolk Wds.*

Hence †**whitstered** (-ad) *a.*, bleached.

1767 *Specif. Thos. Long's Patent* No. 869 A 'machine for printing... whitstered linen'.

whitstone, obs. variant of WHETSTONE.

†**whitsull**. *Cornish dial.* [f. WHITE *a.* + ?SOWL.] = WHITE MEAT *a.*

1602 CAREW *Cornwall* 66 Their meat, Whitsull, as they call it, namely, milke, sowre milke, cheese, curds, butter, and such like as came from the cow and ewe.

Whitsun ('hwitsən). Forms: 3 *witsonen*, *witesone*, 4 *witsone*, 4-6 *Wytson*, 5 *Wyte*-, *Wytt*-, *White*-, *Whyght*-, (*Sc. Vit*-), 5-6 *Whyt*-, 5-7 *Wit*-, 5-8 *Whitton*, 6 *Whitsone*, *Wytsonen*, -*sen*, *Witteson*, (*Sc. Vytson*), 7-8 *Whitsund*, *Whit-sun*, 7- *Whitsun*. β. 5 *Sc. quysson*, 5, 9 *dial.* *Whisson*, 7 *Whesen*. (See also following words.) [ME. *w(h)itsonen* (n, the first two elements of WHIT SUNDAY, WHITSUNDAY, analysed as *Whitsun Day*. Cf. ON. *hvitásunna* *Whitsunday*, *hvitásunnuvika* *Whitsun week*, *hvitásunnua-ptann* *Whitsun eve*.]

1. Used *attrib.* to denote something belonging to, connected with, or occurring at the season of Whit Sunday or Whitsuntide: as *Whitsun air*, *contribution*, *fair*, *holiday*, *market*, *morn*, *morris-dance*, *pastoral*; *Whitsun ale* *Hist.* [ALE 3], a parish festival formerly held at Whitsuntide, marked by feasting, sports, and merry-making; †*Whitsun eve*, even [EVE *sb.* 2, EVEN *sb.* 2], the day before Whit Sunday; †*Whitsun farthing* = PENTECOSTAL *sb.*; *Whitsun gillyflower*, local name for a double-flowered variety of rocket (*Hesperis matronalis*); †*Whitsun lady*, lord, titles of the leading or presiding personages at a *Whitsun ale*; *Whitsun week*, the week beginning with Whit Sunday, Whit-week. Also occas. in names of the days of Whit-week, as *Whitsun Sunday* (*obs.* or *dial.*) = WHIT SUNDAY, *Whitsun Monday*, etc. = Whit Monday, etc. (see after WHIT SUNDAY). See also WHITSUNTIDE.

1846 KEBLE *Lyra Innoc.* x. xi, Thy dread Hours, Thou awful Trinity, Are but the *Whitsun airs, new set on high. 1614 W. BROWNE *Sheph. Pipe* I. C6, This is a Tale Would befit our *Whitsun-ale. 1619 *Pasquill* *Palin* B3, Happy the age... When every village did a May-pole raise, And Whitsun-ales, and May-games did abound. 1633 CHAS. I. *Decl. conc. Sports* 11 That after the end of Diuine Service, Our good people be not disturbed, letted, or discouraged from... hauing of May-Games, Whitsun Ales, and Morris-dances. 1698 WALLIS in *Phil. Trans.* XX. 301 When they

flock about a Ballad-Singer in a Fair, or the Morrice-Dancers at a Whitsund Ale. 1727 SOMERVILLE *Yeoman of Kent* 32 At Whitsun-ales king of the May... He tript it on each holyday. 1842 J. AITON *Dom. Econ.* (1857) 95 Royal proclamations had failed to revive Whitsunales, and May games, and Morris dancers. People will not be merry by rule. 1695 KENNETT *Par. Antiq.* ix. 597 The Pentecostals or *Whitsun-contributions. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 11855 A *witsonen eue hii come þer. 1475 *Paston Lett.* (1904) V. 232 Wretyn at Mawteby, on Wyteson eve. 1553-4 in Swayne *Churchw. Acc. Sarum* (1896) 99 Ryngyng none on Whytson yeve, ij d. 1624 LAUD *Diary* 15 May, Saturday, Whitsun-eve, The Bill passed in Parliament. 1709 *First Publishers of Truth* (1907) 242 The day Called whitsoneve. c1425 in *Rep. MSS. Ld. Middleton* (Hist. MSS. Comm. 1911) 107 On *Qwysson even everilke man breke bis severyll gresse, os hym lykes. 1535 *Songs, Carols*, etc. (E.E.T.S.) 165 On Wytson evyne was a gret thonder at London. 1620 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 26/1 Die Sabbati ante festum Pentecostes lie Witson-evin et 12 Nov. 1807 CRABBE *Par. Reg.* I. 427 Loitering at the *Whitsun-fair. 1656 in *Urlick Nonconf. Worc.* (1897) 56 Oblations commonly called by the name of *Whitsun Farthings payable to the Dean and Chapter of W[orcester]. 1730 BAILEY (folio) s.v. *Quadragesimalis*, Pentecostals or Whitsund Farthings. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 852/1 Whitsun-Farthings, otherwylle called Smoke-farthings... a composition for offerings... anciently made in Whitsun-week by every man in England, who occupied a house with a chimney, to the cathedral church of the diocese. 1656 W. COLES *Art of Simpling* xi. 33 May brings Roses, Pinks, *Whitsungilliflowers. 1886 BRITTEN & HOLLAND *Plant-n.*, *Gilliflower*, *Whitsun*. The double-flowered variety of *Hesperis matronalis*,... *Som.* (Whitsun Gilawfers). 1533 *Songs, Carols*, etc. (E.E.T.S.) 163 Justis at Westemlynster all þe *Wytson halydais. 1609 B. JONSON *Silent Wom.* III. i, Were you ever so much as look'd upon by a Lord... but on the Easter, or Whitsunholydys? 1715 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5336/1 Their Majesties intend to go after the Whitsun-Holidays to Marienzell. 1656 HEYLIN *Surv. France* 47 A Kitchen-wench... now so tricked up with scarfs, rings, and cross-garters, that you never saw a *Whitsun-Lady better rigged. 1611 *Melismata* F2b, Ich haue beene twice our *Whitsun Lord. 1633 B. JONSON *Tale of Tub* ProI. 8 Old records Of antique proverbs, drawn from Whitsun-lords. 1495 HALYBURTON *Ledger* (1867) 108 At the *Vitson merkat. 1501 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 154 From Lyncolns Inne... this *Whitsunemunday. 1622 in *Crt. & Times* *Jas. I.* (1848) II. 315 The new Venetian ambassador... had his first audience on Whitsun-Monday. 1687 *MSS. Dk. Ruiland* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) II. 113 Whesen Monday. 1778 *Eng. Gazetteer* (ed. 2), *Linton*,... 10 miles from Cambridge... has a market on Thursday, and fairs on Whitsun-Monday, and August 4. 1535 STARKEY *Let. in England* (1871) p. xxii, Your ietturys... were receyuyd upon *Wytson morn. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V.* II. iv. 25 Busied with a *Whitsun Morris-dance. 1611 — *Wint. T.* IV. iv. 134, I play as I haue seene them do In *Whitsun-Pastorals. 1556 *Chron. Grey Friars* (Camden) 36 On *Wytsonsonday, which was the xxxj. of May, was the coronacion. 1825 BROCKETT *N.C. Gloss.*, *Whitsun-Sunday*, Whitsunday. 1612 HOPTON *Concord. Yeares* 173 *Whitsun-thursday. 1599 *Min. Archaeaconry of Colchester* ff. 248 (MS) In the afternoone on Whitsun monday and *Whitsun tuasedaye all day. 1662 *Bk. Com. Prayer* N3, Whitsun Tuesday. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIII. 403/1. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* 168 *Vytson veddynday. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 10542 þe þorsdai þe *witesonewouke to londone lowis com. c1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xl. (Ninian) 734 Of witsonen owke þe twysday. c1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxxii. 147 Apon a Seterday in Whisson woke. 1478 *Paston Lett.* III. 224 Wretyn at London, the Wednysdaye in Whyghtsonweke. 1551-2 *Act 5 & 6 Edw. VI* c. 3 Monday and Tewisdaye in Witteson welke. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV.* II. i. 95 On Wednesday in Whitsun week. 1634 *Bk. Com. Prayer* H5, Munday in Whitsun weeke. 1848 MRS. GASKELL *Mary Barton* v, The great annual town-holiday of Whitsun-week.

2. *sb.* Short for WHITSUNTIDE. *rare.*

1849 DISRAELI in *Monypenny & Buckle Life* (1914) III. viii. 204 There will be a hot and perhaps eventful campaign between this and Whitsun. 1856 *Ibid.* (1916) IV. iii. 45 Between Easter and Whitsun.

Whit Sunday, Whitsunday (hwit 'sandi, 'hwitsəndə). Forms (see also DAY and SUNDAY): 1 (*obl.*) *Hwitan Sunnandæg*, 2 *wit(te)-sunnedei*, 3 *White(n)sune(n)dæi*, *hwitesune*-, *Witeson(ne)*-, *wit-sune*-, *wit(e)sone*-, 4 *wit sonday*, *wijt sundai*, *Wittsunday*, *whytonen*-, *wit(te)sone*-, 4-6 *Witsonday(e)*, 5 *Whytesonday*, *witsonen*-, -*on*-, *witsun*-, *wyt*-, *wyth-so(u)nday*, *wythsson*-, *Qwytsonn*-, *qwyteson(e)*-, 6 *Whit sonday*, *Whit(t)son*-, *Whytson*-, *Witsunday*, *whitson*, *Wittson daye*, *Sc. Witsounda*, *Vyt*-, *Vitso(u)nday*, 6- *Whitsunday*, 7- *Whit Sunday*, (*Whit-Sunday*, 9 *Whitsun-Day*). β. 4 *Sc. Qwhyssonday*, 4-5 *qwhissunday*, 5 *w(h)issonday*, *whysunday*, 9 *dial.* *Whussenday*. [late OE. *hwita Sunnandæg* lit. 'white Sunday' (found once only and in oblique form *Hwitan S.*); whence app. ON. *hvitásunnudagr* in the same sense, also *hvitásunnudagsaptann*, -*nátt*, -*vika* (ON. *hvitadagr* 'white day', *hvitadróttinsdagr* 'white Lord's-day', *hvitadagavika* *Whitsun week*, cannot be taken as evidence of an independent Norse origin; they are prob. due to Icelandic attempts to obliterate heathen traces from the name of the festival). The epithet 'white' is generally taken to refer to the ancient custom of the wearing of white baptismal robes by the newly-baptized at the feast of Pentecost (cf. *Dominica in albis*, the name of the First Sunday

after Easter, Low Sunday, given for the same reason).

The formal analogues of *Whitsunday* current on the Continent in Low German and neighbouring areas are mostly applied to the First Sunday after Easter (cf. above), or the First Sunday in Lent (prob. from the white church-hangings then used; cf. OFris. *hwita tornsdey*, Du. *Witte Donderdag* Maundy Thursday), e.g. MLG. *witsundach*, MDu. *wittensondagh*, and (from LG.) MDa. *hvidesondag*, MSw. *hwita sunnodaghur*. (No confirmation has been found of Kilian's 'witten-son-dagh', vetus Fland. *Dominica Pentecostes*, and Cotgrave's 'Dimanche de blanches, Palmes-Sunday' and Hexham's 'Witten Sondagh, Palme-Sunday' are prob. blunders.)

In earlier OE. the name of Whitsunday was *pentecosten* (gen. -enes), the Græco-Latin name (see PENTECOST and cf. Goth. *paintekusten* acc.), which was adopted in other Teut. languages, e.g. OS. (*te*) *pincoštōn*, MDu. *pinxteren*, Du. *pinkster*, OHG. (*zi*) **pfinkustin* (*simfchustim*), MHG. *pfingesten*, G. *Pfingsten*, (M)LG. *pinksten*, Sw. *Pingst*, Da. *Pinse(dag)*: see PINKSTER.

As the name of a Scottish term-day, *Whitsunday* (stressed on the final syllable) has been long dissociated from the church festival.

According to different apprehensions of the composition of the word (the origin of which was obscured by the shortening of the first syllable), it has been divided either as *Whitsun day* or as *Whit Sunday*, and the first elements of both of these have been used attributively in the same sense: see WHITSUN and *Whit Monday*, etc. below.]

1. The seventh Sunday after Easter, observed as a festival of the Christian Church in commemoration of the descent of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost: = PENTECOST 2.

c1100 O.E. *Chron.* an. 1067 (MS. D.) On þisan Easton com se kyng to Winestre, & þa wæron Eastra on x kal. April, & sona æfter þam com Mathild seo hlæfdie hider to lande, & Ealdred areebiscop hig gehalgode to cwenen... on Hwitan Sunnandæg. c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 45 Munecing of þam hali gast þe he sende in his apostles on þon dei þe is icleped wit-sunne-dei. c1205 LAY. 17481 þat al his folc... come to Amberes-buri... to White-sunedæie. c1290 *St. Brendan* 151 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 224 þer 3e schulle þis ester beo & þis wit-sonedai also. 1387 *TREvisa Higden* (Rolls) V. 445 In a Witsonday þe mayde was i-cristened. 1398 *Munim. de Melros* (Bann.) 488 At þe fest of qwhissunday. c1400 *Rom. Rose* 2278 Haue hatte of floures as fresh as may Chapelett of Roses of wissonday. c1400 *Yvaine & Gau.* 16 He made a feste, the soth to say, Upon the Witsononday, At Kerdyf, that es in Wales. 1482 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 95 On ascensyon day and wythssunday he put no lyght to hym, the whiche yn these festis specially were wonte to brenne. a1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* clxxxi. 731 On a witsonday temperour and thempresse heide estate royall at there palayes for y^e solempnyte of that day. 1634 *BRERETON Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) 4 The next morning early, being Whit Sunday, was discovered land. 1827 *KEBLE Chr. Year* (heading of poem) Whitsunday. 1868 J. H. BLUNT *Ref. Ch. Eng.* I. 188 The coronation took place at Westminster on Whitsun-Day.

†b. Used for the actual day of Pentecost on which the event took place: see PENTECOST 1. *Obs.*

a1240 *Lofsong* in O.E. *Hom.* I. 209 þe 3eoue of þe holi goste þet þu on hwite sune dai sendest þine deorewurde deciples. c1275 *Passion our Lord* 657 in O.E. *Misc.* 56 At þon heye vndarne, a wit-suneday... þe holy gost heom com vp-on in fury tunge. c1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* i. (*Petrus*) 40 Petir brought to cristis fay Thre thowsand men on witsonday. 1387 *TREvisa Higden* (Rolls) IV. 351 Bytwene þe ascencion, þat is holy þorsday, and Witsonday, Mathias was i-chose.

2. (In form *Whitsunday* or *Whitsun Day*.) One of the Scottish quarter-days or term-days (see TERM-DAY b), ordinarily May 15, but in certain cases May 26 (= May 15 Old Style) or May 28.

1450 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 84/1 Full powar... my malis... to raise & ressave, my Witsondais to set and to halde. 1539 *Extr. Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 164 Mertimes and Vytsonday. 1547 *Ibid.* 174 Thre merkis, to be payit be the said maisteris of wark at Vitsunday and Mertimes be equall portionis. 1693 *Sc. Acts Will.* & *Mary* c. 40 (1822) IX. 304/2 Our Sovereign Lord and Lady The King and Queens Majesties... Declare that the Fifteenth day of May was since the date of the forsaide Act, and shall be in all time coming in place of the former Terme of Whitsunday, to all effects whatsoever. 1905 *Glasgow Herald* 10 June 10.

3. *attrib.* in senses 1 and 2.

1451 *Churchw. Acc.*, Yatton (Som. Rec. Soc.) 93 The Wendisdaye of Wytsondaye tyme. 1483 *Acta Audit.* in *Acta Dom. Conc.* II. Intro. 108 The malis of the samyn landis of the Witsonday terme last bipast. c1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xxvii. 544 On wytsondaye evyn. 1503 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* II. 297 To the thre wemen that rokkit and keptit the barnes, thair Witsonday fee, iij li. 1503 *Sc. Acts* *Jas. IV* (1814) II. 243/2 Apon thurisday in witsonday wolk. c1557 *Wills & Inv.* N.C. (Surtees 1835) I. 153 Debtcs... to my lorde of durh'm for whitsun daye rent of thold p'ke xl^s.

So Whit Monday, Whit Tuesday, the Monday and Tuesday following Whit Sunday; also †*Whit Wednesday*, *Thursday*, formerly called *Whitsun Monday*, etc.: see WHITSUN 1. (*Whit Saturday* is in occas. recent use for the day before Whit Sunday, formerly called *Whitsun eve*.) So Whit-week, the week beginning with Whit Sunday.

1557 Q. MARY in 15th *Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. II. 31 Unill the viiith daye of this present moneth whiche shall be Whitmondaye. 1665 *Wonders if not Miracles V. Gertrux* 5, I went up thither... on White-munday. 1778 *Eng. Gazetteer* (ed. 2) s.v. *Eye*, The market is on Saturday, the fair on Whit-Monday. *Ibid.*, *Linfield*,... with 3 fairs, on May 6, on Whit-Tuesday, and on October 28. *Ibid.*, *Llanbeder*, Cardiganshire... has... fairs on Whit-Wednesday, July 10 [etc.]. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIII. 403/1 Whit-Thursday. 1867 tr. *C'est Hahn-Hahn's Fathers of Desert* 365 In the night between Whitsunday and Whitmondai. 1869 BLACKMORE

Lorna D. lxxiv. It was now Whit-Tuesday, and the lilacs all in blossom. **1899** *Daily News* 18 May 7/1 Whit-week would be a very good time to close the schools.

Whitsuntide ('hwitsəntaɪd). Forms (see also **TIDE sb.**): 3 White-sune tide, wit sonentid, 3-4 witeson(e)-, 3-6 Wytson-, 4 whitson(e)-, Witsun-, 4-6 Witson-, Witte-, 5 Qhythson-, 5-6 Whytson-, (Witsenstye), 5-8 Whitson-, 7- Whitsuntide. **β.** 4 Wissen-, 5 whisson(e)-, Whysson(e)-, Whyssen-, 6 Whyson-, 9 *dial.* Whissontide. [f. **WHITSUN** + **TIDE sb.**] The season of Whit Sunday; Whit Sunday and the days immediately following.

c 1205 **LAY.** 31524 Hit ilomp an ane time to pan White-sune tide [later text Witsontime] pat pe king hehte of londen. **1297** **R. GLOUC.** (Rolls) 3111 Aȝen þe feste of witesontyd. **a** 1330 *Rouland & V.* (Abbotsf. Club) 16 At Ester, at Wissentide, And at seyn Iames day... And in Yole. **c** 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 76 On a tyme when þe grete Emperour Henrie... held his whisson-tyde. **1448** *Paston Lett.* 1. 70 Harry Goneld hath browth to me xls... and he seyth I xal have more or Qhythson tyd. **1484** *Caxton Chivalry* v. 52 To make and adoube a knyȝt it aperteyneth the day of some grete feste as Crystemas, Eester, Whitsontyd. **1553** in Sir W. Parker *Hist. Long. Melford* (1873) 97 At Witsenstye. **1600** **MARSTON**, etc. *Jack Drum's Entert.* 1. (1601) A 3b, Tis Whitsontyde, and we must frolick it. **1710** **STEELE** *Tatler* No. 178 ¶3 We wish... all our Customers a merry Whitsuntide. **1859** **TENNYSON** *Marr. Geraint* 145 Arthur on the Whitsuntide before Held court at old Caerleon upon Usk. **1916** **G. E. BUCKLE** *Life of Disraeli* IV. i. 9 After Whitsuntide the general debate was resumed.

†**b.** Used in early versions of N.T. for **PENTECOST** 1. *Obs.* (Cf. **WHIT SUNDAY** 1 b.)

1382 **WYCLIF** 1 *Cor.* xvi. 8, I schal dwelle at Effecy, til to Witsuntide [TINDALE, vntill witsontyde; **1551** witsontyde].

c. attrib.

1609 **B. JONSON** *Silent Wom.* III. i. I would haue you get your Whitsontide-velvet-eap. **1611** **CORYAT** *Crudities* 9 A Whitsuntide foole... wearing a long coate, wherein there were many seuerall peeces of cloth of diuers colours. **1687** in *Jrnl. Friends' Hist. Soc.* (1915) Oct. 182 Shee is willing to sett out... after whitsuntide weeke soe called is ouer. **c** 1755 in *B. Ward Hist. St. Edmund's Coll.* (1893) 303 On all working days in ye Xmas and Whitsuntide Vacations. **1916** **G. E. BUCKLE** *Life of Disraeli* IV. i. 7 The Whitsuntide recess [of Parliament] was approaching.

whitt, obs. *dial.* f. **QUICK** *a.*; obs. f. **WHITE**.

whittawer ('hwitəwɜ:(r)). Now only *Hist.* or *dial.* Forms: 4 whitetawier, white-tawyer, whit(t)awyer, 5 whytetawyer, 5-7 white tawyer, (7 whiteaw^r), 5- whittawer, 6-8 white tawer, 7-8 white-tawer, 9 whitawer, *dial.* w(h)ittor, whittaw, etc. [f. **WHITE** *a.* + **TAWER**¹. (Cf. the synonymous **MDu.** *witgaerwer*, **MHG.** *wizgerwer*, *G. weissgerber*.)] One who taws skins into **WHITLEATHER**: = **TAWER**¹. In mod. *dial.*, a saddler, harness-maker.

1284 12 *Edw. I. Stat. Wallie* c. 4 De Whitawariis [v.rr. Whitawariis, Whytawariis], scilicet qui coria bovina & equina furata scienter albificant ut sic non agnoscantur. **13** .. *Liber Albus* (Rolls) III. 432 Galfridus le Whitetawier. **1311** *Letter Bk. D. Lond.* ff. 127 Walterus le Whitawyer, Joh'es le Megucer. **1346** *Ibid.* f. 126 b, Les bones gentz appelez Whitawyers. **1411** *Close Roll 12 Hen. IV.* dorso, Willielmus Pratte, White tawyer. **1474** *Cov. Leet Bk.* 401 The sise of a whittawer is that he make nor tawe no maner of lether but Shepis lether, Gettes lethr, deris ledur, horse-lethr, or houndes-lether. **1615** *Manch. Crt. Leet Rec.* (1885) II. 303 Robart Hilton, whiteaw^r. **1615** **MANWOOD** *Laves Forest* xxv. 250b, If any white Tawyer doe dwell in the forest, he shall be removed, and make fine: for they are the common dressers of skins of stolne Deere. **1660** **SHARROCK** *Vegetables* 88 Lime, which the Tanner and White-Tawer take out of their lime-pits. **1720** *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5882/8 William Welden, ... Whittawer. **a** 1722 *LISLE* *Husb.* (1752) 45 Few Harness-makers, that are white tawers, understand how to dress their hides. **1854** **MISS BAKER** *Northampt. Gloss.*, *Whitawer*, a collar-maker, or maker of husbandry harness. **1859** **GEO. ELIOT** *Adam Bede* vi. Men are busy there mending the harness, under the superintendence of Mr. Goby the 'whittaw', otherwise saddler.

Hence †**whittawing** *vbl. sb.*, the practice of whittawers.

1581 **KITCHIN** *Le Crt. Leete* 13 Auxii si ascun per ascun voie corrupt les common ewes per whitawinge per lyme ou per line.

whitte, obs. form of **WHIT**, **WHITE**, **WIT**.

whitten ('hwit(ə)n). *dial.* Also 6 *Sc.* veyton, 7 whitting, whiting, 9 witten. [Usually *whitten-tree*, repr. OE. *hwitingtréow*, f. *hwiting* (of identical formation with **WHITING** *sb.*) + *tréow* **TREE**.] More fully, *whitten-tree*. A name for the water elder or wild guelder-rose (*Viburnum Opulus*), and the wayfaring-tree (*V. Lantana*). Also (by confusion with *whicken*, **QUICKEN** *sb.*¹), the mountain-ash or rowan (*Pyrus aucuparia*), and some allied plants.

whitten pear-tree, the service-tree (*Pyrus Sorbus*): see quot. 1833 s.v. **WHITTY**.

c 1100 *Elfric's Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 139/1 *Uariculus*, hwitingtreow. [Identified by Cockayne as *Pyrus Aria*, White-Beam-tree.] **1549** *Compl. Scot.* vi. 67, I sau veyton, the decoction of it is remeid for ane sair heide. **1578** **LYTE** *Dodoens* vi. lxxx. 761 Of Marris Elder, Ople, or Dwarf Plane tree... I take this to be a shrub that is called in Englishe, Whittentree, whereof are two kinds. **1597** **GERARDE** *Herbal* III. lxxii. 1237 The water Elder is called... in English Marish Elder, and Whitten tree, Ople tree, and

Dwarffe Plane tree. **1636** **JOHNSON** *Gerarde's Herbal* Table Eng. Names, Whicken tree, i. wilde Ash... Whitten tree, i. water Elder, or wilde Ash. **1668** *Phil. Trans.* III. 857 The Whitting or Quicking-tree, (Lat. *Fraxinus Sylvestris*, and by some *Fraxinus Cambro-Britanica*). **a** 1697 **AUBREY** (Royal Soc. MS. ff. 137) in Britten & Holland *Plant-n.*, About Cranbourn chace growes... a tree with a white leafe... no bigger than a cherry tree; they call it Whiting or White-wood. **1847** **HALLIWELL**, *Whitten*, the wayfaring tree. *Kent.* **1868** *Archaeologia* XLII. 125 The Rowan or Quick-beam... popularly termed the Mountain Ash... and, in some counties, the Whiten-tree and the Witty.

whitter ('hwitə(r)), *sb.*¹ *Sc.* Also 6-7 qu(h)-, -our. [Imitative.] **a.** A talkative person, a chatterer. **b.** Chatter, 'loquacity, prattle' (*Jam.*). So **whitter-whatter** in same senses.

a 1585 **MONTGOMERIE** *Flying* 767 Rank ruittour, scurliquitour [v. rr. scurlie whittour, scurliquittor], and luittour. **1805** **A. SCOTT** *Poems* 47 What need we heed sic whitter-whatter? **1825** **JAMIESON** s.v., A woman who is very garrulous is said to be 'a perfect whitter-whatter'. **1897** **E. HAMILTON** *Outlaws* *Marches* III. I would counsel you... to haud your whitter the night.

whitter, sb.² *Sc.* [Cf. **WHITTLE** *v.*¹] A draught of liquor, a drink.

1785 **BURNS** 1st *Ep. J.* L*****k xix, We'll sit down an' tak our whitter, To cheer our heart.

'**whitter, v.** *Sc.* [Later form of **QUITTER** *v.*²]

1. *intr.* To warble, twitter. *Sc.*

1513 [see **QUITTER** *v.*¹]. **c** 1800 *Elfer Hill* 24 in R. Jamieson *Pop. Ball.* (1806) I. 226 The sma' fowls in the shaw began to whitter in the dale.

2. To move lightly and briskly; to quiver, flutter, scamper, etc. *Sc.*

1513 [see **QUITTER** *v.*¹]. **1819** **W. TENNANT** *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 7 The dows and daws... Out-whirr'd and whitter't. **1894** **FLORA A. STEEL** *Potter's Thumb* xiii, A 'whittering' beast. 'Whitter! Whitter!' under the bed; behind the boxes. That was the worst of a musk-rat; no one could possibly tell where it would 'whitter' next.

whitter, var. **QUITTER** *sb.*¹ (sense 2).

1833 **SIR C. BELL** *Hand* (1834) 296 Sandcracks, whitters, inflammations, and other diseases of the horse's foot.

whitter, var. of **WITTER** *v.*²

whitteret, -ick, var. **WHITRET**.

whitterish ('hwitəɪʃ), *a. dial.* [? Variant of **QUITTERISH**.] Pale, faded.

1679 *Hist. Yetzer* 14 A pallid whitterish colour. **1854** **MISS BAKER** *Northampt. Gloss.*, *Whitterish*, faded. Applied to clothes which have lost their colour from the effect of the sun, or frequent washing.

whittie-whattie ('hwit(h)wɒtɪ), *sb.* *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Also 7 whytie whatie, 8 whity-whaty, 9 whittee-whatee. [Reduplicated? on **WHAT** *int. pron.*] Vague or undecided talk or statement; indecision, shilly-shallying; a frivolous excuse. So **whittie-whattie** *v. intr.*, to be undecided, to shilly-shally; also, to speak low or secretly, to mutter, whisper.

c 1680 **R. MACWARD** *Contend.* (1723) 363 The sense and substance of all this whittie whattie... will be only, 'O be quiet' [etc.]. **1692** 'J. CURATE' *Sc. Presbyt. Elog.* 110 Criticks with their firm frams and whytie whaties, may imagine a hundred reasons. **1808** **JAMIESON**, *Whitie-whaties*, silly pretences;... frivolous excuses. **1821** **SCOTT** *Pirate* vi. 'What are ye whittie-whattieing about, ye gowk?' said his gentle sister, who suspected the tenor of his murmurs.

whitting, obs. var. **WHITING**.

whittle ('hwit(ə)l), *sb.*¹ Now *dial.* Forms: 1-3 hwitel, 4 hwitel, wytel, 5 wytele, 6 whittel, 7-whittle. [OE. *hwitel*, corresp. to ON. *hvitill* white bed-cover (Norw. *kvitel* blanket); f. *hwit* **WHITE** *a.* + -EL¹, -LE.] †**a.** A cloak, mantle. †**b.** A blanket. **c.** A baby's woollen napkin or flannel petticoat. **d.** A shawl or wrap.

c 900 tr. *Beda's Hist.* IV. xxxi, Ða eode þes broðor sume dæge þæt he wolde his reon & his hwitlas [saga]... in se wæscan. **c** 1000 **ELFRIC** *Gen.* ix. 23 Sem and Iafeth dydon anne hwitel [pallium] on hira sculdra. **a** 1225 *Ancr. R.* 214 Boðe schulen beon of wurmes his kurtel [v.r. hwitel] & his kuuertur. **a** 1300 *Walter of Henley's Husb.* (1890) 4 Wo þæt strechet forþer þan his wytel wyle reche in þe straue his fet he mot streche. **1393** **LANGL.** *P. Pl. C.* xvii. 76 When he streynep hym to streche, þe straw is hus whitel. **1422** *Will of Olney* (Somerset Ho.), j wytele & j chete. **1565** **COOPER** *Thesaurus*, *Crepundia*,... the first apparayle of children, as, swathes, whittels, wastecoates, and such lyke. **1668** in Alice M. Earle *Costume Colon.* *Times* (1894) 257 A whittle that was fringed. **1697** in C. Worthy *Devon. Wills* (1896) 214 To sister, Rachel Tucker, my largest red whittle. **1700** **J. BROME** *Trav. Eng.* 234 The [Devonshire] Women have a peculiar sort of Garment, which they wear upon their Shoulders, called Whittles, they are like Mantles with fringes about the edges. **1755** *Connoisseur* No. 80. ¶7 As great a store of caps, clouts, biggens, belly-bands, whittles, and all kinds of childbed-linnen, as would set up a Lying-in Hospital. **1850** **SMEDLEY** *F. Fairleigh* xiv, I sought out the... old lady, whose shawl I had so unceremoniously made use of [to extinguish fire]... I believe... she considered Miss Saville's safety dearly purchased at the expense of her favourite whittle. **1871** **Mrs. H. WOOD** *Dene Hollow* xxiv, In a coarse red shawl — or, as it was called then, 'whittle',... Emma Geash started.

whittle ('hwit(ə)l), *sb.*² Now *dial.* Forms: 4 qwetyll, 5 whyttel, 6 whittell, *Sc.* quhittil, 7 whittle, 6- whittle. [Variant of **THWITTLE**; cf. *whack*,

whang.] A knife, esp. one of a large size, as a carving-knife, a butcher's knife, or one carried as a weapon; also, a clasp-knife.

1404 *Nottingham Rec.* II. 22, j. whyttel, j.d. **14**.. *Stockholm Med. MS.* 1. 446 in *Anglia* XVIII. 306 Schrape of þe ouerest bark with a qwetyll. **1515** **BARCLAY** *Egloges* III. (1570) Bvj/1 The scullians... Came some with whittels, some other with fleshhokes. **1570** [see quot. 1470 s.v. **THWITTLE** *sb.*]. **a** 1586 **SIDNEY** *Arcadia* III. (1912) 434 He thought best... with a great whittle he had... to cut his throate, which he had used so with Calves, as he had no small dexteritie in it. **1592** **GREENE** *Greene's Vis.* Wks. (Grosart) XII. 209 A whittell by his belt he beare. **1608** **WINGFIELD** *Disc. Virg.* in *Archaeol. Amer.* IV. 99 No penny whittle was asked of me, but a knife, whereof I had none to spare. **1653** **GATAKER** *Vind. Annot.* Jer. 136 We shall not need to borrow great Alexanders whiniard to cut this Gordian knot asunder, any sory whittle will serve the turn. **1668** **DRYDEN** *Even. Love* IV. (1671) 70 Here's the sixpenny whittle you gave me, with the Mutton haft: I can spare it, for knives are of little use in Spain. **1724** **RAMSAY** *Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) II. 181 A rousty whittle to sheer the kail. **1806** *Gazetteer Scot.* (ed. 2) 294 The knives [of Kilmaurs] were so much famed, that a Kilmaur's [sic] whittle becamе proverbial. **1821** **SCOTT** *Kenilt.* xxvii, Beshrew me, ... but thou art sharper than a Sheffield whittle! [Cf. quot. c 1386 s.v. **THWITTLE** *sb.*] **1841** **T. PARKER** *Crit. & Misc. Writ.* v. (1848) 117 He wears a beaver hat, and a coat of English cloth, and has a Birmingham whittle, and a watch in his pocket. **1853** **G. J. CAYLEY** *Las Alforjas* I. 61 In the fingers of his right [hand] was a crooked whittle, with which... as the basketfuls arrived, he would nick the score upon notch-sticks.

b. Comb.: **whittle-gait** (-gate), see quot. 1804; **whittle-knife**, a whittle.

1804 **R. ANDERSON** *Cumblid. Ball.* (1805) 144 In some parts of Cumberland... he not only receives quarter-pence, but is provided with virtuals at the homes of his scholars, which he visits in succession. This *whittle-gait (as it is called) subjects him however to the toil of travelling. **1825** **BROCKETT** *N.C. Gloss.* s.v., 'An harden sark, a guse grassing, and a whittle gait', were all the salary of a clergyman, not many years ago, in Cumberland. **1735** *Phil. Trans.* XXXIX. 76 The *Whittle-Knife, with the Box-Handle. **a** 1811 **LEYDEN** *Malay Annals* (1821) 54 In his hand was a whittle knife without the haft.

whittle, sb.³ *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Also 6-7 whittell, 9 *Sc.* whuttle. Reduced form of **WHITLOW**. Also †**whittle-flaw** = *whitflaw* (see **WHITLOW**); **whittle-grass**, melilot (cf. *whitlow-grass*).

1596 **J. MELVILL** *Autob. & Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 366 We feill mair a whittell in our finger nor the helthe of the haill body. **1756** **C. LUCAS** *Ess. Waters* II. 66 Sea-water... relieves whittle-flaws before they exulcerate. **1774** **MACLAURIN** *Argts. & Decis.* 94 A distemper incident to the thumb, vulgarly called the whittle. **1825** **JAMIESON**, *Whuttle-grass*.

†**'whittle, v.**¹ *Obs.* Also 6 whittel, whyttel(l), whityll, 6-7 whitle. [Usually taken to be a fig. use of next (cf. **WHET** *v.* 6), but evidence is wanting.] *trans.* To ply with drink, to make drunk, intoxicate; in *pa. pple.* excited by drink, drunk, intoxicated. Hence **whittled** *ppl. a.*, **whittling** *vbl. sb.*

1530 **PALSGR.** 500 When he is well whyttelled, he wyll crake goodly of his manhode, *quant il a bien beu* [etc.]. *Ibid.* 844 Well whytled, nere dronken. **1543** **BECON** *Invective agst. Swearing* 24 When they are once set vpon the ale benche, and well whytled in theyr braynes thorow the many cuppes that haue bene fylled in. **c** 1566 *Merie Tales of Skelton* in Wks. 1843 I. p. lxiii, Skelton did fill all the cuppes... and whittled the frere. **1593** **G. HARVEY** *Pierce's Super.* 44 What? gorge vpon gorge, egges vpon egges, & sack vpon sacke?... Such egging and whirling may happen bring you acquainted with the triumphant chariot of rotten egges. **1601** **HOLLAND** *Pliny* XIV. xxiii. l. 427 When they... be thoroughly whittled, ... then... the secrets of the heart are opened. **1652** **URQUHART** *Jewel* 126 Drinking healths, ... whittling themselves with Septembrall juyee. **1694** **MOTTEUX** *Rabelais* v. Prognost. v. 236 Whittled, Mellow, Cupshotten Swillers.

whittle, v.² Also 6-7 whitle. [f. **WHITTLE** *sb.*²]

I. 1. a. trans. To cut thin slices or shavings from the surface of (a stick, etc.); to dress or pare with a knife; to reduce or sharpen by doing this. Also with *down* (cf. sense 2).

1552 **HULOET**, *White* a thinge small, or sharpe like a shafte. *inspico*. **1590** **FENNE** *Frutes* Ded., The Persians... use commonly to whittle small twigs of birch, to keepe themselves from... idle cogitations. **1614** **PURCHAS** *Pilgrimage* IV. iv. (ed. 2) 353 Cambyases... whittling a stick to passe away the time. **1639** **J. CLARKE** *Paræm.* 262 He will whittle an oke to a butcher[s] pickte. **1658** **OSBORN** *Mem. King James* To Rdr., A huge blame is due to such as mannage their pens no lesse impertinently then clowns do their knives and hatchets, with which... they deface and whittle the sacred graves... of great persons. **1662** **ATWELL** *Faithf. Surveyor* 13 You must have ten sticks about a foot long apiece, whittled and sharpened at the great end. **1724** **E. WARD** *Dancing Devils* 32 As Lawyers Clerks... Instead of minding Bonds or Leases, Sit whitt'ling useful Pens to pieces. **1842** **DICKENS** *Amer. Notes* xiv, The captain... seated himself astride of one of these barrels, ... and pulling a great clasp-knife out of his pocket, began to 'whittle' it... by paring thin slices off the edges. **1913** **JANE E. HARRISON** *Art & Ritual* iv. 94 These wands... are whittled at the top into spiral shavings. **1972** **D. BLOODWORTH** *Any Number can Play* xii. 103 A young orang... tried poking it [sc. a hole in a log] with a twig that was too thick, then whittled down the twig. **1979** **J. HARVEY** *Plate Soap* xv. 72 Ted put his feet up on the tin waste-paper box... and started absorbedly hewing and whittling a pencil down to the stub.

b. transf. To wear away or reduce by a process analogous to paring; see *quots.*

1736 *Gentl. Mag.* Aug. 457/1, I am told they'll... whittle You down twenty or thirty Legs of Mutton into one sorry Dish. **1837** EMERSON *Addr.*, *Amer. Schol. Wks.* (Bohn) II. 181 Like those Savoyards who getting their livelihood by carving shepherds [etc.]... went out one day to the mountain to find stock, and discovered that they had whittled up the last of their pine-trees. **1854** MISS BAKER *Northampton. Gloss.* s.v., A saddle which pinches a horse's shoulder whittles the skin. **1860** GOUGER *Impris. in Burmah* xix. 213 The operator succeeded in whittling out [of a wen] a something which... resembled... two or three inches of a large dew-worm. **1860** SALA *Badd. Peer.* I. xviii. 312 An American gentleman... who, having tried to dissipate the ennui of the evening by a succession of juleps, had resorted to whittling the 'Liverpool Albion' up into fine shreds.

c. *absol.* or *intr.*

1614 [see whittling vbl. sb., below]. **1825** J. NEAL *Bro. Jonathan* I. 144 A... fellow... who was whittling in the corner. **1839** MARRYAT *Diary Amer.* Ser. I. II. 175 She was the first and only lady in America that I observed to whittle. **1880** MARY FITZGIBBON *Trip to Manitoba* xi. 133 He whittled away at a stick.

2. *fig.* To reduce or make smaller by successive abstractions; to diminish the amount, force, or importance of; to 'cut down'; to take away by degrees, so as to reduce to nothing.

1746 WALPOLE *Lett. to Mann* (1834) II. 169 We have whittled down our loss extremely. **1780** M. MADAN tr. *Thelyphthora* I. 126 Not... whittling away the strong, noble, manly sense of scripture, into the ridiculous whims and fancies of visionaries. **1862** Major Jack Downing (1867) 74 You estimated the receipts from land sales, in July, at \$3,000,000. You cut it down in December to \$2,300,000; and now Congress, by passing the Homestead bill, will whittle it all off. **1884** *Times* (weekly ed.) 17 Oct. 4/1 If Parliament is whittled down so that nothing remains of it but the House of Commons. **1888** M. BURROWS *Cinqe Ports* vii. 171 The Ports were annually reminded of the extent to which their ancient supremacy had been whittled away.

3. To make or shape by whittling; to carve. Also *fig.*

1848 LOWELL *Lett. to S. H. Gay* 5 May, I have contrived to whittle out something... for you in time for the mail. **1865** *Lond. Rev.* 30 Dec. 686/1 Robinson Crusoe whittled a diary upon a stick. **1895** ELIZ. S. PHELPS *Chapters from Life* i. 14 She is whittling little wooden feet to stretch the children's stockings on.

II. 4. *intr.* To worry or fret. *Occas. trans. dial.*

1880 N. & Q. 6 Mar. 205/2 When I was a boy my mother daily used this word to express fidgetiness or uneasiness. 'What are you whittling about?' seems to ring in my ears at this moment. **1913** D. H. LAWRENCE *Sons & Lovers* viii. 202 'How do you think I'm going to manage?' 'Well, it won't make it any better to whittle about it.' **1984** *Daily Tel.* 23 Oct. 10/3 'I'm whittled to death about the future of the mining industry.' These, or words like these, are attributed to Mr. Michael Eaton, the new character in the long-running serial story of the mining dispute.

Hence whittled (-əld) *ppl. a.*; also whittled-down; whittling *vbl. sb.*, (a) the action of the verb (also *attrib.*); (b) *concr.* (in *pl.*) fragments cut off in whittling, shavings; also *fig.*; whittling *ppl. a.*, that whittles, addicted to whittling. Also whittler, one who whittles, or is addicted to whittling as an idle trick.

1792 G. CARTWRIGHT *Jrnl. Labrador* III. p. x, *Whittled-sticks, sticks from which beavers have eaten the bark. **1884** GILMOUR *Mongols* 244 The bow... was a bent and whittled branch of some shrub. **1961** A. BROWNJOHN in E. Lucie-Smith *Brit. Poetry since 1945* (1970) 266 Farmers call hillocks And ponds... By the first words to hand; a heavy, *whittled-down Simplicity meets the need. **1962** E. SNOW *Other Side of River* (1963) xxiv. 183 If any of these somewhat blind guesses are right, the whittled-down results still remain impressive. **1980** M. BOOTH *Bad Track* ii. 34 Long streets with a whittled-down green, a church... a pub. **1839** MARRYAT *Diary Amer.* Ser. I. I. 236 In some courts they put sticks before noted *whittlers to save the furniture. **1907** *Elem. School Teacher* Mar. 393 No one thinks of denying him the pocket-knife because of the fear that its use will result in his becoming a mere whittler. **1614** PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* iv. v. (ed. 2) 364 He spent the time in *whittling with a knife. **1839** MARRYAT *Diary Amer.* Ser. I. II. 4 Each knife having two pen-blades, one whittling blade. **1854** C. GREATREX (title) Whittlings from the West. **1875** HOWELLS *Foregone Conclus.* iii. 61 Litter of shavings and whittlings strewed the floor. **1885** PROCTOR *Whist* Pref. 10 The Whist Whittlings include Whist stories, maxims, notes. **1849** LEVER *Con Cregan* xx, I am no lazy... *whittling, tobacco-chewing Texan!

whittle, *v.*³ (*slang*), var. WHIDDLE, to 'peach'. **1727** SWIFT *Clever Tom Clinch* 16 Tom... said, I must speak to the People a little, But I'll see you all damn'd before I will whittle. **1874** *Slang Dict.*, Whittle, to nose or peach.

whittret, -it, -ick, var. WHITRET.

Whit Tuesday: see after WHIT SUNDAY.

whitty (hwit). *dial.* Also 9 witty. Usually whitty-tree = WHITTEN-tree.

a **1686** AUBREY *Nat. Hist. Wilts* (1847) 56 Whitty-tree, or wayfaring tree, is rare in this country. **1833** E. LEES *Affin. Plants* (1834) 63 The true-service or sorb-tree... This tree... is called the whitty or witten pear-tree, its fruit being exactly similar to very small pears. **1847** HALLIWELL, *Whitty-tree*, the mountain ash. *West. Ibid.*, Witty (L), the mountain ash. *Salop.* **1868** Witty [see WHITTEN].

whitwall, var. WITWALL, woodpecker.

Whitworth ('hwitwəθ). [f. name of the inventor: see below.]

a. In full, *Whitworth gun or rifle*: A form of rifle (either cannon or small arm) invented by Sir Joseph Whitworth of Manchester (1854),

having a hexagonal bore with a rapid twist, and firing an elongated shot. Also *attrib.*

Whitworth metal or steel, a specially strong make of steel cast under hydraulic pressure, used for ordnance and for other purposes.

1858 GREENER *Gunnery* 380 The Whitworth has also a greater range, but at a cost of 300 per cent. more friction... The production of the Whitworth rifle will always be looked upon as an experiment of very great interest. **1860** *All Year Round* No. 73. 549 The Armstrong gun... is a built gun...; the Whitworth is a casting of what is called 'homogeneous iron'. **1863** in *Harvard Mem. Biogr.* (1866) I. 251 One family had a Whitworth shot through their house yesterday. **1868** *Rep. Brit. Assoc. Adv. Sci. Not. & Abstr.* 195 No. 1 projectile is Whitworth steel. **1869** *Ibid.* (1870) 439 A projectile of 'Whitworth' metal. **1902** P. MARSHALL *Metal Working Tools* 63 For very small threads up to about 1/4 in. diameter, the British Association thread is generally used, while beyond this size the Whitworth Standard is the best.

b. Used *attrib.* and *fin* in the possessive to designate a series of screw threads proposed by Whitworth in 1841 (and later additions to it), fasteners having one of these threads, and tools for use with the fasteners.

[**1841** *Proc. Inst. Civil Engineers* I. 157 (heading) 'On an uniform system of screw threads.' By Joseph Whitworth.] **1877** *Calvert's Mechanics' Almanack* 4 The terms, 'Whitworth's Threads', 'Whitworth Taps'... have sprung from the lips of all concerned with the iron trade. **1916** *Proc. Inst. Automobile Engineers* XI. 176 We all imagined that the Whitworth system for the larger sizes of screws was so perfect that there would be no difficulty in making sure that Whitworth nuts would fit Whitworth bolts sufficiently well for all practical purposes. **1968** J. ARNOLD *Shell Bk. Country Crafts* 160 Until the advent of the Whitworth thread, which standardized threads all over the country, it was the practice for smiths to tap their own threads. **1970** *Kay & Co. (Worcester) Catal.* 1970-71 Autumn/Winter 770/2 Ring Spanners... Available in Whitworth, AF or Metric sizes. **1972** *Practical Motorist* Oct. 209/1 Whitworth fasteners are no longer in general use, although you will encounter them on older cars.

whity, whitey ('hwati), *a. (adv.)* Also 6 whitty. [f. WHITE *a.* + -Y¹ 2.] = WHITISH.

1593 Q. ELIZ. *Boeth.* II. met. iii. 26 Whan Øebus... the light to spred begins, The star dined... Pales her whitty looks. **1862** C. P. SMYTH *Three Cities in Russia* II. 139 Lofty rooms of a whity style of decoration. **1897** J. HOCKING *Birthright* xiii. She fixed her whity, shining eyes upon me.

b. *esp.* (quasi-*adv.*) with other adjs. (or *adj.* with *sbs.*) of colour. See also WHITY-BROWN.

1856 DE QUINCEY *Confess.* Wks. 1862 I. 139 The insipid whity-grey bread of towns. **1879** E. O'DONOVAN *Merv Oasis* (1882) I. 311 The Shah's yacht... is painted of a dirty whity-yellow colour. **1897** MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 575 A great sedum, with a grand head of whity-pink flower.

'whity'-brown, *a. (sb.)* [WHITY *a. b.*]

1. Of a brown colour inclining to white; whitish brown; pale brown: most commonly of paper. As *sb.* (properly two words) a whitish brown; *ellipt.* = whity-brown paper.

1777 THICKNESSE *Journ. France* (1789) II. 104 The frequent marriages of these men... with white women, and the succession of black, brown, and whity brown people, produced by these very unnatural... alliances. **1786** MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 2 Aug., She seized a piece of whity-brown paper. **1815** Zeluca II. 83 Detestable Creature, with her whity-brown hair. **1816** COLMAN *Broad Grins*, Mr. Champernonne vii. A paper coarse in grain; For England's monarchs then were fain To handle whity-brown. **1862** THACKERAY *Philip* xix. Whity-brown bread. **1876** HARDY *Ethelberta* (1890) 17 A little green leather sheath, worn at the edges to whity-brown.

2. *fig.* Neither one thing nor another, neutral, undecided, half-and-half.

1892 *Spectator* 19 Mar. 391/1 Let us... have no whity-brown men. **1895** *Westm. Gaz.* 28 Dec. 8/2 The whity-brown men, a political tribe of undecided colour... who side with any party.

whiver ('hwivə(r)), obs. or dial. f. QUIVER *v.*²

1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 37 It is not a whivering voyce of a vow... that can... quench... those... flames of naturall corruption. **1606** BIRNIE *Kirk-Buriall* (1833) 10 Stately standerts and punical pinsels, displayed for whivering in the winde. **1825** JENNINGS *Obs. Dial. W. Eng.*, To Whiver, to hover.

whizgig ('hwizgig). [f. WHIZ(z) + GIG *sb.*¹] An object that whizzes round, as a revolving humming toy: cf. WHIZZER *a.*, FIZGIG 2. Also *attrib.* So whiz-jig [cf. JIG *sb.*¹ 6], in quot. applied (? allusively) to a pumping apparatus.

1821 M. EDGEWORTH *Lett.* 22 Nov. (1971) 279 A Whizgig for Pakenham in my next. **1848** THACKERAY *Bk. Snobs* xxxv, A bed about the size of one of those whizgig temples in which the Genius appears in a pantomime. **1891** *Cent. Dict.*, Whizgig, a mechanical toy. **1891** *Century Mag.* Dec. 248 A labor-saving whiz-jig was now devised.

whizz, whiz (hwiz), *sb.*¹ [f. WHIZZ, WHIZ *v.*]

1. a. An act, or the action, of whizzing; a sibilant sound somewhat less shrill than a hiss, and having a trace of musical tone like a buzz; a swift movement producing such a sound.

1620 T. GRANGER *Div. Logike* 201* Through skies by night shee fingeeth, and Her whizzes earth's darknesse teares. **1682** BUNYAN *Holy War* 74 Their shot would go by their ears with a Whizz. **1713** *Guardian* No. 92 ¶ 5 He never once Duck'd at the whizz of a Cannon Ball. **1798** COLERIDGE *Anc. Mar.* III. xvii. Like the whizz of my cross-bow. **1848** MRS. GASKELL *Mary Barton* xxvi. The... whiz and scream of the arriving trains. c **1850** 'Dow jr.' in Jerdan *Yankee Hum.* (1853) 78 Shall we lumber along the road, and allow other

nations to pass us with a whiz? **1897** MEREDITH *Amazing Marr.* ix, Amid a whizz of scythe-blades.

b. The practice of picking pockets (chiefly in *phr.* on the whizz); a pickpocket. *slang* (orig. and chiefly *U.S.*).

1925 E. JERVIS 25 Yrs. in *Six Prisons* i. 17 Some of the boys are 'on the whiz' (pickpockets). **1931** *Amer. Speech* VII. 117 Whiz, n. A pick-pocket. **1936** 'J. CURTIS' *Gilt Kid* 245 They might pinch him for being on the whizz. **1963** T. TULLETT *Inside Interpol* xii. 162 The pickpocket, known in the underworld as the 'whiz'... is always a specialist.

2. *U.S. slang.* An agreement, 'bargain'.

The relation to sense 1 is not clear.

1869 'MARK TWAIN' *Innoc. Abr.* xl. They said, each to his fellow, Let us sleep here... And each... said, It is a whiz. **1876** — *Tom Sawyer* xxxiv, 'If we don't find it, I'll agree to give you my drum and everything I've got'... 'All right—it's a whiz.' **1888** *New York Times* 30 Dec., 'You will have to play that you are a boy, that I am master... Is it a whizz?' he asked.

3. An act of urination. *slang.*

1971 D. CLARK *Sick to Death* i. 21 She could have left him alone... while she went for a whizz or changed her clothes.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as whizz-boy, -man *slang*, a pickpocket; whizz-mob *slang*, a gang of pickpockets.

1931 M. ALLINGHAM *Police at Funeral* vii. 95 How many murders do we get in this class... It's navvies, whizz-boys, car thieves... who run off the rails and commit murder. **1938** F. CHESTER *Shot Full* xxv. 285, I used to frequent a number of public-houses, used by 'the boys', as criminals are known among the English. There were screwmen, 'whizz-men', and 'drag-men'. **1959** *Listener* 12 Mar. 485/1 The quick-fingered craft of those whom the Elizabethans called nips and we call whizz boys. **1932** 'S. WOOD' *Shades Prison House* xix. 278 There one may rub shoulders with... thieves of every type, whiz-men, burglars, car-bandits. **1929** G. DILNOT *Triumphs of Detection* iv. 47 A 'wizz mob' which operated, say, at Hammersmith Broadway, would immediately suspend business... if they saw a local detective in the vicinity. **1941** J. PHELAN *Murder by Numbers* v. 53 'Putting a smother they call it... Crowd cover up something...' 'I see. Like a whizz mob—pickpockets, I mean.' **1955** D. WEBB *Deadline for Crime* iii. 52 Provincial police forces looked to him for help when they wanted their towns cleared of the 'whiz mob', as English pickpockets are known in the underworld.

whizz, whiz (hwiz), *sb.*² *slang* (orig. *U.S.*). Also wiz (wiz). [Perh. identical with WHIZZ *sb.*¹, but in sense 1 b also regarded as f. WIZ(ARD) *sb.*]

1. a. Something very remarkable.

1908 G. H. LORIMER *Jack Spurlock* vii. 157 It is not only a whiz, but a hummah! You are in on the ground floor of King Solomon's Mines, Limited. **1920** F. SCOTT FITZGERALD *This Side of Paradise* i. ii. 45 'Wonderful night.' 'It's a whiz.' **1959** *Times* 7 Dec. 13/3 Here are some of the gifts I have given to children in recent years: a massive iron key that could surely unlock the deepest dungeon in Nottingham Castle and makes a whizz of a paper-weight.

b. A person who is wonderfully skilful or talented in some respect.

1914 'HIGH JINKS, JR.' *Choice Slang* 20 A person is designated as a 'Whizz' when he has exceptional ability along one or more lines. **1921** H. CRANE *Lett.* 1 Oct. (1965) 66, I... have a strong notion that as a copy writer I will eventually make a 'whiz'. **1924** W. M. RAINE *Troubled Waters* xiii. 142 Millie done fixed my game laig up with that ointment good as new. I want to tell you—all that girl is a wiz. **1928** S. LEWIS *Man who knew Coolidge* i. 36 He thinks he's such a wiz at cars, but... he couldn't locate that squeak. **1948** A. HUXLEY *Ape & Essence* (1949) 69 He's an absolute whizz at Malicious Animal Magnetism. **1962** E. B. WHITE *Lett.* 13 July (1976) 493 You chose a real whiz... when you picked me for your grammarian. **1978** S. BRILL *Teamsters* vi. 211 Malnik was well known... as an associate of long-time mob financial wiz Meyer Lansky. **1982** *Financial Times* 22 June 9/2 He has since become a whizz at ping pong. **1984** *New Yorker* 9 July 35/3 Little Nick Silver, a math whiz from Toughkenamon... was the youngest kid at camp. **1984** *Times* 18 Oct. 14/6, I have a whizz of an accountant who will probably arrange things.

2. *Comb.*: whiz(z)-kid, an exceptionally successful or brilliant young person, esp. in politics or business; hence whiz(z)-kiddery, the phenomenon of whizz-kids; the style or mode of work of a whizz-kid.

1960 *Time* 21 Nov. 100/1 The 'Whiz Kids'—as the team soon was known. **1962** *Economist* 22 Dec. 1202/1 Critics... regard President Kennedy as a quiz-kid surrounded by whiz-kids. **1966** OGILVY & ANDERSON *Excursions in Number Theory* ix. 103 Zerach Colburn was an early nineteenth-century mathematical whiz-kid. **1967** *Economist* 24 June 1353/3 The whole programme has been a curious hotch-potch of whiz-kidery, preconceived theory and painstaking trial-and-error pragmatism. **1976** *Observer* 26 Sept. 8/1 Many in the institutions—banks insurance companies, investment funds, Stock Exchange and so on—who swallowed whizz-kiddery in its myriad forms. **1976** *Time* 27 Dec. 13/1 The sin of Whiz Kid Shelepin was that he tried to build a political base from which to promote his own post-Brezhnev candidacy for the top post. **1977** M. DRABBLE *Ice Age* i. 27 Anthony was watching unedited film of an interview with Len the property whizz kid. **1977** *Times* 4 July 22/3 Whizz-kiddery is out; gravitas is in. **1980** *Times Lit. Suppl.* 3 Oct. 1079/5 Editors are a humble and obscure race; lacking the glamour of the whiz-kids and wheeler-dealers... they are rarely seen in polite society, their names unknown to the columns of *The Bookseller*. **1981** *Sunday Express* 25 Jan. 17/1 Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher will meet Britain's latest whizz-kid inventor when she hosts a unique gathering of inventors and financiers at Downing Street tomorrow. **1985** *Times* 22 June 9/5 We have often been tempted to listen to the siren voices of those who would advise... the latest radical church services, guitars and steel bands and other forms of whizzkiddery.

whizz, whiz, v. Also 6 whize, 7 whizze, 6, 9 *dial.* whuz(z). [Echoic. Cf. HIZZ.]

1. *a. intr.* To make a sound as of a body rushing through the air (see WHIZZ *sb.*); (of trees) to rustle; (of a burning or hot object) to hiss, sizzle. Now *dial.*

1547 SURREY *Æneis* 11. 535 As wrastling windes.. Befight themselves.. The woods do whiz. **1582** STANYHURST *Æneis* 11. (Arb.) 67 Thee flams surmounting tenements doo whize to the skyward. **1589** [see WHIZZING *ppl. a.*]. **1627** MAY *Lucan* vi. 199 The fire whizzes in burning eyes. **1675** DRYDEN *Aurengz.* v. (1676) 85 'Tis dry—'twill burn—Ha, hal how my old Husband crackles there!.. I know him; he'll but whiz, and strait go out. **1711** SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 10 Apr., Is Dilly gone to the Bath? His face will whizz in the water. **1763** COLMAN *Terræ-Filius* No. 1. ¶4 Some queer old Gentleman may be alarmed at the Crackers bouncing about his Ears, .. or a Squib whizzing in his Periwig. **1787** GROSE *Prov. Gloss.*, Whiz, to hiss like hot iron in water. **1841** S. WARREN *Ten Thou.* i. The sound of his tea-kettle, hissing, whizzing, sputtering in the agonies of boiling over.

† *b.* To wheeze. *Obs.*

1607 [see WHIZZING *vbl. sb.*]. **1611** COTGR. s.v. *Pigeonneau*, *Il a mangé les pigeonneaux*, said of a man that whizzes, or speaks hoarse. **1688** HOLME *Armoury* II. 134/2 A Baboon Whizeth, hath a Shrill Whizing. **1748** [see WHIZZING *ppl. a.*].

2. *a.* To move swiftly with or as with such a sound.

1591 HARINGTON *Orl. Fur.* ix. lxiix, The shot, gainst which no armour can suffice, .. Doth whiz, and sing. **1601** SHAKS. *Jul. C.* II. i. 44 The exhalations, whizzing in the ayre, Give so much light, that I may read by them. **1611** CHAPMAN *Iliad* xxii. 123 The Hauke comes whizzing on. **1697** DRYDEN *Æneis* xi. 1169 When the Jav'lin whizz'd along the Skies. **1721** SHEFFIELD (Dk. Buckhm.) *Wks.* (1723) II. 8 Both of us sitting together on the quarter-deck, beard a bullet whizzing over our heads. **1814** WORDSW. *Excurs.* vii. 741 How the quoit Whizzed from the Stripling's arm! **1853** HAWTHORNE *Eng. Note-bks.* (1883) 1. 423 The small, black steamers, whizzing industriously along. **1914** 'IAN HAY' *Knt. on Wheels* xiii. §2 Watching for the motors that whizzed .. along the straight white road.

b. fig. To have a sensation of such a sound.

1797, **1854** [see WHIZZING *vbl. sb.*]. **1865** DARWIN in *Life & Lett.* (1887) III. 34 Reading makes my head whiz. **1898** [see WHIZZING *vbl. sb.*].

3. *trans.* To cause to whizz; to hurl, shoot, or convey swiftly with a whizz; *spec.* in technical use, to dry by centrifugal force in a rapidly revolving apparatus (cf. WHIZZER *b.*).

1836 W. IRVING *Astoria* xlv, He was on the point of whizzing a bullet into the target. **1880** MEREDITH *Tragic Com.* vii, A Balearic slinger about to whizz the stone. **1882** CROOKES *Dyeing & Tissue-Printing* 228 Enter at 112° F., raise to a boil in three turns, wash well, whiz, and dry. **1884** W. S. McLAREN *Spinning* (ed. 2) 39 Most of the wool is 'whizzed' after drying.

4. *intr.* To urinate. *slang.*

1929 D. H. LAWRENCE *Pansies* 24, I wish I was a gentleman As full of wet as a watering-can To whizz in the eye of a police-man. **1976** R. B. PARKER *Promised Land* vii. 37, I wondered if anyone had ever whizzed on Allan Pinkerton's shoe.

whizz, whiz, int. and adv. An exclamation imitating the sound described under WHIZZ *sb.*¹ and *v.*; as *adv.* = with a whizz. Cf. GEE WHIZ(Z *int.*, WHIZZ-BANG *int.*, *sb.* and *a.*

1812 H. & J. SMITH *Rej. Addr., Fire & Ale*, The water.. bubbled and simmer'd and started off, whizz! **1818** SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* xx, Whiz went the bolt. **1869** BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* xii. 347 Wben whiz and thump went axe.

whizz-bang ('hwizbæŋ), *int.*, *sb.*, and *a. slang.* Also whiz-bang, without hyphen, and as two words. [f. WHIZZ, WHIZ *v.* or *int.* + BANG *sb.*]

A. int. Expressing a whizzing sound that ends with a thud or explosion, such as may be heard as a bullet or shell strikes a target.

1836 DICKENS *Pickw.* (1837) ii. 9 Fired a musket.. rushed into wine shop.. back again—whiz, bang. **1838** C. MATHEWS in M. R. Booth *Eng. Plays of 19th Cent.* (1973) IV. 133 She called in a farmer.. Who loaded his blunderbuss.. Whizz, bang! Lord, I thought I was murdered outright. **1920** LIPSCOMB *Staff Tales* 59 Whizz-bang! Something grazes parapet.

B. sb. 1. *colloq.* The shell of a small-calibre high-velocity German gun, so called from the noise it made.

1915 'IAN HAY' *1st Hund. Thous.* xviii, A whizz-bang is a particularly offensive form of shell which bursts two or three times over, like a Chinese cracker. **1918** W. OWEN *Poems* (1920) 16 What muck of air remained stank old, and sour With fumes of whizz-bangs. **1923** KIPLING *Irish Guards in Gt. War* I. 143 Three men killed in the line by a single whizz-bang. **1968** J. R. ACKERLEY *My Father & Myself* vi. 51 In 1918, just before the Armistice, he was killed by a whizz-bang. **1979** S. WILSON *Vampire* II. 56 Those guns. Those ever present guns. Eighty-eights. Whizz-bangs. None of us need to be reminded of the names.

2. A resounding success; a marvel.

1916 in *Amer. Speech* 1972 (1975) XLVII. 116 Masson is a whizzbang at getting up the kind of food that makes the troops want to fight. **1944** T. H. WISDOM *Triumph over Tunisia* 182 The raid was a whizz-bang, the R.A.F. expression denoting something highly successful. **1978** M. PUZO *Fools Die* xvi. 169 These were the sharpest kids in America, the future business giants, judges, show business whizzbangs. **1983** *Listener* 14 July 37/1 George Stevens.. knew how to make box-office whizz-bangs but not very interesting movies.

3. A firework that jumps around making a whizzing noise and periodic bangs.

1960 J. LODWICK *Asparagus Trench* 53, I carried .. whizz-bang fireworks, harmless but disconcerting pyrotechnical trivia these, by reason of their strange gyrations. **1983** D. LAMBERT *Judas Code* iii. 55 He lit three more firecrackers — Whizz Bangs they were called.

C. adj. a. Excellent. b. Fast-paced, very lively; spectacular.

1959 I. & P. OPIE *Lore & Lang. Schoolch.* ix. 161 Other superlatives currently in favour are: .. swell, whizzing, whizz-bang, whizzo. **1963** *Economist* 5 Jan. 28/1 Americans are often the first to admit that sometimes a whiz-bang quality about their methods tends to upset their friends. **1965** *Listener* 16 Sept. 43/1 I'm not suggesting that programmes on the arts should be as whizz-bang as *The Dick Van Dyke Show*, but I do suspect that Drama and Light Entertainment could teach them a lot. **1967** *Spectator* 8 Dec. 725/2 A sculptor whose inventions .. are made for prolonged contemplation when much work is made for whizzbang impact. **1972** *National Observer* (U.S.) 27 May 20/5 Bernstein inclines to brisk tempos; it would be interesting to see a regiment actually try marching to his whiz-bang 'Stars and Stripes Forever'. **1984** *Listener* 5 Jan. 8/3 As for home-grown, whizzbang, laugh-a-line comedy—Channel 4, where are you?

Hence as *v. trans.*, to shoot whizz-bangs at; whizz-banged *ppl. a.*

1918 G. FRANKAU *One of Them* ix. 66 How oft, in some wild Western whizz-banged dug-out .. Has my soul flown from Staff-emitted paper To the glad days, when from my purse I'd lug out That last fat stake. **1919** *King's Royal Rifle Corps Chron.* 1916 139 This line was whizz-banged heartily. **1928** BLUNDEN *Undertones of War* iv. 35 Some of us were just in time, when next the enemy gunners whizzbanged here, to jump down from the fire-step into a dugout stairway.

whizzer ('hwizə(r)). [f. WHIZZ *v.* + -ER¹.]

1. Something that whizzes; *spec.* a. a toy that makes a whizzing noise when whirled round; b. a machine for drying various articles by the centrifugal force of rapid revolution; a hydro-extractor. Cf. SPIN-DRIER, -DRYER.

1881 TYLOR in *Academy* 9 Apr. 265 A toy mechanically curious and called in England a 'whizzer' or 'bull-roarer'. **1887** *Pall Mall Gaz.* 6 July 14/1 The whizzer .. dries clothes in 1,000 revolutions a minute. **188.** *Sci. Amer.* (N.S.) LVIII. 178 (Cent. Dict.) Ritchie's Steam Whizzer.—A machine for treating musty grain.

2. Something or someone extraordinary or wonderful; a 'stunner'. *slang.*

1888 E. L. DORSEY *Midshipman Bob* I. x. 93 'Fore-top-gallant studdingsail-boom-tricing-line-block strap-thimble.' Ain't that a whizzer? **1947** 'N. BLAKE' *Minute for Murder* v. 98, I must say she was a whizzer in those days. **1976** *Zigzag* Apr. 28/1 'She's long' features Bill's best guitar solo (despite many other whizzers). **1977** 'J. GASH' *Judas Pair* viii. 95 It's a whizzer... I've found a cased set.

3. A pickpocket. *slang.*

1925 N. LUCAS *Autobiogr.* *Crook* vii. 108 The stalls of theatres at matinees are sometimes patronized by 'whizzers'. **1941** V. DAVIS *Phenomena in Crime* xiv. 195 There are a score of girl 'whizzers' in London who can get a man's pocket wallet .. with conjuring skill. **1974** R. EDWARDS *Dixon of Dock Green* 17 It was also a right place for 'whizzers'—pick-pockets.

4. *on a whizzer*: on a drinking spree. *N. Amer. slang.*

1910 B. EDWARDS *Best of Bob Edwards* (1975) v. 104 He was only off on a little bit of a whizzer. **1936** *Univ. Texas Stud. in Eng.* XVI. 51 A number of pbrases with *go* refer to the act of 'getting drunk': one may *go on* .. a whizzer.

whizziness: see after WHIZZY *a.*

whizzing ('hwizm), *vbl. sb.* [f. WHIZZ *v.* + -ING¹.]

1. *a.* The action or sound denoted by WHIZZ.

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 11 Of the Cynocephale or Baboun.. Their voyce is a shrill whizing. **1631** ANCHORAN *Comenius' Gate Tongues* 110 For feare the hinges should make some noyse (or whizzing). **1710** LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) VI. 623 His horse, being frighted by the whizzing of a cannon ball, threw him. **1797** T. MORTON *Cure for Heartache* i. ii, Such a whizzing and spinning in my head. **1832** Ht. MARTINEAU *Manch. Strike* vi. 65 The incessant whizzing and whirling of the wheels. **1854** MISS BAKER *Northampton. Gloss.*, She complain'd of such a whuzzing in her ears. **1884** W. S. B. McLAREN *Spinning* (ed. 2) 49 The whizzing in the hydro-extractor is sufficient. **1898** *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 818 Whizzings in the head.. are complained of.

b. attrib. whizzing-stick = WHIZZER *a.*

1890 *Amer. Anthropol.* III. 258 The 'whizzing-stick' or 'bull-roarer' on the West Coast of Africa.

2. Pick-pocketing. *slang.*

1925 N. LUCAS *Autobiogr.* *Crook* vii. 98 My pals went in for every known form of getting other people's property... 'Drumming', 'parlor jumping', 'whizzing'. **1941** V. DAVIS *Phenomena in Crime* xv. 209 Nearly all classes of 'whizzing' take place on the 'shove-up' principle.

'whizzing, ppl. a. [f. as prec. + -ING².]

1. *a.* That whizzes: see the verb.

1589 A. F. *Virg. Bucol.* vii. 1 Daphnis.. sat him downe vnder a whizzing holme. **1592** R. D. *Hypnerotomachia* (1890) 3 A stopping hinderance to their current and whuzing fall. **1622** DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xx. 231 When the whizzing Bels the silent ayre doe cleave. **1638** W. LISLE *Heliodorus* ix. 152 A whizzing cloud of arrows dimd the Sun. **1769** FALCONER *Shipwr.* iii. 734 My stun'd ear tingles to the whizzing tide. **1812** H. & J. SMITH *Rej. Addr.*, *Tale Drury Lane* 165 Still o'er his head, while Fate he braved, His whizzing water-pipe he waived. **1840** THACKERAY *Paris Sk.-bk.* xix. (1869) 284 A whizzing, screaming steam engine. **1870** THORNBURY *Tour rd. Eng.* I. ii. 27 [We] sweep on with whizzing wheels past broad nursery gardens.

b. Of a sound: Of the nature of a whizz.

1621 T. WILLIAMSON tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* 183 The heauens shall passe away, with a whizzing tempestuous noyse. **1664** S. TAYLOR in *Evelyn's Pomona* 50 Which evaporates with a sparkling and whizzing noise. **1748** tr. *Vegetius Renatus' Distempers Horses* 183 He makes a whizzing Noise in his Breast. **1829** *Good Study Med.* (ed. 3) I. 563 Whizzing voice. The voice accompanied with a whizzing or hissing sound. **1835-6** *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 232/2 A peculiar whizzing sound, .. perceptible on applying .. a stethoscope to the tumour. **1891** SMILES *Mem.* 3. *Murray* xx. II. 3 A whizzing sound in his ears.

2. Excellent, 'smashing'. *slang.*

1953 [see KNOCK-OUT *sb.* 4]. **1959** [see WHIZZ-BANG *a.*]. Hence 'whizzingly *adv.*

In recent Dicts.

'whizzle, v. dial. Also 6 whizle, whyzle. [f. WHIZZ *v.* + -LE.]

1. *intr.* To whizz or whistle.

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* i. 93 Rush do the winds forward through perst chink narrolye whizzling. **1901** *Daily News* 1 Apr. 5/4 The nagaikas whizzled, and the students were falling to the ground row after row.

2. *trans.* To obtain silyly.

1787 GROSE *Prov. Gloss.*, Whizzle, to get any thing away silyly. **1847** HALLIWELL, *Whizzle*, to obtain anything silyly. **1894** BRIDGES *Nero* II. i. ii. 319, 'T would be guessed whence I whizzled it.

whizzo, wizzo ('hwizəʊ, 'wizəʊ), *int.* and *a. slang.* [f. WHIZZ, WHIZ *sb.*¹ + -O².]

A. int. An exclamation expressing delight.

1905 in *Engl. Dial. Dict.* **1943** *Penguin New Writing* XVI. 28 Wizzoh! No night fighters! **1954** D. AMES *Crime, Gentlemen, Please* xxi. 123 'It's really a little surprise for the kiddies.' 'Whizzo!' cried Anna, grabbing it. **1959** J. VERNEY *Friday's Tunnel* xxviii. 269 Friday.. yelled, 'Oh, whizzo!'

B. adj. Excellent, wonderful.

1948 *R.A.F. Rev.* Jan. 20/2 I's whizzo when you get a fried egg sunny-side-up for tea. **1948** I. BROWN *No Idle Words* 97 A father who told his son that he had .. arranged for the boy to visit Norway received the following answer: 'Absolutely wizard, flash, whizz-o, grand, lovely to beetle up to Norway.' **1955** M. ALLINGHAM *Beckoning Lady* xiii. 185, I wanted to look at some wizzo lettering on .. the Tomb. **1968** *Listener* 19 Dec. 810/3 The Squadron-Leader and I decided to give a party—what the Squadron-Leader called a proper whizzo party with marks on the ceiling.

whizzo ('hwizəʊ), *sb. slang.* [f. WHIZZ, WHIZ *sb.*² + -O².] = WHIZZ, WHIZ *sb.*² 1.

1977 *Daily Express* 29 Mar. 20/3 Keyboard whizzo Keith Emerson uses his [side of an album] for a neo-classical piano concerto, accompanied by the London Philharmonic Orchestra. **1981** *Sydney Mirror* 2 July 8/4 Electronics whizzo Dick Smith.. aims to become the taxman's friend in another way.

whizzy ('hwizi), *a. rare.* [f. WHIZZ *sb.*¹ or *v.* + -Y¹.] Characterized by whizzing; *fig. (dial.)* dizzy, giddy. Hence 'whizziness, quality or state of whizzing.

1839 THACKERAY *Leg. St. Sophia of Kioff* xviii. 42 The swift arrow's whizziness causing a dizziness. **1866** THORNBURY *Greatheart* lviii, I felt all wbizzy and sleepy like.

who (hu:, *unemph.* hū), *pron. (sb.)* Forms: 1-3 hwa, (1 hua), 2-3 hwo, hwoa, 2-4 wa, (2 wua, 3 whæ, wæ, wea, wah, hwoo, 3wo), 3-5 hoo, 3-6 wo, 3-5, 6- Sc. wha, (4 huo), 4-6 ho, whoo, 4, 9 *dial.* whe, 5 woo, (Sc. vho, 5-9 *dial.* how, 6 hou, Sc. vha), 6-7 whoe, (9 Sc. whae), 3- who; 3-5 quo, (3 quoo), 4 qwo, qwa, 4-5, 6 Sc. qua, 4-8 Sc. quha, 5-6 Sc. quhay, 5-7 Sc. quho, (6 Sc. qwha, quhe). [OE. *hwā* = OFris. *hwā*, OS. *hwe*, *hwie* (MDu., Du. *wie*), OHG. *hwer*, *wer* (MHG., G. *wer*), ODa. *hwa* (Da. *hvo*), Goth. *hwas*, fern. *hwo*:—OTeut. **hwaz*, **hwex*:—Indo-eur. **qʷos*, **qʷes*. For oblique forms see WHOM, WHOSE. For the vocalism cf. TWO.

Indo-eur. *qʷo-*, *qʷe-*, *qʷā-* are represented outside Germanic by Skr. *ka*, fern. *kā*, neut. *kad* (WHAT), Zend *kō*, *kā*, *kat*, Lith. *kās*, OS. *kū-to* (Russ. *kto*), Gr. *nōrepos*, Ionic *kōrepos*, etc., L. *quī*, *quæ*, *quod*, Umbrian *poi who*, Oscan *pod what*, OIr. *cia*, *cē*, *cad*, *ca-ch* any one, *ca-te*, *co-te* what is, W. *puoy* who, *pa* what, *paup* any one, Gael. *co* who; the variant *qʷi-* is represented by Skr. *kis* (interrog. particle), *cid* (indef. particle), *kim* what, how, why, etc., Zend *čīš*, Gr. *τίς*, *τί* (:—**tiš*), L. *quis*, *quid*, Umbrian *sve-pis* if any one, Oscan *pis*, *pid*, OS. *čī-to* what (Russ. *čto*), Ir., Gael. *ciod*. For the stem-types as represented in derivative formations in English see WHEN, WHERE, WHETHER, WHICH, WHITHER, WHON, WHY, and HOW *adv.*]

1. Interrogative and allied uses.

1. *a.* As the ordinary interrogative pronoun, in the nominative singular or plural, used of a person or persons: eorresponding to *what* of things (WHAT *A.* 1).

Formerly sometimes with partitive *of*, where *which* is ordinarily used (WHICH 3 b).

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* xviii. (Z.) 113 *Quis hoc fecit?* hwa dyde ðis? **c 1200** ORMIN 9755 *Wha tahhte 3u w To feon & to forrbuhenn þatt irre þatt to cumenn iss?* **c 1250** *Gen. & Ex.* 359 *Quo seide ðe ðat ðu wer naked?* **c 1300** *Harrow. Hell* (L) 63 *Who ys þat ych here þore?* **c 1375** *Cursor M.* 3725 (Fairf.) His fader asked him qua art pou, And he onsqared þi sone esau. **c 1375** *Sc. Leg. Saints* ix. (Bertholomeus) 40 *Quba is þat, we pray þe.* **1382** WYCLIF *Gen.* xlviii. 3 *Who ben thes?* .. My sones thei ben. **a 1400-50** *Wars Alex.* 834* (Dubl. MS.) *Whyne ert pou & who & what makys pou here?* **1526** TINDALE *Matt.* xii. 48 *Who is my mother? or who are my brethen?* **1600** SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* III. ii. 198 *Nay, but who is it?* **1663** KILLIGREW *Parson's Wedd.* III. v. *Carel.* *How can that be? Joll.* It is the Scrivener at the Corner. **1667** MILTON

P.L. 1. 33 Who first seduc'd them to that fowl revolt? Th' infernal Serpent. **1703** ROWE *Fair Penit.* iv. i. G 2b, Who of my Servants wait there? **c1800** *Jock o' the Side* xvi. in Whitelaw Bk. *Sc. Ballads* (1857) 380/1 Whae's this kens my name sae weil...? **1863** MISS BRADDON *Aurora Floyd* xxx, 'Who can it be, dear?'... 'at such a time too'. **1865** KINGSLEY *Herew.* x, 'And he is killed?' 'Who? Hereward?' **1904** WEYMAN *Abb. Vlaze* iv, And who—who does she say dared to commit this outrage?

b. With intensive additions, as *who the devil*, *who on earth*, etc.

c1470 HENRY WALLACE v. 743 Quha dewill thaim maid so galy for to ryd? **1525** LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. ii. A iij, Some therat dide murmure and... sayd: Who the deuyll hath sent for theym? **1749** FIELDING *Tom Jones* xv. v, Why, who the Devil are you? **a1849** H. COLERIDGE *Ess.* (1851) I. 255 Who upon earth could ever paint the bare sea?

c. In pregnant or emphatic sense, referring to a person's origin, character, position, or the like; cf. WHAT A. 2.

In rhetorical questions often approaching or merging with 2.

1382 WYCLIF *Rom.* xiv. 4 Who art thou, that demest another [w.r. anotheris] suraunt? **1526** TINDALE *Acts* xix. 15 Jesus I knowe, and Paul I knowe: but who are ye? **1548** UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Matt.* xv. 16 Who saye ye that I am? **1611** Bible Exod. v. 2 Who is the Lord that I should obey him? — Isa. lxiii. 1 Who is this that commeth from Edom? **1840** BROWNING *Sordello* II. 635 Who were The Mantuans, after all, that he should eare About their recognition? **1898** *Belgravia* Aug. 462 'Who is he?' 'Mr. Legge—Eustace Legge.' 'Yes. But who is he?' 'I don't know.'

d. Substituted for the name of a person in asking for explanation; cf. WHAT A. 4b.

1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* xvi. ii, 'I am come... by the Command of my Lord Fellamar.' 'My Lord who?' **1837** DICKENS *Pickw.* xx, 'I heerd 'em laughing, and saying how they'd done old Fireworks.' 'Old who?' said Mr. Pickwick. **1841** S. WARREN *Ten Thou.* I. ii, 'What's your names?' 'Mr. Tittlebat Titmouse,' answered that gentleman... 'Mr. who?' exclaimed the old woman.

2. In a rhetorical question, suggesting or implying an emphatic contrary assertion.

e.g. *who would...*? = No one would...; *who would not...*? = Any one would...; *who knows...*? = No one knows...; *who but...*? = No one but, no one else than...; etc. See also *who not* in 4b. (Cf. WHAT A. 3, WHERE 4.)

a1000 Boeth. *Met.* xxviii. 5 Hwa is moncyntnes þæt ne wundrie? **c1000** ÆLFRIC *Gen.* xxi. 7 Hwa wolde gelyfan, þæt Sarra sceolde legcan cild to byre breoste... on ylde? **a1300** *Cursor M.* 454 Qua herd euer a warr auncur? **13...** E.E. *Allit. P. A.* 427 þe croune fro hyr [sc. Mary] quo mozt renwe, Bot ho hir passed in sum fauour? **c1386** CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 601 Who koude ryme in englyssh proprely His martirdom? for sothe it am nat I. **1526** TINDALE *Rom.* viii. 35 Who shall separete vs from goddes loue? **1633** G. HERBERT *Temple, Quip* iv, Then came brave Gloria puffing by, In silks that whistled, who but he! **1735** POPE *Ep. Arbuthnot* 213-14 Who but must laugh, if such a man there be? Who would not weep if Atticus were he? **1782** COWPER *Gilpin* 113 Away went Gilpin—who but he? **1840** DICKENS *Old C. Shop* lxxiii, Of course he married, and who should be his wife but Barbara? **1855** TENNYSON *Maud* I. xii. ii, Where was Maud? in our wood; And I, who else, was with her. **1914** KIPLING *For all we have and are* 39 Who stands if freedom fall?

3. In a dependent question, or clause of similar meaning. †In early use also with *that* (THAT *conj.* 6).

For the distinction between the dependent interrogative and the relative, cf. note s.v. WHAT A. I**.

Beowulf 52 Men ne cunnon seggan... hwa þæm hlæste onfeng! **a1175** *Cott. Hom.* 231 To underseite wa an alle his cynerice him were frend ofer fend. **c1200** *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 159 Lusteð nu wich maiden þæt is... and hware he was fet and hwo hire ledde and wu and whider. **a1240** *Lofsong in O.E. Hom.* I. 211 Ich... nabbe hwoa me froude. **a1250** *Owl & Night.* 1195 Ic wot hwo sal beo anhonge. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 685 Wan a child were ibore & me in doute were Wo were þe fader. **13...** *Northern Passion* 803 (Camb. Gg. 5. 31), Tell vs now who smate þe. **1340** *Ayenb.* 264 Me him asecþ hwo he ys. **c1350** *Will. Palerne* 2733 þe werwolf went per-to to wite ho were þere. **a1400** R. GLOUC. *Chron.* (1724) 40 (MS. B.) Among hem... stryff me myzte se, Wuche mest maistres were, & hoo schulde lord be. **1423** JAS. I *Kingis Q.* lvii, Maist thou nought se Quho commyth 3ond? **a1450** *Le Morte Arth.* 47 That ladyes... might se Who that beste were of dede. **1469** *Paston Lett.* Suppl. (1901) 129 If he happed to dye, how shuld come after hym ye wote never. **1563-7** BUCHANAN *Reform. St. Andros* Wks. (S.T.S.) 13 The examinaturis... sal declair to the rectour... quha ar worthy of promotion. **1595** SHAKS. *John* II. i. 400 Shall we... lay this Angiers euen with the ground, Then after fight who shall be king of it? **1611** — *Wint. T.* iv. 612 They throng who should buy first. **1617** S. COLLINS *Epiphata* to F. T. 374 It might put him in minde of who had bene there sometime. **1677** RAVENSCHROFT *Wrangling Lovers* v. i. 67 Did he know who I was? **a1700** B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Highjinks*, a Play at Dice who Drinks. **1800** LATHOM *Dash of Day* v. i, Tell the young gentleman... a gentleman wishes to see him immediately; don't say who, but bring him hither directly. **1803** G. ROSE *Diaries* (1860) II. 56 Not having a guess of who he was. **1822** BESANT *All Sorts* xxiv. (1898) 167 What her obligations were, and who this lady was, belongs in no way to this history.

4. Phrases. a. *who is who* (chiefly in dependent clause): who is one and who is the other; who each of a number of persons is, or what position each holds. (Cf. WHAT A. 8a, WHICH 4b.)

†*who and who are* (or *who's*) *together*: who is allied with or engaged to whom. *Who's Who*, the title of a reference manual of contemporary biography, issued first in 1849, and in a new and enlarged form in 1897, and now updated annually; also *transf.* and *fig.* *you and who else?*: a contemptuous expression of incredulity, conveying scepticism about a person's ability to do some past or threatened deed, esp. of violence.

c1386 CHAUCER *Reeve's T.* 380 She saugh hem bothe two But sickerly she nyste who was who. **a1500** [see WHAT A. 8a]. **1700** T. BROWN tr. *Fresny's Amusem.* 70 Let's take a Trip into the Land of Marriage, and see Who and Who are together. **1709** STEELE *Tatler* No. 35 ¶3 A general Knowledge of who and who's together. **1712-13** SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 4 Jan., I showed the Bishop... at Court, who was who. **1720** MRS. BRADSHAW in *C'tess Suffolk's Lett.* (1824) I. 50 Pray let me hear a little how your court goes, who and who are together. **1860** EMILY EDEN *Semi-attached Couple* ii, Though she could not distinguish who was who, yet she had a right to say she had seen 'the marquess'. **1902** ELIZ. L. BANKS *Newspaper Girl* 76 With the exception of those persons of art and letters who were celebrated in my own country as well as in England, I knew nothing of 'who was who' in London. **1917** *Wells Fargo Messenger* V. 183/2 The Messenger is no 'Who's who'. **1917** *National Police Gaz.* (U.S.) 18 Aug. 2/4 We don't believe that Ed W. Dunn's latest effusion would win a place for him in the poet's 'Who's who' corner. **1918** *Nat. Geogr. Mag.* XXXIV. 64 Those whose names would be in history's 'Who's Who'. **1929** 'E. QUEEN' *Roman Hat Mystery* xviii. 260 'Forget, and I'll dip you into the East River.' 'You and who else?' breathed Djuna. **1929** *Times Lit. Suppl.* 18 Apr. 308/2 First he [sc. the biographer] gets out of the way the 'Who's Who' of Wallace Williamson's career in a terse opening chapter. **1951** P. BRANCH *Lion in Cellar* iii. 38 'Oo creased 'im?' he asked... 'I did,' he said firmly... 'You an' 'oo else?' he jeered. **1962** W. NOWOTNY *Lang. Poets Use* ii. 34 Whilst using obituary or *Who's Who* language, it [sc. the diction] subtly detaches itself from the social attitudes such language is normally associated with. **1971** A. MORICE *Murder in Married Life* xiii. 124 Julian: 'Then I'll throw you out.' Murderer: 'You and who else, ha ha.' **1974** *Advocate-News* (Barbados) 19 Feb. 12/1 The list of batsmen to come is straight out of the 'who's who' of attacking cricketers. **1981** *Country Life* 16 July 205/4 *Women in History*... is a sort of *Who's Who* and *Who Was Who* of women who... should be known.

b. Phrases used as sbs., etc.

I know not (mod. *I don't know*) *who*, *Lord knows who*, etc.: some person or persons unknown, or of unknown origin, status, etc. (cf. 1e): so and *I don't know who all* (colloq. rare; cf. WHAT A. 8b), = 'and various other persons unspecified'; *who-do-you-think* (†*who-dost-think*), substituted for the name of a person to be guessed; *who not* (cf. 2 above and WHAT-NOT 1): any one whatever, any one and every one, all kinds of people (now rare or obs.); *who does what?* (†): which person will do which task; *esp.* (in a demarcation dispute) members of which trade union will do a certain job; *who say* (now *dial.*): a vague report, a rumour; in quot. 1583, a pretended excuse; also *who's-afraid* adj. phr., defiant, swaggering.

1583 *Leg. Bp. St. Andros* 789 Half way hameward vp the calsay, [He] Said to his servandis for a quha say: 'Alace! the porter is foryett'. **a1586** SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (1595) D 2, Innumerable examples... as Brutus, Alphonsus... and Who not. **1615** BRATHWAIT *Strappado* (1878) 131 Heere stood I musing... Till Iockie who dost thinke speard vp to me. **1691** WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* I. 18 He was great with... Erasmus, Grocyn, Latimer, Tonsall, and who not. **1744** M. BISHOP *Life* 99 To throw herself away upon the Lord knows who. **1823** SOUTHEY *Hist. Penins. War* I. v. 249 note, St. Antonio on one side, and St. I know not who on the other. **1825** JENNINGS *Obs. Dial. W. Eng., Whesay, or Hoosay*, a wandering report; an observation of no weight. **1837** DICKENS *Pickw.* xli, A vagabondish who's-afraid sort of bearing. **1844** HALIBURTON *Sam Slick in Eng.* xlviii. (1858) 304 And then he'd go over a whole string—Mason, Mickle, Burns, and I don't know who all. **1905** ELIN. GLYN *Viciss. Evang.* 5 Mamma's father was a lord, and her mother I don't know who. **1922** H. S. WALPOLE *Cathedrai* II. iii. 194 But who's going to decide who does what?... We're not much in the sewing line. **1960** *Guardian* 13 Sept. 3/2 A who-does-what dispute between the Amalgamated Engineering Union and the Electrical Trades Union. **1962** *Economist* 13 Oct. 118/1 The squabble over who-does-what. **1962** *Daily Tel.* 28 Nov. 1/1 The Trades Union Congress will seek to settle future 'Who does what?' demarcation disputes with quick and decisive action. **1979** *Now!* 21-27 Sept. 60/1 The £100 million complex has stood idle, paralysed by an inter-union 'who does what' row over 42 jobs.

¶5. Used ungrammatically for the objective WHOM, in senses corresponding to any of the above.

Common in colloquial use as obj. of a verb, or of a preposition following at the end of the clause; formerly also of a preposition preceding (now only when substituted for a noun or pronoun as in 1d).

1450 *Paston Lett.* I. 112, I rehersyd no name, but me thowt be hem that thei wost ho I ment. **1540** CRANMER *Remains* (Parker Soc.) 401 Who shall your grace trust hereafter, if you might not trust him? **1546** J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1874) 52 At sight of me he asked, who have we there? **1588** SHAKS. *L.L.L.* iv. i. 74 To whom came he?... What say he?... Who ouercame he? **1591** — *Hen. VI.* III. iii. 62 Who ioynt sthou with? **1681** T. FLATMAN *Heracitus Ridens* No. 39 (1713) I. 258 Who have we to thank... but the Whigs? **1753** FOOTE *Englishm. in Paris* II. *Buck.* Why, have you observ'd nothing? *Mrs. Sub.* About who? **1807** SOUTHEY *Esprella's Lett.* (1814) III. 68 This leads to a discussion... who the son married, whether the daughter died single [etc.]. **1874** HARDY *Far from Mad.* *Crowd* xxx, Who are you speaking off? **1881** MALLOCK *Rom.* 19th Cent. II. 154, I know... who it comes from. **1941** V. WOOLF *Between Acts* 101 Who was she looking for? **1958** *Observer* 6 Apr. 3 (heading) Who do you want to save? **1966** I. MURDOCH *Time of Angels* x. 106 Who, after all, could I possibly be in love with? **1969** *Listener* 13 Nov. 664/1 One of the policemen... went up to him and almost shouted: 'Who do you think you're talking to?' **1980** J. GERSON *Assassination Run* II. 35 The days of Philby and Blake when no one knew who to trust.

II. Relative uses (formerly often with *that*, *THAT conj.* 6, rarely with *as*).

6. As compound relative in the nominative in general or indefinite sense: Any one that: = WHOEVER I. *arch.* or *literary.* a. with pronominal correlative in following clause.

c1230 *Hali Meid.* 23/233 Hwa þæt sche þenne hu þe engles beoð isweamed... stani were his heorte 3if ha ne mealte i teares. **c1315** SHOREHAM I. 195 Who þæt entrep per He his

sauff euer more. **c1325** *Poem temp. Edw. II* (Percy) lxiii, Who that is in such offys, Ne come he ner so pore, He fareth witin a while As he had selver in horde. **c1330** *King of Tars* 990 Ho that nolde do bi heore red, Cristen men tak of heore hed. **c1375** *Cursor M.* 6781 (Fairf.) Wha dose... þæt wriched pligt He salle be done to dede. **c1400** *Anturs of Arth.* xix, But ho his bidding brekes, bare þei bene of blys. **c1460** *Wisdom* 71 in *Macro Plays* 38 To yowur loue wo dothe reeper, All felycyte yn þæt creatur ys. **1470-85** MALORY *Arthur* I. vii. 43 Who that holdeth ageynst it we wille slee hym. **c1489** CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xx. 453 Who that had be there than, he sholde have seen grete faytes of armes. **c1540** LYNDSEY *Auld Man & Wife* 199 Wks. 1879 II. 337 Quha wald haif weir, God send thame littill rest. **1573-80** TUSSEY *Husb.* (1878) 47 Who soweth in raine, he shall reape it with teares. **1607** BP. HALL *Ps.* i. 1 Who hath not walkt astray... Oh, how that man Thrice blessed is! **1892** KIPLING *Barrack-room Ball.*, *East & West* 24 Who rides at the tail of a Border thief, he sits not long at his meat.

b. without correlative.

c1350 *Will. Palerne* 2379 Ho wol winne his wareson, now witzly him spede Forto saue my sone, or for sorwe i deye. **c1375** *Sc. Leg. Saints* i. (*Petrus*) 211 þæt, quha to hym ferme treuth gafe, He suld euire luf oure þe lafe. **1400** 26 *Pol. Poems* i. 145 Who that takep for pore to eke with his, flor that wrong is worthy wo. **c1470** HENRY WALLACE I. 33 Quha likis till half mar knawlege in that part, Go reid. **1543** tr. *Act 6 Edw. I.* c. 5 Who that is attaynted of wast, shall lese the thing wasted. **1600** W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 101 *marg.* Let who as list be blinded with these patches. *Ibid.* 186 To lie open to the spoile of who that first can catch it. **1600** MARSTON etc. *Jack Drum's Entert.* I. (1601) B, Let who will climb ambitious glibbery rowndes. **1601** SHAKS. *Jul. C.* I. iii. 80 *Cask.* 'Tis Cæsar that you meane: Is it not, Cassius? *Cassi.* Let it be who it is. **1604** — *Oth.* III. iii. 156 Who steales my purse, steales trash. **1650** EARL MONM. tr. *Senault's Man bec. Guilty* 25 Visible to the Eyes of who shall consider them. **1797** JANE AUSTEN *Sense & Sensib.* xxx, When a young man, be he who he will... promises marriage, he has no business to fly off from his word. **1855** KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* v, Each shall slay his man, catch who catch can. **1856** — *Poems, Farew.* 9 Be good, sweet maid, and let who can be clever. **1871** BROWNING *Balaust.* 22, I passionately cried to who would hear. **1896** A. AUSTIN *England's Darling* II. iv, Who holds the sea, perforce doth hold the land, And who lose that must lose the other too.

†c. In a dependent qualifying clause with loose construction (without correlative) and with conditional force: If any one: = WHOEVER 2. *Obs.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2235 Inolde no3t abbe uorsake þæt lond, wo me adde ibro3t perto. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 42 þis fruit bitakens alle oure dedis, Both gode and ille quha rightly redis. *Ibid.* 1969 Quha þæt slas or man or wijf, þar gas na ransun bot liue for lijf. **1375** BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 391 Quha in battail mycht him se, All othir contenance had he. **c1400** *Destr. Troy* 298 Hit is tolde... wo þæt trawe lyst... he highyt vnto helle yates. **1420-2** LYDG. *Thebes* 2117 And in despit, who that was lief or loth A sterne þas thorgh the halle he goth. **c1500** *Melusine* 285, I were not so joyous who that had gyuen me a C thousand besans of gold, as I am to haue fond the. **a1536** WYATT *Poems, To cause accord or to aggrie* 16 Twixt lyff and deth say what who sayth There lyveth no lyff that draweth breth. **1556** LAUDER *Tractate of Kyngis* 69 *Christe*... sched, also quha vnderstode, Als gret abundance of his blude For the pure sely nakit thyng As he sched for the Potent kyng.

†d. Introducing a clause expressing comparison, with idiomatic superlative. *Obs.*

c1500 *Melusine* 170 Thenne was the oost gretly mevyd, & came to the port who best coude. **1600** W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 347, I euer detesting [heresy] as much as who can detest it most. **1658** GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* II. verse 14. vii. §4 Elijab, who did as great wonders... by prayer, as who greatest? *Ibid.* 15. xviii. §2 There was a time... that Paul loved the world as well as who most.

7. a. as who (freq. followed by *would* or *should*): as or like one who; hence (with loss of relative force), as if one. *arch.*

c1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 401 Al þis shal be bou3t, as who bieþ an oxe or a cow. *Ibid.* III. 123 þei sellen Gods worde, as who schulde selle an oxe. **a1400-50** *Wars Alex.* 4649 We erd no3t in elementis as euirmare to duell, Bot as qua pas a pilgrymage fra Parysch to rome. **1483** CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 294b/2 He... presydy her... bytwene foure grete stones as who shold presse olyues. **1513** DOUGLAS *Æneis* VI. vii. 60 Sic wys as quha throw cluddy skyis saw. **1606** [see as B. 12a]. **1659** FULLER *Appeal Inj. Innoc.* I. ii. 2 The Tanner was the Worst of all Masters to his Cattle, as who would not only load them soundly whilest living, but Tan their Hides when dead. **a1677** BARROW *Serm.* Wks. 1687 I. 305 Every man gladly would be neighbour to a quiet person, as who... doth afford all the pleasure of conversation, without any... trouble. **1873** MORLEY *Rousseau* I. vi. 210 Such speech... was probably... a mere freak of the tongue... as who should go to a masked ball in guise of Mephistopheles. **1887** MORRIS *Odyss.* XI. 608 With his bow... in his hand and the arrow laid on the string, And peering round about him as who would loose at a thing.

b. Most commonly with the vb. *say*: (a) †*as who saith* or *say*, as they say, as is commonly said, as the saying is; also = next; (b) *as who should say* (arch.), †(c) *as who would* (occas. *might*) *say*, as if saying, as if one should say, as one may say, as much as to say.

(a) **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 24 Severne & temese; homber is þæt þridde; & þanne is, as 3wo seip, þæt pur lond amide. **1303** R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 7046 Alle þæt spake of syre Troyle Was skraped away, as who sey oyle. **a1340** HAMPOLE *Psalter* cxliii. 6 Lorde helde pi heuens and descend... Aswhasay, we ere in feghtwyge [etc.]. **c1380** WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 127 Pilat answerde, þæt Y have writun, I have writun; as who seip, þis writung shal stonde. **1423** JAS. I *Kingis Q.* lxxvii, Sodainly, as quho sais at a thocht, It opnyt. **1438** in *Wars Eng. in France* (Rolls) II. 438 His taryng here dothe... grete hurte, what for the wages of hym and his retenue, as who say lost. **1559** *Mirr. Mag., Sir Thomas of Woodstock* xiv, To bridle the prince of a realme, Is euen (as

who sayeth) to strue with the streame. **1611** W. SCLATER *Key* (1629) 14 Papiests hence inferre [that the Scriptures are] not to be permitted to lay-people, in their Mother-tongue: abusing to this purpose the saying of Christ, *Mat.* 7. 6. as who say all Gods people were Dogges.

(b) **c1375** *Cursor M.* 8611 (Fairf.) He turned hir ouer. . . As qua sulde sai, I knaw na harme. **1527** TINDALE *Wicked Mammon* (1528) 36 If I preache (sayeth he) I haue nought to reioyse in, for necessyte is put vnto me, as who shulde say, god hathe made me so. **1596** SHAKS. *Merch.* V. 1. ii. 50 He doth nothing but frowne (as who should say, and you will not haue me, choose). **1661** R. L'ESTRANGE *Interest Mistaken* 127 This is but another Alarm, as who should say; Look to your selves my Masters. **1717** MRS. CENTLIVRE *Bold Stroke for Wife* 1. ii. They command Regard, as who should say, We are your Defenders. **1841** DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* xlii, Mr. Dennis coughed and shook his head, as who should say, 'A mystery indeed!' **1905** WELLS *Kipps* II. ix. §1 Sid beamed at Kipps, as who should say, 'You don't meet a character like this every dinner-time'.

(c) **1526** *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 8 It was (as who might saye) the hynder parte of god that they sawe. **1532** TINDALE *Expos. Matt.* v. (c 1550) 32 b, They sayed to the Apostles: ye wolde bring thys mans bloud vpon vs, as who wolde saye, we slue him not. **1664** J. WILSON *A. Comenius* I. 1. They all lookt wistly one on t'other, As who would say, 'twas true enough, but yet [etc.]. **1675** BURTHOGGE *Causa Dei* 19 He shall come. . . in Divine Majesty, as who would say, that when he Judges. . . He will show himself like God.

8. a. As compound relative in the nominative, of persons (less freq. a person): The persons (or person) that. *arch.* (Chiefly a latinism; esp. in 'There are who . . . ' = *L. Sunt qui* . . .)

1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* VIII. (S.T.S.) II. 90 *mag.*, Quha pape was in thir days, allowit al at the kings request. **1605** SHAKS. *Macb.* I. iii. 109 *Macb.* The Thane of Cawdor lues; why doe you dresse me In borrowed Robes? *Ang.* Who was the Thane, lues yet. **1627** J. DOUGHTY *Disc. Div. Myst.* (1628) 20 There are who hold no art or science to be extant, which [etc.]. **1644** MILTON *Judgem. Bucer* To Parlt. B4 b, If thir own works be not thought sufficient to defend them, there lues yet who will be ready. . . to debate. . . this matter. **1656** EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* II. xxiv. 262 Through the ingratitude of who commands [It. *di chi domanda*]. **1713** TICKELL *Poems, To Addison, on Cato* 36 Who think like Romans, could like Romans fight. **1805** WORDSW. *Ode to Duty* II, There are who ask not if thine eye Be on them. **1871** BROWNING *Pr. Hohenstiel-Schwangau* 1007 He should know, sitting on the throne, how tastes Life as who sweeps the doorway. **1903** F. W. MAITLAND in *Camb. Mod. Hist.* II. xvi. 569 There were who held that the Queen was Supreme Head *iure divino*.

†b. In the phrase *but who* = 'except (one, those) who', 'who. . . not': now replaced by *but what* (WHAT C. 5).

1675 BURTHOGGE *Causa Dei* 158 Should none arrive at Heaven but who had first arrived to a State of Perfection. . . Heaven would be empty. **1757** WARBURTON *Lett. to Hurd* (1809) 249, I don't meet with one but who singly says yes. **1774** KAMES *Sketches* I. I. i. 31 There is scarce a peasant but who has a chess-board and men.

9. a. As simple relative (of a person or persons), introducing a clause defining or restricting the antecedent and thus completing the sense: = *THAT rel. pron.* 1.

In modern printing usually distinguished from 10 by the absence of a comma before the relative: cf. WHICH B. 8.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1977 He nadde bote an doȝter wo miȝte is eir be. **13. . .** *Northern Passion* I. 154/382* Als men may here wha takes entent. **1375** BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 445 Lordingis quha likis for till her, The romanys now begynnys her. **1599** SHAKS. *Much Ado* III. iii. 68 A man who hath anie honestie in him. **1633** G. HERBERT *Temple, Ch. Porch* i, A verse may finde him, who a sermon flies. **1707** *Sel. Charters Trad. Comp.* (Selden Soc.) 257 All and every other person and persons who shall be a subscriber or subscribers to the fund. **1709** POPE *Ess. Crit.* 363 As those move easiest who have learn'd to dance. **1768** GOLDSM. *Goodn. Man* IV, I must disclaim his friendship who ceases to be a friend to himself. **1819** LINGARD *Hist. Eng.* I. i. 11 The first who exported this metal. . . were certain Phenician adventurers from Cadiz. **1864** NEWMAN *Apol.* 329 The men who had driven me from Oxford were distinctly the Liberals. **1893** MAX PEMBERTON *Iron Pirate* i, One who. . . can command and be obeyed in ten cities.

†b. Used as correlative to *such*, where *as* is now idiomatic: cf. WHICH B. 10 b. *Obs.*

1584 J. MELVILL *Autob. & Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 174 To . . mak his eares patent to sic wha could alienat his mynd from the guid cause. **1662** [see SUCH B. 12]. **1713** *Guardian* No. 3 ¶1 And instruct such who are not as wise as himself.

10. As simple relative introducing an additional statement about the antecedent, the sense of the principal clause being complete without the relative clause; thus sometimes equivalent to 'and he (she, they)': cf. WHICH B. 7, 9 a.

Formerly often placed at a distance from the antecedent (one or more sbs. intervening), with consequent obscurity or ambiguity: see quotes. 1534, 1655.

1466-7 in *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* (Roxb.) 172 Be the grase of God, ho amend ȝower desposysyon. **1533** MORE *Answ. Poys. Bk.* Wks. 1037/2 As for Tyndal. . . who before he fel to these fransies, men had went had hadde some wyt. **1534** — *Treat. Passion* ibid. 1292/1 And he sayd vnto theym, what will ye gyue me and I shall delyuer hym to you, whoe whan they heard hym, were well apaid. **1556** LAUDER *Tractate of Kyngis* 115 That kyng, that sits all kyngis abone, Quha heiris, and seis all that is wrocht. **1601** SHAKS. *Jul. C.* III. ii. 129, I should do Brutus wrong, and Cassius wrong, Who (you all know) are Honourable men. **1611** *Bible* Ps. lxxv. 5 O God of our saluation: who art the confidence of all the ends of the earth. — Matt. x. 4 Iudas Iscariot, who also betrayed him. **1655** FULLER *Ch. Hist.* ix. vi. §40. 180 As for her Son the King of Scots, from whom they expected a settlement of Popery in that land, their hopes were lately turned into despairs, who had his education on contrary

principles. **1711** ADDISON *Spect.* No. 119 ¶4 Honest Will Wimble, who I should have thought had been altogether uninfected with Ceremony. **1750** JOHNSON *Idler* No. 99 ¶3 How different. . . is thy condition, who art doomed to the perpetual torments of unsatisfied desire. **1793** BURNS *Bruce's Addr.* i, Scots, wha hae wi' Wallace bled. **1882** BESANT *All Sorts* xxviii, A chap like my cousin Dick, who's a clever fellow and a devil for fireworks.

11. a. With antecedent denoting or connoting a number of persons collectively: usually with plural concord.

1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II.* 1. ii. 7 Put we our quarrell to the will of heauen, Who when they see the houres ripe on earth, Will raigne hot vengeance on offenders heads. **1602** — *Ham.* IV. iii. 5 Hee's loued of the distracted multitude, Who like not in their iudgement, but their eyes. **1609** SKENE *Reg. Maj.*, *Stat. Alex. II.* 14 Except in Galloway, quha has their awne speciall and proper Lawes. **1711** ADDISON *Spect.* No. 112 ¶4 This authority of the knight. . . has a very good effect upon the parish, who are not polite enough to see any thing ridiculous in his behaviour. **1771** GOLDSM. *Hist. Eng.* II. 238 The Hanse-towns, who were then at war with both France and England. **1885** *Pail Mall G.* 6 Jan. 12/2 The Midland, who first introduced American railway notions in their Pullman cars.

b. Used in reference to an animal or animals: usually with implication of personality, but sometimes merely a substitute for *which*.

a1585 MONTGOMERIE *Cherrie & Slae* 16, I sawe the Hurchone and the Haire, Quha fed amang the flowers faire. **1601** SHAKS. *Jul. C.* I. iii. 21 Against the Capitoll I met a Lyon Who glaz'd vpon me, and went surly by. **1607** — *Cor.* IV. vii. 34 As is the Aspray to the Fish, who takes it By Soueraignty of Nature. **1748** THOMSON *Cast. Indol.* II. xl, Like wily fox who roosted cock doth spy. **a1774** GOLDSM. *Hist. Greece* II. 163 He. . . lost his horse, . . who was killed with the thrust of a sword. **1860** DICKENS *Uncomm. Trav.* x, Two honest dogs. . . who perform in Punch's shows. **1884** PHILLIPS BROOKS *New Starts in Life* xviii. 306 Even the lowest creature who floats on the pool's surface. . . feels. . . some. . . half-conscious pleasure in the mere act of living.

c. Used instead of *which* in reference to an inanimate thing or things; chiefly with personification (also with suggestion of personality, e.g. of a life-like statue); sometimes, as of a ship, approaching sense a.

1588 [see 12]. **1600** G. ABBOT *Expos. Jonah* xix. 402 The snow and raine, who come downe from aboue. **1610** SHAKS. *Temp.* I. ii. 7 A braue vessell (Who had no doubt some noble creature in her) Dash'd all to peeces. **1633** G. HERBERT *Temple, Provid.* xxiii, The windes, who think they rule the mariner, Are rul'd by him. **1659** *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) IV. 95, 3 Spanish men of warre. . . who. . . came vp with vs and fired at vs. **a1774** GOLDSM. *Surv. Exp. Philos.* (1776) II. 263 The sun, who is the great fountain of both [light and heat]. **1812** J. WILSON *Isle of Palms* III. 8 Some wandering Ship who hath lost her way. **1917** MISS M. T. JACKSON *Museum* II. 33 The Venus de Milo, who has stood for so many years. . . in the Louvre.

¶12. In irregular constructions: a. with pleonastic personal pronoun in the latter part of the relative clause, *who* thus becoming a mere link between the clauses (cf. WHICH 14); b. preceded by redundant *and* (cf. WHICH 16 b).

1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. lxxxiv. 43 b/1 Now let vs returne to sir Loyes of Spayne, who whan he was at the porte of Guerand. . . he and his company sayled forth. **1588** SHAKS. *Tit. A.* III. i. 37, I tell my sorrowes. . . to the stones, Who though they cannot answer my distresse, Yet in some sort they are better than the Tribunes. **1619** NAUNTON in *Fortescue Papers* (Camden) 105 He is well known to. . . divers others, who if they shold see him about the Court, it would make him uncapable to do the service. **1831** SCOTT *Cast. Dang.* xix, The very same place in which Sir Aymer de Valence held an interview with the old sexton; and who now, drawing into a separate corner some of the straggling parties whom he had collected, . . kept on the alert.

¶13. Used ungrammatically for the objective WHOM, in senses corresponding to those above. Still common colloquially.

13. . . *Cursor M.* 4007 (Gött.) Qua pat godd helpis wid-all, Traistli may be wend ouer-all. **c1400** *Destr. Troy* 5943 Mony [he] dange to the dede with dynt of his hond: Who happit hym to hitte harmyt nomo. **1523** LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. ccx. 103 b/1 The kynge of Englande. . . had great prouision for his oost, by the meanes of John Alenson, who he founde at Flaigny. **1596** SPENSER *F.Q.* VI. i. 44 The sad Briana. . . Who coming forth yet full of late affray, Sir Calidore vpheard. **1641** EARL MONM. tr. *Biondi's Civil Wars* IV. 42 A great Prince who I forbear to name. **1725** DE FOE *Voy. round World* II. 17 Our Surgeons, who we all call Doctors at Sea. **a1774** TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 442 Persons who in his best judgment he sees reason to confide in. **1849** FROUDE *Nem. Faith* 134 He has a right. . . to choose who he will have for a teacher. **1858** R. S. SURTEES *Ask Mamma* xxxi, Not being able to ask exactly who he liked. **1979** *Globe & Mail* (Toronto) 27 Aug. 14/5 They come to see Bowser, who they equate not only with The Fonzy, but the Cookie Monster and Mork from Ork, too. **1984** *Times* 6 Feb. 12/3 Just over half . . of our sample who we assessed as working class concurred.

III. Substantival nonce-uses.

14. †a. old who: the right man. *Obs.*

1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* F2, He must haue exquisite courtship in him or else he is not old who.

b. A person, indefinitely or abstractly; a 'some one'.

1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 149 We have seen the Pittifull who's, and. . . the slender whits are against modest Learning. **1904** *Strand Mag.* May 516/1 'What ever made you think of it?' 'It wasn't a what; it was a who'.

c. with *the*: The question 'who?'

1771 GOLDSM. *Haunch of Venison* 26, I was puzzled again, With the how, and the who, and the where, and the when. **1955** *Bull. Atomic Sci.* June 228/3 The 'who' and 'why' of

ethical judgments may lie in the realm of metaphysics; but the 'how' are phenomena in the natural world.

who (wəʊ), *int.* (sb.) Forms: 5 *whoo*, 5-7, 9 *dial.* *who*, 7 *whoe*, 8 *whoh*, 9 *whoo*. [Variant of *HO int.* ² = stop!] Stop! esp. as a call to a horse: = *WHOA* 2 (cf. *wo*). †Also as *sb.*

c1450 [see *WHOOF int.* b]. **1467** in S. Bentley *Excerpta Historica* (1831) 211 Then the Kyng perceyvyng the cruell assaile, cast his staff, and with high voice, cried, Whoo! **1562** J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 152 Thou art one of them, to whom god bad who, God tooke the for a carte horse, when god bad so. **1599** CHAPMAN *Hum. dayes Myrth* Plays 1873 l. 107 Who loe you bird, how much you are deceiued. **c1603** HEYWOOD & ROWLEY *Fortune by Land* II. i, Come Ile go teach ye hayte and ree, gee and whoe, and which is to which hand. **1606** *Choice, Chance*, etc. (1881) 15 The ploughman. . . with havy Ree, & Who to his horse. **1621** BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. ii. iii. xiv. 165 He is madd, madd, no whoe with him. **1797** T. MORTON *Cure for Heart-ache* 1, Scene 1. A Farm Yard. . . The Bells of a Team jingling. *Frank (without)* Woyh! Whoh! Smiler! **1814** *Sporting Mag.* XLIV. 146 Come hither, who-o. **1841** *Punch* 17 July 5/2 *Coachman*.—Whoo up!—d—n you! **1859** GEO. ELIOT *Adam Bede* xii, There was a great deal of strong language, mingled with soothing 'who-ho's' while the leg was examined.

who, obs. f. *HO int.* ¹, *HOW adv.*, *WOE*.

whoa (wəʊ), *int.* [Variant of *WHO int.*]

†1. *whoa ho ho*, used to call attention from a distance. *Obs.*

1623 *Shaks. Merry W.* v. v. 187 Whoa hoe, hoe, Father Page. **1623** — *Wint. T.* III. iii. 79 He hallow'd but euen now. Whoa-ho-hoa.

2. A word of command to a horse or other draught-animal to stop or stand still; also used otherwise in conjunction with other words, as *come hither whoa*, *gee-whoa*, *hait-whoa*, *whoa back*. Hence used jocularly to a person as a command to stop or desist. (Cf. *WOA*.)

1843 [see *HAW int.* ² and *sb.*]. **1849** W. S. MAYO *Kaloolah* iii. (1850) 32 'Soh! whoo!' to his restive horses. 'Whow! I tell you. . . Whoa! I tell you.' **1862** THOREAU *Ess.*, *Walking* (1895) 22 Who but the Evil One has cried 'Whoa!' to mankind? **1865** EMILY DICKINSON *Lett.* (1894) II. 256 Life. . . will run away, notwithstanding our sweetest whoa. **1887** W. S. S. TYRWHITT *New Chum* ix. 195 Men shouting. . . 'Whoa back! Whoa back!' **1898** HAMBLETON *Gen. Manager's Story* ix. 123 We were four minutes late, and as I shouted 'whoa' to Jack [the engine-driver], I could see that he was mad [i.e. angry].

Hence *whoa v.*, *intr.* to shout 'whoa!'

1841 S. C. HALL *Ireland* I. i. 73 The Englishman. . . after 'who-aing' to his horse, looks over the hedge.

who-all ('hu:əl), *pron.* *U.S. dial.* Also *who all*. [f. *WHO pron.* + *ALL a.*] Used for *WHO pron.* in interrogative and relative functions (with sing. as well as pl. sense).

1899 B. W. GREEN *Word-bk. Virginia Folk-Speech* 424 Who-all *interrog.* Meaning all who: as 'Who all were there.' **1905** A. V. CULBERTSON *Banjo Talks* 15, I ain' care who-all come dis way! **1916** R. FROST *Lett.* 21 Mar. (1964) 27, I wish I could remember. . . who-all I've baptized into my heresies. **1938** M. K. RAWLINGS *Yearling* vii. 67 Jody asked brashly, 'Who-all's your sweetheart?' **1938** J. STUART *Beyond Dark Hills* vii. 184 Will you get up and tell the student group just why you were out there. . . and who all were with you? **1944** in *Amer. Speech* (1946) XXI. 52 We always said, as the town [sc. Hawley, Minnesota] still does, 'Who-all was there?' and 'What all did you do?' Many of the Irish also use 'who-all' and 'what-all'.

whoar, whoat, obs. ff. *WHORE*, *HOT*, *VOTE v.*

whoave, var. *WHAUVE v. dial.*

whobble, var. *WOBBLE*.

whobub, obs. f. *HUBBUB*.

whoch, whoche, obs. ff. *WHICH*.

whoche, var. *WHITCH*, chest, coffer.

whochesafe, obs. f. *VOUCHSAFE*.

whod(de, obs. ff. *HOOD*.

whode, obs. f. *HOOD*, *WOOD*.

whoder, -ir, -ur, -yre, obs. ff. *WHITHER*.

whodunit ('hu:'dʌnɪt). *colloq.* Also *whodunnit* and (*rare*) other varr. [repr. *who done* (= illiterate for *did it*)?] A story or other work of fiction about the solving of a mystery, esp. a murder; a detective or murder story. Occas. used for 'who did it' in other contexts.

1930 D. GORDON in *News of Bks.* (U.S.) July 10 *Half-Mast Murder*, by Milward Kennedy—A satisfactory whodunit. **1942** G. MITCHELL *Laurels are Poison* vi. 61 That was another case of Oo-dun-it. Or was it? **1943** *Britannia & Eve* Feb. 16/1 Clifton Fadiman. . . moved in with an intellectual slap-stick show, which could be appreciated equally by professors and the public for 'who-dun-it?' books. **1951** M. McLuhan *Mech. Bride* (1967) 104/2 Would the thriller fan be abashed to learn that the whodunit anticipated the techniques of modern science and art? **1959** 'A. GILBERT' *Death takes Wife* xiii. 173 The whodunnit writers have got us all educated. **1961** *Times* 26 July 15/5 A new 'whodunit'. . . is to be produced at St. Martin's theatre. **1971** WODEHOUSE *Much Obliged, Jeeves* vii. 69, I. . . go in mostly for who-dun-its and novels of suspense. For the who-dun-it Agatha Christie is always a safe bet. **1971** E.

LAMARCHAND *Death on Doomsday* xi. 169, I think sleeping dogs will be let lie, provided we can establish whodunit. 1975 *New Yorker* 21 Apr. 2/1 (Adv.), *Equus*—A brilliant psychological whodunit by Peter Shaffer. 1980 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 30 May 615/5 In the whodunit, we are conditioned to look for not the most obvious but the *least likely* suspect.

Hence **who'dun(n)itry**, material or writing such as occurs in a 'whodunit'.

1961 *Daily Tel.* 18 Dec. 10/4 'The Judge and his Hangman' on BBC television last night. This is whodunitry with undertones. 1966 *Punch* 8 June 859/2 His *The Weekend Girls*... settles for whodunitry rather than sociology. 1972 *Daily Tel.* 4 Apr. 9/8 There is no sexual element whatever, and... it doesn't dabble in whodunnitry.

whoee: see HOW, WHO.

whoes, obs. f. WHOSE.

whoever (hu:'evə(r)), *pron.*; contr. (*poet.*) *who'e'r* (hu:'eə(r)). [Orig. two words, *who* *pron.* and *EVER* *adv.* 8e.]

I. 1. As compound relative, or with correlative in principal clause, which usually follows but occas. precedes; in generalized or indefinite sense: Whatever person or persons; any one who, or any who.

†Formerly also followed by *that* (THAT *conj.* 6). c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 47 Hwa efre penne ilokie wel pene sunne dei, ... beo heo dal neominde of heofene riches blisse. c1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 45 Who euer of freris... wilen goon among sarasyns... axe þei leue perof of here mynystis prouynce. 1382 — *Matt.* xii. 32 Who euer shal seie a word aȝeins manny's sone, it shal be forȝouen to hym. 1561 T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtier* iv. (1577) Siv b. In case a graue Philosopher should come beefore anye of our Princes, or who euer beside, that woulde shewe tham plainlye [etc.]. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* iii. ii. 235 Heere she stands, touch her who euer dare. c1600 — *Sonn.* cxxxiii. 11 Who ere keepes me, let my heart be his garde. 1655 *Theophania* 173 Whoever have opposed their proceedings, ... instead of punishment have been rewarded. 1732 BERKELEY *Alciph.* i. §16 Whoever acts with design, acts for some end. 1813 SCOTT *Robey* ii. xxvi, Whoever finds him, shoot him dead! 1833 I. TAYLOR *Fanat.* i. i Mental disorders which... demand, in whoever would relieve them, ... the very purest intentions. 1906 E. V. LUCAS *Wand.* in *Lond.* i. 14 Whoever lives there believes nobly in heat, for the chimney is immense.

2. Introducing a qualifying clause with conditional or disjunctive force: If any one at all; whether one person or another; no matter who. (Sometimes with verb in subjunctive.)

Often implying opposition: = 'notwithstanding any one who', or 'notwithstanding that any one': cf. *WHATEVER* 3. 1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxix. 24 Fra it [sc. my purse] as fra the Feynd thay [sc. coins] fle, Quha evir tyne, quha evir win. 1591 SHAKS. *i Hen. VI.* i. iii. 7 Who ere he be, you may not be let in. 1595 — *John v.* v. 19 Who euer spoke it, it is true. 1605 — *Macb.* iv. i. 47 Open Lockes, who euer knockes. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* x. 14 Not to taste that Fruit, Whoever tempted. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 92 ¶7, I... must here take occasion to thank A. B. whoever it is that conceals himself under those two Letters. 1781 COWPER *Expost.* 701 If he guard thee... Who'e'r assails thee, thy success is sure. 1794 PALEY *Evid.* ii. vi. (1817) 126 The books, whoever were the authors of them, were composed [etc.]. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xxxiii, Whoever you may be, sir... I am deeply grateful to you. 1863 MISS BRADDON *Aurora Floyd* xxx, Whoever it is, I won't see them to-night.

¶3. Used ungrammatically for the objective: Any one whom; whomsoever.

1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* v. iii. 173 Who ere you find attach. 1613 — *Hen. VIII.* ii. i. 47 Who euer the King faours, The Cardnall instantly will finde employment. 1780 *Mirror* No. 95 ¶3 Whoever you marry... will have no reason to complain of your temper.

II. 4. *interrog.* [EVER *adv.* 8d.] An emphatic extension of *who*, implying perplexity or surprise. *collog.*

Properly written as two words. [1875 DASENT *Vikings* lvi, Who ever would have thought it, a short hour ago?] 1881 R. G. WHITE *Eng. Without & Within* xvi. 385 *Ever* is frequently heard in composition thus: 'Whoever is it?' 'Whatever can it be?' This usage is mostly confined to ladies, and is not regarded as good English.

whoff, **whoffle**, var. WAFF, WAFFLE.

1873 RHODA BROUGHTON *Nancy* xiii, A little shrewish shrill bark, speedily changed into an apologetic... whiffing and whoffing. 1922 *Chamb. Jnl.* Aug. 492 Whoff! Whoff!

whofull, obs. form of WOEFUL.

whois, obs. form of WHOSE.

whole (həʊl), *a.*, *sb.*, *adv.*, (*int.*). Forms: *a.* 1 hal, 3- hale, etc.; see *HALE a.* β. 3-5 hol, (3 hoal, 4 ol, hoel), 4-6 holl, hool(e, 4-8 hole, 5-6 holle, hool(e, hoyll(e, whole, (5 oull), 6 (w)hoale, (houll, woll(e), *Sc.* hoill, 6-7 whol, wholl, (7 *Sc.* quholl), 6- whole. [OE. *hāl* (also *gehāl* YHOLE) = (O)Fris., OS. *hēl* (MDu. *heel*, usually *gheheel*, Du. *heel*, *geheel*, MLG., LG. *heel*), OHG. (MHG., G.) *heil* (MHG. *geheil*), ON. *heill* HAIL *a.* (Sw. *hel*, Da. *heel*):—OTeut. **(ga)xailaz*:—Indo-Eur. **qoilos*. From the same stem are also OSI. *cēlō*, *cēlostō* complete, whole, OPruss. *kailūstiska-n* acc. health (f. **kailūstas*), Gr. *κοῖλον* (Hesychius), OS. *hēl* omen, OHG. (MHG., G.) *heil* health, (good or bad) fortune, ON. *heill* neut. omen, fem. good luck,

happiness, Goth. *hails* health (also *gahails*). The gradation-variant **qeilo-* is represented by OIr. *cēl* omen.

On the spelling *whole* (the *wh* first appears in the 15th cent.) see the article WH. Pronunciations with initial (w) exist in modern dialects over an area extending from Somerset to north-east Yorkshire. For the northern form corresp. to midland and southern *hōl*, *whole*, see *HALE a.* For derivatives with mutated vowel see *HAIL sb.*², *HEAL sb.*, *HEAL v.*¹

The Germanic adj. has the meanings (not all represented in every dialect) of 'uninjured, sound, healthy, entire complete'; the sense 'healthy' gave rise to its use in several languages in salutations, e.g. Goth. *hails* = *χαῖρε*, OS. *hēl wes*, OE. *hāl wes þú*, ON. *ver heill, sit heill*: see *WASSAIL* and *HAIL int.*

A. adj. I. In good condition, sound. In senses 1-4 often in collocation with *sound* (OE. *hāl ond ȝesund*, ME. *hol and sound*, also *hol and fer*, *hail and hol*).

1. *a.* Of a person or an animal, the body, limbs, skin: Uninjured, unwounded, unhurt; (contextually) recovered from injury or a wound; †(of a wound) healed. †to lick whole: see *LICK v.* 1e. *arch.*

Beowulf 1974 þæt ðær on worðig wiȝendra hleo... cwm heaðolucs hal to hofe gongan. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 177 Hie þa hine on rode ahengan... & he... hine halne & ȝesundne ðy ðriddan dæge ætewode. a1000 *Daniel* 271 Hyssas hale hwurfon in þam hatan ofne. c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 29 Ane wunde on his lcome þet ne mei beon longe hwile hal. c1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2812 In hise bosum he dede his hond, Quit and al unfer he it fond; And sone he dede it eft agen, Al hol and fer he wiste it sen. c1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 33/131 His heued ȝut and is finger al-so bope huy beoth hole and sounde. a1310 in *Wright Lyric P.* xxxvii. 102 Nou thou art sekest, ant nou holest. 1357 *Lay Folks Catech.* (L.) 449 Betyne with scorgys, þat no skyn held hool. c1386 CHAUCER *Friar's T.* 72 In this world nys dogge... That kan an hurt deer from an hool knowe. 1388 WYCLIF *Job* v. 18 He smythith, and hise hondis schulen make hool. a1400 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* xxix. v. 67 Whon he a-wok, he groped his leg; He feled hit hol and sount. 1452 *Paston Lett.* i. 239 Whee he wownde was never hol to the daye of her deth. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* i. ccii. 68/2 Sir Eustace Dambreticourt... was as thanne hole of his hurtles. 1530 *PALSGR.* 836/2 Hole and safe, sayn et sauf. c1550-1712 [see *LICK v.* 1e]. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ.* *Osor.* 131 When the wounde is whoale, what neede any playster or further surgery? 1581 W. STAFFORD *Exam. Compl.* iii. (1876) 91 Wee shoulde lycke our selues hoale againe in short space. 1590 SPENSER *F.Q.* iii. v. 43 As his wound did gather, and grow hole. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI.* iv. vii. 11 He was thrust in the mouth with a Speare, and 'tis not whole yet. 1599 PORTER *Angry Wom. Abingt.* (Percy Soc.) 104 A man is not so soon whole as hurt. 1844 GLEIG *Lt. Dragon* xvi, One whole man... is enough to take care of a wounded one. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* vi. 194 She... Felt it [sc. the babe] sound and whole from head to foot. 1855 BROWNING *An Epistle* 86 The evil thing out-breaking all at once Left the man whole and sound of body indeed.

b. Phr. as whole as a fish (a trout).

[Cf. a1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 4282 Bot ay as fresche & as fere as fisch quen he plays.]

a1425 *Cursor M.* 11884 (Trin.) A noble bap we shul þe make; Bi þat þou com þerof oute þou shal be hool as any troute [Cott. hale sum ani trutel]. c1450 *Mirk's Festial* 265 Anon þe lepur fel from hym and he was hole as a fysche. 1518 [see *TROUT sb.*¹ i]. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* ii. v. 20 They are both as whole as a fish. 1700 T. BROWN tr. *Fresny's Amusem.* 120 In four and twenty Hours he made 'em as whole as Fishes.

c. In allusive phrases *whole skin (whole limbs)*, esp. *in a whole skin* = uninjured.

1547 BOORDE *Introd. Knowl.* xviii. (1870) 169 The people... loue no warre, but louth to rest in a hole skin. 1555, etc. [see *SKIN sb.* 6c]. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* iii. i. 79 Let them keepe their limbs whole, and hack our English. *Ibid.* 111 Your hearts are mighty, your skinnies are whole. 1648 BP. HALL *Breathings Devout Soul* xxvii. 41 A third with Lazarus wants bread, and a whole skin. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) V. 260 Honest Hickman may now sleep in a whole skin. 1841 THACKERAY *Gt. Hoggarty Diam.* xiii, If he wants to keep his place and his whole skin. 1877 SPURGEON *Metrop. Tab. Pulpit* XXIII. 563 Others think the Gospel is true: Erasmus feels sure that it is, but Erasmus wants to die in a whole skin.

2. *a.* Of inanimate objects: Free from damage or defect; uninjured, unimpaired, unbroken, untainted, intact. (Cf. 6, 8.)

[c1000: see *YHOLE*.] c1250 *Compassio Mariæ* 37 So gleam glidis þurt þe glas, Of þi bodi born he was, And þurt þe hoale purch he glood. c1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2776 Ðo saȝ moyses, at munt synay, ... Fier brennen on ðe grene leaf, And ðoȝ grene and hol bi-leaf. a1300 *Floriz & Bl.* 364 Ber wiþ þe forti pund And pine eupe hol and sund. 13... K. *Alis.* 7389 (Laud MS.), Her armes ricche of mounde Weren ȝitt hōl & sounde. c1305 *S. Swithin* 66 in *E.E.P.* (1862) 45 Seint swythyn... blessede þe eiren to-broke and hi bicom hole anon And sound as hi euere were. 1340 *Ayenb.* 205 A roted eppel amang þe hōlen makeȝ rotie þe yzounde. 1377 *LANGL. P. Pl.* B. xiv. 1, I Hauē but one hool hatere. c1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 3368 When he was take vp of þe vrthe, he was as whole And as freyshe as he was ony tyme þat day byfore. c1450 *Merlin* 117 Yet hadde he his spere hoill. 1476 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) II. 4, I haue ressayved your wollis as ffayer and as hole as any mannys. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V.* iii. ii. 37 Pistoll... hath a killing Tongue, and a quiet Sword; by the meanes whereof, a breakes Words, and keepes whole Weapons. 1611 tr. *Serlio's Archit.* iii. 27b, Traians Columne is the wholest. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* ii. xix. 121 His corslet wholler then his clothes. 1674 R. GODFREY *Inf. & Ab. Physic* 205 This is worse than what Tinkers do, to make a Hole in a whole Vessel. a1700 EVELYN *Diary* Sept. 1646, Clad... in blew cloth, very whole and warme. 1718 RAE *Hist.*

Reb. 287 Bringing... the whole Boats they found in their Way. 1829 *Chapters Phys. Sci.* 185 When the pipe is quite whole and sound. 1839 DE LA BECHE *Rep. Geol. Cornwall*, etc. xiii. 405 Whole ground, as the tin-streamers term the stanniferous gravel and super-incumbent beds which have not been previously disturbed by the old men. 1858 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* (1871) II. 9 She is just as whole as when she left the hands of the sculptor.

†*b.* Of immaterial things: Intact, unimpaired.

c1450 *Brut* ii. 327 It was ordeined in þe parlement þat all Cathedrall cherches shold ioye and haue her eleccions hool; & þat þe King... sholde not write aȝens hem þat were ychosen. a1500 in *Arnolde's Chron.* (1811) 35 That the citezens... haue alle her fraunchyses and free custumes holl and vnblemysed as they before this tyme hadden hem. a1533 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* Prol. (1535) Aj, There is nothyng so entier, but it diminisheth, nor nothyng so hole, but that is wery.

3. *a.* In good health; free from disease; healthy, 'well'; (contextually) restored to health, recovered from disease, 'well again'. *arch.*

c888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* x, Ðu eart nu ȝit swiðe ȝesælig, nu ðu ȝit lifost & eart hal. a1200 *Moral Ode* 114 in *O.E. Hom.* i. 167 Wa se seið þet he bo hal, him solf wat best his smirte. c1290 *St. Barnabas* 61 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 28 He bi-cam anon hol and sound. c1305 *Pilate* 142 in *E.E.P.* (1862) 115 Anon þo he þe ymage iseȝ he was ol anon. ?a1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 1097 A stoon... so... vertuous, That hole a man it koude make Of palasie, and tothe ake. c1450 *Merlin* 52 To axe... yef this seke shall euer be hoill of this sekenesse. 1526 TINDALE *Mark* v. 34 Thy fayth hath saved the [1611 made thee whole], goo in peace, and be whole off thy plage. 1530-1 *Act 22 Hen. VIII.* c. 12 §3 Yf any person... beyng hole & myghtie in body & able to labour... be taken in beggyn. a1533 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* xxix. (1535) 49, I repute it a very perillous thinge for a hole man to reste and be idell. 1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witcher.* xvi. ix. (1886) 485 Endued with a elear, whole, subtil and sweet blood. 1629 *Orkney Witch Trial* in *County Folk Lore* iii. (1903) 103 Quha beeing quholl then deit within thrie dayes be your witchcraft. 1722 DE FOE *Plague* (1754) 162 We are all whole and sound People here, and we would not have you bring the Plague among us. 1814 CARY *Dante, Parad.* iv. 49 Him who made Tobias whole.

absol. c1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Matt. ix. 12 Nys halum læces nan pearf ac seocum. c1330 *Assump. Virg.* (B. M. MS.) 69 Seke and hole sche dide gode. a1425 *Cursor M.* 20119 (Trin.) To hoole & seke dud she bote. 1548-9 (Mar.) *Bk. Com. Prayer, Ordering of Priests*, As well to the sicke as to the whole. 1676 GLANVILL *Ess. Philos. & Relig.* vii. 1 We had all things, both for our Whole and Sick, that belonged to Charity and Mercy.

†*b.* OE. and early ME. *hāl* in salutations.

c1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 252 Sy ðu hal, leof, Iudeiscre leode cnyng. c1205 *Lay.* 14936 Hal wrð þu lauerd king. [1583 STOCKER *Civ. Warren Love* C. iv. 12 b, They cried with a lustie courage, All whole noble mates all whole.]

c. fig. in biblical translation of reminiscence of biblical uses.

c1000 *Ag. Ps.* (Th.) lxi[i]. 8 Doð eowre heortan... hale and clæne. 1382 WYCLIF *Jer.* xxxviii. 2 His lif shal ben hoel and luyng. 1523-34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* §149 Hole in body, holer in soule, and ryer in goodes. 1535 COVERDALE 2 *Sam.* i. 9 My life is yet whole within me. 1738 WESLEY *Ps.* vi. ii, O Lord, ... save my Soul, And for thy Mercy sake make whole. 1833 TENNYSON *Miller's Dau.* ii, A soul... So healthy, sound, and clear and whole. 1866 WHITTIER *Our Master* xiv, We touch Him in life's throng and press, And we are whole again.

†4. In reference to the mental faculties: Sound, sane. *Obs.*

In the language of wills *whole* = L. *sanus*, as in *sanus mente, sanæ mentis*.

c1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Mark v. 15 Hales modes. c1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 38 þouȝ eche man... myȝtte lyue hool & sond in bodi & wittis. 1418 *E.E. Wills* (1882) 30, I, Iohn Chelmyswyk squier of Shropshire, hole of mynde & in my gode memorie beyng. 1483-4 *Act 1 Rich.* III. c. 1 §1 Eny persone... beyng of... hoolle mynde at large and not in duresse. 1506 *Linc. Wills* (1914) I. 32 Of a holle mynde and hoill memory. 1581 PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* i. (1586) 4 If I flatter not my selfe, I haue a whole minde within my crasie bodie.

†5. As a rendering (direct or indirect) of L. *sānus* in the sense: Sound, wholesome. *Obs.*

a1225 *Ancr. R.* 370 Ne nomen heo neuer ȝeme hwat was hol, hwat was unhol te eten ne to drincken. 1340 *Ayenb.* 251 Ase moche ase þe welle yuelþ lesse of þe erpe, zuo moche hi is þo holer and þe betere of to drinke. c1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 228 ȝif ony man... accordip not to þe hoolle wordis [1 *Tim.* vi. 3 sanis sermonibus] of oure lord ihū crist. *Ibid.* 408 He ledip his sheep wel in hool pasture þat wole not rote. ?a1400 *Little Red Bk. Bristol* (1900) I. 1 3he schal... ȝhif trewe and hole counsell... to the Mair. c1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* i. 23 First biholde aboute, and se thyn aier; If hit be cleer and hool, stond out of fere. 1502 *Ord. Crysten Men* (W. de W. 1506) iv. Piv b, After the moost hole opynyon [orig. *selon la plus saine opinion*].

II. Complete, total (and allied senses).

6. *a.* Having all its parts or elements; having no part or element wanting; having its complete or entire extent or magnitude; full, perfect.

Chiefly of abstract things; when used of material objects, this sense is coincident with 2.

[c890 WÆRFERTH tr. *Gregory's Dial.* ii. x. (1890) 124/14 þære kicean ȝetimbrung stod ȝehal & ȝesund. c1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen. Pref.*, Se tæȝl sceolde beon ȝehal... on ðam nyten æt ðære offrung. c1315 SHOREHAM i. 720 þer he hys, he hys al yhol.] 13... *Bonaventura's Medit.* 182 A derwurp ȝyite he wulde with þe lete, Hym self al hole vn to þy mete. c1386 CHAUCER *Sec. Nun's T.* 111 The cleernesse hool of sapience. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* i. 6 With hol trust and with hol believe. c1400 MAUNDEV. xxvi. [xxii.] (1919) I. 158 The nombre schall eueremore ben hool. 1457 HARDING *Chron.* in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* (1912) Oct. 748 His vertuse dygne so hole were and plener. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 227 b, He permitteth... the whole supper of the Lorde [i.e. in both kinds]. 1581 PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* iii. (1586)

143 b, Secing these women will not be the whole mothers of their children, they ought at least to be carefull to chuse good Nursses. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* iv. xiii. 126 b, A fair Turkie horse decked with the whole skinn of a great Lion. 1654 GATAKER *Disc. Apol.* 46 Either place required a whole man. 1701 STANHOPE *Pious Breathings* iv. viii. (1704) 257 Thou art the Bread of Life, every day eaten, yet still whole and never consumed. 1743 BULKELEY & CUMMINS *Voy. S. Seas* 103 At whole Allowance. 1812 L. HUNT in *Examiner* 9 Nov. 716/1 The pit was but moderately filled at whole price. 1818 *Art Bk.-binding* 4 Quarto whole-sheets, consist of eight printed pages. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xlix, He . . . from half thief became whole robber. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* lxxi. 8 That so my pleasure may be whole. 1891 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 27 Nov. 5/2 There were four occasions on which the wind reached force 10, or what is known among sailors as a 'whole' gale.

†b. Of will, intention, affection: Full, complete, perfect. *Obs.*

c 1369 CHAUCER *Bk. Duchesse* 1224 With hool herte I gan hir besече. c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 2339 He that . . . Yaff hoolle his herte in will and thought. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2195 With hardynes of hond, & with hole might. c 1430 *Hymns Virgin* (1867) 103 Y bileue in hool mynde, þe holi goost schalle knytte aȝen þe soule to þe fleische. 1535 COVERDALE 2 *Chron.* xv. 15 They soughte him with a whole wyll. — Ps. cxviii[i]. 34, I shal kepe thy lawe, yee I shal kepe it with my whole herte.

c. Containing all its proper or essential constituents; of milk, unskimmed. See also *whole meal* in D. 1.

1794 WEDGE *Agric. Chester* 37 The common practice of churning the 'whole milk,' instead of setting up the milk for the cream to rise, and churning it alone. 1894 *Field* 9 June 846/2 It is less trouble to churn whole milk than to churn cream.

d. *whole or part*: attrib. use of *in whole or in part* (see B. 3 c). *rare.*

1880 SWINBURNE *Stud. Shaks.* 292 The evidence for Shakespeare's whole or part authorship.

7. a. The full or total amount of; all, all of (as distinguished from *part* of or *some* of). The prevailing current sense; only in attributive use, and now always preceding the sb.

Formerly pleonastically with *all*, *entire*, etc.: also following its sb.

(a) *a, the, his*, etc. *whole* with sing. sb.

[a 900 O.E. *Martyrol.* 10 Jan. 16 Ond þa sona brohte him se hræfn gehalne hlaf. c 1325 *Chron. Eng.* 413 in Ritson *Metr. Rom.* II. 287 Al Englund yhol. 1340 *Ayenb.* 126 Yef we yzeȝe þet we myȝte more ine one daye profit panne hi ne moȝe ine one yere y-hol.] 1362 LANGE. P. Pl. A. II. 6 Seo wher he stondeþ! . . . and al his hole Meyne! c 1369 CHAUCER *Bk. Duchesse* 554 To make yow hool I wol do alle my power hool. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 121 Ye knowen al min hole herte. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 6852 Menelay the mighty, & the mayn Telamon, So sturnly withstood with paire strenkyth holl. *Ibid.* 13492 To hit into havyn with his hoolle flete. c 1400 MAUNDEV. xvi. (1910) I. 86 þei fasten an hool moneth. c 1449 PECOCC *Repr.* Prol. 2 The clergie of Goddis hool chirche in erthe. c 1449 The hool al werk [see ALL A. 10]. 1491-2 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1904) 181 The clarkes wages for an oull yere iiii s iiii d. 1523 WOLSEY in *St. Papers Hen. VIII.* VI. 205 Either for the hoolle wynter or at the lest for a season. a 1532 *Rem. Love* xliii. Chaucer's Wks. 368 Eche letter an hole worde dothe represent. 1553 (*title*) The true and lyuely historye pvtreatvres of the woll bible. 1556 OLDE *Antichrist* 8 Al hole Germany . . . euery where cruelly vexed. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. liv. 114 To be the peace of the whole world. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* II. i. 315 The roare Of a whole heard of Lyons. 1613 — *Hen. VIII.* I. i. 12 All the whole time I was my Chambers Prisoner. 1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle* v. (1871) 66 The lease . . . For a whole hundred years is good in lawe. 1654 H. L'ESTRANGE *Chas. I* (1655) 186 That Parliament from which the hole Kingdome expected a Reformation. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* II. 353 An Oath, That shook Heav'n's whol circumference. 1678 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* iv. 73 Should workmen hold the Blade of the Paring Chissel in their whole hand. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 78 ¶ Hippocrates, who visited me throughout my whole illness. 1756 TOLDERVY *Hist. Two Orphans* I. 169 In all the whole enlightened system. 1784 COWPER *Tiroc.* 225 The stout tall captain, . . . upon whom they fix Their whole attention. 1845 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1880) I. 2 The whole . . . manner of looking at things alters with every age. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vii. (1858) II. 462 The whole Anglican priesthood, the whole Cavalier gentry, were against him. c 1850 *Arab. Nts.* (Rtdg.) 632 He related his whole adventure from beginning to end.

(b) with numeral, as *the whole three* († *the three whole*), *two whole* († *whole two*).

a 1375 *Joseph Arim.* 340 3if vchon haue a godhede I graunte, bi him-selue, I seie pat on is also good as þe preo hole. c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 4631 Charlys þe Citee þo gan asayle, Two dawes hole. 1577 HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* 80 Lying whole six dayes vnburied. 1597 BEARD *Theatre God's Judgem.* x. (1612) 41 A . . . pestilence, which lasted whole tenne yeeres. 1611 *Bible Acts* xxviii. 30 Paul dwelt two whole yeeres in his owne hired house. 1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang.* T. 1. 32 The fourth Persecution . . . wherein the Church had no breathing for whole twenty yeares together. 1796 ELIZA HAMILTON *Lett. Hindoo Rajah* (1811) II. 311 He . . . staid whole ten days. 1827 O. W. ROBERTS *Voy. Centr. Amer.* 228, I brought the whole three to the ground at one shot.

(c) with pl. sb. (*the, my*, etc. *whole* . . .): now chiefly *Sc.* (replaced ordinarily by *the whole* of *the* . . . or *all the* . . .); formerly also without article (now only as in c).

1516 in *Leadam Sel. Cases Star Chamb.* (Selden Soc.) II. 115 Theseid decrees . . . shalbe . . . observed . . . by the hole Burgesses and inhabitants of the same Towne. 1521 LD. T. DACRE in *Ellis Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. I. 279 Not doubting . . . but ye shalbe . . . recompensed of your hool duties with th'arragies. 1596 *Edw. III.* I. i. All the whole dominions of the realm. 1650 EARL MONM. tr. *Senault's Man bec. Guilty* 89 There be whole intire Nations which approve of Incest.

1680 in *Proc. Soc. Antiq. Scot.* (1911) XLV. 233 All the whole ministers are content to be ordered by the enemies of Christ. 1764 GOLDSM. *Hist. Eng. in Lett.* (1772) II. 203 The French . . . having reduced almost the whole Netherlands to their obedience. 1798 *Monthly Mag.* Dec. 436 My whole friends are against me; all my friends. 1808 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1830) IV. 112 We shall get our whole sea-ports put into that state of defence. 1831 CARLYLE *Sartor Res.* i. 2 His whole other tissues are included. 1895 *Times* (weekly ed.) 26 Apr. 324/1 A third of the whole inhabitants of India.

†(d) with sing. sb., without article: All, the whole of. *Obs.*

1535 COVERDALE 1 *Esdras* viii. 7 He taught whole Israel all righteousness & iudgment. 1551 T. WILSON *Logic* (1552) 165 b, As though whole religion stoude in these pointes onely. 1591 SAVILE *Tacitus, Agricola* 242 The figure . . . of whole Britannie, by Liuy . . . is likened to a long dish or two edged axe. 1657 W. RAND tr. *Gassendi's Life Peiresc.* Ep. Ded., Not only whole Europe, but Asia also . . . had their Eyes . . . fixed upon this Province. 1826 SOUTHEY *Vind. Eccl. Angl.* x. 455 *note*, All creatures stand astonished, whole Nature is amazed.

†b. In phr. *whole and some* (cf. 'all and some', ALL A. 12 a), rarely *full and whole*, following a plural or collective noun or a plural pronoun: The whole number or amount, 'the whole lot', all; in all, altogether. *Obs.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Anel. & Arc.* 26 For which the people blisfull hole and somme . . . crydon [etc.]. ? a 1400 *Arthur* 424 And all peire power hool & soom. c 1430 *Hymns Virgin* (1867) 49 Alle to-gidere, bope hool & some, To teer him from þe top to þe toon. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 243 b, He made all the people full and whole to gase on hym. *Ibid.* 281 b. a 1566 R. EDWARDS *Damon & Pithias* (1571) Fj b, Though I be not learned, yet cha mother witte enough whole & some.

c. With rhetorical emphasis, where there is implication of an unusually large quantity or number.

1628 EARLE *Microcosm.*, *Herald* (Arb.) 71 He tels you of whole fields of gold and siluer, Or and Argent. 1664 BUTLER *Hud.* II. III. 147 Sitting. . . Whole days and nights. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xii. III. 163 Whole towns . . . were left in ruins. 1911 G. E. SMITH *Anc. Egyptians* i. 2 Whole shelves of libraries are filled with the records of this quest.

8. a. Not divided into parts or particles; not ground, broken up, or cut in pieces; undivided, entire. (Of various things, material and immaterial.) Cf. 2.

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxiv. § 12 Hwæper þu þonne on gite þæte ælc þara wuhta þe him beon þencð, þæt hit þencð ætgædere bion, gehal, untodæled; forðæm gif hit todæled bið, þonne ne bið hit no hal. [c 1000 [see YHOLE].] a 1240 *Sawles Warde* in O.E. *Hom.* I. 251 It eilede draken grisliche ase deoffen þe forswolheð ham ihal.] 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* vi. 78 He saw the brayis hye standand, The vattir holl throu slike rynand. 1382 WYCLIF *Prov.* i. 12 Swolewe wee hym . . . hol as the descendence in to the lake. c 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 9 Take þe pertryche, an stuffe hym wyth hole pepir. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* v. ix, Pulle the skynne fro the body . . . & kepe it hoolle. 1513 Bk. *Keruyng* in *Babees Bk.* 279 The goos & swanne may be cut as ye do other fowles y^t haue hole fete. 1530 PALSGR. 833 By retayle, as men sell wares that they sell nat hole [i.e. wholesale: cf. B. 3 b] or by great. a 1533 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* let. iii. (1535) 105 b, We ete dyuers thynges by morsels which if we shulde eate hole, wolde choke vs. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lvi. 126 A deede must either not be imputed . . . or . . . they which haue it by imputation must haue it such as it is whole. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 14 The wallies being all of whole trees as they come out of the wood. 1648 BP. HALL *Rem. Wks.* (1660) 198 For the paschal Lamb it must be set on all whole. 1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* ii. 32 Which will neither way be so strong as the Worm cut out of the whole Iron. 1709 T. ROBINSON *Vind. Mos. Syst.* 32 Moses . . . makes Fish and Fowl Congenial . . . From their manner of feeding, being both Swollowers hole. a 1756 ELIZA HAYWOOD *New Present* (1771) 197 One pint of whole oatmeal. 1806 A. HUNTER *Culina* (ed. 3) 215 To a pint of strong gravy, put two small onions sliced, a little whole pepper. 1842 LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 687 In the manner of gooseberries and apples . . . baked whole in a dish. 1859 TENNYSON *Marr. Geraint* 318 Here had fall'n a great part of a tower Whole, like a crag that tumbles from the cliff.

†b. Undivided in allegiance or devotion; loyal, faithful, steadfast. (Cf. *whole-hearted*, *-souled*, in D. 2 d.) *Obs.*

13 . . . E.E. *Allit.* P. B. 594 þere he fyndez al fayre a freke wyth-inne þat hert honest & hol. c 1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* III. 1001, I . . . shal . . . Ben to yow trewe and hol with al myn herte. 1451 *Paston Lett.* I. 208 The Sheriff is noght so hole as he was, for now he wille shewe but a part of his frendeshippe. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* lxxviii[i]. 37 Their herte was not whole [1611 right] with him, nether continued they in his couenant. 1553 BRADFORD in Coverdale *Godly Lett.* (1564) 344 Gods deare chyl dren, whose hartes are whole wyth the Lorde.

†c. Not divided in opinion; united, unanimous.

1451 *Paston Lett.* I. 183 The Kyng, by the hole advyse of all the greet Councell of Ingland, . . . send hider his said Commission. 1540-1 ELYOT *Image Gov.* iii. 3 b, By the hole consent of the Senate and people. a 1548 HALL *Chron.*, *Hen. VI* 185 To whome they, with a whole voyce, aunswered nay, nay.

d. *Math.* Of a number: Denoting a complete and undivided thing, or a set of such things (not a part of a thing); integral, not fractional.

†In first quot., Composed of three prime factors: = SOLID a. 2 b (*obs.*).

c 1430 *Art of Nombryng* ix. (1922) 46 Of nombres one is lyneal, anoper superficiale, anoper quadrat, anoper cubike or hoolle. 1557 RECORDE *Whetst.* Aij, Some are whole numbers. . . Other are broken numbers, and are commonly called fractions. 1608 R. NORTON *Stevin's Disme* A 3 b, A Whole number is either a vnitie, or a compounded

multitude of vnities. 1842 GWILT *Archit.* 229 A product . . . is generated by the multiplication of two or more numbers. . . All whole numbers cannot result from such a multiplication.

e. *Coal-mining.* Applied to a portion of a coal seam which has not yet been worked, or is in the earlier stage of working: see *quots.*

1860 *Engl. & For. Mining Gloss.* (ed. 2) 67 *Whole*, where the coal has not been previously worked. 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-m., Whole or Whole Mine* (N[orth of England]), that portion of a coal seam being worked by driving *headings* into it only, or the state of the mine before *bringing back* the *pillars*, or what is called *working the broken*, commences. . . *Whole Stalls* (S[outh] W[ales]), two or more stalls having their faces in line or on a thread with one another.

9. Constituting the total amount, without admixture of anything different; full, unmixed, pure. In various connexions: often opposed to *half*. a. *whole blood*: see BLOOD sb. 9. So *whole brother* or *sister*, a brother or sister of the whole blood, i.e. a son or daughter of both the same parents (as distinguished from a HALF-BROTHER or HALF-SISTER).

1377 LANGE. P. Pl. B. xviii. 375 Ac alle þat beth myne hole bretheren in blode & in baptesme. c 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 711 Twey sones he had . . . Edwyge and Edgar, his hole brother. 1444 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 104/2 No maner Walssh man of hole blode, ne half blode on the fader side. 1544 tr. *Littleton's Tenures* I Hys next cosyn collateral of the hole blode. 1697, 1810 [see BLOOD sb. 9]. 1826 J. F. COOPER *Last of Mohicans* viii, As for me, who am of the whole blood of the whites.

†b. Said of a person who has the whole of some possession, charge, or function, not sharing it with any one else: = SOLE a. 5 b. *Obs.*

c 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 3281 Knoude was made hole kyng of alle Englonde. 1455 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 312/2 Hole heir in the taylle to the said Thomas. 1530 RASTELL *Bk. Purgat.* I. xv, One hye hole orderer of al thyngs. 1540 BARNES in Foxe *A. & M.* (1583) 1199/2 His grace is made a whole kyng, and obeyed in his Realme as a kyng. 1628 in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* (1918) Jan. 35 My . . . Nephew Thomas . . . whom I make my whole and onelie Executor.

c. *Bookbinding.* Forming the whole of the cover: opp. to HALF- II. j.

1839 J. R. Smith's *Catal. Second-hand Bks.* Dec. 8/1 Whole calf. 1879 in *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 87 The whole-binding . . . means that the whole of the cover of the book is covered with the same leather.

d. *whole holiday*: a day the whole of which is observed as a holiday (opp. to HALF-HOLIDAY 2 c).

1839 LD. HOUGHTON *Barren Hill* iii. Poet. Wks. 1876 II. 109 Whole-holidays of joy. 1895 K. GRAHAME *Golden Age* 8 With us it was a whole holiday; the occasion a birthday.

e. Of a team of horses: All of the same colour, 'whole-coloured'.

1892 *Daily News* 31 May 6/1 Sir John, who used always to have a whole team, has now got one brown horse as wheeler.

B. sb. 1. a. The full, complete, or total amount; the assemblage of all the parts, elements, or individuals (*of*). With def. art. (rarely with possessive); *the whole* of = all.

†In early use occas. (as in A. 7) qualified by *all*.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P.R.* xvii. i. (Bodl. MS.), A tree . . . hap no meuyng of hit silfe, no per al þe hole no per parties pereof. c 1440 *Jacob's Well* 201 3yf þou ȝyue counseyl to takyn . . . wrongfully opes good, . . . & be þi counseyl pat wrong is don in-dede, þou art bounde to restore þe hole. 1582 N.T. (Rhem.) Matt. xiii. 33 Leauen, which a woman tooke and hid in three measures of meale, vntil the whole was leauened. a 1586 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxv. 9 Quhy sould the hoill, for thair desert, That faine wald haue that fact withstand, . . . beir the blame? 1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* I. 59 They that loose halfe with greater patience beare it, Then they whose whole is swallowed in confusion. c 1600 — *Sonn.* cxxxiv. 14 He paieis the whole, and yet am I not free. 1615 E. S. *Brit. Buss* in *Arber Engl. Garner* III. 636 The very First Year's herrings only, may bring in to the Adventurer or Owner; all his whole both of Stock and Charges of £934 ss. 8d. aforesaid. 1709-29 V. MANDEV *Syst. Math., Arith.* 6 A number that measures the whole, and that which is taken away, will also measure the remainder. 1759 JOHNSON *Rasselas* xxviii[i], The good of the whole, says *Rasselas*, is the same with the good of all its parts. 1823 COBBETT *Rur. Rides* (1885) I. 273 In the whole of my ride, I have not seen much finer fields of wheat. 1840 THACKERAY *Barber Cox Mar.*, The whole of the gentlemen of the hunt. 1853 SOYER *Pantroph.* 185 Thicken with flour, and pour the whole on the deer when roasted. 1889 H. W. PICTON *Story of Chem.* 296 We now define a salt as an acid having the whole or part of its hydrogen replaced by a metal.

b. U.S. *the Whole* = the Whole House (see COMMITTEE 3).

1840 *Congressional Globe* 5 May 364/2 The House then resolved itself into Committee of the Whole.

c. In a charade, *my whole* denotes the complete word of which the syllables, called *my first* and *my second*, are the parts.

c 1789 *Encycl. Brit.* (1797) IV. 341/1 *My first* is equally friendly to the thief and the lover. . . *My second* is light's opposite. . . *My whole* is tempting to the touch, grateful to the sight, fatal to the taste. *Night-shade.* 1836 *Penny Cycl.* VI. 489/1 *My first* makes use of *my second* to eat my whole [French *chientend*]. 1844 G. S. FABER *Eight Dissert.* (1845) II. 262 If in the process, the actual Dissyllable itself, in that species of amusement technically called *my whole*, should evaporate into thin air.

2. Something made up of parts in combination or mutual connexion; an assemblage of things united so as to constitute one greater thing; a

complex unity or system. Usually with indef. art.; also in pl.

1697 tr. *Burgersdicius' Logic* i. xiv. 43 A Whole is that which consists in the Union of any things, or Parts. **1725** WATTS *Logic* i. vi. §7 All Parts have a Reference to some Whole. **1732** POPE *Ess. Man* i. 267 All are but parts of one stupendous whole. **1791** W. GILPIN *Forest Scenery* II. 62 All together the view is picturesque. It is what the painter properly calls a whole. There is a fore-ground, a middle-ground and distance—all harmoniously united. **1821** SHELLEY *Hellas* 776 This Whole Of suns, and worlds, and men, and beasts, and flowers, . . . Is but a vision. **1833** TENNYSON *Pal. of Art* 58 Full of great rooms and small . . . All various, each a perfect whole. **1860** J. BROWN *Horæ Subs.* Ser. II. (1861) 229 A child begins by seeing bits of everything; . . . it makes up its wholes out of its own littles. **1865** TYLOR *Early Hist. Man* i. i The complex whole which we call Civilization.

3. Phrases in senses 1 and 2. a. as a whole (sense 2): as a complete thing (not in separate parts); as a unity; in its entirety, all together. So, in reference to a pl. sb., as *wholes*.

1828 CARLYLE *Misc.*, *Goethe* (1857) I. 192 The beauty of the Poem as a Whole. **1852** MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xix, I must sustain his administration as a whole, even if there are, now and then, things that are exceptional. **1865** LECKY *Ration.* (1878) II. vi. 210 How readily nations, considered as wholes, always yield to the spirit of the time. **1912** ENGL. *Hist. Rev.* Oct. 697 A close division in the committee might be reversed on appeal to the cabinet as a whole.

† b. by the whole: = WHOLESALE 1. *Obs.*

1592 GREENE *Upstart Courtier* Eivb, If the Currier bought not Lether by the whole of the Tanner, the shoemaker might have it at a more reasonable price.

c. in (the) whole. (a) To the full amount, in full, entirely, completely, wholly. (Usually, now always, without *the*: opp. to *in part*.)

c1440 *Jacob's Well* 202 þou art bounde to restore pat thefte in þe hole. **1553** BRADFORD *Serm. Repentance* (1574) Cv, They . . . wil prate, our merites or workes to satisfy for our syns in part or in whole. **1802-12** BENTHAM *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) II. 118 They may have been spurious in the whole, or incorrect in every part. **1826** SOUTHEY *Let. to H. Taylor* 31 Aug. in *Life* (1850) V. 266 Collecting my stray letters, and selecting such, in whole or in part, as may not unfitly be published. **1855** NEIL *Boyd's Zion's Flowers* Introd. 8 This Work ought to be printed in whole. **1913** *Act 3* & *4 Geo. V.* c. 20 §123 Any creditors whose claim he has rejected in whole or in part.

(b) In total amount, all together, all told, in all. (Almost always with *the*.) Now rare.

1551 SIR J. WILLIAMS *Accompte* (Abbotts. Club 1836) 24 White plate, of course broken siluer . . . ccc oz. amountinge in thole. **1552-3** in Feuillerat *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 104 Mowldes for the feltmakers to mowldre hattes vpon at xvjd the pece in the hole ij^s viij^d. **1600** *Southampton Crt. Leet Rec.* (1906) II. 336 The expence of powder . . . wch charge in the whole cannot amount vnto lese then . . . fyfty pownds yerely. **c1720** DE FOE *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 255 They were . . . twice our number in the whole. **1754** in *Nairne Peerage Evid.* (1874) 48 Making up in whole . . . the sum of nine thousand merks. **1815** COLERIDGE *Let. to Lady Beaumont* 3 Apr., Three poems, containing 500 lines in the whole. **1918** *Act 8* & *9 Geo. V.* c. 27 §1 Any . . . sums not exceeding in the whole the sum of one million pounds.

d. on or upon the whole: (a) on the basis of the affair as a whole; considering the whole of the facts or circumstances; all things considered; 'taking it all together'. Hence †(b) as the upshot, or summing up, of the whole matter; as a final result, ultimately, in conclusion, in fine, in sum; (c) in respect of the whole, notwithstanding exceptions in detail; in general, for the most part.

The construction with *of* (quot. 1771) is rare and *obs.* **1698** COLLIER *Immor. Stage* 126 Shakespear's Sr. John has some Advantage in his Character . . . But the Relapser's business, is to sink the Notion, and Murther the Character, and make the Function, despicable: So that upon the whole, Shakespear is by much the gentiler Enemy. **1771** GOLDSM. *Hist. Eng.* III. 392 Upon the whole of this treaty, it was considered as inglorious to the English. **1780** COWPER *Adjudged Case* 21 On the whole it appears . . . that the spectacles plainly were made for the Nose. **1852** DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* ix, Still, upon the whole, he is as well in his native mountains. **1887** RUSKIN *Præterita* II. v. 179 [I] determined that the Alps were, on the whole, best seen from below.

(b) **1711** STEELE *Spect.* No. 4 ¶1 Upon the whole I resolved . . . to go on in my ordinary Way. **1719** DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 328 We came up with them, and in a word, took them all in, being . . . sixty four Men, Women, and Children. . . Upon the whole, we found it was a French Merchant Ship. **1768** GOLDSM. *Goodn. Man* Pref., Upon the whole, the author returns his thanks to the public for the favourable reception which 'The Good-Natured Man' has met with. **a1774** — *Hist. Greece* II. 246 Upon the whole he was unanimously sentenced to die.

(c) **1797-1811** JANE AUSTEN *Sense* & *Sensib.* xlii, She liked him . . . upon the whole, much better than she had expected. **1849** MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 327 The clergy were regarded as, on the whole, a plebeian class. **1878** HUTTON *Scott* iii. 34 She made on the whole a very good wife. **1920** *Times Lit. Suppl.* 29 Apr. 266/2 We only have [in *King John*] the text of the first folio of 1623, but that upon the whole is admitted to be good.

4. Coal-mining. A seam or portion of coal not yet worked, or in the earlier stage of working: see A. 8 e.

1747 HOOSON *Miner's Dict.* G3, If the Wholes be too Soft, that we think it will let the Forks settle when they come to be weighted, we put a Sill under them. **1883** [see A. 8 e].

C. *adv.* a. Wholly, entirely, fully, perfectly. *Obs.* exc. in nonce-use in explicit or implied

opposition to *half* (and, like that word, sometimes hyphenated to the word it qualifies).

1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 279 Now is Scotland hole at our kynges wille. **c1374** CHAUCER *Anel. & Arc.* 310, I myght als weele kepe Aueryll from Rayne As holde yow trewe and make yowe hoole stedfaste. **1390** GOWER *Conf.* I. 136 Al the world in Orient Was hol at his comandement. **c1400** *Rom. Rose* 2068 That ye haue me surprised so And hole myn herte taken me fro. **a1500** Chaucer's *Dreme* 5 With her mantle whole couert. **a1533** LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* xiii. (1535) Gijb, I am hole ignorant of this yonge mans lyuyng. **1535** COVERDALE *Jer.* xlii. 15 Yf ye be whole purposed to go in to Egipte. **1585** T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* i. viii. 8b, Mayden slaues . . . being commonly whole naked. **a1586** *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxv. 26 Mortounis race To covatice was hoill Inclynde. **1656** COWLEY *Mistr.*, *Innoc.* III iii, The ills thou dost are whole thine own. **1784** COWPER *Task* i. 608 War and the chase engross the savage whole. **1815** SCOTT *Guy R.* xlv, Laying a half-dirty cloth upon a whole-dirty deal table. **1854** R. S. SURTEES *Handley Cr.* xxvii, The half-dressed groom would whole-dress the horse. **1905** F. T. BARTON *Sporting Dogs* 204 A black-and-tan sire and dam produce a whole-red puppy.

† b. Pleonastically emphasized by *all*; occas. = In all, altogether. *Obs.*

This may often be construed as *adj.*: cf. A. 7.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 157 Ytaille al hol thei overcome. **c1400** *Rom. Rose* 2363, I . . . comaunde thee That in oo place thou sette all hoole Thyn herte withoute halfen doole. **c1450** *Merlin* 317, I putte me all hooll in youre ordenaunce. **1481** CAXTON *Godfrey* x. 33 Alle the peple hool fledde to fore hym. *Ibid.* lvi. 97 This bataylle endured wel an houre al hoole. **1509** HAWES *Past. Pleas.* viii. (Percy Soc.) 3: As after this shall appere more openly, All hole exprest by dame Phyllosophy.

† c. Qualifying a following *adv.*, forming *advb.* *phr.* (in which *whole* may sometimes be construed as *adj.*), as *whole out*, throughout; *whole together*, all together (occas., altogether, entirely).

a1425 *Cursor M.* 13303 (Trin.) Twelue were þei to telle in dale Whenne þei were to gider hole. **c1430** *Freemasonry* (1840) 15 Alle the masonus . . . Wol stonde togedur hol y-ferre. **1535** COVERDALE *Esdras* vi. 28 Also, that they shall buyde the house of the Lorde whole vp. **1551** TURNER *Herbal* i. KJ, Some call it wyld succory: but it is hole together smaller. **1562** *Ibid.* ii. 50b, The bark, pill, or shell of the Citron, is dry and hote in the thyrdre degre hole out. **1677-8** MARVELL *Corr. Wks.* (Grosart) II. 595 The Commons were yesterday taken up . . . in hearing the cause . . . which not having . . . heard whole out, they ordered for to-morrow.

D. Special Collocations and Combinations.

1. The *adj.* qualifying a sb., forming phrases used in special senses: **whole caboodle**: see CABOODLE; † **whole cannon**, † **whole culverin**, a cannon or culverin of the full size, as distinguished from a DEMI-CANNON or DEMI-CULVERIN (also *fig.* and *attrib.*); **wholefood**, unrefined food containing no artificial additives; an article or kind of such food; **whole hog**, in the slang *phr.* to go to the whole hog (see HOG sb.¹ 11 b): also (usu. with hyphen) *attrib.* as *adj.*, thorough-going, out-and-out; hence nonce-derivatives, as *whole-hogger*, *-hogger*, *-hoggism*, *-hoggite*; *whole-hogging* *adj.* = *whole-hog* *adj.*; *whole kit* and *boiling*, etc.: see KIT sb.¹ 3; **whole meal**, meal or flour made from the whole grain of wheat, etc. (sometimes including the bran); also *attrib.*; also (*colloq.*), a wholemeal loaf; **whole milk**, milk from which no constituents have been removed; also *attrib.*; **whole-moulding** *Ship-building*, name for an old method of forming the principal parts of a vessel, now used only for boats; cf. quot. c 1850 s.v. *whole-moulded* in 2 d; **whole nine yards** U.S. *colloq.*, everything, the whole lot; also as *adv.*, all the way; **whole note** *Mus.*, † (a) a whole tone or major second, as distinguished from a 'half note' or semitone; (b) a semibreve, as the longest note in ordinary use (now U.S.); **whole plate** *Photogr.*, see PLATE sb. 5 c; also *attrib.*; **whole shift**, in violin-playing (see SHIFT sb. 15); **whole silk** [tr. med.L. (*h*) *olosericum*, ad. Gr. *όλοσσυρικός*, f. *όλος* whole + *συρικός* of silk], stuff consisting entirely of silk; **whole-stitch** *Lace-making*, a stitch in which the threads are woven together as in cloth; **whole tone** *Mus.* = *whole note* (a); **whole-tone scale** (see quot. 1928); freq. with reference to compositions based on this scale, particularly those of Debussy; **whole wheat**, wheat which has not been deprived of some constituents by sifting; usu. *attrib.* (with hyphen or as one word), designating flour or foodstuffs made from this. See also WHOLE CLOTH, WHOLESALE.

1666 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 65/2 Designing the building of twelve new Ships, . . . intending they shall carry a hundred Brass Guns a piece, and the lower Tyre *whole Cannon. **1723** E. STONE tr. *Bion's Math. Instrum.* v. iv. (1758) 147 Ordnance . . . an Eight-Pounder, a Demi-Culverin, a Twelve-Pounder, a Whole-Culverin, a Twenty-four-Pounder, a Demi-Cannon, Bastard-Cannon, and a Whole-Cannon. **1598** MARSTON *Sco. Villanie* i. iv. D3, With *whole culuering raging othes to teare The vault of heauen. **1647** WARD *Simple Cobler* (1843) 85 Ye talke one to another with whole Culvering and Canon. **1723** [see *whole cannon*]. **1960**

Mother Earth Oct. 341 We should like to hear from further growers who may have available supplies of *wholefood, especially winter salads, parsnips [etc.]. **1971** *It* 2-16 June 23/3 (Adv.), The Country Bizarre is a little seasonal magazine on traditions, crafts . . . whole food culture, poetry, drawings. **1978** *Peace News* 25 Aug. 19/3 (Adv.), If you are interested in wholefoods, running a shop collectively and a political awareness of food please contact us. **1980** *Times* 21 Feb. 12/3 The longest lunch queues in London now are for wholefood . . . Vegetarian restaurants and health food shops are not new. What is changing is their style. **1829** *Virginia Herald* (Fredericksburg) 28 Mar. 2/3 Of late he has shown a disposition to become 'a whole hog man'. **1830-1876** Whole hog [see HOG sb.¹ 11 b]. **1855** I. C. PRAY *Mem. J. G. Bennett* 141 James Gordon Bennett . . . is a thoroughgoing, 'whole-hog' Jackson man. **1935** *Planning* 23 Apr. 8 Once you start planning you cannot stop half-way, and whole-hog planning means tyranny. **1956** N. PEVNER *Englishness of Eng. Art* iii. 61 In the architecture of about 1900 there is in England the fresh yet friendly and human style of Voysey, not the whole-hog throwing overboard of all traditions as in Frank Lloyd Wright in America. **1977** *Rolling Stone* 30 June 69/2 My guess is that few white Rhodesian soldiers out there in the bush are wholehog white supremacists anymore. **1903** *Daily Chron.* 14 Oct. 4/4 The Chamberlainite party of 'whole hoggers'. **1904** *Daily Chron.* 28 July 5/6 The country is sick of the whole-hoggers, the half-hoggers, . . . and the whole lot of them. **1907** E. NESBIT *Enchanted Castle* xi. 333 Your ancestors were whole-hoggers. They have done the thing as it should be done—every detail attended to. **1920** D. H. LAWRENCE *Women in Love* xxix. 438 He is such a whole-hogger. **1923** R. MACAULAY *Told by Idiot* i. xvii. 60 Stanley was like that—enthusiastic, headlong, a deep plunger, a whole-hogger. **1966** *Listener* 26 May 749/1 In the matter of theatre censorship, I am a whole-hogger. **1834** SOUTHEY *Doctor Interch.* xvi, The *Whole-hogger in the House of Commons. **1934** C. LAMBERT *Mus. Ho!* v. 301 He [sc. Berg] cannot be described as a *wholehogging atonalist. **1943** WYNDHAM LEWIS *Let.* 24 Nov. (1963) 370 He is a whole-hogging Thomist. **1960** *Guardian* 27 June 7/2 Whole-hogging festival visitors. **1838** *Carlisle Patriot* 18 Aug. 2/5 The quaint version which the *Times* gave the other day of 'whole hoggism'. **1848** *Blackw. Mag.* July 54 Purge the land of moderatism and anti-whole-hog-ism. **1906** *Westm. Gaz.* 23 Jan. 7/2 A Balfourite with leanings towards 'whole-hoggism'. **1840** *Whole-hoggites [see HOG sb.¹ 11 b]. **1620** VENN *Via Recta* i. 18 Bread is also wont to be made of the *whole meale, from which the bran is not separated. **1828** KEIGHTLEY *Fairy Mythol.* II. 182 A nice half griddle of whole-meal bread. **1903** LD. W. B. N[EVILL] *Penal Serv.* xv. 211 Neat little brown wholemeal loaves. **1904-5** *Civil Service Supply Price-list* 60 Whole Meal . . . per 7 lb. bag, 1/4. *Ibid.* 128 Biscuits, Cabin, Navy, and Whole Meal. **1967** Wholemeal [see HOVIS]. **1983** A. T. ELLIS *Other Side of Fire* xvi. 102 Small white, small wholemeal and a couple of croissants. **1970** *Kenya Farmer* Feb. 9/2 We send 110 gallons *whole milk per day to Eldoret and separate all the rest for rearing stock. **1977** *Lancet* 19 Feb. 388/1 Sensitivity to cow's whole milk was investigated in six patients. **1982** P. RANCE *Great Brit. Cheese Bk.* i. v. 97 These wholemilk cheeses, traditional in this area, vary considerably. **1797** *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVII. 405/1 Of the Method of *Whole-moulding . . . used by the ancients, and which still continues in use among those unacquainted with the more proper methods. **c1850** *Rudin. Navig.* (Weale) 159 By whole-moulding, no more is narrowed at the floor than at the main breadth. **1970** *Word Watching* Apr. 7/2 *Whole nine yards, the entire thing. **1981** *Washington Post* 16 Jan. (Weekend sect.) 20/3 A Japanese disaster film, *Virus*, goes the whole nine yards, showing the city as a deserted freeway underpass. **1983** *Aviation Week* 7 Mar. 46/2 The Army came out and gave us the whole nine yards on how they use space systems. **1597** T. MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* Annot. ¶b, A *whole note is that which the Latines call *integer tonus*, and is that distance which is betwixt any two notes, except *mi* & *fa*. **1698** *Phil. Trans.* XX. 250 The Difference of [a Fourth and Fifth] they agreed to call a Tone; which we now call a Whole note. **1890** *Science-Gossip* XXVI. 18/2 Printing from *whole-plate negatives. **1876** ROCK *Text. Fabr.* 9 The first emperor who wore *whole silk for clothing. **1882** CAULFIELD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework*, *Whole Stitch, a name sometimes applied to the Cloth Stitch of Pillow Lace. **1897** J. S. SHEDLOCK tr. *Riemann's Dict. Mus.* 863/1 *Whole-tone, the larger of the two progressions by tone within the fundamental scale. **1928** *Melody Maker* Feb. 209/3 The *Whole Tone Scale . . . is composed entirely of intervals of a Tone, thus having only seven degrees between its Tonic and its Octave. It has only come into use quite recently and is employed by the school devoting itself to . . . 'futuristic' harmony. **1934** [see ELEVENTH sb. 2]. **1935** G. ABRAHAM *Stud. Russ. Mus.* iv. 77 Dargomizhsky's fondness for the sharpened fifth of the scale, for the augmented triad which is, so to speak, the 'common chord' of the whole-tone scale. **1952** B. ULANOV *Hist. Jazz in Amer.* (1958) 284 The augmented chords and whole-tone melodies reveal their Debussyan source more clearly. **1977** *Time* 21 Mar. 62/3 His inclusion of Russian folk music, Turkish airs, even the whole-tone scale from the Orient (more than half a century before Debussy) suggests that he was exceptionally curious and openminded. **1903** *Wholewheat bread [see *peanut butter* s.v. PEANUT 3 a]. **1946** *Sun* (Baltimore) 14 Feb. 14/1 As everybody knows, whole-wheat bread is more nutritious than white bread. **1971** *Times* 11 Sept. 10/4 The distinction between *galettes* (made from buckwheat or wholewheat) and *crêpes*. **1980** *Sunday Times* (Colour Suppl.) 20 Jan. 57/1 The most basic, natural loaves of all, contain 100 per cent whole wheat flour.

2. a. Combinations formed of phrases like those in 1 used *attrib.* or as *adjs.*, in sense 'Consisting of, made with, relating to, comprising, or occupying the or a whole . . .', as *whole-arm*, *-body*, *-cane*, *-day*, *-fruit*, *-grain*, *-house*, *-width*, *-word*, *-world*; (in sense A. 9) *whole-leather*, *-worsted*. (See also *whole-colour*, etc. in d.)

1410 *Rolls of Parlt.* III. 637/2 Lesqueles sont appellez an Hol-worsted bed. **1820** LAMB *Elia* Ser. 1. *Christ's Hospital*. The haunting memory of those whole-day leaves. **1866** HOWELLS *Venet. Life* xvi. 246 A grand, whole-arm movement. **1903** *Westm. Gaz.* 9 Oct. 6/3 A whole-leather

boot could not be honestly purchased under 7s. 11d. **1904-5** *Civil Service Supply Price-list* Index p. cii, Whole Fruit Jam. **1910** *Encycl. Brit.* II. 281/1 (*Angling*), A light whole-cane rod of stiff build. [Cf. *split-cane*, quot. 1890, s.v. *SPLIT ppl. a. 2.*] **1920** *Cornh. Mag.* Nov. 533 A whole-day tramp across country. **1947** *Radiology* XLIX. 283/1 To determine whether a daily dose of whole-body irradiation when given over a period of several hours produced the same injury as when given within minutes. **1952** *Archit. Rev.* CXI. 212/2 The Radiation 'whole-house' warming system. **1960** *Farmer & Stockbreeder* 15 Mar. (Suppl.) 10/1 Second-class protein . . is found in whole-grain cereals, nuts, lentils and soya beans. **1961** *Lancet* 7 Oct. 784/2 Modification . . would require interference with the normal whole-body response to injury. **1964** P. A. D. MACCARTHY in D. Abercrombie et al. *Daniel Jones* 157 This in turn facilitates the recognition of whole-word patterns. **1983** P. NIESEWAND *Scimitar* xx. 566 Lyle and Ross were . . subjected to everything from lumbar punctures and sperm tests to whole body scans. **1975** *Language for Life* (Dept. Educ. & Sci.) xxvi. 521 Word recognition is not merely a matter of learning unique whole-word forms. **1976** *National Observer* (U.S.) 19 June 8 (Advt.), Your Trane Comfort Corps consultant is a full-time specialist in whole-house air conditioning. **1976** *Woman's Day* (U.S.) Nov. 158/2 Unleavened whole-grain bread should be served generously to assure that your family fills up on fat- and cholesterol-free foods. **1977** *Times* 10 Sept. 2/1 Patients from several London hospitals are being sent to BUPA's medical centre to be X-rayed by their EMI whole-body scanner. **1980** *Redbook* Oct. 220/1 Most important, the teaching of beginning reading was dominated by the 'whole-word' or 'look-say' method, in which children learned to recognize entire words, rather than by the method of 'phonics' in which they learned to sound out letters and groups of letters. **1985** *N.Y. Times Mag.* 6 Jan. 6/4 Popular among runners of marathons who stuff themselves with whole-grain pasta before trotting off to the day's race.

b. Parasynthetic comb., in various senses of the adj., as *whole-backed*, *-bodied*, *-headed*, *-maned*, *-skinned*, *-skirted* adjs. (See also *whole-chested*, etc. in d.)

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 288 The Istrian Horsses are of good able feete, very straight, *whole backt, and hollow. **1577** HARRISON *England* iii. xii. 111/1 in *Holinshead*, Flies . . whether they be cut wasted, or *whole bodied . . are voyde of poyson. **1844** H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 660 If the carts are whole-bodied, the steward proceeds after the back-board is removed, to hawk out the dung; but if they are tilt or *coup*-carts [etc.]. **1611** COTGR., *Ail masle*, the *Whole-headed Garlicke. **1776** WITHERING *Bot. Arrangem.* 503 *Whole-leaved Water hemp Agrimony. **1685** *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2069/4 A bright bay Gelding . . *whole maned unless cut since. **1523-34** FITZHERB. *Husb.* §56 If thou bye kye or oxen to feede, . . loke well . . that he . . be *hoole-mouthed, and want no tebbe. **1776** DA COSTA *Elem. Conchol.* 209 (Jod.) The first genus, which he calls 'wholemouthed' . . is my genus of 'turbo' among the . . snails. **1624** FLETCHER *Rule a Wife* i. i. He is *whole skin'd, bas no hurt yet. **1683** *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1910/4 A new *whole skirted Black Saddle having the Seat of Velvet and the Skirts of Hogs skin.

c. Advb. comb., as *whole-bred* (see d); see also C.

d. Special Combs.: *whole-bred a.* [cf. A. 9a], of pure breed (opp. to HALF-BRED 1); † *whole-chase boot* (see quot.); † *whole-chested a.*, having a sound chest or breast; *fig.* loyal-hearted; *whole-colour*, *-coloured adjs.* [A. 9], of the same colour throughout, concolor; *whole-eared (-rd) a.*, (a) having the ears whole, i.e. not cut; (b) listening 'with all one's ears', i.e. intently; so *whole-eyed (-rd) a.*, gazing intently; *whole-earther colloq.*, somebody who is actively concerned about the protection and wise use of natural resources and wildlife; *whole-feather* [A. 9], a variety of pigeon having all the feathers of one colour; so *whole-feathered (-rd) a.*; *whole-hearted a.*, (of a person) having one's whole heart in something, completely devoted (orig. and chiefly U.S.); (of an action, etc.) done with one's whole heart, thoroughly earnest or sincere; hence *whole-heartedly* adv., *whole-heartedness*; *whole-hoofed (-huff) a.* [A. 8], having undivided hoofs, solidungulate; *whole-length a.*, (a) of a portrait, etc. representing the whole human figure, usually standing; also *ellipt.* as *sb.* a whole-length portrait or statue; (b) *gen.* extending through the whole length; exhibited at full length; *whole-life a.*, pertaining to or designating an insurance policy for which the premiums are payable until the death of the insured person; *whole-minded a.*, giving one's whole mind to something, completely interested; hence *whole-mindedness*; *whole-moulded a.* *Ship-building*, see quot. c 1850, and cf. *whole moulding* in 1; *whole-number rule Physics*, the empirical law that the atomic weights of the elements are mostly close to being whole numbers; *whole-pull Change-ringing*, see quots. (opp. to *half-pull*, HALF- II. n); *whole rock a. Geol.*, designating the use of a complete rock sample in an analytical procedure, as distinct from the individual minerals composing it; *whole-sail a.*, said of a wind in which a ship (esp. a yacht) can carry full sail; *whole-seas humorous nonce-wd.*, quite drunk (after *half-seas*, short for HALF-SEAS-OVER 2); *whole-souled*

(-sould) *a.* orig. U.S. = *whole-hearted*; † *whole-steal nonce-wd.*, 'wholesale' theft; † *whole-stone a.*, (of lime) unslaked; *whole-time a.*, occupying the whole of some particular time, esp. of the working time; (of a person) employed during the whole time; *whole-timer*, = FULL-TIMER; *whole-working Coal-mining*, see quot., and cf. A. 8e, B. 4.

1846 J. Baxter's *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) II. p. xxi, A *whole-bred Southdown fat wether. **1656** BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Whole-chase Boots, are whole hunting, or large riding Boots. **1603** J. DAVIES *Microcosmos* 37 We are *whole-chested, and our Breastes doe hold A single Hart, that is as good, as great. **1633** MASSINGER *Guardian* iv. i, A well timbred youth . . he's whole chested too. **1896** *Westm. Gaz.* 2 Dec. 1/2 The collection includes a series of *whole-colour porcelain and soft paste blue and white. **1857** T. MOORE *Handbk. Brit. Ferns* (ed. 3) 42 Scales *whole-coloured or indistinctly two-coloured. **1907** R. LEIGHTON'S *New Bk. Dog* 429 The litter will consist of some whole-coloured blacks, and some whole-coloured whites. **1681** *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1633/4 A large light Brindle Mastiff Dog, . . *whole-Ear'd. **1975** *Times* 5 Aug. 12/7 The 'amenity lobby' . . includes a new wave of *whole earthers': notably the Conservation Society founded in 1966 . . and Friends of the Earth. **1980** Blair & Ketchum's *Country Jnl.* Oct. 67/1 It includes . . neo-Jeffersonians, back-to-the-landers, whole-earthers, communists, and neopioneers seeking to revive old country ways. **1918** W. J. LOCKE *Rough Road* xv, The village turned out to listen to them in *whole-eyed and whole-eared wonder. **1879** L. WRIGHT *Pigeon Keeper* 118 A Splash . . may often be mated to advantage with a *Whole-feather. **1683** *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1799/4 A large black Mayled, *whole Feathered, and thorough mewed Falcon. **1840** CHANNING *Let. to Miss Aikin* 18 July, What a *whole-hearted man! as we Yankees say. **1855** PUSEY *Doctr. Real Presence* Notes 366 The most perfect and whole-hearted repentance. **1901** *Scotsman* 14 Mar. 6/4 The whole-hearted support of British policy by the Canadians. **1893** in Barrows *World's Parl. Relig.* I. 534 Socially, we unite *whole-heartedly and without reservation with our non-Jewish fellow-citizens. **1854** FABER *Growth in Holiness* iv. 60 The great lesson of the Crucifix is *whole-heartedness with God. **1882** FARRAR *Early Chr.* iv. xxii. II. 43 A wavering disposition, . . a want of whole-heartedness, a dualism of life and aim. **1601** HOLLAND *Pliny* viii. xxi. I. 206 In India, there be found bæufes *whole hoofed, with single hornes. *Ibid.* xi. xlvii. 351 In some parts of Sclavonia, the Swine are not cloven-footed, but whole hoofed. **1677** PLOT *Oxfordsh.* 187 The Quadrupeda, whereof some are *μονόπυχα*, whole-hoof, such as Asses, Mules, Horses. **1835** [see SOLIPED A.]. **1748** RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) III. 259 Your drawings . . are all taken down; as is also your own *whole-length picture. **1752** CHESTERF. *Let. to Son* 28 Nov., Undoubted originals (whether heads, half-lengths, or whole-lengths, no matter) of Cardinals Richelieu, Marzarin, and Retz. **1817** T. F. DIBDIN *Bibliogr. Decam.* II. 434 note, A small whole length of Joseph with an angel above. **1818** HAZLITT *Engl. Poets* iv. 139 The faultless whole-length mirror that reflected his own person. **1856** FARIS EL-SHIDIAC *Pract. Gram. Arabic* 18 Swelling the grammar unnecessarily with a great number of whole-length conjugations. **1865** C. R. LESLIE & T. TAYLOR *Sir Joshua Reynolds* I. 104 The portrait which tended most to establish his reputation was a whole-length of Captain Keppel . . on a sandy beach. **1845** Williams's *Directory of Leeds* 46 (Advt.), One-third of the *Whole Life' Premium may remain unpaid . . as a Debt upon the Policy. **1881** Harper's *Mag.* Jan. 79/1 Never take a whole-life policy to embarrass the declining and unproductive years of life. **1977** *National Observer* (U.S.) 15 Jan. 9/2 Whole life—also called cash-value, straight, permanent, ordinary and endowment life—combines insurance protection with a savings or endowment plan. **1906** *Lit. World* 15 Nov. 504/2 Whilst admitting . . the great spirit and immense intellectuality of the woman, he cannot but feel . . a lack of sincerity, of *whole-mindedness. **1797** *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVII. 406/1 Fixing a point for the aftermost timber that is *whole moulded. **c1850** Rudim. *Navig.* (Weale) 159 *Whole-moulded*, a term applied to the bodies of those ships which are so constructed that one mould made to the midship bend, with the addition of a floor hollow, will mould all the timbers, below the main breadth, in the square body. **1919** F. W. ASTON in *Nature* 18 Dec. 393/2 Of more than forty different values of atomic and molecular mass so far measured all, without a single exception, fall on whole numbers. **1923** E. N. DA C. ANDRADE *Structure of Atom* vii. 111 The *whole number rule allows us to suppose that all nuclei are built up of the same mass elements, i.e. protons. **1967** OLDENBERG & HOLLADAY *Introd. Atomic & Nuclear Physics* (ed. 4) xvi. 238 The great simplification was finally introduced through the whole-number rule, which indicates a few fundamental particles as building blocks of all matter. **1668** [STEDMAN] *Tintinnologia* (1671) 54 *Whole-pulls, is to Ring two Rounds in one change, that is, Fore-stroke and Back-stroke, . . so that every time you pull down the bells at Sally, you make a new change differing from that at the Back-stroke next before; this Whole-pulls was altogether practised in former time. **1872** ELLACOMBE *Bells of Ch.* in *Ch. Bells Devon* iii. 228 A 'whole pull' includes swinging the bell round twice, off from the balance, and round up to the balance again. . . In whole-pull ringing each bell makes a whole pull to every change. **1955** *Bull. Geol. Soc. Amer.* LXVI. 1711 Approximate minimum ages have been determined for the Cranberry gneiss . . and Henderson gneiss by measuring A⁴⁰/K⁴⁰ ratios on samples of the whole rock. **1964** *Geochem. Internat.* I. 739/2 It was decided to determine the age of the granites by the Rb-Sr method on *whole rock samples. **1979** A. W. HOFMANN in Jäger & Hunziker *Isotope Geol.* 215 The evidence for a Caledonian age of the pre-Hercynian gneisses rests in part on two whole-rock Rb-Sr isochrons. **1885** *Sat. Rev.* 3 Jan. 11/1 The heeling occurs only in strong *whole-sail winds. **1821** Joseph the Book-man 85 Some, half-seas, like fools do swagger, While other some, *whole-seas, do stagger. **1834** Kentuckian in *New York I.* 190 (Thornton) [The New-Yorkers] are a *whole-souled people. **1863** HAWTHORNE *Our Old Home, Haunts of Burns* II. 72 A bust of Burns . . looking . . not so warm and whole-souled as his pictures usually do. **1893** F. ADAMS *New Egypt* 209 A most vigorous and whole-souled

resentment. **1649** LIGHTFOOT *Battle with Wasp's Nest* Wks. 1825 I. 423 Whom you have so unworthily used, as to steal his arguments by *whole-steal. **1703** Churchw. *Acc. Bucknall, Lincs.* (MS.), 3 Chalden of *wholestone Lime. **1906** *Athenæum* 13 Oct. 421/3 The Inspector of Colleges . . will be a *whole-time officer of the University. **1918** *Act 8 Geo. V.* c. 5 Sched. 1. §4 Engaged in whole-time work . . of national importance. **1869** *Daily News* 18 Dec., To see that all the children of a district attend some school either as *whole-timers or half-timers. **1881** RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, *Whole-working, Newc., working where the ground is still whole, i.e., has not been penetrated as yet with breasts. Opposed to *pillar-work*, or the extraction of pillars left to support previous work.

† *whole, v.* *Obs.* Also 5 *hoole*, 5-6 *hole*. [f. WHOLE *a.*]

1. *trans.* To make whole, heal, cure. **14..** *Stockholm Med. MS.* i. 233 in *Anglia* XVIII. 301 *pe cold festre xal be holid with hete.* **c1440** CAPGRAVE *Life St. Kath.* v. 1952 With whiche oyle of soores alle grevauns Whiche men suffre, it wil be hoolid anon. **c1450** — *Life St. Gilbert* xxxiv. 110 Summe wer holed fro certeyn seknesse be þe merites of þis Seynt.

2. *intr.* To become whole; to recover from sickness; to heal, as a wound.

14.. *Stockholm Med. MS.* i. 241 in *Anglia* XVIII. 301 *Of cler hony and rye-flour late bake a kake, . . And ley't to þe hole of þe festeryd sor, . . And so it schal holyn.* **1460-70** *Bk. Quinte Essence* 15 *þe oolde feble man schal vse þis deuynd drynk . . and wipinne a fewe dayes he schal so hool pat he schal fele him silf of þe statt and þe strenkpe of xl ȝeer.* **1690** W. WALKER *Idiomat. Anglo-Lat.* 517 The wounds whole not.

II. 3. *trans.* To make into a whole; to assemble or unite.

1443-9 PECOCK *Donet* xvii. (1921) 186 *þese spechis hoolid and maad of þe ij seid maners.* **a1577** SIR T. SMITH *Commw. Eng.* (1609) 18 The Captaine wholed a multitude of people gathered . . of diuers Nations . . and beginneth a Commonweal after this maner.

† *whole* = *who will* (cf. ILE).

1606 MARSTON *Parasit.* v. H4, Whole kisse thee now? whole court thee now? whole ha thee now?

whole, *obs.* form of HOLE *sb.*

whole cloth. A piece of cloth of the full size as manufactured, as distinguished from a piece that may be cut off or out of it for a garment, etc.

1433 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 451/2 Hole Clothes, called brode Clothes. **1525** *Wydown Edyth* in Hazl. *Shaks. Jest-bks.* (1864) 58 Might I be so bolde as of your hole cloth To desire you for to deliuer vnto me As much as wyll suffyse . . To make a large Gowne and a Kyrtell. **1724** *Act 11 Geo. I.* c. 24 §1 Every Woollen Broad Cloth, . . whether . . called an End or Half Cloth, or a Long or Whole Cloth.

b. *fig.* or in *fig.* context, esp. in *phr. cut* (etc.) *out of (the) whole cloth*, used in various senses; now esp. (U.S. *colloq.* or *slang*) of a statement wholly fabricated or false.

1579 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 77, I shalbe contente . . to lende you the choyce of as many gentle wordes and loovelye termes as we . . use to deliver ower thankes in. Choose whether you will have them given or yeeldid, . . kutt owte of the whole eloathe, or otherwise powrid owte. **1594** NASHE *Christ's T.* 46 Two or three thousand pound. . . When hee hath it all in his hands, for a month or two he reuels it, and cuts it out in the whole cloth. **1630** BRATHWAIR *Eng. Gent.* 333 They cut it out of the whole cloth, and divide their acres peece-meale into shreds. **1634** PEACHAM *Compl. Gentl.* i. (1906) 5 The valiant Souldier . . measeureth out of the whole cloth his Honour with his sword. **1639** FULLER *Holy War* iv. vi. 177 This rent (not in the seam but whole cloth) betwixt these Churches. **1677** HUBBARD *Pres. St. New-Eng.* II. 1 The List or Border here being known to be more worth then the whole Cloth; That whole Tract of Land, being of little worth, unless it were for the Borders thereof upon the Sea-coast. **1843** C. MATHEWS *Writ.* 68 (Thornton) Isn't this entire story . . made out of whole cloth? **1897** *Forin. Rev.* July 140 Absolutely untruthful telegrams were manufactured out of 'whole cloth'. **1905** VACHELL *Hill* xii, That Eton captain is cut out of whole cloth; no shoddy there.

whole-footed (-futed), a.

† **1.** Having 'whole' or undivided feet, i.e. with the toes united; web-footed, as a bird; *rarely*, solid-hoofed, as a quadruped. *Obs.*

13.. *E.E. Allit.* P. B. 538 *þe hole-foted fowle to þe flod hyȝez.* **1513** *Bk. Keruyng in Babees Bk.* (1868) 279 All maner hole foted fowles that haue their lyuyng vpon the water. **1607** TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 32 The Asses of India . . differ from all other whole-footed beasts. **1696** JN. EDWARDS *Demonstr. Exist. God* i. 193 [Water-fowl] are generally whole-footed. **1704** RAY *Creation* (ed. 4) 147 Such Creatures as are whole-footed or fin-toed.

2. Treading with the whole foot on the ground, not lightly or on tip-toe.

a1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Whole-footed.* 1. Treading flat and heavy, as if there were no joints in the feet. **1896** WHERRY *Alpine Notes* 119 It has often been noticed in mountaineering that a guide can go faee forward and whole-footed up a slope.

3. *fig.* Unreserved, frank, free and easy. *colloq.* or *slang.*

a1734 NORTH *Life Dr. J. North* (1744) 278 His chief Remissions were when some of his nearest Relations were with him, . . and then, as they say, he was wholefooted. **a1825** FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Whole-footed.* 2. Very intimate; closely confederate.

†**wholeful**, *a.* *Obs. rare.* In 5-6 hol(e)full. [f. *WHOLE a.* + *-FUL*.] Health-giving, wholesome. Hence †**wholefully** *adv.*

1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P.R.* vii. lxxviii. (W. de W.) sivr/2 Iuys of Caprifoli Oynions Rewe [etc.]...with vyneygre and hony ben holfully [Bodl. MS. heelefülliche] layed to suche bytynges. a1513 *FABYAN Chron.* vii. (1811) 306 Drawe ye...holefull water of lore of my welllys.

†**wholehead**. *Obs. rare*—1. In 5 holehede. [f. *WHOLE a.* + *-HEAD*.] Completeness.

c1440 *Jacob's Well* 171 þe iij. spanne lengthe muste be holehede, þat þi sorwe be hole for alle þi synnes to-gedere.

wholely, *obs. form of WHOLLY.*

wholeness ('həʊlnɪs). [f. *WHOLE a.* + *-NESS*.] The quality or condition of being whole.

1. Soundness, freedom from injury; unimpaired state, integrity. Now *rare* and associated with other senses.

c1000 in *Archiv für das Stud. d. neu. Spr.* CXXI. 46 Willende & nellende, on gesundfulnyse & on þan halnesse. [1340: see *YHOLNESSE*.] c1374 *CHAUCER Boeth.* v. pr. iv. 127 (Camb. MS.) þou weenyst þat it be diuerse fro the hoolnesse of science, þat any man sholde deme a thing to ben oother weys thanne it is itself. 1435 *MISYN Fire of Love* ii. xii. 103 Holnes...of mynde, redynes of wyll...in holy saules, suffrys þame not dedly to synne. 1443-9 *PECOCK Donet* x. (1921) 154 þilk hool [3rd] comaundement in his ful hoolnes is reuokid, 3he, and forþoden. 1450-1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* 229 Neyther the godhed was mynysshed in the sonne ne the hoolnesse of the maydenhod in the mother. c1460 *Oseney Reg.* 30 To be holde and to be had, ...with all the integrite or hoolenysse in the which William of Saynte John...all þe foresaide thynges had and holde.

1883 *H. DRUMMOND Nat. Low in Spir. W.* (1884) 336 Holiness, that is...wholeness. 1885 *American* IX. 229 Rossa has too much regard for the wholeness of his skin to run that kind of a risk.

2. The character of having nothing wanting, or of having all its parts in due connexion; completeness, perfection; unbroken or undivided state; the quality of constituting a complex unity.

(ME. *oll hoolnesse* is f. *all hool* + *nesse*.)

1398 *TREvisa Borth. De P.R.* xix. cxvii. (1495) mmj/b/1 All hoolnesse [orig. *totolitos*] and perfightnesse longyth to one & vnite. 1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) V. 279 The thynges seide...be seyde by anticipation, that the hoolnesse of the story may be conserved. 1550 *VERON Godly Sayings* D iij. He dydde both geue vnto vs an wholsom refection of his body, and of his blood, and also did brieflie assoil that hard question of his wholnes. 1581 *MARBECK Bk. Notes* 95 The wholenesse and substance of Baptisme doth consist in two things...the Word and the Element. 1674 *N. FAIRFAX Bulk & Selv.* 108 Those bedightings or affections that belong to it, as having parts; of which the wholeness...was one. 1744 *HARRIS Three Treat.* ii. ii. (1765) 64 note, As far as Perplexity and Confusion may be avoided, and the Wholeness of the Piece may be preserved clear and intelligible. 1830 *W. TAYLOR Hist. Surv. Germ. Poetry* I. 265 A book of tales, ...without drift or wholeness of design: all is episode. 1849 *ROCK Ch. Fathers* i. iii. 246 The unbroken wholeness of this stone was a symbol of the unbrokenness of the Church. 1877 *TENNYSON Harold* i. ii. 114 Peace-lover is our Harold for the sake of England's wholeness. 1886 — *Locksley Hall* 60 Yrs. After 101 Sweet St. Francis of Assisi...He that in his Catholic wholeness used to call the very flowers Sisters, brothers.

b. The totality or total amount of something (*obs.*); something complete or unified (*rare*): = *WHOLE sb.* 1, 2.

c1340 *HAMPOLE Ps.* cxxxvi. 8 Of þe & in þe...is þe hoolnes of my ioy. 1678 *CUDWORTH Intell. Syst.* Pref. A 4, These Three...taken all together, make up the Wholeness and Entireness of...The True Intellectual System of the Universe. 1856 *HAWTHORNE Engl. Note-bks.* (1870) II. 191 What shapeless and ragged utterances Englishmen are content to put forth, without attempting anything like a wholeness.

wholer ('həʊlə(r)). *local.* [f. *WHOLE a.* or *sb.* + *-ER*¹.] (See quot.)

1633 *Terrier of Swinton in N. & Q.* 6th Ser. (1885) XI. 366/1 The inhabitants of Swinton as likewise the Lands are partly Wholers and partly Halfers to the Churches or Parsonages of Wath and Mexborough. Wholers are they that paye their Tythes wholly, bothe predial and personal, to one of the foresaide Churches onely, viz^t. to Wath onely or Mexborough onely.

wholesale ('həʊlseɪl), *sb., a., adv.*

I. 1. Orig. two words, *WHOLE a.* and *SALE sb.*², in phr. *by whole sale* (also †*by the* or †*in whole sale*), now usually ellipt. as *adv.*, qualifying *sell*, *buy*, or words of similar meaning: In large quantities, in gross (as opposed to *by retail*).

c1417 *York Memorandum Bk.* (Surtees) I. 183 To sell any girdeles by reitale or hole-sale. 1579 *WILKINSON Confut. Fom. Love* 41 Those men which sell by whole sale haue a quicker dispatch. 1593 *NASHE Christ's T.* 53 If seates of iustice were to be sold for money, wee haue them amongst vs that would buy them vp by the whole sale. 1617 *MORVSON Itin.* iii. 95 Great Merchants disdaine to sell, otherwise then by whole sale. 1731-2 *Norwich Merc.* 19-26 Feb. 3/2 William Steele...sellethe the following Goods either by Wholesale or Retail. 1824 *SOUTHEY Sir T. More* (1829) I. 135 Purchasing articles for the community in wholesale. 1866 *Chamb. Encycl.* VIII. 691/1 These pegged goods [sc. shoes] are disposed of wholesale in boxes. 1883 *Law Times Rep.* 9 Feb. 727/1 Inviting the public to come and buy, both wholesale and retail.

2. *fig.* (with construction as in 1). In a large way, in large numbers or amount, in abundance, profusely, extensively, indiscriminately.

1601 *W. CORNWALLIS Ess.* II. xxix. Q 7, We whose narrow roomes are not able to traffick with vertue by the whole-sale but by retayle. 1613 *PURCHAS Pilgrimoge* vi. vi. 489 Africanus, from whose Store-house Eusebius tooke his Chronicle, ...almost by wholesale. a1677 *BARROW Serm.* Wks. 1716 l. 330 St. Cyprian who was liberal by wholesale, bestowing all at once, a fair estate on God and the poor. 1741 *WATTS Improv. Mind* i. v. (1786) 108 They despise a valuable book, and...throw contempt upon it by wholesale. 1837 *Blockw. Mog.* XLII. 112 The wild Bashkirs...slaughtered them by wholesale. 1869 *GLADSTONE Juv. Mundi* iii. 104 Homer never allows distinguished Greeks to fall wholesale by the Trojan sword. 1871 *FREEMAN Norm. Conq.* IV. xx. 503 The Norman version makes him overthrow Welsh Kings by wholesale.

†3. Sale in gross; *fig.* dealing in a large way or in big quantities; indiscriminate or unlimited disposal (opp. to *retail*). *Obs.*

1622 *MABBE tr. Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 166 Take them out of their tracke, put them from their whole-sale, and turne them to retayle...I will not giue a button for the best of them. 1667 *Decoy Chr. Piety* i. §6 To which his *τὰντα οὐκ ὀδῶ* all this will I give (could he make such a whole-sale) can bear no proportion. 1788 *PICKEN Poems* 57 Merchants shops, For halesale or retailin^t.

II. *attrib. or adj.* 4. a. Selling a commodity by wholesale.

c1645 in *Archaeologia* LII. 135 A hosyer & whole saleman for narrow wares. 1711 *ADDISON Spect.* No. 64 ¶3 A wholesale Dealer in Silks and Ribbons. 1724 *DE FOE Tour Gt. Brit.* I. 124 It being frequent for the London Wholesale Men to carry back Orders from their Dealers. 1773 *Life N. Frowde* 5 Mr. John Neville, a Wholesale ironmonger. 1812 *SIR J. SINCLAIR Syst. Husb. Scot.* II. 22 The farmer at a distance from markets...may be compared...to a wholesale merchant. 1876 *F. S. WILLIAMS Midl. Railw.* 637 Drugs from the wholesale houses for country druggists.

b. Pertaining to sale in gross; used for a commodity sold by wholesale.

1724 *DE FOE Tour Gt. Brit.* I. 130 When the great Hurry of Wholesale Business begins to be over. 1848 *DICKENS Dombey* iv, Pickles...in great wholesale jars. 1867 *J. LAING Theory of Business* ii. 15 The retail price of '13', we take to mean that shopkeepers received this amount of money for their stocks; and the wholesale price of '11', shows that they pay to warehousemen '2' less than they received. 1896 *L. L. PRICE Money* vi. 174 Greater friction prevails in the retail than in the wholesale market. 1902 *Builder* 5 Apr. p. xix, Clerk and Traveller required for a Wholesale Country Business.

c. As *sb.*, a wholesale dealer or organization.

1851, 1884 [see *RETAIL sb.*¹ and *o.*] 3]. 1928 *Daily Express* 29 May 7/4 The ability of the wholesaler to adopt methods of mass production...must be lessened.

5. *fig.* Having an extensive application; unlimited or indiscriminate in range; doing something, or done, largely, profusely, or in great quantities.

1642 *FULLER Holy & Prof. St.* II. xvii. 116 But how long shall I be retailing out rules to this Merchant?...Take our Saviours whole-sale rule, Whatsoever ye would have men do unto you, do you unto them. 1664 *BUTLER Hud.* II. iii. 809 Those whole-sale Criticks, that...cry down all Philosophy. 1838 *LYTTON Leila* i. v, The Moors had treated this unhappy people with a wholesale and relentless barbarity. 1842 *LOVER Handy Andy* xlvii, Slaughtering lions in a wholesale way like rabbits. 1842 *DICKENS Amer. Notes* iii, I am by no means a wholesale admirer of our legal solemnities. 1843 *SCUDAMORE Gräfenberg* 27 It is a sort of wholesale theory, and equally serves for all persons, and for every known disorder. 1863 *H. COX Instit.* i. vii. 73 A wholesale creation of peers for the purpose of obtaining a majority. 1880 *MRS. LYNN LINTON Rebel of Family* xxii, 'Would you go to the colonies with the man you loved?'... 'I would go into the desert!' she answered in her passionate wholesale way.

Hence 'wholesale *v. trans.*, to sell wholesale (in quot. *intr.* for *pass.*); also *absol.*; hence 'wholesaling *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*; 'wholesalely *adv.*, in a wholesale way, extensively, profusely; 'wholesaler, one who sells goods wholesale (to retailers), a wholesale dealer; 'wholesaleness, wholesale quality, profuseness, indiscriminate-ness.

1800 *M. L. WEEMS Let.* 17 Dec. in *M. L. Weems: Wks. & Woys* (1929) II. 152 But for this I wd instantly *wholesale my books & quit the business forever. 1837 *DICKENS in Bentley's Misc.* Oct. 413 We have been prevailed upon to allow this number of our Miscellany to be retailed to the public, or wholesaled to the trade, without any advance upon our usual price. 1881 *Oregon State Jnl.* 1 Jan. 7 We are prepared to Wholesale and Retail Cheaper than any place in this city. 1885 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 289/1 English ladies' shoes, wholesaling at \$1.50 per pair. 1962 *R. B. FULLER Epic Poem on Industrialization* 134 'Science News Service' An industrial syndicate wholesaling to publishers Reported thirty thousand technical innovations. 1972 *Vogue* Jan. 12/2 They wholesale to many shops. 1984 *Listener* 23 Feb. 9/2 There is the jobber, wholesaling shares and making money out of the margin. 1906 *S. E. SPARLING Introd. Business Organization* xi. 254 In the trade jobbing is virtually synonymous with *wholesaling. 1926 *N. S. B. GRAS in Crump & Jacob Legacy of Middle Ages* 440 Although many merchants might prefer the wholesale trade, they were not allowed to be exclusively wholesaling merchants. 1975 'E. LATHEN' *By Hook or by Crook* xiv. 137 Gregory takes care of the wholesaling in this country. Paul runs the retail stores. 1982 *Electr. Wholesaler* Sept. 40/1 He started a general electrical wholesaling firm. 1887 *J. D. HOOKER in Life* (1918) II. 295 The supposed facts...are *wholesalely unreliable. 1892 *Graphic* 24 Dec. 758/2 The very *wholesaleness of the present charges of corruption. 1857 *TOOKE & NEWMARCH Hist. Prices* V. 375 Nor...is it

necessary...that the whole quantity...should be in the hands, either of the *wholesalers or the retailers. 1888 *E. BELLAMY Looking Backward* 146 The manufacturer sold to the wholesaler. 1907 *Times* 2 Oct. 3/6 In the bakery trade...between the wholesaler and retailer the expression 'bushel'...was a measure of weight.

wholesale ('həʊlseɪl), *a.* [f. *WHOLE a.* + *SCALE sb.*³, influenced by *WHOLESALE sb., a., adv.*] = *WHOLESALE a.* 5. Cf. *full-scale*.

1960 *B. BERGONZI in F. Kermode Living Milton* x. 168 Leavis's case...is not a mere critical reappraisal of Milton, but a whole-scale demolition. 1983 *M. EDWARDS Back from Brink* v. 76 If we were going to run into this sort of problem over £22 million of investment in one factory, how could we contemplate a wholesale modernisation and new product programme across BL, running into hundreds of millions of pounds in dozens of locations? 1984 *Amer. Banker* 5 June 3/1 For middle-level executives, there will be some 'shifting, but not on a wholesale scale', he said.

†**wholeship**. *Obs.* In 3 hal-, holsc(h)ipe. [f. *WHOLE a.* + *-SHIP* I.] = *WHOLENESS* I.

c1230 *Hali Meid.* 7 Ilich him in halschipe, vnwemmet as he is. a1240 *Ureisin in O.E. Hom.* I. 180 O muchele menske to beon moder of swuche sone mid holscipe [Cott. MS. (p. 203) iholschipe: see *YHOLSCHIFE*] of maiden.

wholesome ('həʊlsəm), *a.* (*sb.*) Forms: see *WHOLE*; also 4-6 (with normal shortening) holsum, -som, 6-8 wholsom(e). (For north. dial. and Sc. forms see *HALESOME*.) [OE. **halsum*, corresp. to OS. **hēlsam* (implied in adv. *hēlsamo*), MLG. *heilsam*, Du. *heilzaam* salutary (dial. = healthy), OHG. (MHG., G.) *heilsam*, ON. *heilsamr*: see *WHOLE a.* and *-SOME suffix*¹. The northern form (reinforced from ON.) is represented by *HALESOME*.]

1. Conducive to well-being in general, esp. of mind or character; mentally or morally healthful; tending or calculated to do good; beneficial, salutary.

c1200 *Vices & Virtues* 111 3if ðu luuest ðine aȝene wille alre mast, þanne is ðe swiðe holsum ðat ðu þis ofri ðine louerde god. c1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 103 þenne riseð he helend on his heorte, and techeð him holsum lore. 1382 *WYCLIF 1 Tim.* vi. 3 The...holsum wordis of oure Lord Jhesu Crist. 1430-40 *LYDG. Bochas* iv. xxiii. (MS. Bodl. 263) 252/2 It is nat holsum with goddis to pleie. 1535 *STARKEY Lett. in England* (1878) p. xvii, Holsome ceremonies of the church. 1566 *STAPLETON Ret. Untr. Jewel* i. 22 It is manifeste...that we...do celebrate the memorial of that One and holsome Sacrament. 1600 *MARSTON, etc. Jack Drum's Entert.* i. (1601) A 4 b, So great a masse of coyne might mount from wholsome thrift. 1607 *SHAKS. Cor.* II. iii. 66 You'll marre all...Pray you speake to em...In wholsome manner. 1610 *HOLLAND Comden's Brit.* i. 695 A good example of wholsome severity. 1632 *BROME North. Lasse* i. iv, They are wholsome company. 1711 *ADDISON Spect.* No. 10 ¶5, I will daily instil into them such sound and wholsome Sentiments, as shall have a good Effect on their Conversation. 1749 *FIELDING Tom Jones* i. vi, Wholsome Admonition and Reproof. 1824 *SOUTHEY Let. to G. C. Bedford* 24 May, To enjoy better air, keep better hours, and employ herself in quieter and wholsomer pleasures. 1839 *THIRLWALL Greece* xlvii. VI. 117 Thebes was destroyed...that the example of its fate might strike the rest of Greece with a wholsome awe. 1879 *FROUDE Caesar* ii. 12 The sober and wholsome manners of life among the early Romans had given them vigorous minds in vigorous bodies. 1892 *KIPLING Lett. Trav.* (1920) 62 It is wholesome and tonic to realise the powerlessness of man in the face of these little accidents.

2. Promoting or conducive to health; favourable to or good for health; health-giving or health-preserving; salubrious.

c1374 *CHAUCER Troylus* i. 940 þilke ground þat bereth þe wedys wykke, Bereth eke þese holsome herbes. 1398 *TREvisa Borth. De P.R.* ix. xi. (Bodl. MS.), Marche water is not full holsum to drinke. c1400 *Beryn* 2877 It is holsum to breke our fast be-tyme. c1400 *Pilgr. Soule* (Caxton 1483) iv. ii. 58 No holsome, ne lusty fruyte, but bytter and vnsaoury. c1430 *LYDG. Compl. Bl. Knt.* 14 To take the holsome lusty eyre. 1528 *LYNDESAY Drene* 96 O fair Phebus, quhare is thy hoilsum heit? 1562 *TURNER Herbal* II. 48 b, Abrecocks...are lesse then the other peches and are holsummer for the stomach. 1613 *PURCHAS Pilgrimoge* v. xvii. 457 The Ayre is not very holsome, by reason of the situation vnder the Line, and the multitude of Lakes and Riuers. 1667 *MILTON P.L.* x. 847 The still Night, not now...Wholsom and cool, and mild. 1726 *LEONI Alberti's Archit.* I. 103/1 Flat ceilings are wholsomer. 1775 *ADAIR Amer. Ind.* 230 Wholsome weeds, that their rich fields abound with. 1819 *KEATS Eve of St. Mark* 5 The city streets were clean and fair From wholsome drench of April rains. 1849 *CLARIDGE Cold Water Cure* 203 By this means the stable was rendered wholsome, and the horses...continued healthy. 1891 *Leeds Merc.* 2 May 6/5 Old spirits are more wholsome than the new, which are far more irritating to the stomach.

†b. Having the property of restoring health; remedial, curative, medicinal. *Obs.* (or merged in prec. sense).

c1380 *WYCLIF Sel. Wks.* III. 27 Resseyvyng holsum medicyns of her hevenly lechis. 1484 *CAXTON Fables of Æsop* v. ix, That fayr skynne which is so holsome, ye shalle make hit to be...bound vpon your bely, and...hit shalle rendre you in as good helthe as euer ye were. 1557 *TURNER (title)* A Booke of the Bath of Baeth...with diverse other bathes moste holsum and effectual. 1590 *SHAKS. Com. Err.* v. i. 104. 1651 *HOBBS Leviath.* III. xxxii. 195 Wholsome pills for the sick.

3. Sound in (physical or moral) condition or constitution; free from disease or taint; healthy. Now *rare*, or associated with other senses.

a1533 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* x. (1535) Fj b, He hated delicate and gay nurses, and they that were laborous homely and holosome he loued. **1602** SHAKS. *Ham.* i. v. 70 It doth . . . curd. . . The thin and wholesome blood. *Ibid.* iii. ii. 271. **1614** B. JONSON *Barth. Fair* ii. v. *Vrs.* I, I, Gamesters, mocke a plaine plumpe soft wench . . . because she's juicy and wholesome. **1653** JER. TAYLOR *Serm.* iii. (L.) It is not to be expected that a diseased father should beget wholesome children. **1820** SHELLEY (*Ed. Tyr.* i. 85) He has not half an inch of wholesome fat Upon his carious ribs. **1848** DICKENS *Dombey* ii, A plump rosy-cheeked wholesome apple-faced young woman. **1851** HAWTHORNE *Ho. Seven Gables* ix, The purifying influence scattered . . . by the presence of one youthful, fresh, and thoroughly wholesome heart. **1896** HOUSMAN *Shroph. Lad* xxiv, Ere the wholesome flesh decay.

Comb. **1905** SLADEN *Playing the Game* i. xi, An unusually wholesome-natured woman.

b. transf. of a quality, condition, place, etc. (often approaching sense 1).

1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* iii. i. 49 In wholesome Wisedome He might not but refuse you. **1605** — *Macb.* iv. iii. 105 O Nation miserable! . . . When shalt thou see thy wholesome dayes againe? **1641** in Rogers *Protests of Lords* (1875) I. 5 Such as shall disturb wholesome order. **1871** R. H. HUTTON *Ess.* II. 63 A wholesome busy city like Manchester.

c. Naut. Of a ship (see quotes.); **transf.** of the sea.

1627 CAPT. J. SMITH *Sea Gram.* xi. 52 A Ship that will try, hull, and ride well at Anchor, we call a wholesome Ship. *Ibid.*, This makes her wholesome in the Sea without rowling. **1669** STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* i. 17 The Top-mast being aloft the Ship is the holmesest, and maketh better way through the Sea. **1762** *Elsdale's Narr.* (MS.), The long continuance of the Gale had rais'd a most mountainous sea, but it was remarkably long and wholesome.

B. as sb. in pl. Wholesome things.

In first quot. in a canting use (? suggested by *fulsome*). **1731-8** SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* 158 Bring me a Dram after my Goose; 'tis very good for the Wholsoms. **1858** *Brit. Q. Rev.* LVI. 358 To provide . . . tables of the wholesomes and unwholesomes. **1863** 'HOLME LEE' A. *Warleigh* iii. iii, Steer clear of novels before Miss Austen and Scott; if you would like me to make you out a list of amusing wholesomes, I will do it.

wholesomely ('həʊlsəmli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY².] In a wholesome manner.

1. In a way conducive to well-being in general; with good tendency or effect; beneficially, salutarily.

c1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 107 þe giue of eche lif . . . he giueð mid þe holi husel, þanne nat it understondeð rihtliche and holsumliche. **1549** COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. Rom.* vi. 1-7 This bodye of synne is then in vs effectually and holsumely slaine. **1622** A. COURT *Constance* ii. 109 Afflictions . . . happen to vs wholesomely. **1650** S. CLARKE *Ecl. Hist.* i. (1654) 47 What was wholesomely advised . . . that he willingly assented to. **1797** *Burn's Ecl. Law* (ed. 6) I. 250 note, He was a good man, and wholesomely governed the church committed to him. **1879** M. ARNOLD *Mixed Ess., Democr.* 24 That which operates noxiously in the one, may operate wholesomely in the other.

2. So as to promote health; in a way favourable to health; †remedially, medicinally (*obs.*); healthily (*rare*).

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P.R.* xviii. xxviii. (Bodl. MS.), Auctours comaundeþ to take such whelpes holsumliche aȝens venomous bitinge of houndes. **1546** J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 9 The meate good and holsume and holsumly drest. **1557** *Order of Hospitalls* Gij, That their Linnen be wholsomly and cleanly washed. **1611** SPEED *Theat. Gt. Brit.* i. 47b, This City . . . standeth holsumly and sweetly, as it were vpon a hill. **1634** T. JOHNSON *Parey's Chirurg.* ix. x. (1678) 222 Those things which do wholsomly and moderately nourish. **1859** *All Year Round* No. 32. 127 Paraguay tea . . . adulterates the real souchong wholesomely. **1870** *Echo* 15 Nov., A sufficiency of wholesome, and . . . wholesomely cooked food.

wholesomeness ('həʊlsəmnis). [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality or condition of being wholesome, in any sense.

c1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 103 On pat wise lið ure helende on his heorte, also on sepulcre, and swiðeð of holsumnesse lore toȝenes him, forte pat on þen þridde dai, pat is heorte be liht. **c1380** WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 239 3if þei loueden treupe of god . . . as moche as þei louen helpe of here body & holsumnesse of here bodily mete. **1398** TREVISA *Barth. De P.R.* vi. xxi. (Bodl. MS.), Water þat renneth . . . vpon cleere stones oper grauel hap secunde holsumnes. **1547-64** BAULWIN *Mor. Philos.* (Palfr.) 94 b, In meats the wholesomenesse is as much to be required as the pleasantnesse. **1553** T. WILSON *Rhet.* 16b, The holsumnesse of the ayer in other countries. **1616** PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* v. vii. (ed. 3) 588 This yeeldes not to any Indian Region, in goodlinesse and wholesomenesse. **1796** MORSE *Amer. Geog.* i. 375 Malt liquor is not so frequently used, as its wholesomeness deserves. **1807** SOUTHLEY *Let. to G. C. Bedford* 4 Oct., The bitterness of the cup will have passed away, and you will then perceive its wholesomeness. **1857** TOULMIN SMITH *Parish* 333 Not only to the repair of the roads themselves, but to . . . the safety, wholesomeness, and comfort of the passage along them. **1906** *Lit. World* 15 Nov. 517/2 The general wholesomeness of Dr. Gladden's position is . . . beyond cavil.

wholewise ('həʊlwaɪz), *adv.* *nonce-wd.* [f. WHOLE *a.* or *sb.* + -WISE.] As a whole, completely, all at once. Also as quasi-*adj.*

1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 107 If you ask, . . . Whether it touches *secundum se totum* or not? Whether wholewise or piecewise? **1880** LANIER *Hymns of Marshes* i. 147 The . . . searim sinks . . . wholewise. **1937** *Mind* XLVI. 252 The wholewise working of the organism is further illustrated by the 'privileged postures' which we take up as a convenient background to various performances.

wholey, wholie, obs. forms of WHOLLY.

wholism ('həʊlɪz(ə)m). [Alteration of HOLISM, after WHOLE *sb.*] The doctrine or belief that wholes must be studied as such, and that the parts can only be understood in relation to the wholes to which they belong; the doctrine that evolutionary forces tend towards the forming of new and more complex wholes; = HOLISM.

1939 J. E. BOODIN *Social Mind.* p. vii, Two conceptions . . . have recently been emphasized in philosophy and social theory, namely creative synthesis or emergence and wholism or gestaltism. . . Wholism means that . . . events can be understood only as figuring in a whole or gestalt. **1941** *Mind* L. 394 Boodin is fully justified in claiming both that he thought and wrote in the spirit of 'creative synthesis' and 'wholism', before these terms had been invented or had, at any rate, become popular. **1962** R. & H. HAUSER *Fraternal Soc.* 9 The keynote of their work is 'Wholism'. **1981** *Amer. J. Clin. Biofeedback* IV. 33 The biofeedback experience also highlights the concept of wholism.

Hence **'wholist a. and sb., who'listic a., who'listically adv.**

1941 *Mind* L. 397 As everyone knows who has studied the use of the concept of 'creative synthesis', and, in general, all 'wholistic' types of philosophy, thinkers of this school are not content to describe the Universe merely as making and unmaking wholes of various sorts. **1956** J. S. BRUNER et al. in J. S. Bruner *Beyond Information Given* (1974) ix. 163 We shall refer to the ideal strategy just described as the wholist strategy. **1962** R. & H. HAUSER *Fraternal Soc.* ii. ii. 121 As wholists we ask, is not all this . . . activity . . . useless. *Ibid.* iv. 181 Our approach to the problems of violence is wholistic. **1964** F. H. BLUM in I. L. Horowitz *New Sociol.* 166 Being concerned with the totality of the human situation, he [sc. Mills] dealt with them [sc. key problems] wholistically. **1972** L. S. HEARNSAW in Cox & Dyson *20th-Cent. Mind* i. vii. 232 Between the wars a new brand of psychology was born, the psychology of personality, wholistic in its presuppositions. **1974** H. J. KLAUSMEIER et al. *Conceptual Learning & Devel.* iii. 67 We rarely receive information in a nice sequence of positive instances so that we may adopt a wholist strategy. **1980** R. HERINK *Psychotherapy Handbk.* 698 Wholistic therapy.

wholl, wholle, obs. forms of WHOLE.

whollop, var. WALLOP *sb.* and *v.*

wholly ('həʊli, 'həʊl), *adv.* Forms: *a.* see HALELY. *β.* 4-5 hollich(e, 4-6 hoolly, holy, holly, 5-6 hooly, 6-8 wholly, (4 hoolliche, holiche, holyke, holilich, holi, hooli, 5 hoolich, holych, holli, holely, hoyly, 6 hol(l)ye, hoolye, holie, whol(l)ye, whol(l)ie, 7 wholelye, whollily), 7-8 wholey, 7- wholly, 6- wholly. [ME. *hol(l)iche, iholliche*, repr. OE. type *(*ge*)hállice: see WHOLE *a.* and -LY². For the northern form see HALELY.

The normal development of OE. *(*ge*)hállice was (*y*)hōllīche (14th-15th c.), giving ultimately *holly* ('holi), which survives dialectally. But, by the influence of the adj. *hōl* WHOLE, a type with a long root-vowel was differentiated, *hōllīche*; this type, with *ll* retained or with simplification to *l* (which appears to have taken place as early as the 14th cent.), is represented by the modern pronunciations ('haulli) and ('hauri). The current spelling *wholly* descends from the ME. *holliche*, and has ultimately prevailed over the once common *wholely* and *wholy*, which would more normally denote the resultant standard pronunciations. (For the simplification of *ll* to *l* cf. early forms of FOULLY, *fuli*, *fouly*, *fowlye*, and SOLELY, *sooly*, *soly*.)

In all senses formerly sometimes pleonastically joined with *all*, *full*, or *fully*: cf. WHOLE A. 7.

1. As a whole, in its entirety, in full, throughout, all of it; †formerly also (in ref. to a pl. or collect. sb.), all of them, all together, in a body. Now *rare*.

a1300 [see HALELY]. **c1330** R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 1737 Al holyke [v.r. All holy] com þer flote In Dertemuthe. *Ibid.* 14357 þre 3er holy was he kyng. **1338** — *Chron.* (1810) 34 Alle þe regne holy was þat tyme in his hand. **1377** LANGE. *P. Pl.* B. xvii. 25 Abraham . . . seigh holy [v.r. hoolly] þe Trinite. There persones in parcelles departable fro other. **1395** E.E. *Wills* (1882) 8 To parfoune holelich and trewlich this . . . testament. ? **a1400** *Morte Arth.* 3368 They helde to hir heste alle holly at ones. **c1450** tr. *De Imitatione* iii. xxxv. 103 To restore all pinges, not only holly, but also abundantly & ouerhepid. **1512** *Act 4 Hen. VIII* c. 18 §1 As yf all the . . . purpote of the same Commission were in this present acte holly and particularly rehersed. **1597** HOOKER *Ecl. Pol.* v. lv. §7 That infinite word . . . could not in part but must needes be wholie incarnate. **1611** *Bible* Lev. vi. 23 Euery meat offering for the Priest shal be wholly burnt: it shall not be eaten. **1681** FLAVEL *Meth. Grace* xxxi. 536 *Non omnis moriar*, I shall not wholly die; there is a life I live, which death cannot touch. **1711** STEELE *Spect.* No. 158 ¶4, I would have a Spectator wholly writ upon Good-breeding. **1824** SCOTT *Redgauntlet* let. xi, He . . . took off the brandy wholly at twa draughts. **1856** RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* III. iv. vii. §3 A man who can see truth at all, sees it wholly, and neither desires nor dares to mutilate it. **1915** D. H. LAWRENCE *Rainbow* xii. 327 Then, and then only . . . could he act wholly, without cynicism and unreality.

2. *a.* Completely, entirely, to the full extent (so that there is no deficiency); altogether, totally, thoroughly, quite.

[*a1300*, etc.: see HALELY. **c1315**, **1340**: see YHOLLICHE.] **a1325** MS. *Raul.* B. 520 lf. 56 Ant 3if ani his ipult out of suuche entre, sal he recoueren his seisine of him pleinliche ant holliche ase he pe opere les? **13.** E.E. *Allit.* P. B. 104 þat my hous may holly by halkes by fylled. **c1350** *Will. Palerne* 495 Nishe holly at my hest in hard & in nesche. **1390** GOWER *Conf.* II. 4 Sche . . . dede al holi what he wolde. **c1400** tr. *Secr. Sec.*, *Gov. Lordsh.* 105 Y desire welfare, helth,

strynght and goodnesse, all holely to come to vche man. **c1440** *York Myst.* viii. 22 þai shall be . . . for-done hoyly, hyde and hewe. **1550** CROWLEY *Last Trumpet* 551 Do thy selfe wholly addres To walke in thy vocation. **1568** GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 270 The Archers of England shot so wholly together, that the Frenche men were faine to geue place. **1600** W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 355 *Amor & dilectio* (both loue in English) were the words most, & all wholly in request. **1611** SHAKS. *Cymb.* ii. ii. 10 Sleepe hath ceiz'd me wholly. **1630** PRYNNE *Anti-Armin.* 104 Mr. Bradford makes wholly for our present Tenet. **a1708** BEVERIDGE *Theol. Theol.* (1711) I. 8 As he [sc. God] is not divided . . . in Himself, so neither let him be in your Affections; but love Him wholly, and wholly Him. **1833** HT. MARTINEAU *Tale of Tyne* i. 5 We were wholly at a loss what to do. **1849** MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 358 The great majority of the houses . . . have . . . been wholly, or in great part, rebuilt. **1918** *Cornhill Mag.* June 636 His words . . . were wholly admirable and true.

b. Entirely, so as to exclude everything else; hence practically equivalent to 'exclusively, solely, only, without exception'.

c1425 *Cast. Persev.* 598 in *Macro Plays* 95 Goddys seruyse þou must forsake, & holy to þe werld pee take. **1551** UDALL *Erasm. Par.* *Luke* xxii. 24-30 Neither shall he take the laude and praise vnto himselfe, but refferre the same entirely and whollye vnto God. **1603** G. OWEN *Pembrokeshire* (1891) 47 Inhabited whollye by Welshmen. **1651** HOBBS *Leviath.* ii. xxx. 180 The Instruction of the people, dependeth wholly, on the right teaching of Youth. **a1708** [see 2]. **1710** PRIDEAUX *Orig. Tithes* ii. 67 They shall give up themselves wholly hereto without entangling themselves with the World. **1847** C. BRONTE *Jane Eyre* xvii, My ear was wholly intent on analyzing the mingled sounds. **1859** TENNYSON *Marr. Geraint* 441 A creature wholly given to brawls and wine.

3. **Comb.:** wholly-owned *a.*, applied to a company all of whose shares are owned by another company.

1964 *Financial Times* 11 Feb. 12/1 The directors . . . have decided to give the holders of Ordinary shares the opportunity of acquiring an interest in the wholly-owned subsidiary. **1972** *Accountant* 21 Sept. 360/1 The UK company is a subsidiary—although not wholly-owned. **1976** *Scotsman* 20 Nov. 3/2 The plan is recommended by the boards of all the companies, who will become wholly-owned subsidiaries of the new Malaysian group.

wholve, sb. dial. Also 5 wolve, whulve, (7 hulve, hull), 8 whoulve. [Variant of WHA(U)VE.] A short arched or covered drain under a path.

1395 (4 June) *View of Frankpledge Gt. Waltham* (MS.), Johannes Hereward de jure reparat quemdam Wholue juxta Stonfeld. **1466** *Birchanger Court Roll*, Vnum wholve non securatum apud Grouchemede. **1469** *Maldon, Essex, Liber B.* fol. 18 (MS.) Le whulve atre crosse. **1637** *Maldon, Essex, Docts.* Bundle 161. No. 3 (MS.) We present Abell Hawkes . . . for . . . not laying of a hull against his gate for the passing of the watter. **1712** *Maldon, Essex, Borough Deeds*, Bundle 114, No. 17 (MS.) We present Mr. Kemp for not laying a whoulve at y^e great avingnilk-well mead. **1903** (Essex dial.) I've been opening a wolve.

† **wholve, v. Obs. rare.** [Variant of WHA(U)VE.] = WHELVE *v.* 1.

14. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 614/42 *Supinus*, wholuyd [printed wholnyd].

Wholy, obs. form of HOOLEE.

1622 in Foster *Engl. Factories Ind.* (1908) II. 76 Eighteen rupp[ees] at once given in pane to certayne banyans at the feast of Wholy.

wholy, obs. form of HOLY, WHOLLY.

whom (hu:m), *pron.* Forms: *a.* 1 hwæm, 1-3 hwam, 3-5 wam, 3-5, 8-9 *Sc.* wham, 4-5 whame, whaym(e, wom, 4-7 whome, (3 zwam, whæm, *Orm.* whamm, 4 huam, whaam, whaime, 5 wome, hom(e, whem, waim, 6 hoom, *Sc.* vhom), 3-whom; *north.* and *Sc.* 3-4 quam, 4-6 quham, 4-6, 8 quhome, 4-7 quhom, (3 quuam, 4 quaym, quem, quhowm, 5 qwhom(e, qwom(e, qhom). *β.* 1 hwone, hwane, hwæne, 2 hwen, 2-3 hwan, 3 whæn, wan, 3wan, wanne, 3-4 whan. [Whom represents formally OE. *hwām*, later variant of *hwæm* (:—**xwaimi*), dat. of *hwā* WHO, *hwæt* WHAT, corresp. (with variation of inflexion) to OFris. *hwām* (Wfris. *wam*, *waam*, Nfris. *hūm*), OS. *hwem(u)*, OHG. (*h*)*wemu*, -o (MHG., G. *wem*), ON. *hveim* (MSw. *hwem* used as dat. and acc., early Da. also *hwam*), Goth. *hwamma*. In its usage *whom* combines the functions of OE. *hwām* and OE. *hwone*, *hwane*, *hwæne*, acc. masc. of *hwā*, corresp. to OFris. *hwane*, *hwene*, OS. *hwena* (MDu., Du. *wien*), OHG. (*h*)*wenan*, *wen(en)* (MHG., G. *wen*), ON. (eastern) *hwan*, Goth. *hwana*. The history of OE. *hwone*, ME. (*h*)*wan* is therefore illustrated under this heading in order to exhibit the merging of the original acc. and dat. under the forms of the latter. (The form-history is complicated in the 12th and 13th centuries by the fact that in weak positions (*h*)*wam* often became (*h*)*wan*, and the latter when neuter is indistinguishable from WHON¹.)

The earliest instance here recorded of the use of the dat. form as an acc. or direct object is in the indef. relative *swa hwam swa swa* = whomsoever (Laud Chron. an. 1123): see sense 6. By 1200 this shift had extended to the relative

and dependent interrogative uses, but examples of the independent interrogative use are hardly earlier than 1300: see sense 1 b.] The objective case of WHO: no longer current in natural colloquial speech.

1. In an independent question. a. as indirect object (dative) or as object of a preposition (or after *than*).

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John vi. 68 Drihten to hwam ga we? a 1300 *Cursor M.* 8153 O mi kingrike quat redes pou? Quam sal i giue it for to ledd? a 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 463 To quam has pou be tane till, tell me þe sothe. 1535 COVERDALE *Ezek.* xxxi. 2 Whom art thou like in thy greatness? — *Isa.* xl. 18 To whom then will ye lick God? 1539 *Bible* (Great) *Isa.* xxviii. 9 Whom then shal such one teach knowledge? 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* II. i. 153 *Speed.* To be a Spokes-man from Madam Siluia. *Val.* To whom? 1603 DEKKER & CHETTLE *Grissil* IV. i. (Shaks. Soc.) 52 Seek'st thou a better nurse? A better nurse than whom? 1780 WARNER in *Jesse Selwyn & Contemp.* (1844) IV. 369 For whom in the world do you think that I was kept so long kicking my heels? 1842 RUSKIN *Lett. to a College Friend* (1894) 129 To whom should I write if not to the only one of my friends whom I cannot see? 1866 LE FANU *All in Dark* viii. I played to-day . . . two rubbers of fives; with whom do you think?

b. as direct object (accusative).

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 45 Hwane manap God maran gaofoes þonne þone biscop? c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John xviii. 4 Hwæne sece ge?

a 1300 *E.E. Psalter* xxvi[i]. 1 Wham sal I drede? c 1320 *Cast. Love* 206 Whom mai he to helpe crauen? 1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* xvi. 15 Whom seien 3e me to be? *Ibid.* xxvii. 21 Whom of the two wolen 3ee to be left? c 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 69 Quhom sall I blame? 1513 DOUGLAS *Aeneis* I. vi. 38 Bot, O thou virgine, quham sall I call the? 1535 COVERDALE *Isa.* vi. 8 Whom shall I sende, and who wilbe oure messauger? 1539 *Bible* (Great) Ps. lxxxiii. 25 Whom haue I in heauen but the? 1704 TAVERNER *Faithf. Bride* III. 27 Whom wou'dst thou injure with a Villains Name? 1855 TENNYSON *Maud* I. vi. ii. Whom but Maud should I meet? 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* III. 489 Whom think you she has seen?

2. In a dependent question, or clause of similar meaning. a. as indirect object or as object of a preposition.

The prep. regularly precedes, but often followed in obs. Sc. use (cf. 10); in mod. use it occas. appears at the end of the clause, but in such cases in colloq. speech *who* is commonly substituted (see WHO 5).

a. *Beowulf* 1696 Swa wæs . . . gemearcod . . . hwam þæt sweord geworht . . . ærest wære. c 825 *Vesp. Ps.* xxxviii[i]. 7 [6] *Thesaurizant et ignorat cui congregat ea*, goldhordað & nat hwæm ȝesomnað ða. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 145 þe holi gost þe him dide . . . to understanden þat ure drihten wolde man bicumen and wære and wanne and of wam ben boren. c 1200 ORMIN 12612, I sahh cumenn Godess Gast Inn aness cuffress like, & I sahh uppo whamm he comm. c 1205 LAY. 11404 þe king . . . bæd heom ræden him ræd whæm [c 1275 wan] he mihte bi-tæche af his kine-riche. 13. . . *Cursor M.* 10718 (Göt) Thoru þis prophete sal 3e se Til quham þe may sal sposuid be. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 93 Ne he ne wist to wham þæt he mot mak his mone. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. 1. 43 Tel me to whom þat Tresour appende? *Ibid.* 47 He asked . . . whom þe ymage was lyk. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* IV. 111, I wat nocht for quhat enchesoun, Na quham with he maid the cowyne. 1448 MARG. PASTON in *P. Lett.* I. 69, I fell hym so dispoysid that he wold . . . asett to morgale all that he hath, he had nowth rowth to qhom. c 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 259 Quha is lord of yone land, . . . Or quham of is he haldand, Fayne wald I wit. 1504 C'TESS RICHMOND tr. *De Imitatione* IV. v. (1893) 267 Se from whom this mystere is gyuen vnto the. 1513 DOUGLAS *Aeneis* XI. xiii. 133 Thar sall thou know onone, Quhamto this wyndy glore, voust, or avantis, The honor, or, with pane, the loving grantis. c 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) xxiii. 42 Tak heid Quhomefor thow suffer pane. 1600 FAIRFAX tr. *Tasso* VIII. liii, To spie at whom to aske we gazed round. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 1088, I . . . am come to see of whom such noise Hath walk'd about. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) VIII. 189 They let me go . . . They little thought with whom. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* vi, Not that he cared to whom his daughter turned, or from whom turned away. 1859 *Sporting Mag.* Feb. 77 When he found Gemmy knocked down to him (he knew not whom for). 1905 ELIN. GLYN *Viciss. Evang.* 203 Getting a note, she did not tell me whom it was from, or what it was about.

ß. c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past.* C. xlii. 331 Ac ðu findst wið hwone ðu meahst flitan. a 1200 *Moral Ode* 326 in O.E. *Hom.* I. 179 We scolden . . . us bi-þenche. . . hwet we beð, and to wan we sculle and of wan we come. a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1509 3ef he biþenþ bi hwan [v.r. hwan] he lai, Al mai þe luue gan a-wai. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. xiv. 158 Ich hadde wonder at wham [v.r. whan] and wher þat þe pye Lerneð legge styckes þat leyen in here neste.

b. as direct object.

a. c 1205 LAY. 27487 heo at þan laste nuste nan kempe Whæm [MS. whæ] he sculde slæn on [c 1275 wam he solde smite] and wham [MS. whæ; c 1275 wan] he sculde sparian. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6417 þo bed he þe court. . . ri3t vnderstonde Wat vorewarde þer were ymad . . . Bituene him & king edmund . . . & wan [v.r. wam, wham] edmond made is eir. a 1352 MINOT *Poems* (ed. Hall) xi. 4 Haue minde of þi man, þou whote wham I mene. c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* I. 348 Crist axide his disciplis whom þei seiden him to be. 1526 TINDALE *Luke* xii. 5, I will shewe you whom ye shall feare. — *John* xiii. 18, I knowe whom I have chosen. 1535 COVERDALE *Josh.* xxiv. 15 Those you this daye whom ye wyll serue. 1582 N. LICHFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. ix. 22 b, He . . . could not tell whom he might trust. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* I. i. 20 Remember whom thou hast aboard. 1693 CONGREVE *Old Bach.* v. xv, I suppose you know whom I have got—now. 1737 POPE *Hor.*, *Epist.* I. vi. 102 Hire a Slave. . . To . . . Teil at your Levee. . . To whom to nod, whom take into your Coach. *Mod.* I don't know whom to ask. ß. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 127 þe deofel. . . geð abutan . . . sechinde hwen he mæze fordon. c 1275 [see c 1205 in a].

¶ 3. Used ungrammatically for the nominative WHO, esp. as predicate in a dependent clause (being erroneously taken as object of the verb in

the principal clause; sometimes app. from confusion with the Latin acc. and inf.).

[c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xvi. 13 Hwæne secgað menn þæt sy mannes sunu?] 1526 TINDALE *Matt.* xvi. 13 Whom do men saye that I the sonne of man am? *Ibid.* 15 But whom say ye that I am? [So 1611; R.V. 1881 who.] c 1530 LD. BERNERS *Arth. Lyt. Brit.* x. (1814) 20, I cannot thinke whome it should be. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* I. i. 205 (Qo. 1) Tel me in sadnes whome she is you loue. 1654-66 EARL ORRERY *Parthen.* (1676) 574 The Horse seem'd to know whom 'twas he carri'd. 1817 BELOE *Sexagenarian* II. 227 Whom is it you mean? 1861 MRS. H. WOOD *East Lynne* III. 1, Not having the least idea of whom Afy might be.

II. Indefinite (non-relative) use.

† 4. The indefinite use of OE. *hwá* (*hwæm*, etc.) 'some one' did not survive, but, on the analogy of OTHERWHAT, SOMEWHAT, ME, has *sum oper wham* = some one else. (Cf. SOMEWHO.)

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 6694 þan preyde þe ryche man Abraham, þæt he wide sende Lazare, or sum oper wham, To hys bræpryn.

III. Relative uses.

Also formerly with *that* following (see THAT conj. 6).

5. As compound relative, or with ellipsis of antecedent (= he, him, those, etc. whom), of a person or persons: as direct object, or object of a preposition. *arch.* (Cf. WHO 8.) Often approaching the indefinite sense 6.

[c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke x. 22 *Filius et cui uoluerit filius reuelare*, se sunu & hwæm wælle se sunu ædeau.] c 1200 ORMIN 12888 Ne þarrf juw noht nu foli3henn me, Her iss whamm juw birrþ foll3henn. 13. . . *Eufrosyne* 424 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 179/1 Whom he louep, be wol chastise. c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 70 Wam þæt 3e þus bynd, sehal be bound, and wam þæt 3e bring out of synne, þe peyn schal be forzeuen hem. 1507 *Registr. Aberdon.* (Maitl. Cl.) I. 352 And shuld present nain therto bot quhom that pleiss the said Mr. Alexander. 1526 TINDALE *John* xvii. 3 That they myght knowe the that only very God; and whom thou hast sent Iesus Christ. 1579 FULKE *Heskins' Parl.* 347 There were there, to whom Christ sauoured better in their heart, then Manna in their mouth. a 1600 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* vi. iii. §1 We are by repentance to appease whom we offend by sinne. 1713 ADDISON *Cato* II. v, I've offer'd to . . . gain you whom you love at any price. 1810 CRABBE *Borough* iii, A common bounty may relieve distress, But whom the vulgar succour, they oppress. 1820 BYRON *Juan* IV. xii, 'Whom the gods love die young' was said of yore. 1842 TENNYSON *Sir Galahad* ii, How sweet are looks that ladies bend On whom their favours fall! 1876 SWINBURNE *Erechtheus* 1315 Shall the sea give death whom the land gave birth?

b. with correlative in following clause. Cf.

WHO 6a. *arch.* c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1768 Ðat is min red, Wið quam ðu is findes, ðat he be dead. c 1275 *Passion our Lord* 103 in O.E. *Misc.* 40 Hwam ich biteche þat bred . . . He me schal bitraye. 1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* xxi. 44 Vpon whom i shal falle, it shal togidre poune hym. ? a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 770 Whyame that he towchede he was tynt for euer! c 1400 [see 5 above]. 1526 TINDALE *Luke* vii. 47 To whom lesse is forguien, the same doeth lesse loue. 1539 *Bible* (Great) *Rom.* viii. 30 Whom he appoynted before, them also he called [1611 Whom he did predestinate, them he also called]. 1883 WHITELAW *Sophocles, Oed. Col.* 1332 Unto whom . . . Thou shalt be friend, the victory is his.

6. In general or indefinite sense: Any one whom, whomsoever. Cf. WHO 6. *arch.* or *literary.*

† Also with the indefinite sense indicated by *ever* following: see also WHOMEVER.

a 1154 O.E. *Chron.* an. 1123 þæt hi mosten cesen of clerchades man swa hwam swaswa hi wolden to ercebiscep. c 1275 LAY. 9081 þe holi gost . . . hine dealep to wam him beoþ lofue. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4935 He ne sparde old ne 3onge . . . þæt he ne slou wanne [v.r. wham] he vond. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xvi. (*Magdalena*) 601 God mychty is . . . al temporale thinge to gyf & tak to quham he wil. 1429 *Rolls of Parl.* IV. 343/1 No persone . . . shal conceyve indignation. . . azeins any other of the seide Counseill, for sayiing his aduys . . . to any request. . . that shal be spoken . . . in the seide Counseill, whome that ever it touche. 1449 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 70/2 Payand thereof yerely . . . to me or quhom that I assign fourti markis. 1515 in Leadam *Sel. Cases Star Chamber* (Selden) II. 77 Your most honorable Counsaill or whome it shall please your highnes to . . . appoynte. 1535 COVERDALE *Dan. v.* 19 Whom he wolde, he set vp; & whom he list, he put downe. 1664 in *Extr. St. Papers rel. Friends* Ser. III. (1912) 215 To laeue order with Mr. Williamson, or whom elce you please, to minde my Lord Chansellour tomorrow of this letter. 1744 BERKELEY *Siris* §354 Atheism, be it of Hobbes, Spinoza, Collins, or whom you will. 1865 RUSKIN *Sesame* i. §6 We cannot know whom we would. 1866 MRS. WHITNEY *Leslie Goldthwaite* vii, By-and-by she would be making up her own excursions, and asking whom she would.

7. As simple relative introducing a defining or restrictive clause, completing the sense: cf. WHO 9.

† Also formerly as correlative to *such*: cf. WHO 9b.

a. As object of a preposition (usually preceding, occas. following at end of clause). See also 10.

a 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 233 Al þat we habbeð of pese feder we habbeð, of wam we alle ur [?] sielp we habbeð. c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 49 He ðurh hwam kinges rixit. c 1200 ORMIN 6995 Jesu Crist wass . . . þatt ilke, of whamm profetess Haffdenn forrlange cwiddedd ær, þatt [etc.]. 13. . . *E.E. Allit. P. A.* 131 þe wy3, to wham her wylle ho waynez. c 1386 CHAUCER *Frankl. T.* 258, I wol been his to whom þat I am knyt. a 1400 *Relig. Pieces* fr. *Thornton MS.* (1914) 27 If pou will be of lange lyfe, it es reson þat pou honour thaim of whaym pou hase þe lyfe. c 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Prose) 17 Yef it fallis yu ani time, On wain þe for-geitnes es on-long [etc.]. 1428 *Manim. de Melros* (Bann.) 519 Til all & syndry to quham þe knowlage of þir present lettris sall to cum. 1452-3 *Paston Lett. Suppl.* (1901) 47 The personex quom thei laboryd fore.

1526 TINDALE *Luke* xiii. 4 Those xviii. apon whom the toure in siloe fell. 1539 *Bible* (Great) 1 Sam. ix. 17 This is the man, whom I spake to the of. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y.L.* II. ii. 8 The roynish Clown, at whom so oft, Your Grace was wont to laugh. c 1730 RAMSAY *Eagle & Robin* 60 By sic with quhome they ar oppress. 1829 [see SUCH B. 12]. 1840 MARRYAT *Poor Jack* xix, The boy with whom I had fought. 1882 BESANT *All Sorts* xix, Here was a woman the like of whom he had never imagined.

b. As direct or indirect object.

c 1200 ORMIN 6521 He ma33 wel bitacenn himm whamm he stod inn to foll3henn. c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 68 þe disciplis lowsid him liuing, wam dead þe maister had reisd. c 1420 *Prose Life Alex.* 46 He sall be my helpere, wham in dremez I sawe appere vn-to me. 1507 *Reg. Privy Seal Scot.* I. 227/2 3e and ilk one of 3ow quham it efferis. 1582 N. LICHFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. ix. 22 b, Those whom he gave license to enter aboarde his ship. a 1600 MONTGOMERIE *Sonn.* lvii. 2 Vha wald behold him whom a god so grievis? 1632 MILTON *L'Allegro* 124 To win her Grace, whom all commend. 1680 in *Proc. Soc. Antig. Scot.* (1911) XLV. 233 These men quhom blessed King Iesus delighted to honour. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 178 ¶ 9 Knowledge is praised and desired by multitudes whom her charms could never rouse from the couch of sloth. 1850 GLADSTONE *Glean.* (1879) II. 65 He was one of the most extraordinary men whom this century has produced. 1871 MARK TWAIN *Lett.* (1920) 112, I think I shall call it 'Reminiscences of Some Pleasant Characters Whom I Have Met,' (or should the 'whom' be left out?).

8. Introducing an additional statement; thus sometimes = 'and him (her, them)'; cf. WHO 10. † Formerly occas. preceded by *the* (cf. *the which*, WHICH B. 13). a. As direct or indirect object.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 10 Kyng arthour . . . Quam non in hys tim was like. 1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* xxii. 2 Tak thin onli gotun sone, whom thou louest. c 1386 CHAUCER *Friar's T.* 103 Witenesse on lob whom that we widen wo. c 1420 ? LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 854 Grace was the gude of all thys gret meyny. Whom folowyd Konnyng with hys genalogy. ? 1472 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 125, I trust to alle myt Jhesu to know more of my hertes ese than I do now, hom I beseeche to preserve [you]. 1526 TINDALE *1 John* iv. 20 Howe can he that loveth nott his brother whom he hath sene, love god whom he hath not sene? 1556 LAUDER *Tractate of Kyngis* 95 The kyng had . . . The rewle of hunders and thousands, Quhome that he sufferit . . . To tyne and perysche. 1566 W. P. tr. *Curio's Pasquine in Trance* 108 Peter Luis . . . whom all men say to be a moste filthy Sodomite. 1645 ROW *Hist. Kirk* (1842) p. xxx, Otheris had gon out befor, quhom we thoct now to be slain. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* 1. 438 Astoreth, whom the Phœnicians call'd Astarte. 1681 DRYDEN *Abd. & Achit.* 580 The Rascal Rabbie. . . Whom Kings no Titles gave, and God no Grace. 1781 COWPER *Retirement* 742 Grant me still a friend in my retreat, Whom I may whisper—solitude is sweet. 1793 BURNS *Scots! wha hae* 2 Scots! wham Bruce has aften led. a 1849 H. COLERIDGE *Ess.* (1851) II. 84 Warburton (whom I presume to have been the annotator).

b. As object of a preposition (usually preceding, occas. following after the verb); also after *than* (see THAN 2 b). See also 10.

As to details of construction see note s.v. WHICH B. 7a. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 179 For eues gulte to wan ure drihten sede. In dolore paries filios. *Ibid.* 181 For adames gulte, to hwam ure drihten seide: . . . On pine nebbes swote pu shalt þin bred noten. c 1200 ORMIN 1976 Allmahhtig Godd, þurh whamm 3ho wass wipp childe. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 220 Ascayn bi3et silvi, of 3wan þe brut com. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 736 A messenger he send, Wit quam best to spede he wend. *Ibid.* 5342 Eue, o quam we al began. *Ibid.* 9530 Doghtres four. . . To quam ilkan he gaf sum-thing. c 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 17 This Symond, of quaym I spak ær. c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 99 þe Holy Gost, to wham is apropyred love. c 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Prose) 19 To god, of wham þat al þe gude cumis. c 1400 tr. *Secr. Secr., Gov. Lordsh.* 88 Oon god, fro whem ilke merueylouse werk descendys. c 1460 METHAM *Wks.* (1916) 96 Yt sygnifyth that . . . that persone schuld have a frend vpon home he schuld trost, the qwyche schuld dysseyve hym qwan he hath most nede. 1537 LATIMER *Lett. to Cromwell in Facs. Nat. MSS.* (1866) II. xxxi, The byrth of our pryncce, hoom we hungurde for so longe. 1548-1876 [see THAN 2 b]. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* IV. iv. 539 Your Mistris; from the whom, I see There's no disunction to be made. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* v. 468 His wary speech Thus to th' Empryal Minister he [sc. Adam] fram'd. Inhabitant with God [etc.]. . . To whom the winged Hierarch repli'd. 1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St. Pierre's Study Nat.* (1799) I. 433 His neighbours, the number of whom is restricted to four or five, according to the extent and form of his domain. 1872 TENNYSON *Gareth & Lynette* 878 Haughtily she replied. 'I fly no more. . . ' To whom Sir Gareth answer'd courteously, 'Say thou thy say, and I will do my deed.'

9. a. Used in reference to a thing or things: orig. dative of WHAT (sense C. 7), later as a general objective case of WHICH (sense B. 7 or 8). *Obs.* exc. with personification: cf. WHO 11 c.

With the examples in ß cf. WHON¹.

a. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 129 Ðis is sunfulla monna leddre þurh hwam ure drihtan teh to him al moncun. *Ibid.* 153 þis beoð þe fi3 eten þurh hwam kimð in deðes wurhte. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 696 Ydolatrie ðus was boren, For quamu mani man is for-loren. c 1320 *Cast. Love* 1086 Algate he hap misdoun, þorw whom he is in my prison. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 3 It is the cuppe whom he serueth, Which alle cares from him kerveth. c 1400 tr. *Secr. Secr., Gov. Lordsh.* 106 My lawe & my fayth, yn whom y am norshyd. 1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 27, I hawe studiēd that hit schal be called *Policricon* of the pluralite of tymes whom it dothe conteyne. 1448-9 METHAM *Amoryus & Cleopes* 1263 A ston . . . The name off home serpentyne ys. 1513 DOUGLAS *Aeneis* VII. vii. 89 The round top of tre, . . . Quham childer dravis byssy at thair play. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) II. 334 He . . . left the way in quhome he first began. 1551 TURNER *Herbal* I. K v, We haue no herbe in Englande that I knowe to whome all thes hole descriptions do agre. 1562 *Ibid.* II. 81 Peplis whome som call wild porcellayn. 1608 DEKKER *Dead Terme* C 3, What a rare inuention. . . was pen and Incke, out of whom (as streames from a Fontaine) flow all these

wonders. **1611** *SPEED Theat. Gt. Brit.* 11/1 Redrith and Frensham... betwixt whom are extended thirty four miles. **1648** tr. *Senault's Paraphr. Job* 163 Those trees, whom the thunder hath beaten down. **1770** LUCKOMBE *Hist. Printing* 466 The vowels... are seventeen in number; five of whom are pronounced long.

β. **c 1200** *Vices & Virtues* 127 Tach me godnesse dūrh wan ich god muze bien. **c 1275** LAY. 7220 He makede pane kalender bi wan geop al pe jer. *Ibid.* 7633 pat ilke swerd... porh wan his bane he hadde. **c 1290** *St. Brandan* 580 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 235 Fewe goddedes ich haue i-don of 3wan ich noupe may telle. **a 1300** *Leg. Rood* (1871) 24/72 An vaire welle Of wan alle pe wateres pat bep anerpe comeþ.

b. Used in reference to a number of persons collectively: cf. WHO 11 a.

c **1230** *Hali Meid.* 10 Al is nawt pet ti folc—of hwam i spec pruppe—biheten pe to ifinden. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1315 pe kunde blod of pis lond of wam we bope come. **1592** KYD *Sp. Trag.* III. i. The world, With whom there nothing can prenaile but wrong. **1606** G. WOODCOCKE *Hist. Iovstine* xxx. 102 The very same Army whom he had there standing in battell arraye. **1608** SHAKS. *Per.* 1. iv. 22 A Cittie on whom plentie held full hand. **1671** MILTON *Samson* 1100 The unforskin'd race, of whom thou bear'st The highest name for valiant Acts.

c. Used in reference to animals: cf. WHO 11 b. **1340-70** *Alex. & Dind.* 793 Tri-cerubus pe tenful of wham i tolde haue. **1456** SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 85 His gude hors, in quham he traistis sa mekle. **1667** MILTON *P.L.* IV. 184 A prowling Wolfe, Whom hunger drives to seek new haunt for prey. **1770** GOLDSM. *Des. Vill.* 93 A hare whom hounds and horns pursue. **1783** JOHNSON in *Boswell* (1904) II. 478, I have had cats whom I liked better than this. **1849-52** *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 11. 833/2 In the Horse, in whom the supra-renal corpuscles are yet richer in nerves. †10. With a preposition immediately following, the two being often written as one word, forming compounds like those with *where-* (WHERE 15 b), but used in reference to persons (occas. to things). *Obs.* (chiefly *Sc.*).

c **1375** *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxi. (*Eugenia*) 300 pe abbot of pat abbay, Quham-of before 3e herd me say. **1461** *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 477/1 William Lord Bonville, and Sir Thomas Kiryell, ... whom to he made feith and assurans... to kepe and defend them. **1508** DUNBAR *Gold. Targe* 85 May, of myrthfull monethis quene... Quham of the foulis gladdith al bedene. **1526** in M. A. E. Green *Lett. Royal Ladies* (1846) II. 7 His grace's lieges... whom at the said earl... has displeasure. **1551** ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* II. (1895) 253 For them, whomewyth they be in wayges, they fyghte hardelye. **1583** *Rot. Scacc. Reg. Scot.* XXI. 560 Samekle thairof to ather of thame quhomunto it appertenis. **1660** *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) IV. 252 The saide Sir Rob. Walsh, whome concerning I haue giuen sufficient precautions.

†11. Used ungrammatically for the nominative WHO, as subj. or pred. in the relative clause, esp. (in later use only) when *erron.* taken as obj. of a verb of which the whole clause is really the obj.: cf. 3.

1467 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 96, I schall se... yow... with Godes Grase, whome evyr preserve yow and yowrs for his mersy. **c 1540** tr. *Pol. Verg. Engl. Hist.* (Camden 1846) 271 Certayne of them... (whome mie minde geeveth mee are to bee folowed). **1557** NORTH *Guevara's Diall Pr.* IV. xix. (1568) 169 b, I counsel... all wise... men, that they doo not accompany wyth those whom they know are not secret. **1603** DEKKER & CHETTLE *Grissil* IV. ii. (Shaks. Soc.) 65 Let him be whom he will. **1653** WALTON *Angler* 30 Comparing the... humble epistles of S. Peter, S. James and S. John, whom we know were Fishers, with the glorious language... of S. Paul, who we know was not. **1752** MRS. LENNOX *Female Quix.* VII. ii. Are they yonder Knights whom you suppose will attack us? **1837** DICKENS *Pickw.* xxix. A strange unearthly figure, whom Gabriel felt at once, was no being of this world. **1906** R. H. BENSON *Richard Ragnall* 81 He saw the man whom he knew must be the King.

†12. In irregular constructions. a. With pleonastic personal pronoun in the latter part of the relative clause; often also with anacoluthon, *whom* serving as apparent obj. to a verb whose real obj. is a dependent clause of which the pron. is subj. (cf. 11). b. Preceded by redundant *and*: cf. WHO 12 b.

1556 *Chron. Grey Friars* (Camden) 46 The erle of Angwyche... whome the kynge had kepte hym with his brother and dyvers other here in Ynglond. **1567** PAINTER *Fal. Pleas.* II. 92, [He] asked... what hee shoulde doe to a woman, whome hee suspected that she hadde falsified hir fayth. **1606** G. WOODCOCKE *Lives Emp.* in *Hist. Iovstine* Kk 2, Otho the third... was crowned Emperour by Gregory the fifth, his kinsman, ... and whom he had preferred to the papacy. **1608** TOPSELL *Serpents* 23 Cælius Rhod... termeth the great deuill Ophioneus, whom both holy Scripture, and auncient Heathen say, that hee fell out of Heauen.

†13. with genitive inflexion: *whomes* = WHOSE. [Cf. (M)Du. *wiens*, WFr. *huiens*.] *Obs.* *rare*.

c 1489 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 83, I purposse to persew the law against him in their names, whomes cattell he heretofore helped to stele.

whom, obs. form of HUM sb.¹

a 1520 SKELTON *Bouge of Court* 191 Wyth whom and ha, and with a croked loke.

whom, whome, obs. forms of HOME sb.¹

whomble, whomel, var. WHEMMEL.

whomever (hu:m'evə(r)), *pron. literary*. Also *poet.* *whome'er* (-'ɛə(r)). [Orig. two words, WHOM and EVER *adv.* 8 e.] The objective case of WHOEVER; as direct obj., or obj. of prep. (Less frequent than WHOMSOEVER.) a. As compound

relative, or with correlative in principal clause (with constructions as in WHOEVER 1): Any (one) whom.

c **1330** *Arth. & Merl.* 4811 Wom euer pat he hitt, be heued to pe chinne he slitt. **c 1375** *Sc. Leg. Saints* i. (*Petrus*) 17 To bind and loussh quhowm-euer þou will. **c 1470** HENRY WALLACE VII. 825 Quhom euir he hyt to ground brymly thaim bar. **1596** DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 181 He maist cruellie murtherit quhomeuir he knew weil fauoured. **1750** CARTE *Hist. Eng.* II. 775 Fear of death made him accuse whomever they pleased of treason. **1830** PUSEY *Hist. Eng.* II. 270 Whomever these men once brand with this mark of shame, is regarded by the people as a denier of God. **1883** R. W. DIXON *Mano* II. v. 80 Will ye not to that man some pity give Whomever dark temptations do assail? **1920** MAX BEERBOHM *And Even Now* 189 To impose his will on whomever he sees comfortably settled.

† Misused for *whoever* as subject of relative clause preceded by a preposition.

c **1380** WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 347 Cursing for sacrilegie in whomever pat revep pis rente. **c 1449** PECOCC *Repr.* II. xi. 215 Y dare putte this into iugement of whom euer hath seen the pilgrimage doon.

b. Introducing a qualifying clause (cf. WHOEVER 2): No matter whom.

1762 in Tytler *Mem. H. Home* (1807) II. 7 They freely pursue the truth, ... whomever she may oppose, whomever she may countenance. **1845** *Newman's Lives Eng. Saints*, Stephen Langton v. 69 John would have been glad to have been aided by the strong arm, to whomever it might belong.

whomp (hwɒmp), *sb. colloq.* (orig. and chiefly U.S.). [Echoic.] a. A heavy, low sound. b. A heavy blow; also *fig.*

1926 *Blackw. Mag.* May 595/2 Ever think of Piccadilly in the evening, and the 'whomp' of an orchestra starting up in some theatre? **1970** J. H. GRAY *Boy from Winnipeg* 145 We got some special whumps just in case we had sneaked anything. **1977** R. L. DUNCAN *Temple Dogs* I. iii. 104 Corbett realized that he had heard a sound, a kind of muted whomp and the Colonel had been shot. **1979** *Washington Post* 4 Oct. A15/2 Liberal and conservative journals are good at least once a year for a whomp at the fat, spoiled, arrogant and pricey world they believe the average bureaucrat to live in. **1983** *Ibid.* 16 Oct. 64/4 He recruited bassist Tony Butler and drummer Mark Brzezicki. The massive and dramatic rhythmic whomp they provide reflects their studio work.

whomp (hwɒmp), *v. colloq.* (orig. and chiefly U.S.). [f. the sb.] 1. *trans.* a. To defeat decisively. b. To strike (a person) hard, to hit, thump.

1952 *Britannica Bk. of Year* 667/1 Whomp, to defeat decisively. **1973** 'D. SHANNON' *Spring of Violence* xi. 194 If you did something wrong at school you got whumped. **1979** D. ANTHONY *Long Hard Cure* ix. 79 He had a history of whumping women. **1984** *New Yorker* 1 Oct. 113/1 Tuggle keeps whumping us on the skull.

2. *trans.* With *up*. a. To produce quickly, with little preparation or planning.

1955 T. TAYLOR *Grand Inquest* ix. 241 This procedural paraphernalia was, to borrow Al Capp's apt expression, strictly 'whumped up'. **1957** *New Yorker* 23 Nov. 67/1, I remember the agreement very well. The two of you whumped it up the day after Bob got his overseas orders. **1961** J. STEINBECK *Winter of our Discontent* 190 Wives whumping up a last-ditch dinner. **1980** *Christian Sci. Monitor* 22 May B-16/3 When people ask questions about things I really don't know the answer to... the temptation is to put on my sage mantle and whomp up something.

b. To arouse or stir up (feeling, a disturbance, etc.).

1961 in WEBSTER. **1970** *Daily Colonist* (Victoria, B.C.) 5 May 1/3 Antiwar groups held rallies at dozens of colleges and universities... to whomp up student interest in a national student strike during the closing weeks of the academic year. **1975** M. AMIS *Dead Babies* xv. 74 To his hopelessness and grief, Philboyd could not act immediately; time was—when there'd have been enough tubby little rednecks like himself still living in Tara—they could have pitched right in there and whumped up a storm.

3. *intr.* To fall with a 'whomp'.

1960 *New Scientist* 14 Apr. 933/1 The Sunday edition of the *New York Times*... whumped to the floor outside my apartment door.

whomso (hu:msəʊ), *pron. arch.*, chiefly *poet.* (In early use as two words.) [Early ME. *swa hwam swa swa* (quot. a 1154 s.v. WHOM 6): see WHOM and so *adv.* 17 d.] = next.

c **1200** *Vices & Virtues* 85 Hwam swo ðin wille was te senden ðis loc to ofrien, he was 3eherd of his niede. **c 1205** LAY. 18384 He mai hwam swa he wule wurðcipe bitachen. **a 1225** *Ancr. R.* 184 Ne bet he nenne mon bute hwamso he lueð. **13..** *Cursor M.* 8379 (Gött.) Giue it to quham-so 3e will. **c 1375** *Ibid.* 4007 (Fairf.) Quam so god helpis. **1596** SPENSER *F.Q.* v. xii. 36 Her cursed tongue... Appear'd like Aspis sting, that clooies kills, Or cruelly does wound whom so she wils. **1632** LITGOW *Trav.* IV. 169 His Daughters... are giuen in marriage to any Bassa, whom so they affect. **1837** CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. v. v, They say to whomso they meet, Do; and he must do it. **a 1850** ROSSETTI *Dante & Circle* 1. (1874) 61 Whomso thou meetest, say thou this to each.

whomsoever (hu:msəʊ'evə(r)), *pron. literary*. Also *poet.* *whomsoe'er* (-'ɛə(r)). The objective case of WHOMSOEVER. (More freq. than WHOMEVER.)

1. = WHOMEVER a (with or without correlative): cf. WHOMSOEVER 1.

c **1450** *Godstow Reg.* 606 þe seyde Roger & hys wyfe & hys heyrts sholde haue power to... gyfe þe seyde ionde to whom-so-euyr þey wolden. **1523** LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cccxxv. 206/1 Whome so euer he hytte full, wente to the erthe. **1539**

Bible (Great) Gen. xxxi. 32 With whome soeuer thou fyndest thy goddes, let hym dye. **1812** BYRON *Ch. Har.* I. 1, Whomsoe'er along the path you meet Bears in his cap the badge of crimson hue. **1856** R. A. VAUGHAN *Mystics* (1860) I. vi. iii. 170 Whomsoever the electors choose they will have acknowledged rightful emperor. **1867** tr. *C'tess Hahn-Hahn's Fathers of Desert* 62 Whomsoever men serve, by him will they be guided.

2. = WHOMEVER b; cf. WHOMSOEVER 2.

a **1631** DONNE *Serm.* lxxxviii. (1649) II. 64 Whomsoever he washed first of his Apostles, he washed them all. **1667** MILTON *P.L.* IX. 1068 O Eve, in evil hour thou didst give eare To that false Worm, of whomsoever taught To counterfet Mans voice. **1790** COWPER *Let. to S. Rose* 30 Nov., The zeal and firmness of your friendship to whomsoever professed. **1832** LEWIS *Use & Ab. Pol. Terms* x. 117 A national government is when the sovereign power, by whomsoever exercised, extends over the whole country.

3. With loss of relative force: Any one at all (now *rare* or *obs.*); also qualifying the preceding word (now usually replaced by *whatever*): cf. WHOMSOEVER 3 a, b.

1584 in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* V. 87 To take parte with the Catholike Church against whomsoever. **1609** SIR E. HOBY *Let. to T. H.* 6 To answer you, or any Fugitive Romified Renegado whomsoeuer. **1641** MILTON *Reform.* I. 33 He counts it lawfull in the bookes of whomsoever to reject that which hee finds otherwise then true. **1856** HAWTHORNE *Engl. Note-bks.* (1870) II. 114 Overjoyed at seeing anybody whomsoever. **1881** SPEDDING *Even. with Rev.* I. 130 A true soldier, prepared to defend his position against whomsoever, friend or enemy.

† Used ungrammatically for WHOMSOEVER, chiefly by attraction to the case of the unexpressed antecedent (*him*, etc.).

1560 WHITEHORNE tr. *Machiavelli's Art of War* 84 Thei... punished with death, whom so euer obserued not the same order. **1621** BP. MOUNTAGU *Diatribe* 98 In him, whomsoeuer he be, that shall abet, maintaine, or broach them. **1631** HEYLIN *St. George* 170 A man that saw as cleerly, as any whomsoever. **1768** TUCKER *Li. Nat.* (1834) II. 437 The literal sense ought not to be countenanced, ... in whomsoever is susceptible of the other. **1877** RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* lxxiv. VII. 37 They shall not be impeded by whomsoever it may be.

† **'whomsome**, *pron. Obs. rare*—1. In 4 quam-sum. [See -SOME.] The objective case of WHOSOME: = prec. So † **whomso'mever**.

a **1300** *Cursor M.* 8379 Giue it to quam-sum þou will. **1502** ARNOLDE *Chron.* Miv, The childe of whom sumeuer or husumeuer, wherof they knowen not who is fader nor moder.

† **whon**¹, *interrog. and rel. pron. Obs.* Forms: 1-3 hwon, hwan, 3 whan, wan. [OE. *hwon*, used as instrumental case of *hwæt* WHAT.] In dependence on a prep. = What, which; *esp.* in *for whon* = because of what or which, why, wherefore.

c **950** *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. vi. 31 *Quo operiemur*, of huon we biðon wrigen. **c 1000** *Guthlac* 244 Bi hwon scealt ðu lifgan? **a 1122** O.E. *Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1104 He wið þone cyng geworhte, for hwan hine se cyng ealles benæmde. **c 1200** *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 191 þe ne hauen mid hwan hie hem verien. **c 1205** LAY. 2679 Maidene castel he was icleoepd, nat ich for wan it was swa idon. **a 1250** Owl & Night. 716 Wostu to hwan man was ibore? To þare blissi of heue[n]ryche. **c 1275** *Passion our Lord* 49 in O.E. *Misc.* 38 Mychel volk hym vulede, wyte ye for hwon.

† **whon**², *sb. and a. Obs.* Forms: 1 hwon, huon, 3 whon, wan, 4 qu(h)on(e, 4-6 quhoyn(e. [OE. *hwón*, the instrumental case of which, *hwéne*, is represented by *WHEEN*. After c 1200 the word is exclusively northern.] Few, a few.

Construed in OE. (i) as a sb. or an adv. with dependent genitive, (ii) as an adj. (indeclinable), in ME. as an adj. and absol., (iii) as an adv. = a little, a little while (see b, c).

c **950** *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark p. 3/18 *De septem panibus et paucis pisciculis*, of seofa hlafulm & hwon lytle físcas. **c 1000** Sax. *Leechd.* II. 32 ðenim pipor... & hwon sealt. *Ibid.*, Do huniges hwon to. **a 1300** *Cursor M.* 17285 þaa quon þat heild wit þe þair-witt. *Ibid.* 19495 O quoner þan o thre, Mai na biscop sacrid be. **13..** *Ibid.* 19782 (Gött.) He bad þa men be all vte-done, þat in þat hus left bot a quone [Cott. a fon]. **c 1375** *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxiv. (*Alexis*) 265 Certis, now are fundine quhon þat in þat manere wald haf done. **1375** BARBOUR *Bruce* xi. 49 We ar quhoynne agayne sa fele. **1513** DOUGLAS *Aeneis* x. i. 38 A few wordis on this wys Jupiter said. Bot nocht in quhoyn wordis him answer maid The fresch goldyn Venus.

b. **na whon** (= OE. *náteshwón*, *ná tó þæs hwón*), not at all.

c **1205** LAY. 13203 Nusten þa Bruttas na whon whæt Vortiger hæfde idon.

c. a **litel wan** (= OE. *lýthwón*): a little while. **c 1200** *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 69 þole me louerd alitelwan þat ich bimurne mi sor, er ich wite to þe þestere wuniene.

whon, obs. form of WHEN, var. WONE.

whon, whone, obs. forms of ONE.

1482 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 103 He sent whon of hys clarkys. **1530** TINDALE *Lev.* xv. 18 Yf a woman lye with soche a whone.

whonde, var. WOND v. *Obs.*, to hesitate.

whone, whon(n)ene, var. WHENNE *Obs.*, whence.

whoness (hu:nis). *rare*. [f. WHO *pron.* (sb.) + -NESS.] a. That which makes a person who he is. b. The state of being an isolated individual.

1922 [see WHENCENESS]. **1931** *Times Lit. Suppl.* 28 May 422/4 A crisis of spiritual rebirth in which the personal will submit only after long struggle to an ineluctable impersonal destiny... thus escaping from the anguish of 'whoness'... into the peace of 'wholeness'.

whonne, obs. pa. t. and pple. of WIN *v.*

whoo (hwu:), *v.* [Cf. next.]

† **1. trans. and intr.** To hoot. *Obs.*

1599 PORTER *Angry Wom. Abingt.* H.4, He is gone vp and downe, whoing like an Owle for thee. **1614** BRETON *I would & I would not* xx, All the Beggars in the streets would whoo me.

2. intr. To utter the sound denoted by *whoo*.

1872 DARWIN *Emotions* ix. 232 A booing or whooping noise. **1891** HARDY *Tess* ix, Pouting up that pretty red mouth to whistling shape, and whooping and whooping... and never being able to produce a note.

whoo (hwu:), *int.* Also whooh, woo. [Variant of HOO *int.*] An exclamation of surprise, grief, or other emotion; *occas.* an imitation of an owl's hoot (cf. TU-WHOO). Also repeated and in WHOO-WHOOOP.

1608 MIDDLETON *Mad World* III. ii. E.2, *Wife.* Will you but heare a word from mee? *Curtiz.* Whooh. **a1658** CLEVELAND *Content* Poems, etc. (1742) 248 The chattering Semblers of her [sc. the owl's] Woo hoo, hoo. **1683** VILLIERS (Dk. Buckhm.) *Rehearsal* v. i. (ed. 4) 49 *Smi.* I had rather be bound to Fight your Battel, I assure you, Sir. *Bayes.* Whooh! there's it now: fight a Battel? there's the common error. **1770** J. COLLIER (Tim Bobbin) *Wks.* (1862) 365 On hearing the news of his landlord's death, [Abraham] only cried out, *Whoo-who, whoo-who, whoo-*. **1787** GROSE *Prov. Gloss.*, *Whoo, whoo*, an interjection, marking great surprize. **1796** MME. D'ARBLAY *Camilla* III. v, 'Pray, can he really read?' 'Whooh!' says I, 'why he does nothing else.' **1908** WEYMAN *Wild Geese* xviii. 282 He heard... the 'Whooh! hoo! hoo!' of owls beginning to mouse beside the lake. **1915** MRS. STRATTON-PORTER *M. O'Halloran* xv, Whoohoo it's so good, Mickey!

So **whoo sb.**, an utterance of this exclamation, or a similar sound, a hoot.

1845 C. WILKES *Narr. U.S. Expl. Exped.* II. 199 At the end of each dance they finished with a loud whoo, or screech. **1851** MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunters* xviii, An owl hovered around our heads uttering its doleful woo-hoo-a. **1863** READE *Hard Cash* I. vii. 217 Down came the gale with a whoo.

whoo, obs. dial. f. *hoo*, HEO, she.

1688 SHADWELL *Sqr. Alsatia* III. i, Whoo kisses daintily; And whoo has a Breath like a Caw.

whoo: see WHO *pron.*, WHO *int.* and *sb.*, WHOA, WOE.

whoobub, whood(e, whoof, obs. ff. HUBBUB, HOOD, WOOF.

whoof (hwu:f, hwuf), *int.* (*sb.*, *v.*). Also 8 whuph.

1. Imitation of a gruff abrupt cry or noise. So **whoogh** (also as exclamation of exultation, etc.).

a1766 MRS. F. SHERIDAN *Sidney Bidulph* IV. 75 Whuph! it is past two o'clock in the morning. **1785** PENNANT *Arctic Zool.* II. 543 Its [sc. a swan's] sound is, *whoogh, whoogh*, very loud and shrill, but not disagreeable. **1815** G. BEATTIE *John o' Arnha* (1826) 58 At ilka thud and sough, They cried 'weel done!—hey!! hilloa!!! whoogh!!!' **1863** SPEKE *Discov. Nile* 60, I planted a ball in the larger one [sc. rhinoceros], and brought him round with a roar and whooh-whooh.

2. Also woof (wu:f, wuf). (Expressing) a sound like that of a sudden expulsion of air (less sibilant than 'whoosh').

1921 A. S. M. HUTCHINSON *If Winter Comes* III. ii. §3 Whoof! He blew a cyclonic blast down the speaking tube. **1921** 'K. MANSFIELD' *Scrapbk.* (1939) 182 The heavy baize door swung to with a 'woof'. **1936** WODEHOUSE *Laughing* Gas vii. 88 He came over to the arm-chair and sank into it with a luxurious whoof. **1945** *Penguin New Writing* XXIII. 10 Her great guns swing up... Then woof! with a sheet of flame that hides the ship she's hurled a packet of one-ton bricks at something out of sight. **1966** R. H. RIMMER *Harrod Experiment* (1967) 34 Woof! I'm pooped.

So as *vb.*, to utter a gruff or abrupt cry; to make a sound as of air being expelled. Also *fig.*

1863 SPEKE *Discov. Nile* 229 A large female [rhinoceros]... came straight down woof-whooping upon me. **1966** 'L. LANE' *ABC of Scouse* 117 *Whoof*, to pass wind. **1978** J. UPDIKE *Coup* (1979) vi. 248 He took up a hand mike... *whoofed* into it experimentally. **1979** *Homes & Gardens* June 126/1 'I am getting seriously worried about prices. They are going to whoof, like this.' And his arm rose at a steep angle from his desk and pointed somewhere in the direction of the stratosphere.

whoofle ('hwu:f(ə)], 'hwuf(ə)], *v.* [Echoic; cf. WHOOF *int.* (*sb.*, *v.*) and WHUFFLE *v.*] *intr.* To make a snorting, gurgling, or snuffling sound; (in quot. 1902 *trans.*, to take up with such a sound). Hence 'whooffling *vbl. sb.*

1902 H. F. DAY *Pine Tree Ballads* 225 To have him fill his saucer and go whooffing up his tea. **1934** L. A. G. STRONG *Don Juan & Wheelbarrow* 156 A whooffing and puffing behind him announced Joey. **1944** 'BRAHMS' & 'SIMON' *No Nightingales* vi. 27 Mr. Blount sighed his content and moved the ledger to one side. He moved it over the chessboard and upset all the pieces. General Burlap whooffed.

whoook't, obs. north. pa. t. of QUAKE *v.* ¹

whool, dial. var. WEEVIL; obs. f. WOOL.

whoom (hwum), *v.* [Echoic.] *intr.* To make a resonant booming or rushing sound. Hence as *sb.*

1936 L. DURRELL *Spirit of Place* (1969) 41 Wild pigeon whoomed over. **1942** D. M. CROOK *Spitfire Pilot* 90 The deep 'whoom' of a bursting bomb could be heard. **1956** C. D. SIMAK *Strangers in Universe* (1958) 21 He heard another jet whom upward from the field. **1956** B. HOLIDAY *Lady sings Blues* (1973) xi. 105 There was a whom and this big tree crashed over with a wham and a bang.

whoomph (hwum(p)f), *int.* (*sb.*) Also whoomph, etc. [Echoic.] (Expressing) a sudden, violent rushing sound, as when a quantity of flammable material bursts into flame. Cf. the synonymous WOOMPH *int.* (*sb.*, *adv.*).

1958 'W. HENRY' *Seven Men at Mimbres Springs* xv. 170 Then *whoomff!* land on it with all fours. **1962** *John o' London's* 6 Dec. 527/2 The whole place goes up in flames... *whoomph.* **1973** D. LEES *Rape of Quiet Town* vii. 122 A rending crash of metal and a whoomph of flame. **1983** J. MANN *No Man's Island* xi. 145 Check for gas leaks. Light a match and—whoomph.

whoop (hu:p, hwu:p), *sb.* Also 6 whoope, whoup. [f. WHOOP *int.*; cf. HOOP *sb.* ²]

1. a. An act of whooping; a cry of 'whoop!', or a shout or call resembling this; *spec.* as used in hunting, esp. at the death of the game, or by N. American Indians, etc. as a signal or war-cry (see also WAR-WHOOOP); *occas.* the hoot of an owl.

1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 3 All with one voyce, ... with whoopes, howes and hoobubs, would thrust them out. **1620** QUARLES *Feast for Worms* §6 When all thy laughter shall be turn'd to Dooley, ... Thy whoops of Ioy, to howles of sad lamenting. **1622** FLETCHER *Beggars' Bush* v. i, I'll use My wonted whoops, and hollows, as I were A hunting for 'em. **1672** VILLIERS (Dk. Buckhm.) *Rehearsal* v. i, Ere a Full-pot of good Ale you can swallow, He's here with a whoop, and gone with a holla. **1675** in I. Mather *K. Philip's War* (1862) 246 They signified their sense of his approach by their whoops or watchwords. **a1700** in W. King *Usef. Trans. Philos.* (1709) 44, I must acknowledge my Happiness, who in a Manuscript found the following Verses, ... Boys, Boys, come out to play, The Moon doth shine as bright as day; Come with a Whoop, come with a Call, Come with a good will or not at all. **1775** ADAIR *Amer. Ind.* 276, I put up the shrill whoop of friendship. *Ibid.* 277 Instead of sounding the usual whoop of defiance, I went on slowly. **1808** SKURRAY *Biacombe Hill* 9 O'er hedge and ditch we fly, 'Till the loud whoop proclaims the ended chase. **1831** SCOTT *Cast. Dang.* xi, Something resembling the whoop of the night-owl. **1840** DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xxv, With a joyous whoop the whole cluster took to their heels.

b. The characteristic sonorous inspiration following a fit of coughing in whooping-cough.

Also applied to similar sounds (see quot. 1899). **1873** A. FLINT *Princ. Med.* (ed. 4) 240 A long and labored inspiration then takes place, giving rise to a crowing sound evidently due to spasm of the glottis; this is the whoop which enters into the name of the affection. **1897** *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 239 When the whoop appears his power of communicating the disease begins to decline. **1899** *Ibid.* VII. 452 Occasionally the impediment is aggravated by the occurrence of associated sounds with the stutter, the patient emitting unpleasant little whoops, grunts, or whimpering sounds during his efforts to speak.

c. Slang phrases (orig. and chiefly U.S.): *a whoop and a holler* (and varr.): a short distance; *not to care a whoop* (and varr.): not to care one bit; to be indifferent.

[**1753** C. GIST *Jrnl.* 27 Dec. (1893) 85 We grew uneasy, and then he said two whoops might be heard to his cabin.] **1815** SCOTT *Let.* 19 Jan. in *Lockhart*, We are much nearer neighbours, and within a whoop and a holla. **1904** *Baltimore American* 30 Aug. 6 The voting public as a whole doesn't care a whoop about the question. **1908** J. LONDON *Let.* 27 Oct. (1966) 268, I don't care a whoop in high water whether you get married... or not. **1920** E. H. JONES *Road to En-Dor* (ed. 2) xxvii. 313, I don't believe Enver Pasha cares two whoops whether I've had syphilis or not. **1924** WODEHOUSE *Bill the Conqueror* vii. 141 'It isn't as if she cared a hang about him.' 'Doesn't she?' 'Not a whoop.' **1936** E. B. WHITE *Let.* 24 Dec. (1976) 145, I don't give a whoop about dignity. **1951** L. CRAIG *Singing Hills* 155 They lived in a cabin which Miriam said was three whoops and two hollers away. **1957** J. AGEÉ *Death in Family* II. x. 157, I wouldn't give a whoop if you got blind drunk, best thing you could do. **1974** D. SEARS *Lark in Clear Air* i. 14 A string of hounds... were only a whoop and a bellow behind father.

2. A form of the game of hide-and-seek. Also **whoop-hide**. (In first quot. *allusively.*)

1798 in *Windham Papers* (1913) II. 77 He will not now be dodging with the world and playing at whoop with all his friends. **1861** MISS YONGE *Stokesley Secr.* ii, I thought they were to have a great game at whoop-hide. **1869** *Latest News* 26 Sept. 16 He was playing at whoop... and to avoid being discovered by a companion he got upon some new coping, which gave way.

whoop (hu:p, hwu:p), *v.* Forms: 4-7 whoope, 5 whowpe, 5-6 whoupe, 6 whoup, whooppe, whup, 6-7 whoope, 6- whoop. [Parallel with WHOOP *int.*; cf. HOOP *v.* ²]

1. a. intr. To utter a cry of 'whoop!' or a loud vocal sound resembling this; to shout, holla (as in incitement, summons, exultation, defiance, intimidation, or mere excitement).

a1400 *Parlt.* 3 *Ages* 233 (Text B) And [the falconer] whopis hem [sc. the hawks] to whirry... He wharris & whotes hem & whopes full lowde. **c1450** *Merlin* xi. 168 Whan he com nygh the loges he shette a-nother bolte; and whowped to the kynge Arthur. **1530** PALSGR. 781/2, I whoope, I call, *je huppe.* *Ibid.*, Whooppe a lowde, and thou

shalte here hym blowe his horne. **1577** GRANGE *Golden Aphrod.* Gijb, With lure I play the Faukner kinde, I hallowe, and I whoupe, I shake my fiste, I whistle shrill, but nought will make hir stoupe. **1583** MELBANCKE *Philotimus* Rijb, I so sadlie syt whuppinge all the day vnder a hill. **1601** R. JOHNSON *Kindg. & Commu.* (1603) 91 They go no round, ... but... one sentinel whopeth vnto another. **?1605** DRAYTON *Poems Lyr. & Past.* Eglog iv. E.3, With that the shepheard whoop'd for ioy. **1655** CULPEPPER, etc. *Riverius* III. i. 96 Others cannot hear... except the speakers whoop and hallow in their Ears. **1775** ADAIR *Amer. Ind.* 160 To whoop... for the warriors to come and join him. **1802** WORDSW. 'The Cock is crowing' 15 The Ploughboy is whooping. **1818** SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* ix, The hunters... whooping and blowing a *mort*, or death-note. **1854** R. S. SURTEES *Handley Cr.* vii. (1901) I. 57 Then if they killed! —... How they hollaod! How they whooped! **1883** *Good Words* Aug. 544/1 They are careful to whoop out before 'letting go' with their slop-pails or dust-baskets.

b. trans. with obj. of cognate meaning (either a *sb.* or the actual words), or indef. *it*: To utter with a whoop; to express by whooping.

1576 TURBERV. *Venerie* 127 When the harte is kylled, then all the huntesmen... shall blowe a note and whoupe also a deade note. **1596** NASHE *Saffron Walden* F.2 b, I thought to haue cald in a Cooper... and bid him hoopie it about, ... but then I remembered mee the boyes had whoopt it sufficiently about the streetes. **1727** ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* III. viii. 62 The attornies and their clerks... whooping [ed. 1712 whooping] and hollowing, Long live John Bull. **1775** ADAIR *Amer. Ind.* 144 Whooping their revengeful noise. **1840** THACKERAY *Bedford-Row Conspir.* ii, Six lawyers' clerks might whoop a tipsy song... but beyond this all was silence. **1865** PARKMAN *Huguenots* iv. (1875) 44 An Indian chief... ran to meet them, whooping and clamoring welcome.

c. trans. with adv. or advb. phr.: To bring, summon, or urge by or with whooping.

a1400 [see 1]. **1582** STANYHURST *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 63 Iuno... furth from the nauye the Greek foas Dooth whoup. **1610** A. COOKE *Pope Joan* 10 A boy... who should haue whoopt him out of his bed. **1854** R. S. SURTEES *Handley Cr.* i, There he stood... with his fox grinning in grim death in one hand... whooping and halloaing... the pack up to him. **1893** CONAN DOYLE *Refugees* xxviii, The English colonists were whooping on the demons who attacked them.

d. trans. To shout at, hoot (a person).

1690 DRYDEN *Don Sebastian* II. i, I shou'd be hiss'd And whoop'd in Hell for that Ingratitude. **1902** *Essex Weekly News* 24 Jan. 2/6 When we charged down on the Boers we shouted and whooped them like redskins.

e. whoop it up (*colloq.* (orig. U.S.)): to create a disturbance; to keep up an excitement or revel; to act or work in a stirring or rousing way; also, to stir up political enthusiasm; similarly **whoop things up**.

1884 *Harper's Mag.* LXIX. 472 He whoops it up with the plain people. **1887** T. STEVENS *Around World on Bicycle* I. 11 They simply, in the language of the gold fields, 'turned themselves loose', 'made things hum', and 'whooped 'em up' around the bar-room of their village for... three days. **1888** *Century Mag.* May 156 His rival is a prominent politician, with an abundance of party workers to 'whoop it up' for him. **1891** B. HARTE *First Family Tacajara* i. 8 What did we whoop things up here last spring to elect Kennedy to the legislation [sic] for? **1935** WODEHOUSE *Luck of Bodkins* iii. 37 You didn't by any chance... whoop it up with those mysterious foreign adventuresses who haunt those parts? **1951** E. PAUL *Springtime in Paris* ii. 19, I supposed that elsewhere in France there might be as many young enthusiasts whooping it up for De Gaulle. **1954** B. HECHT *Child of Century* iv. 230 Sherwood [Anderson] would be able to whoop it up for me in a half-dozen periodicals which had come to consider his word as artistic law. **1956** 'J. WYNDHAM' *Seeds of Time* 136 Thousands of trippers whooping it up with pandemonium for most of the night. **1959** 'N. BLAKE' *Widow's Cruise* 93 Some premonition seemed to cast its shadow over the revellers, in spite of Mr. Bentinck-Jones's efforts to whoop things up. **1983** *Listener* 8 Sept. 24/2 The broadcasting moguls and their groupies whooped it up in Edinburgh and other select watering holes.

f. whoop up (*trans.*): to arouse enthusiasm for; to promote or praise with vigour; also, to give a boost to.

1885 *South Florida Sentinel* (Orlando) 5 Aug. 3/3 Whoop up Florida to those Yankees. **1893** [see STANDOFF *sb.* 3]. **1904** *Sun* (N.Y.) 8 Sept. 10 The bail was reduced to \$10,000, but was whooped up to \$15,000 when Larry was re-arrested. **1950** *Sun* (Baltimore) 6 Nov. 3/2 Spokesmen for each party whooped up interest in the outcome. **1970** *Globe & Mail* (Toronto) 26 Sept. 6/5 All human progress, even in morals, has been the work of men who have doubted the current moral values, not of men who have whooped them up and tried to enforce them. **1976** *Listener* 23 Sept. 375/1 If there was any temptation to whoop the original up into contemporary shape, he resisted it. **1983** *Listener* 14 July 19/2 It somehow won that year's Prix Italia, ... which so immensely whooped me up that I galloped down to Venice to collect.

2. intr. To hoot, as an owl. Also *trans.* as in 1 b, c, d.

1658 WILLSFORD *Natures Secr.* 134 Owls whooping after Sunset, and in the night, foreshews a fair day to ensue. **1677** TATE *Poems* 98 Madge has whoopt me twice from her Ivy-bound Oak. **1798** COLERIDGE *Anc. Mar.* vii. v, The owl whoops to the wolf below. **1821** CLARE *Vill. Minstrel* II. 33 The owl... whoop'd a 'good-night'. **1847** TENNYSON *Princess* Concl. 110 Bats wheel'd, and owls whoop'd. **1861** FANE & LYTTON *Tannhäuser* 52 Let the owl Whoop the high glories of the noon.

3. intr. To utter the 'whoop' in whooping-cough: see prec. *sb.* 1 b. Also *trans.* as in 1 c.

1887 R. N. CAREY *Uncle Max* xviii. 144 Whooping-cough, —why, he nearly whooped himself to death. **1897** *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 242 Young infants whoop seldom.

whoop (hu:p, hwu:p), *int.* Also 5 whoope, 5-6 whope, 6 whoup, whup, 6-7 whop, 7 whoope. [A

natural exclamation consisting of a voiceless *w* followed by an *o* or *u* sound, concluded by closure of the lips. The phonetic significance of some early forms is uncertain.] An exclamation, or representation of a shout or cry, expressing excitement, surprise, derision, exultation, incitement, etc.

1568 *Hist. Jacob & Esau* i. i. Aiiijb, Whoop. Nowe a mischief on all mopying foolles for mee. **1589** *Marprel. Epit.* (1843) 53 Whope papist, say the puritans, is that become scripture with you? **1596** *HARINGTON Apol.* Bb 8 b, Sir Raph Horsey, nine. Sir Hugh Portman, ten. Whop, why howe nowe Master K. Shiriffes man? Here is but ten. **1599** *CUTWODE Caltha Poet.* clxxx. E 7, The scantlin won, the winners must cry whup, The goale is got, and now the game is vp. **1603** *DEKKER & CHETTLE Grissil* iv. ii. 2128 Whoopoe whether is my brother basket-maker gone? **1622** *MASSINGER & DEKKER Virg. Mart.* ii. i, *Dor.* Whisper but to mine eare, and you shall furnish them. *Hir.* Whisper, nay, Lady, for my part Ile cry whoope. **1638** *BRATHWAIT Barnabees Jrnl.* iii. (1876) Fj, Whup (Faustulus) all draw ny thee That doe love thee. **1677** W. HUGHES *Man of Sin* iii. iii. 94 Joceline tells, that St. Patrick did. . . fast. . . a whole Lent together. . . Whoop! but St. Aidan, (as Capgrave tells us,) fasted full fifty days. **1691** *MRS. D'ANVERS Academia* 22 Whop Sir, thought I, and what ado's here? **1810** *SCOTT Lady of L.* vi. v, Yet whoop, Jack! kiss Gillian the quicker. **1820** *KEATS Cap & Bells* lxxv, She clapped her hands three times and cried out 'Whoop'. **1848** *DICKENS Dombey* lv, 'Halloa! whoop! Halloa! Hi! Away, at a gallop. **1896** H. G. WELLS *Wheels of Chance* iv, Whoop for Freedom and Adventure!

b. Coupled with another interjection or with a vocative in an allusive phrase.

c **1450** *Mankind* 600 in *Macro Plays* 22 Whoel! who! Mercy hath brokyn hys neke-kycher a-vows. *Ibid.* 713. 26 Hay, doog! hay, whoopel! whool! go yowur wey lyghtly! **1592** *NASHE Strange Newes* F 2 b, And cry kulleloo, kulleloo, with whup hoo, there goes the Ape of Tully. **1593** *HARVEY Pierce's Super.* 178 The whoop-hooe of good boyes in London streetes. **1596** *NASHE Saffron Walden* X 2 b, So would hec haue writte Harueys whoopee diddle, or the nonsuting, or vncasing of the animaduertiser. **1598** R. BERNARD tr. *Terence, Andria* iii. i, Whup, hoida; what, in all hast? **1605** *SHAKS. Lear* i. iv. 245 Whoop lugge I loue thee. **1621** B. JONSON *Masque Gypsies* Wks. (1640) 68 The ballet of Whoopee Barnibie. **1634** *HEYWOOD & BROME Lanc. Witches* iv. i. G 2, Whoope, whurre, heres a sturte. **1678** *DRYDEN Limberham* v. i, Whoop Holiday! our trusty and well-beloved Giles, most welcome! **1688** *HOLME Armoury* ii. 176/1 *Whoop, Whopoo*, is the Shepherds call or cry, to call the Sheep together.

whoop(e): see *HOOP sb.*¹, *sb.*³ Also in comb. † whoopcat, whoopwhooper [cf. *hoopoop* s.v. *HOOP(e)*] = *HOOP sb.*³ 1.

1694 *MOTTEUX Rabelais* v. ix. 41 O' my word this is a filthy Whoophooper. Tush, speak softly, said Ædituus, . . . he has a pair of Ears, . . . What then, return'd Panurge, so hath a Whoopcat.

whoop-de-do (hu:pdi'du:, hw-). *U.S. colloq.* Also whoop-de-doo, etc. [A fanciful extension of *WHOOP v.* or *WHOOPS int.*] A fuss, bustle, or commotion; a 'to-do'; *spec.* in *Motor-cycling*, a very bumpy stretch of road.

[**1805** S. CRANE *Red Badge of Courage* xvi. 160 'Whoop-a-dadee,' said a man, 'here we are! Everybody fightin'.'] **1929** W. FAULKNER *Sound & Fury* 321 But I cant have all this whoop-de-do and sulking at mealtimes. **1949** S. LEWIS *God Seeker* vi. 34 But what's the use of a loud-mouthed evangelical like your Reverend Chippier, . . . with his. . . general circus whoop-tee-do? **1962** J. STEINBECK *Trav. with Charlie* 186 This is not patriotic whoop-de-do; it is a carefully observed fact. **1976** B. KAYSING *Fell's Beginner's Guide to Motorcycling* 256 *Whoop-de-doo*, a road that goes up and down like a roller coaster track. **1980** *Dirt Bike* Oct. 15/1 Very soon we were all lying beside the road, for even though the road looked good at first, it was plagued with whoopidedoes, and we came into them a little hot. **1981** *Verbatim* Spring 24/1 There was many an angry powwow and much whoop-de-do, but in the end, of course, the bigwigs won. **1985** *Dirt Bike* Mar. 27/1 Through whoopedoes it takes a full stroke without bottoming harshly and keeps giving you maximum ground contact.

whoopee (see below), *int.* and *sb.* [f. *WHOOP int.* + -EE².] **A. int.** (hw-, wu'pi:) An exclamation of exuberant joy. Cf. *HOOP-EE int.*

1862 *Harper's Mag.* July 282/1 He yelled at the top of his voice, 'Whoopee! Whiskey only twenty-five cents a gallon!' **1890** *KIPLING Barrack-Room Ballads* (1892) 32 Whoopeel Tear 'im, puppy! **1895** *Outing* XXVI. 428/2 John's 'whoopee' had caused a little ebull. . . to set open the gates. **1932** B. C. PLOWRIGHT *For Groupers Only* iii. 23 Whoopee! this is great news! **1974** *Listener* 19 Sept. 355/3 You take your second MB. . . and once you've passed this—whoopee! You're virtually guaranteed to qualify.

B. sb. (hw-, 'wupi; hw-, 'wu:pi:) Exuberant or boisterous merry-making; revelry; †a lively or rowdy party; phr. *to make whoopee*, to indulge in such behaviour; (in quot. **1928**, to behave amorously). Cf. *WHOOP-UP. colloq.*

1928 G. KAHN *Makin' Whoopee* (song), Another bride, another June, Another sunny honeymoon, Another season, another reason for making whoopee! **1929** *Punch* 24 July 86/2 A London hostess, writing to a gossip page, said—'I am giving a Whoopee. Do come to it.' **1930** *Sat. Even. Post* 13 Dec. 25/1 Novelists portray him as the gin-drinking patron saint of whoopee. **1930** E. WAUGH *Vile Bodies* iv. 51 Noel and Audrey are having a little whoopee on Saturday evening. **1933** *DYLAN THOMAS Poems* (1971) 84 Even heaven has a smell Of putrefying angels who Make deadlly whoopee in the blue. **1938** F. D. SHARPE *Sharpe of Flying Squad* ii. 27 Boys and girls at the end of an evening's 'whoopee', would come out of a night club and take the first car they saw for a joy-ride. **1945** M. SOAMES *Let.* 24 July in

Clementine Churchill (1979) xxiv. 385 The evening broke up about midnight, in a general atmosphere of whoopee and goodwill. **1949** F. SWINNERTON *Doctor's Wife comes to Stay* 109 'I thought you and Mother would make whoopee here —' 'Whoopeel' muttered the Doctor. 'Disgusting word for a disgusting occupation!' 'Oh, just noisy hopelessness,' explained Rex. 'Despair set to rhythm.' **1972** D. FRANCIS *Smokescreen* ii. 26 We had left the bright lights, the adulation, and the whoopee, and gone to live in the country. **1976** *Times Lit. Suppl.* 13 Aug. 1009/5 Frustrated laughers, dancers and makers of whoopee. **1984** Q. CRISP *Manners from Heaven* vii. 74 'It often happens that when we think we're making whoopee we're only making a whoops! instead,' I replied.

2. Comb.: whoopee cushion, a cushion which when sat upon emits a sound like that of the breaking of wind.

1960 *Spectator* 3 June 804 The comically battered face of a whoopee cushion. **1975** P. THEROUX *Great Railway Bazaar* viii. 98 These people. . . were as hard to silence as whoopee cushions. **1977** *Sunday Times* (Colour Suppl.) 6 June 42/3 Andrew. . . has. . . a taste for practical jokes. . . slipping whoopee-cushions where his father or mother was likely to sit.

whooper ('hu:pə(r), 'hw-). Also 7 whopper. [f. *WHOOP v.* + -ER¹.] A person or animal that whoops. **a. gen.** (See also *HOOPER*² 1.) Also *whooper-up*.

1826 *SOUTHEY Let. to N. White* 11 Feb., Two of my whoopers still favour us with a little kennel-music. **1904** *N. Y. Times* 4 July 1 The only candidate who has back of him a boom which is not characterized by 'whooper-up' methods. **1908** *Academy* 27 June 926/2 The whoopers and the screamers and the female stump-orators. **1909** J. R. WARE *Passing Eng.* 266/1 *Whooperups* . . . inferior, noisy singers. **1932** H. CRANE *Let.* 12 Apr. (1965) 408 They're generally preferable to all the trained and professional strummers and whoopers-up I've ever heard.

b. spec. The wild or whistling swan, *Cygnus musicus* (ferus): also *whooper swan*. (See also *HOOPER*² 2.) Also, = *whooping crane* s.v. *WHOOPING ppl. a.*

1660 *MAY Accompl. Cook* (1665) 2:7 Turkey, Swan, Goose, Bustard, Crane, Whooper, wilde Geese, Brand-Geese, . . . and many more. **1838** C. H. MATSCHAT *Suwannee River* 286 It is the favorite haunt of the gray whoopers. **1860** *Southern Cultivator* XVIII. 324 Here [in Florida] is found every grade, kind, size, and color. . . from the beautiful little morning Dove. . . to the tall Whooper, of 5 or 6 feet high. **1880** *BARING-GOULD Mehalah* i, Occasionally the whooper swan sounds his loud trumpet. **1889** *Blackw. Mag.* Dec. 828 The whooper is the largest of our wild swans. **1902** H. W. TOMPKINS *Highways Hertfordsh.* v. 104 A pair of whooper swans frequented Water End near Great Gaddesden. **1979** *Time* 2 Apr. 23/3 Whatever he felt about the whooper, Carter appreciated the award, which recognized his support for environmental protection and recreation.

whooping ('hu:pm, 'hw-), *vbl. sb.* [f. *WHOOP v.* + -ING¹.] The action of the verb *WHOOP*. (Cf. *HOOPING vbl. sb.*²)

? **1605** *DRAYTON Poems Lyr. & Past., Man in Moone* I 1, With guilty conscience. . . That oft they start at whooping of an owle. **1657** G. THORNLEY *Daphnis & Chloe* 139 The clattering of the Oars, the whooping of the Sea-men. **1842** *TENNYSON St. Sim. Styl.* 32 The whoopings of the owl. **1854** *DICKENS Hard T.* ii. i, The whooping of boys, the barking of dogs.

'whooping, ppl. a. [f. as prec. + -ING².] **a.** That whoops; esp. in *whooping crane*, the large white crane of N. America, *Grus americana*; *whooping swan* = *WHOOPER b.* **b.** Of a sound or cry: Of the nature of a whoop. (Cf. *HOOPING ppl. a.*²)

1757 *Phil. Trans.* LI. 78 An hideous whooping noise, like that of a child in a chin-cough. **1775** *ADAIR Amer. Ind.* 293 Suspicion, that he was sent to shoot me. . . as soon as he heard the whooping death-signal. **1791** W. BARTRAM *Carolina* 433 The great and beautiful whooping crane. **1731, 1837** *Whooping crane* [see *HOOPING ppl. a.*²]. **1839** *LONGF. Wreck of Hesperus* xvii, A whooping billow swept the crew Like icicles from her deck. **1852** *MACGILLIVRAY Brit. Birds* IV. 659 *Cygnus musicus*. The Whooping Swan. **1879** N. H. BISHOP *Four Months in Sneak-Box* 108 Whooping-cranes. . . in little flocks, dotted the grassy prairies. **1895** *JAS. PRIOR Renie* xix, A band of whistling, whooping lads playing at stinky. **1938** M. K. RAWLINGS *Yearling* x. 94 He pointed. 'The whoopin' cranes is dancin'.' **1976** *Daily Colonist* (Victoria, B.C.) 7 May 10/6 A scraggly-looking whooping crane chick, hatched this week at the government wildlife centre here.

c. fig. Unusually large; whopping; also, very noisy, wild, uproarious. Also as quasi-adv., hugely, immensely. *slang* (chiefly *U.S.*).

1866 'MARK TWAIN' *Let.* 30 July (1917) I. v. 115 The first few days we came at a whooping gait. **1906** E. DYSON *Fact'ry 'Ands* vii. 88 Odgson. . . was then lyin' in ther City cells, whoopin' delirious. **1939** G. ADE *Let.* 7 June (1973) 211 Let's make each one of these parties a whooping success. **1969** *FABIAN & BYRNE Groupie* (1970) xiii. 94 They unstrap me and shoot two whooping great penicillin injections into my backside.

whooping-cough, hooping-cough ('hu:pm kɒf, -ɔ:-). A contagious disease chiefly affecting children, and characterized by short, violent, and convulsive coughs, followed by a long sonorous inspiration called the hoop (whoop); the chincough.

a. **1739** *MRS. E. MONTAGU Corr.* (1906) I. 37 One little boy had whooping cough. **1755** *JOHNSON, Hooping-cough*, . . . (or whooping cough, from *whoop*, to shout). **1873** *SPENCER Study Sociol.* iii. 55 Will it. . . be carried off by scarlet fever or whooping-cough? **1937** [see *immunotherapy* s.v. *IMMUNO*]-

β. **1747** *WESLEY Prim. Physic* (1762) 43 Chin-Cough or Hooping-Cough. **1758** *MRS. DELANY in Life & Corr.* 475 The Duchess of Portland's receipt for a hooping, or any nervous cough. **1802** *Med. Jrnl.* VIII. 426 Treatment to be adopted in the latter stages of the Hooping Cough. **1877** *ROBERTS Handbk. Med.* (ed. 3) I. 179 Hooping-Cough is generally regarded as an infectious disease, depending upon a specific poison.

whoops (hwu:ps, hwups), *int.* [Var. of *oops*.] An exclamation of dismay or surprise, usu. upon stumbling, or realizing an obvious mistake. Also *'whoopsie(-daisy) int.* = *UPSIDAISSY*.

1925 *New Yorker* 26 Sept. 8/2 (caption) Whoopsie Daisy! **1937** E. POUND *Let.* Jan. (1971) 287 Whoops! And do I envy you. I do. **1957** J. KEROUAC *On Road* (1958) II. viii. 159 Whoops, I thought I was on the wrong side of the road. **1969** C. ARMSTRONG *Seven Seats to Moon* xiii. 126 The woman said, 'Whoopsie', and her strong hand came under his armpit. **1973** G. TALBOT *Ten Seconds from Now* xii. 161, I was appalled at the tape playback to hear that I had punctuated my commentary by a 'whoops!' every minute or so. **1980** G. M. FRASER *Mr American* xviii. 328 'Whoops!' said Pip. . . 'Claridge's, eh? That's what I like to hear!'

whoopubb. obs. form of *HUBBUB*.

whoop-up ('hu:pʌp, hw-). Chiefly *N. Amer.* [f. *vbl. phr. to whoop it up*: see *WHOOP v.* 1 e.] An instance of 'whooping it up'; a noisy celebration or party; revelry.

1913 I. COWIE *Company of Adventurers* 319 As soon as the general 'whoop-up' began, all the traders. . . packed up their outfits snugly and retired. **1927** *Daily Express* 5 Oct. 3/3 The Ward Room is—apart from the 'whoops up' natural to lonely men—noted for its air of sober responsibility. **1953** D. CUSHMAN *Stay away, Joe* 22 Ain't you going to have no dance, no rodeo, whoop-up? **1968** E. S. RUSSENHOLT *Heart of Continent* III. ix. 153 For 'whoop-up juice' they [*sc.* whisky traders] reclaim the rifles Indian hunters have just bought with a year's hunting. **1976** D. HEFFRON *Crusty Crossed* xiv. 101, I thought it quite. . . sensible of Big Point to have one great annual public whoop-up in which to give a little exercise to the witch and devil of one's soul.

whoor(e, whoorish): see *WHORE, WHORR, WHORISH*.

whooribat, var. *WHIRLBAT Obs.*

whoos, obs. f. *WHOSE*.

whoosh (hwu:f, hwuf), *v.* Also *woosh*. [Imitative; the vowel expressing a duller sound than that of *WHISH*.] **1. intr.** To utter or emit a dull soft sibilant sound, like that of something rushing through the air; to move rapidly with a rushing sound.

1856 *DICKENS Let. to Wilkie Collins* 13 July, The boys. . . whooshing and crying (after tigrish cat No. 2): 'French!' 'Here she comes!' **1909** H. G. WELLS *Tono-Bungay* II. ii. 163 Make it all slick, and then make it woosh. **1917** *Blackw. Mag.* July 47/2 Huge projectiles whooshed noisily through the air. **1922** D. H. LAWRENCE *Aaron's Rod* xxi. 306 You want to whoosh off in a nice little love-whoosh and lose yourself. **1966** I. JEFFERIES *House-Surgeon* viii. 156 The blood was wooshing in and Bernard nodded.

2. trans. To cause to move rapidly with a rushing sound. Also *fig.* Const. *up*, to enliven.

1909 H. G. WELLS *Tono-Bungay* II. ii. 162 A Real Live Thing! Wooshing it up! Making it buzz and spin! **1920** D. H. LAWRENCE *Touch & Go* 7 A system of vacuum tubes for whooshing Bradburys about from one to the other. **1956** W. SANSOM *Loving Eye* 102 Cars wooshed water-spray on the wet macadam. **1968** B. HINES *Kestrel for Knave* 27 He whooshed the curtains open and switched the light off. **1971** *Sunday Express* (Johannesburg) 28 Mar. (Home Jrnl.) 2/2 (Adv.), Removable Fibre-fill paddles whoosh you into high young curves, naturally. **1982** *Nature* 13 May 91/1 Chretien will be the first Western astronaut to be whooshed into space by a Soviet rocket.

So *whoosh sb.*, a sound of this nature (also reduplicated); also, an exclamation 'whoosh!'; a movement accompanied by a rushing sound; a gushing or 'whooshing' style.

1880 'MARK TWAIN' *Tramp Abroad* xx. 194 He fetched a prodigious 'Whoosh!' to relieve his lungs. **1906** 'Q' *Mayor of Troy* vii, With a whoo-sh a rocket leapt into the air. **1915** — *Nicky-Nan* ix, Whenever her brush intromitted its harsh whoosh-whoosh. **1909** H. G. WELLS *Tono-Bungay* III. iv. 391 Once or twice before you've stepped in—with that sort of Woosh of yours. **1934** — *Exper. in Autobiogr.* 1. i. 37 Just because of that constitutional apathy it will be characteristically free from individual Woosh. **1962** 'R. GORDON' *Doctor in Swim* i. 9 We eat for a moment listening to the woosh of the jets. **1976** *Globe & Mail* (Toronto) 8 Nov. 16/6 When I develop a mental picture of the person I'm affecting, my objectivity goes out the window in a woosh of sympathy. **1984** *Listener* 14 June 32/3 We may be used to the idea of pressing buttons on commercial synthesisers and summoning whooshes of space-age sound.

whoosh, int. Also *woosh*. [f. the *vb.*] An exclamation evocative of or accompanying a sudden explosive rushing sound or movement.

1899 S. R. CROCKETT *Kit Kennedy* xxxvii. 261 The cravin' wad juist bank up like a water ahint a dam—and then—'whoosh, awa' she gaed. **1909** H. G. WELLS *Tono-Bungay* II. ii. 162 That's you, steady and long and piling-up,—then, wo-oo-oo-oo-osh. **1927** *Blackw. Mag.* Apr. 488/1 John said, 'Woosh! some armful. Look out for the eggs.' **1936** 'R. HYDE' *Check to your King* 69 The Princess. . . shouts 'Whoosh!' **1949** *DYLAN THOMAS Let.* 13 Oct. (1966) 328 Bills and demand notes, at me like badgers, whoosh! **1965** *Family Circle* Oct. 13/1 Plain lonesome? Whoosh, it's a friend. **1977** *Sounds* 9 July 19/2 Onstage we just go like, woosh!

whoosher, obs. var. *husher*: see after HUSH *v.*¹

whoosht, obs. var. HUSHT: see WHOSHT.

whoosy, whoozy, varr. WOOSY *a.*

† **whoot**. Also 5 *whwte*, 6 *whought*. Obs. variant of HOOT *sb.* and *v.*

c1425 *Cast. Persev.* 1939 in *Macro Plays* 135, I here an hydowse whwtynge on hyt [cf. howte *l.* 1927]. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 97 He..hearde all the whole citee whoughtyng and shoughtyng..with ioye and solace. a1610-1750 [see HOOT *sb.* and *v.*].

whoot(e), obs. forms of HOT *a.*

whoo-whoop, who-whoop (hu:'hurp), *int.* and *sb.* Also 7 *whoo-whup*, 8-9 *whooup*, 9 *who-ooop*, *who(o)-hoop*. The shout of huntsmen at the death of the game; hence allusively in phr. *to be whoo-whoop with*, to be 'all up with'. Hence *whoo-whoop v.* (in quot. *trans.* to kill with a shout of 'who-whoop!').

1611 COTGR., *Forhu*, a whoo-whup; or, the call..or whooping of huntsmen at the death of their chace. 1677 N. Cox *Gentil. Recr.* 1. (ed. 2) 81 If a Buck a double, if a Stag a treble Mort blown by one, and then a whole Recheat in Consort by all that have Horns; and that finished, immediately a general Whoo whoop. c1746 J. COLLIER (Tim Bobbin) *View Lanc. Dial. Wks.* (1862) p. xxxv, Yoan be hong'd or some Mischief on then aw'll be whooup with o' feath! 1798 *Sporting Mag.* XI. 3 At the very moment of 'Who! Whoop!' a view halloo was given by a third. 1812 *Ibid.* XXXIX. 56 They who-oooped him [sc. a fox] without a hound missing. 1825 *Ibid.* (N.S.) XV. 257 It will sooner or later be whoo-hoop with us all. 1886 *Fores's Sporting Notes* III. 155 A loud, clear 'Who-whoop!' from Jack, who has, as it were, dropped from the skies just in time to take the cub from the hounds.

whop (hwop), *sb. colloq. or vulgar.* Also 5 *whapp*, 9 *whap*, *wop*. [f. next. Cf. WAP *sb.*¹] An act of whopping; a heavy blow or impact; a bump.

c1440 *York Myst.* xxxiii. 199 For a whapp so he whyned and whesid And gitt no lasshe to pe lurdan was lente.

a1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Whop, Whap*, a heavy blow. 1895 KIPLING in *Youth's Compan.* 19 Sept. 442/4 Then he ..drew up with a doleful *wop! wop! wop!* by the side of the great forty-five-ton, six-wheel coupled, .. Number Twenty-five. 1899 W. S. CHURCHILL *River War* I. xiii. 423 The *wop!* of the distant explosion came back, like the echo of the report. 1905 H. G. WELLS *Kipps* I. iv. §1 'I was coming downhill,' ..explained the bicyclist, .. 'I came rather a whop.'

whop (hwop), *v. (adv.)* Forms: 5 *whappe*, 6, 9 *whap*, 8- *whop*, (9 *wap*, *wop*). [Variant of WAP *v.*¹: see WH.]

1. *trans.* To cast, pull out, etc. violently; to take or put suddenly. *dial.*

c1400 *Destr. Troy* 4743 The grekes .. With alblasteris also amyt full streight, Whappet in wharles, whellit the pepull. 14.. *Sir Beues* (N.) 1899 [Beues is swerd anon] out whappid. 1721 RAMSAY *Ode to the Ph-* 55 Frae her fair Finger whop a Ring. 1725 — *Gentle Sheph.* III. ii, He.. whops out a Book. 1829 BROCKETT *N.C. Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Whopt, Whupt*, put, placed—embracing the idea of whipped. 'He whopt his foot on't'. 1904 *Westm. Gaz.* 19 Nov. 5/2 He just whopped up the papers out of my han' an' away wi' him.

† *b. intr.* To beat, throb; = QUAP *v.* *Obs.*

c1440 *Partonope* 6446 (Univ. Coll. MS.) His hert so sore ganne whappe tho.

2. *trans.* To strike with heavy blows; to beat soundly, flog, thrash, belabour (a person or animal; rarely, an inanimate object). *colloq. or vulgar.*

1575 *Depos. Durham* (Surtees) 292 The said James contynewed in his raidge, bragging and swerynge, and said that he wold 'whapp his coott.' a1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Whop, Whap*, to beat severely. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxxv, 'Ain't nobody to be whopped for takin' this here liberty, sir?' said Mr. Weller. 1842 *LOVER Handy Andy* xviii, Half a dozen strapping fellows carrying .. tea-trays which they whopped after the manner of a Chinese gong. 1848 THACKERAY *Bk. Snobs* xxvii, 'If you'll come across, .. and take your coat off, I'll give you such a wapping as you've never had since the last time I did it' .. 'Wap one of your own weight,' Mr. Snapper said. 1869 W. S. GILBERT '*Bab*' Ball., *Prince Agib* xv, I was fastened to the floor, While a mercenary wopped me with a will! 1890 HENTY *With Lee in Virg.* xviii, Mother would whop me if I came back without the basket.

b. fig. To overcome, vanquish, defeat utterly (with literal blows, or in a contest of any kind); hence, to surpass or excel greatly: = BEAT *v.*¹ 10. *colloq. or vulgar.*

1836 [HOOTON] *Bilberry Thurland* I. 342 He comed to be a reg'lar cock o' th' walk, for he whopped all th' cocks they could bring to him. 1851 KINGSLEY *Yeast* ix, Fourteen men .. as'll play the whole vale to cricket, and whap them. 1865 J. HATTON *Bitter Sweets* iii, Nelson, as was a British General and wopped the French.

3. The vb.-stem used as *adv.*: With a 'whop'; with a sudden movement or impact; 'bump', 'flop'. Also as *int.*

1812 W. TENNANT *Anster F.* iv. xxix, Whap! there sinks another! 1870 E. PEACOCK *Ralf Skirl.* xviii, In less time than you can think, wop comes a big black thing down .. as big as the stone of a cheese-press. 1905 H. G. WELLS *Kipps* I. vi. §6 He sat on the edge of the bed in profound meditation, and his boots fell 'whop' and 'whop' upon the floor, with a long interval between each 'whop'.

whop(e), obs. ff. HOOP *sb.*¹ and *v.*¹, WHOOP.

whopper ('hwɒpə(r)). *colloq. or vulgar.* Also w(h)apper, wopper. [f. WHOP *v.* + -ER¹.]

1. Something uncommonly large of its kind; a very big thing, animal, or person. (Cf. THUMPER 3, WHACKER 2.)

1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T.*, Whapper, a large man or woman. 1787 — *Prov. Gloss.*, Whapper, any thing large, a thumper. 1834 MARRYAT *Peter Simple* xxxv, We had to pass some whoppers, .. but nothing would suit Nelson but this four-decked ship. 1854 R. S. SURTEES *Handley Cr.* xv, We killed the fox—my eyes, such a wopper!

b. spec. A great lie, a monstrous falsehood.

1791 NAIRNE *Poems* 93 Some do affirm—sure 'tis a Whapper! Thou'rt silver plated upon copper. 1870 'A. R. HOPE' *My Schoolboy Fr.* xiv, He thinks it's .. better to get a licking than to tell a whopper.

2. One who whops. (In mod. Dicts.)

whopper-jawed, *erron.* spelling of *wapper-jawed* adj. (see WAPPER *a.*).

1860 T. PARKER in *Life & Corr.* (1863) II. 428 This sheet is ruled as whopper-jawed as some women cut their bread.

whopping ('hwɒpɪŋ), *vbl. sb. colloq. or vulgar.* [f. WHOP *v.* + -ING¹.] The action of the verb WHOP; a severe beating or flogging; hence, an overwhelming defeat. Also *attrib.*

1812 *Sporting Mag.* XXXIX. 139 An athletic Nottinghamshire man, who..gave very unfavourable specimens of wapping talent. 1818 *Ibid.* (N.S.) II. 189 He wanted a good wapping and he had got it. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* xlii, I should like to .. have the whopping of 'em. 1885 MRS. C. PRAED *Head Stat.* xvii, Blue-eyed fair-haired little girls who never fell into tantrums or wanted whopping.

'whopping, ppl. a. colloq. or vulgar. [f. as prec. + -ING².] That whops; almost always *fig.* that is a 'whopper'; abnormally large or great; 'whacking', 'thumping'.

Rarely *spec.* (a) monstrously false; (b) of surpassing excellence, uncommonly good, first-rate. Also quasi-*adv.* = hugely, immensely.

a1625 R. G. in *Stanley Papers* 1. (Chetham Soc.) 50 Our Chroniclers .. stowed their volumes with wapping Tales of my Lord Maiors Horse. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World* Diss. (1708) 98 See him in bad Weather, in his Fur-Cap and whapping large Watch-Coat. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxiii, A wapping weaver he was, and wrought my first pair o' hose. 1836 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* Ser. 1. xvii. (1839) 61 What a wappin large place that would make. 1851 *Amer. Mag.* Nov. 113 A couple of 'whopping' pumpkin stories. 1869 *Punch* 31 July 34/1 That's a wopping majority against us. 1881 FREEMAN in *Stephens Life & Lett.* (1895) II. 224 The Turk comes down with a whopping bit of oppression now and then, but leaves you alone between whiles.

whopstraw ('hwɒpstɹɔː). *dial.* [f. WHOP *v.* (*dial.* 'to make up straw into bundles' E.D.D.) + STRAW *sb.*] A country bumpkin.

1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstrel* lxvii, The bumptious serjeant struts before his men, And 'clear the road, young whopstraws!' will he say. 1850 'H. HIEOVER' *Pract. Horsem.* iii. 42 'Here cooms a flyer' .. cries some whapstraw.

whor, obs. form of WHERE.

whorage ('hɔərɪdʒ). *dial.* [f. WHORE *sb.* + -AGE.] A company of whores or low women.

1891 HARDY *Tess* x, If I had known you was of that sort, I wouldn't have so let myself down as to come with such a whorage as this is!

whorcop: see WHORECOP.

whord, obs. form of HOARD.

whore (hɔə(r)), *sb.* Forms: 1-6 *hore*, 2-3 *heore*, 4-6 *hoore*, *houre*, 5-6 *hour*, 6 *howr(e)*, *howir*, *hoare*, 6-7 *whoor(e)*, *whoar*, 6- *whore*; *Sc.* 4-6 *huir*, 4-7 (9 *arch.*) *hure*, (6 *hwr*, *huire*); in comb. 2-7 *hor-*, 5 *hoer-*, 6 *hoor-*, *whure-*, *wor-*, 6-7 *whor-*; *Sc.* 5-7 *hur-*, 6 *huyr-*, *hwyr-*. [Late OE. *hóre*, corresp. to (M)LG. *hóre*, MDu. *hoere* (Du. *hoer*), OHG. *huora* (MHG. *huere*, G. *hure*), ON. *hóra*:—OTeut. **hōrōn-*, f. root represented also by ON. *hórr*, Goth. *hōrs* adulterer, OFris. *hōr* (also *overhōr*, *urhōr*), OHG. *huor*, ON. *hór* adultery, MLG. *horre*, MDu. *huerre*, OHG. *huorra* adulterer (:-**hōrjon-*), and OFris. (*over*)-*hóra* to fornicate, MDu. *hoeren*, OHG. *huorōn* (G. *huren*), ON. *hóra*, Goth. *hōrinōn*; Indo-Eur. *gār-* appears in L. *cārus* dear, OIr. *cara* friend, *caraim* I love, Lettish *kārs* lascivious.

From the late occurrence of OE. *hóre*, it may be inferred that it was a. ON. *hóra*, together with *hór* adultery, *hórcwene* (ON. *hórkona*) adulteress, *hórdóm* WHOREDOM, *hóring* whore-monger being in that case an English formation from it with -ING³.

The pronunciation (huə(r)), now dialectal, is the normal phonetic representative of OE. *hóre*; it was widespread in the 17th and 18th centuries, and continued into the 19th century; Smart states that it 'is by no means universal or even common, yet it is sanctioned by good authority, and may be adopted, as Walker says,

when we wish to soften the coarse effect of a coarse word'. The variation of (huə(r)) and (hɔə(r)) is due to the presence of *r*; cf. *moor* (muə(r), mɔə(r)) and the modern tendency to substitute (ɔə) for (uə) in *pure*, *sure*, and the like.

For the spelling with *wh*, which became current in the 16th century, see WH.

Whore is now confined to coarse and abusive speech, except in occas. echoes of historical expressions, as *the whore of Babylon*. The compounds are for the most part obs. or arch.]

1. *a.* A woman who prostitutes herself for hire; a prostitute, harlot.

a1100 *Aldhelm Gloss* 1. 2940 (Napier 79/2) *Prostituta pellax*, i. *meretrix quæ prostat*, i. *mendax*, leas fyrrhigce, hore. *Ibid.* 3329. 89/1 *Meretricum*, horena. c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 103 He..maced of cristes leoman heoranna leoman. [Cf. 1 Cor. vi. 15 *Tollens Christi membra, faciam membra meretricis?*] c1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 29 3ef pu..best rumanhed to glewmen and to hores. a1300 *Cursor M.* 26855 Hore or okerer, or logolour, Bot pai pair mister wille forsak, For fals penantes men sal þam tak. c1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 310 Whanne tweyne horis stryvede whos was þe child þat lyvede. 1382 — *Luke* xv. 30 This thi sone, which deuouride his substaunce with hooris. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 192/2 An Hure, vbi a common woman. 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* II. vii. (1867) 71 Hop hoore, pipe theefe. 1595 in *Mail. Club Misc.* I. 73 Ane ressavear of huiris and harlotts in her hous. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV.* III. ii. 338 (Qo.) The whores cald him mandrake. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* II. 68 Let men take heed of Lais, Corinths whoore. 1728 *YOUNG Love Fame* 1. 67 The whore is proud her beauties are the dread Of peevish virtue, and the marriage-bed. 1894 KIPLING *Seven Seas, The 'Mary Gloster'* 76 Your rooms at college was beastly—more like a whore's than a man's.

b. More generally: An unchaste or lewd woman; a fornicatress or adulteress. *to play the whore* (of a woman), to commit fornication or adultery.

In early use often as a coarse term of abuse. Occas. (esp. with possessive) applied opprobriously to a concubine or kept mistress; also with distinguishing epithet to a catamite.

c1205 LAY. 7028 Nes nan swa god wif i pon londe þe he walde .. þet he ne makede hore. c1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 4082 He sluz Zabri..Hise hore bi-neþe and him abuen. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5661 A fol womman in spousbruche he huld vnder is wif. Sein dunston him sede wel þat it was a luper lif. .. Wroþ was þe king & is hore þat he hor folie wipsede.

c1440 *Gesta Rom.* i. 2, I knowe well þat my wif is an hore. 1535 in *Lett. Suppr. Monast.* (Camden) 58 The pope .. gave hym licens to kepe an hore. 1535 COVERDALE *Ezek.* xvi. 28 Thou hast played the whore also with the Assirians. 1547 *Burgh Rec. Stirling* (1887) I. 48 Marioun Ray americiat for trubling of Agnes Hendersoun, calland hir huir and theiff. 1561 *Child-Marriages* 78 Beynge demaundid why she did, .. contrary to the Lawe of wedlocke, play the hoore. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* I. iv. 137 Leauē thy drinke and thy whore. 1606 — *Tr. & Cr.* v. i. 20 *Ther.* .. Thou art thought to be Achilles male Varlot. *Patro.* .. What's that? *Ther.* Why his masculine Whore. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais v. Pantagr. Prognost.* 237 Ingles, Fricatrices, He-whores. 1727 GAY *Begg. Op.* I. iv, Gamesters and Highwaymen are generally very good to their Whores, but they are very Devils to their Wives. 1749 CHESTERF. *Let. to Son* 7 Feb., Achilles .. had so little regard for his country, that he would not act in defence of it, because he had quarrelled with Agamemnon about a w—e. 1817 SELWYN *Law Nisi Prius* (ed. 4) II. 1160 Calling a married woman or a single one a whore is not actionable, because fornication and adultery are subjects of spiritual not temporal censures. [Referring to a case, an. 1703, in Raymond's *Rep.* (1743) 1004.]

transf. 1575 *Gammer Gurton* I. iii, Gyb, our cat, in the milke-pan she spied .. 'Ah, hore! out, thefe!' she cryed aloud. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 745 'Their Epithites .. attributed vnto them [sc. wolves] among seuerall Authors are .. demonstrations of their disposition; as sowre, wilde, .. fierce, bold, greedy, whoare, flesh-eater.

c. A male prostitute; any promiscuous or unprincipled person. (Esp. as a term of abuse.)

1633 [see WORM *sb.* 10b]. 1906 J. JOYCE *Let.* 19 Aug. (1966) II. 152 He began to shout .. when the lazy whores of priests began to chant. 1957 P. KEMP *Mine were of Trouble* vi. 108 Lyall would interrupt with .. 'But surely you can't expect the Irish to be any use in Spain? There aren't any hedges here for them to shoot from behind.' .. Lawler would storm out, shouting: 'Ye great buckin' whore!' 1968 E. GAINES in A. Chapman *New Black Voices* (1972) 103 'You hear me whore?' 'I might be a whore, but I'm not a merciless killer,' he said. 1976 *New Yorker* 12 Jan. 73/2 Gig Young can play the top whore in 'The Killer Elite' because his sad eyes suggest that he has no expectations and no illusions left about anything.

2. *fig.; spec.* in biblical use, applied to a corrupt or idolatrous community (cf. WHOREDOM 2), and hence in controversial use, esp. in phr. *the whore of Babylon*, to the Church of Rome (in allusion to Rev. xvii. 1, 5, etc.).

1382 WYCLIF *Nahum* iii. 4 The hoore fair and able [1611 wel-faoured harlot] .. whiche solde folkis in her fornyaciouns. — *Rev.* xvii. 1 The dampnacioun of the greet hoore [1611 Whore; R.V. 1881 harlot] .. with whiche kynges of erthe diden fornyacioun. 1530 TINDALE *Pract. Prelates* F v b, The grete baude the hore of babylon [sc. the Pope]. c1540 *Pilgr. T.* 342 in *Thynne's Animadv.* (1875) 86 Of antichristes fall I will .. sum-thing tell; & of this howr, this leyder to hell. ? 1545 BRINKLOW *Compl.* xiii. (1874) 30 That abhominable whore of Babylon (Rome I meane). 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* IV. 139, I may say of Constantinople ..; A painted Whoore. c1640 in Maidment *Sc. Pasquils* (1868) 132 So you to Christian Kings shall break the ground, To loath the scarlet whoor. c1646 MILTON *Sonn. Forcers Consc.* 3 Because you have thrown of your Prelate Lord, .. To seise the widdow'd whore Pluralitie. 1684 SOUTHERNE *Disappointm.* II. i, But if her thoughts run foul, her mind's a Whore. 1704 C. LESLIE *Wolf Strip* (ed. 4) 31 They call her Episcopacy a Ragg of the Whore. 1743 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Mann* 3 Oct., He would have piqued himself on calling the

Pope the w—e of Babylon. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xix, Image worship, and surplises, and sic like rags o' the muckle hure that sitteth on seven hills.

3. † *whore's son, son of a whore* = WHORESON. *whore's bird* (also as one word, and dial. *wosbird*): properly, the child [see BIRD sb. 1 c] of a whore, a bastard; but usually as a mere vulgar term of abuse or reprobation. So *whore's killing*.

c1500 *Melusine* 300 He cryed with a hye voys, . . . 'hourys sone & fals geaunt, comme speke with mel' 1673 J. W[ADE] *Vinegar & Mustard* (1873) 17 'Thou was a base whore's bird. 1675 *Char. of Town-Gallant* 5 He admires the Eloquence of, Son of a Whore, . . . and therefor applies it to every thing; So that if his Pipe be faulty, . . . Tis a Son of a Whore Pipe. 1694 ECHARD *Plautus* 9 They'd set some sturdy Whores-bird to . . . beat out ha'f a dozen o' my Teeth. a1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Whores-killing*, a Bastard. 1700 T. BROWN tr. *Fresny's Amusem.* 21 Another Son of a Whore yells louder than Homer's Stentor. 1701 SEDLEY *Grumbler* 1. i. I will first let you see how I am serv'd by this whoresbird. 1772 GRAVES *Spir. Quix.* iv. ix, D—mn you all together, for a pack of whores-birds as you are! 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* 1. ii, 'Imp'dent old wosbird!' says he, 'I'll break the bald head on un.' 1891 HARDY *Tess* xxi, Jack Dollop, a 'hor's-bird of a fellow.

4. *Comb.*, as *whore-call, -haunter, whore-like* adj.; *whore-hunt v., intr.* to go after whores, practise fornication: so *whore-hunter, -hunting* (also *fig.*; in quot. 1714, spying after whores to extort hush-money); † *whore-keeper*, one who keeps company with whores, a fornicator; † *whore-man*, a fornicator; *whoremistress*, a brothel-keeper; † *whore-play* [PLAY sb. 6 c], intercourse with whores, fornication; *whore's egg N. Amer.* (chiefly *Newfoundland*) = SEA-URCHIN 1; *whore-shop slang*, a brothel; *whoresty (nonce-wd.)*, a brothel; † *whore-toll*, a payment made by way of compounding for fornication or concubinage.

a1692 SHADWELL *Volunteers* v. i. These Fiddles are Fop-Calls, and *Whore-Calls. 1580 *Orders for Orphanes* A iv, If any manchild be a Thiefe, or a Fellow, or a common *whore haunter. 1597 BEARD *Theatre God's Judgem.* II. xx. (1612) 358 He went apart into Auignion, and there staid of purpose to doe nothing but *whore-hunt. 1786 BURNS *Tua Dogs* 164 He. . . Whore-hunting among groves o' myrtles. 1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 666/1 *Scortatores*, which signifieth in englishe *whoore hunters. 1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 81 A notorious drunkard, whorehunter, cousin, vsurer, &c. 1532 FRITH *Mirror* (1533) A v, Yf. . . the watchman be a slepe, . . . or gone. . . a *whorehuntinge. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* II. ii. 124 That is spirituall adulterie & whore-hunting, when men doe partly loue and worship God, and yet. . . giue reuerence to straunge. . . Gods. 1620 *Westward for Smelts* (Percy Soc.) 44 Her husband. . . had used to goe on whore-hunting in the night. 1714 RAMSAY *Elegy on J. Couper* iii, Of Whore-hunting he gat his Fill, And made be 't mony a Pint and Gill. 1931 R. CAMPBELL *Georgiad* i. 15 Lovelorn poets. . . troop whore-hunting down the country lanes. 1530 TINDALE *Pract. Prel.* B iij b, If any synne agens't y^e doctrine of Christ. . . so y^e he be a dronckarde & an *horekeeper. 1621 T. WILLIAMSON tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* 68 There shall not be a whore among the daughters of Israell, nor a whore-keeper among the sonnes of Israel. 1550 CROWLEY *Epigr.* 1288 Our wiues do passe their whoris in *whorelyke deckyng. 1974 H. J. PARKER *View from Boys* 213 'A right scrubber' is a girl who's rough-looking, whorelike. c1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 4072 Do seide god to moysen, De meistes of disse *hore-men, . . . De bidde ic hangen dat he ben. 1922 JOYCE *Ulysses* 515 Bella Cohen, a massive *whoremistress enters. 1969 A. MARIN *Rise with Wind* xii. 154 Consejo. . . works for a whoremistress we call Tia Concha. c1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 530 Caymes sunes wrosten vn-laze, Wið breðere wives *hore-playe. 1829 T. C. HALIBURTON *Hist. & Statist. Acct. Nova Scotia* II. ix. 405 Shell fish. *Whore's egg. 1930 *Amer. Speech* V. 393 *Whore's egg*, . . . a small spring crustacean esteemed by the Italians as a delicacy. 1948 Z. N. HURSTON *Seraph on Suwanee* 206 'That damn whore's egg! Ruin you if only one spine gets into your hand. 1972 E. STAEBLER *Cape Breton Harbour* ix. 85 You be careful when you's swimming that you don't step on a whorc's egg, they sea urchins is full o' prickles will give you a fester. 1938 V. S. PRITCHETT *You make your own Life* 79 What a town like this wants is a couple of good *whore shops and a factory. 1972 A. MACVICAR *Golden Venus Affair* vi. 67, I hate The Golden Venus. . . It's just a whoreshop. 1621 BP. MOUNTAGU *Diatribæ* 196 [Churches] turne[d] to barnes, stables, hogsties, and that which is worse, *whore-sties. 1545 COVERDALE *Def. Chr. Man* Eij b, Romishe prestes. . . take harlottes. . . when they will, . . . and aske no question for conscience sake, so that they paye the bishope the *whore toll.

whore, v. [f. prec. sb.]

1. a. *intr.* To have to do with a whore or whores; to commit whoredom, fornicate; (of a woman) to play the whore. Also *fig.* (See also WHORING.)

1583 BABINGTON *Commandm.* (1590) 178 Wee drinke, wee eate, wee surfet, wee sweare, wee play, wee daunce, wee whore. 1615 GODDARD *Neaste of Wasps* G iv b, Sheel fight, whore, drinke, vntill shee cannot see. 1642 BRIDGE *Serm. Norwich Volunteers* 5 They thinke him a foole or a child that will not drink and be drunke, and whore. 1682 SHADWELL *Sat. to Muse* 238 Against the Court, and David's-self he Roard, How ill he Govern'd, and how worse he W—d. 1732 BERKELEY *Alciph.* II. §13 To cheat, whore, betray, get drunk, do all these things decently, this is true wisdom, and elegance of taste. 1766 *Midnight Spy* v. 43 The gay courtizan with her pockets lined with gold, may whore with impunity. 1896 KIPLING *Seven Seas, Song Engl.* iii, Hold ye the Faith. . . Whoring not with visions.

b. *trans.* To spend in whoring; (with adv.) to get or bring by whoring.

1681 COLVIL *Whig's Supplic.* (1710) 53 Their Officers. . . Had dic'd and drunk, and whor'd their Pay. 1682 MRS. BEHN *City-Heiress* 1. i, A man might whore his heart out. c. *intr. fig.* To pursue or seek *after* (something false or unworthy). In allusion to Exod. xxxiv. 15. Cf. WHORING *vbl. sb.* (quot. 1535).

1913 E. POUND *Let.* 13 Aug. (1971) 21 The unspeakable vulgo will I suppose hear of him [sc. F. M. Hueffer] after our deaths. In the meantime they whore after their Bennetts and their Galsworthys and their unspeakable canaille. 1937 J. M. MURRY *Necessity of Pacificism* 24 The intelligence of Socialism went a-whoring after the strange gods of Russia. 1970 R. LONG in A. Chapman *New Black Voices* (1972) 421 The University was whoring after strange gods, they all seemed to say: technology, athletics, materialism. 1972 *Language* XLVIII. 425, I do not accept Chomsky's conception of social scientists as universally whoring after the surface features of other sciences, neglecting all fundamental problems, and taking refuge in spurious precision and trivialities.

2. *trans.* To make a whore of; to corrupt by illicit intercourse; to debauch (a woman). Also *fig.* Now rare.

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* v. ii. 64 He that hath kil'd my King, and whor'd my Mother. 1682 DRYDEN *Medal* 258 The Pander of the Peoples hearts, . . . Whose blandishments a Loyal Land have whor'd, And broke the Bonds she plightet to her Lord. a1692 SHADWELL *Volunteers* III. i. (1693) 32 Did you mean to whore my Daughter? 1740 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1741) II. 224 She ask'd her, . . . if I was whor'd yet! There's a Word for a Lady's Mouth! 1969 A. HUNTER *Gently Coloured* iii. 33 Some friend squeezing you dry, whoring your sister.

whore, obs. form of HOAR, WHERE.

whor(e)cop, late forms of HORCOP, bastard.

a1590 *Marr. Wit & Wisd.* (Shaks. Soc.) 51 What, where be these whorecoops? 1599 *Sir Clyom.* F 2 b, Whorcop.

whoredom ('hœdɒm). *arch.* Forms: see WHORE sb.; also 4 -dame, 4-5 -dam, 4-7 -dome, 6 -dome, Sc. -dum. [prob. a. ON. *hórdóm* = OFris. *hórdôm*, MLG. *hórdom*: see WHORE sb. and -DOM.]

1. The practice of playing the whore, or of intercourse with whores; illicit sexual indulgence in general; fornication, harlotry.

c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 57 Ne beo þu nawiht monslah, ne in hordom dei ne naht. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 9857 He leuede muche in hordom, & huld vnder þe quene rosemounde. a1300 *Floriz & Bl.* 654 Nis noȝt ȝore þat i ne com And fond hire wiȝ hordom, Me to schame. . . In hire bedde on mi Tur. c1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 417 þis priuey horedame makes myche harme. c1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 334 þat he be getyn. . . In hordome. 1535 COVERDALE *Gen.* xxxviii. 24 By whordome is she gotten with childe. 1561 WINSET *Wks.* (S.T.S.) I. 128 The renuncing of the world and pleasures of the body, nocht only fra vnlesum huirdum, bot fra marriage sumtyme to thame lesum. 1605 M. SUTCLIFFE *Brief Exam.* 102 They. . . set up bordell houses for maintenance of whoredom & baudry. 1784 COWPER *Tiroc.* 833 Now flush'd with drunk'ness, now with whoredom pale.

b. *pl.* Acts of sexual immorality.

c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 33 3e nulleð forleten hordomes and ȝiferneſse and druncneſse. 1539 *Bible* (Great) 2 Kings ix. 22 Y^e whordomes of thy mother lezabel. 1575-85 SANDYS *Serm.* xiv. 249 Otherwise they are not mariages, but whoredomes. 1611 *Bible* Hosea i. 2 A wife of whoredomes, and children of whoredomes. 1716 HEARNE *Collect.* (O.H.S.) V. 234 Notwithstanding his Whoredoms. 1862 *Hook Lives Abps.* II. ii. 114 He will never be converted from his whoredoms and ruinous follies.

2. *fig.; esp.* in biblical and religious use, applied to idolatry or other form of unfaithfulness to the true God.

c1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* I. 58 Kynrede of hordom sekþ siche signes. 1535 COVERDALE *Jer.* iii. 2 Thorow thy whordome and shamefull blasphemies, is the londe defyled. —Hosea i. 2 The londe hath committed greute whordome agaynst the Lorde. 1593 J. NAPIER *Rev. To Rdr.* A 6, Their seuen hilled citie Rome, painted out. . . by Saint Iohn, as the mother of all spirituall whoredome. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* VIII. 549 Think you there's but one whoredom? whoredom, all, But when our reason licenses delight. 1860 PUSEY *Min. Proph.* 13 Whoredom is to have many other objects of sinful love.

Hence † *whoredomer (hurdomare) Sc. Obs.*, one who practises whoredom, a fornicator.

1456 SIR G. HAYE *Bk. Knthd.* Wks. (S.T.S.) II. 40 Na common leare, na commone viciouse hurdomare.

whore-house. [Cf. OS. *hōrhūs* (MLG. *hoerhuus*, Du. *hoerhuis*), OHG., MHG. *huorhūs* (G. *hurenhaus*).]

1. A house of whores, a brothel. *Obs.* after 17th cent. until revived in recent (chiefly U.S.) use.

13. . . tr. *Ælred in Engl. Stud.* VII. 308 A blessed mayden þat turnde an hoore-hows in to an oratorie. c1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wt. Wülcker 804/10 *Hoc lupaner, Hec fornix, Hoc prostibulum*, a whorehouse. a1599 SIR J. DAVIES *Epigr.* xxxix, Sometimes he comes not to the play, But falls into a whore house by the way. 1608 DEKKER *Lanth. & Candle Lt.* G 4 b, The plague that a Whore-house layes vpon a City. 1688 BUNYAN *Last Serm.* Wks. 1862 II. 757 A whore-house, it may be, is more sweet to him. 1909 in J. A. & A. Lomax *Amer. Ballads & Folk Songs* (1960) 104 Frankie went down to de whore-house, Rang de whore-house bell, Says 'Tell me, is my lovin' Albert here? Caze Frankie's gwine to raise some hell—Oh, he's my man, but he's a-doin' me wrong.' 1935 J. STEINBECK *Tortilla Flat* i. 25 'Pilon! . . . I am an heir! I own two houses.' 'Whore houses?' Pilon asked hopefully. 1951 J. MASTERS *Nightrunners Bengal* 1. vi. 82 Every one knew her as the madam of a high-grade whore-house. 1978 G. GREENE *Human Factor* III. iii. 123 'If you want to fuck a black whore,' Captain Van Donck interrupted with

impatience, 'why don't you go to a whore house in Lesotho or Swaziland?' 1982 *Times* 22 May 8/1 Prospectors came by the thousand, saloons and whore-houses were erected.

2. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. Simple attrib., as *whore-house bell, owner, perfume, scum.* b. Designating or pertaining to a style of music, esp. jazz, played in brothels, as *whore-house music, piano.* c. *Comb.*, as *whore-house madam* = MADAM 3 c (d).

1909 Whore-house bell [see sense 1 above]. 1938 D. BAKER *Young Man with Horn* III. i. 141 You certainly play whorehouse piano, fella, and nigger whorehouse at that. 1946 R. BLESCH *Shining Trumpets* xiii. 295 This rich and earthy piano playing, called by extreme jazz purists with an ear for the picturesquely accurate, 'whore-house piano'. 1949 R. CHANDLER *Little Sister* xvii. 110 A very cheap grade of whore-house perfume. 1954 W. FAULKNER *Fable* 379 Shoot now, you whorehouse scum. 1956 B. HOLIDAY *Lady sings Blues* (1973) i. 8, I guess I'm not the only one who heard their first good jazz in a whorehouse. . . A lot of white people first heard jazz in places like Alice Dean's, and they helped label jazz 'whorehouse music'. 1975 G. V. HIGGINS *City on Hill* vi. 150 When you try to talk about something else, it's like trying to discuss cryogenics with a whorehouse madam.

whorelle, obs. form of WHORL.

whoremaster ('hœməstə(r)). [f. WHORE sb. + MASTER sb.]

1. = next.

a1508 DUNBAR *Tua Mariù Wemen* 168 My husband wes a hur maister. . . He has bene waistit apon wemen. . . And in adltre. 1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV.* II. iv. 516 That hee is (sauling your reuerence) a Whore-master, that I vtterly deny. 1610 HEALEY *St. Aug. Cittle of God* 188 The stage-players act. . . love for the veriest whore-maister in the world. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 446 ¶ 7 Our ordinary Poets cannot frame to themselves the Idea of a fine Man who is not a Whore-master. 1747 CHESTERF. *Let. to Son* 27 Mar., A Man of Pleasure, in the vulgar acceptation of that phrase, means only, a beastly drunkard, an abandoned whore-master, and a profligate swearer. 1769 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. xviii. 253 A justice may bind over all night-walkers; eaves-droppers; . . . common drunkards; whoremasters; the putative fathers of bastards; . . . and other persons, whose misbehaviour may reasonably bring them within the general words of the statute, as persons not of good fame.

attrib. c1570 *Depos. Durham* (Surtees) 264 Cauling this examine hooremaster preiste. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* 1. ii. 137 An admirable euasion of Whore-master-man, to lay his Goatish disposition to the charge of a Starre. 1614 B. JONSON *Barth. Fair* v. iv, You whore-master knaue. 1878 *Prodigal Son* vi. in *Simpson Sch. Shaks.* II. 119 Shall I. . . be merry because my whoremaster brother is come back?

2. *spec.* A procurer or pimp.

1864 in WEBSTER. 1922 E. E. CUMMINGS *Enormous Room* vii. 163 Now I must tell you what happened to the poor Spanish Whoremaster. 1964 in Hamblett & Deverson *Generation X* 94 Johnny knew just when to corrupt and when to give the old ego a boost. He's one of the great whoremasters of all time, working on the principle of the carrot and the stick. 1977 M. T. BLOOM *13th Man* (1978) vii. 133 The newcomers had little money and. . . they got tempted by the whoremasters.

Hence *'whoremasterly a.*, having the character of a whoremaster, lecherous; *'whoremastery*, the practice of a whoremaster, fornication.

1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* v. iv. 7 That Greekish *whore-maisterly villaine. 1706 BAYNARD *Cold Baths* II. (ed. 2) 96 The vile and wicked whore-masterly Husband. 1618 N. FIELD *Amends for Ladies* v. i, A great hurt to the art of *whore-mastry.

whoremonger ('hœməŋgə(r)). *arch.* [f. WHORE sb. + MONGER 2. Now familiar mainly from its occurrence in the English Bible.] One who has dealings with whores; one who practises whoredom; a fornicator, lecher.

1526 TINDALE *Eph.* v. 5 No whormonger, other vnclene person, . . . hath any inheritaunce in the kyngdom of Christ. 1528 ROY *Rede me* (Arb.) 53 Lycknest thou to whoarmongers A colage of clarkes and scolears? 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* III. ii. 37. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* ix. 408 What was Clement the 5, but an open Whore mungor? 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 250 If, by their self-indulgence, the glutton, the drunkard, the loafer, . . . the whoremonger forfeit a future benefit [etc.].

So *whoremonging* ('hœməŋgɪŋ), the practice of a whoremonger, fornication.

1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par.* 2 Pet. ii. 13-16 Nether haue they mynde of any thing elles, than vpon whoremonging, and other kyndes of wickednes. 1563 *St. Andrews Kirk-sess. Reg.* (1889) 189 The delacionis gevyn in upon tham. . . for huymongyn inueterat. 1893 *Voice* (N.Y.) 10 Aug., We would dissociate liquor selling from low, corrupt politics, from gambling, from whoremonging and from all other forms of immoral pursuit!

† **whorer** ('hœərə(r)). *Obs.* [f. WHORE v. + -ER¹. Cf. OS. *hōrari*, OHG. *huorari* (MHG. *huorer*, G. *hurer*), etc.] = WHOREMONGER.

c1640 H. BELL *Luther's Colloq. Mens.* (1652) 318 It shall bee free for Priests to marrie, or to forbear: Howsoever many Priests are, and will remain whorers. 1681 COLVIL *Whig's Supplic.* (1710) 97 All of them proved Drinkers, Whorers, By Preachers, Forgers, and Perjurers. 1727 P. WALKER *Cameron in Biogr. Presbyt.* (1827) I. 289 A great Swearer, a great Whorer, Blasphemer, Drunkard.

whoreship ('hœʃɪp). [f. WHORE sb. + -SHIP.] The personality of a whore: used with poss. pron. as a humorous title.

1607 R. TURNER *Nosce Te* E i b, Bifronted Peter's head, . . . Yet a lous her whoreshippe as hee lous his life. 1624

DAVENPORT *City Night-cap* III, I have a penance for your pure whorship. 1711 E. WARD *Quix.* I. 67 To shew his Worship The courteous Temper of her Whorship.

whoreson ('hɔəsən). Now *arch.* Forms: see *WHORE sb.*; also 5 hoursen, horosonne, 6 horisson. [f. *WHORE sb.* + *son sb.*, after AF. *fiz a putain* (see FITZ).]

a. prop. The son of a whore, a bastard son; but commonly used as a coarse term of reprobation, abuse, dislike, or contempt; sometimes even of jocular familiarity. (Cf. BUGGER 2 b.) Also rarely applied to a thing.

13.. K. *Alis.* 880 (Laud MS.) Fy vyle ateynt hores sone! To mysdon was ay pi wone. 13.. *Sir Beues* (A.) 410 An houre sone for soþ ich wes. c1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 2016 þow gadelyng horsone, lecher, & stronge þef. c1400 *Brut* I. 207 He despised þe grettest lordes... and callede Sir Robert Clare Erl of Gloucestre, 'Horesone'. a1425 *Cursor M.* 11879 (Trin.) 'Hore sones [Cott. F13 aputains] he seide 'what are 3e?' 'Leches' þei seide 'to leche þe'. 1481 CAXTON *Reynard* xxi. (Arb.) 53, I trusted... so moche the fals horeson the foxe. a1483 *Liber Niger in Househ. Ord.* (1790) 68 Of what estate soever he be, ... usyng to swere customably by Goddes body... unrevrently... that they charge the Butler to geve him no wyne at the meles... There was a lyke motion to be made for the custumable word of hoursen. 1523 L.D. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cxxxxvii. 139b/1 Kyng Dampeter was greatly chafed and moche desyred to mete with the bastarde his brother, and sayd, where is y^t horeson, that calleth hym selfe kyng of Castell. 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* 79b, The mother merelye beyng disposed, wyll saye to her swete Sonne: Ah you little hore-son, wyll you serue me so? 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 135 Do they not graunt them selues to be whore sonnes all the packe of them? [orig. *nonne meretricum sese filios esse fatentur*]. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom.* & *Jul.* iv. iv. 19 Masse, and well said, a merrie horson, ha! 1613 — *Hen. VIII.* I. iii. 39 The slye whorsons Haue got a speeding tricke to lay downe Ladies. 1659 GAYTON *Art Longevity* 83 Nuts are dry whorsons. 1679 ROXB. *Ball.* (1883) IV. 614 Beware of those that... tamper with thy foolish whoreson, And by false arguments ensnare The youth to think he is thy heir. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* I. v. Nic. Frog was a cunning sly Whoreson. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxxviii, They... bestowed... some round dozen of curses on them, as lazy knaves and blind whoresons. 1826 SOUTHEY *Devil's Walk* liii, Whoever shall say that to Porson These best of all verses belong, He is an untruth-telling whoreson. 1926 [see INGLE *sb.*]. 1975 *Weekend Mag.* (Montreal) 1 Nov. 21/1 If the whoreson who dropped his socks into the chamber pot and sold the results to a lantern jaws like you is not at a rope's end since this fortnight, there is no justice left on earth!

b. *attrib.*: commonly as a coarsely abusive epithet, applied to a person or thing: Vile, abominable, execrable, detestable, 'wretched', 'scurvy', 'bloody'; also sometimes expressing humorous familiarity or commendation.

c1440 *York Myst.* xxx. 60 Why, go bette, horosonne boy, when I bidde þe. 1533 GAU *Richt Vay* 15 Scheyme happine the lowne hursone theiff. 1534 in *Suss. Star Chamber Proc.* (1913) 40 Thow horisson prist yff thow ons move thow shalt dye. 1577-82 BRETON *Toys of an Idle Head* Wks. (Grosart) I. 30/1 Faith, she will say, you whorson Page, Ile purchase you an heritage. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV.* II. iv. 225 Ah, you whorson little valiant Villaine, you! *Ibid.* III. ii. 193 *Fal.* What disease hast thou? *Bul.* A whorson cold sir, a cough sir. 1611 BEAUM. & FL. *Philaster* I. i, Oh! this same whorson Conscience, how it jades us! 1646 TRAPP *Comm. John* x. 8 Ah whorson-thieves, rob God of his glory! said D. Taylor. 1739 JOE MILLER'S *Fests* 37 Thou Whoreson Rascal. 1760 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* III. xx, Ambition, and pride, and envy, and lechery, and other whoreson passions. a1763 SHENSTONE *Ess.* iv. Wks. 1777 II. 16 The Impromptu, for which I was utterly disqualified by a whoreson slowness of apprehension. 1816 KEATS *Lett.* Wks. 1889 III. 47 It was so whoreson a Night that I stopped there all the next day. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xvii, Some of his whoreson poetry (I crave your Grace's pardon for such a phrase) has rung in mine ears. 1909 E. POUND *Exultations* 14 You whoreson dog, Papiols, come!

whorey, variant of WHORLY.

Whorfian ('hwɔ:fiən), *a.* [f. the name of the American linguist Benjamin Lee Whorf (1897-1941) + -IAN.] Designating the views and theories of B. L. Whorf, esp. in *Whorfian hypothesis*, the theory that one's perception of the world is influenced or determined by the structure of one's native language (also *Whorf hypothesis*). Cf. SAPIR-WHORF HYPOTHESIS.

1957 R. K. MERTON *Social Theory* (rev. ed.) II. 92 It is the extreme Whorfian position which Joshua Whatmough attacks. 1963 J. LYONS *Structural Semantics* iii. 40 The view expressed in this quotation from Sapir has been championed more recently by Whorf, and has come to be known within linguistics as the 'Whorfian hypothesis'. 1964 R. H. ROBINS *Gen. Linguistics* II. 80 This is part of what has come to be known as the 'Whorf hypothesis'. 1968 M. BLACK *Labyrinth of Lang.* iv. 75 Some interesting attempts have been made to determine the validity of Whorfian ideas. 1978 *Language* LIV. 167 His chapter on personal context contains discussions of the Whorfian hypothesis.

Hence **Whorfianism**, a Whorfian conception; Whorf's theories regarded *collect*.

1963 J. LYONS *Structural Semantics* iii. 40 For a strong and convincing attack on the more extreme aspects of 'Whorfianism', cf. M. Black, 'Linguistic relativity'. 1978 *Language* LIV. 267 Parry's notion that formulaic language imposes formulaic thought is a kind of Whorfianism run wild.

whoring ('hɔəriŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. *WHORE v.* + -ING¹.] The action of *WHORE v.*; fornication; also *fig.*: *spec.* in biblical use, applied to idolatry, as

an act of unfaithfulness to the true God (cf. WHOREDOM 2): chiefly in phr. *to go a whoring*.

1535 COVERDALE *Exod.* xxxiv. 15 When they go a whoring after their goddesses. — *Ps.* cv[i]. 38 Thus were they stayned with their owne workes, and wente a whoring with their owne invencions. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* v. i. 116 This is the fruits of whoring. 1619 in Foster *Engl. Factories India* (1906) 153 Their private whorings, drunkenness and such like ryotts. a1638 MEDE *Wks.* (1672) 582 All the Visions contemporating with Babylon's times must be expounded of such things only as belong to the times of Babylon's whoring. 1668 SOUTH *Serm., Luke* xxi. 15 Wks. 1727 V. 416 When with Whoring, and Gaming, and Revelling, they have disabled themselves from paying their Butchers. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 60 ¶2 The common Diversions of Men of Fashion; that is to say, in Whoring, Drinking, and Gaming. 1855 [J. D. BURN] *Autobiog. Beggar Boy* (1859) 73 The whole of this man's conduct tended to... fighting, whoring, and roguery!

So whoring *ppl. a.*

1677 W. HUGHES *Man of Sin* II. x. 185 That either we must have a Married or a Whoring Clergy.

whorish ('hɔəriʃ), *a.* Now *arch.* [f. *WHORE sb.* + -ISH¹.]

1. *a.* Having the character of a whore; addicted to whoredom; lewd, unchaste (of a woman; rarely of a man).

1560 *Bible* (Geneva) Prov. vi. 26 Because of the whorish woman a man is brought to a morsel of bread. — Ezek. xvi. 30 Ye worke of a presumptuous whorish woman. 1611 Coryat's *Crudities* Panegy. Verses g2b, He knew and felt the whores, yet was not whorish. 1624 DAVENPORT *City Night-cap* I. i, What plague can transcend A whorish wife, and a perfidious friend! 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* IX. 382 Whorish boyes. 1675 SOUTH *Serm., Judges* viii. 34, 35 (1697) I. 509 Joseph... a poor... Stranger, languishing in Durance upon the false accusations of a lying, insolent whorish Woman! 1948 D. WELCH *Brave & Cruel* 245 Mary... had nothing to take her mind from the hideous picture of a breast pump, a whorish wife and an idiot baby. 1981 V. CANNING *Boy on Platform One* iv. 60 Whorish... the word swam gently into his mind. Whore, too, she was.

b. Belonging to or characteristic of a whore; meretricious; lewd, unchaste (of action, etc.).

1552 HULOET, Hooryshe..., or perteynynge to a hoore, meretricius. 1556 OLDE *Antichrist* 203 Men geuen to their paunche and hoorishe lustes. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr.* & *Cr.* iv. i. 63 You like a lecher, out of whorish loynes, Are pleas'd to breed out your inheritors. 1761 *Rec. Elgin* (New Spald. Club 1903) I. 108 Barbara Reid for whorish practices expelled the burgh. 1942 D. WELCH *Jrnl.* 30 Aug. (1952) 7 When we had... pushed back the whorish, dirty red satin curtain. 1967 A. LASKI *Seven Other Years* iv. 56 It was a charming dress... virginal in colour, whorish in cut. 1980 A. E. FISHER *Midnight Men* iv. 45 Bathrooms should reflect... the woman of the house... I'd like a sort of whorish pink.

2. *fig.*, esp. in religious and controversial use (often = idolatrous): cf. *WHORE sb.* 2.

1535 COVERDALE *Ezek.* vi. 9 That whorish and vnfaithfull herte of theirs, wherwith they runne awaye fro me. 1538 BALE *Thre Lawes* Ciib, Regarde not the pope, nor yet his whorish kyngedom. c1586 C'LESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* LXXIII. vii, They all shall be undone, Who leaving thee to whorish idolls run. 1680 R. L'ESTRANGE *Citt & Bumpkin* (ed. 3) 16 The Church of England... is not altogether the Whore of Babylon, though a good deal Whorish. 1696 BROOKHOUSE *Temple Opened* 47 The Bride has a Husband... sufficient to maintain her against all Whorish, Beastly or Satannical Usurpations. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 82 ¶3 Jack has a whorish unresisting Good-nature, which makes him incapable of having a Property in any thing.

Hence **whorishly adv.**; **whorishness**.

1538 ELYOT *Dict., Meretricie*, *hoorishely. 1589 NASHE *Martin Marprelate* Wks. (Grosart) I. 108 Howe whorishlie Scriptures are alleaged by them, I will discouer... in another new worke. 16.. MIDDLETON, *ed. Old Law* iv. ii, Are you so whorishly provided? 1755 JOHNSON, *Meretriciously*, whorishly; after the manner of whores. 1977 *Listener* 25 Aug. 246/3 The gratuitous violence, slotted whoreishly into the sequences. 1546 BALE *Engl. Votaries* I. 18 Marke how abhominable *whorishnesse... is auunced of that whorish Rome church, to the great blemishynge of Godly marryage. 1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* II. 706 The said Anne was... for her whorishness lawfully divorced. 1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Meretriciousness*, whorishness.

† **whorism**. *Obs. rare.* [f. *WHORE sb.* or *v.* + -ISM.] Whoredom, fornication.

1598 FLORIO, *Puttaneggio*, whorisme, whoredome. 1611 COTGR., *s'Appaillarder*, to... give himselfe wholly to whorisme; to turne leacher.

whorl (hwɔ:l, hwɜ:l), *sb.* Forms: *a.* 5 wharwyl, 5-9 wharle, 8-9 wharl. *β.* 5 whorwhil, (whorlwyl), quorle, 5-9 whorle, 6 whorlle, whorelle, *Sc.* quhorle, 8- whorl. [late ME. *wharwyl, whorwhil*, app. variants of WHIRL (early forms disyllabic, e.g. *wherruille, quherel*) influenced by WHARVE *sb.*; but with the *β*-forms cf. early mod.Du. *worvel*, var. of *weruel* (Kilian).]

1. A small fly-wheel fixed on the spindle of a spinning-wheel to maintain or regulate the speed; a small pulley by which the spindle is driven in a spinning-machine. Also locally applied to small wheels or pulleys for other purposes.

a. c1460 *Promp. Parv.* 526/2 (Winch. MS.) Wharwyl of a spyndyl, vertebrium. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 417/1 A Wharle, giraculum, neopellum, vertibulum. 1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 628/2 Take out thy spyndle & bryng me hither the wharle. 1566 in Peacock *Engl. Ch. Furnit.* (1866) 170 One crwet defaced whearoff was made wharles for spyndels. 1589 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 55 Spindles and wharles ij^d. 1828 *Craven Gloss.*, Wharle. 1884 W. S. B.

McLAREN *Spinning* (ed. 2) 239 [They] drive this spindle by the friction of a very heavy collar on it against a large leather washer, which rests on the wharl.

β. c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 526/1 Whorlwyl, of a spyndyl (K. whorwhil, P. whorle), vertebrium. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 298 A Qworle of A roke. 1610 R. VAUGHAN *Water-Wks.* Q4b, The Stanke-royall (running on a whorle, his sluice being taken vp) is receiued by a Bastard-sluce. 1773 EMERSON *Princ. Mech.* (ed. 3) 189 Let EG be a spinning wheel, ... whilst the rim makes 1 revolution, the twill makes 9, and the whorle and feathers 6. 1808 JAMIESON, *Whorle*, a very small wheel, as that in a child's cart. 1865 LUBBOCK *Preh. Times* v. 133 Spindle whorls of rude earthenware were abundant in some of the Lake-villages even of the Stone age. 1886 J. BARROWMAN *Sc. Mining Terms* 73 Whorls, pithead pulleys.

2. *Bot.* A set of members, as leaves, flowers, or parts of the flower, springing from the stem or axis at the same level and encircling it; a verticil. Also in *Zool.* a set of parts or structures, as scales or tentacles, similarly arranged.

[1551 TURNER *Herbal* I. Gvj, The stalke is foure square, ... where about doth grow in equal order, ... certayne knoppes, lyke whorlles. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* II. lxx. 232 The flouries [of Pennyroyal] growe... about the stemmes like whorles or garlandes.] 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 98/2 Rosemary, hath Wharles or small slender leaves set at distances about the stalk. *Ibid.* 106/1 Flowers set together in a Whorle or Coronett. 1713 PETIVER in *Phil. Trans.* XXVIII. 43 Its Spikes of Flowers are thick set in striated hairy whorls. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* VII. 215/1 An orange... consists of one whorl of carpels, which are consolidated into a round fruit. 1860 SALA *Lady Chesterf.* iv. 64 A flattened head... a forked tongue, a body of scaly whorls. 1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 358 A flower is said to be complete, when the four whorls,—calyx, corolla, stamens, and pistil are present. 1872 H. A. NICHOLSON *Palaeont.* 75 The stem terminates in a single polypite, the mouth of which is surrounded by a single whorl of slender processes or 'tentacles'.

3. *a. Conch.* and *Anat.* Each of the turns, coils, or convolutions of a spiral shell, or of any spiral structure.

1828 STARK *Elem. Nat. Hist.* II. 52 Shell conoid, with the whorls rounded or convex. 1855 TENNYSON *Maud* II. ii. 6 See what a lovely shell, Small and pure as a pearl... With delicate spire and whorl. 1890 BILLINGS *Med. Dict., Whorl of heart*, vortex of heart. [*Ibid.*, *Vortex of heart*, the close spiral arrangement of fibres which occurs at the apex.]

b. A configuration in finger-prints.

1880, etc. [see LOOP *sb.* 1 4 h]. 1954 F. CHERRILL *Cherrill of Yard* vi. 62, I noticed particularly the patterns on the ends of the fingers, for they were of the whorl type. 1977 *Sci. Amer.* Dec. 141/1 The resulting patterns are known to the dermatologist respectively as loops, triradii and whorls.

4. *gen.* A convolution, coil, curl, 'wreath' (esp. of something whirling, or suggesting a whirling movement).

1592 R. D. *Hypnerotomachia* 51 The head of a Storke, with her beake against the open mouth of a Monster, ... and certaine Whorlles or Beades rysing vp betwixt his mouth and her beake. 1851 NICHOL *Archit. Heav.* (ed. 9) 99 Intervals between successive whorls of the starry stream. 1863 BARING-GOULD *Iceland* xii. 210 Vast clouds of steam... roll in heavy whorls before the wind.

5. *Comb.*, as *whorl-flowered*, -leaved, -shaped *adjs.*; *whorl-flower*, a plant of the genus *Morina* (N.O. *Dipsacaceae*), having the flowers in dense whorls; *whorl-grass*, a grass of the genus *Catabrosa*.

1822 *Hortus Angl.* II. 204 M[alva] Verticillata, Whorl-flowered Mallow. *Ibid.* 423 C[oreopsis] Verticillata, Whorl-leaved Coreopsis. 1850 DAUBENY *Atom. The.* xii. (ed. 2) 423 The parts of the pistils are disposed in a whorl-shaped manner around an... axis. 1861 MISS PRATT *Flower. Pl.* (1900) IV. 69 Whorl-grass (*Catabrosa*). Water Whorl Grass (*C. aquatica*). Panicle with half whorls of spreading branches. 1884 MILLER *Plant-n.* 220 *Morina longifolia*, Long-leaved Whorl-flower.—*persica*, Persian Whorl-flower.

Hence *whorl v. trans.* (a) to draw up by means of a 'whorl' or pulley (*local*); (b) to arrange in whorls or convolutions.

1886 J. BARROWMAN *Sc. Mining Terms* 73 The cage is said to be whorled when it is drawn up to or over the pulleys. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 6 Aug. 4/5 The stars, braided and whorled in patterns too intricate for our eyes.

whorl(e): see WHIRL *v.*, WHURL.

whorlbat, -bone, etc.: see WHIRLBAT, etc.

whorle borle, **whorlle-bourlle**, obs. ff. HURLY-BURLY.

c1440 J. SHIRLEY in *Scot. Hist. Rev.* (1904) Oct. 98 During the whorlle bourlle in Scotland the olde King Robert died.

whorled (hwɔ:ld, hwɜ:ld), *a.* [f. WHORL *sb.* + -ED².] Having, or arranged in, a whorl or whorls; (of leaves, flowers, etc.) verticillate; (of a shell, etc.) convoluted, turbinate.

1776 J. LEE *Introd. Bot. Explan. Terms* 392 *Verticill[atus]*, whorled, many Flowers growing round the Stalk in a Circle. 1828 J. E. SMITH *Engl. Flora* II. 59 *S[ium] verticillatum*, Whorled Water-parsnep. Leaflets in numerous, linear, ... whorled segments. 1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 572 The Galiaceae are... distinguished... by their whorled exstipulate leaves. 1867 MURCHISON *Siluria* viii. (ed. 4) 164 The large Whorled Shell... has proved... to be a true Lower-Silurian Maclurea. 1873 RALFE *Phys. Chem.* 17 Crystals which arrange themselves in whorled groups.

So † **whorling**, † **whorlish adjs.**, *rare*, forming or constituting a whorl.

1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 55 Comen rede fish mynt... with whorlish circles goyng about the stalck. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens*

11. lxxxi. 256 The floures . . growing in whorling knoppes rounde aboute the stalkes.

whorlwyl, obs. form of WHORL.

† **whorr**, *v.* Obs. Also whoor(r)e. [Echoic.] *intr.* To coo, as a dove.

1598 FLORIO, *Gemere*. . To whorr as doues do. *Gemire*. . To whoore or cry as turtle doues.

whorrowe, var. WHARROW; cf. s.w. dial. *worra*.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* II. lxxxviii. 267 The floures be of a light blew, compassing the stalke by certaine spaces like to garlandes or whorrows.

whorry, obs. form of HURRY *v.*

1613 DEKKER *Strange Horse-Race* B 1 b, A Race. . after the Roman fashion: . . in their thundring velocity, lightning-like violence, and earth-quaking whorrying. *Ibid.* 24 From his Caues . . out he whorries.

† **whorster**. Obs. *rare*⁻¹. [f. WHORE *sb.* + -STER.] = WHORER.

1654 VILVAIN *Enchir.* Epigr. vi. lxxvi, No Murdrer be: Whorster: Theef: fals Testee.

whort (hwɜ:t). *dial.* Also 6-7 whorte, 7 whurt, 9 wort. [South-western dial. form of HURT *sb.*² (cf. *whoam* for *home*, *whole* for earlier *hole*, and WHORTLEBERRY).] = WHORTLEBERRY. Also *attrib.* Hence *whorting vbl. sb.*, gathering whortleberries.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* vi. xi. 670 There be two sortes of Whortes, and Whortel berries, wherof the common sort are blacke, and the other are red. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* iii. lix. 1231. 1657 W. COLES *Adam in Eden* cxvi, Black Whorts, or Bill-Berries. 1661 J. CHILDREY *Brit. Baconica* 12 For Fruits, they [in Cornwall] have a sort called Whurts. 1746 *Exmoor Scolding* (E.D.S.) 91 And why dest thee, than, tell me 'Isterday o' losing my Rewden Hat in the Rex-bush, out a whorting? 1773 *Encycl. Brit.* s.v. *Vaccinium*, The myrtillus [mispr. -is], or black whortleberries or bilberries; . . the *cantabricum*, or Irish whorts; the *vitis idea*, or red whorts. 1802 COLERIDGE *The Picture* 4, I. . now climb, and now descend O'er rocks, or bare or mossy, with wild foot Crushing the purple whorts. 1856 G. ROBERTS *Soc. Hist. Eng.* 561 During the Whort-season children used to assemble to partake of Whort-pies . . made with a brown crust, and eaten with clouted cream; . . a west country delicacy. 1917 *Contemp. Rev.* Nov. 582, I do mind the autumn when Mrs. Ann Pugsley did witch John Craw. 'Twur at the whort gathering.

whorthy, obs. form of WORTHY.

whortle ('hwɜ:t(ə)l). Also 7 wortle: see also HURTL *sb.*² [Short for WHORTLEBERRY.] = WHORTLEBERRY.

1597 [see HURTL *sb.*]. 1620 VENNER *Via Recta* vii. 131 The people vse to eat the Wortles in creame and milke. 1655 MOUFET & BENNET *Health's Improv.* 219 Fen-berries. . are of like temper and faculty with our whortles, but somewhat more astrigent. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 371 Great Bilberry Bush or Whortle. 1811 SHELLEY *St. Irvyne* vi. i, I see her swift foot dash the dew from the whortle. 1863 BARING-GOULD *Iceland* 190 The . . bog-whortle . . , whose white flowers, pink-tipped, stuff the ptarmigan's crop.

Comb. 1857 MISS PRATT *Flower. Pl.* V. 108 *S[alix] myrsinites* (Green Whortle-leaved Willow).

whortleberry ('hwɜ:t(ə)lberi). Also (8 whirtle-), 8-9 wortleberry. [South-western dial. form of HURTLBERRY: cf. WHORT. Used by Lyte, a Somerset man, in his translation of *Dodoens'* *Herbal*, whence app. by later writers on plants, so as to have become at length the usual 'book-name'.] The blue-black fruit of the dwarf shrub *Vaccinium Myrtillus*, or the plant itself; otherwise called BILBERRY or BLAEBERRY. Also extended to the genus *Vaccinium* as a whole (excepting the species called CRANBERRY, *V. Oxycoccus* and *V. macrocarpon*).

bear's whortleberry, a name for the Bearberry, *Arctostaphylos Uva-ursi*. bog whortleberry, *Vaccinium uliginosum*. red whortleberry, *V. Vitis-Idaea*. Victorian whortleberry, *Wittsteinia vacciniacea*, a shrub allied to *Vaccinium* found in Victoria.

1578 [see WHORT]. 1671 SALMON *Syn. Med.* iii. xxii. 438. 1702 C. MATHER *Magnalia* vi. ii. 11 Sometimes we liv'd on Wortle berries, sometimes on a kind of Wild Cherry. 1764 *Ann. Reg.*, *Char.* 9 The hair . . is dyed with the juice of the red wortleberry. 1778 J. CARVER *Trav. N. Amer.* xix. 504 The Whirtle Berry. 1816 SCOTT *Bl. Dwarf* xiii, A territory, which, since the days of Adam, had borne nothing but ling and whortle-berries. 1869 BLACKMORE *Lorna D.* v, [They] laid him softly on a bank of whortle-berries.

attrib. 1770 J. R. FORSTER tr. *Kalm's Trav. N. Amer.* I. 66 A species of whortleberry shrub. 1825 J. NEAL *Bro. Jonathan* II. 340 A . . whortle-berry pudding. 1863 BARING-GOULD *Iceland* 178 Hot mutton flavored with whortleberry jam. 1884 MILLER *Plant-n.*, Whortle-berry-bush, Victorian, *Wittsteinia vacciniacea*.

whorwhil, obs. form of WHORL.

whory ('hɔəri), *a.* Formerly *rare*. Also -ey. [f. WHORE *sb.* + -Y¹.] = WHORISH. (In 2nd quot. with play upon *hoary*.)

1682 HICKERINGILL *Hist. Whiggism* 11 The Papists, and the whory, roaty, swory, scory, Tories. 1682 'T. RATIONALIS' *New News from Bedlam* 88 And should it light upon Your whory Head, The Whigs would say, You're sweetly brought to Bed. 1955 J. KEROUAC in *Paris Rev.* Winter 11 The whorey smell of a big city. 1967 K. GILES *Death & Mr. Prettyman* i. 18 London was as whorey then as

now. 1976 *New Yorker* 15 Nov. 180/3 At twenty she was taking care not only of herself and her child but also of a tubercular half sister, also cast off by their whorey mother. 1980 N. FREELING *Castang's City* xxii. 148 It's not a whory setup; three of these dames live there and they're secretarial types.

whos, obs. form of WHOSE, WHOSO.

whose (hu:z), *pron.* Forms: 1 hwæs, 2-3 hwas, 3 whos, (wuas), 3was, hwes, 3-4 whes, 3-5 whas, was, wos, 4 huas, wais, hoes, wiose, 4-5 whoos, hos, 4-6 whos, whois, 5 whayse, whoys, hoys, (hosse), wose, 5-9 *Sc.* and *north.* whase, 6 whoes, woos, wois, hose, *Sc.* vhaish, whois, 7-8 who's, 5- whose; 3-5 quase, 4 quos, quose, 4-5 quas, *Sc.* 4-8 quhais, (5 qwhos, qwose), 5-7 quhois, 6 quhas, (qwhois), 6-7 quhose, 6-8 quhase, 7 quhaes, quhoise. [ME. *hwās*, later *hwōs*, *whōs*, altered form of *hwās*, *hwes*, OE. *hwæs* (:—**χwasa*) genitive of *hwá* and *hwæt*, through the influence of *hwā*, *hwū* WHO, *hwām*, *hwūm* WHOM. (Later ME. *whas* prob. represents an unstressed variant.) Cf. OS. *hwes*, MLG., MDu., OHG., G. *wes*, ON. *hues*(s), MSw. *hwes*, *hwas*, (Da. *hvis*), Goth. *hwis*:—**χwesa*, Indo-Eur. **qwesō*, represented also by Gr. (Homeric) *τέος* for **τέσο*, OSI. *česo*.]

The genitive case of WHO (and in OE. of the neuter WHAT: cf. 3 below). Used, in all senses, either before a *sb.* as a possessive adj. (like *his*, *her*, *my*, etc.), or absolutely (like *his*, *hers*, *mine*, etc.): in the latter case chiefly in the interrogative sense as predicate.

I. Interrogative uses (direct and dependent).

1. Of whom; belonging to whom; what person's.

c897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xlvii. 357 Dæt hie geðencen hwæs folgeras hie sindon. a1000 *Colloq. Ælfric* in Wr.-Wülcker 92 Hunta ic eom. hwæs? c1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Matt. xxii. 42 Hwæt pinco eow be criste, hwæs sunu ys he? c1200 *Vices & Virtues* 99 3if hie [sc. ðohtes] cuned fram mannen, hie [sc. 3epnesse] cann hwatliche underfinden, an hwos half he is icumen. c1205 LAY. 17111 Næs nan witte þat auere wuste here whes sune he weore. a1240 *Ureusin* in O.E. *Hom.* I. 189 Maiden moder, maiden: and hwas moder? hie hwæs dohter þu art. c1275 *Passion of our Lord* 447 in O.E. *Misc.* 50 Hi casten heore lot hwes he scolde beo. 13.. *Cursor M.* 12224 (Gött.) Quat wamb him bar. . . And wid was pappis wa he fedd? 1340 *Ayenb.* 38 þo pet ofhyealde þe þinges þet hi vindep and wytep wel huas þet hi byep. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 6826 Telle þou me, þis feir castel wos it be. c1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1726 Was men buth 3e? c1386 CHAUCER *Man of Law's T.* 92c Whos is that faire child that stondeth yonder? c1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 265 He fand a dead mans head, and he had grete mervayll whos it was. 1566 LAUDER *Tractate Contents*, And, last of all, vnto quhose actionis . . suld Kyngis geue rather atcendence. 1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 1077 Whose tongue is musick now? 1607 DEKKER & WEBSTER *Northw. Hoe* i. ii. A 4 b, Arrest me? at whose sute? 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII.* i. iv. 43 Whose fault is this? 1791 COWPER *Judgm. Poets* 4 A warm dispute. . . Whose temper was the best. 1883 D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* vii, 'I'm sure of the voice. . . 'Whose is it? 1896 HOUSMAN *Shropsh. Lad* xxvii, I cheer a dead man's sweetheart, Never ask me whose. 1908 R. BAGOT *A. Cuthbert* vi. 58 Your offensive abuse of his poor father, and forgetfulness of Whose minister he was.

II. Relative uses. * as simple relative.

2. In reference to a person or persons (or to an animal or animals): Of whom. a. Introducing a defining or restrictive clause completing the sense: cf. WHO 9.

c1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 37 þe deuel . . on ech of hise deden is iefned to þe deore wuas geres he forðteoð. a1240 [see 1]. a1300 *Cursor M.* 2155 Of him o quas sede Was he born þat beit our nede. a1325 *MS. Rawl. B.* 520 lf. 53b, After þe wille of him hos þe werkes be3 [= beð]. c1400 tr. *Secr. Secr.*, Gov. *Lordsh.* 81 It ys meruail of a man how he may be syke or dye, whos mete ys breud of good whete. 1526 TINDALE *Luke* i. 27 A virgin spoused to a man, whose name was Ioseph. 1539 *Bible* (Great) Ps. xxxii. 1 Blessed is he, whose vnryghteousnesse is forgeuen. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* 37 Of heires of qvhais age their is ane doubt. 1611 *Bible* Gen. xxxviii. 25 The man whose these are. *Ibid.* xlv. 17 The man in whose hand the cup is found. 1690 tr. *J. Le Clerc's Five Lett. Inspir.* 56 The Apostles did not pass in their own time for Persons, whose every word was an Oracle. 1723 RAMSAY *Fair Assembly* viii, A wife. . . Whase charms can silence dumps. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* 70 Persons who . . sanctified their ambition by advancing the dignity of the people whose peace they troubled. 1836 W. IRVING *Astoria* xli, To feast upon the horses whose blood they had so vaingloriously drunk. 1893 MAX PEMBERTON *Iron Pirate* ii, Men whose laugh was a horrid growl.

b. Introducing an additional statement: thus sometimes equivalent to 'and his (their, etc.):' cf. WHO 10.

In early use occas. preceded by *the*: cf. WHICH B. 13, WHOM 8.

Formerly also separated from the antecedent, sometimes with resulting ambiguity (cf. WHO 10): occas. preceded by superfluous *and* (cf. WHO 12 b).

c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 151 þe lauerd N[athaniell] hwæs dei hit is to dei. c1220 *Bestiary* 764 Dis der, Wos kinde we hauen told 3u her. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4195 Eleyne þat noble mayde . . was notice ich was. a1300 *Cursor M.* 1490 Noe, In quas time þe flod gan be. c1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* iv. (*Jacobus*) 210 In-to þe name of criste Ihesu, Fore quhais cause I am led now. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 103 Morpheus, the whos nature Is forto take the figure Of what persone that him liketh. a1400 *Pauline Ep.* (1916) 42 Cryste in wise dep we ar baptysyd. 1467 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 95 To

performe my Nonkilles wyll, hoys sowle God pardon. c1469 *Ibid.* 104 3owr modyr, hosse sowle Gode haue mersy. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* i. viii, A wulf. . deuoured a sheep of whos bones he had one in his throte. 1526 TINDALE *Rom.* ix. 5 My brethren . . the israhelites, . . whose also are the fathers. — 1 *Pet.* ii. 24 Christ also suffered for oure sakes. . . By whose strypes ye were healed. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* iii. ii. 1. i. 533 The young man . . at last married her, to whose wedding amongst other guests came Apollonius. 1750 T. COOKE *Plautus* I. p. xxv, This Comedy is called *Bacchides* from two Sisters, Courtesans, who are the chief Characters in the Play; both whose Names are *Bacchis*. a1774 GOLDSM. tr. *Scarron's Com. Rom.* (1775) II. 170 A hamlet, inhabited by fishermen, who's humanity he had occasion to remember. 1791 BURKE *App. Whigs* 88 It does not arise out of the inherent rights of the people, as the national assembly does in France, and whose name designates its original. 1820 KEATS *Lamia* ii. 279 The Gods, whose dreadful images Here represent their shadowy presences. 1864 J. HUNT tr. *Vogt's Lect. Man* ii. 26 Vegetable feeders, such as ruminants, whose lower jaw acts like a millstone.

3. In reference to a thing or things (inanimate or abstract). Originally the genitive of the neuter WHAT (sense 7); in later use serving as the genitive of WHICH (senses 7 and 8), and usually replaced by *of which*, except where the latter would produce an intolerably clumsy form.

1382 WYCLIF *Deut.* viii. 9 The loond of oyle and of hony; . . whos stones ben yren, and of the hillis of it ben doluen metallys of brasse. 1442 BECKINGTON *Corr.* (Rolls) II. 213 He hath . . taken the townes and castles and fortresses whoos names be specified. 1482 *Monk of Evesham* lv. (Arb.) 107 A ful glorious walle of crystal hoys heythe no man might see. 1528 TINDALE *Obed. Chr. Man* 130 Loke yer thou lepe, whose literall sence is, doo nothinge sodenly or without auisement. 1577 HARRISON *England* ii. ii. [v.] (1877) I. 46 Bath, whose see was sometime at Welles. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* i. v. 15, I could a Tale vnfold, whose lightest word Would harrow vp thy soule. 1632 MILTON *L'Allegro* 73 Mountains on whose barren brest The labouring clouds do often rest. 1661 FELTHAM *Lusoria, Lett.* 65 A Disposition . . whose affability may sweeten life. 1760-72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) I. 74 A maxim of whose impropriety not St. Anthony himself could persuade him. 1807 SOUTHEY *Esprella's Lett.* (1814) II. 10 The clock, whose huge bell . . may be heard five leagues over the plain. 1863 READE *Hard Cash* I. 100 The nerve man had prescribed . . a medicine . . whose effect on the nerves was nil. 1896 POLLOCK *1st Bk. of Jurispr.* vii. 179 Processes extending over two or three centuries, and whose fundamental analogies are . . disguised in almost every possible way. 1906 CONRAD *Mirror of Sea* vii. 33 A newspaper of sound principles, but whose staff will persist in 'casting' anchors. 1927 E. BOWEN *Hotel* vi. 57 She looked down . . and saw a little house, with a blue door whose colour delighted her. 1958 I. MURDOCH *Bell* iv. 47 Toby . . marvelled at this light which is no light, and whose strength is seen only in the sharpness of cast shadows. 1968 J. LYONS *Introd. Theoretical Linguistics* 55 Whether there are, or could be, two languages whose vocabularies are to no degree whatsoever isomorphic with one another is a question with which we need not be concerned. 1981 I. MCEWAN *Comfort of Strangers* ix. 122 There were pictures whose context she understood immediately.

4. As objective genitive, in reference to a person (or animal) or a thing. Now *rare*: commonly replaced by *of whom* or *of which*. (Cf. note s.v. HIS *poss. pron.* 2.)

1382 WYCLIF *Lev.* xxii. 5 He . . that shal touche . . eny vnclene, whos touchynge is hoory [1388 foul]. c1449 PECOCK *Repr.* v. ii. 493 Deedis whos forberingis schulden make hem the more sureli kepen hem for breking of Goddis lawe. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* vi. vii. 4 Our the fludis bank ful swiftilie spreng, Quhais passage is vnreturnable went. 1551 CROWLEY *Pleas. & Pain* Ded., The pore of thys realme, whoes oppression doeth alreedy crye vnto the Lorde for vengeance. 1601 DOLMAN *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* III. lxxxvii. 391 The Hart or Stag, in whose chase great Lords take much pleasure. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* iii. i. 105, I will put that Businesse in your Bosomes, whose execution takes your Enemye off. 1730 Chamberlayne's *Relig. Philos.* (ed. 3) II. xvii. §1 Things, whose particular Discussion would . . exceed the Design of this Book. 1754 CAMBRIDGE in *World* No. 102 ¶2 Any thing whose loss they can so easily supply. 1821 SOUTHEY *Lett. to John May* 7 Apr., This deplorable old man, whose sight . . excited in me a mingled feeling of horror and disgust.

** 5. As compound relative, or with ellipsis of antecedent = he (him, etc.) whose. Often in generalized sense = whosoever. Now *rare* or *arch.*: cf. WHO 6, 8, WHOM 5, 6.

Sometimes with the generalized sense indicated by *so(ever)* or *so ever* following the *sb.* (Cf. WHOSOEVER.)

13.. E.E. *Allit.* P. B. 1648 & quos deth so he dezyre he drepd als faste. a1400 in *Engl. Gilds* (1870) 352 3if opere chalouns bep y-founde þat ne habbeþ þelke a-syse, in was hond hīþ bep y-founde, be forfeted. c1420? LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 1299 Blere whos ey ye woll . . with your myst. 1432-50 [see WHIRINNY]. 1460 *Rolls of Parl.* V. 384/1 In whos handes so euer they bee. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 7 Quhais Sinnis 3e forgeue, ar forgeuin vnto thame. 1592 *Arden of Feversham* 1092 Speede to my wish, whose wil so ere sayes no. a1633 G. HERBERT *Jacula Prudentum* 196 Whose house is of glasse, must not throw stones at another. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* viii. 647 Heavenly Guest, . . Sent from whose sovran goodness I adore.

† **whose**, for *who's* = who is: see WHO.

1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI.* i. iv. 50 (Qo.) Whose within there!

whose, obs. form of WHOSO.

† **whoself**, *pron.* Obs. *rare*⁻¹. [Cf. SELF A. 2.] Who himself.

1539 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 174 The said Burgartus canne testifie of her proportion, countenance and beautie, Whoself hath seen her.

whose'n (hu:z(ə)n), *pron. dial.* [f. WHOSE: cf. HISEN.] = WHOSE.

a1701 SEDLEY *Virg. Past.* v. Wks. 1722 I. 289 Tell Dametas! whose'n Sheep these are?

whosere, obs. contr. f. WHOSOEVER.

whosoeover (hu:zsəu'evə(r)), *pron. arch.* The genitive of WHOSEEVER: Whatever person's; of whomsoever.

1611 Bible John xx. 23 Whose soeuer sinnes yee remit, they are remitted vnto them, and whose soeuer sinnes yee retaine, they are retained. **1821** SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxxii, Whosoeover be the speech, it is the thought of ninety-nine out of an hundred. **1903** *Sat. Rev.* 27 June 798/1 Whosoeover the fault there has been no effective cooperation.

whosever (hu:z'evə(r)), *pron. rare.* [f. WHOSE + EVER *adv.* 8e; for the spelling cf. WHEREVER.] The genitive of WHOEVER: = prec.

1739 'R. BULL' tr. *Dedekindus' Grobianus* 133 Whos'ever Knife upon the Table lies. **1865** W. G. PALGRAVE *Arabia* II. 19 Whosever the footprint may be, the story is gospel among Mahometans.

whosh, obs. var. HUSH *v.*¹

whosht, (whoosht) obs. var. HUSHT *int.*¹, *a.*, *v.* **1598** FLORIO, *Quetare*, to quiet, . . . to whosht. *Ibid.*, *Zita*, an aduerbe to commaund. . . silence, as we say isse, whosht or st. **1611** *Ibid.*, *Quattare*. . . to whosht and lie close, to lurke. *Ibid.*, *Quatto quatto*, very squat, very whoosht.

whosis ('hu:zis). Also whoosis. [Colloq. contraction of 'who is this?' (WHO *pron.*); in quot. 1923, perh. repr. 'whose is this?'] 'What's-his-name', 'so-and-so'. Often following a title, as *Mr. Whosis*.

1923 J. E. BAXTER *Locker Room Ballads* 8 That number one's a Big League Green As slick as Whoosis Vaseline. **1939** R. STOUT *Some buried Caesar* vi. 72 He . . . introduced himself as Mr. Whosis, Assistant District Attorney. **1953** G. W. BRACE *Spire* xxiii. 229, I suppose . . . you mean he should go and see your precious Dr. Whoosis? **1962** J. D. SALINGER *Franny & Zooey* 130 How was the script? Did it come? You said Whosis—Mr. LeSage or whatever his name is—was going to drop it off with the doorman. **1965** I. FLEMING *Man with Golden Gun* vi. 89 Don't forget one thing, Mister Whoosis. I rile mighty easy.

whosit ('hu:zit). Also whoosit, whoozit, whozit. [Colloq. contraction of 'who is it' (WHO *pron.*)] = prec.

1948 'P. QUENTIN' *Run to Death* xxi. 156 *Ye Old Antique Shoppe* with little leaded glass panes. *Mother Whosit's Chicken Kitchen.* **1951** *Blue Bk. Mag.* Jan. 24/3 Mr. Whoozit—please come quickly. **1951** 'J. TEY' *Daughter of Time* viii. 112 Someone, say, insists that Lady Whoosit never had a child. **1967** O. NORTON *Now lying Dead* i. 9 That's what I've got to work out. . . Like Angela Whoosit was telling us. **1977** J. FLEMING *Every Inch a Lady* i. i. 7 Arrival. . . of Mrs Whozit, the lady help.

whoso ('hu:səu), *pron. arch.* Forms: see WHO and so; also 2-3 hwa se, hwase, (2 wa se), 3 hw(a)o se, *Orm.* whas(e, 3-5 wo se, 4 *Sc.* quha se, (woys), 4-5 whos, 4-6 whose, hose, 5 *Sc.* quhais, (9 *dial.* whos'). [ME. *wha swa*, *hwa se*, reduced form of OE. *swā hwā swā*, generalized form of *hwā* WHO: see SO *adv.* 17 d.]

1. = WHOEVER 1: Any (one) who.

1154 O.E. *Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1135 Wua sua bare his byrthen gold & sylure, durste nan man sei to him naht bute god. **c1200** ORMIN 677 Whas itt iss þatt wæpnedd iss wipp fulle trowwpe o Criste. **c1205** LAY. 3657 Wha swa wulle libba, alde þas sibba. [c1275 Wo so wole libbe holde þus sibbe]. *Ibid.* 22307 Wha swa [c1275 wose] come gladliche he sculden wurdre riche. ? 12. . in Kemble *Code. Dipl.* V. 236 Ho so hit beo ðæt ðis my dede in oðere wise hit buturne oðer gewanye. **a1225** *Ancr.* R. 46 Et uhtsonge schal siggen hwo se con Domine labia mea. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6253 Ofte wo so coueiteþ al, al leseþ. **13. .** *Cursor M.* 5829 (Gött.) Qua sua wil nocht trou pe first, To trow pe toder him es best. **c1330** *King of Tars* 894 And hose nil not cristned be Hong hem heighe uppon a tre. **c1400** MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) iii. 10 Wha so weddes offer þan anes, þaire childer er bastades. **c1400** *Destr. Troy* 5551 Wo so staris on þis story, or stodis þerin, Take hede on þe harmys & the hard lures! **1498** in J. Bulloch *Pynours* (1887) 57 And quhais doys in the contrar. . . salbe punist. **1522** MORE *De quat. Noviss.* Wks. 73/2 Now whoso seeth not, that his laughter is more madde than the laughter of the mad man, I hold him madder than they both. **1539** Bible (Great) John vi. 54 Whoso eateth my flesshe & drynketh my bloude, hath eternall lyfe. **1607** SHAKS. *Timon* v. i. 212 Who so please To stop Affliction, let him take his haste. **1667** MILTON *P.L.* ix. 724 This Tree, That whoso eats thereof, forthwith attains Wisdom. **1727** POPE, etc. *Art of Sinking* 118 Whoso loseth his place. . . hath forfeited his share in publick praise. **a1825** FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia* s.v., Whos' wull may do that. **1859** WHITTIER *On a Prayer-Book* 12 Let whoso can before such praying-books Kneel on his velvet cushion. **1883** WHITELAW *Sophocles, Antigone* 35 Whoso does this deed, A public death by stoning is his doom. **1891** CONAN DOYLE *White Company* xxxvii, The last stern welcome to whoso should join with them.

2. = WHOEVER 2: No matter who; †in early use often with mere unemphatic conditional force: If any one, if one.

c1300 *Beket* (Percy Soc.) 35 Woldestou, . . . ho so it wolde bede the, Tholie deth for thi Louerdes love? **13. .** E.E. *Allit. P. C.* 5 For quo-so suffer cowpe syt, sele wolde folze. **c1475** *Rauf Coilgar* 675 With Dosouris to the duris dicht, quha sa wald deme. **1876** MORRIS *Aeneids* viii. 122 'Come forth', he said, 'whoso ye be'.

whosoever (hu:zsəu'evə(r)), *pron.* Forms: see prec.; also *poet.* whosoe'er (-'eə(r)) (5 hosere, who-sere, 7 whosoere). In early use often as three words, occas. as two. [f. WHOSO + EVER *adv.* 8e; cf. SOEVER.]

Formerly occas. with gen. *whosoevers* = WHOSOESEVER.

1. = WHOEVER 1.

a1225 *Ancr. R.* 286 Hwo so euer on him sulf nimeð ouðer of peos two, he robbeð God. **a1240** *Ureisin* in O.E. *Hom.* I. 187 Hwa se euer wule habbe lot wip þe of pi blisse, he mot deale wip þe of pine pine on eorpe. **c1375** *Sc. Leg. Saints* v. (*Johannes*) 593 þat quha-se-euire vald almus crafe For luf of sancte Iohne suld hafe. **c1400** MAUNDEV. xix. [xv.] (1919) 113 Hem semeth þat whosoeure be meke & pacyent he is holy & profitable. **c1420** *Chron. Vilod.* 4685 For pore and ryche & also for hosere wolde come þedur. **c1450** *Mirk's Festial* 111 Whosoeuer ys of God, heryth Godys worde. **1526** TINDALE *John* xx. 23 Whosoevers synnes ye remyt, they are remitted vnto them. — *Rev.* xxii. 17 Let whosoeuer wyll, take of the water of lyfe fre. **1593** SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI.* iv. vii. 74 And whosoe're gainsayes King Edwards right, By this I challenge him to single fight. **1611** Bible *Rev.* xxii. 17 Whosoeuer will, let him take the water of life freely. **1681** COTTON *Wond. Peak* 72 Whosoere shall happen to come there, Will not reprove what I've deliver'd here. **1827** SCOTT *Chron. Canongate* iii, Christie regarded me as . . . a . . . predestinated child of perdition, who was sure to . . . drag downwards whosoever might attempt to afford me support. **1882** BESANT *All Sorts* ii, We shall present our Case to Parliament, or the Queen, or the House of Lords, or the Court of Chancery, or whosoever is the right person.

2. = WHOEVER 2; also formerly = 'if any one' (cf. prec. 2).

13. . *Cursor M.* 4275 (Gött.) For qua-sua euer es glad or blith, Priue loue at end wil kith. ? **a1500** *Chester Pl.* xiv. 71 This ilke Boyst might have bene sould For three hundreth penyys tould, And dealt to poor men, who-sere would, And wo-sere had bene wyse. **c1520** NISBET N.T. Prol. (S.T.S.) I. 5 Quha saeuir thow be, . . . þif thow be diligent in the estait that God has callid the vnto, . . . than art thow surelie blist. **1526** TINDALE *Matt.* xxiii. 16 Ye saye; whosoeuer sweare by the temple, yt ys nothing: but whosoeuer sweare by the golde of the temple, he is detter. **1591** SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI.* v. iii. 52 Margaret my name, and daughter to a King, . . . who so ere thou art. **1640** BP. H. KING *Serm.* 31 Whosoevers Midnight is interrupted by the newes, Ours can complaine of no disturbance. **1751** F. COVENTRY *Pompey the Little* i. v. 39 Let me admonish thee, my gentle Friend, whosoeuer thou art, . . . not to be too forward in making Applications.

3. With loss of relative force by ellipsis: Any one at all. Cf. WHATEVER 4b. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1583 BABINGTON *Expos. Commandm.* (1590) 336 Lueries of Prince or subiectes, Noblemen, Gentlemen, or whosoeuer. **c1643** LD. HERBERT *Autobiog.* (1824) 88 Having as clear a Reputation for my Courage as whosoever of my time.

b. qualifying a preceding sb. or *any*: now usually replaced by WHATEVER 4a (b).

1586 Marlowe's *Tamburl.* To Rdr., Gentlemen, and curteous Readers whosoeuer. **1621** BP. MOUNTAGU *Diatribæ* 203 By the vniuersall consent of all Writers whosoeuer, except . . . perchance two. **1697** DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* Ded., Being capable, as much as any whosoever, of defending your Country.

¶ Used for the objective WHOMSOEVER.

Also qualifying the prec. word, in which case the construction may be regarded as elliptical = 'whosoever he (they, etc.) be': see 3 b, quot. 1621.

1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cccliii. 230/2 Whosoeuer they hyt he dyed of the stroke. **1526** TINDALE *Mark* xiv. 44 Whosoeuer I do kisse, he it is.

† **whosome**, *pron. Obs.* [WHO and SUM *rel. adv.*] = WHOEVER 1, 2, WHOSO 1, 2.

c1200 ORMIN 5564 An riht god reowwsunnge þatt Godess þeoww, whasumm itt iss, Her bereþþ inn hiss heorhte. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 1953 Qua-sum o fless wil grait þair fode, Lok þai cast a way þe blod. *Ibid.* 16265 Tru it quasum wil it tru. **13. .** *Evang. Nicod.* 665 in Herrig's *Archiv* LIII. 403, I come, wha som takes hede, Als witnes and warand. **c1400** *Rule St. Benet* (prose) 10 Wha sam heris yu, þan heris me.

whosomever (hu:səm'evə(r)), *pron. Obs.* or ? *dial.* (In early use often as three words, occas. as two.) [f. prec. + EVER *adv.* 8e.] = WHOEVER, WHOSOEVER.

c1400 *Cato's Morals* in *Cursor M.* App. iv. 91 Quasimeuer þou be þat wille þi-self safe se. **a1400-50** *Wars Alex.* 3362 Qua-sum-euire in þat ilk his ymage behaldis, þe face is to þe fold-ward, þe fete to þe firmet. **1429** in *15th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. viii. 10 Tyll the for said lorde of Drumlanryge, or tyll hys assygneis or speciale deputis qwa sumewer. **c1460** METHAM *Wks.* (1916) 119 Ho-ssum-euer yt be that owyth this figure, he be hys dysposycion ys a leccherus man. **1502** Husumeuer [see WHOMSOEVER]. **1526** TINDALE *Matt.* xiii. 12 Whosomever hath to him shall hit be geuen. **a1592** GREENE *Alphonsus* 133 Nere to vnfold the secrets of my heart To any man or woman, who some ere Dwels vnderneath the circle of the skie. **1606** SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* ii. i. 70 Who some euer you take him to be, he is Ajax.

whosshe, obs. f. WASH *v.*

whost, var. WHUST *v. Obs.*

whot(e, whott(e, obs. ff. HOT.

whot(e: see WIT *v.*

whou, whough(e, whouh, whow(e, variants of HOW, HOWE int.¹

[c1425 Quhow: see WHEW *int.*] **1542** UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 314 Whough, saith he, half my brothers bodye is more then the whole. **1598** R. BERNARD tr. *Terence, Phormio* III. iii, How much money need you? speake. But thirtie poundes. Thirtiell! Whow. **1615** BRATHWAIT *Strappado* 129

Whou Billie whou, what faire has thou bin at? **1627** W. HAWKINS *Apollo Shroving* II. iv. 33 He answered me nothing but whough, pugh. **1815** SCOTT *Guy M.* xlv, 'Eh whow! Eh whow!' ejaculated the honest farmer, as he looked round upon his friend's miserable apartment.

So †whowb(e (in quots. as sb.; cf. *howbub*, HUBBUB).

1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* VII. x. (1602) 217 They hissed him out with whoubs & hoo-bubs. *Ibid.* ix. viii. 327 [see HOW, HOWE *int.*].

whou(3, whough, whow(e, obs. ff. HOW adv.

houle, howl(e, obs. ff. HOWL.

hourliburly, obs. f. HURLY-BURLY.

† **howball**. *Obs.* [f. *who(w)*, variant of HO *int.*² + BALL *sb.*² 2, a typical proper name of a horse (see *Plowman's T.* 402 my hors Ball, and quot. a 1697 below), of a sheep (*Promp. Parv.* 22/1), of a dog (*Privy Purse Exp. Henry VIII* 43), and of a cow (see quot. 1785).

a1697 AUBREY *Lives, Fleetwood* (1898) I. 253 [Highwaymen] brought him under the gallows, fastned the rope about his neck and on the tree, . . . and then left him to the mercy of his horse, which he called *Ball*. So he cried 'Ho, Ball! Ho, Ball!' and it pleased God that his horse stood still.]

(See quots.) *John Whoball*: app. a typical name for a yokel.

1598 R. BERNARD tr. *Terence, Andria* 17 *Se deludi facile haud patitur*. You cannot easily make him a foole. He is none of Iohn whoballs children. **a1700** B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Whow-ball*, a Milk-maid. **1785** GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T.*, *Whow-ball*, a milkmaid, from their frequent use of the word whow, to make the cow stand still in milking; Ball is the supposed name of the cow.

who-whoop: see WHOO-WHOOP.

† **howse, v. Obs. [Echoic. Cf. WHUSH *v.*] *intr.* To make a rushing noise.**

1620 T. GRANGER *Div. Logike* 66 The sea roareth, the winds howse.

whoys, obs. form of WHOSE.

whr-: see words in WR-.

† **whrine, v. Sc. Obs.** In 6 quhryn(e, whryne. [a. OScaud. **hwrīna* (ON. *hrīna*, Norw. *rina*; ENorw. and Swed. *dial.* *vrīna*; with normal disappearance of *w* in West and *h* in East Scand.)] *intr.* To whine; to squeak.

1508 DUNBAR *Testament* 87 War I a dog and he a swyne, . . . I suld ger that lurdane quhryne. **1513** DOUGLAS *Aeneis* v. Prol. 32 Thairon aucht na man irk, complene, nor quhryne. **1549** *Compl. Scot.* vi. 39 The suyne began to quhryne. **16. .** *Montgomerie's Flying* 440 (Harl. MS.) As they could they maid it whryne.

Hence † **whrine sb.**, whining, querulous cry.

1513 DOUGLAS *Aeneis* vii. i. 36 The birst baris and beris in thair styis Roring all wod with quhrynis and wyld cryis.

† **whrinny, v. Obs. rare. [Imitative. But cf. prec.] *intr.* = WHINNY *v.***

1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) III. 179 Whose horse made noyce firste, or did whrynnny, he scholde be electe in to theire kyngne.

whucche, var. WHITCH, chest, coffer.

whuch(e, obs. ff. WHICH.

whudder, var. WHITHER *sb.*¹ and *v. dial.*

whuff (hwaf), *v.* [Imitative; cf. *whuff*, *dial.* var. WHIFF (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*)] *intr.* To make a sound as of a forcible blast of breath or wind; *trans.* to utter with such a sound. Also as *int.* imitating such a sound. Hence *whuffing vbl. sb.* So whuffle ('hwaf(ə)l) *v., intr.* in same sense; *trans.* to drive by blowing forcibly.

1896 H. G. WELLS *Wheels of Chance* xix, He whuffed a contemptuous laugh. **1906** 'JOHN OXENHAM' *Giant Circumstance* ii, One of the horses . . . woke up enough to whuffle the flies out of its nose. **1907** — *Carette* xxxiii, The water began whuffling against the rock walls. **1919** J. J. BENNETT *Dover Patrol* 172 'Whing! Whuff!' and another muffled burst comes a minute or so later.

whuist, obs. f. WHIST *int.*¹

whulc, whulch, obs. ff. WHICH.

whule, obs. f. WEEVIL, WHEWL, WHILE.

whum(m)el, whummle, var. WHEMMEL.

whump (hwamp), *v.* Also wump. [f. as next.] 1. *intr.* To make a dull thudding sound; to move with a 'whump'; to bang or thump; to strike (with a thud).

1897 E. TERRY *Let.* 5 Feb. in *Ellen Terry & Shaw* (1931) 126 Not a single speech do I know yet, and my head is thumping and wumping. **1928** *Blackw. Mag.* Jan. 5/1 The look-out sentry . . . whumped twice, briskly, on his hand-gong. **1939** *Life* 11 Dec. 26 Taft of Ohio sturdily whumped at the New Deal's 'insane deficit policy'. **1981** B. GRANGER *Schism* xi. 89 The windshield wipers whumped, whumped slowly across the streaky glass.

2. *trans.* To strike heavily or with a 'whump'.

1974 D. E. WESTLAKE *Help* (1975) iii. 20, I would then adjust the rubber stamp . . . wump it onto the stamp pad,

wump it onto the envelope. 1976 *National Observer* (U.S.) 24 Jan. 19/3 What had been lost at Waterloo and Sedan could be won back by whumping mud forts in the Sahel.

Hence 'whumping' *vbl. sb. and ppl. a.*

1928 *Blackw. Mag.* Jan. 2/2 The occasional whumping and booming of war-gongs. 1977 P. DICKINSON *Walking Dead* 11. viii. 206 There was a slow, wumping explosion.

whump (hwamp), *sb.* (and *int.*) Also *wump*. [Echoic: cf. *bump*, *thump*, etc.] A dull thudding sound, as of a body landing heavily. Also *int.* Cf. WHOMP.

1915 D. O. BARNETT *Let.* 6 May (1915) 130 Then there was a wump over beyond, and a young howitzer shell went zip over my trench. 1922 *Chambers's Jnl.* 7 Oct. 707/1 The globe suddenly swung in a long arc across some hidden gully in the bottom and fetched up with a stunning 'wump' on the slope of the other side. 1926 GALSWORDY *Escape* 1. ii. 32 Still—up on the ladder and down with a whump—it hits 'em [sc. gentlemen] harder than it does the others. 1930 C. R. SAMSON *Fights & Flights* 11. iv. 181 'Wump' fell a second bomb. 1967 *Boston Herald* 1 Apr. 20/2 (caption) Whump! 1976 *New Yorker* 8 Mar. 106/2, I heard this funny sound: a kind of *whummpp*.

whun, -*stane*: see WHIN¹, ², WHINSTONE.

whunk (hwank), *sb.* (and *v.*) *rare*. Also *whonk*. [Echoic.] A dull hollow sound, as of a bullet striking something. Also as *v. intr.*, to strike with a 'whunk'.

App. only in the work of Hemingway.

1935 E. HEMINGWAY *Green Hills Afr.* 11. iii. 53 We had both heard the whunk of the bullet. *Ibid.* 11. iv. 76, I heard the *whonk* of the bullet. 1936 — in *Hearst's Internat.* Sept. 168/1 He heard a *whunk* that meant that the bullet was home. *Ibid.* 170/3 Hearing the bullets whunk into him.

whunt, obs. dial. f. QUAIN^T *a.*

c 1425 *Non-Cycle Myst. Plays* (1909) 23 She is both whunt and slee.

whup, **whuph**, **whur**: see WHOOP, WHOOF, WHIRR.

whup (hwap), *Sc.* and *U.S. colloq.* and *dial.* var. of WHIP *v.*

† **whurl**, *v.* *Obs.* Also 5–6 *whorle*, 6 *whyrl*, 7 *wherl*. [Imitative.] *intr.* To make a roaring or rumbling noise; to purr, as a cat; to snarl or growl, as a dog. (Cf. WHARL *v.*, WHIRR *v.* 3, 3 b.) Hence † *whurling vbl. sb. and ppl. a.*; also † *whurl sb.* = WHARL *sb.*

1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P.R.* xi. ii. (W. de W.), In ye eeres wynde makith whystlyng and whorlinge [Bodl. MS. *troungelinge*] and ryngyng. 1530 PALSGR. 781/2 This wynde whorleth so I can nat here. 1553 BRENDE *Q. Curtius* v. 81 b, Ye vse of the eares could not serue for one to receiue counsel . . . at an other, the wynd whyrlid so amanges the leaues. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 112 The sea raged and rored . . . with a horrible whurlinge. 1607 *Tourneur Rev. Trag.* iv. ii. G 3, He whurles and rotles in the throate. 1608 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 105 How [the cat] whurleth with her voyce. 1611 COTGR., *Gronder*, to whurle, whurre, yarre, like a dog that is angrie. 1625 in *Foster Engl. Factories Ind.* (1909) III. 51 The flying shoot . . . macking such a wherling noyse in the ayere. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XIII. 112/1 The commonalty are . . . distinguished by a kind of shibboleth or whurle, being a particular way of pronouncing the letter R, as if they hawked it up from the wind-pipe, like the cawing of rooks.

whurl(e, whurr, whurra, whurry: see WHIRL, WHIRR, HURRAH, WHIRRY.

whurt, obs. form of WHORT.

whush, *v.* Now *dial.* [Imitative: cf. WHISH *v.*¹] *intr.* To make a soft rushing sound, as wind, flowing water, waves, etc.; to move with such a sound. (Cf. HUSH *v.*³) Chiefly in *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1581 A. HALL *Iliad* 11. 23 When as the westerne winde doth meete a field of graine, . . . & cause the eares to whush. *Ibid.* iv. 72 As the waues within the sea . . . yeelds whushing noise. 1856 DICKENS *An Ordeal* vi. in *Househ. Wds.* 12 Apr. 299/2 A 'whushing' music, as of distant waves. 1861 'HOLME LEE' *Adv. Tuftongbo* i. 3 The whushing and whispering amongst the trees.

whush, *Sc.* var. HUSH *sb.*³

whush, obs. or n. dial. var. HUSH *a.* and *v.*¹

1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. John* xxi. 12–15 The disciples sate downe, but all whusht and spake no wordes.

whusht, obs. var. HUSHT *int.*¹ and *a.* (cf. WHISHT); pa. t. and pple. of *whush*, obs. var. HUSH *v.*¹ (see under WHUSH).

1557 *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 202 The audience ceased . . . and every thing was whusht. 1581 A. HALL *Iliad* v. 101 All for drear are whusht. 1598 FLORIO, *Citto*, a word to bid children holde their peace, as we say whusht, husht.

whuss (hwas). U.S. (chiefly Black English) colloq. abbrev. of 'what is . . . ?'

1935 Z. N. HURSTON *Mules & Men* (1970) 1. iii. 74 Whuss de matter, Jack? 1938 C. HIMES *Pork Chop Paradise* in *Black on Black* (1973) 174 Whuss yo' name? 1977 *Rolling Stone* 16 June 11/2 Whuss happinn'?

whussle, **whustle**, *Sc.* and *dial.* ff. WHISTLE.

† **whust**, *sb.*, *a.*, *v.* (Also 7 *whost*.) Variant of WHIST *sb.*², *a.*¹, *v.*¹

1555 PHAER *Aeneid* 11. (1558) Cijjb, They whusted all, and fyxt with eyes ententue did behold. 1556 *Ibid.* iv. (1558) Lj, Than was it night. . . . When whust is euery felde. 1573 TWYNE *Aeneid* xi. (1584) Rij, When whust was once proclaimed, & men were bid not silence breake. 1582 STANYHURST *Aeneis* 1. (Arb.) 29 Thee murder he whusted. *Ibid.* 11. 51 Thee Greeks . . . al softlye be whusted. 1583 MELBANCKE *Philotimus* Eeijb, It were good for me to bee whust in these matters. 1586 J. HOOKER *Hist. Irel.* in *Holinshead* 11. 81 All should be related, and nothing whusted. 1589 NASHE *Pasquill & Marf.* 26 Seeing Martins matters begin to be whust. 1611 FLORIO, *Quetare*, to quiet, to whost. 1614 GORGES *Lucan* v. 193 The whusted guards.

whut (hwat), U.S. dial and Black English var. of WHAT *pron.*

1909 *Dialect Notes* III. 387 *Whut*, what. A common pronunciation. 1929 W. FAULKNER *Sanctuary* (1981) viii. 94, I couldn't tell and wouldn't even keer whut I was eatin. 1936 M. MITCHELL *Gone with Wind* v. lix. 996 Miss Melly, you know whut he done? 1961 J. JAHN in A. Dundes *Mother Wit* (1973) 101/1 Whut makes yore head so red. 1973 *Black World* July 62/2 Well, so whut.

† **whute**, *v.* *Obs. rare*. [Imitative.] To whistle.

Hence † *whuting ppl. a.* So † **whute sb.**

c 1600 in *W. Fowler's Wks.* (S.T.S.) I. 340 The Robin, Wraine, & whuting quail. a 1663 *Robin Hood & Curial Friar* xxix. in *Child Ballads* (1888) v. 125 Give me leave to set my fist to my mouth And to whute whutes three. *Ibid.* xxx, xxxi.

whuther, var. WHITHER *sb.*¹ and *v. dial.*

whutter ('hwat(r)), *sb.* [Imitative; cf. *flutter*.] The sound of the flapping of the wings of a large bird or a flight of birds. So 'whutter *v.*, whence 'whuttering *ppl. a.*

1831 J. WILSON in *Blackw. Mag.* XXIX. 4 A sound like the whutter of wild-fowl on the feed along a mud-bank. 1870 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 12 Aug. 10 The startling of the wary cock, whose whuttering pinions will summon out of reach pack after pack of birds.

whutterick, **whutthroat**, **whuttorock**, var. WHITRET.

whuz, obs. or dial. var. WHIZZ *v.*

† **whuzsh**. *Obs. rare*—¹. ? = HUSH *sb.*² 2.

1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* 1. vi. (1602) 15 [The Jesuits] lull babies a sleepee with a blacke Sanctus in a whuzsh of whispering foolish noyse.

whwte, variant of WHOOT.

why (hwaɪ), *adv.* (*sb.*, *int.*) Forms: 1–3 *hwy*, (1 *hwiz*, *hwie*), 1–4 *hwi*, (3 *hwui*, *wee*, *3wi*), 3–4 *wi*, 3–6 *whi*, *wy*, (4 *Kent.* *hue*, 4–6 *why*, 5 *whyghe*, 6–7 *whie*), 4– *why*; 3–5 *qui*, 4–5 *quy*, *qwy*, *quhi*, 5 *qwi*, *Sc.* *qwhy*, 5–6 (*8 arch.*) *Sc.* *quhy*. [OE. *hwi*, *hwý* instr. case of *hwæt* WHAT, governed by *to* or *for* (see FORWHY) or used simply as *adv.*, corresp. to OS. *hwi* used with preps. (*bi hwi*, *te hwi*) and simply = *why*, wherefore, ON. *hwi* used as *dat.* of *hwat*, and as *adv.* = *why* (MSw., Da. *hvi*):—O Teut. **χwī*:—Indo-Eur. **qweī*, locative f. **qwo*- WHO; cf. Gr. (Doric) *peī* where.]

I. 1. a. In a direct question: For what reason? from what cause or motive? for what purpose? wherefore?

c 1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Matt. xvii. 19 Hwi ne mihte we hyne ut-adrifan? c 1000 *Apollonius* (1834) 2 Hwi eart pu . . . swa gedrefedes modes? a 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 221 Hwi wolde god . . . him forwerne? c 1200 ORMIN 2407 Whi 3aff 3ho swille annsdwere onnæn, þa Godess enngell se33de þatt 3ho wipþ chilðe sholldē ben? c 1250 *Kent. Ser.* in *O.E. Misc.* 33 Wee bie ye idel? 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2757 Sire king wi lete 3e mi moder & me biuore þe lede? a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1128 Sir cayn, Wy has pou pi broiþer slain? *Ibid.* 16295 Qui emites pou me? 1340 *Ayenb.* 47 And hue is hit uoul dede zeþpe hit is kendeþich? 1362 *LANGL. P. Pl.* A. xi. 66 Whi wolde god . . . suffre such a worm . . . þe wommon to bigyle? c 1470 HENRY WALLACE iii. 361 Quhi, Scot, dar thou nocht preiff? 1526 TINDALE *Matt.* xxi. 25 He wyl say vnto vs: why dyd ye not then beleve hym? 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* ii. iii. 71 Patroclus is a foole positue. *Patr.* Why am I a foole? 1683 *PRIOR Pastoral to Dr. Turner* 3 Why dost thou sigh, why strike thy panting breast? 1776 *Trial of Nundocomar* 60/2 When you came from Patna, why did you bring this paper with you? 1837 NEWMAN *Par. Ser.* III. iii. 37 Why was Saul thus marked for vengeance from the beginning? 1883 D. C. MURRAY *Hearts ix*, Why don't you learn Italian?

b. Implying or suggesting a negative assertion (= 'there is no reason why . . .'); hence often expressing a protest or objection (esp. with *should*).

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past.* C. xxxvi. 250 ȝif he ȝæm gehiersuman mannun næfe ȝetiohad his eðel to sellanne, hwy [v.r. hwi] wolde he hie mid ængum ungetæsan læran? a 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 282 Hwi sceal ic æfter his hyldo ȝeoſian? . . . ic mæ3 wesan god swa hel c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 13 Ic . . . sæide: Hwi me scolde cumen swilche ungelimpes? c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 103 Wi list þu turnd on þe corðe? aris þat is to seien hwi lueust þu pine fule sunnes? forlet hem. a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1390 Hwi ne hihe we for to beon ifulhet? a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1234 þat eni man beo falle in odwite, Wi schal he me his sor atwite? a 1300 *Cursor M.* 461 Qui suld I him seruiss yield? a 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 284 Whi spille 3e Innocens blode? c 1420 *Avow. Arth.* xxxiii, Qwi schuld I layne? c 1470 HENRY WALLACE 11. 108 Eternaile God, quhy suld I thus wayis de? 1562 WINSET *Cert. Tractates* iii. Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 28 Quhi abolissis he not the Sonday, as he dois 3ule? 1608 *Yorksh. Trag.* iii. 5 Whie should our faults at home be spred abroad? 1766 GOLDSM. *Vicar W.* iii, The poor live pleasantly without our help, why

then should not we learn to live without theirs? 1839 THACKERAY *Fatal Boots* Feb., I said nothing about it, as why should I? *Ibid.* Aug., Why, why was I born to undergo such unmerited misfortunes?

c. With ellipsis of the remainder of the sentence, or of all except the principal word or words (esp. when emphatic); also with simple inf. (= 'why should one . . .?'). See also 4 b.

a 1380 *St. Aug.* 7 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 61/1 Seint Austin was nempned þat name For preo causus of gret fame: . . . Whi? furst for excellence of dignite. c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* lxxxvi. 406 (Add. MS.) The kyng . . . askid hym whethere he was shreun or not? he saide, 'nay.' 'why so?' saide the kyng. 1528 ROY *Rede me* (Arb.) 113 *Wat.* Surely we shulde be proclaymed For outrageous heretykis. *Ief.* Why more we then the Cardinal? 1528 MORE *Dyaloge* 11. Wks. 182/2, I haue euer herde it sayd, that we should not pray to any dead man but with this condicion, if thou be a saint, than pray for me. Whi so quod I? 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* i. ii. 231 *Cam.* [He] Stayes here longer. *Leo.* I, but why? a 1625 FLETCHER *Nice Valour* iv. i, But why a Peel-crow here? 1697 VANBRUGH *Æsop* v. i, Why so Cold, and why so Coy? 1746 FRANCIS *tr. Hor.*, *Epist.* 1. ii. 65 Blest with a competence, why wish for more? 1841 BROWNING *Pippa passes* Introd. 196 Say not 'a small event!' Why 'small'? 1843 WORDSW. *Grace Darling* 73 But why prolong the tale? 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xi, 'Berry's very fond of you, ain't she?' Paul once asked Mrs. Pipchin. . . 'Yes,' said Mrs. Pipchin. 'Why?' asked Paul. 1905 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 15 Sept. 293/1 Why books, why chapters, why titles, why any arrangement at all, they queried.

d. With the negative form of the simple present tense in formulating a positive suggestion, as 'why don't I (we, etc.) . . . ?'

1949 D. SMITH *I capture Castle* xii. 212 Why don't I drive you over to hear it now? 1974 G. MITCHELL *Winking at Brim* vi. 54 Mummy brought a couple of thermos flasks. . . Why don't I go and collect one? 1982 R. DOYLE *Havana Special* vii. 182 Why don't I stop by her compartment . . . and see how she is?

¶ *and why?* is used in some early biblical versions, and hence in the Prayer-book Psalter, to render Heb. *kî* because, since, for: app. in imitation of *forwhy* after this was apprehended as interrogative (cf. FORWHY B. 2, A. 1 b).

1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* xx[i]. 7 For thou shalt . . . make him glad w^t the ioye of yⁱ countenance. And why? because [so 1539] (Great); 1560 (Geneva), 1568 (Bishops') Because; 1611 For] the kinge putteth his trust in the Lorde. *Ibid.* xxxiv. [xxxv.] 20 O let them not triumphe ouer me. . . And why? [so 1539; 1560 and later vv. For] their comonyng is not for peace.

2. In an indirect question or a dependent clause of similar meaning, with sense and const. as in 1.

Formerly sometimes followed by *that* (THAT *conj.* 6). c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxvi. §2 Ic nat hwi ȝe fultruwiað ȝæm hreosendan welan. c 1055 *Byrhtferth's Handbo* in *Anglia* VIII. 308 Uton . . . witan hwæt he [sc. the moon] sy. . . oððe hwy he sy swa ȝehatan. c 1200 ORMIN Ded. 111 3iff mann wile witenn whi lc hafe don piss dede. a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 474 þv ayssest me. . . Hwi ich a wynter singe & grede. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 9265 Yn hy redyng, none wyst why, he logh a grete laghter an hy. 1393 *LANGL. P. Pl.* C. xi. 245 Ac whi þe worlde was a-drent hwi writ tellep. c 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 14241 Durste no man aske whi he were wroth. a 1425 *Cursor M.* 1323 (Trin.) Seth bigon to penke whye þat pis tre bicoom so drye. a 1474 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 136 Whereof to me-werd he makith gret straungenesse: y merveile why. 1538 STARKEY *England* i. iii. (1878) 74, I can not se wy we schold lay any grete faute in the lake of pepul. 1581 *Cal. Scott. Pap.* VIII. 19, I dare give him no counsell, and I will tell you why. 1611 *Bible* Esther iv. 5 To know what it was, and why it was. 1724 RAMSAY *Vision* xvi, Say how, and quhair ye met, and quhy. 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Visit to Newgate*, Buoyed up with some vague . . . hope of reprieve, he knew not why. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 7 It is easy to explain why the Roman Catholic was treated with less indulgence.

3. a. With intensive additions (in direct or dependent questions): see DEVIL *sb.* 20, DICKENS *a*, EARTH *sb.*¹ 9 c, NAME *sb.* 11 b, etc.

c 1475 *Rauf Coilgear* 95 Quhy Deuill makis thow na dule for this euill day? 1762 J. COLLIER (Tim Bobbin) *Let.* 4 Nov., Wks. (1862) 326 There's scarce a boy, . . . that commits a fault, but can find one excuse or another. Then why the dickens must Tim be without one? 1860 W. W. READE *Liberty Hall* II. 20 Why in the name of all patience should you work so hard as this? 1887 DARWIN *Life & Lett.* I. 488 Give [the English names] by all means, but why on earth not make them subordinate to the Latin. 1895 KIPLING *Lett. Trav.* (1920) 115 Why, in the name of Reason, . . . should we vex ourselves?

b. Duplicated in phr. *why, oh why . . . ?*, as an emphatic interrogative, expressing dismay, disapproval, or complete lack of comprehension of another's actions; 'why on earth . . . ?'

1865 M. ARNOLD *Let.* 23 July (1895) I. 294 Why, oh, why do not you and Edward come to the Blaek Forest and join us? a 1884 T. H. HUXLEY *Let.* in *Henry Bristow Ltd. Catal.* (1981) No. 269. 14 My students. . . cannot get copies of the second edition of the Biology book. Why oh why was it not ready by October. 1934 N. MARSH *Man lay Dead* xi. 194 Why, oh why, did the murderer sound the gong? 1961 'E. LATHEN' *Banking on Death* (1962) viii. 70 Why, oh why, had she been so bitchy to his wife? 1975 *Times* 8 Mar. 13/7 Why, Oh why does Rolls-Royce . . . name its latest product after an area of French marsh-land?

4. With a negative particle immediately following. † *a. why ne* (usually as one word *whine*, *whyne*, also contr. *whyn*): why not: used in expressions of desire or longing (e.g. *hwi nam ich* . . . = 'why am I not . . . ?' = 'O that I were . . . !'), in OE. of emphatic protest (cf. 1 b). *Obs.*

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 67 Hwy nelt þu geman þæt min sweostor me læt æn þegnan? a 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) xi[i]. 4 Hwi ne synt we muðfreo? c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 87 Hwi ne mai ich none wunenge habben mid ðe? a 1240 *Ureisin in O.E. Hom.* I. 185 Hwi ne bi-hold ich hu þu strahtest þe for me on rode? *Ibid.*, A ihesu . . hwi nam ich in pin earmes? 1340 *HAMPOLE Pr. Cons.* 1207 'O þou world', he says, 'unciene, Whyn mught þou swa unclen be, þat suld never mare neghe me' [L. *utinam esses ita immundus, ut me non tangeres*]. ? a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 703 Whyne myghte I, dere lufe, dye in þour armes! *Ibid.* 4157 Qwythene [app. = why then ne] hade Dryghttyn destaynede at his dere wille, þat he hade demyd me to-daye to dy for þow alle.

b. *why not* is used elliptically as in 1 c. (Hence as *sb.*: see WHY-NOT.)

a 1380 *St. Aug.* 920 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 77 And eny tyme 3if hit schal beo, Whi not nou? c 1412 *Hoccleve De Reg. Princ.* 4883 Why naght, my gode lorde? what shuld yow eyle? But men do naght so; where-of I merueyle. 1552 *HULOET*, Whye not? *quid ni*. 1746 *FRANCIS tr. Hor., Epist.* I. i. 44 Yet why not cure the gout's decrepit pain? 1821 *SCOTT Kenilw.* xxxvi, Yet wherefore, if guilty, should she have perilled herself by coming hither? Why not rather have fled to her father's or elsewhere? 1882 *BESANT All Sorts* xxx, You can't marry me? Why not? When I offer you a fortune? *Ibid.* xxxvii, They say, 'Here is the Fourth Commandment. All the rest you continue to observe. Why not this?' *Mod.* I can't tell you why not.

II. 5. a. As relative: On account of which, because of which, for which. Usually, now almost always, after *reason* (formerly also *cause*, etc.). Also *ellipt.* (See also *CAUSE sb.* 3 c.)

Formerly also with *that* (*THAT conj.* 6). a 1225 *Anr. R.* 312 Monie oðre reusins beoð hwui mon mei beon bitterliche sori uor his sunnen. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 17288 + 161 þis angel . . neuend peter by name, a skill I tel yow qwy. a 1380 *St. Aug.* 137 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 64/1 Heo . . asked hire þe cause whi þat heo was so sori. 1390 *GOWER Conf.* I. 148 Sche sih hire fader sorwe and sike, And wiste noght the cause why. 1483 *Acta Audit.* in *Acta Dom. Conc.* II. Intro. 133 Quhill the said William . . schew our lauchfull cause quhy scho suld nocht have the said thrid. 1521 *Acts Parlt. Scot.* (1875) XII. 39/1 We se nane appearance quhy þoure grace suld belieff [etc.]. 1548 *UDALL Erasmus. Par. Luke* xxiii. 13-25 What hath this man committed or offended why he should dye? 1581 *PARSONS (title)* Reasons why Catholiques refuse to go to Church. 1599 *SHAKS. Hen. V.* v. ii. 34 If I demand . . what Impediment there is, Why that the naked, poore, and mangled Peace . . Should not . . put vp her louely Visage? 1606 — *Ant. & Cl.* iv. xiv. 89 *Eros*. My sword is drawne. *Ant.* Then let it do at once The thing why thou hast drawne it. a 1721 *PRIOR Female Phaeton* vi, I'll have my Earl, as well as She, Or know the Reason why. 1846 *GREENER Sci. Gunnery* 26 We can perceive the reason why a small proportion of carbonic oxide is always formed during the decomposition of nitre by charcoal. 1908 *R. BAGOT A. Cuthbert* xxviii. 372 It would be useless to deny that your life is in grave danger. . . But that is no reason why you should surrender it without a struggle.

† b. For which reason, wherefore. *Obs. rare*—1. a 1500 in *Arnolde's Chron.* (1811) 22 Also we haue grauntyd for vs and for our eyers to our citezens y^e they . . be quyt for euer of pauge pontage and murage. . . Why we wyll and stedfastly byd for vs and for our eyers, y^e y^e same citezens . . haue all her fraunches . . and fre costumes aforesayd.

† c. to do (one) *why*: to recompense (= to do wherefore: see WHEREFORE 3). *Obs. rare*—1.

c 1400 *LOVE Bonavent. Mirr.* xxxviii. (1908) 195 So that they wolde mede hym and done hym why.

d. Introducing a subject or predicate clause: = 'the reason why'.

Closely allied to the indirect interrogative use (sense 2); e.g. 'Why this should be so is not clear' = 'It is not clear why this should be so.' (Cf. WHERE 6.)

1605 *SHAKS. Lear* iv. vi. 33 Why I do trifle thus with his despair, Is done to cure it. 1820 *KEATS La Belle Dame Sans Merci* xii, And this is why I sojourn here. 1882 *BESANT All Sorts* xv, At first I thought it must be a joke. That was why I went away. *Mod.* Why I mentioned that was because [etc.].

III. 6. as *sb.* (pl. *whys*). a. Reason, cause.

(Formerly as a general synonym for these words; now only in reference to something mentioned, and with conscious allusion to the interrogative use.)

1303 *R. BRUNNE Handl. Synne* 3758 3yf þou art wunt . . For to curse for lytyl why. 1377 *LANGL. P. Pl.* B. xii. 217 So I sey by þe þat sekest after þe whyes [*MS. C.* whaies; *MS. B.* wyes] And aresonest resoun. 1393 *Ibid.* C. xix. 147 [He] wepte water with hus eyen, the whi witen fewe. 1423 *JAS. I. Kings Q.* lxxxvii, Vnkyndenes without a quhy. c 1500 *Lancelot* 123 Well he knowith of al my vo the quhy. 1560 *ROLLAND Seven Sages* (Bann. Club) 35 As may perchance be done for sum gude quhy. a 1644 *QUARLES Sol. Recant.* ch. vii. 10. 33 Where heav'n declares a Will, no wise mans eye Should search a Cause, or lips enquire a why. 1740 *CHEYNE Regimen* Pref. p. iii, But the Why? the final Causes, the moral Consequences, and the particular Detail, is only here conjectured about. 1768 *TUCKER Let. Nat.* (1834) II. 521 Never to act upon mere impulse, but to have a why for all their proceedings. 1828 *SOUTHEY Ess.* (1832) II. 415 The reader who may not be . . acquainted with the when, and the how, and the why of the surrender. 1907 *ILLINGWORTH Doctr. Trin.* xii. 250 The region not of life's how, but of life's why.

b. A question beginning with (or consisting of) the word 'why?'; a question as to the reason of something; hence, a problem, an enigma.

1532 *MORE Confut. Tindale* Wks. 427/1 But I aske of Tyndall no such farre fet whyes, but a why of hys owne dede. . . I aske hym thys why: Why dydde he translate the same by thys englyshe woorde elder? a 1592 *GREENE Alphonsus* 1, Make you a why of that? 1637 *WHITING Albino & Bellama* 6 The testy Father with a furrow'd brow Comes to Bellama with demanding why? 1654 *WHITLOCK Zootomia* 31 Each Day brings forth its why. a 1754 *FIELDING Fathers* II. i, Why should you think he has my affections? *Valence*.

Again at your why's! 1780 *HARRIS Philol. Enq.* II. i. (1781) 48 Till this Why is well answered, all is Darkness. 1866 *A. STEINMETZ Weathercasts* 20 She could supply the ready 'because' to many of the old philosopher's 'whys'.

c. Conjoined with *wherefore* similarly used.

1590, 1624 [see WHEREFORE 6]. 1634 *SANDERSON Serm.* (1674) I. iv. 65 Requiring a why for every wherefore. 1799 *Spirit Public Jnals.* (1805) III. 329 By this they shall form assignations, with the *when* and the *where*—they shall break them off, with the *why* and the *wherefore*, and express a disappointment without a tear or a sigh. 1829 *CARLYLE Misc., Signs of Times* (1857) II. 113 For every Why we must have a Wherefore. 1833 *Ht. MARTINEAU Brooke Farm* viii. 103 If I were to tell you all the whys and wherefores on that question. 1911 *MARETT Anthropol.* viii. 227 The savage is no authority on the why and wherefore of his customs.

IV. 7. Used interjectionally, before a sentence or clause. a. As an expression of surprise (sometimes only momentary or slight; sometimes involving protest), either in reply to a remark or question, or on perceiving something unexpected.

1519 *Interl. Four Elem.* B vij, Than I perceyue ye wyll make gode chere. *Hu.* Why, what shulde I els do? 1581 *Confer. with Campion* (1583) C iij, Why, is not Saint James Epistle called the Catholike Epistle of Saint James. How do you then denie it to be Canonically? 1599 *SHAKS. Much Ado* iv. ii. 44 Why this is flat periurie, to call a Princes brother villain. *Ibid.* v. iv. 73 *Bene*. Doo not you loue me? *Beat.* Why no, no more then reason. 1611 *Bible* Matt. xxvii. 23 The Guy sayde vnto him, Let him be crucified. And the Gournour said, Why, what euil hath he done? 1712 *STEELE Spect.* No. 533 ¶ 1 What do I think? why, I think she cannot be above six foot two inches high. 1799 *WARNER in Jesse Selwyn & Contemp.* (1844) IV. 274 What was I to do in this more than Egyptian darkness? Why, go to bed. Very true. 1837 *DICKENS Pickw.* xxxix, 'Goodness gracious!' said Mary, . . 'Why, it's that very house.' 1847 *DE QUINCEY Secret Soc. Wks.* 1890 VII. 217 Were there no such people as the Essenes? Why, no; not as Josephus described them. 1863 *KINGSLEY Water-Bab.* iii, And, as he spoke, he turned quite pale, and then quite white. 'Why, you're ill!' said Tom. 1893 *MAX PEMBERTON Iron Pirate* i, Mary looked up suddenly . . and said, . . 'Why, I believe I've been asleep!'

b. Emphasizing or calling more or less abrupt attention to the statement following (as in the apodosis of a sentence), in opposition to a possible or vaguely apprehended doubt or objection.

1545 *RAYNALDE Byrth Mankynde* 90 When she feleth greate ache in the inner parte of the eyes . . y^e reste of the body taken as it were with a werynesse without any outward apparent cause: why these thynges portende . . aborcement to be at hande. 1590 *LODGE Rosalind* (1592) N 2 b, And to conceale it, why it doubled her grieve. 1591 *SHAKS. Two Gent.* I. i. 33 If haply won, perhaps a haplesse gaine, If lost, why then a grieuous labour won. 1594 *1st Pt. Contention* II. i, Why let me see, I thinke thou canst not see yet. a 1596 *Sir T. More* I. i. 122 Take an honest woman from her husband! why, it is intolerable. 1602 *SHAKS. Ham.* I. ii. 121 *Ham.* I shall in all my best Obey you Madam. *King.* Why 'tis a louing, and a faire Reply. *Ibid.* III. ii. 282 Why let the stricken Deere go weepe, The Hart vngalled play. 1647 *COWLEY Mistr., Request* iii, If her chill heart I cannot move, Why, I'll enjoy the very Love. 1724 *SWIFT Quiet Life* 27 Why, Dick, thy wife has devilish whims. 1769 *GOLDSM. Rom. Hist.* (1786) I. 439 If you will have Caesar for your master, why have him. 1840 *DICKENS Old C. Shop* i, 'A long way, wasn't it, Kit?' . . 'Why then, it was a goodish stretch, master', returned Kit. 1863 *KINGSLEY Water-Bab.* iii, If she chooses to come, why she may; and if not, why I go without her. 1869 *WHYTE-MELVILLE Songs & Verses* 93 So he made for the gate, . . And the chain being round it, why—over he flew! 1882 *BESANT All Sorts* xxiii, 'Not a doubt', added the Professor. 'Why, it stands to reason.'

† c. As an emphasized call or summons, expressing some degree of impatience. *Obs.*

1592 *SHAKS. Rom. & Jul.* iv. v. 2, † Mistris, what Mistris? Iuliet! . . Why Lambe, why Lady, fie you sluggabed, Why Loue I say? . . why Bride? 1596 — *Merch. V.* II. v. 6 What Iessica? . . Why Iessica I say. 1597 — 2 *Hen. IV.* v. i. 8 What Daui, I say. . . Why Daui.

† d. *why*, *sol* an expression of content, acquiescence, or relief. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1593 *SHAKS. Rich. II.* II. ii. 87 *Ser.* My Lord, your sonne was gone before I came. *Yor.* He was: why so: go all which way it will. 1596 — *Tam. Shr.* iv. iii. 198 *Pet.* . . It shall be what a clock I say it is. *Hor.* Why so this gallant will command the sunne. 1605 — *Macb.* III. iv. 107 Hence, horrible shadow. . . [*Ghost vanishes.*] Why, so, being gone, I am a man againe. 1826 *SCOTT Woodst.* iii, If you will have the things rendered even now—why so; and if not, hold me blameless.

V. 8. for *why*: a. *interrog.* For what reason, why (= 1, 2). b. *rel.* For which reason, wherefore; for which (= 5, 5 b). c. *conj.* For the reason that, because, for. *Obs.*, *arch.*, or *dial.* (See FORWHY and cf. WHY-FOR.)

In later use commonly apprehended as the adverb *why* with a redundant *for* prefixed (cf. *from whence*).

c 1000-1502 [see FORWHY]. 1596 *SHAKS. Tam. Shr.* III. ii. 169 [She] Trembled and shooke: for why, he stamp'd and swore. 1604 — *Oth.* I. iii. 259 The Rites for why I loue him, are bereft me. 1782 *COWPER Gilpin* 212 Away Went Gilpin's hat and wig! He lost them sooner than at first—For why?—they were too big! 1819 *Metropolis* II. 207 We do not like him, I do not precisely know for why. 1821 *SCOTT Kenilw.* xi, 'Why, Dame,' said the hostler, . . 'as for what he was like I cannot tell. . . for why I never saw un.' 1896 *E. F. BENSON The Babe B.* A. i, For why? I am dining with the Babe to-night.

VI. 9. Comb. *why-question*, a question inquiring after the reason for something; one which is introduced by the word 'why'. Cf. WH 2.

1973 *A. DUNDES Mother Wit* 568 'Why' questions are always difficult to answer. 1978 *Language* LIV. 71 A *that*-clause can be the basis of a *why*-question when it is assigned the semantic status of the volunteered stance of the subject of the verb whose complement it is.

Hence as *v. intr.*, to ask the question 'why?' (chiefly as *pres. ppl.*); also 'why'ing *vbl. sb.*

1926 *H. PEARSON Whispering Gallery* II. 19, I made the mistake of doing or dying, but at the same time why-ing. 1928 *D. H. LAWRENCE Phoenix II* (1968) 520 Why indeed? But once you start whying, there's no end to it. 1932 *E. M. BRENT-DYER Chalet Girls in Camp* I. 24 'Why?' . . 'For goodness' sake don't start why-ing, Rix!' 1959 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 2 Jan. 7/1 (*heading*) Howing and whying.

why(e, northern ff. QUEY, heifer.

whybeler, ? obs. form of QUIBBLER.

c 1425 *Engl. Conq. Irel.* 148 langlers & bosters, . . and stronge lyers, foderes, whybelers.

whych(e, whyck, whydah, whyder, -yr, whydyrewyn, whyell, whyer: see WHICH, WHITCH, QUICK, WHIDAH, WHETHER, WITHER-WIN, WHILE, CHOIR.

whydunit (hwaɪ'danɪt). *slang.* Also *whydunnit*. [*f. WHY adv.* + *WHO* DUNIT.] A story, play, or film in which the main interest lies in the detection of the motive for some crime or other action.

1968 *Guardian* 1 May 7/2 Patricia Highsmith . . writes *why-dunnits* rather than *who-dunnits*, psychological thrillers. 1970 *Homes & Gardens* Feb. 122/2 This novel isn't so much a whodunit as a whydunit, with a revolver doing the deed. 1984 *Listener* 17 May 35/3 It is a terrific whodunnit, constantly hinting at whydunnit, at the ethical squalor of all the participants.

whyever (hwaɪ'evə(r)), *adv.* [*f. WHY* + *EVER adv.* 8 d, e.] a. *rel.* For whatever reason. b. *interrog.* An emphatic extension of *why*, implying perplexity or surprise (*colloq.*; more properly as two words).

1891 *Voice* (N.Y.) 20 Aug., Whatever it is and *whyever* it is. *Mod.* *Whyever* [or *Why ever*] did you do that?

why-for, why for, advb. and conj. phr.

† 1. *rel. adv.*: = FORWHY A. 3, WHEREFORE 4, WHY 5. *Obs.*

In quot. with peculiar construction, thus = 'of which'. a 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 67 An aungelle shewed hym the payne . . that she was made to suffre . . , the cause why for he sawe perfitly, how a deuelle helde her bi . . the here of her hede.

† 2. *conj.* = FOR B. 2, FORWHY B. 2. *Obs.*

c 1450 *Cov. Myst.* (Shaks. Soc.) 254 Many of þow be dome; why? for þe wole not redresse, Be mowthe þour dedys mortal. c 1489 *CAXTON Sonnes of Aymon* xxvi. 545 Ye have lerned a fowle crafte, that ys, that ye can speke shrewdly wythoute a cause lawfull. Why for I have herde that ye have called me & my broder the sones of a traytour.

3. as *dependent interrog. adv.*: = FORWHY A. 2, WHEREFORE 2, WHY 2. *dial.*

1787 *GROSE Prov. Gloss.*, *Why-vore*, or *For why-vore*, wherefore. 1801 *Marvellous Love-Story* II. 232 Some folks calls't Crazy Castle, but I never could larn *whyfore*.

whyg, whyghe, whyght(e, whygth(e, whyht, Whyghtson, obs. ff. WHIG *sb.*¹, WHY, WHITE, WIGHT, WHITSUN.

† *why3t. Obs. rare.* [for **whith*, OE. *hwipa* = ON. *hviða*.] A wind, breeze.

c 1300 *K. Horn* 784 (Laud), þe why3t [*MS. L.* wynd] him gan stonde And drof tyl hirelonde.

whyk, whykyn, obs. dial. ff. QUICK *a.*, *v.*¹

whyl, whylghe, obs. ff. WHILE.

whyle, whyles, -is, whylest, obs. ff. WHEEL, WHILE, WILE, WHILES, WHILST.

whylk(e, whyll(e, whylls, obs. ff. WHICH, WEEL², WHEEL, WHILE, WHILES.

whylom(e, -on, -um, whyls(e, whylst, whylyst, obs. ff. WHILOM, WHILES, WHILST.

whylte, obs. f. *wilt*: see WILL *v.*

whyly, obs. f. WILY.

whym, whympel, whympernell, obs. ff. WHIM, WIMPLE, WHIMBREL.

whyn, whynde, obs. ff. WHIN, WIN, WIND.

whyn(e = *why not*: see WHY 4 a.

† *whyne, adv. Sc. and north. dial. Obs.* Forms: 4 quhine, quheyne, qwyne, quhene, 4-5 wheyn, 4-6 quhyne, 5 whyne, 6 quyh. [Contraction of WHETHEN; cf. SYNE.] = WHENCE.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7796 Quein cums pou? 13.. *Seuyn Sages* (W.) 3271 The erl said, . . 'Whyem [read Wheyn] es this faire lady?' The knight said, 'Sir, . . Sho es cumen from myne awyn cuntre'. 1375 *BARBOUR Bruce* VII. 240 Scho askit hym . . quhat he wes, And quhyne he com, and quhar he gais. ? a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3503 'Fro qwyne come pou', . . quod þe kyngne thane, 'That knawes kyngne Arthure, and his knyghttes also?' c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 196 He askid hym whyne he was, & who was his fadur & his moder. c 1520

NISBET *John* vii. 27 Quhen Crist sal cum, na man wate of quhyn he is.

whyne, obs. form of WHIN, WHINE, WINE.

whyness ('hwainis). [f. WHY *adv.* + -NESS.] That which causes a thing to be as it is; the essential reason for something. Cf. WHATNESS.

1896 R. FRY *Lett.* (1972) I. 116 You who... care nothing about the *whyness* of the *what*. 1932 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 20 Oct. 765/3 But it is the whatness not the whyness of things that matters. 1950 *Mind* LIX. 405 Logical empiricism indicates the 'howness' of the world, but not the 'whyness'. 1962 *Time* 11 May 70 Teacher Foote reports that -ness added to nouns, pronouns, verbs, and phrases—a custom thought until now to be mostly whimsical, as in *whyness*, and *everydayness*—has become popular among distinctly unjocose people.

whyng(e), obs. forms of WING.

why-not ('hwaindt). [The phrase *why not?* (WHY 4 b) used as a sb.] a. An argument of the form 'Why not?', which attempts to leave the opponent without a reply. b. In *Backgammon*: see quot. 1680; hence allusively, esp. in phr. *to take (have, etc.) at a why-not*, i.e. at an advantage or in a dilemma.

1611 W. SCLATER *Key* 123 That is answer sufficient to all such plausible why-nots. a 1612 HARRINGTON in *Nugæ Antig.* (1804) II. 144 This game... by certayne bootie play betwene a Protector and a Bishop, (I suppose it was at Tick-take), was like to have been lost with a *why not?* 1664 BUTLER *Hud.* 11. ii. 530 O'er-reach'd your Rabbins of the Synod And snap'd their Cannons with a Why-not. 1680 COTTON *Compl. Gamester* 113 This is the plain Game of Tick-Tack, which is called so from *Touch*, and *take*, for if you touch a man you must play him though to your loss; and if you hit your Adversary and neglect the advantage, you are taken with a Why-not, which is the loss of one. c 1680 in *Verney Mem.* (1904) II. 335 You catch me with a why-not still: Indeed my memory grows bad... and things go out as fast as they come into my head now. 1720 MRS. MANLEY *Power of Love* (1741) 285 He took me at a why not! naked, without Cloaths and Weapons. 1753 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1754) VI. 142 Now, Dame Selby, I have you at a why-not.

whyou, variant of WHEW *int.*

1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xiv, He knew the old gentleman's character well; and a more unscrupulous old—whyou—he did not conclude the sentence.

whyp, **whype**, **whyppe**: see WHIP, WIPE.

† **whyr**, *int.* Obs. rare⁻¹. A call used in driving sheep.

c 1460 [see TYR].

whyre, **whyr(r)ie**, etc., obs. ff. WHERRY *sb.*¹

whyrl(e), obs. f. WHIRL; var. WHURL *v.* Obs.

whysh, **whyshly**, **whysht(e)**, **Whys(s)ontyd(e)**, **whysshe**, **whysshyne**, **-ssyne**, obs. ff. WHISH *v.*², WISTLY, WHISHT *a.*¹, WHITSUNTIDE, WHISH *v.*¹, WISH, CUSHION.

whyst(e), **whystare**, **whystel(l, -tle, -tyl(le, whystelare, -er**: see WHIST, WHITSTER, WHISTLE, WISSEL, WHISTLER, WISSELER.

whyt, obs. f. QUICK *a.*, WHIT, WHITE, WIGHT, WITH.

whytch(e), var. WHITCH.

whyte, obs. f. QUIT, WHITE, WIT.

whyten, obs. f. WHITEN *v.*, WHITING *sb.*

whyth(e), **whythene**, **whythy**: see WHITE, WITH, WHETHEN, WITHY.

whytowre, **whytrat**, **-rathe**, **-rate**, **whyt rent**, **whytsafe**, obs. ff. QUITTER, WHITRET, QUIT-RENT, VOUCHSAFE.

whytt(e), **whytting**, obs. ff. QUIT *v.*, WHITE, WIT, WHITING.

whyver, **whywer**, obs. ff. QUIVER *sb.*¹

† **wi**, *sb.* Obs. Forms: 1 *wig*, 3 *wiz*, *wy3*, *wi*. [OE. *wig* str. n. = OFris. *wich*, OS. *wīg* (MLG. *wich*), OHG., MHG. *wic*, ON. *wig*:—OTeut. **wīgom*, f. pre-Teut. *weig-* (: *waig-*: *wig-*) to fight:—Indo-Eur. *wik-* to be strong.

The form *weig-* is represented by OE. *wīgan* to fight, OS., OFris. *wīgand*, OHG. *wīgant* pr. pple. used as sb. warrior, ON. *wigr* brave in war, neut. *wigt* WIGHT *a.*; *waig-* by OE. *wāgan*, OHG. *weigan* (: **waigjan*) to afflict, ON. *wēg* strength, strong drink, drinking glass (cf. OS. *wēgi*, OE. *wāge* cup); *wig-* by OE. *wiga* warrior, *wy*, Goth. *wigana* dat. sing., *waihiō* battle. The Indo-Eur. *wik-* is represented by L. *vincere*, perf. t. *vici* to conquer, OIr. *fichim* to fight.]

Battle, conflict; *transf.* a military force or troop. Also *attrib.* as in *wi-ax*, a battle-axe.

Beowulf 1080 *Wiz ealle fornām Finnes pegnas nemne feaum anum.* c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past.* C. 3 *Hu him ða speow ægðer ge mid wege ge mid wisdom.* c 1205 LAY. 1567 *þe bearn... igrap... ana wiæx swiðe stronge.* *Ibid.* 25365 *þer com mid mucle wize* [c 1275 *wy3e*] *Irtac king of Turkie.* c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1854 *Emor his fader, ... And his burȝe-folc fellan in wi.*

† **wi**, *int.* Obs. [Cf. WE *int.*] An exclamation used to introduce an anxious question or a statement of something regrettable.

a 1200 *Moral Ode* 90 *He purp-sichep uches monnes ponc: wi hwat scal us to rede? Ibid.* 106 *Wi hwi weren ho biȝeten to hwon weren ho iborene þet sculen bon to depe idemet? c 1200 Ibid.* 104 (Trin. Coll. MS.), *Wi swo fele beð icleped, swo fewe beð icorene. a 1300 Cursor M.* 3752 'Consaile me, fader, how to liue.' 'Wi, quatkin consaile mai i þe giue?' *Ibid.* 5013 'Him sal delhuer your yongeist child.' 'Wi how sal beniamin come pare?' *Ibid.* 23845 *Wi qui þan mak we us sa kene?*

wi, obs. form of WHY.

wi? (wi), Sc. and dial. abbrev. f. WITH *prep.*

wiage, **wiar**, obs. ff. VOYAGE, WIRE.

wibble-wobble ('wib(ə)'l'wɒb(ə)l), *colloq.*, reduplication of WOBBLE (with vowel-variation symbolizing alternation of movement: cf. *zigzag*); hence **wibble** as a simple word (conjoined with *wobble*). So **'wibbly-'wobbly** (also simply **wibbly**), **wibbly-wobbly** *adjs.*, characterized by 'wibbling and wobbling', unsteady; also **'wibbly-'wobbly sb., in phr. *all of a wibbly-wobbly* (*nonce-use*).**

1847 HALLIWELL, *Wibble-wobble*, unsteadily. 1871 L. W. M. LOCKHART *Fair to see* ii, The ample round red face, which wibbled and wobbled in its billowy fatness. 1877 *Holderness Gloss.*, *Wibbly-wobbly*, shaky; tottering; insecure. *Wibble-wobble*, to vibrate; to quiver; to oscillate. 1901 *B'ham Daily Post* 16 Dec. (E.D.D.) His wibbly-wobbly speeches. 1905 *Motor-Car Jnl.* 23 Sept. 630/1 The gait [of a motor-car] was ungainly by reason of the wibbly-wobbly nature of a rear wheel. 1914 *Daily News* 5 June 6, I...hailed myself up again, and with wibbly knees crossed to the bushes south of the track. 1922 JOYCE *Ulysses* 399 Bless me, ... I'm all of a wibbly-wobbly.

wibel, **-ill**, obs. forms of WEEVIL.

wic, obs. f. WICK *sb.*² and *a.*

wicar, **-age**, obs. Sc. ff. VICAR, -AGE.

Wiccamic: see WYKEHAMICAL.

wicche, obs. form of WITCH.

Wicclifize: see WYCLIFFIZE.

wice, obs. Sc. f. VICE *sb.*¹ and ⁴; obs. f. WISE *sb.*

wich, **wych** (witʃ, locally waitʃ). *local.* Also 7 **wietch**. [app. a differentiated variant of WICK *sb.*²; cf. *ditch* and *dike* (OE. *dic*), *lich* and *lyke* (OE. *lic*). The orig. meaning may have been the group of buildings connected with a salt-pit. The chief names of salt-making towns in which the word occurs are *Droitwich* (formerly *Wich*) in Worcestershire, *Middlewich*, *Nantwich*, and *Northwich* in Cheshire.] A salt-works, salt-pit, or brine-spring, in the salt-manufacturing district of Cheshire and neighbouring parts; *pl.* the salt-making towns of these parts.

716-17 in *Birch Cartul. Sax.* I. 203 Aliquam agelli partem in qua sal confici solet ad meridianam plagam fluminis quod dicitur Saluerpe, in loco qui dicitur Lootwic et Coolbeorg. 1086 *Domesday Bk.*, *Cheshire* 268 In eodem Mildestvic Hyndredo erat tercium Wich quod uocatur Norrvich,... Ipsæ leges & consuetudines erant ibi quæ erant in alijs Wiches... Cætera omnia in his Wichis sunt similia. 11... (spurious charter) in *Birch Cartul. Sax.* I. 203 Wich... Unam portionem mansionis in Wico emptorio salis quem nos Saltwich vocamus. c 1250 MATTH. *Paris Chron. Majora* an. 1245 (Rolls) IV. 486 Rex insuper puteos fecerat salinarum de Witz obturari et everti.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXXI. vii. II. 415 In Chaonia there be certaine springs of saltish water, which the people of that country doe boile, and when it is cooled againe, it turneth into salt. *margin*, This is the order of salt with us in our Wiches here in England. 1610 — *Camden's Brit.* 1. 607 These are verie famous Salt-wiches [Camden *salinæ*],... where brine or salt water is drawne out of pittes. *Ibid.* 608 The Britans call it *Hellath wen*, that is, The white Wich or Salt pitte. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* iii. 265 But that which vext her most, was, that...th' Wyches for their Salts such ste on them should take. 1613 A. STANDISH *New Direct.* 15 In Cheshire neere vnto the Wietches (where Salt is made...). 1682 J. COLLINS *Salt & Fish.* 2 At Namptwich they have one Pit within the Town, and two without,...the Bryne being... of a weaker kind than those of the other Wiches. 1810 LYSONS *Magna Brit.* II. 699. 1860 W. WHITE *All round Wrekin* 88 There lies the region of salt-mines, and of the wyes or brine springs which began to flow long before Henry III stopped the works at Nantwich.

b. *Comb.*: **wich-(wych-)house**, a building in which brine is evaporated for making salt; **wich-man**, a man employed in salt-making; **wich-waller**, a salt-boiler; † **wich-work** = *wich-house*.

1534 (12 May) *Ancient Deeds* C. 7583 (P.R.O.) Rauff Maynwarng of Mydlewich sendeth gretynng... that where Richard Leftwiche the younger and Margret his wyff have giffen... all their meses *wiche houses landes... to Richard Maynwarng [etc.]. 1559 *Lanc. Wills* (Chetham Soc. 1861) 125 My hole estate of halffe a wyche house in the Northewyche w'in the countye of Chester. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* 1. 608 Troughes... by which it [sc. brine] is carried into the wichhouses. 1756 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* II. 35 The houses in which the salt works are carried on are called also wich-houses. 1818 J. W. PLATT *Hist. Nantwich* 78 Earl Edwin had a wych-house upon his estate at Aughton. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 161/2 A Salter, or Salt-

Man, or *Wich-Man. 1670 RAY *Prov.* 208 To scold like a *wych-waller. 1298 in Rogers *Agric. & Prices* (1866) I. xix. 456 [The saltern in which the brine was evaporated is called a] *wychwerke.

wich, **wiche**, obs. ff. WHICH, WITCH.

wichauf, **wich(e)safe**, **-saif**, **-sauf**, obs. ff. VOUCHSAFE.

wichert ('witʃət). *dial.* Also **whitchet**, **wichert**, etc. [Orig. uncertain; perh. repr. a local pronunc. of 'white earth'.] A variety of chalk marl subsoil found near the Chilterns in Buckinghamshire, which is mixed with chopped straw and used locally for walling.

1912 R. COMM. *Hist. Monuments: Buckinghamshire, South* 342 *Wichert* or *Whitchet* (white earth).—A local term for a kind of white marl or mud found at Haddenham, Dinton, and in the district, and used unburnt mixed with chopped straw for walling. 1916 C. F. INNOCENT *Devel. Eng. Building Construction* x. 136 In Buckinghamshire, where the walls were built of a kind of white clay called 'witchit', found about eighteen inches below the surface of the ground. 1929 H. HARMAN *Bucks. Dial.* 165 The *wichert* (or *whitchet*), which is a kind of white marl found locally, is laid in heaps beside the line of the intended wall and well soaked with water. When the stonework is in position, the *wichert* is turned and short straw is trodden into it; the purpose of this is merely to keep it fairly compact whilst it is wet. 1942 W. ROSE *Good Neighbours* iv. 42 He also made the curious three-pronged forks, with flat tines, with which the masons built the *wichert* walls of the village. 1951 P. OYLER *Feeding Ourselves* iii. 32 Hand-made bricks and tiles, stone and thatch, cob or *wichert* cannot be out of place in the scenery from which they come. 1958 *Records of Buckinghamshire* XVI. iii. 136 It is considered most probable that the main walls were built of the local chalk mud charged with chopped straw, known in these parts as *wichert*. 1977 *Oxford Times* (S.E. ed.) 4 Mar. 1 The cottage was built of *Wichert*, a sophisticated sort of mud, of which there are many examples in Haddenham. The material crumbles when demolished.

wichetty, var. WITCHETTY.

Wichita ('witʃətə:). Also 9 **Wichataw**. [f. the name of *Wichita*, in Kansas.] a. (A member of) a Caddoan Indian people of southern central N. America (now Oklahoma, formerly also Kansas and Texas). b. Their language. Also *attrib.*

1841 H. S. FOOTE *Texas & Texans* I. xiv. 299 There are several other remnants of tribes in Texas... the *Wichataws*, who live far North, on the Brassos. 1883 W. F. CODY in B. A. Botkin *Treas. Amer. Folklore* (1944) Music. Enter a group of Wichita Indians. 1960 R. W. MARKS *Dymaxion World of B. Fuller* 37/1 When the first Wichita house finally was opened to the public, many were struck by its spaciousness and air of luxury. 1965 *Language* XLI. 84 The consonantal opposition nasal/oral occurs in all the languages of the world except Wichita. 1978 *Ibid.* LIV. 503 Of the three American Indian linguistic groupings discussed here, those of the Caddoan family, spoken in the Southern Plains, are perhaps the least described; of the surviving languages—Caddo, Wichita, and Pawnee—none is being learned by children.

wicht, obs. Sc. form of WIGHT.

wichuraiana (witʃurɑ:'ɑ:nə). [A specific epithet of *Rosa wichuraiana* (F. Crépín 1886, in *Bull. Soc. Bot. Belgique* XXV. 189), f. the name of Max Ernst *Wichura* (1817-66), German botanist + -IANA.] A climbing, almost evergreen, rose belonging to the species *Rosa wichuraiana*, which is native to eastern Asia and bears white flowers, or one of many cultivars developed from it, usually distinguished by small glossy leaves and flowers in clusters. *Freq. attrib.*

1907 [see PENZANCE]. 1913 [see DOROTHY PERKINS]. 1923 *Daily Mail* 10 Mar. 15 The top growth of roses, excepting... *wichuraianas*, should be severely pruned in the first season. 1945 G. M. TAYLOR *Roses* xv. 76 Some of the *Wichuraianas*... will cover a wall very quickly. 1960 *News Chrons.* 6 Aug. 6/1 The *wichuraiana* ramblers are a case in point. 1962 R. PAGE *Education of Gardener* vi. 199 Among rambler roses I like to use the *wichuraiana* varieties.

wick (wik), *sb.*¹ Forms: a. 1 *weoce*, 3 *wueke*, 4-6 *weke*, *weyke*, *wyke*, 5-7 *wike*, *weeke*, (-9 *dial.*) *week*, 6 *weyk*, (*weak*), 6-7 *weik*, *wieke*, (6, 8 *weak*), 7 *wiek*, *wieck*. β. 4-7 *wicke*, 5 *wyk*, 6 *wycke*, 7- *wick*. [OE. *wéoce* wk. fem., also *wéoc* str. fem. (in *candelwéoc*), corresp. to MDu. *wiecke* (Du. *wiek*), MLG. *wêke*, *weike* (LG. *weke*) lint (whence Sw. *veke*, Da. *væge*, Norw. *dial. veik*), OHG. *wioh* str. m. or n. 'lucubrum' (MHG., G. *wieche* wick-yarn), MG. *wieke*, *wike*, *wicke* (G. *wieke* lint, *dial. wiecke*). For the phonology cf. SICK *a.*

No certain cognates are known. It has been suggested that the base is an Indo-Eur. *weg-*, represented by OIr. *figim* to weave, spin, L. *vēlum* veil, Skr. *vāgurā*. There is no evidence for the alleged OE. *wice*.]

1. a. The bundle of fibre, now usually loosely twisted or woven cotton (formerly rushes, tow, flax, etc.) in a lamp, candle, or taper (formerly also in a torch), immersed or inclosed except at one end in the oil or grease, which it absorbs and

draws up on being kindled at the free end, so as to maintain the flame.

a. *c 1000* in *Teichmer's Internat. Zeitschrift* (1885) II. 126 Wæt mid þinum scytfingre on midden, swylce þu weocan settan wylle. *c 1200 Trin. Coll. Hom.* 47 On ure helendes lichame wiðuten sene, þe holie saule wiðinne unsene, and þe michele wisdom on eððer: Alse wex on þe candeale sene, þe wueke wiðinnen unsene, and þe fur on boðe. *1377 Langl. P. Pl. B.* xvii. 204 As wex and a weke were twyned togideres. *1393 Ibid.* C. xx. 178 Of a torche þe blase beo blownen out 3ut brennep þe weke. *c 1440 Promp. Parv.* 520/2 Weyke, of a candel, *lichinius*. *c 1450 LYDG. Life Our Lady lxxxii.* (1484) Mij b. The waxe bytokeneth his manhede, The weke [*MS. Ashm.* 39 wyke] his sowle, the fyre his godhede. *c 1485 Digby Myst.* I. 490 In yone tapir therbe thing iij^e, wax, week and light. *1513 State Papers Hen. VIII* No. 4101 (P.R.O.) Item in torche weke and taper weke iij^{xx} v li. *1570 LEVINS Manip.* 206/45 Ye Weak of a candle, *lichmus*. *1590 SPENSER F.Q.* II. x. 30 When the oyle is spent, The light goes out, and weeke is throwne away. *1604 E. G[IRIMSTONE] tr. D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* II. vii. 99 In candles of tallow or waxe, if the wike be great, it melts the tallow or the waxe. *1626 BACON Sylva* §370 Triall was. . . made of severall Wickes; As of Ordinary Cotton; Sowing Thred. *a 1691 BOYLE Hist. Air* (1692) 247 The Smoak that issues out of the Weik of a Candle newly blown out. *1707 N. BLUNDELL Diary* (1895) 54 Mr. Plumb tried his Lamp with two Weaks. *a 1728 WOODWARD Nat. Hist. Fossils* (1729) I. I. 76 A small Piece of [English talc] . . serves very well for a Wick to a Lamp. *1875 Lanc. Gloss., Week.* . the wick of a candle or lamp.

β. *1393 Langl. P. Pl. C.* xx. 205 As þe wicke and þe warme fuyr wol make a fayr flamme. *c 1450 Alphita* (Anecd. Oxon.) 99 *Licinum*, . . . mecebe uel wyk. *1555 EDEN Decades* (Arb.) 230 The wycke or twyste of hempe. *1583 STRUBBS Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 50 As for the wicks within them [*sc.* the candles], they are of hurds, rope ends, and such other good stuffe. *1784 COWPER Task* III. 164 The little wick of life's poor shallow lamp. *1815 J. SMITH Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 316 The candle or lamp used with the blowpipe should have a thick wick, which should be snuffed clean. *1840 THACKERAY Catherine* III. The candles were burning dim, with great long wicks. *1903 THURSTON Circle* I. xv. She . . raised the wick of the lamp.

b. Collectively, without article, as the name of a substance: = WICKING.

1391 Earl Derby's Exp. (Camden) 67 Clerico speciarie . . pro wyke per ipsum empto . . pro torches faciendis. . . xxxj s. *1404 Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 395, vj libri de weke pro torgis. *1529 Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1871) 6 That thai mak thair candill . . of gud and sufficient stuff baith weyk and tallone. *1571 S'hampton Crt. Leet Rec.* (1905) 76 The Channell^{rs} . . doo mak thair candels wth grat torch weak and yll tallowe. *1602 SHAKS. Ham.* IV. vii. 116 (Qo. 2) There lues within the very flame of loue A kind of weeke or snufe that will abste it. *1883 Century Mag.* Feb. §85/2 He carried too much wick for his candle.

c. Used as a tent or dressing in surgery. (Cf. *G. wieke*, etc.)

1658 A. Fox Würtz' Surg. I. iii. 9 Some . . take grosse strong weeks, and thrust them to the bottom of the wounds. *Ibid.* vii. 27 Of the abuses which are committed with wicks, tents, lints, mulipuffs, &c. *1906 Brit. Med. Jnl.* 13 Jan. 72 A . . glass drainage tube was placed in the pelvis, another in the right loin . . and gauze wicks were placed in the tubes.

d. In fig. phr. to *turn the wick up* (or *down*), to open (or close) the throttle of an engine; to accelerate (or decelerate). *colloq.*

1948 [see THROTTLE sb. 4b]. *1965 PRIESTLEY & WISDOM Good Driving* iii. 28 The gas pedal can be likened to the wick of an oil lamp. Turn it up and you get more light . . . Indeed it is a simile much used by motor cyclists who talk of 'turning the wick up' as a more graphic and descriptive way of saying 'I accelerated'.

2. a. to *get on* (one's) *wick*, to irritate or annoy (a person); to exasperate; to get on one's nerves (*NERVE sb.* 8e). *colloq.*

It is sometimes suggested that both this and the next sense derive from (Hampton) *Wick*, rhyming slang for PRICK sb. 17. See Partridge and wick sb.² 2.

1945 Penguin New Writing XXVI. 56 Parades and bullshit get on his wick. *1958 K. AMIS I like it Here* 32 But I wish he wouldn't think he'd got the right to knock the English. That's what really gets on my wick. *1961 'B. WELLS' Day Earth caught Fire* iv. 54 'Strewth, these licensing laws get on your wick, don't they', they grumbled. *1977 K. BENTON Red Hen Conspiracy* iii. 22 The way you talk about Pat gets on my wick. *1984 B. FRANCIS AA Car Duffer's Guide* 6/2 Gets on my wick, she do.

b. to *dip* (one's) *wick*: of a man, to engage in sexual intercourse. *slang.*

1958 J. CAREW Black Midas vi. 96 'Come on!' Santos bellowed. 'If every time you dip your wick you going to fall in love, then God help you!' Belle jumped out of bed and pulled on her dress. *1969 D. NILAND Dead Men Running* iv. 159 When you're starved for a woman dip your wick, and the starvation's gone. *1971 B. W. ALDISS Soldier Erect* 111 Di asked, 'You don't feel like a bit of a bunk-up this evening, Stubby, by any chance?' 'A bit of what?' 'Dipping your wick, man!' *1981 R. BARNARD Sheer Torture* xiii. 137 None of your barmaids or local peasant wenches for Pete. He's very calculating where he dips his wick.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *wick-holder*, -*screw*, -*spout*, -*trimmer*, -*yarn*.

1498 in *Computus Rolls Obediendaries St. Swithun's Winch.* (1892) 388 In xij lb. Wekeyorne. . . iij s. *1756 W. Owen's Bk. Fairs* (1788) 54 Bridgenorth. . . horned cattle, horses, sheep, hops, cheese, wick-yarn. *1840 Civil Eng. & Arch. Jnl.* III. 175/2 A sudden blaze as if the wick-screw had been raised a turn. *c 1865 J. WYLDE in Circ. Sci.* I. 304/1 A cap . . fits over the wick-bolder. *1875 KNIGHT Dict. Mech., Wick-trimmer*, a shears for trimming wicks. *1911 J. WARD Roman Era in Brit.* xii. 210 The typical Roman lamp . . has . . a covered wick-spout or nozzle (*nasus, rostrum*).

wick (wik), *sb.*² Now only *local*. Forms: 1-3 wic, 3-4, 7 wike, 4 wik, 4-5 wyk, 4-5, 8-9 wyke, 6-7 wicke, 7 week, 7- wick. [OE. *wic* m., f. = OFris.

wik f., OS. *wic* m. dwelling-place, house, MLG. *wik* f., n. town, place, MDu. *wijc* m. district, (Du. *wijk* f. quarter, district, ward, WFrís. *wyk*), OHG. *wich* str. m. dwelling-place, town, MHG. *wich* in *wikbillethe* civic rights, *wichbilde* (G. *weichbild*) precinct and jurisdiction of a town, *wichgrave* recorder; app. ad. L. *vicus* row of houses, quarter of a city, street, village (cognate with Gr. *oikos* house, etc., Goth. *weihs* village).]

† 1. An abode, dwelling, dwelling-place (in general). *Obs.*

Beowulf 1125 ðewiton him ða wigend wica neosian. *c 900 tr. Bada's Hist.* IV. iii, þa gelom sume dæge, þæt he was in þæm foresprecanan wicum mid ane breðer wuniende, þæs noma wæs Owine. *a 1000 Cædmon's Gen.* 1812 ðær ræsborra þrage siððan wicum wundode & wilna breac. *c 1200 ORMIN* 8512 Josap . . bærenn ure Laferrd Crist . . Fra land to land, fra tun to tun, Fra wic to wic i tune. *c 1205 LAY.* 7786 In to France he wende & sette his wike. *a 1250 Owl & Night.* 604 Ich can loki monne wike & mine wike beop wel gode. *a 1300 Cursor M.* 2090 Asie to sem, to cham affrik, To laphet europ, þat wil-ful wike. *c 1300 Harrow. Hell* 177 Louerd god, 3ef vs leue, . . To faren of þis lope wyke To þe blisse of heueneryke.

2. A town, village, or hamlet. *Obs.* or *dial.* (Survives as an element of place-names in both forms, -*wich* and -*wick*, the local distribution of which presents difficulties.)

971 Blickl. Hom. 77 He cwæp: 'Gap on þa wic þe beforan inc stondeð.' *c 1000 Ags. Gosp.* Mark viii. 23 & þa æthran he þæs blindan hand & lædde hine butan þa wic. *c 1205 LAY.* 31960 His biweddede wif weore on þere ilke wike. *a 1300 Cursor M.* 7917 þær was wonand wit-in a wike, Tua men a pouer and a rike. *c 1350 in Rel. Ant.* II. 93 The toun Off Cauntyrbery, that noble wyke.

1600 HOLLAND Livy XXXIV. xxii. 866 The rest abandoned the warre, and slipt . . into their owne wicks and villages. [1885 E. LAW Hampton Crt. Pal. 12 note, As a popular equivalent for the word village, the expressions 'going to the Wick' [*i.e.* Hampton Wick], and 'living at the Wick', being constantly heard among the older inhabitants.]

3. A farm; *spec.* a dairy farm. Now *local*.

1086 Domesday Bk., Berks. 58b, Wica de .x. pensis caseorum ualentis .xxxii. sol. & .iiii. den. *1467-8 Rolls of Parlt.* V. 585/1 A dayery, otherwise called a Wyk, called Dangebrigge. *1594* [see DAIRY sb. 3]. *1598 Stow Surv.* 171 In diuers countries, Dayrie houses or cottages, wherein they make butter and cheese, are usually called Wickes. *1607 CAMDEN Brit.* 318 Caseos ouillos conficere in casearijs illis tuguriolis quæ ibi [*i.e.* in Essex] *Wiches* [*sic*] vocant, vidimus. *1628 COKE On Litt.* 5 A ferme in the North parts is called a Tacke, in Lancashire a Ferneholt, in Essex a Wike. *1641 Surv. Plesheybury Manor, Essex* fol. a^v (MS.) Berwick *quasi* Berrywick, for it is supposed that autiently it was a dairy wick or ferme to High Ester Bury. *1701 KENNETT Cowel's Interpr., Wica*, a Country House or Farm, of which many a one is now call'd the Wike, and the Wick. *a 1825 FORBY Voc. E. Anglia, Wick.* . . A few instances may be produced in which it means a farm. There is one at a short distance from the town of Watton, commonly called Watton-wick, but by the inhabitants, simply the *Wick*. *1879 JEFFERIES Wild Life in S. Co.* 126 Wick Farm—almost every village has its outlying wick—stands alone in the fields.

† 4. An enclosed piece of ground, a close. *local.*

1301 Rolls of Parlt. I. 259/2 Apud Lex[eden] in Wyka que vocatur Arnodynes Wyk. ? *a 1461 Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 55 3e have yn Bysshepyston the iij part of a close callyd Bondmannys Wyke, and yn on othere callyd Hanketes Wyke. *1631 Terrier of Masworth Rectory* (MS.) A close of pasture ground called y^e Parsonidge Wick. *1635 Survey of Masworth Parish* (MS.) The close called Tbreë Wicks. *1680 Terrier of Masworth Vicarage* (MS.) One other close or wick . . called Blockwicks. . a wick called Pound Wick. *1811 Masworth Parish Enclosure Award* (MS.) An old enclosure called Meadow Wick.

† 5. *Comb.*: *wick-master*, ? a mayor or burgomaster; *wic-reeve*, modernization of OE. *wicgerefa*, a town-reeve.

1587 FLEMING Contrn. Holinshed III. 1337/2 Behind them went the bodie of the citie, that is to wit, the *wickmasters, the wardens, the ancient magistrate, the masters of the wardes, the boroughmasters [etc.]. *1853 J. STEVENSON Ch. Hist. Eng.* I. 233 Beornulf, *wic-reeve of Winchester.

wick, wike, sb.³ Now only *dial.* Forms: 4-5, 7 wyke, 6, 8-9 wike, 7 weeke, 8- week, 9 wick, *Sc.* *weik*. [a. ON. *vik*, as in *munnvik* (Da. *mundvig*) corner of the mouth; f. *wik-* to bend (cf. *WEEK sb.*, *WICK sb.*⁴, *WÖKE*).]

1. A corner of the mouth or eye.

13.. Gaw. & Gr. Knt. 1572 þe frope femed at his mouth vnfayre bi þe wykez. *13.. E.E. Allit.* P. B. 1690 Faxe fyltered, & felt flosed hym vmbe, þat schad for his schulderes to his schyre wykes. *1483 Cath. Angl.* 417/2 Ye Wyke of y^e eghe. . . *hirquus*. *1570 LEVINS Manip.* 122/24 Ye Wike of the eye, *hirquus*. *1607 MARKHAM Cavel.* I. 82 To make some expert horse farrier, to slit vp the weekes of Your Horses mouth, equallie on both sides . . with a sharpe raysor. *1641 BEST Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 14 A greate parte of theire meat, whiles that they are chewinge of it, workes forth of the wykes of their mouth. *1709 M. BRUCE Soul-Confirm.* 18 (Jam.) We will let them ken that we will hing by the wicks of the mouth for the least point of trutb. *1721 W. GIBSON Dieting Horses* viii. (1726) 128 If the Bit be too long or too short, it will injure the Horse's Mouth, and cut his Weekes. *c 1730 RAMSAY Fables* xviii. 14 To weed out ilka sable hair. . Frae crown of head to weekes of mouth. *1787 GROSE Prov. Gloss., Wikes* or *Wikers* (of the mouth), corners of the mouth. *a 1835 HOGG Tales, Hunt of Eildon* (1837) III. 14 [He] now and then cast a sly look-out at the wick of his eye.

2. In full *wick-tooth*: see quot. 1726.

1726 A. MONRO Anat. Bones 171 The Two inferior [*Canini*] are named angular or Wike-teeth, because they support the Angles of the Mouth. *1759 H. WALPOLE Let. to*

Earl of Strafford 13 Sept., This noble summer is not yet over with us—it seems to have cut a colt's week [cf. *COLT sb.* 8b].

Hence **wicking** (wyking), corner of the mouth.

1604 Mem. in N. & Q. 3rd Ser. III. 445/2 Her eyes stod in the wykinges of her mouth. *1886 S.-W. Linc. Gloss., Weekin*, s., the corner of the mouth.

wick, sb.⁴ *Sc.* and *dial.* Forms: 7 weeke, 8 wike, 9 wick, wik, wyck, wyke. [a. ON. *vik* fem. (occurring in place-names, but not usually distinguishable in form from *wick sb.*²), whence app. also MLG. *wik* (LG. *wiek, wicke*), MDu. *wijck*, Frís. *wik* bay; f. OTeut. *wik-* to bend, as if = a bend.] A creek, inlet, or small bay.

[1610 CAMDEN *Brit.* I. 326 From hence the Tamis goeth to Green-wich, that is, the Green Creeke, for the creeke of a river in the old English tongue was called *Wic*, a place in times past famous for the Danish Fleet that lay there often at Rode.] *1664-5 Patent Roll 16 Chas. II.* Pt. 8 (MS.) (Charter of the Royal Fishing Company) The greate Plentie of Fish wherewith the Seas Estuaries or Inletts Creekes Armes of the Sea Publick Rivers Weekes and Lakes of Our Dominions. . doe abound. *1753 Scots Mag.* Aug. 417/1 We have as many [herrings] come into our wike as would fill 300 barrels. *1821 SCOTT Pirate* xix, By beach and by cave, . . . By air and by wick. *1846 BROCKETT N.C. Gloss.* (ed. 3), *Wik*, *Wyck*, or *Wyke*, a crook or corner, as in a river or the sea shore. *1878 R. DICK Geol. & Bot.* viii. 85 Between this and Rough Head is a wick or bay.

wick, sb.⁵ *Sc. Curling and Bowls.* [f. *WICK v.*²]

1. An act of wicking; see *WICK v.*², and cf. *INWICK sb.*

1823 JAS. KENNEDY Poems 29 (E.D.D.). *1842 Chambers's Inform. People* No. 84. 539 A player stepping aside to take a brittle (or wick), or other shot, shall forfeit his stone for that end.

2. = *PORT sb.*³ 3 b.

1824 [see *INWICK v.*]

wick, sb.⁶ ? *dial.* [Related to *WICKER*.] Wicker; a wicker basket or reel.

1802 C. JAMES Milit. Dict. s.v. *Calote*, Calotes are usually made of iron, wick, or dressed leather. *1821 CLARE Vill. Minstrel* II. 102 A captive fish still fills the anxious eyes, And willow-wicks lie ready for the prize.

wick, a.¹ *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: [2 wicci], 3-5 wicke, wikke, wik, 4 wic, wyc, 4-5 wycke, wykke, wyk, 5 wyke, (wekke), 4-5, 8-9 *dial.* wick. [orig. *wicke, wikke*, app. adj. use of OE. *wicca* wizard (of which the fem. is *wicce* WITCH); but perhaps an alteration of early ME. *wicci* (?—**wiccig*, f. *wicca*), of which the following is the only known instance:—

1154 O.E. Chron. (Laud MS.) an. 1140 þe king him sithen nam in Hamtun þurhc wicci ræd.]

1. = *WICKED a.*¹ 1 a, b.

c 1200 ORMIN 6185 3iff patt iss patt 3ho iss all wittlæs, & wac, & wicke. *c 1220 Bestiary* 593 He spoken god-cunhede, and wikke is here dede. *c 1290 S. Eng. Leg.* I. 203/119 þe feondes lupere and wicke. *c 1325 Meir. Hom.* 28 Thair wike dedes. *Ibid.* 51 Sin and wik dedis. *13.. Cursor M.* 2777 (Gött.) þe foule feluns wid wik entent. *c 1386 CHAUCER Pars. T.* P 355 (Egerton 2726), The fende seith I woll chace and pursue man by wyk suggestion. *c 1460 Towneley Myst.* xxi. 262 Was ther neuer man so wyk bot he myght amende. *a 1500 Hist. K. Boccus & Sydracke* (? 1510) f, A . . sowle synful and wycke Is also blacke as eny pycke.

1901 SUTCLIFFE Mistr. Barbara Cunliffe i, She's just her maister ower again—same wick' look o' th' devil about her.

2. a. = *WICKED a.*¹ 2 a, b, c.

a 1225 Ancr. R. 104 (MS. T.) Of swati hattre oðer of wikke air. *a 1300 Cursor M.* 27877 O glotori and o drunkenhede Fele wick branches se we sprede. *1340-70 Alex. & Dind.* 537 Tricerberus þe helle-hound. . . Bope wakrong & wikke. *a 1350 S. Stephen* 421 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 33 þai rased þe wynd with weders wik. *c 1374 CHAUCER Troylus* I. 946 For þilke ground þat bereth þe wedys wykke Bereth eke þese holsome herbes. *c 1374 — Boeth.* III. met. i. (1868) 64 Hony is þe more swete yif moupes han firste tastid sauoures þat ben wikke. *c 1380 Sir Ferumbe.* 4721 In helle hadde he pynes wycke. *c 1385 CHAUCER L.G.W.* 1242 *Dido* (Gg. 4. 27) The wikke fame a-ros. . How Enias hath with the queen l-gon. *c 1386 — Knt.'s T.* 229 Som wikke aspect or disposicioun Of Saturne. *c 1400 Laud Troy Bk.* 15306 That he be sclayn. . That he no wyse passe quyk, For that were then to vs ful wik. *Ibid.* 15733 The fyght was sterne and wyk. *c 1440 Pallad. on Husb.* I. 973 Al the lond that thou hast goon aboute Fro cloudis wicke is caaf. *a 1450 Le Morte Arth.* 3365 Arthur of batayle neuyr blanne To dele woundys wykke and wyde. *1756 in N. & Q.* 12th Ser. XI. 390/2 For the warding off of all things whatsoever from the dead—be they imps, wraithspells, wick things & the like ket.

† b. = *WICKED a.*¹ 2 d; in quot. 1297, feeble, lacking in force. Also as the equivalent of a negative prefix = *un-*, *dis-* (e.g. *wiklose* = dispraise). *Obs.*

c 1200 ORMIN 16515 Jesu Crist wel unnderstod all pe33re wicke trowwe. *a 1225 Ancr. R.* 358 Nis he a kang [*MS. T* wicke] knit þet secheð reste iðe uihte? *c 1250 Hymn in Trin. Coll. Hom.* App. 259 Wicke here ure fare & ure wuninging. *1297 R. GLOUC.* (Rolls) 4228 þe scolle [was so] hard & þikke, þeruere, þei it ne come no3t þoru, þe dunt nas no3t wikke. *c 1300 Havelok* 2457 With poure mete, and feble drink, And with swipe wikke cloyes. *a 1340 HAMPOLE Psalter* lxvii. 33 And swa it bifalles þat þai out close þaim fra þaire wiklose þat ere proued in syluere [*L. ut excludant eos, qui probati sunt argento*]. *c 1398 CHAUCER Fortune* 55 Wikke appetyt comth ay before syknesse. *c 1400 Leg. Rood* (1871) 153 My wonynge is wel wykke. *a 1500 Hist. K. Boccus & Sydracke* (? 1510) Q ij b, As folly among wys-men is wyke Wysdom among folys is lyke.

† c. = *WICKED a.*¹ 2 f. *Obs.*

c 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 775 Morgan is wick to slow. 1340-70 *Alex. & Dind.* 938 panne wol he [sc. man] . . wexe wilde of his wil & wikke to stauiche.

† 3. *absol.* or as *sb.* a. = WICKED a.¹ 4 a, b. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4650 So pat here nas noȝt bileued bote heþene & wikke. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2752 It semes not to be pi will For þe wik þe dughti spill. *Ibid.* 8631 'þou wik,' seo said, 'ai þe waa, Qui has þou me bi-suiken sua?' *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* ii. (Paulus) 177 Ger do þis wik away, And hed hym but mare delay. 1390 *Gower Conf.* II. 325 O werste of alle wikke . . lo, what thou hast do!

† b. In abstract sense: Evil, ill; wickedness. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 2432 Fro wycke vntil wors y nam. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* III. 1074 Now is wykke I-turned vn-to worse. 1393 *LANGL. P. Pl. C.* XII. 272 No wyght Wot ho is worthi for wele oper for wikke. 1447 *BOKENHAM Seyntys* (Roxb.) 85 Lyk smal infauntys wych kun no wykke.

† 4. as *adv.* = WICKED a.¹ 5. *Obs.* *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 10004 For . . ageyns þer lord do so wyk. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 882 þan laid he on þe Sarsyns wykke. 1393 *LANGL. P. Pl. C.* XVII. 177 At my lykynge chese, To do wel oper wikke.

Hence † **wickdom**, † **wickhede**, † **wickness**, **wickedness**, **iniquity**; † **wickly** *adv.*, **wickedly**.

c 1440 R. *Glouc. Chron.* (Rolls) 2390 Princes oueral . . Speke him vuel & hated him vor is suikedom [MS. 8 *wyckedomel]. *Ibid.* 4822, 7278. *c* 1305 *11,000 Virg.* 34 in *E.E.P.* (1862) 66 To chese þe ten maidenenes wipoute enie *wikhede. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1725) 124 Tresore *wikly wonnen. *a* 1300 *E.E. Psalter* v. 7 [6] þou hated al pat wirkes *wiknesse. 1382 *WYCLIF Prov.* v. 22 His wickenesses taken the vnpiouse.

wick, a.² Also **wick**. *North.* var. of **QUICK** a. *c* 1760 W. HUTTON *Dialogue in Vulg. Lang. Storth & Arnside* (c 1900) 4 Was It wick, says Ta? 1790 [see **QUICK** a. 2]. 1848 MRS. GASKELL *Mary Barton* I. viii. 127 In th' Infirmary . . there be good chaps there to a man, while he's wick, whate'er they may be about cutting him up at after. 1879-Whick [see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*]. 1911 F. H. BURNETT *Secret Garden* xi. 105 'It's as wick as you or me,' he said; . . Martha had told her that 'wick' meant 'alive' or 'lively'. 1970 'J. HERRIOT' [if only they could Talk ix. 69 This 'oss is as wick as an eel. 1972 *Observer* 23 Apr. 23/4 Knott is, to use a Yorkshire expression, 'wick', but wick cricketers are rare these days. 1978 *Lancashire Life* Oct. 99/1 Granny Martha Mossopp, approaching her century and as wick as a flea, had known in girlhood the enclosed life of Victorian Ramstwistle.

† **wick**, **wike**, v.¹ *Obs.* Forms: 1 **wician**, **wikian**, 3 **wikie**(n, 3-4 **wick**, 4 **wike**, **wyk**. [OE. *wician*, f. *wic* **wick** *sb.*]² *intr.* To take up one's abode; to encamp; to lodge, dwell.

c 897 *ÆLFRED Gregory's Past.* C. xli. 304 Ðu cans eal ðis wesen, & wasð hwær we wician [L. *castra ponere*] magon. *a* 1000 *Colloq. Ælfric* in Wr.-Wülcker 99 Eallum us leofre ys wikian [L. *hospitari*] mid þe yrþlinge þonne mid þe. *c* 1205 LAY. 18102 Wikien 3e scullen here. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 25232 þat in þis wreche world we wike.

b. *trans.* To pitch (a tent). *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 12512 His paulions, his penceles, þykke Nought fer fro þenne had þey don wyk. Hence † **wicking** *vbl. sb.*¹, **lodging**, **dwelling**. *c* 1205 LAY. 30453 He underfeng Cadwadhan: . . and 3af him wickinge [c 1275 wikeninge] 3eond Irlande. *Ibid.* 31861 He . . nom þe wickinge mid Alaine þan kinge.

wick, v.² *Curling*. [Origin unknown.] a. *intr.* = **INWICK** v. b. *trans.* in phr. *to wick a bore*, 'to drive a stone dexterously through an opening between two guards' (Jam.). Cf. **wick** *sb.*⁵ Hence **wicking** *vbl. sb.*²

1786 [see **GUARD** v. 9]. 1811 *Acc. Game Curling* 9 It then becomes necessary . . to strike another stone lying at the side, in an oblique direction. This is called wicking. *Ibid.* 10 Whether they have to draw, strike, wick, or enter a port, they will seldom deviate an inch from their aim. 1831 [see **INRINGING**]. 1898 [see **INWICK** v.].

wick, Sc. and north. f. **QUICK** *sb.*², v.³; obs. and dial. f. **WEEK**.

-**wick**, *suffix*, shortened form of **WIKE** (OE. *wice*) office, function of an official, as in **BAILIFFWICK**, **BAILIWICK**, **SHERIFFWICK**. A secondary sense of 'jurisdiction of the official', passing into 'district over which the official's jurisdiction extends', is found with some words containing this suffix, the development of the latter sense being no doubt furthered by the sense 'district' of **wick** *sb.*² An example of a compound in occasional or local use is † **warden-wick**:—

1499 *Pilton Churchw. Acc.* (Somerset Rec. Soc.) 67 Yn hys yer of ye wardeyn wyke.

In **HERDWICK** (first in *Domesday Book*), -*wick* appears to be **wick** *sb.*²

wickaby, var. **WICOPY**.

wickar, obs. Sc. form of **VICAR**.

wicked ('wikid), a.¹ (*sb.*, *adv.*) Forms: 3-**wicked**; also 4-6 **wyck**-, **wikk**-, **wyck**-, (chiefly Sc. **wick**-, **wikk**-); 3-5 -**ed**(e, (4 -**ud**), 4-5 -**id**(e, -**yd**(e, 4-6 *Sc.* -**it**, -**yt**); (4 **wickud**, **wekked**, **wikket**, 5 **wekid**, 5-6, 9 *Sc.* **wicket**, 6 *Sc.* **weckit**); 4 **wickid**(e, -**ud**, **wikede**, *Sc.* **wikit**, -**yt**), 4-5 **wiked**, *Sc.* **wikyt**, **wykit**, 4-6 *Sc.* **wikit**, 5 **wyked**, -**yd**; 4 *Sc.* **wekit**, (**vekyt**), 4-5 **wekyd**, 4-6 **weked**, 5 -**ede**, -**id**, 6 *Sc.* **weikit**. [ME. (13th cent.) *wicked*,

wikked, app. f. **WICK** a., as *wretched* from *wrecche* **WRETCH**. The later *wiked* appears to be merely a graphic variant; forms with the lowered stem-vowel are of both types, *wekked*, *weked*.]

I. *adj.* 1. Bad in moral character, disposition, or conduct; inclined or addicted to wilful wrong-doing; practising or disposed to practise evil; morally depraved. (A term of wide application, but always of strong reprobation, implying a high degree of evil quality.) a. of a person (or a community of persons).

the Wicked One, the Devil, Satan.

c 1275 LAY. 14983 Hercne ou 3eo tock an, þes wickede [earlier text swicfulle] wifman. 1340 *Ayenb.* 1 Ich bidde þe hit by my sseld auoreye þe wycked uend. 13.. *Cursor M.* 170 (Gött.) Iesu wan he longe hade fast Was temped wid þe wickid [v.r. **wikket**] gast. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* x. (Mathow) 73 Mare reuerens Is gewine . . To vekyt men fore dred . . þane to gudmen for luf. *c* 1380 *WYCLIF Wks.* (1880) 76 Of sicche wiked men seiþ god bi his prophete [etc.]. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 2187 In al hepenis ys no Sarsyn wikkeder þan is he. *a* 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 2425 3e at wikkid ere within ay wikkidly 3e think. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 222 All wekyd spyrytys schall for ferd fe away from þe. 1456 *Sir G. HAYE Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 32 Wikkit tyraðe Emperouris. 1508 *DUNBAR Tua Mariit Wemen* 214 My wekkit kyn, that me away cast. 1533 *GAU Rycht Vay* (S.T.S.) 60 Thow wikkit seruand I forgaiff ye al thy det. 1535 *COVERDALE Gen.* xiii. 13 Ye men of Sodome were wickid, and synned exceedingly agaynst the Lorde. 1562 *WINST Cert. Tractatis Wks.* (S.T.S.) I. 5 Wes not the sacramentis . . prophanit be ignorantis and wikt perones? 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* iv. 109 O wickit wemen, vennomus of nature! 1582 N. T. (Rhem.) *Matt.* xiii. 19 There cometh the wickid one, and catcheth away that which was sown in his hart. — 1 John ii. 13 You haue overcome the wickid one. 1610 *SHAKS. Temp.* v. i. 130 You (most wickid Sir) whom to call brother Would euen infect my mouth. 1670 *MILTON Hist. Eng.* III. Wks. 1851 V. 130 Looking on the poor Christian with . . Contempt; but fawning on the wickedest rich men. 1696 *WHISTON The Earth* III. iv. 207 This Deluge . . was a signal Instance of the Divine Vengeance on a Wicked World. 1727 *DE FOE Syst. Magic* I. ii. 58 'Tis very strange Men should be so fond of being thought wikkeder than they are. 1732 *BERKELEY Alciph.* v. § 7 Vice increases, and men grow daily more and more wickid. 1818 *SCOTT Hrt. Midl.* xv. 'Then you are the wickid cause of my sister's ruin?' said Jeanie, with a natural touch of indignation. 1820 *COLERIDGE in Lit. Rem.* (1838) III. 399 Bunyan was never, in our received sense of the word, wickid. He was chaste, sober, honest; but he was a bitter blackguard . . and was fond of a row. 1873 *LELAND Egypt. Sketch-Bk.* 155 However wickid a man may be, he is sure to find a wikkeder.

b. of action, speech, thought, or other personal attribute; also *transf.* of a thing connected in some way with such action, etc.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1227 þai him warryd wit wickud dedis. *Ibid.* 12991 Na langer Mai i nu þi wikkid wordes ber. 13.. *Northern Passion* (A) 506 [Satan] wyl the dryfe in wekyd poughte. 1362 *LANGL. P. Pl. A.* v. 217 þenne was he a-shorned, . . And gon . . gret deal to make For his wikkede lyf þat he l-liued hedde. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* i. (Petrus) 474 Throw his wekit sorcery. *Ibid.* viii. (Philepus) 66 Wikit heresy. *c* 1380 *WYCLIF Wks.* (1880) 37 Wickid lawis & wrong execucions of hem. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 7424 They to Wicked Tonge comen That at his gate was sytting. 1535 *COVERDALE Ezek.* viii. 9 What wickid abominacions that they do. 1539 *Bible* (Great) 2 Chron. vii. 14 Yf they . . do humble them selues . . and turne from their wycked wayes. 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* iii. 176 Doggis could hir wickit baimis gnaw. 1602 *SHAKS. Ham.* III. iii. 59 Offences gilded hand may shoue by Iustice, And oft 'tis seene, the wickid prize it selfe Buies out the Law. 1667 *MILTON P.L.* v. 890 Yet not for thy advise or threats I fly These wickid Tents devoted. 1727 *DE FOE Syst. Magic* I. ii. 48 All the wickid things, which have . . given a black Character to the very Name of a Magician; for under the shelter of Religion, the worst and most Diabolical things were practis'd. 1848 *THACKERAY Van. Fair* viii. 'Yes, hang it' (said Sir Pitt, only, he used, dear, a much wikkeder word). 1878 H. STEVENS *Bibles Caxton Exhib.* 114 In 1855 Mr. Henry Stevens exhibited . . a . . copy of this long-lost . . Bible [of 1631], and . . nick-named it 'The Wicked Bible', from the fact that the negative had been left out of the Seventh Commandment by a typographical error. 1905 R. BAGOT *Passport* iii. 23 The mysterious old professor . . who wrote wickid books.

c. Designating a stock evil character in a fairy-tale, as *Wicked Fairy*, *Stepmother*, *Uncle*, etc. Freq. *transf.*

1897 *KIPLING Stalky & Co.* (1899) 39 He owned a soft, slow smile which well suited the part of the Wicked Uncle. 1906 *Sleeping Beauty* ('Tales for Little People' ed.) 8/2 'That looks like the wicked fairy, I'm sure,' said his majesty to himself. 1946 A. HUXLEY *Let.* 26 May (1969) 544 That blessing and curse of cleverness, with which the Fairy Godmother, who is also the Wicked Fairy, endowed me. 1978 M. BABSON *Tightrope for Three* xv. 78 He could not see Lillian in the classic 'wicked stepmother' situation. 1982 'J. MELVILLE' *Painted Castle* i. 21 If you left Tad out of consideration, uncomfortable things were apt to happen. He had a touch of the Wicked Fairy about him.

2. Bad, in various senses (not always clearly distinguishable). Frequent in ME. use; later chiefly *dial.*, or in colloq. use as a conscious metaphor (now often jocular) from sense 1, and implying 'very or excessively bad', 'horrid', 'bestial'. a. In reference to character or action: Cruel, severe, fierce. Of animals: Savage, vicious.

13.. *Cursor M.* 5571 (Gött.) Quat he was wickid and wode Again pat folk sua mild of mode! 1375 *Creation* 980 in Horstmann. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 136 Who so were . . venympt wip eny wikkid beste. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3232 Woluez, and whilde swynne, and wykkide bestez. 1513 *DOUGLAS Æneis* I. x. 23 Quhat wise thi brothir Æneas . . Is blawin and

warpit euery coist abowt, Of wickit Juno throw the cruell invy [L. *odiis Iunonis acerbae*]. 1607 *TOPSELL Four-f. Beasts* 308 As they [sc. horses] are wilde and fierce, so are they wickid and harmefull. 1725 *RAMSAY Gentle Sheph.* i. ii, If canker'd Madge, our aunt, Come up the burn, she'll gie 's a wickid rant. 1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 7 Sae wud and wicket was their wraith [= wrath] Gainst Papish trash and idol-graith. 1829 *HOGG Sheph. Cal.* i. 8 It's hard to gar a wickid coot leave off flinging. 1895 *MILLAIS Breath from Veldt* (1899) 228 The Cape buffalo . . has ample power to carry out his evil intentions when he means to be wickid.

b. Actually or potentially harmful, destructive, disastrous, or pernicious; baleful; when applied to air, odour, taste, etc. passing into: Offensive, foul.

1340 *Ayenb.* 124 Aye þe wykkede hetes . . aye þe wyekede cheles . . aye þe wyckede raynes. 1375 *BARBOUR Bruce* v. 12 To vryn the heling of thar hevede, That wikkit vyntir had thame revede. 1379 *Glouc. Cath. MS.* 19 No. I. i. iii. lf. 6b, Wicked ayr or grevaunce, or cold takynge. *c* 1386 *CHAUCER Monk's T.* 626 Thaurgh his body wikkid wormes crepte. *c* 1391 — *Astrol.* II. § 4 A fortunat assendent clepen they whan þat no wykkid planete, as saturne or Mars, . . is in þe hows of the assendent. 1398 *TREvisa Barth. De P.R.* IV. xi. (1495) fvb/2 Flyes shunne & voyde the wycked & horryble sauour therof. *c* 1400 *MAUNDEV.* xv. [xi]. (1919) 83 The perilous watres & wykkede mareys. *c* 1400 *Song Roland* 857 The wickid wedur lastid full long. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 6511 If that wikkid deth hym haue I wole go with hym to his graue. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 5638 A wickid strok he him hit. *c* 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 59 When þe wykkid fyre was in howsis nere-hand hur. *c* 1460 *Play Sacram.* 267 in *Non-Cycle Myst. Plays* 65 Alle wykkid metys yt wylle degest. *c* 1480 *HENRYSON Test. Cress.* 412 Fell is thy Fortoun, wickit is thy weird. 1578 *LYTE Dodoens* II. lxxxix. 270 Fenell . . is good agaynst . . the bitings of . . wickid & venomous beastes. 1590 *SPENSER F.Q.* III. xi. 24 Faire Amoret must dwell in wickid chaines. 1600 *BRETON Pasquil's Fooles' Cappe* Wks. (Grosart) I. 26/1 Who lous to feede vpon a Sallet dish, Among his Herbes some wickid weede may haue. 1610 *SHAKS. Temp.* I. ii. 321 As wickid dewe, as ere my mother brush'd With Rauens feather from vnwholesome Fen, Drop on you both. *a* 1627 *MIDDLETON, etc. Widow* IV. i, What's good, Sir, for a wickid tooth? 1639 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Part Summers Trav.* 41 It is too well known what a wickid number of followers he hath had. 1697 *DRYDEN Virg. Georg.* I. 103 Lest wickid Weeds the Corn shou'd over-run. 1725 *MANDEVILLE Fab. Bees* (ed. 4) I. 268 There comes a wickid Cold through that Door, . . pray shut it. 1894 G. A. SMITH *Hist. Geog. Holy Land* 69 Tents may be carried away by wickid gusts. 1894 *Times* 27 Oct. 7/2 The 'Milo' was not a particularly 'wickid' engine with regard to giving off sparks. 1895 *MILLAIS Breath from Veldt* (1899) 133 It was a wickid country for fever. 1903 *Brit. Med. Jnl.* 25 Apr. 967 A proprietary . . form of chloride of ethyl and inferior to it on account of its wickid smell.

† c. Of wounds, disease: Severe; malignant.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 221 þo he was in dispeir of hir lijf, I was sent after & foond hir in wickide staat. *Ibid.* 338 To make a wickid enpostym maturatif. 14.. *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 245 A wycked wound hath me walled. 1576 *BAKER Gesner's Jewell of Health* 102b, A water agaynst long continuing ulcers, yea how peryllous or wycked so euer they bee.

d. Of bad quality; poor, vile, 'sorry'; *occas.* perverted, abnormal; † in early use sometimes merely negative = *un-*, *dis-*.

13.. *Spec. S. Edm. in Hampole's Wks.* (1895) I. 225 þare-of commes tresones, . . wykkid reste [L. *inquietudo*], Malice and hardnes of herte. 1375 *BARBOUR Bruce* IX. 75 Ane of thame sall be vorth thre Of thame that wikkid chiftane has. *c* 1384 *CHAUCER H. Fame* III. 530 Ye shal haue . . wikkid loos and worse name. [Cf. quot. a 1340 s.v. **WICK** a. 2b.] *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 68 A Rial ping expert, þat . . amendeþ þe erroure als wele of þe first digestion as of þe seconde, and dop away wickid colour & vnnatural. *c* 1440 *Jacob's Well* 78 Of good sede he repyth wycked corn.

1663 *Lauderdale Papers* (Camden) I. 145 It will be hard to billet me for this wickid inke, for this place affords no better for fine paper. [Cf. *ante* p. 136 If you write not upon better paper and with better pens, wee will have yow billeted again.] *a* 1704 T. BROWN *Dial. Dead, Reas. Oaths* Wks. 1711 IV. 76 Retailer of wickid Bottle Ale and Brandy. 1764 H. WALPOLE *Let. to G. Montagu* 16 July, They talk wickid French.

† e. Difficult or dangerous; *esp.* of roads, passing into: In bad condition, out of repair (cf. d).

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 3507 Ouer mires & muntaynes & oper wickid weizes. 1377 *LANGL. P. Pl. B.* VII. 27 þey shulde . . amende *mesondieux* þere-myde and myseyse folke helpe. And wikkid wayes wyttich hem amende. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. xci. (1869) 50 Bi ful wikkede pases þou shalt go, and wikkede herberwes þou shalt fynde. 1513 *DOUGLAS Æneis* v. iv. 86 Ontill a wickid place his schip did steir. *Ibid.* XII. xi. 160 Lyke tell a wykkit hill of huge wecht [L. *mons improbus*]. 1533 *BELLENDEN Livy* IV. xviii. (S.T.S.) II. 115 þe battell was focthin in ane wikkid place [L. *loco iniquo*]. *Ibid.* v. xxii. 222 Quhare any strait or wikkid passage was. 1600 *HAKLUYT Voy.* III. 375 It is most wickid way, . . because they are inaccessible mountaines.

† f. Difficult to do something with. *Obs.*

a 1352 *MINOT Poems* (ed. Hall) xi. 8 þat woning was wikkid for to win. *c* 1400 *Brut* I. 55 þat lande was strong and wikkide to wyne. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* II. 155 This lond is ful wikkid to be wrought, To hard in hete and ouer softe in wete.

3. a. In weakened or lighter sense (from 1), usually more or less jocular: Malicious; mischievous, sly.

1600 *SHAKS. A.Y.L.* IV. i. 216 That same wickid Bastard of Venus, . . that blinde rascally boy. 1750 *GRAY Long Story* 44 A wickid Imp they call a Poet. 1781 *JOHNSON* 1 Apr. in *Boswell*, She [sc. Mrs. Thrale] is the first woman in the world, could she but restrain that wickid tongue of hers. 1809 *MALKIN Gil Blas* x. x. (Rtldg.) 369 Rubicund in the jowl, efflorescent on the nose, with a wickid eye at a bumper

or a girl. **1829** LYTTON *Devereux* iv. v, You are the wickedest witty person I know. **1857** B. TAYLOR *Northern Trav.* xxx. (1858) 312 He had . . . wicked black eyes, and a mouth which laughed even when his face was at rest. **1868** LOUISA M. ALCOTT *Little Women* v, 'You are not afraid of anything, you know,' returned the boy, looking wicked.

b. Excellent, splendid; remarkable. *slang* (orig. U.S.).

1920 F. SCOTT FITZGERALD *This Side of Paradise* i. iii. 119 'Tell 'em to play 'Admiration'!' shouted Sloane. . . 'Phoebe and I are going to shake a wicked calf.' **1977** *Western Mail* (Cardiff) 5 Mar. 8/2 He could, as I say, sidestep off either foot, but what sped him on was a wicked acceleration over 20 yards.

II. *absol.* or as *sb.*

4. In sense 1 a: chiefly in biblical and religious use; often opp. to **RIGHTEOUS** 1 b. a. *absol.* in *pl.* sense: Wicked persons. (Usually, now always, with *the*.) Also in phrs. *no peace for the wicked*: see **PEACE** *sb.* 16; *no rest for the wicked*.

13.. *Cursor M.* 22999 (Edinb.) þe wíkid þat dred noht his aw, Her doun þai sal be demed law. **1393** LANGE. *P. Pl. C.* xxi. 430 Ther þat dom to þe deop dampneþ alle wyckede. **c1400** *Pety Job* 271 in 26 *Pol. Poems* 129 Wycked and worse, good and bette, I wote well thou considerest alle. **a1425** *Cursor M.* 18279 (Trin.) Mony wyckede & mis dedy Hastou lost. **1535** COVERDALE *Job* iii. 17 There must the wicked cease from their tyranny. — **2** *Macc.* i. 17 God be praysed, which hath deluyered the wicked in to oure hondes. **1539** *Bible* (Great) Gen. xviii. 23 Wylt thou also destroy the rightes wyth the wicked? **1596** SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV.* ii. iv. 517 If Sacke and Sugar bee a fault, Heauen helpe the Wicked. **1781** COWPER *Charity* 280 Prisons expect the wicked, and were built To bind the lawless. **1935** MARSH & JELLET *Nursing-Home Murder* iv. 57 The throat specialist . . . remarked: 'No rest for the wicked, nurse.' **1958** A. SILLITOE *Sat. Night & Sunday Morning* i. 20 'No rest for the wicked,' she laughed. **1965** T. CAPOTE *In Cold Blood* iv. 321, I wish you'd send me earplugs. Only they wouldn't allow me to have them. No rest for the wicked, I guess. **1979** M. BABSON *So soon done* For vii. 54 'I wish I could take some time and get away. But there's no rest for the weary.' 'Or the wicked.'

b. *absol.* or as *sb.* in *sing.* sense: A wicked person. *Obs.* or *rare arch.*: also in *nonce-use* with *pl.* in -s.

1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* iii. xii, Ne none wycked may hurte another wycked. **1526** TINOALE *Eph.* vi. 16 The shelde off Fayth, wherwith ye maye quenche alle the fyrie dartes of the wicked [so **1611**: *R.V.* of the evil one]. — **2** *Thess.* ii. 8 That wicked . . . whom the lorde shall consume with the sprete off hys mouth. **1560** *Bible* (Geneva) Isa. lv. 7 Let the wicked forsake his waies, and the vnrighteous his owne imaginations. **1853** in *Friendsh. Miss Mitford* (1882) II. 115 Falling upon the tender mercies of two such wicked as papa and she.

† c. genitive in -s (sing. or pl.). *Obs.*

1587 T. HUGHES *Misfort. Arthur* v. i. (1900) 57 The wicked's death is safety to the iust. **1597** BRETON *Arbor Amorous Deuices* Wks. (Grosart) I. 10/2 What is the world but wicked ways to hel? **1607** BP. HALL *Ps.* vii, Let mee the wicked's malice see Brought to an end.

III. 5. as *adv.* Wickedly; fiercely, savagely, furiously; 'cruelly', 'terribly'.

a1425 *Cursor M.* 15840 (Trin.) Whil þei þus him handeled wicked as þei mougt. **1663** T. PORTER *Witty Combat* iv. i, Yesterday was . . . a wicked hot day. **1829** HOGG *Sheph. Cal.* i. 8 A hungry louse bites wicked sair. **1849** W. S. MAYO *Kaloolah* v. (1850) 45 He came towards me with his hatchet in his hand. I saw that he was determined to act wicked. **1902** 'VIOLET JACOB' *Sheep-Stealers* ix, They was fightin' very wicked an' nasty.

IV. 6. *Comb.*, as *wicked-like* [*LIKE* *adv.* 7, -*LIKE* suffix 2 a], -*looking*, -*tongued* *adjs.*; † *wicked-doer*, -*doing* = *EVIL-DOER*, -*DOING*; † *wicked-walking*, that 'walks wickedly' (cf. *Ps.* xxvi. 1); *wicked-worded* *nonce-wd.* as *pa. pple.*, euphem. for 'damned'.

a1380 *St. Aug.* 945 in Horst. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 77 Wicked-tonged men Wolde speke vuel of hem. **c1450** *Mirk's Festial* 1 Forto deme alle wykytudoers ynto þe pyt of hell. **1535** COVERDALE *Ezek.* xxxvii. 23 With their . . . Idols and all their wicked-doings. **c1550** ROLLANO *Crt. Venus* ii. 297 So wickit like, and als so venemois. **1608** SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* ii. iv. *Decay* 236 The traytor Manahem's wicked-walking Son. **1823** BYRON *Island* ii. xxi, She seem'd a wicked-looking craft. **1865** H. KINGSLEY *Hillyars & Burtons* xxxii, He . . . wished he might be wicked-worded if he didn't. **a1871** DE MORGAN *Budget Parad.* (1872) 100 It made a book look wicked-like to have a feigned place of printing.

Hence † *wickedfully* *adv.*, wickedly; *wickedish* *a.* [-ISH¹ 3], somewhat wicked; † *wickedlek* [-LAIK], † *wickedrede* [-RED], wickedness.

c1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* iii. (*Andreas*) 104 Wikit women, þou . . . has consawit giltfully, And consalite þe fend *wikitfully. **1853** READE *Chr. Johnstone* i, His master replied with . . . a quiet, but *wickedish look. **a1400** *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 478 3if we haue wille to *wikkedlek. **c1375** *Cursor M.* 1227 (Fairf.) þai wrapet him wip *wikked rede.

wicked (wikt), *a.*² [f. **WICK** *sb.*¹ + -ED¹] Furnished with or having a wick or wicks; usually in comb., as *broad-wicked*, *two-wicked*.

1507 *Extr. Aberd. Reg.* (1844) l. 437 That ale candil makaris has candile redde to sele . . . small weikit and dry. **1797** *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) IX. 518/1 The broad-wicked lamp seems to have the advantage. **1899** H. G. GRAHAM *Soc. Life Scot.* 18th C. iv. l. 143 Their fathers had . . . sold dried herring or 'wicked candles'.

† **wickedhed** (e. *Obs.* [f. **WICKED** *a.*¹ + -HEAD.] Wickedness, iniquity; *pl.* wicked acts or doings.

a1300 *Cursor M.* 841 Strang wickedhed Broght adom to suilk a ded. *Ibid.* 23142 Sa duked in pair wicked hedis. **1340**

Ayenb. 114 He pet . . . heþ ine his herte hate, wrepe, oper wyckedhede. **1370-80** *Vis. St. Paul* 46 in *O.E. Misc.* 224 Sore hit is to drede þe places of helle for wikked-hede.

wickedly ('wikdli), *adv.* [f. as prec. + -LY².] In a wicked manner, in various senses of the adj.

1. In the way of wilful wrong-doing; iniquitously, immorally.

a1300 *Cursor M.* 4376 Leuer es me þe pour and lele þan wikudli at win catell. **1303** R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 1203 Wykkedlyche al þat gode he dyspendyp. **c1375** *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxiii. (*George*) 414 þu dois nocht anerly Wrang til ws, bot als wyktilly Callis oure godis al dewilis. **c1385** CHAUCER *L.G.W.* 1918 *Ariadne*, But wikkedely he quitte hire kyndenesse. **c1386** — *Clerk's T.* 667 He wikkedly . . . Hath mordred bothe his children. **a1400-50** *Wars Alex.* 2425 3e at wickid ere within ay wickidly 3e thinke. **1535** COVERDALE *Gen.* xix. 7 O brethren, do not so wickedly. — *Prov.* x. 2 Treasures that are wickedly gotten, profit nothing. **1542** UOALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 338 b, Scipio Africane the seconde . . . was wokedly slaine in his bedde. **1562** WINSET *Cert. Tractates* §66. Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 116 An hæretik denyand wickitlie the Father, the Sone, and the Haly Gaist. **1593** SHAKS. *Lucr.* 365 Into the chamber wickedlie he stalkes. **1611** B. JONSON *Catiline* iv. K2, No man Could be so wickedly, or fondly stupide. **1734** POPE *Ess. Man* iv. 231 Who wickedly is wise, or madly brave, Is but the more a fool, the more a knave. **1808** MRS. M. T. KEMBLE *Day after Wedding* 31 Somebody has deceived you, wickedly deceived you.

2. Harmfully, injuriously; fiercely, savagely, severely, cruelly; terribly, disastrously; in later use (chiefly jocular), very badly, abominably, execrably, vilely, 'horridly'.

13.. *Cursor M.* 15840 (Gött.) Quilis þai him war þus handland wikidli als þai moght. **c1350** *Will. Palerne* 1218 þey wip fyn force for-barred his strokes, & woundede him wikidly. **c1400** *Laud Troy Bk.* 13149 Him and euery another prince That haue died here thus wickedly. **a1425** tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula* etc. 86 þis puluis bigileþ neuer þe paciente ne þe cirurgene, for it dop not wickedly. **c1440** *Engl. Cong. Irel.* 53 Some thay vndide and bettyn vickydly. **1556** in W. H. TURNER *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 245 A great number . . . did run to see him go so wickedly to his death. **1589** R. HARVEY *Pl. Perc.* (1860) 32 A Iewes letter scrible scrable ouer the Copurtenaunce of a mans countenaunce will dash a body wickedly. **1662** J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 54 Ladies . . . most wickedly be-painted. **1762** STERNE tr. *Shandy* v. xv, Do you know whether my fiddle's in tune or no? . . . 'Tis wickedly strung. **1858** HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* (1871) l. 4 The night was now setting in, wickedly black and dreary.

3. Mischievously, maliciously, roguishly.

1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xxiii, A glowering visage, with its thin lips parted wickedly. **1853** — *Bleak Ho.* v, His cat looked so wickedly at me, as if I were a blood-relation of the birds upstairs. **1880** MRS. FORRESTER *Roy & V.* iii, 'I thought you would be tremendously obliged to me', whispered Netta wickedly.

wickedness ('wikdnɪs). [f. as prec. + -NESS.]

1. The quality of being wicked; wicked character or disposition; depravity, iniquity, immorality.

a1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xxx. 13 Luf kelis and wickidnes brennis. **c1400** MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) ix. 33 þai er . . . full of all manner of wickedness and malice. **1599** SHAKS. *Much Ado* iii. ii. 113 *Clau.* Disloyall? *Bast.* The word is too good to paint out her wickednesse. **1625** BACON *Ess.*, *Truth* (Arb.) 501 The Wickednesse of Falshood, and Breach of Faith. **1703** DE FOE *More Reform.* 12 What tho' the Baudy runs thro' all he Wit, The more the Wickedness, the more the Wit. **a1768** SECKER *Serm.* (1770) I. ix. 211 As all this arose from Infirmitie, not Wickedness, they met with an easy Pardon. **1834** DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Steam Excurs.*, The unfortunate little victim . . . receiving sundry thumps . . . for having the wickedness to tell a story. **1873** 'OUIOA' *Pascarel* ii. i, So I reasoned in the wickedness of my heart.

2. Wicked action or conduct; iniquity as committed or perpetrated; *occas.* wicked speech or statement.

a1300 *Cursor M.* 1090 Mistraying þan had he son, þat he sum wickudnes hade don. **c1375** *Sc. Leg. Saints* iii. (*Andreas*) 179 þat I sic vikittes Wald with hyr do and foulnes. **c1393** CHAUCER *Marriage* 7, I dar not writen of hyt noo wickidnesse. **c1470** HENRY WALLACE III. 344 Causer of wer, wyrkar of wykittes. **1560** DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 23 Conteynyng bothe the Heresies already condemned, and also newe errors, and great wickednes. **1567** Gude & Godlie B. (S.T.S.) 72 That we suld leif our wickittes, And fle vaine worldlie appetyte. **1605** SHAKS. *Lear* iii. vii. 98 (Qo. 1) Ile neuer care what wickidnes I doe, If this man come to good. **1651** HOBBS *Leviath.* i. vi. 27 For Calamity arriving [sic] from great wickedness, the best men have the least Pitty. **1827** SOUTHEY *Hist. Penins. War* II. 65 The scene of an action . . . infamous to the French for the enormous wickedness with which they abused their victory. **1855** MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xiii. III. 367 Persons who think that there is no excess of wickedness for which courage and ability do not atone. **1901** BESANT *London in 18th Cent.* 237 The greatest wickedness that any man could commit, in his eyes, was not to pay his debts.

b. (with *a* and *pl.*) A piece of wickedness; a wicked act or proceeding.

a1325 *Prose Psalter* lxxxviii[i]. 32 Y shal uisite in chasteing her wickednesses. **c1430** LYDG. *Min. Poems, De Prof.* 99 Ther wikkidnessis yif thou do Obserue, Tabyde thy doom yt were to hard a schour. **1535** COVERDALE *Amos* i. 13 For thre and foure wickednesses of Edom I wil not spare him. **1641** J. JACKSON *True Evang.* T. i. 26 He fed his eyes by being a spectator of those wickednesses, which Nero only commanded to be done. **1748** RICHARSON *Clarissa* (1768) III. 47 So premeditated and elaborate a wickedness. **1817** SOUTHEY *Let. to Editor of Courier* 17 Mar., That it might be published surreptitiously at any future time, was a wickedness of which I never dreamt. **1859** GEO. ELIOT *Adam Bede* xli, I'd sooner do a wickedness as I could suffer for by myself, than ha' brought her to do wickedness.

† 3. Poorness of spirit: cf. **WICKED** *a.*¹ 2 d. *Obs.*

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* xii. 280 Gif þhe let cowardis And vikkidnes þour hertis suppris.

† 4. In physical sense: Malignancy, corruption: cf. **WICKED** *a.*¹ 2 c. *Obs. rare.*

c1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 18 Whanne þe bodi is purgid fro wikkide humouris, þe wickidnes of þe mater rennep fro þe wounde.

wicken, variant of **QUICKEN** *sb.*¹, *sb.*²

wicker ('wik(r)), *sb.* Forms: 4-5 wyker, 4-6 wekir, 6-7 wycker, (5) wikre, wikir, wykkyr, qwykyr, wekker, 6 wycre, wykir, -ur, wiker, wikker, wykkyr, wickar, -ir, 7 wykker), 5-wicker. [East Scandinavian (MSw. and Sw. dial. *viker*, early Da. *viger*, Da. dial. *vigger* willow, osier, branch of willow); f. root of Sw. *vika* to bend (cf. OE. *wican* to give way, collapse, and **WEAK** *a.*, **WOKE**).]

1. A pliant twig or small rod, usually of willow, esp. as used for making baskets and various other objects; an osier; a withe. Chiefly in *pl.* (= sense 2).

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P.R.* xix. cxxviii. (1495), Suche vessels were fyrste made of tree and of wykers: as panyers, baskettes. **1426** LYOG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 23385 Whan the smale wikres brak, The hopes wenten al to wrak. **14**.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 717/25 *Hoc vimen*, -nis, qwykyr. **1508** DUNBAR *Poems* vi. 45 My hert that neuer was sickir, . . . Thought I wald bynd it with a wickir. **1551** ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* i. (1895) 31 The sayles were made of greate russhes, or of wyckers, and in some places of lether. **1586** HOLINSHEO *Chron.* III. 861/2 Great images of wickers . . . made like great men of diuerse strange nations. **1657** S. PURCHAS *Pol. Flying-Ins.* 58 In our Country, the Hives principally in use, are either made of wickers, or of straw. **1807** CRABBE *Sir Eustace Grey* 247 And stones erect their shadows shed On humble graves, with wickers bound. **1811** COL. HAWKER *Diary* (1893) l. 33 The wickers of the [lobster] pots. **1899** KROPOTKIN *Mem. Rev.* iv. ix. II. 70 To ply the wickers and to shape them into an elegant basket.

b. Such a twig or small branch, as part of the living plant. ? *Obs.*

1508 DUNBAR *Lament for Makaris* 14 As with the wynd wavis the wickir. **1591** PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict.*, *Esparto*, wicker, a kinde of tree whereof they make frailes. **1796** BURNS *Poem on Life* iii, Flickering, feeble, and unsicker . . . Aye wavering like the willow-wicker.

c. A twig or small branch used as a mark. *local.*

1825 BROCKETT *N.C. Gloss.*, *Wike, Wicker*, a mark used in setting out tithes; generally a small branch of a tree.

2. (without *pl.*) Wickers collectively, or as plaited together; wickerwork.

1336 *Cal. Docum. Scot.* (1887) III. 356 Et stramen, 'wekirr' et 'tempil' pro coopertura domorum. *Ibid.*, In empcone . . . de 'wekir' et 'tempil' per vices xij d. **1491** CAXTON *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) II. 227/1 His vessell wherin he weted his wekker & roddees for to make withall panyers maundes & baskettes. **1552-3** in Feuillerat *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 112, iiij^{or} hampers of wicker to put in thapparrell. **1660** *Act 12 Chas. II* c. 4 Sched. s.v. *Bottles*, Bottles of Glass covered wth Wicker. **1791** COWPER *Iliad* xviii. 709 Youths and maidens blithe In frails of wicker bore the luscious fruit. **1838** THIRLWALL *Greece* xxxi. IV. 203 Shields of wood or wicker, whitened over, were substituted by some for metal armour.

3. A basket, cradle, chair, etc. of wicker.

1646 COORINGTON *Earl of Essex* 2 To omit the presages . . of the promising Madams who rocked his Cradle, I will not say, that in that moving wicker (like another Hercules) hee strangled in each hand the two invading Dragons of transcending Prerogative and Superstition. **1699** MEAGER *New Art Garden*. 40 The Orange-trees . . are so tender, that they must be planted in Pots, Wickers, or Wooden Troughs. **1740** SOMERVILLE *Hobbinol*. II. 329 By that illustrious Wicker, where they sate In comely Pride. **1818** KEATS *Endym.* l. 137 Each having a white wicker over brimm'd With April's tender younglings. **1861** S. THOMSON *Wild Fl.* III. (ed. 4) 137 Huge wickers of eggs.

4. *attrib.* Made or consisting of wicker, as a basket, chair, etc.; also, covered with or encased in wicker, as a bottle. See also **WICKERWORK**.

1502 *Privy Purse Exp. Eliz. York* (1830) 84 Two wycre bottelles. **1523-4** *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1904) 322, ij yerdys of wykkyr matt. **1576** FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 358 The . . . valliaunt warrior, was once wrapped in swathing clowtes, and lay crying in a wicker cradle. **1587** A. FLEMING *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1315/2 Pendants made of wicker rods. **1596** SPENSER *Prothal.* ii, A Flocke of Nymphes . . And each one had a little wicker basket, Made of fine twigs. **1603** *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 515/2 Ilk winderth wykkyr sparris. 2 pennis. **1611** MIDDLETON & DEKKER *Roaring Girl* K2, A wicker cage tames a nightingale. **1619** *Depos. Bk. Archdeac. Essex & Colch.* lf. 98 (MS.) We found the said Testatrix sitting in a wicker chayer by the fyre side. **1676** SAMMES *Brit. Antiq. Illustr.* I. 105 In sacrificing of Men to their Idols, in a Wicker Image. **1707** MORTIMER *Husb.* 203 Wicker-hives made of Privet, Willow, or Harl. **1719** DE FOE *Crusoe* i. (Globe) 74 Twigs that would bend to make Wicker Ware. **1822** *Good Study Med.* (1829) V. 338 A wicker basket of palm twigs. **1837** DICKENS *Pickw.* xxix, Gabriel Grub . . drew forth his wicker bottle. **1891** HAROY *Tess* lii, The wicker-cradle they had all been rocked in.

b. *wicker wings*, attributed to various sinister creatures.

The source of the allusion is unascertained; connexion with the passage translated in quot. 1837 in c below is improbable.

1637 B. JONSON *Sad Shepherd* i. v, Harke, harke, harke the foule Bird [viz. the screech-owl] . . how shee flutters with her wicker wings! **1697** DRYDEN *Æneis* vii. 478 The Fury . . on her wicker Wings, sublime through Night, She to the Latian Palace took her Flight. **a1729** CONGREVE *Imposs. Thing* 84 The Goblin plys his wicker wings.

WICKER

c. Comb., as *wicker-bottomed*, -*cased*, -*covered*, -*weaving*, -*winged*, -*woven* adjs.; *wicker-wise* adv.

1859 GEO. ELIOT *Adam Bede* xiv, In the large *wicker-bottomed arm-chair. sat old Martin Poyser. 1870 DICKENS *Edwin Drood* xii, A goodly *wicker-cased bottle. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxx, A *wicker-covered flask. 1920 *Chamb. Jnrl.* 28 Feb. 205/1 A *wicker-weaving loom. 1837 WHEELWRIGHT tr. *Aristoph.*, *Birds* I. 248 *Wicker-wing'd Diitrephes [Διτρεφής, γε πτερύατα μόνον ἔχων πτερὰ]. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* xii. xiv. I. 367 A quilt or mat made of Date-tree twigs, plaited and wound one within another *wicker-wise. 1859 BOYD *Recreat. Country Parson* v. 168 The *wicker-woven box.

'wicker, v. [f. prec. sb.] trans. To furnish, fit, cover, or inclose with wicker. (Chiefly in pa. pple.: see also WICKERED.)

1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* i. ii, A mustie bottle, new wicker'd. 1670 MILTON *Hist. Eng.* II. 49 Thir Ships of light timber wicker'd with Oysier betweene, and covered over with Lcather. 1838 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jnrl.* I. 275/2 Upon this [sc. a surface of dry moss], hurdles. wicker'd with heath, were laid. 1882 F. M. CRAWFORD *Mr. Isaacs* xii, High frames made by planting four bamboos in a square and wickering the top.

wicker, variant of WHICKER v., to whinny.

wickered ('wikəd), a. [f. WICKER sb. or v. + -ED.]

1. Encased in wicker; inclosed or surrounded by wickerwork.

1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* 6 French Wine in Wicker'd Bottles. 1755 *Connoisseur* No. 73 ¶4 A painted board. stuck up at the end of his wicker'd turf. 1860 *All Year Round* No. 53. 60 Near which you always find some sherbet-seller, resting his wickered bottles.

2. Made of wicker: = WICKER sb. 4 a. 1751 DEERING *Nottingham* 73 An old wickered Chair. 1838 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jnrl.* I. 275/2 The hurdles, or wickered foundation. 1919 *Chamb. Jnrl.* 25 Oct. 743/1 Wickered furniture predominated.

wickerwork ('wikəwɜ:k). [f. WICKER sb. + WORK sb.] Work consisting of wickers; a structure of flexible twigs, osiers, or the like plaited together; basket-work.

1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 252 We fell to work to make more Wicker Work. 1780 COWPER *A Fable* 3 A raven. on her wicker-work high mounted Her chickens prematurely counted. 1836 THIRLWALL *Greece* xiv. II. 214 The houses of Sardis were chiefly of wicker-work. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* ii, Every plank and timber creaked, as if the ship were made of wicker-work. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xvi. III. 622 Those rude coracles of wickerwork covered with the skins of horses, in which the Celtic peasantry fished for trout and salmon.

attrib. 1846 SHARPE *Hist. Egypt* xi. 376 Ceylon. had often been reached from Africa. in wickerwork boats made of papyrus. 1871 L. STEPHEN *Playgr. Eur.* (1894) xiii. 305 A house with open wickerwork sides.

Hence 'wickerworked' (-wɜ:kt) a., made of or inclosed in wickerwork; 'wickerworker, one who makes wickerwork.

1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 80 Basket maker. Wicker Worker. 1900 'H. LAWSON' *Over Sliprails* 66 A big old wicker-worked demijohn.

wicket ('wikɪt). Forms: [3 wicat], 3-5 wykett(e), 3-6 wyket, wiket, 4-5 wikett, wekett, 4-6 wykett(t), wycket, wickett, 5 wickette, wekyt, (wigate), 5-6 weket, 6 weiket, 5- wicket. [a. AF. = ONF. *wiket* (Norman *viquet*, Walloon *wichet*) = OF. (mod.F.) *guichet*; usually referred to the Teut. root appearing in ON. *vikja* to move, turn (Sw. *vika*, Da. *vige*); but the forms OF. *guischet*, *wisket*, Pr. *guisquet* indicate the possibility of another source.]

1. a. A small door or gate made in, or placed beside, a large one, for ingress and egress when the large one is closed; also, any small gate for foot-passengers, as at the entrance of a field or other enclosure.

[12. . in E. M. Thompson *Cust. St. Aug. Cant.* (1904) II. 256 Servientes sacristiæ tenentur esse intro ad 'Covrefou'; . . tunc deferentur claves ad sacristam, tam 'wicat' quam magna portæ cimiterii.] a1300 K. Horn 1074 (Camb. MS.) Horn cam to þe gate turne & þat wicket vnsperne. a1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 528, I fonde a wicket small, So shett that I ne myght In gon. a1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 5545 In at a wicket he went. a1483 *Engl. Gilds* (1870) 320, ij. keyys for þe wekett. 1485 in *Comp. Rolls Obed. St. Swithun's, Winch.* (1892) 384 Super magnam portam et le Wigate ejusdem portæ. c1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xxi. 462 Mawgys cam nexle to the wicket of the gate. a1533 L.D. BERNERS *Huon* cxlvi. 546 He came to the abbey gate & callyd ys porter, . . he openyd the weket & beheld Huon, . . & sayd 'pylgryme, enter when you please'. Then Huon enterid in at the weket. 1578 H. WOTTON *Courtlye Controv.* 295 He tooke his leaue of hir, and went out at a litle wicket into a narrowe by lane. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* III. 484 Now Saint Peter at Heav'ns Wicket seems To wait them with his Keys. 1766 GOLDSM. *Hermit* xi, The wicket, opening with a latch, Received the harmless pair. 1818 HAZLITT *Engl. Poets* ii. 70 You see a little . . old man by a wood-side opening a wicket. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D. x.*, He who would thrive at Court must know the private wickets and concealed staircases. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xv, A . . boy came out of a sort of office, and looked at us over a spiked wicket. 1899 GOSSE *Donne* I. 92 The gates of the house were shut upon the dignified envoys, but, after some stay, . . they were let in by the wicket.

b. fig. or in fig. context.

a1400 Prymer (1895) 12 Thou art wicket of þe hijz king, & þe greet gate of list þat schyneþ briȝt. c1400 26 Pol. *Poems* xxii. 4 þou. . wan in at þe wyket of synne. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 117b, Stryeue to entre by the straye wicket. 1573-80 TUSSEY *Husb.* (1878) 169 With hir that wil clicket make daunger to cope, Least quickly hir wicket [i.e. mouth] seeme easie to ope. 1663 G. MACKENZIE *Relig. Stoici* xii. (1665) 96 Seeing nothing is roomed in our judgement and apprehension, but what first entred by the wicket of sense. 1693 CONGREVE *Old Bach.* III. ii. 22 Thou art the Wicket to thy Mistresses Gate, to be opened for all Comers. a1870 ROSSETTI *Poems, Love's Nocturn* v, At death's wicket.

†2. A small opening, esp. one through which to look out or communicate with the outside; a loophole, grill, or the like. *Obs.*

1296 *Acc. Exch. K.R.* 5/20 m. 4 dorso (P.R.O.) In . . xv. anulis ad Hechch', tribus paribus gemell ad Wykett' Bargie, xij Keuillis ferri ad Castrum .vij. d. c1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 4362 Aysent the toure A postern ther is, . . There is right A privey wicket; Draw we thidre. . . That our frendes may se vs within. c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 527/2 Wykett, or lytlylle wyndowe, fenestra. ?1449 *Paston Lett.* I. 83 They have made wykets on every quarter of the hwse to schote owte atte. 1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* II. xxii. 136 Eche of them shal haue a litle wicket open for to shote a gonne. 1616 *Extr. Aberd. Reg.* (1848) II. 341 With ane litill wicket. . . to luik in to the paisis. 1676 COLES *Dict.*, *Wicket*, a casement. 1677 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1181/4 Having seized the Wicket or Sally-port, they got on the Ramparts. 1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T.*, *Wicket*, a casement, also, a little door. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 853/2 *Wicket*, a small door in the gate of a fortified place, &c. or a hole in a door through which to view what passes without.

3. *Cricket.* a. A set of three sticks called *stumps*, fixed upright in the ground, and surmounted by two small pieces of wood called *bails* (BAIL sb.⁴ 2), forming the structure (27 × 8 in.) at which the bowler aims the ball, and at which (in front and a little to one side of it) the batsman stands to defend it with the bat. (The wicket formerly consisted of two stumps and one long bail, forming a structure one foot high by two feet wide.)

single wicket, a form of the game in which there is only one wicket, and therefore only one batsman 'in' at a time. (Also attrib.) *double wicket*, the ordinary form, in which there are two wickets placed 22 yards apart, between which the two batsmen run. *to keep wicket*, to act as WICKET-KEEPER.

1733 in *Waghorn Cricket Scores* (1899) 6 The wickets are to be pitched by twelve o'clock. c1750 in 'Bat' *Crick. Man.* (1850) 30 [Cricket] is performed by a person who, with a clumsy wooden bat, defends a wicket raised of two slender sticks, with one across. 1773 J. BURNBY *Kentish Cricketers* 14 Davis, who loves a Game of Cricket, And shines where'er he keeps the Wicket. 1778 *Coventry Mercury* 6 July 3/4 On Tuesday last . . a Cricket Match, (full set at double wicket) was played between the Wappenbury and Coventry players. 1801 J. STRUTT *Sports & Pastimes Eng.* II. iii. 83 Cricket. . . This game which is played with the bat and ball, consists of single and double wicket. 1803 *Laws of Cricket* 6 The Bowler . . shall bowl four balls before he changes wickets. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* vii, Played a match once—single wicket. 1849 *Laws of Cricket* in 'Bat' *Crick. Man.* (1850) 60 The bowler is subject to the same laws as at double wicket. 1850 'Bat' *Crick. Man.* 98 A single wicket player. 1859 *All Year Round* No. 13. 306 Serjeant-Major McJug, . . one of our best bats, went to the wicket first with Winterburn. 1884 *Lillywhite's Crick. Ann.* 10 Tylecote kept wicket well. 1888 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 22 May 11/1 When the wickets were drawn Gloucestershire had made 361.

b. In various expressions referring to a batsman's tenure of the wicket, or that part of an innings during which some particular batsman is (or might be) 'in', i.e. at the wicket:

e.g. *to take four wickets* (said of a bowler), to put four batsmen 'out'; *three wickets (or third wicket) down*, three men having been put out; *the sixth wicket fell for 75* = the sixth batsman was put out after 75 runs had been made in the innings; *to win by eight wickets*, i.e. by exceeding the opponents' full score of runs, with eight wickets yet to 'fall' (= with two men 'not out' and seven not having been 'in' in the innings).

1738 in *Waghorn Cricket Scores* (1899) 21 Battle. . left Eastbourne 43 to get, which they did with ease, leaving four wickets to be put up when Battle was beat. 1749 *Ibid.* 42 They . . had two wickets to go down. 1877 BLACKMORE *Cripps* lv, [They] had beaten the dalesmen by ten wickets. 1881 *Standard* 28 June 3/1 Another wicket now fell, . . six for 76. 1883 *Daily Tel.* 15 May 2/7 Full score, six wickets for 72 runs. 1900 *Daily Chron.* 16 Dec. 8/1 The first-wicket partnership of MacLaren and Hayward. 1902 *Ibid.* 4 June 6/7 Jackson took four wickets with five consecutive balls.

c. *transf.* The ground between and about the wickets, esp. in respect of its condition; the pitch.

1862 *Sporting Life* 14 June, Nottinghamshire. . sent C. Daft and Brampton to two as fine wickets as the Surrey 'or any other ground' in England could furnish. 1881 *Standard* 14 June 3/8 The condition of the wicket, on which the fast bowling bumped and the slows popped about. 1881 *Daily News* 9 July 2 The wicket did not seem to play particularly well. 1884 *Lillywhite's Crick. Ann.* 3 The English eleven commenced batting on a perfect wicket. 1889 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 17 Apr. 6/1 The wickets were all matting, . . there being not a single turf wicket in the [Cape] colony.

d. Fig. phrs.: *to be on a good wicket*, to be in an advantageous or favourable position; *to bat (or be) on a sticky wicket*: see STICKY a.² 1 c.

1941 *Punch* 24 Dec. 551/1, I wondered why I was so anxious to conceal my age; for the old are on a good wicket. 1961 *Listener* 2 Nov. 737/2 Perhaps the most satisfactory contributions are those of Lord Birkett, who is on a good wicket in describing the change in legal attitudes to obscenity, and Dr. Robert Gosling. 1977 *Verbatim* Dec. 3/2 *To be on a good wicket* is, like *being on a good pitch*, to 'be in

a good spot'. *To be on a good wicket* with someone is to 'be in favor' with him.

4. *U.S. Croquet.* A hoop.

1868 LOUISA M. ALCOTT *Little Women* xii, Jo was through the last wicket, and had missed the stroke. . . Fred. . . gave a stroke, his ball hit the wicket, and stopped an inch on the wrong side. 1890 *Century Dict.* s.v. *Croquet*, Each person in turn strikes his own ball once; if his ball passes through a wicket. . . he is allowed another stroke.

5. In various technical senses.

a. A small gate or valve for emptying the chamber of a canal-lock, or in the chute of a water-wheel for regulating the passage of water. b. *Coal-mining.* A very wide heading or stall, usually with two road-ways, in a variety of pillar-and-stall work (called *wicket-work*) in use in North Wales. c. One of a set of gratings in the form of which the lead is made up in the manufacture of white lead.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Wicket*, a gate formed like a butterfly-valve, in the chute of a water-wheel, to graduate the amount of water passing to the wheel. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.* 1893 *Times* 16 Dec. 9/5 The dangers to health begin with the second process, the conversion of the 'wickets' by the corrosion of an acid into white lead.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *wicket-door* (= sense 1), -*grate*, -*window*; (sense 3) *wicket-bag*, -*taker*. See also WICKET-GATE, -KEEPER.

1813 SCOTT *Trierm.* III. xix, An arch'd portal door, In whose broad folding leaves. . . Was framed a wicket window-grate, . . The gallant Knight took earnest view The grated wicket-window through. 1814 — *Wav.* ix, A little oaken wicket-door. 1842 BORROW *Bible in Spain* xxxix, A dusky passage, at the end of which was a wicket door. 1916 JOYCE *Portrait of Artist* (1969) 90 A team of cricketers passed, . . one of them carrying the long green wicketbag. 1962 *Times* 20 June 4/1 In the second Test match. . . Coldwell wins his [cap] as the season's premier wicket-taker. 1976 J. SNOW *Cricket Rebel* 76 Barry Knight had been the main wicket-taker in the West Indies first innings with four.

wicket, obs. form of WICKED.

'wicket-gate. [GATE sb.¹] = WICKET I.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. VI. 92 To wynne vp þe wicket-ȝat þat þe wey schutte. 1678 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* I. 10 That side of the Slough, that was . . next to the Wicket-gate. 1833 LOUDON *Encycl. Archit.* §316 A wicket gate, separating the yard from the passage. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* xxxiv, A garden, whence a wicket-gate opened into a small paddock. 1881 BESANT & RICE *Chapl. Fleet* I. i, She opened the little wicket-gate which led to the vicarage garden, and passed in.

fig. 1891 FARRAR *Darkn. & Dawn* xxii, So Nero deliberately chose the evil and refused the good, and the narrow wicket-gate of repentance was closed behind him.

wicket-keep, colloq. abbrev. of next.

1867 J. LILLYWHITE'S *Cricketer's Compan.* 107 [He] promises very well as a wicket-keep. 1904 *Westm. Gaz.* 7 July 3/1 One of these days [he] will be as good a batsman as he is a wicket-keep. 1912 *Sat. Rev.* 15 June 739/1 Reid was a first-rate wicket-keep.

'wicket-keeper. *Cricket.* A player stationed behind the wicket to stop the ball if it passes it, and if possible to put the batsman 'out' by 'stumping' or 'catching' (see STUMP v.¹ 8, CATCH v. 24 c).

17. . . *Laws of Cricket* in *Grace Cricket* (1891) 15 The Wicket Keeper shall stand at a reasonable distance behind ye Wicket, and shall not move till ye Ball is out of ye Bowler's Hands. 1875 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Sports* III. I. i. §4. 671 The office of Wicket-keeper is second only to that of the bowler. 1910 *Times* 5 Feb. 6/3 David Hunter. . . is retiring after having been 21 years wicketkeeper for Yorkshire.

wicket-keeping. The occupation of a wicket-keeper (also attrib.).

1826 F. REYNOLDS *Life & Times* II. xiv. 170 No man could. . . surpass. . . Hammond in wicket keeping. 1833 *Sporting Mag.* LXXXII. 353/2 The wicket-keeping of Wenman. 1836 JESSE *Angler's Rambles* 297 One or two prided themselves on their wicket-keeping. 1851 LILLYWHITE *Guide Cricketers* 62 Box has. . . improved very much upon the wicket-keeping glove. 1861 DICKENS *Gt. Expect.* xxvii, It demanded. . . a constant attention, and a quickness of eye and hand, very like that exacted by wicket-keeping.

Hence (as a back-formation) 'wicket-keep v. *intr.*, to keep wicket; 'wicket-keeping ppl. a.

1891 W. G. GRACE *Cricket* v. 138 Lillywhite was bowling and I was wicket-keeping. 1955 I. PEEBLES *Ashes* I. 13 Two wicket-keeping batsmen. 1976 *Milton Keynes Express* 25 June 49/5 In his nine games for the club so far this season the wicket keeping batsman has claimed 19 victims.

wickeyberry, wickey-up: see WICKY, WICKYUP.

†wickhals. *Obs.* [app. f. WICK a. + HALSE sb.¹, neck.] app. A gallows-bird, rogue.

1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1725) 267 To while pise cardinals trauauid for þe pes, Here of a wikhals how he bigan a res. c1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 10086 Let him neuere dye of no wyk-hals!

Wickham ('wikəm). *Angling.* Colloq. shortening of *Wickham's fancy*, an artificial trout-fly.

1876 F. FRANCIS *Bk. Angling* vi. (ed. 4) 241 The Wickham's Fancy. . . enjoys a wide reputation. 1911 *Corner of Harley Street* I. 9 Snatching his joy as one of your own parr will take a Wickham on a clear pool.

Wickhamick: see WYKEHAMIC.

wickid, obs. form of WICKED.

wicking ('wikɪŋ), sb. [f. WICK sb.¹ + -ING¹ 1 g.] Material for making wicks; cord or tape of

cotton or other fibre, to be cut into lengths for wicks.

1847 *Rep. Comm. Patents 1846* (U.S.) 220 This is combined with a small tube within it, through which the wicking is introduced, to cause the tallow to unite around the wicking. **1873** J. RICHARDS *Operator's Handbk.* 95 The wicks should be of wire wound round with textile material, ordinary wicking for instance. **1902** S. E. WHITE *Blazed Trail* xi, Torches, which were often merely catsup jugs with wicking in the necks.

wicking, *vbl. sb.*^{1, 2}: see WICK *v.*^{1, 2}.

Wicking, var. VIKING; see also s.v. WICK *sb.*³

wickir, obs. form of WICKER.

wickit, obs. Sc. form of WICKED.

wickiup ('wɪkiʌp). *U.S.* Also wick(e)yup, wickie-up, wi(c)kiup, wakiup, wackie-up. [American Indian (Menominee *wikiop*, Saki *wekeab*; cf. Cree *mekewap*, Montagnais *mitshiup*); perh. a variant of *wikiwam*, WIGWAM.] A rude hut consisting of a frame covered with brushwood or the like, used by nomadic peoples in the west and south-west. Hence extended to any small hut or shanty.

1857 *Jrnl. Discourses* (1858) V. 80 After feeding to our guide some bread and water... we asked which was the way to Jacob's 'Wickiup'. **1872** C. KING *Mountain. Sierra Nev.* xiii. 273 An Indian ranchero where several willow wickiups were built upon the bank of a cold brook. **1874** T. B. ALDRICH *Prud. Palfrey* vii, A city of tents, pine-huts, and rude brush wakiups. **1876** *Sun* (N.Y.) 10 May 2/6 Come up and see me at my wickiup in Montana. **1905** *Pearson's Mag.* XIX. 359 The American Indian uses his 'wackie-up' as a mere stopping place for a night or two while trekking across country. **1930** E. FERBER *Cimarron* i. 11 He was raised in a tepee; a wickiup had been his bedroom, a blanket his robe. **1959** E. TUNIS *Indians* 110/1 In winter the Diggers put their wickiups over pits for additional warmth, just as the Basketmakers did. **1973** 'P. BUCHANAN' *Requiem of Sharks* xi. 111 In the slang of the Pascagoula Indians, she was built like a brick wickiup.

'wickless, *a.* [f. WICK *sb.*¹ + -LESS.] That burns without a wick; not fitted with a wick.

1899 T. EATON & Co. *Catal.* 'Summer Needs' 13 (*heading*) Wickless blue flame oil stoves. **1924** *Chambers's Jrnl.* Sept. 638/1 In all wickless stoves and lamps particles of carbon are deposited in the vaporiser. **1950** [see *gun-flash* sv. GUN *sb.* 16a].

Wicklif- (-lef-, -lev-, -liv-): see WYCLIF-.

wickmanite ('wɪkmənait). *Min.* [f. the name of F.-E. Wickman (b. 1915), Swedish mineralogist + -ITE¹.] A cubic hydroxide of manganese and tin, MnSn(OH)₆, found as small yellowish or colourless octahedral crystals.

1967 MOORE & SMITH in *Arkiv för Mineral. och Geol.* IV. 398 Wickmanite... is of interest since it is the first tin mineral reported from Långban. **1977** *Canad. Mineralogist* XV. 437/1, Wickmanite, MnSn(OH)₆, schoenfliesite, MgSn(OH)₆, and manganosan schoenfliesite occur in separate low-temperature parageneses in hydrothermally mineralized skarns at Pitkäranta, Karelia.

wickner. *Obs. exc. local.* Forms: 1-2 wicnere, 3 wikenere, -are, 5-6 wig(e)ner, 6- wickner. [OE. *wicnere*, f. *wicman*, f. *wice* WIKE *sb.*] An official; in spec. use (see *quots.* 1574).

c 1000 *AgS. Gloss.* in *Haupt's Zeitschrift* (1853) IX. 453 *Dispensator*,... wicnere. **1155** *Charter in Anglia* (1884) VII. 220 Swa ful & swa ford swa mine azene Wicneres hit sechan scolden. *c* 1205 LAY. 6704 He sende word bi his beste wikenere. *Ibid.* 18175 Imong þat he king wæs: & his wikenares chæs. **1391-2** *Duchy of Lancaster Ministers' Acc.* 288/4734 (P.R.O.) In alloc[ac]ione j p[re]pos[iti]o j messor[is] j collector[is] et iiii Wik[enariorum] videl[icet] de Gymynham Southreppes Trunch et Monesle. **1485** in C. M. Hoare *Hist. E. Angl. Soke* (1918) 180 Wegenarius. **15**... *Ibid.* 132 *y* wigners of Gymi[n]ghm, Trunche, Southrepps, Monisley, & Trymi[n]ghm. **1574** in *Orig. Papers Norf. & Norwich Archaeol. Soc.* (1923) XXI. iii. 386 Agnes Swan widow... payeth to *y* Wickn' of Sydestrond 2^s 9^d for & in consideracon of rent of Assize, common helpe, moueable rents & other Customes and services. *Ibid.* 387 There is a wickne' Chosen eu'ry yeare in eu'ry towne through *y* Soken & during his yeare his duty is to warne *y* Courte & Leete for *y* towne where he is chosen wickn' & to warne *y* Tennants upon warneing given to him by *y* Hayward to doe their workes. *Ibid.* 388 And further the said wickne's office is to distreyne within the towne where he is wickn'. [*Ibid.*, The duties of the modern wickners of the several parishes within the Soke of Gimingham are limited to the periodical collection and payment of certain small rents and fines due to the lord of the manor.] **1614** in C. M. Hoare *E. Angl. Soke* 132 To goe Wykner for this yere to come. **1633** *Ibid.* 343, I doe also put the sayd Tho: Playford in authority to serve as wickner for my howse Southwood in Northreps. **1719** *Ibid.* 132 We chuse Mary Calk widow to serve *y* office of wickner for *y* yeare ensuing.

wickopick, -opy, -up, var. WICOPY.

wickud, -yd, obs. forms of WICKED.

wicky ('wɪki). *local.* [? dial. alteration of QUICKEN.] *a.* The mountain-ash or rowan-tree: = QUICKEN *sb.*¹ *a.* Also wickeyberry tree. *b.* *U.S.* The sheep-laurel, *Kalmia angustifolia*, and an allied species, *K. hirsuta*.

1681 T. LANGFORD *Instr. Fruit-trees* 118 Graff the Service on the Wickeyberry-tree, or the White-thorn. **1804** A. F. M. WILLICH *Domestic Encycl.* I. 53/1 The plant [sc. Andromeda] is there [sc. in the southern states] called

'wickie'. **1847** HALLIWELL, *Wicky*, same as *Wicken-tree*. **1901** C. T. MOHR *Plant Life Alabama* 654 Wicky.. Louisianian area.. Low sandy pine barrens.

wickyup, var. WICKIUP.

Wiclif- (-lef-, -lev-, -liv-): see WYCLIF-.

wicopy ('wɪkəpi). Also 8 wickopick, 9 wickopy, wickaby, wickup, wikip, wicup. [American Indian (Cree *wikipiy*, etc.).] *a.* The leatherwood or moosewood of N. America, *Dirca palustris*; also, the basswood or American linden, *Tilia americana*. *b.* An American name for species of willow-herb (*Epilobium*): distinctively *Indian* or *herb wicopy*.

1778 J. CARVER *Trav. N. Amer.* xix. 499 The Wickopick or Suckwick appears to be a species of the white wood... distinguished... by a peculiar quality in the bark, which when pounded and moistened... becomes... of the consistence... of size. **1837** P. H. GOSSE in *Life* (1890) 106 The tall wickup plants with which the ground was... covered. [*note*, Or 'wickaby', the leather-plant (*Dirca palustris*), a shrub common in the Canadian woods.] **1888** *Cornh. Mag.* Oct. 373 He will be attracted by the whahoo and the wicopy.

wictaill, -ale, -ayle, -ayll, obs. ff. VICTUAL.

wicth, victor(e, -orag, -ori(e, -ory, -our(e: see WIGHT *a.*, VICTOR *sb.*¹ and ², VICTORAGE, VICTORY.

wid (wid), repr. colloq. and dial. pronunc. of WITH *prep.*

[See WITH *prep.* for pre-16th cent. examples.] **1869** S. H. BRADFORD *Scenes in Life Harriet Tubman* 26 Jesus will go wid you. **1884** D. BOUCICAULT *Shaugraun* i. i. 3 Never fear, I'll be even wid your honour yet. **1895** BAINES & SMILEY in A. Dundes *Mother Wit* (1973) 256/2 You an' I was sittin' at de table wid but one dish ob soup. **1897** KIPLING *Capt. Cour.* iii. 77 We do be condescending to honour the second half wid our presence. **1935** [see JACK *sb.*¹ 2e]. **1953** K. TENNANT *Joyful Condemned* xii. 106 What's up wid yuh now? **1978** J. IRVING *World according to Garp* xix. 432 She didda lot for people wid complicated lives.

wid: see WADE *v.*, WED *v.*, WIDE, WIGHT, WITH, WOOD *sb.* and *a.*

Widal (vi-, wɪdɑ:l). *Path.* The name of G. F. Widal (1862-1929), French physician, used *attrib.* and in the possessive to designate an agglutination test for typhoid and other *Salmonella* infections described by him in 1896.

1899 H. M. BIGGS in *Typhoid Fever* (N.Y. State Med. Assoc.) 272 A negative result from the Widal test cannot be regarded as having much significance. *Ibid.*, While the Widal reaction may be very late in its appearance... when present it is of the greatest possible value in the diagnosis. **1908** *Practitioner* Sept. 423 The absence of spots, Widal's reaction... and the presence of a marked leucocytosis and of localised pain, will settle any doubt. **1974** R. M. KIRK et al. *Surgery* ii. 35/2 This is the basis of Widal's reaction... for the diagnosis of typhoid, and it can also be used to detect dysenteric infection. **1976** *Lancet* 20 Nov. 1143/2 Stool microscopy, stool culture (including viral culture), and a Widal test failed to establish a diagnosis.

widbin, dial. var. WOODBINE.

widda(h), vulgar pronunciation of WIDOW.

†**'widdendream**, 'widdrim. *Sc. Obs.* Also wudden dream, widdrum, -dreme, windrem, woo-, wuddrum. [OE. *wōdendrēam* 'furor animi' and *wōddrēam* 'demonium' (also phr. *on wōdum drēame* in delirium, lit. in mad joy: see WOOD *a.*, DREAM *sb.*¹). For its survival in Sc. cf. WEDENONFA'. For the phonology of the first syllable cf. Sc. *widcock* woodcock, *widbin* woodbine, and for the survival of the medial syllable, southern Sc. *Munonday* (OE. *mónandæg*) Monday.] A state of mental disturbance or confusion; a wild fit. Chiefly in phr. *in a widdendream* or *widdrim*, usu. = in a 'furious' hurry, all of a sudden.

[*c* 893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* III. vi. 108 On swelcum wodaen dreame, þæt hie woldon ælne mon... mid atre acwellan, & hit on mete oppe on drynce to geþigcenne gesellan. *a* 1000 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 245/10 *Furor enim animi cito finitur, uel grauius est quam ira, repnes, wodendream.* *c* 1000 ÆLFRED *Hom.* II. 110 Seo dohtor, þe on wodum dreame læg dwelende.]

1755 R. FORBES *Ajax's Sp.* etc. 31 At last we, like fierdy fellows, flew to't flaught-bred, thinkin to raise it in a widden-dream. **1805** JAMIESON *Water Kelpie* xix, The trout, the par, now here, now there, As in a widdrim bang. **1819** W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 45 Sae fiercelang had his wid-dreme stirr'd him. **1871** W. ALEXANDER *Johnny Gibb* xxxix, [He] should, in a sort of reckless 'wudden dream', determine that [etc.].

widder, obs. f. WETHER, WITHER; dial. or vulgar f. WIDOW.

widderschins, -shins, -sins, etc., Sc. var. WITHERSHINS.

widdiful ('widfʊl), *sb. (a.) Sc.* Forms: 6 widdi-, -e-, -iefow, widdy fow, viddeful(l, 8 widdy-fou', 8-9 widdiefu', 9 wuddiefu', (widi-, woodiefu), widdiful(-fu'). [f. WIDDY + -FUL 2: = one who would fill a 'widdy' or halter.] One who deserves hanging, a gallows-bird; a scamp,

rascal. (Cf. HEMPY.) Also *attrib.* or *adj.* Fit for a halter, deserving to be hanged; scampish, rascally.

1508 DUNBAR *Flying* 101 Wan wisaged widdefow, out of thy wit gane wyld. **1535** LYNDESAY *Satyre* 3676 My Lords, for Gods saik let not hang me, Howbeit that widdiefows wald wrange me. *Ibid.* 3986 The widdifow wairdanis tuke my geir. **1549** *Compl. Scot.* vi. 41 Viddefullis al, viddefuls al grit and smal. **1737** RAMSAY *Sc. Prov.* (1750) 123 Ye're a widdy-fou' against hanging time. **1793** BURNS *Meg o' the Mill* ii, The Laird was a widdiefu', bleerit knurl. **1882** *Jamieson's Sc. Dict.*, *Widdifow*..., a cantankerous, spiteful person, of small stature. **1916** G. ABEL *Wylins fae my Wallet* 15 The baillie loon, that widdiefu' Files sets me at the kye.

widdle ('wid(ə)l), *sb.*¹ *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Also widdil, wuddle. [app. f. WIDDLE *v.*¹] Commotion, bustle; disturbance, trouble; strife, contention.

1786 BURNS *Ep. to Major Logan* iii, To cheer you through the weary widdle O' this wild warl'. **1825** JAMIESON s.v., They had a widdil thegither. **1847** J. HALLIDAY *Rustic Bard* 326 This wearifu' world's a wuddle o' care.

widdle ('wid(ə)l), *sb.*² *colloq.* [Echoic: cf. PIDDLE *sb.*, WEE *sb.*², and WIDDLE *v.*³] An act of urination.

1954 J. PUDNEY *Smallest Room* 36 The wee-wee, the widdle, the pee-pee, and the piddle. **1969** D. CLARKE *Nobody's Perfect* iii. 77, I hardly ever saw him unless I... wanted a widdle. **1977** A. COREN *Lady from Stalingrad Mansions* 63 Love is...mekkin' sure yer betrothed 'as a pensionable position wi' luncheon vouchers an' gets out of 'is bath when he wants a widdle.

†**widdle**, *v.*¹ *Sc. Obs.* Forms: 6 wid(d)ill, widle, 7 widdle. [Origin obscure.]

1. *trans.* To invoke or inflict a curse upon: = CURSE *v.* 2, 5.

1552 ABP. HAMILTON *Catech.* (1884) 63 Quha brekis the secund command?... thai that... wariis, bannis and widdillis thair saule... for ony vaine mater. *Ibid.*, Thai that will nocht chasteis... thair barnis fra lesingis, sweiring, banning and widdling. *a* 1568 in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 385/29 The hennis of Hadingtoun sensyne wald nocht lay, For this wyld wilroun wich thame widdit sa and wareit. *a* 1585 MONTGOMERIE *Cherrie & Slae* 250 Like Dido, Cupido I widdil and warye.

2. To beguile, to lead astray.

1697 CLELAND *Poems* 80 It's Antichrist his Pipes and Fiddles, And other Tools, wherewith he Widdles Poor Caitiffs into dark delusions.

widdle, *v.*² *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Also 9 wuddle. [Parallel to WADDLE.] *intr.* To move slowly and irregularly; to waddle; to wriggle; *fig.* to work slowly and laboriously; to get *through* something in spite of difficulties or hindrances. Also **widdle-waddle** *v.*, and †*adv.*, with a waddling or unsteady movement.

1660 in W. W. Wilkins *Pol. Ball.* (1860) I. 160 But Noll, a rank rider, gets first in the saddle,... She quickly perceiv'd that he rode widdle-waddle. **1808** in JAMIESON. **1844** *Whitelaw's Bk. Sc. Song* 268/2 We hope to widdle through Life's linked and ravelled clew. **1864** LATTO *Tam. Bodkin* xiii, Her mind was... engrossed wi' thochts o' her bit laddie, an' hoo he wad widdle through the warl'. **1886** CUNLIFFE *Gloss. Rochdale, Widdle-waddle*, to walk from side to side, as a duck. **1890** SERVICE *Notandums* xix. 124, I aye like to be waunerin' aboot and widdlin' amang the beasts.

widdle ('wid(ə)l), *v.*³ *colloq.* [f. as WIDDLE *sb.*²: cf. PIDDLE *v.* 2.] *intr.* To make water, to urinate. Hence 'widdling *ppl. a.*

[**1956** G. DURRELL *My Family & Other Animals* xi. 143 Larry's suggestion that [the puppies]... be called Widdle and the Puke was greeted with disgust by Mother.] **1968** *Listener* 13 June 785/2 *Work is a Four-Letter Word*, with its short-term expedients (including some inferior pop music and a widdling dog), is grimly unrisible. **1970** 'R. GORDON' *Doctor on Boil* ii. 15 From some of the receptacles you physicians produce, you seem to imagine a camel could widdle through the eye of a needle. **1974** 'D. MEIRING' *President Plan* xii. 95 Martinez was practically widdling with excitement. **1983** W. HARRISS *Bay Psalm Bk. Murder* ix. 82 He headed straight for me... I damn near widdled.

widdle, variant of WHIDDLE, to peach.

widow, -ed, -er: see WIDOW, WIDOWED, WIDOWHEAD, WIDOWER.

widrawte, var. WITHDRAUGHT *Obs.*

widdrim: see WIDDENDREAM.

widdy ('wɪdi). Chiefly *Sc.* Forms: 5 widde, wedde, *pl.* wedeis, -ys, wyddis, 6 wedy, viddy, -ie, woddie, *pl.* widdeis, weddeis, veddeis, 6-9 widdie, 7 wyddie, 8-9 woodie, woody, 9 widdey, wuddy -ie, 5- widdy. [Sc. and north. dial. variant of WITHY.]

1. A band or rope, properly one made of intertwined osiers or the like.

c 1470 HENRY Wallace III. 215 Thai band thaim fast with wedeis [ed. 1570 widdieis] sad and sar. **1501** DOUGLAS *Pal. Hon.* i. xii, Out throw the wod come rydan catiues twane, Ane on ane asse, a widdie about his mone. **1513** *Rec. Burgh Prestwick* (Maitland Club) 45 For... cuttyn of the vyddys of þe dur. *a* 1578 LYNDESAY (Pittscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 90 Witht widdieis [*v.r.* windassis] and towis. *c* 1730 BURT *Lett. N. Scot.* (1754) I. 87 Instead of Ropes for Halters and Harness, they generally make use of Sticks of Birch twisted and knotted together; these are called *Woodies*. **1789** BURNS *To Dr. Blacklock* vi, I hae a wife and twa wee laddies, They maun hae brose and brats o' duddies;... But I'll sned besoms -thraw saugh woodies Before they want. **1824** CARR *Craven*

Gloss., *Widdy*, twigs of willows or hazles dried partially in the fire, and then twisted into wreaths for many agricultural purposes.

2. A rope for hanging, a halter; used (like *halter* and *gallows*) in various allusive expressions referring to hanging.

In later use sometimes app. understood as = *gallows* (in forms *wuddy*, *woodie* perh. by association with *wood*).

c 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 823 Callit him thryss thevisnek, to thrawe in a widdy. 1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxxiii. 48 He had purgation to mak a theif To dee without a widdy. 1508 KENNEDIE *Flying w. Dunbar* 367 Thou has a vedy teuch... about thy crag to rax. c 1536 LYNDESAY *Compl. Bageche* 151 This Prouerb, it is of verite, Hiest in Court, nixt the weddie. a 1568 in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 299/40 All tymes in thair legasie, Fyre, sword, watter and woddie, Or one of thir infirmeteis. 1717 WODROW *Corr.* (1843) II. 221 In short, I think what the wooddie leaves the water gets. 1762 BP. FORBES *Jrnl.* (1886) 213 God sin the Liars girn i' the Widdy. 1785 BURNS *Two Herds* xvi. Then Orthodoxy yet may prance, And Learning in a woody dance. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxiv. There is as much between the craig and the woodie as there is between the cup and the lip. 1893 STEVENSON *Catrina* iii. There's the shadow of the wuddy... that lies braid across your path.

†3. A certain quantity of iron: perh. orig. a bundle bound with a 'widdy'. *Obs.*

1482 in *Charters*, etc. *Edin.* (1871) 168 The hundreth wide of Oismond irne... cumand to Leith. 1483 *Acta Audit. in Acta Dom. Conc.* II. Intro. 124, iij^{xx} xv wedeis of irne, price of the wedde ijs. 1484 *Exch. Rolls Scot.* IX. 239, xx wethyis ferri... xx wyddis ferri. 1527 in Sir W. Fraser *Sutherland Bk.* (1892) III. 79 Fowrtin xx of veddeis of irne. 1603 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 516/1 Ilk hundreth wyddie of Oismond iryn of unfremen cumand to Leith.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (in sense 2): †widdy-neck, one deserving or destined to be hanged. (See also WIDDIFUL.)

c 1480 HENRYSON *Fox & Wolf* 653 In dreid and schame our dayis we indure; Syne widdienek and crakraip callit als, And tilloure hire hangit vp be the hals. a 1583 MONTGOMERIE *Flying* 765 Spew bleck, widdie neck!

widdy, dial. or vulgar var. WIDOW.

widdy-widdy-way (widɪ, wɪdɪ'wei). *dial.* Also widdy(-way), etc. [A rhyme used during the game: see also in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* and quot. 1969 source below.] A children's game of tag.

1846 J. R. PLANCHÉ *Invisible Prince* i. ii. 9 And hail the scenes where I was wont to play At marbles, hopscotch, hoop, and widdy way. 1859 *Games & Sports for Young Boys* 1 *Widdy*. This is a very spirited game, and is peculiarly adapted for wintry weather. 1893-4 R. O. HESLOP *Northumb. Words* II. 788 *Widdy-widdy-way*,... a boys' game. Two boys start hand in hand from a 'bay', and endeavour to touch their opponents. Anyone touched must return with them to the bay and join hands with the first to make a fresh sally... If the chain of hands be broken, the sally has proved a failure, and each outsider endeavours to capture and ride in triumph on the back of one of his quondam pursuers. 1897 H. G. WELLS *Plattner Story* 250 Figures kept moving from one line to another, like children playing at Widdy, Widdy Way. 1969 I. & P. OPIE *Children's Games in Street & Playground* ii. 94 In Peckham Rye the game is known as 'Chain Widdy'.

wide (ward), sb. [absol. use of WIDE a. (OE. *wide* did not survive.) Cf. ON. *vidd* width, widening, *viðir* the wide sea, the main, f. *viðr* WIDE a.]

†1. a. Width, breadth. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1646 Couetys, hordan, envie, and pride Has spred pis world on lenth and wide. *Ibid.* 1676 A schippe... Seuen score ellen lang and ten, Thrys aght on wyde, on heght fueten.

†b. *on wide*: abroad, all around. *Obs.*

13... E.E. *Allit. P. B.* 1423 He waytez onwyde, his wenches he byholdes.

2. †a. The open sea. b. A wide, extensive, or open space. Now only *poet.*

[Cf. c 1000 *Ag. Ps.* (Th.) xciiij. 4 Fram wæterstefnum widra manigra; Vulg. a vocibus aquarum multarum.]

c 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 1013 þai seylden in to þe wide. 1833 TENNYSON *Two Voices* xl. The waste wide Of that abyss.

3. *Cricket*. [Short for *wide ball*, WIDE a. 10 a.] A ball bowled wide of the wicket, counting one against the bowler's side.

1846 W. DENISON *Cricket* 5 The parties deliver beyond their natural powers; control of the ball is thus lost, and a 'wide' is the consequence. 1850 'BAT' *Crick. Man.* 46 Rule the [scoring] sheet... with three additional [lines] for wides, byes, and no-balls.

4. *to the wide*: to the extreme; entirely, utterly. Used in various slang phrs., as *blind* (*broke, dead, out*, etc.) *to the wide*; *done to the wide*: see DO v. 11 e.

1915 G. FRANKAU *Tid'apa* iii. 19 'Blind, blind to the wide.' It was shaky, his hand on the dipper-bar, As the water slopped over, gurgling, from its Ali-baba jar. 1920 WODEHOUSE *fill the Reckless* xiv. 208 Here was a girl who seemed to like him; although under the impression that he was broke to the wide. a 1936 KIPPLING *Something of Myself* (1937) vi. 155, I have seen a Horse Battery 'dead to the wide' come in at midnight in raging rain. 1946 *Coast to Coast* 1945 29 Now yer broke to the wide—I'd rather yer died. 1958 F. C. AVIS *Boxing Dict.* 96 *Out to the wide*, completely unconscious. 1959 L. LEE *Cider with Rosie* 90 Wake up, lamb... He's wacked to the wide. Let's try and carry him up. 1963 M. DUGGAN in C. K. STEAD N.Z. *Short Stories* (1966) 97 Honest, simple and broke to the wide.

wide (ward), a. Forms: 1-4 wid, 4-5 (6 *Sc.*) wyd, 4-6 wyde (4 *Sc.* vyde, 5 wyyd, wijd, 7 weede), 3-wide. Comp. wider ('warda(r)'), also, with shortened vowel, 1 widdra, 4 wydder, 4-6 widder

(5 -ir, -ur); sup. widest ('wardist'). [Com. Teut. (wanting in Gothic): OE. *wid* = OFris., OS. *wid* (MLG. *wid*, MDu. *wijt*, Du. *wijd*, etc.), OHG., MHG. *wit* (G. *weit*), ON. *viðr* (Sw., Da. *vid*):—OTeut. **widaz*; further relations obscure.]

I. 1. a. Having great extent (esp. horizontally); vast, spacious, ample, extensive, roomy. *Obs.* exc. as generalized use of sense 5.

Beowulf 1859 þenden ic wealde widan rices. a 900 CYNEWULF *Juliana* 9 Wæs his rice brad, wid & weorðlic. c 1386 CHAUCER *Prolog.* 28 The chambres and the stables weren wyde. *Ibid.* 491 Wyd was his parisshe and houses fer a sonder. 1387 TREvisa *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 15 Cristendom was nyh wydder þan þe emperre of Rome. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 9481 He woundit þat worthy in his wide prote. 1535 COVERDALE *Prov.* xxi. 9 It is better to dwell in a corner vnder y^e house toppe, then with a braulinge woman in a wyde house. 1600 SHAKS. *A.Y.L.* II. vii. 137 This wide and vniuersall Theater Presents more wofull Pageants then the Sceane Wherein we play in. 1600 *1st Pt. Sir J. Oldcastle* v. viii. The wide horison. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India* & P. 263 The wide open Places under the Chief Cupuloes of their Buzzars. 1724 RAMSAY *Vision* xvii. A wyde and splendit hall. 1847 YEOWELL *Anc. Brit. Ch.* viii. 84 At Iona, or Icolm-kill, in the midst of wide waters. 1871 G. MACDONALD *Wks. Fancy & Imag.* *Longing* iii. O all wide places, far from feverous towns!... Room! give me room!

b. as a conventional epithet of words denoting an extensive area, esp. the earth and the sea (*poet.* and *rhet.*); as an epithet of *world*, in later use sometimes implying contrast to the privacy or security of one's own home or country. Also (*Austral.*) *the wide brown land*, Australia; *wide open spaces*: see OPEN a. 8 a.

a 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 104 Ac þes wida grund stod deop & dim. c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 542 Sume hi wæron... on widdre sæ besenete. c 1200 ORMIN 12117 Off all piss wide middellærd þe kinedomess alle. c 1205 LAY. 112 Eneas þe duc mid his driht folcke Widen iwalken 3end þ^e wide water. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 60 Ðat was ðe firme morzen tid, Ðat euere sprong in werld[e] wid. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 13702 þair lagh wald man suld hir stan, In to midward þis temple wide. 13... K. Horn 643 (Harl.) þe kyng rod on hontynge to þe wode wyde. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* II. 934 Alle þe world so wyde and brade, Our Lord speciali for man made. 1390 GOWER *Conf. I.* 179 Al the wide worldes fame Spak worschepe of hire goode name. c 1475 *Rauf Coilyear* 2 Within thay fellis wyde. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* ciii[i]. 25 Yee the earth is full of thy riches. So is this greate and wyde see also. 1591 SPENSER *M. Hubberd* 135 As we bee sonnes of the world so wide. 1598 R. BERNARD tr. *Terence, Hecyra* IV. iv. Shall we rather... leaue him to the wide world? 1622 PEACHAM *Compl. Gentl.* iv. 35 Turne them out into the wide world with a little money in their purses. 1652 NEDHAM *Selder's Mare Cl.* 27 The wide Ocean. 1658 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) II. 69 The world being wyde she would not venture her conscience upon a disputable point. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacra* i. i. § 3 These were so fully known to him... that he needed not to go to School to the wide world. 1722 DE FOE *Plague* (1756) 141, I shall be turn'd a drift to the wide World. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* vi. The coarse and bloated faces... have counterparts... all the wide world over. 1844 KINGLAKE *Eothen* xv. A shout that tore the wide air into tatters. 1847 BUCKSTONE *Flowers of Forest* III. vii. No, no—not for the wide wide world. 1863 KINGSLEY *Water-Babies* iii. Tom thought nothing about what the river was like. All his fancy was, to get down to the wide wide sea. 1914 D. MACKELLAR *Witch Maid* 29 Her beauty and her terror—The wide brown land for me. 1934 J. & G. MACKANESS (*title*) *The wide brown land*. 1973 *Australian* 4 May 11 Migrants are staying away in droves from the widest and brownest part of this wide, brown land.

c. Of a garment or piece of dress: Capacious; large and loose. *Obs.* as a specific sense, exc. *dial.* in *wide coat*, a great-coat, overcoat.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 56 Nu cumeð forð a feble mon, & halt him pauh heihliche, 3if he haeuð enne widne hod & one ilokene cope. c 1386 CHAUCER *Monk's Prolog.* 61 Why werestow so wyd a Cope? 1393 LANGE. *P. Pl. C.* xix. 271 Thenne hadde ich wonder of hus wordes and of hus wide clothes. c 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 196 His clothes were lomput, and scho wold haue amende hom, but scho myght not, for þay wern so wyde. 1511 *Acc. Ld. High. Treas. Scot.* IV. 197 To be the King ane wyd doublete fra Maistir Johne of Murray. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* II. i. 256 And there the snake throwes her enammel'd skinnie, Weed wide enough to rap a Fairy in. 1609 J. DAVIES *Humour's Heaven* i. iv. Poliphagus a sute of Satten ware, Made wide and side. 1825 BROCKETT *N.C. Gloss.*, *Wide-coat*, an upper or great coat.

2. *transf.* Extending over or affecting a large space or region; far-reaching, extensive. Chiefly *poet.*

a 1000 *Cædmon's Satan* 189 þæs ðe ic gepohte adrifan drihten of selde, ... sceal [ic] nu wreclastas settan sorhgeaig siðas wide. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 24991 He es tald alsua o sight sa wide, þat fra his sight mai naman hide. 1596 SPENSER *F.Q.* IV. ix. 23 They [sc. the winds]... tosse the deepes, and teare the firmament, And all the world confound with wide vptore. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 660 He [sc. a snake] rages in the Fields, and wide Destruction threats. 1818 KEATS *Endym.* II. 307 O woodland Queen, ... Where dost thou listen to the wide halloos Of thy disparted nymphs? 1841 JAMES CORSE *de Leon* i. A turn where they could obtaine a wider view. 1859 HAWTHORNE *Marble Faun* xxxiii. After wide wanderings through the valley [etc.].

b. *Coal-mining*. (See quot. 1883, and cf. WIDE *adv.* 1 c.)

1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-mining, Wide Work*. A South Yorkshire system (now nearly obsolete) of working coal. Sets of short stalls or banks, 7 or 8 yards in width, forming a line of faces about 60 yards, were carried to the rise, about 3 or 4 feet of coal being left between each bank, the main road pillars being subsequently extracted. 1904 *Times* 23

May 7/6 Men engaged on 'wide' work were paid yardage to which they were not entitled.

†3. Great (in various non-physical senses). *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 2200 þis nembrot wit his mikel pride Wend to wyrk wondres wide. *Ibid.* 20030 For ai þe mar i soght to sai, þe widdre suld i find þe wai. *Ibid.* 23104 Wreches stad in wa ful wide. 1393 LANGE. *P. Pl. C.* xxi. 403 Now by-gynnep... my grace to growe ay wydder and wydder. a 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 1970 For wella wide ware þe wele, ... Bathe þi glorie & þi grace, þi gladnes in erthe, Miht þou þe marches of Messedoyne mayntene þi-selfe. c 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* xxxvi. 62 Lowse thow my lippis, that tyme and tyd I may gif to the lovingis wyd.

4. *fig.* Having a large range; comprising, affecting, applying or relating to a great number or variety of persons, cases, subjects, points, etc.; extensive, largely inclusive; (of a word or term) having a large extent of meaning: = BROAD a. 10.

Common since 1800.

1534 WHITTINGTON *Tullyes Offices* I. D 4, Therefore ryseth the large and wyde prayse by rhetoriciens of Marathon [orig. *Hinc rhetorum campus de Marathone*]. a 1600 MONTGOMERIE *Misc. Poems* xliii. 35 So wyd thy word does waxe That the immortal maks. 1670 MILTON *Hist. Eng.* II. 77 These perpetual exploits abroad won him wide fame. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* III. iv. I fear the misfortunes of Mr. Belfield have spread a ruin wider than his own. 1797 MALONE *Sir J. Reynolds' Wks.* I. p. xxxv. In the historical department [of pictures], he took a wider range. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 106 There is yet a wide field for useful experiment. 1843 RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* I. i. ii. I want a definition of art wide enough to include all its varieties of aim. 1856 MISS MULOCK *John Halifax* xxxvi. The boy—to whose destination we had no clue but the wide word, America. 1858 MRS. PAUL *Uncle Ralph* xxii. 'Never is a wide word, Miriam,' said Ailie. 1865 TYLOR *Early Hist. Man.* i. 13 note. His wide knowledge of ethnography. 1868 NETTLESHIP *Ess. Browning* i. 54 How to use each his own and his mistresses' attributes for the widest good. 1868 M. PATTISON *Academ. Org.* 2 The ideas of the wider public. 1895 *Bookman* Oct. 15/1 [His] wide experience as a teacher... and an inspector of schools.

b. Of views or opinions, or *transf.* of the person holding them: = BROAD a. 11.

1824 MACAULAY *Athen. Orators* ¶ 22 States have always been best governed by men who have taken a wide view of public affairs. 1833 TENNYSON *Two Voices* xlii. When, wide in soul and bold of tongue, Among the tents I paused and sung. 1884 *Spectator* 19 Apr. 513/2 Both the High Churchman and the Wide Churchman. *Ibid.*, The Wide Church or High-Church circles.

†c. Vague. *Obs. rare.*

1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India* & P. 288 Though his Verses are most Elegant, yet the description is very wide.

II. 5. a. Having great extent from side to side; large across, or in transverse measurement. (Opp. to *narrow*.)

Now distinguished from *broad* in so far as it tends to be restricted to applications in which actual mensuration from point to point is possible or contemplated, and in which there is no implication of superficial extent; hence in certain technical uses (see quotes.).

c 1000 *Ag. Gosp. Matt.* vii. 13 þæt geat is swyþe wid, & se weg is swiþe rum, þe to forspillednesse gelæst. 11... in *Birch Cartul.* (1887) II. 207 Ðonon to widan geate; Ðonon to eadulfes mære. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1682 þu sal... Mak a dor wit mesur wide. *Ibid.* 8081 þair muthes wide, þair eien brade, Vn-frelj was þair face made. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* III. 23 Till sum gaiff thai woundis wid. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* iv. (*Jacobus*) 302 On a bryge, as þai can ryd Our a wattyry, depe and wyd. c 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* II. 289 Euery sercle causynge othir Wydder than hym self was. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 526/1 Wydd, large yn brede. 1567 Gude & Godlie B. (S.T.S.) 22 Christis woundis wyde. 1632 MILTON *L'Allegro* 76 Shallow Brooks, and Rivers wide. 1642 TASMAN *Jrnl.* in *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* 1. (1694) 135 Those Men when they walked made very wide paces. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* VIII. 467 Wide was the wound, But suddenly with flesh fill'd up & heal'd. 1725 POPE *Odys.* i. 173 A purple carpet spread the pavement wide. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XIX. 256/2 One of the great recommendations of a wide gauge. 1868 *Rep. U.S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 416 Making experiments in the cultivation of wheat in wide drilling and thin seeding. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech. Suppl.*, *Wide Spade* (Whaling), used to cut the blubber in the rough, before mincing. 1888 JACOBI *Printers' Voc.*, *Wide measures*, long and wide measures of type, distinct from narrow or short ones.

b. *transf.* of the lateral boundaries: Having a wide space between, far apart. (Cf. 7 and 8.)

1840 DICKENS *Old Cur. Shop* i. It runs between green banks which grow wider and wider until at last it joins the broad vast sea.

c. As the final element in comb. with sbs. which denote regions, organizations, etc., as WORLD-WIDE, and *country-wide*, *nation-wide*, *state-wide* (see at first element), in the sense 'as wide as the—' or 'extending throughout the whole—'.

6. Having a specified or particular transverse measurement indicated by a numerical quantity or by a comparison; (so much) across.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 127 Hwene widdre þonne bydenfæt. a 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 1307 Fær gewyrc fiftiges wid, ðritiges heah, preohund lang elngemet. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 565 Ðat arche was... lth elne wid, and... xxxth hez. c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 7503 Graunte me... Namore lond, wyd ne syd, þan y may sprede a boles hynd. c 1400 *Pilgr. Soule* (Caxton 1483) IV. xxxvi. 84 A traylyng gowne of twelue yerdes wyde. a 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 1324 þurze þaim he rynnys, And makis a way wide enoze waynes to mete. c 1449 PEOCK *Repr.* III. xi. 347 That these schoon be notabli widdir than the meetenes of hem wolde aske. *Ibid.*, These schoon to be no widdir than euen meete to hise sones feet.

1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Sept. 210 Had his wesand bene a little widder, He would haue deuoured both hiddier and shidder. **1592** SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* III. i. 100 'Tis not so deepe as a well, nor so wide as a Church doore. **1663** GERBIER *Counsel* 11 A Bed-chamber. Thirty foot wide. *Ibid.* 19 Windowes. must be higher then wide. **1842** LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 637 Take half-inch and two-inch wide rods or laths. **1918** *Times Lit. Suppl.* 28 Mar. 152/1 The island is small. . . and at its widest part about a mile and a half in width.

7. a. (a) Opened widely, expanded; of the arms, stretched widely apart. Now superseded in general use by *wide open* (see *WIDE adv.* 3).

1508 DUNBAR *Tua Mariit Wemen* 335 3it tuk I neur the wosp clene out of my wyde throte. **1560** DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 449 b, That a wyder entrie be not set open to y^e Turkes to inuade us. **1607** *Puritan* i. iv. 96 Speake lowe, George; Prison Rattes haue wider eares then those in Malt-lofts. **1611** Bible Isa. lviii. 4 Against whom make ye a wide mouth, and draw out the tongue? **1667** MILTON *P.L.* i. 762 All access was throng'd, the Gates And Porches wide. **1697** DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 431 The Mares. . . with wide Nostrils snuff the Western Air. **1707** E. SMITH *Phædra & Hipp.* i. 1 She from his wide, deceiv'd, desiring Arms Flew tastless. **1820** KEATS *St. Agnes* iv, Many a door was wide. **1822** GALT *Provost* xxxvi. With wide and wild arms, like a witch in a whirlwind. **1867** MORRIS *Jason* xv. 839 The three . . . gazed at him with wide eyes wondering.

(b) sup. as quasi-sb. in phr. *at widest*.

1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* i. i. 63 Though euery drop of water sweare against it, And gape at widst to glut him.

b. Phonetics. Of a vowel-sound: Pronounced with the tongue relaxed, or with a wider opening between it and some other part of the mouth than the corresponding *narrow* vowel.

1867 A. M. BELL *Visible Speech* 72 The vowels—whether 'Primary', 'Wide', or 'Rounded'—are divided into three classes of palato-lingual formations. **1890** [see *NARROW a.* 1 d].

III. 8. Extending far between limits; existing between two things which are far apart, literally or figuratively, as a distance or interval, a distinction or difference.

to give a wide berth to: see *BERTH sb.* 1.

1589 PUTTENHAM *Engl. Poesie* II. ix. (Arb.) 96 Bycause your concord contains the chief part of Musick in your meetre, their distainces may not be too wide or farre a sunder. **1611** SHAKS. *Cymb.* v. v. 104 The wide difference 'Twixt Amorous, and Villanous. **1746** FRANCIS tr. *Hor., Epist.* II. ii. 293 The wide Distinction. . . Between an open, hospitable Man, And Prodigal; the Frugalist secure, And Miser, pinch'd with Penury. **1857** MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* (1862) i. §2. 49 The wider is the interval between the respective places in the series. **1865** RUSKIN *Sesame* II. §75 There is a wide difference between elementary knowledge and superficial knowledge. **1912** *Daily Tel.* 19 Dec. 2/3 Among foreign railways, . . . after some wide fluctuations San Paulo finished at a substantial improvement.

† 9. a. Situated a great way off, distant, far; in quot. **1590**, held at a distance, not close. Also, situated at a specified distance (const. of = from). *Obs.*

Only predicative, or following the sb.; thus nearly approaching *WIDE adv.* 5.

† a1400 *Arthur* 552 [He] strengthened hym on eche syde Wyth Men of contres ferre & wyde. **1535** COVERDALE *Ps.* ciii[i]. 12 Look how wyde the east is from the west, so farre hath he set our synnes from vs. **1590** SPENSER *F.Q.* II. viii. 36 His pointant speare he thrust. . . At proud Cymochles, whyles his shield was wyde. **1597** J. DEE *Diary* (Camden) 59 Calcot in Chesshyre, abowt six myles wide of Chester. **1682** O. HEYWOOD *Diaries* (1885) IV. 76 A place. . . 4 miles wide of St. Albans. **1729** SWIFT *Hist. 2nd Solomon Wks.* 1841 II. 320 He was to set out. . . to another part of the kingdom, thirty miles wide of the place appointed. **1854** R. S. SURTEES *Handley Cr.* xxxvi, Shortstubble put him on a line as wide of his own wheat as he could.

b. fig. Far, far apart (in nature, character, views, statements, etc.); not in accordance, disagreeing, different; foreign, alien; far from (doing something). Const. *from*, *of*. (Often approaching or coinciding with 10 b.) Now *rare*.

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* Pref. **v b, Valerius Maximus and Plinius, in the reportyng of a certain alter[c]acion y^t was betwene Cn. Domitius & Lucius Crassus. . . how wyde been theie one from the other. **1545** BRINKLOW *Compl.* 11 What a cruell lawe is this! how farre wyde from the Gospel, yea from the lawe of nature also. **1561** T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtier* II. (1577) Gij b, It seemeth a matter very wide from reason. **1566** W. P. tr. *Curio's Pasquie in Traunce* 9 b, The which things. . . were al farre wyde. . . from that true & most pure virgin the Lords mother. **1600** MARSTON, etc. *Jack Drum's Entert.* I. (1601) C3 b, Those that are farre more yong and wittie, Are wide from singing such a Dittie. **1630** HAKEWILL *Apol.* (ed. 2) Advts. Zz 2 b, How farre wide the foure most noted doctours of the Westerne Church. . . were in the exposition of many passages of holy Scripture. **1700** EVELYN *Diary* 7 Nov. 1691, The relation he gave. . . was very wide from what we fancied. **1754** HUME *Hist. Eng. I. Chas. I* iii. 199 That rustic contempt of the fair sex, which James affected. . . was very wide of the disposition of this monarch. **1807** BENTHAM *Mem. & Corr. Wks.* 1843 X. 423 My own notions. . . were too wide of the notions prevalent among lawyers. **1812** CARY *Dante, Parad.* VIII. 136 Hence befalls That Esau is so wide of Jacob. **1871** EARLE *Philol. Engl. Tongue* 244 Languages whose development has been wide of ours, as the Hebrew.

c. Situated far apart in a series: *spec.* in *Cards* (see quot.).

1897 R. F. FOSTER *Complete Hoyle* 414 Cards which are likely to form parts of sequences are called close cards, and those which are too widely separated to do so are called wide cards.

10. Deviating from the aim, or from the direct or proper course; missing the mark or the way;

going astray. Also const. of (*†from*). (Most commonly predicative, approaching or coinciding with *WIDE adv.* 6.) *a. lit.; spec.* in *Cricket*, of a ball bowled too far aside from the wicket for the batsman to strike it (now usually *ellipt.*: see *WIDE sb.* 3).

1588 SHAKS. *L.L.L.* IV. i. 135 Wide a' th bow hand, yfaith your hand is out. **1669** STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* v. xii. 70 If the Shot be both wide and too low. **a1700** B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Wide*, when the Biass of the Bowl holds not enough. **1851** LILLYWHITE *Guide Crick.* 13 The Umpire must take especial care to call. . . 'Wide Ball' as soon as it shall pass the Striker. **1853** 'C. BEDE' *Verdant Green* i. xi, The first ball was 'wide'. **1854** LEVER *Sir Jasper Carew* xl, His guards were all wide, and his eyes unsteady.

b. fig. (a) without prep. (now *rare*): in early use often = Astray in opinion or belief, mistaken (now expressed by the full phr. *wide of the mark*). In quot. **1605**, perh. Wandering in mind, delirious.

1561 T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtier* i. (1577) Evb, Whoso heareth him, may. . . thinke y^t he also with very little a do, might attaine to y^t perfection, but when he commeth to y^t prooffe, shall finde himselfe farre wide. **1579** TOMSON *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 140/2 Let vs see if this be well practised, alas, the matter is farre wide [orig. *Helas il s'en faut beaucoup*]. **1592** KYD *Sp. Trag.* III. xi, 'Tis neither as you thinke, nor as you thinke, Nor as you thinke; you'r wide all. **1605** SHAKS. *Lear* IV. vii. 50 *Lear*. You are a spirit I know, when did you dye? *Cor.* Still, still, farre wide. **1621** T. WILLIAMSON tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* 107 To them that are wide, and strangers to the true light. **1632** MASSINGER *Maid Hon.* II. ii, You are wide, the whole field wide. I in my understanding Pitty your ignorance. **a1652** BROME *City Wit* v. i, Py. I know your purpose. . . you come after the Marriage to forbid the banes. . . *Lin.* Good Mrs. Sneakup, you are wide. I come to wish joy to the match. **1687** SETTLE *Refl. Dryden* 83 He was a little wide there.

(b) Const. *from* (now *rare* or *obs.*), *of*: esp. in phr. *wide of the mark*.

Sometimes scarcely distinguishable from 9 b.

1566 W. P. tr. *Curio's Pasquie in Traunce* 34 b, They are so farre wyde from the institution of Christ, & from the truth. **1587** *Mirr. Mag., Stater* i, Of wit and of reason recklesse and wide, That tooke so vpon vs to rule all the land. **1597** MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 115 Though I should talke of halfe as manie more, I should not be farre wide of the truth. **1646** SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* i. vii. 28 How wide he is from truth. **1672** W. WALKER *Paræm.* 29 You are quite out of the way; wide of the mark; clearly mistaken; . . . *Tota erras via*. **1681** W. ROBERTSON *Phrasol. Gen.* (1693) 1321 He is wide of the cushion; *errat longè*. **1711** in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 112 A lasting happiness, of which they are wide. . . thro' want of religion. **1735** BERKELEY *Def. Free-thinking* §46 Your Comment must be wide of the Author's meaning. **1747** *Mem. Nutrebian Crit.* II. 25 Sentiments. . . you think so wide from the duty I should. . . pay. **1813** T. BUSBY *Lucretius* II. IV. *Comm.* p. xv, In his solar images he is not quite so wide from the fact. **1836** G. S. FABER *Prim. Doctr. Election* II. vi. (1842) 339 Most wide, then, from the mark. . . is the modern Calvinist. **1846** DICKENS *Cricket on Hearth* iii, You had best not interrupt me. . . till you understand me; and you're wide of doing so. **1848** — *Dombey xl*, These questions. . . are all wide of the purpose. **1892** *Stat. Rev.* 15 Oct. 442/2 This belief of the French critic is not so very wide of the mark.

† c. *Amiss. Obs. rare.*

1614 BP. HALL *Contempl.* Aaron & Miriam, It were wide for vs, if our suites should be euer heard. *Ibid., Rahab*, It would bee wide with the best of vs, if the eye of God should looke backward to our former estate.

11. a. Going beyond bounds of restraint, propriety, or virtue; unrestrained, violent (*obs.*); lax, loose, immoral (now *colloq.* or *slang*). Cf. *BROAD a.* 6, 8.)

1574 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xlii. 395 The Courteour, with wordis wyde, Said 'I hear nathing bot proudey, And get now this.' **1656** G. COLLIER *Answ. 15 Quest.* Pref., Any man that hath not a weak head and a wide conscience. **1902** WISTER *Virginian* xiii, Wide females in pink. **1904** *Daily Chron.* 29 Nov. 3/4 Madrid was full of 'wide' characters.

b. Going beyond bounds of moderation; excessive, immoderate. (Cf. *slang tall, steep*.)

1858 GREENER *Gunnery Advts.* 2 Producing. . . guns equal, if not superior, to anything yet produced by any maker whatever. This may be considered a wide assertion, but to prove he does not make it rashly he is prepared to test the fact by a competition with any maker. **1895** *Daily News* 3 Sept. 7/5 Prices asked are very wide, and are beyond the values that merchants are disposed to give.

c. slang. Wide-awake, cute; shrewd, sharp-witted; (dishonestly) cunning or knowledgeable; skilled in sharp practice; engaging in shady dealings. See also *wide boy*, sense 12 c below.

1879 *Macmillan's Mag.* Oct. 502/1, I got in company with some of the widest (cleverest) people in London. **1891** *Daily News* 24 Feb. 2/1 Well, she was tipsy; but she was very 'wide'. **1928** E. WALLACE *Gunner* xxviii. 226 You can handle these swells, Danty, and you're wide enough to keep yourself out of trouble. **1938** F. D. SHARPE *Sharpe of Flying Squad* i. 13 Underworld men and women. . . refer to themselves as 'wide people' or 'one of us'. They're a colourful, rascally lot these 'wide 'uns'. **1956** T. HUDDLESTON *Naught for your Comfort* II. 28 He must become a 'tsotsi', a cosh-boy, a wide-guy—because at least there's excitement that way, while it lasts. **1981** *Event* 16 Oct. 101/3 They've never struck me as a bunch of wide-people.

IV. 12. Comb. a. Parasynthetic, forming adjs. in -ED² (unlimited in number), as *wide-arched, -armed, -banked, -beaked, -bellied, -branched, -brimmed, -chapped* (*†chopt*), *-handed, -hearted, -jointed, -lapped, -legged, -lipped,*

-margined, -minded, -necked, -realmed, -shouldered, -skirted, -sleeved, -spaced, -spanned, -streeted, -throated, -waked, -wayed, -windowed, etc. **b.** Rarely with simple sbs., forming adjs. in sense 'having, involving, pertaining or relating to a (or the) wide —', as *wide-head, -row, -world*. **c.** Special Combs.: *wide-angle a.*, applied to a lens of short focus, the field of which extends through a wide angle, used for photographing at short range; also in extended use and as *sb.*; *wide-aperture a.*, applied to (an instrument having) an objective lens of large diameter; *wide-band a.*, capable of transmitting or handling signals in a wide frequency band; *wide-bodied a.*, of a large jet aeroplane: having a wide fuselage (cf. *JUMBO* 1 b); also *wide-body* (usu. *attrib.*); *wide boy slang*, one who lives by his wits, often dishonestly; one who engages in petty-criminal activities, a 'spiv'; cf. sense 11 c; *wide-cut a. Oil Industry*, involving or produced by fractional distillation over a wide temperature range, or the fraction so obtained (see quotes. **1958**, **1966**); *wide-eared a.*, having wide ears; also in sense 7, having the ears wide open, listening intently; *wide-eyed a.*, having wide eyes; usually in sense 7, having the eyes wide open, gazing intently; also *fig.*; *wide-gab*, local Sc. name for the fishing-frog or frog-fish; *wide gauge Railways* = *BROAD GAUGE*; *wide-leaved, -leaved a.*, having a wide leaf or leaves; *transf.* of a hat, broad-brimmed; *wide-meshed a.*, of a net: having wide meshes or interstices; (in quotes., *fig.* of a survey); *wide receiver Amer. Football*, a pass receiver who stands several yards to the side of an offensive formation; cf. *FLANKER sb.* 1 3 d, *RECEIVER* 1 i c (a); *wide-scale a.*, that occurs on a wide scale; extensive; cf. *large-scale* adj. s.v. *LARGE a.* 15 c; *wide screen*, a cinema screen which presents a wide field of vision in proportion to its height (see quot. **1957**); freq. *attrib.*; *† wide-side a.* [*SIDE a.* 1], wide and long, capacious; *wide-spectrum a.*, (a) *fig.*, effective against a wide range of organisms; = *broad-spectrum* s.v. *BROAD a.* D. 2; (b) *lit.*, characterized by light of a wide range of wavelengths; *wide-wale a.*, of fabrics, esp. corduroy: broad-ribbed; *wide-winged a.*, having wide wings; flying through a wide space or region (chiefly *poet.*). See also *WIDE-MOUTHED, -WATERED*.

1878 ABNEY *Photogr.* (1881) 204 The next lens. . . is what is known as a 'wide angle' doublet, in which the separation between the lenses is very small, and their foci considerably shorter. . . Some of these combinations are made so as to cover a circle whose diameter subtends an angle of 90° from the optical centre. **1897** C. M. HEPWORTH *Animated Photogr.* xiii. 97 The use of a wide-angle lens. . . is. . . abominable in connection with the production of a living photograph. **1947** H. LEWIS *Photogr. Today* 53 On analysing my shots. . . I usually find that 70 per cent. have been taken with a 5 cm. lens, 2 per cent. with a long-focus lens, and the rest with a 3.5 cm. wide-angle lens. **1955** *Mademoiselle Mar.* 113 *Oklahoma!* is made in 'fabulous new Todd-Ao wide-angle, large-screen process'. **1965** C. FORSYTE *Double Death* iii. 22 He kept most of his attention on the special wide-angle driving mirror that raked the traffic on his tail. **1974** J. IRVING *158-Pound Marriage* i. 11 Forget the wide-angle. (I see Edith and Severin Winter only in close-ups.) **1983** *Which?* Sept. 388/3 A zoom lens lets you move in from a wide-angle view to a closer shot. **1958** *Amateur Photographer* 31 Dec. 914/2 For colour work a *wide-aperture lens is invaluable. **1966** D. G. BRANDON *Mod. Techniques Metallogr.* i. 57 With a wide-aperture telescope. . . there is no loss of brightness on magnification. **1820** KEATS *Lamia* II. 121 The glowing banquet-room shone with *wide-arched grace. **1869** J. R. LOWELL *Poet. Works* (1912) 415 The friend of all the winds, *wide-armed he towers. **1898** G. MEREDITH *Odes Fr. Hist.* 27 With view of wide-armed heaven. **1935** *Wireless Engineer* XII. 251/1 A means of examining the behaviour of *wide-band amplifiers when supplied with transient input waves. **1967** E. CHAMBERS *Photolitho-Offset* iv. 42 Although this ideal is not fully realised the fact remains that very acceptable results can be obtained using either wide-band (trichromatic) or narrow-cut filters. **1982** *Economist* 6 Mar. 25/2 The government wants Britain's cities to be cabled quickly with wideband cable. **1903** KIPLING *5 Nations* 73 Beside *wide-banked Ouse. **1807** J. BARLOW *Columbia* III. 131 The *wide-beak'd hawk, that now beholds me die, soon with his cowering train my flesh shall tear. **1921** D. H. LAWRENCE *Birds, Beasts & Flowers* 30 An enormously wide-beaked mouth. **1921** W. DE LA MARE *Veil* 6 Dipped the *wide-bellied boat. **1980** *Jrnl. R. Soc. Med.* LXXXIII. 7 A wide-bellied, ungainly but functional ambulance. **1970** *Times* 4 Sept. (Aviation Suppl.) p. i/4 About £200m. is being requested to get the proposed BAC 3-11 *wide-bodied, 250-seater subsonic airliner off the ground. **1983** *Times* 12 Feb. 20/8 Western airlines. . . were not allowed to fly wide-bodied jets such as the Airbus into Moscow until the Russians had developed their own Il 86. **1968** *Flight Internat.* 14 Nov. 777/1 BAC foresees a demand for standards matching the high-capacity *wide-body aircraft of the long-haul routes on short/medium-haul routes. **1979** T. GIFFORD *Hollywood Gothic* (1980) xxx. 308 The wide-bodies slid down. . . into the bustle of Los Angeles International Airport. **1983** *Listener* 9 June 6/2 Only two companies are now producing wide-body airliners. **1937** R.

WESTERBY *Wide Boys never Work* 232 Jim was turning, or had already turned, into a Smart Aleck, a *Wide Boy, a despoiser of the Mugs who worked. 1947 *People* 22 June 5/3 It seems the wide boys are trying to muscle in and buy these dogs to put against one another in private fights. 1952 J. Tey' *Singing Sands* iv. 57 He was a wide boy. Wide boys don't want trouble. 1960 V. GIELGUD *To Bed at Noon* iii. i. 159 Blackmailed—for the murder? Not even the widest of the local wide-boys could have got on to it. 1976 J. O'CONNOR *Eleventh Commandment* iii. 38 All the wide boys thought I had gone mad when they saw me in khaki. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* i, Short-stemmed, *wide-branched oaks. 1918 J. W. GERARD *Face to face with Kaiserism* xv. 180 An actress who wore a *wide-brimmed hat. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* 1. i. 60 This *wide-chopt-rascall. 1958 *Chambers's Techn. Dict.* 1027/2 *Wide-cut fuel. . . low octane petrol (gasoline) obtained from wide-cut distillation used in turbojets in order to conserve kerosene. 1966 *McGraw-Hill Encycl. Sci. & Technol.* X. 54/2 Petroleum is separated by distillation into fractions designated as (1) straight-run gasoline. . . ; (2) middle distillate. . . ; (3) wide-cut gas oil, which boils at about 345–540°C. . . and (4) residual oil. 1982 *Fuelling Aviation* (Shell Internat. Petroleum Co. Ltd.) 5/2 The military wide-cut fuel is called JP-4 and this is the major fuel for the airforces of the world. 1684 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1976/4 A black Coach Mare. . . a little *wide Eared. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* iv. The boys listened, wide-eyed and wide-eared. 1788 *Scott's Gratitude* 11 This wheel-footed studying chair, . . *Wide-elbow'd, and wadded with hair. 1853 TENNYSON in *Ld. T. Mem.* (1897) I. 369 The *wide-eyed wonder of a babe has a grandeur in it. 1855 KINGSLEY *Heroes, Argon.* 1. 80 The boy listened wide-eyed. 1894 *Forum* (N.Y.) Feb. 717 Madison's. . . wide-eyed prudence in counsel. 1923 D. H. LAWRENCE *Birds, Beasts & Flowers* 109 The human soul is fated to wide-eyed responsibility in life. 1983 L. DEIGHTON *Berlin Game* ix. 95 You ask him all those wide-eyed innocent questions about making profits from cheap labour. 1808 NEILL in *Mem. Wernerian Nat. Hist. Soc.* (1811) I. 548 *Lophius piscatorius*. . . Frog-fish. . . In the North Isles of Scotland, it is. . . termed the *Wide-gab, the mouth being hideously large. 1836 YARRELL *Brit. Fishes* I. 269 The Fishing Frog. Angler. Sea Devil. Wide Gab. Scotland. 1841 *Wide gauge [see *WIDE* a. 5]. 1982 S. G. DUFF *Parting of Ways* iv. 43 We all boarded the train for Moscow, changing onto the wide-gauge railway at the Soviet frontier. 1600 BRETON *Pasquil's Foole's cappe* Wks. (Grosart) I. 20/2 In the aime of Wisdomes eye, *Wide handed Wits will euer shoote awry. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* III. iv. 371 The *wide-head aokys. 1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* viii. The old Anglo-Norman teachableness and *wide-heartedness. 1917 *Blackw. Mag.* Nov. 677/1 Ladies. . . narrow in their interests, . . but wide-hearted. 1874 J. H. PARKER *Introd. Gothic Archit.* 1. i. (ed. 4) 11 *Wide-jointed masonry is a usual characteristic of the eleventh century in England and Normandy. 1680 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1527/4 Open *wide-kneed Breeches. 1856 J. G. WHITTIER *Poet. Works* (1898) 353/1 Pacific rolls his waves a-land, From many a *wide-lapped port and land-locked bay. 1928 BLUNDEN *Japanese Garland* 19 Fine fields, wide-lapped, whose loveliest-born Day's first bright cohort finds. 1779 P. FRENEAU *House of Night in U.S. Mag.* Aug. 356 A *wide-leaf'd table stood on either side. 1855 *Motley Dutch Rep.* vi. vii. (1866) 804 He wore a wide-leaved. . . hat of dark felt. 1894 WEYMAN *Man in Black* ix, A dark, sallow man, . . with a wide-leafed hat. 1938 R. GRAVES *Coll. Poems* 28 The *wide-legged robin with his breast aglow. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxxviii, Those *wide-lipped crystal vessels. . . in which chemists. . . measure out their liquid drugs. 1889 O. WILDE in *Fortin. Rev.* Jan. 43 Book-bindings, and early editions, and *wide-margined proofs. 1938 *Dialect Notes* VI. 626 Professor A. H. Marckwardt. . . has begun a *wide-meshed survey of the Great Lakes region and the Ohio River valley. 1980 *English World-Wide* I. 1. 28 Unfortunately. . . his survey is even more wide-meshed than Orton's. 1883 A. BARRATT *Phys. Metemp.* Pref. p. xx, In politics his sympathies were liberal and *wide-minded. 1914 TOLLINTON *Clement of Alex.* II. xx. 273 Wide-minded teachers, who have the power to discern affinities and to greet the ally in disguise. 1880 J. DUNBAR *Pract. Papermaker* 69 A *wide-necked glass-stoppered bottle. 1725 POPE *Odys.* XIII. 506 At his side a wretched scrip was hung, *Wide-patch'd, and knotted to a twisted thong. 1838 MRS. BROWNING *Island ix*, *Wide-petalled plants. 1968 *Redskins* 17 Nov. 77/3 Depth at *wide receiver is strong, too, in rookie Dennis Homan. 1981 *Washington Post* 8 Apr. D1 We will have to take the best athlete available. . . That could be an offensive lineman, a running back or a wide receiver. 1821 COBBETT *Rur. Rides* 9 Nov. (1885) I. 28 The advantages of the *wide-row culture. 1958 G. LIENHARDT in Middleton & Tait *Tribes without Rulers* 108 There was little *wide-scale co-operation against the common enemies. 1980 *Daily Tel.* 26 May 6/7 By confining the emergency arrangements as far as possible to the Bristol line, BR has avoided widescale timetable changes. 1931 *Ann. Reg.* 1930 II. 48 The *Wide Screen is still only a matter for experiment, as standardisation has not yet been achieved. 1932 *Ibid.* 1931 47 The 'Wide Screen' invention, though perfected, was not offered to the public by the big producing concerns, seeing that it would involve the studios in huge expenditure. 1953 *Manch. Guardian* 13 Aug. 4/7 Hollywood. . . had decided to coast for the present on a compromise between 3-D and Cinemascope—namely on the less spectacular development known as Wide Screen. 1957 *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 862/1 Basically 'wide screen' means any departure from the screen proportions fixed by Edison and his contemporaries at 4 to 3 (or 1.33 to 1); i.e., three units high for every four wide. . . If the aspect ratio were to be changed there was only one practical way—screens would have to be wider. 1967 H. HARRISON *Technicolor Time Machine* (1968) iii. 27 An accurate, full-length, wide-screen, realistic, low-budget, high-quality historical. 1976 *National Observer* (U.S.) 16 Oct., Imagine, right before your eyes on the wide screen, the stern of the Titanic. . . comes shooting out of the water as if the projector had been reversed. 1935 KIPLING *Two Forewords* 19 But thou, O Nakhoda, art young and *wide-shouldered. 1973 T. PYNCHON *Gravity's Rainbow* 1. 127 A few women in clinking boots and wide-shouldered swagger coats, but no children. 1606 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. 11. *Magnificence* 266 Glory. . . Her *wide-side Robes. . . All story-wrought with bloody Victories. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* I. i. 66 Champains rich'd With plenteous Riuers, and *wide-skirted Meades. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* xxxvii, The coat was wide-skirted. c 1590 GREENE *Fr. Bacon* xi. 129 A *wide sleeued gowne. 1926 D. H. LAWRENCE *David* viii. 63 Takes

off striped coat, or wide-sleeved tunic. 1980 *Catal. Fine Chinese Ceramics* (Sotheby, Hong Kong) 214 A Jade Carving of a lady wearing a wide-sleeved robe. 1665 BRATHWAITE *Comm. Two Tales* (1901) 62 She was gap-tooth'd, or *wide-spaced. 1889 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 30 Aug. 3/2 Wide-spaced houses, beautiful gardens. a 1878 SIR G. SCOTT *Lect. Archit.* (1879) I. 65 *Wide-spanned arches. 1959 S. DUKE-ELDER *Parsons' Dis. Eye* (ed. 13) xv. 175 One of the *wide-spectrum antibiotic drugs such as the tetracyclines. 1972 *Country Life* 25 May 1351/1 The farmer uses. . . a wide-spectrum weedkiller, which is a mixture of chemicals designed to control a whole range of weeds. 1977 J. L. HARPER *Population Biol. Plants* x. 321 They inserted wide-spectrum fluorescent tubes between the rows of a close canopied crop of soyabeans. 1982 *Sci. Amer.* Mar. 98 Snakes of two families can detect and localize sources of infrared radiation. Infrared and visible-light information are integrated in the brain to yield a unique wide-spectrum picture of the world. 1868 M. COLLINS *Sweet Anne* Page III. 187 *Wide-streeted Troy. 1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict.*, *Papado*, *wide throated. a 1627 MIDDLETON *Mayor of Quimb.* 1. i. Will that wide-throated Beast, the multitude, Never leave bellowing? 1791 COWPER *Iliad* x. 8 Wide-throated war calamitous. 1856 J. G. WHITTIER *Poet. Works* (1898) 52/2 With steeds of fire and steam, *Wide waked Today leaves Yesterday behind him like a dream. 1957 M. R. PICKEN *Fashion Dict.* 374/2 *Wide-wale serge, serge with broad diagonal weave. 1980 L. BIRNBACH et al. *Official Preppy Handbk.* 98 Wide wale corduroy pants. 1848 BUCKLEY *Iliad* 23 The *wide-wayed city of the Trojans. 1869 J. R. LOWELL *Poet. Works* (1917) A life *wide-windowed, shining all abroad, Or curtains drawn to shield from sight profane. 1970 *Daily Tel.* 30 Apr. 17 A wide-windowed bar parlour. 1818 SHELLEY *Hom. Moon* 3 Muses. . . Sing the *wide-winged Moon! 1848 BAILEY *Festus* (ed. 3) 250 The wide-winged wind. 1871 TENNYSON *Last Town.* 423 The wide-wing'd sunset of the misty marsh. 1884 J. G. WOOD in *Sunday Mag.* May 307/2 Wide-winged as they are, the Locusts are very feeble in the air. 1851 RUSKIN *Stones of Venice* I. App. xv. 385 He [sc. Rubens] has neither cloister breeding nor boudoir breeding, . . but he has an open sky and *wide-world breeding in him.

wide, adv. Forms: 1- wide, (3 weide), 3-4 wid, 4-6 wyde, (4 *Sc.* vyde), 5 (6 *Sc.*) wyd. [OE. *wide* = OS. *wido* (MLG., MDu. *wide*, Du. *wijd*), OHG. *wito* (MHG. *wite*, *wit*, G. *weit*), ON. *viða* (Sw., Norw. *vida*): advb. f. OE. *wid*, etc. WIDE a.] = WIDELY, in various senses.

In modern texts freq. illogically hyphenated to a pple.
1. a. Over or through a large space or region; so as to reach or affect many or various places or persons; far abroad. Chiefly *poet.* (superseded in prose by *far and wide*: see b).

Beowulf 1403 Lastas wæron æfter waldswapum wide gesyne. c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xxiv. 7 Mann-cwealms beoð & hungas wide geond land. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 87 He wandrede wide, weruende longe, sechende him oðer stede. c 1205 LAY. 25662 þæt lond he weste wide. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 921 We bep men wide idriue aboute Fram contreie to contreie. 13. . . K. *Alis.* 7118 (Laud MS.), His Marshal Tholomeu þat many Princie wyde kneu. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xiv. 98, I wiste neuere. . . Man þæt with hym spake, as wyde as I haue passed! 1387 TREvisa *Hiiden* (Rolls) VI. 399 He. . . sprad þe endes of his kyngdome wydder þan dede his fader. c 1400 *Parce Michi* 183 in 26 *Pol. Poems* 148 In salt see I sayled wylde. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 45/16 Quhair ane it fixis the rute it spredis the selfe sa braid and wyde, that [etc.]. 1670 MILTON *Hist. Eng.* VI. 247 Thence horsing their Foot, diffus'd far wider their outrageous incursions. 1726-46 THOMSON *Winter* 801 There. . . Wide roams the Russian exile. 1740 AKENSIDE *Ode, On Winter-Solstice* v, Each hov'ring tempest. . . Which now wide-threat'ning loads the sky. 1831 WORDSW. *Yarrow Revisited* 9 Grave thoughts ruled wide on that sweet day. 1889 SWINBURNE *Poems & Ball.* Ser. III. *Jacobite's Exile* xiv, On Keilder-side the wind blows wide.

b. in phr. *far and wide* (rarely *wide and far*); † *wide and side* (see *SIDE* adv. 1).

a 900 O.E. *Martyrol.* 10 June 94 He. . . ferde. . . feorr ond wide geond middangeard. c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* III. x, Wæron þas wundor feorr & wide gæmærad. a 1000 *Andreas* 1637 þa gesamnodon. . . wasas. . . wide & side. c 1200- [see *SIDE* adv. 1]. a 1250 Owl & Night. 710 (Jesus MS.) þu axest me. . . [If] ich com eny oðer dede Bute syngen in sume tyde & bringe blisse veor & wyde. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1256 Fro ðe riche fiod eufrate, Wid and fer to ðe rede see. c 1400 *St. Alexius* 161 (Cotton MS.) Hys Fader send bothe fer and vyde Messengers on euery syde. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 196 b, They distroye the countrie with fyre farre & wyde. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* II. iv. 91 That word, broad, . . added to the Goose, proves thee farre and wide, a broad Goose. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* II. 133 Thir Legions. . . Scout farr and wide into the Realm of night. 1761 GRAY *Fatal Sisters* 60 Far and wide the notes prolong. 1813 SCOTT *Rokeby* v. x, Their vassals wander wide and far [war]. 1828 SOUTHEY *Ess.* (1832) II. 434 Multitudes. . . assemble, coming from far and wide. 1862 H. KINGSLEY *Ravenshoe* xix, Though they scoured the country far and wide.

c. *Coal-mining.* (See *WIDE* a. 2 b.)

1904 *Times* 23 May 7/6 Payment was by tonnage raised when working 'wide'—i.e., on the face of the seam.

2. a. With a large space or spaces between; at a wide interval or intervals; far apart or asunder; in quot. 1481, with 'wide' or long steps. (Cf. 5.)

a 1000 *Wife's Compl.* 13 þæt hy toðeldæn unc þæt wit gewidost in worlðlice lifdon. a 1122 O.E. *Chron.* (Laud) an. 1012 þa to ferde se here wide swa he ær gegaderod was. a 1240 *Ureisin* in O.E. *Hom.* I. 201 Hwi ne worpe ich me bitwonen þeo ilke ernes so swiðe wide to-spreðde and i-opened? 1481 CAXTON *Reynard* xxxix. (Arb.) 105 The wulf stode wyder than reynard dyde and ofte ouertoke hym. 1684 BURNET tr. *More's Utopia* II. 68 Where the Towns lie wider, they have much more Ground. 1727 A. HAMILTON *New Acc. E. Ind.* I. xii. 136 The Churches being built wide from one another. 1820 KEATS *Lamia* II. 178 A sacred tripod. . . Whose slender feet wide-swerv'd upon the soft. . . carpets.

1861 READE *Cloister & H.* i, But when Elias whispered 'Sit wider!' says she, 'Ay! the table will soon be too big for the children.' 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 22 June 5/3 Their fields of activity are so wide apart.

b. Of a horse: With the legs apart: opp. to NEAR adv. 2 11.

1680 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1557/4 A Bright Bay Gelding. . . Walks and Gallops wide behind. 1737 BRACKEN *Farrury Impr.* (1757) II. 40 A Horse that goes wide before, and near behind. *Ibid.* 63 He should stand pretty wide behind, and near before.

c. Loosely asunder; so as not to remain close or in contact.

1784 COWPER *Task* 1. 567 The sportive wind blows wide Their flutt'ring rags, and shows a tawny skin. 1819 SHELLEY *Cyclops* 66 Shaking wide thy yellow hair. 1833 TENNYSON *Lady of Shalott* III. v, Out flew the web and floated wide.

3. With a wide or broad opening; esp. with open vb. or adj. = fully; to the full extent; with fling, fly, set, etc. (in ref. to a door, gate, or the like) = wide open (coinciding with the predicative use of WIDE a. 7).

With wide open cf. Du. *wijd open*, G. *weit offen*, ON. *viðopnir* name of the hall of Hel.

c 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) cxviii[i]. 131 Muð ic ontynde minne wide. c 1220 *Bestiary* 506 ðanne him hungræð he gapeð wide. a 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 2142 Werpis þam vp. . . & wyde open settis. c 1400 *Siege Jerus.* (E.E.T.S.) 22/389 A dragoun. . . Wydegapande. . . gomes to swelwe. c 1450 *Cursor M.* 18125 (Laud MS.) Oþyn your yates ye prynees wyde. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* lxxx[i]. 10 Open thy mouth wyde, & I shal fyll it. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* II. i. 214 This is a strange repose, to be asleepe With eyes wide open. 1718 POPE *Iliad* xv. 813 The Scene wide-opening to the Blaze of Light. 1727-46 THOMSON *Summer* 1145 Wide-rent, the clouds Pour a whole flood. 1798 COLERIDGE *Anc. Mar.* I. ii, The Bridegroom's doors are opened wide. 1824 BYRON *Juan* xvi. cxvii, The door flew wide. 1854 PATMORE *Angel in Ho., Betrothal* 18 The windows, all wide open thrown. 1895 RIDER HAGGARD *Heart of World* xvi, The doors were flung wide. 1909 STACPOOLE *Pools of Silence* xix, [Elephants] with trunks swung up, ears spread wide.

4. *wide open*. † a. (Of a person): Stretched at full length, esp. on the back. *Obs.*

13. . . *Northern Passion* (1913) I. 187/1604 A token ihesu. . . And leiden him wid open on þe rod. a 1440 *Sir Degrev.* 335 He laf slawe. . . Forty score. . . Wyd opene one here bake. 14. . . *Voc.* in Wt. Wülcker 607/43 *Resupinus*, wyde ope. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 254 He thus lyenge wyde open, & they goynge ouer hym & bestrydyng hym. 1551 T. WILSON *Logic* Dvjb, Whan a mans body is in any wysc placed, as to lie a syde, to stande vpright, to sitte, to leane, to lye grouelyng, to lye wyde open.

b. *Boxing*, etc. Fully exposed to assault; unprotected, off one's guard. Freq. *fig.*, esp. in phr. *to leave (lay, etc.) (oneself) wide open*.

1915 E. CORRI 30 Yrs. *Boxing Referee* 150 Johnny Summers. . . in an unguarded moment, left himself wide open and encountered one of the most decisive knock-out punches I ever saw. 1941 B. SCHULBERG *What makes Sammy Run?* i. 14 You never find me going in for favors. . . It leaves you wide open. 1948 'N. SHUTE' *No Highway* vi. 148 Honey lays himself wide open to that sort of thing. 1966 'A. HALL' *9th Directive* iv. 42 One fine day he would catch me wide open and slam me down.

c. *transf.* Of an issue, case: not circumscribed or prejudiced by conditions; unrestricted (in its implications, effects, etc.); not resolved or decided; *spec.* of a police investigation.

1963 'J. MELVILLE' *Burning is Substitute* iii. 51 Charmian suddenly had the feeling that this affair. . . was wide open, could reach anywhere. 1970 *Daily Tel.* 10 July 19 The fate of Penguin Publishing Company is still wide open. 1973 J. THOMSON *Death Cap* iii. 41 They're the only people who so far have entered the case. . . As far as I'm concerned, it's still wide open. 1982 C. AIRD *Last Respects* xiii. 137 It's [sc. a murder enquiry] what you might call wide open still. . . You'll have to look on it as a challenge.

5. At (to, from) a (great, or specified) distance; far, far away, far off; (so far) away or off. Now only *dial.*

Beowulf 1588 Hra wide sprong. a 1250 Owl & Night. 288 Ich wende from heom wide. 1387 TREvisa *Hiiden* (Rolls) II. 5 White rokkes aboute þe clyues of þe see þat were i-seie wide [L. a longe apparentibus]. 1572 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxi. 176 Wandering wyde fra this countrie Among all vther Natiounis. 1590 SPENSER *F.Q.* I. i. 34 A little wyde There was an holy Chappell edifyde. 1623 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *New Discov.* B. 1, A Towne call'd Goreing, stood neare two miles wide. 1690 TEMPLE *Misc.* II. ii. 57 The Chineses: a People, whose way of thinking, seems to lie as wide of ours in Europe as their Country does. 1693 PLOT in *Miscell. Cur. Subj.* (1714) 44 His Ships. . . lying above a Mile and half wide off the Town of Sandwich. 1756 WASHINGTON *Lett. Writ.* 1889 I. 391 Fort Cumberland lying. . . wide of all other forts. 1857 HAWTHORNE *Engl. Note-bks.* (1870) II. 197 Not only in this district, but wide away. 1859 MEREDITH *Juggling Jerry* iv, I was a lad not wide from here.

6. At a distance to one side; aside from the aim, or from the direct or proper course; so as to miss the mark or the way; astray. Also const. of (†from). Cf. WIDE a. 10. a. in physical sense. *spec.* in *Cricket*, out of reach of the batsman.

1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* 1. (Arb.) 101 To shoote wyde and far of the marke. *Ibid.* 102 Than. . . those be wisser men, which couete to shoote wyde than those whiche couete to hit the prycke. 1590 SPENSER *F.Q.* I. xi. 5 Then bad the knight his Lady. . . to an hill her selfe with draw aside. . . She him obeyd, and turnd a little wyde. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* II. ii. 494 Pyrrhus at Priam driues, in Rage strikes wide. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* I. xvii. 27 In bowling they must needs throw wide, which know not the green or alley whereon they play. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* 1. 97 A little wide of the way to the Right Hand, I saw the Church. 1799 E. DU BOIS *Piece Fam. Biog.* II. 3 The doctor. . . had escaped by going a little

wide of the ass. 1833 NYREN *Yng. Crick. Tutor* 24 A. ball pitched a little wide of the off stump. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* II. viii, Johnson the young bowler is getting wild, and bowls a ball almost wide to the off. 1859 LEVER *Dav. Dunn* xlix, He shot with the pistol, he fenced, he whipped the trout stream... He only hit the bull's-eye once in three shots—he fenced wide—a pike carried off his tackle. 1876 *Coursing Calendar* 27 Well Park, . . . raced past Skeddaddle for first turn, and went wide. 1899 RIDER HAGGARD *Swallow* xviii, [He] fired at him, but the ball went wide.

b. *fig.* (or in *fig. context*); †in early use often = so as to err, mistakenly (cf. WIDE *a.* 10b).

1534 MORE *Comf. agst. Trib.* I. 1151/2 Nay Cosyn, . . . there walke you somewhat wide, for ther you defende your owne righte for your temporal auayle. 1535 COVERDALE *Bible Prol.*, Many wryters . . . seldome made mencyon of y^e scripture of the Byble; & though they some tyme aleged it, yet was it done . . . so wyde from y^e purpose, that a man maye well perceave, how that they neuer sawe the oryginall. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 269 Cæsar auouched hym to had dooen ferre wyde. c1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps. LXVII.* ii, Thou their guide Go'st never wide From truth and rightousnes. 1586 DAY *Engl. Secretorie* I. (1625) 80 You reckon too wide; . . . you are too much deceived. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* iv. i. 63 Is my Lord well, that he doth speake so wide? 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* 486 If I should fetch it from Gron a Saxon word that signifieth a fenny place, I might perhaps goe wide. a1625 FLETCHER *Captain* II. ii, You hurt not me, Your anger flies so wide. 1677 OTWAY *Titus & Berenice* I. ii, Thou answerst wide of my desire. 1705 tr. *Bosman's Guinea* 242 This carries me wide from my Subject. 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 234 ¶4 To compare our Practice with their Precepts, and find where it was that we came short, or went wide. 1784 COWPER *Task* II. 810 Vice parries wide Th' undreaded volley [of rusted arrows] with a sword of straw.

7. *Comb.* with pres. or pa. pples., less commonly with adjs., forming adjs. (unlimited in number), as *wide-branching*, *-circling*, *-climbing*, *-consuming*, *-echoing*, *-expanding*, *-extending*, *-gaping*, *-ranging*, *-reaching*, *-resounding*, *-rolling*, *-straddling*, *-stretching*, *-sweeping*, *-wasting*, *-winding*, *-yawning*; *wide-expanded*, *-extended*, *-flung*, *-opened*, *-stretched*; *wide-apart*, *-distant*, *-imperial*; *wide-open a.*, (a) *lit.* (see also senses 3. 4); (b) *U.S.* of a town: not oppressed by laws or law enforcement. See also WIDE-AWAKE, -SPREAD, -SPREADING *adjs.*; WIDE-WHERE *adv.*

1941 E. BOWEN *Look at all those Roses* 39 The *wide-apart birch-trees. 1983 T. HUGHES in *Listener* 21 Apr. 27/1 They have a chirrupy, chicken-sweet expression With goo-goo starlet wide-apart eyes. 1708 J. PHILIPS *Cyder* I. 481 Her *wide-branching Arms. 1873 HOWELLS *Chance Acquaintance* II. (1883) 45 An audacious, wide-branching moustache. a1700 CONGREVE *Poems, To the King* III. Wks. 1730 III. 213 Thro' Seas, Earth, Air, and the *wide circling Sky. 1872 BLACKIE *Lays Highl.* 164 There's room in God's wide-circling arm For all that swear by all the creeds. 1887 MOLONEY *Forestry W. Afr.* 301 A *wide-climbing shrub. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* III. 223 Smoke betrays the *wide-consuming fire. 1750 SHENSTONE *Rural Elegance* 124 Fame's *wide-echoing trumpet. 1860 PUSEY *Min. Proph.* 321 A *wide-expanding knowledge of the enlargement of mankind. 1695 CONGREVE *Mourn. Muse* 178 Lord of these Woods, and *wide extended Plains. 1708 J. PHILIPS *Cyder* II. 588 His wide-extended Wings. 1765 MUSEUM *Rust.* IV. 375 With numerous, wide-extended branches. 1831 JAMES *Philip Aug.* xxxviii, Gazing over the wide-extended view. 1889 F. COWPER *Captain of Wight* 34 The *wide-extending view, over broad pasture and swelling down. 1860 LONGF. *Wayside Inn* I. K. Olaf v. ii, The *wide-flung door. a1721 SHEFFIELD (Dk. Buckhm.) *Wks.* (1753) I. 71 The *wide-gaping gulph. 1728-46 THOMSON *Spring* 56 Such themes as these the rural Maro sung To *wide-imperial Rome. 1865 TYLOR *Early Hist. Man.* ix. 258 The common notion . . . has strong and *wide-lying evidence in its favour. 1852 TENNYSON in *Ld. T. Mem.* (1897) I. 357 Looking at me with such apparently earnest, *wide-open eyes. 1877 BLACK *Green Past.* i. 9 They . . . drew up in front of the wide-open door. 1892 *Harper's Mag.* June 103/1 It is what they call in Montana 'a wide-open town'. 1975 J. GORES *Hammett* xi. 79 He has been elected three times because the citizens want a wide-open town. 1864 SKEAT tr. *Uhland's Songs*, etc. 269 From Heav'n's *wide-opened portals. 1876 'OUIDA' *Winter City* xii, She could only look at him with wide-opened eyes. 1816 *Edin. Rev.* Sept. 182 This *wide-ranging Intellect was illuminated by the brightest Fancy. 1958 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 7 Feb. 76/4 A representative anthology, which is so wide-ranging in its material . . . that its final effect is rather of confusion than of enlightenment. 1980 B. HILL in *Beautiful Brit. Columbia* Summer 39 The wide-ranging sheep that are one of the island's main farm products provide the source of wool for local weavers. 1856 GROTE *Greece* II. xciv. XII. 346 The . . . powerful, and *wide-reaching impression. 1726-46 THOMSON *Winter* 996 The *wide-resounding plain. 1785 T. DWIGHT *Conquest of Canaan* xi. 295 *Wide-rolling dust the neighbouring concave fills. 1805 MONTGOMERY *Ocean* I, Thou wide-rolling Ocean, all hail! 1605 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iii. iv. *Captains* 945 As . . . the Grass . . . Falls at the Foot of the *wide-straddling Mower. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V.* II. iv. 82 All *wide-stretched Honors, that pertaine . . . Vnto the Crowne of France. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* VII. 747 The wide stretch realm of intellectual woe. 1726-46 THOMSON *Winter* 951 *Wide-stretching from these shores . . . A huge neglected empire. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* lxix, Wide-stretching purposes. 1924 *Motor* 14 Oct. 491 (caption) One of the two *wide-sweeping bankings on the new speedway at Montherly, near Paris. 1979 *Jrnl. R. Soc. Arts* CXXVII. 409/2 Wessex . . . will therefore not be subjected to wide-sweeping environmental problems. 1674 MILTON *P.L.* (ed. 2) xl. 487 *Wide wasting Pestilence. 1814 WORDSW. *Ode, 'When the soft hand of sleep'* 145 Wide-wasting Time. 1816 SHELLEY *There is no work* 28 The *wide-winding caves. a1876 M. COLLINS *Pen Sketches* (1879) II. 231 O'er earth's wide-winding ways. 1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. v. 241 His yet *wide-yawning lips. 1598 *Ibid.* II. ii. iv. 591 Wide-yawning Gulfs.

†wide, *v.* Obs. [f. WIDE *a.*; cf. ON. *viða*; OE. *widian* app. did not survive.] *trans.* To make wide or wider: = WIDEN *v.*; in 2nd quot. to set widely apart.

a1300 *Cursor M.* 8232 þan dide þe king tilward þat side þat orchard al for to wide. c1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* III. 923 And wide hem so that, though the winde him shake, No drope of oon vntil another take. c1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 526/2 Wydyn, or make wyde, *dilato*.

wide, *Sc. f.* WADE *v.*; var. WEDE *v.* Obs.; obs. *f.* WEED.

'wide a'wake, *adj. phr.*, 'wide-awake, *a.* and *sb.* [WIDE *adv.* + AWAKE *pred. a.*; predicatively, (usually) as two words; attributively, as one, with hyphen, or occas. without, esp. in senses A. 3, B. 1, 2.]

A. *adj.* (or *adj. phr.*) 1. Awake with the eyes wide open; fully awake. (Usually *pred.*)

1818 SHELLEY *Julian* 392, I. . . Will lie and watch ye from my winding-sheet—Thus . . . wide awake tho' dead [etc.]. 1820 [see AWAKE *pred. a.* 1]. 1840 DICKENS *Old Cur. Shop* xxxix, The baby, who was dreadfully wide awake. 1888 BURTON *Lives* 12 *Gd. Men* I. iii. 355 He always knew what the Sermon had been about, —better than many who boasted that they had kept wide awake.

2. *fig.* Thoroughly vigilant or on the alert; fully aware of what is going on, or of what it is best to do; intellectually keen, sharp-witted, knowing. *colloq.* (orig. *slang*).

Rarely const. to (cf. AWAKE *pred. a.* 2 b).

1833 *Q. Rev.* July 413 In the language of the turf, his grace was 'wide awake'. 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Mr. Watkins Tottle* II, Our governor's wide awake, he is . . . He knows what's o'clock. 1857 TROLLOPE *Barchester* 9. xxxviii, Mr. Slope . . . was wide awake to what he hoped was his coming opportunity. 1906 *Spectator* 18 Aug. 222/2 Foreign capitalists will not advance it . . . still less would the very wide-awake Chinese merchant.

3. Applied jocularly to a soft felt hat with broad brim and low crown: said to have been punningly so named as not having a 'nap'. Now usually *absol.* as *sb.* (B. 1).

1841 [W. J. NEALE] *Paul Periwinkle* I. viii, Jonathan replied, that his hat was like himself—wide awake. 1861 *Illustr. Lond. News* 23 Feb. 168/2 Mr. Hubbard . . . wears a 'wide awake' hat, which is a novelty in the House. 1891 F. W. MAUDE *Merciful Divorce* iii. 25 Half a dozen young men in long covert coats, loose breeches and gaiters, and wide-awake hats.

B. *sb.* 1. A 'wide-awake' hat: see A. 3.

1837 HOWITT *Rur. Life* II. iii. (1862) 117 Such is the farm-servant, whether you see him in . . . his straw-hat, or his wide-awake. 1849 J. FORBES *Phys. Hol.* I. (1850) 9 No covering for the head can compete with the thin small-crowned broad-brimmed beavers now known by the name of *wide-awakes*. 1894 CONAN DOYLE *Mem. Sherlock Holmes* 35 He . . . carried a brown wide-awake in his hand.

2. A sailors' name for the Sooty Tern (*Sterna fuliginosa* and allied species), from its cry. Also *attrib.* in *wide-awake fair*, a name for the assemblage of these birds on the island of Ascension at the breeding season.

1877 R. L. PRICE *Two Americas* iv. 57 Sea-gulls and wide-awakes hovered in hundreds over the water. 1881 *Standard* 12 Aug. 5/2 It [sc. Ascension] nurtures nothing save turtle and wideawakes. 1896 NEWTON *Dict. Birds* 1039 These crowd at certain seasons in innumerable multitude to certain suitable islands, where they breed, and the wonderful assemblage at present known as 'Wide-awake fair' on the island of Ascension has been . . . described from very ancient times.

3. A 'wide-awake' person (see A. 2). *nonce-use*.

1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* II. II. xii. 111 You have been told that he might pull through it . . . Wide-Awake; have you? 1890 C. MARTYN W. PHILLIPS, *Agitator* 122 A circle of wide-awakes meeting at irregular intervals under the name of 'The Friends'.

Hence wide-a'wakeness, the state, or character, of being wide awake (usually in sense A. 2). Also (bad formations, due to association with other words) wide-awakeativeness, -awakedness, -awakefulness, in same sense.

1859 S. BROOKS *Gordian Knot* xvii, Work that requires . . . great *wideawakeativeness, and great industry. 1882 BESANT *All Sorts* viii, He felt inclined . . . to slap himself on the back for *wide-awakedness of the rarest kind. 1851 *Fraser's Mag.* XLIV. 140 An expression of unutterable self-conceit and conscious *wide-awakefulness. 1887 MISS BETHAM-EDWARDS *Next of Kin Wanted* v, They sharpen each other's wits, and worry each other into a proper state of wideawakefulness. 1865 LOWELL *Ess., Scotch the Snake* Wks. 1890 V. 245 *Wide-awakeness of temperament. 1886 STUBBS *Lect. Med. & Mod. Hist.* vi. 123 There was something . . . besides the literary wideawakeness of Henry . . . that made England . . . a centre of literary activity.

widely ('wardh), *adv.* [f. WIDE *a.* + -LY².]

Commonly hyphenated to a following ppl. or other adj. when preceding its sb.: cf. DEEPLY *adv.* 7, HIGHLY *adv.* 6.

1. Over or through a wide space or region; in or to various places; extensively.

1697 DRYDEN *Aeneis* I. 559 Her . . . dishevel'd Hair, . . . widely spread Ambrosial Scents around. 1697 — *Virg. Georgic* iv. 768 Where he leap'd, the Waves in Circles widely spread. 1748 THOMSON *Can. Indol.* I. xxxi, All the widely-silent places round. 1802 R. WARNER *Tour Northern Counties* II. 289 Ornamenting the widely-extended carpet of green with occasional spots of the most brilliant white. 1855 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Inorg. Nat.* 83 The coal measures . . . are widely distributed in England, Wales, Scotland, and Ireland; in Belgium, France, and Spain; in many parts of

Western Germany [etc.]. 1883 KEANE in *Nature* I Mar. 410/1 This widely-ramifying family.

2. Over a wide range; among a large number or variety of persons; in relation to many or various things, subjects, cases, etc.; extensively.

1695 LD. PRESTON *Boeth.* II. 85 For though his Fame doth widely fly, . . . At last the mighty thing must die. a1718 PRIOR *Ode to Queen* II, When bright Eliza rul'd Britannia's State, Widely distributing Her high Commands. 1834 LYTE *Hymn, 'Praise, my soul, the King of heaven'* iii, Praise Him, praise Him, Widely as His mercy flows. 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, First of May*, The widely-spread taste for register-stoves. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 33 Viscount Mordaunt, widely renowned, many years later, as Earl of Peterborough. *Ibid.* 122 One tract . . . was widely circulated in manuscript. 1862 BURTON *Bk. Hunter* (1863) 12 The drunken laird and the widely tolerant wife. 1915 W. C. ALLEN *Gosp. St. Mark* 67 The Semitic word . . . is used very widely of seas, lakes, and even rivers.

3. With (at, by) a wide interval or intervals (of space or time); far, far apart; to a great or considerable width.

1663 PATRICK *Parab. Pilgr.* xxiii. (1687) 240 Two Hills . . . which were . . . very widely distant the one from the other. 1697 DRYDEN *Aeneis* III. 927 We . . . widely shun the Lilybæan Strand, Unsafe, for secret Rocks, and moving Sand. 1779 *Mirror* No. 13 ¶7 The poetical productions of widely-distant periods of society. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* xlviii, Those widely staring eyes . . . appeared in the midst of the darkness. 1860 WRAXALL *Life in Sea* i. 24 Widely-extended jaws. 1875 WHITNEY *Life Lang.* ix. 157 Widely-sundered castes and classes. 1879 SWEET in *Trans. Philol. Soc.* 465 In loud declamation . . . the mouth is naturally opened wider. 1890 'R. BOLDEWOOD' *Col. Reformer* xviii, Through the widely-opened gateways.

4. *fig.* To a large extent, greatly, very much, extremely, 'far'; *esp.* †(a) so as to be 'wide of the mark', with large deviation from accuracy, as in *widely mistaken*; (b) so as to be far apart in nature, character, amount, etc., as in *widely different*, to differ widely.

1688 BUNYAN *Heavenly Footman* (1886) 154 Alas, thou art widely mistaken! 1705 BERKELEY *Commonpl. Bk.* Wks. 1871 IV. 459 Malbranch . . . differs widely from me. 1802 MARIA EDGEWORTH *Moral T., Forester* viii, Negligence and inhumanity are widely different. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* viii, She must indeed be widely changed from what she once was. 1880 GEIKIE *Phys. Geog.* iv. 242 The proportion of mineral matter . . . differs widely in different springs.

†5. With 'latitude' of conduct, beyond the bounds of propriety, uncivilly: cf. WIDE *a.* 11 a. Obs. *rare*—1.

1666 PEPYS *Diary* 6 Aug., My Lord . . . did treat her . . . very widely and ungenteely.

wide-mouth ('wardmauθ), *a.* and *sb.* *rare*.

A. *adj.* = next.

1596 SIR J. DAVIES *Epigr.* xl, The wide-mouth slave Will eate as fast as he will utter lies. 1822 *Auction Catal. Fonthill Abbey* 74 A fine wide-mouth Jar.

B. *sb.* One who speaks loudly, boastfully, or without restraint. Cf. *big mouth* s.v. BIG *a.* B. 2.

1959 I. & P. OPIE *Lore & Lang. Schoolch.* x. 189 The tell tale is christened . . . a tout, traitor, quissing, or wide-mouth. 1978 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 28 Apr. 462/2 You feel, frequently, like booing him for a bighead and a wide-mouth.

wide-mouthed ('wardmauθd, -mauθt), *a.*

1. a. Of a person or animal: Having a wide mouth.

1611 COTGR., *Diable de mer*, . . . the ouglie wide-mouthed fish, called, the sea Frog. *Ibid.*, s.v. *Fendu*, *Bien fendu de gueule*, wide-mouthed, sparrow-mouthed. 1843 TENNYSON *Godiva* 56 The little wide-mouth'd heads upon the spout. 1854 A. ADAMS *etc. Man. Nat. Hist.* 86 Wide-mouthed Fishes (Plagiostomi).

b. Of a vessel or receptacle: Having a wide mouth or opening.

1611 COTGR., *Mortier*, the short, and wide-mouthed peece of Ordnance called a Morter. a1711 KEN *Preparatives* Poet. Wks. 1721 IV. 92 Two wide-mouth'd Quivers fill'd with Store, Of deadly Darts. 1769 MRS. RAFFALD *Engl. Housekpr.* (1778) 363 Put your gooseberries into wide-mouthed bottles. 1847 LONGF. *Ev.* I. II. 52 The wide-mouthed fireplace. 1886 WINCHELL *Geol. Talks* 61 Another of these sea-bottom fishes hangs like an open wide-mouthed meal-bag.

2. Having the mouth wide open, or opening the mouth wide: a. for utterance, etc.; also *transf.* of the utterance; also *fig.* speaking, or spoken, loudly or without restraint.

1593 CHUTE in *G. Harvey's Pierces Super.* Gg 2b, Thy wydemouth'd . . . phrase . . . Aptly hath knowne thine Armory to blase In termes peculiar vnto none but thee. 1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* L 4 b, Murder is wide-mouthd, and will not let God rest till he grant reuenge. 1648 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* XIII. xcv, His wide-mouth'd Blasphemies. 1664 BUTLER *Hud.* II. iii. 384 His Sonnets charm'd th' attentive Crowd, By wide-mouth'd Mortal trou'd aloud. 1667 *Phil. Trans.* II. 603 Those wide-mouth'd Languages, which do remarkably expose to the Eye the Motions of the Tongue, Lips, Throat, &c. 1745 CIBBER in *Ayre Mem. Pope* II. 85 This . . . is a Scent, that those wide-mouth'd Hounds the Daily-Paper Criticks could never hit off! 1903 *M.A.P.* XI. 137/1 His face wide-eyed and wide-mouthed in a voiceless panic.

b. for swallowing: Voracious, devouring, destructive.

1596 R. L[INCHE] *Diella* etc. F 1 b, That wide-mouth'd time . . . shall shut his iawes, & ne're deuoure thy name. 1648 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* IV. lv, Here wide-mouth'd Luxury Might gormandize her fill. 1887 MEREDITH *Phaethon* in *Ballads & P.* 156 The rage of the havoc wide-mouthed.

widen ('waɪd(ə)n), *v.* [f. WIDE *a.* + -EN⁵.]

†1. *trans.* To open wide, set wide open. (Cf. WIDE *a.* 7.) *Obs. rare.*

1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* I. iv. 44 So, now the gates are open: 'Tis for the followers Fortune widens them, Not for the flyers. 1627 DRAYTON *Agincourt* cxi, The gates thus widen'd.. Their ample entrance to the English gaue.

2. To make wide or wider: = BROADEN 2. *a. lit.* To increase the width or spatial extent of.

1669 STAYNRED *Fortif.* 8 You may.. widen the Necks of the Gorges. 1694 tr. *Marten's Voy. Spitzbergen in Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* II. 127 A piece of Board, whereon the Dyers widen or stretch their Stockins. 1785 J. PHILLIPS *Treat. Inland Nav.* 45, I would cleanse, widen, and deepen the river Stort. 1818 [S. WESTON] *La Scava* 3 Under the pavement.. we found foundations of a house that had been probably thrown down to widen the road. 1856 KANE *Arctic Expl.* II. xiv. 148 These split-off lines of ice were evidently in motion.. widening their fissures. 1919 *Engl. Rev.* July 26 An outswEEP of the left flanking hedge, widening the path for a few feet.

b. *fig.* To increase the magnitude or range of; to extend.

1671 STILLINGFL. *Serm. Matt.* xxi. 43 Wks. 1710 I. 119, I speak not these things to widen our differences, or increase our animosities. 1675 *Essex Papers* (Camden 1913) 22 Parliament is like to sitt longer.. for ye differences between ye houses are so widened. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) III. 45 Ought I to widen my error by obstinacy and resentment? 1812 LANDOR *Ct. Julian* I. i, To.. Widen the solitude of lonely sighs. 1842 TENNYSON *Locksley Hall* 138 The thoughts of men are widen'd with the process of the suns. 1870 ROCK *Text. Fabr.* iv. (1876) 33 The word diaper became widened in its meaning. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 13 July 5/5 The society is widening its scheme of operations.

3. *intr.* To become wide or wider: = BROADEN *v.* 1. *a. lit.*

1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 118 ¶10 An Extinguisher, with a little Knob at the upper End, and widening downward. 1802 PLAYFAIR *Illustr. Hutton. The.* 404 Of a very uniform breadth except that at each end it widens considerably. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xii. (1856) 89 The aperture, at first a mere crack, widened to a couple of feet. 1877 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* xi. 174 The current widens, and its speed is slackened. 1920 *Sat. Westm. Gaz.* 22 May 9/1 The streamlet widens into a pond.

b. *fig.*

1650 E. WILLIAMS *Virgo Triumphans* B2b, A reall quarrell widening. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* II. xi. §11 That.. difference [between brutes and men].. which at last widens to so vast a distance. 1760-2 GOLDSM. *Cit. W.* xcii, His wishes now rise one step above his station;.. his prospects widen as he ascends. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xliii, Florence.. observed the estrangement between her father and Edith, and saw it widen more and more. 1866 J. MARTINEAU *Ess.* I. 169 These questions deepen and widen under our hand.

Hence **widened** (-d(ə)nd) *ppl. a.*, **widening** *vbl. sb.* (also *concr.*) and *ppl. a.*; also **widener**, one who or that which widens; an apparatus for widening something, *spec.* a drill constructed to bore a hole of greater diameter than its own.

1759 R. SMITH *Harmonics* (ed. 2) 181 If any slider be drawn back again, which the *widened holes will permit. 1892 *Daily News* 6 Apr. 7/3 Good dividends and a widened market for the shares. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 7 Oct. 5/1 When we have our widened line system completed, it will be possible.. to run express electric trains to and from Brighton. 1683 SNAPE *Anat. Horse* IV. xiv. (1686) 172 The *Wideners or Dilaters of the Chest [sc. muscles]. 1908 *Daily Chron.* 21 Oct. 7/5 Then.. it [sc. the glove] is ready for the dresser, who puts it into shape by means of sticks and wideners. 1569 in *Surrey & Kent Sewers Comm.* (1909) 22 To the *wydynge of the Mouth of the brydye there one foote and a halfe. 1659 *Burton's Diary* (1828) IV. 281 If your body politic be mishapen at the making, the widening or straightening of it will not help it. 1677 GILPIN *Demonol.* (1867) 149 The widening of their capacities. 1782 A. MONRO *Compar. Anat.* (ed. 3) 22 Respiration being chiefly performed.. by the widening of the chest. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 29 Sept. 5/3 The deepening, widening, and straightening of the rivers Mersey and Irwell. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 562 We.. pass by a widening in the path. 1791 MACKINTOSH *Vind. Gallicæ* Wks. 1846 III. 93 *Widening prospects of happiness. 1859 JEPHSON *Brittany* x. 169 Making a series of widening rings on the surface [of the water]. 1884 CHURCH *Bacon* ix. 212 New ideas and widening thoughts. 1913 W. M. RAMSAY *Teaching of Paul* xxiii. 133 The widening gap that intervenes.

†**widen**, *adv.* *Obs.* Also 3 **widene**, 4 **wydene**. [OE. *widan*, f. *wid* WIDE *a.* Cf. OHG. *witeno*, MHG. *witen(e)*, also *witenan*.] In OE., from far; in ME., widely, far and wide.

932, c1205 [see SIDEN]. c1000 in Kemble *Cod. Dipl.* (1845) III. 315 He his witan widan gesomod hæfde. c1205 LAY. 112 Eneas þe duc mid his driht folcke widen iwalken þend þe wide water. *Ibid.* 161 þ word.. þ was widene cuð. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A. Prol.* 4 In Habite of an Hermite.. Wende I wydene in þis world wondres to here.

wideness ('waɪdnɪs). Forms: see WIDE *a.*; also (with normal shortening of the stem-vowel) 6-7 **widenesse**, 7 (9 *dial.*) **widness**. [OE. *widnes*, f. WIDE *a.* + -NESS.] The quality or state of being wide, in various senses: and derived uses. Now generally replaced by WIDTH.

1. Large extension, vastness, spaciousness.

In late use only as transf. from 3.

a1225 *St. Marher.* 17 þe widnesse of þe world. c1320 *Cast. Love* (ed. Halliwell) 1764 Of hevyn he may i-se þe wydnes, The fereshepe & þe heynes. 1308 TREVISIA *Barth. De P.R.* XIV. lv. (1495) Fijj, By cause of wydnesse therof it [sc. a cave] is an able place to abyde in. 1596 SPENSER *State Irel.* 93 Though otherwise the widenes of the mountaine pasturage doe recompence the badnes of the soyle. 1740

CIBBER *Apol.* (1756) I. 243 The immoderate wideness of their house. 1862 [see 5]. 1883 *American* VII. 55 He will probably.. muse on the wideness of this world.

†2. Extent from side to side, transverse measurement (of any amount); diameter, breadth; *occas.* extent of opening, distance apart. *Obs. exc. dial.* (replaced by WIDTH 1).

c1000 in *Anglia* XI. 9/27 þæs temples længe wæs syxtig fæðma, & seo widnes wæs twentig fæðma, & his heahny was þritig fæðma. c1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 578 þæt tempel wæs.. on widnyse twentig fæðma. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 7576 þæt clerkes calles cristalline, þæt next oboven þe sterner heven es, And es mare þan þæt of wydenes. c1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 62 þei maken þe abitis myche bope in widnesse and sidnesse. 1463 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 39 The seid dore to me maad as large of wydenes as may be. 1535 COVERDALE *Ezek.* xl. 11 He measured the wydenesse of the dore: which was x cubites, & the heyth of the dore xiiij cubites. 1551 RECORDE *Pathw. Knowl.* I. v, Open your compasse to the wydenes of those ij. new prickes. 1618 M. BARET *Hippion.* 20 His legges must carry such an equidistance in widnesse that they may describe two parallel lines in their motions. 1667 *Phil. Trans.* II. 604 To every Vowel belongs a peculiar dimension of Widness in the Mouth. 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* v. xii. 59 The difference.. is the just widness of the Chamber. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. vii. 309/1 They are of several widnesses. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* III. i, A small creek about three times the widness of my canoe. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* III. viii. 379 By the great widness of his ports he could traverse almost all his guns upon the enemy. 1756 MRS. CALDERWOOD in *Coltness Collect.* (Maitland Club) 132 A long-bodied narrow cart, that just holds two to sit in the widness. 1765 A. DICKSON *Treat. Agric.* (ed. 2) 195 The furrow that the plough makes, will be, below, equal in widness to B C, and, above, to N D.

†b. Size or amount generally (of spatial measurement, or of time). *Obs. rare.*

1657 W. RAND tr. *Gasendi's Life Peiresc* I. 134 The Romans.. ordained that their Congius (or Gallon) should be in widness half a Cubick foot. 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* 211 It still leaves his Age undetermined, within the widness of xxxix years.

3. Great extent from side to side; large transverse measurement: opp. to narrowness.

a1548 HALL *Chron.*, Hen. VIII 48b, Therefore was erected an Arche of widnes at the tournelles besyde the strete. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 46 Quhais Wydnes of his banes and gretnes teiches that he was xiiii. fute lang. 1622 CALLIS *Stat. Sewers* (1647) 82 Widness and shallowness of the.. Streams. a1700 EVELYN *Diary* 10 July 1656, The stair-case of extraordinary widnesse. 1794 G. ADAMS *Nat. & Exp. Philos.* III. xxxv. 436 The widness or narrowness of the pump. 1828 *Craven Gloss.*, Widness, width. 1841 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jnl.* IV. 195/1 The widness of their mouths gives them a firm seat in the gallery.

4. In quasi-concrete uses. *a.* (from 1.) A wide space or region; (large) extent, (vast) expanse: = WIDTH 3.

1535 COVERDALE *Isa.* viii. 8 He shal fyl also the wydenesse of thy londe with his brode wynges. 1585 FETHERSTONE tr. *Calvin on Acts* xvi. 6 In that confused widnesse God bekened vnto him.. how far he would haue him goe, or whither. c1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* xcvi. vi, Sea and all thy widnesse yeldeth. 1681 *Whole Duty of Nations* 14 A Nation.. is a part of Mankind canton'd.. from the whole world, and the widness of that. 1844 KINGLAKE *Eothen* xvii, To stand thus alone in the widness of Asia. 1849 LYTTON *K. Arthur* xi. cxxxii, Lost in the widness of the weltering Sea. 1918 A. MENZIES *Study of Calvin* 88 To get a view far out over the 'widness of the sea'.

†b. (from 2 or 3.) Opening, aperture. *Obs.*

1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 213/2 *Hypothyrium*,.. the wide opening or open widness of the doore. *Ibid.* 443/1 *Vulneris os*,.. the mouth, opening, or widnesse of a wound. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xiii. 215 To close the widness of a wound.

5. *fig.* Largeness of range, extensiveness; relation to a great number of persons, things, cases, etc.: wide reach or applicability. In quot. 1551, Extent of meaning, 'extension'.

1551 T. WILSON *Logike* Eijb, The diuision.. ought to be made with two contrary differences, fully containing in them self the whole compasse or widenes of the generally worde. 1649 E. REYNOLDS *Hosea* ii. 87 The puritie, spiritualnesse, and widnesse of that Law which they have sworne unto. c1801 J. FOSTER in *Life & Corr.* (1846) I. 225 A wideness of compass without solidity and exactness. 1862 FABER *Hymn, 'Souls of men! why will ye scatter'* iv, There's a wideness in God's mercy, Like the wideness of the sea. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* xii, The merest varnish of Roman culture had given.. a wideness of range to their thoughts.

wider, comp. of WIDE *a.* and *adv.*; *obs. f.* WHITHER, WITHER.

wide-spread ('waɪd'spreɪd; stress var.), *a.* (Also as one word, without hyphen.) [f. WIDE *adv.* + spread, *pa. pple.* of SPREAD *v.*] Spread widely (*lit.* and *fig.*).

1. Extended over or occupying a wide space; broad in spatial extent.

1735 SOMERVILLE *Chase* I. 250 Strait Hams, and wide-spread Thighs. 1816 WORDSW. *Ode, 'Who rises on the banks of Seine'* 4 How sweet to rest her wide-spread wings beneath! 1863 A. C. RAMSAY *Phys. Geog.* 124 On the western parts of the Weald,.. there are some very wide-spread heaths. 1878 HARDY *Ret. Native* I. iii, A wide-spread woman whose stays creaked like shoes whenever she stooped or turned.

2. Distributed over a wide region; occurring in many places or among many persons; extensively or generally diffused.

1705 BERKELEY *Commonpl. Bk.* Wks. 1871 IV. 434 The vast, wide-spread, universal cause of our mistakes. 1837

CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. I. ii, The cardinal symptom of the whole wide-spread malady. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* I. I. 11 The Danish and Saxon tongues, both dialects of one widespread language, were blended together. 1880 WALLACE *Isl. Life* 29 The relics of once widespread types. 1913 R. LUCAS *Life North* II. 112 The demand for economical reform was.. widespread.

So (irreg.) **wide-spreaded** *a. rare.*

1821 KEATS *Lamia* I. 354 The wide-spreaded night above her towers.

wide-spreading ('waɪd'spreɪdɪŋ; stress var.), *a.* [f. WIDE *adv.* + SPREADING *ppl. a.*] Spreading widely (*lit.* and *fig.*).

1. Extending over or occupying a wide space; nearly = prec. 1.

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. iii. 222 Wide-spreading Plains, open and spacious Fields. 1743 FRANCIS tr. *Hor.*, *Odes* I. xvii. 5 The vales, wide-spreading round The sloping hills. 1809-11 COMBE *Syntax* xvii. 184 Beneath an oak's wide-spreading shade. 1850 R. G. CUMMING *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* (1902) 57/2 A number of cattle.. came to drink at the pit. Some of these carried enormous wide-spreading horns. 1862 SPENSER *First Princ.* II. xvi. §131 (1875) 367 Wide-spreading marine currents. 1909 E. H. BURTON *Bp. Challoner* II. 278 One old wide-spreading cedar.

2. Extending to, reaching, or affecting many places or persons; extensive in effect; far-reaching; nearly = prec. 2.

1766 *Complete Farmer* s.v. *Thistle* 7 K 4/1 To prevent the wide-spreading mischiefs occasioned by the seeding of this pernicious weed. 1833 NEWMAN *Arians* III. i. (1876) 241 That wide-spreading Association, of which the faith of the Gospel was the uniting and animating principle. 1842 in *Westm. Gaz.* (1903) 1 July 2/3 The wide-spreading distress of the working-classes. 1902 *Words of Eyewitness* 336 Kindliness, not little but vast, wide-spreading.

wide-watered ('waɪd'wɔ:təd; stress var.), *a.* [Parasynthetic f. *wide water* (WIDE *a.* + WATER *sb.*) + -ED², or f. WIDE *adv.* + WATERED *ppl. a.*] Having a wide expanse of water; watered over a wide extent; bordered or traversed by wide waters.

1632 MILTON *Penseroso* 75, I hear the far-off Curfew sound, Over som wide-water'd shoar. 1718 POPE *Iliad* xv. 761 Amidst the Plain of some wide-water'd Fen. 1749 G. WEST tr. *Pindar, Pythian Odes* I. xvii, On fair Himera's wide-water'd shores, Thy sons, Dinomenes, my lyre demand. 1904 RICKERT *Reaper* ix, Low-lying, wide-watered Balta.

widewe, widewer, *obs. ff.* WIDOW, WIDOWER.

†**wide-where**, *adv.* Also as two words. *Obs.* or *rare arch.* Also 4 **wyden where**. [f. WIDE (WIDEN) *adv.* + WHERE *adv.* Cf. ON. *viðast hvar* in most places, mostly.] In or to various places, over a wide region, widely, far and wide; in or to a distant place, far away.

1122 O.E. *Chron.* (Laud MS.), þæræfter comen feale tacne widehear on Engaland. c1200 ORMIN 8943 Witt hafenn sohht te widehear icc & ti fader bape. 13.. *Northern Passion* (1913) I. 1242 b As pilate stod be him thore His pouht was ful wide where. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* ix. 53 þus I wente wyden where [v.r. wyde where, wide where] Dowel to seche. c1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* viii. (Philepus) 5 Quhene he had.. goddis worde prechit wyd-quhare. c1386 CHAUCER *Man of Law's T.* 38 In Surry whilom dwelte a compaignye Of chapmen.. That wyde where senten hir spicerye. c1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* (Roxb.) 98 The feith of our lord crist spredde wydwhere day be day. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* IV. ii. 340 My name is sir kay the seneschal that wyde where is known. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VII. iii. 5 The fame thair of walkis full couth Our all the citeis of Italy wydequhair. 16.. *Sir Lambewell* 6 in *Percy Folio MS.* (1867) I. 144 With him he had many an heire As he had else many a whide where; Of his round table they were Knights all. 1906 C. M. DOUGHTY in *Academy* 5 May 425/2 Fair champaign Which flower of broom gilds widere.

†**widge**, *dial. Obs.* Also 3 irreg. **wig**. [OE. *wigg* = OS. *wigg*, ON. *vigg*:—OTeut. **wegjom*, f. *weg-* to carry (see WAY *sb.*, WEIGH, etc.).] In OE. (poetical) a steed; later, a beast of burden; in quot. 1553, a mare.

For the specialization of meaning, cf. F. *jument* mare, from L. *jumentum* beast of burden.

Beowulf 234 ðewat him þa to waroðe wigce ridan þeȝn Hroðgares. c1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 89 [He] bed hem bringen a wig one to riden, noðer stede, ne palefrei, ne fair mule.. he sende after þe alre unwurpeste wig one to riden, and þat is asse. 1553 *Respublica* IV. iii. 1023 That tyme chad a widge, and hir vole.

widgeon, wiggeon ('widʒən), *sb.* Forms: 6 **wegyon**, -ion, **wygeon**, **wigion**, 6-7 **wigen**, **widgen**, -in, 7 -ine, **widg(e)ing**, **widgion**, 6- **wigeon**, 7- **widgeon**. [Of difficult etymology.]

The form suggests a French origin (cf. *pigeon*), but no appropriate Fr. forms are evidenced as early as the English word or with the required meaning; cf. *wigeon* a West Indian duck (1667 *Du Tertre, Hist. Gén. des Antilles* I. 277), of which there is a nasalized form *vingeon* (1) *widgeon* in Eastern dial., (2) a duck of Madagascar (1771 *Dict. de Trévoux*); beside which there are *gingeon* 'sorte de canard qu'on trouve dans les grandes Antilles' (1832 Raymond *Dict. Gén.*), and Angevin dial. *digeon* *widgeon*.

F. *wigeon* and It. *bibbio* wild duck have been referred to L. *vīpio* kind of crane, but this derivation is very dubious. The various extant forms suggest the possibility of a series of formations with suffix -io(nem) on parallel onomatopœic bases, *piu-*, *biu-*, *viu-*, *diu-*, *giu-* (cf. *WHEW*, *WHEWER*).]

1. A wild duck of the genus *Mareca*, esp. *M. penelope* of Europe and northern Asia; other

species are *M. americana* of N. America and *M. sibilatrix* of southern S. America. (Collective pl. in later use usually *widgeon*; cf. *teal*.)

1513 *Bk. Kerwyne* in *Babes Bk.* 279 In the second course . . . chekyns, pygyons, teeles, wegyons, mallardes. **1544** TURNER *Avium Præcip.* C 5, Quum multæ sint aues aquaticæ anati similes, sed minores, ut sunt, telæ uocatæ ab Anglis Vuigene & pochardæ. **1591** HARRINGTON *Orl. Fur.* Pref., At my Lord Maiors dinner they say he would put vp a widgeon for his supper. **1604** E. G[RIMSTONE] tr. *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* III. xvi. 170 Great numbers of wilde-duckes and wigens. **1655** MOUFET & BENNET *Health's Improv.* xii. 107 Teals and Widgeons . . . commonly . . . are very fat and sweet of taste. **1703** DAMPIER *Voy.* III. 75 Wigeon and Teal also are said to be in great plenty here. **1774** GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VI. 139 The Lincolnshire decoys . . . principally contribute to supply the markets of London with wild-fowl. The number of ducks, wigeon, and teal, that are sent thither is amazing. **1788** *Encycl. Brit.* I. 662/1 The American wigeon . . . is rather bigger than our wigeon. **1877** BLACK *Green Past.* xl. In this bountiful and beneficent land, flowing over with broiled bluefish, Carolina widgeon, [etc.]. **1886** PAYNE-GALLWEY *Bk. Duck Decoys* 17 A Decoy . . . by means of which wildfowl, such as Wigeon, Mallard, and Teal, are caught alive. **1901** *Shooting Times* 22 June 21/2 On Lough Neagh, the wigeon is known as the 'grass-wigeon' or the 'grass-duck'. This may be due to its habit of feeding on the grassy sward along the shores.

b. Locally applied to various wild ducks of other genera: see *quots*.

1668 CHAPLETON *Onomast.* 99 *Anas Fusca* . . . the Red-headed Widgeon. **1676** RAY *Willughby's Ornith.* III. 288 The Pochard or great red-headed Wigeon. **1885** SWAINSON *Prov. Names Birds* 155 In Shropshire every species of wild duck, with the exception of *Anas boscas*, is called wigeon. **1898** MORRIS *Austral Engl.*, *Widgeon*, the common English name for a Duck of the genus *Mareca*, extended generally by sportsmen to any wild duck. **1901** *Shooting Times* 22 June 21/2 The pochard is distinguished by the name of the 'red-headed wigeon' or 'stone wigeon'.

†2. Applied to a person, in allusion to the supposed stupidity of the bird: A fool, simpleton, ninny. (Cf. *goose*, *gull*, etc.) *Obs*.

1612 CHAPMAN *Widow's T.* II. i. E 3 b, Come y'are a widgeon. **1639** [J. TAYLOR (Water-P.)] *Divers Crabtree Lect.* 122, I [said the Poulterer's wife] call him Goose, and Widgeon, and Dotrell, and Woodcock. **1647** LILLY *Chr. Astrol.* cxxviii. 584 The Native will prove a very Asse or Widgeon. **1693** *Humours Town* 93 'Till the Widgeon is Caught, and his Pocket empty. **1741** LAVAL *Hist. Ref.* IV. viii. 985 Those poor silly Widgeons, which they could convert.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as † *widgeon-lord* (see 2); *widgeon-grass*, -weed, local names for the grasswack, *Zostera marina*.

1621 BRATHWAITE *Time's Curtain drawn* G 3 b, Here lies a Widgeon-lord, a foot-cloth Asse. **1878** BRITTEN & HOLLAND *Plant-n.*, Widgeon-grass. *Zostera marina*, L. **1912** 'GUY THORNE' *Gt. Acceptance* x, The 'mud' was covered with the marsh zostera, or widgeon-weed.

Hence † *widgeon v. trans.* to make a 'widgeon' of, befool, cheat.

a **1596** Sir T. More i. ii. (Malone Soc.) 256 Let them gull me, widgeon me, rooke me, foppe me.

widger ('widʒə(r)). Also *erron*, *wigger*. [See *quot.* 1956.] A gardening tool consisting of a small strip of metal with a shallow furrow down the centre, used as a miniature trowel to move seedlings, cultivate pot plants, etc.

1956 *Dict. Gardening* (R. Hort. Soc.) Suppl. 333/1 The original widger . . . is the shape of a small spatula. . . The name 'Widger' was transferred to this horticultural tool by Mr. Clarence Elliott; it comes from one of a series of nonsense definitions used to test the memorizing ability of British Naval Cadets. **1962** *Listener* 22 Nov. 887/3 A stainless steel 'wigger' is a very useful little gadget for pricking out seedlings. **1973** *Country Life* 5 Apr. 940/1 Seedlings . . . I move . . . with a widger—an invaluable narrow-bladed, long trowel-like hand tool.

widget ('widʒɪt). orig. U.S. [Perh. alteration of GADGET.] An indefinite name for a gadget or mechanical contrivance, esp. a small manufactured item.

1931 *Amer. Speech* VI. 259 Widget. **1937** E. LYONS *Assignment in Utopia* (1938) III. iii. 299 Every time the percentage of widgets turned out by her factory rose her features shone. **1961** N. Y. *Times Mag.* 26 Nov. 109 Widgets by wire. . . Suppose something goes wrong with your Westinghouse appliance. What then? Your Westinghouse dealer can get you any new part faster than anyone around. He orders it by special telegraph line. **1966** 'E. LATHEN' *Murder makes Wheels go Round* i. 5 The corporation would . . . go about its business of producing bigger and better widgets. **1973** S. ALSOP *Stay of Execution* (1974) II. 193, I asked Joe if the widget could be protected by patent. Joe said . . . it couldn't. . . A few weeks ago, . . . IBM began to make its own widget, cheaper and better serviced than the Intercomp widget. **1982** BARR & YORK *Official Sloane Ranger Handbk.* 11/1 You never have to see the industry ('widget factories') and commerce ('selling brushes') that make the money.

widgie ('widʒɪ). *Austral.* and *N.Z.* Also *weegie*. [Origin uncertain.] An Australasian teddy-girl, the female counterpart of a BODGIE.

1950 *Sun* (Austral.) 5 July 19 There'll be . . . prizes for the most colorfully dressed 'bodgy' and 'weegie'. **1956** S. HOPE *Diggers' Paradise* 86 A popular district with bodgies and widgies is 'the Cross'. **1965** E. BROWN *Big Man* xix. 168 A mob of bodgies and widgies on a camping holiday. **1977** *Times* 13 May 14/1 Gang delinquency . . . has made its mark around the world . . . in Australia the bodgies and widgies.

widifu: see WIDDIFUL.

widir, obs. f. WHITHER.

widish ('waɪdɪʃ), *a.* [f. WIDE *a.* + -ISH¹.] Somewhat wide (*lit.* and *fig.*).

In first two *quots.* used *advb.*

c **1780** DUCH. DEVONSHIRE in *Daily News* 27 Oct. 6/5 His hair . . . flattish at top—frizzed out widish on each side. **1828** *Trial of W. & J. Dyon* 20 The man walked widish and turned his toes out. **1845** FORD *Handbk. Spain* II. 931 A widish interpretation of the laws of non-intervention. **1849** R. CURZON, JR. *Vis. Monast.* 298 The . . . rock . . . is separated from the end of a projecting line of mountains by a widish chasm. **1864** CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* xvi. x. (1872) VI. 254 Kind of Manuscript Newspaper . . . which seems to have had a widish circulation.

widle: see WIDDLE v.¹

Widmanstätten ('vit-, 'widmənʃtɛtən, -st-). Also -staetten, -statten. The name of A. J. *Widmanstätten* (1754–1849), Austrian scientist, used *attrib.* with reference to an orderly pattern of intersecting bands seen in some meteorites and steels when a polished section is etched, attributed to the crystallization or precipitation of a new solid phase along the crystal planes of a parent solid phase.

1861 Q. *Jrnl. Geol. Soc.* XVII. II. 9 The plane of the cutting shows strings of whitish colour indicative of crystalline structure ('Widmannstetten's figures'). **1881** L. FLETCHER *Guide Meteorites Brit. Museum* 16 The want of homogeneity in meteoric iron is beautifully shown by the 'Widmanstätten' figures. **1927** *Jrnl. Iron & Steel Inst.* CXVI. 584 He points out the difference between the needle-like structure of the ferrite and the Widmanstätten structure. **1971** I. G. GASS et al. *Understanding Earth* viii. 116/2 Those irons . . . usually show the Widmanstätten structure.

Hence † *Widman'sstätten a.*

1842 *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* XLIII. 359 The powder arranged itself in directions coinciding with the Widmanstätten figures. **1883** *Phil. Trans. R. Soc.* CLXXXIII. 889 It is the constituent of nickel-iron which forms the fine lines constituting the Wiedmannstätten figures, and not schreibersite, as usually stated in writings on the etched figures of meteoric iron. **1886** [see NEUMANN].

widness, obs. or dial. f. WIDENESS; Sc. var. WOODNESS *Obs*.

widou, -ed: see WIDOW, WIDOWHEAD.

widow ('widəʊ), *sb.*¹ Forms: *a.* 1 widuwe, 1–5 widewe, wydewe, 1, 4 widwe, 3 (*Orm.*) widdwe, 3–6 widue, 4 widu (*pl.* widuen, -uus, -us), wydūw, *pl.* widos, 4–5 wydue, wydwe, 4–6 wydow(e, *Sc.* widou, 4–7 widowe, 5 wydew, wyddo, widw, 5–6 wydo, 5 (6 *Sc.*) vidue, 6 wyddow(e, (vidoy), *Sc.* widow, -ou(e, 6–7 widdowe, 7–8 widdow, 9 *dial.* or *vulgar* widda, widder, widdy, 4– widow. *β.* 1 weodewe, 4 *Sc.* wedoue, vedo, 4–5 wedewe, wedu, 4–6 wedew, wedow, wedou, 5 wedw(e, wedue, *Sc.* wedeu, wedaw, 5 (6 *Sc.*) wedo, 5–6 wedowe, weddow(e, (6 wedoo, *Sc.* vedou, weido, *gen.* wedvis). *γ.* 1 wudewe, -uwe, 4 wodow, 4–5 wodewe (4 *pl.* -en, -on). [OE. *widewe*, *widuwe*, *wuduwe* wk. fem. = OFris. *widwe* (Fris. *weduwe*, *widewia*, *wudu*), OS. *widowa* (MLG., LG. *wedewe*, -uwe, MDu. *weduwe*, -ewe, Du. *weduw(e, weeuw)*, OHG. *wituwa*, -awa, (MHG. *witewe*, G. *wittwe*), Goth. *widuwō*: orig. an Indo-European adj. formation **widhewo-*, -wā on the base *widh-* to be empty, be separated (Skr. *vidh* to be destitute, lack, cf. L. *dī-videre* to divide); cf. Skr. *vidhavā* widow, Pers. *bēva*, Gr. *ῥιθεος* unmarried man, L. *viduus* bereft, void, widowed (fem. *vidua* widow, whence F. *veuve*, lt. *vedova*, Sp. *viuda*, Pg. *viuva*), OPruss. *widderwu*, OSl. *vidova* (Russ. *vdova*), W. *gweddw*, OIr. *fedb*, Cornish *guedeu*.]

1. *a.* A woman whose husband is dead (and who has not married again); a wife bereaved of her husband.

hempen widow: see HEMPEN *a.* 1 b.

a. **c825** *Vesp. Ps.* cviii[i]. 9 Sien bearn his asteapte & wif his widwe. **c1100** O.E. *Chron.* (MS. D) an. 975 [Hi] wydeban bestryptan oft & zelome. **c1175** *Lamb. Hom.* 115 He scal biwerian widewan and steopbern. **c1200** ORMIN 7998 An weppmann & an widwe. **a1225** *Anec. R.* 10 To helpen widewpen & federlease children. **c1290** S. *Eng. Leg.* 329/222 Ane holie wydewe. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 6787 Widues [Gött. Wydw; *Fairf.* widow; *Trin.* widewe] ne barns faderles Do yee na wrang. *Ibid.* 6793 Widus sall i mak your wifes. **1323** *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1904) 1, I, Rose Wrytell, wydwe, sumtyme the wyf of William flayrstede, Clerk. **c1380** Sir *Ferumb.* 5521 Many a wydewe par was mad, And many child faderles. **c1386** CHAUCEER *Knt.'s T.* 313 Al be she mayde or wydwe or elles wyf. **c1440** *York Myst.* xli. 61, I haue beyn a wyddo this threscore yere. **c1450** *Mirk's Festial* 32 A wydow pat het Druysan, lay ded on bere. **1519–29** *Lincoln Wills* (1914) I. 81, I Jane scheffelde of Croxby vidoy. **1526** *TINDALE Matt.* xxiii. 14 Ye deuoure widowes houses. — *Mark* xii. 43 This povre widowe hath cast moare in, then all they which have caste into the treasury. **1533** *Gau Richt Vay* (S.T.S.) 68 Christ raste wp ane vidous sone. **1540** *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 127 If she kepe her widue . . . or if she forton to marie. **1596** DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 222 Nathir soule d a Vidue be compelled a thousand pace

ouer her awne dores to ansuer to the Lawes. *Ibid.* II. 240 Marie . . . widow to the duik of Longouaile. **1602** SHAKS. *Ham.* III. ii. 233 Both heere, and hence, pursue me lasting strife, If once a Widdow, euer I be Wife. **1607** — *Cor.* II. i. 196 The Widowes . . . And Mothers that lacke Sonnes. **1684** BUNYAN *Pilgr.* II. 168 The Cake that the Widdow gave to the Prophet. **1781** GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xviii. II. 79 Constantia . . . remained the widow of the vanquished Licinius. **1837** DICKENS *Pickw.* xx, Take example by your father, my boy, and be wery careful o' widders. **1877** GILBERT *Sorcerer* II, No saucy minx and giddy . . . But a clean and tidy widdy. **1897** MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 466 In Calabar . . . all the widows of a dead man are subjected to ordeal.

β. **c1000** *Ag. Ps.* (Th.) cxlv[i]. 8 [9] þa elðeodigan ealle Drihten lustum healdeð, and lif geofeð weodewum wencelum, he hiom wel onfehð. **c1375** *Sc. Leg. Saints* v. (*Johannes*) 226 þat vedo can hym mene. *Ibid.* xxi. (*Clement*) 112 þis wedou. **c1380** WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 433 Wedewis & nedy men. **c1400** *Destr. Troy* 3481 Wywes made wedowys, & wayling for euer. **a1450** *Knt. de la Tour* lxx, Maydenes and wedues. **1476** *Exch. Rolls Scot.* VIII. 344 note, Till oure pure wedeu and beidwoman Marioun of Corry. **1500–20** DUNBAR *Poems* xxxv. 34 Jonet the weido. **a1533** LD. BERNERS *Huon* lx. 210 He dystroyeth . . . wedous & orphelyns. **1562** WINSET *Cert. Tractates* §57 Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 112 Soung wedowis quha had wowit continence. **1583** *Leg. Bp. St. Androis* 281 The sillie wedew.

γ. **c1000** *Ag. Gosp.* Luke ii. 37 Heo wæs wudewe oð feower & hundehtahtig geara. *Ibid.* iv. 25 Manega widewan wæron on helias dagum. **1340** *Ayenb.* 48 þe pridd [kind of adultery] is of man sngle mid wodewe oþer aye-ward. *Ibid.* 225 Wodewehod . . . is a stat þet zaynte paul prayzēþ moche þet zayp to wodewon [etc.]. **c1440** *Gesta Rom.* xlv. 172 (Harl. MS.), iij. wedewis wer I-left bihinde.

b. *Law. king's widow*: see *quot.* 1607.

1540 *Act 32 Hen. VIII* c. 46. §25 The said maister . . . shalhave auctoritie by this acte to survey all the Kinges widowes . . . that have married them selfs without the Kinges licence . . . for their reasonable fynes to be made to the Kinges use. **1607** COWELL *Interpr.* s.v., The widow of the King, or the King's widow . . . is that widow, which after her husbands death being the Kings tenent in *capite*, is driuen to recouer her Dower by a writ *De dote assignanda*. . . It appeareth that other common Lords haue the same power ouer their widowes, touching their consent, in their mariage, that the King hath.

c. Prefixed as a title to the name. Now chiefly *dial.* or *vulgar*.

1576 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 3) 1981/1 Widowe Swayne. **1610** SHAKS. *Temp.* II. i. 76 Not since widow Dido's time. **1636** in *Parish Bks. St. Julian's, Shrewsbury* I. 20 (MS.) Received for a Restall of Widdow Crosse 6/8. **1818** SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* viii, The Laird . . . was ashamed to tax too highly the miserable means of support which remained to the widow Butler. **1835** J. POOLE *Sk. & Recoll.* I. 82 The cold and hot baths kept by Widow Sniggerston, No. 14, Market Square. **1882** MRS. RIDDELL *Pr. Wales's Gard.-Party* ii, Once, when overtaken by a thunder-storm, she sought refuge in widow Harting's cottage.

d. In extended sense: A wife separated from or deserted by her husband; esp. in colloq. or dial. phr. *a widow bewitched*. Also in other allusive uses: see *quot.* 1908, *college widow* s.v. COLLEGE *sb.* 9 b, GRASS WIDOW.

1461 *Paston Lett.* Suppl. (1901) 74, I pray you socour my wif, for she is wedow yet for me. **1725** BAILEY *Erasm. Colloq.* (1878) I. 259 Divorc'd from your Husband; a Widow, nay, to live, a Widow bewitcht, worse than a Widow. **1863** MRS. GASKELL *Sylvia's Lovers* xxxix, Who'd ha' thought of yo'r husband, him as was so slow and sure, . . . making a moonlight flitting, and leaving yo' to be a widow bewitched! **1901** 'ZACK' *Dunstable Weir* 283 Martha Barnaby . . . was a widdy by will, her man bein' friendly to furren parts. **1908** *Westm. Gaz.* 29 June 2/2 Has Mr. Balfour never heard of the Golf Widow? The husband who goes away for a weekend to play golf may improve his health, but conceivably the wife . . . may feel it rather dull and lonely. **1952** W. M. MILLER in *Galaxy* Nov. 153/1 It was different if the business-widow called on a couple. Then the lone male could retire. **1965** *Guardian* 30 July 10/5 One Scottish TA unit, aware of the dangers of creating 'TA widows' opens its bar on drill nights to wives and girl-friends. **1973** R. BUSBY *Pattern of Violence* ii. 32 You tell her to come and see me. We police widows have got to stick together. **1980** *Financial Rev.* (Austral.) 14 Jan. 8/2 Dick Smith's resident computer expert . . . said the keyboards, screens, printers and central processors are giving birth to a new social problem, 'computer widows'.

e. *Eccl.* One of a class or order of devout or consecrated widows in the Early Church (see *Acts* ix. 39, 41).

Cf. *Noma*, arwurpe wydwe (MS. Bodl. 730 lf. 146 b, c 1200).

1572 T. CARTWRIGHT *Repl. Whitgift* 153 Although there is not so great vse of these widowes with vs, as there was in those places where the churches were first founded, . . . yet . . . I conclude that (if such may be gotten) we ought also to kepe that order of widowes in the church still. **1587** [see WIDOWER¹ 2]. **1708** BINGHAM *Orig. Eccles.* II. xxii. 315 The Council of Laodicea in the Eastern Church had forbidden them [sc. deaconesses] under the Name of ancient Widows or Governesses. **1709** J. JOHNSON *Clergy-Man's Vade M.* II. 241 A Widow or Deaconess, must, according to St. Paul, be Sixty. **1862** BP. WORDSWORTH *Hymn*, 'Hark the sound of holy voices' ii, Sainly Maiden, godly Matron, Widows who have watch'd to prayer. **1884** *Catholic Dict.* 611/2 The Church recognised . . . several classes of pious women, such as widows, deaconesses, hospitaliers, Canonesses.

f. *transf.* A female animal, esp. a hen bird, that has lost its mate.

c1220 *Bestiary* 706 If hire make were ded, and 3e widue wore. **1821–2** [see *widow bird* in 4a]. **1878** *Daily News* 16 Sept. 3/1 'Widows', alias old hens, are to be bought at a shilling each.

g. *fig.*

c1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 187 þe Chirche, þat is wydowe for þis tyme. **c1480** HENRYSON *Orpheus & Eurydice* 455 For than gois bakwart to the syn agayn Oure appetite, . . . And makis reson wedow for to be. **1594** SYLVESTER *Elegies*,

WIDOW

Monodia Wks. (Grosart) II. 330/1 Soon as ever the bright season-stinter Hath left her widow of his wonted raies. 1867 LEWES *Hist. Philos.* (ed. 3) II. iii. 98 Bruno wittily called Oxford the widow of sound learning—'la vedova di buone lettere'.

h. the Widow (of or at Windsor): a familiar epithet for Queen Victoria, whose husband predeceased her by forty years. orig. chiefly *Services*.

1888 KIPLING *Private Learoyd's Story in Soldiers Three* 14 They tell me t' Widdy herself is fond of a good dog. 1890 — *The Widow at Windsor in Barrack-Room Ballads* (1892) 39 Then 'ere's to the Widow at Windsor, An' 'ere's to the stores an' the guns, The men an' the 'orses what makes up the forces O' Missis Victorier's sons. 1900 *Captain* III. 235/1 The design... shows the Queen as a widow—the 'Widow of Windsor'. 1932 *Times* 12 Feb. 14/2 'The Widow' (as we subalterns had irreverently nicknamed the Empress of India). 1964 E. LONGFORD *Victoria R.I.* xxxvi. 562 She died just after half-past six... The famous 'hush' which had always surrounded 'The Widow at Windsor' was shattered. 1980 R. HALL *Lovers on Nile* xiv. 216 The 'Widow of Windsor' would feel herself justified in having ostracized Sam and Florence.

2. a. A bird of the subfamily Viduinae: = WIDOW-BIRD. mourning widow, a bird of the genus *Coliopasser* belonging to this subfamily. **b. Collectors' name for a geometrid moth, *Cidaria luctuata*: also mourning widow. c. mournful or mourning widow,** popular names of certain plants with dusky flowers: see MOURNFUL 5, MOURNING *ppl. a. 3.*

1747 EDWARDS *Nat. Hist. Birds* II. 86 The Red-Breasted Long-Tailed Finch... from Angola in Africa... A Gentleman, who lately arrived from Lisbon, tells me the Portuguese call this Bird the Widow, from its Colour, and long Train. 1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St. Pierre's Study Nat.* (1799) I. 287 In the feathery race, the widow, the cardinal, &c... exhibit much more brilliant colouring, when the Sun approaches the Line. 1869-73 T. R. JONES *Cassell's Bk. Birds* I. 179 The Mourning Widows (*Coliupasser*).

3. Miscellaneous colloq. or slang uses. a. (See quot. 1710, and cf. widow's fire in 5.) b. An extra hand dealt to the table in certain card-games. c. the widow: champagne. [From 'Veuve Cliquot', the name of a firm of wine merchants.] d. Typogr. A short line at the end of a paragraph, esp. one which is set at the top of a page or column, or which contains only (part of) one word, and is therefore considered unsightly. e. five-fingered (also dry-mouthed) widow, in phrs. alluding to the act of masturbation. slang (chiefly *Services*).

1710 *Brit. Apollo* III. No. 91. 3/1 Fire expiring's call'd d a Widow. 1781 BOSWELL *Jrnl.* 28 Apr. (1777) 333 He [sc. Lord Townshend] had called Sir Joshua, 'Will you give us one cool bottle of claret?' They were taking away the former. 'No,' said Lord Townshend, 'Let us first take the widow.' 1891 *Hoffmann's Cycl. Card Games* 204 Whiskey Poker... Five cards are... dealt to each player, with an extra hand, known as 'the widow'. The elder hand may either play his own hand, pass, or take the widow. 1899 GUY BOOTHBY *Red Rat's Dau.* xvii. A good luncheon and a pint of the Widow to wash it down. [1904 *Man. Rules Compositors S.S. McClure Co.* 25 All running heads are to be set one nonpareil from the body, unless otherwise instructed. Care must be taken to overcome 'rivers', and to this end indiscriminate division of words is allowed. Care should also be exercised to overcome 'widdies' at the top of pages.] 1925 [see SLUG *sb.* 4 f]. 1932 P. VAN D. STERN *Introd. Typogr.* II. 15 When a single word runs over, it is often desirable to alter the copy... so that the words can be run back. Single words standing in a line are called 'widows'. 1948 *Bull. N.Y. Public Library* Jan. 3 Early in 1936, H. M. Lydenberg... began a quiet, and not quite humorless, investigation into the origin and identity of the typographical 'widow', that awful slattern of the printed page. 1954 M. LASKI in *Author* Winter 30/2 It is a common experience, when working for *Vogue*, to be asked to add a few words to a paragraph so as to avoid unsightly 'widows' or single-word lines. 1963 D. OGILVY *Confessions Advertising Man* vii. 124 It has been discovered that 'widows' increase readership, except at the bottom of a column. 1971 B. W. ALDISS *Soldier Erect* 44 In there [sc. the 'shithouse'], behind the stable-like door of one compartment or another, I went to a regular evening rendezvous with my dry-mouthed widow. 1975 C. ALLEN *Plain Tales from Raj* xv. 159 Many turned, as a last resort, to the 'five-fingered widow'. 1980 B. CRUTCHLEY *To be Printer* 55 Our best customers were those who looked to us... to print well, which meant avoiding 'widows'.

4. Combinations. a. appositive (= that is a widow), as widow child, duchess, lady, mother, queen, woman (the last now usually arch. or dial.); (in sense 1 f) *widow bird, turtle. b. attrib.* Of or pertaining to a widow or widowhood, as *widow bed, comfort, dolour, life, night, state*; consisting of widows, as *widow-club. c. objective, instrumental, etc., as widow-burning* (= SUTTEE 2), *-hunter, -hunting, -making; widow-cursed adj.; widow-like adj. and adv. d. Special Combs.: widow church,* a church without a bishop or pastor; *widow-duck,* a species of tree-duck, *Dendrocygna viduata*; *widow-finch* = WIDOW-BIRD; *widow flower* = *mourning widow* (b) (MOURNING *ppl. a. 3*); cf. 2 c; *widow-maker,* a killer or potential killer of men, *spec. (a) N. Amer. slang,* a dead branch caught high in a tree which may fall on someone below; (b) *slang* [tr. G. *witwemacher*], a nickname for the Lockheed F-104 Starfighter

strike and reconnaissance aircraft (see quot. 1975); also (*U.S. Mil.*), a grenade launcher; *widow-man dial.* = WIDOWER¹ 1 a; *widow moth* = 2 b; *widow right,* that part of a deceased husband's estate to which a widow has a right. See also WIDOW-BIRD, -WAIL.

1650 HOWELL *Giraffi's Rev. Naples* I. 119 He commanded... the House of a *widow-Baker to be burnt. 1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* III. iv. O thou cold *widow bed, sometime thrice blest, By the warme pressure of my sleeping lord. 1821-2 SHELLEY *Chas. I. v. 4* A *widow bird sat mourning Upon a wintry bough. 1856 MAX MÜLLER *Chips* (1868) II. 34 The custom of *widow-burning. 1856 AYTOUN *Bothwell* I. x. To claim the hand of Scotland's Queen, The *widow-child of France. a 1759 A. BUTLER *Lives of Saints* (1836) I. 179 He... recommends himself and his *widow-church of Antioch to their prayers. 1714 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 561 ¶1 A certain Female Cabal... who call themselves the *Widow-Club. 1595 SHAKS. *John* III. iv. 105 My faire sonne... My *widow-comfort, and my sorrowes cure. 1614 SYLVESTER *Parl. Vertues Royall* 767 Hundred Laurels never *widow-curst. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III.* II. ii. 65 Our fatherlesse distresse was left vnmoan'd, Your *widow-dolour, likewise be vnwept. 1711 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 8 Nov., The *Widow Duchess will not stand to the will. 1885 *Riverside Nat. Hist.* (1888) IV. 542 The vida-fineshes, often called *widow-fineshes. 1882 *Garden* 11 Mar. 155/3 The purple Scabious... is known in some places by the name of the *Widow Flower. 1714 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 561 ¶1 These unhappy gentlemen, who are commonly distinguished by the name of *widow-hunters. 1853 R. S. SURTEES *Sponge's Sp. Tour* I. (1893) 8 With this popular sport he combined the diversion of *widow-hunting. 1595 SHAKS. *John* II. i. 548 How may we content This *widow Lady? 1863 D. G. MITCHELL *Sev. Stor., My Farm of Edgewood* 17 Another letter, from a widow lady. 1625 in *Halliw. Lett. Kings Eng.* (1846) II. 236, I had rather live banished... with you, than live a sorrowful *widow-life without you. 1590 SPENSER *F.Q.* I. xii. 22 She had layd her mournfull stole aside, And *widow-like sad wimple throwne away. 1706 GARDINER tr. *Rapin's Gardens* I. 351 Or Widowlike beneath a sable Veil, Her purest Lawn may artfully conceal. 1747 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* IV. 120 She wrote such a widow-like refusal. 1839-52 BAILEY *Festus* 439 This bosom... is burning for thee, though thy love be dead, Widow-like, on her lord's death-bier. 1595 SHAKS. *John* v. ii. 17 It grieues my soule, That I must draw this mettle from my side To be a *widow-maker. 1906 KIPLING *Puck of Pook's Hill* 67 What is a woman that you forsake her, ... To go with the old grey Widow-maker [i.e. the sea]? 1945 M. H. ALLEE *Smoke Jumper* iv. 47 He remembered the Kid's caution about widow-makers, limbs falling from high overhead. 1965 M. MCINTYRE *Place of Quiet Waters* ix. 163 Now's the time to look out for widow-makers... Don't you go walking about in the woods when she's blowing like this. 1975 *Times* 26 Sept. 7/2 The loss of 178 aircraft in Germany earned it [sc. the Starfighter] the title of 'Witwemacher', or widow-maker. 1976 *Courier-Mail* (Brisbane) 13 Feb. 4/4 They opened up with automatic rifle fire, a Browning machine-gun, and 66 anti-tank rockets, and a 'widow-maker'—a grenade launcher. 1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 267 Mezereon is as much as viduifical, or *widow-making Plant. 1876 G. M. HOPKINS *Wreck of Deutschland* xiii, in *Poems* (1967) 55 The widow-making unchilding unfathering deeps. 1887 T. E. BROWN *Doctor & Other Poems* 35 Sir John, it appears, Was a *widda man. 1946 C. MCCULLERS *Member of Wedding* II. 43 He was a widowman, for her mother had died the very day that she was born—and, as a widowman, set in his ways. 1819 SAMUELLE *Entomol. Compend.* 363 *Widow moth. a 1711 KEN *Hymns Evang.* Poet. Wks. 1721 I. 99 The Son for whom his *Widow-Mother groan'd. 1821 R. POLLOK in D. Pollok *Life* iv. (1843) 87 A small house, inhabited by a widow-mother and an only daughter. 1937 C. DAY LEWIS *Starting Point* 36 Theo's getting as fussy as a widow-mother. a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. v. (1912) 379 O *widow-nights, beare witness with me of the difference. 1690 LOCKE *Govt.* §123 Who has the paternal power whilst the *widow-queen is with child? 1569 N. Country Wills (Surtees 1912) II. 55 After the *widowright of my wief. 1617-18 Knaresb. Wills (Surtees) II. 49 One third of my goodes, which is her widow right. 1755 JOHNSON, *To Widow, v. a.* 2. To endow with a widow-right. 1591-5 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Astrophel* II. 27 All the fields do waile their *widow state. 1615 SYLVESTER *Bethulia's Rescue* IV. 318 So, on the wither'd Spray The *Widow-Turtle sighes her mournfull Lay. 1649 LOVELACE *Lucasta* etc. 99 Peason, Chickens, sawces high, Pig and the *Widow-Venson-pye. 1382 WYCLIF 2 *Sam.* xiv. 5 A womanman widowe I am [1611 a widow woman; Vulg. *mulier vidua*]. — 1 *Kings* vii. 14 Yram, the sone of the *widow woman [1611 a widowes sonne; Vulg. *mulieris viduae*]. *Ibid.* xvii. 9 A womanman widowe [Douay 1609 a wydow woman]. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 101 ¶7 He lived as a Lodger at the House of a Widow-Woman. 1891 HARDY *Tess* xxix, 'Not he, sir. Never meant to,' replied the dairyman. 'As I say, 'tis a widow-woman, and she had money, it seems—fifty poun' a year or so.' 1889 'J. S. WINTER' Mrs. Bob iii. (1891) 41 Gay little widow woman that she was.

5. Special collocations with the genitive: widow's bench = FREE BENCH; *widow's chamber,* the furniture of the bed-chamber, to which the widow of a freeman of the city of London was formerly entitled; *widow's cross,* a name for a purple-flowered N. American species of stonecrop, *Sedum pulchellum*; *widow's cruse fig.* (with allusion to I Kings xvii. 12-16) [see CRUSE], a supply which, though apparently meagre, is, or seems to be, inexhaustible; *widow's fire* (see quot., and cf. 3 a); *widow's lock,* a lock or tuft of hair growing apart from the rest, supposed to presage early widowhood; *widow's man,* (a) a man such as to attract widows; (b) *Naut.* one of a number of fictitious seamen whose names were formerly entered in the books of a ship's company, their pay being set apart for pensions; *widow's mite,*

a small money contribution (in allusion to Mark xii. 43; see MITE² 1 c); *widow's peak* (see PEAK *sb.* 2 1 f, and cf. *widow's lock*); *widow's terce* (see TERCE 2); *widow's walk* chiefly *N. Amer.*, a rectangular balustraded platform (characteristic of New England architectural styles in the 18th and 19th cent.) built on top of the roof of a house, esp. for providing an unimpeded view of the sea (see quot. 1978); *widow's weeds,* the mourning apparel of a widow (see WEED *sb.* 2 6 b).

1694 N. H. *Ladies Dict.* 468 *Widows-bench [mispr. -benob]... Ss. [= Sussex] a share of their Husbands Estate, which they enjoy beside their joynture. 1766 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. xxxii. 518 Deducing the widow's apparel and furniture of her bed-chamber, which in London is called the *widow's chamber. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mortality* in *Tales my Landlord* 1st Ser. IV. xii. 268 'Can you lodge a stranger for a night?' 'I can, sir, if he will be pleased with the widow's cake and the *widow's cruize.' 1915 D. H. LAWRENCE *Phoenix II* (1968) 382 Wherein... is the immortality, in the constant occupation of the nest, the widow's cruse, or in the surpassing of the phoenix? 1977 *Jrnl. R. Soc. Arts* CXXV. 463/1 Information is infinitely reproducible without diminishing it: it is a veritable widow's cruse. 1919 19th Cent. Dec. 1049 *Widow's fire—a fire on one side of the grate only. a 1540 J. LONDON in *Ellis Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. III. 132 Suche as... hadde any slottiche *wydowes lockes, viz. here growen to gether in a tuft. 1896 NORTHALL *Warw. Word-bk.*, *Widow's-lock*, a small lock or fringe growing apart from the hair above the forehead. Credulous persons believe that a girl so distinguished will become a widow soon after marriage. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* III. vi. As to Square, who was... what is called a jolly Fellow, or a *Widow's Man, he easily reconciled his Choice to the eternal Fitness of Things. 1790 *Jackson's Oxf. Jrnl.* 2 Oct., Fictitious Seamen called Widow's Men. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Widows' men*, imaginary sailors, formerly borne on the books as A. B.'s for wages in every ship in commission; they ceased with the consolidated pay at the close of the war. 1595 GOODWINE *Blanchardine* Ded., Crauing your acceptance of this pore *widowes mite. 1849 *Widow's peak [see PEAK *sb.* 2 1 f]. 1838 BELL *Dict. Law Scot.* 985 Where a husband has disposed property in which he stands infet, but dies before the dispoinee has taken infetment, the *widow's terce will form a burden on the property so disposed. 1715, 1836 *Widow's weeds [see WEED *sb.* 2 6 b]. 1939 S. CHAMBERLAIN *Nantucket* 25 Variouslly termed a 'Captain's Walk', or the *Widow's Walk, it is just 'The Walk' in Nantucket. 1961 J. STEINBECK *Winter of our Discontent* I. 14 The fine old house... his great-grandfather's... with... Adam decorations and a widow's walk on the roof. 1978 J. A. MICHENER *Chesapeake* 463 The name *widow's walk* derived from romantic tales of those loyal women who continued to keep watch for a ship that had long since gone to the bottom of some coral sea.

Hence †*widowess* (*Obs. rare*¹), a widow (sense 1); *widowish a.* = *widowly adj.*; †*widowist* [-IST used irreg.] = sense 1 e; †*widowity Obs.* [hybrid alteration of VIDUITY], widowhood; *widowly a.* [-LY¹], pertaining to, characteristic of, or befitting a widow (in quot. 1884, widowed, or having the character of a widow); *widowly adv.* [-LY²], in a way befitting a widow, like a widow; *widow-wise adv.* (*nonce-wd.*), in the manner of a widow, like a widow; *widowy* (†-ie) *a.* = *widowly adj.*

1596 CLAPHAM *Briefe Bible* II. 126 [She] had bene 84 yeares *Widowesse. 1567 TURBERV. *Ovid's Ep.* 60b, My *widowish couch. 1578 H. WOTTON *Courtlie Controv.* 280 Turning and tossing... in hir widowishe bed. 1593 BANCROFT *Surv.* 221 There is a second sorte of Disciplinary *Widowistes, that are very farre growen past Cartwright's lfs. [Cf. sense 1 e, quot. 1572.] 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* I. 39 Suppose his mother in her *widowetie committed huredome. 1664 in *Jervise Mem. Angus* (1885) II. 15 Earl George... left her 'the use of all his moveables in all his houses duering her widowity'. 1750-1 MACFARLANE *Geneal. Coll.* (S.H.S. 1900) II. 465 She calls her Self when in her widowity Relicta Normani de Lessly. 1753 *Stewart's Trial* 53 The poor disconsolate lady, who now weeps over her own widowity. 1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 494/1 Virginitie, & *widowly chastitie. 1632 J. HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Eromena* 158 The Princesse... had now converted her widowly meane into fresh teares of conjugall affection. 1884 *Century Mag.* XXVIII. 541 This charming young person... the daughter of a widely exile of France. 1909 RICKERT *Beggar Heart* 285 She conducted herself most *widowly. 1904 MARSON *Folk Songs fr. Som.* *Introd.* p. xvi, Song is not won *widow-wise, 'by brisk assault and putting on',... but rather must be wooed by slow approaches, like a maid. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. iii. (1674) 4 The very Muses... did... assist at the Obsequies in *widowie apparel.

widow, sb. 2 *Obs. exc. dial.* [OE. *widewa*, masc. corresp. to *widewe* WIDOW *sb.* 1] = WIDOWER¹ 1. †Also of common gender.

c 1000 *Instit. Polity* xxii. in Thorpe *Laws* (1840) II. 332 þæt he þanan-forð wydewa purhwunige. 1340 *Ayenb.* 193 And alnaway me ssel ham blepeliche yeue, and nameliche to þe poure ssamueste, and to þe uaderlease, an to wyfmen wodewen, and to opre nieduolle. *Ibid.* 225 þe stat of wodewehod... þet zaynte paul prayzeþ moche, þet zayp to wodewon, 'hou þet guod is, he him hyealde ine þet stat'. c 1480 HENRYSON *Orpheus & Eurydice* 297 A wofull wedow [v.r. wedaw] hamewart is he went. 1518 H. WATSON *Hist. Oliver of Castile* (Roxb.) B 4, Seynge that bothe partyes were wydowes... it were moost conuenient that he came theder for to wedde her. 1579 TOMSON *Calvin's Serm.* Tim. 257/2 He abstained from marriage: whether hee neuer had a wife, or was a widowe, and kepte himself without one. 1633 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* (1765) II. xv. 341 Our Bridegroom cannot want a wife: can he live a widow? 1789 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Ethelinde* (1814) IV. 93 He still lived a widow, on his estate in Jamaica. 1894 CROCKETT *Raiders* xxii, I had been a widow

three years when I began to gang about Parton Hoose to see her.

attrib. c1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) iv. 35 Wedow men pat wantis To steill a pair of swyvis. *c1700* *Directions for Distrib. Estate T. Rawlins of Barrow-on-Soar* (MS.), Those poor Widowd men and Widowd women that have a charge of children to keep. *1841* S. C. HALL *Ireland* I. 30 Her father came here soon after she was born, a widow-man with only her.

'widow, v. [f. WIDOW *sb.*¹ or ².]

1. *trans.* To make a widow (or, *rarely*, widower) of; to reduce to widowhood; to bereave of one's husband (or wife). Most commonly in *pa. pple.*: see also WIDOWED *ppl. a.*

13.. Cursor M. 24197 (Edinb.) Ik am nu wuidit of mi spus. *1607* SHAKS. *Cor.* v. vi. 153 In this City hee Hath widowed and vnchilded many a one. *1748* RICHARDSON *Clarissa* IV. 84 The Royal butchers, who.. widow ten thousand at a brush, and make twice as many fatherless. *1814* SOUTHEY *Roderick* III. 290 One hour hath orphaned me and widowed me. *1884* ANNIE S. SWAN *Dorothea Kirke* x. Be careful of yourself—for Dorothea's sake. I would not like to see her early widowed. *1887* HATTON *Gay World* xv, When he widowed her, as he must do, being so much her senior.

b. *fig.* To deprive of a valuable or highly prized possession (person, thing, or quality); to bereave. Usually in *pa. pple.* Deprived, bereft.

1595 MARKHAM *Trag. Sir R. Grimile* cxv, Beeing.. widow'd of her comly shape. *1649* C. WASE *Sophocles, Electra* 53 The House Widow'd of Friends, and seiz'd upon by Fiends! *1677* BAKER in Rigaud *Corr. Sci. Men* (1841) II. 18 The second equation is widowed of its geometrical construction. *1742* YOUNG *Nt. Th.* viii. 1264 Wit, widow'd of good-sense, is worse than nought. *1791* COWPER *Iliad* v. 763 He.. Lay'd Troy in dust, and widow'd all her streets. *1847* LE FANU *T. O'Brien* 303 Odd niches and nooks—widowed of the clocks and presses. *1874* MOTLEY *John of Barneveld* I. Pref. 8 France, widowed of Henry and waiting for Richelieu.

†2. To survive as a widow, become the widow of. *Obs. rare*—1.

1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* i. ii. 26 Let mee be married to three Kings in a forenoone, and Widowd them all.

†3. To endow with a widow's right. *Obs. rare*—1.

1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* v. i. 429 For his Possessions, .. We doe en-state, and widow you with all, To buy you a better husband.

Hence **'widowing vbl. sb.** and *ppl. a.* (in first quot. app. vaguely used for 'funereal').

? *1605* DRAYTON *Poems Lyr. & Pastoral* Eglog vi. 105 Nor mournfull Cipresse nor sad widowing yew. *1906* *Athenaeum* 17 Nov. 614/3 The widowing of the hero is a valueless shadow upon a vigorously improbable.. story. *1921* *Public Opin.* 18 Feb. 157/2 She had earned her widowing by eight years' happiness.

'widow-bird. [Representing L. generic name *Vidua*, F. *veuve* (Brisson *Ornithol.* 1760) widow. (Altered to WHIDAH-*bird.*)] A bird of the genus *Vidua* or subfamily *Viduinæ* of the family *Ploceidae* (Weaver-birds), found in various parts of Africa: so called from the prevailingly black plumage of the males, which are also distinguished by an immensely elongated train of tail-feathers.

[*1747*: see WIDOW *sb.*¹ 2a.] *1772* BARRINGTON in *Phil. Trans.* LXII. 282 *note*, These long feathers would be very inconvenient to the hen during incubation; and they are likewise confined to the cock widow-bird. *1783* LATHAM *Gen. Syn. Birds* II. i. 179 Whidah Bunting].... This is pretty common at Angola, and other parts of Africa; and is called la Veuve, or Widow Bird, from the colour. *1807* [MRS. DORSET] *Peacock 'at Home'* (1838) 10 The Widow-bird came, though she still wore her weeds. *1869-73* T. R. JONES *Cassell's Bk. Birds* I. 179 The Long-tailed Widow Bird (*Chera caffra*) the largest of all the South African species. *Ibid.* 180 The Cock-tailed Widow Birds (*Steganura*) are found throughout the whole of Central Africa. *Ibid.*, The Paradise Widow Bird (*Vidua paradisæ*).. found principally in the thinly-wooded forests of Africa. *1871* DARWIN *Desc. Man* II. viii. 269 The male widow-bird, remarkable for his caudal plumes. *1896* NEWTON *Dict. Birds* 1030 The females of all the Widow-birds differ greatly in appearance from the males, and are generally clothed in a plumage of mottled brown.

widowed ('widəʊd), *ppl. a.* [f. WIDOW *sb.*¹ or ² or *v.* + -ED.]

1. Made or become a widow (or widower); bereaved of one's husband (or wife). Also of an animal, esp. a bird: Bereaved of its mate.

1606 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* xiv. lxxxvi. 355 A pitious Storie of King Eugens widowed wife. *a1718* *Thomson Soloman* III. 193 A widow'd Daughter. *1730-46* PRISON *Autumn* 974 Some widowed songster pours his plaint. *1813* SCOTT *Trierm.* I. i. Constant and true as the widow'd dove. *1823* — *Quentin D.* Introd., He was a widowed husband and childless father. *1855* MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xvii. IV. 5 He was a child at his widowed mother's knee. *1885* *Mistletoe Bough* 28/1 An acquaintance of mine—a twice widowed wife. *1893* TOUT *Edw.* I xi. (1896) 182 There was.. talk of a marriage between the widowed Edward and the French king's sister.

b. *transf.*

c1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* xcvi. 8 The teeming Autumne big with ritch increase.. Like widowed wombes after their Lords decease. *1627* MAY *Lucan* v. 928 Sleepelesse she spent in her now widow'd bed.. the night that followed. *1634* HEYWOOD *Maidenh. well lost* I. i, What is't to me? If being a Bride, you have a widowed fortune. *1725* POPE *Odys.* I. 455 Your widow'd hours, .. with female toil And various labours of the loom, beguile. *1768* C. SHAW *Monody*

xiv. (1769) 12 How shall I find repose on a sad widow'd bed? *1780* COWPER *Doves* 36 Denied th' endearments of thine eye, This widow'd heart would break. *1825* T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Pass. & Princ.* iii, For.. six and twenty years had the veteran lover.. solaced himself in widowed singleness. *1828* P. CUNNINGHAM *N.S. Wales* (ed. 3) II. 279 She tripped out of doors to solace her widowed heart with the joys of a second husband. *1894* DYAN *Man's Keeping* xviii, He could only hold the poor widowed hand tenderly in his while he told her the tiny details of those last few days.

2. *fig.* Deprived of a partner, friend, companion, or mate; bereaved; hence, deserted, desolate, solitary.

1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* II. iv, Straight from the ashes .. A new-born Phoenix flies, & widow'd place resumes. *1687* NORRIS *Coll. Misc.* 17 No Second Friendship can be found To match my mourning Widow'd Love. *a1763* SHENSTONE *Elegies* viii. 33 From Twitnam's widow'd bow'r. *1763* CHURCHILL *Proph. Famine* 498 What if we seiz'd, like a destroying flood, Their widow'd plains. *1820* SHELLEY *Naples* 108 Widowed Genoa wan By moonlight spells ancestral epitaphs. *1850* TENNYSON *In Mem.* lxxxv. 113 My heart, tho' widow'd, may not rest Quite on the love of what is gone. *1908* E. V. LUCAS *Over Bemerton's* x, He sees far more with his widowed orb than the ordinary observer does with two.

b. Of an elm: Not 'mated' with a vine; conversely of the vine; also of a branch. (After L. *ulmus* and *vitis vidua*, *ramus viduus*.)

1743 FRANCIS tr. *Hor. Odes* IV. v. 44 The hind Weds to the widow'd elm his vine. *1756* MASON *Ode to Indep.* vii, When pining Care.. sees thee, like the weak, and widow'd Vine, Winding thy blasted tendrills o'er the plain. *1763* MILLS *Pract. Husb.* IV. 357 No shoots should be suffered to grow out of the firm wood, unless they are wanted in order to marry them to a widowed branch.

widower¹ ('widəʊə(r)). Forms: 4 wid(e)wer, wydewer, 4-5 wedewer, 5 wyduare, 5-6 wydower, (wydward), 6 wedower, wydoer, 7 widower, 9 *dial.* widver, 7- widower. [A new formation with -ER¹ on WIDOW *sb.*¹, appearing in late ME. and substituted as an unequivocal form for WIDOW *sb.*² Cf. MHG. *witewære*, G. *wittwer*, MDu. *wedewäre*.]

1. a. A man whose wife is dead (and who has not married again); a husband bereaved of his wife.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* x. 194 Widewers and widewes [*1377* B. IX. 174 Widwes and widwers]. *1393* *Ibid.* C. XI. 282 Wydewers and wydwes weddeth ayther othere. *1477* *Paston Lett.* III. 178 Sir T. Greye.. is a wydower now late. *c1482* *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 75 His wyfe dide afore him .. after hoys dethe he leuyd continent and chaste, in a wydwardys lyfe. *c1500* *Melusine* 187 That pucelle refussed hym bycause he had be wedded tofore, & of late he was wydower. *1601* SHAKS. *All's Well* v. iii. 70 Heere wee'l stay To see our widowers second marriage day. *1635* J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Old, Old Man* B 3b, She dead, he ten yeares did a Widower stay. *1694* *Act 6 & 7 Will. & Mary* c. 6. §46 The several duties.. upon Batchelors and Widowers by this Act granted. *1778* JOHNSON in Boswell *Life* (1904) II. 184 He was not content as a widower; for he married again. *1856* KANE *Arctic Expl.* II. xi. 119 The mourners came together to weep and howl, while the widower recited his sorrows and her praise. *1905* *Daily Chron.* 14 Apr. 4/6 Mr. Otto Goldschmidt, widower of the late Jenny Lind.

b. *widower bewitched*: a husband separated from or deserted by his wife. *colloq.* (Cf. WIDOW *sb.*¹ 1 d.)

1705 DUNTON *Life & Err.* (1818) I. 405 If my marrying a fortune has made me a scoundrel, .. it is but while I continue a Widower bewitched.

c. The counterpart of WIDOW *sb.*¹ 1 d in allusive use, as *football widower*, etc. *colloq.*

1969 *Listener* 17 Apr. 534/3 He's a football widower because I'm the one who's always trooping away to football matches. *1971* A. NIXON *Attack on Vienna* xi. 109 Mr Fletcher had had a quiet drink with another bridge widower. *1973* *Guardian* 25 May 11/2 The age of golf widowers is developing.

†2. One of an ecclesiastical class or order of men corresponding to the order of 'widows'. *Obs.*

1587 D. FENNER *Def. Ministers* 141 As they had their Leuiticall dispensors, or orderers of the holy Treasure, .. So we haue as members of the Church, as set of God as helpers, the Deacons, Church-seruantes, Widowers and widowes. *1610* BP. HALL *Apol. Brownists* §19 Let there be Widdowers (which you call relieuers) appointed euery where to the Church-seruice. Let certaine discrete and able men which are not Ministers be appointed to preach the Gospell.

Hence **'widowered** (-əd) *a. rare* [after WIDOWED], made or become a widower, bereaved of one's wife; **'widowerhood** [after WIDOWHOOD], the condition of a widower, or the time during which a man is a widower; so **'widowership**, **'widowery** (*rare*) in same sense; in quot. 1886 *transf.* the condition of being absent from one's wife.

1852 ROCK *Ch. Fathers* III. i. viii. 31 The splendid signet of gold.. which a weeping husband had drawn from off his *widowered finger. *1880* M. BETHAM-EDWARDS *Forestalled* II. xviii, Norland.. felt more than ever widowered, orphaned, and forlorn. *a1796* BURNS *Let.* (Pearson's 76th *Catal.* (1894) 7) Bred a zealous Antiburger; but during his *widowerhood, he has found their strictness incompatible with certain compromises he is often obliged to make. *1834* *Blackw. Mag.* XXXV. 829 She makes an attempt.. on the widowerhood of the Centenarian. *1883* MRS. LYNN LINTON *Ione* xv, Pledged to eternal widowerhood and constancy. *1889* — *Thro' Long Night* III. xv, This first year of his

widowerhood. *1641* EARL MONM. tr. *Biondi's Civil Wars* 1. 29 As if Fortune had conspired to make all the Princes of the blood, accompany the King in his *widowership. *1886* STEVENSON *Let.* 13 Feb., My wife is at Bath with my father and mother¹ and the interval of *widowery explains my writing.

'widower². *rare.* [f. WIDOW *v.* + -ER¹.] One who or that which widows, or bereaves (a woman) of her husband.

1818 MILMAN *Samor* XI. 360 Hengist begirt with that fam'd falchion call'd The 'Widower of Women'.

† **'widowhead.** *Obs.* Forms: see WIDOW *sb.*¹: 4-5 -hede, 4-6 -hed, 6 -heade, *Sc.* -heid(e), 6-7 -head; also 4 viduid, widoued, 5 weddewede, wydewede, wedowed, wedoet, 6 wydowed, widuede, 7 widowed. [f. WIDOW *sb.*¹ or ² + -HEAD.]

a. = next, 1 a.

a1300 *Cursor M.* 11346 Anna,.. þat liued had foursith tuenti yeier In uiduid [Gött. widowhede, Trin. wodewehode]. *c1385* CHAUCER *L.G.W. Prol.* 205 Alle kepde they here maydynhed Or ellis wedlek or here widewehed. *1447* in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 1451 106/1 Cristiane has set and to ferm latyn in her pur wedowed to the said Alex.. hir landis of Stratoune. *1563* *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1891) II. 29 That mistres Margarete Handcok.. shalbe free of all.. taxis,.. during her widuede and living sole. *1591* SPENSER *Tearles Muses* 240 During the time of that her widowhead. *c1610* *Women Saints* 28 As true widowed.. is of rare dignitie and power,.. so false widowed,.. which liueth so more freelee to take her pleasure.. is likewise more dishonorable. *1662* HICKERINGILL *Apol. Distressed Innoc.* Wks. 1716 I. 208 Tamar after she had plaid her wicked prank, resumed the garment of her Widowhead.

attrib. a1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. iii. (1912) 160 The comfort of her widowhead life.

b. *gen.* = next, 1 b.

c1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxiv. (Alexis) 41 Symeone, þat in wedoue-hed þat lang tyme þat his lyf can led. *c1460* *Emare* 77 Aftur, when hys wyf was dede, And ledde hys lyf yn weddewede. *1530* TINDALE *Answ. More* III. xiii. Wks. (1575) 313/2 Virginitie, wedlocke and widowed are none better then other to be saued by. *1552* ABP. HAMILTON *Catech.* (1884) 10 Of the chastitie of mariage wydohed & virginitie. *1601* HOLLAND *Pliny* x. xxxiv. I. 290 They [sc. doves] abandon not their owne nests, unless they be in state of single life or widowhead by the death of their fowle. *1612* T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* i. 6 Where the Apostle affirmeth it to be good to abide single, either in virginitie or widowhead .. shall no time afford lawfulness for some sort of men to marie?

c. *fig.* = next, 1 c.

1624 DONNE *Lett.* (1651) 10 Upon you, who are a member of the spouse of Christ the Church, there can fall no widow-head. *1697* G. KEITH 2nd *Narr. Proc. Turner's Hall* 31 The words of G. W. and W. Penn about the Souls of the Deceased Saints being in a state of Purgatory or Widow-head, if they look for the Resurrection of their bodies.

widowhood ('widəʊhʊd). Forms: see WIDOW *sb.*¹ and -HOOD; also 5 wydewood; 3 (*Orm.*) widdwesshad. [OE. *widewanhād*, f. *gen.* of WIDOW *sb.*¹ or ² + -hād -HOOD.]

1. The state or condition of a widow or widower, or (contextually) the time during which one is a widow or widower; the condition of a wife bereaved of her husband, or of a husband bereaved of his wife. a. of a woman.

c1000 *Ags. Hom.* (Assmann) 114 Iudith.. þurhwunode on hire wudewanhade. *c1175* *Lamb. Hom.* 85 Meiden pet hire meiden-hat wit and haldep.. and widewe of hire wudewehad. *c1450* *Godstow Reg.* 320 Anneys, þat was þe wyfe of henry sclatter of Eynysnam, in her pur weduhod & laulful power beyng, gaf, grauntyd, & confirmyd [etc.]. *c1450* *Knt. de la Tour* cxix. 163 Them that worshipfully and perfilytly kepe thaire weddhode. *1513* BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* 1. 2139 The quene for her husbände .. Remayned in wydhode and mournynge vesture. *1535* COVERDALE *Judith* x. 3 Shee.. put of the garmentes of hir wyddowhede. *1653* VAUX tr. *Godeau's St. Paul* 184 He exhorts Widows to continue in their widow-hood. *1753* *Scots Mag.* XV. 54/1 In the 96th year of her age, and 71st of her widowhood. *1827* JARMAN *Powell's Devises* II. 283 An annuity during widowhood.. is good. *1841* JAMES *Corse de Leon* iv, I little dreamed that my mother, in her widowhood, would willingly wed a stranger. *1846* LYTTON *Lucretia* II. xviii, Lucretia.. was in the deep weeds of widowhood. *1882* MISS BRADDON *Mt. Royal* i, Mrs. Tregonell had never been to London since her widowhood.

b. of either sex, or of a man (= WIDOWERHOOD). Also *transf.* of an animal, esp. a bird.

c1000 *Ags. Hom.* (Assmann) 20 Wudewanhad is, þæt man wunige on clænnyse for godes lufon.. æfter his gemacan .. ægðer ge wasas ge wif. *c1200* *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 45 þe hodes of bilefule men, on is meidhod, þat oðer spushod, þe þridde widewehod. *c1200* ORMIN 4624 Forr ma33dennhad & widdwesshad & weddlac birrþ ben clene. *1340* *Ayenb.* 48 Of man oþer of wyfman þæt ne habbeþ nenne bend ne of wodehohod ne of spoushod. *c1386* CHAUCER *Pars. T.* ¶842 Chastitee in mariage and chastitee of widwehede. *1528* *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) V. 250 In my wedowhede, afore I married this gentilwoman. *1539* *Act 31 Hen. VIII* c. 14 §1 Vowes of Chastitee or Wydowhood, by Man or Woman made to God advisedly ought to be observed. *a1652* BROME *Queenes Exch.* I. ii, What have I done at home, since my Wife died? No Turtle ever kept a widowhood, More strict then I have done. *1768* BOSWELL *Corsica* iii. 222 Signor Clemente, being in a state of widowhood. *1866* MRS. H. WOOD *St. Martin's Eve* vii, During Mr. St. John's widowhood.

c. *fig.*

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past.* C. xxxi. 207, & ðæs bismereð ðines wuduwanhades [Isa. liv. 4 *viduitatis*] ðu ne gæmansð, forðem ðæt is ðin Waldend ðe ðe geworhte.

1818 BYRON *Ch. Harold* iv. xi. The spouseless Adriatic mourns her lord; . . . The Bucentaur lies rotting unrestored, Neglected garment of her widowhood! 1821 — *Sardanap.* iv. i. 227 Which I have worn in widowhood of heart. 1853 RUSKIN *Stones Venice* II. ii. §2 Mother and daughter, you behold them both in their widowhood, — Torcello, and Venice. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* I. vi. 565 note, The canons of Durham are met to choose a Bishop after the three years' widowhood of the see.

†2. An estate settled on a widow, a widow's right. *Obs. rare* — 1.

1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* II. i. 125 And for that dowrie, I'll assure her of Her widow-hood.

widowie: see *widowy*, after WIDOW *sb.*¹

widowish to widowship: see after WIDOW *sb.*¹

widow-wail. [See quot. 1597.] a. A name for the shrub *Mezereon* (*Daphne Mezereum*) or other species of *Daphne*. b. A shrub of the genus *Cneorum* (N.O. *Simarubaceæ*), esp. *C. tricoccum*, a dwarf shrub with evergreen leaves and pink sweet-scented flowers, found in Spain and the south of France.

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* III. lviii. 1215 *Chamelæa Arabum Tricoccus*. Widow Wayle. . . It is also named of diuers *Oliuella*, as *Mathæus Syluaticus* saith: it is called in English Widow Wayle. *quia facit viduas*. *Ibid.* lx. 1217 *Thymelea*. Spurge Flaxe, or mountaine Widow Wayle. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* xxiv. xv. II. 198 *Chamelæa* [marg.] otherwise called *Mezereon*, Widow-waile. 1697 *Phil. Trans.* XIX. 396 *Tricoccus* Shrubs called *Widdow-Wayles*. 1760 J. LEE *Intro. Bot. App.* 331 *Widow Wail*, *Cneorum*. 1846 KEIGHTLEY *Notes Virgil* Flora 380 Spurge-flax or Mountain Widow-wail.

widraught, widre: see WITHDRAUGHT, WITHER.

width (widθ). [A literary formation of the 17th century, taking the place of *widness* WIDENESS (which is the usual word in modern dialects), the short vowel of *breadth* (6-7 *breðth*) providing an analogy. Johnson 1755 calls it 'a low word'.]

1. Extent across, or from side to side; transverse dimension: = BREADTH 1; *occas.* extent of opening, distance apart (of the two parts of something, as a pair of compasses).

†In first quot. quasi-concr. Opening: = WIDENESS 4 b.

1627 DRAYTON *Agincourt* cxlii. Whence from the wydth of many a gaping wound, There's many a soule into the Ayre must flye. 1678 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* v. 82 For the width of the Mortess Gage this side, . . . then for the Tennant, Gage on that end of the Quarter you intend the Tennant shall be made. 1731 W. HALFPENNY *Perspective* 22 The Perspective Widths of the Squares, parallel to EF. 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz*, *Astley's*, A child. . . with very large round eyes, opened to their utmost width. 1836 W. IRVING *Astoria* xlv. The river was here a rapid stream four hundred yards in width. 1859 TENNYSDN *Geraint & Enid* 264 The two remain'd Apart by all the chamber's width. 1871 A. MEADDS *Man. Midwifery* (ed. 2) 186 The power of the forceps increases with the length of its blades, . . . the compressing power. . . is dependent first upon the character of the lock. . . and secondly upon the width or divergence of the blades. 1902 S. E. WHITE *Blazed Trail* xviii. Thin, flexible cedar strips of certain arbitrary lengths and widths.

2. Large extent across, or in general: = WIDENESS 1, 2. Also *fig.* (cf. BREADTH 1, WIDENESS 5).

1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* II. 388 Let thy Vines in Intervals be set, . . . Indulge their Width, and add a roomy Space, That their extreamest Lines may scarce embrace. 1832 L. HUNT *Sir R. Escher* (1850) 349 The general width of his manner, if I may so call it. 1841 — *Seer* (1864) 54 Milton. . . was never weak in his creed. . . he forced it into width enough to embrace all place and time.

3. quasi-concr. A wide region or expanse: cf. BREADTH 2 b.

1866 LYTTDN *Lost Tales Miletus, Secret Way* 29 'Mid funeral earth-mounds, skirting widths of plain.

4. concr. a. = BREADTH 2.

1872 D. G. RDSSETTI *Let.* 26 Sept. (1967) III. 1076 It would be quite enough to make four curtains. . . 6 ft ½ wide (or under would do if more convenient with the widths of the velvet). 1876 'OUIDA' *Winter City* iii. In the back widths of her skirt. 1882 CAULFIELD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework*, *Width*, a term employed in dressmaking, synonymously with that of *Breadth*; meaning the several lengths of material employed in making a skirt, which—according to the fashion of the day—is composed of a certain number, gored or otherwise. The term *Breadth* is more generally in use. 1892 E. REEVES *Homeward Bound* 242 She mounted the steps, and I watched her go on her knees right up to the altar. . . I am sure she would need a new width in the front of her dress.

b. The width of a swimming-bath taken as a measure of the distance swum. Cf. LENGTH *sb.* 4 d.

1930 *Swimming Instruction* (Amateur Swimming Assoc.) 55 From this stage the class should proceed to swim. . . several widths, legs only, using supports or 'Dog Paddle'. 1971 *Daily Tel.* 17 Nov. 3/6 Mrs Annie Oakley, 86, . . . has been presented with a certificate for swimming two widths at Soundwell Swimming Club. 1981 H. ENGEL *Ransom Game* (1982) xxx. 198 She went off the board again. . . She did two lengths to each of my widths.

Hence 'widthless a., having no (great) width, narrow; 'widthways, -wise *adv.*, in the direction of the width, transversely.

1852 *Meanderings of Mem.* I. 98 The *widthless road. 1794 S. WILLIAMS *Vermont* 316 When applied to uses which

require plaiting *widthways. 1890 W. J. GDRDDN *Foundry* 63 If they are to be curved lengthways or widthways. 1882 BLADES *Caxton* 105 The mould. . . was capable of a sliding adjustment, *widthwise to the width of the various letters. 1900 O. ONIDNS *Compl. Bach.* xv. [She] looked me up, down, widthwise, and through, and found no speech.

widu(e, widual, widuede: see WIDOW, VIDUAL, WIDOWHEAD.

wid-uten (-yn), var. WITHOUTEN *Obs.*

widw(e, widwer, obs. ff. WIDOW, WIDOWER.

wie, obs. f. WEIGH; var. WY *Obs.*, man.

wiech, wieck, wick(e, wied, wief(f, obs. ff. WITCH *sb.*², WICK, WEED *sb.*¹, WIFE.

Wiedemann-Franz ('viðəman frants). *Physics*. [The names of G. H. Wiedemann (1826-99) and R. Franz (1827-1902), German physicists, who published the law in 1853 (*Ann. d. Physik* LXXXIX. 497).] **Wiedemann-Franz law:** the law that at any given temperature the ratio of the thermal to the electrical conductivity has approximately the same value for all metallic elements; **Wiedemann-Franz ratio:** this ratio or the Lorenz ratio (see LORENZ).

1924 J. R. PARTINGTON in H. S. Taylor *Treat. Physical Chem.* I. xi. 490 The Wiedemann-Franz law is only approximate. 1966 PHILLIPS & WILLIAMS *Inorg. Chem.* II. xix. 23 The transition metals are also good conductors of heat. On the free-electron theory it is predicted that there should be a direct relation between the thermal, *k*, and electrical, *σ*, conductivities, the Wiedemann-Franz ratio. 1975 D. G. FINK *Electronics Engineers' Handbk.* vi. 10 The Wiedemann-Franz [sic] ratio *L* is defined as $L = \lambda/\sigma T$. 1975 *Jrnl. Low Temperature Physics* XX. 691 The Lorenz numbers. . . are very close to the theoretical value. . . predicted by the Wiedemann-Franz law for pure electronic heat conduction limited by impurities.

wiederkom ('viðəkom). Also **wiederkomm** and with capital initial. [ad. F. *vidrecome* goblet (Robert, 1752), ult. ad. G. *wiederkommen* to return, come again (see quots.).] A tall, cylindrical, German drinking-vessel, made of (usu. coloured or painted) glass.

The Eng. form reflects the original Ger. derivation. F. *vidrecome* is sometimes understood as a fanciful corruption of G. *willkomm* loving-cup, but this suggestion appears to be unsubstantiated.

1878 A. NESBITT *Descr. Catal. Glass Vessels S. Kensington Museum* p. cxxiii. The cylindrical drinking vessels, generally called *wiederkoms*. . . are sometimes very large, some being as much as 20 in. in height. 1881 C. C. HARRISDN *Woman's Handiwork* iii. 229 For side-board decoration, the *Wiederkom* or 'come again' drinking-cups in emerald-hued [Bohemian] glass, have always been popular. 1897 A. HARTSHORNE *Old Eng. Glass* xv. 82 A glass called a 'Wiederkom' was one which was filled, passed round the table. . . and 'came again' empty. 1907 E. DILLON *Glass* xvi. 266 The term *wiederkomm* given by so many English. . . writers to the large broad forms [of drinking-glasses], is unknown in Germany, so that I think the expression may be definitely abandoned and replaced by the word *humpen* or *willkomm humpen*. 1926 N. H. MDORÉ *Old Glass* 1. 81 The huge glasses known as 'Willkommen' . . . were originally used by a host to welcome his newly arrived guest. . . The term 'Wiederkom' by which these glasses are known in England is a misnomer. 1946 W. B. HONEY *Glass* vi. 75 The *Stangenglas*. . . became popular in a modified form as the *Willkomm*, or 'greeting-glass' (sometimes mistakenly called a *Wiederkom*), in thin metal. 1977 H. NEWMAN *Illustr. Dict. Glass* 342 *Wiederkomm* (*humpen*), . . . literally, come again beaker. A term used by A. Nesbitt [sic]. . . in referring to *Willkomm* (*humpen*) and many other types of enamelled *Humpen*. . . It is a term not used by German museums.

†**wiel.** *Obs.* Forms: 1 *wig(e)l*, *wigul*, *wil*, 3 *wizel*, *wihel*, *wiel*. [OE. *wig(e)l* str. n. (also in *steorwigl* astrology), whence *wiglian* vb. (cf. ME. *biwizelien*), *wiglere* agent-n., *wiglung* n. of action, corresp. to MLG., (M)Du. *wichelen*, †*wigelen*, MDu. *wijchelare*, *wich*-, MLG. *wicheler*: of obscure origin.] Sorcery, magic; a piece of magic; a deceit, delusion.

a1100 *Aldhelm Gloss.* vii. 165 (Napier 159/2), *Diuinationis*, *wigles*. — in *Anglia* XIII. 33/162 *Ceremonias*, *wiglum*. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 11 He [sc. a devil] makeð þe unbileful man to leuen swærne wizeles, swo ich ar embe spac. c 1205 LAY. 19250 Ygerne wes mid childe: . . . al purh Merlines wizele. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 92 purh pet sihðe 3e schulen iseon alle þes deofles wizeles. *Ibid.* 300 His [sc. the devil's] wizeles & his wrenches. a 1225 *St. Marher.* 13/9 Wið suppe of mine wizeles ich wrenchte ham adun hwen ha lest wenden.

So †*wielare*, a sorcerer, magician; a deceiver; †*wiele* (wyle) [OE. type **wigela*], a sorcerer, wizard; †*wizelful* a., magical; deceitful; †*wizeling*, sorcery, magic.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 330 Drymen. . . and . . . wiccan and oðre **wigleras*, beoð to helle bescofene. 11. *Fragm. Ælfric's Gram.* (1838) 2 *Augur*, *wielare*. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 106 þe *wielare*, of sum ðerne ping. . . makeð a swote smel cumen. a 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* x. 38 Nes y never wyche ne *wyle. c 1205 LAY. 2880 Mid **wizelful* his fluhte. *Ibid.* 21140 His sweorð. . . wes iworht. . . mið wizele-fulle craften. *Ibid.* 31659 Heo weore wizele-fulle. a 1000 *Kent. Gloss.* in Wr-Wülcker 71/3 *Diuinatio*, **wilung*. c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 102 Nu 3e cepað dagas and monðas mid ydelum wiglungum. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 115 He scal wicche creft allegan and wizelungne ne 3eman. c 1205 LAY. 15791 Monies godes monnes child heo bicharreð purh wizelung.

wiel, var. WEEL¹; obs. f. WELL *adv.*

†**wield, sb.** *Obs.* Forms: a. 1-3 *weald*, 1 -*wild*, -*wyld*, *North.* *wæld*, 3-4 *weld*, 4 *weilde*, 4-5 *welde*, *weild*, 5 *weelde*, *wielde*, *wylde*. β. 2-5 (6 *Sc.*) *wald*, 3-5 *walde*, 5 *Sc.* *wauld*. γ. 3-5 *wold*, 3-6 *wolde*. [(1) OE. *weald* (rare), usually *geweald*, *Anglian gewald* = OS. *giwald*, OHG. *gawalt* (MHG., G. *gewalt*); (2) OE. *(*ge*)-*wield*, -*wild*, -*wyld*, *-*weld*: see Y- and WIELD v.]

1. Command, control; possession, keeping; *occas.* hold, grasp: chiefly in phr. *at, in, on* (one's) *w.*; *to have in w.*, to have command or control of, to possess, have; *to w.*, in or into one's possession. (See also 4 a.)

a. c 893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* II. iv. § 10 Hie. . . þæt win drincende wæron oð hi heora selfra lytel geweald hæfdon. *Ibid.* III. ix. § 10 Æfter þæm þe Alexander hæfde ealle Indie him to gewildon gedon. *Ibid.* IV. xi. § 4 þa bæd he Scipian fripes, & him his sunu ham onsende, se wæs on his gewealde [Cott. MS. *wealde*]. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 462 Qui suld I him seruis yeld? Al sal be at myn auen weild. *Ibid.* 788 Sone quen sco þis frutte biheld, Sco desired it to haue in weild. *Ibid.* 25445 þou pat has þis weild to weild. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 160 Vitaile inouh at weild. ? a 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 395 The tyme, that hath al in weild to elden folk, had maad hir elde. c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 3716 þat y mote þe seo, On crysten mannes weilde. a 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 2994 An ymage. . . Of Sexeres pat sum-quyle pat cite had to weilde. c 1400 *Roland & Otuel* 828 Thaire saules went alle to lucyfer, þat hade þam alle to weilde. c 1440 *York Myst.* i. 67 All welth in my weilde es. a 1500 *Hist. K. Boccus & Sydracke* (? 1510) G ij b, Whan the colers haue al in weilde A great keelth in man they yelde. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 166 All this world to weild thow had.

β. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 47 Hi habbaþ manega saula on heora gewaldum. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 147 Ne mei na Mon me folgen, bute he forelæte al þæt he iwald ach. c 1200 *ORMIN Ded.* 204 To lessenn mannkinn purrh his dæp Ut off þe defless walde. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 9482 (Cott.) Nu has him sathanas in wald. 13. *Ibid.* 21917 (Edin.) Alle sal we die bath ginge and alde Es [= as] nau havis of him selvin walde. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxi. (Clement) 10 Wedyr & wynd he has in wald. c 1470 HENRY Wallace x. 579 God, that has the wald in wauld.

γ. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1958 3et wast bettere he ðus was sold, Ðan he ðor storne in here wold. *Ibid.* 3116 'Wold', quod god, 'wile ðor-of crauen'. 13. *K. Alis.* 6716 (Laud MS.) þou shalt habbe. . . mylonde al to wolde. c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 3215 þou hast namo brepere in wold; þy fader ys ded, þy moder ys old. c 1440 *York Myst.* xxxii. 273 We wille it noght welde with-in oure wolde. a 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 3233 Goo thow, syr lutan de boteler, That wyse wordys haste in wolde. c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* vii. 32 God that has alle in wold. *Ibid.* xxviii. 137 When I gaf myself to wold to you in fourme of bred. a 1500 *Hist. K. Boccus & Sydracke* (? 1510) I ij b, The payne that he had fyrst in wold Shal than be encrested three fold.

b. In gen. case in advb. phr. *willes and waldes*: intentionally and purposely.

c 980-1060 *Laws of Æthelred* vi. lii, 5if hit geweorpeð þæt man unwillas oppe ungewealdes ænig ping misdeð, na bið þæt na gelic þam þe willes & gewealdes sylfwilles misdeð. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 6 Heo. . . sunegeð deadliche iðe bruche, gif heo hit brekeð willes & woldes. c 1230 *Hali Meid.* 37 þat forschuppes te self willes & waldes into hare cunde.

2. Power, might, force, strength.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2000 To don swilc dede adde he no wold. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3564 Tif vnwelth windes al his wald. ? a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 2689 þoffe my schouldre be schrede, and my schelde thyrllæde, And the wiede of myne arme werkkes a littile. a 1510 DOUGLAS *K. Hart* II. 220 All thing 3e haue wrocht With help of Wisdome, and his willis wald.

3. Meaning, significance (cf. 4 c).

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2122 If he can rechen ðis dremes wold.

4. In phr. *azen* (*owen*) *awold*, also *azen* or *haven wold* (*wald*, *weld*), representing OE. *on* (*ge*)-*wealde habban*, and *geweald aȝan* or *habban* with genitive (cf. A *prep.*¹, O *prep.*¹, OWE v. B. 1):

a. To have in control or possession, possess. [Beowulf 1727 He ah ealra geweald. c 1000 *Dream of the Rood* 107 On domdæge dryhten. . . ah domes gedyld.] c 1000 in *Anglia* I. 31 Hine. . . þæt alle ping hæuð on wealde. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 79 Swo holie mihte is poleburdesne þæt he pe hit kið, þer purh hæuð his soule weald. *Ibid.*, He . . . þermeide ouercumeð þe unfele and his soule lokeð, and hæuð swo wald. *Ibid.* 205 Bute he forsake alle þe weold winne þæt he weld ah3. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3412 Al bi ðhusenz ðis folc was told, Ilc ðhusent adde a meister wold. a 1275 *Prov. Ælfred* 181 in O.E. *Misc.* 113 3if þu hæuest welpe a wold. a 1300 *Harrow. Hell* 232 (Digby MS.) Ich am moises. . . Ich dude þe lawen þæt þou astolde Wor to ben owin [MS. *opin*] on wolde.

b. To be the cause of, be responsible for: = WIELD v. B. 3 a.

c 1200 *ORMIN* 11815, I me self all ah itt wald þatt deofell ma33 me scrennkenn. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2054 He herde hem murnen. . . Harde dremes oȝen awold ðat.

c. To mean, signify, denote, imply.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 324 Quat oȝet nu ðat for-bode o-wold, Ðat a tre 3u forboden is. . . ? *Ibid.* 1671 Luue wel michil it aȝte a wold, Swilc seruise and so longe told. *Ibid.* 1944 Quat-so his dremes owen a-wold. a 1300 *Havelok* 1932 Betere is. . . se Wat pis baret haueth on wold [MS. *þæt pis baret on hwat is wold*].

†**wield, a.** *Obs.* Forms: 1 *wielde*, *wylde*, 2-3 *welde*, 3 *wilde*. [OE. *wielde*, also *gewielde*, f. root of WIELD *sb.*] Strong, powerful, mighty.

c 890 WÆRFERTH tr. *Gregory's Dial.* IV. xxxvii. 320 Ac þæt is bedeohlod us. . . hweper þa wyldre wære in Stephane & þone sigor ahte. c 893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* IV. i. 156 Hit næs þeaw on þæm tidum þæt mon ænig wæl on þa healfæ rimde þe þonne wieldre wæs. c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* xvi. 336 þæt se mann beo geðyldig, . . . and læte æfre his gewitt ge-

wylde pone his yrrē [c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 105 Weldre pene his wreððe.] a 1272 *Luue Ron* 94 in O.E. Misc. 96 He is . . . freo of heorte, of wisdom wilde. c 1275 *LAY.* 3197 þo we[n]de þe welde-king pat hit were for gyle.

wield (wird), *v.* Forms: see below. [Two OE. verbs are here represented: (1) a Com. Teut. reduplicating strong verb, OE. (WS.) *wealdan*, (Anglian) *waldan*, pa. t. *wéold*, pa. pple. *ǣ-wealden* (see *WALDIN*) = OFris. *walda*, OS. *gi-waldan*, pa. t. *giwæld*, OHG. *waltan*, pa. t. *wialt* (MHG. *walten*, pa. t. *wielt*, G. *walten* wk.), ON. *valda*, pres. *væld*, pa. t. (wk.) *olla*, pa. pple. neut. *valdet* (Sw. *vålla*, Da. *valde* to cause, occasion), Goth. *waldan*; (2) a weak verb, OE. (WS.) **ǣ-wieldan*, *wildan*, *wyldan*, (Anglian) *wældan*, containing a mutated form of the same stem *wald-* (see also *WIELD sb.* and *a.*), = Balto-Slavic *wald-* (:weld-) in OSl. *vlado* to rule, *vlasti* power, Lith. *veldu* to rule, possess, iterative *valdaũ*, OPrussian *weldisnan* acc., inheritance, *waldnikans* acc. pl., kings; another grade is in Goth. *wulpus* glory.

The above forms are generally held to contain an extended form of the root of *L. valere* to be strong, *validus* strong, Celtic *walo-* in many proper names, and in **walatros* (whence MWelsh *gwaladr* chief), ON. pa. t. *olla* (:-*wul-pō*).

The current form *wield* descends from ME. *wælde*(n) (see A. 1 e) as representing OE. (non-WS.) **weldan*, variant of WS. *wieldan*, not as representing WS. *wealdan*, the Anglian form of which gave ME. *wælde*, *wōlde* (A. 1 β, γ). The pa. t. and pa. pple. in *-ed* are new formations dating from the 14th century. (The OE. and early ME. contracted forms of the 2nd and 3rd pres. indic. sing. of OE. *wealdan* and *wieldan* (A. 1 η) are identical.)

A. Illustration of Forms.

1. *Infin. and Present Stem.* a. 1 *wealdan*, 2-3 *wealden*.

c 888 *ÆLFRED Boeth.* xxxix. §8 Sume . . . secgað þ sio wyrd wealde ærþer ǣ gesælða ǣ ungesælða. c 1000 *Beowulf* 2038 þenden hie ðam wæpnum wealdan moston. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 79 On ȝiwer poleburðnesse ȝe shulen wealden ȝiwer saule. c 1230 *Hali Meid.* 577 Wið him þu schalt wealden, . . . heouenliche wunnen.

β. 1 *waldan*, *wældan*, 3-4 *walde*(n) (3 *wælden*), 4 *Sc. valde*, 4-5 *Sc. waulde*(e, 4-5 (9 *Sc.*) *wald*.

c 825 *Vesp. Ps.* lxxxviii[i]. 10 [9] Du waldes mæhte sæs. c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark x. 42 Wutas ȝie forðon ðas ðaðe gesene sint þæt hia aldordom [sic] hædnum ǣ-wældes ðæm. a 1000 *Boeth. Metr.* xxiv. 35 Se ðe waldeð . . . ealra oðra corðan cýninga. c 1205 *LAY.* 1250, & scal þin mære kun wælden þus londas. *Ibid.* 2966 Hu mochel worȝ leste þu me to walden kineriche? 12 *d.* *Moral Ode* 2 (Egerton MS.), Ic wælde more þanne ic dode. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 9958 þan was þar neuer sulik a hald, Ne nan welier in werld to wald. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xl. (Ninian) 1178 To wauld ȝoure lymmys at ȝour wil. c 1425 *waulde* [see B. 5]. a 1500 *Bernard. de cura rei fam.* 1. 351 Quham god of mycht bade wald and virke. 1825 *JAMIESON, Wald, walde*, to wield, to manage, to govern, to possess. 1915 *wald* [see B. 1 b].

γ. 3-5 *wolde*, 4 *wold*. c 1260 *K. Horn* 308 (Camb. MS.) Me to spuse holde, & ich þe lord to wolde. c 1425 *Cursor M.* 22874 (Trin.) Mistry god þat al woldeþ. c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxvi. 1 Peasse, I warne you, woldys in wytt!

δ. 1 *wildan*, *wyldan*, 4-5 *wilde*, *wylde*, 6-7 *wild*. c 960 *ÆTHELWOLD Rule St. Benet* (1885) 11 He sceal mid twyfealdre lare þa wyldan and tyn, þe him underpeodde synt. 13. *Cursor M.* 6741 (Gött.) And na keping did him in wilde, Ox for ox þan sal he ȝelde. 1387 *wilde* [see B. 3 a]. c 1480 *wilde* [see B. 2]. c 1485 *wyldyng* [see *WIELDING ppl.* a.]. 1563, 1603 *wild* [see B. 5].

ε. 2-4 *welden* (5 *-on*), 3-4 *weld*(e, 4 *Sc. velde*; 4-8 *weild*, 5-6 *weilde*, 6 *weyld*, *Sc. veild*; 4-6 *weelde*, 5-7 *weeld*; 6-7 *wæld*; 6 *wielde*, *wyelde*, 6- *wield*.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 153 þa awariede gastes þet weldeð posternesne [rectores tenebrarum]. a 1200 *Moral Ode* 2 (Lamb. MS.) Ich welde mare þene ich dede. c 1205 *LAY.* 1140 þe wrse hit hafde to welden. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 22813 Al mai he do he pat al weldes. c 1380 *WYCLIF Wks.* (1880) 369 þes goodis pat þei welden now. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1881 For to wiike with my wille, & weld as myn owne.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 586 Adam was mad of mans eild, Als he moght welle him self weild. c 1400 *Sc. Trojan War* (Horstm.) 11. 1625 Gevin . . . To king Teuteus, to kepe and weild. 1500-20 *DUNBAR Poems* xxi. 61 O! quha sall weild the wrang possessionoun. 1579 *weyld* [see B. 2 b]. 1581 *W. STAFFORD Exam. Compl.* iii. (1876) 77 Hauinge much land in their hand, and not being able to weilde all. 1696 *PHILLIPS* (ed. 5), To *wield*, to manage, to govern: Thus we say to wield a Scepter. 1742 *wield* [see B. 4].

c 1380 *WYCLIF Sel. Wks.* iii. 22 þei ben endurid in her unskilful erour til eendeles deep weelde hem. c 1425 *wield* [see B. 5]. c 1449 *PECOCK Repr.* iii. i. 276 ȝe schulen not weelde eny thing in the lond of hem. 1603 *DRAYTON Odes* i. 49 That sturdy Gables, And massie Oakes could weeld. 1633 *wield* [see B. 4].

1593 *CHURCHYARD Challenge* 22 Why doe wee wish, to weald a world at will? 1629 *wield* [see B. 5].

1559 *Mirr. Mag., Dk. Suffolk* ix, They were more then we might easely wyelde. 1586 *MARLOWE 1st Pt. Tamburl.* ii. i, What stature wields he, and what personage? 1590 *SPENSER F.Q.* ii. i. 18 Vnder him a gray steede did he wield.

ζ. (with short vowel) 6-7 *weld*(e, (7 *weld*).

1530 *welde* [see B. 4]. c 1550 *Disc. Common Weal Eng.* (1893) 100 Hauinge muche landes in theire handes, and not being able to welde all. 1591 *SPENSER Ruines of Time* 14 A

broken rod she held, Which towards heauen shee seemd on high to weld. 1594 *WILLOBIE AVISA* xxv. iii, You see the sore, whence springs my griefe, You weld the sterne of my reliefe. a 1628 *F. GREVIL Mustapha* i. i, Strength knowes what strength can weld. 1647 *weld* [see B. 4 b].

η. 2nd and 3rd sing. pres. contr. 1 *weltst*, *wylst*, *wylt*, *wilt*, 1-3 *wealt*, 1-4 *welt*, 3-5 *walt*.

c 888 *weltst*, *welt* [see B. 1, 4]. c 897 *wilt* [see B. 3 a]. c 1000 *Ag. Ps.* (Th.) ii. 9 þu heora wylst. c 1000 *wealt* [see B. 3 a]. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 181 We one awlencð alle þe hundlimen, and welt þe sowle. c 1205 *LAY.* 32049 Ure drihten þe walt alle deden. a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1798 He . . . wisseð & wealt—þe heouene & te eorðe. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 54 Hali froure welt oc ðat mist. c 1275 *Moral Ode* 83 in O.E. Misc. 61 He wit and wald [v.rr. waldeð, walt, wealdeð] alle þing. 13. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 3892 Lord þat woneþ an heye, þat al þing walt fer & neye. 1377 *LANGL. P. Pl.* B. x. 83 þe more he wynneþ and welt welthes & richesse, . . . þe lasse good he deleth. c 1425 *Cursor M.* 23105 (Trin.) þe lord of myst þat al walt.

2. *Pa. t. a.* 1 *weold*, *wieold*, 3 *wield*, 3-5 *weld*(e). *Beowulf* 465 *weold* [see B. 1]. c 897 *ÆLFRED Gregory's Past.* C. l. 391 Manigra folca gestreones hie wieoldon. c 1100 *O.E. Chron.* (MS. D) an. 1036, þæt ne ȝefafodon þa þe micel weoldon on pisan lande. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 169 On alle þe winne þe he erur wold. c 1205 *LAY.* 183 He wes king & heo quen & kinelond heo welden. 1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 7 Riches þat þey welde [Caxton welded] while þey were alyue.

β. 1 *wylde*, 2 (3e) *welld*, -*welt*, 3-4 *welt*(e, *welde*. a 1000 *Voc.* in Wr. Wülcker 225/1 *Domuit, i. uicit, mitigauit*, *wylde*. c 1175 *E.E. (Vesp.) Hom.* 106 Ic ȝewelld & ȝewann feola peodan. *Ibid.* 107 Ne mid his scelde heo ne ȝewelt. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 532 Wimmen welten weres mester. c 1350 *welt* [see B. 2].

γ. 3 *wald*(e, *wælde*, 4-5 *walt*; 3-5 *wolde*, 4 *wolt*.

c 1205 *LAY.* 8976 Androgeus walde [later text welde] al þat he wolde. *Ibid.* 24134 Na lengere þat lond he ne walde [later text wolde]. a 1250 *Prov. Ælfred* 389 in O.E. Misc. 126 þeyh o mon wolde al þe worde. 13. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 231 He stemmed & con stodie, Quo walt þer most renoun. *Ibid.* 485 Wyth wele walt pay pat day. c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 3887 Was neuer man ypon mold þat swiche mist walt. a 1425 *Cursor M.* 10181 (Trin.) þe secounde party þat he walt Was among þe prestes dalt.

δ. 4-7 *weldd* (4 *-id*), 5-6 *Sc. weildit*, 6 *weeldd*, 7 *wellded*, 7- *wieldd*.

1338 *welldid* [see B. 5]. 1382 *WYCLIF Isa.* lxiii. 18 As noȝt thei welddeden thin hoeli puple. c 1475 *Rauf Coilsear* 578 The wy that weildit the wane. 1601 *weldd* [see B. 5 d]. 1838 *JAMES LOUIS XIV.* III. iii. 89 Boileau too weilded his satirical pen.

3. *Pa. pple.* 1 *gewealden*, 3 *iwealde*, *iwald*, *wold*, 5 *weldd*(n, *weld*; 1 *wyld*(d; 4 *welld*, 7 (9 *dial.*) *weldd*, 7- *wieldd*.

Beowulf 1732 [He] ȝedeð him . . . ȝewealdene worolde dælas. c 1000 *Ag. Ps.* (Spelman) xviii. 14 [xix. 13] ðif min hine beoþ wyldde. c 1200 [see B. 3]. a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 189 Al þe world is iwald þurh his wissunge. c 1250 *weld* [see B. 1 c]. a 1340 *HAMPOLE Psalter* xv. 7 Thurgh þe wilke þe heritage of heuen may be sene and welldid. a 1425 *Cursor M.* 13821 (Trin.) Eigte & þirty ȝeer in bonde Hauē I not welden foot ny honde. c 1470 *HARDING Chron.* ccix. iii, The which the duke of Bargoyne wold haue weld. *Ibid.* ccxxxii. iii, So was the lande wȝ Frenchmen wonne & welde. 1688 *HOLME Armoury* iii. vii. 321/2 The Hand Hammer . . . may be weldd . . . with one hand. 1750 *JOHNSON Rambler* No. 82 ¶ 10 A Scymitar once weldd by a Soldier. 1891 *weldd* [see B. 4].

B. Signification.

† 1. *trans.* To rule or reign over, govern, rule, command. *Obs.* exc. as merged in 5.

Beowulf 465 Ic . . . weold folce Deniga. c 888 *ÆLFRED Boeth.* xxxiii. §5 Dryhten . . . þu ðe ealle . . . ȝesceafta . . . ȝesceope & . . . heora weltst. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 153 To fithen . . . to-ȝeines þa awariede gastes þet weldeð posternesne [rectores tenebrarum]. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 840 ðe kinges welten burȝes ðoa. 1303 *R. BRUNNE Handl. Synne* 9891 God almyȝty, þat al þing weldes. ? a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 650, I make the kpare, sir knyghte, of kyngrykes manye, . . . to weilde al my landes. c 1420 *Prose Life Alex.* 37 So sall þe wele & peysably welde ȝour empire. a 1513 *FABYAN Chron.* i. cxcix. (1811) 206 Weldyng ȝe cowntre at his wyll. 1575 *GASCOIGNE Kenelworth Wks.* 1910 II. 115 Though she finde the skil A kingdom for to weelde. 1633 *BP. HALL Hard Texts* Neh. v. 14, I, and my familie have not taken that allowance which was appointed for the governour, so as, though I weilded the place, yet I forbore to take the maintenance allotted unto it.

b. *intr.* To rule, have the command; fig. to prevail. *Obs.* exc. *Sc. dial.*

a 1450 *Ratis Raving* 2270 Vilfulnes and mysknawleg Ay woldly weildand. ? a 1500 *Chester Pl.* (Shaks. Soc.) vi. 112 As was from the begininge, And never shall have endinge, From worlde to worlde aye weildinge, Amen! God of mighte moste. 1915 *G. SINCLAIR Poems* 63 May . . . love an' friendship freely wald Around her ingle.

† 2. *trans.* To overcome, subdue. *Obs.*

a 1000 [see A. 2 β]. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 421 Abel an hundred ȝer was hold, Dan he was of is broðer wold. *Ibid.* 526 Dor is writen quat aȝte awold, Dat ðis werld was [of ?] water wold.

† 2. To have at command or disposal, have as one's own or in one's keeping, hold, own, possess; to have the advantage of, enjoy; sometimes (contextually), to get possession of, gain, win, obtain.

Beowulf 2051 Hi weoldon wælstowe. a 1000 *Guthlac* 239 Oft we ofersegon . . . peoda peawas, præce modigra, para þe in ȝelime lufe weoldon. 11. . . in Kemble *Cod. Dipl.* IV. 200 And ic cyððe eow ðæt Ordric abbud and eal ðæt hired on Abbendunes mynstre be minre unne and ȝife frigelice habban and wealdan Hornmeres hunned on hyre agenre andwealde. c 1220 *Bestiary* 176 If ðu hauest is broken, Al ðu forbredes, forwurdes and forgetles, Eche lif to wolden. a 1225 *Ankr. R.* 388 [Christ] wrot mid his owne blode saluz to his loofmon, of luue gretunge. . . forte welden hire luue. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 10328 Oft sith lates he be lett Man wit womman child to gett, Bituix and pair forper eild, And þan

pam sendes child to weild. *Ibid.* 24188 Moght i þe ans weld in arm, Hale me think of all mi harm. 13. . . [see A. 2 γ]. 13. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 835 3e ar welcum to welde as yow lykez þat here is; al is yowre awen, to haue at yowre wyll. c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 76 þai seide þe child schuld wald al here godis. *Ibid.* 144 He wex to a wer-wolf. . . ac his witt welt he after as wel as to fore. *Ibid.* 2946, I not where he schal ȝou to wiue welde. c 1386 *CHAUCER Monk's T.* 20 Adam . . . welte all Paradys sauynge o tree. 1470-85 *MALORY Arthur* v. vii. 172 Ye be worthy to welde all your honour and worship. c 1480 *Childe of Bristowe* 542 in Horstmann *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 321, Y haue no childe, Myn heritage for to wilde. 1513 *DOUGLAS Æneis* vii. vi. 127 Lat nevir his feris weild Ane fut braid of Italiane ground nor feyld. 1586 [see A. 1 c]. 1593 *CHURCHYARD Challenge* 116 What cunning heads and hands can catch in hold, That covetous mindes, doth seek to weld alone. 1603 *HOLLAND Plutarch's Mor.* 510 They . . . would never be able with wisdom and moderation to weld any great prosperitie [τὰς εὐπράγίας . . . πέπειν].

† b. To have in oneself, experience, feel; to have as one's lot or fate, suffer, undergo; to suffer patiently, endure, tolerate. *Obs.*

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2990 So gret wonder walt þe quen of þe worp bestes. a 1400 *Leg. Rood* viii. (1871) 143 Weopyng and wo I walt. a 1400 *Relig. Pieces fr. Thornton MS.* xi. (1914) 88 Wele or wa, ane of pase twa, To welde with-owtten ende. 1532 *MORE Confut. Tindale Wks.* 594/2 God . . . maketh with the temptation a way out also, that ye may well weld it. 1579 *LYLY Euphues* Nij, At the first the Oxe weylde the not the yoke, nor the Colt the snaffle, . . . yet time causeth the one to bend his neck [etc.].

† 3. a. To decide, determine, ordain; to be the author or cause of; to bring about; to carry out, execute, perform. *Obs.*

In OE. chiefly const. gen. In later use prob. transf. from 4.

Beowulf 2574 Dær he þy fyrste forman dogore wealdan moste. c 897 *ÆLFRED tr. Gregory's Past.* C. 377 ðif hwelc folc bið mid hungre ȝeswenced, & hwa his hwæte ȝehyt & oðhielt, hu ne wilt he . . . hiera deaðes? a 900 *CYNEWULF Elene* 760 bæð ðu . . . wealdeð. c 1000 *Instit. Pol.* xxv. in Thorpe *Anc. Laws* II. 340/14 Syndon . . . cyrcan . . . wace ȝegriðode . . . wa þern þe þæs wealt. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 45 þurh mannes gemeleste . . . and naht bi his asene wille. . . deað him wes iwealde. c 1275 in *O.E. Misc.* 101 Bidde we alle þen heye kyng þat welde schal þe laste dom. 13. *E.E. Allit. P.* A. 811 For synne he set hymself in vayn, That neuer hade non hymself to wolde. 1387 *TREvisa Higden* (Rolls) I. 419 He may no werk soche wilde. 1513 *DOUGLAS Æneis* viii. Prolog. 22 All is wele done, God wait, weild he his will.

† b. *intr.* (for *refl.*) To occupy oneself, be doing; to act, do, fare (well, etc.); to 'manage'.

This use does not seem to be continuous with the intr. sense of OE. *wealdan* to contrive or manage to do something expressed or implied.

c 1400 *Beryn* 1803 Howe shuld o sely lombe, a-mong wolvis weld, And scapen vn-1-harmyd? c 1470 *HENRY Wallace* iv. 339 Now licht, now sadd; now blisful, now in baill; . . . Nowe weildand weyle; now calde weddyr, now hett. a 1500 *Bernard. de cura rei fam.* i. 351 Quham god of mycht bade wald and virke & leffe In wytnes of adame and of eue. 1565 *Satir. Poems Reform.* 1. 407 Rather given whollie to weld wth the sworde, Then worke that wisdom have firmelie affied. 1581 *A. HALL Liad* v. 93 Although he weilded wel in fight. 1613 *P. FORBES Comm. Rev.* Ep. Ded., The inexpert student, in search of letters weilding amidst infinite variety, is cast in such doubt of choise.

† 4. *trans.* To direct the movement or action of, to control; to use, have the use of, as a bodily member or a faculty; to lead, guide, direct; *occas.* to hold in check; *gen.* to deal with, have to do with; to deal with successfully, manage. *Obs.* or *dial.* exc. as in 5.

Here are included various shades of meaning, *lit.* and *fig.*: see also below. In quot. 1530, to inflict grammatically. In OE. const. gen.

c 888 *ÆLFRED Boeth.* xxxix. §8 Sio eax welt ealles þæs wænes. 1297 *R. GLOUC.* (Rolls) 3093 Hii ne ssolleþ abbe þe leste ston þe wule ich may weld [v.r. wolde] min hond. c 1386 *CHAUCER Sompn.* T. 239 In our Chapitre praye we . . . To crist þat he thee sende heele and myght Thy body for to weelden. c 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 196 Then callȝ þe norȝs to þe modȝr, and bade hur . . . helpe hur forto folde þe chylȝys clopiȝ; for scho was to woke, and myght not welde horn. c 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 450 Quhill I may my wit wald, I think my fredome to hald. 1508 *DUNBAR Tua Mariit Wemen* 77 Than suld I waill ane . . . That suld my womanheid weild. 1513 *DOUGLAS Æneis* xii. xii. 129 The wond tarreis Enee sum deyll . . . To weild hys kne maid sum impedyment. 1530 *PALSGR.* Ded. Aiiß, How to weilde hym [sc. a frenche worde], in his cases, gendre, nombres, modes, tenses, and persons. 1555 *PHAER Æneid* ii. 529 So sayd she, and gan to welde Hym aged man, and in the sacred set hym set and helde. 1581 *T. HOWELL Deuises* G iii b, Let wisedom weilde your wit. 1595 *SPENSER Col. Clout* 130 Loue will not be drawne, but must be ledde, And Bregod did so well her fancie weld, That her good will he got her first to wedde. 1596 — *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 663/2 According to the quantite of such land, as euerye man . . . shalbe founde able to weelde. 1601 *HOLLAND Pliny* x. iii. I. 272 The very Ægles, not able to weld the prey that they have seized upon, are together with it drawne under the water. 1612 *DRAYTON Poly-olb.* ii. 131 Her new-beginning banke her water scarcely weelds. 1633 *P. FLETCHER Purple Isl.* vii. xli, Her daughters . . . Much pain'd themselves her stumbling feet to weild. 1650 *FULLER Pisgah* iii. v. 326 It is no shame for one to admit a partner in that weighty work, which he cannot weild by himself. 1742 *YOUNG Nt. Th.* ii. 449 Whose mind was . . . strong to weild all science. 1891 *Sheffield Gloss.*, Suppl., A farmer living at Ashover, in Derbyshire, said to me, 'There's no farm I could ha' liked better if I could only ha' weilded it'.

† b. *refl.* in various senses (see above); *occas.* to conduct oneself, behave. *Obs.*

c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* (1888) 51 He lai alsua ðat child ðe nan god ne cann, ne spoken ne mai, ne isien, ne him seluen wealden. 13. *Sir Beues* (A.) 368 Whan pow ert of swich elde, þat pow mist þe self wilde, And ert of age. c 1375

Cursor M. 24358 (Fairf.) þoru mi hert I felde hit stange My-self I must not welde. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8655 His sheld on his shuldres shot was behynd, And his brest left bare, . . . To weld him more winly þat worthy to lede. *1426* *LYDG. De Guil. Pilgr.* 20587 Somme be lame, and feble . . . And somme strong, and gon vp-ryht, And many welde hem sylff ryht wel. *c* 1430 *How Good Wife taught Dau.* in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 46 So wysely thee welde That þy frendys haue Ioy of thee. *1545* *RAYNALDE Byrth Mankynde* II. ii. (1552) 60b, Nether can it welde, or helpe it selfe to come forth. *1647* *HARVEY Sch. of Heart* VI. iii, The limbs unable are themselves to weld [time swell'd].

†c. To carry (something heavy or requiring effort). *Obs.*

c 1205 *LAY.* 1131 þa Troinisce men . . . duden of þan wilden al heora illa, to þan scipen wælden [later text to þe sipes ladden so moche so iwolden]. *Ibid.* 21874 Heo . . . heore uæx faire wælden to volde [later text hire her faire al hii totere]. *c* 1386 *CHAUCER Monk's T.* 272 She wolde kille Leons leopardes and Beres . . . And in hir Armes weelde hem at hir wille. *a* 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 838 þan Alexander . . . Wynnes him vp a wardere he walt in his handis. *1592* *KYD Sp. Trag.* I. iv, I tooke him up, and wound him in mine armes; And welding him unto my priuate tent, There laid him downe. †d. To express, utter. *Obs. rare.*

1581 A. HALL *Iliad* v. 77 To the Gods . . . he wold not weeld his thought. *1587* A. DAY *Daphnis & Chloe* (1890) 121 The best are mute, And may not weld the greatnes of her praise. *1605* *SHAKS. Lear* I. i. 56 Sir, I loue you more then word can weild ye matter. *a* 1635 *CORBET Poems* (1672) 95 Out-went the Townsmen all in Starch, . . . into the Field, Where one a Speech could hardly weild.

5. To use or handle with skill and effect; to manage, actuate, ply (a weapon, tool, or instrument, now always one held or carried in the hand). (The current sense.)

In OE. const. gen., dat., or instrumental. *Beowulf* 2038 þenden hie ðam wæpnum wealdan moston. *a* 1000 *Battle of Maldon* 83 þa hwile þe hi wæpna wealdan moston. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 1436 Nou ich am up to þat helde Cumen, that ich may wepne welde. *1338* R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 23 Sex 3ere was he kyng, with werre weldid þe scheld. *1375* *BARBOUR Bruce* XI. 97 He left nane mycht vapnys velde. *c* 1385 *CHAUCER L.G.W.* 2000 *Ariadne*, He . . . hath Rovme . . . To welde an axe or swerde or staffe or knyffe. *a* 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 651 Wele & wistly in were to welden a spere. *c* 1425 *WYNTOUN Cron.* VII. vii. 1304 A childe . . . þat wapynnys mycht nought wichtly waulde. *c* 1425 *Non-Cycle Myst.* (1909) 22/82 Worklooms for to work and weeld. *1470-85* *MALORY Arthur* IX. ii. 340 Is there any of you here that wille take vpon hym to welde this shelde? *1563* P. WHITEHORNE *Onosandro Platon*. 74 Muche lesse the slingers can wild their slinges . . . being hindered of the Souldiers. *1598* *SHAKS. Merry W.* I. iii. 24 O base hungarian wight: wilt y^e the spigot weld? *1603* G. OWEN *Pembrokehire* (1892) 275 Monstrouse cudgells . . . as bigge as the partie is well able to wild. *1629* H. BURTON *Truth's Tri.* 251 We can tell better how to weald our owne weapons. *1736* *GRAY Statius* I. 1 Whoe'er the quoit can weild, And furthest send its weight. *1784* *COWPER Task* III. 636 Strength may weild the pond'rous spade. *1798* *WORDSW. Peter Bell* Prol. xxx, A potent wand doth Sorrow weild. *1860* *TYNDALL Glac.* I. xxii. 159 Never wielding my hatchet until my balance was secured.

b. to wield a or the sceptre (and similar phrases): to exercise supreme authority, to reign or rule (also fig.). Cf. *sway* v. 8.

1593 *SHAKS. 3 Hen. VI.* IV. iv. 73 His Head by nature fram'd to weare a Crowne, His Hand to wield a Scepter. *1595* *DANIEL Civ. Wars* I. xxix, Edward the third being dead, had left this child. The crowne and Scepter of this Realme to weild. *1635* J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Old, Old Man* C4, How he and 's son th' eighth Henry, here did weild The Scepter. *1809* *SYD. SMITH Sermon* I. 64 Providence . . . gives to many a man a soul far better than his birth, compelling him to dig with a spade, who had better have wielded a sceptre. *1821* *SCOTT Kenilw.* vii, The late prime favourite of England, who wielded her general's staff and controlled her parliaments. *1858* *MAX MÜLLER Chips* (1880) III. i. 28 The intellectual sceptre of Germany was wielded by a new nobility.

c. To exercise (power, authority, influence). *1612* T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* II. 9 He forbiddeth them not to exercise rule . . . ouer their seruants, but only teacheth them after what manner to weld their authoritie. *a* 1677 *BARROW Sermon* III. xxii. (R.) To wield power innocently, . . . for the maintenance of right, . . . for the suppression of injury, . . . is a matter of no small skill. *1836* J. GILBERT *Chr. Atonem.* iv. (1852) 97 Physical power wielded by an omnipotent Being . . . must overcome every possible obstacle. *1861* *BUCKLE Civiliz.* II. vi. 41 2 Over the inferior order of minds, they still wield great influence. *1868* J. H. BLUNT *Ref. Ch. Eng.* I. 100 Wielding . . . an authority which he had no just right to weild. *1874* *GREEN Short Hist.* I. §6. 53 Dunstan . . . wielded for sixteen years . . . the secular and ecclesiastical powers of the realm.

d. To use after the fashion of a tool or weapon for the performance of something.

1601 W. CORNWALLIS *Ess.* II. xlix. Nn 3 b, I am the veriest bungler . . . that euer welded tongue. *1849* *MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* III. I. 354 Wielding the strength and representing the dignity of the city of London. *1857* *MAURICE Mor. & Met. Philos.* IV. vii. §13. 343 Wielding the learning of the old times with incomparable facility. *1871* T. R. JONES *Anim. Kingd.* (ed. 4) 725 The dorsal ribs [of serpents] wielded . . . by . . . powerful muscles . . . perform the office of internal legs. *1882* *PEBODY Engl. Journalism* xxiii. 183 A trained soldier wielding a graphic and powerful pen. *1886* A. WEIR *Hist. Basis Mod. Europe* (1889) 588 [The] increasing importance of the middle classes, as they wielded more efficiently capital and machinery. *1918* A. MENZIES *Calvin* 396 Who could wield such scathing invective?

Hence 'wielded ppl. a.; also (nonce-wds.) 'wieldable a., capable of being wielded; †'wieldance, the action of wielding.

1800 *SOUTHEY* in *Robberds Mem. W. Taylor* I. 325 As easy and as 'wieldable as blank verse. *c* 1625 *BP. HALL St. Paul's Combat* II. Wks. 1634 II. 451 This spiritual edge

shall either turne againe, or (through our weake *weildance) not enter the stubburne and thick hide of obdured hearts. *1842* *TENNYSON Talking Oak* lxvi, May never saw dismember thee, Nor *wielded axe disjoint.

wielder ('wi:ldə(r)). Forms: see *WIELD* v.; 4 -ere, 5 -are, -ire, 5-6 -ar, 5- -er. [f. *WIELD* v. + -ER¹.] One who welds, in various senses.

†1. A ruler, governor, master; sometimes applied to God; locally, a manager (?). *Obs.*

13.. E.E. Allit. P. C. 129 þe welder of wyt, þat wot alle þynges. *1382* *WYCLIF Isa.* i. 3 The oxe kneþ his weldere, and the asse the cracche of his lord. *a* 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 1608 þe lege Emperoure, þe wildire [v.r. welder] of all þe werde. *1402* in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 78 As that we were welders and lordes of alle. *1593* Q. ELIZ. *Boeth.* I. met. v. 44 O weldar, apeace the Roring floudes. *1600* *BRETTON Melancholike Humours* Wks. (Grosart) I. 9/1 They, like the weldiers of the world, command, and haue their will. *1723* *SWIFT Argts. Power Bps.* Wks. 1841 II. 219/1 Such . . . tenants, generally speaking, haue others under them, and so a third and fourth in subordination, till it comes to the welder (as they call him), who sits at a rack-rent. *1823-49* *LINGARD Hist. Eng.* (1855) I. ii. 52/1 The title . . . of Bretwalda, the wielder or sovereign of Britain.

†2. The author or cause of something. *Obs. rare.*

1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xvii. 53 The veildars of yis greif.

3. One who uses or actuates skilfully: const. of (a weapon, instrument, etc.); also fig.

1760-72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 57 He is the free wielder of all the powers of a free . . . people. *1855* *BRIMLEY Ess., Westw. Ho!* (1858) 303 These are the high aims of fiction in the hands of its master wielders. *1862* R. W. PROCTER *Our Turf, Stage & Ring* 81 The rough-hewn wielders of the spade. *1866* *WHITTIER Snow-bound* 438 Brisk wielder of the birch and rule, The master of the district school. *1884* R. F. BURTON *Bk. Sword* viii. 166 The Zanzibari's Sword is . . . dangerous to the wielder. *1908* *Spectator* 11 Apr. 564/2 Some able wielder of autocratic power.

wielding ('wi:ldɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. *WIELD* v. + -ING¹.] The action of the verb *WIELD*, in various senses.

†1. Government, power, command; possession, keeping: see *WIELD* v. B. 1, 2. *Obs.*

c 1205 *LAY.* 19011 þa hædden heo . . . Vðer þene king wið inne heore walding [c. 1275 *weldyng*]. *c* 1325 *Metr. Hom.* I. Al es loken in thi welding. Thou ert Lauerd . . . That al op-haldes. *c* 1386 *CHAUCER Melib.* ¶644 Ye haue hem in youre myght and in youre weldyng. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* I. 39 And haue al welth in 3oure weledyng. *c* 1460 *Play Sacram.* 35 In þe dukedom of Oryon moche haue I in weldyng. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* III. 59 Thys castell . . . is at my wylddyng.

2. Control, (power of) using, management, etc.: see *WIELD* v. B. 4, 5.

a 1425 *Cursor M.* 13781 (Trin.) His lymmes had he so forgone þat of hem weldyng had he none. *1551* *ROBINSON tr. More's Utopia* II. iv. (1895) 140 Their garmentes . . . [are] no let to the mouynge and weldyng of the bodie. *1581* A. HALL *Iliad* VII. 125 Areithous that bare the great and massie club, And . . . got such praise by force and weelding good. *1820* *LAMB Elia Ser.* I. *South-sea House*, He was . . . equal to the wielding of any of the most intricate accounts. *1836* *KEBLE in Lyra Apost.* (1849) 223 Behold your armoury!—sword and lightning shaft, . . . And in your wielding left! *1880* *TENNYSON Brunanburh* xi, The wielding of weapons.

'wielding, ppl. a. (sb.) [f. as prec. + -ING².] That welds; †ruling, governing; as sb. a ruler, governor (see *WALDEND*); in quot. 1622, ? faring, 'doing' (well). (See also *ALL-WIELDING*.)

a 900 *CYNEWULF Crist* 1011 Mihtig god, . . . waldende god. *c* 1000 *ÆLFRIC Hom.* I. 328 Se Wealdenda Drihten. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5206 Of egypti. . . Es he liuand and maister wealdand. *c* 1485 *Digby Myst.* III. 1832, I be-leve I be father, þat is of all wyldyng. *1622* *WITHER Faire-Virtue* B 2, A faire weilding-tree.

†'wieldless, a. *Obs.* [f. *WIELD* v. + -LESS.]

That cannot be wielded; unmanageable, uncontrollable, unwieldy.

1560 *PHAER Æneid.* IX. 740 Down sinks the weldlesse weight. *1593* G. FLETCHER *Licia* (1876) 36 The warlike Mars, can weldlesse weapons guide. *1596* *SPENSER F.Q.* IV. iii. 19 With the weight of his owne weeldlesse might, He falleth nigh to ground.

†'wieldly, a. *Obs. rare.* In 5 weldely. [f. *WIELD* v. + -LY¹. Cf. *unwieldly*.] = *WIELDY* 2 (quot. *c* 1440).

†'wieldness. *Obs.* In 4 weld-, weildnes. [f. *WIELD* a. + -NESS. Cf. OE. *waldnis* 'dominatio'.] Command, control, possession.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 13781 Sua herd him was his limes þan þat he o þaim had weildnes nan. *Ibid.* 23641 [þe gode] þir sal haf weildnes of all wale, [þe wicked] þai sal vnweildid be wit bale.

†'wieldsome, a. *Obs. rare.* [f. *WIELD* v. + -SOME.] = *WIELDY* 3.

1565 *GOLDING Cæsar* 99b, The Galleyes wherof the facion was more straunge to the sauage Britons, and the mouing more redy and wieldsome [et motus ad usum expeditioni].

wieldy ('wi:ldɪ), a. Forms: 4-6 weldy (6 -ie), 5 weeldy, 6 wyldy, 7 wieldie, weildy, 7- wieldy. [f.

WIELD v. + -Y¹. Cf. *MLG. weldich* etc., and *UNWIELDY*.]

1. Capable of easily 'wielding' one's body or limbs, or a weapon, etc.; vigorous, active, agile, nimble. *Obs. exc. dial.*

c 1374 *CHAUCER Troylus* II. 636 So fressh so yong so weldy semed he. *1422* *YONGE Secr. Secr.* xxiii. 154 Where ben the Weldy Werriours? *c* 1450 *LOVELICH Grael* xii. 57 Eche man . . . That weren weldy Armes to bere. *1528* *MORE Dyaloge* I. Wks. 153 The hole body is the more wyldy and lusty by some kynde of exercise. *1592* *WYRLEY Armorie, Ld. Chandos* 75 Armd like youthfull Troylus and fresh as he . . . As stirring, weldie, and as cheualrous As Chaucer makes him. *1677* *GILPIN Dæmonol.* (1867) 79 By reason of our burden we are less weldy and more unapt to make any resistance.

†2. ? Requiring strength to wield, heavy or bulky; wielded with force, powerful. *Obs.*

c 1440 *Partonope* 3876 (Univ. Coll. MS.) A-boute hys nekk heng a sheeld. . . And hit was full weeldy [v.r. weldely]. *1592* *WYRLEY Armorie, Ld. Chandos* 57 [He] did stand To his defence, when slaine was euerie mate With weldie axe.

3. Easily wielded, controlled, or handled; manageable; handy. [In later use a back-formation from *unwieldy*.]

1583 *MELBANCKE Philotimus* Hiv, When you breake a colte, you firste beate him for his wildnes, and afterward being weldy do cherish your hobby. *1656* *HEYLIN Surv. France* 183 The boat . . . wieldie and fit for speed. *1678* R. L'ESTRANGE *Seneca's Mor.* III. v. 28 In the Choice of a Sword, we take care that it be weldy. *1795* *SOUTHEY Joan of Arc* x. 286 Their javelins lessen'd to a weldy length. *1839* J. ROGERS *Antipopopr.* v. §2. 192 One mighty league, in one body weldy, tractable, governable. *1903* *Times Lit. Suppl.* 19 June 189/1 For its bulk it is admirably weldy and light in hand.

†Erroneously used for *unwieldy*.

1687 *WOOD Life* (O.H.S.) III. 227 [He] being fat and weldy, could not ride or walk as the others could.

wiele, wier, wierangel, -gle, wierd, wiery, wiese, weisshe, wiet, wietch, wieth, obs. ff. *WILE, WEIR, WIRE, WARIANGLE, WEIRD, WIRY, WISE, WISH* v., *WIT* v., *WICH, WITHE*.

Wien¹ (vi:n). *Physics.* The name of Wilhelm Wien (1864-1928), German physicist, used *attrib.* and in the possessive to denote (a) an approximation to Planck's law that holds at short wavelengths, according to which the flux of radiant energy of wavelength λ emitted by a black body at temperature T is proportional to 1/λ⁵ exp (hc/λkT); (b) the displacement law (sense (i) s.v. *DISPLACEMENT* 2 e).

1899 *Astrophysical Jnl.* X. 40 My observations . . . make it seem possible that the law derived by W. Wien represents the emission of 'the absolutely black body'. In Wien's formula, $\int = [\text{etc.}]$. *1900* *Sci. Abstr.* III. 383 Wien's laws, according to which the wave-length of the maximum radiation is inversely proportional to the absolute temperature, and the corresponding maximum energy proportional to the fifth power of the absolute temperature, were confirmed. *1904* Wien's displacement law [see *DISPLACEMENT* 2 e]. *1948* [see *RAYLEIGH-JEANS*]. *1963* G. L. PICKARD *Descriptive Physical Oceanogr.* v. 52 According to Wien's Law this energy is concentrated round a wavelength of 0.5 μ. *1978* *PASACHOFF & KUTNER University Astron.* II. 24 From Wien's displacement law, we can see that the colors of stars in the sky are telling us something about their temperatures.

Wien² (vi:n). [The name of M. C. Wien (1866-1938), German physicist.] a. *Electr.* *Wien bridge*: an alternating-current bridge circuit devised by Wien which is used to measure capacitance (or frequency) in terms of resistance and frequency (or capacitance); *Wien bridge oscillator*: an oscillator based on this circuit.

1922 *GLAZEBROOK Dict. Appl. Physics* II. 1029/1 *Wien bridge*, for the measurement of the capacity and power factor of a condenser. *1957* *Practical Wireless* XXXIII. 709/2 In Fig. 2 a simple bridge for capacitor testing is given. This is known as a Wien bridge. *1967* *Electronics* 6 Mar. 63/3 (Advnt.), Here, the RA-240 is used in the design of a highly stable, uncompensated Wien bridge oscillator. *1979* R. HAMILTON *Electronics for Technicians* vii. 157 The other type of R-C oscillator to be considered is known as a Wien bridge oscillator. (The name derives from a type of bridge circuit used in measurements, the feedback network of the oscillator being part of a balanced Wien bridge.)

b. *Physical Chem.* *Wien effect*: the increase in the electrical conductivity of an electrolytic solution as the field strength is increased.

1934 R. P. BELL *Electrolytes* v. 90 The increase in conductivity [with frequency] is . . . of the same order of magnitude as the Wien effect. *1978* P. W. ATKINS *Physical Chem.* xxv. 832 The Wien effect is the observation of higher mobilities [of ions] at higher electric fields. (There are two Wien effects. The first Wien effect is the one just described; the second Wien effect is the enhancement of the degree of ionization of an ionogen, or weak electrolyte, by the applied field.)

wiener ('vi:nə(r)), a. and sb. Also erron. *weiner*. [a. Ger., of Vienna.]

A. adj. 1. *wiener schnitzel*: see *SCHNITZEL*.

2. *wienerwurst* [G. *wurst* sausage]: = *Vienna sausage* s.v. *VIENNA* 1 a. U.S.

1889 *Gallup* (New Mexico) *Gleaner* 27 Mar. 3/3 We . . . are willing to bet our unpaid debts, against a wiener-wurst [sic] that the modest local of the *Democrat* blushed more than the bride when he saw her in the diaphanous costume he

describes. 1899 F. NORRIS *McTeague* v. 75 The lunch baskets were emptied... There were wienerwurst and frankfurter sausages. 1949 *Los Angeles Times* 15 May 11. 5/2 I've never lamped a crooked dime, not e'en a wienerwurst.

|| 3. *Wiener Kreis* [G. *kreis* circle]: = *Vienna Circle* s.v. VIENNA 1 a.

[1929] (title) *Wissenschaftliche Weltauffassung. Der Wiener Kreis* (E. Mach Verein). 1932 *Jrnl. Philos.* XXIX. 122 The philosophy of the 'Wiener Kreis' is unique in that it was formulated for the first time in a concise joint manifesto. 1950 B. RUSSELL *Logic & Knowl.* (1956) 370 Wittgenstein's *Tractatus Logico-Philosophicus*... provided a stimulus which helped in the formation of the 'Wiener Kreis', where logical positivism first took the form of a definite school. 1964 *New Statesman* 10 Apr. 574/2 The early chapters are full of perception theory, Chicago School aesthetics, *Wienerkreis* linguistics, ... Platonic misconceptions and all stations to the Hochschule at Ulm.

B. sb. a. = *wiener wurst* above. Cf. WEINER. N. Amer.

1904 H. R. MARTIN *Tillie* iii. 34 I'm havin' fried smashed potatoes and wieners. 1935 *Motion Picture* Nov. 79/1 Hot dogs are just wiener sausages! 1970 S. J. PERELMAN *Baby, it's Cold Inside* 81 Platters of smoking hot wieners flanked by creamed spinach.

b. *Comb.* wiener roast N. Amer., a barbecue at which wieners are cooked and served.

1920 *Outing* July-Aug. 245/1 All over France they introduced the women war workers to American hikes, wiener roasts, camping in the open, and games of all sorts. 1970 J. H. GRAY *Boy from Winnipeg* 53 Snow-shoeing clubs... given to walking for miles after every snow, usually stopping for a wiener roast somewhere along the way.

wienie ('wi:ni). N. Amer. slang. Also erron. weinie. [f. WIENER a. and sb.: see -IE.] = WIENER sb. a. Cf. WEENY sb.², WINNY.

1911 *Daily Colonist* (Victoria, B.C.) 26 Apr. 7/3 Weinies, pretzels and coffee were served and German relishes. 1919 U. SINCLAIR *Jimmie Higgins* xx. 195 Mocking soldier-boys, who made merry... over sauerkraut and... 'wienies', otherwise known as 'hot dogs'. 1940 R. CHANDLER *Farewell, my Lovely* xxxiv. 161, I spotted him [sc. the hot dog man] in a white barbecue stand tickling wienies with a long fork. 1959 E. AMBLER *Passage of Arms* iv. 103 The barman opened up a can of weinies. 1977 *Time* 4 July 37/1 One man's meat is another man's corn dog (a wienie impaled on a stick and dunked in a bubbling cornbread batter).

wife (waif), sb. Pl. wives (waivz). Forms: *Sing.* a. 1-5 (6 Sc.) wif, 3-5 wif, 3-6 wyf, 4-6 wyff(e, wyfe, (chiefly Sc.) vif, vyf(e, 5-6 wiff(e, 6 Sc. vyff, (1, 4 wif, 4 wif, wife, wief, wyfe, weyfe, 4-5 weife, wiue, wyue, 5 wyif, wyyfe, wy3fe, whyf(f)e, 5-7 wief, 6 wief, 6-7 wief), 4- wife. *Gen.* 1-7 wifes, 3-7 wifes, (4 wuis, wuyus), 4-5 wijfes, wuyes, 4-6 wyfes, 5-6 Sc. wyff(f)is, 7 wifes, 8 wive's, 8- wife's; *uninflected* 4 wif, 4-5 wife. *Pl.* 1-3 wif, 2-7 wifes, 3-7 wifes, 4-5 Sc. wyffs, 4-6 wyfes, wuyes, wifis, Sc. wiffis, 5-6 Sc. wyffs, (4 wiff(e)s, wijfes, wuis, wuius, wises, vyuez, Sc. vifis, 5 wifs, wifys, wuyus, 5-6 -is, 6 Sc. vyffis, vyfues, vyuis, 7 wiefs), 7- wives. *Gen.* 1 wi(i)fa, 3 wife, wiue; 3 wuene; 4-7 wives, 8- wives'. [OE. *wif* str. n. = OFris., OS. *wif*, (LG. *wief*, Du. *wijf*), OHG., MHG. *wip* (G. *weib*), ON. *vif* (Sw. *vif*, Da. *viv*); not in Gothic (which uses *qinô* 'mulier' QUEAN and *qêns* 'uxor' QUEEN sb.); of obscure origin.]

1. a. A woman: formerly in general sense; in later use restricted to a woman of humble rank or 'of low employment' (J.), esp. one engaged in the sale of some commodity. Now *dial.*, exc. with prefixed descriptive word, esp. in compounds such as ALE-WIFE¹, APPLE-wife, FISHWIFE, OLD WIFE, OYSTER-wife, etc.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* A 646 *Anus*, alduuif. c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* iv. xxiii. Seo ærest wiifa [L. *feminarum*]. c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John iv. 7 Cuom uif of ðær byrig to ladanne uater. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 5 For þære synne þæs ærestan wifes. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 111 Wisdom biriseð weran and clesnesse birisað wifan. c 1205 *LAY.* 1507 þa scipen todræzen & þa wif drenchen. a 1225 *Ancr.* R. 158 Seint Johan baptiste, bi hwam uer Louerd seið, pet among wiuenes sunes ne aros neuer betere. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 12904 Amang all wiue [13.. *Gött.* wiuies] suns... A heier barn was neuer nan. c 1300 *Havelok* 1713 Hw god helpen kan O mani wise wif and man. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xviii. (*Egipciane*) 1067, I coniure þe, þat it, þat þu has hard of me, ... þat þu tel nothyr to man na vyf. c 1386 CHAUCER *Miller's T.* 155 The wyues of the parisshe. — *Doctor's T.* 71 Whan she woxen is a wyf. c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* vi. xviii. 2235 þat man is noucht born of wiff Off powar to reff me my lif. c 1470 HENRY WALLACE 1. 94 Eduuad... gert sla... Off man and wiff, vij thousand and forty. 1488 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* 1. 91 The wyfis of Dunbar. 1526 TINDALE *Rev.* xvii. 6, I sawe the wyfe dronke with the blood of sayntes. c 1563 *Jack Juggler* Cij, Then came I by a wife that did costerds sell. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xii. 118 The wyfis that fostred þow. 1625 BACON *Apophtegms* §54 [19] Strawberrye wiuies, that laid two or three great strawberries at the mouth of their pot, and all the rest were little ones. 1635 in *Daily Chron.* (1908) 11 Mar. 6/7 Oyster wives, herb wives, tripe wives. 1818 KEATS *Daulish Fair* 3 Where ginger-bread wives have a scanty sale. 1825 BROCKETT N.C. *Gloss.*, Wife, a woman, whether married or not. 'An apple wife', 'a fish wife', 'A tripe wife'. 1859 TENNYSON *Guinev.* 55 She... shuddered, as the village wife who cries 'I shudder, some one steps across my grave.'

b. Qualified by *old*, esp. in the phr. *old wives' fable, story, tale*: see OLD WIFE 1.

c 725 [see above]. 1340, etc. [see OLD WIFE 1]. 1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* iii. 220 An old wiuies request. 1656 MENNIS & J. SMITH *Mus. Delic.* (ed. 2) 2 An old wifes-Tale.

c. *Wife of Bath*, one of the pilgrims in Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*; used allusively (usu. *attrib.*), chiefly with reference to sexual appetite and outspokenness.

1926 A. HUXLEY *Essays New & Old* 178 Her comments on the connubial state were so very Juliet's Nurse, so positively Wife-of-Bath, that we were made to feel quite early Victorian. 1946 'J. Tey' *Miss Pym Disposes* xviii. 185 The wide flat hat planked slightly to the back of her head on top of her wimple—Wife of Bath fashion—gave her an air of innocent astonishment. 1974 K. MILLETT *Flying* (1975) 11. 183 Alison sings, a great lusty Wife of Bath woman. 1978 R. RENDELL *Sleeping Life* iii. 23 Horrifyingly, she added, with a Wife of Bath look, remembering the old dance, 'Wouldn't be for sex, not so likely.'

2. a. A woman joined to a man by marriage; a married woman. Correlative of HUSBAND sb. 2. (The ordinary current sense.)

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* x. Hu ne lifoaf þin wif eac, þæs ilcan Simaches dohtor? c 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* Matt. i. 24 *Acceptit coniugem suam*, feng wiuie his. c 1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Matt. xviii. 25 Hine het hys hlaford gesyllan, & hys wif & hys cild. a 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 225 Sem cham iafet and hare preo wif. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 49 Riche men... þe habbeð... feire wifes and feire children. *Ibid.* 129 He forseh his scuppund purh his wifes red. c 1205 *LAY.* 25 Noe & Sem Japhet & Cham & heore four wiuies [c 1275 wifes]. *Ibid.* 14142 Ich wulle... senden after mine wiuie. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1219 God him bad is wiuies tale Listen. c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 30/26 To take is broþer wijf. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 918 þou, man, ... has vnder-taken þi wijf red [Gött. þi wiuies rede]. 13.. E.E. *Allit. P. A.* 785 þe lambes vyuez in blysse we bene. c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 242 My menskul moder is his meke wiuie. 1422 YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* xxxvi. 192 The loue that a vif shold haue to hir spous. c 1460 *FORTESCUE Abs. & Lim. Mon.* iii. (1885) 114 Their wyfes and children. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 417/1 A Wife modir, *scrus.* 1549 *Compl. Scot.* ii. 24 Thou sal spouse ane vyfe, bot ane vthir sal tak hyr fra the. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 72 A good wife makth a good husbande, (they saie). 1580 in *Cath. Tractates* (S.T.S.) 58 Ane of Jacobs vyfues. 1603 *HOLLAND Plutarch's Mor.* 16 Slaves unto their wifes goods. 1628 COKE *On. Litt.* 1. 112 A man may not grant nor giue his tenements to his Wife during the couerture, for that his Wife and hee bee but one person in the Law. 1628 in *Cath. Tractates* (S.T.S.) 273 Their wifes and bairnes. c 1635 *SIR W. POLE Descr. Devon* iii. (1791) 166 St. Thomas Beamont... married 2 wiefs. 1637 *Sc. Prayer Bk., Vis. Sick.* Visit him, O Lord, as thou didst Peters wifes mother. 1722 HEARNE *Collect.* (O.H.S.) VII. 382 His Wife's first Husband. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* ix. vii, She passed for that Gentleman's Wife, ... and yet... there were some Doubts concerning the Reality of their Marriage. 1834 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Boarding-ho.* i, He had never been married; but he was still on the look-out for a wife with money.

b. Phrases. (a) *to wife* (to *prep.* 11 b), for a wife, to be one's wife: in such phrases as *to take to wife*, to marry (somewhat *arch.*); † *to give (grant) to wife*, to bestow in marriage; † *to have (hold) to wife*, to have as one's wife, be the husband of; † *to will to wife*, to desire to marry. † (b) *wife's light*, a light (in a church) maintained by married women (cf. *maiden's light*, MAIDEN sb. 10). (c) *all the world and his wife* (humorous colloq.), all men and women, everybody: usually hyperbolically for a large and miscellaneous body or company of people of both sexes. (d) *wife and mother*, a conventional epithet describing a woman who shows a zealous devotion to her family (now also somewhat *joc.*). (e) preceded by an adj. or sb. denoting the husband's occupation (freq. of a Mil. character, as *navy, service wife*), and esp. connoting a wife who fulfils official expectations of this role.

Also in various other phrases, as *bachelor's wife* (BACHELOR 4 b), *wife of one's bosom* (BOSOM sb. 1 c), *wife of the left hand* (LEFT HAND 2), *man and wife* (MAN sb. 1 8).

(a) c 1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Matt. xiv. 4 Nys þe alyfed hi to wife to hæbbe. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2147 Iosep to wiuie his dowter nam. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 8926 þe emperour of alimayne willede to wif [v.rr. to his wyfe, to his wyff] Mold þe kinges dohter. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7482, I suld... giue mi doghter him to wijf. 1362 *LANGL. P. Pl. A.* iii. 106 3if he wilne þe to wyf, wolt þou him haue? c 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 1304 *Dido*, Haue 3e nat sworn to wyue me to take? 1390 *GOWER Conf.* II. 217 This Steward... A lusti ladi hath to wyue. ? a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3575 He has weddyde Waynore, and hyr to wyfe holdes. 1415 in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 1430, 39/1 Huchon Fraser... God grantand, sal lede into wyf Jonet of Fentoun the systir. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* vii. viii. 61 Bot he the grant to wyf his child Lavine. 1526 TINDALE *Mark* xii. 23 In the resurrection then... whose wyfe shall she be of them? For seven had her to wyfe. 1588 GREENE *Pandosto* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 234 This Pandosto had to Wife a Ladie called Bellaria. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 80 ¶ 3 She... was taken to Wife by a Gentleman. 1726 POPE *Odys.* xxi. 73 If I the prize, if me you seek to wife. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* ii. 1. 231 James had... taken to wife the princess Mary of Modena. 1907 C. HILL-TOOT *Brit. N. Amer., Far West* x. 182 Early marriages were... the custom, the girls being often barely pubescent when taken to wife.

(b) 1547-8 in Swayne *Churchw. Acc. Sarum* (1896) 275, xli. of wex for the wyfes Light.

(c) 1731-8 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* III. 192 Miss. Pray, Madam, who were the Company? *Lady Smart.* Why, there was all the World, and his Wife. 1822 BYRON *Let. to Sir W. Scott*, 'All the world and his wife', as the proverb goes, were trying to trample upon me. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* i. xvii, All the world and his wife and daughter leave cards. 1912 *World* 7 May 701/1 So much has been heard of Harlelot lately... that its name must be familiar to all the world and his wife.

(d) 1798 MRS. INCHBALD *Lovers' Vows* (ed. 3) ii. iii. 31 Go to Amelia—explain to her the duties of a wife and of a mother. 1850 MRS. GASKELL *Let. Apr.* (1966) 108 One of my mes is... a true Christian... another of my mes is a wife and mother, and highly delighted at the delight of everyone else in the house. 1911 G. B. SHAW *Getting Married* 196 She's a born wife and mother, maam. That's why my children all ran away from home. 1930 A. CHRISTIE *Murder at Vicarage* xxxii. 252 I'm going to be a real 'wife and mother' (as they say in books). 1974 M. CECIL *Heroines in Love* v. 128 They could remain devoted wives and mothers and do their bit for the Cause.

(e) 1951 'J. Tey' *Daughter of Time* i. 9 The present Valerie or Angela or Cecile... must be a naval wife. 1975 'J. BELL' *Victim* i. 17 All the vulgar arrogance of an overseas army wife between the wars. 1981 P. McCUTCHAN *Shard calls Tune* ii. 18 Beth had been a police wife... and a Foreign Office Security wife... She knew she mustn't ask where Simon was going.

c. (a) *euphem.* A kept mistress, concubine.

c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* vi. x. 880 Bot scho was blamyt in hir live, The bishop of Dunkeldynnys wif.

(b) *a wife in every port*, a licence or indulgence (jocularly) said to be enjoyed by sailors.

1761 I. BICKERSTAFFE *Thomas & Sally* i. iii. 5 'Tis pretty sport, for one that gets a wife at ev'ry port. 1907 *Punch* 22 May 365/2 (caption) *Admiral.* And what made you wish to become a sailor, my boy? *Navy Candidate* (in perfect good faith). Because he's got a wife in every port, sir. 1933 SOMERVILLE & 'ROSS' *Smile & Tear* xi. 132 'The wife in every port', supposed to be the perquisite of sailors, is no more than the constant aspiration of every self-respecting dog.

† d. Applied as a term of affection to a female friend. *Obs.*

1592 *Wills & Inv. Durh.* (Surtees 1860) 205 To Mrs. Clopton one old ryall, to hir daughter, my wiffe, Alice, one angell. 1601 in *Blackw. Mag.* (1898) Nov. 654/2, I came lately thence... about a match for my wife, which is since dispatcht with younge Gifford.

e. *transf.* The female of a pair of the lower animals; the mate of a male animal.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Nun's Priest's T.* 63 As Chauntecleer among his wyues alle Sat on his perche. c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* 1. 669 Pesauntis... first in Marche vpon they go Theyr wuyus. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* xii. Prol. 159 Phebus red fowle... Pykland his meyt... Hys wyfis, Toppa and Pertelok, hym by. 1657 G. THORNLEY *Daphnis & Chloe* 125 The he-goats... every one had his own wives. 1838 *Let. fr. Madras* (1843) 194 The monkeys were in a rage... The old father hunted his wife and children up the tree. 1870 P. M. DUNCAN *Blanchard's Transf. Insects* 436 Wives appear to be at a premium amongst these spiders. 1887 G. W. CABLE in *Century Mag.* Mar. 677/1 The song-birds... making the... wood merry with their carolings to the wives and younglings in the nests.

f. *fig.* of a thing: see *quots.* See also *Dutch wife* s.v. DUTCH A. 4.

1813 in Brighton *Adm. Wallis* (1892) 45 [His] wooden wife [as he sometimes called his ship]. 1823 EGAN *Grose's Dict. Vulgar T.* (ed. 3), *Wife*, a fetter fixed to one leg. 1859 *Habits Gd. Society* vii. (new ed.) 254 The pipe is the bachelor's wife.

g. The passive member of a homosexual partnership. *slang.*

1883 W. A. HAMMOND *Sexual Impotence in Male* i. 57 The one who was in this disgusting arrangement to act the part of 'husband' came to his 'wife's' bed and remained there during the night. 1957 DUNFORTH & HORAN *D.A.'s Man* (1958) i. 3 He's got a new girl. His 'wife' went home last week. 1978 J. HYAMS *Pool* xiii. 199 The group's leader [a homosexual]... made his 'wife' head of production.

3. The mistress of a household; the hostess or landlady of an inn. In *quot.* c 1430 = housewife, economist. *Obs.* exc. as surviving in GOODWIFE 1, HOUSEWIFE 1.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Can. Yeom. Prol. & T.* 462 A preest... Which was so plesant and so seruyable Vn-to the wyf where as he was at table That she wolde suffre hym no thyng for to paye. c 1430 *How Good Wife taught Dau.* 168 in *Hazl. E.P.P.* I. 191 Be thou wise wif of thin owen. 1485 in *Yorks. Archæol. Soc., Record Ser.* XLI. 5 The wiff of this hous is your daughter... and it is most metlye for you to tarye here. 1535 COVERDALE *Kings* xvii. 17 The sonne of the wife of ys house was sicke. 1560 MACHYN *Diary* (Camden) 238 The wyff of the Bell in Gracyous-strett. 1577 GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* 11. (1586) 48 b, The olde husbundes... used... to iudge, that where they founde the garden out of order, the wyfe of the house... was no good huswyfe. 1620 *Frier Rush* 14 He called the wife of the house and said: Mistresse, I pray you fill a pottle of wine.

4. Collectors' name for a moth, *Catocala nupta*, also called Willow Red Underwing.

1832 RENNIE *Butterfl. & Moths* 99 The Wife... appears among willows the beginning of August.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. *attrib.* (a) of or pertaining to a wife or wives, as WIFEKIN, WIFTHING; (b) appositive = 'that is a wife', as *wife-slave, -whore* (†-houre). b. *obj.* (a) with agent-n., as *wife-basher, -beater, -broker, -hunter, -seeker*; (b) with n. of action, as *wife-bashing, -battering, -beating, -murder, -purchase, -slaughter*; (c) with pr. pple., as *wife-beating, -hunting* adjs. c. *instr.* = 'with or by a wife', as *wife-awed, -worn* adjs. d. Special Combs.: wife-bound a., bound or united to a wife, married; wife-carl Sc., a man who occupies himself with a woman's or housewife's work, a 'cotquean'; wife-old a., Sc., old enough to be a wife, of marriageable age; wife-ridden a., tyrannized over by one's wife, 'hen-pecked'; wife-swapping, the interchange of marital

partners for sexual purposes within a social group; hence *wife-swap sb.* (occas. as *v. intr.*); *wife-swapper*; *wife-widow* (*nonce-wd.*), a wife living apart from her husband.

1615 CHAPMAN *Odys.* xi. 370 She brought her *wife-awd husband, Neleus. **1909** *Practitioner* Dec. 828 Poisoning conducted on these lines... resembles the action of the *wife-basher, who attacks his victim with a poker... The wife-basher, however, is aware of the obviousness of his crime. **1979** J. WAINWRIGHT *Tension* 98 She walked to the home of the 'wife-basher'... and... went into action. **1978** — *Thief of Time* 221 'Why should some wandering female run to the nearest doctor?'... *Wife-bashing. Unwanted pregnancy. A score of reasons. **1978** *Times* 16 Feb. 4/7 *Wife-battering is most likely to occur among couples with a family history of violence. **1892** *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 21 Nov. 4/1 If the whipping-post has a mission, it is for the punishment of *wife-beaters. **1830** MISS MITFORD *Village* Ser. iv. *Walks, Shaw*, An assurance of tenderness and protection such as no *wife-beating tyrant... ever could inspire. **1856** GEO. ELIOT *Let.* 18 Jan. (1954) II. 225 A Petition... that married women may have a legal right to their own earnings, as a counteractive to wife-beating and other evils. **1882** L. OLIPHANT *Land of Khemi* iv. 199, I asked whether there was much wife-beating among the natives of Egypt. **a1547** SURREY *Æneis* iv. 343 A *wifebound man. **1820** KEATS *Let.* 28 Jan. (1958) II. 247 Henry is wife-bound in Cambden Town there is no getting him out. **1700** T. BROWN tr. *Fresny's Amusem.* vii. (1709) 63 These Marriage-Hucksters, or *Wife-brokers. **1508** DUNBAR *Tua Mariit Wemen* 351, I maid that *wif carll to werk all womenis werkis. **1816** SCOTT *Antiq.* xiv. An ye will be a wife-carle, and buy fish at your ain hands. **1826** COBBETT *Rur. Rides* (1885) II. 171 Young *wife-hunters, in search of rich and ugly old women. **1864** TENNYSON *Aylmer's F.* 212 *Wife-hunting, as the rumour ran, was he. **1907** E. V. LUCAS *Swan & Friends* 90 Having loved in vain a lady whom he met at Shaftesbury while on a wife-hunting expedition. **1871** C. KINGSLEY *At Last* x, *Wife-murder is but too common among these Hindoos. **1901** EDEN PHILLPOTTS *Striking Hours* 31, I was *wife-auld, an' a peart gal very interested in men-folk. **1891** WESTERMARK *Hist. Hum. Marr.* (ed. 2) 382 *Wife-purchase and husband-purchase still persist... though in disguised forms. **1694** CONGREVE *Double Dealer* v. xiii, By Heav'n I'll not be *Wife-ridden. **1859** CORNWALLIS *New World* I. 231 The profession of the *wife-seeker was greatly in his favor. **1609** Bible (Douay) Num. v. *comm.*, God ordained this law... to avoid *wiveslaughter. **1902** *Westm. Gaz.* 6 Aug. 1/3 He retires from work... and purchases *wife-slaves to maintain him in idleness. **1976** *Private Eye* 24 Dec. 8/2 M. Philippe Dannat... told the magistrates of Nice that he had assaulted M. Georges David at a *wife-swap rendezvous in the hills above St. Tropez. **1978** F. WELDON *Praxis* xx. 184 They played strip poker; they *wife-swapped. **1969** C. HIMES *Blind Man with Pistol* x. 111 *Wife swappers, gang fuckers, seekers of depravity. **1959** M. PUGH *Chancer* xiv. 170 He began to discuss the *wife-swapping parties held locally... 'But how do they get away with it here?... The town's so small. I would have thought that after six months... they'd have to convene a mass divorce trial.' **1967** W. & J. BREEDLOVE *Swinging Set* x. 119 They brought up the subject of 'wife-swapping' with four other couples. **1976** 'W. TREVOR' *Children of Dymmouth* iii. 77 There was wife-swapping every Saturday night at parties on the new estate. **13...** *Sir Beues* (A.) 310 Alle *wif houren... be deul of helle ich hii be-take. **1875** TENNYSON *Q. Mary* iii. i, If this Philip... Left Mary a *wife-widow here alone. **1647** WARD *Simple Cöbler* 27 Our considerate, I dare not say *wife-worne Commons.

Hence *wifekin*, *wifelet*, *wifeling*, *wifelkin* (*dial.*), as terms of endearment = little wife; *wifeship*, the position or relation of a wife; *wifeward adv.*, towards or to one's wife. (All *nonce-wds.*)

1829 CARLYLE in *Love Lett.* T. C. (1909) II. App. 355 *Wifekin waits and coffee simmers. **1890** *Daily News* 14 Oct. 5/6 With *wifelet and chubby children. **1868** FARRAR *Seekers* II. iv. 226 If... some *wifeling or childling be granted you. **1851** BORROW *Lavengro* v, Leave him to me, *wifelkin. **1891** T. K. CHEYNE *Orig. Psalter* vii. 315 The figures of sonship and *wifeship were no longer adequate to express Israel's relation to its Lord. **1886** KIPLING *Departm. Ditties* etc. (1888) 48 [He] travelled *wifeward.

† *wife*, *v. Obs. rare.* [f. prec. sb.]

1. intr. To take a wife, to marry: = WIFE *v.* I. **1387** TREvisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 263 þey... kepeþ besiliche here children, and suffreth hem nouȝt to wyfe wip ynnne foure and twenty ȝerc. **c1460** *Towneley Myst.* xii. 97 It is sayde full ryfe, 'a man may not wyfe And also thryfe, And all in a yere.' **1725** BAILEY *Erasm. Colloq.* (1878) I. 348 *Eu.* An't you weary of wifeing? *Po...* If this Eighth should die to Day I would marry the Ninth to-Morrow.

2. wife it: to play the wife, act as a wife.

1599 PORTER *Angry Wom. Abingt.* C 3, I should Wife it as fine as any woman could.

wifedom ('waifdɒm). [f. WIFE *sb.* + -DOM.]

1. The position or condition of a wife, married state (of a woman); the character or qualities of a wife: = WIFEHOOD 1, 2.

1848 *Tait's Mag.* XV. 114 Joy and merriness are not for me... nor wedded wifedom. **1887** *Contemp. Rev.* Jan. 114 This essential for good wifedom is also an essential for good womanhood. **1898** *Daily Tel.* 15 Aug. 7/6 Unfettered by the cares of wifedom and motherhood.

2. Wives collectively, married women as a class.

1891 EBSWORTH *Roxb. Ball.* VII. 489 The new race of Wifedom is sadly degenerating. **1894** HALL CAINE *Manxman* III. ii, A circle of official wifedom.

† *wifehead. Obs. rare.* [f. WIFE *sb.* + -HEAD.] = next.

14... Chaucer's *L.G.W.* Prol. 253 (Selden MS.), Penelope and Marcia Catoun, Make of ȝour wyfhede no comparison. *Ibid.* 545, 691, 1687.

wifehood ('waifhʊd). Forms: see WIFE *sb.* and -HOOD; also 6 *wiue*-, 7 *wivehood*. [f. WIFE *sb.* + -HOOD. (OE. had *wifhād* womanhood.)]

1. The position or condition of a wife; married state (of a woman).

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 51 Fro ferst that sche wifhode tok. **c1440** *Promp.* Parv. 526/2 Wyfhood, uxoratus. **1748** RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) IV. 305 To restore her to her Virgin State by my confession, after her Wifehood had been reported to her Uncle. **1856** MRS. BROWNING *Aur. Leigh* II. 356, I ask for love... For wifehood. **1884** *Leeds Mercury* 30 Apr. 4/5 Her daughter has now grown to womanhood, and to-day enters upon the sacred duties of wifehood.

2. The character of, or befitting, a wife; 'behaviour becoming to a wife' (J.); wifeliness.

c1385 CHAUCER *L.G.W.* Prol. 253 Penelope & Marcia catoun Mak of ȝoure wyfthod no comparisoun. **1390** GOWER *Conf.* I. 74 Wifhode is lore In me, which wilhom was honeste. **1596** SPENSER *F.Q.* IV. v. 3 The vertue of chast loue, And wivehood true. **1616** B. JONSON *Devil an Ass* I. vi, Thou, onely art to heare, not speake a word, ... on your wivehood, wife. **a1625** FLETCHER *Woman's Prize* IV. iv, She hath neither manners, honesty, behaviour, Wife-hood, nor woman-hood. **1830** TENNYSON *Isabel* 12 The stately flower... Of perfect wifehood. **1873** SYMONDS *Grk. Poets* iv. 107 Plutarch's Life of Cleomenes contains two historical pictures of heroic wifehood.

wifekin: see after WIFE *sb.*

wifeless ('waiflis), *a.* Forms: see WIFE *sb.*; also 5-6 *wyue*-, 5-7 *wiue*-, *wiveles*, -less(e). [OE. *wiflêas*, f. *wif* WIFE *sb.* + *lêas* -LESS.] Having no wife; unmarried, celibate; *rarely*, deprived or bereaved of, or not accompanied by, one's wife.

a. of a man.

a1000 in Thorpe *Laws* II. 190 Wunize he a syððan wifless. **a1300** *Cursor* M. 26281 He pat slas his aun wif, He agh be wifleses al his lijf. **c1380** WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* I. 364 þei ben doid and wyfleses aȝens Goddis autorite. **c1386** CHAUCER *Merch. T.* 4 Sixty yee a wyfles man was hee. **c1400** BERYN 1090 Agea was enterid, And flawnus lyvid wyfles. **1480** *Robt. Devyll* 25 in Hazl. *E.P.P.* I. 219 Wyueles longe... haue I taryed, And lyued sole, withoute any mate. **1574** T. NEWTON *Health Mag.* Vijib, Wivelesse Bachelers and husbandlese maydens. **1613** PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* v. vii. 410 They liue on almes... They are wivelesse. **a1623** H. SWINBURNE *Spousals* (1686) 169 He was then Wifeless. **1842** C. WHITEHEAD *R. Savage* xviii, Many of the married fellows do not appear to be a whit happier than your wifeless men. **a1849** J. C. MANGAN *Poems* (1859) 459 Wifeless, friendless, flaggonless, ... Not quite bookless, though. **1859** TENNYSON *Elaine* 1362 A lonely man Wifeless and heirless.

b. of life, state, etc.

1546 BALE *Engl. Votaries* Pref. 4 Their vowed wyuelesse and husbandlese chastyte. **1548** CROWLEY *Confut. Shaxton* Hvj b, The gyft of wyueles lyfe. **1563** *Homilies* II. *Matrimonie* Tttij, They in their wivelesse state run into open abominations. **1840** HOOD *Our Lady's Chapel* 13 Whose mouldy, wifeless husbandry but yields Beans, peas, potatoes, mangel-wurzel, rye.

¶ Catarchistically used of a woman: That is not a wife; unmarried.

1824 SCOTT *St. Ronan's* xxxii, A wifeless mother.

Hence *wifelessness, wifeless condition.

1886 'M. GRAY' *Silence of Dean Maitland* III. ii, His six years' wifelessness had weighed sorely upon him.

wifelet, wifeling: see after WIFE *sb.*

wifelike ('waiflaik), *a.* and *adv.* [f. WIFE *sb.* + -LIKE.]

A. adj. Resembling, or having the character of, a wife; characteristic of or befitting a wife.

1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII.* II. iv. 138 Thy rare qualities, ... Thy meeknesse Saint-like, Wife-like Gouernment. **1796** *Plain Sense* (ed. 2) II. 190 With a kind of bitter railleury he treated her wife-like fears. **1856** MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* xlii. V. 37 Her heart swelling with wifelike pride.

B. adv. In the manner of a wife.

1598 CHAPMAN *Iliad* IV. [VIII.] 138 Nor canst thou skale our turrets tops nor leade the wiues to Fleets Of valiant men; that wifelike fear'st my aduerser charge to meete. **1611** SHAKS. *Cymb.* III. ii. 8 She... vndergoes More Goddesse-like, then Wife-like; such Assaults As would take in some Vertue. **1864** TENNYSON *Aylmer's F.* 808 When she laid, Wifelike, her hand in one of his.

wifely ('waifli), *a.* Forms: see WIFE *sb.*; also 6 *wyue*-, 6-7 *wiue*-, 7-8 *wively*. [OE. *wiflic*: see WIFE *sb.* and -LY¹. Cf. OHG. *wiblich* (MHG. *wiplich*, G. *weiblich*), Du. *wijftijk*.]

† **1.** Of or pertaining to a woman or women; womanly, feminine. *Obs. rare* (exc. OE.).

c893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* I. ii. §2 Ac hio mid wiflice niðe was feohtende ðn þæt underiende folc Æthiopiam. **c900** tr. *Bæda's Hist.* II. xx. §2 þæt he ne furþum wiflice hād... arede. **1513** DOUGLAS *Æneis* VII. vii. 7 All in lambit in ire and wyfly thochtis [L. *jemineæ curaque iræque*]. **1533** BELLENDEN *Livy* I. xxii. (S.T.S.) I. 123 The victorie... of þis wifelic contencioun [L. *muliebris certaminis*] was gevin to luces.

2. Pertaining to, characteristic of, or befitting a wife.

c1000 *Gloss. in Haupt's Zeitschrift* IX. 505 *Matronalis*, wiflicre. **c1385** CHAUCER *L.G.W.* 1737 Lucrece, Hire wifly chastite. *Ibid.* 1843 Hir hert was so wifely and so trewe. **1549** COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. I Cor.* vii. 12-16 Howe knowest thou... whether thou shalt... by wyuely loue, cause thy husbände to amende? **1591** HARRINGTON *Orl. Fur.* xxi. xiii, Against all wively care... she lets her raging loue to raunge. **1739** G. OGLE *Gualth. & Gris.* 1313 Wively Patience. **1844** MRS. BROWNING *Duchess May* lxxv, Wively prayer meets deathly need! **1863** MISS YONGE *Chr. Names* II. iv. 142 A picture of wively patience. **1872** JEAFFRESON

Brides & Bridals I. ii. 21 The duty of wively submissiveness to marital authority was impressively inculcated.

3. Having the character befitting a wife; such as a wife should be.

1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* x. xl, Where she a maiden wife might live, and wively maid. **1853** READE *Chr. Johnstone* xvii, A wively wife, a motherly mother, and above all, a lady. **1871** H. B. FORMAN *Living Poets* 231 Lest our wives and daughters should lose delicacy or refinement, become less wively and daughterly.

Hence † *wifelihead* (*wive*-), *wifeliness*, *wively* character or quality.

1557 *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 204 Whose perfect vertues... So did adorne that humble *wiuelyhed. **1868** BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* v. 604 With a wife I look to find all *wifeliness. **1896** MRS. CAFFYN *Quaker Grandmother* xxii, Mossy beamed with gentle wifeliness... 'You needn't tell me how to appreciate my husband, Mr. Royds.'

† *wifely, adv. Obs. rare.* In 5 *wyuly*. [f. WIFE *sb.* + -LY². (OE. had *wiflice* 'muliebriter'.)] As a wife.

c1400 *Destr. Troy* 3359 Thou shalt haue... me... *wyuly* to weld; & I the wed shall.

wifeship, wifeward: see after WIFE *sb.*

wiff(e, obs. forms of WIFE.

wiffin, obs. Sc. pa. pple. of WEAVE v.

Wiffle ('wif(ə)l). *U.S.* Also *wiffle*. [f. WHIFF *sb.*¹ 1 d + -LE.] A proprietary term used *attrib.* to designate a hollow perforated ball used for playing a variety of baseball, esp. as *Wiffle ball* (also a game played with such a ball); *Wiffle bat*, a bat designed for use with a Wiffle ball. Cf. *whiffle-ball* s.v. WHIFFLE *sb.* 4.

1957 *Official Gaz.* (U.S. Patent Office) 22 Jan. TM138/1 *Wiffle*. For simulated or auxiliary pliable plastic baseball and a game played therewith. First use Feb. 5, 1954. **1965** *Ibid.* 16 Nov. TM123/1 *Wiffle*. For bats and a device for tossing a ball. First use 1959. **1970** *Time* 25 May 43 [David Eisenhower] passing the afternoon playing wiffle ball on the south lawn of his father-in-law's White House. **1985** *Yankee* Oct. 17/2 The first Wiffle bats were broomstick handles taped at one end—the plastic Wiffle Bat didn't come along until later. *Ibid.*, Some people use the term *Wiffleball* for any plastic ball. **1987** *N.Y. Times* 1 July B-1/1 Five Sports Mobiles, equipped with Ping-Pong tables, wiffle balls and bats, a pool table [etc.].

wife ('waifi). Also *wifey*, *wify*. [f. WIFE *sb.* + -IE, -Y⁶.] Little wife: used as a term of endearment for a wife.

1786 BURNS *Poems, chiefly in Scottish Dial.* 126 His clean hearth-stone, his thrifty Wife's smile. **1819** KEATS *Let.* 18 Sept. (1931) II. 439, I intend to write a letter to you[r] Wife. **1825** JAMIESON, *Wiffie*, a diminutive from *wife*; generally expressive of smallness of size, but sometimes merely a fondling term, S. *wife*. [The accompanying quot. for *wiffie* is dubious.] **1841** TUPPER *Twins* vi, Turn bachelor again... leave wifey at home. **1862** E. B. RAMSAY *Remin.* I. i. 13 Whaur's the auld wifey? **1888** MRS. H. WARD *Robt. Elsmere* xix, I know you have worries of your own, wife.

wifing ('waifɪŋ). *rare.* [f. WIFE *sb.* + -ING¹.] The activity or condition of being a wife or housewife.

1905 G. B. SHAW *Let.* 3 Jan. (1972) II. 499 As to ordinary domestic mothering and wifing she [sc. Shaw's mother] was utterly unfitted for the sentiment of it. **1952** S. KAUFFMANN *Philanderer* (1953) ii. 28 If there was one kind of wife he didn't want... it was one who made a career of 'wifing'.

wifish ('waifɪʃ), *a.* Forms: 6 *wyuysh*, -ish, 7 *wiuish*, *wivish*, 8- *wifish*, (9 *erron. wifesh*). [f. WIFE *sb.* + -ISH¹. Earlier *wivish*; cf. *thievish* from *thief*.]

† **1.** Belonging to or characteristic of a woman; womanly; in depreciatory sense, womanish. *Obs.*

1535 COVERDALE 2 *Macc.* vii. 21 She exorted... them... boldly and stedfastly, ... wakyng vp hir wyuysh thought with a manly stomacke. ? **1560** — *Treat. Death* III. v. 264 To wayte stil till heauinesse forget itselfe, is a wyuish thinge: ... to brydle it by times, besemeth the... sobernesse of a man.

2. Belonging to or characteristic of, or having the character of, a wife. (Usually in more or less depreciatory sense: see -ISH¹ 2.) † In quot. 1616, Too devoted or submissive to one's wife.

1616 T. SCOTT *Christs Pol.* 17 The Prophet would not haue any wise man to be so wiuish, and so wedded to the loue of his wife. **1664** N. B. St. *Athanasius* 213 [She] by her wivish and womanish solicitations... hampered Valentinian. **1773** in *Early Diary Fr. Burney* (1889) I. 192 We used to wonder at Hetty's being so wifish. **1797** in C. K. Paul W. *Godwin* (1876) I. 245 With a true wifish submission to your judgment. **1895** MEREDITH *Amazing Marr.* xxvii, The mother's wifeish lines would, perhaps, have been tested in a furnace.

† **wifkin. Obs.** [OE. *wifcyn*(n: see WIFE *sb.* and KIN *sb.*¹) Womankind, women collectively.

c900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* I. i. þæt hi... of þam wifcynne him cýning curan. **971** *Bisth. Hom.* 143 þu eart gebletsod betuh calle wifcyn. **c1250** *Gen. & Ex.* 656 Wið-uten wifkin and childe smale. *Ibid.* 1177 Nost wif-kinnes non birðe ne nam.

† **wifle. Obs.** Also 4 *wefle*, 4-5 *wyfle*, 5 *wyfele*. [OE. *wifel*, f. OTeut. stem *wib-* (cf. ON. *vifr* sword):—Indo-eur. *wip-* to wave, swing, shake

(cf. Skr. *vīp* switch, rod, shaft of an arrow): see WAIVE *v.*²

Parallels to the formation with the suffix *-il-* are found in MDu., MLG. *weifelen* to sway, wobble, waver, early mod.G. *weibeln*, OHG. *weibil* (MHG. *weibel*) apparitor, summoner, ON. *wifl* cudgel, bat.]

A dart, javelin, spear; a battle-axe.

c1000 Gloss. in *Haupt's Zeitschrift* IX. 432 *Spiculo*, gare vel wifele. c1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 4383 Wyp wyfles strike, wyp axes hewe. c1365 in Hudson & Tingey *Rec. Norwich* (1906) I. 396 Roger servant of William de... sword, coutel, wefle. c1400 *Sowdone* 2650 With Wifes, Fauchons, Gaulyokes and Dantes. c1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 526/2 Wyfle, wepene..., bipennis. 1449 *Paston Lett.* Suppl. (1901) 24 That she shuld make here men to leue here wyfeles and here jackes. c1460 *Invent. Sir J. Fastolfe in Archæologia* XXI. 272 Item, j Borspere. Item, vj Wifes.

wifman(n, -mon, obs. ff. WOMAN.

wift, variant of WHIFT *sb.*

wift, *v.* Obs. or *dial.* Also 6 wyfft. [Onomatopœic.] *intr.* †a. To turn aside or go astray (*obs.*). b. To move lightly to and fro, or along; to waver; to drift.

1554-8 in *Songs & Ball. Phil. & Mary* (Roxb.) 4 To walke the wuthy wayes, and frame them not to wyfft. 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* xvi. v. 63 Dragons, wrought with woufe of purple thred, leaving their winding tailles to wift in the wind. 1864 *Harland's Lanc. Lyrics* (1866) 234 An' tell me, while thae 'rt wiften' on, Heaw things are deawn i' Howden Dale.

†**wifthing**. Obs. [OE. *wifping*, f. WIFE *sb.* + THING *sb.*] An affair connected with a woman or wife. a. Sexual intercourse. b. A wedding, nuptial ceremony.

c1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 340 þæt pis sy to wif þingum on bysmær [irritamentum ad coitum]. c1000 in Thorpe *Laus* II. 180 Be þam men þe gelomlice wif-ping begæð [de homine qui crebras nuptias conciliat]. c1205 *LAY.* 4444 Belin iħærdæ... of his broðer wifðinge. *Ibid.* 31128 þe wes wif-ðing riche.

wig (wig), *sb.*¹ Now *dial.* Forms: 4-6 wygge, 5-8 wigg, 6-7 wigge, (8 whigg, 8-9 whig), 7- wig. [a. MLG., MDu. *wigge* (Westphalian *wigge*, Du. *wig*) wedge, wedge-shaped cake, by-form of MLG. etc. *wegge* (see WEDGE *sb.*)] A kind of bun or small cake made of fine flour.

1376 *Munim. Gildh. Lond.* (Rolls) III. 424 Cum uno pane de obolo, vocato 'wygge'. 1413 *Maldon, Essex, Crt.-rolls* Bundle 8 No. 1 (MS.) Ponderatores panis presentant quod... panis wastell pistoris de Writle in defectu xs; item, le wigg ejusdem in defectu, xs. c1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 526/2 Wygge, brede (P. or bunne brede). 1528 *MORE Dyaloge* II. xi. (1529) 63/b2 Some wax dronk in lent of wygges & craknels. 1600 *SURFLET Country Farm* v. xx. 710 The workers in pastrie do vse the rising of beere to make their wigs withall. 1620 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Jack a Lent* Cjb, His round halfe-penny loaves are transformd into squ[are] wiggs, (which wiggles like drunkards are drown in their Ale). 1664 *PEPYS Diary* 8 Apr., Home to the only Lenten supper I have had of wiggs and ale. 1688 *HOLME Armoury* III. vi. 293/2 A... Wigg is White Bread moulded long ways, and thick in the middle. 1769 *MRS. RAFFALD Engl. Housekpr.* (1778) 285 Toast a light wig. 1810 A. BOSWELL *Edin.* 163 Rich Whigs and Cookies smoke upon the board. 1888 *MRS. H. WARD Robt. Elsmere* II. An exasperating belief in the sufficiency of buttered 'whigs' and home-made marmalade for all requirements.

wig, *sb.*² *Sc.* and *north.* Also 7 wigge, 9 wyg. [a. ON. *veggr* wall (cf. RIG *sb.*² = ON. *hregg*). Cf. WIG-LOUSE.] Only in phr. from wig to wall, backwards and forwards, from pillar to post.

1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 239 Tossed from poste to piller, from wigge to wall, by a restless course of miseries. 1768 *ROSS Helenore* II. 99 Mind what this lass has suffer'd now for you, How she is catcht for you frae wig to wa. 1808 *JAMIESON* s.v., A thing is said to gang frae wig to waw, when it is moved backwards and forwards from the one wall of a house to the other.

wig, *sb.*³ Also 8 wigg. [Shortened form of PERIWIG, as *winkle* of *periwinkle*.]

1. a. An artificial covering of hair for the head, worn to conceal baldness or to cover the inadequacy of the natural hair, as a part of professional, ceremonial, or formerly of fashionable, costume (as still by judges and barristers, formerly also by bishops and other clergymen), or as a disguise (as by actors on the stage): = PERIWIG 1, PERUKE 2. (See also BAG-WIG, bob-wig (BOB *sb.*¹ 4 b), FULL-BOTTOMED wig, TIE-WIG.)

1675 *Char. Town-Gallant* 4 He...looks down with Contempt on every hody, whose Wy is not right Flaxen. a1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Bar-wig*, between a bob and a long one. 1710 *SWIFT City-Shower* 42 Triumphant Tories, and desponding Whigs, Forget their feuds, and join to save their wigs. 1716 *GAY Trivia* III. 55 Nor is thy Flaxen Wig with Safety worn. 1782 *COWPER John Gilpin* 98 Away went Gilpin, neck or nought, Away went hat and wig! 1835 *GLAOSTONE in Morley Life* (1903) I. 127 The disappearance of the bishops' wigs, which he said had done more harm to the church than anything else! 1845 J. T. SMITH *Bk. for Rainy Day* 93 He was a spare man, and wore a powdered club-wig, similar to that worn by Tom Davies, the book-seller and biographer of Garrick. 1853 *DICKENS Bleak Ho.* i, There is the registrar below the Judge, in wig and gown. 1879 *BROWNING Ned Bratts* 44 Sergeant Postlethwayte—Dashing the wig oblique as he mopped his oily pate.

b. Phrases. *dash my wig*(s) (colloq.), a mild imprecation (see DASH *v.*¹ 11). *my wig*(s)!

(colloq.) a meaningless expression of surprise, etc. *wigs on the green*, a colloquial expression (orig. Irish) for coming to blows or sharp altercation (wigs being liable to fall or be pulled off in a fray).

1797 *MRS. M. ROBINSON Walsingham* IV. 75 Dash my wig, if Ainsforth is not as well-looking as your finical Welsh baronet. 1812 Dash my wigs [see OASH *v.*¹ 11]. 1856 *Chamb. Jnl.* 1 Mar. 139/1 If a quarrel is foreseen as a probable contingency, it is predicted that 'there'll be wigs on the green'. 1871 *HOPPE Engl.-Deutsch. Suppl. Lex.*, Wig, s. my wigs! 1891 *MORRIS in Mackail Life* (1899) II. 257, I am writing a short narrative poem. My wig! but it is garrulous. 1903 M. G. GERARO *Leaves fr. Diaries* i. 22 Whenever they saw them advancing, they felt there would be wigs on the green.

c. Jocularly applied to a (natural) head of hair, esp. of a child; hence *curly-wig*, a jocular appellation for a child with curly hair.

d. *transf.*

1823 *COBBETT Rur. Rides* (1885) I. 226 Those white, curled clouds, that we call Judges' Wigs. 1843 *Tait's Edin. Mag.* X. 444 Plunging his nose amidst such an enormous wig of yeast as o'ertopped his cannikin.

e. *Austral. Sheepshearing.* The wool of a sheep growing around the eyes and on top of the head, removed during shearing. Cf. TOPKNOT 1 b.

a1964 H. P. TRITTON in R. Ward *Penguin Bk. Austral. Ballads* (1964) 228 Two blows to chip away the wig. 1972 J. S. GUNN in G. W. Turner *Good Austral. Eng.* iii. 61 One thing I did notice about shearing was... two terms for the one idea... for example rouseabout/shedhand... topknot/wig.

2. *transf.* A person who wears a wig (professionally); a dignitary. *colloq.* (Cf. BIGWIG.)

1828 *Sporting Mag.* (N.S.) XXI. 323 The horrid systematic opposition to hunting, which has justly raised so great odium against the Wigs. 1828 *SCOTT Jnl.* 18 Apr. (1891) 576 Dined with the Dean of Chester... There were the amiable Bishop of London... Bishop of Llandaff, the Dean of St. Paul's, and other dignitaries... It was a very pleasant day—the wigs against the wits for a guinea in point of conversation. 1858 *CARLYLE Fredk. Gl. ix. iv. II.* 436 So the heirship fell to us, as the biggest wig in the most benighted Chancery would have to grant.

3. Technical name for the coarse hair on the shoulders of a full-grown male fur-seal, and hence for the seal itself when bearing this.

1830 N. DANA *Mariner's Sk.* 145 (Thornton) These old wigs are more than twice as large as the female seal. 1832 C. M. GOORIDGE *Voy. S. Seas* 29 The dog seals are named by South Seamen Wigs. 1883 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 449 At five years... what is called the 'wig'—a mass of coarse hair on the shoulders—appears... so that it does not pay to kill an animal of this age. 1910 *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 352/2 The largest skins, known in the trade as 'wigs', which range up to 8 ft. in length, are uneven and weak in the fur.

4. [Cf. WIG *v.*² 2.] A severe rebuke or scolding, ? orig. from a 'bigwig'; an act of WIGGING. *slang* or *colloq.*

1789 J. WOODFORD *Diary* 1 Feb. (1927) III. 81 Thomas Carr dined with our Folks in Kitchen. Gave him a tolerable good Wigg. 1804 *SIR J. MALCOLM in Life* (1856) I. 267 If you got a private wig about Gwalior, I shall get a dozen. 1813 *MOORE Twopenny Post Bag* ii. 52 Else, though the Pr—e be long in rigging, 'Twould take, at least, a fortnight's wiggling—Two wigs to every paragraph—Before he well could get through half. 1852 *DOVETON Burmese War* iii. 76 At the risk of a wig in G. O., or even a court-martial. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 21 Nov. 3/3 As often as not a 'wig' ended by the offer of a cheroot.

5. *attrib. and Comb.*, as wig-box, -dresser, -maker, -making, -puffer, -tie, -wearer, -wearing, -weaver, -weaving; wig-like adj.; wig-block, a rounded block for placing a wig upon when being made or not in use; wig-picker U.S. slang, a psychiatrist; wig-stand, a support, usu. of wood or porcelain, comprising a base and rounded stem upon which a wig may rest when not in use (cf. wig-block); wig-tail, (a) a name for a tropic-bird, from its long tail-feathers; (b) the tail of a wig; wig-sumach, -tree, a name for the Venetian sumach (*Rhus Cotinus*), from its hairy inflorescence.

a1745 *SWIFT Country Life* 123 Nim lost his *wig-block, Dan his jordan. 1828 *MISS MITFORD Village Ser.* III. *Country Barber*, He...lived alone...with no other companions than his wig-blocks and a tame starling. 1713 *ADDISON Guardian* No. 145 ¶4, I take the Liberty of enclosing it to you in my *Wig-Box. 1751 *Affecting Narr. H.M.S. Wager* 118 These odd Creatures [sc. armadillos] are cased with a covering in Shape somewhat...resembling that of a travelling Wig Box. 1850 *THACKERAY Pendennis* lii[j], Scarce anything told of the lawyer but the wig-box beside the Venus upon the middle shelf of the bookcase. 1828 *MISS MITFORD Village Ser.* III. *Country Barber*, Appointed his shaver, *wig-dresser, and wig-maker. 1853 *HUMPHREYS Coin-coll. Man.* I. xii. 141 Rows of stiff *wiglike curls. 1755 *JOHNSON, Perukemaker*,...a *wigmaker. 1828 [see wig-dresser]. 1961 *Amer. Speech XXXVI.* 147 *Wig picker,...a psychiatrist. 1971 M. MCCARTHY *Birds of Amer.* 153 Was I afraid of what a wig-picker might say? 1742 *RICHARDSON Pamela* (1785) IV. 247 [He] should keep no Company, but that of Tailors, *Wig-puffers, and Milleners. 1883 R. W. PROCTER *Barber's Shop* (rev. ed.) xix. 189 Here is the lost one's original epitaph (with the *wig-stand and block to match)...*The Barber's Epitaph.* 1911 O. ONIONS *Withershins* i. 18 A couple of mushroom-shaped old wooden wig-stands. 1970 *Country Life* 17-24 Dec. 1245/2 Hand-painted wig stands from Dodo Designs. 1867 *Chambers' Encycl.* IX. 203/2 Venetian S[umach]...known also as *Wig S[umach] or Wig Tree. 1888 *Amer. Natur.* Oct. 862 The *wig-tail, a white bird about the size of a pigeon, having two

long, flexible, streamer-like tail feathers. 1905 A. T. SHEPPARD *Red Cravat* III. ii. 242 The powdered wig-tail poked out truculently above the red collar. 1878 *BROWNING Poets of Croisic cxxxviii*, Flounce Of *wig-ties and of coat-tails. 1867 *Wig tree [see wig sumach above]. 1852 S. R. MAITLAND *Eight Ess.* 236 The cap was only such an one as *wig-wearers were wont to use. 1784 *COWPER Task* iv. 543 Her head...Indebted to some smart *wig-weaver's hand For more than half the tresses it sustains. 1828 *MISS MITFORD Village Ser.* III. *Country Barber*, His dexterity in *wig-weaving.

Hence (chiefly *nonce-wds.*) 'wigdom, judges or lawyers as a body; 'wigful, as much as fills a wig; 'wiggish a., having the character of a wig (whence 'wiggishness); 'wiggism, the practice of wearing wigs; 'wigless a., destitute of a wig, not wearing a wig; 'wiglet, a little wig; wiglome'ration [after *conglomeration*], humorously for 'ceremonious fuss' (in legal proceedings).

1886 *Illustr. Lond. News* 27 Nov. 588/3 *Wigdom', preparing for its most dignified exhibition on the Bench of the High Court of Justice. 1836 E. HOWARD R. REEFER vii, I was told to...get a *wigful of potatoes..., the...pedagogue coolly taking off his wig. 1866 *TROLLOPE Claverings* III. An effort...to hide the *wiggishness of his wigs. 1821 *New Monthly Mag.* I. 573 The history of *wiggism in this country...from its origin down to its decline and fall. 1825 *Ibid.* XIV. 256. 1799 E. DU BOIS *Piece Fam. Biog.* I. 224 Thrusting his *wigless head out of the window. 1813 *COLMAN Br. Grins, Vagaries Vind.* xlix, Wigless, with his cassock torn. 1906 *CALTHROP Engl. Costume* III. 133 In the days when to be wigless was to be undressed. 1831 *Examiner* 660/1 Disarray'd and bare Of cassock, shovel-hat, and *wiglet fair. 1964 *Sun-Herald* (Brisbane) 21 June 56/3 Wiglets, or half wigs start from 11 gns and full wigs are from 32 gns. 1979 L. KALLEN *Introducing C. B. Greenfield* xi. 131 A stand bearing wigs and wiglets. 1853 *DICKENS Bleak Ho.* viii, He is a ward in Chancery...The whole thing will be vastly ceremonious, wordy, unsatisfactory, and expensive, and I call it, in general, *Wiglomeration.

wig (wig), *v.*¹ *dial.* Also 6 wygge. [See WIGGLE *v.*] *intr.* and *trans.* To move lightly from side to side; to wag, waggle.

a1529 *SKELTON E. Rummyng* 137 It wygges and it waggas, Lyke tawny saffron bagges. 1865 *Slang Dict.* (ed. 3), Wig, move off, go away. 1882 *Jamieson's Scott. Dict.*, Wig, wigg, v. 1. To move, shake, wag. Shetl.

wig, *v.*²

1. [f. WIG *sb.*³ 1, or back-formation on WIGGED.] *trans.* To supply with a wig; to put a wig upon; *spec.* to provide with wigs in preparation for a theatrical performance (with the actors or the performance as obj.).

1826 *Examiner* 119/2 Cooper performed the husband, and had to wig himself into age for the purpose. 1872 E. YATES *Castaway* i. 1, It was Mr. Samuel's boast that he had 'wigg'd and painted' more 'stars' than any other man out of London. 1889 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 3 July 4/2, I...have the pleasure of congratulating Mr. Clarkson on having 'wigg'd' three operas in one evening.

2. [f. WIG *sb.*³ 4, or back-formation on WIGGING.] To rebuke or censure severely, scold, rate. Also rarely *intr.* with *at. slang* or *colloq.*

1829 *Examiner* 595/1 The *Chronicle* discovers too much disposition to what is vulgarly but expressively called, wigg'ing us. 1831 *CAPT. B. HALL Voy. & Trav.* I. iii. 73, I had...from the first day I went afloat—a great horror at being reproached, or 'wigg'd', as we called it. 1908 W. OE MORGAN *Somehow Good* xxv, What are you wigg'ing at her for? 1911 *Times* 13 Apr. 9/4 A subordinate...who presumably has been severely 'wigg'd' by his chief.

3. [perh. f. prec. or WIG *sb.*³ 1.] *intr.* With out. To be overcome by extreme emotion; to be stimulated to the point of imbalance; to go mad, 'freak out'. U.S. slang.

1955 *Amer. Speech XXX.* 305 He wigg'd out at the prof's gag. 1968 P. WELLES *Babyhip* xx. 139 'The Boss Pornographers,' he said, 'it's LSD Music, to wig-out by.' 1975 *Time* 27 Oct. 70/3 Some in the startled crowd recall him saying, 'The company is now in God's hands.' One executive wondered if Goshorn had 'wigg'd out'. 1978 J. GORES *Gone, no Forwarding* (1979) xi. 69 Kearney was going to wig out when the expense voucher for \$100 worth of cocaine came in.

Hence wigged-out *ppl.* a.

1977 *New Yorker* 24 Oct. 152/2 The lunacies...just function as part of a normally wigged-out mode of existence. 1980 *San Francisco Bay Guardian* 16-23 Oct. 21/2 It's a barbed, wigged-out satire on hypocrisy and authoritarian therapy via the problem of alcoholism.

wig, var. WHIG *sb.*¹; obs. f. WHIG *sb.*²; var. WIDGE *dial.*, beast of burden.

Wigan ('wɪɡən). A stout make of calico, originally manufactured at Wigan in Lancashire.

1875 *KNIGHT Dict. Mech.* 1882 CAULFIELD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework*.

wigen, wigeon: see WIDGEON.

wigg, obs. f. WHIG, WIG.

wigged (wɪgd), a. [f. WIG *sb.*³ + -ED².] Furnished with or wearing a wig.

1777 *MME. D'ARBLAY Early Diary* (1889) II. 192 Dr. Wall was so differently wigged, that I really did not know him. 1822 *Syo. SMITH Prisons* Wks. 1859 I. 362/2 The judge, wigged and robed as he is, is often very inferior in

acuteness to either of the persons who are pleading under him. **1883** D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* xxviii. (1885) 235 Wiggled heads went together in the well of the court, and papers were rustled to and fro on the table.

wiggen, -in, dial. var. QUICKEN *sb.*¹

wigger, obs. dial. form of WICKER; var. WIDGER.

wiggery, ('wigəri). [f. WIG *sb.*³ + -ERY.]

1. Wigs or false hair collectively; the practice of wearing a wig.

1775 STURGES in *Lett. J. Granger* (1805) 168 D' Loveday shewed me your waggery upon wiggery. **1800** in *Spirit Publ. Jnrls.* IV. 59 When I contemplate the Female wiggery, whether it be Roman or Athenian. **1866** TROLLOPE *Claverings* iii. He had lost the hair from the crown of his head, and had preferred wiggery to baldness.

2. Used by Carlyle for: Empty formality (in legal proceedings), 'red tape'.

1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pr.* II. xvii. There is yet in venerable wigged Justice some wisdom amid such mountains of wiggeries and folly. **1858** — *Fredk. Gt.* vi. ix. 11. 131 Long lawsuit, . . . lengthy law-pleadings, and much parchment and wiggery.

wigging ('wigin), *vbl. sb. slang or colloq.* [f. WIG *sb.*³ + -ING¹.] A severe rebuke, reproof, or reprimand; a scolding.

1813 [see WIG *sb.*³ 4]. **1834** MARRYAT *Peter Simple* I. iv. It was her idea, that I should have a confounded wigging and be sent on board. **1895** *Times Law Rep.* XI. 204 The clerk of the board gave these religious people a fine wigging, pointing out that in spite of their religious professions they were deliberate liars.

wiggish, **wiggism**: see after WIG *sb.*³

wiggle ('wig(ə)l), *v.* Now *colloq.* or *dial.* Forms: 3-4 wigel(en, 4 wygle, -el, 7 wigle, 9 wiggle, (Sc. weegle). [Cognate with or a. (M)LG. *wiggelen*, MDu. *wighelen* (Du. *wiggelen*), frequentative f. *wig-* (cf. LG. *wiggen*, Norw. dial. *vigge*, WIG *v.*¹). Cf. the parallel WAG *v.*, WAGGLE *v.*

Some compare OE. *wiccliende* (Haupt's *Zeitschrift* IX. 459/6) glossing *nutabundum*, but this is prob. an error for *wiccliende* (Napier O.E. Glosses I. 2234).]

1. *intr.* To move to and fro or from side to side irregularly and lightly, to waggle; to walk with such a movement, to stagger, reel, also to waddle (now *dial.*); to go or move sinuously, to wriggle. Also *fig.*

a1225 *Ancre. R.* 214 þe giure glutun . . . wigeleð [Corpus MS. wigled] ase uordrunken mon. **1398** TREVISA *Barth. De P.R.* xviii. ix. (Add. MS. 27944) Centris is a serpente pat bendip noughte nouper wigelep but holdep alway forþ right. **1611** [see *wiggling* ppl. adj. below]. **1839** in F. W. Maitland *Leslie Stephen* (1906) 25 He wished I would not read that kind of book that went wiggling from one subject to another. **1839** LONGE *Hyperion* IV. ii. To pass the morning, to use his own quaint language, 'in making dodging calls, and wiggling round among the ladies!' **1864** LATTO *Tam. Bodkin* xiv. 133, I warselled an' weegled, an' lickit, an' flang. **1901** Munsey's *Mag.* XXV. 340/1 He wiggled over the grass towards the concealed marksman. **1913** MRS. STRATTON-PORTER *Laddie* vii. (1917) 122 Father . . . pulled his lower lip until his ears almost wiggled. **1927** H. A. VACHELL *Dew of Sea* 260, I must wiggle out of the mess.

2. *trans.* To move (something) in this way; *refl.* = 1. Also *fig.*

1685 in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 343 A bare shift or pretence to wigle myself out of danger. **c1850** 'Dow jr.' in Jerdan *Yankee Hum.* (1853) 86 Wiggle yourselves . . . among the three, and make headway the best way you can. **1897** VIOLET HUNT *Unkist, Unkind!* xii. He unhooked a Malay kris . . . and wiggled it about in the crack of the door.

Hence 'wiggling' *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*; also 'wiggletail', name for the larva of a gnat or mosquito.

1855 *Chicago Times* 9 Aug. 4/6 The mosquito proceeds from the animalcule commonly termed the 'wiggle-tail'. **1884** J. C. HARRIS *Nts. Uncle Remus* 172 Water too full of wiggle-tails. **1398** TREVISA *Barth. De P.R.* xviii. ix. (Bodl. MS.), Serpentes swymmeþ in water bi 'wiglinge and foldinge of þe bodie [orig. *per corporis inflexionem*]. **1894** *Educator* (Philad.) Mar., The ceaseless motion—the wiggling of the child. **1611** COTGR., *Serpentant* . . . wrigling, *wrigling, crooking, winding. **1849** ALB. SMITH *Pottleton Legacy* (repr.) 51 One of those little wiggling dogs. **1895** *Century Mag.* Aug. 541/2 A small, wiggling fish.

wiggle ('wig(ə)l), *sb.* and *a.* [f. the vb.]

A. sb. 1. An act of 'wiggling', a light wagging or wriggling movement, to get a wiggle on (U.S. slang), to hurry, bustle.

1816 J. K. PAULDING *Lett. from South* I. 235 They suffered their hair to grow into a mighty bunch behind, and walked with the genuine *Rutland wiggle*; that is to say, on tiptoe, and with a most portentous extension of the hinder-parts. **1869** L. M. ALCOTT *Little Women* II. xxiv. 355 Rob's footstool had a wiggle in its uneven legs. **1896** *Inlander* Jan. 147 *Get a wiggle on you*, hurry up; bestir yourself. **1894** *Educator* (Philad.) Feb. 279 Every fleeting expression of their faces or wiggle of their bodies. **1903** A. ADAMS *Log Cowboy* iv. Hasn't the boss got a wiggle on himself to-day! **1904** E. ROBINS *Magnetic North* xiii. 298 You can bunk early and get a four a.m. wiggle on.

2. = WIGGLER 1.

1831 T. BUTTRICK *Voy., Trav., & Discoveries* 78 The water was very bad. . . After straining it would still exhibit live insects, which they call wiggles.

3. A wavy line drawn by a pen, pencil, etc.

1942 *Punch* 12 Aug. 127/1 An old envelope bearing the regimental Paymaster's stamp, partly obliterated by

adhesive tape, and the word 'Confidential' crossed out with a wiggle in pencil. **1967** R. D. MATTUCK *Guide to Feynman Diagrams in Many-Body Problem* iv. 63 The majority of writers draw the above interaction with a dashed line. . . However, we shall always use the wiggle.

B. adj. 'Wiggling', wagging swiftly and lightly.

1888 DOUGHTY *Trav. Arabia Deserta* I. 324 Butting under the mothers' teats with their *wiggle tails.

'**wiggler**. [f. WIGGLE *v.* + -ER¹.] 1. Something that 'wiggles'; applied esp. to the larva of a mosquito.

1859 J. R. BARTLETT *Dict. Americanisms* (ed. 2) 492 *Waggletail*, the larva of the mosquito, etc.; also called a wiggler. **1895** *Outing* (U.S.) XXVI. 375/2 We . . . took . . . a box of worms, . . . for without one squirming wiggler the Madame would not have secured her bass. **1938** J. STEINBECK *Long Valley* 186 The mosquito wigglers tumbling up and down, end over end, in the water. **1969** K. M. WELLS *Owl Pen Reader* iv. 365 In a month or two this bog hole will be full of wigglers.

2. *Physics.* A magnet designed to make a beam of particles in an accelerator describe a sinusoidal path in order to increase the amount of radiation they produce. *Freq. attrib.*

1974 *IEEE Trans. Nucl. Sci.* XX. 984/1 This proposal projects the installation of many additional beam runs and 'wiggler' magnets. **1981** *Science* 16 Oct. 316/2 A wiggler is a special magnet that fits into one of the straight sections of a storage ring between the bending magnets. The wiggler bends the electrons into a sine wave-shaped path whose local radius of curvature is smaller than that of the smooth circular arc of the bending magnets.

wiggle-waggle ('wig(ə)l,wæg(ə)l), *v. colloq.* Reduplicated form combining WIGGLE *v.* and WAGGLE *v.* (cf. LG. *wigel-wageln* vb.), emphasizing the alternation of movement: used *intr.* or *trans.* So **wiggle-waggle sb.**, (a) the act of 'wiggle-wagging'; also, a children's game in which the players waggle their thumbs at a word of command; (b) (also **wiggle-woggie**) = CAKE-WALK *sb.* 2; **wiggle-waggle a.**, that 'wiggle-waggles'; *fig.* vacillating.

1825 BROCKETT *N.C. Gloss.*, **Wiggle-waggle*, a tremulous undulating motion. **1895** *Outing* (U.S.) XXVI. 42/2 Brisk holding up of fingers and turning down of thumbs, like the children's game of 'wiggle-waggle'. **1910** *Penny Guide Japan-British Exhib.* 25 Fun on the Wiggle Waggle. **1923** R. MACAULAY *Told by Idiot* III. xxi. 256 The establishment of the White City at Shepherd's Bush, with the Franco-British Exhibition . . . and flip-flops, switchbacks, wiggle-waggles, and scenic railways. **1938** 'G. ORWELL' *Homage to Catalonia* xii. 254 A dreadful thing called the Wiggle-Waggle at the White City Exhibition. **1778** JOHNSON in *Mme. D'Arbly's Diary* Sept., Poll is a stupid slut; . . . she was *wiggle-waggle, and I could never persuade her to be categorical. **1828** *Craven Gloss.*, *Wiggle-waggle*, quivering, vibrating. **1887** *Good Words* 673 *Wiggle-waggle* dress-improvers. **18..** *Scotch Haggis* 95 (E.D.D.) **Wiggle-wagging* his walking-stick over his left elbow. **1847** HALLIWELL, *Wiggle-waggle*, to wiggle. *East.* **1848** *Punch* XV. 14 The parachute . . . would . . . have wiggle-waggled itself into annihilation. **1807** *Outing* (U.S.) XXX. 224/1 It [sc. a fish] is gently removed from the hook, and suffered to go wiggle-wagging back to its green retreats.

wiggly ('wigh), *a. colloq.* [f. WIGGLE *v.* or *sb.* + -Y¹: cf. WAGGLY.] Characterized by or suggestive of 'wiggling'; (in reference to form) having small irregular undulations. Also in reduplicated forms **wiggly-waggly** (cf. WIGGLE-WAGGLE *sb.*, a.), -woggly.

1903 G. H. LORIMER *Lett. Self-made Merch.* vii. 84 A mule . . . with . . . droopy, wiggly-woggly ears that swung in a circle as easy as if they ran on ball-bearings. **1907** *Westm. Gaz.* 29 Oct. 2/3 His [sc. a dog's] legs are wiggly. **1907** *Blackw. Mag.* Apr. 459/1 Black 'Arscot' tie with a white wiggly bacterial pattern. **1913** *Daily News* 12 Nov. 8 The wiggly-waggly movement of the seal's body. **1919** CHRISTINE ORR *Glorious Thing* iv, That wiggly seam down the front.

wiggy ('wigi), *a.* 1. [f. WIG *sb.*³ + -Y¹.] Wearing, or distinguished by, a wig, bewigged; sometimes implying 'extremely grave, formal, or ceremonious'.

1817 MARIA EDGEWORTH *Harrington* vi, And there's our old apothecary . . . has taken such a fancy to her! But he's too old and wiggy. **1822** *Blackw. Mag.* XII. 198 Those of the wisest and wig-test members of the fraternity. **1840** MRS. GORE in *New Monthly Mag.* LX. 51 Powdered footmen and wiggy body-coachmen. **1884** *Athenæum* 21 Oct. 473/3 Mr. Kendal, though his get-up is a little 'wiggy', remains excellent as Philippe Derblay.

2. [f. WIG *v.*² 3.] Mad, crazy, 'freaky'. *U.S. slang.*

1963 L. DEIGHTON *Horse under Water* xxii. 96, I just got some new jazz records from the States, Ace. Pretty wiggy. **1972** *Last Whole Earth Catalog* (Portola Inst.) 31/1 Traditionally considerations such as his—economics, organizations, the future—turn a prophet's soul terrible and dark or at least partially wiggy. **1978** *Amer. Poetry Rev.* Nov./Dec. 26/2 'Poor devil,' she added, 'he blew the star's fuse when we went wiggy for the Thin Man on a cross.'

wighee, **wigh-hie**, **wighie**, -y, var. WEHEE.

wizel, var. WIEL *Obs.*, sorcery, etc.

wigher, var. *wicker*, *whicker* *v.*, to neigh.

1660 *Faithf. Friends* III. ii, I cut it [sc. a tail] from a dead horse that can now Neither wigher nor wag tail.

wight (wait), *sb. arch.* Forms: 1-5 wiht, 1, 3-5 wyht, (1 wuht), 3 (*Orm.*) wihht, (wiþt, wid), 3-4 whit, wizt(e, 4 wyzt, wyghte, whizt, whyzte, whyt, (wizth, wijzt, wieth, wihct, with, weiht, weith), 4-6 wyght, wighte, wite, *Sc.* wycht, (8 *arch.*) wicht, 5 whyzt, whiht, whyht, wyt, (whith, wyth(e, wythte), 5-6 wytte, (5-7 weight, 6 white, *Sc.* weycht), 4- wight. [OE. *wiht* m., f., n. = OS. *wiht* m. thing, pl. demons (MLG. *wicht* m., n. thing, being, creature, demon, LG. *wicht* n. girl, MDu., Du. *wicht* little child), OHG., MHG. *wiht* m., n. creature, being, thing, esp. of elves and dwarfs, (G. *wicht* m. creature, being, infant), ON. *vættr*, *vétrr*, *vittr* f. living creature, thing (also in idiomatic uses and phr. *ekki vætta*, *vætiki*, *vættr* not a whit, naught, not, *vettugi* nothing, *hvatvetna* anything whatever), Goth. *waiht* n. (only in *ni . . . waiht* nothing), *waihts* f. *ēidos*, *πρᾶγμα* (*ni . . . waihtais* or *waihts* nothing); ulterior connexions uncertain. For compounds in English see AUGHT *sb.*², NAUGHT, NOUGHT, UNWIGHT.]

† 1. A living being in general; a creature. *Obs.* *Beowulf* 120 Wiht unhælo, grim and grædiȝ. **c888** ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xvi. §2 Nanre wuht lichoma ne beoð þonne tederra þonne þæs monnes. **c1000** *Sax. Leechd.* I. 224 Swa lange swa ðu hy mid þe byrst, nan wiht yfeles þe ongean cymeð. **c1200** ORMIN *Ded.* 273 þatt nan wihht, nan enngell, nan mann, . . . Ne mihhte þurh himm sellenn þa Seffne godnessess shæwenn O mannkinn. **c1200** *Moral Ode* 78 (Trin. Coll. MS.) He wot hwat pencheð and hwat doð alle quike wihte. **c1205** LAY. 25869 Wæt art þu fære whi? eart þu angel? eart cniht? **c1250** *Owl & Night.* 87 Snailles mus & fule wiȝte [*v.r.* wihte]. **13..** *Northern Passion* (1913) I. 151 A neddir rampande, a lothely wyghte. **14..** *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 43/20 God sauc þis place fro alle oþer wykked wytes Boþe be dayes & be nytes! **c1450** *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 2416 Bestes of þe se and oþir wyght. **1559** W. CUNNINGHAM *Cosmogr.* *Glasse* 142 Vnto man, beast & euerye liuinge wite. **1586** B. YOUNG *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* iv. 177 Man is the onelie white whereat infinit. . . infortunes doe ayme at. **1587** GOLDING *De Mornay* ii. 15 We reduce . . . All men vnder the terme of Wight; all wights vnder the terme of liuing things.

b. orig. and chiefly with (good or bad) epithet, applied to supernatural, preternatural, or unearthly beings. *Obs.* or *rare arch.*

In the 17th c. esp. of the four beasts of the Apocalypse. **c950** *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark vi. 49 *Phantasma*, yfel wiht. **971** *Blickl. Hom.* 31 þæt manfulle wuht wolde þæt he hine werpode. **c1000** *Prayer* iv. 57 (Gr.) ðelugon hy him æt þam geleafan, forþon hy longe sculon Werge wihta wræce þrowian. **c1100** *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 108/23 *Satiri*, *uel fauni*, . . . *uel faumi* *ficarii*, unfæle men, wudewasan, unfæle wihtu. **c1200** *Moral Ode* 285 (Trin. Coll. MS.) þat beð ateliche fiend and Eiseliche wihten þo sulle þe wreche sowle isien þe sineȝeden purh sihte. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2750 þer beþ in þe eyr an hey, . . . As a maner gostes, wijtes as it be. **c1386** CHAUCER *Miller's T.* 293, I crouche thee from Elues and fro wightes. **c1400** *Pilgr. Soule* (Caxton 1483) i. iii. 4 The angel vpon my right syde and the fowle wyȝt vpon the other syde. **1610** HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 13 The gods above And heavenly wights. **a1638** MEDE *Wks.* (1672) 92 The Wights, the Elders, and every creature in Heaven. **1679** C. NESSE *Antichrist* 196 Those 4 living wights and 24 elders. **1826** W. IRVING *Babylon* II. vi. 124 Those four wights upon the white, red, black, and pale horses. **1830** SCOTT *Demonol.* v. 147 That these were the good wights (fairies) dwelling in the court of Elfland. **1894** MORRIS *Wood beyond World* xxx. 230 Our protection against uncouth wights.

c. A local name for the shrew-mouse.

1795 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* XIV. 317 A small species of mice, commonly called here [sc. Orkney] wights.

2. A human being, man or woman, person. Now *arch.* or *dial.* (often implying some contempt or commiseration).

c1200 ORMIN 1761 Unnesȝennndlike mare inoh þann aniz wihht maȝȝ pennkenn. **a1275** *Prov. Ælfred* 633 Wel worpe þe wid, þad þe first taite. **a1300** *K. Horn* 397 (Laud) Of þat fayre wihete Al þe halle gan licte. **13..** *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1792 'þat is a worde', quod þat wyzt, 'þat worst is of alle'. **1340-70** *Alex. & Dind.* 39 Neuere werrede we wiȝt wiȝt upon erpe. **1362** LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. IX. 4 3if any wiȝt wiste, where do-wel was at Inne. **c1386** CHAUCER *Prolog.* 71 He neuere yet no vileynye ne sayde In al his lyf vn to no maner wight. **c1425** *Cast. Persev.* 978 in *Macro Plays* 106 In wo & in wrake, wyckyd wyȝtis schal wepe. **c1470** HENRY WALLACE XI. 395 Gret syn it war yon saikless wicht to sla. **1500-20** DUNBAR *Poems* lxxv. 17, I nevir wowit weycht bot ȝow. **1550** CROWLEY *Last Trumpet* 614 Thou learned man, do not disdayne, To learne at me, a symple wyght. **1567** TURBERV. *Epit.*, etc. 34 Away shee went a wofull wretched Wight. **1579** SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Apr. 47 Of fayre Elisa be your siluer song, that blessed wight. **1604** SHAKES. *Oth.* II. i. 159 She was a wight, (if euer such wightes were) . . . To suckle Fooles, and chronicle small Beere. **1609** HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* 361 The heavenly gift of God granted unto blessed and happie weights. **1667** MILTON *P.L.* II. 613 And of it self the water flies All taste of living wight, as once it fled The lip of Tantalus. **1724** RAMSAY *Vision* ii, Boreas bragint . . . like a drunken wicht. **1735** POPE *Prolog.* Sat. 165 The Wight who reads not, and but scans and spells. **1805** SCOTT *Last Minstr.* I. i, No living wight, save the Ladye alone, Had dared to cross the threshold stone. **1867** JEAN INGELOW *Dreams that came true* xxiv, She is a broken-down, poor, friendless wight. **1869** TOZER *Highl. Turkey* II. 308 The unlucky wight . . . is doomed to speedy death.

b. Applied to a thing personified. *rare. arch.* **c1399** CHAUCER *Purse* I To yow, my purse, and to noon other wight Complayn I, for ye be my lady dere. **1579** LYLIE *Euphues* (Arb.) 77 Canst thou then be so vnwise to swallowe the bayte which will breede thy bane? . . . To desire the wight

that will worke thy death? 1802 WORDSW. *To the Daisy* l. ii, Autumn, melancholy Wight! 1859 KINGSLEY *Glaucus* (ed. 4) 72 His [sc. the worm's] place has been occupied by one Sipunculus Bernhardi; a wight of low degree.

†3. In advb. phrases, qualified by *no*, *any* (OE. *ænig wiht, nān wiht*), a little, or the like: (A certain) amount; for (any, a little, etc.) time or distance. (See WHIT sb.¹ 1, 2.) *Obs.*

c888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxvii. §3 þær hi ænige wuht aġnes oððe gecyndelices godes an heora anwealde hæfdon. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 235 Andreas, ne gefyrenodest þu nan wuht. c1220 *Bestiary* 657 [The elephant] Fikeð and fondeð al his miȝt, ne mai he it forðen no wiȝt. a1225 *Ancre. R.* 72 Hwon 3e nede moten speken a lutewiht. a1300 *St. Gregory* 703 in Herrig's *Archiv* LVII. 66 A litel wiȝt after þe none. *Ibid.* 1152 Ich wene on lyue nys he no wiȝt. a1300 *K. Horn* 503 (Camb.) He smot him a litel wiȝt & bed him beon a god kniȝt. c1320 *Cast. Love* 638 þat monnes kuynde hedde al ariht, þat hi neore to luite ne to mucche wiht. 1340-70 *Alex. & Dind.* 354 þat we no wante no wite of worldliche fode. 13.. *Seuyn Sages* (W.) 293 Yif thou me lovest ani wight, Let me of him han a sight! c1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* iii. pr. i. (1868) 63 When they ben resseyuyd with-inne a whyht than ben they swete. c1386 — *Reeve's T.* 363 She was falle aslepe a lite wight. c1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 4701 þo he leyde hurre dounne þere to slepe a litulle whyȝt. a1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 472 Ector ne liked that no wight. c1470 HENRY WALLACE iv. 154 Thai wyst no wyt quhar that thai suld him get.

†b. a little wight (adj. phr.): a small. *Obs.*

c1205 LAY. 21991 þer þis water wendeð, is an lutel wiht mære.

wight (wait), *a.* (adv.) *arch.* and *dial.* Forms: 3-4 wiht, 3-5 wiȝt, (4 wicth, with, wiȝth, wit, *Sc.* wicht, yicht), 4-5 wyht(e, wiȝt, wyȝt(e, (vight), 4-6 wyȝt(e, wighte, *Sc.* wycht, 5 whight, whyȝht, wyt(e, whyt, white, (wyȝth, wyth, wyth3, wyȝt3, weight), 5-6 *Sc.* wichte, 4- wight, *Sc.* wicht. [a. ON. *wigt* used in phrase = in self-defence; neut. of *wigr* of fighting age, skilled in arms; f. OTeut. *wig-* (*waig-*, *wig-*), for other derivatives of which see *wi sb.* Other adoptions of ON. adjs. in the neuter form are *quert*, *scant*, *thwart*, *want*.]

1. Strong and courageous, esp. in warfare; having or showing prowess; valiant, doughty, brave, bold, 'stout'.

a. of a person, esp. a warrior.

c1205 LAY. 777 Wihte wal-kempen on heora wiðer-winnan. *Ibid.* 20575 Seoue þusen monnen, ohte men and wihte. *Ibid.* 21359 Fif and twenti þusend whitere monnen. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 456 Mid six þusend wiȝtemen. a1300 *Cursor M.* 6409 'Cheues þe', he said, 'wit man an freck And ga fight a-pon amalec'. c1350 *Will. Palerne* 3293 He wist him wight of dede. c1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* v. (Johannes) 610 In England þat tym ves a knyȝt, In ded of armys þat ves yȝht. c1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* iii. ii. 269 Thre thousande wicht men of luda. c1470 HENRY WALLACE v. 1057 Schyr Jhon the Grayme, with Wallace that was wycht. c1510 *Lyttell Geste Robyn Hode* iii. 17 Say me now wyȝht yonge man What is now thy name? 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* l. 131 Of an inuincible mynd, and a wichte weiriour. 1601 MUNDAY & CHETTLER *Death Robt. Earl of Huntington* l. i, Where is Robin Hood, And y^e wight Scarlet? 1775 *Hobie Noble* xxiii. in *Child Ballads* vii. 3/1 Had he been as wight as Wallace was. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* vi. xx, O for one hour of Wallace wight. 1858 MORRIS *Def. Guenev.* etc. 108 They ought to sing of him who was as wight As Launcelot or Wade.

b. of actions or personal attributes.

c1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 10516 Knyȝt þat losed was of dedes wyȝht. c1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* iii. (Andreas) 542 For warldis wa opir is licht, And may be tholit with hart wyȝht. c1400 *Destr. Troy* 1098 The worde of your werkes & your wight dedis . . passes o fer! 1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* viii. 12 That many ane fo in feild hes put to flycht, In weiris wight. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* l. 248 Quhen Eugenie had won sa wicht a victorie.

2. Strong, vigorous, robust, stalwart, mighty; exercising strength, energetic (passing into 3).

a1300 *Cursor M.* 9003 Sampson þat wightest was in lijf. c1300 *Havelok* 344 He was fayr man, and wicth. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. ix. 21 Sire worche-wel-wyth-pine-hande, a wiȝte man of strengthe. a1400 *Relig. Pieces* fr. *Thornton MS.* (1914) 57 In þe fermory of this religyon are moo seke pan hole, mo febyll pan wighte. c1440 *York Myst.* xviii. 219 Are was I wayke, nowe am I wight. c1440 *York Myst.* xviii. 219 Are was I wayke, nowe am I wight. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* cjb, It is goode to make her to mewe, bot specialli it shall make her wight after hir soore age. c1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) ii. 33 William wichtwar wes of corss Nor Sym, and bettir knittin. a1600 *Floddan F.* vii. (1664) 62 And of thy hands hardy and wight. 1726 *Fleming's Fulfilling Script.* (ed. 5) Table Scots Phr., *Wight*, strong or clever.

†b. Powerful, forcible, violent; powerful in effect, strong. (Also *absol.*) *Obs.*

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1591 In þe wyȝt-est of þe water, þe worre hade þat oper. c1470 HENRY WALLACE vi. 659 The Scottis all as swyne lysis droukyn than, Off our wycht wyne. c1475 *Rauf Coilgear* 36 In wickit wedderis and wicht. 1583 *Leg. Bp. St. Andrews* 786 Wachting the wyne, for it was wicht.

†c. Strong to resist force; strongly built or constructed; stout. *Obs.*

c1320 *Sir Tristr.* 1029 Swiche meting was neuer non made Wip worpli wepen wiȝt. c1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* clxxiii. 5404 The wardane has þat castell tane, And saw it wycht of lyme and stane. c1440 *Generydes* 3634, I must haue A shippe bothe good and wight, And that it be right swift vnder a saile. 1509 BARCLAY *Shyp of Folyis* (1874) II. 318 Though the branches be stronge and wyȝht. a1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* xxxii. 96 He toke for me y^e toure and a wyȝht harness. 1583 *Leg. Bp. St. Andrews* 930 Sayand, he wald ride furth a whyle, To seay a bow that was sumthing wicht.

a1600 MONTGOMERIE *Misc. Poems* xli. 42 The freikis on feildis That wight wapins weildis.

3. Moving briskly or rapidly; active, agile, nimble, quick; swift, fleet.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* ii. 120 Thar na horss is in this land Sa wycht, na seit sa weill at hand. c1386 CHAUCER *Reeve's T.* 166, I is ful wight god waat as is a raa. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 298 Hem that ben delivere and wyhte. c1430 *How Good Wife taught Dau.* 120 in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 41 Manye handis & wight Make an heuy worke light. c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 527/1 Wyte, or delyvyr, or swyfte. c1440 *Gesta Rom.* xxxii. 121 Sche was so wyȝt of fote, that no man myȝt Rynne with hire by a grete space. c1480 HENRYSON *Fox, Wolf & Cadger* 233 The wolf was wicht, and wan away. 1548 PATTEN *Exped. Scot.* Cvij, If Carres horse had not ben exceeding good & wight his lordship had surely run him through. 1586 WHITNEY *Choice Emblems* 107 Since fame is wighte of winge. 1703 THORESBY *Let. to Ray Gloss.* (E.D.S.), *Wight*, swift. 1805 SCOTT *Last Minstr.* l. xxii, Mount thee on the wightest steed.

B. adv. 1. Actively, nimbly, energetically; quickly, rapidly, swiftly. *Obs.* or *dial.*

13.. *Cursor M.* 3836 (Gött.) Iacob lifted vp þat ston ful wight. 13.. *E.E. Allit. P. C.* 103 Cables pay fasten, Wiȝt at þe wyndas wejen her ankres. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1762 Wiȝt wallande loye warked his hert. c1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxii. 264 Sithen we fled away full wight. a1578 LINDSAY (Pittscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) l. 341 The rest of airchouris schott far and wight. 1787 W. TAYLOR *Scots Poems* 65 Down the brae I gaed fu' wight.

†2. Quickly, without delay, directly, immediately. *Obs.*

13.. *E.E. Allit. P. B.* 617, I schal wynne yow wyȝt of water a lyttel. c1430 *Hymns Virgin* (1867) 49 Euerlastyng 3atis, openeþ wight! c1485 *Digby Myst.* iii. 227 My lord, it xall be done ful wyȝth. 1606 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* ii. iv. *Magnificence* 726 Their winged words th' effect ensues as wight.

C. Comb. †wight-rider, a stout and active horseman; a mounted raider; so †wight-riding *a.* (see also quot. 1894); wight-wapping *a.* [WAP v.], moving rapidly, or characterized by such movement.

1569 in *Strype Ann. Ref.* (1709) l. lv. 556 'About the Queen', say good-fellows, *Wight-riders and Robbers in the Borders of the two Realms. 1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Vn rodeur ou coureur*, a roder or wigh[t]rider. 1575 LANEHAM *Lett.* (1871) 22 Too the number of a sixteen *wight riding men. 1894 *Northumb. Gloss.*, *Wight-riding*, of the upper class. (Obs.) 1830 SCOTT *Ayrshire Trag.* l. i, The weaver shall find room At the *wight-wapping loom.

Hence †wightlayke *a.* [?-LIKE influenced by -LAIK], quick, immediate (cf. B. 2 above); †wightling [-LING¹ I], a valiant man, a brave warrior; †wightship, valour, bravery.

c1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* (1888) 144 *Wightlayke delyvrenesse with out ny tarditee. c1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 8093 Galathin com swipe flinge Wip þre þousand *wightling. *Ibid.* 7653 Of *wightschippe & cheualrie.

wight, obs. f. WEIGHT, WHITE, WITH; var. WITE *Obs.*, blame; pa. t. of WECHE *Obs.*

wightly ('waitli), *adv.* *arch.* and *dial.* Forms: see WIGHT *a.* [f. WIGHT *a.* + -LY².]

1. Bravely, boldly, valiantly, 'stoutly'; strongly, vigorously, forcibly, powerfully, energetically.

a1300 *Cursor M.* 7642 Wit þat vnled son dauid mete, And wightli wan o pam his dete. a1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* vi. 10 Thai ga noght whidere thai thoght: and shame thaim ful wightly. a1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 1405 þai within on þe wall wightly withstondyn. a1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 2822 Wightly his swerd A-bowte he waydy. a1450 *Ratis Raving* etc. 2 How wightly þai sustenyt al tormentis . . done to thaim. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* xi. Prol. 64 To stand wightly, and fecht in the forfront. a1813 in W. S. CROCKETT *Minstrelsy* (1893) 101 Wightly can he wield a rung. 1819 GALL *Poems* 49 You . . wightly wag the skelping whang.

2. Actively, briskly, nimbly, with agility or alacrity; swiftly, rapidly; quickly, without delay.

c1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 10131 Lyghtly to go, wightly to fle, þey leften al, & fledde to þe se. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 688 He made non abode, Bot wyȝtly went hys way. c1425 *Cast. Persev.* 3226 in *Macro Plays* 173 Now go we hens wyȝtly to þe Trinite. c1500 *Smith & Dame* (Copland) Aiiijb, Croked I was truly Now may I walke wightly. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Sept. 5 Day, that was, is wightly past. 1583 tr. *Maison Neuve's Gerleion* l. 8 The good king Floridamant . . wightly forsaking the Saddle, set foote on ground. a1650 *Sir Cawline* x. in *Child Ballads* iii. 58 But rise vp wightlye, man, for shamel Neuer lye here soe cowardlye. 1757 W. THOMPSON *Poems, Nativity* i, Wightly his Senses all were rapt into a Dream. 1884 D. GRANT *Lays* 75 Wichtly Dobbin reached the Kirkton.

'wightness. *Obs.* or *arch.* [f. WIGHT *a.* + -NESS.] The quality of being 'wight'; valour, courage, bravery; strength, might, force, vigour, energy; activity, agility, alacrity.

13.. *K. Alis.* 5495 (Laud MS.), Wip suerd & shelde in batayle To proue his wightnesse. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xix. 240 He wissed hem wyne it aȝeyne porw wightnesse of handes. 1393 *Ibid.* C. xii. 284 That noper wit ne wyȝtnesse wan neuere þe maistrie With-out þe grete gyfte of god. c1440 *York Myst.* x. 58 Now . . fra me is all wightnes wente. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 417/2 Wightnesse, *alacritas*, . . *celeritas factorum, velocitas pedum est & corporum.* 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* l. 105 Gretlie thay take plesure in the wightnes of thair bodie. *Ibid.* 334 His strang defence of the Clergie of Scotland, and his wightnes contrare the aduersar. 1742 R. FORBES *Ajax's Sp.* (1755) 8 Gin my wightness doubted war, I wat my gentle bleed . . Right sickly does plead.

wighty ('waiti), *a.* *Obs.* exc. *dial.* [f. WIGHT *a.* + -Y¹ 2.] = WIGHT *a.*

14.. LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. xvi. 172 (MS. E) Al þe wyȝt of þis worlde ne wyȝty mennes strengþe Can noȝt performe a pes of þe pope. c1475 *Partenay* 4704 Gaffray tombled there. Anon releuing in wighty manere. 16.. *Adam O Gordon* 124 in *Pinkerton Scot. Trag. Ball.* (1781) 48 Put on, put on, my wighty men, Sae fast as ye can drie. 1825 BROCKETT *N.C. Gloss.*, *Wighty*, strong and active.

Hence †wightily *adv.* = WIGHTLY.

c1480 HENRYSON *Cock & Fox* xxiii, Full wichtilie [v.r. wichtlie] thay throw wod and watteris went.

wighy, var. WEHEE.

wigion, **wigle**, obs. ff. WIDGEON, WIGGLE.

wigless, **wiglet**, **wiglomeration**: see after WIG sb.³

†**wiglouse**. *Obs.* Pl. wiglice. [a. ON. *veggjalús*, f. *vegg* WIG sb.² + *lús* LOUSE sb.] The bed-bug: = wall-louse (*a*) (WALL sb.² 25 b).

1658 ROWLAND tr. *Moufet's Theat. Ins.* 1046 They are enemies to Wiglice, that are most stinking creatures. 1660 R. READ *Wecker's Secr. Art & Nat.* 129 For Wiglice, Make a smoke with Ox dung and it will drive away Wall-lice.

wigsby ('wigzbi). *slang* or *colloq.* ? *Obs.* [f. WIG sb.³: see -BY 2.] A jocular appellation for a person wearing a wig. So 'wigster in same sense.

1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T.*, Mr. Wigsby, a man wearing a wig. 1797 MRS. M. ROBINSON *Walsingham* III. 337 Tip old wigsby a twitch of the heart, in return for his golden padlock. 1821 *Sporting Mag.* (N.S.) VII. 267 He was answered by the aforesaid wigsters, that it was 'Impossible separer les deux'. 1830 H. INGELÖ *Remin.* II. 119, I left these two wigsbys, puffed up with pride and self-confidence. 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xxi, The . . forms . . were borrowed from the chapel: the old wigsby, who had the care of them . . doubted the propriety.

wig-wag ('wigwæg), *v.* *colloq.* or *techn.* [Reduplicated formation combining WIG v.¹ and WAG v., the vowel-change symbolizing the alternation of movement: cf. *wiggle-waggle, zig-zag*.] To move lightly to and fro, to wag; *esp.* to wave a flag or other object to and fro in signalling; to signal in this way (*intr.*, or *trans.* with the flag, etc. or the signal as obj.). Also as *adv.* = with a to-and-fro movement. So 'wig-wag sb., (*a*) an act of 'wig-wagging'; also *attrib.* (in quot. 1582 expressing a tortuous or writhing movement); (*b*) in *Watch-making*, a polishing instrument to which a reciprocating motion is imparted by a crank attached to a wheel of the lathe. Hence 'wig-wagger, one who 'wig-wags'; 'wig-waggy *a.*, characterized by 'wig-wagging', or by a form suggestive of this; tortuous, winding.

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 50 His midil embracing with wig wag circuled hooping. 1846 *Congress. Globe* 16 Jan. 208/1 Wig-wag went her tail. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Wigwag* (Watch-making), a rubbing-instrument . . driven by the lathe. 1884 BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 203 Where pinions are made in large quantities the polisher is actuated by a 'Wig Wag'. 1886 *Sci. Amer.* 9 Jan. 16/2 In the army wig-wag system, a flag moved to right and left [etc.]. 1892 *Lippincott's Mag.* Dec. 764, I requested Lieutenant Marix to 'wigwag to signal' to Captain Whiting. 1893 C. KING *Foes in Ambush* 10 It's ten minutes since I got the last wig-wag of the signal-flag. 1899 R. H. DAVIS *Cuban & Porto Rican Campaigns* 3 Wig-waggers beat the air from the bridges. 1903 A. ADAMS *Log Cowboy* xx. 313 Some one in the lead wig-wagged his lantern. 1914 *Blackw. Mag.* July 96/2 The path is beastly wig-waggy.

wigwam ('wigwɒm, -wæm), *sb.* Also 7 wigg-wamme, 8 wigwag, wigg-wham, whigwham, wigwaum, 9 weekwam. [a. Ojibwa *wigwaum*, *wigiwam*, var. of Algonkin *weekuwom*, *wikiwam* (Delaware *wiquoam*) lit. their house (cf. *neek* my house, *keek* thy house, *week* his house).] a. A lodge, cabin, tent, or hut of the North American Indian peoples of the region of the Great Lakes and eastward, formed of bark, matting, or hides stretched over a frame of poles converging at the top: corresponding to the TEPEE of other peoples.

1628 C. LEVETT *Voy. N. Eng.* i. in *Collect. Mass. Hist. Soc.* Ser. III. VIII. 166 We built us our wigwam, or house, in one hour's space. 1659 GORGES *America Painted to the Life* 38 This Sachem passing from one Wigwam to another, was shot through the arm with an arrow. 1722 BEVERLEY *Hist. Virginia* (ed. 2) 148 When they would erect a Wig-wang, . . they stick Saplings into the Ground. 1821 DWIGHT *Trav.* I. 117 They called a house *weekwam*, pronounced by their successors *wigwam*. 1855 LONGF. *Hiaw.* Introd. 5 The curling smoke of wigwams. 1865 LUBBOCK *Preh. Times* xii. 421 The huts or wigwams are . . of two kinds, one for summer, and the other for winter. 1893 CONAN DOYLE *Refugees* xxix, The great plains where the wooden wigwam gave place to the hide tee-pee.

b. Extended to similar structures among primitive societies in other parts of the world.

1743 BULKELEY & CUMMINS *Voy. S. Seas* 37 They hawl'd their Canoes up, and built four Wigg-whams. 1793 W. HODGES *Trav. India* 66 The wigwams of the torpid, wretched, unsettled Pecherais on the frozen coast of Terra del Fuego. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* viii, A miserable wigwam,

compiled of earth, loose stones, and turf. **1865** LUBBOCK *Preh. Times* viii. 228 The wigwam of the recent Mandan consisted of an outer layer of earth supported on a wooden framework.

c. Humorously applied to a house or dwelling in general; in *U.S. slang* to a large building (formerly often a temporary structure) used for political gatherings.

1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxxiv. They bore me towards Mrs. MacAlpine's. On arrival before her hospitable wigwam I found [etc.]. **1884** HALLIWELL-PHILLIPPS *Hand-list Drawings Shaks.* title-p. Preserved at Hollingbury Copse, near Brighton. That quaint wigwam on the Sussex Downs.

d. A pyramidal frame-work of bamboo and similar poles used to support beans, sweet peas, etc.

1971 H. EVANS *How to cheat at Gardening* viii. 120 If you must have sticks, tie them in threes, wigwam fashion. *Ibid.* 121 (caption) Easiest way of arranging bean-poles—the wigwam. **1978** A. HUXLEY *Illustr. Hist. Gardening* v. 150/2 We continue to grow beans and the like on wigwams formed of bamboo canes.

Hence 'wigwam *v.* (nonce-*wd.*), *intr.* to erect wigwams or huts.

1906 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 770 Having seen that the fur traders were really wigwamming on the bay.

wihe, wihee, -ie, -y, wihel, wiht: see WYE, WEHEE, WIEL, WIGHT, WITH.

wiif, wiis, obs. ff. WIFE, WISE.

wijf, wijnd, wijs, wijt, wijte: see WIFE, WIND, VICE *sb.*³, WIS *v.*, WISE, WIT, WITE.

wik, obs. form of WICK.

†**wike.** Obs. Also 4 *wyke*. [OE. *wice* wk. fem.:—OTeut. **wikōn-*, f. *wik-*: *waik-* to soften, to bend, turn, change, represented also in ON. *vík* WICK *sb.*⁴, OE. *wicu* WEEK *sb.*, OE. *wác*, ON. *veikr* WOKE, WEAK; cf. L. *vicēs* change, turn, office, duty, Gr. *εἰκειν* to yield, f. Indo-Eur. *weiq-*. (See also -WICK *suffix*.)] An office, duty, function.

c **1000** ÆLFRED *Hom.* II. 592 Hu dear ænig læwede man him to geteon purh riccetera Cristes wican? c **1175** *Lamb. Hom.* 137 Oðer don scal wiken and cherres. c **1200** *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 91 Betfage. . bitocneð holie chirche þat men noten ine here muðes wike panne hie seien here sinnes. c **1205** LAY. 29752 Austin. . haueð his cantel-cape on of Gregorie þan pape, and mid wurðscipe mucle haldeð his wike. a **1225** *Juliana* 24 He me walde warpen ut of mine wike ant demen me to deaðe. a **1250** *Owl & Night*. 605 Mine wike boþ wel gode. *Ibid.* 1179 Wat, quap ho, hartu ihoded? . . For prestes wike ich wat þu dest. c **1275** *Prov. Ælfred* 316 in O.E. *Misc.* 121 Wlanc on werje, and unwurp on wike [*Jesús MS.* wlonk bi þe glede, and vuel at þare neode]. 13. . K. *Alis* 4592 (Laud MS.), þerfore ne shulde no gentil kniðth. . beggers blood brynge in heiße wyke. c **1315** SHOREHAM I. 660 Ase þe ryȝte bodyes lemes Habbep dyuerse wike, So habbeþ ryȝt membrys eke Of þe body ine mystyke.

b. **Comb. wike-tun,** ? a place for divine service. a **1250** *Owl & Night*. 730 Clerekes Munekes & canunes, þar beop þos gode wike tunes, Ariseþ vp to middelnȝhte.

wike, wiked, obs. ff. WEEK, WICK, WICKED.

†**wiken.** Obs. [Peculiar to Ormin. ? Back-formation f. WICKNER or OE. *wicnian*.] = WIKE. c **1200** ORMIN 7217 Forrþ þatt teȝre wikenn wass To writenn laȝhebokess. *Ibid.* 10168.

wikenare, obs. form of WICKNER.

wiker, -ir, wiket(t, wiked, -it, Wiking, obs. ff. WICKER, WICKET, WICKED, VIKING.

wikke, wikked, -et, -it, -yd, -yt, wikker, obs. ff. WICK *a.*, WICKED, WICKER.

wikop, variant of WICOPY.

wikre, wikut, -yt, obs. ff. WICKER, WICKED.

†**wil.** Obs. rare. [? a. ON. *vil*.] Misery, ill.

c **1400** *Rule St. Benet* (prose) 28 þat nane be costiue, ne nane opir wil, þurȝ surfait o mete. *Ibid.*, þat we alle wils o bodi & saul mai fie.

wil, obs. f. VILE, WHILE, WILE, WILL.

wil-, attrib. use of WILL *sb.*¹ (as in OE. *wilcuma*, WELCOME); only in OE. and early ME. compounds = (a) pleasant, welcome, (b) voluntary: *wil-dage*, a welcome day; *wil-geoue* [GIVE *sb.*], a voluntary or free gift; *wil-geomen* [GAME *sb.*], pleasant sport; *wil-shrift*, voluntary confession; *wil-spell*, *wil-tidende* [TIDING], welcome news.

a **900** CYNEWULF *Crist* 459 Hy þæs lareowes on þam *wildæge word ne gehyrwdon hyra sincgiefan. c **1205** LAY. 1798 þat heo heora wil-dages wælden weoren. a **1225** *Ancr. R.* 368 'Me Sire,' þu onswerest me, 'sulleð God his grace? Nis grace *wil-geoue?' a **1225** *St. Marher.* 16 Hwet so ich am þurh godes grace ich hit do ant am wilgeoue unofseruet. c **1205** LAY. 20944 Castles biwinnen & *wilgomen wurchen. a **1225** *Ancr. R.* 340 Wel seið he, 'is iflured': vorte bitochen *wilschrift. a **900** CYNEWULF *Elene* 993 Wæs him frofra mast geworden in worlde æt ðam *willspele. c **1205** LAY. 1350 A steores-man ham talde wil-spel. *Ibid.* 17090 Komen to þan kinge *wil-tidende.

wilani(e, obs. ff. VILLAINY.

wilayet, variant of VILAYET.

wilbe, -bie: see WILL *v.*¹

wilc, wilch, obs. ff. WHICH.

wilcat, Sc. f. WILD CAT.

wilch (wiltf, wilf). *Suffolk dial.* Now *Hist.* Also *wilsh*. [Origin unknown.] A bottle-shaped wicker strainer formerly used in brewing to strain the liquid from grains of steeped malt. Cf. *THEAD*.

1823 E. MOOR *Suffolk Words & Phrases* 484 *Wilch*, the sediment or lees of beer, home-made wine, . . also a brewing utensil. **1830** R. FORBY *Vocab. East Anglia* II. 375 *Wilch*, . . the wicker strainer set upright in the mash-tub, to prevent the grains from running off with the wirt. **1956** G. E. EVANS *Ask Fellows who cut Hay* v. 61 The utensils used in the brewing were . . a *wilch* (or *wilsh*), a bottle-shaped appliance made of wicker. (The *wilsh* was a filter used when straining off the liquid or wort from the mash of steeped malt.) **1962** A. JOHNSON *Window in Suffolk* i. 28 The brewing tackle would be housed in a large shed or outhouse set apart for that purpose, and would include the tubs or keelers, the wilches, mash sticks, . . mallets, spigots and taps.

wilco ('wilkou), *int.* orig. *Mil. slang.* Also *willco*. Abbrev. of 'will comply', used to express acceptance of instructions, esp. those received by radio or telephone. Cf. *will do* s.v. WILL *v.*¹ 11 c.

1946 F. HAMANN *Air Words* 56 *Willco*, will comply; will do. **1948** A. M. TAYLOR *Lang. World War II* (ed. 2) 221 *Wilco*, radio term for 'will comply'. Used throughout the services and also taken up by civilians. **1961** H. WAUGH *Road Block* i. 12 'Roger, wilco, and out,' the staticky voice sang. **1972** D. HART-DAVIS *Spider in Morning* ii. 28 'If it happens again, hold your breath.' 'Wilco.' **1977** D. BEATY *Excellency* xvii. 190 'Please clear the runway quickly for the President's Starjet!' . . 'Wilco,' he said.

wild (waild), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: 1-7 *wilde*, (3 *wiulde*), 3-6 *wylde*, 4-7 *wyld*, (4 *wylde*, *wijlde*, *whilde*, *wyled*, 4-6 *wield*(e, 4-7 *Sc. vylde*, 5 *wiilde*, *wyelde*, *wyylde*(e, *Sc. wulde*, 6 *wylld*, *Sc. vild*, *vyld*, *vyild*, *wyild*, 7 *weild*), 3- *wild*. [Com. Teut.: OE. *wilde* = OFris. *wilde*, MDu. *wilde*, *wilt*, (LG., Du. *wild*), OHG. *wildi* (MHG. *wilde*, *wild*, G. *wild*), ON. *villr* bewildered, astray, whence WILL *a.* (Norw. *vill* wild, Sw. *vill* confused, giddy, Sw., Da. *wild* wild), Goth. *wilpeis*:—OTeut. **wilpijaz*. The *sb.*, OE. **wild*, **wildor* (cf. *wildorlic* adj.), pl. *wildru* (later *wildéor*, *wildedéor* WILD DEER), OHG. *wild*, pl. *wildir* wild beast, is app. a derivative (**wilpaz-*, -iz-) with s-stem from the same root (cf. *lamb*).

The problem of the ulterior relations of this word is complicated by uncertainty as to its primary meaning. The possible analogy of sense-development in L. *silvestris*, *silvaticus* (whence F. *sauvage* wild, etc.), f. *silva* wood, has suggested connexion with OTeut. **walpus* forest (OE. *weald*, *wald* WOLD). But it is more probable that OTeut. **wilpijaz* represents a pre-Teut. **ghweltijos*, the root of which is found in Welsh *gwyllt*, Ir. *geilt* wild, and may have a parallel form in *ghwēr-*, the base of L. *ferus*, Gr. *θῆρ*, Lith. *zvēris*, OSI. *zvēr* wild beast (for a similar phonological development of *ghw-* cf. WARM *a.*.)

A. adj.

I. 1. Of an animal: Living in a state of nature; not tame, not domesticated: opp. to TAME *a.* 1.

Freq. in names of particular species or varieties, for which see the sbs.: see also Special Collocations (16), and WILD CAT, FOWL, GOOSE in the main series.

In later use often hyphenated to the following *sb.*, esp. in names of particular species, or in verse to indicate rhythmic stress on the adj.

c **725** *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) I. 427 *Indomitus*, *wilde*. c **825** *Vesp. Psalter* ciii[i]. 11 Drencað ða alle wildeor wuda; bidað wilde assan in ðurs[t] heara. c **893** ÆLFRED *Oros*. i. i. § 17 Ða beoð swyðe dyre mid Finnum, for ðæm hy foð þa wildan hnanas mys. c **1000** *Sax. Leechd.* III. 180 On .xv. nihte monan hys god to fixianne & huntum heortas to secanne & wilde swin. c **1050** [see WILD GOOSE 1]. c **1205** LAY. 1781 Wind stod on willen, ployede þe wilde fisc. c **1386** CHAUCER *Monk's T.* 267 To wode she went And many a wilde hertes blood she shedde With arwes brode. ? a **1400** *Morte Arth.* 3232 Woluez, and whilde swynne, and wykkyde bestez. **1529** *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1871) II. 9 Ony manner of wyld foule or tayne. **1606** SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* II. ii. 183 Eight Wilde-Boares rosted whole. **1778** PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* II. 447 The goose, in its wild state always retains the same marks. **1793** COLERIDGE *Songs of Pixies* iv, The murmuring throng Of wild-bees hum their drowsy song. **1808** SCOTT *Marm.* II. Intro., And mark the wild swans [later edd. wild-swans] mount the gale. **1827** P. CUNNINGHAM *N.S. Wales* xvii. I. 321 Our wild turkeys . . consist of two varieties, the dusky and the blue-feathered. **1847** TENNYSON *Princess* iv. 414 The leader wildswan. **1849** MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 312 Wild animals of large size were then far more numerous than at present.

fig. c **1645** HOWELL *Lett.* I. v. xxvii, Twas a tough task believe it, thus to tame A wilde and wealthy language.

absol. c **1205** LAY. 1112 Heo wenden vt i wide sæ, þa wilde wurðen itemede. c **1375** *Sc. Leg. Saints* xviii. (*Egipciane*) 1037 To þis day saw I nane, . . Of vylde, na tame, na kind beste. c **1480** HENRYSON *Lion & Mouse* 192 He . . slew baith tayme and wyld.

2. Of a plant (or flower): Growing in a state of nature; not cultivated.

Freq. in names (unlimited in number) of particular species or varieties, for which see the sbs. to *sow one's wild oats* (fig.): see OAT *sb.* 4.

Often hyphenated as in 1 (and regularly in phrases used attrib.) or (chiefly in early use) combined with the following *sb.* as one word.

c **725** *Corpus Gloss.* A 396 *Agre[s]tis*, *wilde*. c **1000** *Sax. Leechd.* II. 90 *Oleastrum* þæt is wilde elebeam. **1382** WYCLIF *Rom.* xi. 24 The kyndely wyldre [later vers. *wielde*] olyue tre. **14..** *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 569/2 *Brionia*, *wylde-nepe*. **1440** *Prompt. Parv.* 528/1 *Wyyldre malowe*, or holy-hokke. c **1489** CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xviii. 401 Suche wyldre herbes as grewe in the woode. **1549** *Compl. Scot.* i. 20 Al the grond . . is ouergane vitht gyrsse ande vild scroggis. **1590** SHAKS. *Mids. N.* II. i. 249, I know a banke where the wilde time blowes. **1665** BOYLE *Occas. Refl.* i. 63 The Husbandman uses onely to prune the Trees of his Garden, not those that grow wild in his Woods. **1781** COWPER *Retirem.* 420 Her hedge-row shrubs . . With woodbine and wild roses mantled o'er. **1810** SCOTT *Lady of L.* i. viii, Cold dews and wild flowers [later edd. wild-flowers] on his head. **1842** LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 444 Plants in a wild state. **1855** TENNYSON *Maud* II. i. 3 Plucking the harmless wild-flower on the hill.

1797 SCOTT *To a Lady* ii, Wild-flower wreaths for Beauty's hair. **1810** — *Lady of L.* IV. ii, The wild-rose spray. **1890** 'R. BOLDEWOOD' *Col. Reformer* xxii, A young lady with a wild-rose complexion.

3. a. Produced or yielded by wild animals or plants; produced naturally without cultivation; sometimes, having the characteristic (usually inferior) quality of such productions (cf. b). *wild silk*, silk produced by wild silkworms or an imitation of this made from short silk fibres.

With 'wild meat' cf. OS. *wildflēsc*, etc.; with 'wild leather' cf. MSw. *wilskin*.

c **1200** ORMIN 3213 Hiss drinnch wass waterr. . Hiss mete wilde rotess. c **1200** [see HONEY *sb.* 1 b]. **1519** *Registr. Aberdon.* (Maitland) II. 177 The kiching witht. . ij pair of raxis. Item ij spytis ane grit ane less and ane for wild met. **1528** *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1871) 3 All maner of persouns that takis wyldre meitt. **1528** PAYNELL *Salerno's Regim.* (1541) R ivb, There be also prunes called wyldre prunes, y^e whiche growe in the woddess. **1560** *Bible* (Geneva) Isa. v. 2 He looked y^e it shulde bring forth the grapes: but it brought forth the wilde grapes. **1582** N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* 75 These ships . . are sowed together with ropes made of Cairo, & pitched ouer with wild incense. **1600** J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* ix. 340 Their flesh is hot and vnsauorie, and hath a wilde tast. **1612** *Sc. Bk. Rates in Halyburton's Ledger* (1867) 338 Leather called wyld lether the daker, xxs. **1614** in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. i. 43 Lett not my leadie our mother trubbl hirself in bying much vylde meitt to your sons baptisme. **1777** ANBUREY *Trav.* (1789) I. 214 A dinner entirely of wild-meats. **1866** ROGERS *Agric. & Prices* I. xviii. 418 It is very rare in the present day that honey is found wild. **1876** [see TUSSEY 1 a]. **1883** R. HALDANE *Workshop Rec.* Ser. II. 40/1 The wild or Tussah silk. **1896** [see TUSSEY 1 b]. **1911** *Daily Colonist* (Victoria, B.C.) 28 Apr. 14/2 The cargo was made up as follows: Raw silk, 960 bales; wild silk, 49 bales. **1963** R. HIMMEL *It's Murder, Maguire* vii. 46, I always suspected him of wearing wild silk underwear. **1972** J. AIKEN *Butterfly Picnic* ix. 162 Her white wild-silk bikini.

b. Mining. Applied to impure or inferior minerals or ores. (Cf. G. *wilderz*.)

1778 PRYCE *Min. Cornub.* 93 A Black-jack or Mock-lead Lode. . . This Wild-lead is commonly found with Stones of Copper and Lead intermixed with it. **1883** GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-m.*, Wild Ground, Wild Measures, Wild Stuff. **1886** J. BARROWMAN *Sc. Mining Terms*, Wild-coal, a thin seam of inferior coal.

4. a. Of a place or region: Uncultivated or uninhabited; hence, waste, desert, desolate. (Often with special reference to the character or aspect of such places.)

c **893** ÆLFRED *Oros*. i. i. § 18 Licgað wilde moras. . emnlange þæm bynum lande. a **1122** O.E. *Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1010 On þa wildan fennas. c **1200** ORMIN 17408 A wilde wesste. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2751 Me may hem ofte an erpe in wilde studes yse. c **1375** *Sc. Leg. Saints* xl. (*Ninian*) 430 Quhare now þe corne is beste, þat tyme wes wilde foreste. c **1385** CHAUCER *L.G.W.* 2163 *Ariadne*, In an yle amyd the wilde se. a **1533** LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) K vjb, The erthe that is vntyled, and waxen wyld. **1593** SHAKS. *Rich. II.* II. iii. 4 These high wilde hilles, and rough vneuen waies. **1617** MORYSON *Itin.* I. 36 Fenny and woody wild grounds. **1644** MANWAYRING *Sea-mans Dict.* 85 A wild Road, is a Road where there is little Land on any side, but lies all open to the sea. **1703** ROWE *Ulysses* II. i, Some fair field. . . That . . left unheeded, like a barren Moor, Lies fenceless, wild, uncultivate, and waste. **1817** BRADBURY *Trav. Amer.* 297 They are well aware that, by undertaking to bring wild land into a state of cultivation, they must undergo some hardships. **1849** LEVER *Con Cregan* xxv, The scenery was wild without being grand. **1883** *Eng. Illustr. Mag.* Nov. 72/1 The wild beauty of Wicken Fen is in striking contrast with the cultivated land lying around it. **1885** W. H. WHITE *M. Rutherford's Deliv.* iii, The garden was large and half-wild.

b. transf. Belonging to or characteristic of a wild region; of or in a wilderness.

1690 C. NESSE *O. & N. Test.* I. 298 Neither God nor good men take any pleasure in a . . wild retiredness. **1817** MOORE *Lalla Rookh* 131 The glories of Nature and her wild, fragrant airs, playing freshly over the current of youthful spirits.

5. Of persons (or their attributes): Uncivilized, savage; uncultured, rude; also, not accepting, or resisting, the constituted government; rebellious. (Sometimes with implication of sense 8.) See also *wild Irish* in 16.

a **1300** *Cursor M.* 24747 For þof mi [*MS.* in] wijt war neuer sa wild. . . þat gies me lust of hir to rede. a **1352** MINOT *Poems* (ed. Hall) i. 60 þare was crakked many a crowne Of wild Scottes and alls of tame, c **1450** HOLLAND *Howlat* 616 The rough Wodwyss wyld. **1471** CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 59 She was euyll clothid and half wilde and sauage. **1500-20** DUNBAR *Poems* I. 25 Was never vylde Robeine wnder bewch, . . So bauld a bairne as he. a **1548** HALL *Chron.*, *Hen. IV* 23 The prince . . had tamed . . the

furious rage of the wild and sauage Welshe men. 1561 Hoby tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* II. Mij b. A man at armes in fourm of a wild shephearde. 1586 HOLINSHED *Chron.* I. *Hist. Scot.* 358/2 After the example of one. Robert Hood a wild or vplandish man. 1670 DRYDEN *1st Pt. Cong. Granada* I. (1672) 7 When wild in woods the noble Savage ran. 1700 PRIOR *Carmen Sec.* xxxvii. Nations yet wild by Precept to reclaim. And teach 'em Arms, and Arts. 1709 MRS. MANLEY *Secret Mem.* (1720) 303 A Party of the Goths and wild Russes. 1822 SCOTT *Nigel* v. It's ill taking the breeks aff a wild Highlandman. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* xxxvi. 15 Those wild eyes that watch the wave In roarings round the coral reef. 1901 *Scotsman* 29 Nov. 6/1 These men... are up to all the 'slim' ways of the wild Boer.

II. 6. Not under, or not submitting to, control or restraint; taking, or disposed to take, one's own way; uncontrolled. Primarily of animals (cf. 1), and hence of persons (see also 7) and things, with various shades of meaning.

a. Acting or moving freely without restraint; going at one's own will; unconfined, unrestricted.

a 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 1465 Da wæs culfure eft of cofan sended... wilde seo wide fleah. c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 202 Hors wilde yman. a 1310 in Wright *Lyric* P. xv. 48 Thar er was wilde ase the ro, Nou y swyke. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* v. i. 71 A wilde and wanton heard... of youthful and vn-handled colts. 1599 SHAKS., etc. *Pass. Pilgr.* xii. 8 Youth is wild, and Age is tame. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 974 In his wild aerie flight. 1761 COLMAN *Jealous Wife* III. That the wild little Thing shoud't take Wing, and fly away the Lord knows whither! 1817 BYRON *Manfred* III. iv. I have found our thoughts take wildest flight Even at the moment when they should array Themselves in pensive order. 1820 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* III. iii. 136 The dark linked ivy tangling wild. 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Medit. Monmouth-St.*, The children wild in the streets, the mother a destitute widow. 1865 P'CESS ALICE *Mem.* (1884) 101 Victoria is very wild, and speaks more German than English.

b. Resisting control or restraint, unruly, restive; flighty, thoughtless; reckless, careless; fig. not according to rule, irregular; erratic; unsteady. (Cf. 15.)

c 1350 *Libeaus Desc.* (Kaluza) 188 A child þat is witles and wilde. 1450 *Paston Lett.* I. 159 But if the day of the oyer and termynor stonde, it wole be full harde, by cause the peple is so wyld. 1594 *NASHE Unfort. Trav.* I 3 b, Like the trauaile wherein smithes put wilde horses when they shoo them. 1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 81 Your fift, sixt, and seuenth notes be wilde and vnformall. 1628 SHIRLEY *Witty Fair One* II. ii. You are too wild and aery to be constant to that affection. 1748 H. WALPOLE *Lett.* (1846) II. 256, I meant nothing in the world by wild, but the thoughtlessness of a boy of nineteen. 1831 SCOTT *Ct. Rob* xviii. Depriving Cupid's wing of some wild feathers. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* II. viii. Johnson the young bowler is getting wild, and bowls a ball almost wide to the off. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, Wild, a ship's motion when she steers badly, or is badly steered. 1879 HARLAN *Eyesight* II. 25 The new lashes sometimes take a wrong direction, and turn their points against the eyeball. They are then popularly called wild hairs.

c. Shy; esp. of game, afraid of or avoiding the pursuer (opp. to TAME a. 3); transf. having a timid expression like a wild animal.

1594 WILLOBIE *Avisa* xlvii. Though copy at first she seeme and wields. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* III. i. 35 She is too disdainfull. I know her spirits are as coy and wilde, As Haggerds of the rocke. 1813 COL. HAWKER *Diary* (1893) I. 76 The birds were so extremely wild that it was almost impossible to get near them. 1877 MARCH. *DUFFERIN Canad. Jnrl.* (1891) 362 They did not bring back a great deal — the birds were so wild. 1887 RIDER HAGGARD *Allan Quatermain* xi. The woman had a sweet face, wild and shy.

d. Phr. to run wild: (a) of an animal or plant (combining senses 1 or 2 and 6), to live in, or revert to, a state of nature, not under domestication or cultivation; (b) of a person (or thing personified), with various shades of meaning (see above), sometimes passing into other senses (e.g. 7, 11, 12).

1549-62 [see RUN v. 2 b]. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) II. 347 Of all countries... where the horse runs wild, Arabia produces the most beautiful breed. 1799 WORDSW. *Matthew* 3 That every hour thy heart runs wild, Yet never once doth go astray. 1838 [see RUN v. 2 b]. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* iv. He had a bold spirit, and he ran a little wild, and went for a soldier. 1892 *Longman's Mag.* XIX. 614 The boy had run wild since his young mother's death.

(c) of an oil-well, to release uncontrollable quantities of fluid or gas. Also to blow wild.

1925 [see relief well s.v. RELIEF⁹ b]. 1931 *Times* 18 Feb. 15/6 When the wells 'blow wild' the city is enveloped in a dark spray of oil. 1975 L. CROOK *Oil Terms* 35 Blow out, a situation where a well becomes out of control due to the fluids from the formation 'blowing wild' at the surface.

7. spec. a. Not submitting to moral control; taking one's own way in defiance of moral obligation or authority; unruly, insubordinate; wayward, self-willed.

Often scarcely distinguishable from 6 a or b, but implying blame or reproach.

c 1000 *Sal. & Sat.* 377 He geong færeð, hafað wilde mod. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 5 Ne beo þu pereuore prud ne wilde ne sterc. c 1200 ORMIN 6191 3iff patt 3ho iss gætelæs, & e33elæs & wilde. c 1205 LAY. 785 þat nan ne beo so wilde nan swa unwitti, þat word talie... ær he ihere minne horn. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 9307 Quarfor er yee o will sa wild? c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 431 Somme men ben betetid bi bynding to pise chargis, þat ellis wolden be wyld. c 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 67 Mannys flesche ys so wyld and lusty to synne. 1535 COVERDALE 2 *Macc.* xi. 4 Not consideringe the power of God, but was wyld in his mynde. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 151 Man was sa wyld and nyce, And raging in all

vyce. 1579 LYLly *Euphues* Rivb, The wildest child is as soone corrected with a word as with a weapon. 1700 PRIOR *Carmen Sec.* 66 Valour grown wild by Pride, and Pow'r by Rage. 1797-1812 JANE AUSTEN *Pride & Prej.* xliii. 'He is now gone into the army', she added, 'but I am afraid he has turned out very wild.' 1836 MARRYAT *Japhet* xxvii. When a curate, he had had an only son, very wild, who would go to sea in spite of his remonstrances. 1898 'H. S. MERRIMAN' *Roden's Corner* xii. 128 It was about that time... that I took seriously to my work. Before, I had been a little wild.

b. Giving way to sexual passion; also, more widely, licentious, dissolute, loose.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2013 His wif wurð wilde, and nam in ðo3t Vn-ri3t-wis luuc. 13... *St. Paula* 87 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 5 Whon þe 3onge in hote blood Bigonne to waxe wyld of mod. 13... *St. Theodora* 221 ibid. 38 His monk was waxen to wyld þat hedde igeten him such a child. 13... *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 2367 Bot þat was for no wylde werke, ne wowyng naufer. c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xix. 167 Ther was neuer man neghyd hyr nere, In word ne wark she was neuer wyld. 1522 *World & Child A* j. Dalyaunce... It is a name that is ryght wyld. 1550 CROWLEY *Last Trumpet* 1505 If thou se hir wanton and wilde. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* III. ii. 74 Hee kept companie with the wilde Prince, and Pointz. 1614 D. DYKE *Myst. Self-Deceiv.* 328 Wild and wanton wyldes. 1778 (13 May) JOHNSON in *Boswell*, If a young man is wild, and must run after women and bad company. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 50 The wildest of libertines.

8. Fierce, savage, ferocious; furious, violent, destructive, cruel. (In later use passing into other senses: cf. 5, 9, 11. See also wild beast, wild horse, in 16.)

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1322 þe prinse... þat in time of worre as a lomb is bope mek & milde & in time of pes as leon bope cruel & wilde. 13... *K. Horn* 1045 (Harl. MS.), Y come... from brudale wyld of maide remenyld. c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 13796 Was neuere... wilde wolf ne dragoun, þat was so wod, beste to byte, As Wawayn was Romayns to smyte. c 1385 CHAUCER *L.G.W.* 805 *Thisbe*, Allas there comyth a wilde lyones. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1463 A man witty & wise, wight, wildist in Armes. c 1425 WYNUTON *Cron.* v. xiii. 4384 Wolwis wilde þan weryit men. c 1435 *Chron. London* (Kingsford 1905) 52 He wole be as wilde a Tyraunte to holy Cherche as cuer was eny. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 38 b, Brynge to me y^e wyldest bull that is. 1530 PALSGR. 329/2 Wyldre or sharpe prickyng as a nettyli is, *griache*. 1595 SHAKS. *John* iv. iii. 48 This is the bloodiest shame, The wildest Saugery.

9. a. Of the sea, a stream, the weather, etc.: Violently agitated, rough, stormy, tempestuous, 'raging'; hence fig. or gen. Full of disturbance or confusion, tumultuous, turbulent, disorderly.

c 1205 LAY. 6226 We habbeð ilaueð... moni walc moni wind bi wilde pisce water. a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 946 Wrapp meynp þc heorte blod þat hit flowep so wilde fode. 1381 in *Knighon's Chron.* (Rolls) II. 139 Synne fareth as wilde fode. c 1420 *Sir Amadace* (Camden) xli. They were drounet on the see, With wild waturs slone. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* II. i. 21 Man... Lord of the wide world, and wilde watry seas. 1597 — 2 *Hen. IV.* I. i. 9 The Times are wilde: Contenton... madly hath broke loose. 1605 — *Lear* II. iv. 311 'Tis a wild night... come out oth' storme. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 566 Wilde Brookes meeting together make a broad poole. 1629 MILTON *Hymn Nativ.* i. It was the Winter wild, While the Heav'n-born-child, All meanly wrapt in the rude manger lies. 1673 [R. LEIGH] *Transp. Reh.* 112 Your state of conscience leads to a wilder anarchy. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 386 The... Bear... In Woods and Fields a wild destruction makes. — *Past.* ix. 59 Let the wild Surges vainly beat the Shore. 1713 ADDISON *Cato* III. ii. His passions and his virtues... mixt together in so wild a tumult, That [etc.]. 1769 GRAY *Installat. Ode* 89 Thro' the wild waves as they roar. 1818 BYRON *Mazeppa* xiv. The wild horse swims the wilder stream! 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* II. On a bad winter's night in the wild Atlantic. 1864 LOWELL *Study Wind.* (1886) 110 He is still in wild water. 1883 'OUIDA' *Wanda* i, 'I think we shall have wild weather', said the Princess.

† b. In imprecations or intensive expressions. a 1352 MINOT *Poems* (ed. Hall) v. 30 In þe wilde wanand was þaire hertes light. c 1440 *York Myst.* xxx. 545 Now in þe wilde vengeance ye walke with þat wight. a 1530 HEYWOOD *Wether* 430 (Brandl) A myschyfe vpon them and a wyld thunder. c 1580 *Bugbears* IV. iv. 11 Now a wild wannion on it.

c. Of vocal sounds: Loud and unrestrained.

1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 39 The herrons gaif an vyild skrech. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* III. 710 Confusion heard his voice, and wilde uproar Stood ru'd. 1742 GRAY *Adversity* 19 Wild Laughter, Noise, and thoughtless Joy. 1831 JAMES *Philp Aug.* iii. Filling the air with his long wild neighings. 1891 FARRAR *Darkn. & Dawn* xxxix. Those who should be left dead... indifferent for ever to those wild shouts.

10. Of feelings or their expression: Highly excited or agitated; passionately vehement or impetuous.

1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III.* iv. iv. 229 But that still vse of greefe, makes wilde greefe tame, My tongue should to thy cares not name my Boyes, Till that my Nayles were anchor'd in thine eyes. 1718 POPE *Iliad* III. 512 Too deep my anguish, and too wild my woe. 1730 — *Ode St. Cecilia* Addit. Stanza, Amphion thus bade wild dissension cease. 1813 SCOTT *Rokeby* IV. x. The child Renew'd again his moaning wild. 1828 CARLYLE *Ess.*, *Burns* (1840) I. 370 Wild Desires and wild Repentance alternately oppress him. 1885 'MRS. ALEXANDER' *At Bay* x. She clung to him and burst into a fit of wild weeping. 1890 HALL CAINE *Bondman* III. i. 'The sweep!' 'the thief!' 'the wastrell!' 'the gomer-stang!' they called him, with wilder names beside.

11. Of persons: Violently excited.

a. Extremely irritated or vexed; angry, 'furious'.

1653 HOLCROFT *Procopius* III. *Goth. Wars* 103 Artabanus was wild at this misfortune [orig. Quam rem cum calamitatis loco Artabanus duceret, & ægrissime ferret]. a 1839 PRAED *County Ball* xviii. He makes a College Fellow wild By asking

for his wife and child. 1873 MARCH. *DUFFERIN Canad. Jnrl.* (1891) 79 Dent, my precious maid, wild about her boxes, and giving warning on the spot. 1889 JEROME *Three Men in Boat* xi. It made me awfully wild, especially as George burst out laughing.

b. Passionately or excitedly desirous to do something. Also const. for.

1797 JANE AUSTEN *Sense & Sens.* xxvi. Mrs. Palmer... was wild to buy all, could determine on none. 1797-1812 — *Pride & Prej.* xli. She was wild to be at home. a 1817 — *Persuasion* (1818) III. vi. 107 The girls were wild for dancing. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* I. 149 All wild to found an University For maidens. 1894 FENN *Real Gold* II. He is wild to go. 1937 J. T. FARRELL *Fellow Countrymen* 184 He imagined that she was his woman... She was saying she was crazy about him... She was wild for him.

c. Elated, enthusiastic, 'raving'. Also † const. after.

a 1817 JANE AUSTEN *Persuasion* (1818) IV. vii. 134 The men are all wild after Miss Elliot. 1865 R. HENNING *Let.* 21 Oct. (1966) 214 The whole family are wild after music. 1868 WHYTE-MELVILLE *White Rose* xxviii. He was wild about... the town, and the castle, and the Black Forest. 1889 'J. S. WINTER' *Mrs. Bob* xi. She was quite wild about it, when I went to tell her the news. 1891 C. JAMES *Rom. Rigmorale* 180 She had accepted me, and I was wild with joy.

d. like wild: with passionate eagerness, with great excitement. Cf. like mad s.v. MAD a. 1 c.

1674 C. STEWKELEY *Let.* 4 May in M. M. Verney *Mem.* (1899) IV. vii. 225 Ursula... hath bin at all the Salisbury rasis, dancing like wild with Mr. Clarks. 1962 *Radio Times* 17 May 43 Should he [sc. a jazz musician] 'blow' with feeling, or great excitement ('like wild') [etc.].

12. a. Not having control of one's mental faculties; demented, out of one's wits; distracted; hence in weakened sense, Extremely foolish or unreasonable; holding absurd or fantastic views (cf. 13).

c 1300 *K. Horn* 252 (Camb.) Heo louede so horn child þat ne3 heo gan wexe wild. *Ibid.* 296 Anon upon Apulif child Rymenhild gan wexe wild. 13... in Horstm. *Alt. Leg.* (1881) 14 Furth scho went als woman wilde. To se þe lordes, and left hir childe. c 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 1650 For wa he wex al wilde and wode. 1630 RANDOLPH *Aristippus* 7, I am the Wilde-man, and I will be wilde: is that an age to be in a mans right wits? 1769 BURKE *Late St. Nat.* 25 Is this writer wild enough to imagine [etc.]? 1796 MRS. M. ROBINSON *Angelina* II. 291, I am really almost wild with affliction! 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Parish* v. Her misery had actually drove her wild. 1841 HELPS *Ess.*, *Man of Business* (1842) 82 Else he may be driven wild by any great pressure of business. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 6 When the fictions of Oates had driven the nation wild.

advb. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII.* I. iv. 26 If I chance to talke a little wilde, forgie me: I had it from my Father. *An. Bul.* Was he mad Sir?

b. Of the eyes or look: Having an expression of distraction.

1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* v. i. 28 Your lookes are pale and wild, and do import Some misadventure. a 1658 CLEVELAND *Ruins of St. Pauls* 28 Now its Face appears like whither'd Care, Or wilder than the Looks of Fevers are. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* xiv. 158 His face being flushed, eyes wild, and head aching. 1878 J. P. HOPPS *Jesus* IV. 17 Poor mad people... recovered their senses when he looked into their wild eyes.

† c. Bewildered, perplexed; = WILL a. 2 b, 3 b.

c 1440 *Bone Flor.* 35 When the emperys was dedd, The emperowre was wyld of redd. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 33 All the world is in a wyld thocht, un-stedefast.

13. a. Of undertakings, actions, notions, statements, etc.: Going beyond prudent or reasonable limits; rashly or inconsiderately venturesome; going to extremes of extravagance or absurdity; fantastically unreasonable. Also in phr. in or beyond one's wildest dreams, in or beyond one's most fantastic or unrestrained imaginings or expectations.

1515 *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1869) I. 158 Gif it sall happin the toun to hald the common mylnis and proffiteits thairof and the wild aventouris into thair awin handis. 1591 SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI.* iv. iv. 7 This vnhedfuld, desperate, wilde aduerture. 1602 — *Ham.* I. v. 133 (Qo. 1) These are but wild and wherling words, my Lord. 1604 — *Oth.* II. i. 62 He hath atchieu'd a Maid That paragons description, and wilde Fame. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 509 A wild Reformation; to reforme Hierarchy by Anarchy, a Remedy worse then the Disease. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* v. 112 Mimic Fansie... misjoyning shapes, Wilde work produces oft. 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* 427 The wild Question that the Examiner puts to me. a 1728 WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Fossils* (1729) I. 1. 84 'Twas not a very wild Name, Ludus, to be given, to a Dye, or Talus lusorius; considering how humourous a Writer Paracelsus was. 1732 BERKELEY *Alciph.* IV. § 16 How came you to entertain so wild a notion? 1829 SCOTT *Anne of G.* xi. I should make wild work were I to attempt a description of such an animal. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* IV. I. 442 We cannot... wonder that wild stories... were... believed by the common people. *Ibid.* VIII. II. 308 To cherish a wild hope. 1887 SAINTSBURY *Hist. Elizab. Lit.* 247 Serious arguments are mixed up with the wildest buffoonery. 1894 HALL CAINE *Manxman* v. ii. Two long weeks he spent in this wild quest. 1961 C. MCCULLERS *Clack without Hands* x. 203 In his wildest dreams he could not associate Johnny with danger. 1969 *Listener* 24 July 123/3 The programme has succeeded beyond its instigators' wildest dreams. 1984 *Tampa (Florida) Tribune* 5 Apr. 6c/2 You know, it's hard to believe I'm really here. It's beyond my wildest dreams that I'd be managing a team that I once played for.

† b. Used as a nickname for the extreme Evangelical party in the Church of Scotland, as opp. to moderate: see MODERATE B. b. Obs.

1778 D. LOCH *Tour Scott.* 49 The people here are very wild with regard to religious principles, there being no less than three large seceding meeting-houses, and but one small kirk of the established religion. **1820** ALEX. STEWART in *Mem.* 352 [I] am settled minister of what is called the First Charge of Canongate Parish (where seldom has wild man been placed before). **a 1830** H. COCKBURN *Mem.* (1856) 234 Except Sir Harry Moncrieff, the Wild (as the Evangelical party is called) have never had an established head.

14. a. Artless, free, unconventional, fanciful, or romantic in style; having a somewhat barbaric character (usually in good sense, as a pleasing quality).

1632 MILTON *L'Allegro* 134 If...sweetest Shakespear fancies childe, Warble his native Wood-notes wilde. **a 1700** EVELYN *Diary* 27 Feb. 1644, We then saw a large and very rare grotto of shell-work, in the shape of satyres and other wild fancies. **1802** LEYDEN *Mermaid* xxv, Say, heard'st thou not these wild notes swell? **1813** BYRON *Corsair* II. ii, While dance the Almas to wild minstrelsy. **1859** JEPHSON *Brittany* xvii. 284 A wild ballad, still sung in Cornouaille, to an equally wild tune. **a 1864** BRYANT *Sella* 4 When man to man gave willing faith, and loved A tale the better that 'twas wild and strange. **1891** RIDER HAGGARD *Nada* Pref., The setting out of a wild tale of savage life.

b. Of strange aspect; fantastic in appearance.

1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* I. iii. 40 These...so wilde in their attyre, That looke not like th' Inhabitants o' th' Earth. **1784** COWPER *Task* v. 118 There, embossed and fretted wild, The growing wonder takes a thousand shapes Capricious. **1844** MRS. BROWNING *Lay of Brown Rosary* I. iv, To dilate and assume a wild shape in the mist.

c. U.S. slang. Remarkable, unusual, exciting. Used as a general term of approbation.

1955 L. FEATHER *Encycl. Jazz* v. 347/2 *Wild*, adj., remarkable, exciting. **1960** [see LAY v. 1 55]. **1968** *Listener* 22 Aug. 236/3 Los Angeles is so wild they should just let it swing and see what happens. **1978** *Hot Car* June 103/5 Naugahyde...has long been the favourite amongst Stateside rodders because of its stretchy qualities, amazing range of colours (including some wild marble-like effects).

15. a. (*fig.* from *b.*) Aimed wide of the mark, or at random; random: usually *advb.* at random, astray.

a 1810 SHELLEY *M. Nicholson Fragm.* 14 Wild flew the meteors o'er the maddened main. **1831** JAMES *Phil. Aug.* xxvii, The soldier who fronted him, struck wild, reeled, staggered. **1890** W. CAMP in *St. Nicholas* Aug. 831/1 The catcher...must begin by a resolution...to consider no ball beyond his reach, no matter how wild. **1895** *Edin. Rev.* July 149 The Chinese shells found in the abandoned forts 'went wild' when the Japanese gunners tried to fire them.

b. Of a playing card: having any rank chosen by the player holding it. Also *fig.* See also *wild card*, sense 16 below.

1927 *Auction Bridge Mag.* May 26/1 These are played with all the twos as jokers and usually known as 'Deuces Wild'. **1940** O. JACOBY *On Poker* x. 139 Any card or cards may be counted as wild, in which case they have the same rights as jokers. **1963** E. LININGTON *Death of Busybody* vi. 72 Don't tell me, a tie-up. Look, Luis, let's not call every card in the deck wild, for God's sake. **1973** M. CATTO *Sam Casanova* vi. 109 Think of the amazing variations of the game [*sc.* poker]! Five-Card stud. Seven-Card Draw with Joker wild.

III. 16. Special Collocations (sometimes hyphenated as in 1 and 2, esp. in verse to indicate stress, and regularly in attrib. use); **wild beast**, orig. in sense 1, now always with mixture of sense 8 (see *BEAST* sb. 2 c); also *fig.* (cf. *BEAST* sb. 1 c, 5); **wild berry**, the berry of a wild plant; app. applied locally to particular kinds; **wild boar** (in early use also as one word): see *BOAR* sb. 1 c; **wild card**, (*a*) (see sense 15 b above); also *fig.*; (*b*) *Sport* (orig. U.S.), a player or team chosen for a tournament at the discretion of the organizers after the regular places have been taken up; freq. attrib.; (*c*) *Computers*, a character that will match any character or combination of characters in a file name, etc.; **wild cherry**: see *CHERRY* sb. 3 a; **wild dog**, any wild species of dog, or of the dog tribe, as the HYENA-DOG of S. Africa (HUNTING-DOG 2a), the Dhole of India (HUNTING-DOG 2b), the Dingo of Australia, etc.; **wild duck**, a duck belonging to any of numerous undomesticated species; **wild garden**, a group of hardy plants, exotic or native, in an informal setting, designed to look as natural as possible; hence **wild gardener**, gardening; **wild geranium** *S. Afr.* = GERANIUM 2; **wild ginger**, in North America, any of several plants of the genus *Asarum*, esp. *A. canadense*, or, in India, a wild plant of the genus *Zingiber*; **wild goat**, any wild species of goat, as the ibex, or (*loosely*) a goat-like antelope, as the chamois; **wild grape**, a wild species of *Vitis* or its fruit; **wild horse**, a horse not domesticated or broken in; esp. in phrases referring to a mode of punishment or torture (cf. *quots.* s.v. DRAW v. 5), and hence humorously with negative (see *quots.*); in *quot.* 1834 (with hyphen) rendering Du. *wildepaard* as a name for the zebra; **Wild Huntsman**, a phantom huntsman of Teutonic legend, fabled to ride at night through the fields and woods with shouts and baying of hounds; **wild Irish** (see IRISH B. 1 a); **wild Irishman** (see IRISHMAN

b); also a name for a spiny rhamnaceous shrub of New Zealand and Australia, of the genus *Discaria*; **wild llme**: see LIME sb. 2 b; **wild mare**: see MARE 1 2 b; also attrib. in *wild mare hunch* (*hinch, hitch*), a name for string-halt; **wild orange**: see ORANGE sb. 1 3; also, in Australia, any of several species of *Capparis* or *Canthium*; in South Africa = *Kaffir orange* s.v. KAFFIR 4; **wild parsnip**: see PARSNIP 2; also, = COW-PARSNIP; also, a poisonous plant of the family Umbelliferae, esp., in North America, the water hemlock, *Cicuta maculata*, or, in Australia, *Trachymene glaucifolia*; **wild party**, a boisterous, unchecked, or dissolute party; **wild pig** = CAPTAIN COOKER; **wild pitch** *Baseball*, a pitch which is not hit by the batter and cannot be stopped by the catcher, enabling a base-runner to advance; hence as *v. trans.*, to enable (a runner) to advance in this way; **wild plum**: see PLUM sb. 3; **wild rice**, an aquatic grass, *Zizania aquatica*, native to North America, having seeds resembling rice and used as food; **wild rye**: see RYE sb. 1 2 c; a North American grass of the genus *Elymus*; **wild talent**, any of various psychic powers such as extrasensory perception, telepathy, telekinesis, etc.; **wild track** *Cinematogr.* (see *quot.* 1940); **wild well**, an oil well which is out of control and blowing oil or gas from the borehole (cf. sense 6 d (c) above); **wild wind**, a violent wind, whirlwind, hurricane (*obs.* or *dial.*); † **wild worm**, a fantastic notion, whim. See also WILD CAT, WILD-FIRE, etc.

1297-1833 *Wild beast [see BEAST sb. 2 c]. **1855** LEIFCHILD *Cornwall* 67 For fruits you have only furze and *wild-berries. **1918** H. BINDLOSS *Agatha's Fortune* xxi, She liked the acid wild-berries he brought on a bark tray. **c 1205-1863** *Wild boar [see BOAR sb. 1 c]. **1484** CAXTON *Fables of Esop* I. xvi, A wyldbeore...with his teeth rent...a grete pyece of his body. **1813** SCOTT *Rokeby* iv. xii, How the grim wild-boar fought and fell. **1940** O. JACOBY *On Poker* x. 138 The Bug, three sixes and a ten merely count as three sixes since the Bug is not strictly a *wild card. **1971** *Guardian* 17 June 12/6 Kennedy is the wild card in the 1972 Deck, as the Nixon men see it. **1976** M. NELSON *Crusoe Test* iii. 35 The joker. The wild card. The card the holder can use as he pleases. **1976** *Sunday Mail* (Brisbane) 15 Aug. 3/11 Renee was not ranked high enough to be accepted on her standard of play, but she could be nominated as the 'wild card'—a crowd pleaser. **1977** *Hongkong Standard* 14 Apr. 11/2 Fifteen-year-old Betty Newfield of the US reached the second round by defeating Marlie Buehler of Australia 4-6, 6-0, 7-5 after getting into the draw as a wild card. **1984** *Times* 21 Sept. 19/6 The wild card in the BPCC pack is Mr Maxwell's dual role as head of both BPCC and Mirror Group Newspapers. **1984** K. BUCKNER et al. *Using UCSD p-System* vi. 56 The wildcard '?' should be used to remove several files from a disk. **1985** *Personal Computer World* Feb. 244/1 (Advt.). Powerful wild cards permit editing of categories of file name in one instruction. **1666** *Brief Descr. Province Carolina* 4 There are many sorts of fruit Trees, as Vines, Medlars, Peach, *Wild Cherries. **1784** W. WALTON *Narr. Captivity B. Gilbert* 81 They were under the Necessity of eating wild Cherries. **1972** G. CHADBOUND *Flowering Cherries* 11 Wild cherries occur naturally on chalky soil. **1786** tr. *Sparman's Voy.* I. 157 These *wild dogs are some of the most pernicious beasts of prey. **1816** BYRON *Siege of Corinth* xvi, The scalps were in the wild dog's maw. **1844** E. WARBURTON *Crescent & Cross* v, A beggar devouring his crust, but religiously leaving a portion of it in some clean spot for the wild dogs. **1877** *Encycl. Brit.* VII. 324/2 The wild dog of the Falkland Islands (*Canis antarcticus*). **1538** *Nottingham Rec.* III. 378 He kyllid ij. *wyld duckes with a crosbow. **1676** GREW *Museum, Anat. Stomach & Guts* viii. 33 The Wild-Duck and Teal also, I suppose all of this kind, and most other Birds, are without a Crop. **1723** J. NOTT *Cook's & Confectioner's Dict.* sig. M6, Draw and truss your Wild Ducks, parboil them, and half roast them. **1881** O. WILDE *Poems* 115 The water-rat...Made for the wild-duck's nest. **1852** C. M. YONGE *Two Guardians* iii. 29 Strangers would...think her *wild garden a collection of weeds. **1925** J. BUCHAN *John Macnab* xiii. 268 An expert from Kew...had made a wonderful wild garden. **1980** A. WILSON *Setting World on Fire* II. vi. 170 It's your garden parties that are ridiculous...And Rosemary's famous wild garden. **1966** 'J. BERRISFORD' *Wild Garden* x. 117 The *wild gardener who is also a plantsman...may grow the meconopses. **1870** W. ROBINSON *Wild Garden* I. 19 It [*sc.* Caucasian comfrey] will soon run about, exterminate the weeds, and prove quite a lesson in *wild and natural gardening. **1911** *Daily Colonist* (Victoria, B.C.) 30 Apr. (Mag. Section) 3/4 The cult of wild gardening is apt to run into the same kind of excesses as the pursuit of the simple life. **1978** A. J. HUXLEY *Illustr. Hist. Gardening* ix, 309 William Robinson and Gertrude Jekyll...preached a return to more naturalistic and even 'wild' gardening. **1840** *Wild geranium [see IVY-BERRY v.]. **1966** E. PALMER *Plains of Camdeboo* xvii. 281 Here and there are Pelargoniums—wild geraniums to us. **1804** M. LEWIS *Jrnl.* 1 June in *Orig. Jrnls. Lewis & Clark Exped.* (1905) VI. iv. 154 *Wild ginger grows in rich bottom land. **1866** [see GINGER sb. 2 b]. **1964** R. PERRY *World of Tiger* xi. 160 The Great Indian rhino...feeding on the succulent shoots of marsh reeds and especially the wild ginger. **1973** M. CROWELL *Greener Pastures* 187 We recognize the wild ginger. **1398** TREVISIA *Barth. De P.R.* xviii. xxii. (1495) bb iii, The *wyldte gote hyghte Caprea. **1530** PALSGR. 289/1 Wyldte goote, *cheuereul*. **1688** HOLME *Armoury* II. 162/1 The Aspian wild Goat...some term...a Shamois. **1744** MASON *Musæus* 253 Nor did the wild goat bronze the shrubby rocks. **1813** SCOTT *Rokeby* II. xiv, Now, like the wild goat, must he dare An unsupported leap in air. **1763** G. MILLIGEN-JOHNSTON *Short Descr. Prov. S. Carolina* (1770) 9 *Wild Grapes grow on this Land. **1843** [see GUARRI]. **1929** M. DE LA ROCHE *Whiteoaks* xvi. 202 The jewelled leaves of the wild

grape...scarcely dried before another dew. **1958** G. A. PETRIDES *Field Guide to Trees & Shrubs* 114 The number of cultivated varieties have been developed from wild grapes. **c 897** ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past.* C. xli. 303 Swa swa *wildu hors, ðonne we hie æresð gefangnu habbað, we hie ðacciað straciað. **c 995** in *Kemble Cod. Dipl.* VI. 133 Hio becwið Cynelufe hyre dæl ðera wildora horsa ðe mid ðadmere synt. **a 1250** Owl & Night. 1062 þu naddest non oper dom ne laze, Bute mid wilde horse were todraze. **c 1375** Sc. Leg. *Saints* xxix. (*Placidas*) 318 Wyld hors & tayme. **a 1400-50** [see HORSE sb. 1 e]. **c 1400** *Melayne* 57 He sall be hangede or oper morne And with wyldre horse be drawn. **1424** in *Wills & Inv. N.C.* (Surtees 1835) 71, iijj Wildehorse, ad tunc nuper tractos vel in stabulo. **c 1546** in *Suss. Star Chamber Proc.* (1913) 36 Or ells they wolde draw hym fourth with wyldre horses. **1834** PRINGLE *Afr. Sk.* 14 The buffalo bendeth to my yoke, The wild-horse to my rein. **1883** D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* xii, After that wild horses would not have drawn him to an exculpation of himself. **1890** [see HORSE sb. 1 e]. **1796** SCOTT (*title of poem*) The *Wild Huntsman. **1829** — *Anne. of G.* xxii, Sailed to the mountains of the Brockenberg, where witches hold their sabbath, or gone on a hunting-party with the Wild Huntsman. **1399** LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* Prol. 10 Whyhe he werrid be west on þe *wilde yrishe. **1547** BOORDE *Introd. Knowl.* iii. (1870) 132 Irland...is deuyded in ii. partes, one is the Englysh pale, & the other, the wyld Irysh. **1622** BACON *Hen. VII* 138 The Wild-Irish fled into the Woods and Bogges. **1684** BUNYAN *Pilgr.* II. *Introd.*, Highlanders, and Wild-Irish can agree My Pilgrim should familiar with them be. **1857** G. A. LAWRENCE *Guy Liv.* iv, The low-browed rooms where the wild Irish sat howling and wrangling over their liquor. **1401** *Close Roll 2 Hen. IV*, II. m. 6 (P.R.O.) Si Nicholaus Hogonona capellanus per suggestionem quod ipse fuit *Wildehirssheman Hibernicus et inimicus noster in prisa...detentus existat. **c 1450** *Brut* II. 357 þese rebellis of Ireland bið callid 'wilde Irsch men'. **1608** DEKKER *Lanth. & Candle-light* iii. D. No wild-Irishman could out-runne him. **1862** J. VON HAAST *Geol. Westland* 25 (Morris) *Discaria toumatoo*, the Wild Irishman of the settlers. **1597** SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, II. iv. 268 Hee plays at Quoits well...and rides the *wilde-Mare with the Boyes. **1622** WITHER *Faire-Virtue*, etc. O 4 b, The Boyes are come to catch the Owles, The Wild-mare in is bringing. **1661** M. STEVENSON *Twelve Moneths* 4 And the venturous youth show their ability in shooing the Wild-Mare. **1802** J. DRAYTON *View S. Carolina* 8 Small rising grounds sometimes present themselves, on which grow...*wild orange. **1858** J. A. WARDER *Hedges & Evergreens* 44 Our beautiful Wild Orange...is much planted about Southern residences, for hedges. **1932** [see KLAPPER]. **1936** F. CLUNE *Roaming round Darling* xvii. 165 The wild orange, ten feet high, dark green brittle leaves, large yellow-stemmed flowers, and bearing fruit as big as tennis-balls, with pomegranate seeds inside. **1969** T. H. EVERETT *Living Trees of World* xx. 172/1 Known as wild-orange and mock-orange, it [*sc.* *Prunus carolina*] has creamy white flowers and glossy black fruits. **1790** *Trans. Amer. Philos. Soc.* III. 234, I have heard this poisonous herb, called by the names of Wild-Carrot, *Wild-Parsnep, ..and Mock-El-Root. **1807** [see *musquash-root* s.v. MUSQUASH 3]. **1889** J. H. MAIDEN *Useful Native Plants Austral.* 142 The sudden death of numbers of cattle in the vicinity of Dandenong...was attributed to their having eaten a plant known as the wild parsnip. **1932** J. W. WINSON *Weather & Wings* 51 The poison is described further as being 'wild-parsnip', 'cowbane', [etc.]. **1955** *Arctic Terms* 88/1 *Wild parsnip*. The cow parsnip. **1965** *Austral. Encycl.* VIII. 546/2 The wild parsnip of inland plains, does seem to be responsible for stock losses. **1925** F. SCOTT FITZGERALD *Lett.* (1964) 295 It is true I saved McAlmon from a beating he probably deserved and that we went on some *wild parties in London with a certain Marchioness of Milford Haven. **1970** 'D. HALLIDAY' *Dolly & Cookie Bird* iii. 35 He was probably just afraid of the talk. It was rather a wild party. **1840** W. DEANS *Let.* 30 Oct. in J. Deans *Pioneers of Canterbury* (1937) I. 29, I will visit it [*sc.* Palliser Bay] in company with 50 or 60 natives who are going to hunt *wild pigs. **1930** L. G. D. ACLAND *Early Canterbury Runs* I. 1st Ser. x. 237 Stonyhurst has always been a great place for wild pigs. **1977** C. MCCULLOUGH *Thorn Birds* iv. 75 Wild pigs frightened of nothing, savage and flesh-eating, black hairy things the size of fully grown cows. **1867** *Ball Players' Chron.* 4 July 1/2 Zeller...getting round on a passed ball and *wild pitch, came home on another passed ball. **1970** *Washington Post* 30 Sept. D11/8 In the first game, young Bob Grich led off the home 10th with a single and Coleman wild-pitched him to second base. **1979** *Arizona Daily Star* 1 Apr. C6/4 Greg Laing walked in the bottom of the eighth and scored on a wild pitch. **1748** H. ELLIS *Voy. Hudson's-Bay* 170 By the Sides of Lakes and Rivers there is abundance of *wild Rice. **1778** J. CARVER *Trav. N.-Amer.* 522 Wild Rice...grows in the greatest plenty throughout the interior parts of North America. **1911** G. S. PORTER *Harvester* iv. 94 Wild rice...he had planted for the birds. **1934** H. MILLER *Tropic of Cancer* 47 They were eating too. A young chicken with wild rice. **1980** *Times Lit. Suppl.* 26 Sept. 1064/5 The paper...was full of reports of discontent around Ompah at overcropping of wildrice. **1984** *Times* 13 June 9/4 Wild rice is not really rice at all but the seeds of a grass that grows wild along the waters-edge of lakes in Minnesota, Wisconsin and southern Canada. **1751** C. GIST *Jrnl.* 27 Jan. (1893) 43 The *wild Rye appeared very green and flourishing. **1968** F. W. GOULD *Grass Systematics* 181 Widespread and variable in the United States are *Elymus canadensis* L., Canada wildrye, and *E. virginicus* L., Virginia wildrye. **1944** A. HUXLEY *Let.* 28 July (1969) 510 The fact of what Charles Fort calls '*wild talents' is admitted by all open-minded people. **1960** K. AMIS *New Maps of Hell* (1961) iv. 98 A new type of human being, sometimes outré in appearance, more often gifted with the 'wild talent' which has become a science fiction catch-phrase and convention. **1940** *Chambers's Techn. Dict.* 908/2 *Wild track, a soundtrack which is recorded independently of any photographic track or mute, but is destined to be used in editing a sound-film. **1980** 'P. LORAINÉ' *Lions' Ransom* I. iii. 51 Fox was...making a 'wild-track' of Busai's morning birdsong. **1915** REDWOOD & EASTLAKE *Petroleum Technologist's Pocket-bk.* iv. 244 *Wild well. This term is used to denote a well which produces such quantities of oil or gas, or both, under such high pressure that it is either impossible to bring it under control or it is only controlled when a very considerable time has elapsed after the oil or gas has been met with. **1977** *Sunday Times* 24 Apr. 1/2 If the wild well...is not brought under control within the next 24 hours, the fight could last for weeks,

months even. **a 1661 FULLER** *Worthies, Essex* (1662) 1. 319 In the year of our Lord 1639 in November here happened an Hirecano or *wild wind. **1821 CLARE** *Vill. Minstrel* (1823) 1. 79 The frighted wild-wind trembles to a breeze. **a 1548 HALL** *Chron., Rich. III* 42 The *wilde worme of vengeance wauerynge in his hed. *Ibid., Hen. V* 44 Some priuate Scorpion in your heartes, or some wild worme in your heades.

attrib. 1801 Marvellous Love-Story II. 198 Raree-shows, and wild-beast exhibitions. **1834 LYTTON** *Pompeii* 1. iii. When is our next wild-beast fight? **1879 BROWNING** *Halbert & Hob* 10 The genuine wild-beast breed. **a 1850 MRS. BROWNING** *Confessions* ix. Then, at least, have the Human shared with thee their wild berry-wine? **1918 H. BINDLOSS** *Agatha's Fortune* xxvii. He..fell among a clump of wild-berry canes. **1776 MICKLE** tr. *Camoens' Lusid* III. 89 Dextrous in the wild-boar chase. **1818 KEATS** *Teignmouth* ii. No wild-boar tushes and no Mermaid's toes. **1842 DUMFRIES** *Herald* Oct., That fine flavour.. in the wild-boar ham. **1866 Treas. Bot., Wild-boar's tree**, a San Domingo name for *Hedwigia balsamifera*. **1970 New Yorker** 3 Oct. 34/3 The other thirteen games.. will be 'wild-card' encounters, to be played on alternate Monday nights. **1981 Washington Post** 18 Mar. D3 The conference championship games are now played on the home field of the competitor that has the best season record, unless it's a wild-card team. **1984 K. BUCKNER** et al. *Using UCSD p-System* xv. 156 the WILD unit makes available wild card pattern matching on string variables. **1899 S. O. JEWETT** *Queen's Twin* 81 She had a sprig of wild-cherry blossom in her dress. **a 1916 'SAKI'** *Toys of Peace* (1919) 82 By the time they had arrived at the wild duck course it was beginning to be a rather expensive lunch. **1703 Lond. Gaz.** No. 3966/4 Stolen or strayed.., two Mares, one a white-grey, .. has the Wild Mare Hunch with the far hind Leg. **1824 CARR** *Craven Gloss., Wild-mare-hinch or hitch*, string-halt. **1964 HALL & WHANNELL** *Popular Arts* ix. 258 The..combined use of wild-track voices with counter-pointing visual images.

fig. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* v. 256, I.., when first I heard War-music, felt the blind wildbeast of force.. Stir in me. **1886 GILLMORE** *Hunter's Arcadia* p. vii. Some bastard descendants of Europeans.. this weapon is better than argument with such wild beasts.

17. Combinations. a. with pples., in adverbial relation (= 'wildly') as *wild-billowing*, *-booming*, *-flying*, *-fought*, *-made*, *-staring*, *-warring*, *-woven* adjs.; or in complemental relation, as *wild-born*, *-bred*, *-caught*, *-grown*, *looking* adjs. b. parasynthetic, as *wild-blooded*, *-brained*, *-coloured*, *-eyed*, *-haired*, *-headed*, *-hearted*, *-spirited*, *-winged*, *-witted* adjs. c. with sbs., forming descriptive appellations corresponding to the adjs. in b, as *wild-blood* (a wild-blooded person), *-brain*, *-head* (a wild-brained or wild-headed person, a hare-brain).

1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. VII. viii. One red sea of Fire, *wild-billowing, enwraps the World. **1820 SCOTT** *Abbot* xix. Even in the Castle of Avenel thou wert a *wild-blood enough. **1837 CARLYLE** *Fr. Rev.* III. v. ii. So.. whirled and spins this immeasurable *tormentum* of a Revolution; *wild-booming. **1816 BYRON** *Ch. Har.* III. xv. A *wild-born falcon with clipt wing. **1580 HOLLYBAND** *Tras. Fr. Tong, Testu*, a headstrong fellow, a *wildebrayne. **1608 MIDDLETON** *Mad World* 1. i. I must.. turn wilde-braine, lay my wits vpo' th' Tenters. **1804 'MARK TWAIN'** in *Harper's Mag.* Oct. (1914) 675/2 *Wild-brained martyrdom was succeeded by uprising and organization. **1885 RIDER HAGGARD** *K. Sol. Mines* vi. We knew what a wonderful instinct these *wild-bred men possess. **1888 Pall Mall Gaz.** 20 Sept. 3/1 Wild-bred pheasants appear to have done fairly well. **1949 Amer. Speech** XXIV. 98 American mink.. may be either *wild-caught or ranch-raised. **1970 SAUNDERS & PHELPS** in H. W. Mulligan *Afr. Trypanosomiasis* xiv. 329 The ovaries of wild-caught females.. can be used. **1954 M. K. WILSON** tr. K. Z. Lorenz's *Man meets Dog* (1964) xix. 176 The striped markings in the face of the *wild-coloured' cat enhance the least movements of the facial skin. **1817 SHELLEY** *Rev. Islam* iv. xx. The *wild-eyed women. **1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD'** *Col. Reformer* xx. The fierce and wild-eyed bullocks. **1617 FLETCHER** *Valentinian* 1. ii. His *wild flying courses. **1902 S. PHILLIPS** *Ulysses* 1. ii. The wild-flying cloud. **1795 FAWCETT** *Art of War* 18 Their *wild-fought field. **1885 W. K. PARKER** *Mammal. Desc.* vi. 153 The peri-chondrial.. bone.. takes on a very remarkable form; it becomes *wild-grown so to speak. **1872 J. G. WHITTIER** in *Atlantic Monthly* Apr. 474 The *wild-haired Bacchant's yell. **1806 HOWELLS** *Impr. & Exper.* 24 The wildest-haired Comeouter. **1583 STUBBES** *Anat. Abus.* 1. (1879) 147 All the *wilde-heds of the Parish, conunting together. **c 1590 Trag. Rich. II** (1870) 13 A wild-head, yett a kingly gentleman. **a 1400-50 Wars Alex.** 12 Sum.. pat ere *wild-hedid. **1583 GOLDING** *Calvin on Deut.* iv. 1 If they that neuer were taught Gods trueth bee wildeheaded. **1617 MORYSON** *Itin.* 1. 259 A wild-headed Turke tooke my hat from my head. **1702 CALAMY** *Abridgm. Baxter's Life* vi. 108 Wild-headed Sectaries. **1904 W. DE LA MARE** *Henry Brocken* viii. 83 Beasts of a long-sharpened sagacity, *wild-hearted, rebellious. **1916 JOYCE** *Portrait of Artist* (1969) iv. 171 He was alone and young and wilful and wild-hearted. **1814 SCOTT** *Diary* 16 Aug. in *Lockhart*, The hogs are.. queer *wild-looking creatures. **15.. Sir Andrew Barton** xvii. in *Surtees Misc.* (1890) 69 Before Ile leave off my serving God, My *wild maide oeth may brooken be. **1856 MISS YONGE** *Daisy Chain* 1. xxvii. His warm-hearted, *wild-spirited son. **1608 SYLVESTER** *Du Bartas* II. iv. iii. *Schism* 863 *Wilde-staring Hag. **1727 SOMERVILLE** *Occas. Poems, Offic. Messenger* 261 Wild-staring, thunder-struck, and dumb. **1748 THOMSON** *Cast. Indol.* 1. xli. *Wild-warbling nature. **1777 POTTER** *Aeschylus* 64 With vollied thunders and *wild warring winds. **c 1611 CHAPMAN** *Iliad* xv. 637 Floods that nourish *wild-wing'd fowles. **1906 HARDY** *Dynasts* II. 1. v. 161 A straggler merely he.. But they decide, At last, to post his news, wild-winged or no. **1936 L. B. LYON** *Bright Feather Fading* 45 The wild-winged bliss. **1614 J. COOKE** *Greene's Tu Quoque* D 1 b, *Wilde witted sister, I have preuented you. **1839 DARLEY** *Beaum. & Fl. Wks.* 1. Introd. p. xlix. A wild-witted, mercurial comedy. **1800 CAMPBELL** *Exile of Erin* ii. The *wild-woven flowers.

d. in nonce poet. uses, as *wild-worst*, *-worth*. **1876 G. M. HOPKINS** *Poems* (1967) 59 The cross to her she calls Christ to her, christens her wild-worst Best. **c 1878 Ibid.** 75 Only the breathing temple and fleet Life, this wildworth blown so sweet.

B. sb.
†1. A wild animal, or wild animals collectively; *spec.* a beast, or beasts, of the chase; a hunted animal or animals; game. *Obs.*

OE. *wild (see etym. above) is recorded only in gen. sing. *wildres*, nom. pl. *wildru*, gen. *wildra*, dat. *wildrum*.

c 1205 LAY. 1129 þa Troinisce men tuhten to þon deoren & duden of þan wilden al heora iwilla. **13.. Gaw. & Gr. Knt.** 1150 At þe fyrst quethe of þe quest quaked þe wyldre. **a 1340 HAMPOLE** *Psalter* xlix. [l.] 11 All þe wilde of wodis. ? **a 1400 Morte Arth.** 657 That nane werreye my wyldre, botte Way-nour hir seluene. **c 1465 Chevy Chase** vi. Then the wyld throwe the woodes went, on euery syde shear. **c 1480 HENRYSON** *Lion & Mouse* xxviii. The lion.. slew baith tayne and wyld. **1599 ALEX. HUME** *Poems* (S.T.S.) *Hymn* ii. 181 All venneson, an ether wilde they serue him at his neid.

†2. Phr. *at wild, on wild*: ? hewildered, distracted. *Obs. rare.*

c 1430 Syr Tryam. 801 Some were wery and on wyldre. **1477 Paston Lett.** III. 179 Trust hym never the more for the bylle that I sent yow by hym, but as a man at wyldre, for every thing that he told me is not trewe.

3. a. (a) A wild or waste place; a region or tract of uncultivated and uninhabited land; a waste, a wilderness. Now mostly *rhet. or poet.*

1637 HEYLIN *Answ. Burton* 191 As if wee lived in the wild of Africke. **1667 MILTON** *P.L.* 1. 407 The wild Of Southmost Abarim. **1709 PRIOR** *Henry & Emma* 395 Nor Wild, nor Deep our common Way divide. **1722 TICKELL** *Kens. Garden* 1 A snow of blossoms, and a wilde of flowers. **1732 POPE** *Ess. Man* 1. 7 A wild, where weeds and flow'rs promiscuous shoot. **1847 TENNYSON** *Princess* III. 230 You young savage of the Northern wild! **1849 MACAULAY** *Hist. Eng.* III. 1. 313 Turned from a wild into a garden. **1905 D. WALLACE** *Labrador Wild* iv. 55 The plunge into the wild.

(b) *pl.* (Chiefly in the wilds of a specified region.)

1596 SHAKS. Merch. V. II. vii. 41 The Hircanian deserts, and the vaste wildes Of wide Arabia. **1612 DRAYTON** *Polyolb.* v. 312 The sandie Wyldes of spicefull Barbarie. **1634 MILTON** *Comus* 424 Huge Forests.. and sandy perilous wildes. **1726-31 WALDRON** *Descr. Isle of Man* (1744) 53 They call them the good People, and say they live in Wilds and Forests. **1827 J. F. COOPER** *Prairie* i. The.. resolute forester who first penetrated the wilds. **1842 DICKENS** *Amer. Notes* viii. Among the wilds and forests of the west. **1868 NETTLESHIP** *Ess. Browning* ii. 63 A northern principality.. which kept its rough simple traditions in its own wilds.

b. *transf.* of air, water, etc.

1712 POPE *Rape Lock* 1. 107 The crystal wilds of air. **1795 WOLCOT** (P. Pindar) *Frogmore Fête Wks.* 1812 III. 308 As soon might lift old Ocean from his bed And dash his wild of waters to the skies. **1813 SHELLEY** *Q. Mab* VIII. 57 A lighthouse o'er the wild of dreary waves.

c. *fig.*

1596 SHAKS. Merch. V. III. ii. 184 Where euery something being blent together, Turnes to a wilde of nothing, saue of ioy Exprest, and not exprest. **1599 NASHE** *Lenten Stuff* 66 To this wild of sorrows and excruciamient she was confined. **1651 BIGGS** *New Disp.* ¶73 [To] confine themselves to a mediocrity in opinioniong, and not ramble over the whole wild of Fancy. **a 1704 T. BROWN** *1st Sat. Persius* imit. Wks. 1730 I. 52 His tagg'd nonsense, t'other's wilds of wit. **a 1832 BENTHAM** *Princ. Legis.* xviii. §27 note Striving to cut a new road through the wilds of jurisprudence. **1855 TENNYSON** *Maud* 1. XVI. i. To save My yett young life in the wilds of Time.

4. Phr. *to play the wild*: to behave in a careless or reckless manner; to play havoc with. *U.S.*

1849 J. B. JONES *Wild Western Scenes* i. 10 But love can play the 'wild' with any young man. **1911 R. D. SAUNDERS** *Col. Todhunter* ix. 143 I'm shorely glad to get home. I been playin' the wild in St. Louis.

wild (waild), *v. rare.* [f. WILD a. Cf. AWILDEN (OE. *dwildian*), MHG. *wilden*.]

1. *intr.* Of an animal or plant: To be or become wild; to run wild, grow wild.

a 1225 Ancr. R. 136 Vet kelf & to wilde is pet fleschs þet aweigð [MS. T. wildes] so none hit euer uetted. **1387-8 T. Usk Test. Love 1. iii. (Skeat) 1. 45 Heerdees gonne to wilde. **1880 EARLE** *Engl. Plant Names* 80 This is held by botanists to be an old garden-plant escaped and wilded.**

2. *trans.* To make wild, in various senses; †*esp.* to affect with frenzy, to madden (*obs.*).

1421 HOCCEVE *Compl.* 235 This greuous venyme that had enfetcyd and wildyd my brayne. **1628 FELTHAM** *Resolves* II. [l.] xxii. 71 The Mad worme hath wilded all Humanitie. **1655 VAUGHAN** *Silex Scint.* 1. *Misery* 81 Thus wilded by a peevish heart.. I storm at thee.

wild(e), *obs. ff.* WEALD, WIELD *v.*; *obs. pa. t.* of WILL *v.*

wildbore. *local.* [?] A stout and closely woven unglazed tammy.

1784 Salem Gaz. in Alice M. Earle *Costume Colonial Times* (1894) 257 Marone Ribb'd Wildbores. **1788 Massachusetts Spy** 23 Oct. 3/4 Wildbore Camblets. **1798 Times** 28 June 4/4 Durants, Callimancoes, Wildbores, &c. **1852 in A. Holroyd** *Collect. Bradf.* (1873) 179 About 1813, Messrs. James Akroyd and Son, of Halifax,.. produced the articles known by the names of wildbores and plainbacks, from which sprung the single-twilled merinos. **1857 J. JAMES** *Worsted Manuf.* 374 A dobby piece was.. nothing more than a figured wildbore. *Ibid.* 627 About the year 1783, their use [sc. Leeds camblets].. began to decline, and the stuff makers at Leeds commenced making wildbores. **1876 CUDWORTH** *Round about Bradford* 330 The worsted business,.. the principal make being shalloons and wildbores.

†**wild bred.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. ON. *villibræð*, corresp. to MLG. *viltbræde*, *-bræt*, also *-brât* (LG. *wil(d)brat*, *-brât*), MHG. *wildbræte*, *-brât* (G. *wildbret*), etc.: see WILD a. and BREDE sb.¹] Game, venison.

c 1375 Cursor M. 13373 (Fairfax) þat folk.. was fed Wip soipen & roste & wilde bred [Cott. O bred and flexs bath soipen and bredd].

wild cat. (Also with hyphen, or, esp. in early use, as one word.) Forms: see WILD a. and CAT sb.¹; also β. (*Sc.*) 6 wilkatt, 8 wilcat, wil'-cat, 9 wull-cat. [Cf. MLG. *wildkatte*, MHG. *wilde katze* (G. *wildkatze*), Sw. *vildkatt*, Da. *-kat*.]

1. The European wild species of cat, *Felis catus* (see CAT sb.¹ 1c); also applied to other wild animals of the cat tribe, esp. in U.S. to species of lynx. †Also *pl.*, the skins of these used as fur.

1418 E.E. Wills (1882) 37 A gowne of gray russet furred wit Ionetis and wyldre Catis. **14.. Voc.** in Wr.-Wülcker 591/26 *Laero*, *-ronis*, *est quoddam animal pilosum ut cuniculus secundum alios*, a wyldre cat. **c 1480 HENRYSON** *Wolf & Wether* viii. Nouthre wolf, wyld-cat, nor 3it tod. **1566 Act 8 Eliz.** c. 15 §2 For the Heade of everie Fitchewe Polcatte or Wilde Catte, one peny. **1596 SHAKS. Merch. V. II. v.** 48 He sleepes by day More then the wilde-cat. **1682 T. A. Carolina** 20 The Tyger, Wolf, and wild Cat. **1805 SCOTT** *Let. in Lockhart* (1837) II. ii. 51 We have a curious breed of wild-cats who have eaten all Charlotte's chickens. **1843 MACAULAY** *Horatius* xiv. Then, like a wild cat mad with wounds, Sprang right at Astur's face. **1884 Marcus Clarke** *Mem. Vol.* 127 How many nights.. have I listened to the skirr of the wild cats. **1904 Daily Chron.** 31 Mar. 7/3 A terrible struggle between a man and a monstrous wildcat.

β. **1596 DALRYMPLE** tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 7 To hunt the hair and the fox.. the Wolfe, or the Wilkatt. **c 1730 RAMSAY** *Fables* xix. 44 The tyger, bair, and ev'ry powerfu' fur, Down to the wilcat and the snarling cur. **1818 SCOTT** *Hrt. Midl.* x. I never ask what brings the Laird of Dumbiedikes glowering here like a wull-cat.. day after day. **1887 P. McNEILL** *Blawearie* 153 Still haudin' on till its tail wi' the determination of a wull-cat.

2. *fig.* Applied to a savage, ill-tempered, or spiteful person, esp. a woman: cf. CAT sb.¹ 2.

†to run wild-cat (quot. a 1652): to 'run mad', become demented: cf. WILD a. 12, and the *attrib.* use in 4 b below.

1573-80 TUSSEER *Husb.* (1878) 168 Where window is open, cat maketh a fray, Yet wilde cat with two legs is worse by my fay. **1596 SHAKS. Tam. Shr. 1. ii. 197 But will you woo this Wilde-cat? **1612 N. FIELD** *Woman is a Weathercock* 1. ii. Like a Wilde-Cat of Picket-hatch. **a 1652 BROME** *Damoiselle* 1. i. The care of Children's such a startle-braine, That had I more then one, I should run Wild-cat. **1771 SMOLLETT** *Humphry Cl.* 17 Apr. (1815) 14 That wild-cat my sister Tabby. **1894 CROCKETT** *Raiders* xiii. 'Come back to your post, ye wull cat,' I shouted.**

3. *fig.* a. One who forms a rash project, or engages in a risky or unsafe enterprise. b. An unsound business undertaking, as a 'wild-cat bank' (see 4 b); also, a note, or notes collectively, of a 'wild-cat bank'. (Orig. and chiefly U.S. colloq.)

1812 Columbian Centinel 6 June 2/5 Some of the Wild-cats of Congress. **1839 MRS. KIRKLAND** *New Home* xxxi. 204 The celebrated term 'Wild Cat,' justified fully by the course of these cunning and stealthy bloodsuckers. **1861 'MARK TWAIN'** *Lett.* (1917) I. iii. 54 'Wild cat' isn't worth ten cents. **1883 F. M. CRAWFORD** *Dr. Claudius* x. Complacent holders of preferred, and scatter-brained speculators in wild-cat. **1896 Nation (N.Y.) 3 Dec. 417/2 Whether this feature of our banking system can be amended without giving the field to wildcats. **1902 Westm. Gaz.** 7 Aug. 9/1 The market has been crowded with 'wild cats'.**

c. An exploratory oil-well, drilled where there is only a possibility of success. Cf. WILD a. 6 d, *wild well* s.v. WILD a. 16.

1877 Sci. Amer. 22 Dec. 387/3 A large number of 'wildcats', or test wells, have gone down off the eastern edge of the defined line, but with very few exceptions they have proved to be dusters. **1943 J. Sedimentary Petrol.** XIII. 111/2 Both deep, off-structure wildcats and field wells are important. **1977 Offshore Engineer** May 39/1 Esso is drilling in the deepest water off Egypt's Mediterranean coast with a second wildcat in 470m of water 100km off Alexandria.

d. Illicitly distilled whisky. Cf. *wild-cat whisky*, sense 4 b.

1887 A. A. BROWN *Lumbering on Cumberland* vii. 80 Mr. Kearney alighted and tendered us a drink from his bottle of 'wild cat'. **1945 M. LYON** *Fresh from Hills* iv. 47 You can keep on a-makin' wildcat till hell freezes over.

e. *ellipt.* for *wildcat strike*, sense 4 c below.

1959 Daily Mail 28 Oct. 1 (heading) War on the wild-cats. **1969 Guardian** 22 Aug. 9/1 The TUC made their 'solemn and binding declaration' to the Prime Minister about dealing with wildcats. **1978 J. WAINWRIGHT** *Ripple of Murders* 43 They'd thought he was bluffing... So there's been wildcats and pickets, and lock-ins.

4. *attrib.* (usually with hyphen). a. *lit.* in sense 1: Of a wild cat.

1624 CAPT. J. SMITH *Virginia* 1. 17 Some.. wilde Catte skinnies. **1863 W. C. BALDWIN** *Afr. Hunting* ix. 421 Jackal and wild-cat skins.

b. *fig.* Applied to banks in the western United States which, before the passing of the National Bank Act of 1863, fraudulently issued notes with little or no capital, or to their notes or transactions; hence extended to unsound or risky business enterprises generally; also to illicit businesses or their products (e.g. *wild-cat whisky*); and more widely to reckless, rash, or extravagant undertakings, statements, etc. (cf.

WILD *a.* 13), and (*colloq.*) with reference to wildcat strikes (see sense 4c below).

This application is said to have arisen from the fact that the notes of a bank in Michigan bore the device of a panther, locally known by the name 'wild cat'.

1838 *The Jeffersonian* (Albany) 14 Apr. 72/3 About 400 Irishmen working on the canal, took offence at being paid in 'Wild Cat' money, instead of Illinois. **1839** MRS. KIRKLAND *New Home* xxxi. 205 Once in the grasp of a 'wild cat bank,' his struggles were unavailing. **a1854** W. NORTH *Slave of Lamp* 38 (Bartlett) Much bogus coin and wild-cat, red dog bills are in circulation. **1881** HUGHES *Rugby, Tennessee* II. v. Wild-cat whisky—or 'moonshine' as the favourite illicit beverage of the mountains is called. **1890** *Daily News* 12 Nov. 6/2 In no way did I undertake to uphold Major Barttelot in any wild-cat expedition. **1959** *Daily Tel.* 31 Dec. 11/2 'Wildcat' risk in bank staffs. **1973** *Black Panther* 29 Sept. 3/3 A majority of the Black workers... voted... to reject the union proposal, upholding the original wildcat demand. **1976** M. MACHLIN *Pipeline* xix. 241 Some people think it was some wildcat members of 798 that set them after the company laid off about a hundred of them.

c. Special Comb.: wildcat drilling, the drilling of a wildcat well; wildcat strike, a sudden and unofficial strike; hence wildcat striker; similarly wildcat stoppage, walkout; wildcat train U.S., an extra train running in addition to those on the timetable (see quot. 1885); occas. *ellipt.*; similarly wildcat engine; wildcat well = sense 3c above.

1937 *Bull. Amer. Assoc. Petroleum Geologists* XXI. 1079 A study of wildcat drilling in the Gulf Coast Plains during 1935 and 1936 indicates that between 7 and 11 per cent of all such holes opened new oil or gas pools, the remaining 93-89 per cent having been dry. These figures speak eloquently of the risk involved in wildcat drilling. **1976** *Offshore Platforms & Pipelining* 60/1 The time span from hard freeze in late autumn to the melt in the late spring leaves an opportunity for no more than about 6,000 ft of wildcat drilling. **1888** *Missouri Republican* 23 Feb., The Montreal night express was thrown from the track... by a wild-cat engine that had been turned loose... by an evil-disposed person. **1891** E. S. ELLIS *Check No. 2134* xiii. 88 There was just one chance in a hundred of a wild-cat engine approaching. **1974** *Telegraph* (Brisbane) 5 Feb. 16/1 Freelance truckers entered the fifth day of their wildcat stoppage. **1937** *Sun* (Baltimore) 16 Nov. 3/1 A clause... conceding to the corporation the right to discipline persons responsible for 'wildcat' strikes. **1954** *Encounter* June 7/2 ['The workers'] behaviour itself becomes a judgement... It... takes the form of slow-downs, a silent war against production standards, and most spectacularly in the violent eruptions of wildcat strikes against 'speed-ups' or changes in the timing of jobs. **1978** S. BRILL *Teamsters* v. 179 Carey led a militant wildcat strike over a symbolic issue. **1945** *Chicago Daily News* 10 Dec. 1/9 (caption) Would fire or fine wildcat strikers. **1981** M. NABB *Death of Englishman* II. iii. 89 He wasn't going to stand by and see his country insulted, disrupted... by wildcat strikers. **1870** *Daily Territorial Enterprise* (Virginia City, Nevada) 22 Oct. 3/1 In company with four or five others, he had gone out on the road upon a hand car, when a 'wild cat train' (an extra train running on no regular time) overtook them. **1885** *Good Words* July 452/1 Every now and then the newspapers allude to 'wild-cat' trains... The 'wild-cat' is the slowest of all trains. It is only used for freight, and reaches its destination when it can, running whenever the line is clear, and shunting when a passenger train is due on the same track. **1942** *Sun* (Baltimore) 26 Sept. 9/6 Our estimated 400 were out in what both union and management termed a 'wildcat' walkout. **1977** *Time* 28 Mar. 46/2 The month-long wildcat walkout by 3,000 precision toolmakers at British Leyland. **1883** *Century Mag.* July 331/2 When he begins to put down a wild-cat well, he usually leases all the land in the vicinity. **1907** *Bull. U.S. Geol. Survey* No. 318. 25 In making maps of subsurface strata in areas that have not been productive, most of the records used for making a convergence sheet must be taken from 'wild-cat wells'. **1975** W. G. ROBERTS *Quest for Oil* (rev. ed.) iii. 35 It is nowadays extremely rare to hear of anyone sinking a true 'wildcat' well—that is, one drilled simply because someone has a hunch that his patch of ground has oil beneath.

wild-catter. [f. WILD CAT + -ER¹.] **a.** A prospector who sinks wildcat wells. **b.** A wildcat striker.

1883 *Century Mag.* July 327/2 The 'wild-catters,' as the prospectors are called who take the risks of sinking wells in unknown territory. **1925** A. B. THOMPSON *Oil-Fields Explor. & Devel.* I. vii. 314 The speculative spirit aroused by the gusher has had much to do with... inspiring the wild-catter to pursue his quest for extended areas of development. **1947** R. BEDICHEK *Adv. with Texas Naturalist* x. 116, I left the highway, following an old road which led me to the site of some wildcatters' dream and disillusionment. **1966** *Punch* 23 Mar. 404/3 That union refusing membership to a one-armed labourer may have had a point. Just as you don't hit a boy with glasses, even the wildest wildcatter might jib at intimidating this man. **1973** [see SHOOT-EM-UP]. **1980** A. COPPEL *Hastings Conspiracy* iv. 31 The militant wildcatters or the British air traffic controllers' union. **1981** *Sci. Digest* Aug. 118/3 Like wildcatters bringing in a gusher, a few of the students develop products with gilt-edged possibilities.

wild-catting, vbl. sb. [f. WILD CAT + -ING¹.] The action of engaging in a 'wild-cat' business or enterprise; *spec.* (a) the drilling of a wildcat well; (b) participation in a wildcat strike; occas. also as *ppl. a.*

1883 *Century Mag.* July 331/1 'Wild-catting' is the name applied to the venturesome business of drilling [oil] wells on territory not known to contain oil. **1893** *Nation* (N.Y.) 2 Feb. 76/3 The kind of wild-catting and red-dogging that was rife before the war. **1909** W. S. TOWER *Story of Oil* v. 66 Many of the most valuable oil deposits... have been revealed by the more or less random process of 'wild-catting'. **1967** *Economist* 18 Mar. 1014/2 Just like wild-

catting shop stewards, they [sc. demonstrators] brought into disrepute the cause that they affected to support. **1969** *Guardian* 22 Sept. 15/1 The West Berlin workers decided that anything their Ruhr brothers can do in the way of wildcatting the Berliners can do better. **1972** L. M. HARRIS *Intro. Deepwater Floating Drilling Operations* xv. 159 Nearly always, a floating drilling operation is a wildcatting venture in an area previously undrilled. **1976** M. MACHLIN *Pipeline* xxxii. 370 The way things are going these days, I think I might just go back to the wildcatting in East Texas.

wild deer. [In sense 1, OE. *wil(d)deor*, *wildedeor*, alteration (after *wilde* adj. WILD and *deor* DEER) of **wildor*, pl. *wildru*: see WILD *a.* etym. (Cf. ON. *villidýr*, OSw. *vil(l)diur*, Da. *vildtdyr*.) In sense 2, f. WILD *a.* + DEER.]

†1. A wild animal. Chiefly collect. *Obs.*

c825 [see WILD *a.* 1]. **c888** ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxix. §1 Swa swa wilde deor willnað oðer to acwellenne. **971** *Blickl. Hom.* 95 Ac bip punne repra & pearlwisra punne ænig wilde deor. **c1175**, **c1200** [see DEER 1 §]. **c1205** LAY. 1125 Ah swa monie þar waren wilde deor. **c1250** *Gen. & Ex.* 169 De sexte dais list, So made god... Al erue, and wrim, and wilde der. **1338** R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 110 þe kyng no man suld deme in courte for wilde dere.

2. Deer in a wild state.

1748 THOMSON *Cast. Indol.* II. xvii, The wild-deer bounding thro' the glade. **1817** SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* x. iv, The roaring of fire, whose floods the wild deer circumvent In the scorched pastures of the South. **1896** VISCT. EBRINGTON in *Red Deer* 245 Wild deer in their extremity do get into as curious places as carted ones.

wilde: see WIELD, WILD, WILL *v.*

Wildean ('wairdæn), *a.* [f. the name of Oscar Wilde (see below) + -AN.] Of, pertaining to, or characteristic of the Irish writer Oscar Fingal O'Flahertie Wills Wilde (1854-1900), or his works.

1924 *Nation* 26 Mar. 352/1 Epigrams are his undoing. The Wildean nineties are in his blood. **1937** *Scrutiny* V. 386 Ravel is Wildean, 'witty' in the nineteenth century salon. **1958** R. WILLIAMS *Culture & Society* II. ii. 171 A good example of the Wildean paradox. **1967** *Listener* 6 July 15/1 Social morality is turned on its head with a Wildean comment on one of the film's less violent fatalities: 'Marie's tragic death restored my faith in suicide.' **1977** *Time* 21 Feb. 28/3 They are cold, loveless creatures, incapable of responding to one another except by lobbing epigrams, Wildean in rhythm but not in wit, back and forth.

||**wildebeest** ('vildəbeest, -bi:st, 'wi-). Also wildebees. [S. African Du., f. *wild* WILD *a.* + *beest* BEAST *sb.*] The gnu, *Connocætes taurinus* or *C. gnou*.

[**1801** J. BARROW *Acct. Trav. S. Afr.* I. iv. 259 The *gnou* or *wild-beast*, as it is called by the Dutch.] **1824** W. J. BURCHELL *Trav. S. Afr.* II. 109 Wild animals; among which were... many *wilde-beests* or *gnues*. **1838** W. C. HARRIS *Narr. Exped. S. Africa* 380 *Catoblepas Gnoo*. The Gnoo. Wilde Beast of the Cape Colonists. **1850** R. G. CUMMING *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* iv. 84 Having inspected the wildebeest bull, which was a noble specimen. **1889** RIDER HAGGARD *Allan's Wife* iii, Here to the right might be a herd of vilderbeeste that could not number less than two thousand. **1895** MILLAIS *Breath from Veldt* x. 218 The white-tailed gnu or black wildebeest. **1929** D. REITZ *Commando* 129 Great herds of zebra, wildebeest, and sable, stood fearlessly gazing at us. **1958** *Cape Times* 13 Aug. 3/4 For the rest it was impala, wildebeest and koodoo. **1970** *Life* Jan. 50 Their faces covered with grotesque tufts of hair, the wildebeest... are the oddest and fiercest-looking antelopes.

wilder ('wildə(r)), *v. arch.* (now chiefly poet.) [Of uncertain origin: prob. (by an unusual process) extracted from WILDERNESS on the analogy of the form of *wander*; but cf. MDu. *verwilder*, frequent. of *verwild* (f. *ver-* FOR-PREFIX¹ + *wilde*, *wilt* WILD *a.*), and G. *wildern*. It has been frequently apprehended as an aphetic f. BEWILDER (which is later in appearance), and occas. spelt 'wilder'.]

1. *trans.* To cause to lose one's way, as in a wild or unknown place; to lead or drive astray; *refl.* to lose one's way, go astray.

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* VIII. ix. 653 Unknowne Lands, where we have wildered our selves. **a1620** J. DYKE *Sel. Serm.* (1640) 138 They had been in danger of being wilderd, of losing their way. **1687** DRYDEN *Hind & P.* II. 682 This she desir'd her to accept and stay, For fear she might be wilder'd in her way. **1717** ADDISON *tr. Ovid's Met.* III. 236 Young Actæon, wilder'd in the wood. **1796** SOUTHEY *Hymn to the Penates* 96 O ye whom Youth has wilder'd on your way. **1819** SHELLEY *New Nat. Anthem* iv, 'Wilder her enemies In their own dark disguise.

b. fig.; esp. to render at a loss how to act, or what to think; to perplex, bewilder.

1642 D. ROGERS *Naaman* 55 Having himself sent for him to his house, when he was wilderd. **1648-9** *Eikon Bas.* xv. 131 Extravagances wherewith some men have now even wilderd... both Church and State. **1654** E. JOHNSON *Wonder-ukg. Provid.* II. 4 You shall be left wilderd and strange Revelations. **1701** COLLIER *M. Aurel.* 259 His Understanding, being misty and misled, he was wilderd in the Qualities of Things, and mistook the Nature of Good and Evil. **1811** SHELLEY *St. Irvyne* Pr. Wks. 1888 I. 218 Wolfstein, ... wildered by the suscitator energies of his soul almost to madness. **1816** — *Alastor* 139 To her cold home Wildered, and wan, and panting, she returned. **1887** BOWEN *Virg. Æneid* IV. 69 Over the city she wanders, the sad Queen, wildered of thought.

2. *intr.* To lose one's way, go astray, stray, wander; to be bewildered; to move or extend in a confused way.

1658 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* II. 39 A heavy curse, did we rightly judge of it, to wander and wilder in a maze of error. **a1734** NORTH *Life Dudley North* (1744) 200 He used the Room above to wilder in his Accounts. **1805** SCOTT *Last Minstr.* I. Intro. iv, And scenes long past of joy and pain, Came wildering o'er his aged brain. **1838** S. BELLAMY *Betrayal* v. 166 A fornix vast, that rangeless from the eye Ran wildering. **1854** LOWELL *Camb. 30 Yrs. Ago* Writ. 1890 I. 96 The fierce snow-storm wildering without.

b. trans. with adv. To spend or waste in 'wilderling'.

1668 OWEN *Expos. 130th Ps.* 131 So he wilders away all his days in uncertainties.

†3. *trans.* and *intr.* To render, or become, wild or uncivilized. *Obs. rare.*

1798 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* VI. 550 The yoke of the Egyptians had degraded the Hebrews into the rudest and worst of nations, wildered by three hundred years of neglect. **1804** — in *Crit. Rev.* I. 20 Her dole-lands... will again be suffered to wilder into sheep walks. **1806** — in *Ann. Rev.* IV. 111 European families transported to Canada must wilder in a generation or two.

wildered ('wildəd), *ppl. a.* Also 7 wildred. [f. prec. + -ED¹.]

1. That has lost one's way; straying, 'lost'.

1656 in Clarendon *Hist. Reb.* xv. §112 Like poor wilder'd Travellers, perceiving that We have lost our way. **1742** YOUNG *Nt. Th.* ix. 1703 Ye, who guide the wilder'd in the waves. **1818** KEATS *Endym.* III. 219 The wilder'd stranger. **1870** MORRIS *Earthly Par.* III. iv. 46 A sound as of a wildered wind, Half moan, half sigh.

b. fig. At a loss, perplexed, bewildered.

1642 D. ROGERS *Naaman* 149 See Naaman here, in what a wildred case he is! **1689** J. O. tr. *Cowley's Plants* 1. *Scurvy Grass* 31 Nor does it to your wilder'd Sense appear, Where their Pain is, 'cause it is every where. **1789** W. BLAKE *Songs Innoc.*, *Dream* 5 Troubl'd, wilder'd, and forlorn. **1813** SCOTT *Robeys* IV. xxix, In secret, doubtless, to pursue The schemes his wilder'd fancy drew. **1881** KIPLING *Deparm. Ditties, Simla Dancers* iv, And murmurs of past meriment pursue Your 'wildered clerks that they indite in vain.

2. Of a place or region: In which one may lose one's way; pathless, wild.

a1810 SHELLEY *M. Nicholson Fragm.* 26 Our ghosts, whilst raves the maddened storm, Will sweep at midnight o'er the wildered wave. **1821** CLARE *Vill. Minstrel* I. 203 Brushing through the wilder'd dell. **1860** PATMORE *Faithful for Ever* I. i, A long, green slip of wilder'd land.

b. Confused, disordered; mingled confusedly.

1853 C. BRONTE *Villette* xlii, Certain... feelings... when reviewed must strike us as things wildered and whirling. **1909** STOFF. BROOKE in *Life & Lett.* (1917) II. 613 The sun set among the trees in a wildered glory of gold and crimson.

wildering ('wildərɪŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING².] That 'wilders', in various senses.

1. Leading or driving one astray; *esp.* of a place: in which one loses or may lose one's way.

1749 SHENSTONE *Irreg. Ode* 83 And some had bent the wild'ring maze. **1793** COLERIDGE *Lines Autumnal Even.* 77 Toss'd by storms along Life's wild'ring way. **1804** W. L. BOWLES *Spir. Discov.* IV. 64 Safe in the wildering storm. **1867** H. MACMILLAN *Bible Teach.* vi. (1870) 126 Their wildering mazes of exquisite fowers.

b. fig. Producing mental confusion or aberration; perplexing, bewildering.

1742 COLLINS *Ecl.* IV. 8 Where wild'ring fear and desperate sorrow led. **1812** J. WILSON *Isle of Palms* I. 223 In waking thoughts she still retains The memory of these wildering pains. **a1850** ROSSETTI *Dante & Circle* I. (1874) 74 These 'wildering phantasies Then carried me to see my Lady dead. **1870** MORRIS *Earthly Par.* III. iv. 370 The clash Of rain-beat boughs and wildering lightning-flash.

2. Going astray, straying, wandering.

1827 KEBLE *Chr. Y., Sexagesima Sunday* II, Ruin below and wrath above Are all that now the wildering fancy meets. *Ibid.*, 5th Sunday in Lent IV, Ye too, who tend Christ's wildering flock. **1871** B. TAYLOR *Faust* (1875) II. I. iii, Lamps are gleaming, Through the festal's wildering train.

wilderment ('wildəmənt). *poet. rare.* [f. as prec. + -MENT.] Bewilderment.

1830 *Fraser's Mag.* I. 144 Music's gush, With all its moving wilderment. **1844** MRS. BROWNING *Lost Bower* lvii, So, in wilderment of gazing, I looked up and I looked down.

†**wildern, a.** and *sb. Obs.* Forms: 1 wilddeoren, 3-5 wilderne, (3 wulderne), 4 wildern, 5 wylderne; 3-4 wildren, 4 wildrin, wyldren. [OE. *wilddéoren*, f. *wilddéor* WILD DEER + -EN⁴.]

A. adj. Wild, savage, desert.

a1050 *Liber Scintill.* xxv. (1889) 99 *Cum feralibus dentibus*, mid wilddeorenium topum. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 3081 [Ysmael] wond als a wildren man. *Ibid.* 4080 His breþer in þe wildrin land. *Ibid.* 5734, 10293. **13..** *E.E. Allit. P. C.* 297 Ande euer walteres þis whal bi wyldren depe.

B. sb. = WILDERNESS.

The genitive of this word is indistinguishable in form from next.

c1200 *Vices & Virtues* 137 þo þe he faste fowerti daiȝes on ða wilderne. **c1200** *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 127 He nakede his wunienge in þe wilderne. **a1225** *Ancre R.* 160 He... wende into onliche stude iðe wildernesse [MS. C. wilderne]. **13..** *Cursor M.* 5852 (Gött.) To worschip god in wildrenes land. **c1375** *Ibid.* 5734 (Fairf.) His flok he fedde a-pon a tide Bi a wildrenes side. **a1400** *Sir Orfeo* 212 (MS. Ashm. 61, lf. 153) To wylderne I wyll gone... And lyve þer in holty hore.

wilderness ('wildənɪs). Forms: 3-6 wyldernesce, 3-7 wildernesce, 4-6 wil-, wyl-, -der-, -dir-, -dre-, (-dur-), -dyr-, -nes, -ness(e),

(-nys), (4 *Sc.* vildirnes, 5 wyyldernesse), 4-wilderness. [OE. *wild(d)éornes (Sweet's A.-S. Dict.) = MLG., MDu. *wildernisse* (Du. *wildernis*, G. *wildernis*); f. *wilder*, wil(d)déor (see WILD a., WILD DEER) or, perh. more probably, *wilddéoren* WILDERN a. + -nes -NESS (for the concrete sense cf. *héahnes* summit, *smépnes* 'planities').

The other types of derivatives of *wild* meaning 'wilderness' in the Teutonic languages are represented by (1) MHG., G. *wild* fem. (cf. WILD sb.), (2) MLG., MHG. *wilt(e)nisse*, G. *wildnis* (cf. WILDNESS 2), (3) G. (now dial.) *wilden(e)*, (4) ME. WILDERN.]

1. a. (without article) Wild or uncultivated land.

Distinguished from *desert*, in that the latter denotes an uninhabitable and uncultivable region, and implies entire lack of vegetation.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 161 Weste is cleped pat londe, pat is longe tilde atleien, and wildernesse, yef þare manie rotes onne wacseð. c 1205 LAY. 30335 He scal habben papes waste and wildernesse inoþe. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 2617 In wildernes al bi a well. 13.. *Sir Beues* (A.) 3867 þe geaunt. . In a castel hire hadde to ward, In wildernesse al be seluc. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xviii. 52 Als he trewynt na man was In abay, na in vildirnes, þat mocht do mare þane he had done. c 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxi. 98 A grete party of þis cuntree es waste and wildernes and noȝt inhabitid. c 1450 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Aug.* xiv. 20 Holy heremites which dwelled in wildynesse. 1590 SPENSER *F.Q.* II. vii. 2 He traueild through wide wastfull ground, That nought but desert wildernesse shew'd all around. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. (S.T.S.) I. 164 Twyse he compelled him to take his refuge in wod and wildirnes. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* v. v. 404 The Countrey of Gouren, where we found but few villages, and almost all wildernesse. 1835 W. IRVING *Tour Prairies* 143 Passing through tracts of wilderness which they have never before traversed. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* I. 110 By tilth and grange, . . . and blowing bosks of wilderness.

b. (with article or other defining word) A wild or uncultivated region or tract of land, uninhabited, or inhabited only by wild animals; 'a tract of solitude and savageness' (J.).

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 160 He. feste þer as he was one iðe wildernes [v.r. wilderne]. *Ibid.* 196 Iðe wildernes [v.r. wildene] heo aspiden us to slea. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 11110 (Cott.) He. . . liued wit rotes and wit gress, Wit honi o þe wildernes. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 172 Hyt was onys a munke, and had a celle In a wyldernes for to dwelle. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 701 In þe wyldrenesse of Wyrle. c 1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 798/7 *Hec solitudo*, a wyldernys. 1535 COVERDALE *Job* xxxix. 6 Vnto whom I haue geuen the wyldernes to be their house, & the vntilled londe to be their dwelling place. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV.* IV. v. 137 O my poore Kingdome. . . thou wilt be a Wildernesse againe, Peopled with Wolues (thy old Inhabitants). 1645 MILTON *Tetrach.* 10 By forcing that upon us as the remedy of solitude, which wraps us in a misery worse then any wildernes. 1784 COWPER *Task* II. i. Oh for a lodge in some vast wilderness. 1831 SCOTT *Cast. Dang.* xv. Finding only boundless wildernesses, and varied combinations of tangled woodland scenery. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xix. IV. 368 Temple had made a retreat for himself at a place called Moor Park. . . The country round his dwelling was almost a wilderness.

c. A piece of ground in a large garden or park, planted with trees, and laid out in an ornamental or fantastic style, often in the form of a maze or labyrinth.

a 1644 QUARLES *Sol. Recant.* ch. ii. 6, I cut me Aquiducts, whose current flees And waters all my wilderness of trees. 1668 DRYDEN *Even. Love* v. Disperse your selves, some into the Wilderness, some into the Allies, and some into the Parterre. 1770 H. CHAMBERLAIN *Hist. & Surv. London* 641/2 In one part of it [sc. the park] is a pretty wilderness laid out in walks, and planted with a variety of ever-green trees. 1784 COWPER *Task* I. 351. 1839 E. JESSE *Summer's Day Hampton Cr.* 77 On the opposite side of the palace there is a large space of ground called the Wilderness, planted and laid out by William III. 1885 MISS BRADDON *Wyllard's Weir* i. Manifest as were the cares of the hot-houses and ferneries and wildernesses.

2. *transf.* or *gen.* A waste or desolate region of any kind, e.g. of open sea, of air.

1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* III. i. 94, I stand as one vpon a Rocke, Inuiron'd with a wilderness of Sea. 1629 *Drayner Conf.* (1647) B2, The difference between a Wilderness of water and a goodly green Meadow. 1665 WALLER *Instr. Painter* 78 But who can always on the Billows ly? The watry Wilderness yields no supply. 1821 BYRON *Cain* II. i. This blue wilderness of interminable Air. 1865 PARKMAN *Huguenots* iii. (1875) 30 They. . . saw the long, low line where the wilderness of waves met the wilderness of woods.

3. *fig.* a. Something figured as a region of a wild or desolate character, or in which one wanders or loses one's way; in religious use applied to the present world or life as contrasted with heaven or the future life (cf. 6 b).

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* cxlvii. 4 He forsakis vs noȝt in þis wildrenes. c 1390 CHAUCER *Truth* 17 Here is non home, here nys but wildrenesse. c 1480 HENRYSON *Trial of Fox* 317 The Meir is Men of gude conditioun, As Pilgrymes walkand in this wildernes. 1640 BROME *Antipodes* I. iii. But sure his mind Is in a wilderness: For there he sayes a Geese that have two heads a peece. 1664 POWER *Exp. Philos.* I. 52 Thus discursive Argumentation and Rational probabilities mislead men in the Wilderness of Enquiry. 1678 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* I. 1 As I walk'd through the wilderness of this world. a 1708 T. WARD *Eng. Ref.* II. (1710) 46 All they can do's to bid you pore On Bibles till your Eyes are sore, And in that Wilderness of Letter Hunt for your Faiths. 1813 BYRON *Giaour* 939 The vacant bosom's wilderness. 1868 LOUISA M. ALCOTT *Little Women* iv, The cosy chairs, the globes,

and best of all, the wilderness of books, in which she could wander where she liked.

b. Rhetorically applied to a place (e.g. a building or town) which one finds 'desolate', or in which one is lonely or 'lost'.

1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* vi, Passing this wilderness of an hotel with stores about its base. 1848 — *Dombey* xxiii, So Florence lived in her wilderness of a home. 1891 KIPLING *Light that Failed* 118 Meantime Maisie was alone in London. . . And the packed wilderness was very full of danger.

c. in the wilderness (in allusion to *Numbers* xiv. 33), (a) of a politician, political party, etc.: out of office; (b) *gen.*, unrecognized, out of favour.

1930 *Economist* 2 Aug. 220/1 For Charles X represented a Restoration of the *Ancien Régime*. . . which had 'learnt nothing and forgotten nothing' during a quarter of a century in the wilderness. 1958 *Spectator* 6 June 719/3 Parties should liquidate their failures and frustrations in the wilderness, not in power. 1966 *Listener* 5 May 661/2 Richard Baker asked Bernard Keffe why Mahler, so long in the wilderness as far as England was concerned, is now a box-office success. 1969 *Ibid.* 3 July 12/3 Carmichael has now accepted a junior post in the Panther hierarchy and Rap Brown and Jim Foreman have been driven into the wilderness. 1976 *Southern Even. Echo* (Southampton) 17 Nov. 22/3 If he fails to gain the title he lost to Cain on a cut eye decision, it could mean months in the wilderness and set him back even further. 1984 *Times* 1 Aug. 17/2 After months in the wilderness, which has seen the price slip from a high of 95p to a low of 65p shares of Marley. . . is [sic] back in favour with the institutions.

4. A mingled, confused, or vast assemblage or collection of persons or things. (Usually coloured by other senses; in reference to a growth of plants, nearly coinciding with 1 b; in reference to buildings, etc., often approaching 3 b.)

1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* III. i. 54 Dost thou not perceiue That Rome is but a wilderness of Tigers? 1596 — *Merch. V.* III. i. 128, I would not haue giuen it for a wilderness of Monks. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* vii. xii. 598 It was called Madera, of the wildernesses of Trees there growing. a 1616 BEAUM. & FL. *Bonduca* v. i. The Land thou hast left a wilderness of wretches. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* v. 294 Through Groves of Myrrhe, And flouring Odours, Cassia, Nard, and Balme; A Wilderness of sweets. 1678 E. HOWARD *Man of Newmarket* I. i. 1 This Metropolitan Wilderness of Houses, call'd London. 1775 SHERIDAN *Dianna* I. ii. A wilderness of faults and follies. 1824 BYRON *Juan* xvi. iii. This epic will contain A wilderness of the most rare conceits. 1857 DICKENS *Dorrit* I. ix. The wilderness of masts on the river, and the wilderness of steeples on the shore.

† 5. a. Wildness, uncultivated condition. *Obs.*

c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* III. xiv. 370 The tenementis. . . which the clergie. . . holden. . . is better. . . kept for falling into nouyt and into wildirnes, than if tho same tenementis. . . weren in the hondis of grete lordis. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* IX. 245 These paths and Bowers doubt not but our joynt hands Will keep from Wilderness with ease.

b. *fig.* Wildness of character, licentiousness. *Obs. nonce-use.*

1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* III. i. 142 For such a warped slip of wilderness Nere issu'd from his blood.

6. *attrib.* a. *lit.* (in quot. 1670 in sense 1 c).

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* I. xvii. (1912) 112 Being one of that little wilderness-company. 1670 MEAGER *English Gardener* Title-p., The ordering of the Garden of Pleasure, with variety of Knots, and Wilderness-work. 1801 *Farmer's Mag.* Aug. 297, 14 acres of wilderness land converted into grass. c 1875 E. THRING in *Skrine Mem.* (1889) 218 The poor beggars had tightish work with all that wilderness life before them.

b. *fig.*; *esp.* in former religious use, belonging to the present world or life (cf. 3).

1651 BAXTER *Saints' Rest* II. ix. § 1 (ed. 2) 290 If they had not felt their Wilderness-necessities, God should not have exercised his Wilderness-providences and mercies. 1675 T. BROOKS *Gold. Key* Wks. 1867 V. 473 A wilderness-condition is. . . a condition of straits, wants, deep distresses, and most deadly dangers. 1679 C. NESSE *Antichrist* 208 Tainted both with Egypts idolatry, and wilderness-sins. 1719 J. T. PHILLIPS tr. *Thirty-four Confer.* 79 The Progress thro' this Wilderness-World, towards a better. . . Life. 1898 MEREDITH *Odes Fr. Hist.* 16 Her soul On eddies of wild water cast, In wilderness division.

wild-fire, wildfire ('waildfaiə(r)). [Cf. G. *wildfeuer* lightning, will-o'-the-wisp, erysipelas, etc.]

† 1. Furious or destructive fire; a conflagration (in early quot. app. one caused by lightning: cf. 2 d). *Obs.* (as a specific use).

a 1122 O.E. *Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1032 On þissum geare atwyde þæt wildefyr, ðe nan mann æror nan swylc ne gemunde. c 1366 Chycon *Brevius an.* 1047 in *Eulogium Hist.* (Rolls) III. 294 Mortalitas in Anglia et ignis arecus, quæ dicitur wildfire, blada combussit in pago Derebie. ? a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 797 He hade weryede the worme by wyghtnesse of strengthe, Ne ware it fore the wyldre fyre that he hyme wyth defendez. c 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 1870 How wild fyre was sloken sall be sene. 1538 BALE *God's Promises* III. Biv. Wyldre fyre and brymstone shall lyght vpon them all. 1634 S. R. *Noble Soldier* II. i. C 4 b, You to quench a wild fire, Cast oyle upon it.

2. In various specific uses (*wild* often implying 'natural, not artificially produced', or 'out of doors, not domestic': cf. WILD a. 1-4). † a. The flames of spirituous liquor burning on some dishes, as plum-pudding, when served up. *Obs. rare* -1.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* P 371 Swiche manere bake metes and dissh metes brennyng of wilde fir.

† b. A fire kindled out of doors for warmth. *Obs. rare* -1.

a 1400 *Sir Perc.* 855 Than wist Percyvelle by thatt, It seruede hym of somewhat The wyldre fyre that he gatt.

c. Will-o'-the-wisp, *ignis fatuus*; also *fig.*

Also dialectally applied to other phosphorescent appearances: see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*

1663 G. WHARTON *Cal. Carol.* A 3 b, [They] wonder by what Wild fires they were led To feed on Thistles 'stead of wholesome Bread. 1683 [see 2 e]. 1727 P. WALKER *Life R. Cameron* in *Biogr. Presbyt.* (1827) I. 243 Some Willies with the Wisps, or Spunkies of Wild-fire, seen mostly in boguish myrish Ground. 1814 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* VI. xxii, As springs the wild-fire from the moss. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* v. 431 Tho' yourself Be dazzled by the wildfire Love to sloughs That swallow common sense. 1873 C. M. DAVIES *Unorth. Lond.* (1876) 405 He taught. . . that intellectual culture without moral practice is a wildfire, and that conscience is the voice of God. 1885 J. PAYN *Talk of Town* vii, Led by wildfire of this sort to the brink of disappointment.

d. Lightning; *esp.* sheet lightning without audible thunder, 'summer lightning'.

1795 BURNS *Verses Destr. Woods Drumlanrig* v, Or was 't the will-fire scorch'd their boughs? 1888 TAIT in *Encycl. Brit.* XXIII. 330/1 What is called 'summer lightning' or 'wild-fire' is sometimes a rather puzzling phenomenon.

e. † Volcanic fire (*obs.*); fire-damp in coal-mines.

1683 G. SINCLAIR *Nat. Philos., Misc. Observ.* 293 In some Coals, . . . there is a certain Fire, . . . I judge, that from its resemblance to *Ignis fatuus*, which the Vulgar termeth Wild-fire, it hath the same name. 1692 RAY *Disc.* I. iii. (1693) 12 If such Hills. . . may be, and have been elevated by subterraneous Wild-fire, Flatus or Earthquakes. 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-mining*, Wild-fire, an old term used by colliers for fire-damp.

3. A composition of highly inflammable substances, readily ignited and very difficult to extinguish, used in warfare, etc.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 8485 Hii asailede þe toun mid þis tour wel uaste, & wilde fur wip pich & grece. 13.. *Coer de L.* 5229 With trepettes they slungen alsoo, . . . And blew wyldre-fyr in trumpees of gynne. c 1386 CHAUCER *Wife's Prol.* 373 Thou liknest wommenes loue. . . to wilde fyr The moore it brenneth the moore it hath desir. 1471 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 278 At Londone brige anodyr sawte thay made agayne, Wyth gunpowdir and wildefire and straw eke. a 1490 BOTONER *Itin.* (Nasmith, 1778) 279 Destruxit per obidionem civitatem per passeress cum wyldfyre ad eorum caudas ligata, volando ad civitatem. a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. V.* 56 Some set skalyng ladders to the wal, and other cast in wyldre fyre. 1629 MALTHUS *Fireworks* in *Hodgkin Rariora* (1902) III. iii. 16 Hand-granades, fiery Wheeles, a Shippe of wilde Fire, and a Petard. a 1642 SIR W. MONSON *Naval Tracts* III. (1704) 344/2 Pikes of Wild-fire to stick burning into a Ship's side. a 1674 MILTON *Hist. Moscovia* i. Wks. 1851 VIII. 479 Then out of Mortar-pieces they shoot Wild-fire into the Air. 1742 WESLEY *Jrnl.* 26 Jan., The exceeding thick smoke, which was occasion'd by the wild fire and things of that kind, continually thrown into the room. 1783 JUSTAMOND tr. *Raynal's Hist. Indies* (new ed.) I. 61 Chymistry was known; and wildfire had been invented. 1871 *Fireworks & How to make them* 58 Port or Wildfires. Saltpetre 4 parts, mealpowder 6 parts, and sulphur 3 parts.

4. a. A name for erysipelas and various inflammatory eruptive diseases, esp. those in which the eruption spreads from one part to another.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 114 *Erysipila*, wilde fyr. a 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 40 It quenchip wele herisiplam, þat is wilde fire or few sawage. 1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 33 Lentilles. . . are good for. . . the wyldfire and for the kybes. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXIII. Proeme II. 146 Shingles, ringworms, and such like wild-fires. 1614 MARKHAM *Cheap Husb.*, *Sheep* ix. 72 This disease which is called the wildfire is a very infectious sickness, and will indanger the whole flocke. 1818-20 E. THOMPSON tr. *Cullen's Nosol. Method.* (ed. 3) 331 Herpes; Ringworm; Shingles; Wildefire. 1841 DICK *Man. Vet. Sci.* (1862) 175 Erysipelas in sheep appears in various slight modifications. . . Wilfire. . . generally shews itself at the beginning of winter. . . The skin inflames and rises into blisters. 1907 'Q' *Merry-Garden* etc., *Black Joke* i, Wounds showing signs of inflammation and threatening to set up wildfire.

b. A leaf-spot disease of tobacco, caused by the bacterium *Pseudomonas tabaci*. Also *attrib.*

1918 *Jrnl. Agric. Res.* XII. 451 The disease appeared so quietly, spread so rapidly, and affected the leaves so seriously that it was commonly given the appropriate designation 'wildfire'. 1955 *Sci. News Let.* 29 Jan. 73/2 Immunity to wildfire. . . was first transferred. . . from a wild tobacco species. 1971 *Nature* 15 Jan. 174/1 Wildfire disease of tobacco is perhaps the most thoroughly studied of all toxin-mediated plant diseases.

5. a. *fig.* or in *fig.* allusions (usually from sense 3, sometimes 4), in reference to a destructive agency, or to excited, violent, or fervid feeling or utterance.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4314 Thoru pine ei þe sal be sent A flæn, wit wild fire al brent, First to brin þin hert wit-in. c 1425 *Cast. Persev.* 2116 in *Macro Plays* 140 Belsabub. . . Bad me brenne pee with wyld fere. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ.* *Osor.* 271 b, What thunderboltes and wildefire he [sc. the Pope] threw out of his bloody turrettes against Luther's life. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T. To Rdr.*, Neuer more let him looke to quench wilde fire with milke. 1612 J. DAVIES *Muse's Sacrifice* Wks. (Grosart) II. 181 The wilde-fire of my Passions burn'd me. 1646 J. HALL *Poems* 34 Admit no wildfire in Poetick rage. a 1653 G. DANIEL *Idyll.* IV. 106 Caesar. . . Is but a Wild-fire to wast Senate Raggs, And silence Cato. 1736 NEAL *Hist. Purit.* III. 539 It was impossible to stop the impetuous wildfire of the army. 1765 *Ann. Reg.*, *Char.* 1 The wild-fire of applause or reproach is let off at the authors, in an undistinguishing blaze. 1825 SCOTT *Betrothed* iii, That which will but warm your Flemish hearts, will put wildfire into Norman brains. 1888 DOUGHTY

Trav. Arabia Deserta II. 148 There is a wild-fire in my heart which cannot be appeased till I be avenged.

†b. In imprecations (in sense 3 or 4). *Obs.*

c.1350 *Will. Palerne* 1188 Ho-so faileþ for feyntice wild fur him for-brenne. c.1386 CHAUCER *Reeve's T.* 252 A wilde fyr vp on thair bodyes falle. c.1407 LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 3802 That she wolde, in her entent, In wilde fire that he were brent. 1520 *Calisto & Melib.* (1536) Bj, That a wyld fyre brent he, Celestena. c.1622 ROWLEY, etc. *Birth of Merlin* III. vi, Wilde-fire and Brimstone eat theel c.1705 POPE *Jan.* & *May* 641 So may some wildfire on your bodies fall.

c. Phr. *like wildfire*: with immense rapidity and effect; very swiftly and forcibly: usually with *run, spread*, etc.; hence occas. *gen.* forcibly, vigorously. (The commonest current use.)

[1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 1523 Whose words like wild fire burnt the shining glorie Of rich-built Iliion.] 1699 DAMPIER *Voy.* II. ii. 58 We set fire to it [sc. sedgy grass], which runs like Wild-fire. 1762 GOLDSM. *Cit. W.* xxx, Though I was at that time rich in fame—for my book ran like wild-fire—yet I was very short in money. 1837 DISRAELI *Venetia* I. xvi, The report... spread like wild-fire through the town. 1857 READE *Course of True Love, Clouds & Sun.* i, She would... go... and flit like wild-fire for a fortnight. 1886 19th Cent. Dec. 883 With such thoughts running like wild-fire through her mind.

6. *attrib.*: in sense 3, as *wildfire arrow, ball, plot, fig.* (cf. 5), as *wildfire blood, zeal, wildfire rash*, a disease of infants, a form of strophulus with a wandering eruption (cf. 4).

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), **Wild-Fire Arrows*, such as are trimmed with Wild-Fire. 1614 GORGES *Lucan* VI. 222 Shoures of *wildfire balls. 1824 SCOTT *Redgauntlet* ch. xviii, The *wildfire blood of Redgauntlet. 1641 (title) A *Wild-fire Plot found out in Ireland, shewing how the Rebels have consumed the City of Dublin with Wild-fire. 1822-7 GOOD *Study Med.* (1829) V. 566 Children... liable to the *strophulus volaticus*, or *wild-fire rash. 1601 BR. W. BARLOW *Defence* Ep. Ded., A *wilde-fire zeale.

|| **Wildflysch** ('viltflɪʃ). *Geol.* Also *wildflysch*. [Ger. (F. J. Kaufmann 1871, in B. Studer *Index der Petrogr.* (1872) 258); see FLYSCH.] Flysch containing large, irregularly distributed blocks and occupying beds that are distorted.

1929 P. G. H. BOSWELL tr. *Heritsch's Nappe Theory Alps* iv. 47 A great part of the sheared Flysch has the character of the Wildflysch: dark, puckered and highly micaceous marls with interbedded seams of sandstone, quartzite, limestones, breccias, conglomerates and exotic blocks. 1960 *Bull. Geol. Soc. Amer.* LXXXI. 878/2 The general aspect of Wildflysch forcibly suggests submarine slumping and sliding on a large scale. 1963 [see FAMENNIAN a.]. 1981 A. HALLAM *Facies Interpretation* iv. 82 A thick series of shallow-water carbonate platform deposits... are overlain by a wildflysch unit with a chaotic jumble of limestone blocks in a shaly matrix.

wild-fowl. (Also as one word, or as two.) Forms: see WILD a. and FOWL; also 6 wyelfoyle. [Cf. MLG., G. *wildvogel*, ON. *villifygli* (Sw. *vildfågel*, early Da. *vildfugl*).] A wild bird, or (usually) wild birds collectively; chiefly applied to those caught for food, game birds (now esp. of the duck and goose kinds).

a.1000 *Bi Manna Wyrðum* 85 (Gr.) Sum sceal wildne fugel wloncne atemian, heafoc on honda. 1377 LANGL. P. Pl. B. x. 363 Delyte in wyn and wyldle foule. a.1417 *York Memo. Bk.* (Surtees) I. 223 Pultre wyldfooule and other vytayll. 1439 *Maldon, Essex, Court-roll* Bundle 25. No. 1, Johannes Yutte est communis foristallator volucrum vocat. Wyldfooule. 1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxxix. 19 Vennesoun, wyld fowill, wyne and spyce. 1532-3 *Durham Househ. Bk.* (Surtees) 215 Et de magistro de Fayrne 6 dd. wyelfoyle et 4 puffyngs. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* iv. ii. 55 What is the opinion of Pythagoras concerning Wildfowle? 1784 COWPER *Task* iv. 612 Whoso seeks an audit here Propitious, pays his tribute, game or fish, Wild-fowl or ven'son. 1817 SCOTT *Harold* v. xvi, As the scared wild-fowl scream and fly.

b. Humorously misapplied in the first quot. to a wild beast; hence *allusively*; also *fig.* of persons.

1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* iii. i. 33 There is not a more fearefull wilde foule then your Lyon liuing. 1610 B. JONSON *Alch. v.* iii, What's your med'cine, To draw so many seuerall sorts of wild-fowle? 1905 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 3 Feb. 38/1 One has to drag in fundamental principles of art and other fearful wildfowl.

c. *attrib.*

1825 HOOD *To Mrs. Fry* x, To tame the wild-fowl-ways of Jenny Diver! 1870 N. F. HELE *Aldeburgh* ii. 8 Very few wild-fowl shooters frequent this part of the river. 1886 C. E. PASCOE *Lond. of To-day* xli. (ed. 3) 360 Wild fowl guns.

Hence **wild-fowler**, a sportsman who shoots or catches wild-fowl; **wild-fowling**, the pursuit or capture of wild-fowl.

1859 FOLKARD (title) *The Wild-Fowler: a Treatise on Ancient and Modern Wild-Fowling*. 1874 J. W. LONG *Amer. Wild-fowl* xv. 193 In no other branch of wild-fowling is a breech-loader of more advantage than in teal-shooting.

wild goose. (Also with hyphen.) Forms: see WILD a. and GOOSE; also 7 wilgosse. [Cf. (M)HG. *wildgans*, Sw. *vildgås*, Da. *vildgaas*.]

1. Any wild bird of the goose kind; an undomesticated goose; in Britain usually the greylag (*Anser ferus* or *cinereus*), in N. America the Canada goose (*Bernicla canadensis*).

c.1050 *Voc. in Wr.* Wülker 364/1 Cente, wilde gos. c.1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 165 Jo voy là une ove rossée [gloss a wilde-gos]. c.1440 LYDG. *Hors, Shepe & G.* 171 Whan wilde gees hihe in the ayer vp fleen. 1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* i. 2619 A great multytude somtyme of wyld gees, Comunely called Gauntes. 1597 SHAKS. 2

Hen. IV. v. i. 79 They flocke together in consent, like so many Wilde-Gecse. 1600 — *A.Y.L.* II. vii. 86 If he be free, Why then my taxing like a wild-goose flies Vnclain'd of any man. 1752 HILL *Hist. Anim.* 421 We have the wild goose flying over our heads, in the fens of Lincolnshire, in vast flocks. 1845 WHITTIER *Lumbermen* ii, O'er us, to the southland heading, Screams the gray wild-goose.

2. *fig. a.* Used of or in reference to a flighty or foolish person: cf. GOOSE sb. 1 f. b. *Eng. Hist. (pl.)* A nickname for the Irish Jacobites who went over to the Continent on the abdication of James II and later.

1592 [see WILD GOOSE CHASE 2]. 1843 M. J. BARRY in *Spirit of the Nation* (Dublin 1845) 230 The wild geese—the wild geese,—'tis long since they flew, O'er the billowy ocean's bright bosom of blue. 1845 *Ibid.* 231 *note*, The recruits for the Irish Brigade... were entered on the ship's books as 'wild geese'. 1845 M. O'CONOR *Milit. Hist. Irish Nation* 367 *note*, Clare, it may be added, was a great recruiting county for the Brigade. On its stern coast the French used to land smuggled claret, brandy, &c., and take away wool, and, what was more precious, 'Wild Geese,' for such was the name usually given to the recruits for 'The bold Brigade.' 1872 TENNYSON *Gareth & Lynette* 36 Thou art but a wild-geese to question it. 1881 FROUDE *Eng. in Irel.* II. iii. i. 405 In 1715... Tens of thousands of young Irishmen were in the French service, and thousands more were continually recruited under the name of Wild Geese. 1902 in Emily Lawless *With the Wild Geese* Pref. p. viii, The 'Wild Geese' was the name given... to the exiles who, like the wild birds... migrated to the Continent before and after the Battle of Aughrim, and the Surrender of Limerick in 1691.

3. *attrib. a.* [after WILD GOOSE CHASE 2, as apprehended in later use.] Wild, fantastic, very foolish or risky.

1770 CUMBERLAND *West Indian* II. xi, To fit him out upon some wild-geese expedition to the coast of Africa. 1781 COWPER *Anti-Thelyphthora* 53 She tutor'd some in Dædalus's art, And promis'd they would act his wildgoose part. 1833 T. HOOK *Parson's Dau.* III. vi, 'All mad, wild-geese nonsense,' said MacGopus. 1841 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* iv, He'll... have gone away upon some wild-geese errand, seeking his fortune.

b. **wild-geese plum, rye**, names for N. American varieties of those plants raised from seeds found in the crops of wild geese; **wild-geose race** = next.

1909 *Month* Dec. 599 A well-known American plum is called the '*wild-geose' plum, because a plum-stone from which the whole race has been raised was found in the stomach of such a bird. 1594 WILLOBIE *Avisa* (1880) 83 As weary of this *wild-geose race That led askance, I know not where. 1624 GATAKER *Transubst.* 145 As one running the wild goose race, he windeth backe to a passage in the former argument. 1884 *Lisbon* (Dakota) *Star* 15 Aug., The introduction of *wild goose rye into Dakota.

wild goose chase.

†1. A kind of horse-race or sport in which the second or any succeeding horse had to follow accurately the course of the leader (at a definite interval), like a flight of wild geese. *Obs.*

[1592: see 2.] 1602 BRETON *Mother's Blessing* Wks. (Grosart) I. 6/2 Esteeme a horse, according to his pace, But loose no wagers on a wilde goose chase. 1604 H. SPURWAY in *Trevelyan Papers* (Camden) 60 The King hath bene lately at Royston, at a wilgosse chase. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* II. ii. iv. 342 Horse-races, wilde-geose chases, which are the disports of greater men. 1685 N. COX *Gentl. Recreat.*, *Hunting-horse* vii. (1697) 65.

2. *fig.* An erratic course taken or led by one person (or thing) and followed (or that may be followed) by another (or taken by a person in following his own inclinations or impulses); in later use (the origin being forgotten) apprehended as 'a pursuit of something as unlikely to be caught as the wild goose' (J.); a foolish, fruitless, or hopeless quest.

1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* II. iv. 75 Nay, if our wits run the Wild-Goose chase, I am done: For thou hast more of the Wild-Goose in one of thy wits, then I am sure I haue in my whole fue. 1623-4 MIDDLETON & ROWLEY *Sp. Gipsy* I. v, I have had a fine fegary, The rarest wildgoose chase! 1646 G. DANIEL *Poems, An Adresse* 48 We pursue A Wild-geose-Chase, to what none ever knew. 1656 R. FLETCHER tr. *Martial* 202 No hints of truth on foot? no sparks of grace? No late sprung light? to dance the wild-geose chase? 1662 in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* (1920) Apr. 257 If you cannot reason him to what may bee for his good... let him goe the wild goosechase. 1673 *Ess. Educ. Gentlewom.* 37 If we should dance that wild-Goose-chase usually led, it would require longer time. 1754 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Bentley* 20 Nov., Don't let me think, that if you return, you will set out upon every wild-geose chase, sticking to nothing. 1876 F. E. TROLLOPE *Charming Fellow* xii, His journey to London on such slender encouragement is a wild-geose chase! 1885 'MRS. ALEXANDER' *At Bay* vii, 'I see you have found nothing,' exclaimed Lady Gethin... 'It was a wild goose chase,' he replied with a weary look.

†**wildgrave**. *Obs.* [ad. G. *wildgraf* (MHG. *wiltgrāve*): see WILD a. and GRAVE sb. 4.] In Germany, formerly the chief magistrate of an uncultivated or forest region; *spec.* the title of a hereditary race of rulers in parts of the Rhineland (cf. RHINEGRAVE, WALDGRAVE). So **wildgraves** (tr. G. *wildgräfin*).

1762 tr. *Busching's Syst. Geog.* V. 504 Juliana, ... Wild-gravess and Rhinegravess of Grumbach. 1796 SCOTT *Wild Huntsman* i, The Wildgrave winds his bugle horn. 1798 tr. *Bürger's Wild Huntsm.* 2 Shrill sounds the haughty Wildgrave's horn.

†**wildhede**. *Obs. rare.* [f. WILD a. + *-hede*, *-HEAD*.] Wildness of character or conduct.

1421-2 HOCCEVE *Min. Poems* xxi. 52 That for myne honore showelde I by no weye Any thinge mynye or towche of my wildhede.

wilding ('waildɪŋ), *sb.* and *a.* Forms: 6 wyldyng, -ynge, -ing(e, wildinge, 7 wilden, 6- wilding. [f. WILD a. + *-ING*.] *A. sb.*

The meaning in the following quot. has not been ascertained:—

1296 *Acc. Exch. K.R.* 5/20 m. 1 (P.R.O.) In .ij. petris de Burre emptis... et quatuor petris de Wyldyng emptis de vxore Andree Skaket.

1. A wild apple or apple-tree; a crab-apple or crab-tree.

1525 *Grete Herbal* cclxxxiii. (1529) Qij, De macianis pomis. Wood crabbes, or wyldynges. 1530 PALSGR. 289/1 Wyldyng a sower apple, *pomme de boys*. 1621 T. GRANGER *Expos. Eccles.* xii. 13. 342 The wilding maketh a fairer shew then many a good apple, but by the taste. 1651 R. CHILD in *Hartlib's Legacy* (1655) 16, I never saw... any Apples or Pears thrive in an Hedge, unless Crab, or a Wilden, or some Sweeting of little worth. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Past.* III. 107 Ten ruddy Wildings in the Wood I found. 1776 BOLTON in *A. Young Tour Irel.* (1780) II. 202 Do not press wildings till Candlemas. 1786 ABERCROMBIE *Arr. in Gard. Assist.* p. xi, Apples valued principally for Cyder. Royal wilding. 1842 LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 535 Wildings or seedling apple stocks.

2. *gen.* A wild plant, flower, or fruit. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* II. (1586) 73 b, The Filbert will only be grafted in the Wilding. 1586 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* IV. xx. (1612) 95 Wildings, or the Seasons-fruit he did in scrip bestow. 1590 SPENSER *F.Q.* III. vii. 17 Oft from the Forrest wildings he did bring. a.1700 SEDLEY 4th *Bk. Virg. Georg.* Wks. 1778 I. 33 Among the wildings... they [sc. bees] feed. 1791 W. GILPIN *Forest Scenery* II. 37 The wildings of the forest. 1813 SCOTT *Rokeby* II. ix, Nor wilding green, nor woodland flower, Arose within its baleful bower. 1826 CAMPBELL *Field Flowers* i, Ye field flowers!... wildings of Nature, I doat upon you. 1840 *Cottager's Man.* 14 in *Libr. Usef. Knowl.*, *Husb.* III, The principle is to form the hedge of a double row of wildings. 1884 BROWNING *Ferishtah, Mihrab Shah* 74 The wilding... Ruffled outside at pleasure of the blast. 1892 C. E. NORTON *Dante's Paradise* xxvii. 178 Well blossoms the will in men, but the continual rain converts the true plums into wildings.

3. A wild animal. *rare.* 1897 *Advance* (Chicago) 23 Sept. 409/3 Not a specimen of these wildings [sc. deer, turkey, and otter] can be seen now.

4. *fig.* (applied to a person or thing).

1621 T. GRANGER *Expos. Eccles.* vii. 7. 165 These are Sathans wildings, whom he hath blinded, and so rideth them at his pleasure. 1866 LAWRENCE *Sans Merci* xiv, He made professional acquaintance with two or three wildings of gentle birth. 1881 STEVENSON *Virg. Puerisque* 6 The air of the fireside withers out all the fine wildings of the husband's heart. 1906 *Athenæum* 29 Dec. 822/1 He was swayed by the wildings of his imagination and his affections. 1908 EDITH WHARTON *Hermit* I. iii. 17 You are not a heathen wilding, but a child of Christ.

B. *attrib.* or *adj.*

1. Applied to a crab-apple or crab-tree: cf. A. 1.

1538 ELYOT, *Arbutus*, a wyldyng tree. 1552 HULOET, Wildinge aple, or crabbe, *arbutum*. 1575 A. F. *Virg. Bucol.* III. 9, From a wyldyng tree, Ten Apples rype I sent. 1632 BROME *Crt. Beggar* II. i, He looks so like a wilding crab, good neither for drink nor sauce. 1650 [W. HOWE] *Phytol. Brit.* 73 Crab-tree, or Wilden-tree. 1665 LOVELL *Herball* (ed. 2) 469.

2. a. Of a plant (or its flower or fruit): Growing wild: = WILD a. 2. Chiefly *poet.*

1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 269 Wilding Blooms. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* IV. i, O wilding rose. 1824 LOUDON *Green-house Comp.* I. 227 Grafted on the crab and wilding pear. 1827 CLARE *Sheph. Cal.* 84 Wilding fruit that shines upon the trees. 1895 CROCKETT *Bog-Myrtle & Peat* v. iv, Lo the wilding treasure Glows... in my sweetheart's gardens.

b. Of an animal: = WILD a. 1. *poet. rare.*

1856 BRYANT *Gladness of Nature* II, The wilding bee hums merrily by.

3. *fig.* Developed without culture or training, like a wild plant; natural, native.

1884 SYMONDS *Shaks. Predec.* vii. (1900) 199 It was too late now for critics... to resist that growth of wilding art.

wildish ('waildɪʃ), *a.* [f. WILD a. + *-ISH*.] Somewhat wild; inclining to wildness.

1714 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5218/3 A Young Man about 22 Years of Age... a wildish Look. 1740 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. i. 18 He was once thought to be wildish; but he is now the best of gentlemen, I think. 1796 *Plain Sense* (ed. 2) III. 102 A wildish heath, which was skirted by a thick wood. 1803 WORDSW. *Stepping Westward* 2 'Twould be a wildish destiny If we, who thus together roam In a strange Land, and far from home, Were in this place the guests of Chance. 1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* VIII. v. (1872) III. 39 Prince answers as wildish young fellows will, quizzing my grave self. 1888 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Robbery under Arms* vii, She could frighten a wildish cow.

wild life. Also *wildlife*, *wild-life*. [f. WILD a. 1 and 2 + LIFE sb. 1.] 1. The native fauna and flora of a particular region.

1879 R. JEFFERIES (title) *Wild life in a southern county*. 1912 A. R. DUGMORE (title) *Wild life and the camera*. 1958 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 21 Nov. p. xxii/2 The chance to live among country things and indulge a native passion for wild life (for if you scratch an Englishman you are likely to find a naturalist *manqué*). 1982 *Times* 18 Oct. 20/8 Ancient woods... are especially important for wildlife.

2. a. *attrib.*

1936 *Discovery* June 190 His description of the patient progress of the wild-life photographer has authority behind

it. *Ibid.* 191/2 (heading) The wild-life film. 1943 J. S. HUXLEY *TVA* 12 The total range of activities covered by the TVA... includes... wild life conservation. *Ibid.* 54, I spoke earlier of the wild life survey of the region. 1958 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 10 Jan. 24/1 A well-illustrated anthology based on the B.B.C.'s wild-life and naturalist programmes. 1982 G. HAMMOND *Fair Game* v. 47 The shooting man... needs a rich wildlife scene. 1984 *Guardian* 22 Oct. 3/2 The Liberals estimate that annual compensation to farmers who are preserving scenic land or important wildlife habitats... is running at the rate of £1 million.

b. *Comb.*, as **wildlife park**, a park in which wild animals are kept and displayed to the public in conditions as close as possible to their natural ones; **wildlife sanctuary**, an area of land in which hunting, collecting, or any other disturbance of the native fauna and flora is forbidden.

1965 P. WAYNE *Wind in Reeds* xvi. 234 We became officially known as the Norfolk Wildlife Park. Britain's first wildlife park was away to a flying start. 1976 P. R. WHITE *Planning for Public Transport* viii. 157 Coach operators' inclusive prices for visits to stately homes and wild-life parks. 1936 D. McCOWAN *Animals Canad. Rockies* i. 12 A warning to poachers in a wild life sanctuary. 1973 V. CANNING *Flight of Wild Goose* iv. 57 The whole of that area was kept as a wild life sanctuary.

Hence **'wildlifer**, a person interested in the study and conservation of wild plants and animals.

1963 *Spectator* 8 Feb. 177/3 Children either drop the whole thing or become wildlifers of the intrepid, modern, TV-inspired kind. 1982 G. HAMMOND *Fair Game* v. 49, I can just picture a bunch of slightly hostile wild-lifers... running the estate.

wildling ('waildlɪŋ). [f. WILD *a.* + -LING¹. Cf. Du. *wildeling*, G. *wildling*.]

1. A wild plant or flower: = WILDING *A.* 2.
1840 F. D. BENNETT *Whaling Voy.* I. 345 The turmeric, *hena*,... considered too valuable... to remain a wildling. 1861 S. THOMSON *Wild Fl.* III. (ed. 4) 153 His dried garden of wildlings. 1907 *Daily Chron.* 10 July 3/3 Notes as to the growing of woodland and hedgerow 'wildlings' in a garden.
2. A wild creature or animal: = WILDING *A.* 3.
1841 S. BAMFORD *Passages in Life of Radical* I. xi. 72 All said he was killed... The doctor... approached along an avenue made through those wildlings. 1884 *St. James's Gaz.* 4 Apr. 6/1, I am one of her [sc. nature's] 'wildlings'. [Cf. WILDING *A.* 2, quot. 1826.] 1907 J. H. CRAWFORD *From Fox's Earth* i. 13 The wildling of the breezy heights is quite as interesting as the wildling of the cool water.

wildly ('waildli), *adv.* [f. WILD *a.* + -LY².] In a wild manner, in various senses.

†1. Without order, irregularly; in disorder or confusion; at random, 'anyhow'; aimlessly, heedlessly. *Obs.* exc. as implied in other senses.

c1369 CHAUCER *Dehe Blanche* 875 Were she neuer so glad, Hyr lokinge was nat foly sprad Ne wildely, thogh that she pleyde. 1450 *Paston Lett.* I. 159 How the cuntre of N. and S. [= Norfolk and Suffolk] stonde right wildely, without a mene may be that justice be hadde. a1548 HALL *Chron.*, *Hen. VIII* 46 The kyngye lyke a lounge broother woulde not sende hys syster wildely withoute a dowar assured. 1595 SHAKS. *John* iv. ii. 128 How wildely then walkes my Estate in France? 1611 — *Wint. T.* iv. iv. 550 As th'v'nthougth-on accident is guiltie To what we wildely do, so we professe Our selues to be the slaues of chance. a1633 G. HERBERT *Country Parson* xxii. (1652) 92 The Questions must be propounded loosely and wildely, and then the Answerer will discover what hee is. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 193 There is more copiousness in things wildely scattered, than in things well and orderly digested. [1727-46 THOMSON *Summer* 80 The wildly-devious morning-walk. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* vi. Introd. 19 Wildly-loose their red locks fly. 1820 CAROLINE A. SOUTHEY *Ellen Fitzarthur* 80 Fancy's wildly-roving eye. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* vi, A hundred thousand shapes and substances of incompleteness, wildly mingled out of their places.]

2. Without restraint (in various shades of meaning). a. Beyond limits of reason; extravagantly, fantastically; distractedly, as if out of one's wits.

c1449 PECOCC *Repr.* i. xiii. 72 A greet licence han writers and spekers... forto write and speke more wildelj than thei schulden be suffrid forto write and speke. 1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 1150 As the poore frighted Deare that stands at gaze, Wildly determining which way to flie. 1598 — *Merry W.* III. iii. 94 Sweating, and blowing, and looking wildely. 1675 M. CLIFFORD *Hum. Reason* 68 This opinion is so wildly uncharitable, that it strikes out ten thousand Millions out of the book of Life, for each single Name that it leaves in it. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Past.* VIII. 22 Damon... wildly staring upwards, thus inveigh'd Against the conscious Gods. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* II. viii, Some of them, upon hearing me talk so wildly, thought I was mad. 1802 MARIA EDGEWORTH *Moral T., Forester* xii, Enthusiasm frequently... injures those whom it wildly attempts to serve. 1816 BYRON *Ch. Har.* III. vii, Yet must I think less wildly:—I have thought Too long and darkly, till my brain became... A whirling gulf of phantasy and flame. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* x. II. 663 How many times should we have rushed wildly from extreme to extreme! 1913 *Daily Graphic* 26 Mar. 9/1 'The Great Adventure'... is wildly extravagant and yet it is very simple and human.

b. Without moral restraint; dissolutely, licentiously; in freedom from control, at one's own will.

1561 tr. *Calvin's Four Serm.* iii. I. vij, Thei might haue liued in other places wildly & wantonly. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* v. i. 129 That I should... speake of something wildly By vs perform'd before. 1653 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Cert. Trav. Uncert. Journey* 8 Some few do travell in the wayes Divine, Some wander wildly with the Muses nine. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* li, That M. Valancourt had

comported himself wildly at Paris, and had spent a great deal of money.

c. With unrestrained or violent movement, feeling, or utterance; vehemently; excitedly; 'frantically', 'like mad'.

1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 874 Some [bushes] twin'd about her thigh to make her stay, She wildly breaketh from their strict embrace. 1599 SANDYS *Europa Spec.* (1632) 187 Those septentrional inundations... have... wildly deluviated over all the South. 1656 COWLEY *Pindar. Odes, Nemean Ode Pindar* vii, Some wildly fled About the room, some into corners crept. 1754 GRAY *Pleasure* 29 Their raptures now that wildly flow. 1781 COWPER *Hope* 517 The wretch, who once sang wildly, danc'd and laugh'd... Is sober, meek, benevolent. 1828 SCOTT *F.M. Perth* xxvii, A shout... terminating in a cadence so wildly prolonged, that... the deer started from their glens. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xii. III. 173 The villagers danced wildly to the music. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xxvii. 212 The flakes sped wildly in their oblique course. 1909 STACPOOLE *Pools of Silence* xix, The whole... herd [of elephants] wheeled, trumpeted wildly.

3. a. Without cultivation, naturally, like a wild plant. *rare.*

1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* iv. ii. 180 Valour That wildely growes in them, but yeelds a crop As if it had beene sow'd. 1653 H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* II. vii. §5 That which grows wildly of it self is worth nothing.

b. Without the refinement or orderliness of culture or training; rudely, roughly, savagely. Also (now *esp.*) in good sense: In a free, natural, or unconventional style; with the romantic aspect of uncultivated country.

1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* v. i. 88 When he demean'd himselfe, rough, rude, and wildly. 1599 — *Hen. V.* v. ii. 43 Her Hedges... Like Prisoners wildly ouer-growne with hayre, Put forth disorder'd Twigs. 1730-46 THOMSON *Autumn* 1225 The toil-strung youth, By the quick sense of music taught alone, Leaps wildly graceful in the lively dance. 1789 G. WHITE *Selborne, Invitation* 3 The mountain ground, Wildly majestic. 1799 J. ROBERTSON *Agric. Perth* 483 The wildly wooded banks of the Ardoch. 1842 BORROW *Bible in Spain* vii. 44 Here the view became wildly interesting.

wild man. (Also formerly with hyphen, or as one word.) [Cf. Du. *wilde mann* cannibal, G. *wildemann*, *wildmann*, *wilder mann*, ON. *villumaðr*.]

1. A man who is wild, in various senses of the adj. a. A man of savage, fierce, uncultured, or unruly nature or character (cf. WILD *a.* 6, 7).

c1290 S. *Eng. Leg.* 47/17 Wyld Men ne louede he nouzt, þat rechelese weren of pouste. 13... R. Glouc. *Chron.* (Rolls) App. H. 136 A wilde men [read man] fol bolde þe king sende in to þe court to þe heize men of þe londe. c1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* x. (*Mathou*) 402 þare-for be 3e of stedfast wil, þocht wyld men wil 3ov do Il. 1513 *St. Papers Hen. VIII* No. 4101. If. 5 (P.R.O.) A Seler and a tester of Redsay and therein a wilde man Ryding on a horse. 1630 [see WILD *a.* 12]. a1639 WHATELEY *Prototypes* I. xvi. (1640) 161 A wild man lives as he lists himselfe.

b. (WILD *a.* 5.) A man of an uncivilized race or tribe; a savage, or one reverted to a savage state.

13... *Cursor M.* 3081 (Gött.) [Ishmael] wonid par as a wild man, In þat desert þat hight pharan. 1530 in *Ancestor* (1904) Oct. 181 Wolton beryth to his crest a woodwous a wyld man in his kynde vert. 1568 HACKET tr. *Thevet's Newfound World* xxiv. 31 b, We were well received of the Indians or wilde men of the Country. 1575 in *Brydges Brit. Bibliogr.* (1810) I. 541 To make waye in the streetes, there are certayne men apparelled lyke devells, and wyld men, with skybbs and certayne beadells. 1611 W. ADAMS *Let. in Rundall Mem. Japon* (Hakl. Soc.) 37 Eight of our men... ranne from vs with the pinnesse, and (as we suppose) were eaten of the wild men. 1767 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 47/1 Peter the wild man, who was taken in the Hartz Forest in Hanover. 1825 J. NEAL *Bro. Jonathan* II. 2 The wild man of North America is exceedingly unlike the wild man of every other country.

c. An extremist in a political party, a profession, etc. *Usu. in pl.*

1905 D. G. PHILLIPS *Plum Tree* 266 And I wished for a 'wild man' as the candidate for governor. 1910 BELLOC *Pongo & Bull* ix. 287 The Wild Men on the Opposition side might cheer. 1923 *Weekly Dispatch* 13 May 2 The wild men pin their faith to the Capital Levy as a vote-catcher. 1923 *Daily Mail* 23 July 14 All the 'wild men' of European music, such as Schönberg, Bartok, Prokoviev, Stravinsky, Alois Haba..., Milhaud, and Poulenc.

2. (WILD *a.* 1.) A name for the orang-outang: also *wild man of the woods* (see WOOD *sb.*).

[1769 E. BANCROFT *Guiana* 131 These animals [sc. Orang-Outang], in all the different languages of the natives, are called by names signifying a Wild Man.] 1791 SMELLIE tr. *Buffon's Nat. Hist.* VIII. 97 As there is a greater similarity between this animal and man than between those creatures which resemble him most, as the Barbary ape [etc.], the Indians are to be excused for associating him with the human species, under the denomination of *orang-outang*, or *wild man*. 1881 J. HATTON *New Ceylon* iii. 72 The Bornean 'wild man' is quite harmless.

wildness ('waildnɪs). Forms: see WILD *a.* [f. WILD *a.* + -NESS. Cf. MHG. *wilttnisse*, G. *wildnis*.] The quality or condition of being wild, in various senses.

1. a. Undomesticated state (of an animal); the untamed disposition characteristic of such state; fierceness, savageness, ferocity; also, shyness.

c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 528 Wyldnesse, indomitas, ferocitas. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* xi. (Percy Soc.) 40 Mylyzyus... Dyd fyrst attame and breke the wyldenes Of the riall stedes. 1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 980 And let milde women to him loose their mildnesse, Wilder to him then Tygers in their wildnesse. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.)

I. 31 Lyke wylde hartes, through a certayne wyldnes of nature, flie the... syght of man. 1611 [see BEAUTY 8]. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* V. 125 His necessities, and the privation of light, make him lose all idea of liberty, and bring down his natural wildness. 1859 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* vii. 212 The greater wildness of all our large birds than of our small birds.

b. Uncultivated state (of a plant).

1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V.* v. ii. 55 Our Vineyards, Fallowes, Meades, and Hedges, Defectiue in their natures, grow to wildnesse. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* II. 73 These [trees]... change their salvage Mind: Their Wildness lose. 1892 KATH. TYNAN in *Speaker* 3 Sept. 290/1 The roses... will deteriorate year after year, returning gradually to wildness.

2. Uncultivated state (of a place or region); the character or aspect of such a place or its scenery. Also *concr.* a wild place, a wilderness (now *rare* or *obs.*).

c1374 CHAUCER *Former Age* 34 Thyse tyrauntz put hem gladly nat in pres No places wyldnesse ne no bussches for to wyne. a1513 FABYAN *Chron.* clxxxv. (1516) oivb/2 Nat ferre from warwyke in a wyldnesse [later *edd.* wyldernes(se)]. 1615 W. LAWSON *Country Housew. Garden* (1626) 3 The wildnesse of the earth and weeds... is killed by frosts and drought. 1625 BACON *Ess., Gardens* (Arb.) 562 The Heath... I wish... to be framed, as much as may be, to a Naturall wildnesse. 1709 PRIOR *Henry & Emma* 420 The Wildness of the Wood. 1801 COXE *Tour in Monmouthshire* I. 67 The scenery... is a pleasing intermixture of wildness and cultivation. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xvii, All the wildness of Saluator here, and there the fairy scenes of Claude. 1832 R. & J. LANDER *Exped. Niger* I. xi. 78 The gloomy fastnesses and wildnesses of nature.

3. Uncivilized or uncultured state or character (of persons); savagery, barbarity, rudeness, roughness of manners (*obs.*).

1639 N. N. tr. *Du Bosq's Compl. Woman* I. 62 The wildnesse of the one, prevaile more then the faire perswasion of the other. 1680 OTWAY *Orphan* I. iv, I'd rather... grow wrinkled and deform'd As wildness and most rude neglect could make me. 1869 TOZER *Hight. Turkey* II. 174 The wildness of the tribes by which it was inhabited. 1871 BURR *Ad Fidem* iv. 63 There is a native wildness in every man.

4. Unrestrained condition or quality; want of, resistance to, or freedom from restraint or control (with various shades of meaning).

a. Disposition to take one's own way; unruliness, insubordination; disorderly or riotous conduct; dissolute character, looseness of morals, licentiousness, wantonness; excessive liveliness or frolicsomeness.

c1400 *Rom. Rose* 4894 The tyme of yough forto pace Withoute any deth or distresse, It is so full of wyldnesse. *Ibid.* 4939 Folkes forto lede Into disporte and wyldnesse. c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 528 Wyldnesse, or wantonhede, insolencia, dissolucio. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. ccxciii. fffv/2 Somtyme ryot dothe good. We haue well aduanced forthe our payment with a lytell wyldnesse. a1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. V* 33 Turnyng insolencie and wildnes into grauitie and sobernes. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* II. i. 189 He is giuen To sports, to wildnesse, and much company. 1605 *Lond. Prodigal* III. iii, Impute his wildnesse, svr, vnto his youth. 1692 DRYDEN *St. Euremont's Ess.* 28 The Roman people had something of wildness in them; afterwards this Humour turned into Austerity, and became a rigid Vertue. 1710 R. WARD *Life H. More* 51 Ye are running into strange Wildnesses and Excesses. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1810) III. ii. 23 To be sure Mr. Lovelace was a wild gentleman, but wildness was a distemper which would cure itself. 1801 MARIA EDGEWORTH *Contrast* I, She hoped his wildness was only the effect of good spirits, and that he would soon settle to some business. 1827 COLERIDGE *Table-t.* 23 July, Genius may co-exist with wildness, idleness, folly, even with crime. 1879 D. J. HILL *Life Irving* 152 Moore, full of troubles from want of means and the wildness of his son.

b. Frenzy, distraction; distracted air or aspect; extreme folly or unreasonableness, irrational or fantastic character, extravagance; violence, vehemence, passionateness (of a feeling, etc.); excitedness, extreme eagerness.

c1400 *Destr. Troy* 9197 What wildnes, or worship, waknet my hert, For to hap her in hert? 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. i. 40, I do wish That your good Beauties be the happy cause Of Hamlets wildnesse. 1621 FLETCHER *Pilgrim* v. v, Though he be rash, and suddain (which is all his wildness) Take heed ye wrong him not. 1725 WATTS *Logic* II. iii. §3 A Delirium is but a short Wildness of the Imagination. 1785 SARAH FIELDING *Ophelia* II. vi, I enquired for Lord Dorchester with an eager wildness. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* vi. v, Joy unwonted, and surprise, Gave their strange wildness to his eyes. 1883 D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* xix, Alarmed by his aspect and the wildness of his words. 1884 PENNINGTON *Wichf* viii. 269 There is no fanaticism, no wildness in his statements.

5. In reference to style or aspect, with various implications: cf. *prec.* senses and WILD *a.* 14, 14 b.

1762 WARTON *Observ. Spenser's F.Q.* (ed. 2) I. v. 197 His [sc. Chaucer's] romantic arguments, his wildness of painting, his simplicity and antiquity of expression. 1797 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Italian* xiii, The simplicity of their appearance, approached to wildness, was tempered by an hospitable spirit. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xxv. 184 There was a wildness in the sky like that of anger. 1887 MISS BRADDON *Like & Unlike* ix, Your wildness was your charm... You were a beautiful, ignorant creature, knowing nothing of the world.

wildred, wildren, -in, wildrenes(se): see WILDERED, WILDERN, WILDERNESS.

†**wildship.** *Obs. rare.* In 3 wildscape (-sipe). [f. WILD *a.* + -SHIP 1.] Wildness.

c1205 LAY. 20845 [The fox] for wildscape [c1275 wildsipe] climbið, and cluden ischech.

wildsome: see WILSOME *a.*¹

Wild Turkey. The proprietary name of a brand of whisky; a drink or glassful of this.

1949 *Official Gaz.* (U.S. Patent Office) 26 Apr. 1907 Austin Nichols & Co., Incorporated, Brooklyn, N.Y. Wild Turkey. For Whiskey. Claims use since May 29, 1942. 1968 *Trade Marks Jnl.* 20 Mar. 448/1 Wild Turkey 917,193. Wines, spirits (beverages) and liqueurs. Five Mills Limited, 37 Grafton Way. London W.1; Merchants. 1975 *New Yorker* 20 Jan. 30/1, I know—it took me seven weeks to do a page and a half the last time, but I was into the Wild Turkey then, and you'd be amazed how fast I can write when my pencil can actually form legible letters. 1979 J. CROSBY *Party of Year* (1980) viii. 48 He poured Cassidy another Wild Turkey. 1980 J. KRANTZ *Princess Daisy* xvi. 258 Two bottles of Soave Bolla and one of Wild Turkey bourbon.

wild type. *Genetics.* The type of strain, gene, or characteristic that prevails among individuals in natural conditions, as opposed to an atypical mutant type. Freq. *attrib.* or as *adj.*

[1913 C. B. BRIDGES in *Jrnl. Exper. Zool.* XV. 587 When a female [Drosophila] with white eyes is mated to a wild male with red eyes, the daughters have red, and the sons, white eyes.] 1914 — in *Science* 17 July 107/2 Half of the wild-type daughters... when out-crossed to barred males... gave exceptions as follows: ... Exceptions. 5% of both sexes. Wild type ♀; barred ♂. 1932 [see SUPPRESSOR 2]. 1946 *Nature* 19 Oct. 558/1 These include wild-type strains [of *E. coli*] with no growth-factor deficiencies, and single mutant types requiring only thiamin or phenylalanine. 1970 *Sci. Amer.* Mar. 103/1 Most mutant genes are nonfunctional or do something very different from wild-type genes, so that they can be easily distinguished. 1970 *Nature* 22 Aug. 806/1 Albinism is monofactorial and is recessive to wild type pigmentation. 1976 *Ann. Rev. Microbiol.* XXX. 90 A number of compounds produce phenocopies of morphological mutants when added to the growth medium of wild type.

wilducke, wildurnes, obs. ff. *wild duck* (see WILD *a.* 1), WILDERNESS.

† **wildware.** *Obs.* [a. MLG. *wildware* (whence early Da. *vild(t)ware*), f. *wild* WILD *a.* + *ware* WARE *sb.*³] Fur of wild animals.

1393 *Close Roll* 17 Rich. II m. 3 (P.R.O.) De uno vate de wyldware videlicet de Cristygrege fyngrege pople Bys Ermyne letuse. *Ibid.* 24 Sex kipp de wildware. c1400 *Brut* ccxxv. 293 Ne non wyldware in Furure de bezonde see. 1402 *Nottingham Rec.* II. 20 Appretiores de wyldware, videlicet, v. pellium de ermyne, ijs. 1433 *Will of Fitz-John* (Somerset Ho.), Togam penulatam cum Wyeldeware.

Wild West. Also wild west, wild West. 1. The western part of the U.S. during its lawless frontier period.

1849 C. BRONTË *Shirley* III. xiii. 272 What suggested the wild West to your mind? 1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunters* i. (1852) 7 The Wild West. 1898 H. JAMES in *Literature* 30 Apr. 512/1 Has he [sc. Bret Harte] continued to distil and dilute the Wild West because the public would only take him as wild and Western? 1903 CHESTERTON *Robert Browning* v. 111 A gambling hell in the Wild West. 1937 PHILLIPS & NIVEN *Colour in Canad. Rockies* ix. 61 On my first visit there were many marked qualities of the 'wild west' there. 1977 *Times* 20 Sept. 12/1 The Rio Grande... has been oversold in the legends and songs of the old Wild West.

2. *transf.* and *fig.*

1889 G. B. SHAW *London Music in 1888-89* (1937) 170 Somewhere in the wild west of the Old Brompton Road. 1944 F. CLUNE *Red Heart* 69 Australia's Wild West, as picturesque as Texas, was buzzing with rumours of raids, hold-ups. 1975 J. O'FAOLAIN *Women in Wall* 11 My setting is the Wild West of an age often called 'Dark'.

3. *a. attrib.*

1922 E. E. CUMMINGS *Let.* 26 Feb. (1969) 82 Attacks by Bedoins, wild-west style, shooting at Dos with rifles. 1922 E. M. FORSTER *Life to Come* (1972) 100 They passed through the village, on their way back past a cinema, which was giving a Wild West stunt. 1940 'G. ORWELL' in *Horizon* Mar. 193 The Wild West story... with its cattle-rustlers. 1965 A. NICOL *Truly Married Woman* 5 She removed the Wild West novels and romance magazines. 1971 *Advocate-News* (Barbados) 17 Sept. (Guyana Suppl.) p. iv/2 There it will link up at the 'wild west' border town of Lethem with a similar road the Brazilian army engineers are building to connect with Manaus and the Pan-American Highway.

b. *Special Comb.*: Wild West show, a circus or fairground entertainment depicting cowboys and Indians with exhibitions of riding, shooting, etc.; also *fig.*; similarly *Wild West exhibition*.

1885 in B. A. Botkin *Treas. Amer. Folklore* (1944) 1. 150 Buffalo Bill's 'Wild West' Prairie exhibition and Rocky Mountain show. 1895 'MARK TWAIN' in *N. Amer. Rev.* July 8 A man who could hunt flies with a rifle and command a ducal salary in a Wild West show. 1914 A. BENNETT *Price of Love* vii. 133 Skating-rinks, Wild West exhibitions, Dutch auctions. 1937 N. MARSH *Vintage Murder* xxiv. 268 'Shut up. This isn't a Wild West show.' 'You give me the lie!' 'Oh, for God's sake don't go native.' 1976 *Billings* (Montana) *Gaz.* 20 June 8-c/2 Later, the way it worked in the 'wild west' shows of the day, the U.S. cavalry came along, rescued the passengers and drove off the Indians. 1979 J. WAINWRIGHT *Duty Elsewhere* vii. 29 'Y'mean—illegal methods?... Something of a wild west show.' 'That's one way of putting it.'

Hence *wild 'western* (also with initial capitals) *a.*, characteristic of or resembling the Wild West; as *sb.*, a film about the Wild West; = WESTERN B. 4; Wild 'Westerner.

1864 M. B. CHESNUT *Diary* 2 Dec. in C. W. Woodward *M. Chesnut's Civil War* (1981) 682 He had come to take Serena

—alone. That is his wild western fashion. 1934 *Cinema Q.* III. iv. 198 'Wild Western' was, almost from the inception of the film, one of its most popular subjects. 1963 I. FLEMING *On Her Majesty's Secret Service* xvii. 192 A group of harlequins, Wild Westerners and pirates. 1967 D. FRANCIS *Blood Sport* viii. 95 Jackson preserved its own wild western flavour to the extent of a small authentic stage coach waiting in front of the drug store. 1981 A. LURIE *Lang. of Clothes* iv. 112 At any national convention the Wild Westerners will be the easiest to identify. 1982 W. MANKOWITZ *Mazeppa* vii. 118 The Menken enjoyed the Washoe wild western atmosphere.

wildwood ('waildwud). [Orig. two words, WILD *a.* 4 and WOOD *sb.*] A forest of natural growth, or allowed to grow naturally; an uncultivated or unfrequented wood. (In later use chiefly *poet.*)

a1122 O.E. *Chron.* (Laud. MS.) an. 963 Syððon com se biscop Aðelwold to þære mynstre þe wæs gehaten Medeshamstede. .ne fand þær nan þing buton ealde weallas & wilde wuda. c1205 LAY. 25905 þer þe eotend unc ifeng forð mid him seoluen fiftene mile into þisse wilde wude. 1382 WYCLIF *Isa* x. 18 The glorie of his wilde wode. — *Zech.* xi. 2 3oule, 3e ookis of Basan, for the stronge wijlde wode is kitt doun. 1814 SCOTT *Mass. of Glencoe* ii, Those for whom I pour the lay, Not wild-wood deep, nor mountain grey... Could screen from treach'rous cruelty. a1864 HAWTHORNE *Amer. Note-bks.* (1879) II. 102 Whether in garden or wild-wood. 1884 RUSKIN in *Pall Mall Gaz.* 10 Dec. 11/2 Such a piece of mountain wildwood.

attrib. a1568 in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 291/73 Ane heklit haid maid of the wyld wode seage. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* iv. ii. 390 When With wild wood-leaves & weeds, I ha' strew'd his graue. 1776 MICKLE tr. *Camoens' Lusiad* 40 The turf his bed, the wild-wood boughs his shade. 1794 S. T. COLERIDGE in J. D. CAMPBELL *Life* ii. (1894) 34, I had been wandering among the wildwood scenery and terrible graces of the Welsh mountains. 1814 WORDSW. *Yarrow Visited* 66 How sweet, on this autumnal day, The wild-wood fruits to gather. 1856 WHITTIER *Mayflowers* ii, The wild-wood flowers.

wile (wail), *sb.* Forms: 2-5 wil, 4-8 wyle, (4 wylle, *Sc.* quhile, 5 whyle, wyhyll, wele, *Sc.* wyill), 5-6 wyll, (while, vyle, 6 wyell, 7 wile), 4-wile. [Origin and early history obscure. The earliest examples are from regions subjected to strong Scandinavian influence. Early ME. *wil* may therefore perhaps represent prehistoric Scand. **wihl-*, whence ON. *vél* craft, artifice, contrivance, engine (cf. the several compounds of this, and *véla* to defraud).

The current derivation of *wile* from an AF. var. of OF. *guile* GUILLE *sb.* with initial *w* is open to the objection that no such variant is known. Through similarity of sense *wile* prob. became associated with WIEL, q.v.; cf. the parallelism of *bywyle* (which occurs beside *bygyle* in Shoreham's poems) and *biwizelen* (Layamon), *biwihelin* (St. Juliana). The relation of *wile* to the synonymous *wilt* is obscure.]

1. A crafty, cunning, or deceitful trick; a sly, insidious, or underhand artifice; a stratagem, ruse. Formerly sometimes in somewhat wider sense: A piece of deception, a deceit, a delusion. Chiefly *pl.* (in *sing.* now *arch.* or *poet.*).

1154 O.E. *Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1128 He hit dide forð þe he wolde þurh his micle wiles ðær beon wær it tweolf monð oððe mare. c1200 ORMIN 6635 All þatt badd he þurh swikedom & all þurh felle wiless. c1220 *Bestiary* 385 A wilde ðe is ðat is ful of fele wiles, fox is hire to name. *Ibid.* 541 ðis deuel is mikel wið wil and maȝt. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 361 Manyon trowyn on here wyls, And many tymes þe pye hem gyls. c1330 — *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 539 Hereþ now of a quynthe wyle, How eche of þo poughte oper gyle. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 1360 þe world... ledes a man with wrenkes and wyles. c1350 *Ipomadon* 6674 I mayne hathe an while fonde And thought hym to haue begyld. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 129 With such wiles as thei caste. *Ibid.* 130 Thei schope among hem such a wyle, The king was ded withinne a whyle. c1400 *Rom. Rose* 4293 She knewe eche wrenche and euery gise Of love and euery wile. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 189 To conquest landis and heritagis fra Cristin folk, with wylis and falshe. c1485 *Digby Myst.* iii. 377 With wrath or wyhylls we xal hyrre wyne. 1558 G. CAVENDISH *Poems* (1825) II. 13 Whilset I was workyng witty whiles in Fraunce, I was at home supplanted. 1573 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xl. 50 Bot sum, perchance, that winks mair wylelie, Will say thay wait a wyle that I na wist. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* iv. iii. 10 Sure these are but imaginarie wiles, And lapland Sorcerers inhabit here. 1651 HOBBS *Leviathan* i. xiii. 61 By force, or wiles, to master the persons of all men he can. 1654 GATAKER *Disc. Apol.* 36 He by a wile drew me to Preach one Afternoon on the Week Lecture day there. 1781 COWPER *Hope* 649 This... Rejects all treaty; penetrates all wiles. 1825 SCOTT *Talism.* xix, That Richard would burst through the flimsy wiles you spread for him. 1876 SWINBURNE *Erechtheus* 216 By the fraud of a two-fold wile, 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* lxx. II. 549 The wiles by which its members are lured or driven to their goal.

b. Without implication of deceit: A subtle contrivance; a skilful device or scheme; an artifice, 'dodge'. *Obs.* or merged in *prec.* sense.

a1300 *Cursor M.* 4153 Bot sin he alȝat sal be ded Do it þan wit sulik a wile þat yee your handes ne per-wit file. c1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxxiii. 149 þai vse anoper wyle for to get þis gold with. a1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 1148 For wele wist þai þan nane to wyn to þe cite. c1470 HENRY WALLACE ix. 1176 Wattir fra thaim forsuth can nocht be set; Sum wthyr wyill ws worthis for to get. 1508 DUNBAR *Gold. Targe* 224, I could eschew hir presence be no wyle. a1628 PRESTON *New Covt.* (1634) 21 We think God not able to doe it, except we help him with wyles and tricks... of our own. 1830 A. CUNNINGHAM *Brit. Painters* (ed. 2) I. 235 He became acquainted with all the wiles and stratagems of position and light and shade.

c. In lighter sense: An amorous or playful trick; a piece of sportive cunning or artfulness.

c1600 J. LANE in *Shaks. Cent. Praise* (1879) 32 Venus straight courted him with many a wile. 1632 MILTON *L'Allegro* 27 Haste thee nymph, and bring with thee... Quips and Cranks, and wanton Wiles, Nods, and Becks, and Wreathed Smiles. a1721 PRIOR *Songs* xiii, Victoria shews me all her wiles, Which yet I dare not shun. 1770 GOLDSM. *Des. Vill.* 183 E'en children followed with endearing wile. a1839 PRAED *Charades* ix, And telling of Love's wiles To ears that listen. 1847 EMERSON *Repr. Men, Shakesp.* Wks. (Bohn) I. 362 He read the hearts of men and women, and their second thought, and wiles; the wiles of innocence. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* i. ii, Lady Tippins's winning wiles are contagious. 1880 MORRIS *Ode of Life* 17, I treasure up each baby wile.

d. *spec.* A cunning turn or other trick of the hare to escape the hunters.

1691 RAY *Creation* i. (1692) 128 The wiles and ruses, which these timid Creatures make use of to save themselves. 1735 SOMERVILLE *Chase* ii. 202 The puzzling Pack unravel Wile by Wile, Maze within Maze. 1781 W. BLANE *Ess. Hunting* (1788) 210 The wiles of the Hare have been all along the study of my leisure hours.

2. Deceit or deceitfulness; craft, cunning, subtlety, guile. Now *rare*.

c1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* i. 719 þow wost I do it for no wyle. c1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* Prol. 8 Gret foly, quhile, & vantes. c1400 BERYN 2239 Falshode, wrong & while. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 1815 Sleythe, falsched, or any whyle. 15... DUNBAR *Poems* lxxxii. 41 That 3e haue nether witt nor wyll To win your selfe ane bettir name! 1634 MILTON *Comus* 906 Through the force, and through the wile Of unblest inchanter vile. 1814 CARY *Dante, Inf.* xx. 114 Michael Scot, Practised in every slight of magic wile. 1848 LYTTON *Harold* v. iii, This Godwin is a man of treachery and wile. 1904 *Sat. Rev.* 7 May 576/1 The humour but not the wile of the publisher stopped at this point.

3. a. Applied to particular mechanical contrivances: see *quots.* b. (*nonce-use.*) An ingenious or fanciful figure or device.

1674 N. COX *Gentl. Recreat.* i. (1677) 18 Engines that we take Deer withal, are called Wiles. 1824 MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl.* 446 Throok the wyle, the thawcrook, the twister. 1825 JAMIESON, *Wile, wylie*, an instrument for twisting straw ropes. Dumfr. 1849 NEALE *Seaton. Poems*, *Edom* xxvi, Ivory, carved in thousand curious wiles.

wile, *v.* [f. WILE *sb.*, or aphetic f. BIWILE.]

† 1. *trans.* To deceive by a wile; to beguile, delude. *Obs. rare* (exc. as implied in other senses).

c1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxx (Theodora) 311 Quhat, wenys þu I wald þe wile, Gud douchtir?

2. To bring, draw, or get by a wile (a person or animal to or from a place, course of action, etc., or a thing from a person); to lead, induce, or obtain by craft or cunning.

a1400 *Pistill of Susan* 213 Wyllyche heo wyled hir wenches a-way. c1400 BERYN 2691 3it som ageyn hym wyled A grete part of his pepill. c1460 Towneley *Myst.* viii. 233 Whence is yond warlow with his wand that thus wold wyle oure folk away? c1475 *Rauf Coilhear* 709 Allace, that I was hider wylit. a1500 *Coventry Corpus Chr. Pl.* ii. 840 From vs no man wyll hym wyle. c1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) xxxiv. 26 The wysest woman pairout Wt wurdis may be wylit To do þe deid. 1572 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxviii. 36 As the fals fowler... Deuoiris the pure volatill he wylis to the net. 1590 GREENE *Orl. Fur.* (1599) 54 When Iuno wil'd the trull. 1599 T. CUTWODE *Caltha Poet.* (Roxb.) xxiii, Wyelling fond louers sometime from their wits. a1600 MONTGOMERIE *Misc. Poems* xl. 13 My wofull hairt away with thee thou wyld, Fra me to be exyld. 1789 BURNS *Blue-Eyed Lassie* 9 She talk'd, she smil'd, my heart she wil'd. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xxii, He could wile the very flounders out o' the Firth. 1853 MRS. GASKELL *Ruth* xviii, He's such winning ways he wiles one over to anything. 1879 STEVENSON *Lay Morals*, etc. (1911) 297 She could neither be driven nor wiled into the parish kirk.

fig. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* vii. 48 To wile the length from languorous hours, and draw The sting from pain.

† b. *refl.* To get away by stealth, steal away.

? a1400 *Morte Arth.* 3908 Whills he myghte wile hym awaye, and wyne to hir speche.

3. (as a substitute for WHILE *v.* 3) To divert attention pleasantly from (something painful or tedious); to charm away; *esp.* to cause (time) to pass away pleasantly or insensibly: = BEGUILE *v.* 5.

Cf. L. *decipere tempus*, F. *tromper le temps*.

1796 MME. D'ARBLAY *Camilla* iii. x, He persuaded his sisters, therefore, to walk out with him, to wile away at once expectation and retrospection. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* II. x, Her smile... Wiled the old harper's mood away. 1817 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xxiv. II. 379 Happy industry, that wiles the toils of labour with a song. 1833 DICKENS *O. Twist* xvi, I was reading a book to-night, to wile the time away. 1840 E. E. NAPIER *Scenes & Sports For. Lands* II. v. 172 We... used to wile away the day with all manner of fun. 1880 'VERNON LEE' *Italy* II. iii. 59 Foreigners who came to study art or to wile away a lazy existence.

Hence *wiling vbl. sb.*

1583 *Leg. Bp. St. Androis* 971 The vther... Concludit schortlie for to slea him, For vyling of his syluer fra him.

wile, obs. f. VILE *a.*, WALE *sb.*² and *v.*¹, WEEL², WHILE, WILL.

wileare, pseudo-archaic f. WHILERE.

1616 J. LANE *Contn. Sqr.'s T.* v. 585 Whence they whoe woold Algarsife killd wileare.

wilecoat, obs. form of WYLIECOAT *Sc.*

wilele, obs. form of WILLY.

† **wilely**, *a.* *Obs.* [f. *WILE sb.* + *-LY¹*.] = *WILY*. (Also in comb.)

1556 J. HEYWOOD *Spider & F.* xxiv. 10 The faughter herin, so wilely witted, To saue his lyfe, apealth to be reprite. 1572 in D. Digges *Complete Ambass.* (1655) 219 Your Mr. Worsley, whom I found wilely and wilful. 1675 H. MORE in R. Ward *Life* (1710) 276 'Twill find a Million of Tergiversations and wilely Reasonings to excuse a Man from his Duty. 1709 SACHEVERELL *Serm.* 5 Nov. 21 The Crafty Insidiousness of such wilely Volpones. 1793 W. ROBERTS *Looker-on* No. 79 (1794) III. 248 Son of Henry Waldron, ... under the wilely alias of George Barrington.

wilen, *obs.* form of *WHILOM*.

wilesome, *var.* *WILSOME a.¹*

wiley, *obs.* form of *WILY*.

Wilfridian (wil'frɪdɪən). *Eccl. Hist.* [f. *St. Wilfrid* (634-709) + *-IAN*.] A member of a religious fraternity founded by Father F. W. Faber (1814-63) for his fellow-converts to Roman Catholicism; later united with the oratory of St. Philip Neri, Birmingham.

1847 F. W. FABER *Let.* 23 Sept. in J. W. Bowden *Life & Lett. Frederick William Faber* (1869) viii. 329 The Wilfridians are allowed to work their double work, against ignorance and brutal sin. 1848 J. H. NEWMAN *Let.* 2 Jan. (1962) XII. 144 What seems to me best is ... for ... St John and you to go to Cotton to take charge of the Wilfridians. 1869 J. W. BOWDEN *Life & Lett. Frederick William Faber* viii. 295 From the name of the latter Saint they were commonly called Wilfridians. 1928 *St. Wilfrid* xvii. 231 Father Faber did much to make him known and loved. ... In his first year as a Catholic priest, he and his forty Wilfridians converted a whole parish in Staffordshire. 1981 S. CHITTY *Gwen John* ix. 134 Frederick Faber ... became a Catholic and founded the order of Wilfridians at Elton.

wilful ('wilful), *a.¹* (*adv.*, *sb.*) Compared wilfuller, wilfullest (both *rare*). Also 3-4 wil(le)uol, wyl(le)fol, 3-7 wilfull, 3-5, 7-8 (9 *U.S.*) wilful, 4 wyluolle, (weleful), 4-5 willef(f)ul, 4-6 *Sc.* vilful(l), also various forms with *y*, *ll*, *ff*, with or without final *e*. [f. *WILL sb.¹* + *-FUL*: not recorded in OE. (but see *WILFULLY*): cf. *WILLESFUL*.]

A. adj. 1. *a.* Asserting or disposed to assert one's own will against persuasion, instruction, or command; governed by will without regard to reason; determined to take one's own way; obstinately self-willed or perverse. (Of persons or personal attributes, or *transf.* of actions: see also 5.)

c1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 75 *Pertinaces in malo eliminat ecclesia* holie chirche deleð fro cristendom, þo þe wilfulle ben her sinnes to luen. c1250 in *O.E. Misc.* 184 Hwan þu sixst on leode King þat is wilful. c1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* III. 935 For verray sloupe and opere wilful taches. c1400 *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 280 Men or wemen of wilful mode, þat order of religion takes. 1529 in Leadam *Sel. Cases Star Chamber* (Selden Soc.) II. 34 The seid Henry is sklanderus and a wylfull person and wylly not be ordered but after his owne wyll. 1570-6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* 256 Some blinde and wilful worshipper. 1579 LYL Euphues 43 He that to day is not wyllyng, will to morrow bee more wilful. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* II. iv. 305 To wilfull men, The injuries that they themselves procure, Must be their Schoole-Masters. 1773 MRS. CHAPONE *Improv. Mind* (1774) II. vi. 24 The smallest disappointment ... will put wilful young people out of temper. 1821 SHELLEY *Adonais* xi, One ... in her wilful grief would break Her bow and winged reeds. 1867 SWINBURNE *Blake* (1868) 190 These opinions, and stranger than these, he put forth in the cloudiest style, the wilfullest humour, and the stormiest excitement.

Comb. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* I. 34 What wilfull-hearted man can be so apt to believe, that our blessed Lady had such estimation of mortar and stones?

† *b.* In good sense: Strong-willed, strongly persistent. *Obs. rare.*

c1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 5663 A myghtful [*v.r.* wilfull] man was Maryus, Of fair speche merueillous. 1633 T. JAMES *Voy.* 92 Being now become wilfull in our indeauours.

c. In nonce *Comb.* with *wavy*.

1877 [see *meal-drift* *s.v.* *MEAL sb.¹* 3 a].

† 2. Having the will to do something; purposing, intending; wishful, desirous. Also said of the purpose or desire: Eager, earnest. *Obs.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 162 Nou yziz ane yongne boryeis and ane newene knigt. Mochel habbeþ þos of ule þostes newe diuerses and wyluolle. þe borgeys wylneþ to chapfari. ... þe knyzt ... wylneþ corteysyes to done an largeliche yeue. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* II. 345 Arayit rycht awisely, Wilfull to do chawalry. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 361 Whan that he ... hadde his wilful pourpos wonne Of al this Erthe under the Sonne. c1400 *Destr. Troy* 725 [She] Wan þe thy worship & wilfull desire. a1500 *Ratis Raving* 2919 Wysmen ar wyfull to do grace, & mercyable in petuous cas. 1513 DOUGLAS *Aeneis* XII. Prol. 270 On fut I sprent into my bayr sark, Wilfull for till compley my langsum wark. 1573-80 TUSSEER *Husb.* (1878) 77 Be wilfull to kill and vnskilfull to store, And looke for no foison.

† 3. Willing; consenting; ready to comply with a request, desire, or requirement. *Obs.*

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XI. 266 The worthy kyng, quhen he has seyn His host ... wilfull to fulfill His liking, with gud hert and will. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 207 Gif thai lordis ... defendis maliciously the ref, and is nocht wilfull to mak reformacioun and redress. c1460 *Oseney Reg.* 39 With þe wilfull consent of þe Kyng and of the Aduocates of the same church. c1475 *Partenay* 1641 With A wilfull hert full

gentilly resceuyng. thys souerayn. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids.* N. v. i. 211 When Wals are so wilfull, to heare without warning. 1598 — *Merry W.* III. ii. 44, I will ... divulge Page ... for a secure and wilfull Acteon.

† 4. *a.* Proceeding from the will; done, undertaken, assumed, or undergone of one's own free will or choice; not compulsory or enforced: = *VOLUNTARY A.* 1 b, 3. *Obs.*

c1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* III. pr. xi. (1868) 98, I ne trete nat heere now of weleful moeyunges of the sowle. c1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 14 Men þat haue ... taken cristis mekenesse and gret pouert bi wilful profession. c1400 *Rule St. Benet* (prose) 142 The secunde is, þat þe behouis liue in wilfull powerte. c1470 HENRY WALLACE x. 218 The gret debait in Wallace wit can waid, Betwix kyndnes and wyllfull wou he maid. c1480 HENRYSON *Fox & Wolf* xxvi. (Bann.). Do wil-full pennance here, and 3e sall wend ... to ioi withoutin end. 1531 TINDALE *Expos.* 1 *John* (1538) 37 b, By wilfull kepnyng of the commaundment we be sure that we loue God. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* II. ix. 131 He there died ... through his wilfull want of bread and water. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* x. 1042 No more be mention'd then of violence Against our selves, and wilful barrenness, That cuts us off from hope. 1687 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* II. 715 The silent stranger stood amazed to see Contempt of wealth, and wilful poverty.

b. Involving unfettered exercise of will; arbitrary; *wilful empire*, absolute sovereignty, autocracy. *Obs.*

1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* III. xviii. (S.T.S.) II. 24 Thus sall It be clerely schewin ... quhiddir wilfull empire or public liberte be crast establish be þir lawis.

5. Done on purpose or wittingly; purposed, deliberate, intentional; not accidental or casual. Chiefly, now always, in bad sense, of an action either evil in itself or blameworthy in the particular case; often (with colour of sense 1) implying 'perverse, obstinate'. Also *transf.* of the agent, as *wilful murderer*, one who commits wilful murder.

a1300 *Cursor M.* 9633 It was his aun ... wilful sin þat did vs all fra him to tuin. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531), Mortall synnes, & carnall consentes to the same, and wyfull delectacyons in synne. a1548 HALL *Chron.*, *Edw. V* 9 b, Wyfull murderers, whom God commaundeth to be taken from the aluter. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 13 Although it be wilfull and purposed murder. 1591 SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI*, IV. i. 142 How will their grudging stomachs be prouok'd To wilfull Disobedience, and Rebell? a1625 FLETCHER *Nice Valour* v. ii, Can there be wilfuller destruction? 1736 BAILEY (fol.) *s.v.* *Waste*, Wilful Waste makes woful Want. 1781 COWPER *Truth* 20 Charge not ... Your wilful suicide on God's decree. 1844 THIRLWALL *Greece* lxvi. VIII. 387 Though his character has ... been misrepresented through hostile prejudices and wilful calumny. 1883 D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* xxviii, On a charge of wilful and corrupt perjury.

B. as adv. † 1. = *WILFULLY* 4, 5. *Obs.*

a1300 *Cursor M.* 16429 To þaa wilful wod he taght þe lauerd es al-weldand. c1381 CHAUCER *Parl. Foules* 429 Dishobeysant or wilful negligent. ?1541 COVERDALE *Confut. Standish* (1547) dvij, Forgetfull what ye sayd afore, or els wilfull blind. 1592 KYD *Sp. Trag.* I. iii, Could she [Fortune] heare, yet is she wilfull mad. 1595 SHAKS. *John* v. ii. 124 The Dolphin is too wilfull opposite And will temporize with my intreaties. 1596 [see *BLAME v.* 6]. c1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* li. 13 Since from these going, he went wilfull slow. 1611 — *Wint. T.* I. ii. 255 If euer I were wilfull-negligent.

† 2. Voluntarily, of free will: = *WILFULLY* 2.

c1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 87 So þat whanne þei schulden ben most wilful pore & preche þe gospel of cristis pouert & his apostlis. 1450-1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* II. 161 The sete of dome where the wylfull powre shall sytte and deme wyth cryste.

C. as sb. A wilful person; *rarely*, a wilful act.

1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xxxi, Nay, then, if wilful will to water, wilful must drench. 1829 — *Anne of G.* xvi, That is as much as to say, wilful will to it. 1875 TENNYSON *Q. Mary* III. v, One of those wicked wilfuls that men make, Nor shame to call it nature. 1885 *Academy* 14 Nov. 322/1 The unfortunates or the wilfuls who are under restraint.

Hence † *wilfulhead* (whence irreg. † *wilfulness* in same sense), † *wilfulness*, *wilfulness*; † *wilfulling* *nonce-wd.* [irreg. f. *wilful* + *-ING*], a wilful act.

c1385 CHAUCER *L.G.W.* Prol. 355 Lyk tyrauntis of lumbardy that vsyn *wilfulhed & tyrannye. c1400 *Pilgr. Soule* (Caxton 1483) IV. xii. 63 Only that thyng euery wyght may which he may by ryght and nought of wilful-hede. 1485 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 523 Yf any personne of obstinacie or *wilful-hednesse will withstand ... the said ... Rules. 1605 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iii. III. *Law* 610 No more bay with thy *wilfullings His wrath's dread Torrent. c1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 205 þat oðer is *wilfulness and lichamliche lustes. c1280 *MS. Douce* 139 lf. 157 þe idel mon ... þat purstes of wilfulnesspe and drinket sorwenesse.

† *wilful*, *a.²* *Obs. rare.* [f. *wil*, *WILE sb.* + *-FUL*.] Crafty, wily.

c1425 *Cursor M.* 11807 (Trin.) Heroude ... þat wilful [Cott. will] wolf þat ferde so fals A3eynes fremde & frendes als.

wilfully ('wilfuli), *adv.* Forms: see *WILFUL a.¹* [Late OE. *wilfullice*, f. **wilfull* *WILFUL a.¹* (cf. OE. *carfull* careful, *carfullice* carefully): see *-LY²*.]

† 1. Willingly, readily, without reluctance; patiently, submissively (with *suffer*, etc.); gladly, 'fain' (with *will* vb. expressing desire: cf. 3). *Obs.*

a1100 *Gloss. Ælfric's Colloq.* 146 (Napier 225/1) *Uolenter*, wilful[lice]. a1240 *Wohunge* in *O.E. Hom.* I. 279 Alle þat

clenli for þi luue mesaise and pouerte wilfulliche polien. 1357 *Lay Folks' Catech.* (L.) 1100 Men schuld wilfully fede pore hungry men and þrusty. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* II. 172 He serwynt ay lelely; And the tothir full wilfully. ... Rewardyt him weile his seruice. 1382 WYCLIF *Acts* xxi. 17 Whanne we camen to Jerusalem, bretheren resceyueden vs wilfully. c1460 *Godstow Reg.* 132 Mansel ... willid & acceptid wilfully þe gifte þat Raph bloet made to þe church. 1493 *Festivall* (W. de W. 1515) 9 He must ... suffre trybulacyon mekely, and do almes dedes wyfully. 1513 DOUGLAS *Aeneis* VIII. iii. 89 Wilfully I obey thair command.

† *b.* With good will, heartily; 'with a will'.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* II. 386 And with that word sa wilfully He dang on. *Ibid.* VIII. 462 Thai ... prikrit furth sa wilfully To vyn the ladis at thai saw pass. c1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 7 First understand, and wilfully procede.

† 2. Of one's own free will, of one's own accord, voluntarily. Rarely in reference to an inanimate thing: Spontaneously, 'of itself'. *Obs.*

c1000 in Haupt's *Zeitschr. f. deutsches Alt.* IX. 435/2 *Sponte*, wilful[lice], 1357 *Lay Folks' Catech.* (L.) 1163 How moche more be þei cursyd of god; þat bynde hem-self wilfully. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xx. 48 Syth he þat wrouzte al þe worlde was wilfullic nedy. c1400 MAUNDEV. xvi. (1839) 176 Hem that sleen hem self wilfully, for love of here Ydole. a1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula* etc. 87 If þe puluis putte in go wilfully out with þe dede flesch þi nedez is wele sped. c1440 *Gesta Rom.* lxiv. 277 (Add. MS.) Do of thi clothes wilfully, or thou shalt agayn thi wille. a1536 TINDALE *Exam. W. Thorpe* in Foxe *A. & M.* (1563) 155/1 The night before y^t Christ Jesu wold suffer wilfully passion for mankind. 1590 SPENSER *F.Q.* II. i. 15 She wilfully her sorrow did augment. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof.* St. v. xi. 403 Martyrs are to die willingly but not wilfully. 1705 CLARKE *Disc. Nat. Relig.* (1706) 103 A Man is obliged not to depart wilfully out of this Life, which is the general Station that God has appointed him.

† *b.* According to one's own will; at will, freely. *Obs.*

1340-70 *Alex. & Dind.* 604 But 3e, folliche folk 3our fals godus alle Wil-fully worschipen wiþ wordliche godus. c1350 *Will. Palerne* 1782 To me tended þe nouzt bot tok forþ here wey wilfulli to sum wildernesse. c1475 *Partenay* 327 Ouer all thys hors so went wilfully here and there ouer all where at hys lust wold. c1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* lxxx. 8 But since your worth (wide as the Ocean is) The humble as the proudest saile doth beare, My sawsie barke (inferior farre to his) On your broad maine doth wilfully appeare.

† 3. With desire, longingly. *Obs. rare.*

c1350 *Will. Palerne* 3300 þat quen & hire dougter & meliors þe schene wayteden out at a windowe wilfulli infere. c1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* VIII. 497 And all did wilfully expect, the siluer-throned morne.

4. Purposely, on purpose, by design, intentionally, deliberately. Chiefly, now always, in bad sense (cf. *WILFUL a.¹* 5); often with admixture of, or passing into, sense 5; occas. implying 'maliciously'.

c1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* II. 284 Yf þat he wole take of it no cure, Whan þan it cometh, but wilfully it weyuen. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XVII. 285 How myste he axe mercy, or any mercy hym helpe, þat wykkedlich & wilfullicch wolde mercy anynte? c1400 *Pilgr. Soule* (Caxton) II. li. (1859) 54 He that wylfully deceyved hym self, who may hym releue of myscheyf? 1477 *Rolls of Parl.* VI. 184/2 Money so molten, beten or wilfully broken. 1526 R. WHYTFORD *Martiloge* 67 b, The feest also of saynt Dace bysshop of mylen, y^t in his journey toward constantynople was wilfully lodged in a hous y^t was occupied w^t wycked spirytes. 1617 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Three Weekes Observ.* C3, For those that set houses on fire wilfully, they are smoked to death. 1726 SHELVOCKE *Voy. round World* (1757) 242 Deaf to all I could say, and so wilfully insensible of the impendant destruction. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xlii, His administration was wilfully careless, now too indulgent, and now all to despotism. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 545 Instead of the money came excuses ... which ought to have opened the eyes of all who were not wilfully blind. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* VIII. 107 A mill containing 500 of his looms was wilfully burnt down. 1911 *Ac. i & 2 Geo. V* c. 6 § 1 If any person lawfully sworn as a witness ... wilfully makes a statement ... which he knows to be false.

5. In a self-willed manner, perversely, obstinately, stubbornly.

a1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* I. v. (1912) 33 The mother ... beyng determinately (least I should say of a great Lady, wilfully) bent to marrie her to Demagoras. *Ibid.* II. xiii. 232 Now so evil could she conceal her fire, and so wilfully persevered she in it, that [etc.]. 1595 SHAKS. *John* III. i. 142, I ... demand Why thou against the Church, our holy Mother, So wilfully dost spurne. 1596 SPENSER *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 654/1 Surely of such desperat persons as will wilfully followe the course of theyr owne follye, there is noe compassion to be had. a1694 TILLOTSON *Serm.*, *Luke* xii. 47, 48 Wks. 1717 I. 425 He that first acknowledgeth him for his Prince, and then affronts him, deserves to be prosecuted with the utmost severity, because he did it wilfully, and in meer contempt. 1726- [see 4].

wilfulness ('wilfulnis). [f. *WILFUL a.¹* + *-NESS*.]

1. The quality or character of being wilful; disposition to assert one's own will against reason, persuasion, etc.; determination to take one's own way; self-will, perversity, obstinacy, stubbornness.

c1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 75 Wilfulnessse letteð þe mannes shrift, þat pincheð uel þat man him wile neden his sinnes to foreleten and fro þe deuel to gode turnen. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XVIII. 176 On this wiss war thai nobill men Throu wilfulness all losit then. c1386 CHAUCER *Knt's T.* 2199 The contrarie of al this is wilfulnessse. 1412-20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* I. 3661 Sith sche wrouzt only of wilfulness, With-out conseil or ayvenes. 1547 *Act i Edw. VI* c. 3 § 11 Yf they refuse of wilfulness and stubbornnes to worke. 1583 WHITGIFT in Strype *Life* (1718) App. 67 Your Lordship further semith to burthen me with Wilfulness. ... There ys a Difference betwixt Wilfulness and Constancie. 1674

OWEN *Holy Spirit* (1693) 238 A Child-like state, accompanied with, (1) Weakness. (2) Instability. And, (3) Wilfulness. 1729 BUTLER *Serm.* Wks. 1874 II. 76 That obstinacy and wilfulness, which renders men so insensible to the motives of religion. 1838 LYTTON *Alice* II. vi, She could...contradict, with a pretty wilfulness, his most favourite dogmas. 1870 LOWELL *Study Wind.*, Carlyle (1871) 98 To confound it [sc. Will] with its irritable and purposeless counterfeit Wilfulness.

b. (with *pl.*) An instance of this, a wilful act. 1833 COLERIDGE *Table-t.* 23 Oct., Whole volumes of Wordsworth's poems were formerly neglected...solely because of some few wilfulnesses, if I may so call them, of that great man. 1883 SPURGEON *Illustr. & Medit.* 221 The rebellions and wilfulnesses of mankind.

2. †a. Purpose, determination, resolution. *Obs.*

c1386 CHAUCER *Melib.* P.416 Thou shalt considere if thy myght and thy power may consenten and suffice to thy wilfulnessse and to thy conseilours. 1606 G. WOODCOCKE *Hist. Iustine* XII. 53 He...had slaine himselfe, had he not bene preuented by his friendes... He continued certaine daies after in this wilfulnessse to die. 1633 T. JAMES *Voy.* 18 In this wilfulnessse we continued till the 21.

b. Intentional character (of an act); the fact of being done on purpose.

1876 MOZLEY & WHITELEY *Law Dict.* s.v. *Murder*, The deliberateness and wilfulness, or, as we prefer to call it, the intention, which constitutes the crime of murder.

†3. Readiness of will, willingness, inclination.

1398 TREVISIA *Barth. De P.R.* XVIII. xxxix. (1495) ccv b/1 The wilfulnessse [of a horse] is know yf he is bolde of herte. 1408-9 tr. *Vegetius' De Re Milit.* (MS. Digby 233) lf. 185/1 Newe knyghtes ben chosen not onlich by strengþe & mygt of body bote also by lusti wilfulnessse to werre.

†4. Liberty to do what one will; free will or choice; voluntary action. *Obs.*

c1460 SIR R. ROS *La Belle Dame* 628 Falshode is so full of cursydnesse, That highe worschip may never haue enterprise Where hit rayneth, and hath the wylfulnessse. 1501 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. 1. 68 [The lands should be redeemable] be dissent or wilfulness of the said Ihonne or William his fader. 1530 PALSGR. 289/1 Wylfulnessse, *woluntairete*. 1553 BRADFORD *Serm. Repentance* (1574) Cij b, Such workes as they neede not to do, but of their own voluntarines & wylfulness (wylfulness in deede).

wilga ('wilgə). [Native name in New South Wales.] An Australian tree of the genus *Geijera* (N.O. *Rutaceae*), esp. *G. parviflora*. Also *attrib.*

1889 MAIDEN *Usef. Plants Australia* 130 *Geijera parviflora*, Wilga, Sheep-bush, Dogwood and Willow. 1891 'R. BOLDEWOOD' *Sydney-side Sax.* vii, We rode...through a wilga scrub.

wilger ('wilgə(r)). *local.* Also 6, 9 wilger, 7 welger, 9 -ar, wolgar. [Obscurely f. *wilghe*, WILLOW sb.]

1. = WILLOW sb. 1. 1682-3 in *Hartland Gloss.* (E.D.S.) s.v., Pd. for welgers 1s. 6d. 1867 ROCK *Jim an' Nell* xxxiv, Nor welgars, no, nor withy-bans 'll vix ther herts ner bin' ther hans.

attrib. 1853 in *Rep. & Trans. Devonsh. Assoc.* XXVII. 60 Let Berry the wolgar plot, 1 s. a bundle next year. 1882 *Ibid.* XIV. 150 Down by the wilger plot.

2. = WILLOW sb. 3, WILLY sb.¹ 2. 1542 *Admir. Crt. Warrant Bk.* 1, 19 Aug. (MS.), Septem duodenas excipularum anglie vij dosen of shrympe leapes vulgariter voc' wilgers.

3. = WILLOW sb. 4, WILLY sb.¹ 3.

1871 *Daily News* 26 Aug. (Leicester), A recommendation that more care should be exercised in the use of 'wilgers' or 'devils'.

†**wilgern**, a. *Obs. rare.* [f. WILL sb.¹ + north. ME. *gern*, a. ON. *gjarn* YERN a.]

This word or a corresp. **wilgern* survived in 17th c. north. dial. *wiljern* (Ray).]

Wilful, perverse. c1325 *Metr. Hom.* 61 Godd...gert them lef thair wilgern werk.

wilghe, obs. form of WILLOW.

wilgosse, obs. form of WILD GOOSE.

†**wilhede**. *Obs. rare.* In 4 wyl-. [f. WILL sb.¹ + -HEAD.] Will.

1340 *Ayenb.* 164 Magnanimité is heynesne gratnesse and noblesse of wylhede [orig. *corage*].

Wilhelmine ('vilhelmin), a. [f. the Ger. name *Wilhelm* William (see below) + -INE¹.] Of or pertaining to (the reign of) William II, emperor of Germany 1888-1918. Also Wil'helmian, Wilhel'minian (cf. *G. wilhelminisch*) adjs.

1931 C. R. TURNER tr. *G. Schultze-Pfäelzer's Hindenburg* xii. 279 A swaggering general of the later Wilhelminian period. 1948 A. HUXLEY *Ape & Essence* (1949) 21 Floating products of Wilhelmine wealth and culture. 1956 S. BEDFORD *Legacy* IV. v. 282 The events...shed a queer light on the Wilhelminian era. 1957 *Cassell's German & Eng. Dict.* 1. 614/2 *Wilhelminisch*, adj., of William II, Wilhelminian (of Germany). 1962 *Times* 14 Nov. 16/2 The Wilhelminian empire. 1973 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 5 Oct. 1183/1 Like so many intellectuals in Wilhelminian Germany. 1975 *Historical Jnl.* XVIII. 821 It was in this situation that the role of the Centre party in Wilhelmine politics became decisive. 1979 *Observer* 18 Nov. 35 The mood of fatalism that overtook the Wilhelmine Empire of Germany before the advent of the First World War.

Wilhelmstrasse ('vilhelm,ʃtra:sə). [Ger.] The name of a street in Berlin, the site of the German

foreign office until 1945; hence used for the pre-war German foreign office and its policies.

1914 in *Conc. Oxf. Dict.* Addenda. 1919 LD. F. HAMILTON *Vanished Poms of Yesterday* i. 28 The Ambassador took the hint, and that was the last note in Russian that reached the Wilhelmstrasse. 1923 G. BUCHANAN *My Mission to Russia* I. iv. 45 The reception, however, accorded to this tentative proposal by the Wilhelmstrasse was not encouraging. 1938 H. NICOLSON *Diary* 21 Sept. (1966) I. 363 What remains of Czechoslovakia...must subordinate her foreign policy to that of the Wilhelmstrasse. 1956 S. BEDFORD *Legacy* III. iv. 143, I can't think what they made of him at the Wilhelmstrasse. 1979 G. ST. AUBYN *Edward VII* vii. 316 Chamberlain was resolved to seek partnership with France...should discussions with the Wilhelmstrasse break down.

||**wili, willi** ('vili). *Slavonic Mythol.* [Ger. or Fr. *wili, willi*, ad. Serbo-Croat *vila* nymph, fay. Cf. VILA.] (See quot. 1949). Chiefly used in connection with the ballet *Giselle*.

[1841 VERNON DE SAINT-GEORGES et al. *Giselle ou Les Wilis* 14 C'est l'heure lugubre où, selon la chronique du pays, les Wilis se rendent à leur salle de bal.] 1949 A. CHUJOY *Dance Encycl.* 511/1 *Wilis* (or *Willis*), in Western-Slavic and Eastern-German legends, the spirits of betrothed girls who have died as a result of being jilted by faithless lovers. They came out to dance at night and led the faithless ones to their death by making them dance until they fell dead of exhaustion. 1961 *Times* 2 Oct. 16/6 Miss Jill Bathurst...danced Odette and the wili Giselle. 1963 P. HANSFORD JOHNSON *Night & Silence* xx. 138 The cat continued to dance, star of the snowy ballet, with a million Wilis whirling behind him. 1977 *N.Y. Rev. Bks.* 13 Oct. 44/2 She gazes out of the fascinating portrait that Henri Lehmann painted of her in 1843 like some supernatural being, a willi, a peri, or a refined succubus.

wili, wilie, obs. forms of WILY.

wilik, obs. form of VILELY.

wilily ('waihli), *adv.* Forms: see WILY; also 5 wilele, 6 wylely, -ie, wilely. [f. WILY a. + -LY².] In a wily manner; craftily, cunningly, by stratagem.

a1400 *Pistill of Susan* 213 Wylyliche heo wyled hir wenchas away. c1400 *Anturs of Arth.* 575 (Douce MS.) Wilele pes wighte mene paire wepenes þey welde. a1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula* etc. 15 If perauenture þe patient haue wilyly brogt in with hym any leche for to aspye. 1531 TINDALE *Expos.* 1 *John* (1538) 44 Antichrist disgysed hymselfe... & preached Christ wilyly, bryngyng in now thys tradicion, and now that. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 268 Wittille and wylelie tuecheng the king. 1611 *Bible* Josh. ix. 4 They did worke wilyly, and went and made as if they had bene embassadours. 1682 BUNYAN *Holy War* 243 'Tis you Mr. Carnal Security that have wilyly stripped Mansoul, and driven her glory from her. 1724 RAMSAY *Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) I. 85 And wilyly they shot the lock. 1847 GOSSE *Birds Jamaica* 412 A flock of swimming Pelicans, wilyly endeavouring to approach some unwary one. 1885 W. ROSS *Aberdour & Inchcolm* i. 23 He wilyly succeeded to his title and estates.

wiliness ('waihins). Forms: see WILY. [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality or character of being wily; craftiness, cunning, guile.

c1450 tr. *De Imitatione* I. vii. 8 Truste not in þin ovne konnyng, ner in þe wyliness of eny man livyng. c1460 METHAM *Wks.* (1916) 133 A mowght þe qwyche ys smal off qwantye with thynne lypys sygnyffiyth onmygthyntes, ferfulness, and wyliness. 1556 OLDE *Antichrist* 162b, So (with certain foxlike wyliness) they clooke the bloody meanyng. 1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 2 Neither let any man suppose that from wiliness without force, nor force without iudgement, can preceed any proiet of worthy consideration. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 181 To defend them from all Assaults and Wiliness of the Devil. 1818 MRS. SHELLEY *Frankenstein* xix. (1823) II. 126, I will watch with the wiliness of a snake, that I may sting with its venom. 1878 BAYNE *Purit. Rev.* iii. 81 He had the wariness and wiliness of the cat.

wiling, *vbl. sb.*: see WILE v.

wilis, obs. form of WHILES.

wiliwili ('wi:hwih). [Hawaiian.] A coral tree, *Erythrina sandwicensis*, of the family Leguminosæ, native to Hawaii and Tahiti and bearing clusters of orange flowers.

1888 W. F. HILLEBRAND *Flora Hawaiian Islands* 100 'Wiliwili'...loses its leaves in late summer. 1913 J. F. ROCK *Indigenous Trees Hawaiian Islands* 191 The very soft, white wood of the Wiliwili...is still used by the natives for outriggers on their fishing canoes. 1917 *Nature* 20 Sept. 57/2 In the arid regions is found the wiliwili...a deciduous tree with gnarly growth. 1965 *N.Z. Listener* 17 Dec. 4/2 The Hawaiian chiefs...riding the lighter, balsa-like wili-wili boards.

wilk, wilke, obs. forms of WHELK, WHICH.

wilkatt, obs. form of WILD CAT.

wilkeite ('wikiait). *Min.* [f. the name of R. M. Wilke, 20th-c. U.S. mineral collector + -ITE¹.] A silicate and sulphate mineral of the apatite group occurring as translucent pink or yellow hexagonal crystals (see quot. 1982).

1914 EAKLE & ROGERS in *Amer. Jnl. Sci.* CLXXXVII. 263 The writers take pleasure in naming it wilkeite in honor of R. M. Wilke, who as a mineral collector and dealer has done much to advance the science of mineralogy. 1937 *Amer. Mineralogist* XXII. 977 It has become necessary to investigate the substitutions of the sort found in wilkeite. 1975 *Nature* 27 Feb. 722/1 Among the minerals described to have any significant degree of P(V)-Si(IV) partial

substitution are viseite, nagatelite and wilkeite, an apatite with partial SiO₄ + SO₄ substitution for PO₄. 1982 *Amer. Mineralogist* LXVII. 90 Wilkeite is not a valid mineral species, since it is only one of many solid solutions involving the six end-members fluorapatite, hydroxyapatite, chlorapatite, fluorellastadite, hydroxyllellastadite, and chlorellastadite.

†**wilkin**. *Obs.* Also 5 wykyn, wilken, 6 wellkyn, 7 welkyn, wilking. [? orig. a proper name, perh. of Du. or LG. origin.] A ram; a pile-driving engine.

1495 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 156 Rammes of Yron called Wykyns...j. 1497 *Ibid.* 91 Wilken Rammers of Iren...ij. *Ibid.* 94 Wilken ramme of iren...j. 1580 in P. Thompson *Hist. Boston* (1856) 310 Lord Clynton to borrow the wellkyn of brasse of this Corporation for his necessarrie, according to his desire. 1657 *Ibid.*, A great brasse welkyn belonging to the borough, being now no longer useful to this borough, to be sold. 1694 *Ibid.*, 101, paid to John Sherlock to buy a wilking with at Nottingham. [1804 *Ibid.* note, applied to a pile-driving apparatus.]

Wilkism ('wikiz(ə)m). [Irreg. f. the name of John Wilkes (1727-97), English radical politician + -ISM.] The principles or policies associated with John Wilkes.

1769 MRS. HARRIS *Let.* 24 Mar. in Earl of Malmesbury *Lett.* (1870) I. 177 The Wilkism, and obscenity of the woman proved the greatest attraction. 1778 J. WITHERSPOON *Address to Natives Scotl. residing in Amer.* 5 What effect this Wilkism (If I may so speak) of many Americans may be supposed to have had upon the minds of gentlemen from Scotland, it is not difficult to explain. 1930 R. POSTGATE *'That Devil Wilkes'* xiv. 248 (heading) The end of Wilkism.

Also 'Wilkite, a follower of John Wilkes or his ideas.

a1797 J. WILKES in Lincoln & McEwen *Lord Eldon's Anecdote Bk.* (1960) 15, I have nothing to do with such a Man. He was a Wilkite, which I never was. 1917 H. BLEACKLEY *Life Wilkes* xiv. 251 The zeal of hundreds of sturdy Wilkites had oozed away. 1930 R. POSTGATE *'That Devil Wilkes'* xiv. 258 They knew only that he had shot down Wilkites.

wilkume, obs. form of WELCOME.

will (wil), *sb.*¹ Forms: 1-2 willa, (1 -o), 1-7 wil, 2-4 wile, 2-7 wille, 3-6 wylle, 4-6 wyll, wyl (2 welle, 4 wele, *Sc.* vil, 5 wel, well, wulle, wyle, 6 *Sc.* vill, 9 *Sc. dial.* wull), 1- will. [OE. *willa* wk. masc. = OFris. *willa* (Efris. *wel*, Wfris. *wik*), OS. *willio*, MDu. *wille*, Du. *wil*, OHG. *willo*, *willjo* (MHG., G. *wille*, *willen*), ON. *vili*, *vilja* (Sw. *vilja*, Da. *vilje*), Goth. *wilja*:—OTeut. **wiljon*:-pre-Teut. **weljon*:-; also OE. *wil(l* str. n. (chiefly in gen.: see sense 10), = ON. *vil*, and OE. *gewil*, -*wile* str. n. 1-WILL; see WILL v.¹]

1. 1. a. Desire, wish, longing; liking, inclination, disposition (*to do* something). In mod. use coloured by or merged in sense 5.

Beowulf 635 þæt ic anunga eowra leoda willan geworhte. a900 CYNEWULF *Juliana* 50 Ic beo gearo sona... willan pines. c1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John i. 13 Ða ne synt acennede... of flæscas willan, ne of weres willan; ac hig synt of gode acennede. a1225 *Ancr. R.* 60 Wilnen, & habe wille uorte beon iwiled. 12.. *Moral Ode* 172 (Egerton MS.) þe brode stret is vre iwil ðe is us lod for to lete. þe ðe al folowed his wil, fared bi þusse strete. c1300 *Beket* 121 So gret wille him com to To wende eft to the holi lond, that he nuste what do. c1315 SHOREHAM 1. 421 Ac nou pat wil pat is to gode His al set bi-hinde. 1340 *Ayenb.* 9 Wypoute grete wille an willinge uor to harmi opren. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruc* xv. 79, I trow that he Sall haf no gret will for to ficht. c1450 *Knt. de la Tour* 14 Fastinge... refrainthe the fleshe of euelle willes. 1485 CAXTON *Paris & V.* (1868) 69 He had grete wylle to goo to Iherusalem. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* I. 91 As he and his Souldiours had no will to marrie the daughters of the Frenchmen. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* I. iii. 63 My will is something sorted with his wish. 1601 — *Jul. C.* III. iii. 3, I have no will to wander forth of doores, Yet something leads me forth.

1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xvii, Don't stop him, Maria, if he has the will to strike me, let him. 1844 KINGLAKE *Eothen* vii, There was a will, and a longing, more imperious than mere curiosity. 1896 HOUSMAN *Shropsh. Lad* xxxiii, This long and sure-set liking, This boundless will to please.

b. An inclination to do something, as contrasted with power or opportunity.

1594 KYD *Cornelia* III. iii, Shee hath not onely power and will T'abuse the vulgar wanting skill. 1647 W. BROWNE *Polexander* III. iv. 113 The Queene...is perswaded I have serv'd her because I had a will to it. 1667 EARL ORRERY *St. Lett.* (1742) 308 They desired the power, and want not the will, to do us an ill turn. 1697 DRYDEN *bnis* VII. 279 Not forc'd to Goodness, but by Will inclin'd. 1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 178 P.14 Great Numbers who quarrel with their Condition have wanted not the Power but the Will to obtain a better State. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* xxv, Your lordship...will experience that the faculty of the present proprietor to entertain his friends is greatly abridged...the will, I need hardly say, remains the same. 1832 LANDER *Exped. Niger* xxi. III. 263 Mr. Lake had certainly a will or inclination to enter into arrangements with him. 1879 FROUDE *Cæsar* x. 111 No one questioned that it could be done if there was a will to do it.

†2. *spec.* Carnal desire or appetite: = DESIRE sb. 2.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 91 þa flæsclican willan & þa ungereclican uncysta. c1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 358 Weres wylla to gefremmanne nime bares geallan. c1400 *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 37 All fleschly wyll for to for-sak. 1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 247 Thus...holds he disputation, Tweene frozen conscience and hot burning will. 1603 — *Meas. for M.* II. iv. 164.

3. a. *transf.* (chiefly as obj. of *have*): That which one desires, (one's) 'desire'. Now *arch.* or *poet.*

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John v. 30 Ne soeco ic uillo min ah uillo his seße mec asende. a 1122 *O.E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1097 Se cyng geseah þæt he nan þinge his willeþ þær geforðian ne mihte. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 26880 þe warlau sal nocht in þis man Hauē sa mikel of his will, Als if he desseli did ill. a 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* x. 37 Have 3e or wyl, 3e waxeth unwraste. 1390 *Gower Conf.* I. 73 He... With blinde tales so hire ladde, That all his wille of hire he hadde. c 1420 ? *LYDG. Assembly of Gods* 1309 Bettyr were a chylde to be vnborne, Then let hyt haue the wyl & for euer be lore. a 1508 *DUNBAR Tua Mariit Wemen* 336 Quhill I oucht wantit of my will, or quhat I wald desir. 1593 *SHAKS. 3 Hen. VI.* i. iv. 144 Would'st haue me weepe? why now thou hast thy will. 1593 — *Lucr.* 128 The sundrie dangers of his wils obtaining. 1611 W. ADAMS *Let. in Rundall Mem. Japon* (Hakl. Soc.) 25 God... would not suffer them to haue their wille of vs. 1693 *LOCKE Educ.* §35 He had the Will of his Maid before he could Speak or Go. 1798 *COLERIDGE Anc. Mar.* i. iv, The Wedding-Guest... listens like a three-years' child: The Mariner hath his will. 1865 *SWINBURNE Atalanta* 929 Have all thy will of words; talk out thine heart. 1896 *HOUSMAN Shropsh. Lad* xxv, A lad that lives and has his will Is worth a dozen dead.

b. A desire or wish as expressed in a request; hence (contextually) the expression of a wish, a request, petition (sometimes passing into the sense 'a command': see 7). *arch.* or *dial.*

What's your will? (now *arch.* or *dial.*, esp. *Sc.*): What do you want? What do you wish me to do?

1340 *Ayemb.* 138 þanne zayp he... þet he y-herp þe benes and þe wylles of þe poure. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1918 When Castor hade clanly consayuit his wille, He onswared hym honestly with ornynge a litill. a 1510 *DOUGLAS K. Hart* ii. 21 May thow nocht heir? Langar how I culd schout! What war 3our will? I will cum in but dout. 1591 *SHAKS. Two Gent.* iv. ii. 92 *Sil.* What's your will? *Pro.* That I may compasse yours. *Sil.* You haue your wish: my will is euen this, That you hie you home to bed. 1606 — *Ant. & Cl.* i. ii. 7 *Alex.* Soothsayer. *Sooth.* Your will? *Char.* Is this the Man? Is't you want that know things? 1775 *SHERIDAN Rivals* v. iii, Tell me now, Mr. Acres, in case of an accident, is there any little will or commission I could execute for you? 1808 *JAMIESON s.v., What's your will?* a common Scottishism for, 'What did you say?' It is also given as a reply to one who calls. 1826 *GALT Last of Lairds* i. 5 When... one of the lasses looks from behind it, and says, 'What's your wull and pleasure?'

c. to take one's will: to do as one pleases (in respect of). Chiefly *Sc.*

1825 *JAMIESON s.v., To tak one's will o'.* 1. To treat or use as one pleases. 2. To take as much of any thing as one pleases. 1882 G. MACDONALD *Castle Warlock* vi, He... jist loot the maister tak his wull o' 'im! 1890 *Good Words* Aug. 565/2 Carr let his own horse take his will.

4. †a. Pleasure, delight, joy. *Obs.*

Beowulf 824 Denum eallum wearð æfter þam wælræse willa gelumpen. a 1000 *Andreas* 356 Forþe þe dryhten domweorðunga willan in worulde & in wuldre blæd. a 1240 *Ureisan* 46 in *O.E. Hom.* I. 193 Mid englene willa. *Ibid.* 62 Inouh liues wil and eche pleie. [a 1250: see 12 a.] a 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* iv. 23 This wilde will went a-wai, with none and mourning muchel un-mete.

b. to have no will of (*Sc.*), †in: to take no pleasure in, have no liking for.

1609 *Bible* (Douay) Mal. i. 10, I have no wil in you. c 1626 in W. K. Tweedie *Sel. Biogr.* (Wodrow Soc.) I. 353, I have na will of strangers. 1871 W. ALEXANDER *Johnny Gibb* xxii, Na, man; I hinna wil o't.

II. 5. a. The action of willing or choosing to do something; the movement or attitude of the mind which is directed with conscious intention to (and, normally, issues immediately in) some action, physical or mental; volition.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 35 We... agyltarp þurh feower þing, þurh gepoht, & þurh word, & þurh weorc, & þurh willan. c 1230 *Hah Meid.* (Titus MS.) 123 Ga ut prof wið wil of þin heorte. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 13759 He said nocht allan, 'namar þou sin,' Bot 'lok þi wil bi nocht þar-in.' c 1386 *CHAUCER Sqr.'s Pro.* 5, I wol seye as I kan With hertly wyl. c 1475 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 160 Yff... he wull geue hys dowtyr hys part of Snowys well... I wold with the gladder wylle dele with hym. a 1619 *FLETCHER, etc. Q. Corinth* iii. ii, You know well Even actual sins committed without will, Are neither sins nor shame. 1742 *YOUNG Nt. Th.* iv. 615 But since the naked will obtains thy smile, Beneath this monument of praise unpaid. 1831 *JAMES Philip Aug.* xxviii, He strove to speak, but no voice answered his will. 1861 *MILL Utilitar.* iv. 59 Will, the active phenomenon, is a different thing from desire, the state of passive sensibility.

b. Intention, intent, purpose, determination. ? *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 23552 If it sett þam in to will To mak anoiþer erth or heuen. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxiii, (George) i 3ete of sancte george is my will... To translæt þe haly story. 1390 *GOWER Conf.* viii. 3037* With all the wil that I mai yive. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 4222 þai wetyñ full wele þe wyllys of vs here, That we purpos a pouer to put in hor lond. 1450-1530 *Myrr. Our Ladye* ii. 267 Hou we oughte... to say that salutacion wyth wylle to leue synne and to do good dedes. 1471 *CAXTON Recuyell* (Sommer) 547 By one wylle and volente. 1477 *EARL RIVERS* (Caxton) *Dictes* (1877) i, I rested in that wyl & purpose. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 418/2 Of an [= one] Wille, *vnanimis.* 1523 *LD. BERNERS Froiss.* I. xxxix. 22/2 When the flemynges... sawe the fiersse wylles of them within. 1619 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Kicksey Winsey* B2, Your wills are good, and whilst I keepe your bills Instead of payment I accept good wills. 1712 *ARBUTHNOT John Bull* iv. iii, My Will at present is to have Dinner.

c. will to with sb. or inf. (after G. *wille zu*). Chiefly used in the names (often hyphenated) of supposed natural instincts or drives, as *will to art* [tr. G. *wille zur kunst*]; *will to be*, *believe*, *live* (also *transf.*); *will to* (or †*unto*) *power* [tr. G.

wille zur macht], in Nietzsche's philosophy and, later, in analytic psychology (esp. A. Adler's individual psychology); the driving force behind all human behaviour which should lead to self-mastery but when frustrated can become the will to dominate others; cf. POWER-DRIVE sb. 2.

Cf. *Der Wille zum Leben* in the title of Schopenhauer's *Welt als Wille und Vorstellung* iv., 1819.

1823 J. C. ROBERTSON *Percy Anecdotes XI. Imagination* 87 (heading) The Will to be Well. 1889 G. B. SHAW *How to become a Musical Critic* (1960) 147 Vegetarianism, the higher Buddhism... negation of the Will-to-Live... all these are but samples of what Wagnerism involves nowadays. 1891 — *Let.* 29 July (1965) I. 301 John Robertson seeks for facts that support his will-to-believe that Materialist-Rationalists are the only honest Secularists. 1896 *TILLE tr. Nietzsche's Thus Spake Zarathustra* 163 Wherever I found living matter I found will unto power. 1903 *CHESTERTON R. Browning* vi. 139 That really boisterous will to live which may be found in Martin Chuzzlewit. 1907 *ZIMMERN tr. Nietzsche's Beyond Good & Evil* 20 Life itself is Will to Power. 1908 R. BAGOT A. Cuthbert xxviii. 370 The triumph of the will to live over the threatening assaults of death. 1923 J. VAN TESLAAR tr. *Stekel's Psychoanal.* ii. 61 That 'will to power' means, 'Above all, I want to be loved.'... Will to power is will to be loved. 1926 *GALSWORTHY Silver Spoon* i. xiv. 110 Humanity has got to save itself! To save itself—what was that, after all, but expression of 'the will to live'? 1929 H. READ *Staffordshire Pottery Figures* 21 The 'folk' spirit which makes the early salt-glaze... figures so precious as evidences of an innate 'will-to-art'. 1930 D. H. LAWRENCE *Virgin & Gipsy* ii. 35 Yvette suddenly saw the stony, implacable will-to-power in the old... Granny. 1931 J. S. HUXLEY *What dare I Think?* iv. 143 Only by banishing the driving force of emotion and the false certitude of the will-to-believe... does she [sc. Science] arrive at greater power. 1945 W. DE LA MARE *Burning-Glass* 12 And naught but his marooned precarious self For questing consciousness and will-to-be. 1948 R. STAGNER *Psychol. of Personality* (ed. 2) xv. 288 Adler believed... that the will to power was a fundamental drive, and that it was thwarted by some inferiority. 1963 N. FRYE *Romanticism Reconsidered* 14 The tremendous will-to-power finales of Beethoven. 1972 D. V. TANSLEY *Radionics* iv. 33 The ancient seers of India... observed that the base chakra was responsible for... providing a channel for the will-to-be to express itself. 1976 J. GOODE in Mitchell & Oakley *Rights & Wrongs of Women* vii. 232 Partly this is based on a will to power, the demand for a totally submissive love. 1977 *Times* 2 Dec. 21/3 The [Crown] agents' 'remarkable will to live' pushed them into critical change in their financial operation in 1966. 1979 E. H. GOMBRICH *Sense of Order* vii. 193 That 'will to art', which Riegl had conceived as an alternative to the mechanistic explanations of individual motifs, developed into a vitalistic principle underlying the whole history of art. 1985 E. GELLNER *Psychoanalytic Movement* i. 27 The Will to Power is a far, far more disturbing, more corrosive idea for human optimism than is the domination of the human psyche by sexuality.

6. a. The power or capacity of willing; that faculty or function which is directed to conscious and intentional action; power of choice in regard to action. (See also FREE WILL.)

c 888 *ÆLFRED Boeth.* xiv. §2 Andgit & gemynd, & se gesceadwislica willa þæt hine para twega lyste. c 1000 *ÆLFRED Hom.* I. 288 Of ðam willan cumað geðohtas, and word, and weorc. a 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 219 Se fader and his wisdom... hare beire wille þat is se hali gast. c 1200 *ORMIN* 11509 Wille iss hire pridd mahht þurh whatt menn immess 3eornenn. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 664 He þam gaf þer will alfre; þe gode to do, to leue þe ill. 1390 *GOWER Conf.* I. 322 This will is the principal, And hath the lordschipe of thi witt. c 1460 *Wisdom* 213 in *Macro Plays* 42 And I of þe soull am þe wylle. 1538 *STARKEY England* (1878) 29 Euer the wyl chesyth the yl, and leuyth the gud. 1590 *SHAKS. Mids. N.* ii. ii. 115 The will of man is by his reason sway'd. 1594 *HOOKEE Eccl. Pol.* i. vii. §3 Appetite is the wills solicitor, and the will is appetites controller; what we couet according to the one, by the other we often reiect. 1597 *Ibid.* v. xlviii. §9 Will, whether it be in God or man, belongeth to the essence and nature of both. 1601 *SHAKS. Jul. C.* ii. ii. 71 The cause is in my Will, I will not come. 1635 A. STAFFORD *Fem. Glory* 63 Whose Wils and Vnderstandings have a combat before they can bee brought to a consent. 1667 *MILTON P.L.* i. 106 All is not lost; the unconquerable Will... And courage never to submit or yield. 1738 *POPE Universal Prayer* iii, Who... binding Nature fast in Fate, Left free the Human Will. 1848 R. I. WILBERFORCE *Doctr. Incarnation* iv. (1852) 80 In our Lord, first of all descendants of Adam, was will exhibited in that complete freedom, which was its normal condition and perfect state. 1880 *GOLDW. SMITH in Atlantic Monthly* Feb. 203 The spring of all existence, and so of evil, is will, which Schopenhauer erects into a universal substance, apart from intelligence and consciousness.

b. With qualification, in reference to individual character; idiomatically in a will of one's own, implying a strong or self-assertive will, and hence used as a euphemism for 'wilfulness'.

c 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 100 Schir Kay wes haisty and hate, and of ane hie will. 1752 *MRS. LENNOX Female Quix.* i. xi, Since I am not allowed any will of my own... it matters not whether I am pleased or displeased. 1760 *FOOTE Minor* i. i, Was Charlotte to set up a will of her own... she must expect to share the fate of her sister. 1798 S. & HT. LEE *Cant. T., Young Lady's* T. II. 341 If once she could be brought to assert a will of her own. 1907 *Verney Mem.* I. 422 A girl of high spirit and strong will.

7. a. Intention or determination that something shall be done by another or others, or shall happen to take place; (contextually) an expression or embodiment of such intention or determination, an order, command, injunction (cf. 3 b). Also *fig.*

Formerly freq. in the ejaculations (by) *God's will*, occas. 'ods my will' (*Shaks. A.Y.L.* iv. iii. 17: see *GOD sb.* 14 a).

Beowulf 1739 Him eal worold wendeð on willan. 835 in *Birch Cartul. Sax.* (1885) I. 575 Ic Abba geroefa Cyðe & writen hate hu min willa is þæt mon ymb min ærfe gedoe æfter minum dæge. c 1000 *AGS. Gosp. Matt.* vi. 10 ðewurpe ðin willa on eorðan, swa swa on heofonum. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 21 We suneziēt on-3ein drihtenes welle ofter þene we scolde. c 1200 *ORMIN* 2381 All 3ho le33de patt o Godd & onn hiss lefe wille. a 1250 *Prov. Alfred* 399 in *O.E. Misc.* 126 Bute if we wurcheþ wyllen cristes. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 12322 Sco... duted nocht, þat godds wil ne suld be wrought. c 1380 *WYCLIF Sel. Wks.* II. 55 Al þing þat shal come moot nedis come bi Goddis wille. 1390 *GOWER Conf.* I. 48 Mi will is ferst that thou be schrive. c 1450 *HOLLAND Howlat* 874, I wait 3our will, and quhat way 3e wald that I wrocht. 1464-5 in *Acts Parlt. Scot.* (1874) XII. 31/1 Thai... sall... entire þe kingis ward and there abide Enduring þe kingis will. 1543-4 *Act 35 Hen. VIII.* c. i. §1 It is the only pleasure and will of Almighty God howe longe his Highnes... shall lyve. 1558 in J. M. Stone *Hist. Mary I* (1901) App. 518 My mynd and wyls, that the said Codicell shall be accepted. 1601 *SHAKS. All's Well* ii. iv. 56 In euery thing I waite upon his will. 1603 — *Meas. for M.* ii. ii. 7 Is it your will Claudio shall die to morrow? 1667 *MILTON P.L.* ii. 1025 Such was the will of Heav'n. 1711 *STEELE Spect.* No. 96. ¶ 2 It was the Will of Providence that Master Harry was taken very ill of a Fever. 1756 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* II. 144 They are all... dependent on the will of the magistrate. 1833 *TENNYSON Dream Fair Wom.* lix, It comforts me in this one thought to dwell, That I subdued me to my father's will. 1841 *MYERS Cath. Th.* iii. §1 The Books commonly called The Bible contain special Revelations of the Will of God. 1842 *TENNYSON Dora* 43 My will is law. 1888 *BYRCE Amer. Commu.* xcvi. III. 360 This method of consulting the popular will.

†b. Consent, acquiescence, permission, favour, good will. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 199 Wit crist will þan sal I telle How he sipen hared helle. c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xxxviii. 154 In so moche þat he wanne ther by the wille & the love of Eueri man. c 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 362 With the wille and graunte of Raaf his sone and heire. 1535 *COVERDALE Jer.* xlv. 19 Did we... poure vnto her drinkofferings, to do her seruyce, without oure huszbonde's wylles?

c. Intent, purport (of a document; cf. 23); also, in *Sc. Law*, a clause in a summons expressing a royal command (see quot. 1684).

1439 in *Ancestor* (1904) July 18 After that the will of my testament be fulfilled and my dettes paid. 1684 *SIR G. MACKENZIE Inst. Law Scot.* iv. i. (1694) 236 The King in his Summons says, Our will is, &c. that ye cite such and such Persons, &c. which is called the Will of the Summons, and which Will of the Summons does comprehend a Command to the Messengers to cite the Defenders. 1743 *KAMES Decis. Cri. Sess.* 1730-52 (1799) 67 It was necessary for the suspender to follow out the will of the letters.

8. Qualified by possessive, esp. in such phr. as †if his will be, if it be his will (= if it be his good pleasure) and as obj. of *do*, *work*, or the like: 'That which one wills should be done; (one's) 'pleasure'.

c 825 *Vesp. Ps.* xxxix. 9 [xl. 8] Ðæt ic doe willan ðinne, god. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 205 To secenne hwæt þæs willa sie. a 1000 *Menologium* 201 Sancta symbol para þe sið oððe ær worhtan in worulde willan drihtnes. a 1122 *O.E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1085 ðebete hit God elmihtiga þonne his willa sy. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 121 3if hit hys willa nere, ne mahte him nan deð ne nan pine derian. c 1205 *LAY.* 2793 & euer ælc wilde mon hefde al his wil to don. c 1220 *Bestiary* 41 Do ure dryten ded was, And dolen, also his wille was. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 407 þe sex dais he wrought þat was his will. *Ibid.* 1229 To wrik þare wik[ke] wil þai thoght. 13... K. Horn 201 (Harl. MS.) Ah 3ef hit is þi wille Help vs þat we ne spille. c 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (prose) 10 Ye sal leue yure ahen propir will, and do opir mens. c 1420 *Avow. Arth.* xxxiii, Bothe my dethe and my lyfe, Is inne the wille of thi wife. c 1420 *Anturs of Arth.* 107 One þing wold I wite, if þi wil ware. 1535 *COVERDALE Ps.* xxvi[i]. 12 Delyuer me not in to the wylles of myne aduersaries. 1542 *UDALL Erasm. Apoph.* 295 The stronger must bee obeyed & haue his wille. 1590 *LODGE Rosalynde* (1592) O 2 b, Shall I then haue... no comfort, but bee posted off to the will of time? 1607 *SHAKS. Cor.* iv. iv. 7 Direct me, if it be your will, where great Aufidius lies: Is he in Antium? 1765 *GRAY Shakespeare* 13 If then he wreak on me his wicked will. 1818 *SCOTT Br. Lamm.* xii, If it's your wull, I'll just tak a step as far as Dunse. 1865 *RUSKIN Sesame* ii. §90 Leaving misrule and violence to work their will among men.

†9. a. Undue assertion of one's own will; wilfulness, self-will. *Obs.*

c 1175 *Lamb. Hon.* 9 3if hwa is swa sunful... þet nulle... for his hule heorte wil his scrift ihalden. c 1325 *Spec. Gy Warw.* 169 þat þurw here pride and here wil þeiñ fallen ofte in gret peril. 1362 *LANGL. P. Pl. A.* vi. 77 Alle þe walles beþ of wit to holde wil þeroute. 1401 26 *Pol. Poems* iii. 38 By witles wille þey gedre pres. a 1500 *Ratis Raving* 1562 With wyl and 3outhed duellis hee. 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* i. xi. (1867) 28 Wylle wyl haue wylle, though will wo wyn. a 1568 *ASCHAM Scholem.* i. (Arb.) 48 Lyinge, pickinge, slouthe, will, stubburnnesse. 1615 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Urania* xli. B8, When hare-braind Will, o're Wit doth rule & raigne.

b. A piece of wilfulness, a whim. *Obs. rare.*

1619 *PURCHAS Microcosmus* lxii. 623 Shall Christians lose... the Hopes of Heauen... for a Will, for a Humour, for malicious Spight.

III. Special uses and phrases.

* †10. gen. sing. wiles, etc., as adv. (or in advb. phr.) or predicative adj. *Obs.* a. simply (also in phr. *willes and woldes*: see *WIELD sb.* 1 b), or with poss. pron.: Of one's own will; voluntarily; intentionally, purposely. (Cf. *SELFWILLES*.)

c 960 *ÆTHELWOLD St. Benet* 28 ðeneadod to anre mile gange, gang wiles twa. c 1000 in Thorpe *Laws* (1840) II. 180 Be þam men ðe wiles man ofslidð. c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 221 Wilt þu silf wiles lete þe slen þy purpos ne preyse y noyt. c 1386 *CHAUCER Wife's Pro.* 272 (Harl. MS.) Thing þat no man wol, his wiles, holde. c 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 174, I am a

fende of helle and wold not knele on nopyr kne my wylls, but I am made to do so agen my wyll.

b. with poss. pron.: According to one's choice or desire, as one will: used pred. with impers. vb. *to be*, in such phrases as *if your willes is* = *if you will*, *if you please*, *if you wish*.

a1300 *Cursor M.* 1406 Inogh now liued haue .i., bou tak mi saul out of pe flexs And do it ware pi wils [Gött. willes] es. *Ibid.* 10094 He moght do quat his wils [Gött. willes] was. **1375** BARBOUR *Bruce* 1. 618 Giff that your willis wer, Ic ask 3ow respyt for to se This lettir. **c1450** HOLLAND *Houlat* 312 3e sall heir in schort space Quhat worthy lordis thar was, Gif your willis war. **c1475** *Rauf Coilgear* 502, I wait not quhat his willis be.

c. as predicative adj.: Voluntary.

a1225 *Anscr. R.* 302 Schrift schal beon..dredful, & hopeful, wis, soð & willes.

****** with qualifying adjs.

11. a. *good will, ill will* (with various shades of meaning: cf. 1, 5-7): see GOODWILL, ILL WILL. So with the comparative, *†better will* = 'more goodwill'; *†evil will* = ILL WILL.

1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 237 To Leulyn for gaf he alle his euellle wille. **1357** *Lay Folks' Catech.* (T.) 565 To gif you better will for to kun tham. **1461** *Paston Lett.* II. 48 Because of such tales, your tenants owe hym the bettir will. **c1482** *Cely Papers* (Camden) 131, I wrote not so unto you for no spyte nedor for no howell well that I have to you. **1560** DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 35 b, He dyd so, of no euill wyll or contempte. **1621** BP. MOUNTAGU *Diatribæ* 388 All such as haue an euill will to Sion.

b. *with the best will (in the world).*

1857 B. TAYLOR *Northern Trav.* xxxii. (1858) 333 With the best will we found it impossible to eat anything. *Ibid.* xxxiii. 344 All that the old woman, with the best will in the world, was able to furnish, was milk, butter, [etc.].

c. See FREE WILL.

******* with prepositions.

†12. a will [A prep.¹ or ²]. **a.** To (one's) pleasure or satisfaction. *Obs.*

a1250 *Owl & Night.* 1722 Heo [sc. the wren] hadde gode prote & schille & fale monne song a wille [v.r. awille].

†b. At command or disposal. *Obs.*

c1430 *Chev. Assigne* 79 Bothe howndes & men haue hadde pe a wille.

†13. after (one's) will [AFTER prep. 13, 15]: according to one's choice or intention, as one will; according to one's wish or liking, as one desires.

c1205 LAY. 31650 And longe hit walden after heore willen. **c1290** *St. Brendan* 109 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 223 þe see drof here schip after wil. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 15793 O þe forel a suerd he drogh, þe ere he smat of an; For had it ben efter his wil, he wald him fair ha slan.

14. against (†again) one's will [AGAINST 10, AGAIN B. 7]: in opposition to (one's own) inclination or liking, unwillingly (*rarely*, against one's purpose, unintentionally); in opposition to (another's) choice, intention, or desire.

c1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xviii. 85 He schall noyt be brynt with his agayne his will. **c1400** *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) iv. xx. 68 Thou hast byreued me Ageyne my wyll, no thynge with myn assent. **c1450** [see 10 a]. **1512** *Act 4 Hen. VIII.* c. 20 *Preamble*. The said John .i. fortunet to be slayn .i. ayenst the will and mynde of your seid Bescher. **1559** *Mirr. Mag.*, *Dk. Suffolk* xxii, King and queene were forst against their willes. **1605** SHAKS. *Lear* 1. iv. 116 This fellow ha's banish'd two on's Daughters, and did the third a blessing against his will. **1639** J. CLARKE *Paræm.* 29 He is willing sore against his will. **1678** BUTLER *Hud.* iii. iii. 547 He that complies against his Will, Is of his own Opinion still. **1784** COWPER *Task* vi. 520 His steed Declined the death, and wheeling swiftly round, Baffled his rider, saved against his will. **1845** McCULLOCH *Taxation* 1. (1852) 38 The Grand Seigneur cannot do a more absolute act than to order a man to be dragged away from his family, and, against his will, run his head against the mouth of a cannon.

15. at (one's) will. **a.** According to one's volition or choice; as (when, where) one will. *†*occas., Of one's own free will, voluntarily.

(a) with possessive: *at his, your, God's* (etc.) *will*.

a1300 *Cursor M.* 6136 Ma sacrifice your lauerd vntill, Quar yce wil at your aun will. **c1325** *Spec. Gy Warw.* 19 Al at his wille he wole þe lede. **1389** in *Engl. Gilds* (1870) 30 Qwo-so schal ben excused for any oyer schyl, it schal ben at ye aldermannes wyl. **c1430** *Syr Tryam.* 257 At Goddys wille muste hyt bene. **1570** T. NORTON tr. *Nowell's Catech.* 67 b, God alone is able at his owne wil to geue what soeuer he hath appointed. **1601** SHAKS. *Jul. C.* ii. i. 17 We put a Sting in him, That at his will he may do danger with. **a1721** PRIOR *Songs* xiii. 4 Enjoying sweetest liberty, And roving at my will. **1802, 1873** [see SWEET a. 8 d].

(b) simply: *at will*.

13.. *Cursor M.* 19324 (Gött.) Na strinth did þai paim till, For þai come wid paim all at will. **c1400** 26 *Pol. Poems* x. 4 For pride hem penkey goddis pere, þat welde þis worldis wele at wille. **c1470** *Gol. & Gaw.* 253 Al thai that ar wrocht vndir the hevin Micht nocht warne thame at wil to ische nor entre. **1579** SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Sept. 144 They wander at will, and stray at pleasure. **1607** SHAKS. *Cor.* i. vi. 39 Holding Corioles in the name of Rome, Euen like a fawning Grey-hound in the Leash, To let him slip at will. **1615** R. COCKS *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) i. 42 [He] geveth out that he is not the Companies servant, but at will. **1667** MILTON *P.L.* v. 295 Nature here Wantond as in her prime, and plaid at will Her Virgin Fancies. **1671** — *P.R.* iv. 269 The famous Orators.. whose resistless eloquence Wielded at will that fierce Democratic. **1825** WORDSW. *To a Skylark* 5 Thy nest which thou canst drop into at will. **1871** R. H. HUTTON *Ess.* I. 47 The only test we have of the truth of scientific hypothesis is the degree of aid it gives us in representing to ourselves at will the facts of the universe. **1888** F. H.

BRADLEY in *Mind* Jan. 27 And if we think of various sensations in parts of our bodies we can produce them at will.

b. In readiness to be dealt with as one will; at one's command or disposal.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 836 Al is yowre awen, to haue at yowre wille & welde. **1387-8** T. USK *Test. Love* iii. viii. (Skeat) l. 5 Sithen her restinge-place is now so nygh at my wil. **c1400** *Parce Michi* 165 in 26 *Pol. Poems* 147 Whye I had my streyngh at wyll, ffyl many a man I dyd vnreste. **c1440** *Generydes* 33 Whenne he lyste she was all atte his wille. **1577** GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* 1. 7 With wealth yenough and pastures wyde at wyll. **1604** SHAKS. *Oth.* ii. i. 150 She that was euer faire, and neuer proud, Had Tongue at will, and yet was neuer loud. **1611** — *Cymb.* iv. iii. 13 Sir, my life is yours, I humbly set it at your will. **1667** MILTON *P.L.* v. 377 These mid-hours, till Eevning rise I have at will. **1784** COWPER *Task* ii. 202 What is his creation less Than a capacious reservoir of means Formed for his use, and ready at his will? **1913** M. ROBERTS *Salt of Sea* ix. 218 At sunset the wind failed and left me at the will of the tides.

†c. According to one's desire, as one wishes or likes; *esp.* (*pred.* or *compl.*) of wind or weather, Favourable. *Obs.*

a1300 *Cursor M.* 2243 Quen pai at wil had festend grund þe wark pai raised in a stund. **1340-70** *Alex. & Dind.* 1 When þis weith at his wil weduring hadde. **c1400** *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 492 All þat nedes 3ou vntill Sal 3e haue at 3our awne wyll. **c1425** WYNTOUN *Cron.* ii. viii. 710 þai tuk wyl sayl and past in hy Wythe wynde at wil to Brigancy. **a1533** LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) Evj b, Thus haue ye had the goddes at wyl. **1579** T. STEVENS in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 161 Our Pilot.. thinking himselfe to haue wind at will. **1825** JAMIESON s.v., *At a' will*, to the utmost extent of one's inclination or desire.

d. In reference to an estate held during the owner's or lessor's pleasure, from which the tenant may be ousted at any time: chiefly in phr. *estate, tenant, etc. at will*.

1451 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 217/2 Grauntes of .i. annuities, made by you of estate of enheritaunce, for terme of lif, or terme of yeris, or at wille. **1589** in *Trans. Cumbld. & Westmld. Antiq. Soc.* (N.S.) XX. 222 Which castell.. John glaisters balyfe there occupyethe at will and ought to pay yerely the said rents. **1603** G. OWEN *Pembrokeshire* (1892) 191 They were not tenants at will at the Comon lawe. **1663** BUTLER *Hud.* i. ii. 1022 For we are their true Landlords still, And they our Tenants but at will. **1766** BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. ix. 145 An estate at will is where lands and tenements are let by one man to another, to have and to hold at the will of the lessor. **1794** VANCOUVER *Agric. Cambr.* 52 The largest farm is held at will. **1868** ROGERS *Pol. Econ.* xiii. (1876) 178 The customary occupation was reduced to a tenancy at will.

†16. by one's will: with one's consent, or of one's own free will, willingly; according to one's desire, if one had one's wish. (Cf. GOODWILL 3 b.)

c1393 CHAUCER *Mariage* 12, I dar seyn, were he oute of his peyne, As by his wille, he wolde be bounde nevere. **c1400** *Rom. Rose* 5728 For by her wille withoute lees Eueriche man shulde be seke. **1599** SHAKS. *Much Ado* iii. iii. 67 *Ver.* You haue bin alwaies cal'd a merciful man — *Dog.* Truly I would not hang a dog by my will. **1601** — *Twel. N.* iii. iii. 1.

17. in will. †a. With the will or intention, intending, purposing (*to do something*); *to be* (also *have*) *in will*, to intend, purpose. (Also *in a will*.)

a1300 *Cursor M.* 4125 All he sagh þam in a wil þair broper sacles for to spil. *Ibid.* 11525 þai had in wil þat ilk night To torn be herods. **1303** R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 6985, Y was yn wyl for þe feste þat euery hadde a peny. **c1375** *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxiv. (*Pelagia*) 8 Of his mysdide hafand hert sare, In wil to mysdo nomare. **c1400** *Gamelyn* 173 Gamelyn was in wille to wende pecto. **1513** DOUGLAS *Eneis* ix. xii. 27 His broderis slauchtyr to revenge in wyl.

†b. to put oneself in, or to come in (a person's) will, also *to come in will to* (a person): to submit oneself to his will, surrender at discretion. *Sc. Obs.*

c1430 *Syr Tryam.* 1009 He wille put hym yn yowre wille. **c1470** HENRY Wallace ix. 984 Quhill tha, for hungry sor, Cum in his will. **1560** *Rec. Inverness* (New Spalding Club) I. 46 The said Thom Stuert is cumin in the townis wyl, and dome gyffin thairpon. **1596** DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 218 Al the rest with Sinklar cam in wil to thame of Orkney. **a1670** SPALDING *Troub. Chas.* I (Bannatyne Club) I. 3 The honest men.. was forced to come in the earle's will, whilk was not for their weill. **1690** *Rec. Burgh Lanark* (1893) 237 All quhich [offences] Nathaneell acknowledged and came in will. **1756** *Pennecuk's Coll. Sc. Poems* 108 Come in his will; Lay down the talents, or be debtor By band or bill.

18. of (one's) will. **a.** Of one's own accord, spontaneously, voluntarily. Now only with poss. and own, e.g. 'He did it of his own (free) will'.

c1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* iii. pr. iv. (1868) 74 Yif þat dignites wexen foule of hir wille by þe filpe of shrewes. **c1375** *Sc. Leg. Saints* iii. (*Andreas*) 685 And to þe tormentoris of will He gaf pame. **c1400** *Rom. Rose* 7441 He knewe nat that she was constrained, .. But wende she come of wyl al free. **c1475** *Rauf Coilgear* 541 For that I hecht of my will, And na man threit me thair till, That I am haldin to fulfill. **1825** JAMIESON s.v., *O' will*, spontaneously.

†b. of will: with the intention, on purpose (*to do something*). *Obs.*

c1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxvi. (*Baptista*) 479 Nocht of resone, bot of wil A wyfis jarynyng til fulfil.

†19. on will: = *at will* (15 c). *Obs. rare.*

c1205 LAY. 1102 Heo wunden up seiles, wind ston [= stod] an willen. *Ibid.* 7845 Weder heom stod on wille.

†20. to (one's) will: as one will, as one chooses; at one's disposal; to one's liking: = *at will*, 15 a, b, c. *Obs.*

a1300 *Cursor M.* 3647 It 3al him sauur al to will. *Ibid.* 23432 O welthes mar mai na man tell, þan haf to will o welth þe well. **a1400-50** *Wars Alex.* 301 And wild your self to will, nyll he so will he. **c1400** *Rule St. Benet* (prose) 7 May þai ler at serue him to will. **c1430** *Chev. Assigne* 181 Tenne hadde I þis londe hollye to myne wille.

21. with (one's) will. †a. Intentionally; willingly; voluntarily: = 16, 18. *Obs.*

c1230 [see 5]. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 6673 Qua slas animan wit will. **c1325** *Poem Times Edw.* II 431 in *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 343 So the fend hern prokede uch man to mourdre other wid wille. **c1400** *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 1971 When we þam resauw with wil Crist resauw we vs vntil. **1485** CAXTON *Paris & V.* (1868) 6 They ansuwerd to them ye shal now come to hym other wyth your wille or by force. **1513** in *Ellis Orig. Lett.* Ser. iii. I. 156, I see veray few.. that with their wills wold go agayne to the trade.

b. with a will: with determination, resolutely, vigorously, energetically.

1848 DICKENS *Domby* I, He turned to (as he himself said) with a will. **1866** RUSKIN *Crown of Wild Olive* i. 44 Work is only done well when it is done with a will. **1896** HOUSMAN *Shropsh. Lad* vii, I pieked a stone and aimed it And threw it with a will.

****** 22.** In allusive or proverbial phrases, e.g. in contrast with *deed*, esp. in *to take the will for the deed*; *†will is no skill* (SKILL sb.¹ 3); *where there's a will there's a way* (WAY sb.¹ 13).

13.. *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 251-2 Wil is wo.. Wil is Red. **c1460** *Wisdom* 221 in *Macro Plays* 43 Wyll for dede oft ys take. **c1520** SKELTON *Magnyf.* 148 But haue ye not herde say that Wyll is no Skyll? **1597** HOOKER *Ecll. Pol.* v. lx. §6 Where we cannot doe what is inioyned vs [God] accepteth our will to doe instead of the dede itself. **1661** MORGAN *Sph. Gentry* To Rdr. b.2, The reasonable will accept the will for the deed. **1801** LAMB *Let. to Godwin* 9 Sept., In this little scrawl you must take the will for the deed. **1842** CAR. WARD *Nat. Prov.* 152 Where there's a will there's a way. **1853** LYTON *My Novel* 1. iii, Oh, sir, it is not the deed—it is the will. **a1865** MRS. GASKELL *Wives & Dau.* xiv. (1867) 147 We will take the will for the deed, as the common people express it. **1880** MEREDITH *Tragic Com.* vi, 'Two wishes make a will,' you say.

IV. 23. a. A person's formal declaration of his intention as to the disposal of his property or other matters to be performed after his death, most usually made in writing (but see NUNCUPATIVE 1, PAROL a. 1, quot. 1706); commonly *transf.* the document in which such intention is expressed.

Formerly properly used only in reference to the disposal of real property, thus distinguished from a *testament* relating to personal property; whence the phrase (now tautological, but still in formal use) *last will and testament*: see TESTAMENT sb. 1.

(a) qualified by *last* (*†latter* obs. rare).

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 11 þanne Alisaundre loste his speche, and wroot his laste wille. **1424, 1464, 1590, 1637** [see TESTAMENT sb. 1, 1 c]. **1467** *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 94 The last wulle of the seyd Thomas Sakevyle. **1575-6** *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* Ser. i. II. 497 In his testament and latter will. **1768** STERNE *Sent. Journ.*, *Fragment, Paris*, He disposed every thing to make the gentleman's last will and testament.

(b) simply.

c1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 48 þis testament is riȝtful wille of dede fraunseis. **1439** E.E. *Wills* (1882) 128 If ther be eny clause or matier in his olde will. **1463** [see TESTAMENT sb. 1]. **1549** *Bk. Com. Prayer, Visit. Sick* rubric, If he haue not afore disposed his goods, let him then make his will. **1595** SHAKS. *John* 1. i. 109 Vpon his death-bed he wil bequeath'd His lands to me. **1758** JOHNSON *Idler* No. 29. ¶o She threw her will into the fire. **1766** BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. xxxii. 496 Every person hath full power and liberty to make a will, that is not under some special prohibition by law or custom. **1818** CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) VI. 61 Where a will is written on several sheets of paper, it is the usual practice for the testator to sign each of them. **1827** JARMAN *Powell's Devises* (ed. 3) II. 11 A will of real estate, wherever it be made, or in whatever language it be written. **1858** BRIGHT *Sp., Reform* 27 Oct. (1868) II. 10 If it [sc. landed property] were left to him by will, .. it paid no legacy duty.

fig. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* (Globe) 180 A most monstrous.. He-goat, .. making his Will, as we say, and gasping for Life, and dying indeed of meer old Age.

b. = TESTAMENT sb. 5 a. ? nonce-use.

[c1570 *Latimer's Protest.* in *Strype Eccl. Mem.* (1721) III. App. xxxiv. 91 If God wolde haue had a newe kynde of sacrificynge preste.. then he, or some of his Apostles, wolde haue made some mention therof in their master Christ's will.] **a1893** J. PAUL in *Ford Harp Perthsh.* 364 A tawny tattered leaf atween the Auld Will an' the New.

V. 24. attrib. and Comb. a. Simple attrib., as *will-force, -power, -spirit, -web*. **b.** Objective, instrumental, and locative, as *will-commanding* adj., (in sense 23) *-maker, -making; will-fraught, -strong* adjs. **c.** Special Combs.: *will-fire* (see quot.); *will-form*, a form on which a will may be made out; *†will government*, arbitrary or autocratic government; *will-office*, an office in which wills of deceased persons are kept; *†will-wisdom*, wisdom depending on one's will or fancy without divine influence; *†will-work*, a work performed by the human will, without divine grace (cf. WILL-WORSHIP).

a1644 QUARLES *Sol. Recant.* solil. vi. 62 This *will-commanding Saint. **1826** *Monthly Rev.* 24 June 399/2 The fuel was ignited by *will-fire, that is, fire obtained by

friction. 1886 W. WALLACE in *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 451/1 The *will-force operating in all is the same. 1924 D. H. LAWRENCE *England, my England* 150 Say I want to see Mr. Whittle as soon as he can, and will he bring a *will-form. 1948 'J. TEV' *Franchise Affair* vi. 56 An old woman... wanted to alter her will... So Robert had taken some new will-forms. 1640 HOWEL *Pre-em. Parlt.* 5 Tyrannical Rule, and unbounded *Wil government. 1880 DISRAELI *Endym.* vi. Events... which alike consigned the will and the *will-maker to oblivion. 1828 LYTTON *Pelham* xxvii. A thing of state and solemnity—long faces—early rising—and *will-making. 1672 WOOD *Life* (O.H.S.) II. 243 This journey was taken to London by A. W. purposely to peruse the *Will-Office then in or near Exeter-house. 1874 HOPPS *Relig. Moral.* xiv. 44 The drunkard... whose *will-power and whose moral force have been conquered by degraded appetite. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 315 Insanity of doubt, due to loss of will-power. a 1761 LAW *Comf. Weary Pilgr.* (1809) 11 Whilst your *will-spirit is good... the changes of creaturely fervour lessen not your union with God. 1654 GATAKER *Disc. Apol.* 73 His *Will-strong Objection. 1866 WHIPPLE *Char.* 322 No opinionated, will-strong, untamable passion. 1904 HARDY *Dynasts* I. 1. 6 As key-scene to the whole, I first lay bare The *Will-webs of thy fearful questioning. 1647 TRAPP *Comm. Rev.* xiii. 18 Humane inventions and *will-wisdom. 1538 BALE *God's Promises* vii. Eiv. In hys onlve deathe was mannys lyfe alwayes restyng. And not in *wyll workes. 1580 VAUTROULLIER *Luther on Ep. Gal.* 85 They take from him y^e power both to iustifie and saue, and geue y^e same to their owne wilworks.

† **will**, *sb.*² *Obs. rare.* Forms: 3 wil, 4 wille. [f. WILL *a.*] Bewilderment, distraction.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1079 Wil siðen cam on euerile on. [a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3836 And for wondsome and wille alle his wit failede. (See *FOR prep.* 10.)]

Will, *sb.*³ Abbreviated pet-form of the Christian name *William* (cf. *Piers Plowman* B. xiv. 148, Shaks. *Sonn.* cxxxvi, etc.). *b. dial.* = WILL-O'-THE-WISP.

a 1718 PARNELL *Fairy Tale* 157 Will, who bears the wispy fire To trail the swains among the mire. 1750 COLLINS *Ode Superstit.* *Highlands* 91 Let not dank Will mislead you to the heath. 1888 FENN *Dick o' the Fens* viii. You may go right into the bog and be smothered, and that's what the wills like.

will, *sb.*⁴ [f. WILL *v.*¹] *a.* An utterance of the auxiliary verb 'will'; a determination expressed by this. *b.* The auxiliary verb 'will' as used in contradistinction to 'shall'.

1677, 1837-1891 [see SHALL *sb.* 1, 2].

will, *a. (adv.)* Now only *Sc.* and *dial.* Forms: 3-5 wil, wille, (4 *Sc.* vill), 4-5 wyl(le, 5-6 wyl, 4-6, 8-9 *Sc.* and *dial.* wyl, (9 *Sc.* wull). [a. ON. *villr* bewildered, erring, astray; see WILD *a.*]

1. Going or gone astray; that has lost his way, or has nowhere to go for rest or shelter; straying, wandering, 'lost'.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 975 Ðo fle3 agar fro sarray... In ðe diserd, wil and weri. 13... *Cursor M.* 23091 (Edin.) Quen I was wil and out of rest, Godli tok ye me to rest. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 2369 All wery I wex and wyl of my gate. c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* vi. xvi. 1614 He trawalit al day, qwhil þe nycht Hym partit fra his company. þan was he wil of herbery. c 1460 Towneley *Myst.* xxx. 450 When I was will and weriest ye harberd me full esely. c 1475 *Rauf Coilyear* 35 In thay Montanis, I-wis, he wox al will. 1806 [see WOLF *sb.* B. 2]. 1815 G. BEATTIE *John O' Arnha* (1826) 62 His will and weary ghost. 1871 W. ALEXANDER *Johnny Gibb* xxvii. Gyaun awa' to Aiberdeen like a wull chucken.

2. *fig.* † *a.* Going astray in thought, belief, or conduct; going wrong, erring; wayward, 'wild'.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7310 Noght yow allan, bot your ox-spring, Sal reu ful sare your wil jerning. 13... *E.E. Allit.* P. B. 76 More to wyte is her wrange, þen any wylle gentyl. *Ibid.* C. 473 þen wakened þe wyze of his wyl dremes. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxviii. (Margaret) 360 3oure consal is wikit & wil.

b. Not knowing what to do or how to proceed; at a loss, at one's wit's end, uncertain, perplexed.

c 1300 *Havelok* 863 Hwan he kam þer, he was ful wil, Ne hauede he no frend to gangen til. *Ibid.* 1042 Of puttingge he was ful wil, For neuere yete ne saw he or Putten the stone, or panne, þor. c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 12208 Arthur was al wyl On whilk hil þe geaunt was. c 1440 *York Myst.* xviii. 208 Allas! Joseph for woe Was neuer wight in worde [= world] so will! 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 53 [They] had sik drede that thai war will quhat to do. c 1475 *Rauf Coilyear* 138 3it was I mekle willar than. 1721 KELLY *Sc. Prov.* 375 You are so will of your wooing, you wat not where to wed. *Note.* You have such Choice of Mistresses.

3. Phrases. † *a.* *will of wane* (*wone*) [WANE *sb.*², WONE *sb.*²: *lit.* wandering without a dwelling-place, homeless] = 1; also *fig.* = 2 *b.* Obs.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 980 Adam went out ful wil o wan. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* II. 471 And he wes als sa will off wane, That he trowit in nane sekryly. *Ibid.* vii. 2 The kyng toward the vod is gane, Wery for-swat and vill of vayn. c 1440 *York Myst.* xix. 217 Was neuere so wofull a wyffe, Ne halffe so wille of wone! c 1480 HENRYSON *Test. Cress.* 543 Wrappit in wo, ane wretch full will of wane. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) II. 343 So will of wane [printed wand], and weipand for greit wo.

† *b.* *will of rede* [REDE *sb.*¹ 2: *lit.* at a loss for a plan or scheme] = 2 *b.* Also *will of good rede*.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* III. 494 He wes alsua will off red, That he durst rest in-to na place. c 1400 Yvaine & Gaw. 379 That wedder made me so will of rede, I hopid some to have my dede. c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* vi. xvi. 1652 His lemmen was wil of gud rede. 1513 DOUGLAS *Eneis* II. xi. 6 The top of lile Ascanius heid, Amang the dulefull armes, will of reid Of his parentis.

c. *will gate* (*Sc.*), † *gate will* [GATE *sb.*²]: going astray.

c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 90 þan sho went in & tolde hym þe cauce of hur gate will. c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 527/2 Wylgate, or wronge gate, *deviatio*. 1825 JAMIESON, *Will-gate, wull-gate sb.* 1. An erroneous course, literally used. S. 2. In a moral sense, any course that is improper.

4. *compl.* or as *adv.* (chiefly with *go*): Astray, out of the way (*lit.* and *fig.*); to go will, to go astray, lose one's way, wander, err.

c 1220 *Bestiary* 52 Silden he us wille, If we heren to his word Ðat we ne gon nowor wille. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4100 Bot ar he till his breper wan, Will he yode, and mett a man. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxiii. (vii *Sleperis*) 255 Wenand pat he had gane wil, Ane vthrye 3et þane 3ed he til. c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* iv. xxi. 1987 Welth and riches wont was ay In wantones mare wil to draw þan hawynge fayr and mesoure haw. c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 453 He gaff vnto ane honeste womman in wyldrenes, goand wyl, iijc penyis. c 1475 *Rauf Coilyear* 73 Walkand will of his way. 1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxvi. 74 It is so lang in cuming me till, I dreid that it be quyt gane will. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 92 Thocht I wauer, or ga wyl, Or am in danger for to die. 1724 RAMSAY *Vision* iii, I deimt dame Nature was gane will To rare with rackless reil. 1855 N. & Q. 1st Ser. XII. 489/1 Each time she attempted to cross this place she was irresistibly, and against her will, prevented by some invisible power; or, as she said, was 'Will led'.

† 5. Of a place: Out-of-the-way, unfrequented, desolate. *Obs.*

13... *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 2084 Wela wylle was þe way, þer þay bi wud schulden. c 1425 *Engl. Cong. Irel.* li. 129 Hit was wille londe and woddy. 1513 DOUGLAS *Eneis* iv. vi. 61 To nane wncouth landis, Nother to fremmyt place, nor steddiss will. *Ibid.* xi. x. 64 Him self ascendis the hie band of the hyl By wentis strait and passage scharp and wyl.

Hence † **willness** (*whylenes*), wildness, madness.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 9327 What whylenes or wanspede wryxles our mynd?

will (*wil*), *v.*¹ *Pa. t.* would (*wud*). Forms: see below. [OE. **willan*, pres.t. *wille*, *willap*, *pa. t.* *wolde*, Anglian *walde*, = OFris. *willa*, *wille*, *wilde*, *wolde*, OS. *willian*, *williu*, *williad*, *wolda*, (M)LG. *willen*, (M)Du. *willen*, *wilde*, ON. *vilja*, *vil*, *vilda*, *viljat* (Sw. *vilja*, *vill*, Da. *vill*, *vilde*), Goth. *wiljan*, *wiljau*, *wildda*:—O'Teut. **wel(l)jan*, parallel with O'Teut. **wal(l)jan*, whence OFris. *wella*, *welde*, OS. *wellian*, *welda*, MLG. *wellen*, OHG. *wellen*, *well*, *wellemes*, etc., *welta*, *wolta* (MHG. *wellen*, *wollen*, *wöllen*, *welte*, *wolte*, *gewellt*, G. *wollen*, *will*, *wollen*, *wollte*, *gewollt*), ON. *velja*, *vel*, *valði*, *valðir* (Sw. *välja*, Da. *vælge*) to choose, (see *WELE v.*), Goth. *waljan* to choose; for other Teut. derivatives see WILL *sb.*¹, WILL *v.*², WALE *sb.*² choice, WELL *adv.*: f. Indo-Eur. *wel-*: *wol-*: *wl-*, represented by L. *velle*, *volo*, (*velim*, *voluñ*), Lith. *vėlyju*, *vėlyti* to wish, *pa-velmi* to allow, *viltis* hope, OSI. *velēti* to command, *voliti* to will, choose, *volja* will, W. *gwell* better, Skr. *vāratī* chooses, wishes, prefers, *vāra-* wish, choice, *vāram* better, *vṛṇati* wishes, prefers.

The most remarkable feature of this vb., besides its many idiomatic and phrasal uses, is its employment as a regular auxiliary of the future tense, which goes back to the OE. period, and may be paralleled in other Germanic languages, e.g. MHG.

In some uses it is not always possible to distinguish this vb. from WILL *v.*²]

A. Inflectional Forms.

1. *Infinitive*. 1 *wyllan*, 3-5 *willen*, (3 *Orm.* *wilenn*), 5 *wylen*, 5-7 *wille*, (7 *wil*), 4- *will*.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* xxxii. (Z.) 200 *Uelle*, *wyllan*. c 1200 ORMIN 5297, & te birp wilenn sweltenn. c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 2482 Thou shalt not willen to passen away. c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 49 To wylen to mak God felow of pis violence. 14... in *Babes Bk.* (1868) 331 Strangers... the whiche they knownen you to wille for to admitte and receyue. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* i. i. xi. 44 *Velle*, and *Nolle*, will and nill. 1654 VILVAIN *Theorem. Theol.* ii. 50 Man, at Creation, had to wil or nil naturally.

2. *Present Tense*. 1st and 3rd pers. sing. *a.* 1-4 *wile*, *wyle*, 1-6 *wille*, *wylle* (1 *North.* *willo*, *uillo*), 4-6 *wyl*, *wyll*, 1 *North.*, 4-7 *wil*, (1 *uil*, 6 *Sc.* *vil*), 1 *North.*, 4- *will*. β. 2-3 *wulle*, 3-5 *wule*, 5-6 *wul*, (7-9 *dial.*) *wull*, 9 *dial.* *ull*. γ. 3-5 *wole*, 3-6 *wolle*, 4-6 *wol(l)* (3 *uole*, 5 *vol*); 5-7 *wooll* (5-*lle*, *howl*), *dial.* 8-9 *wool*, *woul*, 9 *ool*. δ. 1 *Anglian*, 3 *welle*, 3-5 *wele*, *well*, 4 *wel*, 8-9 *dial.* *el*.

a. c 888 (MS. c 1100) ÆLFRED *Boeth.* iii. § 4 Ic nu wille geornlice to Gode cleopian. c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xvi. 24 3if hua wil [Rushw. *wille*, *Ag. Gosp.* *wylle*, *Hatton wylle*] æfter meh gecyeme. — Luke xiii. 31 Herodes will [Ag. *Gosp.* *wyle*] sec ofslaa. c 1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Matt. xx. 15 Oppe ne mot ic don þæt ic wylle? c 1030 *Rule St. Benet* xlviii. 81 Se ðe wyle him sylfan rædan. a 1122 O.E. *Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 656, Ic þe wile finden þær to gold & siluer, land & ahte. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 57 Gif man beð forwunden, he wile anon sechen after leches. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 9018 To will als sott sco will him lede. 1340 *Ayenb.* 57 Hwo þet wyle conne and weze þe zennes of þe tonge. a 1352 MINOT *Poems* (ed. Hall) xi. 7 Of Gynes ful gladly now will I bigin. 1357 *Lay Folks' Catech.* (L.) 922 A lyte wyl of þe herte þat he wyl not 3eue to hys god. 13... *Guy Warw.* (A.) 535 3if ich i hir schewe, sche wil telle Hir fader. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* iii.

(*Andreas*) 1049, I wyl Ane vthrye questione send hym till. c 1430 *Chev. Assigne* 128, I wylle soone aske hym. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 1 Yf man wyl put to his good wyl to bryng hym safe to the ende of his said journey. 1548 HUTTEN *Sum of Div.* K viij, God wylle all men to be saued. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* Ep. 3 Ther is na prudent man that vil iuge [etc.]. 1611 *Bible Zech.* xiv. 2, I wil gather all nations against Ierusalem to battell.

β. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 123 þu helle ic wulle beon þin bite. c 1205 LAY. 3658 Wha swa wulle libba [c 1275 wole libbe]. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 156 Hwo se wule wel don. c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* II. liii. (1869) 96 Wule he other noon. 1448-9 METHAM *Amoryus & Cl.* 163 As myn autor dothe wryte, ryght so wul I. 1616 B. JONSON *Forest, To World* 31 What bird, or beast, is knowne so dull, That fled his cage, ... wull Render his head in there againe? 1836 [HOOTON] *Bilberry Thurland* I. xviii. 307 To be sure, sartyn, that I wull. 1869 A. MACDONALD *Love, Law & Theol.* xxiv. 542 'Oh, never mind Mrs. McCreesh.' 'Oh, but a wull mind.'

γ. a 1275 *Prov. Alfred* 688 in O.E. *Misc.* 137 He uole brinhin on and tuenti to nout. c 1290 *Beket* 121 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 110 þat ping þat god helpe wole. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 669 Ich wolle telle þat cas. 1390 *Gower Conf.* I. 7 The werre wol no pes purchase. a 1436 *Domesday Ipswich* v. in *Black Bk. Admir.* (Rolls) II. 31 3if that he wooll done his lawe. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 29 Wole y or wole y not. 1505 in *Mem. Hen. VII* (Rolls) 261 And so wolle the kyng my lorde do. 1557 LDS. WHARTON & EURE in *Lodge Illustr. Brit. Hist.* (1791) I. 267 We know y^o Lordship's noble wysdome woll consider thes. 1652 *Hermetical Banquet* 82 Then drinck I wooll. 1718 J. FOX *Wanderer* 118 Writ me down, ... what wole please you. 1788 VALLANCEY *Voc. Bargie in Trans. R. Irish Acad.* II. 34 Woul, to wish. a 1801 BLOOMFIELD *Richard & Kate* vii. in *Rural Tales* (1806) 3 Ay, Kate, I wole. 1875 'S. BEAUCHAMP' N. *Hamilton* II. 17 'A thinks a ool,' says she.

δ. [c 825 *Vesp. Ps.* v. 5 [4] Forðon ne wellende god unrehtwisnisse ðu earð.] c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. x. 39 Seðe welle losige sawel his. a 1275 *Prov. Alfred* 140 in O.E. *Misc.* 111 God may giuen wanne he wele goed after yuil. *Ibid.* 631. 136 þanne welle he sawin sone one his worde. 13... *Cursor M.* 11524 (Gött.) Ful wele he wele þaim quite þar mede. *Ibid.* 18462 And 3e sal be, 3u well iesu, All dumb of speche. 1474 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 397 If he well diott be war by iij warnynges. 1790 MRS. WHEELER *Westmld. Dial.* ii. 50, Th reek el blaw ea yer feace.

3. 2nd pers. sing. *a.* 1- *wilt*; also 1, 4, 6 *wylt*, 3 *Orm.* *willt*, 5 *wilte*, 6 *wylte*. β. 2-6 *wult*, 3 *wlt*. γ. 3, 5, 7 *wolt*, 5-6 -e. δ. 7 *woo't*, *w'oot*, *wot*, *wut*, 7, (9 *dial.*) *woot*.

a. c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xxvi. 39 Nallas sua ic wille ah sua ðu wilt. c 1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Matt. xx. 21 þa cwæð he hwæt wylt-tu? c 1200 ORMIN 2039, & 3iff þatt tu wilt tæleñn me. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 3730 3yf þou yn yre a man hate, And þat wrappe wylt nat late. c 1450 *Merlin* ii. 34 Yeve us counseile how thou wilt we shall see. 1531 ELYOT *Gov.* i. xiii. If thou wylte eshewe bytter aduenture. 1563 WHITEHORNE *Onosandro Platon.* 123 If thou wilt that speadelye some woork be... doone. 1849 M. ARNOLD *Sick King in Bokhara* 131 Wilt thou they straightway bring him in?

β. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 25 þu wult bi-haten god almihtin ... þet þu wult forleten pine misdeed. c 1205 LAY. 694 3if þu wilt [c 1275 wolt] þu miht wel. c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* II. liii. (1869) 96 If thou wilt, ... thou shalt make him chek and maat. 1557 PHAER *Eneid.* vi. (1558) Sj, Wult see the Tarquin kings?

γ. c 1205 LAY. 1577 Goffar mid pire ferde, wi wolt þu fleam makian? 1390 *GOWER Conf.* I. 118 If thou wolt live In vertu, thou most vice eschue. c 1400 LOVE *Bonaventura's Mirr.* x. (Gibbs MS.), 3yfe þow wolt se ensaumple hier of Jhu. c 1430 *Hymns Virgin* (1867) 17 Bring, if þou wolt, þo soulis to bliis. 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* II. iii. Mij, Wolte thou not take vs in to the number of thy clientes? 1602 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* I. C2, Wolt doe me a favour?

δ. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* v. i. 297 Woo't weepe? Woo't fight? Woo't teare thy selfe? 1602 MIDDLETON *Blurt* II. ii. C4b, Wut open doore? 1607 — *Fam. Love* I. ii, Wot thou forsake me then? 1620 I. C. *Two Merry Milk-maids* IV. i. L 1 b, Wut thou be iust to me? 1639 SHIRLEY *Ball* IV. i, Thou wot stop a breach in a mudde wall.

b. 4 *wille*, *wile*, *wel*, 4-5 *will*, *wolle*, 4, 6 *wil*, *woll*, 5 *wole*, 6 *wyll*.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 5632 Wil þou i ga... To fot a womman o pat lede? *Ibid.* 20657 It sal be als tu it wille. 1393 LANGL. P. Pl. C. ix. 153 Wolle þow, ne wolle þow, we wolleþ habbe oure wil. c 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (prose) 2 Yef þu wil haue þat iour. 1513 DOUGLAS *Eneis* v. iv. 15 Quhare, dismale, wil thou now? þan Gyas cry. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 6b, Wyl thou or nyl thou, thou mayst lesse thy goodes. 1534 WHITINTON *Tullyes Office* I. A 2, Thou shalt lerne as longe as thou wolle.

4. *Plural.* *a.* 1 *willap*, *wyllap*, 3-4 *willeþ*, 4 *wylleþ*, 5 -yth; 1 (*Subj.*) *willen*, -on, -an, 3 *wilen*, 4 *willen*, 4-5 *wylen*, -yn, *wiln*, 5 *wyllen*, *willyn*; 5 *wyn*; (1), 2-6 *wille*, 3-4 *wile*, 4-5 *wil*, 4-6 *wyll*, 5 *wylle*, *Sc.* *vyll*, 4- *will*. β. 2 *wuleþ*, 2-4 *wulleþ*, (3 -et, *willeð*, -et); 5 *wulle*, 5-6 *wul*. γ. 3-4 *wolleþ*, 5 *woleth*; 4-5 *wol(l)en*; 4-5 *wol(l)e*, 4-6 *wol(l)*. δ. 1 *North.* *welle*, 4 *welen*, -yn; 4 *wel*, 4-5 *wele*, *well(e)*. ε. 1 *North.* *wallað*, -as, 5 *wal*.

a. c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* xxxiv. [xxxv.] 27 ðefiað & blissiað ða willað rehtwisnisse mine. c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* xxxii. (Z.) 199 Uolumus, we willað. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 13 þenne wille 3e hit bircusian. c 1250 *Kent. Sermon* in O.E. *Misc.* 33 Yef we uilleth don his seruise. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 191 Leunes and beres him wile to-drazen. *Ibid.* 2304 If 3e wilen 3u wið treweide leden. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 14951 þai wil me neuer luue. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 16 Fyrst we wyl yn [v.r. welyn] of hem be shreunyn. 1340 *Ayenb.* 16 Huanne hi wylleþ by aboue opren. 13... *Cursor M.* 4118 (Gött.) Nou þai wil him noght spar. c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 249 Ydel schaueldouris willen luke to be festid of sicche curatis. 1382 — *Isa.* xiii. 17 That siluer sechen not, ne gold will. c 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (prose) 11 Yef ye wile come to þe ioy of heuin. 1411 E.E. *Wills* (1882) 21 Os 3e wille answeare a-fore god. c 1420 *Anturs of Arth.* xx, Sethyn charité is chefe to those that wyn be chast. c 1425 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 42, I

beseche 3ow þat 3e willyn speke to John Martyn. 14.. in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 331 They wylle to do that ye wylle to do. 1466 in *Bull. Inst. Hist. Research* I. 72 note, Rather then we wyl suffre hytt ther shall xx persons dye in j day. 1491 *Acta Dom. Conc.* (1839) 177/2 Sic richtis as þai vyll vse in þe said mater. ?1545 BRINKLOW *Compl.* xxiv. (1874) 70 It is euydent thei wil no wyues. 1562 WINJET *Cert. Tractatis* i. Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 7 Quhat wylly ye geve me?

β. c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 7 Nu we wulleð seggen mare wet þis godspel itacnet. *Ibid.* 41 3ef 3e lusten wuleð. c1205 LAY. 3056 Men þe willet luuien. a1225 *Ancr. R.* 168 We wulleð foluwen þe; we wulleð don al so. c1400 *Destr. Troy* 11419 We wull treate of a trow. 1482 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 66 They wulle haue be to me as enemys. 1490 wul [see B. 6]. 1581 A. HALL *Iliad* 1. 3 Although conceale they wul A crosse receiue of simple wight.

γ. c1205 LAY. 479 þat heo moten wonien wer swa heo wolleð. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 3261 Hii wolleþ yswyke by daye. 1340-70 *Alex. & Dind.* 1026 þanne we wollen of þe watur wilfully drinke. 1362 LAGL. P. Pl. A. vi. 44 3if 3e wolleþ I-wite wher þat he dwelleþ. c1386 CHAUCER *Sompn. T.* 129 What wol ye dene? a1400 *Pistill of Susan* 123 We wol wassche us. c1400 LOVE *Bonauent. Mirr.* xiii. (Gibbs MS.) lf. 30 3yfe we wolet hie take good entent. c1440 *Generydes* 4403 They wolle shende oure purpose euery dele. c1449 PECOCC *Repr.* 11. vi. 171 Perauenture summen wolen in other wise seie. a1450 MYRC 150 A-nother tyme gyf hem folghthe As the fader & þe moder wolþe. 1534 in *Lett. Suppr. Monast.* (Camden) 46 We wol not be so bolde. 1534 in *Leadam Sell. Cases Crt. Requests* (Selden Soc.) 43 We... desire you that... ye wolle groundly examyne the said witnesses.

δ. c950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. vii. 12 Quaecunque uultis, sua huæt gie welle. a1300 *Cursor M.* 16327, I wat and seis þai wel nocht fine. 13.. welyn [see a1303]. c1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 23 þes coueitous symonysen welen be þe firste to lette hem. 14.. *Gosp. Nicod.* (S.) 100 We welle lay our lyfe to wedde. c1450 wele [see B. 48].

ε. c950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xx. 32 Quid uultis, huæt wallað gie? 1436 in *Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm., Var. Coll.* (1907) IV. 199 Praynge yow... that ye wal tenderly consider... the thynges afore rehersed. 1452 *Ibid.* 201 Suche men as wal haue ther service accordyng to the statutes thereof made.

5. Reduced forms: a. 1st sing. pres. combined with pron. *ich*, 1: 3 icholle, (ich chulle), ychulle, 3-4 ichulle, 5 y chull, 6 chil, chyll, 6-7 chill, 7 'chill, 8 chell.

a1225 *Ancr. R.* 126 Forþif, & ichulle forþiue þe. a1240 *Lofsong* in *O.E. Hom. I.* 213 Forto þe one ich chulle trusten. 13.. K. Horn 3 (Harl.) A song ychulle ou singe. c1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 908 Sone, he sayde, y chulle 3ow telle. [For other evidence see CH, 'CH, I pron. β², β³.]

b. Contracted 'll (since the 17th cent.), esp. after prons.: I'll (ail), 6-7 Ile, 7 I'le, 8 I'il; he'll (hi:l), 8 hee'l; she'll (ʃi:l), 6-7 shee'le, 7 shele; it'll ('t(ə)l); we'll (wi:l), 6-7 wee'le, (6 wyl), 7 wee'll(e, wee'll; you'll (ju:l), 6-7 you'le, 7 you'le; ye'll (ji:l), 8 yeil; they'll (ðei:l), 7 theile, 7-8 they'l; who'll (hu:l), 7 whole.

?15.. *King Estmere* xii. in *Child Ballads* II. 52, I doubt sheele do you the same. 1578 WHETSTONE *Promos & Cass.* 11. iii. ii. And for this faulte, wyll passe it ore in iaste. c1590 *Sir T. More* II. iv. 166 Yf youle stand our freind. 1591 LYLly *Endym.* i. iii. Next time weele haue some prettie Gentlewomen with vs to walke. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* II. vi. 29 And Valentine Ile hold an Enemie. 1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* iv. ii. They'l wriggle in and in. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* III. vii. 60 Wee'l to our Ship. 1607 DEKKER & WEBSTER *Westw. Hoe* v. i. Theile scrape themselves into your company. 1608 SHAKS. *Lea* v. i. 34 (Qo. 1) Sister you'l [Qo. 2 youle; *Folio* you'le] goe with vs? 1610 HEYWOOD *Gold. Age* i. i. I'le not kill my part. 1623 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* II. ii. 6 Wee'll make exchange. 1676 HOBBS *Iliad* To Rdr. (1686) A 3b, How is it possible (you'll say) to please them all? *Ibid.*, I'll name as many as shall come into my mind. 1730 RAMSAY *Wyfe of Auchtermuchty* iii, Yell ken what drinkers drier. 17.. *Johnie Armstrang* in *Ever-Green* (1761) II. 192 I'll gie thee all these Milk whyt Steids. 1785 BURNS *Holy Fair* v, Gin ye'll go there, yon runk'l'd pair. 1833 TENNYSON *May Queen* II. xii, She'll find my garden-tools upon the granary floor. 1842 BROWNING *Caval. Tunes*, Give a Rouse i, Who'll do him right now? 1859 H. KINGSLEY G. *Hamlyn* xiv, It'll be known all over the country. 1859 RUSKIN *Two Paths* i. §21 To see if they'll bear shaking. 1904 WEYMAN *Abb. Vlasy* ix, You'll laugh on the other side of your faces. *Mod. (collog.)* There, that'll do! That dog'll bite you. These chimneys'll fall down soon.

c. 2nd sing. pres. ind.: thou'lt, (†thou't).

1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* iv. i. 117 Come, come, thou'lt do thy message, wilt thou not? 1607 — *Timon* i. i. 195 That's a deed thou't dye for. a1849 BEDDOES *Wolfram's Dirge*, And there alone... thou'lt meet her.

6. a. With prons. affixed: 1st pers. sing. 1 North. willic, 3-4 willy, 4 wyly, wol(ly), 5 whilli; 2nd pers. sing. 1, 8 Sc. wiltu, 3 wultu, 3-5 woltou, 4 weltu, wilte, 4-5 wil(l)tou, -ow, 5 woltowe, wyltowe, whylte.

c950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xv. 32 Misereor turbae, willic milsa ðreatas. c975 *Rushw. Gosp.* Matt. xiii. 28 Wiltu we gen & gesomnige hiæ? a1225 *Leg. Kath.* 2064 Hwerto wultu wreastlin wið þe worldes wealdent? 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6375 Hou woltou it selde me. a1300 *Harrow. Hell* (O.) 75 Wip reison willy tellen þe. c1300 *Havelok* 528 Wiltu don mi wille al [etc.]. c1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 4595 3if wilylly make assay. a1352 MINOT *Poems* (ed. Hall) ii. 21 Wither wiltou fare? c1400 LOVE *Bonauent. Mirr.* xii. (Gibbs MS.) lf. 30 Sone wyltowe not gone home a3ayne wyt vs. *Ibid.* xxiv. 65 Howe longe woltowe make vs in suspens? 14.. *Northern Passion* II. 174/401 For þe panne whilli take þat dep. c1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* i. 28 Lorde god... whylte defende me this daye from shamefull dote. 1721 RAMSAY *Elegy on Patie Birnie* 23 O wiltu, wiltu do'te again! a1776 in *Herd Scot. Songs* II. 98 O sleepey body, And drowsy body, O wiltuna waken and turn thee?

b. With negative *not* (*na*) affixed: a. 5 wynnot, 6-9 wonnot, 7 woonnot, 7-8 wo'not, 7-9 wonot, (9 winnot, wunnet); 7- won't (7-8 wont); 8 we'n't, 9

willn't, willot. (*Won't* alone survives in gen. colloq. use; the rest are obs. or dial.) β. Sc. and north. dial. 8- winna (9 wunna).

c1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 45 3if þai ben harde and wynnot alye. 1584 R. WILSON *Three Ladies Lond.* D, Sirra Ile tell thee, I wonnot tell thee, and yet Ile tell thee, nowe I member me too. 1631 SHIRLEY *Sch. Compl.* iv. i. 56, I... can worke, and woonnot. 1633 ROWLEY *Match at Midn.* iv. i. H 3b, You wonnot pull off your booties too will you? 1666 *Char. Province of Mary-Land* (1869) 44 In relieving at a distance the proud poverty of those that wont be seen they want. 1667 PEPYS *Diary* 10 June, People that have been used to be deceived by us as to money, won't believe us. 1670 DRYDEN *1st Pt. Cong. Granada* iv. ii. (1672) 49 But what I cannot grant, I will not hear. *Almanz.* You wonnot hear! 1686 tr. *Agatis or Civ. Wars Lacedemonians* 101 Wo' not you pardon me? 1708 *Caldwell Papers* (Maitland Club) I. 213 Nansay has a good steady heart that wont soon break. 1721 RAMSAY *Richy & Sandy* 5 Na, na, It winna do! 1754 SHEBBEARE *Matrimony* (1766) II. 53 That we'n't bring thee a great Income. 1802 R. ANDERSON *Cumbld. Ball.* 32, I fear His word he wunnet keep! 1820 SCOTT *Abbot* xvii, To leave the place while the lad is in jeopardy, that I wonot. 1824 CARR *Craven Gloss.*, Willot, Winnot. 1824 SCOTT *Redgauntlet* let. x, He wunna budge. 1849 C. BRONTE *Shirley* xviii, That willn't wash, Miss. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 240 They don't, and I fancy won't.

c. Written continuously with the inf. *be*.

c1440 *Generydes* 6516 And so to leve in rest and it wilbe. 1475 Bk. *Noblesse* (Roxb.) 30 A noble... cheveteyn, whiche wolbe a leder of a fellowship in werre. 1573 in *Cath. Tractates* (S.T.S.) 18 It willbie verray hard to me.

7. Imper. 1 pl. willaþ, North. wællað, -as, wallað, 4 wile, 5 wylleth, wyl.

c950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark xvi. 6 Nolite expauescere, ne wællas gefrohtiga. 1382, c1400 [see B. 12 b].

8. Past Tense. 1st and 3rd sing. (and pl.) a. 1-6 wolde, 4-7 wold (1, 3 wuolde, 3 weolde, (Orm.) wolde; 4 wolld, woled, 5 volde, wholde, 6 woold(e, wolt, 7 vold); 3-5 wulde, 5 wuld, wude, 7 wud, wu'd; (5 howl(l)de, howllyd; 6- would (6 woulde, owld); 5 howde, 6 wood, 7 woo'd, wo'd, pl. (dial.) wouden, 7-8 wou'd; 5- (now dial.) wod.

c888 (MS. c960) ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xvi. §2 Hu wunderlic wolde eow ðæt pincan; hwelce cehettunge ge woldan þæs habban, & mid hwelce hleahtre ge woldon ben astered. c1200 ORMIN 150 For þatt he wolde himm frofrenn. c1205 LAY. 4052 þat heo wuolden al þis lond dælen heom bitwenen. *Ibid.* 8453 An of þon he woelden him don. 13.. *Cursor M.* 13701 (Gött.) þair lau wold men suld hir stane. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 247 Be so that thei him helpe wolde. 1399 LAGL. *Rich. Redele* iv. 87 Somme dede rith so, and woldd go no florpier. 1473 WARKW. *Chron.* (Camden) 11 Alle tho that wolde holde with hym. 1480 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 34 The woll... whos not so good as I wolde hyt had bene. ?15.. *Love Songe* in *Ritson Anc. Songs* (1792) 115 Chryst wold the fuger of hur swete face Were pcyctored wher euer I be. 1530 CROMWELL in *Merriman Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 330, I woulde haue sene your grace long er this. 1551 in *Feuillerat Revels Edw. VI.* (1914) 59 We wolde you sholde send vs convenient apparell. 1557 *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 175 Whom if the perfect vertues wolden daine To be set forth with foile of worldly grace. 1693 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* I. 390 And yt he wold promote it as much as he can.

c1205 LAY. 7964 þat Cesar wolde þe jet wunnen þar. c1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1071 Oc he ne wulden his doytres no3t. c1440 *Generydes* 374 Of his labour wold he neuer sese. 1620 I. C. *Two Merry Milk-maids* II. ii. F 2 b, Wud I were i' the Countrey againe. 1650 HEATH *Clarastella* 19 What mortal wu'd Believe?

c1469 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 104, I woll hertely pray 3ow... that 3e wud do make astate wnto me. 1480 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 55 (MS.), I howlde a wyse yow brynge houer aulle yowr trottyng hors. 1481 *Ibid.* 76, I howllyd fayn heyr some good tydyngys of yowr matter. 1487 *Ibid.* 158, I howlde awyseye my syster & yow to com agayne into Essex. a1500 *Flower & Leaf* 216 As it would seme. a1533 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1559) Hh viii, What is that realme that sleeth them that wold their wealth, and are angry with them that woulde helpe their yll. 1587 in *Ellis Orig. Lett.* Ser. i. III. 23 Yf I had bid ought I owld have bid by yt. c1620 GOFFE *Careless Shepherdess* III. i, You had better have been hand' at first, as I wo'd had you. 1658 J. JONES *Ovid's Ibis* 86 Or like Admetus father-law that would, Return to youthful years when he was old. 1665 FLECKNOE *Erminia* III. iii. 49, I wod not force what I might obtain by gentleness. *Er.* You wod not? you cannot Sir. 1688 SHADWELL *Sgr. Alsatia* i. 4 Yeow wouden ha leen a Bed aw' th' morn. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* XI. 189 Wou'd I your Justice or your Force express. 1711 SHAFESB. *Charac.* II. 227 Wou'd you then appeal...? Most certainly I shou'd appeal, said I. 1787 INCHBALD *Such things* are i. i, Why, you wou'd not inform against me sure! 1790 MRS. WHEELER *Westmld. Dial.* 5, I wod fain hev hed him tae hed a Docter. 1828 CARR *Craven Gloss.*, Wod, Wold, woud.

β. Chiefly north. and Sc. 1-6 walde (1, 3 wæld, ualde), 3-8 wald, 4 walld, 4, 6 vald, 5 walld, wauld); 8- wad (6 waude, wawd).

c825 *Vesp. Ps.* xxxix. 9 Volui, ic walde. c897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past.* C. lviii. 443 He walde... ðæt hy wæren gedrefde. c950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John vii. 44 Sumo... of ðæm ualdon gegrioppa hine. c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 7 Walden heo naldden heo. c1205 LAY. 1416 Wpher heo walden hælðen grið. a1352 MINOT *Poems* (ed. Hall) iv. 56 þat king Edward in feld wald dwell. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* v. 126 To se quha frend or fa vald be. c1440 *York Myst.* xv. 70 What it was fayne witte walde I. c1470 HENRY *Wallace* XI. 1400 Quhill that till him had done all at thai wauld. 1487 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 69 The pope hollynes... walld a sente me home agayn. 1581 J. HAMILTON in *Cath. Tract.* (S.T.S.) 76 All thame, quha vald not be reformed. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 2 Gif quha walde knawe the name of Britannie monie referis it vnto Brutus. c1620 A. HUME *Brit. Tongue* (1865) 10 Heer I wald commend to our men quhae confoundes these the imitation of the south. 1674 G. FOX in *Jrnl. Friends' Hist. Soc.* (1914) July 100 Be cas I wald not be a capting against the king. 1724 RAMSAY

Vision ix, The hardy wald, with hairy wills, Upon dyre vengeance fall. 1825 JAMIESON, *Wald*... i. Would... 2. Should, or ought to be.

1564-78 BULLEIN *Dial. agst. Pest.* (E.E.T.S.) 5 God... sende you comfort of all thynges that you waude haue gud of. 1581 N. WOODES *Confl. Consc.* III. iv. in *Five Old Plays* (Roxb.) 32 It wawd theam all deceue. 1720 RAMSAY *Edinb. Salut. to Ld. Carnarvon* ii, My auld grey-head I yet wad rear. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* xxxviii, I wad kill him a chicken in an instant. 1825 BROCKETT *N.C. Words* s.v. *Wad*, He wad, at wad he.

γ. 4-5 wyld, 4-5, 7 wild (4 weld, wijld, 4, 6 wylde, wilde, 5 whelde), 6 willed.

Orig. northern, from ON. *vilda*; late examples may belong to WILL v.⁴

a1300 *Cursor M.* 8446 His fader biding wel he heild, And did al þat his moder weld. *Ibid.* 21773 Sco delt it wileli als sco wild. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 6933 And he myst helpe, 3yf he wyld. 1476 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) II. 14 My cosyn... askyde me whenne ye wyld cum hyddyr. 1481 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 74 Sche [sc. a bitch] whelde newyr hett mette and so sche ys Deyd. 1546 BALE *Engl. Votaries* i. 31 b, Least wanton youthe wolde brynge them together wyld they nyld the. 1583 tr. *Maison Neuve's Geriloon* i. 52 b, Willed or nilled his Maister. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* 1. 270 Constantine... they forced wild he, nild he, to usurpe the empire.

9. 2nd pers. sing. a. 1-5 woldest, (1 waldes, 1, 3 ualdes, 3 wældest, waldest, wuldes), 3-4 wost, 4 wldest, 4-5 woldist (4 -ez, 5 -es, -ust, -yst, 6 -ys), 6- wouldest, woldst (6 woldst, 7 wudst, 9 would'st).

c825 *Vesp. Psalter* xl. 12 Voluisti, ðu waldes. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 85 þu woldest symle þone besmitan þe þu nan wihth yfes on nystest. c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 93 Hwi woldest þu swikian on þine a3ene þinge. c1205 LAY. 7376 þu waldest besmin min hærrn. *Ibid.* 18815 þat þu wældest. c1220 *Bestiary* 501 Ðat tu wuldes seien jet 3ef [etc.]. c1275 LAY. 16035 3ef þou were so wis man... þanne þou wost axi of pine mochele care. 1303 wldest [see WIN v. 1 9 b]. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 2128 þat lilly me layne, I leue wel þou woldest! c1320 *Sir Tristr.* 2076 þat þou wost hir se Wip sijt. 1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* xxiii. 37 And thou woldist nat. 1426 AUDELEY *Poems* 11 And do as thou woldist me dud by the. c1449 PECOCC *Repr.* i. xx. 123 Loke how thou woldist in this case answe to me. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 13 What woldest thou that I shold do. 1518 *Sel. Pleas Star Chamber* (Selden) II. 134 Thow woldys nott deluyer one of my bullockes. 1550 CROWLEY *Last Trumpet* 308 Lest, when thou woldist, it be to late. 1620 I. C. *Two Merry Milk-maids* III. i. I, I, What wudst thou doe? 1810 CRABBE *Borough* ii. 53 And would'st thou, artist, with thy tints and brush, Form shades like these? 1839 LANE *Arab. Nts.* I. 97 Thou wouldest nothing but my destruction.

β. (orig. *Subj.*). 1, 5 walde, 3 wld, 4 wild, 4-6 wald, 5 wold, 7 vold, wold.

c825 *Vesp. Psalter* i. 18 Si uoluisses, 3if ðu walde. a1275 *Prov. Alfred* 681 in *O.E. Misc.* 138 3if [MS. þif] þu wld don after mi red. a1300 *Cursor M.* 6233 Jif wald þou ledd vs o þat land? *Ibid.* 9641 þat sua þou wald his sorus slak. 13.. *Ibid.* 901 (Gött.) þou þu wuld euer haue hat stede, In cald sal euer be þi bede. a1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 690 þat I couet to ken, if þou me kythe wald. c1400 *Anturs Arth.* lii, The wurschip of Wales to weld, and thou wold. 1562 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) i. 37 Wald thow be servit, and thy cuntre sure. 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* III. i. 209 What would thou kneele with me? 1602 COLVILLE *Paranese* 163 Vold thou then knou the incertenty of thy speculatyue knouleg. 1670 J. STUBBS in *Jrnl. Friends' Hist. Soc.* (1914) Oct. 154 If thou would Order me soe to doe.

10. Reduced forms: a. with pron. *ich* (cf. 5 a): 4-5 ycholde. b. Contracted 'ld (formerly -ld), 'd ('ud), as I'd (†I'ld), he'd (†held, he'ld), we'd, you'd, they'd, who'd. c. 2nd pers. 7 thoud'st, 8 thou'dst.

a1327 [see I pron. A. β²]. c1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 1223 Wt as gode wylle, y chold he hym seruy. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* IV. iii. 3 Ther's some great matter she'd employ me in. 1607 — *Timon* i. i. 208 Ape... I eate not Lords. *Tim.* And thou should'st, thoud'st anger Ladies. 1610 — *Temp.* i. ii. 188 Sometime I'ld diuide and burne in many places. 1676 HOBBS *Iliad* II. 261 To Sea they'd go. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 326 ¶5 My Request to you is, that... you'd speedily afford us your Assistance. 1737 *Gentl. Mag.* VII. 50 He swore fra thence he'd ne'er remove. 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Box, Mistaken Milliner*, They all agreed that it 'ud serve 'em quite right'. 1862 CALVERLEY *Verses & Transl., Voices of the Night* v, Albert... Whom almost any lady'd Have given her eyes to get. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Aug. 457/2 Anybody 'd say you were a Bull of Bashan.

11. a. With pron. affixed: 1st pers. sing. 5 woldy; 2nd pers. sing. 3 wostou, 3-5 woldestou, 4 -ustow, -estow, 9 dial. wodto.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1339 Wat wostou more of him bote þat he truage þe bere? c1300 *Beket* 35 Woldestou... Tholie deth for thi Louerdes love? 1362 LAGL. P. Pl. A. III. 50 Woldustow Glase þe Gable and graue perinne þi nome. a1425 *Cursor M.* 17622 (Trin.) Woldestou þe seme To com wiþ vs to speke & mesele. 14.. *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 253 Ne woldy 3eue a peise iwis.

b. With negative affixed: 9 wouldn't (north. wad-n't, waddent); Sc., etc. 8 wadna, 9 wudna, wunna, wanna, oodna.

1785 BURNS *Halloween* viii, Wha 'twas, she wadna tell. 1828 CARR *Craven Gloss.*, Wad-n't, would not. 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Box, Gt. Winglebury Duel*, You wouldn't have me... run away with an old one, I presume? 1863 *Tyneside Songs* 92 An he waddent let yen doon below tyest a bit. 1871 W. ALEXANDER *Johnny Gibb* iii, I wudna advise you to dee that. 1879 MISS JACKSON *Shropsh. Word Bk.* s.v. *Sick*, I oodna let 'im.

12. Pres. pple.: see WILLING ppl. a.

13. Pa. pple. 4-6 wold(e, 5 i-wollyd, 6-7 would. In form *i-wollyd*, formed as a regular pa. pple. from the form *woll* of the pres.

c1380-1633 [see B. 49].

B. Signification and uses.

1. The present tense will.

* Transitive uses, with simple obj. or obj. clause; occas. intr.

†1. *trans.* with simple obj.: Desire, wish for, have a mind to, 'want' (something); sometimes implying also 'intend, purpose'. *Obs.*

c825 *Vesp. Ps.* lxviii. 31 [30] Tostenc ðiode ða gefeht willað. c1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke v. 39 Ne drincð nan man cald win, & wyllle sona þæt niwe. c1205 *LAY.* 3570 Wenne þu wult more suluer, sæche hit at me suluen. a1225 *Ancr. R.* 398 Wultu kastles and kinedomes? a1300 *Cursor M.* 20657 [see A. 3b]. 1382 [see A. 4a]. 1423 *JAS.* I Kingis Q. cvi, This will my son Cupide, and so will I. a1450 *MYRC Par. Pr.* 962 þou dost syngen ylle, by neghbores wyf for to wyllle. 1470-85 *MALORY Arthur* III. iii. 102 Wylt thou ony thyng with hym? 1483 *CAXTON G. de la Tour* viii. a vij, Ye ar moche beholden to serue god, whan he wyllle youre saluacion. 1545 *TAVERNER Erasmus. Prov.* 48 Whan that thyng can not be done that thou woldest, woll that thou cannest. 1560 *Bible* (Geneva) Judges i. 14 And Caleb said vnto her, What wilt thou? 1577 *GRANGE Golden Aphrod.* liijb, Who wil the curnell of the nut most breake the shell. 1601 *SHAKS. (title)* Twelfe Night, Or what you will. 1654 *WHITLOCK Zootomia* 44 Will what befallenth, and befall what will. 1734 *tr. Rollin's Anc. Hist.* V. 31 He that can do what ever he will is in great danger of willing what he ought not.

b. *intr.* with *well* or *ill*, or *trans.* with sbs. of similar meaning (e.g. *good, health*), usually with dat. of person: Wish (or intend) *well* or *ill* (to some one), feel or cherish good-will or ill-will. *Obs.* (cf. *WILL* v.² 1 b). See also *WELL-WILLING* a.

c1000 *ÆLFREDIC Saints' Lives* xvi. 254 þæt is seo soðe lufv, þæt man his scyppend lufige. . . and ða menn þe wel willað. c1000, etc. [see *WELL-WILLING* a.]. 1414 *BRAMPTON Penit. Ps.* (Percy Soc.) 46 Myn ennyes that wole me ille. c1450 *Gostow Reg.* 88 Gregory, . . . willyng helth and his blissing to his welbeloued children. 1450-1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* III. 313 In that he ys father, he must nedes wyllle all good to hys chyldren. 1513 *DOUGLAS Æneis* Direction 99, I will weill otheris can say mair curysly. Bot I haue said eftir my fantasy. a1592 *GREENE Jas. IV.* iv. ii. Frolic huntsmen of the game Will you well and give you greeting.

c. *trans.* with negative (*will* no . . . , *will none* of, etc.) = have no desire for, do not wish for, 'don't want': often implying 'refuse, decline'.

c1325 *Metr. Hom.* 148 Yef he wil noht of glotounye. c1374 *CHAUCER Anel. & Arc.* 244, I wolke noon oþer medecyne ne lore. 1393 *LANGL. P. Pl. C.* II. 8 þei willen no betere. c1400 *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 207, I wil not þe dede of sinful man, Bot þat he turn hym & lif þan. 1542 *UDALL Erasmus. Apoph.* 128 The oxe eateth heche, the lyon wolle none of it. 1597 *SHAKS. 2 Hen. IV.* II. iv. 81 Ile no Swaggerers: . . . shut the doore, there comes no Swaggerers heere. 1606 — *Tr. & Cr. v. v.* 47 Hector, wber's Hector? I will none but Hector.

d. *to will well that*: to be willing that (cf. 17 d). 1483 *CAXTON Gold. Leg.* 166/1, I wyl wel that thou say, and yf thou say ony good, thou shalt be pesyibly herde.

†2. *trans.* with obj. clause (with vb. in pres. subj., or in periphrastic form with *should*), or acc. and inf.: Desire, wish; sometimes implying also 'intend, purpose' (that something be done or happen). *Obs.* or *arch.*

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 61 Deme ge nu swa swa ge willon þæt eow sy eft gedemed. c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 13 Uwilc mon scal beoden oðre alswa he wile þæt me him beode. a1225 *Ancr. R.* 72 Ichulle þæt 3e spoken selde. a1300 [see A. 3b]. c1350 *Will. Palerne* 281 þæt y am þæt ilk weizh i wol wel þou wite. c1386 *CHAUCER Pars. T.* ¶ I Owre swete lord . . . þat no man wil perisse, but wil þæt we comen all to the knowlecch of hym. 1470-85 *MALORY Arthur* VII. xxi. 246, I wil syster that ye wete he is a ful noble knygt. 1548 *HUTTEN Sum of Diuinitie* K viij, God wyllle all men to be saued. 1561 *Hoby tr. Castiglione's Courtier* I. (1577) Evij, Will you (quoth he) custome shoulde be more appressed in the vulgar tong, than in the Latin? 1646 *SIR T. BROWNE Pseud. Ep.* I. viii. 34 This haue we made a briefe enumeration of these learned men, not willing any to decline their Workes, . . . but to apply themselves with caution thereunto. a1761 *LAW Conf. Weary Pilgr.* (1809) 54 This is not willing Christ to be thy Saviour. 1849 [see A. 3a. a].

†3. Denoting expression (usually authoritative) of a wish or intention: Determine, decree, ordain, enjoin, give order (*that* something be done). *Obs.*

a1325 *MS. Rawl. B.* 520 lf. 32 b, Ant te King wole þæt in his oune demeine wodes. . . te weies ben i largist. a1431 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 47, Y. . . wole and hertely prey you. . . that ye seale the deedes. c1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 145, I will na vittale be sauld your seneyeor vntill. 1528 *CROMWELL* in *Merriman Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 320 His grace then wille that thellection of a new Dean shalbe emonges them of the colledge. 1560 in *Feuillerat Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 112 We woll and commaunde that Imediatly vpon the sight hereof ye delyuer. . . vnto Sir Thomas Bengier [etc.]. 1682 [see v. 23].

b. *spec.* in a direction or instruction in one's will or testament; hence, to direct by will (*that* something be done). Cf. *WILL* v.² 3 a.

871-89 *Charter* in *O.E. Texts* 452 Ic ælfred willio & wille þæt hio sion soðfette forweard getrymed me & minum erfeweardum. 1430-31 [see 23]. 1504 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 99, I wyl that Rose Plandon shall haue x marc. 1557 in *Lanc. Wills* (Chetham Soc. 1884) 58 My bodye I wyl be buried in the Parysshe Church of Manchester. 1820 *Gifford's Compl. Engl. Lawyer* 672, I. do hereby will and direct that my executrix. . . do excuse and release the said sum of 100l. to him.

†c. *fig.* of an abstract thing (e.g. reason, law): Demands, requires. *Obs.* (See also 17 e.)

a1300 *Cursor M.* 11663 'Ioseph,' sco said, 'fain wald i rest.' . . 'Gladli,' said he, 'þæt wil resun.' 1377 *LANGL. P. Pl.* B. xix. 392 That is my conselle, . . . þæt vche man forþyue

other, and þæt wyl þe paternoster. 1556 *Aurelio & Isab.* N. 4, The perputall feithe geuen amonge hus will [orig. *veult*] that whan I shall be in my liberte that I followe thy. 1597 *SHAKS. 2 Hen. IV.* iv. i. 157 Our Battaile is more full of Names then yours. . . Then Reason will, our hearts should be as good.

†4. *transf.* (from 2). Intends to express, means; affirms, maintains. (Cf. 10 c.) *Obs.*

1534 *TINDALE James Prol.* When he sayth that a man is iustified by dedes & not of fayth onely, he will no more then that fayth dothe not so iustifie euery where, that nothinge iustifieth saue fayth. 1602 *DOLMAN La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* (1618) III. 662 Ilee will that this authority should be for a principle of demonstration.

** With dependent infinitive (normally without *to*).

5. Desire to, wish to, have a mind to (do something); often also implying intention (cf. 7, 11, 13). *Obs.* or *arch.*, or merged in other senses.

Beowulf 2864 Se ðe wyle soð specan. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 233 ðif þu þonne wille mildheortnesse us don, sæge us þæt hræddice. a1000 *Guthlac* 5 ðif we halig bebodu healdan willað. c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 37 ðif þu wult habben bone to drihten, þu most beon on ward pine sunnen. a1225 *Ancr. R.* 398 Wultu welden al þene world? 1377 *LANGL. P. Pl. B.* v. 40 þe Englich of þis latyn is, who-so wil it knowe, Who-so spareth þe sprynge, spilleth his children. c1380 *WYCLIF Sel. Wks.* II. 56 Wolt þou be hool? seide Crist to him. c1440 *Generydes* 4432 'Yet woll I wete,' quod he, . . 'From whense sbe came, and what she is'. 1527 *St. Papers Hen. VIII.* IV. 471 Meanes thouw to strive with me? woll thouw wyne any thing at my handes? 1562 *WINSET Cert. Tractatis* iii. Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 24 Sen now al men wilbe theologis. 1697 *C'tess D'Aunoy's Trav.* (1706) 149, I will not write to you often, because I will always have a stock of News to tell you, which . . . is pretty long in picking up. a1704 *LOCKE Hum. Und.* I. iv. §8 The great Encomiasts of the Chineses, do all to a man agree and will convince us that the Sect of the *Literati* . . . are . . . Atheists. 1862 *THACKERAY Philip* iii, He. . . examines the dinner-card. . . ; points. . . to the dishes which he will bave served.

6. In relation to another's desire or requirement, or to an obligation of some kind: Am (is, are) disposed or willing to, consent to; †in early use sometimes = deign or condescend to.

With the (rare and obs.) imper. use, as in quot. 1490, cf. b and the corresponding negative use in 12 b.

832 *Charter* in *O.E. Texts* 447 Se man se ðis healdan wille & lestan ðæt ic beboden hebbe. . . se him seald & gehælden sia hiabenlice bledsung. a1000 *Cædmon's Genesis* 559 ðif þu peah minum wilt, wi, willende wordum hyran. c1200 *ORMIN* 5297 & te birp wilenn sweltenn Forr Cristess peowwess. c1205 *LAY.* 13063 ðif þu wult me swærie aðes, ich wulle don of þe þas clafes. 1527 *S. GLOUC. (Rolls)* 701 Ich þe wolc marie wel. . . To þe nobloste bachelor þæt þin herte wile to stonde. 1362 *LANGL. P. Pl. A.* III. 106 ðif he wilne þe to wyf, wolt þou him haue? 1470-85 *MALORY Arthur* IX. xxxix. 402 Fayre lordes said he wille ye preue ony adventure in the forest of Morris. . . ? Syr said sir kay I wille preue hit. 1490 *CAXTON Eneydos* xix. 72 O goddes celestial. . . gyue socours to me, . . and wyl permutte rigoure to equyte. 1508 *KENNEDIE Flying w. Dunbar* 470 Thair is na schip that wil the now ressaue. 1605 *SHAKS. Lear* II. iv. 207 If. . . You will returne and sojourne with my Sister, . . come then to me. 1791 *COWPER Iliad* XIII. 450, I will confess, That thou art more than mortal, if thou yield To ancient Priam all thy promis'd aid. 1800 *WORDSW. Hart-Leap Well* 134 There's neither dog nor heifer, horse nor sheep, Will wet his lips within that cup of stone. 1865 *RUSKIN Sesame* II. 192 Will you never . . . fence them in their shuddering from the fierce wind? 1921 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 10 Feb. 88/3 Literature thrives where people will read what they do not agree with, if it is good.

b. In 2nd person, interrog., or in a dependent clause after *beg* or the like, expressing a request (usually courteous; with emphasis, impatient).

a1300 *Vox & Wolf* 186 in *Hazl. E.P.P.* I. 64 Thou hauest ben ofte min i-fere, Woltou nou mi srist i-here? a1400 *Pistill of Susan* 135 Wolt þou, ladi, for loue, on vre lay lerne? 1470-85 *MALORY Arthur* I. vi. 42 Sir said Ector vnto Arthur woll ye be my good and gracious lord when ye are kyng? 1592 *GREENE Philomela* To Rdr., I. craue that you will beare with this fault. 1599 *SHAKS. Hen. V.* II. i. 47 Will you shogge off? 1605 [see BEG v. 2 d]. 1721 *RAMSAY Yng. Laird & Edin. Katy* 9 O Katy, wiltu gang wi' me, And leave the dinsome Town a while? 1824 *SCOTT St. Ronan's* xxx, I desire you will found nothing on an expression hastily used. 1878 *HARDY Ret. Native* v. iii, O, O, O, . . . O, will you have done!

7. Expressing voluntary action, or conscious intention directed to the doing of what is expressed by the principal verb (without temporal reference as in 11, and without emphasis as in 10): = choose to (CHOOSE v. B. 3 a).

The proper word for this idea, which cannot be so precisely expressed by any other.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 23 Nu eft sceolan [we] oþerne eþel secan, swa wite, swa wuldor, swe we nu geearnian willap. a1300 *Cursor M.* 5987 Gas þan, sin yee wil pider ga. c1386 *CHAUCER Melib.* Prol. 8 Why so? quod I, why wiltow lette me Moore of my tale than another man? 1398 *TREVIS Barth. De P.R.* I. i. (1495) Aijb/2 [God] may do euery thyng that he woll doo, but he wylt not do euery thyng that he may doo. c1420 *Avow. Arth.* xxxiii, Bothe my dethe and my lyfe, Is inne the wille of thi wife, Quethur ho wulle stynte me of my strife, Or putte me to payne! c1470 *HENRY Wallace* v. 124, I bott rahers as my atour will say. 1528 in *Leadam Sel. Cases Star Chamber* (Selden Soc.) II. 19 Mulso . . . sayeth. . . that your sayed besechar shall . . . pay hym suche a Fyne. . . as he woll demand at hys pleasure. 1578 *WHETSTONE Promos & Cass.* IV. vii, Dalia, arte thou gone? what wolt serue me soe? 1685 *BAXTER Paraphr. N.T.* Matt. ix. 25 When God will tell us we shall know. 1746 *FRANCIS tr. Horace, Ep.* I. i. 42 You cannot hope for Lynceus'

piercing eyes: But will you then a strengthening salve despise?

8. Expressing natural disposition to do something, and hence habitual action: Has the habit, or 'a way', of —ing; is addicted or accustomed to —ing; habitually does; sometimes connoting 'may be expected to' (cf. 15).

c893 *ÆLFRED Oros.* v. vii. 230 Elpendes hyd wile drincan wætan gelice & spynges dep. 13. . . *Eufrosyne* 424 in *Horstm. Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 179 Whom he louep, he wol chastise. c1366 *CHAUCER Rom. Rose* 1683 Brode Roses and open also Ben passed in a day or two, But knoppes will fresh be Two dayes atte leest or thre. c1400 *MAUNDEV. (Roxb.)* xxii. 100 þai er rowgh and will clymben in to treesse als lightly as þai ware apes. a1450 *Knt. de la Tour* xxiv. 34 Women that wol goo to see iustinge. . . and also wol go on pilgrimage more for sporte than for deuocion. c1489 *CAXTON Sonnes of Aymon* vii. 174, I have bounde this horse thus by cause he wyll fyghte. c1520 *SKELTON Garl. Laurel* 32 Humors superflue, that often wyll crepe into the brayne. 1539 *Bible* (Great) *Ecclus.* xxi. 24 A foole will pepe in at the window into the house, but he that is wel nourtured, wyll stande without. 1599 *SHAKS. Much Ado* II. iii. 206 The man doth fear God, howsoever it seemes not in him, by some large icasts hee will make. 1646 *SIR T. BROWNE Pseud. Ep.* III. xiv. 142 Crabs move sideling, Lobsters will swim swiftly backward. 1780 *Mirror* No. 93 Of those trifles, the nature will commonly mark the man. 1865 *RUSKIN Sesame* II. §91 Men, by their nature, are prone to fight; they will fight for any cause, or for none. 1884 *Times* (weekly ed.) 26 Sept. 13/3 Should they make a good haul on Monday, they will lounge away the rest of the week.

9. Expressing potentiality, capacity, or sufficiency: Can, may, is able to, is capable of —ing; is (large) enough or sufficient to.

† it will not be: it cannot be done or brought to pass; it is all in vain. So, † will it not be?

c1374 *CHAUCER Boeth.* v. pr. ii. (1868) 153 In spiritiz Iugement is more clere and wil nat be corrupted. c1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 31 Ley þe quarters v. or vi. in a dysshe, as it wole come a-bowte. c1440 *Generydes* 6516 That ye speke with hir that she may haue hir pece, And so to leue in rest and it wilbe. c1537 *DE BENESE Measurynge Lande* Cont., To knowe bowe many foote of borde or stone wyll borde or paue it. 1538 *ELYOT Dict., Trochum*, a certayne stooles or chaire, whiche wyll be tourned aboute. 1592 *SHAKS. Ven. & Ad.* 607 But all in vaine, good Queene, it will not bee. 1592 — *Rom. & Jul.* IV. v. 11, I must needs wake her: Madam, Madam, Madam. . . Will it not be? 1690 *LOCKE Hum. Und.* III. i. §1 Parrots . . . will be taught to make articulate Sounds. 1710 *S. PALMER Proverbs* 47 The Hazard of being Ridiculous won't Balance the Inclination to be talk'd on. 1728 *E. S[MITH] Compleat Housew.* (ed. 2) 98 When the Oven is ready, pour in your Stuff. . . Half an hour will bake it. 1750-1848 [see DO v. 20]. 1790 *COWPER Let.* 21 Mar., My periwig is arrived, . . my head will only go into the first half of it. 1833 *N. ARNOTT Physics* (ed. 5) I. 597 The heart will beat after removal from the body. 1866 *R. SIMPSON Life Campion* ix. (1907) 279 [His] words, though they will bear, yet do not warrant, such a translation.

10. As a strengthening of sense 7, expressing determination, persistence, and the like (without temporal reference as in 11).

† a. Purposes to, is determined to. *Obs.*

c1489 *CAXTON Blanchardyn* xli. 155 Men sayen comynly, that he whome god wyll haue kept, may not be perished. 1490 — *Eneydos* xv. 55 Iuno the goddess, wyllynge accompysshe the marylge of Eneas to dydo. 1539 *Bible* (Great) *Isa.* lxvi. 6, I beare y^e voyce of the Lorde, that wyll rewarde, & recompence his enemyes.

b. *emphatically.* Is fully determined to; insists on or persists in —ing: sometimes with mixture of sense 8. (In 1st pers. with implication of futurity, as a strengthening of sense 11 a.) Also *fig.* = must inevitably, is sure to.

c1611 *CHAPMAN Iliad* VI. 498 Fate's such a shrewish thing, She will be mistris. 1633 *FORD 'Tis Pity* v. iii, *Vas.* Dare come? *Gio.* So I said, and tell him more, I will come. 1673 *DRYDEN Marr. à la Mode* I. i. 5, I know not that; but obey I will and must. 1794 *MRS. RADCLIFFE Myst. Udolpho* xxxi, If he will lock the door, . . and take away the key, how am I to get out? 1802 *WORDSW. To the small Celandine* 51 Buttercups, that will be seen, Whether we will see or no. 1817 *T. L. PEACOCK Nightmare Abbey* xii, There is a girl concealed in this tower, and find her I will. 1845 *M. PATTISON Ess.* (1889) I. 9 An impulse which will vent itself in some form or other. 1892 *E. REEVES Homeward Bound* viii. 239, I have spent 6,000 francs to come here. . . and I will see it!

c. In phr. of ironical or critical force referring to another's assertion or opinion. Now *arch.* except in *will have it* (see HAVE v. B. 13 b).

1591 *SHAKS. 1 Hen. VI.* II. iii. 58 This is a Riddling Merchant for the nonce, He will be here, and yet he is not here. 1605 *VERSTEGAN Dec. Intell.* II. 25 Some, not contented to haue them [sc. the Saxons] a people of German race, wil needs bring them from elsewhere. 1664 *BUTLER Hud.* II. III. 652 The Rosie-cross Philosophers, Whom you will haue to be but Sorcerers. 1728 *CHAMBERS Cycl.* s.v. *Honey*, Some naturalists will haue honey to be of a different quality, according to the difference of the flowers. . . the bees suck it from.

11. As auxiliary of the future tense with implication of intention or volition (thus distinguished from *SHALL* v. B. 8, where see note).

a. In 1st person: sometimes in slightly stronger sense = intend to, mean to.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 191 Hwyder wilt þu gangan? Min Drihten, ic wille gangan to Rome. a1000 *Cædmon's Genesis* 1296 Ic wille mid flode folc æcwellan. c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 13 Ic cou wille 3euan wela. . . ino3e. a1225 *Leg. Kath.* 485

Ichulle fordon þe wisdom of þeos wise worldmen. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 140 Mi rede is taken þer tille, þat fare y wille wiþ þe. ? 1476 *Paston Lett.* III. 159, I wyll and shall at all seasons be redy. 1539 *Bible* (Great) John xii. 28, I haue both glorified it, and will glorify it agayne. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* v. iii. 2 To morrow will we be married. 1607 — *Cor.* v. iii. 127 Ile run away Till I am bigger, but then Ile fight. 1777 CLARA REEVE *Champion of Virtue* 55 Never fear it. . . I will speak to Joseph about it. 1820 KEATS *Isabella* xxvi, Good bye! I'll soon be back. 1842 TENNYSON *Morte d'Arthur* 43 Yet I thy hest will all perform at full.

b. In 2nd and 3rd pers., in questions or indirect statements.

971 [see a]. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5671 Wil þou sla me als þou has slain þis endir dai þe egyptian? 1450-80 tr. *Secr. Secr.* xi. 11 That eche mane se. . . that he dredith god, and that he wolle governe him aftir goddis plesaunce. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* iv. i. 100 Her waspish headed sonne. . . Swears he will shoote no more. 1635 SHIRLEY *Lady Pleas.* v. (1637) 14 b, I know you. . . wonot ruine What you have built to honour you. 1795 BURNS *Heron Election Ball.* l. i, Whom will ye send to London town, To Parliament and a' that? 1839 LANE *Arab. Nts.* I. ii. 85, I will cure thee without giving thee to drink any potion. . . When King Yoonán heard his words, he. . . said. . . How wilt thou do this?

c. *will do* (with omission of *I*): an expression of willingness to carry out a request. Cf. WILCO. *colloq.*

1955 W. TUCKER *Wild Talent* xvi. 217 'Paul! Bring my gate pass.' . . 'Will do.' 1967 L. WHITE *Crimshaw Memorandum* v. 91 'And find out where the bastard was.' . . 'Will do,' Jim said. 1971 J. WAINWRIGHT *Last Buccaneer* II. 220 'Make sure he comes.' 'Will do,' said the D.D.I. 1981 A. M. STEIN *Body for Buddy* ix. 176 'Let me know.' 'Will do,' I said.

12. With negative, expressing the contrary of senses 6, 7, 10, 11: thus commonly = refuse or decline to; *emph.* insist on or persist in not —ing. Also *fig.* of a thing. (See also 9, 13.)

a 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 2388 Ne wille Sarrañ soð gelyfan wordum minum. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 3728 3 yf þou for wrappe wyrt nat abyde. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Wife's Prol.* 347, I wol nat wirche as muche as a gnat. *c* 1440 *Partonope* 900 Partanope wole no lenger byde. 1526 TINDALE *John* v. 40 And yett will ye nott come to me that ye myght have lyfe. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* v. ii. 234 Heere is a rurall Fellow, That will not be deny'de your Highnesse presence. 1670 DRYDEN *2nd Pt. Cong. Granada* III. i, I wonnot lift an arm in his defence. 1710 S. PALMER *Proverbs* 351 Love and Tenderness won't permit a Good Man always to make a strict Computation. 1742 RICHARDSON *Pamela* II. 290, I cannot, I wo'not sit down at Table with her. 1857 RUSKIN *Pol. Econ.* Art. ii. §90 All copies are bad; because no painter who is worth a straw ever will copy. 1885 STEVENSON in *Contemp. Rev.* Apr. 557 Those blindest of the blind who will not see. 1891 *19th Cent.* Dec. 859 The Court cannot and will not stand. . . journalistic personalities about its members.

†b. Rendering *L. noli, nolite* as auxiliaries of the negative imper. *Obs.*

a 1000 *Cædmon's Exod.* 266 Ne willað eow andrædan deade feðan. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) cii[i]. 2 Ne wylt þu ofergeottul æfre weorðan ealra goda. 1382 WYCLIF *Ecclus.* v. i. 1 Wile thou not don eueles. *c* 1400 26 *Pol. Poems* xxiv. 37, Y shal saye to god. . . Wylt noȝt dampne me fro blisse. 1450-1530 *Myrr. Our Ladye* 151 Wylltheſt not geue place to the fende.

13. In 1st pers., expressing immediate intention: *I will* = 'I am now going to', 'I proceed at once to'. With negative, used idiomatically with *say* or the like: *I will not* = 'I do not venture so far as to'.

12.. *Moral Ode* 155 in *O.E. Hom.* I. 169 I wule nu comen eft to þe dome þat ich er ow of sede. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 277 'Min fligt,' he seide, 'ic wile up-taken.' *c* 1300 *Havelok* 3 Herknet to me. . . Of a tale þat ich you wile telle. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 42 And at a knyght than wol I first bigynne. *c* 1449 PECKOCK *Repr.* II. v. 167 That this conclusion is trewe, y wole proue thus. 1582 ALLEN *Martyrdom Campion* (1908) 83 Slodd that Notorious varlet, and infamous Iudas (I will not say wicked homicid). 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* III. i. 381. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* II. vi. §38 I'le onely adde this short Story and then proceed. 1684 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* II. 134, I will not call them Cheaters. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 122 In the Morning I had three very good, I will not say handsome, Pipkins. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxix, 'I will go in and pay my respects to your wife', said he. 1856 OLMSTED *Slave States* 78 My host (whom I will call Mr. Newman) observed [etc.]. 1885 'MRS. ALEXANDER' *At Bay* iii, Very well; I will wish you good-evening.

b. In 1st pers. pl., expressing a proposal: *we will* (†*wule we*) = 'let us'.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 3 Here cumeð ure king; wule we fare toȝenes him. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 3021 Sore þey wepton & sayden, 'wollen go henne. For we se welle þat hit is goddes owen wylle'. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* IV. i. 9 Peace: we'll heare him. 1610 — *Temp.* I. ii. 308 Come on, Wee'll visit Caliban. 1798 COLERIDGE *Nightingale* 4 Come, we will rest on this old mossy bridge! 1824 SCOTT *St. Ronan's* xii, We will forget Mistress Dods for the present, if you please.

†c. *fig.* (in 3rd pers.) of a thing: Is ready to, is on the point of —ing. *Obs. rare.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 254 A treou þet wule uallen, me underset hit mid on oðer treou.

14. In 2nd and 3rd pers., as auxiliary expressing mere futurity, forming (with pres. inf.) the future, and (with pf. inf.) the future pf. tense: corresponding to *shall* in the 1st pers. (see note s.v. SHALL v. B. 8).

c 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) lxxiii. 20 [lxxiv. 21] He wyle naman pinne neode herian. *c* 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* xli. (Z.) 247 *Loquitur*, se ðe wyle oððe sceal sprecan. *c* 1375 *Cursor M.* 12919 (Fairf.) Bot or he wille him fully shaw, Bot ȝet a quile he wille a-bide. *c* 1400 *Pilgr. Soule* (Caxton 1483) iv. xxx. 80 No doute he wol be redy anon to the deth to kepe the cowntre and defende it fro his enemyes. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 12436

(Trin.), I drede men wol [other texts sal] pis childe forfare. 1459 MARG. PASTON in *P. Lett.* I. 438, I hope he wyl be well demenyd to plesse yow hereafterward. 1529 in *Lett. Suppr. Monast.* (Camden) 4, I. . . have showed unto hym my full myende therin, the which I doubt not he wull declare unto your grace. 1592 *Arden of Feversham* v. i. 145 Mosbie will be there, whose very looks Will add unwonted courage to my thought. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII.* I. ii. 86 If we shall stand still, In feare our motion will be mock'd, or carp'd at. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 448 Time is lost, which never will renew. 1788 COWPER *Let. to J. Newton* 9 Dec., They will probably return this day fortnight. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* III. 12 Rest, rest, on mother's breast, Father will come to thee soon. 1858 LYTTON (*title*) What will he do with it? 1872 MORLEY *Voltaire* i. 12 His pigmy hope that life will one day become somewhat better. 1872 HARDY *Under Greenway Tree* II. iii, The sooner begun, the sooner over; for come it will.

b. As auxiliary of future substituted for the imper. in mild injunctions or requests.

1824 SCOTT *St. Ronan's* xii, You will permit me to say [etc.]. 1831 — *Ct. Rob.* vii, In your intercourse with their chiefs, . . you will take care to give no offence to their natural presumption. 1876 RUSKIN *St. Mark's Rest* i. §7 That they should use their own balances, weights, and measures; (not by any means false ones, you will please to observe).

15. As auxiliary of future expressing a contingent event, or a result to be expected, in a supposed case or under particular conditions (with the condition expressed by a conditional, temporal, or imper. clause, or otherwise implied).

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxvi. §3 ȝif þu æfre cymst. . . to þære stowe, . . þonne wilt þu cweþan [etc.]. *c* 897 — *Gregory's Past. C.* xi. 71 ȝif hiere ne bið sona gestiered, hio wile weahsan mid ųemete. *a* 1240 *Lofsong* in *O.E. Hom.* I. 215 Vnwrih him pene we þet is þi wilnunge, and he wule hit forðen. *a* 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 297 For, bow he fra þe bataill, . . þen will he wed anpore wife, & wayfe me for euer. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* XII. 112 Yef hem this drynke, anon they wole be sounde. 1563 W. FULKE *Meteors* (1640) 50b, If a darke cloud be at the sunne rising, in which the Sunne soone after is hidde, . . rayne will followe. 1573 TUSSEY *Husb.* (1878) 109 Let Iuie be killed, else tree will be spilled. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* IV. v. 3 *Qu.* I will not speake with her. *Hor.* She is importunate, indeed distract, her moode will needs be pittied. 1605 — *Lear* III. vi. 85, I do not like the fashion of your garments. You will say they are Persian; but let them bee chang'd. 1664 *Marvell's Corr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 98, I think it wilbee very vnseemly for you or them to endeavour the destruction of the others charter. 1661 MORGAN *Sph. Gentry* To Rdr. b 2, The reasonable will accept the will for the deed. 1715 DE FOE *Fam. Instruct.* I. i. (1841) I. 10 Won't God be angry with me if I should love him? 1738 BOLINGBROKE *Patriot King* Intro'd., He who abandons or betrays his country, will abandon or betray his friend. 1782 MISS BURNIE *Cecilia* x. iv, If I am never happy till then, . . . sad, indeed, will be my life! 1842 BROWNING *Cristina* vii, And then, come next life quickly! This world's use will have been ended. 1861 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 46 The lover of the Elizabethan drama will readily recal many such allusions. 1882 BESANT *All Sorts* xxx, You'll be surprised when you find how easy it is, and yet how you can't do it.

b. With pers. subject (usually 1st pers. sing.), expressing a voluntary act or choice in a supposed case, or a conditional promise or undertaking: esp. in asseverations (e.g. *I will die sooner than . . . , I'll be hanged if . . .*, etc.).

1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* XXI. 266 And ȝut ich, book, wol beo brent, bote he arise to lyue. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch.* V. I. ii. 75 He hath neither Latine, French, nor Italian, and you will come into the Court & swear that I haue a poore pennieworth in the English. 1599 — *Much Ado* I. i. 235 [That] is the opinion that fire cannot melt out of me. I will die in it at the stake. 1610 — *Temp.* I. i. 49 Ile warrant him for drowning. 1769 JOHNSON 26 Oct. in *Boswell* (1904) I. 399 I'll take you five children from London, who shall cuff five Highland children. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* i. vi, I will rather die than let you see this wardrobe. 1898 'H. S. MERRIMAN' *Roden's Corner* xiii. 138 But I will be hanged if I see what it all means, now.

c. Expressing a determinate or necessary consequence (without the notion of futurity).

1387 TREvisa *Higden* (Rolls) II. 235 þe counoun cubite. . . conteynep but a foot and an half. . . But a cubite of gemetrie conteynep sixte counoun cubites, þat wil be nyne foot long. *c* 1425 *Craft Nombrynge* (E.E.T.S.) 15 Doubull 2. þat wel be 4. . . þan doubull 5. þat wel be 10. . . þen draw downe 1 to 4 & þat woll be 5. 1592 HUES *Treat. Globes* IV. x, That Starre will set Helicaily. 1709 J. WARD *Yng. Math. Guide* III. ii. (1734) 293 Then ioyn the Points A and f with a Right-line, and it will form the Angle requir'd. 1838 DE MORGAN *Ess. Probab.* 140 That the mean risk of error will, in the long run, be 1/3 of that error which is as often exceeded as not. 1887 FOWLER *Deductive Logic* (ed. 9) 47 From what has been said it will be seen that I do not agree with Mr. Mill. *Mod.* If, in a syllogism, the middle term be not distributed in either premiss, there will be no conclusion.

d. With the notion of futurity obscured or lost: = will prove or turn out to, will be found on inquiry to; may be supposed to, presumably does. Hence (chiefly *Sc.* and *north. dial.*) in estimates of amount, or in uncertain or approximate statements, the future becoming equivalent to a present with qualification: e.g. *it will be . . .* = 'I think it is . . . ' or 'it is about . . . ' ; *what will that be?* = 'what do you think that is?'

c 1450 *Cov. Myst.*, *Assumption* 349, I am aferd there wyle be sumthyng amys. 1584 Hornby *Priory* in *Craven Gloss.* (1828), Where on 40 Acres there will be xiiij.s. iv.d. per acre yerely for rent. 1641 in *Cochran-Patrick Rec. Coinage Scot.* (1876) I. Intro'd. 31 The kings hailt tale vpon the bullioun will not be 3000 li by yeir. *a* 1791 GROSE *Olio* (1792) 106, I believe he will be an Irishman. *Ibid.* 107 C. How far is it to Dumfries? W. It will be twenty miles. 1812 BRACKENRIDGE *Vieux Louisiana* (1814) 156 The agriculture of this territory will be very similar to that of Kentucky. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt.*

Midl. xiii, I think . . ye will be the same lad that was for in to see her yestreen? 1852 M. ARNOLD *Tristram & Iseult* I. 5 What lights will those out to the northward be? 1859 *Habits of Gd. Society* v. (new ed.) 219 An untravell'd man is always at some disadvantage in good English society, where almost every one but himself will have crossed the channel. 1876 *Whitby Gloss.* s.v. *Biddels*, This word we have only once heard, and that will be twenty years ago.

¶ 16. Used where *shall* is now the normal auxiliary, chiefly in expressing mere futurity: since 17th c. almost exclusively in Scottish, Irish, provincial, or extra-British use (see SHALL v. B. 7, 8, 10).

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* x, Hwæt wille we cweðan be þinum twam sunum? 14.. in *Anglia* XXVII. 287 Blyp will I be For to worship þat wight. 1464 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 67 Nothyng. . . attemptyng to the contrarie therof, as they woll answer at their parell. 1561 HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtier* (1577) Author's Ep. Biv, If the booke shall generally please, I wyll count him good. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* IV. i. 39 Perchance I will be there as soone as you. *a* 1600 in *Ramsay Ever-Green* (1761) II. 224 Allace! that Day I'll never forget. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* v. ii. 184, I will win for him if I can: if not, Ile gaine nothing but my shame, and the odde hits.

1733 W. CRAWFORD *Infidelity* xiv. (1748) 107 Then we will be pleased with the Exertments of his Authority. *a* 1774 GOLDSM. *Surv. Exp. Philos.* (1776) II. ii. 27 If I draw a cat-gut or any other cord to a great length between my fingers, I will make it smaller than it was before. 1793 BURNS *Thou hast left me ever, Jamie* i, I maun see thee never, Jamie, I'll see thee never! 1822 SCOTT *Let.* 12 May (in *Davey's Catal.* (1895) 30), I will be happy to contribute anything in my power. 1825 — in *Lockhart Ballantyne-humbug* (1839) 99, I expect we will have some good singing. 1875 E. H. DERING *Sherborne* xxxix, 'Will I start, sir?' asked the Irish groom. 1892 GUNTER *Miss Dividends* ii, Perhaps you are right, . . . However, I will know all about it myself in a few weeks. 1923 S. KAYE-SMITH *House of Alard* I. §21 But I'll be all right. . . if I go away.

*** Elliptical and quasi-elliptical uses.

17. In absol. use, or with ellipsis of obj. clause as in 2: in meaning corresponding to senses 5-7.

if you will is sometimes used parenthetically to qualify a word or phrase: = 'if you wish it to be so called', 'if you choose or prefer to call it so'.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xxvi. 39 Nallas sua ic wille, ah sua ðu wilt. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 15 Al hit mei us rede and to lare ȝif we wulleð. 1340 *Ayenb.* 101 Ich wile þe zigge yef þu wylt. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* IX. 44 Euer is þi soule saaf Bote ȝif þi-self wolle. *c* 1400 MAUNDEY. vii. [x]. (1919) I. 52 Whan god alle myghty wole, right als the londres weren lost, . . so schulle þei ben wonnen. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* I. iii. 38 Ye must puruey yow for the nourisshyng of your child. As thou wolt said the kyng be it. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 6 It neuer. . . leueth vs except we wyll. 1586 A. DAY *Engl. Secretorie* I. (1625) 47 Let us consider if you will in general. 1595 SPENSER *Epithal.* 252 Poure not by cups, but by the belly full, Poure out to all that wull. 1666 WHISTON *The Earth* IV. i. §2. 218 Gravity. . . depends entirely on the constant and efficacious, and, if you will, the supernatural and miraculous Influence of Almighty God. 1821 SCOTT *Kentiv.* vii, The sober russet shall be donned to-morrow, if you will. 1876 RUSKIN *St. Mark's Rest* vii. §78 Very savage! monstrous! if you will.

b. In parenthetic phr. *if God will* (†also *will God*, rarely *God will*), *God willing*: if it be the will of God, 'D.V.'

In OE. *Gode willigende* (WILL v. 2) = L. *Deo volente*. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 18462 And yee sal be, sua wil iesu, Als dumb o speche wit ilk man. 13.. *Ibid.* 199 (Coll. of Arms MS.) ȝif god wole þenne shal I telle How he. . . harrewede helle. 1438 in *Fraser Lennox* (1874) II. 67 Jhone Stewart, . . God wylland, sall haff to wyff. . . Margaret off Mongomry. *c* 1470 HENRY WALLACE IX. 179 For thar, God will, is our purpos to be. 1520 in *Ellis Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. I. 234 At my comynge thedyr God wyllynge I shale cawse the sayd Hanggyns to be made. 1544 *St. Papers Hen. VIII.* V. 396 We sall tak voyage, wilGod, with all diligence. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pittscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 5, I sall do bettir will god ane vthir day. 1605 ERONDELLE *Fr. Gard.* H 5 b, I shall see (God willing) how you will profit. 1716 STRYPE in *Thoresby's Lett.* (1832) II. 368 Next week, God willing, I take my journey to my Rectory in Sussex.

†c. *fig.* Demands, requires (*absol.* or *ellipt.* use of 3 c). *Obs.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6979 Ich mot nede be milde, As kunde of moder wot & blod, asen my childe. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* x. 128 Folk þat ben I-weddet, And libbeþ as heore lawe wole. 1417 *York Memorandum Bk.* (Surtees) I. 184 To redresse it. . . als ryght wyl for the profit of the kinges poeple. *c* 1440 tr. *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 13 Plesaunce and fruyt the tilman forto bringe As seeson wol. *a* 1450 MYRC *Par. Pr.* (1868) 714 Oper þan þe lawe of þe lond woll. 1511 *Reg. Privy Seal Scot.* I. 345/1 That na seculare personis have intrmetting with thaim other wais than law wll.

†d. Phr. *I will well*: I assent, 'I should think so indeed'. *Obs.* (Cf. *F. je veux bien.*)

1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* I. xvi. 59, I truste in god myn eure is not suche but some of them may sore repent theys, I wol wel said Arthur, for I see your dedes full actual. *Ibid.* iv. xxi. 146 Yonder is a knyht. . . lete vs put it bothe vpon hym, and as he demeth so shall it be. I wylle wel said the knyght.

18. With ellipsis of a vb. of motion. *arch.*

Beowulf 318 Ic to sæ wille. *c* 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) c. 1 [ci. 2] Hwænne þu me wylle to [quando venies ad me]. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 60 (MS. T.) Hund wile in at open dunde, þer man him ne wernes. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 2132 Bot I wyl to þe chapel. 13.. *Cursor M.* 20356 (B. M. Add. MS.) Furst my lord was brougt to dede, . . And now my ladi wll me fro! *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Friar's T.* 89 Wher rydestow. . . ? Seyde this yeman wiltow fer to day? *c* 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 163 If a candel þat brennep. . . be putt al in oile. . . þe fier perof wole out. *c* 1430 *How Good Wife taught Dau.* 165 in *Hazl. E.P.P.* I. 191 Borrowed thinge wole home. 1532 TINDALE *Expos. Matt.* v. (c 1550) 16 Who so euer will to heauen. *c* 1550 LLOYD *Treas. Health* X vjb, Geue ther of to the woundyd partye asmuch therof. . . as wil to an egges shell. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* III. iii. 145 Ile in, Ile in. 1610 — *Temp.*

III. i. 94. Ile to my booke. **1647** TRAPP *Comm.* 2 Cor. xii. 20 They will on in sinne to their utter ruine. **1718** *Entertainer* No. 25. 167 Nothing will down with these Zealots but a preaching Ministry. **1822** BYRON *Werner* i. i. (1823) 36 Sir, you will with me? **1825** SCOTT *Betrothed* xxx, 'Thither will I then,' said the Constable. **1885-94** BRIDGES *Eros & Psyche* Aug. xviii, I will to thee o'er the stream afloat.

19. With ellipsis of active inf. to be supplied from the context.

c888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* v. §3 Cunna swa þu wille. **c1175** *Lamb. Hom.* 77 [We] habbeð ou iseið twa uers and wule nupe þet pridge. **c1205** LAY. 3320 Lete we sum þis mochele folc fare wher ha wulleð. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 4095 'Fader', he said, 'i will ful fayn, þi bod i aght noght to stand agayn.' **c1400** MAUNDEV. xx. [xxiv.] (1919) I. 145 Whoso þat wole, may leme me 3if he wille. **1470-85** MALORY *Arthur* i. xxiii. 70 Who is greued with my custome, lete hym amende hit that wol. I will amende it said Arthur. **1548-9** *Bk. Com. Prayer, Matrimony*, Wilt thou haue thys woman to thy wedded wyfe...? I will. **1599** T. CUTWODE *Caltha Poet.* (Roxb.) xlii, That which will, will bee. **a1633** HERBERT *Jacula Prudentum* Wks. (1857) 306 Marry your son when you will; your daughter when you can. **1692** DRYDEN *Cleomenes* iii. iii, *Crat.*... Think not on us. *Cleom.* I wonnot. **1818** KEATS *Isabella* v, I may not speak. And yet I will, and tell my love all plain. **1836** DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Steam Excurs.*, 'Will you go on deck?' 'No, I will not.' This was said with a most determined air. **1853** — *Bleak* Ho. lii, I can't believe it. It's not that I don't or I won't. I can't! **1866** RUSKIN *Let.* 10 May, I hope it may do you some good, as it won't me. **1870** MORRIS *Earthly Par.* (1890) 241/2 And so mid varied talk the day went by, As such days will, not quite unhappily. **1885** 'MRS. ALEXANDER' *Valerie's Fate* vi, 'Do you know that all the people in the house will think it very shocking of me to walk with you?'... 'The deuce they will!'

b. With generalized ellipsis, esp. in proverbial saying (now usually as in quot. 1562, with *will* for *would*).

14.. *Lat. & Eng. Prov.* (MS. Douce 52, lf. 31), Who so wylle not when he may he shall not when he wylle. **1560** BECON *New Catech.* vi. Wks. 1564 I. 495 Therefore ought suche as be godly learned to traualle with heretikes & to conuince them, not with fire & fagot, with swerde & halter, or with lawe will I. **1562** J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 130 He that will not when he may, When he would he shall haue nay. **1639** J. CLARKE *Paræm.* 237 He that may and will not, when he would he shall not. **1736** A. HILL *Zara Epil.*, A Woman Will, or Won't—depend on 't.

c. With *so* or *that* substituted for the omitted inf. phr.: now usually placed at the beginning of the sentence.

c1430 *Chev. Assigne* 260 'A, boy,' quod she, 'wylt þou so, þou shalt sone mys-karye.' **1548-9** *Bk. Com. Prayer, Catechism, Question*. Doest thou not thinke that thou art bound to beleue, and to doe as they haue promised for thee? *Answers.* Yes verely. And by Gods helpe so I will. **1596** SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* i. ii. 215 *Hor.* I promist we would... beare his charge of wooing... *Gremio.* And so we will. **1607** [see so B. 2 b]. **1900** [see *that dem. pron.* 2 b].

d. Idiomatically used in a qualifying phr. with relative, equivalent to a phr. with indef. relative in *-ever*; often with a thing as subj., becoming a mere synonym of *may*: e.g. *shout as loud as you will* = 'however loud you (choose to) shout'; *come what will* = 'whatever may come'; *be that as it will* = 'however that may be'.

1439 *Cases bef. King's Council* (Selden) 105 Complaine as yo wole y defie thi manasing. **1592** SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* i. v. 38 'Tis since the Nuptiall of Lucentio, Come Pentycost as quickly as it will, Some fue and twenty yeares. **1596** — *1 Hen. IV.* i. ii. 162 Well, come what will, Ile tarry at home. **1602** — *Ham.* v. ii. 10. **1633** EARL MANCH. *Al Mondo* (1636) 186 Let his condition here civilly bee what it will, it will not content him. **1732** POPE *Mor. Ess.* iii. 153 The ruling Passion, be it what it will, The ruling Passion conquers Reason still. **1827** SCOTT *Two Drovers* i, The drovers usually sleep along with their cattle, let the weather be what it will. **1860** RUSKIN *Unto this Last* iv. §61 Think what you will of it, the value of the thing itself is neither greater nor less.

†20. With ellipsis of pass. inf. *Obs. rare.*

a1774 GOLDSM. *Surv. Exp. Philos.* (1776) II. 145 The air's force is compounded of its swiftness and density, and as these are encreased, so will the force of the wind.

21. In const. where the ellipsis may be either of an obj. clause (as in 17) or of an inf. (as in 19).

a. In a disjunctive qualifying clause or phr. (usually parenthetic), as *whether he will or no*, *will he or not*, †(with pron. omitted) *will or no*, (with or omitted) *will he will he not, will he will he* (see VI. below and WILLY-NILLY), etc.

In quot. 1592 *vaguely* = 'one way or another', 'in any case'.

a1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 101 He schal slepe alsone, wille he will he noyt. **1568** HACKET tr. *Thevet's New found World* xiv. 21 b, They floote aboue water, will they or not, and by this meanes they are taken. **1581** A. HALL *Iliad* i. 12 They Bryseis fetch away, whether she wil or no Out of my Tent. **1592** BRETON *C'tess Pembroke's Love* Wks. (Grosart) I. 21/1 Fortune? shee skorne: friendes? who durst be a foe? Seruants? a worlde would serue her will or no.

II. The past tense would with temporal function.

***** With simple obj. or obj. clause: corresponding to the pres. tense in I.*

†22. (with simple obj.) Desired, wished for; sometimes implying or passing into the sense 'intended', with negative, often implying 'refused': cf. I, 1 b, 1 c. *Obs.*

c900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* iii. viii, [Heo] cwæð. . . þæt heo þa hy frugne, hwæt heo sohten oððe hwæt heo pider wolden. **c1000** ÆLFRED *Saints' Lives* xx. 13 Se ealder-man gewat þa

ða hit wolde god. **c1250** *Gen. & Ex.* 3620 Dis folc. . . Offreden him siluer and gold. And oðer metal swile he wolde. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 16 Wit sarazins wald þai na saght. **c1380** *Antecrist* in Todd *Three Treat. Wyclif* (1851) p. cxxvi, Crist forsoke worldly glorie. . . Crist wold not worldly lordship. **c1450** *Merlin* xiii. 192 Thei seide thei wolde the londe. . . for her oncle. **1470-85** MALORY *Arthur* iv. xv. 138 He. . . asked yf she wold any thing vnto kyng Arthur. **1523** LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. viii. 3/2 He wolde nothyng to her but all loue and good faith. **1629** GAULE *Pract. Theories* Christ 158 God and the Iewes, both would the Passion and Death of Christ. **1643** [ANGIER] *Lanc. Vall. Achor* 18 When we would no Pardon they labourde to punish us. **1692** WASHINGTON tr. *Milton's Def. People* xii. 238 To perform, not what he himself would, but what the People. . . requir'd of him.

23. (with obj. cl., or acc. and inf.: cf. 2, 3.) Desired, wished; often implying 'intended'; determined, ordained; fig. demanded, required (that something should be done). *Obs. or rare arch.*

c888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* iv, Hwý þu la Drihten æfre woldest þæt seo wyrd swa hwyrfan sceolde? **c897** — *Gregory's Past.* C. xvi. 101 Hu he wolde ðæt mon him miltsode. **1154** O.E. *Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1132 þa uoelde he ðæt his nefse sceulde ben abbot. **c1200** ORMIN 7708, & tatt te Laferrd Jesu Crist þa wolde patt hiss moderr Swa sholde to þe kirrke gan. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 1590 Wald he noght it war swa fordon. *Ibid.* 1212 Maria barn ber in chastite, Sin godd wald þat it sua suld be. *Ibid.* 13701 þair lagh wald man suld hir stan. **c1380** WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* I. 107 Crist axide him, what he wolde þat Crist did to him. **1430-31** *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 370/2 He wolde and bequeth be the said Testament, yat [etc.]. **c1489** CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xii. 301 Ye shall see that Rowlande wold he had not gon there. **1513** DOUGLAS *Æneis* viii. vi. 26 He. . . wald also this region euery steid War callit Latium. **1535** COVERDALE *1 Macc.* iv. 27 Because Israel had not gotten soch mysfortune as he wolde they shulde. **1542** UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 327 He would his riches to bee a cloke of goodness. **1600** SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* iii. ii. 161 Heauen would that shee these gifts should haue. **1682** BUNYAN *Holy War* (1905) 263 He would that Captain Credence should join himself with them. **1868** TENNYSON *Lucretius* 68 Because I would not one of thine own doves, Not ev'n a rose, were offer'd to thee.

†24. transf. (cf. 4.) Maintained, 'wanted to make out'. *Obs.*

a1500 *Bernard. de cura rei fam.*, etc. 25/82 He walde þat A watter, or a well, hayd wecht it away. **1545** WRIOTHESLEY *Chron.* (Camden) I. 152 Fayninge and counterfeyting a miracle that he wolde had done whylest he was at masse. **1567** *Satir. Poems Reform.* vii. 5, I vnderstuid thair sentence quhat thay wald.

****** With dependent infinitive (as in I.**).

25. (Cf. 5.) Wished to; often with implication 'intended to'. *Obs. or arch.* except in dependence on a principal vb. in past time.

c888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* vii. §3 Wast þu hu ic gewand ymb Croeses. . . þa þa hine Cirus. . . gefangen hæfde, & hine forbærnan wolde? **900-30** O.E. *Chron.* (Parker MS.) an. 755, Ymb .xxxii. wintra þæs þe he rice hæfde, he wolde adræfan anne æpeling se was Cyneheard haten. *Ibid.* 877 Swa fela swa he habban wolde. **c1000** *Ags. Gosp.* Luke x. 29 Ða cwæp he to þam hælende, & wolde hine sylfne gerihtwisian. **a1154** O.E. *Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1132, He uoelde underþeden ðat mynstre to Clunie. **a1300** *Havelok* 354 Deth him tok þan he best wolde Lioen. **c1386** CHAUCER *Friar's T.* 80 (Petw.) Feynyng a cause for he wold haue a bribe. **1470-85** MALORY *Arthur* ii. ii. 77 He. . . sawe this aduenture. . . and wolde assaye it as other knyghtes dyd. **1526** TINDALE *John* xvi. 19 Jesus perceived that they wolde axe hym. **15..** *Christ's Kirk* 26 in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 283 Scho of lufe we sillie; . . Scho wald haif bot sweit Willie. **1611** *Bible Transl.* Pref. ¶2 Certaine, which would be counted pillars of the State. **1697** DAMPIER *Voy.* I. 302 To assist us in getting as many dry Coco-nuts as we would haue. **1705** DE FOE *True Relation in Early Wks.* (1889) 443 Mrs. Bargeave asked her whether she would drink some tea. **1808** SCOTT *Marm.* iv. i, Till one, who would seem wisest, cried, 'What else but evil could betide. . .?' **1810** CRABBE *Borough* xiv. 108 He now would build—and lofty seat he built. **1871** G. MACDONALD *Sonn. conc. Jesus* xvi. 11 Thou of the truth not less than all wouldst make. **1876** MARCHIONESS DUFFERIN *Canad. Jnrl.* (1891) 291 They asked us if we would haue tea, and as we 'would', they took us into an adjoining room.

†b. in direct statement: Was about to. *rare.*

a950 *Guthlac* v. (Prose) 135/270 Ða hit þa on mergen dagian wolde [*imminente aurora*]. **c1450** *Merlin* 463 As the queene hem saugh she wiste well she was be-traied, and wolde crye as she that was sore affraied, and thei seide [etc.].

26. (Cf. 6, 7.) Was (were) willing to, consented to; †deigned to; chose to; †also in weakened sense (nearly = did). Now only in dependence on a principal vb. in past time.

c888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* iii. §4 Sint þis nu þa god. . . þe þu . . . gehete þam monnum þe þe heintsuman woldan? **a1300** *Cursor M.* 6233 Qui wald [Göt. wild, Trin. woldes] þou ledd vs o þat land? **13..** *Bonaventura's Medit.* 25 Of a mayden he wolde be bore. **c1400** MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) Pref. 1 In þat land he wald lede his lyf and suffer hard passion. **c1450** *Merlin* i. 2 For to saue man he wolde come down in ertre to be born of a woman. **1574** in *Mail. Club Misc.* I. 99 Thair wes tyme and place grantit, to all that wald appone thame thairto. **1611** BP. HALL *Imprese of God* i. Wks. (1625) 444 In the Creation hee could haue made all at once, but hee would take dayes for it. **a1629** HINDE *J. Bruen* xlvii. (1641) 149 He shewed himselfe to be of that extraordinary strength, that if he would fold his hands together, no man could pull them asunder. **1680** OTWAY *Orphan* iii. iv, Why would you delay so long to give it? **1753** CHALLONER *Cath. Chr. Instr.* 183 St. Francis would have his Religious for Humility called Friars Minors. **1884** WALFORD *Baby's Grandm.* xii, I said you would be all right in a few days if you would only hold on.

b. (Cf. 6b.) In a dependent clause after an expression of request, command, or the like,

where the principal vb. is in past time. Now *rare.*

a1325 *MS. Rawl. B.* 520 lf. 54 b, [They] habbez bi souzt us that we hit [sc. the maletolt] wolden releesen. **1526** TINDALE *Acts* ix. 38 They sent vnto hym, desyringe him that he wolde not be greued to come vnto them. **1535** COVERDALE *1 Esdras* ix. 40 They spake vnto Esdras. . . y' he wolde brynge y' lawe of Moses. **1745** A. BUTLER *Lives Saints, St. Jane Frances de Chantal*, It was her. . . prayer. . . that he would conduct her to a truly holy spiritual guide. **1813** SOUTHEY *Nelson* I. ii. 84 He requested the admiralty that they would not leave him to rust in indolence. **1855** MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xx. IV. 532 She. . . faltered out her commands that he would sit down.

27. (Cf. 8.) Was (were) accustomed to; used to.

c888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxv. §7 Wildu dior ðær woldon to irnan & stondan swilce hi tamu wæren. **c1000** ÆLFRED *Saints' Lives* xxvi. 114 He wolde æfter uhtsange oftost hine gebiddan. **c1290** *Beket* 26 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 107 Ofte-sipe heo wolde speke with him. **1387** TREvisa *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 33 Sche wolde seldom come at cherche. **1470-85** MALORY *Arthur* ix. xxxvii. 399 Euery day syr Palomydes wold repute sir Tristram of old hate betwixe them. **1573** L. LLOYD *Marrow of Hist.* (1653) 40 The Athenians at any victory, would crown the Conqueror with a Garland made of Oken leaves. **1587** UNDERDOWNE tr. *Heliodorus* vii. (1895) 184 So lay shee all that night. . . sometime would she rise up: . . sometime would shee cast her cloathes almoste all from her. **1622** BACON *Hen. VII* 210 They would also ruffle with Iurors. **1750** GRAY *Elegy* 103 There at the foot of yonder nodding beech. . . His listless length at noontide would he stretch. **1805** SCOTT *Last Minstr.* iii. xvii, He never counted him a man, Would strike below the knee. **1848** THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxi, The girls would ask her. . . for a little music, and she would sing her three songs. **1915** WIN. HOLT *Beacon for Blind* xxx. 307 He would often return home exhausted from his work, and when Mrs. Fawcett read to him he would frequently fall fast asleep.

28. (Cf. 9.) Was capable of —ing; could.

Usually in a relative clause.

c1386 CHAUCER *Prolog.* 631 Ther nas. . . Ne oynement that wolde clense and byte That hym myghte helpen. **a1440** *Sir Eglam.* 491 Ther was no knyfe that wolde him byte, So harde of hyde was hee. **1470-85** MALORY *Arthur* iv. xiv. 138 Tenne he loked for the scaubard, but it wold not be founde. **1601** HOLLAND *Pliny* xxxv. x. II. 542 As often, he had wiped out that which was done, and all to see if he could hit upon it: but it would not be, for yet it was not to his fansie. **1663** BUTLER *Hud.* i. 1. 351 With Basket-hilt, that wou'd hold broth, And serve for Fight, and Dinner both.

29. (Cf. 10 b.) Was determined to; insisted on or persisted in —ing. Also (*colloq.*), could naturally or inevitably be expected to, esp. in the light of one's known character or tendencies.

1706 FARQUHAR *Recruiting Officer* Ep. Ded., Be it known. . . that it was my Act and Deed, or rather Mr. Durfey's, for he *would* play his Third Night against the First of mine. **1794** MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* xxv, The signor was cruel enough, but he would be obeyed. **1835** DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Parish* ii, Then he took to breeding silkworms, which he *would* bring in. . . to show the old lady. **1884** *Manch. Exam.* 20 May 5/2 The fussiness of Thiers, who would have a finger in every pie that was being made. **1919** 'C. DANE' *Legend* 43 One never knew what Madala would do next, and yet when she'd done it, one said—'Of course! Just what Madala would do!' **1926** C. MACKENZIE *Rogues & Vagabonds* 268 'He always pushes me out.' 'He would.' **1930** E. WAUGH *Vile Bodies* ix. 150 There's our Lily now. You know how she would go in for being a manicurist. **1932** M. H. RINEHART *Miss Pinkerton* xvi. 164 'We're interested in Monday night, and that's all.' 'You would be!' **1946** H. J. MASSINGHAM *Where Man Belongs* iii. 96 He, Ireson told me, 'is the most promising boy of the lot.' 'He would be.' **1963** *Times* 1 July 6/6 Mr. Burge asked: Do you know Lord Astor has made a statement to the police saying that these allegations of yours are absolutely untrue? Miss Rice-Davies: He would, wouldn't he? **1980** 'T. HINDE' *Daymare* i. 8 'Well, he would, wouldn't he,' she says. 'It's what you'd expect of a born capitalist.'

30. (Cf. 11, 13.) In indirect reports, usually in 3rd pers., of past utterances, etc. in the 1st pers. (now) implying intention.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 183 Ic wæs heafde becorfen, & nu on pyssum priddan dæge aras, swa ic ær beforan þe sægde & gehet þæt ic don wolde. **c1100** O.E. *Chron.* (MS. D.) an. 1066 Hi. . . sworon aðas, þæt hi æfre woldon fryð & freondscype into þisan lande haldan. **1340-70** *Alex. & Dind.* 45 He sikurede hem alle, þat he wolde fare wip his folk in a faire wise. **c1400** *Sowdone Bab.* 2060 He. . . made a vowe to Mahounde of myght, He wolde that Cite wyne. **a1533** LD. BERNERS *Huon* lxxxviii. 278 He commandedy them to assamble as myche people as they coude, by cause he sayde that he wolde goo to his vncler temperour of Almayne. **1639** *Hamilton Papers* (Camden) 69 Thay all answered me that they wold keepe the castell. **1719** DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 497 He would go, he said. **1837** DICKENS *Pickw.* i, Was it some vain. . . man—he would not say haberdasher—who [etc.]. **1871** M. COLLINS *Marq. & Merch.* xxxiii, Adrian. . . resolved that they would have a jolly rough honeymoon. . . with everything simple and rustic. **1908** R. BAGOT *A. Cuthbert* xxvi. 339 Anthony suggested to her that she and his sister should slip away unobserved. He himself would remain half-an-hour longer, and would then follow their example.

31. (Cf. 12.) With negative, commonly denoting refusal.

c1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 969 And sarrai wuldet noyt ðolen Ðat agar wore þus to-bolen. **1340** HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 6193, I thrested, and of drynk had nede, And yhe wald na drynk me bede. **c1420** ? LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 941 Vertu wold nat tary, but hyghyd hym thydry blyue. **1526** TINDALE *Luke* xviii. 13 The publican stode afarre of, and wolde not lifte vp his eyes to heven. **1610** SHAKS. *Temp.* i. ii. 267 This damn'd Witch Sycorax. . . was banish'd: for one thing she did They wold not take her life. **c1720** DE FOE *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 269 He would not stir. **1802** WORDSW. *Alice Fell* 52 She wept, not would be pacified. **1880** TENNYSON *Def. Lucknow* vi. 12 Cholera, scurvy, and fever, the wound that would not

be heal'd. 1918 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 21 Mar., Editors and publishers... would have none of it.

32. (Cf. 14, 15.) Forming (with pres. inf.) the auxiliary of the 'anterior future' or 'future in the past', and (with pf. inf.) of the 'anterior future perfect', in the 2nd and 3rd pers.: cf. SHALL v. B. 14b, e. a. in dependent clause (or virtual reported speech or thought).

c893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* III. ix. 128 þa Darius geseah þæt he oferwunnen beon wolde, þa wolde he hiene selfne on ðæm gefeohte forspillan. c1200 ORMIN 689 þatt se33de he... forrþi patt ta wass cumenn time þatt Drihtin wolde lesenn ut hiss folc off deofless walde. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 7087 þis child wax so wel & þeu as iscie fremde & sibbe þat he wolde be a noble mon. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* xx. vii. 809, I... told my bretheren... afore hand what wolde falle in the ende. 1496 *Acta Dom. Conc.* II. 10 Charginge thame to do justice to baith the saidis partiis as thai wald ansuer to God. 1582 ALLEN *Martyrdom Campion* (1908) 3 This he protested to be true, as he would answer before God. 1586 in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* (1920) Jan. 113 The lorde chauncellor answered that diverse of the lordes had byn and wolde be... suitors unto her maiestie. 1663 in *Extr. St. Papers rel. Friends* Ser. II. (1911) 183 Saying... that the time would come he should be found as good a subject as mysele. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* xxv. The planet... was not yet risen; but... she kept her eyes fixed on that part of the hemisphere where it would rise. 1841 MACAULAY *Ess.*, L. Hunt (1853) III. 38 He promised... to furnish them with a play every year, if his health would permit. 1872 MORLEY *Voltaire* i. 2 It disclosed to them a gracious... being, who would one day redress all wrongs. 1918 *Cornh. Mag.* June 569 The Elizabethan's chief concern was that the present would soon merge in the past and be gone.

b. (Cf. 15d.) without notion of futurity: Probably or presumably did.

1857 MRS. GASKELL *C. Bronte* I. iv. 79 'Of the two younger ones... I have very slight recollections, save that one... was quite the pet nursling of the school.' This last would be Emily. 1906 R. H. BENSON *Richard Raynal* v. 91 It would be about half an hour before the King's dinner-time... that Master Richard came again to the hall. 1909 E. H. BURTON *Life Bp. Challoner* I. ii. 12 The last of the Douay martyrs... had suffered but one year previously. Some of the priests living at Douay would have known this martyr personally.

¶ 33. (Cf. 16.) Used where *should* is now the normal auxiliary.

1760-72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 90 The captain fearing that I would die of grief. 1870 DASENT *Annals* xiv. Of course my Aunt did not expect that I would be plucked in any examination. 1901 *Empire Rev.* I. 380, I... rejoiced in the fact that to get there I would have to travel to New York.

*** 34. Elliptical and quasi-elliptical uses as in I.***, 17-21. Now *rare* or *Obs.* except with ellipsis of active inf. to be supplied from the context, or in disjunctive qualifying clauses (e.g. *whether he would or no*).

† In quot. c1400 (*Beryn*) *wold nat* = was of no avail. c897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past.* C. iii. 35 & ða he him from wolde, ða gefeng he hine. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 79 [Hi] þæt land gesetton swa hie sylfe woldon. c1205 LAY. 18815 Wi naldest þu me suggan þurh nanes cunnes þinge þat þu wældest to þan kinge? c1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 273/79 3wane any man wolde ouer þat watur. 1377 *LANGL. P. Pl. B.* x. 127 Al was as pow wolde [v.r. woldest] lorde, yworschiped be pow. c1385 CHAUCER *L.G.W.* 952 *Dido*, He... saylyth forth al his cumpayne Toward yttale as wolde his desten. c1400 *Beryn* 1082 Ffawnus saw it wold nat. c1400 *Pilgr. Soule* (Caxton) II. lx. (1859) 57, I was nought but abyll for to suffre, whether I wold or no. 1431 *Mumim. de Melros* (Bann.) 522 þe gwilk brefe of Inqueste as law wald I gert procede. c1450 *Merlin* 204 Thei... wente to the courte euen and morowe whan thei wolden. 1530 *TINDALE Pract. Prelates* Hij, After that the Emperoure wolde in to Spayne. 1568 *GRAFTON Chron.* II. 28 Anselme might not... correct his clergie but as the king would. 1593 *DRAYTON Ecl.* viii. Would she ought or would she nought, This lad would neuer from her thought. 1603 *KNOLLES Hist. Turks* (1621) 174 Would he, would he not, they made choice for him themselues. 16... in *Percy Relig.*, *Baffled Knight* xiv, He that wold not when he might, He shall not when he wold-a. 1624 *Capt. J. Smith's Virginia* III. vi. (Arb.) II. 432 They cryed to vs to doe no more, all should be as we would. 1719 *DE FOE Crusoe* II. (Globe) 497 The Captain told me, he would go and help his Men, let what would come. *Ibid.* 555 He told me he would do just as I would. 1837 *DICKENS Pickw.* xxxv. Look where you would, some exquisite form glided gracefully through the throng. 1849 *MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 102 It was determined that the elector should have a chapel in the city whether he would or not. 1867 *MORRIS Jason* v. 47 When on the morn they would away. 1882 'LESLIE KEITH' *Alasnam's Lady* xxvii, I wanted Mr. Meyers to come with us, but he wouldn't. 1920 *Discovery* Nov. 331/1 The bulbs were then sealed up again and set aside to ferment if they would.

III. The past tense would with modal function.

* With simple obj. (or equivalent), or obj. clause.

† 35. *trans.* with simple obj. (also *intr.* with *well* or *ill* and dat. of person), as a qualification, becoming a virtual equivalent, of the present tense *will* in I, 1b: Could or might desire; 'should like'; desire, wish for, 'want' (sometimes implying 'intend'). Cf. 40. *Obs.* or *rare arch.*

1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* I. xix. 65 What wold ye with the best? c1530 LD. BERNERS *Arth. Lyt. Bryt.* (1814) 356, I am in certayne y^t he would you more honour than any persone lyuyng. 1532 *MORE Confut. Tindale* Wks. 408/1 Wherin euery mannes eares that would hym well, glowe for very shame. 1588 SHAKS. *L.L.L.* v. ii. 174 What would these strangers? 1596 — *Merch. V.* i. iii. 66 Is he yet possesed How much ye would? *Shy. I.* I, three thousand ducats. 1599 A. HUME *Hymnes* ii. 70 What sa the fantasie wald. 1611 *Bible* Josh. xv. 18 Caleb said vnto her, What wouldest thou? 1820 *BYRON Mar. Fal.* II. i, *Doge*. Come hither, child, I would a

word with you. 1822 — *Werner* I. i. (1823) 35 But, in a word, what would you with me?

36. Similarly with const. as in 2: viz. with obj. clause, with vb. in past subj. (*arch.* except in *would rather* or *sooner* = 'should prefer'), rarely in pres. subj., or with acc. and inf. Hence (*arch.*) with ellipsis of 1st pers. pron. as an expression of longing = 'I wish', 'O that'; also, by confusion with 37, in the form (*I would to God* (or *heaven*)).

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 64 Sum is so wel ilered, . . . pet heo wolde þæt he wuste hit. c1325 in *E.E.P.* (1862) 133 But in heore hertes .i. wolde þei hade. . . Hou some þat god hem may degrade. c1400 *Rule St. Benet* (prose) 8 Do til na man bot als tu walde man did to þe. c1400 *Destr. Troy* 472, I wold yonder worthy weddit me hadde. 1440 [see RATHER *adv.* 9]. c1449 *PECOCK Repr.* I. xiv. 73 Wherefore it myzte seme that God wolde not him to be oure reule in deedis of oure seruice to God. c1485 *Digby Myst.* III. 522 So wold to god 3e wold my loue fele. a 1520 *SKELTON Bowge of Courte* 481 And so I wolde it were, so God me spede. c1530 *REDFORDE Wyt & Sci.* (1848) 6 My hed akth sore, I wold wee returne. 1539 *Bible* (Great) Exod. xvi. 3 Wolde to God [1535 COVERDALE, Wolde God] we had dyed by the hand of the Lorde in the lande of Egypt. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N. v.* i. 255, I am wearie of this Moone; would he would change. 1595 — *John* III. iv. 48, I am not mad, I would to heauen I were. 1597 J. PAYNE *Royal Exch.* 33 Wch I would you ever to remember. 1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* To Rdr. A 4 b, I would thou hadst some Sugar Candyed, to sweeten thy Mouth. 1675 [see RATHER *adv.* 9e]. 1777 MISS M. TOWNSHEND in *Jesse Selwyn & Contemp.* (1844) III. 260 This news I picked up at Bet's door. Would to God that we had peace! 1816 J. WILSON *City of Plague* II. i, At a sad hour the sailor hath return'd; Would he were yet at sea! 1831 *SCOTT Ct. Rob.* xix, I would to God I had more. 1865 WHITTIER *Kallundborg Church* 48 Would I might die now in thy stead! 1882 TENNYSON *Charge of the Heavy Brigade* Epil. 10-11, I would that wars should cease, I would the globe from end to end Might sow and reap in peace.

37. Used optatively in the phr. *would God* (also † *God would*, † *Christ would*) = 'O that God would', 'O that it were God's will', as an expression of earnest desire or longing. *Obs.* or *rare arch.*

? c1375 in *Horstm. Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 125/1 Wolde god ded y wore! c1385 CHAUCER *L.G.W.* 1726 *Lucretia*, God wolde the wal were falle adoun! c1450 *CAPRAVE Life St. Aug.* xxix, Wold God 3e were swch as I fynde hem. ? 15... *Love Song* in *Ritson Ancient Songs* (1792) 115 Chryst wolt the fuger of hur swete face Were pcyctored wher euer I be. 1529 *RASTELL Pastyme* Aiv, Wold good it were so vsyd at this day. 1535 Wolde God [see 36, quot. 1539]. c1600 *Hymn, 'Hierusalem my happie home'* xi, Ah my swete home Hierusalem Would god I were in thee.

† 38. *fig.* as a qualification or equivalent of 3 c. c1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxvi. 9 And sesse your cry till I haue told What that my worship wold. c1460 *SIR R. ROS La Belle Dame* 272 Yet reson wolde it were in remembrance.

† 39. *transf.* as a qualification or equivalent of 4.

1559 in *Strype Ann. Ref.* (1709) I. App. xi. 34 The fantastical opynion, that wolde every man should be saved by his own faith.

** With dependent infinitive (as in I.** and II.**).

As with *should*, the notion of past time is usually expressed by the pf. inf.: see note s.v. SHALL v. B. II.***

40. The past subj. used with potential or conditional force as a softening of the pres. ind. in sense 5, and hence virtually equivalent to it: Could or should wish to; should like to; wish, desire, or 'want' to (sometimes implying 'intend'). *arch.* or *dial. exc.* in *would have* (with obj. and inf. or compl.) = 'should like, wish (a person or thing) to be or to do something': see HAVE v. 18 b.

The notion of desire (in later use often passing into that of consent or willingness) is often emphasized by *fain*, *gladly*, *willingly*, or the like. The use then becomes scarcely distinguishable from the strictly conditional use in 41.

c888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xx, Mid hu micelan feo woldest þu þa habban geboht? *Ibid.* xl. §7 Ic wolde acsian hwæfer we ænigne freedom hæbben. . . hwæt we don. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 580 & þou wost now vorsake Mi do3ter þat ssolede be þi wif. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4227, I wald sinc in-til helle depe Wit mi sun þar for to wepe. *Ibid.* 24560 þai wald ha berid him ful fain, Bot i him held wit al mi main. 13... *E.E. Allit. P. A.* 772 Quat-kyn þyng may be þat lambe þat þe wolde wedde vnto hys vyf? 13... *Gosp. Nicodemus* (A.) 292 Be what skille walde þai haue hym dede? c1350 *Will. Palerne* 1851 þe werwolf... went to him euene, Wiþ a rude roring, as he him rende wold. c1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* Prol. 97 3et vald I, & I mycht, Na var eld & falt of sycht, Of þe twelf apostolis speke now. *Ibid.* ii. (*Paulus*) 164 þe folk of rowme... wald haue brokyn his palace done. c1400 *Brut* lxxx. 82 þe Britons wolde haue slayne þe messagers, but Arthure wolde noust soffre hit. c1420 ? *LYDG. Assembly of Gods* 1953 For feere I lookyd as blak as a coole, I wold haue cropyn in a mouse hoole. 1539 *Bible* (Great) Ps. cvii. 30 And so he bryngeth them vnto the hauen where they wolde be [1611 their desired hauen]. 1550 *CROWLEY Last Trumpet* 765 Thus haue I tolde the, as I would be tolde, if I were in thy place. 1579-80 *HARVEY Lett. Wks.* (Grosart) I. 76, I would gladly be acquainted with M. Drants Prosody. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* III. i. 80 What would your Grace haue me to do in this? 1599 — *Much Ado* II. iii. 6, I know that, but I would haue thee hence, and heere againe. 1682 *DRYDEN Medal* Ep. Whigs, If you were the Patriots you would seem, you would not at this rate incense the Multitude to assume it. 1727 *POPE*, etc. *Art of Sinking* 120 Be sure they are qualities, which your patron would be thought to have. 1742 in *Johnson's Debates* (1787) II. 162 What is to be understood by this last sentence, I would willingly be informed. 1869 *FREEMAN Norm. Conq.* III. xii. 77 *note*, I would not... be

thought to share Mr. St. John's extreme scepticism. 1895 *Bookman* Oct. 17/2 The Duc d'Aumale's great work, 'L'Histoire des Princes de Condé', for which some of us would gladly give all the novels ever written. 1896 *HOUSMAN Shroph. Lad* lvi, Far I hear the bugle blow To call me where I would not go. 1905 *Athenæum* 11 Feb. 172/3 Second-rate 'romantism', as Mr. Marion Crawford would have us call it.

¶ with omission of *have* in pf. inf. 1508 *DUNBAR Gold. Targe* 146 First of all, . . . Come dame Beateee, rycht as scho wald me schent. 1560 *ROLLAND Seven Sages* 93 3e say he wald deforcit 3our Dame. 1654 *GATAKER Disc. Apol.* 38 Sir R. Owen would gladlie had me seated in Shropshire.

b. In lighter shades of meaning: Am (is, are) disposed or inclined to; often (in 1st pers. sing.) in hesitating or deferential statement = 'wish to... if I may'. (Cf. 13.) *would say* = 'intend to say, mean'. *would have* = 'is inclined to believe or assert (something to be so-and-so)': cf. 10 c.

c1386 CHAUCER *Sompn. T.* 106 Of your grete goodnesse, by your leve, I wolde prey yow that ye nat yow greve. 1467 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 96, I wold pray yow... that ye wold se my pore howse for yowr logyng. a 1547 *SURREY Æneis* II. 654 Percase you would ask what was Priam's fate? 1564 *HARDING Answ. Jewel* 215 What you would saye M. Iuell, I wote not, what you saye, well I wote. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Love-unknown* 52 When I thought to sleep out all these faults... I found that some had stuff'd the bed with thoughts, I would say thorns. 1709 T. ROBINSON *Vind. Mosaick Syst.* 19 Dr. H. M. would have Light to be the Platonick *Anima Mundi*. 1779 *Mirror* No. 3 ¶ 7, I would, nevertheless, humbly propose to the ladies, to be good-humoured. 1800 *WORDSW. Hart-Leap Well* 1. 96 But there is matter for a second rhyme, And I to this would add another tale. 1919 *Engl. Hist. Rev.* July 440 Working-men's colleges and institutes... are, the author would hope, built on a surer basis.

† c. *fig.* of a thing: Needs or requires to, ought to, should. *Obs.*

c1440 *Paston Lett.* I. 39 The gounne nedyth for to be had; and of colour it wolde be a godely blew, or eryl's a bryghte sangueyn. 1523 *FITZHERB. Husb.* §122 There is a bee called a drone... and they wylt eate the honny, and gather nothyng: and therefore they wolde be kylde. 1598 *Epulario* Gj, All fish would be very well sodden, and with leisure. 1601 *HOLLAND Pliny* xvi. xxxix. I. 488 To have good and profitable timber, the trees would bee cut downe that are of a middle age. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. iii. 75 That would be scann'd. 1626 *BACON Sylva* §625 The Conseruation of Fruit would be also tried in Vessells, filled with fine Sand. 1682 *EVELYN Let. to Pepys* 19 Sept., Besides all this, the nature of Prescription would be enquir'd into as well when it makes against us, as for us.

41. In the apodosis of a conditional sentence (expressed or implied), with pers. subject, forming the auxiliary of the periphrastic past subj. or so-called 'conditional mood' with implication of intention or volition: = 'should choose or be willing to': cf. 6, 7, 11.

a 1240 *Sawles Warde* in *O.E. Hom.* I. 253 Ich walde 3ef hit mahte beon polien a pused deabes to a rudden him ut prof. a 1352 *MINOT Poems* (ed. Hall) v. 5 War mi sorow slaked sune wald I sing. 1470-85 *MALORY Arthur* VIII. ii. 276 She wold haue slayne the with that poyson and she myghte haue hadde her wille. 1526 *TINDALE Matt.* xxiii. 37 Howe often wolde I haue gaddred thy children to gadder, as the henne gaddreth her chickens vnder her wynges? but ye wolde not. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* II. i. 189 If hee should intend this voyage toward my wife, I would turne her loose to him. 1610 — *Temp.* v. i. 230 If I did thinke, Sir, I were well awake, I'd striue to tell you. 1662 in *Extr. St. Papers rel. Friends* Ser. II. (1911) 151 Let me by no means be continued sheriff... I would rather endure a Fine than be kept on another yeare. 1738 *JOHNSON London* 9 Who would leave, unbrib'd, Hibernia's Land? 1832 *WORDSW. in Mem.* (1851) II. 257 If... I should be asked how I would myself vote, if it had been my fortune to have a seat in the House of Lords. 1848 *DICKENS Dombey* xlii, I wouldn't do such a thing here, sir... upon my word and honour, I wouldn't, sir. 1920 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 29 Apr. 264/4 The main object of writers on Bolshevism, whether they would admit it or not, has been to justify or condemn Lenin's great experiment.

b. *I would* (sc. 'if I were you') is often used colloq. as = 'I advise or recommend you to' (= *I should*, SHALL v. B. 19f.) So *I wouldn't* = 'I advise you not to'.

1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* III. i. 110, I would resort to her by night. 1835 *ARNOLD Let.* 18 May in *Stanley Life* (1898) I. vii. 360 If possible, I would take a Strabo with me, and an Herodotus. *Mod.* I wouldn't go skating to-day; the ice isn't safe.

c. Interrog. in 2nd pers.: † *wouldst thou* ... ? = 'art thou willing to ...?'; hence as a softened form of request: *would you* ... ? = 'will you, please ...?': cf. 6 b.

c1420 *Sir Amadace* (Camden) xl, Quod the quite kny3te, 'Wold thou luffe him aue alle thing?' 1607 *DEKKER & WEBSTER Northw. Hoe* I. i, *Bell*... Was this her ring? *Green.* Her ring Sir. *May.* A pretty idle toy, would you take money for 't? 1876 *MRS. EWING Six to Sixteen* II, Would you say the Lord's Prayer for me, old fellow?

42. In the apodosis of a conditional sentence (expressed or implied), in the 2nd or 3rd pers., forming the auxiliary of the simple 'conditional mood', expressing merely a possibility or contingency in the supposed case: cf. 14.

For the distinction between *should* and *would* see note s.v. SHALL v. B. 19b.

c888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xvi. §2 3if we nu gesawan hwelce mus þæt wære hlafof ofer oðre mys, & sette him domas... hu wunderlic wolde eow ðæt þincan. c1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 31 3ef he pat hielde synne, he wolde þe deme wiðien. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5521 3if ichadde him bisuike, þe wors þou wost leue me. c1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* III. 502 þere was som

Epistel hem by-twene, That wolde as seyth myn Auctor wel contene Neigh half pis bok. **1484** *Acta Audit.* (1839) *147/1 Pay to him samekle malis . . & vperis dewiteis as he may preif þe said landis walde have gevin him. **1538** *STARKEY England* iii. (1878) 73 Yf hyt were dylygently laburyd, hyt wold bryng forth frute. **1579** *LVLV Euphues* (Arb.) 93 If thou haddest learned the first point of hauking, thou woldst haue learned to haue held fast. **1592** *SHAKS. Rom. & Jul.* ii. 44 (Qo. 1) That which we call a Rose, By any other name wold smell as sweet. **1670** in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 22, I am sure you would bee with us if wishes could bring you. **1754** *HUXHAM* in *Phil. Trans.* XLVIII. 849 Perhaps some other salino-sulphureous medium would do as well. **1757** *MRS. GRIFFITH Lett. Henry & Frances* (1767) II. 44 There is a butterfly in my study, which would be dead some time past, but that I watched it. **1845** *M. PATTISON Ess.* (1889) I. 19 They would have refused their co-operation if they dared. **1859** *RUSKIN Two Paths* iii. §96 Your stuffs need not be such as would catch the eye of a duchess. **1902** *VIOLET JACOB Sheep-Stealers* xiv, Had it been possible to teach him the rudiments of good manners, [he] would have been a really valuable member of the household. **1920** *Act ro & 11 Geo. V c. 50 §22* (1) Any documents . . such as would be subject to production in a court of law.

¶ With omission of *have* in pf. inf.
1523 *L.D. BERNERS Froiss.* I. ccxi. 105/1 If . . his cosyn had nat counsayled hym to haue peace, he wolde nat agreed ther-vnto. **1813** *PICKEN Poems* II. 135 That had been milkin' his cow in a sieve.

b. With the hypothetical notion obscured or weakened, the 'conditional mood' becoming a qualification of the pres. ind. expressing some degree of hesitation or uncertainty: in such phr. as *it would seem* (= 'it almost or somewhat seems'), *one would think* (= 'one is inclined to think'). So *†would be* = 'probably is'. Cf. **15** d, and similar use of *should* s.v. *SHALL* v. B. 19 d.

c **1449** *PECOCK Repr.* III. viii. 322 The first premiss of this argument muste needis be graunted, as it wolde seeme. **1500** *Flower & Leaf* 247 Every bosse of brydel and peitrel . . was worth, as I would wene, A thousand pound. **1533** *MORE Apol.* 255 Men wolde haue went soneste to haue founde them. **1560** *Bible* (Geneva) Job xli. 32 He [sc. the Leviathan] maketh a path to shine after him; one wolde thinke the depth as an hore head. **1600** *Essex Reb. Exams.* in *Shaks. Cent. Praise* (1879) 35 The play wold be of harry the iijth. **1786** *BURNS Two Dogs* 81 An' when they meet wi' sair disasters, . . Ye maist wad think, a wee touch langer, An' they maun starve o' cauld and hunger. **1853** *MISS PRATT Wild Flowers* II. 75 This plant is not, as one would suppose from its name, a native of woods and meadows. **1882** *BESANT All Sorts* iv, If it was only to see her own vats, you'd think she'd get off of her luxurious pillows for once. **1918** *Pall Mall Gaz.* 29 June 4/3 The standard suits . . are steadily rising in price, and it would seem that by the time they are on the market they will come under the proposed luxury tax.

¶ c. Used in the 1st pers. instead of the normal auxiliary *should*.

Still freq. with such vbs. as *like*, *wish* (cf. *SHALL* v. B. 19 c), prob. by association with 40; otherwise now restricted in usage like the similar use of *will*: see 16 and 33.

1448 [see 48]. c **1477** *Stonor Papers* (Camden) II. 29 Y wolde be ago and 3e werre y-commie, fore we may nat go yntylle 3e comme. **1561** *Hoby tr. Castiglione's Courtier* i. (1577) Ej, He that should wryte, I wolde thinke he committed an error in not vsing them. **1599** *SHAKS. Much Ado* II. iii. 119, I would haue thought her spirit had bene inuincible against all assaults of affection. **1603** — *Meas. for M.* iv. ii. 18, I would bee glad to receiue some instruction. **1662** *Extr. State Papers* rel. *Friends* Ser. II. (1911) 150 Wee would be glad that all our Subjects could be brought to agree in an uniforme Worship of God. **1733** *W. CRAWFORD Infidelity* (1836) 189 The more we view them, the more would we be satisfied of their reality. **1780** *JOHNSON Let. to Mrs. Thrale* 24 Aug., I would be glad to know when we are to meet. **1794** *HUTTON Philos. Light* 15 The more . . that we should reason upon such a mistaken principle, the more we would proceed in error. **1817** *COLERIDGE Biog. Lit.* (1847) II. 223 He makes everything turn out exactly as we would wish it. **1887** *MOLONEY Forestry W. Afr.* 43, I would be disposed to question the accuracy of this information. **1921** *Oxford Mag.* 4 Feb. 180/2 We feel that we would recognize them if we met them.

d. *I wouldn't know*: see *KNOW* v. 11 g.

43. In a question or indirect statement in the 2nd or 3rd pers., where *should* would be used in the corresponding direct statement in the 1st.

In categorical questions and reported utterances varying with *should*, as *will* with *shall*: cf. note s.v. *SHALL* v. B. 8. But in rhetorical questions implying emphatic assertion (e.g. 'Would you believe it?') 'Who would have thought it?') *should* is never substituted.

1387-8 *T. Usk Test. Love* III. v. (Skeat) l. 119 What woldest thou demen if a man wold yeve three quarters of nobles of golde? **1582** *BENTLEY Mon. Matrones* iii. 291 Who would not haue bene confounded, & haue gotten him awaie at these thy words? **1598** *SHAKS. Merry W.* II. i. 10 You loue sacke, and so do I: would you desire better simpatheie? **1654** *DOROTHY OSBORNE Lett.* (1888) 229 What think you, have I not done fair for once, would you wish a longer letter? **1775** *JOHNSON Let. to Mrs. Thrale* 1 June, Tell me what you would be most willing to spare. **1779** *Mirror* No. 12 ¶8 Would you believe it, Sir, my daughter Elizabeth . . said it was fanatical to find fault with card-playing on Sunday. **1785** [see *SHALL* v. B. 19 c]. **1861** *T. L. PEACOCK Gryll Grange* xxix, Do you think . . you would find many examples of love that is one and once for all? **1863** [see *MIND* v. 8]. **1868** *THIRLWALL Lett.* (1881) I. 299 If you would like to see it I could send it you. **1886** *STORY Fiammetta* vii, Would you like to see it?

44. In a conditional (or equivalent) clause with pers. subject, with implication of intention or volition: = 'chose to', 'were willing to': cf. 41.

a **900** *CYNEWULF Crist* 1107 ðeseoð him to bealwe þæt him betst biwom, þær hy hit to gode ongietan woldan. c **1205** *LAY.* 6230 3if hit weoren pin iwill and þu hit don woldest To 3ifuen us an ende i pine kinne-londe, We wulleð pine men beon. a **1352** *MINOT Poems* (ed. Hall) v. 4 Wald he salue

vs sone, mi sorow suld slake. a **1375** *Joseph Arim.* 640 'Woldestou leeuie vppon him,' he seis 'I wolde' [etc.]. a **1400-50** *Wars Alex.* 311, I be-seke þe, . . if pou me say wald, Quatkyn fygour on fold or fourme at he beris. c **1475** *Rauf Coilgear* 70 With thy thow wald be payit of sic as thou fand, Forsuith thou suld be wel-cum to pas hame with me. **1594** in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* V. 293 He converted 5 or 6 felons in the short tyme he was in Newgate, whereof 2 or 3 might haue benee reprieved from the gallows, if they would haue denied what they had professed there. **1649** *BP. HALL Cases Consc.* To Rdr., In the handling of all which, would I haue affected that course . . I could easily [etc.]. **1714** in *Jrnl. Friends Hist. Soc.* (1918) 30 Several Expressing their love to me—telling me would I stay I need not fear a congregation. **1865** *RUSKIN Sesame* ii. §92 She knows, in her heart, if she would only look for its knowledge, that [etc.]. **1873** *BROWNING Red Cott. Nt.-cap* iv. 587 Would Providence . . make me certain of the same, That I survive you . . certainly I would accept Your bounty.

b. With inversion of subj., expressing desire or longing. (But cf. 37.)

1593 *SHAKS. 3 Hen. VI.* II. i. 75 Now my Soules Pallace is become a Prison: Ah, would she breake from hence. **1786** *BURNS To a Louse* 43 O wad some Pow'r the giftie gie me To see ourselfs as others see us!

† c. fig. of a thing: Could, might: cf. 9. *Obs.* c **1440** *Generydes* 214 And furthe he rideth . . With his knyghtes to mete and it wold be. c **1450** *Godstow Reg.* 21 Sacred Cipriane, 3if hit wold be gete, With Cosme and damiane wold I dyne.

† 45. In a hypothetical clause merely expressing a condition or supposition: = 'should', 'were to'.

c **1374** *CHAUCER Troylus* II. 1147 To dethe mote I smete be with ponder If . . Wold I a lettre vn-to yow brynge or take, To harm of yow. c **1400** *Pety Job* 500 in 26 *Pol. Poems* 137 That bed shall I neuer lese, Though I wolde for angor raue. c **1480** *HENRYSON Sheep & Dog* 163 Seis thou not, Lord, this world ouerturnit is, As quha wald change gude gold in leid or tyn. **1527** *ANDREW BRUNSWYKE'S Distyll. Waters* b iij b, Than make fyre vnder it that it may droppe trelably as yf y' wolde tell y' clocke i. ii. y' than there fall a drop. c **1550** *ROLLAND Crt. Venus* II. 5 Wald Venus court reitret, cast or conuert, Or in sum part thairin mak resistance.

† b. After *as if* (or *as* in same sense): = 'were about to' (= *should*, *SHALL* v. B. 20 a, b). *Obs.* a **1550** *Dunbar's Poems* (S.T.S.) 308/18 Sum drowp down as he wold die. **1719** *DE FOE Crusoe* I. (Globe) 210 At this I . . made as if I would vomit at the thoughts of it.

46. In a noun-clause expressing the object of desire, advice, or request.

Usually with a person as subj., implying voluntary action as the desired end: thus distinguished from *should*, which may be used when the person's will is not in view. Also (almost always after *wish*) with a thing as subject, in which case *should* can never be substituted because it would suggest the idea of command or compulsion instead of mere desire. Cf. *SHALL* v. B. 22 a.

1555 *POLE in Engl. Hist. Rev.* (1913) July 530, I wold my syster wold ataryd a littell longer. **1590** *SHAKS. Mids. N.* i. 195 O that your frownes would teach my smiles such skil. **1611** — *Cymb.* II. iv. 6 Quake in the present winters state, and wish That warmer dayes would come. **1685** in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* (1920) Jan. 116 His Lordship desires you would present his most humble duty to my Lord Duke. **1736** *SHERIDAN Let. to Swift* 15 Sept., Indeed if you pleased, . . I would rather that you would, I mean should, charge only five per cent. **1775** — *Rivals* IV. ii, I wish the lady would favour us with something more than a side-front. **1833** *TENNYSON May Queen, New Year's Eve* iv, I wish the snow would melt. **1849** *MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* IV. i. 465 The general wish of Europe was that James would govern in conformity with law and with public opinion. **1912** *Engl. Hist. Rev.* Oct. 754 It is much to be wished that some one would clear up the tangled web of these peace negotiations.

¶ b. Used irreg. for *should* (*SHALL* v. B. 22): with restriction of usage as in 16. ? *Obs.*

1760-72 *H. BROOKE Fool of Qual.* (1809) IV. 7, I should be sorry . . that the wretch would die in his present state of reprobacy. **1766** *MRS. S. PENNINGTON Lett.* II. 197, I choose rather you would carry it yourself. **1771** *GOLDSM. Hist. Eng.* III. 312 It was intended that this would encrease the severity of his punishment.

*** 47. Elliptical and quasi-elliptical uses, as in I.*** 17-21.

c **1230** *Hali Meid.* (1922) 44 Hwa-se lið i leifen deope bisuncken, . . he ne schal nawt up acouerin hwen he walde. c **1374** *CHAUCER Troylus* III. 115 And Pandare wep as he to watre wolde. **1390** *GOWER Conf.* I. 84 Thogh I wolde, I myhte nought Obeie unto my ladi heste. **1393** *LANGL. P. Pl.* C. viii. 285 Wist ich pe sope, Ich wolde no forþer a fot for no freres prechinge. **14..** *HOCCEVE Min. Poems* xvi. 10 Tho men . . Fayn wolden þat they and I euene were: And so wolde I. **1423** *JAS. I Kingis Q.* clxvii, It stant nocht with the as thou wald, perchance? **1484** *CAXTON Fables of Auian* ii, Who so mounteth hyher than he shold he falleth lower than he wold. **1548** *UDALL, etc. Erasm. Par. John* x. 15-18 Yet could thei not kyll me vnlesse I wold my selfe. **1556** *OLDE Antichrist* 120 b, Is it the propertie of a shepheard, to renne madde upon his flocke, worse than a wolfe wolde? **1591** *SHAKS. Two Gent.* IV. iii. 22, I would to Valentine To Mantua, where I heare, he makes aboad. **1605** — *Macb.* I. vii. 44 Letting I dare not, wait vpon I would. **1610** — *Temp.* II. i. 185 You would lift the Moore one out of her spheare, if she would continue in it fwee weekes without changing. *Seb.* We would so, and then go a Bat-fowling. *Ibid.* III. i. 61 *Fer.* I am, in my condition A Prince (Miranda) I do thinke a King (I would not so). **1777** [see so B. 2 b]. **1848** *DICKENS Dombey* xlii, I wouldn't do such a thing here, Sir, . . upon my word and honour, I wouldn't, Sir, I wish I may die if I would, Sir. **1865** *RUSKIN Sesame* i. §21 Never think Milton uses those three words to fill up his verse, as a loose writer would.

b. *wouldn't it?* (ellipt. for *wouldn't it rock you?*, *wouldn't it root you?*, and similar catch-phrases): an exclamation of annoyance and disgust or (less usually) amusement. *Austral.* and *N.Z. slang.*

1940 *Telegraph* (Sydney) 13 Jan. 4/7 Favorite expression with the troops is, of course, 'Wouldn't it?'—Short for 'Wouldn't it make you sick?' **1941** *2nd N.Z.E.F. Times* 3 Nov. 6 Well, *wouldn't it?* **1951** *CUSACK & JAMES Come in Spinner* 382 Guinea kicked a hassock across the room. 'Wouldn't it!' she muttered furiously, 'wouldn't it!' **1954** *J. CLEARY Climate of Courage* xii. 185 'Asking your wife if you can write to her. Wouldn't it?'

IV. 48. Followed by *to* with inf., esp. after an intervening word or words (cf. *to prep.* B. 19); now the regular const. only with pres. pple. *willing*.

(Not always distinguishable from *WILL* v.?)

c **1320** *Sir Tristr.* 303 Tristrem herd it say, On his playing he wold Tuentschilling to lay. **1382** *WYCLIF Matt.* xiv. 5 And he willynge to slea hym, drede the peple. **1448** *SHILLINGFORD Lett. & Papers* (Camden) 55 Elles we wolde truly to haue had tyme. c **1450** *Merlin* iii. 54 Thei haue assembled a grete power, and wele to conquare this londe be force. **1450-60** *Bp. Grossetest's Househ. Stat. in Babees Bk.* 331 And they wyllen to do that ye wylle to do. **1453** *MARG. PASTON in P. Lett.* I. 251 It semyth . . that she wold neuer so fayn to haue be delveryd of her as she woll now. c **1460** *Play Sacram.* 288, I wollnot for a hunderd pownd to stond in fere my lord to tene. **1548** *HALL Chron., Edw. IV* 213 Not willing if he might, to displease any of bothe the parties. **1568** *GRAFTON Chron.* II. 764 He could not get away, and to keepe himselfe close he would not. **1610** *SHAKS. Temp.* III. i. 61, I . . would no more endure This wdden slauerie, then to suffer The flesh-flie blow my mouth. **1632** *LITHGOW Trav.* III. 101 The which I willing to see. **1633** [see *RATHER adv.* 9 c]. **1648** *KEM Let. to Ld. Denbigh* 19 Nov. (MS.), Nor is it thocht he will to stay only to get y^e saylers aboard.

V. † 49. Pa. pple. would, *would(e)* (mostly with ellipsis): chiefly in sense 7, = chosen. *Obs.*

c **1380** *WYCLIF Sel. Wks.* II. 293 He myzt, 3if he hadde wolde, haue take greet veniaunce of hem. c **1385** *CHAUCER L.G.W.* 1209 *Dido*, The fomy brydil . . Gouernyth he, ryght as hym self hath wold. c **1412** *HOCCEVE De Reg. Princ.* 1075 Crist himself, . . To loue and teche and prechen it hath wold. c **1450** *Oseney Reg.* 164 Where I haue i-wolled me to be i-beried. **1470-85** *MALORY Arthur* vii. xiii. 232 Many tymes he myghte haue had her and he had wold. **1583** *GOLDING Calvin on Deut.* clxxxiv. 1145 Not that hee was vnable to let them, or withstande them, if hee had wold. **1633** *J. DONE Hist. Septuagint* 216 If hee had wold, hee might easily . . occupied the Monarchy.

VI. Conjoined with *NILL* v., etc.

In later use also with 3rd pers. sing. *willeth* or *wills*, pa. t. *willed*, and thus blending with *WILL* v.?

50. *absol.* or *intr.* a. In disjunctive qualifying phr. such as *whether he* (etc.) *will or nill*, also *who(ever will or nill* (in senses 2, 5-7): whether (one) will or not; willingly or unwillingly; voluntarily or compulsorily. *Obs.* or *rare arch.*: replaced by the inverted form in b.

c **888** *ÆLFRED Boeth.* xxxiv. §12 We sceolon beon nede gepafan, sam we willan sam we nyllan, þæt he sie se hehsta hrof eallra goda. c **900** *tr. Bæda's Hist.* v. ix, Saga him, swa he wille swa he nelle, he sceall to Columban mynstre cuman. **1411** 26 *Pol. Poems* x. 8 Hym þat is loo, god to lere, He shal, wepher he wole or nylle. c **1449** *PECOCK Repr.* IV. xiii. 428 And 3it, who euee wole or nyle, Holi Scripture wole that preesthode and dekenhode be had and vsid. **1470-85** *MALORY Arthur* XIII. xx. 641 Thow shalte knowe hym whether thou wilt or nylt. c **1550** *ROLLAND Crt. Venus* IV. 345 Now sall he sit . . Quha will, quha Nill, intill ane deip dungeoun. **1565** *HARDING Confut.* 275 Truth is truth, and God is God, whether any Councell will or nill. **1651** *N. BACON Disc. Govt. Eng.* II. xxx. 239 They do what they list, let the Plebeian Presbyter wil or nill. **1873** *T. COOPER Parad. Martyrs* (1877) 355 Each thing . . whether it will or nill, The eternal purpose . . Doth . . fulfil.

pa. t. c **1470** *HARDING Chron.* CLXIII. ii, [He] theim compelled . . To become his men . . whether they wold or nolde. **1470-85** *MALORY Arthur* XVII. xi. 705 Els had there ben mortal werre vpon the morne not withstanding she wold none other whether they wold or nold.

b. esp. with inversion of subj. (usually a pron.), as *will I* (or) *nill I* (he, they, etc.), or †abbreviated, as *will* (or) *nill*, *willing* (or) *nilling* (see *WILLING ppl.* a.); occas. vaguely = 'one way or another, in any case, anyhow'. Now chiefly in the reduced form *WILLY-NILLY*, q.v.

c **1000** *ÆLFRED Saints' Lives* xvi. 121 Forðan þe we synd sunfulle and sceolan beon eadmode, wille we, nelle we. c **1230** *Hali Meid.* (1922) 41 Wullen ha nullen ha. a **1300** *XV Signa* 173 in *E.E.P.* (1862) 12 For wolny nului hi sul fle. ? a **1300** *Salomon & Sat.* (1848) 271 Mote hit al habben is wille, Woltou, nultou, hit wol spille. **1340** *Ayenb.* 164 þet is al þet he may lyese, wylle him nolle him. **1362** *LANGL. P. Pl.* A. vii. 144 Wol þou so nulle þou. **1377** *Ibid.* B. vi. 158 Wiltow or neltow. *Ibid.* xx. 29 Wolhe, nolhe. c **1400** *Laud Troy Bk.* 17560 Wil thow, nele thow—the pees schal be! **1548** *UDALL, etc. Erasm. Par. Matt.* v. 14-16 Y^e hyll . . that beareth it [sc. the city], willet it, nillet it, maketh it sene of al men. **1550** *BALE Image Both Ch.* II. xvi. R v b, Will she nill shee, needes must shee abyde his . . sentence. a **1555** *LATIMER in Foxe A. & M.* (1563) 1324/2 If my Lorde wylle needes . . inuade my inwarde manne, wyl I nill I. **1565** *HARDING Confut.* 117 Well, how so euer it be, wylle ye nill ye . . ye be dryuen to confesse the same to be no wyle thing. a **1566** *R. EDWARDS Damon & Pithias* (1571) G iv, Wyl I or nill I, it must be done. **1567** *JEWEL Def. Apol.* 715 God is able (. . wil the Councelles, nil the Councelles) to maintaine . . his owne Kingedome. **1590** *SPENSER F.Q.* I. iii. 43 And will or nill, Beares her away. **1596** *SHAKS. Tam. Shr.* II. i. 273 Will you, nill you, I will marry you. **1599** *SVLVESTER Sonn. Mirac. Peace* xii, A sacred rage . . Will-nill-I, raps mee boldly to rehearse Great Henrie's Tropheis. **1600** *HOLLAND Livy* III. xxx, The Nobles were so neere driven and to such streights, that will they, nill they, yeld they must thereto. **1614** *GORGES Lucan* v. 187 For will, or nill, powre them constraines. **1647** *J. BOOKER in Lilly Chr. Astral.*, Be you for or against, or will ye, nill ye; I'm for the Art, and th' Author William Lilly. **1750** *GRAY Long Story* xxii, Will he, nill he, to the Great-house He went, as if the Devil drove him. **1818**

KEATS *Let. Wks.* 1889 III. 134 In hopes of cheering you . . . I was determined, will he nill he, to send you some lines. **1822** BYRON *Juan* vi. cxviii. But go they must at once, and will I—nill I. **1852** JERDAN *Autobiogr.* I. xvi. 116. I was obliged, will-i-nill-i, to take a sailor's advice. **1870** LOWELL *Among my Bks.*, *New Eng. 2 Cent.* ago 230 Land for all who would till it, and reading and writing, will ye nill ye, instead. **1899** SIR G. DOUGLAS *James Hogg* iii. 68 The galloping movement of the metre hurries us, will-we nill-we, on.

(b) in pa. t. (*would . . . nould . . .*, also *willed . . . nilled . . .*). *Obs.* or *rare arch.*, the pres. form being ordinarily used even when the principal vb. is in pa. t. (see quots. 1600, 1750, 1852 above).

c1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* (Th.) II. 388 Se brym . . . hine bæc, wolde he, nolde he. **c1175** Lamb. *Hom.* 7 Summe hit sungen purh pene halie gast, walden heo naldden heo. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 10463 Wolde he so nolde. **c1330** R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 10772 Wold he, nold he, forþ he mote. *Ibid.* 13755 þe Romains, wold ho, ne wolde, Flede. **c1400** Brut I. 79 He knelede to þe grounde, wolde he nolde he. **1549** LATIMER *1st Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 28 For would they, nyl they, theyr kinge shold be of his chosynge. **1596** DANETT in *Burton's Diary* (1828) III. 127 So that, would I, nould I, to the presse the booke must go. **1889** WRATISLAW tr. *Sixty Folk-Tales* 65 The good prince—would he, nould he—was obliged to put some of the leaden dumplings into his pocket.

1548 PATTEN *Exped. Scot.* Lviij b, Which whither he did for the doubt he had that we would have released him will he nild he [etc.]. **1577** HOLINSHED *Chron.* I. 233/1 Shee ruled them (willed they nilled they). **1610** HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 549 That will'd hee nill'd hee, at length he yielded up unto him this Castle.

51. (Always inflected *willeth* (*wills*), *willed*; thus properly belonging to WILL v.²). a. *trans.* To desire, have a mind to (= 1), choose (as opp. to *nill* = 'refuse'); to exercise the will with intent to effect (something), to determine by the will (as opp. to *nill* = 'negative, prevent').

1585 FETHERSTONE tr. *Calvin on Acts* iv. 32. 101 All of them do both will and nill one thing. **1596** SPENSER *F.Q.* iv. vii. 16 But whether willed or nilled friend or foe, I me resolu'd the vtmost end to proue. **1612** T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* iii. 3. 613 A facultie of willing, or nilling that which is first understood and iudged of in the minde. **1616** B. JONSON *Epigr.* xlii. To will, and nill The selfe-same things. **1645** PAGITT *Heresiogr.* (1661) 143 The will may . . . of her self, will or nill, choose or refuse any kind of good. **1722** WOLLASTON *Relig. Nat.* v. 76 *note*, He is both cause and effect; He both willes and nilles, . . . loves and hates the same thing at the same time. **1775** FLETCHER *Scrip. Scales* II. §21. Wks. 1795 V. 335 The will . . . cannot be forced to will or nill anything against its own dictates. **1860** [see NILL v. 2].

b. *absol.* or *intr.*

1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* 588 Will chooseth, for in it dooth lye bothe to will and to nill. a **1610** BAHINGTON *Expos. Cath. Faith* Wks. 1622 II. 192 Whatsoever is done, is done either God willing, God nilling, or God not regarding. **1611** B. JONSON *Catiline* I. v. C1 b, To will, or nill, to thinke things good, or bad. **1642** D. ROGERS *Naaman* 12 From the different dispositions, and free-will of him that nilleth or willeth. a **1680** CHARNOCK *Attrib. God* (1682) 190 How had he the power of willing and nilling without a Being? Nothing cannot will or nill.

52. So wilto shalto *dial.* [= *wilt thou, shalt thou*], whether voluntarily or by compulsion (cf. SHALL v. B. 3, 6 a); willy-nilly.

1824 CARR *Craven Gloss.* **1857** WAUGH *Lanc. Life* 203 There is at'll believe naught at o', iv it isn't fair druvven into um, wilto, shalto.

VII. **53.** *Comb.* (nonce-wds.): will-be, sb. a person or thing that will be but is not yet; one whose career or efficiency belongs to the future (cf. HAS-BEEN, *have-been* s.v. HAVE v. 27); *adj.* that will be; that aims at being, or is ready to be (cf. WOULD-BE); † will-do-all, money (cf. ECEL. x. 19).

1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) I. 232, I have looked backward to the *have-been's*, and forward to the **will-be's*. **1801** in *Spirit Publ. Jnls.* V. 377 Our will-be Squires. **1900** T. R. WILLIAMS *Greenfield Pulpit* No. 72 (title of sermon) Jesus and will-be disciples; Luke ix. 57-62. **1583** STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 13 It cometh to passe by reason of (*will doe all) otherwise called mony.

will (wil), v.² Pres. t. 2 sing. willest, 3 sing. willeth (*arch.*), wills; pa. t. and pple. willed (wild). Forms: 1 willan, 3-4 willi, 3-6 wyll, 5-6 wille, 5-7 wil, 5- will. *Pa. t.* 1 willode, -ade, 3 will-, wyllede, 3-6 wylled, 4 willyd, 5 -ied, *Sc.* -it, 5-6 -id, 3- willed; 4 wijld, 4-6 wilde, 6 wild. *Pa. pple.* 5 willid, -yd, 5-6 wylled, 6 willet, 6- willed; 6 wild(e, 6-7 wild. [OE. *willian* wk. vb. = OHG. *willōn* (MHG., G. *willen*, pa. pple. *gewillt*): f. WILL sb.¹]

1. *trans.* To wish, desire; sometimes with implication of intention: = WILL v.¹ 1, 2, 5. *Obs.* or *rare arch.*

c825 Vesp. *Psalter* xxxiii[1]. 13 [12] Hwelc is mon se wile lif & willað gesian dægaz gode? **c1100** Ælfred's *Boeth.* xl. §3 Dy ne sceolde nan wis man willian [Cott. MS. *willian*] seftes lifes. **c1205** LAY. 879 3if 3e hit willed [= willed; *c1275* wollep], ich hine wile spillen. **1297** R. GLOUC. (1724) 12 þat he wilneð [v.rr. wyllede, willed] mest of alle þing to him eliance. **1340** Ayeñb. 142 Herte þet pis hep a-sayd naht ne williep more þanne uor to by . . . uoryete to þe wordle. **1377** LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XII. 221 [þu þat] willest of briddes and of bestes and of hire bredyng to knowe. **14..** Lat. & Eng. *Prov.* (MS. Douce 52) lf. 13 He þa lytul me 3euynth to me wylyth [optat] longe lyffe. **1471** CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 218 So had he well willyd that the monstre had deuoured perseus. **1548** UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Matt.* v. 21-24 Who

so euer hath gotten to hymselfe the charitie of the gospell, whyche wyllthe wyl to them that wyllthe yll. **1581** A. HALL *Iliad* v. 87 By Mineruas helpe, who willes you all the ill she may. a **1677** BARROW *Serm. Luke xxii. 42* Wks. 1686 III. 45 Two things he willeth, that we should be good, and that we should be happy. **1875** TENNYSON *Q. Mary* I. iv. A great party in the state Wills me to wed her.

† b. ? To assert, affirm: = WILL v.¹ B. 4. *rare.*

1614 SELDEN *Titles Hon.* 134 None of this excludes Vnction before, but only wils him the first annointed by the Pope.

c. Conjoined with NILL: see WILL v.¹ B. VI.

2. a. To direct by one's will or testament (*that* something be done, or something *to be* done).

871-89 [see WILL v.¹ B. 3b]. **1338** R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 34 At Wynchestre he lies, so himself willed. a **1513** FABYAN *Chron.* (1811) 613 Robert Chycheley, . . . the which wyllid in his testament, that vpon his mynde day a good . . . dyner shuld be ordeyned for .xxiii. C. poore men. **1590** SPENSER *F.Q.* II. x. 32 So to his crowne she him restor'd againe, In which he dyde, made ripe for death by eld, And after wild, it should to her remaine. **1634** PEACHAM *Compl. Gentl.* xv. (1906) 199 Willing his body to be buried in the Cathedral Church of Rochester. **1642** tr. *Perkins' Prof. Bk.* viii. §547. 237 If a man willeth that his lands shall be sold for payment of his debts. **1881** LADY HERBERT *Edith* vii. It was a simple walking funeral, as he had wished and willed it should be.

b. To dispose of by will; to bequeath or devise.

c1460 Oseney *Reg.* 7 Willyng and grauntyng my lorde Robert Doyll, all my londe. **1521** Test. *Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 6 First I will my saull to God Almyghtie. **1524** Lincoln Wills (Lincoln Rec. Soc.) V. 132 The resydue of all my goodes not willet nor bequeathed. **1546** Yks. *Chantry Surv.* (Surtees) II. 462, iiij^a. . . willed and bestowed of one obit. **1691** E. TAYLOR *Behmen's Theos. Phil.* 74 The Will of every of them willeth its Property. **1865** DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* II. xiii. Was it not enough that I should have been willed away, like a horse? **1883** *Law Times* 20 Oct., The statute of Henry VIII did something to restore the power of willing land. **1908** Mrs. H. WARD *Diana Mallory* iii. The vast bulk of Henry Mar sham's fortune, had been willed to Lady Lucy.

3. To determine by the will; to attempt to cause, aim at effecting by exercise of will; to set the mind with conscious intention to the performance or occurrence of something; to choose or decide to do something, or that something shall be done or happen.

Const. with simple obj., acc. and inf., simple inf. (now always with *to*), or obj. clause; also *absol.* or *intr.* (with *as* or *so*).

Nearly coinciding in meaning with WILL v.¹ 7, but with more explicit reference to the mental process of volition.

a950 Guthlac xx. (Prose) 161 Æfter þon fiftyne gear þe he gode willigende lædde his life. a **1340** HAMPOLE *Psalter* vii. 17 He willyd noght flee synn. **c1440** *Alphabet of Tales* 263 Lady, þow hase willed me . . . to suffre suche a turmentrie, at þou sufferd þe instrument of pine offes for to be þus cut off. **1556** *Aurelio & Isab.* (1608) Avij, When . . . I have willed experiment it, I have founde it trewe and certaine. **1581** A. HALL *Iliad* v. 95 Fate had not willed that Vlysses Sarpadons death should be. **1594** HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* I. vii. §2 To choose is to will one thing before another. **1615** R. COCKS *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 9 He willed to take it all, for that he had need to use money heare. **1630** PRYNNE *Anti-Armin.* 119 He had onely a power, not to fall into sinne vnlesse he willed it. **1667** MILTON *P.L.* viii. 549 So absolute she seems . . . that what she wills to do or say, Seems wisest. **1710** J. CLARKE tr. *Rohault's Nat. Philos.* (1729) I. 11 If I will to move my Arm, it is presently moved. **1712** BERKELEY *Pass. Obed.* §11 He that willeth the end, doth will the necessary means conducive to that end. **1837** CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. v. v. All shali be as God wills. **1880** MEREDITH *Tragic Com.* vi. So great, . . . heroical, giant-like, that what be wills must be. **1891** FARRAR *Darke. & Dawn* liv. Who . . . were ready, if God so willed, to die for their faith. **1896** HOUSMAN *Shrophsh. Lad* xxx, Others, I am not the first, Have willed more mischief than they durst.

b. *intr.* To exercise the will; to perform the mental act of volition.

1582 N. T. (Rhem.) Phil. ii. 13 It is God which worketh in you, both to will and to accomplish. **1594** HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* I. vii. §2 To will, is to bend our soules to the hauing or doing of that which they see to be good. **1635** QUARLES *Embl.* iv. viii. See how my Sin-bemangled body lies, Not having pow'r, to will; nor will, to rise! **1690** LOCKE *Hum. Und.* II. xxi. §30 He, that shall turn his thoughts inwards upon what passes in his mind when he wills. **1830** MACKINTOSH *Eth. Philos.* Wks. 1846 I. 85 But what could induce such a being to will or to act? **1867** A. P. FORBES *Explan. 39 Art.* I. 12 Is this infinitely powerful and intelligent Being free? wills He? loves He?

c. *trans.* To bring or get (*into*, *out of*, etc.) by exercise of will.

1850 L. HUNT *Table-t.* (1882) 184 Victims of opium have been known to be unable to will themselves out of the chair in which they were sitting. **1874** H. R. REYNOLDS *John Bapt.* iii. §2. 156 The great powers of nature . . . were willed into being by the word of Jehovah.

d. To control (another person), or induce (another) to do something, by the mere exercise of one's will, as in hypnotism.

1882 Proc. Soc. Psych. *Research* I. 57 *note*, The one to be 'willed' would go to the other end of the house, if desired, whilst we agreed upon the thing to be done. **1886** 19th Cent. Dec. 883 They are what is called 'willed' to do certain things desired by the ladies or gentlemen who have hold of them. **1897** A. LANG *Dreams & Ghosts* iii. 59 A young lady, who believed that she could play the 'willing game' successfully without touching the person 'willed'.

4. To express or communicate one's will or wish with regard to something; with various shades of meaning. (Cf. WILL v.¹ 3.)

a. To enjoin, order; to decree, ordain. *Obs.* or *arch.*

(a) with personal obj., usually with inf. or clause.

a **1300** Cursor *M.* 11293 þe lai of moyses . . . wiild Womman þat had a knaue child, At hir fornast birth suld sco It offer þe hali temple to. **1481** Cov. *Leet Bk.* 496 We desire and also will you that vnto oure seid seruauñt . . . ye yeue your aid. **1547** Edw. VI in Rymer *Feodera* (1719) XV. 192 We Wyll and Commaunde yowe to Proceede in the seid Matters. **1568** GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 659 Their sute was smally regarded, and shortly after they were willed to silence. **1588** LAMBARDE *Eiren.* II. vii. 272 If a man do lie in awaite to rob me, and (drawing his sword upon me) he willeth me to deliver my money. **1591** SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI.* I. iii. 10 We doe no otherwise then wee are will'd. **1596** NASHE *Saffron Walden* P4, Vp he was had and . . . willed to deliuer vp his weapon. a **1656** HALES *Gold. Rem.* (1673) I. 31 The King in the Gospel, that made a Feast, and . . . willed his servants to go out to the high-ways side. **1799** NELSON in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) III. 397 Willing and requiring all Officers and men to obey you.

(b) with thing as obj., either sb. (alone or with inf. pass.) or obj. clause; also *absol.* in clause with *as*. (See also 2 a.)

c1400 Destr. *Troy* 13261 At þat orribill I asket angardly myche, Of dethe, & of deire, as destyny willes. **1412** in 15th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm. App. viii. 10 We . . . wil for the mare sekernes this oure confirmacioun be . . . selit with oure grete sele. **1526** Pilgr. *Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 224 b, Where scripture wyllthe the contrary. **1565** COOPER *Thesaurus* s.v. *Classicum*, By sounde of trumpet to will scilence. **1585** in Engl. Hist. Rev. (1914) Jan. 115 Th'act . . . was ones red . . . and was willed to be ingrosed to the third reading. **1612** BACON *Ess., Of Empire* (Arb.) 300 It is common with Princes (saith Tacitus) to will contradictories. **1697** DRYDEN *Æneis* I. 112 'Tis yours, O Queen! to will The Work, which Duty binds me to fulfil. **1877** TENNYSON *Harold* vi. i, Get thou into thy cloister as the king Will'd it.

† b. To pray, request, entreat; = DESIRE v. 6.

1454 Paston *Lett. Suppl.* (1901) 54 As for the questyon that ye wylled me to aske my lord, I fond hym yet at no good leyser. **1564** HAWARD tr. *Eutropius* III. 26 b, The Romaines sent ambassadours to them, to wyll him to cease from battayle. **1581** A. HALL *Iliad* II. 19 His errand done, as he was willed, he toke his flight from thence. **1631** [MABBE] *Celestina* xiii. 150 Did I not will you I should not be wakened? **1690** DRYDEN *Amphitryon* I. i, He has sent me to will and require you to make a swinging long Night for him.

† c. *fig.* of a thing: To require, demand (cf. WILL v.¹ B. 3 c); also, to induce, persuade (a person to do something). *Obs.*

1445 in Anglia XXVIII. 267 Constaunce willeth also That thou doo noughe with weyke corage. **1563** GOOGE *Egloges* Ded. (Arb.) 24 These . . . mischiefs vtterly diswaded me from the folowynge of my frenches perswasions, and wylled me rather to condem them. **1579** LVLV *Euphues* (Arb.) 88 Wisedome willeth me to pawse. **1607** SHAKS. *Cor.* II. iii. 125 What Custome wills in all things, should we doo't? The Dust on antique Time would lye vnswept. **1667** MILTON *P.L.* IV. 633 Mean while, as Nature wills, Night bids us rest.

will, v.³ Now only *Shetland dial.* Pa. t. and pple. willed, wilt (also 4 wylt, 5 welt). [a. ON. *villask*, refl. of *villa* to lead astray, f. *villr* WILL a.] *intr.* To go astray, lose one's way; to stray; *pa. pple.* gone astray, 'lost' (= WILL a. 1).

13.. *Mettr. Hom.* (Vernon MS.) in Herrig's *Archiv* LVII. 277 So fer forþ pis foul him tilled þat atte last in wode he willed. **13..** *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1711 He . . . Stelez out ful stilly . . . Went haf wylt of þe wode with wylez fro þe houndes. ? a **1400** *Morte Arth.* 3230 Me thoughte I was in a wode willed myne one. **c1440** *York Myst.* xxviii. 17 Qwat way is he willed In pis worlde wyde?

1887 JESSIE M. E. SAXBY *Lads of Lunda, Helyers* v, 'To will', in Shetlandic parlance, means to lose your way. **1899** J. SPENCE *Shetl. Folk-Lore* 227 'They're wilt that wales' has reference to the difficulty often experienced in choosing among many things.

will, obs. f. VILE, WELL sb.¹, v.¹, *adv.*

willable ('wɪləb(ə)l), a. *rare.* [f. WILL v.¹ or ² + -ABLE.] † a. That is to be willed or desired. *Obs.* **14..** *Cloude of Onknowing* MS. Univ. Coll. 14. a3 b, þe hygest wyllabyll þing [L. *vellibile*], þe whych is god.

b. Capable of being willed.

1880 CAIRD *Introd. Philos. Relig.* ix. 292 All truth is knowable as *my* knowledge, all good willable as *my* will.

willage, -aige, willane, willans, willany, obs. Sc. ff. VILLAGE, VILLAIN, VILLAINS, VILLAINY.

will-a-wisp: see WILL-O'-THE-WISP.

† **wille, wil, a. and adv.** *Obs.* [Partly developed from predicative use of ME. *wille*, WILL sb.¹ (cf. UNWILLE); partly aphetic f. IWIL a. (OE. **gewill* in *ungewill*); cf. WIL-.]

A. *adj.* Pleasing, pleasant, acceptable, agreeable.

c1200 Trin. Coll. *Hom.* 213 Unriht heo doð ec togenes his emcristene, penne he hine læðeð to drinken more, noht þe him þeo wille oðer queme, ac penne him ned were. **c1205** LAY. 20816 3if hit þe weore wille an heorte þat we mosten ouer sæ. a **1225** Leg. *Kath.* 571 3ef ow is wile for to wunien wið me. **c1375** Cursor *M.* 3647 (Fairf.) Hit salle him sauour wonder wil [Cott. It sal him sauer al to will, *Gött.* . . . to his wille, *Trin.* . . . al at wille].

B. *adv.* Voluntarily, willingly.

a **1300** Cursor *M.* 22387 All þat wil [Fairf. wille] him sal witstand Sal coround be to liif lastand. **c1450** *Ibid.* 9645 (Laud) To eche man she yevyp wille Right to haue good and ille.

wille, obs. Sc. f. VILE; obs. f. WELL, WILL.

willed (wɪld), a. [f. WILL sb.¹ + -ED².]

1. Having a will of a specified kind: chiefly in comb., as **EVIL-willed**, **ILL-WILLED**, **SELF-WILLED**.

14.. in *Harrow. Hell* p. xxv, Witted [as] a wodkok; Wyllid as a wedercoke.

2. Having the will directed to some (specified) action; minded, disposed, inclined (*to do* something). Cf. **WELL-WILLED** (comp. †*better-willed*).

1398, etc. [see **WELL-WILLED**]. 1465 MARG. PASTON in *P. Lett.* II. 202 That shall cause hym to be the beter wylyd. 1563 GOOGE *Eglogs* (Arb.) 125 A Souldier stoute of Reasons bande, is wyllid there to ryde. 1580 LYLly *Euphues* (Arb.) 468, I, taking my leaue departed, being wylled to visite the Ladie Flauia. 1831 JAMES *Philip Aug.* xxxvii, The peers of France could hardly have refused to assist at the trial. . even had they been so willed.

willed (wild), *ppl. a.* [f. **WILL** *v.*² + -ED¹.]

1. Disposed of by will or testament.

1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* III. ix, I am the willed-away girl. 2. Determined or effected by the will; voluntary.

1871 G. MACDONALD *Rest* iii. 11 A mighty, conscious, willed repose. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 514 The prolonged natural discharges of neurons underlying willed and natural movements. 1905 RICKABY *God & His Creatures* 1. lxxii. 56 Understood good, as such, must be willed good.

b. Controlled by another's will, as in hypnosis.

1886 GURNEY, etc. *Phantasms of Living* I. 14 The 'willed' performer after various . . . indications of a tendency to move in . . . [a] wrong direction at last hits on the right one.

willeful, obs. form of **WILFUL**.

willeliche, variant of **WILLY** *adv.*

†**willemin**. *Obs. rare.* = **GUILLEMIN**.

c1483 CAXTON *Dialogues* 24 Wyllmeyns and frere menours.

willemite ('wilmait). *Min.* [ad. Du. *Willemit* (A. Levy, 1829), f. *Willem* William I of the Netherlands.] Native silicate of zinc, abundant in New Jersey, found in masses or crystals of various colours from light greenish-yellow to flesh-red.

1850 ANSTED *Elem. Geol.*, *Min.* etc. §472. 1907 *Times* 25 Mar. 15/3 To detect them [sc. certain rays] he used the luminiscence produced by them as they fell on willemite, which was the most sensitive substance he [sc. Professor Thomson] had discovered for the purpose.

willer ('wila(r)). [f. **WILL** *v.*² + -ER¹.] One who wills, in various senses.

1. One who desires; a wisher. Chiefly, now only, in obj. or advb. comb., as **EVIL-WILLER**, **GOOD-WILLER**, **ILL-WILLER**, **WELL-WILLER**, q.v. So †*cursed willer*, after *evil-willer*.

c1395 *Plowman's T.* 228 Such willers of worship must evil fele. *Ibid.* 780 Such willers wit is nat worth a neld. c1586 C'TESS *Pembroke Ps.* LXXXIX. viii, Not closely under-min'd by cursed willer, Nor overthrow by foe in open fight.

2. One who exercises his will; one who sets himself with conscious intention to do something; a voluntary agent.

1435 *MISYN Fire of Love* II. x. 96 Qwho-euer wyll to it myght cum, & 3it it is not of ylk rynnar ne willar, bot of criste lufand, lyftand & takand [cf. *Rom.* ix. 16]. 1534 *Act 26 Hen. VIII.* c. 13 §1 Willers and wurkars of the same. 1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. James* iv. 1-6 There is nothyng harde to the louing willer. a1677 *BARROW Sermon. Luke xxii.* 42 Wks. 1686 III. 45 Who the willer is to whom we must submit. 1678 *NORRIS Coll. Misc.* (1699) 289 Every Dependence of an irregular Act upon the Will, is not such as derives Guilt upon the Willer. 1850 *KINGSLEY Alton Locke* xvi, Nature was spoken of as the willer and producer of all the marvels which he describes. 1872 *Dublin Rev.* Apr. 368 The Fathers . . . fixing their eyes upon the oneness of the thing willed and the oneness of the willer.

b. *spec.* One who influences another by mere exercise of will, as in hypnosis.

1882 *19th Cent.* June 892 A much larger percentage of successful results . . . occurred when a near relative of the guesser was the 'willer'.

†**willerdom**. *Obs. rare.* Also 4 (? *erron.*) willardis dom. [? f. *prec.* + -DOM.] Wilfulness, self-will.

c1380 *WYCLIF Sel. Wks.* III. 295 Worldly coveitouse prestis tradicions, maad of here owene willardis dom for here pride and coveitise. a1450 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 247 Than willerdom with old envy Can none other way but wronge.

willern: see **WILGERN**.

willes, *adv.*: see **WILL** *sb.*¹ 10.

Willesden ('wiltzdan). The name of a suburb of north-west London, used *attrib.* to denote forms of paper or canvas that have been toughened and waterproofed by being treated with cuprammonium solution.

1895 C. F. CROSS et al. *Cellulose* 1. 13 Vegetable textile fabrics passed through a bath of the cuprammonium hydroxide are 'surfaced' by the film of gelatinized cellulose. These fabrics are sold under the style or description of 'Willesden' goods; the manufacture being in the hands of a company whose works are situated at Willesden. The company's processes are based on the patents of Drs. J.

Scoffern and C. R. A. Wright. 1907 *Yesterday's Shopping* (1969) 283/1 Patent Sleeping Valise. . . No. 3. Willesden Kharki cotton canvas throughout. No. 4. In Willesden flax canvas. 1911 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIII. 705/1 'Willesden paper' . . . is cardboard chemically treated to render it tough, waterproof and fire-resisting. 1912 R. A. FREEMAN *Singing Bone* 1. ii. 30 Boscovitch continued to stare up at the little square case covered with Willesden canvas. . . Thorndyke good-naturedly lifted it down and unlocked it. As a matter of fact he was rather proud of his 'portable laboratory'. 1926-7 *Army & Navy Stores Catal.* 219/3 Willesden Canvas. Suitable for . . . awnings, shelters, etc. 1964 J. S. SCOTT *Dict. Building* 358 *Willesden paper*, a building paper made of cardboard treated with cuprammonium hydroxide to rotproof it. 1982 J. SHERWOOD *Shot in Arm* xiv. 141 A second-hand Willesden canvas cabin trunk with leather corners.

†**willesful**, *a.* *Obs.* [f. *willes*, gen. of **WILL** *sb.*¹ + -FUL.]

1. Strong-willed; obstinate: = **WILFUL** *a.*¹ 1.

a1240 *Saules Warde* in *O.E. Hom.* I. 257 þe willefulse husewif halt hire al stille. c1290 *Beket* 1291 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 143 þe Erchebischop is willeful [v.r. wilful] and 3wane he is alles i-brou3t In ani wille þat is luytel wuyrth he nele bileue it nou3t. *Ibid.* I. 319 Sone old and nou3t willefol. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 7402 He ne let nou3t clupie al is folc so willefol he was. 1340 *Ayenb.* 263 Huych mayne to moche slac and wylls uol ssel by, bote yef þe ilke uaderes stefhede hise strayny and ordayny.

2. Desirous: = **WILFUL** *a.*¹ 2.

a1225 *Anr. R.* 56 3if eni is onwil [*MS.* T. ful willeful] uorte iseon ou. c1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 435 þis Maiden es þat beoþ willefole folie forto do.

Hence †*wilsfully adv.*, wilfully; eagerly.

13.. *E.E. Allit.* P. B. 268 þay . . . controeued agayn kynde contrare werkez, & vsed hem . . . wylsfully, vpon a wrange wyse. 1340-70 *Alisaunder* 590 þat worthlych too þis wight wilsfully saide: 'Fro what kith bee yee comme?'

willet ('wilt). [So called from its cry, *pill-will-willet*.] A North American bird of the snipe family, *Symphemia semipalmata*.

1862 COUES & PRENTISS in *Rep. Smithsonian Inst.* 1861, 416. 1893 *Outing* (U.S.) XXII. 94/1 Curlew, willet, plover and other beach birds swarm upon the flats in the spring, summer and fall months.

willeuol, obs. form of **WILFUL** *a.*¹

willey: see **WILLY** *sb.*¹

will-gill, -jill ('wiltʒil). *dial.* [f. **WILL** *sb.*³ + **GILL** *sb.*⁴] A hermaphrodite; an effeminate man. Also in comb.

1678 *LITTLETON Lat. Dict.* II, *Androgynos*, . . . an Hermaphrodite or Scrat; a Will-jill. 1845 S. JUDD *Margaret* 1. vi, One or two ragged will-gill-looking men.

will-he, **nill-he**: see **WILL** *v.*¹ 50b.

willi, var. **WILLI**.

William ('wilm). 1. A common masculine personal name, used in the names of certain species of pinks and other flowers: now only in **SWEET-WILLIAM**. †*wild Williams*, the Ragged Robin (*Lychnis Flos-cuculi*).

1597 *GERARDE Herbal* II. clxxv. 481 The Crow flower is called . . . wilde Williams, marsh Gilloflowers, and Cockowe Gilloflowers. 1650 [W. HOWE] *Phytol. Brit.* 10 *Armerius sylvestris*. . . Crowflower and Wild Williams. *Armeria flore simplici*, William with single flower in a Wood beyond Redding. 1785 *MARTYN Lett. Bot.* xix. (1794) 276 Ragged-Robin, Meadow-Pinks, Wild-Williams.

2. An obsolete Dutch coin (see quot. 1893).

1844 T. B. MACAULAY *Let.* 9 Oct. (1977) IV. 218 While he was changing me a gold William I got away from the old villain. 1893 R. BITHELL *Counting-Ho. Dict.* (rev. ed.) 317 *William*, a gold coin formerly used in Holland, and valued at 10 guilders. Its metallic value was about 16s. 2d. sterling.

3. *slang.* [With a pun on **BILL** *sb.*³] a. An account for payment, a bill.

1859 H. J. BYRON *Maid & Maggie* ii. 18 When de farmers around are behind in their rent I does little Villiams, at sixty per shent. 1903 *FARMER & HENLEY Slang VII.* 353/2 *To meet sweet William*, to meet a bill on presentation.

b. A dollar note. (See also quot. 1869.) *U.S.* Sometimes without a capital initial.

1865 *Republican Banner* (Nashville, Tenn.) 5 Oct. 3/1 Will, had to remember the Workhouse in his will to the tune of a 'ten dollar William'. 1869 *Overland Monthly* III. 128 \$100 bills were there [sc. in Texas] called 'Williams', and \$50 bills 'Blue Williams'. 1887 in *Wentworth & Flexner Dict. Amer. Slang* (1960) 580/1 [He] lost his five dollar William. 1927 C. A. SIRINGO *Riata & Spurs* i. 10 Mr. Myers wrote me . . . to buy a suit of clothes with the twenty-dollar 'william'.

4. Used *attrib.* to designate the style of architecture, furniture, etc., associated with the reign of monarchs of this name; esp. **William** and **Mary** (freq. hyphenated), with reference to William III and Mary, joint King and Queen of Great Britain, 1689-94; **William IV**, with reference to William IV, King of Great Britain, 1830-7.

1905 *FENN & WYLLIE Old Eng. Furnit.* vii. 74 The low-backed armchair . . . was . . . subsequently displaced by the more dignified and far more comfortable high-backed kind known to us as the 'Stuart' and the 'William and Mary' chair. 1927 *Daily Tel.* 29 Nov. 7/1 Jacobean and William and Mary chests. 1948 D. WELCH *Jrnl.* 31 Aug. (1952) 266 Our chairs were William and Mary with high caned backs. 1955 'W. MOLE' *Hammersmith Maggot* iii. 41 A fine set of William IV chairs. 1977 *New Scientist* 3 Mar. 512/1 A William-and-Mary country house in the depths of

Somerset. 1982 'J. GASH' *Firefly Gadroon* i. 13 A blazing row over a William IV davenport desk.

¶ *William pear*: see **WILLIAMS**¹.

Williamite ('wilmait), *sb.* and *a.* [f. the name *William* + -ITE¹. In sense 1 = mod.L. *Guil-, Wilhelmita*, F. *Guillemite*, etc.]

A. *sb.* †1. A member of an order of Augustinian hermits: = **GUILLEMIN**. *Obs.*

[1549 *CHALONER Erasm. on Folly* Njb, Those Augustines, these Guilhelmites, those Iacobites.] 1668 J. WILSON tr. *Erasmus' Praise of Folly* 109 These Williamites, and those Jacobines. 1693 tr. *d'Emiliane's Mon. Orders* vii. 49 Heremitical Congregations, which were spread . . . under different names, and especially of the Williamites, and Zambonites.

2. A supporter of William of Orange (King William III): opp. to **JACOBITE** *sb.*⁴ Also *attrib.*

1689 [see **JACOBITE** *sb.*⁴]. 1706 *HEARNE Collect.* (O.H.S.) I. 193 Upon y^e Revolution he grew a mighty Williamite. 1854 J. C. O'CALLAGHAN *Hist. Irish Brigades* I. 209 To oppose the Williamite invasion under the Marshal Duke of Schonberg. 1855 *MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* xvi. III. 697 The infamous triumvirs who had been, in the short space of a year, violent Williamites and violent Jacobites, became Williamites again. 1901 *Athenæum* 16 Nov. 654/3 [Fitzgerald Molloy] is as much a Jacobite in his sympathies as Macaulay was a Williamite.

B. *adj.* Of glass: bearing portraits or emblems of William III, as an indication of anti-Jacobite feelings.

1905 P. BATE *Eng. Table Glass* xii. 105 No. 213 is a Williamite glass bearing the inscription—'The immortal memory'; others read, 'To the glorious memory of King William'. 1936 *Burlington Mag.* Oct. p. xxiii/1 Many specimens of engraved glasses including Jacobite specimens . . . and Williamite, Volunteer and other inscribed glasses. 1973 *Country Life* 22 Mar. Suppl. 72/2 A rare Williamite glass.

William Morris. = **MORRIS** *sb.*⁴

1944 D. WELCH *Jrnl.* 26 Oct. (1952) 135 We had tea at Pitt's Cottage, on a William Morris, mortifying sofa. 1962 I. MURDOCH *Unofficial Rose* xiv. 128 The bright blue bird-woven William Morris tiles. 1969 S. SITWELL *Gothic Europe* xiii. 155 They are Brussels tapestries. . . too 'flowered' in the foreground and therefore too 'William Morris' in style. 1981 M. E. ATKINS *Palimpsest* ii. 18 You'll splash the wallpaper, it's William Morris.

Hence 'William Morrisy *a.*', resembling, or in the style of, William Morris.

1960 *Times* 29 July 13/5 A William Morrisy life of craftsmanship close to the soil. 1968 'O. MILLS' *Sundry Fell Designs* viii. 88 She's a William Morrisy person; and all she was after was the simple, creative life. 1977 R. BARNARD *Blood Brotherhood* x. 113 A William Morrisy stained-glass window.

william-nilliam ('wilməm 'niljəm), *adv.* Humorously extended form of **WILLY-NILLY** *adv.*

1907 G. S. GORDON *Let.* 9 Sept. (1943) 23, I have called you sweet girl. But I will not . . . retract; and so sweet girl you must remain william nilliam. 1917 A. HUXLEY *Let.* 8 Apr. (1969) 123, I . . . found myself pushed—almost william-william [sic]—into a very nasty and ill-paid job. 1959 P. BULL *I know Face, But* . . . x. 188 A splendid change from ordinary digs where the plate is plonked in front of you william-nilliam.

Williams¹ ('wilməmz). In full, *Williams', Williams's* (erron. *William Bon Chrétien*: A very juicy variety of the Bon Chrétien pear (see **BON** *a.*), ripening in September, so called from the name of its first distributor in England.

Called also *Bartlett* from the name of its importer into U.S.

1814 *AITON Epit. Hortus Kewensis* 151 Bishop's-thumb Pear. Bonchrétien winter. . . Williams's. 1852 G. W. JOHNSON *Cottage Gard. Dict.* 690 Useful and profitable orchard Pears. . . Williams's Bon Chrétien. 1860 *Hogg Fruit Man.* 220 Williams' Bon Crétien (Bartlett; De Lavault; Williams'). 1884 *Pall Mall Budget* 22 Aug. 11/1 The . . . juicy flavour of the famous William Bon Chrétien. 1895 C. W. DALMON *Song Favours* 34 Luscious Harvest plums and William pears.

Williams² ('wilməmz). *Computers.* [The name of F. C. Williams (1911-77), English electrical engineer, who with T. Kilburn described such a tube in 1948.] *Williams tube*: a cathode-ray tube used in some early computers to store and display an array of spots representing bits; so *Williams memory*.

1950 W. W. STIFLER et al. *High-Speed Computing Devices* x. 202 The proposed machine will have an electrostatic storage system consisting of a bank of Williams tubes. 1970 O. DOPPING *Computers & Data Processing* x. 150 The Williams memory had many weaknesses but until the middle fifties it was the only available memory in the microsecond class apart from the expensive flip-flop registers. 1982 D. P. SIEWIOREK et al. *Computer Structures* vii. 107/2 The Williams Tube which implemented the control register was also used to hold the present instruction . . . itself subsequent to its being read out of main store.

Williamsite ('wilməmzait). [f. the surname *Williams* + ITE¹.]

1. A follower of Roger Williams, an American colonist of the 17th century.

1833 WHITTIER *Pr. Wks.* (1889) I. 269 I'm afraid you have become a Williamsite.

2. *Min.* An impure variety of serpentine, named after L. W. Williams, an American mineralogist.

1848 SHEPARD in *Amer. J. Sci. Ser. II*. VI. 249.

williche: see WILLY *adv.*

willick, variant of WILLOCK.

willie: see WILLY *sb.*²

willies ('wɪlɪz), *sb. pl. slang* (orig. U.S.). [Etym. unknown.] *the willies:* a fit of nervous apprehension. Chiefly in phrs. *to give* (someone) *the willies*, *to get the willies*.

1896 *Dialect Notes* I. 427 *To have the willies*, to be nervous. 1900 G. BONNER *Hard Pan* 99 It just gives me the willies to think of your being down on your luck. 1913 J. LONDON *Valley of Moon* 105 Bert gives me the willies the way he's always lookin' for trouble. 1927 H. A. VACHELL *Dev of Sea* 261, I sure got the willies at the thought of meeting you. 1942 G. KERSH *Nine Lives Bill Nelson* ix. 57 It can give you the willies when, in broad daylight, you hear a rifle go off. 1953 F. SWINNERTON *Month in Gordon Square* 202 Gosh! She was getting the willies. It was awful. 1962 J. HELLER *Catch-22* xii. 127 Chief White Halfcoat shuddered. 'That guy gives me the willies,' he confessed. 1975 FELTON & FOWLER *Best, Worst* 277 You can now visit Winchester House. But we wouldn't advise it if you suffer from the willies. 1984 A. CARTER *Nights at Circus* iii. i. 199 Not that the 'wagon salon' isn't very pleasant, if it don't give you the willies.

willily, -ness: see after WILLY *a.*

willing ('wɪlɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [OE. *willung*, f. *willian* WILL *v.*²: see -ING¹.]

1. Wishing, desire, inclination. *Obs.*, or *arch.* in conjunction with *nilling* (with mixture of sense 2). †*good willing*, the action of wishing well to some one, favourable disposition, GOODWILL.

c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* iv. v. (1890) 278 þætte nænig biscop a hinc oðrum forbære purh unrehthe willunge [orig. *per ambitionem*]. c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* v. pr. ii. (1868) 152 In hem also is libertee of wyllyng and of nyllynge. c 1386 — *Clerk's T.* 263 My wyllynge is as ye wole ne ayeins youre likyng. c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5952 Whanne she assentith to my wyllyng. 1418-20 J. PAGE *Siege of Rouen in Hist. Coll. Lit. Lond.* (Camden) 23 He sayde, 'What ys youre wyllyng?' 1556 *Aurelio & Isab.* (1608) Nvj. All the wyseste desires their favour and goode wyllyng. 1690 NORRIS *Beattitudes* (1694) I. 105 By impotent willing meaning that natural Inclination... we have to every Good. 1710 — *Chr. Prud.* v. 218 Our willing of Evil is always with a mixture of nilling. 1865 NEALE *Hymns on Paradise* 10 One in willing, one in nilling, Unity their spirits show.

2. The action or an act of exercising the will, volition; voluntary choice or determination, intention.

1340 *Ayenb.* 9 Wypoute greate wille an willinge uor to harmi opren. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 319 Thou soffrest many a wrong doynge, And yit it is noght thy willinge. c 1425 *Lucidarie* (Schmitt 1909) 4 Aungels & men, her pewis, wyllynges, seiynges. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* ii. 22 What haue we then to thinke of him, whose willings are powers, and whose thoughts are deedes? 1663-70 SOUTH *Serm., Col. II.* 2 (1715) IV. 296 One and the same Mind is both Being, Understanding, and Willing. 1754 EDWARDS *Freed. Will* i. iv. 27 The very willing is the doing. 1865 BUSHNELL *Vicar. Sacr.* ii. ii. (1868) 159 All the senses and sentiments, and willings, and wishes of their lives. 1892 *Daily News* 2 Feb. 6/6 The two first are of human willing; the last is purely... necessary, inevitable.

b. The action of influencing another by mere exercise of will, as in hypnotism. Also *attrib.*

1883 *Fortn. Rev.* 1 Aug. 263 The well-known drawing-room game of 'Willing' (where one finds out a hidden object by means of more or less subtle muscular indications from another). 1883 *Chamb. J. nrl.* 82 The first division corresponds to the 'willing-game' described by Dr. Carpenter.

†3. Command; injunction. *Obs.*

c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5879 My modir... Nis not all at my wyllyng Ne doth not all my desyring. c 1450-60 *Bp. Grossetest's Househ. Stat. in Babees Bk.* (1868) 328 The wyllyng of god to be performed and fullyllydde.

4. The action of bequeathing by will.

1847 GROTE *Greece* ii. xi. III. 183 Throughout most rude states of society the power of willing is unknown.

'willing, ppl. a. Comp. *willinger*, sup. *willingest* (now *rare*). [OE. *willende* (WILL *v.*¹, -ING²) appears in *selfwillende* SELF-WILLING, *unwillende* UNWILLING, *welwillende* WELL-WILLING *a.*, *yfel-willende* EVIL-WILLING, and *willendlice* WILLINGLY. But there is no evidence in the simplex or the compounds of continuity of use from OE.]

†1. Wishing, wishful, desirous; inclined, disposed. *Obs.*

1450-1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* ii. 69 Yt were not spedefull to hym... to study in bokes of heuynes & of drede though he felte hymselfe wyllyng therto. 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* 111 He was not receiued of his woman... when he was moste wyllyng to se her. 1587 HOLINSHED *Chron.* II. 435/2, I haue... bene the willinger to set downe the same... for that I would not suffer so worthie a man... to be buried in obliuion. 1594 T. BEDINGFIELD tr. *Machiavelli's Florentine Hist.* (1595) 191 The Pope and the King became more willing one of the others friendship. 1622 WOTTON *Lett.* (1907) II. 230 The willinger to increase his haste. 1697 tr. *C'tess D'Aunoy's Trav.* (1706) 168 They alledge that the Heat is so excessive, that they are willing to hinder the Sun from coming in, as

much as they can. 1825 HONE *Every-day Bk.* I. 403 Some little 'peep-o'-day boy', willing to take the 'top of the morning' before the rest of his compeers.

2. Having a ready will; disposed to consent or comply; ready to do (what is specified or implied) without reluctance, having no objection, 'not disposed to refuse' (J.); *spec.* disposed to do what is required, ready to be of use or service.

a. in attrib. use, preceding the sb.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 18359 Lauerd... pi wiling merci [pou] beris wit-in, And sua pou slockens al vr sin. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* 1. (Percy Soc.) 7 To a wyllyng harte is nought impossible. 1526 TINDALE 2 *Cor.* viii. 12 If there be fyrst a wyllyng mynde, it is accepted accordyng to thatt a man hath. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* iv. iii. 73 We haue willing Dames enough. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* iii. 73 Satan... ready now To stoop with wearied wings, and willing feet On the bare outside of this World. 1671 — *P.R.* 1. 222 By winning words to conquer willing hearts. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* viii. 541 Eager of her Charms, He snatch'd the willing Goddess to his Arms. a 1721 PRIOR *Colin's Mistakes* iii. The willing Steed receiv'd her soft Command. 1797 GODWIN *Enquirer* 1. ix. 82 A willing temper makes every burthen light. 1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pres.* 1. i. Fifteen millions of workers, understood to be the... cunningest and the willingest our Earth ever had. 1858 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* III. xiii. 133 Work is done rapidly by willing hands, in the midst of a willing people. 1893 SELOUS *Trav. S.E. Africa* xiv. 270 Our men were a good-tempered, willing lot, and gave us no trouble. *absol.* 1852 *Blackw. Mag.* Mar. 365 For the willing there is ever a way. 1868 RUSKIN *Arrows of Chace* (1880) II. 195 Aid the willing.

b. in predicative use, or following the sb.: const. *to* and *inf.*, with clause, or *absol.*; †also formerly *to* with sb.

In quot. 1647 with *with* = agreeing with, consenting to. a 1540 BARNES *Supplic. Hen. VIII* civ b, Bycause the king and his lordes shulde bee the wyllynger to take this battaile on them, he sent a commaundement to the byshops, to rayse... a taxe, for to paye the souldyours with. 1559 W. CUNINGHAM *Cosmogr. Glasce* Pref. 1 The Souldiors allured with the commodities of the Countries, were made the willinger to the thinge. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* iii. iii. 86 He may staie him, marrie not without the prince be willing. 1601 — *Twel. N.* iv. iii. 29 He shall conceale it Whiles [= until] you are willing it shall come to note. 1647 WARD *Simple Cobler* 21, I am perswaded the Devill himselfe was never willing with their proceedings. 1685 BAXTER *Paraphr. N.T. Matt.* x. 11 Enquire who is a godly person, willingest to entertain the Gospel. c 1720 DE FOE *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 257 The king was willing to comply with anything than this. 1754 SHEBBEARE *Matrimony* (1766) I. 144 Mr. Trueman... [fancied] that Mr. Sharply would be very willing to this Union between his Son and his Ward. 1759 GOLDSM. *Bee* No. 8 They... grew willing to be burnt or hanged out of a world which was no other to them than a scene of persecution and anguish. 1850 DICKENS *Dav. Copp.* v. Barkis is willin'. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* viii. §3. 480 The nation was willing to take his obstinacy for firmness.

c. *willing horse* (in proverbial phrases), applied to one who is willing to work or to take trouble.

c 1580 J. COOKE *Narr. in World Encomp. by Sir F. Drake* (Hakluyt Soc.) App. iv. 207 There nedyd no spure to a willing horse. 1616 DRAXE *Bibl. Scholast.* 93 All lay load on a willing horse. 1881 *Daily News* 29 Dec. 5/2 It was probably on the well-known principle of working a willing horse that he was left to labour as an ordinary Judge for fifteen years.

d. *transf.* Given, rendered, offered, performed, assumed, borne, or undergone willingly.

1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 757 The people... in a wyllyng and louyng obedience among themselves. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V.* iii. v. 63 We send, To know what willing Ransome he will giue. c 1600 — *Sonn.* vi. 6 That vse is not forbidden vsery. Which happies those that pay the willing lone. 1628 MILTON *Vac. Ex.* 52 Held with his melodious harmonie In willing chains and sweet captivitie. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* ii. 965 Haste, my dear Father... And load my Shoulders with a willing Freight. 1715 DE FOE *Fam. Instruct.* i. v. (1841) I. 104 Here, Madam, is the willingest sacrifice I ever made in my life. 1814 BYRON *Lara* ii. iii. With eye, though calm, determined not to spare, Did Lara too his willing weapon bare. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 230 The affection and willing obedience of his subjects.

e. *fig.* of things: Compliant, yielding; (of the wind) favourable.

1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* lv. 22 Sum, thoct tham selfis stark, ... Ar now maid waek lyk, willing wandis. 1688 PRIOR *Ode Exod.* iii. 14 v, Why does He wake the correspondent Moon, and fill her willing Lamp with liquid Light? 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* iii. 253 And leaving few behind, We spread our sails before the willing Wind. 1749 SHENSTONE *Irreg. Ode* 85 And some entwined the willing sprays, To shield th' illustrious dame's repose. 1791 E. DARWIN *Bot. Gard.* 1. 54 Down the steep slopes He led with modest skill The willing pathway, and the truant rill. 1844 KINGLAKE *Eotheni.* 9 The willing fume [of the tchibouque] came up, and answered my slightest sigh.

f. *advb.* Willingly, consentingly, without reluctance. (Now *rare* or *Obs.*) *willing (or) nilling* (arch.), with or against one's will, willy-nilly.

1885 SIDNEY *Lett.* Misc. Wks. (1829) 323 Which I the willinger do becaws I think him a good honest gentleman. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* iii. vi. 32. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* ix. 382 With thy permission then, and thus forward, The willinger I goe. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* vii. 294 Willing we sought your Shores.

1578 H. WOTTON *Courtlye Controv.* 148 [These] conquered in such sorte the hearts of euery one vnto hym, as willing, nilling, it behoued enuy to hang the heade. 1626 T. H[AWKINS] *Caussin's Holy Crt.* 488 Arcadius willing, nilling, was constraind... to signe the petition. 1798 W.

TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* IV. 197 And willing or nilling thou'lt come. 1874 SAYCE *Compar. Philol.* iii. 100 Every idiom, ancient or modern, has to be brought willing, nilling, under some 'family'.

†3. That is so, or is done or borne, of one's own will; voluntary, intentional, deliberate, wilful.

1550 CROWLEY *Epigr.* 33 To the willinge wicked no prophete shall be sente. a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* ii. xxi. (1912) 286 But so by Lelius willing-missing was the odds of the Iberian side. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* iv. iii. 242 Willing misery Out-lives incertaine pompe. 1613 — *Hen. VIII.* iii. i. 49 The willing'st sinne I euer yet committed.

4. Exercising or capable of exercising the will, volitional; conveying impulses of the will.

1875 E. WHITE *Life in Christ* i. i. 8 We know nothing of the *post-mortem* existence of the thinking willing energy of man. 1896 HOUSMAN *Shropsh. Lad* xxiv, Ere the wholesome flesh decay, And the willing nerve be numb.

5. *Comb.*, as *willing-hearted, -minded* adjs.

1539 *Bible* (Great) Exod. xxxv. 22 And they came... (euen as many as were wyllynge harted) & brought braceletes, & earynges, rynges & cheynes. 1648 HEXHAM ii. *Willemoedigh*, willing-minded. 1830 COLERIDGE *Lett., to T. H. Green* (1895) 751 Our Harriet, whose love and willing-mindedness to me-ward [etc.].

willinghood ('wɪlɪŋhʊd), *rare*. [f. prec. + -HOOD.] Willingness, readiness of mind (esp. as a personal quality or disposition).

1880 W. M. TAYLOR *Gosp. Mirac.* 225 Everything is made to depend on the willinghood of the individual to be blessed. 1890 SPENCER *Plea for Liberty* Introd. 7 Suppose now that this industrial régime of willinghood... is replaced by a régime of industrial obedience. 1892 *Independent* 29 Apr. 285/2 Surely the spread of Christ's kingdom is not to be hindered simply for want of willinghood on the part of those who profess His name.

willingly ('wɪlɪŋli), *adv.* (Also 5 *welyngly*, 7 *wollinglie*.) [OE. *willendlice*: see WILLING *ppl. a.* and -LY².] In a willing manner (in various senses of the adj.).

†1. a. Intentionally, deliberately, wilfully. *Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Clerk's T.* 306 Heere I swere that neuere wyllyngly In werk ne thoght I nyl yow disobeye. 1402 HOCCELEVE *Let. Cupid* lvi, Sauf wyllyngly the feende deceyued Eve. 1531 TINDALE *Expos.* 1 *John* ii. (1538) 17 b, God is lyghte, and therefore... no man which wyllynglye walketh in the vnfrutefull workes of darknesse, hath any fellowship wyth that lyght. 1550 CROWLEY *Way to Wealth* 521 Wittinglye and wyllynglye... ye haue... disobeyed youre kinge. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* iii. ii. 346 Still thou mistak'st, Or else commit't'st thy knaueries wyllyngly [Qo's fullylly]. 1622 in Foster *Engl. Factories Ind.* (1908) II. 132 That nyght, wee carryinge the lighte, the Dutch (as wee suppose) lost us wyllynglye. 1727 DE FOE *Syst. Magic* i. iii. (1840) 78 Men that do not willingly deceive the people, or that at least have not a wicked design to deceive. 1748 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. 1. 302, I will not willingly stand in any body's way.

†b. Of one's own will, voluntarily. *Obs.*

1552 ABP. HAMILTON *Catech.* (1884) 43 Thai ar content to do it wyllyngly without any compulsion. 1596 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. IV.* v. iii. 61. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* 1. 205, I had no remedie but to pay those Crownes for him... if I had not rather chosen willingly to doe it. 1695 LD. PRESTON *Beeth.* 1. 12 note, For this he was banished his Country, or rather willingly left it.

2. With a ready will, consentingly, without reluctance: with various shades of meaning from 'with acquiescence, submissively' to 'with pleasure, cheerfully, gladly' or 'wishfully, eagerly'.

Often with *would*: *would willingly* = should like to; *would not willingly* = would rather not, should be loth to. a 1000 in Wr.-Wülcker *Voc.* 222/20 *Diligenter*, willendlice.

1538 ELYOT, *Libenter*, wyllyngely, gladly. 1549 CHEKE *Hurt Sedt.* Kjb, And so be contented to byde the ende wyllyngly, which sct on the beginning wylfully. 1559 AYLMER *Harborow* M 2, Thou maist the rather, the willinglier, and gladlier do it. 1560 PILKINGTON *Expos. Aggeus* (1562) 159 They would not willingly serue hym, whiche woulde not willingly serue and obey their God and kinge. a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* ii. xx. (1912) 279 To bring us (as willingly-caught fishes) to bite at her bait. 1592-3 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. iii. iv. 109, I may neither dispose of my owne... as others usuallie doe, and I willingliet woulde. 1600 SHAKS. *A.Y.L.* 11. iv. 95, I like this place, and willingly coulde wast my time in it. 1603 — *Meas. for M.* v. i. 481, I craue death more willingly then mercy. 1649 in *Spalding Club Misc.* (1852) V. 380, I sall werrey wollinglie concurre withe them. 1653 WALTON *Angler* iv. 115, I would willingly fish on the Lee-shore. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 254 ¶ 3, I would willingly give you a little good Advice. 1835 in Cornwallis *New World* (1859) I. 364 Their cheerful and willingly-offered services. 1859 TENNYSON *Geraint & Enid* 1056 'Friend, let her eat; the damsel is so faint.' 'Yea, willingly,' replied the youth. 1881 BESANT & RICE *Chapl. Fleet* i. vi, Often have I observed one... of the sisters willingly go without her dinner... in order that her portion might be reserved for Mr. Stallabras.

†b. *fig.* Readily, easily. *Obs.*

1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* iii. lxxv. 581 The vttermost piling of common walnuts, whether it shale willingly or no. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* vii. x. 456 If the braine had been one entire massie substance, it would not so willingly and gladly as we say, haue risen and falne in the *Systole* and *Diastole*.

willingness ('wɪlɪŋnɪs). [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality or state of being willing; readiness of will; freedom from reluctance; disposition to

consent or comply; *spec.* disposition to do what is required, readiness to be of service.

1561 tr. *Calvin's 4 Godly Serm.* ii. Dvijb, [This] maye bring vs.. to that willingnes, that we shall not refuse to suffer death for Goddes name. 1592 GREENE *Conny Catch.* III. 11 What dissembled willingnesse of departure hee vsed. 1630 PRESTON *Breastpl. Faith* 93 God requires no more but a willingnesse to come. 1654 tr. *Scudery's Curia Pol.* 96 Though she discovered her willingnesse to my Succession, to make me King of England. 1711 in T. W. Marsh *Early Friends* (1886) 9 To signifie..our willingnesse y^e a Preparative Meeting should be settled. 1873 MOZLEY *Univ. Serm.* viii. (1876) 168 The willingness of the Sacrifice. 1877 FROUDE *Short Stud.* (1883) IV. i. ii. 23 The pope..professed a willingness and an anxiety to be of corresponding service to Henry.

will-i-nill-i: see WILL *v.* 1 50 b.

will i(n) the wisp: see WILL-O'-THE-WISP.

williwa(e): see WELLAWAY.

williwaw ('wɪlwɔː). Also willy-, -ie-, wulli(e)-, wully-wa. [?] A sailor's (whaler's, etc.) name for a sudden violent squall, orig. in the Straits of Magellan.

1842 J. D. HOOKER in *Life* (1918) I. vi. 137 A squall or Williwaw, as they are called [round Cape Horn]. 1863 FITZROY *Weather Bk.* 125 note, Those whirlwind squalls, formerly called by the sealers in Tierra del Fuego, 'williwaws'. 1901 KIPLING *Kim* xiii, Where storm and wandering wullie-wa got up to dance.

will-jill: see WILL-GILL.

will-less ('wɪls), *a.* Also 8 wil-less, 9 willess. [f. WILL *sb.* 1 + -LESS.]

1. Not having 'a will of one's own'; not exercising, or not involving exercise of, the will.

1747 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1811) I. xv. 99 Your blind duty and wil-less resignation. 1823 GALT *R. Gilhaize* II. 283, I walked in a willess manner. 1892 MRS. H. WARD *David Grieve* III. x, The last year's leaves.. whirled helpless and wil-less in the dust-storm of the road!

2. Having no will; destitute of the faculty of volition.

1804 ANNA SEWARD *Mem. Darwin* 89 Reasonless, wil-less instinct, limited but undeviating. 1871 MACMILLAN *True Vine* vi. 240 A mindless, wil-less, impersonal solitude.

Hence **will-lessly** *adv.*, **will-lessness**.

1871 MACMILLAN *True Vine* vi. 245 He is to do consciously and willingly—what the plant does unconsciously and wil-lessly. 1902 *Academy* 8 Nov. 509 Among the many signs of that hysteria, what is called *abulia* or 'willessness' is one of the most common.

willo, obs. form of WILLOW.

willock ('wɪlək). *local.* Also -ick. [f. WILL *sb.* 8 + -OCK. Cf. etym. of *guillem*, *guillemot*.] The GUILLEMOT; also, the puffin and the razor-bill.

1631 PELHAM *Gods Power* 31 We found abundance of Willocks egges; (which is a Fowle about the bignesse of a Ducke). 1635 *Voy. Foxe & James to N.W.* (Hakluyt Soc.) I. 168 Going to kill willocks. 1802 MONTAGU *Ornith. Dict.* s.v. *Puffin*, At Dover, this, as well as the Razorbill, is indiscriminately called Willock. 1855 KINGSLEY *Glauco* 2 Your boys.. endanger your personal safety, by blazing away at innocent gulls and willocks. 1859 [see GUILLEMOT].

†**willock**. *Obs.* [? an error.] *pl.* ? Garments.

c 1400 *Beryn* 1295 Then toke he suche willokis as he fond ther.

will-o'-the-wisp ('wɪləðə'wɪsp), *sb.* Forms: see below. Pl. will-o'-the-wisps, also wills-o'-the-wisp. [orig. *Will with the wisp*: see WILL *sb.* 3 and WISP *sb.* Cf. JACK-O'-LANTERN, and, for the second element, G. *irrwisch*.]

1. = IGNIS FATUUS; *fig.* a thing (rarely a person) that deludes or misleads by means of fugitive appearances.

a. 7-9 Will with the or a wisp (whisp); 7 -with-wispe, with th' wisp, 9 wit or wi' t' wisp; also 7 Will the Wispe.

1608 DAY *Law Triches* v. H 2 b, I haue playd Will with the wispe with my brother, and haue led him vp and downe the maze of good fellowship. 1623 'JACK DAW' *Vox Graculi* 45 When you are mis-led with lust (that Will-with-wispe). 16.. in *Mad Pranks Robin Goodfellow* (Percy Soc.) p. xviii, Some call him Robin Goodfellow.. some againe doe tearme him oft by name of Will the Wispe. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 159 *Ignes fatui*, Fooles fires, wills with a wisp. 1729 *Phil. Trans.* XXXVI. 211 Thus far, what I could learn concerning the Will with a Whisp, as it hath been observed in the Plains. 1832 J. HODGSON in *Raine Mem.* (1858) II. 291 *Ignis Fatuus* or Will-with-the-wisp. 1839 LONGF. *Hyperion* IV. ii, His imagination is continually lantern-led by some will-with-a-whisp in the shape of a lady's stomacher.

β. 7-9 will of the wisp, o' the wisp (8 o' th', 9 o-the-); also with hyphens and one or two capitals.

1661 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 2), *Ignis Fatuus*, foolish fire, or (as the Country people call it) Will of the Wisp. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) V. 115 Knowledge by theory only is a vague uncertain light: a Will o' the Wisp. 1760 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* III. xxxi, All the polemical writings in divinity are not as clear and demonstrative as those upon a Will o' the Wisp, or any other sound part of philosophy. 1806-7 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* (1826) XVII. 1, Those Wills-o-the-wisp, the Reviewers. 1831 SCOTT *Cast. Dang.* xi, Through what extraordinary labyrinths this Love, this Will-of-the-Wisp, guides his votaries. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* I, I'll be a Will o' the Wisp, now here, now there. 1840 THACKERAY *Paris Sk.-bk.* (1869) 190 No light

except that of..the wicked..wills-o'-the-wisp, as they gambol among the marshes. 1858 GREENER *Gunnery* 208 Proof positive, that we have been on the wrong scent, and running after a 'Will o' the Wisp.' 1879 HUXLEY *Sensation Sci. & Cult.* (1881) 247 The metaphysical Will-o'-the-wisps generated in the marshes of literature and theology. 1918 INGE *Philos. Plotinus* I. 188 The utterly unscientific notion of an automatic 'law of progress', that strange Will-o'-the-wisp of nineteenth-century thought.

γ. 7 will-a-wisp, 8 will o' whisp, 9 will-o-wisp (or o'); also with one or two capitals.

1679 OLDHAM *Sat. Jesuits* III. 331 White Sheets for Ghosts, and Will-a-wisps have past For Souls in Purgatory unreleast. 1738 MRS. E. MONTAGU *Corr.* (1906) I. 29 Will o' Whisp never led the bewildered traveller over hedge and ditch as a moon does us country folk. 1829 A. CUNNINGHAM *Magic Bridle* 363 in *Anniversary* 149 Dank will-o'-wisp sank midst the mire. 1863 MEREDITH *Lett.* (1912) I. 114 Young Cupid was he called of old: That Will o' Wisp incorporate. 8. 7-8 Will in the Wisp (8 i'the whisp).

1689 *Irish Hudibras* To Rdr. I b, [They] made him skip the Bogs like a Will in the Wisp. 1706 VANBRUGH *Mistake* I. (1734) 16 What a Shame they should be allow'd to play Will in the Wisp with Men of Honour. 1762 FOOTE *Orator* I. i, A Will in the Wisp, to confound, perplex, and bewilder you. 1768 TUCKER *Lt. Nat. II.* i. 132 We should see them dance about like so many Will i'the wisps.

ε. 7-9 Willy-wisp (7 Wispe), 8 Willy wi' (Willie with) or the wisp, Willy's wisp.

1628 *Mad Pranks Robin Goodfellow* (Percy Soc.) 21 Wenches, that doe smile and lisse Use to call me Willy Wispe. 1679 JAS. GORDON *Reformed Bp.* 250, I do firmly believe, That..He would have chosen rather to have sent down some English Doctors to have govern'd us..than have permitted any of those Willy-wisps to jump into these empty Chairs. 1727 *Willies with the Wisps* [see SPUNKIE I]. 1756 *Collect. Sc. Poems by Pennecuik* etc. 23 Travelling of late in fogs and thro' thick mist, Without a guide, save Willy wi' the wisp. a 1761 [S. HALIBURTON & HEPBURN] *Mem. Magopico* xiii. (ed. 2) 39 Plumbino is Willie-with-the-wisp; Magopico a flash of wild-fire. 1790 MORISON *Poems* 38 Willy's wisp wi' whirling cant Their blazes ca', That's nought but vapours frae a stank. 1828 *Craven Gloss.*, *Willy-wit-wisp*, called also a Willy-wisp; an ignis fatuus, or Jack with a lantern.

b. *attrib.*

1860 W. W. READE *Liberty Hall* II. 44 A fluttering, shadowy, will-o-the-wisp style. 1873 *All Year Round* 5 July 226/1 Strange will-o'-the-wisp lights begin to flutter about the cordage. 1883 BLACK *Shandon Bells* xxi, Kitty's will-o'-the-wisp flashes of petulance.

2. An *alga*, *Nostoc commune*, so called from the inexplicable suddenness of its appearance.

1866 in *Treas. Bot.*

Hence **will-o'-the-wisp** *v. trans.*, to lead astray like a will-o'-the-wisp; **will-o'-the-wispish**, -wispy *adjs.*, of the nature of a will-o'-the-wisp.

1660 R. WILD *Iter Boreale* ix, Dark-Lantern Language, and his peep-boe play, Will-E-Wispt Lambert's New-Lights out o' th' way. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 375 But to return to our Men of Learning, from whence we have been Will-ith-whisped. 1866 CARLYLE *Remin.* (1881) II. 177 His Mrs. Taylor too, a very will-o'-wispish 'iridescence' of a creature. a 1873 LYTON *Ken. Chillingley* II. ii, The boy.. became impish and Will-of-the-Wisp-ish. 1886 MISS BROUGHTON *Dr. Cupid* xxxi, The Will-of-the-wispy laughter of his eyes. 1926 J. B. PRIESTLEY *G. Meredith* v. 129 Woman..is far less likely than man to be Will-o'-the-Wisped away by sheer unreason masquerading as reason. 1954 L. MACNEICE *Autumn Sequel* xxvi. 159 Words may will-o'-the-wisp him.

willow ('wɪlə), *sb.* Forms: a. 1 welig, 5 weleygh; 5 *Sc. pl.* willeis, 4-5 wilghe, wylghe, 6 wyly(e, -ie, 6, 9 *dial.* willie, willy, 8 willi- (9 -ey, wullie, -y); 7 wilfe, 8- *dial.* wilf. β. 4 welew, 5 welogh, 5-6 welowe; 4 wilewe, 4-5 wilw(e, wylw(e, wyl(o)ugh, (whilwh), wil(l)ou, wylo, wyllo, wilowe, 5-6 wylow(e, (whylowe), 6 willo, wylow(e, -ough, 7 willough, 5- willow. [OE. *welig* f., corresp. to Fris. *wylch*, *wil(l)ig*, OLG. *wilgia* (LG. *wilge*), MDu. *wilge* (Du. *wilg*), MHG. *wilge*; f. Teut. *walg-*, *welg-*, whence also OE. *wilige* WILLY *sb.* 1

The form-history is obscure, partly from the fact that examples of the word are not forthcoming for the period between late OE. and the 14th century, when the immediate precursor of the present form, viz. *wilwe*, is already established, instead of the normal representative of OE. *welig*, which would be **welly*. The change in the root-syllable may be due to WILLY *sb.* 1 (OE. *wilige*), or an OE. **wiliz* may have existed; for the terminal syllable cf. *bellows* beside *belly* (OE. *beliz*), *fellow* beside *felly* (OE. *feliz*). The type *willy* survives *dial.*

I. 1. a. Any plant of the genus *Salix*, which consists of trees and shrubs of various sizes, widely distributed in temperate and cold regions, growing for the most part by the side of watercourses, characterized by very pliant branches and long narrow drooping leaves, and valued economically as furnishing osiers, a light smooth and soft wood, or a medicinal astringent bark, or grown ornamentally by the side of water.

a. a 750 *Blickl. Glosses* in O.E. *Texts* 123 In *salicibus*, on welgum. c 1000 Sax. *Leechd.* II. 156 Weliges leaf wylle on wætere. a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* cxxxvi[i]. 2 In þe wylghes in þe myddis of hit. c 1400 tr. *Secr. Secr.*, Gov. Lordsh. 81

þat he haue weleyghes and myrt. 14.. *Liber pauperum* in *MS. Lincoln A. i.* 17, lf. 295 (Hall.) Tak the bark of wilghe that is bitwene the tre and the utter barke. 1473 *Rental Bk. Cupar-Angus* (1879) I. 178 Plantation of willeis. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 418/1 A Wylght [sic], *salix*. 1535 COVERDALE *Lev.* xxiii. 40 Wyllics of the broke. — *Isa.* xlv. 4 The Willies by the waters side. [1641 wilfe: see WILLOW-TREE.]

β. c 1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbestu.* in Wright *Voc.* 163 Sauz [glossed wylie; Camb. MS. *wilwe*; All Souls MS. *withe* or *wilghe*]. c 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 659 *Sauce*.. *Welew*. c 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 2064 Wylugh [v.rr. Wylow, Wylw, Willow]. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 365 At Glyndalkan.. wilewys berep apples as it were appel treen. 14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 716/19 *Hec salix*, a welogh. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 15178 Som whilwh ful off levis grene. c 1450 *Cokwolds Daunce* x. in Hartshorne *Anc. Metr.* T. (1829) 212 Garland of wylos sculd be fette, And sett vpon his hed. 1546 *Supplic. Poore Commons* (1871) 78 A christalline ryuer garnished with wyllose. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 891 By the rushy-fringed bank, Where grows the Willow and the Osier dank. 1727-46 THOMSON *Summer* 1275 Plaintive breeze, that play'd Among the bending willows. 1784 COWPER *Task* I. 268 The willows dip Their pendent boughs, stooping as if to drink. 1818 KEATS *Endym.* I. 43 While the willow trails Its delicate amber. 1859 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* II, The old willows by the river.

b. The wood or osiers of any tree of this genus.

c 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xxiv. 517 He..toke the balke..as lightly as it had be some pece of welowe. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 491 Willowes..Whereof..there be Baskets made. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 15 The pressure of the external air will then force the mercury through the pores of the hazel or willow.

c. in allusive use with reference to pliability.

1832 MACAULAY *Ess.*, *Burleigh* ¶ 4 Burleigh, like the old Marquess of Winchester, who preceded him in the custody of the White Staff, was of the willow, and not of the oak. 1847 EMERSON *Poems, Musketaquid* 70, I am a willow of the wilderness, Loving the wind that bent me. 1910 J. D. MOFFAT *Paul & Paulinism* 24 Barnabas was of the willow rather than of the oak order.

d. Taken as a symbol of grief for unrequited love or the loss of a mate; esp. in phr. *to wear (the) willow*, *the willow garland* (see d 6), or *the green willow*: to grieve for the loss of a loved one.

1584 LYLly *Sappho* II. iv, Peace miserable wretch, enjoy thy care in court, weare willow in thy hatte, and baies in thy hart. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V. v. i.* 10 In such a night Stood Dido with a Willow in her hand Vpon the wilde sea banks. 1597 BRETON *Wit's Trenchmour* Wks. (Grosart) II. 20 Some dolefull Ballad, to the tune of all a greene willow. 1603 DEKKER & CHETTLE *Grisill* v. ii, Bring me a crown of gold to crown my loue; A wreath of willow for dispised Grisill. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* IV. iii. 51 Sing all a greene Willough must be my Garland. 1625 FLETCHER & SHIRLEY *Nl. Walker* I. i, We see you'r willow and are sorry for't. 1632 MASSINGER *Maid of Hon.* v. i, You may cry willow, willow for your brother. 1668 DRYDEN *Secret Love* v. i, If you had not forsaken me, I had you: so the Willows may flourish for any branches I shall rob'em of. 1678 D'URFEE *Fool turn'd Critick* II. ii. 19 *Lady A.*..so that for his sake I quitted all the rest. *Pen.* And left them Willowes. 1714 GAY *Sheph. Week* Thurs. 134 Nor shall she crown'd with willow die a maid. 1825 HONE *Every-day Bk.* I. 1080 'She is in her willows'.. implies the mourning of a female for her lost mate. 1885 KATH. S. MACQUOID *At Red Glove* VI. i, There's..Marie..wearing the willow because..Engemann is away courting Madam Carouge.

2. a. With qualification denoting a particular species or variety of the genus *Salix*: see *quots.* and *almond w.* (ALMOND 10), *CRACK-WILLOW*, *goat w.* (GOAT *sb.* 4b), *ground w.* (GROUND *sb.* 18c), *rose w.* (ROSE *sb.* 23b), *sage w.* (SAGE *sb.* 1 6b), *sallow w.* (SALLOW *sb.* 4), *†stake w.* (STAKE *sb.* 1 7), *swamp w.* (SWAMP *sb.* 3c), *sweet w.* (SWEET C. 1b), *weeping willow*, *whipcord w.* (WHIPCORDER *sb.* 3). Cf. OSIER and SALLOW *sb.*

1868 Rep. U.S. Comm. Agric. (1869) 202 Weeping and drooping trees... *Babylonian willow (*Salix Babylonica*). 1847 DARLINGTON *Amer. Weeds* etc. (1860) 328 *S[alix] viminalis*..Osier. *Basket Willow. 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Salix*, The *Bay-leav'd Sweet Willow. 1841 PENNY *Cycl.* XX. 360/1 *Salix Russelliana*, Russell or *Bedford willow. 1845-50 MRS. LINCOLN *Lect. Bot.* App. 161 *Salix discolor* (*bog willow). 1650 [W. HOWE] *Phytol. Brit.* 107 *Salix angustifolia pumila*; In *uliginosis*. *Dwarf-Willow. 1857 MISS PRATT *Flower. Pl.* V. 111 This species is sometimes called the *Golden Willow (*Salix chrysantha*), on account of the beautiful golden catkins which in May and June ornament its boughs. 1868 Rep. U.S. Comm. Agric. (1869) 202 *Kilmarnock willow (*Salix caprea*, var. *pendula*). 1841 PENNY *Cycl.* XX. 360/2 *Salix purpurea*, *purple willow. 1842 Proc. Berw. Nat. Club II. No. 10. 7 The *tree willow (*Salix caprea*). 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* III. li. 1203 *Salix aquatica*. The Ozier, or *water Willow. 1640 PARKINSON *Theat. Bot.* 1430 *Salix arborea angustifolia alba vulgaris*.. Our ordinary *white Willow growth quickly to be a great and tall tree. 1882 Garden 9 Sept. 227/3 The wood of the white Willow..is always in request. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 48 *Salix myrsinites*..*Whortle leaved Willow. 1841 PENNY *Cycl.* XX. 360/2 *Salix vitellina*, the *yellow willow.

b. Extended, with qualification, to plants of other genera having some resemblance to the willow: see *quots.*

1548 TURNER *Names Herbes* (E.D.S.) 41 Halimus.. may be called in englishe sea wyllowe or prickwyllowe because it hath the leaues of a wyllowe and prickles lyke a thorne. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* III. lxxviii. 1228 Gaule, sweete Willow, or Dutch Myrtle tree. 1760 J. LEE *Intro. Bot.* App. 331 Willow, Spiked, of Theophrastus, *Spiraea*. 1866 BROGDEN *Prov. Wds. Lincs.*, *Roman Willow*, a garden plant, *Syringa carulea flore*. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, Willow... Golden. A Madeira name for *Genista scoparia*... —, Primrose. A West Indian name for *Eriotheca*. 1875 *Ibid.* Suppl., Willow, Australian. *Gejiera parviflora*. —, Water, of the United

States. *Dianthera americana*. 1889 MAIDEN *Useful Plants Australia* 306 *Acacia calamifolia*, Willow, or Broom Wattle.

c. With qualification bay, flowering, French, Persian: the WILLOW-HERB, *Epilobium angustifolium*.

1633 JOHNSON *Gerarde's Herbal* II. cxxix. 479 *Chamænerium* is called of Gesner, *Epilobion*: in English, Bay Willow. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* II. iii. 386 French Willow. 1857 MISS PRATT *Flower. Pl.* II. 280 *Epilobium angustifolium* (Rose Bay, or Flowering Willow). 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, Willow. Persian, *Epilobium angustifolium*.

II. †3. = WILLY sb.¹ 2. Obs.

1385-6 *City of London Rec., Pleas & Mem. Rolls* Roll 27 Am. 28 (MS.) Grant destruction de pesson par engyns appeles Wilwes. 1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P.R.* xviii. i. (W. de W.) Yijj, For flesshe rotyd crabbes come in to wylowes [Add. MS. wyles] & pytyches. a 1555 PHILPOT tr. *Curio's Def. Christ's Ch. Wks.* (Parker Soc. 1842) 385 Many unclean and damnable persons is contained in this church, which we behold as it were fishes of all sorts in a fisher's trunk or willow.

4. = WILLY sb.¹ 3.

1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 164 Blowing and lapping machines.. are universally employed for cleaning and opening cotton after it has passed through the willow. 1877-80 *Gr. Industr. Gt. Brit.* I. 229 The conical self-acting willow, invented by Mr. Lillie, of Manchester. 1891 MARSDEN *Cotton Spinning* (ed. 4) 85 The spikes on the cylinder and casing of the willow.

5. A cricket-bat (made of willow-wood). Similarly, the bat at baseball. Cf. *King Willow* s.v. KING sb. 6 b.

1846 J. MARTIN in *Frederick Lillywhite's Cricket Scores & Biographies* (1863) III. 442 And now the 'willow' see them wild. 1866 LE FANU *All in Dark* xxxiv, He handles the willow pretty well. 1869 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 639, I had my turn at the 'willow'. 1876 in *Box Engl. Game Cricket* (1877) 414 Willow the King is a monarch grand, Three in a row his courtiers stand.

III. 6. attrib. and Comb. a. Simple attrib., as *willow band, bark, bed, bottom, bush, dust, gall* (GALL sb.³), *garth, ground, grove, head, hedge,holt, hoop, island, rind, row, shadow, swamp, top, tribe, twig, walk, wand, withe, wood*; made of willow-wood, as *willow-cylinder, polisher*. b. Instrumental, parasynthetic, objective, and similitive, as *willow-bordered, -coloured, -fringed, -grown, -leaved, -like, -lined, -shaded, -tufted, -veiled* adjs.; *willow-peeler*. c. Special Combs.: willow bay, *Salix pentandra*; willow-branch, a branch of a willow-tree; also allusively as in 1 d; willow curtain (see quot.); willow-earth, compost made of rotten willow-branches; † willow-flower = WILLOW-HERB 2; willow gentian, a herbaceous perennial, *Gentiana asclepiadea*, native to Europe and bearing deep blue or white flowers in axils along its curving stems; willow-green, a variety of green resembling the colour of willow-leaves; willow grouse, (a) the common ptarmigan of North America, *Lagopus albus*; (b) the ruffed grouse, *Bonasa umbellus*, called thus chiefly in British Columbia; willow-lark, the sedge-warbler; willow leaf, a leaf of the willow-tree, or a figure resembling this; pl. the luminous filaments of the sun's surface; also as adj. = *willow-leaved* adj., sense 6 b; willow-leaved pear(-tree), a tree, *Pyrus salicifolia*, that is related to the pear and is native to S.E. Europe and Asia Minor, bearing long narrow leaves and small fruit and often thorny; willow myrtle, a myrtaceous willow-leaved tree (*Agonis flexuosa*) of Western Australia; willow-nightingale local, the reed-sparrow; willow oak, a North American oak, *Quercus Phellos*, having narrow entire leaves like those of the willow; also, the laurel oak, *Q. laurifolia*; willow partridge, = *willow-grouse*; willow pattern, a pattern of domestic crockery in blue, orig. designed by Thomas Turner in the late 18th century, having willow-trees as a prominent feature; hence willow-patterned a.; willow ptarmigan = *willow-grouse*; willow-sparrow = *willow-warbler*; willow sheets, squares, pieces of plaited willow for hat-making; willow-thorn, sea-buckthorn, *Hippophaë rhamnoides*; willow tit (mouse), a black-headed, buff-coloured European tit, *Parus montanus* (formerly *P. atricapillus*); willow-warbler, a small bird, *Sylvia trochilus*; willow-ware, (a) crockery-ware of a willow pattern; (b) articles woven from osiers; willow weapon, a cricket-bat; willow weed = WILLOW-HERB 2, 3; also, various species of *Polygonum*, knotweed; willow-wielder, a batsman at cricket; willow-wort, = WILLOW-HERB 1, 3; also pl., Lindley's name for the willow family; willow-wren, = *willow-warbler*. Also in several names of insects or their larvæ which infest willows, as willow-beauty (*Boarmia rhomboidaria*), -bee (*Megachile willughbeia*); -beetle (spec. *Phyllodecta vitellina*), -butterfly, -caterpillar, -cimbex, †-cricket, -fly (any insect of the family *Perlidae*), -moth (*Caradrina*

quadripunctata), -sawfly, -slug (larva of the sawfly), -worm.

1819 SHELLEY *Cyclops* 203 My young lambs coupled two by two With *willow bands. 1836 J. M. GULLY *Magendie's Formul.* (ed. 2) 193 *Willow-bark having been frequently employed against intermittent fevers. 1650 [W. Howe] *Phytol. Brit.* 108 *Salix folio lauro*,... *Willow-bay. 1832 RENNIE *Butterfl. & Moths* 111 The *Willow Beauty.. appears the beginning of July, in woody places and gardens. 1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict.*, *Bimbrera*, a *willow bed. 1897 WATTS-DUNTON *Aylwin* VII. i, A winding, *willow-bordered river. 1807 P. GASS *Jrnl.* 51 Passed a *willow bottom on the south side, and a creek on the north. 1962 W. STEGNER *Wolf Willow* I. i. 12, I see a black iron bridge, new, that evidently leads some new road off into the willow bottoms. 1611 BEAUM. & FL. *Maid's Trag.* II. i. *Song*, Maidens, *Willow branches bear; say I died true. 1830 TENNYSON *Dying Swan* 37 The willow-branches hoar and dank. 1860 TROLLOPE *Framley P. xxx*, I have been overwhelmed with presents of willow branches. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* xvii, It was bordered by a line of *willow-bushes. 1773 B. WILKES *Engl. Moths* 58 The *Willow-Butterfly. c 1633 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) I. 68 The *willow colored satten suite. 1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* II. 300 *Willow-cricket, or small peacock fly. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech. Suppl.*, *Willow Curtain,... a device to curb the rapidity of streams and induce deposit of sediment. 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Layers*, Mould, mix'd with a little rotten *Willow-dust. 1683 J. REID *Scots Gard'ner* (1907) 69 *Willow-earth or rotten willow-sticks at the bottom of the pot, helps to retain the moisture. 1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* II. 143 A little willow-earth is very proper to mix with the above compost. 1633 JOHNSON *Gerarde's Herbal* II. cxxix. 477 *Chamænerion alterum angustifolium*. Narrow leaved *Willow-floure. 1787 BEST *Angling* (ed. 2) 119 The *Willow-Fly comes on about the beginning of September. 1749 WARTON *Tri. Isis* 6 O'er Isis' *willow-fringed banks I stray'd. 1870 KINGSLEY *At Last* xiii, Certain alder and willow-fringed reaches of the Thames. 1812 *Sporting Mag.* XXXIX. 231 Trotting on to the small *willow garth near Clifford [Yorkshire]. 1857 MISS PRATT *Flower. Pl.* V. 93 Osier-holts or Willow-garths, as such grounds are called in Yorkshire. 1883 W. ROBINSON *Eng. Flower Garden* 136/1 *Willow Gentian prefers a sheltered position. 1935 C. ELLIOTT *Rock Garden Plants* 123 The Willow Gentian of sub-alpine woods, grows two feet high, with arched wiry stems, strung along their upper half with fine blue trumpet-flowers. 1962 R. PAGE *Education of Gardener* xiii. 357, I may choose *Gentiana asclepiadea*, the willow gentian. 1672 W. HUGHES *Amer. Physitian* 28 A more blewish green colour, much like the colour called a *Willow-green. 1703 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3906/4 A Piece Ditto, striped with Willow-green and small Orange or Philamot. 1832 T. BROWN *Bk. Butterfl. & M.* (1834) I. 172 Of a pale willow-green above. 1608 *Merry Devil Edmonton* III. ii, Heere in the walke neere to the *willow ground. 1849 D. J. BROWNE *Amer. Poultry Yd.* (1855) 311 The *willow grouse on the rock crows his challenge aloud. 1907 J. G. MILLAIS *Newfoundland* 274 The Newfoundland willow grouse.. fly in large bodies from one district to another. 1960 *Gulf Islander* (Galiano, B.C.) 23 July 1/1 We listened to the resonant call of the willow grouse. 1961 W. P. KELLER *Canada's Wild Glory* II. 93 The grouse came back, too. These were the willow grouse, or as the same bird is known in the east, 'the drummer' or ruffed grouse. 1552 HULOET, *Willow grouse, *salicetum*. 1577 GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 17 Meddowe, Wood Lande, and Wyllowe Groues. 1855 SINGLETON *Virgil, Georgics* II. 575 The wild willow-grove. 1871 MORRIS in *Mackail Life* (1899) I. 265 A sandy plain somewhat *willow-grown. 1798 *Act 38 Geo. III* c. v. § 2 Any *Willow Heads, Loppings of Pollard or Doddard Trees. 1805 DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. Plate xxxi, A protection of *willow-hedge, raised by setting the stakes. 1832 *Boston, Linc.* etc. *Herald* 13 Nov. 4/3 Secreted in a *willow holt.. in Holland Fen. 1697 J. PUCKLE *New Dial.* 18 Nor do We in England (as you [the Dutch]) want *Willow Hoops from Hamburg. 1814 BRACKENRIDGE *Jrnl.* in *Views Louisiana* 204 Having passed a small *willow island. 1769 G. WHITE *Selborne, To Pennant* 29 May, A new salicaria, which at first I suspected might have proved your *willow-lark. 1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 43 b, Of Lysimachia.. The leues.. are thinne and in fasshon lyke *wylow leues. c 1711 PETIVER *Gazophyl.* Dec. vii. Tab. 63 This has plain Willow Leaves. 1818 A. EATON *Man. Bot.* (ed. 2) 447 Willow-leaf golden-rod. 1829 SHELLEY *Summer* 9 The willow leaves that glanced in the light breeze. 1860 NASMYTH in *Monthly Not. Royal Astron. Soc.* (1864) XXIV. 67 What I claim to be the first to discover.. in reference to the structure of his entire luminous surface, as well as the precise form of the structural details, which, from their general similitude in respect to form, I at once compared with willow-leaves. *Ibid.*, These luminous filaments or willow-leaf-shaped objects. 1975 *Country Life* 20 Mar. 699/3 Willow-leaf pears.. form charming leafy tapestries. 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Adhatoda*, The *Willow-leav'd Malabar Nut. 1789 W. AITON *Hortus Kewensis* II. 176 Willow leav'd Crab Tree. [Native] of the Levant. 1820 *Bot. Reg.* VI. 514 (heading) Willow-leaved pear-tree. 1864 LOCKYER in *Reader* 16 Jan. 79/2 Mr. Nasmyth's discovery of the willow-leaved things.. covering like so many scales the whole surface of the sun. 1914 W. J. BEAN *Trees & Shrubs Hardy in Brit. Isles* II. 292 Willow-leaved Pear.. Branchlets covered with down which is quite white when young. 1980 V. CANNING *Fall from Grace* ix. 155 A carpet of silvery *Cineraria maritima* spread under a group of willow-leaved pears. 1712 PETIVER in *Phil. Trans.* XXVII. 422 Its Leaves below are long *Willow-like. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 186 A long-branched willow-like shrub. 1946 J. W. DAY *Harvest Adventure* x. 159 Half-way between Yarmouth and Acle on that dead straight, *willow-lined road. 1845 G. E. DAY tr. *Simon's Anim. Chem.* I. 101 The caterpillar of the *willow-moth. 1898 MORRIS *Austral Engl.*, *Willow Myrtle,.. with willow-like leaves and pendent branches. 1773 *Phil. Trans.* LXIII. 281 note, In the neighbourhood of Shrewsbury, the [reed-sparrow] hath obtained the name of the *willow-nightingale. 1717 *Pettiveriana* III. 208 *Willow Oak. From the Likeness of its Leaf. 1813 Willow oak [see *grey oak* s.v. GREY a. 8]. 1897 [see *peach oak* s.v. PEACH sb.¹ 6]. 1949 *Amer. Forests* Sept. 18/3 A tall willow oak drips slender verdant fingers. 1975 *Country Life* 2 Jan. 38/3 More native trees were also planted, notably.. the willow oak. 1772 FORSTER in *Phil. Trans.* LXII. 390 *Willow-partridges. 1829 S. SHAW *Staffordsh. Potteries* ix. 214 The Pattern Mr. Turner

used was the *willow, designed by him from two oriental Plates, still preserved. 1848 NEWMAN *Loss & Gain* I. x. 68, I myself found half a willow-pattern saucer in the crater of Vesuvius. 1878 LONGF. *Kéramos* 326 The willow pattern, that we knew in childhood, with its bridge of blue Leading to unknown thoroughfares. 1857 MISS YONGE *Dynevor Terr.* II, The homely black tea-pot and *willow-patterned plates. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Willow-peeler, a device or a machine for stripping the bark from the willow wands. 1884 F. J. BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 214 Plates for carriage and other small clocks.. are polished with a *willow polisher. 1872 COUES *Key N. Amer. Birds* 235 *Lagopus albus*. *Willow Ptarmigan. c 1500 *World & Child* (1522) A iij, I can wstyll you a fyfte Syres in a *whylowe ryne. 1806 GRAHAME *Birds Scot.* 5 He sits And warps the skep with willow rind. 1586 W. WEBBE *Engl. Poetrie* (Arb.) 75 Greene *willow rowes which Hiblaë bees doo reioice in. 1845 *Florist Jrnl.* 193 Over the margin of the *willow-shaded pond. 1827 CLARE *Sheph. Cal.* 56 To wash-pools, where the *willow shadows lean. 1819 P. O. *Lond. Direct.* 364 Patentee.. of Beaver, Silk and Willow Hats, and *Willow-squares. 1834 1st Rep. *Poor Law Comm.* (1885) 199, I formerly carried on the business of a willow-square maker. 1901 SEEBOHM *Birds of Siberia* xiv. 125 This never-ending, almost impenetrable *willow-swamp. 1857 MISS PRATT *Flower. Pl.* V. 49 Sea Buckthorn, Sallow-thorn, or *Willow-thorn. 1907 *Brit. Birds* I. 44 The *Willow Tit varies a good deal geographically. 1979 C. M. PERRINS *Brit. Tits* vii. 60 The Willow Tit was the last British species to be recognized. 1958 *Spectator* 22 Aug. 244/1, I discovered a rare bird, then almost unknown,.. at Beckenham—a *willow titmouse. 1693 CONGREVE in *Dryden's Juvenal* xi. (1697) 285 No bitter *Willow-tops have been its Food. 1805 DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. 119 The farmer may have recourse to plants of the *willow tribe for the forming of his hedges. 1764 GOLDSM. *Trav.* 294 The *willow-tufted bank. 1653 WALTON *Angler* II. 62 Oh it is a great logger-headed Chub: Come, hang him upon that *Willow twig. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xxxi, It shored asunder, as it had been a willow twig, the tough and plaited handle of the mace. 1833 TENNYSON *Lady of Shalott* I. iii, By the margin, *willow-veil'd. 1803 J. PALMER *World as it Goes* II. 14 The carriage entered a *willow-walk, terminated by a small antique building. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* xxxviii, When you want me for breakfast, I will be found in the willow-walk by the river. a 1585 MONTGOMERIE *Flying* 82 With a *willie wand thy skin was well scourged. c 1650 *Robin Hood & Q. Kath.* xxii, in *Child Ballads* v. 201 I'll cleave the willow wand. 1715 RAMSAY *Christ's Kirk Gr.* II. v, Clever houghs like willi-wands. 1748 THOMSON *Cast. Indol.* I. xxiii, As lithe they grow as any willow wand. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* v. ix, The rushes and the willow-wand Are bristling into axe and brand. 1954 J. R. R. TOLKIEN *Fellowship of Ring* iii. 80, I shall be as thin as a willow-wand. 1846 JENYNS *Nat. Hist.* 133 We found to-day the nest of a *willow-warbler. 1882 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* IX. No. 3. 429 The willow-warbler (*Sylvia trochilus*). 1851 C. CIST *Cincinnati* 172 Baskets, cradles, wagons and other *willow-ware. 1880 *Harper's Mag.* June 30/1 We find women employed in making.. willow-ware and cane chairs. c 1885 R. COLLYER in J. H. Holmes *Life & Lett.* (1917) I. ii. 24 A great rack for the pewter dishes and willow ware. 1850 'BAT' *Crick. Man.* 45 The way to use the *willow weapon. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* II. iii. 379 *Willow Weed or French Willow. 1855 TENNYSON *Brook* 46 And many a fairy foreland set With willow-weed and mallow. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, Willow-weed, *Lythrum Salicaria*; also *Polygonum lapathifolium*. 1903 *Times* 13 July 11/6 Wily *willow-wielders. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* II. iii. 292 The goodman.. from a corner nigh Took up some *willow-withes. 1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* I. 4 The charcoal of *willow-wood is preferred, by many, for the manufacture of gunpowder. 1845 G. DODD *Brit. Manuf.* IV. 61 Wheels.. made of.. willow-wood. 1896 LODEMAN *Spray. Plants* 373 *Willow-worm; *Antiope* Butterfly (*Vanessa Antiope*). 1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. iii. 753 As Betonie breaks friendship's ancient bands, So *Willow-wort makes wonted hate shake hands. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India* & P. 307 In an Hollow made by the falling of the Water in the Rains, grows Willow-wort. 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Salicaria*, Willow-wort or spiked Lose-strife. 1846 LINDLEY *Veg. Kingd.* 254 *Salicaceæ*. Willow-worts. 1805 SCOTT *Last Minstr.* II. xi, And changed the *willow-wreaths to stone. 1768 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* II. 266 The *willow-wren frequents large moist woods. 1882 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* IX. No. 3. 556 Aug. 16th, Willow-wrens had deserted the furze bushes and hedges. 1870 JOHN WISDEN's *Cricketers' Almanack* 91 With *willow wielders like these, it is no wonder Notts holds the high position it does as a batting shire.

d. In uses containing an allusion to the willow as a symbol of mourning or of being lvelorn.

1585 in Chappell *Old Engl. Pop. Mus.* (1893) 110, I wylbe the turtle most stedfast [still] to the: & paciently were this grene wyllow garland. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI.* III. iii. 228 Tell him, in hope hee'l proue a widower shortly, I weare the Willow Garland for his sake. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* III. 112 Still for to weare the Willow wreath. 1638 FORD *Fancies* III. iii, A knot of Willow Ribbands. 1648 HERRICK *Hesper.*, *To Willow-tree* 7 When once the Lovers Rose is dead,.. Then Willow-garlands, 'bout the head, Bedew'd with teares, are worne. 1825 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Sutherland*. 36 This willow-wearing fair one. 1833 — *Parson's Dau.* I. xii, The.. willow-wearers at Ullsford.

e. quasi-adj. = WILLOWY a. 2. See also quot. a 1700.

1634 S. R. Noble *Soldier* IV. i. Fi b, I yeeldd With willow-bendings to commanding breaths. a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Willow*, Poor, and of no Reputation. 1875 MISS BRADDON *Strange World* II, Tall, slim, and willow-waisted.

f. Short for willow pattern (sense 6 c above), as *willow cup, plate, pottery*. See also *willow ware* (a).

1926 R. MACAULAY *Crewe Train* II. x. 179 It would look jolly with blue willow cups and plates on it. 1928 T. S. ELIOT in E. Pound *Sel. Poems* p. xvii, People who like Willow pottery and Chinese-chairs in Munich and Kew. 1961 M. BEADLE *These Ruins are Inhabited* (1963) xi. 142 In contrast, the laburnums.. curved earthward with willow-plate grace.

willow, *v.* [f. WILLOW *sb.* 4.] *trans.* To put (cotton, etc.) through a willow.

1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 330 It must be willowed... in an appropriate manner, by machines differing in structure and adjustment for different qualities of goods.

willowed ('wɪləʊd), *a.* [f. WILLOW *sb.* + -ED².] Bordered or grown with willows.

1745 WARTON *Ode to Morning* 14 The willow'd marge of murmuring brook. **1747** COLLINS *Ode to Liberty* 56 Willow'd Meads. **1805** SCOTT *Last Minstr.* iv. i. No longer steel-clad warriors ride Along thy wild and willow'd shore. **1801** E. R. PENNELL *Stream Pleas.* 44 All the elm-lined roads and willowed backwaters lead to pretty villages.

willowed ('wɪləʊd), *ppl. a.* [f. WILLOW *v.* + -ED¹.] Separated by means of a willow.

1880 J. DUNBAR *Pract. Papermaker* 26 Fine stuff, such as willowed rope.

willower ('wɪləʊə(r)), [f. WILLOW *sb.* 4 or *v.* + -ER¹.] One who tends a willow.

1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 65 Woollen Cloth Manufacture... Willower, Willyer, or Woolleyer. *Ibid.* 82 Paper Making... Willower (Paper Mill).

'willow-herb. [So named from the resemblance of the leaves to the willow's. Cf. the earlier *herb willow* (HERB *sb.* 7b).]

All the plants so named were formerly included under the name *Lysimachia*.]

1. Yellow loosestrife, *Lysimachia vulgaris*.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* i. li. 74 The first [Lysimachion] which we may call Golden or yellow Lysimachus, Willow herbe, and Louse strife. **1597** GERARDE *Herbal* ii. cxxii. 386 *Lysimachia lutea*. Yellow Willow herbe. **1755** B. STILLINGFL. *Cal. Flora* 2 Sept. **1857** MISS PRATT *Flower. Pl.* IV. 236 (Great Yellow Loosestrife)... is sometimes called Yellow Willow-herb.

2. Any plant of the extensive genus *Epilobium*, esp. *E. angustifolium* and *hirsutum*.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* i. li. 73 *Lysimachium purpureum* *primum*. The first purple red, willow herbe. **1597** GERARDE *Herbal* ii. cxxii. 386 *Lysimachia siliquosa*. Codded Willow herbe... *Chamanerion*. Rose bay Willow herbe. **1697** LHWYD in *Phil. Trans.* XXVII. 50 The Common French Willow-Herb. **1785** MARTYN *Lett. Bot.* xix. (1794) 257 Our European Willow Herbs. **1802** COLERIDGE *Picture* 89 Lychnis, and willow-herb, and fox-glove bells. **1861** S. THOMSON *Wild Fl.* iii. (ed. 4) 224 The willow-herb, or *Epilobium* genus. **1899** CROCKETT *Kit Kennedy* xxxvii. A little ten-yard square island all overgrown with red purple willow herb.

3. Spiked or purple-spiked willow-herb: purple loosestrife, *Lythrum Salicaria*.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* i. li. 75 Poynted willow Herbe with the purple floure. **1597** GERARDE *Herbal* ii. cxxii. 386 *Lysimachia purpurea spicata*. Spiked Willow herbe. **1755** B. STILLINGFL. *Cal. Flora* i. July.

4. In full hooded willow-herb: *Scutellaria galericulata* or *S. minor*.

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* ii. cxxii. 387 *Lysimachia galericulata*, or hooded Willowe herbe. **1777** LIGHTFOOT *Flora Scotica* I. 320 *Scutellaria minor*... Little red Scull cap, or Willow-herb. **1785** MARTYN *Lett. Bot.* iv. (1794) 46 Some plants only having little or no smell as... hooded willow herb. **1866** in *Treas. Bot.*

willowing ('wɪləʊɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. WILLOW *sb.* 4 or *v.* + -ING¹.] = WILLYING (after WILLY *sb.* 1).

1851 L. D. B. GORDON in *Art Jnl. Illustr. Catal.* p. iv**/1 A scutching machine, so arranged that the preliminary process of willowing is performed within it. **1875** KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Willowing-machine*... 2. (Cotton)... Called also *twill*, *shake-willy*, *willow*, *willy*, *willey*, *devil*, *opening-machine*. **1879** Cassell's *Techn. Educ.* IV. 339/2 The willowing or willying process, which opens and disentangles the locks of wool. **1891** R. MARSDEN *Cotton Spinning* (ed. 4) 82.

willowish ('wɪləʊɪʃ), *a.* [f. WILLOW *sb.* + -ISH¹.]

1. Somewhat resembling that of a willow, esp. in reference to the colour of willow-leaves.

1653 WALTON *Angler* v. 105 First for a May-fly: you may make his body with greenish-coloured crewel, or willowish colour. **1656** BEALE *Heref. Orchards* (1657) 19 A fady willowish broad leaf. **1676** J. SMITH *Art of Painting* ii. 21 It's Willowish colour must be corrected with Yellows.

2. Like a willow; fig. of a pliant character. rare.

1919 SAINTSBURY *Hist. Fr. Novel* II. 12 note, It is intended to bring before the reader's mind the utterly willowish character of Oswald, Lord Nelvil.

willow-tree. = WILLOW *sb.* 1; cf. also 1 d, 6 d.

c1425 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 646/33 *Hec silex*, wylotre. **1495** Trevisa's *Barth. De P.R.* xviii. cxliii. (W. de W.) Tiiij/2 A wylove tree... hath noo fruyte but only sode or floure. **1535** COVERDALE *Ps.* cxxxvi[i]. 2 As for oure harpes, we hanged them vp vpon the trees [fo. dlxxxij Vpon the trees, rede, Vpon the wyllye treis]. **1548** TURNER *Names Herbes* (E.D.S.) 70 *Particulis salix* is the greete Wylove tree wyche hath longe rodde... growynge in it. **1563** GOOGE *Eglogs* vi. (Arb.) 51 This mournynge looke, this Vesture sad, this wrethe of Willow tree. **1599** SHAKS. *Much Ado* ii. i. 225. 16.. R. BARNESLEY in *Wit Restor'd* (1658) 35 That I may goe free From the sad branches of the willowe tree. **1610** R. JONES *Muses Gard.* xii. (1901) 18 For once thou wert where thou wouldest be Though now thou wear'st the willow-tree. **1641** BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 41 A wylfe tree that groweth in the hedge of the Bramble hill bottomes. **1860** PIESSE *Lab. Chem. Wonders* 3 Willow-trees are allowed to grow here and there.

willowy ('wɪləʊi), *a.* [f. WILLOW *sb.* + -Y¹.]

1. Bordered, shaded, or clad with willows.

1766 [ANSTEV] *Bath Guide* 121 Where the languid old Cam rolls his willowy flood. **1769** GRAY *Install. Ode* 29

Where willowy Camus lingers with delight. **1816** SHELLEY *Lett. Pr. Wks.* 1888 I. 339 The willowy plain of the Rhone. **1833** TENNYSON *Lady of Shalott* iv. iii. The willowy hills and fields among. **1840** LOUISA S. COSTELLO *Summer amgst. Bocages* II. 97 We had been sitting on a willowy ait, such as our own beautiful Thames presents.

2. Resembling a willow in its flexible or drooping gracefulness.

1791 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Rights of Kings* iv. ii. Wks. 1816 II. 188 Unceasing bends the willowy neck to ground. **a1835** MRS. HEMANS *Shepherd-Poet of the Alps* 165 A fragile form, With a willowy droop. **1864** G. A. LAWRENCE *Maurice Dering* II. 32 He, who always raved about willowy waists. **1883** HOWELLS *Register* ii, Slender, willowy party, with a lot of blonde hair.

3. Suggesting the sound of willows agitated by the wind.

1895 MEREDITH *Amazing Marr.* ix, The willowy swish of silken dresses.

4. Comb.

1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Miner's Right* xlvii, Certain delicate-featured willowy-figured Sydney demoiselles.

Hence 'willowily *adv.*; 'willowiness.

1932 A. HUXLEY *Brave New World* xi. 192 He put his arm round the Head Mistress's waist. It yielded, willowily. **1972** *Daily Tel.* 13 Mar. 11 Virile shoulders, tapering downward to a more traditional willowiness, are the hallmark of the 1972 Cardin man.

will-pit: see WEEL¹.

'will-, worship. [f. WILL *sb.* 1 + WORSHIP *sb.*, rendering Gr. *ἐξελδοθησκεία* (Col. ii. 23).] Worship according to one's own will or fancy, or imposed by human will, without divine authority.

1549 CHEKE *Hurt Sedit.* (1641) 59 Seeing... true worship taught, and will-worship refused. **1565** CALFILL *Answ. Martiell To Rdr.* 6b, A wilworship, a naughty seruice, hauing no ground of the worde of God. **1611** Bible Col. ii. 23 Which things haue in deed a shew of wisdom in will-worship [Vulg. *superstitione*; TINDALE chosen holynes, COVERDALE chosen spiritualite, Geneva *volontarie worshipping*]. **a1629** HINDE *J. Bruen* xxx. (1641) 93 That such service unto Saints, is but witt-worship, will-worship, and Idol-service. **1641** SANDERSON *Serm.*, *Matt.* xv. 9 (1681) II. 4 Those Pharisees... intending by those superstitious Will-worships to honour God. **1730** BERKELEY *Serm.* Wks. 1871 IV. 641 Not lip-worship, nor will-worship, but inward and evangelical. **1827** G. S. FABER *Sacr. Cal. Prophecy* (1844) II. 106 A declension from evangelical soundness to unwarrantable superstition and will-worship. **1846** TRENCH *Mirac.* Introd. (1862) 5 The will-worship of Jeroboam.

So will-worshipper, one who practises will-worship; † will-worshipping, will-worship.

1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* ix. 12. 28 The wil worshippinges which superstitious persones have forged too themselves of their owne heades. **1660** JER. TAYLOR *Ductor Dubit.* ii. iii. rule 13. §9 He that says God is rightly worshipped by an act or ceremony concerning which himself hath no way express'd his pleasure, is superstitious, or a will-worshipper.

willy, willey ('wɪli), *sb.* 1 Forms: 1 *wilige*, *wylige*, -ie, 7, 9 *weely*, 8-9 *willey*, 9 *willy*. [OE. *wilige*: see WILLOW *sb.* Cf. *wyle*, *wile*, WEEL².]

1. A basket: see quotes. dial.

c1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* ix. (Z.) 55 *Corbis*, wylige oððe windel. **c1000** *Ag. Gosp.* Mark vi. 43 Hi namon para hlafa & fixa lafe twelf wilian fulle. **a1100** *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 336/7 *Corbis uel cofinus*, wylige oððe meoxbearwe. [1256, etc.: see WEEL². **1398** TREVISA *Barth. De P.R.* xvii. cxxvi. (Add. MS. 27944), Of rashes bep ymade panyers: Wiles, cupes and casis.] **1825** JENNINGS *Obs. Dial. W. Eng.*, *Willy*, a term applied to baskets of various sizes, but generally to those holding about a bushel... sometimes called also *willy-basket*. **1886** W. Som. *Word-bk.*, *Willy*, a large basket—of a shape deep rather than flat... A willy has two small handles at the upper edge, one opposite the other.

2. A fish-trap. local.

[1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P.R.* xviii. i. (Add. MS. 27944), For fleissch yrosted crabbes comeþ in to wyles and pyches.] **1602** CAREW *Cornwall* i. 28 The Trowte... are mostly taken with a hooke-net, made like the Easterne Weelyes, which is placed in the stickeltest part of the stream... and kept abroad with certaine hoopes. **1813** VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* 320 Below the lower flood-hatch, a trap (or *willey*, as in this neighbourhood it is called) is made for the catching of smaller fish. **1880** W. Cornw. *Gloss.*, *Weelys*, wicker pots or traps for catching crabs.

3. A revolving machine of a conical or cylindrical shape armed internally with spikes for opening and cleaning wool, cotton, flax. Called also *twill*.

[1780: see WILLY *v.* quot. 1864]. **1835** URE *Philos. Manuf.* 160 The wool-mill or willy (called willow, in the cotton manufacture...) is the first machine to which clothing-wool is subjected. **1870** *Engl. Mech.* 31 Dec. 610/1 The machine... is called a willow, or willey, vulgarly a devil; it is used principally for opening raw cotton. **1894** C. VICKERMAN *Woollen Spinning* 122 A 'Fearnought' or tenter-hook willy.

Hence 'will(e)y *v.*, to treat with the willy or willowing-machine; 'will(e)yer, one who tends a willy; 'will(e)ying *vbl. sb.* (also *attrib.*).

1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 204 Wool-sorters, pickers, willyers (winnowers). **1844** G. DODD *Textile Manuf.* iii. 98 Some kinds of wool require willying more than once. **1864** A. JEFFREY *Hist. Roxb.* IV. 115 In 1780, when a small hand 'willy', for oiling and teasing the wool, was put up in the garret of John Roberts. It was a joint stock adventure, and willyed for the whole town. **1871** *Daily News* 18 Aug., Cloth finishers, dressers, fettlers, and willyers. *Ibid.*, The cotton willying-room. **1884** W. S. B. McLAREN *Spinning* (ed. 2) 185 The wool must be freed from all dirt, etc., by willying and thorough washing, it must then be oiled and again willyed to spread the oil over all the fibres. **1907** CLAPHAM

Woollen & Worsted Ind. 188 The willying machine must also have an efficient exhaust draft.

willy, willie ('wɪli), *sb.* 2 [Pet-form of the name WILLIAM.] **1. Applied locally to various animals; e.g. the guillemot, = WILLOCK; also attrib., as in willy-goat, a he-goat (= BILLY-GOAT); willy-wagtail, (a) the water wagtail; (b) in Australia, = WAGTAIL sb. 2 b. (See also WILL-O'-THE-WISP 1 c.)**

1849 Zoologist VII. 2393 The common guillemot is a 'willy'. **1883** *Sunday Mag.* Aug. 528/1 Some birds flying... over the vessel... called willies.

1852 W. WICKENDEN *Hunchback's Chest* 82 You might have broken the leg of the 'willy-goat. **1824** MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl.*, 'Wullie-Wagtail. **1885** MRS. C. PRAED *Head Station* (new ed.) 156 A brisk little willy-wagtail hopping about on the gravel.

2. slang. An infantile name for the penis. Also *Comb.*, as *willy-warmer*.

1905 *Eng. Dial. Dict.* Suppl. 178/2 *Willy*, the male organ; a slang name for a child's penis. Cum., Wm. **1972** *Listener* 22 June 841/3 The gallant soldier-boys are afflicted with 'syph, darling' ('their willies rot away'). **1975** *Observer* 7 Dec. 27/3 Joky gifts are speechlessly embarrassing; this season's dud is a woolly willy-warmer. **1977** J. WILSON *Making Hate* ix. 113 A younger male [baboon]... fingered its crimson penis... 'It's playing with its willie! Nicky squealed. **1985** P. ANAGDI *Governess* x. 93 We used to hold each other's willies... We didn't know about sex then.

willy ('wɪli), *sb.* 3 [Prob. related to WILLIYAW: cf. WILLY-WILLY.] In the South Atlantic (Tristan da Cunha): (see quotes.).

1832 A. EARLE *Narr. Residence N.Z.* (1966) 204 These sudden squalls are called 'Willies', at least, such is the name given them by the sailors who frequent the island [sc. Tristan da Cunha]. **1941** A. B. CRAWFORD *I went to Tristan* xi. 158 A shower is a 'light squall' and 'willies' are eddies of spray above the surface of the sea caused by small whirlwinds. *Ibid.* 268 *Willie*, whirlwind of spray over the sea.

† **willy, a.** *Obs.* Forms: 4-5 *willi*, *wylly*, (5 *wille*, *wyle*, *wyly*, 6 *wylle*), 4- *willy*. [f. WILL *sb.* 1 + -Y¹, prob. after ON. *viljugr* (MSw. *villogher*, Sw., Da. *villig*), corresp. to OS., (M)Du. *willig*, OHG. *willig* (MHG. *willec*, G. *willig*). But an OE. **willic* may have existed; cf. next.]

1. Willing, eager.

a1300 *Cursor M.* 23073 bai... willi war to do, and gladd, þat men of hali kirc þam badd. *Ibid.* 26351 Propre, stedfast, Ernexst, willi, buxum, sothfast. **13..** *Gosp. Nicod.* (G.) 161 þe men þat wight and willy were said: 'to þi steuin we stand'. **c1440** *Destr. Troy* 1775 Wisest of wordes and wille perto. **c1449** PECOCK *Repr.* v. iii. 496 Forto make hem the redier and the willier forto counceyle with learned men. **1489** CAXTON *Faytes of A.* i. vi. A vijb, A prynce ought not be belyeud that therein shold be ouer wylly & courageous.

2. Well-disposed, benevolent.

With first quot. cf. Chaucer's 'welwilli planet' (*Troilus* 111. 1208).

c1403 LYDG. *Temple of Glas* 1348 Willi planet, O Esperus so bryt, þat woful hertes can appese. **1449** *Paston Lett.* I. 88, I fonde her never so willy to noon as sche is to hym. **1483** *Cath. Angl.* 418/2 Willy, *beneuolus*.

3. ? Of the will.

c1400 tr. *Secr. Secr.*, *Gov. Lordsh.* 96 And þanne fallys to hym a reale willy [orig. *uoluntaria*] vertu.

b. in parasynthetic compounds, EVIL-WILLY, GOODWILLY, ILL-WILLY, WELL-WILLY.

Hence † *'willyly adv.*, voluntarily, willingly.

a1300 *Cursor M.* 26942 Willili lok þat pou be scriuen, Noght wit strength þar-to be driuen. **c1400** *Abbay Holy Ghost in Hampole's Wks.* (Horstman) I. 334 Make þame arely to ryse and go þe wyllylyere to paire seruyse.

† **willy, adv.** *Obs.* Forms: 1 *willice*, 2-3 *willeliche*, 4 *williche*. [Late OE. *willice* = OHG. *willico* (MHG. *williche*): see WILL *sb.* 1, -LY². With the quadrisyllabic forms cf. ON. *viljanliga*.] Willingly, voluntarily.

c1000 in *Anglia* XIII. 375/138 Oppe gehwylce ða wyllice we onfengon. **c1175** *Lamb. Hom.* 41 3ef 3e luten wuleð, and 3e willeliche hit understonðen. **a1225** *Ancre. R.* 338 Schrift ouh to beon willes, þet is willeliche iureind and nout idrawen of þe. *Ibid.* 396 Auh ure Louerd willeliche totweamde his soule urom his bodie vorto ueien ure boðe togederes. **a1300** in Horstmann *Altengl. Leg.* (1875) 8 þo dronk Marie al hire fulle Swipe willeche of þat welle.

willy, dial. f. WILLOW; obs. form of WILY.

willya ('wɪljə). Repr. colloq. pronunc. of 'willy you...?', esp. as a tag after an imperative.

1941 B. SCHULBERG *What makes Sammy Run?* ix. 241 Willya find out who rang for a messenger boy? **1956** 'E. McBAIN' *Cop Hater* (1958) iv. 38 Hey, shut up, will-ya? **1968** C. BURKE *Elephant across Border* i. 28 Now go away, willya? **1981** G. McDONALD *Fletch & Widow Bradley* viii. 28 Write a new story... Only get the competition to print it this time, willya, Fletch?

willyamite (wɪl'ɑ:mait). *Min.* [See quot. 1893 and -ITE¹.] A sulphide and antimonide of cobalt and nickel, (Co,Ni)SbS, in which Co exceeds Ni, found as white or grey pseudo-cubic crystals having a metallic lustre.

1893 E. F. PITTMAN in *Jrnl. & Proc. R. Soc. New S. Wales* XXVII. 366, I propose to name the mineral Willyamite (pronounced Willy-ah'-mite) after Willyama the official name of the Broken Hill township, and the aboriginal word meaning a hill with a broken contour. **1976** *Norsk. Geol. Tidsskr.* LVI. 449 Ullmannite, cobaltian ullmannite and

willyamite occur as blebs and laths in galena from Espeland mine, Aust-Agder, Norway.

'willyart, a. Sc. and n. dial. Also 6 wilzart, 8 wylart, 9 wilyard, williard, willward. [Obscurely f. WILL *a.*²; associated later with WILL *sb.*¹]

1. Wild; shy.

1590 BUREL in Watson *Coll. Sc. Poems* II. (1709) 19 Quhiles wandring, quhiles dandring, Like royd and wilzart rais. 1786 BURNS *On Dining with Lord Daer* iv, But O for Hogarth's magic pow'r To show Sir Bardy's willyart glowr!

2. Self-willed, obstinate.

1791 LEARMONT *Poems* 26 Had ye Byng'd some wylart bairns, It wad hae gien the laive mair harns. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xiii, Uh! uh! it's a hard-set wilyard beast this o' mine. 1876 *Whitby Gloss.*, Willward, self-willed. 1880 *Antrim & Down Gloss.*, Williard, obstinate; self-willed.

willy-coat, var. WYLIECOAT Sc.

willy-nilly ('wɪlɪ 'nɪli), *adv.* and *a.* Also 7 wille nille, 8 willi nilhi. [= *will I, nill I (he, ye)* 'be I (he, ye) willing, be I (he, ye) unwilling': see WILL *v.*¹ VI, NILL *v.*]

A. *adv.* Whether it be with or against the will of the person or persons concerned; whether one likes it or not; willingly or unwillingly, *volens volens*.

1608 MIDDLETON *Trick to catch Old One* i. ii, Thou shalt trust me spite of thy teeth, furnish me with some money wille nille. 1797 MRS. BERKELEY *Poems of G. M. Berkeley* Pref. p. ccxix, But her Ladyship would, *willi nilhi*, constantly join the one who drank the waters every morning, and converse with her. 1807 W. IRVING *Salmag.* ix. (1824) 145 He was sure, willy nilly, to be drenched with a deluge of decoctions. 1818 J. BROWN *Psyche* 121 From whence it follows, will y' nill y', The thought of your's is mighty silly. 1884 A. GRIFFITHS *Chron. Newgate* II. vii, 306 He... conceived an idea of carrying her off and marrying her willy nilly at Gretna Green. 1898 L. STEPHEN *Stud. Biogr.* II. vii, 272 You are engaged in the game willy-nilly, and cannot be a mere looker-on.

B. *adj.* 1. That is such, or that takes place, whether one will or no.

1877 TENNYSON *Harold* v. i, And someone saw thy willy-nilly nun Vying a tress against our golden fern. 1880 *Cornhill Mag.* Feb. 182 All willy-nilly spinsters went to the canine race to be consoled. 1882 TENNYSON *Promise of May* II. 119 If man be only A willy-nilly current of sensations.

2. *erron.* Undecided, shilly-shally.

1883 GALTON *Hum. Faculty* 57 The willy-nilly disposition of the female in matters of love is as apparent in the butterfly as in the man. 1898 BESANT *Orange Girl* II. vi, Let us have no more shilly shally, willy nilly talk.

willy wet-leg: see *wet-leg* s.v. WET *a.* 21.

willy-willy ('wɪlɪwɪli). Also willi-willi. [Native name.] In north-west Australia, a cyclonic storm or tornado. Also *attrib.*

1894 *Age* (Melbourne) 20 Jan. 13/4 A... report of a 'Willy Willy' in the north-west portion of West Australia. 1902 *Blackw. Mag.* May 646/2 The pools formed by the willy-willy shower had evaporated.

Wilms (vɪlmz). *Path.* [The name of M. Wilms (1867-1918), German pathologist.] *Wilms*'(s) or (*erron.*) *Wilm's tumour*: a malignant tumour of the kidney that occurs in infants and children.

1910 E. L. KEYES *Dis. Genito-Urinary Organs* 974/2 (Index), Wilms tumor of kidney. 1928 EISENDRATH & ROLNICK *Text-bk. Urol.* xlviii, 753 These tumors in their pure state have been termed mixed cell or Wilms tumors and are composed of... muscle fibres, blood vessels, cartilage, [etc.]. 1948 R. A. WILLIS *Path. of Tumours* lx, 925 Many names have been applied to the embryonic renal tumours—'adenosarcoma',... 'Wilms's tumour'... and 'nephroblastoma'... It is now clear that there is but one entity, embryonic renal tumour. 1961 R. D. BAKER *Essent. Path.* xiii, 307 Embryonal and mixed tumors are most frequently mixed salivary gland tumors, Wilm's tumor of the kidney, and testicular and teratomatous tumors. 1971 *Brit. Med. Bull.* XXVII, 68/1 Retino-blastomata and Wilms' tumours were found to have shorter latent periods. 1980 *Jrnl. R. Soc. Arts* Jan. 99/1 In rhabdomyosarcoma, Ewing's sarcoma and Wilm's tumour considerably increased survival has been obtained.

† **wilne, sb.** *Obs. rare.* [f. next.] Desire.

c1400 *Destr. Troy* 13768 All the pure Troiens... Were deliuert yche lede, & lause at hor wilne.

† **wilne, v.** *Obs.* Also 3 welne, 4-6 wyne, 5 wilne, wol(l)ne. [OE. *wilnian*, f. *wil-*, stem of WILL *sb.*¹, WILL *v.*¹ + *-n-* formative + *-ian* -y². Cf. ON. *vilna* for favour, refl. to hope (cf. *örvilnask* to despair).] To desire. *a. trans.* with simple obj. (in OE. gen. or acc.).

Beowulf 188 Drihten secean, and to fæder fæþmum freoðo wilnian. c888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxvi, §4 ðif ðu ænigne mon gesiht wilnian ðæs ðe he næfð. c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 13 Ne wilne þu oðres monnes wif. c1205 LAY. 1073 3ef us þat we wilniad. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6301 Ichabbe quap knout ywilned þi kinedom ar pis, & nou wel more pan þi lond þi sulue ich wilni ywis. a1300 *Leg. Rood* ii. (1871) 20 Ich wilny muche my dep. c1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* ¶443 Thy neigheboare artow holden for to loue and wilne hym alle goodnesse. c1400 *Destr. Troy* 3996 Of women werkes wilnet ho none. ? 1464 *Paston Lett.* II. 171 To... wilne yow goode wylle and trewe hert.

(b) with clause or acc. and inf.

c897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past.* C. xix, 141 Se bið... Godes gewinna se se ðe wilniad ðæt he hæbbe ða weorðunga... ðe God habban sceolde. c1050 *O.E. Chron.* (MS. C) an. 977 He wilnode þæt his lic ræst sceolde beon æt Cridiantune, æt

his biseoþ stole. c1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* III. 121, I not nat what 3e wilne pat I seye. c1384 — *H. Fame* III. 4 Nat that I wilne, for maistrey, Here Art poetical be shewed. c1449 PECOCC *Repr.* II. ix, 196 Werbi is excludid and wilned of Crist to be removed, that eny man schulde worschipe God bi eny outward ymagis. c1475 *Partenay* 3178 Wilnyng you to come hastily thys instance. c1540 *Pilgrims* T. 108 in *Thynne's Animadv.* (1875) 80 What rekis them, the saying of paull, Which wynlith 'to men we shall not call'?

(c) with inf. (with or without to).

c888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxiv, §2 Ælc mod wilnað soðes godes to begitanne. c1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Luke xxiii, 8 He wilnode hine geseon. c1205 LAY. 1892 Heora eiper wilnada oðer [c1275 aiper wilnede oper] to wælden. a1300 *Leg. Rood* ii. (1871) 20 Of is lif he was anuyd, he wilnede be of dawe. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XVIII, 4 Tyl I wex very of þe worlde, and wynled eft to slepe. c1430 *Hymns Virgin* (1867) 99 In good praier þu muste wake, And neuere wilne to do a-mys. 1447 *Bekynton Corr.* (Rolls) II. 341, I... suppose that... ye wold... wilne exhorte... al tho to whom [etc.]. c1450 *Mirk's Festial* 285 3if 3e wollnoth to haue mercy of God.

b. *intr.*; simply or const. *after, for, to*; also with ellipsis of inf.

a1000 *Andreas* 283 (Gr.) þu wilnast nu ofer widne mere. c1200 *Moral Ode* 319 (Trin. Coll. MS.), We wilniæd after wereldes wele. c1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 213 Hire beoð wo pat hie sal þer-inne wunien, and pere-fore wilneð ut. c1205 LAY. 2626 Heo wilneden [c1275 welnede] after worde. c1230 *Hali Meid.* (Titus) 125 Ne þarf þe bute wilnen, & lete god wurchen. c1350 *Will. Palerne* 3563 As redili araised as any rink port wilne. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. iv, 387 þei wilnen and wolde as best were for hem-selue. ? a1400 *Morte Arth.* 2224, I watte þe thi wauerynge thow wilnez aftyre sorowe. *Ibid.* 3479 Whedire wilnez thowe, wye, walkand thyne onne? c1449 PECOCC *Repr.* III. iv, 295 That Crist schulde wilne and bidde in lijk maner to eny other man.

† **wilnesful, a.** *Obs. rare.* [f. gen. of WILNE *sb.* + -FUL. Cf. *willesful*.] *Phr. for wilnesful* (see FOR *pref.*¹ 10): because of obstinacy or perversity.

13... *E.E. Allit.* P. B. 231 Ne neuer wolde, for wynlesful, his worpy god knawe.

† **'wilning, vbl. sb.** *Obs.* Also 4 willenynng. [OE. *wilnung*, f. *wilnian*: see above and -ING¹ I.] Desire.

c888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxiii, §5 Twa para gecynda habbað netenu swa same swa men; oðer para is wilnung, oðer is irsung. a1225 *Ancr. R.* 278 Prude is wilnunge of wurðschipe. 13... *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1546, I wolde yowre wynlyng worche at my myzt. c1350 *Will. Palerne* 3983 To wilne swiche willenlyng pat wol nouzt a-sente. 1357 *Lay Folks' Catech.* (T.) 506 A wrangweyde wynlyng Or yernyng to hafe any kyns gode that us augh nocht. c1449 PECOCC *Repr.* v. ix, 533 With the lasse good kunnyng, the lasse gode wilnyngis, and purposis.

So † **wilning ppl. a.**, voluntary; also quasi-advb.; whence † **wilningly adv.**, willingly.

The survival of the vb. *wilne* in *wilningly*, if genuine, is remarkable.

a1225 *Ancr. R.* 182 Vort beon martirs efning, þuruh a wilninde wo. 1382 WYCLIF *Num.* xxv, 15 To hem, the which not wilnyng [1388 wilful; Vulg. *volens*] shedith blood. — *Ecclus.* xiv, 7 Vnwitendely, and not wilnende [1388 not wilful; Vulg. *ignoranter et non volens*] he doth. 1597 *Return fr. Parnass.* II. i, 618 (MS. Rawl. D. 398, lf. 211b) We haue yielded to her conqueringe hande And wilninglie goe captiues in her bande.

wilowe, rare obs. var. WALLOW v.², to fade.

a1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* lxxii, 17 When þair flour welkes [v.r. wilowes] & wytes awaye.

† **wilrone. Sc. Obs.** Also wolroun, -ron(n). [? f. ON. *vilr* WILL *a.* + *runi* boar.] A wild boar.

Used chiefly as a term of abuse.

1508 DUNBAR *Tua Mariit Wemen* 90 A waistit wolroun. 1508 KENNEDIE *Flying w. Dunbar* 432 Wnhonest wayis all, wolronn, that thou wirkis. c1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S) xxxiv, 106 The bich the curtyk fannis; The wolf the wilrone visis. a1568 *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 385 This wild wolroun wip thame widlit sa and wareit. a1851 in R. Chambers *Pop. Rhymes Scot.* (1870) 70 In place o' her ain bonny bairn, she fand a withered wolron.

wilsfully: see after WILLESFUL.

wilsh, var. WILCH.

wilsome ('wɪlsəm), *a.*¹ *Obs. exc. Sc.* Forms: 4-5 wilsom, wylsom(e, -sum, 4-7 wilsome, -sum, 5 wyld-, wel(d)som(e, whylsum, 6 weilsum, wildsome, wolsome, volsum, (6-7 wilsome), 9 wullsome, wullsum. [a. ON. *villusamr* erroneous, false (Sw. *villsam* perplexing, embarrassing, in MSw. also, gone astray, Da. *vildsom* perplexed, intricate), f. *vilr* wild, WILL *a.* + *-samr* -SOME. Sometimes assimilated in spelling to *wild*.]

1. Chiefly of a way or path: Leading astray as through wild and desolate regions; hence, desert, lonely and wild; dreary. (A conventional epithet of ME. poetry.)

13... *Evang. Nicod.* 1604 in Herrig's *Archiv* LIII, 421 þai wend no wilsom way. 13... *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 689 Mony wylsum way he rode. a1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 5565 A wilsom wast & a wild. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* VII. xxii, 247 Lynet the damoyseil that had ryden with hym many wylsome wayes. c1480 HENRYSON *Tuo Mice* 143 Till hir hart straike mony wilsome stound. c1480 — *Orpheus* 128 To seke his wyf... our mony wilsom wane Wyth outyn gyde. 1513 DOUGLAS *Eneis* xi, xi, 26 He... socht onto the wilsom holtis hert. 1562 WINJET *Cert. Tractatis* i. Wks. (S.T.S.) I, 9 In the wyldsum way of this daingerous lyfe. 1578 H. WOTTON *Courtlye Controv.* 129 Nor wildsome wood or deserts. 1584-7 GREENE *Carde of Fancie* Wks. (Grosart) IV, 139 The wildsome woods were his wished walkes. 1632 LITHGOW

Trav. VI. 294 We imbraced our wilsome and fastidious Way. 1806 R. JAMIESON *Pop. Ballads* I. 244 He blew, till a' the wulsome waste Rebellowin' echoed round.

2. Erring, wandering, straying; bewildered, perplexed; doubtful, uncertain (*of*).

Phr. wilsome of wane = WILL *a.* 3 a.

c1350 *Will. Palerne* 5394 þus was þe kowherd out of kare kindeli holpen, He & his wilsum wif wel to liuen for euer. 1387 TREvisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII, 95 Hym self in þe mene tyme ful wilsom [orig. *naviter oberrans*] at þe Ile of Wight halowede Cristemasse. a1440 *Sir Eglam.* 867 They namyd the chylde syr Degrabelle, That welsome was of wone [read wane]. c1440 *York Myst.* xxvii, 92 So wilsom wightis as we, Was neuere in worlde walkand in wede. c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 528/2 Wylsome, or doweftulle, *dubius, fluctuans.* c1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 43 Wa is me, wretche in this world, wilsome of wane! c1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxvii, 204 Wilsom of hart, ye ar vnabyll, And outt of the right way. 1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* ix, 29 To hungre meit, nor drynk to thristy gaif, ... Harbreit the wolsome, nor naikit cled at all. 1513 DOUGLAS *Eneis* III. iii, 105 Wncertainlie we went Thre dais wilsom throu the mistis streme. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) III, 44 Werie forwrocht, and richt weilsom of wane. c1550 ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* III, 526 Wilsom of ane gude reid. 1554 KNOX *Let. in Answ. Jesuit Tyrie* F iv b, God shall gyde the footestepes of him that is wilsome. c1590 J. STEWART *Poems* (S.T.S.) II, 35 Vandring as ane volsum vagabound. 1614 LITHGOW *Trav.* L 2, If it had not been for a Christian Amaronite, who accidentally encountered with vs, in our wilsom [1632, 190 wilsome] wandring, wee had beene miserably lost. 1808 JAMIESON, *Wilsom*, in a wandering state, implying the ideas of dreariness, and of ignorance of one's course, S. pron. *wulsum*.

Hence '**wilsomely adv.**¹, erringly, perversely; wanderingly, at random; 'wilsomeness¹, error, perverseness; doubt, uncertainty.

13... *Evang. Nicod.* 1365 in Herrig's *Archiv* LIII, 417 Fro wayes of wilsomnes... he has pam taken. c1420 *Sir Amadace* (Camden) xxxv, To somun alle tho, That wilsomly ar wente me fro. c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 528/2 Wylsomenesse, or doweftulnesse. c1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 17 As y wandered weldsomy in-to þe lawnd þat was so grene.

wilsome, willsome, a.² *Obs. exc. dial.* [? orig. a use of WILSOME *a.*¹, later associated with WILL *sb.*¹ There appears to be no connexion with OE. *wilsum*, *wilsumlic* 'desiderabilis', 'voluntarius', 'devotus', *wilsumlice* 'sponte', 'voluntarie'.] Wilful, obstinate, stubborn.

13... *Cursor M.* 9633 (Gött.) It was his aun wilsum [Cott. wilful] sinne, þat did vs all fra him to tynne. c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 528/2 Wylsome, or folwyngie only hys owne wylle, *effrenus.* 1590 *Cobler Canterb.* 3 He was wide and wilsome in the brest. 1818 TODD, *Wilsome*, obstinate; stubborn. A forgotten old word, but as proper as *humoursome*, and the like. 1826 HOR. SMITH *Tor Hill* I, 26 Within stone walls he is ever wilsome and upon the fret. a1835 HOGG *Poems, Spirit of the Glen* xxvii, Marjorie smiled a wilsome smile.

Hence '**wilsomely adv.**², wilfully; 'wilsomeness², wilfulness, frowardness.

1382 WYCLIF *Ecclus.* xxxi, 40 The wilsumnesse [Vulg. *animositas*] of drunkenhed. c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 528/2 Wylsomenesse, or froward wylle, *effrenitas, vel proprie voluntatis sequela.* a1835 HOGG *Poems, Connel of Dee* xvi, His sins were like crimson—all bent and uneven, The path he hed wilesomely trod.

Wilson¹ ('wɪlsən). *Path.* [The name of S. A. Kinnier Wilson (1878-1937), English neurologist.] *Wilson's disease*: = *hepatolenticular degeneration* s.v. HEPATO-.

1915 STEDMAN *Med. Dict.* (ed. 3) 1032/2 *Wilson's disease*, progressive degeneration of the lenticular nucleus, occurring as a familial disease associated with cirrhosis of the liver. 1919 *Arch. Internal Med.* XXIV, 497 (*heading*) Progressive lenticular degeneration associated with cirrhosis of the liver (Wilson's disease). 1978 *Brit. Med. Jnl.* 18 Nov. 1384/2 Though originally described as a neurological disorder with associated cirrhosis, we now recognise hepatolenticular degeneration (Wilson's disease) as a copper storage disorder in which other tissues become affected as the excess copper is released from the liver.

Wilson² ('wɪlsən). *Physics.* The name of C. T. R. Wilson (1869-1959), Scottish physicist, used *attrib.* and in the possessive to designate the cloud chamber (see CLOUD *sb.* 12) invented by him.

1917 *Sci. Abstr.* A. XX, 337 Wilson's condensation chamber... was still smaller than the author's small sphere. 1931 *Ann. Reg.* 1930 59 Harkins and Smith took 39,000 photographs of the tracks of 390,000 α-particles in a Wilson cloud chamber containing nitrogen. 1961 *New Scientist* 23 Feb. 474/2 The Wilson cloud chamber had done heroic work for many years in the examination of the tracks of particles, but its limitations in speed and scope were becoming increasingly apparent.

Wilsonian (wɪl'səʊniən), *a.* (and *sb.*) [See -IAN.] Pertaining to or characteristic of Woodrow Wilson (1856-1924), president of the United States 1913-21, noted for his uncompromising idealism. Also as *sb.*, a follower of Woodrow Wilson.

1921 *Labour Monthly* Sept. 285 In whatever shades or purgatory await our public men after the completion of their labours, a special circle should be reserved for the Old Wilsonians. 1924 *Amer. Mercury* Jan. 53/1 It was at this precise moment in his career that the Wilsonian storming of Valhalla began. 1934 H. G. WELLS *Exper. Autobiogr.* II. ix, 694 The Wilsonian notion of a League. 1962 *Listener* 22 Mar. 524/1 Mr. Tillman remains a starry-eyed Wilsonian. 1980 J. LEES-MILNE *Harold Nicolson* I. vii, 116 The French bitterly opposed the very idea of the covenant as Wilsonian idealistic nonsense.

Also 'Wilsonism, the policies of Woodrow Wilson.

1920 *Harvey's Weekly* 16 Oct. 13/1 No more time need be lost in following the slush-fund herring trail away from the vital issue of Wilsonism. **1945** KOESTLER *Yogi & Commissar* III. i. 125 Movement followed Movement and withered away. Jacobinism, . . . Wilsonism, the League of Nations . . . they were all branches of the same tree rooted in the Age of Enlightenment. **1977** *N.Y. Rev. Bks.* 12 May 16/4 But they were fighting to save Wilsonism, if need be from Wilson himself.

† **wilt**, *sb.*¹ *Obs.* [Origin obscure.] = **WILE** *sb.* Hence † **wiltful** *a.*, wily.

a 1230 *St. Kath.* 891 þe wrenchfule feont, þurh onden, wið his wiles [*MS. Royal wiltes*] weorp him ut. **a** 1250 *Ancr.* R. MS. C.C.C.C. 402, lf. 61 Hu 3e schulen witen ow wið þes deofles wiltes. *Ibid.* 73 b, Hit bringeð to noht al þes deofles wiheles nawt ane his strengþes & his stronge turnes ah deð his wiltfule [*so also MS. Caus* 234, lf. 156 b; *MS. Cott. Nero* whitful, *Titus* wilfule] crokes & his wrenchfule wicche-creftes.

wilt (wilt), *sb.*² [f. next.] The action or an act of wilting; *spec.* (also *wilt disease*) any fungous disease of plants which is characterized by wilting.

1855 AINSLIE *Land of Burns* (1892) 315 To stiffen the wilt that this wilderness Has brought on this bosom and brain. **1916** *Q. Rev.* Oct. 357 Rusts, smuts, wilts, and insect-attacks were calamities to be patiently endured. **1918** [see *PSYLLA*]. **1946** *Nature* 13 July 56/1, I came across what is apparently a hitherto undescribed wilt disease of the oil palm. **1961** A. SCHOENFELD tr. *Stapp's Bact. Plant Pathogens* 1. 103 This wilt disease [of beans] can be said with certainty not to occur in Germany. **1981** BUCZACKI & HARRIS *Collins Guide to Pests of Garden Plants* 306 Most wilts are caused by Deuteromycete fungi.

wilt (wilt), *v.* [Of dial. origin (in early 19th c. largely U.S.), having a widespread variant *welt* (*WELT* *v.*³); perh. alteration of *wilk*, *WELK* *v.*] **1. a. intr.** Of plants or their parts: To become limp or flaccid, through heat or drought.

1691 RAY *N.C. Words* (ed. 2) 80 To *Wilt*, for wither, spoken of green Herbs or Flowers, is a general word. **1779** *Projects in Ann. Reg.* 108/1 Let it remain exposed to the sun throughout the day, or until the leaves are entirely wilted, as it is termed in America. *Ibid.* 108/2 If the sun does not appear for several days, . . . they [*sc.* leaves of the tobacco-plant] must remain to wilt. **1790** GROSE *Prov. Gloss.* (ed. 2) s.v., These flowers are all wilted. **1807** W. IRVING *Salmag.* xvii. (1824) 315 A Cabbage leaf wilting before a hot fire. **1825** [see b]. **a** 1864 GESNER *Coal, Petrol.*, etc. (1865) 36 [They] wilted down like leaves when the forest is on fire. **1867** LOWELL *Lett.* (1894) I. 378 Some flowers will not bear to be handled without wilting. **1887** *Amer. Naturalist* XXI. 506 The tissues of the flower begin to soften and wilt very soon after separation from the plant. **1897** T. H. WARREN *By Severn Sea* 27 Magic bowers never wilting.

b. transf. and gen. To become limp; to lose energy or vigour; to become dispirited or nerveless.

1787 ABIGAIL ADAMS *Lett.* (1848) 333 Mrs. Cranch . . . is wilted just enough to last to perpetuity. **1825** J. NEAL *Bro. Jonathan* xvii. II. 109 Look o' the major! . . . pale as death; and wiltin' away, like a cabbage leaf, in the hot sun. **1857** in *Harper's Mag.* Dec. (1883) 165 My . . . ruffles wilted to the consistency . . . of an after-dinner napkin. **1862** LOWELL *Biglow P.* II. iii. 200 Poems 1890 II. 291 They . . . wilt right down ez debtors will thet stumble on a dun. **1890** HENTY *With Lee in Virg.* xv. The man is as hard as a rock . . . He wilted a little when you were telling your story, but [etc.]. **1920** *Times Lit. Suppl.* 22 Jan. 1/2 The old aristocracy seemed as if it was going to wilt before this new commonwealth of wits.

2. a. trans. To cause to become limp; to deprive of stiffness, energy, vigour, or spirit.

1809 T. DWIGHT *Theol.* (1819) IV. 165 Despots . . . have wilted the human race into sloth and imbecility. **1854** J. S. C. ABBOTT *Napoleon* (1855) II. xix. 349 They had secured for his cause no monarchical friends, but had wilted the enthusiasm of the people. **1888** DELAND *John Ward* 233 The full blaze of sunshine . . . was wilting the dish of violets.

b. Agric. To leave (mown grass, etc.) to dry partially in the open before putting it in a silo.

1971 *Power Farming* Mar. 9/1 'But,' said Mr. Whitton, 'the loader must be used as part of a system, and it is most essential that the silage be wilted and chopped.' **1974** *BSI News* May 8/3 The process of wilting the crop [of grass] from 75%–85% moisture content down to 55%–65%. **1980** *Daily Tel.* 28 Jan. 10/4 New techniques such as wilting the crop in the field before it is ensiled.

Hence † **wilted ppl. a.**; † **wilting ppl. a.** and *vbl. sb.*; *spec. wilting coefficient*, the moisture content of the soil (expressed as a percentage of its dry weight) when a plant begins to wilt.

1809 W. IRVING *Knickerb.* III. vii. (1812) I. 185 Fanciful festoons of wilted peaches and dried apples. **1830** *Examiner* 35/1 A wilted, sinew-shrunk old hunk. **1883** G. ALLEN in *Knowledge* 3 Aug. 65/1 It is a tall wilted-looking thing, this broomrape. **1884** *Century Mag.* Jan. 356/2 Wilting flowers are hardly appropriate to a steamship. **1912** BRIGGS & SHANTZ in *Bull. U.S. Bureau Plant Industry* No. 230. 9 It appears advisable to use a more specific term for the moisture content of the soil corresponding to the wilting point of a plant, and we have employed the term 'wilting coefficient' in this sense in the present paper. **1980** *Communications Soil Sci. & Plant Analysis* XI. 843 Studies were performed to determine the wilting coefficient of various selected light tropical soils collected at different locations in . . . Venezuela.

wilt: see **WILL** *v.*

wilt, obs. f. **QUILT** *sb.*

wilter ('wiltə(r)), *v. dial.* [f. **WILT** *v.* + -ER⁵.] = **WILT** *v.*

1790 GROSE *Prov. Gloss.* (ed. 2), To *wilt*, or *wilter*, to wither. **1888** LEES & CLUTTERBUCK *B.C.* 1887 xxxiii, 'He just wiltered' . . . What is wiltering? How did he do it? **1916** COLLUM *Men who Wrought* ix, The tide of the Prince's anger was too swift for the youthful Prussian's armour of official effrontery. He came near to wiltering before it.

wiltful: see **WILT** *sb.*¹

Wilton¹ ('wiltən). Name of a town in the south of Wiltshire, noted since the reign of Queen Elizabeth I for the manufacture of carpets: applied to † (*a*) a kind of cloth, (*b*) a carpet of which the manufacture resembles that of Brussels carpet but differing in having the rib cut so as to produce a velvet pile.

1773 *Pennsylv. Gaz.* 21 Apr. 1/1 Fine broadcloths, cassimers, saggathies, and Wiltons. **1774** *Ibid.* 10 Aug. Suppl. 2/2 Wilton and Scotch carpets. **1776** *Pennsylv. Even. Post* 21 May 256/2 A brick coloured Wilton coattee. **1889** CONAN DOYLE *Micah Clarke* xxiii, As soft and velvety as a Wilton carpet. **1904** BRADBURY *Carpet Manuf.* i. 43 The difference in shade was greatest in Wilton and Velvet pile structures. *Ibid.* iv. 127 The wire used for Wilton is usually deeper and therefore produces a loftier pile than Brussels.

Wilton² ('wiltən). The name of a farm near Grahamstown, Cape Province, South Africa; used *attrib.* to denote a later Stone Age culture of southern Africa.

1928 A. J. H. GOODWIN in *Ann. S. Afr. Mus.* (1929) XXVII. x. 251 Our first knowledge of the Wilton Industry comes from the Cape Peninsula, various crescents, thumb-nail scrapers, and the like appearing from a number of kitchen middens and sand-dune sites in this district. **1936** L. S. B. LEAKEY *Stone Age Afr.* v. 96 In the Wilton culture the most typical tools are, . . . crescents and other small geometric microliths, together with small double-end and thumb-nail scrapers. **1959** J. D. CLARK *Prehist. S. Afr.* ii. 41 The Wilton [culture] is named from the rock-shelter on the farm of that name west of Grahamstown. Its distribution is very wide. **1980** *Cambr. Encycl. Archaeol.* 174/1 The microlithic industries (known as Wilton in eastern and southern Africa) of the early to mid-Holocene.

Wiltshire ('wiltʃə(r)). Name of an English county, applied to (*a*) a breed of sheep; **Wiltshire Horn(ed)**, (a sheep of) a recently revived breed, distinguished by its very light short wool; (*b*) a kind of 'smoked' bacon; (*c*) a kind of cheese (also **Wilts**), **North Wiltshire**.

1794 T. DAVIS *Agric. Wilts* 22 The Wiltshire Horned Sheep. *Ibid.*, A flock of Wiltshire ewes. *Ibid.* 29 The old Wiltshire bacon. **1805** LUCOCK *Wool* 279 The sheep most commonly met with [in Buckinghamshire] are derived from the blood of the Dorset, the Wiltshire, and from a mongrel kind. **1816** JANE AUSTEN *Emma* 1. x. 188 She was come in herself for the Stilton cheese, the north Wiltshire, the butter, the cellery, [etc.]. **1823** J. BADCOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 17 A smoky taste . . . such as that we find in Wiltshire bacon. **1837** YOUATT *Sheep* 245 These Wiltshires have now passed quite away. **1863** H. JONES *Jrnl.* 20 Aug. in F. W. Lindsay *Cariboo Dream* (1971) 38, 1 case Gloucester Cheese \$75.72 Wiltshire do. \$97.35. **1881** SHELTON *Dairy Farming* 246 Different-sized cheeses, from flat Wilts to 'truckles' and Cheddars. **1894** OLIVER *Milk, Cheese*, etc. 255 'The small cylindrical cheeses known as 'Wiltshire loaves'. **1912** *Times* 19 Dec. 20/4 Bacon . . . Canadian was steadier, with Wiltshires i. dearer. **1945** J. F. H. THOMAS *Sheep* ii. 34 The Wiltshire Horned . . . is no longer to be found in Wiltshire . . .; the main area of distribution is now Northamptonshire and Buckinghamshire. **1970** *Observer* 26 Apr. (Colour Suppl.) 36/1 Wiltshire Horn . . . has no wool but, instead, a thick matted coat. **1977** *Jrnl. R. Soc. Arts* CXXV. 708/1 Supposing, for example, that wool became a nuisance and that it was far better to keep sheep that were wool-less and just had hair. It so happens that we have got such a breed, the Wiltshire Horn, that has a rather hairy coat, and so we can use that.

wiluol, obs. form of **WILFUL**.

wily ('waɪl), *a. (sb., adv.)* Forms: 4 wili, wylī, 4–5 wyle, 4–6 wylī, (4, 6 wely), 5 wilye, (whily, 5–6 wylly, 5, 7 willy), 5–7 (8 *Sc.*) wylie, 6 wylīe, (whyly, *Sc.* vylie), 6–7 wīlie, 8 wīley, 4– wily. [f. **WILE** *sb.* + -Y¹.]

1. Full of or characterized by wiles; crafty, cunning, sly, artful. **a.** Of a person or animal (or *fig.* of a thing personified).

Rarely in a good sense: Astute, clever.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 11807 þis herods . . . þat wili [*Fairf.* wely] wulf. **c** 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 9849 He was bope wyle & sley. **13..** *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1728 So reniarde was wyle. **c** 1386 CHAUCER *Monk's Prol.* 52 No poure cloyster ne no Novys Bot a gouvernour wily and wys. — *Pars. T.* ¶ 252 The serpent that was moost wily of alle othere beestes. **1470–85** MALORY *Arthur* iv. xxvi. 155 And there he was in grete peryl, for the gyant was a wily fyghter. **1489** CAXTON *Faytes of A.* i. vii. Bjb, Be he . . . wily to defende hym fro theym, & wysely to assaille them. **1526** *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 60 Lyke as y^e sparowe the wily byrde escheweth all panter & snares. **1581** A. HALL *Iliad* II. 23 To finde the wīlie Vlysses straight downe she tooke hir walke. **1639** J. CLARKE *Paræm.* 285 As wily as a foxe. **1662** R. MATHEW *Unl. Aitch.* 177 The wily spirits of the Armoniaick. **1729** SAVAGE *Wanderer* 1. 95 Mark! wiley Fowlers meditate their Doom. **1807** CRABBE *Library* 243 Here wily Jesuits simple Quakers meet. **1878** BAYNE *Purit. Rev.* ii. 49 The brilliant wily Welshman found himself sharply repelled. **1905** TREVES *Other Side of Lantern* III. viii. (1906) 225 In the . . . night the wily tide will glide a shoal across the fairway. **b.** Of personal attributes, actions, etc.

c 1400 *Beryn* 444 Tapsters, & oþer such, þat hath wily wittis To pik mennys pursis. **c** 1407 *LYDG. Reson & Sens.* 2758 Hercules . . . by his wily sleight Bar away the ryche fruyt. **1509** HAWES *Past. Pleas.* XXIX. (Percy Soc.) 139 She had him caught in suche a wily snare. **1551** T. WILSON *Logic* Civb, The wily vsyng of wordes that in sence haue double meanyng. **1613** PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* IV. iii. 298 Ventidius . . . by a wily Stratageme, counterfeiting flight and feare. **1641** MILTON *Ch. Govt.* II. E4, The wily subtleties and refluxes of mans thoughts. **1721** RAMSAY *Prospect of Plenty* 33 Artfu' Nets, and Fishers' wylie Skill. **1850** KINGSLEY *Alton Locke* xxxvii, Judas's averted and wily face. **1905** *Times Lit. Suppl.* 11 Feb. 45/3 An imaginary line . . . offered no real obstacle to a determined and wily advance.

† **2. ellipt.** as *sb.* A wily person or animal; in quot. **c** 1460 as proper name (cf. 4). *Obs.*

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1905 þat fel on hym alle, & wored me þis wily wyth a wroth noyse. **c** 1460 *Wisdom* 607 in *Macro Plays* 55 Yt ys clepyde wysdom: 'ware þat!' quod Wily.

† **3. as adv.** Craftily, cunningly: = **WILILY**. *Obs.*

13.. *E.E. Allit. P. B.* 1452 Apel vessel, þat wyth so curious a craft coruen was wily. **1567** HARMAN *Caveat A ij*, All these . . . rabblement of rakehelles, that . . . gayne great almes in all places where they wily wander. **1574** *Satir. Poems Reform.* xlii. 59 Thocht for thair tyme sum wylie winkit. **1623** COCKERAM, *Wily*, craftily.

4. Special Collocations and Combinations.

† **a. wily-man, wily-pie** [*PIE* *sb.*¹], **wily-wat** [*WAT*¹], appellations for a crafty or cunning fellow (the first as a proper name). *Obs.*

1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* v. 27 Then waryn wysman and wily-man his felawe Fayn were to folwen hem. **c** 1450 *Chance of Dice* 147 in *Engl. Studien* LIX. 9 Lorde verrey ye ben a wily pye. **1542–79** [see *PIE* *sb.*²]. **1550** BALE *Apol.* 73 Ye are a wily watte in the kyngdome of crafte and generacion of falshe. **c** 1550 — *K. Johan* (Camden) 3 Ye are a wily wat, & wander here full warelye. **1581** J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 244 b, Osorius is a wyllype, and will not be destitute of a starting hoale. [1587] HARRISON *England* II. iii. 149/1 Oh madam (saith he) the wiliest pie of all, these are no pies but soules in purgatorie that craue releefe.]

† **b. wily beguile**, also freq. in jingling form **wily beguily** (and similar expressions): orig. in phr. to *play wily beguile oneself* (also later in various corrupt forms), to act wilyly in such a way as to be oneself beguiled, to be entrapped by one's own craftiness; hence **wily beguily** (rarely *wily beguile, gilie, guile*) as *sb.* phr. (*a*) a person who acts thus, or (simply) who acts wilyly or craftily; (*b*) an act of this kind, or (simply) a wily act or action, a crafty trick, cunning trickery; rarely as *adj.*, an emphatic extension of *wily*. *Obs.*

1555 LATIMER in *Strype Eccl. Mem.* (1721) III. App. xxxvi. 103 Let men beware that they play not *wyllye begile themselves*, as I feare me they do that go to masse. *Ibid.*, Thus they play wilyly, *beguylng them selves*. **1562** J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 103 To whiche smart mocke, and wily beguylng, He . . . saide [etc.]. **1570** FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 193/2 While they thinke to deceaue the simple, these wyllye begely most of all deceaue them selues. **1581** J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 303 b Sufficiently instructed in those your wily beguile and . . . to well acquainted with your ambitious hawtyne. **1589** [? NASHE] *Almond for Parrat* 17 b, The wicked . . . being so full of their wilye gilies. **1606** SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. *Magnificence* 684 Smiles, Wylie-Guiles, quaint witty-pretty Toyes. **1618** BRETON *Courtier & Countryman* C4b, What is the end of all wily beguily? seeking to deceiue other, deceiue'd himselfe most of all. **1621** Bp. MOUNTAGU *Diatribæ* 137 It shall go hard, but our wily-beguily Wits, will one way or other finde an easion. **1625** J. ROBINSON *Observ.* xv. 102 Such wily-beguilies may for a time . . . get the opinion of prudent, and politick persons. **1639** J. CLARKE *Paræm.* 101 Wīlie beguīlie deceives himself.

c. Comb. (of the *adj.* or *adv.*), as **wily-headed**, **wily-witty** *adjs.*

1596 SPENSER *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 619/1 They are . . . soe cautelous and wyllye-headed. **1624** GEE *Foot out of Snare* App. 108, I shall begin to recant my opinion of his wily-witty worth.

wim, *v. s.w. dial.* Forms: 5 (?)–6 wym, 7 wimme, 7, 9 wimb, 7– wim (9 whim). [Of obscure origin; cf. **WIMBLE** *v.*²] To winnow.

Form and meaning in first quot. are doubtful.

1455 *Churchw. Acc., Yatton* (Som. Rec. Soc.) 98 For j man to helpe to wymmynge the malte to the mylle . . . ij d. **1681** Oates *Well Threshit* 2 They are thresh't, and wimb'd. **1691** RAY S. & E.C. *Words* (ed. 2), To *Wimme*; *Suss.* *Dial.* i.e. Winnow. **1886** W. Som. *Word-bk.* s.v., Our volks be all busy wimin o' barley.

b. Comb.: † **wimsheet**, a winnowing-sheet. Also † **wimming vbl. sb.** in Comb. **wimming-dust**, -sheet.

1532 in Weaver *Wells Wills* (1890) 111 One whit wymshete. **1535** *Ibid.* 116 To Pasowe Lethal, a wymesnit and bushell of rye. **1681** WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* 61 Some have strain'd a Wimsheet athwart a Barns Floor about the middle thereof, and with a Scoop or Shovel cast their Wheat against the upper part of the Sheet. **1825** JENNINGS *Observ. Dial. W. Eng., Wim-sheet, Wimin-sheet*, a sheet upon which corn is winnowed. *Wimmin-dust*, chaff.

wim, var. **WHIM** *sb.*¹ in sense 4.

1802 MAWE *Min. Derbysh.* Gloss., *Wim*, an engine or machine to draw ore, worked by horses.

wiman, obs. form of **WOMAN**.

wimbeame, var. **WIND-BEAM**¹ *Obs.*

wimble ('wimb(ə)l), *sb.* Now *dial.* or *techn.* Forms: 3-7 wymble, 4-5 wymbul, -il (5 -el, -ulle), 5-6 -yl(l), -lle, wymel(l) (5 -ulle, 6 wyemblye), 5-7 womell (5 -yll), womble, (5 wommil, 6 -ill, womyl, -lle, wombill, wembel, whymble), 8 wimple, 8-9 whimble, 4- wimble (9 *Sc.* and *north.* wum(m)il, wummle, wimmel, etc.). [a. AF. **wimble* (var. of **guimble*, represented by rare 13th c. *gymble*, and the dim. GIMLET), ad. MLG. *wiemel*, (also Flem.) *wemel* (whence OSw. *wimla*, Da. *wimmel*), MDu. *wimpel*.]

1. a. A gimlet.

1295 *Acc. Exch. K.R.* 5/8 m. 4 (P.R.O.) Et iij. d. ob. in Wymbles emptis. [1296 *Ibid.* 5/20 m. 5 In tribus Gymbilis ferri emptis. . vj. d.] c1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 170 Terere [gloss wymble (nauget)]. 1411 *Nottingham Rec.* II. 86, j. parvum wymbel, j d. c1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* xi. 85 Vnto the pith a ffrensh wymbul inbore. c1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 528/2 Wymbyl, or persowre, terebellum. 1555 *EDEN Decades* (Arb.) 154 So eaten with woormes, as though they had byn bored through with wimbles. 1577 *GOOGE Heresbach's Husb.* II. 107 b. The haftes and handles of Wymbles and Augurs. 1636 *FEATLY Clavis Myst.* xxix. 377 As the wimble bores a hole for the auger. 1662 *GURNALL Chr. in Arm.* III. xxvi. § 1. 222 The little Wimble once entred, the Workman can then drive a great Nail. c1781 *G. WHITE Selborne, To Barrington* (1789) 275 The second [field-mouse] nibbles a hole with his teeth, so regular as if drilled with a wimble.

b. transf. and fig.

a1633 *G. HERBERT Jacula Prudentum* 955 Gifts enter every where without a wimble. 1719 *D'URFEY Pills* IV. 81 Joan 's a Piece for a Man to bore, With his Wimble. 1781 *BARBUT Gen. Insect.* 287 The Gad-fly... From the hinder part of their body, issues a wimble of wonderful structure. 1805 *PRISC. WAKEFIELD Dom. Recreat.* iv. 62 The wimble is of an admirable structure, and consists of three pieces: . . It is the most easily seen in the long whimbled fly.

2. An auger; also, a brace.

?1362 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 565 Willo Couper ad reparacionem duorum Wymbles, quia fracta in opere Prioris, xij d. 1489 *CAXTON Faytes of A.* II. xxxix. Lij, Men . . with grete wymbellis and awgours shal perce the ship undreneth. 1502 *ARNOLDE Chron.* (1811) 165 Perce y^e tree thorough with a percer crosse wyse or wyth a wymble. 1573 *TUSSER Husb.* xvii. (1878) 36 Cat ladder and wimble, with percer and pod. 1583 *JEWEL Serm. Paul's Crosse* Dj b, That part of the Carpenters wimble, which turneth about, goeth rounde, and by litle and litle draweth in the iron, or steale bit. 1621 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 248 P'd for layinge 3 wimbles, vjd. 1625 *MARKHAM Farew. Husb.* II. vi. (1638) 32 A great Augure or wimble of Iron made to receive many bits one longer than another. 1677 *MOXON Mech. Exerc.* iii. 53 The other end of the Shank must be fitted into the square Socket of the Wimble. 1789 *Trans. Soc. Arts* I. 38 Hinges, Wimble, and Jack for Ship-Builders. 1824 *CARR Craven Gloss., Wummle*, an auger, a wimble.

3. An instrument for boring in soft ground, or for extracting rubbish from a bore-hole in mining.

1692 *RAY Disc.* (1693) 41 They bore this Earth or Soil with a long Wimble. 1708 *J. C. Compl. Collier* (1845) 12 [He] puts or screws on the Wimble, or Scoop which takes up the cut stuff. 1789 *BRAND Hist. Newc.* II. 678 The chisel is screwed off [the boring rod], and the wimble or scoop put on. 1881 *RAYMOND Mining Gloss., Wimble*, a shell-auger used for boring in soft ground.

4. Also wimbel, *dial.* wimbrel. An implement for twisting together strands (esp. of straw) to make rope for tying up hay-trusses, fleeces, etc.

1863 *J. R. WISE New Forest* 288/1 *Wimble*, an instrument with which to take up faggots or trusses of hay. 1874 *HARDY Far fr. Madding Crowd* I. xxii. 243 Gathering up the fleeces and twisting ropes of wool with a wimble for tying them round. 1886 — *Mayor Casterbr.* I. i. 2 A rush basket, from which protruded at one end the crutch of a hay-knife, a wimble for hay-bonds being also visible. 1939 *D. HARTLEY Made in England* ii. 76 There are other types [of implement], such as the wimbrel, rather like the spindle of a spinning wheel in principle. 1969 *E. H. PINTO Treen* 97 Wimbels are essentially cranked devices for twisting ropes out of straw, formerly required for binding corn stooks. . . Other country names for them include wimbrels, straw twisters, [etc.].

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *wimble-bit*, *-bore*, *-hole*, *-like* *adj.*, *-stock*; † *wimble-cock*, a wimble-bit.

1583 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 9 For towre broste *wymbylye bittes and a nale percell bitte, ij^d. 1628 *Toke (Kent) Estate Acc.* (MS.) lf. 118 For 5 wimble bitts. [13.. *Childh. Jesus* 411 in *Archiv neu. Spr.* LXXIV. 332 With his fyngere he plukede hym owte Att a full litille *wymbilles bore.] 1808 *JAMIESON, Wimblore*, a hole in the throat, which prevents one from speaking distinctly, S. in allusion to a hole bored by a wimble. 1607 *B. BARNES Divils Charter* III. v. F 3, If I lye, call me thy *Wimble-cock. 1585 *HIGINS Junius' Nomencl.* 215/1 *Foramen rotundum*, . . a *wimble hole. 1613 *MARKHAM Eng. Husbandman* I. iv. 14 Take a board, . . which shalbe bored full of large wimble holes. 1683 *J. REID Scots Gard'ner* (1907) 88 Bore them [sc. wooden cases] full of auger or wimble-holes. 1845 *S. JUDD Margaret* II. viii. (1871) 288 Margaret pressed herself into the porch; *wimble-like, she pierced the stacks of men and women that filled the hall. 1601 *HOLLAND Pliny* XVI. xliii. I. 493 [Wood] excellent good for awgre-handles and *wimble-stocks. 1648-9 in *Swayne Churchw. Acc. Sarum* (1896) 219 A wymble stock and Nayles 1s. 4d.

wimble ('wimb(ə)l), *a. dial.* (and *obs. arch.*) Also 6 wymble. [app. a northern word taken up by Spenser; recorded in mod. dial. use from Yorkshire and Lancashire. The immediate source is unknown. (Scand. words of appropriate form, e.g. Norw. *vimmel* giddy,

confused, have not the required sense.)) Active, nimble.

1579 *SPENSER Sheph. Cal.* Mar. 91 He was so wimble, and so wight [gloss Quicke and deliuer]. 1579 *HAKESNEWS out of Powles* (1872) Bj, I spyde a pretie wymble lad. 1602 *MARSTON Ant. & Mel.* III. Wks. 1856 I. 40 Buckle thy spirits up, put all thy wits In wimble action. 1614 *J. DAVIES* (Heref.) *Sheph. Pipe, Ecl.* G5, Then nought can be atchieu'd with witty shewes, Sith griefe of Elde accloyen wimble wit. 1748-58 *MENDEZ Sqr. Dames* I. I. xxvii, Man throws the wimble bait, and greedy woman bites.

Hence † *wimbly adv.*, *nimbly*.

1594 *W. PERCY Coelia* (1877) 9 Upon my foot, her tender foot alighted, With that she pluckt it off full wimbly.

'wimble, *v.*¹ *Obs. exc. dial.* [f. WIMBLE *sb.*]

1. *a. trans.* To pierce with or as with a wimble; to make (a hole) with a wimble.

c1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 528/2 Wymbelyn, or wymmelyn, terebro. 1642 *FULLER Holy & Prof. St.* IV. ix. 279 To use force first before people are fairly taught the truth, is to knock a nail into a board, without wimblyng a hole for it. 1663 *SIR T. HERBERT Mem. Chas. I* (1702) 142 A Foot-Soldier . . wimbled a hole into the Coffin that was largest. 1713 *C'TESS WINCHILSEA Misc. Poems* 127 A Nutshell, wimbld' by a Worm. 1791 *COWPER Odyssey* XXXIII. 232, I wimbled, next, The frame throughout.

b. *transf.* (Cf. WIMBLE *sb.* 1 b, quot. 1719.)

1656 *R. FLETCHER tr. Martial* VII. lxxiv, Wouldst thou be wimbled *gratis* when thou art A wrinkled wretch deformed in every part? c1670 *Roxb. Ball.* (1891) VII. 486 And well he could dissemble, when wench he would wimble.

2. *intr.* To bore into; chiefly *fig. (intr. and refl.)*, to penetrate or insinuate oneself into.

1601 *W. LEIGH Christians Watch* (1605) 17 How this spirit hath entred and wimbled into your soules. . . I know not. a1641 *SPELMAN Dial. Coin Reliq.* S. (1698) 210 In this latter age we have wimbld' even into the bowels of Plutus's Treasury. 1671 *COSIN in Northumbrian Docts.* (Surtees) 240 Hee would fain wimble himselfe into some employment under mee. 1830 *GALT Lawrie T.* III. ii. 189 Charley . . felt something like a man's finger wimblyng in under his neck. 1839 *New Monthly Mag.* LVI. 61 Wimblyng deeper and deeper still, till he has shattered the remains of your nerves to atoms.

3. *trans.* To make (a rope) using a wimble (sense 4).

1874 *HARDY Far fr. Madding Crowd* I. x. 131 'What have you been doing?' 'Tending thrashing-machine, and wimblyng haybonds.'

Hence 'wimbler, one who makes ropes with a wimble; 'wimblyng *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1623 *COCKERAM, Terebration*, a wimblyng. 1637 *WHITING Albino & Bellama* 59 We men . . in our silent beds of earth will court The slender-wasted wormes, and with them sport, . . and vow their wimblyng busse Is full as sweet as womens was to us. 1648 *HERRICK Hesp., Kisses Loathsome*, Those lips please me which are plac't Close, but not too strictly lac't: Yeilding I wou'd have them; yet Not a wimblyng Tongue admit. 1964 *Courier-Mail* (Brisbane) 21 Dec., The policeman asked Godfrey Booth: 'Your occupation, sir?' Mr. Booth . . replied 'Cag handed straw wimbler.' Mr. Booth lives in Bobbington, Staffordshire. *Ibid.*, Mr. Booth said: 'When I left school I took up farming, and wimblyng took second place.'

† *wimble, v.*² *Obs. rare.* [f. WIM *v.* Cf. WIND *v.*³, WINDLE *v.*²] To winnow.

1556 *WITHALS Dict.* (1562) 20/2 A trey or shawide to wynowe or wymble corne with.

'wimbled, *ppl. a.* [f. WIMBLE *v.*¹ or *sb.* + -ED.]

1. Pierced, bored.

1582 *STANYHURST Æneis* II. (Arb.) 58 Warding long wymbeled entreyes.

2. Furnished with a 'wimble'.

1805 [see WIMBLE *sb.* 1 b].

Wimbledon ('wimb(ə)ldən). The name of a district of South London, used *colloq.* to designate the Lawn Tennis Championships on Grass played annually at the All-England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club there. Also *transf.* and *attrib.*

1907 *F. W. PAYN Tennis Topics & Tactics* xvi. 157 The presence of nearly 30,000 spectators in all at the Wimbledon Championships. 1919 *Country Life* 5 July 29/1 Mr. Gore, the former champion, whose twenty-eighth Wimbledon this is. *Ibid.* 12 July 54/2 Whether the 'Victory' Championships will go down to history as 'The Wet Wimbledon' or 'The Wonderful Wimbledon' time alone can tell. 1930 *A. P. HERBERT Water Gipsies* xxv. 381 Fay's livid—Says she wouldn't marry him now if he gave her free seats for Wimbledon. 1935 *Encycl. Sports* 385/2 No record of the Wimbledon championships would be complete without mention of a few of the winners of the men's and women's doubles championships. 1965 *V. CANNING Whip Hand* xii. 134 He's . . Wimbledon standard tennis, Olympic standard swimming. 1971 *Guardian* 17 Nov. 10/3 Alun Owen is an old hand at the ding-dong, the ping-pong, the Wimbledon of sex. 1979 *D. ANTHONY Long Hard Cure* v. 42 Was that the year you won Wimbledon?

† *wimblet. Obs.* Also 7 wimlet. [f. WIMBLE *sb.* after GIMLET.] A gimlet or auger.

1670 *Short Relat. Suff. Quakers* 62 They got a Wimlet, and bored a hole in the Mault-Floor. a1711 *KEN Anodynes* Poet. Wks. 1721 III. 440 Saw, Bodkin, Fish-hook, Wimblet, Dart, To stab, tear, jag, or gore each part.

wimble-wamble ('wimb(ə)l'wɒmb(ə)l), *adv.* and *sb. dial.* or *arch.* [Redupl. f. WAMBLE *sb.* and *v.*] *a. adv.* (See quot.) *b. sb.* ? The 'general run', the ordinary crowd.

1890 *J. D. ROBERTSON Gloss. Dial. & Archaic Wds. Glos.* 179 *Wimble-wamble*, to go sort of, *vb.* to roll about in walking.

1937 *H. G. WELLS Star Begotten* viii. 142 They will observe how they resemble each other and how they differ from the wimble-wamble of the common world.

wimbly-wambly ('wimbli'wɒmbli), *a. dial.* Also *wimley-wamley*. [Redupl. f. WAMBLY *a.*] Shaky, unsteady; feeble, effeminate.

1881 *Leeds Loiners' Comic Olmenac* 24, I went all wimley-wamley e me head. 1882 *F. W. P. JAGO Ancient Lang. & Dial. Cornwall* 312 I'm all wimbly-wambly. 1929 *D. H. LAWRENCE Pansies* 113 Flat-chested, crop-headed, chemicalised women, of indeterminate sex, And wimbly-wambly young men, of sex still more indeterminate.

† **wimbrequin**. [Alteration of OF. *vibrequin*, *vil(e)-*, *virebrequin*, after WIMBLE *sb.*] A wimble.

1489 *CAXTON Faytes of A.* I. xiv. Cijj, Sawis, axes, nayles, wymbrekyns [orig. *tarrieres*] and . . al other ferrements.

wimbrel¹, var. WHIMBREL.

wimbrel², *dial.* var. WIMBLE *sb.* 4.

wimman, *-en*, *-on*, *obs. ff.* WOMAN.

Wimmera ('wimərə). The name of a river and the region surrounding it in northwestern Victoria, Australia, used *attrib.* in *Wimmera rye-grass* to designate a grass belonging to a drought-resistant variety of *Lolium rigidum* first identified in the area about 1900.

1920 *Proc. R. Soc. Victoria XXXII*. 199 Wimmera Rye Grass. 1928 *R. G. STAPLEDON Tour Australia* & *N.Z.* ix. 74 The so-called Wimmera rye-grass . . first appeared in Victoria, presumably as a stowaway, about thirty years ago. 1934 *Bulletin* (Sydney) 4 Apr. 28/1 Next sow (in N.S.W. anyway) 5 lb. Wimmera rye grass. 1973 *TOTHILL & HACKER Grasses Southeast Queensland* 197 Wimmera ryegrass . . is grown widely in southern Australia. 1977 *Weekly Times* (Melbourne) 19 Jan. 10/5 Wimmera rye grass is regarded as a curse.

wim(m)ick, v. dial. [Imitative.] (See quot.)

1850 *DICKENS David Copp.* li, 'Wen Mrs. Gummidge takes to wimicking',—our old county word for crying,—'she's liable to be considered to be . . peevish-like.' 1865 *H. KINGSLEY Hillyars & Burtons* xxi, Three times had that child wimicked at its aunt as she knelt there.

wimmin ('wimin). A semi-phonetic spelling of 'women', recently adopted by some feminists as a form not containing the ending *-men*. Also, at an earlier date, occasionally used ironically in other contexts.

1910 *H. G. WELLS Hist. Mr Polly* vi. 201 'Wimmin's a toss up,' said Uncle Penstemon. 'Prize packets they are, and you can't tell what's in 'em till you took 'em 'ome and undone 'em. Never was a bachelor married yet that didn't buy a pig in a poke.' 1938 *Snow White & Seven Dwarfs* 31 'Didn't I tell you?' sniffed Grumpy. 'She's crazy. Wimmin! Pah!' 1983 *Observer* 13 Mar. 16/4 Another woman was writing the words of a song . . 'We coil and spring we grow and sing we dance with the tree of life we are the serpents of healing and rebirth wimmin have reclaimed the earth' . . 'Why 'wimmin'? I asked. . . 'We want to spell women in a way that does not spell men.' 1983 *Sunday Times* 10 Apr. 36/3 Return to Greenham Common, view the wool webs, the papier mâché masks, the eccentric re-spelling of words like 'wimmin', the improbable cosiness of the little tents in a landscape of wire fencing and policemen. 1983 *Listener* 14 Apr. 4/1 Meanwhile, what of the Peace Women ('wimmin' in feminist placards) camped outside Greenham Common? 1983 *Private Eye* 22 Apr. 5/2 (heading) Wimmin. 1985 *Sunday Tel.* 11 Aug. 13/8 The Greenham women—God bless 'em! (Sorry—I should write 'wimmin', since the word 'women' contains the horrid inclusion of 'men'. Their little eccentricity!)

† **wimount. Obs.** [perh. the personal name *Wimound*, OE. *Wigmund*.] A name of the hare.

c1280 *Names of Hare in Rel. Ant.* I. 133 The wimount, the babbart.

wimp¹ (wimp). *slang.* [Origin uncertain; perh. an abbreviated corruption of *women*.] A woman or girl.

'Wimp was also used as a verb at Oxford c. 1917, e.g. *to go wimping* (M. Marples, *University Slang* (1950), p. 98).

1923 *J. MANCHON Le Slang* 338 *Wimp*, femme, fille, donzelle. 1937 *PARTRIDGE Dict. Slang* 959/1 *Wimp*, a (young) woman, a girl: from ca. 1920. 1940 [see *Skinny Liz* s.v. SKINNY a. 6].

wimp² (wimp). *slang* (orig. *U.S.*). [Origin uncertain; perh. f. WHIMPER (cf. Eng. dial. *wimp* (of a dog) to whine.) A feeble or ineffectual person; one who is spineless or 'wet'. (Used only as a term of abuse or contempt.)

1920 *ADE Hand-made Fables* 97 Next day he sought out the dejected Wimp. 1964 *Amer. Speech* XXXIX. 119 *A baff* is 'a person who does silly things deliberately'; but *wimp* is still mysterious and undefined in my notes. 1966 *Current Slang* Winter 8 *Wimp*, a backward person. . . He's a real *wimp* on a date. 1970 *New York* 16 Nov. 10/2 That Goodell, he's nothing but a wimp. And this Ottinger, it got so I couldn't stand the sight of him. 1976 *New Mus. Express* 31 July 8/2 Although he's best known here as a fairly muscular MOR wimp, . . he has a big reputation as a prodigiously talented multi-media whizz in the States. 1979 *T. GIFFORD Hollywood Gothic* (1980) xxii. 220 Solly Roth and his wimp of a son . . what a wet bunch that family was. 1981 *P. THEROUX Mosquito Coast* vi. 48, I can afford to be robbed. . . But what about the poor wimps who can't afford it? 1984 *Sunday Tel.* 30 Dec. 15/6 In daily life Ronnie Lee is a wimp.

Put him in a balaclava and he thinks he's a he-man. 1985 *She* July 140/2 Masseur! Huh! He sounds a right little wimp.

WIMP³ (wimp). *Computing*. Also Wimp, wimp; WIMPS. [Acronym f. windows, icons, mouse and a fourth word variously given: see quots.] A set of software features and hardware devices (such as windows, icons, mice, pull-down menus, etc.) that are designed to simplify or demystify computing operations for the user. *Freq. attrib.* or in *Comb.*

1984 *Daily Tel.* 9 July 11/3 WIMP is an acronym for Windowing Icon Mouse Products; in short the state-of-the-art in software technology. *Ibid.* 11/5 What *Silicon Office* doesn't have is WIMPs; since all the operations can be controlled with the same 18 commands, it doesn't need them. 1985 *Pract. Computing* May 116 Wimps in the Accounts Department. Chris Bidmead looks at how the coming generation of window, icon and mouse programs are set to change the face of accounting software. 1985 *Which Computer?* July 35/1 An intriguing WIMPS (Windows, Icons, Mouse and Pointer-based System) implementation that does a creditable job of imitating the workings of the Apple Macintosh. 1986 *Internat. Conf. on Speech Input/Output* (IEE Conf. Ser. CCLVIII) 154/1 This paper summarizes the design for an interface which is intended to make Wimp-type programs accessible to visually disabled users. 1987 *Daily Tel.* 13 Apr. 24/4 Another name is WIMP. This is an acronym for Windows, Icons and Mouse Program... The windows in WIMP refer to ability to open up separate areas on the screen. 1987 *Guardian* 18 June 15/7 The so-called Wimp interface (windows, icons, mice, pull-down menus) available on the Macintosh and other computers, has changed all that.

Wimpey, var. WIMPY *sb.* 2.

wimpish ('wimpɪʃ), *a.* *slang* (orig. U.S.). [f. WIMP² + -ISH¹.] Characteristic of a 'wimp'; feeble, ineffectual; snivelling. *Freq.* of persons.

1925 *S. Lewis Arrowsmith* xxvi. 288 They looked like lunching grocers: brisk featureless young men;... wimpish little men with spectacles, men whose collars did not meet. 1977 *Sounds* 9 July 30/6 The ever so slightly wimpish 'Give Me Some Time'. 1978 *J. Irving World according to Garp* xiii. 255 You call that wimpish asshole and say good-bye. 1982 *Mail on Sunday* 2 May 13/3 The wimpish young schoolmaster. 1983 *Times* 28 May Suppl. 1/5 The only motive for reading it may be to swank about it at literary cocktail parties, which is a wet and wimpish reason. 1985 *Times* 11 Feb. 14/1 The Duke of Edinburgh had adopted a new 'limp' handshake... Expecting something flabby and wimpish, the men got royal bonecrushers.

Hence 'wimpishness, ineffectual character or behaviour; feebleness.

1978 *Oxford Times* 6 Jan. 13/4 *Renaissance: Novella* (Warner Bros. K 56422)—It's fashionable to sneer at the 'wimpishness' of delicate music like this but... I like it. 1983 *Times* 9 Mar. 10/1 If Michael Straight is a wimp (weakling or 'wet') as some people allege, the wimpishness is not immediately apparent. 1984 *Daily Express* 17 July 8/1 Now he has raised a coast-to-coast horselaugh by his best ever display of wimpishness. Having sacked the party's incompetent national chairman, he promptly reinstated him in the face of protests.

wimple ('wɪmp(ə)l), *sb.* Forms: 1, 3–6 wimpel, 3–5 wympel, 4–6 wympel (1, 3 winpel, 3 wempel, 4 whympel, 5 wim-, wym-, win-, wyn-, -pil, -pill, -pul, -pulle, -pyl, -pylle, *Sc.* wompyll, 6 wumpyll, *Sc.* wimple, 7 wimpell, 9 whimple), 4– wimple. [Late OE. *wimpel* = (M)LG., (M)Du. *wimpel*, OHG. *wimpal* veil, banner (MHG., G. *wimpel* streamer, pennon), ON. *wimpill* (Sw., Da. *wimpel* from LG.), whence OF. *guimpe* (mod. F. *guimpe*), of which the variant *wimple* coincided with the native form. Ultimate origin uncertain.

It is doubtful whether the senses provisionally placed together here and under the vb. belong all to the same word. In branch II there may be an onomatopoeic element; for formation and meaning cf. *dimple*, *rimple*, *rumple*, *wrimple*.]

I. 1. A garment of linen or silk formerly worn by women, so folded as to envelop the head, chin, sides of the face, and neck: now retained in the dress of nuns. Also *gen.* a veil.

Used loosely in early glossaries as a rendering of L. *anabola*, *cyclas*, *peplum*, *ricinum*.

a1100 *Aldhelm Gloss.* 1. 4296 (Napier 112) *Cyclade*, *i.* ueste, wimple. a1100 *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 107/37 *Ricinum*, wimpel uel orl. *Ibid.* 125/8 *Anabola*, wimpel. c1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 163 Hire wimpel wit oðer maked 3eleu mid saffran. c1240 *Ancr.* R. 420 (MS. C), Sum seið þæt hit limpeð to ene wummon cundeliche forte were wimpel. c1250 *Meid. Margrethe* xlvii, Ðoru þe mitte of ihū christ, wið her wempel ho hin bond. 1297 *R. Glouc.* (Rolls) 6941 Hire bodi wiþ a mantel, a wimpel [*v.r.* whympel] aboute hire heued. c1374 *CHAUCER Troylus* II. 110 Do a-woy 3oure wimpil & schew 3oure face bare. c1386 — *Prolog.* 151 Ful semyly hir wumpyl pynched was. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 601/43 *Peplum*, a wynpul. c1425 *WYNTOUN Cron.* ix. xxv. 2992 Hyre hayre in wompyll arayande. c1440 *Gesta Rom.* lxix. 317 The emperesse hydde hire face with a wimpill, for she wolde not ben y-knowe. 1513 *DOUGLAS Æneis* I. vii. 115 To ask supple, with thaim ane wimple bair thai, With handis betand ther breistis by the way. c1530 *Crt. Love* 1102 And eke the nonnes, with vaile and wimple plight. 1560 *Bible* (Genev.) Isa. iii. 22 The costelie apparel and the vailes, and the wimples, and the crisping pinnes. 1805 *SCOTT Last Minstr.* v. xvii, White was her wimple, and her veil. 1810 — *Ivanhoe* xlii, Her flowing wimple of black cypress. 1879 *WALFORD Londoniana* II. 247 Three nuns with veils and wimples.

transf. 1615 *CROOKE Body of Man* 123 A certaine smooth and slippery veyle or wimple is substrated. 1861 *A. AUSTIN in Temple Bar* III. 472 Graves are the sheltering wimples Against Life's rain.

¶ 2. A flag, streamer. [An alien sense.] 1656 *BLOUNT Glossogr.*, *Wimple*... a Streamer or Flag. II. 3. A fold or wrinkle; a turn, winding, or twist; a ripple or rippling in a stream.

1513 *DOUGLAS Æneis* II. iv. 30 Bot thai about him lowpit in wimpillis [orig. *spiris*] threw. 1593 *NASHE Christ's T.* 74 b, Be not more curious of a wimple or spot in thy vesture, then thou art of spotting and thorow-staying thy deere bought Spyrit.

1818 *HOGG Brownie of Bodsbeck* xii. 1. 225 A shepherd... hates the wimples, as he calls them, of a turnpike. *Ibid.* xiv. II. 22 He had as many links an' wimples in his tail as an eel. 1845 *ELIZA COOK Waters* i, Waters, bright Waters, your wimple just lulleth the minnow to sleep! 1878 *STEVENSON Will o' Mill, Parson's Marj.*, The river ran between the stepping-stones with a pretty wimple.

4. A crafty turn or twist; a wile. *Sc.* 1638 *SIR A. JOHNSTON Diary* (S.H.S.) 320 Notwithstanding al wyles, wimples, offers, motions, and uther letts. 1755 *R. FORBES Ajax's Sp.* 24 The gouden helmet will sae glance, An blink wi' skyrin brinnis, That a' his wimples they'll find out Fan i' the mark he sheens. 1818 *SCOTT Hrt. Midl.* xxiv, There is aye a wimple in a lawyer's clew.

Hence *wimple-less a.*, not wearing a wimple. a1225 *Ancr. R.* 420 3if 3e muwen beon wimpel-leas, beoð bi warme keppen.

'wimple, v. Forms: see prec.; also *Sc.* 6 wumpil, 7 wo(o)mple. [f. WIMPLE *sb.*; cf. LG. *wimpelen*.]

I. 1. *trans.* To envelop in a wimple; loosely, to veil (*to pass. pass.* to take the veil).

c1240 *Ancr. R.* 420 (MS. C) Wrihen, he seið, naut wimplin. *Ibid.*, Al beo þu i-wimpler. c1374 *CHAUCER Boeth.* II. pr. i. (1868) 31 She þat 3it couereþ hir and wympleþ [orig. *velat*] hir to oþer folk hap shewed hir euerydel to þe. c1386 — *Prolog.* 470 Ywmpled wel, and on hir heed an hat. c1407 *LYDG. Reson & Sens.* 2837 Wympled but in symple guyse. 1430–40 — *Bochas* II. xxviii. (1554) 64 Rhea... Entered into religion, For to be wympled in that holy house, Sacred to Uesta. c1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 9938 Wympled she was both cheke and chin. 1470–85 *MALORY Arthur* x. lxxviii. 531 Al wayes she was wympeld that no man my3t see her vysage. 1592 *LYLY Midas* I. i, Iustice her selfe, that sitteth wimpeld about the eyes. 1615 *W. HULL Mirr. Majestie* 82 They wimpeld those eyes. 1616 *J. LANE Contin. Sgr.'s T.* vii. 91 note, Ne Titan on woodt putt his golden flize, But wimpeld fast his melancholie eies. 1822 *SCOTT Nigel* Introd. Ep., His figure was so closely veiled and wimpeld, either with a mantle, morning-gown or some such loose garb. 1870 *Rock Text. Fabr.* 1. 30 A female, crowned and wimpeld.

† b. *intr.* for *pass.* To be veiled. *Obs. rare.* 1591 *PERCIVALL Sp. Dict.*, *Reboçar*, to wimple, to go with the face hidden, *caput involuere*.

2. *fig.* To veil, cover. 1387–8 *T. Usk Test. Love* II. xiv. (Skeat) l. 25 With fayre honyed wordes heretykes and mis-meninge people skleren and wimplen their errors. *Ibid.* III. ix. l. 76 In this boke be many privity thinges wimpeld and folde. 1620 *Hist. Reynard the Fox* xviii, He that cannot wimple falshood in truths kerchiffe, hath neither Art nor cunning. 1898 *Atlantic Monthly* Apr. 503/2 He will gaze tenderly into the white faces of his cauliflowers, as with pinned leaves he wimples them from the sun.

† 3. *transf.* and *fig.* To enfold, enwrap, wrap up.

1513 *DOUGLAS Æneis* VI. iv. 93 Wympilt and buskit [orig. *innexa*] in a bludy bend. *Ibid.* VII. xii. 61 His body wympilt [orig. *impexum*] in A felloun bustuus and gret lyoun skyn. *Ibid.* x. xiii. 134 The fatale sisteris tho in deyd Had wympylt vp [orig. *legunt*] this Lawus lattyr threid. a1578 *LINDSAY (Pittscottie) Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 61 Ane body of a ne zounge chылd... wumpillit wpon sandell. 1594 *R. CAREW Tasso* (1881) 80 Her sparing looke a coy regard doth beare, And lous treasures, and hers vp wympelled. a1600 *MONTGOMERIE Misc. Poems* v. 2 No wonder thought I wail and weip, That womplit am in woes. 1607 *B. BARNES Devils Charter* iv. iii. H 1, I perceiue a little riueing About my forehead but I wimple it Either with jewells or a lock of haire. 1616 *Rollock's Lect. Passion* Ep. Ded. ¶ 2 b, He will thirst to be woompled in the wounds of Iesus. a1670 *SPALDING Troub. Chas. I* (Bannatyne Club) I. 208 Whilk charge so wyrtten was wompled about ane arrow head, syne shott up over the castle walls, wher Ruthven might find the same.

4. *pass.* and *intr.* To fall in folds.

1590 *SPENSER F.Q.* I. i. 4 A vele, that wimpeld was full low. 1751 *R. LLOYD Progr. Envoy* viii. Poems (1762) 210 Her mantle wimpeld low. 1859–60 *JAS. HAMILTON Moses* xviii. (1871) 283 Curtains of delicate texture, all wimpling with the golden wings of cherubim.

5. *pass.* To be stretched like a wimple or veil. 1868 *E. R. SILL Poems, Evening* i, The Sun is gone; those glorious chariot-wheels Have... left Thin rosy films wimpeld across the West.

II. 6. *intr.* Of a stream: To meander, twist and turn; also, to ripple. Chiefly *Sc.*

1721 *RAMSAY Poet's Wish* i, Tay and Tweed's smooth Streams... quietly... wimple to the Seas. 1785 *BURNS Halloween* ii, Among the bonie, winding banks, Where Doon rins, wimplin, clear. 1848 *ELIZA COOK Bonnie green bough* iv, Streamlets, ye are pleasant things, Whimpling as ye glide. 1849 *AYTOUN Poems, Refusal of Charon* iii, Or near some sparkling fountain, Where the waters wimple down! 1879 *STEVENSON Trav. Cevennes* 19 You may hear it wimpling over the stones, an amiable strippling of a river. *transf.* 1896 *CROCKETT Grey Man* i, A dark train of horsemen... Their line wimpeld like a serpent.

7. To move shiftily or unsteadily.

1819 *J. R. DRAKE Culprit Fay* xix, They struck her keel with jerk and blow... She wimpeld about, in the pale moonbeam, like a feather. 1886 *KIPLING Departm. Ditties* etc. (1888) 73 When comes the licht That wimples on his face?

wimple, occas. var. WIMBLE.

wimpeld ('wɪmp(ə)ld), *ppl. a.* Also 9 *Sc.* whumplet. [f. WIMPLE *v.* or *sb.* + -ED.]

1. Enveloped in or wearing a wimple; hence, veiled, occas. blindfolded.

1579 *HAKES Newes out of Powles* (1872) G ij, Which all doth spring from wimpeld B: and old deceitfull Bawde. 1588 *SHAKS. L.L.L.* III. i. 181 This wimpeld, whyning, purblinde waiward Boy. 1839 *LONGF. Hyperion* III. iii, Neither wimpeld nun nor cowed monk. 1874 *L. MORRIS Gilbert Beckett* xix, The wimpeld maid, demurely shy.

2. Arranged or falling in folds like a wimple; hence, wrinkled; rippled.

1599 *T. STORER Life & D. Wolsey* E 1, A wimpeld scarfe bedew'd with hearers teares. 1812 *CARY Dante, Purg.* VIII. 74 Since she has changed the white and wimpeld folds. 1909 *'O' True Tilda* xv, She... could read nothing of his faith in the wimpeld surface [of the stream].

3. *fig.* Involved, intricate. *Sc.*

a1722 *FOUNTAINHALL* in M. P. Brown *Suppl. Dict. Decis.* (1826) III. 329 This was thought an odd and wimpeld interlocutor. 1725 *RAMSAY Gentle Sheph.* III. ii, The wimpeld Meaning of your unco Tale. 1768 *ROSS Helenore* Introd., Sick wimpeld work would crack a pow like thine. 1823 *GALT R. Gilhaize* lxvii, There was no difficulty in reading the whumplet meaning of this couthiness anent the reeking o' the chamber.

'wimpler'. *Obs. exc. Hist.* [f. WIMPLE *sb.* + -ER¹.] A maker of wimples.

1260 *Husting Roll City of London* 2 (169) (MS.) Isabella uxore Thome le Wimpler. 1284 *Ibid.* 15 (34) Alicia la Wymplere relicta quondam Henrici le Wympler. 1342 *Ibid.* 69 (106–7) Avicia filia Henrici le Wimpler. 1887 *GILLIAT Forest Outlaws* 295 The booths of the vintners, the fletchers, the plumiers, and wymplers.

So † **'wimplester'**, a female wimpler. 1379 in *Bardsley Surnames*, Crystiana, Wymplyster.

'wimpler'². *rare.* [f. WIMPLE *v.* + -ER¹.] 'A waving lock of hair' (Jam.).

1724 *RAMSAY Vision* v, Doun his braid back, frae his quhyt heid, The silver wimpler's grew.

'wimpling, vbl. sb. In 3 wimplunge. [f. WIMPLE *v.* + -ING¹.]

† 1. The wearing of a wimple. *Obs.*

c1240 *Ancr. R.* 420 (MS. C) Ancren, sume sungið in hare wimplunge na lesse pene lefdi.

2. The winding or meandering of a stream; also, rippling.

1729 *RAMSAY 2nd Answ. Somerville* 30 Its wimplings [Wks. 1851 III. 94 wimplings] led by Nature's hand. 1863 *LE FANU House by Churchy.* lxxix, Those... pleasant dimples, like the wimpling of a well. 1893 *JOS. THOMSON in Biogr.* (1896) 288 The wimpling of the burns over stony beds.

'wimpling, ppl. a. [f. WIMPLE *v.* + -ING².]

1. Veiling, concealing.

1747 *RIDLEY Psyche* xi, That wimpling Slough shall fall like Filth away. 1817 *SCOTT Harold* II. ii, Where wimpling tissue from the gaze The form half hides.

2. Winding, meandering (esp. of streams); also, rippling. Also *transf.* in *poet.* use.

1721 *RAMSAY Richy & Sandy* 28 Wimpling Waters which in Latium flow. 1785 *BURNS Scotch Drink* ii, Guid auld Scotch Drink! Whether thro' wimplin' worms thou jink, Or, richly brown, ream owre the brink. 1827 *W. G. S. Excurs. Village Curate* 50 The old brook with its whimpling current. 1847 *LONGF. Ev.* II. ii. 18 Along the wimpling waves of their margin, flocks of pelicans waded. 1861 *SMILES Engineers* II. viii. i. 294 The solitude... is only broken by the wimpling sound of the burns. 1877 *G. M. HOPKINS Poems* (1967) 69 How he rung upon the rein of a wimpling wing In his ecstasy. 1894 *CROCKETT Lilac Sunbonnet* i, The wimpling lane.

Wimpy ('wɪmpɪ), *sb.* [The name of the cartoon character J. Wellington Wimpy in the 'Popeye' cartoon strip, who was often portrayed eating a hamburger.] 1. a. A proprietary name for a variety of hamburger. Also (*rarely*) in slang use.

1935 *Official Gaz.* (U.S. Patent Office) 21 May 557 Wimpy Grills, Inc., Chicago, Ill... Wimpy... For sandwiches, roasted and toasted meats... Claims use since Sept. 12, 1934. 1935 *J. HARGAN Gloss. Prison Lang.* 8 Wimpy, hamburger. 1943 *American Mercury* Nov. 553/2 Other chow terms in popular use... wimpies for hamburgers. 1954 *Trade Marks Jnl.* 20 Jan. 63/2 Wimpy... B720, 112. Bread rolls containing cooked foods. Edward Vale Gold, 140, North Dearborn, Chicago, Illinois, United States... Manufacturer and Merchant. 1959 *Observer* 8 Nov. 3/1 The bright glossy bars where Wimpies are served are the most striking example of Britain's changing eating habits. 1967 *T. HARKNETT Two-Way Frame* x. 77, I had a sterile Wimpy and cup of insipid black coffee. 1981 *C. STORR Vicky* vii. 56, I can always go out and get a Wimpy or something.

b. Shortened form of *Wimpy bar*, sense 3 below.

1966 *M. WADDELL Otley* xix. 171 We wound up in the Wimpy by the Broadway. 1968 *Listener* 13 June 763/1 Two years of success by any standard and then a break-up. Mecca had opened a dance hall... A Wimpy came and a bowling alley.

2. *Usu.* in form *Wimpey*. A Wellington bomber aeroplane. *slang.*

1942 *Tee Emm* (Air Ministry) II. 81 You have the mad sort of chauffeur who tries to roll a Wimpey. 1944 *'N. SHUTE Pastoral* i. 1 There was a Wimpey running up one engine, somewhere away out in the middle distance of the aerodrome. 1954 [see map reference s.v. MAP sb.¹ 5].

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *Wimpyburger*, *Wimpy culture*, *-eating*, *Wimpy Bar*, an

establishment where Wimpy hamburgers are sold.

1959 *Observer* 8 Nov. 3/1 At least once a week a 'Wimpy Bar' is being opened somewhere in England. **1966** 'K. A. SADDLER' *Gilt Edge* xiii. 180 That night in the Wimpy Bar... Len had summed him up at a glance. He had only agreed to take part in the job to get out of the Wimpy Bar. **1982** M. GILBERT *Final Throw* v. 35 'Let's find somewhere to eat.'... They found a Wimpy Bar that was open. **1939** *Amer. Speech* XIV. 154/2 *Wimpyburger*, a specially large hamburger sandwich. **1971** LAVER & COLLINS *Education of Tennis Player* xvi. 209 A tea garden... is located outside of Centre Court [at Wimbledon] where the famous strawberries and cream are sold... along with a concession to the present day: Wimpyburgers. **1971** 'J. QUARTERMAIN' *Man who walked on Diamonds* i. 7 A London throbbing with traffic and Wimpy culture. **1959** *Observer* 8 Nov. 3/1 Behind this wave of Wimpy-eating lies a simple commercial formula.

wimpy ('wimpr), *a. slang* (orig. U.S.). [f. WIMP² + -Y¹.] = WIMPISH *a.*

1967 *Current Slang* Spring 5, [1964] *Wimpy*, stupid or sluggish. **1969** *Publ. Amer. Dial. Soc.* LI. 16 *Wimpy*, spineless. **1977** D. LINZEE *Discretion* (1981) i. 16 'It is exquisite.' 'I think it's kind of a wimpy little picture, personally. **1977** *Sounds* 9 July 31/1, I vaguely anticipated something wimpy and limpy prattling about San Francisco and love and peace man. **1980** *High Fidelity* June 106/2 The Seventies witnessed macho rock & rollers sneering at singer/songwriters as 'wimpy'. **1984** *Nutshell* (Gainesville ed.) Spring 52/2, I was this little wimpy kid in elementary school and high school. **1984** *Melody Maker* 6 Oct. 15/4 Dennis had a brilliant artist last summer, really strong drawings, but now it's gone back to being a bit wimpy.

Hence 'wimpiness' = WIMPISHNESS.

1982 *Chicago Sun-Times* 1 Sept. 54 (caption) Wanna be a political activist? Are you held back by wimpiness?

Wimshurst ('wimsh:st). *Physics*. [The name of James Wimshurst (1832-1903), English engineer.] *Wimshurst machine*: an electrostatic generator consisting of two or more counterrotating discs of insulating material mounted close together on a common axle and having a ring of metal sectors around their periphery; each disc has a stationary pair of brushes at diametrically opposite positions which are electrically connected, so that successive sectors become inductively charged as they come into contact with a brush and give up their charge later in the turn as they pass a fixed set of needle points connected to one or other electrode.

1886 R. WORMELL *A. von Urbanitzky's Electricity in Service of Man* i. 63 The Wimshurst machine and that of Carré... are the least subject to these defects of any that we are acquainted with. **1978** *Sci. Amer.* Apr. 159/1, I placed my candle between the oppositely charged poles of a Wimshurst machine, the ancient hand-crank generator of high-voltage static electricity.

win (win), *sb.*¹ Forms: 1-3 *winn*, (3 *pl.* *wunnen*), 4-5 *winne*, *wynne*, *wyn(e)*, 3- *win*. [OE. *win(n)* labour, strife, conflict (cf. MG. *win*), more frequently *gewinn*: see 1-WIN *sb.* The modern senses are from WIN *v.*¹]

1. †1. Strife, contention, conflict; tumult, disturbance, agitation. *Obs.*

a1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 259 He...ongan him *winn* up ahebban wið pone hehstan heofnes wealdend. **c1200** *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 161 Hwile lat te deuel hem... & weccheð among hem flite & win. **a1250** *Owl & Night*. 670 He mot gon to al mid gynne Hwan þe horte beop on winne. **c1250** *Gen. & Ex.* 598 Ðo ðe tende moneð cam in, So wurd drazen ðe watres win. **c1275** *LAY.* 9044 þat heold fihrt and win [earlier text *win*].

†2. Gain, acquisition, profit; also, advantage, benefit. *Obs.*

c1200 *ORMIN* 6118 þe birrp þin rihhte swinnkess *winn* Upponn 3uw alle nittenn. **a1300** *Floriz & Bl.* 805 (Camb. MS.) Ac floriz nolde for no winne; Leuere him were wip his kinne. **c1440** *Palad. on Husb.* III. 5 Ek newer, gretter *wynne* Is to the gresse. **1495** *Acta Dom. Conc.* (1839) 409/1 þe said tend penny of all *wynnys* pertain to our souerane lord. **a1500** *Bernard.* *de cura rei fam.* i. 180 Eftyr þi *wyne* with worschipe, clethyng wer. **a1500** *Thrie Priests Pæblis* 619 Quhan thay ar full of sic wrang win. **1500-20** *DUNBAR Poems* xvii. 16 Thir merchantis takis vnlesum win. **1535** *LYNDESAI Satyre* 3507 In pryde, invy, in ire, and lecherie, In covetice, or ony extreme win.

†b. Possessions, riches, wealth. *Obs.*

For the phr. *worldes winne* see WIN *sb.*² 2.

c1205 *LAY.* 3099 Ic hem zeue al þa winne þe ich æm waldinge ouer. *Ibid.* 22668 Wif & mine weden and alle mine *wunnen*. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 7879 Bot oft þe weliest o win Riue-liest þai fal in sin. **c1460** *Towneley Myst.* i. 185 To walk here in this worthely wone. In all this welthy *wyn*.

II. 3. A victory in a game or contest. *colloq.*

1862 *Illustr. Lond. News* 10 May 492/3 The opposition... gathered strength after this slovenly win. **1866** *Daily Tel.* 3 Nov., Pineapple... won the first race, it being his eighth win since he was sold. **1894** *ASTLEY Fifty Yrs. Life* II. 78, I was real pleased with the win, for lots of my pals had backed Actea.

4. A gain; *pl.* gains, winnings. *colloq.*

1891 *NAT GOULD Double Event* ii, His gambling wins would have been enough for that. **1893** *Kennel Gaz.* Aug., Although the Shows might not be affected, their wins would be. **1897** T. R. WILLIAMS *Serm. on 'Just as I am'* 3 Every mental win on your part is a draw upon universal truth.

†**win**, *sb.*² *Obs.* Forms: 1 *wynn*, (1 *wunn*, *wenn*), 3 *wnne*, *wonne*, (also 7) *wun*, 3-4 *winne*, (also 7)

wunne, 3-5, 7 *win*, 4-5 *wyn*, *wenne*, 4-6 *wynne*, 5 *wyne*. [OE. *wyn(n)*, corresp. to OS. *wunnia*, OHG. *wunnja*, *wunna* str. f., *wunni* f. and *wunno* wk. masc. (MHG. *wünne*, *wunne*, G. *wonne*); f. Teut. *wun-*, found also in OE. *zewun*, *wunian* (see WONT), *wýscan* (:-**wunskjan*) to WISH, and related to *wen-* (see WEEN *sb.* and *v.*) and WINE *sb.*², friend. Cf. WINSOME.]

1. Joy, pleasure, delight, bliss; a source of joy, a delight.

Beowulf 2262 Hearpan *wyn*, gomen gleobeames. **c1205** *LAY.* 9071 Jesu Crist... alre worulde *wunne*. *Ibid.* 22732 Ne mihte nauere mon *cunne* nan swa muchel *wunne*. **a1225** *Ankr. R.* 102 Alle þeo ilke uondunges... puncheð wouh, & nout *wunne*, auh heo wendeð efterward to weole and to eche blisse. **a1240** *Ureisin* in O.E. *Hom.* I. 183 Ihesu mi weole, mi *wunne*. **c1275** *LAY.* 25569 Louerd drihtne crist... middlerpes *win*. **a1310** in Wright *Lyric P.* xv. 47 Away is al my *wunne*. **c1330** R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 14908 Fair folk ys pere-inne þer faces to se, hit ys gret *wynne*! **c1386** CHAUCER *Frankl. T.* 54 *Wyn*, wo, or chaungynge of complexion. **c1425** *Cast. Persev.* 204 in *Macro Plays* 83 *Belyal*. In woo is al my *wenne*. **c1700** KENNETT *Lands. MS.* 1033 lf. 430b, *Wunsome*, pleasant... a *wunne* gaudium, whence a *wun* to see, a pleasure or satisfaction to see.

b. In vague commendatory sense, and often in phr. *with* (or *mid*) *win*, which, orig. intensive, freq. becomes a mere tag.

c1300 *Havelok* 660 Slep sone, with michel *winne*. *Ibid.* 2965 Havelok bi-lefte wit ioie and gamen In engeland, and þe þe-inne Sixti winter king with *winne*. **1311** *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 15 On mony bonkkes ful brode Bretayn he setez, wyth *wynne*. **c1330** R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 9617 þer com þey to þe toun wyþ *wyn*. **a1400** *Sqr. lowe Degre* 263 Wyth welth and *wynne* to were the crowne. **c1400** *Destr. Troy* 13346 Penelope... þat had keppt hir full cloise as a cleane lady, With myche worship & *wyn*. **1411** *Poem to Virgin in Rel. Ant.* II. 213 Swete lady, full of *wynne*, Full of grace and gode within. **c1440** *Syr Gowghter* 51 in Utterson *E.P.P.* I. 163 The worthi duk and ducheese They leuid togeder with *wenne*. **c1460** *Towneley Myst.* xxiv. 153 For I may swere with mekill *wyn* I am the most shrew in all myn kyn. **c1475** *Rauf Colygar* 925 Wed ane worthe to wyfe, and weild her with *win*.

c. In benedictory phrases.

c1400 *Ywayne & Gaw.* 1113 Sho said smertly, Do lat me her, Cumes he sone, als have thou *wyn*. *Ibid.* 2219 So have i *wyn*, Mi lyoun and i sal noght twyn. **c1425** *Seven Sag.* (P.) 1373 So God almyghty gyf me *wyne*, Thou ne schalt to come hyre-in. **a1500** *Sir Beues* (Pynson) 2453 There was a wel, so hae i *wynne*, And Beuys stumbled ryght therin. **1553** BRADFORD *Serm. Repentance* Fviiijb, Though a great while he laye a slepe (as many do now a dayes, god geue them *wynne* waking) [ed. 1574 *Gij by a misunderstanding reads* good waking]. **1640** M. PARKER *King & poore North. Man* lxxx, Man, with thy money God give thee *win*.

2. *worldes winne* (earlier *woreld winne*, OE. *worolde wynn*), also *worldly winne*: worldly delight or pleasure; later, by association with WIN *sb.*¹, worldly wealth or possessions.

Beowulf 1080 þær heo ær mæste heold worolde *wynne*. **c1175** *Lamb. Hom.* 147 On twa wise Mon mei forelre world *winne*. **c1200** *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 195 Erest he strepte of him his shep, þe waren his worold *winne*. **a1225** *Ankr. R.* 106 *Worldes* weole, & *wunne*, & wurschipe. **c1230** *Hali Meid.* (MS. Titus) 90 For worlðliche *wunne* þat tu wendes to biȝeten. **c1325** *Meir. Hom.* 15 For riffi gers werldes *win* Thir fair wimmen fal in sin. **c1375** *Sc. Leg. Saints* xvi. (*Magdalena*) 56 þat mychty ware & of gret kyne, & mykil had of warldis *wyne*. **a1400** *Minor Poems* fr. Vernon *MS.* 337/341 Alle *worldes winne* He sendep, whon he wile. **1535** *LYNDESAI Satyre* 3535 Covetice of warldlie *win*.

win, *sb.*³ *slang*. Also 6-7 *wyn*, 9 *whinn*, *winn*, *wing*. [Origin obscure; quot. 1812 suggests that it may be short for *Winchester*.] A penny.

1567 *HARMAN Caveat* 85 A flagge, a *wyn*, and a make. **1608** *DEKKER Lanth. & Candle Lt.* i. C2b, If we... nip a boung that has but a *win*. **1618** [see MAKE *sb.*³]. **a1693** *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xli. 341 They had not a *Win* in their Fab. **1812** J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict.*, *Win* or *Winchester*, a penny. **1823** 'JON BEE' *Dict. Turf, Scuddick*,... 'not a scuddick'—not any brads, not a whinn, empty clies. **1859** *Slang Dict.*, *Winn*, a penny. **1900** *FLYNT Tramping* 241 Just go and get a shave now, Jim. I'll give you a wing (penny), if you will, for the doin' o' 't.

†**win**, *a.* *Obs.* Forms: 3 *wn-*, 4 *wunne*, *wynne*, 5 *wyn*. [Only in ME. alliterative verse; adj. use of WIN *sb.*², derived from OE. poetical compounds such as *wynbēam* tree of joy, *wynland* pleasant land.] Delightful, pleasant; goodly, fine; good.

c1205 *LAY.* 1385 þer he mihte þurh-wunian mid his wnfolke [later text gode folke]. **a1310** *Lenten ys come* 35 This *wunne* weole y wole forgon, Ant wyht in wode be freme. **1311** *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1032 þere he draȝez hym on-dryȝe, & derely hym ponkkez, Of þe *wynne* worschip þat [MS. &] he hym waud hadde. *Ibid.* 2430 þat wyl I welde wyth gode wylle, not for þe *wynne* golde. **1311** *E.E. Allit. P.* A. 154 Euer me post i schulde not wonde For wo, þer welez so *wynne* wore. **c1400** *Destr. Troy* 4265 A faire temple... With wallis vp wrought, *wyn* to beholde.

win (win), *v.*¹ *Pa. t.* and *ppl.* won (wan).

Forms: *Inf.* *a.* 1-2 *winnan*, (1 *wynn*an), 3 *winnen*, (*Orm.*)-enn, 3-6 *wynne*, (3-5 -en), 3-7 *winne*, 3-8 *winn*, (4 *whyn*, *Sc. vyn*(e), 4-6 *wine*, *wyne*, *wynn*, *wyn*, (5 *wenne*), 4- *win*. *β.* (chiefly *Sc.*) 5, 7-8 *wone*, 6-9 *won*, 7 *wonne*, 9 *wun*. *Pa. t.* *a.* 1, 4 *wann*, 1-7 (8-9 *dial.* and *arch.*) *wan*, (4-5 *whan*(ne), 4-6 *wane*, (*Sc. van*), 4-7 *wanne*, (6 *Sc. vane*). *β.* 1. 2nd pers. sing. *wunne*; *pl.* 1 *wunnon*, 1, 5 *wunnon*, 3 (*Orm.*)-enn, 3-5 *wonne*(n, 4-5 -yn,

5 *wonen*, -yn; 4-6 *wunne*, 6-7 *wun*. *γ.* 1 *wonn*, 4-7 *wonne*, (5 *whonne*), 6-7 *woon*, 1- *won*. *δ.* 6 *winned*, 7 *wined*. *Pa. ppl.* *a.* 3-4 *wunnen*, (3 *Orm.* -enn), 4-5 *wunne*, 4 (6 *Sc.*) *wun*, (5 *north.* *vun*, 6 *Sc. wvne*); 4 (5 *Sc.*) *woun*, 5 *Sc. wown*, (*woung*). *β.*¹. 4 *wonnon*, (*Sc. wonone*, *vonnyng*, *vonyng*), 4-5 *wonnin*, -ene, -yn(e, *wonen*(e, -yn(e, 4-6 *wonnen*, 5 *wonun*, (*Sc. wonnyng*). *β.*². 3-4 *iwonne*, 3-5 *ywonne*, 4 *ywon*, 5 *ywone*, *ywonnen*, e-*wonne*. *β.*³. 4-7 *wonne*, (8 *Sc.*) *wone*, 5-7 *wonn*, 4- *won*; 6-7 *woon*(e, (6 *woonne*). *γ.* 4-7 *wan*, 6 *wanne*. *δ.* *Sc.* 5 *winin*, (*wyn*(n)*yng*); 6 *winn*, *wyn*, *wyne*, 6-8 *win*, 7 *winne*, *wynn*. (Cf. WIN *ppl. a.*) *ε.* 7 *wind*. [Com. Teut. str. vb.: OE. *winnan*, (*wann*, *wunnen*), also *gewinnan* 1-WIN *v.* = OFris. *winna* to obtain, OS. *winnan* to suffer, win, *giwinnan* to obtain, (MLG., MDu. *winnen* to till the ground, obtain, acquire), OHG. *winnan* (MHG. *winnen*) to be excited, rage, contend, exert oneself, also *gawinnan* to gain as by labour or exertion (MHG., G. *gewinnen*), ON. *vinna* to labour, bring about, gain (Sw. *vinna*, Da. *vinde*), Goth. (*ga*)*winnan* to suffer: ulterior relations are uncertain; forms of cognate meaning are Goth. *winnō*, *winna*, *wunns* suffering, OHG. *winna* conflict, MHG. *winne* pain, ON. *vinna* labour; see also WITHERWIN (OE. *wiperwinna*, OHG. *widarwinno*).

The senses run parallel to a considerable extent with those of GAIN *v.*² and GET *v.*]

†1. *intr.* To work, labour (OE.); to strive, contend, fight. *Obs.*

Beowulf 506 *Eart* þu se *Beowulf*, se þe wið Brecan *wunne*? **c888** *ÆLFRED Boeth.* xxxv. §4 Nis nan gesceaft þe tiohhie þæt hio scyle *winnan* wið hire scippendes willan. **c900** tr. *Baada's Hist.* iv. iii. (1890) 264 He þy ma mid his hondum wonn & worhte þa ping, þe nydpearfleoc wæron. **a1000** in Wt.-Wülcker 202/41 *Pugnaui*, ic wan. **a1122** O.E. *Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 685 Her ongan Ceadwala *winnan* æfter rice. **c1200** *ORMIN* 3488 Forr þatt menn sholdenn... *winnenn* swa to cumenn upp till heofennrichess blisse. **c1200** *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 51 Ierusalem and babilonie beð two burȝes, and fliteð eue, and winneð bitwinen hem. *Ibid.* 187 Iob... wan wið þe purse. **c1220** *Bestiary* 521 Til it cumeð ðe time Ðat storm stired al ðe se, Ðanne sumer and winter *winnen*.

†2. *trans.* To conquer, subdue, overcome, defeat, vanquish, 'beat'. *Obs.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 136 Alle þes kinges were þo, ac bote on nov þer nis; Vor þe king of westsex alle þe opere wan iwis. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 14832 He has vs wonnen [c1375 *Fairf. MS.* *wonni*] wit maistri. **1311** *Guy Warw.* (A.) 889 Wel mani kniȝtes Gij wan þat day. **1375** *BARBOUR Bruce* xii. 47 He thought that he suld weill lichtly *Vyn* hym, and haf hym at his will. **c1375** *Sc. Leg. Saints* vii. (*Jacobus Minor*) 752 Quhene þat tytus Ierusalem had wonone. **c1400** *Ragman Roll* 168 in Hazl. *E.P.P.* I. 76 Or that ye be conqueryd and e-*wonne*. **c1420** *Avow. Arth.* xxii, Thus hase he wonun Kay on werre. **c1470** *Gol. & Gaw.* 1198 Wourschippful Wavane had wonnin him on weir. **1470-85** *MALORY Arthur* vii. xxiii. 250 He wanne me in playne bataille hande for hand. **1513** *Life Hen. V.* (1911) 108 He deliberated by proces of time to *wynn* them by hunger and thirst. **1535** *STEWART Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) I. 84 How that Reuthar... faucht with Cecelus... and wan him. **1577** T. KENDALL *Flowers Epigr.* 38b, Here sensual pleasure doeth assault to winne me by her might. **1610** *HEYWOOD Gald. Age v.* i, Creet thou hast wonne My thirty thousand Souldiers, and my Sonne.

fig. **1567** *MAPLET Gr. Forest* 1 But whiles it [sc. the adamant] is inuincible or can not be *wonne* that way [sc. by fire]: yet... with the... freshe blood of the Goate, it breaketh... in sunder. **1575** A. F. *Virg. Bucol.* vii. 22 Phillis loves the Hazils well... The Myrtle shall them neuer *wynne*, nor Phoebeus Bay trees tall.

3. *a.* To be victorious in (a contest of any kind, as a battle, game, race, action at law, etc.). Also to *win the day*, *the field*. (Cf. to win the victory, 6b.)

Formerly used with a wider range of obj. (e.g. *conquest*, *exploit*).

a1300 *Cursor M.* 7793 Daudid had gin him batail kene; Wit godds grace þe feild he wan. **1338** R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 24 Tuō & twenty batailes he wanne þe first zere. **a1400** *Beryn* 1747 The meyne [viz. chessmen] were I-set vp; they gon to pleye fast: Beryn wan the first, þe second, & þe pird. **1474** *CAXTON Chesse* II. iii. (1883) 38 The tonges of aduocates... must be had yf thou wylt *wynne* thy cause. **1489** *Barbour's Bruce* xi. title, The battale of Bannokburne, strykyne & *vonyng* be gud kyng Robert the Bruce. **a1533** LD. BERNERS *Huon* liii. 177 How kyngye Iuoryn caused his daughter play at the chesse with Huon... and how Huon wan the game. **c1590** *MARLOWE Faustus* 1029 Wks. (1910) 180 Howe they had wonne by prowesse such exploits. **1591** *SHAKS. 1 Hen. VI.* i. vi. 17 'Tis Ioane, not we, by whom the day is wonne. **1594** R. CAREW *Tasso* (1881) 15 Conquests he winned. **1600** *HOLLAND Livy* I. ii. 3 The Aborigines and Trojanes wan indeed the field, but lost their Captaine Latinus. **a1650** *CALDERWOOD Hist. Kirk* (1843) II. 263 'Prove that, and wonne the plea!' said Lethington. **1653** *HOLCROFT Procopius, Pers. Wars* I. 22 He wanne this battell. **1728** *RAMSAY Monk & Miller's Wife* 233 His courage wan the day. **1781** [see RACE *sb.*¹ 10]. **1837** *DICKENS Pickw.* vii. Won the toss—first innings—seven o'clock a.m. **1878** H. GIBBS *Ombre* (ed. 2) 26 If either of the adversaries win the game. **1908** [ELIZ. FOWLER] *Betw. Trent & Ancholme* 380 About that time, Waterloo was won.

(b) *transf.* in catch-phr. to win the peace, to bring about the successful reconstruction of a country defeated in or severely damaged by a war; hence *win-the-peace* attrib.

1942 H. A. WALLACE *Century of Common Man* (1944) 10 As part of the effort to win the peace, I am hoping that what might be called the 'ever normal granary principle' can be established for a number of commodities on a world-wide scale. **1945** *Daily Herald* 31 Aug. 2/1 The nation, girding itself for a supreme win-the-peace endeavour, will derive high encouragement from this enterprise by the mining community. **1950** A. HUXLEY *Themes & Variations* 243 That the Russians have been 'winning the peace' is due... to the fact that they profess and teach, as absolutely true, a clear-cut philosophy of man and nature. **1962** *Listener* 8 Mar. 402/2 They have also tried to agree that nobody was going to win the peace, but nobody was going to lose it either.

b. Phrs. *you can't win them all; you win some, you lose some, etc.*

1954 R. CHANDLER *Long Goodbye* xxiv. 122 Take it easy, Doc. You can't win them all. **1966** P. O'CONNELL *Sabre-Tooth* xiv. 189 You win a few, you lose a few, and it's no good getting sore. **1976** *Times* 23 Nov. 14/1 You look like being saddled with the uninspiring Willy... On the other hand, you seem to have got your way over Mrs. Thatcher's nominee... You win some, you lose some. **1979** K. M. PEYTON *Marion's Angels* ix. 151 'It'll be all right,' she said. 'I daresay. You can't win them all.' **1984** *Listener* 1 Nov. 24/3 Academic friends... have found just one definite factual error... Ah, well; win some, lose some.

4. a. *absol. or intr.* To overcome one's adversary, opponent, or competitor; to be victorious, gain the victory (now chiefly in sports or games of skill); *fig.* to prevail.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4688 Hii worrede norþward & wonne ver & ner. **13...** *Cursor M.* 20004 (Edin.) Werande on pe wrang þai wan. **1375** BARBOUR *Bruce* xii. 373 In punþeis is oft hapnyne Quhill for to vyne, and quhill to tyne. **c 1400** 26 *Pol. Poems* xxiv. 288 Hauie mercie on me, let mercie wyn! **14...** AUDELEY *Poems* (Percy Soc.) Introd. p. ix. Oure faders in Frawns had won beforne. **c 1440** *Alphabet of Tales* cxviii. 83 How... if men played at þe dyce, and when þe tane of þaim began to lose, he began to... flite with God for þat he wan nott. **1546** J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 10 He laughth that wynt. **1551** EDW. VI *Jrnl.* in *Lit. Rem.* (Roxb.) II. 312, I lost... at roundes, and wane at rovers. **1597** SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV.* i. 1. 132 The summe of all, Is, that the King hath wonne. **1607** MARKHAM *Caveat*. vi. iv. 15 Nor haue I seene anye horse winne, but I haue seene many Horses loose, which haue beene kept with such dyett. **1697** DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* iv. 127 Obstinate bent to win or dye. **1818** BYRON *Ch. Har.* iv. cxl. He is gone, Ere ceased the inhuman shout which hail'd the wretch who won. **1837** DICKENS *Pickw.* ii. That [advice] which bystanders invariably give to the smallest boy in a street fight, namely, 'Go in and win'. **1842** TENNYSON *Godiva* 35 The passions of her mind... Made war upon each other for an hour, Till pity won. **1871** FARRAR *Witn.* Hist. iii. 100 Yet, unaided by any, opposed by all, Christianity won. **1880** W. DAY *Racehorse in Training* xviii. 169 If an owner runs two horses in a race, he has a right to declare with which of the two he will win. **1884** *Manch. Exam.* 21 May 4/7 The M.C.C. winning by an innings and four runs.

b. Phrs. *you can't win*, said (often in exasperation) to emphasize that whatever one does, it will be judged wrong or insufficient; *you win*, used to concede defeat in argument, etc.

1926 J. BLACK (title) *You can't win*. **1943** N. MARSH *Colour Scheme* vi. 99 All right... You win. I apologize. **1962** *Redbook* Mar. 44/2 She says I should always be dignified in front of him. Next she hands me the garbage pail and says, 'Take this out.' You can't win, no matter which way you turn! **1976** P. LIVELY *Stitch in Time* v. 55 'You can't win,' said Martin with sudden gloom, 'when you're the eldest. Whatever you do, you shouldn't have because you're old enough to know better.' **1982** 'S. Woods' *Enter a Gentlewoman* ii. iii. 113 'It's hardly fair to judge other people by one's own principles.' 'All right, you win.'

5. a. *trans.* To subdue and take possession of; to seize, capture, take (a place). *arch.* (now associated with 6).

ME. phr. *to win to or into one's hand or will*.

a 1122 O.E. *Chron.* an. 1070 (Laud MS.), Hi wendon þæt hi sceoldon winnon eall þæt land. **c 1200** *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 51 þe king... bilai þe burh forte þat hit [= he it] wan. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1033 Engeland ap ibe mid strengþe iwonne. *Ibid.* 3859 King howel wif is poer wan sone peyto Al to king arthurhes wille. *Ibid.* 7878 Ar is fader wonne engeland. **a 1300** *Leg. Rood* ii. 219 He ouercom is fon And... al is lond won. **a 1300** *Cursor M.* 9202 In his time was þe Iuen land Wonnen [Fair]. wonnyn into þe sarzins hand. **13...** E.E. *Allit.* P. B. 1305 Nov he þe kyng has conquest & þe kyth wunnen. **13...** *Coer de L.* 1348 The toun of Acres he has wunne. **1387** TREvisa *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 9 Whanne Alisaundre hadde i-wonne alle þe est londes. **c 1425** WYNTOUN *Cron.* xx. 36 Sic assawtis þare he maid That neire þe toвне he wonyn [v.r. wonnyng] hade. *Ibid.* clxx. 4816 Quhen þe wardane... of þat land Had wonnyn gret part till his hand. **c 1425** *Engl. Cong. Irel.* lviii. 136 He come ynto Irland, & whan the lond. **1430-40** LYDG. *Bochas* ix. 2134 Whan the saide cite was first wonne. **c 1440** *Gesta Rom.* lviii. 240 (Harl. MS.) þey entrid into þe citee, & whonne hit. **c 1470** HENRY Wallace VII. 1007 Ramsay and Graym the turat 3et has wown. *Ibid.* x. 959 Schynnoum thai tuk, at Wallace fyrst had woun [ed. 1570 winin]. **1470-85** MALORY *Arthur* i. vii. 44 Arthur wan alle the north scotland. **a 1548** HALL *Chron.*, *Hen. V* 39 b, He that will Fraunce wyne must with Scotlande firste begyn. **1556** *Chron. Grey Friars* (Camden) 21 Thys yere the towne dech was new cast... And the towne of Barwyke wanne. **1578** H. WOTTON *Courtlie Controv.* 145 As men say, the Towne wonne, the Castell yeeldeth. **1603** G. OWEN *Pembrokeshire* (1892) 47 A greate parte thereof was woun from them by the Englishmen. **1613** J. SARIS *Voy. Japan* (Hakl. Soc.) 34 There land, which they had wone with there swordes. **1697** DRYDEN *Aeneis* x. 493 On either Hand, These fight to keep, and those to win the Land. **1791** COWPER *Iliad* iv. 495 Should the Greeks... win imperial Troy, The glory shall be his. **1836** THIRLWALL *Greece* xxv. III. 387 He advised that they should... endeavour first to win Messina. **1871** FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* IV. xviii. 155 In the eyes of William it was a means by which Exeter might be won.

b. To seize, capture, take as spoil; to catch (fish, a bird); to capture, take captive (a person). *Obs.* exc. in euphemistic slang, to steal.

a 1300 K. Horn 1144 (Harl.) 3ef eny fyssh is þer inne þer of þou shalt wyne. **1375** BARBOUR *Bruce* vii. 88 Schir Thomas Randle than... the kyngis baner van. **c 1400** *Destr. Troy* 4803 The souerain... deuident Tho godes to his gomes... þat hom wan with woundes before And put hom in perell. **1481** CAXTON *Reynard* iii. (Arb.) 6 That pudyn was myne ffor I hadde wonne it by nyghte in a mylle. **a 1533** LD. BERNERS *Huon* cxlii. 527 A ryche shyp, the whiche was wonne vpon the sowdans men. **1560** ROLLAND *Seven Sages* (Bann. Club) 1 Thay war sa repleit of all riches Win into weiris be martial besynes. **1567** Gude & Godlie B. (S.T.S.) 112 Lyke to ane bird taine in ane net... Sa is our lyfe weill win away. **1596** DALRYMPLE *tr. Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 42 Nocht sa mekle fishe thay with nettis, as with skepis, or long kreillis, win with wickeris in the forme of a hose sa round wouen. **1628** FELTHAM *Resolves* II. [1.] lxxi. 205 The Spoyles he wanne from Cowards. **a 1700** B. E. Dict. *Cant. Crew. To Win*, to Steal. **1785** GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T.* **1919** *Athenaeum* 8 Aug. 727/2 Everyone will have heard of 'strafing' and also 'souvenir', the latter usually meaning anything stolen, or 'won'.

† *c. fig.* To reclaim (land) as for cultivation.

1531-2 Act 23 *Hen. VIII* c. 5 §1 Marsshe groundes... wonne and made profitable for the greate common welthe of this Realme. **1541** *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 554/1 To win and rife out the saidis landis with the Eislis hillis of the samin. **1573-80** TUSSEY *Husb.* (1878) 114 The fen and the quamire, so marrih be kind, And are to be drained, now wine [later edd. win] to thy mind.

† *d.* Of the sea: To gain on (the land): cf. 10 a.

1639 G. PLATTES *Discov. Subterr. Treas.* xi. 52 The sea... perpetually winning land in one place, and losing in another. *e. Cards.* (a) (*fig.* from 2) To be of higher value than, to 'beat' (another card, hand, or suit); also *intr.* with of (cf. 10 a); (b) to gain possession of, take (a trick).

1680 COTTON *Compl. Gamester* vii. 71 He that can win five Tricks of the nine hath a sure Game. *Ibid.* x. 83 A Ten wins a Nine if not Trumps. **1778** Hoyle's *Games Impr.* 63 A... wins two Tricks... The first Hand wins of the second. **1892** 'CAVENDISH' *Bézique* 4 The highest card of the suit led wins the trick... Trumps win other suits. **1910** DALTON 'Saturday' *Bridge* 41 This is an undoubted No Trump call for the dealer, although in itself it will not win many tricks.

6. To get, obtain, acquire; *esp.* to get as something profitable or desired; to gain, procure. *a.* with concrete (material) obj. *Obs.* or *arch.* exc. in specific uses: see 7.

c 1200 ORMIN 6111, & tuss þu mihtt te weorelþdþing Wipp Godess lefe winnenn. *Ibid.* 7890, & þiff 3ho was sum wædle wif þatt lamb ne mihtte winnenn. **c 1220** *Bestiary* 411 De rauen is swiðe redi, Weneð ðat 3e rotieð, And oðre fules hire fallen bi For to winnen fode. **c 1290** *Beket* 1439 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 147 His men he broȝte In seruise heore mete to wyne pere. **13...** *Cursor M.* 4376 (Gött.) And leuere me es be pouer and lele, þan falsli to winne catele. **1362** LANGL. P. Pl. A. v. 237 Al þat I wikkedliche won seppe I wit hade. **c 1400** *Gamelyn* 283 (Corpus MS.) Thus wan Gamely þe Ram and þe Ryng. **1430** *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 38/2 The tanehalf of the sayd to be wonnyn fra the sayd Andro be the law. **c 1449** PECOCC *Repr.* III. xix. 409 If y be riche and haue wynnere more good than is necessarie to me. **1526** TINDALE *Luke* ix. 25 For what shall itt auantage a man, to wyn the whole worlde yff he loose hym silfe? **1549** *Compl. Scot.* xx. 172 The inglis men van neuyn na thing at 3our handis. **1553** BECON *Reliques of Rome* (1563) 247 b, Euery winning lefully wonnen in merchaundise. **1563** *Homilies* II. *Matrimony* ¶ 13 He tyllteth it [sc. the ground], and so wynteth fruite thereof. **1616** T. SCOT *Philomythie* I 3 b, Till th'one his topsaile fairely doth aduance To win the winde. **1670** W. WALKER *Idiomat. Anglo-Lat.* 549, I will win the horse, or lose the saddle. **1813** SCOTT *Rokeby* I. xii, Right English all, they rush'd to blows, Withought to win, and all to lose. **1868** MORRIS *Earthly Par.* (1870) I. ii. 556 A certain man Who from being poor great riches wan.

b. with abstract (immaterial) obj., or *gen.*

Still in regular current use in reference to something gained by merit or the like, as *confidence*, *esteem*, *fame*, *favour*, *honour*, *love*, *praise*, *respect*, etc.; also with *consent*, *obedience*, etc.; to *win* the (or a) *victory*, to be victorious (cf. 3); to *win one's way*, to make or find one's way, 'get along', succeed in getting somewhere (also *fig.*). In other connexions ordinarily replaced by *gain* or *obtain*.

c 1000 *Passio S. Marg.* in Cockayne *Narratiunculae* (1861) 49 Eadig eart þu... for þon þe þu wunne reste a oþ ende mid halgum fæmnum. **c 1200** ORMIN Ded. 313 To winnenn... Att Crist sōp sawle berhress. **a 1300** *Cursor M.* 17497 If we ne soth said, quat suld we win? For-soth nanopier thing bot sin. *Ibid.* 20056 þair beniscun þan bes not wan. **13...** *Coer de L.* 1884 The galyes came unto the cite, And hadh high wen entrie. **1340** HAMPOLE *Pr. Cons.* 2769 Na mede in heven to wyn. **c 1375** *Sc. Leg. Saints* iii. (*Andreas*) 560 þat þu mycht... of pi cristis lawis blyne, þat þu mycht oure frendschepe vyne. **a 1400** *Morte Arth.* 22 How they whanne... wynchippis many. **c 1400** *Rom. Rose* 2316 In armes also if thou konne, Pursue to thou a name hast wonne. **1470-85** MALORY *Arthur* x. lix. 513 Whanne they wend best to haue wonne worship they loste hit. **a 1500** *Chester Pl.* xii. 91 But ever he wyntes the victory. **a 1548** HALL *Chron.*, *Edw. IV* 203 b, To destroy the Realme, and wyntne the hatred & malice of all the nacion. **1567** Gude & Godlie B. (S.T.S.) 59 He... spolzeit Sathan, hell and sin, And heuinlie glori to vs hes win. **1570** DEE *Math. Pref.* ivb, To wyn due and common credit. **a 1586** SIDNEY *Ps.* xxxi. v, O Lord, of thee, lett me still mercy wyntne. **1617** MORYSON *Itin.* II. 166 In defending this fort [they] woun great reputation by their valour. **c 1620** A. HUME *Brit. Tongue* (1865) 18 He snapped me on this hand and he on that, that the doctour had mikle a doe to win me room for a syllogisme. **1754** GRAY *Progr. Poesy* 39 In gliding state she wins her easy way. **a 1796** BURNS *As I stood by yon roofless tower*, Like fortune's favours, tint as win. **1853** DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xiii, I am glad to have won your confidence. **1866** GEO. ELIOT *F. Holt* i, Winning small triumphs in bargains and personal economies. **1888** BRYCE *Amer. Commu.* lxxiii. II. 596 They

failed to win obedience. **1910** A. LANG in *Encycl. Brit.* X. 135/1 Fairies naturally won their way into the poetry of the middle ages.

† *c. absol. or intr.*: in early use *esp.* to get gain, make profit; *spec.* in Sc. legal use, in such phrases as *able to tine or win*, i.e. having means sufficient to aim at profit or risk loss. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 19574 To win wit-all he wend it bij. **1340** HAMPOLE *Pr. Cons.* 1457 Now we wyn, now we tyn. **1362** LANGL. P. Pl. A. i. 153 þau3 3e ben trewe of tonge and trelweliche winne, And eke as chast as a child. **c 1386** CHAUCER *Pard. T.* 133 A moral tale yet I yow telle kan Which I am wont to preche for to wyntne. **1414** 26 *Pol. Poems* xiii. 155 Wip fift 3e wyntne, wip trete 3e lese. **1421** *Ibid.* xviii. 138 By3e no thyng to selle and wyntne. **c 1450** *Godstow Reg.* 159 To wyn or to lese. **1476** *Acta Audit.* (1839) 47/1 To defend þe said causs of Erroure... with ful powere to tynne and wyntne. **1609** SKENE *Reg. Maj.* 53 Be his procuratour constitute be him, in his place, to tine or to wone in the cause. **1699 in *Rec. Convent. Burghs Scot.* (1880) IV. 281 Ane person that... can tin and win in all ther affairs.**

7. In various specific uses. † *a.* To beget: = GET *v.* 26. *Obs.*

13... E.E. *Allit. P. B.* 112 Hit weren not alle on wyue3 sune3, wonen with on fader. **a 1400-50** *Wars Alex.* 587 þe twa þat I wan on myne opire wyfe þat I wedd first.

† *b.* To get for immediate use, procure; hence, contextually, to fetch, bring (cf. 14 c). *Obs.*

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2852 þe werwolf went wistly & whan hem mete & drink. **13...** E.E. *Allit. P. B.* 617, I schal wyntne yow, wy3t, of water a lyttel. **c 1470** HENRY Wallace *v.* 865 The Scottis wan hors, because thair awne couth fail.

c. To obtain (a woman) as a wife or 'lady' by action or effort of some kind: usually with implication of gaining her affection and consent (cf. 9).

to win and wear: see WEAR *v.* 1 8 b.

c 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 1913 Wip þine harp þou wonne hir pat tide. **c 1374** CHAUCER *Anel. & Arc.* 100 Ful mychell besynesne had he or pat he myght his lady wyntne. **1470-85** MALORY *Arthur* viii. xxvi. 312 Sythen I am ladyes I wil wyn thy lady. **1579** LYLly *Euphues* (Arb.) 91 After all his strife he [sc. Menelaus] wan but a trumpet. **1639** J. CLARKE *Paræm.* 40 Faint heart never won faire lady. **1668** SEDLEY *Mulberry Gard.* iv. i. 49 There had been More hope of winning a Widow at her Husbands Funeral, then of any favour for her now. **1789** BURNS *To Dr. Blacklock* viii, And let us mind, faint heart ne'er wan A lady fair. **1847** TENNYSON *Princess* Prol. 220 Take Lilia, then, for heroine... and be you The Prince to win her! **1885** 'MRS. ALEXANDER' *Valerie's Fate* v, Valerie, will you let me try to win you?

d. To gain by effort or competition, as a prize or reward, or in gaming or betting, as a wager, etc. Also *absol.*

to win one's shoes, spurs: see SHOE *sb.* 2 i, SPUR *sb.* 1 3 a. **c 1320** *Sir Tristr.* 340 Tristrem wan pat day Of him an hundred pounde. **c 1330** R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 449 Iasan... Wan þe Ram wip gilden flees. **c 1400** *Destr. Troy* 172 And wo this wether shuld wyn bude wirke as I say. **a 1400-50** *Wars Alex.* 818 þis renke & his rounsy, þai reche vp a croune, As gome at þas þe garland... Wonn. **c 1489** CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* vii. 169 For to assaye our horses for to wyntne the pryce that the kyng hath set vpon. **a 1533** [see WAGER *sb.* 2]. **1549** *Compl. Scot.* vi. 64 Iason van the goldin fleice. **1610** B. JONSON *Alch.* i. i, He would haue... a familiar To rife with, at horses, and winne cups. **1621** T. GRANGER *Expos. Eccles.* vii. 7. 166 Our first Parents for an apple lost Paradise, and woun hell. **1645** VANE *Lost Sheepe* 35 Haueing woone the prize in the Pythian games. **1704** NORRIS *Ideal World* II. xii. 484 A man would be ridiculous that should go to prove by mere reason, that such a one won the plate at a horse-race. **1835** DICKENS *Sk. Box*, Mr. Watkins Tottle i, Frank took dummy; and I won sixpence. **1848** THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lxiv, The Rev. Mr. Muff... of whom she won large sums at *écarté*. **1885** *Law Rep.* Weekly Notes 145/2 The defendant... having won on those bets received the winnings from the persons with whom he had betted.

e. To get by labour, to earn (now *dial.*); † to get as profit, to gain (*obs.*). Also *absol.*

c 1200 ORMIN 10175 þe33 [sc. publicans]... wunnenn mikell to þe king, & mare till hemm sellfenn. **1340-70** *Alex. & Dind.* 450 Wip us schinep euery schalk in schippus for to saile, For to winne on þe watur wordliche fode. **c 1386** CHAUCER *Prol.* 715 He moste preche and wel affile his tonge To wyntne siluer. **1429** *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 360/2 Yai wil... receive for paiement... nobles... ye which... yai leede... into oyer straunge Cuntrees, where hit is chaunged to yair encesce, and forged into oyer coynes, so yat yai wyntne in ye alay of ech noble xx d. **a 1500** *Ratis Raving* 520 The gudis þat he has with his trew labore wynnyng. **1530** in *Maitl. Club Misc.* II. 103 Honest and laborius personis abill to wyntne thar lifing. **1531** *Dial. on Laws of Eng.* II. xxxix. 79 If a preest haue wonne moche by sayenge of masse. **c 1620** Z. BOYD *Zion's Flowers* (1855) 54 Win little and win oft... Makes merchands rich. **1623** J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *New Discov.* A5, I am a Fisherman Way many yeares my liuing thus haue wan. **1724** RAMSAY *Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) I. 87 Wī cauk and keel I'll win your bread. **1819** SCOTT *Noble Moringer* xxii, Of him I held the little mill which wins me living free. **1823** — *Quentin D.* xiv, Every one wins his bread in this country. **1893** SNOWDEN *Tales Yorksh. Wolds* 188 Then Aw can win summat, cannot Aw?

f. To get, gather (crops or other produce); to gather in, harvest. Now *dial.*

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* x. 189 Syndri cornys that thai bair Woxe rype to wyn to mannys fude. *Ibid.* 193 Thai of the peill had vonnyn hay. *Ibid.* 219 To vynn thair harvist. **1491** *Acta Dom. Conc.* (1839) 205/2 The cornez... sall be led and wonnyne... and stakkit. **15...** *Battle of Otterburn* i, Yt fell abowght the Lamassee tyde, Whan husbondes wyntes ther haye. **1549** D. MONRO *Descr. W. Isles* (1773) 46 The place quhar he winnes his peitts this zier, ther he sawis his corne the next zeire. **1565** *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 402 The cornis... ar nocht sa weill win as neid wer. **a 1578** LINDESAY (Pittscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 30 [They] micht nocht saw nor wine thair cornis. **1683** J. REID *Scots Gard'ner*

(1907) 137 Peas. When ripe, you may easily win some for seed. **a1791** GROSE *Olio* (1792) 110 *W*. He is gone to the field to his workmen. C. Hey. *W*. Just so; to try to win his hay. **1834** SOUTHEY *Doctor* vi. (1848) 20 If they had fine weather for winning their hay or shearing their corn, they thanked God for it. **1891** A. LANG *Angling Sk.* 101 On a hillside... the countryfolk were winning their hay.

g. To get or extract (coal, stone, or other mineral) from the mine, pit, or quarry; also, to sink a shaft or make an excavation so as to reach (a seam of coal or vein of ore) and prepare it for working, as by drainage, etc. (cf. **11**). See also **WINNING** *vbl. sb.* 5a, 5b.

1447 in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 1451 106/1 With lefe... for to wyn colis and stanis within the saide landis. **1456-70** in *Acts Parl. Scot.* (1875) XII. 27/2 Becaus of his colys and fuell... to be woung in tyme of zeir. **1497** *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 380 The man that zeid to vesy to se gif he could wyn sclait. **1509** *Reg. Privy Seal Scot.* I. 284/1 Fredome to wyn and fyne lede ure within the ilis. **1614** in Cochran-Patrick *Early Rec. Mining Scot.* (1878) 163 The minerallis... to be wrought and wynn at the saidis mynes. **1630** *Burgh Rec. Glasgow* (1876) I. 374 To won alsomony lymstanes in the lyme craig at the Channown mos as he can. **1648** *Ibid.* II. 132 Alsmanie stonies to be... win as may serve the building of the midwall. *Ibid.* 151 To the end also manie staines may be wind furthe therof as [etc.]. **1708** J. C. *Compl. Collier* (1845) 10 You tell me you have hopes to win a Colliery in my grounds. **1725** *Rep. MSS. Dk. Portland VI.* (Hist. MSS. Comm. 1901) 106 When they have sunk it [sc. the pit] till they come at the bed of coals, they are then said to have won the colliery. **1789** J. WILLIAMS *Min. Kingd.* I. 168 Coals are so far wasted near water carriage in the neighbourhood of Newcastle, that they are become already very difficult and expensive to winn. **1839** *URE Dict. Arts* 968 Of fitting or winning a coal-field. **1869** *Law Rep., Ch. App.* V. 111, I conceive that coal is won when it is put in a state in which continuous working can go forward in the ordinary way. **1885** *Law Times* LXXIX. 153/2 The trustees... had power to win the minerals lying under their land. **1886** J. BARROWMAN *Sc. Mining Terms* 73 A seam is said to be won when a pit is sunk, or a mine driven to it, and the pit or mine is said to win all to the rise of the level.

†h. To gain (ground) *upon* (of); to gain (time). **c1400** *Beryn* 2384 Beryn... gan to turn a-side, on-to pe see stonde, And the crispill afir, & wan oppon hym londe. **c1435** *Torr. Portugal* 656 Thus erthe on hym he wane. **1471** CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 230 We muste nedes wyne vpon Amphitriton on this way a nyght and a day. **1577** *HOLINSHED Chron.* I. 131/1 They dayly wanne grounde vpon the Brytons. **1606** SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* II. iv. 9 Your way is shorter, ... you'll win two dayes vpon me. **1611** — *Cymb.* III. iv. 112. **1717** POPE *Iliad* x. 409 Yet let him pass, and win a little Space.

†8. To regain, recover (something lost); hence, to make up for (loss, waste); to rescue, deliver; in religious use, to redeem: often with *again*. *Obs.*

c1220 *Bestiary* 768 Ful wel he taunede his luue to man Wan he ðurȝ holi spel him wan. **1362** LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* v. 25 He bad wasters god worche what þei best coupe, And wyne þat þei wastered [1377 B. v. 25 wynnyn his wastynge]. **1375** BARBOUR *Bruce* II. 111 Throw hym I trow my land to wyn, Magre the Clyffurd and his kyn. **c1380** in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) I. 264 By God, that al this world wan. **c1400** *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 1306 How a hird-man A febil schepe warest & wane. **c1440** *York Myst.* xi. 405 Now ar we wonne fra waa, and saued oute of þe see. **1450-1530** *Myrr. our Ladye* II. 253 Saye we endelesse thanks to god that hathe wonne vs ageyne. **a1533** LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) F vij, The losse of the father by euyl children, is wonne by vertuose sonnes in lawe. **1562** *Child-Marriages* 14 To wyne al the tenement together againe. **1567** *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 18 Gue thow thy self thy saull culd win, In vaine I deit for thy sin. *Ibid.* 39 He was loste, and now is win. **1633** P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* v. lxi, Thus Orpheus wanne his lost Eurydice.

9. a. To overcome the unwillingness or indifference of; with various shades of meaning: to attract, allure, entice; to prevail upon, persuade, induce; to gain the affection or allegiance of; to bring over to one's side, party, or cause, to convert. Also *absol.* or *intr.* (see also **WINNING** *ppl. a.* 3).

Some of the applications are now more usual with the constructions illustrated in b.

a1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* vii. 2 þe deul þat sekis how he myght wynn mennys saule. **c1400** *Cursor M.* 28000 (Cott. Galba) If pou... woid hir with wordes sleghe, ... And þarthurgh so has won hir will. **1474** CAXTON *Chesse* II. iv. (1883) 51 They wyne wyth yefte the hertes of the goddes and of men. **1535** COVERDALE *Prov.* xi. 30 A wyse man also wynneth mens soules. **1555** EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 141 Meanyng hereby too woonne the myndes of the other kynges. **1567** JEWEL *Def. Apol.* 417 The Embassadoure of so Noble a Common Wealthe, was soone, and easily, and willingly woonne. **1576** T. FORTESCUE *Forest of Hist.* (ed. 2) 141 He won the harts of the Citisens. **a1589** in Puttenham *Engl. Poesie* III. xix. (Arb.) 217 His wealth wan many friends. **1591** SHAKS. *Two Gent.* III. i. 89 Win her with gifts, if she respect not words. **1629** SIR W. MURE *True Crucif.* 592 Hee... With this soft speech... Doth wound, not wonne, the traitor's heart of stone. **1653** AUSTEN *Fruit Trees* I. (1657) 31 The worst temper of minds are wonne. **1698** FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 269 How far... a Graceful Mein, and Innocent Discourse, wins among more refined Christians. **1784** COWPER *Task* IV. 694 Slighted as it is, ... the country wins me still. **1871** TENNYSON *Last Tourn.* 703 For courtesy wins woman all as well As valour may. **1874** LONGF. *Hanging of Crane* III. The ways that win, the arts that please. **1914** TOLLINTON *Clem. Alex.* I. vii. 236 The missionary goes to win and to save souls.

b. with adv. or prep. (*away, over, from, to, etc.*).

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 6606 3yf þou to drunkenes widest hym wyne. **c1375** *Sc. Leg. Saints* xv. (*Barnabas*) 128 Paule to þe treuth wyonnyn was. **c1386** CHAUCER

Doctor's T. 132 þat he by slyghte The mayden to his purpos wyne myghte. **c1450** in Aungier *Syon* (1840) 269 The presidente... in as moche as in her is... owethe to wyne al to God. **1542** UDALL in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 5 Thei have thereby woonne to goodnes innumerable persons. **1594** in *Mail. Club Misc.* I. 67 That the said ladie may be winn to God. **1603** DANIEL *Def. Ryne* Pref. A 2, To hold him from being wonne from vs. **1632** SANDERSON *Serm., Ad Pop.* iv. 407 If our Inclinations cannot be wonne over to that course. **1637** GILLESPIE *Engl. Pop. Cerem.* III. viii. 187 He is already winne to repentance. **1646** SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* I. iii. 11 The Priests of Elder time... winning their credulities unto the literal and downe-right adoration of Cats, Lizards, and Beetles. **1662** *Extr. St. Papers rel. Friends Ser.* II. (1911) 151 All the Acts of a most gracious Prince... can not winne them... from these... rebellious Courses. **1761** MRS. F. SHERIDAN *Sidney Bidulph* II. 336 She has won me to her party. **1796-7** JANE AUSTEN *Pride & Prej.* xi, She could not win him, however, to any conversation. **1821** SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxiv, She can sing and play o' the lute, would win the fish out o' the stream. **1882** J. H. BLUNT *Ref. Ch. Eng.* II. 205 To win her over to an ultramontan policy.

c. with to and inf. *arch.*

1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* II. ii. I iv b, How moch Philautus... hath wonne me holely... to be his. **1591** SHAKS. *Two Gent.* III. i. 67. **1596** DALRYMPLE *tr. Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 323 They conspyre, and winnis him with money quyetlye to putt doune the king. **1640** T. CAREW *Poems, Disdain returned* iii, No teares, Celia, now shall win, My resolv'd heart, to returne. **1664** in *Verney Mem.* (1907) II. 210 So much fre kindnes as wold winn any cature to admier it. **1725** POPE *Odys.* XII. 53 Unblest the man, whom music wins to stay Nigh the curst shore. **1812** J. WILSON *Isle of Palms* II. 17 Gleanm't thou, as if delighted with the strain, And won by it the pious bark to keep In joy for ever?

10. intr. with *upon, on, †of*. **†a.** To gain an advantage over, get the better of; to gain or encroach upon; rarely, to overcome, subdue. *Obs.*

c1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* III. 4 As Luna gynneth wexe & wyne Vpon the nyght. **1590** in *Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm., Var. Coll.* IV. 284 Where the sea dailie wyne the of the land againste this Towne. **c1600** SHAKS. *Sonn.* lxiv. 7 When I haue seene the hungry Ocean gaine Advantage on the Kingdome of the shoare, And the firme soile win of the watry maine. **1607** — *Cor.* i. i. 223 The rabble... will in time Win vpon power. **1611** — *Cymb.* I. i. 121 So in our trifles I still winne of you. **1613** J. HAYWARD *Lives 3 Normans* 21 Henry... did many other times... inuade his Country; sometimes with purpose to winne vpon him, and sometimes to keepe him from winning vpon others. **1685** DRYDEN *Thren.* Aug. iv, Thus, at half Ebb, a rowling Sea Returns, and wins upon the shoar. **1754** SHEEBEARE *Matrimony* (1766) II. 33 This young Gentleman used every Art... to win on the Resentment which the Baronet had entertained against him. **1791** MRS. RADCLIFFE *Rom. Forest* (1820) I. 121 So much did passion win upon her judgement, by time and indulgence.

b. To gain influence over, to prevail with (often implying 'to gain increasing influence over, to prevail more and more with'); to gain the favour or engage the affections of (esp. gradually or increasingly). Also with *affection, esteem, regard*, or the like as obj.

1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* To Rdr. 87, I at last... Thought, I would try, if shame could winne vpon 'hem. **a1616** BEAUM. & FLETCHER *Cust. Country* II. i, The courage they exprest... And their contempt of death wan more upon me Than all they did. **a1665** DIGBY *Priv. Mem.* (1827) 205 Her excessive beauty and gracefulness did so win upon his senses. **1749** FIELDING *Tom Jones* XIV. viii, By the Force of the true Catholic Faith, St. Anthony won upon the Fishes. **1755** J. SHEEBEARE *Lydia* (1769) I. 438 The pleasing countenance of Lydia won on this woman's opinion. **1796** COLERIDGE *Let. to T. Poole* 24 Sept., Charles Lloyd wins upon me hourly. **1842** DICKENS *Amer. Notes* xviii, I never was so won upon, as by this class. **1884** CHURCH *Bacon* vi. 124 He had won greatly on the confidence of the King.

†c. To prevail upon (*to do something*). *Obs.* **1674** N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 183 As some of the uppermost seat of Philosophers... have themselves thought, and wonne upon others to think so too. **1698** FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 217, I was easily won upon to embark on the Scipio African. **1802** H. MARTIN *Helen of Glenross* II. 217 Who shall I win upon to aid me in my future views?

11. a. trans. To reach, attain, arrive at: = **GAIN** *v.* 2; *occas.* to get at, get hold of (an object); to overtake (a person); to be in time for, 'catch'. *arch.*

1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 211 Yf he had not wonne a roche vpon which he gate vp with grete payne. **c1480** HENRYSON *Fox, Wolf & Cadger* 137 Bot all for nocht, he wan his hoill that day. **1517** TORKINGTON *Pilgr.* (1884) 61 The wynde enforcyd So myche... that our governor Saw it was not possible for to wyne the porte. **1596** SPENSER *F.O.* VI. i. 23 But Calidore did follow him so fast, That euen in the Porch he him did win. **1697** DRYDEN *Virg. Past.* VIII. 56 Then scarce the bending Branches I cou'd win [orig. *Iam fragilis poteram ab terra contingere ramos*]. **1768** ROSS *Helenore* I. 58 Yet wi' what pith she had, she takes the gate, An' wan the burn. **1808** SCOTT *Marm.* III. i, The stony path... By which the naked peak they wan. **1821** HODGSON in *Raine Mem.* (1857) I. 339 Having got your letter late in the day, I am compelled to be brief to win the post. **1842** MACAULAY *Lays, Horatius* xxvi, And if they once may win the bridge, What hope to save the town? **1848** ROSSETTI *Poems, Last Confess.* 253 As when a bird flies low between the water and the willow-leaves, And the shade quivers till he wins the light. **1892** RIDER HAGGARD *Nada* xxv, The Halakazi were worsted in the field, but many lived to win the great cave.

†b. To get across, to cross; to get through, accomplish. *Obs. rare.*

1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 903 To chylde that be yonge of age, And offer han thys ryver wonne Than folk that ben on age ronne. **1573-80** TUSSEER *Husb.* (1878) 124 Thry

following won, Get compassing don. **a1585** MONTGOMERIE *Cherrie & Slae* 645 Fra we get our voyage won.

12. a. (a) intr. To make or find one's way; also in weakened sense, to arrive at or come to some place, etc.; in early use often a mere synonym of 'come' or 'go': = **GET** *v.* 31. With various preps. and advs., sometimes in specialized senses: cf. corresponding uses of *get* s.v. **GET** *v.* VI, VII. Formerly chiefly *Sc.* and *n. dial.*

This use depends on that of *ON. vinna*.

a1300 *Cursor M.* 996 A firin wall þar es a-bute, Mai nan win in þat es wit-oute. *Ibid.* 2499 þe fue gaue bak to wine a-way. *Ibid.* 10592 Quils þai locked þam biside, Seo was won to þe heist stride. **c1330** R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 8457 Vneþes to Gloucestre y wan. **13..** *E.E. Allit. P. B.* 1777 þay... Lyfte ladders... & vpon lofte wonen. **13..** *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 461 Neuermore þen þay wyste fram queþen he was wonnen. **1375** BARBOUR *Bruce* xv. 221 [Thai] slow all that thai mycht to vyn. **a1400-50** *Wars Alex.* 3438 Sen I wan in-to þe werld. **c1400** *Destr. Troy* 649 Bes wakond and warly; wyn to my chamber. **c1420** *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 19 And cover hit þat no hete oute wyne. **c1450** *Cov. Myst., Purification* 43 To jherusalem fast now wyne. **c1475** *Rauf Coilsear* 625 Say thow art not worthy to Wymond to win. **1508** KENNEDIE *Flying w. Dunbar* 433 Thou may not þas Mount Barnard for wild bestis, Nor wyn throw Mount Scarpe for the snawe. **1541** WYATT *Declar. Wks.* 1816 II. 281 This, me-thought, was so gladsome unto me to win to the King... that all my policy... was clean forgotten with me. **1585** *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* Ser. I. III. 743 He at last wan to his said hous. **1643** in Boyd *Zion's Flowers* (1855) App. 41/2 That none win to the Sessions loft till the Sessioners be placed. **1652** EARL MONM. *tr. Bentivoglio's Hist. Relat.* 10 Full of channels and rivers, and very hard to be wonn into. **1717** WODROW *Corr.* (1843) II. 262, I hope to win off beginning of next week. **1724** E. ERSKINE *Serm.* Wks. (1791) 120 Christ is in heaven, how shall I win at him? **1813** BYRON *Bride Abydos* II. xxv, Had Selim won... To where the strand and billows met. **1816** SCOTT *Antiq.* xv, And how am I to win hame? **1816** — *Old Mort.* xl, Whiles the tear wan into my e'e. **c1830** HOGG *Tales & Sk.* (1837) III. 205, I canna win sae weel through the snaw. **1865** G. MACDONALD *Alec Forbes* xii, When I was na bigger than you, Annie, I could win oot at a less hole than that. **1892** KIPLING *Barrack-room Ballads, East & West* 23 The Colonel's son to the Fort has won. **1893** STEVENSON *Catriona* xiv, When we won in by the pier. **1923** EDITH THOMPSON *Hist. Eng.* xlvii. 437 The Germans never won through to the Channel ports.

(b) to win up: to get up; to get up on one's feet, to rise; to get on horseback, mount. *So to win upon.*

a1300 *Cursor M.* 15760 þai fell þaim don vn-to þe grund, ... all vp þai sipen wan. **1375** BARBOUR *Bruce* x. 435 His menyhe all War wonnyn vp upon the wall. **c1400** *Destr. Troy* 1165 Iason... and Ioly knyghtes moo, ... Wonen vp wynly vpon wale horses. *Ibid.* 13938 When he wackont of wo, he wan vpo fote. **c1460** *Towneley Myst.* xxiii. 114 And wyn apou youre palfray sone. **c1802** *Jellen Grame* in Child *Ballads* II. 303/2 'Win up, my bonny boy,' he says, 'As quick as e'er you may.' **1868** MORRIS *Earthly Par.* (1870) I. i. 41 And now we set ourselves in haste to win Up to that mountain's top. **1893** STEVENSON *Catriona* xxx, Just let me win upon my horse!

b. absol. without prep. or adv.: To get to the place implied (*Sc.* and *dial.*); to come, go.

c1430 *Syr Tryam.* 216 Bettyr hyt ys... Owt of yowre londe sche be flemyd... And faste ye schalle hur comawnde to wyne. **a1670** SPALDING *Troub. Chas.* I (Bann. Club) I. 99 The marquess wrote back his excuse, saying, he could not win. **1894** P. H. HUNTER *James Inwick* v. 70 There was a by-ordinar congregation that day; a body that could win was there.

†c. In static sense: To 'come', reach. *Obs.*

a1578 LINDSAY (Pittscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 258 Reid yallow hair... quihilk wan doune to his shoulderis.

d. In reference to a desired end, a condition, experience, proceeding, etc.: with various preps. and advs., often in specialized senses: = **GET** *v.* 31 b and various uses in VI and VII (see also below). Formerly chiefly *Sc.* and *n. dial.*

win by... (BY *prep.* 16 b), to escape, avoid. **†win of eld**, to 'come of age'. *win out*, to come out successfully, succeed in attaining one's end; (without of, orig. *U.S.*; cf. *to lose out* s.v. **LOSE** *v.* 1 d). *win through*, to come out successfully. *win to*, to begin eating, 'set to', 'fall to' (= **GET** *v.* 77).

a1300 *Cursor M.* 25363 Oft þe men þat er rightwis Thoru faanding win þai to þair pris. **c1300** *Havelok* 174 Til þat she mowe winan of helde. **13..** *Northern Passion* (1913) I. 153/330* He hopid forto win fra wogh. **c1400** *Destr. Troy* 9212 He his wit cast, For to wyn to his will. **a1400-50** *Wars Alex.* 3986 Quen he wan to wax... Thre cubettis fra þe croune doun his cors had a lentrege. **c1440** *Pallad. on Husb.* v. 67 The growyng of hem into oon heed wole wyne. **a1585** MONTGOMERIE *Cherrie & Slae* 280 Ay houping, throu louping, To win to liberty. **c1635** RUTHERFORD *Lett., to Marion McKnaught* III. xxiv. (1675) 190, I look not to win away to my home, without wounds and blood. **1644** BAILLIE *Lett.* (1841) II. 211 There is so much matter yet before us, as we cannot winn through for a long time after our common pace. **1709** M. BRUCE *Soul Confirm.* 15 Soul-confirmation... is not easilie wone at, ... you that keeps only your old Job-troot, ... you will not wone at Soul-confirmation. **1721** RAMSAY *Horace to Virgil* 21 The Man wha cou'd sic Rubs win o'er. **1816** SCOTT *Old Mort.* xiv, We got some water-broo and bannocks; and mony a weary grace they said, ... or they wad let me win to. *Ibid.* xxxv, The job is how we are to win by hanging. **a1850** ROSSETTI *Dante & Circle* I. (1874) 94 The anguish... that we must bow Beneath, until we win out of this life. **1868** J. C. ATKINSON *Gloss. Cleveand Dial.* 575 He's sair an' badly. But t'doctor thinks he'll win thruff. **1896** *Voice* 9 Apr. 4/5 McKinley will lead on the first ballot, but 'who will win out' is a different question. **1902** KIPLING *Traffics & Discoveries* (1904) 7 But on delusions—as to their winning out next Tuesday week at 9 a.m.—they are—if I may say so—quite British. **1919** MAX BEERBOHM *Seven Men* 103, I wish he could have won out, as I did, into a great and lasting felicity. **1924** GALSWORDY *Forest* III. 78 You,

Lockyer—a soldier! One spurt and we'll win out. Come! 1927 *Daily Express* 14 Dec. 13/5 It is good to know that Wodehouse's clever humour has won through. 1931 A. L. Rowse *Politics & Younger Generation* i. 262 If the League can manage to win through the divisions of the post-war world... it will have established itself. 1947 'G. ORWELL' *Eng. People* 38 The American tendency is to burden every verb with a preposition that adds nothing to its meaning (*win out, lose out, face up to*, etc.). 1959 *Listener* 28 May 958/1 He made many enemies, but finally won through opposition to become one of the most controversial commanders of the last war. 1969 A. J. MEADOWS *High Firmament* vii. 160 Eventually, the uniformitarian concept won out in both astronomy and geology. 1974 'M. INNES' *Appleby's Other Story* i. 7 Victorian bankers who won out when all the little local concerns began to be bundled up together. 1977 'E. CRISPIN' *Glimpses of Moon* ii. 28, I won through, though... I survived. 1984 *Times Educ. Suppl.* 30 Nov. 28/1 The book has a brisk story and impeccable moral attitudes: gypsies, orphans, teachers and policemen are all good, ordinary people who win out in the end.

e. with adj. as compl.: = GET *v.* 33.

1886 R. F. BURTON *Arab. Nts.* (abr. ed.) I. 82 *note*, He labours to win free from every form and observance. 1902 *London Mag.* June 452/2 Smiling to see him struggle when he thought he could win clear.

13. *intr.* with *to* and *inf.*: To succeed in doing (what is denoted by the vb.); to contrive, manage *to do* something. Now only *Sc.* and *dial.*

a1300 *Cursor M.* 26816 For mai naman wit quem to winn To serue at laus launders tuin. c1300 K. Horn 1112 (Laud) Myzte he nowt wyne For to come per inne. c1400 *Destr. Troy* 3145 O nowise may we wyn pat woman to gete. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 121 b/2 That y^a mayst... wyne to spare the tormentes that ben yet to come. a1600 MONTGOMERIE *Misc. Poems* xxvii. 32 Thee to imbrace once, God! if I might win! c1655 *Roxb. Ball.* (1886) VI. 209 The Repulsive Maid, Who Once took a young-man, but now cannot win To open the door, and let him come in. 1730 T. BOSTON in *Morrison Mem.* (1899) 137, I am habitually cast down, and cannot win to get my heart lifted up in the ways of the Lord. 1893 STEVENSON *Catriona* xv, As sune as I can win to stand on my twa feet we'll be aff this craig o' Sawtan.

14. *trans.* with prep. or adv. of place: a. To succeed in bringing, putting, etc.: = GET *v.* 27 a. *Obs.* or *arch.*

a1300 *Cursor M.* 8219 Sua depe pair rote pai samen kest, pat moight pam naman pepen win. c1350 *Will. Palerne* 94 pere walked he a-boute pe walles to winne in sijt. c1374 CHAUCER *Anel. & Arc.* 20 And do that I my shippe to haven wyne. c1400 *Destr. Troy* xi. 4772 pai... Robbit the Riches... And wonnyn it wightly the wallis withoute. c1400 *Ywayne & Gaw.* 1803 Bot yit his clathes on he wan. 14... *Tundale's Vis.* 939 Whan the vermyen wold have owt crepon At the holys that thei made upon Thei myght not wyn owt hor taylys. 1604 E. G. [RIMSTONE] tr. *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* III. x. 152 They gave over the enterprize to win the red sea into Nile. a1636 MARMION *Antiquary* III. i, That I should owe my life to her! which way, I wonder? something depends on this, I must win out. 1825 SCOTT *Betrothed* ix, Her kind attendant... tried softly to win the spear from her lady's grasp. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 3 Nov. 3/3 His sweet and level-headed wife wins him through his difficulties.

†b. To put, set, take (expressing merely the act, without implication, as in sense a, of overcoming difficulty or hindrance). *win up*, (a) to open (a door or gate); (b) to take up, pick up, lift. *Obs.*

13... *Sir Beues* (A.) 4364 In haste pe dore he gan vp winne. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. vi. 92 To wyne vp pe wicket-jat pat pe wey schutte. a1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 837 þan Alexander at þis knyst angirs vnfaire, Wynnes him vp a wardere. c1400 *Rowland & O.* 463 Rowlande owte his swerde wanne. 1515 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* V. 24 To ane mason of the lard of Sefeldis quhillk wan the alloring to the said place of Inchegarvy, xxs.

†c. To bring, take, move (a person somewhere).

13... *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 831 Alle hasped in his he3 wede to halle þay hym wonnen. c1420 *Avow. Arth.* xxxviii, 3e wyynnun him no3te owte of his way.

†d. *refl.* To betake oneself: = 12. (Cf. GET *v.* 27 b.) *Obs.*

13... *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 402, I schal ware alle my wyt to wyne me peder. c1400 *Destr. Troy* 1138 [We] Wyn vs to the wallis, wacche pere vndur.

15. *Comb.* in sense 'one who or that which wins...', as *win-all*, *win-penny*.

1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong.* *Gaigne-denier*, a porter, a winne-penny. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* II. xlvii. 107 One the winne-all, another the lose-all.

†win, *v.*² *Sc.* and *north. dial.* *Obs.* Forms: 4 *vyn*, *wine*, 5-6 *wynn(e)*, 6 *wyn(e)*, *winne*, 6-9 *win*, 8 *winn*. [Variant of *won*, *wonn(e)*: see *WON v.*] *intr.* To dwell, reside.

c1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* i. (*Petrus*) 690 þat I ma ga To ihesu criste... With hym to wine into his blise. *Ibid.* xvi. (*Magdalena*) 816 Fra pe place, Quhare pe magdelane vynnand vas. c1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* xxvii. 789 þe Yrischery, That wyynn is Irland to pis day. c1480 HENRYSON *Two Mice* 4 The eldest dwelt in ane Borroun town, The vther wyynnit Upon-land [v. rr. vp on land, upon land]. 1513 DOUGLAS *Eneis* VII. xii. 138 Thai that in Flaynyia feyldis duell, Or that wyynn is besyd the laik or well Of Cymynus. 1560 ROLLAND *Seven Sages* (Bann. Club) 52 Into ane Realme thair wyynnit ane vailjeant knight. 1721 RAMSAY *Prospect of Plenty* 81 Alake we winn o'er far frae King and Court! a1824 G. BEATTIE *John o' Arnha* etc. (1826) 88 An ancient town... where, tradition says, A housekeeper winned in other days. 1846 BROCKETT *N.C. Gloss.* (ed. 3).

win, *v.*³ *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Also 6 *wyn*, 7 *wind*, 8 *winn*, (9 *won*). Pa. pple. 8 *winned*, *Sc.* *win(n)*, 6, 9 *won*, 8 *wun*. [? *WIN v.*¹ with specialized

development from sense 7 f, but associated also with *WIND v.*² 2.] *trans.* To dry (hay, seed, turf, wood, etc.) by exposure to the air, or to the heat of the sun or a fire. Also *intr.* for *pass*.

1557 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 271/2 Tertiam partem 24 dietarum feni lie won hay. 1588 *Exch. Rolls Scot.* XXI. 412 For making of 36 dawarkis of hay... and for wyning and putting of the samyn in tramp ruckis. 1641 *Peebles Burgh Charters* (1872) 107 To cast and wind peites, turrets, fewall [etc.]. 1733 P. LINDSAY *Interest Scot.* 154 So much of his Lint as he intends for his best Seed, he builds up in a Stack like Corn, after it is thoroughly win. 1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. cvi. 455 Scots seed, when well winned and kept. 1794 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* XI. 268 Cutting, winning, and carrying home their peats, however, consumes a great deal of time. 1812 SIR J. SINCLAIR *Syst. Husb. Scot.* i. 396 The sun and air gradually win it [sc. hay]. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 259 Feathers may be hung up in bags against the wall behind the fire, and there they will soon win. *Ibid.* III. 909 [The skin for rennet] is then hung stretched over a stick near the fire to dry and won. *Ibid.* 978 By the afternoon the hay is so dry and won as to be fit to be stacked. 1884 *Whitby Gaz.* 9 Aug. 1/2 A Stack of well won Hay.

†win, *ppl. a.* *Sc. Obs.* Also 5 *wyn*, *wynnynge*. [Sc. pa. pple. of *WIN v.*¹, q.v. (Forms, pa. pple. 8.)] = *won ppl. a.*; *evil win*, ill-gotten. Of stone, etc.: Worked, quarried.

c1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* iv. xviii. 1712 Eftyr... syndry wyynyng victoriis. c1475 *Rauf Coilyear* 921 That is full euill wyn land To haue quhill thow ar leuand, Sine at thine end hell. 1583 *Leg. Bp. St. Androis* 372 Ane carling of the Quene of Phareis, That ewill win geir to elphyne careis. 1609 *Burgh Rec. Glasgow* (1876) I. 307 That the tiritt quarrell and craig thair of and the win werk lyand in the same can nocht be wrocht.

win, obs. f. WEEN *v.*, WHIN¹, WINE.

winability: see WINNABILITY.

winable, obs. form of WINNABLE.

†winage. *Obs. rare.* [ad. F. *vinage* (f. *vin* wine + *-age*; cf. med.L. *vinagium*), assimilated to *WINE sb.*¹] A seignorial due derived from vineyards.

1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. xxix. 18 He leuyed the rentes, wynages [orig. *vinages*], and rightes, that pertayned to therle through out all Flanders.

winam, winare, winberi, winberry: see VENOM, WINER, WINEBERRY, WHIMBERRY.

†winbrow. *Obs.* Also 5 *wyn-*. [ad. MLG. *winbrâ*, corresp. to OHG. *wintbrâwa* (MHG. *wintbrâwe*, *-brâ*, G. *wimper eyelash*), f. *wint WIND sb.*¹ + *BROW sb.*] An eyebrow.

1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 542 Neptolonyus was grete, black heer and grete eyen... his wynbrowes loyned. 1485—Chas. Gt. 26 He had the eyen like a lyon... his wynbrowes grete. 1609 HEYWOOD *Brit. Troy* x. xl, His hairy win-browes meet. [Cf. quot. 1471.]

wince (wins), *sb.*¹ [f. *WINECE v.*¹] An act of wincing.

1. A kick. Now *dial.*

1612 SHELTON *Quix.* I. II. i. (1620) 66 [The Mule] within two or three wincos, ouerthrew him to the ground. 1638 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Bull. Beare & Horse* I b, And as I fell, his boofe bestow'd a wince, Upon my pate. 1840 THACKERAY *Cox's Diary* Jan., Our respective patients gave a wince out.

2. An involuntary shrinking movement (see *WINECE v.*¹ 2).

1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* III. xii, She looked up with a wince. 1891 CONAN DOYLE *White Company* ix, The villain took the cruel blow without wince or cry.

wince (wins), *sb.*² [Variant of *WINCH sb.*¹ But cf. LG. *win(n)s* small capstan, Du. *wins* winch.]

1. = *WINCH sb.*¹ 1, 3.

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. v. 272/1 When the Spinner hath drawn out his Rope Yarn... then it is taken from the Wheele Spindle, and Wound upon the Wince. 1829 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 3) IV. 52 The human frame is, hence, a barrel-organ... and life is the music... So long as either the vital or the mechanical instrument is duly wound up by a regular supply of food or of the wince, so long the music will continue. 1837 KIRKBRIDE *Northern Angler* 66 The wince of the reel.

2. *Dyeing.* A reel or roller placed over the division between two vats so that a fabric spread upon it may be let down into one or the other. Also *attrib.*

1839 *Ure Dict. Arts* 227 After 48 hours suspension [the calico] is to be washed in water at 170° containing some chalk, by the wince apparatus. 1852 *Abridgm. Specif. Patents, Bleaching*, etc. (1859) 374 The fabric may be caused to pass several times round these wincos before it leaves the cistern. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2777/1 The tanks are wince-pots.

wince (wins), *v.*¹ Forms: 3 *wynci*, 4-5 *wynse*, (5 *wynce*, *wyncy*, 6 *wins*, 6-7 *winze*), 6-7 *winse*, 5-*wince*. [a. AF. **wencir* or **wencier*, = OF. *guencir* or *-ier*, dial. variants of *guenchir* or *-ier WIND v.*¹]

I. *intr.* To kick restlessly from impatience or pain. Now *dial.*

[c1290; see b.] c1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 231 A horce unrubbed, þat haves a sore back, wynses when he is oght touched or rubbed on his rugge. 1382—2 *Sam.* vi. 6 Oza strauhte out the hoond to the arke of God, and heelde it, for

the oxen wynseden, and boweden it. c1386 CHAUCER *Miller's T.* 77 Wynsynge she was as is a ioly colt. 1493 [H. PARKER] *Dives & Pauper* (W. de W. 1496) x. v. 376/2 Whan he begynneth to wexe proude & wynsynge & kykyng ayenst his mayster. ?a1550 *Schole-house Wom.* 1014 in Hazl. *E.P.P.* IV. 145 Rub a scald horse vpon the gall, And he wil bite, wins and went. 1598 FLORIO, *Recalcitrare*, to kicke or strike or winze with ones heeles againe. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* ix. 340 They bray out a loude, kicking and wincing with their heeles. 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* i. ii. 847 The angry Beast... Begun to kick, and fling, and wince. 1717 PRIOR *Alma* i. 275 Before the child can crawl, He learns to kick, and wince, and sprawl. c1750 JOHNSON in *Boswell* (1793) I. 236 *note*, A fly, Sir, may sting a stately horse and make him wince. 1782 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Odes* iv. Wks. 1812 I. 22 As for poor St. Leger and Prince, Had I their places I should wince, Thus to be gibbeted for weeks on high. 1890 *Glouc. Gloss.*, *Wincing*, used of a horse kicking out behind.

b. In fig. and allusive phr., e.g. *to wince against the prick* (cf. KICK *v.*¹ 1 c and PRICK *sb.* 13); hence *gen.* to be recalcitrant or impatient.

c1290 *St. Paul* 23 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 190 To wynci 3sein þe pricke swipe strong it is þe. 1388 WYCLIF *Acts* Prol., Poul... whom the Lord hadde chosun, that long tyme wynside 3sen the pricke. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. v. 22 It is þe wone of wil to wyne and to kyke. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 14196 Off verray surquedy and pryde, I smyte and wyne on euery syde. *Ibid.* 14531 For to wyne and dysobeye, And to tourne A-nother weye. c1449 PECKOK *Repr.* II. xvii. 254 Thou3 3e wolde wyncy and repugne 3gens the clergie. 1560 BECON *New Catech.* Wks. 1564 I. 508 Not to wince, kick & spurn against their sayings. 1603 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. ii. 255 (Qo. 1) Let the gallid iade wince [other edd. winch]. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* II. ix. 81, I should suspect his preaching had no salt in it, if no gald horse did wince. a1677 BARROW *Serm.* Wks. 1716 III. 65 What boots it to wince and kick against fortune? a1764 LLOYD *Poet* 21 The fancies of our rambling wits, Who wince and kick at all oppression. 1814 CARY *Dante, Parad.* XVII. 124 Let them wince, who have their withers wrung.

†c. *transf.* To dart from place to place. (*rare.*) c1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 6115 Fro stide to stide aboute he wynces, He slees kynges, dukes, & princes.

2. To start or make an involuntary shrinking movement in consequence of or in order to avoid pain, or when alarmed or suddenly affected.

a1748 WATTS *Improv. Mind* II. v, Perhaps the gamester shrugs and wincos, turns and twists the argument every way, but he cannot fairly answer it. 1781 COWPER *Conversat.* 325 Some fretful tempers wince at ev'ry touch. 1831 LYTTON *Godolphin* xix, Why, man, you wince at the word 'marry!' 1842 TENNYSON *Walking to Mail* 63 You should have seen bim wince As from a venomous thing. 1890 BESANT *Demoniac* vi, In your strong frame already beats the heart of a coward... When I told you this once before, you wincod: now you laugh.

wince, *v.*² *Dyeing.* [f. *WINECE sb.*²] *trans.* To immerse in or pass through a vat by means of a wince. Also *absol.* Hence *wincing vbl. sb.*²; *attrib.* in *wincing-machine* = *WINECE sb.*² 2.

1839 *Ure Dict. Arts* 224 They are wincod for a few minutes in a weak solution of chloride of lime. *Ibid.* 1300 *Wincing-machine*, is the English name of the dyer's reel, which he suspends horizontally... over the edge of his vat. 1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts*, etc. (ed. 7) I. 660 Wince again five times. *Ibid.*, 2 pieces of 30 yards of velvet are put in and wincod backwards and forwards five times.

wince, obs. form of QUINCE.

wincer¹ ('winsə(r)). Now *rare*. [f. *WINECE v.*¹ + *-ER*¹.] A kicker. In quot. 1642 *fig.*

c1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 530/1 Wynsare, calcitrare, calcit[r]atrix. 1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong.* *Regimbeur*, a winner. 1611 COTGR., *Rueur*, a kicker, striker, winner. 1642 MILTON *Apol. Smect.* 19 Is it blasphemous... for me to answer a slovenly wincer of a confutation, that [etc.].?

'wincer². *Dyeing.* [f. *WINECE sb.*² + *-ER*¹.] One who tends a wince.

1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 69 Cotton, Calico, Printer... Hooker. Wincer. Steamer.

wincey ('winsi). Also winsey, -ie. Pl. -eys, occas. -ies. [orig. *Sc.*; app. alteration of *woolsey* in LINSEY-WOOLSEY, through the medium of the assimilated form **linsey-winsy*.] A very durable cloth having a linen warp and a woollen weft. (occas. A garment made of this.) Also *attrib.*

1808 JAMIESON, *Winsey*, adj. Of or belonging to wool... *Cotton-winsy* denotes what is made of cotton and wool; *Linen-winsy*, of linen and wool, *linsey-woolsey*. 1810 JAS. DUFF *Poems* (1816) 2 Her wincies war made by sweet Modesty's rule. 1858 E. B. RAMSAY *Remin.* v. (1859) 161 A striped wincey apron. 1862 CORNH. *Mag.* Nov. 695 Some wincey and a number of pieces of coburg. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib.*, Brit. II. No. 4032, Dress wincies. 1893 MRS. C. PRAED *Outlaw & Lawmaker* xi, All varieties, from the honest brown and grey wincey to the Park turn-out. 1907 MRS. C. KERNAHAN *Fraud* iv. 29 She... wore a brown winsey dress.

winceyette (winsi'et). [f. *WINECEY* + *-ETTE*; cf. FLANNELETTE.] A lightweight napped cotton fabric used for nightclothes, etc. (see quot. 1955).

1922 *Daily Mail* 14 Nov. 1 (Adv.), Ponting's offer of shirtings and winceyette. 1955 *Textile Terms & Definitions* in *Jrnl. Textile Inst.* (Standardisation) XLVI. s44 *Winceyette*, a light-weight fabric, originally and usually of cotton, raised on both sides, the weave usually being plain or twill. 1962 *Economist* 20 Jan. 253/2 The Nelson [cotton]

factory was to begin production of denim, winceyette, cotton wool and surgical dressings in May. 1979 D. Cook *Winter Doves* II. v. 87 She applied the paste with two fingers, wiping them clean on her Winceyette nightdress.

winch (winʃ), *sb.*¹ Forms: 1 wince, 4-7 (9) wynch, (3-5 wenche, 4-6 wynche, 6 winche, 7 wintch, 9 winsh), 7- winch. [Late OE. *wince*:—O Teut. **winkjo*:-—**wenkjo*-, f. Indo-Eur. root *weng*-, repr. also by WINK *v.*¹ (Cf. WINK *sb.*²)]

1. a. A reel, roller, or pulley.

c1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 416/6 *Girillus* [= *girillus*], wince. 1295 *Acc. Exch. K.R.* 5/7 (P.R.O.) In vno velamine empto .vj. li. iiij. d. In Wenches emptis ad idem. iiij. s. vj. d. 1384 *For. Acc.* 20 C *dorso* (P.R.O.), j wynch ferri pro vna petra vertibilis. *Ibid.*, j gross[al] wynch ferri pro factura cordarum. 1511-12 *Act 3 Hen. VIII.* c. 6 §1 That the byer of Wollen clothes . . shall not . . cause to be drawn in lenght . . the same clothes . . by teyntor or wynch or by eny other meane. 1563 *GOLDING Cesar* VII. (1565) 232 With slinges that went wyth wynches [orig. *fundis librilibus*] . . & wyth pellets, they put the Galles in feare. 1611 *COTGR., Tournoir*, . . the vice, or winch of a Presse.

b. *spec.* An angler's reel.

1662 R. VENABLES *Exper. Angler* iv. 44 You may buy your Trowle ready made, . . onely let it have a winch to wind it up withall. 1760 *SIR J. HAWKINS Walton's Angler* 139 note, The winch must be screwed on to the butt of your rod. 1867 F. FRANCIS *Bk. Angling* i. 13 Your winch should hold forty or fifty yards of fine line.

c. *Naut.* A small machine used for making ropes and spun-yarn; † the quantity of yarn so made.

1640 in *Birch Charters of London* (1887) 220 For a winch of cable yarn. . os. 4d. 1772-84, etc. [see SPUN-YARN 2]. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* 1. 90 *Winch*, to make or twist spun-yarn with is made of 8 spokes, 4 at each end, and 4 wooden pins 15 inches long driven through the end of them.

†2. A well-wheel (turned by a crank); hence, a well. *Obs.* (Cf. dial. *winch-well* a deep well, and WINK *sb.*², quot. 1886.)

c1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* 1. 426 In stede of welle or wenche [orig. *fons . . aut puteus*] haue a susterne. *Ibid.* III. 894 The water cleer Of cisterne or of wynch. *Ibid.* IX. 120 The wynchis when we delue [orig. in *fodiendis puteis*]. 1556 *WITTHALS Dict.* (1562) 47b/1 The wynch or wheele of the well. 1580 *HOLLYBAND Treas. Fr. Tong, La trieule*, . . the beame or rounde wood whereabout the cord of a well is winded, some do call it a winch. 1632 J. HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Eromena* 195 An old well or deepe wintch . . boild all the night long.

3. The cranked handle by means of which the axis of a revolving machine is turned.

1660 R. D'ACRES *Water-drawing* 11 Winches or Cranks of Wood or Iron are . . fitted to mens hands, thereby to make a round motion. 1683 *MOXON Mech. Exerc., Printing* xi. ¶16 On the Square Pin is fitted a Winch somewhat in form like a Jack-winch. 1774 *Phil. Trans.* LXIV. 390 After about ninety or an hundred turns of the winch. 1787 *IMISON Treat. Mech. Powers* 46 The wheel is turned by means of a winch fix'd on the axle of a trundle. 1801 *STRUTT Sports & Past.* III. v. 209 One of them turned the winch of an organ which he carried at his back. 1834 *FEARNSIDE Tomblinson's Thames* 31 By Pinkie Lock and Weir, . . it is necessary for the aquatic tourist to be provided with a winch to open the gates. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 436/1 Winch and axle is a machine constituting a small windlass. 1874 *HARDY Far fr. Mad. Crowd* xx, I'll turn the winch of the grindstone.

4. a. A hoisting or hauling apparatus consisting essentially of a horizontal drum round which a rope passes and a crank by which it is turned.

1577 *GOOGE tr. Heresbach's Husb.* 11 b, The smaller sort [of husbandry necessities] . . Hammers, Chippe Axes, Winches, Pulleys, Wheeles [etc.]. 1674 *BLOUNT Glossogr.* (ed. 4), *Winch*, a pulling or skewing Engin. 1688 *HOLME Armoury* III. xviii. (Roxb.) 139/2 A Hand screw, or screw engine; or Ghyne or Wynch. 1706 *PHILLIPS* (ed. Kersey), *Winches*, a kind of Engine to draw Barges, &c. up a River against the Stream. 1769 *FALCONER Dict. Marine* (1776), *Winch*, a cylindrical piece of timber, furnished with an axis, . . turned about by means of an handle resembling that of a draw-well. 1820 *SCORESBY Acc. Arctic Reg.* II. 233 An apparatus called a 'winch', . . for heaving the lines into the boat after the fish is . . killed. 1838 *J. M. Wilson's Tales Borders* IV. 253/2 By the assistance of the wynch, the jib again rose to its former place. 1905 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 25 Aug. 268/1 The value of steam applied to winches and capstans.

b. In the navigation of the river Thames, a revolving apparatus at the river-side, round which a rope was wound to haul craft through difficult places; a toll levied for the use of this (abolished by the Thames Conservancy Act of 1866).

1623 *Act 21 Jas. I.* c. 32 §5 For that the sayd passage from Bircot aforesayd, to the sayd Citie of Oxford, is against the streame, the Barges . . must . . bee haled vp by strength of men, horses, winches [etc.]. 1694 *Act 6 & 7 Will. & Mary* c. 16 *Preamble*, For the . . convenience of the Navigation [of the Thames and Isis] there . . are diverse Lockes Weares, Buckes Winches . . and other Engines. 1754 *Extr. Navig. Rolls Thames* (1772) 19 The Owner of every Winch, belonging to every Lock below Reading. 1795 *Jrnl. Ho. Comm.* L. 125/1 Tolls . . payable at the Old Locks, Weirs, and Winches. 1864 *Thames Navig., Tables of Tolls* July 1 Tables of Tolls (Including Old Lock Dues and Winches), which will be taken on and from July 1, 1864.

5. *Dyeing.* = WINCE *sb.*² 2.

1791 *HAMILTON Berthollet's Dyeing* I. i. II. ii. 159 For the pieces of stuff, a winch or reel is used. 1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* I. 385 Stir it well about, and . . put in your stuffs: . . turn it on a winch, till you see the colour is to your mind. 1822 *Imison's Sci. & Art* II. 185 The stuffs . . are drawn

through them [sc. the baths] by a winch, or reel. 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 688/1 Mounted on a strong frame-work over the trough [of the dye vat] is the winch . . , which by its revolutions . . keeps the cloth moving down and up continuously into and out of the trough.

6. *attrib.* as *winch-bit*, *-gear*, *-handle*, etc.; **winchman**, (a) a man who operates a winch; (b) a man lowered by a winch from a helicopter, esp. to rescue people from shipwrecks, etc.

1867 *SMYTH Sailor's Word-bk.*, **Winch-bitts*, the supports near their ends. 1893 *Westm. Gaz.* 28 Feb. 10/3 Kemp was standing against the winch-bit. 1875 *KNIGHT Dict. Mech.*, **Winch-capstan*, a combination in which winch-heads are arranged on top of the capstan. 1881 E. MATHESON *Aid Bk.* II. 362 The lifting power in a crane is generally obtained by ordinary *winch-gear. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 229 So that the power must act in like manner as if it were applied at a *winch-handle. 1894 *BOTTONE Electr. Instr.* 171 It is mounted upon an iron spindle . . at one end of which is a winch-handle. 1847 T. T. STODDART *Angler's Comp.* 44 The triple gut casting-line . . is intended . . to be appended immediately to the *winch-line, by the trout-fisher. 1824 R. STEVENSON *Bell Rock Lighthouse* vi. 329 A *winch-machine, with wheel, pinion and barrel, round which last the chain was wound. 1946 A. J. HALL *Stand. Handbk. Textiles* iv. 169 The winch machine is essentially a vat . . above which is mounted a horizontal winch. 1882 *Standard* 26 Aug. 3/7 A man should have watched the case and given orders to the gangwayman, who, in turn, ought to have given orders to the *winchman. 1894 *Times* 5 Feb. 3/3 The winchman and the bulle rope man . . in assisting to unload the vessel. 1958 *Times* 23 June 6/1 The girls . . were brought up into the helicopter by winchman Sergeant Jim Gilpin. 1977 *R.A.F. News* 27 Apr.-10 May 1/4 Along with winchman FS Roger Lynn he airlifted a two-ton cabin into the garden of a Durham man so that a kidney machine could be installed. 1979 *Globe & Mail* (Toronto) 15 Aug. 1/2 (caption) Winchman on a rescue helicopter hangs over a crew member from yacht Ariadne. 1883 W. C. RUSSELL *Sea Queen* II. ii. 30 The tiny clink of *winch-pawls. 1902 *How to make useful things* 10/1 A few inches from the lower end of the butt a recess is made sufficiently large to take the *winch-plate. 1831-3 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 528/2 When one or more pieces of goods are to be dyed the *winch-reel is employed.

† **winch**, *sb.*² *Obs. rare.* [f. WINCH *v.*¹]

1. A 'turn' or 'twist' in argument.

1549 *GARDINER in Foxe A. & M.* (1563) 804/1, I thinke there was neuer man had more playne euident matter to alledge, then I haue, without winches or arguments or deuises of wit.

2. = WINCE *sb.*¹ 2.

c1738 J. SKINNER *Christmas Ba'ing* xix, Poor Petrie gae a weary winch.

winch (winʃ), *v.*¹ *Obs. exc. dial.* Forms: 3 wenche, 4-6 wynch, 6 winche, (7 whinch, 9 dial. winsh), 6- winch. [a. AF. **wenchie*, **wenchie* = OF. *guenchier*, -ir intr. to turn aside, trans. to avoid, a. Teut. **wenkjan* (OHG., MHG. *wenken*, OS. *wenkean*):—**wankjan*, f. *wank*-(whence OHG. *wank* side movement, return, OHG., G. *wanken*, ON. *vakka*, OE. *wancol* WANKLE *a.*): *wenk*-(whence WINCH *sb.*¹, WINK).]

1. *intr.* To start back or away, recoil, flinch; to wince.

a1225 *Ancr.* R. 98 Auh for alle onsweres, wendeð ou ant wencheð frommard him. ?a1400 *Morte Arth.* 2104 Qwarelles qwayntly swappez thorowe knyghtez With iryne so wekryly, that wynchye they neuer. ?a1500 *Pebilis to the Play* xiii, He stert till ane broggit stauf, Wincheand as he war woode. 1540 *PALSGR. Acolastus* Prol. Biv, Thou begynneth to wynchye or to startle on this facion. 1553 *Respublica* I. iii. 284 He that ones wincheth shall fele the waite of my fiste. 1595 *SHAKS. John* iv. i. 81, I will not stirre, nor winch, nor speake a word. 1628 *Robin Goodfellow* (1841) 41 Sluts and slovens I doe pinch, And make them in their beds to winch. 1634 W. WOOD *New Eng. Prosp.* II. viii, Beate them, whip them, pinch them, punch them, if they resolve not to winch for it, they will not. 1687 *DRYDEN Hind & P.* III. 133 Yet seem'd she not to winch, though shrewdly pain'd. 1718 *CIBBER Non-juror* v, You must not winch nor stir too soon, at any Freedom you observe me take with him. 1878 *Cumbl. Gloss., Winsh*, wince.

† **b. fig.** To recoil in fear or disgust (*at*). *Obs.* 1605 *MARSTON Dutch Courtezan* III. i, He must nere winch, that would or thriue, or saue, To be cald Nigard, cuckold, Cut-throat, Knaue. 1637 *HEYLIN Antid. Lincoln.* Pref. A6b, A long studied discourse in maintenance of sitting at the holy Sacrament, which good Master Burton never winched at. 1680 H. MORE *Apocal. Apoc.* 23 They shall . . severely rule them, so that they shall not be able to winch but at their own peril. 1709 *STEELE Tatler* No. 76 ¶8 A general Representation of an Action, either ridiculous or enormous, may make those winch who find too much Similitude in the Character with themselves to plead Not Guilty.

†2. Of a horse: To kick restlessly or impatiently; = WINCE *v.*¹ 1. *Obs.*

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 420/1 To Wynche, *calcitrare*. 1510 *STANBRIDGE Vocabula* (W. de W.) C v, *Recalcitro*, to wynch agayne, or kyke. a1529 *SKELTON Col. Cloute* 182 Let se who that dare Sho the mockysse mare; They make her wynchye and keke. 1575 *GASCOIGNE Weedes, Green Knt.* 87 He winched still alwayes, and whisked with his taile. 1591 *GREENE Farewe. Folly* B 3 b, Sylenus asse neuer sawe a wine bottle but he would winch. 1706 *PHILLIPS* (ed. Kersey), To *Wince* or *Winch*, . . properly to throw out the hinder Feet, as a Horse does.

b. In allusive and proverbial phr., esp. with reference to the 'wincing' of a 'galled' horse.

1493 *Festivall* (W. de W. 1515) 173b, As a galled horse winche is touched on the sore he wyncheth & wryeth. c1520 *SKELTON Magnyf.* 2023 Remembre the tourne of Fortunes whele, That wantonly can wyneke, and wyneche with her hele. 1548 *UDALL Erasmus. Par. Ep.* Ded. ¶2, Who so wyncheth

and kicketh at the ghospell. a1566 R. EDWARDS *Damon & Pithias* (1571) Bivb, I know the galde horse will soonest winche. 1566 *DRANT Horace, Sat.* v. D2b, Synce you agaynst these churchly rites so longe and sore dyd wynchye. 1615 *BRATHWAIT Strappado* (1878) 109 Yet do not winch (good iade) when thou art gall'd. 1626 W. FENNER *Hid. Manna* Ep. Ded., The will of it self, the more reason it hath to be turned, the more it is wilful, it hincheth and winches, and snuffes against it. 1693 *CONGREVE Old Bach.* v. xiii, *Aram.* Bless me! What have you done to him? *Belin.* Only touch'd a gall'd beast till he winch'd. 1718 *CIBBER Non-juror* II. i, Sir, you cannot conceive the wonderful use of Clamour, 'tis so teizing to a Ministry, it makes them winch and fret.

† **c. trans.** To kick (a person) out of. *rare.* 1623 *FLETCHER & ROWLEY Maid in Mill* II. i, A galled Jennet that will winch him out o' the Saddle.

Hence 'winching' *vbl. sb.*¹ and *ppl. a.*¹ 1525 *Stanbridge's Vocabula* (W. de W.) C v b, *Sternax*, a wynchynge horse. 1577 *HANMER Anc. Eccl. Hist.* 205 A certaine shamefull winching & repining. 1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super. Wks.* (Grosart) II. 246 Not such a powting waspe in Ramme-ally, or such a winching iade in Smithfield. 1631 [MABBE] *Celestina* III. 40 [Women] are all of them ticklish, and skittish; the whole generation of them is given to winching and flinging. 1664 H. MORE *Myst. Iniq.* 101 That they might, without any ones winching, decree . . what-ever would tend to the encrease of their own honour and wealth.

winch, *v.*² [f. WINCH *sb.*¹]

1. *trans.* To hoist or draw up, etc. with or as with a winch.

1529 *Dunmow Churchw. Acc.* lf. 10 (MS.) To fett a gabull to wynchye up the tymber. 1530 *PALSGR.* 408b/2, I wynchye or wynde vp with a wyndlasse or a crane. . . You shall neuer get this stryng in to the nocke but you wynchye it vp. 1599 *HAKLUYT Voy.* II. i. 128 He . . was winched vp in that chaire, and fastened vnto the maineyard of a galley. 1633 J. FISHER *Fuimus Troes* II. ii, I'll wynch vp thy estate. 1909 *E. Suffolk Gaz.* 12 Jan. 3/7 All slack line must be winched in. 1913 *CONRAD Within the Tides*, etc. (1915) 219 It was she who winched up that infernal machine, and it was she too who lowered it that night.

2. *Dyeing.* = WINCE *v.*²

1831-3 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 514 The silk should be winched through a copper of water at the heat of 160°. 1855 *Abridgm. Specif. Patents, Bleaching*, etc. (1859) 565, I . . keep the liquor to the boiling point for about one hour and twenty minutes, during which time the cloth should be winched as before. 1883 R. HALDANE *Workshop Rec.* II. 40/1 For ungumming, the piece is simply winched backwards and forwards.

Hence 'winching' *vbl. sb.*² and *ppl. a.*² 1875 H. R. ROBERTSON *Life Upper Thames* 19 The tightening of the bolts before tying them is called winching . . : two stout pieces of wood are used which are called the levers, and are connected by a strong cord passed round the bolt. 1902 *Daily Record & Mail* 6 Aug. 3 The winching-away men and sweepers and screwers.

Winchester ('wintʃɪstə(r)). [Proper name.]

1. The name of a city in Hampshire, the capital of Wessex and later of the Anglo-Saxon kingdom: used *attrib.* in specific designations.

1. a. (a) *Winchester measure*: dry and liquid measures the standards of which were orig. deposited at Winchester. Also *fig.* So (b) *Winchester bushel*, *gallon*, for which (c) *Winchester* is used for short (in druggists' use = *Winchester quart*); in mod. use (see quot. 1959, 1972); also *Winchester bottle*.

(a) c1550 *Skelton's Ghost* 23 in S.'s *Wks.* (1843) II. 154 Full Winchester gage We had in that age. 1670 *Act 22 Chas. II.* c. 8 §1 The Standard marked in his Majesties Exchequer commonly called the Winchester Measure containing Eight Gallons to the Bushell. 1680 *ALSOOP Misch. Impos.* xiii. 94 The Advice to those in Communion with the Church, was short and sweet, but the Dissenters shall now have it by Winchester measure. 1682 *WARBURTON Hist. Guernsey* (1822) 114 The Guernsey bushel, great measure, contains about 6 gallons, Winchester measure. 1688 *HOLME Armoury* III. 337/2 An Halfe Peck, of old it contained 5 Quarts, but by Winchester Measure to which by the Statute of the Land all others now conforme, is but 4 Quarts and a Pint. 1846 *McCulloch Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) I. 215 An acre has been known to yield 300 bushels (Winchester measure) of early potatoes for the first crop. 1860 *All Year Round* No. 70. 479 A runlet (two gallons, Winchester measure).

(b) 1603 G. OWEN *Pembrokeshire* vii. (1891) 55 Their bushell beinge more then doble winchester.] 1702 *Act 1 Anne* Stat. 2. c. 3 §6 A Bushel according to the Standards remaining in the Custody of the Chamberlains of Her Majesties Exchequer commonly called . . by the Name of the Winchester Bushel. 1737 *Act 10 Geo. II.* c. 30 §2 All Oysters which shall . . be imported from France . . shall . . be rated at seven Pence per Bushel strike Measure, according to the Winchester Corn Bushel. 1768 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 92 The lords of the manor of Tetbury . . were convicted . . for not using in the public market a brass Winchester bushel. c1790 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) V. 102/2, 268-8 cubic inches to the Winchester gallon. 1835 *Act 5 & 6 Will. IV.* c. 63 §6 Be it enacted, That from and after the passing of this Act the Measure called the Winchester Bushel, and the Lineal Measure called the Scotch Ell, . . shall be abolished.

(c) 1702 T. BROWN *Lett. fr. Dead* II. (1707) 68 Seal'd Winchester of Three-penny Guzzle. 1722 E. WARD *Wand. Spy* II. 67 [They] Call'd for full Winchester's of Stout. 1758 *BORLASE Nat. Hist. Cornw.* 87 Bay-salt . . is sold to the husbandman from four-pence to six-pence a Winchester. *Ibid.* 88 Each bushel three winchesters, or twenty-four gallons. 1862 *Chemist & Druggist* 15 Feb. (Adv. sect.) 37/1 Druggists' Bottles. . . Winchester, 100 oz. 1880 J. DUNBAR *Pract. Papermaker* 66 The 'Winchester' is duly labelled. 1905 *WASTELL & BAYLEY Hand Camera* 145 note, A 'Winchester', or 'Winchester Quart', is a bottle holding eighty ounces. 1959 *Gloss. Packaging Terms* (B.S.I.) 28 *Winchester*, a term applied to round, narrow or wide-mouth bottles usually used for the distribution of chemicals or

pharmaceutical products. **1963** *Pharm. Jnl.* CXCI. 59 The author suggests that the Winchester bottle was thus named by the druggists who utilised it for supplying the [Winchester] hospital's drug orders. **1972** *Bottlers' Year Bk.* 1972-73 423 *Winchester*, a large bottle of variable capacity used for soluble essences, etc., usually containing from about 6 to 10 lb. of the product.

b. Winchester quart. (a) a quart (2 pints) in Winchester measure; (b) *Pharm.*, 4 Imperial pints, i.e. 80 fluid ounces (in quot. 1870, 100 fl. oz.); also, a bottle holding 4 pints.

See *Pharm. Jnl.* (1963) CXCI. 59 for an argument that in sense (b) it is properly 85 fl. oz., a quarter of the new barn gallon of 2½ Imperial gallons.

1742 W. ELLIS *Mod. Husbandman* July x. 61 At our Country Towns, they sell a Winchester Quart of Milk... for a Penny. **1758** *Rep. Comm. House of Commons Weights & Measures* 39 Standard weights and measures in the possession of the Hall-keeper of the Guild-Hall... 1 corn half peck marked 1601. 1 Winchester quart ditto. 1 ditto pint ditto. **1816** P. KELLY *Metrology* 89 The Coal Bushel holds one Winchester quart more than the Winchester bushel [sc. 2150.42 cubic inches]; it therefore contains 2217.62 cubic inches. **1870** *Pharm. Jnl.* XI. 650 Omagh is said to take about 400 Winchester quarts (equal to 250 gallons) [of methylated ether] yearly. **1874** *Ibid.* 2nd Ser. V. 442/1 A Winchester quart (four pints) is first half filled with infusion. **1880** J. DUNBAR *Pract. Papermaker* 65 Fill a 'Winchester quart' bottle with this test acid. **1897** *Chemist & Druggist* 5 June 891/1 The questions on which we should like information are—What is a Winchester quart the fourth of, or bow it came to designate a half-gallon? and whether it and the Winchester pint were ever recognised measures? **1963** *Pharm. Jnl.* CXCI. 60/1 The Winchester quart's success was due, one suspects, to the fact that it is the largest bottle which can conveniently be held in one hand.

† **2. Winchester goose:** see GOOSE sb. 3.

3. Winchester school, a southern English style of manuscript illumination of the 10th and 11th cent., originating at Winchester. Also *Winchester manner, style*.

1892 J. H. MIDDLETON *Illuminated MSS. Classical & Mediaeval Times* vii. 101 Another very fine example of the Winchester school of illumination is the manuscript Charter which King Edgar granted to the new minster at Winchester in 966. *Ibid.*, In artistic power this tenth century Winchester school of illuminators appears, for a while at least, to have been foremost in the world. **1910** G. F. WARNER in Warner & Wilson *Benedictional of Saint Æthelwold* p. xl, It is an example of Canterbury modification of Winchester style. **1928** E. G. MILLAR *Eng. Illuminated MSS XIVth & XVth Cent.* ii. 14 The Anglo-Saxon outline draughtsmen of the Winchester and related schools. **1954** M. RICKERT *Painting in Britain: Middle Ages* ii. 42 But it is not until the second half of the tenth century that the full force of Carolingian art under Æthelwold's sponsorship of the production of manuscripts resulted in the development at Winchester of the famous Winchester style. **1970** *Oxf. Compan. Art* 559/1 *Winchester School*... Though some splendid manuscripts came from Winchester, books decorated in the 'Winchester' manner were certainly made in other southern English monasteries.

II. 4. a. The name of Oliver F. Winchester (1810-80), an American manufacturer, used as the designation of a breech-loading rifle having a tubular magazine under the barrel and a horizontal bolt operated by a lever on the underside of the stock.

1871 *Standard* 1 Feb., The arms... being the Remington and the Chassepot, with some few Winchester. **1891** C. ROBERTS *Adrift Amer.* 163 He rushed over to his house and brought out a 17-shot Winchester. **1897** *Hinde Congo Arabs* xi. 185 About fifteen Winchester expresses, and the same number of ordinary Winchester.

b. Computers. Used *attrib.* and *absol.* with reference to a hermetically sealed storage device incorporating one or more high-capacity hard discs with heads and sometimes also a drive unit. [So called because the original device was intended to contain two 30 megabyte discs and its IBM number would have been 3030, the same as that of a famous Winchester rifle (which used a 0.30 calibre cartridge containing 0.30 grains of powder).]

1973 *Modern Data* July 60/1 The 'Winchester' Disk... The product of the so-called 'Winchester' project, the eventual nature of the 3340 has been the subject of rumors reported in the trade press. **1976** *Computer Weekly* 26 Aug. 16/6 There are also special cabinets for the Winchester type of disc module—a recording medium that is expensive in itself irrespective of the data stored on it, and that requires extremely careful handling. **1978** *IEEE Trans. Magnetics* XIV. 201/1 An example of the current state of the art in fixed head designs utilizing Winchester technology are the fixed heads used in IBM's 3340 and 3350 disc drives. **1980** *Sci. Amer.* Aug. 117/2 It is now known generically as Winchester technology, that being the code name under which the device was developed at IBM. A Winchester disk memory has one or more rigid disks, either eight or 14 inches in diameter. **1985** *Which Computer?* Apr. 61/2 One machine has twin floppies, the other has a 10MB Winchester.

Hence † *Winchestrian* a. (see sense 2).

a **1637** B. JONSON *Underwoods, Essecr. Vulcan* 142 And this a Sparkle of that fire let loose That was lock'd up in the Winchestrian Goose.

winchite ('wmt[ə]t). *Min.* [f. the name of H. J. Winch + -ITE.] A blue or violet monoclinic mineral of the amphibole group, approximately NaCa(Mg, Fe²⁺)₄(Al, Fe³⁺)Si₈O₂₂(OH)₃.

1906 L. L. FERMOR in *Trans. Mining & Geol. Inst. India* I. 79 *Winchite*... is the name which has been bestowed... upon the blue amphibole... An analysis of this mineral shows it to be closely allied to tremolite in chemical

composition. **1980** *Canad. Mineralogist* XVIII. 101/1 In composition, this asbestos probably ranges from a potassian richterite to a potassian winchite.

wincing ('wɪnsɪŋ), *vbl. sb.*¹ [f. WINCE v.¹ + -ING¹.] The action of WINCE v.¹; kicking; flinching or recoiling as from pain.

1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 12002 So that no mater off wynsyng Ys ffounde in hym in flessch nor bon... Gruchchyng, nor rebelloun, Nor no contradiccioun. **c** **1449** PECOKE *Repr.* i. xx. 129 Thei schulden be aschamed... of her wyncing in witt, and of her hopping bisidis witt. **1530** PALSGR. 75/2 Wynsyng of an horse, *regibement*. **1598** MARSTON *Scot. Villanie* iii. x. The Asse must be kindly whipped for wincing. **1841** LIVINGSTONE in *Blakie Life* iii. (1881) 51 They are excellent patients too besides. There is no wincing; everything prescribed is done *instantly*. **1858** O. W. HOLMES *Aut. Breakf.-t.* ii. (1859) 32 There is not a clerk who could raise the money to hire a saddle with an old hack under it that can sit down on his office-stool the next day without wincing. **1872** BLACK *Adv. Phaeton* xxviii. 382 He bade goodbye to both of them without wincing.

wincing, *vbl. sb.*²: see WINCE v.²

'wincing, *ppl. a.* [f. WINCE v.¹ + -ING².] That winces; †restive (*lit.* and *fig.*); recoiling, flinching.

1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 12 Wincing asse, Kicking colt, and such like niek-names. **1659** TORRIANO, *Cavallina-donna*, a skittish, or wincing woman. **1756** MRS. CALDERWOOD in *Coltness Collect.* (Maitland Club) 234 The Franciscans... were a set of poor wincing-like bodies. **1842** DICKENS *Amer. Notes* xiv, The scruples of such wincing landlords. **1876** *Daily News* 27 Oct. 3/5 Outsiders are sure to conclude that the wincing jade is galled. **1918** *Blackw. Mag.* Jan. 84/2 He dug his... spurred boot-heel against the wincing flank of the sweating... mare.

Hence 'wincingly *adv.*

1883 MISS BROUGHTON *Belinda* i. x, Belinda... shrinks wincingly away. **1891** MEREDITH *One of our Conq.* i. viii. 131 She remembered it... wincingly, insurgently.

winck(e), obs. forms of WINK.

Winco: see WINGCO.

wincopipe, obs. form of WINK-A-PEEP.

wind (wind, *poet.* also waund), *sb.*¹ Forms: 1-wind, 3-6 wynd, (4 wint, wynt, whynde, wend, *Sc.* vend), 4-6 wynde, *Sc.* vynd, 4-7 winde, (5 wende, wyind, wijnd, wyynd; *Sc.* 6-7 wound, 6-8 win, 9 win', wun). [OE. *wind* = OFris., OS., (M)LG., (M)Du. *wind*, OHG., MHG. *wint*, *wind* (G. *wind*), ON. *vindr* (Sw., Da. *vind*), Goth. *winds*:—OTeut. **windaz*:—pre-Teut. **wentos*, cognate with L. *ventus*, W. *gwynt*, Breton *guent*; orig. a pres. ppl. formation (**wēnto*)-f. root *wē-* of OE. *wāwan* (see WOVE), OHG. *wājan* (G. *wehen*), Goth. *waian* to blow, waft, Lith. *vėjās* wind, OSl. *vējati* blows, *větrū* wind, OIr. *feth* air, Gr. *ἀῆρ* (—**āfēros*) blows, *ἀήρης* wind, Skr. *vāti* blows, *vāta* wind.

The normal pronunciation would be (waund), as in *behind*, *bind*, *find*, *grind*, *hind*, *mind*, *rind*, etc., and this pronunciation remains dialectally and in ordinary poetical usage. The pronunciation (wind) became current in polite speech during the 18th c.; it has been used occas. by poets, but the paucity of appropriate rhyming words (such as *sinned*, *thinned*, *dinned*) and the 'thinness' of the sound have been against its general use in verse. The short vowel of (wind) is presumably due to the influence of the derivatives *windmill*, *windy*, in which (i) is normal.

1747 JOHNSON *Plan of Engl. Dict.* 12 To fix the pronunciation of monosyllables, by placing with them words of correspondent sound... so that the words *wound* and *wind*, as they are now frequently pronounced, will not rhyme to *sound*, and *mind*.

The following quotes. contain examples of the pronunciation (wind) in modern poets:—

1855 LYNCH *Rivulet* LXXXI. (*Jerusalem*) iii, She hath sinned; Like ashes now her scattered sons Fly on the wind. **1866** SWINBURNE *Poems, A Litany* 17 As the tresses and wings of the wind Are scattered and shaken, I will scatter all them that have sinned. **1885** TENNYSON *Wreck* vii, When her orphan wail came borne in the shriek of a growing wind, And a voice rang out in the thunders of Ocean and Heaven 'Thou hast sinn' d'. **1913** BRIDGES *La Gloire de Voltaire* 94 When sickening France adulterously sinned With Virtue, and went mad conceiving wind.]

I. The literal sense, in various applications.

1. Air in motion; a state of movement in the air; a current of air, of any degree of force perceptible to the senses, occurring naturally in the atmosphere, usually parallel to the surface of the ground.

a. In general or collective sense.

In the collective sense now always with the definite article. (a) *sing.* *Beowulf* 1132 Holm storme weol, won wið winde. **c** **897** ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past.* C. xxxix. 285 Se ðe him ealneð wind ondææt, he sæwð to seldon. **a** **900** CYNEWULF *Elene* 1272 Winde geliccoost, þonne he... hlud astigeð. **971** *Blickl. Hom.* 65 Ne bið þær hungor, ne þurst, ne wind, ne gewenn. **c** **1200** *Vices & Virtues* 47 Se ðe gadered mihthes wiðuten eadmodnesse, he is ilich ðo manne ðe berð dust amidaweard ðe winde. **a** **1300** *Cursor M.* 23667 Hat and cold and rain and wind. **c** **1320** *Sir Tristr.* 372 þe wawes were so

wode Wip winde. **1340-70** *Alex. & Dind.* 92 When þe wind on þe watur þe wawus arerep. **c** **1380** WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* I. 72 A reede wawinge wip þe wynde. **c** **1400** MAUNDEV. iii. (1919) I. 10 The eyr so cleer þat men may fynde no wynd pere. **1471** CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 381 On a night when hit was paisible of wynd & of storme. **1535** COVERDALE *Ps.* xviii[i]. 42, I will beate them as small as the dust before the wynde. — *Amos* iv. 13 He maketh the mountaynes, he ordeneth the wynde. **1594** *Selimus* C2, Let our winged coursers tread the winde. **1609** DEKKER *Ravens Alm.* G, He seemed so chary ouer her, that it grieved him the winde should blowe on her. **1624** QUARLES *Job Milit.* ix. 4 A storme of wind. **1667** MILTON *P.L.* i. 231 As when the force Of subterranean wind transports a Hill Torn from Pelorus. **1697** DRYDEN *Æneis* i. 438 Bare were her Knees, and knots her Garments bind; Loose was her Hair, and wanton'd in the Wind. **1794** VANCOUVER *Agric. Cambridge* 177 Water engines that go by wind. **1849** JAMES *Woodman* viii, Not a breath of wind crossed the heavens. **1887** *Field* 10 Dec. 897 [He] kicked off... against both wind and sun. **1893** *Law Times* XCV. 104/2 A gust of wind blew the plaintiff's mackintosh coat against the fence.

(b) *pl.* **c** **825** *Vesp. Psalter* xviii[i]. 11 [10] *Volavit super pimas ventorum*, fleg ofer fiðru winda. **971** *Blickl. Hom.* 51 þas windas & þas regnas syndon calle his. **a** **1300** *Cursor M.* 22630 Windes on ilk side sal rise. **1390** GOWER *Conf.* i. 34 Right now the hyhe wyndes blowe. **c** **1460** METHAM *Wks.* (1916) 157 [I]ff Crystemes day falle vp-on Monday, yt schuld be a gret wyntytyr, and fulle off wyndys. **a** **1593** MARLOWE *Ovid's Elegies* ii. xi, Hither the winds blow, here the spring-tide roar. **a** **1614** J. MELVILL *Autob. & Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 261 The Lord of Armies, wha ryddes upon the wings of the woundes. **1638-56** COWLEY *Dauides* i. Notes, Wks. 1710 I. 357 The Matter of Winds is an Exhalation arising out of the Concavities of the Earth. **1748** GRAY *Alliance* 43 Command the Winds, and tame th' unwilling Deep. **1830** TENNYSON *Ode to Mem.* 14 The dew-impearled winds of dawn. **1860** TYNDALL *Glac.* ii. viii. 263 The lighter débris is scattered by the winds far and wide over the glacier.

b. In particularized use (see also 2).

c **1000** *Sax. Leechd.* III. 56 Bærn eal to some on ða healfe ðe se wind sy. **c** **1250** *Gen. & Ex.* 3087 Dis wind hem broȝte ðe skippers. **13...** *Cursor M.* 18919 (Gött.) þar come a sune vte of þe air... Wid a wend at come wid-all And... fild all þat hall. **c** **1400** *tr. Secr. Secr., Gov. Lordsh.* 52 An hote wende. **a** **1533** LD. BERNERS *Huon* xiv. 39 A small rayne abatyt a grete wynd. **1682** DRYDEN *Medal* 252 The Climate, vex't with various Winds. **1798** COLERIDGE *Anc. Mar.* v. v, And soon I heard a roaring wind. **1837** DICKENS *Pickw.* xxviii, There was just such a wind and just such a fall of snow, a good many years back. **1880** SUTHERLAND *Tales of Goldfields* i Hot winds and floods destroyed the crops. **1895** STOPP. BROOKE in *Jacks Life & Lett.* (1917) II. 520 A low wind wandered about like a fairy.

c. A symbolical representation of the wind. (cf. F. *têtes de vents*.)

1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xxxi, A cherub on a monument, with cheeks like a young Wind.

d. *fig.* (sometimes = 'rage'): cf. WHIRLWIND 2.

c **1485** *Digby Myst.* i. 45 Sle them all either for floo or ffrede: thus he commaundid in his furious wynde. **1787** BECKFORD *Italy* (1834) II. 248 The wind is up in the archbishop's brain just at this moment, and by the least contradiction more would become a hurricane. **1876** HARDY *Ethelberta* xi, Lady Petherwin crashed out of the room in a wind of indignation.

2. a. With specific reference to the direction from which it blows; usually qualified by the name of a point of the compass, or in *pl.* by a numeral, esp. *four* (hence sometimes *transf.* = points of the compass, directions).

c **725**—[see SOUTH a. 3]. **c** **888** ÆLFRED *Boeth.* vi. §1 Se suðerna wind hwilum mid miclum storme gedrefeð þa sæ. **a** **1000** *Boeth. Metr.* xii. 14 ðif hine lytle ær stormas gestondað & se stearca wind, norðan & eastan. **c** **1000** *Sax. Leechd.* III. 274 Das feower heafodwindas habbað betweoç him on ymbhwyrft eðre eahta windas. **c** **1340**—[see NORTH a. 3]. **1362** LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. v. 14 þis soup-Westerne wynt. **c** **1374** CHAUCER *Boeth.* i. met. iii. (1868) 9 þe wynde þat hyt borias. **1377**—[see SOUTH-WEST C. 1]. **1379** *Glouc. Cath. MS.* 19. No. I. lib. i. c. 4 lf. 12 b, The four wyndes, & thayre 8 wyndes. **1382** WYCLIF *Ezek.* xxxvii. 9 Fro four wyndys cum, thou spirit. **c** **1425** *MS. Digby* 233 lf. 224 b/2 Est wynde... hath tweyne syde wyndes oper quarter wyndes. **1549** *Compl. Scot.* vi. 61 The marynalis... hes... discretuit thretty tua sortis of vyndis. **1602** SHAKS. *Ham.* ii. ii. 397 When the Windc is Southerly. **1610**—*Temp.* i. ii. 254 To run vpon the sharpe winde of the North. **1625** N. CARPENTER *Geog. Del.* i. vi. (1635) 151 One Rhumbe answers to two coasts or windes. **1651** T. BARKER *Art of Angling* (1820) 2 The Winde in the South, then that blows the Flie in the Trouts mouth. **1659** TWYSDEN *S. Foster's Miscell.* xiv. v. 27 Project these Azimuths or winds into the horizontal line. **1667** MILTON *P.L.* ii. 516 Toward the four winds four speedy Cherubim Put to thir mouths the sounding Alchymie. **1819** SHELLEY *Ode to West Wind* i. 1 O, wild West Wind, thou breath of Autumn's being. **1849** LEVER *Con Cregan* xviii, The Wind was a nor'-wester. **1853** DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xxviii, The cousins disperse to the four winds of heaven.

b. *Mah Jong.* Any of the four compass-positions about the wall of tiles taken up by a player; the player who occupies this place. Also, any of sixteen tiles (four of each sort) representing one of the four winds used in the game.

1922 M. S. ROSENBLATT *Majong* 2 There are 4 'Winds'... and there are 4 pieces of each 'Wind'. **1925** [see PUNG v.², sb.², and *int.*] **1938** V. L. CECIL *Maahj* 2 Each player took the position of one of the four Winds. **1960** R. C. BELL *Board & Table Games* vi. 152 The tiles are grouped into: Cardinal tiles... Winds... Honour tiles... Minor tiles. *Ibid.* 156 Each wind in turn becomes the wind of the round. The first round is East Wind's. **1979** M. HAMMER *Learn to play Mah Jongg* ii. 35 The next step is to evaluate which tiles are more prevalent—odds, evens, winds, singles, pairs.

3. a. In reference to navigation, as the means of propulsion of a sailing vessel.

Beowulf 217 ðewat þa ofer wægholm winde gefýsed flota famiheals. **c900** tr. *Bæda's Hist.* v. i, To þon ðætte . . . gesyndge windas. . . usic at lande zebrohte. **c1205** LAY. 236 He þonene iuatte forð asein mid þan winde. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6827 þe wind hom paide wel & to þe se hii come. **13..** *Propr. Sanct.* in Herrig's *Archiv* LXXXI. 112/83 þe wynt wox þo contrarios. **c1375** Sc. *Leg. Saints* vi. (Thomas) 44 þan vent pai to þe se . . . & . . . gud vend pai had. **c1425** Engl. *Conq. Irel.* xxxiii. 80 As thay wer wynd abydyng. **1543-4** Acc. *Ld. High Treas.* Scot. VIII. 249 The saidis boittis wiht artalze, quhilkis war seperat be ane gret wound. **1549** *Compl. Scot.* vi. 40 Afoir the vynd. **1617** MORYSON *Itin.* 1. 209 We sayled commonly with a fore wind, the winds being more constant in that sea. **a1625** MANWARYNG *Seaman's Dict.* (1644) s.v. *Ride*, To *Ride betwixt wind and tide*, is when the wind and tyde have equall power. **1633** G. HERBERT *Temple, Provid.* xxiii, The windes, who think they rule the mariner, Are rul'd by him, and taught to serve his trade. **1691** *Sir J. Ashby's Acc. Engagem.* 15 If the Wind had stood, we should have had more fighting. **1726** SWIFT *Gulliver* iii. i, I set up my sail, the wind being fair. **1792** MRS. P. L. POWYS *Passages fr. Diaries* (1899) 268 [We] set off in our vessel for Ryde, with wind and tide both against us. **1879** [see FAIR a. 13].

b. Naut. in various expressions referring to the direction or position of the wind in relation to the ship: hence also allusively.

e.g. *to gain, get, or take the wind of*, to get to windward of (another ship) so as to intercept the wind, to get the weather gage of: *so to give, have the wind of, to keep one's (the, a good) wind*, to keep close to the wind without falling away to leeward, *to take the wind out of the sails of* (fig.), to deprive of one's means of progress, put a check upon the action of, put at a disadvantage. *to turn (the) wind*, to turn so as to get on the other side of the wind. (For other phrases, as *to haul one's wind*, *to hold a good wind*, etc. see the verbs.)

14.. *Sailing Directions* (Hakl. Soc.) 13 By turnyng wynde at an est south of the moone. **1563** GRESHAM in *Burgon Life* (1839) II. 41 They did all they colde to tacke the wynde of us. **1600** HAKLUYT *Voy.* III. 198 All the three Biskainers made toward our ship, which was not carelesse to get the winde of them all. **1600** DALLAM in *Early Voy. Levant* (Hakl. Soc.) 97 We havinge the wynde of the Spanishe ships. **1629** WADSWORTH *Pilgr.* ii. 7 We . . . made all haste possible to gaine the winde of him. **1666** *Lond. Gaz.* No. 74/2 The Zealand Admiral kept his wind, the Admiral of the Blew, with eight or ten more standing after him. **a1687** PETTY *Treat. Naval Philos.* i. iii, What makes her [sc. a ship] Leeward or keep a good Wind. **1696** tr. *Du Mont's Voy. Levant* xxvii. 350 They are oblig'd to take the Wind of us. **1704** *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4054/1 The Wind shifted . . . to the Westward, which gave the Enemy the Wind of us. **1805** NELSON 6 Oct. in *Nicolas Disp.* (1846) VII. 82 To keep the wind under three topsails and foresail for the night. **1822** SCOTT *Nigel* ix, He would take the wind out of the sail of every gallant. **a1828** *Young Allan* vi. in *Child Ballads* viii. 379 My master has a coal-carrier Will take the wind frae thee. She will gae out under the leaf, Come in under the lee, And nine times in a winter night She'll turn the wind wi thee. **1849** *Blackw. Mag.* LXV. 333, I felt the ship bring her wind a-quarter. **1883** *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 339/2 A young upstart of a rival, Llanelly . . . which has taken a great deal of the wind out of the sails of its older neighbor.

4. As conveying scent, esp. the scent of a person or animal in hunting, etc.: in various phr., *lit.* and *fig.*

to take, have, get, gain the wind of, to scent or detect by or as by the wind; hence occas. to keep under observation. Conversely, *to give* (an animal) *one's wind*, *to keep the wind*, to keep the game on the windward side so as to scent it, or so that it does not scent one. *† on one's wind*, on one's trail or track. *† to the wind*, to windward. *within wind of*, near enough to be detected by.

c1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 7956 þis seizen þe sexten pousinde & comen swipe on our winde. **c1470** HENRY *Wallace* vii. 469 The stynk scalyt off ded bodyis . . . The Scottis abhord ner hand for to byd; 3eid to the wynd. **1530** PALSGR. 751/1, I take the wynde, as a dere dothe of a person. . . Let hym take good hede that they take nat the wynde of him. **1588** SHAKS. *Tit. A.* iv. ii. 133 My sonne and I will have the winde of you. **1593** — *J. Hen. VI.* iii. ii. 14 Hee knowes the Game, how true hee keeps the winde? **1601** — *All's Well* v. ii. 10 *Clo.* Truly, Fortunes displeasure is but sluttish if it smell so strongly as thou speak'st of. . . Prethee allow the winde. *Par.* Nay you neede not to stop your nose sir: I spake but by a Metaphor. **1602** — *Ham.* iii. ii. 362 Why do you go about to recover the winde of mee, as if you would drie me into a toyle? **1606** MARSTON *Parasit.* ii. D. 1, Peace the woolfes eare takes the winde of vs. *Ibid.* iii. F. 1 b, We can take the winde, And smell you out. **1697** DAMPIER *Voy.* I. 391 We could smell them out in the thick Woods if we had but the wind of them. **1850** R. G. CUMMING *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* xviii, I gave the large herd my wind, upon which they instantly tossed their trunks aloft. **1265** CARLYLE *Fredk. Gi.* xviii. ii. V. 36 For here are the Prussians within wind of us! **1883** STEVENSON *Treas. Isl.* x, We had run up the trades to get the wind of the island we were after. **1887** *Field* 19 Feb. 251/3 A small troop of four rhebok, which had . . . got our wind shortly before. **1890** S. W. BAKER *Wild Beasts* II. 92, I have myself been hunted out of the jungle by two rhinoceroses which thus gained our wind.

5. In alliterative conjunction with *weather*: most freq., now always, *wind and weather*; formerly also *weather and wind*, also with *the*, or with one or both sbs. in pl.

†(a) orig. connoting stormy inclement weather (cf. *WEATHER sb.* 1 g, h); (b) later, in neutral sense, atmospheric conditions as favourable or unfavourable for travelling; (c) now chiefly with reference to exposure to weathering influences.

a1225 *Juliana* 72 Buldeð ower boldes uppon treowe staðele þat ne dredeð na wind ne na weder nowðer. **13..** *E.E. Allit.* P. B. 444 Where þe wynde & þe weder warpen hit wolde, Hit saytled. **c1375** Sc. *Leg. Saints* xvi. (Magdalen) 220 Bo[t] tholyt al þat haly rowte In wynd & wedyre ly pare-owt Of þare tempil. **1377** LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. viii. 41 Like to þe grete waves, þat as wyndes and wederes walweth aboute. **a1400** *Octouian* 1237 Good wynde and wedyr pay hadde at wyll. **1455** *Rolls of Parl.* V. 335/1 At the next Wynde and Wedder that wille serve theym. **1513** SIR E. HOWARD in

Ellis Orig. Lett. Ser. iii. I. 150 If wynde and wedour will serve. **1587** *Maitland Club Misc.* (1840) II. 356 That he sould keip his hour wind and weddar servand. **1601** SHAKS. *Twel. N.* i. v. 255 'Tis in graine sir, 'twill endure winde and weather. **c1630** RISDON *Surv. Devon* §330 (1810) 341 Wind and weather were ever against him, a proverb applied to the unfortunate. **1654** BRAMHALL *Just Vind.* iv. (1661) 56 With what art. . . the Papacy . . . was tacked into the Church contrary to wind and weather. **1667** WELLSHURE in Earl Orrery *St. Lett.* (1742) 293 If it should be my fortune to meet with prizes, I shall bring them here, if wind and weather will permit me. **1712** SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 17 June, If it did not come in due time, can I help wind and weather? **1848** DICKENS *Dombey* lix, It is a great house still, proof against wind and weather.

6. As a thing devoid of sense or perception, or that is unaffected by what one does to it: in phrases usually expressing futile action or effort, as *to beat the wind* (see BEAT v. 1 c), *to speak to the wind*, *to spit against* (or *into*) *the wind*.

c1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 7072, xii hundred ogain fourti pousinde Ferd, so smoke ogain þe winde. **1526** *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 90 b, In so doynge, it may not be sayd that we bete the wynde. **1569** BLAGUE *Sch. Conceytes* 261 He spake to the winde. **1577** GRANGE *Golden Aphrod.* G. iij, I see I swimme agaynst the streame, I kicke against a gode, I caste a stone against the winde. **1578** H. WOTTON tr. *Yver's Courthe Controversie* 11. 109 Thou shalte be like him that spitteth againste the winde, whose slaver fleeth in his owne face. **1599** PEELE *David & Bethsabe* B. iij b, He . . . makes their weapons wound the senselesse winds. **1612** WEBSTER *White Divel* sig. E4, For your names, of Whoore and Murtherse they proceed from you, As if a man should spit against the wind, The filth returne's in's face. **1614** J. COOKE *Greene's Tu Quoque* G3, To strike Ayres, or buffet with the Winde, That playes vpon vs. **1622** J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Shilling* C4, Like throwing feathers 'gainst the winde. **1697** DRYDEN *Aeneis* v. 595 Entellus wasts his Forces on the Wind. **1713** SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 10 Apr., This I tell her, but talk to the winds. **1860** MISS YONGE *Hopes & Fears* I. 201 'Have you spoken to her?' 'As well speak to the wind.' **1968** *Guardian* 1 Oct. 8/5 The decision to withdraw our forces . . . was inevitable, and Mr Heath is spitting into the wind when he tells Australian audiences that a Conservative Government would go back. **1975** *Times* 10 Nov. 12/4 To adopt a vivid barrack-room expression, it is no good spitting against the wind or shouting against thunder.

7. In comparisons, as a type of violence or fury (†phr. *wroth as (the) wind*), swiftness, freedom or unrestrainable character, mutability or fickleness, lightness or emptiness (cf. 15).

13.. *E.E. Allit.* P. C. 410 He wex as wroth as þe wynde towarde our lorde. **1377** LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xvii. 350, 'I may no longer lette', quod he, . . . And went away as wynde. **c1470** *Gol. & Gaw.* 770 Schir Golgrase for greif his gray ene brynt, Wod wraith as the wynde. **1500-20** DUNBAR *Poems* lxvi. 27 Purpois dois change as wynd or rane. **1526** *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 7 b, All dependeth of a thyng that is more lyght than is the wynde. **c1585** [R. BROWNE] *Answ. Cartwright* 83 A man of the winde, and false fellowe. **1590** SHAKS. *Mids. N.* iii. ii. 94 About the wood, goe swifter then the winde. **1592** — *Rom. & Jul.* i. iv. 100 Vaine phantasie . . . more inconstant then the winde. **1606** — *Tr. & Cr.* i. iii. 253 Speake frankly as the winde. **1610** — *Temp.* i. ii. 499 Thou shalt be as free As mountaine windes. **1785** C. WILKINS tr. *Bhagvat-Geeta* vi. 66, I esteem it as difficult to restrain as the wind. **1855** LONGF. *My lost Youth* i, A verse of a Lapland song. . . 'A boy's will is the wind's will'.

II. Transferred senses. (See also 1 c, 2.)

†**8. a.** Air in general, as a substance or 'element'. *Obs.* exc. as in b.

to take wind: to become tainted or corrupted by exposure to or access of air; also *fig.*

c1250 *Hymn in Trin. Coll. Hom.* App. 258 þu scope eld & wind & water, þe molde is þet feorpe. **1393** LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. x. 56 Witt and water, wynd and fuyr. **c1400** 26 *Pol. Poems* 101/19 In heuene, wip angels, aboue þe wynde. **c1420** *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 34 Do hit in a barel penne; . . . Stop wele þu hede for wynde. **1562** J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 183 It hath tane to much wynde in the poudryng tubbe. **c1586** C'TESS *Pembroke Ps.* lv. ii, Then say I, O might I but cutt the wind Borne on the wings the fearfull dove doth beare. **1605** SHAKS. *Macb.* i. iii. 82 Whither are they vanish'd? *Macb.* Into the Ayre; and what seem'd corporall, Melted, as breath into the Winde. **a1610** HEALEY *Theophrastus* To Rdr. (1616) 12, By powring it out of the Latin into the vulgar . . . it cannot but (by my vnskilfulness) it hath taken some wind. **1626** BACON *Sylva* §98 The Sword it selfe must be Wrapp'd up Close, as farre as the Ointment goeth, that it taketh no Wind. **1685** J. CHAMBERLAYNE *Coffee, Tea, etc.* 44 If it [sc. tea] takes wind, 'tis spoiled, and has no more strength then dead leuen. **1712** J. JAMES tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 180 Settle the Ground about the Plants, lest the Roots take Wind.

b. wind and water. (a) in phr. *between* (or *betwixt*) *wind and water* (Naut.), referring to that part of a ship's side which is sometimes above water and sometimes submerged, in which part a shot is peculiarly dangerous; hence in fig. phr. expressing serious injury or attack. (b) attrib. and comb., as *wind and water line*, the part of a ship's side between wind and water; also *transf.* (see quot. 18761); †*wind and water tight* adj., proof against wind and rain or flood.

a1550 *Hye Way to Spittel Hous* 615 in Hazl. *E.P.P.* IV. 52 Landlords that do no reparacions, But leue . . . Their housyng vnkept wynd and water tyght. **1588** *Cert. Advert. Losses* *Sp. Navie* Irel. B2, One of the shot was betweene the winde and the water, whereof they thought she would haue sonke. **1614** T. HERODE in W. Foster *Lett. E. Ind. Co.* (1897) II. 94 His ship had been long out and very much eaten between wind and water. **a1652** A. WILSON *Inconstant Ladie* iii. iv, Now they haue crackt mee betwixt wind and water A'most past cure. Stay, let me feele my selfe. **1655** FULLER *Ch. Hist.* x. ii. §10 The good old man was shot between Wind and Water, and his consent was assaulted in

a dangerous joincture of time to give any denial. **1691** *Satyr agst. French* 27 These Female Frigats did more Mischiefs scatter, By their low tire of Guns 'twixt wind and water. **1726** *Adv. Capt. R. Boyle* (1768) 260 They . . . had receiv'd a Shot between Wind and Water, and the Ship leak'd very much. **1823** J. BRIC *Let.* 22 Feb. in *Corresp. D. O'Connell* (1972) II. 447 You have hit the thing between wind and water and whilst you have justly elevated your own name you have done much for your country. **1876** PREECE *Telegraphy* 161 The ground line, or, as it is more frequently termed, the wind and water line. **1876** BANCROFT *Hist. U.S.* V. ix. 426 The 'Congress' . . . was hulled twelve times, and hit seven times between wind and water. **1967** M. GILBERT *Dust & Heat* iii. 239 Mallinson must have guessed what was coming. Nevertheless, it hit him between wind and water.

9. Compressed or confined air; air that inflates or is contained within some body. Now *rare* (and superseded by *air*) exc. as in 10, 12 (b). (With quot. 1689 cf. WINDAGE 1.)

a1225 *Ancr. R.* 282 A bledde ibollen ful of winde. *Ibid.*, A nelde prikiunge worpeð al ut þene wind. **1450-1530** *Myrr. our Ladye* l. v. 17 As a blather full of wynde. **1560** B. GOOGE tr. *Palingenius' Zodiac* 1. (1561) A vij, A blather full implete wyth wynde. **1615** MARKHAM *Country Contentm.* i. viii. 109 A great ball of double leather fild with winde. **1689** BINNING *Light to Art of Gunnery* xiii. 42 How to Extract the Wind from the Bore of a Peece Geometrically, and thereby to know a fit Ball for the same.

10. a. 'Air' or gas in the stomach or intestines (or, according to early notions, in other parts of the body); flatus. †Also *pl.*

to break wind, to discharge flatus from the stomach or bowels (see BREAK v. 47); †of a remedy, to cure or dispel flatulence.

c1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 224 5if sio wamb bip windes full, þonne cymð þæt of wlacre wætan. **1398** TREVISA *Barth. De P.R.* v. xxxvii. (Bodl. MS.) Grete ventosite and winde pat stoppith þe weye of þe breepe. **a1400-50** *Stockholm Med. MS.* 151 For wynd in þe hed. **c1400** *Secr. Secr., Gov. Lordsh.* 70 It sterys hete to þe body, and destroyes wyndes. **1542** BOORDE *Dyetary* xxix. (1870) 292 Make no restriccyon of wynde and water, nor seege that nature wolde expelle. **1552** — [see BREAK v. 47]. **1611** SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* ix. xxi. §76 An ouer-much quantity of a confection to breake winde from off his stomacke. **1620** VENNERS *Via Recta* v. 89 The vse of milke is very hurtfull vnto them that are subiect to winde. **1637** MILTON *Lycidas* 126 The hungry Sheep . . . swoln with wind. **1661** PEPYS *Diary* 14 Aug., His pain (which was wind got into the muscles of his right side). **1702** J. PURCELL *Cholick* (1714) 65 When the Pain spreads itself all over the Belly, 'tis occasion'd for the most part by Winds. **1707** FLOYER *Physic. Pulse-Watch* 378 That the Liver produces a Wind in the Heart that is, the Rarification of Humours. **1851** MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* l. 206/1, I can dispel wind in two minutes. **1855** LEECH *Pict. Life & Char.* i, *Domestic Bliss*. [speaking of a baby] That is not taking notice; it's only the wind. **1897** *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 911 Even respectable people take the ether . . . pretending that it is useful for 'the wind in the stomach'.

b. to get the wind up (slang): to get into a state of alarm or 'funk'. So *to put the wind up* (a person).

1916 P. GIBBS *Battles of Somme* xxii. 172 It was obvious that the blinking Boche had got the wind up. **1918** W. OWEN *Let.* 11 Oct. (1967) 584 Shells so close that they thoroughly put the wind up a Life Guardsman in the trench with me. **1922** C. ALINGTON *Strained Relations* viii. 118, I tell you you've absolutely put the wind up Uncle Bob and Peter! They're scared to death of your finding them out.

11. a. Air inhaled and exhaled by the lungs: = BREATH *sb.* 3. *Obs.* exc. as coloured by d below.

a1000 *Riddles* xv. 14 Ic [sc. a horn] winde sceal sincfag swelgan of sumes bosme. **13..** K. *Alis.* 6415 (Laud MS.), A litel hole in her chyn Where her wynde goop out & in. **13..** *Cursor M.* 531 (Gött.) þis wind [Cott. aand] þat men drauf oft Bitakins wind þat blaius on loft. **c1400** MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxii. 99 þe preste . . . castez a clath on his mouth and stoppez his wynde. **1535** *Goodly Primer* O ij b, I begynne to wake faynte, and scarcely able to drawe my wynde. **1601** HOLLAND *Pliny* xiv. xxii. I. 427 His wind he never tooke while the cup was at his mouth, but justly observed the rule of drinking with one breath. **1606** SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* iii. ii. 33 She does so blush, & fetches her winde so short, as if she were fraid with a sprite. **1611** *Bible* Ecclus. xxxi. 19 And he fetcheth not his wind short vpon his bed [marg. Or, and lieth not puffing and blowing]. **1865** *Field* 4 Mar. 511/2 Which seemed to knock all the wind out of him. **1918** H. LAUDER *Minstrel in France* xv. 174, I had precious little wind left to breathe with.

b. Breath as used in speaking; hence transf. speech, talk (esp. in such phr. as *to waste one's wind*). *Obs.* or *arch.* (exc. as implied in LONG-WINDED 2).

a1330 *Otuel* 216 þat wind þou hauest i-lore. **c1400** *Destr. Troy* 9788 All paire wordis pai wast, & paire wynd also. **c1430** *Hymns Virgin* (1867) 97 Do way, mercy, þou spillist myche winde. **c1460** SIR R. ROS *La Belle Dame* 795 Ye noye me sore, in wastyng all þis wynde. **c1520** SKELTON *Garl. Laurel* 565, Let vs wast no wynde For ydle iangelers haue but lytill braine. **1590** SHAKS. *Com. Err.* i. ii. 53 Stop in your winde sir, tell me this I pray. **1602** — *Ham.* iv. vii. 67 For his death no winde of blame shall breath. **1616** WITTHALS *Dict.* 573 *Os opprime*, keepe your wind to coole your pottage. **1722** W. HAMILTON *Wallace* 216 The Earl Buchan, tender but, and Young He did obtain for the wind of his Tongue.

c. Breathing as a vital process; hence transf. life: = BREATH *sb.* 5. So *to slip one's wind*, to die. *Obs.* exc. in long slang.

c1450 *Cov. Myst.* (Shaks. Soc.) 226 My wynde is stoppyd, gon is my brethe. **c1530** *Songs, Carols, etc.* (E.E.T.S.) 92 Now deth is vnkynd; For he seyth: 'Man! stop thy wynde'. **1658** SIR T. BROWNE *Hydriot.* i. 8 The Scythians . . . swore by winde and sword, that is, by life and death. **1812** J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict.*, *Wind*, a man transported for his natural life, is said to be *lag'd for his wind*. **1860** *Slang Dict.* (ed. 2) 247 *To slip one's wind*, coarse expression meaning to die. **1883** *Gringo & Greaser* 1 Sept. 2/2 He had entirely slipped his

wind—for want of which he was buried the 11th ult. 1896 H. LAWSON *While Billy Boils* 233 He laid the longest strip [of bark] by the side of the corpse. . . 'Come on, Brummy, . . y'er ain't as bad as yer might be, considerin' as it must be these good months since yer slipped yer wind. I spect it was the rum as preserved yer.'

d. (a) Easy or regular breathing; power or capacity of breathing; condition with regard to respiration: = BREATH *sb.* 7. Now only in sporting phrases.

second wind, a condition of regular breathing regained after breathlessness during long-continued exertion; also *transf.* and *fig.* wind and limb, limb and wind: see LIMB *sb.* 2 d.

c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 8456 What for sorwe & eke for paine, Sche les winde & ek alaine. *Ibid.* 9226 þer whiles Merlin. . . Dede his out wende, to take þe winde. c 1440 *York Myst.* xxxv. 204 þis bargayne wil nott bee, For certis me wantis wynde. c 1440 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Kath.* II. 1465 She was lyfted vp and comforted newe a-gayn. And at the laste, whan she had caute wynde, 'Allas,' she seyde. ? 1520-30 WOLSEY in *Ellis Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. 27 My brethe and wynde by sythyn was so short that [etc.]. 1579 E. K. *Gloss in Spenser's Sheph. Cal.* Apr. 50 He was almost out of wind [other edd. winds]. 1596 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV.* II. ii. 14 If I trauell but foure foot by the squire further a foote, I shall breake my winde. 1606 CHAPMAN *Gentil. Usher* II. i. 27, I neuer was more sound of winde and limbe. 1607 MARKHAM *Cavel.* III. 8 By the many stops and stayes which are made therein, the horse recouers his winde. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* I. i. 9 Blow till thou burst thy winde. 1650 B. *Discolliminius* 39 Reformation of Religion has come. . . in such post-haste, that it hath broke its owne winde. 1686 JEVON *Devil of a Wife* I. 6 Ay and he holds out the Note of one Verse till the Clark begins to sing the next, he has a pure Wind. 1735 SOMERVILLE *Chase* I. 252 His round Cat Foot, strait Hams, and wide-spread Thighs, And his low-dropping Chest, confess his Speed, His Strength, his Wind. 1812 *Sporting Mag.* XXXIX. 18 After sparring for wind in which the Black was deficient. 1830 HOOD *Epping Hunt Adv.* to 2nd ed., I am much gratified to learn from you, that the Epping Hunt has had such a run, that it is quite exhausted, and that you intend therefore to give the work what may be called 'second wind', by a new impression. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* xxii, You had better get your wind now, and change your clothes. 1842 J. WILSON *Chr. North* I. 19 Schoolboys are generally in prime wind. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* I. v. Three-quarters of an hour are gone; first winds are failing, and weight and numbers are beginning to tell. *Ibid.* II. v. Tom. . . hits two heavy body blows, and gets away again before the Slogger can catch his wind. 1893 LYDEKKER *Horns & Hoofs* 147 A bull. . . if allowed to get its 'second wind' . . . will go on almost for ever. 1824 *Sporting Mag.* XIV. 166/2 Langan shewed a faint glimpse of second wind, and came up boldly. 1907 W. JAMES *Mem. & Stud.* (1911) x. 229 Everybody knows what it is to 'warm up' to his job. The process of warming up gets particularly striking in the phenomenon known as 'second wind'. 1948 'J. TEY' *Franchise Affair* i. 15 Perhaps it was the presence of an ally that had heartened her; or perhaps she had just got her second wind. 1963 MRS. L. B. JOHNSON *White House Diary* 21 Dec. (1970) 18, I believe I am about to catch my second wind.

(b) in reference to diseased or disordered breathing in horses: see BROKEN WIND.

[1523-:] implied in BROKEN-WINDED. 1615 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Urania* xlix. C2, When hee's [i.e. the horse is] broken in his winde. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Hor., Epist.* I. i. 14 Loose from the rapid Car your aged Horse, Lest in the Race . . . He drag his jaded Limbs, and burst his Wind. 1777 THICKNESSE *Journ. France* (1789) I. 18 A very handsome English coach-horse (a little touched in the wind). 1918 *Act 8 & 9 Geo. V* c. 13 §3 On the ground only of the stallion being affected in its wind.

e. *transf.* (Pugilistic slang). That part of the body in front of the stomach a blow upon which takes away the breath by checking the action of the diaphragm.

1823 in H. D. Miles *Pugilistica* (1906) II. 206 Ward made play—whack on the head at both sides, then at the wind. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xxvi, Judy. . . pokes him. . . particularly in that part which the science of self-defence would call his wind. 1898 *Daily News* 24 Nov. 7/3 Sharkey came back with his right, delivering several smashes on Corbett's wind.

12. a. Air as used for 'blowing' or sounding a musical instrument (*wind-instrument*) such as a horn, trumpet, flute, etc., or an organ-pipe: either (a) the blast or stream of air thus used, furnished by the breath of the player or by bellows; (b) the supply of air from which this is obtained, usually under compression (cf. 9), as in the *wind-chest* of an organ; or (c) the body of air within the instrument, whose vibration produces the sound.

spec. in *Hunting*, A blast or series of blasts on a horn blown at one breath.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* v. 443 þer is noon Instrument Delicious porugh wynd or touche or corde [etc.]. c 1500 in *Antiq. Rep.* (1809) IV. 407 Immoderate wyndes in a Clarion causith it for to rage. 1596 GRYNDALE *Hawking* etc. G. iij b. When you goe into the feld, blow with one wind one short, one long, and a longer. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* I. 708 As in an Organ from one blast of wind To many a row of Pipes the sound-board breaths. 1700 DRYDEN *Flower & Leaf* 357 Their Instruments were various in their kind, Some for the Bow, and some for breathing Wind. 1788 CROWE *Levesdon Hill* 27 Instruments of wind and string. 1873 HAMERTON *Intell. Life* I. iii. 21 The wind in the pipes of an organ. 1915 G. B. SHAW *Androcles Prol. stage dir.*, Heaving a long sigh, like wind in a trombone, he goes to sleep.

b. *transf.* The wind instruments of an orchestra (or their players) collectively, as distinguished from the 'strings' and 'percussion'. Also *pl.*, wind instruments.

1876 STAINER & BARRETT *Dict. Mus. Terms*, Wood wind, or Wood wind-band, the flutes, oboes, clarinets, bassoons, and instruments of their nature, in an orchestra. 1880 ROCKSTRO in *Grove Dict. Mus.* II. 561/2 An Orchestra consisting of thirty Stringed Instruments, with a full complement of Wind. 1904 *Daily News* 25 Feb. 8/5 The wind and percussion are prominent members of London orchestras. 1976 *Early Music* July 293/1 The author seems not to differentiate sufficiently between 'folk' and 'art' instruments of the Middle Ages, and especially when he deals with winds. 1978 P. GRIFFITHS *Conc. Hist. Mod. Music* vii. 102 His [sc. Berg's] atonal chamber concerto for piano, violin and thirteen winds. . . is full of triple formations.

13. A blast of air artificially produced, e.g. by bellows (see also 12); the rush of air caused by a rapidly moving body. *Const. of.*

1556 WITHALS *Dict.* (1562) 48 The wynde of the belowes. 1594 MARLOWE & NASHE *Dido* II. i. He. . . whistk his sword about, And with the wind thereof the King fell downe. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* II. ii. 495 With the whiffe and winde of his fell sword, Th' vnnerued Father fals. 1626 PEEKE *Three to One* B 1 b, The last Shotte flying so close by Captaine Portar, that with the winde of the Bullet his very Hands had almost lost the Sence of feeling. 1804 *Naval Chron.* XII. 247 He was knocked down by the wind of the shell. 1888 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Robbery under Arms* III. v. 75 The bullet went so close that the wind of it half turned him round.

14. The solar wind (see SOLAR a. 7), or a similar stream of particles emanating uniformly from any other star.

1966 *McGraw-Hill Encycl. Sci. & Technol.* III. 500/2 Presumably the wind is stronger when solar activity is high, but direct observations cannot be made before the next maximum. 1968 *Times* 5 Dec. 8/7 The fascinating region of space where the earth's magnetic field interacts with the 'wind' of atomic particles streaming out from the sun. 1982 *Sci. Amer.* July 83/1 Most stars, including the sun, are known to be losing mass in the form of a stellar wind.

III. Figurative and allusive uses. (See also I d, 3 b, 4, 8 a, 8 b, 10 b, and phrases in IV.)

15. Applied to something empty, vain, trifling, or unsubstantial. a. Empty talk, vain or ineffectual speech, mere 'breath' (cf. 11 b); *†occas.* empty fame (*obs.*).

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 289 Word nis 3gein hire bote wind. 1412-20 *LYDC. Chron.* Troy iv. 240 It [sc. what you say] is but wynde, no yinge for to leue. 1413 26 *Pol. Poems* 52/50 For word of wynd lityl trespase; Non harm nys don, þou3 word be spoken. c 1480 HENRYSON *Cock & Jewel* 159 (Makculloch MS.) Of þis mater to speik it wair bot wynd. 1564 BECON *Wks.* I. Pref. = Civ, When such as are yet weake in knowledge of Christ. . . see nothyng in the Preachers but wynde & words. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* vi. 282 Nor think thou with wind Of airie threats to aw whom yet with deeds Thou canst not. 1798 COLERIDGE *Three Graves* 194 A curse is wind. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* xix, Hard words, or kind ones, . . are but wind.

b. Vain imagination or conceit (with which one is 'puffed up': cf. 9); also *wind in the head* (with allusion to 10).

1484 CAXTON *Chivalry* 86 A knyght that. . . byleueth in deynaylles. . . hath gretter fayth and hope in the wynde of his hede. . . and the deynours than in god. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 103 Pryde. . . bloweth & fylleth a man or woman full of wynde & vayne glory. 1591 SAVILE *Tacitus*, *Hist.* iv. xxxix. 198 When Mutianus had filled with these windes of hope and desire his empty vainglorious minde. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 311 Many. . . puffe up their owne conceits with nothing els but winde. 1634 S. R. Noble *Soldier* III. i. E 1, Fellowes which swell bigge with the wind of praise. 1779 J. BROWN in R. Mackenzie *Life* (1918) 146, I hope the Lord has let some of the wind out of you, that I thought was in you when first I knew you. 1918 *Blackw. Mag.* Dec. 765/1 He has probably got wind in the head through living in that gorgeous Gothic pagoda.

c. *gen.*

1382 WYCLIF *Job* vii. 7 Haue mynde, for wind is my lif [COVERDALE, my life is but a wynde]. 1539 *Bible* (Great) Isa. xxvi. 18 Wee haue bene w^o chylde. . . as though we had brought forth winde. 1561 — (Genev.) Hosea xii. 1 Ephraim is fed with the winde. 1687 P. AYRES *Lyric Poems* (1906) 306 Plough water, sow on rocks, and reap the wind. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* iv. 575 Then all his Frauds will vanish into Wind. 1831 JAMES *Philip Aug.* xxi, But, in the mean time, we are disputing about wind. 1850 CARLYLE *Latter-Day Pamph.* v. 25 Is Society become wholly a bag of wind, then, ballasted by guineas?

16. a. In various proverbial and other expressions, figuring or denoting a force, agency, or influence that drives or carries one (or something) along, or that strikes upon one (or something), or to which one (or something) is exposed. Also freq. in formula *wind(s) of*. . . Cf. sense c below.

esp. in phrases (with variations: see quotes.) *what wind blows you here?*; *† all this wind shakes no corn* (*obs.*); *it's an ill wind that blows nobody good* (*orig. † to good*: cf. 3); *to raise the wind*: see RAISE v. 7. *to sow the wind and reap the whirlwind*: see WHIRLWIND 2.

(a) in neutral or favourable sense.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* II. 1104 What maner wyndes gydeth yow now here? 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 20 What wynde blowth ye hyther? *Ibid.* 30 To take wynde and tyde with me, and spede thereby. 1579-80 NORTH *Plutarch* (1595) 996 (*Antonius*) To tell him what wind brought him thither. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V.* III. iii. 30. 1639 MAYNE *City Match* I. iii, All this is possible, And in the starres and windes. 1663 PATRICK *Parab. Pilgr.* xxvii. (1687) 309 When we have the Wind and Tyde of these pleasures to help us forward. 1859 MEREDITH *R. Feverel* xxii, A good wind of laughter had relieved him of much of the blight of self-deception, and oddness, and extravagance. 1877 DOWDEN *Shaks. Prim.* v. 54 Shakspeare is not yet caught up in the passionate wind of his own imagination.

(b) in unfavourable sense. Also *fig.* (*wind of doctrine*: in allusion to *Eph.* iv. 14).

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past.* C. xlii. 306 Ne late ge eow ælcere lare wind aeweggan. [*Eph.* iv. 14.] a 1300 *Cursor M.* 26995 Quat es mans lif bot. . . a rek pat. . . skailles wit a windes blast? 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XIX. 32 The worlde is a wykkede wynde to hem pat wolde treuthe. c 1450 *Cast. Persev.* 2542 It is good, whon-so þe wynde blowe, A man to haue sum-what of his owe. c 1480 HENRYSON *Cock & Fox* 211 This wikkitt wind of adulation. 1526 TINDALE *Eph.* iv. 14 Waverynge and caryed with every wynde of doctryne. 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 30 All this winde shakis no corne. *Ibid.* 77 An yll wynde that blowth no man to good, men say. 1573-80 TUSSEY *Husb.* (1878) 29 It is an ill winde turnes none to good. 1589 R. HARVEY *Pl. Perc.* (1590) 1 All this wind shakes none of my Corne. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Affliction* (1st), Thus thinne and lean without a fence or friend, I was blown through with ev'ry storm and winde. c 1665 MRS. HUTCHINSON *Mem. Col. Hutchinson* (1846) 19 They. . . may let loose the winds of passion to bring in a flood of sorrow. 1693 CONGREVE *Old Bach.* II. i, 'Tis an ill Wind that blows no body good. 1768 [see TEMPER v. 2]. 1776 HUME *Hist. Eng., Life* (1778) I. p. xiii, This variety of winds and seasons to which my writings had been exposed. 1815 WORDSW. *Sonn.*, 'Weak is the will of Man', Wreaths that endure affliction's heaviest shower, And do not shrink from sorrow's keenest wind. 1833 MRS. BROWNING *Prometh. Bound* 1152 Such a wind of pride Impelled thee of yore full sail upon these rocks. 1907 W. RALEIGH *Shakespeare* iv. 108 If once we are foolishly persuaded to go behind the authority of Heminge and Condell. . . we. . . are afloat upon a wild and violent sea, subject to every wind of doctrine. 1913 G. SANTAYANA *Winds of Doctrine* II. 25 Prevalent winds of doctrine must needs penetrate at last into the cloister. 1926 R. H. TAWNEY *Relig. & Rise of Capitalism* III. 179 With such a wind of doctrine in their sails men were not far from the days of complete freedom of contract. 1953 H. WEISINGER *Tragedy & Paradox of Fortunate Fall* vi. 267 The winds of new doctrine swept through the streets of Athens and London and left the old and conventional modes of religious thought bare. 1953 E. COXHEAD *Midlanders* vii. 158 The winds of want still blew about the world. 1962 *Listener* 26 Apr. 717/1 Ideas. . . become ossified if they are not exposed to the wind of criticism. 1968 *Globe & Mail* (Toronto) 3 Feb. 10/5 To protect their own lives and those of their children, they will bend with the winds of war.

b. In expressions referring to a tendency, turn, or condition of affairs:

e.g. *to know which way the wind blows*; *the wind has changed*; *† is the wind in that corner or door?* (see CORNER *sb.* 1, 8, DOOR 6 b); *to sail with every (shift of) wind*, to turn every change of circumstance to one's advantage; *† to have the wind at will*, to have circumstances or conditions favourable for one's purpose.

c 1400 *Gamelyn* 703 To telle him tydynges how the wind was went. 1470-1668 [see DOOR 6 b]. 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 75, I. . . knew, which waie the winde blew. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 334 b, The Byshoppes of Germany hauynge the wynde at wyll, restore the same. 1562 BULLINGHAM in FOXE A. & M. (1563) 1541/1 W. Palmer (sayd I) is the wind in that corner with you? I warrant you it wyl blow you to litle ease at thend. 1615 SWETNAM *Arraignm. Wom.* To Rdr. A 3, You may perceiue the winde is changed into another dore. 1672 W. WALKER *Paræm.* 9 To have the wind with one. 1695 CONGREVE *Love for L.* IV. xiii, The Wind's chang'd? 1710 R. G. *Sacheverell's Def.* 7 We see the Dissenters can Sail with every Wind. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* xxv, 'Have I heard!!!' said Caleb (who now found how the wind set). 1859 FARRAR *J. Home* iv, Miss Sprong. . . seeing how the wind lay, had tried to drop little malicious hints against the favourite nephew. 1914 T. DREISER *Titan* xiii. 103, I know all about this. I've seen which way the wind is blowing. 1929 'E. QUEEN' *Roman Hat Mystery* xxii. 301 Ellery got his first indication of which way the wind blew during the meeting at the Ives-Potter house. 1957 N. MITFORD *Voltaire in Love* x. 115 Thieriot. . . seeing. . . that the wind was now blowing in Voltaire's direction, consented. . . to give the required evidence. 1976 LD. HOME (*title*) 'The way the wind blows.

c. *spec.* in *phr.* *wind* (also *winds*) *of change*. Harold Macmillan (Lord Stockton) delivered his celebrated 'wind of change' address to the South African parliament in Cape Town on 3 Feb. 1960 (see quot.). Our records show a marked increase in the frequency of the phrase after this date.

1905 S. NAIDU *Golden Threshold* 97 The wind of change for ever blows Across the tumult of our way. 1927 D. H. LAWRENCE *Mornings in Mexico* 154 The place of after-life and before-life, where house the winds of change. 1932 J. CLAPHAM *Econ. Hist. Mod. Britain* II. iii. 107 The [gas] companies or municipal works with their comfortable monopoly areas. . . began to find a little wind of change blowing among their retorts and coke heaps. 1954 J. MASTERS *Bhowani Junction* xxxix. 345 Then the great changes swept across India and the world, and she had searched, not by deliberate plan but because the wind of change blew through her too, for ways of escape. 1960 H. MACMILLAN in *Times* 4 Feb. 15/3 The wind of change is blowing through the continent. 1960 *Economist* 15 Oct. 275/2 This is but one way in which the mining complex of De Beers, Anglo American and Rhodesian Anglo American is adapting itself to the winds of change in Africa. 1965 D. FRANCIS *Odds Against* vi. 86 'Is this your own show. . . or whose?' 'I suppose—mine.' 'Uh-huh. . . The wind of change, if I read it right?' 1971 *Nature* 26 Nov. 179/1 The universities are also likely to feel some eddies from the winds of change that are swirling around the White House. 1976 'J. CHARLTON' *Remington Set* xiv. 69 The winds of change are beginning to blow. . . and your purpose in life isn't quite as defensible. . . as it used to be.

17. a. *to get or take wind*: to be revealed or divulged, become known, transpire. Now *rare*.

1667 DRYDEN & DK. NEWC. *Sir M. Mar-all* iv. i, Keep this Wooing secret; if it takes the least wind, old Moody will be sure to hinder it. 1682 *Nexu fr. France* 15 So the thing got wind, and was lookt on as a great impiety. 1711 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 30 Dec., Masham's being a lord begins to take wind: nothing at Court can be kept a secret. 1808 SCOTT *Let. to Ellis* 23 Dec. in *Lockhart*, Do you know the Review begins to get wind here? 1855 PRESCOTT *Philip II*, I. II. vi. 401 Long

before that time, the project had taken wind, and created a general sensation through the country.

b. to get wind of: to receive information or a hint of, to come to know (cf. 4). Also with clause. Hence, in recent use, *wind* = a hint or slight intimation (of). (Cf. F. *avoir le vent de*, Cotgr.)

1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* vii. vii. ¶3 The corregidor... got wind of our correspondence. **1866** P'CESS ALICE *Mem.* (1884) 133 They retreated again, when they got wind that troops were assembling. **1888** STEVENSON *Black Arrow* iv. iv. Some wind of the disaster seemed to find its way... even to the chamber where the ringers were leaping on their ropes. **1917** T. R. GLOVER *From Pericles to Philip* xii. 378 It may be that the Spartan government had some wind of this.

c. to sniff the wind: to try the atmosphere; to examine the prevailing state of affairs before taking action (cf. sense 4).

1972 'R. CRAWFORD' *Whip Hand* i. v. 22 Schuyler sniffed the wind and took his time about it. **1974** 'D. KYLE' *Raft of Swords* viii. 78 'I have no reason... I just know.' 'You sniff the wind. Very sensible. What do you smell?' **1977** *Time* 22 Aug. 5/2 Certainly the Labor government and the nation's judiciary system are sniffing the wind.

IV. Phrases with prepositions.

before the wind: see BEFORE B. 1 b.

18. by the (†a) wind (Naut.): as near as possible to the direction from which the wind is blowing (see BY *prep.* 9).

1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* i. xvii. 19 Having stroke our sayles, we did nothing but lie by the winde. **a 1612** J. MELVILLE *Celestina Naut.* (MS.). With cheerful schowt and mirrie pleasant sounde Scho saild fast be ye winde. **1627** J. SMITH *Sea Gram.* ix. 42 All your Sheats, Brases, and Tackes are trimmed by a Winde. **1697** *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3315/1 The best Sailer I ever met with by a Wind. **1794** *Rigging & Seamanship* 247*. **1806** MOORE *Steersman's Song* ii. When by the wind close-hauled we go.

19. down (the) wind. a. In the direction in which the wind is blowing; along the course of the wind. Also *down-wind* (attrib.), situated in this direction, 'lee'.

1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* iii. iii. 262 I'd whistle her off, and let her downe the winde, To prey at Fortune. **1674** N. COX *Genil. Recreat.* i. (1677) 93 The Hare... will... run upon a side or down the Wind. **1780** COWPER *Progr. Err.* 333 Down the wind she swims, and sails away. **1834** MEDWIN *Angler in Wales* i. 235, I have had a hundred trimmers floating down the wind. **1855** KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho.* xxii. The Spaniard fell off again, and went away dead down wind. **1885** LD. WALSINGHAM *Shooting* 141 (Badm. Libr.) It is best to 'give the dogs the wind' at the beginning of the day—that is, to start down wind and gradually to work the ground in the direction from which it blows. **1895** C. J. CORNISH *Wild England* 184 We... found that... the birds had all run to the edge. Here we made the mistake of working the down-wind side first.

†b. fig. Towards decay or ruin; into or (commonly) in a depressed or unfortunate condition, in evil plight; *to go down the wind*, to 'go down', decline. *Obs.*

1600 HOLLAND *Livy* xxxiv. xxiii. When they saw him downe the wind and fortune to frowne upon him. **1671** tr. *Machiavelli's Marr. Belphegor* 141 Though [he] was of one of the noblest Families... yet he was look'd upon as down the winde [orig. *poverissimo*]. **1673** CAVE *Prim. Chr.* ii. vi. 147 In the time of Constantine when Paganism began to go down the wind. **1683** — *Ecclesiastici* Introd. p. lxi. The Gentile-Temples, with all their Pomp and Retinue, went down the wind apace. **1827** SCOTT *Jrnl.* 25 Apr., The old Tory party is down the wind.

†20. in wind (fig. from 11 d): ready or fit for action of some kind. *Obs.*

1768 EARL CARLISLE in *Jesse Selwyn & Contemp.* (1843) II. 356 The shops are all as fine as if they expected you, and the people belonging to them all in wind to answer your questions. **1777** BURKE *Lett. to Sheriffs of Bristol* Wks. 1842 I. 217 In order to keep power in wind, it was necessary... to exert it in those very points in which it was most likely to be resisted.

21. in the wind. a. In (or into) the direction from which the wind is blowing; to windward: (a) in reference to something which can be scented or perceived by means of the wind blowing from where it is (cf. 4, and see also b below); (b) in nautical use; also *all in the wind* (see quot. 1769).

c 1410 [see 27]. **1580** in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 474 Wee had a ledge of rockes in the winde of vs. **1582** N. LICHFIELD tr. *Castaneda's Cong. E. Ind.* i. lxi. 130 He cut and made his course into the Sea, to bring himselfe in the winde of those Sayles. **1634** MASSINGER *Very Woman* iii. v. Oh! how she holds her nose up, like a jennet In the wind of a grass-mare! **1678** DRYDEN *All for Love* Pref., The tyrants were suspicious, as they had reason, that their subjects had 'em in the wind. **1697** *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3262/3 It blowing fresh, and they bringing their Ship in the Wind, carried away their Foretop-mast. **1700** T. BROWN tr. *Fresny's Amusem.* 3 Like a heated Stallion that had a Mare in the Wind. **1769** FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780), *All in the Wind*, the state of a ship's sails when they are parallel to the direction of the wind, so as to shake and shiver. **1834** MARRYAT *P. Simple* xvi. We threw up in the wind, and raked them. **1818** 'A. BURTON' *Johnny Newcome* iii. 175, I did not think... I was so much in drink! But now by th'holy smut I find That cursedly I'm in the wind.

b. fig. So as to be 'scented' or perceived (or so as to 'scent' or perceive something); *to have in the wind*, to 'scent', to detect or discover the presence of; sometimes, to be on the scent or trail of, be in search of.

1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* ii. iii. Lj, Where we can get any meate in the wynde, thither wyll we resort. **1599** NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* Wks. (Grosart) V. 230 Of him and none but him who in valuation is worth 18 huge Argosies... haue I took sent or come in the wind of. **1601** SHAKS. *All's Well* iii. vi. 122, I sent to her By this same Coxcombe that we haue i'th winde Tokens and Letters, which she did resend. **1624** SANDERSON *Serm.*, 1 *Tim.* iv. 4 (1674) I. 248 The Courtiers and Officers lie in the wind for them. **1771** SMOLLETT *Humphry Cl.* II. 10 June Let. i, The first was noted for having a seaman's eye, when a bailiff was in the wind. **1826** J. F. COOPER *Last of Mohicans* xiii, The Mohicans hear an enemy!... They scent danger in the wind! **1844** DICKENS *Mart. Chuzz.* xxv, Mrs. Gamp... scenting no more rum in the wind (for the bottle was locked up again) rose to take her departure.

c. predicatively: Happening or ready to happen; astir, afoot, 'up'; (of a person or thing) as the subject of what is going on, 'in the business': usually with implication of being suspected or indistinctly apprehended (cf. b).

c 1535 SIR F. BYGOD *Treat. Improprations* Dj, A thynge there is in the wynde... which I trust in God wyl one day come to lyght. **a 1566** R. EDWARDS *Damon & Pithias* (1571) B iij b, There is sumwhat in the winde: His lookes bewrayes his inwarde troubled mynde. **1681** DRYDEN *Span. Friar* iii. i. 32 Where are you, Gentlewoman? there's something in the wind I'm sure. **1748** RICHARDSON *Clarissa* II. xlv. 304 She thought something was in the wind, when my Brother came into my dining here so readily. **1826** DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* v. xiv, There must be something in the wind, perhaps a war. **1855** KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* iv, There's a woman in the wind... I'll lay my life on it. **1891** KIPLING *Light that Failed* vi, He'd have told us if there was a horse in the wind. It's a girl.

d. to hang in the wind: to remain in suspense or indecision.

c 1536 STARKEY *Lett. to Cromwell in England* (1878) p. xxxix, You schal fynd me... to be no sterter, wauarar, nor hengar in the wynd. **1555** J. PROCTOR *Hist. Wyatt's Rebell.* 42 b, Such of those partes as honge in the wind, as neuters. **1640** J. D. KNAVE in *Grain* ii. i. D 2 b, Hang not ith' winde, (delay does torture). **1881** [see HANG v. 17].

†e. to cast in the wind: to 'fling to the winds'.

1652 H. BELL *Luther's Collog.* iii. 66 Otherwise, wee had cast in the winde, and scorned to... consider of that which now wee have plainly expressed in the Scriptures. *Ibid.* xi. 178 It regarded them not, but casteth them in the winde. **f. Horsemanship.** (See quot.)

1805 C. JAMES *Milit. Dict.* (ed. 2) s.v., A horse that carries in the wind, is one that tosses his nose as high as his ears, and does not carry handsomely.

g. Naut. slang (predicatively). Intoxicated; the worse for liquor: usually with qualification, esp. *three sheets in the wind*. (Cf. *all in the wind* in a (b) above.)

1821-1883 [see SHEET sb.² 2]. **1835** *Court Mag.* VI. 197/2 The anger of those who were what is termed 'a little in the wind', was now roused. **1840** MARRYAT *Poor Jack* xlvii, I'm not in the wind, at all events, for you see I'm perfectly sober.

22. into the wind: into or towards the direction from which the wind is blowing; so as to face the wind.

1918 *Blackw. Mag.* Mar. 294/2 You [in an aeroplane] are tempted to turn into the wind and land.

23. near the wind: nearly in the direction from which the wind is blowing; hence *fig.* nearly up to the possible or permissible limit; about as far as is safe, justifiable, or decent.

1560 W. HONNYNG in *Wright Q. Eliz.* (1838) I. 44, I went so near the winde with the keper, that I told hym your Lordshippe knewe I wolde in reason respecte the game as fully as he. **a 1700** B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew.* He'll go as near the Wind as another, live as thrifty and wary as any one. **1837** WELLINGTON in *Davey's Catal.* (1895) 35 It is impossible for me to attempt to go too near the Wind. **1883** [see SAIL v.¹ 1 c].

24. off the (†a) wind (Naut.): away from the wind; the opposite of *on* or *near the wind*.

1813 *Examiner* 4 Jan. 6/1 The enemy keeping two points off the wind. **1836** MARRYAT *Pirate* xiv, The Enterprise was again steered more off the wind. **1846** RAIKES *Life of Brenton* 332 The Spartan was off the wind. **1862** 'VANDERDECKEN' *Yacht Sailor* 144 Running off the wind with a quarterly sea will test your powers to the utmost.

25. on a (less commonly the) wind (Naut.): towards or close to the direction from which the wind is blowing; (of the ship) sailing or heading in this direction.

1697 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3315/1, I crowded Sail to Leeward to him, trimming my Sails on a Wind tho' I went before it, that he should not discover my square Yards. **1748** *Anson's Voy.* iii. v. 342 The proas... sailing most excellently on a wind. **1798** in *Nicolas Disp. Nelson* (1846) VII. p. cliv, The Swiftsure and Alexander standing towards us with all sail on a wind. **1840** R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* iv, Clippers are fastest on the wind. **1897** F. T. BULLEN *Cruise of 'Cachalot'* 377 We, being 'on the wind, close hauled', were bound by the 'rule of the road at sea' to keep our course when meeting a ship running free.

26. to the wind. a. Naut. Towards the direction from which the wind is blowing; so as to be *on the wind* (see 25). *close to the wind*, very nearly in this direction: also *fig.* (see SAIL v.¹ 1 c, and cf. 23).

1795 NELSON 14 Mar. in *Nicolas Disp.* (1845) II. 15 Signal for the Fleet to come to the wind on the larboard tack. **1836** MARRYAT *Midsh. Easy* xviii, Gascoigne went to the helm, [and] brought the boat up to the wind.

b. to fling, give, throw, etc. to the winds (fig.): to cast away, reject utterly. So *to go to the winds:* to be cast away or aside, to vanish utterly.

1667 MILTON *P.L.* ix. 989 And fear of Death deliver to the Windes. **1739** J. WESLEY *Hymn*, 'Commit thou all thy Grievs'

(tr. P. Gerhardt 'Befiehl' du deine Wege') ix, Give to the Winds thy Fears. **1801** *Marvellous Love-Story* II. 319 The specious cant of subtlety and self-interest she always... 'gave to the winds'. **1884** 'EDNA LYALL' *We Two* iii, Science went to the winds. **1885** 'MRS. ALEXANDER' *At Bay* ii, You must throw your fears to the winds.

27. under the wind: on the side away from the wind; on one's lee, to leeward; *spec.* in a position of shelter from the wind; under the lee of something. Chiefly *Naut.* and *dial.*

c 1410 *Master of Game* xxvi. (1904) 83 If pei may se hym and pei be in pe wynde pei ought to wyndrawe hym in pe softest maner... and pan go preuyli to pei be vndir pe wynde. **1598** FLORIO, *Sottouento*, vnder the lee or winde. **1603** LODGE *Treat. Plague* iv. (Hunter. Cl.) 23 The healthfull ought to keepe themselves vnder, not ouer the winde. **1698** FROGER *Voy.* 42 They kept their word, so that the Portugueses conveyed the vessel under the wind into a creek. **1787** BEST *Angling* (ed. 2) 131 Always pitch your boat under the wind. **1826** SAMUELLE *Direct. Collect. Insects & Crust.* 46 The most successful places for mothing are the skirts of woods under the wind. **1893** SELOUS *Trav. S.E. Africa* 92 As he had come up under the wind, the dogs had not scented him.

28. up (the) wind: in the direction contrary to that in which the wind is blowing; against the wind: the opposite of *down (the) wind*, 19 a.

1611- [see UP *prep.*² 4]. **1709** *Brit. Apollo* II. No. 51. 2/2 Rabbits when they go a grazing in the Night go up the Wind. **1719** D'URFEE *Pills* III. 269 The Fox has broke Covert... she runs up the Wind. **1838** [see UP-WIND *adv.*]. **1859** *Sporting Mag.* Jan. 5 Passing over the earths, he came away directly, with his head up wind. **1874** *Kenel Club Stud Bk.* 128 Rake and Romp went off merrily, but flushed some birds up wind.

29. upon a wind (Naut.) = 25.

a 1687 PETTY *Treat. Naval Philos.* i. ii, The line unto which she stoops upon a Wind of either side. **1708** *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4422/7 They clapp'd again upon a Wind and left us. **1810** SCOTT *Lett. in Lockhart* (1837) II. vii. 276, I would... endeavour to go, as the sailors express it, upon a wind, and make use of it to carry me my own way. **1846** RAIKES *Mem. Brenton* 328 Every ship... made all the sail she could carry upon a wind.

30. with the wind: in the direction in which the wind is blowing. Now esp. in *fig. phr.* *gone with the wind:* gone completely (as if blown away by the wind), disappeared without trace.

1577 GOOGE tr. *Heresbach's Husb.* 41 b, In reaping, you must regarde to goe with the wynde. **1607** TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 136 He betaketh himselfe to his heeles againe, running still with the wind. **1616** W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* II. ii. 48 A gallant Stag... Came running with the winde. **1722** DE FOE *Col. Jack* (1840) 298 We went spooning away large with the wind for one of the islands. **1806** E. DOWSON *Verses* 17, I have forgot much, Cynara! gone with the wind. **1918** GALSWORDY *First & Last* ix, in *Five Tales* 61 A man, when he drowns, remembers his past. Like the lost poet he had 'gone with the wind'. Now it was for him to be true in his fashion. **1936** M. MITCHELL (*title*) *Gone with the wind*. **1948** W. S. CHURCHILL *Gathering Storm* xix. 271 The services of thirty-five Czech divisions... [were] cast away... all gone with the wind.

V. 31. Obvious combinations. a. attrib. Of, pertaining to, consisting of, produced or effected by (the) wind, as *wind-action*, *-blast*, *-current*, *-dispersal*, *effect*, *-erosion*, *-flaw* (FLAW sb.²), *-force*, *-gust*, *-movement*, *-power* (POWER sb.¹ 13), *-pressure*, *-puff*, *resistance*, *-rush*, *-shift*, *-song*, *-speed*, *-storm*, *-streak*, *-supply* (sense 12), *-torrent*, *-walk*, *-wave*, *-well*; serving for the passage of wind, as *wind-passage*; for defence against the wind, as *wind-guard*, *-shelter*.

1883 *Science* II. 142/2 This in combination with the *wind-action... has added nearly one hundred square miles of low-land. **1582** STANYHURST *Eneis* i. (Arb.) 19 A great hurly burlie the *wyndblasts. **1902** F. THOMPSON *Cecil Rhodes* 82 Like to a smouldering fire by wind-blasts swirled. **1866** A. STEINMETZ *Weathercasts* 53 Two constant principal *wind-currents—North-east and South-west. **1911** J. A. THOMSON *Biology of Seasons* iii. 277 Any structural peculiarity that increases area without increasing weight will aid in *wind-dispersal. **1937** *Wind effect [see *air position* s.v. AIR sb.¹ III. 1]. **1941** B. HELLSTRÖM in *Ingenjörsvetenskapsakad. Handl.* No. 158. 8 A denivellation of the water surface takes place, by which the level of the lake is lowered at the windward and raised at the leeward shore. This denivellation is called the Wind Effect. **1901** *Athenæum* 7 Dec. 778/2 The study of *wind-erosion of snow. **1913** J. MASEFIELD *Daffodil Fields* 110 Flicking *windflaws fill the air with brine. **1931** E. LINKLATER *Juan in Amer. i.* 15 A frown on that bland forehead was like the wind-flaw on a saucer of milk that some petulant child has blown across. **1935** *Geogr. J.* LXXXVI. 533 The most remarkable feature was the great variation in *wind-force and direction. **1976** *Islander* (Victoria, B.C.) 14 Nov. 7/2 The seas began to look greyer—but we hadn't had anything more than windforce seven—so far. **1862** *Catal. Internat. Exhib.* II. x. 12 The following designs in terra cotta chimney tops have proved themselves the most efficient *wind guards introduced. **1820** CLARE *Poems, Crazy Nell* x, A *wind-gust blew high. **1853** KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xxxv. (1856) 319 The apparent *wind-movements of our exhibitions [of aurora] in Lancaster Sound. **1900** *Jrnl. Sch. Geog.* (U.S.) Apr. 155 The average monthly wind movement at Denver is two thousand miles less than at New York. **1844** H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 303 In the *wind-passage of the fanners. **1903** *Daily Chron.* 14 Jan. 5/2 *Wind-power, water-power, and solar-power are running to waste. **1892** *Chambers's Encycl.* X. 677/2 The British Association Committee on *Wind-pressure have reported cases of 80 and 90 lb. to the square foot. **1582** STANYHURST *Eneis* iv. (Arb.) 121 Foorth with her heat fading, her liefte too *windpuf auoyded. **1881** G. M. HOPKINS *Poems* (1967) 89 A windpuff-bonnet of fawn-froth Turns and twindles. **1934** *Discovery* Dec. 344/2 At a high

speed. *wind resistance becomes an important factor. *a* 1945 E. R. EDDISON *Mezentian Gate* (1958) xxxix. 218 Their pure eyes . . . turned . . . to that thunder-laced *windrush of darkness which is the heat and unpicturable secret centre of light's and beauty's self. 1976 'A. HALL' *Kobra Manifesto* xv. 201 The faint scream of the windrush [under an aeroplane at take-off] in the roaring background. 1930 E. POUND *XXX Cantos* viii. 30 With the road leading under the cliff, in the *wind-shelter into Tuscany. 1968 G. MAXWELL *Raven seek thy Brother* ix. 127 Windshelters . . . of stone or turf and furnished with artificial nesting sites, are usually colonized immediately [by eider ducks]. 1914 J. MASEFIELD *Philip the King* 53 A sudden *windshift snatched us from our graves And drove us north. 1963 *Times* 30 May 14/7 A windshift . . . brought the nauseating smell of the penguin rookery straight over the camp. 1946 J. W. DAY *Harvest Adventure* vi. 83 Rigging drummed and whistled a raw *wind-song. 1934 *Discovery* June 150/2 High *wind-speeds in relation to aircraft. 1977 J. L. HARPER *Population Biol. Plants* x. 323 Turbulence falls off rapidly down through a canopy but is a function of wind speed, even deep in a corn crop. 1938 TREVISA *Barth. De P.R.* xvii. cxvii. (Bodl. MS.), be vine . . . wipstondeþ bi helpe perof *winde stormes. 1883 G. C. DAVIES *Norfolk Broad* xxxiv. (1884) 263 In a country as open as the sea, wind-storms are frequent and heavy. 1930 E. POUND *XXX Cantos* xxvii. 127 Twig where but *wind-streak had been. 1973 C. SAGAN *Cosmic Connection* (1975) viii. 62 The Mariner 9 photography of the Martian volcanoes, windstreaks, moons, and polar icecaps. 1879 *Organ Voicing* 6 If the holes in the upper-board . . . pinch the *wind-supply. 1929 BLUNDEN *Near & Far* 57 Dim stars like snowflakes are fluttering in heaven, Down the cloud-mountains by *wind-torrents riven. 1877 G. M. HOPKINS *Poems* (1967) 70 Summer ends now; now, barbarous in beauty, the stooks rise Around; up above, what *wind-walks! 1900 G. K. CHESTERTON *Wild Knight* 7 Meadows where the *wind-waves pass. 1946 L. D. STAMP *Britain's Struct. & Scenery* vi. 51 The waves of the sea are primarily wind-waves. 1984 A. C. & A. DUXBURY *Introd. World's Oceans* viii. 249 Most waves observed at sea are progressive wind waves . . . generated by the wind. 1936 DYLAN THOMAS *25 Poems* 23 Why east wind chills and south wind cools Shall not be known till *windwell dries.

b. objective, as *wind-gatherer*, -*seller*; *wind-cheating*, -*making*, -*spilling* (SPILL v. 13b); *wind-obeying*, -*outspeeding*, -*raising* (RAISE v. 7) adjs.; indirect objective = to (the) wind, as *wind-exposed*, -*like* adj. and adv.; = from or against (the) wind, as *wind-screening* adj.

1963 BIRD & HUTTON-STOTT *Veteran Motor Car* 246 Both had their engines placed . . . very low down so as to allow the use of flat *wind-cheating bodies. 1977 *Lancashire Life* Jan. 81/1 Because of their wind cheating shape and fairly high overall gearing, the Citroen CXs are very economical on long motorway journeys. c1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* iii. 323 *Winde-exposed Iliou. 1621 T. GRANGER *Eccles.* vi. 16. 130 The *wind-gatherer feeleth the winde, but graspeth naught. 1638 COWLEY *Love's Riddle* iv. 1, I am not satisfied with *wind-like promises Which only touch the lips. 1820 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* iii. ii. 45 Behold the Nereids under the green sea, Their wavering limbs borne on the wind-like stream. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* i. i. 64 The alwaies *winde-obeying deepe. 1820 SHELLEY *Hymn Merc.* xciv. Their *wind-outsweeping wings. 1850 THACKERAY *Pendennis* v. The *wind-raising conspiracies in which he engages with heroes as unfortunate as himself. 1923 KIPLING *Land & Sea Tales* 214 She hovers On the summits of *wind-screening seas. 1600 S. NICHOLSON *Acolastus* (1876) 28 Idle words, . . . *wind-wasting arbitrators.

c. instrumental, locative, etc. By, in, or with (the) wind, as *wind-aided*, -*beat*, -*beaten*, -*bit*, -*bitten*, -*borne*, -*broken*, -*buffeted*, -*built*, -*chapped*, -*chilled*, -*clipped*, -*curled*, -*dappled*, -*dispersed*, -*driven*, -*fanned*, -*fertilized*, -*flawed*, -*flown*, -*flushed*, -*fluted*, -*formed*, -*grown*, -*hardened*, -*heeled*, -*laced*, -*laden*, -*laid*, -*lifted*, -*loved*, -*mastered*, -*milled*, -*parted*, -*perplexed*, -*pollinated*, -*powered*, -*puffed*, -*rent*, -*rinsed*, -*ripped*, -*scarred*, -*scattered*, -*scoured*, -*scoured*, -*shorn*, -*snatched*, -*sown*, -*spun*, -*stirred*, -*stormed*, -*struck*, -*stuffed*, -*sucked*, -*swept*, -*swung*, -*thrashed*, -*torn*, -*tossed*, -*transported*, -*turned*, -*washed*, -*waved*, -*whipped*, -*worn*, -*wrinkled*, -*written* adjs.; *wind-flowing*, -*wandering*, etc. adjs.; *wind-waving* sb. and adj.; *wind-winnow* vb.

1959 *Times* 12 Mar. 3/3 Langton kicked another long *wind-aided penalty goal. 1978 *Detroit Free Press* 16 Apr. E 3/2 He won the 100-yard dash with a wind-aided performance of 9.5 seconds. 1877 G. M. HOPKINS *Poems* (1967) 66 *Wind-beat whitebeam! airy abeles set on a flare! 1582 STANYHURST *Aeneis* iii. (Arb.) 89 A *windbeaten hard shrimp. 1622 BACON *Hen. VII*, 188 The Casuall and Wind-beaten Discouerie . . . of a Spanish Pilot. 1800 CAMPBELL *Exile of Erin* 4 To wander alone by the wind-beaten hill. 1900 W. B. YEATS *Shadowy Waters* 45 These waste waters and wind-beaten sails. 1973 *Canadian Antiques Collector* Jan.-Feb. 59/1 Inland, behind wind-beaten villages and red capes. 1892 KIPLING *Other Verses* 161 In the heel of the *wind-bit pier. 1919 J. MASEFIELD *Reynard the Fox* ii. 61 Blown Hilcote Cope, *Wind-bitten beech. 1965 F. SARGESON *Memoirs of Peon* ix. 270 The trees . . . had redeemed a windbitten waste from its native barbarism. 1646 QUARLES *Sheph. Oracles* v. 52 *Wind-blazing Tapours hurry to and fro. 1842 EMERSON *Saadi in Poems* (1914) 133 To northern lakes fly *wind-borne ducks. 1969 BENNETSON & WRIGHT *Geol. Hist. Brit. Isles* xvi. 368 The brickearths may, however, have been not solely laid down in expanses of water but be in part wind-borne. 1914 J. MASEFIELD *Philp the King* 44 They have died, Far from *wind-broken Biscay, far from home. 1901 'L. MALET' *Hist. R. Calmady* v. i. 383 Heavily-cloaked figures tacking, *wind-buffed, across the grey-black street. 1820 SHELLEY *Cloud* 55 When I widen the rent in my *wind-built tent. 1629 QUARLES *Argalus & P.* iii. 3 Aprills gentle show'rs are slidden downe To close the

*wind-chapt earth. 1921 D. H. LAWRENCE *Tortoises* 25 The autumn, *wind-chilled sun-shine. 1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* xxviii, The row of *wind-clipt trees. 1952 L. MACNEICE *Ten Burnt Offerings* 51 *Wind-curl'd fountain, tigerish weir, garrulous rain. 1883 R. BRIDGES *Prometheus the Firegiver in Poet. Works* (1912) 25 Piloting over the *wind-dappled blue Of the summer-soothed Aegean. 1920 J. MASEFIELD *Enslaved* 109 The grey sea . . . cloud-coloured, flat, Wind-dappled from the glen. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* ii. xiii, The water of the kennels, *wind-dispersed, flew about in drops like rain. 1882 W. D. HAY *Brighter Britain!* i. iii. 89 The sun shining on the *wind-driven sand that covers them [sc. hilltops]. 1967 *Oceanogr. & Marine Biol.* v. 102 The Strait of Dover may accept a wind-driven residual current averaging 3½ miles and occasionally reaching 20 miles per lunar day. 1612 *Two Noble K.* v. i. 146 Pure As *windefand Snow. 1879 LUBBOCK *Sci. Lect.* i. 9 *Wind-fertilised flowers produce much more pollen than those which are fertilised by insects. 1971 G. M. BROWN *Fishermen with Ploughs* 95 A huge *wind-flawed mirror. 1820 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* iv. 222 The *wind-flowing folds Of its white robe. 1938 C. DAY LEWIS *Overtures to Death* 30 The *wind-flown tower. *Ibid.* 55 To reproach you we rise *Wind-flushed and early. 1943 - *Word over All* 15 Wherein the shores Foam-fringed, *wind-fluted of the strange earth dwell. 1911 F. O. BOWER *Plant-Life* 124 The *wind-formed dune takes a very definite crescentic shape styled a Barchan. 1660 T. GENTLEMAN *Best Way* 11 In distresse of *wind-grown Sea. 1926 D. H. LAWRENCE *Sun* iv. 17 He was powerless against her rosy, *wind-hardened nakedness. 1939 DYLAN THOMAS *Map of Love* 20 *Wind-heeled foot in the hole of a fireball. 1887 G. M. HOPKINS *Poems* (1967) 104 Curls Wag or crossbride, in a wind lifted, *windlaced—See his wind- lilylocks-laced. 1928 C. DAY LEWIS *Country Comets* 9 The unconscious dignity Of hills and *wind-laden grass. 1965 G. J. WILLIAMS *Econ. Geol.* N.Z. ix. 132/2 Both water- and *wind-laid blacksand sediments formed. 1924 'L. MALET' *Dogs of Want* iv. 112 The soft green blur and flickering flames resolved themselves into gently *wind-lifted leaves and distant sparkling water. 1936 AUDEN *Look, Stranger!* 11 Upon *wind-loved Rowley. 1945 P. A. LARKIN *North Ship* 27 Two tall ships, *wind-mastered, wet with light. 1947 DYLAN THOMAS *In Country Sleep in Horizon* Dec. 303 The dew falls on the *wind-Milled dust of the apple tree. 1827 HOOD *Hero & Leander* x, Like trees, *wind-parted, that embrace anon. 1864 G. M. HOPKINS *Poems* (1967) 128 His body sway'd upon tiptoes Like a *wind-perplexed rose. 1911 F. O. BOWER *Plant-Life* 96 As for instance in the Rue (Thalictrum), which has become *wind-pollinated. 1968 F. W. GOULD *Grass Systematics* i. 7 Grasses . . . are wind-pollinated. 1976 *Jrnl. R. Soc. Arts* CXXIV. 732/1 It is very logical to feed *wind-powered energy in the form of either electricity or direct heat directly into a buffer system and thence to direct use. 1592 NASHE *P. Penillesse* 40 Those *wind puffed bladders. 1592-6 GREENE *Groatsw. Wit Wks.* (Grosart) XII. 145 Wind-pufft wrath. 1788 COLERIDGE *Sonn. to Autumnal Moon* 7 The *wind-rent cloud. 1948 L. MACNEICE *Holes in Sky* 20 *Wind-rinsed plumage of oat-field. 1960 S. PLATH *Colossus* (1967) 33 The spindrift Ravell'd *wind-ripped from the crest of the wave. 1939 S. SPENDER *Still Centre* 41 Beyond the *wind-scarred hill. 1833 TENNYSON *Dream Fair Women* viii, White surf *wind-scatter'd over sails and masts. 1896 KIPLING *Seven Seas* 73 Bone-bleached my decks, *wind-scoured to the graining. 1980 D. K. CAMERON *Willie Gavin* vi. 54 There was hardly a year when the winter ploughs did not turn up an old hunter of that wind-scoured plain. 1898 J. G. WHITTIER *M. Martin in Poet. Works* 67/2 You *wind-scoured sand-dunes, cold and bleak. 1924 'L. MALET' *Dogs of Want* ii. 29 Bare, wind-scoured, rock-strewn slopes. 1867 J. G. WHITTIER *Poet. Works* (1898) 280/2 Lonely and *wind-shorn, wood-forsaken . . . Lieth the island of Manices. 1933 W. DE LA MARE *Lord Fish* 61 Gnarled, wind-shorn trees. 1980 R. MABEY *Common Ground* ii. i. 70 At no more than 500 feet . . . above sea level some of its windshorn oaks are reduced to a metre or so in height. 1925 C. DAY LEWIS *Beechen Vigil* 32 The *wind-snatched rumour. 1902 W. STEVENS *Jrnl.* 18 Aug. in *Lett.* (1967) 59, I lay under a group of dark cedars near that strange *wind-sown cactus with its red blossom. 1922 BLUNDEN *Shepherd* (ed. 2) 74 *Windsun leaves burn silver-grey. 1843 J. G. WHITTIER *Poet. Works* (1898) 388/1 And down again through *wind-stirred trees He saw the quivering sunlight play. 1946 R. MACAULAY in E. Brontë *Wuthering Heights* p. vi, The lonely, *wind-stormed old farmhouse that stood on the heights above Haworth's grey streets. 1880 SWINBURNE *Songs bef. Sunrise, Christmas Antiphones* iii. 64 Though man's vain desire Hang faith's *wind-struck lyre Out in tuneless air. 1627 MAY *Lucan* iii. 1 Now had the *wind-stuff'd sails brought out the Fleet. 1946 R. S. THOMAS *Stones of Field* 26 The *wind-sucked bone shoves blue. 1812 TENNANT *Anster Fair* ii. lxx, From Cellardyke to *wind-swept Pittenweem. 1877 BLACK *Green Past.* xxxiv, The wind-swept waters. 1805 SCOTT *Last Minstr.* i. xiv, The groan of the *wind-swung cak. 1933 SOMERVILLE & ROSS *Smile & Tear* ix. 98 A few miserable *wind-thrashed ash-trees. 1910 KIPLING *Rewards & Fairies* 244 The *wind-torn breaker-tops. 1957 T. GUNN *Sense of Movement* 58 Not like the fighting boys and wind-torn rooks. 1838 J. R. LOWELL *Class Poem* 20 Flapping his raven pinions in the west, The thunder brooding o'er his *wind-toot crest. 1860 MISS YONGE *Hopes & Fears* i. 240 Lucilla . . . before the glass, arranging her wind-tossed hair. 1887 BOWEN *Virg. Aeneid* vi. 335 Over the wind-tossed waters. 1946 F. E. ZEUNER *Dating Past* iii. 56 Minute grains of *wind-transported pollen caught on the wet surface of the bog. 1935 DYLAN THOMAS in *Life & Lett.* To-day Dec. 75 Doom on deniers at the *wind-turned statement. 1971 *Country Life* 8 July 84/1 The raw elements of Millet's compositions, granite walls, dirty-legged cattle, . . . wind-turned trees. 1820 SHELLEY *Witch All.* l. 6 Some *wind-wandering Fragment of inky thunder-stroke. 1912 C. MACKENZIE *Carnival* xvi. 186 At such an hour . . . even Piccadilly Circus stands . . . *wind-washed and noble. 1919 J. MASEFIELD *Reynard the Fox* 92 The wind-washed steeple stood serene. 1809 R. KERR *Agric. Surv. Berwick* 233 In years of peculiarly windy weather, the stem, where it enters the earth, is often blown about, in a whirling manner. . . This is provincially called *wind-waved. 1928 BLUNDEN *Retreat* 18 The wind-waved bough betrayed the wild sylph glancing. 1799 W. NICOL *Pract. Planter* i. 13 *Wind-waving . . . by loosening the old, and . . . breaking the new fibres, contributes to stint the whole tree in growth. c1300 *Metr.*

Hom. (Small) 36 To se a *wind wauande rede. 1848 BUCKLEY *Iliad* 406 The wind-waving fig-tree. 1873 B. HARTE *Fiddletown* 28 There was a fierce unrest in the *wind-whipped streets. 1710 HILMAN *Tusser Rediv.* Sept. (1744) 116 A Cart Nave I suppose is to stand up upon when they *Wind-winnow. 1816 BYRON *Ch. Har.* iii. xxxii, The ruin'd wall Stands when its *wind-worn battlements are gone. 1925 V. WOOLF *Mrs Dalloway* 242 Suddenly she shoots to the surface and sports on the *wind-wrinkled waves. 1921 F. B. YOUNG *Black Diamond* ix. 116 They crossed a zone of huge, *wind-writhen hawthorns. 1954 J. R. R. TOLKIEN *Fellowship of Ring* 401 High ridges crowned with wind-writhen firs.

d. similitive and parasyntetic, in epithets (chiefly poetic) expressing swiftiness, as *wind-foot*, -*footed*, -*grey*, -*hard*, -*long*, -*raw*, -*smooth*, -*swift*, -*wild*, -*winged* adjs.

1598 CHAPMAN *Iliad* vii. [xi.] 178 The *wind-foote swift Thaumantia obayde. 1848 BUCKLEY *Iliad* 272 *Wind-footed, swift Iris. c1944 A. POWER *From Old Waterford House* xi. 95, I had seen it under so many moods, from *wind-grey to sun-yellow. 1954 W. FAULKNER *Fable* 184 Like the *wind-hard banner of the old Norman earl. a1890 G. M. HOPKINS *Poems* (1967) 180 Or *wind-long fleeces on the flock A day off shearing day. 1922 JOYCE *Ulysses* 48 About her *windraw face her hair trailed. 1929 E. SITWELL *Gold Coast Customs* 38 *Wind-smooth fruits. c1280 *Names of Hare in Rel. Ant.* i. 133 be *wint swift. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* ii. v. 8 Therefore hath the wind-swift Cupid wings. 1883 BRIDGES *Prometh.* 530 Meteors . . . ever on their windswift course. 1936 C. DAY LEWIS *Noah & Waters* 50 Under the *wind-wild sky. c1595 J. DICKENSON *Sheph. Compl.* (1878) 11 The *wind-wing'd Naiads. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* ix. xxii, O Spring, of . . . love, and youth, and gladness Wind-winged emblem.

32. Special combinations: *wind axis Aeronaut.*, each of a set of rectangular coordinate axes having their origin in the aircraft and the x-axis in the opposite direction to the relative wind; usu. *pl.*; *wind-balanced a.*, applied to rotary gun mountings on aircraft having a device which automatically compensates for the turning moment caused by air pressure on the guns; also *wind-balancing vbl. sb.*; †*wind-balk*, (*a*) = WIND-BEAM¹ (see BALK sb.¹ 11); (*b*) = WINDROW sb. (cf. BALK sb.¹ 11); *wind-bar*, the back of the wind-chest of an organ; †*wind-barge*, a slab placed along the edge of a roof as a protection from the wind (cf. WATER-BARGE); †*wind-bed*, an air-bed; *wind-bells sb. pl.*, slips of glass or porcelain suspended from a frame so as to tinkle against one another in the wind; *wind-belt*, a belt of trees planted for protection from the wind; *wind-bill Sc.* (cf. sense 15), an accommodation-bill; †*wind-bladder*, (*a*) an inflated bladder; (*b*) the air-bladder of a fish; *wind-blow*, (*a*) a stretch of land eroded by wind; (*b*) (sec quot. 1955); (*c*) = *windthrow* below; *wind-blown a.*, blown up or inflated; blown along or about; blown upon by (the) wind; *windblown bob* [BOB sb.¹ 5b], a bobbed hairstyle popular among women in the 1930s (see quot. 1975); *wind-bore*, the suction-pipe of a pump, or the lower end of this; *wind-box* = *wind-chest*; *wind-brace*, a diagonal brace (BRACE sb.² 17) connecting the rafters of a roof; *wind-bracing*, connecting members designed to stiffen a building or other structure against the wind; the provision of such members; *windbreaker*, †(*a*) (cf. 10), a drug that expels flatulence, a carminative; (*b*) U.S. = WIND-BREAK 1; (*c*) U.S. (with capital initial) the proprietary name of a kind of shirt or leather blouse; *gen.* (chiefly N. Amer.) = *windcheater* (*b*) below; †*wind-breaking a.*, carminative; †*wind-broach* [cf. BROACH sb.¹ 12], a name for a hurdy-gurdy; *windburn* [after *sunburn*, etc.], (usu. superficial) inflammation or discoloration of the skin caused by exposure to wind; hence *wind-burned*, -*burnt a.*; †*wind-cane* = WIND-GUN; *windcap Mus.* [tr. G. *windkapsel*] = *reed caps* v. REED sb.¹ 13 a; freq. *attrib.*; †*wind-catch*, a squall of wind; *wind-changing a.*, changing like the wind, inconstant; *wind-channel* = *wind tunnel* below; *windcharger*, a small windmill which generates electricity for a farm, dwelling, etc.; *windcheater*, (*a*) *Golf*, a ball driven low into the wind, *spec.* one played with strong backspin (see quot. 1909); (*b*) a kind of wind-resistant jacket or blouson; *wind-chest*, an airtight chest or box in an organ or similar instrument, which is filled with wind from the bellows, and from which the wind is admitted to the pipes or reeds; *wind chill*, the cooling effect of moving air on a body; also, = *wind-chill factor*; *wind-chill factor*, index, a measure or scale of the combined effect of low temperature and wind-speed on body temperature (see quot. 1939); *wind chimes sb. pl.* = *wind-bells* above; *wind-cistern* = *prec.*; *wind-cock*, †(*a*) = *wind-mow*; (*b*) a weathercock; *wind-colic*, colic caused by flatulence; *wind cone Aeronaut.* =

wind sock below; *wind-contusion*, an internal injury without any external mark of violence, formerly supposed to be caused by the 'wind' (see 13) of a cannon-ball, shell, or other projectile; *windcrust Mountaineering*, a crust formed on the surface of soft snow by the wind (see quot. 1936); *wind-dial*, a dial showing the direction of the wind by means of a pointer connected with a wind-vane; also *fig.* (cf. 16 b); † *wind-discusser* = *wind-breaker*; *wind-dog* [DOG sb. 10 a], name for a fragment of rainbow, supposed to presage wind; † *wind-dropsy* = TYMPANITES, TYMPANY 1; *wind energy*, energy obtained from harnessing the wind; cf. SOLAR a. 4 a; *wind-engine*, a machine driven by the wind, as a windmill; † *wind-fan*, a winnowing-fan; *wind-fanner* (-vanner) *local*, the kestrel; *wind farm*, a group of energy-producing windmills or wind turbines; *wind-fast a.* = WIND-TIGHT 1; † *wind-fill v. trans.*, to fill up gaps or cavities in (a wall, etc.) so as to keep the wind out (cf. FILLING vbl. sb. 2); † *wind-flaucht a. or adv. Sc.* [FLAUGHT *adv.*], sprawling, as if overthrown by the wind; *wind-furnace*, a furnace in which the draught is obtained by means of a (high or narrow) chimney without the aid of bellows or other mechanical blower as in a *blast-furnace*; *wind-firm a.*, of a tree: firmly rooted so as to be able to withstand strong winds; hence *wind-firmness*; *wind-flag*, a flag on a shooting-range designed to indicate the direction and force of the wind; *wind-gap* (see GAP sb. 1 5 b); *spec.* (see quot. 1939); † *wind-glass* (see quot.); *wind-god*, a deity presiding over the winds; † *wind-gout*, gout supposed to be caused by 'wind' (see 10); *wind-grass*, a name for *Agrostis Spicaveni*; † *wind-hand*, the side towards the wind; *wind-harp*, an Aeolian harp (also *allusively*); *wind-hole*, † (a) the opening at the top of the windpipe, the glottis; (b) an opening in brickwork for the passage of air; (c) the hole in the lower board of a pair of bellows; (d) a ventilating shaft in a mine; (e) each of the openings in the sound-board of an organ, through which wind is admitted to the pipes; *wind-jacket* = *windcheater* (b) above; *wind-jammer slang*, (a) U.S. a bugler, bandsman; (b) a sailing-vessel (*obs. exc. Hist.*); (c) U.S. a rumour-monger, a loquacious person; (d) = *windcheater* (b) above; hence *wind-jamming*, (a) sailing a windjammer; (b) talking, gossiping; (c) playing a wind instrument; *wind-knot*, a knot tied on a rope, supposed magically to ensure a favourable wind; *wind-lane*, a current on the surface of a body of water, caused by the wind; † *wind-lap*, the tongue or reed of a wind-instrument; *wind-lipper* *Naut.* [LIPPER sb. 1], a rippling or ruffling of the surface of the water caused by the first rising of a breeze; *wind-list* [LIST sb. 3 4] (see quot.); *wind load Engin.*, the force on a structure arising from the impact of wind on it; also *wind loading*; *wind-logged a.* [cf. WATER-LOGGED] (see quot.); † *wind-loft* *Naut.*, ? = *wind-taut* sb.; *wind-lop* *Canad.* [LOP sb. 6], a choppy surface on the sea, caused by wind; *wind-machine*, a machine driven by the wind, or one for producing a 'wind' or blast of air; (a) *spec.* one that blows out relatively warm air for protecting crops against frost (see quot. 1976²); (b) in theatrical and other productions, a machine for simulating the sound or other effects of wind; also *fig.*; *wind-motor* [MOTOR 3], a machine deriving its motive power from the force of the wind; esp. of the form of a windmill; *wind-mow dial.* [MOW sb. 1], one of a number of small ricks in which hay or corn is temporarily stacked in showery weather to be dried by exposure to the wind; † *wind-music*, music played on wind-instruments; also such instruments themselves, or a company of players on them (cf. MUSIC sb. 5, 6); † *wind-musket* = WIND-GUN; *wind noise*, the sound of the wind against a motor vehicle moving at speed, as heard within the vehicle; *wind-pinning* [cf. PIN v. 1 3 c, PINNING 1 a, 2 a], the filling up of interstices in masonry to keep out the wind; *wind-pole* [POLE sb. 2], each of two opposite points of the compass taken as the standard ones in relation to the direction of the wind; *wind-porch*, a chamber constructed on the inner side of a doorway to keep the wind out; *wind-pox*, chicken-pox (Billings *Med. Dict.* 1890); *windproof a.*, impervious or resistant to wind; used esp. of outer garments; hence *ellipt.*

as *sb.*, a windproof garment; *wind-pump*, † (a) an air-pump; (b) a pump driven by a wind-wheel (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875); † *wind-ræs* [RESE sb.], a storm of wind; † *wind-rake*, ? the raking up of windfalls, or the right to do this; *wind-reef U.S.*, the semblance of a reef on the surface of a river, caused by the wind; *wind-road*, (a) a track or course habitually taken by the wind (*nonce-use*); (b) a passage for ventilation in a mine (Gresley *Gloss.* 1883); *windrock*, damage to the roots of young plants, caused by the movement of the stem in the wind; also as *v. trans.*; so *wind-rocking*; *wind-rode*, also † *-road* (see RIDE v. A. 3 γ), *a. Naut.*, swung by the wind, as a ship riding at anchor (opp. to *tide-rode*: see TIDE sb. 16 b); also as *sb.*, the position of a ship so riding; *wind-scorpion* = SOLPUGID; *windscreen*, a screen for protection from the wind, now esp. in front of the driver's seat on a motor-car; *windscreen washer* = *screen-washer* s.v. SCREEN sb. 1 9 a; *windscreen wiper*, a device (usu. one of a pair) on a motor vehicle for automatic wiping of the outside of the windscreen during rain, snow, etc., usu. consisting of a mechanically or electrically operated moving rubber blade; also one on an aircraft; *wind shadow*, (a) *nonce-use*, a ripple caused by the wind on water and having the appearance of a shadow running over it; (b) an area behind a moving object where the air is disturbed and its pressure reduced; *wind-shaft*, the shaft that carries the sails in a windmill; *wind shear*, a variation in wind velocity along a direction (usu. vertical or horizontal) at right angles to the wind's direction; *windship*, a wind-powered ship; a sailing-ship; *wind-sight*, a special arrangement of the back-sight of a rifle capable of adjustment to compensate for the effect of wind on the bullet; *wind-slab* *Mountaineering*, a thick wind-crust, of a kind liable to slip and create an avalanche; cf. *slab avalanche* s.v. SLAB sb. 1 6; *wind-slash*, slash resulting from windthrow; *wind sleeve* *Aeronaut.* = *wind sock*; *wind sock*, a cloth cone flown from a mast, esp. on an airfield, to indicate the direction of the wind; = DROGUE 3 (c); *wind-spider* = *wind-scorpion* above; *wind-splitter* *colloq.* (chiefly U.S.), something so sharply drawn or so swift as to suggest the notion of splitting the wind; cf. WIND-CUTTER; so *wind-splitting a.*; *wind sprint* *Athletics* (see quot. 1948); *wind-stocking* = *wind sock* above; *wind-stream*, an air-stream, esp. the disturbed air in the wake of an aircraft; *wind stress*, stress or force due to wind; *wind-stroke*, a stroke or injury caused or supposed to be caused by the wind (see quot.); *wind-swell*, a form of swell in an organ operated by a valve in the wind-trunk; *wind-swept a.*, (a) (see sense 31 c); (b) *spec.* of a hair-style, designed to give the appearance of having been blown by the wind (cf. *windblown* *bob* above); *wind-taut a.*, *Naut.* [from phr. *to hold wind taut*]: see quot.; also as *sb.* = condition of being wind-taut; *wind-throistle* = *wind-thrush*; *windthrow*, the uprooting and blowing down of trees by the wind; also (usu. *attrib.*) of timber so uprooted; *wind-thrush*, the redwing; *wind-tie* = *wind-brace*; *wind-trunk*, a large tube (usually of wood) in an organ or similar instrument, through which the wind passes from the bellows to the wind-chest; *wind tunnel*, a tunnel-like apparatus for producing an air-stream of known velocity past models of aircraft, buildings, etc., in order to investigate flow or the effect of wind on the full-size object; also *attrib.*, *transf.*, and *fig.*; *wind turbine*, a turbine driven by wind; an apparatus designed to generate electricity when a large vaned wheel is rotated by the wind; *wind-vane*, (a) the sail of a windmill (= VANE 3 a); (b) a weathercock (= VANE 1); *wind-vanner*: see *wind-fanner* above; † *wind-vent* = SUSPIRAL 2; *wind-way*, (a) a ventilating passage in a mine, an air-way; (b) the narrow slit in an organ-pipe through which the wind strikes upon the lip so as to make the pipe speak; also in a woodwind instrument; (c) access of the wind to a sailing vessel so as to give her freedom of passage (cf. WAY sb. 1 6); *wind-wheel*, a wheel turned by the wind to drive some mechanism, as in a windmill or wind-pump; *wind wing U.S.*, † an adjustable glass ventilation panel attached to the side of the windscreen of a motor vehicle (*obs.*); a small ventilation window or quarterlight on a motor

vehicle; † *wind-work* (cf. 11), the process or function of respiration.

1932 *Jrnl. R. Aeronaut. Soc.* Mar. 194 Calculations... of a complete model rotated about the *wind axis... give a fair approximation to the spinning characteristics of the aeroplane. 1984 F. J. HALE *Introd. Aircraft Performance* i. 4 The wind axes are not body axes; that is, they are not fixed to the aircraft other than at the cg. A change in the direction of flight can change *x* without changing the attitude of the aircraft. 1928 *Daily Tel.* 6 Mar. 6/3 Royalties not exceeding £7,500 to Messrs. Vickers, Ltd., for *wind-balanced ring mountings. 1928 G. F. S. GAMBLE *Story N. Sea Air Station* xiii. 219 A wind-balancing gear was provided which relieved the observer of much fatigue at high altitudes. 1532-3 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 173 Pro sarracione 1½ rod in *wyndbalks, stoyes, pouynchys, 4s. 8d. 1611 *COTGR.* s.v. *Rouë*, *Mettre le foïn en rouë*, viz. in wind-baulkes, or wind-rows. 1894 *Northumbld. Gloss.*, *Wind-balk*, a wind-beam or collar-beam; a beam stretching across the upper part of two roof principals. (Obs.) 1881 W. E. DICKSON *Organ-Build.* v. 60 The back of the chest, called the *wind-bar, ... should be of strong and sound stuff. 1603 G. OWEN *Pembrokeshire* (1892) 79 Arches, Coinestones, waterberges, and *wynd berges or any other hewen worke. 1576 *TURBERV. Venerie* 194 Some vse to carrie a *Windbed which is made of leather strongly sowed on all four sides, and having a pype at one of the corners to blow it, ... and when it is blown full of wind, to stoppe it vp and lie vpon it on the grounde. 1901 'L. MALET' *Hist. R. Calmady* II. ii. 105 They pressed him back and back against the base of a seven-storied pagoda, the *wind-bells of which jangled far above him from the angles of its tiers of fluted roofs. 1983 *Daily Tel.* 21 Oct. 16/1 Windbells tinkled from the eaves of temples, spreading the Holy Word of Buddha, keeping demons away. 1903 C. BALD *Indian Tea* x. (1917) 128 This characteristic [*sc.* evergreen foliage] makes the several varieties of *Dalbergia* very suitable for planting as *windbelts. 1813 *HEADRICK Agric. Surv. Forfarshire* 589 If they [*sc.* bank notes] be not convertible into specie at the option of the holder, there is a strong temptation to issue them on what are called *wind bills, where there is no corresponding value of commodities in existence. 1821 *SCOTT Pirate* iv. He would have got a bank-credit, manœuvred with wind-bills. 1594 *NASHE Terrors* Nt. To Rdr., If they chance but on a moate or a *wind bladder, they neuer haue done with it, till they haue cleane... tost it out of sight. 1692 *RAY Creation* i. (ed. 2) 141 As for Fishes... The Wind-bladder, wherewith most of them are furnished, serves to poise their Bodies. 1921 H. GUTHRIE-SMITH *Tutira* xx. 180 The sheep... are returing the naked *windblows. 1944 W. STEVENS in *Q. Rev. Lit.* Spring 157 The drivers in the wind-blows cracking whips. 1955 *Britannica Bk. of Year* 489/2 *Wind-blow*, a destructive gale of wind. 1961 *New Scientist* 16 Mar. 66/2 Comparisons have been made of trees on sites where wind-blow has occurred and those where similar trees are stable. 1970 *National Trust* Spring 18/3 Marram grass... holds the sand together and reduces the effects of wind blow. 1593 *NASHE Christ's T.* 72 What is beauty more then a *wind-blowne bladder? 1600 ROWLANDS *Letting of Humours* Blood Sat. vii. 83 More light and toyish than the wind-blown chaffe. 1638 *BATHWAIT Barnabees Jrnl.* 1. (1818) 17 A wind-blowne house. 1876 M. COLLINS in F. Collins *Lett. & Friendsh.* (1877) II. 158 Wind-blown daffodils. 1888 F. COWPER *Cædwalla* i. 6 A low island, covered with bushes and a few wind-blown trees. 1933 N. WALN *House of Exile* III. i. 187 She had her hair cut in a new fashion which, she told me, was called a windblown bob. 1975 *Fairchild's Dict. Fashion* 262/2 *Wind-blown bob*, popular 1930's woman's hairstyle, cut short and shingled... so that hair fell softly about the face as if blown by the wind. 1797 *CURR Coal Viewer* 58 The *Wind Bores... May be cast 8 feet long with a plain or egg bottom. 1838 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* I. 189/1. 1852 *SEIDEL Organ* 38 A square box, called the *wind-box. 1889 *Cath. Household* 30 Nov. 4 Traceried *windbraces. 1890 W. J. GORDON *Foundry* 51 The *wind-bracing was fitted in its long diamonds of lattice. 1911 *HUSBAND & HARBY Structural Engin.* ix. 278 Wind bracing in roofs is employed to counteract the overturning moment of the wind acting on the ends. 1961 *Listener* 28 Sept. 464/1 An enormous funnel of unoccupied space goes from top to bottom of it [*sc.* a skyscraper] in order to provide mere wind bracing for the rest of it. 1974 *Sci. Amer.* Feb. 98/2 The statue [of Liberty] posed a special problem in wind bracing. 1694 *SALMON Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 620/1 The sugared oily Carminative... or *Wind-breaker. 1873 J. H. BEADLE *Undevel.* West xxiv. 730 If there is any wind-breaker northwest, between there and Alaska, I had no evidence of it. 1918 *Official Gaz.* (U.S. Patent Office) 5 Nov. 214/2 The Hilker-Wiechers Manufacturing Co., Racine, Wis. *Windbreaker*... Men's shirts for outer wear. 1925 *Ibid.* 13 Jan. 256/2 Gufertman Bros., Inc., St. Paul, Minn... *Windbreaker*... Leather blouses, shirts, [etc.]. 1934 *Beaver* (Winnipeg) June 6/2 The wind-breakers and coats are shown by a series of photographs. 1964 'R. MACDONALD' in H. Q. Masur *Murder most Foul* (1973) 109 A man with a bulky shoulder harness under his brown suede windbreaker. 1985 *Times* 9 Feb. 36/4 The terminal was full of muscular young men in windbreakers and running shoes. 1609 *ROWLEY Search for Money* (Percy Soc.) 17 Good holsome *windebreaking pippins. 1653 *URQUHART Rabelais* II. xxx. 198 A... player on that instrument which is called a *windbroach. 1702 T. BROWN *Lett. fr. Dead Wks.* 1730 II. 234 To fumble out a fine sonata upon a wind-broach. 1939 C. MORLEY *Kitty Foyle* xxx. 313 It was comical to see the dames... worrying about *windburn and sunsquin and brittle nails. 1977 *Birds* Spring 40 All night my skin is hot with windburn, and between my teeth... the salt-sharp flavour of the rain. 1942 J. STEINBECK *Moon is Down* vi. 137 They were *windburned and strong... Will Anders and Tom Anders, the fishermen. 1954 'BRYHER' *Fourteenth of October* ii. 17 His eyes were the same blue in his windburnt face. 1981 'E. LATHEN' *Going for Gold* iv. 40 Practicing for the Swiss women's slalom team had left her with windburned cheeks. 1723 E. STONE tr. *Bion's Math. Instrum.* III. ii. (1758) 95 The Construction of the *Wind-Cane. 1940 C. SACHS *Hist. Musical Instr.* (1942) xv. 320 *Wind-cap instruments were first introduced to art music in the fifteenth century. The cromorne was the oldest European instrument with a wind cap. 1970 W. APEL *Harvard Dict. Music* 588/2 More important are the *crumhorns*... Their tube was nearly cylindrical... and a pierced cap (wind cap) covered the reed so that the player could not touch it. 1980 *Early Music Gaz.* Apr. 13/3 There

will be a weekend for players of the recorder, gemshorn, windcap instruments, cornetti and for renaissance dancers in Hutton Hall, near Carlisle. **1610** FOLKINGHAM *Feudigraphia* 10 Sweeping or floating Waters, which flit and fleete to and fro with *wind-catches. **1665** W. DOPSON *Designe Draining Gt. Level Fens* 13 Those Banks I did not make for Sea Banks, . . . but laid them near to avoid a Windcatch. **1593** SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI.* v. i. 57 *Wind-changing Warwick now can change no more. **1918** COWLEY & LEVY *Aeronautics* iv. 98 A series of experiments are conducted in the *wind channel to test the lift and drag for different forms of sections. **1972** *Nature* 18 Aug. 375/1 The secrecy . . . was lifted in 1919 to reveal . . . developments in techniques for scale model testing in wind 'channels' (tunnels). **1946** E. W. MANNING *Igloo for Night* 156 We could hear the wind tearing past, and the high screaming whine as it met the wires of the radio masts and the *wind-charger. **1949** *Farmer's Weekly* (S. Afr.) 13 July 69/5, I have an old car generator. Can this be converted into a windcharger? **1976** *Sci. Amer.* June 94/3 The introduction of the windcharger in the 1930's brought to remote farms and ranches enough electricity to power radios and a few light bulbs and appliances. **1909** P. A. VAILE *Mod. Golf* xii. 180 The *wind-cheater, the ball that skims away over the daisies and then rises gracefully at the end of its flight, to fall sometimes almost dead. **1940** [see *crew neck* s.v. *CREW* sb. 7]. **1956** L. MCINTOSH *Oxford Folly* 53 Incongruous in his neat suit and tidy hair among the tousled undergraduates in windcheaters or polo-necked sweaters. **1977** G. PEPER *Scrambling Golf* ix. 162 One of those low, delayed-rising 'wind-cheaters'. **1982** C. THOMAS *Jade Tiger* 195 The first chill of the night, seeping through his thin windcheater, alerted and refreshed him. **1797** *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XIII. 487/2 (*Organ*) IKKK is the *wind-chest, which is a square box fitted close to the under side of the lower board. **1852** SEIDEL *Organ* 52 The length of the wind-chest depends on the compass of the keyboard. **1939** P. A. SIPLE *Adaptations of Explorer to Climate of Antarctica* (Ph.D. diss., Clark University) 166, I therefore propose in this discussion to multiply temperatures in degrees Centigrade below freezing by wind velocity in meters per second, the product of which I shall call the *wind-chill index. *Ibid.* 177 July exhibited a mean wind-chill of 462.8. **1949** *Jrnl. R. Aeronaut. Soc.* LIII. 1/2 'Wind Chill' . . . This is the worst form of cold weather to encounter, as not only does it cause exhaustion, low morale, pain and frustration, but in some cases the lack of the will to live when the wind chill factor is unusually high. **1959** R. E. HUSCHKE *Gloss. Meteorol.* 629 *Wind-chill index*—(Also called *wind-chill factor*), the cooling effect of any combination of temperature and wind, expressed as the loss of body heat in kilogram calories per hour per square meter of skin surface. **1963** *New Scientist* 7 Feb. 276/1 Wind chill, which is actually another name for the dry convective cooling power of the atmosphere, is a term descriptive of the cooling effect of air movement and low temperature. **1977** J. F. FIXX *Compl. Bk. Running* xiii. 151 Because of the wind-chill factor, a given temperature feels colder than in still weather. **1985** *Times* 8 Jan. 26/4 Francis Wilson, the BBC weatherman, yesterday introduced *Breakfast Time* viewers to a new and chilly forecasting feature: the 'wind chill factor'. **1958** T. WILLIAMS *Orpheus Descending* iii. iii. 85 Someone has entered the confectionery door, out of sight, and the draught of air has set the *windchimes tinkling wildly. **1976** M. MILLAR *Ask for Me Tomorrow* (1977) iii. 18 Go . . . to the glass door and shake the wind chimes good and hard. She's in Marco's room. **1880** E. J. HOPKINS in *Grove Dict. Mus.* II. 605/1 The *wind-cisterns or wind-chests. **1610** R. VAUGHAN *Water-Workes* M 4 b, You mow one day, you ted another, you spend one in gathering it into *winde-cockles. **1920** MASEFIELD *Right Royal* 5 Spires of churches gleaming with swinging wind-cocks on their perches. **1593** NASHE *Christ's T.* 45 b, Every part of thee [shall] be wrunge as with the *wind-chollick. **1654** GATAKER *Disc. Apol.* 57, I came home, arrested with a sharp fit of the Wind-Colick. **1731** FIELDING *Tom Thumb* i. iii, I feel a sudden Pain within my Breast, Nor know I whether it arise from Love, Or only the Wind-Cholick. **1822-7** GOOD *Study Med.* (1829) I. 239 The oppressive distention of wind-colic. **1918** *Flight* 2 May 496/1 A *wind cone set up in . . . fields . . . near aerodromes, would enable cross-country fliers to know . . . where to land and in what direction. **1857** DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.*, *Wind of a ball*, a term applied to the compression of air, supposed to be produced by the passage of a ball near a part of the body, so as to occasion what has been called a *wind contusion. **1877** LONGMORE *Gunshot Injuries* 95 The true explanation of the phenomena observed in cases of so-called 'wind contusions' is to be found in the peculiar direction, the degree of obliquity, with which the missile has happened to impinge against the elastic skin. **1936** E. A. M. WEDDERBURN *Alpine Climbing* iv. 50 Wind both causes the snow to drift and forms a crust on the powder snow; this is the chief kind of crust found in winter. It is most important to distinguish between sun crust and *wind crust. **1955** E. HILLARY *High Adventure* 69 The surface here was most unpleasant—a thick wind-crust over deep unstable snow. **1706** in Ashton *Soc. Life Reign Q. Anne* (1882) II. 56 The *Wind Dial, lately set up at Grigsby's Coffee . . . House, . . . being of Constant use to those that are in any wise Concerned in Navigation. **1761** LD. HARDWICKE in *Life* (1847) III. xiv. 257 A great change was made in the political wind-dial before you left us. **1676** J. COOKE *Mellif. Chirurg.* Alph. Table, *Wind-discussers. **1860** FITZ-ROY in *Merc. Marine Mag.* VII. 344 *Wind dogs', and the rainbow, are more or less significant of increasing wind. **1607** TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 386 The Timpany, which . . . may be called in English the *wind dropsie. **1822-7** GOOD *Study Med.* (1829) V. 451 Making an artificial opening into the cavity of the abdomen in the case of wind-dropsy, as well as in that of water-dropsy. **1976** *Jrnl. R. Soc. Arts CXXIV.* 731/2 At present the main bar to developing and using *wind energy in this country is very high capital costs of equipment. **1669** WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 21 note, *Wind-Engines for the raising of Water. **c975** *Rushw. Gosp.* Luke iii. 17 His . . . wind fone in honda his. **1761** *Descr. S. Carolina* 7 Afterwards it is . . . winnowed, which was formerly a very tedious Operation, but it is now performed . . . by a very simple Machine, a Wind-Fan. **1668** CHARLETON *Onomast.* 64 *Accipiter Tinnunculus*, . . . the *Wind-vanner. **a1836** JOHNES in Mrs. Bray *Tamar & Tavy* (1879) I. 301 The kestrel, called here the 'wind-fanner' and 'windhover', from its motion when hovering over the same spot in search of its quarry. **1980** *Sunday Times* 24 Aug. 4/4 The plan is to set up one (windmill) of medium size as soon as possible to gain

experience, and then to establish a *wind farm', of about ten windmills, each capable of generating a megawatt of electricity. **1982** *Energy Spectrum* (Shell Internat. Petroleum Co. Ltd.) 8/1 Larger systems of more than 1 MW are also envisaged either singly or in 'wind farms' for integration into utility grids. **1648** in J. Davidson *Inverarie* (1878) 302 To keep the kirk *wind-fast and water-tight. **1601** *Stanford Churchw. Acc.* in *Antiquary* (1888) May 213 To John Rayner for *wind-filling the Church wall ij. **1895** W. R. FISHER *Schlich's Man. Forestry* IV. iv. iii. 469 The westerly border-trees . . . have now become so *wind-firm that the severance-felling might be widened. **1927** *Forestry* I. 21 To keep plantations wind-firm . . . initial spacings of the order of six feet . . . are necessary. **1981** *Southern Horticulture* (N.Z.) Spring 31/2 Containerisation of such material without this evening-out treatment produces trees that are neither wind-firm in the container, nor on the planting site. **1962** *Times* 1 Jan. 6/4 It [sc. a tree] was there to increase the *wind-firmness of the woodland. **1923** KIPLING *Land & Sea Tales* 181 He pointed towards the stiff-tailed *wind-flags that stuck out at all sorts of angles as the eddy round the shoulder of the Down caught them. **1513** DOUGLAS *Eneis* v. vi. 86 He . . . Maid hym lycht *windflaucht [orig. *revolutus*] on the ground vncleue. **1651** FRENCH *Distill.* vi. 190 Put those cakes . . . into a *Winde Furnace. **1683** K. DIGBY's *Chym. Secr.* 132 Put them in a Wind-Furnace to Calcine. **1704** J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I. s.v. *Furnace*, A Wind Furnace, or Furnace for Fusions, which is so called, because the Wind comes forcibly to blow the Coals, in order to Melt or Fuse the Matter in the Crucible or Coppel. **1763** W. LEWIS *Comm. Philos.-Techn.* 11 A Wind-Furnace, for the fusion of metals. **1869** ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* (1871) 240 The oldest method of manufacturing wrought iron was to reduce it at once from the ore by heating in a wind-furnace with charcoal or coal. **1875** KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Wind-furnace*, a furnace in which a strong heat is obtained . . . by means of a powerful draft, depending on a narrow flue or chimney of considerable elevation. **1884** *Ibid.* Suppl. 948/2 *Wind Furnace* (*Metallurgy*), one depending upon the draft of a chimney, as distinguished from a blast furnace. **1889** *Wind-gap [see *GAP* sb. 5 b]. **1895** *Geogr. Jrnl.* V. 144 If the land should be raised a few hundred feet, these head-waters would soon be gained by the Trent; and the divide between the successful and defeated systems would be pushed to the notch in the hard Oolite, which would then be a 'wind-gap', instead of a 'water-gap', as the Pennsylvanians say. **1939** *Bull. Geol. Soc. Amer.* L. 1343 The term 'wind gap' is now more commonly restricted to abandoned water gaps, while those gaps not believed to have been former water gaps are designated as 'cols'. **1977** Wind gap [see *river capture* s.v. *RIVER* sb. 1 5 d]. **1585** HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 262/1 *Cucurbitula*, . . . a *wind glasse, cupping glasse, or boxing glasse. **1594** MARLOWE & NASHE *Dido* I. i, The *Wind-god warring now with Fate. **1803** H. K. WHITE *Rem.*, *To Herb Rosemary* iii, The wind-god, as he flies, Moans hollow in the Forest trees. **1930** BLUNDEN *Summer's Fancy* 31 They stole away, and heard the windgod trill Winging the corn that to the bright west rolled. **1940** F. SMYTHE *Adventures of Mountaineer* xi. 201 It was all we could do . . . to pull off our *wind jackets. **1955** G. BAND *Road to Rakaposhi* vii. 87 David and I, who were wearing bright red windjackets, . . . slipped carefully past. **1662** R. MATHEW *Unl. Alch.* 144 A man near fourteen years, afflicted . . . with the *Wind-Gout in his hands. **1847** LEICHHARDT *Jrnl.* xi. 339 The dry *wind-grass of the plains north of the Staaten. **1884** MILLER *Plant-n.*, *Apera* (*Agrostis*) *Spica-venti*, Corn-grass, Wind-grass. **1670** NYE *Gunnery* II. 12 When you come to your Peece, set your Boudge barrel on the *wind-hand thereof. **1813** HOGG *Queen's Wake* (1814) 109 When . . . wind-harp at thy window swells. **1841-4** EMERSON *Ess.*, *Nature* Wks. (Bohn) I. 225 The musical steaming odoriferous south wind, which converts all trees to wind-harps. **13..** *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1336 bay . . . graypey departed be weasant fro pe *wynt-hole. **1683** MOXON *Mech. Exerc.*, *Printing* xviii. ¶ 2 Lay the ends of each Brick about three Inches off each other, to serve for Wind-holes. **1688** HOLME *Armoury* III. xiv. (Roxb.) 7/1 The wind hole, a square hole in the middle of the under board [of a pair of bellows]. **1802** MAWE *Min. Derbysh.* Gloss., *Wind-holes*, shafts or sumps sunk to convey wind or air. **1881** W. E. DICKSON *Organ-Build.* ix. 122 Let us be sure that the flow of wind to that pipe is not interrupted . . . by a chip in the wind-hole. **1880** *United Service* Oct. 458 [The adjutant] watched the roll-call of his *wind-jammers'. **1892** *Rudder* Sept. 217/1 The deck-hands on the liners contemptuously refer to [sailing vessels] as 'wind-jammers'. **1893** *Columbus* (Ohio) *Disp.* 7 Aug., The few workers present are effectually playing the part of windjammers and many rumors are afloat. **1899** *Harnsworth's Mag.* Mar. 102 A large three-masted wind-jammer was caught by the gale and disabled. **1909** *Athenaeum* 31 July 121/3 It deals with the homeward passage of a big steel 'windjammer' from Calcutta—a typical chapter from the life of merchant-service Jack. **1917** S. LEWIS *Job* 209 We do our work and don't howl about like all these socialists and radicals and other wind-jammers. **1930** *Even. Standard* 20 Aug. 2 (Advt.), Thousands of golfers wear the Barker 'Windjammer' and report it to be a splendid garment. **1931** *Amer. Mercury* XXIV. 354/2 [Circus Words.] *Windjammer*, a band musician. **1932** AUDEN in *Rev. Eng. Stud.* (1978) Aug. 282 My hand was wrung By one bareheaded in a windjammer jacket. **1942** M. HARGROVE *See here, Private Hargrove* xlii. 119 *Wind-jammer*, the bugler. **1976** *Milton Keynes Express* 25 June 4/4 The very popular zip-fronted cotton velour wind-jammer . . . is also great weekend gear with jeans. **1886** D. KEMP *Man. Yacht & Boat Sailing* (ed. 5) 658/1 *Wind jamming. A new-fashioned slang term for sailing by the wind. **1893** *Columbus* (Ohio) *Dispatch* Oct. 5 Could this power of wind-jamming have been saved there would have been some good accruing from the extra session. **1894** *Nautical Mag.* Feb. 102 People would begin to understand the meaning of seamanship as apart from the so-called and much-despised 'wind-jamming'. **1910** S. LEWIS *Free Air* 182 You're the worst wind-jamming liar I ever met. **1946** *Seafarers' Log* 18 Jan. 4/1 He really fooled the entire crew, and the Chief Mate was so impressed with his windjamming that he wanted to make him Bosun. **1868-9** *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 367 The witches of Lapland sold *wind-knots' tied on a rope to their sea-faring customers. **1943** T. DUDLEY-GORDON *Coastal Command at War* 22 He knows its direction by the *wind-lanes' on the sea. **1979** *Fisherman's Weekly* 21 June 6/1 Thousands of tiny shucks from the freshly opened beech leaves, blown onto the surface, had collected in floating rafts, and were marking the wind lanes. **1570** LEVINS *Manip.*

27/29 Ye *Wynd-lappe, *lingula*. **1789** *Trans. Soc. Arts* II. 210 We can do nothing with the guns when there is any swell, or *wind lipper. **1815** W. SCORESBY in *Mem. Wernerian Soc.* II. 324 note, The first effects of a breeze of wind on smooth water is by seamen called wind-lipper. **1898** MISS YONGE *J. Keble's Parishes* 173 *Windlist, white streak of faint cloud across a blue sky, showing the direction of the wind. **1911** HUSBAND & HARBY *Structural Engin.* ii. 36 (*heading*) *Wind load. **1961** *B.S.I. News* Dec. 16/2 Stability requirements for cranes (including consideration of wind loads). **1970** *New Scientist* 17 Sept. 584/2 The BRS project will improve wind-tunnel techniques, as well as increasing knowledge of windloads—which means better, safer, and perhaps more economic building. **1924** P. A. FRANKLIN in Hool & Kinne *Movable & Long-Span Steel Bridges* 1. 47 Design machinery for *wind loadings as set forth in chapter of design of operating machinery. **1985** *Times* 19 July 13/4 In windy winter conditions the windloading presses the door up against the weatherstrip. **a1687** PETTY *Treat. Naval Philos.* I. ii, The next enquiry must be, what extent of Sail our Vessel must carry, . . . and from thence the *Wind-loft. **1829** R. STUART *Anecd. Steam Eng.* I. 149 Air remained in the cylinder, and prevented . . . the fall of the piston . . . from this cause alone, (and which was afterwards known by the term of *wind-logged) this engine must have soon ceased its motion. **1908** N. DUNCAN *Every Man for Himself* i. 18 An' the sea was runnin' high—a fussy *wind-lop over a swell that broke in big whitecaps. **1974** F. MOWAT *Boat who wouldn't Float* xix. 234 The combination of wind-lop and heavy swell produced a motion that was indescribable. **1745** in *6th Rep. Dep. Kpr.* App. II. 122 A self-regulating *Wind Machine. **1799** *Hull Advertiser* 7 Sept. 4/2 These wind machines . . . species of gigantic bellows. **1812** SIR J. SINCLAIR *Syst. Husb.* Scot. I. 341 The annual expence of repairs . . . will not much exceed that of a wind machine. **1906** R. A. STREATFIELD *Mod. Music & Musicians* xix. 338 The fantastic pieces of musical extravagance that are a special feature of 'Don Quixote', such as the wind machine and the bleating sheep, are thoroughly in keeping with . . . Strauss's real methods. **1928** D. H. LAWRENCE *Lady Chatterley's Lover* xvi. 282 So many people, like your famous wind-machine, have only got minds tacked on to their physical corpses. **1928** A. ROSE *Stage Effects* 9 Fig. 4 shows a wind machine, as used in many theatres. It is built up in the form of a paddle-wheel. **1962** A. NISBETT *Technique Sound Studio* x. 181 A wind machine consists of a weighted piece of heavy canvas hung over a rotating, slatted drum . . . A wind machine produces just one sound: wind. And the same goes for thunder sheets. **1976** *Gramophone* Apr. 1611/2 Calling as it does for no fewer than twenty horns . . . quadruple woodwind, six trumpets and trombones . . . not to mention the windmachine, thunder-machine and numerous other percussion instruments, it is impractical to mount nowadays. **1976** *Upper Valley Progress* (Mission, Texas) 6 Oct. 10/1 (Advt.), With thermal inversion, created by our Tropic Breeze wind machine, crop level temperatures are raised as much as 10 degrees. **1881** SIR W. THOMSON in *Nature* 8 Sept. 434/2 It is most probable that windmills or *wind-motors in some form will again be in the ascendant. **1813** T. DAVIS *Agric. Wills.* 265 *Wind Mows, cocks of a waggon-load or more, into which hay is sometimes put previous to ricking in catching weather. **1650** BULWER *Anthropomet.* (1653) 274 *Wind-Musique doeth not deform the Visage. **1661** [see *MUSIC* sb. 6]. **a1700** EVELYN *Diary* 21 Dec. 1662, Instead of the . . . solemn wind musiq accompanying the organ, was introduced a concert of 24 violins. **1700** J. BROME *Trav.* 127 The Statues of two Men playing on Wind-Musick. **1795** *Life John Metcalf* 109 There being at that time no music in the army except Colonel Howard's, (the Old Buffs) and which being wind music were unaccustomed to country dances. **1661** [T. POWELL] *Hum. Industry* 34 *Wind-muskets that some have devised to shoot bullets withal. **1936** *Wind-noise [see *FAIRING* vbl. sb. 2]. **1984** *Buses* Aug. 346/2 Only the wind noise through the roof light . . . gave any indication of our speed. **1833** LOUDON *Encycl. Archit.* §234 To do all the *wind-pinnings (filling in the angle between the wall-plate and the roof). **1863** FITZROY *Weather Bk.* 173 Taking, with Dové, north-east and south-west (true) as the *wind-poles'. **1899** *Committee's Appeal for Hexham Abbey* 6 The old internal *wind porch, now used as a press in the vestry. **1616** CHAPMAN *Odys.* vi. 341 A shore, *wind-proofe, and full of shade. **1856** KANE *Arctic Expl.* I. xxvii. 355, I have some eight sledge-loads more to collect before our little home can be called wind-proof. **1923** F. WILD *Shackleton's Last Voyage* v. 76 Each man was provided with a fur-lined leather cap, heavy pea-jacket, light windproof jacket, a stout pair of trousers. **1937** F. SMYTHE *Camp Six* xiv. 150 Too tired . . . to remove our ice-caked wind-proofs. **1975** E. HILLARY *Nothing venture, Nothing Win* viii. 120 We . . . crawled out of our tents, dressed in all our warm clothing and windproofs. **1977** *Navy News* July 16/3 Availability of the windproof jacket will lead to the progressive phasing out of personal greatcoats and over-coats. **1660** BOYLE *New Exp. Phys.-Mech.* Proem 6 The *Wind-Pump . . . is so contriv'd, that to evacuate the Vessel there is requir'd the . . . labor of two . . . men. **c950** *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark iv. 37 *Wind-ræs . . . michelo windes. **c1205** LAY. 9244 Mid þan wind-ræsen al heo gunnen to-reosen. **1622** N. RIDING *Rec.* (N.S.) II. 4 Every Town or lorship that of reighte haith any *winderake for there goodes in the Forrest. **1875** MARK TWAIN in *Atlantic Monthly* Mar. 288/1 It wasn't a bluff reef . . . It wasn't anything but a *wind reef. The wind does that. **1860** MAURY *Phys. Geog.* Sea xii. §551 There are two *wind-roads', crossing this sea. **1902** *Daily Chron.* 10 Sept. 5/7 Being in the wind road we got a little air. **1969** *Gloss. for Landscape Work* (B.S.I.) v. 19 *Wind rock. The loosening of the root ball of a tree or plant through the oscillation of the stem by wind. **1972** S. EMBERTON *Year in Shrub Garden* III. 151 Any plants which have . . . been wind-rocked . . . must be staked upright. *Ibid.* 181 Roses, bush types—shorten to prevent wind-rocking. **1981** BUCZACKI & HARRIS *Collins Guide to Pests of Garden Plants* 486 Windrock very commonly occurs on young trees, shrubs and herbaceous plants with a large top in relation to their root system. **c1635** CAPT. N. BOTELER *Dial. Sea Services* (1685) 136 To Ride *Wind-rode, is when the Wind hath more power over her in her Riding than the Tide hath. **1635** *Voy. Foxe & James* to N.W. (Hakl. Soc.) II. 379 The Ship came not to wind-road. **1794** *Rigging & Seamanship* II. 302 The ship becomes windroad. **1841** R. H. DANA *Seaman's Man.* 89 To get under Way wind-rod, with a Weather Tide; that is, a tide setting to windward. **1912** J. H. COMSTOCK *Spider Bk.* 35 The solpugids are exceedingly agile; on this account they have been called *wind-

scorpions. 1959 *Southwest Rev.* Spring 137/1 An arachnid frequently, and naturally, confused with the true vinegarone is the solpugid—or wind-scorpion, wind-spider, or sun-spider. 1858 J. A. WARDER *Hedges & Evergreens* 240 The common Cedar is... much used... where a quick, permanent, and effective *wind-screen is wanted. 1887 *Cent. Mag.* Mar. 740/2 That department... was nearly surrounded by a wind-screen of hemlock boughs and odd pieces of canvas. 1903 *Cornhill Mag.* Oct. 574 Peering over the canvas wind-screen of the bridge [of a yacht]. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 18 Nov. 9/1 With its hood and wind-screen, [the car] is well fitted for the use of the general practitioner. 1908 *Animal Managem.* 150 Wind screens may be... made of turf walls or tall, wattled hurdles, placed to windward of the lines. 1948 *Autocar* 5 Nov. 1093/1 Trico-Folberth's *windscreen washer drives home the lesson... 'None so blind as those who can't see.' 1973 *Country Life* 22 Feb. 468/2 Windscreens washers and wipers are operated by a right-hand steering column stalk. 1984 B. FRANCIS *AA Car Duffer's Guide* 18 I've been fiddling about for ages trying to get the windscreen washers to work properly. 1922 *Motor* 21 Nov. 831/3 (heading) An automatic *windscreen wiper. 1975 *Daily Tel.* (Colour Suppl.) 4 Apr. 18/2 Peter Wallace, the Flight Engineer, began his safety check, examining everything from the windscreen wipers to the radar. 1985 *Computing* 15 Aug. 25/2 We still have to make do with dreadful windscreen wipers in cars. 1909 D. H. LAWRENCE in *English Rev.* No. 565. I wait for the baby to wander hither to me, Like a *wind-shadow wandering over the water. 1931 *Flight* 25 Dec. 1269/2 He had found that behind the wings of an aeroplane 'wind shadows' existed covering a region of reduced pressure. 1977 J. F. FIKX *Compl. Bk. Running* xvii. 202 It also makes sense to vary your speed in order to take advantage of an opponent's wind shadow. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 123 The other method of bringing the *wind-shaft and sails into a position proper for receiving the impression of the wind. 1951 *Gloss. Aeronaut. Terms* (B.S.I.) iii. 36 *Wind shear. 1976 *Sci. Amer.* Nov. 32 For a typical wind shear of one mile per hour per mile of height and an average wind speed of 20 miles per hour, the pattern of fallout 100 miles downwind from ground zero would be about 25 miles wide. 1977 *Time* 18 Apr. 37/3 'Wind shear', created by colliding air masses, was listed as the probable cause of an Eastern 727's crash while landing. 1934 A. J. VILLIERS (title) Last of the *wind ships. 1980 *Times* 7 Nov. 21/4 Will the rising price of oil bring back the sailing ship—or windship as it is now called—to the trade routes of the world from which it was largely banished a century ago? 1985 *Tel. Sunday Mag.* 18 Aug. 9/1 At 75 he [sc. Jacques Cousteau] is as lean and as trim as his revolutionary new 'wind ship', Alcione, which he has just sailed successfully—and using less fuel—across the Atlantic. c 1400 *Sege Jerus.* (E.E.T.S.) 40 Sup went to pe walle on pe *wynde syde, & alle abrod on pe burwe blewen pe powder. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* xvii. xxviii. I. 547 Some content themselves to perfume Vines onely with the smoke of this composition, so as it bee done on the wind-side, that it may carie the fume directly to them. 1727 *Bradley's Family Dict.* s.v. *Blight*. To provide large Heaps of Weeds, Chaff, and other combustible Matter on the Wind-side of their Orchards. 1923 *Kipling Land & Sea Tales* 182 Give your *wind-sight another three degrees, Walters. 1920 *Wind slab [see SLAB sb. 1] 6]. 1936 E. A. M. WEDDERBURN *Alpine Climbing* iv. 51 A form of wind crust is wind slab. As this causes the worst kind of avalanche it is important to detect it. Its surface is smooth and unfortunately often little wind marked and its colour is matt white or yellowish. Wind slab is often found alternating with patches of softer wind marked snow. 1975 E. HILLARY *Nothing venture, Nothing Win* xviii. 286, I had... noticed the debris of two large windslab avalanches nearby. 1978 Y. CHOUBINARD *Climbing Ice* ii. 40 The wind will also scour ridges and deposit some snow on the lee side; this then becomes an unstable mass called wind slab. 1866 *N.Y. Times* 13 Apr. All persons having occasion to... start a fire in any old chopping, *wind-slash... [etc.] shall give five days' notice. 1905 *Forestry Bureau Bull.* No. 61. 53 An area upon which the trees have been thrown by the wind... blow down, wind slash. 1971 F. C. FORD-ROBERTSON *Terminol. Forest Science* 244/1 All such material [sc. slash] blown down by wind is termed wind slash. 1920 *Flight* 29 Apr. 470/1 Three *wind sleeves have been installed at Lyons (Bron) aerodrome... Two of these 'sleeves' are red, and are situated on the western side of the landing-ground. 1939 *Air Ann. Brit. Empire* 371 Pilots of those days mistrusted a wind sleeve, which was difficult to see. 1929 E. W. DICKMAN *This Aviation Business* 139 It requires more work than to stake out a cow pasture, put up a hangar and *wind sock, and announce the opening. 1958 *Woman* 9 Aug. 31/4 Briony walked... along the sands as far as the wind-sock up on the golf-course. 1979 J. LEASOR *Love & Land Beyond* vi. 88 A wind sock hung limply on a mast. 1959 *Wind-spider [see *wind-scorpion* above]. 1966 C. SWEENEY *Scurrying Bush* vi. 88 A large solipugid, a very hairy, fast running arachnid that in Africa is often called a 'hunting spider' or sometimes a 'wind spider'. 1893 M. A. OWEN *Voodoo Tales* 28, I seed dem ole *win'splitehs [sc. long lean hogs]. 1900 *Daily Express* 13 July 6/6 The wind-splitter... keeps up a wonderful pace. 1941 I. L. IDRIESS *Great Boomerang* vii. 51 No 'wind-splitters' nearly as wide across the hips as the forehead. 1890 *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 58/2 A tall thinnish man, with... a white *wind-splitting face. 1900 *Daily Express* 13 July 6/6 The 'wind-splitting train' was tested over the line between Baltimore and Washington recently. 1948 DUNCAN & BONE *Oxf. Pocket Bk. Athletic Training* 35 *Wind-sprints'... consist of covering one or two laps of the track, and in so doing moving up very gradually from walking or slow running into faster running and then reversing the process, which will be repeated several times. 1981 *Northeast Woods & Waters* Jan. 19/1 My last 1/4 of a mile was done doing wind sprints to help my lungs and heart to weather the beating of what was to come. 1932 D. GARNETT *Rabbit in Air* ii. 60 It seemed to me several points different if judged by the factory smoke than if judged by the *wind stocking. 1983 P. DEVLIN *All of Us There* vii. 78 The wind-stocking fluttering to show pilots which way the wind is blowing. 1929 *Oxford Poetry* i Let's pick the petals of all joy apart, And launch them uncontrolled on the *wind-stream. 1934 *Discovery* June 155/1 The wind-stream is so powerful that a man could not possibly stand against it. 1954 FISHER & LOCKLEY *Sea-Birds* v. 127 The oceanic travellers... spend their time making ground by... excursions (by gravitational falls) into the sheltered trough between the crests of the waves, out of the main wind-stream. 1976 A. WHITE *Long*

Silence vii. 59 You don't go out at right angles to the plane or the windstream can spin you. 1884 *Engineering* 5 Sept. 225/1 The position and character of the floor between the girders also materially affect the *wind stresses. 1953 *Jrnl. Marine Res.* XII. 249 (heading) Wind stress on an artificial pond. 1984 A. C. & A. DUXBURY *Introd. World's Oceans* viii. 272 The sea surface slopes, as happens... under wind stress. 1656 BEALE *Heref. Orchards* (1657) 47 The clay-land binds the tree faster from *wind-strokes, the sandy-land hasteneth the growth more. 1890 BILLINGS *Med. Dict.*, *Wind-stroke*, acute spinal paralysis in the horse. 1913 D. BRAY *Life-Hist. Brahui* v. 109 Men well stricken in years often suffer from wind-stroke... a woman sometimes quits her bed after childbirth lamed by the wind in one leg. 1852 SEIDEL *Organ* 27 The *Wind swell. Here the trunk is provided with a valve of velvet. 1932 *Daily Tel.* 2 Mar. 9/5 Curls have ousted points of straight hair, and the old *windswept hair is dead. 1940 GRAVES & HODGE *Long Week-End* xvi. 280 The 'windswept' coiffure came over from Paris in 1931... The hair was cut short, brushed forward with a swirling movement. 1963 WODEHOUSE *Stiff Upper Lip, Jeeves* iii. 29 She is... as loony a young shrimp as ever wore a wind-swept hair-do. 1985 *Hair Summer* 64 (caption) Windswept layered hair requires mousse. a 1625 MANWAYRING *Sea-man's Dict.* (1644) s.v., Any thing that holds wind aloft, which may prejudice the ship sailing or riding, is said to be *wind-taught (as too much rigging high ropes, and the like;) Also when we ride in any great stresse, we bring our yards alongst ships, strike downe our top-masts and the like: because they hold wind taught, that is, they hold wind stiffly. 1674 PETTY *Disc. Dupl. Proportion* 31 Where the Masts, Yards, Sails, and Rigging are great, the Wind-taught of the Ship will correspond, and will require proportionable Cables. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I. s.v., Too much Rigging... or any thing catching or holding Wind aloft, is said to hold a Ship Wind-taught. 1826 *Sporting Mag.* (U.S.) XVII. 199 The *wind-throble or whindle... travels out of the North with the fel-fare. 1939 H. J. LUTZ in *Amer. Jrnl. Science* CCXXXVII. 392 This investigation was devoted particularly to the influence of tree *windthrow on soil morphology. 1953 *Brit. Commonw. Forest Terminol.* 1. 147 *Windthrow*, uprooted by wind; a tree or trees so uprooted. Syn. *Windblow*. 1966 *Brit. Columbia Logging* 3/1 They also can sell in their local areas wind-throw timber and stands threatened with destruction by disease or insects. 1981 *N.Z. Jrnl. Forestry* XXVI. 96 Line transects recording soil depth and percentage windthrow were made through single-aged stands of trees where definite patterns of windthrow occurred. 1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 83 *Turdus Illas*... the *Wind-Thrush. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey) s.v. *Thrush, Wind-Thrush*, a Bird so call'd because it comes in high Winds into England, in the beginning of Winter. 1873 T. CARGILL *Strains Bridge Girders* 186 Roofs, if they be thoroughly well secured by *wind-ties. 1858 J. BARON *Scudamore Organs* 61 The essential parts of an organ are a set of keys... a bellows, a *windtrunk, a windchest with its soundboard, and the pipes. 1911 *Aeronaut. Jrnl.* Oct. 53 The planes were tested in a 'wind tunnel'. *Ibid.* 62 Wind tunnel experiments. 1933 *Jrnl. R. Aeronaut. Soc.* XXXVII. 36 The aerodynamic characteristics were observed on a model of the airship in a wind tunnel. 1961 L. MUMFORD *City in History* (1966) x. 355 Not by accident did the medieval townsman, seeking protection against winter wind, avoid creating such cruel wind-tunnels as the broad, straight street. 1970 *New Scientist* 23 July 194/2 Wind-tunnel tests... establish airflow patterns over ships. 1974 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 13 Dec. 1410/5 The Weimar Republic was above all a testing time, part of that great German wind tunnel in which ideas and principles, standards and personalities were subjected to the gale of history. 1983 *Aviation News* 8 Sept. 339/1 To compare inflight data with wind tunnel data for the same aircraft. 1985 *Times* 1 Mar. 3/3 The ultimate aim was C15, in every way a family car, using a very streamlined body already being tested in a wind tunnel. 1909 *Chambers's Jrnl.* Mar. 203/1 A small petrol or oil engine as a standby to be used when there is insufficient wind to drive the *wind-turbine. 1946 A. HUXLEY *Let.* 5 Nov. (1969) 557, I gather that the experimental wind turbine which has been producing fifteen hundred kilowatts in Maine has proved entirely satisfactory. 1982 *Daily Tel.* 17 Nov. 1/6 A £650,000 wind turbine machine... was switched on yesterday by Sir Walter Marshall, chairman of the Central Electricity Generating Board. 1725 *Bradley's Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Wind-mil*, That it may, swivel-like, turn any way, as you turn your *wind Vanes. 1858 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* IV. xx. 228 The imbecile Arran could play no part but that of the wind-vane marking the changes in the air-currents. c 1450 in *Archaeologia* (1902) LVIII. 302 The first *wynde went closed in ston. 1562 [see SUSPICAL 2]. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Wind-way (Mining), a passage for air. 1876 HILES *Catech. Organ* iv. (1878) 24 Between the language and the lips [of an organ-pipe] is a narrow slit or wind-way for the current of air to pass from the foot to the body of the pipe. 1887 *Daily News* 28 Sept. 3/1 Leaving the water very choppy for the Thistle and stopping her wind-way. 1959 *Wind-way* [see FLUTE-À-BEC]. 1979 *Early Music* July 365/1 It is also possible to wash the windway with water and washing-up liquid... This is recommended for very dirty or mouldy windways. 1867 A. BARRY *Sir C. Barry* iii. 76 A horizontal *wind-wheel for raising water. 1908 HARDY *Dynasts* iii. iii. iii. A fire is lit Near to the Thonberg wind-wheel. 1933 *Automobile Trade Jrnl.* Nov. 52/1 Such items as windshield wings, either as a part of or separate from front door windows [etc.]. 1934 *Wind wing [see STICKER 1] 5a]. 1951 R. CHANDLER in Gardiner & Walker *R. Chandler Speaking* (1962) 110 It sounded like old Simpson's Chevvy... He could tell by the broken windwing. 1581 MULCASTER *Positions* x. (1888) 56 The exercise of the voice... aideth... and comforteth the lunges in his *windwoke.

wind (wamd), sb.² [Partly a. MDu., MLG. *winde* windlass, convolvulus, etc. = OHG. *wintâ* (MHG., G. *winde*), ON. *vinda* hank of yarn (Sw. *vinda* bindweed, Da. *vinde* pulley, windlass, from LG.); cf. OE. *gewind* spiral, tendril, winding path, -*winde* in *gearwinde* reel, *wipowinde* bindweed, ON. *vindr* winding: f.

windan WIND v.¹ Partly a direct formation on the vb.]

1. An apparatus for winding (see WIND v.¹ 19), a winch or windlass. *Obs. exc. dial.*

1399 *Acc. Exch. K.R.* 473/11 m. 2 *dorso* (P.R.O.) Reddit compotum de vna Machina vocata Wynde [etc.]. 1538-9 in *Archaeologia* (1871) XLIII. 211, j olde wynde for stone. 1568 in *Coventry Corpus Chr. Pl.* App. II. 101 Payd for a cord for the wynde ijs. vjd. 1651 T. BARKER *Art of Angling* (1653) 9 Within two foot of the bottome of the Rod there was a hole made, for to put in a winde, to turne with a barrell, to gather up his Line, and loose at his pleasure. 1790 W. H. MARSHALL *Rural Econ. Midl. Co.* (1796) II. Gloss. (E.D.S.) *Wind*... a winch, or wince. 1851 STERNBERG *Dial. Northampton*, Wynd, a winch. 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-mining, Wind*. 1. A hand-windlass or jack-roll... 4. A steam-engine used purposely for lowering and raising men in an engine pit or pumping-shaft.

†2. A twining plant, e.g. convolvulus. *Obs.*

1538 TURNER *Libellus, Conuolulus, dioscorida clematis, altera, est aliquibus liliastrium, anglis autem, The comon bynde, aut The lytell wynde*. 1562 — *Herbal* II. 141 Of the smooth Smilax or great arbor wynde. *Ibid.*, I neuer sawe anye kinde of wynde, or wyth wynde, or arbor wynde, haue anye suche cod. 1576 LOBEL *Plant. Hist.* 340.

3. An act or instance of winding; curved or twisted form; *techn.* bend or twist (cf. WIND v.¹ 5 b), esp. in phr. *out of wind*, not twisted.

1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 586 If the two edges and his eye be not in one plane, the upper parts are planed down until the piece is said to be out of wind. 1859 CAPERN *Ball. & Songs* 137 The vermeil-beaded bryony, In many a graceful wind. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Twist*... the wind of the bed-joint of each course of voussoirs in a skew arch. 1883 *Hampshire Gloss.* s.v. *Wynd*, On the wynd = warped or twisted. Applied to boards or planks. 1896 *Archaeol. Jrnl.* LIII. 52 There is never any trace of wind on them [sc. Danish knife-blades], although occasionally they may not lie quite flat.

wind (wamd), v.¹ Pa. t. and pple. wound (waund). Forms: 1 *windan*, 3 *winden*, 3-7 *winde*, 4-7 *wynde*, 4-9 *wynd*, 4 *vynd*(e, 5 *wy*(y)ndyn, 6 *Sc. veynd*(e), 4- *wind*; 3rd *sing. contr.* 1-3 *wint*, (1 *wient*), 4 *wynt*. Pa. t. 1-5 *wond*, 1-6 (-9 *dial.*) *wand*, 4-6 *wounde*, *wounde*, (5 *woonde*, 7 *woon'd*), 6- *wound*; pl. 1 *wundon*, -an, 3 *wunden*; also *wk*. 6 *Sc. vinit*, 6-9 *winded*, 8 *Sc. win't*. Pa. pple. 1-3 *wunden*, (3 *Orm. wunden*), 4 *wondin*, -yn, -ene, (wnden), 4-5 *wonden*, *woundyn*, 4-6 *wunden*, (5 *wonddyn*, 6 *windin*); 4-6 *wounde*, 5-7 *wonde*, *woond*, (5 *won*, 7 *wown*), 6- *wound*; 2 *iwunde*(n, 4 *ywonde*(n, *ywounde*(n, *iwounde*; also *wk*. 5 *Sc. woundit*, 6 *wynded*, *Sc. -it*, 6-9 *winded*. [OE. *windan* str. vb. = OFris. *winda*, OS. *windan*, OHG. *wintan*, *windan*, (MLG., (M)Du., (M)HG. *winden*, ON. *vinda*, (Sw. *vinda*, Da. *vinde*), Goth. **windan* in *biwindan*, *dugawindan*, *uswindan*:—OTeut. **wendan*, related to *wand*- in WANDER v., WEND v., WONDE v.]

In many senses coupled with *turn* vb.

In ME. often graphically confused with WEND v., q.v. etym. γ-forms.]

I. †1. *intr.* Used to express various kinds of rapid or forcible motion, as of water flowing, missiles flying through the air, sparks flying upwards, and the like; hence *gen.* to pass. Also with *about*, *adown*, *away*. *Obs.*

Beowulf 212 Streamas wunden, sund wið sande. *Ibid.* 1119 Wand to wolcnum wælfra mæste. c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past.* C. xxi. 167 Sio æcs wient of ðæm hielfe. 993 *Battle of Maldon* 322 Of he gar forlet wælsperre windan on þa wicingas. a 1000 *Judith* 110 Sloh ða eornoste ides ellenrof opre siðe þonc hæðenan hund, þæt him pæt heafod wand forð on ða flore. c 1205 LAY. 27461 Stanes heo letten seodðen sturnliche winden. *Ibid.* 28049 [Ich] smæt of Modred is hafð þæt hit wond a þene ueld. a 1225 *Ancre.* R. 296 þe sparke þæt wint up ne bringeð nout anonriht þæt hus al o fure, auh lið & keccheð more fur. 13... *Guy Warw.* (A.) 3096 Boþe bifore & eke bihinde, þe blod gan out fast winde. c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 6320 þe launce... ran purch þe hors bihinde; King & hors adoun gan winde. 13... *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 530, & þus jirnez þe jere in jisterdayez mony, & wynter wyndeþ asayn, as þe worlde askez. c 1375 *Cursor M.* 8968 (Fair.) Prophecy... ho talde... of domys-day How al þis werlde sal winde a-way.

†2. a. Of living things: To go on one's way, take oneself; to proceed, go. Also *fig. Obs.*

a 1000 *Boeth. Metr.* xxiv. 10 Meahtes ofer rodrum gereclice feðerum lacan, feor up ofer wolcnum windan. c 1205 LAY. 20818 þæt we mosten ouer sæ wunden [later text wende] mid seile. *Ibid.* 25541 Ankeres heo up drozen... Wunden into widen sæ. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 4136 His bodi was biried wið angels hond, ðer non man siðen it ne fond, In to lef reste his sowle wond. c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 9152 Hors wel gode chæpe þæt founde & anon in þe sadel wunde. a 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 3325 (Ashm. MS.) Vp to þe souerayne sege with Septour he wyndis. c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 2056 For thee so sore I wole now bynde, That thou away ne shalt not wynde. a 1500 *Coventry Corpus Chr. Pl.* i. 168 Now to Bedlem must I wynde. 1519 *Interl. Four Elem.* Bijb. With huffa galand synge tyrl on the bery, And let the wyde worlde wynde. 1555 BRADFORD in Foxe A. & M. (1570) 1813/2 Such as walke in theyr wickednes and wind on with the world. 1579 *Hake News out of Powles* (1872) Avij. And boughing Cruis that bark and winde away. 1587 A. DAY *Daphnis & Chloe* (1890) 123 Phæbe being by this time wunde into the highest Skies. 1600 SHAKS. A.Y.L. III. iii. 104 But winde away, bee gone I say. 1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* 266 Least she [sc. the spider] should wind down in vaine.

b. *refl.* in same sense; also *fig. Obs.*

c1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 15843 He . . . So queyntly aboute hym wond, þe kynges court at york he fond. c1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 3645 Into the tent he him wond. c1520 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 2340 Wynde you from Wanhope and aquaynte you with me. c1580 *Bugbears* iv. iv. in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* (1897) XCIX. 39 Then best I stand not thus . . . and tel a tale to the wynd, but wynd me straight about it.

c. *intr.* Of a way: To 'go' somewhere. *Obs.*
1555 BRAOFORO in *Foxe A. & M.* (1570) 1816/2 The multitude goeth the wayward which windeth to woe.

3. *trans.* a. To wield (a weapon, an implement). *Obs.* or *dial.*

993 *Battle of Maldon* 43 Byrhtnoð . . . bord hafenode, wand wacne æsc. c1480 HENRYSON *Swall. & other Birds* xv. Sum the pleuch can wynd. 1607 J. CARPENTER *Plaine Mans Plough* xx. 138 The Handle . . . on the which the Plough-man holding his hand by winding and wilding the same, turneth the Soole. 1627 W. HAWKINS *Apollo Shroving* III. i. 38 How to winde it [sc. a rapier] about when I salute. 1632 G. HUGHES *Saints Losse* 46 Thou canst not hand before the enemy, nor wind a weapon for thy defence. 1845 J. KEEGAN *Leg. & Poems* (1907) 250 Raising aloft the heavy iron spade, I wound it with all my strength.

†b. To haul, hoist, lift. *Obs.*

c1400 *Sege Jerus.* (1891) 281 Fresch water & wyn wounden þu faste & stof of alle maner store. 1577 HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist.*, *Socr.* i. xvi. 241 By the deuine prouidence of God the pilloure is winded vp in the ayer, ouer the foundation. 1633 C. FAREWELL *E.-India Colation* 45 [The Elephant] taking his meat with the end thereof, and winding it vp, (or vnder rather) to his mouth, so eates it. 1681 GREW *Musæum Pref.*, The Proboscis of an Elephant, whereby he . . . winds the Grass in great quantities . . . into his Mouth.

4. *intr.* To turn this way and that; to writhe, wriggle. *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

In OE. app. only contextual use of 1.

c1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 414 He wand þa swa swa wurm. c1205 LAY. 5715 Doð [heom] up and [= on] waritreo, þer on heosculen winden. c1386 CHAUCER *Wife's T.* 246 Thou art so loothly and so oold also. . . That litel wonder is thogh I walwe and wynde. 1421 HOCCELEVE *Lerne to Dye* 509 In peynes sharpe y walwe & wynde. 1666 BUNYAN *Grace Abound.* §165 Thus did I wind and twine and shrink under the burthen. 1887 *Kentish Gloss.* s.v., I had a terrible poor night surely, I did turn and wind so.

5. †a. *trans.* To put into a curved or twisted form or state; to bend; to twist; to wring. *Obs.*

For earlier quotes. see WOUNOEN *ppl. a.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P.R.* III. xviii. (1495) d v b / 1 A gristylbone set in y^e eere [i.e. the cochlea], . . . wounde [orig. *torcerebbom*] & wrapped as a wyspe. *Ibid.* v. xxv. (Bodl. MS.), Beestes þ' foldeþ and windeþ ham silfe rounde as a ryng haue none necke distinguished frame þe body. 1422 YONGE *tr. Secr. Secr.* xviii. 161 Whylen an hooke [= oak] is a yonge Spyre, hit may be wonde into a wyth. 1538 ELYOT *Dict.* s.v. *Topiarium*, Lyke trees or thornes that be flexible, or will be wounden. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* 330 Growing vpon small stalkes that are winded or turned two or three tymes. 1581 PETTIE *tr. Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* III. (1586) 126 They would winde her necke behinde her, like a chicken [orig. *le torcerebbono il collo*]. 1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* VI. v. 269 An ancient ornament of the head, [called] a Torce . . . *Nempe quia torquetur*, because it is wound [ed. 1632 wound] or twisted. 1624 WOTTON *Archit.* II. 111 The figure of a sturdie woman, washing and winding of linnen clothes.

b. *intr.* To take or have a bent form; now only *dial.* or *techn.* of a board, door, etc., to be twisted.

c1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* I. 257 The yerde is bet þat bowen wole and wynde þan þat þat brest. 1538 ELYOT *Dict.*, *Vimen*, rodde, which wyll wynde lightly, wherof baskettes are made. 1711 W. SUTHERLAND *Shipbuild. Assist.* 165 *Winding*, when the Plank or Timber's Side or Edge is not upon a direct Plan, but seemingly twists. 1736 PEGGE *Kentisisms* (E.D.S.) s.v. *Wind*, A board shrunk or swell'd, so as to be uneven, is said to wind; and when it is brought straight again, it is said to be out of winding. 1875 SIR T. SEATON *Fret Cutting* 82 A board is said to wind or wynd, when the two opposite corners . . . are lower than the other two.

6. a. *refl.* = 7 a, b. *arch.*

a1300, etc. [see TURN v. 64 a]. a1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 3631 (Ashm. MS.) þai [sc. elephants] wend þai ware wees & wyndis þaim agayn. 1569 BLAQUE *Sch. Conceytes* 26 When the Ele [= eel] had led the Dolphin into shallow places she wound hir selfe into the mudde. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* xxxv. x. II. 541 A little infant winding it selfe and making prettie means to creepe unto the mothers pap. 1665 HOOKE *Microgr.* 206 It posted away with such speed, and turn'd and winded it self so quick, that I should presently lose sight of it. 1690 C. NESSE O. & N. *Test.* I. 42 The serpent is a slippery creature, soon winding himself in and out. 1700 J. BROME *Trav.* 104 Abington, to which the River Isis, after it hath winded it self a long way about in a crooked Channel, makes its near approaches. 1723 WATERLAND *2nd Wind. Christ's Div.* Pref. 14 He endeavors to wind and turn Himself every way to evade its Force. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstrel* I. 110 Glad I wind me down the lane.

b. *trans.* To turn; to cause to move in a curve. Also *somer. arch.*

13.. *Somer Sonedey* v. in *Rel. Ant.* II. 8 With a wonderful whel that worthi wyth wond. c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 529/1 Wyndyn', or turnyn' a-bowte, giro, vorto. 1483 CAXTON *G. de la Tour* avij b. 'The tortuse [and] the crane . . . which . . . wynde their hede here and there as a vane. 1596 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV.* iv. i. 109 As if an Angell dropt downe from the Clouds, To turne and winde a fierie Pegasus. 1614 D. DYKE *Myst. Self-Deceiv.* (1630) 187 Let the Serpent but wind in his head. 1638 W. LISLE *Heliodorus* x. 177 As Camell. . . Doth eu'rie way his small head nimble winde. 1665 HOOKE *Microgr.* 109 Having so small . . . a body . . . upon such long leggs, it is quickly able so to wind, and turn it, as to see any thing distinct. 1757 DYER *Fleece* II. 462 Or where the Lune or Coker wind their streams. 1760-72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 92 The young nobles . . . turning and winding their fiery horses.

7. a. *intr.* To move in a curve; to turn, esp. in a specified direction. *Obs.* exc. as implied in b, c.

c1385 CHAUCER *L.G.W.* 818 *Thisbe*, Whan that this lyonesse hath dronke hire fille, A-boute the welle gan sche for to wynde. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P.R.* II. v. (1495) b i j b / 1 As a whele wyndeth aboute [orig. *in se voluitur et revoluitur*] and mouyth alwaye abowte in compaas, Soo angels . . . moeue abowte y^e thynge that longyth to god. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* IV. i. 32 It is a Creature that I teach to fight, To winde, to stop, to run directly on. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 174 To . . . gallop and amble, to run a race, to wind in compasse, and so forth. 1654 EARL MONM. *tr. Bentivoglio's Wars Flanders* 326 Winding about [orig. *torcendo*] on the left hand towards the gates Cantimper and Selle, he came before them. 1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 260 We went winding now from the south-east to the left, till our course looked east by north.

b. To move along in a sinuous course; to go or travel along, up, down, etc. a path or road which turns this way and that.

a1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Tracts* x. (1683) 165 How the Jordan passed or winded, . . . is a point too old for Geography to determine. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Past.* VII. 15 Here wanton Mincius windes along the Meads, And shades his happy Banks with bending Reeds. 1715 DESAGULIERS *Fires Impr.* 102 The External Air . . . will go winding thro' the Cavities. 1750 GRAY *Elegy* i, The lowing herd wind slowly o'er the lea. 1789 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 15 Sept., It made me . . . tired to wind up the flight of stairs. 1859 GREEN *Oxford Studies* (O.H.S.) 24 Long processions of pilgrims wound past the Jewry to the shrine of Saint Frideswide. 1863 RAEAD *Hard Cash* xxx, Making a sudden turn, [he] dived into a street, then into a passage, and so winded and doubled till he got to a small public-house. 1905 SIR F. TREVES *Other Side of Lantern* II. ii. (1906) 36 A train of donkeys winding along among the hansoms.

c. *transf.* Of a line, road, or the like: To have a curved (esp. a sinuous) course; to lie or extend in a curve or succession of curves. †Formerly also of an object: To have a curved or sinuous form.

1555 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Mary* (1914) 184 Garded with a gard of oken leaves gold and greene sylke wyndinge lyke a wrethe embrodred vpon redd silke. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 345/2 *Lituus*, . . . a writhen or crooked trumpet winding in and out. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* I. xi. (ed. 2) 58 The passage to mount vp was very wide and great, winding about on the outside. 1635 JACKSON *Creed* VIII. xxviii. §4 The crooked paths which winde to cursednesse and malediction. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* IV. 545 A Rock Of Alabaster, pil'd up to the Clouds, . . . winding with one ascent Accessible from Earth. 1748 THOMSON *Cast. Indol.* I. v, Where this valley winded out, below, The murmuring main was heard . . . to flow. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* xxvi, Still onward winds the dreary way. 1896 BARING-GOULO *Broom-Squire* xvii, The path winded in and out among the grave-stones.

d. with advb. acc., or *trans.* with obj. (one's or its) way, etc.

1667 MILTON *P.L.* III. 563 He . . . windes . . . his oblique way Amongst innumerable Stars. 1794 MRS. RAOCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* i, A rivulet that . . . wound its silent way beneath the shades it reflected. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* xxxii, The mole . . . winds not his dark subterraneous path beneath our feet the less certainly. 1857 LIVINGSTONE *Trav.* v. 101 The slow pace at which we wound our way through the colony. 1887 L. OLIPHANT *Episodes* 281 A funeral procession, winding its solemn way to the cemetery. 1922 HOUSMAN *Last Poems* xli, Content . . . to wind the measures [= dances].

e. *trans.* To traverse in a curved or sinuous course; also *transf.* of a path, as in c. *arch.*

1648 GAGE *West Ind.* 90 We had not winded the mountain upwards much above a mile. 1697 DRYDEN *Aeneis* IX. 533 He winds the Wood. 1743 FRANCIS *tr. Hor.*, *Odes* I. xxxiii. 22 Though fiercer she than waves that roar, Winding the rough Calabrian shore. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstrel* I. 202 Sweet it is to wind the rill, Sweet with thee to climb the hill. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 20 Aug. 4/4 Wherever a river winds a valley.

8. *Naut.* a. *intr.* Of a ship: To turn in some direction; e.g. to swing round when at anchor; to lie with her head towards a particular point of the compass (esp. in phr. *how wind you? how does the ship wind?*). b. *trans.* To turn (a vessel) about (ABOUT A. 6b) or in some particular direction. See also 19b(b), 24g.

App. a substitution for WEND v., q.v. (1 d, 6 c).

1613 J. SARIS *Voy. Japan* (Hakl. Soc.) 44 She came to an anchor so neare ahead of vs as we could scarce wynd cleare one of the other. 1623 (Sept. 10) *Admiralty Crt. Exam.* 44 (MS.) Shec was not quicke of steeridge nor easye to be turned or winded. a1625 MANWAYRING *Sea-mans Dict.* (1644) 115 When they are under saile, they use to aske, how winds the ship, that is, vpon what point of the Compasse doth she lie with her head. 1627 J. SMITH *Sea Gram.* vi. 27 Wind the Boat is to bring her head the other way. a1668 DAVENANT *Song, Winter Storms* II. Wks. (1673) 292 Alec, or we sink! Does no man know to wind her! 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* I. ii. 18 How Wind you? N.N.E. thus werr no more; no near, keep her full. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1776) *French Sea-Terms* s.v. *Cap*, *Où est le Cap?* how is the head? how does the ship wind? 1798 P. REVERE in *Collect. Massachusetts Hist. Soc.* (1816) V. 107 It was then young flood, the ship was winding, and the moon was rising. 1830 MARRYAT *King's Own* xxxi, One of the cutters has winded . . . she's stretching out for the shore. 1836 — *Midsh. Easy* xiii, Mr. Sawbridge . . . winded the boats with their heads the same way. 1856 OLMSTED *Slave States* 607 We backed out, winded round head up.

9. *trans.* and *intr.* In the management of horses in the yoke: To turn to the left, or towards the driver: opp. to HAP v.⁴, HUP v. *Sc.*

a1745, 1794 [see HAP v.⁴]. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* xxiii, A feckless loon . . . had caught twa dragoon naigs and he could neither gar them hup nor wind. 1851 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XII. 1. 125 To plough three 12-yard ridges by winding, or turning to the left hand. *Ibid.*, By laying two ridges (24 yards) together at each of these, marking and winding out

the intermediate spaces, there will only be one open furrow every 60 yards.

†10. To draw or pull out with a twisting movement. Also *intr.* *Obs.*

c1400 *Rom. Rose* 1810 But euer the heed was left bihynde For ought I couthe pulle or wynde. a1513 Fabyan *Chron.* ccix. (1542) 257 By cruell deathe, as windyng theyr guttes out of theyr bodyes. 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* XI. lxxviii, He stroue in haste the weapon out to winde, And broke the reed, but left the head behinde.

11. a. In immaterial sense: To turn or deflect in a certain direction; esp. to turn or lead (a person) according to one's will; also *to turn and wind* (see TURN v. 64 b). Now *rare* or *Obs.*

†to wind up and down: to revolve in the mind. †to wind off: to turn aside. to wind about: to use circumlocution with (cf. 12).

c1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* II. 601 Criseyde . . . euery word gan vp and down to wynde that he haddc seyde as it come here to mynde. c1385 — *L.G.W. Prol.* 85 She is the clerenesse and the verray lyght That in this derke worlde me wynt and ledyth. 1586 A. DAY *Engl. Secretorie* I. (1625) 136 'That by your timely looking to those matters, you may winde him from that. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* I. iii. §7 To be speculatiue into another man, to the end to know how to worke him, or winde him, or gouerne him. 1606, 1673 [see *turn and wind*, TURN v. 64 b]. 1677 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* IV. 298 Socrates windes off his Audience from the curiose prying into the Nature. 1708 MRS. CENTLIVRE *Busie Body* II. i, These flattering fops imagine they can wind, Turn and decoy to love all woman-kind. 1713 TICKELL *Prol. Univ. Oxford* 34 To wind the Passions, and command the Heart. 1753 RICHARDSON *Grandison* I. xxxvi. 258 He winds one about, and about, yet seems not to have more curiosity than one would wish him to have. 1777 JOHNSON *Let. to Mrs. Thrale* 29 Sept., There was not time for many questions, and no opportunity of winding and winding them, as Mr. Richardson has it, so as to get truth without questions. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* vii, He can wind the proud Earl to his will. 1827 CARLYLE *Germ. Rom.* I. 235 Love, which had once for all taken root in her heart, now dexterously winded and turned the matter.

†b. To draw, bring, or involve (a person) in, attract into, by alluring or enticing methods. *Obs.*

1538 ELYOT *Dict. Addit.*, *Lacio* . . . to brynge into a snare, or to wynde one in to deceyue him. 1571 GOLOING *Calvin on Ps.* xxxvi. 4 Hee doth not simply fynd fault with the vngodly for winding in other folkes with their wyles and fetches. 1577 HOLINSHED *Chron.* II. 1847/1 A subtilie practise (as was thought) intended to wynde him wythin daunger. a1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. xxvi. (1912) 504 Which winded her againe into the former maze of perplexitie. 1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* 48 A certaine man . . . being trecherously wound 'n and intrapped, by the craftie wiles of a certaine woman. 1635 QUARLES *Embl.* II. Epigr. iv. 79 If ev'r it winds thee Into a loosenesse once, take heed. 1653 H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* I. iv. §2 You will be wound into the most notorious absurdities. 1655 R. YOUNGE *Agst. Drunkards* 7 It is admirable how they will winde men in, and draw men on by drinking first a health to such a man.

†c. To bring (a thing) in by insinuating methods. *Obs.*

1570 DRANT *Serm.* C vij, This is the fine force of Sanders most fine witte, in finding out fetches, and winding in stuffe to strengthen and fortifye Antichristianisme. c1650 BRADFORD *Plymouth Plant.* (1856) 301 He with his former dealings had wound in what money he had in y^e partnership into his owne hands. 1674 *Govt. Tongue* ix. 160 'Tis pleasant to see what little Arts and dexterities they have to wind in such things into discourse.

†d. With out: To draw out, extricate, disentangle. *Obs.*

c1535 W. ROPER *Life Sir T. More* vi. (1729) 40 To wynde suche quarrells out of the Cardinall's head. 1577 *tr. Bullinger's Decades* 309 Iacob and Ioseph being wrapped in sundrie tribulations, were by their merciful God wound out and rid from all [orig. *explicatur*]. 1577 S. AUG. *Manual* T vb, Wynde me out [orig. *evolve*], & unloade me, that the pit shut not his mouth upon me. 1601 F. GODWIN *Bps. of Eng.* 121 By and by he ouertopped the Archbishop, and quickly wound him out of all authority. 1607 TOURNEUR *Rev. Trag.* III. i. (1608) E 3, Weele haue some trick and wile, To winde our yonger brother out of prison.

†e. To circulate, put in circulation (money or merchandise): usually in phr. *turn and wind.* *Obs.*

1598, 1686 [see TURN v. 64 c]. 1624 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* IV. 157 Tobacco . . . passes there as current Siluer, and by the oft turning and winding it, some grow rich, but many poore. c1645 HOWELL *Lett.* I. xli, There is no state that winds the penny more nimble and makes quicker returns. 1678 BUTLER *Hud.* III. II. 1450 Whence turning of Religion's made The means to turn and wind a Trade.

12. *intr.* (also †*refl.*, and with it.) To pursue a devious, circuitous, or intricate course in argument, statement, or conduct; (†esp. with about adv. or prep.) to use circumlocution or subtle terms of argument (arch.).

c1386 CHAUCER *Can. Yeom. Prol.* & T. 427 For in hise termes, so he wolde hym wynde And speke hise wordes in so sly a kynde, Whanne he commune shal with any wight, That he wol make hym doten anon right. 1528 MORE *Dyaloge* I. Wks. 173/1 Truly quod he ye wynde it well about. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* I. i. 154 You know me well, and herein spend but time To winde about my loue with circumstance. 1607 BEAUM. & FL. *Woman Hater* II. i, You must not talk to him as you doe to an ordinary man, honest plain sence, but you must wind about him. 1680 AUBREY in *Lett. Eminent Persons* (1813) III. 612 He turned, and winded, and compounded in philosopho, politiques etc. as if he had been at mathematicall work. 1686 JEVON *Devil of a Wife* I. 14 He has a mind to wind about, but this shan't serve his turn. 1753 RICHARDSON *Grandison* I. xxxvi. 258, I have winded and winded about him, as he has done about me; but all to no purpose. 1800 MARIA EGEWORTH *The Will* II, I winded

and winded, . . . till, at the last, out comes the truth. 1838 LYTTON *Leila* iv. v. Why dost thou wind and turn, good Ximen? . . . thou knowest well what my words drive at. 1850 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. iii. vii. 93 He did not adroitly wind through the dangerous forms of evil. 1881 JOWETT *Thucyd.* I. Introd. p. xii, In winding through the long notes, . . . we have sometimes a difficulty in separating his own view from that of others whom he is confuting.

†13. *intr.* and *refl.* a. With *out*: To extricate or disentangle oneself from a state of confinement or embarrassment. *Obs.*

1412-20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* i. 2207 Love in his lawes often schulde erre, And wynden out of honestes cheyne. a1569 KINGESMYLL *Man's Est.* vi. (1580) 34 As the birde taken in the nette, we lie fast fettered, our owne eyes not serving us to espie any waie to winde out. 1599 HAYWARD *1st Pt. Hen. IV.* 83 To wind out of these intricate troubles. 1608 P. GOLDING *Sleidan's Epit. Frossard* 168 Not able . . . to winde out of the linnen which entangled him. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* vi. 659 Long struggling underneath, ere they could wind Out of such prison.

1530 PALSGR. 782/1, I am tangled in busynesse, and can nat tell howe I may wynde me out. 1538 ELYOT *Dict. Addit.*, *Euluere se turba*, to wynde hym selfe out of trouble. 1561 HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtier* Zijb, He . . . struggled the more to winde himself out of their handes. 1597 HOOKER *Ecll. Pol.* v. lxviii. §8 They make it . . . more easie for such kinde of persons to winde themselves out of the law. 1635 JACKSON *Creed* viii. vii. §2 Hee could not wound himselfe out of those bonds of servitude wherein his lusts had insnared him. 1647 tr. *Wishart's Hist. Kings Affairs Scotl. under Montrose* iii. 25 Assoon as he had wound himself out of that present danger. 1653 H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* i. i. heading, To wind themselves from under the Awe of Superstition. [1865 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* xix. ii. (1872) VIII. 121 Soltikof . . . winded himself out of Posen one day, veiled by Cossacks. (Cf. G. *sich auswinden*.)]

b. With *in*, *into*: To insinuate oneself.

1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. John* i. 1 That being so known by the wonderfulness of his moste fayre workmanship, he mighte wind himself into our inward mocions. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* iii. iii. 64 To winde Yourselfe into a power tyrannicall. 1640 RUTHERFORD *Let. to Lady Fingask* 27 Mar., If ye can wynd-in in his love . . . what a second heaven's paradise . . . is it, to be . . . burned with fevers of love sickness for him. 1646 SALTMASSHE *Some Drops* ii. 57 This is the old way to winde in under the wing of Authority. 1690 C. NESSE O. & N. *Test.* i. 15 The old serpent easily winded himself into his heart. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xxix, Of your having basked at my brother's fireside, like a serpent, and wound yourself, through me, almost into his confidence. 1886 C. BIGG *Chr. Platonists Alex.* iv. 130 Origen does not wind himself into the heart. He has not the blithe geniality of Clement.

14. a. *trans.* To turn or pass (something) around something else so as to encircle or enclose it and be in contact with it; to twine, twist, fold, or wrap (something) *about*, *round*, or *upon* something else.

Also occas. to put around something so as to encircle it without contact.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 8055 Aboute þe body a rope þey woude. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 359 He, which hadde of nothing doute, Hire wimpel woude aboute his cheke. c1450 *Mirk's Festial* 126 Hur lady, his modyr, woude hyr kerchief about hym. c1460 Towneley *Myst.* xxi. 391 When it is well won knyrt a knot fast. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI.* v. i. 54 This Hand, fast wound about thy coale-black hayre. 1618 GAINSFORD *Glory Eng.* i. xvii. 151 They weare linnen rowles about their heads. . . in Vlster carelessly woude about. 1655 tr. *Sorel's Com. Hist. Francion* v. 8 Instead of a Night Cap he had winded the Linings of his Breeches about his head. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* ix. 215 Whether to wind The Woodbine round this Arbour, or direct The clasping Ivie where to climb. 1680 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* x. 189 Upon the thin end of the Pole is wound a considerable Bundle of String. 1819 SHELLEY *Faust* II. 320 When she winds them [sc. her locks] round a young man's neck. 1842 BROWNING *Count Gismond* x, Wind the penance-sheet About her! 1866 LYTTON *Lost Tales Miletus, Secret Way* 25 As hunters round the wild beasts in their lair Marked for the javelin, wind a belt of fire. 1870 ROCK *Text. Fabr.* Introd. i. p. xxii, [A] bandage to be winded and kept about the patient's arm. 1896 HOUSMAN *Shropsh. Lad* v, Suppose I wound my arm right round. 1916 J. J. BELL *Little Grey Ships, Patrol* 18 [He] began to wind about his neck a dark blue muffler.

b. *fig.*: esp. in phr. to *wind* (a person, etc.) *round one's little finger* (cf. FINGER sb. 3, and sense 11 above).

1698 COLLIER *Immor. Stage* 279 To play People out of their Senses, . . . and wind their Passions about their Fingers as they list. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* xxi, I am told the mother can wind them both round her little finger. 1854 MILMAN *Lat. Christ.* iv. viii. (1864) II. 396 Irene wound her toils with consummate skill around her ill fated victim. 1865 SWINBURNE *Chastelard* III. i. 96 My life being wound about you as it is.

15. a. To put (thread, tape, or the like) in coils or convolutions around something, as a reel, or upon itself (either by passing the thread, etc. round and round, or by turning the reel or other object round and round), so as to form it into a compact mass (hank, skein, ball, etc.). (Also in *fig.* phrases: cf. PIRN sb.² 1 b.) Also with *from* or *off*, to undo the coils of (thread, etc.) by rotating the object on which they are wound; to unwind. (See also *wind up*, 24 c.)

c1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 157 E vostre filoe là wudez [gloss wynde thi yarn]. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. v. 525 He bare a burdoun ybounde with a brode liste, in a withewyndes wise ywounden aboute. c1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 359 þe iuge axkid ather of paim whar-of þe botham at þe clew was won on was. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 419/1 To Wynde spules, *deuoluere*. 1530 PALSGR. 782/1 This yerne is so tangled that I can nat wynde it. 1577 GRANGE *Golden Aphrod.* Di v b, If she wanted a bottome whereon to winde

hyr silke. 1590 BARROUGH *Meth. Phisick* III. xviii. (1639) 131 It seemeth wounden together like a string. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* i. iii. 188 If it be so, you haue wound a goodly clewe. 1767 BICKERSTAFFE *Love in the City* i. i. stage-dir., One seated and holding a skain of silk, while the other winds it off on a ball. 1787 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary Mar.*, Miss Planta left the room while I was winding some silk. 1827 CARLYLE *Germ. Rom.* I. 21 The long threads which . . . she winded daily from her spindle. 1860 *Slang Dict.* (ed. 2) 247 I'll wind your cotton, i.e. I will give you some trouble. 1889 F. C. BEACH in *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 292/2 To operate the instrument it is only necessary to snap the shutter and wind off the paper.

absol. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. v. 555, I weue an I wynde and do what treute the hoteth. 1581 A. HALL *Iliad* vi. 119 Do passe the time to winde and reele, & with your maids to spinne. 1785 BURNS *Halloween* xii, An' aye she win't, an' ay she swat. 1818 *Min. Evid. Committee Ribbon Weavers* 154 Just according to how many looms they wind for. 1870 *Inquiry Yorksh. Deaf & Dumb* 18 She . . . winds for journeymen weavers.

†b. To roll or fold up. *Obs.*

1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* §52 Let the wol be well folden or wounden with a woll-wynder. 1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. Heb.* i. 10-14 As a vesture shalt thou winde them aboute.

16. a. To encircle *with* or *enclose* in something passed round and in contact; †to wrap up; †to embrace, enfold in the arms; now, in ordinary prose use, only of binding a thing *round* with tape, wire, or the like.

c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 83 He wes iwunde mid wine and smrede mid oli. *Ibid.* 127 He wes imacad to monne ilicnesse and iwunden mid flesce al swa mon. c1200 ORMIN 3320 & tær 3ho barr Allmahhtiz Godd. & wand himm sone i winndeclut. c1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2597 In an fetles, . . . Dis child wunden þe wulde don. c1290 *Mary Magdalene* 383 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 473 Huy nomen þe Quiene and hire child and wunden in a mantel. a1300 *Cursor M.* 1672 First bind it wele wit balk and band, And wind it sipen well wit wand. c1300 *Havelok* 546 Hwan grim him hauede faste bounden, And sipen in an eld cloth wden. 13. . . *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 215 þe stele of a stif staf. . . þat was wounden wyth yrn. c1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* III. 1232 Gan eche of hem in armes oper wynde. 1471 *Paston Lett.* Suppl. 140 Sche byd that yt schuld be woond in a canivasse for brochyng of the caryars. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 229b/2 A yong child that lay wounden in smale cloutres in hys moders lappe. ?c1500 *Clariodius* v. 1917 Glaider waf never Sir Troilus. . . When he had Cressed in his arms windin. 1535 COVERDALE *Isa.* xxviii. 20 The couerage to small, that a man maye not wynde him self therin. a1548 HALL *Chron.*, *Hen. VIII.* 8b, Their scaberdes wounde about with satyne. a1578 LINDESAY (Pittscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 197 This hielandman. . . tuik the samyn [crown] and wand it in his playd. 1593 *Rites of Durham* (Surtees 1903) 51 And so to wynde hime in his cowl and habett. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* II. ii. 13 Sometime am I All wound with Adders, who with clouen tongues Doe hisse me into madnesse. 1611 BEAUM. & FL. *Maid's Trag.* II, Let me wind thee in these arms, Till I have banisht sickness. 1662 ATWELL *Faithf. Surveyour* 106 If they . . . winde their hurdles on two sides with broome. a1722 LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 294 Drench the beast, and then wind him up warm in hay. 1851 MEREDITH *Love in Valley* xiv, Jasmine winds the porch with stars two and three. 1853 DICKENS *Bliah Ho.* xxi, Such is Judy. And her twin-brother couldn't wind up a top for his life. 1859 SALA *Gaslight & D.* xxi, There, are tops wound, and marbles gambled for. 1885 TENNYSON *Ancient Sage* 97 And wind the front of youth with flowers. 1918 *Blackw. Mag.* Apr. 491/1 The corner-posts were padded and wound with many layers of red and blue bunting.

b. (a) *spec.* To wrap (a corpse) in a shroud or *winding-sheet*; to shroud. *Obs. exc. dial.*

c1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2448 First .ix. nist [men] ðe liches beðen, And smeren, and winden, and bi-queðen. 13. . . *Cursor M.* 17288 + 118 (Cott.) þe clothez þat iesus was wonden in. c1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxii. (Laurentius) 503 Ypolyt tuk þe cors away, & wand it in clathis fyne. c1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* v. xciv. 4003 (MS. W.) To se þe quyk þe dede dispulse Quhen he is woundit in his schete. 1526 TINDALE *John* xix. 39 Then toke they the body of Jesu and woude it in linnen clothes. 1605 *London Prodigal* i. i. 170 Yes, truly, syr, your father is dead, these hands of mine holpe to winde him. 1660 RUTHERFORD *Let. to Mrs. Craig* 4 Aug., The mother. . . possibly, cannot get leave to wind the son, nor to weep over his grave. 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* III. 335 Vowing he'll not conform, before The Old-Wives wind their dead in Wollen. 1860 W. COLLINS *Wom. in White* II. Narr. i. II. 349 That she had winded a many of them in her time.

†(b) *nonce-use.* To carry out in a winding-sheet.

1604 *Meeting of Gallants* B 1 b, Tenne wound out of one house, must for shame carry fiue payre of sheetes with them.

c. Chiefly in pa. pple. and *fig.*: To involve, entangle; †to wrap up (in fair words).

c1315 SHOREHAM *Poems* i. 913 Ne wynd þou naut þy senne ine selke Ac telle out al þat rouze. a1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 2811 My warke, þat I am in wonden. c1425 *Cast. Persev.* 703 in *Macro Plays* 98 Worthy World, in welthys woude. c1485 *Digby Myst.* III. 23, I am wonddyn in welth from all wou. 1833 Mrs. BROWNING *Prometh. Bound Poet.* Wks. (1904) 160/2 In the great net of Atë, whence none cometh out, Ye are wound and undone! 1863 COWDEN CLARKE *Shaks. Char.* i. 27 Then they wound him in their devil's web. 1883 R. W. DIXON *Mano* II. ii. 72 But, ere he reached, in death the babe was wound.

17. *intr.* To turn so as to encircle and lie in contact with something else; to twist or coil itself, or be or become twisted or coiled, *about*, *around*, or *upon* something. So *to wind off*, to become uncoiled from something, to unwind.

1575 GASCOIGNE *Kenelworth* Wks. 1910 II. 126 What tree soever it [sc. ivy] ryse by, it never leaveth to wynde about it. 1577 GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* i. 38 It wyndeth about, and killeth his neighbours as the luie dooth. 1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* ii. 35 If your spindle is to have three or four Worms

winding about it. 1686 JEVON *Devil of a Wife* i. 2 Go home and Spin, or else my Strap will wind about thy Ribs. 1759 *Phil. Trans.* LI. 55 The single thread winded off the pod in the same manner as that of the common silk-worm. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 113 The leather shuttle winds upon it as it descends, or unwinds from it as it ascends.

†18. *trans.* a. (a) To form or construct by twining or plaiting; to plait, wreathe, weave. *Obs.*

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 23 Hie . . . wundan beag of pornum & him setton on heafod for cynhelme. a1300 *Cursor M.* 1670 Quen þi timber es festend wele þou wind þe sides ilk dele. c1330 *Assump. Virg.* (B.M. MS.) 795 A seynt . . . Off silk and gold wounden in pal. 1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P.R.* xvii. clii. (W. de W.) T vj b/2 Wrethes wouen & wounden of thornes & roddes. 1526 TINDALE *John* xix. 2 The soudiers woude a croune off thornes. 1590 SPENSER *F.Q.* II. xii. 82 That same net so cunningly was wound, That neither quye nor force might it distraine. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* vi. xxii. I. 129 The boates . . . were made and wound of papyr reeds. †(b) *spec.* To make or repair (a wall) with 'windings' (see WINDING vbl. sb.¹ 10). *Obs.*

c900 ÆLFRED *Solil.* Pref., þæt he . . . gefeðrige hys wænas mid fegrum gerdum, þat he mage windan manigre smicneren wah. 1474-5 [see WINDING vbl. sb.¹ 10]. 1550 *Ludlow Churchw. Acc.* (Camden) 70 Paid for 3 burthen of roodes to wynde the wals of the store howse. 1574 *Surrey & Kent Sewers Comm.* (L.C.C. 1909) 194 To wind with roddes & to fill vp the walle against his Mille banck. 1618 GAINSFORD *Glory Eng.* 147 Their houses woude with rods and couered with turffs. 1649 *Order Bk. Hartlebury Gram. School* (1904) 72 To a man to studd and winde walls.

b. To twine or plait *together*, to intertwine; *fig.* to associate. *Obs.*

1387 *TREvisa Higden* (Rolls) II. 345 þey . . . wonede vnder bowes and twigges i-woude to gidres. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. xx. 169 As wexe and weke if þei were woude to-gederes. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* §127 Wrapepe and wynde theym together. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* III. lxxxvii. 440 Stringes, inter-laced, woven, and winded one in another. 1618 GAINSFORD *Glory Eng.* i. xvii. 144 And so intricately winde them, or lay them, that they shall be a strong barricado. 1646 A. HENDERSON in *Charles P's Wks.* (1662) 172, I wind together Diotrephe and the Mystery of Iniquity.

19. To haul or hoist by turning a winch, windlass, or the like, around which a rope or chain is passed. a. *gen.*

c1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 529/1 Wyndyn' wythe a wyndlas. 1900 *Law Rep., App. Cas.* 407 The head-line of the net is then wound in by means of the windlass.

b. *Naut.* †(a) To hoist (sail); (b) to move or warp (the ship), by hauling, as on a capstan or windlass. Also *absol.* or *intr.* (Cf. 8.) See also 24 g.

Cf. ON. *vinda segl* to hoist sail.

c1205 [see 24 a]. 1379 *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) III. 100 In potu dato diversis auxiliantibus pro ii[s]dem exaltand. et wyndand, 3d. c1470 HENRY Wallace x. 872 He . . . Bad wynd the sail in all the haist thai may. c1515 *Cocke Lorell's B.* (Percy Soc.) 12 Some woude at y^e capstayne. 1535 *Stewart Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) II. 607 The Danis . . . Wand sail to top. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 40 The maister . . . bald the marynalis lay the cabil to the cabilstok, to veynde and veye. Than the marynalis began to veynd the cabil. 1570-1 (Feb. 17) *Admiralty Crt. Exam.* 18 (MS.) Layde an ancre right astern . . . to winde her out of the dock. 1598 *Florio Dict.* To Rdr., I was but one to turne and winde the sailes, to vse the oare [etc.]. 1600 HAKLUYT *Voy.* III. 490 We cut our cables, wound off our ships, and presently fought with them. *Ibid.*, Cutting our cables in the halse, and winding off by our sternefast. 1633 (July 18) *Admiralty Crt. Exam.* 50 (MS.) The Delight was thwart the river and wynding down. 1729 CAPT. W. WRIGLESWORTH *MS. Log-bk. of the 'Lyell'* 17 Oct., Unmoored the Ship, and got all things in a readiness for Winding her head down. 1853 KANE *Arctic Expl.* (1856) I. vii. 71 We dropped our heaviest anchor with the desperate hope of winding the brig.

c. *Mining.* To hoist (coal, etc.) to the surface by means of a *winding-engine*.

1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-mining, Wind.* 1887 P. McNEILL *Blawearie* 186 To get their coals winded to the pithead.

20. *trans.* †a. To tighten the strings of a musical instrument by turning the pins or pegs around which they are passed. (With the pins or the strings as obj.) See also 24 e (b). *Obs.*

1607-12 BACON *Ess.*, *Empire* (Arb.) 298 In gouernement sometemes he vsed to wynd the pyennes to highe, and sometemes to let them downe to lowe. a1700 *Prior To C'tess of Exeter* 31 Your Lute may wind it's Strings but little higher, To tune their Notes to that immortal Quire.

b. To set (a watch, clock, or other mechanism) in order for going by turning an axis with a key or similar device so as to coil the spring tighter or draw up the weights.

Usually *wind up* (see 24 e); occas. *wind down*, to cause to stop.

1601, etc. [see 24 e]. a1648 *Ess. on Death in Bacon's Remaines* (1648) 10 Wooing the remorseless Sisters to wind down the watch of their life, and to break them off before the hour. 1760 WINTHROP in *Phil. Trans.* LII. 14 He was winding his watch at that time. 1880 HARDY *Trumpet-Major* iii, When he wound his clock on Sunday nights the whirr of that monitor reminded the widow to wind hers.

c. *fig.* To exalt or 'screw up' to a certain pitch. Now with *up* (see 24 f).

a1635 SIBBES *Confer. Christ & Mary* (1656) 5 Like Jonah, . . . when he rejoyces, his joy is wound to the highest pitch. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* Introd., He at length wound himself to such a pitch of resolution, as to invite me to dine. 1827 KEBLE *Chr. Y.*, *Morning* xiii, We need not . . . strive to wind ourselves too high For sinful man beneath the sky.

II. In combination with advs. (See also prec. senses and the advs.)

21. wind down. a. *intr.* To draw gradually to a close.

1952 DYLAN THOMAS *Coll. Poems* p. ix, This day winding down now At God speeded summer's end. **1977** *Time* 19 Sept. 22/1 Instead of winding down, investigations were being stepped up. **1985** R. BARNARD *Disposal of Living* vi. 75 The fête was beginning to wind down then. I think Mary was still around.

b. *intr.* for *refl.* Of a person who has been 'screwed up' to a certain pitch or is in a state of tension: to relax, to unwind.

1958 *Observer* 7 Sept. 3/5 He is slowly 'winding down' after his exhausting television shows. **1970** *New Yorker* 24 Oct. 50/1 Even the West Indian was winding down. **1979** *Homes & Gardens* June 77/2 It takes him about two days to wind down. When your husband runs his own firm his stress is very great. **1985** R. HUNTER *Fourth Angel* viii. 137 An evening at the theatre and a chance to wind down and relax.

c. *trans.* To open (the window of a vehicle) downwards by rotating a handle. Cf. *wind up*, sense 24e(c) below.

1961 I. MURDOCH *Severed Head* viii. 71 The windscreen was becoming opaque. . . I wound down the window on my side and the cold choking air came in. **1975** D. LODGE *Changing Places* v. 165 Philip stopped at a red light and wound down his window.

d. *fig.* To reduce in scale gradually; to bring (an activity) to an end.

1969 *Washington Post* 16 Apr. A22/2 Very little else is possible before the war is wound down. **1969** *Guardian* 5 Aug. 2/7 The enemy might prefer gradually to 'wind down' the level of combat step by step. **1977** *Rolling Stone* 16 June 56/3 Natalie is pregnant and will wind down her work schedule in anticipation of a fall delivery. **1981** *Daily Tel.* 26 Nov. 21 He might be able simply to wind the business down to a size which becomes manageable again.

22. wind off. a. See simple senses and OFF. † b. *intr.* and *trans.* To close, conclude, terminate: = *wind up*, 24 d(b), (d). *Obs. rare.*

1650 FULLER *Pisgah* II. i. 60 O that all differences between brethren might wind off, in so welcome a conclusion. **1675** TEMPLE *Lett.* (1701) III. 160 The Prince continues to say he talks to him no further than is necessary to wind off such Businesses as were left in his hands.

23. wind on. *Photogr.* To turn (the film in a camera) to the next position in readiness for taking another photograph. Also *absol.*

1947 A. RANSOME *Great Northern?* xxiii. 289 Dick wound on the film, closed the camera and put it in its case. **1964** F. CLIFFORD *Hunting-Ground* vi. 67 Thirty-six on the film and I'm supposed not to have wound on once. **1982** C. THOMAS *Jade Tiger* iii. 66 He adjusted the focus. . . Click, wind on, click again.

24. wind up. a. *trans.* To draw up or hoist with a winch or the like: cf. 19.

c **1205** LAY. 30607 Heo wunden up seiles to coppe. **13..** *Coer de L.* 3955 The Sarezynes. . . Her bryggcs wouden up in haste. **c1330** R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 14564 Crosses, belles, men haue founden, In welles, in watres, vp haue wouden. a **1450** *Knt. de la Tour* viii. (1906) 11 Folke come to feche and wynde up water at that well. **c1477** CAXTON *Jason* 67 b, He . . . went to the see and made to winde up the sayle. **1530** PALSGR. 782/2 Wynde up the crane faster. **1580** H. SMITH in *Hakluyt's Voy.* (1580) 470 We brought a cable vnder her sterne, and with our capstaine did winde vp her sterne. **1612** BEAUM. & FL. *Coxcomb* II. ii. Let me see thy hand, this was ne'er made to wash, or wind up water. **1793** [EARL DUNDONALD] *Descr. Estate of Culross* 55 The adoption of. . . Steam Engines to wind up the Coals from the pits. **1825** J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 124 A rope wrapped about it to wind up the sacks of corn.

absol. **1846** *Bentley's Misc.* Dec. 555 Walk down stream with him and wind up as fast as you can. He's a fine fish, and shows excellent sport.

b. (a) †To bind or wrap up (*obs.*); see also 16 (quot. 1853).

c **1532** DU WES *Introd. Fr. in Palsgr.* 948 To wynde up, housser. **1609** *Bible* (Douay) Ezek. xxx. 21 Behold it is not wound up, that health might be restored to it. **1611** *Bible* Acts v. 6. **1616** W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* II. iii. 67 The Sea-Nymphes. . . Learning of Fisher-men to knit a net, Wherein to wynde vp their disheul'd hayres. **1627** J. SMITH *Sea Gram.* xiii. 61 Winde vp the slaine, with each a. . . bullet at their heads and feet to make them sinke. **1657** J. WATTS *Dipper Sprinkled* 72 The spider doth winde up, and truss up the Fly, being come into its cobweb.

†(b) *fig.* To involve, implicate. Cf. 16 c. *Obs.* In quot. 1651 app. = 'to have included in one's nature'; so in quot. 1674² *intr.* for *pass.* = 'to be included'.

1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V.* IV. i. 296 Winding vp Dayes with toyle, and Nights with sleepe. **1651** CLEVELAND *Poems, Rupertismus* 73 Whatever man winds up, that Rupert hath. **1674** N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 127 Well may one motion, of one sort, after sinking into its spring, or being wown up in it, be. . . brought on again to a kind of quickness. **1817** So little of boundedness to winde up in. **1784** *New Spectator* No. 13 My happiness is wound up in thine. **1819** KEATS *Otho* I. ii. I am wound up in deep astonishment! **1819** W. S. ROSE *Lett. N. Italy* II. 96 [They] imagined that her life was wound up in his. **1841** ALISON *Hist. Eur.* Ixix. IX. 138 His political existence was thenceforth wound up with the success of Russia in the German war.

c. †(a) To coil, roll, or fold up; to furl: cf. 15 b. *Obs. exc.* as in (b).

1590 SPENSER *F.Q.* I. xi. 11 His huge long tayle wound vp in hundred foldes. **1595** SHAKS. *John* v. v. 7 After such bloody toile, we. . . woun'd our tott'ring colours clearly vp. **1659** RUSHW. *Hist. Coll.* (1721) IV. iii. 269 He. . . wound up his Hair with his Hands, and put on a White Cap. **1759** R. BROWN *Compl. Farmer* 35 See that the wool be well wound up.

(b) To coil (thread, etc.) into a compact mass (cf. 15): chiefly in phr. †to wind up a bottom or

one's bottoms (BOTTOM sb. 15), usually *fig.* to sum up, conclude (cf. d).

1631 ANCHORAN *Comenius' Gate Tongues* 99 Off a reele clewes or bottomes of threads are winded vp and web is made. **1639** J. CLARKE *Paræm.* 46 Wind up your bottom. **1652** PEYTON *Catastr. Ho. Stuarts* (1731) 64, I have ravelled out the Pieces to wind up this Bottom. **1749** LAVINGTON *Enthus. Meth. & Papists* II. (1754) Pref. p. xxxii, But, to wind up my Bottoms [etc.]. a **1766** MRS. F. SHERIDAN *Sidney Bidulph* IV. 27 That would be tipping the spire and winding up her bottoms with a witness. **1770** DIBDIN *Deserter* I. i. I'll give you while I wind up this bottom and another, and you sha'n't find it out.

d. *fig.* †(a) To gather up the points of (a discourse) in a compact statement by way of conclusion; to sum up. *Obs.*

1583 MELBANCKE *Philotimus* Xij b, To winde vp all in a short conclusion, [etc.]. **1630** PRYNNE *Anti-Armin.* 137 To winde vp all in briefe. c **1645** HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) I. vi. iii. 186 Be pleas'd to dispense with the prolixity of this Discours, for I could not wind it up closer, nor on a lesser bottom. **1692** R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* Pref. B 1 b, I shall now Wind up what I have to say. **1791** BURKE *Th. French Aff.* Wks. 1842 I. 580, I wind up all in a full conviction within my own breast, . . . that [etc.].

(b) †To make up as the conclusion or final scene (*obs.*); to bring to a close or conclusion; to form the conclusion of, be the final event in.

1740 RICHARDSON *Pamela* II. 17, I shall be better directed in what manner to wind up the Catastrophe of the pretty Novel. **1759** STERNE *Tr. Shandy* I. xii, To wind up the last scene of thy tragedy, Cruelty and Cowardice. . . shall strike together at all thy infirmities and mistakes. **1821** SCOTT *Dryden's Wks.* VIII. 454 The moral, by which the whole Masque is wound up, was sadly true. **1833** T. HOOK *Parson's Dau.* I. vii, Her ladyship was winding up the day with her accustomed bottle of soda-water. **1848** THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xlv, Sobs and tears wound up the sentence in a storm. **1912** *World* 7 May 685/1 An evening party on Saturday wound up the season's entertaining.

(c) To put in order and settle (an affair) with the view of bringing it to an end; to bring to a final settlement; *spec.* to arrange and adjust the affairs of (a company or business concern) on its dissolution; also *absol.*

1780 *Mirror* No. 97 ¶7 Some company concerns to be wound up, or some bottomry-account to be adjusted. **1794** GOV. MORRIS in *Sparks Life & Writ.* (1832) II. 458, I have some affairs in London which I wish to wind up. **1848** DICKENS *Dombey* lviii, It was understood that the affairs of the House were to be wound up as they best could be. **1875** *Economist* 30 Jan. 131/2 The Master of the Rolls has made an order to wind-up, and has appointed Mr. John Smith. . . official liquidator. **1893** SARAH O. JEWETT *Deephaven* 213 He was trading up to Parsonsfield, and business run down, so he wound up there, and thought he'd make a new start. **1924** MACKAIL in *Proc. Class. Assoc.* 13 The Association was never formally wound up and still technically existed.

(d) *absol.* or *intr.* To bring the proceeding to a close; to come to a close; to conclude with something.

1825 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Passion & Princ.* x. III. 185 And a dish of macaroni to wind up with. **1835** DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Astley's*, One of the little boys wound up by expressing his opinion, that 'George began to think himself quite a man now'. **1855** — *Lett.* (1880) I. 396, I want to wind up with that popular farce. **1882** E. O'DONOVAN *Meru Oasis* I. 329 An extreme amount of fever, winding up with delirium on the fifth day.

(e) *intr.* Of a person, etc.: to end up, to finish up (in a certain place or condition); to find oneself eventually. *colloq.*

1918 V. WOOLF *Diary* (1979) I. 115, I went to have my tooth finished, winding up for tea at the Club. **1921** E. O'NEILL *Emperor Jones* I. 155 When I gits a chance to use it I winds up Emperor in two years. **1942** W. STEVENS *Lett.* 2 Oct. (1966) 421 The same reasons would prevent her from marrying as long as the war goes on, and. . . she may wind up as an old maid. **1952** WODEHOUSE *Barmy in Wonderland* iii. 29 Men who own hotels always wind up in the breadline with holes in their socks. **1968** *Globe & Mail* (Toronto) 17 Feb. 3/1 Canada has made no written request that military equipment sent to the United States should not wind up in Vietnam. **1976** *National Observer* (U.S.) 13 Mar. 9/2 Somebody who wants to get away from it all is likely to wind up in a chalet in a Heidi-like village on a mountain. **1980** L. BIRNBACH et al. *Official Preppy Handbk.* 111/1 Many of these forays. . . wind up involving mayhem or destruction of property.

e. (a) In reference to a watch, etc.: see 20 b.

1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* II. v. 66, I frowne the while, and perchance winde vp my watch. **1639** *Crabtree Lect.* 41 Gladly he would have interrupted her, . . . but the Jacke was wound up, and downe it must. **1648** WILKINS *Math. Magick* I. xix. (1707) 80 These Mathematical Engines cannot be so easily and speedily wound up, and so certainly levelled as the other may. **1674** N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 125 A Watch or a Jack, by being only wown up [etc.]. **1712** BUDGELL *Spect.* No. 277 ¶17 Another Puppet, which by the Help of several little Springs to be wound up within it, could move all its Limbs. **1762** CHURCHILL *Poems, Night* 83 Wound up at twelve at noon, his clock goes right, Mine better goes, wound up at twelve at night. **1883** RITCHIE *Bk. Sibyls* II. 148 Climbing a ladder to wind up an old clock.

†(b) In reference to the strings of a musical instrument (see 20 a); *fig.* to put in tune.

1605 SHAKS. *Lear* IV. vii. 16 Th' vntun'd and iarring senses, O winde vp, Of this childe-changed Father. **1645** WALLER *Chloris & Hilaris* I. Poems 157 Winde up the slack'ned strings of thy Lute.

(c) In reference to a motor vehicle: to close (the window) by rotating a handle. Cf. *wind down*, sense 21 c above.

1970 H. R. F. KEATING *Inspector Ghote breaks Egg* II. 16 He slowly wound up the window of his big car. **1971** P. D.

JAMES *Shroud for a Nightingale* I. 16 She wound up the car window and stepped on the accelerator.

f. *fig.* To set in readiness for action; to raise (feeling) to a high degree; now usually, to put into a state of tension or intensity of feeling, etc.; also, to annoy, to provoke deliberately (*colloq.*); to excite; to brace up; in *Racing slang*, to put (a race-horse) into fit condition for running.

1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* IV. iii, Straine all your wits, winde up invention Unto his highest bent. **1605** SHAKS. *Macb.* I. iii. 37 Peace, the Charme's wound vp. **1609** B. JONSON *Sil. Wom.* v. i, His knights reformadoes are wound up as high and insolent as ever they were. **1660** F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 269 Having wound him up with good cheer. **1665** J. SPENCER *Prodigies* II. (ed. 2) 136 These blind. . . Powers must be. . . perpetually wound up by an Hand of Power and Counsel. **1748** RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) VII. 20 My passions are so wound up, that I am obliged either to laugh or cry. **1759** GOLDSM. *Voltaire* Wks. (1889) 489/2 Voltaire seemed wound up to no other pursuit than that of poetry. *Ibid.* 500/1 Our poet was at last wound up to the height of expectation. **1822** HAZLITT *Table-t.* II. vii. 176 He had wound himself up to the last pitch of expectation. **1843** R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* xxiii. 294 Ladies of fashion use it constantly to wind themselves up, when reduced to a little below par. **1864** NEWMAN *Apol.* IV. (1904) 126/2 It is not at all easy (humanly speaking) to wind up an Englishman to a dogmatic level. **1871** 'M. LEGRAND' *Cambr. Freshm.* 197 There's one that's what we call wound up: going to run next week in a big handicap. **1880** A. H. HUTH *Buckle* II. 257 Mr. Buckle's interjections come in very usefully to help Mr. Glennie along, and wind him up again, as it were, when he has run down. **1979** *Time* Oct 30 Nov. 11/2 The kids are proud of the successful thieving they have done, and though they'll 'wind you up' (take the piss) as much as they can, the conversation becomes deadly serious on certain topics. **1984** *Sunday Times* 26 Feb. 10/5 They started winding her up, which is not difficult since she does not have a great sense of humour. **1985** *Times* 11 Jan. 3/6 When he heard the car horn sound and saw the car lights flash at his window he thought his neighbour was 'trying to wind me up'. **1987** *Match* 21 Mar. 5/1 All he kept saying was 'boss, you're kidding me, boss you're winding me up'.

†g. *Naut. intr.* and *trans.* See quotes., and cf. 8, 19 b(b). *Obs.*

a **1625** MANWAYRING *Sea-mans Dict.* (1644) 115 The ship winds-up, that is, when she comes to ride by her Anchor. **1633** T. JAMES *Voy.* 10 This Anker had neuer bin able to winde vp the Ship. **1639** [see WINDING vbl. sb.¹ 1 b]. **1691** T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* p. lv, Ships. . . have Water enough to wind up with the Tide of flood. **1711** *Milit. & Sea Dict.* (ed. 4).

wind (wind, waɪnd), v.² Pa. t. and pple. winded. Forms: 5 wynde, 6–8 winde, 6– wind. Pa. t. and pple. 6– winded; 8–9 wound (see sense 3). [f. WIND sb.¹ In ordinary prose use the pronunciation is (wind) except in sense 3, where it is (waɪnd).]

I. From WIND sb.¹ I.

1. a. *trans.* To get the wind of (WIND sb.¹ 4); to perceive (an animal, a person, or thing) by the scent conveyed by the wind.

†Occas. with obj. clause and *absol.* In quot. 1607, to perceive (a sound) conveyed by the wind, to hear.

c **1410** *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) vi, be wolfe is so maliciose, when he seeth hir comme withoute fedyngne, pat he goth wynde at hir musel. And if he wynde pere she hath brought any thynghe, he. . . biteth her. *Ibid.*, Somme men seith pat she bateth. . . hir heede, because pat the wolfe shulde wynde nothyng of hir fedyngne when she cometh agayne. **1580** LYLIE *Euphues* (Arb.) 394 You might. . . haue tourned the Hare you winded, and caught the game you coursed. **1583** GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* xxiii. 6. 807/1 As a swyne when he hath once winded his meat, runnes on to swash himself in it. **1601** HOLLAND *Pliny* XII. xxii. I. 375 A man may wind the sent of it presently a great way off. **1602** 2nd Pt. *Return fr. Parnass.* IV. ii, Any sensible snout may winde M. Amoretto and his Pomander. **1607** TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 584 The greedy beast winding the voice of the Dogge. **1644** DIGBY *Nat. Bodies* xxvii. §7. 248 He could at a great distance wind by his nose, where whole-some fruites or rootes did grow. **1726** POPE *Odyss.* XVII. 385 His scent how true, To winde the vapour in the tainted dew. **1850** R. G. CUMMING *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* xxii. II. 126 Soon after fourteen buffaloes came; but. . . they got an alarm. . . They had winded two lions. **1880** CARNEGIE *Pract. Trap.* 32 A good terrier, one which will wind, and, if necessary, fight a fox. **1892** *Field* 7 May 695/1 Deuce dropped to birds that got up as we entered, and Dulcimer ran into a pair that she just winded before they rose.

b. *intr.* Of an animal: To sniff in order to scent or on scenting something.

c **1410** [see above]. **1607** TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 125 When a hart pricketh vp his eares he windeth sharpe. **1842** J. W. CARLETON *Sporting Sk. Bk.* 29 Palatine. . . suddenly raised his head, winded high in the air, sprung over the bushes, winded again, then leaped again.

c. *fig. (trans.)* To perceive by some subtle indication; to get wind of, to smell or nose out.

1583 MELBANCKE *Philotimus* Qijj, Philotimus winding Aurelia to haue munched on this carrion. . . trotted to her lodging once or twice, where she would not be sene. **1596** SPENSER *F.Q.* v. ii. 25 Talus, that could like a limehound winde her. **1611** L. BARRY *Ram Alley* II. i. No nose to smell, and winde out all your tricks. **1640** C. HARVEY *Synagogue, Search* II, My senses are too weake to wind him. a **1641** FINETT *Observ.* (1656) 13, I winding the cause to be some new buz, gotten into his Braine. **1779–81** JOHNSON *L.P.*, *Pope* Wks. IV. 51 A cat, hunted for his musk, is, according to Pope's account, but the emblem of a wit winded by booksellers. **1829** LANDOR *Imag. Conv.* Ser. II. I. *Chaucer, Boccaccio, & Petrarcha* 226, I never knew a priest at a fault, whatever he winded.

II. From WIND sb.¹ II.

2. a. trans. To expose to the wind or air; to dry by such exposure, to air.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 529/1 Wyndyd, ventilatus, vel vento et aure expositus. **1585** HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 385/2 *Offringitur ager*, . . . the land is winded, fallowed, or twice laboured over. **1872** SMYTH *Mining Stat.* 64 As Mr. Spear says, 'he leaves the air to wind the ground the other 16 hours'.

b. intr. To 'take wind', become tainted by exposure to air; *trans.* to taint by such exposure. *dial.*

1842 J. AITON *Dom. Econ.* (1857) 222 A handful of salt shaken on the top of it, which keeps it from turning mouldy or winding. **1844** H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 905 If the least cell of air be left in its mass. . . it will wind the butter.

3. a. trans. To sound by forcing the breath through, to blow (a wind-instrument, esp. a horn).

In this sense often with *pa. t.* and *pple.* *wound*, by confusion with *WIND v.*¹, *perh.* due to vague suggestion from the curved form of a horn or bugle.

1586 [J. CASE] *Praise Mus. i.* 17 Minerua was delighted with her pipe, and vused euen in the assemblie of the gods very much to winde it. **1602** MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* i. iii, Boy, winde thy cornet. **1706** SWIFT *To Earl of Peterborough* 16 The Post-boy winds his Horn. **1746** COLLINS *Ode Evening* 11 Where the Beetle winds His small but sullen Horn. **1789** G. KEATE *Pelew Isl.* 33 The boatswain called all hands out to work by winding his pipe. **1790** PENNANT *London* 243 Hunters who wound their horns. **1810** SCOTT *Lady of L. i.* xvii, But scarce again his horn he wound. **1814** — *Ld. of Isles* iv. xviii, That blast was winded by the King! **1859** TENNYSON *Pelleas & Ettarre* 371 Gawain . . . raised a bugle hanging from his neck, And winded it. **1859** — *Elaine* 169 Thither he made and wound the gateway horn.

b. To blow (a blast, call, or note) on a horn, etc.

1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* i. i. 243 But that I will haue a rechte winded in my forehead. **1735** SOMERVILLE *Chase* II. 292 With Cheeks full-blown they wind Her solemn Dirge. **1769** FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1776), *Winding a Call*, the act of blowing or piping upon a boatswain's whistle. **1888** STEVENSON *Black Arrow* v. vi, He raised a little tucket to his mouth and wound a rousing call.

c. absol. or intr. To blow a blast on a wind-instrument.

1600 HOLLAND *Livy* II. lxiv. 86 Quintius . . . caused certaine cornetiers. . . to wind and sound before the trench.

d. trans. To supply (an organ-pipe) with wind at a particular pressure.

1879 *Organ Voicing* 28 They must be winded to match those below in strength.

† 4. trans. To blow (a fire, etc.). *Obs. rare.*

1605 TIMME *Quersit.* II. vii, The fire. . . the which he had spread abroad, and winded or bellowed in vaine. **1660** *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) I. 69 The freshe lime shaken and winded, filled the place with its smoke.

5. To deprive of 'wind' or breath, put out of breath, 'blow', 'puff'.

1811 *Sporting Mag.* XXXVII. 18 Parkes was very faint, and apparently quite winded. **1842** LOVER *Handy Andy* iii, 'Two to one on Dick—he's closing.' 'Done! Andy will wind him yet.' **1857** G. A. LAWRENCE *Guy Liv.* ii. 9 A country. . . where there was no hill steep enough to wind a horse in good condition. **1888** 'R. BOLDEWOOD' *Robbery under Arms* xx, He can't hardly keep from barking till he's hoarse, and rushing through and over everything till he's winded and done up.

6. To cause (a baby) to bring up wind after feeding; to 'burp'.

1958 *Observer* 19 Oct. 10/6 My five-month-old son, though well fed, thoroughly winded and much loved, delights in yelling loud and long. **1961** *Guardian* 28 June 6/3 Two babies. . . to feed and wind and change. **1978** D. MURPHY *Place Apart* x. 211 Paddy's wife handed him their six-months-old daughter, to be 'winded' while she was undressing their two-year-old son. . . The baby burped dutifully.

wind, v.³ *dial.* Also 5-6 wynd, 8 *Sc. winn.* [Perh. a use of *WIND v.*²; cf. OHG. *wintôn* (MHG., G. *winden*), Goth. *diswinþjan* to scatter like chaff (cf. *winpiskaurô* and OHG. *winta* winnowing-fan).

Late Northumb. *windung*, rare var. of *winnung*, *wynnung*, appears to be unconnected, and *winden* in *Ancr. R.* (ed. Morton) 270 is prob. an error for *windwen*.]

To winnow. Chiefly in *vbl. sb.* (*attrib.*).

a 1500 *Promp. Parv.* 529/1 Wynewynge, wythe wynd (K., P. wyndynge), *ventilacio*. **1538** *Aberd. Reg.* XVI. (Jam. 1825), And see the same bair wyndit & dycht. **1548**, etc. [see *WINDING-CLOTH*]. **1578** *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 783/1 The beir granell, malt barne and windinhouse. **1688** HOLME *Armoury* III. 74/1 Winnowing, Windng or Haveing. **1733** BUDGELL *Bee* No. 7. I. 293 Their Mother coming home presently after from winding of Corn, affrighted at this tragical Scene, threw the winding Cloth which she had in her Hand into the Cradle where the youngest Child was asleep, and smother'd it unawares. **1785** BURNS *Halloween* xxi, Meg fain wad to the barn gaen To winn three wechts o' naething. **1847** HALLIWELL, *Wind*. . . To winnow corn. *Devon.* **1869** PEACOCK *Lonsdale Gloss.* **1891** *Harland Gloss.* s.v. *Wind*, Although winnin' or windin' by hand is nearly obsolete, some farms have still a Windin'-place, a spot of high ground where it was performed. **1919** CHOPE *Some Old Farm Impl.* 24 [Devonshire] the 'machine fan', or winding-fan.

wind, obs. var. WEND *v.*; obs. *pa. pple.* of *WIN v.*¹; var. *WIN v.*²; obs. *Sc. f.* WOUND *sb.*; var. WYND.

wind-¹, the stem of *WIND v.*¹ in combination, in a few obsolete compounds: **†wind-clout** (in Ormin *winndeclut*), a swaddling-band; **†wind-hatch** [*HATCH sb.*¹ 5 b], an opening to a mine, at

which a winding apparatus is fixed; **†wind-lift**, a windlass (in quot. *fig.*); **†wind-rope**, a rope for winding or hoisting, used with a windlass.

c 1200 ORMIN 3320 & tær 3ho barr Allmahhtiz Godd. . . & wand himm sone i *winndeclut. **1671** *Phil. Trans.* VI. 2104 A Winder with two Keebles (great buckets made like a barrel with iron hoops, placed just over the then termed *Wind Hatch). **a 1734** *NORTH Exam.* II. v. §64 (1740) 354 The Author intends no Good in all this, but brings it in as a *Wind-lift to heave up a gross Scandal. **1359** in *Pipe Roll* 38 *Edw. III* m. 47 (P.R.O.) In diuersis Cabulis, *Wyndropes, Caggyngcables. **1402** *Acc. Exch. K.R.* 43/6 m. 7 In ij hausers emptis pro j Wyndrope et j boltrope lixs. vj. d.

wind-², the stem of *WIND v.*³ in combination = winnowing-, as in *wind-cloth*, -screen, -sheet.

1500 *Ortus Vocab.* (W. de W.) PPvj, *Ventilabrum*, . . . a wynde clothe. **1565** *Inv. in Trans. Cumb. & West. Arch. Soc.* X. 32 Husbandre gere. . . vij steckes, one wyndcloythe. **1763** *Mills Pract. Husb.* III. 125 After passing twice through the wind screen, that objection was entirely removed. **1891** *Harland Gloss.*, *Win-shet*, a winnowing-sheet.

windabout ('waɪndəbaʊt), *sb.* and *a. nonce-wd.* [f. *WIND v.*¹ + *ABOUT adv.*] **† a. sb.** Suggested name for a circumflex accent. **b. adj.** That winds about, meandering.

1589 PUTTENHAM *Engl. Poesie* II. vi. (Arb.) 92 We might very properly call him the (windabout) for so is the Greek word [περισπώμενον]. **1889** GRETTON *Memory's Harkback* 321 The erratic, windabout stream.

windage ('waɪndɪdʒ). [f. *WIND sb.*¹ + -AGE.]

1. An allowance of space (for expansion of gas in firing) between the inner wall of a fire-arm and the shot or shell with which it is charged: measured by the difference of the diameters of the bore and the shot.

1710 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* II. **1778** HUTTON in *Phil. Trans.* LXVIII. 84 It would also be an improvement to diminish the windage; for by so doing, one third or more of the quantity of powder might be saved. **1860** ABP. THOMSON *Laws Th.* §117. 238 The windage of a loose ball in the barrel of the piece.

2. Allowance made (esp. in shooting) for deflection from the direct course by the wind; such deflection itself.

1867 *Morning Star* 30 July 6 At half-past nine the firing commenced. . . but with a breeze almost too strong for accurate aiming, and considerable 'windage' was required. **1891** CONAN DOYLE *White Company* iv, 'Seven yards windage, Hal,' said one.

3. = *WIND sb.*¹ 13.

1889 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* VIII. 11/1 To support the idea of injuries from the 'windage' of balls.

4. The (actual or potential) air resistance of a moving object, esp. a vessel or a rotating machine part; also, the force of the wind on a stationary object.

1897 PEMBERTON *Complete Cyclist* 78 This will . . . save a good deal of windage. **1898** *Westm. Gaz.* 26 May 4/1 [Yachts in which] an innovation is made. . . giving a maximum of head room with a minimum of windage. **1903** *Nature* 29 Oct. 635/1 The power wasted by the windage of fly-wheel and dynamo armatures. **1909** A WILLIAMS *Engin. Wonders of World* III. 42/2 The designer has to consider how to curve the [propeller] blades so as to give a maximum thrust for a minimum windage. **1948** *Times* 24 Nov. 2/2 A new type of anchor designed to prevent warships, particularly aircraft-carriers with their large windage area, from dragging their anchors. **1953** C. S. FORESTER *Hornblower & 'Atropos'* 60 Their twelve oars hardly sufficed to control their more than forty feet of length, and the windage of the huge cabin aft was enormous. **1958** *Engineering* 31 Jan. 157/3 The radar aerial . . . is of parabolic section and slatted to reduce windage. **1961** E. LIGHTFOOT *Moment Distribution* v. 123 Design against windage is important in skyscraper buildings. **1971** *Sci. Amer.* Dec. 7/1 If the time cycle between storage and retrieval is long, most of the stored energy [of the flywheel] is lost in windage and friction. **1977** *Mod. Boating* (Austral.) Jan. 98/1 There is a tremendous amount of windage in that topsides and cabin.

5. Special Comb.: windage loss, loss of power through the air resistance of rotating parts.

1922 *Encycl. Brit.* XXX. 35/2 In determining the useful H.P. of rotary engines, 'windage loss' had first to be determined. **1966** *McGraw-Hill Encycl. Sci. & Technol.* IV. 449/1 Windage loss is relatively large in air-cooled high-speed machines.

windar, var. *WINDER sb.*⁴, widgeon.

†windas. Obs. Forms: 3-6 wyndas (3-5 -ase, 4 -az, 4-6 -ace, 5 -asse, 5-6 -es, 6 -esse, -ys, -ais), 4-7 windas, (6 -is, -ose, -eous, *Sc.* -ois, 6-7 -es, 7 -us, -owes); 5 weyndas, 6 wendess. [a. AF. *windas* = OF. *guindas* (Latinized *wind-*, *guindasium*, -agium), a. ON. *vindáss* (whence MLG., MDu., Du. *windas*), f. *vinda* *WIND v.*¹ + *áss* (= Goth. *ans*) pole.]

1. = *WINDLASS sb.*¹ 1.

[c 1180 in *Materials Hist. Thos. Becket* (Rolls) I. 300 Ligno quod naute windasium vocant caput rudentis circumposuer.] **1293** *Acc. Exch. K.R.* 5/2 m. 2 (P.R.O.), Maeremium. . . pro Wyndase et Wyndase Stockez. **1295** *Ibid.* 5/8 m. 13, xix. d. in quodam Wyndas empto. . . ad galeam. **c 1330** R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 12087 Somme aforced þe wyndas, Somme þe loof, somme þe bytas. **13.** . . *E.E. Allit. P. C.* 103 Wiȝt at þe wyndas weȝen her ankres. **c 1386** CHAUCER *Sgr.'s T.* 184 Ther may no man out of the place it dryue For noon engyn of wyndas ne polyeue. **c 1440** *Partonope* 4604 Goo hye yow fast to the wyndase [*v.r.* wyndace] And pull the Ankre vp in hast. **1515** *Acc. Ld. High*

Treas. Scot. V. 17 Making of crane and wyndais for fourtene pecis of artaltery. **1578** *Harl. MS.* 847, lf. 53 b, Windoses for the defence of ordinaunce. **1609** in *Cochran-Patrick Early Rec. Mining Scot.* (1878) 149 Helping to mak and sett the windes over the somp and drawing the watter out of it. **1609** *Churchw. Acc. Pitington*, etc. (Surtees) 155 For bringinge the windowes and roopes from the Colledge. **1627** *Capt. J. Smith's Seaman's Gram.* II. 8 A windas is a square peece of timber, like a Role before the fore Castle in small ships, and forced about with handspikes for the same vse as is the Capstaine.

b. A winch-like contrivance used for bending a cross-bow.

1443 *Bekynton's Corr.* (Rolls) II. 235 Ibi datus erat 1 arcus de Wyndas. ? **1449** *Paston Lett.* I. 82, l. . . prey 3w to gete som crosse bowis, and wyndacs to bynd them with. **1506** *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* III. 204 For . . . grathing of the Kingis corsbow and windes. **1511-12** *Ibid.* IV. 327, vij pair wyndasis cordis. [1888 STEVENSON *Black Arrow* I. iv, Richard had unsung his cross-bow, and held ready in one hand the windac, or grappling-iron that he used to bend it.]

2. attrib., as *windas cord* [= OF. *corde a guindas*], *man, rule*; *windas-stock*, a windlass-bitt.

1504 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* II. 466, iij pair *wyndes cordis for corsbowis. **1608** in *Cochran-Patrick Early Rec. Mining Scot.* (1878) 149 To cover the *windes men fra the injurie of the wedder. **1641** *Sc. Acts Chas. I.* (1817) V. 509 Wattermen and windusmen. **15.** . . *Debate Carp. Tools* 163 in *Hazl. E.P.P.* I. 85 What, ser, seyde the *wyndas rewle, Me thinke thou arte bot a fole. **1293** *Wyndase Stockez [see 1]. **1404** *Customs Acc.* 180/1 (P.R.O.) 1 weyndas et weynde stok.

wind-bag, windbag ('waɪnbæg). [f. *WIND sb.*¹ + *BAG sb.*]

1. A bag containing 'wind' or air. **a.** The bellows of an organ (*obs.*) or bag of a bagpipe.

1470-3 *Rec. Andover* 15 For amending of the wyndbagge of the organs vi^a. **1606** [implied in *wind-bagged*: see below]. **1838** G. F. GRAHAM *Mus. Comp.* App. 50 Possibly the anatomical structure of the sonorous organs of these *Cicadæ* did not exactly resemble the wind-bag, and reed, and pipe of our biped bagpipers.

b. The lungs (also *pl.*); the chest or body considered as a receptacle of breath. Now only *jocular*.

1552 HULOET, Wynde bagge of a man out of the which the winde passerh, and commeth forth. **1565** COOPER *Thesaurus* II. s.v. *Anaxarchus*, He doubled these wordes worthy of remembrance: Beate on, beate on Anaxarchus wynde bag: for Anaxarchus thou beatest not: accomplinge his body but a bagge full of wynde. **1860** W. W. READE *Liberty Hall* I. i. 10 The dubious condition of his wind-bags occasioned him considerable. . . distress.

c. An inflated bag used as a charm to ensure a favourable wind.

1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* III. iv. 202 From witch-wives have I bought ere now Wind-bags indeed, but yet did trow Nothing therein.

2. fig. (contemptuous). An empty pretender, or something pretentious but unsubstantial; *esp.* a voluble and senseless talker. (Cf. *WIND sb.*¹ 1 i b, 14.)

1827 CARLYLE *Misc., Richter* (1869) 10 Consigned . . . to the Limbo appointed for all such windbags and deceptions. **1894** *SALA London up to date* II. xxii. 343 He is at best a noisy wind-bag and braggart.

3. Naut. slang. A sailing ship or 'windjammer'.

1924 R. CLEMENTS *Gipsy of Horn* 11 A sailing ship—an old wind-bag, as the young, up-to-date watchkeeper would call it. **1930** J. MASEFIELD *Wanderer of Liverpool* 47 A crowd of windbags moored fore and aft, to buoyed anchors. **1946** W. McFEE *In First Watch* i. 15 He had been cook in a windbag and a sailor before the mast.

Hence 'wind-bagged *a.*, furnished with a wind-bag (sense 1 a); 'windbaggery, inflated talk.

1606 J. REYNOLDS *Dolarnys Primerose* (1880) 118 There might be heard, the hollow *wind bag'd droan' with direfull roaring. **1859** *SALA Tw. round Clock* (1861) 396 Irremediably pin-perforated *windbaggery. **1920** *Sat. Westm. Gaz.* 21 May 4/2 The stunt press, which greatly prides itself on its inexhaustible windbaggery on this subject.

wind-ball ('waɪnbɔ:l). [f. *WIND sb.*¹ + *BALL sb.*¹] An inflated ball; a game played with such a ball by striking it with the fist.

1578 H. WOTTON *Courtlye Controv.* 264 Diuers sortes of pastimes, as the Windball, the barre, fencing [Cf. *Yver* (1599) 156 b, comme de Pallemaille, de barre, d'escrime]. **1585** HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 296/1 *Follis*, . . . a wind ball beaten with the fists to and fro in play. **1601** W. PERCY *Cuckqueanes & Cuckolds Errants* v. iv. (Roxb.) 70 Els will wee make this thy Held a wind Ball, to our fistes, straitte.

†wind-band¹. Obs. [f. *WIND v.*¹ + *BAND sb.*¹]

A band which is 'wound' or put around something, as the nave-band or tire of a wheel.

1313-14 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 512 In Hurtures, Windbandes, et Doules empt., ijs. **1350-1** *Ibid.* 551 Cum Wyndbandis factis de proprio ferro pro rotis molend. de Wystone. **1496** *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 287 For iijc nalis to the wyndbandis. **1545** *Ibid.* VIII. 391 Ane wynd band of irne to aune of the quhells. **1616** *Churchw. Acc. Pitington*, etc. (Surtees) 72 Thre gudgions and thre vrters and a windband. **1825** JAMIESON, *Wund-band*.

'wind-band². [f. *WIND sb.*¹ + *BAND sb.*³] A band of wind-instruments, as a military band; the wind of an orchestra.

1876 [see *WIND sb.*¹ 12 b]. **1894** KAPPEY *Milit. Mus.* 87 The introduction of the clarinet into wind-bands. *Ibid.* 88 The event which had the greatest influence upon the progress of wind-bands was the French Revolution.

† **wind-beam**¹. *Obs.* Forms: see *WIND sb.*¹ and *BEAM sb.*¹; also 5 *wynbeme*, 7 *wimbeame*. [f. *WIND sb.*¹ + *BEAM sb.*¹ Cf. *G. windlatte, sturmlatte, sturmband*.] A cross-beam tying the rafters of a roof: = *COLLAR-BEAM* 1.

1374 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 238 Wyndbems suchlates Asthellers Corbels. c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 529/1 Wyndbeme, of a roof, lacunar, vel laquear. 1448 in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II. 9 All the wynbemes shull conteyne in brede squar vj inches. 1579 *Ibid.* I. 310 Fyve windbeames to the principals eche windbeame xvij foote long ix vnche square. 1617 *Ibid.* 205 Principall sparris, dooble purlinges and wimbeames. 1615 CHAPMAN *Odyss.* XXII. 292 The wind-beame, that along did ron The smoaky roote. 1703 T. N. *City & C. Purchaser* 286.

† **wind-beam**². *Obs.* [f. *WIND v.*¹ + *BEAM sb.*¹] A capstan; a windlass.

1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 300/1 *Ergata*,... a capstand, or windbeame, or drawbeame. 1611 *COTGR.* s.v. *Ergate*. 1659 HOOLE tr. *Comenius' Vis. World* (1672) 135 A Wind-Beam is a post which is turned by going about it.

wind-berry, *obs.* f. *winberry*, WHIMBERRY.

'**wind-bound**, *a.* [f. *WIND sb.*¹ + *BOUND ppl.* *a.*²] Detained by contrary or stormy winds.

1588 HUNSDON in *Archæologia* XXX. 169 Having been... see wind-bound, as he could by no means gett out of the haven. c1645 HOWELL *Lett.* II. ix. (1890) 475 Being now wind-bound for Africk. a1718 *Prior Mercury & Cupid* 46 No Matter tho' This Fleet be lost; Or That lie wind-bound on the Coast. 1854 H. MILLER *Sch. & Schm.* i. 9 Next morning the wind-bound vessels were crowding the harbour of refuge as before. 1875 *Zoologist* Ser. II. X. 4712 As to swallows or martins being wind-bound, I cannot entertain the idea. 1899 BRIDGES *New P., Summer-ho.* Mound 35 Briggs and barques that windbound ride At their taut cables heading to the tide.

† **b.** Stopped or rendered inaccessible by contrary winds. *Obs. rare.*

1614 GORGES *Lucan* v. 187 He findes the hauens mouth wind-bound [orig. *clausas ventis brumalibus undas*].

c. fig. or in *fig.* context.
1646 FULLER *Wounded Consc.* ix. 62 Though thou beest water-bound, be not wind-bound also. 1658-9 in *Burton's Diary* (1828) IV. 30 They, being now in possession, may be admitted, *de bene esse*; else you are wind-bound. You cannot do aught without them. 1675 COCKER *Morals* 66 Wind-bound in the port of Sorrow. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 211 ¶9 When I sit still without doing any thing, his Affairs forsooth are Wind-bound. 1779 in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 408 That the papers... he wants, lye wind-bound at Sir James Harris's. 1901 C. M. MASTERMAN *Folia Dispensa* 17 My Soul, windbound, in her dull haven lies!

'**wind-break**, *sb.* Also *windbreak*. [f. *WIND sb.*¹ + *BREAK sb.*¹]

1. Something, esp. a row of trees, used to break the force of the wind, or serving as a protection against it. *orig. U.S.*

1861 *Trans. Ill. Agric. Soc.* IV. 479 These trees, which are valuable as shade and wind-breaks, should be planted. 1868 *Rep. U.S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 196 Among evergreen plants the Norway spruce (*Abies excelsa*) is the most valuable where a high, strong wind-break is necessary. 1883 W. H. BISHOP in *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 502/1 A young orchard... sheltered by a wind-break of three rows of ash-trees. 1894 *Chamb. Jnrl.* 7 July 425 The margin of virgin hummock left standing to act as a wind-break. 1910 W. SCHLICH *Man. Forestry* (ed. 4) II. 123 Species with a thin crown are indifferently adapted for wind breaks. 1934 *Times Educ. Suppl.* 10 Feb. p. iv/3 Whether as ornament or to secure privacy, as a windbreak or to indicate a boundary, a hedge has its place in most gardens. 1950 *N.Z. Jnrl. Agric.* July 5/3 Such a wind-break is very valuable for sheltering dipped sheep. 1962 *Coast to Coast* 1967-62 138 An old limestone place, with a slate roof, and a windbreak of pepper-trees at one side. 1968 *Southerly* XXVIII. 172 The pine trees acted as a wind-break for the solitary house set a hundred yards lower down. 1970 J. H. B. PEEL *Country Folk* ii. 38 A hedge serves as a windbreak for crops and as a nesting-place for birds. 1975 *Toronto Star* 27 Dec. D4/1 So except in balmy weather, be sure to tote a plastic or canvas wind-break. 1981 *Farmstead Mag.* Winter 49/1 Some people prefer deciduous trees in all or part of the windbreak.

2. A rippling change of colour produced by the wind passing over foliage. *nonce-use.*

1892 STEVENSON *Across the Plains* 205 The silver wind-breaks run among the olives.

'**wind-break**, *v.* *rare.* [f. *WIND sb.*¹ 11d + *BREAK v.* 12b.] *trans.* To break the wind of, render broken-winded.

1638 *FORD Fancies* II. ii. 'Twould wind-broke a moyle, or a ring'd mare, to vie burthens with her.

So 'wind-broken, *a.* = *BROKEN-WINDED*.
1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* II. xvii. 373 A restie and wind-broken jade. 1667 *Phil. Trans.* II. 545 A wind-broken Dog or Horse. 1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4453/4 Stohn..., one large black Mare... Wind broken. 1805 C. JAMES *Milit. Dict.* (ed. 2). 1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunters* xxiii, She [sc. the mare] was badly wind-broken.

wind-cutter ('wind,katə(r)). [f. *WIND sb.*¹ + *CUTTER sb.*¹] One who or that which cuts the wind, in various senses.

† *a.* (See quot. 1611.) *b. slang.* A broad-brimmed hat. *c.* The lip of an organ-pipe, against which the wind strikes so as to make it sound (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875).

1611 *COTGR.*, *Taille-vent*, a wind-cutter; an idle, or fond swaggerer. c1823 SURTEES in *Mem.* (Surtees Soc.) 250 The ghost of a prebendary would be nothing without a wind-

cutter and rose. 1886 DOWDEN *Shelley* I. i. 21 His face... surmounted by the venerable 'wind-cutter', or cocked-hat.

wind-door, †**wind-dore**.

Pseudo-etymologizing of *WINDOW sb.* Cf. *WINDORE*.

1606 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Bien Venu* ii, Ope those wind-dores. 1659 H. L'ESTRANGE *Alliance Div. Off.* 317 When so many wind-dores are open, the cold air... is ready to enter. [1671 SKINNER *Etymol. Ling. Angl.*, *Window*, *Fenestra*, melius efferunt Linc. agri incolæ *Windore*, q.d. Venti Janua, v. *Wind & Dore*.] 1828 *Craven Gloss.*, *Winder*, a window. Our Craven corruption approaches much nearer the presumed etymology, *wind-door*. 1836 *SMART Dict.*, *Window*, a *wind door* or aperture to admit air into the building.

'**wind-down**, *colloq.* [f. *vbl. phr. to wind down*: see *WIND v.*¹ 21.] The process of bringing or coming to an end; a gradual reduction in scale.

1969 *Time* 21 Feb. 29 The campaign heralds the official wind-down of the Cultural Revolution, a finale that is to climax in 'all-round victory'. 1971 *New Scientist* 8 July 95/3 The reduction in the number of students... the cutback in... spending, the cancellation of the SST, the wind-down of space exploration, [etc.]. 1971 *Guardian Weekly* 25 Dec. 3 Even now, with the virtual completion of the wind-down begun in 1970, the military break with Indochina is not complete.

'**wind-drift**, *rare.* [f. *WIND sb.*¹ + *DRIFT sb.*]

a. A drift or current of wind.

1887 MORRIS *Odyss.* XI. 400 With the wind-drift stirred against thee, and the whirl-blast laden with woe. 1921 *Discovery* Apr. 89/2 The drifts of vessels in the ice... show... a wind-drift which can be paralleled in all the other oceans.

b. The action of wind currents, esp. on water.

1898 *Geogr. Jnrl.* June 662 The sand so produced is rounded by wind-drift in an unmistakable manner, the grains being entirely different from those of sea-sand. 1964 *Oceanogr. & Marine Biol.* II. 257 This patch [of effluent] is subject to wind-drift and can be carried directly on to beaches. 1967 *Ibid.* V. 103 Since the cross sections of these two straits are much less than that of the throat of the Celtic Sea much surface wind drift water must return to the Atlantic some other way.

'**wind-driven**, *ppl. a.* Also 4 -dryve, -drive. [f. *WIND sb.*¹ + *DRIVEN*.] Driven, carried, impelled, or propelled by the wind.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 137 Seyllynge in þe see he was wynd dryven into Africa. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 49 Wynddrive he was al soudenly Upon the strondes of Cilry. c1595 CAPT. WYATT R. *Dudley's Voy. W. Ind.* (Hakl. Soc.) 16 Huge mountaines of winddriven sandes. a1604 HANMER *Chron. Irel.* (1809) 174 Certaine tall ships of theirs were wind-driven thither. 1629 H. BURTON *Truth's Tri.* 345 St. James compares the faithlesse man to the wind-driven waue. a1680 BUTLER *Rem. Refl. Milford-Haven* (1759) I. 412 That Enemy, that would invade it, and were wind-driven on the British Coast. 1787 BURNS *Extempore in Crt. Sess.* ii, Like wind-driv'n hail, it did assail. 1859 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* xlii, The harbour was a sheet of wind-driven foam. 1900 H. SUTCLIFFE *Shameless Wayne* i, To brush away a cobweb, wind-driven against her cheek. 1906 CORNFORD *Defenceless Islands* 75 Ships, coal-driven instead of wind-driven.

winded ('windid), *a.* [f. *WIND sb.*¹ + -ED².] Having wind, i.e. (usually) breath, of a specified kind or in a specified condition: chiefly in parasynthetic combinations, as *BROKEN-WINDED*, *LONG-WINDED*, *SHORT-WINDED*; also † *calm-winded* = in which the wind, i.e. the air, is calm.

c1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 49 The longis hool and wynded with the best. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* x. lviii. 512 The clenest myzted man and the best wynded of his age that was on lyue. *Ibid.* lxii. 521 At the last sir Palomydes waxed bygge and better wynded. 1577 GRANGE *Golden Aphrod.* Njb, Making as heauenly a noyse as doth an arbor of Nightingales in a calme winded night. 1736 BRACKEN *Fariery* (1757) II. 15 A Sign of a good winded Horse.

winded, *ppl. a.*¹ [f. *WIND v.*² + -ED¹.]

1. ('windid) Exposed to wind or air; *spec.* spoilt or tainted by exposure to air.

1595 [see *WINDESS*]. 1824 CARR *Craven Gloss.*, *Winded*, dry. 1840 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jnrl.* III. 68/2 The same changes are sometimes produced by other causes, when the coal is said to be winded. 1847 HALLIWELL, *Winded*, said of meat hung up when it becomes puffed and rancid. 1887 *Jamieson's Sc. Dict.* Suppl.

2. ('waɪndid) Sounded with the breath, blown, as a wind-instrument.

1622 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xxvi. 320 His fellowes winded Horne not one of them but knew. 1805 SCOTT *Last Minstr.* iv. xii, Little care we for thy winded horn. 1820 — *Abbot* iii, A winded bugle.

3. ('windid) Put out of breath, breathless, 'blown', 'puffed'.

1883 'MARK TWAIN' *Life on Miss.* iii. 49 They couldn't keep that up very long without getting winded. 1897 *Outing* (U.S.) XXIX. 596/1 My pursuers... imparted a prodigious lashing to their winded mustangs. 1919 *Chamb. Jnrl.* Aug. 520/2 A ten-foot leap, easy enough on the flat, but with a difficult 'take off' for a winded man.

Hence 'windedness, tainted condition (see 1). 1595 DUNCAN *App. Etym.* (E.D.S.) 73/1 *Rancor*, vitium carnis, windednes.

winded ('waɪndid), *ppl. a.*² *rare.* [wk. pa. pple. of *WIND v.*¹] Wound up.

1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* I. II. iv, My fairly winded up conclusion.

wind-egg ('windeg). [f. *WIND sb.*¹ + *EGG sb.* Cf. *G.*, *LG.*, *Du. windei*.] An imperfect or unproductive egg, esp. one with a soft shell, such as may be laid by hens and other domestic birds.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P.R.* XIX. lxxix. (Add. MS. 27944), Wynde eyren bep litel and vnsauroy... And suche eyren bep yfounde in hennens & gees. 1577 GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* 169 The Hennes wyl treade one the others, but theyr Egges neuer come to good, but are wind Egges. 1611 *COTGR.*, *Harde*,... an egge laied with a soft skin, or filme (about it) in stead of a shell; a soft-sheld egge; a wind egge. 1741 J. MARTYN *Virg. Georg.* III. 273 *note*, Varro affirms it as a certain truth, that about Lisbon some mares conceive by the wind, at a certain season, as hens conceive what is called a wind egg. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 721 Hens will lay what are called wind eggs, that is, eggs without a hardened shell. 1893 NEWTON *Dict. Birds* 198 Want of calcareous food may explain the soft-shelled or 'wind' eggs.

b. fig.

a1616 BEAUM. & FL. *Wit without M.* I. i, Other men with all their delicates, and healthfull diets, can get but winde egges. 1645 MILTON *Colast.* 3 From such a wind-egg of definition as this, they who expect any of his other arguments to bee well hatcht [etc.]. 1661 STILLINGFL. *Irenicum* II. vi. §2. 237 The pretended division of Provinces so early among the Apostles, is only the wind-egge of a working fancy, that wants shell of reason to cover it. 1826 BEDDOES *Lett. to T. F. Kelsall* 5 Oct., Here is a Dr. Raupach who lays a tragedy or two in the year—mostly windeggs.

windego, *obs. var.* WINDIGO.

windell, *obs. form* of WINDLE.

winder ('waɪndə(r)), *sb.*¹ [f. *WIND v.*¹ + -ER¹. (14th c. AF. had *gynður*, *gwynder* in senses 1 and 2. Later Fr. had *guindre* 'a reele, or wheel to wind silke on', *Cotgr.*)] A person or thing that winds, in various senses.

I. Senses denoting persons.

1. One who turns or manages a winch or windlass, esp. at a mine; a windlass-man.

1747 HOOSON *Miner's Dict.* Kijb, Upon the Stoblade which the Winder stands to draw at, there is a Hole bored through, just below the Spindle. 1809 *Ann. Reg.* (1821) 867 The miners in the work, and the winders at the mouth of the pit. 1899 *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 124 Coalowners cannot work their mines without hewers and winders.

2. An operative employed in winding wool, etc.

1552 HULOET, Wynder of thread or yarne. 1599 T. M[OUFET] *Silkwormes* 69 What neede I count how many winders lue, How many twistes eke, and weauers thrue Vpon this trade? 1662 *Act 14 Chas. II.* c. 15 §5 Whereas there is a necessity lying upon the Silke throwers to deliver to theire Winders or Doublers considerable quantities of silke. 1751 DEERING *Nottingham* 72 Almost every Seamer, Sizer, and Winder, will have her Tea. 1818 *Min. Evid. Committee Ribbon Weavers* 7 What can a common winder earn?—Three shillings. What a quill winder?—Four shillings. 1828 T. ALLEN *York* II. 312 If they take away their work from carders and spinners, they return it them back ten-fold as winders, warpers, weavers. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* VIII. 128/2 The winders, who put the silk, cotton, or thread on the bobbins.

3. One who winds a clock or other mechanism.

1823 MRS. SMYTH in J. A. Heraud *Voy. & Mem. Midshipman* viii. (1837) 128 William aspired sometime ago to the honour of winding up the chronometers, when Mr. Graves, the regular winder, happened to be absent. 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 46 Jobber and Winder (Clock).

II. Senses denoting things.

† 4. *a.* A tendril of a climbing plant. *b.* A twining plant. *Obs.*

1577 GOOGE tr. *Heresbach's Husb.* 33b, The one sort [of Pease]... runneth vp vpon stickes, to whiche with little wynders he bindeth hym selfe. 1626 BACON *Sylva* §536 Winders, and Creepers; As luy, Briony, Hops, Woodbine. 1673-4 GREW *Anat. Pl.* (1682) 136 The Wood of all Convolvula's [sic] or Winders.

5. An apparatus (of various kinds) for winding something, or upon which something is wound or coiled; *e.g.* a winch or windlass, or the crank or handle of one; a reel or spool, or a stick or strip of something serving as a substitute.

1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 300/2 *Succula*,... a winder or rather the ouerthwart barrel turned with leauers. 1657 T. BARKER *Art of Angling* (1659) 25 You must have your winder within two foot of the bottom to goe on your [salmon-]rod made in this manner, with a spring. 1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* iii. 37 The Winch, or Winder, or Handle, the Iron part is the Winder, the Wood the Handle. 1773 W. EMERSON *Princ. Mech.* (ed. 3) 284 *Winder*, a winch or handle to wind about. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 369 The reel or winder being now withdrawn, the coil of paper is cut on both sides. 1843 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jnrl.* VI. 213/2 Attached to the heads of these posts are a number of winders for stretching the wires.

6. A key for winding a jack, clock, or other mechanism. Also *attrib.* in *winder-hole*, the hole through which the key is passed in winding.

1606 CHAPMAN *Gentil. Usher* III. ii. 25 Even as in that quaint engine you have seene A little man in shreds stand at the winder. 1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 387 The coard i, that is wound round the wheel k, by a key or winder applied to the Axis l. 1729 SWIFT *Direct. Serv.* ii. (1745) 41 Always leave the Winder sticking on the Jack. 1837 BARRHAM *Ingol. Leg. Ser.* 1. *Look at the Clock*, The two little winder-holes turned into eyes. 1884 BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 293 Clock keys are often spoken of as winders.

7. A winding step in a staircase: usually in *pl.*, opp. to *flyers* (see *FLYER* 4 b).

1667 [see FLYER 4 b]. **1808** P. NICHOLSON *Carpenter's New Guide* (ed. 2) Pl. 53 A dogleg Stair Case with Winders. **1823** — *Pract. Builder* 185 When the treads of the steps diminish in breadth toward the well-hole, the steps are called winders. **1838** LOUDON *Suburban Gard.* 45 The best staircases are those without winders.

III. 8. winder-up: †(a) something that concludes an argument; (b) one who winds up a business.

1795 PAINE *Age of Reason* II. 78 The lying imposition of Isaiah to Ahaz... has been perverted, and made to serve as a winder-up. **1921** W. DE MORGAN *Old Man's Youth* xviii, I heard the expression 'men of straw' used more than once by winders-up, or victims.

'winder, sb.² [f. WIND v.² + -ER¹.]

1. ('winda(r)) One who blows a wind-instrument.

1611 FLORIO, *Cornettaro*, a Cornet-maker or winder. **1818** KEATS *Endym.* 1. 281 Winder of the horn, When snouted wild-boars routing tender corn Anger our hunts-men.

2. ('wində(r)) a. Something that takes one's breath away; a blow that 'knocks the wind' out of one; a run, climb, or other exertion that puts one out of breath. *colloq.*

1825 C. M. WESTMACOTT *Engl. Spy* (1907) I. 158, I did give her [sc. a mare] a winder... to be sure, only one day's hunting, though, a good hard run over Somerset range. **1828** BLACKW. *Mag.* XXIV. 212 Do you put it [sc. your hand] across your breast in case of an unexpected winder from your apparently peaceable acquaintance? **1861** DICKENS *Gt. Expect.* v, It was a run indeed now, and what Joe called, in the only two words he spoke all the time, 'a Winder'. **1866** C. BROOKE *10 Yrs. Sarawak* I. 246 We had to ascend a hill of 500 feet high... This was a winder.

b. *fig.* †*spec.* a sentence of transportation for life (*obs. slang*).

1812 J. H. VAUX *Vocab. Flash Lang.* in *Mem.* (1964) 279 A man transported for his natural life, is said... to have *knap'd* a winder. **1836** J. F. O'CONNELL *Residence in New Holland* 37 Previous convictions and character must have affected his sentence, as it was, in flash phraseology, a winder. **1913** D. H. LAWRENCE *Sons & Lovers* ix. 243 It's a winder when you have to pour your own tea out—an 'nobody to grouse if you team it in your saucer and sup it up.

'winder, sb.³ *rare.* [f. WIND v.³ + -ER¹.] A winnower.

1570 DRANT *Serm.* Dv ijb, Mowers, threshers, winders and grinders.

winder ('wində(r)), sb.⁴ *dial.* Also 7 whinder, 9 windar. [a. early Flem. *winder, wender* 'anas mas' (Kilian).] A widgeon.

1542 in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 223 Item, Winders, the doz. 2s. 4d. **1668** CHARLETON *Onomast.* 100 *Boscas*... the whinder. **1672** BRASENOS *Coll. Oxf. Bills* 23. 130 (MS.), Pulitz, 3 whinder 2s. 9d. **1719** D'URFEE *Pills* III. 322 But George he cut the Dragon up, as 't had bin Duck or Winder. **1803-4** in Col. Hawker *Diary* (1893) II. 358 Windar (i.e. widgeon diver or dunbird). **1887** *Kentish Gloss.*

winder ('wində(r)), sb.⁵ Repr. dial. or slovenly pronunc. of WINDOW sb. Also in *Comb.*

1683 G. M[ERITON] *Yorks. Dial.* 8 Nan steeke'th winder-board, and mack it darke. **1838** DICKENS *Nickleby* (1839) viii. 69 We go upon the practical mode of teaching, Nickleby... W-i-n, win, d-e-r, der, winder, a casement. **1877** J. HARTLEY *Halifax Clock Almanack* 43 Sam made a grab at it, an it flew to th' winder-bottom. **1901** M. FRANKLIN *My Brilliant Career* xxxii. 272 Lizer, shut the winder quick. **1935** D. L. SAYERS *Gaudy Night* xvii. 372 Winderpane, we called 'im, along of the eyeglass, but meanin' no disrespect. **1976** *Trans. Yorks. Dial. Soc.* XIV. 37 Ah've just been cleanin' t'winders.

winder ('wində(r)), v. *Obs. exc. dial.* Also 7 whinder. [Origin unknown. Cf. WINDLE v.³]

1. intr. To wither; to pine or waste away.

1600 HOLLAND *Livy* II. xxiii. 58 Until at length his bodie also began to winder away in a consumption. **1601** — *Pliny* VII. ii. I. 155.

†**2. trans.** To crush into fragments. *Obs.*

1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* II. 154 By the fall of a towre [he] was crushed and whindred to death [orig. *compressus* & *comminutus*].

winder, winderous: see WONDER, WONDROUS.

†**'windermost, a.** *Obs.* [f. WIND sb.¹, after *hindermost, innermost*, etc.] Furthest to windward.

1622 R. HAWKINS *Voy. S. Sea* (1847) 202 For that the windermost shippe, by opening her sayle, may be upon the other before shee be looked for. **1702** *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3838/1 The Fire of the Cannon began at the Windermost Fort at Nevis. **1707** *Treas. Papers* CIII. 212 b (P.R.O.) This being the windermost, best, and Richest Island, tis most likely they will attack this first.

windes, windewe: see WINDAS, WINDOW.

windfall ('windfɔ:l). Forms: see WIND sb.¹ and FALL sb.¹; also 5 wynfall, 6 wyndefale, wind faulle. [perh. of foreign origin; cf. MHG. *wintval* (G. *windfall*): see WIND sb.¹, FALL sb.¹]

1. Something blown down by the wind, or the fall of something so blown down: a. a tree or branch, or a number of trees or branches; *spec.* (chiefly U.S.) a heap or tract of fallen trees blown down by a tornado. Also in *fig.* context.

1464 *Rolls of Parl.* V. 540/2 Trees Boghes and Woode called Wyndfalles. **1552** LELAND *Itin.* (1769) V. 91 How or when thes Trees cam doune other be Cutting or Wind

Faulle no Manne ther can telle. **1582** STANYHURST *Aeneis* II. (Arb.) 53 Downe tears yt wyndfals, and thick woods sturdely tumbleth. **1602** in G. P. Scrope *Castle Combe* (1852) 334 Les mortuus arbores, Anglice the starveling trees and wyndfalls. **1625** BACON *Ess.*, *Greatness Kingd.* (Arb.) 479 The Spartans... when they did spread, and their Boughs were becomen too great, for their Stem, they became a Windfall vpon the suddaine. **1664** EVELYN *Sylva* xxxii. 109 That no unnecessary Imbezement be made by pretences of Repair of Paling, Lodges, Browse for Deer, &c., Wind-falls, Root-falls. **1772** FORSTER in *Phil. Trans.* LXII. 376 They do not burrow under ground, but live... under wind-falls and roots of trees. **1784** BELKNAP in *Belknap Papers* (1877) II. 177 We kept one man before, with an ax, to cut away windfalls. **1830** GALT *Laurie T.* III. v, Through the windfalls and the openings of the settlement, the rising sun was beginning to silver the leaves. **1866** R. D. CRAIG *Trees & Woods* 123 If the windfall be of trees which are not timber in their nature. **1872** *Builder* 7 Dec. 964/2 The village constable... charged her with picking up a few rotten windfalls from the trees.

b. fruit from a tree or bush (*rarely* flowers).

1592 GREENE *Orpharion* (1599) 49 If Roses be not gathered in the bud, they either wither or proue windfalls. **1604** N. F. FRUITERS *Secr.* 12 They which fall before the time of gathering, as wind-falles. **1661** M. STEVENSON *Twelve Moneths* 42 The wind begins to bluster among the Apples, and the wind-falls are gathered to fill the Pies for the household. **1705** E. WARD *Hud. Rediv.* II. 17 The grizly Boar is hunting round; To see what Windfals may be found. **1768** PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* I. 42 They will reject the fruit that has lain but a few hours on the ground, and continue on the watch... for a fresh wind-fall. **1802** W. FORSYTH *Fruit Trees* vii. 99 When the men numbered the Pears, there was near a barrowful of wind-falls at the bottom of the old tree. **1880** JEFFERIES *Gt. Estate* x. 197 Heaps of the windfalls collected there to wait for the cider-mill.

2. fig. A casual or unexpected acquisition or advantage.

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 321 b, After beeyng come to a good wyndefall of inheritance. **1603** HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 1237 This man... who otherwise before-time was but poore and needy, by these windfalles and unexpected cheats became very wealthy. **1647** N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. xvi. 50 Where ever neighbouring Princes of their own Nation watched for the windfalls of Crowns. **1706** PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Wind-fall*,... some Estate or Profit unexpectedly come to one. **1802** MARIA EDGEWORTH *Moral T., Forester* xix, Where he... kept little windfalls, that came to him by the negligence of customers... loose silver, odd gloves, &c. **1822** HAZLITT *Table-t.* Ser. II. iv. 70 These and many more wind-falls of character he gave us in thought, word, and action. **1897** MRS. OLIPHANT *Blackw. & Sons* xix. II. 256 Mr. Langford... was a most unusual windfall to drop thus casually into the new concern.

3. a. attrib. (from 1): That is a windfall; blown down by the wind: = next. Also *fig.* (from 2): Casual, 'chance'. Applied (*poet.* -) to a flood of unexpected light.

1465 MARG. PASTON in *P. Lett.* II. 176 Ther is wynfall wod at the maner that is of noo gret valewe. **1589** SHUTTLEWORTHS *Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 93 For barke of a wyndfolle trie at Smytheles vjd. **1594** MARLOWE & NASHE *Dido* I, You shall have leaues and windfall bowes enow. **1762** in *Sixth Rep. Dep. Kpr.* App. II. 132 The Wood called Browings, Windfall Wood, and Dead Wood. **1845** S. JUDD *Margaret* II. i, All wind-fall comers here seem to be without names. **1860** *All Year Round* No. 74. 560 The windfall fruit in his uncle's garden. **1882** BESANT *All Sorts* xii, Early August apples, and windfall pears. **1945** DYLAN THOMAS *Fern Hill* in *Horizon* Oct. 221 And once below a time I lordly had the trees and leaves Trail with daisies and barley Down the rivers of the windfall light.

b. Special Comb. windfall profit *Econ.*, unexpectedly large or unforeseen profit; similarly *windfall gain, loss, etc.*

1936 J. M. KEYNES *Gen. Theory Employment* II. vi. 57 The change in the value of the equipment, due to unforeseen changes in market values, exceptional obsolescence or destruction... may be called the *windfall loss*. *Ibid.* v. xx. 288 The windfall gain will wholly accrue to those entrepreneurs who happen to possess products at a relatively advanced stage of production. **1951** SLOAN & ZURCHER *Dict. Economics* 266 *Windfall profit*, a profit in excess of that which can be considered normal. **1973** *Times* 21 Dec. 6/7 A proposal for Congress to impose 'an emergency windfall profits tax' on the oil company. Although President Nixon himself told the American consumer, 'there will be no windfall profits at their expense.' **1977** *N.Y. Rev. Bks.* 26 May 31/4 The shift to free market pricing would give the oil companies windfall profits.

'wind-fallen, a. [f. as prec. + FALLEN ppl. a.] Blown down by the wind.

1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xiii. 182 To gather wind-falne sticks. **1678** in *Evelyn's Pomona* 406 That the Fruit be carefully gather'd, not windfall'n nor bruis'd. **1792** BELKNAP *Hist. New Hampsh.* III. 155 They take advantage of wind-fallen trees. **1836** MRS. C. P. TRAILL *Backw. Canada* 201 Some of the stumps of these wind-fallen trees. *fig.* **1563** WINSET tr. *Vincent. Livin.* Ded., Wks. II. 10 Ane of our windfallin brethir, laillie snapperit in the cumberance of Caluin. **1660** TATHAM *Rump* II. i. 18 *Lady Bertlam*. 'Twill get her nothing, She beats against the Wind. *Prissilla*. She's Wind fall'n.

'wind-flower. [Turner's rendering of L. *anemōnē*, Gr. ἀνεμώνη; see ANEMONE. Cf. MHG., G. *windblume*.] The wood-anemone (*Anemone nemorosa*), or any plant or flower of the genus *Anemone*.

1551 TURNER *Herbal* I. Cv b, Anemone hath the name in Greke of wynde, because the floure neuer openeth it selfe, but when the wynde bloweth... it may be called wynde floure. **1650** [W. HOWE] *Phytol. Brit.* 8 The wood Anemone or Windflower. **1714** tr. *Joutel's Jnrl. Voy. Mexico* (1719) 66 A Sort of purple wind Flowers. **1820** SHELLEY *Sensit. Pl.* I. 17 The pied wind-flowers and the tulip tall. **1852** WHITTIER

April 5 Where wind-flower and violet... On south-sloping brook-sides should smile in the light. **1898** A. AUSTIN *Lamia's Winter Quarters* 69 The Apennine windflower.

b. A name for species of gentian. (Cf. *lung-flower*, LUNG 7.)

1866 in *Treas. Bot.*

†**windfucker.** *Obs.* [Cf. 'Fuckwind, a species of hawk. *North.*' (Halliwell).]

1. A name for the kestrel: cf. WINDHOVER.

1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* 49 The kistrilles or windfuckers that filling themselves with winde, fly against the winde euermore.

2. fig. as a term of opprobrium.

1602 *Narcissus* MS. Rawl. Poet. 212, lf. 80, I tell you, my little windfuckers, had not a certaine melancholye ingendred with a nippinge dolour overshadowed the sunne shine of my mirthe, I had bene I pre, sequeor, one of your consort. **1609** B. JONSON *Silent Wom.* I. iv. (1620) C 3 b, Did you euer heare such a Wind-fucker, as this? **1611** CHAPMAN *Iliad* Pref. A4, There is a certaine enuious Windfucker, that houers vp and downe, laboriously ingrossing all the air with his luxurious ambition. **1616** BEAUM. & FL. *Wit without M.* IV. i, Husbands for Whores and Bawdes, away you wind-suckers [*sic ed.* 1639].

windgall¹ ('windgɔ:l). Forms: see WIND sb.¹ and GALL sb.²; also 7 -gaul. A soft tumour on either side of a horse's leg just above the fetlock, caused by distension of the synovial bursa.

1523-34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* §99 Wyndgalles is a lyghte sorance, and cometh of great labour. **1596** SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* III. ii. 53 Full of Windegalls, sped with Spains. **1607** MARKHAM *Cavel.* VII. 78 Windgalls are little blebs raisd vp by extreame trauel on each side the horses Fetlockes. **1690** DRYDEN *Don Sebastian* I. i, Feel his Legs, Master, neither Splint, Spavin, nor Wind gall. **1714** *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5195/4 Windgalls on both Heels of her hinder Feet. **1766** GOLDSM. *Vicar W.* xiv, A third perceived he had a windgall, and would bid no money. **1846** J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) I. 448 Wind-galls of the knee-joint.

Hence **windgalled** (-gɔ:ld) a., affected with a windgall or windgalls.

1665 BRATHWAIT *Comm. Two Tales* 36 The Love of his dear Alyson... quickens his wind-gall'd feet. **1674** *Lond. Gaz.* No. 926/4 Her off Leg before Wind-gaulled. **1705** *Ibid.* 4159/4 A black Gelding, Wind-gall'd in all his Legs. **1805** C. JAMES *Milit. Dict.* (ed. 2) s.v. *Wind-gall*, Long-jointed horses are apt to be wind-galled.

'wind-gall². [Cf. G. *windgalle*, -gelle, and WATER-GALL, WEATHER-GALL.] A fragment of a rainbow or of a prismatically-coloured halo, supposed to presage windy weather: = WEATHER-GALL.

1823 J. F. COOPER *Pilot* I. ii. 19 There be streaked wind-galls in the offing, that speak... plainly... to shorten sail. **1840** F. D. BENNETT *Whaling Voy.* I. 3 We noticed the phenomenon named by nautical men a 'wind-gall'... or 'sundog'. **1860** FITZ-ROY in *Merc. Marine Mag.* VII. 344.

'wind-gauge, -gage. [f. WIND sb.¹ + GAUGE.]

1. †1. = Weather-gage: see WEATHER sb. 8 and GAUGE sb. 5 a. *Obs. rare.*

1652 *French Occurrences* 29 Nov.-6 Dec. 214 They were got up near the Ness-point, ours keeping still the wind-gage.

II. 2. = ANEMOMETER 1.

1774 *Phil. Trans.* LXIV. 426 To which may be added, the rain-gage, wind-gage, &c. **1815** J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 38 The Anemometer, or Wind-Gauge. **1883** GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-m.*, *Wind-gauge*, an anemometer for testing the velocity of the wind in mines.

3. A graduated attachment to the sights of a gun, to enable allowance to be made for the effect of the wind on the projectile. Also *attrib.*

1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib.* II. xi. 7 Small bore, 451 rifle with wind gauge sight and movable shade. **1909** STACPOOLE *Pools of Silence* iv, His telescopic sights and wind-gauges are second to none in the world.

4. = ANEMOMETER 2.

1876 [see ANEMOMETER 2]. **1881** W. E. DICKSON *Organ-Build.* ix. 121.

†**'wind-gun.** *Obs.* [f. WIND sb.¹ + GUN sb.] A gun for shooting a missile by the force of compressed air: = AIR-GUN.

1644 DIGBY *Nat. Bodies* xii. §6. 104 The experience of windgunnes assureth vs that ayre duly applied is able to giue greater motion vnto heauy bodies then vnto light ones. **1728** POPE *Dunc.* I. 181 As, forc'd from wind-guns, lead itself can fly. **1779** *Phil. Trans.* LXIX. 399 That air compressed to one tenth in a wind gun possesses a power not much short of gunpowder. **1800** *Sporting Mag.* XVI. 273 It will not be out of place here to add some remarks on wind-guns.

crits. **1663** COWLEY *Cutter Coleman St. Prod.* I, They [*sc.* critics] shoot, alas, with Wind-gunns, charg'd with Air. **1680** *Collect. Poems* 190, I am one of those that have been shot at by Wind-Guns, which have prejudiced my Reputation. **1781** COWPER *Conversat.* 274 His whisper'd theme, dilated and at large, Proves after all a wind-gun's airy charge.

windhover ('wind,hovə(r), -həvə(r)). Also 7 windover. [f. WIND sb.¹ + HOVER v.] A name for the kestrel, from its habit of hovering or hanging in the air with its head to the wind. Also *attrib.*

1674 RAY *Collect., Engl. Birds* 82 The Kestrell or Stannel, in some places the Windover. **1738** ALBIN *Nat. Hist. Birds* III. 5 The Windhover Cock. **1778** G. WHITE *Selborne, To Barrington* 7 Aug., The kestrel, or windhover, has a peculiar mode of hanging in the air in one place, his wings all the while being briskly agitated. **1864** TENNYSON *Aylmer's Field* 321 For about as long As the wind-hover hangs in balance.

1884 19th Cent. Aug. 331 The windhover hawk poising at mid-distance above his quarry.

† **windi**, *a.* Obs. Also **wundi**. [perh. related to the stem of WEND *v.*; cf. OHG. *wendig* (MHG. *wendic*, -*ec*) devoid (of), exempt (from).] Devoid of; quit of.

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 376 Ha beoð al witlese, & windi [*v.r.* wundi] of wisdom. a 1225 *Juliana* 10 3ef þu wult leauen þe lahen þat tu list in. ichulle wel neomen þe; 3ef þu nult no, þu art wundi [*v.r.* windi] of me.

Windic, var. WENDIC.

Windies ('windɪz), *sb. pl. colloq.* (orig. *Austral.*). [Contraction of *West Indies*.] West Indians, *spec.* the West Indian cricket team; also, immigrants from the West Indies.

1965 W. GROUT *My Country's Keeper* 69 The Australian public... took the Windies to their hearts from that moment. 1971 J. BRUNNER *Honky in Woodpile* ii. 15 Skinheads and others were out bashing Pakis and Windies. 1976 *Sunday Tel.* 4 Jan. 52 Windies roll with brutal pace beating. 1980 *Economist* 21 June 51/1 Would the West Indies beat England in the first Test match?... In the cricket match, the 'Windies' scraped home in a nail-biting finish.

windigo ('windɪɡəʊ). Also 9 weendego(*ag*, *wendigo*; *witiko*, etc.; and with capital initial. [Ojibwa *wintiko*, *pl. wintikok*; some spellings reflect the Cree cognate *witikow*.] In the folklore of the northern Algonquian Indians: a cannibalistic giant, the transformation of a person who has eaten human flesh.

1714 J. KNIGHT *Jrnl.* 7 Oct. in W. Cowan *Papers of Seventh Algonquian Conference* 1975 (1976) 21 Some Indians came from Fort Nelson who says they saw a Whitego w^{ch} is an Apparition. 1830 E. JAMES *Narr. John Tanner* 316 The Muskegoes, who inhabit the low and cheerless swamps on the borders of Hudson's Bay, and are themselves reproached by the other tribes as cannibals, are said to live in constant fear of the Weendegoag. 1847 J. B. NEVINS *Two Voyages* 115 When Windigo saw him, he was very angry, and said, 'What do you mean, boy, by coming out and making that noise? I am going to eat you.' 1859 P. KANE *Wanderings of Artist among Indians N. Amer.* 60 The Weendigoes are looked upon with superstitious dread and horror by all Indians. 1924 *Chambers's Jrnl.* Mar. 170/1 At midnight they were awakened by what Jacques took to be a windigo in the woods behind. 1933 J. M. COOPER in *Primitive Man* Jan. 20 The Cree Witiko Psychosis... This peculiar form of mental disturbance is characterized by (1) a craving for human flesh, and (2) a delusion of transformation into a Witiko who has a heart of ice or who vomits ice. 1934 *Jrnl. Abnormal & Social Psychol.* XXIX. 7 The repugnance to food is construed as positive evidence that the person is becoming a 'witigo', i.e., a cannibal. 1960 T. STACEY *Brothers M.* ii. xxxii. 361 Daudi... was still utterly subjected, as if by some unseen windigo that was withdrawing him to its own element. 1961 O. NASH *Coll. Verse* 425 The Wendigo, The Wendigo! Its eyes are ice and indigo! 1971 *Brit. Med. Bull.* XXVII. 78/1 States of excitement or panic may be so influenced by local conditions as to give the appearance of specific psychoses... The Windigo psychosis of the Chippewa, Ojibwa and Cree Indians illustrates the way in which such states can develop.

windill, obs. form of WINDLE *v.*¹

windily ('windɪli), *adv.* [f. WINDY *a.* + -LY².] In a windy manner; as if driven or agitated by the wind; also *fig.*

1866 R. BUCHANAN *Poems, In London* ii. For the world rolls on with air and ocean Wetly and windily round and round. 1880 W. CLARK RUSSELL *Sailor's Sweethe.* iv. The stars were glittering windily even before this crimson melted out of the east. 1890 — *Marriage at Sea* iii. The Cape Gris Nez lantern windily flashing on high from its shoulder of land. 1901 *Athenæum* 21 Sept. 379/3 The young lady who writes stories and windily reviles the world that will not accept them.

windiness ('windɪnɪs). [f. WINDY *a.* + -NESS.] The quality or condition of being windy.

1. Windy condition of the atmosphere; prevalence of windy weather.

a 1687 PETTY *Pol. Anat.* (1691) 51 The windiness of the same Month was at Dublin 20 and at London but 17. 1922 A. MACHEN *Far off Things* i. 10 Holborn has a certain vastness and windiness about it as the sky grows from black to grey. 1957 G. E. HUTCHINSON *Treat. Limbol.* i. vii. 446 (*heading*) Windiness and area. 1971 *Nature* 10 Dec. 345/1 The classic loess deposits in China... can probably only be explained in terms of greater windiness in the China/Gobi Desert area.

† 2. Air as an 'element': = WIND *sb.*¹ 8. *rare.* 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* xv. 266 Neither is there any moisture, any wyndynesse [*orig. flabile*], or any fyry matter in them.

3. *a.* Flatulence; *concr.* = WIND *sb.*¹ 10. Now *rare.*

c 1450 BURGH *Secrees* 1932 Wyn moost Reed... Take out of mesure... reyseth wyndynesse. 1545 RAYNALDE *Byrth Mankynde* ii. vii. (1552) 100b. To discusse & vanquyshe ventosityte and wyndynesse. 1590 BARROUGH *Meth. Phisick* i. i. (1596) 2 Sometime it [*sc. headache*] commeth... through windynesse ingendred in some part of the head, being weake. 1725 *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Honey* ¶ 3, Raw Honey, by Reason of its Acrimony, loosens the Body, and causes Windiness. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 506 A temporary windiness.

b. Quality of causing or tendency to cause 'wind': = FLATULENCE 2 *b.* Now *rare.*

1576 [T. TWYNE] *Schoolemaster* iii. xii. Nij, Beanes are naturally more windy then barly, for that beanes are of a... more... grosse substance then barly, which is light and houer, and is sooner discharged of the windines. 1664

TAYLOR in Evelyn *Pomona* 50 People labour to correct that windiness which they fancy to be in it [*sc. cider*]. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* 594 Ginger renders it [*sc. cider*] brisk, and corrects its Windiness.

4. Resemblance to, or admixture of, the sound of the wind.

1879 *Organ Voicing* 17 *Windiness*. If the conveyances and wind chest holes are sound, blame attaches solely to the pipe.

5. *fig.* 'Airiness', emptiness, want of substance; inflated or verbose style.

1614 BRERWOOD *Lang. & Relig.* Pref. ¶ b, His modest, and humble charity (vertues which rarely cohabite with the swelling windynesse of much knowledge). 1649 E. REYNOLDS *Hosea* v. 35 Full of vanity, windynesse, vexation, disappointment. 1866 *Sat. Rev.* 19 May 584/1 The feebleness and windiness of bad poets.

winding ('waɪndɪŋ), *vbl. sb.*¹ [f. WIND *v.*¹ + -ING¹.]

OE. had *winding* only in *concr.* sense, 'plecta' = Du. *winding* coil, convolution, OHG., early MHG. *winting*, *winding* 'fascia', 'fasciola', stocking, ON. *windingr* hose.]

1. The action of WIND *v.*¹, or the resulting condition. (See also 10.)

1. *a.* Motion in a curve; turning this way and that in one's course; sinuous progress or movement; †formerly also, revolution, rotation; undulating motion.

In first quot. of doubtful meaning: ? = TROPIC *sb.* 1 *a.* 1387-8 T. USK *Test. Love* i. iii. (Skeat) l. 39 To travayle and see the wynding of the erthe in that tyme of winter. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P.R.* ix. iii. (Add. MS. 27944). A 3ere is þe fulle cours and passinge and windinge aboute of þe sonne. 1530 PALSGR. 289/1 Wyndyng, uolubilité. 1552 LATIMER *Serm.*, Luke xxi. (1562) 133 How he stretcheth out all his membres, what a winding is there, so that all his body commeth out of frame! 1573 BARET *Alv.* W 233 The windinges of serpentes. 1620 MELTON *Astrolog.* 70 Birds, and Fowles, with their Motions, Chatterings, Croakings, Winding. 1623 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *New Discov.* C 2 b, For there hath he... used such a deale of intricate Setting, Grafting, Planting... turning, winding, and returning circular [etc.]. 1679 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* ix. 151 These [stairs], because they sometimes wind, and sometimes fly off from that winding, take therefore the more room up in the Stair-Case. 1709 T. ROBINSON *Vind. Mos. Syst.* 101 These [Plants]... in their Windings, always follow the Motion of the Sun. 1760-72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) IV. 27 That graceful winding of person. 1770 W. GILPIN *Wye* (1782) 32 The winding of the river. 1834 NEWMAN *Par. Serm.* i. xviii. 274 They wish to arrive at the heights of Mount Zion without winding round its base. 1844 KINGLAKE *Eothen* xii. With very little of devious winding, it [*sc. Jordan*] carries the shining waters of Galilee... into the solitudes of the Dead Sea. 1869 FITZWYGRAM *Horses & Stables* §931 Winding of the fore-foot is also very objectionable.

b. Naut. (see WIND *v.*¹ 8, 19 b, 24 g).

c 1635 CAPT. N. BOTELER *Dial. Sea Services* (1685), Winding of a Ship. 1639 (Oct. 18) *Admir. Crt. Exam.* 55 (P.R.O.) It being upon wyndeyng up of the tide. [Cf. quot. 1691 s.v. WIND *v.*¹ 22 g.]

2. *fig. a.* Turning this way and that in thought or conduct; nearly always *pl.* devious or intricate motions, tortuous or crooked ways or dealings.

1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* ii. iii. iii. 404 Hearts ease, I cannot compass with all my carefull windings, & running in & out. a 1641 BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* v. (1642) 395 The boughts and windings of a deceitfull heart. 1658-9 Burton's *Diary* (1828) IV. 19 All this winding to me, in plainness, seems an aiming at no House. a 1677 BARROW *Serm. Eph.* v. 4 Wks. 1687 l. 195 The numberless rovings of fancy and windings of language. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* xx. The subtle lawyer, accustomed... to trace human nature through all her windings. a 1859 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xxiii. V. 114 To trace all the windings of the negotiation would be tedious. 1870 DISRAELI *Lothair* l. We are friends and can speak without windings.

† *b. Mus.* A melodic alternation or variation.

1667 C. SIMPSON *Compend. Pract. Mus.* 85 These little windings and bindings with Discords and Imperfect Concords after them, do very much delight the Ear. 1667 PLAYFORD *Skill Mus.* i. 41 Those long windings and turnings of the Voice are ill used. 1706 A. BEDFORD *Temple Mus.* iv. 75 Which he performs with various turnings and windings of the Voice. 1917 T. S. ELIOT *Prufrock & Other Observations* 18 Among the windings of the violins And the ariettes Of cracked cornets.

3. *Carpentry*, etc. Condition of being twisted; chiefly in *phr. out of winding* = *out of wind* (WIND *sb.*² 3); in *winding*, twisted.

1711 W. SUTHERLAND *Shipbuild. Assist.* 46 To make the side Lines and middle Lines of the Decks out of winding one with another. 1721 J. PERRY *Daggenham Breach* 60 Such Piles... could be brought by a straight Line... to meet in the middle of the Breach, and be out of winding... in the same continued Line as first drove down. 1842 GWILT *Archit.* §1911 A stone is taken out of winding principally with points. 1880 J. LOMAS *Alkali Trade* 328 The tiles themselves must be of good quality — Dutch preferred — and of faultless 'winding'.

4. *a.* The action of twining a flexible object round another or itself, *esp.* the coiling or twining of thread, silk, etc.; wrapping in a shroud (now *dial.*).

With quot. c 1386 *cf.* sense 8.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Par. T.* ¶ 343 The cost of... barrynge, owndyngne, wyndyng or bendyng. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 530 (Winch. MS.) Wynd[lyng], or twynnyng of threde, *tortura*,... *uel torsura*. 1463-4 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 503/2 Grete disceit, in wyndyng, foldyng, and makyng of Flece of Wolle. 1552 HULOET, Wyndyng of sylke, or thread. 1579 *Aldeburgh Rec.* in *N. & Q.* 12th Ser. VII. 328/2 To myles harrisons wiffe and Ales gyllion for wyndyng of mother Hue... vi^d. 1619 in Foster *Engl. Factories India* (1906) I. 116

Bengala silke... in cleare windinge. c 1796 BURNS *The Cardin* o't 6 The cardin' o't, the spinnin' o't; The warpin' o't, the winnin' o't. 1831-3 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 716/2 The winding requires the unwearied attention of children to mend the threads that break. 1834 DICKENS *Sk. Boz*, *Steam Excurs.*, A vast deal of screwing, and tightening, and winding, and tuning, during which Mrs Briggs expatiated to those near her on the immense difficulty of playing a guitar. 1844 G. DODD *Textile Manuf.* i. 37 The process of 'winding' is that by which the weft is transferred from the bobbins to the shuttle. 1910 S. P. THOMPSON *Life Ld. Kelvin* II. 754 The zigzag winding for alternators.

b. With advs. *on*, *out*, *up*; also *attrib.*

1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 421 Each spinner... fixes the end of the piece that is spun to a winding-up reel. 1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 301 Till the stretch and winding-on were once more completed. 1839 — *Dict. Arts*, etc. 1110 A winding-on bobbin. 1844 G. DODD *Textile Manuf.* ii. 63 The 'winding-on room' where the cloth is wound uniformly round a thick beam or roller preparatory to the printing. 1873 SPON *Workshop Rec.* Ser. 1. 201/2 The spools for winding up and winding out should be of the same weight. 1883 *Yorksh. Textile Direct.* 58 Patent Crabbing or Winding-on Machine. 1898 P. MANSON *Trop. Diseases* xxxiii. 517 A system of managing guinea worm cases which bids fair to... obviate the serious risks of the old winding out system.

5. Hoisting or hauling by means of a winch, windlass, or the like. Also with *up*.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 529 (Winch. MS.) Wyndyng with wyndas, *obvolucio*. *Ibid.* 530 Wyndyng vp of thyngis þat bene heuy, *euolucio*. c 1575 *Ship Lawis in Balfour's Practicks* (1754) 620 Gif ane tun or pype be tint in the winding or heising, in fault of the cordis. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, *Winding*, hoisting with a rope and drum. 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-mining*, *Winding*, the operation of raising by means of a steam-engine, with ropes and cages, the produce of the mine.

6. Usually with *up*, of a clock or other mechanism: see WIND *v.*¹ 20 b, 24 e. Also *fig.*

1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *World runs on Wheels* Wks. 11. 234/1 The new found Instrument that goes by winding vp like a lacke. 1728 YOUNG *Love Fame* i. 282 Is there a tongue, like Delia's o'er her cup, That runs for ages without winding-up? 1737 *Gentl. Mag.* Feb. 68/1 So that no Time is lost in winding. 1832 BABBAGE *Econ. Manuf.* v. (ed. 3) 38 The half minute which we daily devote to the winding-up of our watches. 1884 *St. James's Gaz.* 28 Mar. 6/1 The unfortunate thing about spirit-drinking is... that the drinker requires more and more 'winding-up' as he goes on.

7. *winding up*: conclusion, finish (see WIND *v.*¹ 24 d); now usually, the bringing to an end the activities of a business concern; also *attrib.*

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 64 b, How vnfortunate... hath bene the successe and wyndyng vp of commotioners [*orig. seditiosorum exitus*]. 1570-6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1596) 481 Crafty counseiles... be hard in the handling, and wofull in the winding vp [*orig. euentu tristia*]. 1576 FLEMING tr. *Caius' Dogs* (1880) i. In the wyndyng vp of your Letter written and directed to Doctour Turner. *Ibid.* 44. The winding vp of this worke, called the Supplement, &c. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* 879 If they would but expect the winding up of things, and stay till the last Close. 1705 R. CROMWELL *Let. in Engl. Hist. Rev.* (1898) XIII. 123 The winding up of your bottom will be more pleasing. 1782 in *Mme. D'Arblay's Diary* (1904) II. 97 My warm approbation of the whole work ['Cecilia'] together... the winding up beyond all compare, more happy, [etc.]. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* iv. vi. ¶ 15 She... detailed the progress of the plot to the winding up of the catastrophe. 1824 LADY GRANVILLE *Lett.* (1804) l. 271 The Hague season is nearly over, and a ball on Thursday is almost the winding up. 1834 DE QUINCEY *Autob. Sk.* ix. Wks. 1853 l. 240 The year 1782 brought that war to its winding up. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, Winding-up Act. 1875 *Economist* 30 Jan. 131/2 The shareholders are asked to oppose the projected winding-up. 1895 *Times* 19 Jan. 15/6 A winding-up order having recently been made against this company.

II. That which winds or is wound.

8. *a.* An object that winds or is wound round; a coil or coiled object; †a curved, circular, or twining pattern, ornament, piece of material, etc.

c 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 505/2 *Plecta*, windonge. [Cf. 471/1 *Plectas*, gewind.] 1350 in *Pipe Roll* 32 *Edu.* III. m. 33/2 (P.R.O.), ij. Exeronges, xxiiij. Wyndynges, ij. naues, ij. lynes. 1382 WYCLIF i *Kings* vii. 29 Betwix the litil crownes and wyndyngis, lions, and oxen. 1486 *Nottingham Rec.* III. 244, iij. wyndynges of iren aboute a ledder. 1555 in *Feuillerat Revels Q. Mary* (1914) 183 Wroughte with white partye payned barwyse wyndyng which was taken owte of the borders of hanginges. 1612 T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* i. 7 (1619) 151 Those who are already clasped in the windings of this sinne. c 1633 MILTON *Arcades* 47 To nurse the Saplings tall, and curl the grove With Ringlets quaint, and wanton windings wove. 1699 T. BAKER *Refl. Learn.* ix. 102 A Man must see the folds and windings of a knot before he can untie it. 1764 J. FERGUSON *Lect.* iii. 43 The winch... must turn the cylinder once round before the weight or resistance... can be moved from one spiral winding to another. a 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia* s.v., In Suffolk the flannel, which is wound round a corpse, is called a winding.

b. Electr. An electric conductor that is wound round a magnetic material, *esp.* (a) a coil encircling part of the stator or rotor of an electric motor or generator, or an assembly of such coils connected to form one circuit; (b) one forming part of a transformer.

1888 S. P. THOMPSON *Dynamo-Electric Machinery* (ed. 2) xii. 259 If the successive sections are to be connected up consecutively, then they must be wound... alternately with right-handed and left-handed windings. 1947 R. LEE *Electronic Transformers & Circuits* v. 141 In step-down transformers the capacitance may be regarded as existing mainly across the primary winding; in step-up transformers, across the secondary winding. 1962 *Newnes Conc. Encycl.*

Electr. Engin. 894/1 The simplest type of winding is a field coil around a salient pole . . . the coil comprising a number of turns (between one and several thousand) of wire or strip. **1979** NASAR & UNNEWEHR *Electromechanics & Electric Machines* iii. 67 Transformer windings are constructed of solid or stranded copper or aluminum conductors.

9. A curved, sinuous, or meandering line, path, passage, or the like; esp. *pl.* meanderings, twists and turns.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 9 bis matir, as laborintus, Dedalus hous, hap many . . . wyndynges and wrynkylynges. **1398** — *Barth. De P.R.* xiii. vi. (1495) C v b/1 Tygris . . . passith in to y^e redde see after many turnynges & wyndynges. **1552** HULOET, Wyndynges and turnynges, *amfractus*. **1601** HOLLAND *Pliny* v. v. I. 94 Berenice standeth upon the utmost winding and nouke of Syrtis. **1615** CHAPMAN *Odys.* iv. 1084 The wards, or windings of the key. **1631** WIDDOWES *Nat. Philos.* 50 A little skin in the lowest winding, or turning of the eare. **a 1700** EVELYN *Diary* 9 June 1654, The Mount, to which we ascended by windings for neere halfe a mile. **1725** DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 192 Fetching several compasses and windings. **1788** COWPER *Dog & Water-Lily* 28, I . . . follow'd long The windings of the stream. **1801** SOUTHEY *Thalaba* v. xxv, A loud shriek, That shook along the windings of the cave. **1847** W. C. L. MARTIN *Ox* 134/2 That action by which the aliments are carried through the windings of the intestinal canal. **1873** MAXWELL *Electr. & Magn.* II. 277 The number of windings of the wire between any two small circles.

10. A flexible rod or withy (*obs.* or *dial.*); †*esp.* (*collect. sing.* or *pl.*) the rods or withies used in making or repairing walls; hence, the process involving their use.

1405-6 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 222 Cariantibus stramen ad tecturam, 25. It. pro adquisicione de wyndyng, 15d. **1474-5** *Ibid.* 289 In le dalbyng et le wyndyng inter-close wallez, sydwallez, gawellez. **1523-34** FITZHERB. *Husb.* §126 With the wyndyng of the edderynges thou doost leuse thy stakes. **1550** *Ludlow Churchw. Acc.* (Camden) 44 Item, to John James for wyndyng and dawbyng ther . . . viij d. **1599** *Order Bk. Hartlebury Gram. School* (1904) 24 It'm . . . for windinge and dawbyng of the church howse. **1601** HOLLAND *Pliny* xiii. iv. I. 387 To make windings to bind vines. *Ibid.* xxxv. xiv. II. 555 The manner of making walls, by dawbing windings and hurdles with mud and clay. **1649** *Order Bk. Hartlebury Gram. School* (1904) 72 For poules for studds ease poules and windings and carriage of them o 6 o. **1674** RAY S. & E. C. *Words, Vrieth*, Eththerings or windings of hedges. **1688** HOLME *Armoury* iii. xiv. (Roxb.) 19/2 Thatchers Termes . . . Windings, twigs that will bend. **1852** *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XIII. ii. 281 Farmers find posts and rails cheaper . . . than the old system of 'stake and rice'. *Note.* Called 'cock-guard' in some parts; in others 'winding'. **1887** S. Chesh. *Gloss.*, *Weindins*, the boughs which are interwoven with the stakes used to shore up the bank of a stream.

III. 11. attrib. and Comb., as (sense 4) *winding* †*blade* (BLADE *sb.* 10c), *-loft*, *-machine*, *machinery*, *master*, *room*, †*stool* (STOOL *sb.* 6); (sense 5, esp. in nautical and mining use) *winding accident*, †*baly* (app. = BAIL *sb.* 5, bucket), *engine* (*-enginem*), *-gear*, †*hawser*, *hour*, †*iron*, †*pit*, †*-pulley*, *-rope*, *shaft*, *tackle*, *time*, *wheel*; (sense 6) *winding button*, *hole*, *pinion*, *square*, *wheel*; †*winding band* [BAND *sb.* 2 5], a bandage; *winding sticks*, *strips*, two equal pieces of wood with straight parallel edges used to determine whether a surface is true (cf. 3).

1895 *Cath. News* 14 Sept. 3 Two terrible *winding accidents occurred in mines in Rhondda Valley. **1336** *Acc. Exch. K.R.* 19/31 m. 5 (P.R.O.) In .ij. *Wyndi[n]gbalies emptis ad eandem [galeam]. . . Et in ij petris corde de canabo emptis pro Wyndyngrop. **1582** N. T. (Rhem.) John xi. 44 Bound feete and handes with *winding bandes. **1585** HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 262/2 *Fascia*, . . . a swathing cloth or winding band to . . . tie vp wounds. **1530** PALSGR. 184 *Vnes tournettes*, a payre of *wyndyng blades to wynde yarne upon. **1881** BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 71 A contrate wheel squared on to the stem of the *winding button. **1858** SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, **Winding-engine*, an engine for drawing up buckets, etc. from a well or shaft. **1875** KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Winding-engine*, . . . a hoisting steam-engine. **1883** GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-mining*, *Winding Engine*. **1904** *Daily Chron.* 23 Apr. 6/4 A terrible calamity was averted at the Navigation Colliery . . . by the heroism . . . of the *winding engineman. **1875** KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, **Winding-gear*, an English term for the winding-machine for mines. **1417** in *For. Acc.* 8 *Hen. VII* (2) (P.R.O.), j *Wyndyng hauncer. **1485** *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 36 *Smalle Warps*, . . . *Hawasers*, . . . Wyndyng hausers. **1688** [HOLME *Armoury* iii. xx. (Roxb.) 240/1 On[e] thick gut string, which is played upon by a long Bow or Base Viol stick at the head of it a little below the *winding hole. **1893** *Daily News* 4 May 2/1 In South Wales the *winding hours were 9½ to 10 hours on four days in the week. **1420** in *For. Acc.* 3 *Hen. VI* F/2 *dosro* (P.R.O.), *Wyndyng [i]rhone. **1846** G. DODD *Brit. Manuf.* Ser. vi. 197 The tarred haul then passes into the *winding-loft, where it is wound . . . upon bobbins. **1825** J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 422 The two *winding-machines may also be driven by the endless rope. **1855** *Orr's Circ. Sci., Inorg. Nat.* 248 Disarrangement of the *winding machinery. **1881** *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 68 Cotton Mill: . . . *Winding Room*. . . **Winding Master*. **1885** C. G. W. LOCK *Workshop Rec.* Ser. iv. 337/1 Examine the *winding-pinion depth, to see that it is neither too deep nor shallow. **1417** in *For. Acc.* 8 *Hen. V* D/1 *dosro* (P.R.O.), j Ketille j Fane et *Wyndyngpoley. **1890** W. J. GORDON *Foundry* 165 The *winding room, where the women sit some twenty deep in rank after rank by the side of the benches. **1913** *Times* 7 Aug. 4/4 [He] denied that he ever smoked in the 'winding' or operating rooms. **1336** *Wyndyngrop [see *winding-baly*]. **1424** *For. Acc.* 59 m. 22 *dosro* (P.R.O.), j hauser pro wyndyngrope. **1883** GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-mining*, *Winding Ropes*, the ropes by which a cage, chair, . . . &c., are raised and lowered in a pit-shaft. *Ibid.*, **Winding Shaft* or *Pit*, the pit-shaft used chiefly for winding purposes. **1884** BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 35 During the going of the clock the shutter . . . stood in front of

the *winding square. **1823** P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Builder* 255 *Winding Sticks are always used in pairs. **1530** PALSGR. 289/1 *Wyndyng stole, *tournette*. **a 1625** MANWAYRING *Seaman's Dict.* s.v., The *winding tackle is thus fitted: a great double block with three shivers in it, which is fast seized to the end of a small cable, which is brought about the head of the mast and so serves for a pendant [etc.]. **c 1635** CAPT. N. BOTELER *Dial. Sea Services* (1685) 116 *Winding Tackle blocks*. **1867** SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Winding-tackle pendant*, a strong rope made fast to the lower mast-head, and forming the support of the winding-tackle. **1908** *Daily Chron.* 10 Dec. 5/7 Both *winding times are to be excluded from the calculation of eight hours. **1675** in *Jeaffreson Middx. County Rec.* (1892) IV. 61 Unam rotam Harpedon anglice vocatam a *winding wheele. **1884** BRITTEN *Watch & Clockm.* 240 The operation of throwing the winding wheels out of action.

winding ('wɪndɪŋ, 'waɪndɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* 2 [f. WIND *v.* 2 + -ING¹.] The action of blowing or making a blast, chiefly of horns.

c 1500 in *Grose Antiq. Rep.* (1809) IV. 407 To myche wyndyng of the pipis is not the best. **1605** TIMME *Quersit.* II. vii. 138 That rening is to be attributed to the fire—the outward ventilation or winding comming between as the instrument. **1615** G. SANDYS *Trav.* 58 At the winding of a horne. **1670** *Caveat to Conventiclers* 2 This dreadful appearance . . . was ushered in by the winding of Hornes. **1732** BERKELEY *Alciph.* v. §1 A confused Noise of the opening of Hounds, the winding of Horns [etc.]. **1826** SCOTT *Woodst.* x, The winding of horns and the galloping of horse. **1940** W. DE LA MARE *Pleasures & Speculations* 48 The first windings of the Last Trump.

winding, *vbl. sb.* 3: see WIND *v.* 3

winding ('waɪndɪŋ), *ppl. a.* 1 [f. WIND *v.* 1 + -ING².] That winds, in various senses.

1. That follows a sinuous course, takes or has a curvilinear form, or is full of bends and turns. **a.** Of a staircase: *Spiral*. Chiefly in *winding stairs* (sometimes hyphenated).

1530 PALSGR. 158 *Vne vis*, a wyndyngstayre. **1580** HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong* s.v. *Noyau*, A paire of winding staires. **1653** H. COGAN tr. *Pinto's Trav.* xxxv. 141 A round Tribunal, whereunto one ascended by fifteen winding stairs. **1679** MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* ix. 153 These Winding steps are made about a solid Newel. **1687** A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 22 You may go up to the top by a winding staircase that is within it. **a 1700** EVELYN *Diary* 20 July 1654, A paire of artificial winding-stayres of stone. **1823** P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Builder* 191 Having finished the first flight of steps, fix the top of the first bearer for the winding-tread. **1840** DICKENS *Old Cur. Shop* liii, She left the chapel, . . . and coming to a low door, which plainly led into the tower, opened it, and climbed the winding stair.

b. Of plants or their parts, lines or figures, etc. **1538** ELYOT, *Vimineus*, wyckers, wyndynges rodde, or osyars. **1545** ASCHAM *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 164 A payre of windynges prickes. **1552-3** in *Feuillerat Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 137 Wyndyng plate abowte hedd peces. **1577** GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* 34 The stalk is slender, wyndyng, with clasps about such plantas as are next hym. **1607** TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 78 If his necke be winding and weake (as if it were broken). **1622** BACON *Hen. VII.* 193 It was ordained, that this Winding-Liue of a Plantagenet, should kill the true Tree it selfe. **1697** DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* iv. 184 The winding Trail Of Bears-foot. **1726** LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* I. 9 Of involved winding Lines it is not necessary to speak. **1799** G. SMITH *Laboratory* I. 16 Thus you may mark a winding figure with a thread on a rocket. **1822** J. PARKINSON *Outl. Oryctol.* 163 The chambers separated by winding septa. **1836** *Penny Cycl.* V. 230/2 Many of the sheep have upright winding horns.

c. Of the course or outline of natural features, roads, passages, etc.

1555 EDEN *Decades* 303 b, Saylyng alonge by the coaste of a wyndyng and bendyng shore. **1591** SHAKS. *Two Gent.* II. vii. 31 And so by many winding nookes he straes. **1610** HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 618 Wy with a crooked and winding streame rolleth downe by Whitney. **1697** DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* II. 691 A winding Vally. — *Æneis* III. 905 Megara's winding Bay. **1791** COWPER *Four Ages* 8 Taking my lonely winding walk, I mus'd. **1794** MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* xxxi, The winding mountains at length shut Udolpho from her view. **1878** J. BULLER 40 *Yrs. N.Z.* I. ii. 27 The river is winding in its course. **1890** R. BOLDFEWOOD *Col. Reformer* xiii, He could rattle five horses and a loaded coach in and out of the creeks and winding bush tracks.

d. Of animals or their movements. **1613** PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* i. v. 20 He windes himselfe into this winding Beast, disguising the Serpents tongue to speake to the woman. **1631** QUARLES *Samson* iv. 20 The suck-egge Weasell, and the Winding Swallow. **1697** DRYDEN *Æneis* II. 288 Twice round his waste their [sc. the serpents'] winding Volumes rowl'd. **1748** RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1810) III. xii. 79 Thou . . . dost not know the joys of a chase, and in pursuing a winding game. **1820** CLARE *Poems Rural Life* 118 Swallows check their winding flight.

†**e.** Pliant, bending. *Obs. rare.*

1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* 192 Feathers and delicate winding beds [orig. *pluma & flexiles lectuli*].

2. fig. †**a.** Tortuous, crooked, wily. *Obs.* **1594** CAREW *Huarte's Exam. Wits* 204 A man doubtlesse winding and craftie. **1629** H. BURTON *Truth's Tri.* 241 For all his winding wit and wrangling about this place. **1655** STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* III. 76 Old, winding, bragging, testy, crafty fox. **1693** J. EDWARDS *Author. O. & N. Test.* I. 245 Jupiter . . . was represented Horned, because of his Winding Oracles.

b. Of a narrative: Circuitous, rambling. [*a 1596* *Sir T. More* iv. v. 37 The winding laborinth of thy strange discourse Will nere haue end.] **1887** BOWEN *Virg. Æneid* I. 341 The grief is a winding story and long. **1923** *Times Lit. Suppl.* 4 Jan. 9/2 The long and winding narrative. Hence 'windingly adv.', in a winding manner, circuitously, with twists and turns; 'wind-iness', circuitous or meandering form.

1576 BAKER *Gesner's Jewell of Health* 215 b, The pype . . . doth ascende right up, and not as in the others, *windingly. **1626** T. H[AWKINS] *Cassin's Holy Crt.* 47 A ruer, that windingly creepeth with many wauy turnings. **1817** BYRON *Beppo* xlii, Where the green alleys windingly allure. **1877** BLACKMORE *Erema* xiv, The long descent into the depth of winter is . . . taken . . . gently, and softly, and windingly, with a great many glimpses back at the summer. **1730** BAILEY (fol.), *Tortuousness*, *Windingness or the Turning in and out. **1861** *Macm. Mag.* IV. 134/1 There should be good in the stream's windingness.

winding ('waɪndɪŋ, in sense 1 'waɪndɪŋ), *ppl. a.* 2 [f. WIND *v.* 2 + -ING².]

1. Of a horn: That is winded.

1735 SOMERVILLE *Chase* III. 402 The winding Horn, and Huntsman's Voice, Let loose the gen'ral Chorus.

2. That 'winds' one; taking one's breath away.

1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* ix, The drunken man at least gave some tokens of returning consciousness by making several winding blows at his benefactors.

†**winding-cloth**¹. *Obs.* [f. WINDING *vbl. sb.* 1 + CLOTH *sb.*] = WINDING-SHEET 1.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 14354 In windingclath als he was wonden, Bath fete and hand par was he bunden. **1439** in *Ancestor* (1904) July 18, I gife my modir the best pece of lynnyn cloth that I have over that that beleveth over my wyndyng cloth. **c 1440** *Alphabet of Tales* 43 bis flurst frend is werldly possessions, wilk pat when we dye giffis vs bod a wyndyng clothe to lap vs in.

†**winding-cloth**². *Obs.* [f. WINDING *vbl. sb.* 3] = WINNOW-, WINNOWING-CLOTH.

1548 *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1871) II. 136 Ane bathsket with windinclath syf ryddill sek and peyk. **1588** *Lanc. Wills* (Chetham Soc. 1893) 150 Sacks windinge clothes pocks. **1733** [see WIND *v.* 3].

winding-sheet ('waɪndɪŋʃi:t). [f. WINDING *vbl. sb.* 1 + SHEET *sb.* 1.]

1. A sheet in which a corpse is wrapped for burial; a shroud.

c 1420 ? *LYDG. Assembly of Gods* 420 As he had bene a goste came in wyndyng shete. **1547** in *Feuillerat Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 21 One wyndyng shite of Incarnacion Lawnd strypte with crossis Crymson satten. **15** . . . *Down by one Rever* 54 in *Dunbar's Poems* (S.T.S.) 306 Thy windene scheit is nocht in weir. **1603** DEKKER *Wond. Year* C 3b, A thousand Coarses, some standing bolt vpright in their knotted winding sheetes. **1624** CAPT. J. SMITH *Virginia* II. 35 They . . . rowle them in mats for their winding sheets. **1723-4** *Burgh Rec. Stirling* (1889) II. 357 A coffine . . . and a winning sheet. **1746** HERVEY *Medit.* (1767) I. 72 Your Nobility arrayed in a Winding-sheet; your Grandeur mouldering in an Urn. **1869** TOZER *Highl. Turkey* II. 92 The spectre had sworn by his winding-sheet . . . that he would do him no harm.

Comb. **1603** DEKKER *Wond. Year* D 2b, These winding-sheete-weauers.

b. transf. and fig.

1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI.* II. v. 114 These armes of mine shall be thy winding sheet: My heart (sweet Boy) shall be thy Sepulcher. **1625** BACON *Ess.*, *Viciss. Things* (Arb.) 569 The great Winding-sheets, that burie all Things in Oblivion, are two; Deluges, and Earth-quakes. **1669** J. OWEN *Serm.* 2 *Sam.* xxiii. 5 Wks. 1851 IX. 414 Let us . . . be content to see all our comforts in their winding-sheet every day. **1757** GRAY *Bard* 50 Weave the warp, and weave the woof, The winding-sheet of Edward's race. **1817** SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* ix. xxii, Disturbing not the leaves which are her winding-sheet. **1864** LOWELL *Fireside Trav.* 147 Dead cedars, in winding-sheets of long gray moss. **1875** MANNING *Mission Holy Ghost* II. 59 He raised you from death, and loosed you from your winding-sheet of habitual sin.

2. A mass of solidified drippings of grease clinging to the side of a candle, resembling a sheet folded in creases, and regarded in popular superstition as an omen of death or calamity.

1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 17. 2/1 Letters, Winding Sheets, &c. in a Candle. **1819** KEATS *Party of Lovers* 16 There's a large cauliflower in each candle. A winding sheet. **1824** MISS MITFORD *Village Ser.* I. *Aunt Martha*, She . . . sees . . . gifts in her finger-nails, letters and winding-sheets in the candle. **1882** *Century Mag.* Nov. 113/1 The candles . . . burned dim, with long winding-sheets clinging to them.

'wind-instrument. (Often as two words.)

1. A musical instrument played by means of 'wind' (WIND *sb.* 1 12), supplied either by the breath of the player or by bellows: most commonly applied to portable instruments of this kind, such as those used in an orchestra.

Strictly, one whose sounds are produced by vibration of air in a pipe or tube (as the flute, trumpet, etc.) or in a number of pipes (as the organ); but usually also including those sounding by vibration of reeds (as the clarinet, harmonium, and concertina).

1582 N. LICHFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. lxxvi. 155 He had also with him certeine wind instruments. **1628** FORD *Lover's Mel.* I. ii, *Cucul*. Was thy father a Piper, saist thou? *Grill*. A soulder of some such wind-instrument forsooth. **1777** THICKNESSE *Journ. France* (1789) II. 202 During the supper, a good band of music played; but it was all wind instruments. **1838** DICKENS *Nich. Nick*, II. Two or three violins and a wind instrument from the Opera band. **1880** F. TAYLOR in *Grove Dict. Mus.* II. 5/2 The Harmonium . . . although played by wind, is not strictly a wind-instrument.

Comb. **1776** HAWKINS *Hist. Mus.* V. iv. vii. 364 The younger Stanesby, the wind-instrument-maker.

b. fig. or allusively.

1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* III. i. 10. **1634** S. R. *Noble Soldier* IV. i. F 3, *Bal*. What Instrument playd she upon? *Cor.* A wind instrument, she did nothing but sigh.

†2. A machine or contrivance driven by the wind, as a windmill. *Obs. rare.*

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* VII. xxxvii. I. 175 Ctesibius also was much accounted of for devising wind-instruments: and by the means of certaine engines to draw and send water to any place.

Hence ,wind-instru'mental *a.*; ,wind-instru'mentalist.

1869 J. ELLA *Mus. Sk.* I. 344, I know of no other example of wind-instrumentalists acquiring an independance by orchestral employment in London. 1894 J. A. KAPPEY (*title*) Military Music. A history of wind-instrumental bands.

Windish, var. WENDISH.

windister, var. WINNOWSTER *Obs.*

windlass ('windlās), *sb.*¹ Forms: 5 wynlas(s)e, wyndelas, 5-6 wyndlas, 6 -lasse, wynlas, 6-7 windlesse, -lasse, wyndles(se), (also 9) windlace, 6-8 windlas, windles, 7 wyndeles, 7-8 windless, winlace, 8 winlass, 7- windlass. [prob. alteration of WINDAS, of obscure origin.

The alleged Icel. *vindillās* is not authentic.]

1. A mechanical contrivance working on the principle of the wheel and axle, on a horizontal axis (thus distinguished from a *capstan*); consisting of a roller or beam, resting on supports, round which a rope or chain is wound; used for various purposes, esp. on board ship for weighing the anchor or hauling upon a purchase, at the head of a mine-shaft for hoisting coal or other mineral, or for raising a bucket from a well.

Chinese or differential windlass: see CHINESE *a.* 2, and cf. DIFFERENTIAL *a.* 4b. *Spanish windlass*: see SPANISH *a.* 7.

c 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 12652 The schippes were sone on a blase, Thei brende bothe mast & wynlase. c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 529 Wyndynge, wythe wyndelas [*Winch. MS.* wyndas], *obvolucio*. 1526 *Dunmow Churchw. Acc.* If. 5b (MS.), Item to John Harvy and Wyllyem barcar for a brayde to helpe to make the wynlas, iii. d. 1538 ELYOT, *Tractorium*, a windlas to draw vp heavy thingis. 1552 in *Glasscock Rec. St. Michael's, Bp.'s Steyford* (1882) 137 A wyndles for the pix. 1585 *Shuttleworth's Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 25 A grete roppe for the wyndlas in the slayhter housse. 1603 G. OWEN *Pembrokeshire* (1892) 89 With a wyndeles turned by fowre men they drawe vpp the coales. 1608 *Relat. Trav. W. Bush* B2b, She had twooe stronge Cables..strayned by wyndlesses. 1616 *Extr. Aberd. Reg.* (1848) II. 342 Ane wyndles for heising vp of stanes. 1670 COVEL in *Early Voy. Levant* (Hakluyt Soc.) 143 Carrying out an Anchor a sterne .. with the Winlace. 1743 WOODROOFE in *Hanway Trav.* (1762) I. II. xxiii. 101 A great sea obliged us to cut the cable at the windlass. 1789 *Trans. Soc. Arts* VII. 218 Anchor-stocks .. supplying the place of the upper gudgeon; and in a merchant-ship the clamps of her windles. 1800 WEEMS *Washington* x. (1877) 129 Some seizing the ready handspikes, vault high upon the windlasses. 1822 *Imison's Sci. & Art* I. 56 If two men work at the end of a roller, or windlass, as in drawing up coals or ore from a mine, or water from a well. 1836 THIRLWALL *Greece* xxvi. III. 427 A great vessel of burthen .. to cover the operations of a number of parties in boats, which .. forced up the piles by means of cranes or windlases.

¶ The form *windles* taken as pl. *Obs.*

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* xxxvi. xv. II. 586 To force the water .. with devise of engines and windles up to the top of the hill. 1680 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1526/4 The Adventure Pink, .. two Decks, with a Fall where the Windles stand.

†2. Applied to various smaller contrivances of a similar kind: a winch used in discharging a cross-bow (= WINDAS 1b) or a pistol ('dag'); a reel on an angler's rod, or for winding yarn (= WINDLE sb.³). *Obs.*

1481-90 *Howard Househ. Bks.* (Roxb.) 273, ix. cross-bowes, wyndlas. 1587 *HOLINSHED Chron.* III. 1099/2 With the windlace of his dag hanging thereon. 1588 *Lanc. Wills* (Chetham Soc. 1861) 12 My crosbowe with the windlesse. 1669 *WORLDGE Syst. Agric.* (1681) 258 A very long Line wound up at the handle of your Rod on a small Winch or Windlace. 1737 OZELL *Rabelais* III. 236 *note*, A Reel or Yarn-Windless. 1819 SCOTT *Invanoe* xxviii. Two arblasts .. with windlases and quarrells.

3. *attrib.*, as *windlass axle*, -*end*, -*head*, -*pawl*, *rope*; *windlass-bar*, any of a set of bars inserted in holes in a ship's windlass, by which it is turned; *windlass-bitt*, -*chock*, each of the supports of a ship's windlass; *windlass-jack*, *windlass-lining* (see *quots.*); *windlass-man*, a man employed to turn a windlass.

1842 *LOUDON Suburban Hort.* 157 Two *windlass axles are supported on four props. 1867 *SMYTH Sailor's Word-bk.* s.v., The cables [of the windlass] have three turns round this main-piece .. holes are cut for the *windlass-bars in each eighth of the squared sides. 1846 A. YOUNG *Naut. Dict.* 369 Iron spindles working in collars or bushes inserted in the *Windlass-bitts. *Ibid.*, *Windlass-chocks, fore-and-aft pieces of oak fitted on the deck and bolted to the beams immediately before the windlass. *Ibid.*, *Windlass-ends .. are two horizontal pieces forming a continuation of the windlass outside these bitts. 1867 *SMYTH Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Windlass* .. is composed of the carrick-heads or *windlass-heads. 1875 *KNIGHT Dict. Mech.*, *Windlass-jack, a form of lifting-jack having a winch-handle for turning the pinion which gears into the crown-wheel. 1846 A. YOUNG *Naut. Dict.* 369 Pieces of hard wood, called the *Windlass-lining, fitted and bolted round it to preserve it from being chafed. 1851 *CARLYLE Sterling* III. iii. Both shouted vehemently to the coadjutor at the windlass, both sprang at the basket; the *windlass man could not move it with them both. 1867 *SMYTH Sailor's Word-bk.* s.v., Amidships it is supported by

chocks, where it is also furnished with a course of *windlass-pawls. 1669 *STURMY Mariner's Mag.* v. xii. 81 By a *Windless Rope, and weight to sink it, he may first let down the weight.

†**windlass**, *sb.*² *Obs.* Forms: 6 wynd(e)-, winlesse, windlas(se, (-laies ?), wyndlas(s)e, -lace, 6-7 windlace, -lesse, 7 -lass, winde-lase, (8 windlatch). [Alteration of WANLACE, by association with WIND *v.*¹ and perh. with prec. sb.]

1. A circuit made to intercept the game in hunting (= WANLACE 1); *gen.* a circuit, circuitous movement: esp. in phr. *to fetch a windlass*, to make a circuit, go round about, 'fetch a compass'.

1530 *PALSGR.* 231 Hewar that fetteth the wyndelesse in hunting. 1563 *GOLDING Cæsar* VII. (1565) 206 Bidding them fetch a windlasse a great waye about, and to make al to-ward one place. 1567 — *Ovid's Met.* VII. 93b, He runnes not forth directly out, Nor makes a windlasse ouer all the champion fieldes about. 1580 *LYLY Euphues* (Arb.) 270, I now fetching a windlesse, that I myght better haue a shoote, was preuented with ready game. 1600 *FAIRFAX Tasso* XIV. xxxiv, The beaues faire of Shepheards daughters bold, With wanton winde laies ronnet, turne, play and pas. 1602 R. CAREW *Cornwall* 75 Sometimes a foote-man .. will carry the same quite backwards, and so, at last, get to the goale by a windlace.

2. *fig.* A circuitous course of action; a round-about proceeding; a crafty device (= WANLACE 3).

a 1569 *KINGESMYLL Man's Est.*, *Godly Adv.* (1574) Ivij, With suche winlesses some are dryuen into the net. 1575 *LANEHAM Let.* (1871) 55 And heer iz my windlesse, lyke yoor coorse as pleaz ye. 1575 *Mirr. Mag.*, *Humfrey Dk. Glouc.* xlvj, Which by slye driftes, and wyndlaces aloofe, They brought about. 1602 *SHAKS. Ham.* II. i. 65. 1617 *COLLINS Def. Bp.* Ely II. viii. 317 These were the trances, and the windlaces of the first Iesuites. 1631 [MABBE] *Celestina* IV. 54 What a wind-lace hast thou fetcht, with what words hast thou come upon me? a 1734 *NORTH Exam.* II. iv. §143. (1740) 307 The former are brought forth, by a Windlatch of a Trial, to charge the latter with the foulest of Crimes.

†**windlass**, *v.*¹ *Obs.* [f. WINDLASS sb.²] *a. trans.* (*fig.*) To decoy or ensnare. *b. intr.* To 'fetch a windlass', make a circuit; *fig.* to act circuitously or craftily. Hence *windlassing vbl. sb.*¹

a 1586 *SIDNEY Astr. & Stella* xxi, My young mind .. whom Loue doth windlas so; That mine owne writings .. show My wits quicke in vaine thoughts, in vertue lame. a 1660 *HAMMOND Serm.*, *Ezek. xvi.* 30 (1664) 12 She is not at so much leasure as to windlace, or use craft to satisfie them; she goes downright a woing. *Ibid.*, *Luke xviii.* 11 131 A skilful woods-man, that by wind-lassing presently gets a shoot.

'windlass', *v.*² [f. WINDLASS sb.¹] *trans.* To hoist or haul with a windlass. Hence 'windlassing *vbl. sb.*²

1834 *MARIA EDGEWORTH Helen* xiv, None of our windlassing will ever bring her [sc. the truth] up. 1870 *Daily News* 20 Jan., He was hauled into the barn and windlassed clear of the floor. 1897 *KIPLING Capt. Cour.* ix. 203 As though the words were being windlassed out of him.

windle ('wind(ə)l), *sb.*¹ Now *dial.* or *local.* Forms: 1-3 windel, (1 -il), 3-6 wyndel, 6 wyndle, -dille, -dell, 8-9 *dial.* winnel, 6- windle. [OE. *windel* str. m., 'cartellus', 'fiscella', 'canistrum', 'corbis', f. *windan* to plait, WIND *v.*¹: see -LE 1. Parallel in formation are OHG. *wintilā* (MHG., G. *windel*) swaddling-clothes, ON. *vindill* wisp.]

1. A basket. Now only *dial.* (see *quot.* 1879): app. associated or confused with WINDLE sb.²

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) C to *Cartellus*, windil. c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* xl. 16 Ic geseah swefn, þæt ic hæfde ðry windlas mid melewe ofer min heafod. c 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 17973 Thei did brynge the kiddis drye. And colis also In bollis & wyndel. 1879 *Norfolk Archæol.* VIII. 174 *Windle*, a basket used in winnowing corn.

2. A measure of corn and other commodities, varying in different localities; of wheat, usually about 3 bushels. *local (north.)*.

[1268, 1282 in *Rogers Agric. & Prices* I. xviii. 428 [Nuts] are purchased in Cumberland by the windle.] 1281-2 *Inq. post mortem Edw. I* 31/3 (P.R.O.), Et sciendum quod quelibet eskeppa continet sexdecim Windellos, et illi sexdecim Windelli faciunt quarterium Londiniense et dimidium. 1309 *Crt. Rolls Wakefield* (1906) II. 194 One wynd[el ?] of barley and a quarter of oats. 1521 *Pleadings Duchy Lancaster* (1896) 106 [Dealing of corn by] mettes and wyndilles. 1525 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) V. 216 To everichon of the same Orders a wyndle of wheate, or the price therof. 1566 in *Picton L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1883) I. 86 One wyndle containing 56 quarts of wine measure up heaped shall .. be the right and just standard. 1636 *Farington Papers* (Chetham Soc. 1856) 13, 8 windles of wheat Lanc' measure. 1729 P. WALKDEN *Diary* (1866) 62 Spent the day wholly at home in winnowing my barley, and I measured a windle and an awkendale for going to the malt-kilns. 1790 *GROSE Prov. Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Windle*, or *Winnel*, a bushel. 1849 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* X. 1. 18 The cost [of limestone] at the kiln is 11 d a windle, and two windles are equal to 3 cwt. 1881 *Daily News* 17 Jan. 3/4 Preston. Jan. 15. .. Wheat 19 s. to 22 s. per windle.

3. A bundle or band (of straw or hay). *Sc.* 1825 *JAMIESON, Winnle*, the same with *Winden*, a bottle of straw. 1893 *MACKINTOSH Around the Orkney Peat Fires* (1905) 207 [He] had the kegs tied up in windles of straw.

†**windle**, *sb.*² *Obs.* Forms: 3 (*Orm.*) winndell, 4 wyndel, 5 -dylle, -dle, 6 windle. [f. stem of OE.

windwian WINNOW *v.* + -LE 1. Cf. WIND *v.*³] A winnowing-fan.

c 1200 *ORMIN* 10483 Himm sholde brinnngenn inn hiss hannd Hiss winndell forr to winndwenn. a 1400 *N. T.* (Pauze) Matt. iii. 12 Whos wyndel is in his honde, & he schal clense fully his korne. c 1425 *Voc.* in *Wr.-Wülcker* 664/7 *Hoc uentilabrum*, wyndylle. 1550 *COVERDALE Spir. Perle* vii. 65 When the corne is threshed, the kernel lyeth mixed among the chaf, and afterwarde are they disseuered a sonder wyth the fanne or wyndle.

windle ('wind(ə)l), *sb.*³ *Obs. exc. dial.* Forms: 8-9 *Sc.* winnel, win(n)le, 7- windle. [The second element of GARNWINDLE, YARNWINDLE, q.v. for earlier examples.] An appliance for winding yarn or thread.

1687 *Miège Gt. Fr. Dict.* 11, Windles, or Blades to wind Yarn on, *un Devidoir*. 17. .. *Loving Lass in Ramsay's Tea-T. Misc.* (1762) 172 My hanks of yarn, my rock and reel, My winnells and my spinning-wheel. 1791 *ALEX. WILSON in Poems & Lit. Prose* (1876) II. 45 Jennock turn't the winles' blade An' waft in lapfu's left her. 1845 S. JUDD *Margaret* ii. (1871) 5 From a windle the thread is conducted to the quills.

'windle', *sb.*⁴ *local.* Also whindle. [? f. WIND sb.¹] The redwing (*Turdus iliacus*), also called *wind-thrush*, -*throstle*.

1674 *N. COX Gentl. Recr.* III. (1677) 63 The Wind-throstle (or Whindle). a 1698 C. MORTON *Enquiry in Harl. Misc.* (1744) II. 558/2 The .. Wind-Thrush (or the Redwing, Wheenerd, Whindle; for so many Names it has in divers Countries). 1772 *RUTTY Nat. Hist. Dublin* I. 342. 1885 *SWAINSON Prov. Names Birds* 5 Redwing .., Winnard (Cornwall). Windle (Devon).

'windle', *v.*¹ Now *dial.* Forms: 4 *Sc. pr. pple.* wynland, vyndland, 6 windill, 6- windle, (9 *dial.* winnle). [f. WIND *v.*¹ + -LE 3. With sense 2 cf. MDu., MHG., G. *windeln* to swathe, swaddle.]

1. *intr.* To move circularly or sinuously; to turn over and over, or round and round; to whirl; to meander: = WIND *v.*¹ 7b. Hence 'windling *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*¹

1375 *BARBOUR Bruce* xvii. 721 Sum dede, sum dosnyt, come down vyndland. 1623 *LISLE Ælfric on O. & N. Test.* To Rdr. p. xxviii, The one hoodwinked with his implicate faith, as with a bumble on his head, thinks he goes forth-right, when he windles in a mill. 1802 *MRS. RADCLIFFE Gaston de Blondeville* IV. (1826) 140 Beside some windling brook. 1856 P. THOMPSON *Hist. Boston* 730 Windling, snow-drifting. 1905 *Engl. Dial. Dict.* s.v. (Lincolnsh.), The snow windles under the tiles.

2. *trans.* To wind (thread, etc.); also *absol.*: = WIND *v.*¹ 15. Also *Sc.* (see *quot.* 1808, and cf. WINDLE sb.¹ 3, WINDLING sb.).

1587 W. FOWLER *Wks.* (S.T.S.) I. 117/132 Than did I spye Chrysippus .. with a large and broadest roll his threid & webbs to windill. 1599 T. M[OUTER] *Silkwormes* 1 These flocks as white as milke, That make, and spinne, and die, and windle silke. 1808 *JAMIESON, Windle*, to make up (straw or hay) into bottles. 1859 A. WHITEHEAD *Leg. Westmld.* 14 (E.D.D.) The sarvant lasses they'd begun to winnle, wind, and spin.

†**windle**, *v.*² *Obs. rare.* [f. as WINDLE sb.² + -LE 3. Cf. WIMBLE *v.*²] *trans.* To winnow.

14. .. *Nom.* in *Wr.-Wülcker* 696/23 *Hoc uentilabrum*, a wyndyllynge. [The English gloss appears to be incomplete.] 1550 *COVERDALE Spir. Perle* vii. 65 When they are fanned or wyndled, and when the wynde of trouble and affliccion begynneth once a litle to blowe. 1887 *Jamieson's Sc. Dict. Suppl.*, *Winnel-claith*, v. *Windin-claith*.

windle, *v.*³ *Obs. exc. dial.* Also 5 winele, 6 windell. [? Back-formation from WINDLESTRAW; but cf. WINDER *v.*] *intr.* To lose strength or vigour; to wither, waste away, dwindle. Hence *windling ppl. a.*²

c 1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in *Wright Voc.* 161 Jo ay la mayn si estomye [gloss so acomeled, v.r. wineled]. 1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Fam. Love* 31b, The fruit thereof for want of moysture begynneth to windell. 1620 *GATAKER David's Instruct.* 6 Tender plants .. are in danger else to windle and wither away. 1888 *Sheffield Gloss.*, *Windle*, v. to dwindle. .. *Windling*, adj., feeble, delicate.

windles, obs. form of WINDLASS sb.¹

windless ('windlis), *a.* [f. WIND sb.¹ + -LESS.]

1. Breathless, out of breath. Now *rare.*

a 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 1271 Sa waikē & so wyndles & wery for-foztē. 1570 *FOX E. & M.* (ed. 2) 2126/1 His accuser .. came .. in such post speede, that in a maner he was windlesse entryng into the Bishops chamber. 1609 *HOLLAND Amm. Marcell.* 114 With all the speed I could make I returned all windlesse for hast. 1643 *TRAPP Comm. Gen.* xlix. 27 Panting and windless as a tired Woolf. 1894 J. A. STEUART *In Day of Battle* i, He was stupefied and windless before the smile of disdain had time to leave his face.

2. Free from wind; not exposed to or stirred by the wind, in or upon which no wind blows.

In first *quot.* applied to wind supposed to be pent underground and to cause earthquakes: = not causing any movement in the atmosphere.

1591 *SYLVESTER Du Bartas* i. iii. 480 When steeples stagger, and huge mountains tremble With wind-less wind [orig. *Le vent sans faire vent*]. 1802 *MAWE Min. Derbysh.* Gloss. (E.D.S.) s.v., A place in a mine where the air is bad or short .. is then said to be windless. 1818 *SHELLEY Rosal. & Helen* 1106 The windless sky. 1843 *RUSKIN Mod. Paint.* II. III. iv. §35. 251 Colder and more quiet than a windless sea under the moon of midnight. 1855 M. ARNOLD *New Sirens* 146 In some windless valley.

†3. Not causing flatulence. *Obs. rare.*

1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 85 b, Phasiolus . . of Dioscorides is wyndy . . , & y^e other ar flatuum expertes y^t is windlesse.

Hence 'windlessly adv.'; 'windlessness.

1897 *Edin. Rev.* Oct. 387 The dawn broke windlessly over the dark mountain pass. 1916 E. F. BENSON *David Blaize* x, The sea slept in the windlessness of this August weather.

windlesse, obs. form of WINDLASS.

windlestraw ('wind(ə)lstrɔː). *Sc.* and *dial.* Forms: 1 windelstrew, -streow, 6 *Sc.* wynd-, windilstray, 7 windle-strawe, 8-9 *Sc.* winlestrae, 9 *dial.* windle-, winnelstrae, -stray, etc., 7-windlestraw. [OE. *windelstrēaw*, ? f. *windel* WINDLE sb.¹ + *strēaw* STRAW sb.]

1. A dry thin withered stalk of grass, such as is left standing after the flower or seed is shed.

In north. dial. shortened to *windle*.

a1000 *Voc.* in Wt.-Wülcker 273/23 *Calmm*, windel-streow. 1513 DOUGLAS *Aeneis* VII. Prol. 134 With hyrystis hark of waggand windilstrays. a1585 MONTGOMERIE *Cherrie & Slae* 303, I stakkerit at the windilstrays. a1598 D. FERGUSSON *Scot. Prov.* (1641) 328 He that is redd for windlestraws, should not sleep in lees. 1641 *BEST Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 76 If the weather bee harde and sharpe, and the hey shorte and good, they [*sc.* sheep] will not leave soe much as a pile of grasse or a windle-strawe. a1722 in M. P. Brown *Suppl. Dict. Decis.* (1826) IV. 793 To restrict him to the fifth part of the rent, was to send him to lift the rest of his stipend from windlestraws and sandy laverocks. c1730 RAMSAY *Fables* xix. 67 They'll start at winlestrae. 1815 SHELLEY *Alastor* 528 Tall spires of windlestrae Threw their thin shadows down the rugged slope. 1821 SCOTT *Pirate* iv, The air is close, . . and the day so calm, that not a windle-straw moves on the heath. 1865 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* xxi. ii. VI. 350 Think what a fine figure of rye and barley, instead of mere windlestraws, beggary and desolation, was realised by that act alone. 1872 BROWNING *Fifine* ix, Thistle fluffs and bearded windlestraws.

2. A name for various long-stalked species of grass, as *Cynosurus cristatus* (dog's-tail grass), *Lolium perenne* (rye-grass), and *Agrostis Spicaventi*. Also *windlestraw-grass*.

c1000 *Sax. Leechb.* II. 44 Wip earwigan, genim þæt micle greate windel streaw twyecge. 1636 JOHNSON *Gerarde's Herbal* i. iii. 6 Reed-grasse. in Latine. . . *Spica venti* agrorum. . . Some . . . much agreeable to the Latine name, call these, Windle-straws. 1775 J. ANDERSON *Ess. Agric.* 418 The crested dogs-tail-grass, *Cynosurus cristatus*, commonly known in Scotland by the name of Windlestraw-grass. 1801 LEYDEN *Elfin-King* xiii, The windlestrae, so limber and grey [*note*, Rye-grass]. 1862 MRS. NORTON *Lady of La Garaye* Prol. 112 The pale tufts of the windle-strae grass Hang like locks of dry dead hair.

3. *fig.* a. Applied to something (material or immaterial) light, trifling, or flimsy; occas. contemptuously to a spear or lance.

1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* 6 Jan. (1671) 414 No windlestraws, no bits of clay, no temptations . . will then be able to with-stand you. 1831 SCOTT *Ct. Rob.* xi, Not one has the courage to throw his windlestraw while he perceives that of another pointed against himself. 1895 CROCKETT *Men of Moss-Hags* xl, He grippit me with one hand and drew his windle-strae of a sword wi' the other. 1905 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 25 Aug. 267/3 Her . . . blank verse and other heavy . . things . . have none of the life and sweetness of her windlestraw.

b. Applied to a thin lanky person, or one of feeble health or character.

1818 MISS FERRIER *Marriage* xxxiv, A wheen puir feckless windlestraws. 1836 J. M. WILSON *Tales* II. 214/2 D'ye ken that this winnle-straw o' a lassie . . has won the kirk? 1845 CARLYLE *Schiller* i. 30 An honest man you may form of windle-straws; but, to make a rascal, you must have grist.] 1907 'Q' *Poison Isl.* xxxi, A thin, windlestraw of a man.

windling ('windlɪŋ), sb. Forms: 3-4 wynelynge, 5 wenelyng(e); 7 winling, 8 windlen, wonlyne, 9 winlin, windlin, winding. [? f. WIND v.¹ + -LING¹ 2. But perhaps two distinct words.

The word in sense 1 seems to be synonymous with *wyn(e)wes*, *wynweys* in 1304 *Acc. Exch. K.R.* 12/6 m. 3, 1336 *Ibid.* 19/31 m. 5, 1420 *For. Acc.* 3 *Hen. VI G/2.*]

† 1. *collect. sing.* or *pl.* ? Small ropes or cords. *Obs.*

1295 *Acc. Exch. K.R.* 5/7 m. 1 (P.R.O.) In Wynelyngges emptis ad nauem ix.s. v.d. 1356 in *Pipe Roll* 32 *Edw. III* m. 33/1 (P.R.O.) In CCC. lb. de towte, vj^{xx}, fassibus straminis, xvij Millibus de Wynelynge emptis. 1402 *Acc. Exch. K.R.* 43/6 m. 4 In iij^{xx} petris de Wenelyng. in factura dicte balengere expenditis. 1407 *Ibid.* 44/11 (1) m. 2 In iij. libris de Wenelynge emptis. . . iij. d.

2. A bundle of straw or hay. *Sc.*

1645 in J. Davidson *Iverurie* (1878) 206 Twa winlingis of stray. 1737 RAMSAY *Sc. Prov.* (1750) 41 He stumbles at a strae and lowps o'er a wonlyne. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 125 The cattle-man resumes his labours by bunching up windlings of straw, which are small bundles having a twisted form, of 10 lb. weight, or more each. 1845 *New Statist. Acc. Scot.* XV. *Caithness* 146 The tenants of each penny-land . . had . . to furnish a certain number of winlins to thatch the mains' stacks. 1862 HISLOP *Prov. Scot.* 88 He starts at straes, and lets windlins gae.

windling, ppl. a.: see WINDLE v.¹ and v.³

windmill ('windmɪl, 'winmɪl), sb. (Formerly also as two words.) [f. WIND sb.¹ + MILL sb.¹; cf. MHG. *wintmül*, G. *windmühle*, LG., Du. *windmolen*, and F. *moulin à vent* (from 13th c.).]

1. A mill the machinery of which is driven by the wind acting upon sails, used (chiefly in flat districts) for grinding corn, pumping water, etc. The older and most characteristic European

form consists of a conical mill-house with a dome or 'cap' carrying (usually) four sails; the modern American type consists of a disk of sails mounted on a framework of girders, and is used chiefly for pumping or sawing.

The sails (SAIL sb.¹ 5) are turned by the force of the wind around an axis or *wind-shaft*, usually nearly horizontal and having some contrivance (now often automatic) for turning it in any direction to enable the sails to catch the wind.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 11383 þe king of alemaine was in a windmulle inome. c1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* III. 190, Y saugh him carien a wyndmelle Vnder a walsh note shale. a1400 *Gloss in Rel. Ant.* I. 7 *Ventagile*, a wyndmylne. c1450 *Godstow Reg.* 63 His winde-mille þat stonðit vpon hoge wip-oute þe towne of doninton. 15. . *Ladye Bessie* (Percy Soc.) 77 He went up unto a wynde mylne, And stoode upon a hyll soe hye. 1546 *Yks. Chantry Surv.* (Surtees 1894) 11 The rente of a wynde mylle there, xxs. 1596 SHAKS. *I Hen. IV.* III. i. 162, I had rather liue With Cheese and Garlick in a Windmill. 1630 R. JOHNSON'S *Kingd. & Commw.* 644 At no time there bloweth so much wind as will move a windmill. 1759 SMEATON in *Phil. Trans.* LI. 159 Windmills, such as the different species for raising water for drainage, &c. 1774 *GOLDSM. Nat. Hist.* (1776) II. 21 If we look upon the sails of a windmill moving, at a distance, they appear to go very slow. 1841 T. A. TROLLOPE *Western Farm* I. xii. 212 Behind the town is a high bluff . . entirely covered with windmills. 1885 *Law Rep. 10 App. Cas.* 411 Some spars and canvas were sacrificed in order to erect a windmill to assist in working the pumps. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 599/2 American windmills generally have the sails arranged in an annulus or disk.

2. A figure of a windmill; a sign or character resembling this, as a cross or asterisk. Also *attrib.* Now rare or *Obs.*

1402 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 57, I know not an a from the wynd-myne. 1581 CAMPION in *Confer.* II. (1583) I ij, A note is a marke that may be removed, that teacheth to turne . . by this crosse, or by that windmill or marke. 1898 MORRIS *Austral Engl. Windmill* J.P., expression formerly used in New South Wales for any J.P. who was ill-educated and supposed to sign his name with a cross x.

3. a. A model of a windmill. b. A toy consisting of a cross-shaped piece of card or other light substance fixed at the end of a stick so as to revolve like the sails of a windmill when moved through the air.

1557 *Will of E. Pettinger* (Somerset Ho.), I giue . . to my vncl. . my wyndemylle which hangeth in my hall. 1598 FLORIO, *Ventarello*, . . a piece of a card or paper cut like a crosse, and with a pin put in at the end of a stick, which running against the wind doth twirle about, our English children call it a wind-mill. 1611 COTGR. s.v. *Violet*. 1836 [HOOTON] *Bilberry Thurland* I. v. 113 Last week, . . I sold windmills and lambs for children. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak* Ho. xiv, I so conciliated Peepys' affections by buying him a windmill and two flour-sacks, that [etc.].

c. *Cricket.* A style of bowling with a high overarm delivery. ? *Obs.*

1867 *Australasian* 19 Jan. 76/3 A change in bowling was tried, Wardill going on with his 'windmills', vice Conway. 1900 W. A. BETTESWORTH *Walkers of Southgate* 124 Taking his run up to the wicket, swinging his arm in what has been described as 'a windmill action'. 1920 in P. F. WARNER *Cricket* 86 Spofforth's windmill deliveries.

4. *fig.* and *allusively*. † a. A fanciful notion, a crotchet; a visionary scheme or project. *Obs.*

1612 WEBSTER *White Devil* II. ii. 12 Others that raise up their confederate spirits, 'Bout wind-mills. 1622 MASSINGER & DEKKER *Virg. Mart.* II. ii, Thy head is full of Winde-mills. 1639 J. CLARKE *Paræm.* 158 He hath wind-milnes in 's head. 1648 JENKYN *Blind Guide* iii. 39 You have a windmill upon your pate. 1728 EARL OF AILESBUURY *Mem.* (1890) 576 Frize, who had a windmill in her head like her husband. 1749 LAVINGTON *Enthus. Meth. & Papists* (1820) 18 The windmill is indeed in all their heads.

b. In allusions to the story of Don Quixote (see QUIXOTE) tilting at windmills under the delusion that they were giants.

1644 CLEVELAND *Char. Lond. Diurnall* 3 The Quixotes of this Age fight with the Wind-mills of their owne Heads. 1646 LUELYN *Men-Miracles* etc. 84 No doubty Don Quixote, like those that fight, With Warlike Wind mill, and then rise up Knight. a1656 R. COX *Actæon & Diana* 30 The Barber . . vows to make you the windmill, whilst he plays Don Quixot against you furiously. a1658 [see QUIXOTE]. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* IX. iii, Our giants may indeed be only windmills. 1869 LE FANU *Wyvern Myst.* III. 105 What have I to do wi' other folk's windmills? 1894 FARRAR *Christ* 84 *note*, Dr. Edersheim is again—so far as I am concerned—fighting a windmill. 1898 [see TILT v.¹ 1]. 1937 A. CHRISTIE *Death on Nile* xxiv. 238 Rather eccentric . . inclined to tilt at windmills. 1978 P. BRYERS *Cat Trapper* viii. 57 Mike was into the sort of thing I'd like to be doing. . . Tilting at windmills?

c. to *fling* (throw) one's cap over the windmill [= F. *jeter son bonnet par-dessus les moulins*]: to act recklessly and defiantly, fly in the face of convention.

1885 MRS. LYNN LINTON *Chr. Kirkland* xiii, A wild out-ward kind of young fellow, who had enjoyed his youth too freely and flung his cap too far over the windmill. 1920 LOCKE *House of Baltazar* xxii, You're going to make a bolt with Godfrey and throw your cap over the windmills. 1923 F. H. KITCHIN *Divers. Dawson* 305 Throwing their caps over the windmill under the stimulus of war patriotism. † 5. *fig.* (from WIND sb.¹ 10). A cause of 'wind'. 1616 DRAKE *Bibl. Scholast.* 80 A full stomacke is a windemill.

6. An airscrew, esp. one of the kind designed by Cierva for the autogiro. Now *Hist.*

1931 CIERVA Y CADORNIU *Wings of Tomorrow* 88, I designed the blades of the windmill. 1935 *Sun* (Baltimore) 31 Jan. 3/3 This new fast auto gyro will have no propeller. It will tilt its present windmill, gear it to the engine and so

get its lift and forward drive. 1949 *Gloss. Aeronaut. Terms* (B.S.I.) II. 20 *Windmill*, an airscrew designed to produce power by axial transmission relative to the air.

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (See also 2.) a. *attrib.*, as *windmill country*, *hill*, *sail*; moving like windmill-sails, as *windmill arms*; having a radiating form like windmill-sails, as † *windmill battle* (see quot.); (sense 6 above) *windmill aeroplane*, (air) *plane*, *rotor*, *wing*; b. *Comb.*, as *windmill-like*, -*studded* adjs.; windmill brake state *Aeronaut.* (see quot. 1969); windmill-cap, the upper story of a windmill when made movable so as to turn the sails to the wind (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875); windmill-grass, an Australian grass, *Chloris truncata*, with long spreading flower-spikes; windmill plant = TELEGRAPH-plant; windmill-pump, a pump worked by a windmill, a wind-pump; † windmillward, = MILLWARD.

1931 *Statesman* (Calcutta) 5 Dec., The Autogiro or 'windmill' aeroplane has just been put on the public market in this country for the first time. 1928 *Daily Express* 10 Aug. 11/4 A 'windmill' airplane is to fly the channel. 1891 KIPLING *City Dreadf. Nt.* 88 The 'windmill arms and the angry eyes fall. 1639 MARKHAM *Soldier's Gram.* II. 65 This . . forme of Bataille following, which is called by the name of the 'Wind-Mill Bataille, . . standeth every way ready prepared to entertaine fight. 1948 *Jrnl. R. Aeronaut. Soc.* 269/1 In the 'windmill brake state, the rotor is again working in a regular slipstream. 1969 *Gloss. Aeronaut. & Astronaut. Terms* (B.S.I.) v. 19 *Windmill-brake state*, the operating condition of a rotor when the rotor thrust and the axial flow through and outside the rotor disc area are all in the same direction. 1887 HISSEY *Holiday on Road* 83 Approaching Mayfield, we entered upon the heart of a 'windmill country. 1889 MAIDEN *Useful Pl. Australia* 80 *Chloris truncata*, 'Windmill Grass. 1440 *Extr. Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 395 In quodam ludo de ly Haliblude ludendo apud ly 'Wyndmylhill. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 275 A little windemill hill heard by. 1577 LEIGH *Surv.* I ij b, The most notable knownen markes, . . as . . Marlepittes, . . Brokes, . . Windmill hilles, etc. 1587 *Engl. Misc.* (Surtees 1890) 91 The oulde wallis of the toune from the castell-bridge alongeste the 'wyndmylle hole. 1848 tr. *Hoffmeister's Trav. Ceylon*, etc. vii. 277 Their 'wind-mill-like wings. 1927 *Times* 27 Apr. 16/3 It was agreed to use the word . . aerodyne to designate all heavier-than-air craft, in which category the class name for the 'windmill plane appears as gyro plane. 1891 C. ROBERTS *Adrift Amer.* 149 A kind of patent 'windmill-pump. 1944 H. F. GREGORY *Anything Horse can Do* iv. 48 The stick [of the Autogiro] was connected to the hub of the 'windmill rotor by push-pull tubes and cables. 1583 STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* I. (1879) 71 Sometimes they [*sc.* ruffs] are suffered to hang ouer their shoulders, like 'windmil sayles fluttering in the winde. 1759 SMEATON in *Phil. Trans.* LI. 138 In trying experiments on windmill-sails, the wind itself is too uncertain to answer the purpose. 1864 KINGSLEY *Lett. from Biarritz in Life* xxi. (1879) II. 169 The vulture [in the courtyard] has been . . expanding concave wings as big as windmill sails. 1845 FORD *Handbk. Spain* II. 585/2 Corrales under its 'windmill-studded hill. 1314-15 *Cal. Rotul. Chartarum* (1803) 241 Will'us 'Wyndmilward. 1931 CIERVA Y CADORNIU *Wings of Tomorrow* 82 A flying machine with a 'windmill wing.

† c. *quasi-adj.* (*fig.*): Variable, flighty. *Obs.*

a1644 QUARLES *New Distemper* Wks. (Grosart) I. 151/1 Your windmill fancies. 1657 J. SERGEANT *Schism Dispatch* 134 Your vertible and wind-mill uncertainty.

Hence † windmill v.; 'windmiller [cf. G. *windmüller*], the keeper of a windmill; 'windmilly a., abounding in windmills.

a1530 J. HEYWOOD *Wether* (Brandl) 509, I am a 'wynd myller as many mo be. 1654 VILVAIN *Theorem. Theol.* iii. 113 Like Wind-millers, they make every wind serv their turns. 1705 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4170/4 John Childs, . . a Wind-Miller by Trade. 1865 W. WHITE *East. Eng.* II. iii. 40 It 'blew hard enough to winner taters', as a windmiller in Warwickshire once said to a friend of mine. 1863 DICKENS *Uncomm. Trav.* xxvii, A 'windmilly country this.

windmill, ('windmɪl, 'winmɪl), v. [f. the sb.]

† a. *intr.* To turn or change direction like a windmill *obs.* *nonce-ud.*

1694 N. H. LADIES *Dict.* 230/2 Not many days had passed ere this extraordinary Passion Wind-mill'd about to the contrary point of the Compass.

b. *trans.* and *intr.* To move (one's arms or legs) in a manner suggestive of a windmill.

1927 W. E. COLLINSON *Contemp. Eng.* 18 At this school we had our first taste of fighting or rather windmilling with the arms. 1928 *Daily Express* 6 Nov. 8 They . . set about their efforts again, windmilling his arms and legs until he gasped with unconscious exhaustion. 1959 R. COLLIER *City that wouldn't Die* v. 67 Windmilling your arms to keep the blood coursing. 1979 S. BRETT *Comedian Dies* v. 55 Lennie Barber . . seemed to lose his balance and sank back, arms windmilling, on to the side of his chair. 1982 W. BOYD *Ice-Cream War* 4 The colonel windmilled his arms and cracked his knuckles.

c. *intr.* *Aeronaut.* Of the propeller or rotor of an aircraft: to spin unpowered; to windmill down, to descend with the rotor spinning; also *fig.*

1934 *Jrnl. R. Aeronaut. Soc.* XXXVIII. 18 Captain Barnwell said . . that it could be assumed that when an engine was fully throttled the airscrew was windmilling freely. 1942 *Flight* 26 Mar. 296/2 When an airscrew is windmilling . . the effect is exactly opposite to its normal one. 1958 *Listener* 2 Jan. 10/1 The rotor windmilling freely as on an autogiro. 1963 SOBEY & SUGGS *Control of Aircraft & Missile Powerplants* vii. 181 The forward flight of the airframe will cause the engine to windmill and create sufficient airflow through the engine to minimize the probability of a hot start. 1976 *Shooting Times & Country*

Mag. 16-22 Dec. 29/2, I shot at another goose which peeled off, flew fluttering for a hundred yards, and then windmilled down stone dead. 1978 M. BABSON *Tightrope for Three* xxvii. 152 Autorotation was a standard and perfectly safe manoeuvre, the helicopter windmilling down with the pilot still in complete control.

Hence 'windmilling ppl. a. and vbl. sb.

1945 *Jrnl. R. Aeronaut. Soc.* XLIX. 716 With the windmilling propeller the changed air-flow over the aircraft does not impair the handling characteristics. 1959 C. A. MEYER in O. E. Lancaster *Jet Propulsion Engines* 149 A typical curve showing the drag of a turbo-jet engine during windmilling is shown in Fig. C, 11f. 1973 J. WAINWRIGHT *Touch of Malice* 98 The young man was obviously a nutter. . . His slobbering mouth. His windmilling arms. 1978 M. FARREN *Feelies* 33 The other girl was spun, flat on her back with windmilling arms and legs.

Windmill Hill. The name of the site of a causeway camp near Avebury, Wilts., type site of the neolithic age in Britain, used to designate the type of culture, pottery, etc., characteristic of that period.

1930 E. C. CURWEN in *Antiquity* IV. 26 The varieties of pottery . . . have been collectively described as the Windmill Hill type. 1947 J. & C. HAWKES *Prehist. Britain* ii. 40 The mausoleum most fashionable among the Windmill Hill people was the long barrow. 1954 S. PIGGOTT *Neolithic Cultures* ii. 18 The Windmill Hill culture was basically that of cattle-breeders. 1963 *Field Archaeol.* (Ordnance Survey) (ed. 4) 33 While 'Windmill Hill' pottery predominates, most other forms of Neolithic pottery are represented. 1971 *World Archaeol.* III. 239 The Q1 skeleton strongly suggested that a member of the Windmill Hill Culture was cut to pieces by this type of large metal weapon. 1983 P. A. CROWL *Intell. Traveller's Guide to Historic Britain* i. 15 Those large mounds of earth thrown up by people of the Windmill Hill culture to cover their dead.

windo(e, -dok, obs. ff. WINDOW, WINNOCK.

†**windolet.** *Obs.* [f. WINDOW sb. + -LET.] A small window. Also fig.

1592 R. D. *Hypnerotomachia* 9 The same loopes or windolets in diverse places. . . dispersed and set. 1596 R. L[INCH]E *Diella* (1877) 31. When leaden-harted sleepe had shut mine eyes, and close o'redrawn their windolets of light. 1597 MIDDLETON *Wisd. Sol.* vii. 10 The heart-strong health is the soules brightest eye. The heart-sick body heald by beauties wealth, Two sunnie windolets of eithers skie.

†**windolf.** *Obs.* (*E. Anglia.*) In 5 wyndolff(e. [Obscure. The second syllable is prob. related to DELF¹, DELVE v.; cf. E. Anglian *delf*, a drain, ditch.] ? A refuse pit.

14. . . *Bk. Brome* (1886) 162 3e shall enquire 3ef ony mane make ony wyndolse [sic], and ley oney dong in the comyne wey. 1440 *Crt.-roll Gt. Waltham* (Essex) *Manor* 19 May (MS.), Andreas Longe de Plecy fudit regiam viam . . . et inde fecit unum wyndolff ad nocumentum.

windolite ('windəlaɪt). Also Windolite, windowlite. [f. WINDOW sb. + -lite (alteration of LIGHT sb.).] The name of a transparent material serving as a substitute for glass.

A proprietary name in Australia.

1927 *Glasgow Herald* 1 Feb. 6/4 If the pullets are to be confined . . . wide shelter boards and glass, or 'windolite', shutters must be fixed. 1935 *Times Educ. Suppl.* 16 Mar. p. iv/1 A sheet of glass or windolite or a small *cloche* will afford them [sc. plants] shelter. 1951 'N. SHUTE' *Round Bend* 30 An upstairs window was broken and shut up with windolite tacked over the frame.

'**wind-on, a.** *Photogr.* [f. vbl. phr. to wind on: see WIND v.¹ 23.] Designating or pertaining to (part of) the mechanism for advancing a film to the next position.

1963 *Listener* 31 Jan. 198/2 As for the camera . . . the wind-on mechanism jammed. 1976 J. McCURE *Rogue Eagle* vi. 101 Oloefse removed a sliver of film from behind the wind-on spool.

'**windore.** *Obs.* or *dial.* Also 6 wyndoor(e, 7-9 windoor, windor, 8 windoor, windore. [Altered form of WINDOW sb. by association with DOOR sb.: cf. WIND-DOOR.] A window.

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 245 b. The other without any more bones cast me the byrde . . . out at the wyndoor. 1582 STANYHURST *Aeneis* iii. (Arb.) 75 At thee wyndoors, where moonshyne brimlyde dyd enter. 1605 B. JONSON *Volpone* i. v. Neuer do's come abroad, neuer takes ayre, But at a windore. 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* i. ii. 214 Knowing they were of doubtful gender, And that they came in at a Windore. a 1687 PETTY *Pol. Anat.* (1691) 14 Stone-wall Houses, with Chimneys, Doors, Windores, Gardens and Orchards. 1722 in *Rutland Gloss.* (1891), The North Weste windoor. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humphry Cl.* iii. 18 July, One Issabel, a painted harlot, that was thrown out of a windore. 1825 JENNINGS *Obs. Dial. W. Eng., Windor*, a window.

windostar, var. WINNOWSTER *Obs.*

window ('windəʊ), sb. Forms: 3 windo3e, -ohe, -ewe (?), wyndouwe, 3-4 windou, 4 wyndew, wondowe, wyntdouwe, pl. windos, *Sc.* vyndow, 4-6 wyndow(e, -ou, wyndo, 5-6 wyndoe, 6 -oo, wendo, windoe, pl. wyndose, wyndos, vynnдовs, wendoyes, *Sc.* vindo, wondow, 6-7 windo, -owe, 4- window. [ME. *windo3e*, a. ON. *vindauga*, f. *vindr* WIND sb.¹ + *auga* EYE sb.¹ (See also WIND-DOOR, WINDORE, WINDOWN, WINNOCK.) The Scand. word replaced and finally superseded OE. *éagpyrel* EYETHURL, *éagduru*, but the

French-derived FENESTER was in concurrent use down to the beginning of the modern period.]

1. a. An opening in a wall or side of a building, ship, or carriage, to admit light or air, or both, and to afford a view of what is outside or inside.

In ancient buildings it was either left entirely open, furnished with shutters or curtains, or (sometimes) glazed; in modern buildings or vehicles for human occupation, it is usually fitted with sheets of glass (horn, mica, etc.), a frame containing a pane or panes of glass, or glazed sashes, the whole framework being known as the window.

It has been suggested that *widewen* in LAY. 30822 is a miswriting for *widewen* = *windewen* 'windows'.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 50 þe leste þæt 3e euer muwen luieð our þurles, al beon heo lute, þe þar lures lest & nerewest [Titus MS. windohe, al beon heo lute, þe þar lures windohe beo leas & narewest]. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 602 Fowerti dais after ðis, Arches windo3e undon it is. c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg. I.* 241/35 To a derne wyndouwe softeliche seint Nicholas gan gon. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 15035 O walles and windos als þair heftes ouer þai hang. 13. . . *K. Alis.* 6164 (Laud MS.), Wyndewes closed by on gynne. 1362 *LANGL. P. Pl. A.* iii. 52 þer nis noupur Wyndou ne Auter, þat I ne schulde maken opur mende and my nome write. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxii. (Laurentius) 725 His wyndow opnyt he in hy. c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1362 Atte wondowe sche lynes out. c 1450 *Merlin* x. 140 Merlin . . . opened the two wyndowes toward the gardyn, for he wolde that thei hadde lyght ther-yne. 1530 *PALSGR.* 289/1 Wyndowes that be in a house toppe, *lucarne*. 1542 *BOORDE Regyment* viii. Ejb. In the nyght let the wyndowes of your howse, specyallye of your chambre bee closed. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* xvii. 148 In þour glasyn windois. 1566 in *Peacock Engl. Ch. Furniture* (1866) 98 The roode lofte—taken downe and sold. . . to harrie walwyn . . . wech he doth mynd to make windoes of. a 1578 *LINDESAY* (Pittscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 177 The earle Bothwell . . . come out at ane window [v.r. windok] be ane tow. 1592 *SHAKS. Rom. & Jul.* ii. ii. 2 But soft, what light through yonder window breaks? 1632 *MILTON Penseroso* 159 Storied Windows richly dight. 1667 — *P.L.* iv. 191 As a Thief . . . In at the window climbs. 1781 *COWPER Retirement* 498 Trees are to be seen From ev'ry window. 1837 *DICKENS Pickw.* li. The windows were looked out of often enough to justify the imposition of an additional duty upon them. 1853 — *Bleak H.O.* xx, Mr. Guppy has been lolling out of window all the morning. 1855 *Poultry Chron.* III. 507 A window . . . of perforated zinc. 1860 *TYNDALL Glac.* i. xxiii. 162 Against some of the windows . . . the snow was also piled, obscuring more than half their light. 1864 *LEWINS H.M. Mails* 201 [At the last stroke of] six, when all the windows fall like so many swords of Damocles.

b. With qualification denoting (a) the building, room, vehicle, etc. to which the window belongs, as *carriage, church, door, lobby, office, parlour, steeple, stove window, SHOP-WINDOW*, or (b) the form or material, as *double, drop-, French, wheel-window, BAY-, BOW-, GLASS-, ROSE-WINDOW*.

a 1225 [see above]. 1428 [see BAY-WINDOW]. 1447-8 [see GABLE sb.¹ 4]. 1450 *Rolls of Parlt.* v. 182/2 A Gavill Wyndowe over a Cloyster. 1485 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 29 All the glass wyndowes in the saide place. ? c 1495 *Ibid.* 102 Church wyndowis, the vestry wyndowis. 1560, 1680 [see STOVE sb.¹ 6]. 1581 *BURNE in Cath. Tractates* (S.T.S.) 110 At the tolbuith vindo. 1583 *Exchequer Rolls Scot.* XXI. 556 At the chekker hous vindo. 1616 [see DOOR sb. 8]. 1854 *Directory Bath, Wells*, etc. p. ix, When the Letter-box is closed for the despatch of any Mail . . . an extra box is opened in the Lobby Window. 1875 *KNIGHT Dict. Mech., Double-window*, one having two sets of sash, inclosing a body of air as a non-conductor of heat and to deaden noise.

2. *transf.* A window space or opening; *esp.* in phr. *in the window*, now chiefly with reference to the exhibition of notices, advertisements, etc., or the display of goods (as in a shop-window).

to dress a window; cf. *window-dresser, -dressing* in 5e. a 1310 in *Wright Lyric P.* xxxi. 91 In a wyndou ther we stod, we custe us fyfty sythe. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xlv. (Cristine) 19 Incense laid in a wyndo by. 1382 *WYCLIF Acts* xx. 9 Sum 3ong man, Euticus bi name, sittinge on the wyndow [Vulg. super fenestram; ἐπὶ τῇς θυρίδος; 1526 TINDALE in a wyndowe]. 1543 *Galway Arch.* in 10th Rep. *Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 410 No man . . . shall have no kynd of merchandiz in ther houssis shopis or wyndous to be sold to strangers. 1601 *SHAKS. Jul. C.* ii. i. 36 Searching the Window for a Flint, I found This Paper. 1648 BP. HALL *Breathings Devout Soul* xix. 29 Whiles I have but a spider in my window, or a bee in my garden, or a worm under my feet. 1655 *FULLER Ch. Hist.* ix. vi. §46 At Fotheringhay-Castle I have read written by Her in a window, with a pointed Diamond [etc.]. 1757 *Hist. Two Mod. Adventurers* II. 195 The Sashes were thrown up, and they were all sitting in the Windows. 1823 *SCOTT Quentin D.* xix, An old rumaunt . . . which lay beside him in the window. 1835 *DICKENS Sk. Boz, Pawnbroker's Shop*, The articles of stock which are displayed in some profusion in the window. 1861 *Brit. Postal Guide* 1 Jan. 26 A list of the addresses is fixed in the window of the Post Office to which they may have been sent. 1905 *WELLS Kippis* i. ii. §2 Carshot, the window-dresser . . . nagged persistently . . . until the window was done.

b. *goldsmith's window* (*Gold-mining colloq.*): a rich working in which the gold shows abundantly.

1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Miner's Rt.* xiv, This . . . was after we had worked out our 'goldsmith's window', as the adjacent diggers christened it.

3. a. Applied to openings resembling or likened to a window in shape or function.

e.g. †An opening in the side of a vessel, as a salt-cellar, a censor, and the like; †an opening or gap; †a blank space left in a writing; a shutter, valve, door, or similar opening; pl. a pattern of squares made with sugar on bread and butter; soap-bubbles blown between the finger and thumb.

c 1400 *MAUNDEV* (Roxb.) x. 38 þat tabernacle has na wyndowes. ? a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 911 The vesare, the aventaille, enarmede so faire, Voyde with-owt tyne vice, with

wyndowes of syluer. 1459 *Paston Lett.* i. 470, j saltsaler . . . with many wyndowes. 1517 in *Archaeologia* LXI. 84 A tabernacle of golde with vij wyndowes of birell for the sacrament. c 1530 in *Gutch Coll. Cur.* (1781) II. 311 Oone Sensour parcell gilte with the Windowes gilte and thoppar Boolls. 1533 *CRANMER Let. in Misc. Writ.* (Parker Soc.) 249 That your said collation have a window expedient to set what name I will therein. 1549 *CHALONER Erasm. on Folly* Nj, How many wyndowes [orig. *nodos*] they muste make to theyr shooes. 1576 *BAKER Gesner's Jewell of Health* 162 An apt hole . . . which may one whyles shutte, and another whyles open, . . . through the helpe of a certayne plate or wyndowe of yron. 1632 *LITHGOW Trav.* vii. 317 Euery House openeth their Cisterne window, and receiueh as much water, as is able to suffice them till the next Inundation. a 1700 *EVELYN Diary* 30 Sept. 1644, In the piers of the arches are windowes as it were, to receive the water when it is high and full. 1708 W. KING *Cookery* (1709) 81 The Fav'rite Child . . . makes great clutter, Till he has Windows on his Bread and Butter. 1832 L. HUNT *Lines written in May* 15 The merry sap has run up in the bowers, And burst the windows of the buds in flowers. 1859 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* xxxii, Putting the fore-finger and thumb of each hand together, as if he was making 'windows' with soap-suds. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 476 A large, well-made lamp, having side windows. 1894 *BOTTONE Electr. Instr. Making* (ed. 6) 52 The . . . finished fixed sheet, with its 'windows', central aperture, and side strips.

b. *windows of heaven*: openings in the firmament through which rain was thought to pour.

A literalism from Heb. 'arubbôth hashshamayim, which is rendered in the LXX by *καταπαράται τοῦ οὐρανοῦ*, in the Vulgate by *cataraetæ celi* = 'the floodgates of heaven' (Douay version); in the early Wycliffite version 'the goteris of heuene': cf. CATARACT i.

1388 *WYCLIF Gen.* vii. 11 The wyndowis of heuene weren opened, and reyn was maad on erthe. c 1420 *Prymer* 67 [Ps. xlii. 7] Deppe cleip deppe, in þe vois of pi wyndowis. 1611 *COTGR., Ventailles du ciel*, the windowes, or flood-gates, of heauen. 1667 *MILTON P.L.* xi. 849 The deep, who now had stopt His Sluces, as the Heav'n his windows shut. 1866 *MACDONALD Ann. Q. Neighb.* xxx, The rain was worse than ever, . . . the wind was not cold, but the windows of heaven were opened. 1869 *GOULBURN Purs. Holiness* i. 1 [Elijah] shut up the windows of the sky by his prayers, and by his prayers re-opened them.

c. *Anat.* = FENESTRA i.

1615 *CROOKE Body of Man* 603 Betwixt these two windows about the lower hole is there a little knob or protuberation. 1683 *SNAPE Anat. Horse* iii. xiv. (1686) 139 The third is called the Stirrop, . . . and is fixed . . . round that passage that is called the oval window. 1718 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *Relig. Philos.* i. xiii. §7. 249 There are yet two Openings in . . . the Drum [of the ear]: the first of 'em are called the Oval Window. . . The other is called the Round Window. 1879 *CALDERWOOD Mind & Br.* 71.

d. *Geol.* = FENESTER.

1908 H. B. C. SOLLAS tr. *Suess's Face of Earth* III. viii. 350 This term 'window' has been brought into use by our fellow geologists in Switzerland, and we shall adopt it in this work for those cases in which a subadjacent tectonic element is brought to light by erosion. 1927 L. W. COLLET *Structure of Alps* II. i. 26 Three windows occur in the Eastern Alps. 1939, 1954 [see FENESTER]. 1980 *Sci. Amer.* Oct. 131/2 The presence of sedimentary rocks in the windows of the Blue Ridge indicates that the crystalline rocks there overlies sedimentary material.

e. A transparent panel in a package, through which the contents can be seen; *spec.* on an envelope (see *window-envelope*, sense 5e).

1914 [see *window-envelope*, sense 5e below]. 1938 D. E. A. CHARLTON *Art of Packaging* 94 The latest . . . improvement . . . [paper] napkins visible through a cellophane window. 1952 E. J. LABARRE *Dict. Paper & Paper-making* (ed. 2) 90 The use of . . . envelopes . . . with cellophane windows is prohibited by most continental postal administrations. 1977 C. MCCARRY *Secret Lovers* iii. 40 Wilson . . . flipped the plastic windows to make certain that all the papers were still in the wallet.

f. Freq. with capital initial. Mil. code name: = CHAFF sb.¹ 6b.

1942 LD. CHERWELL in *Oxf. Mag.* (1963) 9 May 283/1 If you go into the meeting and try to get 'Window' used, you'll find me and Tizard united against you. 1946 J. P. BAXTER *Scientists against Time* vi. 93 The British used Window for the first time over Hamburg on the night of July 24-25, 1943. 1947 [see CHAFF sb.¹ 6b]. 1962 A. P. ROWE *Let. in R. V. Jones Most Secret War* (1978) iv. 41 What I want to emphasize is that from no one at no time did I hear a breath of anything like window. 1963 D. IRVING *Destruction of Dresden* iii. iii. 135 The crews of these new bomber formations had been cascading Window into the air in copious amounts. 1980 M. MIDDLEBROOK *Battle of Hamburg* viii. 125 It is not known which aircraft dropped the first bundle of Window.

g. *Computers.* (i) The screen of a VDU regarded as a means of displaying part of a drawing stored in a computer; the part of a drawing, program, etc., chosen for display.

1966 *Computer Jrnl.* IX. 21/1 The 10-inch square display screen . . . is treated as a 'window' on to a very large drawing board. *Ibid.* 22/1 The display 'window' can be moved one grid space in any of four directions. 1968 *IBM Systems Jrnl.* VII. 163 A subsequent computation can determine the point at which any line crosses the edge of the window. 1982 J. E. SCOTT *Introd. Interactive Computer Graphics* vii. 124 The size and location of the window are expressed in user coordinates because the window is specified in relation to the drawing . . . The dimensions and center point of the viewport are expressed in normalized screen coordinates. (ii) = VIEWPORT 2.

1974 *AFIPS Conf. Proc.* XLIII. 251/1 The display screen is divisible into rectangular, possibly overlapping 'windows'. 1980 W. NEWMAN in C. E. VANDONI *Eurographics* 80, 4 NAN . . . uses overlapping windows, in this case in colour but with contents restricted to text. 1983 *MicroComputer Printout* Sept. 57/2 A similar, but more

flexible system allows you to split the screen into two windows for viewing different sections of the model at once. **1985** *Acorn User* Feb. 37/2 Windows can be created which can then be rearranged to provide any print format required.

4. a. fig. Applied to the senses or organs of sense, esp. the eyes, regarded as inlets or outlets to or from the mind or soul (also *transf.* in Shaks., applied to the eyelids).

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* cxviii. 37 We syn wip oure eghen when we couayte the pyngge pat we see, and swa ded cummys in at pe wyndous of oure wittes. **c 1386** CHAUCER *Melib.* ¶456 Thou hast suffred hem entre in to thyn herte wilfully by the wyndowes of thy body. **1481** CAXTON *Reynard* xl. (Arb.) 109 Whan ye here after slepe ye nede not to shette but one wyndowe where another muste shette two. **1544** PHAER *Regim. Lyfe* (1553) Bviii. The eyes. are the windowes of the minde, for bothe ioye and anger. are seen. through them. **1588** SHAKS. *L.L.L.* v. ii. 848 Behold the window of my heart, mine eie. **1592** — *Ven. & Ad.* 482 Her two blew windowes faintly she vpheaueth. **1594** — *Rich. III.* v. iii. 116 Ere I let fall the windowes of mine eyes. **1652** BENLOWES *Theoph.* iii. xxx. Those Lights, the radiant Windows of her Minde. **1860** *Slang Dict.* (ed. 2). *Windows*, the eyes, or 'peepers'. **1889** RIDER HAGGARD *Cleopatra* (II. iii.) in *Illustr. Lond. News* 23 Feb. 236/3 She. opened the windows of her eyes.

b. fig. and in allusive or proverbial expressions. *to go (be thrown, etc.) out of the window* (U.S. without of), to be abandoned, discarded, or made worthless; also (U.S.) *to be out the window*. *to open a window to*: to give an opportunity or occasion for (after Terence *Heaut.* iii. i. 72 [481] quantam fenestram ad nequitium patefeceris). *to throw the house out at (the) window* [= F. *jeter la maison par la fenêtre*]: to make a great commotion, turn everything topsy-turvy. *to come in by the window* [= F. *entrer par la fenêtre*], to come in stealthily.

c 1420 Prymer 12 pou art maad wyndowe of heuene, pat soreuful men entre as steris. **14..** *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 187 Loke ow't at the wyndows of kynnesse. **1523** [COVERDALE] *Old God* (1534) G. Whan Pipine. sawe so great a wyndowe opened, and so great an occasyon gyuen to hym self, for to inuade the realme. **1551** CROWLEY *Pleas. & Payne* 350 And youe were gladd to take them in, Bycause you knewe that they dyd knowe That youe came in by the wyndowe. **c 1586** C TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* cxxxix. i. Yea closest closett of my thought Hath open windowes to thine eyes. **1589** NASHE *Counterfesse* Wks. (Grosart) I. 128 To open such a windowe to the deuill, as they were presently giuen ouer as a pray to the iawes of hell. **1603** HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 129 For such a fault as this, which of us here would not have cried out that the walles should have burst withall, and beene readie to have throwen the house out of window? **1611, 1844** [see HOUSE sb. 1 19]. **1621** T. WILLIAMSON *Tr. Goulart's Wise Vieillard* 73 Sometimes shee is all for belly cheare and banquettings, and as we say, throwes the house out at the windowes. **1639** J. CLARKE *Paræm.* 28 Love creeps in at window, but goes out at doore. **1687** BOYLE *Martyrd. Theodora* vi. 110 The wounds that we quietly suffer to pierce our Breasts, would open you Windows into our hearts. **1809** MALKIN *Gil Blas* vii. xi. ¶6 The enraged marquis. . . pounding Laura's fair face to a jelly with his fist, and turning her whole house out at window. **1879** FARRAR *St. Paul* II. 90 His Second Epistle to the Corinthians opens a window into the very emotions of his heart. **1939** H. L. ICKES *Secret Diary* (1954) III. 3 Steve Early. . . said that the 'brain trust was out of the window'. **1945** *Sun* (Baltimore) 1 Oct. 4-0/3 Production of specialty goods—such as birthday and wedding cakes—was 'out the window'. **1946** *Ibid.* 6 July 4/1 As a guide, past experience went out the window early this year when the number of retirements suddenly increased. **1964** S. M. MILLER in I. L. Horowitz *New Sociol.* 300 The concept of 'unemployables' was largely thrown out the window. **1968** F. LUNDBERG *Rich & Super-Rich* iv. 173 As FDR himself said, 'the New Deal is out the window'. **1969** G. DONALDSON *Fifteen Men* xi. 184 'The Uncle Louis kissing babies went out of the window this afternoon', said Green. **1977** *Chicago Tribune* 2 Oct. xiii. 24/3 The old rule-of-thumb of putting insulation with a resistance rating of 19 in your attic (R-19) is 'out the window'.

c. A continuous range of electromagnetic wavelengths for which the atmosphere (or some other medium) is relatively transparent.

1949 *Bull. Amer. Meteorol. Soc.* XXX. 233/1 Dr. Buettner indicated as one problem the measurement of solar radiation near 0.21 µ, where absorption due to ozone decreases and that due to oxygen increases, forming a 'window' in the solar spectrum. **1969** *Guardian* 6 Feb. 9 The earth's infra-red 'windows' are at wavelengths of 1 to 2 and 8 to 14 microns. **1970** *Nature* 10 Oct. 158/1 This particular solvent is transparent in the region of the neodymium laser wavelength (1.06 µm) and. . . the absorption spectrum of the resulting solution exhibits a 'window' in this region. **1974** *Sci. Amer.* Apr. 71/3 The most recently opened window on the galactic center is at X-ray wavelengths.

d. = *launch window* s.v. LAUNCH sb. 1 7; *weather window*: see WEATHER sb. 7. Chiefly U.S.

1965 [see *launch window* s.v. LAUNCH sb. 1 7]. **1967** *N. Y. Times* 18 Oct. 30/1 The Soviet and American vehicles flew to Venus close together because both were fired during one of the periodic 'windows' for such shots. **1968** *Sci. Jnl.* Dec. 17/2 Between February and April next year the 'window' will be open for launchings to Mars. **1973** *Times* 15 May 1/5 There will be tomorrow only a 10-minute 'window'—the period in which the rocket must be launched to reach the appropriate orbit. **1977** A. PECCEI *Human Quality* ix. 190 This is therefore the time to act. The seventies offer what in space exploration is called a 'window', an opportunity, and probably one of the last ones, for us to launch such an undertaking.

e. Hence used more widely in sense 'a period of time', in phrases *window of opportunity* (or *vulnerability*), esp. with reference to the arms race. orig. U.S.

1979 *Hearings U.S. Congr. Sen. Comm. Armed Services* 1. 168 We are facing a window of ICBM vulnerability during the period of 1982 to 1986. **1980** *N. Y. Times* 22 Sept. A27/2 To intimidate the Americans with a Soviet 'window of opportunity' to knock out Minuteman missiles. **1981** *Ibid.* 3

Oct. 13/1 Mr. Reagan. . . enlarged upon the meaning of his oft-repeated theme about the 'window of vulnerability'. . . The term is generally used to mean the time period in which American land-based missiles are believed to be vulnerable to a surprise Soviet attack. Today, Mr. Reagan said it also applied to Soviet superiority at sea and in Europe. **1982** *Nature* 4 Mar. 5/1 Environmentalists and labour union groups are seizing this 'window of opportunity' between the failure of the last industry challenge and the eventual tightening up of administrative requirements to get as much information on existing pesticides. . . as they can. **1985** *Sunday Times* 16 June 60/8 Regional bank bosses know that. . . they must rush to acquire their neighbours, to make the most of their window of opportunity.

5. attrib. and Comb. a. Simple attrib., as *window-arch*, † *-band* (BAND sb. 1 3), † *-bay* (cf. BAY-WINDOW), † *-blind* (BLIND sb. 2), † *-carpet* (CARPET sb. 1), † *-casement*, † *-clasp*, † *-circle*, † *-curtain*, † *-cushion*, † *-flower*, † *-frame* (FRAME sb. 1), † *-glass* (GLASS sb. 1 1, 7), † *-grate*, † *-hanging(s)*, † *-head*, † *-hole*, † *-hook*, † *-jamb*, † *-leaves* (pl.; LEAF sb. 1 12b), † *-nail*, † *-opening*, † *-pole*, † *-recess*, † *-sash* (SASH sb. 2 1), † *-shade*, † *-shaft*, † *-shelf*, † *-slab*, † *-slit*, † *-square*, † *-sticker* (STICKER 5a), † *-strap*, † *-stuff*, † *-ticket*, † *-tracery*, † *-unit*, † *-void* (VOID sb. 1 3a). b. Objective, as *window-breaking* (in quot. attrib.), † *-smashing*, † *-veiling*, *window-breaker*, † *-mender*, † *-smasher*, † *-surveyor*. c. Adverbial, as *window-broken* adj.; † *window-gazer*. d. Appositive, 'that is a window', consisting chiefly of glass, as *window door*, *wall*.

1835 R. WILLIS *Archit. Mid. Ages* vi. 57 The. . . *window-arch side. **1419** *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) III. 145 In iij par. de dorbandes, j wyndoband. **1551** *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* X. 34, xl pair of wyndo bandis. **1861** ROSSETTI *Let.* June (1965) II. 406, I offered to paint figures of some kind on the blank spaces of one of the gallery *window bays. **1920** D. H. LAWRENCE *Women in Love* i. 3 Ursula and Gudrun Brangwen sat. . . in the window-bay of their father's house. . . working and talking. **1730** FIELDING *Tom Thumb* ii. ii, Hal the *Window-Blinds are gone, A Country Dance of Joys is in your Face. **1865** DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* iii. ii. The yellow window-blind of Pubsey and Co. was drawn down upon the day's work. **1903** 'O. HENRY' in *McClure's Mag.* July 333/1 We'll get that cannon. . . and fire some *window-breakers with it. **1944** BLUNDEN *Cricketer* Country i. 14 Marbles, tops of various shape and various function—the window-breaker never was so bad as his name, the peg-top always looked more sinister. **1784** COWPER *Tiroc.* 228 His wild excursions, *window-breaking feats. **1861** AGNES STRICKLAND *Old Friends* Ser. II. 71 The notorious young outlaw. . . of window-breaking fame. **1859** HELPS *Friends in C.* Ser. II. I. 11 *Window-broken, rat-deserted. . . houses. **1575** in *Archaeologia* XXX. 10, v *windowe carpetts of Brame. **1683** MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* Printing x. ¶10 The Fore-end of the Tympan is made of Iron. . . This Iron is somewhat thinner and narrower than an ordinary *Window-casement. **1865** G. M. HOPKINS *Poems* (1967) 34 The towers musical, the quiet-walled grove, The *window-circles. **a 1865** MRS. GASKELL *Wives & Dau.* xxxiv. (1867) 339 The *window-clasp was unused and stiff. **1600** in W. F. SHAW *Mem. Eastry* (1870) 225 Three *window curtains. **1713** BERKELEY *Guardian* No. 49 ¶8 My Couches, Beds, and Window-Curtains are of Irish Stuff. **1870** DICKENS *Edwin Drood* i. Through the ragged window-curtain, the light of early day steals in from a miserable court. **1617** in W. F. SHAW *Mem. Eastry* (1870) 227 Fowre *window cushions. **1926** D. H. LAWRENCE *Plumed Serpent* xi. 181 Ramón. . . closed the *window-doors. **1818** KEATS *Endymion* II. 28 Juliet leaning Amid her *window-flowers. **1703** *Window-frame [see WINDOW-SILL]. **1804** W. L. BOWLES *Spir. Discov.* v. 51 When winds of winter shake the window-frame. **1837** DICKENS *Pickw.* xi. A tear trembled on his sentimental eyelid like a rain-drop on a window-frame. **1574** HELLOWES *Guevara's Fam. Ep.* (1577) 304 Her sonnes gluttonous, her daughters *windowgazers. **1634-5** BRERETON *Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) 89 The glass-works, where is made *window-glass. **1709** *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4538/4, 60 Cases of White Normandy Window-Glass. **1844** DICKENS *Mart. Chuz.* xii. [He] let down the window-glass. **1847** MARY HOWITT *Ballads* 6 The ivy creeps o'er the window-glass. **1892** 'H. S. MERRIMAN' *Slave of Lamp* xvi, That super-innocent old man with the white hair who wears window-glass spectacles. . . They struck me as window-glass—quite flat. **1813** SCOTT *Trium.* III. xix, A wicket *window-grate. **1840** DICKENS *Old Cur. Shop* lii, The tattered *window-hangings. **1730** T. BOSTON *Mem.* viii. (1899) 169, I espied above the *window-head two little old books. **1835** R. WILLIS *Archit. Mid. Ages* vi. 65 A row of small sunk pannels upon the space between the dripstone and the window head. **1884** 'MARK TWAIN' *Huck. Finn* xxxiv. 351 When we got to the cabin, we took a look. . . and on. . . the north side we found a square *window-hole. **1897** MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 558 There are a mass of black heads sticking through the window hole. **1659** [Harvard] *College Book* 1, in *Publ. Colonial Soc. Mass.* (1925) XV. 10 It[em] for *window-hooks. . . —04[d.]. **1932** BLUNDEN *Face of England* 130 One bird came to the window-hook. **1727** E. LAURENCE *Duty of Steward* 158 Door-Jaumes and *Window-Jaumes. **1748** RICHARDSON *Clarissa* IV. li. 302 The slit-deal lining of the window-jamb. **1466** Churchw. Acc., Yatton (Som. Rec. Soc.) 104 For angnyng of *wyndow-levys in the treser-howse vjd. **1547** *Inv. of Guarderoles* (MS. Harl. 1419, lf. 58), Twoo wyndowe leves. **1758** BORLASE *Nat. Hist. Cornw.* 57 In the Smith's shop the window-leaves shook, and the slating of the house cracked. **1350** in *Riley Mem. Lond.* (1868) 262, 2,600 de *wyndounail, . . . 23,000 de rofnail. **1502-3** *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* II. 355 For xij^e windo nales quihik zeid to the wrichtis in Cambusnethane. **a 1878** SIR G. SCOTT *Lect. Archit.* (1879) I. 136 The walls. . . are replaced by *window-openings decorated with stained glass. **1922** W. B. YEATS *Trembling of Veil* i. xix. 64 A fellow-theosophist once found him hanging from the *window-pole. **1984** *New Yorker* 24 Dec. 44/2 Dusk was gathering in the tall windows that needed a window pole to close. **1838** DICKENS *O. Twist* xxxvi, Oliver walked into the *window-recess. **1806** J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* x. §61 The machinery of the *window-sash abruptly striking work. **1837** DICKENS

Pickw. xxxvi, Throwing up the window-sash. **1810** *Hull Improv. Act* 55 Any. . . *window-shades, blinds, or other projections. **1921** *Daily Colonist* (Victoria, B.C.) 20 Oct. 7/4 If you want window shades for your home, we will be pleased to send our men and give you an estimate. **1978** S. BRILL *Teamsters* iv. 127 Though darkened by the drawn windowshade it was a comfortable room. **1918** D. H. LAWRENCE *New Poems* 54 Petals heaped between the *window-shafts In a drift die there. **1884** BLACK *Jud. Shakespeare* iii, Did I leave it on the *window-shelf? **1769-91** P. WHALLEY *Northamptonshire* II. 185/1 Chimney pieces and *window slabs of this stone. **1880** 'MARK TWAIN' *Tramp Abr.* xlii. 490 It [sc. the Castle of Chillon] has romantic *window-slits that let in generous bars of light. **1955** J. R. R. TOLKIEN *Return of King* vi. i. 184 A door on his left faced a window-slit looking out westward. **1909** *Daily Chron.* 15 Dec. 7/7 The police state that the *window smashers were not local men. **1907** *Westm. Gaz.* 12 Dec. 9/4 Much *window-smashing took place. **1699** J. WALLIS *Let.* 10 Oct. in *Private Corresp. Samuel Pepys* (1926) I. 189 The sun-shine does appear with the distinct figure of the *window-squares upon the ground within doors. **1956** D. GASCOYNE *Night Thoughts* 24 Behind the rows of window-squares. **1963** *Daily Tel.* 3 Dec. 15/4 A new *window-sticker and poster campaign. **1888** BARRIE *When a Man's single* v. As he drew near his destination his hands fidgeted with the *window strap [of a carriage]. **1591** in *Archaeologia* LXIV. 369 Hewinge and woorkinge of ix foots of playne *windoe stuffe for the stayres. **1750** in *Jnl. Friends Hist. Soc.* (1918) 23 The *Window Surveyor came. **1881** *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 20 *Window Ticket-Maker. **a 1878** SIR G. SCOTT *Lect. Archit.* (1879) I. 276 The development and progressive changes in *window-tracery. **1962** *Listener* 11 Jan. 63/2 The endlessly repeated small *window-units of multi-storey buildings tend to be both boring and overpowering. **1828** MISS MITFORD *Village Ser.* III. *My Godmothers*, She seemed to consider this *window-veiling as a point of propriety. **1844** H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* I. 213 The sink. . . should be of polished free-stone, made to fit the *window-void. **1970** *Globe & Mail* (Toronto) 25 Sept. 34/7 (Adv.), Recreation room. . . with 'window wall' walkout to patio and garden. **1977** *Chicago Tribune* 2 Oct. xii. 10/2 Two large terraces which can be entered through window walls provide a breathtaking lake view.

e. Special combs.: *window-bar*, (a) any of a set of bars fitted in a window to prevent ingress and egress or accidental fall (in quot. 1607 *fig.* in reference to open work in a dress); (b) a bar to secure window-shutters when closed; (c) a mullion; *window bill*, a poster or advertisement for display in a window; *window-board*, (a) a shutter; (b) a wooden window-ledge; *window bottom dial*. = WINDOW-SILL; *window-box*, a box placed outside a window, in which ornamental plants are cultivated; *window-card*, a card to be displayed in a window; *window-case* [CASE sb. 2 5], a window-frame; *window-cleaner* (see quot. 1858); *windowclerk*, = *window-man* (a); † *window-clothes*, window-curtains; *window display*, a display of goods in a shop-window; *window-dress* [back-formation f. *window-dresser*, etc.], (a) *intr.* to arrange and display goods to the best advantage in a shop-window; (b) *trans.* (in quot. *fig.*: see *window-dressing* (c)); *window-dresser*, one whose business it is to arrange and display goods to the best advantage in a shop-window; also *fig.* (see next, c); *window-dressing*, † (a) the fittings and ornaments of a window; (b) the dressing (DRESS v. 8) of a window with goods attractively displayed; (c) *fig.* a display made in such a manner as to give a falsely favourable impression of the facts; esp. the arrangement of a balance-sheet so as to suggest that the business concerned is more prosperous than it is; † *window-dropper*, one who drops (stealthily) from a window; *window-envelope*, an envelope with an opening or transparent 'panel' in the front through which the address is visible; † *window fine*, ? a fine exacted from non-burgesses for exposing goods for sale in their windows; *window gardening*, the cultivation of plants in window spaces or on window-sills; *window garden*, (a display of plants in) flower pots or boxes on a window-ledge or sill; *window-gazing*, staring at the displays in shop-windows, window shopping (see *window-gazer*, sense 5 c); hence (as back-formation) *window-gaze v. intr.*; *window guidance*, a form of credit rationing practised by Japanese banks; *window-jack*, 'a scaffold for carpenters, painters, or cleaners, enabling them to reach the outside of the window' (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875); *window-ledge*, = WINDOW-SILL; † *window-lid* [LID sb. 1 b], a window-shutter; *window-lights pl.* [LIGHT sb. 10], window-panes, esp. as the subject of tax; the tax itself; † *window-look*, a look or glance through a window; *window-man*, (a) a man formerly employed at a post-office to attend at the window to receive packets and answer inquiries; (b) a salesman who sells from the window (not from the counter); *window-martin*, = *window swallow*; *window-mirror*, a mirror fixed outside a window and adjustable so as to reflect the image of objects in the street

(Knight 1875); †window-money, = *window-tax*; window-mount *v.*, to fix in a mount in the manner of panes of glass in a window; window operation = *window guidance*; (see quot. 1965); window-oyster, an oyster of the family *Placunidæ*, so called from its translucent shell; window-pane, (a) see *PANE* *sb.*¹ 6; (b) *U.S.*, see quot. 1873; (c) *slang*, a monocle; (d) in full, *window-pane check*: a kind of large check pattern on clothes; a single square of this; also *window-pane checked a.*; window-peeper, a surveyor whose duty it was to inspect the assessment of window-tax; window plant, (a) a plant grown indoors in the light of a window; (b) any of several succulent plants of the genera *Mesembryanthemum*, *Lithops*, or closely related genera, which grow almost buried in the ground, with only a transparent section of a leaf visible above it; †window-post, any of the vertical parts of a window architrave; window-screen, (a) an ornamental device of any kind for filling a window-opening, e.g. lattice-work or stained glass; (b) *U.S.*, a screen of mesh designed to be put across a window-opening to admit air whilst excluding insects, etc.; window-seat, a seat fixed under a window or windows, in a room usually in a recess or bay, often upholstered; also a seat by the window in a train, bus, aeroplane, etc.; †window-set *pa. pple.*, set or furnished with windows; window-shell, = *window-oyster*; window-shop *v. intr.*, to go from shop to shop to look at the goods displayed in shop-windows without buying; freq. as *pres. ppl.*; also in extended use and *fig.*; hence window-shopper; window-shopping *ppl. a.* and *vbl. sb.*; †window-shut = window-shutter, a shutter used to darken or secure a window-opening; †window-song, a serenade; window-stone, a stone window-sill; window-stool [*STOOL sb.* 9] = WINDOW-SILL; window swallow, the house martin; window table, a table (pleasantly situated) by the window in a restaurant, etc.; window-tax, a duty levied upon windows, imposed in 1695 and abolished in 1851; window-trimmer *U.S.* = *window-dresser*; window-trimming *U.S.* = *window-dressing*; also *fig.*; window-washer (chiefly *U.S.*), (a) = *screen-washer* *s.v.* SCREEN *sb.*¹ 9a, (b) one whose job is to wash windows, a window-cleaner; also window-washing *vbl. sb.*; window winder: in a motor vehicle, a mechanism for opening and shutting the (side-)windows; †window work, lattice-work used to screen window-openings (in quot. *fig.* of open lace-work); the structure of a window (in quot. *fig.* of that of the eye); †window yeld [*YIELD sb.*¹], see quot.

1607 SHAKS. *Timon* iv. iii. 116 Those Milke pappes That through the *window Barne [*sic*] bore at mens eyes. 1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* i. 14 Only fit for sleight uses, as Window-Bars, Brewers-Bars, Fire-Bars, &c. 1833 TENNYSON *May Queen* III. x. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* lii. The massive iron window-bars and iron-bound door. 1868 *Era Almanack* p. xi. Theatrical posters, *window bills, show cards, portraits, &c. 1965 *Spectator* 29 Jan. 124/1 Window-bills went up in streets where they had never formerly been seen. 1628 *Maitl. Club Misc.* III. 372 The *window broths hie and low to be layit over. [1683; see WINDER *sb.*¹ 17. . *Dainty Davie* ii. in *Herd's Scott. Songs* (1776) II. 215 It was in and through the window-broads, And a' the tirlie wirlies o'd. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. 91 Eight window-boards, and shelves and work to pantries. 1823 *Joanna Baillie's Coll. Poems* 295 The seam'd window-board betrays Interior light. [1877 Window-bottom: see WINDER *sb.*¹ 1914 D. H. LAWRENCE *Prussian Officer* 162 The daffodils in the white *window-bottoms shone across the room. 1960 *Times* 24 Oct. 12/6 Altar and every window-bottom would be bright with rosy apples. 1895 'MARK TWAIN' in *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 144/1 A watering-pot in her hand and *window-boxes of red flowers under its spout. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 Aug. 1/3 You are worthy of a sort of window-box cultivation. 1905 *Window-card [see CUT-OUT *sb.* 2c]. 1965 F. SARGESON *Memoirs of Peon* v. 115 There was a window-card that advertised board and lodging. 1663 GERBIER *Counsel* 44 Well proportioned *window-cases. 1766 ENTICK *London* IV. 185 With window-cases, handsomely ornamented. 1807 W. IRVING *Salmag.* No. 5 (1811) I. 107 And can it be this book so base Is laid on every window-case? 1884 [see FACING *vbl. sb.* 6b]. 1858 SIMMONS *Dict. Trade, *Window-cleaner*, a frame for placing outside of a window, to sit or stand on when cleaning the window-panes; a person who contracts for cleaning windows. 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 52 Painter. Glazier. . . Window Cleaner. 1864 LEWINS *H.M. Mails* 239 In larger towns where one clerk is specially retained for these duties, he is known as the *window clerk', as it devolves upon him to answer all inquiries. 1584-5 SIR R. SADLER *St. Papers* (1809) III. 247 Some dornix to make. . . *window clothes for her chambre. 1897 *Sears, Roebuck Catal.* 689/1 Store Lamp. . . Just the thing to throw light on a *window display. 1930 *Daily Express* 6 Oct. 9/2 A blaze of warm, glowing colours, elaborate window displays. . . usher in the autumn shopping season. 1962 E. SNOW *Other Side of River* (1963) lxx. 538 One corner store nearby offered a neat window display of ready-made, well-tailored children's garments. 1913 J. M. KEYNES *Indian Currency & Finance* vii. 205 It is

scarcely possible. . . that they should *window-dress' their balance sheets. 1928 *Britain's Industr. Future* (Liberal Industr. Inquiry) 417 The common practice of 'window-dressing' the published statements by making them refer to the figures of specially selected days instead of the daily averages should be made illegal. 1957 A. C. L. DAY *Outl. Monetary Economics* xiii. 177 Each of the four of the Big Five banks which window-dressed its balance sheet made it up on a different day of the week from the others. 1971 D. CLARK *Sick to Death* iii. 56 Nobody will let us near a shop to window dress on Saturdays. . . But on Sundays we get a free run because the shops are shut. 1980 *Daily Tel.* 24 Sept. 17/8 The cheque was part of an elaborate fraud designed to 'window-dress' the balance sheet of a troubled banking company. 1865 *General Advertiser* (Dublin) 9 Dec., Wanted for the Drapery, a first-class, pushing Sales-woman; must be a good *window dresser. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 22 July 8/1 The London and Westminster Bank is not one of the window-dressers. 1790 *Act 30 Geo. III*, c. 53 §58 Copings, Cornices, Facies, Door, and *Window Dressings. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib.* II. x. 13 These shutters may be fixed at small cost, and without interfering with the existent window dressings. 1895 *Daily News* 17 Oct. 5/4 Prizes are to be given to tradesmen for the best display of what is called window dressing. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 24 Sept. 6/1 [The finances of Chili] are. . . in a chaotic state despite all the elegant window-dressing. 1909 *Ibid.* 9 Mar. 2/1 The promise of high duties against other countries deceives nobody: it is only political window-dressing. 1753-4 RICHARDSON *Grandison* VI. 65 The hedge and ditch-leapers, the river-fordlers, the *window-droppers. 1914 *Maclean's Mag.* Dec. 124/1 Use B-E *window envelopes. 1923 *Glasgow Herald* 7 Apr. 14 The use of 'window' envelopes for the transmission of medical records. 1529 *Nottingham Rec.* III. 180, xiii d. prole *wyndow fyne. 1884 G. W. CABLE *Dr. Sevier* xii. 81 The asylumed window of 'St. Anna's' could glance down into it over their poor little *window-gardens. 1980 *News & Observer* (Raleigh, N. Carolina) 28 Oct. WA-2/7 Additions, solariums, greenhouses, window gardens, decks. 1824 LOUDON *Greenhouse Comp.* I. 256 Those who wish further details as to plants in rooms, or what the French and Germans call *window gardening. 1959 *Spectator* 21 Aug. 218/3 As you walk the busy streets and *window-gaze. 1968 *Daily Mirror* 20 Aug. 9/4 Take a look at the men's wear section in the chain stores; window-gaze in any man's shop. 1949 M. STEEN *Twilight on Floods* IV. vi. 614 Up the Haymarket to Regent Street for an orgy of *window-gazing. 1961 R. GRAVES *More Poems* 42 Window-gazing, at one time or another In the course of travel. 1964 *Econ. Picture of Japan* (Keidanren) IV. 53 For several years after the War, the financial policy of the Bank of Japan was characterized more or less by a qualitative control policy or a selective loans system or a so-called *window guidance'. 1977 *Ann. Rep. Bank Internat. Settlements* 60 In Japan the authorities kept 'window guidance' ceilings on bank credit expansion in force as a precaution. 1836-7 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Hospital Patient*, The miserable shadow of a man. . . which crouches beneath a *window-ledge, to sleep where there is some shelter from the rain. a 1697 AUBREY in *Thoms Anecd.* (1839) 96 Whereas his former physician shut up his windows, . . he did open his *window lids, and let in the light. 1711 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4876/3 *Window Lights stopped up after Michaelmas last. . . are subject to the Duty on Window Lights. 1774 FOOTE *Cozeners* I. (1778) 10 The collector of the window-lights in Falkland's Island. 1801 T. PECK *Norwich Directory* 4 Surveyor of the Window-Lights, &c. for Yarmouth District. a 1586 SIDNEY *Eclouges* I. Wks. 1922 II. 217 These shepherds two. . . Whose mettall stiff he [*sc.* Cupid] knew he could not bende With hear-say, pictures or a *window looke. 1708 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* II. III. (ed. 22) 714 Officers of the Inland-Office. . . *Window-Man, 60l. 1718 *Ibid.* (ed. 25) 165 A List of the Officers of the General-Post-Office in Lombard-Street. . . Window-Man for the By-Days. 1850 *Q. Rev.* June 113 The Postmaster-General, by printed 'Notices' . . . remonstrated with the public; his recommendations, however, were not only unheeded, but the window-men, who. . . repeated them, were. . . insulted. 1887 *Daily News* 6 July 8/7 Cheesemongers. . . Wanted, by Advertiser, Situation as Manager, Windowman, or Scalesman. 1860 TRISTRAM *Gt. Sahara* vi. 100 The swallow and the *window-martin thread the lanes. 1700 O. HEYWOOD *Diaries* (1885) IV. 228 Naylor Hopkin came for *window-mony, 5 sh. 1759 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* I. xxiii. If the fixture of Momus's glass in the human breast. . . had taken place, . . This foolish consequence would certainly have followed, — That the very wisest. . . of us all. . . must have paid window-money every day of our lives. 1900 *10th Century* Apr. 619 Many years later we had them [*sc.* drawings] *window-mounted with great care. 1961 *Monthly Econ. Rev.* (Bank of Japan) Sept. 9/1 The practice of the Bank of Japan in giving guidance to client commercial banks regarding their fund position and operation. . . has come to be. . . known as *window operation'. 1965 H. T. PATRICK in W. W. Lockwood *State & Econ. Enterprise in Japan* xii. 609 In 1954. . . and especially in 1957 and 1961-1962, the Bank of Japan had to resort to direct credit rationing. . . The term for this is *madoguchi shidō*. The Bank of Japan does not like to have this technique called credit rationing, referring to it instead as 'window operation', a more literal translation. 1854 A. ADAMS, etc. *Man. Nat. Hist.* 159 *Window-Oysters (*Placunidæ*). 1819 KEATS *Eve of St. Mark* 49 With forehead 'gainst the *window-pane. 1873 T. GILL *Catal. Fishes E. Coast N. Amer.* 17 *Lophopsetta maculata*. . . Spotted turbot; window-pane (New Jersey); sand flounder (New York). 1876 BRIDGES *Growth of Love* xlv, And hope behind the dusty window-pane Watches the days go by. 1923 J. MANCHON *Le Slang* 338 *Window-pane*, . . . un monocle. [1935; see WINDER *sb.*¹ 1966 WODEHOUSE *Plum Pie* ix. 249 Freddie no longer wore the monocle. . . His father-in-law had happened to ask him one day would he please remove that damned window-pane from his eye. 1966 *Guardian* 28 Sept. 3/3 Trends towards large windowpane checks. 1969 'O. BLEECK' *Brass Go-Between* (1970) v. 60, I had the chance to admire his fawn trousers with their burnt orange windowpanes. 1973 *Country Life* 10 May 1330/1 Window pane checked Voile shirt £10.50. 1978 L. BLOCK *Burglar in Closet* i. 4 My suit was a tropical worsted, a windowpane check in light and dark gray. c 1735 in J. D. LEADER *Rec. Sheffield* (1897) 362 Paid Mr. John Smith for the presents of knives, &c., made to the *window peeper, 10s. 6d. 1828 *Craven Gloss*, 1863 MRS. GASKELL *Let.* 5 Dec. (1966) 720, I have been waiting. . . for my cousin Mr. Holland to bring me in his list of subscriptions to Mr Parkes' 'booklet' on

*window-plants. 1895 C. COLLINS (*title*) Greenhouse and window plants. [1951 *Dict. Gardening* (R. Hort. Soc.) III. 1290/2 Some species. . . normally grow buried in the soil with only the upper surface of the leaves exposed; this upper surface is translucent. . . such plants are known as 'windowed plants'.] 1971 *Stand. Encycl. S. Afr.* III. 652/2 'The amazingly adapted 'window-plant', . . almost entirely embedded in the ground, only the transparent apical part of the corpusculum being exposed to the air, allowing light to enter the body of the leaf. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 450/1 *Window Posts, Prick Posts, the sides of the Window. 1745 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) VIII. 211 They. . . broke the window-posts, and threw them into the house. 1850 INKERSLEY *Inq. Styles Archit. France* 338 Below the *window-screen extends a suite of projecting canopies. 1890 C. H. MOORE *Gothic Archit.* ix. 304 Chartres [cathedral]. . . singularly fortunate in retaining its magnificent jewel-like window-screens. 1892 *Vermont Agric. Rep.* XII. 135 Mills manufacturing. . . furniture and window screens. 1907 *St. Nicholas* May 614/1 We tried to buy wire netting—the sort we use for window screens at home. 1942 W. FAULKNER *Go down, Moses* 158 Walks out of the cell totting the door over his head like it was a gauze window-screen. 1778 MISS BURNEY *Evelina* (1791) II. xxxi. 194 Looking on the *window-seat, she presently found the books. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* iii. We were sitting in the window-seat. 1926 KIPLING *Debts & Credits* 410 They entered the little train. . . 'Isn't it lucky we've got window-seats?' 1967 O. HESKY *Time for Treason* x. 77 He took a window-seat in the special bus. 1967 E. HUNT *Danger Game* viii. 142 In the plane Elaine was annoyed to find Mrs. Delf had the window seat allotted her. 1981 G. MARKSTEIN *Ultimate Issue* 289 The train came into the station, and Verago took a window seat. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* x. 443 This palatiat cloyster is quadrangled four stories high, the uppermost whereof, is *window-set in the blew tecture. 1861 P. P. CARPENTER in *Rep. Smithsonian Inst.* 1860, 271 Family *Placunidæ*. (*Window-Shells.) 1922 S. LEWIS *Babbitt* ix. 122 They ate chocolates, went to the motion-pictures, went *window-shopping. 1936 B. & S. SPEWACK *Boy meets Girl* II. iii. 70 Is it true, Mrs. Seabrook, that you and Larry have been window shopping? 1945 G. ENDORE *Methinks the Lady* ii. 27 Sometimes I went window-shopping with that apartment in mind. 1951 *Landfall* V. 167 'Maybe we could window-shop then?' Wally said. 'Care for a diamond necklace like that one?' 1957 *Times* 12 Nov. (Canada Suppl.) p. xv/3 At weekends carloads of three-generation family groups visit suburban areas to 'window-shop' for somewhere to live. 1973 R. BUSBY *Pattern of Violence* vi. 96 The office girls came out. . . and. . . joined the phalanxes on the pavements to window-shop outside the big stores. 1934 WEBSTER, *Window-shopper. 1951 H. MACINNES *Neither Five nor Three* xxv. 341 A pavement filled with window-shoppers. 1972 P. MARKS *Collector's Choice* I. 23 Behind a window. . . stood a Boudin drawing. . . The window-shopper smiled. 1955 D. DAVIE *Brides of Reason* 32 And at our back His eye augments our *window-shopping greed. 1956 D. M. DAVIN *Sullen Bell* xi. 72 The old, innocent pleasure of window-shopping in Regent Street. 1978 *Lancashire Life* Nov. 140/2 (Advt.), Window-shopping may be fun. But instead of admiring from the outside we'd like to welcome you inside. 1649 J. ELLISTONE *tr. Behmen's Epist.* xxxv. 213 My Wife need not cause any *Window-shuts to be made. 1694 *Merton Reg.* II. 610 Quod Ly window-Shuts de opere tabulato in istis sociorum cameris, ubi deerunt, fabricentur. 1729 SWIFT *Direct. Serv.* viii. (1745) 78 When you bar the Window-shuts of your Lady's Bed-chamber. 1796 *Phil. Trans.* LXXXVI. 237 Placing a piece of paper round the hole in the window-shut. 1756-7 *tr. Keyser's Trav.* (1760) I. 171 A masterly piece of the sufferings of Christ. . . on two *window-shutters, done by Holbein. 1871 *tr. Schellen's Spectrum Anal.* §18. 60 If a ray of sun-shine be allowed to pass through a small hole in a window-shutter of a darkened room. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Dulness* v. Where are my lines then? my approaches? views? Where are my *window-songs? 1822 W. IRVING *Braceb. Hall* I. *Stud. Salamanca* 259 Flowers standing on the *window-stone. a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 27 Oct. 1664, Laying it on the *window-stool, he with his own hands design'd me the plot for the future building of White-hall. 1867 LE FANU *Tenants of Malory* lxii, Cleve went on knocking and ringing, and the head of the Rev. Isaac Dixie appeared high in the air over the window-stool. 1797 BEWICK *Brit. Birds* I. 255 The Martin. Martlet, Martinet, or *Window-swallow. 1936 KIPLING *Something of Myself* v. 143, I. was elected to the Athenaeum. . . I managed to be taken to a delightful *window-table [for lunch]. 1957 M. KENNEDY *Heroes of Clone* I. v. 46 She and Roy shared a window table. Mundy sat. . . at the other end of the dining-room. 1979 *Tucson Mag.* Apr. 78/2 Ask for a window table or one on the patio. a 1735 ARBUTHNOT *Misc. Wks.* (1751) II. 160 Considering. . . that they are excused the Charges of House-Rent, House-keeping, and the *Window-Tax. 1850 MISS MARTINEAU *Hist. Peace* IV. xi. II. 147 The window-tax is a duty upon fresh air, sunshine, and health. 1910 *Chambers's Jnl.* Aug. 512/1 Mr. W. W. Sawyer. . . was originally a *window-trimmer in the cities of Chicago, Milwaukee, and Portland. 1980 *Washington Post* 1 Feb. B4/3 Mr. Van Der Linden began working for Woodward & Lothrop in 1926 as a window trimmer. 1926 *Publishers' Weekly* 22 May 1676/1 *Window-trimming. 1984 *N.Y. Times* 21 Mar. D21/3 They even have an Association of Legal Administrators, which is not just window trimming but evidence of the increasing importance of business managers. 1968 *Globe & Mail* (Toronto) 17 Feb. 49/9 (Advt.), 65 Austin. . . new tires, *window washers. 1970 *Wall St. Jnl.* 15 June 7/1 Mr. Welk arrived at his office building early and encountered a window-washer. 1977 *New Yorker* 27 June 84/2 One of the cops. . . had been sent out on a window-washer's platform to talk him into coming down. 1910 W. JAMES *Mem. & Stud.* (1911) xi. 291 To coal and iron mines. . . to dishwashing, clothes-washing, and *window-washing. . . would our gilded youths be drafted off. 1950 S. F. PAGE *Body Engin.* iii. 59 Window pillars and *window winders should not be permitted to obstruct the view. 1971 *Sunday Times* (Johannesburg) (Business Sect.) 28 Mar. 4/6 The faults usually consisted of. . . faulty window winders, loose door handles and sticky locks. 1976 *Derbyshire Times* (Peak ed.) 3 Sept. 20/6 They'll be even more irritated by low-g geared window winders. 1586 T. B. LA PRIMAUD *Fr. Acad.* I. (1594) 487 When [women] make great *window-works before their dugs. 1619 PURCHAS *Microcosmus* viii. 89 Nor will I speake of. . . the Chrystalline, Glassie, and Waterie Humors; the Optike and Mouing

Nerues; . . with other these curious Window-works. 1348 *Cal. Inquis. Post Mortem Edw. III* IX. 44 [A custom called] 'Buchellyeld' [and] 'Wyndowe-yeld'.

† **'window, v.** *Obs. rare.* [f. prec.]

1. *trans.* To furnish with windows (see WINDOWED 1) or window-like openings.

a1639 WOTTON *Panegy. K. Charles in Reliq.* (1651) 133 If Nature her self (the first Architectress) had (to use an expression of Vitruvius) windowed your breast. 1728 POPE *Dunc.* II. 43 She form'd this image of well-body'd air; With pert flat eyes she window'd well its head.

2. To place in a window.

1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* IV. xiv. 72 Would'st thou be window'd in great Rome, and see Thy Master thus . . ?

window, obs. or dial. var. WINNOW.

windowed ('windəud), *ppl. a.* [f. WINDOW *sb.* + -ED², partly after OF. *fenestré*.]

1. Furnished with or having windows. Also with prefixed word in comb.

c1483 CAXTON *Dialogues* 6 The hous well ordeyned Ought to be well wyndowed Of diverse wyndowes. 1611 COTGR., *Fenestré*, windowed, hauing windowes. 1624 WOTTON *Archit.* 76 The whole Room was windowed round about. 1636 PEACHAM *Coach & Sedan* A iv b, Windowed before and behind with Isen-glasse. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 276 ¶ 3 A strange windowed House, . . which is so built that no one can look out of any of the Apartments. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 869/1 Some of the principal buildings we may reasonably suppose to have been windowed in a superior manner. 1816 BYRON *Ch. Har.* III. xxiii, Within a window'd niche of that high hall. 1819 CRABBE *T. of Hall* XVII. 131 She built a room all window'd to the west. 1866 GEO. ELIOT *F. Holt* III, Tall-windowed brick houses. 1881 *World* 28 Dec., The disproportioned, ill-windowed, and pretentious palace at Kensington. 1883 *Standard* 3 Aug. 5/7 The windowed side of the new building.

2. Having decorative openings (see WINDOW *sb.* 3).

1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 366/1 A crowne of gold wyndowed. 1849 ROCK *Ch. Fathers* II. 246 They had, like Chaucer's layman parish-clerk, black windowed shoes, which let the scarlet stockings be seen from beneath. 1873 BROWNING *Red Cott. Nt.-cap* 69 Palace-panes Pinholed athwart their windowed filagree By twinklings sobered from the sun outside.

3. Full of holes. (In later use echoing SHAKS.) 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* III. iv. 31 Your lop'd, and window'd raggednesse. 1755 HAY *Epir. Martial* III. xxxviii, In window'd hose, and garments twice convey'd. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 6 Oct. 2/1 When we sat with sadly windowed clothes on the not very extensive summit of the Crystallino.

windowful ('windəʊfʊl), [f. WINDOW *sb.* + -FUL.] As much as fills or will fill a window or the space which a window gives a view of.

1878 MRS. OLIPHANT *Primrose Path* iv, That windowfull of sky had darkened, it was almost night. 1886 ROSA MULHOLLAND *Marcella Grace* xxi, In poorer homes on the out-skirts of the city, . . one sees windowfuls of flowers.

'windowing. [f. WINDOW *sb.* + -ING¹.]

† 1. The fittings or furniture of a window. *Obs.* 1612 STURTEVANT *Metallica* 85 To make windowing of the pure mettle of Venice-glasse. *Ibid.* 95 Windowing and Momyons for windowes, which may be made and cast of white clay. 1659 TORRIANO, *Balconata*, any windowing.

2. *Computers.* The process of selecting part of a stored image for display or enlargement.

1969 S. BIRD in Parslow & Prowse *Computer Graphics* 1. 20 The display file is produced from the data structure by the display program package and the transformations such as expansion, . . and 'windowing' are carried out in the process. 1973 NEWMAN & SPOULL *Princ. Interactive Computer Graphics* viii. 154 In the case of the windowing routine, there are various ways in which the page-to-screen transformations may be defined: one obvious way is to specify window and viewport boundaries. 1981 *Internat. Jnl. Numerical Methods Engin.* XVII. 1110 Only a segment of the first-level window may be delegated to second-level windowing; the rest should remain permanently in operational memory. 1985 *Personal Computer World* Feb. 165/1 It includes functions to deal with the more esoteric of the QL's facilities, such as windowing and general screen-handling.

windowless ('windəʊlis), *a.* [f. WINDOW *sb.* + -LESS.] Not having or furnished with windows.

1760-72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) II. 125 Naked walls and windowless rooms. 1836 STERLING in Carlyle *Life* II. iv, One would think he had spent his whole life in the younger Pliny's windowless study. 1863 KINGLAKE *Crimea* I. xiv. 249 The windowless vans which are used for the transport of felons. 1887 RIDER HAGGARD *Allan Quartermain* xvi, The moon . . threw great . . patches of light through the high windowless openings in the walls.

Hence 'windowlessness.

1917 A. K. COOK *About Winchester Coll.* 228 The comparative windowlessness, and the positive ugliness, of the back of School.

† **windown.** *Obs.* Also 4-5 wyndown, 9 *dial.* window. *Obscure var. WINDOW sb.*

c1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 8 3if pei drawn þe peple . . by coryouse of gaye wyndownes. c1450 CAPGRAVE *Life St.* Aug. xxiii. 32 As his moder and he stood lenyng out at a wyndown. 1477 *Paston Lett.* III. 211 The bordes had ben good for wyndownes and dores. a1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Windon*, a window. 1838 W. HOLLOWAY *Provinc.* 190 *Windon*, a window. *Norf.*

'window-sill. = SILL *sb.*¹ 2.

1703 T. N. CITY & C. *Purchaser* 241 Window-sells (sometimes call'd Window soils,) which are the bottom pieces in a Window-frame. 1814 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* v. iii, Till on the mossy window-sill Their track effaced the green.

1819 CRABBE *T. of Hall* VII. 495 The curtains fell Half down, and rested on the window-sill. 1837 WHITTOK, etc. *Bk. Trades* (1842) 325 (*Mason*), He also constructs and lays the window cells of all buildings. 1840 DICKENS *Old Cur. Shop* viii, The little flower-pots which always stood on the window-sill outside. 1850 INKERSLEY *Inq. Styles Archit.* France 311 The string-course below the window-cill. 1886 STEVENSON *Kidnapped* II, I heard the blunderbuss rattle on the window-sill.

'window-sole. *dial.* [SOLE *sb.*¹ 4 a.] = prec.

1570-80 *Fabric Rolls York Minster* (Surtees) 118 For lyme for the masons to sett the wyndowe sole with, 16 d. 1591 in *Archaeologia* LXIV. 370, 111 midell peeces of windo sole. 1737 RAMSAY *Sc. Prov. Ded.*, May never a window-sole . . be without them. 1828 MOIR *Mansie Wauch* xxii. 326 Sharp frosty nights that left all the window-soles white-washed over with frost-rind in the mornings. 1847 H. MILLER *First Impr. Eng.* vi. 100 In fashioning the soft red sandstone into door-pieces, and window-soles.

'windowy, a. [f. WINDOW *sb.* + -Y¹.] † 1. Full of 'windows' or openings. *Obs. rare.*

a1631 DONNE *Bait* 20 Or treacherously poore fish beset, With strangling snare, or windowie net.

2. Having many or large windows.

1863 'G. HAMILTON' *Gala-Days* 353 The homes of the students, which seem to have been built . . solely to furnish shelter, . . angular, formal, stiff, windy. 1888 *Harper's Mag.* June 130/2 Several large, ugly, windy wooden bulks grew up for shoe shops.

windpipe ('windpaɪp, 'waɪndpaɪp), [f. WIND *sb.*¹ + PIPE *sb.*¹ Cf. Du. *†windpipe* (Kilian).]

1. The tube which leads from the throat and (dividing into the two bronchi) conveys air to and from the lungs in breathing: = TRACHEA 1 a. † Formerly also *pl.* = the trachea and bronchi collectively.

1530 PALSGR. 289/1 Wyndpype, sifflet de gosier. 1538 BALE *God's Promises* III. Cij, Stoppe not my wynde pypes, but geue them lyberte, To sounce to thy name. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s.v. *Arteria, Aspera arteria*, the wine pipe [sic]. 1581 MULCASTER *Positions* xv. (1888) 70 The cowngh which commeth of some cold distemperature in the windpipes. 1662 J. BARGRAVE *Pope Alex. VII* (1867) 12 Their heads, with the livers and lungs hanging by the wine-pipes [sic]. 1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* 19 Sept. an. 1777, When one considers what variety of sounds can be uttered by the windpipe, in the compass of a very small aperture. 1866 BALLANTYNE *Shifting Winds* II, There was only just sufficient opening in the wind-pipe to permit of her breath passing . . through her . . mouth. 1874 COUES *Birds N.-W.* 531 The Whooping Crane has a windpipe between four and five feet long—quite as long as the bird itself.

2. An artificial pipe or tube for conducting a blast of air. *rare.*

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. v. 259/1 A Pair of Bellows . . ; the Wind Pipe erected. 1689 BURNET *Tracts* I. 94 A hole [let into a hill] which all the Summer long blows a fresh Air into the Cellar . . but this Wind-pipe did not blow when I was there.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: windpipe-stretcher, jocular, a hangman; windpipe sweetbread, the thyroid gland (of a calf) used as food.

1617 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Three Weekes Observ.* B4 b, Our Wapping windpipe-stretcher. a1756 ELIZA HAYWOOD *New Present* (1771) 19 The fore-quarter [of veal] contains the shoulder, neck, and breast, the throat sweet-bread, and the windpipe sweetbread.

Hence (*nonce-wds.*) 'windpipe *v.*, *trans.* to utter through the windpipe, to 'pipe'; 'windpiped' (-paɪpt) *a.*, supplied with pipes figured as windpipes.

1860 HOLMES *Prof. Breakf.-t.* x, A city, water-veined and gas windpiped. 1895 MEREDITH *Amazing Marr.* xlv, The three guardian ladies . . headed over the . . town . . windpiping these and similar Solan notes.

† **'windress.** *Obs. rare.* Also -eresse. [f. WINDER + -ESS.] A woman who winds (silk, etc.).

1598 FLORIO, *Diuidatrice*, a silke windresse. *Ibid.*, *Nasptrice*, a reeler, or windresse of thrid, silke or yarne.

† **'windring, ppl. a.** ? mispr. for WINDING *ppl. a.* 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* IV. i. 128 You Nimphs cald Nayades of y^e windring brooks.

wind-rose ('windrəʊz), [f. WIND *sb.*¹ + ROSE *sb.*; in sense 2 after G. *windrose* (cf. ROSE *sb.* 14 c).]

1. Name for several papaveraceous plants, or their flowers: a. the 'bastard wild poppy', *Argemone mexicana*, or the common wild poppy, *Papaver Rhæas*; b. the violet horned poppy, *Raemeria hybrida*.

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. lxx. 301 The bastard wilde Poppie is called . . in English winde Rose, and bastarde wilde Poppie. 1874 *Treas. Bot. Suppl.*, Rose, Wind, *Römeria hybrida*.

2. *Meteorol.* A diagram indicating the relative frequency, force, etc. of (or the temperature, etc. accompanying) the winds from the various points of the compass at some given place.

1846 SABINE tr. *Humboldt's Cosmos* I. 310 Tables of atmospheric pressure accompanying different winds, which have received the name of barometric windroses. 1883 R. H. SCOTT *Elem. Meteorol.* ix. 166 The best mode of publishing the records for different stations is the construction of 'wind-roses'. *Ibid.* xiv. 278 Dr. Hann . . has calculated the prevalent winds and the thermal windroses for a great number of stations.

windrow ('windrəʊ), *sb.* Forms and etym.: see WIND *sb.*¹ and ROW *sb.*¹ (also 8-9 winrow).

a. A row in which mown grass or hay is laid before being made up into heaps or cocks, in which sods, peats, or sheaves of corn are set up to be dried by exposure to the wind, or in which dead branches, etc. are gathered to be burnt.

Also *collect.* or *abstr.* in phr. *into* or *out of windrow.*

1523-34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* §25 On the nexte daye, tourne it agayne before none, and towarde nyght make it in wyndrowes, and than in smal hey-cockes. 1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 54 Others, . . when barley is loggery, and full of greenes, will sette it windrowe stooke. 1691 RAY *S. & E.C. Words, A Wind-row*, the Greens or Borders of a Field dug up, in order to the carrying the Earth on to the Land to mend it. It is called Windrow because it is laid in rows, and exposed to the Wind. 1726 [see UPGANGER]. 1764 *Museum Rust.* III. lkv. 297 A machine for raking hay-grass into wind-row, drawn by a horse. 1802 SIBBALD *Chron. Scot. Poetry* IV. Gloss., *Winraw*, hay or peats put together in long thin heaps for the purpose of being more easily dried. 1830 HODGSON in Raine *Mem.* (1858) II. 176 They are also leading much of their hay out of windrow. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 967 After the second 2 ridges have been thus cleared, the third ridge being in the middle, contains the grass of 5 ridges, which is called a windrow. 1882 HOWELLS *Modern Instance* xxxix, The farmers were . . heaping into vast winrows for burning the winter-worn stalks of the last year's crop.

b. *transf.* of similar rows of various things, e.g. of trees blown down (cf. WINDFALL 1) or of dust heaped up by the wind.

1868 REP. U.S. COMM. *Agric.* (1869) 176 Logs of all sizes lie in winrows. 1881 *Scribner's Mag.* Aug. 529/2 The river [Hudson] is divided into long lanes and fields of smooth ice by windrows crossing in every direction. 1901 'LUCAS MALET' *Sir Richard Calmady* 1. x, The blue of the upper sky was crossed by curved winrows of flaky, opalescent cloud.

c. *fig.* Used of similar rows of various things not exposed to or caused by the wind.

1948 *Times* 13 Feb. 5/6 Bulldozers then level off the soil and uprooted bush, packing it aside to form banks known as 'windrows' between each contour. 1957 L. EISELEY *Immense Journey* 49 The slowly contracting circle of the water left little windrows of minnows. 1974 *Sci. Amer.* Aug. 21/1 The water soon turned cold again and the fish departed, leaving windrows of dead *Pleuroncodes* along the beaches. 1980 *Ibid.* Oct. 156/2 The soft rock is gathered into long windrows and transferred mechanically to conveyor belts that carry it away to the processing plant.

'windrow, v. Also winrow. [f. prec. *sb.*] *trans.* To lay or set in windrows.

1729 P. WALKDEN *Diary* (1866) 28 This afternoon, son Thomas went and winrowed our turf o' th' Black Moss. 1787 GROSE *Prov. Gloss.*, To *windrow*, to rake the mown grass into rows, called windrows. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 968 The grass which had been tedded in the forenoon is windrowed and put into grass-cocks. 1889 DOUGHTY *Friesland Meres* viii. 173 Women were windrowing hay, with rakes different to ours.

Hence 'windrowed *ppl. a.* (in *transf.* sense); 'windrower, a machine for cutting and raking crops into windrows; 'windrowing *vbl. sb.*

1851 H. MELVILLE *Moby Dick* I. xli. 311 The desolate shiftings of the windrowed snows of prairies. 1946 R. CAMPBELL *Talking Bronco* 24 All round the snarled and windrowed sands Expressed the scandal of the waves. 1948 TURNER & JOHNSON *Machines for Farm, Ranch & Plantation* x. 316 Select side-delivery windrowers when cutting grass-seed crops such as alfalfa. 1955 'P. JANVIER' in *ASTOUNDING Sci. Fiction* Nov. 68/1 Straggled clumps and windrowed hay . . were all that remained of the shrubbery and the lawn. 1970 K. C. WILLET in H. W. MULLIGAN *African Trypanosomiasis* xxx. 583 If 'windrowing' (clearing of the felled vegetation into wind-rows) is necessary the cost is greatly increased. 1976 *Columbus* (Montana) *News* 17 June 5 (Advt.), Hay Equipment . . Windrowers . . Balers.

winds, var. WINZE.

windsail ('windseɪl), [f. WIND *sb.*¹ + SAIL *sb.*¹]

1. *Naut.* A long wide tube or funnel of sail-cloth used for ventilating a ship.

1741 *Phil. Trans.* XLII. 65 The Wind-Sails . . are usually between 25 and 30 Foot long, according to the Size of the Ship. 1835 MARRYAT *Olla Podr.* iii, I trimmed my ear like a windsail in the tropics. 1842 DICKENS in *Forster Life* (1872) I. 321 From the roof, a couple of windsails dangled and drooped, limp and useless.

2. A sail of a windmill.

1725 DE FOE *Tour Gt. Brit.* II. 151 Here are some wonderful Engines for throwing up Water, . . one . . goes by Wind-Sails, 12 Wings or Sails to a Mill. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 450/2. 1883 MEREDITH *Poems, Sense & Spirit* 8 We go distraught, At best but circle-windsails of a mill.

wind-shake ('windʃeɪk), *sb.* Also 9 *dial.* -shack. [f. WIND *sb.*¹ + SHAKE *sb.*¹ 9a, 2.] a. A flaw or crack in timber, supposed to be due to a strain caused by the force of the wind.

1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 114 Not marred with knot, gaule, wyndeshake, wem. 1824 CARR *Craven Gloss.*, *Wind-shacks*, cracks in wood, occasioned, it is supposed by the wind. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, *Wind-shake*. See *Anemosis*.

b. A shaking (of something) in or by the wind. *poet. nonce-use.*

1939 DYLAN THOMAS *Map of Love* 12 After the funeral, mule praises, brays, Windshake of sailshaped ears.

† **'windshake, v.** *Obs. rare*—¹. [f. as prec. + SHAKE *v.*] *trans.* To shake as with a violent wind; to inflict a severe shock upon.

1614 BUDDEN tr. *Ærodius' Disc. Parents Hon.* 156 To windshake all that commerce and societie, which is between

man & man, euen from the very ground plot, and foundation.

† **wind-shaked**, *ppl. a. Obs. rare.* [f. WIND *sb.*¹ + *shaked*, *wk. pa. pple. of SHAKE v.*] = next, 1. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* II. i. 13 The winde-shak'd Surge. 1624 QUARLES *Job Milit.* medit. iv. 41, I quake, Like wind-shakt Reeds.

wind-shaken ('windʃeɪk(ə)n), *ppl. a.* [f. WIND *sb.*¹ + *shaken*, *str. pa. pple. of SHAKE v.*]

1. Shaken or agitated by the wind. c1550 CHEKE *Matt.* xi. 7 A windschaken reed. 1553 *Respublica* (Brandl) v. x. 28 Baggs tottering looce about me like windshaken rags. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* v. ii. 117 The Oake not to be winde-shaken. 1644 *Prerog. Anatomized* 7 All the trees were wind-shaken, and those that were not fast rooted, fell. 1856 LEVER *Martins of Cro' M.* lviii, The wind-shaken foliage. 1876 SWINBURNE *Poems & Ball.* Ser. II. *Forsaken Garden* iii, The weeds wind-shaken.

2. Of timber: Affected with wind-shake. Also *fig.*

1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s.v. *Rima*, To be wyndeshaken as tymbler is. 1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* xlv. 5 God do oftentimes tumble them downe from their wyndshaken and rotten seeges. 1611 MIDDLETON & DEKKER *Roaring Girl* H, Some poore winde-shaken gallant. 1668 CLARENDON *Vind.* Tracts (1727) 33 The middle of every piece was wind-shaken and rotten. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* 387 The discharging Trees of unthrifty broken wind-shaken Boughs. 1866 *Treas. Bot., Anemosis*, the condition known in timber by the name of wind shaken.

windshield ('windʃi:ld). [f. WIND *sb.*¹ + SHIELD *sb.*] *a.* Any of various devices for shielding a person or thing from wind; *spec.* (chiefly U.S.) on a motor vehicle = *windscreen* s.v. WIND *sb.*¹ 32.

1902 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 10) XXVII. 327/1 A motor... driven at a rate which the cyclist can follow with the protection of a wind-shield. 1907 *Yesterday's Shopping* (1969) 320p/1 [Coat] Fitted with wind shield and storm cuffs, for driving or motoring. 1911 *N.Y. Times* 16 Oct. 12/7 (Advt.), Speedwell 1911 four-passenger, semi-racer... extraordinary equipment includes top, windshield, shock absorbers, [etc.]. 1924 P. C. MACFARLANE *Tongues of Flame* ii. 12 She steadied herself with one hand upon the wind-shield while the other waved to the enthusiastic group of welcomers. 1941 F. H. JOSEPH *Lett. Home from Britain at War* (1942) 6 We circled the airport three times to allow the captain to clear his windshield of ice by hand. 1946 B. MACDONALD *Egg & I* 110 A blast went off almost under the truck and the rocks broke my windshield. 1962 A. NISBETT *Technique Sound Studio* 277 *Windshield*... shield which fits over microphone and protects diaphragm from 'rattling' by wind, and also contours the microphone for smoother airflow round it. 1978 W. F. BUCKLEY *Stained Glass* 230 Fifty cars, with special passes on their windshields, squatted around the tall, leafless elm trees.

b. attrib. and Comb. windshield cleaner, scraper, squirter; windshield wiper = *windscreen wiper* s.v. WIND *sb.*¹ 32.

1921 *Daily Colonist* (Victoria, B.C.) 13 Mar. 10/6 The Folberth automatic windshield cleaner. 1927 *Sat. Even. Post* 24 Dec. 56/2 Each has extra wide windshield... and windshield wiper. 1955 W. TUCKER *Wild Talent* v. 62 Paul could see the rain falling, could see the madly swinging windshield wipers on the waiting cars. 1975 B. GARFIELD *Hopscotch* xxvi. 275 A combination windshield-scraper and brush. 1976 M. MACHLIN *Pipeline* ii. 31 The misty, sentimental look on Steele's face disappeared as though a giant windshield wiper had cleared its teary ambience. 1978 *Time* 10 Apr. 22/1 Johnson... once had to halt his automobile to solve the problem of turning on the windshield squirter.

wind-shock ('windʃɒk). [f. WIND *sb.*¹ + SHOCK *sb.*³]

† 1. = WIND-SHAKE *sb.* Also *attrib.* = *prec.* 2. 1664 EVELYN *Sylva* xxx. 94, I have seen Wind-shock-timber so exquisitely closed, as not to be discerned where the defects were. 1679 *Ibid.* xxvii. (ed. 3) 143 The Wind-shock is a bruise, and shiver throughout the Tree. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 868/2. 1805 PIKE *Sources Mississ.* (1810) 37 One of them [sc. canoes] sunk, in which was the ammunition and my baggage; this was occasioned by what is called a wind-shock.

2. A shock or disturbance of equilibrium caused by a violent gust of wind.

1913 *Daily News* 7 Mar. 1 England must have got a bad windshock, and the machine [an aeroplane] fell like a stone.

'wind-shook, *ppl. a. rare*—¹. [f. WIND *sb.*¹ + *shook*, *pa. pple. of SHAKE v.*] = WIND-SHAKEN 2; in *quot. transf.* having internal cavities like wind-shaken timber.

1784 TWAMLEY *Dairying Exempl.* 51 The cause of jointing or wind-shook Cheese, is from a small quantity of Slip-Curd being much broke, so as not sufficient, to form Eyes in the Cheese.

Windsor ('winzə(r)). Name of a town in Berkshire, on the right bank of the Thames, at which is Windsor Castle, a royal residence.

1. *attrib.* in names of various things now or originally obtained, made, cultivated, etc. at or near Windsor, or of persons connected with Windsor Castle. Windsor bean, the common broad bean; Windsor blue = *phthalocyanine blue* s.v. PHTHALOCYANINE c; Windsor brick, a kind of red fire-resisting brick formerly made at Hedgerley, near Windsor; Windsor chair, † (*a*) a kind of low-wheeled carriage (*obs.*); (*b*) a kind of wooden chair with the back formed of upright

rod-like pieces surmounted by a cross-piece, and often with arms; Windsor herald, an officer whose duties are now performed by Garter King of Arms; Windsor knight, one of a body of military pensioners residing within the precincts of Windsor Castle; Windsor knot, a large, loose knot in a (neck)tie; so Windsor-knotted *a.*; Windsor loam, the earth from which Windsor bricks were made; Windsor pear (see *quots.*); Windsor Red, the name of a recently introduced type of English cheese containing red wine; Windsor soap, a kind of scented (usually brown) soap; Windsor tick (TICK *sb.*¹ 2), *app.* a small variety of Windsor bean; Windsor tie U.S., a broad bias-cut necktie or scarf; Windsor tub (see *quot.*); Windsor uniform, a uniform introduced by King George III, consisting of a blue coat with red collar and cuffs, and a blue or white waistcoat, worn on certain occasions at Windsor Castle by members of the royal household, and by royal or other distinguished guests by permission of the sovereign.

1712 *tr. Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 133 Fruit in Pods, of the Size of our *Windsor Beans. 1848 JOHNS *Week at Lizard* 300 [The Buck-bean's] leaves closely resemble those of the Windsor Bean. 1912 R. RIDGWAY *Color Standards & Color Nomenclature* 40/1 *Windsor blue. 1938 H. NICOLSON *Let.* 17 Apr. (1966) 336 His Windsor blue eyes were wistful. 1970 Windsor blue [see MONASTRAL]. 1702 SAVERY *Miner's Friend* 26 The Furnace being made of Sturbridge or *Windsor-Brick. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 535 Red bricks... which will stand the greatest heat... called Windsor bricks. 1724 in *Amherst Gardening* (1895) 234 My wife was carry'd in a *Windsor chair like those at Versailles. 1740 C'TESS *HARTFORD Corr.* (1805) II. 4 A tolerably large circle, with Windsor chairs round it. 1766 *Jackson's Oxf. Jnl.* 29 Nov., The Bodleian Library has most confessedly been very much improved by the Introduction of Windsor-Chairs, so admirably calculated for Ornament and Repose. 1867 TROLLOPE *Chron. Barset* iv, There was one arm-chair in the room,—a Windsor-chair, as such used to be called. 1473-4 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 53 For *Wyndissoris heraldis expensis quhen he come again for the renewyne of his conduct. 1517-18 in *Archaeologia* XLVII. 310 Wyndesore Harald at Armes. 1631 WEEVER *Anc. Funeral Mon.* To Rdr., Augustine Vincent, Esquire, Windsor Herald, & keeper of the Records in the Tower. 1953 *Man about Town* Spring 117 (caption) How to tie the *Windsor knot. 1959 T. WILLIAMS *Sweet Bird of Youth* III. 111 He nods slightly, loosening the Windsor-knot of his knitted black silk tie. 1976 J. H. SPENCER *Surgeon Campaign* i. 18 The tie was a crisp silver, the sort normally worn only with morning dress and tied in a Windsor knot. 1953 K. AMIS *Lucky Jim* ix. 98 His *Windsor-knotted silk tie. 1747 *Phil. Trans.* XLIV. 458 Hedgerley, the Place where there is dug an Earth commonly call'd *Windsor Loam. 1827 FARADAY *Chem. Manip.* xviii. (1842) 484 Windsor loam: obtained at Hampstead, &c. is frequently used for the lining of furnaces. 1664 J. EVELYN *Kalendarium Hortense* 72 August. Pears. *Windsor, Sovereign, Orange, [etc.]. 1860 R. HOGG *Fruit Man.* 221 Windsor... A fine old pear for orchard culture. Ripe in August. It should be gathered before it becomes yellow. 1940 J. BETJEMAN *Old Lights for New Chancels* 17 Remaining orchards ripening Windsor pears. [1969 *Vogue* 15 Mar. 65/2 *Red Windsor*, a new British cheese... basically an English cheddar, gets its pink tinge from an English wine.] 1969-70 *Wine & Food* Dec.-Jan. 11/2 More ideas for cheese gifts... *Windsor Red in plain jar, each 10/6. 1982 P. RANCE *Gt. British Cheese Bk.* I. ii. 50 These cheeses are made by breaking up Cheddar or Double Gloucester... and... in the case of Windsor Red, pouring wine over the re-milled curd. 1822 B. HAYDON *Jrnl.* 16-17 Sept. in *Mem.* (1926) I. 321 A barber who shaved me... so praised his *Windsor soap, that I... took six cakes. 1826 *MS. Accounts* (D. Dewar, St. Andrew's), To Windsor Soap, 3^d. 1837 MORIER *Abel Alhutt* xxvii, A... lamb... which she... kept... washed with the best brown Windsor soap. 1895 *Montgomery Ward Catal.* 95/2 *Windsor Ties... Japanese Silk Windsors... Size 4½ × 34 inches. 1912 J. LONDON *Smoke Bellew* 147 He went on dressing... tying a Windsor tie in a bow-knot at the throat of his soft cotton shirt. 1968 J. IRONSIDE *Fashion Alphabet* 114 A bias-cut wide tie, usually black, tied in a loose bow in front of the neck—known in America as a Windsor tie. 1797 A. YOUNG *Agric. Suffolk* 58 The little common horse-bean, ticks, and *Windsor ticks, are the sorts generally cultivated. 1800 ALVES *Banks of Esk* 166 Old Port pipes or casks, laid open at one side with conical tops, and seats placed at the ordinary height from the bottom,—which turn round upon perpendicular axis, denominated *Windsor Tubs, from their having been first introduced there. 1781 *Gentl. Mag.* LI. 391/2 The birth-day of the Prince of Wales... was celebrated with extraordinary magnificence... The King, the Prince, the Duke of Cumberland, the great officers of state, and nobility, appeared in the *Windsor uniform on this occasion—blue and scarlet. 1805 *Ann. Reg.* (Rivington's ed.), *Chron.* 12* The gentlemen [at a fête at Windsor Castle] were dressed in the full Windsor uniform, except those who wore the military habit of their respective regiments. 1825 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Doubts & F.* i. The hotel... was a... red brick building, edging the blue wave of the ocean, as the collar of the Windsor uniform garnishes the coat.

2. Short for Windsor bean, brick, chair, soap, tie.

1786 ABERCROMBIE *Gard. Assist.* Feb. 32 A full crop of long-pods, Windsor's... or other broad kinds. 1836 T. POWER *Impressions of America* I. 440 A bit of old brown Windsor to shave withal. 1840 THACKERAY *Barber Cox* Sept., My dearest girl now turned from red to be as pale as white Windsor. 1840 THACKERAY in *Comic Almanack* Nov. 45, I never... knew Naples from brown Windsor. 1841 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jnl.* IV. 342/1 The red sandy bricks called Windsors. 1859 *Habits of Gd. Society* ii. (new ed.) 124 The old brown Windsor being still... far the best for the skin.

1884 'H. COLLINGWOOD' *Under Meteor Flag* xii, As thorough an ablation as was possible in the absence of my cake of old brown Windsor. 1895 [see *Windsor tie*, sense 1 above]. 1901 [see *comb-back* s.v. COMB *sb.*¹ 9]. 1939 F. THOMPSON *Lark Rise* vi. 102 If the father had a special chair... it would be but a rather larger replica of the hard windsors with wooden arms added. 1969 'J. MORRIS' *Fever Grass* ii. 21 A small electric fan... and two more Windsors, were the room's only furnishings. 1976 J. PHILIPS *Backlash* (1977) 1. ii. 27 Two armchairs, Windsors, for visitors.

windster ('waɪndstə(r)). ? *Obs.* Also 5 *wynstere*. [f. WIND *v.*¹ + -STER.] A person (orig. a woman) engaged in winding silk, etc.

14.. LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. v. 129 (MS. T) My wyf was a wynstere [B. & C. texts *webbe*] & Wollene cloþ made. c1700 *Douce prints* S. 9 fol. 2 b, Comber. Dyer. Throwster. Windster. Spinster. 1723 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6187/4 Eleanor Brown, Silk-Windster. 1812 J. SMYTH *Pract. Customs* 185 Husks and Nubs are the refuse, which is thrown aside by the windster, during the process of winding the Silk from the cocoons. 1825 *New Monthly Mag.* XIV. 259 Your warpers, your windsters, your weavers.

wind-suck ('wɪndsʌk), *v.* [Back-formation from next (sense 2).] *intr.* Of a horse: To have the vice of noisily drawing in and swallowing air (often associated with crib-biting). Also 'wind-sucking *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 228 Wind-sucking consists in swallowing air, without fixing the mouth. *Ibid.* 229 He continued to crib-bite or wind-suck. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Crib-strap*, a neck-throttler for crib-biting and wind-sucking horses. 1908 *Animal Managem.* 81 Indigestion and colic... result from windsucking and crib-biting.

wind-sucker ('wɪndsʌkə(r)). [f. WIND *sb.*¹ + SUCKER.]

† 1. The valve of a pair of bellows. *Obs.* 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xiv. (Roxb.) 7/2 The wind sucker, a flap of strong Leather set ouer the wind hole within the belly.

2. A horse addicted to wind-sucking. 1825 JAMIESON. 1853 R. S. SURTEES *Sponge's Sp. Tour* x, Whose horse had a cough, whose was a wind-sucker, whose was lame after hunting. 1908 *Animal Managem.* 127 Wind-suckers and crib-biters should... be fed apart from the rest.

wind-sucker: see WINDFUCKER 2.

1880 SWINBURNE *Study Shaks.* 54 The veriest wind-sucker among commentators.

windsurf ('wɪndzɜ:f), *v.* orig. U.S. [Back-formation f. WINDSURFER: see next.] *intr.* To ride a sailboard; to sailboard. Also 'windsurfing *vbl. sb.*

1969 *Chr. Sci. Monitor* 17 Nov. 17/1 Depending on the wind and water conditions, older as well as young people can windsurf. *Ibid.*, Windsurfing is new, so new that it's been on the market only within the past month. 1972 *Islander* (Victoria, B.C.) 16 Jan. 3/1 Spreading up and down the west coast is a brand new water sport—windsurfing. 1976 *Southern Even. Echo* (Southampton) 11 Nov. 23/1 Windsurfing, a cross between sailing, surf-riding and high-wire walking, has one big attraction: your boat can be small enough to carry under your arm. 1977 *Austral. Sailing* Jan. 69/2 Young or old, guy or girl, thick or thin, we'll teach you to windsurf in a few short hours. 1980 C. MATTHEWS *Loosely Engaged* 9 Swam, sunbathed and wind-surfed the whole day. 1984 *U.S.A. Today* 6 Apr. 2c/1 But windsurfing—on the Windsurfer—is merely a demonstration sport in the 1984 Olympic Games. 1984 *Times* 25 Aug. 11/3 Earlier this year... an Oxford graduate, aged 25, spent 10 weeks windsurfing clockwise around the coast of Britain.

Windsurfer ('wɪndzɜ:fə(r)). orig. U.S. Also windsurfer. [f. WIND *sb.*¹ + SURFER.] 1. The proprietary name in the U.S. of a kind of sailboard.

1969 *Chr. Sci. Monitor* 17 Nov. 17/2 The board segment of the Windsurfer is shaped, with 'slight changes', like a surfboard, though it is heavier, at 37 pounds and longer, at 12 feet. 1974 *Official Gaz.* (U.S. Patent Office) 20 Aug. TM 166/1 Windsurfer, Windsurfing International Inc., Santa Monica, Calif... For sailboats comprising a surf board type hull and a sail. 1981 *Daily Mail* 9 Apr. 39/3 He [sc. Hoyle Schweitzer] kept production of his Windsurfer down in order to monitor quality. 1983 *Reader's Dig.* Apr. 132 More Windsurfers... have been sold than any class of sailing boat ever. 1984 *Sunday Times* (Colour Suppl.) 28 Oct. 25/2, I wanted to learn more and get myself back on a windsurfer as soon as I could.

2. One who engages in the sport of windsurfing, a sailboarder.

1969 *Chr. Sci. Monitor* 17 Nov. 17/3 The lone windsurfer (one per board) stands near the middle, left foot just ahead of the mast and hands holding tightly to the 'wishbone'. 1977 *Austral. Sailing* Jan. 27/3 Clive Colonso is one of Britain's few expert windsurfers. 1982 *Times* 3 May 5/1 Twenty windsurfers were rescued from the North Sea yesterday. 1984 *Times* 25 Aug. 11/7 Windsurfers tend to be individualists, happy to sail alone.

wind-tight ('waɪndtaɪt), *a.* [f. WIND *sb.*¹ + TIGHT *a.*]

1. Solidly constructed so as to keep out wind: chiefly of a building; also of a vessel = AIR-TIGHT.

1507 [see TIGHT *a.* 2a]. 1514, etc. [see WATERTIGHT 1]. 1623 *Extr. Aberd. Reg.* (1848) II. 383 The grammar schole... is nather watterthicht nor wyndthicht to the great hinderance of the studentis within the same. 1647 N. WARD *Simple Cobler* 33 For England, however, the upper Stories are shroddly shattred; yet the foundations and frame being good or mendable by the Architects now at worke, there is

good hope, when peace is settled, people shall dwell more wind-tight and water-tight than formerly. 1718 CHAMBERLAYNE *Relig. Philos.* II. xvii. §10, I. took a Tin Tube... but found... that it was not completely Wind-tight. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Wind-tight*, a cask or vessel to contain water is said to be wind-tight and water-tight. †2. *Naut.* = Wind-taut (see WIND sb.¹ 32). *Obs.*

1642 SIR W. MONSON *Naval Tracts* II. (1704) 301/1 They cut down... Things over-head, which makes them wind Tite and Burthensome.

wind-up ('waɪndʌp), sb.¹ and a. [f. the phr. *to wind up*, WIND v.¹ 24.]

A. sb. 1. The action of 'winding up', or something that 'winds up' or concludes a course of action, story, etc.; close, conclusion, finish, *dénouement*; final settlement; closing act or proceeding. †Also formerly **wind-up-all**.

1573 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 47 Which was the Epiphonema and as it were the windup of that meting. 1588 J. HARVEY *Disc. Probl.* 74 Doth not the diuel, I say, in the winde-vpall, and in fine, oftner play wilie beguile him selfe? 1665 BUNYAN *Holy Citie* (1669) 266 This New Jerusalem shall be the wind-up of the world. 1683 — *Greatn. Soul* (1691) 56 So the wind-up of the whole will be this, They shall have like for like. 1816 JANE AUSTEN *Emma* xxii, That was the wind-up of the history. 1844 ALB. SMITH *Adv. Mr. Ledbury* xxiv. (1886) 75 Getting through a few... quadrilles, ... and Sir Roger de Coverley as a wind-up. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xviii, To take myself well to task, and have a regular wind-up of this business now. 1869 OUSELEY *Counterp. Canon & Fugue* xxiii. 181 The dominant pedal always announces the termination, or 'wind-up', of a fugue.

2. *Baseball*. The motions of a pitcher preparing to pitch the ball. Also *fig.* and in other sports.

1931 D. RUNYON in *Collier's* 25 Apr. 38/2, I take a good wind-up... but... the ball does not break as I expect. 1936 *Philadelphia Rec.* 30 July 19/1 Blanton is the sort of orator who cannot shorten his pitching motion... He is unable to make a simple motion without taking a full windup. 1951 [see STRETCH sb. 1 i]. 1974 MILLS & BUTLER *Tackle Badminton* v. 45 The great temptations to be avoided with drop shots are... making an exaggerated wind-up with over-emphasized power, [etc.]. 1976 *Webster's Sports Dict.* 483/2 The windup, which is usually accompanied by a rocking of the body, sets a rhythm which the pitcher follows until the ball is released.

3. a. Material that has become wound round something. b. The action of winding or coiling something round something else. c. The action of becoming twisted or stressed by the application of torque.

1964 *Gloss. Letterpress Rotary Printing Terms* (B.S.I.) 21 Wind-up, paper accidentally wrapped round the impression cylinder, plate cylinder, or inking rollers. 1966 J. S. COX *Illustr. Dict. Hairdressing & Wigmaking* 165/2 Wind-up... the winding of the hair on curlers. 1969 W. R. R. PARK *Plastics Film Technol.* ii. 15 This technique... generates a greater percentage of scrap or recycle material than the use of a stationary windup. 1972 *Sci. Amer.* Dec. 51/1 The carriage was pushed back and forth by the spinner, one way during the drawing-twisting operation and the other way during windup. 1975 *Drilling Technol. & Collet Chuck* (Bristol Erikson Ltd.) 4 Since the forces created in any cutting action are never constant, it follows that the amount of torsional 'wind-up' will be continually varying. 1976 G. ROBSON *Land-Rover* vii. 117 To take care of transmission wind-up... the new car was to have a third, central differential with a limited-slip mechanism inside it. 1978 *Hot Car* July 89/4 Traction bars... are... bolted by way of U-bolts and brackets to the rear leaf springs of a car such that they prevent wind-up of the rear axle on full-power starts.

4. A deliberate attempt to 'wind up' or provoke someone by misleading or hoaxing; a trick or practical joke. Also *attrib.*, as *wind-up artist*, etc. *colloq.*

1984 *Times* 10 May 1/3 My recollection of this is quite clear. I thought it was a wind-up to be honest with you. 1986 *Times* 18 Aug. 10/1 After being inundated with bogus small ads from constables trying to sell off their superiors' cars, Muil once said to me: 'Policemen are the biggest wind-up artists of all time.'

B. *adj.* 1. Constructed to be wound up. Also of a window: made to be moved up (to shut) and down (to open) by means of a handle wound with a rotary motion.

1784 *Morn. Chron.* 21 Apr. 4/3 Advt., A wind up range. 1951 *Festival of Britain Catal.* 149/1 Wind-up plate glass window, weatherproof and draughtproof. 1962 E. O'BRIEN *Lonely Girl* v. 64 The last record lay on the green baize of the wind-up gramophone. 1968 'E. McBAIN' *Fuzz* ix. 155 The police in this city are like wind-up toys with keys sticking out of their backs. 1970 *Motoring Which?* July 98/1 A few of these modifications—wind-up windows... also appeared on the ordinary Mini. 1982 N. PAINTING *Reluctant Archer* vii. 105 There were other gramophones, too. Wind-up ones.

2. Forming the 'wind-up' or conclusion of something; concluding, closing.

1843 MOZLEY *Ess.* (1878) I. 25 Strafford determined not to be wanting to himself at the wind-up scene. 1900 'MARK TWAIN' *Man that corrupted* etc. 153 We had a wind-up champagne supper.

wind-up ('waɪndʌp), sb.² *colloq.* [f. phr. *to get the wind up* s.v. WIND sb.¹ 10 b.] A state of nervous anxiety or fear; an occurrence of this.

1917 G. S. GORDON *Let.* 13 Feb. (1943) 69 By that time my runner was showing signs of 'wind-up'... He thought I was very unfeeling, not to go down to a cellar till the shower [of shelling] was over. 1922 *Encycl. Brit.* XXX. 64/1 Many other pilots... have been through the same stages of 'wind-up'. 1931 J. HILTON *Murder at School* x. 204 We were

having a smoke... We got an awful wind-up, thinking somebody... might have smelt something. 1952 *Chambers's Jnl.* Feb. 82/2 Putting on a bold face, but with a fair amount of wind-up, I walked... in the direction the hand pointed to. 1980 A. PRICE *Hour of Donkey* xiv. 220 Bit of nerves... the old wind-up.

windward ('waɪndwəd), quasi-sb. in *phr.*, a., and *adv.* Also 6 *Sc.* *wyndwart*, *vynduart*, 7 *winward*, 9 *win'ard*. [f. WIND sb.¹ + -WARD. (In all senses the opposite of **LEEWARD**.)]

A. *Phr. to (the) windward* (also formerly with other preps.): to the windward side or direction.

1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 42 The said galiasse in schort tyme cam on vynduart of the tothir schip. 1562 WINJET *Cert. Tractatis* i. Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 4 To lat down ane grete dele thair hie sailis, and hald to wyndwart. 1626 CAPT. J. SMITH *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 18 A sayle, how stands she, to windward or leyward. 1666 MONK *Let.* (in *Quaritch's Rough List*, No. 202 (1900) Oct.) Sir William Berkeley kept his course, at which a gun was fired at winward of him. 1687 A. LOVELL *tr. Thevenot's Trav.* I. 281 About Noon he was got to the Windward. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 329 The Sound coming from the Windward. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Charmed Sea* v. 53 The heavens were grey, and there was a very dark line to windward. 1876 MISS BRADDON *J. Haggard's Dau.* i. 27 Before Joshua could reach him, the first of those giant masses of water struck on the rock to windward of him.

b. In *fig.* phrases, such as *to get to windward of*, to gain an advantage over (cf. WIND sb.¹ 3 b); *to keep to windward of*, to keep out of the reach of (cf. WINDY 2 d); *to cast an anchor to windward*, to adopt measures for security.

1783 COWPER *Let. to J. Newton* 7 Mar., That my vanity may not get too much to windward. 1882 DE WINDT *Equator* 12 His intention of 'getting to windward of those "Maylays"'. 1888 RIDER HAGGARD *Mr. Meeson's Will* vi, If I happen to have got to windward of the young woman, why, so much the better for me. 1890 [see **LEEWARDLY**]. 1919 *19th Cent.* Dec. 1152 This policy was based on a desire to keep an anchor to the windward, to secure the United States for a friend.

B. *adj.*

1. Having a direction towards, *i.e.* opposite to that of, the wind; moving against the wind.

1627 CAPT. J. SMITH *Sea Gram.* x. 47 You say... a windward Tide when the Tide runnes against the wind. 1739 (title) A description of the Windward Passage and Gulf of Florida. c1850 *Rudim. Navig.* 56 Windward Great Circle Sailing.

b. Of or in reference to a sailing vessel, expressing ability to sail close to the wind: = **WEATHERLY** 2.

1895 *Outing* (U.S.) XXVI. 382/1 She is so slender and graceful that one is prone to wonder that such prettiness is consistent with windward power. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 27 Sept. 5/7 A better windward boat than the Columbia.

2. Situated towards the direction from which the wind blows; facing the wind.

a1687 [see **LEEWARD** A. 2]. 1725 DE FOE *Engl. Tradesman* iii. (1732) I. 21 His windward leg being hurt by a bruise. 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Blight*, On the Wind-ward Side of the Trees. 1783 JUSTAMOND *tr. Raynal's Hist. Indies* V. 5 Those that lie nearest the East, have been called the Windward Islands; the others the Leeward, on account of the wind's blowing generally from the eastern point in those quarters. 1858 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* IV. xxii. 424 The vessel laying slightly over, the windward tier slipped across the deck.

C. *adv.* Towards the wind, to windward.

1690 in *14th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. iv. 243 The fleet that came from Plymouth... were plying windward of that place. 1700 TYRRELL *Hist. Eng.* II. 833 Tacking about, and so getting Windward of them, they... gain'd a great Advantage.

Hence 'windwardly a. = B. 1 b, 2; 'windwardmost a., furthest to windward; 'windwardness, 'windward' or weatherly quality.

1657 R. LIGON *Barbadoes* (1673) 23 The most *windwardly Island of all the Caribbies. a1734 *NORTH Lives* (1826) III. 92 The characters of the several vessels, ... some windwardly, some not stay well, some slugs. 1902 *Edin. Rev.* Oct. 422 The island is the most windwardly of the whole Caribbean Archipelago. a1625 MANWAYRING *Seamans Dict.* (1644) s.v. *Weather Bow*, Any thing that is to the *wind-ward-most-side, we say, it is the weather-part, or a-weather. 1777 *Summary Acc. Tobago* 78 A mile from the windwardmost point of Minster-Bay. a1618 RALEIGH *Invention of Shipping* (1650) 29 By reason of their ready staying and turning, by reason of their *windwardnesse.

windwards ('waɪndwədz). Also 7 *winwards*. [f. WIND sb.¹ + -WARDS.] = WINDWARD A.

1589 HAKLUYT *Voy.* 525 [He] appointed 24. of the lustiest rowers in the great boate, to rowe to windwards. 1622 R. HAWKINS *Voy. S.* Sea xxvi. 57 We saw a Shippe turning to Windwards. 1625 in Foster *Engl. Factories India* (1909) III. 100 Four Portugall galliones... though to winwards of them, came noe neerer then to descrye their coulours. 1631 PELLHAM *Gods Power* 8 Wee found the winde... so fiercely blowing, that we could not possibly row to Wind-wards.

†'windweed. *Obs. rare.* [f. WIND v.¹ + WEED sb.¹] = BINDWEED.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* III. lv. 396 The leaues and fruite of sharpe Windeweede. *Ibid.* v. vii. 555 Amongst those kinds of plantes called Windweeds, or bindweedes.

windwen, obs. form of WINNOW v.

windy ('waɪndi), a. Forms: 1 *windig*, 1, 4 *windi*, 4-5 *wyndi*, 4-6 *wyndy*, 6 -die, -dye, *windy*, *Sc.* *vyndie*, *wondie*, 6-7 *windie*, 5- *windy*. [OE.

windig; see WIND sb.¹ and -y¹. Cf. MHG. *windic*, G. *windig*.]

I. Literal and directly connected senses.

1. a. Consisting of wind; of or pertaining to (the) wind; having the command of the winds, as a heathen deity; indicating or suggesting wind. c1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Luke viii. 23 Da com windi yst. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 313 The wyndy Storm began to skarse. 1590 SPENSER *F.Q.* II. viii. 48 As when a windy tempest bloweth hye. a1593 MARLOWE *Ovid's Elegies* II. xvi, If stern Neptune's windy power prevail. 1602 W. BASSE *Three Past. Elegies* ii. (1893) 49 March, departed with his windy rage. 1617 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Three Weekes Observ.* Ep. Ded., All the watery, windy, earthy, and drinking Deities. 1781 COWPER *Retirement* 432 While morning kindles with a windy red. 1873 BLACK PR. *Thule* vi. 89 The sea that lay beyond... was of a windy green.

b. Produced, or actuated, by 'wind' or compressed air: said of music played on wind-instruments, or of a wind-instrument.

1841 THACKERAY *Mem. Gormandising* Wks. 1900 XIII. 576 Music, whether windy or wiry. 1871 LONGF. *Wayside Inn* II. *Cobbler of Hagenau* 45 Two angels carved in wood, That by the windy organ stood.

2. a. Of places, etc.: Full of, exposed to, blown upon or through by the wind.

Beowulf 1358 Windige nassas. c1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 322 Heora wyrtruma bið swa-swa windige ysla. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 419/1 Wyndy, ventosus, ventuosus. 1552 HULOET, Wyndy houses, or places. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 279 A coulede and wyndy clime. 1573 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxix. 350 Then wes he worsland our ane wondie swyre. a1593 MARLOWE & NASHE *Dido* I. i, Iuno... Made Hebe to direct her ayrie wheeles Into the windie countrie of the cloudes. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* III. 440 On this windie Sea of Land, the Fiend Walk'd up and down. 1833 TENNYSON *May Queen*, *New Year's Eve* v, The building rook 'ill caw from the windy tall elm-tree. 1864 LOWELL *Fireside Trav.* 191 As he paces the windy deck. 1873 LONGF. *Wayside Inn*, *Monk of Casal-Maggiore* 84 My wretched lodging in a windy shed.

b. Of times, conditions, etc.: Characterized by wind, in which wind is frequent or prevalent; accompanied by (much) wind.

c1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 162 Windig lengten & renig sumer. 1431 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 2 Toward the ende of wyndy Februarie. 1579 J. DEE *Diary* (Camden) 5 A moyst Marche and not wyndy. 1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* v. viii. 671 Windie drouthes. 1685 in *Verney Mem.* (1904) II. 382 The wettest & the windiest day that I have seene. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* I. iii, It is a good Night, only a little rainy and windy. 1877 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 69 A windy day soon dries a wet pavement. 1904 W. E. HODGSON *Trout Fishing* 210 Meanwhile the rain goes on: no longer a slight windy spray.

c. Stirred by or wavering in the wind; moving so as to produce a wind or current of air.

c1450 *tr. De Imitatione* II. vii. 47 Truste not ner leene not upon a windy rede. 1590 SPENSER *F.Q.* III. xii. 8 He... in his hand a windy fan did beare. 1826 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* VI. i, Hans quivered like a windy reed.

d. Situated towards the wind, windward: in *phr. on the windy side of* (fig.), so as not to be 'scented' and attacked by (cf. WIND sb.¹ 4), out of the reach of; away from, clear of.

In modern use echoing Shaks.

1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* II. i. 327 *Pedro*. Infaith Lady you haue a merry heart. *Beatr.* Yea my Lord I thanke it, poore foole it keepest on the windy side of Care. 1601 — *Twel. N.* III. iv. 181 Still you keepe o'th windie side of the Law: good. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* xii, He had just so much solidity as kept on the windy side of insanity. 1863 COWDEN CLARKE *Shaks. Char.* vii. 190 You cut off his resources; while you yourself keep on the windy side of assassination and murder.

3. Resembling the wind in storminess, quality of sound, swiftness, †changefulness, etc.

c1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 388 beah peos world wede, and windige ehtnyssse astyrige ongean Cristes gelaðunge. c1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* II. pr. viii. (1868) 6 The amaybe fortune maysthow sen alwey wyndy [MS. wyndyng; *uentosam*] and flowynge and eueure mysknowynge of hir self. 1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 51 Then with her windie sighes, and golden heares, To fan, and blow them drie againe she seekes. 1595 — *John* II. i. 477 Zeale now melted by the windie breath Of soft petitions. 1614 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* VIII. v. (ed. 2) 756 The windy inconstancy of some of the companie. 1670 DRYDEN *Tyr. Love* II. i, A fire which every windy passion blows. 1697 — *Æneis* XII. 1227 Indu'd with windy Wings to flit in Air. 1869 MRS. STOWE *Oldtown Folks* xviii. (1870) 185 Polly gave a sudden windy dart from the room. 1883 R. RITCHIE *Bk. Sibyls* i. 5 The sweet windy drone of the organ. 1915 *Chamb. Jnl.* 20 Mar. 245/1 Singing the lines in a high, windy voice.

4. a. Characterized by, arising from, or affected with 'wind' (WIND sb.¹ 10) in the stomach or bowels (†or other parts): = FLATULENT 4.

c1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 214 Wip þa ping þe windigne æþm on men wyrren. 1563 T. GALE *Antidot.* II. 30 In all cold and wyndye infirmities of the brayne. 1598 MARSTON *Pygmal.*, *Sat.* iv. 151 The windie-chollicke striu'd to haue some vent. 1620 VENNER *Via Recta* viii. 185 Waterish and impure stomacks, by reason of windie crudities, wherewith they abound. 1799 UNDERWOOD *Dis. Childhood* (ed. 4) I. 56 A costive and windy state of the bowels. 1879 ST. GEORGE'S *Hosp. Rep.* IX. 348 After some windy eructations. 1889 in J. HUTCHINSON *Archives Surg.* (1898) IX. 121 When well I am generally very windy.

b. Of food or drink: Causing or liable to cause 'wind': = FLATULENT 3.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P.R.* XVII. clxxxvi. (Add. MS. 27944), Neue muste is ful wyndy & smoky. 1533 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* (1541) 28 Nauews do not nourshe so moche as rapes, but they be euen as wyndye. 1617 MORSEY *Itin.* III. 101 They... feede on bread very black, heauy and windy.

1698 FLOYER *Asthma* ii. (1717) 25 When the Meat is crude, slimy, windy, acerb. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 494 If the food be poor and windy.

II. Figurative senses. (See also 2 d, 3.)

5. Having 'nothing in it', 'airy', intangible, empty, unsubstantial, flimsy, vain, frivolous, trifling, worthless. (Often passing into other senses; see below.) Similarly of persons (*rare*).

1593 G. HARVEY *New Let.* B.1, A wan, or windy Hope, is a notable breake-neck vnto itself. 1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* v. v. 165 There is nothing more vniust then to make men to lue by windy words & ayre. 1601 [see 6a]. 1650 MILTON *Tenure of Kings* (ed. 2) 47 Neither is Cæsar to make Warr as head of Christ'ndom, Protector of the Church, Defender of the Faith; these Titles being fals and Windie. 1693 DRYDEN tr. *Juvenal* x. 219 Exchanging solid Quiet, to obtain The Windy satisfaction of the Brain. 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, Windy-fellow, without Sense or Reason. 1830 CARLYLE *Ess.*, Richter (1840) II. 340 What a hollow, windy vacuity of internal character this indicates. 1854 DE QUINCEY *War Wks.* 1862 IV. 271 The windiest of levities. 1861 THACKERAY *Four Georges* iv. (1862) 193 The Prince of Wales had some windy projects of encouraging literature, science, and the arts. 1877 CARLYLE in *Mrs. Carlyle's Lett.* II. 116 note, Sending windy gossip to the newspapers.

6. a. Of speech or discourse, with various shades of meaning: Verbose, long-winded; violent, vehement; empty and high-sounding, inflated, bombastic; exaggerated, extravagant.

1382 WYCLIF *Job* xvi. 3 Whethir windi woordis [Vulg. *verba ventosa*] shul not han ende? 1590 J. DAVIDSON in *Wodrow Soc. Misc.* (1844) 517 Notwithstanding all the windye volumes written by them. 1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* v. iii. (1602) M3b, Tibullus. O, terrible, windy words! *Gallus*. A signe of a windy Braine. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 209 Windie and unmeasurable babbling was not long since brought to Athens out of Asia. 1660 FULLER *Mixt Contempl.* xii. 19 By such windy particulars [he] did blow up his losses to the summe by him nominated. 1810 COLERIDGE in *Lit. Rem.* (1839) IV. 379 To what purpose then this windy declamation about John Calvin? 1868 M. PATTISON *Academ. Org.* v. 245 A vague and windy rhetoric has supplanted solid acquisition. 1886 *Illustr. Lond. News* 21 Aug. 194/1 The windy speeches made at public political meetings.

b. Of a speaker or writer: Full of talk or verbiage, talkative, loquacious, long-winded; violent or extravagant in utterance, 'blustering'; bragging, boastful (cf. 7b).

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* xl. viii. 33 Quhiddir, gif thi marcial deidis, as thai war ay, Into thy windy clattrynng toung sal be. 1581 J. HAMILTON *Cath. Traict.* in *Cath. Tract.* (S.T.S.) 85 Ane vyndie sophist. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich.* III. iv. 127 Windy Attornies to their Clients Woes. 1648 MILTON *Observ. Art. Peace* Wks. 1851 IV. 566 There will not need more words to this Windy Railer, convicted... of all those Crimes which he... charges upon others. 1824 SCOTT *Redgauntlet* ch. x. He is a windy body when he gets on his... stories. 1825 BROCKETT *N.C. Gloss.*, Windy, noisy, verbose, marvellous in narration. 1855 MOTLEY *Dutch Rep.* vi. ii. III. 450 The windy demagogue, who had filled half Flanders with his sound and fury.

7. a. That 'puffs one up'; inducing pride or vain-glory. *Obs.* or merged in other senses.

1590 NASHE *Pasquils Apol.* D4b, Let witte, which is windie obtaine the lesse, that Charitie which edifieth may gaine the more. [Cf. 1 Cor. viii. 1.] 1597 J. PAYNE *Royal Exch.* 43 Puffed vp with wynd[?]le knowledge. [1693 PENN *Fruits Sol.* II. cx. Wks. 1782 V. 181 We may be too easily swelled beyond our just proportion, by the windy compliments of men. 1784 COWPER *Task* v. 269 Inflated and astrut with self-conceit, He gulps the windy diet.]

b. 'Puffed up'; inflated with, or showing, pride or vain conceit; vain-glorious, proud. Now *Sc. colloq.* (const. *of*).

1603 [see windy-headed in 9]. 1625 T. ADAMS *Five Serm.*, *Job* xlii. 6 (1626) 10 After these blustering insolencies, and windie ostentations. 1695 DRYDEN tr. *Dufresnoy's Art Paint.* 63 He who has a windy Head, and flatters himself with the empty hope of deserving the praise of the common people. 1888 BARRIE *Auld Licht Idylls* ix, I'm thinking he was windier of the cock.

8. a. Apt to 'get the wind up'; 'funky'. *slang.*

1916 HANKEY *Student in Arms* vii. (1917) 130 The anticipation of danger makes many men 'windy'. 1918 C. J. BIDDLE *Fighting Airman* (1968) 147 He thought what made the men more 'windy' than anything else... was the thought of... having to lie there all day before being able to get to a doctor. 1948 D. WELCH *Voice through Cloud* (1950) iv. 39 He [sc. a patient facing an operation] laughed so much that the man with the bandaged ear became exasperated and said, 'Why do you make so much noise? That shows you're windy. If you didn't care, you wouldn't say anything.' 1960 J. R. ACKERLEY *We think World of You* 123 'E was windy, but I swore it was safe and that nothing could 'appen. 1985 D. CLARK *Performance* ii. 40 'Are you feeling windy?' 'Do I look as if I am?'

b. Applied to a frightening or nerve-wracking place or situation. *Services*.

1919 *Narrative Battery A, 101st Field Artillery* (U.S. Artillery) 118 It was a 'windy' place to be... as the enemy raked it with machine gun and trench mortar fire all day and night. 1925 FRASER & GIBBONS *Soldier & Sailor Words* 305 *Windy Corner*,... any place specially dangerous or trying to the nerves on account of enemy fire. 1927 A. M. SULLIVAN *Old Ireland* xi. 226 All the 'windy corners' of his front. 1928 T. E. LAWRENCE *Let.* 1 May (1938) 599 Such performances require a manner to carry them off... A windy business.

9. *advb.* and *Comb.*, as windy-blowing, clear,-footed (cf. 3), -headed (cf. 6, 7b), -looking adjs.; *Windy City* (U.S.), a nickname for Chicago.

a 1629 GOFFE *Orestes* II. iii. With a North gale of *windy blowing sighs. 1887 *Courier-Jrnl.* (Louisville, Kentucky) 31 Jan. 5/1 An alleged anarchist dynamite plot from the *Windy City. 1908 K. MCGAFFEY *Show Girl* 58 Chicago is surely rightly named when they call it the Windy City. 1948

News-Dispatch (Michigan) 3 Apr. 9/3 The handsome Windy City youngster has an enormous following. 1979 K. BONFIGLIOLI *After you with Pistol* xvi. 120 The scent of the Chicago River as it slides greedily under the nine bridges in the centre of the Windy City. 1899 T. S. MOORE *Vinedresser*, *Duet* iii, Cloudless eyes, blue eyes so *windy clear. c 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* xv. 163 The *windie-footed Dame. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 81 The great... applause of the *windie headed people. 1879 STEVENSON *Trav. Cevennes* 26 The sun had gone down into a *windy-looking mist.

windy ('windi), *sb.*¹ Repr. colloq. and dial. pronunc. of WINDOW *sb.* Cf. WINDER *sb.*⁵

1830 W. CARLETON *Traits & Stories Irish Peasantry* I. 193 Will you hand me over that other clew out of the windy-stool [= window-sill] there? c 1883 D. BOUICAULT *Shaughraun* II. i. 11 He got sight of my face agin the windy. 1921 V. JACOB *Bonnie Joann* 37 Lowse ye the windy-sneck a wheen. 1977 *Hot Car* Oct. 15/2 Another problem with fitting 'lectric windys to English cars is their narrow door design.

windy ('windi), *sb.*² *N. Amer. local slang.* [f. WINDY a. 6a.] A tall story; a piece of boasting or exaggeration.

1933 *Amer. Speech* VIII. 1. 53/2 Windy... a tall tale, a wildly unreasonable story. 1933 J. V. ALLEN *Cowboy Lore* III. 60/2 Telling a windy, telling a boastful story. 1935 H. L. DAVIS *Honey in Horn* iii. 24 He could invent windies about his stand-in with the girls.

wine (wain), *sb.*¹ Forms: 1-4 win, (2-3 uin), 3-6 wyn, 4-6 (7 *Sc.*) wyne (4 wyin, vyn, 4-5 wijn(e, 4, 6 *Sc.* vyne, 5 wyne, wyen(e, wyyn(e, wiyn, whyne, whyene, 6 *Sc.* wyynn, vine), 4- wine. [OE. *win* = OFris., OS., MLG., MDu. *wîn* (Du. *wijn*), OHG., MHG. *wîn* (G. *wein*), ON. *vín* (Sw., Da. *vin*), Goth. *wein*:—OTeut. **winom*, a. L. *vinum*, the source also of the Balto-Slavic (OSl. *vino*, Lith. *výnas*) and Celtic words (Ir. *fín*, W. *gwîn*).

L. *vinum* is primitively related to Gr. *φαῖνος, οἶνος* wine, *οἶν* vine, wine, Alb. *vëne*, Arm. *gini*, which according to some scholars are all derived from a common Mediterranean source, while according to others prim. Arm. **woiniyo* (Arm. *gini*) is the immediate origin of the Gr., Lat., and Alb. words; the nature of the connexion of the Indo-Eur. words with the Semitic (Arab., Ethiopic *wain*, Hebrew *yayin*, Assyrian *inu*) is disputed.]

1. a. The fermented juice of the grape used as a beverage.

It is essentially a dilute solution of alcohol, on the proportion of which in its composition depend its stimulating and intoxicating properties. Wines are classed as red or white, dry or sweet, still or sparkling.

Beowulf 1162 Byrelas sealdon win of wunderfatum. 805-31 in Sweet *O.E. Texts* 444 *Selle mon... mittan fulne huniges oðða tuegen uinnes.* 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 165 Ne drinpe he win ne ealu. a 1122 *O.E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1012 Wæron hi eac swyðe druncene, forþam þær wæs gebrōht win suðan. a 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 229 He awende water to uine. c 1205 LAY. 14209 Ane guldene bolle i-uulled mid wine. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 180 How pat haly drightin Turned watir in to vyn. *Ibid.* 12679 He dranc neuer cisar ne wine, Ne wered neuer clath o line. 13... *Seuyn Sag.* (W.) 211 Other ich am of wine dronke, Other the firmament is i-sonke. c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 3259 þan asked þei þe win & went to bedde after. c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 13 Dilicious ale and spissid and heize wyne. c 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 334 Wel loued he by the morwe a sope in wyn. c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xxi. 339 But man contrarious aunswereth, The wyne is over myghty, it is not good. c 1450 *Brut* II. 422 The cite faste did encrease of bredde and wyn, fissue and flesshe. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* ciii[i]. 15 Wyne to make glad y^e herte of man. 1577 GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* 148 Old Cheese wyl become new in taste, yf you lay them in Time, Vineger, or in Wine. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* I. 502 The Sons Of Belial, flown with insolence and wine. a 1718 *Prior Epitaph* 29 Their Beer was strong; Their Wine was Port. 1781 COWPER *Conversat.* 263 When wine has giv'n indecent language birth. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* viii, 'It wasn't the wine,' murmured Mr. Snodgrass, '... It was the salmon'. (Somehow or other, it never is the wine, in these cases.)

b. As one of the elements in the Eucharist.

c 1005 in Wright *Biogr. Brit. Lit., A.-S. Period* (1842) 498 Se Drihten. c wæp þ se hlaf wære his aȝen lichama, & þ win wære witodlice his blod. c 1100 *Gloss.* in Wr. Wülker 128/22 *Infernum uinum*, messewin. c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 51 Notieð ðat ȝe isieð bread and win wiðuten, and on ȝeure ipanke ilieueð ðat ȝe naht ne ȝesieð. c 1400 26 *Pol. Poems* xxiii. 37 So dede crist... By holy ordynance taugt vs to lere, Halwe bred and wyn. a 1450 MYRC *Par.* Pr. 251 In þe chalys ys but wyn & water. 1531 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 23 He to fynde the brede and wyne. 1552, 1886 [see BREAD sb. 2 d]. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 17 His blude to drink, in forme of wyne. 1582 N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Cong. E. Ind.* I. xxxix. 92 They consecrate w^t leuened bread and with wine made of raisons. 1781 COWPER *Expost.* 377 The Saviour's feast, his own blest bread and wine.

c. With qualifying word denoting colour, place of origin, etc., as ALICANT wine, CLARET wine, PORT-WINE, red wine (RED a. 16), SHERRY wine, WHITE WINE, wine seck (SACK sb.³).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4678 Wines, quite and red. c 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 35 Take Datys, an do a-way þe stonys, & sethe in swete Wyne. 1436 *Libel Eng. Policy* 53 in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 160 Wyne bastarde. 1623 MARKHAM *Engl. Housew.* I. 148 The Wines of the hie countries, and which is called Hie-country wine, are made some thirtie or fortie miles beyond Burdeaux. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* III. 78 Best Maluasy, Muscadine and Letaticke wines. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Hor.*, *Sat.* II. viii. 12 The lees of Coan wine.

d. Regarded as the usual accompaniment of dessert; see also quot. 1843.

1824, 1833 [see WALNUT¹ 1b]. 1843 LYTON *Last Bar.* I. vi, Madge appeared with the final refreshment called 'the

Wines', consisting of spiced hippocras and confections. 1859 M. THOMSON *Story of Cawnpore* ix. 151 In their wine-and-walnut arguments.

e. *fig.* or in *fig.* context.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 21294 þe stile o matheu, water it was, And win þe letter o lucas. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 154 Allegyng... the dignytees of theyr oyle & wyne of contemplacyon. c 1586 C^{TESS} PEMBROKE *Ps.* cxix. L. ii, I like a smoked bottle am become, And yet the wine of thy commandments hold. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* II. iii. 100 The Wine of Life is drawne, and the meere Lees Is left this Vault, to brag of. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* I. Intro. 181 The wine of life is on the lees. 1823 BYRON *Island* I. iii, Unless he drain the wine of passion—rage. 1825 CARLYLE in *Froude Life* (1882) I. xvi. 271 Literature is the wine of life. 1865 KINGSLEY *Hereu.* I. Prel. 19 Cheered by the keen wine of that dry and bracing frost. 1875 STEVENSON *Lett.* (1899) I. 94 The look of his face was a wine to me.

f. (a) Phrases.

† to drink wine ape (cf. F. *avoir vin de singe*), to be merry in one's cups. † wine of height: 'a former perquisite of seamen on getting safely through a particular navigation' (Smyth *Sailor's Word-bk.*). wine of honour (= F. *vin d'honneur*): wine presented by municipal officers to great personages on their entry into a town. in wine (see IN *prep.* 10b; cf. F. *dans le vin*): in a state of intoxication with wine; in one's cups. † to give wine: to draw blood (cf. CLARET sb.² 2). to take wine: to drink wine with another person in a ceremonial manner, esp. as a token of friendship or regard.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Manciple's Prol.* 44 Me thynketh ye been wel yshape. I trowe that ye dronken han wyn Ape. 1518 *Sel. Pl. Star Chamb.* (Selden) II. 134 He seyð vlyently on to hym I shall gyve the a quart of Wyne. 1594 in *Capt. J. Smith's Virginia* (Arb.) 633 The Pilots... demanded of the Capitaine their Wine of hight as out of all danger. 1600 SHAKS. *A.Y.L.* III. v. 73, I am falsar then voves made in wine. 1706 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4276/3 The Magistrates waited on his Grace... and presented him with what they call the Wine of Honour. 1742 RICHARDSON *Pamela* III. 190, I am not sure... whether I should not have Reason to wish you were brought home in Wine, rather than to come home so sober... as you do. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* II. 'Glass of wine, sir?' 'With pleasure,' said Mr. Pickwick; and the stranger took wine, first with him... and then with the whole party together. 1856 EMERSON *Engl. Traits, Relig.* Wks. (Bohn) II. 102 If a Bishop meets an intelligent gentleman, and reads fatal interrogations in his eyes, he has no resource but to take wine with him. 1904 SIR A. GEIKIE *Scott. Remin.* xi. 318 One still meets with old-fashioned gentlemen, especially at public dinners, who 'take wine with you'.

(b) Proverbs and proverbial phrases.

new wine in old bottles (see Matt. ix. 17). to look on the wine when it is red (see Prov. xxiii. 31). good wine needs no (ivy)bush (see also BUSH sb.¹ 5c, IVY-BUSH). when wine is in, wit (or truth) is out. wine and women (Ecclus. xix. heading, A.V.).

1420-22 LYDG. *Thebes* 1732 Wyn and wyymen ben ek set a-syde. a 1532 *Rem. Love* xxxvii. Chaucer's Wks. 367/1 Wyne and women in to apostasy Cause wyse men to fal. 1535 COVERDALE *Prov.* xxiii. 31 Loke not thou vpon the wyne, how reed it is. 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 23 Ye praise the wyne, before ye tast of the grape. 1616 T. WINDHAM *Commend. Poem* in J. Lane *Contin. Sgr.* T. 7 The iwie needes not, wheare theare is good wine. 1616 DRAKE *Bibl. Scholast.* 235 When the wine is in, the wit is out. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* I. ii. III. xiii. 160 Those two maine plagues and common dogges of humane kind, Wine & Women. 1727 GAY *Begg.* Op. II. i, Women and Wine should Life employ. 1755 B. FRANKLIN *Poor Richard* (1890) 241 When the Wine enters, out goes the Truth. 1819 BYRON *Juan* II. clxxviii, Let us have wine and women, mirth and laughter, Sermons and soda-water the day after. 1862 THACKERAY *Philip* vii, As Doctor Luther sang, Who loves not wine, woman, and song, He is a fool his whole life long.

g. In collocation with other words, as wine and water (hence wine-and-watery adj.), wine(s) and spirit(s) (also attrib.), wine and cheese (party, etc.), cake and wine; see also d.

1819 BYRON *Juan* II. lvii, The same cause... Left him so drunk, he jump'd into the wave... And so he found a wine-and-watery grave. 1828 *Wine & Spirit Adulterators Unmasked* 12 The spurious Brandy, which generally comprises the stock of the Advertising Wine and Spirit Merchant. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 467/1 Wine and Spirit Trade. 1867 H. LATHAM *Black & White* 111 Able to produce the cake and wine of hospitality. 1961 *Daily Tel.* 5 Dec. 9/2 To my mind, the ideal wine and cheese party is given around midday. 1969 *Times* 25 Sept. 27/2 All 550 members of the staff have been invited to a wine and cheese party on that day. 1976 M. DUKE *Death at Wedding* xiii. 148 He's gone to the local Labour Party wine-and-cheese do. 1977 B. PYM *Quartet in Autumn* xvii. 155 She did not feel capable of guessing what kind of an evening party, for she could only think of 'wine and cheese' which seemed altogether unworthy of Mr Strong.

2. In wider use, usually with qualifying word: A fermented liquor made from the juice of other fruits, or from grain, flowers, the sap of various trees (e.g. birch and palm), etc.: sometimes called made wine (MADE ppl. a. 3).

the wine of the country (= F. *le vin de pays*): properly, the wine made in a particular locality for local consumption; usually *transf.* the alcoholic beverage most drunk in a particular country, or regarded as peculiar to it.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P.R.* xvii. clxxxvii. (Add. MS. 27944). Wyne ymade is ymade by crafte of good spicery & herbes. And it fareþ of þe wyn pat hatte Salinacum & of þe wyn pat hatte rosatum & Garioflatum. 1542 BOORDE *Dyetary* x. (1870) 254 All maner of wyne be made of grapes, excepte respyse, the whiche is made of a bery. 1613 [see PALM sb.¹ 7]. 1694 WORLIDGE *Two Treatises* 102 Peaches also and Apricocks, by some are made to yield pleasant Wines. 1710 in *Swift's Lett.* (1767) III. 29, I spent the evening with Wortley Mountague and Mr. Addison, over a bottle of Irish wine. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 328 That detestable Catalogue of counterfeit Wines, which derive their Names from the Fruits, Herbs or Trees of whose Juices they are chiefly compounded. 1746 WARTON *Progr. Discontent* 84 And tho' she boasts no charms divine, yet she can carve and

make birch wine. 1750 (title) *Ovos Kpιδwos*, a Dissertation concerning the Origin and Antiquity of Barley Wine. 1803 J. BURNES *Discov. S. Sea* i. iii. 88 The wine of rice. 1817 H. MATTHEWS *Diary of an Invalid* (1820) ii. 39 As much of the wine of the country as you like. 1842 LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 561 The gooseberry. . . Wines and brandies are made from the green fruit. 1865 A. TROLLOPE *Can you forgive Her?* II. xxxvi. 287 He had ordered a bottle of Sauterne; but the landlord had thought . . . that a bottle of ordinary wine of the country would do as well. 1888 CHURCHWARD *Blackbirding* 102 What they called the wine of the country — square gin.

3. *Pharmacy*. A solution of a medicinal substance (denoted by a qualifying word) in wine; a medicated wine.

1652, 1900 [see STEEL sb.¹ 12]. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* II. s.v. *Wine, Chalybeate, or Steel Wine*, is prepared of steel filings. 1811 A. T. THOMSON *Lond. Disp.* (1815) 655 The solutions thus formed have been denominated Medicated Wines. *Ibid.* 656 Wine of Ipecacuanha. 1866 AITKEN *Pract. Med.* II. 51 The wine of the root of colchicum.

4. A wine-party, esp. of undergraduates.

1857 'C. BEDE' *Mr Verdant Green Married* xii. 101 Mr Bouncer . . . gave his last wine (wherein he produced some 'very old port'). 1860 W. W. READE *Liberty Hall* I. viii. 130 When I go out to a wine I always bring my own straws. 1862 KINGSLEY *Alton Locke* xiii. (new ed.) 123 The interval being taken up . . . in 'wines', and an hour of billiards. 1885 M. PATTISON *Mem.* 144 Oh the icy coldness, the dreary Egyptian blankness of that 'wine'.

5. *spirit(s) of wine*, alcohol, rectified spirit; *oil of wine*, ceananth ester; also, a heavy oily liquid (*heavy oil of wine*) consisting of etherin, etherol, and ethyl sulphate, called also *ethereal oil*. See also LOW-WINES.

[Cf. quot. 1626 s.v. ROSCIDA a.] 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* iii. xxi. 161 An evaporation of spirits of wine and Camphir. a 1648 DIGBY *Chym. Secr.* (1682) 172 An excellent Spirit of Wine, fit to draw Tinctures. 1741 *Complete Fam.-Piece* I. iv. 246 Pour on it a Pint of the ordinary Spirit of Wine, that of twelve-pence a Quart. 1807 T. THOMSON *Chem.* (ed. 3) II. 411 A peculiar kind of oil known by the name of sweet oil of wine. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* I. 43 Raymond Lully was acquainted with 'spirits of wine', which he called *aqua ardens*. 1882 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* II. 507 *Heavy oil of wine*, . . . according to Liebig, an ethyl-sulphate of etherol.

6. A wine-glass. *Usu. in pl.*

1848 THACKERAY *Little Dinner at Timmins's* iii. It was calculated that . . . a dozen or so tumblers, four or five dozen wines, eight water-bottles . . . were requisite. 1935 W. A. THORPE *Eng. Glass* iv. 129 Mansell had three grades of 'wines' which in 1639 he described as follows. . . Ordinary Drinking-Glasses—for Wine.' 1947 *Glass Notes* Dec. 16 *Problem for 1948*, to discover the following: . . . a facet stem wine with a domed foot. 1974 *Habitat Catal.* 72/2 *Bistro*. Really good value for drinking anything from sherry to sweet stout. 3½ oz sherry 14p, 5 oz wine 15p 8 oz goblet 16p.

7. Passing into *adj.* A dark red colour.

1895 *Montgomery Ward Catal.* 3/1 Royal Serge, 22 inches wide, in plain, solid colours. . . Colors: Cardinal, wine, brown. 1923 [see LAUREL sb.¹ 2 e]. 1950 B. PYM *Some Tame Gazelle* xv. 166 She had visions of herself . . . in her brown velvet or wine crêpe de Chine. 1981 *Country Life* 22 Jan. 226/3 Feather-stitch grey and wine pullover.

8. *attrib. and Comb.* a. Simple attrib. (a) Of, made of or with, wine, as *wine alcohol*, *-breath*, *-draff*, *-drast*, *-dregs*, *-harvest* (also attrib.), *-marc*, *-mother*, *-must*, *-offering*, *-posset*, *-sap*, *-sauce*, † *-shench* (also attrib.), *-sillabub*, *-stain*.

c 1000 *Ag. Ps.* (Th.) ciii. 14 [civ. 15] Heortan manna must and windrinc myclum blissað. c 1205 LAY. 3529 Heo iward reode on hire benche, swilche hit were of wine scenche. c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 186 þeron schulen be dissolued wijndrastis brent. c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* iii. 162 Wyndraf is good also commyxt with donge. c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 529/2 Wyne dreggys, or lye. 1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong.* Grappage, grape-gathering, wyne haruest. *Ibid.*, *Vendangeur*, a Wine-haruest man. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 21 b/1 The wine mother or dregge. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* xxiii. i. II. 147 As many as have lien among wine-Marc. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* xii. 21 With large Wine-offerings pour'd. 1701 S. SEWALL *Diary* 2 June (1879) II. 36 Treated them with bread, Beer, wine Sillibub. 1794-6 E. DARWIN *Zoon.* (1801) IV. 424 He gradually takes more custard every day, . . . and takes wine syllabub. 1809-12 MARIA EDGEWORTH *Absentee* vi. The wine-sauce for the hare was split by their collision. 1818 DK. SUSSEX in Lady Morgan *Autobiogr.* (1859) 19 You did not expect me to have stayed for the wine-posset? 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* xlviii. Wine-stains, fruit-stains, beer-stains. 1853 URE *Dict. Arts* I. 155 The fermentation of wine-must. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.*, *Org.* (1862) i. §2. 29 Wood spirit and fousel oil . . . are termed homologues of wine alcohol. 1917 D. H. LAWRENCE *Look! We have come Through!* 158, I want the fine, kindling wine-sap of spring. 1922 W. B. YEATS *Seven Poems* I Being sharpened by his death To drink from the wine-breath While our gross palates drink from the whole wine.

(b) Of, for, or connected with the production, sale, storing, or use of wine, as *wine-barrel*, *basket*, *-bin*, *-bottle*, *-bowl*, *box*, *-butt*, *-can*, *-cask*, *cistern*, *-country*, *-cup* (also fig.), *-decanter*, *-district*, *-flask*, *funnel*, *-gourd*, *-horn* (OE.), *industry*, *-jar*, *jug*, *-kitchen*, *-land*, *-merchant*, *-office*, *-pipe*, *-shop*, *-store*, *table*, *-tavern* (hence † *-taverner*), *-trade*, *-trough*, *-tun*, *-vessel*.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp. Matt.* xxi. 33 Monn . . . seðe gesette ðone winegard . . . & dalf in ðær win-trog. c 1000 *Rule of Chrodegang* vi, ðif hwa on pam winlandum . . . win wylle forgan. c 1000 in Thorpe *Anc. Laws* (1840) II. 354 Ne he ne drince at wintunnum. c 1205 LAY. 30677 He hafde on his uore wintunnen inoze. 13 . . . *Sir Beves* (A.) 2673 Sextene fot a was a lingpe; His bodi ase a wintonne. 1382 WYCLIF *Josh.* ix. 4 Rent wyn botels. — *Job* xxxii. 19 Must . . . that breketh

newe litle win vessels. 1401 *Close Roll 2 Hen. IV.* II. m. 10 dorso (P.R.O.) Thomas Nightgale wyntaverner. c 1449 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 223 The Water-Bowge and the Wyne-Botelle. 1530 PALSGR. lf. 178, l Broche a wyne vessell. 1535 COVERDALE *Hos.* iii. 1 They . . . loue the wyne kannes. 1538 ELYOT, *Oenopolium*, a wyne tauerne. 1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong.* *Vn verdun*, a wine trough. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 41 b/1 Ashes which are burned of the inverate sydes of a wyne pipe. 1622 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Shilling B6*, From thence vnto the Wine-Marchant I went. 1635 HEYWOOD *Philoth.* 46 Flagons, Tankards, Beere-cups, Wine-bowles. 1636 BULKELEY *Gospel Covt.* iv. 306 The heart . . . having bene as a Wine-vessell, which hath had no vent. 1684 *Invent. in Archaeol. Cambr.*, *Orig. Doc.* (1877) 9 In the Sellar . . . two wine casks. 1714 MANDEVILLE *Fab. Bees* (1723) I. 81 That multitude of Wine-Merchants, Vintners, Coopers. 1736 *Gentl. Mag.* VI. 340/1 Portugal, and other Wine-Countries. 1766 ENTICK *London* IV. 351 The freemen . . . have the privilege of retailing wine without a licence from the Wine-office. 1780 T. DAVIES *Mem. Garrick* ii. (1781) 16 He engaged for some time in the wine trade. a 1800 *Fair Annie* xxvii. in Child *Ballads* (1885) III. 70/2 Has your wine barrels cast the girds? 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* xxxiv. Thou . . . hast partaken of the wine-cup of fury. 1819 — *Ivanhoe* I. xiv. 294 He raised . . . the wine-cup to his lips. 1821 — *Kenilw.* xviii. He . . . took another long pull at the wine flask. 1825 COBBETT *Rur. Rides* (1885) I. 345 The 'Squire had many wine-decanter. 1833 MOORE *Mem.* (1853) I. 2 My father kept a small wine store in Johnson's Court. 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz.* (1836) 1st Ser. I. 291 Waiters with wine-baskets in their hands are placing decanters of Sherry down the tables. 1835 J. E. ALEXANDER *Sk. in Portugal* xi. 260 A considerable reach of the river was also seen to the east and west, and the wine-district in the far distance of Alto Douro. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. v. v, Fat are your larders; over-generous your wine-bins. *Ibid.* II. vi. viii. Wine-bottles were broken, wine-butts were staved in and drunk. 1838 J. G. FLÜGEL *Compl. Dict. Ger. & Eng. Languages* II. 833/2 *Wein*, . . . -trichter, m. wine-funnel. 1839 POE in *Burton's Gentleman's Mag.* Oct. 212, I had indulged more freely than usual in the excesses of the wine-table. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* lv, A troubled vision . . . of wine-shops, water-carriers, great crowds of people. 1853 — *Bleak Ho.* v. Pickle bottles, wine bottles, ink bottles. 1855 KINGSLEY *Heroes, Argon.* vi. 189 Heracles opened the fatal wine-jar. 1864 BURTON *Scot. Abr.* I. v. 319 Wine-barrels would burst if the bung were not sometimes opened to give them air. 1875 URE's *Dict. Arts* III. 1142 Hérault is the most important wine country in the south of France. 1881 W. J. CRIPPS *College & Corporation Plate* v. 132 (caption) *Wine Cistern*, circa 1701. 1910 S. W. BUSHELL *Chinese Art* II. 17 The poets of the time liken their wine cups to 'disks of thinnest ice'. 1922 JOYCE *Ulysses* 142 'Tis the hour, methinks, when the winejug, metaphorically speaking, is most grateful in Ye ancient hostelry. 1924 D. H. LAWRENCE in M. Magnus *Mem. Foreign Legion* 45 So we went into a little cave of a wine-kitchen to drink a glass of wine. 1935 *Burlington Mag.* May p. xli/2 A superb wine-table, also tripod, a pair of torchères, circa 1760. 1952 L. MACNEICE *Ten Burnt Offerings* 56 Did not these whitewashed rooms among wine-gourds, goat-skins, ikons, Include a letter or two with a foreign postmark. 1963 *Punch* 21 Aug. 280/2 The most northerly German winelands. 1966 P. V. PRICE *France* 132 More than three million Frenchmen are engaged in the wine industry and there are about a million and a half wine growers. 1966 P. V. PRICE *France* 133 The wine trade in Great Britain consider that the British wine drinker is protected . . . by the laws of the country. 1971 *Country Life* 1 Apr. 766/1 [His [sc. Thomas Heming's] earlier shallow sauce tureens . . . were echoed in his own 1,457-ounce massive wine cistern for Belton House. 1971 *Sunday Times* (Johannesburg) 28 Mar. 25/1, (Advt.), On a southern mountain slope, in the heart of the Stellenbosch winelands, the skills of man and the secrets of nature combine to create five distinctive wines. 1974 *Habitat Catal.* 81/2 Wicker wine basket. For serving fine delicate wines, without disturbing the sediment. 1976 R. M. STERN *Will* iv. 24 Prohibition stifled the California wine industry. 1976 *Derbyshire Times* (Peak ed.) 3 Sept. 15/5 (Advt.), Two Walnut pie crust wine tables. 1976 *National Observer* (U.S.) 4 Dec. 8/3 A bureau spokesman says it could be the first step toward establishment of a national wine-district system similar to that of France. 1977 *Times* 14 May 13/3 Accommodation will be heavily booked at vintage time by the wine trade. 1980 *Catal. Fine Chinese Ceramics* (Sotheby, Hong Kong) 75 An incised white dragon Winecup of thinly potted bell shape. 1981 R. MANHEIM tr. *G. Grass's Meeting at Telgte* xv. 88 His busy treasure hunting seemed to leave him no free hand for the wine jug. 1981 *Times* 17 Oct. 12/7 A Dundee wine funnel of about 1820 by William Law sold for £680. 1982 *Daily Tel.* 8 Dec. 17/1 Wine boxes have made buying easier. . . Wine boxes are generally about £7.50 for three litres. 1984 *Which?* May 195/1 *Which? Wine Monthly* has been testing wine boxes again. A few this time were rather nice . . . but many were still disappointing, particularly when they'd been opened for a week or so.

(c) With reference to the colour of wine, as *wine colour* sb., and predicatively as *adj.*, *tint*; *wine-black*, *-bright*, *-coloured*, *-red* *adjs.*, *-yellow* (after G. weingelb) *adj.*, also as sb.; *wine-tint* vb.

1805 T. WEAVER *Werner's Ext. Charact. Fossils* 57 Wine-yellow is a pale reddish-yellow colour. 1831 BREWSTER *Optics* xliii. 369 All achromatic telescopes . . . exhibit the secondary colours, viz. the wine-coloured and the green fringes. 1838 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 402 The wine-red substance which remains in solution in the carbonate of ammonia. 1842 JOHNSTON in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. No. 10. 36 The foot of the snail is a wine-yellow. 1855 MILMAN *Lat. Christ.* xiv. x. VI. 606 In the East, the Christ is . . . of delicate complexion, dark beard (it is sometimes called wine-coloured beard). 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.*, *Org.* (1862) viii. 621 A wine-red amorphous precipitate. 1863 T. W. HIGGINSON *Army Life* (1870) 57 He is jet-black, or rather, I should say, wine-black. 1876 SWINBURNE *Erechtheus* 114 His wine-bright waves. 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 644/2 *Cairngorm*, . . . a wine-yellow or brown variety of rock-crystal. 1893 *Daily News* 14 Feb. 2/3 Wine tints. 1895 S. CRANE *Red Badge* iii, A glaring fire wine-tinted the waters of the river. 1902 R. W. CHAMBERS *Maid*

Parad. xxii. 381 The twigs on the peach-trees had turned wine-colour.

b. Objective, as *wine-bottler*, *conner*, † *-crier*, *-drinker*, *-importer*, *-lover*, *-maker*, *-seller*, *-shipper*, *-spiller*, † *-sucker*, † *-supper*, † *-tapper*, † *-tunner*, *-vender*, *-worshipper*, *wine-drinking*, *-loving*, *-making*, *-producing*, *-selling*, *-swilling*, *-yielding*, vbl. sbs. and ppl. *adjs.*; also *wine-like* *adj.*

c 1000 *Ag. Gosp. Matt.* xi. 19 Her ys ettul mann & windrincende. a 1100 *Aldhelm Gloss.* i. 2652 (Napier 72/1) *Cauponibus*, i. negotiatoribus, wintæperum. 1382 WYCLIF 2 *Kings* xxv. 12 Wyne makers, and erthliers. 1398 Wyne drinkinge [see UNTEMPERATELY *adv.*] 14 . . . *Nom.* in W. Wülcker 667/20 *Hic vinitor*, a wynmaker. c 1483 CAXTON *Dialogues* 35/23 Frederik the wyn crier. 1535 COVERDALE *Joel* i. 5 Mournne all ye wyne suppers, because of youre swete wyne. 1550 *Rental Bk. Cupar-Angus* (1880) II. 76 Wyne selling, or only vther mercheandice. 1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict.*, *Vendimiador*, a wine maker. 1598 STOW *Surv.* 192 The successors of those Uintners and wine Drawers . . . were all incorporated by the name of wine tunners, in the 15. of Henry the sixt. 1601 DOLMAN *La Primada. Fr. Acad.* III. 329 A wine-like iuyce. 1604 *Meeting of Gallants at Ordinarie* C 1 b, This strange Wine-sucker. 1607 G. WILKINS *Miseries Enforced* Marr. III. D4, Scrape-trencher, . . . Wine-spiller. 1611 [see CONNER]. 1639 JUNIUS *Sinne Stigmatiz'd* 313 These wine-worshippers will be at it on their knees. 1676 WORLIDGE *Vinatum Brit.* 41 Wine-yielding-fruits. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* I. 267 My . . . aunt Hervey had . . . given us to apprehend much disagreeable evil . . . from a wine-lover. 1814 P. P. CARNELL (title) A treatise on family winemaking. 1825 SCOTT *Talism.* xxi, Ye beef-devouring, wine-swilling English mastiffs. 1835 LYTTON *Rienzi* x. vii, An honest wine-vender. 1846 R. FORD *Gatherings from Spain* xiv. 150 The wine-producing districts. 1855 PUSEY *Doctr. Real Presence* Note S. 473 Some consecrated virgins pleaded for their wine-drinking that it was the element used in the Sacrament. 1875 URE's *Dict. Arts* III. 1136 The great wine-producing district of Burgundy. 1881 V. LUSH *Jrnl.* 27 Aug. (1975) 245 If life and health be spared to us, wine-making will become hence-forth like jam making and fruit tinning, one of the fixed employments of the Autumn. 1895 CORNH. *Mag.* Nov. 506 As early as 1141 we hear of the wine criers . . . being an organised body in France. 1900 J. HUTCHINSON *Archives Surg.* XI. 206 A robust-looking man, by occupation a wine-bottler. 1921 'L. H. DAVISON' *Movements in European Hist.* iv. 43 The Romans of Latium were short, dark men of the wine-loving lands. 1935 A. G. MACDONELL *Visit to Amer.* x. 183 California could produce a vin ordinaire to sell at thirty or forty [cents]. If she did, she would gradually build up a great community of wine drinkers. 1949 C. GRAVES *Ireland Revisited* x. 151 The traditional story about James Lynch Fitzstephen is that he was a leading wine-shipper in Galway. 1959 E. H. CLEMENTS *High Tension* ii. 21 My family were wine-importers with offices in London, Edinburgh and Bordeaux. 1972 *Times* (Wines & Spirits Suppl.) 27 Nov. p. viii/5 With their large number of outlets they could go direct to wine growers on the Continent, by-passing the wine shippers. 1979 A. MALING *Koberg Link* (1980) xxv. 135 'We have vineyards'. . . 'Tough business, winemaking'. 1980 *Times* 27 Nov. 21/1 A wine-loving traveller. 1981 W. J. BURLEY *House of Care* i. 6 His job with a firm of London wine importers. 1983 *Listener* 14 July 18/3 Burgundy and Bordeaux are still the British wine-drinker's dream lands.

c. Instrumental, as *winebig*, *-crowned*, *-drabbled*, *-drenched*, *-driven*, *-ensanguined*, *-fizzling*, *-flushed*, † *-heat*, *-heated*, *-heavy*, *-inspired*, *-shaken*, *-stained*, *-stuffed*, *-warm*; also *wine-hardy*, *-red*, *-wise* *adjs.*

a 1000 *Judith* 71 Weras winsade. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 213 Idele lehtres and winrede brues [at drinche]. c 1563 *Jack Juggler* (facs.) C4, Wine shakin pilory peepours. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. ii. 1. *Ark* 137 His wine-stuff stomach wrung with wind he feels. 1611 J. DAVIES *Commend. Poems* Wks. (Grosart) II. 15/1 Their wine-driv'n brains, involv'd in follie's cloud. 1612 BEAUM. & FL. *Coxcomb* i. i, The Gentleman is Wine-wise. 1615 CHAPMAN *Odys.* III. 200 Their wine-heat blood. *Ibid.* xviii. 481 For feare can get no state In your wine-hardy stomacke. 1677 MRS. BEHN *Rover* II. i, The Wine Inspir'd Bullies of the Town. 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz.*, *Parl. Sk.*, The playful exuberance of their wine-inspired fancies. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* I. Introd., Such a wine-drabbled divinity. 1859 TENNYSON *Geraint & Enid* 1200 Wine-heated from the feast. 1867 MORRIS *Jason* v. 217 A wine-crowned golden cup. 1897 W. B. YEATS *Secret Rose* 2 The old and foolish king . . . snored fitfully in a wine-heavy sleep. 1899 — *Wind among Reeds* 49 Dwelt among wine-stained wanderers in deep woods. 1912 E. POUND *Ripostes* 26 Wealthy and wine-flushed. 1914 W. B. YEATS *Responsibilities* 2 Those wine-drenched eyes. 1922 JOYCE *Ulysses* 249 John Henry Menton . . . stared from winebig oyster eyes. *Ibid.* 420 Come on, you winefizzling . . . existences! 1925 H. ACTON in *Oxf. Poetry* 4 And we had thought to fashion of our joy Round crackling pearls to pelt our wine-drenched loves. 1928 W. B. YEATS tr. *Sophocles' King Oedipus* 6 And Bacchus' wine-ensanguined face that all the Maenads jett. 1953 C. DAY LEWIS *Italian Visit* vi. 65 When cypresses jettled like fountains of wine-warm air. 1964 J. MICHIE tr. *Horace's Odes* I. vii. 33 Set on his wine-flushed brow brave garlands of poplar. 1983 J. MASTERS *Man of War* xxiii. 299 A Michelin map spread out on the wine-stained . . . table.

9. a. Special comb.: *wine apple* [cf. G. *weinapfel*, Du. *wijnappel*], a large red apple with a winy flavour; † *wine ball* = *wine-stone*; *wine bar*, (a) a bar or counter in a club, shop, etc., where wine is kept or sold; (b) a licensed establishment specializing in the serving of wine (and food); † *wine-belly* a., with a belly full of wine; *wine-biscuit*, a small light biscuit served with wine; *wine book*, (a) a book for keeping records of wines bought and consumed; (b) a book about wines; † *wine-brewer* (see quot.); *wine-buff*, a wine enthusiast; † *wine-bush* =

BUSH *sb.* 5; **wine butler**, a servant who has charge of the wine-cellar and serves the wine (cf. BUTLER *sb.* 1 a); **wine-cake**, a cake of which wine was an ingredient; **wine-card** [= G. *weinkarte*] = *wine-list*; **wine-cart**, a cart in which wine is conveyed, esp. for sale; **wine-cave**, a cave in which wine is kept to mature; **wine coaster** = COASTER 6; **wine-cooler**, a vessel in which bottles of wine can be immersed in ice or iced liquid; also *fig.*; **wine-cooper** = COOPER *sb.* 2; **wine-crust** (see CRUST *sb.* 5 b); **wine-dance**, a dance performed in celebration of wine; **wine-dark** *a.*, of the colour of deep-red wine; used esp. to render Gr. *οἶνός* as an epithet of the sea; occas. (*poet.*) as *sb.*; **wine-dot** [*joc.* f. WYANDOTTE] *Austral. slang*, an addict of cheap wine; † **wine-drawer**, (a) a carrier or seller of wine; (b) one who draws wine from the cask for customers; **wine farm** *S. Afr.*, a farm on which grapes are grown for winemaking and on which wine is frequently made; **wine-farmer**, a vine-grower; **wine-fly**, any fly (as of the genus *Piophilina*), the larva of which lives in wine or other fermented liquor; **wine fountain**, a large vessel for holding and dispensing wine; **wine-gallon**, the standard gallon by which wine is measured (see quot. 1706); † **wine garland**, a tavern sign in the form of a garland or bush of ivy; † **wine-gnat**, app. = *wine-fly*; **wine-god**, a or the god of wine, esp. Bacchus, Dionysus; **wine-grower**, one who cultivates vines for the production of wine; so **wine-growing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*; **wine gum** [GUM *sb.* 2 1 g], a fruit-flavoured sweetmeat made with gelatine; † **wine-knight**, one who drinks valiantly; **wine label**, (a) a label hung round the neck of a decanter to indicate what wine it holds; (b) the paper label affixed to a bottle of wine, stating its name and provenance; **wine lake**, a stockpile or surplus of wine; † **wine law** [LAW *sb.* 2; cf. LAWING *sb.*], payment for one's share of wine; **wine list**, a list of the wines that may be obtained at a restaurant; **wine lodge**, (a) = LODGE *sb.* 12 c; (b) a licensed establishment selling wine, beer, and soft drinks; **winemanship**, the display of real or pretended knowledge about wine; **wine-measure**, the standard of liquid measure used for wine; **wine-palm**, any palm from which palm-wine is obtained; **wine-party**, a party, esp. of undergraduates, the chief object of which is to drink wine; **wine-piercer** (see quot.); **wine-pint**, -quart (cf. *wine-gallon*); **wine-porter**, one whose business it is to carry wine, esp. to deposit it in cellars; **wine rack**, a frame with compartments for holding bottles of wine; **wine room**, a bar-room where wine is served; **wine-roping**, the development of ropiness in wine; † **wine-sack**, a sack used for straining wine; **wine-sap**, a large red American winter apple; **wine-shades** (see SHADE *sb.* 10); **wine-shed**, the 'shedding' or pouring out of wine (a facetious formation after *bloodshed*); **wine-skin**, a wine-vessel made of an animal's skin; *fig.* one who 'fills his skin' with wine, a tippler; also *transf.*; **wine snob** (see quot. 1951); hence **wine-snobbery**; **wine-sop**, † (a) a sop in wine; † (b) and (c) = SOPS-IN-WINE 1, 2; (d) *winesop black*, a salmon fly; **winesour**, a small acid variety of plum; **wine-spirit**, spirit of wine; † **wine-sprung** *a.*, intoxicated; **wine steward**, a servant responsible for serving wine; **wine-stone**, the deposit of crude tartar or argol found in wine-casks (cf. G. *weinstein*); **wine-taster**, (a) one who judges the quality of wine by tasting; (b) an instrument for drawing a small sample of wine from a cask; **wine-tasting**, testing the quality of wine by tasting; an occasion when this is done; **wine-vault(s)**, (a) a vault in which wine is stored (VAULT *sb.* 2 b); (b) a pretentious name for a public-house; **wine-vinegar** (cf. G. *weinessig*), vinegar made from wine, as opposed to *malt vinegar*; **wine-wagon**, (a) = *wine-cart*; (b) a carriage on which bottles of wine are brought into a room; **wine waiter**, a waiter responsible for serving wine; similarly **wine waitress**; **wine-warrant**, a warrant authorizing the delivery of wine from bond; † **wine-washing** *a.*, 'washing' or swilling as wine; **wine-why**, *why* made by eurdling milk with wine (see *WHY* *sb.* 1 b); **wine writer**, a person who writes about wine for publication.

1802 G. V. SAMPSON *Statist. Surv. Londonderry* 438 *Wine-apple; from its dark red colour. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 520/2 *Wynne ballys..., *pilaterie, vel pile tartaree*. 1938 R. GRAVES *Count Belisarius* iii. 65, I was busy at some task behind the *wine-bar. 1940 M. SADLEIR *Fanny by Gaslight*

1 270 He offered her a job as barmaid... Her new place of business was a girlery as well as a wine-bar. 1976 *Amer. Speech* 1974 XLIX. 117 *Wine bar*, counter in a liquor store, stocked with wines. 1981 B. KNOX *Killing in Antiques* iv. 87 Dunbar stopped the car in a side street... just a stone's throw from the wine bar. 1983 *Which?* Dec. (Publications Suppl.), For an accurate description of over 200 wine bars across the country, this section of the book is unbeatable, with critical comments on the range of wines, and an assessment of the food and perceptive summing-up of the atmosphere. 1603 DEKKER & CHETTLE *Grissil* 2560 Dost thou not see our *wine-bellie drunkards reele? 1835 C. F. HOFFMAN *Winter in West* II. 100 A tray of *wine-biscuits and a fragrant Ohio cheese. 1947 L. G. GREEN *Tavern of Seas* vii. 59 Documents, *wine-books, casks and iron chests... all make a picture of careful work and gay entertainment. 1975/76 *Listener* 25 Dec. & 1 Jan. 891/1 It is easy to mock the pretensions of wine writers... Writing a new wine book is as difficult as building a better mouse-trap. 1709 *Tatler* No. 131 ¶ I A... fraternity of chymical operators, who... can... draw Champagne from an Apple... These adepts are known among one another by the name of *Wine-Brewers. 1976 *Listener* 5 Aug. 158/2 One area which beer connoisseurs will have to cultivate in order to approach the influence of *wine-buffs—the language of appreciation. 1638 BRATHWAIT *Barnabees Rnrl.* D d viij, The Poets *wine-bush, which they use to prate on. 1880 E. W. HAMILTON *Diary* 9 May (1972) 1. 10, I have been offered and have undertaken the post of Chief *Wine Butler to Mr. G., which I hope will secure something rather less nasty in his cellars. 1973 *Times* 25 Aug. 12/6 Wine service is of such skill that it should make the average English wine butler blush. a 1661 HOLYDAY *Juvenal* (1673) 95 Why loose thy feast and *wine-cakes [orig. *mustaceae*], when thy friends Half-cloy'd depart? 1837 WHEELWRIGHT tr. *Aristophanes* I. 58 The wine-cake [*οἶνός*], honey, figs, whate'er 'tis right For Mercury to eat. 1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunters* ii, Whenever I took up a *wine-card or a pencil, these articles were snatched out of my fingers. 1837 W. B. ADAMS *Carriages* i. 25 A *wine-cart, or rather waggon. 1908 *Daily Chron.* 20 Mar. 4/6 Wine-carts used to go round the streets of Edinburgh dispensing the 'lairs' drink' to jug-customers. 1845 DODD *Brit. Manuf.* 82 The *wine-caves of Epernay. 1956 G. TAYLOR *Silver* ix. 201 *Wine Coasters, circular wooden base on baize, with silver sides. 1971 *Country Life* 15 July 183/1 The platform [of a cruet] was encircled with a deep gallery of wood... in the manner of a giant wine coaster. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xiii, Minnie, take the key of the *wine-cooler... the gentleman will surely take something. 1828 LYTON *Disowned* xl, Borodale's looks are the best wine coolers in the world. 1848 Wine-cooler [see *en permanence* s.v. EN prep.]. 1977 W. M. SPACKMAN *Armful of Warm Girl* 29 The waiter had swooped in rolling a second wine-cooler to set beside the first. 1635 *Canterbury Marr. Licences* Ser. 11. (1894) 1079/1 Edward Orlecooke of the city of London, *wine-cooper. 1765 TUCKER *Li. Nat.* (1834) II. 528 Brewing poisonous liquors in a wine-cooper's vaults. 1837 [see COOPER *sb.* 2]. 1872 SYMONDS *Dante* 213 Mildew is now where the *wine-crust used to be. 1920 D. H. LAWRENCE *Touch & Go* i. ii. 29 They begin to sing, dancing meanwhile, in a free little ballet-manner, a *wine-dance, dancing separate and then together. 1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* vi, The *wine-dark depths of the crystal. 1865 MISS BRADDOCK *Sir Jasper's* T. xxvi, The... Marquise, in her wine-dark violet dress. 1879 BUTCHER & LANG *Odyssey* 7 Sailing over the wine-dark sea. 1934 W. B. YEATS tr. *Sophocles' Oedipus at Colonus* in *Coll. Plays* 543 Come praise The wine-dark of the wood's intricacies. 1953 T. A. G. HUNGERFORD *Riverslake* 35 'Is he a *wine-dot?' 'Is he hell!'... He's never off it. 1976 D. HEWETT *This Old Man comes rolling Home* 11 Gawd, you smell like an old wine-dot, Laurie. 1415 *York Myst.* Intro. p. xxvi, *Wyndrawers. 1468 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* (Roxb.) 522 Of Reynold the wyndrawer vij. pipz. 1536 *Rem. Sedition* 18 b, If a tapster or a wyne drawer reckon a peny or two more than his duetie. 1583 FOXE *A. & M.* 1690/2 He desired the wine drawer that he might have a pinte of malmesey & a loafe. 1705 tr. *Bosman's Guinea* ix. 120 The Commonalty, such as Wine-Drawers, Fishermen, and such like. 1923 O. SCHREINER in *Cape Times* 18 Aug. 3/1 The sinking valley of its sprinkling of *wine-farms. 1970 *Cape Times* 28 Oct. 21/1 (Adv.), Choice Wine Farm in extent 40 morgen. 1984 *Times* 1 Nov. 27/7 He had invited Miss Budd to stay on his wine farm. 1792 A. YOUNG *Trav. France* I. 133 The greatest *wine-farmer in all Champagne. 1909 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 Aug. 5/1 The very wine-farmers appear to have agreed to drop... their agitation for the repeal of the Excise. 1915 G. MCC. THEAL *Hist. S. Afr.* 1795-1872 ii. 36 The British government held out great inducements to South African winefarmers to increase the quantity of their produce. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 73/1 *Ephemeris*... a day file, lying not about a days space, or *winefiles. 1658 ROWLAND tr. *Moufet's Theat. Ins.* 949 The Fly Bibio... called... in the English, Wine Fly. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl. Suppl.* s.v. *Wine, Wine-Fly*... a small black fly, found in empty wine-casks, and about wine-lees. 1889 *Cent. Dict.*, *Wine-fountain. 1931 E. WENHAM *Domestic Silver* ii. 17 Wine-fountains nearly 4 feet long and 3 feet wide. 1969 E. H. PINTO *Treen* 53/1 The lignum vitae wine fountain... is part of the Burrell Bequest to Glasgow Museum and Art Gallery. 1657 PARTRIDGE *Double Scale Prop.* (1671) 68 So many *Wine-gallons are in that vessel. 1706 *Act 6 Anne* c. 27 § 22 Any round Vessel... having an even Bottom and being Seven Inches Diameter throughout and Six Inches deep from the Top of the Inside to the Bottom or any Vessel containing Two hundred thirty one cubical Inches and no more shall be deemed... to be a lawful Wine Gallon. 1533 *MORE Answ. Poys. Bk.* Wks. 1138/1 Liking them to *wine garlandes and ale poles. 1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 43 *Vinacei* (quia ex vini facibus gigni creduntur) *Wine-gnats. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 31 Agray, a City first built by *Wine-god Bacchus. 1640 J. GOWER *Ovid's Fest.* iii. 759 The Wine-God laughs. 1801 MEREDITH *One of our Cong.* iv. (1892) 27 You shall not take the Winegod on board to entertain him as a simple passenger. 1844 MILL *Ess. Pol. Econ.* i. 45 The *wine-growers of France... imagine that free trade would relieve their distress by raising the price of their wine. 1859 *Habits of Gd. Society* xi. 311 A famous wine-grower at Epernay. 1846 KEIGHTLEY *Notes Virg., Georg.* ii. 80 The different kinds now cultivated in *wine-growing countries. 1953 *Winegum [see HUNDRED *sb.* and a. 7]. 1981 *Times* 1 May 19/3 Energy is stored in plastic pellets, like wine gums. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXI. xx. 1. 105 Our *wine-knights [Fr. *yrongnes*] when they purpose to sit square at the tavern

and carouse lustily, if they drinke Saffron, never feare surfeit. 1848 H. R. FORSTER *Stowe Catal.* 113 Seven *wine-labels. 1954 'M. Cost' *Invitation from Minerva* 209 On the wine label, above the sycamore... is a coat of arms. 1980 N. FREELING *Castang's City* xxi. 139 People belonged to a multiplicity of little gatherings... Wine-label collectors, neighbourhood betterment leagues. 1974 *Wine lake [see LAKE *sb.* 1 b]. 1979 *Guardian* 14 Mar. 14/1 Wine-lakes and butter-mountains may be jokes, but they are sick ones. 1984 *Times* 4 Oct. 1/4 The table wines... have... fared reasonably well, to the distress no doubt of the European community, whose wine lake is already overflowing. c 1488 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 173 For your *wyene lawgh at tabull iijij^d. 1898 G. B. SHAW *You never can Tell* II. 251 Crampton snatches the *wine list rudely from him and irresolutely pretends to read it. 1935 A. G. MACDONELL *Visit to America* x. 182, I waved the wine list... and shouted for the wine waiter. 1972 P. V. PRICE *Eating & Drinking in France* 248 The Nicolas establishments are reliable and the wine lists especially attractive. 1880 *Wine lodge [see LODGE *sb.* 12 c]. 1922 JOYCE *Ulysses* 392 *Mort aux vaches*, says Frank then in the French language that had been indentured to a brandy shipper that has a winelodge in Bordeaux. 1962 *Guardian* 24 Dec. 4/3 There's the Wine Lodge. You can get a glass of small white Australian for ninepence. 1977 *Punch* 31 Aug.-6 Sept. 345/1 Huge and dingy, the saloon bar looked like a cross between the main hall in the old Euston railway station and one of Yates's less-glamorous Wine Lodges. 1958 *Observer* 11 May 16/4 (heading) *Wine-manship. 1977 T. HEALD *Just Desserts* v. 87 A passable imitation of genuine winemanship. 1728-51 CHAMBERS *Cycl. s.v. Measure*, That eight pounds troy of wheat, gathered from the middle of the ear, and well dried, should weigh a gallon of *wine measure. 1771 *Encycl. Brit.* (1773) I. 313/2, 80 English quarts, wine measure. 1681 GREW *Museum* II. i. 184 The Country-People tap the *Wine-Palm about two feet above the ground. 1870 KINGSLEY *At Last* v, Leaves (as in the wine-palm) like Venus's hair fern. 1829 *Gownsmen* 10 Dec. 37 *Wine party, a meeting of individuals of an unlimited number, for the purpose of conversation, in which the topics are invariably the same, viz. the ladies, wine, proctors, and examinations. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* iv, An Oxford undergraduate's room, set out for a wine-party. c 1828 BERRY *Encycl. Her.* I. Gloss., *Wine-Piercer, an instrument to tap, or bore, holes in wine-casks. 1769 *Phil. Trans.* LIX. 220 One drop of tincture of galls gave a rosy purple colour to a *wine-pint of this water. 1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong. Avallage*, *wine porters wages when they do lay wine into the seller. 1622 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Shilling B 4 b*, When in the Celler it is laid, The Carmen, and Wine-Porters must be paid. 1669 E. CHAMBERLAYNE *Pres. St. Eng.* 261 [In the Royal Household] Wine-Porters, 8. 1831 *Lincoln Herald* 1 July 1/6 Mr. Hunt presented a petition from the wine-porters of Dublin, praying for the repeal of the union. 1660 BOYLE *New Exp. Phys. Mech.* Proem 9, 30 *Wine Quarts, each of them containing near two pound... of water. c 1791 *Encycl. Brit.* (1797) VII. 684/1 A Paris pint is 48 cubical Paris inches, and is nearly equal to an English wine-quart. 1974 *Habitat Catal.* 82/1 *Wine rack. Wood and metal frame. 1981 'J. STURROCK' *Suicide Most Foul* vii. 129 Wine racks, but... not many bottles. 1865 *Leaves from Diary Celebrated Burglar & Pickpocket* xxxv. 116/1 Several ladies... made their way to where we were sitting, and in the usual *wine-room style flung themselves into our lap! 1898 A. BENNETT *Man from North* xxvii. 224 Seated in a wine-room or lager-beer hall. 1965 O. ARUNDELL *Sadler's Wells* viii. 102 [In 1825] they made Rosoman's old private house at the New River Head end of the theatre into box-offices, wine-rooms and saloon. 1704 *Dict. Rust.* (1726), *Wine-Roping: To alter this take a coarse Linen-Cloth [etc.]. 1625 T. GODWIN *Moses & Aaron* i. vii. 38 The *Winesack, through which wine is so drained from the dregges. 1826 *Lond. Hort. Soc. Catal. Fruits* 151 [Apples] *Wine-Sap, American. 1892 AMÉLIE RIVES *Barbara Dering* xxv, Great crackling bites from a crisp, wine-sap apple. 1879 T. H. S. ESCOTT *England* I. 161 *Wine-shades, bodegas, and saloons. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humphry Cl.* II. 8 Aug., She is become a toast... and has already been the occasion of much *wine shed. 1812 BYRON *Harold* II. xii. note, We had such ink-shed, and wine-shed, which almost ended in bloodshed! 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxix, This fellow can appear before him drunk as a *wineskin, and yet meet no rebuke. 1825 — *Talism.* xi, You have been dining with the Teutonic wineskin. 1828 LYTON *Pelham* xlviii, That persons who have been converting their 'solid flesh' into wine skins, cannot stick so close to one another as when they are sober. 1881 N. T. (R.V.) Mark ii. 22 No man putteth new wine into old wine-skins. 1923 D. H. LAWRENCE *Birds, Beasts & Flowers* 15 What is it, in the grape turning raisin, In the medlar, in the sorb-apple, Wineskins of brown morbidity. 1928 E. WAUGH *Decline & Fall* x. 113 Hullo, Prendy, old wine-skin! How are things with you? 1951 R. POSTGATE *Plain Man's Guide to Wine* i. 17 A *Wine Snob is a man... who uses a knowledge of wine, often imperfect, to impress others with a sense of his superiority. 1977 *Wine snob* [see SNOB *sb.* 3 d]. 1982 'W. HAGGARD' *Mischief-Makers* i. 17 He bought it [sc. wine] at a multiple grocer but his excellency was not a wine snob. 1966 H. W. YOXALL *Fashion of Life* xxv. 241 There's been much talk recently about *wine snobbery, most of it rather stupid. 14... *Nom.* in Wt.-Wülcker 742/5 *Hec vipa*, a *wynsope. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 91 With chuffe chaffe wynesops lyke a gourd bourrachoe replennisht. 1586 W. WEBBE *English Poetrie* sig. Iiv, Let vs haue the Wynesops, With the Cornation. 1826 *Lond. Hort. Soc. Catal. Fruits* 151 [Apples] Wine-Sop, Winter. 1880 F. FRANCIS *Bk. Angling* xii. (ed. 5) 450 The Winesop Black.—Mr. Ramsbottom says this is 'a real old Ribble favourite'. 1836 LOUDON *Encycl. Plants* 423 Several sorts of plums found wild, . . . such as the bullace, damson, muscle, and *winesour. 1846 MRS. GORE *Engl. Char.* I. 320 Compôtes of wine-sours. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl. Suppl.* s.v. *Wine*, The phrase *Wine-spirit is used to express a very clean and fine spirit, of the ordinary proof strength, and made in England from Wines of foreign growth. 1909 *Daily Chron.* 25 Mar. 3/3 Pure wine spirit brandies. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Ch. Porch* vii, Shall I, to please anothers *wine-sprung minde, Lose all mine own? 1658 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* verse 14. x. § 2. 113 Who when he is wine-sprung thinks (as they say he can skip over the Moone). 1898 A. M. BINSTED *Pink 'Un & Pelican* iii. 65 'Aha!' cried Swears... 'here's a bit o' luck—the *wine-steward! Half a dollar is never thrown away on a wine-steward.' 1978 *Chicago* June 237/1 Freddy's the least

intimidating and probably most knowledgeable wine steward in town. **1526** *Great Herbal* (1529) Table, *Tartarus*, wyne lyes or *wyne stone. **1839** *URE Dict. Arts* 1305. **1632** SHERWOOD, A. *Winetaster, or Wine-broker (for Marchants). **1679** E. CHAMBERLAYNE *Pres. St. Eng.* II. (ed 12) 238 Mr. Henry Potkins, Wine-Taster. **1825** MACAULAY *Ess.*, Milton P. 19 Johnson... was as ill qualified to judge between two Latin styles as a habitual drunkard to set up for a wine-taster. **1858** LARDNER *Handbk. Nat. Phil.* 193 Wine taster.—When it is desired to draw a small sample of wine from a cask, a little instrument... is used [etc.]. **1936** 'R. WEST' *Thinking Reed* vii. 216 He paused... to say in his thick, *wine-tasting voice: 'Your wife's looking very pretty!' **1945** E. WAUGH *Brideshead Revisited* i. iv. 75 Sebastian had found a book on wine-tasting, and we followed its instructions. **1958** [see PUT v. 1 38 f (a)]. **1980** *Sunday Times Mag.* 14 Sept. 96 He or she might take a dozen trips abroad each year, attend five or six wine tastings in a week, sample 30 or so bottles of wine a day. **1791** J. WOODFORD *Diary* 27 Sept. (1927) III. 301 Mr. J. Priest having the keys of his Father's *Wine Vaults, I went and tested some Port Wine. **1835** DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Making a Night of it*, They went into a wine-vaults, to get materials for assisting them in making a night. **1837** *Ibid.* 2nd Ser. 73 The old tottering public-house is converted into a spacious and lofty 'wine-vaults'. **1893** HODGES *Elem. Photogr.* (1907) 148 A wine-vault in the City. **a1617** BAYNE *Lect.* (1634) 300 Toasts sowed in *wine vinegar. **1753** Chambers' *Cycl. Suppl.* s.v. *Vinegar*, Infuse this powder in the strongest wine-Vinegar. **1839** *URE Dict. Arts* 3 Genuine wine or raisin vinegar. **1837** *Wine waggon [see *wine-cart*]. **1848** H. R. FORSTER *Stowe Catal.* 112 A pair of double wine-wagons. **1906** *Blackw. Mag.* Nov. 660/2 We rattle past a wine-waggon. **1927** C. CONNOLLY *Let.* 11 Feb. in *Romantic Friendship* (1975) 251, I met the Spanish *wine waiter. **1969** I. DRUMMOND *Man with Tiny Head* i. 24 The *wine-waitress brought the wine-list. **1974** *Times* 9 Oct. 18/7 A race by wine waiters and waitresses... each carrying a tray bearing four glasses and an open bottle of wine. **1857** TROLLOPE *Barchester T.* xix, With *wine-warrants and orders for dozens of dressing-cases. **1592-6** GREENE *Groat's W. Wit Wks.* (Grosart) XII. 136 These honest men... whose wisdom... gave light to the lury what power *wine-washing poysen had. **1603** H. CROSSE *Vertue's Commu.* (1878) 141 This wine-washing licour giueth such... liberte to the tongue, as it rowleth vp and downe. **1975** *Wine waiter [see *wine book* above].

¶ In OE. there are several compounds of *wīn* in which the word is equivalent to 'vine' or 'grapes', as *wīnbēam* vine-pole, *wīnclyster* bunch of grapes, *wīnleāf* vine-leaf, *wīngeard* vineyard, WINYARD. From the 14th century onwards instances of *wine* = 'vine' occur in various texts in which *w* is not normally written for *v* (as in Scottish texts: see *VINE sb.* 1 b β).

1340-70 *Alex. & Dind.* 847 3e telle vs pat 3e tende nauht to tulye pe erpe... no plaunte winus. **a1400-50** *Wars Alex.* 3667 Gilden wyne with grapis of gracious stanes. **1456** SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 114 Knychtis ar nouthir ordanyt to labour cornis, na grouve the wynis. *Ibid.*, A knycht aw nocht to by... wynis, croftis, na heretagus. **1471** CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 308 In suche wise as the yonge wyne... groweth in heigthe. **1632** LITHGOW *Trav.* i. 14 Round about Rome, there are neither Cornes, nor Wines, nor Village.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (a) *wine-man*, a vine-dresser; (b) in reproduction of Ger. compounds, in Coverdale's version of the Bible, rendering Luther's language, as *wine-garden*, -gardener, gathering, harvest, kernel, stock, after G. *weingarten*, -gärtner, -ernte, -kern, -stock; (c) in mod. use, *wineberg*, *wine-hill*, after G. *weinberg*, -hügel vineyard.

1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 239 Labouraris of the erde, as plewmen, harow men, wyne men. **c1483** CAXTON *Dialogues* 46/37 Ysaac le vigneron, Ysaac the wyneman. **1535** COVERDALE *Num.* vi. 4 From the wyne cornels vnto the hulle. — **2 Chron.** xxvi. 10 He had... wyne-gardeners on the mountaynes. — *Isa.* xxiv. 13 Like as when a man... seketh after grapes, when the wyne gatheringe is out. — *Ezek.* xv. 2 What commeth of the vyne amonge all other trees? and of the wyne stocke, amonge all other tymbre of the groaue? **1870** *Daily News* 7 Dec., The Tirailleurs... scrambled up through the winebergs. **1885** tr. *Hehn's Wand. Plants & Anim.* 70 The Calydonian legend of the wine-man [orig. *Weinmann*] as given by Homer. **1906** *Academy* 6 Jan. 14/1 Matins, sung High in these wine-hills, wakened me.

† *wine*, *sb.*² *Obs.* [OE. *wine* = OFris. *winne*, MLG. *wine*, OS., OHG. *wini* (MHG. *wine*, *win*), ON. *vinr*.] A friend. Also *attrib.* wine mai [OE. *winemæg*], a kinsman.

Beowulf 30 penden wordum weold wine Scyldinga. *Ibid.* 65 þa wæs Hroðgar heresped gyfen... þæt him his wine-magas georne hyrdon. **a1122** O.E. *Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 975, Eadgar... West-Seaxena wine. **c1200** *Moral Ode* 223 (Trin. Coll. MS.) Werse he doð his gode wines þan his fiendes. **c1205** LAY. 17601 Her wit scullen wel wreken unker wine-mætes. **c1220** *Bestiary* 374 Eurilc luuen oðer, Also he were his broder, Wurben stedefast his wine. [1481 CAXTON *Reynard* xxix. (Arb.) 74 He hath nether kyn ne wyn ne frende that wyll enterprise to helpe hym.]

wine (wain), *v.* [f. *WINE sb.*¹]

† 1. *trans.* (nonce-uses.) a. with *out*, to spend in drinking wine.

c1624 [see WENCH v.].

b. To furnish (a cellar) with wine.

c1645 HOWELL *Lett.* II. liv. (1890) 456 Tho' it be interdited to wine the King's Cellar with it, in respect of the corrosiveness it carries with it.

2. *intr.* To take wine, formerly esp. at an undergraduates' wine-party. Freq. in collocation with *dine*: cf. sense 3. *colloq.*

1829 C. WORDSWORTH *Ann.* (1891) 70 Dined with Twisleton at Trin.: wine with Payne at Bal. **1875** *My First 'Wine'* 5 'Mr. Thopthorne's compliments, and will you wine with him to-night?' Such were the words addressed to me by a scout in Hall. **1877** BLACKMORE *Cripps* xxxiii, He had dined and wine, once or twice, in a not ignoble college. **1937** L. HART in R. ROGERS *Rodgers & Hart Songbk.* (1951) III. 166 I've wine and dined on mulligan stew, and never wished for turkey. **1961** *Guardian* 10 Nov. 7/1 Mr Delmer dined and wine with the enemies of democracy in Germany. **1981** *N.Z. Listener* 4 July 80/1 Impressive consultants (with many of whom I have wine and dined).

3. *trans.* To entertain to wine: usually in collation with *dine. colloq.*

1862 *Illustr. Lond. News* 5 July 18/2 An esteemed friend... who had just been admitted to the Bar... and... 'wined' his friends on the night of his call. **1867** *Standard* 29 Apr., He has dined and wine everybody who has had anything to do with his success. **1916** *Times* 13 Oct. 4/3 He was motored and wine and dined through the conquered country under the watchful chaperonage of German officers.

wineberry ('wamberi). Forms: 1 *winber(i)ge*, 3 *winberi*, *erron. wind-*, 6 *wynberry*. β. 6 *wyneber(r)y*, 7- *wineberry*. [OE. *winberige* = OS. *winberi*, OHG. *winberi* (MHG. -ber(e), G. *weinbeere*), ON. *vinber* (cf. Goth. *weinabasi*): see *WINE sb.*¹, *BERRY sb.*¹ ME. *winberi* normally represents the OE. word; *wineberry* is a new formation.]

† 1. A grape. *Obs.*

c1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. vii. 16 Cwyst þu, gaderað man winberian of pornum? **c1050** *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 451/2 *Medus*, winberge te hunige awylled. **a1225** *Ancr. R.* 276 Of te druie sprintles bereð winberien? *Ibid.* 296 þet beoð pe erest prukenges þet sturied þe wingeardes, he seið, ure Louerd, þet beoð ure soulen, þet mot mucho tilunge to uorte beren windberien. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 4468 Me-thoght i sagh a wintre, ... O þis tre apon ilk bogh Me-thoght hang winberis inogh. **1562** TURNER *Herbal* II. 142 b, Smouth lyke a grape or wyneberry.

β. **1535** COVERDALE 2 *Esdras* ix. 21 A wynebery of the grapes. [1783 LEMON *Engl. Etymol.* Pref. p. vi. note, Our Saxon ancestors had Grapes; but, having no name for them, they were obliged to call them Wine-berries.]

attrib. **c1265** *Voc. Plants* in Wr.-Wülcker 558/20 *Omfaciun*, i. winberi stones.

2. Applied formerly or now locally to various berries.

e.g. †The bilberry or whortleberry; *dial.* the currant, the gooseberry; *Austral.* (a) = TOOT *sb.*⁵, TUTU¹, (b) *Polyosma cunninghamii*; a raspberry of China and Japan, *Rubus phoenicolasius*; *N.Z.* = MAKOMAKO².

14. True Thomas in R. Jamieson *Pop. Ballads* (1806) II. 20 The darte, and also the dainsyn tre. The fygge, and also the wyne berry. **1597** GERADE *Herbal* Suppl., Wyneberries is *Vaccinia*. **1612** *Shuttleworth's Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 201 Wineberries ij^d. **1622** in Burton *Hist. Scot.* lxvi. (1870) VI. 67 Gooseberries, Strawberries, ... and a kind of red wineberry. **1703** THORESBY *Let. to Ray* (E.D.S.), *Wineberries*, ... not grapes, but gooseberries. **1824** CARR *Craven Gloss.* 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, Wineberry... *Ribes rubrum*. —, New Zealand, a name given by the colonists to *Coriaria sarmentosa*. **1889** MAIDEN *Useful Pl. Australia* 590 *Polyosma Cunninghamii*, Wineberry, and Feather-wood in Southern New South Wales. **1889** T. KIRK *Forest Flora N.Z.* 223 The makomako or 'wine-berry' of the settlers was discovered by Banks and Solander. **1900** *Westm. Gaz.* 14 Aug. 8/2, I have grown the Japanese wineberry for some years. **1910** L. COCKAYNE *N.Z. Plants & their Story* iii. 37 The wineberry... has distinctly pleasing rosy-coloured flowers. **1966** [see MAKOMAKO²]. **1971** *N.Z. Listener* 6 Sept. 17/1 There were wineberry trees in the bit of bush.

wine-bibber ('wain,bibə(r)). Also 6 *wyne bebbber*. [f. *WINE sb.*¹ + *BIBBER sb.* Invented by Coverdale to render Luther's *säufer*, *weinsäufer*.]

1. A tippler, a drunkard. Now *literary* and *arch*.

1535 COVERDALE *Prov.* xxiii. 20 Kepe no company with wyne bebbbers and ryotous eaters of flesh. — *Matt.* xi. 19. **1609** DEKKER *Gull's Horn-bk.* Proem. B2 b, An honest red-nosed wine bibber. **a1704** T. BROWN *Char. Jacobite Clergy Wks.* 1711 IV. 266 Look into their Conversation and you'll find them Wine-bibbers to the highest Excess. **1778** [W. MARSHALL] *Minutes Agric.*, *Digest* 8 He commences wine-bibber at Fair and at Market. **1807** W. IRVING *Salmag.* xvi. (1824) 300 When the guzzlers, the gormandizers, and the wine-bibbers meet together. **1870** BRYANT *Iliad* i. 13 Wine-bibber, with the forehead of a dog And a deer's heart.

† 2. A name for the African genet (*Genetta pardina*). *Obs.*

1705 tr. *Bosman's Guinea* xiv. 252 The Negroes call it Berbe, and the Europeans Wine-bibber, because 'tis very greedy of Palm-Wine. **1771** PENNANT *Syn. Quadr.* 237.

So 'wine-bibbing' *vbl. sb.* (also *attrib.*) and *ppl.* a.; also 'wine-bibbery, wine-bibbing.

1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par.* 1 *Pet.* iv. 1-7 Nowe in stedde of outrageous luste, chastitie is pleasaunter... for wynebybbyng, sobrietie. **a1593** MARLOWE *Ovid's Elegies* III. i, Wine-bibbing banquets. **1603** H. CROSSE *Vertue's Commu.* (1878) 140 O what lamentable Tragedies is by this Vice acted among wine-bibbing companions. **1816** SCOTT *Old Mort.* v. To... close your evening with wine-bibbing in public-houses and market-towns. **1832** J. WILSON *Noctes Ambros.* in *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 398 The secret antiquities and private history of royal wine-bibbery. **1873** H. MORLEY *1st Sk. Engl. Lit.* ii. 25 Wine-bibbing monks.

Winebrennarian (wainbrə'næriən), *sb.* (and *a.*) *U.S.* Also *Winebrennerian*. [f. the name of John Winebrenner (1797-1860), founder member of the sect + -ARIAN.] A name given to a member of the Church of God, an evangelical sect

founded in 1830 in Pennsylvania. Occas. also as *adj.*

1867 W. H. DIXON *New Amer.* II. xxix. 309 No sect escaped this rage for separation... [neither] River Brethren, nor Winebrennarians. **1889** *Cent. Dict.*, Winebrennerian... a. and n. **1903** *Christian Advocate* 8 Jan. 7 Christian Scientists... Church of God (Winebrennerian). **1925** T. DREISER *Amer. Tragedy* (1926) II. ii. xlvii. 65 It was the summer seat and gathering place of some small religious organization or group—the Winebrennarians of Pennsylvania. **1974** R. KERN *John Winebrenner* p. vii, It would be regrettable if only 'Winebrennerians' of all sorts read the book.

'wine-cellar. Also 6 *erron. windseller*. [f. *WINE sb.*¹ + *CELLAR sb.* Cf. MLG. *winkelder*, MHG. *winkeller*, ON. *vinjallari*.] a. A cellar used for storing wine. Also *fig.*

1371 *Close Roll 45 Edw. III* m. 4 dorso (P.R.O.) Vnam magnam Cameram vocatam la Whit Chambre cum vno celario sub dicta camera vocata le Wyn celer. **1375** BARBOUR *Bruce* v. 399 All the vittale, outakin salt, ... In the vyne-sellar gert he bryng. **14..** *Pallad. on Husb.* (Bodl. MS.) lf. 1, Cisterne celar for oyles, wyne celar, and columbary. **1538** ELYOT, *Canabus*, a wyne sellar. **1577** GOUGE tr. *Heresbach's Husb.* 11 b, I wyll shewe you... Pipes, Tonells, ... when you come to the Brewhouse, and Windseller. **1647** T. CALVERT *Heart Salve To Rdr.*, The soule... is led into the Winecellar of Gods promises. **1756-7** tr. *Keyser's Trav.* IV. 189 The council's wine-cellar is so spacious, that a coach and six may turn about in it. **1839** *URE Dict. Arts* 1303 Wine-cellars ought to be dry at bottom.

b. The wine stored in a wine-cellar, esp. with reference to its quality.

1861 MRS BEETON *Bk. Househ. Managem.* 963 Nothing spreads more rapidly in society than the reputation of a good wine-cellar. **1976** J. ARCHER *Not a Penny More* viii. 87 James arrived carrying a bottle of Beaune Montée Rouge 1971—even his wine cellar was fast disappearing. **1976** P. G. WINSLOW *Witch Hill Murder* (1977) ii. 30 Her cook, her wine cellar and the service at her table were not to be matched.

wined (waɪnd), *ppl. a.* [f. *WINE sb.*¹ or *v.* + -ED.]

1. Mingled with wine; coloured or flavoured with wine.

1604 F. HERING *Mod. Defence* 24 Hee did [call] a cuppe of drinke mixed by his friend... wine water, and not watred wine. **1884** R. V. FRENCH *19 Cent. Drink* 288 Gin—spiced and wine.

2. That has taken wine, esp. in abundance. Also *const. up*.

1640 J. D. KNAVE in *Gr.* i. i. C3 b, We'le pledge, we'le pledge: Victual'd and Win'd already. **1898** J. McCABE *Life Mod. Monastery* vi. 153 He invariably returned... well wine and nourished. **1973** C. BONINGTON *Next Horizon* ii. 41 'We'll get them well wine'd up tonight, and persuade them that there's a good route round the back of the Tower,' said Barrie. **1982** *Newsweek* 11 Jan. 26/2, I think they were wine'd up and looking for a joy ride.

† *wine-drunk* (en, a. *Obs.* [OE. *windruncen* = Du. *wijndroncken* (Kilian), G. *weintrunken*, ON. *vintrukinn*.] Drunk (with wine). Hence † *winedrunkenness*.

a1000 *Daniel* 753 Windruncen gewit. **c1205** LAY. 8126 þa drihliche gumen weoren win drunken. **a1250** *Prov. Alfred* 270 in O.E. *Misc.* 118 Ne wurp þu neuer so wod ne so wyn-drunke þæt euere segge pine wife alle pine wille. **1387** TREVISIA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 357 [Polemios] was wyn-dronke. *Ibid.* VI. 39 He hated wyn dronkenes. **1390** GOWER *Conf.* III. 19 That man mai wel noght longe stonde Which is wyndrunke of comun us. **c1440** *Prompt. Parv.* 529/2 Wyne drunken. **1549** COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par.* 1 *Thess.* v. 7 Those that are wyndrunken, are drunken in the night.

wine-fat: see WINE-VAT.

wine3arde, *obs.* Sc. f. VINEYARD.

'wine-glass. [f. *WINE sb.*¹ + *GLASS sb.*¹ Cf. (M)LG., MHG. *winglas*, (Du. *wijnglas*, G. *winglas*), etc.] a. A small drinking-glass for wine. Also = *wineglassful*.

Wine-glasses, which are characterized by having a stem and a foot, vary in shape (and, in some cases, in colour) according to the wine for which they are intended, and are distinguished as *champagne glass*, *claret glass*, *port glass*, etc.

1709 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4595/4 Wine and Water Tumblers, Beer and Wine Glasses with Covers. **1786** J. WOODFORD *Diary* 18 Aug. (1926) II. 264 She is to take a Wine Glass of the Mixture... every six Hours. **1846** *Jewish Man., or Pract. Information Jewish & Mod. Cookery* i. 2 Pour in a wine-glass of port-wine. **1856** KANE *Arctic Expl.* II. ii. 37, I am dealing these out to them by the wine-glass. **1882** FLOYER *Unexpl. Baluch.* 331 We began with minute wine-glasses of raki, red wine, purple wine.

b. *attrib.* Resembling a wine-glass in shape. c. *Comb.*, as *wineglass-cooler*, -shaped *adj.*

1851 REDDING *Wines* (ed. 3) 370 Wine-glass coolers... should be laid on the table and the glasses reversed in them. **1884** HOWELLS *Silas Lapham* i, A smooth piece of interval, with half a dozen good-sized wine-glass elms in it. **1907** M. C. F. MORRIS *Nunburnholme* 78 The... smaller bell, which was long and wineglass-shaped. **1908** *Essex Rev.* XVII. 6 An old-fashioned wine-glass pulpit, with reading-desk below.

Hence 'wineglassful, the contents of a full wine-glass; the amount that a wine-glass will hold, usually reckoned as 2 fluid ounces.

1824 SCOTT *St. Ronan's* vii, My venerated instructor... took a wine-glassful of old rum... every day after his dinner. **1884** M. MACKENZIE *Dis. Throat & Nose* II. 352 A wineglassful of spirits of turpentine.

'wine-grape. [f. *WINE sb.*¹ + *GRAPE sb.*¹]

† 1. A cluster or bunch of grapes. *Obs.*

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3710 Des .xii. ðider hem hauen brogt, .. An win-grape on an cuuel-staf.

2. A grape from which wine is made. orig. U.S.

1838 *Penny Cycl.* XI. 356/2 The fruit of several other species of vitis, natives of America, possess some merit as wine-grapes. 1845-50 *MRS. LINCOLN Lect. Bot.* 149 He has traced the northern limit of the wine-grape, where the mean annual temperature is about 50°. 1868 *Rep. U.S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 212 What varieties are in highest repute as wine grapes? 1922 *JOYCE Ulysses* 468 Mammoth roses murmur of scarlet winegrapes. 1981 *Times* 7 Feb. 13/4 They do not want any modification of traditional Dao style by the introduction of other European wine grapes.

'wine-house. [OE. *wínhus* = MLG., MDu., MHG. *wínhus* (Du. *wijnhuis*, G. *weinhaus*), ON. *wínhus*.]

1. A public house where wine is drunk. Now chiefly *Hist.* or with particular local reference.

1607 *DEKKER & WEBSTER Westw. Hoe* II. i. From him come I, to intreat you... to meet him this afternoon at the Rhenish-wine-house ith Stillyard. 1621 in *Foster Engl. Factories Ind.* (1906) 355 Our warehouse roome, dynyng roome, and wyne howse. 1655 *VAUGHAN Sillex Scint., Agreement* 19 Thou [sc. the Bible] art the oyl and the wine-house. 1660 *PEPYS Diary* 24 Nov., Creed and Shepley and I to the Rhenish winehouse, and there I did give them two quarts of Wormwood wine, and so we broke up. 1805 *C. JAMES Milit. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Wine-houses*, certain places of resort in the garrison of Gibraltar, from which the governor has been accustomed to derive a pecuniary profit. 1816 *KEATINGE Trav.* I. 50 [In Spain] It is disgraceful to be seen entering a wine-house. 1909 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 Apr. 5/3 The wine-house known as the White Hart in the Euston-road.

2. A house that deals in wine; a firm of wine-merchants.

1834 *DICKENS Sk. Boz, Boarding-ho.* II. A clerk in a wine-house. 1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts* III. 1140 No natural Sherry comes to this country; no wine house will send it.

'wine-lees. [f. WINE *sb.*¹ + pl. of LEE *sb.*²] The sediment deposited in a vessel containing wine. Also *fig.*

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 60 Aischis of wyyn lies. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 419/2 Wyne lees... *tartarum, vinacium*. 1585 *HIGINS Junius' Nomencl.* 95/2 *Fex vini vsta*, .. wine leeze. 1642-4 *VICARS God in Mount* 40 The wine-lees of poysoning Popish fopperies. 1734 tr. *Rollin's Anc. Hist.* (1827) I. 103 Their faces smeared over with winelees. 1765 *STERNE Tr. Shandy* VII. xxi. The under-gardener dressed the muleteer's hat in hot wine-lees. 1859 *DICKENS T. Two Cities* I. v. One tall joker... scrawled upon a wall with his finger dipped in muddy wine lees—Blood.

attrib. 1843 *R. J. GRAVES Syst. Clin. Med.* xviii. 202 A matter of a wine lees colour.

wineless ('wamlis), *a.* [f. WINE *sb.*¹ + -LESS.]

1. Lacking or destitute of wine.

1436 *Libel Engl. Pl. in Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 183 What nedeth a garlande, whyche is made of ivye, Shew a tavern wynelesse, also thryve I. 1891 *Daily News* 2 Feb. 5/6 Invitations to wineless dinners. 1910 *Expositor* Mar. 284 Altars at which only wineless offerings were made.

† 2. Lacking the characteristic qualities of wine. *Obs. nonce-use.*

1603 *HOLLAND Plutarch's Mor.* 684 A winelesse weake wine as one may say [*δωλὴν οἶνον*].

'wine-pot. [f. WINE *sb.*¹ + POT *sb.*¹ Cf. ON. *vinpottr.*] A 'pot' or flagon for holding wine.

14... *Voc. in Wr.-Wülcker* 619/29 *Viniferum*, a wynpot. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 108 Why þer stondyth a wyne-potte and a lyly bytwyxx our lady and Gabryrell at hur salutacyon. 1561 *T. NORTON Calvin's Inst.* IV. 81 By the olde order it is vnlawfull to bryng winepots to the borde. 1585 *HIGINS Junius' Nomencl.* 235/1 *Epichysis*,... a wine pot or wine vessel. 1831 *SCOTT Cast. Dang.* v. When the wine-pot... hath brought thee on occasion into something of a scrape. 1848 *CLOUGH Amours de Voy.* I. 39 Rome... is... Merely a marvellous mass of broken and castaway wine-pots.

b. attrib.: † wine-pot herb, the foxglove.

1552 *HULOET*, Wyne pot herb, other do call it oure ladies gloues, *asdrabacca*.

'wine-press. [f. WINE *sb.*¹ + PRESS *sb.*¹ 12. Cf. MLG. *winperse*, MHG. *winpresse* (G. *weinpresse*).] A press in which the juice is extracted from the grapes in the manufacture of wine. Also *fig.*, esp. with ref. to Isa. lxiii. 3, Rev. xiv. 19, 20, xix. 15.

1526 *TINDALE Matt.* xxi. 33 [He] set a vineyard, and hedged it rounde about, and made a wynpresse in it. 1584 *J. MELVILL Autob.* (Wodrow Soc.) 177 They haiff cast down the dyk, cutted the hedge, demolished the towre, brokin the wyne-pres. 1611 *DONNE Ess. Div.* (1651) 24 To put him [sc. Moses] in a wine-presse, and squeeze out Philosophy and particular Christianitie, is a degree of that injustice, which all laws forbid. 1671 *MILTON P.R.* IV. 16 As a swarm of flies... About the wine-press where sweet moult is pow'r'd. 1712 *BUDGELL Spect.* No. 425 ¶ 3 The succeeding Month [sc. October] was all soiled with the Juice of Grapes, as if he had just come from the Wine-Press. 1813 *SHELLEY Q. Mab* VII. 218 Drunk from the winepress of the Almighty's wrath. 1849 *FROUDE Nem. Faith* 107 He must tread the wine-press alone, calling no God-fearing man his friend. 1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts* III. 1140 In the United States the wine-press is constructed much on the same principle as the ordinary screw cider-press. 1910 *E. BARKER in Encycl. Brit.* VII. 524/2 [The Crusader] might butcher all day, .. and then at nightfall kneel... at the altar of the Sepulchre—for was he not red from the winepress of the Lord?

Hence † wine-presser.

1632 *SHERWOOD*, A Wine-presser, *pressureur*.

winer ('wainə(r)). [f. WINE *sb.*¹ or *v.* + -ER¹.]

1. A vintner. ? *Obs.*

1532 *MORE Confut. Tindale Wks.* 395/2 God thanke you maister winer for your good wyne. 1548 *Aberd. Reg.* XX. (Jam.) The winaris of the same gat. 1886 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 1 Dec. 1/9 You gather a few tons of grapes and cast them to a winer and are told that it is a bad year for selling grapes.

2. One who drinks wine. *colloq.*

1906 *FURNIVALL in Lydgate's Chron. Troy* (1906) I. 309 *marg.*, A winer is an unreasonable beast. 1908 *Daily Chron.* 2 Oct. 4/4 The diners and the winers of those spacious days of conviviality.

winery ('wainəri). orig. U.S. [f. WINE *sb.*¹ + -ERY.] An establishment for making wine.

1882 *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 55/1 The road to the large substantial buildings of the winery was bordered by a deep orchard of oranges. 1885 *Advance* (Chicago) 8 Jan. 885 Wine grapes and wineries are on the rapid increase. 1912 *Times* 22 Apr. 24/4 As the result of this legislation the British wine-makers have not shut up their wineries.

'wine-tree. *Obs.* or *dial.* [OE. *wintréow* = ON. *víntré*, Goth. *weinatriu*: see WINE *sb.*¹ and TREE *sb.*¹] A vine.

Also a local name for blackthorn and mountain ash.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John xv. 5 Ic am þæt wintreo, gie ða tuiggo sint. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2059 Me drempete, ic stod at a win-tree, Ðat adde waxen buzes ðre. 13... *Cursor M.* 7159 (Gött.), þair olyues wid þair wyn tres [Cott. vintres]. 1637 *RUTHERFORD Lett.*, to Lady Kilconquhair 13 Sept. (1671) 151 A land of olives and wine-trees. 1857 *WRIGHT Dict. Prov. Eng.*, Wine-tree, a vine. *Norf.*

'wine-vat. *arch.* -fat. [f. WINE *sb.*¹ + VAT, FAT *sb.*¹ Cf. (MLG. *winfat*, MHG. *wínvaz* (G. *weinfass*), ON. *vinfat*, etc.)] A vat in which the grapes are pressed in wine-making; a wine-press.

1526 *TINDALE Rev.* xix. 15 He trode the wynefatt of fearsnes. 1596 *SPENSER F.Q.* VII. vii. 39 The must, Which he was treading in the wine-fats sec. 1605 *B. JONSON Volpone* v. iv. You should ha' some would swell, now, like a wine-fat, With such an Autumne. 1611 *Bible* Mark xii. 1 A certaine man planted a vineyard, and set an hedge about it, and digged a place for the wine fat. *a* 1746 *HOLDSWORTH Rem. Virgil* (1768) 22 In this dance, he flung himself into different postures, as if he was gathering the bunches of grapes, .. flinging them into the wine-vat; .. and drinking the must. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 214/2 The grapes are... emptied into a tub with holes at the bottom... This tub is placed over another much larger, named the wine-vat. 1881 *CHRISTINA ROSSETTI Poems, Prodigal Son* iii, The purple wine-fat froths with foam.

winey, var. WINY *a.*

† **winful**, *a.*¹ *Obs. rare.* [f. WIN *sb.*¹ + -FUL.] Laborious.

1443-9 *PECOCK Donet* II. vi. (1921) 128 Al seruile werk, þat is to seie, al worldly wynful werk.

† **winful**, *a.*² *Obs. rare.* [f. WIN *sb.*² + -FUL.] Pleasant.

1438 *Bk. Alexander Gt.* (Bann.) 107 And burgeons of thare brancheis breidis, And woddis winnis thare winfull wedis.

wing (wɪŋ), *sb.* Forms: *Plural.* *a.* 2 wenge; *β.* 3 wengen, winguene, wyngue, whingen, hwingen, 4 wingen, wyngen, -yn, -on; *γ.* 3-5 wenges, (3 *Orm.* -ess), 4 weengus, 4-5 wengis, 4, 6 weyngis, 5 wengys, -ez, weingis, wengges; 4 wyenges, wingges, whinges, 4-6 wyngis, -es, 5 -ys, whyngis, -ys, 5-6 whynges, 5, 6-7 *Sc.* wingis, 6-7 -es, 6- wings. *Sing.* 4-5 wenge, 5 weng, whenge, weyng, 5-6 *Sc.* weyng, 6 *Sc.* weing; 4-6 wyng, 4-7 winge, 5-6 wyng, whyng(e, 6 whing, wynke, 6- wing. [ME., first in pl. forms *wenge*, *wengen*, *wenges*, *a.* ON. *vængir*, acc. *vængi*, pl. of *vængr* (Sw., Da. *vinge*) wing of a bird, aisle, etc.; replacing OE. *fepra* wings, pl. of *feper*, and *fipere* (see FEATHER *sb.* 3).]

1. *a.* Each of the organs of flight of any flying animal, as a bird, bat, or insect.

In birds the wings are specially modified fore-limbs; in bats (and the extinct pterodactyls, etc.), extensions of the skin attached to modified parts of the fore-limbs (see BAT *sb.*¹ 1); in insects, membranous expansions attached to the thorax in addition to the limbs. In a few birds the wings are rudimentary, and either functionless (as in the *Apteryx*) or used only to assist in swimming or walking (as in Penguins). Occas. loosely applied to the enlarged fins of flying-fishes and to the appendages of flying squirrels, etc. which serve for movements resembling flight.

bastard or false wing (Ornith.) = WINGLET 2b.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 81 A vuhel com flon from houene into orde; her he uette feper-home and wenge. *c* 1205 *LAY.* 29263 þat alle heore [sc. sparrows] whingen noht awemmed neoren. *a* 1225 *Ansr.* R. 130 Ase brid hwon hit wule vleon stureð his hwingen. *c* 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 64/356 He 3ifht eov... wyngue for-to fleo, And feperene to beren eo up-on heig. *Ibid.* 230/388 þe drem of is winguene murie was. 13... *K. Alis.* 485 Him thought a goshaik with gret flyght... yentith and sprad abrod his wyngyn. 1390 *GOWER Conf.* I. 173 The Scharnebudes kinde, Of whos nature this I finde, That in the hostete of the dai... He sprat his wyng and up he fletth. *a* 1400 *Leg. Rood* 221 þe Egle is frikeist fowle in flye, Ouer all fowles to wawe hys wenge. *c* 1425 *Seven Sag.* (P.) 2196 The byrde... bylle undyr wyng layede. 1426 *LYDG. De Guil. Pilgr.* 18521 Wonder hygh ther sate a krowe, His whynges splayynge to and fro. *c* 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 522/1 Wenge, of a fowle or bryde. *c* 1470 *HENRY Wallace* III. 7 On

fute and weyng ascendant to the hycht. 1513 *Bk. Keruyng* in *Babees Bk.* 278 That all maner of fowle that hath hole fete sholde be reysed vnder the wyng, and not aboue. 1578 *LYTE Dodoens* VI. lxxxii. 762 The fruite [of the maple tree] is long, flat, and thinne, almost lyke to a feather of a small birde, or lyke the whing of a grasshopper. 1690 *LOCKE Hum. Und.* III. vi. § 12 There are Fishes that have Wings. 1725, 1807 [see BAT *sb.*¹ 1]. 1857 *HUGHES Tom Brown* I. iii, The beautiful little blue butterfly with golden spots on his wings. 1867 *W. S. DALLAS tr. Nitzsch's Pterylogr.* 27 The false wing (*ala notha*) described by Möhring. 1888 *GOODE Amer. Fishes* 304 The genus *Prionotus*... resembles *Dactylopterus* in general form, but the wings are much smaller. 1912 *S. E. WHITE Land of Footprints* xiv. 193 Spreading wide their wings at the last moment to check their speed.

b. The wing of a bird, used as food. Also, the shoulder of a hare or rabbit.

c 1470 *Noble Bk. Cookry* (1882) 64 Cony rost. A cony tak and drawe hym, .. rost hym and lard hym then raise his leggs and hys winges. *a* 1530 *Frere & Boye* (Ritson) 154 His fader toke a capons wyng, .. And badde hym ete apace. 1598 *BP. HALL Sat.* IV. iv. 29 A pestle of a Larke, or Plouers wing. 1656 *OSBORN Adv. Son* IV. (ed. 4) 124 A Carver at Court, .. who being laughed at... for saying *The wing of a Rabbit*, maintained it as congruous, as the fore-legge of a Capon, a phrase used in Scotland. 1746 *FRANCIS tr. Hor.*, Sat. II. iv. 56 Wise palates choose the wings of pregnant hare. 1820 *BYRON Blues* II. 42 Miss Lilac, permit me to help you;—a wing? 1840 *DICKENS Old Cur. Shop* xlv, Something light for supper—the wing of a roasted fowl. 1841 'NIMROD' in *Sporting Oracle* 48 The most vulnerable part of the rabbit is about its neck and wings, as the shoulders of this animal are called.

c. The wing of a bird (usually of a hen, goose, or turkey) used as a brush: cf. next, 7.

1573-80 *TUSSER Husb.* (1878) 35 Husbandlie furniture... Wing, cartnaue and bushel. 1641 *BEST Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 67 Then are the two women to have each of them a cleane bowle to wringe the honey into, and the man is to stande ready with a winge in his hande. 1688 *HOLME Armoury* III. 243/2 Broom, Wing, Winnow sheet, and Sack with a Band. 1710 *HILMAN Tusser Rediv.* Sept. (1744) 116 A Straw-fork and Rake to turn the Straw off from the thresh'd Corn, a Fan and Wing to clean it.

d. A figure or imitation of a wing (e.g. on an image of a bird, etc., or on an angler's artificial fly).

1552-3 in *Feuillerat Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 94 Cupide a small boye... with a payre of winges of gold. 1584 *Kenilw. Inv.* in *Scott Kenilw.* Note K, 6 rowlers and ij wings for the spreade eagle. 1633 *G. HERBERT Temple, Easter Wings* [title of a poem in the form of two pairs of wings]. 1682 *DRYDEN Mac-Fl.* 207 Chuse for thy Command Some peaceful Province in Acrostick Land; There thou may'st Wings display, and Altars raise, And torture one poor Word ten thousand Ways. 1711 *ADDISON Spect.* No. 58 ¶ 4, 6. 1853 *J. JACKSON Pract. Fly-Fisher* (1880) 10 To make a winged Fly... Wings; a piece of feather, stripped from a Snipe's quill.

† *e.* With qualification (*goose-wing*, *fly's wing*) used as a type of something of no value. *Obs.*

1377, 1549 [see GOOSE-WING 1]. *c* 1450 *Mankind* 783 in *Macro Plays* 29 Tyschel a flyes weyng!

2. *a.* Attributed to supernatural beings, as angels, demons, etc., and to fabulous creatures, as dragons, griffins, etc.

c 1200 *ORMIN* 8024 þatt all þatt hallzhe genge, þatt borghenn iss þurh martirdom, Flæh upp wiþ þwezzenn wengess. 13... *Sir Beues* (A.) 2675 Whan hit schon þe bryste sonne, His winges schon so þe glas. 1382 *WYCLIF Isa.* vi. 2. *c* 1385 *CHAUCER L.G.W.* Prol. 236 And angelichly hyse wengis gan he sprede. *c* 1386 — *Knt.'s T.* 1106 Biforn hir stood hir sone Cupido, Vp on his shuldres wynges hadde he two. 14... *Sir Beues* (Pynson) 2527 Beuys... hyt the dragon vnder the wyng. 1513 *DOUGLAS Æneis* III. iv. 34 The Harpyes on ws fell, With houg faird of weingis and mony zell. 1671 *MILTON P.R.* IV. 582 A fiery Globe Of Angels on full sail of wing flew nigh. 1815 *BYRON Destr. Sennacherib* III, The Angel of Death spread his wings on the blast. 1821 *WORDSW. Eccles. Sonn.* III. v. 4 The feather, whence the pen was shaped that traced the lives of these good men, Dropped from an Angel's wing. 1885 *HARDY Changed Man, Mere Interlude* (1913) 269 Since my poor husband left me to wear his wings.

b. Attributed to inanimate or abstract things represented as flying, or as carrying one swiftly along (esp. in phr. *on the wings of*).

1398 *TREvisa Barth. De P.R.* II. i. (Add. MS. 27944) In olde tyme poetes peyntide þe winde wiþ wynges. *c* 1510 *MORE Picus Ejib.* Whynges of the loue of God. 1535 *COVERDALE Ps.* ciii[j]. 3 Thou makest the cloudes thy charet, and goest vpon the wynges of the wynde. — *Ps.* cxxxviii[j]. 9 Yf I take the wynges of the mornynge. — *Prov.* xxiii. 5 Riches make them selues wynges. 1594 *SHAKS. Rich.* III. v. iii. 106 When I should mount with wings of Victory. 1598 — *Merry W.* II. ii. 209, I haue pursu'd her, as Loue hath pursued mee, which hath beene on the wing of all occasions. 1608 [Torte] *Ariosto's Sat.* I. (1611) 11 With inke To giue his fame large wings. 1611 *SIR W. MURE Misc. Poems* IV. 8 Deceau'd by loues aluring wingis. 1665 *BOYLE Occas. Refl.* I. i. 7 When a pious Soul is once got upon the wing of Contemplation. 1704 *PRIOR Celia to Damon* 40 Upon the Wings of Time born swift away. 1709 *WATTS Hymn.* Give me the Wings of Faith, to rise Within the Veil. 1829 *SCOTT Rob Roy* Introd. 2nd half, A cold north-east wind, with frost on its wing. 1837 *W. IRVING Capt. Bonneville* II. xix. 35 Where the foe... seems to come and go on the wings of the wind. 1873 *BURTON Hist. Scot.* VI. lxxii. 307 [The Scots in 1640] seemed to be, indeed, carried forward on the wings of destiny.

3. *transf.* and *fig.* *a.* Power or means of flight, or of action figured as flight; action or manner of flying, flight. (*a*) in reference to literal flying.

1377 *LANGL. P. Pl.* B. XII. 263 þe lark, þat is... wel awey of wenge [v. rr. wyng, whenge] swifter þan þe pecok. 1390 *GOWER Conf.* II. 328 A Swalwe swift of wing. 1667 *MILTON P.L.* x. 316 The self same place where hee First

lighted from his Wing. 1706 *Prior Ode to Queen v.* Upward the Noble Bird directs his Wing. 1709 T. ROBINSON *Nat. Hist. Westmld.* x. 60 As soon as the young Brood gets wing. 1877 CONDER *Basis of Faith v.* 225 The bird of strongest wing may be driven out to sea by the tempest.

(b) *fig.* in various connexions. (See also III.) a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 132 Auh þe treowe ancren þet we efneð to briddes. . . Heo spredeð hore hwingen, and makieð a creoz of ham suluen. a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* cxxxviii. 7 Take twa wenges of charite. c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 473 He ordeynede godis of vertu wyngis to men to fle to heuene. 1418 26 *Pol. Poems* xiv. 47 To flize to hyze, treste not þy wyng. 1590 NASHE *Pasquil's Apologie* C 4, Other excellent points I could. . . pinch him with to the like purpose, were I not contented to strike the winge, and come downe to his capacite. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI.* iv. vii. 7 Knowledge the Wing wherewith we flye to heauen. 1596 — 1 *Hen. IV.* iii. ii. 30 Thy affections which doe hold a wing Quite from the flight of all thy ancestors. 1648 G. DANIEL *Ecolg.* i. 120 You have a wing of Strength, might toure into The purest Region fancie breathes. 1670 DRYDEN *1st Pt. Conq. Granada v.* ii, Give wing to your desires, and let 'em fly. 1749 SMOLLETT *Gil Blas* x. x. (1816) 307/2 Every thing they said to me seemed to lend me wings to run away. 1830 SCOTT *Monast. Introd.*, When the peculiar kind of folly keeps the wing no longer. 1849 J. HARE *Serm.* II. iv. 80 In old times, . . . many stories got wing.

b. In biblical and derived expressions referring to a mother bird's use of her wings for the protection of her young (cf. esp. Matt. xxiii. 37); thus virtually = protecting care. (See also 16 a.)

a 1300 E.E. *Psalter* xvi[i]. 8 Hile me under schadou of pi wenges twa. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* lxiii. 7 Vnder the shadowe of thy wynges wil I reioyse. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 107 His [sc. God's] wings ar thy weirlie weid, His pennis ar thy strang defence. 1719 YOUNG *Revenge* iv. i, Why did I leave my tender father's wing, And venture into love? 1883 D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* xxxiii, Azubah, once more under the shelter of her aunt's wing.

4. *transf.* a. In phr. of (such-and-such) *wing*, used, like *feather* = kind or description of bird (usually *fig.*). *Obs.* exc. in echoes of Ezek. xvii. 23.

1598 R. BERNARD tr. *Terence, Phormio* i. v, All alike: all feathered of one wing [orig. *omnes congruunt*]: knowe one, and know all. 1601 SHAKS. *Phœnix* iii, From this Session interdict Euery foule of tyrant wing, Sauer the Eagle feath' red King. 1608 DEKKER *Belman of London* (ed. 2) D 2, Of all the mad Rascalls (that are of this wing) the Abraham-man is the most fantastick. 1608 D. T[UVILL] *Ess. Pol. & Mor.* 90b, A prying eye, a listning eare, and a prating tongue, are all birds of one wing. 1611 *Bible* Ezek. xvii. 23 All foule of euery wing. 1630 *Pathomachia* iv. iii. 35 Here is another Bird of the same Wing I beleue.

b. Qualified by a restrictive word, or in technical phr., = bird or birds.

1601 SHAKS. *Phœnix* i, Let the bird of lowdest lay. . . Herald sad and trumpet be: To whose sound chaste wings obay. 1725 POPE *Odys.* II. 188 The Prince of Augurs. . . drew A sure presage from ev'ry wing that flew. 1840 BRENNER *Excurs. Denmark*, etc. I. 293 We did not wonder to see scarcely a single wing of game in a whole day's journey. 1874 *Kennel Club Stud Bk.* p. xii, He does not lose one [point] for each fault, providing it is simply not dropping to wing or shot.

c. A flock (of plover).

1805 A. MACKINTOSH *Driffeld Angler* 294 Wing of plover.

II. 5. An appliance or appendage resembling or analogous to a wing in form or function. a. An artificial apparatus attached to the human arms or shoulders, (a) according to early accounts, for flying through the air, (b) for assistance in swimming. b. One of the floats of a water-wheel or sails of a windmill. c. Poetically or rhetorically applied to the sails of a ship. (See also *white wings* s.v. WHITE a. 11 c.) d. Various: see quots.: *spec.* (a) one of the planes of an aeroplane; (b) *transf. (pl.)* in the Royal Air Force, a certificate of ability to pilot an aeroplane, indicated by the addition to the uniform of a badge representing a pair of wings; (c) *slang*, an arm; also *transf.*

a. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 671 Vor pat men ssolde is enchantement se, He let him makie wengen [v. rr. wyngon, wingen, wynges, whyngys] an hei vor to fle. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* i. (Petrus) 562 [Symon Magus] passit vpe, and his weyngis dycht. . . And flaw, as he a foule had bene. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 37 This Dedalus. . . Hath mad to fle diverse wynges For him and for his Sone also. 1742 POPE *Dunc.* iv. 452 The head that turns at super-lunar things, Pois'd with a tail, may steer on Wilkins' wings. 1908 *Daily Chron.* 29 July 5/6 Being unable to swim he had made use of a pair of swimming wings.

b. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* v. x, For the swyftnesse of the water he must nedes passe vnder the whele of the mylle, And god wote yf the wynges of the mylle bete hym wel or not. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. x. 44 b, Windmilles, hauing euery one of them 10. wings. 1609 W. BIDDULPH in *Lavender's Trav.* 15 There are very many wind milles there, hauing ten wings a piece. 1681 OWEN *Inq. conc. Evang.* Ch. ii. 16 To render the Gospel-Church-State a Machin. . . to be turned upon any Interest like the Wings of a Mill unto the Wind. a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Sails*, . . Windmill-wings. 1773 W. EMERSON *Princ. Mech.* (ed. 3) 284 *Wing*, . . as the hands in a water wheel; a part of a sail, &c. a 1866 C. W. HATFIELD *Hist. Notices Doncaster* Ser. 1. 203 The wings of some of the these [wind-mills] describe a circuit of 100 feet diameter.

c. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* i. i. 14 Your Argosies with portly saile. . . As they flye by them with their woen wings. 1735 SOMERVILLE *Chase* II. 222 All their Canvass Wings. 1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* I. xiii, While flew the vessel on her snowy wing. 1833 MRS. BROWNING *Prometh. Bound* 543 The sea-

man's chariots, wandering on the brine With linen wings. 1878 JOAQUIM MILLER *Songs of Italy* 29 The yellow wide wings of a bark.

d. 1796 *Grose's Dict. Vulg. T.* (ed. 3), *Pair of Wings*, oars. *Cant.* 1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* I. 17 There are rockets made without sticks. Fix to the small ones. . . four wings, in the nature of arrow-feathers. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 159 The use of wings, rudders, oars, . . to direct the course of a balloon. 1823 EGAN *Grose's Dict. Vulgar T.* (ed. 3), *Wings*, arms. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Wing* . . 2. A vane of a rotating fan. . . 10. (*Milling*.) A strip, commonly of leather, attached to the skirt of the runner to sweep the meal into the spout. 1883 W. AITKEN *Lays of Line* 65 Cam' an auld sodger yince wha was short o' a wing. 1904 O. & W. WRIGHT *Brit. Pat.* 6732 1 The superposed horizontal surfaces. . . formed by stretching cloth upon frames of wood and wire, constitute the 'wings', or supporting part of the apparatus. 1910 R. FERRIS *How it Flies* 17 Aeroplanes are those forms of flying machines which depend for their support in the air upon the spread of surfaces which are variously called wings, sails, or planes. 1917 'CONTACT' *Airman's Outings* i. 5 The pilots have passed their tests and been decorated with wings. 1918 J. T. B. MCCUDDEN 5 Yrs. R.F.C. 1 Having qualified for his R.F.C. wings in July of 1912. 1947 *Sun* (Baltimore) 3 Apr. 20/1 He came up with a bad arm during the season, and had been troubled before with it. If the big man's wing behaves this year he should be of considerable value. 1964 J. CHEEVER *Wapshot Scandal* II. xxvii. 259 He. . . began to pitch the eggs. . . He had a good wing and by heaving the eggs far away. . . he was able to divert the. . . crowd. 1967 *Boston Globe* 22 Mar. 11/1 Wins wings as stewardess for American Airlines. 1976 *Publishers Weekly* 19 Apr. 78/3 Mike Hagen earns his wings as a crop duster in rural Florida.

6. A lateral part or appendage: in various connexions. (See also senses 7-12.)

a. A lateral or outlying portion of a space or region. b. Something forming a lateral boundary, as the side wall of a dock, sluice, chimney, etc.; also, a lateral component, extension, or complement of a structure, etc., e.g. either of the retaining walls at the ends of a bridge; also *spec.* of jumps for horse-riding: see quot. 1953'. c. A side piece (usually projecting), a lateral projection or member (in various tools, pieces of mechanism, or other structures: see quots.); *spec.* the part of a ploughshare which extends sideways and cuts the bottom of the furrow. d. A projecting part of a fishing-net on one side of the main or central part. e. In a carriage, each of a pair of curved pieces extending over the wheels to provide protection from the splashing of mud; the mudguard of a motor vehicle. f. Each of two side pieces at the top of an arm-chair against which the head may be rested.

a. a 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 1051 An-other wyng of þe werld. 1794 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* 491 On the north end it subsides gradually into extensive pasture grounds; while on the south it slopes more steeply in a shorter distance. . . On either wing is a thick grove of. . . forest trees. 1864 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* XI. ii. (1873) IV. 36 Königsberg, Preussen, the easternmost outlying wing of his long straggling Dominions. 1874 BLACKIE *Lett. to Wife* (1909) 228 The Hill of Howth, forming the north wing of the bay of Dublin. 1920 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 June 10/1 His fore-hand return across court off the service into the right-hand wing of his opponent's base line.

b. c 1482 J. KAY tr. *Caoursin's Siege of Rhodes* ¶ 10 (1870), A place. . . by the weste banke of Rhodes: which maked with her walles and wynges a pleasaunt hauen. . . and ys called the tour of Seynt Nycholas. 1531 *Lett. & Pap. Hen. VIII.* V. 180 Settyng the wynges of the said slewe new made. 1663 CHARLETON *Chorea Gigantum* 24 The outward Circle or wing of stones [of Stonehenge]. 1703 T. N. City & C. *Purchaser* 107 An apt falling-back of the Back, and convenient gathering of the Wings, and Brest of the Chimney. 1715 DESAGULIERS *Fires Impr.* 128 You may on each side [of the chimney] raise a Wing of Plaister. 1721 LEONI *Palladio's Archit.* I. 67 The Wings (that is, the spaces between the Wall and the Columns, which is not comprehended in the breadth of the Atrium). 1726 — *Alberti's Archit.* I. 14 All this Wing of Wall. . . is exposed as a Butt to the. . . Blasts of the North-East. 1821 RICH *Journ. Persepolis* 27 Aug., The mountains. . . form a wing of stupendous perpendicular cliffs. 1850 PARKER *Gloss. Archit.* (ed. 5) I. 206 *Fillet*, . . a small flat face or band used principally between mouldings, to separate them from each other in classical architecture. . . When this appendage is. . . attached to the sides [of the moulding, it is called] its wings. 1851 B'ham & Midl. *Gardeners' Mag.* Apr. 38 Many fine trees which have. . . become unsightly. . . by losing whole wings at a time. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Wing*. . . A lateral extension of an abutment. . . A leaf of a gate or double door. . . A side dam on a river shore to contract the channel. 1895 *Daily News* 14 Mar. 3/5 Tribune, the winner of the Beaudesert Steeplechase, was objected to for jumping the wing of one of the fences. 1953 G. BROOKE *Introd. Riding & Stablecraft* 12 *Wings* to a fence, something in the nature of hurdles placed on either side and at an angle to a fence to prevent a horse from running out to either hand. *Ibid.* iv. 39 It is advisable to start over a small fence with wings. 1960 *Times* 23 July 9/4 The moment to hit the pony is when it is well into the wings and about half a stride from the jump. 1977 J. KIDD *Horse & Pony Man.* iv. 56 When the fence is introduced always place wings or sloping poles on either side to discourage the horse from running out.

c. 1577 GOOCE tr. *Heresbach's Husb.* i. 21 They haue a litle wyng on the ryght syde of the Coulter, whiche wyng is to be remoued to whiche syde you list. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 15 b/1 The wings of the Trepane, which delicatelye and easilye cut. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 286/2 The Feathers or Fly, or Wing [of a spinning-wheel] is that which the crooked Wyres are set in. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* 42 Some place on the right side of the Coulter a small Wing or Finn. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* etc. 346 The wings or vanes revolve from 120 to 150 times in the minute. 1842 J. AITON *Dom. Econ.* (1857) 166 This second spade is provided with an iron wing upon its shaft, by which the digger. . . forces it with his foot into the ground. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Sinker*. . . (Knitting-machine). A wheel with thin plates or projections, called wings, . . used to depress (sink) the yarn between the needles. 1902 P. MARSHALL *Metal Working Tools* 13 The legs [of wing compasses]. . . when opened to the required width are secured by means of the thumb-screw which binds on to the projecting wing.

d. 1678 *Act 30 Chas. II* c. 9 § 1 Above Fifty yards in length and Six yards in breadth or depth in the wing of the Nett. 1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 295 A Tench Weel without wings. . . An Eel Weel, with loose pits and wings. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. s.v. *Stake-net*, The salmon, swimming up the current, come in contact with the bar-net, and turning to pass around it, find themselves opposed by the wing.

e. 1783 *Morn. Chron.* 14 Mar. 4/2 Advt., A new roomy Gig, with head to take off, wings, and new harness. 1794 W. FELTON *Carriages* (1801) I. 204 Wings are fixed to the sides or elbows of the chaise bodies. . . their use is to form a rest for the arm, and shelter the passenger from the dirt which splashes from the wheels. 1881 J. W. BURGESS *Coach-bldg.* v. 50 The wings. . . sometimes still are of wood, in which case they are hooped to the perch by iron hoops. 1928 *Daily Mail* 25 July 9/3 The force of the impact threw the car temporarily out of control, but with its front wings crumpled it continued its dash towards London. 1955 *Times* 10 May 7/7 The visibility forward would be better if it took in the near side front wing, but the rearward view through the 3ft. 9in. wide window is excellent.

f. 1907 G. O. WHEELER *Old Engl. Furniture* 190 The wings formed by the arm enclosures were padded. 1911 F. M. CRAWFORD *Uncanny Tales, Deadly Smile* ii, A great old leather arm-chair with wings.

7. a. Either of the two divisions (RIGHT WING, LEFT WING) on each side of the main body or centre of an army or fleet in battle array; also, each of the two divisions of a regiment or an air force.

c 1400 *Brut* cxxxiii. 283 þe Scottis comen ferseliche in iiii wengus. *Ibid.* 285 þo hade euery Englishe bataille ij wenges of pris Archiers. c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* VIII. xvi. 2520 A nopr weyng þai saw cum sone Off Inglis men. c 1500 *Melusine* 230 Anthony. . . ordeyned archers & crossbowes to be vnder the wynges of hys batayll. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cxxx. 64/2 Therle of Northampton & therle of Arundell with the second battell were on a wyng in good order. 1535 [see LEFT WING 1 a]. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 333 Wee did presently battell-wise cast our selues into a Wing, as if we had been the Turkish Gallies. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* I. 617 Their doubl'd Ranks they bend From Wing to Wing. c 1720 DE FOE *Mem. Cavalier* II. 294 The Armies coming close up, the Wings engaged first. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1776) s.v., Wings are also the skirts or extremities of a fleet when it is ranged into a line abreast. 1844 [see LEFT WING 1 a]. 1868 *Queen's Reg. & Ord. Army* ¶ 300 When the Service Companies of a Regiment happen to be divided into Wings, the head Quarter wing will assign a due proportion of the Mess necessities for the use of the other wing. 1915 C. G. GREY *Tales of Flying Services* 71 One of the chief duties of this 'wing' . . . was to look out for Zeppelins.

b. In football and similar games: The position of the forwards on either side of the centre; a player or players occupying this position. Cf. LEFT WING, RIGHT WING.

1882, etc. [see LEFT WING 1 b]. 1898 J. GOODALL *Assoc. Football* 38 Suddenly there will be a swift clear side-kick to the other wing.

c. A section of a political or other party, holding views deviating in one direction or the other from those generally held (often distinguished as *left* or *right*).

[Cf. quot. 1670 s.v. LEFT WING 1 a.]

1779 FROUDE *Cæsar* xiii. 186 There is always a disreputable wing to the radical party. 1884 *Christian Commonw.* 21 Feb. 449/1 The democratic wing of the Tory party, of which Lord Randolph Churchill aspires to be the leader. 1898 [see LEFT WING 2].

8. a. One of a pair of lateral projecting pieces of a garment on or near the shoulder, as of a doublet; also, a side-flap of a cap, etc.; in military uniform, a kind of epaulette (now worn by bandsmen) which stands out from the seam at the top of the shoulder.

1412-20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* III. 67 þer wer. . . Vauntbras with wynges, & reberas þer-to. 1557 in *Dugdale Orig. Jurid.* lxx. (1666) 310 That none of the Companions except Knights or Benchers. . . wear. . . Wings in their Gowns. 1604 DEKKER *Meeting of Gallants* B2, There is as much perill between the wings and the skirts of one of their Doublets, as in all the liberties of London. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 94/2 The Wings, are Welts or peeces set over the place on the top of the Shoulders, where the Body and Sleeves are set together. 1703 *Rules of Civility* 56 If short Sleeves be worn, she [who pushes fashion to an extreme] will have nothing but Wings. 1810 *Army Gen. Order* 19 Feb., Field Officers. . . are to wear Wings in addition to their Epaulettes. 1834 L. RITCHIE *Wand. Seine* 139 A linen cap with large wings which concealed the face. 1844 *Queen's Regul. & Ord. Army* 152 The whole of the remaining Clothing (with the exception of the wings and fringe). 1869 BLACKIE *Lett. to Wife* (1909) 181 A sort of spencer open in the middle, with two wings, one on each breast.

† b. *pl.* The armpits. *nonce-use.* (Cf. L. *ala*.) 1586 T. B. La Primaud. *Fr. Acad.* I. 470 He tooke hir with both his armes by the wings [orig. *les aisselles*].

9. a. A subordinate part of a building on one side of the main or central part. Also in extended use, any more or less separate section of a building, esp. of a hospital or prison.

spec. in *Fortification*: see quot. 1704.

1523 WOLSEY in *St. Papers Hen. VIII.* VI. 209 Who with his armye was. . . lodged in the cuntry in three wardes and sundry winges. 1613-39 I. JONES in *Leoni Palladio's Archit.* (1742) II. 46 This Edifice. . . has. . . two Wings. a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 10 Oct. 1683, The Court at entrie, and wings for officers seeme too neere the streete. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Wings*, in *Fortification*, are the large Sides of Horn-works, Crown-works, Tenailles, and the like Out-works. 1767 G. WHITEFIELD *Lett.* (1768) 12 Allowing another thousand for repairing the house, and building the two intended wings. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk.* II. 61 (*Christmas Eve*) It was an irregular building of some

magnitude... One wing was evidently very ancient, with heavy stone-shafted bow windows. 1908 J. M. SULLIVAN *Criminal Slang* 27 *Wing*, a section of a prison. 1959 L. LEE *Cider with Rosie* 132 Hannah Brown was put to bed in the Woman's Wing, and Joseph lay in the Men's. 1967 *Listener* 1 June 718/3 Three weeks later he was back in C wing. 1981 C. PRIEST *Affirmation* iii. 19, I found a letter from the Governor of Durham Prison, saying that Uncle William had been admitted to the hospital wing.

b. *Naut.* (a) That part of the hold or space between decks which is next the ship's side. (b) In a steamer (see quot. 1846). (c) In a canal-boat or barge (see quot. 1906).

1730 WRIGLESWORTH *MS. Log-bk. of the 'Lyell'* 25 Sept., Levelled the Hold from the Fore-hatchway clear aft, ... and picked out the large Stones to lay in the Wings. 1805 in *Naval Chron.* XV. 34 He... was carried down into one of the wings. 1846 A. YOUNG *Naut. Dict.* 370 The term wing is also applied to the projecting part of a steam-vessel's deck before and abaft each of the paddle-boxes; this is bounded by a thick plank called the sponging-rim or wing-wale which extends from the extremity of the paddle-beam to the ship's side. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 19 Feb. 10/5 If the tunnel is too wide, boards projecting over the boat's side, termed 'wings', are brought into use for them [sc. 'leggers'] to lie on.

c. *Theatr.* Each of the side-scenes on the stage; also *pl.* (occas. *sing.*) the space at each side of the stage where these stand. Also in *fig. phr.* *waiting in the wings* and *varr.*, ready to act or make an appearance; (for the moment) taking no part in the action.

1790 MALONE *Shaks. Wks.* I. ii. Acc. Stage 83 The technical modern term, *wings*, or side scenes. 1807 *Director* II. 330 The turning of one single wheel effects at once... the simultaneous retreat of the entire assemblage of wings and drops and flat. 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Private Theatres*. The little space there is between the wings and the wall, and one wing and another. 1847 *BRODERIP Zool. Recr.* 320 The frantic stage-manager in the wing. 1876 H. JAMES in *Atlantic Monthly* Dec. 691/1 The author has given him a mother who... has been kept waiting in the wing, as it were, for many acts. 1885 MABEL COLLINS *Prettiest Woman* i. She had known her maintain that cold sternness to the very wings, and then bound on to the stage. 1946 P. BOTTOME *Lifeline* iii. 39 We've Churchill waiting in the wings, to take the helm when the storm breaks. 1963 V. NABOKOV *Gift* iv. 237 Already famous, he remained as it were in the wings of his busy, talkative thought. 1977 *Sat. Rev.* 3 Sept. 44/1 Despite vast expenditures on research and development... the videodisc is still hovering diffidently in the wings. 1985 *Times* 19 Jan. 21/1 Yesterday's huge jump in the share price suggests there is a buyer in the wings.

10. *Anat.* A lateral part or projection (usually, one of a pair) of some organ or structure; *e.g.* each of the lateral cartilages of the nose, a lateral process of a bone (esp. of the sphenoid): = ALA 1.

1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* vii. (1653) 118 That beauty which so manifestly appears in the wings of the Nose. 1663 BAYFIELD *Treat. De Morb. Capitis* 100 The Haw, nail, or little wing (as they term it) of the eye. 1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Pinna Auris*, the upper and broader part of the Ear, called the Wing. 1758 J. S. tr. *De Lran's Observ. Surg.* (1771) 31 The Wing of the right Nostril. 1831 R. KNOX *Cloquet's Anat.* 289 The great wing of the sphenoid bone. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 570 When one wing [of the diaphragm] is much raised, as by a collection of gas.

11. Bot.

†a. The axil of a leaf: = ALA 2a. *Obs.* †b. Each of the lateral divisions or leaflets of a pinnate leaf. (Cf. WINGED a. 3a.) *Obs.* c. Each of the two lateral petals of a papilionaceous flower: = ALA 2b. d. A thin membranous appendage of a seed or fruit, serving for its dispersal by the wind; a thin lateral projection extending along a stem; any thin appendage, as on some part of a flower. (Cf. WINGED a. 3b.) a. 1763 MILLS *Syst. Pract. Husb.* IV. 402 The flowers... are produced... from the wings of the leaves.

b. 1776 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* 651 Fern. *Filix mas*... Leaves doubly winged; wings blunt.

c. 1776 J. LEE *Introd. Bot. Gloss.*, *Ala*, a Wing, the Side Petals of a papilionaceous Blossom, or a Membrane added to a Seed, Stalk, &c. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) I. 307 Wings are 2 equal petals. 1870 HOOKER *Stud. Flora* 85 Genista... Wings oblong.

d. 1776 [see c.] 1787 *Linnæus' Fam. Plants* 183 Fruit egg'd, encompass'd with a wing striated on both sides. 1911 W. S. FURNEAUX *Field & Woodl. Plants* iii. 37 In the Narrow-leaved Everlasting Pea... the 'wings' of the stem and petioles.

12. *Physics.* A part of a spectral line where the intensity tails off to nothing at either side of it.

1959 *Canad. J. Phys.* XXXVII. 1252 (caption) Graph illustrating the dispersion line form for the high-frequency wing of the S(1) line of normal hydrogen at 85° K. 1982 *Sci. Amer.* July 77/3 At positions in the cloud other than the position of the infrared source the broad velocity wings disappeared and the lines had the narrow widths we had originally expected.

III. Phrases. * with prepositions.

13. in (the) wing. †a. *in wing of*: in course or process of, engaged in. *Obs. rare.*

c. 1482 J. KAY tr. *Caoursin's Siege of Rhodes* ¶7 Whenne they were in wyng of these werkys [Dum hæc... agerentur].

†b. *in the wing of*: ? in the overshadowing presence of. *Obs. rare.*

1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Fam. Love* 39b, Our owne Newtralisme and Lukwarmenes shall in the wyng of Gods sonne vterly condemne vs.

14. on or upon the wing or †one's wing, †on wing; also A-WING. a. *lit.* Flying, in flight.

1486 *Bk. St. Albans* djb, When she is on wyng and comyth low bi the grounde. 1616 FLETCHER *Hum. Lieut.* i. i, The roiall Eagle When she hath try'd her young ones against the Sun, ... next teacheth 'em to prey, How to command on wing. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* i. 332 They heard, and were

abasht, and up they sprung Upon the wing. *Ibid.* 345 So numberless were those bad Angels seen Hovering on wing under the Cope of Hell. 1742 GRAY *Spring* 25 The insect youth are on the wing. 1831 AUDUBON *Ornith. Biog.* I. 137 It is seldom that one of these birds is on wing... without uttering its cry. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* II. iv, The old birds were too strong on the wing for our young marksmen. 1859 E. FITZGERALD *Omar* vii, The Bird of Time has but a little way To fly—and Lo! the Bird is on the Wing. 1882 BLACKIE *Lett. to Wife* (1909) 299, I have been as happy as a bird on the wing.

b. *fig.* (a) Moving or travelling swiftly or briskly; astir, active, on the move.

1508 DUNBAR *Poems* vii. 50 Throw Scotland, Inland, France, and Lumbardy, Fleys on weyng thi fame, and thi renoune. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* II. ii. 132 When I had seene this hot loue on the wing. 1616 FLETCHER *Hum. Lieut.* i. i, 'Tis time his fortune be a wing [v. rr. o' wing, o' th' wing], high time sir. 1642 D. ROGERS *Naaman* To Rdr. b 3 b, So long as we can keep sound Doctrine on wing, we shall hope to kill... all three [evils]. 1655 LD. NORWICH in *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) III. 217 With what impatience his good subjects... expect to heare y^e his Ma^y were upon his wing. 1759 JOHNSON *Rasselas* xiii, The prince, whose thoughts were always on the wing. 1839 LONGF. *Hyperion* i. iii, Nobody is on the wing; hardly a single traveller. 1871 MRS. H. WOOD *Dene Hollow* xxxix, Captain... Clanwaring was on the wing early.

(b) 'Taking flight', going off or away, starting, departing; ready to start or depart.

1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. To Rdr. **2 Hauing beene too prodigall in communicating my papers, ... they caught me when I was vpon my wings. 1668 DRYDEN *Even. Love* i. i, Look you, they are on the wing already. 1675 — *Aurengz.* IV. (1676) 55 He's wild, and soon on wing, if watchful eyes come near. 1721-2 POPE *Lett. to Atterbury* 8 Feb., When I went last to town, and was on wing for the Deanry. 1861 MRS. H. WOOD *East Lynne* III. xx, She fell on her knees... in prayer for the departing spirit, on its wing. 1898 *Punch* 20 Aug. 81/2 The Courts are up, and the members of the four Inns are supposed to be on the wing.

15. on wings: (going) with light steps as one in a joyously exalted mood.

1859 MEREDITH *R. Feverel* xx, Now the young gentleman was off and out every night, and seemed to be on wings. 1861 READE *Cloister & H.* vi, They sealed the promise with a long loving kiss, and Gerard went home on wings.

on the wings of...: see 2b.

16. under (...) wing. a. *under the wing of, under* —'s wing (†wings): under the protection, care, or patronage of. (Cf. 3b.)

c. 1230 *Hali Meid.* (1922) 66 3ef pu wel wrist te under godes wengen. a. 1300 *Cursor M.* 17638, I blisce pe, lauerd, pou me has gett And sauf vnder pi wenges sett. a. 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 1769 Turne pe, trechoure, ... And drawe a-gayn to pi den vndire pi dam wingis [v. r. wengez]. 1455 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 281/2 Such as abide and kepe them self undre the wyng of your Mageste Roiall. 1503 HAWES *Examp. Virtue* VII. 87 And vnder the wyng of my proteccyon All rebels brought be to subieccyon. 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* II. i. H iij b, I haue euer be brought vp at home i. vnder my mothers wyng. 1669 H. MORE *Exp. 7 Epist.* Ep. Ded. A 3 b, If I had not taken this opportunity... of doing that right to the Truth I here professe as to put it under the wings of so fit and able a Patron. 1765 FOOTE *Commissary* III. 47 There liv'd Miss Cicely... under the wing of an old maiden aunt. 1879 FROUDE *Cæsar* xxi. 353 They fled for their lives to find safety under Pompey's wing in Capua.

†b. *to keep one's bill under wing*: to remain quiet or inactive (like a sleeping bird). *Obs. rare.*

[Cf. quot. c. 1425 in 1.] a. 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI.* 174 After this... the duke of Yorke... thought it mete neither longer to dissimule, nor farther to kepe his bill vnder wyng.

c. *hit under the wing* (slang): intoxicated.

1844 ALB. SMITH *Adv. Mr. Ledbury* iv, He being... 'hit under the wing'.

** with verbs. (For other phrases, as *clip the wings*, see the vbs.)

†17. *to hang the wing* (cf. HANG v. 4c): to hesitate, show timidity. *Obs.*

a. 1601 NORTH *Plutarch, Epamin.* (1612) 1122 Afraid onely of the name and reputation of Epaminondas, and hanging the wing, as they say. a. 1624 BP. SMYTH *Serm.* (1632) 40 If Saint Peter... had hanged the wing, as they speake, or let fall his Crest.

18. *to make wing* (cf. 3a and MAKE v. 1 59): to make one's way by flying, to fly. ? *Obs.*

1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* III. ii. 51 Light thickens, And the Crow makes Wing to th' Rookie Wood. 1650 FULLER *Pisgah* II. xiii. 281 Hence he made wing, taking a long and strong flight to Mizpah. 1666 DRYDEN *Ann. Mirab.* lxxxvii, The dastard Crow that to the Wood made wing. 1856 BRYANT *Winds* 17 The weary fowls of heaven make wing in vain, To escape your wrath.

19. a. *to take to wing* (TAKE v. 74 b): = b. ? *Obs.*

1693 J. DRYDEN, jun. *Juvenal* XIV. 99 Soon as e'er to Wing they take. 1870 N. F. HELE *Aldeburgh* vii. 84 It was within ten yards of me when it took to wing.

b. *to take* (†its, etc.) *wing* (TAKE v. 24 c); (a) Of a bird, etc.: To take flight, begin flying.

1807 WORDSW. *Song at Feast of Brougham Castle* 130 He knew the rocks which Angels haunt... He hath kenned them taking wing. 1812 COL. HAWKER *Diary* (1893) I. 62 They will instantly take wing and give you a beautiful shot. 1890 C. DIXON *Sray Feathers* i. 6 The Ring Doves, startled at this, took wing.

(b) *fig.* To 'take flight', take one's departure, make off, flee.

1704 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4056/5 Success, like Fame, has taken Wing. 1715 BENTLEY *Serm. Popery* 24 The weary Soul... ready to leave the Carcase, and yet not suffer'd to take it's Wing. 1806-7 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* (1826) iv. *Introd.*, I lately changed my lodgings... I took wing at a moment's warning. 1825 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Sutherland*. (Colburn) 32 As he touched the lock, they took wing like a covey of partridges. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* xxxvi, I

found a fellow who... knew this Mrs Glasher before she took wing.

20. *to spread* (stretch, try) *one's wings*: to test or develop one's powers; to lead a life of wider scope than hitherto.

1864 G. MEREDITH *Lett.* 1 June (1970) I. 260 One thought my Marie merely trying her wings. 1872 GEO. ELIOT *Middlem.* II. iv. xxxiv. 192 He is trying his wings. He is just the sort of young fellow to rise. 1876 TROLLOPE *Prime Minister* III. xx. 332 When I found myself the son-in-law of a very rich man I thought I might spread my wings a bit. 1926 R. H. TAWNEY *Relig. & Rise of Capitalism* ii. 67 It was in an age of political anarchy that the forces destined to dominate the future tried their wings. 1953 'W. COOPER' *Ever-Interesting Topic* v. ii. 252 He decided to compose music as well as to play it: he began to try his wings as a creative artist, and he found they held him up. 1973 'P. MALLOCH' *Kickback* xi. 69 'Hagan's stretching his wings a bit.' 'Beginning to feel his weight, is he?' 1978 S. RADLEY *Death & Maiden* xv. 145 She wanted to spread her wings a bit, meet new people.

*** 21. *wing-and-wing* (*Naut.*): (of a ship) sailing directly before the wind, with the foresail hauled over on one side and the mainsail on the other.

1781 J. GREENWOOD in *Maryland Hist. Mag.* (1910) V. 129 We were now wing and wing, that is right before the wind. 1828 J. F. COOPER *Red Rover* I. iii. 84 That... schooner would make more way going wing-and-wing than jammed up on a wind. 1841 R. H. DANA *Seaman's Man.* 135. 1893 KIPLING *Seven Seas, Coastwise Lights* 13 We greet the clippers, wing-and-wing, that race the Southern wool.

22. *a wing and a prayer*, a *joc.* form of reference (after quot. 1943) to an emergency landing by an aircraft. Also *fig.* and as *attrib. phr.* in allusion to reliance on hope in desperate situations.

1943 H. ADAMSON *Comin' in on a Wing & a Prayer* (song), 'Tho' there's one motor gone, we can still carry on, Comin' In On A Wing And A Prayer'. 1967 *Economist* 3 June 998/2 The ITA's problem is to decide which applicants give most promise of maintaining an improvement over six years. This is largely a wing and a prayer decision. 1971 P. O'DONNELL *Impossible Virgin* xii. 250, I reckoned it was better to get kitted up for a proper job rather than come charging down 'ere on a wing and a prayer. 1977 W. MARSHALL *Thin Air* xii. 150 The co-pilot brought it in... Wing and a prayer! 1980 T. BARLING *Goodbye Piccadilly* xvi. 334 The pilot spoke to him... 'This is real wing and a prayer weather.'

IV. Attributive uses and Combinations.

23. a. Simple attrib.: (a) in sense 1 (in reference to parts, structure, or function), as *wing area, -beat, -bone, feather, flight, -length, membrane, neuriation, patch, pattern, pinion, power, quill, ray, shoulder, -span, -spread, vein*; (b) in sense 5 d; (of aeroplanes) *wing-length, -skid, -span, -spread, -stay*; (c) in sense 6 or 9 (= side, lateral), as *wing boiler, cabin, room, walk*; (d) in sense 7, as *wing adjutant, -back, commander, officer*; in sense 7 b, as *wing forward, half, -man, player*; (e) = having wings or side appendages (6, 8), as *wing bonnet, cap, chair, gudgeon, -nut*.

(a) 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* IV. (Arb.) 101 Furth she quicklie galops, with wingflight swallowlike hastning. 1675 HANNAH WOOLLEY *Gentlew. Comp.* 114 Put under the wing-Pinions on each side the long slices of flesh which you did cut from the Breast-bone. 1704 PETIVER *Gazophyl.* iii. 23 Its Belly, Wing-shoulders, Collar, and about the Eyes white. 1752 J. HILL *Hist. Anim.* 343 The exterior wing-feathers are black. 1815 STEPHENS in Shaw's *Gen. Zool.* IX. 1. 3 Interior wing-quills externally margined. 1826 SAMUELLE *Direct. Collect. Insects & Crust.* 37 The Pterigostia or wing-bones, hairy. 1837 PENNY *Cycl.* VII. 25/1 It [sc. a bat] hibernates... snugly wrapped up in the wing-membranes. 1856 *Zoologist* Ser. I. XIV. 5157 The wing-veins of insects. *Ibid.* 5195 The Wing-rays of Insects. 1872 COUES N. *Amer. Birds* 100 Wing-patch resolved into two bars. *Ibid.* 174 When very young, the wing-markings more fulvous. 1893 NEWTON *Dict. Birds* 269 Those... which can soar are mostly large birds, with a relatively large wing-area. 1897 'N. BLANCHAN' *Bird Neighbors* 143 Bank Swallow... About an inch shorter than the English sparrow, but apparently much larger because of its wide wing-spread. 1902 *Spectator* 26 July 112 The wing-power of the dragon-flies. 1909 *Westm. Gaz.* 2 Nov. 2/3 For wing-beats of great angels we would hear the herdsman's call. 1910 *Encycl. Brit.* XLII. 432/1 Orthopteroid wing-neurulation. 1911 *Ibid.* XVI. 469/1 The darkening of wing-patterns in many species of Lepidoptera. 1922 JOYCE *Ulysses* 505 Head askew, arches his back and hunched wingshoulders. 1927 *Daily Express* 31 Aug. 8/3 It... is shaped like the wing-bone of a chicken. 1943 A. CLARKE *Coll. Plays* (1963) 173 This big wind that filled My wingbones blew me into the trees. 1946 *Nature* 21 Dec. 904/1 The accompanying table shows... the weight in kgm. and wing-length in cm. of the female. 1949 *Brit. Birds* XLII. 187 The wing-span was found to measure nearly four feet, and the length was 21 inches. 1957 *New Yorker* 13 July 22/2 We got over six hundred bats, from insectivorous ones with an eight-inch wingspread to fruit eaters with a five-foot wingspread. 1971 *Sci. Amer.* Dec. 79/3 For aerodynamic reasons large birds have a slow wingbeat. 1977 P. WAY *Super-Celeste* 123 The skull and upper bones of the [eagle's] wingspan had... driven like a cannon ball into the pilot's belly.

(b) 1897 LANCHESTER *Aerodnetics* (1908) 353 The reaction of the air on the upper and under wing surfaces. 1908 H. G. WELLS *War in Air* x. 317 It had taken only an hour or so to substitute wing stays from the second flying-machine and to replace the nuts he had himself removed. 1910 R. FERRIS *How it Flies* xx. 474 *Wing Plan*, the outline of the wing or main plane surface as viewed from above. *Ibid.*, *Wing skid*, a small skid, or runner, placed under the tip of the wings of an aeroplane. 1912 *Q. Rev.* July 231 If the

1000 lb. aeroplane is to travel slower, it must have a larger wing-spread. 1918 PAGE & MONTARIOL *Gloss. Aviation Terms* 33/1 Wing span. 1920 *Flight* XII. 864/1 The Loughhead S1 model, as it is called, is a single-seater biplane with a wing span of 28ft. 1975 *Farnborough* 76 (Soc. Brit. Aerospace Companies) 30/2 The world's smallest jet aircraft, the Bede BD-5J, with a wing span of only 17ft. 1978 R. JANSSON *News Caper* 9 There was the fighter again, flying parallel half a winglength away. 1978 *Sci. Amer.* Nov. 135/1 In 1899 the Wrights built a biplane kite with a five-foot wingspread that embodied their wing-twisting roll control.

(c) 1697 AUBREY *Lives, Bacon* (1898) I. 79 In the middle-most three coaches may passe abreast: in the wing-walkes two may. 1838 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jnl.* I. 284/2 The furnaces in the wing boilers. 1877 L. JEWITT *Half-Hours Engl. Antiq.* 112 The sleeved surcoat; the ailettes or wing-pieces, behind the shoulders. 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-mining* 291 Wing-bore... a side or flank bore-hole. 1889 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 20 Aug. 2/1 The wing cabin at the foot of the companion. 1893 T. N. PAGE *Ole Virginia* 194 The great chamber was given up to the baby, the Colonel going to the wing room. 1923 J. C. ROGERS *Engl. Furnit.* 64 The back... fitted with forward wing-pieces.

(d) 1734 in 10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm. App. 1 192, I sent a pinnace and brought the Velt Marshall's Wing Adjutant to me. 1876 VOYLE & STEVENSON *Milit. Dict.* (ed. 3) 470/2 Wing Officer, an officer of the Indian army attached to a wing of a native infantry regiment. 1882 *Cassell's Bk. Sports* 40 Wing players should be good dribblers. 1898 J. GOODALL *Assoc. Football* 30 The wing game—that is to say, the two pairs playing together, leaving the centre-forward waiting for something to turn up. *Ibid.* 78 Wing-halves should keep their eyes on the wing-forwards. 1914 *Times* 22 Dec. 4/3 Royal Flying Corps... Wing Commander.—Brev. Maj. H. R. M. Brooke-Popham, Oxf. and Bucks. L.I. 1918 W. T. BLAKE *R.F.C. in War* vii. 42 The Wing Headquarters. 1933 *Time* 13 Nov. 57/1 A wing-back is... a halfback who takes position about a yard and a half behind the line of scrimmage and about the same distance outside his own end. 1942 *Sun* (Baltimore) 26 Jan. 4/1 Baltimore scored first on a pass from Charley Ernst, center forward, to Harry McAdams, newly acquired wingman. 1943 J. B. PRIESTLEY *Daylight on Saturday* xxviii. 217 And a real wing-commander came in yesterday and talked to me. 1974 Wingback [see RUSH v. 2 6g]. 1976 *Derbyshire Times* (Peak ed.) 3 Sept. 26/1 Matlock, in contrast, always looked dangerous with Peter Scott, the Fenoughty brothers, Mick and Nick, and wing-man Colin Oxley constantly troubling the Runcorn defence with their speedy breaks.

(e) 1775 MME. D'ARBLAY *Early Diary* 28 Feb., She had on a large dirty wing cap, made of muslin. 1817 MARIA EDGEWORTH *Harrington* xiii. Then at the top of the mount of hair and horsehair... there was sometimes a fly-cap, or a wing-cap, or a pouf. 1883 *Longman's Mag.* July 259 The wing bonnet like the tilt of a waggon. 1891 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* IV. 121 Put a 1/2 inch bolt with a wing thumb nut, through. 1907 G. O. WHEELER *Old Engl. Furniture* 190 The ordinary English 'wing' or 'grandfather' chair. 1910 *Chambers's Jnl.* May 349/1 The wing-nut on its shaft is released, the detachable rim-wheel placed on the shaft, and the nut replaced. 1971 *Flying Bull* 26/2 The control and gust locks... are adjustable to fit virtually any light aircraft by means of easy-to-operate wing nuts.

b. Instrumental, adverbial, parasynthetic, etc., as wing-borne, -broken, -clipped, -flapping, -hoofed, -like, -limed, -shadowed, -shaped, -shattered, -stiff, -weary, -wide adjs.

1934 WEBSTER, *Wing-borne. 1942 S. SMITH *Mother, what is Man?* 67 Than earth-born engine-borne, heaven-born wing-borne is better? 1977 *Guardian Weekly* 5 June 3/2 About half the crashes happened when the aircraft was hovering, or in transition from normal wingborne flight. a 1793 G. WHITE *Naturalist's Cal.* etc. (1795) 96 As a person was lately pursuing a pheasant that was *wing-broken. 1874 J. W. LONG *Amer. Wild-fowl* iii. 71 Rather a cruel method, perhaps, but one attended with great success in wild-geese shooting, is, on securing a wing-broken one, to fasten it to a stake a short distance from the blind. 1892 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 24 Mar. 2/1 Some of the birds can fly... but the *wing-clipped ones... are... shot down. 1915 E. POUND *Cathay* 10 He goes out to Hori, to look at the *wing-flapping storks. 1953 N. TINBERGEN *Herring Gull's World* xxi. 183 A screaming, wing-flapping tangle. 1615 CHAPMAN *Odys.* xxiii. 377 Who th' extended night With-held in long date; nor would let the light Her *wing-hoof'd horse ioine. 1795-1804 W. BLAKE *Vala* vi. in *Compl. Writings* (1972) 318 And the *wing-like tent of the Universe, beautiful, surrounding all. 1848 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.*, *Alaria ossa*, the wing-like processes of the sphenoid bone. 1606 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* ii. iv. II. *Magnificence* 428 Why the wilde Pen-Goose... as *wing-lim'd, cannot fly. 1938 D. GASCOYNE *Hölderlin's Madness* 28 The bewildered words which try to tell The tale of his bright night And his *wing-shadowed day. 1829 LOUDON *Encycl. Plants* (1836) 598 Leaves... *wing-shaped. 1928 BLUNDEN *Retreat* 60 But now the grey age passes by my faint senses And charm lies *wing-shattered or dead. 1945 P. A. LARKIN *North Ship* 33 It was your severed image that grew sweeter, That floated, *wing-stiff, focussed in the sun. 1868 J. G. WHITTIER in *Atlantic Monthly* Jan. 1 The sky is hot and hazy, and the wind, *Wing-weary with its long flight from the south. 1946 J. W. DAY *Harvest Adventure* x. 154 The woodcock came in wing-weary from their North Sea voyagings. 1818 KEATS *Walking in Scot.* 19 Eagles may seem to sleep *wing-wide upon the air.

24. Special Combs.: wing-back chair = wing chair, sense 23 a(e); also ellipt.; wing-band = wing-bar (b); wing-bar, (a) a lateral bar in a scuffling-plough; (b) a bar or band of colour on the feathers of a bird's wing, *spec.* one formed by distinctive coloration of the greater or median coverts or both; (c) in an aeroplane: see quot. 1910; wing-bay, a marking on a bird's wing formed by distinctive coloration of the secondaries, in certain game-cocks characteristically of a bay colour; wing-bow, a marking on the shoulder or bend of the wing

formed by distinctive coloration of the lesser coverts; wing-bud, in insect larvæ, a histoblast from which the wings develop; wing-case, each of the structures (modified fore-wings) which cover the functional wings in certain insects, as the elytra of beetles and the tegmina of Orthoptera; wing-chick, a young chicken still under the protection of its mother's wing; wing-clapping, the production of a noise by a bird slapping its wings against its body; hence wing-clap sb. and v. *intr.*; † wing-cleft a., *Bot.* = PINNATIFID (cf. 11 b); wing collar, a high stiff shirt collar with the upper corners turned down; wing-compass, a compass having one leg fitted with an arc-shaped 'wing' or projecting piece which passes through the other leg and may be clamped in any required position (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875); wing-cover = wing-case; wing-covert [COVERT sb. 5], any one of the small feathers overlying the flight-feathers of a bird's wing; wing-dam sb., a dam or barrier built into a stream to deflect the current; hence wing-dam v. *trans.*, to furnish with a wing-dam; wing-deck = sense 9 b(b); wing-elm = winged elm (see WINGED a. 3 c); † wing-fashion a. or adv., in the form of wings; wing-fish, (a) = PTERICHTHYS; (b) a flying-fish, esp. of the genus *Prionotus*; wing-flap: see FLAP sb. 5; wing flutter *Aeronaut.*, flutter (FLUTTER sb. 1 d) of an aircraft wing; wing-footed a., having winged feet, swiftly-moving; also fig.; wing formula (see quot. 1964); wing-game, game-birds collectively, as distinguished from ground-game (GROUND sb. 18); † wing-laid a., ? = wing-and-wing (see 21); † wing-leaved a., *Bot.* having pinnate leaves (cf. 11 b); wing loading *Aeronaut.*, the gross weight of an aircraft divided by the total wing area; (in quot. 1912 *perh.* used differently); cf. POWER LOADING vbl. sb. 1; wing-man, the pilot of an aircraft which is positioned behind and to one side of the leading aircraft, as in formation for combat; the aircraft itself; wing mirror, (a) a side mirror (freq. adjustable) on a dressing table; (b) a rear-view mirror projecting from the side of a motor vehicle; wing-net, (a) a 'wing' in a fishing-net (= 6 d), or a fishing-net with wings; (b) a net at the side of a tennis-court; wing-over, of an aircraft or hang-glider (see quot. 1959); wing-passage, a passage along the side of a ship's hold: see 9 b(a); also attrib.; wing-poke (collar) = wing collar above; † wing-post, *nonce-wd.* [POST sb. 2], a carrier pigeon; wing-rail = GUARD-RAIL 2 (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875); wing rib, the end rib of a loin of beef; wing root *Aeronaut.*, the part of a wing where it is attached to the fuselage; wing-sail, ? a sail abaft the main course; wing-sheath = wing-case; wing-shell, † (a) the wing-sheath of an insect; (b) any of several kinds of molluscs having the shell or some part of it resembling a wing, as the genus *Pinna* (= SEA-WING 2); also, a wing-snail; wing-shooting, the practice of shooting birds 'on the wing', i.e. when flying; wing-shot sb., (a) a shot aimed at a flying bird; (b) a person skilled in wing-shooting; *adj.* shot while flying, or in the wing; wing-snail = PTEROPOD; wing-stopper [STOPPER sb. 9], a cable-stopper formerly used in the wings of a ship; wing-tag v. *trans.*, to attach a distinguishing marker to the wing of a bird; wing-tip, (a) the tip of the wing of a bird, bat, or insect; (b) the outer end of the 'wing' of an aeroplane; (c) chiefly U.S., applied attrib. to shoes with a toe-cap having a backward extending point and curving sides, suggestive of the shape of a wing; also *absol.*; wing-tipped (-tipped) ppl. a., (of a bird) having the tips of the wings clipped so as to prevent it from flying; wing-transom, the uppermost and longest of the transoms in the stern-frame of a ship; wing-wader, an Australian wading bird having a spur or claw on each wing; wing-wale (see quot. 1846 in 9 b); wing-walking, acrobatic stunts performed on the wings of an aircraft which is airborne, as a public entertainment; wing-wall, a lateral wall forming a support to an abutment and to the adjacent earth; wing-warping, in early powered flight, the bending or twisting of a wing by means of an attached wire as a method of stabilizing the aeroplane or turning it.

1933 J. STEINBECK *To God Unknown* i. 1 The *wing-back chair by the fireplace. 1973 'D. JORDAN' *Nile Green* xlv. 247 She sat in her wingback chair flicking through one of the coffee table books. 1977 *Chicago Tribune Mag.* 2 Oct. 9/1 (Adv.), The chair that stands still in time—the Classic Wingback with Chippendale legs. 1872 COUES *N. Amer.*

Birds 101 *Wing-bands generally fused into one large patch. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 959 The ends of the *wing-bars having a mortise formed to receive the quadrant, are moved upon this to any required width. 1855 *Poultry Chron.* III. 348/2 They are light blue on the coloured parts and have no wing bars. 1910 R. FERRIS *How it Flies* 474 Wing Bar, the larger construction members of a wing, running from the body outward to the tips. The ribs are attached to the wing bars, usually at right angles. 1867 TEGETMEIER *Poultry Bk.* 338 *Wing Bow.—Rich dark red. 1917 R. J. TILLYARD *Biol. of Dragonflies* iii. 47 The *wing-bud is simply an ectodermal evagination, in the form of a small bag lined internally with hydoderm cells, and externally with the cuticle. 1969 R. F. CHAPMAN *Insects* xxi. 407 A progressive development of the wing buds occurs at each moult. 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.*, *Isagoge* c 2 b. Some [Insects] have *wing-cases, as beetles, and cantharides. 1815 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* iii. (1818) I. 64 Two wings, and two wing-cases, ornamented with yellow bands. 1885 MEREDITH *Diana* xxviii. A young poet... is not the same kind of *wing-chick as a young actress. 1964 A. L. THOMSON *New Dict. Birds* 631/2 More rattling or clattering *wing-claps may be made by pigeons suddenly taking wing when alarmed. 1976 *Country Life* 18 Mar. 672/2 The long-eared owl will wing-clap during its spring nuptial flight. 1941 H. F. WITHERBY et al. *Handbk. Brit. Birds* IV. 142 Performance [of display-flight by turtle-dove] may be accompanied by *wing-clapping. 1976 *Country Life* 18 Mar. 672/2 The mechanical production of snaps from the beak may be compared with wing-clapping by birds. 1796 WITHERBY *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 294 Leaves winged; leaflets *wing-cleft. 1822 *Hortus Anglicus* II. 120 More properly twice wing-cleft than twice pinnate. 1915 H. L. WILSON *Ruggles of Red Gap* (1917) ii. 33, I chose a shirt of white piqué, a *wing collar with small, square-cornered tabs, and a pearl ascot. 1975 *Times* 19 May 12/7 Saturday's guide was Charles E. Lee, a transport historian whose wing collar... enhanced the building's period atmosphere. 1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xxiii. (1818) II. 350 In the next order (Orthoptera), the Tegmina, or *wing-coverts... assist them in flying. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 500 The fore wings may be converted into wing covers for the hind wings. 1815 STEPHENS in Shaw's *Gen. Zool.* IX. 1. 3 Greater *wing-coverts tipped with crimson. 1809 T. G. FESSENDEN *Pills Poetical* 36 All his rhetoric was directed toward election districts, and *wingdam bills, and seconding motions. 1863 Wing dam [see PADDOCK v. 2]. 1882 *Rep. Prec. Metals U.S.* 102 By sinking a shaft and drifting preparatory to building a wing-dam. 1857 J. D. BORTHWICK *Three Yrs. California* xvii. 265 A company of fifteen or twenty white men would have *wing-dammed this claim. 1889 *Century Mag.* July 374/1 (Steamboat Decoration) More of this glass gives a desirable touch of color in the lights above the *wing-decks at each end. 1547 in Feuillerat *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 14, vij peyre of Sleves *wyng flasshion. 1855 Orr's *Circ. Sci.*, *Inorg. Nat.* 80 The Pterichthys (*wing-fish). 1888 GOODE *Amer. Fishes* 304 [Fishes of the genus *Prionotus*] are eaten... only in the vicinity of Hartford, Conn., where they are known as 'Wing-fish'. 1927 *Daily Tel.* 21 Jan. 10/7 The new theory... suggests that *wing-flutter may be more common than has been supposed. 1982 C. L. RUHLIN et al. *Transonic Flutter Study of Wind-Tunnel Model* (NASA Rep. 82-23239) viii. 5/2 Most of the winglet effect on the wing flutter speed was due to the winglet mass, not aerodynamics. 1591 SPENSER *Ruins of Time* 666 *Wing footed Mercurie. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* x. 322 Wing-footed Time. 1658 ROWLAND tr. *Mouflet's Theat. Ins.* 923 Hail the daughters of the wing-footed steed. 1977 *Time* 22 Aug. 13/1 Wing-footed United Nations Ambassador Andrew Young has been exploring the politically and economically troubled waters of the Caribbean, and soon will attend an anti-apartheid conference in Lagos, Nigeria. 1936 *Brit. Birds* XXX. 226 This specimen... has... a *wing formula as follows. 1964 A. L. THOMSON *New Dict. Birds* 892/2 Wing formula: a statement of, mainly, the relative lengths of the primary feathers. 1879 JEFFERIES *Wild Life in S. Co.* vii. The neighbouring squire takes the pick of the *wing-game. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* x. 502 The *wing-layed Galley, with her factious oars. 1822 *Hortus Anglicus* II. 119 *Wing-leaved Fig Wort, or Dog's Rue. 1912 *Q. Rev.* July 246 A range of this amount is obtained entirely by proportioning the position of masses, the wing-curve and the *wing-loading. 1916 A. W. JUDGE *Design of Aeroplanes* iii. 29 In current practice the wing loading expressed in pounds per square foot for biplanes is about 0.005 V², where V is the maximum designed speed in feet per second. 1972 *Times* 19 May 17/4 It cannot be a glider, as it has far too high a wing-loading. 1946 *Sat. Even. Post* 6 Nov. 86/2, I looked to both sides of us. Our two *wing men were gone. 1981 S. DUNMORE *Acci.* i. 15 We will fly together... You will be my wingman... to protect my rear end. 1982 *Daily Tel.* 25 May 1/4 He hit two Mirages with Sidewinder missiles while his wingman hit the third in the formation. 1925-6 T. Eaton & Co. *Catal. Fall & Winter* 311/2 Dressing table... triple mirrors, centre one beveled... two plain *wing mirrors. 1948 *Motor* 3 Nov. 396/3 An assortment of wing mirrors. 1959 C. WILLIAMS *Man in Motion* vi. 62 The dressing-table with its wing mirrors. 1959 *Motor Manual* (ed. 36) viii. 217 Additional wing mirrors are... very useful, particularly on the off-side as traffic on the point of overtaking is then clearly visible. 1981 M. NABB *Death of Englishman* III. i. 143 He... had banged his head on a Carabinieri car wing-mirror. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. s.v. *Stake-net*, At from 30' to 40' down stream another row of stakes is set, each opposite a stake in the bar-net, and between these stakes a *wing-net is stretched. 1884 *Marshall's Tennis Cuts* 96 A gentleman... in a fit of passion at some *coup manqué*, flung his racket high in air, and it lodged on the ledge above the tambour, behind the wing-net. 1928 *Morning Post* 20 Oct. 9/3 One of the passengers... got panicky when the pilot executed a *wing-over. 1959 F. D. ADAMS *Aeronaut. Dict.* 183/2 Wing-over, noun, an airplane maneuver in which the airplane makes a steep zooming climb then banks and turns in the vertical plane into a dive or glide from which the recovery is made at approximately the original altitude and in a direction opposite to the original direction. 1978 A. WELCH *Bk. Airsports* i. 9/2 They indulge in 'show-off' flying—fast dives and steep wing-overs—that the simple hang glider was never designed to take. 1869 E. J. REED *Shipbuild.* vi. 101 The *wing passages of wooden ships of war. 1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 364/1 The 'wing-passage-bulkhead' as a protection against under-water attacks such as ramming or torpedoes. 1905 H. G. WELLS *Kipps* III. i. 351 Kipps wears

a grey suit, with a *wing poke collar. 1910 — *Hist. Mr. Polly* i. 73 His collar was chosen from stock, and with projecting corners, technically a 'wing-poke'. a1661 FULLER *Worthies, Northamptonshire* (1662) II. 279 Such practices, by these *Wing-posts, would spoil many a Foot-post. 1883 'ANNIE THOMAS' *Mod. Housewife* iv. 48 A seven or eight pound piece of *wing rib or sirloin of beef. 1906 A. SAMUELSON *Flight-Velocity* i. 12 Near the *wing root an outrigger or boom... is fastened. 1966 M. WOODHOUSE *Tree Frog* xxvi. 195, I jumped down off the wing root... and started to think about search parties. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 135 *Wingsail for Ketches. This sail is quadrilateral, and similar to the mizen-course of a ship. It... bends abaft the mainmast to hoops which encircle the mast. 1874 GARROD & BAXTER *Mat. Med.* 411 The elytra or *wing-sheaths are long. 1681 GREW *Museum* i. §vii. ii. 164 The *Wing-shells almost square-knobed on each side before. *Ibid.*, The Long-Shell'd Goat-Chafer... is above an inch long, and the Wing-shells of them-selves an inch. 1835 KIRBY *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* I. viii. 252 The wing-shell belonging to the unimascular section. 1854 WOODWARD *Mollusca* II. 260 The wing-shells, or pearl-oysters. 1881 GREENER *Gun* 58 These guns... were probably intended for *wing-shooting. 1875 *Fur, Fin & Feather* 118 Bogardus, champion *wing-shot of America, uses Orange Lightning [powder] for trap-shooting. 1878 C. HALLOCK *Hallock's Amer. Club List & Sportsman's Gloss.* p. xii, *Wing-shot*, a., hit in the wing. *Wing-shot*, n., a shot at birds on the wing; one who shoots at birds while flying. 1883 *Century Mag.* Aug. 493/2 Last season, I shot with the best wing-shot I ever hunted with. 1892 GREENER *Breech Loader* 253 The contest for the American Field Champion Wing-Shot Cup. 1895 G. J. MANSON *Sporting Dict.*, *Wing-shot*,... hit on the wing. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 176 Dog-stoppers are used as additional securities... to ease the deck-stoppers. *Wing-stoppers are used for the same purpose. 1953 SCOTT & FISHER *Thousand Geese* 215 Five of the young were *wing-tagged. 1981 *Animal Behaviour* XXIX. 302/1 Three females and one male were wing-tagged. 1872 COUES N. *Amer. Birds* 175 The *wing-tip projects only about 1/2 an inch beyond the secondaries. 1890 DARWIN *Desc. Man* II. xi. (ed. 2) 322 The female of *Anthocharis cardamines* does not possess the beautiful orange wing-tips of the male. 1909 *Daily Chron.* 2 Feb. 5/6 He... hesitated a second to see that the man at the wing tip was ready. 1928 *World* (N.Y.) 23 May 4/6 (Adv.). Wing tip oxfords by Horsheim have unusually good style. 1971 *Weekend World* (Johannesburg) 9 May 14/5 (Adv.). Walk tall in the elegant clean lines of a Bostonian wing-tip or genuine handsewn moccasin. 1976 'B. SHELBY' *Great Pebble Affair* 45 Get a pair of black wingtip shoes. 1980 M. GORDON *Company of Women* i. ii. 38 The hard, expensive shoes of John F. Kennedy, the shoe with pinholes in the leather, wing tips they were called. 1849 D. J. BROWNE *Amer. Poultry Yd.* (1855) 236 Being *wing-tipped and unable to fly, he caught it and brought it home alive. 1711 W. SUTHERLAND *Shipbuild. Assist.* 70 The *Wing Transom to have a long arm'd Knee. 1815 BURNLEY *Falconer's Dict.* *Marine* s.v. *Transoms*, The arms of the transoms, being gradually closer in proportion to their distance from the wing transom downwards. 1867 PITT-RIVERS *Evol. Culture, Prim. Warfare* i. (1906) 71 The *wing-wader of Australia. 1927 C. A. LINDBERGH *We* i. 11 Exhibitions... in which I usually made a jump and did a little *wing-walking. 1979 *Sunset* Apr. 3/3 Also awesome is a wing-walking act in which specially trained gymnasts do headstands and other maneuvers on the wings of a W.W. II Stearman biplane as it loops, rolls, and lands. 1791 *Rep. Navig. Thames & Isis* Estimate 5 Taking down the Side-Walls of Godstow Lock, re-building them, strengthening the *Wing-Walls, and finishing, £450. 1842 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jnrl.* V. 95/1 Retaining walls were generally introduced at the ends of bridges, to connect the abutments of the bridge with the natural ground; but in these cases they were called 'wing walls'. 1910 R. M. NEILSON *Aeroplane Patents* 27, 6732 of March 19, 1904.—O. and W. Wright. This is the famous *wing-warping patent. 1969 K. MUNSON *Pioneer Aircraft 1903-14* 7 Wing-warping was not, in itself, an invention of the Wrights; what was significant was their improvement of linking the warp-control cables with a single, hinged rudder.

wing, v. Forms: see prec.; also *pa. pple.* 5 *wyngged, y-whyngged*. [*f. prec. sb.*]

I. Senses derived from senses 1-5 of the sb.

† 1. *trans.* To carve (a quail or partridge). *Obs.* 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* f. vj b, A Quayle wyngged. c 1500 [see ELE V. 2]. 1513 *Bk. Kerwyng* in *Babees Bk.* 265. 1598 *BP. Hall Sat.* IV. ii. 44 Him list not spend his idle meales In quinsing Plovers, or in winging [printed winning] Quails. 1694 N. H. *Ladies Dict.* 415 (*bis*). a 1756 MRS. HEYWOOD *New Present* (1771) 269. 1804 FARLEY *London Art of Cookery* (ed. 10) 292 Partridges and quails. To wing either of these birds, nothing more is to be done than to raise the legs and wings.

2. a. *intr.* (†occas. *refl.*) To use one's wings, take flight, fly; occas. *transf.* to sail; *fig.* to 'fly', pass swiftly, speed; also (chiefly *U.S.*) with an aircraft as subject, or *transf.* of a passenger, to travel by aircraft. *orig. poet or rhetorical.*

1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* v. iii. 133, I (an old Turtle) Will wing me to some wether'd finch. 1623 'JACK DAWE' *Vox Graculi* 51 It will be better going by Land... then to wing against winde and tide without a tilt-Cloath. 1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. [1.] xxxii. 101 Iuvenal does tell vs, how Life wings away! 1688 CROWNE *Darius* v. 62 He wings along the Air in Clouds of Dust, And does not march, but fly. 1726 *Adv. Capt. R. Boyle* (1768) 268, I had nothing else to do but to Wing to the Place where the Joy of my Life did once reside. 1801 W. HUTTON *Life* (1816) 238 The year winged away in feasting upon a pleasure to come. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* vii, Many of these wild tribes... were now winging towards their nests. 1844 HOOD *Haunted Ho.* III. v, In the upper gloom The bat—or something in its shape—was winging. 1879 'E. GARRETT' *House by Works* xv, He was dead before the telegram, winging over sea and land, announced his danger to his son. 1938 *SN* (Baltimore) 21 July 1/8 (*heading*) English plane wings swiftly over Atlantic. 1973 C. SAGAN *Cosmic Connection* (1974) xxviii. 197 A single bit of radio information, sent winging across space to the Earth, would cost far less than a penny. 1977 *Time* 30 May 25/2 As Air Force One winged toward Washington, one Californian

was clearly relieved that Carter's visit had been so brief. 1983 *Fortune* 18 Apr. 137/1 Winging into New Hampshire from Los Angeles headquarters aboard an Arco jet one Sunday, Cooper began the next three days at 7:30. 1984 *Times* 4 Aug. 32 The Prince of Wales flies back from Monaco, only to wing off within hours for Papua New Guinea.

b. In *pa. pple.* = flying, on the wing. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1591 SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI.* IV. vii. 21 Thou antique Death... Two Talbots winged through the lither Skie, In thy despite shall scape Mortalitie. 1611 — *Cymb.* IV. ii. 348, I saw Ioues Bird, The Roman Eagle, wing'd From the spongy South to this part of the West. 1737 H. BROOKE *tr. Tasso* III. (1738) 10 Far wing'd before his Squadron Tancred came. 1844 KINGLAKE *Eothen* vi, Brave thoughts winged on Grecian words gained their natural mastery over Terror.

3. *trans.* a. To fly through, upon, or across; to traverse by flying.

1605 SHAKS. *Lear* IV. vi. 13 The Crows and Choughes, that wing the midway ayre. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* IV. 936, I alone first undertook To wing the desolate Abyss. 1733 POPE *Ess. Man* III. 120 All that roam the wood, Or wing the sky, or roll along the flood. 1760-72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 26 Thoughts that wing infinity, apprehensions that reach through eternity. 1820 SHELLEY *Skylark* II, The blue deep thou wingest, And singing still dost soar, and soaring ever singest. 1883 WHITELAW *Sophocles, Oedipus Colonus* 1081 Oh that I were a dove, that I might wing the wind With pinion swift and strong.

b. with cognate obj. (*flight, way*).

1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 14 New ways I must attempt, my groveling Name To raise aloft, and wing my flight to Fame. 1698 CONGREVE *Semele* II. i. 2 From Samos have I wing'd my Way. 1790 ALEX. WILSON *To David Brodie* *Poet. Wks.* (1846) 7 The parting year prepares to wing its way. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xxx, The week fled faster. It had nearly winged its flight away. 1893 SIR R. BALL *Story of Sun* xvii. 320 If we were able to wing our way from this Earth into the depths of space.

4. a. To put wings upon, furnish or fit with wings for flying; to feather (an arrow); also *poet.* in *ref.* to the sails of a ship.

a 1616 B. JONSON *Barriers* 41 Marriage Loves object is;... For her, he wings his shoulders. 1661 BOYLE *Style Script.* 90 The Feathers that wing our Arrows. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* IV. 785 With sails we wing the masts. 1757 DYER *Fleece* II. 296 Nimbly they wing'd the bark. 1867 F. FRANCIS *Bk. Angling* xiii. 399 The nicest operation of all... that of winging the fly.

b. *fig.* (or in *fig. context*): To 'give wings to'; to enable to 'fly' or 'soar'; to give speed or swift motion to; to speed, hasten.

1599 PEELE *David & Bethsabe* Cjb, Cast as was Eua from that glorious soile (Where all delights sat bating wing with thoughts, Ready to nestle in her naked breasts). 16... *Lust's Domin.* I. iii. (1657) B8, Ambition wings his spirit, keep him down. a 1625 FLETCHER *Bloody Brother* III. i, Gis. Tyrant, will haste thy owne death. *Rol.* Let it wing it. 1647 TRAPP *Comm.* I Cor. vii. 5 (1656) 673 Fasting-days are soul-fasting days: prayer is edged and winged thereby. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* I. 175 The Thunder, Wing'd with red Lightning and impetuous rage. 1781 COWPER *Catharina* 50 With her book, and her voice, and her lyre, To wing all her moments at home. 1814 CARY *Dante, Parad.* xx. 102 Lively hope, that wing'd the prayers [of St. Gregory] sent up to God for his release. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xiv, The hours glided on... whether winged with joy or laden with affliction. 1835 LYTTON *Rienzi* VI. v, The Convent was at some distance, but... fear would wing her steps. 1849 M. ARNOLD *Sonn. to G. Cruikshank*, Artist, whose hand, with horror wing'd, hath torn From the rank life of towns this leaf.

5. To convey by or as by means of wings; 'to transport by flight' (J.); to carry through the air as if flying, to waft (also *fig.*).

1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. [1.] xlvii. 139 It is these two only [sc. water and earth], that seeme to make the body, while the two purer, Fire and Ayre, are wing'd away. 1682 OTWAY *Venice Preserv'd* III. ii. 37 First, let's embrace, Heav'n knows who next shall thus Wing ye together. 1807 J. BARLOW *Columb.* II. 126 When future gales shall wing them o'er the tide. 1820 CLARE *Poems Rural Life* 174 Sad was the day when my Willy did leave me, Sad were the moments that wing'd him away. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* xiii, There was enough breeze... to wing the shadow of a cloud across the soft grey downs. 1976 C. EGLETON *State Visit* xiv. 123 The VC to winged him back to Heathrow.

6. To send flying, let fly (as a missile); to send off swiftly, to dart.

1718 POPE *Iliad* XIII. 832 With his full Strength he bent his angry Bow, And wing'd the feather'd Vengeance at the Foe. 1831 JAMES PHILIP *Aug.* iii, Whether any of his train could draw a good bow, and wing a shaft well home. 1880 MEREDITH *Tragic Com.* viii, The desire to wing a telegram to her he thought it wise to repress. 1887 MORRIS *Odyss.* XI. 396 And therewith I bespake him and winged a word for his ears [*ἔνεα πτερὰ ἐντα ῥοσφύδω*].

7. To brush with a bird's wing: cf. prec. 1 c.

1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* VII. xxxiv. 49 With Blew Smalts strew very thick the Border while it is wet; and when it is dry, wing that which is loose off. 1866 [see WINGED *ppl.* a. 2].

8. To shoot (a bird) in the wing, so as to disable it from flying without killing it; *transf.* to wound (a person) with a shot in the arm or shoulder, or some other not vital part; to injure or disable (something) by a shot. Also, to pluck off the wings of (an insect).

1802 G. COLMAN *Poor Gentl.* v. iii. 77 We are on the ground first... What are the odds now, that he doesn't wing me? 1803 W. TAYLOR in *Ann. Rev.* I. 365 Snatched at, like flies by children, to be winged and let go. 1826 F. REYNOLDS *Life & Times* I. 82 Though I regularly fired, I never even winged a tomtit. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* II, Be steady, and wing him. 1884 'H. COLLINGWOOD' *Under Meteor Flag* v, Tompion was... bid do his best to 'wing' the Frenchman [sc.

a ship]. 1914 *Times* 28 Oct. 9/6 One aeroplane was winged by the Russian soldiery.

II. Senses derived from senses 6-9 of the sb.

9. † a. *Mil.* To furnish (a force) with additional troops on the wings; also of such troops, to form the wings of. (occas. *absol.*) *Obs.*

1591 *Garrard's Art Warre* 202 This squadron is... flanked with Musket... and winged with horsemen. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III.* v. iii. 300 In the maine Battell, whose puissance on either side Shall be well-winged with our cheefest Horse. 1622 F. MARKHAM *Bk. War* III. i. 82 They [sc. cavalry armed with petronels] wing the Launces or Pistollers. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* VI. §248 Having winged his Foot with his Horse and Dragoons. 1677 W. HUBBARD *Pres. St. New-Eng.* 125 We asked him what they intended who promised to wing us. 1699 *Relat. Sir T. Morgan's Progr. France* 6 We were forced to march up in four Lines (for we had not room enough to Wing).

b. To furnish with side parts or projections, as a building, etc.

a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 31 Aug. 1654, Two courts, ... wing'd with cloisters. 1789 *Trans. Soc. Arts* VII. 56 A new pair of flood-gates, winged with stone-walls. a 1830 *Edin. Encycl.* XIV. 349/1 If the pillars are to be winged afterwards, they must be left of an extra strength. 1882 C. A. YOUNG *Sun* VI. 198 The hydrogen is in such a state that the lines of its spectrum are widened and 'winged'.

10. *Naut.* a. To carry up (ballast) in the wings of a ship.

1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* II. 286 The iron ballast... is winged up 3 or more pigs above the floor-heads. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 735 To Wing up ballast, to carry the dead weight from the bottom as high as consistent with the stability of a ship.

b. *intr.* to wing out: to set a sail on a boom projecting sideways. Hence winged out or wung out, = wing-and-wing s.v. WING sb. 21.

1867 G. E. CLARK *Seven Yrs. Sailor's Life* i. 14 Here was I, deep-loaded, winged out, and oft-times flying before the winter blast. 1890 WEBSTER, wung out. 1907 *Rudder* Nov. 827/2 On rounding, the schooners winged out; but... the wind came out of East of South, and they jibed their foresails and trimmed sheets a little. 1956 A. F. LOOMIS *Hotspur Story* 109 Thither we sailed, main-sail to starboard and staysail wung out. *Ibid.* 214 The wung-out schooner which we had noticed earlier in the afternoon lost the race. 1969 H. HORWOOD *Newfoundland* x. 71 Tearing down the outside passages with sails 'wung out' before a roaring nor'-wester.

11. *Theatrical slang. trans.* To study (a part) in or about the wings, having undertaken it at short notice; also *intr.* Hence in *phr.* to wing it; now usu. in *slang* use (*orig.* and chiefly *U.S.*), to improvise; to speak or act without preparation, to make statements on unstudied matters (see also *quot.* 1950).

1885 *Stage* 21 Aug. 12/2 'To wing'... indicates the capacity to play a rôle without knowing the text, and the word itself came into use from the fact that the artiste frequently received the assistance of a special prompter, who... stood... screened... by a piece of the scenery or a wing. 1886 *Stage Gossip* 70 In the event of an artiste being suddenly called upon to play a part of which he knows nothing... he frequently has to 'wing' the part. 1933 P. GODFREY *Back-Stage* iii. 39 He must give a performance by 'winging it'—that is, by refreshing his memory for each scene in the wings before he goes on to play it. 1950 *Amer. Speech* XXV. 238/1 Wing it, *vb.*, to lay off an approximate 90° angle by eye. 1959 *Esquire* Nov. 70 Wing, to do something without preparation. 1970 *Time* 26 Jan. 12 Cox: The resistance put up against us dictates [our] strategy. Bernstein... You mean you've got to wing it. 1971 *Publishers' Weekly* 6 Dec. 20/2 They can talk about the book, kind of winging it based on the ads, just like other people do with reviews. 1979 *Globe & Mail* (Toronto) 22 Jan. 8/2 Mr. Trudeau came without notes, choosing to wing it, and struggled... unsuccessfully to establish Mr. Leger's resemblance to an owl.

† 12. *intr.* To incline to a particular wing, side, or party. *Obs. nonce-use.*

1617 R. FENTON *Treat. Ch. Rome* 52 This made the people wing on that side.

wing, var. WIN sb.³ (*slang*), a penny.

Wingco ('wɪŋkəʊ). *R.A.F. slang.* Also Winco, Winko, and with small initial. Abbrev. of *Wing Commander*: see WING sb. 23 a (d).

1941 MICHIE & GRAEBNER *Lights of Freedom* iii. 45 A cockney member of the ground crew piped: 'Sir, I think the 'Winko' [wing commander] is after the Hun.' 1942 *R.A.F. Jnrl.* 3 Oct. 12 One of them was a Winco and the other two were Army officers. 1943 'T. DUDLEY-GORDON' *Coastal Command at War* ix. 88 On another raid... The wingco, was leading. 1944 'N. SHUTE' *Pastoral* iii. 54 Don't let Winco hear him, or he'll get us into trouble. 1957 J. BRAINE *Room at Top* xii. 120 I've sung that... with Wingcos and Group Captains joining in. 1974 T. ALLBEURY *Snowball* xxii. 135 Wing Commander Pallin from the Ministry of Defence... I'd like to ask the Wingco to keep himself free to check... on the state of the game in Moscow. 1982 F. PARRISH *Snare in Dark* II. 25 There was a pub... taken over by a retired Wing Commander... The Winco, as he liked to be called, was a ready market.

wing-ding, wingding ('wɪŋdɪŋ). Also whingding. [*Redupl.* of WING sb.] 1. *U.S. slang.* A fit or spasm, esp. as simulated by a drug addict; freq. in *phr.* to throw a wing-ding. Also in weakened sense, a furious outburst.

1927 *Amer. Speech* II. 281/1 Wingding, a false illness or fit. 1933 *Ibid.* VIII. II. 281/1 When an addict who... cannot obtain dope... becomes desperate, he may throw a wing-ding (feign a highly realistic fit in public) in the hope that the doctor... will administer narcotics to quiet him; professional wing-dingers are addicts who make a practice of obtaining

their narcotics in this manner. 1939 R. CHANDLER *Big Sleep* xxxii. 292 She threw a wingding. Looked like a mild epileptic fit. 1944 *Amer. Speech* XIX. 107 A wing-ding is a particularly explosive fit of rage or frustration (I'm telling you the mate will throw a wing-ding!). 1946 J. EVANS' *Halo in Blood* xiv. 166. I..watched her take deep unsteady breaths... Her hands were locked together in her lap but that didn't keep them from trembling. 'About a minute,' I said mildly, 'You're going to throw a wing-ding they'll hear in Detroit. You're wound up tighter than a dollar watch.' 1957 V. PACKARD *Hidden Persuaders* ix. 102 This venture back to the womb touched off a little wingding in advertising circles. 1965 P. TAMONY *Americanisms* (typescript) No. II. 3 It assigned... Winifred Sweet... to throw a wing-ding... in Market Street.

2. *slang* (orig. and chiefly U.S.). A wild party; a celebration or social gathering.

1949 *Sat. Even. Post* 5 Mar. 10/3 We are not sure just what the Festival is to be, but some sort of native wingding no doubt. 1955 R. BRADBURY *October Country* 18 We would have to arrive when the local Rotary's having its wingding. 1964 *Punch* 15 July 79/3 My invitation to a White House schnapps wingding. 1972 *Sunday Sun* (Brisbane) 6 Aug. 3/4 Last Tuesday was Pat's birthday, so there was a big wingding at Maroochydhore's posh Surfair pub. 1975 *Listener* 18 Dec. 832/3 The funeral bak'd meats will serve the triple economy of a divorce wing-ding as well. 1979 A. HAILEY *Overload* iii. xi. 243 How are you, Nim? Don't see you often at these Jewish wingdings.

Hence wing-'dinger, (a) (see quot. 1933); (b) a pretended fit; a wild outburst.

1933 [see sense 1 above]. 1949 V. J. MONTELEONE *Criminal Slang* (new ed.) 253 Wing-dinger (n.), a pretended fit or spasm; a forced faint. 1976 *Telegraph* (Brisbane) 5 Aug. 39/3 This leads to a wing-dinger of a brawl, when Bobbie's brother... sights the louts who have busted up his father and their truck on the bridge.

winge, var. WHINGE v.

winged ('wɪŋd, wɪŋd), a. Forms: see WING sb.; also 5 venged(e, 6 Sc. vengit. [f. WING sb. + -ED²].

1. a. Having wings, as a bird, bat, insect, supernatural or mythical being, etc.; represented or figured with wings.

Her. Having the wings of a specified tincture. Also in numerous parasynthetic compounds, as long-winged, strong-winged, swift-winged, white-winged, etc., q.v. in their alphabetical places.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 527 The wynged god Mercurie. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 22816 Toward the heuene sche took hir flyght; For... Sche was whynged, flor to ffile. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* i. x. 13 The vengit god of luif. 1572 BOSSEWELL *Armorie* ii. 111 b, An Harpie, Vert, Wynged de Or. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* i. i. 235 Loue looks not with the eyes, but with the minde, And therefore is wing'd Cupid painted blinde. 1599 — *Hen. V.* ii. Chorus 7 With winged heeles, as English Mercuries. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* v. 55 One shap'd and wing'd like one of those from Heav'n By us oft seen. 1708 PRIOR *Turtle & Sparrow* 172 Our winged Friends thro' all the Grove. 1819 KEATS *Hyperion* i. 197 His winged minions in close clusters stood. 1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) i. 66 This insect becomes winged in the month of August. 1854 TENNYSON *Marr. Geraint* 275 'Tits, wrens, and all wing'd nothings peck him dead! 1873 E. BALFOUR *Cycl. India* (ed. 2) V. Winged Sea-horses. 1891 FARRAR *Darkn. & Dawn* xv, The stop which regulated the play of the water was formed into the winged figure of a child moulded in silver.

b. *poet.* Applied to a ship with sails set. c1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* cvii. viii, How many mounting winged tree For traffique leave retiring land. 1614 W. BROWNE *Inner Temple Masque* i. *Syrens' Song* 1 Steere hither, steere, your winged pines, All beaten mariners. 1634 RAINBOW *Labour* (1635) 34 Why... doe those winged vessels cut the water? 1725 POPE *Odyss.* viii. 550 From the shores the winged navy flies. 1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* ii. xxviii, Sailors... Coop'd in their winged sea-girt citadel.

†c. Full of wings; crowded with flying birds. *poet. Obs.*

1634 MILTON *Comus* 730 Th' earth cumber'd, and the wing'd air dark't with plumes.

2. Furnished with or having a wing or wings, i.e. lateral part(s), appendage(s), or projection(s).

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 13/1 Ther forme, which we cal *Terrebellum alatum*, the winged trepane. 1613 T. GODWIN *Rom. Antiq.* iv. ii. 178 Sometimes they would make a winged army, so that the ma'ne body thereof should be in the middle, & on each side a lesser company. 1620-55 I. JONES *Stone-Heng* 76 *Dipteros Hypæthros*, which is double winged about uncovered. 1780 A. YOUNG *Tour Irel.* II. 198 Mr. Wyse ploughed lightly with a winged plough. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 520 Winged grass-seed harrows. 1859 REEVE *Brittany* 176 A well-to-do peasant father and son with the embroidered gaiter, winged leather boot, many-buttoned waistcoat. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib.*, *Brit.* II. No. 5728, A winged wardrobe, with circular ends. 1881 J. EVANS *Anc. Bronze Implem.* 71 The winged celts may be generally described as those in which the flanges are short and have a great amount of lateral extension. 1923 J. C. ROGERS *Engl. Furnit.* fig. 33 A fine example of a winged armchair upholstered in damask.

3. In special scientific applications.

†a. *Bot.* = PINNATE 1 a. Also winged clefts, the divisions of a pinnatifid leaf (cf. wing-cleft, wing sb. 24). *Obs.* (An inexact rendering of *L. pinnatus*, in this case intended to mean 'feathered' or 'feather-shaped'.) b. *Bot.*, etc. Having wings, i.e. lateral processes or appendages, as a stem, seed, fruit, shell, etc. c. *Bot.* in names of plants distinguished by having pinnate leaves (*obs.*), or winged stems or other parts; winged bean, a tropical legume, *Psophocarpus tetragonolobus*, native to south-eastern Asia and cultivated for its edible leaves, winged pods, and tubers; cf. *Goa bean* s.v. *GOA*; winged elm, a small N. American species of elm (*Ulmus alata*) with corky winged branches; winged pea, a

plant of the S. European genus *Tetragonolobus* (now included in *Lotus*), having four-winged pods (see *PEA* 3); winged thistle *N.Z.*, either of two thistles of the genus *Carduus*, *C. tenuiflorus* or *C. pycnocephalus*, which have winged stems.

a. 1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* 84 Winged leaves; like those of Tansy. 1721 MORTIMER *Husb.* (ed. 5) II. 214 Many winged Leaves like those of the Ash. 1776 WITHERING *Brit. Plants Gloss.*, *Winged-Leaves*, when an undivided leaf-stalk hath many little leaves growing from each side; as in... Ash and *Pea. Ibid.*, Winged-Clefts. 1796 *Ibid.* (ed. 3) III. 772 Leaf triply-winged.

b. 1776 WITHERING *Brit. Plants Gloss.*, *Winged-Leaf-stalk*: one that is not cylindrical, but flattish, with a thin leafy border at each edge. 1787 tr. *Linnaeus' Fam. Plants* I. 383 The seeds pedicel'd pendulous three-side-winged. 1822 J. PARKINSON *Outl. Oryctol.* 203 Trigonal, with angular, winged, membranaceous processes. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1135/1 *Tetragonolobus*, a genus of leguminous plants allied to *Lotus*, from which they are well distinguished by their quadrangular winged pods.

c. 1650 [W. HOWE] *Phytol. Brit.* 31 Corallina pennata longior. Inter Scopulos. Winged Coralline. 1665 LOVELL *Herball* (ed. 2) 470 Winged wind weed. 1739 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* II. Ochrus, Winged *Pea.* 1832 *Veg. Subst. Food of Man* 168 The Winged Yam. 1858 A. GRAY *Man. Bot. U.S.* (1860) 396 *Ulmus alata*... (Winged Elm). 1910 H. F. MACMILLAN *Handbk. Trop. Gardening & Planting* 189 *Psophocarpus tetragonolobus*. Winged bean; Goa bean; Manilla bean. 1915 *N.Z. J. agric.* 21 June 550 Winged thistle [seed]... About the same size as spear-thistle seed. 1966 *Encycl. N.Z.* III. 599/1 Noxious weeds... are here listed... Winged thistle. 1975 *Times* 30 Aug. 12/7 An international panel... [is] recommending a major development effort to turn... the winged bean into a main crop.

4. *fig.* (or in *fig. context*): Capable of or performing some movement or action figured as flight, 'flying'; flying or passing swiftly, swift, rapid.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* ix. viii. 30 The weyngit messengeir, Fame. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI.* iii. iii. 16 Combe downe his haire; looke, looke, it stands vpright Like Lime-twigs set to catch my winged soule. 1596 — 1 *Hen. IV.* iv. iv. 2 Beare this sealed Briefe With winged haste to the Lord Marshall. 1600 — A. Y.L. iv. i. 142 *Ros...* A Womans thought runs before her actions. *Orl.* So do all thoughts, they are wing'd. 16... *Lust's Domin.* i. ii. (1657) B5 b, Old time I'll be a foot-boy to thy winged hours. 1638 P. VINCENT *True Relat. in Mass. Hist. Coll.* (1837) Ser. iii. VI. 39 Divers loopholes, through which they let fly their winged messengers [i.e. arrows]. 1639 FULLER *Holy War* iv. vii. (1640) 180 Which race [sc. the Spanish gennet], for their winged speed, the Poets feigned to be begot of the wind. 1651 — etc. *Abel Rediv.*, *Ramus* 327 He was belov'd of all that lov'd the fame of learning; for he had a winged name. [Cf. Cicero, *nomen nostrum volitare et vagari*.] 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* i. 508 The winged Thunder takes his way from the cold North. 1709 PRIOR *Henry & Emma* 333 And winged Deaths in whistling Arrows fly. 1799 CAMPBELL *Pleas. Hope* ii. 377 What though my winged hours of bliss have been, Like angel-visits, few and far between. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstrel* I. 175 With double speed the wing'd hour gallops by. 1824 MRS. GRANT *Mem. & Corr.* (1844) III. 65 The dear old friends with whom I passed that winged week. 1866 LOWELL *At Comm. Dinner.* A kind of winged prose that could fly if it would. 1877 MRS. FORRESTER *Mignon* viii, Oswald leaves her with winged heels to make his arrangements. 1877 TENNYSON *Harold* iii. ii, Wing'd souls flying Beyond all change and in the eternal distance To settle on the Truth.

b. *esp.* of words or speech (rendering or imitating the Homeric phrase *ἔπος πτερόεντα*).

1616 CHAPMAN *Odys.* x. 488 Circe... Bowing her neare me, these wing'd words did vse. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* iv. 388 Then thus, with winged Words, the God began. 1791 COWPER *liad* xxii. 92 His mother... Then in wing'd accents, weeping, him bespake. 1813 BYRON *Br. Abydos* i. viii, Through her ears those winged words like arrows sped. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* xxxvi, When our own winged words seem to be hovering around us.

5. *Comb.*, as (in sense 4) winged-footed, -heeled, †(in sense 3 a) -leaved adjs.

1869 RUSKIN *Q. of Air* i. §26 There... is born the shepherd of the clouds, *winged-footed, and deceiving. 1590 *Winged heeld [see WINGY a. 4, quot. 1596]. 1808 CORBETT *Weekly Reg.* 25 June 1001 If... such a winged-heeled gentleman... should be to be found in their country. 1824 LOUDON *Green-house Comp.* 1. 88 *Lotus jacobæus*,... A... pea-flower, on a delicate *winged-leaved plant.

Hence wingedly ('wɪŋdlɪ) *adv.*; wingedness ('wɪŋdnɪs).

1651 DAVENANT *Gondibert* i. ii. lxvii, (So *wingedly he wheeles) No one could catch, what all with trouble finde. 1710 R. WARD *Life H. More* 146 So lightly and wingedly did he pass through it. 1818 KEATS *Endym.* i. 813 Nor with aught else can our souls interknit So wingedly. 1787 BECKFORD *Italy* (1834) II. 325 Such a palpable manifestation of archangelic beauty and *wingedness. 1909 W. BATESON *Mendel's Princ. Heredity* i. x. 172 Here we see that the one 'dose' of wingedness—as we may call it—sufficed only to bring the wings to half the full size, and two 'doses' are needed to develop them properly.

winged (wɪŋd), *ppl. a.* [f. WING v. + -ED¹.]

1. Shot or wounded in the wing.

1789 *Ess. on Shooting* xiv. 223 He [sc. the dog] should be held in a string, ready to be slipped in case of need, after a winged partridge, or a wounded hare. 1810 *Sporting Mag.* XXXVI. 149 Winged, wounded, or dead birds. 1865 MEREDITH *Rhoda Fleming* xix, He like a winged eagle, striving to raise himself from time to time.

2. Brushed with a bird's wing (WING v. 7).

1866 WHITTIER *Snow-bound* 156 We sat the clean-winged hearth about.

wingeing, var. WHINGING *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

winger ('wɪŋə(r)). [f. WING sb. + -ER¹.]

1. *Naut.* A small cask or tank stowed in the wing of a ship's hold (WING sb. 9 b (a)).

1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* II. 286 The sides are filled-in with wingers of [? or] small casks. 1815 BURNEY *Falconer's Dict. Marine*.

2. In *Assoc. Football*, a player in the (right or left) wing; in *Rugby*, a forward whose place is on the 'wing' in the back row of the scrum. Also in *Hockey and Lacrosse*, a wing player.

1896 *Boote Times* 18 Jan. 3/2 Dow making pretty headway and then passing to the left winger. 1903 P. TREVOR R.U. *Football* 44 The danger... is that a race of mere 'shovers' will succeed a race of 'wingers'. 1922 *Daily Mail* 15 Dec. 13 No right winger has more visibly impressed me than Sutcliffe this season. 1969 *West Australian* 5 July 32/3 Allowing winger Kaye Olsen to gain position and put Wembley into attack.

3. *Naut. slang.* a. A steward.

1929 F. C. BOWEN *Sea Slang* 152 Winger, a steward waiting at table, with the class prefixed. 1962 *Times* 26 Apr. 15/2 A winger is a steward on a passenger liner. 1962 [see BLOOD sb. 15 d].

b. A comrade or friend (see also quot. 1977). 1943 *Penguin New Writing* XVII. 46 He had seen his 'winger', his best friend, decapitated. 1948 PARTRIDGE *Dict. Forces' Slang* 208 Winger, an assistant or 'stooge'. The term has displaced 'raggie' as a name for a pal. (Navy.) 1957 R. WATSON-WATT *Three Steps to Victory* xl. 233 Bickell... Max's *fidus Achates* and 'winger' in M.A.P. and in the wide circles which rippled... out from that most explosive of Ministries. 1977 G. MELLY *Rum, Bum & Concertina* v. 57 The expression 'winger' means, at its most innocent, a young seaman who is taken under the wing of a rating or Petty Officer older and more experienced than himself to be shown the ropes.

4. *left-winger, right-winger*: see LEFT WING, RIGHT WING.

Hence 'winging' *vbl. sb.* (*Rugby Football*).

1922 J. M. B. SCOTT *Rugby Football* 72 'Winging'... is the most scientific game a forward can play.

wingless ('wɪŋlɪs), a. [WING sb. + -LESS.] Having no wings; destitute of wings.

Also applied by extension to birds having rudimentary wings not used for flight.

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* i. v. 808 Mamuques... Foodless they live;... Wingless they fly. 1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 50 *Anthrenus*,... the wingless Hornet. 1704 PETIVER *Gazophyl.* ii. 13, This wingless Wasp I have had from Virginia. 1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 235 They differ from Bignoniceæ in their wingless seeds. 1835 WORDSW. *Athens & Attica* xiv, The statue of Victory in this temple, was sculptured wingless. 1855 ORR'S *Circ. Sci., Inorg. Nat.* 125 The apteryx... a New Zealand wingless bird. 1910 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 233/1 Many wingless insects—such as lice, fleas and certain earwigs and cockroaches.

fig. 1598 BASTARD *Chrestol.* iv. vi. 80 As if my thoughts... Winglesse & footlesse, now like snails did creepe. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* ii. 343 Our freedom chain'd; quite wingless our desire. 1820 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* i. 48 The wingless, crawling hours. 1827 HOOD *Retrospective Rev.* v, My joys are wingless all and dead. 1873 C. E. NORTON *Lett.* (1913) I. 460, I have had to read of late some wingless verse, and it was a delightful refreshment to find in your sonnet poetry that soared.

Hence 'winglessness.

1890 *Universal Rev.* Apr. 536 The winglessness of the Madeira beetles.

winglet ('wɪŋlɪt). [f. WING sb. + -LET.]

1. A little wing; also *transf.* something resembling a little wing, as a petal.

1611 [see 3]. 1800 MOORE *Anacreon* iv. 19 And flights of loves, in wanton ringlets, Flit around on golden winglets. 1851 MEREDITH *Poetry of Shelley* 1 See'st thou a Skylark whose glistening winglets ascending Quiver like pulses beneath the melodious dawn? 1855 ALLINGHAM *Day & Nt. Songs* Ser. II. *The Choice* iii, Pea-bloom winglets.

2. a. *Entom.* A small appendage at the base of each wing or wing-sheath, as in certain flies and beetles, or on each side of the rostrum in certain weevils, b. *Ornith.* A process on the terminal joint of a bird's wing, clothed with small and somewhat stiff feathers: also called *bastard* or *false wing*.

1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xxiii. (1818) II. 348 The winglets are small concavo-convex scales, of a stiff membranaceous substance. 1862 C. A. JOHNS *Brit. Birds* 263 The Jay... winglet and greater coverts barred with black, white, and bright blue.

3. A small wing-like appendage on some part of dress.

1611 FLORIO, *Talare*,... certaine shooes with winglets as Mercury is fained to wear on his feet. 1870 C. C. BLACK tr. *Demmin's Weapons of War* 43 The small winglets that were attached to the shoulder-pieces of the earlier coats of leather and... were sorts of escutcheons.

4. A small projecting part in a piece of mechanism: see quot.

1835 URE *Phil. Manuf.* 227 L is the winglet, which in turning along with the spindle, has the power of making it traverse and distribute the thread evenly over the surface of the bobbin.

wingmanship ('wɪŋmənʃɪp). [f. WING sb. after such words as *oarsmanship, penmanship* (see -SHIP 2 b), the meaning of the element -*man-* being lost sight of.] Skill in the use of the wings; flying regarded as an art or accomplishment.

1867 DK. ARGYLL *Reign of Law* 46 To stand still in the air is not... impossible to a flying bird... but it is one of the most difficult feats of wingmanship. 1923 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 30 Aug. 564/4 In sheer wingmanship, the peregrine has no peer among British birds.

†**wing-thrush**. *Obs.* [? Arising from a misunderstanding of LG. **wingaardsvogel*, *weingartdrossel*, f. *wingard* vineyard, WINYARD + *vogel* bird, *drossel* thrush. Perhaps never current; cf. WINNARD.] The redwing, *Turdus iliacus*.

1544 TURNER *Avium Præcip.* 17, Tertium genus [Turdorum] ab Anglis a wyngthrushe, et à Germanis cyn weingaardsvogel nuncupatur. Hic turdus... maculas habet latiusculas rubras. **1580** HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong*, *Litorne*, a birde of the bignesse of a blacke bird called a wing thrushe. **1611** COTGR. s.v. *Litorne*.

†**wingwise**, *adv.* *Obs. rare.* [f. WING sb. + -WISE.] In the manner of wings: used in quotes. in reference to opposite (as distinguished from alternate) leaves.

1551 TURNER *Herbal* 1. Kijb, They [sc. leaves of Cicer] stand not wyngewyse, that is one ryght against another. **1568** *Ibid.* 111. 33 Gratiola... The leaues growe wingwise by coples one against an other.

wingy ('wɪŋɪ), *a.* [f. WING sb. + -Y.]

†1. Of, pertaining to, or resembling a wing or wings; wing-like. *Obs.*

1658 SIR T. BROWNE *Gard. Cyrus* iv. 66 The lower leaf [of leguminous plants] closely involving the rudimental Cod, and the alary or wingy divisions embracing or hanging over it. **1694** ADDISON *Ovid's Met.* 11. *Phaeton* 183 With wingy speed [they] outstrip the eastern wind.

2. Having wings, winged (poet.); having large or conspicuous wings (cf. *leggy*).

1596 [see 4]. **1718** ROWE tr. *Lucan* v. 1029 If some rushing Storm the Journey cross, The wingy Leaders all are at a loss. **1757** DYER *Fleece* 1. 588 With tar Prevent the wingy swarm and scorching heat. **1892** 'MICHAEL FIELD' *Sight & Song* 1 The Indifferent. Watteau. The Louvre... He dances on; the world is his, The sunshine and his wingy hat. **1918** [A. G. GARDINER] *Leaves in Wind* 2 Those wingy, nippy, intrepid insects that we call, vaguely, mosquitoes.

3. *fig.* Capable of 'flight', soaring, aspiring; soaring out of reach, eluding grasp or comprehension.

1643 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* 1. §9 Those wingy mysteries in Divinity, and airy subtleties in Religion. *Ibid.* §32 The noble Soule... Whose wingy nature ever doth aspire, To reach a place whence first it took its fire. **1678** CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* 1. v. 792 That this [etherial vehicle], being made Light, and Alate or Wingy, might no way hinder the Souls Ascent upward. **1760** BEATTIE *Ode to Hope* 11. i, Youth's gallant trophies... invite His wingy nerves to climb. **1855** SINGLETON *Æn.* 11. 1121 The phantom-form... a match For wanton winds, and likest wingy [orig. *volueri*] sleep.

4. *Comb.*, as *wingy-footed*, -heeled adjs. (cf. *wing-footed*, WING sb. 24).

1596 SPENSER *F.Q.* (ed. 2) 111. xii. 12 [Fear] fast away did fly, As ashes pale of hew, and wingyheeld [1590 winged heeld]. **1716** ROWE *Ode for 1716* 111. 16 Wingy-footed was he Born. **1740** SOMERVILLE *Hobbinol*. 1. 304 Thus on the slacken'd Rope The wingy-footed Artist... Stands tott'ring.

wingy ('wɪŋɪ), *sb. colloq.* [f. WING sb. + -Y⁶.] A one-armed man; also (with capital initial) used as a nickname. Cf. WING sb. 5 d(c).

1880 D. W. BARRETT *Navvies* (ed. 2) 11. iii. 49 If a poor fellow... is short of a leg or an arm, 'Peggy' or 'Wingy' is at once affixed to him. **1910** H. LAWSON *Stories* (1964) 2nd Ser. 296 Wingy... is a ratty little one-armed man whose case is usually described in the head-line as 'A 'Armless Case' by one of our great dailies. **1931** 'D. STIFF' *Milk & Honey Route* v. 58 Missions are very anxious to recruit the 'wingies' and 'armies', or the one-armed hobos. **1964** T. RONAN *Packhorse & Pearling Boat* 129 As Dad later referred to him as 'Wingy' Collins I presume that he had one arm amputated, or some similar disability.

†**wining**, *sb.* *Obs.* In *white-wining* [app. f. WHITE WINE + -ING³], a variety of apple.

1676 WORLIDGE *Vinetum Brit.* etc. 161 The White-Wining, is a small white Apple;... the fruit juicy and pleasant, but soon perishing.

wining ('waɪnɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* Also wineing. [f. WINE v. + -ING¹.] The drinking of wine in company. Also *attrib.*

1847 MRS. GORE *Castles* xiii. I. 287 Hampden's rooms [at Cambridge], where one of our so-called wining parties was prepared. **1891** *Daily News* 2 Oct. 5/1 At the wining, he finished his reply to the toast of the evening with a happy conceit. **1917** *Morning Post* 16 Feb. 4/2 Lunching, dining, and wineing with English members... made them the dupes of the Liberal party.

So 'wining ppl. a., wine-drinking.

?**1755** [E. THOMPSON] *Meretriciad* (1765) 13 When sep'rate you enjoy'd the wining man, What could resist a well-laid bedded plan?

wining(e, obs. forms of WINNING *vbl. sb.*

winish ('waɪnɪʃ), *a.* Now *rare*. Also 6 wynysh, -is(s)he. [f. WINE sb.¹ + -ISH¹.] Having the quality or nature of wine; resembling wine.

1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* 111. iv. Qiiij, I neuer that wot of, hae I dronk wyne more wynysh, or purer from any water put vnto it. **1551** TURNER *Herbal* 1. C v b, A wynysshe iuyce. **1665** HAVERS *P. della Valle's Trav.* E. India 70 *Ananas*... the whole Fruit is... held to be hot and good to promote digestion, having in my opinion, somewhat of a winish taste and strength. **1741** *Compl. Fam.-Piece* 1. i. 43 Use no Wine, or winish Possets.

wink (wɪŋk), *sb.*¹ Forms: see WINK v.¹; also 7 whinke. [f. WINK v.¹.]

1. A closing of the eyes for sleep; a (short) spell of sleep, a nap. *rare exc.* as in b, c.

In Shaks. in phr. referring to death.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. v. 3 þenne Wakede I of my wink. **1375** *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvii. (*Machor*) 1204 Till þai þe seruce all had mad, þat to sic deide men suld parteyne, Or ony wink come in þar eyne. **1450** *Cov. Myst.* (Shaks. Soc.) 343 Here I Aske To go to taske A wynke. **1610** SHAKS. *Temp.* 11. i. 285 Whiles you doing thus, To the perpetual winke for aye might put This ancient morsell. **1611** — *Wint.* T. 1. ii. 317 Thou... might'st be-spice a Cup, To giue mine Enemy a lasting Winke. **1869** MRS. A. WHITNEY *We Girls* vi, 'What is it, dear?' asked Mrs. Hobart, rousing from a little arm-chair wink.

b. Phr. (not) to sleep a or one wink, (not) a wink of sleep, etc.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 9146 þey... Ne mete ete, ne drank drynke, Ne slepte onely a-lepy wynke. **1325** *Metr. Hom.* 79 That might he nouthere ete ne drink, Ne have night rest, ne slepe no wynk. **1508** DUNBAR *Poems* vi. 14 This night I myght nocht sleip a wink. **1513** DOUGLAS *Æneis* iv. x. 15 For neuir mair may scho sleip a wynk. **1542** UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 316 *marg.*, Reuilus a vigilaunte consul, for ne neuer slept wynke in his consulship. **1611** SHAKS. *Cymb.* 111. iv. 103 Since I receiue'd command to do this businesse, I haue not slept one wink. **1682** N. O. Boileau's *Lutrin* 11. 22 My aking head can get no wink of Sleep! **1740** RICHARDSON *Pamela* 11. 167, I will go to-bed; but not one Wink, I fear, shall I get this Night. **1840** DICKENS *Old C. Shop* v, Whether Mr. Quilp took any sleep by snatches of a few winks at a time. **1883** MISS BROUGHTON *Belinda* 1. ix, He has slept no wink all night. **1891** KIPLING *Light that Failed* xiii, I can't sleep a wink with you at the window.

c. *forty winks*: a very brief sleep, a short nap. *colloq.*

1828 EGAN *Finish to Tom & Jerry* 111. (1871) 87 The uncommonly big gentleman, told out, taking forty winks. **1851** *Westm. Rev.* July 326 His quiet 'forty winks' after dinner. **1890** J. HATTON *By order of Czar* 11. iv, 'Well, I declare, Dolly, you are going to sleep!' 'I am very tired; only forty winks. Is there time?'

2. a. A glance or significant movement of the eye (often accompanied by a nod) expressing command, assent, invitation, or the like. *Obs.* exc. in the proverb *a nod's as good as a wink to a blind horse* (see also NOD sb.¹ 1), and phr. *to tip, give, or get the wink* (now apprehended as sense 5).

1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxxiv. 35 Bitt women sould... Thair vertewis all mak of na auallis, Be subtil winkis, and thair desaitfull talis. **1540** ELYOT *Image Gov.* xxxviii. (1541) 94 Of a mayster sturdy and fierce, a lyttell wyneke to his seruant is a fearefull commaundement. **1583** MELBANCKE *Philotimus* Sjb, I am not so blind, that thou canst make me beleue with a winke, it is midnight at noone day. **1591** SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* 1. v. 24 Thou eternal Father, at whose wink The wrathfull Ocean's swelling pride doth sink. **1602** SHAKS. *Ham.* 11. v. 11. a **1631** DONNE *Poems, Sunne Rising* 13 Thy beames, so reverend and strong Why shouldst thou thinke? I could eclipse and cloud them with a winke. **1676** ETHEREDGE *Man of Mode* 1. i, I only tip him the wink, he knows an Ale-house from a Hovel. **1710** S. PALMER *Proverbs* 100 A nod and a wink are very often treacherous and false. **1756-7** tr. *Keyser's Trav.* (1760) 111. 313 At last... he gave him the wink. **1760-72** H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) 111. 139 Harry, upon a wink, stepped out. **1774** GOLDSM. tr. *Scarron's Com. Romance* (1775) 11. 262 The surgeon, who had previously got the wink, confined him to his bed. **1809** MALKIN *Gil Blas* 11. v. ¶ 11 Don Felix thinks a wink as good as a nod. **1818** SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xvi, A wink's as gude as a nod to a blind horse. **1832** HT. MARTINEAU *Each & All* v. 69 On this, the wink went round, and the neighbours dropped off. **1872** C. GIBBON *For the King* xvii, He gave me the wink that the lady was a friend of his.

b. A glance or glimpse. (Cf. BLINK sb.² 2.)

[**1598-1868**: see EYE-WINK a.] **1848** DICKENS *Dombey* xii, A trifle of orthography, a glance at ancient history, a wink or two at modern ditto.

3. *transf.* a. A moment of time, as being that occupied by a glance of the eyes; phr. *in a wink* († *with* or *at a wink*), in a trice. (Cf. EYE-WINK b.)

1585 MONTGOMERIE *Sonn.* xiii. 4 Bright Apollo... Quhais glorious glance jit stoutly skailis the skyis, Quhen with a wink we wonder vhair they war. **1596** DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 206 How... radie to do the king pleisour, at a wink quhen he wald charge. **1633** EARL MANCH. *Al Mondo* (1636) 31 Man is only a winke of life. **1658** J. ROBINSON *Endoxa* 33 The rest... were coexisting with their first Being; or, upon the least Wink of Opportunity, prest to be drawn forth. **1693** SOUTHERNE *Maid's last Prayer* 111. ii, The company will be here in a wink, as a body may say. **1790** D. MORISON *Poems* 7 Then aff a' wallop in a wink. **1826** HOOD *I Remember* 5 He [sc. the sun] never came a wink too soon. **1859** TENNYSON *Viogin* 701 For in a wink the false love turns to hate. **1893** STEVENSON *Catriona* xxx. 362 The next wink of time their blades clashed together.

b. (not) a wink: (not) the slightest amount; esp. in *not to see a wink*.

1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* S 3, Hath he... exprest in his countenance the least wincke of dislike of them? **1610** SHAKS. *Temp.* 11. i. 242 Ambition cannot pierce a winke beyond. **1621** MOLLE *Camerar. Liv.* 11. xiii. 117 He was shut into a hole where he saw not a whinke. **1706** ESTCOURT *Fair Example* v. i, *Whims.* Look up, I say... *Sym.*... In Sincerity, Sir, I can't see a Wink. **1841** THACKERAY *Gt. Hoggarty Diamond* v, At least in my bed-room... I could not see a wink.

c. In *Work Study*, a unit of time equivalent to one two-thousandth of a minute. Also *Comb.*, as *wink-counter*. orig. U.S.

1937 R. M. BARNES *Motion & Time Study* ix. 72 There are 100 equal divisions on the dial of the clock; therefore, time is indicated directly in 1/2000 of a minute by the large hand. This time interval of 1/2000 of a minute was called a 'wink' by Gilbreth. **1946** R. L. MORROW *Time Study & Motion Economy* ix. 90 The wink-counter... is a small motor driven device, originated by Professor David B. Porter... to be used for both motion and time studies. In appearance it resembles a 'speedometer'. **1961** *Engineering* 15 Sept. 352/1 A very early type of micromotion filming was used by the Gilbreths in the early days of motion study, and the unit of time which they employed, a two thousandth of a minute or a 'wink', is still often used for detailed motion analysis.

4. A nictitation of the eyelid; a blink.

1611 SHAKS. *Wint.* T. v. ii. 119 Euery winke of an Eye, some new Grace will be borne. **1825** SCOTT *Talism.* xvii, Mark me the smallest twitch of the features, or wink of the eyelid. **1848** THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xi, Sir Giles Wapshot had a particularly noisy manner of imbibing his soup, and her ladyship a wink of the left eye.

5. An act of winking (see WINK v.¹ 8).

1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* ix, Jingle... then... added, with a knowing wink, and a jerk of the thumb towards the interior of the chaise [etc.]. *Ibid.* lvi, He had been much struck with Mary's appearance; having, in fact, bestowed several very unfatherly winks upon her, already. **1848** THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xiv, 'That is, if you're not on duty to that pretty Miss Sedley,' Crawley said, with a knowing wink. **1851** D. JERROLD *St. Giles* vii. 60 [He] gave a saucy wink to the servant, and bounded... up stairs. **1891** EARL ROSEBERY *Pitt* xii. 227 Facts of this kind can of course be always dismissed by a knowing wink or a sarcastic smile.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1708 CIBBER *Lady's Last Stake* 1. i. 9 Tea!... Heart-opening, Wink-tipping Cordial. **1775** S. J. PRATT *Liberal Opin.* lxxiv. (1783) 111. 51 Upon mention of the wink money, he was driving off as fast as he could. **1902** MONKSHOOD & GAMBLE *Kipling* 191 One of Mr. Kipling's jaunty, ... wink-tipping sketches. **1903** HARDY *Dynasts* 1. vi. i, Should issues stand at pause But for a wink-while.

wink, *sb.*² *s.w. dial.* Var. WINCH sb.¹

1847 HALLIWELL, *Wink.* (2) A winch, or crank. *West.* **1873** WILLIAMS & JONES *Gloss. Som.*, *Wink*, an excavated or sunken well. **1878** D. KEMP *Yacht & Boat Sailing* 380 *Wink*, a west country term for a kind of winch used in the bow of a boat by fishermen to raise the anchor. **1886** ELWORTHY *W. Som. Word-bk.*, *Wink*, a well from which the water is drawn by a winch, chain, and bucket. **1919** CHOPE *Some Old Farm Implem.* 23 The apparatus for spinning rope was known as a wink (winch) or spinner.

wink, *sb.*³ *slang.* Short for WINKLE sb.

1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* 1. 76/1 The 'wink' men, as these periwinkle sellers are called. *Ibid.* 479/2 Salt (or fresh) herrings, winks, or shrimps.

wink, *sb.*⁴ Shortening of TIDDLYWINK 2 c. orig. U.S.

1890 *Game of Tiddledy Winks* (McLoughlin Bros., New York) 1 Its great interest and success lies in the novel feature of jumping the Winks into the Wink-pot. **1957** *Times* 17 Dec. 9/4 Tiddlywinks does not yet qualify for a 'blue', or even half a one, but it is nice to know that the club has a tie, dark blue with a blue cup and a wink rampant. **1979** F. R. SHAPIRO *Encycl. Tiddlywinks* 8 The Silver Wink, donated by Prince Philip, is awarded to the winner of an annual elimination tournament for universities.

wink (wɪŋk), *v.*¹ Forms: 1 wincian, 3 winken, 4-6 wynk(e, 4-7 winke, winck, 6-7 wincke, (4 *Sc.* vynk, 5 wynkyn, *pa. t.* wanke, wonk, 6 wynck(e, 9 *pa. t.* and *pa. pple.* wunk), 4- wink. [OE. *wincian* wk. vb. = OS. *wincon* to nod, MLG., MDu. *winken*, related to OHG. *winchan* str. vb. (MHG., G. *winken*) to move sideways, stagger, nod; cf. OHG. *winch* (MHG. *winc*, G. *wink*) m. nod, OE. *wince* WINCH sb.¹; f. Teut. *wɪŋk-*, older *wenjk-*;—Indo-Eur. *wenjk-*.

Other formations on the base *wɪŋk-* (*wenjk-*): *wenjk-*—*weng-*; *wong-*, to move sideways or from side to side, are OHG. *wanc*, *wanch*, MHG. *wanc* turning, return, instability, OS., OHG. *wankōn* (MLG., MDu., MHG. *wanken*); OHG. *wenkan*, OS. *wenkean* to waver, vacillate (MLG., MDu., Du. *wenken* to nod), whence OF. *guenchir* WINCH v.¹; Lith. *vėngiu* to do unwillingly, avoid, *vėngis* inactive, *vingis* m. bend, curve, Albanian *vank* (*vang-*) fellow. See also WANKLE a., WENCHEL.

Examples of a strong conjugation in English (*pa. t.* *wank*, *wonk*) are very rare. The modern *pa. t.* and *pa. pple.* *wunk* are jocular.]

†1. a. *intr.* To close one's eyes. (Also in *fig.* context: cf. 5, 6.) *Obs.*

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past.* C. xxxix. 287 Se stæpð forð mid ðam fotum & wincap mid ðæm eagum [orig. *oculos claudīt*]. **c 1000** ÆLFRIC *Gram.* xxvi. (Z.) 156 Ic wincige, *conniueo*. **a 1225** *Ancr.* R. 288 Hwon þe heorte draweð lust into hire, ase þing þet were amased, & foð on ase to winken & forte leten þene ueond iwurðen. **c 1374** CHAUCE *Troylus* 111. 1537 Al for nought he may wel lygge and wynke But slep ne may þere in his herte synke. **c 1386** — *Nun's Pr.* T. 486 He wolde so peyne hym, that with bothe hisen eye He moste wynke, so loude he wolde cryen. *Ibid.* 611 For he that wynketh whan he sholde see, Al wilfully god lat him neuere thee. **1390** GOWER *Conf.* I. 54 For ofte, who that hiede toke, Betre is to winke than to loke. **c 1480** HENRYSON *Two Mice* 333 Quhylls wald he lat hir rin vnder the stra; Quyllis wald he wink, and play with hir buk heid. **c 1500** in *Rel. Ant.* I. 289 Sore me for-thinked, that I so moche wynked, For had I never more nede than nowe for to loke. **a 1542** WYATT in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 57 For cause your self do wink, Ye iudge all other blinde. **1562** [see WINKING ppl. a. 1]. **1584** LYLLY *Campaspe* v. iv. 4 Though I winke, I sleepe not. **1611** SHAKS. *Cymb.* v. iv. 194 There are none want eyes, to direct them the way I am going, but such as winde, and will not vse them. **1621** in Kempe *Losely MSS.* (1836) 454 When you see ym [sc. the nuns] they must winke and not speake to you. **a 1631** DONNE *Serm.*, *John* x. 10 (1640) 70 That man that is

blinde, or that will winke, shall see no more sunne upon S. Barnabys day, then upon S. Lucies. **1633** G. HERBERT *Temple*, *Collar* 26 Good cable, to enforce and draw, And be thy law, While thou didst wink and wouldst not see. **1664** TILLOTSON *Wisdom of being religious* 44 Men are not blind, but they wink, and shut their eyes; they can understand, and will not. **1700** S. L. tr. *Fryke's Voy. E. Ind.* 236, I open'd my Eyes... and [they] said, it was high time for me to open 'em; for if I had winck'd but a little longer, over I had gone. **1784** COWPER *Tiroc.* 255 To follow foolish precedents, and wink With both our eyes, is easier than to think. **1816** SCOTT *Bl. Dwarf* v, I thought I saw him still, though I winked as close as ever I could.

winking *pr. pple.*: with the eyes shut (or blindfolded).

c1375 *Cursor M.* 23462 (Fairf.) Als wele pen saltow se Wincande als wip opin eye. **1390** GOWER *Conf.* II. 189 Thoas... Whan Anthenor this Juel tok, Wynkende caste awei his lok. **1538** ELYOT *Dict. Addit.*, *Andabate*, certayne men that faulte with swordes wyntyng. **1599** SHAKS. *Hen. V.* v. ii. 332 *Burg.* They are then excus'd, my Lord, when they see not what they doe. *King.* Then good my Lord, teach your Cousin to consent winking.

†b. Said of the eyes, occas. *transf.* of other things: To close. *Obs.* or *rare arch.*

In quot. 1598, 1898, said of the closing of the day. **1340** HAMPOLE *Pr. Conse.* 4970 In als short whyle als hert may thynk, Or mans eghe may open or wynk. **1576** GASCOIGNE *Steele Glas* 683 That one eye winks, as though it were but blynd. **1577** GRANGE *Golden Aphrod.* Iij, Yet coude he not perswade himselfe whether he dreamed... (although he knew of a certentie his eyes winked not). **1598** *Mucedorus* IV. i. 38 The christall eye of Heauen shall not thrise wincke... Till we salute the Aragonian King. **1642** H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. i. ii. i, While the Evening keen With sharper air doth make his pores to wink. **1649** DAVENANT *Love & Hon.* III. iv. 44 Where shadows vanish when the world's eye wincks Behind a cloud. **1898** MEREDITH *Odes Fr. Hist.* 69 The sister Hours... Are gone on flow with the day that winked, With the night that spanned at golden gates.

†c. In association with drinking off at a draught.

1548 ELYOT *Dict.*, *Amystis*, a. drynke, which the Thracians vsed to drynke vp at one draughte, wyntyng. **15...** *Wyf of Auchtirmwchty* 76 in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 344 Ay scho winkit and scho drank. **1692** BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* ii. 37 And yet these same cautious and quick-sighted Gentlemen can wink and swallow down this sottish Opinion about Percipient Atoms.

2. a. To open and shut one's eyes momentarily and involuntarily; to blink, nictitate.

a1300 *Cursor M.* 341 All his comament was don, Suiftliker pen hee may wink. **c1440** *Promp. Parv.* 530/1 Wyntyng, idem quod twynklyn. **a1450** *Knt. de la Tour* xii, She loked small and wynted ofte, . . . euer beting her eyelyddes togedre. **c1500** *Lancelot* 1058 When that he felt the vatter that was cold, He wonk, and gan about hymne to behold. **1582** STANYHURST *Aeneis* IV. (Arb.) 108 At my tears showing dyd he sigh? dyd he winck with his eyelid? **1649** JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* II. Disc. ix. 122 It is impossible to prevent them... any more than we can refuse to wink with our eye when a sudden blow is offered at it. **1703** *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3892/4 Robert Stephens, . . . Stammering Speech, winks on the left Eye. **1819** SHELLEY *Cyclops* 631 Dare not to breathe, Or spit, or e'en wink, lest ye wake the monster. **1842** DICKENS *Amer. Notes* iii, The white wooden houses (so white that it makes one wink to look at them). **1853** — *Bleak Ho.* xxi, He... adjusts his skull-cap with such a rub, that the old man winks with both eyes for a minute afterwards. **1916** *Q. Rev.* July 227 When there is a loud report close at hand we instinctively wink.

b. Said of the eyes or eyelids: To blink. Also occas. of other things: To open and shut quickly. Now *rare*.

1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* Isagoge b3, Amongst Birds... The eyes, are as those of other creatures, . . . but they winke, a membrane passing from the angle. **1668** CULPEPPER & COLE *Barthol. Anat.* II. vii. 111 The trebble-pointed valves do not only wink, but they are close shut by the blood distending the Heart. **1710** J. CLARKE tr. *Rohault's Nat. Philos.* I. xxxv, When we look upon a lighted Candle at a little Distance with our Eyes winking. **1814** SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* VI. xv, The eye-lid scarce had time to wink. **1905** A. T. SHEPPARD *Red Cravat* I. ii. 24 The eyes winked-to again and closed for ever.

c. Of a light, a burning or glowing object, etc.: To emit quick intermittent flashes; to twinkle. (Now associated with sense 8.) Also with advbs.: to go out or off suddenly; to come on suddenly.

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. ii. 665 Like as a coal, that winkt [orig. *qui dort*] On a stick's end (and seemed quite extinct). **a1633** AUSTIN *Medit.* (1635) 81 [The Light of Nature] is no Starre indeed, but a Candle: and... it winkes in the Socket too. **1707** E. SMITH *Phaëdra & Hipp.* I. i. 5 Feed with new Oil the wasting Lamp of Life, That winks and trembles, now, just now expiring. **1802** WORDSW. *Sonn.*, 'Fair star of evening', Thou... shouldst wink, Bright Star! with laughter on her banners. **1820** KEATS *To a Nightingale* ii, A beaker... With beaded bubbles winking at the brim. **1848** THACKERAY *Lett.* Nov., The candles are just winking out. **1851** MEREDITH *Love in Valley* xvii, A rill where on sand the minnows wink. **1876** MISS BRADDON *J. Haggard's Dau.* x, The polished grate winking and twinkling in the red light from a neat little fire. **1883** HARDY *Wessex Tales* (1888) I. 16 Beyond all this winked a few bleared lamplights through the beating drops. **1930** W. FAULKNER *As I Lay Dying* 244 He locks the door. Dewey Dell is inside. Then the light winks out. **1972** *Sci. Amer.* Jan. 108/3 An observer who is a few miles away but within the shadow sees the star wink off and five minutes later reappear slightly west of the moon. **1979** *Tucson* (Arizona) *Citizen* 20 Sept. 78/6 (heading) 'Buck Rogers' no supernova, but it won't wink out, either. **1982** *Washington Post* 21 Mar. 3/2 Bleuzinski perched on the pool table, leaned forward and looked directly into the camera. The red light winked on.

†3. To have the eyes closed in sleep; to sleep; sometimes, to doze, slumber. *Obs.*

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* VII. 182 The kyng than vynkit a litill wc. **1412-20** LYDG. *Chron. Troy* IV. 2384 Ofte he waketh whan he sholde winke. **c1430** *How Wise Man Taust his Sonne* 72 in *Babes Bk.* 50 And go to bedde bi tymes, & wynke. **c1480** HENRYSON *Want of Wyse Men* 22 For warldly wyn sik walkis, quhen wysar wynkis. **1535** *Goodly Primer* Lijb (Ps. cxii. 4), Loo, neyther wyll he slepe, nor yet ons wynke, that kepeth Israell. **1553** *Respublica* 1135 Repose yourselfe, Madame, a while & winke. **1602** FULBECKE *1st Pt. Parall.* 19 Yes, our law in this case hath not either slumbered or winked. **1610** SHAKS. *Temp.* II. i. 216 Thou let'st thy fortune sleepe: die rather: wink'st Whiles thou art waking. **1616** T. SCOT *Philomythie* B 6 b, When others soundly sleep, he must but winke. **1649** J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Wand. Wonders West* 8 Wearinesse... began to inforce sleep upon me, so that... I began to winke.

†4. To close one eye, as in aiming at a target; hence, to aim: usually *to wink with the one or the other eye*. *Obs.*

c1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 180 *Homme doile clune*, M[an] with ee wyntyth. **c1460** *Frere & Boye* (Ritson) 89 Yf thou shote and wynke, The prycke thou shalt hytte. **c1480** HENRYSON *Trial of Fox* 959 His Hude he drew laich attour his Ene, And, winkand with ane Eye, furth he wend. **1530** PALSGR. 782/2 He that wyntyth with one eye and loketh with the tother, I wyll nat trust hym and he were my brother. **1538** ELYOT *Dict.*, *Collimare*, to wynte with one eye. **1594** BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.*, *Navig.* xxii. (1597) 329 Mooue the Transame... until you may see with the one eye (winking with y^e other) the one end of the transame to meete iust with the centre... of the Sun. **1638** SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 20 The *Arimaspi* (who from winking when they shoot are said to be *Monoculi*). **a1680** BUTLER *Rem.*, *Satyr Imperfect.* *Hum. Learn.* I. 55 As Men, that wink with one Eye, see more true, And take their Aim much better, than with two.

5. a. To 'shut one's eyes' to something faulty, wrong, or improper; to be complaisant. (Now *rare* exc. as in 6.)

c1480 HENRYSON *Cock & Fox* 571, I was vnwyse that winkit at thy will. **1562** COOPER *Answ. Def. Truth* 61 b, Some learned and holy men for the time did winke and beare with suche thinges. **1633** G. HERBERT *Temple, Miserie* xi, And yet as though he knew it not, His knowledge winks and lets his humours reigne. **1781** COWPER *Expost.* 256 Too just to wink, or speak the guilty clear. **1859** TENNYSON *Vivien* 630 Is he man at all, who knows and winks? **1861** READE *Cloister & H.* xlvii, Many is the time I have winked and wouldn't see too much.

b. Phr. *to wink hard*. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1620 QUARLES *Feast for Wormes* iii. Med. iii. 38 Hard must he winke, that shuts his eyes from heau'n. **1790** BURNS *Prot. Suthld.* 40 And aiblins when they winna stand the test, Wink hard and say, the folks hae done their best! **1831** SCOTT *Ct. Robt.* ii, The Emperor, who will rather wink hard than see disagreements. **1866** GEO. ELIOT *F. Holt* ii, Jermyn must be his [election]-agent; Harold must wink hard till he found himself safely returned.

6. a. *to wink at*. (a) To 'shut one's eyes to' (an offence, fault, defect, impropriety, or irregularity); to connive at.

1537 CROMWELL in *Merriman Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 108 Persons that... by... wyntyng at his preparations... encouraged hym to be the bolder. **1540** ELYOT *Image Gov.* xxxiii. (1541) 76 b, Ye secretly wyntyng at the sayd faults. **1644** MILTON *Judgm. Bucer* xlvii. 24 When as all kind of unchastity is tolerated, fornications and adulteries wink at. **a1708** T. WARD *Eng. Ref.* I. (1710) 112 If I this saucyness in you, Shou'd seem to wink-at or allow. **1775** SHERIDAN *Rivals* III. iii, Suppose you were to wink at her corresponding with him for a little time. **1815** SCOTT *Guy R.* xxxiv, You had the price of half a cargo for winking at our job. **1861** TROLLOPE *La Beata* I. ix. 250 A very evident tendency... to wink at the shortcomings of their friends.

(b) To disregard, overlook, pass unnoticed (a fact or occurrence). Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1535 JOYE *Apol. Tindale* (Arb.) 32 He stretched forth his penne agent me as farre as he dirst, . . . at the whiche chaleng I winked. **1568** *Bible* (Bishops') Acts xvii. 30 And the tyme of this ignorance God wynted at. **a1656** BP. HALL *Rem. Wks.* (1660) 371 We do willingly wink at the rest of the differences of like nature. **1691** *Weesils* Postser. 13 Some, who... either wink at, or absolutely forget her admirable, tho plain Principles. **1848** SCHOMBURGK *Ralegh's Discov. Guiana* (Hakl. Soc.) 172 It is... evident that they winked at consequences which they must have foreseen.

†(c) To be complaisant with (an offending or contumacious person); to connive at the doings of.

1567 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 516 Seing the saidis rebellis ourlukit and winkit at be sic as duellis maist ewest to thame. **1605** SHAKS. *Macb.* I. iv. 52 Let not Light see my black and deepe desires: The Eye winke at the Hand. **1674** *Jackson's Recantation* C2, My other two Comerades [in thieving] lay in an Inn where they... were winkt at by the Master of the House. **1703** DE FOE *More Reform.* 37 Thou art blam'd for Winking at a L--d whose Rapes and Vices stand upon Record.

†b. (a) *to wink on*, *upon* = a (a), above. *Obs.*

1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 19 She can wynte on the yew, and wery the lam. **1591** SHAKS. *Two Gent.* II. iv. 98 Vpon a homely obiect, Loue can winke. **1634** MILTON *Comus* 401 You may as well... bid me hope Danger will wink on Opportunity. **1824** LANDOR *Imag. Conv.* I. *Cromwell & Noble* 59, I acknowledge his weaknesses, and cannot wink upon his crimes. **1835** LYTTON *Rienzi* I. v, Justice must never wink upon great offenders.

†(b) *to wink against* = a (b), above. *Obs.*

1653 H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* III. xv. §4 He that denies this seems to me wilfully to wink against the light of Nature. **1741** WATTS *Improv. Mind* I. i. (1786) 21 Having asserted his former opinions in a most confident manner, he is tempted now to wink a little against the truth.

†c. *trans.* = a (a), above. *Obs. rare.*

1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xviii. 58 Trow 3e... that God omnipotent Will wynt vsense sic wickities and wrang?

1695 KENNETT *Par. Antiq.* ix. 301 This cheat was winkt in the times of ignorance.

†7. a. *intr.* To give a significant glance, as of command, direction, or invitation: usually const. *on, upon, later to, at*. *Obs.*

c1100 *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 118/15 *Annicto uel annuto*, ic wincie. **13...** *Minor Poems of Vernon MS.* xxxvii. 680 Whon pei comen togedre, eiper on ower wynkep. **1377** LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. iv. 152, I seije mede in the moot-halle on men of lawe wynke, And pei lawghyng lope to hire. *Ibid.* xiii. 85 Pacience perceyued what I thougt, and wynted on me to be stille. **c1386** CHAUCER *Sqr.'s T.* 340 The Norice of digestioun the sleepe Gan on hem wynke. **c1400** *Gamelyn* 453 Whan I wynte on the loke for to gone. **14...** *K. Edw. & Shepherd* in *Hartshorne Metr.* T. (1829) 79 Oure kyng on the scheperde wanke, Priuely with his eye. **c1520** SKELTON *Magnyf.* 2023 Syr, remembre the tourne of Fortunes whele, That wantonly can wynte, and wynte with her hele. **1530** PALSGR. 782/2 He hath wynted upon me thrise, what so ever he meaneth. **1552** HULOET, Wyncke at one, *adncto*. **1599** SHAKS. *Hen. V.* v. ii. 333, I will winke on her to consent, my Lord. **1623** MIDDLETON *More Dissemblers* III. i, Then cast she up Her pretty eye and wink'd. **1640** tr. *Verdere's Rom. of Rom.* II. xxxiii. 124 She winked to him, whereupon he approaching with a great deal of respect unto the Queen [etc.]. **1671** CARYL *Sir Salomon* II. 30 Why could not you tell me on't? *Single.* I winked, and winked upon you, and did all that I could. **1711** ADDISON *Spect.* No. 57 ¶7, I winked upon my Friend to take his Leave. **1782** MME. D'ARLAY *Diary* 4 Nov., Mrs. Thrale winked at him to give up the place. **1819** *Sporting Mag.* (N.S.) IV. 236 Davis winked to his friends that it was all right. **1821** MONCRIEFF *Tom & Jerry* II. iii. 43 Winking at me not to take any notice. **1835** DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Astley's*, Ma having first nodded and winked to the governess to pull the girls' frocks a little more off their shoulders.

†b. ? To 'give the tip'. *Obs. rare.*

c1460 *Towneley Myst.* xii. 244 Haue good aylye of hely; bewar now, I wynt, For and thou drynk drely, in thy polle wylye it synk.

†c. *transf.* To make a sign. *Obs. rare.*

1738 [G. SMITH] *Curious Relat.* II. 337 The Image of *Sichæus* which stands on the Altar, winks with its Hand.

†d. *trans.* To bring into a specified state by a glance or nod. *Obs.*

1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Home* vii, What is this woman-kinde, which I can winke into a blacknesse and distaste? **1728** SWIFT *Jrnl. Mod. Lady* 193 They... Convey a Libel in a Frown, Or wink a Reputation down.

†e. phr. *wink all hid* [see *HIDE* v.¹ 1 e, and cf. OF. *clignemusset*]: hide-and-seek. *Obs.*

1609 J. DAVIES *Humour's Heaven* II. iv, So that he did Driue them from dancing vnto Wink-all-hid.

8. *intr.* To close one eye momentarily, in a flippant or frivolous manner, esp. to convey intimate information or to express good-humoured interest.

1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxxiii, Mr. Weller... winked so indefatigably... that Sam began to think he must have got the *tic douloureux* in his right eye-lid. **1838** — *Nich. Nick.* xvi, He winked towards Nicholas with a degree of familiarity which he, no doubt, intended for a rather flattering compliment. **1886** KIPLING *Departm. Ditties* etc. (1888) 73 An' Jock he sniggered, an' Jock he smiled, An' ower the card-brim wunk. **1912** G. B. SHAW *Pygmalion* II. 142 He winks at Higgins.

9. a. *trans.* To close (an eye, the eyes) for a moment, either voluntarily (sense 8) or involuntarily (sense 3).

Colloq. phr. *to wink the other eye*, to treat what has been said with flippant disregard.

1838 BUCKSTONE *Shocking Events* 11 Hollo! hollo! he's winking his eye at my maid. **1846** JAMES *Step-mother* liv. III. 8, I shouldn't have winked an eye all night if you hadn't been here. **1849** THACKERAY *Pendennis* xxv[i], Lady Clavering, giving the young gentleman a delighted tap with her fan, winked her black eyes at him. **1872** EARL PEMBROKE & G. H. KINGSLEY *S. Sea Bubbles* vii. 228 There was my princess... winking winks that ought never to have been wunk. **1883** D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* xiv, Lording's eyes tingled with tears. He winked both eyes together and blew his nose with violence. **1898** 'H. S. MERRIMAN' *Roden's Corner* xxii, The lighthouse winked a glaring eye that seemed to stare over their heads far out to sea.

b. *to wink away*: to remove (tears) by blinking one's eyes.

1876 MISS BROUGHTON *Joan* II. i, Joan, trying to smile, and to wink away the two large tears that have rushed to her eyes. **1892** MRS. S. BATSON *Dark* I. v. 105 She winked away a few hot tears of shame that rose to her eyes.

c. To move swiftly, cause to flicker like an eyelid.

1883 BRIDGES *Prometheus* 1464 Like butterflies, that... upon a wall Winking their idle fans at pleasure sit. **1897** S. CRANE *Third Violet* xxviii. 190 He told me you swore like a drill-sergeant if the model winked a finger.

d. To give (a signal), express (a message), etc. by means of flashlights.

1918 *Glasgow Herald* 22 Nov. 5 Their flagship's great... eye of flame winking out a message. **1919** *Ibid.* 21 Apr. 7 H.M.S. *Glory*... winked us welcome from the mast-head.

†wink, v.² *Obs. rare*. [var. WINCH v.¹ Cf. WINK sb.²] *intr.* To shrink, wince.

1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. 1 *Eden* 145 That boistrous Adam's body did not shrink For Northren Windes, nor for the Southren wink. **1677** [see WINKING vbl. sb.²].

wink, v.³ orig. U.S. [f. WINK sb.⁴] *intr.* To play tiddlywinks. Freq. as *vbl. sb.* Occas. *trans.* (in quot. *fig.*).

1955 V. NABOKOV *Lolita* I. v. 26 This is all very interesting, and I daresay you see me already frothing at the mouth in a fit; but no, I am not; I am just winking happy thoughts into a little tiddle cup. **1958** *Sunday Times* 2 Mar.

16/3 While practising secretly, I pulled an important muscle in the second or tiddy joint of my winking finger. 1962 *Boston Globe* 14 Oct. 81 The Crimson tiddlers winked their way to a 23 to 12 victory over a green Purple team. 1979 *Harvard Mag.* May-June 38 They went to many carpet stores to find the perfect surface for winking.

wink, obs. form of WINNOCK *Sc.*, window.

wink-a-peep ('wɪŋkəpi:p). Also 7 winkapipe, wincopipe. [f. WINK *v.*¹ + PEEP *sb.*]

†1. *pl.* The eyes. *Obs.*

Cf. Devon dial. *wink-a-peeps* 'drowsiness'.

1615 BRATHWAIT *Strappado* 4 Those wink-apipes of thine, those ferret eies. *Ibid.* 116 Awake for shame, open thy wink-a-peeps!

2. *dial.* The pimpernel, *Anagallis arvensis*.

1626 BACON *Sylva* §827 There is a Small Red Flower in the Stubble-Fields, which Country People call the Wincopipe. 1886 *Cheshire Glass*. 1897 *Outing* (U.S.) Mar. 593/1 The wincopipes are opening, señor.

winked (wɪŋkt), *ppl. a.* [f. WINK *v.*¹ + -ED¹.] **winked-at**, -on, connived at, tolerated.

1632 BROME *Northern Lasse* v. viii, [He] has been a loose Liver, . . . at . . . most of the winkt at houses about the Town. 1810 CRABBE *Borough* iv. 352 Plays, Put out by heathens in the wink'd-on days. 1971 J. BRUNNER *Honky in Woodpile* iii. 24 Some winked-at gambling and smuggling. 1979 *Dædalus* Summer 107 Such genre paintings represent not a random clutter of whimsically winked-at transgressions but an array of symbols encoding quite specific moral instructions.

|| **winkel** ('wɪŋk(ə)l). Also **winkle**. [Du.] A store or general shop in South Africa. Hence 'winkler, a store-keeper.

1827 G. THOMPSON *Trav. & Adv. S. Afr.* i. iii. 35 The village contains a couple of small retail shops, or *winkels*, as they are called. 1839 W. C. HARRIS *Wild Sports S. Afr.* xxxvii. 332 We lost not a moment in opening a *winkel*, or shop. 1853 W. R. KING *Campaign. Kaffirland* vi. 139 'Winkel waggons' had come out to the camp, and the 'winklers', or private traders, sold everything they had. 1902 *Blackw. Mag.* Feb. 169/1 Richmond Road is not a township. . . It boasts of one winkel adjoining the railway buildings.

winker¹ ('wɪŋkə(r)). [f. WINK *v.*¹ + -ER¹.]

1. One who winks (in various senses). *rare*.

1549 LATIMER *3rd Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 94 He was no gyfte taker, he was no wyunker, he was no bywalker. 1550 BALE *Image Both Ch.* ii. xiii. fviij, That frantick papist lohn Eckius, and our wyncchester the wyunker of wyles. c1590 in *Collect. B.L. Ballads* (1867) 254 Cat will after kind, All winkers are not blind. 1649 BULWER *Pathomyot.* ii. iv. 164 True Cowards who are of the worse Sect of winkers are wont to shut their Eyes. 1715 POPE *Let. to Craggs* 15 July, A sett of nodders, winkers, and whisperers. 1820 J. CHAMBERS *Illustr. Worc.* 539 'Are you a gentleman and wink at whist?' This was too much for the winker. 1902 *Sat. Rev.* 19 July 77/1 Self-conscious winkers and gigglers over their own misconduct.

2. *a.* Chiefly *pl.* applied to the eyes or the eyelashes. Now *dial.* or *slang*.

1734 in Mrs. Delany *Autobiogr.* (1861) I. 519 As soon as my winkers are opened I am always blessed with one of your epistles. 1808 JAMIESON, *Winkers*, the eye-lashes. S. 1893 *Bay's Own Paper* Jan. 157/3 Here, youngster, clap your winker to this glass. 1894 CROCKETT *Raiders* xxvi. 226 Curling upward like the winkers of an old man's eye.

b. The nictitating membrane of a bird's eye. 1884 COUES *N. Amer. Birds* (ed. 2) 180.

3. *a. pl.* (rarely *sing.*) = BLINKER 2 *b*; also *attrib.* Also *fig.* or *allusively*.

1583 FULKE *Def., Confut. Papists* 32 He is the common packhorse of the Papistes, . . . he weareth a paire of winkers over his eyes like a milhorse. 1746-7 MRS. DELANY in *Autobiogr.* (1861) II. 449 Most people wear vast winkers to their heads. 1755 J. SHEBBEARE *Lydia* (1769) II. 29 Her cap standing beyond her eyes like a coach-horse's winkers. 1794 FELTON *Carriages* (1801) II. 136. 1859 *Carriage Builders' Art Jnrl.* I. 43/1 The winker-check is cut eight inches from buckle to buckle. 1882 J. PHILIPSON *Harness* 18 Hogskin is utilized for the pads, winkers, &c. of brown harness.

Comb. 1845 BROWNING in *Let. R. B. & Eliz. B. Barrett* (1899) I. 79, I am set going with a hand, winker-wise, on each side of my head.

b. transf. Spectacles *rare*.

1816 'Quiz' *Grand Master* i. 11 A patent pair of goggle winkers, Conceal'd from public view his blinkers.

4. A direction indicator on a motor vehicle in the form of a flashing light; = INDICATOR 3 *g*.

1951 *Autocar* 2 Nov. 1411/1 Another advantage of the 'winkers' is the fact that no mechanical fault can develop. 1960 *News Chron.* 21 July 6/4 On the M1 . . . there are no curves to cancel the winkers. 1967 *Autocar* 28 Dec. 2/2 The main-beam and winker lights have little, pull-down 'eyelids'. 1970 A. SILLITOE *Start in Life* v. 255, I put on the winkers, swung out, and swept forward.

Hence (in sense 3) 'winkered *a.*

1804 M. WILMOT *Let. 5 July in Russ. Jnrls.* (1934) I. 110 Women . . . dress'd in a sort of winker'd cap of pearls which shows the face very becomingly. 1907 J. M. SYNGE *Playboy of Western World* iii. 61 That's the play-boy on the winkered mule.

winker². Short for *tiddlywinker* (*b*) *s.v.* TIDDLYWINK. orig. *U.S.*

1958 *N.Y. Times* 9 May 28 Tomorrow . . . the Cantab Winkers play the Oxonian Tiddlers in Oxford. 1965 *Times* 5 Jan. 116 The nation's 'winkers' have two ambitions for 1965. 1979 *Harvard Mag.* May-June 39 Winkers lost interest in recruiting new winkers.

winkey, variant of WINKY.

winking ('wɪŋkɪŋ), *vbl. sb.*¹ [f. WINK *v.*¹ + -ING¹.] The action of WINK *v.*¹

†1. Closing the eyes in sleep; dozing, slumbering; also, a doze, a nap. *Obs.*

c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 145 þer scal beon . . . loking wið-uten winkleunge, song wið-uten lisse. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* v. 3 þanne waked I of my winkynde and wo was with-alle, þat I ne hadde sleped sadder. 1393 *Ibid.* C. xii. 167 In a winkynde ich worth and wonderliche ich mette.

attrib. 1625 FLETCHER & SHIRLEY *Nt.-Walker* iv. i, So, so, he's fast; Fast as a fish ith' net, he has winking powder Shall worke upon him to our wish.

b. The taking of 'forty winks'.

1862 SMILES *Engineers* III. xii. 239 Stephenson . . . would occasionally refresh himself . . . by a short doze, which . . . he would never admit had exceeded the limits of 'winking', to use his own term.

2. The shutting of the eyes, as in blinking, as a gesture of aversion or connivance, and now esp. as a flippant indication of intimate knowledge or amused interest. †Also, a significant glance or movement of the eyes; with *at*, connivance.

c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 530/1 Wynkyng, of the eye (*S.* with the eye), *nictitacio*, . . . *nictus*, . . . *conquincio*, . . . *connivencia*.

c1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 282 Glowtyng ne twynkelyng with your yze . . . Watery winkyng ne droppynge but of sight clere. 1538 ELYOT *Dict.*, *Nictus*, a winkyng, as whan one doth sygnifie his mynde to an other by loking. 1564-78 BULLEIN *Dial. agst. Pest.* (1888) 20 What meaneth hee by winkyng like a Goose in the raine? 1572 *Instructions Earl Worc.* in Digges *Compl. Ambass.* (1655) 318 To suffer no permission or winking at of any other Religion then that which . . . our Realm hath always held. 1595 SHAKS. *John* iv. ii. 211 On the winking of Authoritie To vnderstand a Law. 1602 — *Ham.* ii. ii. 137 If I had . . . giuen my heart a winking, mute and dumbe. 1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang.* T. ii. 152 Breaches of charity . . . by the winking and scorning of our eyes. 1664 TILLOTSON *Wisdom of being religious* 33 If there be a God, a man cannot by an obstinate dis-belief of him make him cease to be, any more then a man can put out the Sun by winking. 1684 HOWE *Redeemer's Tears* Wks. 1724 II. 15 Men may indeed, by resolved, stiff, winking, create to themselves a darkness amidst the clearest Light. 1693 LOCKE *Educ.* §138 If . . . any one . . . should . . . make them think there is any difference between being in the dark and winking, you must get it out of their Minds. 1783 O'KEEFFE *Birth-Day* 28 Sly winking and blinking, As leering and jeering. 1824 MISS L. M. HAWKINS *Annaline* I. 206 What . . . is all this winking and smirking about? 1831 SCOTT *Ct. Robt.* xiv, It is the misfortune of the weaker on such occasions . . . to be obliged to take the petty part of winking hard, as if not able to see what they cannot avenge. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxviii, The fat boy swallowed a glass of liquor without so much as winking.

3. The rapid alternating motion of an object; the intermittent flashing of light.

1859 J. BROWN *Rab & F.* 16 The mobility . . . of that bud [of a tail], . . . its expressive twinklings and winkings . . . were of the oddest and swiftest. [1899 F. T. BULLEN *Way Navy* 28 The flagship keeps breaking out into rapid winkings of lofty electric eyes.] 1908 C. W. WALLACE *Children Chapel Blackfriars* 11 The modern signal bell of the German theatre . . . when an act is ready to begin;—a signal reduced in American theatres to the winking of the lights.

4. *like winking*: in a flash, in a twinkling, very rapidly or suddenly; also, with vigour or persistency, 'like one o'clock', 'like anything'. So, as *easy as winking*.

1827 HOOD *Sailor's Apal.* 71 Both my legs began to bend like winkin. 1841 MARRYAT *Poacher* xxii, He's a regular scholar, and can sum up like winker. 1872 'ALIPH CHEEM' (Yeldham) *Lays of Ind* (1876) 85 But [we] cry 'pray grow your opium!' Because it pays like winking. 1907 H. WYNHAM *Flare of Footlights* xxv, She'll . . . make a hundred and fifty a week as easy as winking.

† **'winking**, *vbl. sb.*² [See WINK *v.*².] Wincing. 1677 W. HUGHES *Man of Sin* ii. i. 7 What a Desperate Cause is this; . . . Is not this meer winking to avoid a blow?

winking ('wɪŋkɪŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. WINK *v.*¹ + -ING².] That winks.

1. That shuts the eyes or one eye intermittently or for an instant; blinking; †slumbering, sleepy; in OE. as *sb.* = the blind.

Used to render the specific name *connivens* of certain birds.

a1000 *Sal. & Sat.* 77 Lamena he is læce, leoht wincendra [*v.r.* winciendra]. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* xi. 4 þo wepte I for wo and wrath of her speche, And in a winkyng wrath wex I aslepe. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prav. & Epigr.* (1867) 162 Smalle holes keepe small mise, from wily winkyng cats. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* ii. iv. 89 Her Andirons . . . were two winking Cupids Of Siluer. 1630 BP. HALL *Ocas. Medit.* xxi. 53 Wee are wont to salute it [*sc.* the light] at the first comming in, with winking, or closed eyes. 1693 DRYDEN *Ovid's Met.* i. 990 The Keeper's winking Eyes began to fail. 1784 COWPER *Task* ii. 773 Blame we most the nurslings or the nurse? The children, . . . deform'd, Through want of care; or her, whose winking eye And slumb'ring oscitancy mars the brood? 1801 LATHAM *Synopsis, Suppl.* II. 53 Winking Falcon [*Falco connivens*]. It has a wonderful faculty of contracting and dilating the iris. 1810 CRABBE *Borough* x. 243 And prosing toppers rub their winking eyes. 1855 *Poultry Chron.* III. 381 The nictitating (winking) muscles. 1860 PATMORE *Faithful For Ever* ii. ii. 109 And I, contented, . . . idly stroke The winking cat, or watch the fire. 1870 DISRAELI *Lothair* liv, Starveling saints and winking madonnas.

† *b.* Characterized by shutting of the eyes or averted looks; conniving. *Obs.*

1577-82 BRETON *Floarish upan Fancie* Wks. (Grosart) I. 37/1 Some finely vse a winking kinde of wile, Some looke alofte, and some doo still looke downe. 1579 HAKE *Newes out of Powles* (1872) F viij b, See, see, what wily winking shifes, by cliffe browde beasts are made. 1605-6 EARL NORTHAMPTON in *Crt. & Times Jas. I* (1848) I. 55 The winking course which I am forced to take daily in the ports . . . hath . . . tired me with struggling between both parts.

2. *transf.* That opens and shuts; often, by extension, applied to intermittent light, the flashing of lamps, the twinkling of a reflexion, or the like.

1595 SHAKS. *John* ii. i. 215 All preparation for a bloody sledge, And merces proceeding, . . . Confronts your Citties eies, your winking gates. 1611 — *Cymb.* ii. iii. 25 (Song) And winking Mary-buds begin to ope their Golden eyes. 1681 DRYDEN *Span. Friar* iii. ii, A dim winking Lamp. 1789 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Subj. for Painters* Wks. 1812 II. 142 A winking Light of paltry Rush. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xxviii, These [houses] had very little winking windows, and low-arched doors. 1904 HICHENS *Garden Allah* xx, The first glass of blithely winking champagne.

3. *Comb.*, as † **winking-eyed *a.***, blind (*fig.*).

1621 *Eng. Prot. Plea for Eng. Preists & Papists* 60 The counsell could not be so winking eyed, but they would have found fourth some one or other culpable.

Hence '**winkingly *adv.***, with winking eyes; †with a casual look; with a wink or winks.

1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* I 3 b, Whose pleasing face he had scarce winkingly glanst on [etc.]. 1612 PEACHAM *Gentl. Exerc.* iii. (1634) 138 If any one beholdeth . . . some very white object, he vieweth it winkingly. 1868 *N. Brit. Rev.* Dec. 429 The left eye of Raff . . . asks winkingly, 'What do you bring to-day?' 1897 BLACKMORE *Dariel* xlix. 437 Looking out winkingly in all directions, . . . I beheld a company of little rocks.

winkle ('wɪŋk(ə)l), *sb.* Also 6 **wincle**, 7 **winckle**.

1. Shortened f. PERIWINKLE² (cf. *wig* from *periwig*).

1585 HIGINS *Junius Nomencl.* 65/2 *Cochlea*, . . . a Wincle: a periwinkle or cockle. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* viii. xxxix. I. 218 Lisards, (deadly enemies to the Snacles or Winkles above named). 1610 — *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 727 Stones like unto sea winkles or cockles and other sea fish. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 601 It is called *Concha* . . . because it is like a Winkle or Periwinkle. 1844 DICKENS *Mart. Chuz.* xxi, The very winkle of your country in his shelly lar. 1899 WHITEING *Na. 5 John St.* vii. 60 A typical family . . . lives before the public on a nutriment of winkles and gin.

attrib. 1845 COL. HAWKER *Diary* (1893) II. 256 The 'winklemen were on the mud all day. 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 39 Winkle Gatherer. 1903 *Times* 13 Aug. 13/2 A shilling used to be charged for a winkle license, which lasted during the winkle season.

2. *slang* (chiefly *juveniles*). The penis (of a young boy).

1951 PARTRIDGE *Dict. Slang* Add. 1223/2 *Winkle, n.*, penis: children's, (young) schoolboys': late C. 19-20. 1970 *Guardian* 3 Feb. 8, I was mildly troubled by the insistence, especially of one headmaster, on the 'proper names for things'. Penis is right and winkle is wrong. 1970 T. HUGHES *Crow* 63 O do not chop his winkle off His Mammy cried. 1973 M. AMIS *Rachel Papers* 78 'Thanks,' he said to his (new) witch-like girlfriend as she handed him a joint so ill-made that it resembled a baby's winkle.

3. *Comb.*, as **winkle-picker *slang***, a shoe with a long pointed toe; **winkle-pin *Mil. slang*** = BAYONET 2.

1960 *Spectator* 15 Apr. 553 The incredibly pointed custom-built shoes in which teenagers keep other teenagers at arm's length. . . The shoes, called winklepickers, look like something out of Grimm's fairy tales. 1960 *News Chron.* 13 Sept. 5/3 The 'winkle picker' high heels and the high spirits have gone. 1978 C. SYKES in R. BUCKLE *U & Non-U Revisited* 57 The mass-produced variety, popularly known as 'winkle-pickers', were very ugly. 1980 *Bulletin* (Sydney) 6 May 5/3, I had the hairdo, the lairy shirt, the winkle-picker shoes. 1924 KIPLING *Debts & Credits* (1926) 314 As his sergeant I had to check him for misusin' his winkle-pin on dirt. 1950 PARTRIDGE *Here, There & Everywhere* 62 The bayonet . . . has many names . . . [e.g.] *winkle-pin*.

Hence '**winkling *gerund***.

1898 *Punch* 20 Aug. 77/2 D'year as 'ow old Bob Osborne 'ave give up Shrimpin' an took ter Winklin'?

winkle ('wɪŋk(ə)l), *v.*¹ *dial.* [f. WINK *v.*¹ + -LE 3.] *intr.* To emit light intermittently; to twinkle.

1791 LEARMONT *Poems* 37 In vain the starry winking gleam. 1807 HOGG *Mountain Bard* 63 What though she has twa little winking een? They're better than nane. 1905 MRS. BARNES-GRUNDY *Vacil. Hazel* 198 The stars and planets twinkled and winkled, and sparkled and glittered.

winkle, *v.*² *colloq.* (orig. *Mil. slang*). [f. WINKLE *sb.*] *trans.* to **winkle out**: to extract or eject (as a winkle from its shell with a pin); to draw forth, find out or elicit.

[1925 FRASER & GIBBONS *Soldier & Sailor Words* 306 *Winkle, ta*, to capture individual prisoners by stealth. . . Also, . . . to steal.] 1942 'M. HOME' *House of Shade* ii. 20 What's winkled you out at this goddam hour? 1943 *People* 31 Oct. 1/7 Methodically winking the Germans out of their strongpoints. 1951 'M. INNES' *Operation Pax* v. vi. 220 Until we winkle out this young man . . . you and I make not a bad team. 1958 J. PRESS *Chequer'd Shade* 4 It is illegitimate to compare the far-fetched conjectures of Eliot's commentators with the inside information which we might have winkled out of Donne. 1966 *Listener* 20 Jan. 111/3 It's the cunning of the interviewer that counts most of all, and certainly Mr. Muggeridge manages to winkle out some interesting bits and pieces. 1970 *Sunday Mail Mag.* (Brisbane) 17 May 14/1 He could winkle out sin where no other man dreamed it existed. 1976 A. EDEN *Anather World* vii. 79 Hart's skills were in a sense wasted upon us, and he was at length winkled out to the advantage of a base hospital.

winkler ('wɪŋklə(r)). [f. WINKLE *sb.* + -ER¹.]

1. One who gathers winkles; a boat used for this.

1889 A. T. PASK *Eyes Thames* 58 Eel-trawlers and 'winklers'.

2. *slang*. One who assists in the eviction of tenants (see quot. 1970). Cf. WINKLE *v.*²

1970 *Sunday Times* 15 Nov. 3/5 Plausible, highly-paid 'winklers' who are hired by property companies and landlords to persuade families to leave their rent-controlled tenancies so the homes can be sold at high prices. **1977** *Whig-Standard* (Kingston, Ontario) 29 Sept. 26/3 The tenants said the agents aided by middlemen called 'winklers', had bribed and harassed them to get them to move.

winkless ('wɪŋklɪs), *a.* [f. WINK *sb.*¹ + -LESS.] Without a wink, unwinking.

1861 WYNTER *Soc. Bees* 93 The upturned gaze of winkless scores [of artificial eyes]. **1867** F. H. LUDLOW *Brace of Boys* 255 Sat bolt upright in the pew, winkless as a deacon.

winkling ('wɪŋklɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. WINKLE *v.*² + -ING¹.] The action of the vb., esp. with reference to the removal of tenants from rented accommodation. Also *winkling-out*. Cf. WINKLER 2.

1970 *Guardian* 20 Nov. 7/1 'Winkling'—persuading private tenants to quit. **1973** *Daily Tel.* 24 May 11/2 He described the 'winkling' processes followed by certain developers to rid themselves of unwanted but protected tenants. **1974** E. AMBLER *Dr Frigo* III. 195 An army assault team had been called in. In their winkling-out of the defenders they had... made rather a mess of the Palace. **1975** *Listener* 18 Nov. 826/1 Mr Skeaping had been accused of 'winkling'; bribing his tenants to leave so that he could sell the property with vacant possession.

† **winklot**. *Sc. Obs.* [Obscure; for the ending cf. *giglot*, GIGLET.] A wench.

15... *Pebilis to Play* 73 in *Maitland Fol. MS.* (S.T.S.) 178 Ane winklot fell and hir tail vp. *Ibid.* 233, 182 Quhen the winklottis and the wawaris twynnit.

winks (wɪŋks). Shortening of *tiddlywinks*: see TIDDLYWINK 2 b. *U.S.*

1942 R. & L. FREEMAN *Cavalcade of Toys* xvi. 366 Back in 1903 'Battle Winks' was a popular game. **1962** *Harvard Crimson* 6 Nov. 3/2 (*heading*) Crimson winks squad downs two opponents. **1979** *Technology Rev.* Mar./Apr. 823 Unlike chess, which has limited predictable moves, winks is a game of chance as well as skill, says Mr. Lockwood.

winky ('wɪŋki). Also -ey, -ie. [f. WINK *v.*¹ + -Y⁶.] Only in slang phr. *like winky*, 'like winking'.

1830 LYTTON P. *Clifford* xxxi[iii]. The parson forks him out ten shiners, preaching all the while like winky. **1838** MRS. SMYTHIES *Fitzherbert* ix. We'll be back like winky. **1846** W. CROSS *Disruption* vii. 61 Jimes and mee are going On with owre studdys already like winkle. **1901** M. FRANKLIN *My Brilliant Career* xix. 163 Every one has to obey him like winky or they can take their beds up and trot off quick and lively. **1902** BEGGIE *Sir J. Sparrow* iii. 33 She kicks like winky. **1923** KIPLING *Land & Sea Tales* 115 This Baxter-man... SOS'ed like winkle.

winle, *Sc. form of WINDLE sb.*³

winless ('wɪnlɪs), *a.* *N. Amer.* [f. WIN *sb.*¹ + -LESS.] Characterized by an absence of victories in a series of sporting contests; also, designating a period of time during which no victory was won.

1966 *Daily Progress* (Charlottesville, Va.) 8 June 30/1 People keep telling VMI's Gary McPherson he has the very best winless basketball team in the country. **1970** *Globe & Mail* (Toronto) 25 Sept. 32/3 Winless in 14 previous starts this season, Miss Ella Cinders had little trouble with Sandy Hawley up last Saturday as she galloped to a 12-length win. **1972** J. MOSEDALE *Football* iii. 36 They... went through another winless season. **1977** *Arab Times* 3 Dec. 9/3 Bechtel now go into their final game against AG & P with both teams winless in what should be quite a battle to see which team makes it out of the cellar.

† **winly**, *a.* *Obs.* Forms: 1 *wynlic*, *wenlic*, 3 *wunlic*, *wun-*, *wund-*, *wune-*, *wonliche*, 4 *wynly*, -lich(e), -wynnellych, 5 *wynlyche*, *winli*. [OE. *wynlic*, f. *wyn(n)* joy, WIN *sb.*² + -lic, -LY¹.] Pleasant, agreeable; goodly, splendid, beautiful. (Often merely a vague epithet of commendation.)

a1000 *Phoenix* 34 Sunbeoro lixeð, wuduholc wynlic. **c1000** *Ags. Hom.* (Assmann) ix. 205 Heo wæs swiðe wlitig and wenlices hiwes. **c1205** LAY. 8090 Wæs at foren þan wæfde imaked an wunlic fur. *Ibid.* 10000 Stod þe wundliche [c1275 *wonliche*] wude amidden ær wældæ. **a1300** *E.E. Psalter* xxiii[i]. 3 Wha sal stegh in hille of lauerd winli? **1303** R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 1411 Some of þo wynly wones Were peynted with precyus stones. **a1400** *Pistill of Susan* 99 With wardons winlich and walshe notes newe. ?**a1400** *Morte Arth.* 181 Ther-to wyldæ to wale, and wynlyche bryddes.

† **winly**, *adv.* *Obs.* Forms: 1 *wynlice*, 3 *wunliche*, 4 *wynli*, -lyche, *wynn-*, *wynly*, 4-5 *wynly*, 5 *winly*. [OE. *wynlice*, f. *wynlic*: see prec. and -LY².] Pleasantly, agreeably; finely, splendidly. (Often vague in alliterative verse.)

c1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) cvii[i]. 2 þæt ic wynlice on psalterio þe singan mote. **c1205** LAY. 3605 Sone werð þe alde king wunliche iæðeð. **c1350** *Will. Palerne* 749 A gardin euene, ...wynli wiþ heie wæs closed al a-boute. **c1400** *Sc. Trojan War* (Horstn.) i. 225 The stretis ware straucht & wynly maide. **a1400-50** *Wars Alex.* 5545 In at a wicket he went & wynly it speris. **c1440** *York Myst.* xlv. 103 What ayles yow women, for wo þus wynly to wepe? **c1450** *HOLLAND Howlat* 660 The Pape and the patriarkis... Welcummit thaim wynly.

winn, *obs. form of WIN.*

winna. *Sc.* = 'will not': see WILL *v.*¹ A. 6 bβ.

winnability ('wɪnə'bɪləti). Also *winability*. [f. WINNABLE *a.*: see -ITY.] Capacity for winning or being won.

1972 *New Society* 16 Nov. 400/2 The penal cases committee seems to be heavily influenced by two considerations... The other is the 'winability' of the case; the penal cases committee refers chiefly open-and-shut cases to the disciplinary committee. **1975** W. SAFIRE *Before the Fall* i. iv. 43 'My biggest problem,' Nixon concluded, 'is "Nixon can't win"'. We discussed ways to build 'winability'. **1979** *Guardian* 2 Nov. 13/6 Kennedy... has that overriding quality—winnability. **1983** *Times* 16 Apr. 2/5 The most detailed work on the winnability of the new seats has been done by a few academics.

winnable ('wɪnəb(ə)l), *a.* Also 6 *wyn(n)able*, 7 *winneable*, 8-9 (*erron.*) *winable*. [f. WIN *v.*¹ + -ABLE.] Capable of being won, in various senses.

1544 BETHAM *Precepts War* i. v. Bivb, All cyties... be more wynable on the one syde, then on the other. **1611** COTGR., *Gaignable*, gettable, winnable, gaineable. **1747** HOOSON *Miner's Dict.* L 3 b, When Work is Soft, Kind, and Winable enough without any Hardship. **1807** ANNA M. PORTER *Hungarian Bro.* xi. (1832) 131 The best proof I can have of her heart's being winnable only by a brave and upright man. **1888** *Pall Mall Gaz.* 18 Feb. 8/1 All the rest are winnable exactly as Southwark was won.

winnackew, -acoe, *obs. var. GUANACO.*

1729 J. WOOD *Voy.* 86 Here is Plenty of Winnackews, or Spanish sheep.

winnaill, *obs. Sc. form of VENNEL.*

winnard ('wɪnəd). Also 7 *wheenerd*. [app. a. LG. *weingartdrossel*, -vogel (see WING-THRUSH), with the second element dropped.] A local name of the redwing, *Turdus iliacus*.

a1698 [see WINDLE *sb.*¹]. **1758** BORLASE *Nat. Hist. Cornwall* xxi. 245. **1880** *E. Cornwall Gloss.*

winne, *obs. form of WIN.*

Winnebago (wɪnə'beɪɡəʊ), *sb. (a.)* [ad. Fox *wi-nepye-ko-ha*, lit. 'person of dirty water', an allusion to the muddy waters of the Fox River below Lake Winnebago, which became clogged with dead fish in the heat of the summer.] 1. a. (A member of) a Siouan people of eastern Wisconsin. b. The language of this people. Also *attrib.* or as *adj.*

1766 J. CARVER *Jrnl.* 25 Sept. in J. Parker *Jrnl.* J. Carver & Related Documents, 1766-70 (1976) I. 78 Arrivd at the great town of the Winebagoes. *Ibid.* 79 The town of the Winebagoes is situate on the south east end of an island at the east end of the Winebago Lake. **1827** *Spirit of Seventy-Six* (Frankfort, Kentucky) 2 Aug. 2/1 An express reached here this moment from Galena... with information of hostilities having been commenced by the Winnebago Indians, on the settlers. **1835** C. F. HOFFMAN *Winter in West* I. 257 The Winnebago chief... [had] just left the establishment. **1839** H. R. SCHOOLCRAFT *Algic Researches* I. 13 The Winnebagoes are clearly of the Abanic stock. **1860** *Harper's Mag.* Sept. 568/2 As he could not speak Winnebago, the first thing to be done was to find an interpreter. **1881** *Encycl. Brit.* XII. 832/1 The Winnebagoes are a branch of the Dakota family. **1907** L. H. MORGAN *Anc. Society* III. iii. 440 In Winnebago and Achaotina she is 'my sister'. **1910** F. W. HODGE *Handbk. Amer. Indians* II. 958/1 The Winnebago have been known to the whites since 1634, when the Frenchman Nicollet found them in Wisconsin, on Green Bay. **1933** [see MANDAN *a.* and *sb.*]. **1966** A. C. HARDY *Divine Flame* iii. 65 Those tribes belonging to the great Sioux family such as the Omaha, Ponka, Kansas, Dakota, Iowa, Winnebago, etc. **1973** A. H. WHITEFORD *N. Amer. Indian Arts* 81 Winnebago women's mocassins have a flap over the toe. **1975** *Language* LI. 317 Ferguson... suggests that Hockett's analysis of Winnebago is unusual.

2. **Special Comb.: Winnebago camper**, a motor vehicle with insulated panels used as living accommodation by campers (a proprietary term in the U.S.); also *ellipt.*

1966 *Mobile Home Jrnl.* Oct. (Adv., rear cover), Your most enjoyable travel companion is a Winnebago Pickup Camper Coach. **1970** *Official Gaz.* (U.S. Patent Office) 17 Nov. TM 132 Winnebago Industries, Inc., Forest City, Iowa. Filed Aug. 6, 1969. Winnebago... For Vehicles and Components...—Namely Motor Homes, Travel Trailers, House Trailers, Camper Coaches, [etc.]... First use April 1959. **1975** I. K. MARTIN *Regan & Manhattan File* 104 Regan... noted... a Winnibago camper parked to the rear... The back door of the Winnibago opened.

winnel, *dial. form of WINDLE.*

winner ('wɪnə(r)). [f. WIN *v.*¹ + -ER¹.] One who or that which wins, in various senses.

1. One who gains something, esp. by effort or merit; *spec.* one who gets (a living) by labour, an earner (*obs.* or *dial. exc.* in BREAD-WINNER); †one who makes profit, as by trading; †one who 'wins' (corn), a harvester, reaper (*fig.*).

1352 [see WASTER *sb.*¹]. **c1375** *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvii. (*Macchor*) 860 Of goddis corne wyname to be. **1393** LANGE. P. Pl. C. i. 222 Webbesters and walkers and wywners with handen. **c1456** *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 235 Robberys now rewle ryztwysenese, And wywnerys with her sothe sawe. **1483** *Cath. Angl.* 420/1 A Wywner, *lucrificus*. **1523-34** FITZHERB. *Husb.* §36 He that byeth grosse sale, and retayleth, muste nedes be a wywner. **1556** J. HEYWOOD *Spider & F.* lxxiii. 21 No flie therby winner, the worth of a straw. **1593** *Extr. Aberd. Reg.* (1848) II. 85 Knawin... to be wywneris of their leving be sum honest moyen. **1630** R. N. tr. *Camden's Hist. Eliz.* IV. 173 Whereas Religion is the greatest winner of mens affections. **1836** HOR. SMITH *Tin*

Trump. I. 257 The winner of a title generally deserves it. **1848** THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lxvii. The Major was disengaged too, and swore he would be the winner of her. **1876** SIR C. DILKE in *Life* (1917) I. xiii. 197 Holker... a great winner of verdicts from juries, was one of the dullest men. **1911** 'G. A. BIRMINGHAM' *Lighter Side Irish Life* i. 6 A woman, a careless winner of the hearts of men.

2. One who is victorious in a contest; a victor; *esp.* one who wins a game, a race, a prize, etc.; *spec.* a horse, dog, etc. that wins a race; in games of skill, the 'piece' that is nearest to a certain point, a winning shot, etc.; *colloq.* a thing that scores a success; a potentially successful project, enterprise, etc.

1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 74 [If he] has tynt the bataill, tharfore he had the wrang, and the wywnar the rycht. **1546** J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* I. x. (1867) 24 Be they wywners or loosers, Folke saie alwaie, beggers should be no choosers. **1596** DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 156 The verie Romanis selves, victorious wywners. **1596** SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* v. ii. 187 'Twas I wonne the wager, though you hit the white, And being a winner, God giue you good night. **1598** — *Hen. V.* III. vi. 120 When Lenitie and Crueltie play for a Kingdome, The gentler Gamester is the soonest winner. **1611** — *Cymb.* III. v. 15 Sir, the Euent Is yet to name the winner. **1667** *Leathermore: Advice conc. Gaming* (1668) 10 It is not deny'd but most Gamesters have at one time or other a considerable run of winning, but... I could never hear of the Man that gave over a winner, (I mean to give over, as never to play again). **1710** *Act 9 Anne* c. 19 §2 It shall... be lawfull... for any Person... to... recover the same [money]... with Costs... against such Winner. **1789** D. DAVIDSON *Seasons* 167 A leal shot etted at the cock, Which shov'd the winner by. **1811** *Acc. Game Curling* 9 The stone nearest the tee... is called the winner. **1840** DICKENS *Old C.* *Shop* xxx. At length the play came to an end, and Mr. Isaac List rose the only winner. **1854** *Poultry Chron.* I. 371 Winners of the First Prizes. **1859** H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* xix. I'd ridden seven great winners before I was eighteen. **1874** J. D. HEATH *Croquet-Player* 83 It is... unfair to the winner, to tell him that he won only because you 'had a bad mallet'. **1876** *Coursing Calendar* 19 In a scrambling course, run partly out of sight, the early points of Moonshine doubtless landed her the winner. **1913** *Play Pictorial* No. 131 [p. iv/1 The Alhambra has also found a winner in its curiously named ['revue'] '8d. a mile'. **1934** *Punch* 14 Nov. 552/1 The growing function of the outlying theatres is to spot winners for the West-End. **1948** M. LASKI *Tory Heaven* v. 66 'I'd like to be a land-agent... I do really think I could have made a success of it.' 'I'm sure you would... It sounds like a winner to me.' **1958** *Times* 12 Sept. 13/1 The last crop of new ballets commissioned for the Edinburgh International Ballet company includes one winner, a near miss, and a very honourable mention. **1972** *Sunday Express* 9 Jan. 5/3 The warmth of wool plus good, classic styling, makes this coat a winner this winter. **1976** *Southern Even. Echo* (Southampton) 18 Nov. 4/3 Cyril Berry... must be on a winner with his latest book. **1985** *Woman's Own* 22 June 36/2 The actor believes that combining the strong with the sensitive is exactly what makes a man a winner—on screen and off.

3. **winner-take(s)-all**, *attrib. phr.* used to denote contests or conflicts in which victory is outright or the successful competitor alone is rewarded; occas. (without hyphens) in non-*attrib.* use as an idiomatic sentence.

1969 *Listener* 10 Apr. 496/1 When you say war, I think that's what you mean: nations and empires clashing, and there will be one winner and one loser on clear-cut lines. I won, you lost. But here there's not supposed to be, the way I understand it, a winner-take-all-type thing. **1972** *National Observer* (U.S.) 27 May 5/1 Should McGovern win the June 6 California primary with its winner-take-all bag of 271 votes, ... he then would be within easy range of a first-ballot nomination at the convention opening on July 10. **1972** *Guardian* 8 June 12/1 In California winner takes all. It will be almost impossible now to deny McGovern the nomination. **1973** *Times* 16 Nov. 1/1 The Government has accepted that there is no way out of a grim, winner-takes-all clash with the National Union of Mineworkers. **1976** 'H. CARMICHAEL' *False Evidence* iv. 63 There must've been a worthwhile rakeoff... The outcome was that winner took all. **1978** A. PRICE '44 *Vintage* xxi. 264 A winner-takes-all lottery.

winning ('wɪnɪŋ), *vbl. sb.*¹ Forms: see WIN *v.*¹ [f. WIN *v.*¹ + -ING¹.] The action of WIN *v.*¹; *concr.* something won.

1. Conquest, capture, taking (of a place); also, in early use, conquered territory (= CONQUEST *sb.* 4). *Obs.* or *arch.*

c1320 *Sir Tristr.* 928 Rohand he left king Ouer al his wining pare. **1338** R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 296 þritti reames men tolde, þat kyng Arthur wan. He parted his wywnyng tille his men largely. **1419** in *Documents Français* (1847) I. 227 Thei have wonne the fersaid toun by assaulte... thorought the whiche wywnyng my fersaid lord hath passage to Parys. **c1470** HENRY WALLACE *x*. 577 Thow was gret caus off wywnyng off Scotland. **1577** HOLINSHED *Chron.* I. 34/2 Caius Iulius Cesar... determined to assay y^e winning of Britain. **1622** PEACHAM *Compl. Gent.* xv. (1906) 184 Knighted at the winning of Edenburgh in Scotland. **a1660** *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) I. 280 This noble warrior was soe eager for the wining of that place. **1871** FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* IV. xvii. 80 While the land which sent forth such goodly stores was in winning.

2. *a.* The action of gaining, getting, or obtaining; acquisition; †gain (in general, as opp. to *loss*); victory in a game or contest.

With various shades of meaning, in later use restricted as in the vb.

c1320 *Sir Tristr.* 3006 In wining and in tin Trewe to ben ay. **1362** LANGE. P. Pl. A. v. 94 Of his leosinge I lauhwe... Ac for his wywnyng I wepe. **c1374** CHAUCER *Troilus* i. 199 Swych labour as folk han yn wywnyng Of loue. **c1449** PECKOC *Repr.* III. xviii. 403 Bi bynyng or bi wywnyng in waioyng or bi sum other fre maner of geting. **1508** DUNBAR

Flying 19 It is nowthir wyunning nor rewaird, Bot tinsale [etc.]. 1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. James* i. 1-12 To counte losse of goodes, for the richeste wyunnyng. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* 1. ii. 451 Least too light winning Make the prize light. 1611 — *Cymb.* 11. iii. 8 Winning will put any man into courage. 1616 *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 183 Your Honour may guess that winning of time is their chiefest aim. 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Gt. Eater Kent* Wks. 1. 145/2 The vnexpected winning of the wager. 1667 [see WINNER 2]. 1813 SCOTT *Rokeby* III. xxx, Allen-a-Dale has no fleece for the spinning, Yet Allen-a-Dale has red gold for the winning. 1860 LÖWENTHAL *Morphy's Games Chess* 140 Ensuring the advance of the Queen's Pawn, which is almost equivalent to the winning of the game. 1885-94 BRIDGES *Eros & Psyche* Dec. ix, And in one winning all her woes redeem.

†b. Getting of money or wealth; gain, profit; money-making. *Obs.* as a specific sense.

a1300 *Cursor M.* 25803 Man þou has ben to couetus Abote werlds wining fuus. c1382 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) I. 252 Myny for wyunnyng wold bitraye Father and moder. a1450 MYRC *Par. Pr.* (1868) 22/705 Vsureres that by cause of wyunnyng lene her cattal to her eine cristen. c1480 HENRYSON *Want of Wyse Men* 22 (Bannatyne MS.) For warldly wonyng sic walkis, quhen wysar winkis. a1533 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) N vij, Of the vnlawful wyunnyng of the fathers, there folowethe the iuste loss to theyr children. 1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* (1821) I. p. xxiv, To thair gret profreit and winning. c1730 RAMSAY *Maltman* iii, He may crack of his winning, When he clears scores with me.

c. Getting by labour, earning. *Obs. exc. dial.* c1400 *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 2058 If ony woman can oght do þat ony wining falles vnto. 1545 in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 1546, 757/2 Concerning the wyunnyng of thair leving.

†d. Profit (in general), advantage. *Obs.* c1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xl. (Ninian) 1151 Quhat wyunnyng had 3e, þo 3e had mycht to sla me? 1477 EARL RIVERS (Caxton) *Dictes* 6b, Yf ye do so all your lyf, it shalbe to you a grete prouffitable wyunnyng. a1578 LINDSAY (Pittcottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 37 Regarding our awin prevat wining mair nor the weillfair of the realme.

3. *concr.* That which is won; a thing or amount obtained or gained; gain, profit (as acquired); †in early use *occas.* spoil, booty; emolument, earnings. Now *rare* or *Obs.* exc. as in 4.

a1300 *Cursor M.* 968 O þi winning giue me þe tend. c1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 8393 Whar 3e schul win wining, 3e nold it 3eue for no ying! c1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 275 Hise resons he schuld ful solempnely Sowynnye alway thencrees of his wyunnyng. c1400 26 *Pol. Poems* xix. 77 þy wrong wyunnyng azen restore. 14... *Sc. Acts Parlt.* (1814) I. 736/2 And þat of all his wyunnyng... he sal nocht halde bot. ij.d. c1450 *Merlin* xiv. 224 Ther was founde grete wyunnyng; and the kynge made it to be... presented to the soudiours. 1488 *Burgh Rec. Edinb.* (1869) I. 55 And thai to dele thairvpoun vyning and tynsell. 1509 BARCLAY *Shyp of Folyis* (1874) II. 83 Eche of them askyth Lucre and wyunnyng. 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 34, I might put my wyunnyng in mine eye. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 321/2 *Brauium*,... the price or winning giuen to one that ouercommeth in plaies and games. 1860 PUSEY *Min. Proph.* 281 'Keep the winning, keep the sinning.'... We cannot keep the gain, and escape the loss.

4. *pl.*: usually *concr.*, as *pl.* of 3 (mostly in collective sense), Things or sums gained, gains, profits; earnings (*obs.* or *dial.*); in mod. use chiefly applied to money won by gaming or betting; more rarely in abstract sense, as *pl.* of 2, Acts of gaining, gains as opp. to losses.

c1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* I. 11 Defaute in al þis comip of ypocrisie of prelati, þat shulden teche pleynly Goddis lawe and not per erply wyunnynges. c1449 PECOCK *Repr.* III. xlvii. 391 Tithis going out fro her wyunnyngis. 1557 TUSSEY *100 Points Husb.* xiii, But chopping and chaungeing, may make such a breck, That gone is thy winningnes, for sauing thy neck. 1616 DRAKE *Bibl. Scholast.* 78 Hee may put his winnings into his eye, and see neuer the worse. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* Ded. ¶2b, One loss may be of more consequence to him, than all his former winnings. 1716 ADDISON *Freeholder* No. 40 ¶3 A Buttering-Gamester, that stakes all his Winnings upon every Cast. 1725 J. GLANVILLE *Poems* 63 When hapless France shall meet with no Repair From Losings here, by healing Winnings there. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* xxxix, Mr. Toby Crackit swept up his winnings [at cribbage], and crammed them into his waistcoat pocket. 1885 *Law Rep.* Weekly Notes 145/2 The defendant... having won on those bets received the winnings from the persons with whom he had betted.

5. *spec.* Getting, gathering, taking (of produce, fish, coal, stone, etc.); also, in *Mining*, the process of excavation and other preparation for working a bed of coal or other mineral: see WIN v.¹ 7f, g.

1473 *Rental Bk. Cupar-Angus* (1879) I. 192 To mak ma tenandis for wenyng and laboring of the ground. 1501 *Reg. Priory Seal Scot.* I. 100/1 To sustene ony skait in the wyunnyng of the saidis fischingis. 1506 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* III. 87 To Andro Matheson, to the colheuch wyunnyng in Faulkland v li. 1553-4 *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1871) II. 286 To Denne Morisoun for wyunnyng of three lintellis to the saids yeittis. 1630 *Burgh Rec. Glasgow* (1876) 374 For the wyning and leiding of certane stonis for mending of the commoun loche. c1790 *Encycl. Brit.* (1797) V. 99/1 Where a level can be drove... to drain a sufficient tract of coal, it is then the most eligible method of winning. 1825 E. MACKENZIE *View Northumbld.* (ed. 2) I. 87 The winning of a colliery is the draining of a field of coal, so as to render the several seams accessible. 1881 *Nature* 27 Jan. 308 Deep winning of coal in South Wales. 1891 *Times* 10 Oct., The winning of oats in the northern parts of England.

b. *concr.* (*Mining*.) A shaft or pit together with the associated apparatus for 'winning' the coal or other mineral; a portion of a coal-field or mine laid out for working.

1708 J. C. *Compl. Collier* (1845) 42 How much to allow for a Winning. 1768 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 62 The vast quantity of

water expected in this new winning. 1865 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 26 Sept. 7/2 The construction of new winnings, the colliery population, and the production of coal have considerably augmented.

6. Gaining of a person's affection or allegiance; gaining of an adherent or convert; also with *over*.

c1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxiii. (George) 864 For of a martyre þe pyunnyng Of a thousand wes wyunnyng. c1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 93 þei loue more here owen worldly wyunnyng... þan wyunnyng of soulis to blisse. a1586 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 40 The winning of the mind from wickednesse to vertue. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* 1. iv. §2 The great labour that then was with the people... for the winning and perswading of them. 1643 MILTON *Divorce* viii. Wks. 1851 IV. 47 The uncertain winning of an obdur'd heretick. 1899 HEDDLE *Marget at Manse* 91, I had forgotten all about Andrew and his proposed winning-over. 1918 *Nation* (N.Y.) 7 Feb. 134/1 All the sordid details that counted in the winning over of Italy.

†7. Deliverance, redemption: cf. WIN v.¹ 8. *Obs.*

c1400 26 *Pol. Poems* xxiv. 281 In helle is no wyunnyng, Ne non aseynbuyng to pes.

8. The action of making one's way or getting somewhere. *Sc.* and *dial.*

1651 SIR A. JOHNSTON *Diary* (S.H.S.) II. 89 [It] might prevent... his wining to my wyfe. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xiii, Ye'll find it's easier wunnin in than wunnin out here.

9. *attrib.* Pertaining to or connected with winning, or at which something is won (sometimes practically coincident with WINNING *ppl. a.* 2, q.v.): winning-chair, the umpire's seat at the goal of a race-course (cf. winning-post); winning-gallery (*Real Tennis*), the last gallery on the hazard-side of a tennis-court; winning headway (*Coal-mining*), see *quots.*, and cf. sense 5 and WIN v.¹ 7g; so winning mine, *pit*; winning opening (*Real Tennis*), see *quots.*; winning-post, a post set up at the goal of a race-course, the racer who first passes it being the winner; also *fig.*; winning streak: see STREAK *sb.* 6b.

1835 W. DYOTT *Diary* Oct. (1907) II. 212 A platform was erected in front of the *winning chair [on Lichfield Race Course] to accommodate the ladies who were to deliver the standards [to a regiment]. 1856 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Sports* 11. i. x. §4. 358/1 They will not leave their horses when called upon, in order to pass the winning-chair first. 1857 G. A. LAWRENCE *Guy Liv.* iv, His horse... came down heavily into the ditch of the *winning-field. 1878 *Winning-gallery [see GALLERY *sb.* 9]. 1891 [see HAZARD *sb.* 6]. c1790 *Encycl. Brit.* (1797) V. 101/1 The first working or excavation made from the coal-pit, commonly called the winning mine or *winning headway. 1846 BROCKETT *N.C. Gloss.* (ed. 3), *Winning headways*, two parallel excavations... The principal exploring drifts of a colliery, for opening out the seams for the daily supply. 1878 J. MARSHALL *Ann. Tennis* 160 *Winning-openings, the dedans, winning-gallery, and grille. *Ibid.* 163 (Laws §20) Either player wins a chase if he serve or return the ball so that it enter a winning opening. 1895 *Daily Tel.* 12 Nov. 6/7 A *winning pit of the Blackwell Colliery Company. 1759 A. MURPHY *Let.* 22 July in D. Garrick *Private Corr.* (1831) I. 101 You must judge whether they [*sc.* horses] are marketable, or likely to tire before they come to the *winning-post. 1790 T. WILKINSON *Mem.* II. 194 Miss Notable and Miss Prue from the archness and excellent acting of Mrs Abington, seemed to have the decision at the winning post for fame. 1820 COMBE *Syntax* xx. 164 In learned labours some proceed, But I prefer the racing steed:... Others some pow'rful station boast; But let me gain the winning-post. 1824 SCOTT *St. Ronan's* x, The best horse ever started may slip a shoulder before he get to the winning-post. 1886 C. E. PASCOE *London of To-day* xviii. (ed. 3) 170 The starting-point at Putney Bridge... the winning-post at Mortlake. 1951 *Times* (Weekly Ed.) 30 May 3 Meals are landmarks, milestones which must be passed before the winning-post of bed-time is finally and thankfully reached.

†'winning, *vbl. sb.*² *Sc. Obs.* [f. WIN v.² + -ING¹.] Dwelling, habitation. Also *attrib.*

c1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xl. (Ninian) 1101 Ilkane a sere gat held away, Til pai come til pare wyunny[n]g-place. c1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* xxvi. 665 His wyunnyng þare he thoct to ma. c1475 *Rauf Coilyear* 227 Quhair is thy maist wyunnyng? 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* v. iv. 103 Als swiftilie as the dow affrait doith fe Furth of hir hole, and rycht darn wyunnyng wane. c1575 *Balfour's Practicks* (1754) 541 His awin proper house, quhair he has his winning, rising, and lying day and nicht.

'winning, *vbl. sb.*³ *Sc.* and *dial.* [f. WIN v.³ + -ING¹.] The action of WIN v.³

1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 242 Better it do that than become again damp after only a partial winning, when the meat loses much of its flavour.

'winning, *ppl. a.* [f. WIN v.¹ + -ING².] That wins, in various senses.

†1. Gaining, or by which one gains, money or wealth; profitable, lucrative. *Obs.*

1435 MISYNN *Fire of Love* 1. xi. 24 Full hard treuly it is a wyunnyng craft or office to haue & not to be couetus. 1530 PALSGR. 329/2 Wyunnyng, gaynyng, questueux.

2. Gaining, or resulting in, victory or superiority in a contest or competition; victorious. In U.S. colloq. use also in superlative. *winning hazard*: see HAZARD *sb.* 7b. *winning stroke*, a stroke that gains a point in a game, or one by which the game is won.

1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* III. ii. 12 Learne me how to loose a winning match. 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* 290 Contemning that Emperour who euerie where in civile warre went away on the winning hand. 1822 SCOTT *Nigel*

Introd. Epist., I am not displeased to find the game a winning one. 1855 *Poultry Chron.* II. 486 Neither should I have given the first place to the winning Dorking cock. 1860 LÖWENTHAL *Morphy's Games Chess* 56 The winning move. 1884 *Marshall's Tennis Cuts* 114 In playing against a fine player, it is imperative to go for a winning-stroke whenever there is a fair opening. 1974 *State* (Columbia, S. Carolina) 5 Mar. 6-A/7 John Bates, coach of Maryland-Eastern Shore, at 26-1 the winningest college basketball team in the nation. 1979 *Tucson* (Arizona) *Citizen* 20 Sept. 5p/1 Slota defeated Sarah Cap, the winningest active greyhound with 113 career victories. 1985 *Dirt Bike* Mar. 23/2 (Advt.), That's the moment you know what the winningest racers and most satisfied riders know.

3. Persuasive (now *rare* or *obs.*); alluring, attractive, 'taking'. †Also *adverb.*, winningly.

1596 *Edward III.* 1. ii. 140 What needs a tongue to such a speaking eie, That more perswads then winning Oratorie? c1620 FLETCHER *False One* III. ii, Eyes that are the winningst Orators. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* IV. 479 Less faire, Less winning soft, less amiable milde. 1700 T. BROWN *Amusem. Ser. & Com.* Wks. 1720 III. 54 The Winning Air, the Bewitching Glance, the Amorous Smirk. 1713 ADDISON *Cato* 1. iv, While winning Mildness and attractive Smiles Dwell in her Looks. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* vii. xii. ¶6 You have very winning ways with you; you make me do just whatever you please. 1880 'MARK TWAIN' *Tramp Abr.* xviii, There is a friendly something about the German character which is very winning.

Hence (in sense 3) 'winningly *adv.*, 'winningness.

1663 COWLEY *Cutter Colman St.* IV. i, I know thou canst speak *winningly. 1803 JANE AUSTEN *Susan* vi. (1879) 213 Her voice and manner winningly mild. 1934 G. B. SHAW *On Rocks* 1. 208 *Sir Arthur* [winningly] And do you, Miss Brollikins, feel that you have got nothing? 1980 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 20 June 702/2 Clothes and hair styles [of petty criminals in the 1870s] repay scrutiny: no one ever dressed up or posed winningly for these pictures. 1727 BAILEY vol. II, *Insinuatingness*... insinuating Nature... *Winningness. 1796 MME. D'ARBLAY *Camilla* 1. ii, I think Camilla's [face] so much prettier; I mean in point of winningness. 1864 PUSEY *Daniel* viii. 541 Error has no intrinsic winningness for man.

†'winninghead. *Obs. rare.* In 4 wyunnynghede. [f. WINNING *ppl. a.* + -HEAD.] Disposition to get gain; covetousness.

c1315 SHOREHAM III. 286 Al hys þefte þat man test Myd wyl of wyunnynghede.

||winninish. Also winin(n)ish, -anische, winnonish, -iche, wen-, wan(n)anische, -oniche, etc. Anglicized forms of the native name of the Labrador fresh-water salmon: see OUANANICHE.

1883 *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* (ed. 4) 160A Winnoniche. 1888 GOODE *Amer. Fishes* 445 In the Saguenay the Winninish has easy... access to the sea.

Winnipeg ('winɪpɛɡ). The name of the capital of Manitoba, Canada, used *attrib.* in *Winnipeg couch*, a couch convertible into a double bed.

1954 S. M. RUSSELL *Living Earth* 233 He sat on the Winnipeg couch that stood at one end of the room. 1962 J. ONSLOW *Bowler-Hatted Cowboy* viii. 74 Beneath an old army blanket I drowsed to sleep on my Winnipeg couch. 1973 B. BROADFOOT *Ten Lost Years* xiii. 153 A couch, one of those Winnipeg couch things in the living room.

Hence 'Winnipegger, a native or inhabitant of Winnipeg.

1882 G. M. GRANT *Picturesque Canada* I. 288 Winnipeggers... never make comparisons with any city smaller than Chicago. 1936 MENCKEN *Amer. Lang.* (ed. 4) x. 549 Richmond, Winnipegger, Montrealer, Lynner. 1971 J. GRAY *Red Lights* ii. 27 They watched Winnipeggers frantically planting trees all over the place.

winnle, *Sc.* and *dial.* form of WINDLE.

winnock ('winək). *Sc.* Forms: 5 wyndok, 6 vynd-, windok, vind-, wyndak, vindock, wink (7 windick, 9 windock), 6- winnock. [*Sc.* development of *windoye*, WINDOW *sb.*; cf. *elbock* for **elboze*, ELBOW *sb.*, and WARLOCK. Cf. Gael. *uinneag*, Ir. *fuinneog*.] A window.

1492 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 200 Gevin... for Estland burdis to durris and wyndokis... v li. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) III. 477 To ane windok of the presourt scho 3eid. 1582 in Campbell *Church of Kirkaldy* vii. (1904) 63 Yat William Crosby mak ye kirk and glaissen winkes clean ilk Setterday. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 436 A gret cannoun Bullat... cam in at the Kirk winnock. 1682 *Rec. Burgh Lanark* (1893) 210 That furthwith ther be ports provydit for four ports... with windicks. c1730 RAMSAY *To Æolus* 6 To fuff at winnocks and cry 'Wow!' 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* xxv, Mony a time I ha helped Jenny Dennison out o' the winnock. 1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 132 The windocks scarce wi' beams did lauff, Whan bangit up Sir Tullidaff.

b. *attrib.*, as *winnock-bunker* [BUNKER 1], -*nailed*, -*pane*, -*sole* (= WINDOW-SOLE); *winnock-bred*, -*brod* [BRED *sb.*, BROD *sb.*], a window-shutter.

1513 *Rentale Dunkeldense* (S.H.S. 1915) 281, 60 lie windok naile. 1546 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* VIII. 453 For glew to the wyndak breddis. 1790 A. WILSON *2nd Ep. to Jas. Kennedy* Poet. Wks. (1846) 118 And Natures' winnock-brods are closin' Across the lift. 1790 BURNS *Tam o' Shanter* 119 A winnock-bunker in the east. 1896 CROCKETT *Grey Man* i. 10 Put the Bible for a keepsake in your winnock sole.

winnow ('winəʊ), *sb.* Also 6 -owe. [f. next.]

1. A contrivance for winnowing grain, etc.; a winnowing-fan or the like.

1580 H. F. *Pelegrom. Syn. Sylva* 126 A Fan or a Winnowe. **1766** *Compl. Farmer* s.v. *Threshing*, The casting-shovel is much more expeditious than... the common winnow with sails. **1818** R. P. KNIGHT *Symb. Lang.* 132 Osiris has the winnow in one hand, and the hook of attraction in the other. **1890** *Sci. Amer.* 14 June 374/2 [Leaves of Palmyra palm] largely employed for making pans, bags, winnows [etc.].

2. An act of winnowing or a motion resembling it, as the swing of a pendent mass, the sweep of wings.

1802 COLERIDGE *Picture* 148 How solemnly the pendent ivy-mass Swings in its winnow. **1829** *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 3) III. 454 Some degree of humidity... which should be swept away by the winnow of a stirring breeze. **1851** MOIR *Birth of Flowers* v, From every winnow of her wings.

winnow ('winəʊ), *v.* Forms: *a.* 1 windwian, 2 windwin, 3 -en, *Orm.* winndwenn, 4 wyn-, windewe, wyndwe, 4-5 wyndowe, 4-7 windowe, 5 wyndou, -oe, 5-6 wyndo, (6 wyendo, *Sc.* vyndou, wando), 5- (now *north. dial.*) window (9 winder). *β.* 4-5 wynwe, wynnewe, 4-6 wynewe, 5 wynou, wenowe, 5-6 wynowe, 6 wynew, wynnow(e, winowe, *Sc.* wonnow, 6-7 winnowe, (8 *dial.* winner), 6- winnow. [OE. *windwian*, *f. wind* WIND *sb.*¹; cf. OE. *windwigeaf* chaff, *windwigsife* winnowing-sieve. Other verbal formations of the same meaning are Goth. *diswinþjan* to scatter like chaff, ON. *vinza* (:—**windisōjan*), and L. *ventilare* (*f. ventus* wind). See also WIND *v.*³]

1. *trans.* To expose (grain or other substances) to the wind or to a current of air so that the lighter particles (as chaff or other refuse matter) are separated or blown away; to clear of refuse material by this method.

a. **900** O.E. *Martyrol.* 7 Mar. 36 He... corn pærsc & pæt windwode. **c1175** *Lamb. Hom.* 85 In þe deie of liureisun hwense god almihtin wule windwin pet er wes ipor[s]chen. **c1200** ORMIN 1530 þa winndwesst tu þin þrosshenn corn. **a1225** *Ancr. R.* 270 Ane wummon... pet windwede hweate. **c1400** MAUNDEV. xiii. (1919) I. 71 He... let wyndwe the askes in the wynd. **c1420** *Liber Placorum* (1862) 7 þen wyndo hit wele, nede þou mot. **1469** *Pumpton Cor.* (Camden) 21 Also that you gar the malt be windowd. **1549** *Rec. Elgin* (New Spald. Cl. 1903) I. 96 Quhatsumever personn was apprehendit wandoand corne in the hie gett. **1579** *Nottingham Rec.* IV. 190 No mann shall wyndo aney corne in the strettes. **1614** *Manchester Cert. Leet Rec.* (1885) II. 296 Inconvenience by ye often vsinge to Windowe... Corne in the Streets. **1729** P. WALKDEN *Diary* (1866) 45 Windowed my wheat the chaff out of it.

β. **1382** WYCLIF *Ruth* iii. 2 In this nyȝt he wynewith the flore of his baril. **c1440** *Promp. Parv.* 530/1 Wynwyn ('P. wynwin), *ventilo*, **c1450** *Mirk's Festial* 185 Then made he to take vp þe bonys... and bren hom, and aftyr wynou ham yn þe wynde. **1523-34** FITZHERB. *Husb.* §35 In some countreys... they do fan their corne... if it be well wynewed or fande, it wyl be solde the derer. **1573-80** TUSSEER *Husb.* (1878) 125 More often ye turne, more pease ye out spurne, Yet winnow them in, er carrege begin. **1697** DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* i. 400 And in the Sun your golden Grain display, And thrash it out, and winnow it by Day. **1825** *Gentl. Mag.* Mar. 216 It [sc. the coffee-berry] is then winnowed, and goes into the hands of the pickers. **1855** E. FORBES *Lit. Papers* ix. 231 The tea is afterwards winnowed and sifted, so as to free it from impurities. **1893** BRIDGES *Winnowers* v, A steady muffled din, By which we knew that threshed corn Was winnowing.

b. fig. To subject to a process likened to the winnowing of grain, in order to separate the various parts or elements, esp. the good from the bad; hence, to clear of worthless or inferior elements.

1382 WYCLIF *Jer.* li. 2 Y shal sende in to Babilon wyneweres [1388 wyndeweris] and thei shul wynewe [1388 wyndewe] it. **1548** UDALL *Erasm. Par. Luke* iii. 15-18 He shall... there winnowe euery creature, trying them with the wynde of the crosse and of afflictions. **1597** SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV.* iv. i. 194. **1613** — *Hen. VIII.* v. i. 111. **1646** J. WHITAKER *Uzziah* Ded. A 3 b, His [sc. Satan's] desire is to winnow you; if he can ruin you he knows he ruins the Kingdom. **1681** DRYDEN *Abs. & Achit.* i. 112 That Plot... Not weigh'd or winnow'd by the Multitude, But swallow'd in the Mass. **1699** BENTLEY *Phal.* 407, I cannot abuse my Reader's Patience in winnowing and sifting it, since the whole is nothing but Chaff. **1829** SOUTHEY *Sir T. More* (1831) I. 335, I wish it had been deemed advisable to have winnowed the Kalendar. **1844** H. H. WILSON *Brit. India* III. 456 After winnowing the list and excluding those who were considered not entitled to vote. **1875** MERIVALE *Gen. Hist. Rome* lxix. 563 The storm had no doubt the effect of winnowing the multitude of professing disciples.

c. absol. or intr.

c1200 ORMIN 10483 þat ure Laferrd Iesu Crist... Himm sholde bringnenn inn hiss hannnd hiss winndell forr to winndwenn. **1388** WYCLIF *Eccles.* v. 11 Wyndewe thes not in to ech wynd. **1573-80** TUSSEER *Husb.* (1878) 56 Some vseth to winnow, some vseth to fan. **1621** J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Superbiae Flagellum* C 1 b, Plant, graft, hedg, ditch, thresh, winnow, buy & sel. **1647** FULLER *Good Th. in Worse Times* 92 He would Fan, as he doth winnow. **1825** *Yorks. Garland* etc. 16 Ah can milk, kern, fother, beak, brew, shear, winder. **1852** MRS. E. M. PITMAN *Mission Life in Greece* (1881) 145 To help them so to winnow that they cast not away the wheat with the chaff.

2. *trans.* (with that which is separated as obj.)

a. To separate or drive off (lighter or refuse particles) by the process described in 1; *fig.* to separate (the worthless part from the valuable); to get rid of, clear away, eliminate (something undesirable).

In the earliest quots. a literalism from L. *ventilare*.

c825 *Vesp. Psalter* xliiii. 6 [xliv. 5] In ðe fiond ure we windwið. **1382** WYCLIF *Deut.* xxxiii. 17 In hem he shal wyndowe gentiys, vnto the termes of the erthe. **1382** — *Jer.* xlix. 36 Y shal wynewe [1388 wyndewe] them in to alle these windus. **1387** TREvisa *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 341 þey... wynewede þe askes away with þe wynde. **c1390** *Form of Cury* in Warner *Antiq. Culin.* (1791) 4 Hule hem wele, and windewe out the hulkes. **1606** SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* i. iii. 28 Distinction with a lowd and powrefull fan, Puffing at all, winnowes the light away. **1642** MILTON *Apol. Smecl.* xii. 53 Do but winnow their chaffe from their wheat, ye shall see their great heape shrink. **1781** COWPER *Hope* 417 Your office is to winnow false from true. **1869** LOWELL *Under the Willows* 229 And lets the kind breeze, with its delicate fan, Winnow the heat from out his dank grey hair. **1884** TENNYSON *Becket* i. i. 84 And all my doubts I fling from me like dust, Winnow and scatter all scruples to the wind. **1893** LIDDON, etc. *Pusey* I. xvi. 359 The appointment... winnowed out the merely sentimental element from among adherents of the young Movement.

b. To separate (the valuable part from the worthless); (now esp. with *out*) to extract, select, or obtain (something desirable) by such separation.

1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* v. v. 134 Giue answer to this Boy, and do it freely, Or... bitter torture shall Winnow the truth from falshood. **1647** MAY *Hist. Part.* i. vii. 73 These inventions were but sives, made of purpose to winnow the best men. **1685** BAXTER *Paraphr.* N. T. Matt. iii. 12 He will winnow and thoroughly separate the wheat from the Chaff, the Faithful from the Rebellious. **a1797** H. WALPOLE *Geo. II* (1847) II. vii. 244, I live too near the times... to be able... to winnow the truth from such a variety of interested... relations. **1827** SCOTT *Chron. Canongate* Introd., In winnowing out the few grains of truth which are contained in this mass of empty fiction. **1843** CARLYLE *Past & Pr.* ii. viii, To winnow out the man that is to govern them. **1897** ALLBUTT *Syst. Med.* II. 905 Such persons are probably many, but there is no means of winnowing them out.

c. To waft, diffuse. *poet.*

1764 GOLDSM. *Trav.* 122 While sea-born gales their gelid wings expand To winnow fragrance round the smiling land. **1821** CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* II. 22 The woolly clouds... Keep winnowing down their drifting sleet and snows. **1871** B. TAYLOR *Faust* I. i. 23 With wings that winnow blessing From Heaven through Earth I see them pressing.

3. In various transf. uses (cf. L. *ventilare* and FAN *v.* 2-5): *a.* †To brandish or flourish (*obs.*); to beat (the air) with or as with wings; to flap (the wings), to wave (the fins); also *intr.* or with cognate obj., to follow a course with flapping wings, or the like.

1579 GOSSON *Sch. Abuse* Apol. (Arb.) 75 Players haue chosen such a Champion, as when I giue the Allarm, winnowes his weapon. **1667** MILTON *P.L.* v. 270 He... Sables between worlds & worlds, with steddie wing Now on the polar windes, then with quick Fann Winnows the buxom Air. **1728-46** THOMSON *Spring* 745 Their self-taught wings Winnow the waving element. **1793** [see WINNOWING *ppl. a.*]. **1795** BURNS 'Now spring has clad the groves in green' iv, The waken'd lav'rock... Winnowing blythe her dewy wings In morning's rosy eye. **1820** SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* ii. i. 27 Her sea-green plumes Winnowing the crimson dawn. **1844**, **1856** [see WINNOWING *vbl. sb.* 2]. **1852** MRS. C. MEREDITH *My Home in Tasmania* II. xviii. 252 Their [sc. owls'] ghostly shapes winnowing silently around in the twilight. **1865** [see WINNOWING *ppl. a.*]. **1873** GEIKIE *Geol. Sketches* iv. (1882) 78 In winnowing the air with his arms, he had struck against a waggon standing on the roadway. **1887** NEWTON in *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 200/1 After... reaching a height at which it appears a mere speck, where it winnows a random zigzag course, it... shoots downwards.

b. Of the air, etc.: *trans.* To fan with a breeze. *intr.* To blow fitfully or in gusts.

1796 CAMPBELL *Caroline* II. ix, Where, winnowed by the gentle air, Her silken tresses darkly flow. **1820** [see WINNOWING *ppl. a.*]. **1827** CLARE *Sheph. Cal.* 7 Falling snows that winnow by. **1892** AMÉLIE RIVES *Barbara Dering* xxvii, Here upon this great crest a purer air came winnowing in.

winnow-cloth. Forms: see WINNOW *v.* and CLOTH. A winnowing-sheet.

a. **1404** *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 398, 1 wyndowclath. **1547** *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 20/2 note, Ane windo clath containd 12 ellis. **1599** in *Antiquary* XXXII. 243 One window cloth. **1894** *Northumbld. Gloss.*, *Winda-claith*, winnowing cloth; now called a barn-sheet.

β. **1552** HULOET, Wynew cloth, *ventilabrum*. **1588-9** *Extr. Burgh Rec. Glasgow* (1876) I. 129 Item, ane wonnow clayth, ane seif, ane sek, ane riddill, price xl s. **1608** TOPSELL *Serpents* 262 Vnder her head a hard Oken-logge, with the Winnow-cloth, and the one end of an old Hop-bagge, cast ouer in steed of a Couerlet. **1790** GROSE *Prov. Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Winner-cloth*, a large cloth on which corn is dighted or winnowed.

winnowed ('winəʊd), *ppl. a.* [f. WINNOW *v.* + -ED¹.] In various senses of the verb.

The interpretation of quot. 1602 has been much disputed; the passage is *perh. corrupt*.

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* v. ii. 201 The most fond and winnowed opinions. **1606** — *Tr. & Cr.* III. ii. 174 Such a winnowed puritie in loue. **1611** FLORIO, *Ago*,... the chaffe comming from winnowed or bolted corne. **1697** DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 217 When... winnow'd Chaff, by western winds is blown. **1791** COWPER *Iliad* v. 229 Their steeds... eating winnowed grain. **1900** MORLEY *Cromwell* II. v. 183 Faith that the God of Battles was on their side nerved its chosen and winnowed ranks with stern confidence.

winnowster ('winəʊs(r)). [f. WINNOW *v.* + -STER¹.]

1. One who winnows; a person engaged in winnowing; also *fig.* (cf. next 1 b).

1382 [see WINNOW *v.* 1 b]. **1538** ELYOT, *Ventilator*, a vanner or winnowster of corne. **1548** UDALL *Erasm. Par. Luke* Pref. Bijb, As a winnowster pourgeth the chaffe from the corne. **c1611** CHAPMAN *Iliad* v. 497 As in sacred floores

of barnes, vpon corne-winnowsters flies The chaffe. **1765** *Museum Rust.* IV. 209 The seed carried into an heap near the winnowers is shook up a little by a caver. **1849** WHITTIER *Leg. St. Mark* xiv, Scattered... Like chaff before the winnowster's fan. **1871** R. B. VAUGHAN *S. Thomas of Aquin* II. 646 He did not take for granted, like the Sophist... He was a winnowster and a sifter. **1915** F. S. OLIVER *Ordeal by Battle* II. vii. 176 [War] is a great winnowster of true men from shams.

2. An apparatus for winnowing; a winnowing-machine.

1605-6 in *Archdeaconry of Stow Wills* 1603-6 lf. 110 (MS.) To my sonne Thomas Collinsonne my wyndyers with the best of my tooles. **1862** J. WILSON *Farming* 164 The winnowers used in such cases do not differ in construction from those worked hy hand. **1883** *Cassell's Fam. Mag.* Aug. 528/1 The beans [of coffee are] then put through a winnowster. **1890** *Engineer* 12 Dec. 472/1 Threshing machines are popular here, because the grain does not have to run through a winnowster.

winnowing ('winəʊɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. WINNOW *v.* + -ING¹.]

1. The process described s.v. WINNOW *v.* 1.

a **1225** *Ancr. R.* 270 Recabas sunen... ifunden þe wummon astunt of hire wyndwunge & iueollen aslepe. **1435** MISYNN *Fire of Love* i. ix. 18 In þe wyndouyng þe caff is oute cast. **1538** ELYOT, *Ventilator*, a fannyinge or wynewyng. **1586** *Shuttleworth's Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 25 Wyndouinge of barlie. **1695** *Rector's Bk. Clayworth* (1910) 113 We look'd in to y^e wheat... & upon winnowing in order to sale, found it in good condition. **1755** in *6th Rep. Dep. Kpr. Rec.* App. II. 128 [A machine] for the Dressing, Winnowing, and Cleansing of Flax. **1866** ROGERS *Agric. & Prices* I. xv. 261 The winnowing was done by women.

b. fig.: see WINNOW *v.* 1 b.

a **1400** *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* xxiii. 437 Whon þe wynewyng schal be-ginne To parte euel from good. **1636** T. GOODWIN *Child of Light* 44 In these commotions & winnowings of spirit. **1679** in *Jrnl. Friends Hist. Soc.* (1919) XVI. 146 This being a time of Trying & winnowing doth onely blow away the chaffe. **1851** GALLENGA *Italy* v. 303 Instead of undergoing a thorough sifting and winnowing, the free corps fell every day into a more deplorable state of disorder. **1913** *Athenæum* 7 June 609/1 He has... subjected the correspondence... to a rigorous winnowing.

2. Of wings, etc.: see WINNOW *v.* 3. Chiefly *poet.*

1844 MRS. BROWNING *Rhyme of Duchess May* Concl. iv, Angel-wings, with their holy winnowings. **1856** KINGSLEY *Glaucus* (ed. 3) 120 Small cuttle-fish... put into a jar, will hover and dart in the water... by rapid winnowings of their glassy side-fins. **1897** F. THOMPSON *New Poems* 52 The wings Hear I not in prauentien winnowings Of coming songs, that lift my hair and stir it?

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (in sense 1), as *winnowing operation, place*; esp. in names of appliances for winnowing, as *winnowing-basket, -cloth, -fan* (see FAN *sb.*¹), *-machine, -mill, -sheet, -shovel*.

1375 *Doc. Doune Manor, Wandswoth* (Westm. Chapter Munim.), 1 wyndwyschete debilis. **1378** *Ibid.*, 1 Wynfynschete de Canabis. **1382** WYCLIF *Matt.* iii. 12 Whos wynewyng cloth [is] in his hond. **1382** — *Luke* iii. 17 Whos wynewyng tool in his hond. **1388** — *Jer.* xv. 7 A wyndewyng instrument. **1548** UDALL *Erasm. Par. Luke* iii. 15-18 He shall make clene the floore of his winnowyng place. **1710** O. SANSOM *Acc. Life* 35 They took away my Winnowing-Fan, which was worth 8s. **1773** *Pennsylv. Gaz.* 3 Feb. Suppl. 2/3 A winnowing-mill. **1780** EDMONDSON *Her.* II. Gloss. s.v. *Basket*, A Winnowing-Basket. **1805** R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* I. 31 Winnowing-Machines. Machines of this sort are in pretty general use, where thrashing mills... are not erected. **1862** RAMSAY *Remin.* vi. (ed. 8) 243 The... man succeased his winnowing operations. **1879** B. TAYLOR *Germ. Lit.* viii. 253 The winnowing-mill of Time makes sad havoc with works considered immortal in their day. **1886** S. W. LINC. *Gloss.* s.v., A wandering sheet.

'winnowing, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING².] That winnows, in various senses of the verb.

1651 J. READING *Guide to Holy City* 347 Tentation only burneth out the drosse; it is as a winnowing winde. **1651** RUTHERFORD *Let. to Lady Kenmure* 28 Sept., We are fallen in winnowing & trying times. **1793** WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Ode to Imoc.* Wks. 1812 III. 223 The winnowing Butterfly with painted wing. **1820** KEATS *Autumn* ii, Thy hair soft-lifted by the winnowing wind. **1865** SWINBURNE *Poems & Ball.*, *Faustine* 110 After change of soaring feather And winnowing fin.

Hence 'winnowingly *adv.*

1834 M. SCOTT *Cruise Midge* (1859) 265 The wing of the slow-sailing owl flitted winnowingly across.

†winnow-sheet. *Obs.* [f. WINNOW *v.*] A winnowing-sheet.

c1394 P. Pl. *Crede* 435 His wijf walked him wip... In a cutted cote... Wrapped in a wynewe schete to weren hire for weders. **14...** *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 618/38 *Ventilabrum*... a wynewe [printed wynewe] schete. **1577** in H. Hall *Scs. Eliz.* *Age* (1886) App. i. 154, 16 sacks & two window sheets. **1688** HOLME *Armoury* III. iii. 74/1 To make Wind with a Winnow sheet. **1808** *Sporting Mag.* XXXI. 113 Covered with a winnow-sheet.

†winnowster. Chiefly *Sc. Obs.* Also 4 wynewestere; *Sc.* 6 vyndoustar, windostar, 7 windister; 9 winnister. [f. WINNOW *v.* + -STER.] = WINNOWER (orig. applied to a woman).

c1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 148 Par ventresse [gloss a wynewestere] en ventre Payn de furment entre. **1505** *Exchequer Rolls Scot.* XII. 673 Item to the vyndoustaris iiii bollis aitis. **1508** *Rentale Dunkeldense* (S.H.S. 1915) 251 For the windostaris, 2 b[olls]. **1618** in A. L. Ritchie *Churches St. Baldred* (1880) 170 That some women... being ye Ladies windisteris, did spred muick ye last Sabbath at afternoone. **1825** JAMIESON, *Winnowster*, winnister, *sb.*, a machine for winnowing corn. *Aberd.*

winny ('wɪni). *U.S. slang*. Var. WIENIE. Also *Comb.*, as *winny-wurst*. Cf. WEENY *sb.*²

1867 J. CHRISTISON *Crime & Criminals* 37 For a week longer he served at his usual business, which was that of peddling 'winnies', mostly among the saloons. 1914 B. TARKINGTON *Penrod* xix. 199 Winnies! Here's your hot winnies! Hot winny-wurst! 1929 T. WOLFE *Look Homeward, Angel* xx. 272 Fortune out of winnies. They're hot, they're hot.

winny, obs. or dial. var. WHINNY.

wino ('waɪnəʊ). *slang* (orig. *U.S.*). [f. WIN(E) *sb.*¹ + -o².] An habitual drinker of cheap wine; an alcoholic or drunkard, esp. one who is destitute.

1915 *World* (N.Y.) *Mag.* 9 May 14/3 Wineo, a wine bum; known on the Pacific Coast, especially in California. 1926 J. BLACK *You can't Win* xii. 153 The wine dumps, where wine bums or 'winos' hung out. 1946 [see JUICEO *a.* 2]. 1957 J. KEROUAC *On Road* i. i. 9 Working... without pause eight hours a night... in greasy wino pants with a frayed fur-lined jacket and beat shoes that flap. 1958 *Times* 24 Nov. p. viii/5 In fact, Canadians have reserved the term 'wino' for the most reprehensible of their drinkers. 1961 *Guardian* 28 Feb. 8/7 A conglomeration of hop-heads, winos, overworked policemen. 1967 *Sunday Truth* (Austral.) 16 July 28/4 To save gas she washes in public toilets, and if she feels like a drink she has a swig from a wino's bottle at South Brisbane. 1973 J. MARKS *Mick Jagger* (1974) 106 That sonuvabitch Dean Martin... that lousy wino wop! 1979 *Evening Standard* 2 Mar. 19/4, I am in sympathy with the plea by Mrs A. L. Hughes for the survival of buskers, but feel her attack on 'winos' is both misdirected and lacking in human understanding. 1981 M. LEITCH *Silver's City* xii. 103 He saw the winos watching him out of bleary eyes as they huddled on their benches passing their brown bottles to and fro.

winraw, **winrow**: see WINDROW.

winsome ('wɪnsəm), *a.* Forms: 1, 5 wynsum, 2-3 wunsum, 2, 4 wunsum, 3 wonsom, 4 winsom, wonsum; 7-9 *n.* dial. wunsome, 8- (in 8 only *Sc.*) winsome. [OE. *wynsum* = OS. *wunsam*, OHG. *wunnisam* (MHG. *wun(ne)sam*), f. *wyn*(*n* WIN *sb.*² + -*sum* -SOME. Sense 3 came into the literary language from northern dialects.]

1. OE. and ME. senses.

† 1. Pleasant, delightful, agreeable. *Obs.*

Beowulf 612 Dær wæs hælepa hleahtor, hlyn swynsode, word wæron wynsume. *a* 900 *O.E. Martyrol.* 3 May, þær com upp of þære eorðan wynsumes stences rec. *a* 1000 *Phœnix* 13 þæt is wynsum wong, wealdas grene. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 35 Hit walð me þunchen þet sefeste beð, and þet wunsemeste þet ic efre ibad. *c* 1205 *LAY.* 1187 He makede þi þon weofode a swiðe wunsum [*c* 1275 wonsom] fur. *a* 1225 *Juliana* 70 Hit coleda anon ant warð hire as wunsum as euer eni welech weter. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5792 A wonsun [sic] thede, A land rinnand bath honi and milk.

† 2. Kindly, gracious; merciful. *Obs. rare.*

c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* v. xxii. (1890) 472 He wæs se swetesta lareow & se wynsumesta [L. *suauissimus*]. *c* 1205 *LAY.* 153 Feier wæs þe wimmon & wunsum hire monnen. *a* 1300 *E.E. Psalter* ci[i]. 3 þat winsom es to alle pine wickenesses.

II. Modern senses.

3. Pleasing or attractive in appearance, handsome, comely; of attractive nature or disposition, of winning character or manners.

1677 W. NICOLSON in *Trans. R. Soc. Lit.* (1870) Ser. II. IX. 322 *Wunsome*, neat, pleasant. 1724 W. HAMILTON *Braes of Yarrow* i, Busk ye, busk ye, my bony bony bride; Busk ye, busk ye, my winsome marrow. 1792 BURNS *My Wife's a winsome wee thing* i, She is a winsome wee thing, She is a handsome wee thing, She is a bonnie wee thing. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* xiv, If the young folk liked ane anither, they wad make a winsome couple. 1833 H. COLERIDGE *Poems*, *Sonn.* viii, The rugged root that bare the winsome flower Is weak and wither'd. 1843 LYTON *Last Bar.* iv. viii, I know thou art fair and winsome. 1873 DIXON *Two Queens* v. vi. I. 276 Henry broke into his winsome laugh. 1889 BUCHANAN *Heir of Linne* xix, She looked very winsome in her plain black dress.

4. Cheerful, joyous, gay. *dial.*

1787 GROSE *Prov. Gloss.*, *Wunsome*, smart, trimly dressed, lively, joyous. N. 1825 BROCKETT *N.C. Gloss.*, *Winsome*, *wunsome*, lively, cheerful, gay.

Hence 'winsomely *adv.*', 'winsomeness in senses 3 and 4 of the adj. (OE. *wynsumlice*, *wynsumness* did not survive.)

17... *Jock o the Side* xxv. in *Child Ballads* vi. 480 O Jock, sae winsomely's ye ride, Wi baith your feet upo ae sidel 1825 JAMIESON, *Winsomely*, in a cheerful and engaging way. *Winsomeness*, cheerfulness and engaging sweetness. 1875 MRS. RANOLPH *Wild Hyacinth* i, She could not have been called beautiful, but there was a winsomeness in Hyacinth Ettrick's face that rendered criticism a hard and ungracious task. 1883 MRS. BISHOP in *Leisure Hour* 83/1 Who came forward and most winsomely shook hands with us.

Winstonian (wɪn'stɒniən), *a.* [f. the name of Sir Winston Leonard Spencer Churchill, British prime minister 1940-5 and 1951-5: see -IAN.] Of, pertaining to, or characteristic of Sir Winston Churchill. Cf. CHURCHILLIAN *a.*

1905 W. S. CHURCHILL *Let.* 9 May in R. S. Churchill *Winston S. Churchill* (1969) II. Compan. i. 391 It is v. kind of you to write me such a long letter. It will be carefully preserved among the Winstonian archives. 1945 S. SASSOON *Siegfried's Journey* viii. 79 The Winstonian exposition continued until Eddie reappeared with an apologetic intimation that Lord Fisher was growing restive. 1967 *Guardian* 16 May 8/6 Winstonian echoes to match the countless plaster busts in shop windows.

wint, obs. f. WIND *sb.*¹; obs. 3 sing. of WIND *v.*¹

wint, var. WENT.

winter ('wɪntə(r)), *sb.*¹ Forms: *Sing.* 1- winter; 3 *Orm.* winnterr, 3-7 wynter, (4 weinter, *Sc.* vyntir), 4-5 wintur, wintre, wyntre, wyntir, -ur, -yr(e), (4-6 vynter, *Sc.* vintir), 5 wintir, (wintare, winttur, whynter, vyntyr, 6 vintter). *Plural.* 1 wintru (*gen.* wintra), 2-5 wintre, 4-5 wyntre; *dat.* 1 wintrum, 2 wintron, 2-3 -en; 1-6 winter, (3 *Orm.* winnterr, 4 vynter, etc. as in *sing.*), 4-6 wynter; 1 wintras, 3-5 wintres, 4-5 wyntres, (4 winteris, -es, etc.), 4- wintres; 4-5 wyntren. [OE. *winter* str. m. = OFris. *winter*, OS. *wintar* (MLG., MDu., LG., Du. *winter*), OHG. *wintar* (MHG., G. *winter*), ON. *vetr*, earlier *vettr*, *vittr* (Sw., Da. *vinter*, from LG.), Goth. *wintrus* : -**wentrus*, prob. f. nasalized form of the Indo-Eur. base *wed-*, *wod-*, *ud-* to be wet, found in WET *a.*, WATER *sb.*, OTTER.

Originally a *u*-stem, OE. *winter* had regularly *gen.* (rare) and *dat. sing.* in -a; but the ordinary *gen. sing.* in -es, *dat. sing.* in -e, and *nom. pl.* in -as, in -u, and without inflection, show general assimilation to other declensions.]

1. *a.* The fourth and coldest season of the year, coming between autumn and spring; reckoned astronomically from the winter solstice to the vernal equinox, i.e. in the northern hemisphere from the 22nd of December to the 20th of March; in popular use comprising the months of December, January, and February (or, according to some, November, December, and January); also often in contradistinction to *summer*, the colder half of the year (cf. MIDWINTER). In the southern hemisphere corresponding in time to the northern summer.

(*a*) In general use. (Also personified.)

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxi. §1 On sumera hit bið wearm, & on wintra ceald. *a* 1000, *c* 1200, *a* 1225 [see SUMMER *sb.*¹ 1 (*a*).] *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 458 Ne recche ich nouht of wintres teone. 1377 *LANGL. P. Pl. B.* xvii. 226 As men may se in wyntre Ysekeles in euses þorw hete of þe sonne, Melteþ in a mynut while. 1382 *WYCLIF Isa.* xviii. 6 Alle the bestes of erthe vp on hym shul dwelle al wynter. *c* 1450 *CAPGRAVE Life St. Gilbert* (1910) 70 He wered no mo clothis in Wyntir þann in Somyr. *c* 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 766 Wyntur with his lokkys grey febble & old. *c* 1530 *Songs, Carols*, etc. (E.E.T.S.) 133 Wynter etythe, that somer getith. 1532-3 *Durham Househ. Bk.* (Surtees) 192 In agestamento unius equi in wynter, . . . 16d. 1551 *RECORDE Cast. Knowl.* (1556) 32 Haruest . . . continueth till the twelft day of December, and then doth the Son enter into Capricorn, & Winter beginneth. 1600 SHAKS. *A.Y.L.* v. iv. 142 You and you, are sure together, As the Winter to fowle Weather. 1647 *COWLEY Mistr.*, *Bathing in River* 28 When rig'orous Winter binds you up with Frost. 1719 [see SUMMER *sb.*¹ 1 (*a*).] 1786 BURNS *Two Dogs* 192 Thro' winter's cauld, or simmer's heat. 1820 *SHELLEY Sensit. Pl.* iii. 86 Winter came: the loud was his whip: One choppy finger was on his lip. 1824 *LOUDON Encycl. Gardening* (ed. 2) 893 The season called winter by the natives of South America, lasting from May to November. 1840 *DICKENS Old C. Shop* lii, Store of fire-wood for the winter.

(*b*) In particularized use, esp. with qualification, or as denoting this season in a certain year.

Beowulf 1128 Hengest ða ȝyt wælfagne winter wunode mid Finn. 971 *Blíckl. Hom.* 213 Wæs se winter eac þy geara toþæs grinn þæt manig man his feorh . . . gesealde. *c* 1205 *LAY.* 6034 Auere alche wintre inne Wales heo wuneden. 1375 *BARBOUR Bruce* iv. 338 In Rauchryne . . . [he] Lay till the vyntir neir wes gane. 1393 *LANGL. P. Pl. C.* xiii. 198 After an hard wynter. 1398 *TREVISA Barth. De P.R.* iv. iv. (Add. MS. 27944) If þe wintir tofore honde was as springinge tyme hote and moyst. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* iii. ii. 100, I warrant, her ragges and the Tallow in them, will burne a Poland Winter. 1634 *LAUD Diary* Oct. Dec., God bless us in the spring, after this green winter. 1740 C'TESS POMFRET in *C'tess Hartford's Corr.* (1805) II. 161 Mr. Walpole and Mr. Dashwood stay the winter. 1810 *CRABBE Borough* xxii. 232 A winter pass'd since Peter saw the town, And summer-lodgers were again come down.

(*c*) Phr. *winter and summer*: see SUMMER *sb.*¹ 1 (*c*).

b. With reference to the chilling or injurious effect of winter, esp. on plants; *transf.* a period resembling winter, wintry or cold weather.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 274 Se wind [zephyrus] towyrpð & ðawað ælne winter. 1599 *DALLAM in Early Voy. Levant* (Hakl. Soc.) 84 This day we had bothe wynter and somer. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* iii. vi. 33 The Swallow follows not Summer more willing, then we your Lordship. *Tim.* Nor more willingly leaues Winter, such Summer Birds are men. 1697 *DRYDEN Æneis* ix. 913 When . . . bellowing Clouds . . . with an armed Winter strew the Ground. 1757 [BURKE] *Europ. Settle.* *Amer.* vii. xxii. II. 241 The second sort, which . . . bears the winter better, is a more tall and vigorous plant. 1801 *Farmer's Mag.* Nov. 467 They stood the Winter well.

c. In fig. and allusive use, esp. in reference to old age, or to a time or state of affliction or distress.

1590 *GREENE Never too Late* (1600) D 1, I am driuen in the winter of my yeares to abide the brunt of all storms. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III.* i. i. 1 Now is the Winter of our Discontent, Made glorious Summer by this Son of Yorke. 1606 — *Tr. & Cr.* iv. v. 24. 1668 R. STEELE *Husbandman's Calling* iii. (1672) 35 Prosperity . . . nourisheth so many weeds, that the winter of affliction hath much ado to master them. 1746 *SHENSTONE Song, Winter* 16 When will relenting Delia chase

The winter of my soul? 1829 I. TAYLOR *Enthus.* x. 296 What has been done is not lost; the seed sown may spring up, even after a century of winter. 1849 *FROUOE Nem. Faith* vii. (ed. 2) 48 It is night and day . . . with all of us, if we want to keep in health. 'To be sure, now and then there will come a North Pole winter. 1869 TENNYSON *Passing of Arthur* 4 When the man was . . . In the white winter of his age.

2. Put for 'year': nearly always *pl.* with a numeral; often in expressions referring to a person's age.

In early use as a mere synonym of 'year'; later *poet.* or *rhet.*, chiefly in reference to advanced age or to a protracted period of hardship or misfortune (cf. 1 *c.* and SUMMER *sb.*¹ 2). See also THRINTER, TWINTER.

Beowulf 2209 Syððan Beowulfe bræde rice on hand ȝehwearf; he geheold tela fiftig wintru. *a* 900 *Saxon Geneal.* in *O.E. Texts* 179 Ða wæs agan his eldo xxiii wintra. *c* 1000 *Ag. Gosp.* John ii. 20 þis tempel wæs getimbrod on six & feowertigon wintron [Halton wintren]. 1154 *O.E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1137, & ðet lastede þa xix wintre wile Stephne was king. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 4 in *Lamb. Hom.* 159 þah ich bo a wintre ald to jung ich em on rede. *c* 1205 *LAY.* 9028 Thou and twenti wintre þis lond he iwalde. *Ibid.* 9695 Ah al oðer hit iwarð inne þan twam wintren. *c* 1275 *Passion of our Lord* 132 in *O.E. Misc.* 41 Vele wintre hit is ago þe prophete hit seyde. 1377 *LANGL. P. Pl. B.* xii. 3, I haue folwed þe in feithe þis fyue and fourty wyntre.

c 893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* i. xiv, þa Lacedemonia besætan þa burg Mæs[jan]e x winter. *a* 1000 *Be monna wyrðum* 9 God ana wat hwæt him weaxendum winter bringað. *c* 1200 *ORMIN* 15594 Fowwertig winterr ȝedenn forþ & ȝet tær tekenn sexe. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 919 Loth was fifti winter hold. 13... *Northern Passion* 935 (Camb. Gg. 5. 31) þis thre wynter. *c* 1386 *CHAUCER Monk's T.* 69 Fully twenty wynter yeeþ by yeere He hadde of Israel the gouernance. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (prose) lxx. 46 Til þai be o fiftene winter elde. 14... *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 128/175 The elder broþer hade a Sonne to clerke, Well of fyftene wynter of age. 1509 *BARCLAY Shyp of Folyes* (1874) l. 42 An hundreth wynter [ed. 1570 winters]. 1522 *World & Child* (facs.) A iij b, Now I am . . . xix. wynter olde.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1211 Wintres forð-wexen on ysaac. 13... *Cursor M.* 20832 (Edin.) þis leuedi . . . liuid bot wintres . . . vij. and .ix. *c* 1380 *WYCLIF Sel. Wks.* III. 502 Holy Kirke hæfs ben in erroure mony hundred wynters. *c* 1400 *St. Alexius* (Cotton) 261 A gayne xvij wyntersende. 1470-85 *MALORY Arthur* x. xxxiii. 467 Thus Anglydes endured yeres and wynters tyl Alysander was bygge and stronge. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II.* i. iii. 260 What is sixe Winters, they are quickly gone? 1612 *Two Noble K.* v. i. 114, I knew a man Of eightie winters. 1784 *COWPER Tiroc.* 210 Ere sixteen winters old. 1833 *TENNYSON Palace of Art* 139 A hundred winters snowed upon his breast.

c 1400 *St. Jer.* 15 *Tokens* 22 In þilk age he schal arise þat god was inne ded, Of litel more þan xxxⁱⁱ wyntren.

sing. *c* 1412 *HOCCEVE De Reg. Princ.* 5217 The ryot þat hæf þen with-in þis lande . . . many a wyntres space. *c* 1460 *METHAM Wks.* (1916) 84 Jon Metham . . . tranlatyd yt in-to Englysch the xxvth wyntyr off hys age.

3. *attrib.* passing into *adj.* *a.* = Of, pertaining to, or characteristic of winter; adapted or appropriate to, used or occupied in, winter; existing, appearing, active, flourishing, or performed in winter.

(*a*) of natural phenomena, animals, plants, etc.

a 1000 *Phœnix* 18 Ne wearm weder ne winterscur. 1390 *GOWER Conf. I.* 35 The stormy wynter shoures. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 3576 Wyntir-wedur. 1576-7 *Wills & Inv. Durham* (Surtees) II. 318, v whyes, of iij yeres olde, vj winter whies, 181. 1585 *HIGINS Junius' Nomencl.* 55/2 *Alcedo, alcyon*, . . . a winter birde commonly called the kings fisher. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* iv. iii. 110 Thou Flea, thou Nit, thou winter cricket thou. 1600 *Knaresb. Wills* (Surtees) I. 223, I geve to Anne . . . one old winter stocke of bees. 1600 SHAKS. *A.Y.L.* ii. vii. 174 Blow, blow, thou winter winde. 1637 *RUTHERFORD Let. to R. Stuart* 17 June, The winter-well will goe dry again in summer. 1639 J. CLARKE *Paræm.* 263 Winter thunder, is old mens wonder. 1653 *WALTON Angler* To Rdr. A 7, Winter-flies, all Anglers know, . . . are as useful as an Almanack out of date. 1717 *POPE Iliad* x. 507 His Coursers . . . white as Winter-Snow. 1717 *PRIOR Alma* ii. 534 Cast your Eye By Night upon a Winter-Sky. 1751 *YOUNG Nt. Th.* vii. 34 Repelling Winter Blasts with Mud and Straw. 1773 G. WHITE *Selborne, To Pennant* 9 Nov., The . . . stock-dove . . . seldom appearing till towards the end of November; is usually the latest winter-bird of passage. 1813 *SCOTT Rokeby* iii. xxviii, The rose . . . shall bloom in winter snow, Ere we two meet again. 1850 *Beck's Florist* 115 A pleasing and interesting winter-tree is the Glastonbury Thorn. 1856 *KANE Arctic Expl.* I. xx. 244 The most solid winter-ice is open here and there. 1869 *TOZER Highl. Turkey* II. 136 A . . . bridge . . . across the bed of a winter torrent. 1869 *TENNYSON Passing of Arthur* 221 The winter moon, Brightening the skirts of a long cloud.

(*b*) of clothing, provisions, etc., accommodation (also WINTER-HOUSE, WINTER QUARTERS); of localities in their winter state and things serviceable in winter.

c 893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* iv. viii, þæt he buton sorge mehte on þæm wintersetle ȝeawunian. *a* 1000 *Phœnix* 250 Forst & snaw . . . eorþan peccað wintergewædum. *c* 1000 *Rectitudines* ix. (Liebermann 450), viii pund cornes to mete, i sceap oððe iii p. to wintersufle. 1395 *Cartular. Abb. de Whiteby* (Surtees 1881) II. 568 De wynterfare . . . xxvii. De lentyntfare . . . xi li. xs. i. d. De halfare . . . xlviii. 7 *c* 1400 *LYOG. Æsop's Fab.* iii. 98 The lawe dide hym compelle . . . his wynter flees to selle. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* i. 331 The wintir wonyng. 1473 *Rental Bk. Cupar-Angus* (1879) I. 188 Pasture . . . reseruyt to the abbay, safe the wynter pastur. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 420/1 A Wyntir haule, *hibernum*, *hibernaculum*. 1538 *ELYOT Dict., Tablinum*, was a wynter parlour, wherein were painted tables and bokes of stories. 1568 *KNOLLYS in Cal. Scott. Pap.* (1900) II. 513 Unprovided of sufficient wynter garments. 1575 *Wills & Inv. N.C.* (Surtees 1835) I. 406 Another Close for Winter ground. 1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 1218 As winter meads when sun doth melt their snow. 1628 *MAY Virg. Georg.* i. 15 Some sit up late at winter-fires. 1628 F. DRAKE *World Encompassed* 64 Notwithstanding it was in the height of Summer . . . we could . . . haue beene contented to

haue kept about vs still our Winter clothes. 1653 WALTON *Angler* xii. 222 A winter bait for a Roch. 1675 HANNAH WOOLLEY *Gentlew. Comp.* 215 Provide your Winter-Butter and Cheese in the Summer. 1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* iv. xxiv. 102 Have some winter Boots made of it, they'll never take in a drop of Water. 1713 C'TESS WINCHILSEA *Misc. Poems* 36 Birds have dropt their Winter-plumes. 1727 GAY *Begg. Op.* iii. vi. 46 Black Velvet Scarfs. are a handsome Winter-wear. 1729 FENTON in *Waller's Wks.* Observ. p. xxxiv, When the Sun retir'd. . . to the six Winter-Signs of the Zodiac; short'ning the days. 1735 SOMERVILLE *Chase* iii. 97 So Ships in Winter-Seas. . . defy the Storm. 1759 G. CLOUGH *Let.* 30 Sept. in *Essex Inst. Hist. Coll.* (1861) III. 104/1 Cold weather. . . will make us. . . put on our Winter Clothing. 1760, 1791 Winter-lodge [see HIBERNACULUM 3, HIBERNACLE]. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxvi, Sic as folk tell ower at a winter-ingle. 1819 KEATS *Eve of St. Mark* 77 The warm angled winter-screen. 1838 *Workwoman's Guide* in Walkley & Foster *Crimolines & Crimping Irons* (1978) xi. 165 Care should be taken to separate. . . winter clothing from that worn in summer. 1842 W. F. AINSWORTH *Trav. Asia Minor* II. 394 The winter road. . . takes the longer portion of valley. 1842 LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 677 [Celery] is. . . cultivated as a winter salad. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 484 To harrow it before cross-ploughing the winter-furrow. 1847 W. C. L. MARTIN *Ox* 35/2 After being kept on winter-fodder, they are turned out to graze in the spring. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* xxx, The winds. . . We heard them sweep the winter land. 1855 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Inorg. Nat.* 38 A glacier. . . is the outlet of. . . vast reservoirs of snow, being a prolongation of the winter-world above. 1870 E. G. E. WARD *Jrnl.* 9 Nov. in D. P. Carew *Many Years, Many Girls* (1967) i. 33, I have been able to-day to send my children in England some winter clothes. 1874 GEO. ELIOT *Let.* 16 June (1956) VI. 57 The cold winds. . . have forced us to put on winter clothing. 1876 C. M. YONGE *Three Brides* I. iii. 35 Her hair and pretty Parisian winter dress arranged to perfection. 1892 *Daily News* 12 Dec. 1/2 (Adv.), Gentlemen's undervests. Winter weight, 32 in. to 48 in. chests. 1904 BRIDGES *Demeter* i. 282, I think he watch'd a summer-butterfly Creep out all crumpled from his winter-case. 1911 J. WARD *Roman Era Brit.* iv. 77 There was a 'winter-room' on the south side. 1934 G. B. SHAW *On Rocks* II. 226 There is a generous fire in the grate; and the visitors wear winter clothes. 1940 L. I. WILDER *Long Winter* ix. 73 They dressed carefully in their woollen winter dresses. 1979 T. BARLING *Olympic Sleeper* xi. 138 He was warm in his winterweight pin-striped suit. 1984 W. BEECHY *Rich Mrs. Robinson* xii. 89 He needs some winter vests badly.

(c) of times and seasons. (See also WINTER-DAY, -TIDE, -TIME.)

a1000 *Genesis* 370, & moste [ic] ane tid ute weorpan, wecan ane winterstunde. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 81 The blake wynter nyht. c1400 *Brut* I. 104 He wolde nougt abide in Scotland in wynter seson. 1508 DUNBAR *Tua Mariit Wemen* 77 The lang winter nicht. 1559 W. CUNINGHAM *Cosmogr. Glasse* 34 The wynter tropike or circle of returning from the South. 1577 GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 11 Things doone . . in the Winter mornings. *Ibid.* 41 The Male [Hemp] . . is made vp in bundels to be knockt and shaled in Winter euenynges. 1707 FREIND *Peterborow's Cond. Sp.* 223 Marching in the stony Mountains, and in a Winter-season. 1825 HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. I. *Man of many Friends* 156 The rosy May, though fashionably a winter month, led on the smiling summer of nature, and June . . was fast approaching. 1869 LOWELL (*title of poem*), A Winter Evening Hymn to my Fire. a1889 G. M. HOPKINS in *Dublin Rev.* (1920) July-Sept. 46 They came from the south, Where winter-while is all forgot.

(d) of actions or conditions.

a1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xiii. 43 A-way is huere wynter wo. 1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Country Farm* v. xviii. 555 In October you shall giue it the fourth ardor or earing, which is called Winter-ridding. 1625 BACON *Ess., Prophecies* (Arb.) 537 They ought. . . to serue, but for Winter Talke, by the Fire side. 1677 HUBBARD *Pres. St. New-Eng.* (1865) I. 165 Some of the stoutest of the Narhagansets that had escaped the Winter-brunt. a1700 EVELYN *Diary* 14 Nov. 1666, I went my winter circle thro' my district. 1711 SWIFT *Cond. Allies* 52 Eight Thousand Men, for whose Winter Campaign the Queen was willing to give forty Thousand Pounds. 1725 Winter pruning [see SUMMER sb. 1 4 a (e)]. 1726-46 THOMSON *Winter* 573 Thus in some deep retirement would I pass The winter-glooms with friends of pliant soul. 1809 *Phil. Trans.* XCIX. 317 That very common. . . disease of our climate, the winter cough. 1836-9 M. HALL in *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 768/2 The winter-sleep and the summer-sleep of hibernating animals. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* xv, [The emigrants] had had a long winter-passage out. 1934 Winter cruise [see front-pager s.v. FRONT sb. (and a.) 14]. 1976 *Liverpool Echo* 6 Dec. 7/1 Aznar Line are having a record breaking season with their winter cruises out of Liverpool.

(e) with agent-nouns or other descriptive designations.

1654 G. GODDARD in *T. Burton's Diary* (1828) I. Intro. p. lxxviii, Some part of the sea-forces were already struck off, and the winter-guard reduced. 1783 CRABBE *Village* I. 201 When he tends the sheep, His winter-charge. 1854 *Poultry Chron.* I. 363 The Cochins. . . proved themselves the best possible 'winter-layers'.

b. The possessive *winter's* is similarly used, chiefly with *day, night, morning, evening, winter's tale*: see *winter-tale* in 5.

835 *Charter* in O.E. *Texts* 449 3if hi wintres deg sie. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 327 Sche. . . halt hir clos the wyntres day. c1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 212 The coold wynterys nyght. 1577 HARRISON *England* I. xiii. 37 b/2 in *Holinshead*, Blewe claye. . . (which hardlye drinke th vppe the winters water in long season). a1593 MARLOWE & NASHE *Dido* III. iii, Who would not vndergoe all kind of toyle, To be well stor'd with such a winter's tale? 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI.* v. v. 25 Let /Esop fable in a Winters Night. 1600 — *A. Y. L.* II. i. 7 The . . . churlish chiding of the winters winde. 1605 — *Macb.* III. iv. 65 O, these flaws and starts. . . would well become A womans story, at a Winters fire. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 300 A pretty upshot of all ambitious Designs. . . to be made at length a Winters Tale, and Chimney-corner Discourse. 1795 COWPER *Pairing Time Anticipated* 9 It chanced then on a winter's day, But warm,

and bright, and calm as May. 1796 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T.* (ed. 3) s.v., He is like a winter's day, short and dirty.

c. Applied to autumn-sown crops that stand through the winter; also to fruits that ripen late, or keep well until or during winter; *spec.* in names of late-ripening apples, pears, etc. (See also 5 b.)

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P.R.* xvii. cxv. (Add. MS. 27944), Barliche hatte Ordeum. . . bis corn we clepith wynter bore. 1398 Winter seede [see SUMMER sb. 1 4 c]. 1530 PALSGR. 289/2 Wynter frute, fruit de yuer. 1573-80 TUSSEER *Husb.* (1878) 40 Winter fruit gather when Mihel is past. 1577 GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 28 Winter Barley. . . is to be sowed in September. 1609 DEKKER *Ravens Almanack* B 3 b, When winter plomes are ripe and ready to be gathered. 1676 WORLIDGE *Cyder* 170 Bings-pear, Winter-Poppering, Thorn-pear [etc.] are all very good Winter-pears. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* I. 300 When Astrea's Ballance, hung on high, Betwixt the Nights and Days divides the Sky, Then . . sow your Winter Grain. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb., Kalender* Jan., Apples. . . Winter Queenings. . . Winter Pearmain. . . Pears. Winter Musk. . . Winter Norwich. . . Winter Burgamot, Winter Bon-Christien. 1762 MILLS *Syst. Pract. Husb.* I. 466 The gray and other large winter peas. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 514 The state of the winter-wheat depends entirely on the sort of weather it had to encounter in winter and early spring. 1870 YEATS *Nat. Hist. Comm.* 63 In Egypt, wheat is a winter crop. 1939 WPA *Guide to Florida* (Federal Writers' Project) I. 7 The traveler. . . may detour inland to discover the hidden winter-vegetable kingdom on the muck lands.

d. In figurative applications (cf. i c); †in quotes. 1593, 1682 = old, aged.

1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI.* v. iii. 2 Salisbury. . . That Winter Lyon, who in rage forgets Aged contusions. 1651 N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* II. i. 6 The worst of his fate was, to live to his Winter age. 1682 OTWAY *Venice Preserved* III. ii. 34 That mortify'd old wither'd Winter Rogue. 1709 POPE *Jan. & May* 104 The tasteless, dry embrace Of a stale virgin with a winter face. 1745 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* IX. 410 The Crown of Manhood is a Winter-Joy; An Evergreen, that. . . blossoms in the Rigour of our Fate.

4. Comb.: objective, as *winter-boding, -loving* adjs.; indirect objective, as *winter-like, -proof, -verging* adjs.; instrumental, as *winter-beaten, -blasted, -bound, -chilled, -heavy, -left, -locked, -shaken, -starved, -swollen, -thin, -wasted, -wearied, -weary, -weighed, -withered, -worn* pa. pples. and adjs.; similitive, as *winter-blue, -chill, -cold, -seeming, -visaged, -white* adjs.; 'in or during winter', as *winter-blooming, -fattened, -felled, -flowering, -hardy, -made, -pruned, -sown, -standing* pples. and adjs.; *winter-cut* vb.; appositive, as *winter-spring*.

1599 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal. Jan.*, Arg't., He compareth his careful case to the sadde season of the yeare. . . and to his owne *winterbeaten flocke. 1827 CLARE *Sheph. Cal.* 23 Crab, hip and *winter-bitten sloe. 1597 DRAYTON *Heroic. Ep., Rosamond* 40 The cold badge of *winter-blasted haire. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* II. 71 A roofe to my Winter-blasted lodging. a1847 ELIZA COOK *Song of Dying Old Man* vi, The spring-flower clinging round the *winter-blighted tree. 1855 *Poultry Chron.* III. 303 Cyclamen (especially the *winter-blooming kind) may be sheltered. 1936 R. FROST *Let.* 6 Feb. (1964) 270 And Sirius is a *winterbluegreen star. 1958 J. W. DAY *Lady Houston* xv. 225 Never had. . . the winter-blue woods of Kimbolton or the generous warmth of Brampton Park. . . beckoned more seductively. 1892 W. WATSON *Poems, Autumn* 36 And spectral seem thy *winter-boding trees. 1791 BURNS *Lovely Davies* ii, As the wretch looks o'er Siberia's shore, When *winter-bound the wave is. 1904 PHILLIPS OPPENHEIM *Betrayer* xxi. 179 A country silent and winterbound. 1605 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iii. iv. *Captains* 482 My flesh (too-*Winter-chill) My spirit's small sparkles doth extinguish still. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* vi. 72 In the Spring yielding a reviving Cordial to your *Winter-chilled spirit. 1944 E. SITWELL *Green Song* 7 Henry thought me *winter-cold When to keep his love I turned from him as the world Turns from the sun. 1784 G. WHITE *Selborne, To Pennant* ix, A very large fall of timber, consisting of about one thousand oaks, has been cut. . . These trees. . . were *winter-cut, viz. in February and March. 1840 BUEL *Farmer's Comp.* 164 English beef and mutton. . . is mostly *winter-fattened. . . upon roots and straw. 1742 ELLIS *Timber-Tree* II. 13 From whence they infer, that the worm can't breed so soon in a Summer-fell'd Tree, as in a *Winter-fell'd one. 1804 *Phil. Trans.* XCV. 89 This superiority in winter-felled wood. 1794 *Winter-flowering [see ACONITE 3]. 1872 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 101/2 Winter-flowering plants. 1960 *Farmer & Stockbreeder* 5 Jan. 43/1 We may. . . be given a more *winter-hardy, leafier kale. 1975 *Daily Colonist* (Victoria, B.C.) 20 July 22/7 As it is not winter-hardy here, it is commonly grown as an annual. 1920 D. H. LAWRENCE *Women in Love* xxix. 435 This was an old world she was still journeying through, *winter-heavy and dreary. 1955 S. SPENDER *Coll. Poems* 1928-53 IX. 173 Its vermilion seems A Red Admiral's wing, with veins Of lichen and rust, an underwing Of *winter-left leaves. 1611 SPEED *Theat. Gt. Brit.* xli. 79 *Winter-left dispositions of weather. 1740 T. SMITH *Jrnl.* (1849) 268, I believe no man ever knew so winter-like a spell so early in the year. 1926 S. LESLIE *Cantab* xv. 183 He sobbed like a *winter-locked river hastening over the weir at the first warmth of spring. 1946 DYLAN THOMAS *Deaths & Entrances* 34 Two proud, blacked brothers cry, Winter-locked side by side. 1800 HURDIS *Fav. Village* 134 The *winter-loving moss. 1830 *Cumbld. Farm Rep.* 58 in *Libr. Usef. Knowl., Husb.* III, The manure made in summer. . . is always of better quality than *winter-made dung. 1830 DOYLE in W. J. Fitz-Patrick *Life* (1880) II. 221, I. . . hope I am now *winter-proof. 1842 LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 459 Canes *winter-pruned, or cut back. a1631 DONNE *Loves Alchymie* 12 A *winter-seeming summers night. 1605 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iii. i. *Vocation* 483 Peasants *Winter-shaken. 1605 R. R. *Commend. Poem in Sylvesters Wks.*, Winter-shaken Leaves. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* 316 *Winter sown Seed. 1960 *Farmer & Stockbreeder* 15 Mar. 141/3 Tri-Farmon 41 effectively controls the widest

possible range of weeds in winter and spring-sown wheat. 1888 W. D. HAY *Blood* vii. 29 Although it was so late in the *winter-spring season, the weather was wild and wintry. 1967 *Oceanogr. & Marine Biol.* XVI. 409 The 'Atlanto-Scandian' winter-spring spawning stocks. 1598 GRENEWAY *Tacitus, Ann.* II. vi. (1622) 40 The soldiery were brought backe to their *winter-standing camps. 1581 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 68 Figures and flowers, extreamelie *winter-starued. 1597 DRAYTON *Heroic. Ep., Henry to Rosamond* 101 The hungry winter-starued earth. 1603 H. CROSSE *Vertues Commw.* (1878) 92 A number of poore winterstarued people. 1849 ROCK *Ch. Fathers* II. 465 Did the good man. . . wade through the *winter-swollen brook? 1820 KEATS *Fancy* 57 The snake all *winter-thin Cast on sunny bank its skin. 1824 FENBY *To a Redbreast* v, The *winter-verging autumn morn. 1898 MEREDITH *Odes Fr. Hist.* 87 The maimed, Torn, tortured, *winter-visaged. 1885 H. TENNYSON in *Macm. Mag.* Mar. 345 As we fare. . . forth. . . From out our *winter-wasted Northern Isle. 1892 J. G. WHITTIER *At Sundown* 58 This stormy interlude Gives to our *winter-wearied hearts a reason For trustful gratitude. 1917 D. H. LAWRENCE *Look! we have come Through!* 160 We who are winter-weary in the winter of the world. 1866 J. G. WHITTIER *Snow-Bound* 46 And woodland paths that wound between Snow drooping pine-boughs *winter-weighed. 1915 E. SITWELL *Mother* 16 Her ice-cold breast was *winter-white. 1906 HARDY *Dynasts* II. i. vi, *Winter-whitened bones. 1592 DANIEL *Delia* xxx[viii], Her glas. . . then presents her *winter-withered hew. 1872 GEO. ELIOT *Middlem.* xxxvii, The common jealousy of a *winter-worn husband. a1560 PHAER *Aeneid* VIII. (1562) Bb ii, Three *winter-wrested showers.

5. a. Special Combs.: winter annual (see quot. 1900); winter bud *Zool.*, a statoblast (formed at the approach of, or quiescent during, winter); winter carnival *Canad.*, 'an organized winter social activity featuring winter sports, beauty contests, ice-sculpture, etc.' (*Dict. Canadianisms*); winter-clad a., clothed warmly for the winter; †winter-close v., *trans.* to shut close against the cold of winter; winter coat, (a) the coat of an animal in winter, where this differs from that in summer; (b) a (woman's) coat suitable for winter weather; winter count, a pictorial record or chronicle of the events of a year, kept by a N. American Indian people; winter country N.Z., land where livestock can be wintered; winter eggs = *winter ova*; winter garden, (a) a garden of plants that flourish in winter, as evergreens; (b) a greenhouse or conservatory in which plants are kept flourishing in winter; (c) a building used for concerts, plays, dances, etc., at a seaside resort; winter-hained a. [HAIN v. 1], of pasture, preserved from grazing during the winter; so winter-haining *vbl. sb.*; winter-killed pa. pple. and a. (U.S.), killed or blasted by the cold of winter: said esp. of grain or other crops; so winter-killing; also winter-kill v. *intr.*, to become winter-killed; *trans.*, to make winter-killed; also *absol.* and winter-kill *sb.*; winter-long a., as (tediously) long as winter; *adv.*, through a whole winter; winter-love, cold or conventional love; winter oil, edible oil that remains clear at low temperatures owing to the removal of constituents that would have caused congelation or precipitation; winter-old a., that has lasted since the beginning of winter; Winter Olympic Games, Winter Olympics, international competitive winter sports held under the auspices of the International Olympic Committee, usually every four years; winter ova, eggs produced by certain invertebrates at the approach of winter (cf. *summer ova* s.v. SUMMER sb. 1 6); winter packet *Canad.* (*Obs. exc. Hist.*), a boat or land party carrying mail in winter-time between trading posts; the mail itself; winter-piece [PIECE sb. 17 b, d], a picture or description of a winter scene; winter-pride, the condition of being winter-proud; winter-proud a., (of wheat or other crops) too luxuriant in winter; winter-rig v. (now *dial.*), *trans.* to plough (land) in ridges and lay it fallow for the winter (cf. WINTER-FALLOW); winter road *Canad.*, a road or a route used in winter when the ground is frozen or there is snow; winter-rot [ROT sb. 1 2], a disease incident to sheep in the winter; †winter-stall, a hive in which bees are kept during the winter; †winter story, tale, an idle tale (also *winter's tale*: see 3 b); Winter War (also with small initials), the war between the U.S.S.R. and Finland in 1939-40; winter woollies: see WOOLLY sb. 1.

1900 B. D. JACKSON *Gloss. Bot. Terms* 290/2 *Winter-annual, a plant which germinates in autumn, and living through the winter, fruits and dies. 1977 J. L. HARPER *Population Biol. Plants* xviii. 547 A single population [of *Papaver dubium*] includes winter annuals and spring annuals. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 709 The *Phylactolaemata* [among *Polyzoa*] also reproduce by statoblasts or *winter buds. 1884 *Outing* (U.S.) Feb. 400/2 The *winter carnival at Montreal, which was so successfully inaugurated last year, will open on February 4. 1973 *Globe & Mail* (Toronto) 13 Jan. 33/1 Most winter carnivals in Ontario rely less heavily on the snowmobile for their fun

weekends. **1847** TENNYSON *Princess* II. 105 The man; Tattoo'd or woaded, *winter-clad in skins. **c 1440** *Pallad.* on *Husb.* I. 507 *Winter close hit al To holde out colde. **1804** ARMATAGE *Horse v.* 73 A horse with his natural *winter coat. **1920** [see *bear fur* s.v. *BEAR* sb.¹ 9]. **1956** R. MACAULAY *Towers of Trebizond* viii. 78 The camel... was very smooth, having just shed its winter coat. **1982** C. FREMLIN *Parasite Person* xix. 128 Helen felt the warmth of the sun... through her thick winter coat. **1895** HOFFMAN *Beginnings of Writing* 35 These chronological records are designated *winter counts', as each event covers that period of time between the end of one summer and the beginning of the next. **1898** MORRIS *Austral English* 513/1 *Winter country, in New Zealand (South Island), land so far unaffected by snow that stock is wintered on it. **1912** A. WALL *Century N.Z.'s Praise* 80 Good winter-country, where sweet grasses grow. **1949** P. NEWTON *High Country Days* 197 Safe country which is saved for the winter is 'winter country'. **1872** H. C. BASTIAN *Begin. Life* II. 514 The so-called *winter-eggs' of the beautiful... Rotifer... *Hydatina senta*. **1712** ADDISON *Spect.* No. 477 ¶ 1 A *Winter Garden, which would consist of such Trees only as never cast their Leaves. **1762** KAMES *Elem. Crit.* xxiv. (1774) 448 In a cold country, the capital object should be a winter-garden, open to the sun, sheltered from wind, dry under foot, and having the appearance of summer by variety of evergreens. **1783** T. BLAIKIE *Diary of Scotch Gardener* (1931) 179 The winter Garden adjoining to the Hott houses, was more Beautiful than Elegant. **1889** GUNTER *That Frenchman* xvi. 197 The great conservatory, or winter garden, as it is called in that country, and without which no grand Russian house is complete. **1896** Ward & Lock's *Illustr. Guide Bournemouth* etc. 22 Not far from the pier entrance is the Winter Garden and Pavilion. **1951** *Dict. Gardening* (R. Hort. Soc.) IV. 2282/2 The Winter Garden is usually of sufficient size to allow the central part of the interior being laid out in walks and large beds. **1977** *Lancs. Life* Nov. 81/1 The Palace incorporated a winter garden from which the stage could be seen without spectators needing to go through into the auditorium. **1886** C. SCOTT *Sheep-farming* 86 To have in reserve a *winter-hained old pasture, which the ewes and lambs can fall back on. **1667-8** *Act 19-20 Chas. II.* c. 8 §10 The time of the *Winter heyning (that is to say) from the Eleventh day of November to the Three and twentieth day of Aprill. **1743** R. MAXWELL *Sel. Trans. Agric. Scot.* 37 The Dung of these [sheep] in Summer, with Winter-haining, will keep the Ground in good Heart. **1845** *Farmers' Cabinet* 15 Feb. 202/2 It is not so hardy as some varieties: it is more subject to *winter-kill. **1846** E. EMMONS *Agric. N.Y.* I. 281 The grain very rarely winter-kills. **1849** *Ex. Doc. 31st U.S. Congress 1 Sess. House* No. 5. II. 653 The... snow which lies upon the ground nearly six months in the year would be likely to 'winter-kill' it. **1918** S. S. VISHNER *Geogr. S. Dakota* 56 Red clover is not a success... largely because it winter-kills. **1945** *Ecol. Monogr.* XV. 343 (heading) Limnological conditions in ice-covered lakes, especially as related to winter-kill of fish. **1977** *Chicago Tribune* 2 Oct. XI. 1/4 High nitrogen fertilizer... would only promote late growth that would winterkill. **1980** *Northeast Woods & Waters* Dec. 18/1 Last year's rate of winterkill was lower than usual because of the relatively mild weather conditions. **1817** S. BROWN *Western Gaz.* 49 That wheat... never gets *winter-killed or smutty. **1868** *Rep. U.S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 405 The White Mediterranean and Sandomirka wheats were badly winter-killed. **1845** *Farmers' Cabinet* 15 Jan. 195/1 This blight is not to be confounded with *winter-killing. **1868** *Rep. U.S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 17 The early reports... were generally favorable, and noted by the absence of winter-killing. **c 1325** *Lai le Freine* 143 Al the *winter-long night. **1876** MORRIS *Aeneids* IV. 193 How winter-long between them their the sweets of sloth they nursed. **1636** B. JONSON *Discov., Jactura vitæ*. What a deale of cold busines doth a man mis-spend the better part of life in! in scattering complements, tending visits, .. making a little *winter-love in a darke corner. **1894** C. R. A. WRIGHT *Animal & Veg. Oils* xi. 257 Oils that have been thus treated are sometimes termed *winter oils'. **1920**, **1939** Winter oil [see DEMARGARINATED a.]. **1970** T. J. WEISS *Food Oils* iii. 59 The solid portion of the oil which had set up in storage tanks in the winter at 40°-42° F. was settled out and removed, leaving an oil which would remain clear when chilled. Cottonseed oils were thus divided into *summer* and *winter* oils. **1897** tr. *Nansen's Farthest North* II. v. 194 Ice which can hardly be *winter-old, or at any rate has been formed since last summer. **1928** *Times* 17 Feb. 6/4 The usual clean crisp snow has given place to an earthy slush, and as a result the second celebration of a Winter Olympiad has come to an abrupt standstill. **1932** *Times* 1 Feb. 7/4 A thaw which has set in threatens to destroy... the third *winter Olympic Games. **1936** *Times* 27 Jan. 5/1 The Lake Placid bob-run... provided some of the most exciting spectacles at the 1932 Winter Olympics. **1956** *Times* 6 Jan. 9/5 In 1948... I won a bronze medal in the Winter Olympic Games. **1981** 'E. LATHEEN' *Going for Gold* i. 11 It took the Winter Olympics to keep him in the continental United States in February. **1852** *Zoologist* X. 3406 He pointed out the difference between the ordinary ova and those called *winter ova', which last he proposed to call ephippial ova. **1877** [see *summer ova* s.v. *SUMMER* sb.¹ 6]. **1888** ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 634 The ova [of Rotifers] are of three kinds, small male ova, thin-shelled summer ova, and thick-shelled winter or, better, resting ova. **1831** E. SMITH *Let.* 25 Nov. in *Champlain Soc. Publ.* (1938) XXIV. 79 Our *Winter Packet being now preparing to Travell on to your Quarter, I will not let it go without acknowledging the receipt of your friendly epistle. **1971** J. McDougall *Parsons on Plains* xi. 92 We saw the flicker of a campfire. We found that it was the one winter packet from the east on its way to Edmonton. **1666** PEPYS *Diary* 17 July, To agree with... (the Dutch paynter...) for a *winter piece of snow. **1697** ADDISON *Ess. Virgil's Georgics* ¶ 12 The Scythian Winter-piece appears so very cold and bleak to the Eye, that a Man can scarce look on it without shivering. **1797** HOLCROFT tr. *Stolberg's Trav.* (ed. 2) II. xlii. 70 The third [painting] is a winter piece. **a 1722** LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 93 Sow old wheat at the first and earliest sowing, if you fear *winter-pride. **1601** HOLLAND *Pliny* XVII. ii. I. 50: When either corne is *winter-prowd, or other plants put forth and bud too earely, by reason of the mild and warme aire. **1799** J. ROBERTSON *Agric. Perth* 146 When the wheat is winter-proud, which commonly happens after a mild season... that luxuriance... ought to be checked by eating it down with sheep. **1846** J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) II. 397 There is danger of the crop running to straw, or becoming what is called

winter-proud. **1661** M. STEVENSON *Twelve Months* 39 At the end of this moneth [August] begin to *winter-rig all fruitful soyls. **1801** A. MACKENZIE *Voy. from Montreal* vi. 84 One of the natives who followed us, called it the *Winter Road River. **1808** H. GRAY *Lett. from Canada* (1809) 254 The country people who first form the winter roads on the snow, direct their *Carioles* by the nearest course where the snow is most level; and they go in as straight a line as possible, to the place where they are destined. **1916** *Yukon Territory* 194 In the summer of 1902 the government built a winter road between Dawson and Whitehorse, a distance of approximately 333 miles. **1971** *Country Life* 24 June 1572/1 We had been told to follow a path until it joined a 'winter road' which would in turn lead us to the marsh. **1973** *Kingston (Ontario) Whig-Standard* 26 Jan. 7/2 The winter road over the ice is about four lanes wide and is 'brushed' with evergreens at the sides as a guide during swirling snow storms. **1979** A. M. TIZZARD *On Sloping Ground* ix. 130 The bay would be frozen over and there was always a good winter road across Twillingate Island. **1577** GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. 140 Against the *winter rotte, or hunger rotte, you must provide to feede them [sc. sheep] at home in Cratches. **c 1275** xi *Pains of Hell* 40 in O.E. Misc. 148 picture hi hongep... ban don been in *wynterstal. **1587-8** *Wills & Inv. Durh.* (Surtees) II. 312, iij wynter stales of bees. **1824** [see *STALL* sb.¹]. **1659** BP. WALTON *Consid. Considered* 239 A mere *winter-story without any ground or reason. **1556** OLDE *Antichrist* 7 According to olde wiues fables and *winter tales. **1637** C. DOW *Answe. to H. Burton* 120b, Such winter tales as it were too great a mispence of time and words to refute them. **1942** F. OWEN in W. P. & Z. Coates *Soviet-Finnish Campaign* p. i, What about the Finns? In the *Winter War they gained a deserved fame for valour and military skill. **1957** *Times Lit. Suppl.* 11 Oct. 603/2 The so-called 'Winter War', resulting from the Soviet attack on Finland in November, 1939, and ending with the Finnish surrender of March, 1940. **1971** W. H. McNEILL in A. Bullock *20th Century* 49/2 The Finns' success in holding the Russians at bay for the long weeks of the so-called 'winter war' (1939-40). **1973** J. FLEMING *You won't let me Finish* x. 82 The cook came here during the Winter War.

b. In names of animals and plants that are active or flourish in winter or in the winter half of the year (often rendering *L. hiemalis* as a specific name), or of late-ripening fruits (cf. 3 c): **winter-bloom**, (a) a late-flowering species of *Azalea*; (b) the American witch-hazel, *Hamamelis virginica*, which blossoms late in autumn and ripens its fruit the following year; **winter-bunting**, the snow bunting (see BUNTING sb.¹ 1); **winter-clover**, the partridge-berry, *Mitchella repens*; **winter-crack** (see quot. 1898); **winter daffodil**, a late-blooming yellow-flowered amaryllid, *Sternbergia lutea*, cultivated in gardens; **winter duck**, (a) the pintail duck (see PINTAIL 2); (b) in U.S., the long-tailed duck, *Harelda glacialis*; **winter falcon**, the young of the red-shouldered buzzard, *Buteo lineatus*; **winter finch**, a N. American species of finch (see quot.); **winter flounder** (see quot.); **winter-flower**, (a) *gen.* a flower blooming in winter; (b) *spec.* the early-blooming Japan allspice, *Chimonanthus fragrans* [a rendering of the generic name]; † **winter gillyflower**, the wallflower (see quot. 1597); **winter gnat** = *winter midge*; **winter grape**, an American species of grape-vine, *Vitis cordifolia*; **winter-gull**, any species of gull which appears in winter in a particular locality, as the common gull, the black-headed gull, or the herring-gull; **winter hawk**, the red-shouldered buzzard (cf. *winter falcon*); **winter heath** (see quot.); **winter-mew** = *winter-gull*; **winter midge** (see quot.); **winter-moth**, any of various geometer moths which come forth in winter, esp. *Cheimatobia brumata*; **winter peach**, the fruit of a peach-tree cultivated in a greenhouse and fruiting during autumn or winter; **winter-pick** [? PICK v.¹ 5], a local name for the sloe when mellowed by frost, used for making a rustic wine; **winter queening**, a late-ripening variety of apple, which keeps well through the winter; **winter redbird local**, the cardinal grosbeak, *Cardinalis virginianus*, which winters in some parts of N. America (cf. *summer redbird* s.v. *SUMMER* sb.¹ 6b); **winter rocket**, the common winter-cress, *Barbarea vulgaris* (see ROCKET sb.² 3); **winter rose**, (a) a rose blooming in winter; (b) ? the Christmas rose, *Helleborus niger*; **winter-shad**, the mudshad, *Dorosoma cepedianum*; **winter sleeper**, an animal that hibernates; **winter snipe**, the purple sandpiper or rock-snip, *Tringa striata* or *maritima* (cf. *summer snipe* s.v. *SUMMER* sb.¹ 6b); **winter squash**, a species of pumpkin, *Cucurbita maxima* (cf. *summer squash* s.v. *SUMMER* sb.¹ 6b); **winter strawberry**, the strawberry-tree = ARBUTUS 1; **winter-sweet**, (a) = *winter sweet marjoram* (see MARJORAM); (b) a shrub, *Chimonanthus præcox*, of the family Calycanthaceæ, native to China and bearing pale yellow fragrant flowers in winter before the leaves appear; **winter teal**, the green-winged teal (see TEAL 2); cf. *summer teal* s.v. *SUMMER* sb.¹ 6b; **winter-thorn**, a late-ripening variety of

pear; **winter-weed**, any one of various small weeds which survive and flourish in winter; *esp.* the ivy-leaved and field speedwells, *Veronica hederæfolia* and *V. agrestis*. See also *winter* ACONITE, HELIOTROPE, HELLEBORE, HEMP, MARJORAM, RAPE (sb.²), SAVORY, WAGTAIL, WREN¹. **1760** J. LEE *Introd. Bot. App.* 332 *Winter Bloom. **1884** MILLER *Plant-n.*, *Hamamelis virginica*, American Witch-Hazel... Winter-bloom. **1815** STEPHENS in Shaw's *Gen. Zool.* IX. 367 *Winter Bunting (*Emberiza hyemalis*). **1884** MILLER *Plant-n.*, *Mitchella repens*, Chequer-berry, Partridge-berry... *Winter Clover. **1877** E. PEACOCK *Gloss. Words Manley & Corringham, Lincs.* 276/2 *Wintercrack, a small green plum, the fruit of which ripens very late. **1898** N. & Q. 13 Aug. 235/2 A fair-sized round, yellowish plum, only fully ripe in November, is known in Derbyshire as the 'winter-crack'. They are called 'cracks' because with the first frosts the fruit cracks on one side, being then fully ripe. **1914** D. H. LAWRENCE *Prussian Officer* 282 There were some... winter-crack trees. **1884** MILLER *Plant-n.*, *Sternbergia lutea*, *Winter Daffodil. **1804** BEWICK *Brit. Birds* II. 360 Pintail Duck. Sea Pheasant, Cracker, or *Winter Duck. **1885**, **1917** Winter duck [see LADYBIRD 3]. **1785** PENNANT *Arctic Zool.* II. 209 *Winter Falcon... With a black bill; yellow cere... appears at approach of winter, and retires in the spring. **1783** LATHAM *Gen. Syn. Birds* III. 274 *Winter Finch... Found at New York, in the winter. **1809** EDMONDSTON *Zetland Isl.* I. 240 Ling... are known by the name of *winter fish. **1814** S. L. MITCHELL *Fishes N.Y.* 387 New-York Flatfish... is called the *winter flounder. **1873** T. GILL *Catal. Fishes E. Coast N. Amer.* 16 *Pseudopleuronectes americanus*... Common flounder; winter-flounder; mud dab. **1733** POPE *Let. to Richardson* 10 June, I hope to see you... before this *Winter-flower is faded. I will defer her Interment till Tomorrow Night. **1597** GERARDE *Herbal* II. cxiii. 371 The people in Cheshire do call them *Winter Gilloflowers. **1615** W. LAWSON *Orch. & Gard.* vi. (1623) 12 Wall-flowers, commonly called Bee-flowers, or winter Gilly-flowers. **1899** D. SHARP in Harmer & Shipley *Cambr. Nat. Hist.* VI. vii. 473 The *winter gnats of the genus *Trichocera* are a fair sample of this sub-family. **1926** A. H. HAMM in J. J. Walker *Nat. Hist. Oxf. District* 257 Four species of 'Winter-gnats' are always common from autumn to spring. **1968** *Oxf. Bk. Insects* 122/1 There are ten British Winter Gnats, which belong to the family Trichoceridae and look like small crane-flies. They get their English name from their way of 'dancing' in large swarms on winter afternoons. **1771** G. WASHINGTON *Diary* 20 Nov. (1925) II. 43 Began to Plant Cuttings of the *Winter Grape. **1789** [see *frost-grape* s.v. *FROST* sb. 7c]. **1814** PURSH *Flora Amer. Septentr.* I. 169 *Vitis cordifolia*... commonly called Winter-grape or Chicken-grape. **1949** *Amer. Photogr.* Apr. 244/2 Winter grape is one of our commonest species from northern New York to Michigan. **1804** BEWICK *Brit. Birds* II. 221 *Winter Gull. Winter Mew, or Cuddy Moddy. **1831** AUDUBON *Ornithol. Biog.* I. 364 The *Winter Hawk. *Falco hyemalis*, Gmel. **1882** *Garden* 14 Jan. 17/1 The *Winter Heath (*Erica carnea*) as a low-growing... shrub is one of the best of all winter blooming plants. **1678** RAY *Willughby's Ornith.* 350 The *Winter-Mew, called in Cambridge-shire the Cuddy-Moddy. **1854** J. HOGG *Microsc.* II. ii. 288 The appearance of gnats. The first that appear are called *winter midges (*Trichocera hyemalis*). **1819** SAMOUELLE *Entomol. Compend.* 359 *Smerinthus brumaria*. The *Winter Moth. **1869** E. NEWMAN *Brit. Moths* 106 The Winter Moth (*Chimatobia brumata*). **1787** J. WOODFORDE *Diary* 31 Oct. (1926) II. 354 Mr. Custances Garden brought us this Morning a Basket of *Winter Peaches. **1960** I. WALLACH *Absence of Cello* (1961) 199 Marian wanted a winter peach. **1862** W. S. COLEMAN *Woodlands* 118 *Winterpick-wine takes the place of port in the rustic 'cellar'. **1664** EVELYN *Kal. Hort.* Jan. (1669) 21 Apples... Holland-pepin, John-apple, *Winter-Queening. **1714** J. LAWSON *Carolina* 108 Winter Queening is a durable Apple, and makes good Cider. **1889** *Science-Gossip* XXV. 146/1 Our lively cardinal grosbeak... is known as the *winter red bird', because... more of a songster in December than in June. **1742** YOUNG *Nt. Th.* II. 240 The *winter Rose must blow, the Sun put on A brighter Beam in Leo. **1891** KIPLING *Life's Handicap* iv. 88 Clumps of winter-roses lay between the silver candlesticks. **1888** GOODE *Amer. Fishes* 409 In the Chesapeake region it is known as the 'Mud-Shad', *Winter-Shad, or 'Stink Shad'. **1709** T. ROBINSON *Vind. Mosaick Syst.* 89 Those [creatures] that are *Winter-Sleepers, when the Summer warmth abates... draw to... Winter-Quarters. **1911** J. A. THOMSON *Biol. Seasons* iv. 333 A survey of the Winter-sleepers seems to show that the life-saving reaction must have arisen by... natural selection. **1775** *Boston Transcript* 26 Apr. III. 12/7, I have a fine prospect of a Crop of... winter Squashes this fall. **1809** KENDALL *Trav.* III. lxx. 109 The vine of a species of pompon called by the colonists winter squash. **1969** *Oxf. Bk. Food Plants* 122/2 Winter squashes are cut in the autumn and can be kept for 3 or 4 months or longer. **a 1746** HOLDSWORTH *Remarks on Virgil* (1768) 29 The Arbutus cannot here mean the *Winter-Strawberry. **1840** PAXTON *Bot. Dict.*, *Winter sweet, *Origanum heracleoticum*. **1893** W. ROBINSON *Eng. Flower Garden* (ed. 3) 325/2 Winter Sweet is a lovely shrub which in our country requires a wall. It flowers in December and January; beautiful, and of delicious fragrance. **1934** LD. BERNERS *First Childhood* ii. 20 Just outside the windows there grew a shrub of the early-blossoming chimonanthus. (Winter-sweet it was called in the days before gardeners grew so refined.) **1955** [see CHIMONANTHUS]. **1980** *Gardener's Dozen* 12 My winter-sweet... sometimes gets knocked about by the frost and snow. **1766** *Compl. Farmer* s.v. *Pear* 5 Y 4/2 The *winter-thorn.

*winter, sb.² [Origin uncertain.]

Perhaps originating as a jocular antithesis to the *summer* or upper rail or cross-bar of the hand-printing press (*SUMMER* sb.² 3c). Connexion with north. dial. *winter* = trivet is uncertain.]

In a hand-printing press, a block of wood about nine inches broad by nine deep, supporting the carriage and having a tenon at each end to fit into corresponding mortices in the cheeks.

1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.*, Printing x. ¶4 The Length of the Winter besides the Tennants, is one Foot nine Inches. **1770** LUCKOMBE *Hist. Printing* 298. **1888** JACOBI *Printers' Voc.* 156.

'winter, v. [f. WINTER sb.¹ after L. *hiemare* (in senses 1, 2), *hibernare* (in sense 1); cf. MHG., MLG., Du. *winteren* (G. *wintern*), ON. *vetra*.]

1. *intr.* To pass or spend the winter; to stay or reside (at a specified place) during the winter; (of animals) to find, or be provided with, food and shelter in the winter. Also (*Canad.*) with out.

1382 WYCLIF *Acts* xxvii. 12 If on ony maner thei my3ten come to Fenyce, for to wynterne in the hauene of Crete. **1526** TINDALE *Acts* xxvii. 12 The haven was nott commodius to wynter in. **1535** COVERDALE *Isa.* xviii. 6 The beastes of the earth wyntered there. **1668** DRYDEN *Even. Love* II. i, Birds that breed in one Countrie, and goe to winter in another. **1726** SWIFT *Gulliver* II. i, Discovering a Leak we unshipped our Goods and winter'd there. **1801** A. MACKENZIE *Voy. Montreal Fur Trade* p. xxvii, About a third of these [middlemen] went to winter, and had more than double the above wages. **1826** LAMB *Elia* Ser. II. *Pop. Fallacies* xv, What savage unsocial nights must our ancestors have spent, wintering in caves and unilluminated fastnesses! **1828** DARVILL *Engl. Race Horse* Introd. p. ix, Mr. Crooke had a farm at Redland, in Gloucestershire, at which place his horses usually wintered. **1867** FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* I. ii. 46 The heathen men wintered for the first time in the Isle of Sheppey. **1870** in C. Wilson *Campbell of Yukon* (1970) 165, I... had long consultations with most of the Freeman, wintering out in this quarter. **1968** E. RUSSENHOLT *Heart of Continent* viii. 132 When November [comes]... the population of Assiniboia is 'at home'—excepting only, those hundreds who elect to 'winter out' on the plains and along the waterways. **1970** R. SYMONS *Broken Snare* xvi. 112 He [sc. a steer] had found a bunch of wild horses... So he had wintered out quite happily with his kind hosts.

fig. **1835** DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Parish* iii, The Miss Willises... seemed to have no separate existence, but to have made up their minds just to winter through life together.

2. a. *trans.* To keep or maintain during winter; esp. to provide (animals) with food and shelter in winter. (Also said of the food, or of the land.)

c.1440 *Promp. Parv.* 530/1 Wyntyrn, or kepe a thyngel al the wyntyr, yemo. **1550-1** *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 306 To wynter theme [sc. two ox twinters] unto such tyme as thei be able to drawe. **1570-1** in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) III. 594 For vppying y^e Swannes and wynteryng them... **xxiii** **1580** *Knaresb. Wills* (Surtees) I. 139 To... my wief a cowe and asmoche haie as will wynter hir. **1607** TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 605 They summered them [sc. sheep] in Apulia, they wintered them in Samnius. **1710** HILMAN *Tusser Rediv.* Oct. (1744) 135 If I keep more Sheep than I can Winter. **1824** LOUDON *Green-house Comp.* I. 15 The sickly condition of plants wintered in such of these houses as still exist. **1882** *Garden* 18 Mar. 187/3, I have given up wintering Cauliflower plants. **1883** *Standard* 3 Apr. 3/5 It should be the aim of the grass-land farmer to summer as many and winter as few animals as possible.

†b. *fig.* To maintain (an opinion) through a period of trial. (Cf. to summer and winter s.v. SUMMER v.¹ 3 b.) *Obs. rare.*

1608 BP. HALL *Charac.* II. 108 The Vnconstant... what he will be next, as yet he knoweth not; but ere hee haue Wintred his opinion, it will be manifest. **1618** T. ADAMS *Serm. Heb. xiii.* 8 Wks. (1629) 853 To winter an opinion is too tedious: hee hath beene many things; what hee will bee, you shall scarce know, till hee is nothing.

c. With over. = OVER-WINTER v. 4. Also *intr.* **1979** C. KILIAN *Icequake* iv. 42 How are we supposed to winter over on a goddam iceberg? **1982** 'E. LATHEN' *Green grow Dollars* i. 12 A tomato that could be planted, wintered over, then harvested.

†3. *intr.* To be or become wintry. *Obs. rare.*

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 420/1 To Wyntyr, brumare, brumescere.

†4. *pa. pple.* Detained by winter weather, winter-bound. *Obs. rare.*

1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 251 They sayled to the .49. degree and a halfe vnder the pole Antartyke; where beinge wyntered, they were enforced to remayne.

5. *trans.* To affect like winter, subject to wintry conditions; to make wintry; to chill, freeze. Chiefly *fig.* (cf. WINTER sb.¹ 1 c).

1622 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Sir G. Nonsense* Wks. (1630) II. 3/2 Time that now summers him, will one day winter him. **1628** FORD *Lover's Mel.* IV. iii, I am so... wintred with the tempests of affliction. **1797** ANNA SEWARD *Lett.* (1811) IV. 355 Experience has wintered the aspect of the future. **1857** MEREDITH *Farina* (1894) 304 They uttered noises that wintered the blood.

winterage ('wintəɪdʒ). *local.* Also -idge. [f. WINTER v. + -AGE.] The action of wintering cattle; food or pasture for cattle in winter.

1828 *Craven Gloss.*, Winteridge... the same as average. **1888** *Times* 8 Nov. 5/6 [In Galway] 'Winterage' is land hired to place cattle on in the winter months.

†**winteran.** *Obs.* In winteran bark [tr. mod.L. *cortex Winteranus*], erron. bark of Winteran = WINTER'S BARK.

1651 FRENCH *Distill.* II. 58 Of the bark of Winteran half a pound. **1694** PECHEY *Compl. Herbal* 348 Winteranbark.

winterberry ('wintəbəri). Any of several N. American species of holly (*Ilex*, formerly *Prinos*) with berries, usually scarlet, which persist through the winter; esp. *Ilex verticillata* (also called Black Alder) and *I. lævigata* (Smooth Winterberry). Also, the fruit of any of these.

1759 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* (ed. 7). *Prinos.* Winterberry. **1770** J. R. FORSTER tr. *Kalm's Trav. N. Amer.* I. 67 *Prinos*

verticillatus, the winterberry tree in swamps. **1832** J. BREE *St. Herbert's Isle* 147 Brambled paths, where winter-berries hang. **1889** *Science-Gossip* XXV. 171 A vigorous growth of winter-berry, laden with its crimson fruit.

winterbourne ('wintəbɔ:n). [OE. *winterburna*, f. WINTER sb.¹ + *burna*, BOURN(E) sb.¹, BURN sb.¹ As a place-name *Winterbourne* is distributed over Wiltshire and Dorset together with s.w. Berks and s.w. Gloucestershire; there is also a *Winterburn* in North Yorkshire. The mod. use of the word as a common name has not been satisfactorily accounted for.] An intermittent stream, such as those found in chalk and limestone districts, which flows only in winter or at long intervals.

930 in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* II. 348 [Gloucestershire] In winterburnan... swa on oðerne winterburnan. **c.950** *Lindisf. Gosp.* John xviii. 1 Ofer pæt burna vel uinterburna [L. *trans torrentem*].

[**1774** J. HUTCHINS *Hist. Dorset* I. Introd. p. lxxv, Winterhorn N. rises at Winterborn Howton... This rivulet seldom runs farther than Clenston in the summer, and thus answers to its Saxon name Wintreburn.]

1851 KINGSLEY *Yeast* i, One of those noble springs known as winter-bournes in the chalk ranges. **1884** JUKES-BROWNE *Phys. Geol.* 86 The nailbournes [see EYLEBOURN] and winterbournes of the south of England are caused by a gradual rise in the line of saturation under the chalk-hills till the water reaches a level at which there is free egress into some valley or depression. **1895** SAINTSBURY *Ess. Engl. Lit.* Ser. II. 79 The flashing of the winterbournes as they spring from the turf where they have lain hid.

winter cherry.

1. Name for several plants of the nightshade tribe (N.O. *Solanaceæ*) with cherry-like fruit which is ripe in winter; also, the fruit itself.

a. The common English name of ALKEKENGİ, a European herb bearing a round scarlet fruit inclosed in a red bladder-like envelope formed of the enlarged calyx; also of other species of *Physalis*, as the Cape Gooseberry, *P. edulis*.

1548 TURNER *Names of Herbes* (E.D.S.) 75 *Solanum vesicarium*... in englishe Alcaceng or wynter cherries. **1575** J. BANISTER *Chyrurg.* 96 b, *Alcacengi*, Winter cherie, a kynde of nightshade. **1640** PARKINSON *Theat. Bot.* 462 *Halicacabum sive Alkakengi*. Winter Cherries. **1721** MORTIMER *Husb.* II. 178 Winter Cherries are increased from the Roots by Sprouts or Runners. **1731** MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Alkekengi*, The common medicinal Winter-Cherry. **1840** F. D. BENNETT *Whaling Voy.* II. 328 *Physalis edulis*—Cape Gooseberry or Winter Cherry.

b. Applied to species of *Solanum* with cherry-like fruit, as *S. Pseudo-capsicum*, also called Jerusalem Cherry.

1629 PARKINSON *Parad.* 431 *Amonum Plinij seu Pseudo-capsicum*. Tree Night shade or the Winter Cherry tree. **1731** MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Solanum*. **1850** G. GLENNY *Handbk. Flower-Garden* 129 *Solanum pseudo-capsicum* is the Winter Cherry, a greenhouse bush, grown for its red cherry-like berries in winter.

2. Applied to species of *Cardiospermum* or Heartseed (N.O. *Sapindaceæ*), having fruit inclosed in an inflated calyx like that of *Physalis* (see 1); esp. *C. Halicacabum*, also called Balloon Vine.

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. lii. §2. 270 The blacke winter Cherrie hath weake and slender stalkes somewhat crested, and like vnto the tendrels of the Vine. **1866** [see heart-pea, HEART sb. 56 b].

winter corn. [Cf. Du. *winterkoren*, G. *winterkorn*.] Corn sown in winter, or in autumn and remaining in the ground through the winter.

c.1450 *Godstow Reg.* 351 On halfe acre of wyntur corne. **1523-34** FITZHERB. *Husb.* §8 If thou sowe it with winter-corne, as whete or ry. **1577** GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 25 b, The Winter Corne when it is sowed before Winter, appeareth aboue the ground somtimes within a seuennight after. **1608** WILLET *Hexapla Exod.* 113 Our wheate and rie, which wee call winter corne. **1707** MORTIMER *Husb.* 60 These Lands are very subject to worms which destroys both the Corn and the Grass very much, especially the Winter-corn. **1764** *Museum Rust.* IV. 7 If it is to be winter corn, one ploughing more, which is the third only, makes it in fine order for the seed.

attrib. and Comb. **a.1450** *Mankind* 54 in *Macro Plays* 3 A wyntur corn-thresher. **1611** in G. A. Carthew *Hund. Launditch* III. (1879) 26 In the tyme of wynter-corne harvest.

'winter-cress. [After Du. *winterkers*.] Any of the cruciferous herbs of the genus *Barbarea*, the leaves of which were formerly used as a winter salad; esp. *B. vulgaris* (Winter Rocket, Yellow R.).

1548 TURNER *Names of Herbes* (E.D.S.) 44 Irio... in englishe wynter cresse. **1578** LYTE *Dodoens* v. lxi. 626. **1597** GERARDE *Herbal* II. viii. 189 The seede of winter Cresse... helpeth the strangurie. **1650** [W. HOWE] *Phytol. Brit.* 14 *Barbarea*, *Pseudobunias*,... Winter Cresses. **1785** MARTYN *Lett. Bot.* xxiii. (1794) 323 Winter Cress with lyrate leaves... and spikes of yellow flowers, growing by ditch-sides. **1858** HOGG *Veg. Kingd.* 63.

winter day. [OE. *winterdæg* = MLG., MDu. *winterdach*, -dagh (Du. *winterdag*, G. *wintertag*), ON. *vetrardagr*.] A day in winter. (More commonly *winter's day*: see WINTER sb.¹ 3 b.)

c.888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* iv. §1 þu þe ðam winterdagum selest scorte tida. **c.1375** *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxviii. (Margaret) 345

Eftyre sown þe blud fel Als clere of hyre as of a wel As dois watir one wyntir day. **1721** MORTIMER *Husb.* II. 116 To expose them to the Sun in such Winter-days as prove clear. **1726-46** THOMSON *Winter* 692 Behold, the joyous winter-days Frosty succeed. **1842** DICKENS *Amer. Notes* vi, The darkest winter-day that ever glimmered. **a.1876** AIRD *Poet. Wks.* (1878) 145 On gurlly winter days.

winterden, corrupt form of WITEREDEN.

wintred ('wintəd), a. Forms: (1) *gewintred*, 3 *wintred*, (*Orm.*) *winntredd*, 6-9 *wintred*, 6-*wintred*. [OE. *gewintred*, f. *ge-* Y- + *winter* WINTER sb.¹ + -ed, -ED.]

†1. Having lived through or experienced many winters or years (cf. WINTER sb.¹ 2); aged; veteran. In OE. also = 'of age', grown up. *Obs.*

The meaning in the last quot. is doubtful. **688-95** *Laws of Ine* xxxviii. (Liebermann), Healden þa mægas þone frumstol, Oð ðæt hit [sc. the child] *gewintred* sie. **c.893** ÆLFRED *Oros.* VI. xxxi. §1 Hi hiene neddion to leornunga, þeh he *gewintred* wære. **c.1200** ORMIN 746 Sannt Johan wass streonedd ta þurh faderr & þurh moderr, þatt time þatt te33 wærenn ba Winntrade menn & alde. **1594** KYD *Cornelia* IV. i, Backt With wintered souldiers vs'd to conquering [Garnier *vne armee, De fieres legions à vaincre accoustumee*]. **1599** NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* 66 The action is entred, the complaint of her [sc. a turbot's] wintered browes presented.

2. Exposed to the influence of winter; subjected to wintry conditions; chilled or blasted by winter.

c.1205 LAY. 101 þa scipen foren wide 3eon þare wintrede sæ. **1556** J. HEYWOOD *Spider & F.* i. 4 In field so flourishing That wintered withered stalks stand in couart. **1596** LODGE *Marg. Amer.* 21 First shall the sunne be seene without his flame, The wintred mountaines without frost or ice. **1804** ANNA SEWARD *Mem. Darwin* 293 The late and wintered period of Autumn. **1879** G. MACDONALD *Sir Gibbie* III. xv. 241 Something like a flash of cold moonlight on wintred water gleamed over... his poor focusless eyes. **1889** Mrs. LYNN LINTON *Thro' Long Night* II. xx, He would welcome her as the wintered earth welcomes the fresh young spring.

†3. Adapted for or used in winter. *Obs. rare*—1.

1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* III. ii. 111 Wintred garments must be linde.

winterer ('wintərə(r)). [f. WINTER v. (or sb.¹) + -ER¹.] One who winters, in various senses.

1. a. One who spends the winter in a specified place; a winter visitor or resident; *spec.* a servant of the Hudson's Bay Company who was employed in the far interior of N. America. Also applied to birds (*spec.* the jerfalcon: see quot. 1831).

1801 A. MACKENZIE *Voy. Montreal Fur Trade* p. xxviii, Those are called North Men or Winterers. **1831** SWAINSON & RICHARDSON *Fauna Bor.-Amer.* II. 27 The Jerfalcon is a constant resident in the Hudson's Bay territories, where it is known by the name of the 'Speckled Partridge Hawk', or by that of the 'Winterer'. **1876** *Fortn. Rev.* Mar. 363 Davos, with its five hundred winterers. **1882** *Standard* 14 Apr. 6 Doubtless, the winterers in Smith's Sound... will have a curious tale to tell. **1923** *Times Lit. Suppl.* 15 Mar. 176/3 The whinchat hardly deserves to be ranked as a regular winterer, even in Cornwall.

b. *spec.* An animal, as a horse, ox, or sheep, 'kept to feed in a particular place during winter' (Jam.). *Sc.*

1795 G. ROBERTSON *Agric. Surv. Mid-Lothian* 41 In farms where no winterers are kept, the dunghill is placed behind the stables, out of view. **1801** *Farmer's Mag.* Aug. 251 Winterers, or straw-yard cattle, intended for next summer's grass. **1827** SCOTT *Two Drovers* II, If you let me have six stots for winterers.

c. A hibernating animal.

1930 *Observer* 6 Apr. 24/2 Sudden warmth... may awake a winterer too precociously.

2. One who tends animals during winter.

1832 *Boston Her.* 8 May 3/5 Graziers and winterers of stock.

'winter-fallow, sb. [Cf. MLG. *wintervalligen*, G. *winterfalgen*.] A lying fallow, or land that lies fallow, during the winter. So 'winter-fallow v., *trans.* to lay (land) fallow during the winter; hence 'winter-fallowing vbl. sb.

1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* 45 The rougher it lies for a Winter fallow the better. *Ibid.* 47 In Staffordshire they often give their Lands a Winter fallowing, besides the three summer fallowings. **a.1722** LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 54 Spring-corn, for which last three they winter-fallow only. **1763** *Museum Rust.* I. 33 Let the land be then Winter-fallowed. **1813** VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* 166 The wheat-stubbles are... winter-fallowed.

'winter-feed, v. *trans.* To feed or maintain (animals, etc.) during winter. Hence 'winter-feeding vbl. sb.; also 'winter-feed sb., food supplied to animals during winter.

1605 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iii. iv. *Captains* 947 The wide-straddling Mower; That... Cuts-cross the swathes to winter-feed his Farm. **a.1722** LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 276, I was saying that I had winter-feed... for more beasts than I had. **1762** MILLS *Syst. Pract. Husb.* I. 373 In Leicestershire, where they absurdly winter-feed their wheat by consent. **1765** *Museum Rust.* IV. 400 Deduct for the ewes winter-feed... 380. **1805** FORSYTH *Beauties Scot.* II. 221 Stall or winter-feeding of cattle or sheep. **1887** ROGERS *Agric. & Prices* V. 180 In 1595-6, peas and beans... were generally purchased for winter feed in the stable.

wintergreen ('wintəgrɪ:n). [After Du. *wintergroen*, G. *wintergrün*.]

1. Name for various plants of low growth or creeping habit whose leaves remain green in winter. a. Any plant of the genus *Pyrola*, esp. *P. minor*, a woodland plant with roundish drooping white flowers. Also applied to plants of the allied genus *Chimaphila*, as *C. (P.) maculata* (Spotted W.), and *C. (P.) umbellata* (Pipsissewa or Prince's Pine).

Also in *pl.* as a collective name for the order *Pyrolaceae* = the suborder *Pyroleæ* of *Ericaceae*.

1548 TURNER *Names of Herbes* (E.D.S.) 48 *Limonium* named of the Herbaries *Pyrola*, is named in duch wintergreen. . . It may be called in englische wyntergrene. 1640 PARKINSON *Theat. Bot.* 508 *Pyrola nostra vulgaris*. Our ordinary Winter greene. . . *Pyrola tenerior*. Slender Winter greene. 1771 J. R. FORSTER *Flora Amer. Septentr.* 20 *Pyrola rotundifolia*. Winter-green, round-leaved. Virginia. 1814 PURSH *Flora Amer. Septentr.* I. 300 *Chimaphila maculata*. . . *C. corymbosa*. . . Both species are handsome evergreens, and known by the name of Winter-green. 1861 S. THOMSON *Wild Fl.* III. (ed. 4) 222 The *Pyrolas*, or winter-greens. 1872 MACMILLAN *True Vine* vii. 285 The winter-green and the palmy shield-fern creep into the solitude of the pine-wood.

b. The N. American plant *Gaultheria procumbens* (Aromatic, Creeping, or Spring W.), bearing drooping white flowers and edible scarlet berries; also called Checkerberry, Partridge-berry, Tea-berry, etc.

oil of *wintergreen*, *wintergreen oil*, a heavy volatile oil obtained from the leaves of this plant, used medicinally as an aromatic stimulant, and for flavouring confectionery, etc.

1778 J. CARVER *Trav. N. Amer.* xix. 509 Winter Green. . . is an ever-green. . . found on dry heaths; . . in the winter it is full of red berries about the size of a sloe. 1841 BRYANT *Strange Lady* 31 Where cornels arch their cool dark boughs o'er beds of winter green. 1845-50 MRS. LINCOLN *Lect. Bot.* 121 Among these oils are those of the orange, . . peppermint, and wintergreen. 1866 ODING *Anim. Chem.* 87 Wood-spirit is a constituent residue of the essential oil of winter-green. 1909 *Chem. & Druggist* 20 Feb. 315/1 The methyl salicylate in the wintergreen oil.

c. **chickweed wintergreen**, either species of *Trientalis* (*T. europæa* or *americana*), woodland plants of high latitudes or altitudes.

1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot. App.* 332 Winter Green, with Chickweed Flowers. 1789 AITON *Hortus Kew.* I. 493 Common *Trientalis*, or Chickweed Winter-green. 1840 BREMNER *Excurs. Denmark* etc. I. 370 The Wintergreen (*Trientalis Europæa*), the loveliest of all the flowers of the northern flora.

d. **flowering wintergreen**, the Fringed Milkwort of N. America, *Polygala paucifolia*.

1856 A. GRAY *Man. Bot. U.S.* (1860) 88.

2. Usually *pl.* (with hyphen, or as two words). An evergreen. Also *fig. ? Obs.*

1681 COTTON *Wond. Peak* 83 For Winter-Greens the Yew, Holly, and Box. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* 383 The best time for the removing of all Trees, except Winter Greens. . . is either in October or February. 1729 SAVAGE *Wanderer* I. 196 Thick on this Top o'ergrown for Walks are seen Grey, leafless Wood, and winter Greens between! 1850 HAWTHORNE *Scarlet Let.* *Introd.* (1883) 33 This Inspector . . was . . one of the most wonderful specimens of winter-green that you would be likely to discover in a life-time's search.

3. (As two words or hyphenated.) Greens for winter use.

1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) I. 149 Winter greens comprise those varieties of the Brassica tribe, which authors are in the habit of describing as Coleworts, Borecole, Savoys, Scotch Kale, Sprouts, &c. 1886 HARDY *Woodlanders* iv. Rabbits that had been eating the winter-greens in the gardens.

winter-ground, *v.*

Assumed by G. Steevens (ed. of Shakespeare, 1773, IX. 257) in *Cymb.* iv. ii. 229, where the 1st Folio has 'the Raddocke wou'd. . bring thee all this, Yea, and furr'd Mosse besides. When Flowres are none To winter-ground thy Coarse — Gui. Prythee haue done', and explained by him as meaning: 'To protect (a plant) from the inclemency of the winter-season, by straw, dung, &c. laid over it.' (Hence in *Dicts.* from Worcester, 1860, onwards.)

Winterhalter ('vintəhəltə(r)). The name of Franz Xavier *Winterhalter* (1806-73), German portrait painter of royalty, used *attrib.* to designate things characteristic of his pictures, esp. court settings and a style of women's formal dress.

1923 *Daily Mail* 11 Sept. 11/2 The 'period' dress, Winterhalter or Velasquez, is almost entirely restricted to dinner, or formal afternoon, wear. 1937 H. NICOLSON *Helen's Tower* vii. 146 How did she cope with the Winterhalter atmosphere of that decaying court? 1944 'BRAHMS' & 'SIMON' *No Nightingales* xxvii. 155 An . . old lady tottering but aristocratic, at grips with a son-in-law too mean to buy a Winterhalter ball-gown for dining *en famille*. 1957 M. B. PICKEN *Fashion Dict.* 376/2 *Winterhalter*, name applied to costumes characterized by off-shoulder necklines, corseleted waistlines, crinoline skirts with flounces. 1970 R. T. WILCOX *Dict. Costume* 398/2 *Winter-halter*, another term for the crinoline period.

'winter-house. [OE. *winterhūs*. Cf. G. *winterhaus*.] A house for winter occupation. (Cf. SUMMER-HOUSE 1.)

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* xxxvi. 98 Winterhus and sumorhus and wynsume buras. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 530/1 Wyntyr howse, or halle. . . *hibernaculum*. 1539 *Bible* (Great) Eccus. xxii. 17-18 A fayre playstred wall in a wynter house.

1611 *Bible* Jer. xxxvi. 22 The king sate in the winter house, . . & there was a fire on the hearth burning before him. 1688 BOYLE *Final Causes* iv. 173 Beavers . . lay these together so as to build themselves strong winter-houses. 1771 BURNAY *Pres. St. Mus. France & Italy* 256 He has a winter-house in Florence. 1865 LUBBOCK *Preh. Times* 392 These circles were at first supposed to be the remains of winter-houses.

So † **winter-housing**, *rare*.

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* Tab. 18 Bilydnye of wyntir housynge.

winteridge: see WINTERAGE.

winterim ('wintərim), *a.* and *sb.* U.S. [Blend of WINTER *sb.*¹ and INTERIM *adv.*, *sb.*, and *adj.*] (Of or pertaining to) a short winter term in some private schools in the U.S., part of which is spent by some pupils on projects away from the school.

1972 *Handbk. Private Schools* (ed. 53) 1079 A four-week 'Winterim' in which juniors and seniors may go off campus and a special program is run for freshmen and sophomores. 1976 *National Observer* (U.S.) 22 May 15/1 (Adv.), Winterim on-and-off campus work/study program—Thorough college preparation. 1979 *N.Y. Times Mag.* 30 Sept. 91/2 (Adv.), Interscholastic and recreational sports—On and off campus Winterim. 1980 L. BIRNBACH et al. *Official Preppy Handbk.* 52/2 Winterim session spent skiing.

wintering ('wintərim), *vbl. sb.* [f. WINTER *v.* or *sb.*¹ + -ING¹.]

1. The action of WINTER *v.* in various senses.

1. a. The keeping or tending of cattle, etc. during winter; provision of food and shelter for animals in winter.

1477 [see SUMMERING *vbl. sb.*¹ 1]. 1504 *Nottingham Rec.* III. 320 For wynttering of the commond bull' iij s. viij d. 1583 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 15 The wynterynge and sommerynge of a styrke. 1617 *Ibid.* 253 Winteringe of a mare at Cophurst, x. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* 171 Young, lean Cattel. . may by their growth pay for their Wintering. 1855 *Poultry Chron.* II. 415 The successful wintering of bees. 1886 C. SCOTT *Sheep-Farming* 123 The wintering of hill sheep.

† b. *transf.* or *gen.* Provision of food, clothing, or shelter for persons in winter. *Obs.*

1586 FERNE *Blaz. Gentry* 158 If thou hast a shrewd wyfe, giue her as shrewde a wintering, and turne her off to hard meat. c 1590 *Trag. Rich. II.* (1870) 43 We haue all need of some kynd winteringe. We are hesett. . with many stormes.

† 2. Winter weather (of a certain kind). *nonce-use*.

1545 RAYNALDE *Byrth Mankynde* 89 When so euer the wynter is hote & moyst, . . when that such wintering chaunseth, the hote & moyste whether heateth and moysteth the womans body.

3. The action of passing the winter in a particular place; a stay or residence during winter.

a 1593 MARLOWE *tr. Lucan* I. 303 Our wintering Vnder the Alpes. 1621 in *Foster Engl. Factories Ind.* (1906) 240 The Red Sea intended for our shippis wintering. a 1674 MILTON *Hist. Moscovia* v. Wks. 1851 VIII. 505 Thir two years wintering in Lapland. 1740 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. xxiii. 276 Whose heart is set upon the hope of her wintering with us in town. 1861 J. H. BENNET *Shores Mediterr.* I. vi. (1875) 155, I had not seen the good results from wintering abroad that I have since experienced. 1887 *Spectator* 8 Oct. 1340 In the Arctic seas, the art of wintering on the ice is so well understood.

II. Concrete senses.

4. = WINTERLING. (See WINTER *sb.*¹ 2, and cf. SUMMERING *vbl. sb.*¹ 3 c.) *Sc.*

Cf. ON. *vetrungr*.

1717 *Forfeited Estates Papers* (S.H.S. 1909) *Introd.* p. xxix, Winterings, 30 at 2s. 9d. per Wintering. 1825 JAMIESON, *Winterin, Winterling*.

5. An animal that is wintered in a particular place.

1901 *Scotsman* 1 Apr. 9/2 To add to the anxieties of sheep-owners, the winterings are on the way from the low countries.

6. Land where livestock may be wintered.

1937 A. FRASER *Sheep Farming* iv. 46 The ewes can be helped if the hill is cleared as much and as early as possible . . by getting the ewe hogs to their wintering at the earliest possible date. 1978 *Dumfries & Galloway Standard* 21 Oct. 21/3 (Adv.), Wintering wanted for 45 Blackface Ewe Lambs from November till 1st March 1979.

III. 7. *attrib.*, as (in sense 3) *wintering-ground*, † *-harbour* (HARBOUR *sb.*¹ 2), *-house*, *-place*, *-region*, *-station*; (in sense 1) † *wintering-meat* (MEAT *sb.* 1).

c 1520 BARCLAY *Jugurth* xxxviii. 52 b, Worthy men of his army . . to be called togyder. . from their wyntyrng places. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* v. ii. 180 The Romane captaines. . began to build wintering harbours. 1606-7 *Act 4 Jas.* I. c. 11 §1 The Oxen and Kyne. . must be sold away for wante of winteringe Meate. 1611 in *Voy. L. Foxe & James* (Hakl. Soc.) II. 630 The certayne tyme of the Ship's comming owte of the wintering port, he remembreth not. 1629 LE GRYS *tr. Barclay's Argenis* 291 As in perpetuall wintering stations. 1780 COXE *Russ. Discov.* 254 This wintering place was observed to lie in 53° 29' North latitude. 1805 Z. M. PIKE *Jrnl.* 15 Oct. in *Acct. Expeditions Sources Mississippi* (1810) I. 33 This day's march made me think seriously of our wintering ground. 1817 J. BRADBURY *Trav. Amer.* 51, I set out. . at sunrise, for the wintering house. 1841 CATLIN *N. Amer. Ind.* II. lii. 149 The wintering post of Colonel Kearney. c 1890 R. CAMPBELL in C. Wilson *Campbell of Yukon* (1970) xi. 104 Do away with a wintering ground which, from the starvation so frequently experienced there, our men hold in actual dread and abhorrence. 1977 *Monitor* (McAllen, Texas) 9 Jan. B 8/4 The request for Texas

biologists to investigate the whitewing wintering grounds came from the International Whitewinged Dove Council.

'wintering, *ppl. a.* [f. WINTER *v.* + -ING².] That winters, in various senses.

1. Passing the winter in a particular place: *spec.* of cattle, etc. that are being tended in the winter.

1808 J. C. CURWEN *Feeding Stock* 55 Feeding the wintering Highland cattle with them [*sc.* turnips]. 1876 'OUIDA' *Winter City* vii. The wintering-swallows had never been so fluttered. 1889 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 16 Feb. 5/2 Competent scientific men. . would be taken on board and left with the wintering party.

2. *poet.* used vaguely for 'wintry'.

1865 SWINBURNE *Atalanta* 268 As a windy and wintering moon Seen through blown cloud. 1876 — *Erechtheus* 732 Thicker set with fence of thorn-edged spears Than sands are whirled about the wintering beach.

winterish ('wintəriʃ), *a.* [f. WINTER *sb.*¹ + -ISH¹.] † a. Belonging to winter. b. Having a quality of winter: (somewhat) winterly or wintry.

1530 PALSGR. 329/2 Wynterysshe, . . yvernal. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 220 In winter it may. . be called, a winterish region so wet. . it is. 1885 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 199/1 Gray and winterish as it [*sc.* a barberry bush] had been on her approach, when she looked at it from the other side it seemed to be glowing with rubies.

'winterishly, *adv.* [f. WINTERISH *a.* + -LY².] In a manner suggestive of winter.

1905 *Smart Set* Oct. 26/1 Though by good rights the day might have been winterishly cold it was of a balmy mildness.

winterize ('wintəraɪz), *v.* orig. and chiefly U.S. [f. WINTER *sb.*¹ + -IZE.] *trans.* To adapt or prepare (something) for operation or use in cold weather.

1938 *Amer. Speech* XIII. 160/1 A radio announcer. . . urged his listeners to have their cars winterized. 1949 A. HAYES *Girl on Flaminia* iv. 90 She sat on the hard canvas cushion of the jeep, and she must have felt exposed. The jeep had not been winterized. 1950 *Jane's Fighting Ships 1950-1* 454 *Arneb* has been refitted for Arctic Service. . . Other vessels are also to be 'winterized'. 1954 E. W. ECKEY *Veg. Fats & Oils* iii. 124 The temperature below which no portion of the oil should be chilled is a little above the cloud point of the oil to be winterized. 1964 S. BELLOW *Herzog* 96 This is a fine house you have. . . Summer only, isn't it? You could winterize it easily. 1973 B. WRIGHT *Four Seasons North* 42 Sam winterized the rifles, wiping away all the lubrication, which would freeze if left in the guns. 1980 L. AUCHINCLOSS *House of Prophet* vii. 101 We agreed to take over my parents' summer house in Seal Cove and winterize it.

Hence **'winterized** *ppl. a.*, **'winterizing** *vbl. sb.*; **winterization**.

1926 *Jrnl. Oil & Fat Industries* III. 421/1 Some of the cottonseed stearine made by the winterizing process and the hydrogenated oil are used in margarine. 1927 *Oil & Fat Industries* IV. 301/2 Depending upon the length of time winterized oil will stand clear, brilliant and limpid when exposed to the so-called Winter Oil Test, an oil is more or less suitable for . . salad oil and mayonnaise manufacturers. 1940 *PM* 29 Nov. 14/3 Instead of having an entire company of trainees, even one 'winterized tent' of trainees, all together, . . there will be throughout the 44th Division scads of veterans surrounding each new man. 1940 *Capital* (Topeka) 8 Dec. 2A (Adv.), Buy any car. . . Plus complete winterization. 1943 *Oil & Soap* July 131/2 The present slow and inefficient winterization process for cottonseed oil. 1955 SMALLEY & KLOHR in F. S. Mallette *Probl. & Control of Air Pollution* xvii. 199 (*caption*) Winterized sulfur recovery plant. 1957 *Encycl. Brit.* VI. 584/2 Winterization is a process by which a portion of the refined and bleached oil is solidified by chilling and filtered off. 1966 *Economist* 22 Jan. 341/3 Builders. . are showing considerable interest in 'winterisation'. . . Over a third now have some degree of lighting on site. 1970 *Toronto Daily Star* 24 Sept. 39/7 (Adv.), Winterized jackets have the accent on fashion with bright colours. 1971 C. BONINGTON *Annapurna South Face* 286 All the cameras functioned well, and although only the Nikons were winterized, there was no trouble from freezing up. 1978 *N.Y. Times* 30 Mar. B15/2 (Adv.), Two 5 rm winterized cottages. 1979 *Farmington* (New Mexico) *Daily Times* 27 May 6c/3 (Adv.), Experiments on winterizing and solar energy retrofits.

'winterless, *a.* [f. as WINTERISH *a.* + -LESS.] Having no winter; free from or not experiencing winter.

1845 BAILEY *Festus* (ed. 2) 193 Such dew as gemmed the everduring blooms Of Eden winterless. 1869 RUSKIN *Q. of Air* §88 Glossy surfaces [of leaves], green with pure strength, and winterless delight. 1883 *Century Mag.* June 200/2 The sunny, delicious, winterless Californian sky.

'winterling. [f. as *prec.* + -LING.] An ox, sheep, or other animal of a year old; a yearling.

1825 [see WINTERING *vbl. sb.* 4]. 1881 SIR G. W. COX *Compar. Mythol.* 156 A Chimaira is thus, strictly, a winterling, that is, a yearling.

winterly ('wintəli), *a.* [OE. *winterlic* = OHG. *wintarlīh* (G. *winterlich*), ON. *vetrligr*, etc., f. WINTER *sb.*¹ + -LY¹; but in modern use a new formation (cf. *summerly*).]

1. Of, belonging to, or occurring in winter. (Not always distinguishable from sense 2.)

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* xi. 144 On þam timan wæs swiþe hefigtime wynter. . and se winterlica wind wæn mid þam forste.

1559 W. CUNINGHAM *Cosmogr. Glasse* 34 Into whiche [*sc.* tropic of winter] whan he [*sc.* the sun] doth enter, he maketh his wynterly retorne backwarde. 1622 WITHER *Faire-Virtue*,

etc. 07b, Those tresses of Haire, which thy youth doe adorne, Will looke like the Meads in a Winterly morne. 1628 VENNOR *Baths* Advt. 13 For them . . . that are subject to . . . cold winterly diseases. 1665 MANLEY *Grotius' Low C. Wars* III. 307 The Winterly Waters, and frequent shoures. 1822 T. TAYLOR *Apuleius* 215 The winterly frosts of Capricorn. 1889 MRS. OLIPHANT *Poor Gentleman* I. xii. 222 Even the winterly birds in the trees . . . were silent to-day.

2. Having the character of, or characteristic of, winter; resembling winter or that of winter; cold and cheerless; wintry.

a 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Somerset* (1662) 17 The Earth [of Somerset] in winter is as winterly, deep and dirty, as any in England. 1675 tr. *Camden's Hist. Eliz.* (ed. 3) 500 The Air growing more winterly in the Month of Aprill. 1703 S. SEWALL *Diary* 16 Mar., All things look horribly winterly by reason of a great storm of Snow. 1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xviii. (1818) II. 112 Though the summer has been so wet, and one may almost say winterly. 1858 MRS. OLIPHANT *Laird of Norlaw* II. 223 The winterly brown aspect of the trees. 1876 J. GRANT *Burgh Sch. Scot.* II. v. 191 The fields wear a winterly face.

b. fig.

1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* III. iv. 13 If't be Summer Newes Smile too't before: if Winterly, thou need'st But keepe that count'nance stil. 1680 ALSOP *Mischief Impos.* vi. 40 Incendiaries who . . . will suffer none to be cool that are in them-selves of a more winterly temper. 1798 MARY WOLLSTONECR. *Posth. Wks.* IV. 76 Your note . . . produced a kind of winterly smile. 1864 W. J. LINTON *Claribel* I. iii. Let thy sweet spring smile Shine on me through this winterly contempt.

Hence 'winterliness.

1891 W. SHARP in *Mem.* (1910) 174 With all the sunlit but yet sombre winterliness around.

'winter 'quarters. (Also with hyphen.) [See QUARTER sb. 15.]

1. a. The place of stay, or lodgings, occupied by troops, or by the members of an expedition, during the winter (between two campaigns or periods of activity or travel). Also, such a place occupied by any travelling company or by private individuals.

[1641 EVELYN *Diary* 8 Sept., Seadam, where was at that time Coll. Goring's winter-quarters.] 1650 STAPYLTON *Strada's Low C. Wars* VIII. 8 The like . . . was done . . . by the Nervians, when they besieged the winter-quarters of Quintus Cicero. 1714 W. VICKERS *Let.* 21 Sept. in M. M. Verney *Verney Lett.* (1930) II. xxi. 16 Miss Pen comes to our winter quarters in the middle of next week. 1769 *Lond. Chron.* 9-11 Nov. 456/1 According to advices from the Russian Army . . . it will soon go into winter quarters in the centre of the kingdom. 1777 R. WATSON *Philip II* (1839) 423 His troops were no sooner distributed into winter-quarters, than Leicester returned with his army towards Zutphen. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Winter-quarters*, . . . in Arctic parlance, the spot where ships are to remain housed during the winter months—from the 1st October to the 1st July or August. 1878 A. H. MARKHAM *Gt. Frozen Sea* xiii. 154 Altogether the neighbourhood of our winter quarters had the appearance of a young thriving settlement. 1897 A. BEARDSLEY *Let.* 29 July (1970) 353 At the end of this week I shall move to Paris, and then into winter quarters as soon as possible. 1939 *Florida* (Federal Writers' Project) III. 395 Bailey circus winter quarters.

† b. *transf.* The interval of time during which troops are in winter quarters. *Obs.*

1706 PHILLIPS s.v. *Quarters, Winter-Quarters*, . . . the Space of Time between two Campaigns. 1734 tr. *Rollin's Rom. Hist.* III. 402 Which he divides into campaigns and winter-quarters. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XV. 751.

2. The place in which certain animals find shelter during the winter. (Rarely of plants.)

1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 357 Lazy Drones, . . . In Winter Quarters free, devour the Gain. 1709 T. ROBINSON *Vind. Mosaick Syst.* 89, I saw infinite Numbers of Frogs coming out of their Winter-Quarters, which was a vast heap of loose Stones. 1856 DELAMER *Fl. Gard.* (1861) 165 Remove dahlia-roots from their winter quarters. 1890 *Science-Gossip* XXVI. 34 A frost of several days' duration . . . sent most of these snails into winter-quarters.

Hence winter-quarter v., *intr.* to go into or reside in winter quarters. *rare.*

1706 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) VI. 90, 25 000 of the allies are to winter quarter in Brabant.

winters ('wintəz), *adv.* U.S. [Pl. of WINTER sb.¹] During the winter.

1907 'MARK TWAIN' *Christian Sci.* II. 235 It can appoint its own furnace-stoker, winters. 1978 *Chicago* June 158/1 Winters, William is the tennis director at the Genesee Valley Tennis Club in Flint.

Winter's bark. [= mod.L. *cortex Winteranus* (see WINTERAN), named from its discoverer Captain William Winter, who accompanied Francis Drake to the Magellan Straits in 1578 (Clusius).] a. The pungent aromatic bark of the mountainous parts of western America from Mexico southwards; used as a stimulant tonic and antiscorbutic; also called Winter's cinnamon, from its flavour. b. Extended to other medicinal barks, as that of the W. Indian whitewood or wild cinnamon, *Canella alba* (false Winter's bark). c. Any of the trees themselves.

1622 R. HAWKINS *Voy. S. Sea* xxxvi. 88 A learned Country-man of ours, Doctor Turner, hath written of it, by the name of Winters barke. 1640 PARKINSON *Theat. Bot.* 1662 Captaine Winters Cinnamon. 1679 TRAPHAM *Disc. Health Jamaica* 38 Our Winter Bark or West Indian

Cinnamon Tree. 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* IV. I. 74 White Cinamon, to which some give the Name . . . Winter's Bark, or Winter's Cinnamon. 1776 *Med. Observ. & Inq.* V. 46 The Winter's Bark-tree, *Winterana Aromatica*. 1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 121 The false Winter's Bark, a good tonic and stimulant, not much known.

'winter 'solstice. The time at which the sun reaches the winter tropic, i.e. in the northern hemisphere the tropic of Capricorn, in the southern the tropic of Cancer; the middle of the winter half of the year, midway between the autumnal and vernal equinoxes.

a 1633 AUSTIN *Medit.* (1635) 42 This night [sc. Christmas] was shortly after the Winter Solstice; when Night grows shorter, and Day longer. 1658 SIR T. BROWNE *Gard. Cyrus* iii. 48 Even the Autumnal buds, which await the return of the Sun, do after the winter solstice multiply their calicular leaves. 1729 FENTON in *Waller's Wks.* *Observ.* p. xvi, At the time of their breeding (which is about the winter-solstice,) the sea is calm. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 471/2 Winter begins at the winter solstice.

'wintersome, a. *rare*—¹. [f. WINTER sb.¹ + -SOME¹.] = WINTRY a.

1864 TROLLOPE *Small Ho.* *Allington* II. xv. 148 The fourteenth of February in London was quite as black, and cold, and as wintersome as it was at Allington.

winter sport. a. A sport enjoyed in the winter; *spec.* an outdoor sport on snow or ice, such as skiing or skating. *Usu. pl.*

1828 *Ladies' Mag.* Mar. 141 (*heading*) Children at their winter sports. 1847 C. M. YONGE *Scenes & Characters* xiii. 163 Intent upon the various winter sports in which William and Lord Rotherwood allowed him to share [at an English country house]. 1879 H. CHADWICK (*title*) Handbook of winter sports. Embracing; skating (on ice and on rollers,) rink-ball, curling, ice-boating, and American football. 1906 *Dress Dec.* 18/1 Tobogganing, another favorite winter sport introduced from Canada, has many devotees. 1934 F. SCOTT FITZGERALD *Tender is Night* I. iii. 17 Vivid advertising cards of the railroad companies . . . winter sports at Chamonix. 1956 A. H. COMPTON *Atomic Quest* 213 Winter sports, especially skiing, were popular. 1975 *Oxf. Compan. Sports* 950/2 Skibobbing is a new winter sport, combining the virtues of the ski, the bobsleigh, and the velocipede in a downhill run.

b. *attrib.* (in *sing.* and *pl.*).

1908 E. & M. SYERS *Bk. Winter Sports* 323 Some notes on winter-sport resorts. 1922 *Cook's Continental Timetable Jan.* 377 (*Advt.*), Central position. Close to all Winter Sports places. 1950 E. HEMINGWAY *Across River* xxxiii. 207 It would be just like any winter-sports hotel. 1966 N. FREELING *King of Rainy Country* 38 She had gone . . . on a wintersport holiday. 1975 *Country Life* 30 Oct. 1192/2 A really beautiful collection of winter sports clothes.

Hence winter-sport v. *intr.*, to engage in winter sports; winter-sporting *vbl. sb.*

1948 M. LASKI *Tory Heaven* ix. 128 I'd like to go winter-sporting in January. 1955 T. H. PEAR *Eng. Social Differences* xi. 265 Few who 'winter-sport' . . . feel that their social rating is thereby raised. 1961 *Times* 13 May 11/2 The famous winter-sporting centres. 1974 *Guardian* 23 Mar. 14/2 If you've fished in Scotland, if you've winter sported in Switzerland, you can do it all in Sweden.

'winter-tide. Now somewhat *arch.* [OE. *wintertid* (WINTER sb.¹, TIDE sb.): cf. OHG. *winterzît* (G. *winterzeit*), MLG., MDu. *wintertît* (Du. *wintertijd*), ON. *vetrartíð*, etc.; in modern use a new formation (cf. *summer-tide*).] = next.

c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* II. xiii. (1890) 134 Swylc swa ðu æt swæsendum sitte mid ðinum ealdormannum ond ðegnum on wintertide, and sie fyr onælæd. c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* iv. 35 Hit is wintertid nu, and ic wundrie pearle hwanon pes wyrtbræð þus wynsumlic steme. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 240 In Wales it is fülle strong to werre in Winter tide. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* v. 1 Quhen vyntir tyde Vith his blastis . . . Wes ourdriffin. c 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 634 The trees that ware In wynter-tyde naked & bare. 1590 GREENE *Neuer too late Wks.* (Grosart) VIII. 227 The daies growes short, then hasts the winter tide.

1830 TENNYSON *Ode to Memory* 19 Earliest shoots Of orient green, . . . Which in wintertide shall star The black earth with brilliance rare. 1904 A. GRIFFITHS 50 *Yrs. Public Service* xii. 167, I shall never forget those church parades in the dull grey light of wintertide.

'winter-time. [Cf. ON. *vetrartími*.] The season of winter.

1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* XIII. 189 With forste[s] With wyndes ne with wederes as in wynter-tyme. c 1400 *Brut* ccxiv. 291 He wente aȝen into Scotland in þe wynter tyme. 1523-34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* §16 Yf the lande be falowed in wynter tyme, it is farr the worse. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* 631 All Winter time almost it is continually cloudy and misty weather. 1716 [? ARBUTHNOT] *Petit. Colliers* Swift's Misc. 1732 III. 73 Warming of Cellars and Dressing of Suppers in the Winter-time. 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Parish* v. If it's winter time, they just give you fire enough to make you think you'd like more. 1896 BADEN-POWELL *Matabele Campaign* xiii, A pair of skates . . . which . . . came in useful when he got up to Kandahar in the winter-time.

'winterward(s), *adv.* [f. WINTER sb.¹: see -WARD(s).] Towards winter.

1891 *Advance* (Chicago) 9 Apr., Winterward [see SUMMERWARD]. 1906 E. F. BENSON *Challoners* xii, Till to-day all had been grey and brown, all still pointed backwards, winter-wards.

wintery: see WINTRY.

wintle ('wint(ə)l), v. *Sc.* Also 9 wuntle. [a. early Flem. *windtelen*, *wend(t)elen* 'voluere, volutare' (Kilian), f. *winden* WIND v.¹]

1. *intr.* To roll or swing from side to side.

1786 BURNS *To Auld Mare* vii, Tho' now ye dow but hoyte and hoble, An' wintle like a saumont-coble. 1790 — *Verses to J. Rankine* 8 From him that wears the star and garter, To him that wintles in a halter. 1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 173 And wi' his prickin' gude pyk-staff Made them rebound and wintle aff.

2. To tumble, capsize, be upset.

1867 J. K. HUNTER *Retrospect. Artist's Life* xxx. (1912) 315, I . . . wintled over beyond him in the bed. 1890 SERVICE *Thir Notandums* v. 28 At the whilk observe of mine, I thoct that his Lordship would have wuntled aff his cheyre.

Hence 'wintle sb., a rolling or staggering movement.

1785 BURNS *Halloween* xix, He by his shouther gae a keek, An' tumbld wi' a wintle. 1882 JAS. WALKER *Sc. Poems* 127 With rocking wintle near the shipping quay The Granton steamboat at our service lay.

† wintrous, a. *Obs. rare*—¹. [f. WINTER sb.¹ + -OUS.] = next.

1629 Z. BOYD *Last Battell* 283 The more wintrous the Season of the life hath beene, look to the fairer Summer of pleasures for evermore.

wintry ('wintri), a. Also 7 winterie, 9 -y. [OE. *wintrig*, = OHG. *wintirig*, etc., f. WINTER sb.¹ + -Y¹; but in modern use a new formation.]

1. Of or pertaining to winter; occurring, existing, or found in winter; adapted or suitable for winter. Now *rare* or merged in 2, being replaced by 'winter' *attrib.* (WINTER sb.¹ 3).

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* v. §2 Swa deð eac se ðe wintregum wedrum wile blostman secan. c 893 — *Oros.* I. i. 12 On þæm wintregum tidum.

1611 COTGR., *Hyernal*, winterie, winterlie. c 1630 MILTON *Passion* 6 In Wintry solstice like the shortn'd light Soon swallow'd up in dark and long out-living night. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* I. 271 The wise Ant her wintry Store provides. 1697 — *Æneis* VI. 298 The wintry Mistleto. 1770 GOLDSM. *Des. Vill.* 133 To pick her wintry faggot from the thorn. 1795 COWPER *Needless Alarm* 20 Her berries red, With which the fieldfare, wintry guest, is fed. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. v. 40 Where the wintry edifices had fallen.

2. Having the quality of winter; of such a kind as occurs in winter; characteristic of winter.

1590 SPENSER *F.Q.* I. xi. 21 When wintry storme his wrathfull wreck does threat. 1713 ROWE *Jane Shore* II. 24 The Wintry Sky Descends in Storms. c 1781 BURNS *Winter i*, The wintry west extends his blast. 1825 SCOTT *Betrothed* ii, A barbed horse and his rider will fear to stem the wintry flood. 1830 LYEALL *Princ. Geol.* I. 120 At this period, the climate of equinoctial lands might resemble that of the present temperate zone, or perhaps be far more wintry. 1856 KANE *Arctic Expl.* I. xxvii. 355 This missing . . . is a frightfully wintry operation. 1876 C. F. HALL *Polar Exped.* 415 Great ice-crystals . . . gave the vessel a wintry appearance.

3. Exposed or subject to the effect or influence of winter; chilled or blasted by winter.

1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* IV. 205 When he leaves the frost Of wintry Xanthus. 1803 HEBER *Palestine* 56 The wintry top of giant Lebanon. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* vi. xxviii, The wintry loneliness Of those dead leaves. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xii, Endless avenues and cross-avenues of wintry trees. 1918 *Blackw. Mag.* Oct. 464/2 You saw nothing but a field or two of bleached wintry grass.

4. *fig.* with various shades of meaning; *esp.* (a) Aged, infirm or withered from age; (of hair) white with age, 'snowy'; (b) devoid of fervour or affection, 'cold', 'chilling'; (c) destitute of warmth or brightness, dismal, dreary, cheerless.

1633 P. FLETCHER *Pisc. Ecl.* VII. i, Cold, wintry, wither'd Tithon. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* lvi. (1768) III. 281 Nodding at each other in opposite chimney-corners in a winter-evening, and over a wintry Love. 1822 SHELLEY *Scenes fr. Faust* II. 15 Nothing of such an influence do I feel. My body is all wintry. 1846 MRS. A. MARSH *Fr. Darcy* xliii, A faint wintry kind of hope. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* VI. 310 So she, and turn'd askance a wintry eye. 1876 BESANT & RICE *Golden Butterfly* vi, Her cold face shone . . . with the wintry light of a forced smile. 1895 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 5 Oct. 3/3 His latest work met with a somewhat wintry welcome. 1902 W. ADAMSON *Life Jos. Parker* xv. 192 The . . . wintry locks of wisdom.

5. Used *advb.* qualifying another adj. *poet.*

1892 W. WATSON *Poems* 9 Thine . . . Is wintry chill.

Hence 'wintrify (-fai) v., *trans.* to make wintry (*rare*); 'wintrily *adv.*, in a wintry manner (*lit.* and *fig.*); 'wintriness, wintry quality or condition (*lit.* and *fig.*).

1855 LYNCH *Lett. to Scattered* vi. 88 Wise divine Love . . . re-impacting to a world which hate had *wintrified the summer warmth of life. c 1822 BEDDOES *Poems, Pygmalion* 159 Thou . . . dost shiver *Wintrily sad. 1867-8 J. THOMSON *In the Room* II, Flies . . . now slept wintrily abashed. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Sept. 613/1 She . . . began . . . to smile wintrily. 1824 in *Spirit Publ. Jrnl.* (1825) 512 With all this *wintriness, he is still a boy. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xxxii. (1856) 277 To the east and west there is no such interception to our wintriness. 1916 *Spectator* 18 Mar. 383/1 On some morning when the harvest's done, And autumn its first wintriness reveals.

† winx, v. *Obs.* [Cf. dial. *whink* to bark, yelp, *whinnock* to whine, neigh, winny.] *intr.* To bray as an ass.

14 . . *Hortus Vocab.* (MS. Harl. 12257), *Mugio*, to lowe as a oxe. *Mugilo*, to wynx as a asse.

winy, winey ('waini), *a.* Also 4, 6-7 **wyny**, 6 **wynie**, 6-7 **winie**. [f. **WINE** *sb.*¹ + -Y¹.]

1. Of, belonging to, or characteristic of wine; having the nature or properties (taste, colour, etc.) of wine; *occas.* producing wine; vinous.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 371 The **wyny** grape. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 102/43 **Wynie**, **vinosus**. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* VI. iv. 660 Ful of a redde **wynie** sappe or iuyce. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Ps.* LXXV. iv, A troubled cupp... Where wine and **wyny** lees compounded stand. 1586 BRIGHT *Melanch.* 159 This waye melancholie carrying a **winie** and aromatically spirit... may procure an hartly laughter. 1626 BACON *Sylva* §486 Take Cucumbers... and set them... amongst Muske-Melons, and see whether the Melons will not be more **Winy**, and better tasted. 1644 DIGBY *Nat. Bodies* xxxviii. §2. 328 It is said that sufficient tartar putt at the roote of a tree, will make the fruite haue a **winy** tast. 1660 tr. *Paracelsus' Archidoxis* I. vi. 92 There are Two Substances... in **Winc**; the one is **Winey**, in which the Spirit of the Wine is...; the other is Phlegmatick. 1710 T. FULLER *Pharmacopoeia* (1719) I Middingling Ale... that... is of Age just to leave its Malty Taste [and] grow **Winey**. 1725 POPE *Odys.* XIX. 143 A **winy** vapour melting in a tear. 1817 L. HUNT *On Avon Poems* (1860) 257 The rich orchards in their sunniest robes Are pouting thick with all their **winy** globes. 1902 R. W. CHAMBERS *Cardigan* ix, I knew the risk... but the hazard had a **winy** flavour withal. 1918 BART KENNEDY in *Chamb. Jnrl.* Sept. 593/1 His **winey** face took on a still deeper and more **winey** tinge.

2. *a.* Accompanied by the drinking of wine. *rare.*

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. xxvii. (1912) 322 There was no matter their eares had ever heard of that grew not to be a subject of their **wine** conference.

b. Affected by or due to (excessive) consumption of wine.

1594 NASHE *Terrors Nt.* To Rdr., If their **winy** wits must needs be working. 1840 LADY C. BURY *Hist. Flirt* xxi, A man who is perhaps a little **winey**. 1852 R. S. SURTEES *Sponge's Sp. Tour* xlv, Ere he thought he had got rid of as much of his **winy** headache as fitful sleep would carry off. 1873 LELAND *Egypt. Sketch-Bk.* 61 When the old gentlemen were comfortably fed and amiably **winey**.

† **winyard**. *Obs.* Forms: 1-2 **wingear**d, 2 **winiærd**, 3 **winzeard**, -yard, -yherde, **wynyarde**, 4 **wine-y(h)erd**, **wineierd**, -yerd, **wynzard**, -zord. [OE. *wingear*d = OS. *wingardo* (Du. *wijnngaard*), OHG. *wingart*, ON. *wingarðr*, Goth. *weinagards*: see **WINE** *sb.*¹ and **YARD** *sb.*¹] = **VINEYARD** (*lit.* and *fig.*).

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxii. §3 Ealle men witon pæt hit pær ne weaxð þe ma ðe gimmas weaxað on **wingear**dum. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 51 Ure hwæte, & ure **wingear**das, & ealle ure corpan wæstmas. 1154 O.E. *Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1137 He made manie munekes & plantede **winiærd**. *a* 1225 *Ancr.* R. 294 þet beoð þe erest prukunges þet sturied þe **winzeardes**,... þet beoð ure soulen. *c* 1250 *Kent. Sermon* in O.E. *Misc.* 34 Se **winyard** be-tockneþ þe seruise of ure lorde. *a* 1310 in Wright *Lytic* P. xii. 41 Tho he the **wynzord** whrohte. 1331 *MS. Chapter Acts Lincoln* lf. 23 b, Quamdā placeam clausam quæ vocatur le **Wineierd**. *a* 1400 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 456/186 Mi deore **wynzard**.

winze¹ (**winz**). *Mining.* Also 8 **winds**. [The earliest recorded spelling suggests derivation from **WIND** *sb.*²] A shaft or an inclined passage sunk from one level to another, but not rising to the surface.

1757 BORLASE in *Phil. Trans.* L. 503 The stage-boards of the little **winds** or shafts 20 fathoms deep were perceived to move. 1778 PRYCE *Min. Cornub.* 164 The under-ground Shaft or **Winds**, is worked by hand, with a windlass only. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 244/2 The common windlass... is much used... in sinking **winses**. 1871 *Daily News* 22 Sept., The footway **winze** leading from the 70 to the 80 has been completed. 1889 C. G. W. LOCK *Gold-Mining* 283 A **winze** or an incline, the **winze** being preferable, is made through the bed-rock to the gravel.

winze² (**winz**). *Sc.* [a. early Flem. *wensch* 'imprecation' (Kilian): see **WISH** *v.*] An imprecation, a curse.

1785 BURNS *Halloween* xxiii, He... loot a **winze**, an' drew a stroke. 1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 186 Wi' bitter **winze** and ban.

winze³. *Cornwall.* Also **winz**. Altered f. **WINCH** *sb.*¹ Also *attrib.*

1839 DE LA BECHE *Rep. Geol. Cornwall*, etc. xv. 529 The miners were... taken up in a stirrup by two men, who wound the rope, probably over a **winze**. 1855 LEIFCHILD *Cornwall* 36 Upon this platform was fixed a **winz** for four men. 1875 J. H. COLLINS *Metal Mining* 7/4 The small kibbles used with the tackle are called 'winze-kibbles'.

wip, *obs.* *pa. t.* of **WEEP** *v.*; *Sc.* and *dial.* form of **WHIP** *v.*; *obs.* f. **WIPE** *v.*

† **wipard**. *Obs.* *nonce-wd.* [f. **WIPE** *v.* + -ARD.] An article for wiping.

1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* II. xv. 107 A good **wiper**, who in **wiping** continually, **wipeth** with his **wipard** [orig. *mouchet*].

wipe (**waip**), *sb.* Also 6-7 **wype**. [f. **WIPE** *v.*]

1. *a.* An act of wiping (in senses 1-3 of **WIPE** *v.*). In first quot. in *fig. phr.*: see **WIPE** *v.* 10*a*.

1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St. v.* vii. 388 That which hath sharpened the pens of many against him, is his giving so many cleanly **wipes** to the foul noses of the Pope and Italian Prelacy. 1849 CUPPLES *Green Hand* x, Here the worthy man took off his large spectacles, gave them a **wipe**, and put them on again. 1859 *Househ. Encycl.* II. 401/2 If the spit is carefully **wiped** after roasting... it will require nothing more than a **wipe** before using. 1885 J. B. GOUGH *Platform Echoes*

69 He had been in the mine, and had evidently given himself a splash and a **wipe**. 1888 J. W. CLARKE *Mod. Plumbing Pract.* (1914) I. 168 Some men can take longer 'wipes' than others, but the **wipes** should always be done as quickly as possible.

b. With *adv.*, in various *lit.* and *fig.* senses.

1822 [? EGAN] *Real Life Lond.* I. 322 A brush to give the gemman a **wipe** down. 1884 D. KEMP *Yacht & Boat Sailing* (ed. 4) 165 Do not wait until her bowsprit is over your quarter before you luff, but take a **wipe** out across her when she is fifty yards off or so. 1894 H. NISBET *Bush Girl's Rom.* 138 Those more particular gave them [sc. the tin platters] a rough **wipe**-out with a piece of paper. 1912 D. CRAWFORD *Thinking Black* xviii. 371 This vile fly means sleeping sickness, and sleeping sickness means a **wipe**-out.

c. *Cinemat. and Television.* An effect in which an existing picture seems to be **wiped** out by a new one as the boundary between them moves across the screen (the pictures themselves remaining stationary). orig. *wipe-dissolve*.

1933 *Cinema Q.* II. 1. 43, 1. deplored the constant use of **wipe**-dissolves to cover the weak continuity. 1934 C. LAMBERT *Music Ho!* IV. 263 There is no real equivalent in music even of the 'wipe-dissolve' which leads the eye gently but quickly from one scene to another. 1936 A. BRUNEL *Film Production* 43 It may be argued that **wipes** are not easily achieved. 1960 *Guardian* 8 June 7/3 A special effects generator... enables 20,000 different shades of 'wipes' to be deployed... It makes a fascinating variety of shapes and devices upon the screen. 1979 *Broadcast* 1 Oct. 54/2 Within the SqueeZoomed sequence of archive TV shots... Tony Rayner inserted two **wipes** to blue... which allow live 'headline' shots from that day's programme to be chromakeyed in.

2. *a.* A slashing blow, a sweeping cut, a **wipe**; also *fig.* (in early use esp. in phraseological expressions, e.g. *a wipe over the shins*; also, a 'blow of Fortune'), a stroke of misfortune; *a wipe in the eye*: a disappointment or rebuff; = *smack in the eye* *s.v.* **SMACK** *sb.*² 3*a*; cf. **WIPE** *v.* 10*d*).

1550 BALE *Image Both Ch.* II. 66*b*, He [sc. the Beast] had a greuous **wipe** with the sword (which is the luyngne worde of the lorde) when he lost his monks [etc.]. 1568 T. HOWELL *Neue Sonets* (1879) 117 When cruell fate them cleane cut off, at one most soden **wipe**. 1574 HELLOWES *Guevara's Fam. Ep.* (1577) 235 The beginners of quarels do sometime catch a **wipe**. 1589 *Marprel. Epit.* B. He hath giuen the cause sicken a **wipe** in his bricke... that the cause will be the warmer... for it. 1590 *Pasquil's Apol.* I. Cij, The second venue the Welch-man hath bestowed vpon vs, is a **wipe** ouer the shinnes of the Non Residents. 1635 BROME *Sparagus Garden* IV. x, So much for single Rapier: now for your secret wite at Back-sword. 1644 BP. HALL *Serm., Eph.* iv. 30 Rem. Wks. (1660) 107 The least **wipe** of the eye troubles us more then a hard stroak upon the back. 1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T. s.v.*, That story gave him a fine **wipe**. 1788 THICKNESSE *Sk. Life Gainsborough* 43 When a certain Duchess sent to know the reason why her picture was not sent home? he gave it a **wipe** in the face with his back-ground-brush. 1808 SIR J. MOORE in Jas. C. Moore *Narr. Campaign* (1809) 297 It will be very agreeable to give a **wipe** to such a corps. 1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 39/1 The cove used to fetch me a **wipe** over the knuckles with his stick. 1891 KIPLING *Light that Failed* vi. 100 There's the scar of the **wipe** he got when he was cut over. 1926 T. E. LAWRENCE *Let.* 6 Apr. (1938) 495 Your statement that the hospital passage would be a **wipe** in the eye for 19 readers out of 20 puts it out of court. 1949 D. M. DAVIN *Roads from Home* III. iii. 236 It was a **wipe** in the eye for John the way he was getting out.

† *b.* *transf.* A mark as of a blow or lash; a scar or brand. *poet. Obs.*

1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 537 The blemish... Worse then a slauish **wipe** or birth howrs blot.

† *c.* *colloq.* An act of drinking: cf. **SWIPE** *sb.*² 3.

1600 ROWLANDS *Lett. Humours Blood* Sat. vi. E6*b*, We gawe the Brewers Diet-drinke a **wipe**.

3. *fig.* A cutting remark; a sarcastic reproof or rebuff; a jeer, jibe.

In quot. 1596 in colourless sense, = 'remark'.

1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 39 This as a **wipe** be the way [orig. *ut hoc obiter dicam*]. *Ibid.* 263. 1606 *Proc. agst. Late Traitors* 286 For his labour [he] receives a **wipe** at the hands of Bellarmine. 1653 A. WILSON *James I.* 96 The Lord Treasurer gave him a **wipe**, for suffering his Coachman to ride bare before him in the streets. 1659 *Burton's Diary* (1828) IV. 333 It was an ill **wipe** to Mr. Grove who brought in the Declaration. 1705 VANBRUGH *Confederacy* v. ii, So, that's a **wipe** for me now, because I did not give her a New-Years-Gift last time. 1733 SWIFT *On Poetry* 95 To statemen would you give a **wipe**, You print it in Italic type. 1822 GALT *Provost* xxxi, I did not much like this bantering of Mr. M'Queerie... I said, 'Come, come, neighbour, none of your **wipes**.' 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 25 Oct. 2/2, 'The extraordinary "wipe" (there is no other word for it) which the staid old *Quarterly* administrators... to the Poet Laureate.

4. *a.* *slang.* A handkerchief. (Superseding the earlier **WIPER** 2.) Also in *comb.*

1708 *Memoirs of John Hall* 23 **Wipe**, a Handkerchief. 1789 G. PARKER *Life's Painter* (ed. 2) 136, I only napt a couple of birds eye **wipes**. 1800 *Sporting Mag.* XVI. 26 Three boys brought in for priggings of **wipes**. 1800 in *Spirit Pw.* *Jnrl.* IV. 254 The **wipe**-nabbers made a tolerable gleaning. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* viii, 'Is Fagin upstairs?' 'Yes, he's a sortin' the **wipes**.' 1859 SALA *Tw. round Clock* 125 The 'case of **wipes**', as an irreverent bystander called the *procès* of the pickpocket.

b. A disposable piece of soft absorbent cloth or tissue, sometimes impregnated with a cleansing agent, for wiping clean one's hands or anything small.

1971 *Textile Industries* Dec. 50/1 Towels, Covers, Pads, and **Wipes**. 1974 HAWKEY & BINGHAM *Wild Card* ix. 87 Half-empty boxes of medical **wipes** lying on the ultra-centrifuge. 1978 'M. YORKE' *Point of Murder* ii. 19 Kate's

hands had got oily... but she kept some tissue **wipes** in the car. 1980 *Chem. in Brit.* XVI. 449/4 For situations where protective gloves are inconvenient, Chicopee has brought out Dermawipe impregnated hand **wipes**.

5. = **WIPER** 5. Also *attrib.*

[1873 MAXWELL *Electr. & Magn.* II. 375 A piece of mechanism (commonly called a Commutator, or *wippe*).] 1884 W. H. GREENWOOD *Steel & Iron* xvi. 308 The cam... is a revolving wheel with twelve or fourteen projecting teeth or **wipes**. 1905 *Motor Year-bk.* 221 The **wipe** commutator is placed inside the bonnet projecting upwards.

wipe (**waip**), *v.* *Pa. t.* and *pple.* **wiped** (**waip**t). Forms: 1 **wipian**, 3-6 **wype**, (4 **why**pe, 5 **whipe**, **wyp**, 6 **wip**), 2- **wipe**. *β.* 4-5 **wepe**, 5 **weype**, 7 **weipe**, **weepe**. *Pa. t.* 1 **wipode**, 3-4 **wipede**, **wypede**, 4-7 **wyped** (etc.), 3- **wiped**. *β.* 4 **wipped**, **wyppit**, 4-5 **wipte**, 5-6 **wypt**, 5-7 **wipt**. *γ.* 4 **weped**, 5 **weput**. *Pa. pple.* 2-4 **i-wipet**, 3-4 **i-wyped**; 5-7 **wyped** (5 **weyped**), 6- **wiped**. *β.* 4 **wipped**, **wypped**, 5-6 **wypt**, 6-7 **wipt**(e, **wip**t). [OE. *wipian* = OHG. *wifan* (MHG. *wifen*) to wind round, Goth. *weipan* to crown; further related to OHG. *waif* bandage, ON. *veipr* head-covering, Goth. *waips* wreath, and the forms enumerated *s.v.* **WHIP**: f. the base *wib-*, as in L. *vibrāre* to brandish, shake.]

1. *a.* *trans.* To rub (something) gently with a soft cloth or the like, or on something, so as to clear its surface of dust, dirt, moisture, etc.; to clean or dry in this way. Also with *compl.*

c 960 ÆTHELWOLD *Rule St. Benet* (Schröder 1885) xxxv. 59 Waterclaðas... þe hy heora handa and fet mid **wipeda**. *c* 1000 ÆLFRED *Hom.* I. 426 Ic geseo Godes engel standende ætforan ðe mid hand-claðe, and **wipap** ðine swatigan limu. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 125 Wassce and **wipe** wol clane ða eigne. *c* 1205 LAY. 22289 Heo **wipeden** hors leoue mid linnene claðe. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 15300 And **wit** his teuil efterward þair fete he **wiped** clene. *Ibid.* 17683 Quen he **wipped** had mi face. *c* 1300 K. Horn 622 (Laud MS.) Horn gan hys swerd gripe And on his arm hyt **wipe**. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. v. 195 I-**wipet** with a wesp of Firsen. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* v. 647 Quhen the king saw that war ded... he **wyppit** his brand. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. xxvii. [xxiii.] (1919) 165 Whan þei han eten, þei **wyppen** hire hondes vpon hire skirtes. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* Cviii, She bekyth when she sewith: that is to say she **wyppith** hir beke. *c* 1500 *Young Children's Bk.* 105 in *Babes Bk.* 23 **Wype** thi mouthe when pou wyll drinke. 1508 STANBRIDGE *Vulgaria* (W. de W.) Bij, **Wype** thy nose. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* xxix. (Percy Soc.) 136 Whan she lacketh cloutes, without any fayle She **wypped** her disshes wyth her dogges tayle. 1600 SHAKS. *A.Y.L.* II. vii. 122 We haue... sat at good mens feasts, and **wip'd** our eies Of drops, that sacred pity hath engendred. 1610 *Shuttleworth's Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 191 To a boie that **wypped** booties, iij^d. 1781 COWPER *Expost.* 385 Though a bishop toil to cleanse the stain, He **wipes** and scours the silver cup in vain. 1806 J. CARR *Stranger in Ireland* 269 A large Newfoundland dog... walks round the table for the guests to **wipe** their fingers upon. 1831 SCOTT *Cast. Dang.* xiii, Wiping his lips, after having finished his draught. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* liii, Stopping on the mat to **wipe** his shoes all round. 1859 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* xxii, The Major had swum out and was standing on the rock wiping himself.

absol. 1614 EARL STIRLING *Domesday* II. xcix, Thus waters wash, **winds** **wipe**, and both conspire, That th' earth (so purg'd) may be prepar'd for fire.

† *b.* To rub, stroke. *Obs.*

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. v. 212 þenne he wakede of his **wynk** and **wypede** his eizen. *a* 1375 *Joseph Arim.* 30 Thenne he toke me by the hande frome the grounde and **wyped** my face with a rose and kyssed me. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 265 Then toke lude þe lettry þat Cryst send to þe **kyng** befor, and **weput** þe **kyngys** forhede þerwyth.

c. *absol.* = **DRY** *v.* 1*c*. Also with *up*. Cf. **WASH** *v.* 1*i*.

1943, 1962 [see **WASH** *v.* 1*i*]. 1968 R. V. BESTE *Repeat the Instructions* ii. 19 He **wiped** while Huskion... scrubbed away in the sink. 1974 M. BIRMINGHAM *You can help Me* vii. 169, I was helping Mrs Hope **wipe** up in the kitchen. 1981 A. WILSON in T. Thompson *Edwardian Childhoods* iii. 78 One'd **wipe** and one'd **wash**—we didn't make hard work of it.

d. (a) To demagnetize (a ship) by passing a horizontal current-carrying cable up and down the hull. (b) To remove a recording from (magnetic tape).

1946 'L. LUARD' *Changing Horizons* 145 'No complaints, except she's steel.' 'And not **wiped** or degaussed,' the Skipper commented. 1947 CROWTHER & WHIDDINGTON *Science at War* 171 He arranged that ships should be 'wiped' with temporary horizontal coils. 1962 R. W. CLARK *Rise of Boffins* iv. 95 Demagnetizing the ships... by 'wiping' the sides... with a horizontal cable carrying a strong current. 1962 E. SALTER *Voice of Peacock* ix. 203 In the case of auditions, the tape was sometimes **wiped** so's it could be used again. 1965 D. FRANCIS *Odds Against* x. 137, I **wiped** the tape clean. 1980 *Listener* 8 May 594/2, I presume the BBC **wiped**, as they say, the original tape.

2. *a.* To remove or clear away (moisture, dust, etc.) from something by the action described in 1. Often with *away*, *off*, *up*.

Also formerly in extended sense, e.g. of a cleansing substance.

c 1000 Sax. *Leechd.* III. 4 Lege on hunig ðreo niht, nim ponne & **wipa** pæt hunig of. *a* 1240 *Sawles Warde* in O.E. *Hom.* I. 261 þat haueð alle teares iwipet of hare ehnen. *a* 1300 K. Horn 1203 (Camb.) He **wipede** pæt blake of his swere. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3380 **Whipe** vp þi teris. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 188 He had a cloth... forto **wepen** away þe terys. 1535 COVERDALE *Isa.* xxv. 8 The Lorde God shal **wipe** awaye the teares from all faces. 1583 HOLLYBAND *Campo di Fior* 375 Hauing first **wipt** of the dust well. 1590 SPENSER *F.Q.* III. i. 38 The Goddess... With her soft garment **wipes**

away the gore. **1646** CRASHAW *Sospetto d'Herode* xlix, With her soft wing wipt from the browes of men Day's sweat. **1762** STERNE *Tr. Shandy* VI. ii, They should have wiped it up, said my uncle Toby, and said no more about it. **1838** DICKENS *O. Twist* xxxviii, Now he took courage to wipe off the perspiration which had been trickling over his nose. **1882** BESANT *All Sorts* xx, She groaned and wiped away a tear.

†b. (with *away*, *out*) To obliterate, efface, erase. *Obs.* as a specific sense.

1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* lxxviii[i], 28 Let them be wiped out of y^e boke of the liuyng. **1542** UOALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 232 b, Augustus had writen a tragedie entitleed Ajax, and y^e same tragedie. (because it myslyked hym) he wypted out with a sponge. **1587** GOLDING *De Mornay* xiii, 217 If ye meane fortune as she is peynted by the Poets, . . . it is as easie to wipe her away as to paynt her. **1698** FRYER *Acc. E. India* § P. 112 They are allowed a Board plastered over, which with Cotton they wipe out, when full, as we do from Slates. **1826** LANOOR *Imag. Conv., Emp. Alex. & Capo D'Istria* I. 447 Your Majesty has wiped away with the soft part of the pen, what the British Minister thought he had written so deeply.

†c. *transf.* and *gen.* To remove, clear away or off (something deleterious or offensive). *Obs.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P.R.* XIII. i. (1495) Liij/1 Water . . . wypteth of fylthe and wasshyth away synnes. **1590** SPENSER *F.Q.* II. v. 30 Whiles creeping slomber made him to forget His former paine, and wypt away his toylsom sweat. **1600** SURFLET *Country Farm* II. xxxiv, 243 That turneps . . . wipe away the spots of the face. **1633** P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* xi, xi, Till coldest aire . . . And heav'n's cleare forehead now wipes off her former lowres. **1641** MILTON *Animadv.* Wks. 1851 III, 246 Wipe your foul corpulencies out of our light. **1660** Contemp. *Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) III, 39 To weepe off this manching staine.

d. To erase (a magnetic recording, or data stored on a magnetic medium). Freq. with *off*, *out*.

1900 Engin. *Mag.* XIX, 758/1 When it is desired to wipe out a record, the electromagnet . . . is attached to a constant battery and run over the wire, thus magnetising it uniformly once more and preparing it to receive a new message. **1934** *Wireless World* 5 Jan. 8/3 When a record is no longer required, the programme recorded on the strip can be 'wiped out'. **1976** *Broadcast* 23 Aug. 10/3 He was staggered at the quantity of programmes in which James MacTaggart had been involved. Most of it has been wiped. **1981** *Times* 4 July 10/3 This is a three-hour reusable tape with an hour's quite sophisticated cabaret already recorded, which you can keep or wipe off. **1984** *Computerworld* 26 Mar. 14/2 If one formats an IBM Personal Computer XT and does not indicate which drive to format, the machine formats the hard disk and wipes out all data on it.

e. (Without *prep.*) To dismiss, reject, repudiate (esp. a person). *Austral.* and *N.Z. slang*.

1941 K. TENNANT *Battlers* 196 Giving her money . . . in the casual manner that wiped her from all consideration as a human being. **1946** *Coast to Coast* 1945 123 Listen pal—your girl wiped you, didn't she? **1948** *Landfall* June 111 Hands in pockets, shoulders hunched, he strode bitterly up the street from the pub. He'd wipe them, have nothing to do with the morons. **1954** T. A. G. HUNGERFORD *Sowers of Wind* 162 She dumped me, wiped me like a dirty nose. **1967** F. SARGESON *Hangover* xiv, 124 If it came to that one of his reasons for wiping university was a senior lecturer who had failed to avoid the same gross error. **1975** R. BEILBY *Brown Land Crying* 295 You can wipe that idea, if that's what you're thinking.

3. To apply or spread a soft or liquid substance over the surface of a body by rubbing it on with a cloth, pad, or the like (with the substance or the body as obj.); *spec.* in *Plumbing*, to apply solder by this method so as to unite and finish off a joint.

1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* I. 98 With this liquid wipe over your gilding. **1837** WHITTOCK, etc. *Bk. Trades* (1842) 287 (*Gun-maker*) Nitrous acid, which contains gas, and is slightly wiped on in stripes. **1888** J. W. CLARKE *Mod. Plumbing Pract.* (1914) I. 100 If the cloths are of a good thickness the joints can be wiped much truer.

4. *fig.* (from 1.) To clear, cleanse (*from* or *of* something); in the biblical passage, to empty completely, lay waste.

1400 *Pety Job* 211 in 26 *Pol. Poems* 127 Thus with wepyng haue I wypt My soule . . . from dedly synne. **1535** COVERDALE *2 Kings* xxi, 13, I . . . wyll wipe out Ierusalem, euen as one wypteth a platter [1560 (Geneva), I wil wipe Ierusalem, as a man wypteth a dish]. **1899** F. T. BULLEN *Way Navy* 94 The happy . . . faculty of wiping their minds clear of harassing thought.

†5. To deprive, rob, cheat, defraud, do out of some possession or advantage. Const. *beside* (BESIDE B. 4c), *of*; rarely *for* (FOR *prep.* 23d), *from*.

1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. James* i. 1–12 He shall . . . bee wypted besydes al his goodes. **1577–82** BRETON *Floish upon Fancie* Wks. (Grosart) I. 30/1 My Ladies Maides will wipe the Page, Always of such an heritage. **1594** [? GREENE] *Selimus* E2, To wipe me cleane for euer being king. *Ibid.* F2b, Hath he not wipt me from the Turkish crowne? **1596** SPENSER *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 612/1 The English, which they thinke lye still in wayte to wipe them out of theyr landes. **1622** FLETCHER *Span. Cur.* IV. v, You fool us of our moneys . . . in every Quiddit wipe us. **1678** *Donna Olimpia* 84 Seeing her self clearly wiped of that Interest. **1746** FRANCIS *tr. Hor., Sat.* I. x. 56 The wily Harlot, and the Slave, who join To wipe the Miser of his darling Coin.

6. (from 2.) To clear away, remove: most commonly with *adv.* (*away*, *off*, *out*). a. To take away, put away (something figured as a stain or defilement); to remove the guilt, blame, or

dishonour of; to clear a person, or oneself, of (a charge or imputation).

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VIII, 131 Whanne þe mescheef of his takynge was i-wyped of. **1410** HOCLEVE *Mother of God* 31 O blessid lady, . . . þat by prayere wypest cleene away The filthes of our synful wikkidnesse. **1526** *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 42 The good lyfe . . . wypteth awaye the synnes. **1591** SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI*, II. iv. 117 This blot that they obiect against your House, Shall be wiped [Fol. whipt] out in the next Parliament. **1606** G. WOODCOCKE *Hist. Justine* xxxvi, 114 To the entent to wipe that spot of cowardice wherewith hee had blemished his reputation. **1649** MILTON *Eikon*, xv, 140 To wipe off jealousies and scandals, the best way had bin by clear Actions. **1725** DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 61 By his fidelity to wipe out all that was past. **1841** ELPHINSTONE *Hist. India* II, 149 One of those chiefs, indignant at the imputation, determined . . . to wipe it off at any risk. **1867** FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* I. v. 431 There died Godwine, . . . wiping out, by a valiant death, the errors of an earlier stage of his life.

†b. To take away completely, as by theft or fraud; to make off with. (Cf. 5.) *Obs.*

1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 286/296 Al þat ich habbe i-wonne a-day . . . I-wyped it is al clene a-wey ase it neuere nere. **1540** PALSGR. *Aclostus* IV. iii, Siv b, That he maye wipe awaye all the money of this man. **1556** OLOE *Antichrist* 74 They deceatfully & fraudulently wypted their money from them. **1599** SIR J. HAYWARD *1st Pt. Hen. IV* 55 Hee wiped away from the people such heapes of money as [etc.]. **1648** GAGE *West Ind.* 151 The Priest . . . wipes away to his chamber all that which the poor . . . Indians had offered.

c. To destroy the trace of, obliterate, efface; to destroy the effect or value of, bring to nought.

1564 *Brief Exam.* *iij b, I must nedes wype a great many out of their brotherhood. **1597** SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV*, I. i, 211, I knew of this before. But . . . This present greefe had wip'd it from my minde. **1611** — *Wint. T.* IV. ii, 11 As thou lou'st me (Camillo) wipe not out the rest of thy seruices, by leauing me now. **1704** C. LESLIE *Wolf Stript* 50 But all they have done before, is wip'd clean off! **1875** WHITNEY *Life Lang.* vii, 125 Every period of linguistic life . . . wipes out a part of the intermediates which connect a derived element with its original. **1898** 'H. S. MERRIMAN' *Roden's Corner* v, 47 The anxiety wiped away from his face as if by magic. **1901** *Scotsman* 1 Mar. 7/4 Last week the questions reached a total which had never before been known. This afternoon that record was wiped out, and another established.

d. To do away with, put an end to, abolish, annihilate. Now always with *out*.

1538 STARKEY *England* (1878) 194 The tyrannycal . . . instytutyonys . . . left here among vs, whych al schold be wypt away by the receyuyng of thys wych we cal the veray cyulle law. **1567** JEWEL *Def. Apol.* 468 If yee had not vterly wypte al shame from your faces. **1579** SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Dec. 108 My haruest wast, my hope away dyd wipe.

1841 BROWNING *Pippa Passes* II, 212 And wipe with the first lunge My foe's whole life out, like a sponge. **1842** ARNOLO in Stanley *Life* (1845) I. iv, 237 So completely wiping a man out of existence. **1903** *Athenæum* 17 Jan. 71/3 The competition of railways, which has wiped out the steamers of the Mississippi.

e. *spec.* To put all to death, destroy completely, exterminate (a body of persons); usually with *out*. Also (*slang*), to kill (a person); also with *out*.

1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* 105/2 The Chananites were wiped away bycause of their incest.

1861 *Jrnl. Discourses* (1862) IX, 112 Many of the officers went away saying, 'We will come by-and-by and wipe you out.' **1865** SWINBURNE *Poems & Ball., Hymn to Proserpine* 14 O Gods dethroned and deceased, cast forth, wiped out in a day. **1889** KIPLING *Willie Winkie, Drums of Fore & Aft* 103 But for want of fresh troops, the Afghans would have been wiped off the earth. **1898** *Century Mag.* Apr. 925/2 A tragedy which wiped out an entire crew. **1968** J. PHILIPS *Hot Summer Killing* III. i, 129 Is he the one who was wiped earlier tonight in the Molyneux Hotel? **1969** C. BURKE *God is Beautiful, Man* (1970) 47 They decided to find a way to get rid of him, to wipe him out. **1977** *Time* 12 Sept. 40/2 You could be wiped out if you moved a single inch. **1980** J. MCCLURE *Blood of Englishman* II, 18 Someone tried to wipe Bradshaw . . . The shot caught him here in the collar-bone.

f. (with *off*, rarely *†out*) To cancel (an account or score); to discharge, pay off (a debt).

1667 DRYDEN & DK. NEWC. *Sir. M. Mar-all* II. ii, All this is since the last reckoning was wip'd out. **1668** DRYDEN *Even. Love* III. i, For this time I wipe off your score, till you are caught tripping in some new amour. **1748** RICHARDSON *Clarissa* II. xxi, 133 Lovelace . . . like an absolved confessional, wipes off, as he goes along, one score, to begin another. **1831** JAMES *Philip Aug.* xliii, Many an old score of rebellion not yet wiped off between himself and the king. **1886** W. J. TUCKER *E. Europe* 187 A sum which has to go to wipe off a few of your most pressing mortgages.

†g. (with *off*) To get quit or clear of (an unpleasant task). *Obs. rare.*

1655 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) II, 13, I am glad . . . that you have wipt off that dirty & wett journey so fairly without prejudice to yor health.

h. to *wipe* (an expression, esp. a smile) *off* a person's or one's face: (to cause him) to cease showing it. *slang*.

[1567: cf. sense 6 above.] **1895** CONRAO *Almayer's Folly* xii, 256 A face from which all feelings and all expression are suddenly wiped off by the hand of unexpected death. [1898: cf. sense 6 above.] **1935** *Time* 24 June 28/1 Wipe dat smile off his face! **1936** D. CARNEGIE *How to win Friends & influence People* II. ii, 99 Bill, you are going to wipe the scowl off that sour puss of yours today. **1972** D. S. VISCOTT *Making of Psychiatrist* II, 37 Terry O'Conner seemed to think it was funny but wiped the smile off her face every time her eye caught Larry's. **1977** *Observer* 14 Aug. 3/7 Only one sentence would have wiped the smile off Mason's face. **1978** G. GREENE *Human Factor* VI. i, 305 She realised she was smiling at the telephone—thank God, they hadn't yet

invented a visual telephone, but all the same she wiped the smile off her face.

i. *pass.* or *intr.* *Surfing*. To be knocked from one's surfboard. With *out*. *slang*.

1962 T. MASTERS *Surfing made Easy* 66 *Wiped out*, getting knocked off of a surfboard, usually by a wave. **1965** [see LOCKEO *ppl.* a. gl.] **1966** *Weekly News* (N.Z.) 19 Jan. 6/3 When 'wiping-out' a surfer should try to hold his board. **1968** *Surfer Mag.* Jan. 48/2 Frye misjudged one of his turns high in the curl and wiped-out in the white water.

7. a. To strike, beat, or attack (with blows, or with mockery, sarcasm, rebuke, or the like). Now *dial.* or *slang*.

1523 LO. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. lxxxvi, hijb/1 They wolde come to the walles, and wype them in derysion, sayeng [etc.]. **1550** *Thersytes* (facs.) Djib, Thom tombler of tewxbury turninge at a tryce Wyll wype wylliam waterman if he be not wyse. **1589** R. HARVEY *Pl. Perc.* (1590) 22 You see my quarter staffe . . . A washing blow of this . . . can wipe a fellow ouer the thumbs. **1620** I. C. *Two Merry Milk-maids* IV. i, *Cal.* Something crost my Nose. *Ran.* A Dore, a Dore, the fields are full of them. . . There was another wip't me in the same place. **1625** FLETCHER *Woman's Prize* I. i, *Tra.* You have wip'd him now. *Soph.* So will he never the wench, I hope. **1643** MILTON *Divorce* II. x. Wks. 1851 IV, 88 That such a hainous fault . . . should be only wipt with an implicit and oblique touch. **1663** LAMONT *Diary* (Maitl. Club) 164 [He] found them out in bed together, wher he abused his brother for such a lewd pranke, and did weipe hir with his rodde. **1846** *Bentley's Misc.* Oct. 366 If you don't shell out on the minute I'll wipe your throat with my bowy-knife. **1882** *Jamieson's Sc. Dict.*, *Wipe*, to strike, to whip. Clydes.

†b. (with *away*, *off*) To strike off, cut off at a blow. *Obs. rare.*

1596 SPENSER *F.Q.* v. xi, 27 Her Lions clawes he from her feete away did wipe. **1672** MARVELL *Reh. Transp.* I. 130 Nor that a Nonconformists head must be wip'd off as oft as your nose drives.

8. *intr.* for *pass.* (*lit.* or *fig.*: see 2, 6).

a **1300** *Cursor M.* 8952 If þat ani vertu be Of halines wit-in þat tre, Wit sinful mens fett . . . On ganging it sal wipe a-wai. **1426** AUOELAY *Poems* 21 Al the worp of this word hit wyl wype sone away, Hit fallus and fadys forth. **1827** POLLOK *Course T.* VIII, 138 He had on his hands The blood of souls, that would not wipe away. *Mod. colloq.* The spots will easily wipe off.

9. *Cinemat.* and *Television*. To pass from or from one scene to another by means of a wipe; to employ a wipe.

1951 HALAS & PRIVETT *How to cartoon for Amateur Films* 118 We now wish to wipe from one scene to another. **1952** *Cinema* 7 Jan. 97/1 [The Director] can cut, fade, wipe or mix at will.

10. Phrases (with various nouns as obj.). a. to *wipe* a person's nose: †(a) see NOSE sb. 10, 10b (cf. sense 5 above); occas., to treat with contempt or indignity; (b) in mod. use = d (a). †b. to *wipe the mouth of*: to exonerate, prove or assert the innocence of: cf. Prov. xxx, 20. c. to *wipe one's hands of* = to wash one's hands of (WASH v. 3e). Similarly to *wipe one's lips of*. d. to *wipe* a person's eye (slang or colloq.): (a) Sporting, etc. (see quot. 1823); hence, to get the better of, 'score off'; (b) to 'give a black eye to'. e. to *wipe one's boots on*: to inflict the utmost indignity upon. to *wipe the floor with*: to 'bring to the ground' utterly, inflict a crushing defeat upon; also to *wipe up the floor or ground with*.

a. **1437**—[see NOSE sb. 10], **1568** tr. *Gonsalvius' Inquis.* 10 The party must . . . seeke to wipe their noses by shaping them a shorte aunswere. **1577** HOLINSHEO *Chron.* II, 323/2 Hee deuised a shifte howe to wype the Byshoppes nose of some of his Golde. **1598–1721** [see NOSE sb. 10b]. **1599–1600** *Minutes Archdeaconry of Colchester* Jan. If. 247 (MS.) Her husband . . . dyd saye that 'I wil wype the noses of you all'. **1842** *Asiatic Jrnl.* XXXVII. 1, 235 He once or twice, to borrow a not very delicate sporting phrase, 'wiped my nose' in a very off-hand manner. **1850** R. S. SURTEES *Sponge's Sp. Tour* lviii, 'I could have wiped your nose', exclaimed Mr. Sponge, covering the hare with a hedge stake placed to his shoulder like a gun.

b. **1687** *Good Advice* 8, I know she flatters herself . . . she is a Bulwark against Popery; and with that, . . . wipes her Mouth of all old scores. **1690** C. NESSE *O. & N. Test.* I, 95 This is alleged by the Romanists to wipe the mouth of the pope from being called the Antichrist.

c. **1785** TRUSLER *Mod. Times* III, 98, I was determined to wipe my hands of it. **1851** D. JERROLD *St. Giles* xvi, With a late and hesitating virtue, they wiped their lips of the murderer's malt, and consented to believe him very bad indeed. **1855** TROLLOPE *Warden* x, That he could . . . wipe his hands altogether of so sorrow-stirring a concern.

d. **1823** MOOR *Suffolk Words* s.v., In shooting, if one miss the bird, and a companion, firing after, kill it, the lucky, or more skilful gunner, is said to wipe the eye of his disappointed friend. **1860** W. W. REAOE *Liberty Hall* II, 207 If there is anything, . . . you shoot first, old boy, as it's your find: I'll stand by and wipe your eye. **1869** *Athenæum* 14 Aug. 214/1 The personal question between the Society and its agents, of what is due from the latter to the former when its eye is to be wiped in the fashion above told. **1874** R. H. BELCHER *Cramleigh Coll.* I, 89 Hullo! Cheeky! it's Sunday, or else I'd wipe your eye for you. **1899** *Spectator* 18 Mar. 385 Never so well-pleased as when he is wiping the eye of the professional burglar. **1928** D. L. SAYERS *Unpleasantness at Bellona Club* xiv, 168 'I'm glad somebody appreciates me. Anyhow,' he added viciously, 'I bet that's wiped old Pritchard's eye.' **1929** F. M. FORD *Let.* 11 Sept. (1965) 187 He had only got me away from Duckworth in order to wipe Gerald's eye. **1949** N. MITFORD *Love in Cold Climate* i, vi, 60 At teatime the village policeman reappeared . . . having wiped the eye of all the grand detectives who had come from London in their shiny cars. He produced a perfect jumble-sale heap of objects which had been discarded by the burglars. **1956** 'A. GILBERT' *And Death came Too* xiv, 146

Eventually he agreed to take the case (his heel of Achilles being an inability to pass up a chance of wiping the official eye).

e. **1887** *Courier-Jrnl.* (Louisville, Kentucky) 4 Jan. 2/6 Two brothers wipe up the floor with a Missouri newspaper man. **1888** in Farmer & Henley *Slang* (1903) vii. 359 The Scroggin boy was as tough as a dog-wood knot. He'd wipe up the ground with him; he'd walk all over him. **1896** *Dialect Notes* I. 427 *Wipe the floor with*, to defeat. **1897** *Nat. Police Gaz.* 26 May 7/4 Green fairly wiped the floor with Roberts in the first two rounds. **1899** MACKAIL *Morris* II. 346 Though he often wiped his boots on a man, he never showed him the more stinging insolence of condescension. **1905** 'G. THORNE' *Lost Cause* ix. His only grief was that he was not allowed to 'wipe the floor with that there Hamlyn'. **1908** *Magnet* I. 1. 3/1 I've wiped up the ground with bigger fellows than you, for far less cheek than you've given me. **1918** 'G. A. BIRMINGHAM' *Island Myst.* xxiv. 231 He was so infernally certain that the Emperor would wipe the floor with us.

11. The vb.-stem in combination, as **wipe-clean** *attrib.* or as *adj.*, designating fabrics or furnishings that may be cleaned simply by wiping.

1962 *N.Y. Times Mag.* 9 Sept. 102 In new wipe-clean Boltflex Vinyl Suede. **1965** *Economist* 13 Feb. 700/2 The [synthetic] shoes, although theoretically 'wipe-clean', tend to look grubby when unpolished. **1970** *Vogue* Jan. 25/1 Lovely cookers with plain glass tops—put the pan down... and you are on the hob, yet this is a wipe-clean glass surface. **1977** *Austral. House & Garden* Jan. 114 (Adv.), Interiors are wipe clean, white melamine laminate, edged in white P.V.C. **1983** *Which?* Dec. (Publications Suppl.), Both binders are hardwearing and have wipe-clean covers.

Hence **wiped** (waɪpt) *ppl. a.* (see sense 3).

1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech. Suppl.*, *Wiped joint* (Plumbing), one made by placing the parts in the required juxtaposition and covering the joint with a mass of solder.

wipe, obs. f. WEEP *v.*; var. WYPE, lapwing.

'**wipeable**, *a.* Also *wipable*. [f. WIPE *v.* + -ABLE.] Capable of being wiped.

1926 *Pocket Oxf. Dict. s.v. Wipe*, *Wipable*. **1979** *Personal Computer World* July 23/2 The single unit... has a wipeable light brown plastic housing with a robust typewriter style keyboard and separate numerical key-pad. **1981** *Washington Post* 26 Aug. 85/2 For the latest in lunch carriers this fall, go with this wipeable tote decorated with elephants, sailboats or pigs. **1982** *Times* 20 Feb. 11/5 The tape... will be wipeable, leaving a tape... pristine for one's own recording.

wipe-out ('waɪpaʊt). [f. vbl. phr. *to wipe out*; see WIPE *v.* 6.] **1.** *Radio*. The condition in which a strong received signal renders impossible the reception of other signals (either wanted ones or interference).

1921 *Wireless World* IX. 13/1 With radiotelephony the case is worse, as the wipe out is continuous if it occurs at all. **1929** *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 218/2 Within a 'wipe-out' area uninterrupted service can be guaranteed, unless the interference is produced by listeners themselves. **1940** *Amateur Radio Handbk.* (ed. 2) x. 160/1 There are three types of interference that may be caused in neighbouring receivers working on broadcast waves, by an amateur telegraphy transmitter. First, the 'wipe-out' effect, where the signal from the transmitter 'blocks' the receiver due to either the excessive field strength of the transmitter, or the ineffectiveness of the receiver, or both.

2. *Surfing*. A fall from one's surfboard as a result of a collision with another surfer or a wave. Cf. WIPE *v.* 6i. *slang*.

1962 *Austral. Women's Weekly* 24 Oct. Suppl. 3/4 *Wipeout*, a dramatic fall off a board when a rider is trying to catch a wave. **1963** [see SURFIE]. **1969** *Observer* 3 Aug. 33/1 The biggest danger always lies in a 'wipe-out', with a loose board which may hit the rider or other surfers. **1970** *People* (Austral.) 26 Aug. 20/1 One bad wipeout—at Sunset Beach, Hawaii—earned him broken ribs.

3. Destruction, annihilation; a killing; a crushing defeat; an overwhelming experience. *slang* (orig. U.S.).

1968 *Sun* (Baltimore) 7 July 5/2 Charlie is 1810. We had a wipeout... Translation. Girl: Charlie is old news. We broke up. **1971** J. HENDERSON *Copperhead* vi. 71 Less than thirty-six hours to incapacitate 85 percent of the population. The remaining 15 percent would take a little more than a week. Strategically it would be a wipe-out. **1972** *Jazz & Blues* Sept. 8/1 When I heard Art it was a wipeout. He just wiped me out man. **1977** *Daily Mirror* 12 Apr. 27/7 A record 140,000 [motor-cycling] fans have watched the embarrassing wipe-out by 410 points to 379. **1979** L. MEYER *False Front* iii. 24 This is something like the wipeout of a personal fortune. **1984** 'M. HEBDEN' *Pel & Pirates* xviii. 143 Think it was a gang wipe-out, Patron?

wiper ('waɪpə(r)). Also 6 (9 in sense 5) wyper. [f. WIPE *v.* + -ER¹.]

1. A person who wipes; *spec.* in various industries, a workman employed in wiping something clean or dry. Also with adv., as *away*, *out*.

1552 HULOET, Wyper a waye of fylth from a mans body. **1842** BROWNING *Pied Piper* xv. Let me and you be wipers Of scores out with all men. **1875** DORA GREENWELL *Liber Humanitatis* 141 A wiper away of the tears that none other but he and God behold. **1881** *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 89 Glass Manufacture... Wiper-out. **1888** J. W. CLARKE *Mod. Plumbing Pract.* (1914) I. 99 So that when wiping the joint the solder will not burn the little finger of the wiper's hand. **1889** *Scribner's Mag.* Aug. 220/2 (Locomotive) For wipers and watchmen.

2. a. A cloth or other appliance used for wiping; in *slang* use, a handkerchief (later replaced by WIPE *sb.* 4).

1587 *Acc. Mary Q. Scots* (Camden) 59 For v ells canvas for butter clothes and wipers, iiii s. **1626** B. JONSON *Masque of Owls* 127 The wipers for their noses. **1685** *Phil. Trans.* XV. 1158 The fifth he calls the Wiper, supposing that by it they wipe off the honie from the flowers. **1700** B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Wiper*, a Handkerchief. **1841** CATLIN *N. Amer. Ind.* xli. II. 63, I rolled it up with my wiper. **1870** *Daily News* 23 Sept., The women in Holland clean their steps with an appliance combining the brush and wiper. **1890** *Sci. Amer.* 8 Nov. 297/1 Another movement [of a soldering machine] carries the ean body across the wiper, which removes the superfluous solder.

b. = *wiping-rod*: see WIPING *vbl. sb.* 3.

1826 *Price List in Austin Papers* (1924) 1369 To wiper claw for rifle... 50. **1827** J. KERR *Let.* 27 Feb. in *Ibid.* 1607 Thimble rod and socket end of wipers lost... 50. **1875** KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*

c. = *windscreen wiper* *s.v.* WIND *sb.* 32. Also *attrib.*, as *wiper blade*, *switch*.

1929 *Times* 2 Nov. 4/7 The driver has an all-enlosed cab, with... a sloped adjustable screen, with a wiper, in front. **1942** W. FAULKNER *Go down, Moses* 337 It was the youngest face of them all, ... staring sombrely through the streaming windshield across which the twin wipers flicked and flicked. **1953** L. DURRELL *Balthazar* iv. 67 The wind-screen became gradually snowed-up and he switched on the wipers to keep it clear. **1959** *Times* 25 Sept. 8/2 Wiper blades dry the screen and then park automatically. **1970** *Motoring Which?* July 93/1 On the 1800s and 1800s the lights or wiper switches collapsed in about one in four cars. **1976** H. KEMELMAN *Wednesday the Rabbi got Wet* xiii. 80 It was coming down so fast that my wipers couldn't handle it.

3. One who or that which strikes or assails; in quotes. applied to weapons. *slang*.

1611 BEAUM. & FL. *Philaster* v. iv. I could hulk your Grace, and hang you up cross-leg'd, Like a Hare at a Poulter, and do this with this wiper. **1890** CONAN DOYLE *Sign of Four* vii. 85, I have a wiper in this bag, an' I'll drop it on your 'ead if you don't hook it!... Stand clear, for when I say 'three' down goes the wiper.

4. 'A severe blow; also, a sharp rejoinder or taunt' (Jam. 1882): = WIPE *sb.* 2, 3. *slang* or *colloq.*

1846 JAMES *Step-mother* lxxv. III. 144, I say, Jack, that was a wiper you gave me between the eyes.

5. In machinery, a projecting piece fixed on a rotating or oscillating part, as an axle or wheel, and periodically communicating movement by a rubbing action to some other part; a cam, eccentric, or tappet; *esp.* one serving to lift a hammer, stamper, valve-rod, etc. which in the intervals falls by its own weight.

1796 *Abridgm. Specif. Patents, Weaving* (1861) 31 The treadles are worked by 'wipers' fastened on the main shaft. **1806** O. GREGORY *Treat. Mechanics* II. 11 A great forge, where the engineer... formed the wipers into spirals, which communicated motion to the hammer almost without any jolt whatever. **1859** *Abridgm. Specif. Patents, Weaving* 969 Over these treadles is a shaft carrying four double wipers containing two segments each.

attrib. **1835** URE *Philos. Manuf.* 152 The upper roller is furnished with wiper-wings. **1839** ----- *Dict. Arts* 367 The wooden wiper-rollers covered with flannel. **1844** H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 314 The steam is admitted both above and below the piston, by moving the slide with the handle of the wiper-shaft.

6. A pivoted arm that automatically rotates through an arc to make electrical contact with any of a curved row of terminals in a telephone exchange; also, the rotary or sliding contact of a potentiometer.

1906 J. POOLE *Pract. Telephone Handbk.* (ed. 3) xxx. 483 Opposite the lower part of each 'bank' a short arm is fitted, on the ends of which are 2 springs, which, when the rod is rotated, sweep over and under the strips of contacts, and are, therefore, called 'wipers'... The circular ratchet teeth... enable the vertical rod with the wipers to be raised. **1926** [see BANK *sb.* 2 to b]. **1969** [see *slide-wire* *s.v.* SLIDE-*a*]. **1975** C. D. TODD *Potentiometer Handbk.* vii. 166/2 Many different variations of the mechanical means which moves the wiper across the resistive element are possible. **1976** T. H. FLOWERS *Introd. Exchange Systems* iii. 82 In the L. M. Ericsson five-hundred-line switch, a stick carrying a set of wipers is rotated... to point in one of twenty-five angular directions... then the stick is slid linearly outwards for the wipers to engage with one of twenty sets of fixed contacts.

7. Comb.: wiper arm = sense 6 above.

1933 K. B. MILLER *Telephone Theory & Practice* i. 2 The subscriber... by sending the proper number of impulses over one of his line wires, could cause the wiper arm of his switch to step up to the row containing the contact of the line desired and then... to step around to engage the particular one. **1967** D. EADIE *Introd. Basic Computer* xv. 348 A full-fledged analog multiplier... can be constructed if we take the pot just described and drive the wiper arm with a servomotor.

wiping ('waɪpɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. WIPE *v.* + -ING¹.]

1. The action of the verb WIPE, *q.v.* (*lit.* or *fig.*) Also with advs.

1398 TREvisa *Barth. De P.R.* xvi. lxxx. (1495) L viii/1 Wyth wypyng & clensynge this vncleennes of leed may be taken away. **1440** *Prompt. Parv.* 530/1 Wypyng, of handys... *tersura*. **1448-9** METHAM *Amoryus & Cl.* 1632 This lyoun... in hys welterynge Made alle bloody Cleopes kerchyff in hys wypyng. **1553** T. WILSON *Rhet.* 4b, The Confutacion, is a dissoluyng or wypyng awaie, of all suche reasons as make against vs. **1815** J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 207 When they require wiping, a warm piece of silk... is the most suitable material to use. **1868** FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* II. x. 499 This Gemot was meant to be a wiping out of old scores. **1890** JACOBI *Printing* 232 *Packing the rollers*.—This is sometimes necessary to avoid the 'wiping' of the roller on the extreme edges of the type, which causes an excess of ink.

2. concr. (pl.): see quot. 1888.

1888 JACOBI *Printers' Voc.* 156 *Wipings*, cotton refuse used for wiping up and cleansing machinery. **1905** *Daily News* 4 Mar. 6 There is sometimes spontaneous combustion... in the ink and wipings at a printer's.

3. attrib. and Comb. Used for wiping, as *wiping-handkerchief*, *-towel*; *wiping-bar* *Glass-making*: see quot.; *wiping-cloth* (*spec.* in *Plumbing*: see WIPE *v.* 3); *wiping head*, a head (HEAD *sb.* 1 i i g) for removing any recording from a magnetic tape or wire; an erase head; *wiping-rod*, *-stick*, a rod fitted with a piece of cloth or tow for cleaning out the bore of a gun.

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 590 (*Glass-making*) The 'wiping bar' wrapped in linen, to remove dust. **1591** PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict.*, *Almayzar*, a 'wiping cloth of haire. **1888** J. W. CLARKE *Mod. Plumbing Pract.* (1914) I. 58 The wiping-cloth following the iron so as to pull or push the solder upwards as it runs downwards on being heated. **1647** TRAPP *Comm. James* v. 1 (1656) 913 Better weep here, where there are 'wiping-handkerchiefs in the hand of Christ, then to have your eyes whipt out in hell. **1938** *Jrnl. Inst. Electr. Engineers* LXXXII. 266/2 The 'wiping head carries a direct current adequate to saturate the tape completely, so that it leaves the head fully magnetized. **1950** [see *record button* *s.v.* RECORD *v.* 1 12 a]. **1875** KNIGHT *Dict. Mech. s.v. Rod*, The... 'wiping-rod', used by gun-smiths. **1817** J. BRADBURY *Trav. Amer.* 167 They often take from them the furs they have collected, and beat them severely with their 'wiping sticks. **1848** *Blackw. Mag.* July 18/1 Pete was in the act of forcing down the ball with his long hickory wiping-stick. **1582** STANYHURST *Aeneis* i. (Arb.) 40 Thee wayting seruaunts... doe carrye... 'wyping towels. **1911** KATE D. WIGGIN *Mother Carey* xiii. She... gave the wiping towels to Julia.

'**wiping**, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING².] That wipes, in various senses: see the verb.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 420/1 Wypynge, *tergosis*. **1597** GERARDE *Herbal* i. lxxv. 114 A certaine wiping, cleansing, and attracting facultie. **1599** MARSTON *Scot. Villanie* III. xi. The quick change, with wiping mandritta. **1902** *Engineering Mag.* XIX. 758/1 A wiping-out electromagnet, which removes all traces of the record.

wipiti: see WAPITI.

wippe, obs. pa. t. of WEEP *v.*; obs. f. WHIP.

wipped, **wipt**(e, obs. pa. t. and pple. of WIPE *v.*

wips, obs. form of WISP.

wirble ('wɜːb(ə)l), *v.* Also *wirbel*. [ad. G. *wirbeln*.] *intr.* To turn round and round; to whirl; to eddy. So 'wirble *sb.*, whirl.

1848 LYTTON *Harold* iv. ii, I was girt round with dead men's bones; and the bones moved round me, undulating, as the dry leaves that wirble round in the winds of the winter. *Ibid.* ix. vii, The gibe and the wirble of the dead men's bones. **1849** — K. *Arthur* xii. cxv, And here and there, and wirbelling to and fro, ... pale thousands spread the plain. **1860** LD. LYTTON *Lucile* i. iv. §6. 9 The waters went wirbling above and around. **1932** J. JOYCE *Let.* 1 Aug. (1966) III. 251 But what about me in my present wirbel of worries.

wirch, **-er**, etc., obs. ff. WORK, WORKER, etc.

wirchep, **-ip**, obs. ff. WORSHIP.

wird: see WEIRD, WERED, WORD, WORTH.

wire (waɪə(r)), *sb.* Forms: 1-4 *wir*, 4-5, 7 *Sc. wyr*, 4-7 *wyre*, 5-7 *wyer*, (5 *were*, *whir*, 6 *wyere*, *wheire*, *wiar*; *Sc.* 6 *wyir*, 7 *vyr*, *weyer*), 6-7 *wier*, *wyar*, 5- *wire* (*Sc.* 8 *weyr*, 9 *weir*). [OE. *wir*, corresp. to MLG. *wîre* (LG. *wîr*), ON. **wîrr* in *viravirki* filigree work, related further to OHG. *wiara* (MHG. *wiere*) finest gold, ornament of this: referred to the base *wi-* of L. *vière* to plait, weave, etc. (cf. WITHE *sb.*.)]

1. Denoting the substance.

1. Metal wrought into the form of a slender rod or thread, formerly by hammering, now by the operation of wire-drawing. *a.* of precious metal, esp. gold, used chiefly in ornamentation. From the 13th to the 16th century golden hair was freq. poetically likened to gold wire.

a1000 *Riddles* xxvii. 14 Wraetlic weorc smipa wire bi-fongen. **c1205** gold wir [see GOLD¹ 8 a]. **1377** LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. II. 11 Fetislich hir fyngres were fretted with golde wyre, And pere-on red rubyes. **c1400** *Ywayne & Gaw.* 2967 Many maidens thar he sese, Wirkand silk and gold wir. **c1420** ?LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 373 Dame Venus... Whoos long here shone as wyre of goold bryght. **1423** JAS. I *Kingis Q.* 1, In Aquary, Cinthia the clere, Ryndis hir tressis like the goldin wyre. **1618** in *Archaeologia* XLI. 254 All his silver made up in wyer. **1717** LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to Mrs. Thistlethwayte* 1 Apr., [The] cushions... are generally brocade, or embroidery of gold wire upon satin. **1879** S. C. BARTLETT *Egypt to Pal.* iv. 73 Silver wire is thirty-three hundred years old, and gold wire six hundred years older.

b. of any metal, esp. iron, brass, or copper, drawn out into a rod or thread.

1348 *Acc. Exch. K.R.* 470/18 m. 6 (P.R.O.) In Wir empt[o] pro fistula conducti mundanda iiii. d. **1387-8** [see WIRE-DRAWER 1]. **1435** *Cov. Leet Bk.* 182 And yif the cardwire-drawer were ones or twies disseyued withe ontrewre wire he wolde be warre. **1482** *York Myst. Introd.* 40 [Pynners and Wyredrawers] makes pynnes or draweth wyre. **1497** *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 100 Wire for Prymers. **1508** *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* IV. 113 Item... for wyir to the pottar of Strivelin to bind the gun muld v s. **1572** in *Feuillerat Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 159, ij lb of drawn wyer — iij s. iiii d. **1600** FAIRFAX *Tasso* II. xxvi, They... bound her tender armes in twisted wire. **1677** MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* i. 14 Iron used for making of Wyer, which of all other sorts is

the softest and toughest. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 786 The parts are then to be joined properly together, and kept in that state, by means of wire. 1839 *URE Dict. Arts* 955 A pin is a small bit of wire, commonly brass, with a point at one end, and a spherical head at the other. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 615/1 The metals suitable for wire, possessing almost equal ductility, are platinum, silver, iron, copper, and gold.

c. with qualification denoting (a) the metal, as *brass, copper, iron, magnesium, platinum wire*, (b) the form or colour, as *black, small, white wire*, (c) its use, as *binding, electric, fuse, joint, pinton wire*; also *lapland wire* (see quot. 1755).

14.. in Wr.-Wülcker 582/48 *Ferrifilum*, wyre of yre. 1435 *Cov. Lett Bk.* 183 Ne Cardwyre ne mystermanes wyre. 1463 *Act 3 Edw. IV.* c. 4. §4 Blanc file de ferre vulgairement nomme whitewyre. 1530 *PALSGR.* 288/2 Wyar of brasse, *fil darcal, fil de laton*. 1590 *SPENSER F.Q.* II. iv. 15 [He] Shakt his long lockes, colourd like copper-wire. 1669 *STURMY Mariner's Mag., Penalties & Forfeitures* 2 Iron Wyre, or whited Wyre, are forfeited if any such be Imported. 1755 *Dict. Arts & Sci.* s.v. *Wire, Wire of Lapland*. called... lapland-wire. It is made of the sinews of the reindeer... spun into a sort of thread... covered with tin. 1837 *HEBERT Engin. & Mech. Encycl.* II. 906 Rolled or 'black wire,' (as it is sometimes called, to distinguish it from the bright, or drawn-wire). 1843 *HOLTZAPFEL Turning* I. 429 The drawn tube called joint-wire, ... used by the silversmiths, for hinges and joints. *Ibid.* 433 In hard-soldering, it is... necessary to bind the works together in their respective positions; this is done with soft iron binding-wire.

†d. as the material of a lash or scourge. *Obs.* 1606 *SHAKS. Ant. & Cl.* II. v. 65 Thou shalt be whipt with Wyer. 1622 *MIDDLETON & ROWLEY Changeling* I. ii. *Alib.* Peace, peace, or the wyer comes. 1648 *GAGE West Ind.* xiii. 70 Disciplines of wyar, rods of iron, haire-cloths.

e. used for fencing; esp. *barbed* (earlier *barb*) *wire*, later often simply *wire*: a fencing wire composed of two or more strands twisted together, with barbs or short spikes fastened a few inches apart in the strands; also, the fencing or defence so constructed; also *attrib.*

1876 *Field* 16 Dec. 714/2, I was in hopes that a country like the Bicester (where every farmer seems to enjoy the chase) would be free of such an enemy as wire. 1883 J. SCOTT *Farm Roads*, etc. 88 Barb wire fencing should consist of at least two barbs, used in connection with two wires twisted together. *Ibid.* 89 With cattle the great advantage of barbed wire is that it keeps them in; with sheep, it keeps their enemies out. 1900 *KINNEAR Modder River* xi. 93 The mere automatic discharging of their guns at the hustling crowd of human deer impaled upon Cronje's wicked barbed wire. 1915 *Daily News* 6 Jan. 4 Four German snipers were shot on our wire. 1917 H. GIBSON *Diplom. Diary* 168 Tremendous barbed wire entanglements form a broad barrier.

II. Denoting an individual object.

* 2. a. A piece, length, or line of wire used for various purposes (see quotes.; some early uses are obsolete).

Beowulf 2413 Se [eorðseie] wæs innan full wrætta and wira. c 1374 *CHAUCER Troilus* III. 1636 For worldly Ioye halt not but by a wir; That preueth wel it brest alday so ofte; For-pi nede is to werke wip it softe. c 1385 — *L.G.W.* 1205 *Dido*, Vp on a courser, stertelyng as the fyr, Men myghte turne hym with a litil wyr, Sit Enyas. c 1391 — *Astrol.* II. §38. 46 In centre of the compas stike an euene pyn or a whir vp-riht. 1426-7 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 63 First payd for the sepulchre for diuers naylis & wyres & glu ix d. 1469 *Rolls of Parl.* VI. 232 A Image of lede... broken in the myddes, and made fast with a Wyre. a 1548 *HALL Chron., Hen. VIII* 52, I haue destroyed Rycharde Hun... I put a wyre in his nose. 1572 in *Feuillerat Revels O. Eliz.* (1908) 159 Greate wyers that went crosse the hall. 1581 W. BOROUGH *Disc. Var. Cumpas* ii. Bij, The Flye of the Cumpas of Variation, is so turned by vertue of the Magnetical wiers, that the North point thereof doeth shew the Pole of the Magnes. 1583 [see SUPPORTASSE]. 1585 *HIGINS Junius' Nomencl.* 7/2 *Graphium*, ... a writing wyer, or a steale where-with to write. 1616 A. RATHBORNE *Surveyor* 126 On the head or top of which shorter sight, must be placed a wyer or brasse pin. 1680 *MOXON Mech. Exerc.* x. 179 Through this Button should be fastned an Iron Wyer. 1695 J. EDWARDS *Author. O. & N. Test.* III. 244 Round Wires of Gold put into the Ears. 1753 *MRS. DELANY Let.* 17 Feb. in *Autobiogr.* (1861) III. 206 Mr. Maddox, who does surprising feats of activity on a wire. 1811 *Bk. Trades* III. (ed. 4) 67 The mould, which the paper-maker has in his hand, is composed of many wires set in a frame close together. 1827 *FARADAY Chem. Manip.* xvi. (1842) 425 The open limb is afterwards to be wiped clean... with a wire and tow. 1840 *LARDNER Geom.* xv. 193 One of these cylindrical cards, which, as it revolves, carries away the wool spread upon the points of its wires. 1857 *MILLER Elem. Chem., Org.* (1862) iv. §1. 270 [The soap] is cut up with wires into bars. 1880 R. WARD *Sportsman's Handbk.* 62 [In setting up birds] the leg wires should be half as stout again as the body wire. 1897 *Times* 18 Sept. 8/2 The [wireless] messages being transmitted from a vertical wire carried up a pole.

b. *spec.* One of the fine platinum cross-wires fixed horizontally and vertically at the focus of a telescope: see *COLLIMATOR* I.

1774 M. MACKENZIE *Marine Surv.* I. (1819) 52 If, while the vertical wire runs along the pole, the horizontal wire runs exactly along... the cross-piece [on the pole]... the quadrant and telescope are right. 1878 *ABNEY Photogr.* xxxvi. 294 Securing a sharp image of the sun together with that of the cross-wires or ruled gratings.

c. connecting a bell with the bell-pull or -push. 1837 *DICKENS Pickw.* xxxvi, 'There ain't a bell, is there, ma'am?'... 'It's only a handle,' said Mrs. Dowler; 'the wire's broken.' 1883 *MISS BROUGHTON Belinda* III. ix, The door-bell may ring itself off its wire.

d. *U.S.* A wire stretched across and above the track at the start and finish of a racecourse. Freq. in phrases: *down to the wire*, up to, or all

the way to, the finishing-line; freq. *transf.* and *fig.*; (*from*) *wire to wire*, from start to finish of a race; also *transf.* and *attrib.*; *under the wire*, at the finishing-line; *fig.*, (to fall) within the limits or scope of something.

1887 *Courier-Journal* (Louisville, Ky.) 5 May 1/1 Eva K., Little Munch... were first under the wire. 1901 'H. McHUGH' *Down the Line* 93 Swift often told himself that he could give Marshall P. Wilder six sure-fires and beat him down to the wire. 1920 C. SANDBURG *Smoke & Steel* 138 He flashed his heels to other ponies... and hardly ever came under the wire behind the other runners. 1929 M. C. WORK *Compl. Contract Bridge* v. 75 There are some hands which may just 'get under the wire' of the above definitions. 1950 *Keowee Courier* (Wahalla, S.C.) 31 Aug. 2/2 Baseball season is coming down to the wire, and the leading teams are about as close as two Scotchmen on bargain day. 1974 *State* (Columbia, S.C.) 15 Feb. 4-B/5 Nicklaus... led from wire to wire in the Hawaiian Open [Golf Tournament]. 1975 *New Yorker* 10 Nov. 137/2 Bertram Firestone's Honest Pleasure wound up his racing for the year with a wire-to-wire victory in the Laurel Futurity last weekend. 1982 'E. LATHEN' *Green grow Dollars* xviii. 151 We're going to force Vandam's into court as fast as we can. I think we'll just make it under the wire. 1984 *Miami Herald* 6 Apr. 22A/1 Odds remain good that the Democrats' race will go down to the wire.

†e. *the straight wire*: the honest truth; also used without article as a phrase emphasizing the truth of an assertion. *Austral. slang. Obs.*

1892 J. MILLER *Workingman's Paradise* 203 When it's all over you'll remember what I say and know it's the straight wire. 1909 A. WRIGHT *Rogue's Luck* 70 'Now, no kid, Harry,' said Ned anxiously. 'Straight wire, did you beat him?' 1936 M. FRANKLIN *All that Swagger* xlii. 394 'Will you?' said Humphrey... 'Straight wire, I will.'

f. *to pull one's wire*: see *PULL* v. 201.

3. a. A line of wire used as a conductor of electric current.

live wire, a wire charged with electricity; *fig. (colloq.)* an energetic or vigorously active person: see *LIVE* a. 9.

1747 [see ELECTRIZE v.]. 1796 *Imison's Sch. Arts* (ed. 4) 91 When the shocks are to be given with this apparatus... two slender and pliable wires... are to be fastened [etc.]. 1807 *CRABBE Par. Reg.* II. 380 So two cold limbs, touch'd by Galvani's wire, Move with new life. 1817 *BYRON Mazeppa* vi. 11 Conveying, as the electric wire, We know not how, the absorbing fire. 1886 A. A. C. SWINTON *Elem. Princ. Electr. Lighting* 26 The conducting wires for electric lighting are almost invariably made of copper... They are usually covered with an insulating coat of india-rubber and tape. 1890 *live electric wire* [see *LIVE* a. 4].

fig. 1876 *GEO. ELIOT Deronda* xlviii, Political and social movements touched him only through the wire of his rental.

b. *spec.* The line of wire connecting the transmitting and receiving instruments of a telegraph or telephone. *crossed wires*: see *CROSS* v. 5 c.

1846 *Punch* 5 Dec. 238/2 If this plan of Electric Telegraphs for the million should be carried out, the Post Office... might be turned into a central terminus for all the wires. 1854 telegraphic wires [see *TELEGRAPHIC* a. 1 b]. 1860 G. PRESCOTT *Electr. Telegr.* Pref. p. vi, The wires... are creeping over the Rocky Mountains, and ere long we shall have momentary advices from the Pacific States.

c. *transf.* The telegraphic system. *by wire* (formerly *by the wires*): by means of a telegraphic message. Hence (*colloq.*) a telegraphic message, a telegram.

1859 *LEVER Dav. Dunn* xlix, He then telegraphed to his man of business, ... to ascertain... the latest accounts of Lord Lackington's health, and answer 'by wire'. 1860 *TROLLOPE Framley P.* xviii, You had better come up yourself; but say the word 'Yes', or 'No', by the wires. 1876 'E. PINTO' *Ye outside Fools!* 76 Gusher, of the *Bellowgraphic*, may have a wire from his sub-editor. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* July 255/1 The forte of the *Enquirer* is its voluminous correspondence, both by wire and mail. 1889 *CONAN DOYLE Sign of Four* viii, We pulled up at the Great Peter Street post-office, and Holmes dispatched his wire.

d. The telephone system; an individual telephone connection. Freq. in phrases *over the wire* (or *†wires*), *on the wire*.

Now somewhat old-fashioned.

1902 *Chambers's Jnl.* Feb. 128/2 A Parisian dentist had discovered a process of 'seeing by wire', which... means that he can while speaking through the telephone see his correspondent at the other end of the line of communication. 1925 H. CRANE *Let.* 4 June (1965) 207, I did enjoy that talk with you over the wires to Cleveland! Your voice is so much better than ink and paper. 1925 F. SCOTT FITZGERALD *Great Gatsby* viii. 186, I tried [Gatsby's house] four times; finally an exasperated central told me the wire was being kept open for long distance from Detroit. 1929 'E. QUEEN' *Roman Hat Mystery* xiv. 211 I'll get the newspaper boys on the wire and ask them to ballyhoo the opening. 1932 [see *NUMBER* sb. 4 f]. 1935 W. CATHER *Lucy Gayheart* I. vii. 51 Every day his concert agent... called him up as soon as his wire was open. 1947 S. BELLOW *Victim* xxiii. 280 He ought to have spoken to Nunez about the broken chain while he was on the wire. 1974 *WODEHOUSE Aunts aren't Gentlemen* iii. 24 And now for heaven's sake get off the wire, I'm busy.

e. A private warning or message. Chiefly in phr. *to give the wire. slang.*

1925 *FRASER & GIBBONS Soldier & Sailor Words* 307 *Wire, to give the*, to give a secret warning. 1930 E. H. LAVINE *Third Degree* xvi. 210 The real thieves get 'a wire', and play poker. 1936 J. CURTIS *Gilt Kid* vi. 60 He'd been straight with her and had given her the wire right in the beginning. 1972 R. BUSBY *Reasonable Man* xviii. 161 He gave me the wire that there was a big one coming off.

** Senses used mainly in pl. or collect. sing.

4. Metallic strings (of a musical instrument). 1387 *TREVISIA Higden* (Rolls) I. 355 Irische men beep connyng... in harpe and tymbre pat is i-armed wip wire and

wip strenges of bras. 1599 *PEELE David & Bethsabe* Bj, When his consecrated fingers strooke The golden wiers of his raushing harpe. *Ibid.* E. iij, His haire is lyke the wyer of Dauids Harpe. 1628 *MILTON Vac. Exerc.* 38 Apollo sings To th' touch of golden wires. a 1718 *PRIOR Power* 656 They breath the Flute, or strike the vocal Wire. 1780 *COWPER Progr. Err.* 126 When he has pray'd and preach'd the sabbath down, With wire and catgut he concludes the day. 1818 *BYRON Ch. Har.* IV. xxxviii, His country's creaking lyre, That whetstone of the teeth—monotony in wire! 1818 *SHELLEY Rosal. & Helen* 1164 From the twinkling wires among, My languid fingers drew and flung Circles of life-dissolving sound. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* I. 112/2 In the violin and in the pianoforte, the lower notes are obtained from wires formed of denser material.

5. Metallic bars (of a cage).

1656 *BEALE Heref. Orchards* (1657) 8 A constant aviary of sweet singers, which are here retained without the charge or violence of the Italian Wiers. 1748 *RICHARDSON Clarissa* III. lxxv. 348 It [sc. a captive bird] beats and bruises itself against its wires. 1848 *DICKENS Dombey* vii, A new cage with gilded wires.

6. *Croquet*. The iron hoops or arches through which the balls are driven. Now *rare*.

1868 *Chambers's Encycl.* X. 483/2 The implements used in croquet are mallets, balls, posts (or sticks), and hoops (which are called indifferently hoops, wires, or arches). 1904 E. F. BENSON *Challoners* i, Martin... struck wildly in the hopes of an impossible cannon off the wire.

7. Knitting needles. *Sc.*

a 1774 *FERGUSON Hallowfair Poems* (1845) 14, I wyt they are as pretty hose As come frae weyr or leem. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVII. 805/1 The method of knitting stockings by wires or needles. 1827 *SCOTT Chron. Canongate* v, Knitting her stocking systematically, as if she meant every twist of her thread, and inclination of the wires, to bear burden to the cadence of my voice. a 1878 in D. H. EDWARDS *Mod. Scott. Poets* (1880) I. 39 She's handy an' quick wi' her weirs an' her needles.

8. a. The metallic lines by which puppets are worked. Chiefly *fig.* in the phrase *to pull* (or *move*) *the wires* (see *WIRE-PULLER*).

1607 *BEAUM. & FL. Woman Hater* III. i, Like dead motions moving upon wyers. a 1680 *GLANVILLE Sadducismus* II. (1681) 35 [Miracles] were so easy to be done... by Wiers and Juggling. a 1704 T. BROWN *Walk Lond. & Westm.* Wks. 1720 III. 285 A Guide that... can do no more for them, than the Wire in the Finger of the Poppet-Player. 1813 *Deb. & Proc. Congr. U.S.* 5 Jan. (1853) 12th Congr. 2nd Sess. 562 When those who pulled the wires saw fit, they passed away. 1826 *Mass. Spy* 12 Apr. 2/6 Mr. McDuffie said... that he was perfectly aware... who was the skulking manager who moved the wires. 1834 S. ROGERS *Let. to Ld. Holland* 28 Oct. in *Pearson's 76th Catal.* (1894) 51 Lord Durham appears to be pulling at 3 wires at the same time—not that the 3 papers—the Times, Examiner and Spectator—are his puppets, but they speak his opinions. 1862 *Fraser's Mag.* July 28 To charge him, in the technical language of his party, with 'pulling wires', and 'laying pipes' for the Presidency. 1888 *BRYCE Amer. Commw.* v. xciv. III. 321 A demagogue of greater talent... may practically pull the wires of a President whom he has put into the chair.

b. *to be (all) on wires* (*fig.*), to be in a state of nervous excitement or 'jumpsiness'.

1869 *Chamb. Jnl.* 2 Oct. 639/1 Here's another for T. P.; a man this time, all on wires.

III. Network or framework of wire.

9. a. Wirework; now usually, wire netting.

1547 in *Feuillerat Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 12 Twoo hattes... the Turfies of wyer couerid with clothe of golde. 1617 *MORYSON Itin.* I. 111 Also there is a delicate cage of birds, wrought about with thick wyer. a 1700 *EVELYN Diary* 23 Apr. 1646, In the middle of this garden was a cupola made of wyre, supported by slender pillars of brick. 1716 *HEARNE Collect.* (O.H.S.) V. 260 It is pity the Windows of Fairford are not secured with Wire. 1833 *LOUDON Encycl. Archit.* §83 The dairy, the pantry, and the store room to have fly wire (wirecloth to exclude flies) inside of the windows. 1854 *Poultry Chron.* II. 303 Birds... in new and commodious pens, with galvanised wire fronts.

†b. A frame of wire (a) to support the hair; (b) to support the ruff, = *SUPPORTER* 3b, *SUPPORTASSE. Obs.*

1583 *STUBBES Anat. Abus.* 67 Least it [sc. the hair] should fall down it is vnder propped with forks, wyers, and I can not tel what. 1595 *GOSSON Pleas. Quips* (Percy Soc.) 5 These flaming heads with staring haire, these wyers turnde like hornes of ram. 1603 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. 1. 31 For ane coldit wyrt to ver on my haed, x.s. *Ibid.*, For ane vyr to ver with ane French rouf v.s.; item, for thri vyrs to uer with Inglich roufs iii.s. 1607, 1612 [see *REBATO* c]. 1619 *FLETCHER Knt. Malta* I. i, Unfledge 'em of their tyres, Their wires, ... pins, and Periwigs, And they appear like bald cootes, in the nest. 1690 *D'URFEE Collin's Walk Lond.* III. 115 Like buxom Lass, that trips Curanto With Wires, Comodes, and Topknotts flaring. 1690 M. *EVELYN Fop-Dict., Palisade*, a Wire sustaining the Hair next to the Duchess, or first Knot. [1893 *GEORGIANA HILL Hist. Engl. Dress* I. iii. 197 In addition to the starch, wires were used to stiffen the ruff. The wires were covered with silk or gold and silver thread, and came round the neck under the ruff.]

c. *Paper-making*. Woven brass wire-cloth.

a 1700 *EVELYN Diary* 24 Aug. 1678, On this [frame] they take up the papp, the superfluous water draining thro' the wyre... The mark we find on the sheets is formed in the wyre. 1881 *Spons' Encycl. Industr. Arts* IV. 1497 The 'wire' is an endless cloth made of very fine wire... The mesh varies from 60 to 70 and even more threads to the inch.

d. A snare for hares or rabbits.

1749 *FIELDING Tom Jones* VI. xii, He himself had passed through that Field, in order to lay Wires for Hares. 1815 *Sporting Mag.* XLV. 109 Hares are caught... in purse-nets or wires. 1819 *Ibid.* (N.S.) IV. 210 Fix here and there a large bush... and close to each bush two 'wires'.

IV. Transferred and miscellaneous uses.

10. Something resembling wire or a wire; e.g. a long thin plant-stem, as a strawberry runner;

†a branch-like appendage of a star-stone; a cylindrical piece of native silver.

1601, 1879 strawberry wire [see STRAWBERRY 9]. 1696 *Phil. Trans.* XIX. 294 Capillaries...creeping on...the Ground, with Wires after the manner of Strawberries. 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 36 Cinquefoil...produces its Leaves...on a Stem, or Wire. a 1728 *Woodward Nat. Hist. Fossils* (1729) I. 11. 81 Several [Asteriae], with some of those Branches that are wont to arise from them, call'd, by some, Wires. 1793 J. LODGE *Introd. Topogr. Hist. Heref.* 37 That when the wires or vines [of hops] spring up, they may not be too far separated to run up the poles. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* II. 603 It is only in such as possess a...good carbonic earthy matter, that they [sc. potatoes] are enabled to propagate their subterraneous wires or root-buds. 1859 W. S. COLEMAN *Woodlands* (1866) 128 There may they be seen knee-deep in the wires or clambering over the broken grey rocks. 1882 *Rep. Prec. Metals U.S.* 200 The quartz shows much free gold and silver. The latter is in the form of nuggets and wires. 1897 H. CLIFFORD *In Court & Kampong* 69 The bristling wires of whisker, the long cruel teeth [of a tiger].

11. *pl.* Applied to hairs, or rays, as resembling shining wires (cf. 1 a). *poet.* and *rhet.* Now rare.

1589 *Greene Menaphon* (Arb.) 79 Apollo...Cut off his locks, and left them on her head. And said; I plant these wires in Natures scorn. 1590 — *Never too late* 49 (bis) The golden wyers that checkers in the day, Inferiour to the tresses of her haire. [c 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* cxxx. If haire be wiers, black wiers grow on her head.] 1876 *HARDY Ethelberta* xv. The sun was peeping out just previous to departure, and sent gold wires of light across the glades.

†12. *city wire*: a 'city wife' who wears wires (sense 9b) in her hair or ruff: used opprobriously.

1609 B. JONSON *Silent Wom.* Prol. 23 Some [cates] for lords, knights, squires, Some for your waiting wench, and citie-wires. 1632 *MARMION Holland's Leaguer* II. iii. All the City wires, And Summer birds in Towne, that once a yeare Come up to moulder.

13. *slang.* A pickpocket.

So called from the practice of extracting handkerchiefs from pockets with a piece of wire.

1851 *MAYHEW Lond. Labour* I. *Introd.* 25 'Wires', or those who pick ladies' pockets. 1862 *Cornh. Mag.* Nov. 644 The boy has now become a single-handed street wire. 1921 *Chamb. Jnrl.* June 410/1 When the 'wire' (that is, the man who actually picks the pocket) has helped himself he passes the 'swag' to his confederate.

14. Short for: a. Wire rope or cable.

1882 *NARES Seamanship* (ed. 6) 26 Steel wire is made of six strands, with a hemp heart in the centre. 1883 *GRESLEY Gloss. Coal-mining, Wire* (W.), a hauling rope.

b. A wire-haired fox terrier or dachshund.

1892 *Brit. Fancier* 19 Feb. 79/2 Mr. F. H. Field judged the Wires. 1938 *Times* 1 Jan. 1/6 (Advrt.), Beautiful Corgis, ... Wires, Dachshunds, [etc.]. 1975 *Country Life* 6 Feb. (Advrt. Suppl.) 27/1 Puppies for sale. ... Long Haired Wires.

V. *attrib.* and *Comb.* 15. a. Simple attrib.: made of wire or wirework, as *wire basket*, *blind*, *bolter*, *cable*, *cage*, *cloth*, *fence*, *fencing*, *gauze*, *grate*, *guard*, *lattice*, *mattress*, *mesh* (also *attrib.*), *net*, *netting*, *network*, *riddle*, *rigging*, *rope*, *shirt*, *sieve*, *spring*, *staple*, *trap*, *trolley*, *web*, *whip*; concerned with wire-drawing, as *wire-gauge*, *-manufactory*, *manufacture*, *-manufacturer*, *-mill*; supported or running on wire, as *wire railway*, *tramway*. b. Parasyntetic and instrumental, as *wire-caged*, *-framed*, *-guarded*, *-hung*, *-mended*, *-netted*, *-rimmed*, *-safed*, *-sewn* adjs. c. Objective, with agent-nouns (applied to persons or to appliances) and vbl. sbs., as *wire-clipper*, *-cutter*, *-cutting*, *-milker* (see MILK v. 4d), *-monger*, *-nippers*, *-weaver*; also *wire-like* adj.

1845 E. ACTON *Mod. Cookery* vii. 196 A *wire basket...is convenient for frying parsley and other herbs. 1961 J. STROUD *Touch & Go* vii. 69 The people...carry the same wire baskets round the same Supermarket. 1964 D. FRANCIS *Nerve* ii. 16 There were a few letters...in the wire basket on the inner side of the door. 1977 C. McCULLOUGH *Thorn Birds* ii. 31 A piece of boned fish...fried in the smoking well of liquid fat along with the chips, only in a separate wire basket. 1833 *LOUDON Encycl. Archit.* §560 With *wire blinds, the heat and great part of the light might be excluded. 1801 *Farmer's Mag.* Apr. 216 The flour mill...had received a most valuable addition of a *wire boulder. 1860 *Ure's Dict. Arts* II. 113 The Atlantic telegraph cable...is a single *wire cable. 1772 T. SIMPSON *Vermin-Killer* 5 Let the wire-maker make a *wire cage. 1858 *GREENER Gunnery Advt.* 14 [In the wire cartridge] the shot is packed within a wire cage. 1871 G. MACDONALD *Roadside Poems, A Manchester Poem* xiv. 17 The dark bird...which hangs *wire-caged. 1916 H. L. WILSON *Somewhere in Red Gap* iii. 109 That fresh bunch of campers...had a pair of *wire clippers in the whip socket. 1798 *Wire Cloth [see CLOTH sb. 9b]. 1833 [see 9a]. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XVIII. 224/2 This [mould] consists of a framework of fine wirecloth with a 'deckle' or movable frame of wood all round it. 1832 W. S. GILPIN *Landscape Gard.* vi. 209, I have lately seen...a *wire fence, which appears to me likely to reconcile the contending objects of beauty and expense. 1854 *Poultry Chron.* I. 540 Patent *Wire Fencing, strong enough to keep out Sheep, &c., and close enough for Dogs, Rabbits, Poultry, &c. 1971 S. HILL *Strange Meeting* i. 28 The sound of the man sleeping above him in the *wire-framed bunk. 1979 B. MALAMUD *Dubin's Lives* i. 6 She wore wire-framed blue-tinted glasses. 1833 *HOLLAND Manuf. Metal* II. xiv. 327 Stub's *wire gauges. 1888 *Lockwood's Dict. Terms Mech. Engin.*, *Wire Gauge*, a notched plate having a series of gauged slots, numbered according to the sizes of wire and sheet metal manufactured. 1816 *SIR H. DAVY in Phil. Trans.* CVI. 23 A lighted lamp or candle screwed into a ring soldered to a cylinder of *wire gauze. 1877 *RAYMOND Statist. Mines & Mining* 430 The ore-bed, formed of wire-

gauze tubes, which are set in a frame a short distance apart, thus allowing the ore to descend between them. 1819 *REES Cycl.*, *Wire-Grates, contrivances formed of fine wire-work, and used for keeping various kinds of large insects out of vineries, and such places. 1841 *LYTTON Nt. & Morn.* v. xii, Just looking into the parlour...to convince herself that...the *wire-guard was on the fire. 1907 H. WYNHAM *Flare of Footlights* vi, *Wire-guarded gas brackets. 1856 H. H. DIXON *Post & Paddock* ii. 38 That springy *wire-hung action, which...distinguishes the stock of the great 'Rawcliffe Horse'. 1726 *SWIFT Gulliver* II. viii, He...observed my Windows, and *wire Lattices that defended them. 1787 *WITHERING Brit. Plants* (1796) II. 857 Branches reddish, and *wire-like at the base. 1952 E. POUND *Personae* 180 The wire-like bands of colour involute mount from my fingers. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 349 The *wire manufactory...situated at L'Aigle...is one of the most considerable in France. 1818 *Matheus's Bristol Directory* 67 *Wire manufacturer. 1875 *KNIGHT Dict. Mech.*, *Wire-mattress, one having a web of wire-cloth or chain stretched in a frame for supporting a bed. 1891 *Scribner's Mag.* Sept. 318/1 A padlock with a *wire-mended chain. 1932 J. DOS PASSOS 1919 271 There were knots of police in blue standing about...outside and inside the *wiremesh gates huskylooking young men in khaki. 1944 *Living off Land* v. 109 Tanks...are best dealt with by screening all openings with a protective wire mesh. 1974 T. HUGHES in *Listener* 4 Apr. 438/2 The sheep...in her wire-mesh compound. 1899 C. HYNNE *Further Adv. Capt. Kettle* vi. 131 The *wire-milkers. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 346 Three of these machines...are, in general, employed in a *wire-mill. 1479 in H. Stewart *Co. Gold & Silver Wyre-drawers* (1891) 16 The petition of the Wyre-drawers, and Chape-makers that they may be made into one Company, and called *Wyre-mongers. 1871 *Man. Field Fortif.* §177 Gabions of galvanized iron *wire net. 1910 *Daily Chron.* 11 Mar. 6/4 Then why could not the convicts be *wire-netted from March to October? 1801 in *Deb. & Proc. Congr. U.S.* 21 Dec. (1851) 7th Congr. 2nd Sess. 1292 The books shall be...set up in portable cases...with *wire-netting doors and locks. 1854 *Poultry Chron.* I. 468 Ordinary Wire Netting, from 24d. per yard, 2 feet wide. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 478/2 *Wire net-work formerly employed for screens. 1914 B. M. BOWER *Flying U Ranch* 168 Want me to go back and get the *wire nippers? 1890 W. J. GORDON *Foundry* 12 We see a *wire railway to the left, or rather—for the wires are invisible—the trucks go floating through the air like rectangular balloons. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 281 A barley *wire-riddle answers for beans. 1883 *Man. Seamanship for Boys* 111 In turning a dead-eye, in *wire rigging, what seizings do you use? 1974 A. LURIE *War between Tates* (1977) ix. 185 Slouched down on the sofa...is a skinny adolescent boy with thick *wire-rimmed spectacles. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XX. 156/2 Iron is the material usually employed for *wire ropes. 1859 R. HUNT *Guide Mus. Pract. Geol.* (ed. 2) 273 A flat Wire Rope Pulley. c 1824 L. HUNT *World of Bks., My Bks.* (1899) 20 With books all in Museum order, especially *wire-safed. 1888 *JACOBI Printers' Vocab.*, *Wire sewn, books sewn with wire instead of thread. 1869 *BROWNING Ring & Bk.* ix. 1207 For the warm arms, were wont enfold thy flesh, Let *wire-shirt plough, and whipcord discipline. 1665-76 J. REA *Flora* 126 The earth being first sifted through a *wyer seive. 1833 *LOUDON Encycl. Archit.* §665 *Wire Springs for stuffing are nothing more than spiral coils of wire. 1884 'EDNA LYALL' *We Two* v, Tom...says I am made on wire springs like a twelfth-cake butterfly. 1667 *Phil. Trans.* II. 440 A long *Wire-staple. 1626 *BACON Sylva* §171 Which Strings we call False, being bigger in one Place than in another; And therefore *Wire-strings are neuer False. a 1700 *EVELYN Diary* 20 Nov. 1679, The viol d'amore of 5 wyre-strings played on with a bow. 1887 *Sci. Amer.* 19 Feb. 121/1 The zither...having 24 wire strings. 1768 *PENNANT Brit. Zool.* I. 105 One that was seduced into a *wire-trap, by placing its brood in it. 1976 *Southern Even. Echo* (Southampton) 17 Nov. 13/3 She had separated the meat and cold goods into a bag to stop them contaminating sugar in the *wire trolley. 1818 *Matheus's Bristol Directory* 52 Coulsting John, *Wire-weaver and Worker. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVII. 209/1 The *wire-web moves forward with a motion so regulated, as...to determine the thickness of the paper. a 1627 H. SHIRLEY *Mart. Souldier* III. ii. (1638) E3, *Wyer-whips shall drive you.

16. a. Special comb.: wire act, an acrobatic act performed on a tightrope; wire bar, a bar of copper cast into a suitable form for drawing into wire; wire bed, (a) a bed fitted with a wire spring base or mattress; (b) in papermaking, a moving bed of wire over which the pulp is passed, its fibres at this stage beginning to form a web; †wire-bell, a metal bar or rod used for producing a bell-like sound when struck; wire birch *Canad.*, a small birch, *Betula populifolia*, which has light-coloured bark and is found in eastern North America; wire-bird, a Ringed Plover, *Ægialitis sanctæ-helenæ*, found only on the wire-grass plains of St. Helena; wire bridge, (a) a suspension bridge supported by wires; (b) a kind of electric bridge furnished with a wire and a graduated scale; wire brush, (a) *fazz* = *BRUSH sb.* 1 b; (b) a brush with stiff wire bristles used in cleaning, esp. for removing rust; hence wire-brush v. trans., to clean with a wire brush; so wire-brushed ppl. a., -brushing vbl. sb.; †wire candle, = *wired candle* (see WIRED ppl. a. 1, quot 1413); wire-cartridge (see quot. 1858); wire-cut (brick), a machine-made brick cut by means of a steam power wire-cutter; wire-cutter, (a) nippers or pliers for cutting wire; also, a man employed to cut a wire or wires, e.g. in war operations; (b) an appliance for cutting bricks with wire in brick-making; so wire-cutting (also *attrib.*); †wire-dancer, one who dances or performs acrobatic feats on a wire

rope; so wire-dancing; wire edge, the turned-over strip of metal produced on the edge of a cutting tool by faulty grinding or honing; also *fig.*; wire-edged a., having a wire edge; also applied to a class of picotees having a line of deeper colour round the edge of the petals; wire entanglement *Mil.*, an abatis of (barbed) wire stretched over the ground in order to impede the advance of an enemy; wire-feed, -feeding, used attrib. in the names of machines with apparatus for maintaining a 'feed' or continuous supply of wire; wire-finder, an instrument for testing the insulation of electric wires; wire-frame a., (a) applied to a picture (usu. computer-generated) in which every edge of an object is depicted, regardless of its visibility on the object itself, and nothing else; also *ellipt.*, (b) (of spectacles) having a frame made of wire; wire-glass, sheet glass in which wire netting is embedded; wire ground (see quot.); wire grub = WIREWORM; wire-guided ppl. a., directed (in quot. 1922, carried out) by means of electric signals transmitted along a wire; *spec.* applied to a missile connected to a control point by a wire; wire gun, a wire-wound gun; wire-hair, short for 'wire-haired terrier'; wire-haired a., having a rough coat of a hard and wiry texture, esp. designating a kind of fox-terrier as distinguished from the smooth-haired variety; wire heel, contracted quarters of the heel, a defect incident to the feet of horses and cattle; wire house U.S., a brokerage firm having branch offices connected to its main office by private telephone and telegraph wires; wire instrument, †(a) a musical instrument with wire strings; (b) see quot. 1884; wire iron, rod iron for the manufacture of wire; wire-mark *Paper-making*, (a) *pl.*, the faint lines made by the impression of the wires of the mould in the substance of laid paper; (b) = WATER-MARK 5; wire micrometer, one with horizontal and vertical wires across the field; wire money *Numism.* (see quot.); wire nail, a nail circular in section, not tapering but pointed, and having a thin circular swaged head; wire-nailing (see quot.); wire pliers, pliers for shaping wire into curves and loops (see quot.); wire puzzle, a toy consisting of two or more wire patterns joined together in such a way as to puzzle one's ingenuity in disentangling them; wire recorder, an apparatus for magnetically recording sounds, etc., on wire and afterwards reproducing them; so wire recording, a recording so made, or the process of making one; wire-rim a. = *wire-frame* adj. (b) above; also *ellipt.*; wire saw, a kind of saw of which the cutting part is made of wire; wire service U.S., a news agency that supplies syndicated news by wire to its subscribers; wire silver, native silver found in wire-shaped pieces; wire-stitcher, an automatic stapling machine which takes continuous wire and forms the staples as an integral part of the stapling operation; so wire-stitching (also *attrib.*); hence (as back-formations) wire-stitch v. trans., wire-stitched ppl. a.; wire story *Journalism*, a story distributed by a wire service; wire-strainer *Austral.* and *N.Z.* = *wire-stretcher* below; wire-stretcher chiefly *N. Amer.*, a tool for making taut the wire of a fence or the like; wire-tailed a., having wire-shafted tail-quills; wire-twist, a composition of iron and steel welded together and rolled into rods, used for gun-barrels; wire-walker, an acrobat who performs feats on a wire rope; so wire-walking; wireway, a channel or duct for enclosing lengths of wiring, esp. one made of sheet metal; ducting of this nature; wire wheel, a car wheel having wire spokes (used esp. on sports models); wire wool, matted thin wire, used esp. for scouring kitchen utensils; wire-wound a., wound or encircled with wire.

1906 *Variety* 13 Jan. 7/2 The Roses...have a *wire act with some good tricks. 1912 C. MACKENZIE *Carnival* xi. 136 They did not object to interminable wire-acts, and put up with divination feats of the most exhausting dullness. 1976 *National Observer* (U.S.) 24 Jan. 18/5 You always knew a wire act would open the show. 1868 *JOYNSON Metals* 99 The copper, when at the proper state of refining, is cast into 'ingots', 'tiles', or 'wire bars'. 1882 W. WHITMAN *Daybks. & Notebks.* (1978) II. 296 *Wire-beds—829 no. 10th st. 1918 W. OWEN *Let.* 31 Oct. (1967) 591 Other officers repose on wire beds behind me. 1962 F. T. DAY *Introd. Paper* iv. 38 The wire bed is kept perfectly level while it oscillates to bring about the interlacing of fibres in the pulp. 1668 [STEDMAN] *Tintinnologia* (1671) 3 Let him learn on some Instrument, or *Wyer-Bells, to know a Third, Fifth, and Eighth, which are the principal Concords. 1917 B. R. MORTON *Native Trees of Canada* 68 *Betula Populifolia*... White birch, grey birch, *wire birch. 1956 [see *Indian pear*

s.v. *INDIAN a. 4 b*. 1974 J. DOWELL *Look-Off Bear* p. viii. Beyond our grove of pines there were mixed growths of wire-birch, swamp willow, [etc.]. 1873 J. E. HARTING in *Ibis* July 260 The St.-Helena bird, popularly known in the island as the *Wire-bird. 1816 *Portfolio* (Philad.) June 521 The *wire bridge near Philadelphia. . is supported by six wires each 3-8ths of an inch in diameter. 1842 *Penny Cycl.* XXIII. 334/1 Another wire bridge. . was built in 1817, across the Tweed. 1891 *Cent. Dict.* s.v. *Wire*, *Wire bridge*, in *elect.*, a kind of Wheatstone bridge in which two adjacent resistances are formed by a wire. 1927 *Melody Maker* Apr. 380/1 In quiet passages, the *wire brush on a Chinese cymbal gives a very pleasing effect. a1935 T. E. LAWRENCE *Mint* (1955) 1. xxii. 76 Our job was to wire-brush and repaint a lot of salvaged sheeting. . . A good job, it looked. Six of us and six wire brushes. 1957 MANVELL & HUNTLEY *Film Music* iii. 98 Wire-brush percussion. 1974 A. ROSS *Bradford Business* 76 Even the short heavy bolts had been rubbed up with a wire brush. 1978 J. WAINWRIGHT *Theft of Time* 210, I should. . . check the trays of seed potatoes. . . Wire-brush the seed-trays. 1955 *Archit. Rev.* CXVII. 68 Construction: reinforced concrete frame with mainly brick walls, but certain panels of *wire-brushed concrete. 1978 *Country Life* 28 Dec. 2212/1 The furniture in wire-brushed carved oak. 1978 E. GUNDREY *Simple Plumbing* 22 Rust removal involves *wire-brushing. 1980 *Yachts & Yachting* 29 Feb. 672/2 Lead is perhaps the easiest needing only one coat of undercoat and one of Metallic Primocon between wirebrushing (or rubbing down) and the new antifoul. 1419 *Churchwardens' Acc. St. Michael's Church, Oxford* (MS.). *Wyrecandel ante crucem ad Lux Fulgebit. 1839 W. WATT (title) Remarks on shooting, in verse, comprehending. . . the recent and admirable invention of the patent *wire cartridge. 1858 *Greener's Gunners' Adv.* 14 The advantages to be derived from the use of the Wire Cartridge, in the pursuit of. . . game. . . The shot is packed within a wire cage, which is constructed so as to allow them to escape from it gradually while the charge is in motion. 1892 *Labour Commission Gloss.*, *Wire-cut Brick. 1910 *Encycl. Brit.* IV. 519/2 In all cases bricks thus made are known as 'wire-cuts'. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Wire-cutter, a nippers for cutting off wire. 1888 in W. P. Webb *Great Plains* (1931) 314 While a man was putting up his fence one day in a hollow a crowd of wire-cutters was cutting it behind him in another hollow. 1905 H. G. WELLS *Kipps* i. vi. §4 Pearce, the dog! had a wire-cutter in his pocket-knife. 1922 *Encycl. Brit.* XXXII. 919/1 Detachments of wire-cutters, and pioneers, about 50 strong. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Wire-Cutting Pliers. 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 24 Jan. 5/2 The Tramway Strike at Brooklyn. . . The militia are now using search-lights to detect wire-cutting. 1728 BAKER *Biogr. Dram.* (1782) I. 88 Mr. Maddox, the celebrated *wire-dancer. 1768 TUCKER *Li. Nat.* (1834) II. 362 The application of the pick-pocket, the wire-dancer, and the balance-master, to become expert in their several arts. 1785 *Daily Universal Reg.* 1 Jan. 4/1 Must he [sc. an editor] . . . have writers of tumbling—*wire dancing—and hurly burly descriptions? 1801 STRUTT *Sports & Past.* iii. v. §22. 175 Wire-dancing. . . consists rather of various feats of balancing. . . upon the wire. [1698 *Phil. Trans.* XX. 418 The Edge being whet away to a Wire, as they term it.] 1807 H. H. BRACKENRIDGE *Mod. Chivalry* II. iv. 21 In the course of mixing with good company, the *wire edge of art would wear off, and an ease of demeanor be attained. 1846 HOLTZAPFEL *Turning* II. 406 Lastly, the flat face of the [plane-] iron is laid quite flat on the oilstone, to remove the wire edge. 1847 BROWNSON *Two Brothers* Wks. VI. 246 Time had hardly worn off the wire-edge of his grief. 1861 CAMPIN *Pract. Hand-turning* ii. 41 The tool. . . should . . . be so held that the grindstone is driven from the edge towards the handle. . . otherwise it will discover a great liability to become *wire-edged. 1898 *Gardener's Mag.* 3 Sept. 571/2 Time was when there was a distinct section of wire-edged yellow-ground picotees. 1876 VOYLE & STEVENSON *Milit. Dict.* (ed. 3) 470/2 *Wire Entanglement. 1879 HENSMAN *Afghan War* (1881) 215 Wire entanglements, made with telegraph wire and tent-pegs. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Wire-feed Screw-machine, a machine for making screws from a continuous length of wire. 1884 *Ibid.* Suppl. 950/1 A screw machine. . . It has an adjustable chuck and *wire-feeding apparatus. 1877 *Jrnl. Soc. Teleg. Engineers* VI. 522 A new *wire-finder. 1963 *AFIPS Conf. Proc.* XXIII. 348 A prototype graphical communications system capable of manipulating straight line, *'wire frame', figures in three-dimensional space is now in operation. 1977 E. LEONARD *Unknown Man* No. 89 ii. 13 His tinted wire-frame glasses glistened. 1982 BALLARD & BROWN *Computer Vision* ix. 292 A set of vertices or edges can define many different solids. (It is possible, however, to determine algorithmically all possible polyhedral boundaries described by a three-dimensional wireframe.) 1982 J. E. SCOTT *Introd. Interactive Computer Graphics* viii. 135 A wire-frame drawing is less pleasing visually, but it is considerably faster for the computer to produce. 1983 *New Scientist* 24 Mar. 819/1 The more detail in a wire frame, the harder it is to understand. 1983 L. DEIGHTON *Berlin Game* viii. 83 Bret put his wire-frame glasses into their case. 1900 *Engineering Mag.* XIX. 761/1 Mr. Murphy proposes. . . to have a section of the roof made of *wire-glass. 1865 F. B. PALLISER *Hist. Lace* iii. 27 The honeycomb network or ground. . . is of various kinds; *wire ground, Brussels ground, [etc.]. 1882 CAULFEILD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework, Wire ground*. . . is sometimes used in Brussels Lace; it is made of silk, with its net-patterned meshes partly raised and arched, and is worked separately from the design. a1846 LOUDON (Worc.) *Wire grub. 1922 *Encycl. Brit.* XXXII. 1022/1 *Wire-guided high frequency telegraphy and telephony. 1958 C. C. ADAMS *Space Flight* 52 The latter two [rockets] . . . are wire-guided. 1972 [see *TOW* s.v. T6a]. 1982 *Sci. Amer.* May 103 (Advt.). The wire enables the Hughes TOW to have one of the highest velocities and longest ranges (2.3 miles) of any wire-guided missile in the world. 1982 *Daily Tel.* 10 May 4/3 Two wire-guided torpedoes of the Tigerfish type. 1895 *Daily News* 1 Feb. 3/1 The Majestic will probably be the first ship to be fitted with the new 12-inch *wire guns. 1884 *Live Stock Jrnl.* 5 Sept. 227/2 Heather, another *wire-hair, came second. 1801 *Sporting Mag.* XVIII. 85 The rough *wire-haired hound. 1818 *Ibid.* (N.S.) I. 157 Scotch terriers, rough, wire-haired, with long backs and short legs. 1881 V. SHAW *Bk. Dog* 299 Some excellent wire-haired Fox-terriers. 1819 REES *Cycl.*, *Wire-Heels. 1904 *N. Y. Evening Post* 18 June (Financial Sect.) 1/7 The so-called *wire house'. . . is a product of the boom times. 1966 *Economist* 25 June 1436/1 It [sc. the New York Stock

Exchange] has been firing salvos. . . about possibly setting up an auxiliary trading floor somewhere in New Jersey. . . Several larger nation-wide 'wire' houses have already said that they are considering some such plans to relocate. 1982 *Times* 27 July 15/4 United States banks. . . in the past have left financial futures very much to the brokers and major 'wire houses' such as Bache or Hutton. 1654 *Wood Life* (O.H.S.) I. 190 John Trap of Trinity, [who played] on the citerne; and Georg Mason. . . on another *wyer instrument. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech. Suppl.*, *Wire Instruments*. . . for manipulating wire in surgical practice. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, *Wire-iron, black rod iron made in South Staffordshire, and used for drawing out into wire. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 697 The kind of paper most proper. . . is. . . yellow wove, as the *wire-marks which are in the other sort, are an impediment to the point of the pencil. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVII. 209/2 Various wire-marks, or water-marks, as they are called. 1813 D. BREWSTER *New Philos. Instrum.* 5 The *wire micrometer. 1853 H. N. HUMPHREYS *Coin-coll. Man.* II. 492 A small issue of shillings, sixpences, and Maundy money, took place in 1797 and 1798. . . They are known among collectors as the *wire money, from the very slender numerals on the Maundy pieces. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Wire-nail. *Ibid.*, *Wire-nailing Machine, a machine for closing shoes with wire. 1888 *Lockwood's Dict. Terms Mech. Engin.*, *Wire Pliers, pliers in which a pair of smooth jaws, circular in section and tapered lengthways, are substituted for the ordinary flat and roughened jaws. 1898 'H. S. MERRIMAN' *Roden's Corner* vii. 69 It happened to be a *wire-puzzle winter, and Cornish had the best collection of rings on impossible wire mazes. 1942 *Frontier* Sept. 3/1 (caption) The *wire sound recorder developed by Armour Research Foundation differs from previous types in the type of recording head. 1957 *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 29/2 Three types of recording systems are in common use: (1) mechanical, as in the disk phonograph; (2) optical, as in the sound film; and (3) magnetic, as in the tape or wire recorder. 1978 'D. KYLE' *Black Camelot* ix. 130 'I think we'd better record this as we go along.' . . The wire recorder had been produced and checked. 1933 *Amer. Speech* VIII. 11. 77/1 Similar information should be given for film, strip, and *wire recordings. 1943 *Electronics* Oct. 236 (caption) A wire recording of the Army Hour is taken off the air by. . . engineers. 1966 *McGraw-Hill Encycl. Sci. & Technol.* XIV. 518/2 Except for minor details, the techniques and systems used for magnetic wire recording are similar to those for magnetic tape. 1982 *Sunday Tel.* (Colour Suppl.) 21 Nov. 8/2, I just read the words, they were recorded straight on to disc, then transferred on to wire recording tape and that was the end of it. 1977 *Sat. Rev.* 23 July 10/2 Slender, with a trim beard and *wire-rim glasses. 1982 J. VALIN *Day of Wrath* (1983) xvii. 131 He's got long hair, wears wire rims, muttonchops. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* 501 *Wyer Saw. 1901 *Nature* 28 Nov. 84/2 The helicoidal wire saw has been employed for quarrying marble in Belgium and in Italy for some years. 1950 *Mag. of Fantasy & S.F.* Fall 7, I monitored a couple of newscasts; the second one carried a story by another *wire service on the domes. 1962 E. LACY *Freelancers* viii. 181, I didn't think the *Herald Tribune* used wire services for Europe. 1976 *National Observer* (U.S.) 6 Nov. 24/1 A morning newspaper in the East, using a wire service's totals, had Rockefeller ahead. 1985 *Times* 11 May 21/1 Reuters is keeping a close watch on its troubled American wire service rival, United Press International. 1882 *Rep. Prec. Metals U.S.* 177 Well-defined veins, carrying ruby silver, black sulphuret, . . . and *wire silver. 1902 *Census Bull.* (U.S.) No. 216. 65 A. . . combination folding and wire-stitching machine, which by a continuous and automatic operation takes the sheets from the feeders, and folds, gathers, collates, covers and *wire-stitches copies of magazines and pamphlets. 1921 T. J. WISE *Bibliogr. Writings Joseph Conrad* (rev. ed.) i. 27 There are no signatures, the pamphlet being composed of a single halfsheet. . . issued *wire-stitched. 1887 *Courier-Journal* (Louisville, Ky.) 20 Feb. 3/2 Printing-Office. . . Card Cutter, *Wire Stitcher [etc.]. 1967 Wire stitcher [see *SHORT RUN sb.* 4]. 1881 *Even. News* 26 July 4 (Advt.). Over one hundred machines in motion [in a printing and paper-making exhibition]. . . *Wire stitching, paging, gumming, etc. 1957 *Encycl. Brit.* III. 859/2 The automatic assembling, wire-stitching and covering machine units complete the operation of pamphlet binding. 1943 *Wire story [see *HOT-SHOT 1 b*]. 1979 J. CROSBY *Party of Year* (1980) iii. 25 The foreign desk was behind a glass screen. . . Feinberg was editing a wire story. 1882 ARMSTRONG & CAMPBELL *Austral. Sheep Husbandry* xviii. 204 Novel *Wire Strainer. . . This instrument. . . should be made of light iron. . . Three short spikes, or legs, should be fixed behind, so as to give the instrument a grip of the post as soon as the wire is tightened. 1959 A. UPFIELD *Bony & Black Virgin* xxiii. 215 The big man studied the method of joining the cut wires. . . 'Chain wire-strainer was used.' 1975 *N.Z. Jrnl. Agric.* Sept. 57/1 The installation of permanent wire strainers on each strand of a new fence. . . would overcome this difficulty. a1877 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* III. 2797/2 *Wire-stretcher, a tool for straining lightly telegraph or fence wires. 1954 W. FAULKNER *Fable* 187 Cowboy. . . exterminated from the earth by a tide of men with wire-stretchers and pockets full of staples. 1958 J. G. MACGREGOR *North-West of 16* ix. 132 Then it [sc. barbed wire] had to be tightened with our wire-stretchers (a simple block-and-tackle arrangement) until when you plucked it, it sang like a fiddle string. 1981 *Farmstead Mag.* Winter 43/4, I assemble my supplies for next year's battle: my fence staples, spare wire, my fencing pliers and wire stretcher. 1823 LATHAM *Gen. Hist. Birds* VII. 309 *Wire-tailed Swallow. . . Inhabits India. 1835 GREENER *Gun* ii. 14 Damascus being a variety or mixture, made from the composition named *wire-twist iron. *Ibid.*, The making of wire-twist barrels. 1762 GOLDSM. *Cit. W.* lxxxv, Stage-players, fire-eaters, singing women, dancing dogs, wild beasts, and *wire-walkers. 1895 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 1 Feb. 4/2 Miss Virginia Aragon is the most finished wire-walker that we can remember. 1898 *Pearson's Mag.* Sept. 332 *Wire-walking. . . must always retain a greater amount of fascination. 1920 *Variety* 31 Dec. 124 She learned acrobatics. . . wire walking and aerial work. 1932 A. L. ABBOTT *National Electr. Code Handbk.* viii. 97 (caption) A length of *wireway with hinged cover. *Ibid.* 99 Wireways may extend transversely through dry walls. 1953 H. A. CHINN *Television Broadcasting* xv. 606 In order to provide protection for audio, video, communications, control, and a-c cables. . . it is customary to instal such cables in conduit, raceways, pipe shafts, . . . and similar wireways. 1964 R. F.

FICCHI *Electrical Interference* x. 192 A bare ground wire rubbing against a chassis or wireway can cause a considerable amount of noise in a system. 1909 *Westm. Gaz.* 9 Feb. 4/2 The Humber detachable *wire wheel. . . is said to be 50 per cent. stronger than wood. 1912 *Motor Manual* (ed. 14) (Advt., rear cover), Rudge-Whitworth detachable wire wheels lengthen the life of tyres 70%. 1926 *Daily Colonist* (Victoria, B.C.) 4 July 26/4 (Advt.). Sport Roadster \$675 delivered. Racy streamlines, wire wheels, [etc.]. 1963 [see *GAS sb.* 1 5d]. 1976 N. THORNBURG *Cutter & Bone* i. 8 A classic 1948 MG-TC with running board and wire wheels. 1958 J. CANNAN *And be Villain* iii. 71 A cupboard where detergents, a reserve of dishcloths and the rolls of *wire wool were kept. 1977 'J. LE CARRE' *Hon. Schoolboy* xii. 264 His hair was like wire wool crimped into small trenches. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 22 Jan. 4/3 These *wire-wound guns have been approved of, and are supposed to be nearly 40 per cent. stronger than the present type of heavy ordnance. 1910 H. M. HOBART *Dict. Electr. Engin.* I. 321/1 Wire-wound Armature, the armature of an electric generator or motor which is wound with wire, in contradistinction to one of which the winding consists of bars. 1931 *Boys' Mag.* XLV. 125/2 The potentiometer should be a 'Colvern', wire wound. 1946 *Nature* 30 Nov. 799/2 The development of a vitreous enamel coating for fixed wire-wound resistors. 1975 D. G. FINK *Electronics Engineers' Handbk.* vii. 7 Rheostat (Power). These are variable wire-wound resistors used as speed controls.

b. In the names of various plants with slender wiry stems (see *quots.* and *WIRE-GRASS*).

1756 P. BROWNE *Jamaica* 126 The small Wire-rush. The larger Wire-rush. Both these little plants are very frequent in the swamps of Jamaica. 1797 J. BAILEY & CULLEY *Agric. Northumbld.* 127 *Nardus stricta*. Wirebent. 1827 in Bischoff *Van Diemen's Land* (1832) 167 We were several hours struggling through thick scrub and wireweed. a1850 BROMFIELD *Flora Vect.* (1856) 434 *Polygonum aviculare*. . . Wire-weed. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, Wire-bent.

¶ From the 15th to the 17th century examples of *wire* occur app. with the sense 'iron', ? by confusion with the old form *ire*. (Cf. *WIRY* ¶.)

1406 *York Wills* (Surtees) I. 343 Lego Roberto Brid j wyrehatt cum j Carleale x. 1455 in *Archæologia* XVI. 126 A Wyre hatt garnysshed y^e bordour Serkyll. 1567 *Aldeburgh Rec.* in *N. & Q.* 12th Ser. VII. 142/2 Makeyng where gudgyons. 1582 N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* 42 A wether cock, made likewise of wier [orig. *di bronzo*]. 1630 Maldon (*Essex*) *Docts.* Bundle 217. No. 22 (MS.). iii. Wyer candlesticks, 8d. 1682 in H. More *Contn. Remark. Stories* 63 That a Wier-Candlestick. . . might be turned into Brass.

wire (waɪə(r)), *v.* [f. *WIRE sb.*]

†1. a. To adorn with (gold) wire. *Obs. rare.* 13. . . *K. Alis.* 208 (MS. Laud) Her zelew her was faire atired, Mid riche strenges of golde wyred.

†b. To entwine. *Obs. rare.*

c1645 HOWELL *Lett.* i. xiv. (1650) I. 23 As the Vine her lovely Elm doth wire,

†c. *intr.* To wind or twist about. *Obs. rare.*

1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* iv. xxi, In small streams (through all the Island wiring).

2. *trans.* To furnish with a wire or wires. a. To fasten, join, or fit with wire or wires; *spec.* to secure (the cork of a bottle, the bottle itself) with wire.

1435 *Churchw. Acc. St. Michael's, Oxford* (MS.) i lib. of talow candell y-wyrede to the rode soler. 1551-2 in Feullerat *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 73 For vj mouldes for serpentes for the same hedpeces—ij^s. And for wyeryng of xj of those serpentes at vij^d the pece—vij^s. iiij^d. 1683 LORRAIN tr. *Muret's Rites Funeral* To Rdr. A 4b, A Skeleton how neatly soever hung and wir'd together, is not an Object so entertaining as a Venus. a1700 EVELYN *Diary* 24 Aug. 1678, They. . . then put it [sc. pulp] into a vessell of water, in which they dip a frame closely wyred with wyre as small as a haire. 1706 HEARNE *Collect.* (O.H.S.) I. 226 One of the Sceleton's in y^e Anatomy Schoole was wired by one Wells a Smith. 1796 M. EDGEWORTH *Parent's Assistant* (ed. 2) i. 74 Did not I order you. . . to carry these bottles to the cellar; and did not I charge you to wire the corks? 1828-32 WEBSTER, *Wire*, . . to apply wire to, as in bottling liquors. 1830 M. DONOVAN *Dom. Econ.* I. 295 The bottles should be wired down, and laid on their sides. 1837 MISS MITFORD *Country Stories* (1850) 124 He had written the label and wired the root. 1879 *St. George's Hosp. Rep.* IX. 377 Jaw retained in position by wiring the fragments together.

b. To furnish with a wire support; to stiffen with wire.

1834 PLANCHÉ *Brit. Costume* 274 The ruff was. . . starched and wired as usual. 1882 J. ASHTON *Soc. Life Reign Q. Anne* I. xiii. 151 In 1711 the coats used to be wired to make them stick out. 1891 *Daily News* 29 Apr. 7/1 Even ribbon loops are wired for hat and bonnet trimming.

c. To fence with wire: chiefly *to wire in*, to enclose with a wire fence. Also, to cover over with wire.

1691 J. GIBSON in *Archæologia* XII. 184 The enclosure wired-in for white pheasants and partridges. 1774 J. WESLEY *Lett.* 26 July (1931) VI. 104 You must. . . wire over the cupola. 1851 RUSKIN *Stones Venice* I. viii. §17. 93 They will look as if they were meant to keep the central shaft together by wiring or caging it in; like iron rods set round a supple cylinder. 1854 *Poultry Chron.* II. 60 A range of tables, the under part of which was wired in to form pens for the geese.

d. To strengthen or protect with (barbed) wire.

1881 MRS. P. O'DONOGHUE *Ladies on Horseback* 181 Wire the fences if necessary; but at the commencement of the hunting season, cut away, say twenty yards of the wiring. 1917 *Blackw. Mag.* May 737/2 Every night parties sallied forth, some to wire, others to repair the parapet.

e. To furnish with electric wires; to make electrical connections to; to connect electrically to; to provide *with* by means of connecting

wires; *spec.* to fit with a concealed listening device. Also with *up*.

1891 E. I. BAX *Pop. Electr. Lighting* iv. 27 To admit of this the expense of wiring the room will have to be increased. 1892 A. FAHIE *House Lighting by Electr.* 77 The cost of wiring houses of different sizes. 1898 *Daily News* 27 Aug. 6/4 Nearly every street of importance had been wired. 1923 *Wireless World* 19 May 205/2 It is preferable to wire the valve panel before fixing it to the baseboard. 1960 *Practical Wireless* XXXVI. 393/1 The heater circuit is best wired first, leads being run close against the chassis. 1970 J. EARL *Tuners & Amplifiers* vi. 140 It is not usually difficult to wire the stereo loudspeaker pair and programme sources for the correct left and right channels. 1978 S. BRILL *Teamsters* iv. 144 The prosecutor wired Henderson's phone so that there would be tapes of Faugno and Andretta threatening him. 1978 *Australian* 21 Aug. 9/2 One in every five homes with television are wired to a cable system. 1982 *Sci. Amer.* Sept. 68/2 The explosive charge is wired with electric blasting caps and detonated from a safe distance. 1983 J. FULLER *Convergence* xxx. 303 Just tell the truth... We have to wire you up.

f. To incorporate (a facility, etc.) into a device by electric wiring. Cf. WIRE-*IN* a. 2.

1962 *Communications Assoc. Computing Machinery* V. 159/1 A scheme for wiring binary-to-decimal conversion into a machine at a small cost.

3. To catch or trap in a wire snare. Also *fig.*

1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* III. x. He said that George had wired Hares. 1771 in *Hone Every-day Bk.* (1827) II. 207 *Court.* A sturdy beggar! We must find out some means of wiring that fellow! 1798 SOUTHEY *Engl. Ecl.*, *Sailor's Mother* 110 But he was caught in wiring hares at last. 1836 HALIBUTON *Clockm.* Ser. 1. xx. Why, if he aint snared, Sam; he is properly wired, I declare. 1851 NEWLAND *Erne* v. 136, I recollect wiring a great lumping chubb once. I caught him asleep.

4. *pass.* and *intr.* (also with *in*) Of a horse's foot: To be contracted in the heel; to be affected with 'wire heel'; also *trans.*, to cause to be 'wired'.

1614, etc. [see WIRE *ppl.* a. 4]. 1753 J. BARTLET *Gentl. Farriery* (1754) 309 This turns them narrow above, wires their heels, and dries... the frog. 1831 YOUATT *Horse* 293 Many persons reject a horse... if the quarters are wiring in.

5. *Croquet.* To place one's own or an opponent's ball so that a hoop intervenes between it and its object: with ball or player as obj. Chiefly *pass.*

1866 *Croquet: Implements & Laws* 10 A ball is Wired when it cannot effect the stroke desired on account of the leg of a hoop (wire) intervening. 1868 W. J. WHITMORE *Croquet Tactics* 21 To be wired is to have your ball in such a position that you cannot hit some other ball, or get through your hoop, because of a wire intervening. 1874 J. D. HEATH *Croquet-player* 54 It is useless to wire a ball from the player, if another ball, at which he would be more likely to shoot, is left unwired or 'open'. *Ibid.* 71 Red... has wired the player for all the balls. 1904 E. F. BENSON *Challoners* i. Helen was standing close by her brother in the proud calm consciousness of having wired him with complete success.

6. To send (a message) 'over the wires', to telegraph; also *absol.* or *intr.*; *transf.* to send a telegraph message to; = TELEGRAPH *v.* 1. *colloq.*

1859 *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 378 Another party, who are striving to debase the language by introducing the verb 'to wire', instead of the word hitherto used, 'to telegraph'. 1863 DICEY *Federal St.* I. 247 No intelligence could be 'wired', according to the American phrase. 1876 'E. PINTO' *Ye outside Fools!* 17, I am going to wire my broker fellow to buy a couple of thousand Bs and Cs. 1883 D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* xii, I want you to wire to Tom and demand the truth about the matter. 1883 *Leisure Hour* 282/2 The relief train came up, news of the difficulty having been wired on. 1891 'ANNIE THOMAS' *That Affair* x, He was wired for to go and look at a pony.

7. *intr.* to wire in (rarely away), to get to work with a will, to apply oneself energetically to something; to wire into (a meal, etc.), to set about it with avidity. *colloq.* or *slang.*

Origin uncertain; cf. quot. 1870 and *Slang Dict.*, 1874, where it is said that the orig. phr. is 'wire in and get your name up', an invitation to enter the ring for a contest.

1865 *Slang Dict.* (ed. 3), *Wire-in*, a London street phrase in general use at the present time. 1870 *Daily News* 16 Apr., We were politely told by Sandy to 'wire in'—digger's phraseology for an invitation to commence. 1888 *Fortn. Rev.* Jan. 93 In one fashion or another he 'keeps wiring away'. 1891 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Sydney-side Saxon* vi, I asked for work at the first station I came to, and though I was strange to it, I wired in with a will. 1894 ASTLEY *Fifty Yrs. Life* II. 252 After wiring into a leg of mutton and rice-pudding, [I] turned into a... welcome bed.

8. [Cf. WIRE *sb.* 13.] *intr.* To practise pick-pocketing; *trans.*, to pick the pocket of. *slang.*

1853 M. CARPENTER *Juvenile Delinquents* i. 40 There are... at least ten times as many boys 'wiring' (picking pockets) as when I was young. *Ibid.* iv. 145 If he was bigger he could wire a man of his poke. 1891 'F. W. CAREW' *No. 747* xxxv. 414, I used to go wirin' in the main-thoroughfares.

wire, var. VIRE *sb.*² *Obs.*, virus.

wired (waɪəd), *ppl.* a. [f. WIRE *sb.* or *v.* + -ED.] 1. Supported, strengthened, or stiffened with wire; *spec.* of glass.

1413 *Churchw. Acc. St. Michael's, Oxford* (MS.) Pro xiii libris de wyred candelis. xi.d. 1480 in *Berks, Bucks & Oxon Archaeol. Jnl.* (1913) Oct. 85 Paied y^e same John for wyred candell at Cristmas v^d. 1654 WEBSTER *Appius & Virg.* v. ii, He that would tame a Lion, doth not use the goad or wierd whip, but a sweet voice. 1844 NOAD *Electricity* (ed. 2) 88 The box contains a reel round which the wired string is wound. 1885 'MRS. ALEXANDER' *Valerie's Fate* iv, A lovely bouquet came for me—not a nasty wired affair, but just a lot of loose flowers. 1908 ROSENHAIN *Glass Manuf.* 27 In wired plate glass... an entire layer of wire netting is interposed

between two layers of glass. 1930 *Engineering* 12 Dec. 755/1 Plate glass, rolled figured glass, corrugated glass, and wired glass, all produced by rolling. 1979 P. WAY *Sunrise* xi. 116 He had pushed through the wired-glass door.

2. Furnished with or consisting of a wire fence or netting for confinement or protection.

1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* III. lxxv. 348 It [sc. a captive bird]... with meditating eyes, first surveys, and then attempts, its wired canopy. 1816 in J. Scott *Vis. Paris* xv. (ed. 5) 237 The lower shelves only are protected by doors and wired frames. 1820 SHELLEY *Witch Atl.* xvi, As bats at the wired window of a dairy, They beat their vans. 1880 CARNEGIE *Pract. Trap.* 43 Traps... placed round a wired pheasant inclosure ought to be effective. 1903 T. F. DALE *Fox-hunting in Shires* 21 A hunting crowd melts away... when the country is open. A wired district, however, will soon bring them together again. 1918 *Daily Mail* 12 Aug. 2/6 The troops... held up by deep gullies and wired woods. 1919 *Blackw. Mag.* June 831/1 The wired-over, sandy road.

3. Fastened or secured with wire. Also with *up*, and *fig.*

wired on, designating a kind of tyre which is secured to the wheel-rim by means of wire.

In first quot., Contained in a bottle having a wired cork. 1798 LADY HUNTER in *Sir M. Hunter's Jnl.* 19 Sept. (1894) 119 Had Majors Wemyss and Gordon to eat cold tongue and drink wired porter... at twelve. 1850 H. MELVILLE *White Jacket* II. xlvi. 308 The Surgeon stalked over the side, the wired skeleton carried in his wake by his cot-boy. 1865 *Athenaeum* 9 Dec. 803/1 Birch wine... the native impetuosity of which had to be restrained by wired corks. 1897 PEMBERTON *Complete Cyclist* 82 The most suitable rim for any kind of wired-on tyre. 1946 *Coast to Coast* 245 216 The gate was thoroughly wired up—three Queensland hitches of No. 8 wire. 1975 *Washington Post* 29 Sept. A-20/4 Let us... concede that point for a moment—although it shouldn't be conceded until it is properly wired up with all sorts of qualifications.

4. Of a horse's foot (see WIRE *v.* 4).

1614 MARKHAM *Cheap Husb.* i. i. 3 Chuse him [i.e. a horse] that is... strong ioynted, and hollow houses, of which the long is best, if they be not wierd. 1696 *Lon. Gaz.* No. 3211/4 A Chesnut Mare Colt, two years old... the hind feet and one before white, wired behind. 1864 E. MAYHEW *Horse Managem.* 463 Where the heels have become 'wired in'.

5. *Croquet.* (See WIRE *v.* 5.)

1868 *Chamb. Encycl.* X. 485/2 A Wired Ball is one which cannot be croqueted, by reason of the leg of the hoop intervening.

6. a. Employing wires or similar physical connections to convey electric signals, *spec.* for television or radio.

1924 *Telegraph & Telephone Jnl.* XI. 6/1 Here are some extremely interesting particulars regarding 'Wired Radio' Broadcasting. 1930 E. E. HUNT *Audit Amer.* 20 In 1913 there were only 48 wired homes per 1,000 of the non-farm population. 1937 *Wireless World* 2 Dec. 565/2 (heading) Wired television. 1958 *Oxford Mail* 26 Aug. 3/6 In a discussion on wired television... Coun. W. G. White asked if the present or any future council was going to bar the television aerial from its housing estates. 1960 GREGORY & VAN HORN *Automatic Data-Processing Systems* ii. 61 Computers with externally stored programs... get their operating instructions from wired plugboards. 1960 *Electronics Weekly* 30 Nov. 2/4 A wired sound and television service may soon be provided... for Leicester. 1969 *Electr. Communications* XLIV. 1. 14/1 The best compromise was sought between wired-logic control, which is very efficient but inflexible, and stored-program control. 1971 *New Scientist* 1 July 19/2 It is often argued that the provision of more radio and TV channels, particularly on the greatly expanded scale of the 'wired city', will lower standards. 1972 *Listener* 6 July 3/2 As America becomes increasingly a wired nation, with cables reaching out already into millions of homes, the channel limitations of over-the-air television are being superseded. 1976 BRZOWSKI & YOELI *Digital Networks* ii. 30 Wired logic refers to the capability of tying together the outputs of gates to realize either the AND... or the OR... function without additional hardware.

b. Fitted with, or wearing, an electronic listening device; more fully wired for sound. Also *fig. colloq.*

1957 J. D. MACDONALD *Man of Affairs* ix. 141 The joint is wired, he says... The next step is cameras and infra red and tape recorders, I guess. 1967 *Boston Sunday Globe* 23 Apr. 18/3 Several agreed with the words of one who said he knew enough 'to stay away from Karafin... He's wired for sound 24 hours a day... He can keep stories out of the paper or get them in'. 1982 G. LYALL *Conduct of Major Maxim* xiv. 129 The very idea of being 'off the record' was nonsense, since the room was almost certainly wired.

c. With *up* in either of prec. senses.

1971 *New Scientist* 16 Sept. 614 (heading) The visual systems in their brain are wired up to match the visual world that is important to them. 1972 D. BLOODWORTH *Any Number can Play* xix. 197 That one-sided chat you had with the wired-up Goddess of Mercy. 1982 P. D. JAMES *Skull beneath Skin* xxv. 210 She was glad that she wasn't wired up to a lie machine. 1984 *Listener* 26 July 20/1 Dr Glover came to the orchestra on the strength of being well wired-up with broadcasting contacts.

wired, obs. form of WEIRD *sb.*

wired-in (stress variable), a. [f. WIRED *ppl.* a. + IN *adv.*] 1. Bounded by wire, in the form of netting or fencing. Cf. WIRE *v.* 2 c.

1855 *Poultry Chron.* III. 508 A moveable house and wired-in run which... is tenanted by a pair of Bantams. 1973 J. THOMSON *Death Cap* ix. 128 She was feeding the chickens... in the wired-in run. 1975 J. MCCLURE *Snake* ix. 118 Wessels... hid behind the wired-in back of a parked truck.

2. Incorporated in or connected to a device or system by means of wiring. Also *fig.*

1957 C. E. OSOODE et al. *Measurement of Meaning* i. 5 Certain stimulus patterns have a 'wired-in' connection with certain behaviour patterns (unconditional reflexes) and additional stimuli have acquired this capacity (conditional

reflexes). 1962 *Commun. Assoc. Computing Machinery* V. 159/1 (heading) On a wired-in binary-to-decimal conversion scheme. 1975 P. ELBOW *Oppositions in Chaucer* v. 120 His predilection for language and thought frees him... from a single, rigid, programmed, or wired-in response to a fox. 1975 *Language for Life* (Dept. Educ. & Sci.) xv. 234 This should be fitted with sound-proof projector booth, wired-in good quality speakers, and a large permanent screen. 1982 *Data Communications* Oct. 119/2 These terminals are dedicated to specific tasks through specific wired-in instructions and have no built-in intelligence. 1984 *Science* 22 June 1304/3 The wired-in semantics of these connections substitutes for the time-consuming interpretation process needed in systems that pass symbolic information.

wire-draw ('waɪədɹɔː), *v.* Now rare. [Back-formation from WIRE-DRAWER.]

1. *trans.* To draw out (metal) into wire: see WIRE-DRAWING *vbl. sb.* 1. *rare.*

1666 BOYLE *Orig. Formes & Qual.* 96 Though out of a wedge of Gold one cannot immediately make a Ring, yet by... Wyre-drawing that Wedge by degrees... That thing may easily be effected. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey). To Wire-draw, to draw out Gold or Silver-Thread. 1755 JOHNSON, To Wiredraw. 1. To spin into wire. 1828-32 WEBSTER.

2. *transf.* To draw out (a material thing) to an elongated form; to stretch, elongate.

1598 FLORIO, *Stringare*... to wyre-draw a thing. 1648 *Hunting of Fox* 23 To tug and wire-draw as Shoe-makers ordinarily do their leather between their hands and their teeth. 1656 FLECKNOE *Diarium* 86 Such an art as his, Who wire-draw'd Simon to Simonides. *Ibid.* 92 But loath I am to stretch mine eares so far, As if they wire-drawn, or tenter'd were. 1656 F. HAWKINS *Youths Behav.* (1661) 51 Perforations, through which Nature is wont to wyer draw spare humors into a fine spun excrescency [sc. hair]. a 1658 CLEVELAND *London Lady* 49 He wire-draws up his Jaws, and snuffs and grins. a 1701 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* (1721) 42 He never desisted from pulling his Beard, till he had wiredrawn it down to his Feet. 1849 D. J. BROWNE *Amer. Poultry Yd.* (1855) 163 The bird... has been actually wire-drawn. It has grown all the hours you have neglected it, without anything to grow from.

b. To cause (steam or water) to pass through a small aperture, thereby diminishing its pressure.

1744 DESAGULIERS *Course Exper. Philos.* II. 522 It must not be taken for a general Rule, that Wire-drawing the Water, as it is call'd, is always a Fault. 1787 M. BOULTON *Let. to Jas. Watt* 1 Oct., Briggan always expanded the steam, great Poldice wiredraws it, as the valve opens very little indeed. 1802 *Specif. Trevethick's Patent No.* 2599. 2 This passage has a throttle valve... to wiredraw the steam.

3. *fig. a.* To draw or prolong to an inordinate length; to protract excessively, spin out.

1598 FLORIO, *Puntare*... to wyre-draw any matter. 1611 COTGR., *Tardiver*, to linger, foredraw, slacke, delay, wire-draw it. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* II. i. iv. i. 299 As an hungry Surgeon often doth prolong & wierdraw his cure so long as there is any hope of pay. 1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* 1. 40 His torments were so lengthened, and wire-drawne, to the end Christians might feele themselves dye. a 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xl. 332, I prorogate, ... wyre-draw, and shift off the Time. 1782 MISS BURNAY *Cecilia* 1. iii, They may contrive to fill up the middle and end of the evening by wire-drawing the comments afforded by the beginning. 1785 in *GROSE Dict. Vulgar T.*

b. To draw out to an extreme tenuity; to reduce to a subtle fineness; to attenuate.

1660 GAUDEN *God's Gt. Demonstr.* 18 The superfluity of mans wit and eloquence glories to find out many inventions, definitions and distinctions, even in plain things; wire-drawing religion into fine threads. 1683 CAVE *Ecclesiastici* 313 Having wiredrawn the Article concerning the Son of God into infinite Controversies and Disputes. 1796 LAMB *Let. to Coleridge* 13 June, Sonnets and all, they won't make a thousand lines as I propose completing 'em, and the substance must be wire-drawn. 1864 LOWELL *Biglow P.* Introd., Poems 1890 II. 161 The school of Pope in verse ended by wire-drawing its phrase to such thinness that it could bear no weight of meaning whatever.

c. To strain, force, or wrest by subtle argument or the like.

1610 CARLETON *Jurisd.* 288 Such as would prove this Iurisdiction from certain texts of Scripture, as: ... *orau pro te Petre, &c.* And such like which are wire-drawn to countenance this Papall Iurisdiction. 1653 GAUDEN *Hierap.* 530 He needes not wiredraw his conscience, till it fits every State passage. 1663 SOUTH *Serm.* (1717) V. 59 Nor am I for forcing, or wiredrawing the Sense of the Text. 1687 *Good Advice* 59 For while a man is out of Office, he is Test-free, but the hour he is chosen to any station... he must wyredraw his Conscience to hold it. 1700 DRYDEN *Fables* Pref. 'A 2, Where I have been wrongfully accus'd, and my Sense wire-drawn into Blasphemy or Bawdry. 1765 WESLEY *Let.* 14 May, Do not wrest, and wiredraw, and colour my words. 1812-29 COLERIDGE in *Lit. Rem.* (1838) III. 155 If our old divines... wire-drew their text, in the anxiety to evolve out of the words the fulness of the meaning. 1873 H. ROGERS *Orig. Bible* iii. 115 Questions... which only tend to wiredraw the judgment.

absol. 1831 EMERSON *Jnl.* 25 Dec. (1909) II. 440 The rough and tumble old fellows, Bacons, Miltons, and Burkes don't wire-draw.

†d. To draw, bring, get, induce, extract, introduce, etc. by some subtle device. *Obs.*

1633 MARMION *Fine Comp.* III. i, Although her husband be penurious... Yet she can make him malleable, and worke him, And turne, and hammer him, and wire-draw him. 1650 STAPYLTON tr. *Strada's Low C. Wars* II. 46 The Prince of Orange... to wyer-draw the whole business out of the King, takes upon him to have been privy to the plot. a 1662 HEYLIN *Laud* (1668) 482 It was no hard matter for the Houses of Parliament to wire-draw him by degrees to such Condescensions. 1705 in *Perry Hist. Coll. Amer. Col. Ch.* (1870) I. 173 Among Mr. Comm's 5 Arguments... is wire-drawn in a Sly ill look't insinuation. a 1734 NORTH *Exam.* 1. iii. §26. (1740) 138, I grant that Matter very fit to be taken

Notice of in the History of that Time; but then . . . truly, as it was, and not only, as here is done, to wire-draw a Reflection from it. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* l. xliii. 303 If . . . I suspected, that she sought only to gain time, in order to wire-draw me into a consent.

†e. To draw or spin out *into* (also with colouring from c). *Obs.*

1648 HEYLIN *Relat. & Observ.* i. 135 In conclusion, after a tedious debate, the desires of the Citizens were referred to a Committee of the House to be wyer-drawne into an Ordinance. 1756 *Connoisseur* No. 118 ¶8 [He] wire-drawed the books of Moses into a complete system of Natural Philosophy.

†f. *intr.* To be penurious or stingy; *trans.* to be overreaching or extortionate with. *Obs.*

1610 BEAUM. & FL. *Scornf. Lady* v. i, Thou hadst land and thousands, thou spendst, and flungst away, and yet it flows in double: I purchased, wrung, and wierdraw'd, for my wealth, lost, and was cozen'd. 1642 D. ROGERS *Naaman* 162 Seeing us wire-draw and castabout every way, rather then we will part with anything. a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Wire-draw*, to screw, over-reach, or deal hard with.

wire-drawer ('waɪədrɔː(r)). [*f.* WIRE *sb.* + DRAWER.]

1. One who draws metal into wire; one who practises or is skilled in wire-drawing.

1265 in C. W. Bardsley *Dict. Surnames*, Robert le Wyrdraere. 1320 in *Cal. Letter-bk. E. London* (1903) 136 [Emma, daughter of William] le Wirdrawiere. 1387-8 T. USK *Test. Love* iii. vii. (Skeat) l. 103 The even draught of the wyrdrauer maketh the wyrd to ben even and supplewerching. 1480 *Wardr. Acc. Edw. IV* (1830) 121 Rauff Vnderwood wyre-drawer for iij lb. and a quarteron of wyre of iren. 1589 [? LYL] *Pappe w. Hatchet* 27 O, what a braue state of the Church it would be for all Ecclesiasticall causes to come before Weauers and Wierdrawers. 1656 T. VIOLET *Proposals* 52 Not to suffer either Refiner, Goldsmith or Wyer-drawer to melt the Coyn or Plate of the Nation, to make Gold or Silver Wyer. 1702 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3810/8 The Master, Wardens, and Assistants of the Company of Gold and Silver Wire-Drawers. 1768 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) l. 499 Like a wire-drawer, who takes a little bar of silver, . . . and by driving it successively through smaller and smaller holes, brings it to a fineness fit for winding round a thread of silk. 1833 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* II. 346 It has all requisite qualities given to it in the workshop of the wire-drawer. 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* 44 Wire Drawers' Plate Maker.

†2. In allusive phr. (*to go to the wire-drawer's*, etc.) or directly *fig.*, applied to one who spins out a matter to extreme length or draws it fine. *Obs.*

1566 Q. ELIZ. in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. i. II. 226 *note*, Are my wordes like lawiers bokes which nowe a dayes go to the wiar drawers to make subttall doings more plain? 1579 LYL *Euphuys* (Arb.) 106 Shee . . . will either shut me out for a Wrangler, or cast mee off for a Wierdrawer. 1584 — *Alex. & Camp.* v. iii, I meane to inioy the world, and to draw out my life at the wierdrawers, not to curtall it off at the Cuttellers. 1609 [Bp. W. BARLOW] *Answ. Nameless Cath.* 309 For Tortus, according to his name, plaies the wire-drawer, and will needs stretch the resemblance, into an identity. 1623 WEBSTER *Duchess Malfi* i. ii, You play the wire-drawer with her commendations. 1805 W. TAYLOR in *Ann. Rev.* III. 649/1 The arts of amplification and illustration they cultivate in various manners; but they are still wire-drawers.

†3. One who plays on a stringed instrument. *jocular nonce-use.*

16. . MIDDLETON, etc. *Old Law* iv. i, *Clowne*. Is there no Musick in the house? *Drawer*. Yes sir, heere are sweet wire drawers.

4. *dial.* (See quot. and cf. WIRE-DRAW 3 f.) 1828 *Craven Gloss.*, *Wire-drawer*, a covetous person, a penurious wretch.

5. *Comb.*, as *wire-drawer-like* adv. (cf. 2).

1611 COTGR. s.v. *Petit*, *Petit à petit*, faire and softly, now one and then one, wiredrawer-like.

'wire-drawing, *vbl. sb.* [*f.* WIRE-DRAWER: see -ING¹.]

1. The action or operation of making wire by drawing a piece of ductile metal through a series of holes, successively decreasing in diameter, in a steel plate called a draw-plate. Also *attrib.*

1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* iii. viii. 33 Such Fellows are like your Wire-drawing Mills; if they get hold of a Man's Finger, they will pull in his whole Body at last. 1797 W. JOHNSTON tr. *Beckmann's Invent.* II. 232 The invention of the drawing-iron or proper wire-drawing. 1840 LARDNER *Geom.* xv. 177 The process of wire-drawing . . . in which a cylindrical form . . . is required to be imparted to the metal of which the wire is made. 1876 ROCK *Text. Fabr.* 22 The first use of a wire-drawing machine seems to have been about the year 1360, at Nuremberg.

2. *transf.* (See Quots. and WIRE-DRAW v. 2 b.) 1660 D'ACRES *Water-Drawing* 35 The forcing & crowding of the water contrary to its own natural porousnesse, and as I may properly term it (as it were) a wyer-drawing of the water. 1875 R. F. MARTIN *Havrez' Winding Mach.* 90 Wire-drawing of the steam from passing through a contracted orifice. 1887 *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 487/1 Wire-drawing of steam is . . . a case of imperfectly-resisted expansion.

3. *fig.* (see WIRE-DRAW v. 3).

1640 DIGBY in *Lismore Papers* Ser. II. (1888) IV. 139, I am sorry to see things gotten by wyre drauing, which one may be sure before hand must be granted. 1648 C. WALKER *Hist. Independ.* i. 54 At length after much wyer-drawing of the businesse, one Warrant was shewn to Master Baynton. 1732 BERKELEY *Alciph.* vii. §12 What Footsteps are there in the Holy Scripture to make us think, that the wiredrawing of abstract Ideas was a Task enjoined either Jews or Christians? 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* III. x, We have often blamed him for a habit of wire-drawing and over-refining. 1877 CONDER

Basis Faith ii. 68 To refine this discussion into the wire-drawing of verbal controversy.

So **'wire-drawing** *ppl. a.* in *fig. senses.*

1741 RICHARDSON *Pamela* IV. vi. 37, I know the pretty wire-drawing ways of your Sex. 1756 BURKE *Vind. Nat. Soc. Wks.* 1906 l. 12 The history . . . does not afford matter enough to fill ten pages, though it should be spun out by the wire-drawing amplification of a Guicciardini himself. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* i. vi, An idle wire-drawing spirit . . . is too clearly discernible.

wire-drawn ('waɪədrɔːn), *ppl. a.* [*pa. ppl.* of WIRE-DRAW v.]

1. Drawn out to a great length or with subtle ingenuity; fine-spun; elaborately subtle, ingenious, or refined.

1603 FLORIO *Montaigne* i. xxvii. 96 A subject, common, bare-worne, and wyer-drawne [orig. *tracassé*] in a thousand bookes. 1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* III. ii, To . . . shorten so your eares, against the hearing Of the next wire-drawne grace. 1642 D. ROGERS *Naaman* 138 The . . . more subtil and wire-drawne selfe hath bene in deceiving the soule, the more the soule may abhorre her. 1662 HIBBERT *Syntagma Theol.* i. 196 There is no more certain signe of a bad cause than extended testimonies and wire-drawn arguments. 1715 FELTON *On the Classics* (1718) 137 What they call Improvement, is generally . . . spinning out their Author's Sense, till 'tis wire-drawn, that is, weak and slender. 1732 BERKELEY *Alciph.* v. §24 The . . . wire-drawn distinctions . . . of the Schoolmen. 1817 DIBBIN *Bibliogr. Decam.* I. 380 A very long note might grow out of this observation, but there is no necessity to be outrageously wire-drawn upon it. 1851 CARLYLE *Sterling* III. v, Courtly delicate manners, verging towards the wiredrawn and elaborate. 1873 HELPS *Anim. & Mast.* iv. 110 What a relief it is to come from the wiredrawn nonsense of Seneca, Thomas Aquinas, and Descartes, to the broad common sense of this thoughtful Scotchman [sc. Hume].

2. Of steam, water: see WIRE-DRAW v. 2 b.

1744 DESAGULIERS *Course Exper. Philos.* II. 522 Unless this wire-drawn water goes faster than at the Rate of four Feet in a Second, the Motion is not too swift. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Wire-drawn* . . . the condition of steam when the pipes or ports leading to the cylinder have not sufficient carrying capacity. 1885 C. G. W. LOCK *Workshop Rec.* Ser. iv. 101/2 When the suction- or delivery-pipe is too small, . . . the water is then called 'wire-drawn'.

3. Of a metal: Drawn into wire. *rare.*

1826 ADAMSON *Rail-Roads* 7 The under part will approach nearer to the condition of wire-drawn iron.

4. *nonce-uses.* Attenuated; 'weak'; 'thin'.

1856 DELAMER *Fl. Gard.* (1861) 12 A difficulty in town gardens is to keep things from being wire-drawn. 1876 HARDY *Ethelberta* xiii, 'I—am glad to see you!' Christopher stammered, with a wire-drawn, radically different smile from the one he had intended. 1897 CROCKETT *Lad's Love* iii, The keen, thin, wire-drawn voice of Peter Chrystie.

'wire-grass. [*f.* WIRE *sb.* + GRASS *sb.*] A name for various grasses or grass-like plants having wiry stems.

1. U.S. The British flat-stemmed meadow-grass *Poa compressa*, or the annual grass *Eleusine indica*, naturalized in North America.

1793 M. CUTLER in *Life*, etc. (1888) II. 294 Wire-grass, which is *Poa compressa*. 1856 OLMSTED *Slave States* 341 The wire-grass, which grew among the trees the previous year, is frequently set on fire . . . in the spring. 1856 GRAY *Man. Bot.* (1860) 554 *Eleusine Indica*. Dog's-tail or Wire Grass. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Oct. 710/2 The wire-grass had been roughly plaited into a little mat.

2. One of several other plants, as the West Indian *Paspalum filiforme*, the Australian *Tetrarrhena* (or *Ehrharta*) *juncea*, the North American *Sporobolus junceus* and species of *Aristida*.

1790 W. BLIGH *Narr. Mutiny on Board H.M.S. Bounty* 48 In the hollow of the land there grew some wire grass. 1824 BURCHELL *Trav.* II. 5 The Wire-grass of the island of St. Helena. 1864 GRISEBACH *Flora W. Ind. Isl.* 789 Wire-grass, *Paspalum filiforme*. 1883 E. M. CURR *Recoll. Squatting Victoria* viii. 81 The wire-grass, however, largely predominating over the kangaroo grass.

wireless ('waɪəlis), *a. (sb.)* [*f.* WIRE *sb.* + -LESS.]

A. *adj.* Without a wire or wires; spec. *Electr.*, dispensing with the use of a conducting wire. *wireless telegraphy*, a system of telegraphy (as that patented by Guglielmo Marconi in 1897) in which no conducting wire is used between the transmitting and receiving stations, the signals or messages being transmitted through space by means of electric waves; also, in British law, used to include wireless telephony; *wireless telephony*: the transmission of speech and other uncoded signals by means of radio waves; = RADIO-TELEPHONY. Also *wireless telegraph*, *telephone*. Now chiefly *hist.*, having been superseded by *radio*(-).

1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 22 Feb. 8/1 Not only may man be able some day to communicate by wireless telephone with the planets, but [etc.]. 1897 *Times* 18 Sept. 8/2 An electric bell was rung at the lighthouse by means of the wireless current. 1898 *Electrical Rev.* 20 May 688/2 The first installation of Marconi's wireless telegraph system in Ireland for business purposes was made . . . last week. *Ibid.* 22 July 129/2 The wireless messages were sent from a steam tug, which followed the races. 1898 *Jrnl. Inst. Electr. Engineers* XXVII. 799 The general principles of electric space telegraphy—or wireless telegraphy, as it seems to wish to be called. 1903 C. H. SEWALL *Wireless Telegr.* i. 88 Wireless telephony. Telephoning without wires has not gained by the great developments in its sister-art. 1904 *Act 4 Edw. VII* c. 24

(*title*) An Act to provide for the regulation of Wireless Telegraphy. *Ibid.* §78 The expression 'wireless telegraphy' means any system of communication by telegraph . . . without the aid of any wire connecting the points from and at which the messages or other communications are sent and received. 1906 S. R. BOTTONE tr. *Mazzotto's Wireless Telegr. & Teleph.* xi. 390 After the discovery of wireless telegraphy by means of electric waves, many attempts were made to apply the same principle to telephony. 1913 A. H. VERRILL *Harper's Wireless Bk.* xiii. 113 There is no reason to suppose that wireless telephony will not soon have the range of wireless telegraphy. 1922 JOYCE *Ulysses* 702 A private wireless telegraph which would transmit by dot and dash system the result of a national equine handicap. 1923 A. HUXLEY *On Margin* 49 If they are a little more up-to-date they adjust their wireless telephone to the right wave-length and listen-in to the fruity contralto at Marconi House, singing 'The Gleaner's Slumber Song'. 1936 G. B. SHAW *Simpleton Unexpected Isles* II. 51 (*stage-direction*) A writing table littered with papers and furnished with a wireless telephone. 1949 *Act 12 & 13 Geo. VI* c. 54. §685 The expression 'wireless telegraphy' means the emitting or receiving, over paths which are not provided by any material substance . . . of electromagnetic energy of a frequency not exceeding three million megacycles a second, being energy which either—*a*) serves for the conveying of messages, sound or visual images . . . or *b*) is used in connection with the determination of position, bearing or distance, or for the gaining of information as to the presence . . . of any object. 1952 [see *sound radio* s.v. SOUND *sb.* 8 b]. 1960 *Practical Wireless* XXXVI. 403/1 This station, which was built by Guglielmo Marconi, was the first to span the Atlantic with wireless telegraphy. 1981 *Daily Tel.* 12 Feb. 9/1 HMS Inskip, the Navy's wireless-telegraphy station, near Preston, Lancs.

B. *sb.* 1. Wireless telegraphy or (esp.) telephony; sound broadcasting; = RADIO *sb.* 2 a, b; also, a particular radio station (= RADIO *sb.* 2 c).

Largely superseded by *radio* exc. in *hist.* contexts.

1903 N.Y. *Commercial Advertiser* 31 Jan. S 2/2 First in this great field of making the 'wireless' a handmaid of commerce is the de Forrest system, which has won the approval also of the United States government. 1904 *Times* 15 June 4/1 The country is full of wireless. 1915 GRAHAME-WHITE & HARPER *Aircraft in Gt. War* IV. xi. 150 The application of wireless to aeroplanes has, in the British Flying Corps, been studied very carefully. 1922 [see BROADCASTER 1]. 1924 [see SUPRANATIONAL a.]. 1927 C. CONNOLLY *Let.* 27 Jan. in *Romantic Friendship* (1975) 231 Chesterton is trying to be funny over the wireless. 1932 R. A. KNOX *Broadcast Minds* i. 13 We say 'the' wireless. . . For the wireless, in England, is a unique force; there is no question of two wirelesses differing, as two newspapers may differ in their outlook. 1939 *Daily Tel.* 18 Dec. 1/5 Moscow wireless claims advances in the Murmansk district. 1951 *Sport* 27 Apr. 3 May 2/1 Photos in the papers and interviews on the wireless. 1952 *Times Rev. of Year* 1 Jan. p. v/2 Sound radio (wireless declined farther towards archaism) has done much during the year. 1971 *Daily Tel.* 20 Jan. 10/3 [The Misses Waters] belong to the days when radio was 'the wireless'. 1978 E. BLISHEN *Sorry, Dad* II. i. 40 Wireless was still quite raw and improbable. The Dockrees next door had one. . . It was a crystal set. 1980 *Bookseller* 5 Jan. 23 The table shows the books recorded in December. . . Wireless and Television . . . 42.

2. A radio-telegram.

1904 *Everybody's Mag.* Aug. 161/2 This is how it is taken down in those unerring short-hand notes of the recording angel and sent by special wireless to the typewriter for His Majesty of the Sulphur Trust. 1905 *Daily News* 28 Aug. 7 M. Witte admitted that my 'wireless' was correct. 1911 G. STRATTON-PORTER *Harvester* xvi. 351 Is Ajax [sc. a peacock] now sending a wireless to Ceylon asking for a mate? 1926 GALSORTHY in *Scribner's Mag.* Aug. 192/1 Going home to have a look at Kit and send Fleur a wireless, he passed four musicians. 1940 N. MARSH *Surflet of Lampreys* (1941) ii. 25 The steward gave her two [letters] and a wireless message. She opened the wireless first.

3. Short for *wireless set* (see sense 4 below); a radio.

1927 T. E. LAWRENCE *Let.* 4 Oct. (1938) 543 We have no wireless, and I don't look at papers. 1933 A. THIRKELL *High Rising* i. 16 He could . . . repair the headmaster's wireless and drive his car. a 1944 K. DOUGLAS *Alamein to Zem Zem* (1946) 49 The wirelesses in the new tanks had to be checked. 1954 W. FAULKNER *Fable* 166 It's too bad every house he passes don't have a wireless, like ships do. 1971 *Daily Tel.* 13 May 7/1 As a child I used to stand alone in front of that big brown box that used to be called a 'wireless' and conduct symphony concerts. 1972 M. GILBERT *Petrella at Q* (1977) 37 P. C. Owers . . . summoned assistance on his pocket wireless. 1973 [see *radio play* s.v. RADIO *sb.* 5 b].

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, in senses 1 and 3 above (in U.S., and increasingly in British use, replaced by the corresponding Combs. with *radio*), as *wireless aerial*, *announcer*, *battery*, *broadcast*, *broadcasting*, *mast*, *operator*, *room*, *set*, *station*, *transmitter*, *valve*; *wireless-equipped* *adj.*; in the sense 'transmitted or broadcast by wireless', as *wireless concert*, *news*, *play*, *programme*, *talk*; *wireless cabinet*, a cabinet incorporating a radio; *wireless licence*, an official permit needed for the possession of a radio; *wireless shack* = *radio shack* s.v. RADIO *sb.* 7; *wireless silence* = *radio silence* s.v. RADIO *sb.* 7; *wireless wave* = *radio wave* s.v. RADIO *sb.* 7.

1924 *Radio Times* 12 Dec. 527 (*caption*) Them's 'is wireless aerals. 1937 *Discovery* Feb. 37/1 The wireless aerial and its stays would become coated with an almost uniform layer of this frost. 1983 C. DEXTER *Riddle of Third Mile* i. 12 The voice . . . of a pre-war wireless announcer. . . What they called an 'Oxford' accent. 1933 *Radio Times* 14 Apr. 83 (Adv.), Ever Ready wireless batteries. 1930 G. B. SHAW *Apple Cart* p. xi, Last October (1929) I was asked to

address the enormous audience created by the new invention of Wireless Broadcast. **1980** J. LEES-MILNE *Harold Nicolson* I. xi. 205 On the 2nd May [1923]... he... heard a wireless broadcast over the air for the first time. **1923** *Radio Times* 28 Sept. 6 Wireless broadcasting service. **1930** KIPPLING *Limits & Renewals* (1932) 208 [He] came back with a couple of cigarettes from the store behind the wireless cabinet. **1923** *Radio Times* 28 Sept. 18/1 Much has... been written on the subject of wireless concerts. **1920** *Conquest* May 328/1 Regular messages... from wireless-equipped vessels out in the Atlantic. **1920** *Radiograph* May 147 (Adv.), Applicants for wireless licence who specify them will not be required to furnish diagrams. **1928** *Melody Maker* Feb. 187 (heading) The over-taxed Frenchman! Wireless licences two-pence per annum. **1958** *Whitaker's Almanack* 1959 1098/1 If application is made at any other office which conducts wireless licence business, arrangements can be made for a licence to be issued at a Head Post Office. **1943** F. THOMPSON *Candleford Green* x. 167 Now... a wireless mast in every back garden. **1948** Wireless mast [see *rev-counter* s.v. REV sb. 2]. **c1919** H. C. WITWER *Smile a Minute* iv. iii. 158 Joe, I have just seen the wireless news [received on board ship]. **1926** in *Listener* (1974) 25 Apr. 519 Wireless news will be broadcast by the B.B.C. **1942** E. WAUGH *Put out More Flags* ii. 139 She sat... listening to wireless news from Germany. **1978** P. G. WINSLOW *Coppergold* 127 Joss's death... had been on the wireless news. **1910** D. H. BERNARD *Signalling* 33 He... requested the wireless operator to ascertain the reason of the strange procedure. **1929** *Daily Express* 7 Nov. 1/1 Crew. Flight-Captain Rod Schinka... (first pilot)... Herr Niklas... (wireless operator). **1978** F. MACLEAN *Take Nine Spies* iv. 138 Their mission had been joined by a second wireless-operator. **1929** *Radio Times* 8 Nov. 406/1 *Journey's End* was written for stage representation and is, therefore, not in the more restricted sense a 'wireless play'. **1948** D. WELCH *Jrnl.* 7 July (1952) 259 Last week there was a wireless programme on Marie Bashkirtseff. **1906** *Daily Chron.* 21 Aug. 4/3 The captain was absorbed in the 'wireless' room... As he himself said, he was 'so occupied with the wireless operations'. **1923** J. REITH *Diary* 19 Mar. (1975) ii. 131, I was standing talking to them with the wireless set at my back and I pushed the switch. **a1944** K. DOUGLAS *Alamein to Zem Zem* (1946) 25 About dusk the wireless sets in all tanks were switched on. **1978** *Dumfries Courier* 13 Oct. 10/4 In the 20 years up to 1950 the radio set—or wireless set as it was affectionately called—was the focal point of home entertainment. **1937** G. H. GRANT *Heels of Gale* vi. 59 The wireless shack... had been lifted on board by a crane on the day before sailing and bolted to the wooden planks. **1961** J. BISSET *Commodore* xxvii. 281 On this deck also was the Wireless Shack. **1915** L.D. FISHER 12 Apr. in M. Gilbert *Winston S. Churchill* (1972) III. Compan. i. 793 It seems to me that the positions are all well chosen for all our different activities, and Jellicoe fully alive to wireless silence. **a1944** K. DOUGLAS *Alamein to Zem Zem* (1946) 49 Wireless silence was in force. **1909** *Chambers's Jrnl.* July 428/2 At Aldershot... there is a powerful wireless station. **1926** T. E. LAWRENCE *Seven Pillars* (1935) III. xxix. 170 My life was spent in moving back and forth... to the town, the port, the wireless station. **1978** D. A. STANWOOD *Memory of Eva Ryker* xxvi. 251 The Cape Race Wireless Station has a record of the message... It was transmitted from the *Titanic* five minutes before she struck ice. **1930** J. S. HUXLEY *Bird-Watching & Bird Behaviour* p. vii. Six wireless talks. **1923** *Radio Times* 28 Sept. 26/3 A small wireless transmitter will be installed at the 'Old Vic'. **1978** F. MACLEAN *Take Nine Spies* iv. 144 Bernhardt had established two wireless transmitters. **1923** *Radio Times* 28 Sept. 33 (Adv.). A new wireless valve. **1915** H. H. TURNER *Voyage in Space* vi. 250 Suppose you pretend that a second is itself like a year; divide it into... 30 million parts; one of these tiny parts will be about the time that what we may call a 'wireless' wave of electricity takes to vibrate. **1936** *Discovery* Sept. 285/1 The reason why wireless waves travel round the earth's surface instead of disappearing into space has been explained by investigations of the properties of the upper atmosphere. **1960** *Practical Wireless* XXXVI. 403/1 Marconi announced that signals from Poldhu had bridged the Atlantic... That news... confounded the many learned critics who had said that wireless waves would never reach beyond the horizon.

Hence 'wireless *v. intr.* to send a message by wireless; *trans.* to send (a message) or inform (a person) by wireless; 'wirelessly *adv.*, by wireless.

1898 *Electrical Rev.* 17 June 834/2 The first news of the resolution... was conveyed wirelessly to St. Thomas's Hospital. **1899** *Westm. Gaz.* 6 Apr. 8/1 Touters may soon be able to wireless... from pole to pole. **1915** *Morning Post* 10 Apr. 9/5 A French man of war, which had left on Sunday, was wireless to come back. **1916** *Times* 14 Feb. 4/5 The watching British cruiser saw the manoeuvre, but before it could wireless the news... the following order flashed out.

wireline ('waɪəlaɪn). Also wire line. [f. WIRE sb. + LINE sb.²] 1. = *wire-mark* (a) s.v. WIRE sb. 16 a. **1858** *Sotheby's Principia Typogr.* III. 105 Owing to the leaves having been backed, the wire-lines could not be traced.

2. *Oil Industry.* a. A cable for lowering and raising tools and the like in a well shaft. Freq. *attrib.*

1916 A. B. THOMPSON *Oil-Field Devel. & Petroleum Mining* x. 468 At each pulley a short length of chain is inserted to accommodate the change of direction, and at each well a wire line can be led over the top derrick pulley and direct on to the pump. **1948** *Petroleum Handbk.* (Shell Internat. Petroleum Co.) (ed. 3) v. 92 Where a core head can drill more than 20 feet without getting dull, a retractable or 'wire line' inner-core barrel is used. After a core has been cut, the inner barrel containing the core can be brought to the surface with a wire line lowered inside the drill pipe. **1977** *Offshore Engineer* May 11/1 To prepare the well, the 'Christmas tree'... is replaced with a temporary single-pipe ram preventer which allows wireline tools to be introduced.

b. An electric cable used to connect measuring devices in a well with indicating or recording instruments at the surface.

1972 L. M. HARRIS *Introd. Deepwater Floating Drilling Operations* ii. 6 Logging or other wireline operations. **1974** P. L. MOORE et al. *Drilling Practices Manual* xi. 279 The use of wireline logs for determining pore pressures is well documented. **1977** *Offshore Engineer* May 60/3 Various methods for monitoring grouting were used, including a radio-active isotope scheme... and more conventional wireline temperature surveys.

3. A telegraph or telephone line of wire. **1934** in WEBSTER. **1947** *Trans. Amer. Inst. Electr. Engineers* LXVI. 492/3 The necessary frequency space for wide-band operation usually is not justified economically for wire line operation. **1983** *Mini-Micro Systems* July 240/2 The FCC is currently examining applications from wire-line and non-wire-line carriers for licenses to provide cellular mobile phone service in 30 large U.S. cities.

4. A fishing line of metal wire. **1974** *Encycl. Brit. Macropædia* VII. 374/1 Wire lines created from extruded Monel metal or stainless steel assist in the sinking of a moving lure... But fish caught on metal or metal core lines are not eligible for International Game Fish Association records. **1984** *Miami Herald* 6 Apr. 98/6 Boats are limited to four fishing lines... 'We allow use of the kite rig but do not permit use of wireline.'

wireman ('waɪəmən). [f. WIRE sb. + MAN sb.¹] 1. One who makes or works in wire. *Obs.*

1547-8 in Feuillerat *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 31 To John west wyerman for ixth of wyer. **1616** B. JONSON *Masques, Love restored*, Fortie other deuces I had, of Wyre-men. **1668** *Churchw. Acc. St. Margaret's, Westminster* (Nichols 1797) 70 To Christopher Davison, wyreman, for covering the vestry windows with wyre.

2. a. A workman who fixes and attends to the conducting wires of an electric service.

1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 47 Telegraph Fitter, Wireman. **1902** F. C. RAPHAEL *The Electrician Wireman's Pocket Bk.* Ed. Note, Such... Memoranda as would be useful to the Electric Light Wireman in his work.

b. A wire-tapper. *colloq.* **1973** *Telegraph* (Brisbane) 24 May 12/4 Watergate conspirator James McCord was one of the best 'wiremen' in the eavesdropping game. **1977** *Time* 21 Feb. 19 He had been one of the most sought-after 'wiremen', or electronic eavesdroppers, in the East, supplying bugging and recording devices to clients on both sides of the law.

3. A journalist working for a telegraphic news agency.

1973 D. MAY *Laughter in Djakarta* iv. 61 An American wire-man... who lived in Djakarta. **1977** 'J. LE CARRÉ' *Hon. Schoolboy* xv. 338 Keller was... a wireman... and Jerry knew him from other wars.

† **wiren**, a. *Obs.* In 6 *Sc. wyrin*. [f. WIRE sb. + -EN⁴.] *gold wiren*, of gold wire.

1513 DOUGLAS *Aeneis* iv. iv. 19 Hir brycht tressis envelopit war and wound Intill a kuafe of fyne gold wyrin threid.

wirephoto ('waɪəfəʊtəʊ). orig. U.S. Also with hyphen and as two words. [f. WIRE sb. + PHOTO.] A facsimile process for transmitting pictures over telephone lines; also (*colloq.*), a photograph transmitted by this means.

1939 WEBSTER *Add.*, Wirephoto. **1940** *Chicago Daily Tribune* 11 May 1/3 All these pictures were sent... by radio and wirephoto. **1964** M. McLuhan *Understanding Media* II. xx. 203 The newspaper mesh of dots that is called 'wirephoto'. **1972** T. ARDIES *This Suitcase* xvii. 189 A picture of the teenaged Helmut Stern... came in last night via wirephoto. **1973** C. SAGAN *Cosmic Connection* (1974) xv. 109 The television pictures from *Mariner 9* were radioed from Mars to Earth in much the same way that a newspaper wire-photo is transmitted on Earth. **1981** 'D. SHANNON' *Murder Most Strange* vii. 147 The wire photo came in... and Higgins took it to show the Ortiz girl and she identified it.

So **wire-photograph**. **1962** *Listener* 12 July 57/1 Cartoonists in the United States rely for day-to-day material on newspaper morgues and wire-photographs. **1968** J. SANGSTER *Touchfeather* ix. 92 'Come and look at this.' The 'this' was a wire photograph... The transmission hadn't been up to much.

'**wire-pull**, *v.* [Back-formation from next.] *trans.* To actuate or promote by wire-pulling. Hence 'wire-pulled *ppl.* a.

1883 *St. James's Gaz.* 28 Dec. 3/1 The whole company of wire-pulling and wire-pulled Radicals. **1888** *Engl. Hist. Rev.* Oct. 739 The King was but the crank by which Wildman wire-pulled the English royalists. **1896** SIR W. HARCOURT in *Westm. Gaz.* 8 May 7/1 They knew that the agitation was conducted, wire-pulled, and financed from the office of the Chartered Company in Capetown.

wire-puller ('waɪəpʊlə(r)). [orig. U.S.; see WIRE sb. 8 a and PULL v. 7.] One who 'pulls the wires'; one who works secretly to further the interests of a person or party; *esp.* a politician or political agent who privately influences and directs others.

1833 in J. R. Commons et al. *Documentary Hist. Amer. Industr. Soc.* (1910) VIII. 340 Wire-pullers... for the furtherance of... party interest. **1848** *N. Y. Mirror* 5 June (Bartlett) Already that city [Philadelphia] is filled with wire-pullers... and the whole brood of political make-shifts. **1859** GREEN *Oxf. Stud.* iv. (O.H.S.) 263 This youth breaks out... in a passionate loyalty to academical wire-pullers. **1898** G. W. E. RUSSELL *Coll. & Recoll.* iii. 35 The type of politician who is the despair of the official wire-puller.

So 'wire-pulling *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.* **1847** *Congressional Globe* 26 Jan. 262/3 Neither by demonstrations here, nor by figuring and wire-pulling at home, am I engaged to the support of this bill. **1876** 'E. PINTO' *Ye outside Fools!* 36 Let your clients try their best against the wire-pulling usurers. **1878** *N. Amer. Rev.*

CXXVII. q Wretched, wire-pulling demagogues. **1887** *Sat. Rev.* 14 May 705/2 Literary wire-pulling and bargaining with publishers.

wirer ('waɪərə(r)). [f. WIRE *v.* or *sb.* + -ER¹.] One who wires (in various senses of the *vb.*); also (*slang*), one who picks pockets with a wire.

1857 DUCANGE *Anglicus Vulgar* T. 24 *Wirer*, pickpocket. **1864** TENNYSON *Aylmer's Field* 490 The nightly wirer of their innocent hare. **1881** *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 74 Straw Hat and Bonnet Making: Presser, Liner, Wirer. **1901** *Daily Chron.* 10 Sept. 9/1 Mineral Water Trade.—Wanted... wirers, and bottlers. **1916** *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 264/1 Then the wirers... began... to panic terribly, in code.

wirescape ('waɪəskeɪp). [f. WIRE sb. + SCAPE sb.³, after *landscape*.] Scenery, or a scene, dominated by overhead wires and their supports.

1951 *Archit. Rev.* CX. 377 Wire, lots of wire, lining streets, crossing fields, acting as totems in villages and skeleton umbrellas on towns, by reducing the endless variety of the human and natural scene to the common denominator—wirescape—has made a dreadful uniformity out of the world it seeks to unite. **1959** *Times Lit. Suppl.* 9 Jan. 16/1 Each year the demands of the new industrial revolution gnaw away more insistently at the countryside... How many of us realize the Wirescape that impends? **1965** *New Statesman* 5 Nov. 713/1 The visual squalor, of which a notable feature is the appalling wirescape, of New York's periphery. **1969** E. SANDON *View into Village* x. 86 In the street is also to be seen that typically modern feature—an appalling wirescape. **1978** *Gold Coast Bulletin* (Austral.) 29 Sept. 7/1, I think we should be removing these unsightly wirescapes from the central precincts of the city.

wire-tap ('waɪətæp), *sb.* [Back-formation from next.] An act of tapping a telephone line, *esp.* as a form of surveillance; also, the device by which this is done.

1955 H. ROTH *Sleeper* xiv. 113 He had... refrained from any discussion of wire taps or followers. **1963** L. DEIGHTON *Horse under Water* xvii. 72 He has R.N. Signals Gibraltair doing a wire-tap job on me. **1976** *Billings* (Montana) *Gaz.* 11 July 7-A/1 Agents risked doing such things as roughing up antiwar radicals or placing illegal wiretaps. **1978** S. BRILL *Teamsters* iii. 103 The wiretaps were to end on March 6. **1982** H. KISSINGER *Years of Upheaval* iv. 103 The next morning it became apparent that Nixon had been talking about the wiretap records.

'**wire-tapper**. [f. WIRE sb. + TAPPER¹. Cf. TAP v.¹ 2c.] One who makes a (usually secret) connection to a telephone or telegraph circuit in order to intercept messages or eavesdrop.

1893 *Blue & Gray* Apr. 313/2 In that band of wire-tappers I had the honor to serve for four years. In 1863 I was appointed or employed as a telegraph operator in the field. **1894** *Columbus* (Ohio) *Disp.* 5 Jan., An attempt to tap the wires and 'work' the bookmakers... has been foiled... The wire tappers escaped. **1906** *N. Y. Tribune* 1 Feb. 8/2 On the day he bet his money, the wiretappers made it appear to Felix... that such sportsmen as James R. Keene and John W. Gates were betting thousands on Old Stone, through them, and advised him to 'get in on the good thing', too. **1910** 'O. HENRY' *Strictly Business* 36 Who wears the diamonds in this town? Why, Winnie, the Wiretapper's wife. **1929** *U.S. Rep. CCLXXVII.* 453 The wire tapper destroys this privacy... Does not wire tapping involve an 'unreasonable search' of the 'house' and of the 'person'? **1953** 'S. RANSOME' *Drag Dark* (1954) xv. 146 A call... couched in cryptic terms calculated to fool a wire tapper. **1969** *N. Y. Rev. Books* 2 Jan. 41/2 In the process, Macdonald proves himself more reprehensible than a wiretapper, for he uses intimacy, rather than electronics, to do his dirty work. **1977** 'J. D. WHITE' *Salzburg Affair* vi. 52 He could only drive on, find another telephone, in case the M.F.S. wire-tappers had traced the first call.

So **wire-tapping** *vbl. sb.*, the practice or activity of a wire-tapper; (as a back-formation) 'wire-tap *v. trans.*, to tap the telephone line of; to monitor (a call) by means of a wire-tap.

1904 *Outing* Dec. 334/1 Despite the habitual exposure in American newspapers of the... 'wire-tapping' swindle, the victim continues to be parted from his thousands with painful frequency. **1929** *U.S. Rep. CCLXXVII.* 474 The progress of science in furnishing the Government with means of espionage is not likely to stop with wire-tapping. **1952** W. R. BURNETT *Vanity Fair* vi. 56 Chad Bayliss did not want to discuss anything as important... over his apartment house phone... There had been a rash of wire-tapping. **1959** A. HARRINGTON *Life in 'Crystal Palace'* (1960) iv. 75 The private citizen is... being wire-tapped while he is looking for a job. **1973** *Times* 23 May 8/4 His telephone calls had not been wiretapped. **1973** *Black Panther* 21 July 2/3 The FBI, through their wire-tapping... was practicing electronic surveillance. **1976** *National Observer* (U.S.) 27 Mar. 2/4 The U.S. Army may not wire tap American civilians in foreign countries unless it first gets a warrant from an American judge. **1978** R. NIXON *Memoirs* 388, I authorized Hoover to take the necessary steps—including wiretapping—to investigate the leaks. **1985** *Sunday Times* 20 Jan. 9/4 The U.S. customs officials say that his allegation of illegal wiretapping has been totally disproved.

wirework ('waɪəwɜ:k).

1. The making of wire; work done in or with wire; fabrics or objects made of wire.

1587 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 380 Edmond Burchall wierdrauer for wierwork. **1674** *RAY Coll. Words* 132 The manner of the Wire-work at Tintern in Monmouthshire. **1690** M. EVELYN *Pop-Dict.* 18 *Fil-grain'd*, dressing-Boxes, Baskets, or whatever else is made of Silver Wire-work. **1771** *Phil. Trans.* LXI. 322 Observe to clean the rails and wireworks, in the water-courses, of the weeds and grass. **1849** *Kelly's Builder's Price Bk.* 157 Brass trellis wire-work, for bookcases. **1854** *Poultry Chron.* I. 348 Wire work... to

enclose poultry. 1908 *Act 8 Edw. VII* c. 28 Sched. 1 Erection of wireworks in hop gardens. attrib. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* xxviii. 611 Flower-stands . . with wire-work legs.

2. *pl.* An establishment where wire is made or where wire goods are manufactured.

1598 *Acts Privy Counc.* (N.S.) XXVIII. 594 That the said Hanbery . . should . . deliver . . at the said wyerworkes the number of 150 tonnes of . . mallyable iron.

3. Wire-walking.

1906 *Variety* 3 Mar. 21/2 For sensationalism, the Meers in their wire work make the heart beat quicker. 1928 *Daily Express* 13 June 13/3, I learned acrobatics, wire work, dancing, and juggling.

wire-worker ('waɪə,wɜ:kə(r)).

1. An artisan who works in wire.

1670 [Charter of Wire-workers of London]. 1792 *New Bath Directory* 24 Painter, Glazier, & Wire-worker. 1814 W. JOHNSTON *Beckmann's Invent.* (ed. 2) IV. 309 Wire-workers, and other artists who use wire. 1846 McCULLOCH *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) I. 748 The paper manufacture creates a considerable demand for the labour of . . wire-workers.

2. a. One who pulls the wires of a puppet-show. In quot. *fig.*

a 1843 SOUTHEY *Comm.-Pl. Bk.* (1851) IV. 260 Milton has not used machinery—for the supernatural powers are the characters of his poems, the agents themselves, not the wire-workers.

b. U.S. An earlier synonym of WIRE-PULLER.

1835 *Col. Crockett's Tour* (Phila.) 172 He is the wire-worker, the very mover and organ of all those high-handed and lawless measures. 1842 *Congressional Globe* App. 319/1 Should this be a party move, . . I tell the 'wire-workers' of that party that they are raising a storm of indignation. 1883 C. F. WILDER *Sister Ridenour's Sacrifice* 130 The politician grasps the hand of his wire-worker and tool.

3. = *wire-walker* s.v. WIRE *sb.* 16 a.

1970 M. KELLY *Spinifex* v. 91 She was one of the Flying Volantes, a bloody good wire worker.

So 'wire-working' *vbl. sb.* (a) the making of wire; (b) wire-pulling; also as *ppl. a*; hence also as back-formation) wire-work *v. trans.*, to influence by pulling wires.

1831 *American* (Harrodsburg, Ky.) 28 Jan. 3/2 One of the wire-working writers in the Union, seems disposed to consider it a little less than treason. 1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 62 Rope-making and wire-working. 1843 J. Q. ADAMS *Diary* 23 Mar. (1876) XI. xxii. 343 James Monroe was recalled by President Washington through Thomas Pickering, wireworked by Alexander Hamilton. 1857 B. HAYES *Diary* 11 Sept. (1929) v. 167, I have kept aloof from the wire-working as well as from the more stormy scenes of politics. 1909 *Westm. Gaz.* 23 Feb. 2/2 Reducing to a minimum the . . wire-working that would follow, if details as to the schedules were permitted to leak out piecemeal.

wireworm ('waɪəwɜ:m).

1. The slender hard-skinned larva of any of the click-beetles (family *Elateridae*), which is destructive to the roots of plants; also applied to similar larvæ, *esp.* the leather-jacket grub of the crane-fly.

1790 *Trans. Soc. Arts* VIII. 302 The person who shall discover to the Society an effectual method . . of destroying the insect called the Wire-Worm. 1815 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* I. vi. 181 The wire-worm . . destroying indiscriminately wheat, rye, oats, and grass. 1882 *Garden* 18 Mar. 189/3, I . . found the crop quite eaten up with wireworm.

2. A myriapod, *esp.* one belonging to the genus *Iulus*; a millepede.

1875 MELLISS *St. Helena* 202 *Iulus pulchellus*, Leach.—The Wire Worm, well known as one of the most destructive insects in the Island to all root-crops.

'wire-wove', *ppl. a.* (occas. -woven.) [f. WIRE *sb.* + WOVE, *pa. pple.* of WEAVE *v.*]

1. Denoting a very fine kind of paper used chiefly for letter-paper. (See WOVE.)

1799 *Spirit Publ. Jnals.* III. 65 The splendours of gold leaf, wire-wove paper, and Morocco leather. 1808 [W. GIFFORD] *Heroic Epist. Winsor Advtd. to Rdr.*, I intend to print the Text upon a fine wire-woven hot-pressed paper. 1877 S. REDGRAVE *Descr. Catal. Water-Col. Paintings* 17 The papers . . were chiefly of the description termed wire-wove.

2. Made of woven wire.

1888 *Builder* 3 Nov. 326/2 The roof of the Aquarium was being covered . . with . . 'Patent Wire Wove Roofing'. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 169 A horse-hair mattress . . supported on a chain or wire-wove under-mattress.

wirey, obs. form of WIRY *a.*

wirgine, -yne, obs. Sc. ff. VIRGIN.

wirie, obs. form of WORRY.

wirily ('waɪərɪlɪ), *adv.* [f. WIRY *a.* + -LY².] In a wiry manner, like wire.

1846 LANDOR *Imag. Conv., Q. Eliz. & Dk. Anjou* Wks. II. 175/2 My grandfather, albeit spare, was wirily elastic. 1853 C. BRONTË *Villette* xxii. A composite feeling . . wound itself wirily round my heart.

wiriness ('waɪərɪnɪs). [f. WIRY *a.* + -NESS.] The quality or condition of being wiry.

1801 *Med. Jnrl.* V. 210 Notwithstanding the rapidity of the circulation, and the apparent wiriness of the pulse. 1824-9 GOOD *Study Med.* (ed. 3) II. 46 Hardness and softness of the pulse, together with that vibratory thrill which has been called wiriness. 1831 *Examiner* 242/1 There is no marked change in her voice, except the absence of the

wiriness and tremulousness which characterized it last year. a 1870 STUBBS *Lect. Eur. Hist.* I. xi. 135 There was . . more wiriness than tenderness about his conscience. 1883 MISS M. BETHAM-EDWARDS *Disarmed* vi, You look wiriness itself.

wiring ('waɪərɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. WIRE *v.* + -ING¹.]

1. The action of the verb WIRE in various senses.

1809 SYD. SMITH *Charac. Fox Wks.* 1859 I. 153/2 All the decretals of our ancestors respecting the wiring of hares. 1831 YOUATT *Horse* 294 Lameness . . does not always exist when the wiring in is slow or of long standing. 1872 *Punch* 29 June 269/2 Unless he telegraphs, which, when once you've started him at what he calls 'wiring', he generally does three or four times a day. 1874 J. D. HEATH *Croquet-player* 71 Red, instead of playing thus, . . completes the wiring, remaining near the hoop as before. 1890 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 29 Sept. 3/1 It discouraged scamped contract work in the [electric light] wiring of houses.

2. *concr.* Wires collectively; wirework; *esp.* the electric wires in an apparatus or building.

1809 SCOTT *Poacher* 79 Cordage for toils, and wiring for the snare. 1881 [see WIRE *v.* 2 d]. 1887 *Jnrl. Soc. Telegr.-Engineers* XVI. 182 This would be supplied from central stations (but without any outlay for insulated conductors beyond the 'wiring' of the actual domiciles to the extent rendered necessary by the number and position of the lamps required). 1897 S. CRANE *Third Violet* xxv. 171 The cashier of the *Gamin* office looked under his respectable brass wiring and said [etc.]. 1915 *Sci. Amer.* 30 Jan. 95/2 A complicated 8-cylinder machine with its multiplication of wiring. 1923 *Wireless World* 5 May 135 (*caption*) The underside of the panel, showing the arrangement of the components and the wiring. 1958 C. FREMLIN *Hours before Dawn* iii. 29 A rather cultured way of making me put a two-bar fire in her room. . . It's a matter of the wiring on the top floor. 1979 V. CAPEL *Burglar Alarm Systems* x. 107 This is about the worst place, as an intruder could soon silence the alarm by . . cutting the bell wiring.

b. (See quot.)

1878 D. KEMP *Yacht & Boat Sailing* 380 Wiring, a stringer or ledge running fore and aft in a boat to support the thwarts.

3. *attrib.*, as *wiring machine, system*; *Mil.* concerned with barbed-wire operations, as *wiring party*; *wiring diagram*, a diagram of the wiring of an electrical installation or device, showing the electrical relationship of connections and components and usu. also their physical disposition; also *fig.*

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Wiring-machine*, . . a machine turning the edge of a tin-pan over a stiffening-wire. 1887 *Manch. Exhnb. Catal.* 126 Complete Plants for the Manufacture of Aerated Waters, . . Wiring Machine, [etc.]. 1902 W. C. CLINTON *Electric Wiring* iii. 52 Wiring Systems. 1916 *Blackw. Mag.* May 705/2 Four nights previously Angus had been sent out in charge of a wiring-party. 1946 G. M. CHUTE *Electronics in Industry* viii. 63 Another kind of diagram . . is called the connection or wiring diagram, because it shows the wire connections between the various parts. 1967 'A. CORDELL' *Bright Cantonesse* xvii. 203 'There must be a switch assembly somewhere.' . . 'She gave me a wiring diagram.' 1969 *Times* 13 Feb. 10/3 He believes that until more is known about how the wiring diagram is modified, there can be little evidence in support of theories assuming that changes in nerve connexions are the basis of learning and memory. 1979 B. SCADDAN *Mod. Electr. Installation* II. iv. 63 A circuit diagram shows how the system functions. . . A wiring diagram shows how the system is to be wired, and all components of the circuit should be shown in their correct places.

wirk(e), obs. forms of WORK.

wirken, dial. f. QUERKEN *v.*; obs. f. WORK *v.*

wirling ('wɜ:rlɪŋ). Now *Sc.* or *dial.* Forms: 4-6 *wyrling*, 5-6 *wirling*, (5 *wirlyng*, *wyrling(e)*, *worling*, 6 *worlin*, 9 *Sc.* *wurlyon*). See also URLING². [Origin unknown.] A term of abuse = 'wretch'; in mod. dial. use, a dwarfish or puny creature.

13. *Metr. Hom.* (Vernon MS.) in Herrig's *Archiv* LVII. 270 Crist, his sone, God wolde not spare To beo fondet . . And sipen slen him as *wyrling*. a 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 1706 A *wyrling*, a wayryngle, a wawil-eyid shrewe. *Ibid.* 1733 A selly noubre Of *wrichis & wirlingis*. 1436 *Libel Engl. Policy in Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 187 God forbode that a wyld Yrishe *wyrlunge* Shulde be chosene for to be there kyng. 1508 DUNBAR *Flyting* 193 Forworthin *wirling*. a 1585 MONTGOMERIE *Flyting* 446 *Sauing*, nixt, how the nunnes that worlin sould name. 1587 HARRISON *Descr. Brit.* III. xiv. in *Holinshead*, The fridaie being commonlie called among the vulgar sort either king or worling, because it is either the fairest or foulest of the seauen [days]. [1691-: see URLING².] 1819 [RENNIE] *St. Patrick* II. xvi. 313 Haud abyel ye scruntet like *wurlyon* o' the pit.

wirlyk, **wirm**, **wiroans**, obs. forms of WARLIKE, WORM, WEROWANCE.

wirra ('wɪrə), *int. Irish.* Also *wurrah*, *whirra*. [Preceded by *oh*, = Ir. *a muire*.] An exclamation of sorrow or lament.

1829 G. GRIFFIN *Collegians* I. vii. 153 O, *wirra*, Eily! this is the black day to your ould father. 1839 CARLETON *Fardorougha* xii, Oh, *wurrah*, *wurrah*, this night! 1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xxii, And what was it at all? an upset, was it? oh, *wirral* and wasn't it lucky he wasn't killed? 1908 WEYMAN *Wild Geese* xxiii. 366 'Oh, *whirra*, *whirra*, what'll I do?' the Irishman exclaimed, helplessly wringing his hands.

So *wirrasthru* (wɪrəs'tru:) [Ir. *a muire is truaige*].

c 1874 D. BOUCICAULT in M. R. BOOTH *Eng. Plays of 19th Cent.* (1969) II. 190 Ses he, 'You won't see home for six

months.' Then I set up a *wierasthru*. *Ibid.* 214 Oh, *weir asthru*! What'll I do! 1892 T. E. BROWN *Lett.* (1900) I. 158 He . . rushed forth to catch the train, . . with some wild *wirrasthru* of farewell.

wirra ('wɪrə), *sb. Austral.* [Aboriginal.] 1. A species of acacia, *Acacia salicina*, burnt by Aborigines for its ash; = COUBA.

1906 J. H. MAIDEN *Wattles & Wattle-Barter* (ed. 3) 90 *A. salicina*, Lindl. . . Following are some additional aboriginal names. . . 'Wirrha', Cooper's Creek, near Lake Eyre. 1941 I. L. IDRIESS *Great Boomerang* xiv. 102 Burned leaves of the *wirra* (a species of acacia, the leaves of which when burned yield a powder of potash).

2. A shallow wooden scoop used by Aborigines.

1935 H. H. FINLAYSON *Red Centre* vii. 74 A hunting party may decide suddenly to move on to another ground. Without more ado, the men reach for their spears and walk away, and their women follow, carrying no more than a yamstick, a *wirra*, and their youngest child. 1956 *Landfall* June 99 She carried two large pitchi, her four-foot-long mulga digging-stick, which she had freshly sharpened . . by charring . . ; and her *wirra*, a shallow wood scoop.

wirrah ('wɪrə). *Austral.* [Aboriginal.] An Australian saltwater fish, *Acanthistius serratus* (family Serranidae) that is greenish brown with blue spots.

1882 J. E. TENISON-WOODS *Fish & Fisheries N.S.W.* 34 'Wirrah' or *Plectropoma* is a genus similar to that of *Serranus*, but armed with a row of spinous teeth on the lower jaw . . besides the pair of canines above. 1933 *Bulletin* (Sydney) 11 Jan. 21 We had caught a number of more genteel fish, so we heaved the common *wirrachs* and leather-jackets overboard. 1978 J. M. THOMSON *Field Guide Common Sea & Estuary Fishes Non-Tropical Austral.* 100 Except for the *Wirrah* most of the rock cods are regarded as good eating.

wirrangle, **wirricow**, **wirrie**: see WARIANGLE, WORRICOW, WORRY.

wirrook ('wɪrək). *Sc.* Also 6 *wyrok*, *virrok*, 9 *weeroock*. [a. early Flem. *weerooghe* 'chalaza, chalazion' (Kilian), f. *weer* callosity (see WARRE) + *ooghe* EYE *sb.* 1] A corn on the foot. Also *attrib.*

1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxviii. 18 A flyrok, That hes vpoun his feit a wyrok. *Ibid.* lx. 54 With his wawill-feitt and virrok taiss. 1801 LEYDEN *Compl. Scot. Gloss.* 380 *Virrok* [in Dunbar] . . signifies a corn, or bony excrescence on the feet. It is in common use, and pronounced *wirrok*. 1839 W. McDOWALL *Poems* 154 (E.D.D.) Mary Hay, Wha had a weeroock on each tae As big's a plum.

|| **wirrwarr** ('vɪrvar). [G. *wirrwarr*.] A welter.

1865 J. GROTE *Moral Ideals* (1876) 392 The *wirrwarr* of the Newtonian or true view of the material universe. 1911 *Expositor* May 439 The strange and arid prejudice that history is only a *wirrwarr* of beings, happenings, relations.

wirs(s)at, -et, **wirschep**, **wirsle**, **wirstill**, **wirst**, **wirsum**: see WORSTED, WORSHIP, WRESTLE, WRIST, WORSUM (*Obs.*, *pus*).

|| **Wirt** (vɪrt). In 9 *Wirth*. [Ger.] The landlord of a German inn.

1858 GEO. ELIOT *Jnrl.* July in J. W. Cross *Life* (1885) II. viii. 48 The stout, red-faced *Wirth*. 1970 *Guardian* 28 Feb. 12/4 The Swabian *Weinstube* is a cosy place. . . The *Wirt* will make his round to bid every one of his guests a personal good evening.

wirt, obs. var. WHERRET.

1612 North's *Plutarch*, *Brutus* 994 Cassius . . gaue him two good wirts on the eare.

wirt, **wirtin**, obs. forms of WRIT, WRITTEN.

wirth, -y, obs. forms of WORTH, WORTHY.

|| **Wirtschaft** ('vɪrtʃaft). *rare.* In 9 *Wirth*. [Ger.] 1. Domestic economy, housekeeping.

1850 C. M. YONGE *Henrietta's Wish* ii. 21 The house . . was very soon pretty and cheerful, and the *wirtschaft* . . well ordered and economical. 1889 — *Reputed Changeling* I. viii. 138 The Doctor . . [asked] whether the ladies abroad were given to housewifery. 'The German dames make a great ado about their *Wirtschaft*, as they call it . . but as to the result! pah!'

2. [Ger., short for *gastwirtschaft*, f. *gast* GUEST *sb.*] = WIRTSCHAUS.

1903 G. W. HARTLEY *Wild Sport* iii. 60 They had some beer at a snug little *wirtschaft*, and then they all fished. 1950 E. HEMINGWAY *Across River* xxxviii. 269 What is there to eat in this *Wirtschaft*?

Hence *Wirtschaftswunder*, (*erron.*) -schaft-wunder (-vundər), the 'economic miracle' of West Germany, i.e. the substantial and lasting recovery in its economic state and standard of living following the war of 1939-45; also *transf.*

1959 *Times* 13 Mar. 16/3 Some of the pot-holes in the present age of prosperity, the *Wirtschaftswunder*, are laid bare in a manner that leaves little to the imagination. 1961 *Times* 10 Apr. 11/6 A *Wirtschaftswunder* incomparably greater than the Federal Republic's. 1965 *Punch* 22 Sept. 411/1 The peoples of both India and Pakistan are shockingly poor. . . There is no possibility here of miraculous recovery, the *Wirtschaftswunder*. 1980 'D. GRANT' *Emerald Decision* i. 14 My daughters . . are products of the Socialist *wirtschaftswunder*. 1983 *London Mag.* July 62/1 The Germany of the mind's eye; not . . the concrete cities of the *Wirtschaftswunder*.

|| **Wirtshaus** ('virtshaos). In 9 Wirths-. Pl. Wirtshäuser (-høyzər). [Ger.] In German-speaking countries: a hostelry, inn.

1829 C. WILMOT *Jrnl.* 6 Sept. (1935) 330 They . have a Wirthshaus and tables and chairs to eat and drink and be merry. **1967** *Sat. Rev.* 22 Apr. 37/2 They returned home with precious addresses of tiny bistros and brasseries and *osterias* and *Wirtshäuser*. **1982** G. LYALL *Conduct of Major Maxim* xx. 179, I have an unfinished beer at the *Wirtshaus*. Would you like to join me?

wirwe, obs. form of WORRY.

wiry ('waɪəri), *a.* Also 6-7 wy(e)rie, wery, 8-9 wirey. [f. WIRE *sb.* + -y¹.]

1. Made or consisting of wire; in the form of wire.

1588 T. D[ELONEY] *Ballet Whips Spaniards* in *Roxb. Ballads* (1889) VI. 387 One sorte of whips they had for men, . . . The strings whereof with wyerie knots like rowels they did frame. **1591** SPENSER *Ruins of Time* 10 Her yeolow locks, like wyrie golde, About her shoulders carelesslie downe trailing. **1598** SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. ii. 11. *Babylon* 350 Jayes, that in their wyerie gail Can ask for victuals, and unvictual'd rail. *a* **1631** DONNE *Eleg.* xix. 15 Off with that wyerie Coronet and shew The haiery Diademe which on you doth grow. **1720** GAY *Ep. to P. Methuen* 95 My song confines me to the wiry cage. **1816** BYRON *Ch. Har.* III. xv, The barr'd up bird will beat His breast and beak against his wiry dome. **1834** LANDOR *Exam. Shaks.* Wks. 1846 11. 272/1 To slit an ear or two, or inflict a wiry scourging. [See WIRE *sb.* 1 d.]

2. Resembling wire in form and consistence; tough and flexible: said esp. of hair (hence of a dog's coat), grass, stems of plants.

1595 SHAKS. *John* III. iv. 64 O what loue I note In the faire multitude of those her haïres; Where but by chance a siluer drop hath falne, Euen to that drop ten thousand wïery friends Doe glew themselves in sociable grieffe. **1807** CRABBE *Birth of Flattery* 308 The wiry moss, that whitens all the hill. **1812** — *Tales* x. 120 Here on its wiry stem, in rigid bloom, Grows the salt lavender that lacks perfume. **1834** W. H. AINSWORTH *Rookwood* I. i, A strange superannuated terrier, with a wiry back. **1844** *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* V. i. 114 Clods of couch and wiry turf. **1880** BLACKMORE *Mary Anerley* xxv, While he was rubbing his wiry head with irritation.

b. transf. and fig.

1770 ARMSTRONG *Misc.* I. 199 Your solid wiry nerves are asleep it would seem to the lute. **1809** W. BLAKE *Descr. Catal.* 63 The more distinct, sharp, and wiry the bounding line, the more perfect the work of art. **1815** J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 773 In the common method of etching, . . . those so tinted . . . always present a wiry hard effect. **1830** LYTTON *Paul Clifford* iv, 'Knock him down'. There is something peculiarly harsh and stunning in those three, hard—wiry—sturdy—stubborn monosyllables.

c. Med. of the pulse: Small and tense.

1801 [implied in WIRINESS]. **1897** *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 621 The pulse becomes small, sharp, wiry or thready.

3. Of sound: Produced by or as by the plucking or vibration of a wire; sometimes, of music, played on string instruments; of a voice, thin and metallic.

1819 [H. BUSK] *Vestriad* iv. 767 Stridulous guitar with wiry twang. **1830** *Examiner* 388/1 He has . . . softened his voice, the tones of which were sharp and wiry. **1840** *Penny Cycl.* XVIII. 140/1 The tone of this piano-forte was thin and wiry. **1841** [see WINDY *a.* 1 b]. **1883** in *Royal Acad. Catal.* 222 With thy sweet fingers when thou gently sway'st The wiry concord.

4. Of a person or animal: Lean, tough, and sinewy. Hence *fig.* of personal attributes.

1808 SCOTT *Marm.* v. Introd. 11 Wiry terrier, rough and grim. **1848** DICKENS *Dombey* xi, Mrs. Blimber . . . was a lady of great suavity, and a wiry figure. **1870** STUBBS *Lect. Eur. Hist.* I. xi. 138 A wiry pertinacity was the distinctive feature of Charles's character. **1878** BLACK *Green Past.* xiii, The wiry little pony he rode.

5. *Comb.* (chiefly in sense 2), as *wiry-coated*, *-haired*, *-leaved*, *-looking* adjs.

1832 CARLYLE *Remin.* (1881) I. 30 A slightish, wiry-looking old man. **1835** C. F. HOFFMAN *Winter in West* I. 155 A brindled, wiry-haired dog. **1854** R. S. SURTEES *Handley Cr.* i, A wiry-looking bay mare. **1880** J. BUCHANAN *Indig. Grasses N.Z.* Pl. xxxi, *Danthonia Australis*, . . . Wiry-leaved Oat Grass.

¶ Used for: Made of iron: cf. WIRE *sb.* ¶ (at end).

1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. iv. *Handie-Crafts* 567 Wïery Cymbals [orig. *Des Cimbares le fer*].

wiry, wiry *kw*: see WORRY, WORRICOW.

† **wis**, *sb.* *Obs.* Also 4 wys. [Usually in inflected form *wisse*, *wysse*: absol. use of OE. *wis* (*s* adj. certain, in advb. phr. (see below). Cf. IWIS *C.*] Phr. *to wis* (*se*), OE. *tō wissum* (for **tō* (*ge*) *wissum* *pinge*), *mid wisse*, occas. *in wis*: of a certainty, for certain. (Cf. WIS *adv.*)

c **1000** ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* xvii. 174 Ac wite ge to wissan þæt se wælhreowa deofol ne mæg mannun derian. *a* **1100** Aldhelm *Gloss.* I. 420 (Napier 13/1) *Præsertim*, i. *maxime*, *vel* to wissan. *Ibid.* 1051 (29/1) *Profecto*, i. *omnino*, to wissum. *a* **1200** *Moral Ode* 236 Nute hi hweper hom dep wurs mid [v.r. to] neure nane wisse. *c* **1200** ORMIN 8460 Godess enngell comm himm to & se33de himm þa to wisse Whillec ende off Issraeels land He sholde panne sekenn. *c* **1200** *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 25 Ac sunderlepes he is here fader mid wisse. *c* **1250** *Gen.* & *Ex.* 1515 Oc god him sente reed in wis Ðat he bilef in gerasis. *c* **1380** *Sir Ferumb.* 120 Y knowe him wel to wisse. *Ibid.* 3763 Ther is non of 3ow þat wot to wys Wather he ys quyke or ded.

† **wis**, *v.*¹ *Obs.* Forms: 1 wissian, 2-3 wissien, (2-ine), 3 wissi(n, wysseye, 3-5 wisse(n, 4 wiss, 4-5

wysse, wis, 4-6 wys(se, 5 wyss. β. 5 wissh(e, wysshce, wysh, wish (wych), 5-6 wyshe, 6 *Sc.* wische. [OE. *wissian*, f. *wis* certain (cf. WIS *sb.*) + *-ian*, -y²: a late formation on the model of the synonymous *wisian* WISE *v.*¹]

1. *trans.* To make known, give information of, indicate; *esp.* to show, point out (the way).

c **1000** ÆLFRIC *Gen.* xxxiii. 15 Ic bidde ðe þæt ðu nyme þe ladmenn of minum geferum ðæt þe wegas wission. *a* **1250** *Prov. Alfred* 29 in *O.E. Misc.* 104 He ou wolde wysseye wisliche pinges. *a* **1300** *Cursor M.* 25447 Lauerd . . . wiss me waies pare þare santes has þair seli sete. **1362** *LANGL. P. Pl. A.* vi. 24 Const þou wissien vs þe wey wher þat he dwelleþ? *c* **1375** *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxviii. (*Adrian*) 619, I sal wis 3ou þe rycht way. *a* **1400-50** *Wars Alex.* 689 Is o3t þi werid to þe wissid [v.r. wist]? *Ibid.* 4997 And quat þou will of þaim to wete wis in þi saghe. *c* **1440** *CAPGRAVE Life St. Kath.* v. 1929 þat she may vs wisse A stedefast lore for to amende oure mysse. **1460** *Paston Lett.* I. 518 If my feodaryes . . . may ought wisse therin, lete them se it.

β. *c* **1400** *Beryn* 3290 Met I nevir creature þat me coude wissch or say Reedyndes of my ffadir, dede othir a-lyve. *c* **1460** *Towneley Myst.* xv. 156 He that this world began, wysch vs the way! **1535** *LYNDESAI Satyre* 1929 Wische me the richt way till Sanct-Androes.

b. Const. dependent interrog. clause.

c **1000** ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* v. 253 Se cræft sceolde wissian gewisslice be steorrum hwæt gehwilcum menn gelumpe on his lifes endebyrdnyssce. *c* **1175** *Lamb. Hom.* 37 He is iset bi-twihan god almihtin and þe for þe wissine hu þu scalt et god seolf habben pine sunne forgeuene. *c* **1325** *Spec. Gy Warw.* 119 What it is i wole þe wisse. **1362** *LANGL. P. Pl. A.* xii. 40 She wolde me wisse wher þe toun were. *c* **1412** *Hoccleve De Reg. Princ.* 1245 Wisseth me how to gete a golden salue. *c* **1450** *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 2633 þou may me wysse How lang þe kyngdome sall be hyss.

2. To show the way to (a person); to direct, guide; to lead, conduct (*lit.* or *fig.*). Also *absol.*

c **1000** ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 324 Ælces mannes weorc cyðað hwilc gæst hine wissað. *a* **1023** *Wulfstan Hom.* xix. (1883) 108 þa ðe him betæhte sindon for gode to wissianne. *c* **1175** *Lamb. Hom.* 89 Godes 3ife us wissað [ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 312 gewissað] to his willen. *c* **1290** *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 390/41 God . . . us leue . . . ore lif so wisse þat we . . . comen to heouene blisse. **1340** *HAMPOLE Pr. Conc.* 9304 God . . . þat þam gun wysse Til mekenes. **1340-70** *Alisunder* 806 Amon þe grete God . . . Schall þee wisse for wo. **13** . . . *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 739 þe knyzt . . . To Mary made his mone, þat ho . . . wysse hym to sum wone. *c* **1425** *Engl. Conq. Ireland* 95 He wissed the hors sydlyne ayeynes the watyr aquynt. *c* **1425** *Seven Sag.* (P.) 2366 Thy seven Clerkys, That wyssys the to wykkid werkys. *c* **1430** *Pistill of Susan* 213 (Cott. MS.) Wylyly hyr wenches she wysseð a-way. *c* **1440** *York Myst.* I. 157 To all I sall wirke be 3he wysshing. *c* **1530** *Songs, Carols*, etc. (E.E.T.S.) 51, & vertuosly me wysse to godward! *c* **1550** *WEVER Lusty Juuentus* (facs. Awdeley) Aijb, I pray you wyshe me thether, For I am going to seeke them.

b. To manage, rule, govern, control.

c **1000** ÆLFRIC in *Morris O.E. Hom.* I. 302 Rex we cwæpæð cyning, þæt is gecweden wissigend, forþam þe he sceal wissigan mid wisdome his folce. *c* **1205** *LAY.* 5280 þe sculden witen þat lond & wissien þa leoden. *c* **1290** *Beket* 1059 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 136 Vnnepe he mi3te with is hondene peos pre pingus do; blessi þat folk and bere þe croiz and is bridel wisse. *a* **1300** *Cursor M.* 5292 þe lauereð-hed of al his land To wiss and ledd. *a* **1470** *HARDING Chron.* cxx. xxii. (1812) 232 He made duke Harold protectoure Of his counsye, to gouerne and to wysse Edgar Athelyng.

3. with person as obj. (orig. dat.) and (freq.) inf. with *to*: To give directions or instructions to; to direct, order; to instruct, show how (*to do* something); also *gen.* to teach, instruct.

c **1000** ÆLFRIC *Num.* xxiii. 8 He witegode þa, swa him wissode god. *c* **1200** *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 7 He . . . wissep us to leden ure lif on clennessce. *a* **1300** *Cursor M.* 17201 If þou wil were als i þe wiss. *Ibid.* 20536 Thritti winter and sumdel mare, I lenged man to wiss in lare. *c* **1374** *CHAUCER Troylus* I. 622 Thow koudest neuere yn loue pyn seluen wysse. **1399** *LANGL. Rich. Redeles* ProI. 31 For to written him a writte to wissen him better. ? *a* **1400** *Morte Arth.* 9 And wysse me to werpe owte some worde. **1486** *Bk. St. Albans* eiv, And ye speke of the Bucke the fyrst yere he is A fawne sowkyng on his dam say, as I yow wis.

wis (wis), *v.*² *pseudo-arch.* Also 7 (3 *pers. sing.*) wisses, 9 wiss. Orig. in *I wis* = IWIS *adv.* (q.v.) erron. taken as = 'I know'; hence occas. as a synonym of 'know' in other parts of the verb, being apprehended as the present of *wist*, pa. t. of WIT *v.*¹

[The following show various stages of corruption of *wis*:—

1508 *DUNBAR Tua Mariit Wemen* 37 Ane wes ane wedow, I wist. *Ibid.* 414 Now am I a wedow, I wise. **1591** SHAKS. *I Hen. VI.* iv. i. 180 And if I wish he did. But let it rest. **1614** W. BROWNE *Sheph. Pipe* C. 6, Better cannot be I wist, Descant on it he that list. **1615** BRATHWAIT *Strappado* 115 Strange the Proiect was I wish Of this Metamorphosis. **1798** *COLERIDGE Anc. Mar.* III. ii, It moved and moved, and took at last A certain shape, I wist. **1818** BYRON *To Mr. Murray* v, Tours, Travels, Essays, too, I wist, And Sermons to thy mill bring grist. **1893** F. THOMPSON *Poems* 15 Wings, I wist, Whose amethyst Trepidations have forgone me.]

1606 *Lyly's Euphues* (1613) Y 1 b, You gall mee more with these tearmes then you wisse [ed. 1580 wist, 1597 wish]. **1642** *MILTON Apol. Smeat.* 13 Where my morning haunts are he wisses not. [Cf. **1642** [?] J. HALL] *Modest Confut.* To Rdr. A iij b, Where his morning haunts are I wist not.] **1662** A. COOPER *Stratologia* II. 47 Morgan more valorous than hee wis'd or wi'd. **1803** W. S. ROSE *Amadis* 31 Full well I wiss To serve your princely will were perfect bliss. *c* **1830** *COLERIDGE Alice Du Clos* 77 And, bonny boy, you wis, Lord Julian is a hasty man. **1844** *MRS. BROWNING Romaunt of Page* xxiii, In the dark chambère, if the bride was fair, Ye wis, I could not seee.

† **wis**, *adv.* *Obs.* Also 3-4 wiss, 4-5 wys, 6 wusse. [Aphetic form of IWIS, q.v. (cf. WIS *sb.*.)] Certainly, assuredly.

c **1200** ORMIN 2866 Wiss to soþe. *Ibid.* 7410 þe33 sindenn wiss hundess & swin þurh þe33re lape sinness. *a* **1225** *Ancr. R.* 38 Also wis ase iðen ilke flesche þet he nom of þe nes neuer sunne [etc.]. *a* **1300** *Cursor M.* 1863 þat mighti king, ful son and wiss, Did turn þair baret in-to blis. *c* **1330** *Amis & Amil.* 1292 The steward swore the pople among, As wis as he seyð no wrong, God help him at his nede! *c* **1386** *CHAUCER Frankl. T.* 742 God helpe me so as wys This is to muche. **1390** *GOWER Conf.* II. 276 Als so wiss mot I be schrive. *c* **1400** *Rom. Rose* 6433 God so wys be my socour [orig. *si m'aist Diex*]. **1598** B. JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* I. i, *Kno.* Why, I hope you will not a hawking now, will you? *Ste.* No wusse.

wis, obs. f. WISE; obs. *Sc.* f. WISH.

wisage, obs. *Sc.* f. VISAGE.

wisall, obs. var. of WIZLE *dial.*

wisard, obs. f. WIZARD.

wisch (e, obs. *Sc.* pa. t. of WASH *v.*; var. WIS *v.*¹; obs. f. WISH *sb.* and *v.*

wischcraft, **wischeaf**, **wischeall**, obs. *Sc.* ff. WITCHCRAFT, VOUCHSAFE, VESSEL.

Wisconsin (wis'kɒnsin). *Geol.* The name of a state of the north central U.S.A., used *attrib.* and *absol.* to designate (the time of) the fourth and final Pleistocene glaciation of North America, corresponding to the Würm glaciation of the Alps.

[**1894** T. C. CHAMBERLIN in J. Geikie *Gt. Ice Age* (ed. 3) xlii. 763 All this complex is grouped under a single term—the East-Wisconsin formation—because the grounds for a formal subdivision are not yet sufficiently clear.] **1895** *Amer. Naturalist* XXIX. 240 The second, third, and fourth glacial stages of the European Ice age . . . were probably also time equivalents, respectively, with the Kansan, Iowa, and Wisconsin stages in the United States and Canada. **1896**, etc. [see ILLINOIAN *a.*] **1967** E. B. LEOPOLD in Martin & Wright *Pleistocene Extinctions* 235 Taylor considers that the Pliocene and Quaternary climates before the late Wisconsin were much less continental than now. **1981** J. E. SANDERS *Princ. Physical Geol.* xiii. 332 The last ice mass to cover the Great Lakes basin arrived during the late Wisconsin Stage, starting 20,000 years ago.

Hence *Wisconsinan a.* (also *absol.*).

1968 [see WEICHSEL]. **1978** *Nature* 8 June 456/2 These volcanics are thought to have been formed under ice of Wisconsinan age. **1981** F. W. SHOTTON in Neale & Flenley *Quaternary in Brit.* xiii. 142 This is the way the Wisconsinan ice invading the U.S.A. from the Canadian Shield is interpreted.

wisdom ('wɪzdəm). Forms: 1- wisdom; 3 (*Orm.*) wissdom, (wistom), 3-5 wysdom, wisdom, 3-7 wisdom, wisdom, 4 wisdom, (wijsdam), 4-6 wysdome, (*Sc.* visdome), 4-7 wisdom, 5 wisdom, wysdam, wysdam(e, wysedom, (wijsdom, wysedomme, wiesdom, vysdome, whysdom), 5-6 wysedome, (6 wisdoume, -dum(e, wisz-, wyszdome, 7 *Sc.* wosdome). [OE. *wisdóm* = OFris., OS. *wisdóm*, MDu. *wijsdom*, OHG., MHG. *wistuom* (G. *weistum* legal sentence, precedent), ON. *wisdóm* (Sw., Da. *wisdóm*): see WISE *a.* and -DOM.] The quality or character of being wise, or something in which this is exhibited.

1. *a.* Capacity of judging rightly in matters relating to life and conduct; soundness of judgement in the choice of means and ends; sometimes, less strictly, sound sense, esp. in practical affairs: opp. to *folly*.

Beowulf 1959 Offa wæs . . . wide geweorðod, wisdome heold ebel sinne. *c* **1000** *Inst. Polity* ii. in Thorpe *Laus* II. 306 Ðurh cynynges wisdom folc wyrð geselig, gesundful, & sigefæst. *c* **1175** *Lamb. Hom.* 123 þet wit and pene wisdom þe ure drihten us sende. *c* **1200** ORMIN 8974 Hire sune wex & praf i wissdom & inn elde. *a* **1225** *Ancr. R.* 6 He mai þe vttrre riwle chaungen, efter wisdom. *a* **1225** *Leg. Kath.* 485 Ichulle fardon þe wisdom of peos wise worldmen. *a* **1300** *Cursor M.* 8857 Godd ne had him sli wisdom Giuen, als he gaf salamon. **1340-70** *Alex. & Dind.* 102 3if god sente euery gome . . . Wordliche wisdom & wittus iliche. *a* **1375** *Cato* 409 in *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 587 Forþure þi wille wiþ wisdom. *c* **1400** 26 *Pol. Poems* x. 21 At þe tre of wysdom, foly þou souzt. **1450-1530** *Myrr. our Ladye* II. 183 The mooste wyse wysdome of god. **1513** *More Edw. V* in *Hall Chron.*, *Edw. V* (1548) 2 b, Yf grace turne hym to wisdom. **1535** *COVERDALE Prov.* ix. 10 The feare of the Lorde is the begynnynge of wysdome. **1563** *Homilies, Rogation Wk.* III. Rrrrj, Thys wisdom can not be attayned, but by the direction of the spirite of God, and therefore it is called spirituall wisdom. **1594** SHAKS. *Rich. III.* III. vii. 16 Your Discipline in Warre, Wisdom in Peace. **1597** *HOOKER Eccl. Pol.* v. lvi. §5 That which moueth God to worke is goodnes, and that which ordereth his worke is wisdom. **1633** G. HERBERT *Temple, Providence* xvi, Each creature hath a wisdom for his good. **1640** *WILKINS Disc. New Planet* ix. 204 Wee allow every Watch-maker so much wisdom as not to put any motion in his Instrument, which is superfluous. *a* **1708** *BEVERIDGE Thes. Theol.* (1711) III. 28 By wisdom, I mean that attribute in God, whereby He orders and manages whatsoever He takes in hand, by the best means, in the best manner and to the best end. **1784** *COWPER Task* vi. 88 Knowledge and Wisdom, far from being one, Have ofttimes no connexion. **1875** *MANNING Mission Holy Ghost*

xiv. 385 Illumination of the intellect, together with charity inflaming the heart, constitute the gift of wisdom.

b. personified (almost always as feminine).

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* iii. §1 þa com þær gan in to me heofencund Wisdom. c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xi. 19 Wisdom ys gerihtwisud fram heora bearnum. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* iv. 87 He hæp waget me a-mendes as wisdom him tauhte. 1535 COVERDALE *Prov.* viii. 1 Doth not wysdome crie? doth not vnderstondinge put forth hir voyce? 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. viii. §1 To prescribe the order of doing . . . is a peculiar prerogative which Wisedome hath, as Queene or soueraigne commandresse ouer other vertues. 1611 *Bible Transl.* Pref. ¶4 Loue the Scriptures, and wisdom will loue thee. 1742 GRAY *Adversity* 25 Wisdom in sable garb array'd Immers'd in rap't'rous thought profound. 1784 COWPER *Task* vi. 97 Knowledge is proud that he has learned so much, Wisdom is humble that he knows no more. 1802 WORDSW. 'I grieved for Buonaparte' 9 Wisdom doth live with children round her knees. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* cxiv. 22 For she [sc. Knowledge] is earthly of the mind, But Wisdom heavenly of the soul.

c. as one of the manifestations of the divine nature in Jesus Christ (cf. 1 Cor. i. 24, 30, etc.); hence used as a title of the second person of the Trinity (*the Wisdom of the Father*); also occas. applied to God or the Trinity.

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xli. §4 Se wisdom mæg us eallunga ongan swylce swylce we sint . . . forðæm se wisdom is God. a 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 219 þurh his wisdom (se sune) heo 3e-worhte alle þing. c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 25 De sune of ðe fader ækenned, al swa his wisdom. a 1225 *Ancre R.* 26 Almihti God, Feder, & Sune, & soðfest Holi Gost, also 3e þreo beoð o God, & o mihte, o wisdom, & o lue. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 9730. 1402 *Jacke Upland in Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 36 Christ, that is the wisdom of God the Father. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* v. (1592) 53 We call him also the wisdom of the Father, yea, and euen meerely and simply wisdom. 1833 NEWMAN *Arians* II. iii. (1876) 169 It would appear that our Lord is called the Word or Wisdom in two respects; first, to denote His essential presence in the Father . . . secondly, His mediatorship. 1855 LYNCH *Lett. to Scattered* ii. (1872) 32 Wisdom is alive: it is not a thing or quality. It is God. It is God and Man, for it is Christ.

d. Contextually, usually predicative with following inf.: = a wise thing to do; also with *a* and *pl.*, a piece of wisdom; a wise action or proceeding. (Opp. to *FOLLY sb.*¹ i c.) *arch.*

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* vii. 201 Here nou . . . and holde hit for wisdom. c 1420 HOCLEVE *Min. Poems* xxiv. 215 Is it wysdam as þat it seemeth yow, Were it on your fyngir continually? 1482 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 87 Hyt wylbe whyssdom to be sewyr of mo. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI.* iv. vii. 60 Till then, 'tis wisdom to conceale our meaning. a 1628 F. GREVILLE *Sidney* (1652) 2 Had I grounded my ends upon active Wisedomes of the present. 1764 PRIESTLEY *Lect. Hist., Ess. Educ.* (1788) p. xv. It is certainly our wisdom to contrive that the studies of youth should tend to fit them for the business of manhood. 1831 SCOTT *Ct. Rob.* xviii. It is wisdom to choose a better protector. 1884 HELEN JACKSON *Ramona* i, If she had ever said anything about herself, which she never did—one of her many wisdoms.

e. (a) *pl.* as attribute of a number of persons; hence, with possessive, as a title of dignity or respect, esp. for the members of a deliberative assembly; also jocularly or ironically. Similarly, without possessive, as in *the best wisdoms* = the wisest men.

1432 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 403/2 To the right wyse and discrete Commens of this present Parlement . . . Please hit unto you worthy and noble wisdoms and discretions [etc.]. 1447-8 *Shillingford's Lett.* (Camden) 108 As hit appereth of recorde the whiche they remytte to your wysedomys. 1536 CROMWELL in *Merriman Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 2 As by your wysedomes ye shall thinke may best serue for the kinges highnes purpose. 1587 D. FENNER *Def. Ministers* 60 It may please their wysedomes, who are to be ludges, to consider. 1619 J. DENISON *Heav. Banquet* etc. 317, I will leaue that to their wysedomes who haue place of gouernment. 1631 MARKHAM *Country Contentm.* i. xix. (ed. 4) 103 Many of the best wisdoms of our Nation. 1794 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Ode to Tyrants* Wks. 1812 III. 253 Even Folly . . . freely on your Wisdoms cracks her jokes.

(b) Less commonly in *sing.* of a single person.

1447-8 *Shillingford's Lett.* (Camden) 42 Not likely by that mene to be ended lightly, as your wysedom knowyth well. 1598 HAKLUYT *Voy. Ep.* Ded. ¶3 The chiefe motives which induced his princely wysedom hereunto. 1612 J. COTTE *Disc. Dang. Pract. Phys.* i. ix. 72 The parents . . . sent for a wisewoman, & her wysedom came vnto them. a 1652 A. WILSON in *Peck Desid. Curiosa* (1735) II. xii. 24 The Maior's Wisdom said, hee knew not my Lord's Hand. 1831 SCOTT *Ct. Rob.* viii. Can your wisdom possibly entertain a wish to converse with me?

f. Phr. *in his* (or *its*, etc.) *wisdom*: now usually ironic.

1852 QUEEN VICTORIA in *Hansard* CXXIII. 20 To enable the Industry of the Country to meet successfully that unrestricted Competition to which Parliament, in its Wisdom, has decided that it should be subjected. 1863 N. HAWTHORNE *Our Old Home* 397 Possibly his Lordship thought, in his wisdom, that the good feeling which was sure to be expressed by a company of well-bred Englishmen, at his august and far-famed dinner table, might have an appreciable influence on the grand result. 1930 W. FAULKNER *As I Lay Dying* 68 If you have no son, it's because the Lord has decreed otherwise in His wisdom. 1974 K. CLARK *Another Part of Wood* vi. 232 In the 1930's, when the country was at least ten times as rich as it is today, the Treasury 'in its wisdom' twice found it necessary to cut off our annual purchase grant altogether.

2. a. Knowledge (esp. of a high or abstruse kind); enlightenment, learning, erudition; in early use often = philosophy, science. †Also, practical knowledge or understanding, expertness in an art. Now only *Hist.*

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke xi. 52 *Tulistis clauem scientiae*, gie nomon cægo wisdomes. 1382 WYCLIF *1 Cor.* ii. 13 Not in taust' wordis of mannis wysdom, but in doctryne of the spirit. c 1386 CHAUCER *Prolog.* 575 The wisdom of an heepe of lerned men Of maistres hadde he mo than thries ten. 1460-70 *Bk. Quinte Essence* i þe wijsdom and þe science of þis book schulde . . . be . . . preserved. 1526 TINDALE *Acts* vii. 22 Moses was learned in all manner off wisdom of the Egipcians. 1557 in *Lodge Illustr. Brit. Hist.* (1791) I. 276 'The Queene's Ma^{tie}, knowing the wysdome and skyl of John Brende, Esquier, in the leading and ordering of footemen. 1662 J. CHANDLER *Van Helmont's Oriat.* 163 This . . . was Zoosophie or the wisdom of keeping living Creatures together. 1770 LANGHORNE *Plutarch* (1879) I. 130/1 What was then called wisdom, which consisted in a knowledge of the arts of government, and the practical part of political prudence. 1875 LIGHTFOOT *Comm. Coloss.* 99 'Wisdom' in Gnostic teaching was the exclusive possession of the few.

b. *pl.* Kinds of learning, branches of knowledge. *rare.*

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* vii. §3 Mine þeowas sindon wisdomas & cræftas & soðe welan. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 8482 Of all wisdoms [Solomon] had i-nogh. 1853 F. W. FABER *All for Jesus* (1854) 130 The Corinthians could not come near us in the variety of our wisdoms and our gifts.

c. In renderings of med.L. names of substances prepared or used by the alchemists, as *lute of wisdom* (see *LUTE sb.*² 1), *salt of wisdom* = ALEMBROTH.

(Cf. PHILOSOPHER 4, 5 b, PHILOSOPHICAL 4.)

1460-70 [see *LUTE sb.*² 1]. 1576 BAKER *Gesner's Jewell of Health* 37 The Lute of Wysewdom, which resisteth the fire marvellously. 1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* II. 23 Alembroth, Salt of the Art, Salt of Wisdom.

3. a. Wise discourse or teaching; with *a* and *pl.*, a wise saying or precept. Now *rare* or *arch.*

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 125 Imong þan muchela wisdoma þe ure drihten lerd his apostles. c 1205 LAY. 25628 Ælc bi his witte wisdom sæiden. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 462 On two tables of tijel and bras Wrot he ðat wistom. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 1179 Anoper wysdom a clerk vs telleþ. c 1400 *Lydg. Chorle & Bird* 274 Min. Poems (Percy Soc.) 189 To here a wisdom thyn eres been half deaf. 1493 [H. PARKER] *Dives & Pauper* (1496) ix. iv. 350/2, I shall teche the thre wysedomes whiche yf thou kepe them well they shall do the moche proufyte. 1531 ELYOT *Gou.* iii. xxv. In his fables the foxe, the hare, and the wolfe, though they neuer spoke, do teache many good wysedomes. 1860 SALA *Badd. Peer.* I. vii. 127 Listen then, to the wisdom of Pollybank.

b. In the titles of two books of the Apocrypha, viz. *The Wisdom of Solomon* (often abbrev. *Wisdom* or *The Book of Wisdom*), and *The Wisdom of Jesus the son of Sirach* (commonly called *Ecclesiasticus*). Cf. also *Wisdom literature*, etc. in 5.

1430-40 *Wycliffite Bible* *Wisd.* (heading) Heer gynneth the prolog in the booc of Wisdam. 1611 *Bible* (title) The Wisdome of Solomon. *Ibid.* (title) The Wisdome of Iesus the sonne of Sirach, or Ecclesiasticus. 1875 PLUMPTRE in *Expositor* I. 336 Those [words] which are found in Philo and in the Epistle, but not in Wisdom. 1912 E. C. SELWYN *Oracles N.T.* iii. 78 The fact that Wisdom also contains an anticipation of one of the three Temptations of Christ.

†4. Sanity, 'reason'. (Cf. *WISE a.* 4.) *Obs. rare.* 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* iv. iv. 5 Pray heauen his wisdom bee not tainted.

5. *Comb.* a. attrib., as *wisdom-book*, *-lecture*, etc.; *Wisdom literature*, a collective term for the biblical books of Job, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Wisdom of Solomon, and Ecclesiasticus, and the Epistle of James; so *Wisdom books*, *poetry*, *versification*. (See also *WISDOM TOOTH*.) b. instrumental, objective, etc., as *wisdom-bred*, *-giving*, *-seasoned*, *-seeming*, *-working* adjs.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 187 Of þe strengþe þe ure drihten us to munegeþ speoþ *wisdom boc and seið, *Fortitudo simplicis uia domini*. 1887 CHEYNE *Job & Solomon* 180 The Wisdom-books of the Old Testament proper. 1832 TENNYSON *Enone* 121 Power . . . *wisdom-bred And throned of wisdom. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* ix. 679 O Sacred, Wise, and *Wisdom-giving Plant, Mother of Science. a 1644 QUARLES *Sol. Recant.* ch. xii. 9 Because his true repentant soul was wise, He read this *wisdom-lecture. 1887 CHEYNE *Job & Solomon* 180 The book now before us—the largest and most comprehensive in the *Wisdom-literature. 1809-10 COLERIDGE *Friend* (1818) III. 112 The title of sophist, . . . a *wisdom-monger, in the same sense as we say, an iron-monger. 1895 R. G. MOULTON *Proverbs* 169 The metres of *Wisdom poetry. a 1644 QUARLES *Sol. Recant.* Sol. xi. 1 Thy *wisdom-seasoned brest. 1826 E. IRVING *Babylon* I. ii. 74 A *wisdom-seeming ignorance. 1816 SHELLEY *Sunset* 36 To make hard hearts Dissolve away in *wisdom-working grief.

Hence 'wisdomful *a.*, full of wisdom; †'wisdomhood, wisdom; 'wisdomless *a.*, destitute of wisdom; †'wisdomness, (*a.*) contained wisdom, wise signification or implication; (*b.*) affected or spurious wisdom; 'wisdomship, (with possessive) as a title of (ironical) respect (cf. 1 e).

1845 *Blackw. Mag.* Feb. 156/2 Its wondrous *wisdomful speech. 138. WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 99 As Seynt Poul seyy, In him bep alle tresoures of kunnyng and of *wysdomud. 1608 MACHIN *Dumb Knt.* iv. i, I am mad, . . . all wit-stung, *wisdomlesse. 1589 *Marprel. Epit.* (1843) 21 It is a hard matter . . . to conceiue all the *wisdomnes of this syllogisme. 1668 E. KEMP *Reas. Use Ch. Prayers in Publick* 14 So impertinent a piece of gravity, so unseasonable a piece of wisdomness. 1692 *Vindication* Pref. A2, Their cool *Wisdomships can be as Hot as their Neighbours in their own Concerns.

wisdom tooth. [Usually *pl.*; orig. *teeth* of *wisdom*, rendering mod.L. *dentes sapientiae*, = Arab. *adrāsu 'lḥikmi* (f. *ḍirs* tooth, *ḥikm* wisdom), after Gr. *σάφρονιστήρες* (Hippocrates): so called as not appearing till the attainment of years of discretion.] The hindmost molar tooth on each side of both upper and lower jaws in man, usually 'cut' about the age of twenty. Often in phr. *to cut one's wisdom teeth*, to attain to wisdom or discretion.

[1668 CULPEPPER & COLE *Barthol. Anat. Man.* iv. xiii. 349 The two last are termed *Dentes Sapientiae*, the Teeth of Wisdom. 1771 J. S. tr. *Le Dran's Observ. Surg.* (ed. 4) Dict. Cc 8 b, *Sophronesteres*, the . . . Teeth of Wisdom. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* x. x. ¶32 The gamester, finding that I had cut my teeth of wisdom sooner than suited his purpose.]

1848 *Quain's Elem. Anat.* (ed. 5) II. 971 The last molar in each range, owing to its late appearance through the gums, is called the wisdom-tooth. 1863 MRS. GASKELL *Sylvia's L.* xxi, He's noane cut his wisdom-teeth yet. 1868 WHYTE-MELVILLE *White Rose* III. 205 It seems . . . they're all born with their wisdom-teeth cut and their whiskers grewed. 1872 L. P. MEREDITH *Teeth* (1878) 49 The wisdom teeth occasionally erupt as late as the fortieth or fiftieth year.

wise (waɪz), *sb.*¹ *arch.* Forms: 1- wise, 1, 3-4 (5-6 *Sc.*) wis, 1, 3-6 wyse, (3-4 wisse, 4 wice, *Sc.* viss, vijs, viyjs, wyise), 4-5 wys, (*Sc.* wiss, vyse, vice, 4-6 *Sc.* wyis (6-iss), 5 wyesse, whyse, 5-6 *Sc.* wyss(e, vise, 6 wize, weysse). [OE. *wise* wk. fem. (rarely *wis* str. fem.) manner, mode, condition, thing, affair, cause, reason, (occas.) song = OFris. *wis*, OS. *wisa* wk. and str. (MLG. *wise*, *wis*, MDu. *wize*, *wijs*, Du. *wijze*), OHG. *wisa*, and *wis* manner, custom, tune (MHG. *wise*, G. *weise*), ON. *visa* wk. fem. stanza, **vis* manner in *öðruvis* otherwise (Sw. *visa*, Da. *vise* song; also Sw., Da. *vis* way, manner):—OTeut. **wisōn*-, **wisō*: f. *wit*- WIT *v.*¹ (for the sense cf. the cognate Gr. *εἶδος* form, shape, kind, state of things, course of action).]

1. †1. a. Manner, mode, fashion, style; *spec.* habitual manner of action, habit, custom (cf. *WAY sb.* 22). *Obs.* (in later use *Sc.*): see also II.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 55 Maniges mannes wise bið þæt he wile symle to his nehstan sprecaþ þa word þe he wenþ þæt him leofoste syn to gehyrene. c 1205 LAY. 25426 An hundred pusende iwepnede peines ohte on heore londes wise. c 1220 *Bestiary* 468 De spinnere . . . werpeð þus hire web, and weueð on hire wise. a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1029 For heom ne may halter ne bridel Bring from here wode wyse. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1213 þat folc verst in is wise. To hor godes as hii wolde, dude hor sacrifice. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* xx. 263 þis is þe worste wise þat eny wight myghte Syngen aȝens þe seynt *esprit*. c 1400 MAUNDEV. (1919) xi. 49, & 3it þei ben in moonyngne in the wise þat þei mæden here lamentacioun for him the first tyme. c 1470 HENRY WALLACE II. 25 Our all ye toune rewlyng on their awne wis. 1572 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxiv. 3 Quho list to mark the Scottisch gyse . . . Sall weill persave their craftie wyse.

†b. phr. *to do, make one's wise*: to do what one can. *in wise of*: after the fashion of; in respect of. *in wise that*: in such a manner that, so that.

c 1290 *Beket* 1279 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 143 þo he hadde al is tale itold and imaked is grete wise [v.r. al his wise], He sat adoun. c 1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* v. 64 This Troilus, yn wyse of curteisie, . . . rod and dide here companyne. 1454 *Paston Lett.* I. 207 Ledam wulde a do hys wyse to a mad a complot to Pryothe in the scher-howse of yow. c 1470 HENRY WALLACE VI. 565 All Wallace folk in wys off wer was gud. 1561 HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtier* iii. (1577) Pv, Wyth the wayes whyche she ordeined, those Realmes are still ruled, in wise that albeith hir life wanteth, yet hir authoritie liueth.

†2. Song, melody. *Obs.*

a 1000 *Menologium* 70 Wrecan wordum forð, wise [*MS.* wisse] gesingan. a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 519 So sone so þu sittest a brode þu forleost al pine wise.

II. OE. *wise* manner, fashion, like the cognate forms in other Germanic languages (see the respective sections below), was used in various kinds of advb. expressions meaning 'in such-and-such a manner, way, or respect', in which it was qualified by an adj. or a sb. with or without a governing preposition. Several of these expressions, with others formed on their pattern in later periods, have survived as simple words, e.g. *anywise*, *crosswise*, *leaswise*, *likewise*, *nowise*, *otherwise*, *slantwise*, in which *-wise* has the appearance of a suffix, and, in so far as it could or can still be freely combined with an adj. or a sb. (as in 1 b, 3 b), it has actually performed the function of a suffix. The free use of the various forms, i.e. apart from the established simple words, is now only archaic exc. in sense 3 b.

1. a. With demonstrative, interrogative, or indefinite adj. in an oblique case. (†rarely *pl.*)

In OE. *ōðre wisan* varies with *on ððre wisan* (see *OTHERWISE*), but most later expressions of this form, e.g. *likewise*, *thiswise*, *what-wise*, resulted from ellipses of the prep. in expressions of the type in 2 a. THUSWISE is an analogical combination with an adv.

Cf. OFris. *hādēne wis*, OS. *hū wis(e)*, OHG. *andar wis*, einic *wis*, MHG. *neheine wis*, *der selben wis*, *manege(n) wis*.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 177 þe læs þe ððre wisan ænig man leoge. c 1205 LAY. 32018 Wulchere wise he mihte wið Æðelstane fihte. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 17473 All fals sal far þat ilk wise. a 1300 [see *WHAT-WISE*]. 13. . . *Bonaventura's Medit.* 154 þat he to hys treytur dyd þe same wyse. 13. . . 1530 this wise [see

THISWISE]. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* v. 78 His menze. That vs dispytis mony vis. c1375, 1556 suche wise [see SUCHWISE]. c1420? LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 198 Syth that hit woll none other wyse be. c1450 *Cursor M.* 986 (Laud) This castelle . . is feyror many wyse [Cott. on mani wise] Then tong can telle. 1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* xix. 1 How sowld I rewill me, or quhat wyss. *Ibid.* lxxviii. 15 It will nocht walkin me no wise. 1513 DOUGLAS *Aeneis* vi. x. 93 And as thai flokkit about Enee, als tyte Sic vise ontill thaim carpis Sibilla. 1513 quhat wyse [see WHAT-WISE]. 1524 in Strye *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) I. App. xiii. 30 The delaying . . of this matier may do moche harme, and prejudice sundry wises. 1530 *Ibid.* III. App. x. 20, I haue prayed no other wyse then the trewth. 1538 STARKEY *England* (1878) 16 Thys law . . must . . be referrid, non other wyse then the conclusyonys of artys mathematical are euer referrid to theyr pryncypulys. 1560 *Abst. Protocols Town Clerks of Glasgow* (1896) II. 84 All reicht . . quhilk he had or ony wyis mycht haif. 1649 C. WASE *Sophocles, Electra* 12 Whilst things stand this wise with me. 1693 EVELYN *De La Quint. Compl. Gard.* I. 36 The Houses, that can no wise afford above one Garden. 1799 UNDERWOOD *Dis. Childh.* (ed. 4) II. 242 A bougie . . would be every wise as proper. 1856 MRS. BROWNING *Aur. Leigh* III. 810 No wise beautiful Was Marian Erle. 1883 L. OLIPHANT *Altiora Peto* xviii, He did it this wise.

b. With general adjs., often forming an equivalent of -LY², as † *humble wise* = humbly, *despiteful-wise* = despitefully: in later use hyphenated or as one word.

Cf. MHG. *glicher wise* (G. *gleicherweise*), G. *glücklicherwise*, *irrtümlicherwise*, *törichterwise*, *zufälligerwise*, etc.; *normaler wise*, etc.

Beowulf 1865 Ic pa leode wat . . fæste geworhte, æghwæs untæle ealde wisan. a1300 *Cursor M.* 21277 þe queles er draun diuerse wise. c1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 480 The nyghtes lowe Encressen double wise the peynes stronge. 1475 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 129/1 Service, the which the seid Galiard . . had don dyvers wise to your goode grace. c1475 *Rauf Coilyear* 929 Thus may thou, and thou will, wrik the best wise. 1592 CONSTABLE *Diana* i. i. 2 Humble wise To thee my sighes in verse I sacrifice. 1635 J. HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Banish'd Virg.* 157 It was formed hooked-wise. 1866 *Church & State Rev.* 11 May 298/2 It is no dull good-boy book, to be taken teetotalwise. 1876 STEDMAN *Vict. Poets* vi. 220 'The Princess' and 'The Idylls of the King', are written Dorian-wise. 1903 KIPLING *Five Nations, S. Africa* vi, She . . Treated them despiteful-wise.

2. a. (a) With prep. (orig. *on*, arch. since 16th cent.; OE. also *of*; from 14th cent. *in*) and demonstrative, interrogative, or indefinite adj., as *on nane wisan* in no way, NOWISE, *of bisse wisan* in this way, THISWISE. (Cf. 1 a.) Sometimes illogically written as one word or with hyphen.

Cf. OS. *an negana wisa*, MLG. *in wat wis(e)*, OHG. *in thesa, alla, managa, zwei wis, ze dero, andrero, welero wis*, etc.; G. *auf andere, solche, welche wise*, etc.

c888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xvi. 52 On nane wisan. c900 tr. *Bada's Hist.* i. xxvii. (1890) 72 Ne meant þu on oðre wisan biscop halgian buton oðrum biscopum. c950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke xv. 10 Ita, on ða wisa. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 31 þas cypnesse Drihten nam of bisse wisan. c1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 341/26 *Aliter*, on ænige oðre wisan. c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 109 On monie wisen mon mei wurchen elmesan. c1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 203 Alle he laðeð ech a sume wise to endelese blisse. c1200 ORMIN 2534 Herrsumm onn alle wise. c1350 in what wise [see WHAT-WISE]. c1400 *Destr.* Troy 8440 Andromaca . . prayet the prinse. . . On nowise in thys world the walles to passe. c1400 *Rom. Rose* 5940 Ben thanne siche marchautz wise, No, but foolies in euery wise. c1440 *Generydes* 102, I am come here, in lyke wise as ye see. 1472, 1563 in any wise [see ANYWISE]. 1526 TINDALE *Rom.* iii. 9 Are we better then they? No in no wyse. 1581 BURNE *Disput.* in *Cath. Tract.* (S.T.S.) 112 Thay . . vil in nauyse suffer onie man to . . preache aganis the same. 1639 ROUSE *Heav. Univ. Adv.* (1702) 2 One who was in no wise averse to that common Learning. 1732 LEDIARD *Sethos* II. ix. 269 Provided, however, it were in no-wise an obstacle. 1800 *Med. Jnrl.* IV. 318 The abdominal ring is in nowise concerned in the disease. 1844 DISRAELI *Coningsby* iv. vii, In this wise, affairs had gone on for a month. 1848, 1865 in somewise [see SOMEWISE]. 1879 M. ARNOLD *Mixed Ess.*, *Milton* 238 Whoever comes to the Essay on Milton . . will feel that the essay in nowise helps him. 1905 in what-wise [see WHAT-WISE].

(b) with a or a numeral, or pl.

a1000 *Colloq. Ælfric* in Wright *Voc.* (1857) I. 7 On feala wisan ic beswic fugelaz. c1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* xxxviii. (Z.) 237 *Bifarian*, on twa wisan. c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 77 þe fader is ine þe sune on pre wise. c1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 9 Tegenes ure emcristene we sulle laden ure lif edmodeliche on two wise. a1225 *Anr.* R. 6 Alle ne muwe nout . . holden on one wise ðe vtture riwle. a1300 *Cursor M.* 29506 O thrin wijs Mai cürse be tald on right wijs. 1340 *Ayenb.* 62 þe dyeucl . . him chongeþ in uele wysen pet uok uor to gly. 13 . . *E.E. Allit.* P. B. 1805 þus vpon þrynnne wyses I haf yow pro schewed, þat vnclannes to cleues in corage dere. c1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xii. (*Mathias*) 99, & In a vice-to-gyddyr fede & in ane aray in bak & bede. 1430-40 LYDG. *Bochas* ix. ii. (1554) 197/1 Disceuable in many sondry wyses. c1449 *Pecock Repr.* v. xii. 548 Bi manye wijsis. 1520 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 437/1 In other diuers manere of wyses.

b. With general adjs.: cf. 1 b. (occas. illogically as one word or with hyphen.)

Cf. in *likewise* (LIKEWISE 1), and OFris. *to likere wis* (and). 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 189 þa cwæp Neron, On ða betstan wisan þu demest. a1100 *Aldhelm Gloss.* i. 1252 (Napier 34) *Mirum in modum*, on wunderlicum gemete [in another hand wise]. c1205 LAY. 27834 Wes þe kaisere of-slægen a seolcuðe wisan. a1300 *Cursor M.* 10948 Als lagh was þan on ald wise. 13 . . *E.E. Allit.* P. A. 1095 So sodanly on a wonder wise, I was war of a prossessoun. c1385 CHAUCER *L.G.W.* 20 In euery skylful wyse. c1400 *Cursor M.* 28028 (Cotton Galba) 3e oft sitthes on wonderwise Biswikes þam. 1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* xcviij, That coude his office doon In connyng wise. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 153 Thareto I ansuere in double wise. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* xi. vii. 580, I will . . that ye be wel bisene in the rychest wyse. 1480 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 29 In as lovyng wyse as harte cone thynke. 1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxv. 3 We . . To 3ow that ar in

purgatory Commendis ws on our hairtyl wyss. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 2, I shall praye for you in lyke wyse. 1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 87 You take a discord for the first part, & not in binding wise. 1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 360 Some in scoffing manner; others in malicious wise. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* i. 98 These letters in scattering wise, C A E R A T I C. 1684 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* II. *Introd.*, By all means in all Loving-wise, them greet. 1782 TRUMBULL *McFingal* iv. (1795) 94 In mournful wise. 1865 SWINBURNE *Chastelard* i. i. (1894) 13 You praise her in too lover-like a wise. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* II. iii. 46 A while in gentle wise they went.

3. a. With prep. (see 2) and sb. in (non-syntactical) combination with *wise*, e.g. OE. *on scipwisan* in the manner of a ship, like a ship.

Cf. OS. *an kuningwisa* (n like a king, MHG. *in kriuzewis*, MSW. *i korusis* crosswise).

c890 WÆRFERTH tr. *Gregory's Dial.* (1900) 343 Twezēn oflēthlafas on beagwisas abacene. a950 *Guthlac* ii. (Prose) 107 Mid þam þe seo yld com þæt hit sprecan mihte after cnihtwisan. c1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* vi. 247 On munucwisan gescriyd. c1070 in Thorpe *Charters* (1865) 430 Mycel Engisc boc . . on leodwisan geworht. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xix. 138 Kulliden hym on-crosse-wyse. 1393 *Ibid.* C. viii. 163 In a weythwynde wyse ywrype al aboute. c1400 *Destr.* Troy 175 Ayre vp the erthe on ardagh wise. *Ibid.* 4762 The grekes . . At wyndous on yche syde-wise a wonderfull nombur. c1407 LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 5245 In karol wise I saugh hem goon. 1495 *Acta Dom. Conc.* (1839) 427/2 In Indenture wise. 1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* xxxv. 20 By the clifts of the earth we may in metaphorwyse vnderstande miserable men . . broken and maymed. 1589 in ballade wise [see *ballad-wise* s.v. BALLAD sb. 6]. 1596 *Edu.* III. v. 137 Heere twice as many pikes in quadrant wise. 1606 W. CRASHAW *Rom. Forgeries* To Rdr. D.4b, The reuerend Master Iohn Ferus . . did in Sermon-wise explaine the bookes of Iob vnto the Citizens. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 333 The points of the Hornes meeting . . in a kinde of circle-wise. 1800 COLERIDGE *Christabel* II. 573 Geraldine, in maiden wise, . . turned her from Sir Leoline. 1916 H. E. G. ROPE *Relig. Ancilla* 54 We trod the pilgrim road in pilgrim wise.

b. without prep. (variously written).

(i) The meaning is 'in the manner of', 'in the . . manner'. Cf. MLG. *crúcewis*, Du. *kruiswijs*, MHG. *kriuzewise*, G. *kreuzweise*, *pfandweise*, etc.

1398 [see CROSSWISE 1]. 1459 *Paston Lett.* I. 475 A gounne . . with side slevis, sirples wise. 1474 [see CORNERWISE]. c1530 *Crt. of Love* 1354 Within a temple shapen hauthorn wise. 1530 [see LOZENGEWISE]. 1545-1616 compass-wise [see COMPASS sb. 1 D]. 1577 GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* i. 37 To order it garden wyse, castyng it into beddes. 1591 SAVILE *Tacitus, Hist.* i. lv. 32 No man presumed to make any solemn oration assembly-wise [L. *in modum concionis*]. 1625 Antheme-wise [see ANTHEM sb. 4]. 1631 in Courridge *Ye Olde Streete of Pavement* (c1890) 177/1 Let them tie upon a stick, posie wise, a little piece of sponge. 1657 SPARROW *Bk. Com. Prayer* (1661) 100 Then the Priest Collect-wise makes a Prayer. 1677 W. HUGHES *Man of Sin* III. iii. 61 Let us try once more to argue Cardinalwise. 1725 *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Cutting*, They do at other Times cut sloaping, and Hind-foot-wise. 1743 SHENSTONE *Let. to Graves* 23 Dec., The sides [of an alcove] ornamented with sheeps-bones, jaws, skulls, &c. festoon-wise. 1851 H. MELVILLE *Moby Dick* II. xxviii. 192 Ahab . . took Stubb's long spade . . and striking it into the lower part of the half-suspended mass, placed its other end crutch-wise under one arm. 1854 H. D. THOREAU *Walden* 21 Waiting at evening on the hill-tops for the sky to fall, that I might catch something, though I never caught much, and that, manna-wise, would dissolve again in the sun. 1876 [O. H. B.] *White Cross* xlviii, 'Oh, only in a brotherly way.' . . 'Timothy or Titus-wise, you know.' 1885 *Cornhill Mag.* Mar. 283 Priests sitting with their legs tucked up tailor-wise, in the attitude of Buddha. 1919 R. FIRBANK *Valmouth* iv. 52 Flecked with wood shavings, Saint Joseph-wise, [i.e. a gown] brought with it suggestions of Eastern men. 1921 KASTNER & CHARLTON *Poetical Wks. of Sir Wm. Alexander* I. p. lvii, The style throughout, Seneca-wise, ought to be magnificent and grave. 1923 R. MACAULAY *Told by an Idiot* I. ii. 11 Her mass of chestnut hair parted Rosetti-wise in the middle. 1940 'GUN BUSTER' *Return via Dunkirk* II. iv. 117 In a few minutes our vehicles were coiled serpent-wise round the château.

(ii) Used in the same way but with the sense: as regards, in respect of. *colloq.* (orig. U.S.).

1942 E. R. ALLEN in J. J. Mattiello *Protective & Decorative Coatings* II. viii. 252 It should be noted that there are two types of hydrogen atoms positionwise. 1948 *Sat. Rev.* 6 Mar. 16/3 Plotwise, it offers little more or little less of what-happens-next interest than may be found [etc.]. 1958 *Spectator* 10 Jan. 37/2 John Robert Russell, 13th Duke of Bedford . . in twelve TV performances, was the greatest, successwise, among the aristocrats. 1958 *Times* 5 Sept. 11/5 An ill-disciplined, over-paid, frustrated youth, whose life chances have been vastly improved moneywise without commensurate social adjustment. 1961 *Far East Film News* (Tokyo) Apr. 5/1, 1961 so far has been UA [sc. United Artists] all the way prize-wise with this company taking an even dozen Oscars. 1976 J. I. M. STEWART *Memorial Service* xii. 184 These were a gentle race . . desperately worried over the grim state of the market job-wise. 1981 *Gossip* (Holiday Special) 24/1 Acting-wise, I like Katharine Hepburn, Joanne Woodward, Judy Garland and, of course, Marilyn.

c. with prep. and sb. in the genitive.

Cf. OFris. *thiaweswise* like a thief, MLG. (in) *dieves wise*, in *pelegrimes wise*, *gastes wise* as a guest, OHG. in *eselles wis* like an ass, MHG. in *kriuzes wis* crosswise, *ze gesellen wis* like comrades.

c1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2961 It was on fendes wise wrogt. a1300 K. Horn 360 On a squieres wise. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. II. 148 On Palfreis wise. *Ibid.* vi. 9 In A wepe-bondes wise I-wripen aboute [cf. quot. 1393 in 3]. *Ibid.* vii. 53 In pilgrimes wise. 1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* cxvii, In thaire flouris wise. 1865 SWINBURNE *Chastelard* I. iii. (1894) 46 On peaceable men's wise.

† d. with formations in -kin(s), manner. *Obs.*

c1200 *Vices & Virtues* 25 On alles kennes wisan. a1300 *Cursor M.* 7984 On quatkin wise. *Ibid.* 9486 He ne mai be

fre on nakins wis [v.r. nan-kin wise]. c1350 *Will. Palerne* 4380 In no maner wise. c1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* ix. (*Bertholomeus*) 129 One foure-kine wise. c1400 *Apol. Loll.* 91 On mani maner wis. c1520 SKELTON *Garl. Laurel* 647 In lyke maner of wyse. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. ccccviii. 287 b/1 In some maner awyse. 1535 *Goodly Primer* Ps. cxix, In no maner wyse. 1563 P. WHITEHORNE *Onosandro Platon.* 31 In no maner of wyse.

4. The synonymy of -wise and -ways in such advs. as *likeways*, *likewise*, *noways*, *nowise*, led to their interchange and consequently the illogical use of -wise for -ways: see -WAYS 3.

wise, sb.² *Obs. exc. dial.* Also *wyse*. [OE. *wise*; cf. ON. *visir*: ultimate relations doubtful.] The stalk or stem of a plant; esp. a trailing stem or runner, as of the strawberry.

a1000 *Riddles* lxvi. 4 Æghwa mec reafað . . min heafod scirep, biteð mec on bærl ic, briceð mine wisan. c1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 36 Streawbergean wise. c1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 415/34 *Gesce*, eall hwite wysan. c1425 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 310 Tak an handful of Bugyl, an oper of strawbery wyse. c1440 MS. *Lincoln A.* i. 17 lf. 280 (Halliiv.), Take the wyse of tormentile, and bray it. c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 531/1 Wyse, of strawbery (P. or pesyn), *fragus*. c1450 [see *strawberry wise*, STRAWBERRY 8].

wise (waiz), a. (sb.³, adv.) Forms: 1-5 (6 Sc.) wis, 3-5 (6 Sc.) wys, 4-7 wyse, 4- wise; also 3-5 wiis, 4 wiys, wyys, wyese, -esse, weysse, Sc. viss, vyys, 4-5 wijs, wyes, wiss, 4-5 (6 Sc.) wyss, wice, 4-6 Sc. vyise, 4, 7 wiese, 5 wijse, wies, wise, wiesse, wisse, wysse, wisse, vice, wiese, Sc. vyis, 5 (6 Sc.) wyis, wyce, vyse, 6 Sc. wisz, wyise, -ice, -iss, vyiss, vyce. [OE. *wis* = OFris., OS., OHG. (MLG., MDu., MHG.) *wis*, (Du. *wijs*, G. *weis* in phr. *einen weis machen*), ON. *viss* (Sw., Da. *vis*), Goth. *weis* (in compounds): OTeut. **wisaz*:—pre-Teut. **wittos*, f. Indo-Eur. *weid-* (see WIT v.) + ppl. suffix -to-.

OHG. *wisi* (MHG. *wise*, G. *weise*) is from a parallel formation with *j*-suffix.

The standard pronunciation with voiced *s* (z) is presumably derived from the oblique cases. The normal representative of OE. *wis* with (s), as in *ice* (OE. *is*), survives in some northern dialects; the regular Sc. pronunciation is (weis).]

1. a. Having or exercising sound judgement or discernment; capable of judging truly concerning what is right or fitting, and disposed to act accordingly; having the ability to perceive and adopt the best means for accomplishing an end; characterized by good sense and prudence. Opp. to *foolish*. (See also WISE MAN 1.) Also in phr. *wise old man*; spec. = WISE MAN 4.

In ME. often in collocation with WARE a.

Beowulf 1845 Mægenes strang and on mode frod, wis wordwida. c1000 *Rule of Chrodegang* liv, Preostas sceolon gemunan þæt hiȝ ne synt . . wisran þonne Salomon. a1122 *O.E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 656 Theodorus, swiðe god man & wis. c1205 LAY. 6303 Heo wes swiðe wis of wordlice dome. a1225 *Anr.* R. 90 Salomon þe wise. a1250 *Owl & Night.* 192 He is wis and war of worde. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5388 King alfred was wisost king þat longe was biuore. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* ix. 327 The viss king, that ves vicht and bald. c1386 CHAUCER *Prolog.* 68 Though þat he were worthy he was wys. *Ibid.* 309 A Sergeant of the Lawe war and wys. c1400 *Destr.* Troy 1463 A man witty & wise, wight, wildist in armes. 1434 MISYNN *Mending Life* iv. 113 In meet & drynke be þow scars & wisse. c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 526/1 Wyce, in werkyng and ware . . *discretus*, *providus*. 1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxxix. 39 And quha can reive vthir menis rowmris . . Is now an active man and wyice. 1508 — *Tua mariit wemen* 294 As wis woman ay I wrought & not as wot fule. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 131 We sholde also be wele ware or wyse, as is y^e serpent. 1526 TINDALE *Matt.* xxv. 2 Fyve of them were folysse, and fyve were wyse. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* II. iii. 167 *Claudio*. And she is exceeding wise. *Prince*. In euery thing, but in louing Benedicke. 1639 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Pt. Summers Trav.* 42 To tempt and draw the wisest men to folly. a1732 GAY *Fables* II. v. 1 That man must daily wise grow, Whose search is bent himself to know. 1798 SOUTHEY *Well of St. Keyne* 51 She had been wiser than me, For she took a bottle to Church. 1818 COLERIDGE *Friend* II. i. 23 The first duty of a wise advocate is to convince his opponents, that he understands their arguments and sympathizes with their just feelings. 1872 Tennyson *In Childr. Hosp.* vi, 'If I,' said the wise little Annie, 'was you, I should cry to the dear Lord Jesus to help me.' 1875 MANNING *Mission Holy Ghost* xiv. 383 The wisest of all the sons of men before the Incarnation of the Son of God was Solomon, king of Israel. 1940 [see SHADOW sb. 1 d]. 1956 R. F. C. HULL tr. *Jung's Symbols of Transformation in Coll. Wks.* V. II. vii. 332 The archetype of the wise old man first appears in the father, being a personification of meaning and spirit in its procreative sense. 1961 G. ADLER *Living Symbol* xvii. 397 The more remote and more powerful figure of the 'wise old man' represents a further step . . to a higher and more comprehensive wisdom. 1968 'A. WHITNEY' *Every Man has his Price* viii. 61 Now he was a wise old man, greatly feared, much respected. 1975 D. DANIELL *Interpreter's House* iii. 60 There is a Wise Old Man . . blind and of immense strength who . . blesses John Burnet. 1977 M. GREEN *Children of Sun* i. 36 A whole movement focuses passionate values . . on them [sc. young men]—as opposed to focusing them on the wise old man.

(b) of God.

c1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 260 Ihesus, god and man so wis. c1400 tr. *Secr. Secr., Gov. Lordsh.* 92 God ys wys and conyng. 1526 TINDALE *Jude* 25 To God oure saveour, whyche onely ys wyse [1611 to the onely wise God our Sauour], be glory, maestie, dominion, and power. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* II. i. 6 We ignorant of our selues, Begge often our owne harmes,

which the wise Powres Deny vs for our good. **1719** WATTS *Ps. LXIII.* (L.M.) ii, Thou Great and Good, thou Just and Wise, Thou art my Father and my God!

(c) of animals.

c1000 *Boeth. Metr.* xviii. 5 Sio wilde beo, peah wis sie [etc.]. **1560** *Bible* (Genev.) Prov. xxx. 24 These be foure smal things... yet thei are wise and ful of wisdom. **1697** DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* i. 271 The wise Ant her wintry Store provides. **1863** KINGSLEY *Water-Bab.* ii, The wise dog took them over the moor.

(d) of superhuman beings and personifications.

c1400 *Rom. Rose* 4621 Resoun Discrete and wijs and full pleasaunt. **1611** SHAKS. *Cymb.* v. v. 367 He... hath vpon him still that naturall stampe: It was wise Natures end... To be his evidence now. **1647** H. MORE *Song of Soul* ii. *Infin.* *Worlds* cv, Wise preventing Destinie. **1796** H. HUNTER tr. *St. Pierre's Study Nat.* (1799) I. 382 Wise Nature, in giving so much force to early habits, intended that our happiness should depend on those who are most concerned to promote it. **1833** TENNYSON *Dream Fair Wom.* xxiv, No one can be more wise than destiny.

(e) const. to (with sb. or inf.), unto. *arch.*

a1300 *Cursor M.* 8544 Was neuer nan wiser lagh to lede. **c1449** PECKOCK *Repr.* iv. i. 420 Hem that made hem self seme wyse ferto condempne mennis lawe. **1526** TINDALE *Rom.* xvi. 19, I wolde have you wyse vnto that which is good. And to be innocent as concernynge evyll. — **2** *Tim.* iii. 15 Which is able to make the wyse vnto health. **1560** *Bible* (Genev.) Jer. iv. 22 Thei are wise to do euil, but to do wel thei haue no knowledge. **1583** MELBANCKE *Philotimus* Kivb, It makes my harte bleede to see thee so wise to wickednes. **1667** MILTON *P.L.* ii. 193 Wise to frustrate all our plots and wiles. **1781** COWPER *Charity* 87 Wise to promote whatever end he means, God opens fruitful nature's various scenes.

(f) in proverbs and proverbial sayings. (See also 6 c.)

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 9884 Wyys ys pat ware ys. **1526** TINDALE *Luke* xvi. 8 The chyldren of this worlde, are in their kynde [1611 generation] wyser then the chyldren off light. **1539** TAVERNER *Erasm. Prov.* 18 He is in vayne wyse y^t is not wyse for hym selfe. [See *Prov.* ix. 12.] **1562** J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 132 Who wedth ere he be wise, shall die ere he thriue. **1596** SHAKS. *Merch.* v. ii. 83 It is a wise Father that knowes his owne childe. **1617** B. RICH *Irish Hubbub* 16 We were wont to say, it was a wise childe that did know the owne Father. **1717** WODROW *Corr.* (1843) II. 319 The proverb of being wise behind the time. **1745** B. FRANKLIN *Poor Richard* (1890) 157 Fools make feasts and wise men eat them. **1879** DIXON *Windsor IL.* xix. 204 Men who are wise are wise in time. **1881** SAINTSBURY *Dryden* i. 10 Sir Gilbert Pickering... was wiser in his generation.

b. Of action, speech, personal attributes, etc.: Proceeding from, indicating, or suggesting sound judgement or good sense; 'becoming a wise man' (J.); sage.

a900 CYNEWULF *Crist* 922 þam pe hafað wisne gepoht. **a1225** *Ancre R.* 198 So þet non wisure read ne mei bringen hire ut of hire riote. *Ibid.* 338 Of þe axunge mei uallen vuel bute 3if þe axunge beo þe wisre. **1362** LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. x. 71 Veche wijs in þis world þat hap wys understandinge. **1422** YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* 134 Anothyr yewyth a vyse consail. **c1480** HENRYSON *Fables* Prol. 17 (Makculloch MS.), A doctryne wiss anewch, and ful of fruyt. **1597** SHAKS. **2** *Hen. IV.* v. i. 84 It is certayne, that either wise bearing, or ignorant Carriage is caught, as men take diseases, one of another. **1600** — *A.Y.L.* II. vii. 156 Full of wise sawes, and moderne instances. **1667** MILTON *P.L.* xi. 666 One... eminent In wise deport, spake much of Right and Wrong. **a1672** WILKINS *Nat. Relig.* i. vi. (1675) 84 It must be a Wise Being that is the Cause of those Wise Effects. **1753-4** RICHARDSON *Grandison* II. xxiii. 166 My father also thought fit (perhaps for wise reasons) to acquaint us, that he designed for us but small fortunes. **1821** SCOTT *Kenilw.* xvi, Teach your affection to see with a wiser eye. **1849** MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 89 By a wise dispensation of Providence. **1860** TYNDALL *Glac.* i. xi. 71 He thought it wise not to attempt the ascent farther.

ironically. **1535** JOYE *Apol. Tindale* (Arb.) 28 S. Paule (by this wyse reason) playd bo peep wythe the hys pistle to the hebrews. **1822** SHELLEY *Scenes fr. Faust* ii. 227 'Twere a wise feat indeed to wander out Into the Brocken upon May-day night.

†2. a. Having practical understanding and ability; skilful, clever; skilled, expert (const. *of*). *Obs.*

a900 CYNEWULF *Elene* 592 Wordcraeftes wis. **c1300** *Havelok* 282 Of alle pewes was she wis, þat gode weren. **c1320** *Sir Tristr.* 1270 In world was non so wiis Of craft þat men knewe. ? **a1400** *Morte Arth.* 2745, I rede 3e wyrke aftyre witte, as wyesse men of armes. **c1400** *Destr. Troy* 1530 Wise wrightis to wale, werkys to caste. **1508** DUNBAR *Tua mariit wemen* 462 3it am I wise in sic werk. **a1548** HALL *Chron., Hen. VII* 32b, He secretly sent wise espialles... to searche & pryve oute of what progeny thys... Rycharde was dissended.

b. *spec.* Skilled in magic or hidden arts. Now only *dial.*, as in *wise wife*, WISE MAN 3, WISE WOMAN 1.

a1639 SPOTTISWOOD *Hist. Ch. Scot.* vi. (1655) 383 Agnes Samson (commonly called the wise wife of Keith) was... a woman not of the base and ignorant sort of Witches. **1653** H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* iii. vi. §6 (1712) 102 While he wish'd to himself that some wise body would help him to his... money again there appeared unto him a Spirit.

3. a. Having knowledge, well-informed; instructed, learned (*in*, earlier *of*, upon). *Obs.* exc. as in b. (See also WISE MAN 2 a, WISE WOMAN 1.)

c1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 146 Læcas lærdon, þa þe wisoste wæron, þæt nan man on þam monþe ne drenc ne drunce. **c1250** *Gen. & Ex.* 331 Sone 3e it ðor of hauen eten, ... 3e... sulen... ben so wise alle euene So ðo ðe wunen a-buuen in heuone. **13..** *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1605 Wys vpon wod-crafterz. **c1375** *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxi. (Eugenia) 61 In al science at

dewyce, þar mycht na woman wysare be. **c1400** *Rule St. Benet* (prose) lxiv. 42 Sho aȝht at be wise in goddis law. **c1505** (title) Here begynneth thystorye of y^e. vii. Wyse Maysters of rome. **1591** SHAKS. **1** *Hen. VI.* ii. iv. 18 But in these nice sharpe Quillets of the Law, Good faith I am no wiser then a Daw. **1651** HOBBS *Leviathan* II. xxx. 179 Wiser and better learned in cases of Law, ... than them-selves. **1742** GRAY *Eton* 100 Where ignorance is bliss, 'Tis folly to be wise.

b. (a) Informed or aware of something specified or implied. Now only in such phrases as *none the wiser, as wise as before* = knowing no more than before (i.e., usually, nothing) about the matter.

c1200 ORMIN 2279 Forrpi wolde 3ho ben wis off þatt þurh Goddess enngell. **c1220** *Bestiary* 799 In water 3e is wis of heuekes come. **c1375** *Sc. Leg. Saints* ii. (Paulus) 424 þat god wyss pame wald make Peteris banis quihik war of pai, And quihik war paulis banis als. **1377** LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. x. 372 þis is a longe lessoun, ... and litel am I þe wyser. **c1470** HENRY WALLACE viii. 580 Thai maid him wys off all that suddell cace. **1599** SHAKS. *Hen. V* iv. i. 206. **1616** *Withals' Dict.* 574 *Obscurum per obscurius*, I am as wise as I was before. **1635** D. DICKSON *Hebr.* viii. 8. 156 The Church was made wyse of the imperfection of the Olde Covenant. **1712-13** SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 2 Mar., I went into the city to see Pat Rolt, who lodges with a city cousin, a daughter of cousin Cleve (you are much the wiser). **1714** — *Let. to Miss Vanomrigh* 8 June, The pretender, or duke of Cambridge, may both be landed, and I never the wiser. **1838** DICKENS *O. Twist* xxxi, Messrs. Blathers and Duff came back again as wise as they went. **1889** *Century Mag.* July 343/1 Not one whit the wiser of the world than when he left home.

(b) *colloq.* (orig. U.S.). to be (or get) wise to, to be (or become) aware of; to put (one) wise (to), to inform one (of), enlighten one (concerning).

1896 ADE *Artie* ii. 14, I told him that when he wanted to get wise to what was in my hand all he had to do was to dig up his bit and come in. *Ibid.* xvii. 155 There was something ailed me, but I was n't wise to it. **1901** H. Mc HUGH *John Henry* 69 When I hear a pool-room comedian speaking lines about getting seasick on the B. & O., I'm wise to the fact that he dips in the Farmers' Almanac for his comedy stuff. **1913** A. BENNETT *Regent* x. 296 'Tell me, ... she hasn't got herself arrested yet, has she?' 'No. And she won't!' 'Why not?' 'The police have been put wise.' **1918** BINDLOSS *Agatha's Fortune* xvii. 158, I suppose it was because the drummer put you wise that you went to Miss Strange? **1923** F. H. KITCHEN *Divers. Dawson* 103 There would be the very devil to pay if Crutchley... got wise to their existence. **1937** G. HEYER *They found Him Dead* ii. 41 Say, sister, get wise to this! You can't put nothin' across on me! **1950** G. GREENE *Third Man* ii. 21, I met him my first term at school... He was a year older and knew the ropes. He put me wise to a lot of things. **1955** M. GILBERT *Sky High* xv. 210, I suppose Bill had just about got wise to you. **1977** F. PARRISH *Fire in Barley* v. 49 Dan wondered if the arty woman was wise to him.

c. *wise guy* (*colloq.*, orig. U.S.): an experienced or knowledgeable man; usu. ironic or derog., a know-all, a wisecracker; someone who makes sarcastic or annoying remarks; also (with reversal of meaning), someone easily duped; also *attrib.*

1896 ADE *Artie* xvi. 150 He was the wise guy and I was the soft mark. **1903** H. HAPGOOD *Autobiogr. of Thief* iv. 82 When these Rufus's up the State get a Yorker or a wise guy, they'll strip him down to his socks. **1910** W. M. RAINE *Bucky O'Connor* ii. 28 You're wise guys, gents, both of yez. **1920** B. TARKINGTON in *On Plays, Playwrights & Playgoers* (1959) 42 However, they'd made the crowd aware of wise guy superiority. **1922** WODEHOUSE *Adventures of Sally* xiii. 219 Obviously one of the Wise Guys of whom her friend the sporting office-boy had spoken, he was frankly dissatisfied with the exhibition. **1929** W. T. SCANLON *God have Mercy on Us!* lvi. 331 We had positive orders not to pick up any form of documents and to leave them for the Intelligence Section—the 'Wise Guy Section', as we called it. **1932** [see CON v.]. **1935** [see EASY a. 13 b]. **1941** B. SCHULBERG *What makes Sammy Run?* (1943) i. 7 Listen, wise guy, ... if you found something wrong... why didn't you come and tell me? **1959** C. WILLIAMS *Man in Motion* xi. 150 'What're you, a wise guy?' he snarled. **1972** *Village Voice* (N.Y.) 1 June 50/3 The cop... told Rob he didn't think it was funny, portfolio or not, declared that he was a clear-cut wise guy and placed him under arrest. **1976** *National Observer* (U.S.) 7 Aug. 17/1 Kramer and Roberts seem unable to shake off the brittle, knowing, wise-guy tone of voice.

4. In one's right mind, sane. Now *Sc.* and *dial.* So Du. *wijs*. Cf. WISDOM 4.

Cf. *Beowulf* 3094 wis and gewittig (= fully conscious). **c1290** *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 412 Here men mighten iseo Hou he pleizez with þis 3ongue brid; he ne mighte nouȝt wys beo. **a1400**, **1481** [implied in UNWISE 3]. **a1598** D. FERGUSSON *Scot. Prov.* (S.T.S.) 8 Anes wood, never wise. **1604** SHAKS. *Oth.* iv. i. 245 *Oth.* Fire, and brimstone. *Des.* My Lord. *Oth.* Are you wise? ... *Des.* My Lord? *Oth.* I am glad to see you mad. **1881** 'SARAH TYTLER' *Three Frights* (1882) 9 They were each, according to a significant old Scotch phrase, 'wise (pronounced wice, and meaning rather rational than sagacious) and world-like'.

5. †a. to make it wise (see MAKE v.¹ 68b): to deliberate, hesitate. *Obs.*

c1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 785 Vs thoughte it was noȝht worth to make it wys And graunted hym wit outen moore auyis.

b. to make wise (see MAKE v.¹ 69): to behave as if one were 'wise' about a matter; to pretend, 'make as if...' *Obs.* exc. *dial.*

1447 SHILLINGFORD *Lett.* (Camden) 14 Hengston seide but litell therto, but made wyse as thogh hit were yes. **1561** HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtier* II. (1577) Mvj, The two... wente to bed darkelon, laughing and making wise to beleuee that hee wente about to mocke them. **1589** PUTTENHAM *Engl. Poesie* III. xxii. (Arb.) 265 He makes wise, as if he had not bene a man learned in some of the mathematickes. **1604** HIERON *Preachers Plea* Wks. 1614 I.

511 Hee... made wise, as if he could haue tolde great tydings. **1834** MRS. BRAY *Warleigh* x, Whether she really felt desirous to take this opportunity of gaining repose, or whether, to use a Devonshire phrase, she only 'made wise' to do so.

6. *absol.* or as *sb.* †a. *sing.* usually with *def.* article or demonstrative: A or the wise man; *spec.* a sage. *Obs.*

c897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past.* C. xxxiii. 220 Se dysega... all his ingeðonc he geypt, ac se wisa hit ieldcað. **a1250** *Owl & Night.* 176 Wel fyht pat wel flyhþ, seyy þe wise. **c1374** CHAUCER *Troilus* i. 79 þis forknowyng wyse. **1390** GOWER *Conf.* I. 268 Upon the fol, upon the wise Siknesse and hele entrecomune. **1401** 26 *Pol. Poems* iii. 12 Do eueene lawe to fooll and wyse. **c1440** *Alphabet of Tales* 484 þe wise sayd vnto hym: 'þis way is bothe fayr & gude'.

b. *pl.* Wise men or persons: now always with *the*; †formerly also with demonstrative, possessive, etc.

c1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xi. 25 þu þe behyddyst þas ping fram wisun & gleawun. **c1205** LAY. 16817 He bi-held... wulc of wiisen ærest spæken wolden. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 20794 Disput, he sais, es na mister, Bituix te wis in swilk a wer. **1340-70** *Alex. & Dind.* 973 Dindimus þe der king, the doctour of wise. **1390** GOWER *Conf.* I. i Som matiere, Essampled of these olde wyse. *Ibid.* 26 The wiseste of Caldee Ne cowthen witte what it mente. **c1400** 26 *Pol. Poems* i. 167 Fle fro fooles, and folwe wise. **1535** COVERDALE *Isa.* xxix. 14, I wil destroye the wisdom of their wise. **1670** DRYDEN *1st Pt. Conq. Granada* II. (1672) 21 The bold are but the Instruments o' th' wise. **1784** COWPER *Task* III. 562 The learn'd and wise Sarcastic would exclaim. **1833** TENNYSON *Pal. Art* 195 O silent faces of the Great and Wise.

c. a word to the wise (is enough): = VERBUM SAP. Also †few words to the wise suffice, etc.

1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* xv. 24 Few wordis may serve the wyis. **1562** MOUNTGOMERY in *Archaeologia* XLVII. 241 Feawe woordes to the wise doeth suffice. **1639** J. CLARKE *Paræm.* 51 Few words to the wise suffice. *Verbum sapienti sat est.* A word to the wise. **1754** RICHARDSON *Grandison* I. xix. 127 Nay, if she can withstand him—But a word to the wise, Mr. Reeves! Hem!

d. The comp. *wiser* as *sb.* (with *pl. wisers*): One who is wiser; usually with possessive, (one's) superior in wisdom. Now *rare*.

(Cf. BETTER A. 7, ELDER *sb.*³ 2, GREATER C.b.)

a1300 *Cursor M.* 26180 Ga til a wijser to sceu þi wond. **c1385** CHAUCER *L.G.W.* 2634 *Hypermnestra*, And werke aftyr thyn wisere euer mo. **1447** BOKENHAM *Seyntys* v. 292 And of þi wysers lern bettyr gouernance. **c1480** HENRYSON *Want of Wise Men* 22 For warldly wyn sik walkis, quhen wysar wynkis. **1818** SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* i, Since it is well known these Delilahs seduce my wisers and my betterers. **1838** HARE *Guesses* Ser. i. (1847) 161 All writers who feel an itching... to be carping at their wisers and betterers. **1843** CARLYLE *Past & Pr.* III. xiii, If thou really art my Senior, Seigneur, my Elder, ... if thou art in very deed my Wiser.

7. Used as *adv.* = WISELY. In later use only in comparative. *rare*.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* xvii. 52 Thou vroucht has vis, That thou discoverit first till me. **1600** SHAKS. *A.Y.L.* II. iv. 58 Thou speak'st wiser then thou art ware of. **1797** MRS. M. ROBINSON *Walsingham* IV. 153, I cannot act wiser than to take the little Welsh girl off the hands of her dragon.

8. *Comb.* a. *advb.* with *adj.* or *pple.*, as *wise-bold*, *-hardy* (opp. to FOOLHARDY), *-valiant*; *wise-framed*, *-judging*, *-reflecting*, *-said*. b. *attrib.* with *sb.*, as *wise-ass* *sb.* and *adj.* (cf. SMART-ARSE, -ASS); *wisebones* *sb.* (humorous appellation for a wisecracker), *wise-heart* *adj.* (= wise-hearted). c. *parasynthetic*, as *wise-assed*, *-hearted*, *-lipped*, *-worded* (ME. *wis iworðed*).

1971 *Current Slang V.* iv. 21 *Wise ass, n., a wise guy. **1972** J. POYER *Chinese Agenda* iii. 17 Listen to what I have to say, then you can make all the wise-ass remarks you want. **1978** J. IRVING *World according to Garp* iv. 66 Benny Potter from New York—a born wise-ass. *Ibid.* 67 It was unfortunate that wise-ass Benny Potter was the first to tell Garp the news. **1967** P. TAMONY *Americanisms* (typescript) No. 18. 2 A fantastic display of brash male and female *wise-assed mediocrity. **1976** 'TREVANIAN' *Main* xii. 260 Some wiseassed note about the bad luck of getting a parking ticket the same night you get killed. **1600** TOURNOUR *Transf. Metam.* liv, With a *wise-bold heed. **1894** ALMA-TADEMA *Wings of Icarus* v. 26 There you go, old *wisebones! Here's a storm in a tea-cup! **1642** H. MORE *Song of Soul* III. II. xli, *Wise framed questions. **1575** LANEHAM *Let.* (1871) 44 Valiant, & *wisehardy. **1587** HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 583/2 Of courage inuincible, ... wise-hardie alwaies. **1887** MORRIS *Odyssey* VIII. 327 The cunning of *wise-heart Hephæstus' snare. **1535** COVERDALE *Exod.* xxxv. 26 Soch wemen as were *wyse herted. **1867** MORRIS *Jason* II. 862 Men there are Wise-hearted. **1644** MILTON *Divorce* II. xvii. (ed. 2) 66 Why men so disesteem this *wise judging Law of God. **1821** SCOTT *Kenilw.* vii, Many wise-judging men. **1818** MILMAN *Samor* i. 384 *Wise-lipp'd chief. **1848** BUCKLEY *Iliad* VI. 110 By no means could she persuade just-minded, *wise-reflecting Bellerophon. **1597** *Pilgr. Parnass.* i. 113 Youre *wise-said says Keepe mee from deuious... wayes! **a1586** SIDNEY *Astr. & Stella* lxxv, He could young wise, *wise valliant frame His Syres revenge. **a1225** *Ancre R.* 64 Sum is so wel ilered, oðer se *wis iworðed [etc.].

wise (waiz), v.¹ *Obs.* exc. *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Forms: 1 *wisian*, 3 *wisie*, 4-6 (8-9 *Sc.* and *dial.*) *wyse*, (5 *vyse*, 6 *pa. pple.* *wizde*), 7 (9 *dial.*) *wize*, 3-7 (9 *dial.*) *wise*, 9 *Sc.* *weise*, *weize*. [OE. *wisian* to show the way = OFris. *wisa*, OS. *wisian*, MLG., MDu. *wisen* (Du. *wijzen*), OHG. *wisan* (MHG. *wîsen*, G. *weisen*, now conjugated as a str. vb.), ON. *visa* (Sw. *visa*, Da. *vise*). Goth.

fulla-weisjan *πῆθαι*: f. OTeut. **weisaz* WISE *a.* (Cf. *WIS* v.¹)

1. *trans.* To show the way to (a person); to guide, direct; thence, to direct or manage the affairs of, govern, rule (*obs.*); also in mod. dial., to induce, entice *away*, *from*...; to instruct, inform.

Beowulf 320 Stræt was stanfah, stig wisode gumum atgædere. c1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* xxxv. 5 Iacob ferde þa mid ealre his hiwraðene, swa him god wisode. c1205 LAY. 1200 Wise mi & witer. whuder ich mæi liðan. a1250 Owl & Night. 973 þu... seist þu uisest [*v.r.* wisest] mankunne þat hi biwepen hore sunne. c1250 *Prayer to Our Lady* 2 in O.E. Misc. 192 þu wisie me nupe for ich eom eirede. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 10755 Sire steuene of segræue was imad þo he iustise In sire hubertes stude de boru þut lond wel to wise. 13.. *Cursor M.* 17931 (Gött.) Quen i þe gan wis To þe ʒatis of paradis. c1320 *Cast. Love* 297 Wip-oute whom he ne mai His kindom wip pees wysen. a1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 2988 Alexander... trotis him to þe trod-gate, as him þe torche wysis [*Dubl. vssys*]. c1400 *Song Roland* 303 'Now wise vs crist!' quod Roulond. c1460 *Towneley Myst.* ix. 122 Mahowne he wyse the on thi way. 1575 TURBERV. *Faulconrie* 130 Always wysing and making your hawke to leane in vpon you. 1594 CAREW *Tasso* II. xli. To be wizde what cause her thither drew. 1604 H. BROUGHTON *Advt. Corrupt. Relig.* E3b, Tremelius might hae wised M. Liuely. 1606 N. BAXTER *Sidney's Ourania* D2, She [*sc.* the Moon] wizeth Surgeons when to ope a veine. 1610 H. BROUGHTON *Job* xxxv. 11 Who doth teach us more than the beasts of the earth; and wiseth us above the foules of the heaven. 1657 TRAPP *Comm. Ezra* viii. 16 Being themselves wise, and willing to wise others. a1810 TANNAHILL *Song, Dear Highland Laddie* ii, The Laird's wys'd awa' by braw Highland laddie, O. 1821 GALT *Ann. Parish* xxxviii. 310 She... took me by the hand, and wised me to go back. 1825 BROCKETT N.C. *Gloss.*, Wise, to shew or direct. 'Wise him in.' 'Wise him out.'

2. To direct the course or movement of; to move in some direction or into some position; to convey, conduct; to turn (in various connexions: see *quots.*); also *fig.*

a1300 *Cursor M.* 21272 A... wain men wit four quelis wises. c1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 13698 His hors on hym [*sc.* Bokkus] his bridel wysed. c1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* 11. 78 The forgh is best, ille humour out to wise. 1606 N. BAXTER *Sidney's Ourania* C3, Planets... Knowne to each Figure-flinger... That wise from thence many an vncoth-tale. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* vii, Now, wize yourself a wee easelward—a wee mair yet to that ither stane. 1825 BROCKETT N.C. *Gloss.* s.v., Wise off that rope there. a1827 in Scott *Jrnl.* 2 Aug., Stuff with moss, and clog with clay, And that will weize the water away. 1830 GALT *Lawrie T.* IV. x. (1849) 179 Mr. Bell quietly wised the conversation upon juvenile indiscretions. 1862 SMILES *Engineers* III. 113 Wise on the Hydrogen, Nichol! 1862 HISLOP *Prov. Scot.* 58 Every miller wad weize the water to his ain mill. 1867 J. K. HUNTER *Retrospect Artist's Life* xiv. (1912) 135 The little fish rushed to the shore before him, as he quietly wysed them shoreward.

b. To direct, aim, 'send', shoot (a missile) (*Sc.*); †*fig.* to utter.

a1300 *Cursor M.* 24103 Quen i wend word to wise. 1721 RAMSAY *Ode to Ph—* ii, Fowk wysing a Jee The Byass Boulds on Tamson's Green. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* lviii, Mony o' them wadna mind a bawbee the weising a ball through the Prince himsell.

c. *intr.* for *refl.* To direct one's course, make one's way, betake oneself, go.

c1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 10956 Vnto þer contres he bad þem wyse. 1721 RAMSAY *Richy & Sandy* 69 But see the Sheep are wysing to the Cleugh.

3. *trans.* To show, point out (the way). †Also, to cause to be seen, show, reveal (*obs.*).

13.. E.E. *Allit. P. A.* 1135 A wounde ful wyde... con wyse An-ende his hert þurȝ hyde to-rente. c1400 *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 138 Wysand vs þe way to heuen. c1450 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 226 The printe of a palsy wisith the thy way. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxiii, I'll hae somebody waiting to wise ye the gate to the place.

wise (*waiz*), *v.*² [*f.* WISE *a.* 3 b(b).] 1. to *wise up* (U.S. slang): to 'get wise'; to 'put wise'. Freq. const. *on* or *to*. Also *refl.*

1905 R. BEACH *Pardners* iv. 113, I cast the bad eye on the boys to wise 'em up. 1919 J. BUCHAN *Mr. Standfast* iii. 70 You've got to wise up about Gresson with the whole forces of the British State arrayed officially against you. 1922 P. G. WODEHOUSE *Girl on Boat* i. 25 You won't wise him up that I threw a spanner into the machinery? 1925 F. SCOTT FITZGERALD *Great Gatsby* vii. 124, I just got wised up to something funny the last few days. 1929 *Princeton Alumni Weekly* 24 May 982/2 To stick out one's neck is to commit an unpardonable error, to lay oneself open to criticism... A persistent offender should wise up on himself. 1955 W. GADDIS *Recognitions* I. iv. 158 Yeah, you got to wise up to yourself, see? 1960 C. MACINNES *Mr Love & Justice* 26 That's... what I'm wising myself up on. 1971 *Wall St. Jrnl.* (Eastern ed.) 10 Mar. 1/4 Antique dealers are wising up to the growing demand for old radios. 1984 *Listener* 7 June 36/3 'Write a poem about it,' he suggests. 'Wise up, sir,' the new generation tells him.

2. to *wise off* (U.S. slang): to make wisecracks at someone.

1943 *Yank* 2 July 10 I'd love to have one of those acting noncoms wise off at me. 1981 'P. MALLORY' *Killing Matter* xiii. 136 He's a real meanie. I wouldn't be wising off at him if I were you.

Hence **wised-up** *ppl. a.*

1926 J. BLACK *You can't Win* xx. 301, I could make a living without taking tough chances against wised-up city police. 1952 M. MCCARTHY *Groves of Academe* (1953) x. 205 His wised-up air was as irritating... as Donna's exaggerations. 1973 R. PARKES *Guardians* ix. 172 It's nasty. Very nasty. But at least I'm wised up now.

Wise: see VAISYA.

wise, *obs.* *f.* VICE *sb.*¹ and ², VISE *v.*¹

-**wise**: see WISE *sb.*¹ II.

wisecrack ('waiz,ekr(ə)). Forms: 6-7 wise-aker, 7 wiseaker, wisacre, 7-8 wise acre, 7- wise-acre, wisacre. [*ad.* (with unexplained assimilation to *acre*) MDu. *wijsseggher* ('wais,zegər) soothsayer, app. *ad.* OHG. *wizago*, MHG. *wizage* (= OE. *witega* WITIE *sb.*), with assimilation to *wijs* WISE *a.* and *seggher* SAYER.]

1. One who thinks himself, or wishes to be thought, wise; a pretender to wisdom; a foolish person with an air or affectation of wisdom.

1595 *Enq. Tripe-wife* (1881) 146 Shall he run vp and downe the town... accompanied with some such wise-akers as himself. 1609 DEKKER *Gulls Horn-bk.* Proemium 5 Thou Lady of Clownes and Carters, Schoolemistres of foolcs and wisacres. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 47 Syrupe of Poppy, (that edged Tool in the hands of such Doctor Wise-akers). 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 138 ¶6 This Wisecrack was reckoned by the Parish, who did not understand him, a most excellent Preacher. 1810 SCOTT *Fam. Lett.* 31 Dec. (1894) I. vi. 202 This wise-acre thinks he should have a finger in every man's pie. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* I. xiii, I have heard politicians and coffee-house wise-acres talking over the newspaper. 1874 MICKLETHWAITE *Mod. Par. Churches* 115 The architect... is lectured on his own art by wisecracks, whose whole stock of knowledge is got up from 'Parker's Glossary'.

†b. Used in *pl.* form of a single person; sometimes as a *quasi*-proper name. *Obs.*

?1613 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Laugh & be fat* Wks. (1630) II. 71/1 A learned wisecracker. 1615 TOFTE *Varchi's Blazon Jealousie* 24 note, Wisecrakers her Husband, neuer so much as once doubting or dreaming of any such matter. 1673 *S'too him Bayes* 9 When he has done (like a wise-acres) he makes nothing of it.

¶c. With allusion to *acres* as = 'lands'; in first quot. app. applied to a landed estate.

1608 *Yorksh. Trag.* 1. iii. Is the rubbish sold, those wisecrakers your lands? a1734 NORTH *Exam.* II. v. §128 (1740) 394 If wise by their Acres, or, in a word Wisecracks, it was expected the Guineys should come out, for the Uses of Mobbing.

2. A wise or learned person, a sage. (Usually contemptuous.)

1753 in *Gentl. Mag.* XXIII. 417 (spuriously archaic) Pythagoras lerned muche—becomming a myghtye wyse-acre. 1814 *Sporting Mag.* XLIV. 271 The conceourse of wisecracks... was truly astonishing. 1842 THACKERAY *Fitz-Boodles's Conf.* Pref., It requires no great wisecrack to know that. 1902 *Sat. Rev.* 29 Nov. 677/2 The stoic paradox that the cobbler who has got wisdom is the universal wisecrack.

Hence (*nonce-wds.*) 'wise,acred' (-əd) *a.*, having the character of a wisecrack (in quot. with allusion to *acre*: cf. 1c above), whence *wisecredness*; 'wise,acredom', the realm of wisecracks, wisecracks collectively; 'wise,acreish' (-ərɪʃ) *a.*, like or characteristic of a wisecrack (whence *wisecreishness*); 'wise,acreism' (-ərɪz(ə)m), 'wise,acrery' (-ərɪ), something characteristic of a wisecrack; pretension to or affectation of wisdom, or a remark exhibiting this.

1603 DEKKER *Wonderful Year* B3, Each *wise-acred Landlord. 1848 EARL NORTHBROOK in Mallet *Mem.* (1908) 39 The conceited phraseology and would-be *wisecredness of its professors. 1885 A. DOBSON *Don Quix.* in *Sign of Lyre* 93 To make *Wisecredom, both high and low, Rub purblind eyes. 1834 J. WILSON in *Blackw. Mag.* XXXVI. 415 He... then perpend, in a *wisecreish pause, to consider if they are all to be found. 1895 SAINTSBURY *Corrected Impr.* II. 12 *Ex post facto* *wisecreishness. 1861 T. L. PEACOCK *Gryll Grange* xxiii, Whist is more consentaneous to modern solemnity: there is more *wisecreish-ism about it. 1917 SAINTSBURY *Hist. Fr. Novel* I. 371 Interrupting his vizier and the other tale-tellers with *wisecreries.

wisecrack ('waizkræk). *colloq.* (orig. U.S.). Also *wise crack*, *wise-crack*. [*CRACK* *sb.* 5.] A clever, pithy witticism or remark. Also as *quasi-adj.*

1924 G. ADE *Let.* 20 Dec. (1973) 101 When Geraghty came yesterday, both of us had thought of putting in another character, a young wise-crack small town loafer... who thinks he is very sly. 1925 *Sat. Even. Post* 14 Feb. 44 The Palace, Chicago, will howl at a wise crack, a nifty, that Duluth audiences won't even flag as it flies over their heads. 1950 G. B. SHAW *Buoyant Billions* 98 The satirical humor of Aristophanes, the wisecracks of Confucius, the precepts of the Buddha. 1959 I. & P. OPIE *Lore & Lang. Schoolch.* ix. 174 He might... have seen sense in the wisecracks which... scientifically minded boys indulge in... 'What is the matter?' 'That which occupies space.' 1977 *Rep. Comm. Future of Broadcasting* (Cmdnd. 6753) ii. 15 Lord Hill... saw no reason why the BBC should have been expected to apologise for a wisecrack in a satire programme... that if you can see the Prime Minister's lips moving you know he is lying. 1979 R. JAFFE *Class Reunion* (1980) I. viii. 109 Say only nice, polite, ladylike things, no nasty wisecracks.

So 'wisecrack *v. intr.*, to make wisecracks; also *trans.*, with quoted words as obj.; 'wisecracking *ppl. a.* and *vbl. sb.*; also 'wisecracker, one given to making wisecracks.

1915 *Call* (San Francisco) 30 Apr. 17 Wisecrackin' city fellers ain't got nuthin' on you. 1923 *N.Y. Times* 9 Sept. vii. 2 *Wise-cracker*, a city fellow who makes wise remarks. 1924 P. MARKS *Plastic Age* 28 The lights flashed on and the crowd filed out, 'wise-cracking' about the picture. *Ibid.* 113 Carl the flippant, the voluble, the 'wise-cracker', lost his tongue. 1927 *New Republic* 12 Oct. 218/2 He has the knack of wise-

cracking, and his dialogue is of that slick and well oiled kind that you may meet in good vaudeville. 1939 JOYCE *Finnegans Wake* 33 It has been blurtly bruted by certain wisecrackers... that he suffered from a vile disease. 1940 GRAVES & HODGE *Long Week-End* xx. 345 Everyday life could be made interesting on the screen without fictitious drama or wise-cracking comment. 1946 *Sat. Rev. Lit.* 2 Nov. 41/1 Both authors wisecrack their way through adverse circumstances. 1949 H. ROBBINS *Dream Merchants* (1950) 144 Jane saw him come into the office. 'If it ain't the vice-president himself!' she wisecracked. 'How's the picture business?' 1949 G. B. SHAW *Sixteen Self Sketches* xiv. 82 Without him I might have been a mere literary wise-cracker, like Carlyle and Ruskin. 1977 *Rolling Stone* 21 Apr. 58/1 Jim Rockford is a worldly wisecracker. 1979 *Fortune* 21 May 71/1 Fraser wisecracks that the Carter Administration's voluntary wage guidelines have 'self-destructed'. 1982 *Daily Tel.* 11 May 14 He has defended rioters... with such vigour as to alarm his fellow lawyers, one of whom wisecracked to me: 'Who will rid us of this turbulent pest?' 1982 E. NORTH *Ancient Enemies* viii. 105 Liz reminds me... of Tammy, who was tough and wise-cracking.

wisedam, -**dom**(e, *obs.* ff. WISDOM.

wisehead ('waizhed). [*f.* WISE *a.* + HEAD *sb.*¹] One who has a wise head; always in ironical sense, One who fancies himself wise, a wisecracker.

[1378 *Poll Tax Yorks* 158 in Bardsley *Surnames*, Johannes Wysehede.] 1756 *Monitor* No. 64. II. 123 The wise-heads... have been a good deal troubled to invent proper subjects for this purpose. 1862 MISS BRADDON *Lady Audley* xxxvi, The wiseheads of the servants' hall. 1875 H. JAMES *Rod. Hudson* iii. 94 There were naturally a great many wiseheads who smiled at his precipitancy.

†**wischede**. *Obs. rare.* In 4-5 wys-. [*f.* WISE *a.* + -*hede*, -HEAD. Cf. OFris. *wishêd*, Du. *wijsheid*, G. *weisheit*.] Wisdom.

1340 *Ayenb.* 68 Zuyche uolke þet wyllep him benyme his lhorðssip and his wyschede. 1481 CAXTON *Reynard* xxviii. (Arb.) 68 The ouerest wyschede.

wise-like ('waizlaik, dial. 'waiz-, 'weis-), *a.* (*adv.*) *Sc.* and *dial.* [*f.* WISE *a.* + -LIKE 2.]

1. Reasonable, rational.

1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* xiv, It wad hae been lang or my Leddy Margaret... wad hae fund out sic a wise-like doctrine in the Bible! 1818 SUSAN FERRIER *Marriage* I. xii, It wad set her better to be carrying a wise-like wean in her arms, than trailing about wi' thae confounded dougs an' paurits. 1893-4 *Northumbld. Gloss.* s.v., That's a wise-like dog o' yors.

2. Becoming, seemly, respectable, proper: esp. in appearance.

1820 *Blackw. Mag.* Nov. 148 Talking... o thrashing ripe rigs wi' the west wind... may look very wiselike in rhyme. 1842 J. AITON *Dom. Econ.* (1857) 123 Make it something 'wiselike' and substantial, that it may remain as a monument of your own liberality and good sense. 1881 *Academy* 15 Oct. 289/3 Jane... wice-like rather than pretty. 1894 *Blackw. Mag.* June 754/1 He was considered by... many ladies of the parish to be a very personable man, comely... and altogether a wyss-like man.

B. as *adv.* Fittingly, becomingly, respectably, 1822 *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 315 They ought to hire a chaise, and gang in till Edinburgh wiselike. 1841 *Fraser's Mag.* Jan. 109/2 Dinna gang ramstam in, saying, 'Janet, here's meal; and Janet, here's butter';... slip cannily and wiselike in.

wiseling ('waizliŋ). Now *rare*. [*f.* WISE *a.* + -LING¹ 2.] A pretender to wisdom; a wisecracker.

1633 J. DONE *Hist. Septuagint* 214 These wiselings, that shew themselves foolcs in so speaking, and discoursing with-out Discourse. 1649 J. ELLISTONE tr. *Behmen's Epist.* (1886) 3 Those Luciferian wiselings that thought none could teach them anything. 1765 LAW *Behmen's Myst. Magnum* xxxix. 222 Let Master Sophister or Wiseling of Babel look us right in the Face. 1914 NELLEN & CRAIG tr. *Ozanam's Francisc. Poets Italy* v. 245 He praises the wisdom which shrinks from the wiselings.

wisell, var. WIZLE, stalk, etc.

†**'wisely**, *a.* *Obs. rare.* Forms: 1 wislic, 3 wislich, 4 comp. wislier, 5 wysely, 6 wysley, 7 wisely. [OE. *wislíc*: see WISE *a.* and -LY¹.] = WISE *a.* 1.

c900 tr. *Beda's Hist.* II. xiii. (1890) 134 Me pynceð wislic, gif þu geseo þa ping beteran... þæt we þam onfon. a1023 WULFSTAN *Hom.* I. (1883) 4 Ðonne is eac wislic ræd, þæt manna gehwylc geornlice smeage. a1300 *Cursor M.* 28116 Wit wislier þat i was amang Hauē i striued oft-sithes wrang. 1436 *Libel Engl. Policy in Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 183 Yf men were wysely, the Freshmen and Flemmyngs Shulde bere no state in see by werryng. 1556 *J. de Flores' Aurelio & Isab.* E8, Vnto howre wysley wordes.

wisely ('waizli), *adv.* Forms: see WISE *a.* and -LY²; also 5 wisily, vi-, vysilie, 5-6 wys(e)-, wysilie, 6 wyslye, wislie. [OE. *wislíce* = OS. *wislīco*, MLG., MDu. *wislīk* (Du. *wijzelijk*), OHG. *wislīcho* (MHG. *wislīche*), ON. *wislīga* (in the sense of *vissuliga* certainly): *f.* WISE *a.* + -LY².] In a wise manner.

1. With wisdom, sound judgement, or sagacity. Also more widely, with good sense or discretion.

c888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xviii. §1 Se þe wile wislice & geornlice æfter þam hlisan spyrin. c897 — Gregory's *Past. C.* xviii. 131 Ðæt he meahthe ðæt folc ðy wislicor & ðy rædlicor læran. c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 105 þæt mon wisliche spene þa ping þe him god lene on pisse lue to brukene. c1200 ORMIN 2199 3ho toc wisliȝ to fraȝznenn himm whatt it bitacenn mihte. c1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1091 Loth hem warnede, wislike and wel, Oc he ne troweden him neuere a del. a1300 *Cursor M.* 18852 Clerli spak he þat he wald, And al his skil wiseli he tald. c1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* I. 956 He hastep wel þat wysly

kan a-byde. *c 1400 Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 70 Alle pese pingis I haue told, pat he pat redip hem mai þe visiloker [v.r. wyslocor] in semblable causis worchon. *a 1450 Le Morte Arth.* 1158 Thou ne woste not Ryght wiseliche What harme hathe falle. *c 1489 CAXTON Sonnes of Aymon* xxv. 539 See that ye revenge yourself wysly. *1551 ROBINSON tr. More's Utopia* 1. (1895) 113 Thys I suppose is the chiefe cause whie theyr common wealthes be wyselyere gouerned. *a 1586 SIDNEY Arcadia* III. (1922) 78 Young men, who thinke, then they speake wiseliest, when they cannot understand themselves. *1604 SHAKS. Oth.* v. ii. 344 One that lou'd not wisely, but too well. *1610 — Temp.* II. i. 21 *Gon.*... You haue spoken truer then you purpos'd. *Seb.* You haue taken it wiselier then I meant you should. *1667 MILTON P.L.* x. 1023 Doubt not but God Hath wiselier arm'd his vengeful ire then so To be forestall'd. *1765 A. DICKSON Treat. Agric.* (ed. 2) 63 This method of conveying the vegetable food from the earth to the air, and from the air to the earth, is wisely established, for making a just distribution of it upon all parts of the earth. *1829 SOUTHEY Sir T. More* I. 280 Men judge wiseliest, when they judge most charitably. *1847 HELPS Friends in C.* i. v. 85 From a genial, wisely-developed man, good things radiate. *1925 E. PHILLIPOTS Voice from Dark* xvi. 199 He would have done wiselier to be home before it came.

b. With an air or assumption of wisdom; sagely, knowingly.

1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. Nicholay's Voy. iv. xiii. 126 b, [I asked him... what religion he kept, wherupon wisely he gaue me to vnderstand that [etc.]. *1600 SHAKS. A.Y.L.* II. vii. 22 He... looking on it, with lacke-lustre eye, Sayes, very wisely, it is then a clocke. *1888 'J. S. WINTER' Bootle's Childr.* iv. 'Ah! but there's very few Captain Ferrers about,' said Lassie wisely.

† 2. Attentively, carefully, heedfully. *Obs.*

c 1000 Inst. Polity x. in Thorpe *Laws* II. 318 Beþencan heora dæda wislice & wærlice. *a 1225 Ancr. R.* 104 þe heorte is wel iloked 3if muð & eien & earen wisliche beoð ilokene. *a 1225 Leg. Kath.* 82 Ha heold hire aldrene hird wisliche & warliche. *1377 LANGL. P. Pl.* B. xiii. 343, I wayted wisloker. *? a 1400 Morte Arth.* 1613 That they be wisely wachede and in warde holdene. *c 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.)* xxvi. 123 Qwhe þai ga to were, þai hafe þam riht warly and wysely. *c 1475 Ruff. Coilgear* 587, I raid on full richt, To watche wyselie the wayis. *1558 WARDE tr. Alexis' Secr.* 111 Powre the said water fynely and wisely into some other vessel that is cleane. *1594 PLAT Jewell-ho.* III. 28 If you holde the same [glass] wisely... you shall see the wine ascende in the forme of a cloud.

† 3. Skilfully, cleverly, ingeniously; cunningly.

a 1000 Cædmon's Gen. 456 Oð ðæt he Adam on eorðrice, godes handgesceaft gearone funde, wislice geworht, & his wif somed. *a 1000 Boeth. Metr.* xx. 15 þu þe unstillia agra gesceaf to ðinum willan wislice astyrest. *c 1250 Gen. & Ex.* 3630 God it tæte al ear moysen Wislike hu it wro3t sulde ben. *1390 GOWER Conf.* I. 255 With his wordes slyhe and quente, The whiche he cowthe wysly peinte. *c 1430 Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. lxxiv. (1869) 44 She wolde it were so wysliche moulded and so subtillyche that bi seemynge it were litel. *a 1586 SIDNEY Arcadia* Ecl. ii. (1922) 231 The hives of wisely painful Bees. *1601 SHAKS. Twel. N.* I. v. 33 Here comes my Lady: make your excuse wisely, you were best.

wise man. (Formerly often as one word, or with hyphen; cf. the surname *Wiseman*.)

1. a. Gen. A man who is wise; a man of good judgement or discernment; a discreet or prudent man. (Often opposed to *fool*.)

worldly wiseman: see *WORLDLY*.

c 888 ÆLFRED Boeth. xl. § 3 Forðy ne scyle nan wis mon forhi3an ne to swiðe ymb þæt gnornian, to hwæm his wise weorðe. *c 1000 ÆLFREDIC Saints' Lives* xiii. 116 Ne sceal se wise mann beon biutan godum weorcum. *a 1225 Ancr. R.* 214 Wel understand euerich wis mon þis. *c 1300 Havelok* 180 Wis man of red, wis man of dede. *1390 GOWER Conf.* I. 46 It myhte make a wisman madd. *c 1400 Rule St. Benet* (prose) 15 þe wyse man musters hym wid fa wordis & welle sitande. *1481 CAXTON Godfrey* xxv. 57 There ben more foolen than wysemen. *a 1548 HALL Chron., Edw. IV* 207 This marriage semed very strange to wise men. *1549 Compl. Scot. Prol.* 16, I hope that vyse men vil reput my ignorance for an mortifreit prudens. *a 1610 FOTHERBY Atheom.* I. xiv. § 3. (1622) 150 Wisemen indeed haue euer reputed them, for no better then mad-men. *1702 H. DODWELL Apol.* § 13 in S. Parker *Cicero's De Finibus*, He took Cato for a perfect Stoick, and for a Wiseman, in the Sense of the Philosophers. *1770 BRIDGES Burlesque Transl. Homer* II. 26 Old Nestor, Who always counted was a Wise-man. *1853 LYNCH Self-Improvem.* i. 2 He is a wise man who has an instructed mind and a regulated choice. *1859 GEO. ELIOT Adam Bede* xix, A fool 'ull hit on't sometimes when a wise man misses.

b. Ironically applied to a fool or simpleton, as in *the wise men of Gotham* (see *GOTHAM* 1).

[*1471 Paston Lett.* III. 32 Yonge Wyseman othyrwys[s]e callyd Foole.] *1526, c 1560* [see *GOTHAM* 1]. *1596 RALEIGH Discov. Guiana* 5 Who like Wise men in the absence of their Captaine followed the Indians. *1711 Country-Mans Lett. to Curate* 32 It were... too Churlish to grudge these talkers the Character of the only Wisemen of G—

2. *spec.* a. A man deeply versed in some subject of study, or in studies generally; a learned man, scholar, philosopher, sage. Now *rare* or *arch*.

the seven wise men = the seven sages: see *SAGE* *sb.* 1. *a 1000 Cædmon's Exod.* 377 Wise men wordum secgað, þæt from Noe niðoða wære fæder Abrahames on folctale. *1338 R. BRUNNE Chron.* (1810) 114 Wis man in þe lawe. *1379 Glouc. Cath. MS.* 10 I. i. iv. If I Iff þu will wysman be in demyng of vryn. *1387 TREVISIA Hiden* (Rolls) III. 63 Tales Millesus... þe firste of þe seuene wise men. *1450-80 tr. Secr. Secr.* iii. 6 His philosofris and grete wise-men of clerגיע. *1588 KYD Househ. Philos. Index*, Thales one of the seuene wise men of Greece. *1655 STANLEY Hist. Philos.* Pref. (1687) 2 Hermippus in his Treatise of the seven wise Men saith, they were in all seventeen, of which seven were variously named. *1656 BLOUNT Glossogr., Solon*, one of the seven wisemen of Greece. *1842 W. C. TAYLOR Anc. Hist.* ix. § 5 (ed. 3) 240 Periander, who is sometimes ranked among the Seven Wise Men of Greece. *1850 LD. KELVIN* in S. P.

Thompson *Life* (1910) I. v. 223 The steamer appeared about 4 P.M.—contrary to the expectation of the nautical wise men about the harbour.

b. A man who utters wise sayings or maxims; *esp.* as a title for any of the writers of the Jewish 'Wisdom Literature'.

a 1225 Ancr. R. 64 þe wise mon [sc. Solomon] askeð in his boc hweðer [etc.]. *1375 BARBOUR Bruce* I. 121 And wys men sayis he is happy, That be othir will him chasty. *c 1400 Rule St. Benet* (verse) 1080 þus þe wisman sais perbi. *1542 BOORDE Dyetary* ix. (1870) 251 The wyse man sayth, that surfetes do kyll many men. *1587 T. NEWTON Herbal for Bible* I. 274 So doth the Wiseman [marg. Eccle. i. 24] vse it, whereby he promiset felicitie... to him that... embraceth Wisdom. *1611 Bible Transl. Pref.* ¶ 3 There is no new thing vnder the Sunne, saith the wiseman. *1649 WILKINS Beauty Provid.* 92 Like snow in Harvest (as the Wiseman speaks). *1659 Gentl. Calling* v. § 13 The wise-man hath assured us this, Prov. 11. 4. Riches profit not in the day of wrath. *c 1705 POPE Jan. & May* 153 Yet you pursue sage Solomon's advice, But, with the wiseman's leave, I must protest. *c 1750 New Whole Duty of Man* viii. The threatening of the Wise-man, who... declares, that the eye that mocketh his father, the ravens of the valley shall pick it out.

c. One of a body of men chosen for their sagacity as advisers in matters of state; a councillor. *collog.* in mod. use.

By 16th-18th century historians used in pl. to render *WITAN*.

c 1250 Gen. & Ex. 2649 Ðe king wið-stod & an wisman, He seide, 'ðe child doð als he can'. *1488 Cely Papers* (Camden) 169 That eueryche of thes contreys doo send... serten wyse-men w^t full auctoryte... for to coomen... w^t the Gauntnerse. *1502 ARNOLDE Chron.* (1811) p. xx, This yere wer chosen be wise men of the cite, xxxv men, sworn to mayntene the Assisis. *1591 LAMBARDE Archeion* (1635) 256 All the Acts are said to passe from the King, and his Wisemen both of the Clerגיע and Laitie. *1648 PRYNNE Plea for Lords* 3 Lordes and Peeres; anciently stiled Aldermen, Heretockes, Senators, Wisemen, by our Historians. *1714 FORTESCUE-ALAND Pref. Fortescue's Abs. & Lim. Mon.* 18 King Alfred... with the Thought, i.e. Advice of his Wisemen, or Parliament. *1959 J. BALOGH* in H. Thomas *Establishment* 98 In the negotiations on the finance of NATO rearmament in Lisbon the British representative 'wise man' accepted a contribution wholly out of line with the relative capacities to bear the burden. *1969 D. ACHESON Present at Creation* xxxi. 277 Lester Pearson has continually urged the council to set up committees of 'wise men' to find a use for it [sc. Article 2 of the North Atlantic Treaty]. *1973 Times* 5 May 4/4 The appointment of two independent 'wise men' by the United States and the European Community to prepare the ground for the forthcoming round of international trade talks, was suggested. *1983 Times* 24 Feb. 6/8 A socialist leader... has been nominated to the elite body of nine 'wise men' who form France's Constitutional Council. *1984 Times* 29 Oct. 1/3 The Gaddafi affair... is unlikely to go away as quickly as the TUC's 'four wise men' monitoring the dispute would wish.

3. A man versed or skilled in hidden arts, as magic, witchcraft, and the like; a magician, wizard; *spec.* applied in biblical versions and allusions to the three Oriental astrologers or Magi (see *MAGUS* 2) who came to worship the infant Jesus. In general sense now *dial.* or *vulgar* (cf. *WISE* *WOMAN* 1).

1382 WYCLIF Matt. ii. 1 When Jhesus was born in Bethlem... lool kyngis, or wijs men [1388 astronomyes; Vulg. *Magi*], camen for the cest. *1552 LATIMER Sermon. Lincs.* v. (1562) 100 b, When we be in trouble, or sicknes, or lose any thing: we runne hither and thither to wyssardes, or sorcerers, whome we call wyse men. *1561 S. WYTHERS tr. Calvin's Treat. Relics* Givb, Y^e wysmen which came to worshiþe our lord Iesus after his natiuitie. *1573 TWYNE Æneid., Life Virgil* A 3, That he was at the first couenaunt seruau^t w^t a traueiling wyseman. *1595 PEELE Old Wives T.* (facs.) C 1 b, I pray you tell where the wise man the Coniurer dwells? *1612 COTTA Discov. Dang. Pract. Phys.* i. ix. 71 A sort of practitioners, whom our custome... doth call wisemen and wisewomen, reputed a kind of good... harmles witches or wisards, who by good words... promise to allay... duels, practises of other witches, and the forces of many diseases. *1731 Flying Post* 29 Apr. 2/1 George Raunsforth, a reputed Coniurer, or (as the Country People call him) a Wise Man. *1802 R. ANDERSON Cumbld. Ball.* 39 The wise man lives nit far frae this... He telt Nan Dobson whee she'd wed. *1839* [see *MAGUS* 2].

4. (old) *wise man:* an archetypal figure appearing in myths, folklore, etc., representing wisdom or meaning, *esp.* in the theory of C. G. Jung, one of the archetypes of the collective unconscious; cf. *wise old man* s.v. *WISE* *a.* (*sb.* 3, *adv.*) 1 a.

1692 W. SALMON tr. 'Hermes Trismegistus' in *Practical Physick* v. 203/1 But if thou shalt say, that Wisdom or the Wise Man does Rule or Command among all Mankind. *1940 S. DELL tr. Jung's Integration of Personality* iii. 87 The magician is the archetype of the old wise man. *Ibid.* 88, I have been content to call it the archetype of the old wise man or of meaning. *1973 J. SINGER Boundaries of Soul* x. 262 The archetype of the mana-personality, an Old Wise Man whose power is born of understanding the timeless life processes.

wisen, obs. form of *WIZEN* *v.*

wiseness ('waiznis). *rare.* [f. *WISE* *a.* + *-NESS*. Cf. *OE. unwisnes*.] The quality of being wise; wisdom; occas. *ironical*.

c 1320 Cast. Love 292 To vchone sunderlyng He 3af a dolo of... his wysnesse. *1387-8 T. Usk Test. Love* II. vi. (Skeat) l. 119 For his goodness and wysnesse wolt thou nat do him worship? *1579 E. K. Ded. to Spenser's Sheph. Cal.* § 1 His morall wisenesse. *1602 SHAKS. Ham.* v. i. 286 Yet haue I something in me dangerous, Which let thy wysnesse feare. *1634 MASSINGER Very Woman* III. ii, Your wives wonderful

wisenesse. *1796 MME. D'ARBLAY Camilla* VII. viii, Which is a wiseness that does honour to her education. *1820 COLERIDGE in Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 629 This chilly, doubting, qualifying *wisenesse*. *1907 Sat. Rev.* 8 June 702/2 This report... is full of touches that illustrate his wisenesse.

† *right wiseness*, *erron.* division of *right-wiseness*, *RIGHTEOUSNESS*.

1447 Shillingford Lett. (Camden) 134 Of your grete right wisnesse and speciall grace. *1493 Festivall* (W. de W. 1515) 49 Come to this byleve by doynge of werkes of ryght wysenes. *15.. New Notbroune Mayd* 172 in Hazl. *E.P.P.* III. 8 By ryght wysenes. *1638 Dial. on Laus of Eng.* I. xv. 26 b, Truth in his word, & right wisenes in his deed.

wisenheimer ('waizənhaime(r)). *U.S. slang.* Also *weisen-*, *wise-*. [f. *WISE* *a.* + *-enheimer*, as in German names such as *Oppenheimer*.] A wisecrack, a 'clever dick'. Also *attrib.* or as *adj.*

1904 R. L. MCCARDELL Show Girl & her Friends 51 He wants to know some good way to reduce his weight... You don't know any such a way? No? Why, I thought you was a wiseheimer. *1919 MENCKEN Amer. Lang.* v. 151 Several years ago *-heimer* had a great vogue in slang, and was rapidly done to death. But *wiseheimer* remains in colloquial use as a facetious synonym for *smart-aleck*, and after awhile it may gradually acquire dignity. *1919 National Police Gaz.* (U.S.) 4 Jan. 3/1 Cawkins... like a true Wisenheimer, considered the gentle, goosey kind of a beautiful girl the most appetizing. *1922 S. LEWIS Babbitt* xxiv. 287 The wisenheimers grab a look at a fellow's nails when they want to tell if he's a tinhorn or a real gent! *1937 Amer. Speech* XII. 9/2 Some wiseheimer American newspaper man has picked this up and tagged it onto President Hoover. *1957 J. D. SALINGER Franny & Zooey* (1964) 65 We were nervous... at the statistics on child pedants and academic weisenheimers who grow up into faculty-recreation-room savants. *1959 Washington Post* 26 Dec. A19/2 Then some wisenheimer from the agency decided we needed a trailer. *1975 Times Lit. Suppl.* 21 Feb. 185/1 The wisenheimer who gets his ornate come-uppance. *1977 M. BABSON Murder, Murder, Little Star* vii. 50, I shoulda listened to her. But... I was too wisenheimer.

wisent ('wizənt). *Antiq.* [a. G. *wisent* (OHG. *wisunt*): see *BISON*.] The aurochs.

1866 J. E. LEE tr. F. Keller's Lake Dwellings 356 The urus... as well as the bison (or wisent)... are found to have been the most abundant animals in the forests of the stone age. *1889 I. TAYLOR Orig. Aryans* iii. 152. *1893 LYDEKKER Horns & Hoofs* 31 The true, or European, bison... also known as the wisent or zubr.

wise woman. (For the general sense 'a woman who is wise' see *WISE* *a.* 1.)

1. A woman skilled in magic or hidden arts; a female magician, soothsayer, etc.; a witch, sorceress; *esp.* a harmless or beneficent one, who deals in charms against disease, misfortune, or malignant witchcraft. Now *dial.* or *arch*.

1382 WYCLIF 2 Sam. xiv. 2 Joab... sente to Thekum, and took thens a wise woman. *1552 HULOET*, Wise woman that telleth fortune. *1598 SHAKS. Merry W.* IV. v. 27 Was't not the Wise-woman of Brainford? *1601 W. PERCY Cuckqueanes & Cuckolds Errants* v. vi. (Roxb.) 74, I haue haunted a wise woman of our Parish in Maldon, hath taught mee the spell of eury each of them. *1612* [see *WISEMAN* 3]. *1653 H. MORE Antid. Ath.* III. vii. § 8 (1712) 107 The help and skill of the Witch or Wise-woman. *1828 HONE Table Bk.* II. 777 An old woman... who was... accounted a wise woman, and a practiser of the 'art that none may name'. *1875* in Miss Jackson *Shropsh. Folk-lore* (1883) 146, I asked him if Mrs. P— was a witch? He answered, she was a wise woman, and only used her knowledge to stop other things doing wrong. *1885 A. H. BULLEN in Dict. Nat. Biog.* I. 112/2 In his extremity he sought the assistance of a wisewoman, Alison Pearson, who treated him so successfully that he completely recovered. His enemies ascribed his cure to witchcraft.

2. A midwife (= *F. sage-femme*): cf. *SAGE* *a.* 2 b. *1821 SCOTT Kenilw.* xxiv, 'O, what, you have got the wise woman, then?' said Varney.

wish (wiʃ), *sb.* 1 [f. *WISH* *v.*, q.v. for forms.]

1. a. An instance of wishing; a feeling in the mind directed towards something which one believes would give satisfaction if attained, possessed, or realized. (With *constr.* as in *WISH* *v.* 1 (b), (c), (d).)

Most commonly denoting a desire for something not attainable by one's own effort, felt in the mind but not impelling to action; a passive or inactive desire.

The ordinary word for this affection of the mind; less emphatic than *craving*, *longing*, or *yearning*, but including these as particular cases.

1390 GOWER Conf. III. 254 Bot if mi wisshes myhte auale, I wolde it were a groundles pet. *c 1440 Promp. Parv.* 535/1 Wusche, or wuschynge, *exoptacio*. *c 1480 HENRYSON Prays of Aige* 6 My wys Of al þis world to mak me lord & kyng. *1530 PALSGR.* 289/2 Wysshe desyre, *souhait*. *1591 SHAKS. Two Gent.* I. iii. 62 As one relying on your Lordships will, And not depending on his friendly wish. *1597 — 2 Hen. IV.* iv. v. 93 Thy wish was Father (Harry) to that thought. *1600 DEKKER Old Fortunatus* D 2 b, This Hat... clapt vpon my head, I (onely with a wish) am through the ayre, Transported in a moment ouer Seas. *1648 FANSHAWE II Pastor Fido* II. iv. 64 Fortune beyond my wish hath favoured me. *1694 ATTERBURY Sermon, Prov.* xiv. 6 (1726) I. 191 He comes with strong Wishes that he may find it all a Mistake. *1750 GRAY Elegy* 74 Their sober wishes never learn'd to stray. *1751 JOHNSON Rambler* No. 178 ¶ 12 The whole world is put in motion by the wish for riches, and the dread of poverty. *1825 SCOTT Betrothed* v, Form but a wish for her advantage, and it shall be fulfilled. *1850 TENNYSON In Mem.* LV. 1 The wish, that of the living whole No life may fail beyond the grave. *Ibid.* xc. 24, I find not yet one lonely thought That cries against my wish for thee. *1850 G. C. LEWIS Lett.* (1870) 223 He... has no wish to be a Church

dignitary. 1876 MOZLEY *Univ. Serm.* xi. 213 The power of prayer . . . is . . . the power of strong wishes.

Proverbs. 1665 WITHER *Lord's Prayer* 50 If (as the Proverb is) wishes were Thrushes, we might all eat Birds. 1670 RAY *Prov.* 157 If wishes would bide, beggars would ride. 1721 KELLY *Sc. Prov.* 178 If Wishes were Horses, Beggars would ride. 1880 MEREDITH *Tragic Com.* (1881) 89 He had a saying: Two wishes make a will.

†b. in generalized use: Desire. *Obs. rare*.

c. 1430 *Hymns Virgin* (1867) 62 Pride . . . zeueþ but woo & wyssche to wage. a 1716 SOUTH *Serm.*, Matt. xxvi. 41 (1717) VI. 416 Prayer . . . was never designed to supply the room of Watchfulness, or to make Wish instead of Endeavour.

c. In phrases with prepositions. †with or upon one's wish or wishes, †at wish, according to one's wish, just as one wishes; in readiness for one as one wishes, at one's disposal (= at will, WILL sb.¹ 15 b, c). †at high wish, at the height of the fulfilment of one's wishes. to (one's) wish (rarely wishes), as one wishes; esp. to the full extent of one's desire, as much as one wishes. (Now rare or Obs.) to a wish (Sc.), †till a wish, just as one would wish, perfectly, exactly.

13.. *Cursor M.* 23412 All þat wit-standand þe cs Thoru sal þou thril it wit þi wiss [Gött. Thoru sal þou thril wid þi suiftnes]. 1390 GOWER *Conf. I.* 330, I have ben ofte moeved so, That with my wishes if I myhte, . . . I hadde storven in a day. *Ibid.* II. 39 He ne wol no travail take To ryde for his ladi sake, Bot liveth al upon his wishes. c 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 847 All thus thir hathillis in hall heirly remanit, With all welthis at wiss. c 1489 CAXTON *Blanchardyn* ix. 37 Well sytting on horsbacke, and tyl a wysshe wel shapen of alle membres. a 1542 WYATT *Poems*, 'Unstable Dream' 13 Where it was at wysshe it could not remain. a 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* (Arb.) 40 Though a child haue all the giftes of nature at wishe. 1586 WHITNEY *Choice Emblems* 144 [He] to his wishe, of pilottes made his choise. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* III. ii. 271 He comes vpon a wish. 1607 — *Timon* IV. iii. 245 The one is filling still, neuer compleat; The other, at high wish. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* IX. 423 When to his wish, Beyond his hope, Eve separate he spies. a 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* VIII. §153 Though the relief of Banbury succeeded to wish, yet the King paid dear for it soon after. 1779 FORREST *Voy. N. Guinea* 56 The people, who assisted us so opportunely, were rewarded to their wish. 1787 [J. BEATTIE] *Scotticisms* 106 Every thing succeeds to a wish. 1823 BYRON *Juan* xv. lxxviii. A dish Of which perhaps the cookery rather varies, So every one may dress it to his wish.

2. a. A desire expressed in words, or the expression of such; sometimes nearly = 'request': = DESIRE sb. 4. (Cf. WISH v. 3-5.)

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VIII. ix. 31 The wyssis and awowis . . . By women and the matronys doublit were. a 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lxxxiv. 264 He said 'I wysshe them here on this table'. He had no sooner made his wysshe but they were set on the table. 1598 J. MELVILLE *Autob. & Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 443 My opinioin and wis was, ther should be na general meittings. 1714 POPE *Let. to Jervas* 27 Aug., I admire your whig principles of resistance exceedingly, in the spirit of the Barcelonians; I join in your wish for them. 1819 SHELLEY *Cenci* i. iii. 27 One supplication, one desire, one hope, That he would grant a wish for his two sons. 1908 R. BAGOT *A. Cuthbert* xxvi. 339 At Anthony's wish she wore the Cuthbert diamonds.

b. *spec.* An expression of desire for another's welfare: often as a farewell greeting. Usually, now always, in pl.

1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II.* i. iii. 94 Take from my mouth, the wish of happy years. 1601 — *All's Well* i. i. 68 Maddam I desire your holic wishes. 1627 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Armado* Ep. Ded., With my best wishes for the perpetuity of your . . . felicity. 1753 POPE *Let. Sept.*, Wks. 1741 II. 148 Pray tell him my best wishes for his health and long life. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* i. xxv. 177 We quitted Chamouni, bearing with us the good wishes of a portion of its inhabitants. 1833 D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* v. I know nothing about it, Tom, . . . but you have my best wishes.

c. An imprecation, a malediction. *Obs. or dial.*

1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* III. ii. 91 Blister'd be thy tongue For such a wish, he was not borne to shame. 1594 — *Rich. III.* IV. i. 72 This was my Wish: Be thou (quoth I) accurst. 1820 MARMALADE *Clyde* x. in *Edin. Mag.* VI. 423, I flang the renyie on his neck With a wiss that sould nae been. 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampton. Gloss.* s.v., 'He took a many wishes', was an expression used by a witness in the Sessions Court at Northampton.

3. *transf.* An object of desire; what one wishes or wishes for: = DESIRE sb. 5.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 10406 þai þat stad er in þair blis, Witvten want has alle þair wis. c 1400 MAUNDEV. xvii. [xiii.] (1919) 97 þat faire lady schal zeuen him . . . the first wyssche þat he wil wyssche of ertly things. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* IV. ii. 93 *Sil.* What's your will? *Pro.* That I may compass yours. *Sil.* You haue your wish. 1611 — *Cymb.* III. v. 20 Your valiant Britaines haue their wishes in it. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* VIII. 451 Thy fit help, thy other self, Thy wish, exactly to thy hearts desire. 1713 ADDISON *Cato* IV. iii. 80 My joy! my best below'd! my only wish! [1761] FOOTE *Lyar* i. ii. (1786) 15 Surely, the wish of every decent woman is to be unnotic'd in public. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 566 The wish of the government was that he should be executed in England.]

4. *Comb.*: wish book *N. Amer. slang*, a mail-order catalogue; wish card *rare*, in fortune-telling, a card which predicts the attainment of a desired end; wish-dream [cf. G. *Wunschtraum*], a dream or fantasy that reflects some hidden wish; also *attrib.*; wish list, a list of desired objects or occurrences; wish-thinking = *wishful thinking* s.v. WISHFUL a. 2 a; wish-wife [after ON. *óskmæz* (see WISHMAY)], a light woman.

1933 *Amer. Speech* VIII. 32/1 *Wishbook, a mail-order catalogue. 1971 *Alberta Hist. Rev.* Summer 25/1 That was when we would look at our 'Wish Book', the mail order

catalogue, until it was out of date, and then tear the pages out in the 'House of Parliament'. 1922 JOYCE *Ulysses* 761 I'll throw them the 1st thing in the morning till I see if the *wishcard comes out. 1934 R. CAMPBELL *Broken Record* i. 9 *Wish-dreams might account for this desire to 'headlong-hall' me into the next world. 1945 KOESTLER *Yogi & Commissar* i. iii. 31 She is not necessarily the wishdream-girl of suburban circulating libraries. 1953 *Encounter* Nov. 25/2 The wish-dream world of the Stockholm peace campaigner. 1966 *New Scientist* 28 July 222/1 Black gold in the back lot must be the standard rags-to-riches wishdream in the United States. 1972 *Times* 30 May 19/2 It had a presently confidential *wish list' of programmes it would like to see abandoned. 1976 *National Observer* (U.S.) 10 July 9/3 Wholesale replacement of the nation's taxi fleet is hardly at the top of operators' wish lists. 1930 J. JASTROW *Piloting your Life* 170 It would take not a chapter but a volume to describe all the varieties of impediments of thought. If reduced to a schedule they might read like this: . . . *Wish Thinking, believing what you hope or want to be true; [etc.]. 1945 R. KNOX *God & Atom* viii. 115 Most people who are capable of thinking, and are not deceived by wish-thinking, agree that the world is in ferment. 1958 J. LODWICK *Bid Soldiers Shoot* viii. 268 In matters of wish-thinking . . . the Victor of the Pacific, MacArthur, had met his match. 1886 CORBETT *Fall of Asgard* I. 227 Her wouldst thou profane as though she were some *wish-wife.

wish (wɪʃ), sb.² local (now Sussex). [OE. *wisc*, corresp. to OLG. *wisc* (in place-names), (M)LG. *wisch(e)*, *wisk(e)*, repr. OTeut. **wisko-*, f. *wais-*: *wis-*, whence OE. *wás* OOZE, G. *wiese* meadow.] A piece of meadow, now of marshy meadow; a piece of flat ground lying in the bend of a river and thus liable to be flooded.

898 in *Birch Cart. Sax.* II. 219 Concedo . . . terram . . . in loco qui dicitur Fearnleag & an miclan wisse vi æceres mæde. c 1150 in *Kemble Cod. Dipl.* III. 175 To stucan wisc æt ðæne mearcbeorh. 1516-17 *Ledger Bk. Battle Abbey in Trans. Philol. Soc.* 1895-8 542 Menewyssh . . . Borderswyssh . . . Hodisdaliswyssh. a 1600 in *Sussex Archæol. Collect.* (1851) IV. 306 A true & certine note how y^e Drinker dooth faule to every-mans lande or yard wishe in the parische of Kingston, nigh Lewis, at y^e time of trading of y^e wishe. 1651 *Ibid.* (1872) XXIV. 282 Lands settled upon her by the name of Marshland, called Castle Wish als Colbrands lying within the parish of Westham. 1696-7 *Ibid.* (1849) II. 121 Y^e two acres croppes in y^e Northwisch. 1850 *Ibid.* IV. 305 In both these parishes [sc. Lewes and Southease] were particular brooks [i.e. marshes] called Wishes, and in each also there was a small piece of brookland called the Drinker. 1857 *Ibid.* IX. 156 'The Wish' in East Bourn, close to the sea.

wish, a. (*dial.*): see WISHT.

wish (wɪʃ), v. Pa. t. and pa. pple. wished (wɪʃt). Forms: a. 1 wyscan, wiscan, 3-5 wusshe, 4-5 wysche, (7 Sc.) wische, 4-6 wisshe, 5-6 wys(s)he, (3 wusse, wisse, 4 wussche, whusshe, wiche, wesche, wesse, 5 wusche, wiesshe, wosshe, weesshe, 6 wys(c)h, wishe, whysshe, wyszhe), 6-wish. β. Sc. (and north.) 4-6 wisse, wis, 4-9 wiss, 6 wys(s), whiss, 6-7 viss, 7 wosse, 9 wuss. Pa. t. 1 wyscte, wiscte, 5 wyst, weste, 6 (9) wisht; 3 wissede, etc., 4-6 wissched, 5-6 Sc. wissit, etc., 6-wished. Pa. pple. 3 iwist, 6 wysht, 6-8 wisht; 4-6 wissched, etc., 6-wished. [OE. *wýscan* = OHG. *wunsken* (MHG., G. *wünschen*), ON. *æskja* (MSw. *yskia*, Sw. *önska*, Da. *önske*):—OTeut. **wunskjan*, f. **wunskā-*, -skō- (represented by OE. *wúsc*, OHG. *wunsc*, MHG., G. *wunsch*, ON. *ósk*); cf. Skr. *vāñchā*:—**wānskā-*: f. base *wen-* to hold dear, love, desire, whence also WINE sb.², WIN sb.², WEEN sb. and v., WONE.

Another form of the stem appears in (M)Du. *wensch*: see WINZ².]

1. a. *trans.* To have or feel a wish for; to desire.

The ordinary word for this; now always less emphatic than the synonyms *covet*, *crave*, *long* (*for*), *yearn* (*for*): in earlier use occas. in the sense of these. Sometimes softened by *could* or *should* (*would*): cf. CAN v.¹ 7, SHALL v. 19 c, WILL v.¹ 40 b; or strengthened before a dependent clause (b, c) by such phrases as *to God*, *to goodness*, *to heaven*.

(a) with simple obj. (in OE. usually in the genitive). Now *dial.*; superseded in standard English by *wish for* (see 2), or colloq. in certain contexts by *want* (WANT v. 5).

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past.* C. i. 29 Ne cūð he ðæt forðdyðe he ænegum men ðæs wyscte oððe wilode. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 103 [Hic] his tocyms wyscton. c 1000 ÆLFRED *Hom.* I. 594 Ic sceal his rode sigor swiðor wiscan ðonne ondrædan. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 165 De sune wussched þe fader deað, ar his dai came. 13.. E.E. *Allit. P.* A. 14 Ofte haf I wayted wyschande þat wele. c 1470 HENRY WALLACE IX. 1413 Sum wald haiff had Boyd at the suerd's lenth; Sum wyst [ed. 1570 wissit] Lundy. c 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xxiii. 496 Now have I that I desired and wyssched soo longe. a 1510 DOUGLAS *K. Hart* II. 3 [He] wantis nocht in ward, that he wald wis. 1567 Gude & Godlie B. (S.T.S.) 9 Thy nyctbouris wyfe . . . Thow couet not to the, nor wis His hors, his oxe, [etc.] 1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 116 Causing you thinke the night long and wish the daylight. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* III. i. 54, I would not wish Any Companion in the world but you. 1651 HOBBS *Leviath.* II. xxvii. 159 Not as wishing liberty of private revenges. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* VI. lxxxiii. 305, I charge you, . . . as you wish my peace, not to say anything of a letter you have from me. 1816 SCOTT *Bl. Dwarf* i, 'Wussing your health, sirs,' said the shepherd. 1819 SHELLEY *Cenci* i. ii. 40 You know My zeal for all you wish, sweet Beatrice. 1854 DICKENS *Hard T.* II. i. Would you wish a little more hot water, ma'am? 1901 W. R. H. TROWBRIDGE *Lett. her Mother to Eliz.* xxix. 144 [The maid] flew into a rage, and wanted to know if I wished a month's notice.

(b) with obj. clause with *may* or (formerly) pres. subj., occas. indic.: expressing a desire that the event may happen or that the fact may prove to be so, and often implying some want of confidence or fear of the opposite (now commonly expressed by *hope*: see HOPE v. 3 b). Also expressing a request (see 5).

a 1000 *Deor* 25 Secg monig . . . wyscte geneahhe þæt þæs cynyrces ofercumen wære. c 1000 ÆLFRED *Gen.* xvii. 18 Ic wisse þæt Ismahel lybbe ætforan ðe. a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. x. (1912) 208, I wish that it may not prove ominous foretoken of misfortune. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* IV. iii. 41, I wish all good befortune you. 1649 in *Spalding Club Misc.* (1852) V. 381, I heartellie wosse that anie that lowes religione . . . keepe themselves free of anie accessione . . . to swche wnhape men. 1661 P. HENRY *Diaries & Lett.* (1882) 86, I wish I suffer no prejudice by it. 1691 SHADWELL *Scourers* IV, I wish the house is not robb'd. 1715 ADDISON *Drummer* II. i, He say's he's a Conjuror, but he looks very suspicious; I wish he ben't a Jesuit. 1756 *Monitor* No. 35. I. 325 He is certainly bewitched: I wish the old hag upon the green has done him no mischief. 1808 JANE AUSTEN *Lett.* (1884) II. 6 She hears that Miss Bigg is to be married in a fortnight. I wish it may be so. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* xxi, I wish we have not got King Stork, instead of King Log. 1860 EMILY EDEN *Semi-attached Couple* xii, Mrs. Tomkinson wished to goodness there might soon be . . . 'a little staying company' in the house. 1872 GEO. ELIOT in J. W. Cross *Life* (1885) III. 157, I wish that you may happen to know her.

(c) with obj. clause with past subj. (or indic., e.g. *was* for *were*): expressing an unrealized or unrealizable desire (see also WILL v.¹ 46), or in mod. use sometimes a mild request (cf. 5). to wish to God: to wish intensely.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 93 Hic . . . wyscāþ þæt hie næfre næron acennede from fæder ne from meder. c 1000 ÆLFRED *Deut.* xxxii. 29 Ic wisse ðæt hi wiston & undergeaton . . . hyra ende [Vulg. *utinam saperent*]. 1340 *Ayenb.* 56 Hi wessep þet hi heden nykken of crane and wombe of cou. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. v. 92 þenne I wussche hit weore myn. c 1385 CHAUCER *L.G.W.* 755 *Thisbe*, Thys wall they woldyn threite And wysche to god hyt were doun ybete. 1476 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) II. 11 Wherefore I wyst fulle hertly dyuerse tymeþ þæt þe hadde ben here. a 1562 G. CAVENTISH *Poems* (1825) II. 40 Therfor my frayltie I may both curse and ban, Whissyn to God I had never known man. 1579 LYLly *Euphues* 31, I wish my wish were as effectually ended as it is heartely looked for. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* I. v. 26 That which rather thou do'st feare to doe, Then wishest should be vndone. 1624 USSHER *Lett.* (1686) 315, I could wish that Mr. Lisle would take some pains in translating the Saxon Annals into our English Tongue. 1681 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. 1. 133, I haue gotten a tasch upon me that I wisch from my hart it was well of my handes to your satisfaction. 1711 I could wish [see CAN v.¹ 7]. 1817 BYRON *Let. to Moore* 25 Mar., Heigh ho! I wish I was drunk—but I have nothing but this damned barley-water before me. 1833 TENNYSON *May Queen, New Year's Eve* iv, I wish the snow would melt . . . I long to see a flower so. 1885 'F. ANSTAY' *Tinted Venus* ii. 24, 'I wish to heaven I did,' cried the manager. 1890 [see GOODNESS §]. 1932 'N. SHUTE' *Lonely Road* vii. 178, I wish to God we'd gone back to the boat. 1941 L. A. G. STRONG *Bay* 7, I wish to God I knew how to begin. 1976 *Daily Mirror* 11 Mar. 7/2 Christopher . . . has been sent to Borstal . . . His mother said: 'I wish to God we had checked up on him.'

(d) with inf. as obj. (usually, now always, with to).

Occas. with admixture of the idea of intention or request for permission (cf. 5), as 'I wish to say a few words'.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1060 He wisten him bergen fro ðe dead. 1390 GOWER *Conf. I.* 149 Sche wissmeth forto ben unbore. c 1450 *Merlin* vii. 113 So that the moste hardy of hem . . . sholde wiesshe to be at home in his owne contree. 1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* liii. 33, I wissitt to be The grytast erle, or duik, in France. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XII. xiv. 17 Wys now to fle vp to the starnis on hycht. 1560 *Bible* (Geneva) *Jonah* iv. 8 Ionah fainted, and wished in his heart to dye. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* II. i. 123, I neuer wish'd to see you sorry, now I trust I shall. 1630 MILTON *On Shakespear* 16 Kings for such a Tomb would wish to die. 1776 *Trial of Nundocomar* 23/2 Any body that wishes to see him may. 1850 MISS MULOCK *Olive* xxv, I wish to talk to you. 1876 MOZLEY *Univ. Serm.* xi. 213 If men really wish to be good, they will become good. 1893 *Law Times* XCV. 305/2 If she wished to be sure of her income she should of all things avoid dabbling in the shares of new companies.

(e) with acc. and inf., or in pass. with inf. (usually, now always, with to).

Sometimes expressing a request: see 5 b.

1538 STARKEY *England* II. i. (1878) 176 Aftur a maner . . . the wych I wold wysch to be put in vse wyth vs. c 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) xv. 39 Away I went, . . . Wissing all luvaris leill to haif sic chance. ? 1567 [M. PARKER] *Whole Psalter* cx. vii, Pursued to death, and wysht to sinke. a 1586 SIDNEY *Astr. & Stella* x, I rather wish thee climbe the Muses hill. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* IV. iii. 138 If you can pace your wisdom, In that good path that I would wish it go. 1657 J. SERGEANT *Schism Dispatch* 406, I love the Presbyterians so well as not to wish them renounce their reason. 1753-4 RICHARDSON *Grandison* I. xix. 130 [He said that] every man who saw me must wish me to be his. 1891 FARRAR *Darkn. & Dawn* xv, Nero . . . wished Junia Silana and Calvia Crispinilla to be of the party.

(f) with obj. and compl. (sb., adj., pple., advb. phrase): now chiefly in imprecations or the like.

14.. *How Plowman learned Paternoster* 152 in Hazl. E.P.P. I. 215 He wysshed them at the devyll therfore. 1477 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) II. 22, I thank you hertely þæt hyt plesyd you to wyshe me with you. c 1520 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 2306, I se well there is no better rede, But sygh, and sorowe, and wysse my selfe dede. 1532 TINDALE *Exp. Matt.* v-vii vii. (? 1550) 88 b, Who is so wel beloued . . . but that ther be ynow . . . that woulde, for hys good, wishe him to hel? a 1533 [see WISH sb.¹ 2]. 1579 LYLly *Euphues* (Arb.) 70, I wysshed my selfe heere. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* I. i. 14 Wish me partaker

in thy happinesse, When thou do'st meet good hap. 1605 — *Maeb.* v. viii. 49 Had I as many Sonnes, as I have haire, I would not wish them to a fairer death. 1621 [see FURTHER *adv.* 4b]. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 27 ¶2 We every day wish ourselves disengaged from its allurements. 1724 RAMSAY *Vision* ix, Mailpayers wiss it to the devil. 1797 JANE AUSTEN *Sense & Sensib.* xxxvii, We all wish her extremely happy. 1819 CRABBE *T. of Hall* xvii. 364 Perch that were wish'd to salmon for her sake. 1823 LAMB *Let. to Southey* 21 Nov., I wished both magazine and review at the bottom of the sea. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xxii, Let us remember James by name, and wish him happy. 1902 'VIOLET JACOB' *Sheep-Stealers* xi, She could only move uneasily on her seat, and wish him miles away.

(g) after *as* or *than*: often *ellipt.* (so also with *rel.*) for various constructions, esp. (c), (d), (e).

1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. clxiv. 83/1 The adventures of amours and of war, are more fortunate and maruelous, than any man canne thynke or wysse. 1530 PALSGR. 783/1, I am as well nowe, I thanke God, as I coulde wysse. 1560 *Bible* (Geneva) Ps. lxxiii. 7 They have more then heart can wish. 1698 COLLIER *Immor. Stage* 227 He... goes off as like a Town Spark as you would wish. 1750 GRAY *Elegy* Ep. 8 He gain'd from Heav'n ('twas all he wish'd) a friend. 1866 GEO. ELIOT *Felix Holt* i, Nothing had come just as she had wished. 1868 LOUISA M. ALCOTT *Little Women* xiii, You should do just what your grandfather wishes.

(h) in passive: esp. in predicative phr. *to be wished* = desirable.

1531 ELYOT *Gov.* II. ix, It is to be wished, that they, whiche... have any autortie, maye be like to the lawes, whiche in correctynge be ladde only by equitie. 1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* Ded., More to be wished and much more durable. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. i. 64 'Tis a consummation Deuoutly to be wish'd. 1697 DE FOE *Ess. Projects* 232 'Twere to be wish'd our Gentry were so much Lovers of Learning, that Birth might always be join'd with Capacity. 1788 CLARA REEVE *Exiles* II. 124 At length the day so long wished and expected came. 1876 *Jrnl. Soc. Arts* 2 June 708/1 The returns from the Cheltenham district were not so complete as might be wished. 1918 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 29 June 8/1 The first venture... was not, perhaps, as successful as could have been wished.

† b. *fig.* of a thing: *To 'require':* = DESIRE *v.* 3. 1600 ABBOT *Jonah* 599, I do not find that expositors speake so fully to the matter of this wind, as me seemeth this text doth wish.

2. *intr.* To have or feel a wish; in early use often, to long, yearn. a. with *after* (obs.), *for*: = 1 (a); also *indir. pass.* = 1 (h).

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 3 Men... wisten 3erne after ure laured ihesu cristes tocome. *Ibid.* 135 þu hauest longe iwist after strene, and god haueð herd pine bede. 13.. *Cursor M.* 23548 (Edinb.) Ilk man sal haf til his, Al þat he wil eftir wis. 1481 CAXTON *Myrr.* 107 The deth wold they haue and weesshe after it incessantly. 1526 TINDALE *Acts* xxvii. 29 They cast iiij. ancores out of the sterne: and wysshed for the daye. 1579 LYLly *Euphues* (Arb.) 69 By so much the more you are welcome, by how much the more you were wished for. 1740 RICHARDSON *Pamela* II. 163, I can only wish for more worthiness. 1757 ELIZ. GRIFFITH *Lett. Henry & Frances* (1767) I. 84, I wished for you... in vain all night, the life-long night. 1834 DICKENS *Sr. Boz, Boarding-ho.* ii, Having nothing to do and nothing to wish for, she naturally imagined she must be very ill. 1867 SPEDDING *Publ. & Authors* 75 Buy the volumes as they come out, if you wish for them.

b. *absol.* 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 50 Better to haue then wishe. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xii. 185 Than war I fane, bot all in vane, To wis and will nocht be. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 228 Quha can wiss aboute thir thrie? 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* I. iii. 218 If your selfe... Did euer, in so true a flame of liking, Wish chastly, and loue dearly. 1850 MISS MULOCK *Olive* xxi, It had been one of her childish superstitions always 'to wish at the new moon'. 1904 W. W. JACOBS *Dialstone Lane* iii. 37, 'I could see it at any time I wished', she said sharply. 'Well, wish now', entreated Mr. Tredgold.

c. *trans.* with cognate obj. c 1400 [see *Wish sb.* 1]. 1588 SHAKS. *L.L.L.* II. i. 179 Thy own wish wish I thee, in euery place. 1849 MRS. GASKELL *Lizzie Leigh*, etc. (1913) 426 Wishing all manner of idle wishes. 1914 'IAN HAY' *Knt. on Wheels* xi, If you wish a wish and then feel in my pocket, old lady, you may find something.

3. *trans.* To express a wish for; to say that one wishes... (with various const. as in 1); *spec.* to imprecate, invoke (an evil or curse).

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 308 Alexander ða wiscte: 'Eala gif ðu wære hund!' 1476 *Paston Lett.* Suppl. (1901) 149, I wysshed to hym that he and I hadde been at Norwyche. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 7 Than he cryeth out and wyssheth that he neuer had had eyes to se. 1560 *Bible* (Geneva) Job xxxi. 30 Nether haue I suffred my mouth to sinne, by wishing a curse vnto his soule. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich.* III. i. iii. 218 If Heauen haue any grievous plague in store, Exceeding those that I can wish vpon thee. 1673 CAVE *Prim. Chr.* III. i. 221 He was consumed by such a disease as he had wished upon himself. 1715 ATTERBURY *Serm., Matt.* xxvii. 25 (1734) I. 134 The profane Folly... of wishing that Damnation to ourselves, which we otherways but too well deserve. 1724 RAMSAY *Vision* xxvii, He... wischt I happyness might bruke. 1781 in *Jrnl. Friends Hist. Soc.* (1918) 72 She was senecable to the last... often wished she might be like her... D[ea]r Grandmother.

4. *spec.* (with to or simple object) To desire (something, usually good) for or on behalf of a person, etc.: esp. in formulae of greeting or expressions of goodwill; hence as in 3, to express such a wish for, esp. as a formal greeting:

e.g. to wish (one) good morning, good-bye (= BID *v.* 1 g), a merry Christmas, a happy New Year, many happy returns of the day (see RETURN *sb.* 2 b), etc.; also *intr.* in *to wish (one) well* (see WELL *adv.* 2 d), and *intr.* or *trans.* (usually with neg.) in *to wish (one) ill* (where ill may be taken as *adv.* or *sb.*). *to wish (one) joy* of see JOY *sb.* 9 d.

c 900 *Laws Alfred* Introd. xlix. §3 Ða apostolas & þa eldran broðor hælo eow wyscað. c 1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* II. 406, I bidde wisshe yow no more sorwe. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. xx. 328 þer ne is syk ne sory... þat he ne may... þoþe wusshen and wylnen Alþe manere of men mercy and for-geuenesse. 1516 *State Papers Hen. VIII.* VI. 50 Not to thintent he schulde have hys parte off thys intolerable trouble... for I wolde not wysche itt to a dogge. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* cxxix. 8 We wish you good lucke in the name of the Lorde. — *Job* xxxi. 30, I neuer suffred my mouth to do soch a sinne, as to wyssh him euell. 1552 HULOET, Wyshe ille to any thinge, *fascino.* 1579 LYLly *Euphues* (Arb.) 97, I would neither wish thee a greater plague, nor him a deadlier poyson. a 1586 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 72, I will not wish vnto you... to be rimed to death. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* x. (S.T.S.) II. 359 To salute thame baith, wisse thame gude morne. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* v. i. 215 Let griefe and sorrow still embrace his heart, That doth not wish you ioy. 1623 HEMINGE & CONDELL *Shaks. Wks.* To Rdrs., And such Readers we wish him. c 1720 DE FOE *Mem. Cavalier* 1. 39 They wished the Swedes Success. 1816 JANE AUSTEN *Emma* x, I wish Jane Fairfax very well; but she tires me to death. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* vii, I have been prayed for, and wished well to, in your congregations. 1885 *Law Times* LXXIX. 345/2 [He] wished the officials good night, and left the room.

b. To desire, or express a desire for, the welfare or misfortune of (a person); only in *evil wished*, *ILL-WISH v.*, *WELL-WISHED*.

1577 HELLOWES *Guevara's Chron.* 325 All three were so euil wished in the Common wealth, that the least euill which they would them... was but death. 1604 BODLEY in *Bucclench MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 48, I leave you both as well wished, as if you were to enjoy the best wishes bestowed this new year's day in England.

5. In expressions of desire for something to be done by another, thus conveying a request; hence, to request, entreat; formerly sometimes, to bid, command: a. a thing or action (with various const. as in 1): cf. DESIRE *v.* 5.

a 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lxxxiii. 259 He came to Huon & wysshyd y^e fetters fro all there fete [orig. *soubhaita leurs fers hors de leurs iambes*]. 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* 38 To wishe of God to purge oure hartes from all filthines and vngodlie dealinge. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* ix. (S.T.S.) II. 236, I wisse rather... that in hope of barnes he take Margaret rather than Magdalen for his bedfallow. 1596 BACON *Max. Com. Law* ix. (1636) 36 The Statute of 27. H. 8. of uses, that wiseth that the *cestui que use* shall have the possession in quality and degree as hee had the use. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 1414 Brethren farewell, your company along I will not wish. a 1674 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* VIII. §272 To confer with lord Digby, who... should find the best way to make the earl of Antrim to communicate the affair to him, and to wish his assistance. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* xiv, Whatever we wished done was done with great civility and readiness. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 429, I wish that you would tell me about his death.

b. a person to do something: cf. DESIRE *v.* 6. 1583 STOCKER *Civ. Warres Lowe C.* IV. 55 [The] Captaine... wished them quietly departe, without their liked to be saluted with Cannon shotte. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* v. i. 79 *Duk.* You were not bid to speake. *Luc.* No... Nor wish'd to hold my peace. 1604 DEKKER & MIDDLETON *Honest Wh.* I. C2b, Hie to the Constable, And in all calme order wish him to attach them. 1716 SWIFT *Poems, Phyllis* 35 The Groom was wish'd to saddle Crop. 1854 DICKENS *Hard T.* II. i, Would you wish the gentleman to be shewn in, ma'am? 1859 RUSKIN *Two Paths* i. §35 There is another thing I wish you to notice specially in these statues.

† c. To invite, 'bid' (a person to a place). *Obs. rare.*

a 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lxxxiii. 259 He... causyd them to syt downe at his owne table that he had wysshyd thether [orig. *eut fait venir*].

6. To recommend (a person) to another, or to a place, etc. *Obs.* or *dial.*

orig. prob. belonging to *WIS v.* 1 2, to direct. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* I. i. 113 If I can by any meanes light on a fit man to teach her that wherein she delights, I will wish him to her father. 1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* I. iii, I was wish'd to your worship, by a gentleman... That say's you know mens planets. 1633 ROWLEY *Match at Mid-n.* IV. i, He says he was wisht to [a] very wealthy Widdow, but of you he has heard much Histories, that he will marry you. 1751 ELIZA HEYWOOD *Betsy Thoughtless* I. xvi. 196 Now I have been wished to several fine women, but my fancy gives the preference to you. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xxiii, She passed that interval of time in the lodging of a woman, an acquaintance to that person who had wished her to that place. 1846 BROCKETT *N.C. Gloss.* (ed. 3) s.v., Can you wish me to a customer?

7. To influence in a magical or occult way by wishing; to bewitch by a desire or imprecation. *dial.*

1848 MRS. GASKELL *Mary Barton* vii, We mun get him away from his mother. He cannot die while she's wishing him. 1865 TYLOR *Early Hist. Man.* vi. 134 When he hears that he has been 'wished,' he... takes to his bed at once.

8. To foist or impose (something or someone) on (to) someone; to endow with at another's wish.

1915 N. L. MCCLUNG *In Times like These* x. 164 Women have never chosen the liquor business... It has been wished on them. 1926 *Publishers' Weekly* 22 May 1725/1 Mr. Remington... has not been able to be with us... That is why we are able to wish that good job on him. 1934 E. WAUGH *Handful of Dust* i. 20 Who was the old girl who wished on me at that party last night? 1954 'N. SHUTE' *Slide Rule* 1 An unwanted kitten that they had wished on to my children. 1962 *Listener* 5 July 14/2 The plan was to build a much larger school than was needed, at the same time 'wishing' additional housing on the village to justify it. 1971 *Guardian* 9 Jan. 13/2 We owed money everywhere... I wouldn't wish that on any of today's young housewives. 1983 M. BARSON *Fool for Murder* xviii. 166 It really was most unfair of Uncle Wilmer to wish it on Wanda-Lu... He wasn't the one who'd have to keep the place tidy.

¶ *I wish*, corrupt form of *iwis*: see *WIS v.* 2

wish, var. *WIS v.* 1 *Obs.*

wisha ('wiʃə), *int.* *Anglo-Ir. colloq.* [ad. *Ir. mhuise* indeed (the unlenited form *muisse* gives anglicized *musha* MUSHA).] An exclamation indicating dismay, emphasis, or surprise.

1826 M. WILMOT *Let.* 29 Feb. (1935) 234 O 'wisha' 'wisha', shall I ever arrive at the ball I promised you! 1842 S. LOVER *Handy Andy* vi. 70 I'm afeard o' my life to go to bed!... Wisha! but I'd give the world it was mornin'. 1898 J. D. BRAYSHAW *Slum Silhouettes* 49 Oh, wisha! didn't he break the leg of me wid his stick? 1914 JOYCE *Dubliners* 157 'Wisha! wisha,' says I. 'A pound of chops... coming into the Mansion House.' 1936 'F. O'CONNOR' *Bones of Contention* 8 Wisha, for goodness' sake will you come down and leave the girl sleep? 1965 N. Munster *Antiquarian Jrnl.* IX. iv. 186 Wisha, I don't know what to say. 1978 'M. M. KAYE' *Far Pavilions* lviii. 812 Wisha, but it's a gloomy devil you are an' all.

wishable ('wiʃəb(ə)l), *a.* *rare.* [f. *WISH v.* + -ABLE.] That may be wished for; desirable.

1548 UDALL *Erasm. Par. Luke* iv. 20-24 The glad & wishable tidynge of saluacion. 1611 COTGR., *Souhaitable*,... wishable, desirable. 1905 W. A. ELLIS R. Wagner to M. Wesendonck 165 Wisdom is so excellent and wishable.

wish-bone. Also wishbone. [f. *WISH sb.* 1 + BONE *sb.*] = MERRYTHOUGHT (q.v. for reason of the name).

1860 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 3), Wish-Bone. 1884 ROE *Nat. Ser. Story* vi, If I bring you a canvas-back [duck], Amy, will you put the wish-bone over the door?

2. *Naut.* A boom composed of two halves that curve outward from the mast, on either side of the sail, and in again, the clew of the sail that lies between them being attached to the point where they meet aft. *Freq. attrib.*, designating a sail or a boat with such a boom.

1934 U. Fox *Sailing, Seamanship & Yacht Construction* 1. 54 (caption) Wishbone gaff. 1935 *Yachting Monthly* Feb. 306/1 The working sail area of the 'wishbone' ketch rig shown totals 2,794 sq. ft. 1954 D. H. C. PHILLIPS *Birt Rigs & Rigging of Yachts* ii. 60 The wishbone ketch is the result of combining an unusual form of staysail ketch rig devised by Mr. F. Fenger... with the wishbone spar invented by Nathaniel Herreshoff. 1958 *Times* 27 Oct. 10/6 The fishermen... were already launching their dug-out canoes, some under the traditional wish-bone sprit-sail. 1981 B. WEBB *Schult's Sailing Dict.* 327/1 Sailboards have wishbone booms. 1984 *Times* 25 Aug. 11 The next stop was to pick a point to steer for, ease the rig (the mast, sail and wishbone) towards me until I was looking through the transparent panel in the sail.

3. A wishbone-shaped element in the independent suspension of a motor vehicle, the two arms of which are hinged to the chassis and their join hinged to the wheel; *freq. attrib.*

1934 *Automobile Engineer* XXIV. 289/3 The American types... do not use the longitudinal radius links, and thus the wheel position depends entirely on the 'wishbone' link bearings. 1959 *Times* 27 Apr. (Rubber Industry Suppl.) p. vi/1 Such bushes are now almost universally used for springs, torque arms, and in some forms of wishbone suspension. 1983 'D. RUTHERFORD' *Stop at Nothing* ix. 165 It took me an hour and a half to put the Saab to rights. The front wishbone had been seriously distorted.

4. *U.S. Football.* Used *attrib.* and *absol.* to designate an offensive formation in which the full back lines up ahead of the half-backs in an alignment that resembles the shape of a wishbone.

1972 *N. Y. Times* 3 Nov. 48/2 Dartmouth's best hope lies in shutting off Yale's wishbone offense as engineered by Dick Jauron. 1974 *Spartanburg* (S. Carolina) *Herald-Jrnl.* 21 Apr. 134/3 The white team ran the wishbone that UCLA used last year. 1979 *Tucson* (Arizona) *Citizen* 20 Sept. 10D/3 The fullback in the Santa Rita Wishbone has averaged nearly 30 carries per game in the first two contests.

wishe, obs. pa. t. of WASH *v.*; obs. f. WISH.

wished (wɪʃt, *poet.* also 'wiʃɪd), *ppl. a.* [f. *WISH v.* + -ED¹.]

1. That is the object of a wish; desired, longed-for. Now *rare* exc. as in b.

15.. *Fickle Estate of Our Vncertain Lyfe* (MS. Rawl. poet. 112, lf. 10b), What if a day or A moneth or a yeaere Crowne thy delighes with a thowsand wisht contentinges? 1577 GRANGE *Golden Aphrod.* etc. Piv b, So friendly Venus is, so friendly Cupid was, That fancie brought hir soone, vnto my wished passe. 1583 MELBANCKE *Philotimus* C c ij, My wished friend, and welcomde guest. 1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* III. ii, We touch the shore Of wisht revenge. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* I. 208 While Night Invests the Sea, and wished Morn delays. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* VII. lxii. 221 At length... every thing is in the wished train. 1811 W. R. SPENCER *Poems* 17 Oh! why so late thy wish'd return? 1812 CARY *Dante, Par.* xxiii. 4 The bird... With her sweet brood; impatient to descry Their wished looks. 1906 CHARL. MANSFIELD *Girl & Gods* xxvii, Psyche... held out her hand in token of a wished farewell.

b. with *for*: cf. *WISH v.* 2 a.

1586 T. B. La Primaud. *Fr. Acad.* I. 1 The wished-for newes of peace. 1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* III. iv, When wished-for pleasures rise like morning light. 1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* I. xlv, Yet is she free—the spoiler's wish'd-for prey! 1888 BURGON *Lives* 12 Gd. Men I. i. 32 [They] declared their inability to render America the wished for assistance.

2. Entertained as a wish: cf. *WISH v.* 2 c. *rare.* 1580 LYLly *Euphues* (Arb.) 467 Hauing thus made ech other priuie to our wished desires.

wishedly ('wɪʃdli), *adv.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* [f. WISHED *ppl.* a. + -LY².] As is or was wished; according to desire.

1573 TWYNE *Æneid.* x. Ee3, Like as wishedly when winds in sommer season blowe. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 620 What could have happened unto him more wishedly? 1624 CAPT. J. SMITH *Virginia* v. 174 Sir George Somers...most wishedly and happily descried land. 1633 HEYWOOD *Eng. Trav.* iv. G 4 b, Of all my friends to me Most wishedly, you are welcome.

wisher ('wɪʃə(r)). Now *rare*. [f. WISH *v.* + -ER¹.] One who wishes.

† *wishers and woulders*: see WOULD. 15... *Parl. Byrdes* 91 in Hazl. *E.P.P.* III. 171 Wysshers want wyll. a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (1922) 15 Many times he wished himself the back of an Asse, ... (an unfortunate wisher, for if he had as well wished the head, it had bene granted him). 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* iv. xv. 37 Wishers were euer Fooles. 1670 EACHARD *Cont. Clergy* To Rdr., I am...only an honest and hearty wisher, that the best of our clergy might forever continue as they are. 1760 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* III. i, The safest way...to take off the force of the wish, is...to...wish the wisher something in return. 1846 DENHAM *Prov.* (Percy Soc.) 31 A March wisher is never a good fisher. 1905 FLOR. MAYBRICK *My Fifteen Lost Yrs.* 133 If a prisoner has any complaint to make or wishes to seek advice, she asks to have her name put down to see the governor. She is then termed a 'wisher' and is 'seen' by him in his office in the presence of the chief matron.

b. qualified by *evil, ill, well* (see ILL-WISHER, WELL-WISHER).

1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* II. lxxxviii. (1674) 241 To take an evil wishers life away. 1746 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Mann* 1 Aug., When the Peers were going to vote Lord Foley withdrew as too well a wisher.

wishful ('wɪʃfʊl), *a.* [f. WISH *sb.*¹ + -FUL.]

† 1. Such as is, or is to be, wished; desirable; desired, longed-for. (Cf. DESIROUS 5.) *Obs.*

1523 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 31 This so glorious, so profyttable and so wysshfull an enterpryse. 1565 STAPLETON tr. *Bede's Hist. Ch. Eng.* 110 We have receiued your excellencies wishfull letters. 1596 SPENSER *F.Q.* vi. xi. 50 The ioyous light, Whereof she long had lackt the wishfull sight. c 1616 CHAPMAN *Homers Hymn Hermes* 185 Many a field Pleasant and wishful. c 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* I. vi. 4 Having so wishful an Opportunity...I could not but send you this Friendly Salute.

2. a. Of the eye or look, tone, feeling, etc.: Full of desire; longing, yearning, wistful. (Cf. DESIROUS 2.)

1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI.* III. i. 14 To greet mine owne Land with my wishfull sight. 1711 *Spectator* No. 250 ¶ 6 You can't behold a covetous Spirit walk by a Goldsmith's Shop without casting a wishful Eye at the Heaps upon the Counter. 1739 C. WESLEY *Hymn*, Hail the Day that sees Him rise, Ravish'd from our wishful Eyes. 1810 E. D. CLARKE *Trav. Russia* (1839) 5/1 I have probably happened to others, as to myself, to cast an eye of wishful curiosity towards the eastern boundaries of Europe. 1827 C. BRIDGES *Exp. Ps. cxix.* verse 67. 173 The forlorn wandering child casting a wishful, penitent look towards his Father's house.

(b) In mod. use in weaker sense: expressing or indicative of a wish; chiefly in *wishful thinking*, thinking, esp. belief or expectation, that is influenced by one's wishes to the extent that relevant (consciously) known facts are (subconsciously) ignored or distorted; also as *adj.*; so *wishful thinker*.

1932 *Sat. Rev. Lit.* 2 July 817/4 At two vitally important points Glenn Frank's incisive analysis fades away in a vague realm of hope or even of wishful thinking. 1940 *Illustr. London News* CXCVI. 498/2 The possibility of any relief in that direction can only exist in the minds of wishful-thinkers. 1940 L. D. WEATHERHEAD *This is Victory* II. 58, I do not mean that that which is believed has no other support than man's wishful thinking. 1941 AUDEN *New Year Letter* I. 17 Twelve months ago in Brussels I had the same wishful-thinking sigh. 1942 C. S. LEWIS *Screwtape Lett.* ix. 50 It all depends on whether your man is...of the wishful-thinking type who can be assured that all is well. 1951 'A. GARVE' *Murder in Moscow* I. 20 He was a woolly wishful-thinker who happened to be inordinately vain as well. 1958 *Spectator* 6 June 724/1 He [sc. a prisoner] hoarded these glimpses of past happiness, rationing his wishful reminiscing to half an hour a day. 1958 *Listener* 25 Sept. 478/1 There are some embarrassingly wishful statements... 'The day when Joyce embarked in Dublin...they were burning his first book... He could see the smoke of the bonfire...'... *Dubliners* was not burned: it was pulped. 1970 *Guardian* 10 Dec. 4/4 It is hard to reconcile this sort of picture with the one presented by the wishful-thinkers in Saigon. 1974 E. AMBLER *Dr Friga* II. 117 I'm not a wishful-thinking idiot. 1980 *Sunday Times* (Colour Suppl.) 30 Mar. 55/2 An evocation of youth's transitoriness and innocent wishful-thinking.

b. of a person: Possessed by a wish for something specified or implied; wishing, desirous. Now *rare* in literary prose.

1733 WHITEHEAD *St. Dunce's Poems* (1777) 18 Lo! o'er yon flood H—e casts his low'ring eyes, And wishful sees the rev'rend turrets rise. 1825 WATERTON *Wand. S. Amer.* III. ii. 236 Wishful to see how he worked, I allowed him to take possession. 1852 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xlii, I was wishful to say a word to you, sir. 1867 MORRIS *Jason* I. 314, I am but Jason, who dwell here alone... Wishful for happy days. 1875 BROWNING *Aristoph. Apal.* 1703 Wishful from my soul that truth should triumph. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* I. 165 A second chamber well qualified for the duty of revision, and wishful to discharge it.

'wish-fulfilment. [tr. G. *wunscherfüllung* (S. Freud *Die Traumdeutung* (1900) i. 64).] The imaginary fulfilment of acknowledged or

unconscious wishes in dreams and fantasies; a dream or other event or object in which the fulfilment of a wish is given (usu. imaginary or symbolic) expression.

[1901 H. ELLIS in *Jrnl. Mental Sci.* XLVII. 370 The author [sc. Freud] points out that...we may with much more reason regard them [sc. dreams] as the protectors of sleep, willing us to repose with an imagined fulfilment of our wishes.] 1908 *Jrnl. Abnormal Psychol.* III. 237 This is a hyperbolic realization of his reveries, corresponding to the wish-fulfilment of the normal dream. 1916 A. A. BRILL tr. *Freud's Wit & its Relation to Unconscious* vi. 250 Wider reading circles have contented themselves to reduce the contents [of *The Interpretation of Dreams*]...to a catchword, 'Wish fulfilment'—a term easily remembered and easily abused. 1928 C. H. DODD *Authority of Bible* III. 66 Behind the song lies...a longing for the down-fall of an implacable enemy, which finds in the picture of disaster a 'wish-fulfilment'. 1939 D. CECIL *Young Melbourne* iv. 106 Living wholly in a wish-fulfilment world of her own creation, she insisted it was the real one. 1953 A. HUXLEY *Let.* 31 Oct. (1969) 687 The jewelled palaces are partly, no doubt, wish-fulfillments—the opposite of everyday experience. 1956 E. L. MASCALL *Christian Theol. & Natural Science* vi. 217 More careful examination would enable us to sift out those beliefs which had a rational justification for those which were mere wish-fulfillments. 1958 E. A. ARMSTRONG *Folklore of Birds* III. 55 It is a man's wish-fulfilment story, as Cinderella is a woman's. 1958 *Punch* 25 June 852/2 She is gentle, charming, childlike, submissive, a young man's wish-fulfilment. 1978 M. LEVEY *Case of Walter Pater* xiv. 198 All Pater's dreams, nightmares as well as wish-fulfillments, find expression here.

So 'wish-fulfilling a.

1922 R. S. WOODWORTH *Psychol.* xix. 501 They [sc. dreams] are 'wish-fulfilling'. 1945 D. L. MOORE *Vulgar Heart* i. 14 The wish-fulfilling assumption that such honours will be deserved. 1976 *Listener* 8 Apr. 447/3 A serenity that accepts as self-evident truth what we reject as wish-fulfilling illusion.

wishfully ('wɪʃfʊli), *adv.* [f. WISHFUL *a.* + -LY².]

1. In a wishful manner; with desire; longingly. Most commonly qualifying *look* or equivalent; sometimes app. associated with *wistfully*.

1598 CHAPMAN *Iliad* IV. [VIII.] 497 All did wishfullie expect the siluer-throned morne. 1722 DE FOE *Col. Jack* II, Well, young gentleman, you look wishfully. 1773 BOSWELL *Tour Hebr.* (1785) 98, I was weary of this day, and began to think wishfully of being again in motion. 1791 BURNS *Bonnie Wee Thing* 5 Wishfully I look and languish In that bonie face o' thine. 1831 SOUTHEY in *Corr. w. C. Bowles* (1881) 272, I am looking daily and wishfully for your little book. 1878 MRS. STOWE *Poganuc P.* i, Dolly still hung about wishfully.

† 2. According to wish or desire. *Obs.*

1602 MIDDLETON, etc. *Phenix* III. i. G 2 b, I doubt now We shall not gaine accesse vnto your loue or she to vs. *Fid.* Most wishfully here she comes.

So 'wishfulness.

1801 SOUTHEY in Robberds *Mem. W. Taylor* (1843) I. 371, I expect with some wishfulness your remarks on the second volume. 1863 TROLLOPE *Rachel Ray* I. 170 The longing loving wishfulness which used to make so many of her questions sweet to her mother's ears. 1892 *Sat. Rev.* 8 Oct. 422/1 A sweet wishfulness to please.

wish-hounds, *sb. pl.* Also wished, whisht, wished. [WISHT *a.* 2.] Local name for a ghostly pack of hounds popularly believed to hunt over Dartmoor (Devon) by night. So 'wish-hunt, 'wish-hunter.

1847 *Athenæum* 27 Mar. 334/2 The Abbot's Way...is the especial haunt of the Wish, or Wisked [sic] Hounds. 1865 R. HUNT *Pap. Ram. W. Eng.* Ser. I. Introd. p. xix, Wistman's Wood...is the very home of the *Wish hounds*, which hunt so fiercely over the Moor. 1863 BARING-GOULD *Iceland* 202 On Dartmoor...the [Wild Huntsman's] chase continues: it is called the Wisht hunt. 1865 — *Were-wolves* viii, On Heathfield, near Tavistock, the wild huntsman rides by full moon with his 'wish hounds'. 1897 — *Guavas* xiv, 'Tis no Wish Hunter's gold.

wishill, *obs.* form of WISSEL.

wishing ('wɪʃɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. WISH *v.* + -ING¹.]

a. The action of the verb WISH; desire; sometimes *spec.* † (a) evil desire, concupiscence; (b) imprecation.

c 1200 *Trin. Call. Hom.* 179 Ne wrec pu pe mid wussinge ne mid warienge. c 1220 *Bestiary* 334 Golsipe and jising, 3iuerneesse and wissing. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 319 He set the herte in jeupartie With whissinge and with fantasie. c 1500 *Melusine* 177 Our desyre and wysshing is brought to effect. 1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. lxxviii. [lxxiv.] 90b/1 Theyr horses serued them at theyr wysshing. 1590 STOCKWOOD *Rules Constr.* 3 Some aduerbe of wishing, as *vtinam*. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* IV. i. 329, I cannot be a man with wishing, therefore I will die a woman with grieving. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* IV. 71 Wishing, of all employments, is the worst. 1842 NEWMAN *Par. Serm.* VI. xii. 154 Wishing will not serve instead of coming. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* II. 264 The power of obtaining anything by wishing.

b. An instance of this, a wish; formerly sometimes passing into the sense 'a request, petition': cf. WISH *sb.*² 2, v. 5.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. II. 90 In wedes and in wisshynges and with ydel thougtes. 1426 LYDC. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 623 I My desyr & my wysshynge Resten fully in thys thynges. 1548 UDALL *Erasm. Par.* Pref. to Edw. VI, aij, Our daily wysshynge and praiers. 1561 HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtier* I. (1577) F v b, A wishing for that hee thought he had not. 1648 FANSHAWE *Il Pastor Fida* II. iv. 64 They...Who not with wishings onely seek her favour. 1719 DE FOE *Crusae* I. (Globe) 191 Such were these earnest Wishings. 1877 MEREDITH *Gen. Ople* viii, Our young barbarians...

interest us in their wishings, their weepings, and...their kissings.

† c. *wishing(s) and woulding(s)*: see WOULD-ING.

d. *attrib.* and *Comb.* in many designations of objects supposed to be capable of magically conferring the fulfilment of one's wishes, as *wishing-bone* (= wish-bone, WISH *sb.*¹ 4), -*cap*, -*gate*, -*hat*, -*purse*, -*rod*, -*stone*, -*tree*, -*well*.

1860 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 3), *Wishing-Bone. 1600 DEKKER *Old Fortunatus* E 4 b, Hauling this mint [sc. the purse] about me, I shall want no *wishing Cap. a 1674 TRAHERNE *Chr. Ethics* (1675) 436 The fools wishing cap and the philosophers stone are but trifles. 1825 SCOTT *Jrnl.* 27 Dec., I have worn a wishing-cap, the power of which has been to divert present griefs. 1828 WORDSW. *Wishing-gate* 18 The rustic *Wishing-gate. 1600 DEKKER *Old Fortunatus* H 1, Ile steale his *wishing Hat. 1855 MOTLEY *Dutch Rep.* VI. i. III. 396 The *wishing purse in his hand. 1850 LETTSOM *Fall Nibelungers* mclx. 197 The *wishing-rod of gold. 1859 G. W. DASENT *Pop. Tales from Norse* (ed. 2) p. xcii, Thus, we have *oska-steinn*, *wishing-stone, i.e. a stone which plays the part of a divining rod. 1908 *Daily Chron.* 20 Oct. 1/3 A wishing-stone. a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (1922) 22 That she might have the first possession of the *wishing tree. 1792 J. MOORE *Monast. Rem.* 2 The *wishing wheels still remain. 1891 ATKINSON *Moorland Par.* 235 One of these now unsuspected...wishing-wells or hálíkelds.

'wishing, ppl. a. [f. WISH *v.* + -ING².] That wishes, longing, desirous; expressing a wish.

† *wishing and woulding* (quot. 1620): cf. prec. c. 1530 PALSGR. 329/2 Wysshynge, optatif. 1579-80 NORTH *Plutarch, Solon & Publicola* (1595) 121 In wishing manner, he would his end should be lamented to his praise. 1620 J. KING *Serm.* 24 Mar. 3 It is not a wishing and woulding mercy, but a preuailing, speeding, releueing mercy. 1662 HOWELL *New Engl. Gram.* 62 The Optatif or wishing Mood. 1703 ROWE *Ulysses* I. i, The wishing Warmth of Youth. 1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* III. iv, Return'd to cheer his wishing tenant's sight. 1819 SHELLEY *Peter Bell* 3rd v. vi, Now Peter...Would...balk Some wishing guest of knife or fork.

Hence 'wishingly *adv.*, desirously, longingly; in quot. 1571, optatively.

1571 GOLDING *Calvin* on Ps. lxxii. 2. 269 b, Some reade it wishingly; Othersome retein the future tence, so as it should bee a prophesie. 1731 BAILEY (ed. 5), *Desirously*, wishingly.

wishless ('wɪʃlis), *a. rare*. [f. WISH *sb.*¹ + -LESS.] Having no wishes; void of or free from desire.

1820 COLERIDGE in *Blackw. Mag.* VII. 629 What a heartless, hopeless, almost wishless barrenness of spirit! a 1893 CHR. G. ROSSETTI *New Jerus.* Poet. Wks. (1904) 208/1 Where we shall be...Wishless in the sanctuary of Christ's embrace.

† 'wishly, *a. Obs. rare*. [? f. next.] ? Steadfast.

1578 T. PROCTER *Gorg. Gallery Invent.* Hij, Vlisses wife shall mate the sore, whose wishly troth doth shine.

wishly ('wɪʃli), *adv. Obs. exc. dial.* Also 6 *wysh(e)*-, *wishe-*, 7 *wishtly*. [? Alteration of WISTLY *adv.* influenced by *wish*.] Steadfastly, fixedly, intently; occas. longingly. (Almost always qualifying *look* or some equivalent: cf. *wistfully*.)

1530 PALSGR. fol. 183, I cast my syght vpon a thyng to beholde it wysshely. *Ibid.*, And sodainly he caste his syght wysshely vpon me. 1533 MORE *Answ. Poysaned Bk.* v. ii. Wks. 1134/2 Causing hym to putte on his spectacles, and pore better and more wishly with his olde eyen vpon saynt lohns ghospell. c 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XI. 522 Æacides, that wishly did intend...how deepe the skirmish drew Amongst the Greeks. 1622 J. ABERNETHY *Chr. Treat. Physick Soule* v. 73 Thou must bee wishly extimulate in thy conscience. 1647 TRAPP *Comm. Matt.* vi. 4. 186 He looketh wishtly, fixedly, steddily. 1660 S. FORD *Loyal Subj. Exult.* 21 Those thousands of loyall Subjects, who...had looked wishtly towards the royall Palace. 1680 R. L'ESTRANGE *Erasm. Colloq.* xiii. 186 Looking wishly up into the Air [orig. *intents in celum oculis*]. 1683 CAVE *Ecclesiastici* Air. 27 Woman, said he, tell me why dost thee so wishly behold me? a 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Wishtly*, earnestly; wishfully; with longing... 'The children eyed the plum-pudding wishly.' 1902 *Longman's Mag.* Nov. 40, I seed him yesterday a-cranen' over th' wall and eyen' on her wishly.

wishmay ('wɪʃmeɪ). [transl. ON. *óskmæʀ*, f. *ósk* wish (see WISH *v.*) + *mær* maiden, MAY *sb.*¹] A Valkyrie.

1863 W. K. KELLY *Curias. Indo-Europ. Tradit.* 216 The Wishmays or Valkyries. 1889 R. B. ANDERSON tr. *Rydberg's Teut. Mythol.* 156 A giantess who had been adopted in Asgard as Odin's 'wish-may'.

Wishram ('wɪʃræm). Also 9 Wish-ham. [ad. Sahaptin *Wíshram*.] a. (A member of) an American Indian people living in the southern part of the state of Washington. b. The language spoken by this people, a dialect of Upper Chinook.

[1836 W. IRVING *Astoria* I. 109 We would make special mention of the village of Wish-ram.] 1855 *Rep. Commissioner Indian Affairs* 1857 351 They are divided into three principal bands, namely: the Wish-hams, Click-a-hut, and Skien bands. 1907 *Amer. Anthropologist* IX. 533 The Indians formerly living on the northern shore of Columbia river...are known by their Yakima and Klikitat neighbours...as *Wíshcam*, which, in its anglicized form of Wishram, or Wishham, is their common appellation today. *Ibid.* 535 The Wishram is prevaillingly sonant in its use of stops. 1930 SPIER & SAPIR *Wishram Ethnography* 153 The Wishram were one of the earliest groups known to explorers of the Columbia River Basin...Only a few Wishram still remain.

1962 *Anthropol. & Human Behavior* (Anthropological Soc. Washington) 25 'Cussing out', a Wishram Chinook's English label for a class of aboriginal speech events. 1972 *Language* XLVIII. 378, I have drawn extensively upon my field research on the Wishram-Wasco dialect of Chinook.

wisht (wɪʃt), *a.* Chiefly *s.w. dial.* Also *whisht*, *whished*, *w(h)ish*, *whist*, *wist*, *weist*, *weest*. [Of obscure origin.]

1. Dreary, dismal; melancholy, wretched.

1829 T. MOORE *Hist. Devon* I. 510 *Wish*, inapt, bad, unfit, as 'wish weather'. 1849 KEMBLE *Saxons in Eng.* I. 346 In Devonshire... a bad or unfortunate day is a *wisht* day. 1893 'Q' *Delect. Duchy* 306 Ah, the poor body! his was a *wisht* case.

2. Uncanny, eerie, weird. (Cf. **WISH-HOUNDS**.) c1800 [implied in **WISHTNESS**]. 1872 MRS. LYNN LINTON *Joshua Davidson* iii. 33 A wild *whisht* country that does not invite much night walking. 1891 ATKINSON *Last of Giant-hillers* 165 Their steps and hushed voices sounding very hollow and *wisht* all the time.

3. Sickly, wan.

1868 'HOLME LEE' B. *Godfrey* lxvii, She is very *whist* and white. 1884 FENN *Sweet Mace* III. xiii. 217 'I don't quite like the old woman to be burnt. How *wist* she looks!'

Hence '**wishtness**, melancholy; something uncanny or supernatural.

c1800 POLWHELE *Wishful Swan of Devon* in R. Hunt *Pop. Rom. W. Eng.* Ser. I. (1865) 150 He sought the dark-green lane... Sighing... 'Wishness! oh, wishness, walketh here'. 1839 Mrs. Palmer's *Devon. Dial. Gloss.*, *Wishness*, melancholy. 1849 KEMBLE *Saxons in Eng.* I. 346 In Devonshire to this day all magical or supernatural dealings go under the common name of *Wishness*.

wishtly, obs. form of **WISHLY** *adv.*

wishtonwish ('wɪʃtənwɪʃ). Also **wiston-**. [Imitative, from the cry of the animal.] Native name for the PRAIRIE-DOG of N. America.

Used by Fenimore Cooper for *whip-poor-will*.

1806 PIKE *Sources Mississ.* (1811) 207 Some prairie squirrels, or *wish-ton-wishes*. 1826 J. F. COOPER *Last of Mohicans* xxii, 'Tis a pleasing bird... and has a soft and melancholy note.'... 'He speaks of the *wish-ton-wish*', said the scout. 1829 J. RICHARDSON *Fauna Bor.-Amer.* I. 154 The *Wistonwish*.

wish-wash ('wɪʃwɒʃ), *sb.* [Reduplicated formation from **WASH** *sb.* (cf. sense 11 *s.v.*).]

1. A contemptuous name for weak, insipid, or unsubstantial drink (or liquid food). Also *attrib.* or *adj.* = **WISHY-WASHY** 1.

1786 MRS. A. M. BENNETT *Juvenile Indiscr.* II. 36 The fish was ill-dressed, the soup mere *wishwash*. 1803 MARY CHARLTON *Wife & Mistress* IV. 50, I an't been used to her *wish-washes*, and her Cocoa. 18... in Smyth *Sailor's Wordbk.* (1867) 736 His drink a *wish-wash* of six-water grog. 1896 BARING-GOULD *Broom-Squire* xvi. 120 He must have ale, not *wish-wash* tea.

2. *fig.* *Wishy-washy* talk or writing.

1842 HOWITT *Rur. & Dom. Life Germany* 479 You also find the trashiest *wish-wash* of Lady Blessington... just as much in vogue. 1885 STOPP. BROOKE in Jacks *Life* (1917) II. 378, I talked sense, and was grimly resolved to give the exact opposite of —'s *wish-wash*.

†**'wish-washy**, *a.* *Obs.* [f. **WISH-WASH** *sb.* + -Y¹.] = **WISHY-WASHY** *a.*

a1814 *Sixteen & Sixty* 1. ii. in *New Brit. Theatre* II. 385 First he tould I that losing a leg or a wing Were considered but *wish-washy* matters. 1816 SCOTT *Let. in Lockhart* (1837) IV. i. 27 There are two tales... the first is *wish-washy* enough. 1821 *Blackw. Mag.* IX. 60 None ever thrive on the *wish-washy* draughts of the Muses.

wishy-washy ('wɪʃɪwɒʃɪ), *a.* (*int.*, *sb.*) [Reduplicated formation from **WASHY** *a.* (sense 2); cf. the earlier **SWISH-SWASH** (*wishy-washy* drink).]

1. Of drink (or liquid food): Weak and insipid; sloppy. Also *dial.* as *sb.* (see quot. 1824).

1791 *Massachusetts Spy* 12 May 2/1 He... looked at the broath—and d—d it for *wishy washy* stuff. 1824 MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl.* 481 *Wishie-washie*, small drink; ale with-out foam; *wishy* without bells. 1854 R. S. SURTEES *Handley Cr.* xxvii, None of your flagon-of-ale and round-of-beef breakfasts nowadays—slip-slop, *wishy-washy*, milk-and-water, effeminate stuff. 1898 A. BALFOUR *To Arms* vii, Their *wishy-washy*, watery wine.

2. *fig.* *a.* Feeble or poor in constitution, condition, or aspect; weakly, sickly, 'washed-out'. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1703 STEELE *Tender Husb.* I. (1705) 12 Pray, Brother, observe his Make, none of your Lath-back'd *wishy washy* Breed. 1748 SMOLLETT *Rod. Rand.* xxiv, A good seaman he is... none of your guinea pigs... nor your fresh-water, *wishy-washy*, fair-weather fowls. 1838 LADY GRANVILLE *Lett.* (1894) II. 261, I am quite well now, only rather *wishy-washy*. 1856 HAWTHORNE *Engl. Note-bks.* (1870) II. 163 A *wishy-washy* woman's face.

b. Feeble or poor in quality or character; trifling, unsubstantial, trashy, 'milk-and-watery'. †Also rarely as *int.* = *pish! tush!*

a1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xxxvi. 298 *Pan*. *Wishy*, *washy*; *Trolly*, *trolly* [orig. *Tarabin*, *tarabas*]. 1797 G. COLMAN *Heir at Law* II. ii, A lord without money be but a foolish, *wishy washy* kind of a thing a'ter all. 1801 T. DIBDIN *Il Bonocani* III. ii, None of your *wishy washy* sparks that mince their steps. 1867 TROLLOPE *Chron. Basset* I. vii. 55 A weak, *wishy-washy* man, who had hardly any mind of his own to speak of. 1865 MISS BRADDON *Doctor's Wife* iii, Isabel painted *wishy-washy* looking flowers on Bristol-board from Nature. 1893 *Nation* (N.Y.) 9 Feb. 106/3 A silly, *wishy-washy*, inconclusive... style of writing.

Hence '**wishy-washiness**.

1891 LOUNSBURY *Studies Chaucer* III. vii. 193 He had... every... personal inducement to go on diluting his original to the utmost limit of *wishi-washiness*.

wisie, obs. form of **VIZY** *v.* *Sc.*

†**wisify** ('waɪzɪfaɪ), *v.* *Obs. nonce-wd.* [f. **WISE** *a.* + -(I)FY.] *trans.* To make wise.

1694 MOTTEUX *Rabelais* v. Author's Prol. A3 b, The World therefore, wisifying it self [orig. *en sagissant*], shall no longer dread the... Blossoms of Beans every coming Spring.

Wisigoth, -ic, var. **VISIGOTH**, -IC.

wisioun, **wisit**, obs. ff. **VISION**, **VISIT**.

wisk, obs. form of **WHISK**.

wiskajon, var. **WHISKY** JOHN.

wisker, obs. form of **WHISKER**.

wisket, **whisket** ('wɪskɪt, hw-). *dial.* Also **6** *wysket*(e, -cet, *wiskyt*, *wiscat*, 7-8 *wiskett*, 9 *w(h)iskit*, *whiskett*. [Orig. and mainly north. *dial.*; ? derived (with -ET¹) from the stem represented by the Scand. forms quoted *s.v.* **WHISK** *sb.*¹] Local name for a basket, of various kinds and uses.

1542 in *Lanc. Wills* (Chetham Soc. 1857) 81, iiij stone and a half in ij grete wyscettis of wole; in another *wisket* xxx pond...; in another *wisket* xxⁱⁱ pound. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 87/23 A *Wysket*, *sportula*. 1674 RAY *N.C. Words* 53 A *Whisket*, a Basket, a skuttle, or shallow Ped. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 173/2 A *Wisket*, or Straw-basket, in which Provender is given Cows or Oxen. 1747 HOOSON *Miner's Dict.* E2, Poor people... that go daily to the Mines, carry a small *Wiskett* and a Hammer along with them. 1828 *Craven Gloss.*, *Whisket*, a small clothes basket. 1838 R. OWEN in *Life* (1894) I. iv. 139 A *wisket* of lovely grapes. 1897 'O. RHOSCOMYL' *White Rose Arno* 243 They'll tumble up from below like whelps from a *wisket*.

Comb. 1621 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 248 To the *wiskett* maker, ... iij^s.

Wiskinkie ('wɪskɪŋki). *U.S.* Also **Wiskinky**, **Wiskinski**. [Etym. unknown.] The official of the Tammany Society of New York charged with the office of door-keeper.

1800 *Commercial Advertiser* (N.Y.) 3 Jan. 2/3 Tammany Society, in the following order: 1st, The *Wiskinkie*, supporting the Cap of Liberty veiled in crape. 1843 *New Mirror* 15 Apr. 18/2 They were placed in charge of the *Wiskinski* of the wigwam. 1864 C. G. HALPINE *Life & Adventures of Private Miles O'Reilly* 191 He had been a brave when the present Grand Sachems, *Wiskinkies* and *Sagamores* were no more than little papooses. 1905 W. L. RIORDON *Plunkitt* 99 Dan Donegan, who used to be the *Wiskinkie* of the Tammany Society, and received contributions from grateful office holders. 1938 J. W. NORWOOD *Tammany Legend* xi. 145 The chief of a 'Tribe' was its *Sachem*; the master of ceremonies, the *Sagamore*; the Sergeant at Arms, the *Wiskinkie*. 1967 CONNABLE & SILBERFARB *Tigers of Tammany* i. 28 The *Wiskinkie* (sergeant-at-arms) swore an oath to preserve the Society from 'intruders and eavesdroppers'.

wisling, -yng: see **WISSEL** *v.*

†**'wisly**, *a.* *Obs.* Forms: 1 *wislic*, 3 (*Orm.*) *wisslik*. [OE. *wislic*, f. *wis*(s) *adj.* (see **WIS** *sb.*) + -lic, -LY¹.] Certain.

Phr. *wisslikess pingess* (gen. sing.), of a certainty, certainly.

c1000 *Ag. Ps.* (Thorpe) lxxii[i]. 3 [4] Ne heora wites bið *wislic* trymnes [orig. *nec est firmamentum in plaga eorum*]. c1200 *ORMIN* 3186 *Wisslikess pingess* Godess hannd was wipp þatt child.

†**'wisly**, *adv.* *Obs.* Forms: 1 *wis(s)lice*, 2-4 *wisliche*, 4-5 *wisly*, *wissely*, (3 *wysslych*, *Orm.* *wisslich*, -like, 4 *wislike*, -lich, -li, *wissly*, *wysly*, 5 *wiselich*, *wysllie*, *wischli*). [OE. *wislice*, f. *wis*(s) *adj.* (see **WIS** *sb.*) + -lice, -LY².] Certainly, surely; assuredly; verily.

c1000 *Ag. Ps.* (Thorpe) lviij[i]. 13 Hi *wisslice* witon. *Ibid.* xcix. 2 [c. 3] Witad *wislice*, þæt [etc.]. c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 63 þe luste nulleð þesne red, *wisliche* he scal wurðen ded. c1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 189 þe holi man... on oðer stede wislaker þerof specð. c1200 *ORMIN* 928 He fellepp *wissli* forr þatt gillt i Godess wrappe & wræche. 1340-70 *Alex. & Dind.* 844 Many wondurful wonus *wisli* we knowen. c1386 CHAUCER *Reeve's T.* 74 Men wenden *wisly* that he sholde dye. — *Frankl.* T. 61 She to hym ful *wisly* gan to swere That neuere sholde ther be defeaute in here. c1400 *Destr. Troy* 3567 Vnto þatt worthy he went *wisly* anon.

b. esp. with *as* (*alse*, *also*) or *so* in asseverations.

c1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 167 Vre lafdi Seinte Marie, alse *wisliche* alse hie þis dai was hounen in to heuene, bere ure arende to ure louerd ihesu crist. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 9673 As wysly as he become a chyldre. ?a1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 632 Now also *wisly* god me blesse. 14... *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 79/104 For as *wischli* as euer y cum too blisse, My will is goode. c1470 HENRY Wallace iv. 63 Als *wisly* God me sawe.

wisment, *Sc.* var. **WISEMENT** *Obs.*, consideration.

c1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* v. v. 988 He askyt thre dayis to *wisment*.

†**'wismuth**. *Obs.* Also [6 *wisemute*], 7 *wismut*, *wismodt*. = **Bismuth**.

[1587 HARRISON *England* III. xi. 238/2 in *Holinshed*, A metall... the verie same which Encelius calleth *Plumbum cinereum*, the Germans *wisemute*, *mithan*, & counterfeie.] 1650 J. F[RENCH] *Chym. Dict.*, *Wismodt* is [printed in] Tin

that is foule and immalleable, and cannot be wrought upon. 1651 FRENCH *Distill.* v. 168 Common copper makes a sea-green; Wismut common blew. 1783 *Phil. Trans.* LXXIII. 83 Wismuth forms a slight precipitate in the nitrous solution of arsenic.

wisnand, -nyt: see **WIZENED**.

'**wisome**. *dial.* Also 8 *wissum*, 9 *wysan*. [f. **WISE** *sb.*², after **RISOM**.] = **WIZLE**.

1688 [see **WIZLE**]. c1710 CELIA FIENNES *Diary* (1888) 136 The greens they [sc. the country people] Call *Wissums* and on these *wissums* the Deer Brouse in y^e winter. 1888 H. WEDGWOOD in *N. & Q.* 7th Ser. VI. 314 In North Staffordshire... the labouring man would speak of cranberry-wysans, bilberry-wysans. The runners of strawberries would be strawberry-wysans, and potato-halms were potato-wysans.

wisp (wɪsp), *sb.*¹ Forms: 4-5, 8-9 *dial.* *wips*, *weps* (5 *wyps*), 8-9 *dial.* *whips*; 4-5 (6, 8 *Sc.*) *wysp*, 4-6 *wyspe*, 4-7 *wispe*, (6 *wysppe*), 5-6 *Sc.* *wosp*, *wasp*, 6-9 *whisp*, 4- *wisp*. [Of uncertain origin; perh. an unrecorded OE. **wips*, **wisp*:—**wipisa*-, f. base *wip*- in the sense 'wind or bind round', for derivatives of which see **WHIP** *v.*

Cf. WFRIS. *wisp* *wisp*, twig, handful of straw. For the forms current in other Germ. langs. see **WHISK** *sb.*¹]

1. A handful, bunch, or small bundle (of hay, straw, grass, etc.).

13... in Horst. *Altengl. Leg.* (1875) 91 þer inne oure ledi him wond and bond him *wip* aliste, And leide him on awisp of hei [v.r. a wips of heye]. c1460 Towneley *Myst.* ii. 438 Yey, gif don, thyne hors, a wisp of hay. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 579 These champions... bringing forth a speare made of a wrapt vp wisp of hay. 1639 J. CLARKE *Paræm.* 215 All's alike at th' latter day, a bag of gold and wispe of hay. 1779 G. KEATE *Sketches fr. Nat.* (ed. 2) I. 42 But why do we stop?... Only to give the horses a pail of water, replies the postillion... Nay, prithee boy, says my friend, add a whisp of hay to it. 1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* v. viii. (1873) II. 132 As if we were a starved coach-horse, to be quickened along by a wisp of hay put upon the coach-pole close ahead of us always! 1879 J. BEERBOHM *Patagonia* iv. 53 Made soft for the young chicks by a few wisps of grass.

b. used to wipe something dry or clean; now chiefly to rub down a horse.

In quot. 1589 with allusion to hanging.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. v. 195 Alle þat herde þe horn heolden heore neose after, And weschte þat hit weore I-wipet with a wesp [v.r. wips, wysp(e) of Firsen [C. vii. 402 Wips [v.r. weps] of breres]. c1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xx, þenne kembe eury hounde after oþer and wype hem with a gret wyspe of strawe. 14... in Wv. Wülcker 595/35 *Mempirum* [= *anitergium*], a *wyps*. 1508 DUNBAR *Flying* 64 For wit and wisdom ane wisp fra the may rub. 1589 [? LYL] *Pappe w. Hatchet* Lyly's Wks. III. 404 If he driuell so at the mouth and nose, weele haue him wipte [= wiped] with a hempen wispe. 1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* Sj, A maulkin or wispe to wyper her shooes with. 1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* vii. xxii. 840 For lice... wash them [sc. dogs] and rub them with a wispe. 1611 COTGR., *Torchcul*, a wispe for the tayle. 1660 BONDE *Scut. Reg.* 214 There you shall burn like wisps, which have done scouring the better vessels. 1725 *Bradley's Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Embrocation*, Take the Soldiers Ointment, ... and anoint the Part affected therewith, being first well rubbed with soft Whips of Hay. 1864 E. MAYHEW *Horse Managem.* 378 The curry-comb is abolished; but the generality of grooms also require to be cautioned concerning the use of the whisp and the brush. 1901 FITZWYRAM *Horses & Stables* vi.

c. in various special uses, e.g. as an ale-house sign; hung outside a house as a sign of the plague; as a plug, strainer, or wad; (of herbs) as a perfume or deodorant.

1508 DUNBAR *Tua Mariit Wemen* 335 3it tuk I neuir the wosp clene out of my wyde throte, Quhill I oucht wantit of my will. 1508 — *Test. Andro Kennedy* 110, I will... na bellis for me ring, ... Bot a bag pipe to play a spryng, Et unum ail wosp ante me. 1518 in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 18 The inhabitants of thos howses that be... infectyd shall kepe in, pott owt wyspes and ber whyt roddys. 1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* N3, His Muse, from the first peeping forth, hath stood at Liurey at an Ale-house wispe. a1598 D. FERGUSSON *Scot. Prov.* (S.T.S.) 34 Good wine needs not a wispe. 1626 BACON *Sylva* §934 The same Man vsed to haue continually, a great Wispe of Herbes, that he smelled on. 1650 STAPYLTON *Strada's Low-C. Wars* ix. 41 [He] put forth... a wisp of straw, upon the end of a white Rod, as if he would, according to the custome of the Countrey, give notice... that the house was visited with the plague. 1658 tr. *Porta's Nat. Magic* v. ix. 176 Strain the vinegar through a wisp. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. xviii. (Roxb.) 141/1 A wisp or wad, is either hay or straw to put in after the powder. 1855 DELAMER *Kitch. Gard.* (1861) 25 If the potatoes are moist... it will be well to leave a wisp of straw sticking out at the top [of the ridge]. 1901 RHYS *Celtic Folklore* I. iv. 299 He gave them herbs... and... sold them wisps to place under their pillows.

†*d.* in proverbial phr. as *wise as a wisp*. *Obs.*

1550 BALE *Engl. Votaries* II. 84 Than as wyse as ij wyspes, and as godly as ij goselynges, they examined her what her beleue was in the sacrament. 1655 H. MORE *Second Lash* 218 When we say that one is as wise as a wisp, does that imply the wisp is wise? 1682 — *Annot. Glanwill's Lux* O. 35 They would have rose out of their sleep no more wise than a Wisp.

2. A twisted band, esp. of hay or straw; a ring or wreath of twisted material, used as a pad.

1398 TREvisa *Barth. De P.R.* III. xviii. (1495) Dv b/1 [The] gristylbone... in y^e eere... is wound & wrapped as a wyspe, leest the spyrite of heringe were... hurt by sodayn... smytynge. c1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 530/2 *Wyspe*, *torques*,... *torquillus*. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 239/2 [They] mocked hym... and bond behynd hym wyspes of strawe. 1607 MARKHAM *Cavel.* iv. ix. 48 As you rid him with the tramels, so you shall ride him with these wispes [sc. thick 'thumb-

ropes' of hay round his pasterns]. 1611 COTGR., *Torche*, . . the wreathed clowt, wispe, or wad of straw, layed by wenches between their heads, and the things which they carrie on them. 1725 POPE *Odys.* x. 194 An ell in length the pliant wisp I weaved, And the huge body on my shoulders heaved. 1876 SMILES *Sc. Natur.* i. 10 His mother tied him firmly to the table leg with a thick wisp of thrums. 1908 J. GUNN'S *Orkney Book* 394 'Wisps' (the local name for great rolls of heather 'simmons', or ropes, used in thatching houses).

† b. A twist or figure of straw for a scold to rail at. *Obs.*

a1450 *Knt. de la Tour* xv. 21 He writhed a litell wisp of strawe, and sette it afore her, and saide, ladi, yef that ye will chide more, chide with that straw. 1566 DRANT *Horace, Sat.* vii. D 7 b, Women . . Whose tatling tongues, had won a wispe. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI*, ii. ii. 144. 1626 H. PARROT *Cures for the Itch* B 5 b, There's nothing mads . . her [sc. a scold] more . . then but the very naming of a wispe. 1698 [R. FERGUSSON] *View Eccl.* 27 As a Wisp . . is a Theame copious enough to engage an Harangue for an hour long to a well studied Scold.

3. A bunch or twisted bundle of hay or straw, used for burning as a torch, etc.

1412-20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* iv. 4984 bei faren as a wisp a-fire: Whanne it brennep briztest in his blase, Sodeinly it wastep. 15.. *Wyf of Auchtermuchty* 29 (Bannatyne MS.) Yeis lay ane soft wisp to the kill. 1572 MASCALL *Plant. & Graff.* (1592) 49 Ye shall . . with a wispe on a Poles ende, set fire on all. 1682 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1688/4 Some rascally Boys . . who made some wisps of Straw, and burnt them in the dark night. 1806 [J. BLACK] *Falls of Clyde* 169 Fie light a wisp, and look below the bed! 1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) II. 268 It should be put into the oven, moderately heated with a few wisps of straw.

b. A marsh-fire, WILL-O'-THE-WISP; also the light supposed to be carried by the sprite. In more recent use *poet.*

[1608-; see WILL-O'-THE-WISP.] 1618 BP. HALL *Contempl.*, *N.T.* i. *Sages and Star*, Philosophy without the star, is but the wispe of error. 1650 in H. Cary *Mem. Gt. Civ. War* (1832) II. 226 It is the saints' minimum quoddam naturale; a Nol with the wisp. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstrel* vii, 'Jack-alantern' with his wisp alight. 1822 BYRON *Vis. Judgem.* cv, Light as an elf, Or wisp that flits o'er a morass. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* iv. 339 We did not know the real light, but chased The wisp that flickers where no foot can tread.

4. A bundle or parcel containing a definite quantity (of certain commodities: see *quots.*). *Sc.* and *north.* (Presumably so named from being orig. tied in a bundle with a wisp or wisps of straw or hay: cf. WIDDY 3, and the analogous SHEAF sb. 2 a, b, c.) a. of steel and glass.

1470 in *Fabric Rolls York Minster* (Surtees) 73 Pro j les wysp vitri rubit, 16 d. 1496 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 292 Item . . for viij wisp of steil to pykkis and mattokkis xiiij s. 1511-12 *Ibid.* IV. 273 Ane wisp of Lambart steile, price iiij s. 15.. *Aberdeen Reg.* (Jam.), Ane wisp of glas. 1612 *Sc. Bk. Rates in Halyburton's Ledger* (1867) 330 Wisp steill the wisp, xs. 1621 in *Reg. Privy Council Scotl.* (1895) XII. 439 They fand that the . . caissis of the said glasse contenis fyfteen wisp and that in everie wisp thair is three tablis. 1657 [see *wisp-steel* in 6].

b. of other things, e.g. fish.

1521 *Aberdeen Reg.* XI. (Jam.), Four wospe of malt. 1557 *Rec. Inverness* (New Spalding Club) I. 8 This is the pricis [of fish]: for the gret wasp iij s., the small wasp xxx d. 1910 *Aberd. Jnrl. Notes & Q.* III. 150/2 *Weesp*, a quantity of fish; 'I hae naething bit a weesp o' eels' as the result of my fishing—Moray.

c. *transf.* A flock (of birds, esp. snipe).

1806 P. NEILL *Tour Orkney* etc. 59 The sportsman . . will not pass a marsh without starting several wisps of snipe. c1810 A. MACKINTOSH *Driffeld Angler* 204 Wisp, or whisp, of snipes. 1886 P. ROBINSON *Teetotum Trees* 159 A barrelful of shot emptied into a wisp of larks.

5. In various transferred and allusive senses.

a. A twist of paper. b. A heap or bundle (of clothes). c. (See *quot.*) d. A thin, narrow, filmy, or slight piece, fragment, or portion (of something); a mere shred or 'slip' of. e. A small broom; a whisk.

a. 1597 *Return fr. Parnass.* v. i. 1434 What, you saucye groome, are you bringinge mee such paper wisps? 1800 in *Spirit Publ. Jnrls.* IV. 264 And soar like a wisp to the tail of his kite. 1861 FLOR. NIGHTINGALE *Nursing* 24 If you have a fire-place, would you cram it up . . with a great wisp of brown paper? 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* i. xiii, The bare-armed Bob, leading the way with a flaming wisp of paper.

b. 1736 PEGGE *Kentisms* (E.D.S.) s.v. *Wips*, 'The cloaths lie in a wips', i.e. tumbled in disorder. 1784 tr. *Beckford's Vathek* (1786) 106 At last, he was drawn forth, almost smothered, from the wisp of linen. 1810 T. WILLIAMSON *E. Ind. Vade Mecum* I. 245 [The clothes] are folded up into wisps, or bundles.

c. 1787 W. H. MARSHALL *Rur. Econ. Norfolk* (1795) II. 391 *Wisp*, a rowel, or seton.

d. 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Vauxhall-Gardens*, A rusty black neckerchief with a red border, tied in a narrow wisp round his neck. 1836 MRS. SOMERVILLE *Connex. Phys. Sci.* xxxvi. (ed. 3) 398 Some [nebulae] cling to stars like wisps of cloud. 1848 THACKERAY *Our Street* 14 She had a large casque with a red horse-hair plume (I thought it had been a wisp of her brother's beard at first). 1883 *Century Mag.* Sept. 719/1 Tufted with ferns and brambles and wisps of delicate long grass. 1883 STEVENSON *Silverado Sq.* 22 That great mountain . . weaving vapours, wisp after wisp growing, trembling, fleeting, and fading in the blue. 1889 CONAN DOYLE *Micah Clarke* xii, As we approached this lonely gibbet, we saw that a dried-up wisp of a thing . . was dangling from the centre of it. 1893 STEVENSON *Catriona* xxviii, The sun had gone down, a little wisp of a new moon was following it. 1919 *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 244/1 Dawson pointed to a thin wisp of smoke on the horizon.

e. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Wisp*, a besom, a small broom. 1908 RIDER HAGGARD *Ghost Kings* xv. 209 A fly wisp made of the tip of an elephant's tail shrunk on to a handle of rhinoceros horn.

6. *Comb.*, as *wisp-like* adj.; *wisp bacillus* (see *quot.* 1916); *wisp-light*, a will-o'-the-wisp; † *wisp-steel*, steel sold in wisps.

1915 *Lancet* 18 Sept. 639/1 The non-sporing bacteria of faecal origin—e.g., strepto-cocci, B. proteus, '*wisp' bacilli, &c. 1916 *Ibid.* 8 Jan. 75/1 The so-called 'wisp bacillus' . . is the B. ramosus or a member of its group. a1847 ELIZA COOK *To the Spirit of Song* iv, When '*wisp-lights dance on the moor and fen. 1883 SAVILLE-KENT in *Fisheries Bahamas* 36 A twisted '*wisp-like bundle of long silicious spicules. 1612 '*wisp steill [see sense 4 a]. 1617 *Rates of Marchandizes* L 2, Steele vocat. Long-steele, Wisp-steele [etc.]. 1657 *Acts Interregn.* (1911) II. 1220 Steel called Steel Wisp or Long.

wisp (wisp), sb.² *dial.* Also 6 wyspe, 8-9 whisp. [Of doubtful origin; perh. a use of *prec.*]

a. A disease in cattle, causing lameness or soreness near the hoof. (Cf. ANGLEBERRY, FOUL sb. 2.)

1577 GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* 111. 132 This disease, as I take it, the country people call the Fowle, or the Wyspe. 1684 J. S. PROFIT & PLEAS. *United* 24. 1696 AUBREY *Misc.* 109 To Cure a Bullock, that hath the Wisp, (that is) Lame between the Clees. 1847 HALLIWELL, *Whisp.* *Wisp*.

b. = STY sb.⁴ (Cf. earlier and *dial.* WEST sb.² and *dial. wisp*.)

1789 A. C. BOWER *Diaries & Corr.* (1903) 57, I am blind in one Eye nearly from a Whisp on the Eye lid. 1888 *Berksh. Gloss.*, *Stye*, a 'wisp' on the eye.

wisp (wisp), sb.³ [f. WISP v.] An act of wisping. a *wisp down*, a rub down with a wisp.

1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 180 They should give the horses a slight wisp down.

wisp (wisp), v. Also 7, 9 whisp. [f. WISP sb.¹]

1. *trans.* To rub (an animal, esp. a horse) down or over with a wisp.

a1598 D. FERGUSSON *Scot. Prov.* (S.T.S.) 6 A fair bryde is soon buskt, and a short horse soone wispt. 1834 *New Monthly Mag.* XLII. 436 Wisp her and curry her, feed her and train her! . . and what is she after all but a mule! 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 217 The whole body should then be wisped down with straw. *Ibid.*, Of wisping and brushing, wisping is the more beneficial to the legs, where the hair is short. 1844 *Queen's Regul. & Ord. Army* 351 They are to remain saddled . . time being allowed for wisping them over. 1856 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Sports* II. i. xi. §1. 361/1 Beginning with the head, which should be first brushed over, then well wisped with a handful of hay.

† 2. To put a twisted band of hay upon (the legs of a horse). Also with *up*. *Obs.*

1607 MARKHAM *Cavel.* iv. ix. 48 Hauling thus wispt al his four legs, . . you shall then mount vpon him [etc.]. 1639 T. DE GREY *Compl. Horsem.* 32 Whisp him up round with small wisps.

3. To twist into or as a wisp; *dial.* to rumple.

1753 HOGARTH *Anal. Beauty* v. 28 The very same head of hair, wispt'd, and matted together, would make the most disagreeable figure. 1823 E. MOOR *Suffolk Words* 487 *Wisp* is used with us, in the farther sense of rudely handling any delicate thing—'Dont wisp it'. 1870 'OUIDA' *Puck* vi, 'Ye'r wispin' tha ribbon, ma dear,' said Dick. 1880 *Daily Tel.* 2 Mar. 5/2 A cloth, degenerating into a rag, is wisped round his head.

4. *intr.* To pass away, as a wisp of vapour.

1883 MEREDITH *Poems Joy of Earth* 12 Whish! the phantom wisps away. 1898 G. W. STEEVENS *With Kitchener to Khartum* 278 Magically the rifles hushed, the stinging powder smoke wisped away.

5. *intr.* Of hair, etc.: to hang or twine in wisps.

Hence wisped (wispt) *ppl.* a.

1913 W. DE LA MARE *Peacock Pie* 31 Topknot to love-curl The hair wisps down. 1922 A. S. M. HUTCHINSON *This Freedom* II. ix. 164 Her face flushed; her hat awry; her hair escaped and wisped about her eyes. 1976 'A. YORK' *Dark Passage* iv. 56 Long, straight hair which wisped on her shoulders.

† *'wispen*, a. *Obs. rare.* [f. WISP sb.¹ + -EN⁴.] Made of a wisp or wisps.

1593 G. HARVEY *Pierces Super.* 145 She hath already put-on her wispen garland ouer her powting Cross-cloth.

wisper, obs. form of WHISPER.

wispish ('wispɪʃ), a. [f. WISP sb.¹ + -ISH¹.] Of the nature of or resembling a wisp.

1896 SARA J. DUNCAN *His Honor & a Lady* xi, Involuntarily she put a wispish curl in its place. 1923 E. BRAMAH *Eyes of Max Carrados* iii. 113 With ungainly movements of her long, wispish arms. 1925 *Chamb. Jnrl.* Jan. 53/1 A small man . . with a wispish tawny beard.

wispy ('wispi), a. [f. WISP sb.¹ + -Y¹.] Consisting of or resembling a wisp or wisps.

In early *quots.* with allusion to *will-o'-the-wisp*.

a1717 PARNELL *Fairy Tale* xxvii, Will, who bears the wispy fire To trail the swains among the mire. 1830 AIRD *Demoniac* iii. 31 Miriam saw white wispy fires dance. 1830 — *Captive of Fez* III. ii. 6 The skirring moon . . from her horn-tips tossed the wispy rack. 1839 J. WILSON in J. Hamilton *Mem.* vi. (1859) 208 These [cribs of the Cameleopards] are . . filled with a dry wispy-looking plant, neither hay nor clover. 1888 F. COWPER *Caedwallan* 141 A few locks of wispy hair hung down over the forehead. 1894 *Athenæum* 24 Nov. 719 Nebulous matter, which . . attaches itself to the . . stars and is of a wispy and streaky nature.

Hence *wispyly adv.*

1923 A. HUXLEY *Antic Hay* 30 His long grey hair floated wispy about his head. 1985 M. WESLEY *Harnessing Peacocks* ix. 76 His hair hung wispy round his collar.

wiss, var. *wis* v.¹ and ²; obs. f. WISE; obs. or *Sc.* f. WISH.

wissard, obs. f. WIZARD.

wissch(e, obs. ff. pa. t. of WASH.

wisse, obs. f. VICE sb.¹; var. *wis* v.¹ *Obs.*; obs. f. WISE sb.¹ and a., WISH v.

wissel ('wis(ə)l), sb. Chiefly *Sc.* Forms: see next. [a. MLG. *wissele*, *wessele* (M)Du. *wissel*, corresp. to OFris. *wix(e)le*, OHG. *wehsal* (MHG. *wehsel*, G. *wechsel*), ON. *vixl*: see next.]

† 1. = EXCHANGE sb. 10. *Obs.*

1482 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 104 The Kyng . . wylle hawe iij whystylles whon at Bregys another at Callez the thyrd at London. 1498 HALYBURTON *Ledger* (1867) 173 Sald tham [sc. xv lycht crounis] in the Wissil off Brugis for 3 li. 6s. 5.

2. Change for an amount of money; esp. in phr. to get the *wissel* of one's groat, fig. to be 'paid out'.

1721 RAMSAY *Prosp. Plenty* 134 Nor can we wyt them, since they had our Vote; But now they's get the Wistle of their Groat. 1722 W. HAMILTON *Wallace* 36 Wallace quickly brought the Culzeon back, And there gave him the Whistle of his Plack. 1786 BURNS *Ep. John Rankine* ix, I . . gat the whissle o' my groat, An' pay't the fee. 1808 JAMIESON s.v. *Quhissel*, 'Gie me my wissel'.

wissel ('wis(ə)l), v. *Sc.* and *north.* Forms: 4 *wesle*, *wisle*, 4-5 *vissill*, 5 *w(h)ystyll*, *wys(s)yll*, *whystel*, 5-6 *wyssil*(l, *wissle*, *wishill*, *quhissel*, 5-7 *wissil*, 7-ell, *wyschell*, *wirsle*, 6-7, 9 *wissel*, 8 *w(h)istle*, 8-9 *whissle*, 9 *wissle*. [a. MLG. (MDu.) *wisselen*, *wesselen*, *weslen*, corresp. to OFris. *wixlia*, OS. *wehslōn*, OHG. *wehslōn* (MHG. *wehseln*, *wihseln*, G. *wechseln*), ON. *vixla*:—OTeut. **wiyslōjan*, f. *wik-* (cf. WEEK sb., WIKE) + suffix *-sla-*.]

† 1. *trans.* To exchange for something else. *Obs.*

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XII. 580 Many men of gret valour With speris, macys, and with knyvis, And othir vapnys vissill [v.r. wysyllt] thair lyvis. 1513 DOUGLAS *Eneis* ix. iv. 92 Heyr is . . A forcy spreit . . Quhilk reputtis fayr to wyssill, apou sik wys Wyth this honour thou thus pretendis to wyn, This mortale stait and life that we bene in. a1583 MONTGOMERIE *Flying* 578 Appardon mee, poets, to alter my style, And wissle my verse, for fying the aire.

b. To exchange (words) with a person.

1571 A. STEWART *Let. in Bannatyne's Memorials* (Bann. Club) 152 Thow seames in the begynnyng to schaw thy vnwillngnes to wissill [ed. 1806 wishill] wordis in our querall. † a1603 MOYSE *Mem.* (Bannatyne Club) 131 Some wordis wer wissellit at the first betuix the erle of Mar and lord Lyndsay. 1819 [ALEX. BALFOUR] *Campbell* I. xviii. 332 He . . sware a gryte aith, that he had never wissle words wi' him till he changed his mind.

2. To change (money).

1483 *Acta Audit. in Acta Dom. Conc.* II. Introd. 130 The some of viij Henre nobles quhilk. Issabell allegit . . was wissillit and changit be the said Johne and nocht laid wed. 1666 *Despauterii Gramm. Instit.* v. (1677) G vij b, *Cambio*, to wissel or change money. c1700 KENNETT *MS. Lansd.* 1033 lf. 432 b, *Wirsle*, to exchange, or change, Northumb. in *Wirsle me this half-crown*. 1721 RAMSAY *Poems Gloss.*, *Wistle*, to exchange (Money).

† *wisseler*. *Obs.* Also 5 *whysteler*, *westelur*, *wislare*, 6 *wisler*, *quhysselar*, etc. [f. *prec.* + -ER¹, ad. or after MLG., MDu. *wisselere*, *wesselere*, *weslere*.] A money-changer; also, a retailer.

In the prose *Merlin* c 1450 (E.E.T.S.) 168 [A] regrater and a wyssher [so MS.], † read *wyssler*.

1481 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 74 God . . pwt hyt in yowr mynd to have the c xxx li howt of the whystelers handys . . at Bregys. 1487 *Sc. Acts Jas. III.* (1814) II. 182/2 That his hienes deput . . ane vthir to be wislare & changeour. 1573 BARET *Alv.* H 654 An Huckster, a regrater: a seller by retails: a wifler [read *wisler*], *propola*.

So † *wisseling vbl. sb.* *Sc. Obs.* [= MDu. *wisselinghe*], exchange.

c1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxiv. (*Alexis*) 164 Al þe gold . . He gaf to pure, & his clething He gaf fore ware in weslyng. 1463 *Extr. Aberdeen Regr.* (1844) I. 405, vs. vi d. the quhilk he tuke fra him in wisling of a farthing of an Inglis nobill. 1540 *Sc. Acts Jas. V*, II. 373/2 Sindry personis havand quhite siluir will not change for gold bot takkis pairfor xij d or mair for wissilling of þe samine. 1629 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* Ser. II. III. 20 That nane . . ressave anie of the saidis dollours in payment of debts nor in exchange or wissilling.

wissened, obs. *Sc.* f. WIZENED.

|| *Wissenschaft* ('visənʃaft). [Ger.] (The systematic pursuit of) knowledge; learning, scholarship; science. Hence || *Wissenschaftslehre* (-le:ɪrə), a theory or philosophy of knowledge (used with reference to the work of J. G. Fichte, author of *Grundlage der gesamten Wissenschaftslehre* (1794)).

1834 F. D. MAURICE *Let.* 24 July in F. Maurice *Life* (1884) I. xi. 168 My friend adds, ' . . They all seem to think *Wissenschaft* . . more important than soundness of creed.' 1846 J. D. MOREAU *Hist. & Crit. View Speculative Philos.* II. v. 72 Fichte's object was . . to erect a system . . of rigid scientific knowledge . . Hence it was that, in place of 'Philosophy' he assumed the term '*Wissenschaftslehre*', as most designative of his great purpose. 1896 W. CALDWELL *Schopenhauer's System* ix. 503 That most vicious aspect of

German philosophy, so prominent in the Hegelian dialectic and Fichte's *Wissenschaftslehre*, whereby it always seems to be telling us what a fact *must be* before we know what it is. 1961 D. G. JAMES *Matt. Arnold* iv. 93 By 'science' he does not, of course, mean 'science' as we now ordinarily understand it; he means *Wissenschaft*, that is, as he says elsewhere, 'knowledge systematically pursued and prized in and for itself'. 1976 B. WILLIAMS *Making of Manchester Jewry* iv. 108 The emergence of Theodores as... a major English representative of the German *Wissenschaft*. 1982 C. CLEMEAU *Ariadne Clue* (1983) xi. 120 These fragments are painstakingly collected, published... and roundly applauded as the choicest fruits of philological *Wissenschaft*.

Wissentide, obs. f. WHITSUNTIDE.

† **wisser**. Obs. In 5-are. [f. WIS *v.*¹ + -ER¹.] A leader, director, guide.

c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 530/1 Wyssare, or ledare.

wissh(e), obs. pa. t. of WASH *v.*; var. WIS *v.*¹ Obs.; obs. f. WISH.

† **wissing**, *vbl. sb.* Obs. [f. WIS *v.*¹ + -ING¹.] The action of WIS *v.*¹, in various senses.

1. Guidance, direction, instruction.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Pastoral Epist.* xx. in *Ags. Laws* (Thorpe) II. 370 Hi ealle þa lare þe we leorniað on bocum awriton and gesetton be Godes aɡenre wissunge. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 95 þe man þe... sheweoð preste his sinnes... nimeð þerof god wissunge. *Ibid.* 99 Bi shriftes wissunge. c 1200 ORMIN 1830 Uss biþr sone þannkenn himm Hiss wissung & hiss lare. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* xi. 58 By wissunge of þis wenche I wrouȝte. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8151 This wot I full well, thurgh wissung of hom. 1493 [H. PARKER] *Dives & Pauper* i. xviii. Bviii/2 To gouerne them selfe... by the lyght and wyssunge of tyme. 1670 NARBOROUGH *Jrnl.* in *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* i. (1694) 79, I called them *The Islands of Direction*; they are good wishing to fall with the Mouth of the Streight.

b. Leading astray, enticement. (Cf. WISE *v.*¹ 1.)

1357 *Lay Folks Catech.* (T.) 542 Idelnesse is... witter wissung and wai till alkyns vices.

c. Conduction, conveyance. Also *concr.* a conduit.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 11942 þe water wissing gan he ditt, þat water to þe lak broght. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1606 The water by wissung went vnder houses.

2. Command, ordinance; rule, government.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC in Assmann *Ags. Hom.* (1889) 39 þa munecas, þe... gode þeowiað under abbodes wissunge after þam regole. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 73 Hit wes iloked bi godes wissunge ine halie chirche. a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 190 As al þe world is iwald purh his wissunge. a 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 3256 þe wyssung of þe wale god pat wist all before.

wissit, obs. Sc. pa. t. of VISIT *v.*

c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* v. x. 1887 þis lady wowit gret pilgrimage, ... And wissit hir goddis, ane and ane.

Wissonday, obs. f. WHIT SUNDAY.

wist (wist), *sb. local*. [In Anglo-Latin *wista*, *wysta*; ? a use of OE. *wist* provision, sustenance, applied orig. to an area which provided sustenance for a community of a certain size.] A Sussex land measure of area, the extent of which has been variously computed (see *quots.* and J. TOUT in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* XVIII. 705 ff.).

c 1180 *Chron. Monast. de Bello* (1846) 11 Octo itaque virgate unam hidam faciunt. Wista vero quatuor virgatis constat. *Ibid.* 17 Dividitur igitur leuga per wistas, quæ aliis in locis virgate vocantur. *Ibid.* 19 In Petlee est una wista in dominio... Ista enim quadraginta viii. acris constat. c 1300 in *Customs Battle Abbey* (Camden) 26 Radulphus Bedellus tenet j wistam. Idem tenet j magnam wistam. c 1312 *Ibid.* 100 Virgate seu wista est sextadecima pars unius feodi militis. Quatuor virgate seu wista faciunt unam hydram. c 1650 in *Sussex Archaeol. Collect.* (1853) VI. 236, I doo allowe tithe free, to my Parishioners, for euery Wist of land that they till, one oxe pasture upon the lease. 1799 *Book of Surveys of D. of Dorset's lands in Sussex* (MS), under 'Lullington', Upon this Tenant Down the D. of Dorset has a right to stock for two Wists & a half of land sixty sheep for each Wist. 1853 *Sussex Archaeol. Collect.* VI. 236 A 'wist' in Berwick, according to... the Rev. John Hawes, was ordinarily 16 acres; but he afterwards found that in some of the farms it was 18 acres. In Saxon times the wist was 4 virgates or 60 acres. 1892 VINOGRADOFF *Villainage in Eng.* 255.

† **wist**, *a.* Obs. rare. [app. back-formation from WISTLY *adv.*] Attentive, intent.

1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 550 *Motus Tonicus*, wee in our Language cal it a Set or wist-looker.

wist, *v. pseudo-arch.* [Partly from *I wist*, corrupt form of *iwis* (see WIS *v.*²); partly *erron.* use of pa. t. *wist* of WIT *v.*¹] To know; in *quot.* 1594 in *pa. pple.* = caused to know, informed.

[1508, 1614, 1798, 1893: see WIS *v.*²] 1580 LYLY *Euphues* 98b, You gall mee more with these teames, then you wist [ed. 1597 wish, 1606 wisse]. 1594 CAREW *Huarte's Exam.* Wits 255 Samuel now wisted [orig. *como ya estava aduertido*], that a great stature was no sure token, caused him to be sent for. 1858 BUCKLE *Infl. Women Progr. Knowl.* Misc. Wks. 1885 I. 68 Though he [sc. Hamlet] wists not of this, he is moved... and he, like Göthe, takes up a skull, and his speculative faculties begin to work.

wist, var. WISHT *a.*; pa. t. and pple. of WIT *v.*¹; *erron* f. *wift*, var. of WITHE.

Wistar ('wistə(r), -ɑ:(r)). *Med.* and *Biol.* The name of the *Wistar* Institute of Anatomy and Biology, Philadelphia (founded by I. J. Wistar (1827-1905), grandnephew of Caspar Wistar

(see WISTARIA)), used *attrib.* to designate rats bred from a strain developed at the Institute for laboratory purposes.

1938 *Amer. Jnl. Cancer* XXXIV. 353 The Wistar rats used in this series were from the Experimental Colony strain of the Wistar Institute. 1956 *Nature* 10 Mar. 453/2 One series of irradiated mice was injected with a suspension of bone-marrow cells of the Wistar rat. 1970 *Jrnl. Gen. Psychol.* LXXXII. 28 This kind of preference is the same as has been found by Wagner... and Rowntree with Long-Evans and Wistar albino rats.

wistaria (wɪ'stɛəriə). Also *wisteria*; *erron.* *wysteria*, *westeria*. [mod.L., f. name of Caspar Wistar (or Wister) 1761-1818, American anatomist; named by T. Nuttall in 1818: see -IA¹.] a. Any plant of the genus *Wistaria* (N.O. *Leguminosæ*), native to N. America, Japan, and China, the species of which are hardy, climbing, deciduous shrubs bearing racemes of blue-lilac papilionaceous flowers, the best known being *W. sinensis* (or *chinensis*), formerly *Glycine chinensis*.

1842 LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 376 Vines, roses, *Wistarias*, or other luxuriant climbers. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 486/1 *Wistaria frutescens*, Shrubby *Wistaria*... *W. Chinensis*, Chinese *Wistaria*. 1876 *Black Madcap Violet* vii. 59 The pale purple blossoms of the *wysteria* hanging in front of the sunlit walls. 1878 SUSAN PHILLIPS *On Seaboard* 173 The great *Westeria's* purple blooms.

attrib. 1888 J. C. HARRIS *Free Joe* 199 A *wisteria* vine running helter-skelter across the roof of the little cabin. 1895 A. DOBSON *At Convent Gate* i. in *Story of Rosina* 97 *Wistaria* blossoms trail and fall Above the length of barrier wall.

b. A light blue-purple shade, the colour of *wistaria* blossom.

1911 *Daily Colonist* (Victoria, B.C.) 5 Apr. 24/1 (Adv.), Important Silk Purchase... in colours of rose, Persian blue... *wisteria*. 1927 *Observer* 3 Apr. 25/5 (Adv.), Sunrise, geranium, *wisteria*, russet. 1974 *Country Life* 25 Apr. 1025/2 Her best colours... are *wistaria*, ice blue... and lemon yellow.

wistful ('wistful), *a.* [app. f. WISTLY *adv.* (where cf. *quot.* 1613-16) + -FUL, with reminiscence of *wishful*. In early use mainly poetical.]

† 1. Closely attentive, intent. Obs.

1613-16 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* II. ii. 544 A Christall Riuer... chid the artiesse Songsters, that their Musicke still should charme the sweet Dale, and the wistful Hill. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 113 ¶3 [She] bore the Whispers of all around the Court with such a pretty Uneasiness, ... and then recovered her self from one Eye to another, 'till she was perfectly confused by meeting something so wistful in all she encountered.

2. Expectantly or yearningly eager, watchful, or intent; mournfully expectant or longing. (Chiefly in reference to the look.)

1714 *GAY Sheph. Week* v. i Why, Grubbinol, dost thou so wistful seem? There's Sorrow in thy Look, if right I deem. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* x. 484 My sad companions on the beach I found, Their wistful eyes in floods of sorrow drown'd. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* II. viii. 1... lifting up one of my Sashes, cast many a wistful melancholy Look towards the Sea. 1799 CAMPBELL *Pleas. Hope* i. 88 His faithful dog... Points to his master's eyes (where'er they roam) His wistful face, and whines a welcome home. 1878 *Black Green Past.* xxi. For a moment she hesitated, eager, disappointed and wistful.

Comb. 1873 *Black Pr. Thule* iii. This fair-haired, wistful-eyed girl. 1889 CONAN DOYLE *Micah Clarke* xxiii. The wistful-eyed red Somerset kine.

adv. 1795 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* i. 258 His eyes gazed wistful round. 1848 LYTTON *Harold* i. i. The terror that seized the girl as she gazed long and wistful upon the knight.

wistfully ('wistful), *adv.* [f. *prec.* + -LY².]

† 1. With close attention, intently; with an inquiring look. Obs.

1664 BUTLER *Hud.* II. III. 464 With that he fell again to pry Through Perspective more wistfully. 1713 ADDISON *Guardian* No. 139 ¶2 [The lion] after having regarded him [sc. Androcles] a little wistfully, fell to the ground, and crept towards his feet. 1759 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* II. xii. Brother Shandy, answered my uncle Toby, looking wistfully in his face, -you are much mistaken. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Manch. Strike* x. 115 Martha looked wistfully from one to the other, not understanding the grounds of the dispute.

2. With expectant or yearning eagerness; with mournful expectancy or longing.

1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. III. 191 Echo... His doleful wailings did resound, More wistfully by many times, Than in small Poets splay-foot Rhimes. 1758 GOLDSM. *Mem. Prot.* (1895) I. 256 Two of the Grenadiers passing by... and looking wistfully at the House; said one to the other, Comrade, let us halt, and take a little drop of Dram. 1760-72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 90 Sore and shackled as I was, I got... on deck, and looked wistfully out at sea. 1823 BYRON *Island* III. vi. He... strode to where young Torquill stood, ... Seized his hand wistfully, but did not press. 1858 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* IV. xviii. 53 The Catholic league gazed wistfully from Flanders at their intended prey. 1883 RUSKIN *Fors. Clav.* xc. 165 The girl wandered about wistfully a year or two longer, then died.

So 'wistfulness.

1775 ASH. 1847 FLOR. NIGHTINGALE in Sir E. Cook *Life* (1913) I. i. v. 71 There is an uncertainty, a wistfulness in her eyes. 1887 HALL CAINE *Son of Hagar* i. ii. The lucent eyes were full of a dewy wistfulness.

wistiti ('wistiti). Also *ouistiti*(s). [ad. F. *ouistiti* (imitative); named by Buffon (*Hist. Nat.* 1767 XV. 96) from the cry of the animal.] A S. American monkey of the family *Hapalidae*; a

marmoset, esp. the Common Marmoset, *Hapale jacchus*.

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* IV. 237 Of the sagoins with feeble tails, there are six kinds... The third is the Wistiti; remarkable for the large tufts of hair upon its face, and its annulated tail. 1834 MCMURTRIE *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 49 *Simia jacchus*, Linnaeus; the Common *Ouistitis*... This species is found in Paraguay, and nearly every part of South America. 1847-9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 212/1 This general resemblance to the human skull is still greater in the *Ouistitis*.

† **wistless**, *a. poet. Obs.* [irreg. f. WISTLY *adv.* or WISTFUL + -LESS.] Inattentive, unobservant.

1747 [G. RIDLEY] *Psyche* xix. in *Museum* III. 86 So ore Avernus, or the Lucrine Lake, The wistless bird pursues his purpos'd Flight. 1795 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* i. 405, I held it, ... And, wistless what I did, half from the sheath Drew the well-temper'd blade. *Ibid.* iv. 61 Wistless that every eye dwelt on her form, With stately step she paced. 1814 CARY *Dante, Parad.* xi. 10 One, moiling, lay Tangled in net of sensual delight; And one to wistless indolence resigned.

† **wistly**, *adv.* Obs. Forms: 6 *wystly*, *wistle*, *wistlie*, 6-9 *wistly*. [Origin doubtful; perh. a variant of WHISTLY, WHISHTLY *adv.* silently, hushedly.] With close attention; intently.

Occas. with implication of WISTFULLY 2.

a 1500 *Gest of Robyn Hode* cccc, Robyn behelde our comly kyngye Wistly in the face. 1583 MELBANCKE *Philotimus* Oj, Witb that Castibula looking wistly vpon him, in furious rage flange hastilye from him. 1596 *Edu. III.* III. v. 109 Now lies it on an vpsshot; therefore strike, And wistlie follow, whiles the games on foote. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* ix. xxxii. 337 For a good while they stood on both sides, wistly looking, & waiting that the shout and charge should begin from the adverse part. 1613-16 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* II. v. 435 What time the new-cloth'd trees by gusts of winde Vnmou'd, stand wistly listning to those layes. 1641 H. L'ESTRANGE *God's Sabbath* 23 If you look wistly upon Calvin's words, you shall find him not repugnant to what I have here delivered. 1675 N. LEE *Nero* III. i. 23 Do you know me, Sir? Look wistly on me. 1724 S. KNIGHT *Life J. Colet* 54 He look'd wistly upon me, to observe whether I spoke in jest, or earnest. 1730 T. BOSTON *View World* (1799) 281 In your... wrestling with temptations, have ye not sometimes looked wistly for death's relief?

wistonwish, var. WISHTONWISH.

wisy, obs. f. VIZY *v.* Sc.

wit (wit), *sb.* Forms: 1- wit, 3-6 wyt, 3 (*Orm.*), 4-8 witt, 4-6 wytt, wyte, 4-7 witte, wytte, (4 wiit, wiit, whit, 4, 6 wite, Sc. wit, vyt, 5 whytt, wette, 6 Sc. wott, 7 weet). [OE. *wit* neut., more commonly *gewit* (t 1-WIT *sb.*, corresp. to OFris. *wit*, OS., (M)LG. *wit*, OHG. *wizzi* (MHG. *witz(e)*, G. *witz*), ON. *vit* (Sw. *vet*, Da. *vid*), Goth. *un-witi* *ἀπωσίτης*, *ἀγνοία*: f. *wit*- (see WIT *v.*¹).]

1. Denoting a faculty (or the person possessing it).

† 1. The seat of consciousness or thought, the mind: sometimes connoting one of its functions, as memory or attention. Obs.

a 1000 *Boeth. Metr.* viii. 45 Deos ɡitsunc liafað ɡumena ɡehwelces mod amerred, ... ac hit on wittc weallende byrnð. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 71 3if us eni ufel bitit þonke we gode in ure wit. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 324 First in his witte he all purueid His werc. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvii. (*Machor*) 338 [He] in his hart wele held it, Ay renetywe he had a wyt. a 1400 N. T. (Pauze) Eph. iv. 17 Mysbylefed men, þat walkep in vanyte of hure wyt. c 1449 PECKOC *Repr.* III. iv. 295 His ouer greet trust which in his wit he bisetted upon hem. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XII. i. 67 And sammyn prent thir sawis in thy wyt. 1548-9 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Ordering of Priests*, O holy ghoste into oure wittes, sende downe thyne heauenly lyght. 1575 LANEHAM *Let.* (1871) 35 A! stay a while! see a short wit: by my trooth I had almost forgot. 1612 BACON *Ess., Studies* (Arb.) 13 If a mans wit be wandering, let him study the Mathematicks. a 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. *Archæol. Soc.*) I. 110 Our Catholicke General did now examen the secret retirements of his witte, to be enformed what best to doe in this extremitie.

2. a. The faculty of thinking and reasoning in general; mental capacity, understanding, intellect, reason. *arch.* (now esp. in phr. *the wit of man* = human understanding).

For the corresponding pregnant uses see 5 and 6.

Beowulf 589 þæs þu in helle scealt werhðo dreogan, þeah pin wit duge. c 1230 *Hali Meid.* (1922) 21 Hwil þi wit atstond & chastieð þi wil... ne harned hit te nawiht. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 9389 Is brayn & wit is so feble, þat þer nis of him no drede. c 1305 *St. Kenelm* 220 in *E.E.P.* (1862) 53 A dombe best wiþoute witte. c 1375 *Lay Folks Mass Bk.* (MS. B.) 343 My lyue, my lymmes þou has me lent, My right witt þou has me sent. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* xx. 266 Kynde witte me telteth, It is wikked to wage ȝow. c 1400 *Pety Job* 184 in 26 *Pol. Poems* 127 To gouerne me thou yau me wyt. c 1470 HENRY WALLACE xi. 481 To mychty God, ... sen I had wit off man, Befor my werk, to ȝeild me I began. 1526 TINDALE *I Cor.* xiv. 20 Brethren be not children in witte. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 193 He was verie pregnant and had an excellent wyt. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* iv. i. 211, I had a dreame, past the wit of man, to say, what dreame it was. 1665 GLANVILL *Scepsis Sci.* 99 A good will, help'd by a good wit, can find Truth any where. 1675 BAXTER *Cath. Theol.* II. viii. 167 God were not God, if mans shallow wit could comprehend him. 1732 POPE *Epitaph Gay*, Of Manners gentle, of Affections mild; In Wit, a Man; Simplicity, a Child. 1842 R. S. WILBERFORCE *Rutilius & Lucius* 139 We profess not to discover the truth by our own wit. 1879 McCARTHY *Own Times* xx. II. 98 The wit of man could suggest nothing satisfactory. 1879 E. ARNOLD *Lt. Asia* VIII. 232 Shun drugs and drinks which work the wit abuse.

b. In plural, in reference to a number of persons.

a1300 *Cursor M.* 23759 Crist[es] help sal be us ner, His helpes and vr wittes eke. 1463 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 27 To fynde remedyes and weyes as by there wittes may be founde moost sewr. 1526 *TINDALE Luke* xxiv. 45 Then openned he their wyttes, that they myght vnderstond the scriptures. 1591 *SAVILLE Tacitus, Agricola* 242 That militare wittes are not refined to that sharpenesse and subtlety, that is practised in . . . courtes of iustice. 1664 *POWER Exp. Philos.* Pref. b2, Herein we can see what the illustrious wits of the Atomical and Corpuscularian Philosophers durst but imagine. 1700 T. BROWN tr. *Fresny's Amusem.* 7 Some Men can never be brought to write correctly in this Age, till they have formed their Wits upon the Ancients.

c. Often denoting indifferently the faculty or the person possessing it, and hence sometimes used definitely for the person in respect of this faculty. Almost always in plural, of a number of persons, and commonly with qualifying adj. *arch.*

For the corresponding pregnant uses see g and io. 1536 *Act 27 Hen. VIII* c. 42 §1 In his Unyversities of Oxorde and Cambridge . . . where yowth and good wyttes be educate. 1542 *UDALL Erasmus. Apoph.* Pref. **v b, A sence not comen for euerie witte to picke out. a1568 *ASCHAM Scholem.* Pref. (Arb.) 19 Many yong wittes be driuen to hate learninge, before they know what learninge is. 1610 *HOLLAND Camden's Brit.* i. 274 Gods-Hill, in which Iohn Worsley erected a schole for the training up of young wits. 1750 *JOHNSON Rambler* No. 24 ¶7 The great Praise of Socrates is, that he drew the Wits of Greece . . . from the vain Pursuit of natural Philosophy to moral Inquiries. 1874 *BLACKIE Self-Cult.* 58 The rock, on which great wits are often wrecked for want of a little kindly culture of unselfishness.

d. Phr. *at one's wit's end* (occas. *ends*): utterly perplexed; at a loss what to think or what to do. So to *bring (drive, or put) to one's wit's end*: to perplex utterly.

Now commonly taken as 2 c, the word being written as gen. pl. (*witts*) even in ref. to a single person.

1377 *LANGL. P. Pl. B.* xv. 363 Astrymyanes also aren at her wittes ende. c1420 ? *LYDG. Assembly of Gods* 1665 When they were dreuyn to her wyttes ende. 1535 *COVERDALE Isa.* xx. 5 They shalbe also at their wittes ende, and ashamed one of another. 1550 *Respublica* i. iii. 240 & she att hir wittes endes what for to saie or doe. 1598 R. BERNARD tr. *Terence, Andria* ii. iv, You bring him to his wits end. 1681 *FLAVEL Meth. Grace* iii. 54 What shall we do? is the doleful cry of men at their wits end. 1712 *ADDISON Spect.* No. 311 ¶1, I am at my Wits End for fear of any sudden Surprise. 1782 *MISS BURNEY Cecilia* ix. iv, Two ladies . . . are quite, as one may say, at their wit's ends. 1826 *GALT Last of Lairds* xl. 360 The old Laird . . . fairly finding himself driven to his wit's-end. 1853 *KINGSLEY Hypatia* xiii, Raphael, utterly at his wits' end.

†e. *wit, whither wilt thou?*: phr. addressed to a person who is letting his tongue run away with him.

1600 *SHAKS. A. Y. L.* iv. i. 167 A man that had a wife with such a wit, he might say, wit whether wilt't? [*Ibid.* i. ii. 60 How now Witte, whether wander you?] 1602 *DEKKER Satirom.* i. i, Th'art within a haire of it, my sweet Wit whether wilt thou? my delicate Poetical Furie. 1617 *Greene's Groat's W.* Wit Pref. A 2, This olde Ballad made in Hell: *Ingenio perij, qui miser ipse meo*: Wit, whither wilt thou? woe is me. 1623 *MIDDLETON More Dissemblers* iv. i, *Cap.* Wit whether wilt thou? *Dond.* Marry to the next pocket I can come at. 1637 *HEYWOOD Royall King* i. i. C2, *Cap.* Wit: is the word strange to you, wit? *Bon.* Whither wilt thou?

†f. *wit and reason*: name of an old card-game. 1680 *COTTON Compl. Gamester* xvi. (ed. 2) 97 Wit and Reason . . . is a Game something like one and thirty.

†3. a. Any one of certain particular faculties of perception, classified as *outer (outward)* or *bodily*, and *inner (inward)* or *ghostly*, and commonly reckoned as five of each kind (see b): = *SENSE sb.* 1, 7 (see also *INWIT* 2 b). Also *common wit* = *COMMON SENSE* 1. (In early use occas. loosely extended to include other bodily faculties, as speech and locomotion.) *Obs.* exc. as in b and c.

a1225 *Ancr. R.* 64 þis is nu inouh of pisse witte [*sc.* sight]. a1300 *Cursor M.* 23999 O wittes all me wantid might, Gang, and steyuen, and tung, and sight. 1340 *Ayenb.* 251 þe wyttes of þe zaule. 1387 *TREVISA Higden* (Rolls) III. 467 Nesche is i-knowe by meny wittes, for it is knowe bope by gropyng and by sight. 1422 *YONGE tr. Secr. Secr.* 242 Al the wittis and meuynges of the body. c1449 *PECOCK Repr.* v. vii. 519 Inward sensityue wittis and outward sensityue wittis. 1509 *HAWES Past. Pleas.* xxiv. ii. (Percy Soc.) 108 These are the .v. wyttis remeuing inwardly: Fyrst, commyn wytte, and than ymaginacyon, Fantasy, and estymacyon truely, And memory. 1541 *COPLAND Guydon's Quest. Cyrurg.* Ejb, In whiche of the ventrycles is the wyt of smellynge found? 1592 *SHAKS. Rom. & Jul.* ii. iv. 77 Thou hast more of the Wild-Goose in one of thy wits, then I am sure I haue in my whole fiue.

b. *five wits*: usually, the five (bodily) senses; often vaguely, the perceptions or mental faculties generally, = *wits* (in sense 3 c or 4 b). Also (jocularly) *fifteen wits*. *Obs.* or *rare arch.*

c1200 *Vices & Virtues* 17 Da fif wittes ðe god me betathe to lokin of mine wreche lichame. a1300 *Cursor M.* 17018 Hering, sight, smelling and fele, cheuing, er wittes fiue. c1380 *WYCLIF Sel. Wks.* III. 117 þy fyve wyttys, þe uttryr and þe ynnyr. c1460 *Wisdom* 163 in *Macro Plays* 41 þe v. wyttis of my sowll with-inne. c1515 *Interl. Four Elem.* (Percy Soc.) 19, I comfote the wittes fyve, The tastyng, smellyng, and herynge; I refresh the syght and felyng to all creaturs alyve. 1532 *TINDALE Expos. v-vii. Matt.* vii. 98 b, There is no breade in the sacrament, nor wine, though the five wittes saye all ye. 1570 *FOX E. & M.* (ed. 2) 960

The v. wittes bodely and ghostlye. 1570 *BUCHANAN Admonitioun Wks.* (S.T.S.) 33 Quhen yai bendit all yair fyve wittis to stop ye regent. 1606 *Sir G. Goosecappe* v. i, Haue you no pittie in your villanous iests, but runne a man quite from his fifteene witts? 1610 A. COOKE *Pope Joan* 113 Though men . . . had bene . . . bewitched and distract of their fiue wits. 1830 *TENNYSON Owl* l. 6 Alone and warming his fiue wits, The white owl in the belfry sits. 1878 *MORLEY Diderot* l. iv. 86 Everybody now has learnt that morality depends not merely on the fiue wits, but on the mental constitution within, and on the social conditions without.

c. *pl.* Mental faculties, intellectual powers (of a single person or a number of persons: cf. 2 b); often practically equivalent to the sing. in sense 2.

to have one's wits about one: to have one's mental powers in full exercise, to be mentally alert. to live by one's wits: to get one's living by clever or (now esp.) crafty devices, without any settled occupation.

13. . . E.E. *Allit. P. B.* 515, I se wel pat hit is sothe, þat alle mannez wyttet To vn-thyfte am alle prawn. 1362 *LANGL. P. Pl. A.* 1. 129 þou dostest daffe, . . . Dulle are þi wittes. 1450-1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* i. vii. 21 To be full besy in all the wyttes and mightes of youre soule. 1533 *GAU Richt Vay* 87 Quhen our hart and vittis are ful of sorow. 1576 *FLEMING Panopol. Epist.* 14 So soone as I gathered my wits together. 1612 B. JONSON *Alch.* iii. iv, How doe they lue by their wits, there, that haue vented Sixe times your fortunes? 1622 *MABBE tr. Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* ii. 99, I had my wits about me; and a hand that was able to finde me worke. 1681 *DRYDEN Abs. & Achit.* 1. 163 Great Wits are sure to Madness near alli'd. 1748 *RICHARDSON Clarissa* VII. 326 That my wits may not be sent a wooll-gathering. 1809 *MALKIN Gil Blas* v. i. ¶18 Have all your wits about you, . . . you are nursing a viper in your bosom. 1820 L. HUNT *Indicator* No. 14. I. 111 That letter touched her kind wits. 1840 *DICKENS Old Cur. Shop* lxxiii, Living by his wits—which means by the abuse of every faculty that worthily employed raises man above the beasts. 1883 *STEVENSON Silverado Sq.* 146 This expression . . . at last penetrated his obdurate wits.

†d. *sing.* and *pl.* Consciousness; sensation: cf. *SENSE sb.* 3, 6. *Obs. rare.*

c1290 *St. Brendan* 12 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 220 Seint brendan . . . cride on him al for-to is wit him cam. 13. . . *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1755 He keuered his wyttes, Swenges out of þe sweuenes. 1385 *CHAUCER L.G.W.* 1815 *Lucrece*, Sche loste at onys bothe wit & breth, And in a swo she lay. c1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 6047 Withouten wit he was lifyng.

4. The understanding or mental faculties in respect of their condition; chiefly = 'right mind', 'reason', 'senses', sanity. †a. *sing.*: esp. in phrases *in (one's right) wit*, sane, of sound mind; chiefly *out of (by, from, of) wit or one's wit*, insane, mad, out of one's mind; also *out of wit* advb., madly, furiously. *Obs.* (or *dial.*).

c1000 *ÆLFRIC Saints' Lives* xv. 7 Wode he gehælde and on witte gebrohte. c1205 *LAY.* 1661 Swa swiðe wa him was pat al his wit he for-læs. c1290 *St. Dunstan* 600 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 19 Heo iwerth a-non out of hire witte, and feol a-down riht þer. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 10872 He made him as bi wit. a1300 *Cursor M.* 27168 Man in witt Or man mai falle was vte of itt. c1350 *Will. Palerne* 1483 Neigh wod of witte. c1374 *CHAUCER Anel. & Arc.* 102 Arcyte . . . swore he wold dey . . . Or from his witte he wold tynne. 1425 *E.E. Wills* (1882) 66 Wip witte and good mende. 1470-85 *MALORY Arthur* i. xi. 50 They were wrothe out of wyt. c1489 *CAXTON Blanchardyn* xvi. 178 Arte thou now drone, or folysh, or from thy witte? 1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* iii. 207 As no man in his right wit wil graunt. a1619 *FOTHERBY Atheom.* i. xiv. §3 (1622) 151 It is a thing so euident, that there is a God; that whosoever denieth it, is (surely) out of his wit. 1724 *RAMSAY Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) I. 86 The wife was woad, and out o' her wit.

b. *pl.* = *SENSE sb.* 10: esp. in phr. *in* or *out of one's wits*.

1340 *HAMPOLE Pr. Consc.* 785 His wyttes fayles, and he ofte dotes. 1431 *E.E. Wills* (1882) 87 Beyng yn goode heale and yn my full wittis. c1450 *CAPGRAVE Life St. Aug.* xxi. 32 For a tyme it had a-wey hir wittis. 1526 *TINDALE I Cor.* xiv. 23 Will they not saye that ye are out off youre wittes? 1568 *GRAFTON Chron.* II. 107 Such a one as lacketh his right wittes. 1601 *SHAKS. Twel. N.* iv. ii. 95, I am as well in my wits (foole) as thou art. 1604 *DEKKER Honest Wh.* i. xiii. (1635) I4, How fell he from his wits? 1622 *BACON Hen. VII.* 226 loan . . . was vnable . . . to beare the Griefe of his Decese, and fell distracted of her Wittes. a1661 *FULLER Worthies, York* iii. (1662) 228 Seeing his wits is nearer and dearer to any man than his wealth. 1736 *BUTLER Anal.* Diss. i. 306 Nor is it possible for a Person in his wits, to alter his Conduct, . . . from a Suspicion, that [etc.]. 1840 *MACAULAY Ess., Clive* (1880) 518 The governor . . . was frightened out of his wits.

fig. 1598 *SHAKS. Merry W.* ii. i. 143 Heere's a fellow frights English out of his wits. 1656 R. SHORT *Drinking Water* 62 Our small beer, or water skared out of its wits.

II. Denoting a quality (or the possessor of it).

* 5. a. Good or great mental capacity; intellectual ability; genius, talent, cleverness; mental quickness or sharpness, acumen. *arch.*

The earliest quots. may belong to other senses, e.g. 6 or 11.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 10812 þo . . . he vnderstod of is wit, & of is wisdom, Him þohte it was a gret lere to al is kinedom. a1300 *Cursor M.* 8543 Salamon . . . was a borli bachelere, . . . O wijt o wisdom Was neuer nan wiser. c1320 *Cast. Love* 1080 Of whom and hou comeþ hit, Such reson and such wit, þat þou . . . darst nymen þe Forte dispute a-zeynes me? c1400 *MAUNDEV.* (1839) vii. 78 Nyghe that Awtier is a place . . . where the Holy Croys was founden, be the Wytt of Seynte Elyne. c1450 *Mirk's Festial* 27 þay began to dyspute wyth hym; but . . . þay haden no wytte ne no powste forto þeynestonde hym. 1526 *TINDALE Rev.* xiii. 18 Let hym that hath wytt comte the nombre oþt the beest. 1603 *SHAKS. Meas. for M.* ii. i. 282 Are there not men in your Ward sufficient to serue it? *Elb.* Faith sir, few of any wit in such matters. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 13 The weake

constitutions of the Southerne Nations are supplied by the extraordinarie gifts of the minde: terme them what you please, either wit, or subiltie. 1709 *POPE Ess. Crit.* 17 Authors are partial to their wit, 'tis true, But are not Critics to their judgment too? 1837 *DICKENS Pickw.* xi, Where was the wit of the sharp-sighted men of sound mind? Where the dexterity of the lawyers? 1874 *MAURICE Friendsh. Bks.* vi. 163 The blessing of wit and foresight.

†b. Practical talent or cleverness; constructive or mechanical ability; ingenuity, skill. *Obs.* as a specific sense.

c1325 *Spec. Gy Warw.* 212 God . . . 3eueþ wit in alle craftes. c1400 *Destr. Troy* 1632 A pales gert make . . . Full worthily wrought & by wit caste. 1590 *SPENSER F.Q.* 1. iv. 5 It was a goodly heape for to behould, And spake the praises of the workmans wit. 1648 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* (1702) xi. xxv, Those Engins which so strangely spit Death's multiply'd and deadlyer made by Wit. 1691 *RAY Creation* 1. (1692) 4 The best Telescopes that could possibly be invented or polished by the Wit and Hand of an Angel. 1726 *LEONI Alberti's Archit.* Pref. 4 The Enemy was oftener overcome . . . by the Architect's Wit, without the Captain's Arms, than by the Captain's Arms without the Architect's Wit.

†c. Of animals: Intelligence, sagacity. *Obs.*

c1400 26 *Pol. Poems* ii. 61 here [*i.e.* the drones'] wit is wane To stroize the hony. 1577 *GOOGE Heresbach's Husb.* iii. 145 The witte of this beast Nutianus reporteth, he once had experience of. 1607 *TOPSELL Four-f. Beasts* 658 The admirable witte of this beast appeareth in her swimming or passing ouer the Waters. 1610 *GUILLIM Heraldry* iii. xii. 122 The Fox is full of wit.

6. a. Wisdom, good judgement, discretion, prudence: = *SENSE sb.* 11. *Obs.* exc. in phr. like *to have the wit to*, which combines the notions of intelligence and good sense.

The phr. in quot. 1602 has become proverbial, though commonly taken in sense 8.

c1200 *ORMIN* 3040 Goddess Sune . . . iss . . . Goddess word, & Goddess witt. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 9391 Vor wat he ap Manliche bigonne he it ap bileued Wommanliche as vor defeaute of wit in his heued. a1300 *Cursor M.* 285 þat he ordaind wit his witte He multiplis and gouerns itte. *Ibid.* 3079 Quen [ysmael] was of age and witte A wijf he spused of egipite. *Ibid.* 29204 þe gift o wijt of vnder-standing, O consail, strenght, o gode dreding, O conand-scipe, and o pite. c1430 *Hymns Virgin* (1867) 5 Heil welle of witt and of mercil 1552 T. WILSON *Logic* (ed. 2) 22 As vertue is contrarie vnto vice, witte vnto folie, manhode vnto Cowardise. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 153 When ale is in, wyt is out. When ale is out, wyt is in. 1602 *SHAKS. Ham.* ii. ii. 90 Since Breuitie is the Soule of Wit, And tediousnesse, the limbes and outward flourishes, I will be breefe. 1681 *DRYDEN Abs. & Achit.* 1. 386 For Lavish Grants suppose a Monarch tame And more his Goodness than his Wit proclaim. 1701 *SWIFT Contests Athens & Rome* ii. Misc. (1711) 26 But, however, they had the Wit to recall him [*sc.* Aristides]. 1725 *DE FOE Voy. round World* (1840) 326 But they were taught more wit, to their cost, in two or three days. 1886 *RUSKIN Præterita* I. xi. 376 One piece of good fortune, of which I had the wit to take advantage. 1926 S. BALDWIN in *Morn. Post* 8 Oct. 15/3 Men . . . who . . . had formed his Majesty's Government . . . and who had the wit to understand what the challenge meant.

†b. Contextually in predicative use: A piece of wisdom or prudence, a wise thing to do; also, something demanding or showing wisdom, a matter of practical wisdom. *Obs.*

1375 *BARBOUR Bruce* i. 344 To fenyhe folly quhile is wyt. c1400 *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 1609 þarfor es wit, to lest & mast, Wine or aile softly to tast. 1421-2 *HOCLEVE Min. Poems* xx. 115 Whane that a man is in prosperite, To drede a fall comynge it is a wit. 1562 in *Archæologia* XLVII. 229 Gettinge ys a chauce and keapinge a witte.

†c. A prudent measure or proceeding; an ingenious plan or device. *Obs.*

The uses exemplified by the quots. are prob. of various or mixed origin.

1340 *Ayenb.* 257 þe ilke eddre ous tekþ a wel grat wyt þet we ne hyere naht þane charrere. c1385 *CHAUCER L.G.W.* 1420 *Hypsis. & Medea*, To syndyn hym into sum fer cuntre Here as this lason may destroyed be. This was his wit. c1440 *Gesta Rom.* vi. 16, I shall shew þe a goode wit in pis cas; and if þou wolt do after my conselle, þou shalt not repente. 1607 *DEKKER & WEBSTER Northw. Hoe* v. i, Was't not a pritty wit of mine . . . to haue had him rod into Puckridge, with a home before him?

7. Quickness of intellect or liveliness of fancy, with capacity of apt expression; talent for saying brilliant or sparkling things, esp. in an amusing way. *arch.* (Cf. sense 8.)

Formerly sometimes opp. to *wisdom* or *judgement*; often distinguished from *humour* (see quots., and note s.v. *HUMOUR sb.* 7).

1579 *LYLY Euphues* (Arb.) 61 As the Bee is oftentimes hurt with hir owne Honny, so is witte not seldome plagued with his owne conceipt. 1597 *SHAKS. 2 Hen. IV.* i. ii. 11 Men of all sorts take a pride to gird at mee . . . I am not onely witty in my selfe, but the cause that wit is in other men. 1650 *DAVENANT Gondibert* Pref. (1651) 27 Wit is not only the luck and labour, but also the dexterity of thought. 1665 *BOYLE Occas. Refl.* i. iii. 37 That nimble and acceptable Faculty of the Mind, whereby some Men have a readiness, and subtilty, in conceiving things, and a quickness, and neatness, in expressing them, all which the custom of speaking comprehends under the name of Wit. 1704 *YALDEN Sir W. Aston* 187 His flowing wit, with solid judgment join'd, Talents united rarely in a mind, Had all the graces and engaging art, That charm the ear and captivate the heart. 1765 *CHESTERF. Lett. to Godson* (1890) 180 If you have real wit it will flow spontaneously and you need not aim at it. . . Wit is so shining a quality, that everybody admires it, most people aim at it, all people fear it, and few love it unless in themselves. 1777 M. MORGANN *Ess. Dram. Char. Falstaff* 163 It being very possible, I suppose, to be a man of humour without wit; but I think not a man of wit without humour. 1782 *COWPER Gilpin* 169 Now Gilpin had a pleasant wit And lov'd a timely joke.

8. a. That quality of speech or writing which consists in the apt association of thought and expression, calculated to surprise and delight by its unexpectedness (for particular applications in 17th and 18th century criticism see esp. quotes. 1650, 1677, 1685, 1690, 1704, 1709); later always with reference to the utterance of brilliant or sparkling things in an amusing way.

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph. Pref.* **vij b, Neither dooe I esteeme it a thyng worthe blame . . . with laughter to refreshe the mynde . . . so that the matier to laugh at bee pure witte and honeste [orig. *modo risus sit argutus ac liberalis*]. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* 1. i. 64 They neuer meet, but there's a skirmish of wit between them. 1606 CHAPMAN *Monsieur D'Olive* 1. i. Critiques, Essayists, Linguists, Poets, and other professors of that facultie of wit. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Ch.-Porch xxxix*, Laugh not too much: the wittie man laughs least: For wit is newes onely to ignorance. 1650 DAVENANT *Gondibert Pref.* (1651) 26 Wit is the laborious, and the lucky resaultances of thought having towards its excellence . . . as well a happinesse, as care. 1664 FLECKNOE *Short Disc. Engl. Stage* G6, Comparing him [Jonson] with Shakespear, you shall see the difference betwixt Nature and Art; and with Fletcher, the difference betwixt Wit and Judgement. 1677 DRYDEN *State Innoc., Apol. Her. Poetry* c 2 b, The definition of Wit . . . is only this: That it is a propriety of Thoughts and Words; or in other terms, Thought and Words, elegantly adapted to the Subject. 1684 WOOD *Life* (O.H.S.) III. 16 Apr., Lord Chief Justice asked him 'if it were Oxford Wit', that also 'he should say that if *Magna Charta* would not do it *Longa Sparta* should do the business'. 1685 DRYDEN *Sylva Pref.* A6, I drew my definition of Poetical Wit from my particular consideration of him [Virgil]. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* II. xi. §2 Wit lying most in the assemblage of Ideas, and putting those together with quickness and variety. 1693 DENNIS *Misc. Pref.* a 2 b, A true description of Wit; which is a just mixture of Reason and Extravagance. 1697 DRYDEN *Aeneis* Ded. (e) 3 b, *Les Petits Esprits*: . . who like nothing but the Husk and Rhind of Wit; prefer a Quibble, a Conceit, an Epigram, before solid Sense and Elegant Expression. 1704 POPE *Let. to Wycherley* 26 Dec., True Wit, I believe, may be defined a justness of thought, and a facility of expression. 1709 — *Ess. Crit.* 297 True Wit is Nature to advantage dress'd, What oft was thought, but ne'er so well express'd. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 62 ¶ 2 Mr. Lock's Account of Wit, with this short Explanation, comprehends most of the Species of Wit, as Metaphors, Similitudes, Allegories, Ænigmas, Mottos, Parables, Fables, Dreams, Visions, dramatick Writings, Burlesque, and all the Methods of Allusion. 1744 CORBYN THOMAS (title) An Essay Towards Fixing the True Standards of Wit, Humour, Raillery, Satire, and Ridicule. 1858 O. W. HOLMES *Aut. Breakf.-t.* iii. 19 We get beautiful effects from wit,—all the prismatic colours,—but never the object as it is in fair daylight. a 1859 LEIGH HUNT in *Jrnl. Educ.* (1884) 1 Feb. 79 Wit consists in the arbitrary juxtaposition of dissimilar ideas for some lively purpose of assimilation or contrast, generally of both. 1900 HAMMERTON *J. M. Barrie & his Bks.* 78 There is more 'heart' in humour, and more 'head' in wit.

b. With qualification (see quotes. and *sheer wit* s.v. SHEER a. 8 b).

1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Ch.-Porch* xi, When thou dost tell anothers jest, therein Omit the oaths, which true wit cannot need. 1653 FLECKNOE *Misc., Disc. Lang.* 100 Jest, Clenches, Quibbles, Bulls, &c., . . which although properly they be not Wit (excepting Jest onely, which is a kind of sportive and wanton wit). 1682 SHEFFIELD (Dk. Buckhm.) *Ess. Poetry* 12 True Wit is everlasting, like the Sun. 1693 DENNIS *Misc. Pref.* a 4 b, Scarron's Burlesque has nothing of a Gentleman in it, little of good Sense, and consequently little of true Wit. 1711 GAY *Pers. St. Wit* in Arb. *Garner* VI. 511 The *Spectator*, whom we regard as our Shelter from that flood of false wit and impertinence. 1717 ADDISON *Ovid's Met.* III. v. note, Wks. 1721 I. 243 As True wit is nothing else but a similitude in Ideas, so is False wit the similitude in Words. *Ibid.* 244 Ovid, who is the greatest admirer of this mixed wit of all the Ancients, as our Cowley is among the Moderns. 1765 CHESTERF. *Lett. to Godson* (1890) 182 There is a species of minor wit, which is much used, . . I mean Raillery. 1779 JOHNSON *L.P., Cowley* (1868) 20 These conceits Addison calls mixed wit; that is, wit which consists of thoughts true in one sense of the expression, and false in the other. 1792 D. STEWART *Elem. Philos. Hum. Mind* v. I. 305 note, I speak here of pure and unmixed wit, and not of wit, blended, as is most commonly, with some degree of humour.

† c. A witty saying or story; a *jeu d'esprit*: in the collocation *wits, fits, and fancies*. *Obs.*

1595 A. C[OPLY] (title) *Wits, Fittes and Fancies*. Fronted and enteredmed with Presidents of Honour and Wisdom. 1626 W. VAUGHAN *Golden Fleece* 1. 12 Except you season your *Auisoes* with some light passages with wits, fits, & fancies. 1632 BROME *Northern Lasse* 1. ii. B 2 b, Hee . . breakes as many good iests as all the Wits, Fits, and Fancies about the Towne.

** 9. (transf. from 5.) A person of great mental ability; a learned, clever, or intellectual person; a man of talent or intellect; a genius. *arch.* or *Hist.*

c 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 1137 Wourschipfull Wawane, the wit of our were. 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* vii. 185 Quhair is the wittis wont to reule Scotland? 1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* 1. v. 60 You divine wits of elder Dayes, from whom The deep Invention of rare Works hath com. c 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* lix. 13 The wits of former daies, To subjects worse haue giuen admiring praise. 1638 BRATHWAITE *Spir. Spicerie* 433 There goes an Author! One of the Wits! 1653 H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* III. xi. (1712) 124 Cartesius, that stupendous Mechanical Wit. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 181 There are a sort of sublimated Wits that will own neither God nor Devil. 1779 JOHNSON *L.P., Milton* Wks. II. 131 Milton, the scholar and the wit. 1806 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Tristia* 20 The world . . Makes wits of fools, and sanctifies a sinner! 1842 LYTTON *Zanoni* i. vi, One evening, at Paris, . . there was a reunion of some of the most eminent wits of the time. 1867 'OUIDA' *Cecil Castlemaine's Gage* 2 A circle of wits gathered 'within the steam of the coffee-pot' at Will's.

10. (transf. from 7.) A person of lively fancy, who has the faculty of saying smart or brilliant things, now always so as to amuse; a witty person.

1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* cccclxxi. 343 Intemperate Wits will spare neither Friend nor Foe. 1727 GAY *Fables* 1. x, Wits are game-cocks to one another. 1824 W. IRVING *Trav.* I. 180 There is no character that succeeds so well among wits as that of a good listener. 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Lond. Recreations*, Uncle Bill . . is evidently the wit of the party. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xviii, Go on joking, Ann. You're the wit of the family.

III. Senses, chiefly obsolete, corresponding to those of *L. scientia* and *sententia*.

11. † a. Knowledge; learning; *pl.* departments of knowledge, sciences. *Obs.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4818 þe bisshoppes him anserede . . Al wip grete reysons & wit of hor boc. 13 . . *Cursor M.* 18940 (Arundel MS.) þe holy goost 3af hem . . Of alle wittis to touche and tast. 1387-8 T. USK *Test. Love* II. ii. (Skeat) 43 Poore clerkes, for witte of schole, I sette in churches, and made suche persones to preche. 1565 *Creation of Eve* in *Non-Cycle Myst. Plays* (1909) 15 The tre is pleasante to gett wysedome & wytt.

† b. The fact of knowing, knowledge, awareness.

13 . . *Guy Warw.* (A.) 799 No, . . bi mine wite, Y no herd per-of neuer sete. c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* v. x. 1936 God has reserwit til hym all þe wit of þat pat is to fal. 1483 in *Acts Parlt. Scot.* (1875) XII. 32/1 Be counsaile command wit or consent of his hienez. [1648] HEXHAM, *Mijns wetens niet*, not with My weet, or knowledge.]

c. Knowledge communicated, 'intelligence', information, esp. in phr. *to get wit of*. *Sc.* and *north.*

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XIX. 443 The lord Dowglas . . Gat wit of thair enbuschement. c 1470 HENRY Wallace iv. 515 In the toun no wit of this had thai. *Ibid.* xi. 1032 Quhill witt tharoff is in till Inngland gane. 1504-5 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* II. 474 The men that cersit and sought and gat wit of the silver disch that wes stollin. a 1578 LINDESAY (Pittscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 188 Bot on noways could they gett wott of him. 1633 M. P. King & Poor Northern Man 123 Belike the King of me has gotten some weet. a 1700 Laidley *Worm of Spindleston Heughs* xiv. in *Child Ballads* I. 312 The Child of Wynd got wit of it. 1825 BROCKETT *N.C. Gloss.* s.v., 'He got wit'—he obtained intelligence.

† 12. Meaning, signification: = SENSE *sb.* 19-21.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* ii. 5 And is þis þe wit. 1340 *Ayenb.* 96 þe bojes of þo traue ine one wytte byþe alle þe ychosome þet euere were. 13 . . *E.E. Allit.* P. B. 1630, I fayn wolde Wyt þe wytte of þe wryt. c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 277 þe secounde witt is allegoryke.

† 13. Way of thinking, opinion, judgement: = MIND *sb.* 1 8, 9, SENSE *sb.* 18. *Obs.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* iv. 1425 And verraylich hym semed þat he hadde The same wit. c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1649 þan were þay alle in wittes tweyne. c 1386 CHAUCER *Sqr.'s T.* 195 As many hedges, as manye wittes ther been. c 1386 — *Frankl. T.* 147 It dooth no good to my wit, but anyoeth. c 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 8135 What is þoure wit? how thenke þow? 1555 PHAER *Aeneid* II. (1558) C iv, The comons into sondry wittes diuided wer and stood. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 282 The old Proverbe . . so many hedges, so many wittes.

IV. 14. Combinations. a. attrib., as *wit-battle*, *-combat*, *-contest*, *-pride*, *-sally*, *-shaft*, *-sponge*, *-trap*, *-work*. b. objective, as *wit-carrier*, *-gathering*, *-stealer*; *wit-writing*; *wit-assailing*, *-cherishing*, *-gracing*, *-infusing*, *-oppressing* adjs. c. instrumental, as *wit-abused*, *-beaten*, *-drawn*, *-fraught(ed)*, *-pointed* adjs. d. adverbial (= in, or with respect to, the wit or wits), as *wit-foundered*, *-starved*, *-stung*, *-wondrous*, *-worn* adjs. e. Special Combs.: *wit-crack*, the 'cracking' of a joke (cf. CRACK v. 5), a brisk witticism; so *wit-cracker*, one who makes witty or sarcastic remarks; *wit-craft*, † (a) the art of using one's 'wit' or intellect in reasoning, logic; (b) exercise of one's wits; *wit-jar*, an imaginary vessel humorously feigned to contain the wits or senses (in allusion to Ariosto's *Orlando Furioso* XXXIX. lvii); † *wit-lost* a., having lost wit, senseless, foolish; *wit-monger*, a 'dealer' in wit, an utterer of witty sayings (*contemptuous*); † *wit-rack* *nonce-wd.*, a faculty of eliciting speech by wit (as a rack elicits a confession); † *wit-snapper* = *wit-cracker*; † *wit-stand*, in phr. *at a wit-stand* (cf. STAND *sb.* 1 6), = at one's wit's end (see 2 d); † *wit-state*, state of being in one's wits, condition of sanity; † *wit-tooth* = WISDOM TOOTH; *wit-wanton* a., making a wanton use of the 'wit' or understanding; also as *sb.*; † *wit-wanton* v. *intr.* (with *it*) (*obs. exc. arch.*), to exercise the understanding wantonly; also, to indulge in wanton wit; *wit-worm* (now rare), one who has developed into a wit (like a 'worm' or caterpillar emerging from the egg); † *wit-worship*, worship devised by human 'wit' or intellect without divine authority or sanction (cf. WILL-WORSHIP); † *wit-would*, † *wit-would-be*, a pretender to wit, a would-be wit; † *wit-wright*, a maker of wit, an author of witty sayings.

1603 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Microcosmos* 40 The will *witt-abus'd. 1601 CHESTER *Love's Mart.* (1878) 106 The *wit-assailing Frenzie. 1693 DRYDEN *Juvenal* Ded. (1697) p. lxxii, The *Wit-battel of the two Buffoons. 1599 PORTER *Angry Wom.* Abington (Percy Soc.) 50 Sheele persecute the poore *wit beaten man. 1702 *Engl. Theophrastus* 7 *Wit-carriers, whose business is, to export the fine Things they hear. 1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* D4, That kinde *wittcherishing climate. a 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Warwickshire* III. (1662) 126 Many were the *wit-combates betwixt him [sc. Shakspeare] and Ben Johnson. 1892 CHILD *Ballads* VIII. 439/1 *Wit-contests in verse. 1662 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* III. xxx. §2. 256 Satan budges not for a thousand such Squibs and *Wit-cracks. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* v. iv. 102 A Colledge of *witt-crackers cannot flout mee out of my humour, dost thou think I care for a Satyre or an Epigram? 1573 R. LEVER (title) *The Arte of Reason*, rightly termed, *Witcraft. 1605 CAMDEN *Rem., Rebus* 146 He was no body that coule not hammer out of his name an invention by this wit-craft. 1903 HARDY *Dynasts* 1. i. iii, A witcraft marked by nothing more of weight Than ignorant irregularity! 1681 W. ROBERTSON *Phrasel.* Gen. 386 *Wit-drawn, wire-drawn curiosities. 1613 BOYS *Expos. Last Ps.* (1615) 7 The *wit-foundred drunkard. 1623 L. DIGGES in *Shaks. 1st Folio*, Thy *wit-fraught Booke. 1603 DEEBLE *Commend. Poems* in J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Microcosmos* Oo 2 b, His *wit-fraughted workes. 1893 MAX PEMBERTON *Iron Pirate* III, I sat up in bed, uncertain in the effort of *wit-gathering if night had not given me a dream rather than an experience. 1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* 1. iv. 34 Your *Wit-gracing Skill. 1603 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Microcosmos* 65 *Wit-infusing Mercury. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* VII. lxxxviii. 326 Dr. Hale . . was my good Astolfo (you read Ariosto, Jack) and has brought me back my *wit-jar. 1599 PORTER *Angry Wom.* Abington (Percy Soc.) 13 Ill report doth like a bailiffe stand, To pound the straying and the *wit-lost tongue. 1620 SHELTON *2nd Pt. Don Quix.* xxxi. 203 The Prater and *Wit-monger. 1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* II. 620 [He] was . . cried up as the main witmonger surviving to the fanatical party. 1601 CHESTER *Love's Mart.* (1878) 102 *Wit-oppressing Drunkenness. 1869 Routledge's *Ev. Boy's Ann.* 546 The butt of their *wit-pointed pencils. 1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* 1. ii. 1151 All the golden *Wit-pride of Humanity, Wherewith men burnish their erroneous vanity. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* iv. vi. 269 He had a pretty *wit-rack in himself, . . to draw speech out of the most sullen and silent guest. 1549 CHALONER *Erasm. on Folly* T iij, A certain passion muche lyke to madnesse or *wit-rauyng. 1907 RALEIGH *Shakespeare* 174 The *wit-sallies of Beatrice and Rosalind. 1881 SWINBURNE *Mary Stuart* 1. iii. 64 Our keeper's *wit-shaft is too keen for ours To match with pointless iron. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* III. v. 54 What a *witt-snapper are you. 1632 BROME *Crt. Beggar* II. i. (1653) O 6 b, This humorous wity Lady is a *wit-sponge, that suckes up wit from some, and holds as her own. a 1670 HACKET *Abp. Williams* 1. (1693) 188 They were at a *wit-stand. 1828-32 WEBSTER, *Wit-starved, barren of wit; destitute of genius. *Examiner.* c 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 7237 Sho lost hir *witt state. 1886 CORBETT *Fall of Asgard* xxv, Surely is ale a great *wit-stealer. 1608 MACHIN *Dumb Knt.* iv. i, Fie I am mad, Sham'd and disgrac't, all *wit-stung, wisdomlesse. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* xi. xxxvii. I. 338 The farthest cheek-teeth in a mans head, which be called *Genuini*, (i. the *Wit-teeth). 1750 FIELDING *Author's Farce* 1. vi, Nor was it cram'd with a pack of *Wit-traps, like Congreve and Wycherly, where every one knows when the joke was coming. 1612 SYLVESTER *Lachr. Lachr.* 99 Epicures, *Wit-wantons, Atheists. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* x. iv. §4. 62 How dangerous it is for wit-wanton Men, to dance with their nice Distinctions, on such Mysticall Precipices. 1642 — *Holy & Prof. St.* III. ii. 155 More dangerous it is to *wit-wanton it with the Majestie of God. 1795 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* ix. 268 Wretched Maid! . . England's inhuman Chiefs Shall . . black thy spotless fame, Wit-wanton it with lewd barbarity. 1922 JOYCE *Ulysses* 388 And Master Lynch bade him have a care to flout and witwanton. 1922 E. R. EDDISON *Worm* xv. 209, I will not suffer mine indignation so to witwanton with fair justice as persuade me to put the wite on Witchland. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. ii. 11. *Babylon* 584 *Wit-wondrous Salomon. 1632 B. JONSON *Magn. Lady* 1. i, You're sure to have lesse *wit-worke, gentle brother. 1611 — *Catiline* II. i, What hast thou done With thy poore innocent selfe? . . Thus to come forth, so sodainly, a *wit-worme? 1647 C. HARVEY *Schola Cordis* (1778) 153 That which worldly wit-worms call nonsense. 1932 F. SCOTT FITZGERALD *Let.* 2 Aug. (1964) 498, I did not destinate to signify that you were a wiseacre . . but . . that you were . . a longhead, . . as are so many epigrammatists, wit-worms, [etc.]. 1617 *Greene's Groat's W. Wit* Pref. A 2, So many *Witworm Ideots. a 1629 HINDE *J. Bruen* xxx. (1641) 93 That such service unto Saints, is but *witt-worship, will-worship, and Idol-service. 1641 SANDERSON *Serm., Ad Clerum* (1681) II. 4 God will not approve of, nor accept any Wit-worship, or Will-worship, forged or devised by man. 1700 CONGREVE *Way of World* Ded., This Play had been Acted two or three Days, before some of these hasty Judges cou'd find the leisure to distinguish betwixt the Character of a *Wit-wound and a *Truewit*. a 1763 SHENSTONE *Ess. Men & Manners* lxxxvi. Wks. 1765 II. 225 A wit-wound cannot afford to discard a frivolous conceit. 1771 SHERIDAN in *Rival Beauties* 16 Then grinning Witwound—tho' no Teague—Who more successful in intrigue? 1681 H. MORE *Let.* 15 in *Glanvil Sadducismus*, Our professed *Wit-would-be's of this present Age. 1655 STRODE *Floating Isl.* Ded. A 2 b, If . . *wit-wrights Poets be. 1666 DRYDEN *Ann. Mirab.* Pref., *Ess.* (1900) I. 14 Wit in the poet, or *Wit writing, (if you will give me leave to use a school-distinction). 1947 C. DAY LEWIS *Poetic Image* II. 50 The conceits of the Metaphysicals are in a way wit-writing too.

† *wit*, *pron.* *Obs.* Also 1 wyt, 3 wet, (*Orm.*) witt. [OE. *wit* = OFris. **wit* (Nfris. *wat*, *wæt*), OS. *wit*, ON. (MSw.) *vit*, Goth. *wit*: f. unstressed form of WE *pron.* with obscure dental element.] We two.

Beowulf 535 Wit wæt gecwædon cnihtwesende. c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xx. 22 Mage gyt drincan þone calic ðe ic to drincenne hæbbe? þa cwædon hig: Wyt magon. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 33 3if . . wit beon ænas lauerdes men. c 1200 ORMIN 201 Witt sinnendn off swille elde nu patt witt ne mughenn tæmenn. c 1205 LAY. 23653 Wit twee. *Ibid.* 23663

Fekten wet scullen en seoluen. *Ibid.* 26263 Fare wit [c 1275 we two] to uhte. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1775 Frend sule wit ben, And trewõe plijst nu unc bi-twen.

wit, *v.*¹ *arch.* exc. in legal use: see 10 c (b). Pres. t. wot (*Sc.* and *north. dial.* wat); pa. t. and pple. wist. Forms: see below. [A Com. Teut. preterite-present verb: OE. *witan*, 1st and 3rd sing. pres. ind. *wát*, 2nd pers. *wást*, pl. *witon*, pa. t. *wisse*, *wiste*, pa. pple. *gewiten*, OFris. *wita*, *wêt*, **wast*, **witon*, *witen* and *witath*, *wiste* (mod.Fris. dialects have various analogical forms, e.g. pa. pple. *wist*, *wust*), OS. *witan*, *wêt*, *wêst*, *witun*, *wissa* (MLG.), MDu. *wêten*, *weet*, *weets*, *weten*, *wiste*, *gheweten*, LG., Du. *weten*), OHG. *wizzan*, *wizan*, *weiz*, *wiz*(z)umēs, *wiz*(z)un, *wissa*, *wista*, (g)wizan (MHG. *wizzen*, *weiz*, *wizzen*, *wisse*, *wiste*, *wesse*, *wuste*, *wuste*, *gewizzen*, *gewist*, G. *wissen*, *weiss*, *weisst*, *wissen*, *wusste*, *gewusst*), ON. *vita*, *veit*, *veizt*, *vitum*, *vissa*, *vitadr*, (Sw. *veta*, *vet*, *visste*, *vetat*, Da. *vide*, *ved*, *vidste*, *vidst*), Goth. *witan*, *wait*, *waist*, *witum*, *wissa*; f. OTeut. *wait*-, *wit*:-Indo-Eur. *woid*-, *weid*-, *wid*- to see (? orig. to find), also found in OE. adj. *wis* (see *wis sb.*), *wise sb.*¹, *wise a.*, *wite*.

The OE. preterite-pres. *wát*, *wást*, *witon*, and their equivalents in the other Germanic langs. (= properly, I have seen, hence, I know), correspond to Skr. *véda*, *véttha*, *vidmá*, Gr. *oída*, *oída*, *oíde*, *ídeu* (*ídeu*), OSl. *vědě*, *věsi*, etc., OPruss. 2nd sing. *waizei*, 1st pl. *waidimai*, and are based on Indo-Eur. *woid*-, *wid*-. OE. 2nd pers. sing. *wást* (see A. 2 b below) is an altered form of **wás* by analogy with *meaht* (2nd sing. pres. of *MAY v.*¹). Similarly OE. *wiste* is an altered form of earlier *wisse* after regular weak forms in *-te*.

Indo-Eur. *woid*-, *weid*-, *wid*- is represented also by Skr. *veda* knowledge (see *VEDA*), *vitta*-known, *vittá*-found, Gr. *εἶδος* appearance, shape, *ἰδέα* form, *εἶδον* (:-**εἶδον*) I saw, *αἰδεῖσθαι* invisible, *εἰδέναι* to know, *αἰδώς* unseen, unknown, L. *videre* to see, OIr. *fiad* 'coram', *fiadu* witness, *adfiadat* they relate, *rofetar* I know, *fiss* knowledge, W. *gwydd* presence, *gwyddom* we know, OSl. *viděti* to see, *viděti* to know, Lith. *veidas* face, Arm. *gitem* I know, *egit* he found; and (with nasal infix) Skr. *vindāti* finds, Gr. *ἰνδάλισθαι* to appear, OIr. *finnaim* I find out.

The original conjugation, typically represented by *to wit* or *wete*, pres. *I* and *he wot*, *thou wost*, *we*, *ye*, and *they wite*, pa. t. *wist*, pa. pple. *witen*, presented many apparent anomalies, and various attempts at normalization were made by means of analogical formations and irregular extension of the use of certain forms, with the result that new infinitive and present-stem forms came into existence which it is necessary to treat separately: see *WIS v.*¹, *WIST v.*, *WOT v.*, and the archaistic *WEET v.*¹ (For forms combined with prefixed negative *ne* see *NETE*, *NIST*, *NITEN*, *NOST*, *NOT v.*², *NUTE*.)

A. Inflexional Forms.

1. Infinitive. a.¹ *I witan* (witenne, -an(n)e, -on(n)e), 2-5 *witen*, 3-5 *wyten*, *wite*, 4-5 *wytene*, (whyte, wiet), 4-6 *wyt*(e, *wytte*, *witte*, *Sc.* *vit*, (1 *wiotan*, *wietan*, *Northumb.* *wuta*, 3 *witene*, *Orm.* *witenn*, 4 *witin*, *witten*, *wijt*, *wyete*, *Sc.* *vyt*, -e, 5 *wiete*, *whitte*), 4-7 *witt*, 5-6 *wytt*, 4- *wit*. a.² 4-6 *wet*, *wette*, (4 *Sc.* *vet*), 5 *wetten*. β. 4-5 *wytan*, 4-6 *weit*(e, 4-7 *wete*, 5 *weten*(e, 5-7 *weete*, (8-9 *arch.*) *weet*, (6 *arch.* *weeten*). (See also *WEET v.*¹, *WOT*.)

a.¹ c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* vii. §1 *ðif þu þonne heora þeawas witan wilt.* c 897 — *Gregory's Past. C.* Pref. 7 *ða ðe niedbeðearfosta sien eallum monnum to wiotonne.* *Ibid.* xv. 92 *Mare to wietenne ðonne eow ðearf sie.* c 1100 *O.E. Chron.* an. 1050 (MS. D) *Hit is earfoð to witanne þara biscoþa þe þærtocomon.* c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 9 *þef . . me hit mihte witen.* c 1205 *LAY.* 26607 *Heo wolden wite þat soðe of Walwain.* c 1290 *St. Clement* 128 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 326 *He wilneðe muce to wyten of god.* a 1300 *Cursor M.* 8301 *þou sal wijt on quatkin wise [etc.].* 1340 *HAMPOLE Pr. Consc.* 3763 *Na man . . may wytte Whether [etc.].* 1340 *Ayenb.* 1 *þet is to wytene.* 13.. *Cursor M.* 12204 (Gött.) *Hu sal he witt quat tav mai be?* *Ibid.* 19779 (Edin.) *þat petir mozte witte quat sco were.* *Ibid.* 23635 *If þai oht mai witin [v.r. witten] þar.* 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 131 *Vch wy3 e may wel wit.* 1362 *LANGL. P. Pl. A.* ii. 27 *þat þou miht wyte . . whuche þei ben.* c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xix. (*Cristoforo*) 401 *Gyf þu vit wil myn cunctre.* c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1367 *To whyte what hure wille were.* ? a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 420 *Late hyme wiet . . I sal . . take leue.* 1426 *LYDG. De Guil. Pilgr.* 4492 *To wyten whether . . Myn hamer hem touchyd.* c 1450 *Merlin* 82 *She wolde gladly witen what a-mendes the kyng wolde do.* ? 1475 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 156, *I lett you whittle I am grette with the Kyng.* c 1500 *Three Kings' Sons* 168 *There be none . . but wold be glad to wite me do wele.* 1362 *TINDALE Matt.* xxiii. 8 *One ys youre master, that is to wytt Christ.* 1533 *GAU Richt Vay* (S.T.S.) 55 *Desir notht to vit.* 1577 *FULKE Confut. Purg.* 393 *You must wyte.* 1580 *wytte* [see β. 1531]. 1628 *DIGBY Voy. Mediterr.* (Camden) 31 *To witt.* 1795 *wit* [see B. 3 c].

a.² 13.. *Cursor M.* 22556 (Edin.) *Quen nan sal wet quar þam to nest.* c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xviii. (*Egipciane*) 404 *God has send me . . þi lyfe, þe stat, al hal to wite.* ? a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 948 *To wette of the warlawe, whare that he lengez.* c 1460 *Play Sacram.* 188 in *Non-Cycle Myst. Pl.* 63 *Off*

yower welfare fayn wet wold we. 1520 *SIR R. GRESHAM* in *Ellis Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. I. 234 *Yt may please your Grace to wette I have [etc.].*

β. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1875 (Cott.) *How sal we o þis waters weit [Fairf. wete] Quedir þai be fulli fallen yeit?* 13.. *Northern Passion* (MS. I) 648 *a Wele maye we alle wetyn and se þat it myghte neuyr so be.* c 1400 *Anturs Arth.* 237 (Douce MS.) *Yit wetene I wolde What wrathede god moste.* c 1400 *Melayne* 120 *He dose þe wele to weite.* c 1425 *Noah's Ark* 131 in *Non-Cycle Myst. Pl.* 23 *How Thou shalt weet all his will.* c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 531/1 *Wytyñ', or wetyñ', or knowyn'.* 1475 *SIR J. PASTON* in *P. Lett.* III. 130 *It pleasyd you to wette of myn heele.* 1531 *ELYOT Gov.* i. ix, *Lettinge you weete [ed. 1580 wytte] that we haue a sonne borne.* 1596 *weeten* [see B. 10 c (b)]. 1600 *weete* [see B. 9 b]. 1610 in *Picton L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1883) i. 121 *You shall . . do the Maior . . to wete thereof.* 1748, 1819 *weet* [see B. 10 c (a)].

2. Indicative Present. a. 1st and 3rd pers. sing. a. 1-6 (8-9 *Sc.*) *wat*, 1, 4-6 *watt*, (1 *uat*, 1, 3 *wæt*, 3 *what*, *waht*, 4 *north.* *waite*, *wayte*, *quat*, -e, *Sc.* *vat*), 4-5 *watte*, 4-7 (8 *Sc.*) *wate*, 5-9 *Sc.* and *n. dial.* *wait* (6 *vait*). β. 3-9 *wot*, (3 *wod*, 4 *woth*), 4-5 *woot*, (whot, 5 *whotte*, *wout*), 4-6, 8 *wote*, 5-6 *woote*, *wotte*, 5-7 *wott*. Also in 1st pers. combined with prefixed pronoun (*ichot*, *chote*): see *I pron.* A. β² and *CH pron.*

a. c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John viii. 55 *Ic . . conn wel wat* [c 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* *watt*] *hine.* c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 21 *He hit wat ðe wat alle ping.* c 1205 *LAY.* 7262 *Wel ich hit wat hee Brutis wæs.* *Ibid.* 28088 *Ich what . . agan is al mi blisse.* a 1300 *Cursor M.* 5060 *Mi fader . . fars well, i wate.* 13.. *Ibid.* 12219 (Gött.) *Fire i quat him mai noght brin.* 13.. *Northern Passion* (Camb. Gg. 5. 31) 356, *I hafe done I ne wate what.* *Ibid.* 1654 *Onone pilate a lettir he wrate, So says saynt Iohne pat wele wayte.* c 1425 *WYNTOUN Cron.* cxviii. 1987 (MS. W.) *Quheper it sa were . . I wait nocht.* 1583 *Leg. Bp. St. Androis* 172, *I watt now what the propheet menis.* 1615 *BRATHWAIT Strappado* (1878) 129 *Wele I wate.* 1724 *RAMSAY Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) i. 25 *And that's an unco faut i wate.* 1785 *BURNS Halloween* xii, *I wat she made nae jaukin.* 1825 *BROCKETT N.C. Gloss.*, *Wait*, *wot*.

β. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 52 *þeo . . wot betere þen ich wot.* a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1190 *Ich . . wot al þat to kumen is.* a 1300 *Cursor M.* 8298 *Wil i wote al þi yerning.* 13.. *Ibid.* 2378 (Gött.) *His catel wele i woth [Trin. I woot].* 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 590 *Ichot for soþe he wil me sle.* c 1380 *WYCLIF Wks.* (1880) 77 *No prelat whot where he schal be dampnyd.* c 1385 *CHAUCER L.G.W.* 1359 *Dido*, *Wel I woot hit is al in vayne.* c 1400 *Destr.* *Troy* 11359, *I wotte hit full wele.* 1426 *AUDELAY Poems* 15 *He whot never hou sone God wyl here his bone.* 1526 *TINDALE Luke* xvi. 4, *I woote what to do.* 1600 *HOLLAND Livy* i. i, *Neither wote I well, nor if I wist, dare I advouch.* 1775 *J. TAIT Land of Liberty* i. xlv. 23 *Here oft, I wote, dame Ignorance was seen.* 1862 *H. A. KENNEDY Waifs & Strays* 137, *I well wot.*

b. 2nd pers. sing. a. 1-4 *wast*, (1 *wæst*, *uast*, 3 *Orm.* *wasst*), 3-5 *wost*, 4-5 *woost*, *woste*. Also combined with foll. pron.: 1 *wastu*, 3 *wostu*, 4-5 *wostow(e.* β. See *WOT v.* γ. 4 *Sc.* *vittis*.

a. a 900 *Andreas* 1186 *Wæst þe bæles cwealm hatne in helle?* c 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* John iii. 8 *Ne wastu hwona cymeð & hwider gað.* c 1000 *Ag.* *Gosp.* John xiii. 7 *þu nast nu þæt ic do, ac þu wast syððan.* c 1205 *LAY.* 15836 *Nu þu hit wost.* a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 716 *Wostu to wan man was ibore?* a 1300 *Cursor M.* 25477 *Vnworthiam i, wel þou wast.* c 1380 *WYCLIF Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 79 *þou woost wel þat Fariseis . . ben sclaudrid.* c 1400 *Rom.* *Rome* 6075, *I bidde thee teche hem, wostowe howe.* 1483 *CAXTON Gold. Leg.* 124/2 *Thou wost not what thou sayest.*

γ. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* iii. (*Andreas*) 508 *Bot-gyf þu will hertly trow, þu vittis nocht þu speris now [nunquam tu ad imaginem huius veritatis attinges].*

c. Plural. a.¹ *I witon*, *weotan*, *uutu(n, -on, wut(t)on*, 2 *witan*, 2-5 *witen* (3 *Orm.* -enn, *wuten*), 3-5 *wyten* (3 *wuyten*, 4 *whiten*, 5 *wittin*); 3-5 *wite*, 4 *witte*, 5 *wyte*, *wytte*; 4 *weten*, -in, 5 *wet*, *weet*, *wete*. a.² *I wutap*, *witap*, *witteð*, *wutas*, 3 *wutez*, 3-4 *wuteþ*, 3-5 *witeþ* (4 -yþ, *wyteþ*, *wteþ*, *wites*, 5 *whiteþ*, *wittis*; 5 *weteþ*, -iþ, -yþ). β. See *WOT v.*

a.¹ c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* ii. v, *We weotan þe þæs pearfe nabbað.* c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xx. 22 *Ne uutuge huæt ge giwas.* c 1000 *Ag.* *Gosp.* John xvi. 30 *Nu we witon þæt þu wast calle ðing.* 1154 *O.E. Chron.* (Laud) Introd. 3 *We witan oþer egland.* c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 19 *Nusten heo nawiht swa muchel of him swa we witen.* c 1200 *ORMIN* 7932 *þatt witenne menn inoþhe.* c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 161 *Hie wuten . . wuderward hie sullen wele holden.* c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 390 *Adam and eue it wite ful zare.* c 1275 *Passion our Lord* 261 in *O.E. Misc.* 44 *Hwat ich to heom seyde, wel wyten heo.* c 1290 *Beket* 1025 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 136 *þe wuyten wel.* c 1380 *WYCLIF Wks.* (1880) 77 *Siþ prelatiss witte not where here preiere be acceptable.* 1387-8 *T. Usk Test. Love* i. viii. (Skeat) i. 80 *Ye weten wel . . that . . I defouled never my conscience.* c 1400 26 *Pol. Poems* iii. 101 *Lordis wet neuere what coumouns greues.* c 1400 *Pride of Life* 483 in *Non-Cycle Myst. Pl.* 104 *þe wittin wel þat he is king.* 1402 *Jack Upland* in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 17 *These wretches weet never where to been.* 1426 *LYDG. De Guil. Pilgr.* 5528 *Ye wyte wel.*

a.² c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark ii. 10 *þætte . . wutað [Rushw. witaþ] gie ðætte he maht hæfðe sunu monnes.* *Ibid.* x. 41 *Scittis*, *wutasgie* [c 1000 *Ag.* *Gosp.* *wite ge*]. — *Luke* xxi. 30 *Witteð [Rushw. wutað] gie þætte neh is ðe summer.* c 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* John iv. 22 *We worðigað þætte we wutun.* a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 252 *To wel we hit wuteð.* c 1290 *Beket* 1005 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 135 *Wel we wutez.* a 1300 *Leg. Rood* 18 *As 3e witeþ wel.* a 1340 *HAMPOLE Psalter* iv. 4 *3e seke vanytes; and wites that it is vayne that 3e luf.* c 1380 *WYCLIF Wks.* (1880) 89 *Men wityþ neuere what it menep.* a 1400-40 *R. Glouc. Chron.* (Rolls) 122 *3e wyteþ [v.r. weteþ, wetyth, whiteþ].* 1409 in *Exch. Rolls Scot.* IV. Pref. 209 *Gif ony of the foresaide lordis wittis . . ony maner of grefe . . apperand til other.*

3. Subjunctive Present. 1-5 *wite* (*pl.* *witen*), (1 *wiete*, *Northumb.* *witto*, -e, -u, 3 *wute*, 4 *wijt*, *witte*, *vit*), 4-5 *wyt*, 4-6 *wit*, *wyte*, *wete*, 5 *weete*.

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xxviii. 191 *Sua sua hie selfe wieten . . ðæt hi hit for Gode don.* c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke i. 18 *Unde hoc sciam*, *huona ðis witto?* c 1000 *Rule St. Benet* (1888) 16 *He wite þæt he . . iarcie hine to gescead ageldenne.* c 1200 *ORMIN* 5710 *þatt tu ne wite nan.* a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 250 *God hit wite & he hit wot.* 13.. in *Sir W. Pole Old Evid.* (? 1840) 1 *Vit alle men pat þis skrite heris and ses.* 1340 *Ayenb.* 5 *þis boc is ywritte uor englishe men, þet hi wyte hou hi ssolle ham-zelue ssriue.* c 1380 *WYCLIF Wks.* (1880) 372 *Wete lordis well pat [etc.].* c 1400 *Gamelyn* 644 *It is good that we witen what men they be.* a 1425 *Cursor M.* 14348 (Trin.), *I wol þat alle witen.* 1447 *BOKENHAM Seyntys* (Roxb.) 33, *I wil ye wete Two precyous relykys I her have wyth me.* 1470-85 *MALORY Arthur* vi. viii. 195, *I wyl that thou wete and knowe that I am Launcelot du lake.* 1545 *ASCHAM Toxoph.* ii. (Arb.) 145 *Awaye or a man wite.* 1596 *DALRYMPLE tr. Leslie's Hist. Scot.* viii. (S.T.S.) II. 104 *To defend him selfe, that . . tha steil him nocht doune or he wit.*

4. Past tense (*indic.* and *subj.*). a. 1 *wisse*, 1-6 *wiste*, (1, 3 *Orm.* *wisste*), 3-6 *wyste*, 4-6 *wyst*, (4 *wijst*, *Sc.* *viste*, 4-6 *Sc.* *vist*, *vyst*, 5 *wysste*), 4-*wist*. Also in 3rd pers. pl. combined with foll. pron. 4 *wistey*, *wystey*. β. 1 *pl.* *westan*, 4-6 *west* (4-5 *weste*), 6 *Sc.* *weist*. γ. 1 *wyste*, 3-5 *wyste*, (3 *wste*), 4-6 *wust*. δ. 4-5 *wost*(e. ε. 4 *Sc.* *wytttyt*.

a. *Beowulf* 181 *Ne wiston hie drihten god.* *Ibid.* 246 *Ne ge leafnesword guðfremmenþra gearwe ne wisson.* *Ibid.* 2519 *ðif ic wiste.* c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xxvii. 18 *He wisse forðon þæt ðerh ærist saldon hine.* c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 19 *Heo wisten . . þet he wæs hali.* c 1200 *ORMIN* 521 *Ille an . . Wisse full wel.* c 1275 *Passion our Lord* 160 in *O.E. Misc.* 42 *He wyste þat þe Gywes hyne pouhte spille.* a 1300 *Cursor M.* 15953 *þan wijst he cummen his maister wote.* *Ibid.* 16054 *Sir pilate . . Wist þam was leife to lei.* c 1330 *R. BRUNNE Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 5068 *Bettere wistey nought what for to do.* *Ibid.* 8021 *wystey.* a 1352 *MINOT Poems* (ed. Hall) iii. 52 *Men . . þat wist both of wele and wo.* 13.. *E.E. Allit. P. B.* 152 *He ne wyst on worde what he warp schulde.* 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 461 *Neuer more þen þat wiste from quepen he was wonnen.* 1375 *BARBOUR Bruce* iv. 771 *Quethir scho . . Wenit, or vist it vitterly.* c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xviii. (*Egipciane*) 1327 *He . . wist it was scho.* c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 13839 *All wiston tho wisse . . He shuld duly be ded.* c 1450 *Merlin* 25 *When these . . men wisten that Vortiger sholde be kyng.* 1537 *Q. MARGARET* in *T. Papers Henr. VIII.* v. 120 *And . . thys Raulme voust that Ze wold be dyspleysyd.* 1556 *Aurelio & Isab.* (1608) Bv, *She shewed . . all that she wiste.* 1576 *R. PETERSON G. della Casa's Galateo* 12 *The Count . . neuer wist of his fault.* 1865 *SWINBURNE Chastelard* i. ii. 200 *And that, God wot, I wist not.*

β. a 1000 *Judith* 207 *Westan begen þæt [etc.].* 1340 *Ayenb.* 72 *þet hi westen be hare wyll.* 1539 *St. Papers Henr. VIII.* viii. 172 *He west not, whether [etc.].* a 1585 *MONTGOMERIE Cherrie & Slae* 178, *I . . weist not what it meind.*

γ. c 1000 *Ag.* *Ps.* (Th.) cvi. 29 *Swa he hira willan wiste fyrrest.* c 1205 *LAY.* 525 *He . . wuste, þat þe king . . forð sculde iwenden.* *Ibid.* 1167 *His sæ-monnen, þe . . þa lawen wusten.* a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 10 *Eiper seide of operes custe þat alere worste þat hi wuste.* 1297 *R. GLOUC.* (Rolls) 2025 *þo he wste wat he was.* 1362 *LANGL. P. Pl. A.* iii. 52 *Wist I þat, . . þer nis nouþur Wyndou ne Auter, þat I ne schulde maken oþur mende.* c 1400 *St. Alexius* (Vernon) 326 *He wuste he scholde hepen wende.* 1555 *PHAER Æneid.* ii. (1558) Diijb, *Nor what to do I wust.*

δ. 1387 *TREVISIA Higden* (Rolls) VII. 55 *Me wost not where me myzte mete hem.* a 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 6 *Whanne her fader wost she was with childe.* 1492 *Acta Dom. Conc.* (1839) 274/2 *Robert . . maid faith he wost nocht quhare it wes.*

ε. 1375 *BARBOUR Bruce* xii. 156 *He wytttyt [v.r. askit] at thaim of thair far.*

b. 2nd pers. sing. 1, 4, 6 *wistest* (1 *wistes*, *subj.* *wisse*, *wiste*), 4 *wystest*, (*vistes*), *wiste*, 4-5 *wyste*, *wist*, 6 *wyst*.

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* v. §3 *Ic wolde þæt þu me sædest hwæper ðu wisse hwæt þu self wære.* c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John i. 48 *Huona . . mec wistes ðu?* c 1000 *Ag.* *Gosp.* Matt. xxv. 26 *ðu wistest þæt ic rype þær ic ne sawe.* 13.. *K. Horn* 240 (Harl.) *Tech him alle þe listes þat þou euer wystest [Laud MS. vistes].* 1387-8 *T. Usk Test. Love* i. viii. (Skeat) i. 31 *In as fer as thou hem wistest false.* 1423 *Jas. I Kings* Q. xiv, *Wist thou thy payne to cum . . wele myght thou wepe.* c 1430 *Chev. Assigne* 186 *If þou here dome wyste.* c 1500 *Melusine* 24 *Yf thou woust and knew the grette meruaylles.* 1587 *GOLDING De Mornay* ii. (1592) 21 *If thou wistest how to vse them.*

5. Imperative. Stem as in 1; endings: *sing.* 1-6 -e; occas. combined with foll. pron. 4 *witow*; *pl.* 1 -ap, 1-5 -e (in *wite 3e*), 1, 4-5 -eþ, 4-5 -eth, 5 -iþ, -yþ; *north.* 1 -as, 4 -s, 5 -is, -ys; also *sing.* and (4-) *pl.* without ending.

a 900 *CYNEWULF Elene* 945 *Wite ðu þe*

c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* i. xxvii. (ed. Schipper) 95/1 No witende [orig. *nesciens*]. *Ibid.* iv. iii. (1890) 270 Ne weotendum [orig. *nescientibus*]. c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John, Intro. d. *Scienti*, uitend. a 1340 *HAMPOLE Psalter* x. 4 Witand his priuytes. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints v. (Johannes)* 86 Wittand na wa. 1412-20 *LYDG. Chron.* Troy i. 2714 Noon.. wetyng what sche ment. 1548 *UDALL Eras. Par. N. T.* Pref. 8 Well wetyng that [etc.]. 1867 *BAILEY Universal Hymn* 8 Witting nought.

7. *Past Participle.* a. 1-5 witen, (2 wy-, 4 -in), 4-5 witten, 5 wytene, wetyng, -un, -en(e), *Sc.* 5 witting, 5-6 -in, witne, 6 *Sc.* wyttin, 8 (?) wit. β. 3, 5 west, 4 weste, 4-6 wüst, 5 wüste, wiste, 4- wist.

a. c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke xii. 2 Nis nan ping.. behydd þæt ne sy witen [*Hatton Gosp.* gewyten]. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 6996 In his time war þe fabus writen, þat yeit er thoru þe bokes witten [*Gött.* witin, *Trin.* witen]. a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 869 Hade I wytene of this. c 1400 *Ywayne & Gaw.* 1810 Sho lete als sho him noght had sene, Ne wetyng that he thar had bene. c 1425 *WYNTOUN Cron.* cxxxviii. 435 Gif þai had witting, herd, or sene. c 1470 *HARDING Chron.* lxxvi. v. To be writen.. euer to be known and weten. c 1475 *Rauf Coilyear* 604 And I had wittin. c 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) ii. 32, I wald pat it wer wittin. 1596 *DALRYMPLE tr. Leslie's Hist. Scot.* x. (S.T.S.) 11. 444 Gif þe peple had witne. 17.. *Jamie Douglas* ii. in *Child Ballads* IV. 98 An I had wit what I wit now.

β. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 18130 Als he had wist it noght. c 1300 *Harrow. Hell* 33 (Digby MS.) Suppen haui poled and west [*Harl. MS.* wisten] Boþe chele, honger and þurst. a 1320 *K. Horn.* 1484 (Harl.) Knyhtes of þe beste þat he euer hede of weste. c 1449 *Pecock Repr.* i. xiii. 67 Y haue wiste suche men. ? 1482 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 131 And y had west that 3e would a taked so sor. 1526 wüst [see HAD-I-WIST]. 1792 [see B. 7]. 1844 wist [see B. 1 d].

B. Signification.

I. Simple senses.

1. *trans.* To have cognizance or knowledge of; to be aware of; to know (as a fact or an existing thing). a. with simple obj.: = KNOW v. 8, 11 f.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 117 Frunan maran pinges þonne ænges mannes gemet were her on eorðan, þæt hit witan mihte. c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John iv. 10 ðif þu wistest godes 3yfe, & hwæt se is þe cwitð to þe, syle me drincan. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 35 Nis nan sunne þet he [sc. the priest] ne con; oðer he heo wat ðurh, þet he heo dude him seolf. a 1200 *Moral Ode* 112 in *O.E. Hom.* i. 167 þe ðe leat wat biseið oðer mest, þe hit al wat is stille. c 1200 *ORMIN* 11259 þiss wast tu wel to soþe. c 1250 *Hymn to God* 12 in *Trin. Coll. Hom.* App. 258 þu þe wast al ure poucht, louerd drau3 us neor þe. 13.. *E.E. Allit.* P. C. 129 þe welder of wyt, þat wot alle þynges. c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 638 A bettere knigt wot y non. c 1386 *CHAUCER Prol.* 389 For aught I woot, he was of Dertemouthe. *Ibid.* 595 Wel wiste he by the droghte, and by the reyn, The yeldyng of his seed, and of his greyn. c 1420 *Sir Amadace* (Camden) xxix, The traute fulle litulle thay wote. c 1460 *Play Sacram.* 679 The best Counsaile that I now wott. c 1500 *Lancelot* 225 None wist his nome. 1530 *TINDALE Lev.* v. 17 Though he wist it not, he hath yet offended. 1568 *GRAFTON Chron.* II. 105 If ye had wist the cause of our comming. 1590 *SPENSER F.Q.* i. i. 13 The perill of this place I better wot then you. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. liii, You are Heavens Privy-Counsellour, I understand, Which I wist not before. 1753 *RICHARDSON Grandison* III. xxxi. 347 Wot ye not the indelicacy of an early present, which you are not obliged to make? 1821 *SCOTT Kenilw.* xxix, I wot that but too well.

b. with dependent statement (sometimes anticipated by a pronoun (*it, this*) as obj., which in the pass. const. becomes the subj.): = KNOW v. 11 a.

Beowulf 821 Grendel.. wiste þe geornor þæt his aldres wæs ende gegongen. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 121 Hie wiston þæt heora eþel.. sceodele.. geseted weorþan mid halgum sawlum. c 1000 *ÆLFRIC Gen.* xv. 8 Hu mæg ic witan þæt ic hyt agan sceal? c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xxv. 24 Ic wat þæt ðu eart heard mann. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 147 He wiste siker þæt hit wurdæn solde. a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 61 Ich wot þæt þu art vnMilde Wiþ heom þat ne Muwe from þe schilde. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3054 Nu ic wot we haue mis-don. c 1300 *Havelok* 1345, I wot, he wilen þe nouth werne. c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 5151 Hit hap ofte be wüst & sen, þat wraþe bytwyxt kynde hap ben. 1375 *BARBOUR Bruce* i. 509, I will blythly apon me ta The state, for I wate that I haue ryght. a 1400 *Hymns Virg.* (1867) 87 þou woost not to-day þat þou schalt lyue to-morowe. 1426 *LYDG. De Guil. Pilgr.* 8776, I wot my sylf yt ys nat so. 1456 *SIR G. HAYE Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 22 Efter Leoun, was chosin a woman þat neocht wittand that scho was a woman. a 1516 *MORE Rich. III Wks.* 37/1 Whose death kyng Edward.. when he wist it was done, pitiously bewailed. 1530 *TINDALE Gen.* xx. 6, I wot it well that thou dydest it in purenesse of thi herte. 1591 *SHAKS. i Hen. VI.* II. v. 16 As witting I no other comfort haue. 1724 *RAMSAY Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) I. 8, I wat on him she did na gloom. 1816 *SCOTT Old Mort.* v, Well wot I thou hast not heard the call of a true preacher. 1899 *Century Mag.* Dec. 300/2 They.. witting little that the tide has long since turned.

c. with dependent question (also *ellipt.*): = KNOW v. 11 b.

See also WHAT *pron.* 8 b (quots. a 1000, c 1560, 1568, 1570, 1603) and WATNA-WHAT.

Beowulf 2519 Noldie ic sweord beran, . . gif ic wiste hu wið ðam aglæcan elles meachte gylpe wiðgripan. c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John viii. 14 Ic uat huona ic cuom & huiddic ic geonge. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 45 Wel ic wat hwer ic sceal milcien. a 1225 *Aner. R.* 96 Ne schalt tu neuer more eft witen hu me stont. a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1201 Ich wot 3ef treon schule blowe; Ich wat 3ef cornes schule growe. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 64 Wydur to wende ne wat he noght. 1340 *Ayenb.* 9 To yelde þet he heþ of opre manne kueadliche, yef he wot to huam. 1362 *LANGL. P. Pl. A.* Prol. 12 þat I was in A Wildernesse, wuste I neuer where. c 1380 *WYCLIF Sel. Wks.* III. 452 It is reservyd to God, to wete wiche [sin] is dedly and which is venyal. c 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 6646 At Rypoun hostelere he was, I ne wate how many 3ere. 1544 *St. Papers Hen. VIII.* X. 138 Forbicause.. that two of his servauntes wer sick, he wist not wherof [etc.]. 1818

SCOTT Rob Roy xxvi, Whether they speak Gaelic or no I wotna. 1842 *MACAULAY Battle of Lake Regillus* xix, And none wist where he lay.

d. with obj. and compl., or acc. and inf.: = KNOW v. 11 c.

Beowulf 1309 Syðþan he aldorþeƷn unlyfigendae, þone deorestan ðeodan wisse. c 888 *ÆLFRED Boeth.* xxvii. §1 Forðæm he hine wiste wiðe ungesceadwisne. a 1000 *Colloq. Ælfric* in Wr.-Wülcker 90/2 We witan þe bilewitne wesan. c 1205 *LAY.* 15060 Anan swa heo me þer witen, awæi heo wulleð wenden. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1905 Maxencius þo he wste him come he adde of him gret doute. 13.. *K. Horn* 1372 (Harl.) Of ioie hue ne miste, O lyue 3ef hue þe wiste. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 629, I wot me vnworthy þis wirdis to ffall. c 1462 *Paston Lett.* II. 87 In faith, my Lorde dyd quyte hym als courageously as ever I wist man do. 1552 *LYNDESAI Monarchie* 2698, I haue wyttin gud wemen passe fra hame. c 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) xxii. 10 It dois 3ow ay delyt To wit me in distress. 1571 *CAMPION Hist. Irel.* vi. (1633) 15 Hee never wist the matter to bee haynous. 1614 *SYLVESTER Bethulia's Rescue* vi. 276 Judith.. Whom now the Murdres of his Lord hee wist. 1844 *MRS. BROWNING Lay of Brown Rosary* i. iv, The grey border-stone that is wist To dilate and assume a wild shape in the mist.

e. *absol.*, or in parenthetical phrases (see also 11): = KNOW v. 11 e. (See also HAD-I-WIST.)

I wot (occas. *I wit*), dial. *awat* (*awyte*), is often equivalent virtually to *I wis* (see wis v. 2).

c 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) lxxxij[i]. 5 Ne ongeatan hi, ne Ʒeara wistan. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 13607 'Hu es it sua þat he seis nu?' 'We ne wat, bot ask him-seluen hu.' a 1300, 1724 [see A. 2 a]. c 1300 *Havelok* 2708 þou wost ful wel, yif þu wilt wite, þat apelwold þe dide site On knes. c 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 867 þou lext, ich vnder stand And wot! c 1386 *CHAUCER Sompn. T.* 182 Elye, wel ye witen In mount Oreb.. He fasted longe. c 1400 *Beryn* 509 What dogg is þat?.. wost þou ere? c 1450 *HOLLAND Howlat* 429, I wryt as I wait. c 1475 *Rauf Coilyear* 262 Als far as I wait, the nicht is furth gane. 1590 *SPENSER F.Q.* i. viii. 44 Them to renew, I wote, breeds no delight. 1602 *WARNER Alb. Eng.* xi. lxxiii. 275 But, well I wot, Loue is a Lordly Feast. 1748 *THOMSON Cast. Indol.* i. lxxiv, He led, I wot, the softest way to death. a 1774 I wyt [see WIRE sb. 7]. 1775 [see A. 2 β]. 1830 *TENNYSON Second Song Owl*, Thy tuwhits are lull'd, I wot.

†(b) in subjunctive in phr. *God or Crist wite*. Cf. MHG. *wizze Crist*, etc.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 29 Eft, wite crist, heo is ful bitter to betene. a 1225 *Aner. R.* 250 God hit wute & he hit wot [etc.]. c 1300 *Havelok* 517 God it wite, he shal ben ded.

2. *intr.* with of: To be aware of (as existing, or as happening or having happened); to know of (KNOW v. 18 b). With negative, (a) to have no idea of, not to suspect; (b) to be unaware or unconscious of.

In later use chiefly in the phr. *that I, you* (etc.) *wot of*. c 1205 *LAY.* 17174 Ich wat that a wærc mid wundere bi-stonde. a 1225 *Aner. R.* 88 3are hit is pet ich wuste herof. c 1385 *CHAUCER L.G.W.* 7 Non.. may of it non othere weyis wytyen But as he hath herd seyð or founde it wrytyn. c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 40 He þat presumip and wenip to wete verily of a þing. c 1460 *Emare* 579 He.. wyste of no treson. 1470-85 *MALORY Arthur* i. x. 49, I wold I had wüst of hem, they shold not haue escaped so. 1596 *DALRYMPLE tr. Leslie's Hist. Scot.* x. (S.T.S.) II. 286 Our folk.. met with thame.. be chance the ane not witting of the vther. 1607 T. ROGERS 39 *Art.* Pref. (1625) ¶¶ I We not weeting, nor.. dreaming of any such matter. 1801 *WORDSW. Prioress' T.* xxvi, Those bad Jews.. That of this murder wist. 1866 *ALGER Solit. Nat.* II. 58 Inspired by a splendid hope, he wist not of hunger or of sneers. 1876 *WHITNEY Sights & Insights* II. iii. 363 We wit well of many things that we would never prove.

†3. To have experience of: cf. KNOW v. 18 a. 13.. *Cursor M.* 20508 (Gött.), I sal fare þat i sal neuer witt of care. c 1400 *Sowdone Bab.* 3270 Gode lete him never wete of woo! 1423 *JAS. I Kings* Q. xlii, A.. prisoner.. That.. wote of noght bot wo. 1426 *AUDELAY Poems* 2 His soul never schal ponyschyd be, ne never wyf of wo.

†3. Passing into the sense: To become aware of, gain knowledge of, get or come to know; to find out, ascertain, discover; to be informed of, learn, 'hear' (*at or of* a person), esp. in answer to inquiry; hence sometimes virtually equivalent to 'inquire, ask'. Cf. KNOW v. 8, 18 b (obs. uses). Obs.

Often not distinguishable from the simple sense 'know' (1 or 2), esp. with *will* or *would* (= wish, would like), or with *ere*, or (= before).

a. *trans.* with simple obj., or in passive.

c 1000 [see A. 7 a]. a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 562 3ef ha þe 3et wule, þen ha wat hire woh, wiðstonden a3ein us. a 1300 *K. Horn* 288 (Camb.) To speke wiþ Rymenhild.. & witen hure wille. 1340-70 *Alex. & Dind.* 4 To oridrace.. alixandre wendus, þere wilde contre was wist & wonderful peple. c 1374 *CHAUCER Troylus* i. 615 Harnes myghte folwen.. If it were wüst. 1387 *TRIVISA Higden* (Rolls) IV. 427 Nero.. wolde wite.. þe nombre of lewes þat were at Ierusalem. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 13486 þai.. Made hym wise of þe werke, þat þai wiste hade. 1450 *Paston Lett.* I. 111 They.. sent in to me to weten if thei myt3 speken with me. 1483 *CAXTON Gold. Leg.* 197 b/1 Anone as she wyste the comyng of the holy virgyne she wente to hir. 1535 *LYNDESAI Satyre* 291 Of my name wald 3e wit the veritie, Forsuith, thay call me Sensualitie. c 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) iii. 19 Lat non know 30' intenis; Be very war or that thay wit 30' myndis.

b. with dependent statement or question or obj. and compl. (as in 1 b, c).

1132 *O.E. Chron.* (Laud MS.), þa wiste þe king ðat he feorðe mid suidcom. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 41 3if hwa wule witen hwa erest bi-won reste þam wreche saule.. ic eow segge. c 1205 *LAY.* 271 Witen he wolde þurh þa wiper-craftes wat ping hit were. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1185 þe pikes smite hom þoru out ar hii wuste wat hit were. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 13082 Iohn bigan at þam to wijt Quer iues crist.. yeitt Bigan wit werkes him to kiþe. c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 145 Whanne þis witty werwolf wiste him so schaped. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xi. (*Simon & Judas*) 366, & bad þe duk þat þai

suld vyte quhat he wes þat [þat] had done. 1377 *LANGL. P. Pl. B.* vi. 213 Now wolde I witen of þe what were þe best. c 1430 *Chev. Assigne* 35 Whenne he wysste her with chylde. 1471 *CAXTON Recuyell* (Sommer) 136 He began to caste his eyen vpon his peple.. for to wete how they were of nombre. 1530 *TINDALE Gen.* ix. 24 As soone as Noe was awaked.. and wüst what his yongest sonne had done. 1531 *Dial. on Laws Eng.* i. xvi. 38, I wolde wytte whether the partie shal be also dischargyd in the common lawe. 1535 *COVERDALE Exod.* ii. 4 His sister stode a farre of, to wete what wolde come of him. 1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle* v. 2094 Diligent enquirie made, they wist At length what was become of him. 1690 W. WALKER *Idiomat. Anglo-Lat.* 524 He stood to wit what would be done.

c. *absol.* or *intr.* with of.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 689 Alle þre he bro3te þe do3tren bi vore him to witen of hor þoste. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 20194 Quat es ti name..? Gladli þar-of wijt wald i. 1375 [see A. 4 e]. a 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 509 þis egg, or þe kyng wüst, to þe erth fallis. c 1400 26 *Pol. Poems* i. 49 And 3e wole wyte, thus mowe 3e lere. a 1450 *How Merch. dyd Wyfe betray* 103 in *Hazl. E.P.P.* I. 201 Yf he wylle algatys wytt, Say in my chaumbyr y lye sore syke. c 1520 *SKELTON Magnyf.* 22 Where wonnys Welthe, and a man wolde wyte? *Ibid.* 1654, I speke the softlyer, because he sholde not wete. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* x. 279 He come hame agane or euer thay wist. 1629 *MAXWELL tr. Herodian* (1635) 52 On a sudden (ere any wist) there rusht among the people the Emperors armed Horsemen. 1795 *BURNS 'O Lassie'* 2 O Lassie, are ye sleepin yet, Or are ye waukin, I wad wit?

†4. *trans.* To have practical knowledge of; to be conversant with or versed in: = KNOW v. 9. Obs.

a 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 445 He.. wiste.. spræca fela. a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 195 He wot insit in eche songe Wo singet wel, wo singet wronge. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 18938 For wel þai all langage wist. c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 7166 Tak & lef as þou sest skyle, .. Bettere þan y þou wost þe dede. 1340-70 *Alex. & Dind.* 516 Swiche maner lorus, þat þou miht.. þe beste lawe kenne. When þou hit wisliche wost, wilne hit in herte.

b. with to and inf.: To know how, be able: = KNOW v. 12.

1340-70 *Alex. & Dind.* 99 Sin we wetin hur wil to worchen.. We mowe be soþliche isaid hur seruautus. c 1440 *Generydes* 53 He wüste not them to fynde. 1576 *FOXE A. & M.* (ed. 3) I. 14/2 He either wist not, or lyste not to shew his cunning therin. 1594 *CAREW Huarte's Exam. Wits* v. (1596) 58 No Philosopher as yet wist to giue to euery difference of wit determinatly that which was his. 1893 F. THOMPSON *Hound of Heaven* 24 Fear wist not to evade, as Love wist to pursue.

†5. In imperative = 'be assured', 'you may be certain', and later in monitory formulæ and polite phrases (e.g. *ye shall wit, please it you to wit*) = 'you must know', 'let me tell you', 'allow me to inform you'. Obs.

a 900-1000 [see A. 5]. c 1205 *LAY.* 15090 Wite þu.. þat dead is Vortimer. c 1275 *Passion our Lord* 356 in *O.E. Misc.* 47 Yf Mi kynneriche were ine worlde pisse, Mine men wolde wyppstonde, wite þu myd iwisse. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 10185 Was neuer nan for-soth wijt yee Men of sua mikel cherite. 1362 *LANGL. P. Pl. A.* II. 60 Hit witen and witnessen þat wonen vpon eorpe, þat I, Fauuel [etc.]. c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 4782 Wite thou this, If thou fle it, it shal fle thee. c 1400 *MAUNDEV.* vi. [v.] (1919) I. 26 Wytyeth wel þat the rewme of Arabye is a full gret contree. 1417 *HEN. V* in *Ellis Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. I. 61 We grete yow wel, and wol ye wite that thambassiatours.. have been here. 1425 *Paston Lett.* I. 21 Preyng yow to wite that I have reseyced yowr goodly letters. c 1450 *Merlin* 13 Wite wel that god shal helpe yow. 1456 *SIR G. HAYE Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 15 3e sall witt that the sevyng angelis signyfys the sevin partis of the tyme. c 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 98 Thou sall rew in thi ruse, wit thou but wene. 1476 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) II. 2 Ples it you to wete, this same day I depart to Cales wardes. 1539 *CROMWELL in Merriman Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 196 Please it your excellent Maiestie to witte that [etc.]. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* x. 57 First thow sall wit, he was sone natural To James the fyft. 1608 *SHAKS. Per.* IV. iv. 31 Please you wit: The Epitaph is for Marina writ.

†6. with to and inf.: To be certain or confident, feel sure, expect confidently. (Cf. KNOW v. 10.) Obs.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2057 He was glad, uor he wuste wel to winne al is wille. c 1386 *CHAUCER Prol.* 224 He was an esy man to yeue penaunce Ther as he wiste to haue a good pitaunce. c 1400 26 *Pol. Poems* vii. 41 3if he wiste to heuene to go. c 1440 *Jacob's Well* 177 My conscyens telde me, þat 3if I had wüst to haue lyued, I wolde no3t haue sorwyd for my synnes.

†7. To experience: = KNOW v. 5 c. Obs. rare. a 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 8 Oure eldris.. That mykell wiste of wo and wele. a 1510 *DOUGLAS K. Hart* i. 86 This cumlie court.. No wandreth wait, ay wenis welth endure. 1792 A. WILSON *Watty & Meg* 138 Meg.. Sic a change had never wist.

8. To recognize, to distinguish, discern, detect: = KNOW v. 1, 1 b, 4. Obs. or rare arch.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 781 O wityng bath god and ill 3ee suld be lauerds at þour will. 1340-70 *Alex. & Dind.* 1002 Men han wit for to wite þe wikke & þe gode. a 1352 *MINOT Poems* (ed. Hall) iv. 44 In þat morning fell a myst, And when oure Ingliss men it wist, It changed all paire chere. 1555 *PHAER Æneid.* i. (1558) Bij, When he his mother wist, He folowed fast and cald (alas) what mean you, thus to list In fayned shapps.. to apere? 1842 *MRS. BROWNING Grk. Chr. Poets* (1863) 98 If by chance an Attic voice be wist.

II. Phrases.

9. † a. do to wit, also without to (DO v. 22 c): to cause (a person) to know, make known to, inform. Also (rarely) *give to wit* (GIVE v. 29 c). Const. as in 1 and 2. Obs.

c 1205 *LAY.* 3163 Ich do þe wel to witenne.. þat mi drihliche lond atwa ich habbe ideled. *Ibid.* 27150 Arður hafde his hauwares.. and sone duden him to witen whuder

he wolde wenden. *c1250 Gen. & Ex.* 1302 He saȝt ȝe stede De god him witen in herte dede. *c1330 R. BRUNNE Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 14782 Seint Bede doȝ vs to wyten Whilk were gode, whilek were elles. *1377 LANGL. P. Pl. B.* viii. 13, I. preyed hem. . . If ȝei knewe any contre. . . Where ȝat dowl dwelleth, doth me to wytene. *c1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.)* iii. 8, I do ȝow to wit ȝat Constantinople es riȝt a faire citee. *1470-85 MALORY Arthur* vii. xxvi. 253 Ye myȝt haue done me to wete of his comynge. *1524 in Hakluyt Voy.* (1599) II. 77 Wee giue you to weete, that we haue receiued your letters. *1526 TINDALE I Cor.* xv. 2, I do you to witt [1611 I declare vnto you] after what maner I preached vnto you. *1600 HOLLAND Livy* xxix. xxiv. He did them to weete and understand, that hce intended. . . to conduct his armada to Lilybæum. *a1604 HANMER Chron. Irel.* (1633) 193 We doe you wit, that such a Law and Custome is in England. *1674* [see DO v. 22 c].

b. let wit, rarely *† let to wit* (LET v.¹ 12, 13): to let (a person) know (a thing): (a) to inform (one), or to make (something) known (= a); (b) to allow (one) to know, or (something) to be known, to disclose, reveal; *† (c) occas.* to show, exhibit. Const. as in a. *Obs. exc. dial.*

c1205 [see LET v.¹ 13]. *1297 R. GLOUC.* (Rolls) 9788 ȝe point of is suerd. . . at canterbury ȝe monekes lateȝ wite, Vor honour of ȝe holi man. *c1340 HAMPOLE Prose Treat.* 4 He lett me wyte. . . ȝat he ne is fundene in ȝe lande of softly lyfande. *c1400 Rom. Rose* 3145 Thou art wel worthy to haue maugree To late hym of the Roser wite. *c1440 Generydes* 4153 If ye knowe wher that I may hym fynde, Now lete me wete, I prae yow. *a1533 LD. BERNERS Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) C, I lette the to witte, that the Rodyan people are curteis. *a1547 SURREY in Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 219, I let the wete thou shalt not play with me. *1592 KYD Sp. Trag.* iv. iv. Solymen saluteth thee, And lets thee wit by me his highnes will. *1600 FAIRFAX Tasso* v. lxxxvi. From Egypt come they all, this lets thee weete [rime fleete]. *1794* [see LET v.¹ 13]. *1825 BROCKETT N.C. Gloss.* s.v., 'I'll ne'er let wit', I'll not inform, or I'll keep it secret. *1890 HALL CAINE Bondman* II. i, [He] never let wit of his intention.

10. to wit. *† a. it is to wit (also to witting):* it is to be observed, noted, or ascertained; so *it were to wit*, it needs investigation, one ought to know. *Obs.*

c1320 Cast. Love 783 Of ȝe middel heuȝ is to wite ȝe swetnesse and ȝe feirschiȝe. *c1330 R. BRUNNE Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 431 Hit were to witen Whi ȝe bataille of Troye was smiten. *c1380 WYCLIF Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 114 It were to wite ȝe moral sense of ȝese wordis. *c1380* — *Wks.* (1880) 328 It were to wite. . . wheȝer priue confession made to prestis be nedeful. *1398 TREVISIA Barth. De P.R.* III. ii. (Tollem. MS.), Firste it is to wetynghe what pinges the soule is. *Ibid.* xvii. ii. (Add. MS. 27944). It is to witynghe [ed. 1495 wyte] ȝat a graffe. . . chaungeȝ ȝe. . . qualite of ȝe stok in to his owne. . . qualite. *c1449 PECOCK Repr.* II. xiii. 223 For the more cleering of this present answer, it is to wite that a thing is holi in three maners. *1456 SIR G. HAYE Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 246 Bot quethir his awin legis ar behaldyn to kepe his assurance, in that poynt it is to wit. *1511 GUYLFORDE'S Pilgr.* (Camden) 47 It is to wit that the Holy Londe. . . in parte. . . was called y^e kyngdome of Jude. *1628 COKE On Litt.* 16 And it is to wit, that this word (*inheritance*) is not only intended where a man hath Lands or Tenements by descent of inheritance. [Comm.] *Et est ascauore.* This kinde of speech is vsed. . . oftentimes by our Authour. . . and euer teacheth vs some rule of Law, or generall or sure leading point.

† b. that is to wit (also to witting) = AF. cestasavoir literally 'that is to know': that is to say, that is, namely: = L. *scilicet, videlicet (viz.)*; occas. = *id est (i.e.)*. *Obs.* replaced by the simple *to wit*, c (b).

1340 Ayenb. 1 Tuaye lettres of ȝe abece, ȝet is to wytene A. and b. *c1375 Sc. Leg. Saints* i. (Petrus) 403 Twa substance, ȝat is to wyt, Of deuel and man, to-gyddir knete. *a1400 Engl. Gilds* (1870) 349 ȝe ben ȝe olde vsages of ȝe Cite of Wynechestre. . . ȝat is to wetynghe, ȝat [etc.]. *1440 in 3rd Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* 360/2 ȝeldynge there of by the ȝere to the forseyde Johan, that ys to wetynghe, the furste ȝere [6s. 8d.] and every ȝere after [13s. 4d.]. *1484 CAXTON Fables of Poge* v. The whiche parte was iumelle that is to wete double. *1496 Bk. St. Albans, Fishing* hj, Your harnays. That is to wyte your rodde: your lynes. *1526 TINDALE Matt.* xxiii. 8 For one ys youre master, that is to wytt Christ. *1562 TURNER Herbal* II. 75 Where of we haue hearde a grete wonder, that is to wete, that that same kynde dieth & lyueth agayn. *1579-80 NORTH Plutarch, Theseus* (1595) 8 Vpon conditions agreed betwene them: that is to wit, that the Athenians should furnish them with a shippe.

c. to wit: (a) 'To be sure', as one may know, truly, indeed. *Obs.* or *rare arch.*

c1400 Song of Roland 850 Ther fell. . . A straung wedur. A gret derk myst in the myd-day-tym, . . the erthe dynnd doillfully to wet. *c1400 Melayne* 222 ȝay. . . bade hym come owte with ȝam to fyghte, To witt with owten wene. *c1400 Destr. Troy* 14002 The worthiest to wete, ȝat in wer deghit. *1581 A. HALL Iliad* IX. 166 No fault so great to wit, Which at the prayer of faultie folkes the Gods do not remit. *1748 THOMSON Cast. Indol.* I. xxv. He was, to weete, a little roguish Page. *1819 KEATS On Charles Armitage* Brown i, He is to weete a melancholy carle.

(b) That is, namely, *scilicet*.

In former law practice used to indicate (and placed after the name of) the venue of a trial. *1577 WOLTON Cast. Christians* Bviiij, That common saying. . . that the beginning of vertue is of Nature, to wyt of Perfect Nature. *1579 W. WILKINSON Confut. Fam. Love* BJ, The same testimonye that ye alledge, to weete, that they had Moses and the Prophets. *1596 SPENSER F.Q.* v. x. I Some Clarkes doe doubt. . . Whether this heavenly thing, whereof I treat, To weeten Mercie, be of Iustice part. *1608 J. KING Serm.* 24 Mar. 12 He. . . reigned long, to weete, fourty years. *1621 T. GRANGER Eccles.* vi. 3, 137 An abortiue child, to wit, one that is borne before his time, and dyeth in his birth. *1657 STYLE Reg. Pract.* 351 Incertain words in the Count or Declaration, may be made good. . . by a plea in Bar. *Hill 22 Car. B. r.* To wit, by the Defendants taking notice of the meaning of them in his plea. *1711 STEELE Spect.* No. 43 ¶9

Accounting for what we frequently see, to wit, that dull Fellows prove very good Men of Business. *1756 C. LUCAS Ess. Waters* I. 39 In certain degrees of heat, to wit, in thirty three of Fahrenheit's thermometer, and upwards, water is always fluid. *1765 G. WILSON Raymond's Entries* III. 168 Allen against Harris. . . Kent, (to wit). *1823 Broadsheet* (Bodl. G. A. Oxon. b. 112, lf. 80), Oxfordshire to Wit. Sentences of the Prisoners, Who were tried at the Summer Assizes at Oxford. *1832 BINGHAM Rep. Comm. Pleas* VIII. 235 At Martinmas 1830, to wit, on the 23d of November 1830. *1852 Oxford Chron.* 3 July 1/5 advt., Oxfordshire Election. Proclamation for a Special County Court. Oxfordshire to wit. *1875 MAINE Hist. Instit.* iv. 114 Thrice nine ridges. . . to wit, nine of bog, nine of smooth and nine of wood.

11. God wot (also *† God it wot*; *† Godwot*, *God ote*, *GODDOT*): God knows. **a.** Used to emphasize the truth of a statement. *arch.* So *† wot Christ*. *a1225 Ancr. R.* 54 God hit wot. . . more wunder ilomp. *Ibid.* 330 Wat Crist hit is god riht ȝet us scheome biuoren monne. *c1300 Havelok* 2527 For he it made, god it wot! *a1300-1859* [see GOD sb. 10a]. *c1400 Anturs Arth.* 547 (Ireland MS.) 'Greselle', quod Gauan, 'gone is, God ote!' *1865* [see A. 4a]. *1883 MISS BROUGHTON Belinda* III. 83 She has good reasons enough, God wot! *1893 T. E. BROWN Old John* etc. 177 A garden is a lovesome thing, God wot!

† b. With dependent interrogative or *absol.*, implying that the thing spoken of is utterly unknown.

1390 GOWER Conf. I. 3 What schal befall hierafterward God wot. *c1400 Beryn* 1201, I am I-wedditi! ȝe, God wot beste, in what maner & howel *c1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.)* xii. 53, I wate noȝt; God wate. *a1500 Peblis to the Play* 7 God wait ȝai wald ȝai do ȝat stound. *1570 Satir. Poems Reform.* xiii. 134 God wait gif ȝe be Jaipts to hald in stoir. *1646* [see GOD sb. 10b].

† 12. to wit (a person) to say: to inform or instruct him. *Obs.*

? A misuse due to confusion with *witere*, *WITTER* v. (cf. the reading of later text in quot. *c1205* s.v.).

a1400-50 Wars Alex. 241 ȝat semely qwere Ai of Egypt erd enquirid if he were. . . scho wetis if he wald wete hire to say. *c1400 Destr. Troy* 11467 He shuld. . . spir at hom specially of hor spede fer; If ȝai hade wille to ȝe werke, wete hom to say. . . glose hit not lengur. *Ibid.* 13580 He fraynet at ȝe freke. . . Wat whe ȝat he was, wete hym to say.

† wit, v.² Obs. Also 5 wyte, 5-6 wyt(t, 6 witt(e; 5 *pa. t.* wytte; 6 *pa. pple.* witte. [app. inferred from WITWORD testament, bequest. Cf. *bewit(t* (1436 and 1587), by-forms of BEQUEATHE by contamination with this.] *trans.* To bequeath. Hence *† witting vbl. sb.*, bequest.

1393 Test. Ebor. (Surtees) I. 184, I wyte and I commend my saule to all myghty God & to our lady synte Mary. *1406 E.E. Wills* (1882) 12, Y wyt to the person of my paryssh vj s. viij d. *c1420 Lay Folks Mass Bk.* 86 He wytte his saul to his fadyr. *c1450 Ibid.* 71 All. . . ȝat. . . in testment wytes any gode in mayntenynge of ȝis kirk. *1483 Cath. Angl.* 421/1 To Wytt gude, *legare*. *1504 Will in Ripon Ch. Acts* (Surtees) 295 The residue of my gude nott witte. *1547 Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 257, I give and wit my soule unto Almighty God.

wit, v.³ [f. WIT sb.] a. intr. with *it*: To play the wit; to make witty remarks. **b. trans.** as a meaningless repetition of the word just used, by way of a vague threat. **c. trans.** To call (a person) a wit, attribute wit to. (All nonce-uses.)

1654 GAYTON Pleas. Notes III. v. 92 They beginne to be wanton, and to wit it one upon another. *a1662 HEYLIN Laud* (1668) 260 Others. . . impute the Republishing of this Declaration to the new Archbishop. . . after he took possession of his *Graceship*, as Burton doth pretend to wit in his Pulpit Libell. *1679 SHADWELL True Widow* II. 30 Sel. . . I think they are all out of their wits. . . *Prig.* Prithee Stanmore be my Second, I'll wit him with a Pox to him. *1778 MME. D'ARBLAY Diary* 26 Sept., *Dr. Johnson*. 'Why, did Dr. Jebb forbid her wine?' *F. B.* 'Yes, sir.' *Dr. Johnson*. 'Well, he was in the right; he knows how apt wits are to transgress that way. . . ' In this sort of ridiculous manner he wits me eternally.

wit: see WHIT, WHITE, WIGHT, WITE, WITH.

wital(l, witaldrie: see WITTOL, WITTOLDRY.

witale, obs. Sc. form of VICTUAL.

witan ('witan). *Hist.* [OE., pl. of *wita* WITE sb.¹] The members of the national council in Anglo-Saxon times; the council itself, the WITENAGEMOT. Also *transf.*

1807 S. TURNER Hist. Anglo-Saxons x. iv. II. 226 The treaty. . . is said to have been made by the king and his witan. *1839 KEIGHTLEY Hist. Eng.* I. 36 Edward, the Elder, . . was chosen by the Witan to succeed his father, Alfred. *1874 GREEN Short Hist.* i. §1. 4 Their homesteads clustered round a moot-hill. . . Here, too, the 'witan', the Wise Men of the village, met to settle questions of peace and war. *1877 TENNYSON Harold* II. ii, *William*. Good, good, and thou wilt help me to the crown. *Harold*. Ay. . . if the Witan will consent to this.

witan, variant of WHITTEN.

witand, -ly: see WITTING *ppl. a.*, WITTINGLY.

|| witblits ('vitblits). *S. Afr.* Also witblitz and as two words. [Afrikaans, irreg. f. Du. *wit* WHITE + *G. blitz* lightning.] Home-brewed brandy, a strong and colourless raw spirit.

1934 Sunday Times (Johannesburg) 8 Apr., 'Wit blits' (white lightning) was the name given to peach brandy in the Johannesburg Magistrate's Court yesterday. *1948 Cape Times* 21 July 16/3 In cases of snakebite people on the plateland have always run for the witblitz. *1955 L. G.*

GREEN Karoo ix. 105 Farmers are allowed to distill small quantities of witblits for their own use. *Ibid.*, *Witblits*, of course, is home-distilled dop brandy with a little alcoholic content. *1966 Economist* 12 Mar. 1044/3 Coloured people are drinking less [in South Africa], particularly the favoured types of plonk known affectionately as *witblitz*. . . and *skokiaan*.

witch (witf), *sb.*¹ Now only *dial.* Forms: 1 *wicca*, *wycca*, 3-6 *wiche*, etc. (as next). [OE. *wicca* wk. masc. (see next).] A man who practises witchcraft or magic; a magician, sorcerer, wizard. See also WHITE WITCH.

c890 Laws of Ælfred xxx, Da fæmnan, ȝe ȝewuniað onfon ȝealdorcraeftigan, & scinlæcan, & wiccan. *c1100 Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 183/31 *Augur uel ariolus*, *wicca*. *a1225 Juliana* 41 Ich hit am ȝat spec ȝurh simunes muð ȝe wiche. *c1250 Gen. & Ex.* 3028 De wicches hidden hem for-ðan, Bi-foren pharaun nolden he ben. *c1375 Sc. Leg. Saints* xxi. (Clement) 532 Sayand he was ane encantore, A wech and a trigetouyre. *1377 LANGL. P. Pl. B.* xviii. 46 'Crucifige', quod a cacchepolle 'I warante hym a wiche!' *c1400 Three Kings Cologne* 84 ȝe paynyms. . . cleped ȝes iij kyngis *Magos*, ȝat is to seye wicchis. *1470-85 MALORY Arthur* I. viii. 45 Som of hem lough hym [sc. Merlin] to scorn, . . and mo other called hym a wyche. *c1533 MORE Answ. Poys. Bk.* Wks. 1063/2 The turning of Aarons rod. . . into suche a serpent as deuoured vp all y^e serpentes of y^e Egipciane witches. *1563 WINSET Vincent. Lirin.* xxx. Wks. (S.T.S.) II. 63/7 Simon the weche, quha we was strukin be the Apostolis cursing. *1627 R. BERNARD Guide Grand-jury Men* 240 The examination of that grand Witch, Lewis Gaufredy, before noble Commissioners. *1668 ROLLE Abridgment* I. 44 Home dit que I. S. Is a Witch, and I will prove him so. *1712 SWIFT Jnl. to Stella* 17 June, Am I a Laplander? am I witch? . . can I make easterly winds? *1828 CARR Craven Gloss.*, *Witch*, this word. . . is frequently used for wizard, or fortune teller. *1913 in Expositor* (1914) Jan. 20 [Near Crickieith] there lives a long-haired, haggard old man whom the people about speak of as a 'witch'.

b. fig.

1832 CARLYLE Misc., Boswell's Johnson (1857) III. 51 The Editor is clearly no witch at a riddle. *1840 HALBURTON Clockm.* Ser. III. viii. And she keeps a-sayin'—Well, he's a witch! Well, how strange!

witch (witf), *sb.*² Forms: 1-2 *wicce*, *wyce*, 2-6 *wicche*, 3 *wichche*, 3-4 *wychche*, 3-5 *wycche*, 3-6 *wiche*, 4-5 *wyche*, *wech*, 4-6 *wich*, *wytche*, *wych*, 4-7 *witche*, 5-6 *weche*, (4 *wechch*, *Sc. wesch*, *wisch*-, 4, 6 *which*(e, 5 *whitch*, *wheche*, 6 *wytch*, *Sc. vytche*, *vyche*, *weyche*), 6- *witch*. [OE. *wicce* fem., corresponding to *wicca* WITCH sb.¹, both of which are app. derivatives of *wiccan* WITCH v.¹]

1. a. A female magician, sorceress; in later use *esp.* a woman supposed to have dealings with the devil or evil spirits and to be able by their co-operation to perform supernatural acts. See also WHITE WITCH.

c1000 ÆLFRED Saints' Lives vii. 209 Animað. . . ȝa reðan wiccan, Seo ȝe ðus awent ȝurh wiccecraft manna mod. *a1100 Aldhelm Gloss.* i. 1926 (Napier 52/1) *P(h)itonissam*, i. *diuinatricem*, *helhrunan*, *wiccan*. *c1290 St. Kath.* 279 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 100 Faste ȝe schulle ȝe wyche biinde. . . And smitez of hire heued a-non. *1303 R. BRUNNE Handl. Synne* 499 Lo here a tale of a wyche, ȝat leued no better þan a bycche. *c1375 Sc. Leg. Saints* I. (Katherine) 1088 [He] gert ȝis katrine till hyme feite, & sad hir: 'ȝu wikide wiche, Quhat wenis ȝu ws lang to preche?' *c1400 Destr. Troy* 11182 The worthy, ȝat wicche hase wastid to dethe. *1440 WYRCETER in Wars Eng. in Fr.* (Rolls) II. ii. 763 Alia mulier magica, vocata vulgariter Wyche of Eye. . . capta est. . . et apud Smythfeld cremata. *1471 CAXTON Recuyell* (Sommer) 243 Iuno the false wyche and sorceresse. *1500-20 DUNBAR Poems* xxxv. 35 Jonet the weido on ane bussome rydand, Off wichiss with ane windir garesoun. *1591 SHAKS. i Hen. VI*, v. iii. 34 See how the vgly Witch doth bend her browes, As if with Circe, she would change my shape. *1656 W. COLES Art of Simpling* 67 Leaves of Elder. . . which to disappoint the Charmes of Witches, they had affixed to their Doores and Windowes. *1711 ADDISON Spect.* No. 117 ¶ 10 When an old Woman begins to doat, and grow chargeable to a Parish, she is generally turned into a Witch. *1790 BURNS Tam o' Shanter* 200 The witches follow, Wi' mony an eldritch shriek and hollo. *1868 TENNYSON Lucretius* 15 She. . . Dreaming some rival, sought and found a witch Who brew'd the philtre. *1901 RHYS Celtic Folklore* iv. 294, I have heard of one old witch changing herself into a pigeon.

b. With masculine prefix.

1601 Strange Rep. Sixe Notorious Witches Bij, Men-Witches. *1653 GATAKER Vind. Annot. Jer.* 108 No pure Astrologer, but a meer Magitian in plain English, an He-witch.

c. a witch of Endor (in allusion to 1 Sam. xxviii. 7): a fanciful term for (a) a bewitching person; (b) a medium.

1819 C'TESS SPENCER Let. 15 Nov. in *Sarah, Lady Lytleton's Corr.* (1912) vii. 217 That witch of Endor, the Duchess of Devon, has been doing mischief of another kind. *1919 R. R. MARETT in Q. Rev.* Apr. 458 In the West End a *seance* with a Witch of Endor is doubtless to be obtained for a suitable fee.

d. Phrases. the witch is in it: it is bewitched. *as nervous as a witch:* a New England phrase, applied to a very restless person.

a1654 SELDEN Table-talk (Arb.) 82 When a Country-wench cannot get her Butter to come, she says, The Witch is in her Churn. *1885 HOWELLS Silas Lapham* xvii. 325 She rose from her struggle with the problem, and said aloud to herself, 'Well, the witch is in it'. *1911 F. M. CRAWFORD Uncanny Tales, Man Overboard* (1917) 132 She's been as nervous as a witch all day. *1918 ELEANOR H. PORTER Oh, Money!* Money! xvii, He's nervous as a witch. He can't keep still a minute.

† 2. transf. The nightmare. *Obs.*

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 526/2 Wytche, clepyd nyghte mare... epialtes. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 427/1 *Incubus, ephialtes*,... a kinde of disease called the night mare or witch. [Cf. 1847 HALLIWELL, *Riding of the Witch*, a popular phrase for the nightmare, still in use.]

3. fig. a. gen.

1659 W. BROUGH *Sacr. Princ.* 240 Save me from vain pleasures, the great witches of the world. 1708 *Brit. Apollo* I. Quarterly Paper No. 2. 8/1 The Four of Clubs [is] call'd *Wibling's Witch*... from one James Wibling, who in the Reign of... James the First, grew Rich by... Gaming, and was commonly observ'd to have the Card... in his Hand. 1820 SHELLEY *Gisborne* 132 The quaint witch Memory sees, In vacant chairs, your absent images.

b. (a) A young woman or girl of bewitching aspect or manners.

1740 RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. xxiv. 37 Mrs. Jervis, said he, take the little witch from me. 1800 T. D. WHITAKER *Whalley* 1. 184 note, In... 1634 was acted... a play entitled *The Witches of Lancaster*... The term has since been transferred to a gentler species of fascination, which my fair countrywomen still continue to exert in full force. 1834 LYTTON *Pompeii* i. ii. For my part I find every woman a witch. 1845 MRS. S. C. HALL *Whiteboy* ix. 69, I own I have abused Miss Ellen, and good right I had—a young witch, driving the world through heaven's windows. 1888 'J. S. WINTER' *Bootes' Child*. vii. She who had been the blithest little witch he had ever known.

(b) *old witch*: a contemptuous appellation for a malevolent or repulsive-looking old woman.

c 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 168 A lusti galaunt that weddeth an olde wiche. a 1536 *Calisto & Melib.* 825 Thow old which thou bryngyst me in grete dole. 1831 COLERIDGE *Table-t.* 7 July, There are only three classes into which all the women past seventy that ever I knew were to be divided:—1. That dear old soul: 2. That old woman: 3. That old witch. 1884 F. M. CRAWFORD *Roman Singer* 1, Mariuccia is an old witch.

4. Applied to various animals and objects.

a. The stormy petrel. b. A West Indian name for *Crotophaga ani*, a black bird of the cuckoo family. c. A kind of snail. d. In a loom: = DOBBY 3. e. *witch of Agnesi* (*Math.*): a plane curve named after M. G. Agnesi (1718-99) of the university of Bologna.

a. 1784 PENNANT *Arctic Zool.* (1792) II. 255 Stormy Petrel... hated by the sailors, who call them Witches, imagining they forbode a storm. 1885 SWAINSON *Prov. Names Birds* 211 Storm-Petrel... Witch, or Water-witch.

b. 1884 COUES *N. Amer. Birds* 472 Black Witch. Savanna Blackbird.

c. 1815 BURROW *Elem. Conchol.* 204 *Helix Scarabæus*, Witch or Cockchafer.

d. 1883 *Almondbury & Huddersfield Gloss.*, *Witch*, a machine which stands on the top of a loom, and was used previously to the jacquard machine for the purpose of figuring the cloth. 1909 *Century Dict. Suppl.*, *Witch*,... a dobby or index-machine.

e. 1875 B. WILLIAMSON *Integral Calculus* vii. 173 Find the area between the witch of Agnesi $xy^2 = 4a^2(2a - x)$ and its asymptote. 1901 A. B. BASSET *Elem. Cubic & Quartic Curves* 96 Then the locus of P is a cubic called the witch of Agnesi.

5. *attrib. and Comb.* a. General combs.: simple attrib., as *witch-act* (ACT sb. 5), *gang*, *-legion*, *-lore*, *-plot*, *-pupil*, *-trial*; with the meaning 'used in witchcraft or by witches in their enchantments', as *witch-broth*, *-charming*, *-ointment*, *-sabbath* (SABBATH 3), *-salve*, *thing*; appositive, as *witch-bird* (BIRD sb. 4), *-bride*, *carline*, *cummer*, *-hag*, *-hare*, *-huntress*, *-maid*, *-maiden*, *-people*, *-wife*, *-wolf*, *-woman*; objective, etc., as *witch-advocate*, *-burner*, *-master*, *-pricker* (PRICKER 1), *-searcher*, *-seeker*, *-trier*; *witch-burning*, *-roasting*; also *witch-like* adj. and adv.; instrumental, as *witch-held*, *-ridden*, *stricken*, adjs.; simulative, as *witch-wise* adj. b. Special combs.: *witch-ball*, (a) (see quot. 1866); (b) a hollow ball of (usu. coloured or silvered) glass, formerly displayed in a house as a charm against witchcraft and now for decorative purposes; *witch-bell*(s), *Sc.*, a name for the harebell, *Campanula rotundifolia*; *witch bottle*, a stone or glass bottle, filled with urine, nails, hair, etc., which was either burned or heated for the purpose of repelling or breaking a witch's power over her victim; *witch-bowl*, a decorative circular glass bowl; *witch broom*, *butter* = *witches' broom*, *butter* (see c below); *witch cake*, a preparation used to test a supposed witch, or made by a witch for the purposes of incantation; *witch-chap dial.* = *plough-witch* (see PLOUGH sb. 1 8); *witch dance*, a ritual dance performed by witches; *witch-fire* = CORPOSANT; *witch gowan* (see GOWAN 2); *witch-grass* U.S., (a) *Panicum capillare*, a weed-grass found throughout the U.S., also called *old-witch grass*; (b) couch-grass, *Triticum (Agropyrum) repens*; *witch-hat*, a hat with a conical crown and flat brim, represented as worn by witches; *witch-hopple* U.S. = HOBBLE-BUSH; *witch-hunter* = WITCH-FINDER; *so witch-hunting*; *witch-lock* = WITCH-KNOT 1; also *transf.*; *witch-loom* (see 4 d above); *witch-man*, (a) a wizard; (b) *dial.* = *witch-chap*; *witch-mania*, a mania or craze for witches and witchcraft; *witch-mark*, a mark on the body, supposed by witch-finders to denote that its possessor was a witch; *witch-meal* =

LYCOPODIUM 2; *witch-meeting* = *witches' meeting* (see c below); *witch-pap* (see quot.); *witch-post*, in Yorkshire, a wooden post, usually of mountain ash, marked with a cross and built into a house as a protection against witches; *witch-riding*, the nightmare; *witch-smelling*, the smelling out of witches; also *fig.*, *witch-hunting*; *witch stitch* (see quot.); *witch-stone*, a flat stone with a natural perforation, used as a charm against witchcraft; † *witch-water*, contemptuous name for holy water; *witch-weed* S. Afr., a parasitic plant, *Striga lutea*; *witchwork*, witchcraft.

1758 M. W. MONTAGUE *Let.* 14 Nov. (1667) III. 188, I... am convinced of the necessity of the repeal of the *Witch-act (as it is commonly called). 1777 BRAND *Pop. Antiq.* App. 319 The Witch-Act... was not repealed till the Year 1736. a 1680 GLANVILL *Sadducismus* II. (1681) 9, I have... almost spoiled all Mr. Webster's... and the other *Witch-Advocate Books. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xi. Witch-advocates, atheists, and misbelievers of all kinds. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, *Witch-balls, interwoven roller-masses of the stems of herbaceous plants, often met with in the steppes of Tartary. 1916 J. H. YOXALL *Collecting Old Glass* v. 38 Witch-balls seem to have been made at Bristol... at Nailsea... and at Wrockwardine... These balls, it is said, were hung at each door and window, 'to keep the witches out'. 1927 *Daily Express* 22 June 9/4 There is a fashion just now to collect the deep blue or silver glass balls which our forefathers hung about the house to keep witches away. 'Witch balls' they were called. 1952 L. MACNEICE *Autumn Leaves* 19 The witch-ball on the stairs. 1978 E. ELLENBOGEN tr. *Simenon's Maigret & Toy Village* ii. 34 Its houses... its tiny carefully-tended gardens, its clay animals and glass witchballs. 1808 JAMIESON, *Witch-bell, round-leaved Bell-flower, *Campanula rotundifolia*. 1826 HOGG *Love's Jubilee* 112 The witch-bell blue. 1698 *Prestwick Kirk Sess. Rec.* (MS.), Margaret Hood accused of calling Agnes Cuthbertson a '*witch-bird'. 1893 *Jrnl. Brit. Archaeol. Assoc.* XLIX. 267 Nails were formerly placed in an earthen vessel, and buried beneath the floor, near the hearth, to keep away the witches, and to afford protection from the 'evil eye'; hence such vessels were called 'witch-jugs' or 'witch-bottles'. 1908 E. SMITH in A. C. Kelsey *Memorials Old Essex* 252 An old witch-bottle... found 'below the floor and very near the fireplace'... contained some water, about fourteen horse-nails, and twenty thorns! 1966 G. E. EVANS *Pattern under Plough* vi. 74 Under the hearthstone was the spot most frequently chosen to bury the witch-bottle. 1980 *Rescue News* Sept. 2/3 Both pots must have been buried on purpose, perhaps as charms but the bellarmine is thought to be rather too early to be a witch-bottle. 1955 *Times* 13 May 12/5 Along with salt-cellar, ash-trays, *witch-bowls, and the curious jam dishes. 1964 G. SIMS *Terrible Door* xiv. 75 What looked like a fish-bowl was a 'witch bowl' with glass fishes suspended from floating glass bubbles in stagnant water. 1817 SCOTT *Harold* vi. vi, There of the *witch-brides lay each skeleton. 1849 H. MAYO *Pop. Superst.* 125 The witches... by *witch-broths... would induce in themselves and in their pupils a heavy stupor. 1892 *Review of Reviews* Feb. 170/1 (heading) A plea for the *witch-burners. 1894 *Advance* (Chicago) 26 Apr., Do we ever hear of Episcopalians as witch burners? 1909 *Strand Mag.* XXXVIII. 692/1 They had taken to *witch-burning. 1928 G. ADE *Let.* 10 July (1973) 135 Sooner or later we should elect a Catholic to the Presidency just to prove that we are living in the 20th century instead of the 18th and that witch-burning and religious persecutions are no longer the pastimes of a free and intelligent people. 1849 H. MAYO *Pop. Superst.* 126 The so-called *witch-butter found in the fields. 1693 I. MATHER *Cases Consc.* 52 Many... Magical experiments have been used to try witches by. Of this sort is that of... making a *witch-cake with that urine. 1810 R. H. CROMEK *Nithsdale & Galloway Song* 282 The baking of the 'Witch Cake', with its pernicious virtues, is a curious process. 1535 *Witch Carling [see CARLINE' b]. 1827 CLARE *Sheph. Cal.* 156 'Keep secrets, Sim', she said, 'I need them now, The *witch-chaps come'. ? 16... in P. H. Waddell *Old Kirk Chron.* (1893) 70 Such treatment was condemned by the Session under the head of '*witch-charming'. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* xxiv, Her ain *witch cummers would soon whirl her out of her shroud. 1921 M. MURRAY *Witch-Cult in Western Europe* v. 132 The round dance was... essentially a *witch dance. 1971 *Country Life* 9 Sept. 633/3 The round reel survives from the prehistoric witch-dance. 1893 KIPLING *Seven Seas, Merchantmen* 55 The *witch-fire climbed our channels, And flared on vane and truck. 1693 C. MATHER *Wond. Invis.* World 43 Some of the *Witch Gang have been fairly Executed. 1840 BUEL *Farmer's Comp.* 232 The quack, switch, or *witch grass, a variety of the florin, is highly nutritious, roots and all. 1855 LOWELL *Let.* (1894) I. 269 That witch-grass which is the pest of all child-gardens. 1826 HOR. SMITH *Tor Hill* (1838) I. 131 During the reign of the *witch-hag all the herbs around the cave were blighted. 1884 *Folk-Lore Jrnl.* II. 258 A dog cannot catch a *witch hare. 1898 R. BLAKEBOROUGH *Wit, Char. N. Riding* 160 One of the houses was suspected of being *witch-held, and every thing about the place witch-stricken. 1840 C. F. HOFFMAN *Greyslaer* II. 44 Tangled thickets of moss wood and *wyth-hopple gave now the springy footing the tired hunter loves. 1943 R. PEATTIE *Great Smokies* 283 This is the hobblebush or witch hobble [sic], an abundant high-mountain shrub whose large rounding leaves reach their color peak in September. 1819 SHELLEY *Faust* ii. 209 *Witch-legions thicken around and around. 1723 BLACKMORE *Alfred* XII. 101 Rebellion's *Witch-like Charms the Senses bind. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xxiii, She was... the same witch-like figure as when we first introduced her. 1880 L. WALLACE *Ben-Hur* 412 Nor was it possible to have told which was mother, which daughter; both alike seemed witch-like old. 1682 H. MORE *Cont. Remark. Stories* 41 This Magical matting of the Daughter's hair into a *Witch-lock. 1914 'AMÉLIE RIVES' *World's-End* xvii, Wild witch-locks of ravell'd cloud. 1898 POSSELT *Rec. Impr. Textile Mach.* 1. 44 Box-motion for *Witch Looms. 1891 ATKINSON *Moorland Parish* (ed. 2) 87 The copious *witch-lore of the district. 1855 KINGSLEY *Heroes, Argon.* iv, This is your doing, false *witch-maid! *Ibid.*, Medea the *witch-maiden. 1851 T. STERNBERG *Dial. & Folk-Lore Northampton.*, *Witch-men, guisers who go about on Plough-Monday. 1882 in Folk-

Lore Jrnl. (1883) I. 91 A farmer, having a horse taken ill, sent for a well-known witchman. 1855 SMEDLEY *Occult Sci.* 169 Scotland was sunk into barbarism and ignorance... Never did the *witch-mania enter a nation better suited for its reception. 1677 J. WEBSTER *Displ. Witchcraft* v. 82 Now if all these [sc. warts, etc.] were *Witch-marks, then few would go free. 1903 F. W. H. MYERS *Hum. Pers.* I. 164 Patches of anaesthesia found upon hysterical subjects—the 'witch-marks' of our ancestors. 1910 KIPLING *Rewards & Fairies* 96 'What's a *Witch-master?'... 'A master of witches, of course.' 1931 V. RANDOLPH in B. A. Botkin *Folk-Say* 86 My pappy follered gunsmithin' mostly, but he was a witch-master too. 1792 *Phil. Trans.* LXXXII. 66 *Semen lycopodii*, commonly called *witch-meal. 1693 C. MATHER *Wond. Invis.* World 82 She confessed, that the Devil carry'd them on a pole, to a *Witch-meeting. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xi, The iron gate, on which the poisoned air deposits its *witch-ointment slimy to the touch! 1871 TYLOR *Prim. Cult.* II. xviii. 379 The mediæval witch-ointments which brought visionary beings into the presence of the patient. 1664 in *Hale Coll. Mod. Relat.* 1. (1693) 58, I have, I confess, a *Witch-pap, which is Sucked by the Unclean Spirit. 1886 *Cheshire Gloss.*, *Witch-pap*, a mole which hangs or projects from the skin. 1895 KIPLING *2nd Jungle Bk.* 163 Spirits, goblins, and *witch-people. 1693 C. MATHER *Invis. World, Enchantments Encountered* 7 Which may perhaps prove no small part of the *Witch-Plot in the issue. a 1944 J. FORD *Some Reminiscences of Danby Parish* (1953) 96 It was the custom of the Priest to cut the Roman X on the upright oak post which went up to the low ceiling... They came to be called '*Witch Posts'. 1957 E. E. EVANS *Irish Folk Ways* v. 64 In north Yorkshire the jamb post, called the witch post, is occasionally found to be covered with designs intended to protect the hearth from evil spirits. 1971 K. THOMAS *Religion & Decline Magic* xvii. 543 Other preservatives included 'witch-posts' built into the structure of the house. 1899 CROCKETT *Black Douglas* vii. 50 Malise MacKim, a *witch pricker!... Will he go... peering into ladies' eyes for sorceries? 1621 *witch-ridden [see INCUBUS 2]. 1795 W. HUTTON *Hist. Derby* 226 That weak and witch-ridden monarch, James the First. 1821 LAMB *Elia* Ser. 1. *Witches & other night-fears*, I durst not... enter the chamber... without my face turned... aversely from the bed where my witch-ridden pillow was. 1704 *Athenian Oracle* (ed. 2) I. 292 Q. Whether there's any such thing as a Hag, which the Common People fancy to be *Witch-riding, when they are in their Bed in the Night time? 1922 JOYCE *Ulysses* 202 A Scotch philosopher with a turn for *witch-roasting. 1841 W. SPALDING *Italy* III. 253 In the South, the *witchsabbaths are believed to be held around the Sacred Walnut-tree of Benevento. 1860 R. A. VAUGHAN *Mystics* II. 256 They fare like Lucius... to whom Fotis has given the wrong *witch-salve. 1646 GAULE *Cases Consc.* 5-6 This suspicion, though it bee but late, yet is it enough to send for the *Witch-searchers, or *witch-seekers. 1937 H. G. WELLS *Star Begotten* vii. 130 Some sort of world-wide *witch-smelling for Martians everywhere... You could tell them because instinctively you dislike them. 1940 'G. ORWELL' *Inside Whale* 157 Frenzied witch-smellings after 'Bolshevism'. 1953 J. S. HUXLEY *Evolution in Action* vi. 141 The witch-smelling ordeals of Africa. 1882 CAULFIELD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework*, *Witch stitch, the name given to Herringbone when used in Fancy Embroidery. 1855 G. BORROW *Jrnl.* 23 Aug. in *Exped. to Isle of Man* (1915) 8 What could those *witch-stones be? 1870 'OUIDA' *Puck* vi, The old soul have a bit of belief like in witch-stones, and allus sets one aside her spinnin' jenny. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xxxv, 'It's a *witch thing, mas'r!' 'A what?' 'Something that niggers gets from witches'. 1830 PITCAIRN *Crim. Trials* (1833) III. ii. 603 note, This symbolical mode of taking the... produce of land, &c., is frequently alluded to in *Witch-Trials. 1649 WHITELOCKE *Mem.* 13 Dec. (1853) III. 128 That the *witch-trier taking a pin, and thrusting it into the skin in many parts of their bodies, they were insensible of it. 1659 BAXTER *Key Cath.* xxix. 186 The Priest exorcised him... washing him with Holy water, *Witch water. 1904 *Times* 25 July 12/3 Complaints... were constantly being received... of damage done... to the mealie... crop by... rooi-bloom or *witch weed. 1804 R. ANDERSON *Cumbld. Ball.* 79 The *witch weyfe begg'd in our backseyde. 1867 MORRIS *Jason* v. 139 As poisonous herbs... Are pounded by some witch-wife on the shore Of Pontus. 1781 C. JOHNSTON *Hist. J. Juniper* II. 139 The Nabob... had as constitutional an aversion to cold iron, as *witch-wise Solomon. 1609 HEALEY *Discov. New World* III. iv. 155 Here shall you have your *Witch-wolves in abundance. a 1765 'Northumbld. betrayd by Dowglas' xxvi. in *Child Ballads* (1889) III. 412/2 My mother, shee was a *witch woman. 1897 *Edin. Rev.* Oct. 394 Lapland witch-women. 1859 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* xiii, I suppose you keep him [sc. a black tom-cat] for some of your *witchwork.

c. Combs. with *witch's*, *witches'*: *witch's bells*, the foxglove (cf. *witch-bell* in b above); *witches' besom*, broom, a bushy tuft developed on the branches of trees by a fungus (see quot.); *witches' bridle*, an iron collar and gag formerly used as an instrument of torture in Scottish witch-trials; *witches' butter*, a popular name for certain gelatinous algae and fungi, esp. *Tremella Nostoc*; *witches' coral*, *witch's cradle* (see quot.); *witch's elm* = WYCH ELM; *witch's horse*, *witches' horses* (see quot.); *witches' knot* = WITCH-KNOT 2; *witch's mark* = *witch-mark* (see b); *witches' meat* = *witches' butter*; *witches' meeting* = *witches' Sabbath*; *witches' night* (see quot.); *witches' prayer* (see quot. 1711); *witches' Sabbath* = SABBATH 3; *witches' thimble*, a local name for various plants with tubular flowers; *witch's tit*: in fanciful proverbial phr. (as) *cold as a witch's tit*, extremely cold.

1884 R. FOLKARD *Plant Lore* 345 The witches are popularly supposed to have... decorated their fingers with its [sc. the foxglove's] largest bells, thence called '*Witches' Bells'. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, *Witches' besoms, this name is given to the tufted bunches of branches... developed on the Silver Fir in consequence of the attack of *Peridermium elatinum*.

1887 W. PHILLIPS *Brit. Discomycetes* 401 *Exoascus deformans* . . . Sadebeck says that this species produces the 'witches' besoms' on [species of] *Prunus*. **1829** PITCAIRN *Crim. Trials* (1833) I. ii. 50 Iron collars, or 'Witches' bridles', are still preserved in various parts of Scotland. **1881** ELEANOR A. ORMEROD *Man. Inj. Insects* 179 'Witch Knots' or 'Witches' Brooms' are caused by this Gall-mite. **1882** VINES tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 332 The formation of 'witches-brooms' in Firs by the growth of *Aecidium elatinum*. **1836** BERKELEY *Fungi* 218 *Exidia glandulosa*. (*Witches' Butter.) **1861** H. MACMILLAN *Footn. Page Nat.* 288 The wrinkled, quaking, gelatinous mass of the witches' butter. **1842** DICKENS *Amer. Notes* xiv, Where poisonous fungus . . . sprouts like 'witches' coral, from the crevices in the cabin wall and floor. **1880** ANTRIM & DOWN *Gloss.*, *Witch's cradle, a Lias fossil, *Gryphaea incurva*. **1821** SCOTT *Kenilw.* ix, I have sewn a sprig of 'witch's elm in the neck of un's doublet. **1865** KINGSLEY *Herew.* xx, The silence was broken by a long wild cry from the forest. . . . It was the howl of a wolf. 'Hark to the 'witch's horse!' **1894** Harper's *Mag.* Feb. 456 [The walking stick insect] which the country people near Salem, Massachusetts, . . . call 'witches' horses'. **1825** JAMIESON, *Witches knots, a sort of matted bunches, resembling the nests of birds, frequently seen on stunted thorns or birches. **1627** R. BERNARD *Guide Grand-jury Men* 218 The Witch thus in league . . . with the Deuill, is conuicted. . . . By a *Witches marke. . . This is insensible, and being prickd will not bleed. **1867** Chamb. *Encycl.* IX. 531/2 *Tremella*. . . Several species are found in Britain. In some places, they receive such popular names as *Witches' Meat and Witches' Butter. **a1676** HALE *Coll. Mod. Relat.* (1693) i. 29 This Love of hers had . . . carried her at Nights to the *Witches Meetings in great Castles. **1767** HUTCHINSON *Hist. Mass.* (1795) II. 38. **1686-7** AUBREY *Rem. Gentilism* (1881) 133 'Tis Midsummer-night or Midsommer-eve (St. Jo. Baptist) is counted or called the *Witches night. **1663** BUTLER *Hud.* i. iii. 344 He that gets her by heart must say her The back-way, like a *Witches Prayer. **1711** ADDISON *Spect.* No. 61 ¶ 5 To which I must . . . add a little Epigram called the Witches Prayer, that fell into Verse when it was read either backward or forward, excepting only that it Cursed one way and Blessed the other. **1864** G. A. LAWRENCE *Maurice Dering* II. 218 My good wishes of late have been fearfully like witches' prayers. **a1676** HALE *Coll. Mod. Relat.* (1693) i. 29 The *Witches Sabbaths or Assemblies, which were held in the Night. **1853** DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* viii, Such . . . as was never dreamed of in the wildest visions of a Witch's Sabbath. **1820** Edin. *Mag.* Apr. 344/1 The mother . . . pulled some *witches thimbles, or foxglove. **1853** G. JOHNSTON *Bot. E. Borders* 40 *Silene* maritima, . . . Witches' Thimbles. **1866** SOWERBY *Eng. Bot.* VI. 13 *Campanula rotundifolia*. . . Hare-bell. . . A common rustic name for them is 'witches' thimbles'. **1886** BRITTEN & HOLLAND *Plant-n.*, Witches' Thimble. **a1676** VAN WYCK MASON *Spider House* xviii. 210 It's cold as a *witch's tit outside. **1974** Times 17 Aug. 7/3 It was cold as a witch's tit, so I sat there and shivered. **1980** R. L. DUNCAN *Brimstone* viii. 200 Just listening to a weather report. . . . Albuquerque's clear but cold as a witch's tit.

d. *attrib.* passing into *adj.* Magic, magical.

c1400 Apol. *Loll.* 93 þei þat . . . tenden to wiche falsnes [L. *magis falsitatis*] in hailes or tempestis. **1535** COVERDALE *Judges* ix. 37 One bonde of men commeth by the waye to y^e witch Oke. **1801** SCOTT *Glenfinlas* lvi, And, bending o'er his harp, he flung His wildest witch-notes on the wind.

witch, wych (witʃ), *sb.*³ Forms: 1 wice, wic, wyc, 5-7 wyche, 6-8 wich, (6 wit(t)che, wiech, wech(e, weach, 7 weech), 6- wych, witch. [OE. *wice* and *wic*; app. f. Teut. *wik-* to bend (see WIKE, WEEK *sb.*, WEAK *a.*)] Applied generally or vaguely to various trees having pliant branches: *esp.* †a. the WYCH ELM, *Ulmus montana* (of which bows were made); b. (now *dial.*) the mountain ash, *Pyrus aucuparia*. Also *attrib.*; witch alder, a witch hazel with alder-like leaves, *Fothergilla alnifolia*, native to Virginia and North Carolina. (See also WITCH HAZEL.)

c725 Corpus *Gloss.* (Hessels) C106 *Cariscus*, cuicbeam, uice. **a1000** Ags. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 200/20 *Cariscus*, . . . wic, uel cwicbeam. **c1000** Sax. *Leechd.* II. 86 86n cwicbeam rinde . . . wir, wice, ac, [etc.]. **c1440** *Promp. Parv.* 526/1 Wyche, tre, ulmus. **1534** Star Chamber *Cases* (Selden Soc.) II. 308 Mulso . . . wrongfully fell xxvij trees of asche and wyche. **1537** ST. PAPERS *Hen. VIII.* II. 483 That 3 or 4000 wyche bowes . . . be brought hyther. **1548** TURNER *Names Herbes* (1881) 81 Vilmus is called . . . in englishe an Elme tree, or a Wich tree. **1556** WITHALS *Dict.* (1562) 23/2 A witche tree, opulus. **1579** SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* June 20 Nor holybush, nor breere, nor winding witche. **1613** [STANDISH] *New Direct. Planting* 11 As of Elme, so of Wyche, being a wood as apt to grow speedily as any other wood. **1616** T. SCOT *Philomythie* 11. B4b, The cursed Eldar and the fatall Yewe, With Witch, and Nightshade in their shadowes grew. **1845-50** MRS. LINCOLN *Lect. Bot.* App. 103 *Fothergilla alnifolia* (witch-alder). **1861** D. H. HAIGH *Conq. Brit.* 78 The mountain-ash, rown, or witch. **1868** ATKINSON *Cleveland Gloss.*, Witch-wood, the mountain ash or rowan-tree. **1869** Lonsdale *Gloss.*, Witch-wand, a twig of the mountain ash, once used to find minerals.

witch (witʃ), *sb.*⁴ *local.* Also whitich. [prob. a use of WITCH *sb.*², the name being given on account of the uncanny appearance of the fish; cf. uses of L. *sāga*, F. *sorcière*, It. *strega*.] The flatfish *Pleuronectes cynoglossus*, resembling the lemon sole; applied also to similar fishes.

1879 SATCHELL *Provis. Index Fish Names* 9 *Pleuronectes microcephalus* . . . Lemon-Dab, . . . Lemon-Sole, . . . Witch. *Hippoglossoides limandoides*, . . . Long-Fluke, . . . Witch. **1882** Academy 14 Oct. 280 Whitches.—These fish, well known in Grimsby and Manchester, . . . The term is used . . . to denote . . . the craig-fluke (*Pleuronectes cynoglossus*, Lin.), a kind of dab, which is taken in considerable numbers in the North Sea. . . . These fish are sometimes called white soles. **1903** Times 21 Feb. 17/3 Plaice, witches, smelts, and herrings.

witch (witʃ), *v.*¹ Forms: 1 wiccian, 4 wicc(h)e, (4 witche, *Sc.* weche, 4-5 wiche, wyche, 5 wyc(c)hyn, wysshyn), 5-6 wytche, 6- witch. [OE. *wiccian*, corresp. to MG., LG. *wikken*, *wicken*, of obscure origin. In the senses arising in ME. and later prob. aphetic from *bewitch*.]

† 1. *intr.* To practise witchcraft; to use sorcery or enchantment. *Obs.*

c1000 *Pœnit. Ecgbert* xviii. in Thorpe *Laws* (1840) II. 208 ʒif hwa wiccige ymbe æniges mannes lufe. **a1300** E.E. *Psalter* lviii[i]. 5 A neddre def. . . þat noght sal here þe steuen of wicchand. **c1350** Will. *Palerne* 2539 Were þei bope here, þei schuld wiche wel ʒif þei a-wei went. **1623** T. SCOTT *Projector* 30 Hath not lesabell painted, and whored, and plotted, and witched, and waded through blood?

2. *trans.* To affect (a person) with witchcraft or sorcery; to put a spell upon; = BEWITCH 1.

13.. *Evang. Nicod.* 216 in Herrig's *Archiv* LIII. 395 Wyched þi wyf has he. **c1350** Will. *Palerne* 4427 þat neuer man vpon mold myst it [sc. the ring] him on hane, ne schuld he with wicchecraft be wicched neuer-more. **c1375** *Sc. Leg. Saints* iii. (*Andreas*) 64 þane þat ʒong manis kyne in hy Sad, he was wechyt, sekryryl! **c1400** Rowland & Otuel 1151 Fouly there thou wicchede was. **1525** LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. ccxx. [ccxvi.] 282b/i They. . . sayd, that the duchesse Ualentyne of Orlyounce, daughter to the duke of Myllayn, hadde witched the kyng. **1596** in *Spalding Club Misc.* I. 87 His wyiff was witchit be his narrest nyctbour. **1605** London *Prodigal* i. ii. 63, I thinke I am sure crossed, or witcht with an owle. **1647** J. MARCH *Actions for Slaunder* 15 Thou art a Witch . . . and diddest procure Mother Bale to witch the Cattell of J. S. **1883** *Folk-Lore Jnl.* I. 354 A servant . . . told me when her mother was confined a man in the village 'witched her', so that she could not move in bed. **1884** TENNYSON *Becket* iii. ii, Our woodland Circe that hath witch'd the King. **1884** MARK TWAIN *Huck Finn* xxxiv, He said the witches was pestering him . . . and he didn't believe he was ever witched so long, before, in his life.

b. (with prep. or adv.) To bring, draw, put, or change by witchcraft.

1597 JAS. VI *Dæmonol.* II. i. 28 If Witches had such power of Witching of folkes to death (as they say they haue). **1608** CHAPMAN *Byron's Trag.* iv. i. O2, O that in mine eyes Were all the Sorcerous poysen of my woes, That I might witch ye headlong from your height. **1693** I. MATHER *Cases Consc.* 26 See if you can Witch them into a Fit, . . . and . . . Witch them well again. **1855** MEREDITH *Shav. Shagpat* (1909) 223 He's witched there for an ill purpose. **1871** TYLOR *Prim. Cult.* I. iv. 103 Hindus settled in Chota-Nagpur . . . believe that the Mundas . . . can witch away the lives of man and beast. **1892** NORTHALL *Eng. Folk-Rhymes* 59 People say that the remarkable stones at Rollwright . . . are a regiment of soldiers witched into stones.

3. *fig.* To influence as by witchcraft; to enchant, charm; = BEWITCH 2. Also with prep. or adv.

1590 SPENSER *F.Q.* II. vii. 10 Thy . . . pleasing charmes, With which weake men thou witchest, to attend. **1592** GREENE *Groat's W.* Wit (1617) 10 [Loue] Witching chaste eares with trothless tongs of men. **1596** SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV.* IV. i. 110 As if an Angell dropt downe from the Clouds, To . . . witch the World with Noble Horsemanship. **1611** BEAUM. & FL. *King & No K.* 111, With her eyes She witches people. **1812** CARY *Dante, Purg.* xiv. 112 The ladies and the knights, the toils and ease, That witch'd us into love and courtesy. **1824** CAMPBELL *Theodric* 30 Her fingers witch'd the chords they passed along. **1876** GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* i. iv, Her witching the world with her grace on horseback.

b. *intr.* To use enchanting wiles; to practise fascination.

1580 LYL Y *Euphues* (Arb.) 407 Applied to those that witch with the eyes, not to those that woove with their eyes. **1824** BYRON *Juan* xvi. xcvi, Adeline was . . . watching, witching, condescending.

witch (witʃ), *v.*² *U.S.* [f. WITCH *sb.*³] *intr.* and *trans.* To dowse for water with a divining rod. Hence 'witcher, a dowser.

1963 G. THOMSON *Crocus Country* xi. 74 The term to 'witch for water' is said to come from the fact that it was usually done with a witch-hazel wand. *Ibid.*, The witcher would walk up and down in the general area where a well was needed, with the ends of a forked hazel twig held firmly in his hands. **1970** J. BLACKBURN *Land of Promise* ii. 32 The witcher came to a place where the stem of the willow could no longer be held upright. **1978** *Country Life* 7 Dec. 1953/3 He got a well-digger to survey the site. . . . The first driller and others consulted all 'witched' the situation.

witchaff, obs. *Sc.* f. VOUCHSAFE.

1596 J. MELVILL *Autob. & Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 367 The doctrine quihlk God . . . sall witchaff to grant.

witchcraft ('witʃkra:ft, -æ-). Forms: see WITCH *sb.*² [OE. *wiccecraft*, f. *wicca*, *wicce* WITCH *sb.*¹ and ² + *craft* CRAFT *sb.*]

1. The practices of a witch or witches; the exercise of supernatural power supposed to be possessed by persons in league with the devil or evil spirits.

c1000 [see WITCH *sb.*² 1]. **a1100** *Aldhelm Gloss.* 1. 4055 (Napier 107/2) *Necromantia*, .i. demonum inuocatio, galdre, wiccecraft. **a1250** Owl & Night. 1301 þu yelpst of selliche wisdom; þu nūstest hwenne hit þe come Bute hit of wiccecraft were. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 28310, I. folud wiccecraft and frete, And charmyng. **c1350** Will. *Palerne* 4044 His wif with wiccheaft to a wolf him schaped. **c1375** *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxi. (*Clement*) 705 He. . . wend [þat] he begabbit had bene Be wesch-crafte. **c1449** PECCOCK *Repr.* v. xv. 563 Whiche sacramentis and her vsis summe of the lay peple holden to be pointis of wicche crafte and blindingis. **1533** GAU *Richt Vay* (S.T.S.) 12 Thay sine aganis this [first] command quihlk wsis wich craft. **1651** HOBBS *Leviath.* i. ii. 7 As for Witches, I think not that their witchcraft is any real power. **1671** SALMON *Syn. Med.* i. xxv. 51 The Sickness is

more than natural, and Witchcraft is to be feared. **1711** ADDISON *Spect.* No. 117 ¶ 2, I cannot forbear thinking that there is such an Intercourse and Commerce with Evil Spirits, as that which we express by the Name of Witchcraft. **1769** BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. iv. 60 To deny the possibility, nay, actual existence, of witchcraft and sorcery, is . . . to contradict the revealed word of God. **a1862** BUCKLE *Misc. Wks.* (1872) I. 425 There are few superstitions which have been so universal as a belief in witchcraft.

b. *pl.* Acts or instances of this; magic arts; also †occas. with a, a kind of magic.

c935 *Laws of Athelstan* i. vi, We cwædon be þam wiccecraftum & be liblacum [etc.]. **c1200** ORMIN 7077 Drizmenn, weppmenn & wifmenn ec, þatt follhenn wicche crafftess. **a1225** *Ancr. R.* 268 Hit bringeð to nout alle þes deoffes wicles, . . . his wrenchful wicchecreftes. **1398** TREvisa *Barth. De P.R.* xviii. lx. (Bodl. MS.), Wicches also vse þe herte and þee lyuoure of þis beeste in many wicchecraftes. **c1400** Apol. *Loll.* 93 Wit þer wicchecraftis and enchauntingis. **a1500** *Hist. K. Boccus & Sydracke* (? 1510) Divb, Us thou hast now forsakyn And to a wycheafte the takyn. **1569** in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. 1. 43 Scho will confess no wytchcreftis nor gilt. **1617** MORYSON *Itin.* iii. 45 All these witchcrafts ceased after the coming of Christ. **1670** R. T. *Opinion of Witchcraft Vind.* 43 Killing of Men or Beasts by Witchcrafts. **1767** T. HUTCHINSON *Hist. Mass.* II. i. 49 Commissioners . . . were appointed for the trial of witchcrafts.

2. *fig.* Power or influence like that of a magician; bewitching or fascinating attraction or charm.

1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V.* v. ii. 301 You haue Witch-craft in your Lippes, Kate. **1613** — *Hen. VIII.* iii. ii. 18 He hath a Witchcraft Ouer the King in s his Tongue. **1647** COWLEY *Mistr.*, *Vain Love* 1 What new-found Witchcraft was in thee, With thine own Cold to kindle Me? **a1674** CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* x. §126 Whether the raising this spirit [of the Levellers] was a piece of Cromwell's ordinary witchcraft, in order to some of his designs, or whether [etc.]. **1747** RICHARDSON *Clarissa* I. viii. 47, I tell you, I see thro' your witchcrafts—that was her strange word. **1818** SHELLEY *Rosal. & Helen* 652 The subtle witchcraft of his tongue Unlocked the hearts of those who keep Gold. **1844** KINGLAKE *Eothen* iii, By some unfailing witchcraft she [sc. the sea] entices the breezes to follow her.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 265 His Blindnesse and Infidelity betrayeth him to this Stupidity, and Witchcraft-adhæsiō to the Creature. **1796** G. M. WOODWARD *Eccentric Excurs.* 135 Among the most approved witchcraft remedies, we find nailing horse-shoes at the thresholds of doors. **1797** *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 877/1 The latest witchcraft frenzy was in New England, about 1692. **1897** MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 452 Human sacrifice is very rare in Congo Français, the killing of people being nine times in ten a witchcraft palaver.

Hence † *witchcraftical a.* (nonce-wd.).

1676 *Doctrine of Devils* 84 Away with witchcraftical Doctors, away with the doctrine of Devils.

'witch-doctor. 1. a. One who professes to cure disease and to counteract witchcraft by magic arts.

1718 F. HUTCHINSON *Witchcraft* viii. 110 The said Dorothy Durent, having been with a Witch-Doctor, acknowledges . . . that [etc.]. **1901** *Lancet* 19 Oct. 1085/2 He was considered to be a 'witch doctor' and . . . farmers and females went to him to have the 'evil eye' removed.

b. A magician among African tribes, whose business it is to detect witches, and to counteract the effects of magic. (Cf. *medicine-man*.)

1836 R. M. MARTIN *Hist. S. Africa* i. iv. 168 So infatuated [are the Kaffirs] in a belief of the infallibility of the wizard or witch doctor. **1897** MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 445 One witch doctor may have . . . particular influence over one class of spirit and another over another class.

2. *Mil. slang.* A psychiatrist.

1966 *Listener* 29 Dec. 960/3, I did not again rub shoulders with . . . the fraternity until I entered the army . . . , where they were known . . . as 'trick-cyclists', 'head-shrinkers', or 'witch-doctors'. **1979** D. ANTHONY *Long Hard Cure* vi. 58 That sounds like one of your witch doctors at the Retreat.

Hence witch-doctoring *vbl. sb.*, -doctory (also *fig.*); 'witch-doctress.

1892 RIDER HAGGARD *Nada vii*, The most famous witch-doctress . . . a woman whose scent was as keen as a dog's. **1924** KIPLING *Debts & Credits* (1926) 182 All the cars I met were 'protected' [with a label] as mine was—till I reached . . . the limit of the witch-doctoring. **1927** G. B. SHAW in *Sunday Express* 7 Aug. 7/7 The dismal survivals of augury and witch-doctoring. **1944** J. S. HUXLEY *On Living in Revolution* iv. 45 As irreconcilable as is . . . witch-doctoring with preventive medicine, or number-mysticism with higher mathematics. **1962** *Observer* 13 May 6/5 'Organisation and management' was for a long time regarded—as one Treasury man put it—as 'third-rate witchdoctory'. **1972** H. A. WILLIAMS *True Resurrection* ii. 22 And this was called scientific medicine as opposed to all forms of witch-doctory. **1977** P. JOHNSON *Enemies of Society* xv. 197 Those who practise psychiatric medicine are in the position of early-nineteenth-century doctors, trying to get round as yet unsolved difficulties by witch-doctoring.

† 'witchdom. *Obs. rare.* [OE. *wiccedóm*: see WITCH *sb.*¹ and ² and -DOM.] Witchcraft.

a1050 in Assmann *Ags. Hom.* 143 Ne on wiglunge ne on wicedome. **c1425** *Seven Sages* (MS. Cantab. Ff. ii. 38. lf. 146 b) So they lad hym wyth trecherye Wyth wychdome & wyth sorcerye.

witched (witʃt, poet. 'witʃid), *ppl. a.* [f. WITCH *v.*¹ + -ED.] Influenced by witchcraft; that is under a magic spell; also, possessed of magic power; full of witchery.

1591 Troub. *Raigne K. John* (1611) 66 False dreamer, perish with thy witched newes. **a1618** SYLVESTER *Simile* xviii. Wks. (Grosart) II. 254 Wee (wretched, witched

Elves). **1633** MARMION *Antiquary* II. (1641) E 2, That never such a witched passion [as love] should arise in any human brest again. **1886** JEROME *Idle Thoughts* 88 They hear the weird, witched music, and must follow.

Hence †**witchedly** *adv.*, with witchcraft.

1650 A. B. *Mutatus Polemo* 34 We have not a people so witchedly besotted.

witch elm: see WYCH ELM.

witchen ('witʃən). Now *dial.* Also 7 **whitchen**. [f. WITCH *sb.*³ + -EN⁴.]

1. In full *witchen elm*; = WYCH ELM. Also *attrib.*

1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho.* II. 53 Another tree, that somewhat resembleth our Witchen Elmes. **1615** MARKHAM *Country Contentm.* I. viii. 108 The best bowe is either Spanish or English yewe, and the worst of Witchen or Elme. **1621** — *Hungers Prevention* 39 A very good stiffe young growne Plant of Hazell, Elme, or Witchen. **1820** CLARE *Rural Life* (ed. 3) 53 And the witchen-branches nigh, O'er my snug box towering high. **1821** — *Vill. Minstrel* II. 121 The rooks, where yonder witchens spread, Quawk clamorous to the spring's approach.

2. The mountain ash, *Pyrus aucuparia*. Cf. QUICKEN *sb.*¹ (*whicken*), WHITTEN.

1664 EVELYN *Sylvia* xiv. 31 The Quick-beam [Ornus] or (as others term it) the Whitchen [1676 Witchin]. **1676** M. COOK *Forest-Trees* xxii. 75 The Quickbeam, Whitchen, or Wild-ash, . . . is pretty plentiful in some parts of the North. **1861** MISS PRATT *Flower. Pl.* II. 262 *Pyrus aucuparia* (Mountain Ash). This tree has also the old names of Quicken-tree . . . and Whitchen-tree.

'**witchering**. *nonce-wd.* [Formed on WITCHERY with -ING¹.] A deed of witchcraft.

1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xl, Hast no done mischief enow already, wi' thy murders and thy witcherings?

witchert, var. WICHERT.

witchery ('witʃəri). [f. WITCH *sb.*² or *v.*¹ + -ERY.]

1. The use or practice of witchcraft.

1546 BALE *Engl. Votaries* I. 35 b, Besydes the art Magyck, Sortilege. . . Geomancye, and witcherye, that was taught there also. **1584** R. SCOT *Discov. Witcher.* III. x. 57 She sawe not anie one carrii a faggot to the fier, but she would saie it was to make a fier to burne hir for witcherie. **1637** B. JONSON *Sad Shepherd* II. vi, *Cl.* What devil's pater noster mumbles she? *Alk.* Stay, you will heare more of her witcherie. **1727** DE FOE *Syst. Magic* I. i. (1840) 32 There is a manifest difference between magic, which is wisdom and supernatural knowledge, and the witchery and conjuring by which we now understand the word. **1810** SOUTHEY *Kehama* IV. iii, While young and old assembled round, Listened, as if by witchery bound. **1854** MILMAN *Lat. Christ.* II. 328 No one answering the citation to accuse the Empress of adultery or witchery.

attrib. **1627** R. BERNARD *Guide Grand-Jury Men* 19 The parents . . . sent for a wise woman, who played her witchery trickes. **1650** A. B. *Mutatus Polemo* 12 Like the blacke Prince of the ayre in his witchery Apparitions. **1906** *Daily Chron.* 28 Aug. 6/2 Prisoner burnt some candles over the fire, . . . and used some witchery words.

b. *pl.* Deeds of witchcraft.

1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict.*, *Hechizos*, witcheries, witchcraft. **1613** PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* VII. vii. 575 The Heathens in those parts are giuen to Auguries and Witcheries. **1634** MILTON *Comus* 523 Great Comus, Deep skill'd in all his mothers witcheries. **1781** COWPER *Expost.* 494 As dark as witch'ries of the night. **1819** SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xxxvii, Rebecca, daughter of Isaac of York—a woman infamous for sortileges and for witcheries. **1874** H. H. COLE *Catal. Ind. Art S. Kens. Mus.* App. 306 Spells, enchantments, and witcheries are supposed to be incessantly at work.

2. *fig.* Charming or fascinating power or influence.

1582 G. HARVEY *Marginalia* (1913) 191 Y^e sweet bayte, & lure of curtesy: The cunningist and most intellectual witchery of all other. **1677** BARROW *Serm. Ps. cxix.* 60 Wks. 1686 III. 194 If we can disengage our selves from the witcheries of present allurements. **1798** WORDSW. *P. Bell* I. 205 He never felt The witchery of the soft blue sky! **1834** A. CUNNINGHAM *Burns' Wks.* I. Life 355 The witchery of his conversation, and the magic of his songs, were too powerful for the resolution of some. **1844** KINGLAKE *Eothen* v, A beautiful Greek woman . . . soothing him with the witchery of her guitar.

b. *jocular.* A body of bewitching women.

1777 T. TWINING in *Recreat. & Stud.* (1882) 54 Remember me to Mrs. B. and the whole witchery.

witchet ('witʃɪt). *local.* [? repr. a variant **wichet* of AF. *wiket* WICKET.] A wide 'head' or working-place in a coal mine; = WICKET 5 b.

1677 *Phil. Trans.* XII. 895 A Witchet or Cave was driven out in the middle of it upon a level for gaining of room to work. **1883** GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-mining*, *Wichet* (N[orth] W[ales]), a working place in the shape of a wide heading or board, sometimes 60 or 70 feet in width.

witchetty ('witʃɪti). *Austral.* Also (*rare*) *wichetty*, *widgety*. [Native name.] In full *witchetty grub*. A large white grub (the larva of certain moths and other insects) which infests the roots and stem of the *witchetty bush* (= MULGA I a), from which it is extracted for use as food by Aborigines and as bait by fishermen.

1891 STIRLING in *Trans. Roy. Soc. South Australia* XIV. 158. **1894** R. LYDEKKER *Marsupialia* 191 The Marsupial Mole . . . was fed on the 'witchetty'. **1899** *Contemp. Rev.* Mar. 407 In the witchetty grub totem this sacred painting tallies with . . . a stone kist at Tillicoultry. **1935** H. H. FINLAYSON *Red Centre* iii. 30 The broad-leafed mulga or witchetty bush, the roots of which harbour a grub beloved by the

blacks. **1944** F. CLUNE *Red Heart* 37 The sun gleamed on a motor-bike beneath a clump of witchetty bushes. **1954** B. MILES *Stars my Blanket* viii. 50 The widgety grub tree at the roots of which the natives dig for the grubs which are like fat white slugs. **1960** *Times* 5 July 11/7 'Witchetty' bushes, a kind of wattle with bright yellow blossom. **1961** P. WHITE *Riders in Chariot* xi. 373 You look to me . . . like you was made out of old witchetty grubs. **1962** *Oxf. Univ. Gaz.* 19 Mar. 849/1 It is a pointed, oval, red-ochre-coloured, wooden bullroarer with designs of witchetty-grubs. **1968** M. PYKE *Food & Society* iv. 42 Witchetty grubs are famous as an article of diet eaten by aborigines. **1977** C. McCULLOUGH *Thorn Birds* viii. 178 There were witchetty grubs, fat and white and loathsome.

'**witch-finder**. One formerly employed to search for and obtain evidence against witches.

1646 GAULE *Cases Consc.* 6 To save the trouble and Charges of the witch-finder, they will undertake to try the Witch of themselves. **1647** M. HOPKINS (*title*) The Discovery of Witches . . . now published by Matthew Hopkins, Witchfinder. For the Benefit of the whole Kingdome. **1797** *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 876/1 Want of tears was, by the witch-finders, . . . considered as a very substantial proof of guilt. **1855** SMEDLEY *Occult Sciences* 169 Dr. Harsnett . . . exposed the pretensions of the celebrated exorcist and witch-finder, Darrel.

b. An African witch-doctor.

1892 RIDER HAGGARD *Nada* ii, I saw that the witch-finders and the medicine-men were feared in the land.

So 'witch-finding'.

1646 GAULE *Cases Consc.* 63 Oft times he marries them . . . by the Book of Common Prayer (as a pretender to witch-finding lately told me).

witch hazel, wych hazel. [WITCH *sb.*³]

1. = WITCH *sb.*³ a. Also, the hornbeam.

1541-2 *Act 33 Hen. VIII* c. 9 § 3 That everie bowyer . . . for every bowe that he maketh of Ewe, make fower other bowes . . . of Elme, wyche hasill, ashe, or other Wood. **1580** HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Obier*, . . . a Wych hasell, as some thinke. **1588** HARRIOT *Brief Rep. Virginia* D 4 b, Maple, and also Wich-hazle, wherof the inhabitants vse to make their bowes. **1597** GERARDE *Herbal* III. cix. 1296 Called . . . Hornbeame, Hardbeame, Yoke Elme, and in some places Witch hasell. **1633** T. JOHNSON *Gerarde's Herbal* III. cxvi. 1481 *Vlmus folio latissimo scabro*. Witch Hasell, or the broadest leaved Elme. . . This hath little affinitye with *Carpinus*, which in Essex is called Witch Hasell. **c 1767** G. WHITE *Selborne, To Pennant* ii, In the court of Norton farmhouse . . . stood within these twenty years a broad-leaved elm, or wych hazel. **1830** STRUTT *Sylva Brit.* 66 The Wych Elm, or Wych Hazel, as it is sometimes called. **1855** BAILEY *Mystic* 85 Wych-hazel, for divining treasures used.

attrib. **1886** A. WINCHELL *Geol. Talks* 137 Some men . . . even resorted to the witch-hazel fork in quest of knowledge on which capital might venture investment.

2. A North American shrub, *Hamamelis virginica*; also, an extract of the leaves and bark of this shrub, used as an astringent remedy.

1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot. App.* 332 Witch Hazel, *Hamamelis*. **1778** J. CARVER *Trav. N. Amer.* xix. 508 The Witch Hazle. . . It has been said, that it is possessed of the power of attracting gold or silver, and that twigs of it are made use of to discover where the veins of these metals lie hid. **1824** LONGF. *Autumn* 26 The purple finch . . . pecks by the witch-hazel. **1908** R. W. CHAMBERS *Firing Line* viii, 'Sentiment? Yes,' she said; 'but oh! it's the kind that offers witch-hazel and hot-water bottles to the best beloved!'

'**witch-hunt, sb.** Also **witch hunt**, **witchhunt**.

[WITCH *sb.*²] 1. A search for witches, or for someone suspected or accused of witchcraft.

1885 R. HAGGARD *K. Solomon's Mines* x. 151 To-night ye will see. It is the great witch-hunt, and many will be smelt out as wizards and slain. **1927** J. BUCHAN *Witch Wood* xvi. 272 David had . . . seen a witch hunt . . . as a boy—and then there had been a furious and noisy crowd. **1960** D. HUDSON *Forgotten King* 17 Elizabethan inns and beards and witch hunts give place to the coffee house and the Restoration theatre. **1975** A. FRASER *Whistler's Lane* 9 Her mind had been . . . on the witch hunts of the early seventeenth century.

fig. **1915** 'I. HAY' *First Hundred Thousand* xiii. 178 Platoon commanders were bidden to hold a witch hunt, and smell out a chiropodist.

2. a. A single-minded and uncompromising campaign against a group of people with unacceptable views or behaviour, *spec.* communists; *esp.* one regarded as unfair or malicious persecution.

1938 'G. ORWELL' *Homage to Catalonia* xi. 241 Rank-and-file Communists everywhere are led away on a senseless witch-hunt after 'Trotskyists'. **1947** *Partisan Rev.* XIV. 344, I don't like Stalin's methods, but I shall never, never join in that witch-hunt. **1950** *Here & Now* (N.Z.) Dec. 8/1 Inside the Labour Party there was a witch-hunt of unbelievable viciousness against the Government's critics. **1958** *Times Lit. Suppl.* 21 Nov. 669/4 The story of a security officer in America in the days when McCarthy witch-hunts were frequent and when communists lurked . . . under every bed. **1972** *Guardian* 31 Aug. 6/7 Delegates to the annual Conference at the TUC at Brighton next week are urged . . . not to indulge in a witch hunt . . . when discussing the 34 affiliated unions which have remained on the register of trade unions. **1976** *Survey* Spring 179 Literary zealots . . . then took part in the anti-zionist and anti-revisionist witch-hunt. **1977** *Gay News* 24 Mar. 3/1 During the operation —labelled a 'witch-hunt' by the local gay community—28 men were arrested. **1977** *Times* 28 Apr. 2/1 Mr Orme, Minister for Social Security, . . . said he was not prepared to countenance a witch-hunt against claimants. **1979** A. PRICE *Tomorrow's Ghost* vii. 120 We must be absolutely fair. . . This isn't a witch-hunt. **1983** P. USTINOV *My Russia* i. 8 It is fashionable today to conduct a moderate witchhunt for that pro-Soviet bunch of Cambridge undergraduates . . . who spied for Russia.

b. A campaign against an individual.

1960 *Daily Tel.* 29 Jan. 1/2 The Opposition Front Bench do not intend to conduct a 'witch-hunt' against Mr Marples over his business connections. **1973** C. BONINGTON *Next Horizon* i. 20 The argument had developed into a witch-hunt against Barrie with, I suspect, very little justice. **1977** *Daily Mirror* 30 Mar. 31/1 After the Germans had strolled home 5-1, the controversial Neale accused non-playing captain Peter Simpson of leading a 'witch-hunt' against him.

'**witch-hunter**. 1. = WITCH-FINDER a.

1867 HARLAND & WILKINSON *Lancs. Folk-Lore* I. 184 Dr. John Webster (who detected Robinson, the Lancashire witch-hunter).

2. One who takes part in or publicly advocates a witch-hunt (sense 2).

1935 *New Republic* 19 June 158 (*heading*) Witch-hunters at work. **1940** H. L. ICKES *Diary* 22 Feb. (1954) III. 139 Probably the witch-hunters are largely responsible for this. No one likes to be called a Communist and yet that is what every liberal has to submit to. **1960** *Encounter* Mar. 78/2 It is . . . necessary to that public to learn that its witch-hunters are corrupt. **1980** J. O'FAOLAIN *No Country for Young Men* xvi. 347 Obsessed as a pair of witch-hunters, minds zipping along their single track, they challenged him.

'**witch-hunting, vbl. sb.** 1. The activity of seeking out witches and obtaining evidence against them.

1640 B. JONSON *Sad Shepherd* II. vii, in *Workes* II. 149 You speake, Alken, as if you knew the sport of Witch-hunting, Or starting of a Hag. **1885** RIDER HAGGARD *King Solomon's Mines* xv. 249 Ignosi . . . reaffirmed the promises . . . that witch-hunting should cease. **1935** B. RUSSELL *Relig. & Sci.* iv. 99 In New England, a fierce outbreak of witch-hunting occurred at the end of the seventeenth century. **1950** AUDEN *Enchafed Flood* (1951) ii. 51 The actual horrors of persecution, witch-hunting, and provincial superstition from which they were trying to deliver mankind. **1981** M. WARNER *Joan of Arc* v. 114 Double-think is . . . endemic to the business of witch-hunting, for . . . the witch-hunter is the alleged witch's most committed believer.

2. Participation in or advocacy of a witch-hunt (sense 2).

1932 J. F. CARTER *What we are about to Receive* xviii. 204 Once the election is over . . . we shall quietly lay aside our witch hunting. **1943** G. GREENE *Ministry of Fear* II. i. 125 You can't avoid witch-hunting in war-time. **1968** *Daily Tel.* 16 Nov. 16/3 We have been treated to a plethora of half-truths, innuendo, witch-hunting and ignorance. **1977** *Socialist Press* 2 Mar. 5/5 Despite this combination of administrative hysteria, right wing witch hunting and Stalinist betrayal, the fees issue is still alive at Essex.

Also as *ppl. a.* Hence (as a back-formation) 'witch-hunt *v.*, (a) *trans.*, to subject to a witch-hunt (sense 2); (b) *intr.*, to take part in a witch-hunt.

1889 W. H. D. ADAMS *Witch, Warlock & Magician* II. v. 402 Our witch-hunting King offers an explanation of a peculiarity which . . . our readers have already noted. **1946** *Sun* (Baltimore) 19 July 20/1 The War Department hasn't gone off half-cocked to 'witch hunt, red bait or to bust' unions. **1948** 'J. TEV' *Franchise Affair* v. 49 Give those Midland morons a good excuse and they'll witch-hunt with the best. **1960** *Twentieth Century* Apr. 380 Assorted political personages (including a witch-hunting Senator). **1960** *News Chron.* 29 June 6/7 That uncouth, witch-hunting and paederastic gowk [sc. James I]. **1975** *Listener* 4 Dec. 754/2 David Niven . . . has severe words for it [sc. Hollywood] . . . for letting itself be . . . labelled and witch-hunted by . . . gossip columnists. **1980** *Jrnl. R. Soc. Arts* Mar. 180/1 There is . . . a tendency to witch-hunt when any disaster happens. **1983** W. MCLIVANNEY *Papers of Tony Veitch* x. 59 'When did you join the vigilantes, Jack?' 'Never. I'm not witch-hunting whoever did it.'

witching ('witʃɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [OE. *wiccung*, *vbl. n.* of *wiccian* WITCH *v.*¹; see -ING¹.]

1. The use or practice of witchcraft.

c 1000 *Confess. Egberti* xxix. in *Thorpe Laws* (1840) II. 154 ȝif hwylc wif wiccunga bega. **c 1200** *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 213 Wicching & swikedom stale & leoð & lesiug & refloc, & alle þe luðere lastes þe man hæfeð þurc deules lore. **c 1290** *St. Lucy* 126 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 104 þou art strong wicche, . . . Mine clerkes and mine enchauntours, bi-nime schullen þi wicchingue. **1382** WYCLIF *Acts* viii. 11 Moche tyme he hadde maad hem mad, . . . with his wicchingis [1388 witche crafts]. **1578** LYTE *Dodoens* I. lxxxii. 121 All the enchantments or witchings of Circe. **1584** R. SCOT *Discov. Witcher.* I. iii. 8 Bodin himselfe confesseth, that not aboue two in a hundred of their witchings or wishings take effect. **1603** HARSNET *Pop. Impost.* 137 Geoffrey Chaucer, . . . spying that all these brainlesse imaginations, of witchings, possessings, house-hanting, and the rest, were the forgeries . . . of craftie priests. **1896** GRATIANA CHANTER *Witch of Weyford* viii. 86 Why be the folks always telling of witches and witching? **1914** J. MACKAY *Ch. in Highl.* iv. 152 Witching and charming were severely punished [in 17th c.].

2. *fig.* Enchantment, fascination.

1827-44 N. P. WILLIS *Contempl.* 26 Life had been like the witching of a dream. **1882** 'F. ANSTEEY' *Vice Versa* iii, He felt far from hungry, and was conscious that his palate would require the adroitest witching.

witching ('witʃɪŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING².]

1. That casts a spell; enchanting, bewitching.

In quot. 1387 *wycchen* is of uncertain origin. **1387** TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 187 In Africa beey meynes pat hauey wycchen [*v.r.* wicching] tonges [*linguas fascinantes*]. ? **c 1600** *Distr. Emperor* II. i. in *Bullen Old Pl.* (1884) III. 185 Nor her wycching eie . . . Can challenge any share in my disgrace. **1633** P. FLETCHER *Pisc. Ecl.* v. 5 Her witching eye the boy, and boat hath charm'd. **1747** W. DUNKIN in Francis tr. *Hor., Ep.* II. ii. 317 Witching Imps of Hell.

2. *transf.* Of or belonging to witchcraft; concerned with the practice of witchcraft or sorcery.

1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witcher*, v. vii. 104 But they haue lesse reason that build vpon... the supernaturall frame of transubstantiation; as almost all our witching writers doo. *Ibid.* xii. vii. 228 They burst the snakes with witching words. **1713** ROWE *Jane Shore* iv. i, Those damnable Contrivers, Who shall with Potions, Charms, and witching Drugs, Practise against our Person and our Life.

b. spec. Of time: Belonging or appropriate to the deeds of witches and witchcraft, and hence to supposed supernatural occurrences.

In later use echoing Shaks.

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* iii. ii. 406 'Tis now the verie witching time of night, When Churchyards yawne, and Hell it selfe breathes out Contagion to this world. **1742** BLAIR *Grave* 55 Such Tales their Chear, at Wake or Gossiping, When it draws near to Witching Time of Night. **1835** LYTTON *Rienzi* i. xii, It was now the witching hour consecrated to ghost and spirit. **1849** — *K. Arthur* vi. lxxvii, Just as the witching night begins to fall.

3. fig. 'Bewitching', fascinating.

? **a 1600** in *Lyly's Wks.* (1902) III. 497 Witching Tobacco, I will fly to thee. **1607** DEKKER *Whore of Babylon* G 2, On my modest cheekes, No witching smiles doe dwell. **1787** BURNS 'A Prayer, in Prospect of Death' 11 List'ning to their witching voice Has often led me wrong. **1812** BYRON *Ch. Har.* i. lvii, Yet are Spain's maids... form'd for all the witching arts of love. **1890** *Spectator* 7 June 799/2 The spell of the witching land and its people grows on us.

b. adv. Bewitchingly.

1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstrel* i. 144 She only answer'd with a look, But it was 'witching sweet.

Hence 'witchingly *adv.*, bewitchingly.

1748 THOMSON *Cast. Indol.* i. vi, The soft delights, that witchingly Instil a wanton sweetness through the breast. **a 1868** LOWELL *Nomades* viii, So witchingly her finger-tips To Wisdom... She kisses. **1878** *Tinsley's Mag.* XXIII. 518 She was about twenty-four, with a witchingly sweet face.

witchit, var. **WICHERT**.

witch knot.

1. a. A tangled knot of hair supposed to be made by witches: = **ELF-LOCK**.

1598 DRAYTON *Heroic. Ep., El. Cobham* 112 O that I were a Witch... I would... knit whole ropes of witchknits in her hayre. **17...** *Willie's Lady* xxxiv. in *Child Ballads* i. 87 Oh wha has loosed the nine witch knots That was amo that ladie's locks?

b. A knot tied for the purpose of making or averting a spell.

1884 A. LANG in M. Hunt *Grimm's Household Tales* i. p. xlvii, All over the world savages... tie 'witch-knots'. **1947** A. RUNEBERG tr. E. H. Meyer in *Witches & Demons in West-European Folk Belief* vii. 95 Witches... twist twigs into witchknits, and leave the fairy rings in the grass after their dances. **1957** E. E. EVANS *Irish Folk Ways* xxi. 304 The cow-doctor uses sympathetic magic... by drawing apart over the animal's back the loose ends of a string tied in a complicated witch-knot or 'bat'... which comes undone when pulled.

2. A bushy tuft of twigs on a tree: = *witches' besom* (see **WITCH sb.** 2 5 c).

1806 J. GRAHAME *Birds Scot.* 51 The simple boy... Mistakes the witch-knots for the cushat's nest. **1880** F. P. PASCOE *Zool. Classif.* (ed. 2) 96 The 'witch-knot' found on the birch, and resembling a great mass of twigs like a bird's nest, is an abnormal growth... caused by *Phytoph.*

witchmonger ('witʃ,məŋgə(r)). [f. **WITCH sb.** 2 + **MONGER sb.** 1] One who has dealings with witches, or who believes in witchcraft.

1584 R. SCOT (title) The discoverie of witchcraft, Wherein the lowde dealing of witches and witchmongers is notablie detected. **1677** J. WEBSTER *Displ. Witchcraft* i. 17 To attribute these stupendious effects (as the Vulgar and Witchmongers use to do) unto the Devil. **1868** LOWELL *Among my Bks., Witchcraft* (1870) 110 The witchmongers were put to strange shifts by way of accounting for it. **1903** *Sat. Rev.* 24 Jan. 110/2 Mr. Podmore... traces its pedigree through Rosicrucians, witchmongers, and Swedenborg.

witchy ('witʃi), *a.* [f. **WITCH sb.** 2 + **-y** 1.] Having the nature of or resembling a witch; characteristic or suggestive of a witch.

1666 *Third Advice to a Painter* 18 When he with Earthy Hounds, and Horn of Air, Pursues in Founteblau the witchy Hare. **1903** *Contemp. Rev.* Sept. 331 Thiers... looked not a man, but a witchy old woman in man's clothes. **1968** S. PLATH in *Atlantic Monthly* Sept. 54/2 Over the trees at the far side of the Common the... torch flare flattens and recovers under some witchy invisible push. **1975** M. DRABBLE *Realms of Gold* iii. 241 It [sc. a figurine] had a witchy, androgynous, yet friendly look. **1976** *Listener* 4 Nov. 590/2 The witchy black of the Grimm forests.

† **wite**, *sb.* 1 *Obs.* Forms: 1 *wita*, *wiota*, *weota*, *wuta*, 3 *weote*, *wite*, 4 *wete*; 8 *pl.* (*Hist.*) *wites*. [OE. *wita* wk. masc. (also *gewita* witness) = OFris. *wita*, OS. *gi-wito* (MLG. *wete*) witness, OHG. *wizo* (*giwizo* witness), Goth. *-wita* (in *fullawita*, *unwita*):—OTeut. **witon*:- see **WIT v.** 1]

1. A wise man, sage; a councillor; *spec.* one of the **WITAN**, q.v.

c 900 tr. *Beda's Hist.* v. xix. (1890) 454 To freondscape... Bonifatius archidiacones, se wæs eac swylce wita & gepeahtere pæs apostolican papan. **c 950** *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke vii. 30 *Legis periti*, æs wuto. **c 1000** ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* xiii. 131 Ne bið se na wita þe unwislice leofað. **c 1200** ORMIN 8762 All bilammp þatt widdwe þa swa summ þe wite se 33de. **c 1315** SHOREHAM i. 631 Wet hys mystyke ne meý non wete Be no pyngæ a-founde.

1701 Cowel's *Interpr., Wites, Witen*, the Title among our Saxon Ancestors for their chief Lords or Thanes, their wise and their noble Men. **1762** HUME *Hist. Eng., Jul. C. to Hen. VII.* i. App. i. 144 Besides the prelates and aldermen, there is also mention of the wites or wise men.

2. A witness.

c 900 tr. *Beda's Hist.* Pref., Nalæs mid anes mannes gepeahte ac mid gesægene unrim geleaffulla witenæ. **c 950** *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xxvi. 60 Lycece witnessa vel wutu. **c 1225** *Ancr. R.* 204 Beon waite [*v.r.* weote] & witnesses perof.

wite, wyte (wait), *sb.* 2 *Obs. exc. Hist. and dial.* Forms: 1- *wite*; also 3, 5 *wijt*, 4-6 *witte*, 4, 6-7 *wyt*, 3-4, 6, 8 *wit* (4 *wy3te*, *witt*, *wijtte*, 5 *wijte*, *wytte*, 5-6 *wyght*, 6 *wyit*, *wycht*, *wight*, *quhyt*, 7 *weit*, *wayt*, *waite*, 7-8 *white*), 4- *wyte*. [OE. *wite* = OFris. *wite*, OS. *witi* (MLG. *wite*, Du. *wijte*), OHG. *wizi* (MHG. *wize*), ON. *witi*: see **WITE v.** 1]

† **1. a.** Punishment; penalty; pain inflicted in punishment or torture, *esp.* the torments of hell. (Cf. OE. *helle-wite*, etc.) *Obs.*

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* xxxviii. 11 Awend from me witu ðin. **c 888** ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxvii. §3 Ne þearf nænne wisne mon tveogan þæt ða yflan næbben eac eacu edlean hiora yfles; þæt bið ece wite. **a 1000** *Cædmon's Gen.* 2542 þa ic sendan gefrægn... sweartne lig werum to wite, weallende fyr. **a 1175** *Cott. Hom.* 219 þa wile gearcode se almihti sceapende him and his heren helle wite. **c 1200** ORMIN 3295 Swa þatt he 3æn þe Kaserrking ne felle nohht i wite. **a 1225** *Ancr. R.* 202 þe Vox of 3iscunge haueð peos hweolpes: Tricherie & Gile, peofðe, Reflac, Wite, & Herrure strence. **a 1300** *Cursor M.* 6714 þis beists lauerd þan sal bi quit Of alkin oncall, and oþer wijt. *Ibid.* 15802 He þat smitand es wit suerd, O suerd sal ha þe wite.

b. In Anglo-Saxon law, a fine imposed for certain offences or privileges; often as second element in compounds, as **BLOODWITE**, *ferdwite* (see **FERD sb.** 1 4), *fyhtwite* (see **FIGHT sb.** 7), **LAIRWITE**. Now *Hist.*

c 890 *Laws Ælfred* ix, Sie þæt wite LX scill. **c 1205** *LAY.* 5118 þat al comen to Lundene uppe wite of feowerti punden. **1387** *TREVISIA Higden* (Rolls) II. 95 Fightyngte wyte, amersement for fightyng. ? **1473** *Sionor Papers* (Camden) i. 130 That they schol noyt pay no ale wytys to me.

1614 SELDEN *Titles Hon.* 262. **1628** COKE *On Litt.* 127. **1872** E. W. ROBERTSON *Hist. Ess.* ii. vi. 64 The lesser wite or ordinary fine of the Hundred-Court. **1897** MAITLAND *Domesday Bk. & Beyond* 102 In any case their lord is to have their wites.

2. Blame, reproach; blameworthiness, fault. Now *Sc. and north. dial.*

Phr. *to have the wite, to put the wite in, to put* (a person) *in wite, to give* (one) *the wite* (of), *to lay the wite on*.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 4 Cleane schir in wit, wiðute wite of sunne. **c 1250** *Gen. & Ex.* 2035 Ðe wite is hise, ðe right is hire. **a 1300** *Cursor M.* 5667 He said til him þat bare þe wite, 'How dare þou sua þi broþer smite!' **c 1386** CHAUCER *Can. Yeom. Pro.* & T. 400 And but I do, lat me han the wite. — *Wife's Pro.* 806 That I haue doon it is thy self to wyte. **c 1400** *Melayne* 555 þe wite is all in the. **c 1403** *LYDG. Temple of Glas* 166 Some also þat putten ful grete wite On double louers. **c 1440** *Generydes* 869 What cause haue ye to putte me in this wite? **c 1449** *PECOCK Repr.* iii. xvi. 386 Sithen hise successours ben not 3it founde in wijte or defeaute. *Ibid.* 515 This gouernaunce deserueth not bi hir wijt to be kut away. **c 1450** *HOLLAND Howlat* 68, I se þe my schadowe my schape has the wyte. **1470-85** *MALORY Arthur* ii. x. 88 Kyngye Pellinore bare the wytte of the deth of kyngye Lott. **1528** *MORE Dialoqe Heresy* iv. xii. (1529) 116b, Our mother Eue layd the wyght of her synne to the serpent. **1550** *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* i. 104 The wite salbe imputt to him as accordis. **a 1578** *LINDESAY* (Pittscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 157 They gif 3ow the hail quhyt... that they ar persewit be the quene. **1583** *Leg. Bp. St. Androis* 1063 George Gipsones Iskie bae Had all the wyte he womit sae. **1596** *SPENSER F.Q.* vi. iii. 16 Sith his own thought he knew most cleare from wite. **1600** *HOLLAND Livy* viii. xxxiv. 306 The posteritie hereafter should lay the waite and blame... in the Tribunes. **1637-50** *Row Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) 409 The Bishop... crying to the people, That he had no wyt of the matter. **1674** *RAY N.C. Words* 53 You lean all the white off your sell. **1722** *RAMSAY Two Cut-purses* 34 Ye canna lay the Wyte on me. **1787** *GROSE Prov. Gloss.* s.v. *White*, You lean all the white off yourself. **1818** *SCOTT Hrt. Midl.* xxxii, This is a' your wyte, Miss Jeanie Deans. **1823** *GALT R. Gilhaize* xli, About seven months after he left the town twa misfortunate creatures gave him the wyte of their bairns. **1886** *STEVENSON Kidnapped* xix, But now it's done, Alan; and who's to bear the wyte of it?

† **b.** The source or origin of blame; the person or thing that is to blame. *Sc. Obs.*

1513 *DOUGLAS Æneid* i. Prol. 366 Quhilk in sum part is the caus and the wite, Quhy that of Virgillius vers the ornate bewtie Intill our tounng may nocht obseruit be. **1560** *ROLLAND Seven Sages* (Bann. Club) 75, I am the wite now of hir deid doutles. **c 1560** A. SCOTT *Poems* (1902) 94 3our twa fair ene is wycht of all my wo. **1725** *RAMSAY Gentle Sheph.* iv. i, She abusing first, was a' the wyte Of what has happen'd.

† **3. transf.** Offence, trespass; wrong. *Obs.*

c 1175 *Laub. Hom.* 15 Ne do he þe neure swa muchelne teone ne wite on pisse liue ne beo þu nefre ene wrað þe fore. **a 1300** *Cursor M.* 4586 þou sal god office haue ful tite, And all forgiuen þe þi wijte. *Ibid.* 10393 Iesu crist was tan, And don on rode for our wite. **13...** *Guy Warw.* (A.) 304 He wald anon mine heued of smite,... for that wite. **1390** *GOWER Conf.* II. 89 Of tomoche or of tolyte Ther is algate founde a wyte. **c 1412** *HOCCEVE De Reg. Princ.* 2720 þat hay i-do þe tres-pase, or the wyte.

4. attrib. and Comb., as (sense 1 b) *wite-exacting*, *free* *adjs.*

1897 *MAITLAND Domesday Bk. & Beyond* 87 A tract over which a lord has... a *wite-exacting power. **1205** *Rot. Chart.* (1837) 153/2 Wrecfri et *witefri et lestagefri. **1278** [see **LOVECORP**]. **1395** [see **LASTAGE sb.** 7]. **1672** *Cowel's Interpr., Wite...* Hence *Wite* or *Witfree*, one of the terms of Priviledge granted to our Portsmen.

wite, wyte (wait), *v.* 1 *Obs. exc. Sc. and north. dial.* Forms: 1 *witan*, 2-4 *witen*, 2-7 *wite*, 3-5 (6 *arch.*) *wyten*, 4-7, 8-9 *Sc. wyte* (3 *hwite*?, 4 *wytte*, *pa. t.* and *pa. pple.* *wijt*, *wit*(t), 4-6 *wit*, 4-7 *white*, 4-8 chiefly *Sc. wyt*, 5 *wyit*, *wiyte*, *wijte*, *wyet*, *wyth*, 6 *wiht*, *Sc. wyit*, *weyt*, *vyit*, 7 *Sc. pa. t. wate*). [OE. *witan*, *pa. t.* **wát*, *witon* (superseded by weak inflexions in ME.), also *æt-witan* (-*wát*, -*witon*, *pa. pple.* -*witen*, ME. *pa. t.* *atwiste*, *pa. pple.* *atwist*) *ATWITE v.* 1, *edwitan* (*pa. pl.* -*witon*, and *wk.* -*witte*, *Vesp. Ps.*) *EDWITE v.* = OS. *witan*, MLG., MD. *witen* (Du. *wijten*), OHG. *wizan* (MHG. *wizen*, G. *verweisen* to reproach), Goth. *-weitan* in *fraweitan* to avenge; f. Teut. *wit*:- see **WIT v.** 1 The sense-development is paralleled in L. *animadvertere* to observe, consider, censure, blame, punish.]

1. trans. To impute the guilt or lay the blame of (something) to or upon a person (his action, conduct, or character) or a thing, condition, or event (orig. dat., later also with *to*, *on*, *upon*).

Beowulf 2741 For ðam me witan ne ðearf waldend fira morðorbealo maga. **c 893** ÆLFRED *Oros.* vi. iv, Romane witan Claudiuse pone hunger. **a 1225** *Ancr. R.* 304 3if þu witest eni þing þine sunne bute þi suluen, þu ne schriuest þe not. **a 1250** *Owl & Night.* 1249 Schal he his mishap wite me? **13...** *K. Alis.* 1725 Thou konst no gode; Y wyt hit all thy yonge blode. **c 1320** *Sir Tristr.* 369 Her sorwen and her care þai witt þat frely fode. **c 1386** CHAUCER *Monk's T.* 456 Allas Fortune... Thy false wheel my wo al may I wyte. — *Miller's Prol.* 32 If that I mysspeke or seye Wyte it the Ale of Southwerk. **a 1400** *Leg. Rood* (1871) 134 His wo I wyte hit sinne. **c 1400** *Beryn* 2016, I may wit it þe, þat I have lost my sizte. **14...** *Sir Beues* (M.) 1893 Thou sholdiste on me be awareke And not wite on hym the gilte. **c 1430** *Hymns Virgin* (1867) 35 Y wiyte my silf myne owne wool **c 1436** *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 148 White thi owne falsnes alle thi myschance. **1481** *CAXTON Godfrey* xx. 51 This felonnyng that this fewe dyde was wyted alle the hoost. **c 1500** *Melusine* 308 It shal not be wytted me to haue a brother of myn a monke. **1571** *GOLDING Calvin on Ps.* xl. 9 After the miseries which he abydeh are wyted vpon his owne fault. **1587** — *De Mornay* xii. (1592) 181 They... reitene the faultines of that first fault, and cannot wit it vpon any other than the first Man. **1826** *GALT Last of Lairds* xxx. 268 He wyted it a' on the liberty and equality speerit o' the times.

† **b.** To impute as guilt; also in neutral sense: To impute. *Obs.*

1382 *WYCLIF Judges* iv. 9 In this while victory shal not be witid to thee [Vulg. *non reputabitur tibi*]. **1382** — *Rom.* v. 13 Synne was not wytyd, [gloss] or rettid, whanne lawe was not. **c 1460** *Towneley Myst.* x. 332 Wyte thou no wykryng of Werkys wast, She hase consauyd the holy gast. **1533** tr. *Erasm. Playne Expos. Con.* *Crede* 31b, Vnto it is to be wyted or imputed what so euer thyng... hathe ben done... vertuously.

2. To impute the guilt or fault to, blame (a person).

a 1000 ÆLFRED's *Boeth.* Proem, þæt he... him ne wite gif he hit rihtlicor ongite pone he mihte. **c 1200** *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 67 He [sc. Christ] setteð þe synfulle on his lifthal, and witeð hem þat hie bi here lif dages ne wolden him quemen. **a 1300** *Cursor M.* 17445 If ani man yow witte, We sal yow saue and mak yow quite. **c 1320** *Sir Tristr.* 619 þe porter gan him wite And seyde:—'Cherl! go away'. **c 1386** CHAUCER *Merch. T.* 933 And though þat I be lalous, wyte me noight. **c 1400** 26 *Pol. Poems* xvii. 119 And þou be lost, whom wiltow wyte? **c 1449** *PECOCK Repr.* i. i. 5 The errouis... bi which holding they vniustly... wijten and blamen the clergie. **1469** *Paston Lett.* II. 348 And they myght pulle downe the howse on our hedys, I wyet hem not. **c 1500** *Melusine* 310 He... blamed & wytted hym self. **1530** *PALSGR.* 783/1 Why wyte you me, and I am nat to blame? **1590** *SPENSER F.Q.* ii. xii. 16 Scoffing at him, that did her iustly wite. **1721** *RAMSAY Prospect of Plenty* 133 Nor can we wyt them, since they had our Vote. **1721** *KELLY Sc. Prov.* 357 Wite your self if your Wife be with Bairn. **1818** *SCOTT Rob Roy* xxvi, It wasna my fault; he canna wyte me. **1826** *GALT Last of Lairds* xviii. 161 She had got an injury and wyted me.

absol. **1340** *Ayenb.* 69 Zuo hit is huanne god his... chastepe, and maugre hy wytep. **c 1430** *Chev. Assigne* 136 Moche mone was therfore but no man wyte moste.

† **b.** Const. obj. and inf. (see *to prep.* B. 8): To blame a person for doing so-and-so. *Obs.*

c 1449 *PECOCK Repr.* ii. iv. 155 Wijting... vrsers of ymagis to be gilty of vntweve feith. **1500-20** *DUNBAR Poems* lxxxiv. 20 Quha sould thame wyte To serue thair beistlie lust? **c 1560** A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) xi. 51 To lufe 3our ladeis quho can wyt 3ow? **a 1585** *MONTGOMERIE Cherrie & Slae* 759 Quhat tyme he wytit Will To be maist cause of his mischeif.

c. Const. of, later for, with, that in respect of which blame is incurred.

c 1290 *Beket* 2087 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 166 Non oþur gulti nis of þat 3e witez me. **a 1300** *Cursor M.* 17772 He o mani plight was wijt [Gött. witt]. **13...** *E.E. Allit. P. C.* 501 Wyte not me for þe werk þat I hit wolde help. **c 1374** CHAUCER *Anel. & Arc.* 110 Ther nas no lacke with wiche he myght her wite. **1481** *CAXTON Reynard* viii. (Arb.) 17 None shal wyte me therof. **1533** *GAU Richt Vay* (S.T.S.) xi. 10 Lat vsz noth veit the deuil... of ony aduersite quhilk cumis to vsz. **1549** *COVERDALE, etc. Erasm. Par. Rom.* ix. 10-26 Nothyng had Pharao to wyte God withal. **c 1550** *ROLLAND Cri. Venus* Prol. 197 Thay say it is fals denstene And wytyis Fortoun of thair misgouernance. **17...** *Gil Morrice* xxv. in *Child Ballads* II. 273 Neir wyte a man for violence That neir wate ye wi nane. **1816** *SCOTT Bl. Dwarf* ix, A' the wrang he can wyte me wi.

3. To lay the fault or blame upon (a thing). † Also with const. as in 2 c.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 27769 He wites werd [MS. wend] and waris his time. **c 1520** *SKELTON Magnyf.* 2304 Alasse, my wyckydnesse, that may I wyte! **1528** *TINDALE Obad. Chr.*

Man Prol. 22 To wite Gods worde and the true preachers of all the mischeve which their lying doctrine is the very cause of. **1549** *Compl. Scot.* iv. 64 Allace i vyit your tua fayr ene. **1596** SPENSER *F.Q.* v. xi. 57 Albe he earst did wyte His wauering mind. **1598** D. FERGUSSON *Scot. Prov.* (S.T.S.) 12 All thing wytes that well not faires. **1603** *Philotus* clxx, Wyte ignorance that I did not invent.

4. to wite was freq. used predicatively in senses 2 and 3 = to blame, blameworthy, in fault, culpable.

a **1300** *Floris & Bl.* (Camb. MS.) 723 Of al pis gilt ihe am to wite. **13**.. *E.E. Allit. P. B.* 76 More to wyte is her wrange, þen any wylle gentyl. **1390** GOWER *Conf. I.* 116 Ha fol, how thou art forto wyte. a **1425** *Cursor M.* 876 (Trin.) þat þou hast pus don þis mis þi seluen is to wyte [*Cott.* þiself þou wite þi wa]. c **1480** HENRYSON *Test. Cress.* 134 O fals Cupide, is nane to wyte bot thow.

Hence 'witer, 'witing *vbl. sb.*¹

c **1449** PECOCC *Repr.* II. ii. 143 Alle such ouerhastie iugers and wijters God amende. *Ibid.* II. iv. 155 Thilk doom and thilk wijting . . . is wintrewe. **1825** JAMIESON, *Witer*, one who blames another Clydesd.

† **wite**, *v.*² *Obs.* Forms: 1 *witan*, 2-4 *wite* (3 *witte*, *imper. wit*), 3-4 *wyte* (4 *white*); *pres. 3rd sing.* 2-3 *wit*; 3 *wat*, *wot*; *pa. t.* 2-4 *wiste*, 3-4 *wuste* (4 *wist*, *wust*, *wste*); *pa. pple.* 3-4 *iwust*, 4 *iwist*. [OE. *witan*, usually in compound *bewitan* (*pres.* -*wāt*, *pa. t.* -*wiste*) *BIWIT v.*; cf. OFris. *wita*, OHG. *wizzēn* in *giwizzēn*, *irwizzēn* to be observant, watch, Goth. *witan* (*pa. t.* *witaida*): f. Teut. *wit-*: see *WIT v.*¹ In ME. dialects where the inf. ending -*ie(n)* is not preserved, this verb is indistinguishable from *WITIE v.*² Some ME. forms point to OE. *witan*.]

1. *trans.* To keep, keep safe, guard, preserve, defend. Also *refl.*

c **1000** *Sax. Leechd.* III. 154 þæt bið god swefen, wite þu þæt ðeorne on pinre heortan. c **1175** *Lamb. Hom.* 79 [He] brohte him to an hors huse, and bitahte hine þe hors horde to witen. *Ibid.* 85 Meiden þæt hire meiden-hat wit. a **1200** *Moral Ode* 84 in O.E. *Hom.* I. 165 He wit and waleð alle þing. c **1200** *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 29 Witte wel hwat þu hauest. *Ibid.* 31 Herdes . . . wittende here oref. *Ibid.* 137 To witen him of alle flesliche lustes. c **1205** LAY. 21302 Nu him is al swa þere gat þe he pene hul wat [c **1275** *wot*]. c **1230** *Hali Meid.* (1922) 16 3ef ha wit hire wiðute bruche. c **1275** *Passion our Lord* 18 in O.E. *Misc.* 37 Yf we vs wytep from heued-sunne. a **1300** *X Commandm.* 34 in E.E.P. (1862) 16 Wit þe fram licheri. a **1300** *Floris & Bl.* (Camb. MS.) 756 His engin whan þu hit wite, þe betere wiþ opere þu miþ þe wite. c **1320** *Cast. Love* 168 Two lawen Adam scholde i-wis Witen and holden in paradis. **1362** LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* x. 67 Bote þei witen hem from wantounesse, whil þat þei ben 3onge. a **1400** *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* 255 Ley þou þi fet to my pappe, And wite þe from þe colde. c **1430** LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 33 Voydyng slaundre, wyte the of gelousye. c **1440** *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 546 This wol from the wesel wite hem well.

Illustration of *pa. t.* and *pa. pple.*

c **1175** *Lamb. Hom.* 43 An meiden . . . þæt wel wiste hire licome in alle clenesse. c **1205** LAY. 1603 Brutus . . . hine wel wuste. a **1225** *Ancr. R.* 48 Wite wel þine heorte, uor soule lif is in hire, gif heo is wel iwust. **13**.. *St. Alexius* (Trin. MS.) 102 Hy þohte on crist day and nyȝt And wiste [*Laud MS.* kepte] here fro senne. a **1325** *MS. Rawl. B.* 520 lf. 32 That eueriche contreie . . . ben so i wuste þat [etc.]. c **1350** *Will. Palerne* 172 3he wist it as wel or bet as gif it were hire owne.

2. *Const. clause*: To take care, see (*that*).

a **1000** *Sec. Laws Cnut lxxv*, Wite se oðer . . . þæt he hit bete. c **1000** *Sax. Leechd.* III. 154 Wite þæt þin gēpānc ne losige. c **1175** *Lamb. Hom.* 11 Wite 3e þet 3e zemen þenne halie sunneðe. *Ibid.* 53 Witeð eow þet 3e ne bo noht þe foaȝe neddre.

3. To see, observe. Also *intr.* to look on.

c **1320** *Cast. Love* 1256 Hose wē þe sward smite, Two kuynden he miȝte sen and wite [*rime smite*]. c **1330** R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 15860 þat non ne scholde hem se ne wite [*rime lite*]. **13**.. *Gau. & Gr. Knt.* 2050 þe wyȝe wynez hym to, & wytez on his lyre.

Hence † *witing vbl. sb.*², keeping, custody.

a **1225** *Ancr. R.* 418 Of swuche witunge is i-kumen muchel vuel.

† **wite**, *v.*³ *Obs.* Forms: 1 *witan*, 2-5 *wite*, 4 *wit(t)*, 4-5 *wyte*, 5 *witte*. *Pa. t.* 3 *wot*, 4-5 *wat*; 4 *wited*, 5 *wyted*, *wit*. *Pa. pple.* 3 *Orm.* *witenn*, 4 *wite*. [OE. *witan* (rare), usually *gewitan* 1-WITE *v.*², q.v.] *intr.* To go, go away, depart; to perish, vanish away.

a **1000** *Boeth. Metr.* xxiv. 52 Nylle ic æfre hionan ut witan. a **1175** *Cott. Hom.* 239 Witēð into ece fer. c **1200** ORMIN 8222 Aftter þatt Herode king wass wittenn ut off life. c **1200** *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 109 Abacuc, þe wunede on þis weorlde and eft þerof wot. *Ibid.* 123 Hider he cumeð on wowe and heðen wit on wowe. a **1300** *Cursor M.* 8968 Hu all þis weorlde sal wite air. *Ibid.* 10551 Quen þis angel a-wai was wite. *Ibid.* 11262 þar ingels wited þam ewai. a **1340** HAMPOLE *Psalter Prol.*, All gladnes & delite of erth . . . wytes til noȝht. c **1375** *Sc. Leg. Saints xxxii.* (*Justin*) 229 As a reke away he wat. ? a **1400** *Morte Arth.* 708, I may noȝhte wit of this woo. c **1400** *St. Alexius* (*Laud* 622) 191 þe kniȝtes waten on & on To her owen cuntre. c **1420** *Prose Life Alex.* 90 Bi þe son settynge þay wyted a-way in-to þe erthe agayne. c **1425** WYNTOUN *Cron.* cxii. 1187 Quhen þis weis said he wit away. c **1425** *Thomas Erceid.* 327 Whene a tree rote es dede The leues fadis þane & wyts a-waye. c **1480** HENRYSON in *Poems Gray MS.* vi. 65 (S.T.S.) 56 Full oft Is sene thir emotis in ane hillock ay Rinnand oute befor þin ene; with litill weit þai wit away.

wite, obs. f. *WIGHT*, *WIT v.*¹

witeȝe, var. *WITIE*.

witel, obs. f. *WHITTLE sb.*¹

† **witeless**, *a. Sc.* (and *north.*) ? *Obs.* [f. *WITE sb.*² + -LESS.] Blameless.

1560 ROLLAND *Seven Sages* (Bann. Club) 18 Scho was wyteless, howbeit storme thame opprest. c **1575** *Diurn. Occurr.* (Bann. Club) 240 Wyteles of the halding thairof. **1579** SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Aug. 136 Ne can Willye wite the witelesse herdgroome. **1617** in A. I. Ritchie *Churches St. Baldred* (1880) 162 Alexander Daviesone did draw his quhinger also, and so suld not be altogidder wytless. **1721** KELLY *Sc. Prov.* 202 If all be well, I's be wyteless. **1737** RAMSAY *Sc. Prov.* (1750) 102 They wyte you and you no wytless.

† **witen**, *v. Obs. rare.* Also 4 *witten*. [f. *WITE v.*¹ + -EN⁵.] *trans.* a. To impute. b. To blame.

c **1350** *Will. Palerne* 3462 But holli williams werkes þei wittened it alle. **1589** PEELE *Egl. Grat.* Bj, Least worthily, I moughten wited bee.

witenagemot ('witanægi,mæut, popularly wita'nægimot). *Hist.* Also 3 *witene imot*; 6 *wytēna gemote*, 7 *widenagamoote*, 7-9 *witēna-gemot(e)*, (9 *witana*). [OE. *witena gemot* assembly of wise men: see *WITAN*, *WITE sb.*¹, and *GEMOT(E)*, *MOOT sb.*¹] The assembly of the *WITAN*, the national council of Anglo-Saxon times; *transf.* of modern parliaments or other deliberative assemblies.

[c **900** tr. *Bæda's Hist.* III. v, On gemote hiora witena.] c **1000** ÆLFRIC *Gram.* viii. (Z.) 30 *Haec sinodus*, þis witena gemot. **1050** O.E. *Chron.* (MS. C), þa hæfde Eadwerd cing witena gemot on Lunden to midlenten. c **1205** LAY. 11545 þet hustinge wes god, hit wes witene-imot.

1591 LAMBARDE *Archeion* (1635) 252 The word Witena . . . doth include the Nobilitie and Commons, because they be Counsellors of the Realme . . . in respect whereof the assembling of them, was of some called Wytēna Gemote. **1614** SELDEN *Titles Hon.* 226 Their Witenagemots or Mikel Synods. **1656** HARRINGTON *Oceana* 35 marg., Weidenagamoote. **1660** WATERHOUSE *Arms & Arm.* 181 The Wytēna-gemote and great Council of our wisdom, in the preamble to the Statute of 43 Eliz. c. 12, acknowledgeth it to have been the policy of this Realm. **1769** BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. xxxiii. 405 The wittena-gemote, or commune concilium of the antient Germans. **1785** COWPER *Let. to J. Hill* 22 Jan., Shall I derive no other advantage from the great Wytēna-Gemot of the nation, than merely to read their debates? **1833** SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) IV. 348 Having occasion to write to Sir T. Acland while he is attending the Wytēna-gemot at Cambridge, I sent him a fact for the geologists. **1855** BROWNING *Old Pict. in Florence* xxxiii, A kind of sober Wytēna-gemot [*rime* bag 'em hot]. **1899** SIR M. FOSTER *Presid. Addr. Brit. Assoc.* 22 The first select Wytēna-gemote of the science of the world.

witenonfa, var. *WEDENONFA*. *Obs.*

witer: see after *WITE v.*¹; var. *WITTER*.

'**witereden**. *Hist.* Also corruptly *winter*, *wynter*, *wit(t)erden(e)*, *witeredden*. [OE. *witeræden* (used in *Bæda's Hist.* III. viii. in the gen. sense of punishment), f. *wite* *WITE sb.*² + *ræden* -RED.] A fine (erron. explained by antiquaries as a royal imposition or aid).

688-95 *Laws Ine* § 50 Nah he þær nane witerædenne. **855** (MS. 12th cent.) *Grant of Ethelwulf* in *Birch Cartul. Sax.* II. 84 Ut sit tuta . . . ab omnibus secularibus servitutibus, necnon regalibus tributis majoribus et minoribus, sive taxationibus quod nos dicimus Witereden [*v.rr.* Winterden, Witeredden].

1650 ELDERFIELD *Civil Right of Tythes* 72 [transl. quot. 855] No secular service, nor tribute . . . nor Winterdene (or Witerdene, a kind of imposition). **1672** *Cowel's Interpr.*, *Witerden* . . . a kind of Taxation among the West-Saxons. **1710** PRIEUAUX *Orig. Tithe* iv. 177 note, Written variously Witerden, Wynterden and Witeredden. It was a Tax or Royal ayd. **1862** MIALl *Title Deeds Ch. Eng.* 19 note, [comment on prec.].

witesafe, obs. form of *VOUCHSAFE*.

Witeson(e), etc., obs. forms of *WHITSUN*.

wit-ess, *nonce-wd.* [f. *WIT sb.* + -NESS.] A female wit.

1781 HAN. MORE in *Mem.* (1835) I. 206 All the pride of London,—every wit, and every wit-ess.

witeword, var. *WITWORD*.

witful ('witful), *a.* [In ME. aphetic for **iwitful*, OE. **gewitfull*, inferred from *unȝewitfull* (f. *unȝewitt* madness, folly); in mod.E. a new formation on *WIT sb.* and -FUL.]

† 1. Wise, sagacious. *Obs.*

c **1205** LAY. 911 Membricus . . . wes . . . wys & witful. *Ibid.* 9095 þurh his wit-fulne cræfte. **1340** *Ayenb.* 150 He makeþ man wytuol and wys. **1544** BETHAM tr. *Purtilia's Precepts War* I. cxxx. G i v b, A wyttful capytayne wyll sende some of hys souldyours that be subtle & wyttye, to . . . tempt the mynde of his enemies. **1587** GOLDING *De Mornay* v. (1592) 58 That is the marke of the witfull action, (that is to say, of the euerlasting word or conceit whereby God made them). **1614** CHAPMAN *Masque Inns of Court* C 2, Tis passing miraculous, that your dul and blind worship should so sodainly turne both sightfull, and witfull.

2. Full of wit (in modern senses).

1765 J. BROWN *Chr. Jnl.*, *Summer Day* 174 The poems of lofty Milton, witful Cowley, elegant Pope. **1872** *Daily News* 31 July, M. Thiers' utterances snap with witful shrewdness. **1924** *Countries of World* I. 639/2 The women deck these stands with witful skill. **1935** W. DE LA MARE *Early One Morning* 321 A willing and witful child. **1980** *N.Y. Times* 26 Aug. C-8/5 Ravel's Sonata for Violin and Cello. . . For pinpoint gestural precision and witful repartee, this

sophisticated instrumental dialogue is an unending source of fascination.

witgat ('vitxat). *S. Afr.* [Afrikaans, f. *wit* white + *gat* hole.] Any of several trees of the genus *Boscia*, which have pale bark and are found in dry areas of southern Africa, esp. the evergreen *B. albitrunca*. Also *witgatboom* [Afrikaans *boom* tree].

1824 W. J. BURCHELL *Trav. Int. S. Afr.* II. 18 Their trunks . . . appeared at a little distance as if they had been whitewashed. From this singular character, they have gained the name of *Wit-gat boom*. **1860** HARVEY & SONDER *Flora Capensis* I. 362 A tall tree called *Witgat* by the colonists. **1932** C. FULLER *Louis Trigardt's Trek* 47 We were standing under a *witgatboom*. **1966** E. PALMER *Plains of Camdeboo* iv. 54 Close to this grew a witgat tree not fifteen feet tall but with a thick, seamed, milk-white trunk and a dense grey-green crown of tough little leaves. *Ibid.* xvii. 271 They . . . made coffee from the roots of the witgat. **1972** PALMER & PITMAN *Trees S. Afr.* I. 620 Witgat wood is heavy and tough. **1973** Y. BURGESS *Life to Live* 25 Coffee made from the roots of the witgat tree.

with (wiθ), *sb.* Also 8 *wyθ*, *width*, *wieth*, 8-*withe*. [? Corruption of *WIDTH*.] A partition between flues in a chimney stack: locally termed *mid-feather*.

1708 *Act 7 Anne c.* 17 § 10 All Withs the Inside of such Chimnies shall be Four Inches and an Half in Breadth. **1717** V. MANDEY *Mellificium Mensionis* (1727) 382 The Breasts and Wings, and Wieths [of the chimneys]. **1734** *Builder's Dict.* s.v. *Chimney*, If they [sc. the Chimney-Shafts] be wrought nine Inches thick, . . . then you must account your Thickness one Brick and half, in consideration of Wyths and Pargetting, and Trouble in Scaffolding. **1736** R. NEVE *Builder's Dict.* (ed. 3) s.v. *Chimney*, In Consideration of the Widths, Pargetting, and Scaffolding. **1748** B. LANGLEY *Lond. Prices* 327 The Widths of Chimneys. **1844** *Act 7 & 8 Vict.* c. 84 Sched. (F) The Breast of every Chimney, and the Front, Back, Withe, or Partition of every Flue, must be at the least Four Inches in Thickness of sound Bricks. **1905** *Pract. Brickwork* (ed. P. N. Hasluck) xii. 100 It will be necessary to tie in the withs on the stretching course.

with (wið; chiefly *north.* wiθ), *prep., (adv., conj.)*. Forms: 1-3 *wið*, 1-5 *wiþ*, 3-5 *wyþ*, *wit*, *wid* (9-*colloq.* and *dial.* *wid*), 4-5 *wyt*, 4-6 *wyθ(t)*, *withe*, (3 *wyd*, *wiz*, *wih*), *Orm.* *wiþþ*, 3-5 *wiht*, 4 *witt*, *wizt(h)*, *wyht*, *wyzt*, *whiþ*, *Sc.* *vith*, 4-5 *whit*, 5 *wyt(t)he*, *why(t)h*, *whith*, *witz*, *wep*, *Sc.* *wygh*, *wyghte*, *wycht*, 6 *wight*, *wiht*, *Sc.* *vitth*, *quhit*, *wutht*, 7-9 *n. dial.* *wud*, 8-9 *Sc.* and *n. dial.* *wi*, 9 *dial.* *wiv*, *way*, 2- *with*; abbreviated 4-7 *w*, 5-7 *wth* (6 *wth*). [OE. *wið* = OFris. *with*, OS. *wið*, ON. *við* (Sw. *vid*, Da. *ved*): app. a shortening (peculiar to the Anglo-Frisian and Scandinavian areas) of the Com. Teut. **wider-* (see s.v. *WITHER a.* and *adv.* and *WITHER-1*), perh. taking place orig. in compounds (cf. *WITH-* and the parallelism of OE. *wipcēosan* and *wipercēosan* to reject, *wipstandan* and *wiperstandan* to withstand, etc.).

As an *adv.*, *with* occurs as the second element in composition with other advs. denoting direction, motion, or extension: *FORWITH* (FOROUTH, FORROW), *FORTHWITH*, *INWITH*, *OUTWITH* (UTOUTH), *DOWNWITH*, *UPWITH*.]

A. *prep.* The prevailing senses of this prep. in the earliest periods are those of opposition ('against') and of motion or rest in proximity ('towards', 'alongside'), which are now current only in certain traditional collocations or specific applications. These notions readily pass into fig. uses denoting various kinds of relations, among which those implying reciprocity are at first prominent. The most remarkable development in the signification of *with* consists in its having taken over in the ME. period the chief senses belonging properly to OE. *mid* *MID prep.*¹ (cognate with Gr. *μετά* *with*). These senses are mainly those denoting association, combination or union, instrumentality or means, and attendant circumstance. These are all important senses of ON. *við*, to which fact their currency and ultimate predominance in the English word are partly due. The last important stage was the extension of *with* from the instrument to the agent, in which use it was current for different periods along with *of* and *through*, and later with *by*, which finally superseded the other three. The range of meanings in general has no doubt been enlarged by association with *L. cum*. The interaction of senses and sense-groups has been such that the position of a particular sense in the order of development is often difficult to determine.

In common with other preps. *with* can be postponed to the end of an interrogative or relative clause introduced by its regimen; but in ME. it was freq. placed immediately after the verb in relative clauses, e.g. *þes rentis þat þe fend hæp dowed wip clerkis* = these revenues with

which the Devil has endowed clerics. In postposition it was for a long period extensively replaced by WITHAL (q.v. B).

I. Denoting opposition and derived notions (separation; motion towards).

† 1. a. In a position opposite to; over against: = AGAINST 1. Chiefly in advb. phrases with repeated sb., as *face with face*, where *to* is now c893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* i. i. §31 Be norðan is se sæ, þe ægper is ge nearo ge hreoh, wið Italia þam lande. c950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark xii. 41 Sætt se hælend wið . . . ðæs dores. c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 61 Cristes wille bo us bitwon neb wið neb for him to son. c1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 105 His wise wordes þe he wið hem spec muð wið muðe. c1205 LAY. 1874 Breoste wið breoste banes þer crakeden. a1300 [see FACE sb. 2 d].

b. In exchange, return, or payment for: = AGAINST 14, FOR 6. *Obs. exc. dial.*

The related senses 'in compensation for', 'in comparison with' are only OE.

c893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* iv. xiii. §1 Hit Scipia nolde him aliefan wið nanum oþrum þing butan hie him ealle hiera wæpeno ageafen. 993 *Battle of Maldon* 35 We willað wið þam golde grið fæstnian. c1000 ÆLFRIC *Exod.* xxi. 24 Eage wið eagan, toþ wip teð. 1442 in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 1444 64/1 The landis of . . . Pettendrech, the quhilkis war changeit with the landis of Dunottir. a1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* i. (Arb.) 27 If the childe misse, either in forgetting a worde, or in chaunging a good with a worse. 1570 in *Shropsh. Par. Doc.* (1903) 63 Rec. at the chaunge of the cupp with the challeins vii. ii d. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett., to M. Mowat* 7 Sept. (1671) 165 We might barter or niffer our lazie ease with a profitable cross.

2. Of conflict, antagonism, dispute, injury, reproof, competition, rivalry, and the like: In opposition to, adversely to: = AGAINST 12 a, 12 b, 12 d.

Still the normal prep. with such words as *battle*, *chide*, *compete*, *conflict*, *contend*, *dispute*, *fight*, *quarrel*, *strive*, *struggle*, *vie*, *war*, and phrases like *go to law*, at odds, but now associated with or merged in 8, 13 b, or 20.

Beowulf 152 Grendel wan hwile wið Hroþgar. a900 CYNEWULF *Elene* 836 Hie wið Godes bearne nið ahofun. 900-30 *O.E. Chron.* an. 853 (Parker MS.), Ealhere mid Cantwarum, & Huda mid Suprigium gefuhton on Tenet wip hæpnum herige. a1000 *Gnomic Verses* II. 187 Werig scealc wip winde rowep. c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 19 þet he ne misdude wið oderne. *Ibid.* 129 Of þan icompe þe ure drihten hefde wið þene feond. c1200 ORMIN 16981 3iff þa mihhtenn witenn itt þatt haffdenn nip wipþ Criste. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 57 He praid him for his nauy to help him with summ. c1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 124 þis knight askid hym if he kend oght with hym selfe. 1590 [see CONFLICT sb. 1]. 1596 *Edw. III.* II. ii. Poore shipskin, how it braules with him that beateth it! 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* iii. 355 One, Who in Rebellion with himselfe, will haue All that are his, so too. 1668 WALTON *Angler* iv. (ed. 4) 66 He [sc. the trout] may justly contend with all fresh-water-Fish, as the Mullet may with all Sea-Fish. 1719 *De Foe Crusoe* II. (Globe) 357 Let us go and have t'other Brush with them. 1736 *Gentl. Mag.* VI. 334/1 Let the Boys be set a running, as it were, with one another, in getting without Book. 1851 NEWMAN *Pres. Pos. Cath.* vi. §7 Invention cannot run with prejudice. Prejudice wins. 1909 *Dublin Rev.* Jan. 128 Amazons at handgrips with a long-suffering police.

† 3. Of resistance, defence, protection, warning, caution: = AGAINST 13 a, 13 b. *Obs.*

Beowulf 540 Wit unc wið hronfisas werian pohton. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 171 þa woldan hie on ecnesse hæle & trume wið deofla nipum & helle witum. c1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 130 Wip bryne genim finules nipeweardes. c1040 *Bidding Prayer in Lay Folks Mass Bk.* 62 þæt hy us gehealdan & gescyldan wið ealra feonda costnunga. c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 53 þe feder and þe sune and þe halie gast iscilde us. . . wið alle sunnen. a1225 *Ancr. R.* 224 Hu ge schulen witen on wið pes deofles wiles. c1320 *Cast. Love* 826 þe seue berbicans abouten, . . witeþ þis Castel so wel wip arwe and wip qwarel. c1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xi. (Symon & Iudas) 203 For þat þu suld mar vnwar be Vith þi fais.

† 4. Of separation or deliverance: = FROM 6, 6 b. *Obs.* (See also 19 c.)

Beowulf 2423 Sundur gedælan lif wið lice. a1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 127 þa gesundrode sigora waldend. . . leoht wið peostum, sceade wið sciman. a1250 *Owl & Night.* 610 Me is lof to cristes huse To clansi hit wip fule muse.

5. † a. Towards, in the direction of: = AGAINST 5. (Only OE.) *Obs.*

Beowulf 213 Streamas wundon sund wið sande. *Ibid.* 1880 Ac him on hreþre hygebendum fæst æfter deorum men dyrne langað beorn wið blode. 900-30 *O.E. Chron.* an. 894 (Parker MS.), þa wende he hine went wið Exanceastres. a1000 *Riddles* iv. 42 þonne scearp cymed sceo wip oþrum, ecg wið ecge. c1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* xxvi. 204 Sum wegfarende man ferde wið pone feld.

b. Near or close to, against, alongside. Now only *Naut.* with words denoting proximity and consequently belonging more properly to 18.

Beowulf 326 Setton . . rondas regnhearde wið þæs recedes weal. *Ibid.* 2566 Stiðmod gestod wið steapne rond winia bealdr. 900-30 *O.E. Chron.* an. 878 (Parker MS.), Æt Alre, & þæt is wip Æpelingga eige. c1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke viii. 5 þa he þæt seow sum feoll wið þæne weg. c1050 *Voc.* in *Wr.* Wülcker 447/25 *Murotenus*, wið ðone weall. 13. . . *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 113 Bishop Bawdewyn abof bi-ginez þe table, & Ywan, Vryn son, ette wit hymselfen. 14. . . *Sailing Directions* (Hakl. Soc.) 12 Than go your cours with the horse shoo south southwest. *Ibid.* 13 Fro Saint Margret steyers and ye will go with Dengenes, your best way is south south west. 1579-80 *NORTH Plutarch, Theseus* (1595) 10 By force of weather driven with the coast of Sicile. 1591 *RALEIGH Last Fight Rev.* (Arb.) 24 A fourth ranne her selfe with the shore to saue her men. 1625 *PURCHAS Pilgrims* II. 1133 An houre after Sunne rising, we were with a very long and faire point. 1708- [see IN adv. 9 b]. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. vii. 212 One of our prizes was ordered to stand close in with it [sc. the land]. 1788 J. WHITE *Jrnl. Voy. N.S. Wales* (1790) 108 As we run in with the land, . . we were surprised to see . . some

small patches of snow. 1849 O'BRYNE *Naval Biogr. Dict.* 661/2 At the cutting out, close in with the enemy's batteries of *La Guépe* privateer. 1860 DICKENS *Uncomm. Trav.* ii, A man . . saw . . some dark troubled object close in with the land.

c. Into the presence or immediate proximity of (and in derived fig. uses): following such verbs as *encounter*, *fall in*, *meet*, etc., q.v. (Now associated with 19.)

† 6. Governing a demonstrative pronoun, forming conjunctive phrases: *with than* (*the, that*), *with that*, *with thi* (*that*), *wipþi*, *wyþy*, rarely *with this* (*that*) [see THAN dem. pron., THAT conj. 1 c, THY adv.]: a. On condition that, provided that, if.

c1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* xii. 118 Nolde he syllan ealle his æhta peah þe he welig wære, wið þan þe he libban moste. a1200 *Moral Ode* 152 in *O.E. Hom.* I. 169 Eure he walde her inne wawe and ine wene wunien Wið þet he mihte helle pine bi-fien. c1205 LAY. 8253 Al pine wille he wule don, wið þon þe þu him 3eue grið. a1300 *Siriz* 192, Ich wile 3eue the riche mede With that hit be so. a1300 *St. Thomas* 184 in *Horstm. Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 22 Grete bewetes to him he bed. . . Withi he wold dwell with him still. c1300 *Havelok* 532, I shal maken þe fre. . . With-þan þu wilt þis childe take. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 493 With-thi 3e giff me all the land, That 3e haiff now in-till your hand. c1400 *Beryn* 3972 Tomorrow I will be redy his hest to fulfill, With this I have save condit. 1473 *Paston Lett.* III. 100, I wolde he had it for vij. yeer, with thys that my moodre be agreeable to the same. 1497 in *Somerset Med. Wills* (1901) 353, I will that Isabell my doughter, shal haue all suche stuffe [etc.] whit that she marie by thaduce of my executours. c1500 *Lancelot* 960, I grant yow leif, withthy Your name to me that 3e wil specify. c1500 *Crow & Pie* v. in *Child Ballads* II. 478 Hauē ye thys, my dere swetyng, With that ye wyibe lemman myn.

† b. With the intention that, in order that, to the end that. *Obs.*

c888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxiii. §2 He . . forlæt mænigwe weoruldust wið þæm þe he pone welan begete & gehealde. *Ibid.* xl. §5 Me wære leofre þæt ic onette wið þæs þæt ic þe moste gelæstan þæt ic þe ær gehet. a1225 *Juliana* 3 þe liflade of a meiden þæt is of latin iturnd to englishe leode, wið þon þat teos hali leafdi in heouene luuie us þe mare.

II. Denoting personal relation, agreement, association, connexion, union, addition.

* Senses denoting primarily activity towards or influence upon a person or thing.

7. a. After words denoting speech or other verbal communication between persons (with the person as obj.); properly of mutual communication, but formerly sometimes merely = to, as in quot. 1480.

Beowulf 365 Hy benan synt þæt hie . . wið þe moton wordum wrixlan. a1000 *Riddles* xl. 12 Ne hafað hio fot ne folm, . . ne muð hafap ne wip monnum spræc. c1205 LAY. 14069 He wolde wið þan kinge holden runinge. c1300 *Harrow. Hell* 123 Y shal speke þe wyht And þe to holde gryht. c1386 CHAUCER *Melib.* ¶ 755, I prey yow lat me speke with youre Aduersaries in priuee place. c1420 *Prose Life Alex.* 14 He went . . for to consaile wit a godd pat pay called Amon. 1470-1760 [see QUESTION v. 2]. c1480 HENRYSON *Bludy Serk* 106 Scho said nay, With men pat wald hir wed. 1500-20 *DUNBAR Poems* xiii. 15 Sum with his fallow rownis. 1555- [see CONFERENCE 4]. 1588 SHAKS. *L.L.L.* v. ii. 230 White handed Mistris, one sweet word with thee. 1670 in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 16 Give me leave to be ingennuous with your Honour, that mannifacure grows worse daylie. a1700 EVELYN *Diary* 9 Feb. 1665, I had much discourse with his Lordship. 1753-4 RICHARDSON *Grandison* III. viii. 109 But, unseasonably, as the event shewed, Father Marescotti, being talked with, was earnest to be allowed to visit her. 1884 CONWAY *Bound Together* I. 181 For many years Mrs. Blatchford had held little communication with her family.

b. Followed by refl. pron., in reference to soliloquy, consideration, determination, etc. *arch.*

1530 PALSGR. 514/2 Whan I determyne with my selfe to do a thyng. 1553 [see WEIGH v. 1 12 c]. 1564 HARDING *Answ. Jewel* 180 Saye this with thy selfe. 1580 LYL V *Euphues* (Arb.) 443 Because you are braue, disdaine not those that are base, thinke with your selues that russet coates haue their Christendome. a1592 GREENE *Alphonsus* iv. iii, Remember with your selues. 1707 *Curios. Husb. & Gard.* 201, I imagin'd with my self. . . that . . we might multiply . . the very same curious Plants. 1741 WATTS *Improv. Mind* I. i. §1 (1786) 5 Think seriously with yourselves how many follies and sorrows you had escaped.

† c. After *communicate*, *impart* (information), orig. = 'share' (cf. 20). *Obs.* (now replaced by to).

1559, 1704 [see COMMUNICATE v. 2]. 1571 [see IMPART v. 2]. 1612 BRINSLEY *Lud. Lit.* 4 More readie . . to impart your experiments with me. 1623 BINGHAM *Xenophon* 65 He . . communicated his dream with him.

8. a. After words expressing transaction or dealing between persons (with the person as obj.).

Beowulf 155 Grendel . . sibbe ne wolde wið manna hwone mægenes Deniga. c893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* iii. v. Æfter þæm þe Perse frið genaman wið Romanum. a1300 *Cursor M.* 5848 (Gött.) Wid þe eldest folk of israel, Wid pharao þai went to dele. ? c1360 *Alexius* 123 (MS. Ashmol. 42) in *Horstm. Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 177 He . . chaungid . . his riche wede Wip a beggar. a1400-50- [see COVENANT sb. 1 γ]. c1450- [see TREATY sb. 2, 3]. 1481 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 72 Ye schall receyve . . a lytyll fardell of felles that ys alowyd for iij felles with the costomer. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* iii. i. 3 What's your will with me? 1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett., to A. Colwill* 19 Feb. (1671) 194, I will neither borrow nor lend with it [sc. this world]. 1659 in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* (1920) Apr. 254, I will keepe my dayes with you as long as I am able. 1661 in *Extr. St. Papers rel. Friends* Ser. II. (1911) 139 Such of his

Maiesties freindes as euer had occasion with me. 1780 *Mirror* No. 110 ¶1 To do justice to those with whom they have had dealings. 1838 THIRLWALL *Hist. Greece* xl. V. 115 To give audience to all who had business to transact with him. 1861 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 41 During Edward's wars our commerce with France was wholly broken off.

b. After words expressing conduct or feeling towards (a person, etc.).

In some cases now replaced by other prepositions, e.g. *envious of*. In expressions of hostile action or feeling, this coincides with 2.

c888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* vii. §3 Hwi murecnast ðu wið min? c1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* xii. 18 Hwi dydest ðu swa wið me? c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 27 3if þu ert swiðe for-gult wið pine eorðliche lauerd. a1200 *Moral Ode* 216 in *O.E. Hom.* I. 173 Ac helle king is are-les with þa þe he mei binden. a1250 *Owl & Night.* 62 Ich wot þat þu art unmilde Wip hom þat ne muze from þe schilde. c1300 *Havelok* 2705 Godrich, wat is þe þat þou fare þus with me? c1400 *Brut.* I. 18 Corneil his eldest douzter. . . was so annoyed wip him and wip his peple. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* x. xxvii. 457 Thenne was kyng Arthur wroth with kynges Marke. 1526 TINDALE *Matt.* xviii. 29 Have pacience with me, and I will paye the all. 1577- in love with [see LOVE sb. 1 7 d]. 1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* II. vi, I am come to haue you play the Alchymist with me. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* II. v. 162 Be opposite with a kinsman, surly with seruants. 1601 — *Jul. C.* III. i. 255 O pardon me. . . That I am meeke and gentle with these Butchers. 1636 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Catechism.* To. . . be in charity with all men. 1677 EARL ESSEX in *Essex Papers* (Camden) II. 108 Ye soldier being very rough with ye Corporall, and refusing to pay. 1709 ADDISON *Tatler* No. 108 ¶3 Out of Humour with [see HUMOUR sb. 8 a]. 1736- veyed with [see VEX v. 4 b]. 1889 J. K. JEROME *Three Men in Boat* 172, I . . lost my temper with him.

9. a. Expressing a general relation to a person or thing, usually as affected in some way by the action, etc. spoken of: In the matter of, in regard to, towards, to, at, upon, about, concerning; in regard to the condition or fortune of.

Sometimes approaching the instrumental use, 37; or (with personal obj.) 8 b.

c897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past.* C. xxix. 200 Dæm ðeowan is to cyðonne ðæt he wiete ðæt he nis freoh wið his hlaforð. c1205 LAY. 19057 þe king hire wende to . . & hæfde him to done wið leofuest wimmonne. c1300 *Havelok* 901 þan men hauden holpen him down With þe birpene of his crown. c1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 742 Y miȝt tymeþ to troifradles to toilen wip þe erpe. c1400 26 *Pol. Poems* iv. 8 How it is wip hym, y kan not say. 14. . . *Tundale's Vis.* 2366 (MS. A.) How þei schuld be with don as Godus wyll wold. 1502 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 164 There was a servant of yours. . . was myscheuously made away with. 1595 SHAKS. *John* v. vii. 111 Let vs pay the time but needfull woe, Since it hath bene before hand with our greefes. 1595- [see BEFOREHAND 1 c]. 1596- [see BEHIND adv. 5 b]. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* I. i. 33 Heauen doth with vs, as we, with Torches doe. 1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* I. iii, You shall deale much with mineralls. 1624 CAPT. J. SMITH *Virginia* I. 16 We tooke more Cord then we knew what to doe with. 1660 *SOUTH Serm., Matt.* xiii. 52 (1727) IV. 27 When the Rooters and Through-Reformers made clean Work with the Church. a1715 BURNET *Own Time* (1724) I. 557 He told me, it was not decent to be merry with such a matter. 1715- [see MATTER sb. 1 25 b]. 1753-4 RICHARDSON *Grandison* II. xv. 116 Things. . . that we have no business with. 1755 *Connoisseur* No. 100 ¶5 All these indignities I very patiently put up with. 1799 G. S. CAREY *Balnea* (ed. 2) 159 The walks . . have been taken a great deal of pains with. 1802 MARIA EDGEWORTH *Moral T., Prussian Vase* (1816) I. 211 What do you want with me? 1814 WORDSW. *Excurs.* vii. 194 The . . Master's hand Was busier with his task. 1816 LADY GRANVILLE *Lett.* (1894) I. 101 His manner is brusque and short, and I got on but little with him. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xxxviii, He knows how to manage with her. 1823 SCORESBY *Jrnl.* 391 This anxiety with myself. 1841 BROWNING *Pippa Passes* I. 228 God's in his heaven—All's right with the world! 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* viii, He surpassed Ptolemy with the astrolabe. 1873 H. E. ROSCOE in *Owens Coll. Ess. & Addr.* (1874) 56 Experiments on the properties of vanadium. . . made with much larger quantities than it fell to the lot of the Swedish chemist to work with. 1887 LEWIS CARROLL *Game of Logic* iv. 95 She is perhaps a little over-doing it, in the way of lessons, with her children. 1923 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 18 Jan. 34/3 Getting through with work as quickly as possible.

(b) 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* I. vi. ¶4 Get along with you, and go to bed. 1897 go along with you [see GO v. 73 a].

b. After an adv. or phr. with ellipsis of or equivalent to a verb, usually imperative: e.g. *away with it* = 'take it away', *down with it* = 'put or throw it down', etc.

c1377 in *Minor Poems Vernon MS.* 718/99, I ou Rede . . þat vch a Mon vp wip þe hede, And Mayntene him bope heize and lowe. c1388 in *Wycliff's Sel. Wks.* III. 472 His proude clerkis schal downe wip þer pride. 1477 SIR J. PASTON in *P. Lett.* III. 199 My charges be greater than I maye a weye with. 1528 *Impeachm. Wolsey* in *Furniv. Ballads from MSS.* I. 360 Down with thy tayle, and of with thy goldyn shone. 1535- [see DOWN adv. 25 b]. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* iv. ii. 239 Come, to the Forge with it. 1603 — *Meas. for M.* v. i. 121 To prison with her. *Ibid.* 313 To th' racke with him. 1708 [see IN adv. 1 c]. 1843 *Blackw. Mag.* LIV. 75 To the foul fiend with Rosley Castle!

† c. In case of, in the event of. *Obs. rare.*

1625 *PURCHAS Pilgrims* II. 1140 A good Hauen with all weathers. 1751 R. PALTOK *P. Wilkins* (1884) II. 209, I don't know what we should do with fires; we see the dread of them sufficiently.

d. In phr. with *reference*, *regard*, *respect* to: see REFERENCE sb. 3 b, REGARD sb. 13, RESPECT sb.

7. So † *with* (now in) *comparison* to.

1669 *Hist. Pope's Nepheus* (1673) I. 38 When once he had put on the habit of a Priest, he could hardly . . know himself with comparison to what he was before.

e. *what's with*—? what about, what are the circumstances of?; how are things with, what's the matter with? *colloq.* (orig. U.S.).

1940 J. O'HARA *Pal Joey* 125 What's with the free food? Explain. 1962 E. LININGTON *Extra Kill* viii. 122 He says... 'What's with Whalen?' When he hears Whalen's out, he gets mad. 1969 'V. PACKER' *Don't rely on Gemini* (1970) viii. 62 'What's with you and these long baths?' Archie asked. 1978 K. AMIS *Jake's Thing* xv. 158 What's with Jake is that he can't get it up any more, and what's with Brenda is she thinks it's her fault for having gotten middle-aged and fat.

10. In the opinion, view, or estimation of; 'in the sight of'.

a 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 507 Nu þu... hæfst þe wið drihten dyrne geworhtne. c 1000 *Ælfric Saints' Lives* xxvii. 171 Scyldig wið god. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 9521 He had an anlepe son, þat wit his fader was sa wele þat [he] wist his wisdom ilk dele. c 1430 *Life St. Kath.* (1884) 92 He was so gret wyth þe Emperour. 1474 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 149 Remembryng how gretly in consette ye stonde... with a gentylwoman. 1572 *Treat. of Treasons agst. Q. Eliz.* 61 b, To discredit those Noble persons with the people. 1598 HAKLUYT *Voy.* I. 56 To slay men, to invade the dominions of other people, and to rifle their goods... are with them no offences at all. 1608—go down with [see GO v. 80g]. 1611 *Bible* 1 Pet. ii. 20 This is acceptable with God. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* Table Gg 3/2 Cycala-Bassa... is out of credit with the Grand Signior. c 1646 *MILTON New Forcers Consc.* 10 Men whose Life, Learning, Faith and pure intent Would have been ield in high esteem with Paul. 1681 DRYDEN *Abs. & Achit.* I. 558 Every man with him was God or Devil. 1709 POPE *Ess. Crit.* 338 Most by Numbers judge a Poet's song; And smooth or rough, with them is right or wrong. 1823 BYRON *Juan* xlii. xxiv, Juan stood well both with Ins and Outs. 1841 BROWNING *Pippa Passes* ad. fin., All service is the same with God.

11. a. In the practice or experience of, in the life or conduct or, in (one's) case; sometimes *spec.* in the language or statement of, according to. (With pl. obj. = AMONG A. 6.)

a 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* v. 25 He is coral y-cud with caysar ant knyht. a 1352 MINOT *Poems* (ed. Hall) iii. 69 þan with þam was none oþer gle. 1478 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) II. 35 Schepe was neuer so der with vs. 1526 TINDALE *Matt.* xix. 26 With men this is vnpossyble, but with God all thinges are possyble. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* v. i. 32 It is an accustom'd action with her, to seeme thus washing her hands. 1615 T. MAXFIELD in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* (1906) III. 51 Julie the 16, wth y^e 26. 1676 DRYDEN *Aurengz.* III. i, 'Tis not with me as with a private Man. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. iv. §32. 516 This notion was so familiar with these Pagans. 1796-7 JANE AUSTEN *Pride & Prej.* xliii, 'And this is always the way with him', she added. 1841 FITZGERALD *Lett.* (1889) I. 77 These fits of exaltation are not very common with me. 1864 Mrs. H. WOOD *Trevlyn Hold* xli, 'Were the ricks insured?' 'No. There's the smart with Chattaway.' 1881 RUSSELL *Haigs* xiv. 426 With the rough-riding men on both sides of the frontier to meet was to fight. 1909 BYWATER *Aristotle on Art Poetry* 172 Πολιτικὴ is with him the practical wisdom of the statesman. 1910 BOLLAND *Eyre of Kent* (Selden Soc.) I. Introd. 95 These omissions would be impossible with a copyist who read over what he had copied.

b. After words expressing influence or the like: sometimes replaceable by *over* or *upon*.

1573-80 BARET *Alv.* P 666 With whom when she could nothing preuale. 1631 WEEVER *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 512 His all-potencie with the King. 1712 P. METCALFE *Life S. Winefride* (1917) 16 He had great Power and Authority with them. 1814 JANE AUSTEN *Mansf. Park* xlii, She has no influence with... my sisters that could be of any use. 1865 RUSKIN *Sesame* i. §4 Most honest men... would... acknowledge its leading power with them as a motive.

** Senses relating to agreement (or disagreement) in some respect.

Senses 16 and 18 are closely allied to those under ***, involving the idea of proximity or accompaniment in space or time.

12. Following words expressing comparison, likeness, equality, or identity.

In some cases varying with or now replaced by *to*, e.g. after *compare*, *comparison*, *equal*, *resemblance*; after *same*, as is more usual; but *with* is still regular after some derived sbs., as *equality*, *sameness*, and also after *even* adj., *identical*, *identity*, *level* adj., *one* adj., *rank* vb., etc. See the various words.

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xvi. §2 Hu micle mare is ðonne þæs monnes lichoma to metene wið þæt mod þonne seo mus wið ðone mon. c 1200 ORMIN 3090 þatt wiss inoh all an wipp þatt þatt Godess engnell se33de. *Ibid.* 7931 þe33re sang iss lic wipp wop. 1387 TREVISIA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 259 Of þe same age wip þe kyngdom of Assiries. c 1450 *Merlin* xx. 317 Thei ben so fewe that they may not compare with hem. 1513 MORE *Rich. III.* Wks. 47/1 Waye [= weigh] the good that they dooe, with the hurte that commeth of them. 1526 TINDALE *Phil.* ii. 6 Which beyng in the shape off god, and thought it not robbery to be equal with god. 1677—[see IDENTICAL 2]. 1710 HEARNE *Collect.* 24 Feb. (O.H.S.) II. 348 A sniveling Gentleman of not half the sense with the late poor spirited Dick Cromwell. 1836 MACAULAY *Life & Lett.* (1883) I. 456 His style affects me in something the same way with that of Gibbon. 1879 WHITNEY *Sanskrit Gram.* 337 Some of the apparent roots... with sibilant final are akin with the desideratives. 1885 *Act 48 & 49 Vict.* c. 58 §1 This Act shall be read as one with the Telegraph Acts, 1863 to 1878.

13. a. Following words expressing agreement, conformity, sympathy, and the like.

c 893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* iv. viii, For þon hie on symbol wið Romanum sibbe heoldon. a 1000 *Guthlac* 382 þæt frid wið hy gefreopad wære. 1123 O.E. *Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1120 Se arcþ[iscop] Turstein... wearð purh þone papan wið þone cyng acordad. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 105 Hie ben penne sahtnade wið þe heuenliche fader. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 6 At his commandement, With whom myn herte is of accord. 1398 TREVISIA *Barth. De P.R.* xvi. xlii. (1495) Lij/2 Yren hath agreement with the stone Adamas. c 1430 *Hymns Virgin* (1867) 13 God wip þan is maade at oone. 1535 JOYE *Apol.* (Tindale) (Arb.) 11 Henrichus Bullynger... consenteth with me in the significacion of this worde. 1605 B. JONSON *Volpone* III. iv, There was but one sole man... With whom I ere could sympathise. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* III. iii. 31 Hap'ly

this life is best... Well corresponding With your stiffe Age. 1642—fall in with [see FALL v. 91 b-c]. 1662—[see SYMPATHY 3 b]. 1761 MRS. F. SHERIDAN *Sidney Bidulph* II. 310 How ill does the vanity of pomp suit with a house of mourning! 1796 *Ann. Reg., Hist.* 115 Spain was... on friendly terms with France. 1821 SHELLEY *Hellas* 537 The tiger leagues not with the stag at bay Against the hunter. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* i. I. 107 He declared his determination to govern in harmony with the Commons. 1913 W. M. RAMSAY *Teaching of Paul* 158 His heart became... more... sympathetic with their trials.

b. By extension, after words expressing disagreement.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* I. viii. 30 It containeth impossibilities and things inconsistent with truth. 1735-8 BOLINGBROKE *On Parties* 81 They [sc. the Tories] had only differ'd with the Whigs about the Degree of Oppression. 1791-1823 D'ISRAELI *Cur. Lit.* (1866) 208 Every edition varies with the preceding ones. 1868 GLADSTONE *Juv. Mundi* i. (1870) 16 Testimony... in no case discordant with that of the Iliad.

14. a. On the side or party of; in favour of; on behalf of; 'for': opp. to AGAINST 12. (See also 22 c.)

c 1200 ORMIN 4675 Swa forrwerresst tu þin Godd, & haldest wipp þatt ahte. c 1300 *Havelok* 2308 He swore, þat he sholde with him halde Boþe ageynes stille and bolde. 1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* xii. 30 He that is nat with me, is azeinus me. c 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 1058 Vertu was full heuy, when he sy Frewelly Take part with Vyce. 1478 *Acta Audit.* (1830) 66/2 Ilk baroun and freeholdare þat... geve voce with þe said dome. c 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* ix. 238 Nevertheless he came, and helde syde wyth his broder. 1509 FISHER *Serm.* Wks. (1876) 277 What sentence he shal gyue wheder with me or ayenst me. 1534 *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden Soc.) II. 317 They were at issue and by a substancyall Jury... Founde with the seid mulsho. 1582 N.T. (Rhem.) Acts xiv. 4 Certaine of them... were with the Jewes, but certaine with the Apostles. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* xxix. vi. 713 The cite of Locri... had sided also with the Carthaginians. 1633 EARL MANCH. *Al Mondo* (1636) 171 When a man comes to be judged; his life... shal give the evidence with, or against him. 1653 CROMWELL *Act* 4 July in *Carlyle*, He hath appeared with them. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* xii. 827 Jove is with us. 1709 STRYPE *Ann. Ref.* I. xlix. 492 There being with the bill 60, against it 75. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* xv, The soldiers rather laughed at this blade than with him. 1845 BROWNING *Lost Leader* 14 Shakespeare was of us, Milton was for us, Burns, Shelley, were with us. 1886 *Manch. Exam.* 9 Jan. 5/3 M. Granet, Minister of Posts and Telegraphs, has usually voted with M. Clemenceau.

b. In reference to wind, tide, etc.: Favourable to, in a favourable direction for.

1647 SANDERSON *Serm.* (1674) II. 218 As a Boat that (having wind and tide with it) runneth glib and merrily down the stream. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 378 They had... the Flood-Tide with them.

15. a. In the same way as; as — does or did, is or was, etc.; like. (Cf. 17.)

c 1340 *Medit.* in *Hampole's Wks.* (1895) I. 94 So þat þoru þi merci and grace we mounn repente of oure... mys-deidis with seint Petir. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. viii. 71 He is fals with þe Fend. c 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (prose) 11 Of mekenes spekis sain benet... & sais with hali scripture: 'Omni qui se exaltat &c.' 1433 LYDG. *S. Edmund & Fremund* 1034-6 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 395 He... Hadde with Nestor manly auyssnesse;... With Tideus he hadde eek hardynesse. 1589 NASHE *Returme Pasquill* Wks. (Grosart) I. 121 A crooked generation, that loues to swym side-long with the Crabbe. 1600 — *Summer's Last Will* Prol. 73 Euery man cannot, with Archimedes, make a heauen of brasse. 1634 RAINBOW *Labour* (1635) 35 With stomackefull children we bawle for Rattles. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 227 ¶5, I must cry out with Dido. 'Ahl! cruel Heaven, that made no Cure for Love!' 1809 BYRON *Bards & Rev.* 102 Better to err with Pope, than shine with Pye. 1861 PALEY *Æschylus* (ed. 2) 7 agst. *Thebes* 759 note, Hermann gives ἀλκὰν with one of the most recent MSS. 1905 CHESTERTON *Heretics* 37 Whether we should love everybody with Tolstoy, or spare nobody with Nietzsche.

b. Followed by *the* and a superlative used *absol.*: As well or thoroughly as; (as) one of, 'among', 'of': forming adverbial (or †predicative) phrases denoting 'to the full or fullest extent', '(nearly) as — as any or as possible', 'very —', 'highly —': e.g. *with the best* = among the best, as well as any, very well; *with the first*, as one of the first, very early, chiefly, especially (see FIRST 6 c); *with the least* = at the lowest estimate; *†with the most inclined* = highly inclined. *Obs.* or *arch.*

a 1300 K. Horn 1119 (Harl.) þou shen[c]h vs wip þe vurste. 13... *Seuyn Sag.* (W.) 1656 The king... kep the leuedi with the best. 1445 in *Anglia* XXVIII. 281 Why is not he redde with the worstest? 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* x. lxxviii. 531 Soo that nyghte they were lodged with the best. 1477 *Paston Lett.* III. 183, I wold have hym [sc. a horse] sumwhat large, not with the largest. a 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* clxii. 634 Thyne armure is good and thy sworde is with the best. 1553 GRIMALDE *Cicero's Offices* I. (1556) 41 b, If ther be anie somewhat with the moste inclined to pleasures. 1573-80 TUSSEY *Husb.* (1878) 51 Who pescods delighteth to haue with the furs, If now he do sowe them, I think it not wurst. 1577 GOOGE tr. *Heresbach's Husb.* 45 Not to mowe your Grasse with the latest, but before the seede be ripe. a 1592 GREENE *Jas. IV.* I. ii, A young stripling... that can sleep with the soundest, eate with the hungriest. 1629 GAULE *Pract. Theories* 376 Of all the difficulties of Truth and Faith, the Article of Christs Resurrection is with the formost. 1671 H. M. tr. *Erasm. Colloq.* 494 There was no year, wherein he did not gain a thousand Duckats, to speak with the least. 1826 *Priestley's Rudim.* 55 The preposition *with* is... sometimes used in conversation, to express a degree... something less than the greatest; as 'They are with the widest.' 1859 TENNYSON *Grandm.* 20 At your age, Annie, I could have wept with the best.

16. Expressing simultaneous occurrence and association (cf. 25), often also implying causal connexion (cf. 39). a. At the same time as; at the time or instant of; on the occurrence of (often with implication 'and because of'); at, on, upon.

(a) Followed by a sb. (often qualified).

Before *occasion*, *opportunity*, now replaced by *on* or (less usually) *at*.

13... *Cursor M.* 10462 (Gött.) Vtayne wid þis word gan tene. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 145 The payment cessis with the impossibilitie of the service. 1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 900. 1655 *Theophania* 89 With a resolution to hire a ship... and with the first occasion to follow her into Sicily. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* iv. 273 Nor ends their Work, but with declining Day. 1719 PHILLIPS tr. *Thirty-four Conferences* 338 He hath promised to send you a Copy with the first Opportunity. 1748 THOMSON *Cast. Indol.* II. x, Sometimes with early morn, he mounted gay The hunter-steed. 1822 T. L. PEACOCK *Maid Marian* x, John... was determining to take possession with the first light of morning. 1870 LOWELL *Study Wind.* (1871) 157 Browning... draws nearer to the all-for-point fashion of the *concettisti*, with every poem he writes. 1926 *Times* 15 Mar., With his death, his younger brother... becomes heir to the barony.

(b) Followed by a demonstrative pron.: *with that* (†*than*), when (and, often, because) that occurred, thereupon; †at that instant, just then (*obs.*); saying or having just said that; *with this*, hereupon. Cf. HERewith 2, THEREwith 2 c, WHEREwith 4 b.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1409 Laban and his moder wið-ðan Faẓneden wel ðis sondere man. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1203 Wit þis [*Trin.* Here afir] was born an hali child, Seth þat meke was and mild. *Ibid.* 3368 And þof sco scamful was, i-wiss, Sco tint na contenance wit þis. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* xv. 168 Syne... [The] myddis of the tounne he tais, With that neir command war his fais. c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* I. v. 203 A child... said, he saw a dere. Wip þat þe takill wp he drew. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* xvi. xvi. 687 With that Bors lyfte vp his hand & wold haue smyten his broder. 1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 25. 1603 in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* (1906) II. 218 And with this I byd you most hartely fare-well. 1681 DRYDEN *Abs. & Achit.* I. 717 'Take then my tears' (with that he wiped his Eyes). 1779 *Mirror* No. 35 ¶11 'Who shall decide when doctors disagree?' And, with that, he made one of the finest bows in the world. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* II. 290 'Our mother, is she well?' With that she kiss'd His forehead.

b. Followed by a sb. or pron., forming a phrase equivalent to a clause with *when*, in which the sb. or pron. is the subj. (or obj.), and the vb. is identical with that in the principal clause; e.g. *our hopes died with him*, i.e. when (and because) he died; *to rise with the lark*, i.e. when the lark rises (= early in the morning): see LARK sb.¹ 1 b.

†Formerly also with vbs. of durative meaning: = contemporaneously with.

1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 497 But many abusjons comme from Boemia into Englonde with this gwene. 1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 1019 He being dead, with him is beaute slaine. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* III. v. §8. 57 Where the Persians, so many of them as lost not their wits with their courage [etc.]. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* iv. 673 His Griefs with Day begun. 1742 MIDDLETON *Cicero* (ed. 3) II. vi. 31 Lentulus and Metellus, whose consulship expired with the year. 1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* 10 Apr. an. 1775, What was said by Johnson, or other eminent persons who lived with him. 1812 CRABBE *Tales* xi. 376 With virtue, prudence fled. 1891 FARRAR *Darke. & Dawn* xliii, I hear rumours that another large vessel... foundered at sea. I expect that some of the accusers of Paulus perished with her.

c. In the course or duration of, in process of, 'in' (time, etc.); often with admixture of the instrumental sense: By, or in consequence of, the passage or lapse of (cf. 37, 39).

c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 329 With a few yeris þai war passand riche men. 1560 WHITEHORNE tr. *Macchiavelli's Arte of Warre* 87 All other thyng... maie with tyme be ouercome, this onely with tyme ouercometh thee. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* iv. i. 164 Come with a thought. 1611 FENTON *Usurie* II. xiii. 95 Mans labours and skill wil faile with yeeres. 1627 W. D. tr. *Andiguer's Lisander* 15 To render you more signal offices, which, with time, I hope to performe. 1784 in B. Ward *Dawn Cath. Revival* (1909) I. iv. 81 [Prejudices] will die away with time. 1855 TENNYSON *Will* li, Bettering not with time. 1875 M. ARNOLD *God & Bible* p. xxviii, Christianity's admixture of popular legend and illusion was sure to be cleared away with time. 1884 W. C. SMITH *Kildrostan* 74 Unripe fruit... mellowes with the months.

d. After words denoting change or variation: At the same rate as; at a rate, or in a manner, corresponding to that of; in proportion to, according to.

1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 322 His stout Stomach with his Food will grow. 1701 SWIFT *Contests Nobles & Comm.* iii, Their Insolence and Power encreased with their Number. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* I. v, His Spirits rose and fell with the Weather-glass. 1838 DE MORGAN *Ess. Probab.* 140 The probability of an error diminishes with its magnitude. 1839-47 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* III. 516/2 The diameter of the capillaries of muscle varies... with the size of the blood-particles of the animal. 1857 BUCKLE *Civiliz.* I. ii. 58 The rate of wages fluctuates with the population. 1910 H. A. DALLAS *Mors Janua Vitæ?* 17 Her conviction as to the importance of the script naturally increased with the evidence for its veridical character.

17. Expressing agreement or accordance, esp. in opinion or statement. *to be with*, to be of the same opinion as, to agree with. (See also 15.)

1456 SIR G. HAYE *Gov. Princis* (S.T.S.) 99 Thai speke quihulm with the and othir quihilis aganis the. 1565 ALLEN *Def. Purg.* xi. 104, I am not afrade to vse the word Satisfaction, with Cyprian, Origen, Ambrose, Augustin.

1611 *Tourneur Ath. Trag.* iv. iv. 14b, *Enter the Watch. Belfo.* The Watch? Met with my wish. **1625**—run with [see *RUN* v. 71 b]. **1648** *HEXHAM, Ick ben Met u.* I am With you, or, I am of your opinion. **1796** in B. Edwards *Maroon Negroes* 20, I am perfectly with you, that the pin ought not to receive another screw. **1883** *STEVENSON Treas. Isl.* xxix, Ah, it's a fine dance—I'm with you there. **1886** W. S. BLUNT *Diary* 22 Apr. in *Land War Irel.* (1912) ii. 79 Morris is with me about Ireland. **1916** J. R. MOZLEY *Div. Aspect Hist.* I. ix. 235 It was heart beating with heart.

18. In the same direction as; along the course of: opp. to **AGAINST** 9; esp. in such phrases as *with the grain, with the hair, with the stream, with the tide, with the wind*.

c **1489**—[see *STREAM* sb. 2 f]. **1577**—[see *WIND* sb. 1 30]. **1597** *BACON Coulers Good & Euill Ess.* (Arb.) 154 If it be with the streame or with the hill. **1651** H. MORE *Enthus. Tri.* (1712) 37 With thankfulness and reverence he doth receive whatever Divine Providence brings upon him, be it sweet or sour, with the hair, or against it. **1678** *MOXON Mech. Exerc.* iv. 66 As well upon the Traverse... as with the Grain of the wood. **1688** [see *METAL* sb. 7]. c **1710** CELIA FIENNES *Diary* (1888) 75 The Gardens runs down a great way, you descend with them by several steps. **1712** with the tide [see *SWIM* v. 1 c]. a **1774** *GOLDSM. Surv. Exp. Philos.* (1776) II. 386 A field of corn, viewed with the wind, is of a different shade from the same field viewed against the wind. **1786**, **1816** [see *STROKE* v. 1 d]. **1810** CRABBE *Borough* xviii. 183 The black footway winding with the wall. **1840** with the tide [see *DROP* v. 8]. **1867** *SMYTH Sailor's Word-bk.*, With the sun, ropes coiled from the left hand towards the right; but where the sun passes the meridian north of the observer, it is of course the reverse. **1891** with the tide [see *GO* v. 87 f].

*** Senses expressing accompaniment or addition.

19. a. Following words expressing such meanings as are indicated above, as *accompany* (see note s.v.), *ally*, *alternate*, *associate*, *blend*, *combine*, *confront*, *connect*, *couple*, *entangle*, *incorporate*, *join*, *link*, *marry*, *mix*, *partake*, *share*, *unite*, *wed* (etc.) vbs. (and derived sbs., as *association*, *connexion*, etc.); *communion*, *company*, *contact*, *intercourse* (etc.) sbs.; *together* adv.: see the various words. See also **ALONG** adv. 3.

Beowulf 1088 þæt hie healfre geweald wið Eotena bearn aȝan moston. c **888** ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxvi. §8 Se yffa willa næfð nænne geferscipe wið þa gesælða. a **900** *CYNEWULF Elene* 307 Swa ge modblinde mangan ungunnon lige wið soðe. a **1240** *Ureitsun in O.E. Hom.* I. 201 Hwoa so euer wule habben lot wið þe of pine blisse, he mot delen wið þe of pine pine on eorðe. **13**.. *Cursor M.* 18019 (Gött.) Aisel haue i blend wid gall. c **1400** *Lanfranc's Chirurg.* 201 þei ben maad fast wip þe botme of þe stomac. **1557** *Dunfermline Reg.* (Bann. Club) 400 To pay... Twelf caponis to giddir wutht hariage careage and due serwice. **1665** *WALTON Hooker* *Introd.*, About forty years past... I began a happy affinity with William Cranmer. **1671** *MILTON P.R.* iv. 412 Fierce rain with lightning mixt, water with fire In ruine reconcil'd. **1759** *GOLDSM. Bee* No. 4 ¶6, I was once determined to throw off all connexions with taste. **1785** *REID Intell. Powers* II. xiv. 214 A kind of feeling, or immediate perception of things present, and in contact with the percipient. **1836** *THIRLWALL Greece* xvi. (1838) II. 345 The Lacedæmonians, whose force, together with the Tegeans and forty thousand light troops, amounted to upwards of fifty thousand men. **1889** *SWINBURNE Study B. Jonson* 87 The collocation of such names... as those of Eglamour and Earine with such others as March and Maudlin.

b. Following words expressing acquaintance or familiarity. (After *accustomed*, *known*, now replaced by *to*.)

c **1220** *Bestiary* 113 His muð is ȝet wel unkuð wið pater noster and crede. a **1225** *Juliana* 14 Ne ich neuer þat ich wite nes wið him icnawen. **1338** R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 225 þan went pis Ottobone porghout þe cuntre, & quaynted him with ilkone. c **1369** *CHAUER Dethe of Blanche* 532, I... gan me aqueynt With hym. c **1386** — *Prol.* 216 Familier was he With frankleyns ouer all in his contree. **1535** *COVERDALE Eccles.* xxiii. 9 Let not thy mouth be accustomed with swearing. **1611** *Bible* Isa. liii. 3 He is... a man of sorrows, and acquainted with griefe. **1719** in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. 1. 197 They could not... undergoe the fatigue that the natives were accustomed with. **1880** L. STEPHEN *Pope* iii. 61 Pope was not disinclined to pride himself upon his familiarity with the great.

c. By extension, following words expressing separation: e.g. *to break with* = to break off connexion with (*BREAK* v. 34); *to part with* = to cease to be with or to have with one (*PART* v. 6 c). (After *take leave* now replaced by *of*.)

a **1300** *Cursor M.* 17022 Kynd na saul suffers ar to part wit man o-liue. c **1485** *Digby Myst.* (1883) III. 102 O ye good fathyr of grete degre, thus to departe with your ryches. **1486** *Bk. St. Albans* E ij b, In iij. degrees he hem berith or he with hem twyn. **1607** *SHAKS. Cor.* iv. vi. 48 It cannot be The Volces dare breake with vs. a **1629** *HINDE f. Bruen* lxvii. (1641) 224 My wife... and my selfe, came to take leave with him. **1808** *SOUTHEY Lett.* (1856) II. 110 For more than a year, Scott has cut with the Edinburgh Review. **1885** *Manch. Exam.* 28 Mar. 5/5 The imminence of a rupture with Russia.

20. Expressing association or participation in some act, proceeding, or experience; *spec.* = acting on the same side as (another lawyer) in an action at law.

c **1290**—[see *SIN* v. 1 c]. a **1300**—[see *PLAY* v. 10]. c **1440** *Jacob's Well* 201 ȝif þou be partenere in dede of thefte... of of ony oþer wronges, þat is for to seyne, in folowynge wyth suche doers. **1526** *TINDALE Rom.* xii. 15 Be mery with them that are mery. wepe with them that wepe. **1533** [see *ADULTERY* 1]. **1596** *SHAKS. Merch.* V. i. iii. 36, I will buy with you, sell with you, talke with you, walke with you, and so following; but I will not eate with you, drinke with you, nor

pray with you. **1711** *STEELE Spect.* No. 53 ¶7, I will... for the future be merry with the Vulgar. **1816** *SCOTT Old Mort.* xxxviii, My lot is cast with Evandale, and with him I am resolved to bear it. **1837** *DICKENS Pickw.* xxxiv, 'I am for the plaintiff, my Lord,' said Mr. Serjeant Buzfuz. 'Who is with you, brother Buzfuz?' said the judge. **1848** — *Dombe* xxxviii, Rob... ran sniggering off to get change, and tossed it away with a pieman. **1883** *Manchester Exam.* 7 Nov. 5/2 A new weekly mail service with Australia.

21. a. (with such vbs. as *bring*, *take*, *come*, *go*) Followed by a sb. or (most commonly) pron. denoting the person (vessel, etc.) that leads, conveys, or carries a person or thing, thus having it in charge (cf. 23, of which this use is the converse).

Also *fig.* after *take*: see *TAKE* v. 59 b, c. c **1290** *St. Matthew* 9 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 77 He bi-lefde þo is weork, and wiz ore louerd eode. c **1290** *Behet* 1213 *ibid.* 141 With him a-morewe he nam his oste. a **1300** *Cursor M.* 5297 To mi laurd yee com wit me, I sal yow do a-quentid be. **1432**—50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) I. 133 [Nilus] makethe the londe plentuous thro slycche that hit drawethe with hit. c **1475** *Rauf Coilgear* 6 Thay past vnto Paris... With mony Prelatis and Princis. **1591** *SHAKS. Two Gent.* iv. i. 74 Come, goe with vs, we'll bring thee to our Crewes. a **1596** *Sir T. More* I. ii. 28 Ten poundes... To carie in your purse about with ye. **1697** *DRYDEN Virg. Georg.* III. 534 The Shepherd last appears, And with him all his Patrimony bears. **1776** *Trial of Nundocomar* 68/1 My uncle used frequently to go to Maha Rajah's: when I was little I used to go with him. **1812** *JEFFERSON Writ.* (1830) IV. 178 The truth is that we brought with us the rights of men. **1869** *FREEMAN Norm. Cong.* III. xi. 61 They took with them no force capable of controlling... the country.

b. In the possession, keeping, care, or charge of (a person); in the hands of. (*lit.* and *fig.*)

a **1300** *Cursor M.* 4403 His mantel es bi-left wit me. **1340**—70 *Alex. & Dind.* 32 When no wordliche wele is wip us founde. **1528** in *Pocock Rec. Ref.* (1870) I. 81 Leaving with the master of the Rolls such things as might... instruct him. **1649** *BP. HALL Cases Consc.* III. ix. 341 That... commissary authority, which is by Christ entrusted with them. c **1710** W. HAMILTON *Descr. Lanark & Renfrew* (Maitl. Club 1831) 64 Douglass parish... continued with the Earles of Douglass until their fatal forfeiture. **1776** *Trial of Nundocomar* 68/1 You have for a long time had my money; it shall remain no longer with you. **1825** *JEFFERSON Autobiog.* Wks. 1859 I. 6 The committee... left it in charge with their chairman to forward them by express. **1828** *WHATELY Rhet.* (1850) I. iii. §2 The 'burden of proof' lies with the accusers. **1896** *CONAN DOYLE Expl. Gerard* III. 121 The deal lay with him. **1911** *Act 1 & 2 Geo. V* c. 46 §17 The ownership of an author's manuscript after his death... shall be primâ facie proof of the copyright being with the owner of the manuscript.

c. In the nature or character of; as a quality or attribute of. Now chiefly after *way*: see *WAY* sb. 1 22 d. (The converse of 31.)

14.. *Tundale's Vis.* 31 With hym was no charyte. **1553** *Douglas' Aeneis* IX. *Prol. marg.*, Vertue... has euer this rewill with hyr: do as thou wald be done to. **1650** *TRAPP Comm. Gen.* xxv. 30 This hunter hath no ho with him. **1678** *DRYDEN Kind Keeper* I. i, She has a notable Smack with her! **1711** R. MARTIN in E. H. Burton *Life Bp. Challoner* (1909) I. iii. 33 He had such an honest way with him. **1848** *NEWMAN Loss & Gain* II. xx. (1904) 254 What a way those fellows have with them!

22. a. In the company, society, or presence of. *face to face with*: see *FACE* sb. 2 d. *with God*, in heaven: see *GOD* 5 c. *with oneself* (*dial.*): by oneself. *with us*, *them*, alive, still living.

a **1300** K. Horn 363 (Camb.) He schal wip me bileue Til hit beo nir eue. a **1300** *Cursor M.* 5706 þat fot moyses ful skete, And wit þe preist raguel he ete. **13**.. *Gosp. Nicod.* (S.) 1579 Withe me þis ilk day be pou sall, With me in heuenryke. **1377** *LANGL. P. Pl. B.* v. 234 Ones I was herberwed... with an hep of chapmen. a **1400**—50 *Wars Alex.* 1613 þan Wer þair common whit hym kyngce. c **1450** *Mirk's Festial* 61 The sate scho done all othyr wyth. **1526** *TINDALE John* xii. 8 The poore all wayes shall ye have with you, butt me shall ye nott all wayes have. **1553** *Dioc. Reg. Glasgow* (1875) I. 209 The said contrak... subserivit wyth Schir Jhone Alaine, notair publik. **1611** *BIBLE Acts* ix. 39 All the widows stood by him weeping, and shewing the coats and garments which Dorcas made, while shee was with them. **1709** *STEELE Tatler* No. 26 ¶11 This Gentleman who has arrived with you is a fool of his own making. **1791** *BOSWELL Johnson* June 1763 (1904) I. 267, I begged I might be allowed to pass an evening with him there soon. a **1814** *Sailors' Ret.* I. i. in *New Brit. Theatre* II. 313 This whipper-snapper of mine... sets off with himself, and no one knows where. **1820** *KEATS St. Agnes* xvi, Alone with her good angels, far apart From wicked men like thee. **1857** M. ARNOLD *Rugby Chapel* 25, I... think Of bygone autumns with thee. **1891** *FARRAR Darkn. & Dawn* lviii, He found Nero sitting with Poppæa and Tigellinus. **1914** 'IAN HAY' *Knt. on Wheels* xvii, I don't go very often... Perhaps it is because I have no one to go with. **1961** E. WILLIAMS *George* xxiii. 391 That Mr Bellis, he's gone dead, not that he had that much life in him when he was with us, poor fellow. **1966** *Listener* 3 Feb. 166/2 The English church at Shiraz... was built entirely thanks to the enthusiasm of the then incumbent, who was a very learned man (is indeed still with us).

b. spec. At the house of, or in the same house or meeting-place as; in the household, retinue, or service of, attending upon; on a visit to, being the guest of (hence *be with* sometimes = 'visit', 'call upon').

c **1250** *Gen. & Ex.* 466 Sella wunef oc lamech wið. c **1275** *LAY.* 6 He wonede at Erniele wid þan gode cnipte. c **1386** *CHAUER Prol.* 65 This ilke worthy knyght hadde been also Somytyme with the lord of Palatye Agayn another hethen in Turkeye. a **1400** in Halliwell *Early Hist. Freemasonry* (1840) 20 He most love... his mayster also, that he ys wyth. c **1440** *Alphabet of Tales* 171 When sho had ligen þus many day sho dyed, & no body with hur. c **1440** *Jacob's Well* 286 þei... weryn harberwyd wyth a ryȝt good man. c **1465** *Stonor*

Papers (Camden) I. 71 Squier for þe body with Kyng H. **1482** *Cely Papers* (Camden) 121, I thank yow of the grette cher that ye dydde me at my laste beyng wytt the yow. **1551** *ROBINSON tr. More's Utopia* II. viii. (1895) 253 For them, whomewyth they be in wayges, they fyghte hardelye. **1583** in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ. V.* 38 Somytyme Apprentic with oon Mr Bannester of Preston. **1651** *CROMWELL Lett.* 12 Apr. in *Carlyle*, If Dick Cromwell and his Wife be with you, my dear love to them. **1711**—12 *SWIFT Jrnal. to Stella* 22 Jan., He was glad to find I was not with James Broad. **1715** *C'TESS COWPER Diary* (1864) 44 This Day Madame Selnave was with me to thank me for her Affair being ended. a **1752** in *Jrnal. Friends' Hist. Soc.* (1918) 21 Went... to Yealand Scool... to learn Wrighting and Arithmatick with Michael Jenkinson. **1803** T. JEFFERSON *Let. Writ.* 1854 IV. 470 He will be with you in Philadelpia in two or three weeks. **1878** *HARDY Ret. Native* v. vi, Have you heard that Eustacia is not with me now?

c. fig. in reference to an abstract thing: *to be with*, to accompany, 'attend'. Also in reference to God, combining the ideas of presence or companionship and favour, assistance, or the like (cf. 14).

Cf. *God be with you*, *GOOD-BYE*.

13.. *Gosp. Nicod.* (G.) 1020 Goddes bliscing be all his puple with. **1382** *Wyclif Judges* vi. 12 The Lord with thee, moost stroong of men. c **1400** MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) III. 10 Godd be with þe, for Godd es with vs. **1526** *TINDALE Eph.* vi. 24 Grace be with all them which love oure lorde Jesus Christ. **1634** *SIR T. HERBERT Trav.* 7 This calme and immoderate heate continued with vs seuen dayes. **1788** *BURNS 'Of a' the Airts'* i, Day and night my fancy's flight Is ever wi' my Jean. **1825** *BROCKETT N.C. Gloss.* s.v. *Wud*, 'God be wud her'—God rest her soul. **1896** *HOUSMAN Shroph. Lad* xxxvii, Luck, my lads, be with you still. **1897** *KIPLING Recess.* i, Lord God of Hosts, be with us yet.

d. The phrase *to be with*, used in menace, etc. = to be avenged on, chastise, be even with (cf. 12), perh. belongs here (cf. *VISIT* v. 3), but has affinities with other senses.

1590 *SHAKS. Mids.* N. III. ii. 403, I will be with thee straight. **1592** — *Rom. & Jul.* II. iv. 78 Was I with you there for the Goose? **1596** — *Tam. Shr.* iv. i. 170 What, do you grumble? Ile be with you straight. **1825** *JAMIESON s.v. With*, 'I'll be wi' him for that yet', Roxb.

e. to be with (a person), to follow his line of reasoning, to keep up with and understand his explanation, instructions, etc. *colloq.*

1900 F. P. DUNNE *Mr. Dooley's Philos.* 248 We keep our thoughts fixed upon th' inanity iv th' finite in comparison with th' onthinkable truth with th' ondivided an' onimaginable reality. Boys ar-re ye with me? **1933** *Punch* 8 Feb. 150/3 'Does it look to you as if the Boss keeps his skeletons in any ice-boxes around here?' 'Huh?' she said, not quite with me yet. **1955** N. FITZGERALD *House is Falling* xi. 190 'I'm with you so far,' said Hugh who for the first time was really giving his mind to the problem. **1977** T. HEALD *Just Desserts* viii. 188 'She will have to be taken in hand. Which... has been the point of the exercise all along.' 'I'm not with you.'

f. to be with it, to be within a particular fashionable or exclusive group or set, to be up-to-date or *au fait* with the latest news, ideas, etc.; to be mentally alert. Also *to get with it*, to become informed or up-to-date, etc. *slang* (orig. U.S.). Cf. **WITH-IT** a.

1931 *Amer. Mercury* Nov. 353/2 *Not with it*, said of an outsider. 'He's not with it.' **1959** R. CONDON *Manchurian Cand.* (1960) vii. 108 They are with it, Raymond. Believe me, they are even away ahead of me. **1960** *Guardian* 9 Dec. 13 The new *Time and Tide*, to borrow the language of the teen-ager, is 'with it'. **1961** J. O'HARA in *Assembly* 159 Bud come to see you, especially when you had a chance of winning? Get with it, boy. **1971** *Daily Mail* 6 May 24/4 Horne made a strong attempt to get with it. Result: the stronger emphasis on fashionwear. **1976** *Jrnal. R. Soc. Arts* CXXV. 17/1 The need to be in fashion—in the swim—up to date—'with it'—might not have been the least of our driving forces for general progress. **1981** M. DOODY in Martin & Mullen *No Alternative* iv. 37 What is 'with it' for one or two generations can seem palpable folly a hundred years later. **1985** W. J. BURLEY *Wycliffe & Four Jacks* vii. 149 There's an old man, living in a home... He's quite with it—I mean he's mentally alert.

23. a. Having in one's hold, keeping, or charge; having within its compass, limits, area, etc.; leading, bringing, conveying, carrying, wearing, containing, etc.

with bag and baggage: see *BAG* sb. 20. (*found* or *taken*) *with the mainour* (*manner*): see *MAINOUR* 1.

c **1300** *Havelok* 52 þanne micthe chapmen fare þuruth englond wit here ware. a **1400** *Pist. Susan* 5 His Innes and his orchardus were with a dep dich. c **1400** *Ywayne & Gaw.* 759 A pot with riche wine. c **1400** *Destr. Troy* 5564 Palomydon... presit into haunyn... With xxxi^{ti} shippes full shene, shot full of pepull. c **1430** *Chev. Assigne* 23 A pore woman... Withe two chylderen her by-fore. **1488** *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 80 A poik of canwes with demyis contened aucht hundreth ane les. **1523** *LD. BERNERS Froiss.* I. ccxxvi. 123 b/1 The erle... toke hym a flagon with wyne, wherof he had drone. **1539** *Bible* (Great) 2 Sam. xviii. 27 He is a good man, and commeth with good tydings. **1596** *SHAKS. Merch.* V. II. ii. (*stage direction*) Enter old Gobbo with a Basket. **1722** *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6054/2 A tall... Man... with Ruffles and a light bag Wig. **1849** *MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* v. I. 609 He ordered Grey to lead the way with the cavalry. **1888** *BARRIE Auld Licht Idylls* iv. 105 The crowd... was back in a moment with a handful of small change.

b. In phr. *with child*, *with young*, etc., said of a pregnant woman or animal (also in *fig. phr.* from these).

See *CHILD* sb. 17, *EGG* sb. 4, *FOAL* sb. 1 b, *WHELP* sb. 1 b, *YOUNG* B. 2 c; also *BIG* a. 4, 5, *GREAT* a. 3, *PREGNANT* a.² 1, 2 b, 4, 5 (where the sense approaches 39); *BEGET* v. 2 c, *CONCEIVE* v. 3, *GET* v. 27 c, *GO* v. 7.

c 1200 ORMIN 2455 þu best wipp childe off Hali3 Gast. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 10572 Anna wit child was of a mai. *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 391 þe childe mett a cove with' calfe. *1491 Acta Audit.* (1839) 148/1, xxxij sowis with lamb. *1504 Lincoln Wills* (1914) I. 21 If my wyfe be wyth a sonne. *?* 1556 *Wills & Inv. N.C.* (Surtees 1835) I. 152, ix whies calved and w^t calve. *1575 TURBERV. Faulconrie* 269 When hawkes fall to laying egges, and to be with egge in the mewe. *1585 Knaresb. Wills* (Surtees) I. 149 The childe my wief is now conceyvid with. *1633 G. HERBERT Temple, Ch. Porch* vi, He that is drunken, may his mother kill Bigge with his sister. *a* 1756 ELIZA HAYWOOD *New Present* (1771) 23 If they are with egg, their vents will be open. *c* 1850 *Arab. Nts.* (Rtldg.) 388, I have also to inform you, that I am with child, and if Heaven so much favours me as to give me a son [etc.].

†*c.* In ownership of, as owner of, having in possession. *Sc. Obs.*

1406 in Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot. 1427 17/2 Quhyl we remane wyth the said landis. *1483 Acta Audit. in Acta Dom. Conc.* II. Introd. 114 The said Thomas sall remain with the said land and tenement.

d. In phr. *with costs, with damages* (in a lawsuit): in early use said in ref. to the winning party = 'in possession of', 'having as awarded'; later, in ref. to the verdict = 'accompanied by an order to the losing party to pay' (cf. 32).

1466 Stonor Papers (Camden) I. 76 Richard... prayeth pat he may be dismissed out of this Courte with his costes and damages. *1775 G. WILSON Cases Comm. Pleas* III. 319 A verdict was given for the plaintiff, with one pound eleven shillings and sixpence damages. *1830 BARNEWALL & CRESSWELL Rep. K.B.* IX. 528 They... recovered 25l. penalty, together with taxed costs. *1866 Scott. Law Reporter* III. 81 The defender [was] assoltized with expenses.

24. a. Accompanied by; having as an addition; having in one's company. Often connecting the two sbs. or prons.: = 'and in addition', 'and besides', or simply 'and'. Occas. in compound place-names: = CUM. †*with the mare* (*Sc. obs.*): = and more, and something over: see MORE B. 4 d.

c 1200 ORMIN 14792 Faraon wipp all hiss ferd comm affterr-warrd. *a* 1300 *E.E. Psalter* ciil. 27 [civ. 25] Bestes smaller with þe mare. *1370-80 Visions St. Paul* 247 in *O.E. Misc.* 230 þer as was wepyng wip mucche vnseep. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* I. 205 þe Sixte, wip Clementyns, done myche harm to Goddis lawe, and enfeblen bileve. *1432-50 tr. Higden* (Rolls) I. 367 The water was so habundante that hit pereschede þe woman with here childe. *1494 Acta Audit.* (1839) 205/2 Alexander... tuk fra him out of his maling vxx of sowis with the mare. *1502 Reg. Privy Seal Scot.* I. 112/2 Half a jere, with the mare, befor the date hereof. *1563 T. WILSON Logic* 54 Beauuis with Alexander are comprehended vnder manne, as their kinde and speciall. *a* 1706 EVELYN *Hist. Relig.* (1850) I. 410 The permitting female slaves to be corrupted by their masters, with the like. *1719 DE FOE Crusoe* I. (Globe) 296 We readily agreed to follow him, as did also twelve other Gentlemen, with their Servants. *1859 'Geo. ELIOT' Adam Bede* xviii, These grey pews, with the buff-washed walls, gave a very pleasing tone to this shabby interior. *1911 Act 1 & 2 Geo. V* c. 6 §1 Imprisonment with or without hard labour.

in *attrib. phr.* *1898 Westm. Gaz.* 17 May 8/1 To inaugurate some with-profit scheme.

b. Comprising in the whole number or total; including.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 86 Til ihesus crist fro helle nam His quemed wid eue and adam. *1836 DICKENS Sk. Boz, Tuggs's at Ramsgate*, 'What's the terms?'... 'Five guineas a week, ma'am, with attendance.' *Mod.* 'How many were there in the party?' 'I should say about twenty, with the children.'

c. Accompanied by (favourable wind, weather, etc.); having the advantage of.

1536 in Sel. Pleas Crt. Admiralty (1894) I. 58 Goyng from the porte of London at a full see with a full wynde. *1600 FAIRFAX Tasso* xv. fiv, This evening (if you make good speed) To that hills foote with day-light might you passe. *1686 tr. Chardin's Trav. Persia* 75 We put again to Sea with fair Weather.

d. with-profit(s) adj., of a life assurance policy: allowing the insured to receive a share of the profits of the insurance company, usu. in the form of a bonus. Also applied to holders of such policies, the associated payments, etc. Cf. *without-profit(s) adj.* s.v. WITHOUT *prep.* 7 c.

1924 TAYLER & TYLER Life Assurance ii. 19 Nearly all the offices transacting life assurance business issue two great classes of policy—(a) Those which share in the profits, known as 'with-profit' or 'participating' policies; and (b) Those which do not share in the profits, known as 'without-profit' or 'non-participating' policies. *1944 S. D'E. COLAM Life Assurance for Agents* 16 Premiums for with profit policies are larger than for without profit policies. *1950 Economist* 18 Nov. 840/2 In trying to assess the relative merits of with-profit contracts, the only firm basis of comparison is the actual amount paid. *1961 Observer* 10 Dec. 4/3 A modest writing-up of book values would add to the good times which with-profit-holders can expect in the future in the form of bumper bonuses. *1965 Economist* 24 July p. xxii/2 These profits go to the with-profits policyholders, as well as the profits on the with-profits business itself. *1979 Financial Times* 20 Jan. 7/6 If you are shopping around for a with-profits policy, take a look at how insurance brokers work out projections of maturity value. *1982 Equity & Law Life Assurance Co. Ann. Rep.* 1981 16 The rate of terminal bonus depends on the year of entry as a with-profit benefit and is applied to the with-profit sum (or annuity) and attaching bonus.

25. Expressing association, conjunction, or connexion in thought, action, or condition.

one (day, etc.) with another: see ONE 17 b. *1387 TREVISA Higden* (Rolls) II. 91 And so is Cornewayle accounted wip þe opere schires. *1472 Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 124 For the certente what my cosen shall have with her, yf God provide for them that they shall go throve

in mariage. *1678 PRIDEAUX Lett.* (Camden) 64 Livy may be read with him [sc. Dionysius of Halicarnassus]. *1784 Unfortunate Sensibility* II. 7 One week with another she earned about half-a-crown. *?* 1807-8 WORDSW. *Somnambulist* 162 And thou, in lovers' hearts forgiven, Shalt take thy place with Yarrow! *1820 SHELLEY To a Skylark* xvi, With thy clear keen joyance Languor cannot be. *1834 DICKENS Sk. Boz, Boarding-ho.* i, He was to his wife what the o is in 90—he was of some importance with her—he was nothing without her. *1918 Act 8 Geo. V* c. 4 §6 This Act... may be cited with the Trustee Savings Banks Acts 1863 to 1904.

26. a. Expressing collocation in space.

1480 Cely Papers (Camden) 54 Aull iij sortes lyes togyddyr whon w^t anothyr. *1480 Acta Dom. Conc.* (1839) 47/1 þe castin of petis in a mosse merchand with þe landis of Dalruskane. *1662 J. DAVIES tr. Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 21 We thought it enough to put it [sc. a paper] in with that of the Swedish Ambassadors. *1664 J. WEBB Stone-Heng* (1725) 105 The most conspicuous [entrance]... into the Work it self lyeth North-East, whereby it fronteth rightly with the publick or high Road. *1815 WELLINGTON in Gurw. Desp.* (1838) XII. 484, I send with this dispatch three eagles, taken by the troops in this action. *1831 SCOTT Cast. Dang.* i, The bonnet usually worn with this showy dress. *1849 RUSKIN Samuel Prout* (1870) 8 The angle formed by St. Mark's Church with the Doge's palace. *1914 F. GRIBBLE Francis Joseph* xxxi. 331 The aristocracy dare not ask the professors to dinner for fear lest... they should wear green ties with their dress clothes.

b. (a) Expressing mixture or combination of material substances.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 199 3eue him tiriaca maior wip a litil musco. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 13 Take gode Mylke of Almaundys, an drawe it wyth Wyne. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* iii. 829 Take peres right mature, And with hool salt hem trede. *1697 DRYDEN Virg. Georg.* iv. 194 Potherbs... Which... bruise'd with Vervain, were his frugal Fare. *1753 Chambers' Cycl. Suppl.* s.v. *Lime* ¶3 They work up the chalk rubbish into a sort of stiff paste with water. *1841 Penny Cycl.* XX. 354/2 When hydrate of salicyl is heated with potash, an acid is formed.

(b) ellipt. in slang use, in ref. to liquor = mixed with sugar, having sugar added; usually in phr. *hot (warm) or cold with.*

1835 DICKENS Sk. Boz, Miss Evans & Eagle, Two glasses of rum-and-water 'warm with—'. *1854 SURTEES Handley Cr.* xiv, Fatch me up a glass of cold sherry with. *Ibid.* xxiv, 'Take a glass of brandy,' said she... 'Ot with? or cold without?'

†*27.* In addition to, besides; with neg., except.

c 1305 *St. Edward* 8 in *E.E.P.* (1862) 106 He nadd ne3 him noping For to 3yue þis pore man wip a goldene ring. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* v. x. 2252 Thre 3here and monethis twa, And ful ellewyn dayis wyth þai. *1426 LYDG. De Guil. Pilgr.* 8703 A myghty kyng... And wyth al thys, a famous knyht. *c* 1470 HENRY Wallace ix. 43 With that that was a gudly company Off waitlit men. *1530 TINDALE Exod.* xx. 23 Ye shall not make therfore with me goddes of syluer nor goddes of golde. *1579-80 NORTH Plutarch, Agis & Cleom.* (1595) 484 Very wise... and with his wisdom... very valiant. *1599 THYNNE Animadv.* 11 All whiche make xxx persons with Chaucer.

28. After a sb., in a qualifying phrase indicating a characteristic or distinctive part or adjunct: Having, possessing; having in or upon it, containing, bearing (cf. 23).

In this and sense 31 the phr. is sometimes equivalent to a descriptive adj.: e.g. *with corners* = 'angular'; *with four wheels* = 'four-wheeled'.

c 1300 *Havelok* 701 Shep wit wolles, neth wit horn, ... and gate wit berd. *1377 LANGL. P. Pl. B.* ii. 16 Hire robe... With ribanes of red golde. *1398 TREVISA Barth. De P.R.* xvii. cxlv. (1495) T v/1 Harde stalkes wyth corners. *a* 1400 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 626 His Innes & his orchardus were with a dep dich. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. xxvi. [xxii.] (1919) I. 159 A charett with iiii. wheles. *1432-50 tr. Higden* (Rolls) VIII. App. 497 Schoone with longe pykes. *1500-20 DUNBAR Poems* liv. 5 My ladye with the mekle lippis. *1599 SHAKS. Much Ado* ii. i. 15 With a good legge, ... and money enough... such a man would winne any woman in the world. *1663 GERBIER Counsel* 28 Stone with Sandy veins. *1711 ADDISON Spect.* No. 86 ¶2 A Man with a sour rivell'd Face. *1842 Penny Cycl.* XXII. 429/2 The consonants are conveniently classed into those with and those without voice. *1848 THACKERAY Lett.* 28 July (1887) 9 A paper-knife with a mother of pearl blade. *1892 Speaker* 3 Sept. 289/2 The high road, with its shrieking steam-tram.

29. Indicating a quality or attribute of the action spoken of: forming phrases equivalent to adverbs, e.g. *with one accord* or *consent* = unanimously, *with care* = carefully, *with ease* = easily, *with impunity* = L. *impune*, *with severity* = severely, etc. (Sometimes closely approaching the instrumental use 37, esp. in such phrases as *with a curious eye*, *with all one's heart*, etc.) Similarly after an adj., in phr. expressing a particular kind or degree of the quality denoted by the adj.

c 1200 ORMIN 1395 Enngless haffdenn heoffness ærd forllorenn all wipp rihte. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1598 Fro bersabe he ferde wi3 sed. *Ibid.* 1668 Aske it wi3 skil and 3u salt hauen. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 4430 Now es ioseph in prisun strang Don... wijt wrang. *13... Northern Passion* (1913) I. 5/16 þe lweys... sayd he ferid all wyth foly. *13... K. Horn* 1353 (Harl.) He louede horn wip mihte & he him wip ryhte. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 163 Alle wi3th on hol hert. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (prose) 45 Whit mekenes sal sho whit to pabbes hir sekene. *1528 Star Chamber Cases* (Selden Soc.) II. 174 To ge hys money with crafte and suttully. *1535 COVERDALE Deut.* vi. 5 Thou shalt loue the Lorde thy God with all thy hart, with all thy soule, & with all thy might. *1599 SHAKS. Much Ado* i. i. 300, I look'd vpon her with a souldiers eie. *1660 R. COKE Power & Subj.* 45 This unlimited power of doing anything with impunity. *1671 MILTON P.R.* i. 319 Who first with curious eye Perus'd him. *1710 STEELE Tatler*

No. 208 ¶8 He replied with a very angry Tone. *1760-72 H. BROOKE Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 116 A little stage was erected... that the spectators might see with the better advantage. *1771 GOLDSM. Hist. Eng.* III. 351 He always travelled with hurry. *1780 COWPER Progr. Err.* 562 They side to the goal with awkward pace. *1848 DICKENS Dombey* xxxviii, Polly, who, with a woman's tact, understood this at once. *1856 MRS. CARLYLE Lett.* II. 269 To-day I walked with effort one little mile. *1875 JEVONS Money* (1878) 25 We use a great many words with a total disregard of logical precision.

30. a. Indicating a feeling, purpose, or other mental state accompanying the action spoken of: e.g. *with approval*, *awe*, *horror*, *indifference*, *pleasure*, *regret*, (*due*) *respect*, etc.; *with (a, the, etc.) determination*, *hope*, *intent(ion)*, *view*, etc.: see also the sbs.

The phrase thus formed is often equivalent to an adv., as in 29, from which this use is not always distinguishable.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 128 God... bliscede it wid milde mood. *c* 1330 *Spec. Gy de Warw.* 93 To don penaunce Wid sorwe at pin herte rote. *c* 1350 *Libeaus Desc.* (Kaluza) 1029 Sir Giffroun... Was bore hom on his scheld Wip care and rufull roun. *1382 WYCLIF Phil.* ii. 12 Worche 3e with drede and trembling 3oure heelthe. *1526 TINDALE Heb.* xii. 28 Grace, wherby we maye serve god... with reverence and godly feare. *1581 RICH Farewe.* Dijb, With this resolution he began to relate [etc.]. *1601 HOLLAND Pliny* ii. cv. I. 47 Shee approached neere to the altars, with purpose to sacrifice. *1714 in Jnrl. Friends' Hist. Soc.* (1918) 28 We left New England with peace of mind. *1748 Anson's Voy.* ii. xiv. 285 They still remember, with the utmost horror, the sacking of their cities. *1786 tr. Beckford's Vathek* (1868) 51 Vathek applied his ear with the hope of catching the sound of some latent rummel. *1798 SOUTHEY Pious Painter* i. i, Still on his Madonnas the curious may gaze With applause and with pleasure. *1820 KEATS Lamia* ii. 100 If, as now it seems, your vision rests With any pleasure on me. *1849 MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* vii. II. 183 A land of exile, visited with reluctance and quitted with delight. *1885 Law Rep.* 29 *Chanc. Div.* 482 It is wholly immaterial with what object the lie is told.

b. In expressions of devotion, affection, or gratitude accompanying what is said or written, esp. by way of greeting, as in a message or the conclusion of a letter.

1454 Paston Lett. I. 273 Right wurshipfull and myn especiall good maister, I recomaund me to you with all service and prayer to my power. *1521 in Acts Parlt. Scot.* (1875) XII. 40/1 3oure humile oratouris and servandis with all lauchfull service. *1679 in Jnrl. Friends' Hist. Soc.* (1912) IX. 191 G. F[ox] ordered me to signifie thus to thee with his deare Love. *1685 PETT in Engl. Hist. Rev.* (1920) Jan. 114 Two Dorsetshire regiments... were dismissed... with thanks for their good service. *1744 in 10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. i. 283 Laying the aff' before my L^d Harrington with my best complim^{ts} desiring the fav^r of him just to sound the Count upon it. *1789* [see REMEMBRANCE sb. 4 d]. *1793* [see LOVE sb. 1 e]. *1835* [see REGARD sb. 10 c]. *1898 G. B. SHAW Mrs. Warren's Prof.* 11, Here: take George his hat and stick with my compliments.

31. a. Indicating an attribute, quality, or condition of the person or thing spoken of: Having, possessing, characterized by. (Often scarcely distinguishable from 28 or 29.)

c 1450 *HOLLAND Howlat* 18 The land lowne was and le, with lyking and luf. *1587 HOLINSHED Hist. Scot.* 246/2 The Englishmen (with the number of 1500, vnder the conduct... of Talbot). *1593 SHAKS. 2 Hen. VI.* i. i. 105 What meanes this passionate discourse? This peroration with such circumstance. *1610 — Temp.* ii. ii. 52 She had a tongue with a tang. *1671 MILTON Samson* 271 Bondage with ease. *1702 DE FOE Shortest Way w. Dissenters* 28 Why shoud't the Papist with his Seven Sacraments be worse than the Quaker with no Sacraments at all? *1712 STEELE Spect.* No. 438 ¶4 A very learned Man with an erect Solemn Air. *1776 Trial of Nundocomar* 32/2 He was then in a cool sweat, with a low pulse. *1812 CRABBE Tales* xi. 385 Retiring late, at early hour to rise, With shrunken features, and with bloodshot eyes. *1864 TENNYSON Aylmer's Field* 387. *1883 Law Times* 22 Sept. 356/1 A colony with a constitution like that of the Cape Colony. *1893 Atlanta Jan.* 269 Many another man with less heart and less imagination.

b. With special implications: (a) Still having; without loss of or detriment to; so as to keep or retain; consistently with.

c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 25 He vnnethis gatt away with his life. *1568 GRAFTON Chron.* II. 224 He could not long continue in the seruce of princes with the sauetie of his life. *1600 in J. Morris Troubles Cath. Foref.* (1872) Ser. i. iv. 195 Another gentleman... was beaten down from his horse and hardly escaped with life. *1615 in Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 163 The King's letter was, that he... could not with his greatness answer the proposition. *1654 in J. Morris Troubles Cath. Foref.* (1872) Ser. i. vi. 307 He said she could not pass the next winter with life, if she took not this remedy. *1865 RUSKIN Sesame* i. §31 A nation... cannot with impunity... cannot with existence... go on... concentrating its soul on Pence.

(b) Though having; notwithstanding, in spite of. (Usually followed by *all* qualifying the sb.; cf. FOR *prep.* 23 a, b.)

13... Sir Beues (A.) 1105 3et wip þan Ichauede þe leuer to me lemman, ... þan al þe gold þat Crist hap maked. *1557 NORTH Guevara's Diall Pr.* (1582) 409 All these things notwithstanding they are dishonest are sometimes tollerable... so y^t with these faults they would be diligent to dispatch men. *1561 HOBY tr. Castiglione's Courtier* ii. (1577) K j b, He hath suche straunge conceits... that with all y^e painting he hath he can not paint them. *1693 DRYDEN Juvenal Sat.* Ded. (1697) p. lxxxv, Ancient Words... which, with all their Rusticity, had somewhat of Venerable in them. *1779 Mirror* No. 34 ¶9 Umphraville, with all his dignity, his abilities, and his knowledge, felt himself uneasy and ridiculous. *1784 COWPER Task* ii. 206 England, with all thy faults, I love thee still. *1881 STEVENSON Virg. Puerisque* Ded., But, with the best will, no man can be twenty-five for ever. *1908 R. BAGOT A. Cuthbert* vi. 50 With all her apparent

roughness of disposition . . . she was by no means a heartless woman.

32. a. Indicating an accompanying or attendant circumstance, or a result following from the action expressed by the verb.

c 1350 Will. Palerne 1851 þe werwolf . . . went to him euene, Wip a rude roring. **1500-20 DUNBAR Poems** viii. 2 Thou may complain with sighis lamentable The death of Bernard Stewart. **1563 FOXE A. & M.** 621/2 To passe it ouer with sylence. **1621 LADY M. WROTH** *Urania* 459, I looked vpon him, and with teares told him, his censure was harder, then the Prince his. **1677 MOXON Mech. Exerc.** i. 10 Afterwards smooth it with a Blood red Heat. **1703 ROWE Fair Penit.** i. i, She, with Looks averse, and Eyes that froze me, Sadly reply'd. **1793 SMEATON Edystone L.** §265 Our men went out with a declaration that they would not return till they had found the moorings. **1806-7 J. BERESFORD Miseries Hum. Life** (1826) vii. 13 The frosty silence . . . with which it is received by the different auditors. **1809 MALKIN Gil Blas** i. xvii. ¶ 11, I do not in the least doubt it, interrupted Fabricio with a horse-laugh. **1872 MORLEY Voltaire** (1886) i With as far-spreading and invincible an effect. **1912 Engl. Hist. Rev.** Oct. 672 The value of a papal dispensation is considered, with the conclusion that it is valid in some cases but not in all.

b. (after *find, take, etc.*) In the actual commission of (a crime or misdemeanour). *Obs.* or *arch.*

c 1430 Syr Tryam. 185 Y trowed in hur no false-hedd, Tylle y fonde them with the dede. **1510 Reg. Privy Seal Scot.** 1. 314/2 Taken in redehand with any crime. **1530-1611** [see MAINTOUR 2]. **1572 R. H. tr. Lauaterus' Ghostes** (1596) 40 Albeit they were . . . almost taken tardy with the dede doing. **1586 T. B. La Primaud. Fr. Acad.** i. 227 His sonne being taken with the fact, . . . Zaleucus would never suffer the punishment to be . . . lessened.

33. Indicating something granted, received, or assumed: often with conditional implication, as in *with your leave* (or *permission*) = 'if you will allow me'.

13.. Gaw. & Gr. Knt. 971 Wyth leue last of þe lorde he went hem a3aynes. **c 1400 Apol. Loll.** 70 Wep þe lefe or conferring of þe kirk, swilk marriage is rate. **1436 in Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm., Var. Coll.** IV. 199 To oaste this land oute of alleputacion . . . yf so falle, as with oure Lord mercy it never shal falle. **1539 Bible** (Great) 2 Chron. xviii. 12 The wordes of the prophetes speake good to the kyng with one assent. — *Ps.* xviii. 29 W^t the helpe of my God I shall leape ouer the wall. **1610 B. JONSON Alch.** iv. i, Madame, with your pardon, I kisse your vesture. **1648-9 in Engl. Hist. Rev.** (1917) Oct. 570 Hee . . . had also the Keyes of the Castle (but not with Thompson's good will). **1660 Act 12 Chas. II.** c. 19 Bee it Enacted by the Kings most Excellent Majesty by and with the advice and consent of the Lords and Commons . . . That [etc.]. **1779 Mirror** No. 33 ¶ 4 We were accordingly married with the universal approbation of my friends. **1794 J. H. MOORE Pract. Navig.** (ed. 10) 87 With the course and distance find the difference of latitude and departure. **1838 DICKENS Nich. Nick.** xv, Another gentleman comes and collars that glass of punch, without a 'with your leave', or 'by your leave'. **1856 FROUDE Hist. Eng.** i. i. 77 So the law of England remained . . . with the deliberate approval of both the great parties. **1879 E. WATERTON Pietas Mariana Brit.** 226 With these general data, I now proceed to examine some of the details.

34. Followed by a sb. denoting some alteration or modification, or something imposed in the way of a demand or requirement: e.g. *change, condition, exception, loss, proviso, qualification, etc.* (Before *condition* now replaced by *on*.)

c 1450 Merlin xiv. 203 We be come to serue yow, with this condicion, that ye desire not to knowe oure names. **1489 in Trevelyan Papers** (Camden) 93 With the same condicions and provisoes. **1626 W. SCLATER Exp. 2 Thess.** (1629) 210 With exception of the crosse. **1629 HOBBS Thucyd.** i. 59 The Athenians . . . made peace, with condition to haue their Prisoners released. **1779 Mirror** No. 7 ¶ 2 With these qualifications, Sir, I am held in considerable estimation by the wits of both sexes. **1849 MACAULAY Hist. Eng.** ii. i. 165 Such a body . . . is composed, with scarcely an exception, of sincere persons. **1861 M. PATTISON Ess.** (1889) i. 44 With the exception of a dwelling-house . . . the remainder of the area was covered with warehouses.

35. a. Followed by a sb. denoting misfortune or evil, in imprecations and intensive phrases: also *with a WANION, with a witness* (see WITNESS sb. 14). Now chiefly in *with a vengeance* (in intensive sense: see VENGEANCE sb. 4).

a 1300 K. Horn 326 (Camb.) Went [= go] vt of my bur Wip muchel mesaventur. **c 1386 CHAUCER Manciple's Prol.** 11 Is that a Cook of London, with meschance? **a 1529 SKELTON E. Rummyng** 346 As thou, with shamfull deth! **1538-8** [see MISCHIEF sb. 9a]. **16.. MIDDLETON, etc. Old Law** iii. ii, *Ly.* I will send it through you with a powder. *Sim.* Let come, with a Pox! **1663 DRYDEN Wild Gallant** i. ii, I'll put you out of your Pater Nosters, with a sorrow to you.

b. Introducing a refrain (often meaningless) in a poem or ballad.

13.. Coer de L. 2522 They rowede hard, and sungge ther too, With heuelow and rumbeloo.] **c 1400 Pety Job** 96 in 26 *Pol. Poems* 124 Nowe yeue me mercy, and say nat nay, Wyth *Parce michi, domine*. **15..** [see HEY-HO]. **1519** [see HEY int. 2]. **a 1529 SKELTON E. Rummyng** 289 Wyth Hey and wyth howe. **1633, 1672** [see FADING sb. 1]. **1665, a 1800** [see FA-LA a]. **1780 British Grenadiers**, With a tow, row, row, row, row.

36. In various preceding senses, followed by object and complement (phr. with prep., pple., adj., adv., or inf. with *to*).

c 1290 Beket 1169 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 140 With one haltre ope þe mere forth rod þis holi man. **1375 BARBOUR Bruce** viii. 48 That saw in battale cum arayit The vaward with baner displayit. **c 1386 CHAUCER Doctor's T.** 211 With fadres pitee stikyng thurgh his herte. **1443-50** in W. P. Baildon *Sel. Cases Chanc.* (1896) 134 His purse with xxv.s. of money therin. **c 1482 Paston Lett.** III. 295 Fayne she wold be redde

of it with hyr onowr sayyd. **1527 Test. Ebor.** (Surtees) VI. 13 The lesse leede with the hole in the bothom. **1534 MORE Comf. agst. Trib.** iii. xix. (1553) R vij, The . . . prieste . . . that had . . . used to say *Dominus* with the seconde sillable long. **1611 SHAKS. Cymb.** ii. i. 26 You crow Cock, with your combe on. **1630 PAGITT Christianogr.** i. iii. (1636) 133 Standing . . . with their armes fouled. **1745 POCOKE Descr. East II.** ii. 231 There are six youths in each room, with a master over them. **1760-2 GOLDSM. Cit. W.** lxxi, He sat with rapture in his eye. **1831 SCOTT Cast. Dang.** xiv, The shield represented an owl with its wings spread. **1842 TENNYSON Lady Clare** xv, She went by dale, and she went by down, With a single rose in her hair. **1842 BROWNING Through the Metidja to Abd-el-Kadr** i, As I ride, as I ride, With a full heart for my guide. **1848 DICKENS Dombey v.** An iron-grey autumnal day, with a shrewd east wind blowing. **1859 GEO. ELIOT Adam Bede** xviii, They . . . stood with their hats off. **1866 RUSKIN Let.** 10 May, Joan has written another long letter to you with something about me in it. **1870 MORRIS Earthly Par.** iii. 455 Life seemed not so cursed With this to think of.

III. Denoting instrumentality, causation, or agency.

37. a. (a) Indicating the means or instrument (material or immaterial) of any kind of action: By means of, by the use of.

c 1200 ORMIN 5524 þe bodiz forr to pinenn wip swinnec. **c 1220 Bestiary** 9 He . . . Drazed dust wið his stert. *Ibid.* 627 He ne hauen no lið Ðat he mužen risen wið. **a 1250 Prov. Alfred** 90 in O.E. Misc. 108 For to werie pat lond wip hunger and wip herivinge. **c 1250 Gen. & Ex.** 44 Al was Ðat firme Þrosing in niȝt, Til he wit hise word made list. **a 1300 K. Horn** 459 (Camb.) Wip seluer & wip golde Hit wurþ him wel isold. *Ibid.* 514 þin armes he hap & scheld To fize wip vpon þe feld. **a 1300 Cursor M.** 14427 þat he suld flexs take o þair kin, For to ranscum wit adam sin. **13.. E.E. Allit.** P. B. 1438 He with keyes vncloses kystes ful mony. **1382 WYCLIF Mark** xiv. 58, I schal vndo this temple maad with hondis. **c 1386 CHAUCER Prolog.** 1 Whan that Aprille with hise shoures soote The droghte of March hath perced to the roote. **c 1400 MAUNDEV.** (1919) xxvii. 165 A lytille whippe in hire hondes for to chacen with hire hors. **1413 E.E. Wills** (1882) 22 The residue of my gode, y bequethe tho Amys my wyf, an my son, to kepe hem boþ wyt. **1479 Cely Papers** (Camden) 18, vc or vj c baras canvase for to packe woll wyt. **1491 CAXTON Vitas Patr.** (W. de W. 1495) ii. 247/2 Onoly as moche as suffysed to bye with his brede cotydyan. **1523 LD. BERNERS Froiss.** i. ccxxvi. 123/1 He lost euer after y^e syght with that eye. **1526 TINDALE Matt.** xx. 22 Are ye able . . . to be baptised with the baptism that y shalbe baptised with? — *Mark* ix. 49 Every sacryfyse shalbe seasoned with salt. **1591 SPENSER Virg. Gnat** 432 All slaine with darts. **1634 SIR T. HERBERT Trav.** 145 They build with vnburnt clay. **1671 MILTON Samson** 1621 The people with a shout Rifted the Air. **1748 Anson's Voy.** i. i. 9 The ships were disappointed of provisions for want of a cargo to truck with. **1766 GOLDSM. Vicar W.** iii, We lightened the fatigues of the road with philosophical disputes. **1855 MACAULAY Hist. Eng.** xi. III. 44 Some acts which in the citizen are punished with fine or imprisonment must in the soldier be punished with death. **1877 RUSKIN St. Mark's Rest** i. §18 There is nothing like a little work with the fingers for teaching the eyes. **1890 Law Times' Rep.** LXIII. 691/2 A publican runs a greater risk of being cheated with false money than other tradesmen.

† (b) Through the medium of (a person). *rare.*

c 1000 ÆLFRIC Gen. xxxviii. 20 Iudas sende an ticcen wið hys Odolamitiscan hyrde. **a 1300 Cursor M.** 1274 He wald send me word wit þe. **c 1375 Sc. Leg. Saints** xxviii. (Margaret) 135 Tyne nocht my sawle with fellone mene. **1590 SHAKS. Com. Err.** v. i. 230 He did arrest me with an Officer.

b. Formerly used in many cases where *by* (BY prep., 30, 32) is now the usual or only construction; e.g. with obj. a person, or an action (esp. when expressed by a gerund or vbl. sb. in -ing).

a 1300 Cursor M. 882 Sco has me fild wit hir sin. **13.. Guy Warw.** (A.) 129 He wald do nimen him anon, & wip strenghe him nim wolde. **1375 BARBOUR Bruce** i. 521 Wes nocht all Troy with tresoure tane . . . ? **c 1386 CHAUCER Doctor's T.** 217 To dyen with a swerd or with a knyf. **c 1450 tr. De Imitatione** ii. xii. 57 It shal not lye in þy power to be esid ner deluyered wip no remedy ner no solace. **c 1450 CAPORAVE Life St. Ag.** 112 þou wer led in-to þis place wit þe handis of many men. **1513 BRADSHAW St. Werburge** i. 2461 And it to confyrm. . . With charters and dedes. **1523 LD. BERNERS Froiss.** i. cccliii. 183 b/1 The towne was taken with assaute, and robbed. **1539 Bible** (Great) i Kings vi. 8 Men went vp with windyng steares into the myddle chambre. **1571 DIGGES Pantom.** iv. vi. Xj, If by the second rule ye diuide 100 with 24, the quotient is 4½. **1667 DRYDEN tr. Life St. Francis Xavier** vi. 667 Many sick persons . . . were cur'd with only seeing it. **a 1715 BURNET Own Time** (1724) i. 409 With all this the King was convinced. **1750 JOHNSON Rambler** No. 43 ¶ 10 Distant countries are united with canals. **1837 DICKENS Pickw.** iii, Will you oblige us with proceeding with what you were going to relate? **1859 GEO. ELIOT Adam Bede** xvi, I don't believe there's anything you can't prevail on people to do with kindness.

c. Used where other prepositions are now usual, as *at* (a charge or cost), *in* (a receptacle or something figured as such), *of* (a material or constituent, after *make*), *on* or *upon* (food, etc.).

a 1300 Cursor M. 11109 Ion . . . liued wit rotes and wit gress, Wit honi o þe wildernes. **c 1450 Godstow Reg.** 530 The forsaid Adam shold susteyn the said mese . . . with his owne costis. **1564 HARDING Answ. Jewel** 40 S. Augustine vttereth the same thinge almost with the same wordes. **a 1586 SIDNEY Astr. & Stella** Sonn. xcix, When farre spent night perswades each mortal eie . . . To laye his then marke wanting shaftes of sight, Clos'd with their quivers in Sleeps armorie. **1588 SHAKS. L.L.L.** i. i. 303 You shall fast a Weeke with Branne and water. **1598 GRENEWAY Tacitus, Ann.** i. xv. (1622) 29 Germanicus . . . furnished the rest with his owne charges. **1617 MORYSON Itin.** iii. 83 They dine with dried pork. **1633 J. CLARKE Two-fold Praxis**, I lived . . . with seuenpence a day. **1709 STRYPE Ann. Ref.** i. xl. 410 That she would wrap up all such matters with oblivion. **a 1774**

GOLDSM. Surv. Exp. Philos. (1776) II. 239 Burning instruments of this kind are usually made with glass. **1785 CUMBERLAND Nat. Son** i. i, When he shall see what frippery a woman is made up with. **1801 STRUTT Sports & Past.** iii. vi. 221 Diminutive imitations of muskets made with wood. **1840 PEREIRA Elem. Mat. Med.** ii. 1269 A sinapism made with flour.

† **d.** In reference to procreation, with obj. either the male or the female parent: = BY prep. 32 c.

c 1450 Merlin 20 Thow wast with childe with hym. **1593 in Mail. Club Misc.** I. 56 The barne gottin be him with the said Margaret Steyne. **1603 SHAKS. Meas. for M.** ii. ii. 143 Shee speakes, and 'tis such sense That my Sence breeds with it. **a 1709 J. LISTER Autobiog.** (1842) 51, I had but two children with my wife.

e. After *begin* or *end* and words of like sense, in various shades of meaning: indicating (a) that which constitutes the beginning or end, i.e. the initial or final part, element, stage, proceeding, etc. (after a personal subj. and before a gerund now *by*, as in b above); (b) a person or thing acted upon or treated first or last (coinciding with g); (c) (after *begin, originate*, etc.) the agent or source from which something takes its rise (allied to i).

Phr. (with ellipsis of obj.) *to begin with*: to take what is mentioned or indicated as one's starting-point.

1412-20 LYDG. Chron. Troy i. 2414 For my beheest with deth I schal conclude. **c 1550 BALE K. Johan** (Camden) 47 Fyrst to begyne with, we shall interdyte the lond. **1570 FOXE A. & M.** (ed. 2) I. 494/2 First begynnyn with that godly man . . . the autor of the boke. **a 1619** in S. Atkinson *Gold Mynes Scot.* (Bann. Club) 2 It is true that 'say well and doe well ends both with one letter'. **1677 in Essex Papers** (Camden) II. 110 The Commoners . . . take distaste that anything which relates to mony, should . . . begin with the Lords. **1683 TRYON Way to Health** 642 Drawing towards a Conclusion of this Treatise, I shall put a period thereto with some unvulgar Considerations of the Nature of Sounds and Melody. **1713 BERKELEY Guardian** No. 69 ¶ 2 He has ended his Discourse with a Prayer. **1768 STERNE Sent. Journ.** II. 51 (*Le Patisser*) He finish'd the scene with winning my esteem. **1833 HT. MARTINEAU Brooke Farm** i. 6, I must begin my lecture with you. **1843 Fraser's Mag.** XXVIII. 657 The evening generally closed with music. **1861 T. L. PEACOCK Gryll Grange** xxix, I will be bound every one of this company could . . . find a quotation in point. — Miss Gryll, to begin with. **1879 RUSKIN St. Mark's Rest** iv. §56 We may close her national history with the seventeenth century. **1887 'L. CARROLL' Game of Logic** i. §2. 22 'Middle' begins with 'm'. **1918 in Engl. Hist. Rev.** (1919) July 442 Newcastle's response . . . did not stop with sending Warren for the defence of the Northern Colonies.

38. After words of furnishing, filling, covering, adorning, and the like. (Allied to II. ***, involving the notion of addition.)

After *full* now replaced by *of*.

c 1200 ORMIN 994 Bultted bræd . . . smeredd wel wip elesæw. **c 1290 S. Eng. Leg.** i. 384/256 For-to . . . crouni him with golde. **a 1300 Cursor M.** 852 God . . . fild þis werld al wit his grace. *Ibid.* 1046 Wit gress and leues he clad. **a 1310** in Wright *Lyric P.* xxxiv. 96 To presente hyre sone with myrre, gold, ant encenz. ? **a 1366 CHAUCER Rom. Rose** 1076 It [sc. a robe] ful well With Ofrrays leyd was euerydeell. **c 1394 P. Pl. Crede** 116 Clop to covenen wip our bones. **c 1425 Engl. Cong. Irel.** 130 Encombret whyth syn. **1445 in Anglia** XXVIII. 277 Histirlonde he plantith with vyne. **1506 in Mem. Hen. VII** (Rolls) 285 The third chamber . . . was hanged with a very rich arras. **c 1511 1st Engl. Bk. Amer.** (Arb.) Introd. 28/1 Ledder to kyuer ther members with. **1526-8** [see ENDOW v. 3b.]. **1590 SHAKS. Mids. N.** ii. i. 131 Her wombe then rich with my yong squire. **1590 SPENSER F.Q.** iii. iii. 4 That doest ennoble with immortal name The warlike Worthies. **1610 SHAKS. Temp.** i. ii. 154 Infused with a fortitude from heauen. *Ibid.* 283 Then was this Island . . . not honour'd with A humane shape. **1621 LADY M. WROTH Urania** 229 As full of spite and ill nature as a Spider with poysen. **1633 J. CLARKE Two-fold Praxis** 63 It is very expedient for us scholars to be instructed with good manners. **c 1646 MILTON New Forcers Consc.** 7 To force our Consciences . . . And ride us with a classic Hierarchy. **1713-8** [see LITTER v. 5, 6a]. **1734 SALE Koran Prelim. Disc.** §1. 3 A stony and barren valley, surrounded on all sides with mountains. **1849 ROBERTSON Serm.** Ser. i. vi. (1866) 99 Christianity . . . permeates all evil with good. **1878 HARDY Ret. Native** vi. i, Wreathing it [sc. a pole] with wild-flowers. **1884 W. C. SMITH Kildrostan** 86 A . . . breeze . . . Tippling the waves with foam.

39. a. Indicating the cause or reason: In consequence of, as a result of, by the action of; because of, by reason of, on account of; from, through, by.

In some cases now replaced by *of* (e.g. after COME v. 11 c); in others *of* and *with* are used with distinction of meaning (see e.g. DIE v. 1 b, 7 c, WEARY a. 1 c, 2).

13.. Cursor M. 1058 (Gött.) For-þi was he witt þat for lorn. **13.. K. Alis.** 930 Mony a baner . . . rotled with the wynde. ? **a 1400 Arthur** 466 And deyde wip strokis þat pey hente. **1476 Paston Lett.** III. 161, I ame somewhatt crased, with what the see and what wythe thys dyet heer. **1591 SHAKS. Two Gent.** i. i. 69 Hart sick with thought. **1593-2 Hen. VI.** iv. vii. 111, I feelee remorse in my selfe with his words. **1596-7 Tam. Shr.** iii. ii. 243 Went they not quickly, I should die with laughing. **1600 G. ABBOT Exp. Jonah** 54 These did perish in their owne sinne, although they perished with his fault. **1601 SHAKS. Twel. N.** iii. iv. 366 This comes with seeking you. **a 1604 HANMER Chron. Irel.** (1633) 202 The Lord James Audley . . . dyed with the fall of a horse. **1671 in 12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.** App. v. 23 She was so ill with wearing a paire of perfumed bodies that she was forced to goe to bed. **1682 Wood Life** (O.H.S.) III. 12 July, Sir Jonas Moore . . . died with a fall from his horse. **1784 COWPER Tiroc.** 833 Flush'd with drunk'ness. **1816 BYRON Pris. Chillon** i My hair is grey, but not with years. **1837 HAWTHORNE Twice-told T., Gt. Carbuncle, The..** branches . . . mossy with age. **1889 J. K. JEROME Three Men in**

Boat 4 Zymosis I had evidently been suffering with from boyhood. *Mod. colloq.* Harry Wood is in the Cottage Hospital with his knee.

b. After a trans. vb. (usually in pass.), or a pa. pple. or ppl. adj., indicating the immediate cause or ground of the action or state spoken of: often approaching or coinciding with 37 or 40 b.

After certain pples., as *pleased*, *surprised*, etc., varying with or now replaced by *at*. After *trouble* vb. sometimes approaching 9.

c 1250 Gen. & Ex. 3690 Dor wurð 3he ðanne wið lepre smiten. *a 1300 Cursor M.* 4076 þai soght him ai to greue wit wrang. *1387 Trevisa Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 149 þe pepil was i-pled with his faire speche. *c 1400 Rom. Rose* 5628 Contente with his pouerte. *c 1440 Generydes* 2221 With tho wordes the kyng liked full ill. *14.. in Guillim's Heraldry* iv. vii. (1632) 296 Worne wud Age. *1535 COVERDALE Prov.* vi. 25 Lest thou be taken with hir fayre lokes. *1533 T. Wilson Rhet.* 115 b, Because I haue halfe wried the reader... I will harten him agayne wyth a myrre tale. *1603- [see SPENT 3 b]. 1652 WADSWORTH tr. Sandoval's Civ. Wars Spain* 342 Hugging himself with that small victory. *1655-1768 [see SURPRISE v. 5]. a 1745 SWIFT Ess. Faculties Mind* Ded., Wks. 1841 II. 284/2 To suppose you would be very much obliged with anything that was new. *1792 JEFFERSON Writ.* (1859) III. 494, I am rejoiced with the account he gives me. *1807 EARL MALMESBURY Diaries & Corr.* III. 363, I am... not surprised with the opiniativeness of Lord Grenville. *1839 THIRLWALL Greece* li. VI. 243 His men and horses were now nearly spent with toil. *1891 CONAN DOYLE White Company* xx, A face which was distorted with rage.

c. After an intr. (rarely a trans.) vb. or an adj., combining the sense 'by reason of' with 28 ('having in or upon it') or 38 ('filled, covered, etc. with'). Also more vaguely, indicating a substance (esp. a liquid) which is the logical subject of the vb.: e.g. *it is pouring with rain* = rain is pouring; (*flowers*) *dripping with dew* = having dew dripping from them.

1388 WYCLIF Exod. iii. 8 A lond that flowith with milk and hony. *1390 GOWER Conf.* i. 98 Hire chekes ben with teres wet. *c 1400 Ywaine & Gaw.* 1397 The castel and cete rang With mynstrals and nobil sang. *c 1450 HOLLAND Howlat* 5 With alken herbes... The feldis flurist. *1508 DUNBAR Gold. Targe* 28 Doun throu the ryce a ryuir ran wyth stremys. *1513 DOUGLAS Æneis* vii. viii. 93 Hir figoure sa grisly gret aboundis, Wyth glowand ene birnand of flawmis blak. *1565 COOPER Thesaurus, Manantia ulcera*, sores runnyng with matter. *1606 SHAKS. Ant. & Cl.* i. iii. 45 Our Italy, Shines o're with ciuill Swords. *1622- [see HEAVY a. 4]. 1667 MILTON P.L.* iv. 605 Now glow'd the Firmament With living Saphirs. *1697 DRYDEN Virg. Georg.* iii. 235 Th' Alburnian Groves, with Holly green. *Ibid.* 559 The Garment, stiff with Ice, at Hearths is thaw'd. *1746 SMOLLETT Reproof* 28 Hallowed be the mouth That teems with moral zeal and dauntless truth! *1798 COLERIDGE Kubla Khan* 8 Gardens bright with sinuous rills. *1799 WORDSW. Fountain* viii, My eyes are dim with childish tears. *1849 [see POUR v. 6 b]. 1899 T. S. MOORE Vinedresser* 6 Banks more soft with moss than any bed.

d. Following words of blame or the like (after *charge* orig. fig. from 38); also after *credit* vb.: indicating the ground of the charge, etc.

After *accuse*, *suspect*, now replaced by *of*. *c 1440 Alph. Tales* 318 þis preste... tolde hur cowncell, & vþrayed hur perwith. *1559 Mirr. Mag., Dk. Clarence* i. 7 To charge me with offence. *1579-80 NORTH Plutarch, Demetrius* (1595) 946 Hee... was most detected with this vice of lechery. *1591 Troub. Raigne K. John* i. 147 A Man, Whom he accuseth with adulterie. *1665 DRYDEN Ind. Emperor* III. ii, None shall tax me with base Perjury. *1670 STUBBE Reply H. More* (1671) 75 The World will condemn you with Blasphemy for that comparison. *1715 DE FOE Fam. Instruct.* (1841) II. i. 10 The blot with which I reproach myself. *1814 MRS. J. WEST Alicia de Lacy* IV. 298 There seems no just cause for accusing the King with the premature fate of this nobleman. *1877 FROUDE Short Stud.* (1883) IV. i. iii. 27 To credit him with a desire to reform the Church.

40. After a passive verb or participle, indicating the principal agent: = *BY prep.* 33.

a. (a person or animal). *Obs. exc. dial.* *c 1300 Havelok* 2489 He was wit þe prestes shriue. *13.. Cursor M.* 15908 (Gött.) Sare he dred þat syden fell Wid þaim he suld be slaine. *13.. Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1229 Your honour... is hendely prayed with lordes, wyth ladyes, with alle þat lyf bere. *1375 BARBOUR Bruce* xviii. 128 And be the armys led wes he With two men. *c 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.)* vi. 19 þis same sowdan... was slayne with his awen seruands. *1456 SIR G. HAYE Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 38 The first quete that euer was sawin with man. *c 1489 CAXTON Sonnes of Aymon* i. 52 They all were eten wyth bores and of lions. *1535 STEWART Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) II. 56 So awful rumour... Wes neuir hard with no man in this erd. *1579 LYLY Euphues* (Arb.) 110 There was a Towne in Spayne vndermined with Connyes, in Thessalia with Mowles, with Frogges in Fraunce. *1611 SHAKS. Wint. T.* v. ii. 68 He was torne to pieces with a Beare. *1632 LITHGOW Trav.* iii. 86 It was miserably sacked, and burned with Turkes. *1670 DRYDEN Conq. Granada* iii. i, As I were stung with some tarantula. *1707 MORTIMER Husb.* 165 If the Ass, you design to breed on, be suckled with a Mare. *a 1715 BURNET Own Time* (1724) I. 250 He rode thro' London, accompanied with the most popular men of his Court. *1727 Philip Quarll* (1816) 19 This island is inhabited... with monies and myself. *1735 J. HUGHES tr. Fontenelle's Dial.* i. viii. (ed. 3) 32, I went attended with a numerous train. *Mod. dial.* You never hear of horses being bit with snakes.

†b. (a thing, material or immaterial). *Obs.* *c 1375 Sc. Leg. Saints* xii. (*Mathias*) 65 With wawis castine to þe land. *1387 Trevisa Higden* (Rolls) III. 295 Awaked wip crienge of ganders. *c 1450 St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 5866 In to eland war þai kest with a flowyng flode. *1571 DIGGES Pantom.* i. xxxi. KJ, Intercepted with the perpendicular lyne. *1634 SIR T. HERBERT Trav.* 94 Hyrcania... is limited on the North with the Caspian Sea. *1729 LAW Serious C.* xix. 354 Her other entrails were much hurt by being crush'd

together with her stays. *1760 R. BROWN Compl. Farmer* II. 2 Overflowed with rivers or land-floods.

B. adv.

†1. a. With it (me, them, etc.); in collocation, company, or association; together; occas., at the same time, simultaneously. *Obs.*

c 888 ÆLFRED Boeth. xvi. §3 Hit nis nauht gecynde... þæt ænig wiðerweard ping bion gemenged wið oðrum wiðerweardum, oððe ænige geferrædenne wið habban. *c 1000 Sax. Leechd.* II. 54 Meng þonne hwitcwudu wip. *c 1440 Pallad. on Husb.* i. 711 Ley nettelys vndir with. *Ibid.* vi. 10 Al doubil seed, as benes... And other puls, a xl dayes floure, And greteth with [orig. *simulque grandescunt*]. *c 1450 tr. De Imitatione* III. lxiv. 150 Defende and kepe þe soule of þy... seruant... and, þy grace goyng wip [orig. *comitante gratia*], dyrecte hym by þe wey of pes.

†b. with also: nonce-substitute for WITHAL (= 'also'). *Obs. rare.*

1586 G. WHETSTONE Engl. Mirr. i. xv. 95 Francis the second... beeing both very young, and with also married to the Queene of Scots.

†2. with and with: **a.** Immediately, forthwith (= *BY AND BY* 3); **b.** From time to time, again and again, every now and then. *Obs.*

c 1200 ORMIN 5628 Ice wile wipp & wipp þa seoffne seollþess shawenn. *c 1205 LAY.* 20747 We sende wið and wið and æornen Arðures grið. *Ibid.* 30177 Adwine... seide auere wið and wið: ich wulle makien un-frið. *c 1440 Pallad. on Husb.* xi. 175 Delue hit ofte, and... Ay with and with lycour on hit to trete.

†3. With that, or with which; therewith, wherewith: = *WITHAL adv.* 2. *Obs.*

a 1300 Cursor M. 936 God mad þam kyrtels þan of hide, And cled þar flex wit for to hide. *a 1425 Ibid.* 8597 (Trin.) Her modris... had no cradles ne wip to by. *1566 in Picton L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1883) I. 48 The said earl... had a couple of partridges, and to drink with of his lordships cost.

†C. conj. **a.** To the time that, until. (Only OE.) **b.** During or at the time that; while; when. (Cf. sense 16 of the prep.) *Obs. rare.*

c 950 Lindisf. Gosp. Matt. x. 11 Ðer wunas wið ge ðona geonga. *1375 BARBOUR Bruce* xvii. 455 It wes nocht eyth till ta The tounes, with [v.rr. quhill; ed. 1570 while] sic defens wes maid. *c 1450 St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 1685 With þir thinges were done.

D. Comb., as with-worker (nonce-wd. after G. mitwerker), a fellow-worker, co-worker.

1884 R. F. BURTON Camoens, Lyrics i. 4, I have been aided by a host of 'with-workers'.

with: see WITHE.

with, obs. form of WHITE, WIGHT.

with-, representing OE. *wip-* (see *WITH prep.*) used as a prefix to verbs (and derived sbs.) with the meanings: (1) away, back, as in OE. *wipblāwan* to blow away, *wipfaran* to escape, *wipgān* to disappear, *wiptéon* to withdraw; so *WITHDRAW*, *WITHHOLD*; a few modern words come under this heading, which are formed by substituting *with-* for *re-*, as *withcall*; (2) away from one, as in several OE. verbs meaning 'reject', 'refuse', *wipcéosan*, *wipcwepan*, *wiphogian*, *wipleegan*, *wipsacan* *WITHSAKE v.*, *wipweorpan*; (3) against, in opposition, as in OE. *wipfeohhend* adversary, *wiphabban* to resist, *wiplicgan* to oppose, *wipsprecan* to contradict, *wipstandan* *WITHSTAND v.*; (4) together, in *withjoin*.

The following is a list of the less important verbal formations (transitive verbs except where otherwise marked); mostly obs. (see quotes.).

†withbere [BEAR *v.*], to carry away; see also *b*; **†withbozt** *pa. pple.* [BUY *v.*] redeemed; **†withbrast** *pa. t.* [BURST *v.*] intr. burst asunder; **†withbreide** [OE. *wipbregdan*, BRAID *v.*], to withdraw; **†withbuwe** [BOW *v.*], to avoid; **withcall**, to recall; **†withclepe**, to recall, revoke, repeal; **†withdrive**, to drive away, repel; **†withhuhe** [OE. *wiphogian*], to despise; **†withjoin**, to join together, conjoin (*intr.* and *trans.*); **†withleft** *pa. pple.* left behind; **†withlosen** *pa. pple.* [LEESE], lost; **†withnay** [NAY *v.*; cf. RENAY], to deny, refuse; **†withnim** [= L. *reprehendere*; see NIM *v.*], to reprove, rebuke; **†withpass**, to escape the lips of; **†withqueethe**, to deny, contradict, refuse; **†withscape**, to escape; **†withschadowid** *pa. pple.*, darkened; **†withschild** [SHIELD *v.*], in *God w.*, God forbid; **†withscore**, to cut away, detach; **†withshonte** [SHUNT *v.*], *intr.* to shrink back; **†withslip**, to escape; **†withsozt** *pa. t.* [SEEK *v.*], pursued, persecuted; **†withsperre** *v.* [SPAR *v.*], to bar (the way); **†withstad**, -sted *pa. pple.* [STEAD *v.*], beset; **†withstarte** [START *v.* 6], *intr.* to escape; **withstay** [STAY *v.* 1 III], to hold back, oppose, withstand; **†withstew** [STEW *v.*], to check; **withstrain**, **†(a)** to constrict; **(b)** to restrain; **†withtee** [TEE *v.*], to withdraw; *refl.* and *intr.* to abstain; **†withtelle**, to gainsay; **†withturn**, to avert.

c 1500 Melusine 196 Other thing ye shal not haue ne *with-bere fro me. *1340 Aeyenb.* 186 Alle we byep *wipbozt of one zelue pris. *1448-9 METHAM Amoryus & Cl.* 1520 The dragon... *with brast in þe myddys. *c 890 WÆRERTH tr. Gregory's Dial.* (1900) 203 þara oðre se cniht *wiðbræd... & þa oðre brohte to ðam Godes men. *c 1000 ÆLFRED Hom.* I. 88 Ðæt hi heora handa fram ðam blodes gýte ne wiðbrudon. *c 1230 Hali Meid.* (1922) 11 In wunne stude þu hauest her ofte helle; & bute þu wið-breide þe, bredes te þat oðer. *a 1225 Ancr. R.* 116 Uorte *wiðbuwen sunne. *c 1230 Hali Meid.* (1922) 52 Hwase pencheð on al þis... & nule wiðbuhe þet ping þet hit al of awakeneð. *1901 J. PRIOR Forest Folk* x. 105 Do yo *withcall them saving tears shed years and years ago, Sister Morris? *1904 H. S. MERRIMAN Flotsam* xiv. 159 The troops were withcalled. *13.. K. Alis.* 1301 Y *withclepe and withstonde Theo truage of Grece londe. *1340 Aeyenb.* 189 Uor alle time y-confermed ne neure in none time wypleped. *Ibid.* 215 þer me ssel wyþ-clepia his herte to him. *1387 Trevisa Higden* (Rolls) VI. 267 He... wip-cleped al þat was i-doo by his predeceessor. *c 1440 Promp. Parv.* 530/2 Wythe clepyñ, or reuokyn. *1617 HOLYOKE Rider's Dict.*, To Withclepe, *revoce*. *c 1000 Ags. Ps.* (Th.) xciii[i]. 13 [14] Næfre *wiðdrifeð Drihten ure his agen folc. *1527 ANDREW Brunswyke's Distyll. Waters* II. ii. A ij/2 The same [Sorell] water were withcalled. *impetigines*. *a 1000 Cædmon's Gen.* 2864 Nalles nergendes hæse *wiðhogode. *c 1230 Hali Meid.* (1922) 53 Nule wiðhuhe þat ping þat hit al of awakeneð. *c 1450 Merlin* 282 Holde we vs to-geder cloos and make semblaunte as we wolde *with Ioyne. *1630 J. HAYWARD Edw. VI.* 10 It had bin agreed... they should withjoyne forces. *c 1375 Cursor M.* 4403 (Fairf.) Hys mantel ys *wipleft [Cott. bileft] wip me. *a 1300 Ibid.* 10855 (Cott.) Ne sal þe nawight be *wit-losen þe maidenhed þat þou hast chosen. *Ibid.* 14109 þe better lott has mari chosen, þat hir mai nagat be withlosin. *13.. E.E. Allit. P. A.* 915 As þou art glorious with-outen galle, *With-nay þou neuer my ruful bone. *c 1440 Pallad. on Husb.* iii. 1151 If thai withnay Her fruit. *c 1450 Brut* II. 480 Then she withneyed and withseyd all the poyntez þat were put. *a 1315 SHOREHAM Poems* vii. 308 By ryztte he myztte be *wyp-nome Ryzt ase a qued. *13.. S.E. Leg. (MS. Bodl. 779)* in Herrig's Archiv LXXXII. 374/297 Ic am a-knowe þat ic whyl-er þe wit-nom amys. *1340 Aeyenb.* 17 þe more þet me wip[þ]nimp and blamep... þe more he him wreþp. *Ibid.* 66 Efter þan comep þe wipnmynges... huanne me atwynt ane man oper his zennes. *c 1340 Nominale* (Skeat) 290 Woman thretith and withnemyth. *a 1340 HAMPOLE Psalter* xxxviii. 2 þat nane reprouabil word *withpassid me. *c 888 ÆLFRED Boeth.* x. §1 Ne mæg ic na *wiðcweðan ne andsa-cigan þæt þe þu me ær sædest. *c 1200 Trin. Coll. Hom.* 137 He wið-quað and sede *Non sum ego christus*. *a 1300 Cursor M.* 20726 *Witschap scho vs, we sal ha blam. *a 1400 Sir Degrev.* (Linc. MS.) 1180 (Luick) Withscapid nane hym fra. *1398 Trevisa Barth. De P. R.* viii. xl. (Tollem. MS.), [Light] putteþ nougt it selfe deep into a body þat is *with-schadowid [orig. *umbrosi*]. *a 1300 Cursor M.* 2893 Godd *wit schild 3e do þat sin. *13.. Ibid.* 5011 (Gött.). *1340 Aeyenb.* 254 *Wypscore [MS. Bodl. 283 fol. 178 kit a weye] and wyppdras þine willes and zete ane byrdel to pine couaytises. *a 1400 Pistill of Susan* 231 (Cott. MS.) Sche *withe-shonte for no shame. *a 1300 Cursor M.* 12900 Moght it nangat þe *witslip þat he-self said o pi wirscip. *c 1375 Ibid.* 16196 (Fairf.) Herode... asked him... Quy þai him squa *wipsozt [Cott. bisoght]. *1330 R. BRUNNE Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 15660 Toward þe southe he wolde haue fled, But Edwyn his weye *wyp-sperd. *Ibid.* 13503 þat weye þey haue vs *wyp-sted þat y scholde 3ow haue inne y-led. *14.. Tundale's Vis.* 1628 (MS. A.) In grett povertte was he *wipstadde. *c 1460 Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 204, I knowe wele I may nat *with-starte, I have so doone, I ought to dreede. *1854 S. DOBELL Balder* iii, Death, careful of my learning, hath *withstayed His final presence. *1885-94 R. BRIDGES Eros & Psyche* May v, It fill'd the passage of the rising glade, And there withstay'd the sun in dazling sheen. *Ibid.* July xix, There was no repentance coud atone For her dishonour, nor her fate withstay. *c 1175 Lamb. Hom.* 15 Heore uel þe heo doð þu æst to hetene and *wið-stewen. *c 1400 Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 65 þat poude *wipstreynep [orig. *constringit*] þe blood. *1904 RYLE Holy Script. & Crit.* 122 With difficulty is the multitude withstrained from doing sacrifice. *c 897 ÆLFRED Gregory's Past C.* xxxvi. 254 Balaham... wolde feras ðær hiene mon bæd, ac his estfulnesse *wiðteah se esol þe he onuppan sæt. *c 1175 Lamb. Hom.* 143 þa þe heom wið-teoð of flesliche lustes. *c 1200 Trin. Coll. Hom.* 63 þe lichames festing is wiðtizing of estmetes. *Ibid.* 79 þat he us wissie to wið-tien of alle flesliche lustes. *c 1275 LAY.* 13242 Nas þar neuere man so bold þat þis wolde *wip-telle. *1563 Mirr. Mag., Ld. Hastings* lxxxvii, God of Justyce had *withturnd that fate.

b. In the earlier version of the Wycliffite Bible it is used in nonce-formations modelled upon L. compounds of *con-*, *co-*: see quotes.

withheezing [HIE *v.*, to hasten] is an error. rendering of L. *cum festinatione* with haste. *withhiden* covered over [HILL *v.*] represents a L. compound of *ob-*.

1382 WYCLIF Isa. lxii. 9 Thei... that *with bern [important] it, shul drinken in myn hoeli porches. — *Ecclus.* xii. 19 Many thingus gruchendeli whistrende shal *with change [commutabit] his chere. *Ibid.* i. 24 Kunnyng and vnderstanding of prudence wisdam shal *with departen [compartietur]. — *Ps.* xxxi[i]. 4, I am turned in my myseise, whil *with ficchid [configitur] is the thorn. — *Gen.* xxiv. 59 The *withfolweris [comites] of hyr. — *Ps.* lxxvii[i]. 33 The 3eeris of hem [failiden] in *withheezing. — *Pref. Ep.* vii. 70 Micheas of Moraschym, the *withaire [coheres] of Crist. — *Gen.* vii. 24 The watris of the flood... *with hiden [obtinuerunt] the erthe. — *Gen.* xxi. 6 Who so euer shal here shal *with lawe to me [corridebit mihi]. — *Ecclus.* li. 15, I shal preisen thi name byslyl, and I shal *withpreisen [collaudabo] it in confessioun. — *Gen.* xxii. 3 Abraham on the nyzt *with rysynge [consurgens], digte his asse.

withal (wíðo:l), *adv.* and *prep. arch.* [Properly two words, orig. *with al(le)* (see *WITH prep.* and *ALL A.* 9e); in the earliest instances predominantly northern; ultimately superseding the older *mid alle* (see *MID prep.* 7 a). The spelling *withall* continued till nearly 1800.]

A. adv. 1. Along with the rest; in addition; besides; moreover; likewise; as well. Often in

the collostructions *and withal* (so-and-so), *and* (so-and-so) *withal*. See also FORTHWITHAL.

c1200 ORMIN 2572 Ne nan ne beop.. þatt muþe.. tredenn dun þe deofless mahht, swa summ þho tradd wipp alle. *Ibid.* 2997 þatt Godess Gast he iss soþfasst Godd & Almahhtiz wipp alle. *Ibid.* 4203 He beop all unnbeshorenn þa swa þwerit ut wel wipp alle. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 7012 Seint edward held at windelsore a uair feste wip alle. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 3491 He þat was rugh was rede wit-al. **13.. K. Horn** 424 (Harl.) Ich am ybore þral, þy fader fundlyng wip al. **13.. Guy Warw.** (A.) 2984 Romiraunt com forþ snelle A Sarrazin a strong wip elle. **1393** LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. xi. 143 The constable of þat castel.. Is a wys knyght with-al. **c1470** HENRY Wallace iv. 549 A bow he bair.. And arrous als, bath lang and scharpe with aw. **1528** MORE *Dyaloge* iii. Wks. 224/1 Thereupon they burne up the booke and sometime the good manne withall. **1542** UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 35 Meryly spoken & nipplyngly withall. **1611** Bible Acts xxv. 27 It seemeth to me vnreasonable, to send a prisoner, and not withall to signifie the crimes laid against him. **1643** SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* ii. §2. 139 He that shall consider how many thousand severall words have bene.. composed out of 24. Letters; withall how many hundred lines there are to be drawn in the fabrick of one man; shall [etc.]. **1671** MILTON *P.R.* iv. 128, I shall, thou say'st, expel A brutish monster: what if I withal Expel a Devil who first made him such? **1771** FRANKLIN *Autobiog.* Wks. 1840 I. 11 When he played and sung withal, it was extremely agreeable to hear. **1808** SCOTT *Marm.* i. xxviii, Nor lord nor knight was there more tall Or had a statelier step withal. **1837** SOUTHEY *Let. to Wynn* 24 May, Withal I have not often read a book that interested me so much. **1883** D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* viii, She.. was so sweet and kind, and withal seemed.. so dependent on him. **1897** MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 266 Of such peculiar suppleness that you could wind it round anything, .. and as strong withal as a hawser.

b. Contextually: 'At the same time'; in spite of all; notwithstanding, nevertheless.

1596 DANETT tr. *Comines* viii. v. 326 Yet is it verie troublesome for horsemen, because it is full of ditches like to Flaunders, .. but withall it is much pleasanter. **1654** BP. BRAMHALL *Just Vind.* vi. (1661) 124 St. Gregory.. disliked the Law, but withal according to his duty published it. **1794** SOUTHEY *Let. to G. C. Bedford* 11 May, They have shown me that happiness is attainable; but, withall, taught me by repeated disappointments never to build on so sandy a foundation. **1802** WORDSW. *To the Small Celandine* 17 Modest, yet withal an Elf Bold, and lavish of thyself. **1859** LANG *Wand. India* 161 He confessed that his master was rather severe, but withal a very good man. **1880** *Academy* 23 Oct. 299/2 This.. impressive, though withal faulty, work.

2. = THEREWITH 2, 3.

a1300 *Cursor M.* 12318 Iesus.. bar it ham als in a ball, And present þan his moder wit-all. **1389** in *Engl. Gilds* (1870) 101 Ye Den schal gedren ye forseide halpenys, and bywyht-al breed. **1390** GOWER *Conf.* I. 83 Lok thou dele nocht withal. **c1400** Rule *St. Benet* (prose) 29/33 Yef any es tan wid-al. **1535** COVERDALE *I Macc.* iv. 44 He toke aduysement, what he might do withall. **1586** T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* i. 301 A Philosopher.. taking a lanterne and a candle lighted at midday.. was demanded what he ment to do withall. **1605** A. WOTTON *Answ. to late Popish Articles* 78 We are not ashamed of our small number: though the Papists twight vs with all, in comparison of their huge multitudes. **1657** SANDERSON *Serm.* Pref. §4 The Papists, .. escaping in the mean while Scott-free, seldome or never meddled withall in any of their Sermons. **1833** MRS. BROWNING *Prometh. Bound* 92 Having spoiled the gods Of honours, crown withal thy mortal men Who live a whole day out.

to begin withal: see WITH *prep.* 37 e.

1531 TINDALE *Expos. i John* v. (1538) 83 And to begynne withall, they sayde *Confiteor*. **1553** BRADFORD *Serm. Repentance* (1574) B vij b, I wyll (to begyn withal) shew you what repentance is. **1590** MARLOWE *2nd Pt. Tamburl.* v. i, Then have at him, to begin withal.

†**b.** *I cannot do withal:* I cannot help it.

1470-1611 [see DO v. 54].

b. *prep.* Substituted for WITH *prep.* in postposition, esp. at the end of a relative clause or its equivalent or of a direct or indirect question, governing a relative (expressed or implied) or an interrogative; †occas. = WHEREWITHAL 2 b.

The relative may be either expressed (e.g. *that.. withal* = with whom or which; *as after such*, etc.) or not expressed (freq. in the inf. construction, e.g. *a rod to be beaten withal* = a rod with which to be beaten).

The advs. *herewithal*, *therewithal*, *wherewithal*, were modelled upon the earlier *herewith*, *therewith*, *wherewith*.

a1300 *Cursor M.* 6374 Bot tel yew of his suinc i sall, He drou pat fraward folk wit-all. **c1400** MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxvi. 122 þai giffe a grete soume of monnee for to bye oute paire penaunce withall. **1477** EARL RIVERS (Caxton) *Dictes* 7 Leste ye resemble hym that seketh a rod to be betyn with all. **1517** in *Glasscock Rec. St. Michael's, Bp.'s Stortford* (1882) 35 A skeyn to kefer w' alle the same booke. **1523** LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cxlvi. 71 b/2 And we be so sore strayed that we haue nat to lyue withall. **1526** TINDALE *Matt.* xvi. 26 What shall a man geve to redeme hys soule agayne with all? **1531** *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 25 Suche tithes as I was behind withall. **1555** R. POWNALL *Musculus' Temporiser* i. Bvjb, Yonder commeth he that I haue dyuers tymes desyred to talke withall. **1600** SHAKS. *A.Y.L.* iii. ii. 328 *Ros.* Ile tel you who Time ambles withall, who Time trots withal, .. and who he stands stil withall. *Orl.* I prethee, who doth he trot withal? **a1628** PRESTON *Breastpl. Faith* (1630) 30 Whatsoever you part withall, you shall have a hundred fold in this life. **1665** in *Extr. St. Papers rel. Friends* Ser. iii. (1912) 236 P. J. .. tooke one Rebekah who he lues withall as his wife. **1703** MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* 238 Which sort of Bricks, is commonly used.. to pave Yards or Stables withal. **a1774** GOLDSM. *Surv. Exp. Philos.* (1776) I. 365 Though we took the best telescope to observe him withal. **1821** SCOTT *Kenilw.* iv, But for hurting a man I have drunk my morning's draught withal, 'tis clean against my conscience. **1884** LOWELL *Democr.* (1887) 6 Such eyes and ears as Nature had been pleased to endow me withal.

†**b.** in other cases, esp. with indirect passive. **1556** in *Lodge Illustr. Brit. Hist.* (1791) I. 215 Notwithstanding ther layt brags and doings, wherein they have ben somewhat met w'ball. **a1568** ASCHAM *Scholem.* i. (Arb.) 45 Will in children, wiselie wrought withall, maie easelie be won. **1642** TASMAN *Jrnl.* in *Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* 1. (1694) 141 From that time they were better to be spoken withal. **1680** ALLEN *Peace & Unity* Pref. p. xv, If such were indulgently dealt withal and tolerated. **c1685** ROXB. *Ball.* (1891) VII. 477 Full six legs she travels withal. **1700** T. BROWN tr. *Fresny's Amusem.* 28 The Devil's Broker may be spoken withal every Sunday.

Witham ('witəm). Also 6 wyttam, wittam, wittome, 7 witham. The name of certain villages in Lincolnshire and Essex. *Little* (or *small*) *Witham* was used proverbially (with pun on WIT sb.) for a place of which the inhabitants were remarkable for stupidity. Hence (app.), without qualification, used for: A witless person, a fool.

1538 BALE *Thre Lawes* Bij, Small wyttam be your spede. **1562** J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 182 Whens come great breeches? from little wittam. **1589** NASHE *Anat. Absurditie* C 3 b, Who so snatcheth vp follies too greedilie.. may happes proue a wittome whiles he fisheth for finer witte. **1589** *Martins Months Minde* G 2 b, I appoynt.. to each of them an Aduosoun: To the former of small Wittam: and to the other of little Brainford. **1589** *Almond for Parrat* D 4, G. W. of Wig. house, in the land of little Wittam, chosen to the place and function of a pastor. **a1661** FULLER *Worthies, Lincs.* (1662) 153 Lincolnshire.. Proverbs. He was born at Little Witham... It is applied to such people as are not overstock'd with acutenesse.

withamite ('wiðəməit). *Min.* [f. the name of its discoverer, H. *Witham*: see -ITE¹.] A red or reddish-yellow variety of epidote, found at Glencoe in Scotland.

1825 D. BREWSTER in *Edin. Jrnl. Sci.* II. 218.

†**withbind.** *Obs. rare.* Forms: 1 weopobend, 4 wepebond, withbinde. [OE. **wipobend*, *weopobend* (cf. OLG. *widebinde* 'ligustrum'), f. *wip-* in WITHE + *bend* BEND sb.¹ (Cf. BINDWITH, BENDWITH.)] A name for certain plants having pliant stems.

c1000 Sax. *Leechd.* II. 312 Nim þas wyrte, safenan & mersc meawlan.. & weopobend. **1362** LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. vi. 9 He bar a bordun I-bounde wip a brod lyste, In A wepebondes [v.r. wodebyndes] wyse I-wripen aboute. [1551: see WEEDBIND.] **1648-58** HEXHAM, *Mondt-hout*, .. Privet, Prime-print, or White-withbinde.

†**with-child.** *v. Obs. nonce-wd.* [WITH *prep.* 23 b.] *trans.* To 'get with child', make pregnant.

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* l. ii. 390 The lusty Heav'n with Earth doth company; And with a fruitfull seed.. With-childes.. his own lawfull wife. **1598** *Ibid.* ii. ii. iv. 355.

withdraught. *Obs. exc. arch.* Forms: see WITH *prep.* and DRAUGHT sb.; also 5 wedraught, 6 wyddra(u)ght, -drought, weydraught, widdrawte, 6-7 (8-9 *arch.*) wydraught, 7 widraught. [f. WITH- + DRAUGHT sb., after *withdraw*.]

1. Withdrawal.

1340 Ayenb. 240 þe castel of þe wombe.. ne may him hyealde aye þane gost þanne he is asterued be uestinges and be wyppdrages. **1437** *Rolls of Parl.* IV. 508/2 The.. hurtes.. doonne.. to you.. in withdraught of your due Costumes. **1442** *Ibid.* V. 64/2 Withoute fraude, embeselyng or withdraught therof in eny wise. **c1475** *Partenay* 5927 Thys knight saw hir come, with-draught wold not gette. **1623** T. ADAMS *Peace-offering* (1624) 42 May not a withdraught of all Gods faouours.. be.. foreseen?

b. spec. Withdrawal from an action in court (= RETRAKIT); a fine or fee imposed for this.

Cf. WITHDRAW sb., quot. 1444.

[**1402**, **1455**: see *Essex Rev.* (1907) XVI. 128, 133.] **1600** Maldon (Essex) *Docts.* Bundle 162 lf. 3 (MS.) Withdraughts. Item, they are charged with xxxiiiis. by them receyved for lycenses of concord in accions personalls. **1635** Maldon (Essex) *Borough Deeds* Bundle 80 No. 2 (MS.) Allowance to the said seriants for collectinge of withdrafts behind.

†**2.** A place of retirement or retreat; a retreat; a private chamber, retiring-room; a closet or recess.

1480 CAXTON *Myrr.* iii. xxi. 175 He that hath none other wythdraughte ne other dwelling place. **1481** BOTONER *Tulle on Old Age* (Caxton) b vj, [He] fled by the withdraught into the toure of the same castelle. **1509** *Will Earl of Oxford* (Prerog. Crt. Cant.), ij peces of Rede Worstede vsed to be in the Wydraught of my Chamber. **1530** PALSGR. 288/2 Wydraught, *basse chambre; ortraict; retraict*.

3. A privy; a sewer: = DRAUGHT sb. 45, 46.

Survives locally in leases.

1493-4 *Leicester Borough Rec.* (1901) II. 344 For borde & tymbre for the wedraught. **a1513** FAYAN *Chron.* vi. cciv. (1811) 215 Whan the Kyng was at the withdraught to purge nature. **c1516** in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II. 245 A Hows for the comyn wyddrowght of the said College. **1559** *Boke Presidentes* 26 The sayde mesuage.. with thappurtenances with the pauementes, and wydraughtes of the same. **1671** in Birch *Hist. Charters* (1884) 247 That no man shall make or continue any withdraughts, seat or seats, for houses of easement. **1702** J. K. *New Eng. Dict.*, A *Wydraught*, a Water-course, or Water-passage. **1846** (25 Aug.) *Lease* (Surrey), Privies, sinks, sewers, wydraughts, drains and houses of office. **1896** *Lease*, Fences, pavements, gutters, pipes, drains, wydraughts.

withdraw, sb. *rare.* [f. WITHDRAW v.] Withdrawal, removal; *spec.* = WITHDRAUGHT 1 b.

1444 Maldon (Essex) *Docts.* liber 'A' lf. 32b (MS.) For a defaute, or a withdrawe of courte, a freman shall be amerced at iii d. **1693** C. MATHER *Wonders Invis.* *World* 64 One of these Witnesses was over-perswaded by some Persons, to be out of the way upon G. B.'s Tryal; but he came afterwards with Sorrow for his withdraw. **1720** S. SEWALL *Diary* 11 Nov. (1882) III. 276 Went not to M^{rs}. Winthrop's. This is the 2^d Withdraw. **1727** C. MATHER (*title*) *Christian Loyalty*, Or, some Suitable Sentiments On the Withdraw of King George the First, .. and the Access of King George the Second.

withdraw (wið'drɔ:, wið-), v. Pa. t. withdrew (wið'dru:); pa. pple. withdrawn (wið'drɔ:n). Forms: see WITH *prep.* and DRAW v.; also 4 widdraw; pa. t. 4 wid-drogh, widrouh; pa. pple. 5 othedraw, 6 withdrewed. [f. WITH- (I) + DRAW v. (Cf. L. *retrahere* to RETRACT, RETRAY, F. *retirer* to RETIRE.)]

1. trans. 1. To take back or away (something that has been given, granted, allowed, possessed, enjoyed, or experienced).

a1225 *Ancr. R.* 230 Ure Louerd.. wiðdraweð his grace, & his comfort. **c1315** SHOREHAM *Poems* vii. 490 Ich mey 3yuen, and eke wyp-draze, Al þat myn hys. **13.. Guy Warw.** (A.) 332 þat he no may his loue haue, Grete strengre him dōp wip-drawe. **1390** GOWER *Conf.* II. 91 Lich unto the greene tree, If that men toke his rote aweie, Riht so myn herte scholde deie, If that mi love be withdrawe. **a1400** Prymer (1891) 41 The sonne with draw3 his list. **c1400** Pilgr. Sowle (Caxton 1483) iv. xx. 65 Now the from me withdraweth bytter deth. **1535** COVERDALE *i Chron.* xvii[i]. 13, I wyl not withdrawe my mercy from him. **1597** HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lv. §3 Impossible it is that God should withdraw his presence from any thing. **1602** MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* ii. Wks. 1856 I. 23 My mistresse.. withdrewe her gratus aspect even now. **1611** Bible Transl. Pref. ¶ Those nursing fathers and mothers.. that withdraw from them who hang upon their breasts.. liuelyhood and support. **1815** SHELLEY *Alastor* 16 Withdraw No portion of your wonted favour. **1833** TENNYSON *Two Voices* 145 When Life her light withdraws. **1854** R. S. SURTEES *Handley Cr.* xxxvi. (1901) I. 288 They.. said they'd withdraw their subscriptions from the hounds. **1874** GREEN *Short Hist.* ii. 88. 105 The office of sheriff was withdrawn from the great nobles of the shire. **1898** 'H. S. MERRIMAN' *Roden's Corner* xiv, Then you are not disposed to withdraw your name from the concern?

†**b.** To subtract (arithmetically). *Obs.*

c1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* ii. §45 Vnder that nombre [1400] I wrote a 1397; þan withdrawe I the laste nombre owe of þat, and þan fond I þe residue was 3 3ere. **c1400** Pilgr. Sowle (Caxton) v. xiv. (1859) 81 Where that it nedeth oughite to adden, or withdrawen. **c1430** *Art of Nombryng* (E.E.T.S.) 6 The figures that thow hast withdraw, adde them ayene to the omyst figures.

†**c.** To cause to decline, decrease, or disappear.

c1450 CAPGRAVE *St. Augustine* xxxv. 45 þat 3e schuld.. not be lettyd with no cold which schuld withdrawe 3our deuocion. **1546** Gassar's *Prognost.* bviii, The heat of Summer shalbegynne to be wythdrawne by rayne. **1563** SHUTE *Archit.* Bij b, It hath ben withdrawn and hidden (as almost al other knowlages.. hath bene) through ignorance.

2. To draw back, take away, remove (a thing) from its place or position.

c1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3803 Aaron.. ðis fier blessedde and wið-dro3. **c1386** CHAUCER *Can. Yeom. Prol.* & T. 870 Withdraweth the fir, lest it to faste brenne. **1387-8** T. USK *Test. Love* ii. v. (Skeat) l. 129 Whan the see ebbeth and withdraweth the gravel. **c1400** tr. *Secr. Secr., Gov. Lordsh.* 70 Reubard.. withdrawys þe fleume fro þe mouth of þe stomake. **c1400** MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) vi. 21 Syrus.. withdrew þe water and destruyd þe citee. **1422** YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* 241 Whan a man sittyth atte mette he sholde wythdrawe his honde afor that he be y-fillit. **c1489** CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xiv. 352/12 Whan charlemagne sawe that reynawde had wyth-drawe his baner, he was glad of it. **1648** GAGE *West Ind.* 176, I withdrew my foot a little. **1671** MILTON *Samson* 192 In prosperous days Thyse swarm, but in adverse withdraw their head. **1834** HOOK *Gilbert Gurney* iii, This speech.. induced me suddenly to withdraw my head. **1842** LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 463 So as to admit of withdrawing, and reintroducing the vines without injuring them. **1848** DICKENS *Dombey* lviii, Harriet was withdrawing her hand to open the book, when Alice detained it for a moment. **1854** RONALDS & RICHARDSON *Chem. Technol.* (ed. 2) I. 168 The most appropriate spot for withdrawing the gases from this furnace. **1898** 'H. S. MERRIMAN' *Roden's Corner* xxv, As he spoke he had withdrawn from his pocket a folded paper.

b. To take (one's eyes, etc.) off something.

1477 EARL RIVERS (Caxton) *Dictes* 5 He is happy that with-draweth his ere & his eye from all vyle thynges. **1542** ELYOT, *Oculorum remissio*, a withdrawing of the loke. **1836** DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Tuggs's at Ramsgate*, As her eye caught that of Mr. Cymon Tuggs, she withdrew it from his features in bashful confusion. **1838** — *O. Twist* xxxviii, Till even she, who was not easily cowed, was fain to withdraw her eyes, and turn them towards the ground.

c. To remove (money) from capital, or from a bank or other place of deposit.

1776 ADAM SMITH *W.N.* ii. iii. I. 403 That part is, from that moment, withdrawn from his capital. **1828** *Act 9 Geo. IV* c. 92 §38 After having withdrawn any Sum or Sums of Money from or out of any Savings Banks. **1861** *Act 24 Vict.* c. 14 §4 The Officers of the Postmaster General.. shall not disclose the Name of any Depositor nor the Amount deposited or withdrawn.

d. To draw (a veil, curtain, etc.) back or aside; to draw back (a bolt). *Now rare.*

1797 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Italian* xi, The veil was at length withdrawn. **1833** L. RITCHIE *Wand. Loire* 170 The sound of opening doors, withdrawing bolts, and hoarse voices hallooing from tower to tower. **1841** DICKENS *Barn. Rudge*

ix, Withdrawing the little window curtain, she gazed out. 1878 BROWNING *La Saisiaz* 106 Here's the veil withdrawn from landscape.

3. fig. †a. To retract, revoke, rescind. *Obs.*
c1290 *Beket* 1829 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 159 3if þow wenest wel for-to do, with-drauþ pine dede sone. c1290 *St. Nicholas* 265 *ibid.* 248 With-drauþ þi red, ich þe rede. c1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 3459 The king withdrogh his jugement. c1480 HENRYSON *Test. Cress.* 327 Withdraw thy sentence, and be gracious.

b. To remove from the scope of an inquiry, from a particular category, or the like.

1725 BROOME *Notes Pope's Odyss.* VI. 331 Nausicaa... is withdrawn, and a whole nation introduced for a more general praise of Ulysses. 1839 HALLAM *Lit. Eur.* II. v. §97 One [poem] by Hercules Rollock... is... equal, a few names withdrawn, to any of the contemporaneous poetry of France. 1848 H. R. FORSTER *Stowe Catal.* 236 The next two lots were withdrawn. 1869 *Tozer Highl. Turkey* II. 259 The marvellous element... withdraws the narrative... from the course of ordinary occurrences. 1895 *Law Times Rep.* LXXXIII. 637/2 It was not a case which should have been withdrawn from the jury.

c. To take back, retract (one's words, an expression). Often *absol.* in imper., in parliamentary procedure, to demand the withdrawal by a member of an expression or a statement.

1793 in *Ld. Auckland's Corr.* (1862) III. 37 Burke got up twice, but the House was so satisfied, that it would hear nothing, and nothing was heard but *Withdraw, withdraw.* 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* i. The Chairman was quite sure the hon. Pickwickian would withdraw the expression he had just made use of. 1880 *Hansard's Parl. Deb.* 20 Aug. 1756, I call upon the hon. Member to withdraw the word 'offensive'... (Cries of 'Withdraw!')

d. To refrain from proceeding with or prosecuting (a course of action, a proposal, etc.); to cease to support or present (a candidate, etc.).

1781 BLACKSTONE *Rep.* II. 1028 The Court allowed the Plaintiff to withdraw his Demurrer. 1834 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Steam Excurs.*, Mr. Alexander Briggs moved as an amendment, that [etc.]...; but after some debate consented to withdraw his opposition. 1844 H. H. WILSON *Brit. India* I. 555 The latter proposition was withdrawn. 1880 *Hansard's Parl. Deb.* 20 Aug. 1739 Amendment, by leave, withdrawn. 1891 FARRAR *Darkn. & Dawn* xxiii, Nero... neither repeated nor withdrew his command. 1913 *Act 3 & 4 Geo. V. c. 6* §1 If the candidate is withdrawn or deemed to be withdrawn.

4. †a. To keep back or hold (one's hand); also, to withhold (a blow). *Obs.*

a1300 *K. Horn* 859 (Camb.) His dent he gan wip-draþe, For hi were neþ aslage. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 369 Achilles tho withdraw his hond. c1400 *tr. Secr. Secr., Gov. Lordsh.* 52 Whanne kynges... withdrawes her hondys frome þe... possessions of her subgitz.

†b. To keep back, withhold (something due, customary, or necessary); hence *gen.* to withhold.

a1300 *Cursor M.* 21906 þai serue him all apon pair wise, And man wit-draus his seruise. c1386 CHAUCER *Wife's Prol.* 617, I koude noght withdrawe My chambre of Venus from a good felawe. c1450 *Godstow Reg.* 231 They haue preuyd þat þey with-drowe no dewete þat was wonyd & vsyd. 1510 in *Leadam Seal. Cases Star Chamber* (Selden Soc.) II. 70 The seid priour... withdraweth suche duties as they of Right ought to take. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 6b, Whan god withdraweth his rayne, than shall there be neyther oxen ne cove. 1580 [see WITHDRAWER].

†c. To keep back, restrain (a person, his desires, etc.). *Obs.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 254 þe guode man and þe wyse wyppdraþer hare wyl and hare lostes... be temperance. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 393 Withdrawh this lust and hold the stille. c1450 *Mirk's Festial* 96 Forto wythdraw all men of such opes and wordys Seynt Poule... forbedyth yche cristen man not to speke all maner ydull speche. 1450-1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* I. xix. 51 Yf yt hadde... that any... be distracted from saynge... eny... verse... and may not say yt, but yf he withdrawe his voyce from synngynge. 1530 PALSGR. 781/2 Let him go whan he wyll, he shall nat be withdrawn for me.

5. To draw away, deflect, divert (a person, his mind, etc.) from an object, pursuit, line of conduct, etc.; †also, to draw, attract; to distract. Now *rare*.

†Occas. const. inf.: To divert from doing something.
1340 *Ayenb.* 58 þet hi mysten his... uram þe guode þet hi habep y-conceyued wyppdraþe. *Ibid.*, Yef þou be pine toun wyppdraþst ane man oper a child wel to done. c1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 215 þat man leve no worldly goodis þat wip-drawiþ his wille fro God. ? 1477 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) II. 34 Paraculture more chargeful besynes hath the othredraw yower mynde. 1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A. i.* xxix. Fiv, Withdraw towards the, the hertes of straungers by yeffes. 1542 ELYOT, *Auocamentum*,... recreation, that withdraweth the mynde from heynes or melancholy. 1563 GORDING *Cæsar* III. (1565) 76 Those sorte of rascals whom hope of spoile... had wythdrawen from husbandrye and daylye labor. a1592 GREENE *Jas. IV.* II. ii, With how contrarious thoughts am I withdrawne! Why linger I twixt hope and doubtfull feare? 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* v. iv. 23 Aduantageous care Withdraw me from the odds of multitude. 1606 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* (1885) VII. 181 To alienat and withdraw thaim from their due obedience to his Majestie. 1651 HOBBS *Leviath.* I. viii. 33 Whatsoever is new, or great, withdrawes a man... from the intended way of his discourse. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* VII. 612 They thought Thee to diminish, and from thee withdraw The number of thy worshippers. 1841 ELPHINSTONE *Hist. India* I. 593 It would have been happy if he had never been withdrawn from those pursuits. 1859 W. COLLINS *Q. of Hearts* i, The circumstances which have withdrawn us from the world for the rest of our days.

6. To remove (a person) from a position; to cause to retire or recede; †occas. to take aside;

spec. to cause (a force, troops) to retire from a position; to draw off from an engagement.

a1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 107 Mani that haue be withdrawe oute of abbeyes, for thaire londes. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 149 Saturne wythdrowe his peple on that oon syde. a1548 HALL *Chron.*, *Edu. IV* 206 His onely sauegarde and comforte, were to withdrawe hym and his compaignie into Fraunce. a1592 GREENE *Jas. IV.* III. iii, A shining blade Withdrawes a coward theefe that would inuade. 1615 in *Bucleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 160, I presently did withdraw him... until I had discovered that which I desired. 1621 ELSING *Debates Ho. Lords* (Camden) 87 The prisoner withdrawn. 1805 C. JAMES *Milit. Dict.* (ed. 2), To withdraw, to call back; to make to retire. 1821 SHELLEY *Adonais* xlii, Where'er that Power may move Which has withdrawn his being to its own. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* ix, A soulder... had... withdrawn in pursuit of him all the dogs... and the greater part of the huntsmen. 1836 THIRLWALL *Greece* xxi. III. 175 She would be compelled to with-draw her forces from Lesbos. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lx, Walter Scape was withdrawn from Eton, and put into a merchant's house. 1891 FARRAR *Darkn. & Dawn* xx, She has withdrawn her spies.

b. Law. To remove (a juror) from the panel in order to put an end to the proceedings.

a1676 HALE *De Jure Maris* I. vi. (1787) 36 The court and the king's attorney-general... were so well satisfied with the defendant's title, that they moved the defendant to consent to withdraw a juror. 1789 *New Lond. Mag.* Sept. 458/2 And Mrs. Phillips agreed on her part that a Juror should be withdrawn. 1866 FOSTER & FINLASON *Nisi Prius Cases* IV. 942 The plaintiff's counsel proposed to withdraw a juror, which was assented to. 1881 ODGERS *Libel & Slander* 550 Actions of defamation are often compromised before the judge comes to sum up the evidence. A juror is often withdrawn, sometimes at the suggestion of the judge.

†7. = withdraw from in various senses. *Obs. rare.*

1340-70 *Alex. & Dind.* 895 Sin 3e maugray 3our miht mote hit wip-drawe. c1400 *Beryn* 1257 Yff þow wolt drawe the to wit, & rebawdry withdrawe. c1450 *Godstow Reg.* 304 He with-drow the forsaid court, by the mean of a frendly accorde.

II. *refl.* 8. To remove oneself from a place or position; = 12. Now *rare* or *arch.*

a1300 *Cursor M.* 19175 þai badd þat þai pam suld witrau Quils þai samen spak a thrau. 13... *Ibid.* 21654 (Edinb.) Adam quon he wroht hauid woz Vndir þis tre he him wip-droþ. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 73 He him withdrowh So prively that sche ne wiste Wher he becom. c1410 *Master of Game* xxvi. (1904) 83 þei ought to wipdrawe hym in þe softest maner... and þan go preuyli to þei be vndir þe wynde. c1450 CAPRAVE *Life St. Aug.* 39/19 He wepte, and with-drow him. 1485 *Rolls of Parl.* VI. 314/1 The said William had withdrawn him out of thys Lande. 1530 PALSGR. 783/1 He hath withdrawn him selfe in some corner. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II.* v. iii. 28 Withdraw your selues, and leaue vs here alone. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 627 Vortigern had withdrawn himselfe into these parts. 1718 ATTERBURY *Serm., Acts* i. 3 (1734) I. 177 It was requisite that he should not withdraw himself from their Sight, at once. 1839 LANE *Arab. Nts.* I. 103 The King disguised himself, and... withdrew himself from the midst of his troops.

†b. Of combatants, troops, etc.: = 12 b. *Obs.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 3253 þe brutons hom wipdrowe, & þe saxons hom reste. c1300 *K. Horn* 886 (Laud MS.) Hys feren gonnen hem wyt drawe. 1387 TREvisa *Higden* (Rolls) III. 169 Cirus... feyned hym to flee and wipdrowh hym.

†c. Of water: = 12 c. *Obs.*

c1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxiv. 111 þe see, þat before bette apon þe mount, withdrewe it. 1422 YONGE *tr. Secr. Secr.* 196 The See meveth and hym wyth-drawyth aftr the mewynge... of the mone.

9. To remove oneself from a condition, sphere, society, etc.; = 13. Now *rare* or *arch.*

a1300 *Cursor M.* 28136 Oft als haue i me wit-draun Til vncuth pryst, and fra myn aun. 1553 EDEN *Treat. Newe Ind.* Gjb, Voyces of deuyls... withdrawing them from the right waye. 1560 DAUS *tr. Sleidane's Comm.* 102 b, It is also to be feared lest suche as wold haue ioynd them selues vnto this league, wyll be affrayde now of this, and withdrawe them selues. 1612 SIR J. DIGBY *Let.* 10 Oct. in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. 1. 609 Some of the beste of them have withdrawn themselves from their trade. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 24 Let our Imagination therefore among multitudes of people... withdraw it selfe to some secrecie. 1663 *Sc. Acts Chas. II* (1820) VII. 455/2 All... persons who shall... wilfully withdraw and absent themselves from the ordinary meetings of divine worship. 1770 JUNIUS *Let.* xxxix, He cannot withdraw himself from the Complaints... of his Subjects. 1798 MALTHEUS *Popul.* (1878) 448 Every man may... have the redress of withdrawing himself from the club. 1812 BELSHAM *Mem. Lindsey* 348 Withdrawing himself from an office the duties of which he was so fully competent to discharge. 1865 DICKENS *Let.* (1880) II. 233, I am withdrawing myself from engagements of all kinds.

†10. To cease, refrain; = 14. *Obs.*

c1290 *St. James* 159 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 38 Of is lupere pouzt þat he pouzte for drede he him with drovz. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 10221 þe king of alimayne sende... To king Ion, þat he wipdrowe him of is wou. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 10872 Of þat man hyt ys grete drede, þat wyppdraþh hym fro gode dede. 1340 *Ayenb.* 52 Huanne hi wip-draþeþ to wel. 1422 YONGE *tr. Secr. Secr.* 243 He that is custumet to ette two tymes in the day, yf he wythdrawe hym sodaynly, anone he may grevaunce take.

†11. To contact. *Obs. rare.*

1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 497 His synewis shronke and withdrewe them.

III. *intr.* 12. To go away, depart, or retire from a place or position, from some one's presence, to another room or a private place, etc.; †to draw back or turn aside.

c1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3983 If ðin asse ne were wið-draþen, Her suldes ðu nu wurðen slaþen. [Vulg. nisi asina declinasset de via... te occidisset, Num. xxii. 33.] 1398 TREvisa *Barth. De P.R.* VIII. xxii. [xi.] (Tollem. MS.), Noust with-drawinge

towarde þe lyfte side, oper towarde þe ryzt side. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 170 He made his marouners to saylle and rowe with alle diligence for to withdrawe fro the porte. *Ibid.* 239 Whan she was a lytill withdrawn fro the temple. 1577 HOLINSHED *Chron.* II. 302/2 The people with their goodes and Cattell being fled and withdrawn into the Wooddes and Mountaynes. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* III. iv. 100 Madam, withdraw, the Prince... and all the gallants of the towne are come to fetch you to Church. 1600 *1st Pt. Sir J. Oldcastle* v. x. 43, I will withdraw into some other roome. 1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* II. 711 Who was there, but withdrawn under a hedge with the Prince and Duke. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Past.* viii. 19 Scarce from our upper World the Shades withdrew. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 108 ¶6 Upon with-drawing into my Room after Dinner. 1712 *Ibid.* 536 ¶1 She delivered the remaining part of her Message, and with-drew. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* XVIII. xiii, Sophia now took the first Opportunity of withdrawing with the Ladies. 1781 COWPER *Retirem.* 447 A man... Who comes when call'd, and at a word withdraws. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* II xxviii, The Minstrel... from the shore withdrew. 1828 LYTTON *Pelham* III. iii, I bowed slightly, and she withdrew to the countess. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xxvii. 209 The men... withdrew from me, and approached the eastern boundary of the glacier. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* iii. §3. 127 By the treaty of Lambeth, Lewis promised to withdraw from England.

b. Of combatants, troops, etc.: To retire from the field of battle or any contest, or from an advanced position.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 3681 Prest aþen him he was & slou of hom to grounde, so þat hii gonne wip drawe. c1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 12746 Lenger to iuste myght þey nought stonde, But þem defended all wyppdrawande. a1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 2015, I... will at þou know þat for na drede I with-draw. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 401 Whan the two oostes were withdrawn. a1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lix. 203 Cause your men to withdraw fro the batayle. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III.* v. iv. 8 Withdraw my Lord, Ile helpe you to a Horse. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* XI. 559, I beg your Greatness... beaten, to withdraw. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 83 ¶10 The Confederates are preparing to withdraw into Winter Quarters. 1880 HENSMAN *Afghan War* (1881) 449 The Amir's troops... only withdrew at daylight.

†c. Of water: To subside, ebb. *Obs.*

c1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 596 In armenie ðat arche stod, Do was wið-draþen ðat ilc flod. *Ibid.* 599 Dunes wexen, ðe flod wið-droþ. a1300 *K. Horn* 1399 (Camb.) Whanne þe se wip droþe. c1400 *Destr. Troy* 2008 The wodenes of waghes wightly with droghe. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 280 Whan the see was withdrawn & ferre ebbid. 1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. liii. [liii]. 76/2 They founde y^e ryuers withdrawn. 1618 BOLTON *Florus* III. x. (1636) 199 The Tide withdrawing upon course.

13. To draw away from a person; to remove oneself or retire from a society or community, from publicity, etc.; to retire from participation in or pusuit of something; †to resign.

c1385 CHAUCER *L.G.W.* 257 [331] Thow... makyst wise folk fro me withdrawe. 1540 *Bible* (Cranmer) Prov. xix. 7 Hys awne frendes withdrawe from him. 1667 MARVELL *Corr. Wks.* (Grosart) II. 227 A large petition from the Earle of Clarindon, intimating that he was withdrawn. 1677 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* Ser. III. (1912) V. 120 Withdrawing from the publik ordinances in their owne paroch kirkes. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* XII. 757 [He] wisely from th' infectious World withdrew. 1715 POPE *Iliad* II. 448 Now great Achilles from our aid withdraws. 1746 HERVEY *Medit.* (1818) 108 Wisely they withdrew from that immense multiplicity of learning. 1798 FERRIAR *Illustr. Sterne* iii. 63 An ideal world, into which we can withdraw at pleasure. 1849 A. SCRATCHLEY *Build. Societies* 100 Desirous of with-drawing from the society. 1853 NEWMAN *Hist. Sk.* (1873) II. 1. iv. 174 Classes and ranks withdraw from each other more and more. 1870 J. E. T. ROGERS *Hist. Glean.* Ser. II. 23 Wiklif withdrew from his political and social projects. 1892 GLADSTONE in *Daily News* 4 Nov. 5/4, I have... withdrawn from all attendance at public banquets. 1911 MARETT *Anthropology* ix. 237 No one has a chance of withdrawing into his own soul.

†b. Of an immaterial thing, a condition, etc.: To depart, disappear.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6583 [He] biheld toward þe water, & is grete herte wipdrou. *Ibid.* 9189 þe verste tuo 3er god cas & hap inou... com to king steuene, ac suppe it wip drou. 13... *Cursor M.* 4698 (Gött.) Bot alkines welth bigan wid-drau. 1426 AUDELEY *Poems* 25 Dredles deuocioun hit is with draw. 1450-1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* II. 151 Ten grace withdrawyth and the fende enteryth.

†14. Const. of of inf. To cease or refrain from, or from doing, something. *Obs.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 10893 Seint edmond... ofte him bisouþte þat he wipdrowe of is dede. 1340 *Ayenb.* 53 Ich wille þet þou loki and wyppdraþe. c1375 *Cato Major* 523 in *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 598 þou most with-drawe of diuers metes, And vse no glotenie. 1450-80 *tr. Secr. Secr.* v. 8 Whan he withdrawith forto take the goodis and possessions of his sugetis.

withdrawable (wɪð'drɔːəb(ə)l), *a.* [f. prec. + -ABLE.] Capable of being withdrawn.

1850 HERSCHEL *Ess.* (1857) 392 Its deposits being withdrawable only at a market value. 1876 GLADSTONE in *Contemp. Rev.* June 6 All other rights... are called rights only by way of accommodation, for they are withdrawable at will. 1903 in *Q. Rev.* (1905) Jan. 67 Half... had to be invested in stock and the other half was withdrawable.

withdrawal (wɪð'drɔːəl), [f. as prec. + -AL.] (Superseding WITHDRAWMENT, which took the place of the earlier WITHDRAWAL and WITHDRAW sb.)

1. a. The act of taking back or away what has been held, occupied, or enjoyed.

1839 LANE *Arab. Nts.* I. 80 Thou deservest... the withdrawal of protection from thee. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xxv.

189 The cold, resulting from the withdrawal of the sunbeams.

b. The removal of money or securities from a bank or other place of deposit.

1861 *Regulations P.O. Savings Banks* §15 If any person shall fraudulently represent himself to be a Depositor, and by forwarding the proper notice of withdrawal... shall obtain any sum of money. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 28 May 5/3 The bank was in difficulties through large withdrawals.

2. The act of withdrawing a person or thing from a place or position, *esp.* the removal of troops by way of retreat.

1838 *MEESON & WELBY Cases Exch.* II. 36 It was no part of the agreement between the parties that the withdrawal of a juror should put an end to the suit at all events. 1844 *H. WILSON Brit. India* II. 480 He urged the withdrawal of the British officers, as their presence was no longer necessary. 1877 *HUXLEY Physiogr.* 37 The artificial withdrawal of water to feed the canal. 1892 *HARDY Well-beloved* I. v. Their application for admission led to the withdrawal of a bolt.

3. The retraction of a statement, proposal, etc. 1835 *T. Hook G. Gurney* xiv, I thought perhaps the news... might have induced you to retract; and that you might have considered it a perfect justification of your withdrawal. 1885 *Law Times LXXVIII.* 384/2 In consequence of his resignation, and notwithstanding his withdrawal of it.

4. a. The act of retiring or retreating from a place or position.

1824 *MISS MITFORD Village Ser.* I. 190 Perhaps, indeed, Joel's rapid improvement might be one cause of William's withdrawal. 1836 *Act 6 & 7 Will. IV.* c. 32 §1 The Withdrawal of such Member [from a society]. 1848 *DICKENS Dombey* xxxvi, It was a sight to see her lord... hold the door open for the withdrawal of the ladies. 1884 *BRYCE in Hansard's Parl. Deb.* 15 Mar. 1716 A vote which... would accelerate... the withdrawal of England from Egypt. 1891 *Law Times Rep. LXV.* 603/1 Desertion implies an active withdrawal from a cohabitation that exists.

b. *Psychol.* The state or process of psychic retreat from objective reality or social involvement; also *transf.*

1916 *C. E. LONG tr. Jung's Coll. Papers on Anal. Psychol.* vi. 203 Autistic withdrawal into one's own phantasies is what I formerly designated as the obvious overgrowth of the phantasies of the complex. 1937 *K. HORNEY Neurotic Personality of our Time* v. 98 The fourth means of protection [sc. against the basic anxiety] is withdrawal. 1957 *P. LAFITTE Person in Psychol.* xii. 181 Withdrawal and regression... are general classes of behaviour as compared to the social specificity of striving for advancement or mendacity. 1970 *TOURNAINE & PÉCAUT in I. L. Horowitz Masses in Lat. Amer.* iii. 90 At the lowest level, we find withdrawal, characterized by a rejection of the industrial world. 1973 *Jrnl. Genetic Psychol.* June 315 One type of children's fantasy is 'withdrawal'.

5. Cessation of use or provision of a drug; *spec.* the interruption of doses of an addictive drug, with resulting craving and physical reactions.

The 1897 example is an isolated one.

1897 [see INJECTOR 2]. 1929 *D. HAMMETT Dain Curse* xxi. 237 Tears were one of the symptoms of morphine withdrawal. 1965 *WILNER & KASSEBAUM Narcotics* vi. 96 Withdrawal of morphine by substitution and subsequent withdrawal of methadon. 1972 *Nature* 22 Dec. 443/1 Dr R. Ericsson... suggested that the criteria for a successful antispermatogenic drug were... return of fertility on withdrawal, and normal libido. 1977 *Lancet* 29 Jan. 255/1 Any doctor prescribing or patient receiving this potent drug should consider carefully the effect of withdrawal which has not, to my knowledge, been researched.

6. = *coitus interruptus* s.v. COITUS.

1889 *W. T. STEAD Diary* 20 Jan. in *J. W. R. Scott Life & Death of Newspaper* (1952) xix. 244, I have from the birth of Willie practised simple syringing with water. Of late always withdrawal. 1923 *M. C. STOPES Contraception* iv. 48 Vaginal stimulation consummating the ejaculation after withdrawal, commonly called 'coitus interruptus'. 1963 *M. MCCARTHY Group* iii. 66 What method of contraception had been used...? 'Withdrawal,' murmured the doctor. 1978 *G. CUNNINGHAM New Woman & Victorian Novel* 6 Such methods as the safe period, the sheath, the sponge... and withdrawal.

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as (sense 5) *withdrawal pain, period, syndrome*, etc.; *withdrawal slip*, a form which must be filled in when withdrawing money from a bank or other place of deposit; *withdrawal symptom*, an unpleasant physiological reaction resulting from the process of ceasing to take an addictive drug; *usu. pl.*; also *fig.*

1924 *Brit. Jrnl. Inebriety* XXI. 88 The withdrawal symptoms of addiction disease. 1929 *LIGHT & TORRANCE in Arch. Internal Med.* XLIV. 11 The general behavior and symptomatology of these addicts were uniform during the forty-eight hour withdrawal period. *Ibid.* 14 Addicts will admit that when they are unable to obtain drugs and when withdrawal symptoms... become severe, the assurance of an available supply at a considerable distance will cause them to travel... with remarkable speed and efficiency. 1961 *Lancet* 23 Sept. 677/1 A steroid withdrawal syndrome occurs in patients who have stopped corticosteroid therapy. 1962 *Ibid.* 6 Jan. 54/2 Lobeline sulphate closely resembles nicotine in many of its pharmacological actions. Using it as a substitute for tobacco during the withdrawal phase, Dorsey found the results 'encouraging'. 1962 *'K. ÖRVIS Damned & Destroyed* xvi. 113, I had seen that stare and twitching frequently enough now... to be able to tag it as an indication of the degree of withdrawal sickness. 1965 *New Statesman* 7 May 716/1 Often these women directly sabotaged the programme. One flushed her son's withdrawal medication down the lavatory. *Ibid.* 3 Dec. 866/2, I asked him how long it was since the withdrawal pains had stopped. 1966 *C. E. ISRAEL Hostages* 94 She wouldn't have had the dreg end of her withdrawal agonies yet. 1967 *Guardian* 7 Dec. 1/6 Methedrine has been used in

heroin withdrawal treatment. 1970 *G. F. NEWMAN Sir, You Bastard* v. 140 Morgan was entering the withdrawal stage and would soon be requiring another intravenous dose. 1970 *G. GREER Female Eunuch* 276 Mrs J. S. used up two supplies of pills in all innocence, and then discovered that she had withdrawal symptoms. 1973 *'E. MCBAIN' Let's hear It* xv. 226 On the withdrawal slip before him, he wrote the date, and the number of his account, and then he filled in the amount. 1976 *Times* 18 Oct. 3/7 Sir Harold Wilson... the former Prime Minister... says he has suffered no 'withdrawal symptoms' since resigning. 1979 *F. OLBRICH Sweet & Deadly* ix. 110 The bank manager... showed Ramesh the withdrawal slip for four thousand rupees.

withdrawer (wɪð'drɔː(r)). [f. as prec. + -ER¹.] One who withdraws, in various senses of the vb.; *spec.* in *Sc. Church Hist.*, one who did not conform to the established church in the 17th century.

1475 *Bk. Noblesse* (Roxb.) 46 Sethe that none suche were never sene withdrawers or fleers from batailles. 1580 *OUTRED tr. M. Cope's Expos. Prov.* 192 b, Joseph... was not a withdrawer of the corne, but a seller. 1606 in *J. Forbes Cert. Rec. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) 519 Contempners of his Majesties lawes, withdrawers and corruptors of his Majestie's subjects hearts from his obedience. c1639 *BAILLE in Boyd Zion's Flowers* (1855) Introd. 43 They are... withdrawers of their hands. 1677 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* Ser. III. (1912) V. 121 Constant withdrawers and keepers of conventicles. 1823 *J. BROWN Hist. Brit. Ch.* (new ed.) II. 312 Parliament... enacted [in 1663] That... all with-drawers from the conform incumbents of their own parish, be punished.

withdrawing (wɪð'drɔːɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. WITHDRAW v. + -ING¹.] The action of the vb. WITHDRAW in various senses.

c1315 *SHOREHAM* iv. 344 þorȝ cheste and mysdoynge And wyȝ-drawynge of god. c1340 *HAMPOLE Prose Treat.* II All manere of withdraweynge of oper men thynges wrang-wysely agaynes þaire wyll. 1340 *Ayenb.* 205 Be wyȝ-drawynge of mete and of drinke. c1380 *WYCLIF Sel. Wks.* III. 348 þei maken londis bareyne for wyȝdrawynge of werkmen. c1430 *Art Nombryng* (E.E.T.S.) 4 In withdrawynge .2. nombres ben necessary. 1471 *CAXTON Recuyell* (Sommer) 262 At the departing hercules passeth lightly the withdrawing & departing of alle hem that were there. 1561 *T. NORTON tr. Calvin's Inst.* II. iii. 22 Euen they that are well minded, are subiecte to so many withdrawinges of minde, that they easily... fal awaye. a1651 *C. LOVE Combat Flesh & Spirit* (1654) 6 A double withdrawing of Gods Spirit. 1689 in *Acts Parl. Scot.* (1875) XII. 65/1 The fyneing husbands for the wives withdrawing from the church is contrair to Law. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. xi. 250 The withdrawing of the guard from the harbour's mouth. 1817 *COLERIDGE in Athenæum* (1894) 8 Dec. 791/2 The quiet withdrawing from any further connection with him. 1862 *TRENCH Mirac.* v. (ed. 7) 177 A withdrawing of the meaner thing, to make receptive of the better.

b. *attrib.* (also WITHDRAWING-CHAMBER, -ROOM).

1570 *LAMBARDE Peramb. Kent* (1576) 378 A certaine withdrawing house, called Otforde. a1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. ii. 31 Withdrawing Corners and Refuges to Robbers. 1803 *MARY CHARLTON Wife & Mistress* IV. 263 Miss Winteram... soon made her withdrawing curtsy. 1821 *SCOTT Kenilw.* vi. They went to the withdrawing apartment. 1898 *Century Mag.* Jan. 456/1 This withdrawing-ground... was within the garden inclosure.

with'drawing, *ppl. a.* [f. WITHDRAW v. + -ING².] That withdraws (usually in intr. senses); drawing back, retiring, receding.

1611 *Bible* Neh. ix. 29 They... withdrew the shoulder [marg. gave a withdrawing shoulder]. a1748 *THOMSON Hymn Solitude* 23 Amid the long withdrawing vale. a1846 *HAYDON Autob.* (1853) I. 179 'That I can't tell you,' said he, with a cold, withdrawing air. 1847 *H. MILLER First Impr. Eng.* ii. 27 By some long withdrawing arm of the sea. 1889 *RUSKIN Præterita* III. iv. 152 Sands which the sunset gilded with its withdrawing glow.

Hence **with'drawingness**, retiring disposition.

1795 *Jemima* I. 207 To shake off all this shyness and with'drawingness from your friends.

†**with'drawing-chamber**. *Obs.* [f. prec. vbl. sb.] = next.

1392-3 *Rolls Parl.* III. 300/2 Triours des Petitions... tendront leur place en la Chapelle de la Withdrawing Chambre. 1444 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) II. 102 Item lego eidem j. burded-bedd in le withdrawynchambre. 1589 *GREENE Menaphon* (Arb.) 73 Samela... flung away to her withdrawing chamber in a dissembled rage. a1670 *HACKETT Abp. Williams* II. (1693) 119 The Bishop being in a withdrawing Chamber, read over the Order so often, that... he got it by heart *verbatim*.

fig. 1621 *BP. MOUNTAGU Diatribæ* 7 In the *Lararijs*, and withdrawing chambers of your *History of Tithes*.

with'drawing-room. *arch.* or *Hist.* [f. as prec.] A room to withdraw to; = DRAWING-ROOM¹ I.

1591 *HORSEY Trav.* (Hakl. Soc.) 204 He was... had into a with-drawinge roem, where many of the lords were. 1611 *L. BARRY Ram Alley* v. i. He waite in the with-drawing roome, Vntill you call. 1661 *EARL ORRERY St. Lett.* (1742) 37 Whilst we were in the withdrawing room, making preparations to go into the house of lords. 1748 *RICHARDSON Clarissa* III. xxxvi. 185 The apartments she has to let are... a withdrawing-room, two or three handsome bed-chambers. 1846 *MRS. A. MARSH Fr. Darcy* xxxii, He sat by her in the large withdrawing room, where she was at work. 1885 *PAYN Talk of Town* I. 110 It was William Henry's habit to quietly withdraw and seek Margaret in the withdrawing-room.

withdrawment (wɪð'drɔːmənt). Now *rare*. [f. WITHDRAW v. + -MENT.] = WITHDRAWAL in

various senses; formerly *spec.* the withdrawal of divine illumination.

1640 *O. SEDGWICK Christs Counsell* 79 All the wrath of God, and the withdrawments of his love. 1666 *G. ALSOP Char. Prov. Mary-Land* (1869) 64, I am certainly confident, that England would as soon feel her feebleness by withdrawal of so great an upholder. 1677 *GILPIN Dæmonol.* III. xxiii. 195 An apparent withdrawal from Obedience. a1709 *J. LISTER Autobiog.* (1842) 52 He would sometimes say to me in the times of God's withdrawments, 'O! son, I am not able to bear under God's absence'. 1754 *EDWARDS Freed. Will* II. iii. 41 The Withdrawment or Absence of the Sun. 1817 *CHALMERS in Edin. Rev.* Mar. 4 A great withdrawal of wealth from its former channels of distribution. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 16 Sept. 5/2 The immediate withdrawal from an... expensive colonial policy.

withdrawn (wɪð'drɔːn), *ppl. a.* [pa. ppl. of WITHDRAW v.] In various senses of the vb.; sometimes in a purely static sense, secluded; also of mental state, detached. Also *spec.* in *Psychol.*, characterized by isolation and loss of contact with objective reality. Cf. WITHDRAWAL 4 b.

1615 *CHAPMAN Odysse.* VI. 477 Where abide My Mother, with her withdrawne housewiferies. *Ibid.* xxiii. 8 Wake, Leauie this withdrawne roome. a1651 *SIR J. SKEFFINGTON Heroe of Lorenzo* (1652) 13 She shut her self up in... the most withdrawn chamber of the Palace. 1713 *C'TESS WINCHILSEA Misc. Poems* 94 The withdrawn, the absent Mind. 1723 *POPE Let. to Swift* 12 Jan., Your withdrawn and separate state. 1849 *A. SCRATCHLEY Build. Societies* 100 Withdrawn shares (not wholly subscribed for). 1858 *THOREAU Maine Woods* II. (1918) 157 The stream was so withdrawn... that my companions... concluded to go farther up it. 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 22 Feb. 7/1 The withdrawn lot [of horses] includes Stowmarket and Indian Queen. 1932 *Smith. Coll. Stud. Social Work* III. 145 Only four of the patients... were of the... type often thought to be common among the pre-schizophrenic... Perhaps children of the withdrawn, timid type are only rarely referred to a child guidance clinic. 1950 *Times* 12 May 7/7 The emotional re-education of the severely withdrawn type was at best a tricky business, for which frequent consultation between the school staff and the psychologist was advisable. 1971 *H. KOHUT Analysis of Self* ix. 243 He not only would tend to become generally withdrawn... and diffusely depressed, but... also manifested a striking change in his dream pattern.

with'drawnness. [f. prec. + -NESS.]

Withdrawn or retired character.

1927 *Public Opinion* Feb. 102/1 He has the curiosity and interest of a young man and has none of the settled habits and introspection and withdrawnness of an old man. 1976 *Classical Q.* XXVI. 161 A more general characteristic of the Homeric style, the restrained objectivity and aristocratic withdrawnness.

withe, **with** (wɪð, wɪð, wæð), *sb.* Forms: 1, 3 wɪððe, wɪppe, 4-9 wyth, 5-6 wythe, (4 withthe, wɪppe, 5-6 wyththe), 5-6 wythe, whythe, 6 wethe, 7 wieth, *Anglo-Ir.* whitt; *dial.* 5 wyffe, 6 wifte, wyft, 7, 9 wift, 9 wiff, weef, wef), 6- with, withe. [OE. *wippe*, corresp. to OFris. *withthe*, *witte*, MDu. *wisse* (Wflem. *wisse*, Du. *wis*, *wisch*), MLG., LG. *wedde*, OHG. *with*, *widh*, *wit* (MHG. *wit*), OHG. *withi*, *widi*, (MHG. *wide*), also in OHG. *khunawithi* (cf. OE. *cynewippe*), ON. *wð* (gen. *viðjar*), *viðja* (Sw. *vidja*, Da. *vidje*);—OTeut. **wipjōn-*, **wipi-*. Other Teut. variants are represented by MLG. *wide*, OHG. *wida* (MHG. *wide*, G. *weide*) willow, Goth. *wida* in *kunawida* chain, ON. *viðir* willow, OE. *wipig* WITHY, q.v. (The variant forms with *f* are mainly Kentish.)

Outside Germanic cognate words of similar meaning from Indo-Eur. *weīt-*, *wit-* are:—Zend *vaēti-* willow, Gk. *irēa* willow (:= **ferefā*), *trus* fellow, L. *vitis* vine, Lith. *vytis* wand, OPruss. *witwan* willow, Oslav. *věti* branch, OIr. *féith* 'fibra' (:= **weiti*). According to a widely accepted view *weīt-* is a derivative of *wi-*, which is represented also by L. *viēre* to plait, *WIRE* *sb.*, and perh. *WOUGH*, *wall*.)

1. a. A band, tie, or shackle consisting of a tough flexible twig or branch, or of several twisted together; such a twig or branch, as of willow or osier, used for binding or tying, and sometimes for plaiting.

c1000 *ÆLFRIC Hom.* I. 594 Egeas... bebead ðam cwellerum ðæt hi hine mid widdum handum and fotum on ðære rode gebundon. c1100 in *Wr.-Wülcker Voc.* 105/9 *Circus*, *uel circulus*, *widpe*. *Funiculus*, *uel funis*, *rap*. *Ibid.* 183/16 *Loramentum*, *uel tormentum*, *widðe*. c1200 *ORMIN* 15813, 5 þe Laferrd wrohhæt an swepe þær all itt wære off wippess, To tacennn þatt hemm jarredd was stränge pine i defless wippess. c1205 *LAY.* 25973 þat weore twælf swine iteied to-somme Mid wiðen swiðe grete y-wriðen al to-gadere. a1400 *Sir Perc.* 423 Brydille hase he righte nane;... Bot a wythe hase he tane, And keuylls his stede. c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 531/1 Wythe bonde. *boia*. 1520 *MS. Acc. St. John's Hosp.*, *Canterb.*, Paed for wyft & Roddis for the [thacker] v.d. 1523-34 *FITZHERB. Husb.* §15 The fote-teame shall be fastened... with a shakyll, or a withe to drawe by. 1553 *EDEN Treat. Neue Ind.* Cij, Vnbridede hauinge neither withe nor collar aboute theyr neckes. 1555 *Decades* 271 Theyr shyppees... are tide togyther... with cordes and wyththes. 1570 *FOX E. & M.* (ed. 2) 2165 They found... a casket locked with a padlocke, and so cutting the wifte [printed wiste] thereof, opened it. 1592 *NASHE P. Penilesse* 16 Two Calues... that were coupled together by the neckes with an Oken With. 1600 *HAKLUYT Voy.* III. 192 The manner of their hanging vp of their fish and flesh with wites to dry. 1611 *Bible* Judges xvi. 7 If they binde me with seuen greene wites [Great Bible wites], that were neuer

dried, then shall I be weake. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 181 These Rogues . . . girding their swords to them by a with. 162. *Toke (Kent) Estate Accts.* (MS.) For 300 of wifts. 1639 T. DE GREY *Compl. Horsem.* 271 They haue taken a withe and put it through the hole of the said stone. a 1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) I. 241 Tyinge rope and whitts to either end thereof. 1693 EVELYN *De la Quint. Compl. Gard.* II. 166 We tie up first with Osier withs, and afterwards . . . we . . . wrap up with long Litter . . . some Spanish Cardons. 1712 E. COOKE *Voy. S. Sea* 270 For making of these Bridges, they twist Withes together, like Ropes. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* II. 674 Proper wyths for tying them together. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 281 In fir rims, the wooden withes of the bottom are passed through splits. 1863 KINGSLEY *Water-Bab.* v. 180 A round cage of green withes. 1876 VOYLE & STEVENSON *Milit. Dict.*, *Withes*, twisted rods for securing the web of a gabion. 1877 W. JONES *Finger-ring* 383 A . . . massive gold mourning-ring formed of two knotted withes twisted together. 1881 *Leics. Gloss.*, *Wiff*, var. pron. of 'withe', 'willow-wiffs'. 1885 M. ROSS & STONEHEWER-COOPER *Highl. Cantabria* 335 Rounded stones . . . with grooves around them, where the withe would have been twisted, to form a handle for its manipulation. 1887 *Kentish Gloss.* s.v. *Wiff*, The large kind of fagot, which went by the name of kiln-bush, was bound with two wifts.

b. *gen.* A pliant twig or bough.

1817 JAS. MILL *Brit. India* II. vi. I. 245 As he rises from sleep, a Brahmen must rub his teeth with a proper withe. 1833 M. SCOTT *Tom Cringle* xii. The fork of the tree, from which the withe depended. 1881 MRS. C. PRAED *Policy & P. vii.* A trailing withe of orange begonia.

† c. A willow wand or garland carried into the sovereign's or a nobleman's house at Easter; hence, the ceremony or festivity itself. *Obs.*

1465 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* (Roxb.) 509 Item, on Ester day my master gaff to John Kooke to the wythe, xxd. 1467 *Ibid.* 393 Item, on Estyr day, my mastyr gaffe to the wyffe in the Kenges howse, vj. s. viij. d. 1537 *Privy Purse Exp. Princ. Mary* (1831) 24 Geuen to the Kinges Cookes to thayr wythe at East. . . xls. 1559 *MS. Acc. Bk. Butchers Co. London*, Payd for xii men for y^e brynging in of y^e Quynes wythe. 1598 *Stow Surv.* 72 In the weeke before Easter had yee great shewes made for the fetching in of a twisted Tree, or With, . . . out of the woodes into the kinges house.

d. With allusion to the story of Samson in *Judges* xvi. 7 (see sense 1, quot. 1611).

1835 *FABER Lett.* (1869) 39 My soul arose . . . and cracked in scorn the chains of darkness, like the green withs of the strong man. 1866 MRS. GASKELL *Wives & Dau.* xiv, I know that if I choose to exert myself, I can break through the withes of green flax with which they try to bind me. 1876 *BLACKIE Songs Relig.* 29 Strong by thee, like feeble withes he snapt The bonds of custom.

† 2. A halter, properly one made with withes. *Obs.*

c 1205 *LAY.* 22833 Doð wiððe an his sweore & drazeð hine to ane more. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 11551 Aboute py nekke hanggeþ a wypppe, þat hæp þe departed fro Goddys gryppe. 1340 *Ayben.* 135 þe pief . . . yproued and y-nome and mid mo þanne an hondred misdeides þet hep nieþ þe wypppe ine þe nykke. 1583 *GOLDING Calvin on Deut.* xviii. 21-22. 681/2 Who walked about the streetes as it were with a with about his necke. 1612 *BEAUM. & FL. Coxcomb* III. i. A wyth take him. 1625 *BACON Ess., Custom & Educ.* (Arb.) 371 That he might be hanged in a With, and not in a Halter, because it had beene so vsed, with former Rebels. 1675 T. BROOKS *Gold. Key Wks.* 1867 V. 441 [He] was condemned to the fire with others, only he should have the favour of going to the stake without a wyth. 1694 S. JOHNSON *Notes Past. Let. Bp. Burnet* 1. 1 If the Highest Censures will not do it, we must do as is done in like Cases, we must Take a Wyth.

3. a. A willow. Now *dial.*

c 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 671 Wyth, brome, and quincetre. 1569 *Surrey & Kent Sewers Comm.* (L.C.C. 1909) 31 To Cut vppe the Wythes by the Banck syde. 1572 *Ibid.* 130 To cut vp his wethes & share his bankes throw his groundes. 1696-1864 [see WATER-WITHE]. 1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* II. ii. 330 A Rod . . . made of Red Sallow, Withe or Hazle. 1777 *ROBERTSON Hist. Amer.* IV. 1. 328 The root of the *curare*, a species of withe.

b. The creeping plant *Heliotropium fruticosum*, of Jamaica, the stems of which are used for making baskets.

1657 R. LIGON *Barbadoes* 87 Worse then all weeds, Withs, which are of a stronger growth then the Canes. 1740 *New Hist. Jamaica* (ed. 2) 316. 1847 *GOSSE Birds Jamaica* 373 The gradual predominance of marsh plants, sagittaria, . . . bulrush, and black-withe.

4. *technical.* (See quotes.)

1688 *HOLME Armoury* III. 360/2 A Glovers With . . . is a square Iron, withen (as it were) like a Wreath . . . Upon this they do use to rub and fret their Leather Skins to make them soft and plump; which kind of work from the name of the Instrument, they term Withing. 1867 *SMYTH Sailor's Word-bk.* 736 *With*, an iron instrument fitted to the end of a boom or mast, with a ring to it, through which another boom or mast is rigged out and secured. Also, in mechanics, the elastic withe handles of cold chisels, set-tools, &c., which prevent a jar to the assistant's wrist. 1880 *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 437/2 A blacksmith's chisel held in a hazel withe, and used for hot iron. 1892 *Labour Commission Gloss.*, *Withes*, iron hoops or bands used for binding bales of cotton or rags.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.* as *withe axe*, *handle*, *patch*; *withe-woven* adj.; *withe-rod*, a deciduous shrub, *Viburnum nudum*, native to North America and bearing clusters of small white flowers; also, a thin flexible twig from this or a similar shrub.

1776 G. CARTWRIGHT *Jrnl.* 19 Oct. (1792) II. 215 The people came down from the lodge, and brought . . . a bundle of white-rod[sic]. 1819 *KEATS Let.* 5 Sept. (1958) II. 156 At the days end his thoughts will run upon a withe axe if he ever had handled one. 1839 T. T. STODDART *Songs & P.* 21 The withe-woven pannier. 1846 G. B. EMERSON *Rep. Trees & Shrubs growing in Forests Mass.* 364 The Naked *Viburnum*. Withe Rod . . . A slender, erect shrub. 1865 *TYLOR Early Hist. Man.* viii. 199 Axes made . . . by grinding the edge of a

suitable pebble, and fixing it in a withe handle. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1235/2 Withe-rod, *Viburnum nudum*. 1902 *CORNISH Naturalist Thames* 85, I once turned out a dozen water-hens, a brown owl, a woodcock, and a water-rail, from one little withe patch. 1943 R. PEATTIE *Great Smokies* 265 We recognize the . . . withe rod . . . and wintergreen.

withe, *v.* Now *dial.* and *U.S.* Also 4 *wyþe*, 5 *weþe*, 8 *wythe*, 9 *with*. [f. *prec.*]

1. *trans.* To twist like a withe. Also *fig.*

1398 *TREvisa Barth. De P.R.* xvii. cxliv. (MS. Add. 27944) þey breketh noust but þey beep ymade strengere with wyppynge [Bodl. MS. weping] and wyndynge as preede is with twynynge. 1523 *FITZHERB. Husb.* §15 The horses . . . must haue . . . holmes withed about theyr neckes. 1809 J. BARLOW *Columb.* ix. 621 Bacon . . . Withes Proteus Matter in his arms of might.

2. To bind with a withe or withes; *U.S.* to take (deer) with a noose made of withes.

c 1630 *Bp. HALL Def. Cruelty Wks.* 1634 II. 424 Stay but a while, and yee shall see him with'd, and halter'd, and stak't, and baited to death. 1732 *ELLIS Pract. Farmer* 133 Others . . . will drive in one Stake, and wythe it about the Tree. 1836 *HALIBURTON Clockm.* Ser. I. xvi, If their fences . . . ain't [good], they ought to stake 'em up, and with them well. 1839 *HOFFMAN Wild Scenes* I. xix, What, Linus, you are not a-going to withe the deer? 1841 J. F. COOPER *Deerslayer* vi, Isn't it enough that I'm withed like a saw-log, that ye must choke too?

3. *technical.* (See *prec.* 4, quot. 1688.)

withe, var. *WITH sb.*

withele, var. *WEOTHELE Obs.*

withen ('wiðən, 'waɪðən). *Obs. exc. dial.* (w. *midl.*) Also 4 *wythone*, *withiene*, 5, 9 *wythen*, 6 *wythin*, 7-8 *within*, 9 *wythin*, *withing*. [prob. orig. adj., f. *WITHE sb.* or *WITHY sb.* + -EN⁴, after *aspen*, *beechen*, etc. The west-midland place-name *Withington* is app. f. this word.] A withy or willow. Also *attrib.* or *adj.*

For other uses see Eng. Dial. Dict.

c 1230 *Ancr. R.* MS. C.C.C.C. lf. 22 b, He is as þe wiðin þe spruteð ut þe betere pet me hine croppes ofte. [Cf. quot. a 1225 s.v. *WITHY sb.* 1.] a 1360 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 246 Gayneth me no garland of greene Bot hit ben of wythones [printed wythoues] ywroght. 1382 *WYCLIF Job* xl. 17 Withiene trees [Vulg. *salices*] of the stem. c 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 174/13 He come by a wythen-tre, and made perof a goode 3erde. 1569 *Brasenose Coll. Muniments* (MS.), A dicke quicksetted with thornes and Withyns. 1602 in *Lancs. Q. Sess. Rec.* (Chetham Soc.) I. 145 [John Sorocolde entered a close . . . and cut and took thence] withins. 1635 *BRERETON Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) I. 172, I observed most part of the ground . . . planted with withens. 1688 *HOLME Armoury* III. 295/2 The Hoop Twigs are Withen Twigs Cloven. 1788 *Trans. Soc. Arts* VI. 162 That I should attempt making of Paper from the Bark of Withins. 1788 *Ann. Reg., Projects* 96 The bark or peel of within twigs. 1886 *Cheshire Gloss.*, *Withen* or *Withy*, a willow.

† **wither**, *sb.*¹ *Obs.* [OE. *wipre* (once), f. *wiper* *WITHER a.*] Opposition, hostility; adversity. *on wiðere*, adversely.

Beowulf 2953 [He] wiðres ne truwoðe, þæt he sæmannum onsacan mihte. c 1205 *LAY.* 1418 þe heo wolden mid wiðere þan kinge wið-stonden. *Ibid.* 2884 þe wind him com on wiðere. *Ibid.* 4678 þat ich wes i wide sæ wiðer com togenes.

wither ('wiðə(r)), *sb.*² Also 8 *wether*. [f. *WITHER v.*²]

† 1. A disease of cows. *Obs.*

1652 W. POOLE *Country Farrier* 48 A Cow that hath the Wither. a 1722 *LISLE Observ. Husb.* (1757) 294 The wether that comes forth either before or after calving. [Cf. 1750 *ELLIS Cy. Housewife* 359 That fatal Malady that some call Withering, that is to say, her Bearing comes out behind.]

2. *Tea-manuf.* The process of withering (see *WITHER v.*² 4 c).

1897 D. CROLE *Tea* vii. 114 Should . . . the weather not be propitious for a natural wither, none of this leaf would be ready for rolling. 1903 C. BALD *Indian Tea* xv. (1917) 225 Leaf is ready for rolling when it has become absolutely soft and flaccid, without being in any sense dried up [*marg.* Good wither].

wither, *sb.*³, occas. sing. of *WITHERS*.

'**wither**, *a.* and *adv.* *Obs.* or *dial.* Also 1, 3 *wip̃er*, *wiðer*, 3 *Orm.* *wip̃err*, 4-5 *wyþer*, 5 *wethire*, *wiþer*, *wythr*. [OE. *wiper* *adv.* or *adj.* (rare), related to *wiper* prep. = OFris. *wither*, OS. *withar* (MLG. *wēder*, *wedder*, MDu., Du. *weder*, *weer*), OHG. *widar* (MHG. *wider*, G. *wider* prep. and *wieder* *adv.*), ON. *viðr*, Goth. *wip̃ra*; OE. has also *wip̃(e)re* prep. = ONFris. *withere* (MDu. *wēdere*), OHG. *widari* (MHG. *widere*): f. Indo-Eur. *wi-* denoting separation or division + comp. suffix -tero- (cf. Skr. *vitārām* further). See also *WITHER-1*.]

A. *adj.* 1. Hostile, adverse; fierce.

[c 1000 *Gloss. in Germania* (N.S.) XI. 394/366 *Infensus*, *wip̃er*.] c 1200 *ORMIN* 11389 Ga, wip̃err gast, o bacch fra me. c 1205 *LAY.* 9287 þer he isæh Wiðe[r] king þe wiðer wes an compe. 1387 *TREvisa Higden* (Rolls) I. 275 Sicambri were afterward i-cleped Franci, as it were feranci, þat is wither and sterne. c 1746 J. COLLIER (Tim Bobbin) *View Lanc. Dial.* Wks. (1862) 60 O lustry wither Tyke. [Cf. 1847 *HALLIWELL, Wither* . . . a strong fellow. *Yorksh.* . . . *Withering*, (1) strong; lusty. *Chesh.*]

2. Contrary, opposite; wrong (side).

c 1205 *LAY.* 11972 þa aras heom a wind a pere wiðer side. 13.. *E.E. Allit.* P. A. 230 On wyper half water com doun þe

schore. a 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 3355 þat he wirke noȝt on þe wethire halfe.

† B. *adv.* Hostilely; perversely; fiercely. *Obs.*

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 121 Men biden sown wiðerfulle, þat sown he ȝerenluket clepeð hem to him, swo hie wiðere turneð froward him. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3386 Amalech folc faȝt hard and wiðer.

Hence 'witherly *a.*, contrary, perverse; *adv.*, fiercely, violently. *Obs.* or *dial.*

13.. *E.E. Allit.* P. B. 198 Neuer ȝet in no boke breued I herde þat euer he wreke so wyperly on werk þat he made. *Ibid.* C. 74 Al he wrathed in his wyt & wyperly he poȝt. 1790 *GROSE Prov. Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Witherly*, wilful, contrary. 1847 *HALLIWELL, Witherly*, hastily; violently. *Devon.*

† **wither**, *v.*¹ *Obs.* [OE. *wiperian* = MDu. *wedderen*, OHG. *widarōn* (MHG. *wider(e)n*): f. *wip̃er* (see *prec.*)] *intr.* To be hostile; to offer resistance, fight, struggle.

c 1000 *ÆLFRIC Hom.* I. 552 For ði synd ða ȝesibsuman Godes bearn, forðan ðe nan ðing on him ne wiðerap onȝean God. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 63 ȝif we wiðerið on dede and on speche toȝenes ure chirche. c 1220 *Bestiary* 475 Til ðat ðer fleȝes faren and fallen ðer-inne, wiðeren in ðat web, and wilen ut wenden. a 1225 *St. Marher.* 14 Westlin þa moten ant wiðerin wið ham seculen. 13.. *E.E. Allit.* P. C. 48 þenne is me lyȝtlokter hit lyke . . . þenne wyper wyth & be wroth.

wither ('wiðə(r)), *v.*² Forms: a. 4-6 *wydder*, *widder*, (5 *widre*, 6 *wyddre*, *weder*). β. 6 *wyther*, (6-7 *whither*, 7 *weather*), 6- *wither*. See also *WITHERED*. [app. var. of *WEATHER v.* ultimately differentiated for certain senses.]

1. *intr.* Of a plant: To become dry and shrivel up. Often in fig. context or in comparisons. Also with *advs.*

a. 13.. *E.E. Allit.* P. C. 468, & wyddered was þe wodbynde bi þat þe wyȝe wakned. c 1400 26 *Pol. Poems* v. 5 Riȝt as hay, þey mon widre. 1483 *CAXTON Gold. Leg.* 378 b/1 They shal neuer fade ne wydder ne lose theyr sauour. 1508 *FISHER 7 Penit.* Ps. cii. Wks. (1876) 146 Saynt Iames compareth the vanyte of this lyfe to the vapoure and sayth it shall perysshe and wedder away as a flour in the hey season. 1521 — *Serm. agst. Luther* *ibid.* 323 Trees whan they be wydded and theyr leues shaken from them. 1526 *TINDALE Matt.* xxi. 19 The fygge tree wyddered away. a 1533 *L.D. BERNERS Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) Bb vij b, The grenenes of youthe shall waste and wydder in age.

β. 1588 *SHAKS. L.L.L.* II. i. 54 Such short liu'd wits do wither as they grow. 1593 — *Rich.* II, v. i. 8 See, or rather doe not see, My faire Rose wither. 1634 *MILTON Comus* 744 Like a neglected rose It withers on the stalk with languish't head. 1668 J. OWEN *Indwelling-Sin* xiii. 214 He melts down the lusts of men, causeth them to wither at the root. 1763 *MILLS Syst. Pract. Husb.* IV. 32 Before their necks are withered off, the bulbs should be taken up. 1788 *GIBBON Decl. & F.* xliii. IV. 331 The harvest and the vintage withered on the ground. 1807 *CRABBE Par. Reg.* III. 948 Like flowers we wither, and like leaves we fall. 1816 *BYRON Ch. Har.* III. xxxii, The tree will wither long before it falls. 1842 *TENNYSON Locksley Hall* 190 Now for me the woods may wither, now for me the roof-tree fall. 1888 *BRYCE Amer. Commw.* cxiv. III. 643 After a year or two of bloom, a town wilts and withers.

2. Of other animate things: To become dried up or shrivelled; to lose vigour from lack of animal moisture; to pine or fade away with age, disease, decay, etc.

a. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 5301 þe fre kyng Teutra Wex weike of his wound & widrit to deth. c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* iii. 63 Now I wax old, . . . As muk apon mold I widder away.

β. 1582 *N.T. (Rhem.)* Mark ix. 18 He fometh, and gnatheth with the teeth, and withereth. 1748 R. JAMES *Diss. Fevers* (1778) 157 When the eruptions begin to subside and wither. 1817 *SHELLEY Rev. Islam* vi. xlix, All lips which I have kissed must surely wither, But Death's. 1848 *DICKENS Dombey* xv, Do a kindness to the sweet dear that is withering away. 1849 *MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* v. I. 652 Those more unfortunate men who were withering under the tropical sun. 1898 J. HUTCHINSON in *Archives Surg.* IX. 309 Many of the nodules are distinctly withering.

3. *fig.* Of persons, or of inanimate and immaterial things: To lose vigour or freshness, to languish, decline, pine away, fade, fall into decay.

a. 1508 *FISHER 7 Penit.* Ps. cii. Wks. (1876) 147 Vnderstandynge wyll and reason . . . be so vterly wedred and dyed vp, that no maner of moysture of deuocyon is in them. 1523 [COVERDALE] *Old God & New* (1534) B, Y . . . doest not widder & dry vp w' ydelnes. 1559 *Mirr. Mag., Edw. IV.* v, As vanity to nought all is wyddred away.

β. 1535 *COVERDALE Ecclus.* x. 17 He hath caused them to wyther awaye, he hath brought them to naught. 1625 *SANDERSON Serm., Ad Magistr.* iii. (1632) 248 Men that . . . are now arrived at the haven of their businesse, to wither [later *edd.* weather] for their passports. a 1647 *HABINGTON Surv. Worcestershire* (1895) I. 70 An honest gentellman witheringe in poerty. a 1656 *HALES Gold. Rem.* (1673) 123 An hope of excellent things . . . which . . . for want of cherishing fades and withers away. 1688 *Add. fr. Winchester in Lond. Gaz.* No. 2350/1 This Ancient City, which is now again weathering by their Absence, which began to Flourish . . . from being blessed with their Presence. 1725 *POPE Odys.* xix. 246 With'ring at heart to see the weeping Fair. 1781 *COWPER Expost.* 324 States thrive or wither, as moons wax and wane. 1812 *CRABBE Tales* xvi. 268 A hue like this the western sky displays, That glows awhile, and withers as we gaze. 1830 *GALT Lawrie T.* III. ii. (1849) 87 My heart withered as I contemplated the scene. 1850 *MAURICE Mor. & Met. Philos.* (ed. 2) 155 When that sense [of national union] is weakened it withers. 1874 *STUBBS Const. Hist.* I. i. 8 Christianity . . . withered under Frank patronage. 1901 *Scotsman* 6 Nov. 9/4 It would be absurd to expect Consols . . . to stand . . . at a high level, when all other securities are withering in price.

b. *spec.* in phr. *to wither away*, used with reference to the belief held in Marxist philosophy that when the dictatorship of the proletariat has effected the necessary changes in society, the state will eventually cease to be necessary and will therefore disappear; also used allusively or generally. So *withering away*.

1919 tr. *Lenin's State & Revol.* i. 21 Engels speaks here of the destruction of the capitalist State by the proletarian revolution, while the words about its withering away refer to the remains of a proletarian State after the Socialist revolution. *Ibid.* 22 Only the proletarian State or semi-State withers away after the revolution. 1935 E. BURNS tr. *Engels' Anti-Dühring* III. ii. 315 The government of persons is replaced by the administration of things and the direction of the process of production. The state is not 'abolished', it withers away. 1937 *Times* 7 July 17/6 The Marxist theory of the 'withering away' of the State. 1948 M. LASKI *Tory Heaven* v. 81 Reynolds is an M.I.5 mark... Eventually, they say, all that sort of thing will just wither away. 1971 *Guardian* 9 Sept. 13/1 Stormont was designed to wither away. It was invented in the hope that the two parts of Ireland would become united within the British Empire. 1980 D. FERNBACH tr. *Buci-Glucksmann's Gramsci & State* xii. 285 The transition from an inevitable 'productivist' phase to an integral state thus takes place by way of hegemony and the distant tendential perspective of a withering away of the state. *Ibid.* 289 A state that withers away to the extent that its function withers away.

† 4. a. *intr.* and *pass.* Of a crop: To be dried, to dry. *Obs.*

1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 25 Hey, . . . when it is wel wyddred on the ouersyde and drye, than turne it. *Ibid.* § 31 Pees and beanes . . . rythen togdyer, and wyde benethe, that they maye the better wyddre. 1573-80 TISSER *Husb.* (1878) 131 Corne being had downe . . . should wither as needeth, for burning in mow.

† b. *trans.* To air: = WEATHER v. 1 b. *Obs.*

1544 PHAER *Pestilence* (1553) L vij. Nor weare any of their apparell, excepte they be well sunned, or wythered in the cleane ayre. a1613 OVERBURY *A Wife*, etc. (1638) 180 He withers his clothes on a stage as a Sale-man inforct to does his sutes in Birchin-lane.

c. *Tea-manuf.* To dry (tea leaf) before roasting. Also *absol.* Also *intr.* of the leaf.

1753 F. PIGOU *Of Tea* in A. Dalrymple *Oriental Repertory* (1797) II. 288 [Bohea-tea] is gathered, then put in Sieves, or Baskets, . . . and those put in the air, till the leaves wither, or give. *Ibid.*, Youngshaw . . . says, that the leaves of Souchon . . . are beat with flat sticks, . . . after they have been withered, by the Sun, or Air. 1870 E. MONEY *Tea* xxiv. (1878) 108 Why wither at all? I made Tea . . . of 1st, totally unwithered leaves; and, of leaves but little withered. 1892 J. M. WALSH *Tea* (Philad.) 104 Two leaves only being picked at a time and 'withered' in the open air.

† d. *intr.* = WEATHER v. 2 b. *Obs. rare.*

Cf. G. *verwintern*.

1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 224 [Wacken] withers by exposure to the atmosphere, and then becomes more grey. 1834 L. RICHIE *Wand. Seine* 97 The deserted pile withered away stone by stone beneath the breath of heaven.]

5. *trans.* To cause (a plant, flower, etc.) to dry up and shrivel. Also in fig. context.

1555 EDEN *Decades* 292, I. sawe the braunches of frutefull trees wythred by the coulede. 1596 *Edw. III.* II. i. 390 The Sunne, that withers heye, doth nourish grasse. 1668 J. OWEN *Indwelling-Sin* xv. 253 He makes their lives . . . unfruitful to others, in weakening their root, and withering their fruit through his poisoning temptations. 1765 GOLDSM. *Double Transform* 76 That dire disease, whose ruthless power Withers the beauty's transient flower. 1831 JAMES *Philip Aug.* xxiv. On whose rosy cheek the touch of care had withered not a flower. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xlv, Where a factory planted among fields withered the space about it, like a burning mountain. 1885 CLODD *Myths & Dr.* i. iii. 41 The fierce heat that withered the approaching harvest.

6. To cause (the body or the physical powers) to become wasted or decayed; to cause to shrink, become wrinkled, or lose freshness.

1599 NASHE *Lenten Stufe* 13 [They] haue not withred vp their handes in signing and subscribing to their requests. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* II. ii. 240 Age cannot wither her. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* i. ii. 111. x. 149 They . . . attenuate our bodies, dry them, wither them. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* VI. 850 Every eye . . . shot forth pernicious fire Among th' accurst, that withred all their strength. 1740 DYER *Ruins Rome* 477 Enfeebling vice Withers each nerve. 1827 SCOTT *Highl. Widow* v. May the tongue that tells me of his death . . . be withered in thy mouth.

7. *fig.* To destroy the vitality or vigour of; to cause to decline, decay, or waste; now somewhat *rare* exc. in hyperbolic use, to blight or paralyse with a look of scorn or the like. Also with †out.

1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* i. i. 7 Like to a Step-dame, or a Dowager, Long withering out a yong mans reuennew. 1608 *Yorksh. Trag.* III. 11 Himselfe withered with debts. 1700 DRYDEN *Pal. & Arc.* III. 303 Wild Amazement flung From out thy Chariot, withers ev'n the Strong. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* VIII. 120 Like Mars terrific, . . . When clad in wrath he withers hosts of foes. 1816 J. WILSON *City of Plague* II. iii, Repent! before the red-eyed Wrath Wither you to ghosts. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* III, Dr. Slammer . . . said nothing, but contented himself by withering the company with a look. 1854 J. S. C. ABBOTT *Napoleon* (1855) I. xxx. 462 The historian . . . would have been withered by the frowns which would have darkened upon him from the saloons of Versailles [etc.]. 1887 A. JESSOPP *Arcady* 172 The world is getting quite too much for us—withering us, in fact.

wither, var. WITTER sb.²

wither-¹, prefix, repr. OE. *wiper-*, OFris. *wither-*, OS. *withar-*, OHG. *widar-* (MHG., G.

wider-), = the adv. *wiper* (see WITHER a.) used with sbs., adjs., and verbs (cf. WITH- 3), chiefly in the sense (1) against, in opposition or hostility, as in OE. *wipercrist* antichrist, *wipercwide* contradiction, resistance, *wipersaca* WITHERSAKE, *wiperwinna* WITHERWIN; less commonly in the senses (2) in return or compensation, counter-, as in OE. *wiperléan* recompense, *wipertihle* countercharge; and (3) in the opposite direction, back.

† 1. In sense (1), used (esp. by Layamon) in compounds denoting hostile acts or contests, as *wiperblench*, -ded [DEED sb.], -game [GAME sb.], -hap, -ueht [FIGHT sb.], *wiperstrencp* resistance; also in the derived sense 'adverse, evil', as *wipercraft*, -laze [LAW sb.], and (in personal designations) *wiperlaze* [cf. OFris. *witherlaga* opponent] persecutor, *wiperpeod* [THEDE] enemy people; occas. with verbs, as *wiperhalde* [HOLD v.] to hold out against, oppose. (Often indistinguishable from WITHER a.) *Obs.*

c 1200 ORMIN 6905 3iff he léte waxenn pær awiht off wiperstrenncpe Onnæn hiss æghenn oferrking. *Ibid.* 10227 To fihhtenn forr pe leode, To werenn hemm wipw wiperrpeod. c 1205 LAY. 272 Witen he wolde purh pa wiper-craftes [later text wise craftes] wat ping hit were. *Ibid.* 405 þar aros wale & win & wiðer-heppes feola. *Ibid.* 9175 3if þe king wolde wið heom wiðer-heolden. *Ibid.* 10968 þe hæfde purh his wiðer-lagen muchel of pine cunne of-slazen. *Ibid.* 16318 Cuð hit is wide of ure wiðer-deden. *Ibid.* 24700 Summe heo wæstleden and wiðer-gome makeden. *Ibid.* 28669 þa weoren wide to-flojen: ut of þan wiðer-uechte. a 1225 *St. Marher.* 5 þe awaride wiðerlahen leiden swa luðerliche on hire leoffiche lich, pet hit brecc oueral. c 1250 *Long Life* 12 in O.E. *Misc.* 156 Nis non so strong. . þat mai ago deapes wiper-blenc.

2. In sense (2), † *witherweje* v. *trans.*, to weigh again; *witherweight* Sc. (also *wodderweight*), a counterbalancing weight. Cf. WITHERNAM.

1340 *Ayenb.* 137 To . . . wipynme his dedes . . . and telle, and weje, and *wiperweje. 1642 Row *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) p. xx, A *wodderweight to our bell to mak it ring the better. 1808 JAMIESON, *Witherweight*, . . . (*witherwecht*), the weight thrown into one scale, to counterbalance the paper, or vessel, in the opposite scale, which contains the goods bought. 1820 HOGG *Wint. Even.* T. I. 270 She's nae wother-weight nouthur.

3. In sense (3), † *witherhoked* a., barbed [cf. MHG. *widerhake* barb, G. -haken, Efris. *wër'hake*]; † *witherwise* adv. Sc. [WISE sb.¹ II], = WITHERSHINS.

c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 5666 þis dragoun hadde a long taile þat was *witherhoked. 1643 in Dalryll *Darker Superst.* Scot. x. (1834) 459 Shoe turnit himself thrie severall tymes round *witherwys, about the fyre.

wither-² (*rare*), = WITHER v.² used in comb. in sense 'withered', as *wither-boned*, -faced adjs.

1592 NASHE *Strange Newes* Wks. (Grosart) II. 227 The wither-fac'd weather-beaten Mariner. 1821 MILMAN *Fazio* 9 Like some dry wither-boned anatomy.

withered ('wiðəd), *ppl. a.* Forms: 5-6 wyddred (Sc. 5 wydderit, 5-6 widderit), 6 wyddred, widdered, wydderad, wyddurde, (wedred, Sc. vidthrid), wyth(e)red, withred (wethered), 6-7 witherd, 6- wither'd, withered. [f. WITHER v.² + -ED¹.]

1. Of a plant, fruit, etc.: Shrivelled or shrunken through lack of moisture, and so deprived of its natural colour, freshness, or bloom; hence, of fields, or stretches of country, and *gen.*: Dried up, arid.

c 1470 HENRY Wallace VIII. 1037 Thar awld bulwerk I se off wydderyt ayk. c 1480 HENRYSON *Two Mice* 222 Thir widderit peis and nuttis, . . . Will brek my teith. — Fox, *Wolf*, & *Husb.* xix, It will not win 3ow worth ane widderit neip. 1508 FISHER 7 *Penit.* Ps. cii. Wks. (1876) 148 Wedred grasse or hey. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vii. 70 The vidthrid barran feildis. a 1560 BECON *Jewel of Joy* Pref., Wks. 1564 II. 2 A pece of grosse smokye bacon or saulte withered byefe. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* III. xxi. 110 Manye desartes, sandye, wythered, vnfruitefull. 1609 SHAKS. *Temp.* I. ii. 463 Wither'd roots. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett.*, to M. Mowat 7 Sept. (1671) 166 Our Lord . . . shall water with his dew the withered hill of mount Zion in Scotland. 1682 DRYDEN & LEE *Dk. Guise* I. i, To the bare Commons of the wither'd Field. 1710 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4777/4 A tall thin Man, with withered Hair. 1781 COWPER *Conversat.* 51 Wither'd stumps disgrace the sylvan scene. 1813 SCOTT *Trierm.* I. v, The wither'd leaves, That drop when no winds blow. 1861 MRS. BROWNING *Nature's Remorses* x, Withered immortelles, long ago cut. 1864 TENNYSON *En. Ard.* 676 But narrow breadth . . . Of wither'd holt or tilth.

2. Of men and animals: Physically shrunken, shrivelled, wasted, or decayed; deprived of animal vitality or vigour.

a 1500-34 *Cov. Corpus Christi Pl.* i. 839 Sey ye, wyddurde wyvis, whydder are ye a-wey? 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* XXIX. (Percy Soc.) 143 An olde wyddred wiche. 1526 TINDALE *John* v. 3 A greate multitude off sicke folke, off blynde, halt, and wyddered. 1588 SHAKS. *L.L.L.* IV. iii. 242 A withered Hermite, fue-score winters worne. 1641 MILTON *Animadv.* xiii. Wks. 1851 III. 233 They may as well sue for Nunneries, that they may have some convenient stowage for their wither'd daughters. 1700 ROWE *Amb. Step-Mother* III. i, Marks which Years set on the wither'd Sage. 1868 J. H. BLUNT *Ref. Ch. Eng.* I. 421 A poor withered skeleton of humanity.

b. Of the body, or parts of it: Shrivelled or shrunken, esp. by the wasting of disease or age. Formerly, and now *colloq.* or *dial.*, often applied to a paralysed limb.

1513 [see WEARISH a. 2]. 1526 TINDALE *Mark* iii. 1 There was a man which had a widdred honde. 1697 DRYDEN *Aeneis* v. 644 Take the last Gift my wither'd Arms can yield. 1795-6 WORDSW. *Borderers* II. 890 Twice did I spring to grasp his withered throat. 1805 SCOTT *Last Minstrel* Intro. 3 His wither'd cheek, and tresses gray. 1813 J. THOMSON *Lect. Inflam.* 539 The part affected became at first insensible and cold, and, in the progress of the disorder, dry, hard, and withered. 1877 DOWDEN *Shaks. Primer* vi. 79 So . . . fierce a human energy as that of Richard concentrated within one withered and distorted body. 1920 H. G. WELLS *Outl. Hist.* 552/2 The figure of the new monarch [William II of Germany] . . . with a withered left arm ingeniously minimized.

3. *fig.* in immaterial sense: Deprived of or having lost vigour, freshness, or 'bloom'; shrunken and decayed; †formerly sometimes, reduced to poverty.

1561 HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtier* II. Yijj, In my withered reasonings. 1596 RALEIGH *Discov. Guiana* A 3 b, I am returned a beggar, and withered. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett. to Parishioners* 13 July, The Lord will . . . make this withered Kirk, to bud again like a rose. 1782 J. BROWN in R. Mackenzie *Life* (1918) 237 Our sacrament is on the 5th Sabbath of June. Pray for our withered corner. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* IV. xiii, Lay on him the curse of the wither'd heart. 1819 KEATS *Fall of Hyperion* I. 288 The pale Omega of a wither'd race. 1860 SMILES *Self Help* xi. 285 The blasé youth turns from his withered pleasures. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* II. xv, A grey dusty withered evening in London.

† 4. a. Worn out, ragged. *Obs. rare.*

c 1480 HENRYSON *Test. Cress.* 165 His widdrit weid fra him the wind out woir.

† b. = WEATHERED I. *Obs. rare.*

1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 348 Withered gneiss has sometimes the appearance of a grey slaty mortar.

c. *Tea-manuf.* (see WITHER v.² 4 c).

1897 D. CROLE *Tea* vii. 117 Trolly loads of withered leaf.

5. *Comb.*, as *withered-looking* adj.

1849 EASTWICK *Dry Leaves* 179 His beard . . . stunted, tawny, and withered-looking.

Hence 'witheredly' adv., in a withered manner; 'witheredness, the condition of being withered; rarely *concr.* a withered part.

1535 COVERDALE *Isa.* iii. 24 And for their bewty wythrednesse and sonneburnynge. 1621 T. WILLIAMSON tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* 24 Old age . . . the unwelldnesse or witherednesse of the body. 1658 A. FOX *Wurtz' Surg.* III. xxiii. 293 That witheredness caused by a fall. . . I have annointed twice a day. 1659 TORRIANO, *Witheredly, seccamente.* 1722 J. WILLISON *Five Sac.* *Serm.* Wks. (1852) 313/2 There usually follows, on God's withdrawing, great witheredness and barrenness on the souls of his people. 1883 G. MACDONALD *Princess & Curdie* iii, Every trace of the decrepitude and witheredness she showed . . . had vanished.

witherer ('wiðə(r)), *rare*. [f. WITHER v.² + -ER¹.] One who or that which withers.

1828 LANDOR *Imag. Conv.*, *Engl. & Flor. Vis.* III. 427 Gifford is the Harriet Wilson of our literary world; the witherer of young names. a1851 MOIR *Miner of Peru*, Blancher of the hair, And witherer of the strength.

† **witherful**, a. *Obs.* [f. WITHER sb.¹ + -FUL.]

a. Hostile; wicked, evil. b. Bold, valiant. Hence † **witherfulness**, wickedness.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 51 Hise wiferfulle hine, þo ben deules on helle. *Ibid.* 63 Dissoluere colligaciones impietatis . . . þat unbideð þe bendes of wiðerfulness. c 1205 LAY. 21520 To þan scipen wenden wiðer-fulle cheorles. *Ibid.* 25264 Arður his writ nom an honden mid wiðer-fulle worden.

withering ('wiðəriŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. WITHER v.² + -ING¹.]

1. The action of WITHER v.², q.v.

1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 23 The yonger and the grener that the grasse is, the softer and the sweter it wyll be whan it is hey, but it wyll haue the more wyddrynge. a 1614 DONNE *Balavatos* (1644) 131 These enormous witherings of our bodies are allowable. 1658 A. FOX *Wurtz' Surg.* III. xxiii. 289 A Withering, is a Symptom which is incident to joints wounded. 1796 in J. Robertson *Agric. Perth* (1799) 517 What fell off from the whins, broom, firs, &c. in the course of their withering. 1848 S. BALL *Tea* viii. 157 The peculiar red appearance of this tea is produced . . . by tossing the leaves on trays . . . to promote the withering. 1853 MAURICE *Proph. & Kings* vii. 115 The withering of a hand which was cured again. 1862 HELPS *Organization in Daily Life* 5 The waste of time, and the withering-up of enjoyment. 1866 G. STEPHENS *Runic Mon.* I. 25 The remaining withering-away of the N in Scandinavia is in the infinitive. 1899 ALLbutt's *Syst. Med.* VIII. 845 Spontaneous withering or retrogression of certain of the tumours. 1903 C. BALD *Indian Tea* xv. (1917) 218 Withering in the sun is fatal to fine quality.

b. *attrib.*

1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* 267 After the Malt has lain on the withering Floors about twelve or fourteen days. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xix, The learned gentleman who does the withering business, and who blights all opponents with his gloomy sarcasm. 1897 D. CROLE *Tea* vii. 114 A withering-house 100 yards long . . . will . . . accommodate about 140 maunds of leaf.

2. *concr.* Withered branches or brushwood, used in making fences, etc.

1852 C. W. HOSKYN'S *Talpa* 46 A man-made barrier of stakes and 'witherings'. 1854 R. S. SURTEES *Handley Cr.* xiv. (1901) I. 104 The rotten stakes and witherings of a low ill-made-up gap.

'withering, *ppl. a.* [f. WITHER *v.*² + -ING².] That withers, in various senses.

1. Fading, decaying. *lit. and fig.*

1599 ALEX. HUME *Hymns* vii. 226 Widdring weids. 1621 T. WILLIAMSON tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* 2 This withering and transitory life. 1668 J. OWEN *Indwelling-Sin* xiv. 235 There may be a withering member in the body. 1680 OTWAY *Orphan* iv. viii. Desire shall languish like a withering flower. 1783 CRABBE *Village* i. 185 The bare arms broken from the withering tree. 1784 COWPER *Task* vi. 938 There he fights, And there obtains fresh triumphs o'er himself, And never with'ring wreaths. 1821 SHELLEY *Adonais* xxxii. On the withering flower The killing sun smiles brightly.

2. Causing to fade or decay (*lit. and fig.*); *esp.* causing decay of vigour or paralysis of effort; blasting, blighting; often applied to the 'paralysing' effect of scornful looks, criticism, and the like, and to destructive gun-fire.

1579 E. K. in *Spenser's Sheph. Cal. Feb. Arg.*, A dry and withering cold. 1599 DANIEL *Musophilus* 167 Whereas he came planted in the Spring, . . . We, set in th' Autumne, in the withering And sullen season of a cold defect, Must [etc.]. 16. . . ? BRETON *C'tess Penbrook's Pass.* xlviii. (Grosart) 6/1 Wethering Winter gives her chillinge cheare. 1747 COLLINS *Ode Passions* 42 With a with'ring Look. 1792 S. ROGERS *Pleas. Mem.* ii. 110 A withering scowl she wore. 1810 SOUTHEY *Kehama* xi. iv. Oh! hide him from that Witch's withering sight! 1813 BYRON *Corsair* ii. x. The withering sense of evil unreveal'd. 1849 AYTOUN *Lays Scott.* Cav. 114 Vainly sped the withering vol' 'Mongst the foremost of our band. 1857 KINGSLEY *Two Y. Ago* xv. Elsley . . . cast on him a look which he intended to have been withering. 1859 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xxiv. V. 135 A blighting and withering dominion. 1884 COLBORNE *With Hicks Pasha in Soudan* 174 Our withering fire knocked the poor fellows over and over.

Hence **'witheringly** *adv.* (*lit. and fig.*).

1815 BYRON *Hebr. Mel.*, *Wild Gazelle* iv. We must wander witheringly, In other lands to die. 1819 WIFFEN *Aonian Hours* (1820) 64 The gathered flower droops witheringly away. 1835 M. SCOTT in *Blackw. Mag.* XXXVII. 452 My uncle . . . looked so witheringly at him. 1905 R. BAGOT *Passport* xiii. 116 'Then, may I ask, what is the use of sending me on a fool's errand?' the professor retorted, witheringly.

witherite ('wɪðəraɪt). *Min.* [Named by Werner after W. *Withering*, who first described and analysed it in 1784: see -ITE¹ 2 b.] Native barium carbonate.

1794 *Phil. Trans.* LXXXIV. 418, I could not discover any regular crystallized shape, like the witherite.

'witherling¹. *Obs. exc. arch.* [OE. *wiperling*, f. *wiper* *with* *Ps. a.* and *adv.* + -LING¹.] An adversary.

c 1000 *Cant. Ps. Exod.* xv. 7 þu forbriccest wiperlingas. c 1300 K. Horn 156 (Laud) þat heþene king Ihesu cristes wiperling. 1922 W. STEVENS *Let.* 21 Dec. (1967) 232, I have omitted many things, exercising the most fastidious choice, so far as that was possible among my witherlings.

† **'witherling**². *Obs.* [f. WITHER *v.*² + -LING¹.] A withered branch; a shrivelled or stunted person.

1528 MORE *Dyaloge* ii. Wks. 186/1 All these braunches of heritikes . . . seme thei neuer so freshe & grene, bee yet in dede but witherlinges y^t wyther, & shal drye vp. a 1624 CHAPMAN *Crown of Homer's Wks.* 30 No forspoke Dwarfe, nor downward withering.

withernam ('wɪðənɑ:m). *Law. Now Hist.* Also 4-6 wyther-, (4 -ir-), 5-6 wether-, wider-, 4-7 -name. [Law-French (in Britton *wythernam*), presumably a. ON. *viðrnam* recorded only in the sense 'resistance' (but cf. early Da. *vedernam* pledge), f. *viðr*- WITHER⁻¹ + *nám* NAAM. The etymological meaning is 'reprisal'.] In an action of replevin, the reprisal of other goods in lieu of those taken by a first distress and eloiigned; also, the writ (called *capias in withernam*) commanding the sheriff to take the reprisal.

1292 BRITTON i. xxviii. §3 Si les bestes soient . . . chacez hors del counte, ou si le baillif autre desturbaunce troeffe, tauntost face prendre des bestes del deforceour a la double valeur cum wythernam. 1534 *Returna breuium* 418 De retorno in replegiare lou le pleintyfe auera vne withernam. 1542-3 *Act 34 & 35 Hen. VIII.* c. 26 §29 The Shirief shall have . . . for the making of Replegiars twelvecence, and withernam upon the same twelve pence. 1543 tr. *Act 13 Edw. I.* c. 2 [A] courte, haunyge power to holde pleas of wythernam. 1579 *Expos. Terms Law* 72 b, The party vpon y^e returne of the sherife shall haue a writte of Withernam, directed to the Sherif, that he take as many of hys beastes . . . tyll y^e hee hath made deliuerance of y^e first distres. 1599 *Life of Sir T. More* in Wordsw. *Ecl. Biog.* (1853) II. 102 Whether chattell taken [in] withernam may be replevied. 1618 J. WILKINSON *Treat. Off. Coroners* ii. 153 b, Then the plaintiff may have a Withernam, which must be made in this manner. a 1625 SIR H. FINCH *Law* (1636) 354 In a repleuin in the Countie Court, . . . if the goods be conueyed away, so as at the Tenants suite they cannot be restored, . . . processe of withernam lyeth. 1656 tr. *Noy's Rep.* 50 A Withernam was awarded, and executed, and now comes the Plaintiff and prays to declare, and prays a deliuerance of the Withernam. 1767 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. ix. 149 Goods taken in withernam cannot be replevied, till the original distress is forthcoming.

b. A process of distress (or arrest) for debt, formerly current in the Cinque Ports (and other towns).

1314-15 *Cal. Letter-bks. Lond. E.* (1903) 42 [The sum of 40s. which had been taken by way of] Withernam [from] Thomas de Grantham de Dyvelyn. 1352 *Borough Customs* (Selden Soc.) I. 122 Al sute du dit playntif, ci deit le baillif

par assignement des jurés prendre une Wythirname sur qicomque vienge de la dite vile ou cité. 1461-83 *Ibid.* I. 125 Bayle and jurates may take a wythername agaynst all his tenautes. 1529 *Ibid.* I. 125 Yf eny man have take toll or custum of eny freman of Cawnterbery, he that ys grevid may have a widernam at Caunterbury therfore. 1574 *Acts Priory Council* (N.S.) VIII. 313 A letter to the Mayour of Dover . . . touching complaints made against him by Fleminges for the arrest made by widernams. 1576 *Ibid.* IX. 215 Whereas Andrew Muller . . . of Hamboroughe was arrested at Dover by a writt of withernam.

c. Reprisals taken at sea by letters of marque.

1714 FORTESCUE-ALAND *Pref. Fortescue's Abs. & Lim. Mon.* 50 This Word Withernam also signifies Reprisals taken at Sea, by Letters of Mart-ships.

withers ('wɪðəz), *sb. pl.*, occas. *sing.* wither. Also 7 weather-. [app. a reduced form of *widersome* or -some (see quotes. 1541-2, 1547), f. *wider*- = WITHER⁻¹ + an obscure element; cf. G. *widerrist* withers, f. *wider*- WITHER⁻¹ + *rist* WRIST.] a. In a horse, The highest part of the back, lying between the shoulder-blades. Also, the corresponding part in some other animals, as the ox or the sheep. Often in fig. context, esp. after Shaks. (quot. 1602), with allusion to the 'wringing' of a horse's withers.

1541-2 *Act 33 Hen. VIII.* c. 5 §1 Every horse . . . to be . . . in height xiiij handfulls. . . measured from the nether parte of the here of the houghe unto the upper part of the Wydersomes, That is to saye, the upper parte of the Sholders. 1547 SALESBURY *Dict. Engl. Welsh, Yskwydd gudun*, the wyder sone.

1580 LYLly *Euphues* (Arb.) 249 Wring not a horse on the withers, with a false saddle. 1594 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.* iv. xix. (1597) 221 b. In his [sc. the Bull's] necke toward the Withers are 7 starres. 1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* P4, That wrung him on the withers worse than all the rest. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* iii. ii. 252 Let the gall'd iade winch: our withers are vnung. 1607 DEKKER & WEBSTER *Westw. Hoe* v. i. H2 b, Never were three innocent Citizens . . . so abominably wrung vnder the withers. 1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch.*, *Hen. IV.* cccxlvii, Though the chaine of Tyrannye . . . gall'd the withers of their will. 1729 SWIFT *Direct. Serv.* v, Contrive that the Saddle may pinch the Beast in his Withers. 1838 LYTTON *Alice* v. iii, 'Tell me now', said Caroline pressing on the wrung withers, [etc.]. 1839 DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* ii. 25 The Vampire bat is often the cause of much trouble, by biting the horses on their withers. 1867 S. BAKER *Nile Trib.* xviii. 475 The shoulders [of the sable antelope] . . . are extremely high at the withers. 1886 SYMONDS *Renaiss. It., Cath. React.* (1898) VII. xi. 179 There is not a city of Italy which Tassoni did not wring in the withers of its self-conceit.

sing. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 597 The wither of the beast, I meane the top of his shoulder next to his necke. 1695 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3096/4 A black Gelding, . . . the Hair clipt on his Wither. 1770 G. WHITE *Selborne, To Pennant Mar.*, I measured it [sc. the moose-deer], as they do an horse, and found that, from the ground to the wither, it was just five feet four inches. 1850 'H. HIBOVER' *Pract. Horsemanship* 118 The saddle, pressing on the off side of the wither, would pinch the horse. 1908 *Animal Managem.* 160 A wide wither is nearly as troublesome as a high one.

b. *transf.* The part of a saddle which comes over the withers.

1764 T. WALLIS *Farrier's Dict.* s.v. *Bows of a Saddle*, The withers is the arch that rises two or three fingers over the horse's withers.

c. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *with*-gall, *pad*, *-strap*; *with*erband, *-lock* (see quotes.); *with*erwring *a.*, injured in the withers.

1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Aduts. fr. Parnass.* i. xxxi. 54 A three-wheel'd Charret . . . drawn by lean weatherwring-Jades. 1764 T. WALLIS *Farrier's Dict.* s.v. *Bands of a Saddle*, Besides these two great bands, the fore-bow has a small one called the wither-band, and a crescent to keep up the wither arch. *Ibid.*, *Witherband*, . . . a band or piece of iron, laid underneath a saddle, about four fingers above the withers of the horse, to keep tight the two pieces of wood that form the bow. 1767 S. PATERSON *Another Trav.* II. v. 57 A . . . broken-winded . . . wither-wrung . . . horse. 1794 W. FELTON *Carriages* (1801) II. Gloss., *Wither Strap*, a part of the harness, which goes round the withers of the horse to hold up the collar. 1825 JAMIESON, *Witherlock*, that lock of hair in the mane, of which one takes hold when mounting on horse-back. 1886 *Cornh. Mag.* Sept. 299 Many of them had open kidney-sores and wither-galls. 1963 E. H. EDWARDS *Saddlery* xv. 112 Numnahs and wither pads are used in conjunction with saddles. 1976 *Horse & Hound* 3 Dec. 52 (Advt.), The John Ayres New Zealand Rug . . . Featuring a sheepskin wither pad.

† **'withersake**. *Obs.* [OE. *wipersaca* = OFris. *withirseka*, OS. *wiðarsako*, OHG. *widarsahho* (MHG. *widersache*, MHG., G. *widersacher*): f. *wiper*- WITHER⁻¹ + -saca, agent-n. f. stem *sak*- of SAKE *sb.*] An adversary, enemy.

In OE., simply and in phr. *Godes wipersaca*, often = apostate.

c 960 ÆTHELWOLD *Rule St. Benet* (Schroër 1885) lxii. 112 Ne beo he na sacerð geteald ac Godes wiðersaca. c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xxvi. 14 Iudas se wipersaca. c 1205 LAY. 1808 *Geomagog.* . . . þat was þe heilste Godes wiðer-saka. *Ibid.* 12620 þat is goddes wiðer-sake.

withershins, **widdershins** ('wɪðə-, 'wɪðəʃɪnz), *adv. dial.* (chiefly *Sc.*). Forms: 6- widder-, 7-wither-, (6 widdir-, weddir-, wod(d)er-, 6, 9 wooder-); 6-9 -sins, 6- -shins, (6 -syns, -shynes, -shynnis, -son(n)is, 6, 9 -sinnis, -sones, 7 -shines, 9 -schynnes). [a. MLG. *weddersin(ne)s* (cf. *wedersins* 'contrario modo', Kilian), a. MHG. *widersinnes*, f. *wider*- WITHER⁻¹ + gen. of *sîn* (esp. MG.) = *sind*, *sint* way, direction (see SITHE

*sb.*¹): cf. MHG. *widersinnen* to return. In sense 2 associated with *son*, SUN *sb.*¹]

† 1. In a direction opposite to the usual; the wrong way; to *stand* or *start withershins*, (of the hair) to 'stand on end'. *Obs.*

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* ii. xii. 26 Abaisit I wolx, and widdersyns start my hair. *Ibid.* Direction of Buik 29 And on the bak half writis widdersinnis Plentie of lesyngis. 1570 R. BANNATYNE *Mem.* (Bannatyne Cl.) 11 That will gar thair harts trumbill, and thair hair stand widdirshynes. 1583 *Leg. Bp. St. Androis* 704 Ane porter . . . to the bischop his blissing gave, Betuixt the schoulders a royall route, Turning him wodderschins about. a 1583 MONTGOMERIE *Flying* 580 Hairis blavin widdersins abauk. a 1600 — *Sonn.* xxxiii. 6 Sho . . . strakit bakuard wodershins my hair. 1685 G. SINCLAIR *Satans Invis.* *World* 211 His hair standing Widdershins in his head. 1721 RAMSAY *I'll never leave v.* The Starns shall gang withershins e'er I deceive thee.

2. In a direction contrary to the apparent course of the sun (considered as unlucky or causing disaster).

1545 *Rec. Elgin* (New Spalding Club 1903) I. 84 Sayand the said Margarat Baffour vas ane huyr and ane wyche and that sche 3eid widdersonnis about mennis hous sark alane. a 1583 MONTGOMERIE *Flying* 418 Thir venerabill virginis quhome 3e wald call wiches . . . nyne tymes, widdersones, about the thorne raid. 1596 *Spalding Club Misc.* (1841) I. 96, I find it wilbe ane deir yeir; the bled of the corne growis widdersones; and quhan it growis sonegatis about, it wilbe ane gude chaip yeir. 1597 *Ibid.* 190 He is indyttyt . . . to haue taine ane birne of the corne on his bak, and careit it thrie tymmis woodersonis above the kill. 1685 G. SINCLAIR *Satans Invis.* *World* 25 [In a witch-dance] the men turned nine times Widdir-shines about, and the Women six times. 1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* ii. ii, Mausy . . . Wins withershins about the Hemlock Low. 1825 SCOTT *Talism.* xxviii, While the challenger rode around the lists in the course of the sun . . . the defender made the same circuit widdersins. 1840 *New Statist. Acc. Scot.* (1845) XV. 141 The fishermen, when about to proceed to the fishing, think they would have bad luck, if they were to row the boat 'withershins' about. 1903 KIPLING *Five Nations* 10 So, widdershins circling the bridebed of death, Each fleereth her neighbour.

withershins(s), **widdershin(s)**, *a.* [f. the *adv.*] Moving in an anticlockwise direction, contrary to the apparent course of the sun (considered as unlucky or sinister); unlucky, ill-fated, relating to the occult.

1926 D. H. LAWRENCE *Plumed Serpent* vi. 112 She made up her mind, to be alone, and to cut herself off from all the mechanical widdershin contacts. *Ibid.*, He, too, was widdershins, unwinding the sensations of disintegration and anti-life. 1936 DYLAN THOMAS *Twenty-Five Poems* 16 Shall I still be love's house on the widdershin earth, Woe to the windy mansions at my shelter? 1973 G. M. BROWN *Magnus* vi. 112 There is a black joy abroad, a dance of the deadly sins, a withershins rout. 1976 *Early Music* Oct. 399/1 The sentiments and rituals of the court can be grotesquely gayed by the spirits (widdershins dances, sick-caricature mimes to accompany the Sorceress's prophecies and provoke those ho-ho outbursts, etc.).

† **'witherward**, *a. Obs.* Also 5 witerward. [OE. *wiperweard* (cf. OHG. *widarwart*, -wert, Goth. *wiprawairps*), f. *wiper*-, WITHER⁻¹ + -weard, -WARD.] Hostile, inimical.

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xi. §1 þeah hit nu hefig sie & wiðerweard. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 223 Him þa hæðnan men wiperwearde wæron. c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xii. 25 Ælc ceaster oððe hus, þe byð wiperweard ongen hyt sylf, hyt ne stent. c 1200 ORMIN 9667 Wiperward onngænness Godd. c 1205 LAY. 6875 Wið al folc he was wiðerward. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2935 Dis king him his wel wiðer-ward Agen ðis folc. 13. . . A. DAVY *Dreams* 20 No strook ne 3af he 3einward To pilk þat hym weren wiperward.

b. *absol.* (Cf. OE. *wiperweard* adversary.)

a 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 4297 þou wirkis bot on þa witerward, & worthis þaim ouire.

Hence † **'witherwardness**, hostility, enmity.

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past.* c. iii. 36 He weard eft swæ ungemetlice grædig ðæs godan deaðes, butan ælcra scylde & ælcra wiðerwardnesse wið hine. c 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 233 Hatrede and widerwardnesse.

† **'witherwards**, *adv. Sc. Obs. rare.* [f. WITHER⁻¹ + -WARDS.] = WITHERSHINS.

1624 *Orkney Witch Trial in Abbotsford Club Misc.* I. 144 To . . . gang thryse woderwardis about the kow, and straik hir in the left syd. 1643 in Dalryell *Superst. of Scot.* (1834) 459 [He] yeid about his hous twys or thrys witherwards.

† **'witherwin**. *Obs.* Forms: 1-3 wiper-, wiðer-, 3-4 wither-, wyper-, (4 weper-, wipir-, withere-, -yre-, wipper-, quiper-, wider-, wyder-, widdir-, whydyre-), 4-5 wedir-, wethir-, 5 witer-; 1-2 (-inna, 2-4 -wine, 3-4 -win, 3-5 -wynne, 5 -wyn, (-un), 4-5 -wyne. [OE. *wiperwinn* = OHG. *widarwinno* (MHG. -winne), f. *wiper*- WITHER⁻¹ + agent-n. of *winnan* WIN *v.*¹] An enemy, adversary; *spec.* the Adversary, the Devil.

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past.* c. xix. 146 Dylæs he sie ongielten ðæt he sie wiðerwinna . . . ðæs þe he bið gesewen ðeow on his ðegnunge. c 1000 ÆLFRED *Hom.* (Assmann) I. 120 Ure wiðerwinna is witodlice se deofol. c 1205 LAY. 27326 Hæðene hundes, goddes wiðer-iwinnen [c 1275 wiperwynnes]. a 1225 *Ankr.* R. 196 Ure wiðerwines beoð preo: þe ueond, þe world, & ure owune vleshs. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6648 þo þis quene was of londe ydrue þoru hire wiperwine. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 6284 His folk he has al sauued sund, þair wiperwins er broght to grund. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xvi. (Magdalena) 246 How þe dede he tholyt syne, To safe ws fra þe wethirwyne. ? a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 2215 Wrothely he . . . Woundes these whydyrewyns, werrayed knyghttes. c 1400 *Melayne* 695 Nowe arte þou werre þan any

Sarazene, Goddis awenn wedirwyne. *c* 1450 *LOVELICH Grail* xlvii. 42 Thike day Converyd was. . . A thousand & Fyfty Sarrazines that to fore tyme weren wethir-wynes.

withery ('wiðəri), *a. rare.* [f. *WITHER v.* + *-y*.] Inclined to wither; wilting.

1621 R. BANISTER *Treat.* 113 *Dis. Eye Breviary* (1622) (b3b), Eyes darke, withery, and cloudy, presage death. 1861 *GREEN Lett.* (1901) II. 82 All else are waxing pale and withery under the Tartarian heat.

withey, variant of *WITHY*.

† **withfall**. *Obs. rare.* [f. *WITH adv.* + *FALL sb.*, after late L. *symptoma*, Gr. *σύνπτωμα* SYMPTOM.] A chance, casualty, accident; a symptom.

1562 *TURNER Herbal* II. 46b, The vnyre apples eaten with theyr sede bryng dedely withfalls. 1572 J. JONES *Bathes Ayde* III. 22 Accident is that, which the Greekes call *Symptoma*, and wee properly in English, to fall and with fall.

† **withgang**, *sb.*¹ *Sc. Obs.* [a. ON. *viðgangr* increase.] Success; advantage, profit. So 'withgate' *Sc.* [GATE *sb.*]

1456 *SIR G. HAVE Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 171 Wikkit men has oft tymes in this world welth, and withgang. *c* 1480 *HENRYSON Wolf & Wether* xxii, Thay haif withgang, welth, and cherising. 1510 in *Rec. Earldom Orkney* (S.H.S. 1914) 86 Vitth al profetis and v'gang [?; printed v'gang] sene Schir Dautit deit. 1825 *JAMIESON s.v. With-gate*, To get the with-gate, to gain the advantage.

† **withgang**, *sb.*² *Sc. Obs.* [a. ON. *viðganga* access, admission.] Free course; unlimited permission, licence, toleration. Also † **withgang** *v.*, *trans.* to give licence to, tolerate.

a 1500 *Ratis Raving* 420, I gair my hart euer withgange of al plesans. *Ibid.* 3747 Gyf men thaim withgang wantonly, Than wyll thai cowet the maistry. 1808 *JAMIESON*, *Withgang*, toleration, permission to pass with impunity. *Skene*.

So † **withgate**². *Sc.* [GATE *sb.*]

1599 *Sc. Acts Jas. VI* (1816) IV. 187/1 The withgait and libertie quhilk sindry avaricious . . . persones hes tane to exact . . . sik exorbitant . . . profite. 1606 *Ibid.* 284/1 Ane terror to the ewill disposit to give withgait to thair Inclination. *Ibid.* 616/2 The withgait and libertie grantit vnto Suche shamefull scafferie and extorsion.

† **withgo**, *v.* *Obs.* [f. *WITH-* + *GO v.*; in sense 1 OE. *wipgán*.]

1. *trans.* To go against, act in opposition to, oppose; in *pa. pple.* opposed (to).

743-5 in *Thorpe Charters* (1865) 29 Ond næfre ic ne mine lastweardas . . . geðristlæcen þæt heo hit [sc. a grant] onwenden oððe þon wiðgæn. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 27986 It [sc. lechery] es sua greif and god witgan þat [etc.]. *c* 1350 *Leg. Rood* iii. 152 þe sin of vs twa allane Was so grete and god withgane.

2. *intr.* To pass away; *pa. pple.* ?passed on their way.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 5085 Mi wret es me now al witgan [Gött. ouer-gan]. 14.. in *Tundale's Vis.* (1843) 158, I fared me furthe yn that frythe; I mett three comely kyngis with gone.

3. *pass.* To be possessed with.

c 1375 *Cursor M.* 8915 (Fairf.) Ho is wode & wip þe deuel withgane.

4. *intr.* To go with something else.

1608 *SYLVESTER Mem. Mortalitie* II. xxxvii, Th' hand bindeth not except the heart with-go.

5. *trans.* To forgo.

a 1677 *BARROW 2nd Sermon. Ps. xc. 12 Wks.* 1686 III. 174 Who for one . . . mess of Pottage . . . did withgo his birthright.

withheld (wið'held), *ppl. a.* [pa. *ppl.* of *WITHHOLD v.*] Kept or held back.

1753-4 *RICHARDSON Grandison* III. xxviii. 177 My withheld breath raised my complexion, and swelled my features. 1914 *AMÉLIE RIVES World's-End* xl, His face had a curious, withheld look as he stooped to kiss her.

withhold (wið'hould), *v.* Forms and etym.: see *WITH-* and *HOLD v.*; 3-7 occas. as two words, 6-8 freq. with hyphen; also 3 wiðealden, 4 withald, 5-6 -alde, 5-8 withhold; *pa. t.* 3 wiðeld, 5 without, 6 pseudo-arch. with halt; *pa. pple.* 4- 5 withhold, 5-8 withholden (*withholden* was still freq. in the 19th century).

1. *trans.* To keep from doing something; to keep in check or under restraint; to hold back, restrain.

Formerly also const. inf. = from doing a thing.

c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 107 Alle unwillis ðe cumeð of ðe manne, ðies hes atempreð, & wiðhalt te misdón. *Ibid.* 143 Godd . . . wiðeld alle reines prie hier & six monepes. *c* 1290 *Beket* 1254 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 142 The teres fullen out of is eiseke, he ne mihte with-holden heom nou3t. 13.. *E.E. Allit. P. B.* 740, I schal . . . wyth-halde my honde for hortung on lede. 1379 *Glouc. Cath. MS.* 19. No. I. i. iv. lf. 11b, It . . . letteth & withholdeth the colre froo his kind decoccion. 1390 *GOWER Conf.* II. 240 Jason . . . Ne mihte noght withhold his lok, Bot so good hiede on hire he tok, That [etc.]. *Ibid.* 284 To be withholden ayein largesse. *c* 1400 tr. *Secr. Secr., Gov. Lordsh.* 113 Y withdrew me, & ouercome my self, for to withhold my couetyse. 1535 *COVERDALE Job* xvii. 4 Thou hast with holden thier hertes from vnder-standing. a 1548 *HALL Chron., Hen. V* 70 Forasmuche as our saied father is withholden with diuerse sickness, in such maner as he maie not intende in his owne persone. 1595 *SHAKS. John* v. vi. 37 With hold thine indignation, mighty heauen. 1601 — *Jul. C.* III. ii. 108 What cause with-holds you then to mourne for him? 1696 *TATE & BRADY Ps.* xl. 9 Nor did [I] . . . my Lips with-hold. 1719 *DE FOE Crusoe* I. (Globe) 237 So I withheld my Passion, though I was indeed enrag'd to the highest Degree. 1742 *JOHNSON Sydenham* Wks. 1787 IV. 493 He was with-held from the university by the

commencement of the war. 1742 *FIELDING J. Andrews* II. v, Had not some awe of the company . . . withheld his rage. 1749 — *Tom Jones* v. ii, From serenading his Patient every Hunting Morning with the Horn . . . it was impossible to withhold him. 1780 *JOHNSON Lett. to Mrs. Thrale* 8 May, Such is the call for your presence; what is there to withhold you? 1868 *LYNCH Rivulet* cxvii. i, While darkness yet withheld the dawn. 1873 J. G. HOLLAND *A. Bonnic* ii, I longed to go nearer it, but the prohibition withheld me. 1912 *Engl. Hist. Rev.* Jan. 53 Walpole . . . withheld Great Britain from giving support . . . to . . . Frederick William. *absol.* 1382 *WYCLIF 2 Thess.* ii. 6 Now what withholdith, 3e witen, that he be schewid in his tyme. 1560 *Bible* (Genev.) 2 Thess. ii. 7 He which now withholdeth, shal tel til he be taken out of the waye.

b. *refl.* To restrain oneself.

c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 135 ðe mann þe him wiðhalt . . . of ates & of drenches. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 348 Ich halsie ou . . . þet 3e wiðholden ou from viesliche lustes. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 12623 3ow to withholde Fro þe synnes þat byfore are tolde. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxii. 99 If it be swa þat any man . . . withhold him fra þis feste. *c* 1400 tr. *Secr. Secr., Gov. Lordsh.* 73 With-holde þe from latynge of blood. *Ibid.* 116 He þat with-oldeys him to sterre his hondes. a 1619 *FOTHERBY Atheom.* II. viii. §2 (1622) 283 He prayeth to God, to withhold him; because hee could not withhold himselfe. 1897 *WARUNG Tales Old Régime* 246 Blake, . . . though tempted, yet withheld himself from yielding.

† c. *intr.* To refrain from; occas. const. inf., or *trans.* with gerund. *Obs.*

1650 H. MORE *Observ. in Enthous. Tri.*, etc. (1656) 103 You could not with-hold from telling us that you are but a young man. *c* 1650 *BRADFORD Plymouth Plant.* (1856) 104 They withheld and did no more hurte. 1711 *ADDISON Spect.* No. 123 ¶5 He could no longer withhold making himself known to him. 1807 [? W. H. IRELAND] *Mod. Ship of Fools* 118 note, No man should withhold from extending his hand to support the falling. *Ibid.* 275 note, The fools will carefully withhold from the mention of their own fooleries. 1817 *JAS. MILL Brit. India* v. iv. II. 453 He was incapable of giving, or capable of withholding to give . . . an opinion.

† d. *trans.* To keep away or off, ward off. *Obs.* 13.. *K. Alis.* 2302 Glitoun . . . pulte forth a stelene scheld, Ny-gusars dunt withhold. 1560 *1st Bk. Discipl. Ch. Scot.* (1621) 66 Every Kirk must have . . . thack able to with-hold raine.

† e. To hinder, prevent. (With dir. obj., clause, or acc. and inf.) *Obs.*

c 1400 tr. *Secr. Secr., Gov. Lordsh.* 93 Vnderstandynge . . . ys luge wirkand, and withhaldand þat þat vndoyng by-cumes. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* cvj b, It is anoyus sekene . . . and with holdeth hir strengthe. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 39 Nothing with-holds, but that from an infinite tale of finites there may at length arise an infinite. 1754 *RICHARDSON Grandison* II. iii. 22 Nothing with-holds my wishes to be released, but my desire of seeing the darling . . . happy.

f. To keep away or separated from. *rare.*

1513 *DOUGLAS Æneis* IV. vi. 150 Quham of the realm of Itail I defraud, And fra the ground to him promist withhad. 1854 *PATMORE Angel in Ho., Betrothal* 140 Like a ship frost-bound and far Withheld in ice from the ocean's roar.

† g. To defer, postpone. *Obs. rare.*

1725 *POPE Odys.* xxii. 258 She . . . willing longer to survey The sire and son's great acts, with-held the day.

2. To keep back; to keep in one's possession (what belongs to, is due to, or is desired by another); to refrain from giving, granting, or allowing. † Formerly with dat. of person. (The current sense.)

c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 139 Ða þinges ðe ne sculen ben iziuen, þa bieð to wiðealden mid michele skele. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 914 Wid-held he ðor-of neuere on del, Oc al ðat euere fel him to, Sac-les he let him welden it so. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 28427 Gains godd i haue bene vn-hende, þat i wit-halden ha my tende. 1362 *LANGL. P. Pl. A.* vi. 42 He with-halt non hyne his huire. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 5620 3eld me þe rylays þv agayn, þat pou with-halst of myne. ? 1449 *Paston Lett. Suppl.* (1901) 22 The Pryore and Convent of Norwyche have withhalden certeyn rent for landes that they halden of me. 1470-85 *MALORY Arthur* x. xli. 480 A knyghte that hyght Goneryes that withhelde her alle her landes. 1493 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 105 That ye without your duty belonging to the sayd Mr. Lee. a 1548 *HALL Chron., Edw. IV* 232 Your old rightes & possessions, which wer from you . . . wrongfully with holden. 1590 *SPENSER F.Q.* II. xi. 9 Soone as Titan gan his head exault, And soone againe as he his light with hault. 1634 *SIR T. HERBERT Trav.* 186 Blessings . . . not with-held from Pagan people. 1728 *POPE Dunc.* III. 276 These Fate reserv'd to grace thy reign divine, Foreseen by me, but ah! withheld from mine. 1794 R. J. SULLIVAN *View Nat. I.* 480 From such an inference, I must . . . withhold my assent. 1848 *DICKENS Dombey* xvi, Perch the messenger . . . could not withhold the tribute of his admiration for this zealous conduct. 1861 *BROUGHAM Brit. Const.* xiii. 178 [Parliament's] acknowledged power to give or to withhold supplies. 1874 S. WILBERFORCE *Ess.* I. 381 The other branches of the Church Catholic, with which . . . communion was . . . withholden from us. 1883 *TYLOR in Encycl. Brit.* XV. 199/1 Such divine beings as can . . . give or withhold the rain. 1911 *Act 1 & 2 Geo. V.* c. 46 §4 That by reason of such refusal [to republish] the work is withheld from the public.

absol. 1781 *COWPER Hope* 331 He will give freely, or he will withhold. 1859 *WHITTIER My Psalm* 42 All as God wills, who wisely heeds To give or to withhold.

† 3. To detain; to keep in bondage, in custody, or under control. Also *fig. Obs.*

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3019 He [sc. Pharaoh] wið-held hem, and, al-so he [sc. Moses] it beað, Al ðe erf of egypt wurð dead. *c* 1374 *CHAUCER Troylus* IV. 597 It is no shame vn-to 3ow, . . . Hire to with-holden þat ye loueth most. 1390 *GOWER Conf.* I. 308 If thou art on of alle, That with this vice hast ben withhold. 1422 *YONGE tr. Secr. Secr.* 161 Verite in this dayes is wyth-holde, bonde, and prisoner. *c* 1520 *SKELTON Garl. Laurell*, etc., Wks. 1843 I. 427 The twayne last [sc. Right and Reason] Be withhold so fast With mony, as men sayne, They can not come agayne. 1590 *SHAKS. Mids. N.* II.

i. 26 She (perforce) with holds the loued boy. 1611 *TOURNEUR Ath. Trag.* I. ii, Your favour had by his duty beene preuented, If he had not with-held him in the way. 1714 *Orig. Canto Spenser* xxxvi, The struggling Fly he firmly doth with-hold. [Cf. quot. 1854 in 1 f.]

† 4. To keep in use or possession; rarely, to keep in place; to retain; *esp.* to retain in the memory; occas. to reserve to oneself. *Obs.*

c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 27 Hit is al 3edwoll, and of habenesse 3iet wiðhealden. *c* 1374 *CHAUCER Boeth.* IV. pr. vi. (1868) 139 He wolde for-leten perauenture to continue innocence, by þe whiche he ne may nat wipholden fortune. *c* 1386 — *Pars. T.* ¶967 [The Pater noster] is short, . . . for to withholden it the moore esily in herte. 1387-8 T. Usk *Test. Love* II. viii. (Skeat) l. 121 Al-though it be a wyle swete, it may not be with-holde. 1398 *TREvisa Barth. De P.R.* v. ii. (Tollem. MS.), þe heed is sumdel comynge narrow and hy3e, and þat to with holde þe bagge of þe brayne. *c* 1400 tr. *Secr. Secr., Gov. Lordsh.* 78 Study . . . to kepe and withhold kyndly hete. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. xv. (1869) 10 He hath with holde to him alle vengeance. 1483 *CAXTON G. de la Tour* li. ej, I wold ye couthe and wel withheld the example of a knyght that had thre wyues.

† b. To keep attached to one's person or engaged in one's service; to retain for one's pleasure or profit, keep on one's side. *Obs.*

c 1300 *Havelok* 2356 A thusand knihtes ful wel o bon With-held þe king, with him to lede. *c* 1380 *Antecrist* in *Todd Three Treat. Wyclif* (1851) 150 Crist wipheld no men of lawe ne plders at þe barr for robes and fees. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (1919) xxvi. 157 All the mynstrelles þat comen before hym . . . ben withholden with him as of his houshold. *c* 1412 *HOCCEVE De Reg. Princ.* 1250 With-holde hir on þi side. 1423 *Acts Privy Council* III. 90 He has bene withhold and of retenue for a yere wyt the . . . noble Kyng Henry. 1424 *Paston Lett.* I. 17 [He] never was servaunt to the . . . Duc . . . ne wythhaldyn in hese service. *c* 1500 *Three Kings Sons* 22 My lorde withheld him for his seruauit.

† 5. To keep, maintain, preserve. *Obs.*

c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 71 Ðat tu hes kunne wel 3ecnawen & mid godes fultume wiðhealden. *c* 1374 *CHAUCER Boeth.* IV. pr. vi. (1868) 142 God . . . hastip to wiphalde þe þinges þat he hap maked in to hys semblaunce. *c* 1386 — *Prolog.* 511 To seken hym a chauntreie for soules, Or with a brothered to been withholde. 1390 *GOWER Conf.* I. 7 Knythode . . . Wherof the wyde worldes fame Write in Cronique is yit withhold. *c* 1418 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 244 Hem nedethe nether spere ne shulde, Ne in no castel to be withhold.

† 6. a. To hold. b. To hold up, sustain. *Obs. rare.*

1513 *DOUGLAS Æneis* VIII. xi. 44 In thair hand wythhald-and, euery knyght, Twajavilling speris. 1760-72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) II. 159 [He] cut the hair that with-held me in twain; so down I thought I fell.

† 7. *intr.* To hold or adhere to. *Obs. rare.*

a 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* Prolog. 4 Forto flee euelle and withhold the good. *Ibid.* 54 Alle these men that kepithe hem self clene . . . haue free hert to withhold good ensamples of lyff.

Hence with'holdable *a.*, liable to be or capable of being withheld.

1810 *BENTHAM Packing* (1821) 248 The habitual, but ever withholdable bribes, with which they are fed.

withholden (wið'həuldən), *ppl. a. arch.* [pa. *ppl.* of *WITHHOLD v.*] = *WITHHELD ppl. a.*

c 1430 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* 213/349 With-holden hire agen þe rist Of þi seruanntis vpon þee crye. 1802-12 *BENTHAM Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) V. 97 The fallaciously offered and really withholden remedy. 1884 *TENNYSON Cup* I. i. 48 The long-withholden tribute.

withholder (wið'həuldə(r)), [f. *WITHHOLD v.* + *-ER*.] One who withholds.

1483 *Acta Audit. in Acta Dom. Conc.* II. Introd. 107 That scho haue hir accioun agane the withaldaris of thame. 1516 *Reg. Privy Seal Scot.* I. 418/1 To compell the withhaldaris and intronettouris thairwith to deliuer the samyn to thaim. 1548 *Act 2 & 3 Edw. VI.* c. 13 §13 Yt shall not be lafulf . . . to . . . sue suche withholder of tithes . . . before any other Judge then ecclesiastical. a 1648 *Ld. HERBERT Hen. VIII* (1683) 117 If either Prince haue an intention to recouer any other Rights, against other with-holders. a 1674 *TRAHERNE Chr. Ethics* (1675) 555 He hath more Withholders to keep him from Sin. 1866 J. G. MURPHY *Comm. Exod.* xxii. 28 Whether he [sc. God] be regarded as the withholder of prosperity or the restrainer of crime. 1917 *OUTWHAITE Land or Revol.* iii. 21 To compel the urban land withholders to use or part with the land.

withholding (wið'həuldɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. as prec. + *-ING*.] 1. The action of the verb *WITHHOLD*: retention, restraint, keeping back, etc.

c 1386 *CHAUCER Melib.* ¶267 How I shal gouerne me in the chesynge and in the withholdynge of my conseilours. *c* 1400 tr. *Secr. Secr., Gov. Lordsh.* 116 Broodnesse of brest, and greetnesse of sholdres . . . by-tokyns . . . hardynesse, with withholdynge of wyt, and vnderstandinge. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* II. lii. (1869) 96 So is to me an hevy blok the bodi, and a gret withholdinge. 1440-1 *Privy Counc. Proc.* (P.R.O.), Thenditures of his withholdynge bitwix the Kyng and him. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 351 That they shulde receyue the tythys . . . with-out only with-holdynge. 1454 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 254/1 That a notable some of monneye bee to me delivered . . . for the withholding and contenting of such Souleours. 1526 *Reg. Privy Seal Scot.* I. 518/2 Thair tresonable asseging, taking and withhalding of the Kingis castell. a 1651 C. LOVE *Combat Flesh & Spirit* (1654) 41 The withholdings of the Spirit. 1705 *STANHOPE Paraphr.* II. 350 His very Withholdings and Delays are kindly meant. 1837 *LOCKHART Scott* IV. i. 18 The with-holding of the avowal. a 1861 *CLOUGH Poems, Uranus* 3 The . . . blank profound, Which . . . holds All knowledge, ever by withholding holds. 1884 *Law Times Rep.* (N.S.) LI. 242/2 If a party . . . obtains the sanction of the court by withholding information which is material . . . such withholding amounts to fraud.

2. Special Comb.: withholding rate *U.S.*, the rate for a withholding tax; withholding table *U.S.*, a table showing amounts of tax to be deducted from a dividend payment, salary, etc.; withholding tax orig. *U.S.*, a tax deducted at source, *spec.* one levied by some countries on interest or dividends paid to a person resident outside that country.

1972 *Time* 17 Apr. 43/3 Spending has been held back in part because of a colossal blunder by the House Ways and Means Committee in setting the new withholding rates. 1976 *Billings* (Montana) *Gaz.* 30 June 6-A/1 The House unanimously passed and sent to President Ford Tuesday a two-month extension of current lower income tax withholding rates. 1947 *Sun* (Baltimore) 15 May 2/8 The Finance Committee halved the House bill for the current year and made the new withholding tables effective as of July 1. 1940 *U.S. Federal Rep.* 2nd Ser. CXII. 1000/2 Intra-company payments designated as 'interest' would not be so regarded... for the purpose of the withholding tax. *Ibid.*, The principal amount... was due complainant on account of withholding taxes. 1950 *Tax Cases* XXXIII. 346 The Appellant received her arrears of interest as follows: In June, 1943... \$18,000 Less: U.S. withholding tax at 30 per cent... 5,400. 1960 I. WALLACH *Absence of Cello* (1961) 7 Will you tell me why the hell you never paid the withholding taxes for your employees? 1971 *Financial Mail* (Johannesburg) 26 Feb. 717/1 Interest accruing to non-residents of the Republic is subject to deduction of a withholding tax at the rate of 10 per cent, exemption from the tax having been granted in respect of accruals of interest amounting to R20 or less in any one year. 1979 *Daily Tel.* 27 Oct. 27/1 Many foreign countries have tax laws, which, in principle, require the foreign payer of the dividends or interest to deduct a withholding tax when making the payment to a non-resident. 1984 *Times* 5 Oct. 25/1 The German withholding tax was introduced in 1965 to prevent an overvaluation of the Deutschmark injurious to exports.

So withholding *ppl. a.*, that withholds.

c1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* iv. xiii. (1869) 183 Withholding, and ful of cley, and... glewy is pilke. 1898 *Fortn. Rev.* Aug. 305 The eternal duel between the desiring flesh and the withholding spirit.

withholdment. *rare.* [f. WITHHOLD *v.* + -MENT.] = WITHHOLDING *vbl. sb.*

1640 O. SEDGWICK *Christ's Counsell* 183 An avocation or withholdment from errors. 1851 W. ANDERSON *Exposure of Popery* (1878) 73 There... is an important withholdment made in the communication.

withi, var. *with thi*: see WITH *prep.* 6.

within (wiðin), *adv., prep., (adj.)*. Forms (2-5 written as one or as two words): a. 1 wiþinnan, wiðinnan, 2-4 wiðinne(n), 3-5 wiþinne, etc. (see WITH and INNE *adv.*); also 3 wiþ ine(n), *Orm.* wiþinnenn, 3-4 widine, 4-5 withine. β. 3 wiðin, 4-5 wiþin, etc. (see WITH and IN *adv.*; abbreviated 4-6 w'in, 7 w'in), 4- within. [Late OE. *wiþinnan*, f. *wiþ* with *prep.* = *innan* INNE, the second element being assimilated to *in* *adv.* in ME. OE. *wiþinnan*, *wiþæftan* behind, *wiþforan* before, *wiþgeondan* beyond, *wiþhindan* behind, *wiþufan* above, and *wiþutan* WITHOUT, form a group of words peculiar to English, corresp. to and perh. partly modelled on the synonymous group *bæftan*, *bæftan* BAFT *adv.*, *beforan* BEFORE, *begeondan* BEYOND, *behindan* BEHIND, *beinnan*, *binnan* BIN *adv.*, **beufan*, *bufan* BOVE *adv.*, *beutan*, *butan* BOUT *adv.*, of which nearly all have cognates in West Germanic. Cf. the blended forms BYTHINNE, BYTHOUT.]

A. *adv.* (In most senses opp. to WITHOUT *adv.*)

1. a. In the inner part or interior, or on the inner side (of a receptacle or other material thing); inside, internally.

c1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* vi. 14 Du wyrcst wununga binnan ðam arce & clæmst wiðinnan & wiðutan mid tyrwan. c1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 640 ðe rede wid-innen toknet on Wreche ðat sal 3et wurden sent. a1300 *Cursor M.* 523 His heued with in has eien tuin, þe lift has son and mon wit-in. 1398 *TREvisa Barth. De P.R.* iv. iv. (1495) e vij. By heete werkynge alwaye wythin and wythoute bodies ben consumyd and waasted. c1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 48 Bake on an ovyn, & coloure with-ynne & wyth-out. 1596 *SHAKS. Merch. V. i.* 105 Set a deepe glasse of Reinish-wine on the contrary Casket, for if the diuell be within, and that temptation without, I know he will choose it. 1796 *STEDMAN Surinam* II. xviii. 51 Small annulated black spots, which are white within. 1797 *COLERIDGE Christabel* l. 127 The gate that was ironed within and without. 1815 *STEPHENS in Shaw's Gen. Zool.* IX. 1. 42 At the bend of the wing, just within, is a horn-coloured spine. 1827 *FARADAY Chem. Manip.* ix. 248 The instrument may be removed, and the fluid within transferred to any convenient vessel. 1866 *GEO. ELIOT F. Holt* xxxiii, The tradesmen... locked their doors and barricaded their windows within.

b. In the interior of the body or some part of it. c1220 *Bestiary* 318 Wiðinnen he hæuð brenning. 1387 *TREvisa Higden* l. 59 Betyng of veynes is better i-knowe in þe vtter parties of bodies þan ynward and in þe myddel wyþinne. 1450-1530 *Myrr. Our Ladye* II. 246 How al hys glorious body muste be tormented... wythin and wythoute. 1596 *SHAKS. Merch. V. i.* 83 Why should a man whose blood is warme within, Sit like his Grandsire, cut in Alabaster? a1639 *CAREW Poems, My Mistress commanding me to return her Letters* 68 Though the skin Be clos'd without, the wound festers within. [1843 *MACAULAY Horatius* lxii, But his limbs were borne up bravely by the brave heart within.] 1844 *MRS. BROWNING Lay of Brown Rosary* III. xvi, The maidens' lips trembled from smiles shut within.

c. In this writing or document; herein. *Obs.* exc. in technical use.

1387 *TREvisa Higden* II. 35 As hit is i-saide wiþ ynne. c1450 *Godstow Reg.* 368 As is l-write with-yn. 1498-1844 [see D. a]. 1519 *Indenture betw. Pynson and Horman in Trans. Philol. Soc.* (1867) 365 The parties wythin named. 1651 tr. *Kitchin's Jurisd.* (1653) 550 We A. B. and C. D. Coroners... do certifie the Justices within written... that we have searched the Rolles.

†d. (with verb of motion) So as to go in or be inside: = IN *prep.* 1. *Obs. rare.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 7951 Hii wiþinne turnde aȝen & hom allenome. c1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 19 Poure hit withinne.

2. a. In the limits of, or in the inner part of, a space or region, esp. a city or country; in the place or realm.

a1122 *O.E. Chron.* (Laud) an. 1048 [Hi] of sloȝon æȝðer ȝe wiðinnan ȝe wiðutan ma þanne .xx. manna. c1205 *LAY.* 18300 Vtheres cnihtes... wereden þene tun wið innen. 1390 *GOWER Conf.* III. 382 If a kyng wol justifie His lond and hem that beth withynne. 1474 *CAXTON Chesse* II. iv. (1883) 52 Scylla that was Duc of the Romayns wyth oute had many fayr victoryes agaynst the Romayns wyth Inne. 1697 *DRYDEN Æneis* IX. 1034 But whom they fear'd without, they found within. 1849 *GROTE Greece* II. xlv. V. 359 Traitors within, as well as exiles without. 1914 *Engl. Hist. Rev.* Oct. 751 Support for the royal power against the barons within and the papacy without.

b. In (or into) the house or dwelling, indoors: = IN *adv.* 5; also, in the inner part of the house, in an inner chamber; *Theatr.* (esp. in stage-directions), behind the scenes.

c1275 *LAY.* 642 He... prettede þan castle and þat folk wid ine. c1290 *Beket* 1175 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 140 Al with-Inne seten is men as þei he lowest were. c1430 *Syr. Tryam.* 531 To mete as they were sett in halle, Syr Marrok was there ferre withynne y-wys. 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 32 She was within, but he was yet abroad. 1590 *SHAKS. Mids. N.* IV. i. 143 stage dir., Shout within, they all start up. 1595 — *John* IV. i. 85 Go stand within: let me alone with him. 1613 *PURCHAS Pilgrimage* II. xiv. 159 The mother kepeth within, six weeks. 1771 *WESLEY Jnl.* 26 May (1827) III. 419 The rain obliged me to preach within. 1815 *JANE AUSTEN Emma* xxxii, Not being within when he called the other day. 1833 L. RITCHIE *Wand. Loire* 131 'Within, there! ho!' shouted the traveller. 1837 *DICKENS Pickw.* xxxiv, Apartments furnished for a single gentleman. Inquire within. 1855 *MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* xxi. IV. 559 A messenger went with the summons to the house of the Duke of Leeds, and was there informed that the Swiss was not within.

c. *transf.* In the number or membership of a class or community. (Cf. B. 1 e.) *rare.*

1526 [see WITHOUT *adv.* 2 b].

3. fig. In the inward being; in the mind, soul, or heart (sometimes implying 'in one's true character as opposed to outward appearance'); inwardly.

c1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* vi. 6 ðehrepod mid heortan sarnysse wiðinnan. c1000 — *Hom.* I. 604 We beoð fram Gode ȝesewene æȝðer ȝe wiðutan ȝe wiðinnan. c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 95 3if þe halia gast ne leaŕð þes monnes heorte and his mod wið-innan. c1200 *ORMIN* 575 1 3if þiss hallȝhe gripp iss wel wiþinnenn i þin herrte. a1225 *Ancre. R.* 4 Vorto riwlen þe heorte wiðinnen. 1340 *Ayeb.* 10 þe zixte heste uorbyet þe dede wyþ-out, ac þis uorbyet þe grantinge wyþinne. c1386 *CHAUCER Wife's T.* 87 Be we neuer so vicious with-Inne We wol ben holden wise. 1421 26 *Pol. Poems* xviii. 118 Be suche wiþ-ynne, as 3e outward seme. a1548 *HALL Chron.*, 22 *Hen. VIII.*, 187 b, His graces sight was so quike... that he saw him, ye and saw through him, both within, and without. 1617 *FLETCHER Valentinian* IV. iv, Think not the worse... I shed not teares, Great griefes lament within. 1676 *DRYDEN Aurengz.* IV. i, I... stood firm collected in my Strength within. 1690 *NORRIS Beatitudes* (1692) 159 Look within, for within is the Fountain of Good. 1850 *TENNYSON In Mem.* xxxiii, Thou, that countest reason ripe In holding by the law within.

4. Preceded by *from* (†out of), in various senses.

c1489 *CAXTON Sonnes of Aymon* xv. 357 Ye shall not goo oute of wythin, wythout my leve. 1645 *GATAKER God's Eye on Israel* 52 Nor any helper...; as no power from within, so no aid from without. 1667 *MILTON P.L.* iv. 64 Other Powers... Fell not, but stand unshak'n, from within Or from without. 1810 *WORDSW. Sonn.* 'O'erweening Statesmen', From within proceeds a Nation's health. 1837 P. KEITH *Bot. Lex.* 273 When the impression from without, or the stimulus from within... excites the organs. 1896 J. DAVIDSON *Fleet St. Eclogues* Ser. II. 38 Be your own star, for strength is from within.

†5. Below the number or amount mentioned; less. (Cf. B. 7.) *Obs.*

c1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxvi. (Baptista) 997 Al barnis... Of twa ȝere elde & withine. a1425 *Cursor M.* 11567 (Trin.) Of two ȝeer or wyþynne þus [Cott. Tua yeir or less]. 1450 *Paston Lett.* I. 155 To bye it at the some of C. mark or wythynne. 1509 *Reg. Privy Seal Scot.* I. 286/2 To the nowmer of xii persons or within.

†6. a. In possession or occupation. *Obs. rare.* 1573 in *Hone Man. & Manor. Rec.* (1906) 191 Aforesaid Agnes survived him, and kept herself within, and was, and still is, seised thereof for term of her life.

B. *prep.*

1. a. In the inner part or interior of, inside of, in (a space, region, receptacle, etc.). (a) as a mere synonym of IN *prep.* 1. *arch.*

The use with *gen.* in 'þæt wiðinnan ys calicys' (*Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xxiii. 26) is a literalism of translation (Vulg. *quod intus est calicis* = τὸ ἐντὸς τοῦ ποτηρίου).

c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 89 þa weren þer igedered wiðinne pere buruh of ierusalem trowfeste men. a1240 *Ureisan* 49 in *O.E. Hom.* I. 193 Wið-inne paradise. c1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 348 Vn-welde woren... Here owen limes hem wið-in. *Ibid.* 555 Dou wex a flod þis werlde wid-him. a1300 *Cursor M.* 2678 Dou

and þi childer... And þat wons þi house witin. 1388 in *Archæologia* LII. 213 W'in the said westre. c1400 *Anturs Arth.* 136 Sei me... whi þou walkest þes wayes, þe wodes with-in? c1489 *CAXTON Blanchardyn viii. heading.* To passe ouer the ryuere wythin a bote. 1513 *DOUGLAS Æneis* VII. Prol. 116 Wythin my bed I waikynnit quhair I lay. 1596 *SHAKS. Tam. Shr.* I. i. 94 Schoolemasters will I keepe within my house. 1611 *Bible* Ps. ci. 2, I will walke within my house with a perfect heart. 1697 *DRYDEN Virg. Georg.* III. 810 The Viper dead, within her Hole is found. 1768 *STERNE Sent. Journ.*, *Moulines*, Her head leaning on one side within her hand. 1820 *KEATS Isabella* xxxviii, It shall comfort me within the tomb. 1867 *MORRIS Jason* I. 86 The bath within the pool of some green rill.

(b) with emphasis on the restriction or confinement by limits or boundaries: In the limits of, not outside or beyond. Opp. to WITHOUT *prep.* 1. (The current use.)

1131 *O.E. Chron.* (Laud), Ealle þa ðing þa wæron wiðinne mynstre & wiðuten. c1200 *ORMIN* 1084 He... ȝede upp to þatt allterr þatt was wiþinnenn wazheriff. c1300 *K. Horn* 256 (Laud), Wit hinne þe curt and wit oute. 1390 *GOWER Conf.* III. 307 Every thing which was honeste With-innen house and ek withoute. c1400 *MAUNDEV.* (1919) i. 5 The water of the see is fressch & holdeth his swetness .xx. myle within the see. c1450 *Godstow Reg.* 665 In weyes and pathes... with-in burgh and with-out burgh. 1539 *Bible* (Great) I Kings vi. 23 Within the Oracle he made two Cherubims of Oliue tree. 1551 *CROWLEY Pleas. & Payne* 110 Tyll all the good and fruitfull grounde Were hedged in whythin your mownde. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholas's Voy.* I. xiv. 15 Many small houses very aunciently builded within the grounde [= underground]. 1711 *STEELE Spect.* No. 91 ¶ 1 Within the Liberties of the City of Westminster. 1794 *Act 34 Geo. III.* c. 93 §63 The Mines and Minerals lying and being within or under the said Lands. 1849 *MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* ix. II. 437 Privileged districts, within which the Papal government had no more power than within the Louvre or the Escorial.

b. (a) In (an inclosure or inclosing boundary); so as to be included, contained, surrounded, or confined by. Also in *fig.* context (cf. 9).

within board (Naut.), in the inside of a ship: see BOARD *sb.* 12. within the lists: see LIST *sb.* 9.

1387-8 T. USK *Test. Love* I. iii. (Skeat) I. 54 These broughten me within-borde of this shippe of Traveyle. a1400 *Pistill of Susan* 10 Wiþ Inne the sercle of sees Of Erberi and Alees. a1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 211 With-in þe merris of Messedodyn. 1559 W. CUNINGHAM *Cosmogr. Glasse* 17 A Circle is a plaine and flat figure comprehended within one line, which is called a circumference. 1596 *DALRYMPLE tr. Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 9 Scotland... is hail w'in the sey, excepte that parte quhair it lyes to England. 1598 *STOW Surv.* 242 First to speake of that part within the gate. 1638 *BAKER tr. Balzac's Lett.* (vol. II.) 5 To gain beleefe, one must keepe himselfe within the bounds of likelihood. 1725 *WATTS Logic* I. vi. §5 To leave Obscurities in the Sentence, by confining it within too narrow Limits. 1779 *Mirror* No. 10 ¶ 11 A man who has confined his turn for enjoyment within the bounds pointed out by nature. 1831 *CARLYLE Sart. Res.* I. iii, The proud Grandee... reposes within damask Curtains. 1849 *MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 221 Whether the Declaration of Indulgence lay within or without the limit was the question. *Ibid.* v. 614 Five hundred prisoners had been crowded into the parish church of Weston Zoyland;... five expired within the consecrated walls. 1871 R. H. HUTTON *Theol. Ess.* (1888) i. 7 Those within the circle of its influence.

(b) Appended to names of places lying within a certain boundary or area, as *Bishopsgate Within* (i.e. within the walls of London), *Hensington Within* (i.e. within the borough of Woodstock).

1598 *STOW Surv.* 85 Aldersgate ward within and without. *Ibid.* 248 Faringdon Warde, Infra, or within. 1657 *HOWELL Londinop.* 87 We will... take a Survey of Bridge Ward within, so called of London-Bridge. 1745 *Ken's Lond. Directory* 93 Ware Nathaniel, Grocer, Bishopsgate within. 1837 *DICKENS Pickw.* xlv, The united parishes of Saint Simon Without, and Saint Walker Within. 1899 *Kelly's Direct. Oxon* 323 2 Hensington Within is a civil parish, formed... from the portion of the old parish in Woodstock municipal borough.

†c. *within land*: in the interior of the country, at a distance from the coast or other boundary: = INLAND *C.* *Obs.*

1614 *PURCHAS Pilgrimage* ix. iv. (ed. 2) 840 The Pories dwell an hundred miles within Land. 1617 *MORYSON Itin.* III. 141 Coventry... at this day is the fairest City within-land. 1793 *SMEATON Edystone L.* §206 Though there is plenty of the same kind of stone to be found in Strata within land; yet... the lime-burners can procure... sufficient quantity from the shelving sea-shore. 1815 *SCOTT Guy M.* xxxiv, It was too far within land, and I might have been scented.

d. On the inner (esp. landward) side of; further in than. (Cf. WITHOUT B. 1 c.) ? *Obs.*

1743 *BULKELEY & CUMMINS Voy. S. Seas* 120 The Cutter, being on the Three, and four Miles within us. 1766 *GOLDSM. Vicar W.* iv, Three other apartments, one for my wife and me, another for our two daughters, within our own. 1793 *SMEATON Edystone L.* §336 At 116 yards within high-water mark. c1804 *JANE AUSTEN The Watsons in Mem.* (1871) 321 The tea-room was a small room within the card-room.

e. *transf.* In the membership of (a class, society, etc.); (in predicate) included in, forming a part of. (Cf. IN *prep.* 7.)

1697 *JOS. WOODWARD Relig. Soc.* vi. (1701) 124 It is objected... That this is a Society within a Society, and a Refining upon a Reformed Church. 1799 *Monthly Rev.* XXX. 471 Compositions which may be arranged within this class. 1885 *Law Times Rep.* (N.S.) LII. 319/2 Criminal informations are within the mischief intended to be guarded against.

2. To the interior of; into. Also with the boundary as obj., as in 1 b. (Cf. IN *prep.* 31.) *Obs.* or *arch.*

c1205 LAY. 5812 Belin & Brennes buzen heom fram þan fuhte wiþ innen ær muclehe dic. c1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3775 Alle he sunken ðe eirðe wiðin. 13.. *Cursor M.* 2303 (Gött.) Feindes crepe þas ymagis wið-in. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 80 This Hors.. Was broght withinne the Cite. 1423 JAS. I. *Kingis Q.* lxxvii, I was anon In broght Within a chamber. c1480 HENRYSON *Wolf & Wether* 51 Was nouthur Uolf, Uildcat, nor 3it Tod Durst cum within thay boundis all about. 1508 DUNBAR *Gold. Targe* 92 Full lustily thir ladies .. Enterit within this park. 1582 N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. v. 13 b, Going upon the friday within a certein harbour. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* I. ii. 11, I would Hauē sunckē the Sea within the Earth. 1844 LINGARD *Anglo-Saxon Ch.* (1858) I. vii. 291 Admission within the fold.

†3. In or into the midst of, among, with; *spec.* in the house of; hence, in the hands or possession of.

a1240 *Ureisun* 26 in O.E. *Hom.* I. 191 Biuoren ðine leoue sune wið-innē seraphine. c1425 *Engl. Cong. Irel.* 52 When thay myght nat wyth streynth spede, thay bethoght ham that wyth falsched & wyth treyson they wold come wyth-yn ham. 1428 *Engl. Misc.* (Surtees) 2 To serche what osmundes he had with in hym at yat tyme. c1450 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Gilbert* xx. 92 So wer þese chanones fer sette fro þe nunnes þat þei schuld not come with-inne þe nunnes.. but only for ministracion of þe sacraments. 1474 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 399 Yf he kepe any Bawdry withinne hym his fyne is at euery tyme vj s. viij d. 1482 in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* Jan. (1910) 122 He shalle bynde and repayre alle bookes needefulle wythine vs. 1490 *Will. J. Baker* (Somerset Ho.), Elisabeth.. dwelling within me. 1493 *Mirk's Festyuall* 151/2 Some.. men y^t had copies of this bokis within hem at home. 1570 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 2124/2 A woman that dwelleth within vs. 1609 TOURNEUR *Funeral Poem Sir F. Vere*, When occasion did present his observation with some accident Within the enemye, that did inuite The side he served in to attempt a fight.

4. Various *transf.* uses, chiefly with reflexive pronoun. †a. In the limits of (not beyond or outside) the body, community, or collection of *within themselves* (*ourselves*, etc.): among themselves (etc.), independently of others. *Obs.*

a1300 *Cursor M.* 1914 Wit-in þeir auen kind to brede. 1484 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 522 Hit shal-be determyned & orderyd by all the Mairys wythin them self. 1496 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 516/2 They, within theymselve, shall make Colleccion of such Somes of Money as shall be assessed.. to be levied. 1591 SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI.* iv. i. 140 If they perceyue dissention in our looks, And that within our selues we disagree. 1654 EARL MONM. tr. *Bentivoglio's Wars Flanders* 189 They differed within themselves in their votes. 1737 [S. BERINGTON] *G. di Lucca's Mem.* (1738) 113 Living entirely within themselves, free from all Mixture and Commerce with other People.

b. *within oneself* (*itself*, etc.): (a) so as to be self-contained or independent, without external connexion (now *dial.*); †(b) in self-command or self-control, not 'beside oneself'; (c) in the limits of one's own belongings or resources, without external supply or aid (now *dial.*); (d) not beyond one's normal capacity of exertion; without strain, or waste of energy or effort.

(a) 1518 *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden Soc.) II. 136 He said.. that my lord of Peturburgh was lord and Kyng wythin hym self vnder the Kyng. 1727-46 THOMSON *Summer* 772 A world within itself, Disdaining all assault. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xxxvi, Some efforts.. towards building houses *within themselves*, as they are emphatically termed.

(b) 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* II. v. 75 Good Madam, keepe your selfe within your selfe.

(c) 1738 EARL OXFORD in *Portland Papers* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) VI. 171 The several officers have all within themselves for their use, cook, butler, housekeeper, wash house, laundry, brew house. 1757 [BURKE] *Europ. Settlem. Amer.* vii. xxi. II. 239 They drive a great many cattle from North Carolina.. into Virginia, to be slaughtered there; and they kill and salt some beef, and.. pork, for the West Indies, within themselves. 1801 *Farmer's Mag.* Aug. 309 They, for the most part, live entirely upon the produce of the farm, and think they do well when they can, (in their own words) 'live within themselves'; that is to say, without buying any thing. 1824 CARR *Craven Gloss.*, *Within-oursells*, in our possession, without purchase.

(d) 1737 BRACKEN *Ferriery Impr.* (1757) II. 148 The Sweat will not.. appear so plentiful, provided he [sc. the horse] is quite run within himself. 1860 WHYTE-MELVILLE *Mkt. Harb.* x. 76 [The horse] going well on his haunches, and quite within himself. 1878 *Month Aug.* 463 They are rowing quite within themselves, in very good time, and have the race in hand.

5. *fig.* In the (inner) being, soul, or mind of. *within oneself*, *spec.* (after *say*, *think*, etc.) = in thought, mentally, without outward expression.

c1000 *Ag. Ps.* (Spelman) cii[i]. 1 Ealle ða ðe wiðinnan me synd [Vulg. *intra me sunt*]. a1240 *Lofsong* in O.E. *Hom.* I. 211 þi passiun acwenche þe passiun of sunnen þet wunio wið inne me. a1300 *Cursor M.* 807 þe find.. said wit hin his sari thoght, Ic haue him don to suinc for noght. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 326 þe holy goste ys þe withynne. 1340 *Ayenb.* 153 Huanne þise tuo ziden of þe herte byep accorded.. þe is þe scele and þet wyl þanne is þe man ordine wyþ-inne him-zelue. 1340-70 *Alex. & Dind.* 338 To ouyr-comen enemis þat arn þe wip-inne. 1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* ix. 21 She saide with ynne hir self, 3if I touche onely the clothis of hym, I shal be saaf. 1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxix. 22 Hald Hoip and Treuthe within the fast. 1526 TYNDALE *Luke* xxiv. 32 Did not oure hertes burne wyth in vs, whyll he talked with vs? 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* I. i. 24 The spirit of my Father, which I thinke is within mee, begins to mutinie against this seruitude. c1668 LASSELS *Voy. Italy* II. (1698) 118 Laughing within himself. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) VI. 217 They will be moved on the slightest occasions, whether those offer from within or without them. 1836 LYTON *Duchess de La Vallière* III. iii, How sinks my heart within me! 1853 ROCK *Ch. Fathers* II. xii. (1903) IV. 179 The priest prayed—by name, but within himself—for the then pope [etc.]. 1860 HAWTHORNE *Marble Faun* vii. (1865)

55 It irks my brain and heart to think of her, all shut up within herself. 1896 HOUSMAN *Shropsh. Lad* xxx, And fire and ice within me fight Beneath the suffocating night.

6. a. In the limits of (a period of time); most usually, before the end of, after not more than; also, since the beginning of, not more than... ago; or *gen.* between the beginning and end of, in the course of, during. So †*within a word* = as soon as a word was uttered, at a word.

c1175 E.E. (*Vesp.*) *Hom.* 89 Wiðinnen feower wucan comen [hi] to him. c1205 LAY. 4955 Wið innen a lut 3eren Brennes hine bi-ðohte. c1290 *Beket* 1500 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 149 Euerich Abbod of greie Monekes to þulke chapitle cam With-Inne þre 3er. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 7047 Sone aftyrward, with-yn a lytyl. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. x. 149 He hath wedded a wyf with-Inne þis syx monethes. c1385 CHAUCER *L.G.W.* 103, I fel a-slepe with-Inne an our or two. c1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxv. 119 He schall hafe worde within a day and a nyght. 1535 COVERDALE *Acts* i. 5 Ye shaibe baptysed with y^e holy goost, & that within this few dayes. 1548 PATTEN *Exped. Scot.* Pref. b.v.b, How many meanes and weys hath my lord Protectours grace, within his tyme of gouernaunce.. attempted.. to shonne these warres. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. To King §15 Things.. which may be done in succession of ages, though not within the houre-glasse of one mans life. 1651 tr. *Kitchin's Jurisd.* (1653) 79 If the Owner do not come within a year and a day. 1757 MRS. GRIFFITH *Lett. Henry & Frances* (1767) IV. 247, I am, within these three days, recovering Spirits and Appetite. 1822 *Act 3 Geo. IV* c. 39 §1 Within Twenty one Days after the Execution of such Warrant of Attorney. 1869 'MARK TWAIN' *New Pilgr. Progr.* xi. (1870) 85 The cry went abroad of 'Ten minutes to dress for breakfast!'.. I was dressed within the ten minutes. 1871 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* xix. IV. 361 One of which was standing within the present generation. 1918 *Act 8 Geo. V* c. 2 (title), The Hours within which Marriages may be lawfully solemnized.

†b. *within night*: after nightfall. *Obs.*

c1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 7894 The day was gon, thet hadde no lyght, For it was wel with-Inne nyght. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* (1812) I. ccxli. 533 About two houres within night they armed them. 1632 LITTHGOW *Trav.* iv. 142 The last howre of Prayer, is alwayes two or three howres within night. 1685 W. HEDGES *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 206 We.. arrived.. a little within night.

†c. (without reference to limits) At some time during: = *IN prep.* 19. *Obs.*

1471 *Acta Audit.* (1839) 16/1 þe last court quhen.. þe dome was geuin was within feryale tyme onne gude Wednesday in passiouen wouk. 1551-2 in Feuillerat *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 74 Boughte of him within y^e month of december. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V.* I. ii. 60 King Pharamond.. died within the yeere of our Redemption, Foure hundred twentisix. 1651 tr. *Kitchin's Jurisd.* (1653) 79 He to whom the property is, may take him within the year. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem. xxi.*, Tho' it spake and bared to view A fact within the coming year.]

d. a *story within a story* and *varr.*, a story, performance, etc., complete in itself but occurring within another. Cf. *play within a play* s.v. *PLAY* sb. 14 a.

1961 WEBSTER s.v. *Within*, A musical within a musical. 1971 J. GORES in 'E. Queen' *Magicians of Mystery* (1976) 162 A new kind of procedural detective story.. it uses the dream 'story-within-a-story' which antedates even.. The Vision of Pierce Plowman. 1976 C. BERNANT *Coming Home* II. ii. 125 A plump, bespectacled woman.. grasped him in a tearful embrace. Was this a drama within a drama, a man who had thought he'd lost his wife and would rather that she had stayed lost? 1978 *Listener* 19 Jan. 86/3 Fitzgerald was featured creating one of his.. short stories.. This device allowed for a film within a film. 1984 B. PAUL *Renewable Virgin* ii. 38 There was some sort of a crime-within-a-crime just waiting to be discovered.

7. a. (a) Not beyond or above (a specified or implied amount or degree); at, in, or of less than or not more than; so as not to exceed or surpass; *esp.* (b) in expressions of a small difference or margin of error from a larger amount: = with a difference of not more than (so much) above or, usually, below.

1388 WYCLIF *Chron.* xxvii. 23 Daud nolde noumbre hem with ynne twenti 3eer [1332 fro twenty 3eer and benethen]. c1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxx. 137 Faire damysellz with þe elde of xv. 3ere. c1450 *Mirk's Festial* 290 Wether þei ben cosynnes wythinne degre of mariage or no. 1489 *Acta Audit.* (1839) 131/2 þe sereffis quhilkis prisit his gudis haid prisit þaim gretly within þe auale of þaim. 1512 *Act 4 Hen. VIII* c. 20 *Preamble*, Beyng of kyn.. unto the said John.. within the second and third degree. 1727 SWIFT *Lett. to very young Lady Misc.* II. 337, I think you ought to be well informed how much your Husband's Revenue amounts to, and be so good a Computer as to keep within it. 1783 LD. PERCY in *G. Rose's Diaries* (1860) I. 58 Being.. determined to live within my income. 1851, 1887 [see MARK sb. 12 c]. 1885 *Law Rep.* 29 *Chanc. Div.* 453 The actions were commenced within a few days of each other.

(b) 1556 J. HEYWOOD *Spider & F.* lxxvi. 28 Thousands.. are gone.. Till all: within fortie, weare flowne quight awaie. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* xiii. xv. I. 395 The.. diametre.. was four foot within three quarters of an inch. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* I. ii. 126 He is very yong, and yet will he within three pound list as much as his brother Hector. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 91 ¶1 She has a tall Daughter within a Fortnight of Fifteen. 1886 E. C. ROBINS *Temple Sol.* (1887) 15 The extreme length of Solomon's Temple.. is made (in his restoration of it) to agree with that of the Temple of Pæstum within 2 inches. 1920 *Conquest* Apr. 168 The unit of electrical current.. was obtained.. to within one point in 20,000.

†b. *within age* = of less than full age, under age. *Obs.*

c1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton) iv. xxxviii. (1859) 64 They.. gouerne hym, ryght as he were to yonge within age. 1450-1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* III. 317 Chyldren.. that dye wythin age vncrystened. 1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* (1812)

II. ci. [xcvii.] 295 When kyng Rycharde was crowned.. he was within age, and a kyng ought nat to gouerne a royalme tyll he be xxi. yeres of age. 1596 BACON *Use Com. Law* iii. (1630) 35 Leauing their heire within age, a Male within 21. and a female within 14. years.

c. Not beyond or outside (a specified distance); at or to a distance of less, or not more, than; nearer or not farther away than.

Often in *fig.* phrases, as *within an ace*, a *hair's breadth* of.

c1440 *Generydes* 3044 As sone as Ermones.. Sawe that he was withynne his wepons length, Anon he smote Att hym. 1537 LAYTON in *Lett. Suppr. Monast.* (Camden) 157 Other doctor Lee or I have famlier acqwayntance within x. or xij. mylles of hit. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 25 [We] came within foure degrees of the Æquinoctiall. 1700 T. BROWN tr. *Fresny's Amusem.* 23 The least false Step brings them within an Ace of Death. 1726, 1839 [see INCH sb. 1 2]. 1755, 1767 [see HAIR'S-BREADTH, HAIRBREADTH]. 1794 *Act 34 Geo. III* c. 93 §64 Within the Distance of Ten Yards. 1812 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1830) IV. 178 Almost within striking distance of each other. 1863 WHYTE-MELVILLE *Gladiators* xxxvii, The German would not permit Esca to approach within spear's-length of his post. 1865 A. TROLLOPE *Belton Estate* xiii, Keeping within a few yards of his sister's chair.

8. a. In expressions referring to the physical range of some action or perception: Not beyond, not farther than the extent of: as *within call*, near enough to hear a call; *within reach*, near enough to reach, or to be reached; *within sight*, or *hearing*, near enough to see or hear, to be seen or heard; etc. Often const. of (the agent or percipient, or the object of the action or perception). Cf. *IN prep.* 9 d.

a1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lv. 188 He slewe.. all that came within his stroke. a1533- [see SIGHT sb. 1 4e]. 1580- [see CANNON-SHOT 3]. 1581 PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Com.* I. (1586) 25 Shoote not at every bird, but only at those that are within reach to be hit. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* v. iv. 127 Come not within the measure of my wrath. 1607- [see EARSHOT]. 1623 MASSINGER *Dk. Milan* iv. iii, Be within call. 1687 PRIOR *Hind. & P. Transv.* 5 Stand off and come not within my Swords point. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 311 ¶4 A Man.. talking loud within her Hearing. 1766, 1862 [see HEARING vbl. sb. 1 b]. 1826 J. F. COOPER *Last of Mohicans* xv, There is also a powerful force within a few hours' march of us. 1856 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* II. 280, I will never be 'within wind' of Scotsbrig without going to see Jamie.

b. Inside the guard, defence, or point of; near enough to come to grips with; *Fencing*, on the inside of (one's sword, arm, etc.). Also *fig.* Now *rare* or *Obs.*

156. *Robin Hood, Play* (ed. W. Copland) Hijb, Well I wote the horeson lepte within me And fro me he toke my purse. 1589 P. IVE *Fortif.* 105 The Spanyards with their Targets entred within our Switzers, under their Pikes, and constrained them to forsake their Pikes. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* v. i. 34 Some get within him, take his sword away. a1697 SOUTH *Serm., Rom.* i. 32 II. 256 When by such Insinuations they have once got within him, and are able to drill him on from one Lewdness to another. 1707 SIR W. HOPE *New Method Fencing* 99 The Single Feint within and above the Sword, called in the Schools *Volte Coupé*. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 109 ¶3 He came within the Target of the Gentleman who rode against him. 1809 ROLAND *Fencing* 34 When, upon joining blades with your adversary, you find your sword in a line between his sword-arm and the left side of his body.. it is termed being within the arm. 1876 R. F. BURTON *New Syst. Sword Exerc.* 52 When the point is passed well under and within the sword-arm.

9. *fig.* In the extent of (something abstract figured as a region, or as having extension); *esp.* in, or not beyond, the scope or sphere of action of (authority, power, knowledge, a law, etc.). Cf. *IN prep.* 8, 9 d.

1493 *Acta Dom. Conc.* (1839) 272/2 He wes within our souerane lordis warde. 1512 *Act 4 Hen. VIII* c. 2 §1 Suche as ben within holy orders only excepte. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 38 Wythin hys jurisdiction. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V.* I. ii. 289 But this lyes all within the wil of God. 1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* I. i, You will bring him in Within the statute? 1643 [see SPHERE sb. 6 b]. a1648 LD. HERBERT *Hen. VIII* (1683) 357 That none should have the benefit of this recourse to the Ordinary, but those who were within holy Orders. a1654 SELDEN *Table-t.* (Arb.) 88 Eat within your Stomack, act within your Commission. 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 201 ¶1 As they live within Rules, and as they transgress them. 1769 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* IV. xxviii. 365 Within the benefit of clergy. 1820 BRODERIP & Bingham's *Rep.* I. 436 Whether the party was a trader within the bankrupt laws. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* viii, Who.. will assert that.. their place of retirement is within my knowledge? 1862 SPENCER *First Princ.* I. ii. §14. 43 Even.. Atheism comes within the definition. 1869 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* xiii. III. 288 Did they deem the enterprise within his power? 1891 *Law Times* *Rep.* LXIII. 776/1 The contract and the label together constituted a written warranty within the meaning of the above section.

C. *adj.* That is within; †(of a letter or document) enclosed. *rare.*

1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) III. 258 This is a favour you'll see by the within Letter. a1766 MRS. F. SHERIDAN *Sidney Bidulph* IV. 233 Give him the within letter. 1794 Bloomfield's *Rep.* 11 Agreeably to the command of the within Writ. 1806 GEN. WILKINSON in Coues *Exped. Z. M. Pike* (1895) II. 574 You will not fail, in addition to the within talk, to enhance our paternal regard for this nation.

D. *Comb.* a. of the adv.; in quotes. in sense 1 c, as †*within-bounden*, *within-named* adjs. b. of the prep.: *within-bound* a. (*nonce-wd.*), confined or experienced within bounds (in a school).

1498 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 593 The condicion of pis obligacion is such that whereas certayn trauers is dependyng betwixt þe withinbounden Maire & Cominalte on the on partie and þe

priour & Couent. . on þe oþer partie [etc.]. 1570 in G. F. Townsend *Leominster* (n.d.) 300 The w^hin-named John Ingle. 1706 DE FOE *True Relat.* Pref., Wks. (1889) 436 The house in which the within-named Mrs. Bargrave lived. 1708 *Rec. Stithill* (S.H.S. 1905) 159 The within-designed George Hamilton. 1834 CHITTY *Forms* 165 As well the within-named plaintiff as the within-named defendant. 1839 W. HOWITT *Boy's Country-Bk.* xvi. 227 What are all their within-bound enjoyments. . to their monthly rural walks? 1844 A. B. CORNER *Forms of Writs*, etc. 43 To be indorsed 'By Rule of Court,' (if so). At the instance of the within-named Appellants (or Respondents).

within (wɪˈðɪn), *sb.* [f. the adv.] That which is within or inside (esp. fig.).

1912 J. STEPHENS *Crock of Gold* xiii. 166 It [sc. anger] is not the beneficent blindness which prevents one from seeing without, but it is that desperate darkness which cloaks the within, and hides the heart and the brain from each other's husbandly and wifely recognition. 1938 L. MACNEICE *Mod. Poetry* 28 Wyndham Lewis maintains that it is the artist's or writer's business to depict the Without of people and not their Within. 1973 *Times* 26 Nov. 15/8 Having every intention of looking again and again before the exhibition finally departs for its permanent home in the 'Great Within', or wherever—I feel I must compliment the compilers of the excellent catalogue.

wi'thin-door, *adv. phr.* (a.) Now rare. [See DOOR *sb.* 5.] = next.

speak within door: 'do not clamour so as to be heard beyond the house' (J.).

1579 GOSSON *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 31 Him..that hath a Conduite within doore, and fetcheth water without. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* iv. ii. 144 Speake within doore. 1625 BACON *Ess.*, *Greatn.* Kingd. (Arb.) 481 Sedentary, and Within-doore [ed. 1612 within-doors] Arts. 1649 C. WASE *Sophocles*, *Electra* 4 Methinks within door, . . I seemd to heare One of the maidens keep a groaning. 1821 LAMB *Elia* Ser. 1. *Old Benchers*, I suspect he had his within-door reasons for the preference. 1884 TENNYSON *Becket* i. i. 35 They [sc. moths] burn themselves within-door. 1954 M. SHARP *Gipsy in Parlour* xxi. 200 All female within-door work had been properly done.

wi'thin(-)doors, *adv. phr.* (adj., sb.) *arch.* In (or into) the house: = INDOORS.

1581 MULCASTER *Positions* viii. (1888) 53 One to be v^sed within dores, and the other abroad. a1690 in Somers *Tracts* (1748) I. 264 It seems . . odd. . . that [he] should . . make his final Appeal to the People, before he had tried the Force of one of his Reasons within-doors. 1789 S. SHAW *Tour W. Eng.* 459 Rain confined us within doors several hours. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* iii. All within-doors is very plain and simple. 1858 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Jnls.* (1871) II. 266 An English coal-fire, if we could see its honest face within doors, would compensate for all the unamiableness of the outside atmosphere. 1884 BLACK *Jud. Shakespeare* vi. Judith's father would have no serving-men . . come within-doors. 1895 HARDY *Jude the Obscure* i. ii. An animated conversation in progress within-doors.

b. (with hyphen) †*attrib.* or as *adj.* = INDOOR 1; also as *sb.* that which is, or those who are, indoors.

1612 [see prec., quot. 1625]. 1630 R. JOHNSON'S *Kingd. & Commw.* 29 That there be more addicted to arts manly, than unto sedentary and within-doors occupations. 1858 HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* II. 286 All the within-doors of the village empties itself there.

†**wi'thinforth**, *adv.* *Obs.* Also with hyphen, or as two words (variously divided), or as three. [f. WITHIN *adv.* + FORTH *adv.* Cf. *withoutforth*.]

Properly, everywhere within, internally throughout (see FORTH *adv.* 2 b); but in use a mere synonym of *within*: = WITHIN *adv.* 1, 2, 3.

c1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* v. pr. v. (1868) 168 þe passion of þe body. . . moeueþ . . . þe formes þat resten wip in forþe. 1382 WYCLIF *Ezek.* ii. 9 A boke . . . w^hiten withinforth and without-forth. c1425 *St. Mary of Oignies* ii. i. in *Anglia* VIII. 151/3 Wip how mykel dyuerste of vertues she was arayed. . . wip-inforþe. 1467 in *Engl. Gilds* (1870) 373 That no citezen sewe another in a foreyn courte vnto the tyme he take his accyon w^hynforth. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* xx. xxii. 836 They withinforth kepte theyr walles, & defended them when nede was. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 78b, Wene you. . . that it is with me withinforth, as it appereth outwardly? 1545 RAYNALDE *Byrth Mankynde* 135 It is so harde to cause a chylde to take any thyng within furth. 1548 UDALL *Erasm. Par. Luke* xi. 43 Ye outwardly beare a shewe of holynesse, yet. . . withinforth swell in ambicion. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* xxi. xiv. II. 95 The . . lid. . . ought to . . have libertie to play up and downe behind, that it may bee let downe farre within-forth. 1610—*Camden's Brit.* 102 The Romanes. . . when they were about to found . . cities. . . yoked on the right hand a Bull, and within forth a Cow.

wi'thinside, *adv., prep., (sb.)*. Now *arch.* or *dial.* (Also with hyphen, or rarely as two words.) [f. WITHIN + SIDE *sb.* 1, after *inside*.] A. *adv.*

1. On the inner side: = INSIDE *adv.* 1, WITHIN *adv.* 1 (in part). Also const. *of*.

a1595 SOUTHWELL *Hundred Medit.* (1873) 70 The windows. . . were wider. . . withinside than without. 1651 FRENCH *Distill.* i. 38 The salt. . . which adheres to the neck of the Retort withinside. 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Greenhouse*, Within-side of the Windows. . . you should have good strong Shutters. 1772 GRAVES *Spir. Quix.* iv. xii. A small oval picture, . . fixed in a pannel, within-side of the door. 1800 T. GREEN *Diary Lover* Lit. (1810) 204 He employs. . . the illustration of a man withinside, and another withoutside, of a sphere, disputing on its convexity or concavity. c1850 *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 154 *String*, one or two planks withinside, next under the gunwale, answering to the sheer-strakes withoutside.

2. In (or to) the inner part or interior (*of*): = INSIDE *adv.* 2, WITHIN *adv.* 1 (in part), 1 b, 1 d. Also, indoors: = WITHIN *adv.* 2 b.

1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* v. i. 126 Caualiero, or a mount withinside distant from the curtine. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 533 ¶ 2 What passes. . . within-side of those Vehicles. a1723 SIR C. WREN in Lucy Phillimore *Mem.* (1881) 347 A Basis of squar'd stone fifty foot high. . . so contrived within-side as to form a very intricate Labyrinth. a1774 GOLDSM. *Surv. Exp. Philos.* (1776) I. 389 The diver. . . sate upon a small seat within-side. 1774—*Nat. Hist.* (1862) I. vi. xi. 464 The porcupine's quill is within-side spongy. 1801 MARIA EDGEWORTH *Irish Bulls* vii. The imprudence of firing at the door of a house without having previously examined whether any one was withinside. 1806 R. CUMBERLAND *Mem.* (1807) II. 153 An edifice, that requires a day to examine it within side and without. *Ibid.* 397 A gaudy equipage will attract notice, though it shall carry a dull company withinside of it. 1807 SOUTHEY *Esprella's Lett.* xxxvii. (1808) II. 78 We meant. . . to have forsaken the roof and taken our seats within-side. 1889 STEVENSON *Master of Ballantrae* x. 260 My gentleman sat withinside tailor-wise and busily stitching.

3. *fig.* Within the limits of.

1856 J. GROTE in *Cambr. Ess.* 104 The classical range is restricted withinside of Greek and Latin literature.

B. *prep.* = INSIDE *prep.*

1. On the inner side of: = WITHIN *prep.* 1 b, d. 1760-72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 99 The stake . . they run up withinside the spinal bone. a1766 MRS. F. SHERIDAN *Nourjahad* (1767) 25 It was within-side the walls of the temple. 1851 BORROW *Lavengro* xcix. (1893) 398 Various evolutions withinside the pale. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* i. ix, Holiday music from within-side a prison wall.

2. In the inner part of: = WITHIN *prep.* 1.

1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 198 Why may not these imperfect Metals. . . grow. . . withoutside the stalks of Gorse, as well as the perfect both without and withinside other plants? 1782 ELIZ. BLOWER *Geo. Bateman* II. 200 Permit her to stay within-side the house. 1815 JANE AUSTEN *Emma* I. x, Harriet. . . had never. . . been within side the Vicarage. 1849 DE QUINCEY *Engl. Mail Coach* Wks. 1863 IV. 348 *note*, Graves within-side the cathedrals.

†C. *sb.* The inner side: = INSIDE *sb.* 1. *Obs.* rare.

a1814 *Bandit* II. in *New Brit. Theatre* I. 409 She fastens the within-side.

So **wi'thinsides** *adv. arch. or dial.*

1891 STEVENSON *Island Nts.* 'Entert.', *Bottle Imp* (1893) 154 Withinsides something obscurely moved. a1894—*Fables* xviii. *Touchstone*, His soul withinsides was as little as a pea. 1910 KIPLING *Rewards & Fairies* 74 That thought shrivelled me withinsides.

wi'thinward, **-wards**, *adv.* *nonce-wds.* [f. WITHIN + -WARD, -WARDS.] Towards the interior.

1611 FLORIO, *Adintra*, from within, withinward [TORRIANO (1659) from within-ward]. 1865 J. GROTE *Explor. Philos.* 1. 8 The communication being only withinwards from without, and not. . . withoutwards from within.

with-it ('wiðɪt), *a. slang.* [f. vbl. *phr.* to be with it: see WITH *prep.* 22 f.] Fashionable, up-to-date.

1962 *Listener* 29 Nov. 909/2 Curtain designs for the really with-it 'contemporary home'. 1963 [see FAR-OUT a. b]. 1970 J. G. VERMANDEL *Dine with Devil* ix. 52 The with-it Mr. ANGEL enjoyed a more subtle turn of mind. 1977 J. I. M. STEWART *Madonna of Astrolabe* v. 94 The silly woman just thought it a with-it thing to say to a celebrated dramatist.

Hence **'with-it-ness**.

1963 *Punch* 22 May 752/1 The headlong rush of. . . social notabilities to win themselves the TW badge of with-it-ness. a1974 R. CROSSMAN *Diaries* (1976) II. 445 This has all paid off in terms of the audience ratings where the B.B.C. has been doing well in the last six months, winning the battle for the audience by its with-it-ness.

withlich, *obs.* form of WIGHTLY *adv.*

withnay: see WITH-.

withness ('wiðnis). *rare.* [f. WITH *prep.* + -NESS.] The fact of being with some one or something; collocation, association.

1904 W. JAMES *Ess. Rad. Empiricism* (1912) ii. 47 This imperfect intimacy, this bare relation of *withness* between some parts of the sum total of experience and other parts. 1907 W. JAMES *Pragmatism* iv. 156 The lowest grade of universe would be a world of mere *withness*. 1912 *Contemp. Rev.* Jan. 99 This Withness, Together-withness, association, . . brings us into the interior of the plan of the creation. 1929 A. N. WHITEHEAD *Process & Reality* II. ii. 88 The account. . . traces back these secondary qualities to their root in physical prehensions expressed by the 'withness of the body'. 1946 *Sci. & Society* X. 244 Conversely union and withness, the *ta-tong* of Chinese thought, has been the aim of democracies. 1962 *Times* 11 Dec. 11/4 The 'withness' is all.

withnim: see WITH-.

without (wiðaut), *adv., prep., conj.* Forms (2-5 written as one or as two words): a. wið-, wiputan, 2-4 wip-, withuten, 3-5 wipouten, etc. (see WITH and OUTEN *adv.*), 4-6, 7-9 *arch.* withouten; also 3-utene, -utin, 4-5 -owtten(e), 5 -oughten, -owghten, -outene, -yn(e), etc.; *abbreviated* 5 w^houten, w^howtyn. 2-4 wipute, 3-4 witute, 3-6 withoute, (3 widh wute, wip houte, 4 wit out(t)e, 5 witheoute), etc. (cf. OUTE *adv.*); *abbreviated* 4, 6 w^houte, 5 w^howte, w^hou3te. γ. 3 wip vt, 4-5 wipout, etc. (see WITH and OUT *adv.*), 4- without;

abbreviated 5-6 w^hout, 5 w^hou3t, w^hwt, 6, 8 w^hout, 7 w^hout. [Late OE. *wiputan*, f. *wip* WITH *prep.* + *utan* OUTEN *adv.*: see WITHIN.] A. *adv.*

1. Outside, in various senses: opp. to WITHIN *adv.* Now only *literary* and somewhat *arch.*

For instances of the ellipsis of the object of the *prep.*, in which *without* has the appearance of an *adv.*, and may be so construed, see B. 4 and 14.

1. On the outside or outer surface (of a material thing); externally.

c1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 86 His lichama barn wiðutan mid langsumere hætan. c1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3828 On a wond wið-uten 80 wrot he wið hond ðe twelfte names of ðat kin. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 8047 A vesselle dypped. . . In water. . . Has water bath with-in and with-out. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P.R.* xvii. vii. (1495) N vj/2 A Rede. . . is. . . smothe wythout & holow within. 1419 in *Proc. Privy Council* (1834) II. 247 They were endosid wipoutyn to (such) persones as us liste assigne. a1425 *Cursor M.* 17347 (Trin.) þei. . . shutte þe dores at þe last Wipinne & wipoute loken so. 14. . . Why I can't be a Nun 180 in E.E.P. (1862) 143 Hyt schyned wyth-oute so fayre and clere. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* iv. i. 52 Be the lackes faire within, the Gils faire with-out? 1611 CORYAT *Cruities* 85 The Dukes Palace seemeth to be faire, but I was not in it, onely I saw it without. 1621 T. WILLIAMSON tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* 82 The Images called Silenes, which a farre off, and without appeared to bee grossely carued. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 505 It is an ordinary Curiosity, to Forme Trees and Shrubs. . . into Sundry Shapes; which is done by Moulding them within, and Cutting them without. 1797 [see WITHIN A. 1].

2. a. Outside (or out of) the place mentioned or implied; *esp.* outside the house or room; out of doors.

a1100 in Assmann *Ags. Hom.* xvi. 126 þæt ðær gælamp, þæt hig calle in on þa burh foron, þæt ðær nan þyng pæs folces wyðutan belyfen næs. c1100 O.E. *Chron.* (MS.F.) an. 992 Man scolde fandian gif man mihte betræppan þane here ahwar wiputan. c1205 LAY. 12562 Bruttes weoren wið innen. . . & Melga wið vten. a1300 *Cursor M.* 996 A firin wall par es a-bute, Mai nan win in pat es wit-oute. *Ibid.* 15082 'Welcum be pou lauerd', said þai, 'Duell pou nocht wit-vte.' c1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 2240 Naymes panne with-oute jede & hadde þe kyng wip-inne. c1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) v. 17 Fra þis citee til a hill withoute bare Sampson. . . þe zates of þe citee. 1526 TINDALE *Matt.* xii. 47 Behold thy moder and thy brethren stond without. 1535 COVERDALE 2 *Kings* x. 24 When they came in to offer sacrifices. . . lehu appoynted him foure score men without. 1654 SIR A. JOHNSTON (Ld. Wariston) *Diary* (S.H.S.) II. 300 They wer al sett in the feilds, but M. J. L. absolutely refused to preach without. 1684 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* II. (1900) 175 All this time poor Mercy did stand without, trembling and crying for fear that she was rejected. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* x. iii, There is a Footman without with the Horses. 1768 GOLDSM. *Goodn. Man v. Jar* . . . I'll go hasten things without. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* x. II. 562 Meanwhile the throng without was. . . becoming more numerous and more savage. 1890 BRIDGES *Spring* II. viii, When winds without make moan, I love my own fireside. 1892 ZANGWILL *Childr. Ghetto* i. xv, Pinchas. . . betook himself unceremoniously without.

b. *transf.* Outside of a class, body, or community; not in the number or membership; in an alien or foreign community. *those (that are) without* = 'outsiders'. Now only in echoes of 1 *Cor.* v. 12.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 3024 þe king. . . let rere up chirchen & to al þat lond aboute, & bisshops dude in hor poer, þat er were al wipoute. ? a1300 in O.E. *Misc.* 146/34, xxxij. schiren syndan on engelonde. And Norphumbre is wip-vtan And loben and westmaralond and Cumberlond And Cornwale. 1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* (1812) II. lxxiv. [lxx.] 224 The pryse was gyuen of them without, to syr Johne Holande. 1526 TINDALE 1 *Cor.* v. 12 What have I to do to iudge them that are with out? Do ye not iudge them that are with in? 1535 COVERDALE *Deut.* xxv. 5 Then shall not ye wife of the deed take a strange man without, but hir kynsman shal. take her to wyfe. 1676 W. ALLEN *Addr. Nonconf.* 67 The breaking the Churches Peace. . . and the bad effects of it, both among themselves and in reference to them without. 1846 MRS. A. MARSH *Fr. Darcy* xxxix, The secrets of my trade. . . are not to be lightly communicated to those who are without. 1864 PUSEY *Daniel* (1876) 300 To win those without to live according to the law.

3. *fig.* and *gen.* Outside of the inward being, soul, or mind; with regard to external actions or circumstances; in relation to others or to something other than the self; sometimes, in outward appearance as opposed to inward reality; outwardly.

c1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 404 Swa sind ge eac æteowode wiðutan rihtwise on manna gesihðum. a1225 *Ancr.* R. 4 þe oðer riwle is al wiðuten, & riwleð þe licome & licomliche deden. 1340 *Ayenb.* 25 Ypocrisie. . . is a zenne þet makeþ to ssewy þe guod wyoute þet ne is na3t wypinne. a1400 *Relig. Pieces fr. Thornton MS.* (1914) 54 How þay sall bere þam with-owtten and with-in; how to God, how to man. c1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxvii. 123 Ne þare schuld na man luffe a creature for þe bewtee withouten. 1502 *Ord. Crysten Men* (W. de W.) i. iii, Some thynges they make in operacyon wythout al only, the whiche thynges are not in the soule materyally. 1560 *Bible* (Geneva) 2 *Cor.* vii. 5 We were troubled on euerie side, fightings without, & terroures within. 1607 GRIMSTONE tr. *Goulart's Admir. Hist.* 392 Rage. . . may. . . haue inward beginnings, without any accidental contagion without. 1653 BOGAN *Medit. Mirth Chr. Life* 209 When (for ought a man can see) by his countenance without, a godly man may be sad, and melancholick, and perplexed. 1692 E. WALKER tr. *Epictetus' Mor.* xxvi, An injury To something else without, 'tis none to thee. 1832 HT. MARTINEAU *Hill & Valley* v. 84 Then you will be at ease without and at peace within. 1855 G. MACDONALD (*title*) *Within and Without*: a dramatic poem.

4. Preceded by *from*, in above senses.

a1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 1032 '3e Calodoyns', . . he callis fra with-oute. 1645- [see WITHIN *adv.* 4]. 1722 WOLLASTON

Relig. Nat. ix. 190 The hints I received from without. 1768 GOLDSM. *Goad-nat.* Man v, He who seeks only for applause from without, has all his happiness in another's keeping. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xxxvi, Doors opened smartly from without. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 548 An independent state, jealous of all interference from without. 1898 ILLINGWORTH *Div. Imman.* vi. 137 The man loses his power of self-determination, . . . and is . . . determined from without.

B. prep.

I. Outside of, beyond (in various senses): opp. to WITHIN *prep.* Now only *literary* or *arch.*

1. a. Outside of, on or at the outside of, in the space external to (a space, region, place, receptacle, inclosing boundary, etc.).

without beard (Naut.): see BOARD *sb.* 12. See also WITHOUT DOOR(s) below.

c 893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* II. iv. §7 Wiðutan þæm dice is geworht tweæa elna heah weall. a 1122 O.E. *Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1079 Se cyng Willelm gefeaht togeanes his sunu Rotbearde wiðutan Normandige. c 1205 [see BOARD *sb.* 12]. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1367 At a welle wið-uten ðe tun. c 1375 *Cursor M.* 8196 (Fairf.) Ilkan to sette paire paulyon . . . wiþ-out [Cott. vtwit] þe toun. c 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (prose) 31 Obied wið-uten þe kirke dore to þe vre þe sungen. 1410 E.E. *Wills* (1882) 16 The Chereh of seynt Clementis wyth-outwyt Templebarr. a 1425 *Cursor M.* 10989 (Trin.) þe folke þat were þe churche wiþoute Wondride what he was aboute. 1426 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 111 As well withoute house as within. 1496 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 176 To pyche the said shipp without borde. 1497 *Ibid.* 250 Abourde the Regent withoute Portesmouth haven. 1571 *Jewel Def. Apol.* 711 No Bishop maie geeue orders without his owne Diocese. a 1572 *Knox Hist. Ref. Wks.* 1846 I. 205 Thare fell a schour of rane, . . . so vehement, that no man mycht abyð without a house. 1632 *Lithgow Trav.* 111. 94 A little Chappell a mile without the Village. a 1676 *HALE Prim. Orig. Man.* i. i. (1677) 20 We cannot know . . . whether there be any Worlds without the compass of this. 1717 *Berkeley Jnl. Tour Italy* Wks. 1871 IV. 530 The church of St. Agnes without the City. 1745 *Kent's Lond. Directory* 83 Snow Thomas & Comp. Bankers, without Temple-bar. 1827 *HALLAM Const. Hist.* xviii. II. 727 The Irish language was universally spoken without the pale. 1869 *TYNDALL Notes Lect. Light* §292 The rays of greatest heat . . . lie entirely without the visible spectrum. 1885 *Act 48 Vict.* c. 15. Sched. II. 2 A parish . . . situate partly within and partly without the boundary.

b. (with verb of motion) So as to be outside of, to the outside of, out of. *Obs.* or *arch.*

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xxi. 39 Da namon hig & ofslogon hyne & awurpon wið-utan pone win-geard. c 1290 *Beket* 2226 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 170 With-out þe zates ne cam he nouȝt. 1387 *TREvisa Higden* III. 91 Nabugodonosor . . . slowȝ alle the strong men, . . . and prewe hem wiþ outen þe wallas vnburied. a 1450 *Knt. de la Taur* 45 She yede without her place crieng on God. 1464-5 in *Acts Parl. Seat.* (1874) XII. 30-2 Sendand woll . . . fra qhatsumeuir port . . . within þe Realme of Scotland wtwt þe samyn Realme. 1889 *STEVENSON Master of Ballantrae* xii. 317 He led me without the camp.

c. On the outer side of; further out than; (in or to the space) beyond. (Cf. WITHIN B. 1 d.)

1623 *BINGHAM Xenophon* 18 All the midst of his battell . . . was extended without the left Wing of Cyrus his Troopes. 1712 *W. ROGERS Voy.* (1718) 5 When I came without the Spit-end, I saluted the Hastings. 1777 *W. DALRYMPLE Trav. Sp. & Part.* xliii, The rest of the court form in a second circle without the ambassadors. 1779 *FORREST Vay. N. Guinea* 122 Off the rock of Sipsapa, are three spots of breakers, . . . one without another. 1867 *SMYTH Sailor's Word-bk.* 736 *Without*, outside, as, studding-sail without studding-sail.

†d. At more than, beyond (a specified distance).

1724 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6290/3 To begin to Work without 70 Yards Distance from the Shoar.

2. *transf.* and *fig.* Outside of, not in the limits of, external(ly) to.

1028-60 *Laws Northumb.* *Priests* §61 þæt nan man ne wifge on neahsibban men þonne wiðutan þam IIII. cneowe. 1357 *Lay Fols' Catech.* (T.) 105 Withouten halikirke nis na saule hele. c 1375 *Cursor M.* 13166 (Fairf.) Nauper I aske þe howe ne lande ne nane oper þing wiþ-outre resoun [Cott. wit vnresun]. c 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (prose) 17 Ilke sunday wið-uten lentin sal þe cantikils be said. c 1450 *CAPGRAVE Life St. Gilbert* vii, Whan he was vexed with ony materis, eythir with-oute þe religion or with-Inne. 1558 *Knox First Blast* (Arb.) 45 It was forbidden vnto them to marie without their owne tribe. 1618 *WITHER Motto, Nec Curo Iuvenilia* (1633) 544 He that beares an honest heart about him, Needs never feare what changes be without him. 1694 *STANHOPE Epictetus' Marals* i. 11 The Object that moves our Affection, is without us. 1705 — *Paraphr.* II. 138 Some [reasons] are without the compass of my present design. 1877 *SPARROW Serm.* xiv. 190 One whose sources of happiness are without him.

†b. So as to exceed; beyond. *Obs.*

The phr. *without measure* (= F. *sans* or *outré mesure*), 'immoderate(ly)', 'excessive(ly)', belongs here or under 10 a. c 1400 [see MEASURE *sb.* 12 b]. c 1520 *SKELTON Magnyf.* 1895 Somtyme without Measure he trusted in golde; And now without Measure he shal haue hunger and colde. c 1610 *Women Saints* (1886) 63 Beating and bouncing her without all measure.

†3. a. Beyond the extent of, outside the range of (some action or perception); beyond the scope or sphere of action of. *Obs.*

For *without comparisan*, etc. see 10 d. a 1548 [see REACH *sb.* 1 5 b]. 1551 *TURNER Herbal* 1. Prol. Aijb, He beyng without the danger of gonne shot. 1577 *GOOGE Heresbach's Husb.* III. 151 b, Though it be without my commession to meddle with them. 1605 *BACON Adv. Learn.* II. xxii. §3 Two thynges are without our commaund: Poyntes of Nature, and pointes of Fortune. a 1676 *HALE Prim. Orig. Man.* i. iii. (1677) 91 Conjectures of things without our knowledge. 1770 *SIR J. REYNOLDS Disc.* iii.

(1876) 332 Beauties in our art that seem . . . to lie without the reach of precept. 1809 *KENDALL Trav.* I. vii. 70 The happy consequences . . . are without description. 1809 *Levity & Sorrow* II. 221 To witness the elements jarring from above, and without their reach.

†b. Beyond the capacity or comprehension of (= BEYOND B. 5 b); outside the province of. *Obs.*

1599 *B. JONSON Cynthia's Rev.* I. iv, Oh, now I apprehend you; your phrase was without me before. 1603 — *Sejanus* II. i, The Ages that succede . . . shall admire And reckon it an act, without your Sexe.

4. Used *absol.* by ellipsis of obj., in opposition to *within* (or *in*) *prep.*, where it has the appearance of an adv.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 5933 Bath in huses and wit-vte. c 1300 *K. Horn* 256 (Laud) Wit hinne þe curt and wit oute. 1480 in *Cov. Leet Bk.* 446 Placez within the shire of Couentre & withoute. 1587 A. FLEMING *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1399/1 Aliances either in Italie or without. 1830 *CARLYLE Misc. Ess., Richter again* (1872) III. 11 Is not God's Universe within our head, whether there be a torn skull-cap or a king's diadem without?

II. Senses intermediate between I. and III.

†5. In addition to, or with the addition of; besides. *Obs.*

c 1205 *LAY.* 366 We habbeð seoue þusund of gode cnihten, wið outen wifmen. 1297 *R. GLOUC.* (Rolls) 4107 An hondred þousand hors . . . Wiþ oute votmen þat were so vale þat þer nas of non ende. 1338 *R. BRUNNE Chron.* (1810) 54 With-outen alle þis a hundreth knyghtes he toke. c 1386 *CHAUCER Prol.* 461 Housbondes . . . she hadde fyue Withouten oother compaignye in youthe. 1387 *TREvisa Higden* VI. 93 Wiþ oute þe ful service he wolde every day seie þe sawter. 1436 in *Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* Var. Collect. IV. 197 There ys redy . . . iiiij^c shippes of forstage wythoute other smal shipes. 1535 *COVERDALE Isa.* xlv. 14 God (with out whom there is none other God).

†6. Exclusive of, not including, except. *Obs.*

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 378 Nim . . . þa wyrtas wærma, alla wiðutan sauina. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 557 A flod . . . ouer-flowȝed men & deres kin, Wið-uten noe and hise ðre sunen. c 1300 *Havelok* 425 Godard was . . . þe moste swike, þat eue in erpe shaped was, With-uten on, þe wike Iudas. c 1320 in *Rel. Ant.* I. 119 He wes the fayrest mon, With-outen Absolon, That seththe wes ant tho.

III. Expressing absence, privation, or negation: With or involving the absence or want of; in a state of not having, or so as not to have; so, or such, that there is no . . . Opp. to WITH *prep.* II ***. (The ordinary current use.)

7. a. (a) (with obj. a thing, material or immaterial) With absence of; not with the presence or addition of; not having with it or with one; not accompanied by; not combined or associated with; not having in one's charge; not carrying or wearing.

c 1200 *ORMIN* 997 Bræd all þeorrff wiþputenn berme. 12 . . . *Prov. Alfred* 119 Wypvte wysdome is weole wel vnwurþ. a 1352 *MINOT Paems* (ed. Hall) vii. 138 Bisschoppes . . . þat songen all withouten stole. 1382 *WYCLIF Luke* xxii. 35 Whanne I sente ȝou with oute sachel and scrip, and schoon. 1393 *LANGL. P. Pl. C.* xxi. 10 Barfot on an asse back, bootles . . . With-oute spores oper spere. 1426 *AUDELEY Paems* 15 Wele withoutyn woo. 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Præv.* II. v. (1867) 57 There is no fyre without some smoke. 1565 *GOLDING Ovid's Met.* III. (1593) 68 A spring withouten mud as silver cleere. 1600 *NASHE Summer's Last Will* 16, I . . . vse to go without money, without garters, without girdle. 1744 *BERKELEY Siris* §196 Phosphorus burns equally, with and without air. 1864 *BRYCE Haly Ram. Emp.* xvi. (1875) 276 A barbarism which had inherited all the vices of civilization without any of its virtues.

†(b) Less, minus (a certain amount). *Obs.*

c 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 435 In brede xiiij. elyns with out ynche.

b. (with obj. a person) In the absence of; in a state of absence from; not with the companionship or attendance of.

c 1385 *CHAUCER L.G.W.* 969 *Dido*, Forth they gon . . . His fere & he with-outyn any gyde. c 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* II. viii. 48 What may þe worlde auale þe wiþoute ihesu? 1491 *Cartul. S. Nicholai Aberdon.* (New Spald. Cl.) I. 256 Nay mess salbe songit Withoutin xij personis and ye prest. a 1548 *HALL Chron., 14 Hen. VII.* 49 He . . . began secretly to commen without any witnesses or arbiters nere hond with the bishop alone. 1566 *STANLEY Hist. Philas., Plato* 33 He counsell'd Dionysius to give over the Tyranny, and live with-out a Guard. 1685 *LADY R. RUSSELL Lett.* (1853) I. 165 Doubtless he is at rest, though I find none without him. 1750 *JOHNSON Rambler* No. 6 ¶ 11 Those to whom he has formerly been known will very patiently support his absence when they have tried a little to live without him. 1877 *MRS. ARGLES Phyllis* xxvii. (1890) 337 If you can live without me, . . . I would rather ten thousand times be dead, than exist without you.

c. *without-profit(s)* *adj.*, of a life assurance policy: providing normal cover but not allowing the insured to receive a share of the profits of the insurance company. Also applied to the associated funds, business, etc. Cf. *with profit(s)* *adj.* s.v. WITH *prep.* 24 d.

1924, 1944 [see WITH *prep.* (adv., conj.) 24 d]. 1960 *Times* 24 Oct. (Financial Rev.) p. xiii/4 For without-profits contracts are tending to come down. 1965 *Economist* 24 July p. xxii, When interest rates are high and there is significant inflation, profits on the without-profits businesses are high, since the premiums were originally fixed on the basis of lower money returns than are now being earned. 1982 *London Life Association Ann. Rep.*, Total without profit funds.

8. a. In a state of not possessing; not having (as a possession of any kind, a part, an advantage, etc.); in want of, destitute of, lacking.

1297 *R. GLOUC.* (Rolls) 991 Wanne man wiþoute eir of him sulue to depe were ibroȝt His moder kun was is eir. c 1300 *Havelok* 2860 þe erl of cestre, . . . þat was yung knith wituten wif. c 1386 *CHAUCER Prol.* 343 With oute bake mete was neuere his hous. 1459 *Paston Lett.* I. 476, j. hood of russet felwet without a tippet. 1526 *TINDALE Acts* ix. 9 And he was iij. dayes wyth out sight. *Ibid.* xiv. 17 He lefte not hym silfe with outen witnes. 1548 *UDALL Erasm. Par. Luke* i. 11-12 The grief and pensiveness of beeng without issue. 1650 *BULWER Anthropol.* xxii. (1653) 426 The shin-bone exposed to all encounters without any defence at all. 1667 *DRYDEN & Dk. NEWC. Sir M. Mar-all* III. (1668) 32, I hate him worse than foul weather without a Coach. 1754 in *Nairne Peerage Evid.* (1874) 48 Deceased . . . w'out issue of his body. 1766 *GOLDSM. Vicar W.* xxi, Without cross or coin to bless yourself with! 1871 *Geo. ELIOT Middlem.* xxxv. II. 212, I do believe you are better without the money. 1883 *Law Times* 20 Oct. 407/2 Preventing . . . a litigant without a case from wantonly harassing his opponent.

b. Not with (something that might be given, granted, or obtained); not getting or receiving, or having got or received.

c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 11 Dat we sculen bliðeliche ȝiuen . . . wið-uten erðliche mede, alle ðe niede habbeð. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 230 Lo hu heo [sc. the devils] ne muhten nout wiðuten leaue swenchen fule swin. 1390 *GOWER Conf.* III. 377 Y was left with outen helpe. c 1420 *Prose Life Alex.* 41 He commanded þat he schulde wende hame to his felawes wit-outwten any harme. c 1450 *Merlin* iv. 69 Thus departed the messagers with-outen other ansuere. 1548-1765 [see LICENCE *sb.* 1]. 1697 *DRYDEN Virg. Georg.* III. 735 The Victim O . . . Sunk of himself, without the Gods Command: Preventing the slow Sacrificer's Hand. 1707 *WATTS Hymn* 'How beauteous are their feet' iv, Prophets and kings desir'd it long, But dy'd without the sight. 1723 *Dk. WHARTON True Briton* No. 3. I. 19 They are all Guilty of Felony, without Benefit of the Clergy. 1842 *TENNYSON Ld. Burleigh* 10 He to lips, that fondly falter, Presses his without reproof. 1849 *MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* v. I. 623 He would as soon die without their absolution as with it.

c. In the construction of certain verbs: see DO v. 41, GO v. 69. Also *colloq.* with ellipsis.

1458- [see GO v. 69]. 1713- [see DO v. 41]. 1899 *R. WHITEING 5 John St.* 75 His one principle of conduct is to do without.

9. a. With no use, employment, or action of (an instrument, means, etc.); not using, or not being acted upon by.

without book: see BOOK *sb.* 15; hence (with hyphen) attrib. or as *adj.*, recited without book or from memory.

a 1122 *O.E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1086 He hæfde Yrlande mid his wescipe gewunnon & wiðutan ælcon wæpnon. c 1200 *ORMIN* 11329 Wipputenn mete & drinnch heold Crist hiss faste þære fowerwritȝ dæghess. 1471 *RIPLEY Comp. Alch.* vi. iv. in Ashm. (1652) 162 So that hyt lyke wax wyll melt . . . Wythouten blast. 1597 *SHAKS. Ram. & Jul.* I. iv. 7 (Qo.) Weele haue . . . no withoutbooke Prologue faintly spoke After the Prompter, for our entrance. c 1615 *BACON Advice to Sir G. Villiers* Wks. 1879 I. 519/1 The excess of diet . . . would be avoided; wise men will do it without a law. 1673 *E. BROWNE Trav.* 130 Two sorts of Virgin Mercury; the one running out and discovering it self without labour, the other requiring some way of extraction and separation. 1731-8 *SWIFT Pol. Conversat.* Introd. 21 To pass the Evening without Cards. 1797 *COLERIDGE Chistabel* I. 177 The moon shines dim . . . But they without its light can see The chamber carved so curiously. 1798 — *Anc. Mar.* 169 Withouten wind, withouten tide, She steddies with upright keel. 1849 *MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* i. I. 150 The new parliament, which, having been called without the royal writ, is more accurately described as a convention. 1857 [see GET v. 71 h]. 1865 *SWINBURNE Masque of Queen Bersabe* 92 [The rushes] Grew wet withouten foot of men.

b. With no action or agency of (a person); *esp.* with no co-operation of, or support from.

1340 *HAMPOLE Pr. Canse.* Prol. 44 Alle thyng thurgh his myght made he, For with-outen hym myght nathing be. 1382 *WYCLIF Jahn* xv. 5 For with outen me ȝe mown no thing do. c 1450 *Merlin* ii. 36 A childe born withouten fader. 1476 *Stanar Papers* (Camden) II. 19, l. 1. saide . . . That . . . I could not answer that mateer without yow. 1535 *COVERDALE 2 Kings* xviii. 25 Thinkest thou that I came þy hither without y^e Lorde to destroye these cities? 1592 in J. Morris *Traubles Cath. Farefathers* (1877) 28 Imprisoned for burying a Catholic without a minister. 1598 in *Harington's Nugæ Ant.* (1804) l. 176 To make peace withouten his allies and friends. 1697 *DRYDEN Virg. Georg.* III. 70 Without thee nothing lofty can I sing. 1712 *SWIFT Jnl. to Stella* 13 Dec., We shall have a peace very soon; the Dutch are almost entirely agreed, and if they stop we shall make it without them. 1875 [see GET v. 71 h]. *Mad.* Come and help me with this job; I can't do it without you.

10. (with obj. an abstract thing, as a quality, attribute, action, condition, etc.): a. (depending on or referring to a verb) With absence or lack of, or freedom from; so that there is no . . . ; often forming phrases equivalent to negative adverbs, e.g. *without end* = endlessly, *without fail* = unfailingly, *without fear* = fearlessly, *without success* = unsuccessfully, etc.

Frequent in ME. in intensive or expletive phrases, as *without(en) dread*, *lease* (*sb.*), *leasing*, *let*, *letting*, *lie* (*sb.*), *miss* (*sb.*), *strife*, etc. See also the various *sbs.*

c 1175 *Lamb. Ham.* 143 Iwarpen ine eche pine, wiþuten alesinge, and wið-uten milce. c 1220 *Bestiary* 412 For to winnen fode, derflike wiðuten dred. a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 183 Wit-ute cheste and bute fite. c 1275- [see DELAY *sb.* 2 a]. 1297- [see FAIL *sb.* 1]. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 10407 þai þat stad er in pair blis, Wit-vten want . . . Wit-vten seke, wit-vten sare. 1340 *HAMPOLE Pr. Canse.* 3429 Swa parfiteley may naye lyf here, With-outen veniel syns sere. 1377 *LANGL. P. Pl. B.* xiv. 237 He is neuere murie, Withoute mornynge amonge, and mischief to bote. 1390 *GOWER Conf.* I. 281 Sche seith me may withouten oth. a 1450 *MYRC Par. Pr.* 24 Say þy serues wypowten hast. c 1450 *Merlin* 129 With-outen cause ye be not come hider. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* 5 Quhen he purchassis pace ande concord, vytht out diminutione of his

rycht. **a1553** UDALL *Royster* D. iv. vii. (Arb.) 74, I will take the lawe on hir withouten grace. **1614** GORGES *Lucan* vi. 219 Then Pompey's men withouten alpe, Do mount vpon the trenches top. **1633** EARL MANCH. *Al Mondo* (1636) 162 It is just... that they who live without repentance, should dye without comfort. **1721** RAMSAY *Lucky Spence* x, Nane gathers gear withouten care. **1779** *Mirror* No. 57 ¶ 6, I hope I may say it without vanity. **1812** BYRON *Ch. Har.* i. xxxi, Far as the eye discerns, withouten end. **1820** MADDOCK *Rep. V.-C. Crt. V.* 35 Stating... 'that the estates were to be sold without reserve.' **1834** NEWMAN *Par. Serm.* (1837) l. 101 Men can without trouble be brought to confess that they sin. **1849** MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. l. 540 Great doubt has been thrown on his integrity, but without sufficient reason. **1862** *Law Jnl. Rep.* 31 Ch. 676 *Primâ facie*, a party writing a letter, and using the expression 'without prejudice', means that he is not to be prejudiced. **1881** MISS BRADDON *Asphodel* III. 265 He... then let her go with-out a word. **1896** KIPPLING *Seven Seas, Last Rhyme* True Thomas 130, I do well To love my love withouten fear.

b. (depending on or referring to a sb.) Characterized by absence of, lacking or free from, not having; often forming phrases equivalent to negative adjs. e.g. *without end* = endless, *without fear* = fearless, *without number* (†*tale*) = innumerable, etc.

c **1175** Lamb. *Hom.* 95 He deð þa þe beoð bilehwite and wið-utan ufelesnesse. **c1230** *Hali Meid.* 15 He is leoflukest þing & wiðuten eauer each bruche. **a1250** *Owl & Night.* 863 For nys no mon wiþvten sunne. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 8903 þi louerd ssal abbe an name... vair wiþoute blame. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 102 Mild and mek, witouten gall. **c1380** *Sir Ferumb.* 4112 Neure ne was he with-oute strif, Bot ay wykliche lyuede ys lyf. **1390** GOWER *Conf.* l. 45 To grounde I was withoute breth. **14..** *Tundale's Vis.* 32 He was a man withoute pyte. **1509** FISHER *Funeral Serm. C'tess Richmond* Wks. (1876) 309 Be not sad... as men with-outen hope. **1626** BACON *Sylva* §499 It is observed by some, that there is a virtuous Bezoar, and another without vertue. **1690** LOCKE *Hum. Und.* i. iv. §1 There was a time, when the Mind was without those Principles. **1719** DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 422 All sorts of Tools and Iron-work, they had without Tale. **1758** HUME *Ess., Eloquence* 66 'Tis vehement reasoning, without any appearance of art. **1859** HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Jnl.* (1871) II. 284 It resembled an unspeakably bad dough nut, without any sweetening. **1869** RUSKIN *Q. of Air* §77 They are white, without purity;... massive, without strength; and slender, without grace.

c. With no possibility of; so, or such, as not to admit of; so, or such, that there can be no...

a **1300** *Cursor M.* 25821 For þair wanhoping þai fail wit-vten vp-couring. **c1470** HENRY *Wallace* l. 113 Our men was slayne with outyn redemption. *Ibid.* 226 With out reskew he stekyt him to dede. **1530** PALSGR. 329/2 Without remedy, irremediable. **1670** [see CLERGY 6]. **1751** JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 174 ¶ 14 These wounds... are without cure. **1762** HUME *Hist. Eng., Jul. C. to Hen. VII.* l. App. 1. 151 The great lords and abbots among the Anglo-Saxons... could punish without appeal any thieves... they caught. **1766** [see REMEDY sb. 3].

d. In such phrases as *without comparison*, *controversy*, *doubt*, †*nay*, etc. the meaning app. varies between 'beyond' (sense 2 or 3) and 'involving the absence of', 'not admitting of', 'so that there is or can be no...'

a **1300**—[see DOUBT sb. 4 d.], **1340**—**1578** [see COMPARISON sb. 2 b.], **1547**—**1777** [see CONTROVERSY sb. 1 c.], **1557** *N.T.* (Geneva) Heb. vii. 7 Without all nay, he which is lesse, receaueth blessing of hym which is greater. **1605** BACON *Adv. Learn.* ii. xix. §3 These things are without Contradiction, and could not otherwise be. **1621**—**1709** [see COMPARE sb. 1 2].

†e. *without day* = SINE DIE. *Obs.*

1607 COWEL *Interpr.* s.v. *Day*, To be dismissed with out day, is to be finally discharged the court. **1713** *Mod. Cases* VI. 262 He doubted of the Effect of a Nolle Pros'... if it discharged the Indictment, or only put the Defendant without Day.

11. a. Followed by a gerund or vbl. sb. in -ing; equivalent to 'so as not to' or 'and not' with the corresponding vb., or 'not' with the pres. pple.; e.g. *to pass by without seeing* = 'to pass by so as not to see', 'to pass by and not see', 'to pass by, not seeing'.

c **1320** *Sir Tristr.* 2620 Tristrem is went oway Wip outen coming o3ain. **1377** LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xi. 144 He... wilned me were graunted Grace, with-outen any bede-byddyng. **c1400** *Destr. Troy* 2992 Tite, withoutyn tariyng, atirrit were all. **1515** *Reg. Privy Seal Scot.* l. 407/1 To pas and repas als oft as thai ples... without ony... aresting. **a1548** HALL *Chron., 14 Edw. IV.* 235 The Frenche kyng... calling for water, washed and rose without any answer makyng. **1639** S. DU VERGER tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* To Rdr. avij, Drones which do but humme about flowers, without gathering any honey from them. **1734** BERKELEY *Let. Wks.* 1871 IV. 217, I can hardly stir abroad without catching cold. **1779** *Mirror* No. 2 ¶ 1 No child ever heard from its nurse the story of Jack the Giant Killer's cap of darkness, without envying the pleasures of invisibility. **1836** DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Shops & Tenants*, We never passed at night without seeing the eldest girl at work. **1849** MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* ii. l. 169 He was a slave without being a dupe. **1877** RUSKIN *St. Mark's Rest* iv. §51 A solemn piece of old Venetian wall... which you might pass under twenty times without seeing. **1885** *Law Times* LXXIX. 119/2 No person was... to blast coal without the charge having been inspected by the underlooker.

†b. Governing an infinitive with *to*. [After Fr., etc.]

c **1489** CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xxii. 470 That we maye retourne agen hole and sounde... wythoute to be dyshonoured. **1556** *J. de Flores' Aurelio & Isab.* F.6, Without to see it whiche is written.

c. By ellipsis of the gerund: Not counting, leaving out of account. *colloq.*

1871 GEO. ELIOT *Middlem.* xxxv. II. 212 My father has enough to do to keep the rest, without me.

†12. *without mo or more*: in various senses (see MO B. 3 c, MORE a. B. 4 c). Often used as a tag.

c **1290**, etc. [see MO, MORE, as above]. **c1350** *Will. Palerne* 2573 þe werwolf... went wistly a-wei wit-oute any more. **c1350** *Leg. Rood* iii. 148 By þat ilk way went we twa, þi moder and I with-outen ma. **14..** *Guy Warw.* (Camb. MS.) 719 Wythowytyn more forthe they rode. **c1470** HENRY *Wallace* l. 61 Till Noram kirk he come with outyn mar. **1500**—**20** DUNBAR *Poems* xxxiv. 89 The Deuill said then, withouttyn mair, 'Renunce þour God, and cum to me.'

13. In senses 7–11 often with conditional implication (mostly with negative, expressed or implied): If one have (or had) not, if there be (or were) not, unless one have or there be, in the absence of, in default of, 'supposing the negation or omission of' (J.).

a **1300** *Cursor M.* 126 Na were may stand Wit-outen grundwall to be lastand. **1387** TREvisa *Higden* III. 161 Noþer man ne womman schulde be punsched wip oute gilt. **c1450** CAPGRAVE *Life St. Aug.* 99 þat swech þingis myte not be do witz-outen vertuous lyuyng. **1526** TINDALE *Heb.* xi. 6 With out faith it is vnpossible to please him. **1661** GODOLPHIN *View Adm. Jurisd.* Intro. ab, The Mariner... may not sail without one Cat or more in his Vessel. **1748** THOMSON *Cast. Indol.* i. i, Withouten that would come an heavier bale. **1766** GOLDSM. *Vicar W.* xv, What is genius or courage without an heart? **1834** MARRYAT *Peter Simple* xxxvii, Without a sense of your fault, how can repentance and amendment be expected? **1857** BUCKLE *Civiliz.* I. x. 617 The people believed that without the nobles there was no safety; the nobles believed that without the crown there was no honour.

14. a. With ellipsis of the obj. (cf. 4). Now *colloq.* (except in contrast with *with*).

In negative contexts, as in quot. 1733, 1898, virtually = otherwise; this use is further extended in unstudied speech, e.g.: 'You can go, if you can find somebody to go with,—not without'.

c **1400** *Rule St. Benet* (prose) 16 þe nihend-ferpe salme wid þe antefen out þir wid-vten. **1597** SHAKS. *Lover's Compl.* 98 Smal shew of man was yet vpon his chinne... Yet... nice affections wauering stood in doubt If best were as it was, or best without. **1654** DOROTHY OSBORNE *Let.* (1888) 233 Here is a ring: 'tis indifferent whether there be any word in't or not; only 'tis as well without. **1672** WISEMAN *Wounds* l. viii. 70 We threw out our Tent, and by Sarcoticks cured this wound without. **1681** T. FLATMAN *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 27 (1713) l. 178 Come, it is a great while since we had a Pindarick; have you never a one in your Budget? *Earn.* I am seldom without. **1720** LADY B. GERMAINE in *C'tess Suffolk's Lett.* (1824) l. 73 Though you should take the four [thousand pounds], still I shall have enough without. **1733** TULL *Horse-Hoing* Husb. vii. 26 All the former Roots being broken off at the Ends in taking up (for 'tis impossible to do it without). **1741** RICHARDSON *Pamela* III. 27 Pray don't! You'll have enough on your hands without. **1800** MRS. HERVEY *Mourtray Fam.* IV. 57 Well, promise nothing, Mr. Chowles; but do it without. **1834** NEWMAN *Let.* (1891) II. 48 [He] was afraid to tell me, and left Oxford without. **1878** E. A. FREEMAN *Let.* in W. R. W. Stephens *Life & Let.* (1895) II. 161, I don't get any worship here; but I am better without. **1898** W. W. JACOBS *Sea Urchins, Grey Parrot* (1906) 208 You must have given him some encouragement... A man wouldn't offer to lend a lady his opera-glasses without.

b. *slang.* in reference to liquor: Not mixed with sugar: cf. WITH *prep.* 26 b (b).

1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz. River*, Glasses of brandy-and-water cold without. **1837** BARHAM *Ingol. Leg., Execution* 71 There is 'punch,' 'cold without,' 'hot with,' 'heavy wet.' **1854** [see WITH *prep.* 26 b (b)].

15. Qualified by a negative: *not without* = not lacking, with or having some (implying or suggesting a somewhat slight or not very great amount).

Cf. not with negative adj. or adv. (NOT *adv.* 10 c). **1596** DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) l. 42 Sa sure a havin... that nocht w'out cause the historiographers named it, the Porte of saifaird and saiftie. **1605** SHAKS. *Macb.* i. v. 20 Thou would'st be great; Art not without Ambition. **1766** GOLDSM. *Vicar W.* iv, Nor were we without guests. **1807** SOUTHEY *Esopriella's Lett.* xxxvii. (1808) II. 71, I looked back upon Birmingham not without satisfaction at thinking I should never enter it again. **1855** MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xi. III. 113 Many... were not without hopes that mild and liberal counsels might prevail. **1879** MCCARTHY *Donna Q.* I. 61 She remembered not without a pang that [etc.].

C. *conj.* (or in *conj. phr.*)
1. The prep. governing a clause introduced by *that*, so that *without that* becomes a conjunctive phr.: †a. (a) Except that. (b) In addition to the fact that. *Obs. rare.*

c **1200** ORMIN 1022 þatt wagheriff wass henngeðd tær, forr þatt itt hidenn sholde All þatt tatt tær wippinnenn wass... Wipputenn þatt te bisscopp self... þær sholde cumenn o þe 3er ann sipe, & all himm ane. **1489** *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* l. 145 Laide downe in redy siluer for rybbanis to the King, ... withoute at the Master of the Wardrop hes boycht v dussane of rybbanis... summa iij^l.

b. (in sense B. 10) Without its being the case that: now expressed by the construction with gerund (B. 11), with or without poss., e.g. *without that you shall need* = 'without your needing'; *without that he led me* = 'without leading me'. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

c **1450** in W. T. BARBOUR *Hist. Contract* (1914) 201 Withoute þat ever eny accord... were made or had bitwene þe seid John Mercer and John Halsnoth. **1471** FORTESCUE *Wks.* (1869) 525 Sainte Edwarde reyned... peseably... with oute eny clayme made vppon him, by hyr, or by her husbunde, and with outen that eny of their heirs have

claymed this londe. **c1489** CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xxvi. 560 The spers flew in peces without that any of theym felle to the grounde. **1594** R. CAREW *Huarte's Exam. Wits* xiii. (1596) 203 Himselfe will deliuer them into your hands, without that you shall need to conquer them. **1596** DANETT tr. *Comines* (1614) 86, The capitaine at the castell gate... offered me a cup of wine, without that he led mee into the castell as he was accustomed. **a1648** LD. HERBERT *Hen. VIII* (1683) 162 This seemed to be done, without that the King was fully informed thereof. *Ibid.* 230 Your Actions (without that I or any else speak of them) make you a liar. **1853** C. BRONTË *Villette* xii, It was next to impossible that a casket could be thrown into her garden... without... that she should have caught intimation [etc.].

†c. (with conditional implication as in B. 13) If it be or were not the case that, unless: = 2. *Obs.*

c **1440** Generydes 475 Withoute that she myght have his loue ageyn, She were on don for euer in certayne. **c1450** CAPGRAVE *Life St. Aug.* ii. 4 This myth not be do with-outen þat þei had substauns of possession. **1523** Q. MARG. in M. A. E. Green *Lett. Royal Ladies* (1846) l. 266 (MS.) The lordes wilbe... ferd to leue the gouernours wayes, with-out that they may fynd some suytie to take ther partt.

†d. *without that* (or *this*) *that*: legal phr. introducing an exception, *spec.* in pleading [tr. law-L. *absque hoc quod*, law-Fr. *sans ceo que*], a form, obsolete since 1852, whereby a defendant asserted special matter of exception or justification against the plaintiff's claim while reserving his denial of the whole cause of action.

1518 *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden Soc.) II. 150 That all the said mesuages and lendes shuld be in the rule... of the Chamberleyne... Without that that the said mesuages and londes extend to the yerely value of cxl li. **1592** *B.N.C.* (Oxf.) *Doct.* B2 37 (MS.) Without that, that H.P. was never properly enfeoffed. **1601** FULBECKE *1st Pt. Parall.* 72 b, The plaintiffe replied, that... the defendant... assaulted him and beate him... and the defendant rejoined that... by their common accorde they played together, without that that he beate him in other maner. **1651** tr. *Kitchin's Jurisd.* (1653) 422 Conspiracy, he is alive, with out that, that he is dead. *Ibid.* 423 Where one pleads out of his Fee, the other saith within, without that, that it was out in manner and forme. **1824** H. J. STEPHEN *Treat. Princ. Pleading* ii. 211 The defendants delivered their petition to the common council, complaining of an undue election; *without this that* the jurisdiction... belonged to the court of the mayor and aldermen.

2. Hence, by omission of *that*, simply as a conjunction: If...not, except, unless. Also, chiefly in U.S. dial. use: unless, without its being the case that.

Formerly common in literary use, most frequently with verb in subjunctive; later *colloq.* ('not in use, except in conversation' J. 1755) or *arch.*, and now chiefly *illiterate*. Often replaceable by the const. with gerund (B. 11), e.g. *without he be compelled* = 'without being compelled'; esp. with clause referring to an attendant circumstance or result rather than a condition, as in quot. 1467.

1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. v. 176 Quath conscience to þe kyng with-oute þe comune help, Hit is ful hard... per-to hit to byrynge. **1467** MARG. PASTON in *P. Lett.* II. 308 If I wer ther withought I had the mor... wurcheþfull persones about me... it shuld be to me but a vylney. **1477** *Stonor Papers* (Camden) II. 28 She is displeside and I know nat wherefore, with owte hir olde sekene be fallen on hir agayn. **1523** LD. BERNERS *Proiss.* (1812) l. xii. 12 All the most parte of the realme were right joyouse, withoute it were a fewe parsones... fauourable to syr Hewe Spencer. **1534** MORE *Conf. agst. Trib.* l. xii. (1553) Cijb, Good workes to godwarde woorketh no man without god woorkes with him. **1565** *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* l. 410 [He] will nocht deliver... the said hors without he be compellit. **1591** SHAKS. *Com. Err.* III. ii. 92 Such a one, as a man may not speake of, without he say sir reuerence. **a1643** J. SHUTE *Judgem. & Mercy* (1645) 129 He may barke, but he cannot bite without a man come within his reach. **1695** CONGREVE *Love for L.* iv. i, If he can't be cur'd without I suck the Poyson from his Wounds. **1754** SHEBBEARE *Matrimony* (1766) l. 143 Do not think of marrying this young Lady, without you are convinced you can love her. **1787** BEATTIE *Scottisms* 101, I will not go without I am paid for it. Scottish and obsolete and vulgar English. **1802** MRS. E. PARSONS *Myst. Visit* III. 51, I shall never intrude without you invite me. **a1814** *Fam. Politics* II. i. in *New Brit. Theatre* II. 207 I'm but a working woman, and cannot live without I gets my due. **1834** T. ARNOLD *Let.* 14 Apr. in *Stanley Life* (1898) l. vii. 328 Not allowing God's seal, without it be countersigned by one of their own forging. **1859** TENNYSON *Elaine* 1411 Not without She wills it. **1860** O. W. HOLMES *Elsie V.* xv. (1891) 211, I know these people... so as all the science in the world can't know them, without it takes time about it. **1867** J. R. LOWELL *Biglow Papers* 2nd Ser. p. lvii, I don't git much done 'thout I bogue right in along 'th my men. **1868** J. H. BLUNT *Ref. Ch. Eng.* l. 437 No canons were to become law without they were assented to... by the crown. **1887** *Daily News* 21 Nov. 2/7 Without a great change takes place the meeting is sure to commence to-morrow. **1903** 'T. COLLINS' *Such is Life* (1937) l. 51 A man shouldn't make a dog of his self without he's well paid for it. That's my religion. **1955** F. O'CONNOR *Wise Blood* iii. 52 Everything she looked at was that child... She couldn't lie with that man without she saw it. **1962** E. ALBEE *Who's Afraid of V. Woolff* (1964) l. 51 Man can put up with only so much without he descends a rung or two on the old evolutionary ladder. **1984** A. CARTER *Nights at Circus* ii. 46 No two deaths without a third follows.

D. sb. That which is external; the outside. *rare.*

1899 C. F. D'ARCY *Ideal. & Theol.* Intro. 22 Necessity is determination from without, determination by the not-self. It belongs therefore to whatever has a 'without.' **1938** [see WITHIN sb.].

without, obs. pa. t. of WITHHOLD v.

†wi'thout door, *adv. phr.* (adj.) *Obs.* = next.

c 1205 LAY. 2382 þat neuer ne ferde heo wið uten dore. **1570** LEVINS *Manip.* 229/8 Wythout dore, *extrà, foris*. **1621** in Foster *Engl. Factories Ind.* (1906) 280 A storme of . . rayne . . that wett these bales which weare without doare in the street. **1649** C. WASE *Sophocles, Electra* 30 Enter in, and let her without door Her own distresses, and her friends deplore. **1739** JOHNSON *Boerhaave in Gentl. Mag.* IX. 174/1 His . . Friend . . found him sitting without Door.

b. attrib. or as *adj.* (with hyphen). = OUT-DOOR *a.*; in quot. *transf.* or *fig.* relating to the outer world, outward, external.

1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* II. i. 69 Prayse her but for this her without-dore-Forme.

wi'thout doors, *adv. phr. (adj.) Obs.* or *rare arch.* (Also with hyphen.) [See WITHOUT *prep.* I. and DOOR 5.]

1. Out of doors, outside the house, in the open air.

1617 MORYSON *Itin.* 1. 63 Our meat we bought our selues, . . and we fetched our beere without doores. **1663** GERBIER *Counsel* 27 At the latter end of the year . . no brick-work without doores ought to be laid. **1695** A. TELFAIR *New Confut. Sadd.* (1696) 4 The Family being all without-doors. **1711** ADDISON *Spect.* No. 83 ¶ 1 When the Weather hinders me from taking my Divisions without Doors. **1796** MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 621 Without doors they use a kind of wooden patten. **1840** DICKENS *Old Cur. Shop* xxviii, The preparations without doors had not been neglected.

2. *transf.* and *fig.* Outside the community (family, nation, etc.); †*spec.* outside Parliament (= OUT-OF-DOOR, -DOORS A. 2 a).

1697 C. DAVENANT *Ess. E. India Trade* Wks. 1771 I. 96 Some persons (without doors) . . profess themselves open enemies to the traffic in general. **1709** SWIFT *Adv. Relig. Misc.* (1711) 224 Senates are like to have little Regard for any Proposals that come from without Doors. **1723** DK. WHARTON *True Briton* No. 5. I. 43 Those who are Without-Doors should do their Duty by supporting such Patriots. **1769** JUNIUS *Lett.* xvii. (1812) I. 181 It will not be necessary . . to take the trouble of answering . . the quotation from a speech without doors. **1792** BURKE *Sp.* 11 May (1816) IV. 51 The House was untainted . . by those false principles which had been so amply circulated without doors. **1823** SCOTT *Quentin D.* xiv, He who beat all enemies without doors, found a fair foe who could belabour him within.

3. *attrib.* or as *adj.* = *prec.* b.

1654 FULLER *Comm. Ruth* 139 The Daughters of Sarah, whom the meeknesse of their Sex hath priviledged from following without doors affairs.

†**wi'thoutforth**, *adv. Obs.* (or *rare arch.*) Also with hyphen, or as two words, or as three. [f. WITHOUT *adv.* + FORTH *adv.*] Properly, Everywhere without or outside (see FORTH *adv.* 2 b); but in use a mere synonym of *without*. (Opp. to WITHINFORTH.) **a.** = WITHOUT *adv.* 1.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 384 Woo worpe þou, . . ypoctitis, pat clenens wipout-forp of þe cuppe and of þe diſhe. **c 1380** — *Wks.* (1880) 46 þei weren apeied wif o cote or kirtil with-ynne forpe & with-oute forp. **c 1450** *Mirk's Festial* 72 When pay wern alle in, God clousid þe dore aftir hom without-forth. **1474** in *Litt. Cantuar.* (Rolls) III. 272 Yowre powche and key-band with the keyvernge; on the which are . . set ij. porses with owteforth. **1511** *Guyllforde's Pylgr.* (Camden) 23 Withoute forthe byfore the entre into this Temple. **1601** HOLLAND *Pliny* xxxv. vi. II. 528 The peeces of this earth, if a man doe breake, shew the own naturall colour which is not mixt: without-forth they be spotted. **1894** F. S. ELLIS *Reynard the Fox* 247 Withoutforth of the ring . . A stone . . of colours three.

b. = WITHOUT *adv.* 2, 2 b.

1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* xii. 46 His modir and his bretheren stoden with outeforth [1388 withouteforth]. **1388** — *Acts* v. 34 Gamaliel. . . comandeide the men to be put without forth. **1467** in *Engl. Gilds* (1870) 373 That euery citezein . . w'outforth paye alle maner chargs as citezens do that dwelle wy'nforth. **1470-85** MALORY *Arthur* xx. xxii. 836 They . . kepte the syege wyth lytel warre withoutforth. **1530** TINDALE *Deut.* xxxii. 25 Without forth, the swerde shall robbe them off theire childern. **1600** HOLLAND *Livy* vii. xxi, All was quiet withoutforth. **1609** — *Amm. Marcell.* 132 The space . . between the wall and the heape of earth cast up withoutforth.

c. = WITHOUT *adv.* 3.

1357 Lay *Folks Catech.* (L.) 758 Thou schalt not do leccerhye noper in consent in hert ne spekyng ne in countenance withoute-forp. **c 1374** CHAUCER *Boeth.* v. pr. iv. (1868) 164 þe wit comprehendip for wip outen furpe þe figure of þe body of þe man. **c 1400** LOVE *Bonavent. Mirr.* (1907) 123 The schame that sche hadde of hir synne was so grete withynneforth that sche forȝat al schame and reprove withouteforth. **1491** CAXTON *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) I. i. 4 b/2 Faynyng wythoute fourthe by theyr couuert maners and symple habyllemens to be Innocentes. **1530** PALSGR. *Introd.* 34 The verbes actyves betokying some acte to passe from the doer without forth.

d. quasi-sb. (preceded by *of*): That which is without; external region or action.

1474 CAXTON *Chesse* III. iv. (1883) 114 Hyt befelle that a marchant of withoute forth herd the . . fame of this man. **1491** — *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) II. 277 b/2 That the werkes of withoutforth be fyrst withinforth ruled after the lugegment of right & reason.

e. attrib. or as *adj.* Outside, external.

c 1500 in *Arnolde Chron.* (1811) 9 The wythoutforth landys and tenementis.

wi'thoutside, *adv. and prep.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* (Also with hyphen, or as two words.) [f. WITHOUT + SIDE *sb.*, after *outside*.] Opp. to WITHINSIDE or WITHIN. **A. adv.**

1. On the outer side or surface: = OUTSIDE *adv.* 1 (in part), WITHOUT *adv.* 1.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. v. 11 The roote is . . blacke without-side. **1668** H. MORE *Div. Dial.* II. v. (1713) 97 Nor do we our selves grow by being liquored without side, but within. **1695** CONGREVE *Love for L.* IV. i, Why does that Lawyer wear black?—Does he carry his Conscience without side? **1727-38** CHAMBERS *Cycl. s.v. Mould*, The Moulds . . are of wax, supported within-side by what they call a core, and covered without-side with a cap or case. **1794** C. SMITH *Wand. Warwick* 19 Barricading the cabin door withoutside. **1849** CHR. G. ROSSETTI *Testimony* 20 Poet. Wks. (1904) 119 We build our houses on the sand Comely withoutside and within. **c 1850** [see WITHINSIDE A. 1].

2. In (or to) the place or space without: = OUTSIDE *adv.* 1 (in part), 2, WITHOUT *adv.* 2.

a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 21 Sept. 1644, The Cathedral, . . full of sepulchres without-side. **1706** E. WARD *Iud. Rediv.* (1707) II. vi. 4 Without side warm, within side merry. **1710** MRS. CENTLIVRE *Marplot* II. Wks. 1760 II. 147 When I came without-side, I saw nobody there. **1800** *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 414 Within this temple is an altar, and without-side, near the entrance, another. **1831** TRELAWNY *Adv. Younger Son* I. xx. 148 A wild shout from without-side.

3. *withoutside of*, *prep. phr.* = *outside of*, OUTSIDE *adv.* 3 a.

1638 in *Collect. Mass. Hist. Soc. Ser.* III. VI. 23 Placing the Indians . . without side of our soldiers in a ring battalia. **1711** in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 169 A very narrow bridge, . . without-side of the gate. **1751** R. PALTOCK *P. Wilkins* (1884) II. xi. 108 Without-side of these mountains, it was scarce darker than at my arkee. **1769** J. BUSH *Hibernia Curiosa* 163 Wearing their shirts withoutside of their cloaths. **1865** W. G. PALGRAVE *Arabia* I. 345 All the world withoutside of Nejed.

B. prep. = **A. 3**, OUTSIDE *prep.* 1, 2, WITHOUT *prep.* 1, 1 b.

1686 [see WITHINSIDE B. 2]. **1760** *Impostors Detected* i. iv. I. 31 The monk's sandals which he had left without side the door. **a 1774** GOLDSM. *Surv. Exp. Philos.* (1776) II. 176 Succeeding each other, one without side the other, like circles in disturbed water. **1809** A. HENRY *Trav.* 133 A fire was made without side the cabin, in the open air. **1831** T. HOPE *Ess. Origin Man* I. 8 Modifications existing withoutside my person.

†**wi'thout-take**, *prep. Obs. rare*. [f. WITHOUT *adv.* after OUT-TAKE *ppl.*, *prep.*] Except.

1422 YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* 185 With al the Princes and men of value of the lande, wythout-take the Pepill of Vlystere.

wi'thoutwards, *adv. nonce-wd.* [f. WITHOUT + -WARDS.] Towards the exterior.

1865 [see WITHINWARDS].

withpraise, etc.: see WITH- b.

withsafe, -saif, obs. ff. VOUCHSAFE.

†**withsake**, *v. Obs.* Forms: 1 wipsacan, 3 -saken; *pa. t.* 3 -soc(k), *pa. pple.* 4 -saken. [OE. *wipsacan*, f. WITH- + *sacan* to contend, dispute, deny; cf. MHG. *widersachen*.] = WITHSAY *v.* 1, 2, 3.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 53 Wipsacā nu þam leasum welum. **c 1000** *Ags. Gosp. Matt.* x. 33 Se þe me wiðsæcð beforan mannun, & ic wipsæc hyne beforan minum fæder. **c 1205** LAY. 10898 þa wiðsaken wolde cristindom he dude his marken him on. *Ibid.* 13000 Imong þan eorlen he stod & fastliche hit wið-soc. **a 1225** *Ancr. R.* 88 Ich hit ne mei nout wið-saken. **a 1375** *Joseph Arim.* 178 His grete folk þat him wip-saken hedde.

†**withsave**, obs. f. VOUCHSAFE, used by Wyatt in the sense: To preserve.

a 1542 WYATT 'Syns love ys suche' 20 Henceforthe my fredome to withsave [rime have]. — 'Now must I lerne' 22 Now must I seke some other ways My self for to withsave.

†**withsaw**, *Obs.* [f. WITH- + SAW *sb.*², after WITHSAY *v.*] = WITHSAYING.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 288 Hwon þe delit iðe luste is igon so oueruorð þet ter nis non wiðsigginge [v.r. wiðsahe]. **a 1300** *Cursor M.* 5877 Now wald þai mak þam a witsau Fra þar warkes for to drau. **a 1325** *MS. Raul.* B. 520, ff. 28 Manie lordes of wastes . . habbez i ben desturbed þoru with sawe of hoere neȝeburs [orig. *per contradiccionem vicinorum*].

†**with'say**, *sb. Obs.* [f. next.] = *prec.*

c 1315 SHOREHAM VII. 369 þer nere stryf ne contekyng, Ne no wip-sey.

†**with'say**, *v. Obs.* [OE. (rare Northumb.) *wiðsæga*; see WITH- and SAY *v.*¹ Cf. OFris. *wiðsedza*.]

1. *trans.* To renounce. *rare.*

c 960 *Rituale Dunelm.* (Surtees) 34 *Terrena desideria respuentes*, eardlico lvyto wiðsægende. **c 1386** CHAUCER *Sec. Nun's T.* 447 Euery cristen wight shal han penaunce But if that he his cristendom withseye. *Ibid.* 457 We that knowen thilke name [of Christian] so For vertuous, we may it nat withseye.

2. **a.** To affirm the contrary of, contradict, deny (a fact or statement); also, to deny the existence of.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 86 3if a mon . . deð so much mis þat hit beo so open sunne þat he hit ne mei nonesweis allelunge wiðsiggen. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2309 To londone he gan him bringe, & sede he was purosst eyr to be icrouned to kinge. Nomon ne miȝte it wel wip segge. **1303** R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 9800 Syker ys, þat yn rolle ys leyde, For þan may hyt neuer be wipseyde. **1387** TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 19 Sawes þat wipseip nouȝt oure byleue. **1443-50** in W. P. Baildon *Sel. Cases Chanc.* (1896) 136 He withseieth not the matier conteigned in the seid bille of complainte. **1493** *Cov. Leet Bk.* 57 To which the Recordour . . seid that he withseieth not þe fraunchis of Couentre, nor the allowance perof had at Bristol. **1530** PALSGR. 783/2 Sythe I have sayd it, I will

never withsay it. **1567** TURBERV. *Ovid's Ep.* 136 That Dian witnessde thou canst not withsaye.

b. To contradict, deny the statement of (a person).

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 10349 Wan þou seist, quap þe king, þat þat was mi þouȝt, So gret louerd as þou art, Ine wipsegge þe nouȝt. **1387-8** T. USK *Test. Love* 1. ii. (Skeat) I. 184 To withsaye thilke men that of these spoken otherwyse than the sothe. **1426** LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 5594, I ne may Suffre . . But that I muste yow with-seyn. **1530** RASTELL *Bk. Purgat.* I. vii, As beyng and not beyng be two contrariauntys [etc.] the one alway doth denye and with saye the other.

c. intr. To make denial or contradiction; to speak in opposition to; also *trans.* to utter by way of contradiction.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 17288 + 11 In witnes þai ros with him, . . For þe lews suld not with-say þat gart to ded him bring. **1382** WYCLIF *Job* xvi. 9 The false seiere is rered vp æzen my face, withseiende to me. — *Judith* i. 11 To alle these Nabugodonosor . . sente messageres; the whiche alle with o wil withseiden. **1390** GOWER *Conf.* I. 341 Whan Nestor hath his tale seid, Ayein him was no word withseid. **a 1400** *Engl. Gilds* (1870) 355 þat euerych bakere habbe hys seal y knowe vpon hys loff, þat he ne mowe wip-segge 3if he is of take oper þan weel. **c 1430** *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* i. lxxiii. (1869) 48, I may not to that of no thing wel withseye. **1463** *Cases bef. King's Council* (Selden) 113 b, Forasmoch as they withsey not by dedez and actez of their factours.

3. *trans.* To speak or act against, oppose, resist; = GAINSAY *v.* 3; occas. to say (a thing) in opposition. Also, to disallow, forbid. Also *absol.*

c 1200 ORMIN 17826 Fele pede modilȝ wipȝstodenn, & wipȝseȝdenn . . heffness lihht. **c 1200** *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 139 Bi þo dages luuede herodes . . his broðer wif, and binam hire him, and Seint Iohan hit wið seide. **a 1225** *Ancr. R.* 204 Hwonne þe schil & te heorte ne wiðsigged nout. **c 1275** *Passion our Lord* 422 in O.E. *Misc.* 49 Eueruych mon þat makeþ hym king . . He wip-seȝp cesare. **c 1380** WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 160 þat no man dar wip-seie hem in here wrong. **c 1386** CHAUCER *Prol.* 805 Who so wole my luggement withseye. **1390** GOWER *Conf.* I. 312 Ther mai noman his happ withsein. **1471** CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 88 That ther be not oon man that is so hardy to withsaye any thyng contrarie to my will. **1483** — *G. de la Tour* xxix. c vj, He was . . patron of the parysshe and the parson durst not withsaye hym. *Ibid.* cxxxiii. mijb, I defende and withsaye to them the kyssyng. **1523** LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cclxxxiv. 174/1, I may nat nor dare nat withsay yor noble pleasure. **a 1529** SKELTON *Sp. Parrot* 395 Moloc, that mawmett, there darre no man withsay.

4. **a.** To refuse to do or perform. Also *absol.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 238 þeo . . wiðsegged þe graunt perof mid unwillie heorte. **a 1225** *Juliana* 26 3et tu maht 3ef þu wult burhen þe seoluen, ant 3ef þu mare wiðseist [etc.]. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 7689 To hom þat wolde is wille do debonere he was & milde & to hom þat wipsede strong tirant & wilde. **c 1385** CHAUCER *L.G.W.* *Prol.* 367 Or hym was bodyn make thilke tweye Of sum persone & durste it not with-seye. **1485** CAXTON *Chas. Gt.* 49 Gladly he wold haue doo the bataylle yf he had not wythsayd it . . whan he was requyred.

b. To decline to give, grant, or allow; to refuse. Also with dat. of person (sometimes without dir. obj.).

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4920 + 6 þe byssop yt nolde grante ac outlych yt wip seyde. **13.. K. Alis.** 2905 (Laud MS.) Homage nolde hym non wipsaye. **1402** HOCCEVE *Let. Cupid* 108 She. . So lyberal ys, she wol no wyght with-sey. **c 1430** LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 32 She . . Halsethe and kissethe and wol hym not with-seyne. **c 1450** *Merlin* xiv. 204, I will in no wise with-sey that ye requere. **c 1475** *Partenay* 86 No man shall ther-of you werne ne withsay. **1531** *Dial. on Laws Eng.* i. vi. 10b, I will nat withsay thy desyre. **1545** ASCHAM *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 165 Thanke your selfe, whiche woulde haue me rather faulte . . than . . withsay your request. **16.. Eger & Grine 590 in Furniv. & Hales *Percy Folio* I. 372 Soe he desired that sword soe bright That shee was loth to with-say that Knight. **1661-85** in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 372 This is in noe wise to bee withsaid, for it is the King's honour.**

Hence †**with'sayer**, a gainsayer, opponent.

c 1420 *Wycliffite Bible* Pref. Ep. iii. 63 The withseieris to withsonde [orig. *contradicentes revincere*]. **c 1450** *Godstow Reg.* 267 All withseyers and attemptours to breke this wrytyng.

†**with'saying**, *vbl. sb. Obs.* [f. WITHSAY *v.* + -ING¹.] Contradiction, gainsaying, opposition.

a 1225 [see WITHSAW]. **1340** *Ayenb.* 233 þou sselst louye god . . mid ale pine wylle wip-oute wyȝzigginge. **1387** TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 71 Fame of Paradys hap i-dured wipoute wipseiege sexe powsand ȝere and more. **c 1450** *Godstow Reg.* 194 To distreine aftir their owne wil, without any withseying of them or ther successors. **c 1475** *Partenay* 482, I shal do With all my hole hert, without withsaing, Al that which ye wylle be me commaunding.

†**with'set**, *v. Obs.* [OE. *wipsettān*; see WITH- and SET *v.*¹]

1. *trans.* To resist, oppose, withstand. Also occas. const. inf.: To prevent from doing something.

c 1000 *Lambeth Ps.* xvi[i]. 9 ȝescyld me fram anyne arleasra þa þe me ȝeswenctun *vel* wiðsettun. **c 1000** in Assmann *Ags. Hom.* vii. 186 Donne sende he heom fultrum ȝurh sumne deman, ȝe wiðsette heora feondum. **c 1175** *Lamb. Hom.* 113 *Deus superbis resistit* . . Drihten widset þan prudan. **a 1330** *Roland & V.* 834 No hadde ben þe bacinet, þat þe strok wip sett. **c 1330** R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 2921 Hauen to aryue þey hym wyȝsette. **1393** LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. i. 174 Myȝte we with eny wyt hus wil with-sette. We myȝte be lordes aloft. **a 1430** *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 215/394 Holli writt, þat cleerli schewip þee goostli list, How þou schuldist deedli synne with-sett. **c 1430** *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 4518 Generides and his feres to lete, And here entre to withsett. **c 1440** *Prompt. Parv.* 530/2 Wythe setty'n, *obsto*,

obsisto. c 1450 *Cov. Myst.* (Shaks. Soc.) 212 If thou with-sett the deuyll in his deede.

2. To beset (a way, etc.) so as to prevent a person from passing. (In early use with dat. of person.)

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 23727 Ded has vs wit-sett vr strete, Nil we, wil we, we sal mete. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 337 Als pei fro kirke cam, þer way he þam withsette. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* xiv. 107 Twa of thame. . . With-set ane place in-till his way. . . With twa thousand of men. c 1400 *Ywaine & Gaw.* 1921 Sir Ywayne sone with-set the yate, That the eril myght noght in tharate. 1426 *LYDG. De Guil. Pilgr.* 10527 Thys . . . confederat, Causen. . . a perillous mortal stryff To pylgrymes. . . Ther weyes, when they ha wyth-set.

3. To seize in compensation for a debt, etc.

1445 *Paston Lett.* I. 58 He hathe suffrid the corne to ben with sette for viijs. of rentte. . . wich yowre fadre paide nevere. 1477 *Ibid.* III. 211 Mastras Clere hath sen down hyr men, and with set alle the stuff and wreke.

Hence †with'setting *vbl. sb.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 39 þe ualse yulemde þet. . . zechep wyþsetti[n]gges and respit uor to bynime opren hare ozen. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 530/2 Wythe settinge, *obsistencia.*

†with'sit, *v. Obs.* [f. WITH- + SIT *v.*]

1. *trans.* To oppose, resist, withstand. Also, to prevent; to ward off.

c 1300 *Havelok* 1683 Hauelok ne durste. . . Nouth withsitten þat ubbe bad. c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 8138 3yf 3e ne conne nought do hym wyte What þe fallyng may wyþ-syt. c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 9055 King Rion wipsat þat dent. 1387-8 T. USK *Test. Love* III. viii. (Skeat) l. 87 This rightfulness. . . helpeth the spirit to withsitte the leude lustes of fleshly lykinge. 1393 *LANGL. P. Pl. C.* xix. 251 Ich with-sat nat hus heste. 1412-20 *LYDG. Chron. Troy* I. 3003 To with-sitte þe force of sorcerye. c 1425 *Seven Sag.* (P.) 518 None durste wyth-sytte hys heste, Nouthir the lest no the moste. c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* II. liii. (1869) 96 He shulde not mown with sitte thes ne ayens stonde thee.

2. *intr.* To fail. *rare.*

c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 8457 Hir eizen turned, hir voice wipsat.

Hence †with'sitting *vbl. sb.*, opposition.

1387-8 T. USK *Test. Love* II. vii. (Skeat) l. 142 The fleshy body of a man, over whiche have oftentyme flies, . . . mokol might in greuance. . . withouten any withsittinge.

withstand (wið'stænd), *v.* Pa. t. and pa. pple. withstood. (Also 5 *pa. t.* wiþstonded.) [OE. *wiþstandan*, = OFris. *withstonda*, ON. *viðstanda*: see WITH- and STAND *v.* Cf. OS. *wiðarstandan* (MLG. *wedderstân*), OHG. *widarstân*. For the separable form *stand with* see STAND *v.* 79a.]

1. *trans.* To stand or maintain one's or its position against; to offer resistance to, resist, oppose: often with implication that the resistance is successful or effectual.

(a) a person, his will, desire, power, etc.

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* vi. §1 Swa doð nu ða þeostru pinre gedrefednesse wiðstandan minum leothum larum. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 161 Hi cýningum & yfelum ricum ealdormannum wiþstandan mihtan. c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 434 Nis nan ðing þe his mihte wiðstande. a 1122 O.E. *Chron.* (Laud MS.) Intro. 3 3if hwa eow wiðstent, we eow fultumiað. c 1200 ORMIN 16143 & tatt all forr to cwemenn Godd & defell to wiþpstandenn. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 264 þet we muhten wiðstonden þes deofles ferde, þet is so strong uppon vs. 1377 *LANGL. P. Pl. B.* Prol. 156 Myzte we wiþ any witte his wille wiðstonde. c 1386 CHAUCER *Monk's Prol.* 32, I dar hire [sc. my wife] nat wiðstonde For she is bigg in Armes. 1434 in *Ellis Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. l. 111 To with-stand your enemyes in tyme of nede. c 1450 *Brut* 432 She withstode the Duke of Burgoyne and alle his malice. 1530 *PALSGR.* 783/2 All the worlde can nat withstande the wyll of God. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ.* Osor. 212 Seeing that not their willes, but Gods predestination withstandeth them so, that they cannot be able to come. 1592 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI.* IV. v. 4 They haue wonne the Bridge, Killing all those that withstand them. 1642 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Mad Fashions* 3 Thou Lord of Hosts. . . Thy foes (Thine Anti-christian foes) withstand. 1708 *PRIOR Turtle & Sparrow* 106 Grim Pluto will not be withstood By Force or Craft. 1857 BUCKLE *Civiliz.* I. vi. 296 His might nothing was able to withstand. 1882 MISS BRADDON *Mt. Royal* v, You have not the will to withstand your aunt.

(b) a blow, force, attack, impulse; a destructive, oppressive, or hostile agency or influence.

a 1000 *Wanderer* 15 Ne mæg werig mod wyrde wiðstondan. c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 236 þisse adle eac wiþstandeþ tosnidenre hreapemuse blod. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 19105 Yur sin wiþstand, þat yee mai rise Wit þat parti þat es rightwise. 13. . . *Ibid.* 10523 (Gött.) Ioseph. . . þat styward was. . . wele wiðstode þe hunger þat egypt ouer-3ode. 1390 *GOWER Conf.* I. 68 He was noght of such myht The strengthe of love to with-stande. 1430-40 *LYDG. Bochas* VIII. vii. (1558) 4b, The stroke of fortune withstant no creatures. 1558 PHAER *Æneid.* v. Nijb, And sturdy strokes he did withstand. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II.* I. i. 173 Rage must be withstood. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* 509 It valiantly withstood the siege. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* VI. 253 Such destruction to withstand He hastened. 1741 BUTLER *Serm.* Wks. 1874 II. 264 The love of liberty. . . carries us to withstand tyranny. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* viii, Having withstood such strong attacks upon my fortitude. 1852 MALPAS *Builder's Pocket-bk.* 56 The pressure is. . . withstood by the abutments. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xi. 76 Ground to mud by an agency which the hardest rocks cannot withstand. 1912 *Sphere* 28 Dec. 326/2 Armour to withstand the terrific hitting power of the latest naval gun.

(c) a material thing.

a 1400 *Octouian* 1120 He ne fond neuer boon ne lyre Hys ax withstent. 1581 A. HALL *Iliad* II. 22 Yet they our Machins haue withstoode. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 209 An oxe doth withstand the yoke, and a horse doth with-

stand the bridle. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* VIII. 396 Nor thy resistless Arm the Bull withstood. 1721 *PRIOR Predestination* 332 A Casual Fabric built upon the sand Which can nor winds nor falling rains withstand. 1870 BRYANT *Iliad* I. IV. 130 Their limbs Are not of stone or iron to withstand The trenchant steel ye wield.

†b. To oppose in statement; to controvert, contradict, deny. *Obs.*

1513 THOMAS LD. HOWARD in *Ellis Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. I. 160 Trustyng that ye woll. . . withstonde all ill reports undeserved made of me. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 66b, To withstande and stoppe the tonges of them that. . . scaundreth them. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ.* Osor. 170b, This withstandeth our disputation of Necessitie nothyng at all.

c. To resist the attraction, influence, or cogency of; occas. to abstain from (doing something).

1725 DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 292 A curiosity that I could scarce withstand. 1781 COWPER *Charity* 31 The wretch that slighted or withstood The tender argument of kindred blood. 1798 *FERRIAR Illustr. Sterne* II. 25 Religious disputes were subjects of ridicule too tempting to be withstood. 1852 *DISRAELI Bentinck* 18 He could scarcely have withstood contemplating what might perhaps have been his own position. 1877 *FREEMAN Norm. Conq.* (ed. 3) I. App. 753 It seems impossible to withstand this evidence.

†2. a. To refuse to allow (a person) the possession of (something). *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 24772 (Edia.) [William] sloh þe king þat Harald hiht þat born was of þe danis blod For qui þe land he him wit stod.

†b. Const. inf. or clause: To prevent. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 6973 þai fand strang folk. . . þat. . . wit-stode þam þe land to win. c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 3807 He myght not his tunge withstonde Worse to reporte than he fonde. 1542 *UDALL Erasm. Apoph.* 278 marg., What. . . Caesar saied vnto Metellus withstanding that he should not take any money out of the treasure [Metello obsistenti ne pecunias ab avario tolleret]. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ.* Osor. 177b, Nothyng withstandeth truely, but that both may bee true.

†c. To keep off or away, withhold, withdraw.

1398 *TREVISIA Barth. De P.R.* v. xxiv. (Bodl. MS.), He hap bondes and obstacles to withstode & lette þe poudre. c 1485 *Digby Myst.* III. 284 Lord, with-stond þis duresse! 1508 *FISHER 7 Penit. Ps.* xxxviii. Wks. (1876) 82 He may noo more withdrawe from them the bemes of his grace. . . than the sonne may withstande his bemes out of wyndowes when they be open.

d. To stand in the way of; to oppose or hinder the performance, operation, or progress of. *Obs.* or merged in 1.

c 1385 CHAUCER *L.G.W.* 1183 *Dido*, Hyre systir Anne as she that coude hire good Seyde as hire thoughte & sumdel it with stod. a 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 51 When þer growed. . . any superflue flesch. . . I withstode it or mette it with poude of creoflueboron. a 1548 *HALL Chron., Edw. V.* 1b, He spared no mannes deathe, whose life withstode his purpose. 1584 *COGAN Haven Health* cix. (1636) 110 Raysons. . . concoct raw humors, and withstand putrifaction. 1621 G. SANDYS *Ovid's Met.* v. (1626) 90 His sword withstood their re-ascent. c 1680 *Roxb. Ball.* (1891) VII. 358 Then prethee Love make no delay, let's not our precious time withstand. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* II. 155 The Wintry Seas, and Southern Winds, Withstood their passage home. 1737 *GLOVER Leonidas* I. 228 Leonidas awake! Shall these withstand The public safety? Lol! thy country calls. 1742 *FIELDING J. Andrews* II. iv, I hope you will not withstand your own preferment. 1814 *SCOTT Ld. of Isles* III. iv, His frantic mood was scarcely by the news withstood, That Moray shared his sister's flight. 1825 — *Talism.* xvii, The entrance of Queen Berengaria. . . was withstood. . . by the chamberlains.

3. *intr.* To offer resistance or opposition.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke xi. 53 Ongunnun ða ældu. . . hefiglice wiðstonda. a 1122 O.E. *Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1070 þa utlaga. . . woldon into þam mynstre, & þa muncas wið-stoden þæt hi na mihton in cumen. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 131 Ne mihte þer [in hell] nan wiðstonden, ne prophete ne patriarche. c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 39 Strengte to wiðstanden azeanes dieules fondinges. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2649 De king wið-stod. 13. . . K. *Alis.* 2062 (Laud MS.), þise shuden wiþstonde hard And sauen al þe forme ward. 1340 *Ayenb.* 22 Huanne þe man wyþstant to alle ham þet guod him wolde. 1375 *BARBOUR Bruce* I. 456 Quhar God helpys, quhat may withstand? ? a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1747 3ife we in the stour withstondene the better. 1530 *PALSGR.* 781/2 Agaynst the wyll of God no man may withstand. 1618 *BOLTON Florus* (1636) 183 The City was encouraged to withstand upon the news of Lucullus his approach. 1667 *MILTON P.L.* II. 610 They. . . wish. . . to reach The. . . stream, . . . But fate withstands. 1676 S. SEWALL *Diary* (1876) I. 31 He was here with Mr. Broughton earnestly urging [etc.]. . . Mr. Broughton with-stood. 1874 *GREEN Short Hist.* III. §2. 122 Langton prepared to withstand and rescue his country from the tyranny of John.

†4. To come to a stand, halt, stop. *Obs.*

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3646 Dre dazan and nijtes faren it gan And wið-stod in ðe deserid pharan. c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 12780 þey come & passed to þe wodes side, & þere wyþstode for to abyde. c 1430 *Pistill of Susan* 285 (Cott. MS.) Alle were a-stonyed and with-stood.

with'stander. [f. WITHSTAND *v.* + -ER¹.] One who withstands; a resister, opponent.

a 1325 *MS. Raul.* B. 520 lf. 25b, þe schirreue. . . sal. . . chastise þe withstondere þoru þe prison. 1382 *WYCLIF Num.* xxii. 33 3yuyng stede to the withstoder. 1550 *BALE Engl. Votaries* II. 49 To terryfy their withstanders. 1567 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 569 A withstander of his Hienes authoritie. 1588 *Marprel. Epist.* (Arb.) 6 Proud prelates, intolerable withstanders of reformation. a 1618 *RALEIGH Judic. & Sel. Ess.* II. (1650) I War. . . may be defined the exercise of violence under Sovereigne Command, against withstanders force. 1745 *DODSLEY Rex et Pontifex* Misc. I. 155 Silence every bold withstander That shall dare to disobey. 1820 *Examiner* No. 645. 530/1 It has seen him withstand the withstanders of those despotisms. 1877

MORLEY *Crit. Misc.* Ser. II. 199 Obstinate withstanders of all novelty.

with'standing, vbl. sb. [f. WITHSTAND *v.* + -ING¹.] The action of the verb WITHSTAND; opposition, resistance.

13. . . K. *Alis.* 2168 (Laud MS.), Stif wipstondyng & wiþth fleizyng. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 12049 þy wyþstondyng hap hym rafte Of hys temptyng alle þe crafte. 1340 *Ayenb.* 29 Wyþstondyng, þet is hardnesse of herte. 1493 [H. PARKER] *Dives & Pauper* III. xiii. (1496) 148/2 They shall haue sotylte of bodye without ony withstandinge, for ther shal no thyngye withstande them. 1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. vi. 6b/1 The first went with ladders in to the dykes. They founde no withstandinge. 1650 *TRAPP Comm. Deut.* xii. 3 Notwithstanding the withstandings of the rude rabble. 1696 *AUBREY Misc.* II. 28 To make several withstandings against the Shock of Fortune. 1842 *NEWMAN Corr.* (1917) 174 No one can tell how much there is in sympathy, over and above the influence one may have in withstanding.

So with'standing *ppl. a.*, that withstands.

1711 *SHAFTESB. Charac.* III. Misc. I. ii. 15 The tumid Bladder. . . bursts the withstanding Casements.

†with'standing, *prep. (conj.) Obs.* (Only in Caxton.) [pr. pple. of WITHSTAND used as a prep. (conj.) in imitation of OF. *obstant (que)*. Cf. NOTWITHSTANDING (= F. *non obstant*).] Having regard to, on account of; seeing that.

c 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xxvi. 566 Why dyde ye calle my fader of treyson, wythstanding that men know well that he is one of the trueste knyghtes of the worlde? 1490 — *Eneydos* xvi. 65 Thynkyng in hymselfe to be in daunger of his persone. . . wythstanding the inuetyue monycyons doon to hym. 1491 — *Vitas Patr.* (W. de W. 1495) II. 186b/2 The marchant. . . wolde not by it withstandinge this that he knewe not how moche it myght well be worth.

withstart to withstrain: see WITH-.

†with'take, *v. Obs.* [f. WITH- + TAKE *v.* Cf. ON. *viðtaka* resistance.]

1. *trans.* To 'take up', reprove, rebuke.

a 1340 *HAMPOLE Psalter* xlix. 9 Noght in þi sacrifice i sall wiptake þe [Vulg. *arguam te*]. c 1340 — *Prose Treat.* 8 þay ere in trauayle. . . with takand ydill mene. c 1400 *Titus & Vesp.* (Roxb.) 1403 For he withtoke hem in her lawe þei wratthede hem sore with his sawe.

2. ? To rescue.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 11036 Phylmen þe freke, þat fuersly withtakon, . . . Lut to þe lady.

3. To keep back, retain, or withhold unlawfully.

14. . . *Siege Jerus.* (E.E.T.S.) 48 His tribute. . . þat pey with-take wolde. a 1450 *MYRC Par. Pr.* (1902) 1185 Hast þow werkemen oght wyth-tan Of any þynge þat pey schulde han? Hence †with'taker, a rebuker, reprover.

a 1340 *HAMPOLE Psalter* ix. 24 þat thynge has man delite to doe in þe whilk þai hafe sum louere & nan with takere.

†withward, *prep. Obs.* [f. WITH *adv.* + -WARD, after toward.] ? Along with.

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1983 þis pinfule gin wes o swuch wise iginet, þæt te twa turnden eider wiðward oðer.

'withweed. *Obs. or dial.* [A blending of WITHWIND and BINDWEED.] = next.

1567 *MAPLET Gr. Forest* 34 Bindweede, of some With-weede. 1766 *Compl. Farmer* s.v. *Bindweed* P 21, I had a very good crop of wheat; but a with-weed came up to every plant. [Reproducing *Lisle Husb.* (1757) 393, which, however, has *withwind*.]

withwind ('wiðwaind). Now *dial.* Forms: 1 wipo-, wipewinde, 2 wiþwinde, 4 weþewinde, withe-, wythe-, weythwynde, 6 with-, wythwynde, 6-7 withwinde, 6- withwind. [OE. *wiþowinde*, *wipe*-, later *wiþwinde*, f. *wipo*-, *wipe*-, (related to WITHE) + *winde* WIND *sb.*²; corresp. to OS. *withewind* 'caprifolium', MLG., MDu. *wede-winde* 'caprifolium', 'periclymena', 'hedera', 'ligustrum'; for the first element cf. OE. *weopobend* WITHBIND, for the second, OE. *widuwinde* ivy, convolvulus; see also WITHYWIND.] Bindweed, *Convolvulus arvenis* or *C. sepium*; also *C. Soldanella* (Sea Withwind: see SEA *sb.* 23 f). Applied also, like BINDWEED, to other climbing plants, e.g. dodder, smilax, traveller's joy.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 34 Wip eagece genim wipowindan twigu. *Ibid.* 122 Wipewindan twig foreward. c 1050 *Voc.* in *Wr.*-Wülcker 428/36 *Inuoloco*, wipewinde. c 1100 *Gloss.* *ibid.* 138/28 *Uiticella*, wipewinde. 1377 *LANGL. P. Pl. B.* v. 525 In a withewynde wise ywounden aboute. 1398 *TREVISIA Barth. De P.R.* xviii. xxix. (Bodl. MS.), A tree þat is bi-clipped w' yuye oþer wip wepewinde. 1533 *ELYOT Cast. Helthe* (1541) 11b, Thynges good for the Lyuer: Worme-wode: Wyth wynde. 1548 *TURNER Names Herbes* (E.D.S.) 30 *Conuoluulus*. . . called of the herbaries Volubilis, in english wythwynde or byndeweede. 1552 *HULOET*, Withwinde herbe, *cassutha*, *cascuta*, *cissampelos*, *conuoluulus*. 1580 T. NEWTON *Approved Medicines* 20b, *Smilax hortensis*, Gardein withwinde. a 1722 *LISLE Husb.* (1757) 382 Giving their lands a second tillage, perhaps to destroy the withwind. 1899 R. BRIDGES *Idle Flowers* xiv, Thro' the hedgerow peer Withwind and Snapdragon.

attrib. 1891 *HARDY Noble Dames* II. 90 One of those sweet-pea or with-wind natures which require a twig of stouter fibre than its own to hang upon and bloom.

withy ('wiði), *sb.* Forms: 1 wiðig, 3 wiði, 4 wipie, wipge, (w(h)itheye, wytie, weþie), 4, 6-7 (9 *Sc.*)

withie, 5-6 wythy, 5-7 withye, wythie, 6 wythye, 6-7 withee (5 withi, wethei, -ie, *pl.* wetheis, wethiss, 5-6 wethy, whythy, 6 wethye, *pl.* wythiese), 7, 9 withey, 6- withy. [OE. *wipig* (= *L. vitex, vitic-* Agnus Castus), for the connexions of which see WITHE. Cf. WIDDY.]

1. A willow of any species: sometimes *spec.* the osier willow, *Salix viminalis*.

961 in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* III. 289 On pone haran wiðig. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 86 He is ase þe wiði þet sprutteð ut þe betere þet me hine ofte croppeð. 1325 in Kennett *Parochial Antiq.* (1695) 395 Tres acra apud le Whitheyes. *Ibid.* 400 A quo quidem prato dimidia roda jacet atte Witheyes juxta pratum Prioris. c 1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 163 Sauz [glossed wytie (wilwe)]. 1382 WYCLIF *Lev.* xxiii. 40 3e shulen take to 3ow...withies of the rennyng water. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P.R.* XIII. xi. (Bodl. MS.), In som partie of his brymme he haþ plente of wipges and of segge as it is seide. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* §24 The rakes...be moste comynly made of hasel and withe [ed. 1534 withec]. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* III. lxii. 403 [Polypody] growing vpon olde wythiese. c 1640 J. SMYTH *Lives Berkeleys* (1883) I. 123 To be a bendinge withy, not a stubborne Oke. 1661 BOYLE *Style Script.* 180 Withees, whilst they are sound grow Unregarded Trees; but when they once are Rotten, Shine in the Night. 1791 W. GILPIN *Forest Scenery* I. 64 The withy, or *salix fragilis*, is the most inconsiderable of it's tribe. 1866 BLACKMORE *Craddock Nowell* I. The withies were gloved with silver and gold. 1889 CONAN DOYLE *Micah Clarke* xxix, The moaning of the breeze among the withies.

b. With qualification, applied to various species of willow; also to other plants, as the laserwort, *Laserpitium Siler*: see quotes.

hoop withy: see HOOP sb.¹ 13 b. †rose withy = WILLOW-HERB 2.

14.. *Met. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 629/9 Wythy, ciler. 1523-34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* §130 Whyte wethy...wylt not grow in marsshe ground. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 153/1 *Siler*...spert withie, ozier withie, or small withie. 1612 R. CH. *Olde Thrift newly revived* 49 The Withie, of which are said to be 4 kinds, that is, the white withy, blacke Withie, and red Withie, osier Withie. 1650 [W. Howe] *Phytol. Brit.* 27 Chamænerion sive Epilobium...Rosebay willow-herb, Rose withy, or Willow-flower. 1733 W. ELLIS *Chilren & Vale Farm.* 191 This Withy often arrives to a large Stature, especially the red Sort. 1860 WARTER *Seaboard* II. 35 The yellow withy which lived on the moisture in the hollow. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1235/2 Withy, *Laserpitium Siler*: —, Hoop, *Rivina octandra*.

2. A flexible branch of a willow, esp. as used for tying or binding, as a halter (cf. WIDDY 2), etc.; any similar flexible branch or twig; a leash, hoop, or the like made of a withy.

a 1400 *Sir Perc.* 444 Therto his mere he bande With the withy. c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* VII. ix. 2874 Withe rapis and wetheis about þar hals. c 1460 *SIR R. ROS LA Belle Dame* 186 With grene wythies ybounden. 1564 BULLEIN *Dial. agst. Pest.* (1573) 6, I had better be hangad in a withie or in a cowtail, then be a rowfooted Scot. 1587 FLEMING *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1348/2 Which tempest...rent up manie great trees, or woond them like withies. 1658 N. *Riding Rec.* VI. 34 He is a rogue and deserves a withy. 1727 A. HAMILTON *New Acc. E. Indies* II. xlv. 149 A Rattan Withy to lift them by. 1787 W. HUTTON *Courts of Requests* 324 The ties of honour...are as easily broken through, as Sampson's withies. 1790 GROSE *Prov. Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Withy*, a round hoop of osier. 1805 SOUTHEY *Madoc* I. v. Canes and withies formed the walls and roof. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* vii. In order to save himself from the withie. 1865 W. G. PALGRAVE *Arabia* II. 219 Palm-huts unroofed, despite of their strong lacing and withies. 1893 CONAN DOYLE *Refugees* xxxiv, They were lashed to low posts with willow withies.

b. *coll. sing.* Withies as a material.

1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Brooke Farm* viii. 95 The harness was made of withy. 1915 *Q. Rev.* July 4 Pots of withy or of stout netting...are used for crabs.

†3. = WIDDY 3. *Obs.*

1438 *Exch. Rolls Scot.* V. 58 Pro fabrica septem wethyis erri. 1456 *Ibid.* VI. 278. 1484 *Ibid.* IX. 239.

4. *attrib. and Comb.*, as *withy band, basket, bed, blossom, bough, cutting, holt, labyrinth, leaf, pollard, pot, prison, rope, shoot, tree, twig, wood*, etc.; *withy-bound* adj.; †withy-cole, †charcoal made of willow wood; †withy-cragged [CRAGGED *a.* 2], see quotes., *withy-fly*, an artificial fly used in angling; †withy-herb, purple loosestrife: = WILLOW-HERB 1.

a 1688 STRADLING *Serm.* (1692) 176 Those Shackles...which could no more hold him, than the *withy bands could Sampson. 1820 SHELLEY *Hymn Merc.* lxix, He...bound Stiff withy bands the infant's wrists around. 1891 HARDY *Tess* xlix, She...packed up as many of her belongings as would go into a *withy basket. 956 in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* III. 96 On ðæt *wiðig bed. 1420 *Chertsey Cartulary* 41 b (P.R.O.), Duas acras terre et dimidium super le Whythybed. 1583 in *Wadley Notes Wills Bristol* (1886) 237 The withie Bedd or twigg bedd. 1844 J. T. HEWLETT *Parsons & W.* xxxix, And now, sir, do you push on to that corner of this withy-bed. 1898 J. A. GIBBS *Cotswold Village* 106 When November frosts begin to attract snipes to the withybeds. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* 203 As soon as the Willow or *Withy Blossoms appear. c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* III. 412 An arm gret *withi bough. 1862 W. BARNES *Whomely Rhymes* II. 85 Grey-leav'd withy-boughs. 1898 A. AUSTIN *Lamia's Winter Quarters* 8 The *withy-bound flask of ruby wine. 1657 REEVE *God's Plea* 254 Fumigations of Storax, ... Nemphar, Dragagant, *Withy-cole. 1607 MARKHAM *Cavel.* III. ii. 14 His necke straight...and...of one peece with his bodie, and not (as my countrey-men say) *withie craggd, which is loose and pliant. 1766 *Complete Farmer* s.v. *Stable* 7 B1/1 The continual lifting up of the head to feed out of the rack...makes him, as they express it, withy-cragged. 1813 VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* 137 Two rows of *withy or sawlow cuttings. 1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* II. 298 Alder-fly, *withy-fly, or bastard-caddis. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. li. 75

Red *Lysimachus*, or *wythie herbe. 1856 MRS. TENNYSON in *Mem. Ld. Tennyson* (1897) I. 412 Went to our *withy holt. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* I. lv, When a fisher-swain...hath spi'd A big-grown Pike...He sets a *withy Labyrinth beside. c 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 995 *Wethy leaves, grene otes boyled in fere fulle soft. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. li. 72 The leaues be...like willow, or wythie leaues. 1863 KINGSLEY *Water-Bab.* III. The great *withy pollard which hangs over the backwater. a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 9 Feb. 1665, *Withy-potts or nests for the wild fowle to lay their eggs in. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* III. ii, Thirsil from *withy prison...Lets out his flock. 1815 SIMOND *Tour Gt. Brit.* II. 240 The *withy rope lasts good two years. a 1722 LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 375, I gathered *withy-shoots over which the cart-wheel had run. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P.R.* xvii. cxliv. (Bodl. MS.), þerfor it [is] nouȝt seker to slepe vnder þe *wepie tree. 1664 EVELYN *Sylva* xxix. 82, A...Withy-tree...which is increased to a most stupendous bulk. 1820 SHELLEY *Hymn Merc.* xiii, He...bound them in a lump with *withy twigs. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* §24 Than maye he...tothe the rakes with drye *wethy wode.

'withy, *a. rare.* Also -ey. [f. WITHE sb. + -Y¹] Resembling a withie or withy in flexibility.

1598 FLORIO, *Vencido*, tractable, yeeldinge, ...plyable, withie. 1756 P. BROWNE *Jamaica* 244 A strong withy shrub. 1822 W. IRVING *Braceb. Hall* xxxvii. (1845) 229 The long withy ends of the branches.

withywind ('wiðiwand). Now *dial.* [Alteration of WITHWIND, after WITHY sb.] = WITHWIND.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* III. lii. 391 Of smothe Bindweede, or Withwinde. The great white Bindeweede or soft withwinde. *Ibid.* liii. 393 Of blacke Withwinde, or Bindeweede. 1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict.*, *Campanilla yerva*, withie winde, *Smilax*. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* III. ii. III. 610 Whiter Galat then the white withy-wind. 1658 tr. *Porta's Nat. Magic* III. xix. 105 The seed of withy-winde being planted neer to Basil, [etc.]. 1825 JENNINGS *Obs. Dial. W. Eng.*, *Withy-wine*, the plant bindweede. 1829 J. L. KNAPP *Jrnl. Nat.* 114 The clematis, the 'withy-wind' of our peasantry. 1878 HARDY *Ret. Native* I. x, You could twist him to your will like withywind, if you only had the mind.

†witie, sb. *Obs.* Forms: 1 wit(e)ga, -iga, (2 witze, -e3a), 2-3 witize, -e3e, witie, (3 witeie, witti(e, -y). [OE. *wit(e)ga, -iga* = OHG. *wiz(z)ago*, altered (by association with *wis* WISE *a.* and *sagen* SAY *v.*) to *wissago* (MHG. *wissage, -ag*), ON. *vitke*: f. *wit*:- see WIT *v.* 1] A prophet. Also *adj.*, prophetic.

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past.* C. xxxii. 213 Ne eow...ne ondrædað for nanes monnes wordum, ne for nanes witgan gæste. c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark i. 2 Suae awritten is in esaia ðone witgo. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 43 Of pas pinan spekeð dauid þe halie wite3e. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 83 Salemon and alle wise wite3e. *Ibid.* 127 þis childes witze3e gost. c 1205 LAY. 15877 To pan kinge was ibroht Joram þe witie [c 1275 witty]. a 1225 *Juliana* 39 þen muchele witti wite3e ysaie.

†witie, *v.* 1 *Obs.* In 1 wit(e)gian, 2-3 wite3en. [OE. *wit(e)gian* = OFris. *witgia* (MLG. *wittigen*), OHG. *wizagōn* (MHG. *wissagen, G. weissagen*); f. *witega* WITIE sb.] To prophesy.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xxvi. 68 Witga us, crist, hwa is se ðe ðec of-slog. c 1000 ÆLFRED *Num.* xi. 27 Ða hi witegodon on wicstowe. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 7 þis he wite3ede bi drihtne purh pene halie gast. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 127 Hie wite3ede...of ure louerd ihesu cristes to cume.

†witie, *v.* 2 *Obs.* Forms: 3 wite3en, -i3e, -ien, -ye, wete (?), 3-4 witi(e, wytie, 4 -ye, wetye; *pa. t.* 4 wited. [OE. **witian*, as in *bewitian* BIWITIE.] *trans.* To keep, guard, protect: = WITE *v.* 2

c 1205 LAY. 2753 Heo biȝeten men þe heom cuðen witen [c 1275 witie]. *Ibid.* 23738 þat he...mid his riht honde wite3e me wið sconde. *Ibid.* 32155 þe pape hatte Sergius, he weteð Peteres hus. a 1290 *St. Eustace* 92 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 213 Wendep...godes way, Wytiep oure soule niȝt and day. c 1290 *St. Brendan* 299 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 227 þat euerch frere of þat him leuez wite3e to is soper. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 9875 Saladin...let witie þe sepulcre þat no cristine ne com þer. 1340 *Ayemb.* 122 þe baylifs þet gouerneþ and wytyeþ þe kingriche. c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 176 þis litel barn...coupe...kepe alle here bestes, ... & wited hem so wisly. a 1400 *Engl. Gilds* (1870) 357 And þat seluer...be y-take to sexe godemen...for þe Commune assent, and treweleche wetye, and treweleche spende.

Hence †witier, protector, guardian; †witiung *vbl. sb.*, guarding.

1340-70 *Alex. & Dind.* 678 [Bacus] wis witiere of win þat alle won bryngus. 13... *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 268 Of vr wife wittes a wel witiunge.

witie, obs. form of WITTY.

†witieng. *Obs.* Forms: 1 wite3ung, wit3iung, wit3eung, 2 wite3ung, 3 witieng, *Orm.* wite3hunnge. [OE. *wite3ung* (= OHG. *wizagunga*, MHG. *wissagunge*), f. *witegian* WITIE *v.* 1 + -ung, -ing¹.] Prophecy. Also *attrib.*

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xiii. 14 Witgiung essaies. c 1000 ÆLFRED *Saints' Lives* xxiv. 115 Hit is awriten be me on wite3ung bocum [etc.]. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 127 þis childes witze3e gost litte þe moder gost of witienge. c 1200 ORMIN 15174 All þat wite3hunnge wass purrh himm onn erpe cwiddeð. *Ibid.* 15188 All þat wite3hunngeþoc þat wite3e haffdenn cwiddeð.

witin, obs. *pa. pple.* of WIT *v.* 1

witing, -liche, obs. *ff.* WITTING, -LY.

witless ('witlis), *a.* Now only *literary* and somewhat *arch.* [OE. *witlēas*, also *gewitlēas*: see WIT sb., IWIT, and -LESS.]

1. Lacking wisdom or sense; not guided by reason; unreasonable, foolish, heedless.

[a 1000 *Boeth. Metr.* xix. 46 Wenað þonne swa gewitlease ðæt hi þa soðan gesælða hæbben.] c 1200 ORMIN 6197 3iff þin macche iss wis & god, & tu wittlæs & wicke. c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 248/263 þov witlesse wrechche. c 1400 26 *Pol. Poems* iii. 90 Witteles wordes in ydel spoken. c 1400 *Brut* ccxiii. 249 Longe berde hertles, peyntede Hode witles, Gay cote graceles, makeþ Englissheman priftles. 1559 *Mirr. Mag.*, *Dk. Clarence* xiii, I was witlesse, wanton, fond, and yong. 1581 BURNE in *Cath. Tractates* (S.T.S.) 170 Ane...confused rabil of vitles Bishopsis. 1587 TURBERV. *Trag. Tales* 73 b, O wilfull witlesse acte, Which no man well aduise would do. a 1676 HALE *Prim. Orig. Man.* (1677) 356 To keep in and regulate the extravagant and witless Spirit of Man. 1724 RAMSAY *Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) II. 149 Why did I, young witless maid Believe the flatt ring tale? 1794 GODWIN *Cal. Williams* 42 Intended (witless and miserable precaution!) for the safeguards of the poor. 1803 JANE PORTER *Thaddeus* xxxvi, This witless coxcomb. 1860 MOTLEY *Netherl. v.* (1868) I. 153 It was witless to believe that Parma contemplated any such measure. 1879 BUTCHER & LANG *Odyssey* 25 Telemachus, even hereafter thou shalt not be craven or witless. 1910 *Times* 13 July 12/3 Mr. Rolls...had...to drop suddenly to the ground...owing to some witless spectators running into his way.

2. Mentally deficient or deranged; out of one's wits, crazy, lunatic. †Also, stupefied, dazed.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 146 On þam fiftan monþe he [sc. the fetus] biþ cwica and weaxeð and seo modur lið witles. c 1290 *Beket* 1906 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 161 He code op and doun ase witles. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4414 He verde as a witles mon, hit was deol to be him ney. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxix. (*Placidas*) 440 Sa lang witlas stil he stud, Til þat nere he dronyt in þat flud. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* XIII. 1, I awakd pere-with, witles nerehande. c 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 573 Wraithly wroht, as their war witlesse and wode. 1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* xxxiv. 1 The woord (witlesse)...will well agree, bycause Dauid feyned himself too bee out of his wittes. 16... *Young Musgrave* xix. in *Child Ballads* II. 249/2 She'll gae witless wud. 1900 H. SUTCLIFFE *Shameless Wayne* iii. (1905) 26 It would never do to leave this witless body to the night-rain and the cold.

†3. Devoid of understanding; having no intellectual faculty; irrational. *Obs.*

1382 WYCLIF *Wisd.* xv. 18 Thei most wrecchid herien bestes; wittes forsothe, comparisoun to these. c 1395 *Plowman's T.* II. 528 They...liven wors than wittes beestes. 1577 T. KENDALL *Flowers Epigr.* 50 This Image...Tongles and wittles. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* xiv. 236 Sillie Soules which go on still like witlesse Beastes.

4. *a.* Deficient in understanding; having undeveloped or imperfect intellectual power; unintelligent, undiscerning; stupid, dull-witted.

1562 A. BROOKE *Romeus & Jul.* 2470 Euen from the hory head vnto the wittles childe She wan the hartes of all. 1612 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* (1639) 6, I hold none so witlesse which cannot make use thereof, when they once see but the instrument. 1625 PURCHAS *Pilgrims* II. VI. i. 777 The Inhabitants...are most base and witlesse people. 1822 PRAED *Lillian* I. 140 The witless Child grew up alone. 1855 M. ARNOLD *Balder Dead* I. 98 Of ignorant witless mind Thou barest me, and unforeseeing soul.

b. Not understanding (something specified or implied); inapprehensive.

1614 R. WILKINSON *Paire Serm.* 2 Witlesse to discerne what he is himselfe. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Let.*, *To Jas. Lindsay* 7 Sept. (1671) 138 A witless and lazie observer of the Lord's way and working. 1855 BROWNING *An Epistle* 143 The man is witless of...The value in proportion of all things. 1856 R. A. VAUGHAN *Mystics* III. iv. (1860) I. 85 The blue aether...at which to look up with smiles of witless wonder.

5. Not knowing; unaware, unconscious of.

In quot. 1827, incapable of.

1584 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 691 Ignorant and wyttles of thair rysche and insolent behavioure. 1597 BEARD *Theatre God's Judgem.* I. ii. (1612) 232 Guiltlesse and witlesse of the crime. 1827 HOOD *Mids. Fairies* lxxxi, His pretty pouting mouth, witless of speech. 1850 P. CROOK *War of Hats* 34 Witless of the storm his words excite. 1872 BLACKIE *Lays Highl.* 82 He lay all witless of his doom.

6. Devoid of wit (WIT sb. 8). *rare.*

1753 RICHARDSON *Grandison* II. xxvi. 200 Repartee and smartness; the current wit of that witless place. 1859 *Habits of Gd. Society* 93 He can no longer claim exemption from solemn dinners, ... and witless tea-parties.

7. Alluding to a state of extreme fear. Esp. in *colloq. phr.* to be scared witless.

1975 D. BAGLEY *Snow Tiger* 19 It's the last job he'll ever have and he's scared witless that he'll lose it. 1982 S. BRETT *Murder Unprompted* ii. 19 'How are you feeling?'... 'Scared witless, darling.'

Hence 'witlessly *adv.*, foolishly, stupidly; 'witlessness, senselessness, folly, stupidity.

a 1100 in Napier *OE. Glosses* (1902) 213 *Socordia, torpor, dementia*, witlesnes. 1598 FLORIO *To Rdr.* 7 Had not H. S. ...so witlessly prouoked me. 1599 SANDYS *Europa* *Spec.* (1632) 178 Divine blessing, which accompanieth good causes, whcre wickednesse or wilfull witlessnesse doth not barre against it. 1608 T. MORTON *Preamb. Encounter* 72 Rather...accounted lyngly witty, than witlessly rash. 1766 FORDYCE *Serm. Yng. Women* (1767) I. vii. 302 The admiration raised by 'a set of features...' is often by the witlessness of the possessor thrown down in an instant. 1855 ANNE MANNING *Old Chelsea Bun-ho.* xix. 317 Everybody conceived themselves safe, as witlessly as they had previously held themselves to be in Danger. 1860 PUSEY *Min. Proph.* 239 Wisdom was turned into witlessness. 1879 BUTCHER & LANG *Odyssey* 282 He kicked Odysseus on the hip in his witlessness. 1910 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 10 Mar. 82/3 An artist...choosing to portray...the havoc and witlessness of mankind.

witling ('witlɪŋ). [f. WIT sb. + -LING¹ 2.] A petty wit (see WIT sb. 9, 10); one who fancies himself

a wit; a pretender to wit (see *WIT sb.* 5, 7); one who utters light or feeble witticisms.

1693 DRYDEN *Persius* Sat. I. Prol. 17 Let Gain, that gilded Bait, be hung on high, The hungry Witlings have it in their Eye. **1702** ENGL. *Theophrastus* 6 There are many impertinent Witlings at Will's. **1712-14** POPE *Rape of Lock* v. 59 A Beau and Witling perish'd in the throng, One died in metaphor, and one in song. **1807** W. IRVING *Salmag.* No. 2 ¶ 5 Does any witling want to distress the company with a miserable pun? **1876** MEREDITH *Beauchamp's Career* xx, 'What's in hand?'... Luckily some witling said, 'Fours-in-hand!' and so drily that it passed for humour.

attrib. **1817** J. SCOTT *Paris Revisit.* (ed. 4) 228 The miserable witling captiousness of an opposition. **1845** MIALL in *Nonconf.* V. 45 A witling poet.

|| **witloof** ('witlo:f). [*Du.*, lit. 'white leaf'] = CHICORY I, SUCCORY I. Also *attrib.*

1885 *Bazaar* 2 Jan. 7/2 Chicory, or witloof, as some choose to call it, is a useful winter salad plant. **1925** W. WATSON *Gard. Assist.* I. 79 Witloof Chicory... Large Brussels (Witloof)... has large leaves with wide midribs and stalks.

† **'witly**, *adv.* *Obs.* Also 5 *wittle*. (Of doubtful authenticity; in some instances perh. a spelling of *wittily* WITLILY, in others of *wightly* WIGHTLY.)

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 259 þe child witley þanne wende wipoute ani more. **c 1380** WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 275 Siþ þis martirdoom of Crist was so swete before God, Poul clepþ it witley siþe an offryng before God into smelling of swetnesse. **1426** AUDELEY *Poems* (Percy Soc.) 30 Wysele and wytle and wittle the leud thai wyl here.

† **'witne**, *v.* *Obs.* Also 4 *witt(e)ne*, (*wythene*). [*a. ON. vitna*, related to *vitni* witness, f. *wit-* WIT *v.* 1 (Cf. etym. note s.v. WITNESS *v.*)]

1. *trans.* To bear witness to; to attest, testify. Also *absol.* or *intr.* to bear witness.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 30 þet ich þurh hore bonen mote habben þe twelf bowes þet blowed of cherite, ase seinte Powel witneð. *Ibid.* 384 Seint Powel witneð þet alle uttre herdschipes... al is ase nout aþean luue. **1340** HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 5355 Als þe buke wythenes. **a 1400-50** *Wars Alex.* 2900 With slike a reryd þan it rynnys, þe romance it witnes, þat, quas to tute it in þat tyme, tith were for euire. **c 1400** *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 753 For þe wisman witnes & sais [etc.].

2. To invoke, entreat. **c 1200** *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 171 Iob witnede ure drihten, þat of þis deað him redde, on þe carefuldai.

3. To impute, ascribe. **c 1350** *Will. Palerne* 3462 Holli williams werkes þei wittened it alle, nade his douthi dedes be þei hade be dede alle.

witne, *obs. pa. pple.* of WIT *v.* 1

witness ('witnis), *sb.* Forms: 1-7 *witnes*, 3-5 *witnesse*, 3 *Orm.*, 6 *witniss*, 3-6 *witennes*, *witnesse*, 3-7 *witnesse*, 4-5 *witnes*, 4-6 *witnes*, *wytnes*(s), (2 *witnys*, 3 *-nesce*, 4 *wijtnes*, *witnesse*, 4-5 *whitnes*, 4, 6 *vytnes*, *wetness(e)*, *witnesse*, (7 *Sc.*) *vitnes*, 5 *wytt(e)nesse*, (-*e*)*nes*, *witnesh*, *wetnesse*, *whetnesse*, *vitnesse*(e)), 5-*witniss*. [*OE. witnes*, more freq. *gewitnes*, f. (*ge*)*wit* WIT *sb.*, IWIT + *-nes* -NESS. Cf. OHG. *giwiznessi*, MDu. *wetenisse*. The passage in sense from abstract to concrete is paralleled in F. *témoin* (:—L. *testimonium*). The uninflected pl. was frequent in early use; for separate illustration see sense 4.]

1. †1. Knowledge, understanding, wisdom. *Obs.*

c 950 *Rituale Eccl. Dunelm.* (Surtees) 194 Fore wisdom *vel* *witnes* ðæs biscop... *propter scientiam episcopi.* **c 1250** *Gen. & Ex.* 507 He sal... wenden iewes... To ðe *witnesse* of iesus crist. **c 1380** WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 225 Whanne a symple man seiþ a treupe, we trowen it not for he seiþ it... but Crist is man of greet *witnesse*. **1382** — *Prov.* viii. 5 Vnderstondeth, see litte childer, *witnesse* [1388 *wisdom*; Vulg. *astutiam*]. **1433** *Rolls of Parl.* V. 435/1 The connyng and *witnes* that resten in his persone. **1482** *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 27 His owne seying that he had tolde before to a few persons of *witnesse* [orig. *perpaucis arbitris*].

2. a. Attestation of a fact, event, or statement; testimony, evidence; †evidence given in a court of justice. See also 10.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp. Matt.* xv. 19 *Falsa testimonia*, leasa *witnesa*. **c 1175** *Lamb. Hom.* 13 Ne spec þu aþein þine nexta nane false *witnesse*. **a 1300** *Cursor M.* 16280 His aun muth nu has him dempt, o *witnes* es na nede. **1340** *Ayenb.* 10 þou ne sselt zigge none ualse *witnesse* aye þine emcristen. **1483** *Acta Audit.* in *Acta Dom. Conc.* II. Intro. 108 The Lordis... ordanis the *witnes* now takin to be clisit. **1525** LD. BERNERS *Proiss.* (1812) II. clxi. 446 If nede be I shall proue it by the *witnesse* of hymselfe. **1526** TINDALE *Acts* x. 43 To hym geveth all the prophetes *witnes*. — 1 *John* v. 9 Yf we receave the *witnes* of men, the *witnes* of god is gretter. **1596** SHAKS. *Merch.* V. i. iii. 100 An euill soule producing holy *witnesse*, Is like a villaine with a smiling cheek. **1611** *Bible Transl.* Pref. ¶ 6 That language [sc. the Greek] was fittest to containe the Scriptures, both for the Preachers... to appeale vnto for *witnesse* [etc.]. **1660** *Trial Regie.* 157 It is not that I would invalidate his *witnesse*. **1739** BUTLER *Serm.* Wks. 1874 II. 221 They are to make their choice, and abide by it: but which soever their choice be, the gospel is equally a *witnes* to them; and the purposes of Providence are answered by this *witnes* of the gospel. **1867** DK. ARGYLL *Reign of Law* vii. 360 Nature is called as a *witnes*, and then the *witnes* she gives is condemned. **1870** LOWELL *Study Wind.* 11 There is the most trustworthy *witnes* to the imitative propensity of this bird. **1881** JOWETT *Thucyd.* I. 7 Agamemnon... if the *witnes* of Homer be accepted, brought the greatest number of ships himself.

† b. The action or condition of being an observer of an event. *Obs.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 68 Wiðute *witnesse* of weopmen oðer of wummon þæt ou muwe iheren, ne speke 3e mid none monne ofte ne longe. **c 1400** *Brut* ccxxxii. 319 He was bound by othe afor notaries in presence and *witnes* of tho kynges.

c. Applied to the inward testimony of the conscience; after 2 *Cor.* i. 12.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* v. 12 *Witnes* paire awn consciens and accusand paim. **c 1375** *Sc. Leg. Saints* xviii. (*Egipciane*) 175 Hafand his consciens vytnes How he in þat tyme lifland vas. **c 1450** tr. *De Imitatione* II. vi. 46 The joye of a gode man is þe *witnes* of a gode conscience. **1598** SHAKS. *Merry W.* iv. ii. 220 May we with... the *witnesse* of a good conscience, pursue him with any further reuenge?

† d. In some versions of the Bible: = TESTIMONY *sb.* 4. *Obs.*

1530 TINDALE *Exod.* xxxviii. 21 This is the summe of the habitacyon of *witnesse*. *Ibid.* 30 The tabernacle of *witnesse*. **1535** COVERDALE 2 *Kings* xi. 12 He... set a crowne vpon his heade, and toke the *witnes*, and made him kyng. *Ibid.* xxiii. 4 That they shulde walke after the Lorde, and to kepe his commaundementes, *witnesse*s, and ordinaunces.

3. Testimony by signature, oath, etc. Chiefly in phr. in (rarely †into) *witness of*, *hereof*, *whereof*, etc.

1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1725) 214 þe chartre was forth brouht with *witnes* enseled streit [orig. *Le rays... mette sun sel en testmoynaunce*]. **1362** LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. II. 75 In *witnesse* of whuche þing wrong was þe furste... In þe Date of þe deuel þe Deede was aselet. **1388** in J. H. Ramsay *Bamff Charters* (1915) 22 In the *witnesse* of the forsayd partysyng Willame, Jon, [etc.]. **1410** in E.E. *Wills* (1882) 17 In *witnesse* of þis dede I haue set perto me sel. **c 1450** *Godstow Reg.* 38 Into *witnesse* of this he put to his seale. *Ibid.* 48 To the whyche wrytyng hys scel I put to is *wytnes*. **1525** *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 12 In *witnesse* whereof... I... haith setto my seale. **1550** *Rental Bk. Cupar-Angus* (1880) 76 In *witnes* of the quhilk to this present writ, subscriuit with our handis. **1658** Sir R. Hutton's *Yng. Clerks Guide* 1. (ed. 8) 240 In *witnesse* whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal. **1871** FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* IV. xvii. 27 The land was received as a fresh grant, which needed the writ and seal of King William as its *witnes*.

4. a. One who gives evidence in relation to matters of fact under inquiry; *spec.* one who gives or is legally qualified to give evidence upon oath or affirmation in a court of justice or judicial inquiry.

hostile witness, one who gives evidence adverse to the party by whom he is called. *ultroneous witness*, see ULTRONEOUS b.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp. Matt.* xxvi. 60 *Falsi testes*, lease *vel* *lyce* *witnesa*. **a 1300** *Cursor M.* 19419 Tua *witnes* fals þai þam puruaid, To tell he had o godd missaid. **c 1380** WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 74 þei wolen... bryngne many false *witnesse*s & notaries in his absence, & in presence speke no word. **c 1400** *Cato's Morals* I in *Cursor M.* App. iv, If þou be made *witnesse*, For to say þat soþ is, Saeu þine honour Als mikil as þou mai fra blame. **a 1577** Sir T. SMITH *Commw. Eng.* II. xv. (1584) 61 *Witnesses* be sworne, & heard before them [sc. the jury]... openly. **1622** J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Sir Gregory Nonsense* Wks. 1630 II. 4/2 Truth must be found, and *witnesse* produced. **1628** COKE *On Litt.* 6b, When a tryall is by *witnesse*s, regularly the affirmative ought to be proued by two or three *witnesse*s... But when the tryall is by verdict of 12. men, there the iudgement is not giuen vpon *witnesse*s. **1651** HOBBS *Leviath.* II. xxvii. 146 A Judge... ought to take notice of the Fact, from none but the *Witnesses*. **1718** LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Lett.* (1887) I. 240 False *witnesse*s are much cheaper than in Christendom. **1814** Mrs. J. WEST *Alicia de Lacy* IV. 251 Many *witnesse*s attested that he had borne arms. **1827** RYAN & MOODY *Cases Nisi Prius* 31 *marg.*, In an action by executors, a paid legatee is a competent *witnes* to increase the estate. **1848** Mrs. GASKELL *Mary Barton* xxxiv, How did you like standing *witnesse*? Ar'n't them lawyers impudent things, staring at one so? **1867** WHARTON *Law-Lex.* (ed. 4), *Hostile witness*. **1883** D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* xii, It was certainly an odd chance which would throw them together in a police-court as barrister and *witnes*. **1885** Miss BRADDON *Wyllard's Weird* i, 'You can show that to the Coroner,' he said; 'of course, you will be a *witnes*.' 'About the only one necessary, I should think', said the doctor. 'I saw her fall.'

uninflected pl. **c 1440** *Generydes* 1510 He bad hym goo... To the Sowdon, and telle hym the processe, And he wolde be on of his cheff *witnesse*. **1483** *Acta Audit.* in *Acta Dom. Conc.* II. Intro. 104 The Lordis... ordanis him to have letters to summond his *witnes*, and the party to here thame soorn. **1533** CRANMER *Lett. Misc.* Writ. (Parker Soc.) 253 (MS.) That he hathe diuerse *witnes*, whiche culde make manyfeste depositions concernyng the mattir. **1535** in *Lett. Suppr. Monast.* (Camden) 33 Your owne confession in thes lettres, besides the *witnes* which ar against you, wolbe sufficient to condemne yow. **1713** SWIFT *Cadenus & Vanessa* 68 The pleader, having spoke his best, Had *witnes* ready to attest.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xxiv. 11 þai [sc. the prophets and evangelists] ere *witnes* of his hightyng. **1578** H. WOTTON *Courtlie Controv.* 213 If you doubt thereof histories and fables with an voyce are *witnes* of my saying. **1588** SHAKS. *Tit. A.* v. i. 103 Well, let my Deeds be *witnesse* of my worth. **1635** D. DICKSON *Hebr.* xii. i. 284 The Examples of God's Sayntes in Scripture, should stand as *Witnesses* agaynst vs, if we run not as becommeth. **1667** MILTON *P.L.* ix. 317 Why shouldst not thou... thy trial choose With me, best *witnes* of thy Vertue tri'd? **1781** COWPER *Heroism* 81 Sweet nature... stands a *witnes* at truth's awful bar, To prove you, there, destroyers as ye are. **1853** MAURICE *Proph. & Kings* vi. 91 This prophet... is a true *witnes* for the Lord God of Israel.

5. a. One who is called on, selected, or appointed to be present at a transaction, so as to be able to testify to its having taken place: *spec.* one who is present at the execution of a document and subscribes it in attestation

thereof; more definitely, *attesting* or *subscribing witness*.

Often in formulæ corresponding to med.L. *teste me ipso, teste rege, his testibus*, etc., AF. *tesmoin*...

[**a 995** in Thorpe *Charters* (1865) 288 Her cyp on þysum gewrite hu Wynflæd gælædde hyre gæwille. *a 1122* O.E. *Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 656 Ic bidde þe broðer Æðelred & mine swustre Cyneburh & Cynesuith... þet ge beon *witnesse* & þæt geo hit writ mid iure fingre. *Ibid.* 675 Ic Theodorus ærcebiscope of Cantwarbyrig am *witnesse* of þas gewrite. **1258** *Proclam. Hen. III* in *Trans. Philol. Soc.* (1868) 21 *Witnessse* vs seluen [AF. *Tesmoin Meimeismes*] æt Lunden' pane Ætetenpe day on þe Monpe of Octobr'. **c 1290** *Beket* 836 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 130 Ich was with him er wel inov... þare ne tok ich no *witnesse* of þat us was bitweone. **a 1450** *Knt. de la Tour* xxxiv, Ye are suoren to God and to youre husbonde atte the chirche dore afore *witnesse* that ye shalle neuer breke it. **c 1450** *Godstow Reg.* 51 These beying *witnesse*, Robert of Wytham, Sire walter, [etc.]. **1463** *Irish Act* 3 *Edw. IV.* c. 32 We have done to be made these oure lettres patentes Oureself beying *witnesse*. **1494** *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 239 Item, the four *witnes* [of the execution] expensis in Edinburgh... xls. **1525** *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 13 Thies *witnesse*s, Thomas Beamont, [etc.]. **1606** SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* III. ii. 205 Go too, a bargain made: seale it... Ile be the *witnesse*. **1611** — *Wint. T.* iv. 401 But come-on, Contract vs fore these *Witnesses*. **1625** B. JONSON *Staple of News* v. ii, I have your Deed... Is't not A perfect Act? and absolute in Law? Seal'd and deliuer'd before *witnesse*s? **1630** PRYNNE *Anti-Armin.* 139 Seuerall *witnesse*s auerre it vnder their hands and seales. **1664** in *Extr. St. Papers* rel. *Friends Ser.* III. (1912) 228 This... wee haue made bold to Certefie *Witnessse* our hands this First day of December. **c 1696** in W. M. Morison *Dict. Decis.* (1807) 16183 The comuners and *witnesse*s present, who fortify and adminiculate the same. **1710** O. SANSOM *Acc. Life* 73 He... threatned me before *Witness*, That if I did not pay him, I must expect to go to Prison. **1720** T. INNES *Crit. Ess.* (1879) 111 As it is clear by many ancient charters, and chiefly by the donors and *witnesse*s in the chartularies of our monasteries. **1754** in *Nairne Peerage Evid.* (1874) 53 James Fullarton merchant in Edinburgh and the s^d John Strathie who also subscribe as *witnesse*s. **1754** in Vesey *Reports* (1793) I. 11 Whether Testator's declaration before three *witnesse*s, that it is his will, is equivalent to signing it before them. **1837** DICKENS *Pickw.* xvii, We find his name in the parish register as a *witnes* to the marriage of Maria Lobbs to her cousin. **1839** LANE *Arab. Nts.* I. i. 76 *note*, These words, 'I give myself to thee', uttered by a woman to a man, even without the presence of *witnesse*s, render her his lawful wife if [etc.]. **1855** [see SUBSCRIBING *ppl. a.*]. **1858** LD. ST. LEONARDS *Handy-Bk. Prop. Law* xviii. 141 The statute requires the *witnesse*s to attest and subscribe the will.

† b. A sponsor or godparent at baptism. *Obs.* orig. in Puritan use.

1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxiv. § 5 In the phrase of some kinde of men they vse to be termed *witnesse*s, as if they came but to see and testifie what is done. It sauoureth more of pietie to giue them their old accustomed name of fathers and mothers in God. **1614** B. JONSON *Barth. Fair* i. iii, He was *Witnessse*, for Win, here, (they will not be call'd God-fathers), and nam'd her *Winne-the-fight*. **1643** Sir T. HOPE *Diary* (Bannatyne Club) 188 This day I was *witnes* to ane barne of the Lord Balgonies, callit Agnes. **1653** H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* III. ix. § 2 (1712) 115 Four days before this mischance he being *witnes* to a Child, said, that that was the last he should be ever *witnes* to. **1837** *Dial. in Devon Dial. Gloss.*, To *Witness* or to *Stand Witness* to, to stand sponsor to a child in baptism.

6. a. One who is or was present and is able to testify from personal observation; one present as a spectator or auditor. (Cf. EAR-WITNESS, EYE-WITNESS.) Usually with of, occas. to.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 144 No pinc nis *witnesse* þer of god þet we þeonne deð bute God one. **a 1300** *Cursor M.* 19004 Fra ded to lifþ nu risen es he, And þar-of *witnes* all ar wee. **1382** WYCLIF *Heb.* xii. 1 Forsothe and we hauynge so greet a cloud of *witnesis* [Gr. *vélos μαρτύρων*, L. *nubem testium*] put to. **c 1400** *Rule St. Benet* (prose) 39 [They shall] make paire *pitucion*, and bi-fore *whitnes* offer paire childir. **c 1450** CAPGRAVE *Life St. Gilbert* xxxvi. 113 þe Pope sayde a... sermon of þe holynesse and þe myracles of Seynt Gilbert, rehersing þe *witnes* þere present. **1474** CAXTON *Cheese* III. iv. (1883) 113 This lyar coude not bryngne no *witnesis*. **1495** *Act II Hen. VII.* c. 10 § 2, ij *witnesse*s or moo that woll *witnesse* and testefie the seid payment. **a 1533** LD. BERNERS *Gold Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) B v b, They were *witnesse* by syght, and not by heryng of oþer. **a 1548** HALL *Chron.*, *Hen. V* 35 Because I was nether a *witnes* of the facte, nor present at the dede I ouerpasse that matter. **1548** UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. John* vi. 66-71 Speciall *witnesse*s and bruters abroad, of al the thynges that he wroughte. **1560** DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 360 b, No man might haue access to him, nor speake w^t him without a *witnesse*. **c 1590** MARLOWE *Faustus* 209, 2. *Scholar.* Why, didst thou not say thou knewst? *Wagner.* Haue you any *witnesse* on't? 1. *Scholar.* Yes sirra, I heard you. **1591** SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI.* II. iii. 9 Faine would mine eyes be *witnesse* with mine eares, To giue their censure. **1682** J. NORRIS *Heroicles* 37 But had they no *witnes*? I omit God... but had they not themselves, and the testimony of Conscience? **1694** ATTERBURY *Serm.*, *Isa. lx.* 22 (1726) I. 152 Those Miracles being perform'd in the Desert, without any *Witnesses* but what were of that Nation. **1702** POPE *Dryope* 54, I saw, unhappy! what I now relate, And stood the helpless *witnes* of thy fate. **1751** JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 142 ¶ 13 He is magnificent without *witnesse*s. **1794** PALEY *Evid.* II. ix. (1817) 235 It was the credit given to original *witnesse*s appealing for the truth of their accounts to what themselves had seen and heard. **1797** JANE AUSTEN *Sense & Sensib.* xxxv, Before such *witnesse*s he dared not say half what he really felt. **1824** W. IRVING *T. Trav.* II. II. viii. 12, I will endeavour to act as if she were *witnes* of my actions. **1842** T. WRIGHT *Biogr. Brit., Anglo-Sax. Per.* 467 Turgar... in his youth had been a *witnes* of the destruction of the abbey. **1854** J. S. C. ABBOTT *Napoleon* (1855) I. xxiii. 367, I have been twenty times *witnes* to the singular effect which the sound of a bell had upon Napoleon. **1860** F. W. ROBINSON *Grandmother's Money* v, The inhabitants of Blackman's Gardens... were *witnes* to one of the... scenes. **1862** STANLEY *Jewish Ch.* I. xviii. 391 'He judged Israel all

his life; even after the Monarchy had sprung up, he [*sc.* Samuel] was still a witness of an earlier and more primitive state.

fig. 1780 COWPER *Progr. Err.* 174 Then to the dance, and make the sober moon Witness of joys that shun the sight of noon.

b. In asseverative formulæ, in which a deity or a human being is invoked as one who is cognizant of a fact; as *God is my witness, be my witness that*. . . Most often in phr. *to call or take to (one's) witness*: to call upon or appeal to as one's surety; to swear by.

[c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 73 *3if he godd hafð to iwitnessse ðat he mid hlutter herte hit doð.*] 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6934 *Ich clupie god to witnessse . . . þat 3if ich of eni gulti am pat ich mote þoru þis fure Brenne . . . & perissy.* a 1300 *Cursor M.* 17496 *þat soþ it es We tak drightin til vr witnessse.* c 1386 CHAUCER *Pard. T.* 155 *The hooly writ take I to my witnessse That luxurie is in wyn and dronkenesse.* 14.. HOCCELEVE *Min. Poems* xvi. 10 *And so wolde I, god take I to witnessse!* 1535 COVERDALE 2 *Esdras* ii. 5, *I call vpon the for a wytnesse ouer the mother of these children, which wolde not kepe my couenaunt.* a 1548 HALL *Chron.*, *Hen. VI* 99, *I take firste God to my witnessse, and afterwarde alle the worlde, that I haue been at all tymes . . . true man.* 1555 in *Strype Eccl. Mem.* (1721) III. App. xlv. 133 *God is my Wytnes, that my Harte wyll not suffer me . . . to declare suche vyle Reportes.* 1581 A. HALL *Iliad* vii. 123 *To which (if so it needefull is) I loue to witnessse call.* 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* iv. ii. 139 *Heauen be my witnessse you doe.* c 1600 — *Sonn.* cxxix, *To this I witness call the folies of time, Which die for goodnes, who haue liu'd for crime.* 1667 MILTON *P.L.* i. 635 *For me, be witness all the Host of Heav'n, If counsels different, or danger shun'd By me, haue lost our hopes.* 1700 DRYDEN *Sigismunda & G.* 397 *That I haue lov'd, I own; that still I love, I call to Witness all the Pow'rs above.* 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Loom & Lugg* ii. i. 3 *He had so often emphatically taken his neighbours to witness that he was weaving.* 1840 DICKENS *Old Cur. Shop* xxv, *The tall boy . . . called those about him to witness that he had only shouted in a whisper.* 1851 KINGSLEY *Yeast* xiii, *Though, God's my witness, there's no spite in me for my own sake.*

† **c.** Referring to, usually introducing, the designation of an authority for a statement. (Cf. 7 b.)

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 14791 *Quarof was born þe king dauī, þat es þe tun of bethleem, þe bok is witness for to tem.* c 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* ¶ 274 *They been deceyued that seyn that they ne be nat tempted in hir body, witnessse on [v.r. of] Seint Iame the Apostel.* c 1440 *Sir Goutther* 117 *The chylde throfe and . . . The duk sent after other sex, As witnessse the storie.* c 1460 Towneley *Myst.* xiv. 428 *Lord, this is sothe, securely, wytnes the profett Isay.* 1486 in *Surtees Misc.* (1890) 54 *Shewing the rose to be principall of all floures, as witness Barthilmew.* 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 42 [*Jesus Christ*] *Sinnaris onlie Saluatioun, As witness is thy word in write.*

7. fig. Something that furnishes evidence or proof of the thing or fact mentioned; an evidential mark or sign, a token.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3843 *To sen gode witnessse ðor-on, Ðat word was in ðat arche don.* c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 428 *For freris . . . suspect in þis heresye, men schulden not comye wip hom bifore þei schewid þo fayth by sufficyent witnessse.* 1414 26 *Pol. Poems* xiii. 94 *Lete werk be witness 3e can 3oure Crede.* 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. iii. 33 *For better witnessse of the antiquitie thereof, the inhabitants . . . doe . . . call all these old ruines Paleopolis.* 1594 W. HARBERT in *Shaks. Cent. Praise* (1879) 12 *Whose death was witnessse of her spotlesse life.* 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxviii. §3 *Our kneeling . . . is the gesture of pietie . . . What doth better beseeome our bodies . . . then to bee sensible witnessse to minds vnfaithfully humbled?* 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* II. iii. 48 *It is the witnessse still of excellencie, To put a strange face on his owne perfection.* 1599 — *Hen. V.* iv. iii. 97 *Vpon the which [graves], I trust Shall witnessse liue in Brasse of this dayes worke.* 1601 SIR W. CORNWALLIS *Ess.* II. xxvii. ¶2, *They . . . smelt of oyle, the witnessse of an vnmanlike effeminate nicenesse.* 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advt. fr. Parnass.* II. xxii. (1674) 170 [*He bade them*] *remove away that unfortunate Witness of their ingratitude from the eyes of the World.* 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* li, *Now, wipe these witnessses from your eyes.* 1859 HAWTHORNE *Marble Faun* xxvii, *Italian asseverations . . . however true they may chance to be, haue no witness of their truth in the faces of those who utter them.* 1871 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* IV. xvii. 82 *Gifts yet more costly were now the witness of his personal presence.*

b. Introducing a name, designation, phrase, or clause denoting a person or thing that furnishes evidence of the fact or exemplifies the statement. Also as *witness*, and, in early use, † *witness on*. (After L. *teste* . . ., F. *témoin* . . .)

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 11788 *Bot we ne wrick þe wisliker, þe wark of him sua mai we dred, Als witness on vr elders dede.* c 1386 CHAUCER *Sec. Nun's T.* 277 *Witnessse [L. *testis est*] Tyburces and Cecillies shrifte.* c 1386 — *Wife's T.* 95 *Pardee we wommen konne no thyng hele, Witnessse on Myda, wol ye heere the tale.* c 1394 P. Pl. *Crede* 528 *Wytnesse on Wycliff þat warned hem wip trewepe.* c 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 366 *Ioyntly to her Mercurius tooke hys see As came to hys course—witnessse the zodyak.* 1598 F. MERES *Palladis Tamia* 281 b, *The sweete witty soule of Ouid liues in mellifluous . . . Shakespeare, witness his Venus and Adonis.* 1616 CHAMPNEY *Voc. Bps.* 24 *The wisest, and greatest clarkes haue erred, as witnessse the laps of Tertullian, Origen, and Lucifer.* 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof.* St. III. xv. 192 *Nature oftentimes recompenceth deform'd bodies with excellent wits. Witnessse Æsop.* 1667 MILTON *P.L.* i. 503 *When Night Darkens the Streets, then wander forth the Sons of Belial . . . Witness the Streets of Sodom.* 1671 — *Samson* 906 *Dal.* In argument with men a woman ever Goes by the worse . . . *Sam.* For want of words no doubt, or lack of breath, Witness when I was worried with thy peals. 1781 COWPER *Retirem.* 713 *And novels (witness ev'ry month's review) Belie their name, and offer nothing new.* 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* II. ii, *The strange, barbarous French which she and many other fine ladies of that time*

—witness her Grace of Portsmouth—employed. 1868 T. H. KEY *Philol. Ess.* 249 *What progress is visible there is chiefly due to the energy of German, not French, scholarship, as witness the valuable collection of Greek authors that has proceeded from the press of Didot.*

c. spec. In textual criticism, a manuscript or an early version which is regarded as evidence of authority for the text. (Usually in *pl.*)

1853 SCRIVENER *Collation MSS. Holy Gospels* Introd. i. p. xiii, *The very rough and unsatisfactory process of counting the number of witnesses produced in behalf of each [reading].* 1870 URWICK tr. *Bleek's Introd. N.T.* II. 305 *By comparing the received text with Greek MSS. of the N.T. and other witnesses.* 1926 FRIEDRICHSEN *Gothic Vers. Gospels* 194 *Wherever the Codex [Argenteus] simulates the Vulgate text, the majority of Old Latin witnesses go with it.*

d. Technical uses (see quot.; cf. F. *témoin*).

1802 C. JAMES *Milit. Dict., Witnesses.* In fortification. (See *Temoins*.) [*Temoins*, *Fr.* In civil and military architecture, are pieces of earth left standing as marks or witnesses in the fosses or places which the workmen are emptying, that they may know . . . how many cubical fathoms of earth have been carried.] 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 763 *If any silver be produced it must be deducted from the assay. This is called the witness.* 1880 ZAEHNSDORF *Bookbinding Gloss., Witness*, when a volume is cut so as to show that it has not been so cut down, but that some of the leaves have still rough edges. These uncut leaves are called 'Witness'.

8. a. One who testifies for Christ or the Christian faith, esp. by death; a martyr. *Obs.* exc. as literal rendering of Gr. *μάρτυς* MARTYR.

The reference in Rev. xi. 3 is much disputed; see, e.g., Vigouroux *Dict. de la Bible* s.v. *Témoins*.

1382 WYCLIF *Rev.* xi. 3 *And I shal giue to my two witnessse, and thei shulen prophete a thousand dayes two hundred and sixty.* 1548-9 Bk. *Com. Prayer, Collect Innoc. Day*, *Whose prayse this day, the young innocentes thy witnessse hath confessed, and shewed forth . . . in dying.* 1557 N.T. (Geneva) Acts xxii. 20 *And when the bloud of thy wytnes [marg. or, Martyr] Steuen was shed, I also stode by.* 1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* (1671) 128 *One of the softest pillows Christ hath, is laid under his witnessse head.* [a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 26 Apr. 1689, *My Lord St. Asaph consider'd the killing of the two witnessse, to be the utter destruction of the Cevennes Protestants . . . and the other the Waldenses and Pyrenean Christians.*]

b. = *Jehovah's Witness* s.v. JEHOVAH 2. orig. U.S.

1931 *Watchtower* 15 Oct. 316/2 *If any one does become fearful and ceases to be a witness, he ceases to be of the remnant and of God's anointed or Christ.* 1935 *Time* 18 Nov. 59/1 *By last week 28 Witnessse of Jehovah had popped up in the U.S. public schools. Cora Foster . . . faced dismissal after confessing that she, too, was a Witness.* 1974 *Watchtower* 15 Jan. 56/1 *Suddenly, under religious animosity, the young man whipped out a knife and stabbed the Witness to death.* 1980 R. HILL *Spy's Wife* ii. 8 *Charity collectors went away happy, and . . . even Mormons and Witnessse had got enough courtesy to bring them back.*

II. Phrases. (See also above.)

9. a. in witness: as a testimony or piece of evidence. Now *rare* or *Obs.* exc. as in 3.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. viii. 4 *In cyðnisse vel witnessa.* [c 1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Luke ix. 5 *bonne 3e of þære ceastre gað, asceacað eower fota dust ofer hig on witnessa.*] a 1325 *MS. Rawl. B.* 520, ff. 54 b, *In witnessse of wche pinges we habbez don maken pues oure opene lettres.* 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. viii. 95 *In two lynes hit lay . . . And was I-written riht pus In witnessse of treupe.* 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 34 *In tokne and in witnessse That ilke ymage bar liknesse Of man and of non other beste.* 1528 TINDALE *Declar. Sacram.* aij b, *They cast vp an heape of stones in witnessse & called it Glylad: y'heape of witnessse.* 1600 SHAKS. *A.Y.L.* III. ii. 1 *Hang there my verse, in witnessse of my loue.* 1657 EARL MONM. tr. *Paruta's Pol. Disc.* 113 *Venice doth at this day enjoy many great priviledges, in witness of her great worth and singular merit.*

† **b. to stand in witness:** to act as a witness. *Sc. Obs.*

1516 *Reg. Privy Seal Scot.* I. 422/2 *The king . . . rehablis the said Johne and Johne to stand in preif and witness.*

10. to bear witness: (said properly of a person, a book, etc.) to give oral or written testimony or evidence; hence *fig.* to furnish or constitute evidence or proof; to testify, witness *to* (occas. *of*). *to bear* (one) *witness:* to corroborate one's statement or be a witness of one's action. (Cf. ON. *bera vitni*, OF. *porter témoin*.)

c 1200 ORMIN 12616, *I barr to þe leode Witness off himm, þatt he wass wiss Crist Godess Sune.* c 1205 LAY. 13231 *Ich habbe he wiss muneke . . . þat sculleð witnessse beren cowe alle biuoren.* a 1300 *Cursor M.* 6820 *Tak pou nocht wit tunge leier, Ne fals witnessse for felun ber.* *Ibid.* 12582 *Als lucas vs sais þe gospeler, þat witnessse lef es wont at bere.* 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Symne* 2356 *Certys þefte ryst wykked ys When þe dede bereþ wytnes [Pus qe ceo tesmoine le mori].* c 1325 *Spec. Gy Warw.* 412 *þe godspel perof bereþ witnessse.* 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 3612 *þus may saules, als þe buke beres wytnes, By helpyd by way of rightwysnes.* c 1385 CHAUCER *L.G.W. Prol.* 527 *Hire white coroun bereth of it witnessse.* 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. xx. 29 *þre persones parcel-mede departable from oper, And alle þre bote o god; thus abraam bereþ witnessse.* 1426 *Anc. Deed A.* 10383 (P.R.O.) *This endentur tripartiti beres witnessse that [etc.].* c 1450 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Gilbert* xxxvi. 113 *þe archbishop of Reymes was pere present . . . and bare witnessse of þe holy lyf of Seynt Gilbert.* 1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxvi. 34 *The pepill so wickit ar of feiris, The frutless erde all witness beiris.* 1526 TINDALE *John* viii. 18, *I am won that beare witness off my sylfe, and my father that sent me beareth witness off me.* 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* iv. iv. 80 *In veritie you did, my bones beares witnessse, That since haue felt the vigor of his rage.* *Ibid.* 93 *God and the Rope-maker beare me witnessse, That I was sent for nothing but a rope.* 1610 — *Temp.* III. i. 68 *O earth, beare witness to this sound, And crowne what I*

professe with kinde euent If I speake true. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 239 *In seeking just occasion to provoke The Philistine . . . Thou never wast remiss, I bear thee witness.* 1773 GOLDSM. *Stoops to Conquer* 111, *I can bear witness to that.* 1839 KEMBLE *Resid. in Georgia* (1863) 59 *Her dress . . . bore witness to a far more improved taste.* 1841 THACKERAY *Gt. Hoggarty Diam.* x, *To speak of heaven . . . and to bring it to bear witness to the lie in his mouth.* 1842 TENNYSON *St. Sim. Styl.* 127 *And I, in truth (thou wilt bear witness here) Have all in all endured as much.* 1876 MELLOR *Priesthood* ii. 59 *The striking witness which he [sc. Judas] bore to the innocence of the Lord.*

† **11. to take witness by or of:** to take example by.

c 1400 *Anturs Arth.* 165 (Thornton MS.) *Thus am I lyke to Lucefere, takis witness by mee.* *Ibid.* 273 *Takes witness by Fraunce.* c 1480 HENRYSON *Cock & Fox* 200 *Tak witness of the Feyndis Infernall, Quhilk houndit doun wes fra that heuinlie hall To Hellis hole.*

† **12. to bring, teem** (TEEM *v.*¹) *to witness:* to bring under examination. *Obs.*

c 1200 *Moral Ode* 108 (Trin. Coll. MS.) *Elch man sal þar biciepien himselfen and ec demen Hic [read his] ogen werc and his þanc to witnessse he sal temen.* c 1400 *Apol.* 12 *In how many gret casis may it be, þat now regniþ in þe kirk synful marchandise; bryng to witness; examyn þe sawis; discusse þe dedis.*

† **13. to take witness of:** to call or take to witness (see 6 b); to appeal to as an authority or source of information. *Obs.*

c 1375 *Cursor M.* 22583 (Fairf.), *I take witness of saint austine þat tellis how þis werlde sal fine.* 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 66 *For this witnessse I take of god, that my corage Hath ben mor siek than my visage.* a 1500 in Halliwell *Nugæ Poeticæ* (1844) 38, *I take wytnesse of Davyd kyng and at Salomon the wyse, That a woman for a luttile thyng offe change hir servyse.* a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. xxvii. (1912) 322, *I take witness of the gods (who never leave perjuries unpunished) that I often cried out against their impudency.*

14. with a witness: with clear evidence, without a doubt, 'with a vengeance', 'and no mistake'. *Obs.* or *rare arch.*

1575 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 98 *French Camarick Ruffes, deepe with a witnessse, starched to the purpose.* 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* v. i. 121 *Here's packing with a witnessse to deceiue vs all.* 1609 J. DAVIES *Triumphs Death Wks.* (Grosart) I. 49/1 *For now we sinne (yea with a witnessse sinne, Witnessse our conscience).* a 1641 Bp. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* vi. (1642) 82 *He was sent; but with a witnessse, as the saying is, to destroy.* 1670 T. BROOKS *Wks.* (1867) VI. 108 *That man is cursed with a witness that is cursed by Christ himself!* 1690 LOCKE 2nd *Let. Toleration Wks.* 1727 II. 270 *The French King requires all his Subjects to come to Mass: Those who do not, are punished with a witness.* 1717 PRIOR *Alma* i. 444 *Gall is bitter with a Witness.* 1816 HAZLITT *Pol. Ess.* (1819) 103 *Here's a levelling rogue for you! The world turned inside out, with a witness!* 1829 SCOTT *Anne of G.* xxiii, *To every other person about her she plays countess and baroness with a witness.* 1849 CUPPLES *Green Hand* x. (1856) 90 *At midnight, it blew great guns, with a witness.*

III. 15. attrib. and Comb., as witness-bearer, -bearing sb. and adj. (see 10), *-heap* (cf. quot. 1528 in 9 a), *-judge*; witness action, an action in which witnessse are summoned, as distinguished from one in which only matters of law are argued; witness-box, an enclosed space in which a witness is placed while giving evidence; witness chair, a seat for witnessse at a court of inquiry; witness-room, an apartment in which witnessse assemble and remain while not giving evidence; witness-stand U.S., the place where a witness is stationed while giving evidence.

1892 *Daily News* 16 July 7/1 *Mr. Justice Kekewich . . . ordered the motion to be set down as a *witness action.* c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 531/1 **Wytnesse becare, testis, testificator, testificatrix.* c 1440 *Jacob's Well* 59 *Alle fals wytnes-bererys.* 1563 FOXE *A. & M.* 1250/1 *These vi. heauenly martyrs & witnessse bearers of truthe.* 1553 M. Wood tr. *Gardiner's De Vera Obed.* 35 b, *I folow Tullies meaning, who in the weighti importance of *witness bearing, attributeth authoritie vnto such as be wittie & welthy men.* 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 8 *The whole consent and witnessbearing of the great congregation.* 1616 CHAPMAN tr. *Musæus* C.1, *The witness-bearing-light Of Loues, that would not beare a humane sight.* 1848 A. THOMSON *Orig. of Secession* Ch. iii. 96 *Their resolute and unflinching witness-bearing.* 1889 *Spectator* 2 Feb. 166/1 *A very real kind of witness-bearing to what we call the supernatural.* 1806 J. CARR *Stranger Irel.* 469, *I was surprised to find . . . that they had no *witness-box. The witness is hoisted upon the table.* 1859 GEO. ELIOT *A. Bede* xliii, *Mr. Irwine was in the witness-box, telling of Hetty's unblemished character.* 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 Feb. 7/2 *The ex-Premier . . . advanced to the *witness chair.* 1528 TINDALE *Declar. Sacram.* aij, *And of al that couenant thei made that heape witnessse, Callende it y*^c witnesssheppe.* 1726 POPE *Odyss.* xix. 576 *My own experience shall their doom decide; A *witness-judge precludes a long appeal.* 1848 MRS. GASKELL *Mary Barton* xxxii, *She took her place in the *witness-room, worn and dispirited, but not anxious.* 1853 THOREAU *Let.* 10 Apr. (1958) 304 *Expect no trivial truth from me, unless I am in the *witness-stand.* 1896 HOWELLS *Impressions & Exp.* 71 *A young man . . . was called to the witness-stand in behalf of the prosecution.*

Hence 'witnessdom' (see quot. and cf. 8 above).

1877 RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* lxxxii. VII. 330 *Our act may have the . . . Virtue of Witness-dom, or as we . . . translate it Martyrdom.*

witness ('witness), *v.* Forms: see prec.; also 4

witnis, 5 wytnesse, wittenessh, 6 wittenish. [f. prec. In some ME. texts forms of the type

wittnes (= witnesses) may be inflected forms of WITNE.]

1. *trans.* To bear witness to (a fact or statement); to testify to, attest; to furnish oral or written evidence of. (a) with simple obj.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 13893 He and his lare will lasten ai, bis will he self wittnes and sai. *Ibid.* 23820 þat wittnes us all hali gosselles. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 82 William of Malmesburie wittnesse it in his writte. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* Prol. 191 þat wittneseth holiwrite who-so wil it rede. c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 6958 We purchase, thurgh oure flateryng, . . . Lettres, to wittnesse oure bounte. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* iv. iii. [ii] (1883) 171 Sidrac wytnesseth the same. 1509 FISHER *Funeral Sermon*. C'tess Richmond Wks. (1876) 308 She . . . openly dyde wytnesse this same thyng at the houre of her dethe. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* v. i. 220 That Goldsmith there, were he not pack'd with her, Could wittnesse it: for he was the man he then. 1653 H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* iii. iii. §2 (1712) 91 Remigius writes that he had it witnessed to him by the free confession of near two hundred men. 1729 T. INNES *Crit. Ess.* (1879) 117 Thus we see the antiquity of the settlement of the Scots in Britain witnessed by our own country writers. 1920 *Discovery* Mar. 90/1 The records . . . contain . . . references to their Royal founder, witnessing his continued interest in the progress of Science.

(b) with obj. clause.

13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 6609 Ichil þe make messenger. . . Ichil þat þou wittnesse me þat þe loue ste[de]fast be. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 263 Senec wytnesseth openly How that Envie proprely Is of the Court the comun wenche. c 1475 *Partenay* 1529, I wittnesse you. . . That he was A trew catholike person. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Prayer* II. 126b, He wytnesseth in another place, the Martirs. . . were wont . . . to be remembered . . . of the Priest at diuine seruice. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V. v.* i. 271 Lorenzo heere Shall wittnesse I set forth as soone as you. 1633 *FORD Love's Sacr.* II. ii. E, Were not the party her selfe aliuie to wittnesse that [etc.]. 1859 S. WILBERFORCE *Sp. Missions* (1874) 186 To witness. . . to the next generation, that England can never be clear from the guilt.

†(c) with complement (for . . . or inf.). *Obs.*

13.. *Cursor M.* 12909 (Gött.) And þar-of es right no farlik, Quen he-self þe wittnes for slik. 1545 BALE *Image Both Ch.* I. 41, I will earnestly wittnesse hym. . . before my heavenly father. . . for one of myne, to haue the inheritance with mee. 1565 SHACKLOCK *tr. Hosius' Hatchet of Heresies* 12 b, Christ, whome the Scriptures wytnesse to haue bene incarnat. 1607 J. CARPENTER *Plaine Mans Plough* 26 Noah was witnessed to be A man righteous and perfect. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St. v.* vii. 387 Those that knew him wittnesse him to be of honest life.

(d) in imperative or subjunctive, as a form of appeal. Now *rare*.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 608 What-euer ye deme me to do, . . . I hete you full highly with hert to fulfille, . . . wittnesse our goddes. *Ibid.* 1488 The fyfte. . . Was Troylus. . . That mykell worship wan, wittnes ye of story. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* v. i. 186 Ay me, it is my husband: wittnesse you, That he is borne about inuisible. 1591 — *Two Gent.* II. vi. 25 And Siluia (wittnesse heauen that made her faire) Shewes Iulia but a swarthy Ethiopie. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Past.* VIII. 28, While I my Nisa's perjur'd Faith deplore; Witnesse ye Pow'rs, by whom she falsly swore! 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* I, Witnesse you three—I'm not afraid of him.

b. *transf.* Of a document: To furnish formally attested evidence of. Usually with obj. clause.

1474 *Anc. Deed C.* 5555 (P.R.O.) This bylle shalle wittnesse that I Thomas Ormond oweth to Hew Mathew [3l. 6s. 8d.]. a 1475 *Rolls of Parl.* VI. 155/2 Cokettes of all such Clothes. . . wytnessyng the nombre of them. 1503 *Ibid.* 527/2 This Indenture. . . Wytnesseth That whereas [etc.]. 1551 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) 425 This byll, mad the xvi. day of Aprill. . . wittenishit that whereas [etc.]. 1658 *Sir R. Hutton's Yng. Clerks Guide* I. (ed. 8) 1 This Indenture. . . wytnesseth, That [etc.]. 1759 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* I. xv, And this indenture farther wittneseth, That [etc.].

c. *fig.* To furnish evidence or proof of; to be a sign or mark of, betoken. Also with obj. clause.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* xviii. 240 [þe] water witnessed þat he was god, for he went [= walked] on it. 1450-1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* II. 253 The tremblyng of the erthe. . . the darkyng of the sonne wytnesse hym maker of all thynges. a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* I. vi. (1912) 41 All other tokens witnessed them to be of the lowest calling. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* IV. iv. 74 Thy face, and thy behauiour, Which. . . Witnesse good bringing vp. 1599 T. STORER *Life & D. Wolsey* G 3, The stones may wittnesse shee was there. 1600 SIR W. CORNWALLIS *Ess.* I. ii. C 5, The Director whose high erected scituation wytnesseth his prerogative. 1630 RANDOLPH *Aristippus* 12 You cannot ride to Ware or to Barkway, but your Hackneyes sides must wittnesse your iourneys. 1653 H. COGAN *tr. Pinto's Trav.* IV. 8 As the wounds we haue upon us can but too well witness. 1760-72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1792) III. 87 This tear will witness for me, that I do not mean to insult you. 1781 COWPER *Hope* 415 His shoulders witnessing by many a shrug How much his feelings suffer'd. 1796 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Marchmont* I. 259 The gilding and carving. . . witnessed the expence that had once been lavished on it. 1813 EUSTACE *Class. Tour* (1821) I. viii. 292 The banks of the river, for many a mile, witnessed the rout of the Carthaginians. 1843 MACAULAY *Horatius* lxxv, And there it stands unto this day To witness if I lie.

†d. To give evidence of by one's behaviour; to make evident; to evince. *Obs.*

1581 A. HALL *Iliad* IX. 168 His kinred and the mother chiefe did many a teare let fall Their woe to wittnesse. a 1586 SIDNEY *Ps.* XXXV. vii, Even gnashing teeth, to witness more their spight. a 1625 FLETCHER *Laws of Candy* III. i, To finde occasion wherein I might wittnesse My duty and obedience. 1660 PEPYS *Diary* 15 Apr., Captain Dekings, an anabaptist, and one that had witnessed a great deal of discontent with the present proceedings. 1671 MILTON *P.R.* III. 107, I seek not mine, but his Who sent me, and thereby witness whence I am. a 1700 DRYDEN *Cymon & Iph.* 112 Long mute he stood, and leaning on his Staff, His Wonder witness'd with an Ideot laugh. 1728 POPE *Dunc.* I. 105 (v.r.) He roll'd his eyes that witness'd huge dismay.

e. To show forth evidence of or as to (an object of allegiance) by faithful speech or conduct; to be a witness for. Also with cognate obj. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1526 TINDALE *1 Tim.* vi. 13 Iesus Christ whych vnder Poncius Pilate witnessed a good witnessynge [1582 Rheims and 1611 Confession]. 1534 — *John* v. 32, I know that the witness which he witnesseth of me, is true. 1659 SOUTH *Serm., Matt. x.* 33 (1697) I. 117 To be a Martyr signifies only to witness the truth of Christ. 1663 in *Jrnl. Friends Hist. Soc.* XIX. 22 The glorious truth of God witnessed out by those contemned Christians which. . . are called Quakers. 1680 C. NESSE *Ch. Hist.* (1681) 333 John Baptist, who had Witnessed him into the World. 1833 *Tracts for Times* I. No. 10. 4 That very confirmation is another ordinance, in which the Bishop witnesses Christ.

2. *intr.* To bear oral or written witness; to testify. Now usually with *to* or *against*.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 11075 Forþi of him wittnes [? witness] þus Vr lauerd, . . . 'O wijf', he said, 'was neuer born nan A gretter barn þan sant iohan'. c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 268 þat, as ierome & anselm wittnesen, . . . here abitis ben ful of lesyngis. c 1380 — *Sel. Wks.* III. 436 At þe day of dom. . . Crist and hise lawe shal wittnesse aȝen þou. a 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 363 þe pistel wittnesseþ wel of þat profete. c 1400 MAUNDEV. II. (1919) 7 As the storye of Noe wittnesseþ whan þat the culuer broughte the branche of Olyue. c 1450 *Merlin* 56 And as the boke wittnesith, Vter venquysshed the bataille. c 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 131 As his vnclis. . . gaf & grauntid. . . to þe fore-seide minchons, as her charturs wittnesin. 1486 Bk. *St. Albans, Her. aj.* Many other notable . . . thyngys to the plesure of noble personys shall be shewyd as the werkys folowyng wittneses. 1550 CROWLEY *Epigr.* 1056 Idleness hath ben cause of much wyckednes, As Ecclesiasticus doeth playnely wytnes. 1595 SHAKS. *John* IV. ii. 218 Oh, when the last accompt twixt heauen & earth Is to be made, then shall this hand and Seale Witnesse against vs to damnation. 1611 — *Wint. T.* IV. i. 11, I wittnesse to The times that brought them in. 1710 ADDISON *Tatler* No. 259 ¶6 The Prisoner brought several Persons of good Credit to witness to her Reputation. 1771 GOLDSM. *Hist. Eng.* IV. 5 He avowed his innocence, called heaven to witness to his veracity. 1870 ROGERS *Hist. Gleanings* Ser. II. 27 His simplicity. . . and earnestness are similarly witnessed to.

b. *fig.* (cf. c. 1).

1592 GREENE *Groat's W. Wit F2*, Lette their owne works serue to wittnesse against their owne wickednesse. 1611 *Bible* Isa. iii. 9 The shew of their countenance doeth wittnesse against them. 1836 NEWMAN *Par. Sermon* III. vi. 93 Works of obedience witness to God's just claims upon us. 1844 MRS. BROWNING *Lost Bower* xlvii, The golden-hearted daisies Witnessed there. . . To the truth of things. 1856 AYTON *Bothwell* v. xiv, How many churches, wrapped in flames, Have witnessed to the spoilers' power! 1860 MOZLEY *Univ. Sermon* vii. (1877) 153 So subtle an hypothesis. . . witnesses to a curious phenomenon.

†c. In pres. pple. absolute: *witnessing* (so-and-so); = WITNESS sb. 7b. *Obs.*

c 1400 MAUNDEV. Prol. (1839) 2 [The Holy Land] is the Herte and the myddes of all the World; wytnessynge the Philosophie, that seythe thus; *Vertus rerum in medio consistit.* c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* i. 4 To goo vndir the zoke of penance. . . is not hard, wittnessing þe sauioir. . . wher he seith. . . Lol! my zoke. . . is swete. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* III. xii. 43 Our sayd lorde wytnessynge and sayeng. Who so euer for my loue forsaketh father or mother [etc.].

3. *trans. a.* To give formal or sworn evidence of (a fact, etc.); to depose in evidence. Now *rare*.

a 1325 *MS. Rawl. B.* 520 lf. 65 b, þe avisurs of þe siknesse sullen ben destreined to comen to þe curt to wittnesen hoere syst. 1428 *Mumf. de Melros* (Bann.) 519, I was requeryt. . . for to wytnes vndir wryt þe thyng at wes determynt befor me in iugement. 1560 *Bible* (Geneva) Mark xv. 4 Answerest thou nothing? beholde how manie things thet witness against thee. 1581 A. HALL *Iliad* IX. 172 The Aiax hie and Heraults eke can wittnesse well his minde, . . . they heard the talke. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* v. iii. 200 Me thought you saide You saw one heere in Court could wittnesse it. 1622 MABBE *tr. Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* I. 177 They did all of them wittnesse one and the same thing; That I was the sonne of a principall Cavallero. a 1715 BURNET *Own Time* III. (1724) I. 586 If they would not witness treasonable matter against Baillie.

b. To attest formally by signature; to sign (a document) as a witness of its execution. Also *absol.*

a 1325 *MS. Rawl. B.* 520, lf. 54 b, Witnessinde vs sulf at Gaunt þe vifte dai of Octobre. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* II. 131 To weende with hem to westmunster to Witnesse þe deede. 1439 *Rolls of Parl.* V. 32/2 Licence of the said Chiffeyne wittnessed undre his seall. c 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 27 Thys wytnessyth Alysander, of lyncolne bysshop, and many odyr. *Ibid.* 275 To this present writyng their commune seale . . . they have put to, wittnessyng theire Chapter. 1668 SHADWELL *Sullen Lovers* III. 46 *Sir Pos.* Come Sir, do you Witness it. 2 *Clerk.* Ay Sir. he sets his hand. 1718 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Lett.* (1887) I. 240 A writing is drawn and witnessed. 1776 *Trial of Nundocomar* 102/1 Maha Rajah said it was necessary to witness it to make it pukka. 1853 MRS. GASKELL *Ruth* xviii, There! that's what I can uill; witnessed according to law, and all. 1871 LE FANU *Rose & Key* II. 38 Lady Vernon. . . sends for her secretary, and seals, signs, and delivers it in his presence. . . And now he has duly 'witnessed' it. 1912 *Engl. Hist. Rev.* Jan. 50 John Chishull witnesses as chancellor pretty constantly in the roll of 53 Henry III.

c. To be formally present as a witness of (a transaction).

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* II. 60 Hit witen and wittnesen þat wonen vpon corpe, þat I, Fauuel, Feffe Fals to þat Mayden Meede. 1849 SIR J. STEPHEN *Eccl. Biog.* (1850) I. 43 By his side. . . sat Agnes the Empress-mother, brought there to witness and to ratify the judgment to be pronounced on her only child. 1859 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* xiii, I would be much obliged to you if you could step round to the. . . Bank with me. I want you to witness what passes.

4. (*transf.* from 3c.) To be a witness, spectator, or auditor of (something of interest,

importance, or special concern); to experience by personal (esp. ocular) observation; to be present as an observer at; to see with one's own eyes. In early use said mainly of the eyes or the ears. (In loose writing often used merely as a synonym of 'see').

1582 STANYHURST *Aeneis* II. (Arb.) 43 Thee Troians. . . Whose fatal misery my sight hath wytnessed heauye. 1607 DEKKER & WEBSTER *Northw. Hoe* III. i, Take but that corner and stand close, and thine eyes shall wittnesse it. 1657 COKAINE *Obst. Lady* v. iv, I will make known how much you are her Servant, and what affection my ears have wittnesed. 1606 G. W[OODCOCKE] *Hist. Iustine* XXXIII. 110 Others enclustred about him to dispatch him of his life, more enuius against him now, through his Nobleness which they witnessed. 1613 CHAPMAN *Rev. Bussy d'Ambois* IV. H 3, I neuer witness'd a more noble loue, Nor a more ruthfull sorrow. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* III. 700 To witness with thine eyes what some perhaps Contented with report heare onely in heav'n. 1710 SHAFTESB. *Charac.* (1711) I. III. i. ii. 175 There is nothing ever so trivial. . . that he is not desirous should be witness'd by the Party, whose Grace. . . he sollicitis. 1784 COWPER *Task* I. 144 And witness, dear companion of my walks, . . . a joy that thou hast doubled long. 1787 *Generous Attachment* I. 26, I witnessed the uneasiness Mr. Melville endured. 1792 G. WAKEFIELD *Mem.* (1804) I. 294, I met with an opportunity. . . of witnessing a most extraordinary ventriloquist. 1796 SOUTHEY *Lett. fr. Spain* xii. (1799) 164 Never did I witness a more melancholy scene of devastation. 1827 MACAULAY *Ess.*, *Machiavelli* (1843) I. 68 They witnessed the arrangement of the pulleys, and the manufacture of the thunders. 1836 *Hints on Etiquette* (ed. 2) 30 Do not pick your teeth much at table, as. . . to witness it is not a pleasant thing. 1873 L. STEPHEN *Ess. Freethinking* 8 We are, however, passing through a great change, of which no living man can expect to witness the end. 1878 MORLEY *Diderot* I. iv. 79 As he could not witness the experiment, he began to meditate on the subject. 1912 *Times* 19 Oct. 5/1 Large crowds witnessed their departure, but no demonstration occurred.

const. clause. 1825 SCOTT *Talism.* xxiii, Thou art wise. . . and generous. . . I have witnessed that thou art both.

absol. 1810 WORDSW. *Descr. Lakes* (1822) 121 The Lake of Uri. . . is disturbed from the bottom, as I was told, and indeed as I witnessed, without any apparent commotion in the air.

b. *fig.* Of a place, time, etc.: To be associated with (a fact or event); to be the scene or setting of; to 'see'.

1785 ANNA SEWARD *Lett.* (1811) I. 78 That immortal fountain and valley, which had witnessed the beauty of Laura. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* VI. i, What various scenes. . . Are witness'd by that red and struggling beam! 1813 EUSTACE *Class. Tour* (1821) III. iii. 104 These fertile plains. . . once witnessed the defeat and death of a Gothic monarch. 1825 SCOTT *Betrothed* iii, March and October have witnessed me ever as they came round, for thirty years, deal with the best barley in Shropshire. 1864 BRYCE *Holy Rom. Emp.* xv. (1866) 264 The thirteenth [century] witnessed the rapid spread of the scholastic philosophy. 1881 FROUDE *Short Stud.* (1883) IV. II. iii. 194 The scenes which those harbours had witnessed thousands of years ago.

witnessable ('wɪtnɪsəb(ə)), *a. rare*. [f. WITNESS v. + -ABLE.] That may be witnessed.

1870 *Eng. Mech.* 25 Feb. 580/1 If this be not a witnessable fact, it is at any rate a self-evident one. 1891 *Athenæum* 30 May 710/2 In one. . . a great improvement is witnessable.

witnessed ('wɪtnɪst), *ppl. a.* [f. WITNESS v. + -ED¹.]

a. Furnished with evidence or proof. b. Attested by a witness or witnesses.

c 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* CXIX. C. iv, All my delight Thy witness will shall be. 1746 FRANCIS *tr. Hor.*, *Sat.* II. v. 110 The son-in-law shall. . . give the sire His witness'd will.

witnesser ('wɪtnɪsə(r)), *Now rare*. [f. WITNESS v. + -ER¹.] One who witnesses; a witness.

c 1400 *Pilgr. Soule* (Caxton 1483) III. v. 53 Ye lyers forswerers and witnessers of falshede. c 1449 PECOCC *Repr.* I. v. 26 Whanne a mater. . . is wittnesid. . . bi a reuerend. . . witnesser or denouencer or remembre (as is God, an Apostol, or a Doctour). c 1450 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Gilbert* xxxiv. 110 þoo cleped þei þe witnessers, or witnesseres, . . . mad hem to swere þat þei schuld say soth in þat mater. a 1483 *Liber Niger in Househ. Ord.* (1790) 55 They sitte with hym at the bourd of doome. . . as recorders and witnessers to the trouthe. c 1520 *Dial. Creatures Moralised* xxii. G. iv, A false witnesser. 1550 T. MARTIN *Traicite Marr. Priests* Ziii, He was now so well become a constaunte witnesser of the passion of Christe, that. . . he gaue an example of an heauenly conversation vnto all his subiectes. 1658 in *Extr. St. Papers rel. Friends* Ser. I. (1910) 42 Lyers, and false witnessers. 1665 J. SERGEANT *Sure Footing* 19 An Eminent and Knowing Witnesser to Posterity of the Sence and Faith of the Church. 1874 W. P. MACKAY *Grace & Truth* 36 The blessed Spirit, the witnesser of Christ.

† **'witnessfully**, *adv.* *Obs. rare*. [f. assumed adj. **witnessful* + -LY².] Evidently, plainly.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* IV. pr. v. (1868) 131 In þis wise more clerey and more wittnesfully [L. *testatius*, v.r. *apertius*] is þe office of wise men ytrefid.

witnessing ('wɪtnɪsɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. WITNESS v. + -ING¹.]

1. The action of bearing witness or giving testimony. † *in witnessing* of, as a witness to; † *to bear witnessing*, to bear witness.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 18894 O þis gadring be-houes us þan, In witnessyng to ches a man Vn-to þe seruys of vr tale. *Ibid.* 27832 O couaitise. . . cums. . . fals witnessyng. . . and lesyng. 1382 WYCLIF *2 Cor.* I. 12 The witnessyng of oure conscience. c 1385 CHAUCER *L.G.W. Prosl.* 299 To this flour. . . Hire white crowne beeryth the witnessyng. 1426 LYDGE.

in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 132 Gladly he chevith what so he begynne. . . The fyne therof berith witnessing. **1474** CAXTON *Chesse* III. viii. (1883) 150, I haue put on eche keye a bille & wryntge In witnessinge of the thynges abouesayd. **1526** TINDALE *Rev.* i. 9 Iohn . . was in the yle of Pathmos for the worde of god, and for the witnessynge of Iesu Christe. **1563** *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 254 Diverse personis wer summond . . to beir witnessing in the said mater. **1659** SOUTH *Serm.* (1697) I. 117 The witnessing of the truth was then so generally attended with this Event, that Martyrdom now signifys . . to witness by death. **1857** DICKENS *Dorrit* II. xxviii, I have it on the witnessing of these two madmen . . that you want me.

† **b.** In biblical use: = WITNESS *sb.* 2 d.

a **1340** HAMPOLE *Psalter* cxviii[j]. 2 Blisful þai þat ransakis his witnessyngis. **1382** WYCLIF *Ps.* xcviii[j]. 7 Thei kepten his witnessyngis, and the heste that he 3af to hem.

† **2.** That which is uttered or stated in support of a fact or statement; evidence given. *Obs.*

a **1300** *Cursor M.* 16277 Vp þai ras and gaf a cri. . . Quat mister es o witnessing Again him for to lede? **c** **1330** *Arth. & Merl.* 1269 Telle ous now, what is þi name, . . þat we se sum witnessseing Of þi dede. **1476** *Acta Audit.* (1839) 52/1 þe sadis partijs beand personally present and þare allegations and witnessyngis. . . herd. **1478** *Acta Dom. Conc.* (1839) 20/2 Johne . . sall bring sic . . document and witnessing or testimoniale of his sesing þat he has. **1561** DAUS tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* (1573) 260 b, The Apostles in the gospell are called witnesses; and the Gospell, a testimony or witnessyng. **1587** GOLDING *De Mornay* Pref. p. viii, Vnto men we wil bring the witnessings of men, euen the things that euerie man readeth in his owne nature. **1616** W. HAIG in J. Russell *Haigs* vii. 158 His habitude of lying, his noted perjury, [etc.]: qualities for which any man's witnessing were to be repelled in judgment.

3. Attestation (of a document). Chiefly in phr. † *in* or *into* (the) *witnessing of* = F. *en témoignage de*.

1405 *Rolls of Parlt.* III. 605/2 In Witnessing of whilk thyng, to thys presentes we have sette our forsaide Seal. **1422** in *E.E. Wills* (1882) 51 Into witnessyng of which thyng, to this my present testament I haue put to my seell. **1561** in *Exch. Rolls Scot.* XIX. 481 Robert Hammiltoun . . for the mare witnessing hes subscrivit this his obligatioun with his hand.

4. The fact of being present and observing something.

1855 in *Cambr. Ess.* 154 The witnessing of the scenes. **1872** P'CESS ALICE *Mem.* (1884) 288 The witnessing of your grief rent my heart so deeply.

So 'witnessing *ppl.* a. (spec. in *witnessing part*: see quot. 1844).

1844 WILLIAMS *Real Prop.* 143 The *testatum*, or witnessing part, 'Now this Indenture witnesseth'. [See WITNESS v. 1 b.] **1855** C. DAVIDSON *Prec. Convey.* (ed. 2) I. 64 When the instrument contains more than one witnessing part. **1859** RUSKIN *Two Paths* i. §4 Corruption festered to its loathsomest in the midst of the witnessing presence of a disciplined civilisation.

† **'witnessman.** *north.* and *Sc. Obs.* Forms: see WITNESS *sb.* [a. ON. *vitnismadr* (f. *vitnis*, gen. of *vitni* witness + *madr* MAN *sb.*¹), accommodated in form to WITNESS *sb.* and MAN *sb.*¹]

a. A witness. b. The (tenurial) duty of providing a witness in court.

10 . . in *Reg. St. Bees Priory* (Surtees) 527 Myd bode and wytnesmann on thuylik stow. **1278** *Ibid.* 374 Pro witnessman et summonitoribus inveniendis ad faciendum districciones. **1292** *Anc. Deed* L. 458 (P.R.O.) [cf. *Ibid.* 374] Quieti de secta facienda ad Curiam meum . . et de Bode et de Wytnesman . . que seruicia quondam petii de predictis Abbati et Conuentu. **c** **1375** *Sc. Leg. Saints* xii. (*Mathias*) 323 3e sal of me be wytnes-mene In þe towne of Ierusalem. **1451** *Extr. Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 19 The quhilk assise ripely avisit, and the witnessmen examynit and herd in the cause. **1493** *Acta Dom. Conc.* (1839) 319/2 þe lard of Amisfelde sall cause his officiare witht twa witnessmen . . to pynd apoun þe commoune þat is debatable.

Witney ('witni). Also 8–9 Whitney (8 -eye). A heavy loose woollen material with a nap, manufactured and made up into blankets at Witney, a town in Oxfordshire; also, formerly, a kind of cloth or coating made there. Also *attrib.* esp. in *Witney blanket* (for which the simple *Witney* is occas. used).

The name has been applied to similar materials made elsewhere, but in 1909 a decision of the Courts in an action brought under the Merchandise Marks Act upheld the restriction of the name to blankets produced by the Witney manufacturers.

1716 GAY *Trivia* I. 47 True Witney Broad-cloth with it's Shag unshorn, Unpiere'd is in the lasting Tempest worn. **1737** in Alice M. Earle *Costume of Colonial Times* (1894) 256 Fine Whitneye at 53s a yard, Coarse Whitneye at 28s a yard. **1760** FOOTE *Minor* II. 50 Whitney blankets for exportation. **1792** *New Bath Directory* 16 Whitney Blanket Warehouse. **1860** S. JUBB *Shoddy-trade* 45 Witneys have been made in a variety of plain colours, mixtures, and fancy styles. **1866** GRONOW *Recoll.* Ser. IV. 155 He . . wrapped himself up in a large Whitney blanket. **1880** BLACKMORE *Mary Anerley* xl, Give him one of our new whitneys to go behind his saddle. **1883** Yorks. *Textile Direct.* 3 Presidents, naps, witneys &c. **1885** *Mistletoe Bough* 25/2 A thick witney coat.

witogie (vi'tuəxi). *S. Afr.* Also witoogie, witteoggie. [Afrikaans, f. Du. *wit* white + *oog* eye + *-ie* diminutive suffix.] Any of several birds of the genus *Zosterops* found in southern Africa, esp. *Z. pallidus* (formerly *Z. capensis*). **1867** E. L. LAYARD *Birds S. Afr.* 116 *Zosterops Capensis* . . Witteoggie, lit. white eye. **1936** E. L. GILL *First Guide S. Afr. Birds* 37 Witogie. . . The Cape White-eye sings all

through the summer. **1949** *Cape Argus* 15 Oct. (Mag. Sect.) 2/7 Those pretty little birds known as white-eyes or witogies . . are well-known in most parts of the country as small green or yellowish birds with a characteristic circle of white feathers round each eye. **1957** *Cape Times* 11 Dec. 11/2 This burly bird has had a couple of twittering witoogies in close attendance. **1963** M. KAVANAGH *We Merry Peasants* x. 110 The tiny *witogies* have for their own use a fruit-laden pomegranate tree.

witoten, witout(en, obs. ff. WITHOUT.

witring, obs. form of WITTERING.

† **witryff, a. Obs.** [f. WIT *sb.* + *ryff*, RIFE *a.*] Abounding in cunning.

1598 *Spalding Club Misc.* (1841) I. 122 The crawis ar witryff beastis, and the Devill will cum in thair liknes.

witsafe, -saffe, -saufe, -save, -schaif, obs. ff. VOUCHSAFE.

witsau, var. WITHSAW *Obs.*

† **'witship**¹. *Obs. rare.* In 1–2 witscipe, 3 *Orm.* wittshiþe. [OE. (*ǵe*)*witscipe* = OFris. *witskiye*, OS. *giwitscepi* (MLG. *gewitschap*), OHG. *giwizscaf*: see IWIT and -SHIP.] Witness, testimony; knowledge.

c **900** tr. *Bæda's Hist.* I. xxviii. (1890) 72 þa þe æt biscepes halgunge in witscipe [*v.r.* *ǵewitscipe*] stonde[n]. **c** **1175** *Lamb. Hom.* 25 Gif he hit deð in his witscipe. **c** **1200** ORMIN 5709 þatt all þin herrte beo þwerrt ut att tin wittshiþe clene.

'witship². [f. WIT *sb.* + -SHIP.] With possessive pron. used as a fanciful title for a witty person.

1636 DAVENANT *Wits* IV. i. H 2, A little to Increase your witships allowance of aire.

witson(e, -dai, -tyd, obs. ff. WHITSUN, etc.

wittail(e, -aill, -ale, etc., obs. ff. VICTUAL.

wittam: see WITHAM.

|| **witteboom** ('vitəbuəm). *S. Afr.* [Cape Du. (*witte* WHITE *a.*, *boom* BEAM *sb.*¹)] = SILVER-TREE 1.

1799 A. BARNARD *Let.* 4 Apr. in *Lett. Lady Anne Barnard to Henry Dundas* (1973) 185 Her Ladyship . . is soon to present the Regiment with their colors [*sic*], in which the Whitebomb [*sic*] . . is Happily blended and united with the Royal oak. **1818** LATROBE *Jrnl. S. Afr.* 35 The foot . . of . . Table-Mountain is well clothed with witteboom (protea argentea). **1926** C. G. BOTHA *Our S. Afr.* (1938) 85 *Witteboomen* . . is the name of the well known silver trees found in the Cape Peninsula. **1972** PALMER & PITMAN *Trees S. Afr.* I. 493 Witteboom . . is believed to grow naturally only in the Cape Peninsula.

witted ('witid), *a.* Forms: see WIT *sb.*; also 4 ywittede, wyttet, 7 *erron.* wittied, witti'd. [f. WIT *sb.* + -ED².]

1. Having wit or wits (of a specified quality or amount): with qualifying adv., as WELL-WITTED, etc. (*obs.*), or in parasynthetic comb. with an adj., as *dull-, fine-, half-, gross-, light-, quick-, sharp-, slow-witted,* etc.; also in nonce-formations after *half-witted,* as *two-third-witted, whole-witted.*

† Also (in form *witti'd*, influenced by WITTY *a.*) in comb. *wealth-witti'd* (? whose wits consist in wealth).

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. x. 397 Wyse witted men and wel ylettred clerkes. **1387** TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 409 þe sharpest witted men. **1393** LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. xii. 235 Ryght wel ywitted men and wel lettred clerkes. **1470–85** MALORY *Arthur* VII. xxvii. 253 He was merueilously wytted. **1528** MORE *Dyaloge* III. Wks. 213/2 Diuers yonge scholars . . properly witted, feately lerned. **1532** — *Confut. Barnes* VIII. *ibid.* 749/2 Had he no learning at all, and wer witted but right meanly. **1610** HEALEY *St. Aug. Citie of God* v. xxvi. *Vives* 233 Claudian . . was . . elegantly wittied [**1620** witted]. **1624** A. HOLLAND in J. Davies (Heref.) *Scourge Paper-Persecutors* 3 Wealth witti'd Loobies. **1642** J. EATON *Honey-c. Free Justif.* 44 Conceiving it after a carnall humane-witted fashion. **1835** C. F. HOFFMAN *Winter in West* II. 25 A forward, two-third witted fellow. **1904** A. C. BRADLEY *Shakesp. Trag.* 313 A quick-witted though not whole-witted lad.

† **2.** Possessed of understanding or intelligence.

1528 MORE *Dyaloge* II. Wks. 201/1 Yet might a few witted men deuise and feine a thing of such a fashion that it would be beleued. **1606** MARSTON *Faune* v. Iiv, Renowned, witted, Dulcimer.

† **wittee. Obs. nonce-wd.** [irreg. f. WITTOL: see -EE.] A wife whose adultery was forced upon her by her husband.

1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* IV. vi. & vii. 202 Such arts those gamesters have, Their Wittals to their wittes to enslave. *Margin*, The Wittall prostitutes his wife to be Wittee.

wittely, obs. form of WITTILY.

witten, obs. inf. and pa. pple. of WIT *v.*¹; var. WITEN *v.* *Obs.*; *Sc.* f. WITTING *vbl. sb.*¹

wittenes, -nesse, obs. ff. WITNESS.

witter ('witə(r)), *sb.*¹ *Sc.* and *north.* Also 6 wittir, 9 waiter, wutter, wyttir. [prob. of Scand. origin: cf. Norw. *vittr*, *vittring* warning, sign (f. *vitra* to warn = ON. *vitra* to reveal), and WITTER *a.*¹ and *v.*]

1. Something that serves as a mark, sign, or token.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* v. iii. 52 A mark or wittir of ane greyn aik tre. **a** **1578** LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 272 Ane wyspe wpoun ewerie speir heid to be ane signe and witter to thame. **1644** D. HUME *Hist. Douglas & Angus* 98 He snatched away his spear with his guidon or witter. **1798** J. NAISMITH *Agric. Clydesdale* 105 To leave 20 or 25 select trees, called reserves or witters, . . at each cutting. **1808** JAMIESON, *Waiter*, a token, a sign. **1894** *Northumbld. Gloss.*, *Wutter*, the rod which is put in the tithe stooks of corn.

2. Curling. The tee (*TEE sb.*³) towards which the stones are aimed.

1789 D. DAVIDSON *Seasons* 166 Next Robin o' Mains, a leader good, Close to the witter drew. **1811** *Acc. Game Curling* 4 A . . witter . . is a small hole made in the ice, round which two circles of different diameters are drawn, that the relative distances of the stones from the tee may be calculated at sight.

3. attrib.: † witter hole, a hole serving as a mark in a *witter stone*; witter length *Curling*, as far as the tee; so witter shot, a shot that sends the stone exactly to the tee; † witter stone, a boundary stone, a 'march stone'.

1615 *Extr. Aberd. Reg.* (1848) II. 323 Ane great merche stane, havand four *witter holliis. **1824** MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl.* 65 Old wary curlers . . won't waste stones on the guards. They sail them past the sentinels, nigh *witter length. **1823** JAS. KENNEDY *Poems* 29 Their outer, and their inner wicks, And *witter shot. **1824** MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl.* 184 *Draw a Wutter Shot*, a curling phrase, signifying to give the stone so much strength, that it may slide the length of the mark, and no farther. **1615** *Extr. Aberd. Reg.* (1848) II. 322 Ane great *witter stane in the muir, merkit with four holliis. **1679** SIR J. LAUDER *Decis.* (1759) I. 66 The Lords. . Find. . that the stone called the witterstone is not a stone for the regulating thereof [*sc.* the 'regorging' of water].

witter ('witə(r)), *sb.*² *Sc.* and *north.* Also 8 wetter, 9 wither, w(h)utter, etc. (see *E.D.D.*). [Of obscure origin; cf., however, ME. *wither-hoked* (WITHER-¹ 3) and dial. *witter-huked* (Lonsdale Gloss. 1869).] *pl.* The barbs of an arrow, fishing-spear, fish-hook, or the like. (*rare* in *sing.*) Hence 'wittered *a.*, barbed.

1775 H. FOORD in *Trans. Soc. Arts* (1784) II. 197 The other [whale] was lost. . . by the Witters, or Feathers of the Harpoon, giving way and bending. *Ibid.* 198 With one Witter towards the Fish's head, the other towards her tail. **1792** *Archaeol. Scot.* I. 392 In process of time, the lozenge form fell into disuse, and the arrow head was formed with two witters. **1815** SCOTT *Guy M.* xxvi, He deserved his paiks for'—to put out the light when the fish was on ane's witters! **1820** SCORESBY *Acc. Arctic Regions* II. 223 The harpoon . . consists of three conjoined parts, called the 'socket', 'shank', and 'mouth'; the latter of which includes the barbs or 'witters'. **a** **1824** in Mactaggart *Gallovid. Encycl.* 6 They'd soon be darting in him Mony a witterd poisonous stang. **1894** *Northumbld. Gloss.*, *Wuttered*, barbed.

† **'witter, a.**¹ *Obs.* Also 3–4 witer, 4 wyter, 4–5 wittur. [Late OE. or early ME., a. ON. *vittr* wise, f. OTeut. *wit-*: see WIT *v.*¹] Knowing, cunning, wise. Also, cognizant, aware (cf. WISE *a.* 3 b).

c **1100** O.E. *Chron.* (MS.D) an. 1067 Se kyng . . wislice hine bepohte swa he full witter wæs. **c** **1205** *Gen. & Ex.* 168 So made god wid witter mist, Al erue . . and wilde der. *Ibid.* 1308 Ðo wurð ðe child witter and war Dat ðor sal offrende ben don. *Ibid.* 2330 Ne wiste 3e no3t Dat ic am o wol witter ðo3t? **a** **1300** *Cursor M.* 698 Ne þe nedder was noght bittur þan, þowf he was euer wittur. **c** **1320** *Cast. Love* 75 Ac whose is witer and wys of wit. **a** **1400–50** *Wars Alex.* 629 Sone wex he witter & wyse.

Hence †'witterhed [-HEAD], †'witterness, wisdom, prudence, knowledge.

c **1250** *Gen. & Ex.* 3667 Ches ðe nu her seuenti Wise men to stonden ðe bi, And ic sal hem geuen witter-hed. **a** **1300** *Cursor M.* 9728 Fader, . . þi sun i es O þi strenght and þi witernes. *Ibid.* 23510 Godd, þat all wate þat es . . Vte of his witernes be þai neuer.

† **'witter, a.**² *Obs.* Also 3 *Orm.* witerr. [Back-formation from WITTERLY, or prec. adj. with meaning transferred from the same: cf. MSW. *vitterliker*, (1) = ON. *vitrligr* wise, (2) manifest (so also early Da. *vitterlig*).] Clear, evident, certain.

c **1200** ORMIN 3363 Her icc wile shæwenn 3uw summ þing to witter takenn. **c** **1250** *Gen. & Ex.* 2903 Min milche witter name eley He knewen wel. **1357** *Lay Folks Catech.* (T.) 542 Idelnesse is . . witter wissyng and wai till alkyns vices.

† **'witter, v.**¹ *Obs.* (cf. next). Forms: 3–4 witere, 4–5 wyter(e, wytter, 5 wyttir(e, witter. [f. WITTER *a.*¹ or ²: cf. ON. *vitra* to reveal.] *trans.* To inform, instruct; in some early quotes. perh. to make clear (to a person what to do).

c **1205** LAY. 1200 Hese Diana . . wise me & witere [*c* 1275 witte me] . . whuder ich mæi liþan. **a** **1225** *Juliana* 33 (Bodl.) Wite me & were & witere & wisse þurh þi wisdom to wite me wið sunne. **13** . . *E.E. Allit.* P. B. 1552 To wayte þe wryt þat hit wolde & wyter hym to say. *Ibid.* 1587 When ho was wytered bi wy3es what was þe cause. **a** **1375** *Joseph Arim.*

466 Ho has witered hire of pis? ? a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1239, I witter pe pe emperour es entirde in to Fraunce. c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* vi. 2284 (Wemyss) pai thoct. . for to cum in prevate One him or he suld witterit [*Cott. MS.* wytride] be.

witter ('wɪtə(r)), *v.* ² *colloq.* (orig. *Sc.* and *dial.*) Also **whitter**. [Perh. a variant of WHITTER *v.*: cf. WHITTER *sb.*]¹

To chatter or mutter; to grumble; to speak with annoying lengthiness on trivial matters. *Occas. trans.* Freq. const. *on*.

1808 A. SCOTT *Poems* 82 The winking swankies whitter, An' fondly ee some female band. 1854 A. E. BAKER *Northamptonshire Gloss.*, Whitter, to murmur, to grumble, to complain. . . 'Don't whitter so'. 1886 R. E. G. COLE *Gloss. Words S.W. Lincs.* 168, I witter my-sen at times, and my husband tells me I'm a regular wittering old woman. 1925 E. C. SMITH *Mang Howes* 21 A clecken o guidweives at a gaardeen-yett whuttert ti other whan they eyed iz. 1959 [see *suicide blonde s.v.* SUICIDE *sb.* ² d]. 1966 'O. MILLS' *Enemies of Bride* ii. 16 You might . . try making the tea, instead of wittering on about Cordon Bleu methods. 1973 *Where* Jan. 13/2 Don't whitter away at every item [on the agenda], giving up at the first unsatisfactory explanation. Make your choice of issue, then take your time. 1981 R. D. EDWARDS *Corridors of Death* i. 4 The questions which those who had spotted him as the man-in-the-know were wittering at him. *Ibid.* xxxvi. 164 It wasn't like Robert to witter on like this. 1982 *Observer* 3 Oct. 9/2 If I wasn't going to hear the Tories wittering on in Brighton this week, I'd be in Frankfurt listening to publishers wittering on at the annual Book Fair.

Hence 'wittering' *ppl. a.*

1886 [see WITTER *v.* ²]. 1983 *Listener* 20 Jan. 5/2 A really wittering, patronising speech programme is a worse insult to the intelligence than the most fatuous disc jockey.

'wittering, *vbl. sb.* *Sc.* and *north.* Also 4 wit(e)ring, -iring, *Sc.* vittering, -yng. [f. WITTER *v.* + -ING¹.] Information, cognizance; *mod. dial.* a sign, token (cf. WITTER *sb.* ¹), a hint.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 21583 þat godd suld send hir witering [Gött. witring] sun, Quat he o þat cros wald ha don. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* v. 342 Iames of Douglas of thare cummyng . . had vittering. c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* i. 411 Noe first send furp þe rawin Till get wittering and knawlege Gif þat þe fud begouth to sauge. 1513 DOUGLAS *Eneis* iv. 79 And of thair cupling wittering schew the air. 17.. *Broomfield Hill* viii. in Child *Ballads* i. 394 That was to be wittering true That maiden she had gane. 1781 J. HUTTON *Tour to Caves* (E.D.S.), Wittering, an hint. 1828 *Craven Gloss.*, Wittering, a hint, a secret report. 1876 *Mid-Yorks. Gloss.* s.v., I got a wittering o' 't from him.

†'witterly, *adv.* *Obs.* Forms: 3-5 wit(t)er-, wytter-, (3 witerr-, 4 wyter-, wit(t)ir-, wyttir-, witur-, weter-, *Sc.* vittir-, 5 wyt(t)ur- -yr-, wetir-, -ur-, witre-, (whiter-, wihtr-, 3-4 -like, -liche, 3-5 -li, etc. (-LY²). [Of Scand. origin (cf. MSw. *vitterliga*, early Da. *vitter-*, *vider-* lige, corresp. to the respective adjs. MSw. *vitterliker*, chiefly neut. -likit, early Da. *vitter-*, *viderlig* clear, manifest): cf. WITTER *a.* ² and *v.*] Clearly, plainly, evidently; certainly, for certain; without doubt, undoubtedly, truly.

Used esp. as a conventional addition in ME. verse, freq. with the verb *wit* (to know).

c 1200 ORMIN 785 & tatt wass witerlike sop þatt Godess enngell se33de. *Ibid.* 1131 & witt to wel þatt Latin boc Full witerlike uss kipepp, Whillec lac wass offredd forr þe preost. *Ibid.* 3446 [The Magi] wisstenn witerrli3 þærþurh þatt swille new king wass awwnedd. c 1205 LAY. 17563 þu miht ileue me inoh, for þis is witerliche soð. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 358 Lokeð nu hu witerliche ure Louerd sulf hit witneð. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 791 Egipte clerkes. . hem lerede, witerlike, Astronome and arismetike. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 2003 þe elleuend winter was, witerli, þer after. *Ibid.* 16259 Sai me son quer þat pou be godd sun or nan, þat i mai wijt it witerli. c 1350 *Leg. Rood* iii. 134 And pray him me to certify Of þe oile of mercy weterly. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1706 Wrezande hym full weterly with a wroth noyse. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* x. 350 Thai that I wat vittirly Effir my wit rehers sall I. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* i. 11 Al þe welpe of þis worlde & þe woo bope, Wynkyng as it were wyterly ich saw hyt. c 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) x. 39 Helen wist no3t witerly whilk was þe crosse þat Criste was done apon. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 9180 Thies wordes, in his wo, witterly he said, Soberly to hym-selfe. c 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 5463 þat ilk place Where þe fische lay dry, þat was cuthberts witterly. a 1500 *Ratis Raving* 3453 Suppos thai wyst It wyterly, Quhai suld that gold aw werraly.

Wittesontyde, obs. f. WHITSUNTIDE.

Wittgensteinian ('wɪtgən'stəɪnən), *a.* and *sb.* [f. the name of the Austrian-born philosopher Ludwig Wittgenstein (1889-1951) + -IAN.]

A. adj. Of, pertaining to, or characteristic of Wittgenstein, or his theories or methods. *B. sb.* An adherent of Wittgenstein's ideas.

1946 *Mind* LV. 25 Unfortunately, for the outsider there exists no official and adequate statement of the Wittgensteinian technique. *Ibid.*, 'W—ns' will be used for 'Wittgensteinians'. 1954 [see RUSSELLIAN *a.* and *sb.*]. 1966 D. JENKINS *Educated Soc.* iii. 140 The Wittgensteinian line of concluding that when one cannot profitably speak one must perform be silent. 1969 T. F. TORRANCE *Theol. Sci.* i. 19 To use Wittgensteinian language, are these 'images' 'pictures' or 'tools'? 1973 *Listener* 4 Jan. 21/2 A hard-line defence, by a leading Wittgensteinian, of the Pope's pronouncement on contraception. 1980 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 20 June 714/2 Professor Wright . . picks up some Wittgensteinian themes and explores how they might be developed. *Ibid.* 714/4 The question of whether . . a

Wittgensteinian can defend the distinction between necessary and contingent propositions.

wittham: see WITHAM.

witti, obs. f. WITTY *a.*

witticaster ('wɪtɪkæstə(r)). *nonce-wd.* [f. WIT *sb.* or WITTY *a.*, after CRITICASTER.] A petty or inferior wit, a witling.

First in Latham's Dict., 1872, where the following is quoted as from Milton on the authority of 'Ord MS.':—The mention of a nobleman seems quite sufficient to arouse the spleen of our witticaster.

Hence in later Dicts.

wittichenite ('wɪtɪkɪnaɪt). *Min.* [ad. G. *wittichenit* (Kenngott, 1853), f. *Wittichen* in Baden, where found: see -ITE¹.] Native sulphide of bismuth and copper.

1868 DANA *Min.* (ed. 5) 98.

witticism ('wɪtɪsɪz(ə)m). Also 7 wittycism. [Coined by Dryden, f. WITTY *a.*, after *criticism*.] A piece of wit; a witty saying or remark; a smart joke. In earlier use often *contemptuous* ('a mean attempt at wit' J.), or applied esp. to a joke made at another's expense, a jeer, a witty sarcasm.

1677 DRYDEN *State Innoc.*, *Apol. Her. Poetry* c 1 b, A mighty Witticism, (if you will pardon a new word!) but there is some difference between a Laugher and a Critique. 1683 — *Vind. Dh. Guise* 18 For the sake of a silly Witticism. 1683 E. HOOKER *Pref. Pordage's Mystic Div.* 15 What shal wee . . think of Cramp-words, or Criticisms, Jocs, or Witticisms, Railleries and Drolleries . . ? 1778 MISS BURNEY *Evelina* xlix. (1779) II. 161 I had many witticisms to endure from the Branghtons. 1802 MARIA EDGEWORTH *Moral T., Good Fr. Governess* (1848) I. 286 Assailed . . by a variety of . . maternal witticisms upon his uncouth appearance. 1842 H. ROGERS *Ess.* I. i. 22 The profane heartless witticisms of those with whom nothing is sacred. 1874 BURNAND *My Time* xx, At this witticism, there was a burst of laughter.

So **witticize** ('wɪtɪsaɪz) *v. intr.*, to utter witticisms.

1773 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) X. 423 It lies therefore upon Mr. Hill to answer Mr. Sellon before he witticizes upon me. 1833 *New Monthly Mag.* XXXVIII. 489 The sketching and witticizing talent which characterizes so many of our modern travellers. 1881 *Dollar Instit. Mag.* Dec. 1 While we warble or witticise.

witti(e)d: see WITTED.

'wittified, *ppl. a. nonce-wd.* [f. WITTY *a.* + -fied (see -FY).] Possessed of wit.

a 1734 NORTH *Lives* (1826) I. 61 Those wittified ladies who were willing to come into the order [of wits].

†'wittiful, *a. Obs. nonce-wd.* [irreg. f. WITTY *a.* + -FUL.] Full of 'wit', wise, sensible.

1590 LODGE *Euphues' Golden Legacie* (1592) I 2 b, Oh, Rosader, then be thou wittifull [rime pitifull].

Wittig ('wɪtɪç, -ɪç). *Chem.* The name of Georg Friedrich Karl Wittig (b. 1897), German chemist, used *attrib.* to designate various synthetic techniques introduced by him, as **Wittig reaction**, a method for the preparation of substituted alkenes utilizing the action of an alkyl phosphorus ylide on a carbonyl compound (aldehyde or ketone); **Wittig rearrangement**, the conversion of benzyl or allyl ethers in the presence of a strong base to the corresponding secondary or tertiary alcohol.

1951 *Jrnl Amer. Chem. Soc.* LXXIII. 1437 The Wittig rearrangement of benzyl ethers by lithium phenyl. 1956 *Chem. Abstr.* L. 6443 The previous attempt to prep. a model vitamin D triene by the Wittig reaction . . has been continued. 1974 GILL & WILLIS *Pericyclic Reactions* vi. 195 This elegant experiment proved that the migration involves a *supra-supra* interaction in Wittig rearrangements. 1979 *Sci. Amer.* Dec. 74/1 Vitamin A is synthesized industrially using the Wittig reaction. 1980 *Chem. in Brit.* XVI. 466/3 Vitamin A acetate is produced industrially *via* the Wittig synthesis.

†'wittihede. *Obs. rare*—¹. [f. WITTY *a.* + -hede, -HEAD.] Wisdom, understanding.

c 1315 SHOREHAM *Poems* vii. 95 þe mytte hys fader . . Wysdom þe sone, for wytti-hede þat he forþ toke.

wittily ('wɪtɪl), *adv.* Forms: see WITTY *a.*; also 4-6 wittely (4 -li, *Sc.* vittely), 5 wyttely. [f. WITTY *a.* + -LY².] In a witty manner.

†1. Intelligently, cleverly, ingeniously. *Obs.* Not always easily distinguishable from 2.

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2602 þat wittily tau3t hem þe weies whider þei wende scholde. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* x. 4 Of Erpe and Eir hit is mad I-medelet to-gedere, Wip wynt and wip watur full wittiliche I-Meint. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 531/1 Wyttly, ingeniose. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* Pref. **vj, With fables and tales preatly and wittily feigned. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* Epist. to Queen 'ijb, By their diligent inquisition they wittily found out the vse of many [plants]. 1621 T. WILLIAMSON tr. *Goulart's Wise Vieillard* 184 Those women, who . . so cunningly and wittily twisted on your fine skaines and clues. 1675 J. SHEFFIELD (Dk. Buckhm.) *Ess. Satyre* 133 But is there any other Beast alive, Can his own Harm so wittily contrive? 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Chr. Mor.* II.

xii. (1716) 69 Of good natural parts, . . which did but arm their bad inclinations, and make them wittily wicked.

†2. Wisely, discreetly, sensibly. *Obs.*

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 4142 Sende wittili to pi wif & warne hire fore. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* v. 264 Gude begynnynge. . And it be followit vittely, May [etc.]. *Ibid.* xiii. 571 Thai war gournit full wittely. 1465 *Paston Lett.* Suppl. 91 Ye may verely undirstand that it is not guided wittely nor discretly. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* x. xxxvi. 472 Alysander fought wyldly and not wittely. 1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* i. (1895) 65 Whose lande is . . well and wyttelye gouerned. 1660 SHARROCK *Vegetables* 107 Lord Bacon wittily advises to sprinkle a little forrage seed on the strawberry bed. a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 27 Feb. 1676, Dr. Pritchard . . preached . . very allegorically according to his manner, yet very gravely and wittily. 1702 C. MATHER *Magn. Chr.* iii. ii. xxiii. 136 How Learnedly he now conveyed all the Liberal Arts unto those that sat at his Feet; how Wittily he moderated their Disputations. 1825 SCOTT *Betrothed* vii, Thou hast studied some small revenge on me . . and . . I think thou hast taken it wittily enough.

3. In a manner characterized by wit (see WIT *sb.* 7, 8, WITTY *a.* 7, 8); in a cleverly amusing way; with smart jocosity.

1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* ii. 58 To beginne with some pleasant tale or take an occasion to iest wittely. 1581 PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* ii. (1586) 75 b, Hee . . can give quip for quip so wittilie that those which begin the skirmish with him boldlie, are faine to retire shamefullie. a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* ii. xviii. §5 In conversation wittily pleasant, and pleasantly gamesome. 1691 SIR T. P. BLOUNT *Ess.* i. 19 Therefore one wittily calls these Indulgences Emulgences. 1759 GOLDSM. *Pres. St. Pol. Learn.* ix. Wks. (Globe) 440/1 When an unexpected similitude in two objects strikes the imagination—in other words, when a thing is wittily expressed. 1869 *Adam Smith's W.N.* ii. ii. I. 326 note, Free trade in banking, it has been wisely and wittily said, is free trade in swindling. 1878 A. H. MARKHAM *Gt. Frozen Sea* ii. 25 As one of our men wittily remarked on seeing his first iceberg, it reminded him strongly of the isle of Wight (white). 1885 'MRS. ALEXANDER' *At Bay* i, A good deal more talk, partly business, partly wittily told scandal.

†4. Knowingly, wittingly. *Obs. rare.*

1653 WHITFIELD *Treat. Sinf. Men* iii. 5 That which he willingly and wittily suffers to be done. 1654 FULLER *Two Serm.* 36 Not willingly, wittily, or wilfully.

¶5. irreg. as adj. = WITTY *a.* 4.

c 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 1079 þat we vs avise, . . To say our wil in wordes foune, And þat our wordes be wittely.

wittin: see WIT *v.* ¹, WITTING *vbl. sb.* ¹

wittiness ('wɪtɪnɪs). [f. WITTY + -NESS.] The quality or character of being witty; intelligence, sagacity; cleverness, ingenuity; wisdom, good sense, etc. (see WITTY *a.* 2-8).

1533 J. HEYWOOD *Dial. Wit & Folly* (Percy Soc.) i. Ye show some wyty wyttines. 1542 RECORDE *Gr. Artes* Pref. aiv, Wittynesse of beastes and byrdes. 1544 BETHAM tr. *Purillia's Precepts War* i. clxxxviii. Iiv, In which case the wittynesse of y^e capitayn & knowledge, is moch required. 1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* 264 Theyr [sc. spiders'] wittinesse, pollicie, quicknes and sharpnes of sence. 1656 TRAPP *Comm. Rom.* viii. 6. 635 To be carnally] The quintessence of the fleshes wittiness, or rather wickedness. 1685 BAXTER *Paraphr. N.T.* Mark vii. 28 Not for the Wittiness of her saying, but for her Faith and Importunity. *Mod.* The wittiness of his remarks was refreshing after the dullness of the previous speeches.

witting ('wɪtɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* ¹ *Obs. exc. dial.* *a.* 4 witand, wytande, 5 wetand; *Sc.* 5 wyttyn, 5-6 (9 *n. dial.*) wittin, 6, 9 witten (9 wittance, ? = *wittens*). *β.* *Ayenb.* wytende, -inde. *γ.* witting, etc. [Of mixed origin; in the forms *witand*, *wyttande*, *wetand*, a. ON. *vitand* consciousness, knowledge (f. *vita* WIT *v.* ¹) in phr. *at minni, vārri*, etc. *vitand* to my, our, etc. knowledge; this type is app. in part continued in the *Sc.* and *n. dial.* wyttyn, etc.; in *Ayenbite* (see quotes. 1340) in pres. ppl. form *wytende*, -inde; otherwise f. WIT *v.* ¹ + -ING¹.]

1. The fact of knowing or being aware of something; knowledge, cognizance.

Most commonly with prep. and possessive (or *of*), as *at, by, of, to one's witting* (partly after OF. *a son escient*), to or with one's knowledge, as one knows; as far as one knows; knowingly, wittingly; *without one's witting*, without one's knowledge, so that one does not know; also *but witting*, without its being known; *with witting*, wittingly.

a. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 29262 [He] mai no3t þis cursing scape, þat comuns wit him þat þe pape Cursd has at his witand. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xx. (*Blasius*) 114 þane rase þe chylð & a-va cane ga As he had wittine of na way. a 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 250, I wrapped þe neuere, at my witand. c 1440 *York Myst.* xlv. 72 A! breidr, þe my wetand and i-wisse so wer we. 1466 in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 1471 214/2 To gif us lele and trew counsall eftir thare wittin. 1474 *Acta Audit.* (1839) 32/1 Be wittin of vmquhile William of Striuelin. 1808 JAMIESON s.v., *Without my wittins*, without my knowledge. 1824 CARR *Craven Gloss.* 124 Bout my wittin, without my knowledge. 1828 MOIR *Mansie Wauch* vii. 57 Neither word nor wittens of a family, to perpetuate our name to future generations.

β. 1340 *Ayenb.* 8 Huo pet onworpeþ his uader and his moder be his wyttinde. . zenezeth dyadliche. *Ibid.* 37 Wyp-oute hare wytende and wyp-oute hare wyll.

γ. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 216 Withouthen his conseile, or þe kynges wyttynge. 13.. *Cursor M.* 23510 (Gött.) Forgiuen er þai [sc. man's sins] and neuer þe less. . Vte of his [sc. God's] witting [Cott. witernes, *Fairf.* witring] be þai neuer. c 1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* II. 236 Ye be the womman in þis world luyngye With-oute paramours to my wytyng That I best loue. *Ibid.* iv. 991 That god shuld han no parfit cler wityngye More þan we men, þat han doutous wenyngye. c 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.* 's T. 753 With oute wityng of

any oother wight. **1387-8** T. Usk *Test. Love* III. iv. (Skeat) I. 63 [God's] weting and his before-weting is al oon. **c1400** *Apol. Loll.* 66 þei. .pat are chargid to sey þe sope to þer witing. **c1425** WYNTOUN *Cron.* v. iv. 676 þe Grekys. .þe bodeis cast In til a cistern dep, qwhar þai Lay hid but wutyngne. **1445** tr. *Claudian in Anglia* XXVIII. 267 Iustice moevith to preferre right. .& wronge nevir yive with wetyng. **a1450** MYRC 397 That heo avow no maner þyng But hyt be at hys wutyngne. **c1450** *Merlin* 12 Gode lete me haue delyeraunce yef euer man, my wutyngne, hadde to do with me. *Ibid.* 18 The Iuges examyned the gode hermyte yef it were so, and he seide, 'Ye', as by his wutyngne. **1502** *Ord. Crysten Men* (W. de W. 1506) I. vii. G viib, Who so trespasseth vnto his wutyngne ony of the .x. commaundementes, is in deedly synne. **a1533** L.D. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) Qiiiib, He went fro Rome to Salon. . without the witting of any person. **1560** *Acts Privy Counc. Irel.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) 99 Without thassentes or witting of the saide freholders. **1574** *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* Ser. I. II. 400 [If they be] suffer to remane thairintill . . be our witting. **1587** *Sc. Acts Jas. VI* (1814) III. 464/1 The cuntrie wherin the saidis guidis salbe ressett or remane for the space of tuelff houris of his witting. **1621** HAKEWILL *David's Vow* ii. 46 As. . we have action implied in the Verb: so have wee witting, and willing, . implied in the Adverb. **1846** BROCKETT *N.C. Gloss.* (ed. 3), *Witting*, knowledge, judgment, wit.

2. Knowledge obtained or (esp.) communicated; information, intelligence, tidings, news; notice, warning. (Cf. WIT v.¹ 3.) Chiefly in *to get* or *have witting*.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* IV. 359 We sall cum thair sa preuely, That thai sall haff na persavyng, Na seit witting of our cummyng. *Ibid.* v. 540 Quhen men schaupe hym to betraiss, He gat vitting tharof alwayis. **1417** in Rymer *Foedera* (1710) IX. 427 Kepe this Matere. . secre. . that never Creature have Witting thereof. **c1450** *Merlin* 14 When thou shalt be brought oute ageyn to Lugelement lete me haue wetyngne. *Ibid.* 45 He mervyleid. . how merlin myght have witinge ther-of. **1497** *Merton Coll. Rec.* No. 1031, The same John Wreyght shall gyve wetyng and warnyng vnto the fermour then beyng. **a1513** FABYAN *Chron.* VI. clx. (1811) 150 The sonnys sent wutyngne to the pope. . requyryng hym of ayde and counceyll. **a1529** SKELTON *Bouge of Court* 278 And I knowe ony ertly thynge That is agayne you, ye shall haue wetyngne. **a1625** PURCHAS *Pilgrims* II. 1066 To giue him witting thereof. **1818** SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxii, What will come o' ye gin the bailies suld come to get witting? **1893** W. R. MACKINTOSH *Around Orkney Peat Fires* ii. (1905) 34 His scouts. . gave him 'wittance' of the . . scheme.

¶ Used for the infin. in phr. 'to wit'.

1398, **a1400**, **1440** [see WIT v.¹ B. 10a, b].

witting, *vbl. sb.*², bequest: see WIT v.²

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 421/1 Wytinge, *legacio*.

'**witting**, *ppl. a.* Forms: see WIT v.¹ A. 6. [f. WIT v.¹ + -ING².]

a. Chiefly in conjunction with *wilfully* or *willing* (see WILLING *ppl. a.* 2f), advb. = WITTINGLY 1.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIX. 368 Lyes. .pat were forsworen ofte, Wytyngne [*v.r.* wytyngli] and wilfully with þe false helden. **c1450** *Mirk's Festial* 138 þylke pat don aseyne þe constytucyons of holy chyrche wytyng, he ys acursed tyll he come to amendement. **1531** TINDALE *Expos. 1 John* ii. (1538) Fviiib, He. . whyche wytyngne and wyllynge shutteth hys eyes at the true lyght. **1538** STARKEY *England* (1878) 66 No man wytyng and wyllyn wyl hurt hymselfe. **1582** T. WATSON *Centurie of Loue* lx, How he witting and wilfully followeth his owne hurt. **1600** HOLLAND *Livy* VI. xl. 245 We. . have practised nothing, witting and willing, . prejudicial to the Communitie.

b. Chiefly *predicatively*: Aware, cognizant.

1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* ix. 138 Both witting and vnwitting me. **a1586** SIDNEY *Two Pastorels* ii. 29 Seely shepheards are not witting What in art of Loue is fitting. **a1629** HINDE *J. Bruen* v. (1641) 19 Using men both witting and unwitting. **1894** F. S. ELLIS *Reynard Fox* 221 Hither. . I. . came, To make you witting of the same. **1906** *Macm. Mag.* Oct. 885 Scarcely witting, he ran forward.

c. Conscious as an agent; that is consciously what the sb. denotes.

1678 LITTLETON *Dict., Eng.-Lat.*, A witwal or wittal, a witting cuckold. **1872** J. G. MURPHY *Comm. on Lev.* iv. 2 Witting and wilful transgressors. **1912** *Oxf. & Camb. Rev.* Nov. 48 [Synge] was a witting artist of marvellous skill.

d. *transf.* of the action: Done consciously (and so with responsibility), 'conscious', deliberate: often in conjunction with *willing*.

1553 BRADFORD *Serm. Repentance* (1574) Hiiib, This willing and witting offending & synning. **1581** HANMER *Jesuites Banner* 4b, Wee are all by nature the children of wrath, yet will you not confesse, that the corruption of nature is voluntary and witting. **1613** HOBV *Counter-snarle* 55 These his witting falsifications. **1629** H. BURTON *Truth's Tri.* 316 So. . fore-knowledge of God, is his witting and willing act or decree. **1879** MAUDSLEY *Pathol. Mind* vi. 288 The notion of witting and wilful vice.

witting, obs. Sc. pa. pple. of WIT v.¹

wittingite ('wittɪnɪt). *Min.* [ad. G. *wittingit* (Nordenskiöld, 1849), f. *Wittingi* in Finland, where found: see -ITE¹.] A variety of NEOTOCITE. **1868** DANA *Min.* 491. **1882** [see NEOTOCITE].

wittingly ('wittɪŋli), *adv.* Forms: see WIT v.¹ A. 6 and WEETINGLY; also 4 wytindeliche. [f. WITTING *ppl. a.* + -LY².]

1. With knowledge or awareness of what one is doing; knowingly, consciously; often implying 'designedly, deliberately, intentionally'. (In earlier use freq. conjoined with *wilfully* or *willingly*.)

a1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xciv. 11 þai erre in hert. . witandly & wilfully. **1340** *Ayenb.* 8 þet we ne wreppe uader ne moder wytindeliche. **a1390** WYCLIF *Rom. Prol.*, Greuousli to han trespassid, and witenedly. **c1425** AUDELAY *XI Pains Hell* 114 in *O.E. Misc.* 214 þai foreswere ham wettanly. **1500-20** DUNBAR *Poems* xc. 21 Thow art nocht abill remission for to get, Wittandlie and thow suld ane syn forjet. **1535** JOYE *Apol. Tindale* (Arb.) 23 Not willingly and wetingly to slip ouer sicche fautes. **1583** STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 14 If it were proued that he killed him wittingly, willingly and prepensedly. **1602** SHAKS. *Ham.* v. i. 13 She drown'd her selfe wittingly. **1603** KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 524 After him. . succeeded many valiant men. . whom for breuitee I wittingly passe ouer. **1670** *Act 22 Chas. II* c. 1 §4 Every person who shall wittingly and willingly suffer any such Conventicle. . in his. . House. **1713** DERHAM *Phys.-Theol.* v. ix. 347, I have endeauoured to say as little wittingly as I could. **1809** W. IRVING *Knickerb.* III. ix. (1861) 109, I would not wittingly dishonour my work by a single false-hood, misrepresentation, or prejudice. **1851** *Gloss. Cumberld.*, Wittenly, wottenly; designedly. **1872** PROCTOR *Ess. Astron.* ii. 26, I would by no means desire to imply that Sir John Herschel. . wittingly overlooked known facts. **1872** FREEMAN *Engl. Const.* ii. 105 Wittingly or unwittingly, much of our best modern legislation has. . been a case of advancing by the process of going back.

†2. With knowledge; skilfully; wisely. *Obs. rare.*

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XI. 594 Emang thame that fechtand weir, That thame defendit so vittandly. **1657** *Narr. late Parl.* 28 As was learnedly & wittingly intimated by the Speaker.

wittite ('vɪtɪt). *Min.* [ad. Sw. *wittit* (K. Johansson 1924, in *Ark. f. Kemi, Mineral. och Geol.* IX. IX. 2), f. the name of Th. Witt, Swedish mining engineer: see -ITE¹.] A mineral containing lead, bismuth, selenium, and sulphur and occurring as grey monoclinic crystals.

1924 *Mineral. Abstr.* II. 340 Wittite resembles molybdenite in appearance. **1980** [see WEIBULLITE].

wittol ('wɪtəl), *sb. Obs. or arch.* Forms: 5-6 wetewold, 6-7 wittold, wittall, wit-wal, 6-8 wittal, (6 wittole, -oll, -ale, -ald, wital, 7 whittoll), 7-8 wital, 6- wittol. [Late ME. *wetewold*, app. formed after *cokewold*, CUCKOLD, with substitution of *wete*, WIT v.¹ for the first part of the word.]

1. A man who is aware of and complaisant about the infidelity of his wife; a contented cuckold.

14. . . ?LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 710 Wetewoldes that suffre syn in her syghtes. **c1520** SKELTON *Garl. Laurel* 187 Some carefull cokwoldes. .; Some famous wetewoldis, and they be moche wurs. **1597** BP. HALL *Sat.* I. vii, Fond wit-wal that wouldst lode thy wit-lesse head With timely hornes. **1598** SHAKS. *Merry W.* II. ii. 313 But Cuckold, Wittoll, Cuckold? the Diuell himselfe hath not such a name. **1614** W. BROWNE *Inner Temple Masque* ii, Come yee whose hornes the cuckold weares, The whittoll too, with asses eares. **1736** VAUGHAN *Voy.* (1760) I. 136 [He] being a good-humour'd easy Man, and a Wittol to boot, at their Tears and Entreaties, forgave 'em both. **1818** BYRON *Juan* I. xcix, A real husband [MS. wittol] always is suspicious. **1821** SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxxvi, She would not quit the estate and title of the wittol who had wedded her.

b. *transf.* (? with pun on *wit-all*.) One who has little sense; a half-witted person; a fool; occas. a witting.

1588 J. ASKE *Eliz. Triumphans* To Rdr. A 3, They. . are. . accounted of as wittals, for spending their studies about such common deuises. **1599** T. M[OUTFET] *Silkwormes* 34 To see great wittols little things despise. **1639** J. CLARKE *Paræm.* 151 He that's wicked is a wital [stultus]. **1721** AMHERST *Terra-Filius* xxxix. (1726) II. 211 Heaven was crouded with religious punsters and witals. **1822** SCOTT *Pirate* xxxvi, He told them they should see what message he was about to send to the wittols [sc. the Mayor and Aldermen] of Kirkwall. **1866** KINGSLEY *Herew.* xxxiv, Gospatric! the wittol! the wood-cock!

2. *attrib.* That is a wittol, pertaining to or characteristic of a wittol; *transf.* half-witted, senseless.

1604 MARSTON *Malcontent* iv. iii. F 2b, And do I lue to be the skoffe of men, To be their wittall cuckold. . ? **1703** ROWE *Fair Penit.* III. i, If thou wou'dst live, Without the Name of credulous, wittal Husband, Avoid thy Bride. **1780** BURKE *Sp. Ho. Comm.* I. Feb. 76 What sums the nursing of that ill-thriven. . and ill-favoured brat [sc. Nova Scotia], has cost to this wittol nation! **1796** — *Regic. Peace* iii. (1892) 193 There are cases in which we may pretend to sleep: but the wittol rule has some sense in it, *Non omnibus dormio*. **1810** WIRT in J. P. Kennedy *Mem.* (1860) I. xviii. 258 As one of Congreve's wittol squires said. . . it is a pleasure I would as soon be without. **1869** LOWELL *Winter-evening Hymn to Fire* iv, And thy down-trod instincts savage To stealthy insurrection creep, While thy wittol masters sleep.

Hence †wittol v. *trans.*, to make a wittol of. **1624** DAVENPORT *City Night-cap* I. i, He would wittal me, With a consent to my own Horns.

wittolly ('wɪtəlɪ), *a.* Also 7 wittally, wittoldly, 9 wittoly. [f. WITTOL *sb.* + -Y¹ or -LY¹.] Having the character, or characteristic, of a wittol.

1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* II. ii. 284 They say the iealous wittolly-knaue hath masses of money. **1605** CHAPMAN *All Fools* II. i. E 1, No, let me still be. . thought A ielouse Asse, and not a wittally Knaue. **1614** PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* III. x. (ed. 2) 293 Her husband was hangd for his wittoldly permission. **a1652** BROME *City Wit* iv. i, You are a Wittally Cuckold I know. **1845** FORD *Handbk. Spain* I. 83 Most of

this finger-talk, wittoly wit, as well as the figs [sc. 'a fig for you', digitally represented], is confined to the lower classes.

†**wittolry.** *Obs.* Also 7 witald-, wittoldrie. [f. WITTOL *sb.* + -RY.] Complaisant cuckoldry; hence, extreme folly.

1592 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* VII. xxxvii. 168 Iust Guerdons for Ambition. . For dastard Dotards, Wittolrie, and Harlots nice. **1611** COTGR. s.v. *Folie*, *En amour est folie et sens*, in loue there is both wit and witaldrie. **1624** HEYWOOD *Gunaik.* v. 257 Cabbas, a Roman (worthie for ever to be branded with base Wittoldrie).

wittome: see WITHAM.

witts (wɪts), *sb. pl. Mining.* Also whits. [Short for *tinwitts*: see TIN *sb.* 5.] Tin ore after the first dressing: see quot. 1853.

1853 URE *Dict. Arts* (ed. 4) II. 858 Tin witts. . . The clean 'witts' contain native oxide of tin; black tin or resin tin, and wolfram with iron and arsenical pyrites, generally containing some copper. **1855** [LEIFCHILD] *Cornwall* 208 This mixture of metallic matter, named Witts.

wittual, wittule, obs. ff. VICTUAL.

witty ('wɪtɪ), *a.* Forms: 1 wit(t)ig, 3 witi(3, -e3, 3-5 wytti, 3-6 witti, 4-6 wytty, wittye, 4-7 wittie, (4 withti, *Sc.* witty, 5 witte, 6 wyttie, -ye, *Sc.* (sup.) wittiast), 3- wigg. [OE. *wit(t)ig* (also *gewittig*) = MLG. *wetig*, OHG. *wiz(z)ig* (MHG. *wizzic*), ON. *vitugr*: f. WIT *sb.* + -Y¹.]

†1. Having wisdom. a. Said of God or Christ: cf. WISE a. 1 (b). *Obs.*

Beowulf 685 Witiȝ god. . halig dryhten. **a1000** *Cædmon's Exod.* 25 Hu pas woruld worhte witiȝ drihten. **1340** HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 6280 Swa witty and myghty es he þat nathing til hym impossibel may be. **1380** *Lay Folks' Catech.* (L.) 531 This god is most mysty þyng þat may be. The most wyty and most ryȝtful. **c1400** LOVE *Bonavent. Mirr.* i. (1908) 18 'The persone of the sone [is] al wyse and witty. **c1480** HENRYSON *Swallow* vi, God in all his werkis wittie is.

†b. Of human beings: Having good judgement or discernment; wise, sagacious, discreet, prudent, sensible. *Obs.*

In quot. a 1562 *advb.* = wisely.

[**1027-34** *Laws Cnut* lxxvi, Hit wæs ær þyson, þæt þæt cild þe læȝ on cradele, . . þa gitseras letan efen scyldig & hit gewittig ware.] **1340** HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 588, I hald a man, noght witty þat here es over-prowde and ioly. **c1380** WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 10 In pat þei seyn þat an heþene filosofre. . is wittiere and trewere pan almyȝti god. **c1400** *Destr. Troy* 3807 Wise in his wordys, witte of counsaile. **c1449** PECOCK *Repr.* I. v. 25 Ech witti man muste graunte that the first principal conclusioun bifore sett is trewe. **1531** ELYOT *Goe.* I. ii, loynynge to hym counsaillours Nestor and the witty Ulysses. **a1562** G. CAVENDISH *Wolsey* (1893) 46 A. . warnyng to use thy selfe more wittier hereafter. **a1592** GREENE *Jas. IV.* 2022 To haue two meanes besemes a wittie man. **1611** *Bible* Eccus. xxi. 12 He that is not wise [marg. or, wittie], will not be taught.

2. a. (a) Having (good) intellectual ability; intelligent, clever, ingenious; skilful, expert, capable. *Obs. exc. dial.*

[**a1000** *Gifts of Men* 74 Sum bið gewittig æt winþege, beorhyrde god.] **a1100** *Aldhelm Gloss.* 39 in Napier *O.E. Glosses* 2/2 *Per gymnosophistas*, þurh wittige plegmen uel gleawe gligmen. **c1205** LAY. 21134 He wes ihaten Wygar, þe witeȝe wurhte [c 1275 þe wittye wrohte]. **1362** LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. xi. 5 Wel artou witti. . wisdom to telle To Fayturs or to Fools. **a1425** tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 28 A gode lech and a witty. **c1440** *Gesta Rom.* xiv. 45 A wise man, and witty in armys & in alle his werkys. **1553** EDEN *Treat. Neue Ind.* (Arb.) 24 In workemanship and artes they are marueylous wytte. **1560** *Bible* (Geneva) Wisd. viii. 19, I was a wittie childe [R.V. a child of parts]. **a1586** SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. xxiii. §8 He (no more witty to frame, then blinde to iudge hopes). **1612** BACON *Ess.*, *Of Iudicature* (Arb.) 451 Iudges ought to be more Learned, then Wittie. **1617** MORYSON *Itin.* III. 76 Witty Copernicus. **a1656** HALES *Golden Rem.* (1673) 196 God who is. . πολύτροπος εἰς σωτηρίαν ἀνθρώπων. . as Clemens speaks. . is witty in inventing of means to bring us to him. **1709** PRIOR *Henry & Emma* 82 In gentle Verse, the Witty told their Flame. **1725** WATTS *Logic* I. ii. §4 When we say the Boy is strong or witty, these are proper or inherent Modes. **1784** COWPER *Task* I. 728 Now. . show this queen of cities [sc. London], that so fair May yet be foul; so witty, yet not wise. **1886** *Cheshire Gloss.*

(b) Of animals: = WISE a. 1 (c): cf. WIT *sb.* 5 c. **1398** TREVISA *Barth. De P.R.* XVIII. xxiv. (Bodl. MS.), Nopng is more witty and besie þanne hounde. **1600** J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* IX. 336 This wittie beast [sc. the elephant] keepeh in the woods. **1606** B. JONSON *Hymen*, *Barriers* 163 At her feet doe witty serpents moue. **1626** BACON *Sylva* §978 The Ape also is a Witty Beast, and hath a Dry Braine.

†b. In unfavourable sense: Crafty, cunning, wily, artful; skilful in contriving evil; also, foolishly ingenious in devising something to one's own hurt. *Obs.*

a1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 30 þat any oþer witty man perceuyung his werk mow vsurpe it to hymself. **1580** VAUTROULLIER *Luther on Ep. Gal.* 282 They are maruelous witty and wily in finding fault with other mens doings. **1599** SHAKS. *Much Ado* IV. ii. 27 A maruellous witty fellow I assure you, but I will goe about with him. **1608** BP. HALL *Char.*, *Vnconstant* 111 He is. . wittie to wrong hymselfe. **1638** SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 19 As simple as they seeme, they are witty enough in craft, revenge, and villany. **a1656** HALES *Golden Rem.* (1673) 123 They are unexpectedly, and. . wonderfully prompt and witty to villany and wickedness. **a1683** OLDHAM *Passion of Byblis Wks.* (1686) 125 How came I witty to my ruin thus? **a1699** J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* XXI. iv, Witty too in Self delusion. **1706** MRS. CENTLIVRE *Love at a Venture* Epil., You Men are grown so witty in Deceit.

†3. a. Endowed with reason, rational. b. In full possession of one's wits, of sound mind. *rare*.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints Lives* vii. 428 Wearð...his suna wittig. c 1300 *Kenelm* 219 in *E.E.P.* (1862) 53 When no man nolde pat witti was of him habbe munde A dombe best wipoute witte hadde a3e cunde. c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 158 þus was pis witty best werwolf ferst maked. 1672 *WiseMAN Wounds* 1. x. 130 The Child returned to her friends perfectly in health, is a witty Girle, but it's doubted she will be but a dwarf.

†4. Having knowledge, knowing, learned. *Obs.*

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 532 Ha somet seiden, þt wittiast ha weren of alle þe meistes. 1340-70 *Alex. & Dind.* 1121 Wise & wittie of lorus. 1388 *Wyclif Deut.* 1. 13 Witti [Vulg. gnaros] in mennus thingis. 1393 *LANGL. P. Pl. C.* xvii. 219 The wyttour that eny wight is... The biterour he shal a-bygge, bote yf he wel worche. 1456 *SIR G. HAYE Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 79 Men that war symple and nocht witty of perpetuale thingis.

†5. (*transf.* from 2.) Showing or demanding intellectual ability; (later, esp. of discourse) clever, ingenious, or subtle in conception or expression. Also *ironically. Obs.*

13... *Cursor M.* 4677 (Gött.) Joseph...comandid... Depe celers for to delue, And thoru his aun witti rede Fild þaim wid wines, quite and rede. 1463 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 62 It [sc. the matter] must have wyty dyngyng. 1551 *RECORDE Pathw. Knowl.* Pref., Neuer was arte so wonderfull witty... as is good Geometry. 1551 R. ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* Ep. Transl. (1895) 18 The wittie inuencion, and fine... disposition of the matter. a 1562 G. CAVENDISH *Wolsey* (1893) 5 A mete & apte person to be preferred to wytyt affayers. 1581 *PETTIE tr. Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* 1. (1586) 20 The wittie answers which hee made touching this purpose. 1611 *Bible Prov.* viii. 12, I wisdome dwell with prudence, and find out knowledge of witty inuentions. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Forerunners* ii, If I please him, I write fine and wittie. 1653 H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* 1. viii. §2 (1712) 22 That's the witty Fallacy his unwariness has intangled him in. 1700 *LOCKE Hum. Und.* iv. xvii. §4 (ed. 4) 409 The Fallacies that are often concealed in florid, witty or involved Discourses.

†b. Skilfully devised for an evil purpose; cunning, crafty; (of torment, etc.) ingeniously contrived, 'exquisite'. *Obs.*

1602 2nd Pt. *Return fr. Parnass.* 1. i. 111 Stale sinnes are stale: now doth the world begin To take sole pleasure in a witty sinne. 1619 *FLETCHER Knt. Malta* v. i, Expect a witty, and a fell revenge! 1623 *MASSINGER Dk. Milan* v. ii, Let me pronounce vpon this wretch all torture That witty cruelty can inuent. 1649 *JER. TAYLOR Gt. Exemp.* 1. Disc. iv. 128 Some... in witty torments excelled the cruelty of many of their persecutors. c 1670 *HOBBS Behemoth* (1679) 254 He call'd a Parliament, and gave it the Supreme Power, to the end that they should give it to him again; was not this witty? 1681-6 J. SCOTT *Chr. Life* (1747) III. 612 The most witty and exquisite Torments.

†6. (*transf.* from 1b.) Showing, or springing from, good judgement or discernment; wise, discreet, sensible. *Obs.*

c 1380 *WYCLIF Wks.* (1880) 220 þei louen more... þe most witti reulis of ihu crist þan þe vnnwitti constitucions of synful... men. a 1475 G. ASHBY *Active Policy* 741 Your manly & wyty diligence. 1553 M. WOOD tr. *Gardiner's De Vera Obed.*, *Bonner's Pref.* 3 b, What a witti part it is, for a man to suspend his judgement, and not to be rashe in geuing of sentence. c 1560 *INGELAND Disob. Child Peror.* G iv, Here ye maye learne a wyttie lesson. a 1593 *MARLOWE Ovid's Elegies* 1. viii, Trust me, to giue, it is a witty thing. 1656 R. FLETCHER tr. *Martial* ix. Epigr. vi, Thou very fain wouldst Priscus wed, I wonder not, 'tis witty so to doe. 1710 *Brit. Apollo* III. No. 79. 3/1 The Bold assert 'tis Witty to be Brave... The Timorous Wittily decline all Strife.

7. Possessing wit (see WIT sb. 7); capable of or given to saying (or writing) brilliant or sparkling things, esp. in an amusing way; smartly jocular or facetious.

1590 *SHAKS. Com. Err.* iii. i. 110, I know a wench of excellent discourse, Prettie and wittie. 1653 *WALTON Angler* ii. 45 *Viat.* Is not mine Hoste a witty man? *Pisc.* Sir, To speak truly, he is not to me; for most of his conceits were either Scripture-jests, or lasciuious jests; for which I count no man witty. 1684 W. WINSTANLEY *England's Worthies* 345 Plautus... by his conversing with jocular Wits... became so famously witty, or wittily famous, as... he attained to an extraordinary height in the Comique strain. 1731-8 *SWIFT Pol. Conversat.* Introd. 14 Whatever Person would aspire to be completely witty, smart, humourous, and polite. 1849 *FROUDE Nem. Faith* (ed. 2) 103 We are witty if it be so, not for applause but for affection. 1878 *BROWNING La Saisiaz* 596 Learned for the nonce as Gibbon, witty as wit's self Voltaire.

†b. Sharply critical, censorious, sarcastic. *Obs.* or merged in prec. sense.

1601 *SHAKS. All's Well* ii. iv. 32 Go too, thou art a wittie fool. 1632 G. HERBERT *Priest to Temple* xxvi. (1652) 106 Being partiall to themselves and witty to others. 1712 *ADDISON Spect.* No. 530 ¶2 Will Honeycomb, who was so unmercifully witty upon the Women. 1748 *RICHARDSON Clarissa* (1768) II. 75 My Mother... says, I am too witty; Anglicè, too pert.

8. Of speech or writing: Characterized by or full of wit (see WIT sb. 8); cleverly amusing, 'sparkling', smartly facetious or jocular; †sarcastic.

1588 *SHAKS. L.L.L.* v. i. 4 Your reasons... haue beene... witty without affection, audacious without impudency. 1601 — *Twel. N.* iii. ii. 46 Be curst and briefe: it is no matter how wittie, so it bee eloquent, and full of inuention. 1639 N. N. tr. *Du Bosq's Compl. Woman* 1. 30 The Melancholy [humour]... is... too grosse for witty conceits and apt replies. 1700 T. BROWN tr. *Fresny's Amusem.* 152 Your Gentlemen that speak sharp and witty Things. 1702

STEELE Funeral II. 27 This is not one of your Tringham Tringham Witty things, that your Poor Poets write. 1733 *SWIFT Apol. Lady Carteret* 146 The powder'd courtier's witty sneer. 1744 *CORBYN THOMAS Ess. Wit, Humour*, etc. 37 Satire is a witty and severe Attack of mischievous Habits or Vices. 1829 *LYTTON Devereux* I. i, He told the wittiest stories in the world without omitting anything in them but the point. 1880 'OUIDA' *Moths* I, 'Of course! One always marries girls; how stupid you are', said Lady Dolly... The counsellor smiled grimly, 'And then you will be a grandmother', he said... 'I suppose you think that witty', said Lady Dolly.

9. *Comb.* (parasynthetic and adverbial), as *witty-brained*, *-conceited*, *-feigned*, *-pated*, *-pretty* adjs. (all in sense 2, and obs. or arch.).

1591 *SYLVESTER Du Bartas* I. vi. 746 Japhetus' witty-fained Son. 1599 *NASHE Lenten Stuffe* 50 Some politique delegatory Scipio, or witty pated Petitto. 1600 *BRETON Strange Fortunes* 14 No lesse witty conceited of her dreame, then noting the cariage of her humor. 1606 *SYLVESTER Du Bartas* II. iv. II. *Magnificence* 684 Queint witty-pretty Toyes. 1818 *SCOTT Hrt. Midl.* xii, The smart witty-pated lawyers. 1820 — *Monast.* xv, A witty-brained... and accomplished courtier.

wituper, Sc. var. **VITUPER** sb. *Obs.*

witute(n), obs. forms of **WITHOUT**.

witwall ('witwɔl). Now *dial.* Forms: 6-7 witwɔl, 6-8 witwal, 8-9 whitwall, 6- witwall. [a. early mod.G. †wittewal(e), also †weidewal (Gesner), now *widewal*, *wiedewal*; = MLG. *weddewale*, early Flem. *widewael* (Kilian). Cf. *WOODWALL*.]

†1. The Golden Oriole, *Oriolus galbula*. *Obs.* 1544 *TURNER Avium Præcip.* I. 7, Χλωπίον, uirore, ... Anglicè a uittuol, Germanicè eyn witwɔl, oder eyn weidwail. 1601, 1658, 1676 [see LORIOT]. 1671 H. M. tr. *Erasm. Colloq.* 514 But one can hardly guess for what reason the... Raven and the Witwal [L. *chlorio*]... hate one the other. 1678 *RAY Willughby's Ornith.* 198 The Witwall, as it is by some called, *Galbula seu Picus nidum suspendens*.

2. The Green Woodpecker (*Gecinus viridis*) or the Greater Spotted Woodpecker (*Dendrocopos major*).

1668 *CHARLETON Onomast.* 86 *Picus viridis*... the Hickwall, Witwall, or Green-Wood-pecker. 1678 *RAY Willughby's Ornith.* 137 The greater spotted Woodpecker or Witwall. 1844 *HOOD Haunted House* 1. 62 The ringing of the Whitwall's shrilly laughter.

†'witword. *Obs.* Chiefly *north.* Also 4 wite-, 4-6 wyt-, 5 wytte-, 6 witt-; 4-5 -worde; 6 wytward. [OE. *witword* contract, agreement, f. *wit-* WIT v.¹ + *WORD* sb.; later associated with WIT v.²] A will or testament; also, a covenant (in the scriptural sense): = *TESTAMENT* sb. 1, 4.

†997 *Laws Æthelred* III. §3 Landcop & hlafordes gifu... & lahcop & witword & gewittes, þæt þæt stande, þæt hit nan man ne awende. c 1080 *Charter Will.* I in Thorpe *Charters* (1865) 439. Ofer þæm landum ðe Ealdred ærcebiscop hæfð siðþan begitan... on witword oððe on cauþland. a 1300 *E.E. Psalter* xxiv. [xxv.] 10 To sekand his witeword. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 153 Fulfille I salle in dede þe kynges witworde. 1393 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) I. 186 In kase be that this witword will nought perfurnysche, I will it be abyrdged. 1411 26 *Pol. Poems* x. 101 Man, how darst þou... My wit word wip þy moup teche, And in þy werkis þou seyst hit nay? 1471 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) III. 180, I will that bothe my l^s wyll and my witword be fulfyld of the hoole that is my propyr guddys at this tyme. 1555 *Churchw. Acc., Wigtoft, Linc.* (Nichols 1797) 199 Rec. for ye Wytword of Willm Brygthe 1^s.

†'wity, a. *Obs. rare.* [f. *WITE* sb.² + -Y¹.] Blameworthy.

1530 *PALSGR.* 329/2 Wytye in faulte for a thyng, *faulxteux*.

†witzchoura. *Obs.* [a. F. *vitchoura*, a. Polish *wilczura* wolf-skin coat, f. *wilk* WOLF sb.] A style of lady's mantle (see *quots.*) fashionable c 1820-35. Also *attrib.*

1823 *La Belle Assemblée* Dec. 269/1 Witzchoura pelisse of gros de Naples... trimmed with a very broad border of swansdown. 1833 *Ladies Pocket Mag.* 1. 38 The witzchoura is a very ample mantle, made with a very deep collar, and cape, and long, loose sleeves. 1835 *Court Mag.* VI. p. v/1 [The mantle] is of the Witzchoura form, drawn close at the back, with large Turkish sleeves, and a deep falling collar. [1898 *LADY M. LOYD tr. Ozanne's Fashion in Paris* iii. 54 *Witzchoura*s had not yet [c 1806] come into vogue.]

wiue, obs. form of **WIFE** sb., **WIFE** v.

wiure *Her.*, var. *vivre* (F. *vivre*:—L. *vīpera* VIPER), a barrulet or cotise dancetté.

1688 *HOLME Armoury* 1. ix. 90/2 He beareth Argent, a Wiure, Nebule, counter Nebule, Sable. A Wiure is much less than either Barrulett or Cotize. *Ibid.* 1. x. 102/1 A Wiure nebulee between 2 Cotizes. c 1828 *BERRY Encycl. Her.* I. Gloss., Wiure, Wyer, Viure, Viurée, and Viurie.

wiv (wiv). Representation of a vulg. pronunc. (esp. Cockney) of **WITH** prep. (*adv.*, *conj.*).

1898 J. D. BRAYSHAW *Slum Silhouettes* 1 Tall an' thin, yer say? Wot, wiv long white 'ands, an' black 'air—Yus! 1933 D. L. SAYERS *Murder must Advertise* xix. 332 You'll 'ave 'im steppin' aht ter meet me wiv' a crimson carpet and a bokay. 1981 'J. GASH' *Vatican Rip* iv. 44 Want me to come wiv yer, Lovejoy?

wive (waiv), v. Forms: 1 wifian, (3 wifue), 3-6 wyue (-ve), 3-7 wiue, 7- wive. [OE. *wifian* (= MLG., MDu. *wīven*), f. *wif* WIFE sb.]

1. *intr.* (†rarely refl.) To take a wife, get married, marry. Const. †on (o), *with*. Also *occas.* *with* it.

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xi. §1 Manige habbað genog gesællice gewifod. c 1000 Ælfred's *Canons* vii. in Thorpe *Laws* (1840) II. 346 He ne moste on wydewum wifgan. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 308 Judas... wiuede o Thamar. a 1225 *Juliana* 12 3ef þat he... ne schal wiuen on me, wiue þer his wil is. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1588 Quad rebecca to hire were, Esau wifuede us to dere. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6459 þo adde hii bope wiued wel. c 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 2896 To wiue on our kinde. 1340 *Ayenb.* 225 Zaynte paul... zayp to wodewon, 'huo þet guod is, he him hyealde ine þet stat; and yef hit him na3t ne lykep, he him wyui'. c 1386 *CHAUCER Clerk's T.* 117 Ther as myn herte is set ther wol I wyue. c 1460 *Wisdom* 666 in *Macro Plays* 57 *Wndyrstondynge*. We haue pat nedyt vs, so thyrve I; Wyll. And yff þat I care, neuer wyue I. 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* 1. xi. 28 It is harde to wiue and thryue bothe in a yere. 1596 *SHAKS. Tam. Shr.* 1. ii. 56, I haue thrust my selfe into this maze, Happily to wiue and thriue, as best I may. *Ibid.* 75, I come to wiue it wealthily in Padua. 1606 *MARSTON Parasit.* v. H4, Goe thy waies & wiue with whome thou wilt for my part. 1774 *JOHNSON To Mrs. Thrale* 17 All who wisely wish to wive. 1817 *BYRON Beppo* xcii, With any other women did you wive? 1876 *HARDY Ethelberta* xxvii, Encouraging Neigh in his resolve to wive.

2. To be a wife, act as a wife. Also *with it. rare.* 1583 *MELBANCKE Philotimus* Ejb, Were it not very absurd... for maidens being scarce borne, to begin to bride it, and say in so doing they would learne to wive it? 1639 [see *WIVING ppl. a.*] 1891 C. E. NORTON *Dante's Hell* i. 100 Many are the animals with which she [sc. a she-wolf] wives [orig. a *cui sammoglia*].

3. *trans.* To take to wife, make one's wife, marry, wed (a woman); *pa. pple.* made or become a wife, married (*to* a man).

1592 *WARNER Alb. Eng.* vii. xxxv. 152 He wyu'd a Lady passing faire. 1596 *SHAKS. Merch. V.* 1. ii. 145, I had rather hee should shriue me then wiue me. 1676 *HOBBS Odyssey* II. 203 Many other ladies we could wive. 1848-9 *LYTTON K. Arthur* II. lxx, 'Wived to my son, the witch will soon be steady!' 'Wived to your son?—she is a wife already!' 1862 *MEREDITH Modern Love* xxxv, It is no vulgar nature I have wived. 1898 E. P. EVANS *Evol. Ethics* i. 52 The Magians continued to wive their sisters in conformity to ancient usage.

4. To furnish with a wife, obtain a wife for; to marry to a wife: chiefly in *pa. pple.* married (of a man). *Obs.* or *arch.*

1513 *MORE Rich. III* (1883) 61 Smal pleasure taketh a man of al that euer he hath beside, yf he bee wived against his appetite. 1583 *MELBANCKE Philotimus* Xijb, They are euill horsed, and worse wived, that ride on coltes & marrie younge gyltites. 1597 *SHAKS. 2 Hen. IV.* 1. ii. 61, I bought him in Paules, and hee'l buy mee a horse in Smithfield. If I could get mee a wife in the Stewes, I were Mann'd, Hors'd, and Wiu'd. 1604 — *Oth.* II. i. 60 *Mon.*... Is your Generall wiu'd? *Cassio*. Most fortunately: he hath atchieu'd a Maid That paragons description. 1608 — *Per.* v. ii. 10 He is promise to be wived To faire Marina. 1670 *MILTON Hist. Eng.* III. Wks. 1851 V. 113 She... won so much upon his fancy, though already wiv'd, as to demand her in marriage. 1816 *CRABBE Flirtation* 372 His craft contrived To get the Priest with expedition wived. 1820 *SCOTT Monast.* xxxvii, I promise you... that young Bennygask shall be richly wived. 1851 W. B. MACCABE *Bertha* III. xiv. 376, I [Henry] can do more strange things than unwise myself, and wive you.

†b. *with it:* To obtain a wife for. *Obs. rare.*

1608 J. DAY *Humour out of Breath* i. i. B3, Oct... Ile one day get A husband for thee... *Flo.*... Wiue it for them [sc. my brothers], you shall not husband me.

5. To become the wife of, marry (a man; also *transf.* of an animal). *Obs.* or *arch.*

1621 G. SANDYS *Ovid's Met.* ix. (1626) 175 So haue I seene two Buls together close; The fairest Cow in all the pasture chose To wiue the Victor. 1812 *CRABBE Tales* xii. 283 Served by that Villain—by this Fury wived—What fate is mine!

6. *fig.* To 'wed', unite, couple. *rare.*

1886 *LOWELL Latest Lit. Ess.*, *Gray* (1891) 2 The thoughts, wived with words above their own level.

Hence wived (waivd), *ppl. a.*

1633 *Costlie Whore* iv. end, He shal bee intombd with a wived maid. 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* V. 293/2 Gregory VII... determined... that no wived priest should celebrate or even assist at the Mass.

wivehood, -less, -ly: see **WIFEHOOD**, etc.

wivel(l, obs. forms of **WEEVIL**.

†'wiven, a. *Obs.* Forms: 4 wyfyne, 4-5 wyuen(e. [f. *wiv-*, *WIFE* sb. + -EN¹.] (In some instances perh. wk. gen. pl. of *wife*.) a. Womanly, feminine. b. Wifely.

1362 *LANGL. P. Pl. A.* v. 29 To...fette hom Felice From wyuene [v.r. wyuen] pyne. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvi. (*Nicholas*) 178 His body waiky he fed, & wyfyne company ay fled. c 1400 *Trevisa's Higden* (Rolls) VI. 213 Þanne þe queene byzede here housbonde wip benygne [v.r.r. wyvene, wyven] flatteryng [L. *uxoris deliramentis*].

wiver¹ ('waivə(r)). *north. dial.* Also 6 wywer. [Identical with *waver*, *wafer*, *wefer*, *†waiver*, *†wayver*, *†weaver*, in *WAVER* sb.¹, *SIDE-WAVER*, and *Northumb. dial. inwaver*, *inwiver* (in sense a).] A long beam of wood. a. in the roof of a house; in *†wiver-tree*, *SIDE-WAVER*, *top wiver*. b. in a boat (see *quot.* 1894).

c 1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesto*. in Wright *Voc.* 170 Amont heceler mettez la poutre [glossed the wiver-tre]. 1532 in *Priory of Finchale* (Surtees) 445/2 [Timber at Durham sawn

into] wywers, rybbs, wynd balks. **1641** [see SIDE-WAVER 1]. **1641** *BEST Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 148 They will sowe downe theire thatch in fower places, viz.; first close to the very wall plates, then two foote belowe the side wivers, then two foote above the side wivers, and lastly aboute a yarde or more belowe the rigge-tree. **1894** *Northumbld. Gloss.*, *Wiwere*, a long beam. The top wivere is the wind-balk or collar beam in a house-top. The side wivere is the long beam on which frame-houses formerly rested. (Obs.) [Misprinted *winere*.] *Ibid.*, *Wiver*, one of the timbers or wales of a boat on which the seats rest.

wiver² ('waivə(r)). *rare*. [f. WIVE *v.* + -ER¹.] One who takes a wife.

1888 *DOUGHTY Trav. Arabia Deserta* II. 214 The young negro found the old wiver in the palms.

wiver(e, wivern(e: see WYVER, WYVERN.

wivers, obs. f. **VIVERS**.

wives, pl. (and obs. gen. sing.) of **WIFE sb.**

wiving ('waivin), *vbl. sb.* [f. WIVE *v.* + -ING¹.] The action of the verb **WIVE**; taking a wife, marrying, marriage.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5955 He biþozte him.. 3if þer mizte be eny red þoru wiuinge.. vor is wif was ded. **1377** *LANGL. P. Pl. B.* ix. 181 Whiles þow art þonge.. Wreke þe with wyuynge 3if þow wilt ben excused. **1398** *TREvisa Barth. De P.R.* II. ii. (1495) biþ/b1 Angels.. for they ben spyrytuall & bodylesse, they nede nother weddyng ne wyuynge. **1542** *UDALL Eras. Apoph.* 78 He allowed them that wer towardes wiuynge, & yet wiued not. **1567** *TURBERV. Epit.*, etc. 73 b, Let wyuing go, lyue single aye. **1591** H. SMITH *Prepar. Marr.* 27 In wiuing and striuing, a man should take counsell of all the world. **1596** *SHAKS. Merch. V.* II. ix. 83 The ancient saying.. Hanging and wiuing goes by destinie. **1628** *WITHER Brit. Rememb.* v. 1832 The wivings of the wise King Solomon. **1756** *Monitor* No. 35. I. 324 The consequence of so much wiving, was a numerous progeny. **1872** *JEAFFRESON Brides & Bridals* II. 54 In a priest the act of wiving was under no lawful circumstances positively sinful. **1910** A. HILLIERS *Master-Girl* vi. 152 Since the world and wiving began was there ever such a woman?

attrib. **c 1610** *MIDDLETON*, etc. *Widow* v. i. (1652) 59 [He] Sayes I'm ordain'd for him;... And that this wiving fate speaks in me to him.

So 'wiving *ppl. a.*

1639 *GLAPTHORNE Wallenstein* III. iii, The wiving Vine that 'bout the friendly Elme, Twines her soft limbes.

wivish, obs. var. **WIFISH**.

wiwes, obs. pl. of **WIFE sb.**

wiwi¹ ('wiwi). [Maori, = 'rushes' (T. Kendall *Gram. & Vocab. N.Z.* (1820) 228).] A New Zealand rush used to make an outer covering for the roof and walls of a house.

1840 J. S. POLACK *Manners & Customs New Zealanders* II. 285 *Wi-wi*, kind of wiry grass that is pulled up in tufts, it also is the produce of the marsh. **1842** W. R. WADE *Journ. N. Isl. N.Z.* III. 61 The roof [of the house] is usually completed with a thick covering of *wiwi* (a small rush). **1875** *Treas. Bot. Suppl.* **1970** *MOORE & EDGAR Flora N.Z.* II. 59 The Maori name for rushes and rush-like plants is *Wiwi*.

wi-wi² ('wi:wi). *Austral. & N.Z. slang.* Also **wewi**, **wee-wee**, **oui-oui**. [ad. F. *oui*, *oui* yes, yes, taken as typical of the French language.] A Frenchman; also as *pl.* the French.

1841 E. J. WAKEFIELD in *N.Z. Jnl.* II. XLV. 243/1 Should the *Wiwis*, or French, kill any of our Chiefs. **1845** E. J. WAKEFIELD *Adv. N.Z.* I. iv. 94 If I had sold the land to the White missionaries, might they not have sold it again to the *Wiwis* (Frenchmen) or Americans? **1852** *MUNDY Antipodes* (1857) 180 Young chiefs.. who will.. like the 'Wi-wis' of Young France, indulge occasionally in what that volatile people style 'revolutions intestines!' **1859** A. S. THOMSON *Story N.Z.* I. II. i. 236 The *Wewis*, as the French are now called. **1872** EARL PEMBROKE & G. H. KINGSLEY *S. Sea Bubbles* i, Would that the imperious 'Oui-oui' had never placed foot upon your sacred shores!

wiylde, **wiys**, obs. forms of **WILD**, **WISE**.

Wiyot ('wi:ɔt). [Wiyot *wiyat* (people of) the Eel River delta.] An American Indian people formerly living on the coast of northern California; the Macro-Algonquian language of this people. Also *attrib.* or as *adj.*

1851 G. GIBBS *Jnl.* 9 Sept. in H. R. Schoolcraft *Information respecting Indian Tribes* (1853) III. iv(3). 127 The name given to this people by their neighbors is *Weeyot*. **1911** A. L. KROEBER *Lang. Coast Calif.* 384 The Wiyot occupied the Coast from the Bear River mountains north as far as to Little river. *Ibid.*, Wiyot is spoken indistinctly and lacks.. phonetic clarity. **1918** *Univ. Calif. Publ. in Amer. Archaeol. & Ethnol.* XIV. III. 232 Cedar though present on Wiyot territory, is not abundant enough for the purposes for which a soft wood is needed. **1925** *Ibid.* XXII. I. 5 There are also some Wiyot living among the Athapascans at Blue Lake. *Ibid.* 6 The individual differences of Wiyot speech will be discussed. **1946** L. BLOOMFIELD in C. Osgood *Linguistic Structures Native Amer.* 201 Two languages of California, Wiyot and Yurok, have been suspected of kinship with Algonquian. **1961** H. DRIVER *Indians N. Amer.* xiv. 251 From the Wiyot to the Bella Coola, such usufruct was patricentered. **1964** R. H. ROBINS *Gen. Linguistics* 308 Isolated languages in the western states, Blackfoot.. and Wiyot and Yurok (California). **1974** *Encycl. Brit. Micropædia* X. 720/1 Wiyot settlements were located on streams of bays, rather than on the ocean itself. **1977** *Language* LIII. 501/1 Pentland expands on Karl Teeter's suggestion.. that the rule affricating dental stops which is operative in diminutives in Wiyot.. as well as in Algonquian, should be ascribed to Proto-Algic.

wiz, var. **WHIZZ**, **WHIZ sb.**²

wizard ('wizəd), *sb.* and *a.* Forms: 5 **wys(e)ard**, **-sar**, 6 **-sarde**, **-zard**, **wyssarde**, **wissard**, **Sc. weser**, 6-7 **wisard**, (7 **wiseard**, **wizer**), 7-8 **wizzard**, (**vizard**), 6- **wizard**. [late ME. *wysar(d)*, f. *wys*, *wis*, *wiss*, **WISE a.** + **-ARD**. The pronunciation with voiced *s* (*z*) follows *wisdom* and *wise*.]

A. sb.

†1. A philosopher, sage: = **WISE MAN** 2. Often *contemptuous*. *Obs.*

The second quot. may belong to sense 2.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 530/1 *Wysard* (K. *wysar*), *sagaculus*. ? **a 1500** *Chester Pl., Coming of Antichrist* 371 *Antechristus*. Out on the [sc. Enoch], wyseard [v.rr. *rasarde*, *roysarde*], with thy wyles! For falsely my people thou begyles. **1547** *BAULDWIN Mor. Philos.* I. i. (1550) Aij, The Grecians.. haue therin taken great paynes, naming it first *Sophia*, and suche as therin were skilled *Sophistes* or *wysardes*. **1594** [GREENE] *Selimus* 214 Perhaps you thinke that now forsooth you sit With some graue wisard in a prating shade. **1596** *SPENSER F.Q.* IV. xii. 2 Therefore the antique wisards well inuened, That Venus of the fomy sea was bred. **1601** B. JONSON *Poetaster* IV. v. (1905) 82 *Albi*. I haue read in a booke, that to play the foole wisely, is high wisdom. *Gall.* How now, Vulcan! Will you be the first wizard? **1676** *Doctrine of Devils* 56 The Politicians, the Philosophers, the Wizers of the World. **1697** *DRYDEN Virg. Georg.* IV. 571 First the wily Wizard [sc. Proteus] must be caught, For unconstrain'd he nothing tells for naught. **1841** W. SPALDING *Italy* II. 99 Two young philosophers and wizards, called *Phidias* and *Praxiteles*.

2. **a.** A man who is skilled in occult arts; in later use, a man who practises witchcraft (the masculine correlative of **WITCH sb.**²): = **WISE MAN** 3.

†Occas. applied to a woman.

c 1550 *CHEKE Matt.* II. i When Jesus was boorn in beethleem.., lo then y^e wisards cam from th'est parties to Jerusalem. **1552** [see **WISE MAN** 3]. **c 1574** G. HARVEY *Marginalia* (1913) 163 Owr vulgar Astrologers, especially such, as ar commonly termed *Cunning men* or *Artsmen*. Sum call them *wissards*. **1596** in *Spalding Club Misc.* I. 84 Sche is conuick.. as a common weser and socerer, and ordint to be brunt. **1606** *HOLLAND Sueton.* 237 Yet to none was he more spitefully bent than to wisards and Astrologers. **1621** [see **WHITE WITCH**]. **1629** *MILTON Nativity* 23 The Star-led Wisards haste with odours sweet. **1674** *HOBBS Odyssey* 73, I was forc't to come T' inquire of th' Wizard, old Tiresias, What the Fates say about my going home. **1713** *SWIFT Author upon Himself* 7 Clowns on Scholars as on Wizards look, And take a Folio for a conj'ring Book. **1751** *Tryal T. Collet* (ed. 3) A large Mob.. at Tring.. declaring Revenge against Osborne and his Wife, as a Witch and a Wizard. **1825** *HONE Every-day Bk.* I. 942 In July, 1825, a man was 'swam for a wizard', at Wickham-Skeith, in Suffolk. **1851-61** *MAYHEW Lond. Labour* III. 107, I call myself a wizard as well; but that's only the polite term for conjurer; in fact, I should think that wizard meant an astrologer, and more of a fortune-teller. **1872** *HARDWICK Trad. Lanc.* 133 A wizard who had wrought sad havoc amongst his neighbour's cattle. **1897** F. THOMPSON *New Poems* 113 To dower her, past an eastern wizard's dreams.

b. transf. and *fig.*: *esp.* a man who 'does wonders' in his profession: in recent use often trivially applied to an expert. Also freq. as *financial wizard*, a person skilled in making money, or in organizing financial affairs.

the Wizard of the North, Sir Walter Scott.

1620 *SHELTON 2nd Pt. Don Quix.* xxxi. 201, I haue heard my Master say, who is the very Wizard of Histories.. when he came [etc.]. **1817** *SHELLEY Rev. Islam* VI. xxiii, The choicest winds of Heaven, which are enchanted To music, by the wand of Solitude, That wizard wild. **1858** *HAWTHORNE Fr. & It. Note-bks.* (1871) II. 35 Gerard Dow, and other old Dutch wizards, who painted.. such earthen pots that they will surely hold water. **1869** R. WALTON *Random Recoll. Midl. Circuit* 134 Fortunately the 'Wizard of the North' came upon the spot [sc. Kenilworth], and 'Henceforth' (as a modern historian has it) 'the ruined place was to be sanctified [etc.]'. **1871** L. STEPHEN *Hours in Libr.*, *Scott* (1874) 218 Some reason for suspecting that the great 'Wizard' has lost some of his magic power. **1893** *Ladies' Home Jnl.* May 27/2 Sir Walter Scott was called 'The Wizard of the North'. **1903** *Westm. Gaz.* 31 Aug. 7/2 The wizard of yacht-building. **1952** G. SARTON *Hist. Sci.* I. xix. 471 The eunuch, Hermeias, who began his career as a money-changer, was a kind of financial wizard and became very wealthy and powerful. **1967** G. F. FIENNES *I tried to run a Railway* v. 58, I had energy.. to be the financial wizard on the parochial church council. **1975** *Times* 24 May 4/7 Judge Kennet.. noted that Mr Tzour had been noted as a financial wizard.

c. A witch-doctor or medicine-man.

1845 *DARWIN Voy. Nat.* x. (1879) 214 Each family or tribe has a wizard or conjuring doctor. **1889** *RIDER HAGGARD Allan's Wife* 28 This man.. had for some years occupied the position of Wizard-in-chief to the tribe.

†**d.** A professional conjuror. *U.S. Obs.*

1859 L. WRAXALL tr. *J. E. Robert-Houdin's Mem.* II. iv. 108 On my arrival in England, a conjuror of the name of Anderson, who assumed the title of *Great Wizard of the North*, had been performing for a long period at the little Strand Theatre. **1895** *N.Y. Dramatic News* 14 Dec. 6/1 The wonderful record established at the California theatre by Hermann the Great.. has finally been broken.. [by] the wonderful wizard [himself].

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *wizard-craft*, *-finder*, *-man*, *-swarm*; *wizard-woven* *adj.*

1819 *SHELLEY Faust* II. 210 Wizard-swarms cover the heath all over. **1819** *KEATS Otho* III. ii, If he flames longer in this wise I shall believe in wizard-woven loves. **1876** H. BROOKS *Natal* 334 The wizard-finder is not unfrequently turned to account by the stronger men of a tribe. **1891** *KIPLING Life's Handicap* 277 He went to Juseen Dazé, the

wizard-man who keeps the Talking Monkey's Head. **1897** *Folk-Lore* Mar. 53 Wizardcraft has the same ultimate origin as.. the fairy belief.

B. adj. 1. Having the powers or properties of a wizard; that practises wizardry; hence *gen.* having magical or witching power or influence.

1579 *HAKES Newes out of Powles* (1872) Fijij b, O wylie wincking wyzard Woolues. **1649** *HAMMOND Serm.* vi. Wks. 1684 IV. 506 That wizard flesh within us, that hath thus bewitch'd us to its false pleasures. **1679** *DRYDEN & LEE Ædipus* IV. i. 55 Thou blind old wizard Prophet. **1746** W. COLLINS *Ode to Liberty* Antistr. 2 Beyond the Measure vast of Thought, The Works, the Wizzard Time has wrought! **1747** — *Ode to Manners* 11 Some Pow'r.. At which the Wizzard Passions fly. **1794** *MRS. RADCLIFFE Myst. Udolpho* xlix, Or in some shadowy glen's romantic bower, Where wizard forms their mystic charms prepare. **1820** *SHELLEY Witch Atl.* xxvi, All day the wizard lady sate aloof, Spelling out scrolls of dread antiquity. **1835** *LYTTON Rienzi* III. ii, These wild and wizard extremes of life. **1897** *Daily News* 14 June 5/3 The artificial production of diamonds by the wizard chemist of to-day.

2. **a.** Of, pertaining to, or associated with wizards or wizardry; hence *gen.* magic, enchanted, bewitched.

1638 *MILTON Lycidas* 55 Nor on the shaggy top of Mona high, Nor yet where Deva spreads her wily stream. **c 1796** *ROSCOE in Currie Burns's Wks.* (1800) I. 343 And let Despair, with wizard light, Disclose the yawning gulf below. **1808** *SCOTT Marmion* III. xx, Lord Gifford.. tarried not his garb to change, But, in his wizard habit strange, Came forth. **1813** — *Trierm.* III. xxv, The wizard song at distance died, As if in ether borne astray. **1817** *MOORE Lalla Rookh, Fire-worshippers* II. 221 Those tow'rs sublime,.. Were sever'd from the haunts of men By a wide, deep, and wizard glen. **c 1820** S. ROGERS *Italy, Interview* 194 Tasso, Guarini, waved their wizard-wands, Peopling the groves from Arcady. **1850** *TENNYSON In Mem.* exxii, The wizard lightnings deeply glow. **1918** N. MUNRO *Jaunty Jock* II. 20 It was like as they were in some wizard fortress cut from rock.

b. slang. Excellent, marvellous, very good.

1922 S. LEWIS *Babbitt* xvii. 216 The Rev. Dr. John Jennison Drew.. is a wizard soul-winner. **1932** E. WAUGH *Black Mischief* vii. 277 They..righted themselves and stopped dead within a few feet of danger. 'Wizard show that,' remarked the pilot. **1943** J. B. PRIESTLEY *Daylight on Saturday* i. 1 The roofs are nicely camouflaged, and the stiff coloured netting.. is a wizard show. **1954** [see **SUPER a.** 3]. **1958** 'R. CROMPTON' *William's Television Show* vii. 189 Gosh, that party of Ginger's last Christmas was *wizard*. **a 1966** 'M. NA GOPALEEN' *Best of Myles* (1968) 25 How awfully wizard being at the theatre with you! **1974** *Times* 17 Aug. 7/3 'How wizard!' they said.. 'How absolutely super!'

3. *Comb.*: **wizard-like a.** = **WIZARDLY a.**

1859 *GEO. ELIOT Adam Bede* v, I know you are fond of queer, wizard-like stories.

Hence (*nonce-wds.*) 'wizardless', a female wizard, witch; 'wizardism, wizardry; †'wiz-ardizing *ppl. a.*, practising wizardry or witchcraft; 'wizardship, wizardry.

1789 H. WALPOLE *Let. Hannah More* 9 Aug., I wish my Macbethian *wizardless would tell me that Cowslip Dale should come to Strawberry Hill'. **1866** *Cornh. Mag.* Mar. 353 It was vaguely left to force the belief, that on this occasion our basket either carried a distinguished wizardless, or.. a wondrous medium. **1682** W. RICHARDS *Wallogr.* 96 The study of *Wizardism hath also been famous amongst them. **1726** *DE FOE Hist. Devil* II. ix, Whether Wizardism made them ugly, that were not so before. **1603** *HARSNET Pop. Impost.* xxi. 135 *Wizardizing Augurs, imposturizing South-sayers. **1882** *MABEL COLLINS Cobwebs* II. 252 Vansittart had learned the secrets of *wizardship during his travels.

wizard ('wizəd), *v. rare*. [f. prec. sb.]

†1. *trans.* To call 'wizard'. *Obs. nonce-use.*

1603 *SIR C. HEYDON Jud. Astrol.* III. 111 If M. Chamber had considered that Aristotle and the Grecians had their chiefe knowledge from these nations that were Astrologers, he could neuer (for shame) haue wisarded them. *Ibid.* vi. 179.

2. To practise wizardry upon, to bewitch; to drive away as by magic.

1898 A. AUSTIN *Lamia's Winter-quarters* 61 The last lingering trails of mist were gradually wizarded away. **1900** *Folk-Lore* (1901) June 177 If yah be a wizard, wizard me.

So 'wizarding *vbl. sb.*, the practice of wizardry, witchcraft, or magic art.

1668 *WILKINS Real Char.* 337 Those.. cheating Arts of Manteia or Wizarding, with which the world always hath been.. abused. **1924** *Blackw. Mag.* Nov. 650/1 When the people think that the wizard half of him is not sufficiently potent in spells, they get to wizarding on their own account.

wizardly ('wizədli), *a.* Now *rare*. [f. **WIZARD sb.** + **-LY**¹.] Of, pertaining to, characteristic of, or resembling a wizard or wizardry.

1588 J. HARVEY *Disc. Probl.* 23 O wizzardly dreame of dreames! **1596** *NASHE Saffron Walden* N 2b, No wizzardly astronomer of them all ever dreamed of any such calculations. **1613** *PURCHAS Pilgrimage* VIII. iv. 629 By wizzardly and deuillish practises to vp-hold his owne greatness. **a 1648** LD. HERBERT *Hen. VIII* (1683) 404 Divers feigned Miracles, accompanied with some Wisardly Unsooth sayings. **1652** *GAULE Magastrom.* 24, I count the Jewish wizzardly fable not here worth the relating. **1893** *Scribner's Mag.* May 597/2 A power which seemed sometimes to have a touch of the weird and wizardly in it. **1913** *JAMES HOOPER Souvenir of George Borrow Celebr.* 14 Sergeant Bagge's encounter with the wizardly creature.

wizardry ('wizədri). [f. **WIZARD sb.** + **-RY**.]

1. **a.** The art or practice of a wizard or wizards; wizardly or magic skill; witchery, witchcraft.

1583 *GOLDING Calvin on Deut.* cix. 671/1 If these [inchanters or witches] be forbidden; we must vnderstand..

yt all other kinds of Wisardrie are deadly crimes. **1665** PATRICK *Pilgrim* vii. 23, I never used any other Wizzard[rly] to make my Land better than my neighbours, but what you will find to lye in these Spades, Ploughs, and Oxen. **1796** W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Rev.* XX. 535 The Arabic wizardry of the Italian, the elfen mythology of the German poet, seemed to offer rival resources for a supernatural machinery. **1855** BROWNING *Men & Women* i. *An Epistle* 249 The learned leech Perished in a tumult many years ago, Accused... of wizardry. **1861** S. THOMSON *Wild Fl.* iii. (ed. 4) 239 All the witcheries and wizardries that found home in the imaginations of the people. **1877** SYMONDS *Renaiss.* It. vi. 343 As a physiognomist and diviner, he acquired a reputation bordering on wizardry.

b. transf. Magic lore.

1876 E. DOWDEN *Poems* 196 There I will sit, and score rare wizardry in characters vermillion, azure, gold.

2. fig. 'Magical' or 'bewitching' art, power, or influence; 'magic'. Also more *loosely*, skill, expertise, or the result of this.

1884 J. PARKER *Apost. Life* II. 265 Time..works its wondrous wizardry upon the mind. **1887** *Academy* 20 Aug. 113/3 So fascinating a writer is Mr. Matthew Arnold, so all conquering is his own wizardry. **1901** 'L. MALET' *Calmady* v. ii. You have employed a certain wizardry in the furnishing of that room. **1951** *Sport* 27 Jan.-2 Feb. 3/3 Rounding off the wing wizardry of Finney and Morrison are inside men Horton, Wayman and Bobby Beattie. **1974** W. J. BURLEY *Death in Stanley Street* viii. 142 Bits of electrical wizardry which must have come from a record player or a television set. **1979** *Arizona Daily Star* 5 Aug. (Comic Suppl.), Peter Parker uses his scientific wizardry.

wize, obs. f. or var. WISE.

wizen ('wiz(ə)n), *a.* Also **wizzen**. [Clipped f. WIZENED, the resultant form suggesting a ppl. adj. in *-en*.] = WIZENED 2.

1786 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 16 Aug., A thin, little, wizen old gentleman... came up. **1837** *Lett. fr. Madras* (1843) 49 The ladies are all young and wizen, and the gentlemen are all old and wizen. **1867** TROLLOPE *Chron. Basset* xxxvii, Her little wizen face was as sharp as ever. **1880** F. G. LEE *Ch. under Q. Eliz.* II. 336 Her now drawn and wizen features.

Comb. **1819** M. EDGEWORTH *Lett.* 17 Apr. (1971) 201 An old thin stupid wizen looking Mr. Evelyn received us. **1837** BARHAM *Ingol. Leg., Spectre Tappington* ad fin., A dingy wizen-faced portrait. **1888** FERGUS HUME *Mme. Midas* i. ii, A small, wizen-looking little man.

wizen ('wiz(ə)n), *v.* Also 5 wisen, 6 wisne, 8-9 **wizzen**. [OE. *wisnian*, *weosnian* (also *āwisanian*, *forwisanian*) = OHG. *wesanēn*, *-(e)nēn*, also *ar-*, *ir-*, *firwesenēn*, ON. *visna* (Sw. *vissna*, Da. *visne*); cf. ON. *visinn* (Sw., Da. *vissen*) withered, palsied: f. Teut. *wis-*, whence also MHG. *wesel* weak, perished; cf. Lith. *vysti* to wither, L. *viēscere* to wither, W. *gwyw* (:—**wiswo-*) withered, OIr. *feugud* 'marcor'.]

1. intr. Of plants: To dry up, shrivel, wither. Also *transf.* of persons, their features, etc. See also WIZENED.

c 890 WÆRFERTH *Gregory's Dial.* 134 Heo byð geswenced, þæt heo weornað [MS. *ō. weosnað*] & brosnap in hire sylfre. **c 950** *Lindisf. Gosp.* John xv. 6 3if huælc in mec ne wunas gesended bið buta sæwælc tuigga & drygeð *vel* wisneð. **971** *Blickl. Hom.* 115 þa he [sc. the world] þus fæger wæs... þa wisnode he on Cristes haligra heortum. **c 1050** *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 343 *Arida*, weosniendre.

a 1450 *MS. Cantab. Ff. v. 48* If. 90 þe tre weloid & wisened sone, & wex olde and dry.

1787 GROSE *Prov. Gloss.*, *Wizzen*, to wither. N. **1818** TODD, *To Wizen*, to wither; to become dry:.. Common in several parts of the north of England. **1864** J. GILBERT & G. C. CHURCHILL *Dolomite Mountains* 493 After wizening with cold for an hour, we ran down to the hut for breakfast. **1883** D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* xxvi, His plump features wizened, and his rosy cheeks grew white.

2. trans. To cause to wither or shrivel. *Sc.* **1513** DOUGLAS *Æneis* vi. xii. 42 Tharfor thai suffir panis and turment, . . . Sum stentit bene in wisnand windis wak. **a 1895** R. McL. CALDER *Berwicksh. Bard* (1897) 223 Self has gained the upper han', An' wizened up their hearts.

wizen, *Sc.* and north. f. WEASAND.

wizened ('wiz(ə)nd), *a.* Forms: 6 wysnit, -yt, 8 wissen'd, 8-9 wizen'd, 9 wiz(z)ened, wizzen'd, wizend, wizzent, wuzzent. [orig. *Sc.* and north.: f. WIZEN *v.* + -ED¹.]

1. Of plants, foliage, wood, etc.: Dried up, withered, shrivelled.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* vii. Prol. 124 In heych wysnit treis, The soir gled quhislis loud. **1721** RAMSAY *Prosp. Plenty* 93 The antient Nations..Maun study closs..Aff a' the wissen'd Leaves of Spite to shake. **1721** — *Ode to Mr. F* — 7 The Nags and Nowt hate wissen'd Strae. **1826** G. BEATTIE *John O' Arnha* (ed. 5) 58 Their wizzent timbers stour'd like sneishin! **1853** HAWTHORNE *Tanglewood T., Pomegranate Seeds* 196 He set down the golden salver, with the wizened pomegranate upon it. **1880** HOWELLS *Undiscover. Country* ix, The farmer had ceased to coax his wizened crops from the sterile soil. **1882** *Garden* 18 Mar. 183/3 There is some excuse for eating wizened Muscats.

2. Of persons or animals, their features, etc: Shrunk and dried up, thin and shrivelled. †Also of the throat, parched.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* ix. ii. 70 [The wild wolf's] wysnyt throt, havand of blude sic thrist, Gendris of lang fast sic ane appetyte. **1728** RAMSAY *Last Sp. Miser* iv, The wissen'd beardless wights Who herd the wives of eastern knights. **1785** BURNS *1st Epist. Davie* xi, I'll light now, and dight now, His [sc. Pegasus's] sweaty, wizen'd hide. **1818** SCOTT *Heart Midl.* xviii, Wadna I set my ten talents in your wuzzent face for that very word? **1866** G. MACDONALD *Ann. Q. Neighb.*

xxx. (1878) 518 A little wizened creature, with more wrinkles than hairs. **1871** L. STEPHEN *Playgr. Eur.* (1894) x. 253 His..wizened face had a strong resemblance to the features of good-humoured goblins. **1903** MEREDITH *Lett.* (1912) II. 559 Your visit will give you a wizened old hen instead of the plump pullet you look for.

Comb. **1890** W. A. WALLACE *Only a Sister?* xxxi, I'll have a reckoning with the wizened-faced old rogue.

b. transf.

1862 MRS. BROWNING *Song Ragged Schools* 28 In God's liberal blue air Peter's dome itself looks wizened. **1895** MEREDITH *Amazing Marr.* I. xix. 209 Below the top bars of a wizened grate was a chilly fire. **1905** SIR F. TREVES *Other Side Lant.* (1906) II. xix. 123 A wizened old city hidden among the hills.

Hence 'wizenedness.

1887 KIPLING *Plain Tales, Bisara of Pooree* (1924) 263 It was his wizenedness and worthlessness that made him fall... in love with Miss Hollis.

wize roy, wizir, obs. ff. VICEROY, VIZIER.

wizle ('waiz(ə)l), *dial.* (n.w. *midl.*) Forms: 7 wisall, -ell, 8-9 wyzle, 9 w(e)isle, wysle, wisele, wizle. [Obscurely f. WISE *sb.*² Cf. WISOME, *wizer* (Eng. Dial. Dict.).] The (green) top of a plant having an edible root.

Hence †wisalled *a. Her.*, having the wizles of a specified tincture.

1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. iii. 55/1 The tops of Carrats and Parsnips are by Gardiners termed Wisalls, and some Wisomes, so then according to the terms of Art, the Carrat is Or, Wisalled Vert. *Ibid.* ix. 181/2 Grass, Roots, Wisels, Grains. **c 1746** J. COLLIER (Tim Bobbin) *View Lanc. Dial.* Gloss. Wks. (1775) K 1/2 *Wyzles*, stalks of potatoes, turnips, etc. **1886** *Cheshire Gloss.*, *Wyzles*, the stems of potatoes.

wizzard, obs. f. WIZARD.

wizzel(l, var. WEEZLE *Obs.*

wizzen: see WEASAND, WIZEN.

†**wlaffe**, *v.* *Obs.* [OE. *wlaffian*, of imitative origin. Cf. ME. *blaffere*, *blaffoorde* 'traulus' (Promp. Parv. 37).] *intr.* To stammer; to speak indistinctly. Hence †**wlaffer**, †**wlaffing vbl. sb.** and *ppl. a.* Also †**wlaffering vbl. sb.** (? *erron.*).

1025-50 *Rule Chrodegang* lx. (1916) 74 Of pam deaiað þa earan & wleaffað seo tunge. **a 1300** in Horstmann *Altengl. Leg.* (1875) 119 An old mon he fond, Bleryid & wlafling. **c 1325** *Gloss. W. de Bibbesto*, in Wright *Voc.* 173 A checum mot l'un balbeye, *gloss* wlaflæs. **1340** *Ayenb.* 262 And peruore ich ne ssolde by bote a wlafiere ne zigge ping to þe uolle. **c 1340** *Nominale* (Skeat) 84 Man drauelith and wlaflayth. **1387** TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 159 By comyxtioun..wip Danes and..Normans, in meny þe contray longage is apayred, and som vseþ straunge wlaflerynge [Caxton wlafling].

†**wlak, wlach**, *a. Obs.* Forms: 1 wlacu, -o, wlæc, 3 wlec(c)h, wleach, 3-4 wlach, 4 wlak, 5 wlake. [OE. *wlæc*, *wlacu* (an orig. *u*-stem) = MLG. *wlak* lukewarm (whence *wlacheit* 'tepor'); cf. OS. *wlakon*, MLG. *wla(c)ken* to be tepid; the ulterior relations are doubtful. For the phonology of the final consonant cf. FRECK *a.* (ME. *frek*, *frech*.)] Lukewarm, tepid; also *fig.* Also advb. in *wlach hot* (cf. MLG. *wlakwarm*).

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past.* C. xxxvii. 269 Ða ful oft beoð mid wlacum watre gelacnode. *Ibid.* lviii. 447 Se ðonne bið wearm, nalles wlaço, ðe god geornlice onginð, & eac geendað. **c 1200** *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 151 Ðe wop þe man wepeð for his emcristenes wowe cumeð of þe wlače heorte. **a 1225** *Ancr. R.* 400 Forði þet tu ert ase wlech bitweonen two, nouðer cold ne hot. **c 1290** *S. Eng. Leg.* 319/695 3if þov nimst rist puyr hot watur and dost cold par-to, þov mist it makien euene wleach [MS. *Harl.* wlak]. **1432-50** tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 522 In comparisoun to that [hote brennyng] lyse, oure fier is but as it were wlače hoot. **c 1450** *Bk. Hawking in Rel. Ant.* I. 304 Kepe it with wlake wyn unto the tyme.

wlanc(k, wlank(e, var. WLONK *Obs.*

†**wlappe**, *v.* *Obs.* [app. blending of *lappe*, LAP *v.*² with WRAP *v.*] *trans.* To wrap. Also *fig.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 97 Comunly þei ben..wlappid in pride. *Ibid.* 123 Siche on is a dede careyne gon out or his sepulcre wlappid with clopis of mornynge. **1382** — *Matt.* xxvii. 59. **1388** — 2 *Tim.* ii. 4 No man holdinge kny3thod to God, wlappih [1382 inwlappih] hym silf with worldli nedis. **c 1449** PECOCK *Repr.* III. v. 306 [Comm. 2 *Tim.* ii. 4: see prec. quot.] Forwhi grete lordis han lasse nede forto wlappe hem silf in worldli nedis. [1829] J. HUNTER *Hallamshire Gloss.* s.v., In wlappping there is more of folding over, placing one layer over another, than in wrapping. We wrap up any thing in a silk handkerchief: the laundress wlaps up the shirt which she has ironed.]

†**wlat, sb.** *Obs.* [OE. *wlætta*, related to WLATE *v.* Cf. MLG. *wlate*.] Nausea, loathing, disgust.

c 960 ÆTHELWOLD *Rule St. Benet* (Schröder 1885) 68 þelæs he..hwylcne wleattan and sogeðan on his heortan ne astyrige. **c 1000** *Sax. Leechd.* I. 358 Wip spiwðan & wlætton . . . genim bares gelynde. **a 1250** *Owl & Night.* 1506 If þu biþenchest ho hire ofligge þu myht myd wlate þe este bugge.

†**wlat, a.** Also 3 wlat. [f. prec. or next.] Nauseous, loathsome. Hence †**wlatness**, nausea.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3300 A welle he funde at marath, De water was biter and al wlat. **1398** TREVISA *Barth. De P.R.* xvii. lxx. (Tollem. MS.), I use þerof comfotep . . . þe stomak, and abatep wlatnesse [Addit. MS. *wlatenesse*; orig. *nauseam*].

†**wlate**, *v.* *Obs.* Also 4 wlat, 5 wlatte. [OE. *wlatian* = MLG. *wlaten*.]

1. intr. and impers. with *dat.* To feel disgust or loathing.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Num.* xxi. 5 Us wlatap nu for ðisum eohtostan mete. **c 1000** *Sax. Leechd.* II. 220 þonne hie mete picgeað & drincað, þonne wlatað hie. **a 1225** *Ancr. R.* 86 3if heo hit [sc. the filth of flattery] stunken, ham wolde wlatien þer a3ean. *Ibid.* 400 Forði þet tu ert ase wlech . . . þu makest me uorto wlatien. **a 1250** *Owl & Night.* 354 Querfulle makep wlatie. **1303** R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 3538 Swyche men god almy3ty hatys And with here foule synne hym wlatys. *Ibid.* 9932 3yf þou hym louest, with synne þou wlates. **13.. E.E.** *Allit. P. B.* 305 With her vn-worpelych werk me wlatez with-inne. **c 1450** *Mirk's Festial* 47 His hert wold wlaton and be ashamed of hymselfe, to þenk þat he wer conceyuet of so fowle þyng.

2. trans. To loathe, abhor.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* v. 7 Man of blodes & swikel wlat sal lord. **1382** WYCLIF *Eccl.* ii. 18, I wlatede alle my bisynesse, that..most studiouli I trauailede. **c 1395** *Plowman's T.* III. 1098 To worship god men wolde wlate. **1493** [H. PARKER] *Dives & Pauper* (Pynson) vi. xvii. t viii, The glose..seyth that it is amaner of spech to do wlate auoutre and shewynge that auoutrye is ful greuous.

3. To disgust.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxiv, (*Pelagia*) 187 Now me wlatys sa myn syne þat I for-sak it. **a 1400-50** *Wars Alex.* 5634 It wald haue wlatid any wee þat welth to be-hald.

†**wlatful, a.** *Obs.* [f. WLAT *sb.* + -FUL.]

1. Nauseous, loathsome.

c 1230 *Hali Meid.* (1922) 35 (MS. Titus) Hit is wlatiful þing for to þenke þron; & for to speke þer-of, 3et wlatifulre. **a 1300** *E.E. Psalter* xiii. 2 Forbroken and wlatful made þai are In þair thoghts. **1340** *Ayenb.* 241 þe wordle him hild uor uyl and uor wlatuol. **c 1450** *Mirk's Festial* 47 þe sede þat he ys conceyuet of, þat ys so fowle yn hym-selfe and so wlatfull.

2. That has a loathing (of something). *rare.*

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 167 Ful vnþacient of pees ..and wlatful of sleupe [L. *otium nauseat*].

†**wlating, vbl. sb.** *Obs.* Forms: 1-3 wlatung (1 uulatunc), 3-5 wlatunge, -yng(e, (4 -iynge, -iinge, wlat-, wlat-). [OE. *wlatung*, f. *wlatian* WLATE *v.*] Loathing, nausea; abhorrence, detestation; occas. an abomination.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) N5 *Nausatio*, uulatunc. **c 1000** *Sax. Leechd.* I. 80 ðenime wegbrædan.. & pyge hy; ðonne mid micelre wlatunge gewiteþ þæt sar on weg. **a 1225** *Ancr. R.* 80 Habbeð wlatunge of þe muðe þet spoeweð ut atter. **a 1300** *E.E. Psalter* lxxxvii. 9 þai set me wlatunge to pam to be. **c 1315** SHOREHAM I. 697 Hydous hy3t were to þe sy3te, And to þe tast wlatynge And pyne. **a 1340** HAMPOLE *Psalter* Cant. 516 In þaire wlatyngis þai mouyd [him] till wreth. **1340** *Ayenb.* 192 God heþ grat wlatyng(e of zuych sacrifice. **c 1400** *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 98 þat may be knowe by ..wlatyng(e, wenne þat a man ys fastynge. **a 1450** MYRC 894 [782] Koghe þow not..Lest heo suppose þow make þat fare, For wlatynge þat þou herest þare [in confession].

So †**wlatingness**, abhorrence.

1382 WYCLIF *Dan.* ix. 11 Cursse droppide on vs, and wlatyngnesse [1388 wlatyng; Vulg. *detestatio*].

†**wlatsome, a.** *Obs.* Forms: 4 wlatsum, -som, wlatesome, *Sc.* wlatsum, 4-5 wlatsum. [f. WLAT *sb.* + -SOME.] Loathsome, detestable.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 23229 Fell dragons and tades bath þat ar apou to lok ful lath, Ful wlatsum on to here or se. **13.. E.E.** *Allit. P. B.* 541 Lol suche a wrakful wo for wlatsum dedez. **c 1375** *Sc. Leg. Saints* x. (*Mathou*) 484 His wlatsum Infirmyte [sc. leprosy]. *Ibid.* xviii. (*Egipciane*) 418, I sal sa quhow myn saule vithine Is fylt vith a wlatsum syne. **c 1386** CHAUCER *Monk's T.* 634 Ful wlatsum was the stynek of his careyne. **c 1386** — *Nun's Priest's T.* 233 Mordre is so wlatsum and abhomynable To god. **c 1430** *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 203 Man is but wlatsum erpe and clay. **c 1492, 1563** [see the *erron.* form WALTsom(E)].

Hence †**wlatsoneness**, loathing, disgust.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxi. (*Eugenia*) 351 þe abbot.. Gat on his fete & stert hir fra, ..Hafand at hyr gret wlatsumnes. **c 1380** WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 195 Here sour dow3 is savery ping þat fordoip wlatsumnesse [sic]. **1398** [see WALTsom(E)].

wlaunke, -ness: see WLONK, -NESS.

wleach, wlec(c)h, var. WLAK *a. Obs.*

†**wlench**, *v.* *Obs.* [OE. *gewlencan*, f. *ge-* Y- + **wlanġjan* (f. *wlanc* WLONK; cf. OS. *giwlenkid*). Cf. FORWLENCH.] *trans.* To make proud; *refl.* to pride oneself.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 189 And on þis fihte is ech man strong, þe awelt is lichame, ..and wlenç his soule. **a 1225** *Leg. Kath.* 1010 Leaf pi lease wit þæt tu wlenchest te in.

wlessche, obs. form of FLESH.

c 1315 SHOREHAM I. 1583 Ine wlessche ioynep man and wyf, Children to multeype.

wlf, obs. f. WOLF.

wlga(i)r, obs. ff. VULGAR *a.*

†**wlisp**, *a.* *Obs. rare.* Also 4 wlysp. [OE. *wlisp*, *wlips* 'balbus', 'blæsus', related to **wlispian* to LISP.] Lisper.

c 1370 in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) I. 185 Seduus, i. homo qui non potest bene dicere s., qui Anglice dicitur wlysp.

wlisp(e, obs. ff. LISP *v.*

†**wlite**, *sb.* *Obs.* [OE. *wlite* m., beauty, splendour, appearance, form, corresp. to OFris. *wlite*, OS. *wliti* sheen, form, ON. *litr* colour,

countenance (see LIT sb.), Goth. *wlits* *πρόσωπον*, *ðis*, *μorfē*; also in the compound OE. *andwlite*, *onwlite*, beside *andwlita* (see ANLETH).]

1. Beauty; splendour.

c825 *Vesp. Ps.* xxv[i]. 8 Ic lufade wlite huses ðines. **971** *Blickl. Hom.* 115 He [sc. the world] teah men to him purh his wlite & purh his fægernesne. **c1200** *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 19 þe fader is on þe sune on þre wise, þat on is on westme, . . . þat oðer is on wlite. . . swo fair is ure louerd. . . and þe þridde is on þewe. **c1205** *LAY.* 2934 Heo wes þa ðungeste suster, a wlitene alre vairst. *Ibid.* 2284 Kerueð of hire neose & heore wlite ga to lose. **a1250** *Owl & Night.* 439 þe lilie mid hire faire wlite Wolcumeþ me. **c1275** *Serving Christ* 68 in O.E. *Misc.* 92 þer werep vre wlite in wurmene won. **a1300** *E.E. Psalter* xlii. 5 þi wlite and faired ilike.

2. Face, countenance.

c950 *Lindisf. Gosp. Matt.* xxii. 16 Wlit *vel* onson monna [Vulg. *personam hominum*]. **a1225** [see WASTUM 2]. **c1250** *Gen. & Ex.* 2288 Sone he ðede ut and stille he gret, Ðat al his wlite wurð teres wet.

Hence †*wliti* a. [OE. *wlitig*], beautiful.

c1000 *ÆLFRIC Gen.* vi. 2 Ða gesawon Godes bearn. . . manna dohtre, Ðæt hi wæron wlitige. **a1225** *Leg. Kath.* 313 He awundrede him of hire wlitu westum.

† *wlite*, *v.* *Obs.* [? Imitative; cf. OE. *writian* and WRITELING.] *intr.* To pipe, chirp, warble.

c1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 215 3if he wlitet mid stefne for to liken wimmanen. **a1310** in Wright *Lyric P.* xiii. 43 This foules singeth ferly fele, Ant wlyteth on huere wynter [? *read* wynne] wele.

† *wlo.* *Obs.* [OE. *wlôh* = OS. *wlôh*, MLG., MDu. *wlo*, ON. *ló* (Norw., Sw. *lo*, Da. *lu*) nap of cloth.] A hem or fringe; a nap on cloth.

c950 *Lindisf. Gosp. Matt.* ix. 20 *Fimbriam uestimenti eius*, fas uel wloh wedes his. **c1394** *P. Pl. Crede* 736 Somme of hem walkeþ Wip. . . clopes luf feble, Wel neiz for-werd & þe wlon offe.

† *wlonk*, *a.* (*sb.*) *Obs.* Forms: 1-4 *wlanc*, 1-3 *wlonc*, 2 *wlong*, 3-6 *wlonk*, 4 *wlanck*, *wlanck*, *wlaunk*, *wlonke*, 4-5 *wlank*. [OE. *wlanc*, *wlonc* = OS. *wlank*: cf. WLENCH v.]

1. Proud, haughty.

Beowulf 341 Ellenrof. . . wlanc Wedera leod. . . heard under helme. **c1175** *Lamb. Hom.* 35 He wes prud & wlonc. **a1225** *Leg. Kath.* 844 Nawt wið wit ah wið wind of ane wlonke wordes. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 6397 þir Iuus þat o will war wlanck, þai cund him ai ful litell thanck.

2. Rich, splendid, fine, magnificent: in later use esp. as a conventional epithet in alliterative verse.

Beowulf 2833 Maðmæhta wlonc. **a1000** *Phoenix* 100 Fugel feþrum wlonc. **c1230** *Hali Meid.* (1922) 43 & tine wide wahes wlonke & welefulle. **a1250** *Owl & Night.* 489 Sumeres tide is alto wlonc. **c1325** *Song of Merc* 3 in E.E.P. (1862) 118 Wlanke deor on grunde gan glide. **c1350** *Will. Palerne* 1634 A while wol i stinte of þis wlonke murpe. **13** . . E.E. *Allit. P.* A. 122 Wod & water & wlonk playneþ. *Ibid.* 903, I schulde not tempte þy wyt so wlonc. **a1400-50** *Wars Alex.* 5089 A worthi widow & a wlonk. **c1400** *Anturs Arth.* 347 Wlonkest in wede. **c1450** *HOLLAND Howlat* 553 Archebald the honorable. . . Weddit that wlonk wicht. **15** . . *Tayis Bank* 118 (Bann. MS.) Joy wes within and joy without, Vnder that wlonkest waw.

b. Rich in moisture or sap; rank; lush.

1308 *TREvisa Barth. De P.R.* xi. xi. (Tollem. MS.), Snow . . . norischep and fedep good herbes and makeþ hem wlonke [orig. *impinguit*; ed. 1495 cranke; ed. 1535 ranke]. **c1440** *Pallad. on Husb.* iii. 449 The potters cley, the wlonk uliginosa], or sondy lene, . . . nys nought.

B. as sb. A fair or beautiful one.

? **a1400** *Morte Arth.* 3338, I went to that wlonke, and wynly hire gretis. **a1508** *DUNBAR Tua Marii Wemen* 36 Of thir fair wlonkes, . . . Ane wes ane wedow. *Ibid.* 150 The wedo to the tothir wlonk warpit ther wordis.

† *wlonkful*, *a.* *Obs. rare.* [f. OE. *wlonc* pride + -FUL.] = WLOK.

c1400 *Sege ferus.* 394 In partyis four Of þis wlonfulle [v.r. wankille] worde.

So †wlonkhede, -ness, pride.

c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 9 Al swa his festen þe swiðe ouerkimet þes flesces wlonghesse. **a1250** *Owl & Night.* 1400 (Jesus MS.) þar fleys drahp nv men to drunkenesse & to wlonkhede & to gollesse. **c1325** *Poem Times Edu.* II. in *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 330 Wlaunknesse of wele hem hath al ablent.

† *wlou3*, *wlouh*, *a.* *Obs. rare.* [? OE. *gewlôh* adorned.] ? Opulent.

13 . . *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* xxxvii. 155 3if. . . pou art riche mon and wlou3 fr. Of richesse hast inouh. *Ibid.* 464 Hou pou schalt. . . riche mon bicomme and wlouh.

wlt, *wluine*, *wman*: see VULT, WOLFEN sb., WOMAN.

wm-, *wn-*: see UM-, UN-.

wnden, *obs. pa. pple.* of WIND v.¹

wne, *obs. Sc. form* of OVEN.

1596 in *Spalding Cl. Misc.* I. 88 Rossin as in ane wne.

wne, *obs. form* of WONE.

wnse, *obs. Sc. form* of OUNCE sb.¹

1563 *Aberd. Reg.* (Jam.), In weycht of ten wnsiss.

wnt, *obs. Sc. form* of WONT.

wnys, *obs. form* of ONCE.

1482 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 123 Wnys or twyse.

wo (wəu), *int.* [Variant of WHO int.]

1. In *wo ho*, *wo ha*, *wo ho ho*, *wo ha ho*: a falconer's call to a hawk; also allusively.

1588 *Marprel. Epistle* (Arb.) 33 Wohohow, brother London, do you remember Thomas Allen? **1596** *SHAKS. Merch. V. v. i.* 39 Clo. Sola, sola: wo ha ho, sola, sola. **1599** T. CUTWODE *Caltha Poet.* (Roxb.) cxxxvi, Come bird com. . . come to me, With so ho ho, and wo ho ho cries she. **1606** *CHAPMAN Gentl. Usher v. i.* Ile rush vpon them With a most hideous cry, the Duke, the Duke, the Duke, Ha, ha, ha, wo ho, come againe, I say. **1829** *SCOTT Anne of G. xvii*, A woodcock sprung from some bushes, and the young lady threw off her merlin in pursuit. 'Sa ho—sa ho—wo ha!' hollowed the falconer.

2. A call to a horse to stop (cf. WHO int., WHOA, WOA, and WAY int.). Also used in conjunction with other interjections, as *wo-back*, *wo-ho*, *hait-wo*.

Also dial. in various combinations with special applications; cf. quot. 1894.

1787 'G. GAMBADO' *Acad. Horsem.* (1809) 24 That he is docile, and will stop short with a 'Wohey'. **a1800** *PEGGE Anecd.* (1814) 11 When our waggoners and carmen make use of the terms *ge* and *wo* to their horses. **1801** G. COLMAN *Poor Gentl. i. i.* 1 *Farmer Harrouby*, without. Wo, hol gently wi 'em! so there! **1823** E. MOOR *Suffolk Words*, *Wooh* or *Woo-e*, an imperative to stop cart horses. **a1825** *Hait-wo* [see HAIT int.]. **1834** *WHATELY in Life & Corr.* (1866) I. 247 It is stopping the Horse by a woo-ee instead of a sharp pull of the curb. **1837** *DICKENS Pickw.* v. 'Wo-o!' cried Mr. Pickwick, as the tall quadruped evinced a decided inclination to back into the coffee-room window. **1838** — *Nickleby* vi, 'Wo ho!' cried the guard, . . . running to the leaders' heads. **1840** *THACKERAY Barber Cox Mar.*, I pulled very hard, and cried out, Wol but he wouldn't: and on I went galloping for the dear life. **1871** [see GEE int.]. **1879** *JEFFERIES Wild Life in S. Co.* 142 The carter's lads shouting 'Woaght!' to the horses as they steer through the gateway. **1894** *Northumbld. Gloss.*, *Wo*, *Wo-hay*, a cartman's order to his horse to stop or stand still. *Wo-hi* and *Wo-hick*, turn to left or near side. *Wo-hup* or *Wo-gee*, turn to right or off side.

Hence *wo v. intr.*, to call 'wo' to a horse; also in *vbl. sb.* (also *wohohing*).

1883 *Good Words* 10 The wo-wo-ing of the ploughboy. **1885** *RIDER HAGGARD Witch's Head* xxxiii, Presently from the stables there arose a sound of kicking, plunging, and wohohing impossible to describe. **1889** T. E. BROWN *Manx Witch* 3 'You're very late on the road,' he says—and waein and woin.

wo, *obs. form* of HOW.

1476 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) II. 5, I cannat tell wo sone.

wo, *obs. or arch. form* of WOE.

woa (wəu), *int.* Also *woah*. [Variant of WHOA.] = *wo int.* 2. Hence *woa v.*, to stop (*trans.* and *intr.*) with the call of 'woa'.

1840 *DICKENS Old Cur. Shop* xxxviii, Woa-a-a then, will you? **1856** *Putnam's Monthly Mag.* Nov. 530/1 With a loud 'woah!' the man stopped the beast [sc. ass]. **1870** S. LANIER *Nine from eight* 31, I woa'd my mules mighty easy. **1871** M. LEGRAND *Cambr. Freshm.* 252 Woa, Princey, woa! But Prince wouldn't 'woa.' **1892** *CHEVALIER Wot Cher!* iv, 'Woa! steady! Neddy Woa!'

woad (wəud), *sb.*¹ Forms: *a.* 1-2, 5-7, 9 *dial.* *wad*, 2 *waad*, 5 *Sc.* *waid*, *wayde*, 5-7 *wadde*, 6 *Sc.* *vad*, 6-8 *wade*, 7 *Sc.* *wadd*. *β.* 3-4 *wod*, 4-5 *wode*, 5-6 *wood* (e, 6 *wo(a)dde*, 6-8 *woade* (7 *waude*), 6-*woad*. *γ.* 5-6, 8 *ode*, 6-7 *oade*, 7 *oad*. [OE. *wād* = OFris. *wêd*, MLG., MDu. *wêt*, *wêde* (Du. *weede*), OHG., MHG. *weit*, *weid* (G. *waid*):—**waido*- (whence OF. *waide*, *gaide*, It. *guado*), by-form of **waizdo*- (whence med.L. *waizda*, *guaisdium*, etc., AF. *waisde*, OF. *guesde*, F. *guède*, formerly also *voide*, *vouède*, *voueide*), related to Goth. **wizdila* (recorded in L. forms *ouisdelem*, etc.).

Ultior connexion with OE. *weard*, *werd* 'sandix', and (outside Germanic) with L. *vitrum*, G. *loārus* is doubtful. The hypothesis of a primitive loan may account for the remarkable phonological variations in pre-Germanic.]

1. A blue dye-stuff prepared from the leaves of *Isatis tinctoria* (see 2) powdered and fermented: now generally superseded by indigo, in the preparation of which it is still sometimes used.

c1000 *ÆLFRIC Gram.* ix. (Z.) 72 *Hic sandyx*, pis wad. **a1100** *Aldhelm Gloss.* 1. 1058 (Napier 29/2) Ex. . . iacintho, of wade. **a1200** *Voc.* in Wr. Wülcker 544/46 *Sandix*, wod. **a1250** *Owl & Night.* 76 þin eþene bop colblake & brode Riȝt swo ho weren ipeint mid wode. **c1374** *CHAUCER Former Age* 17 No Madyr welde or wod no listereþ Ne knewh. **14** . . *De Artic. Inquir.* in *Sc. Acts* (1844) I. 682/2 Item de tyncoribus Burgensibus ponentibus manus suas in le wadde. **1436** *Libel Engl. Policy* in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 180 The madre and woode that dyers take on hande. **1488-9** *Act 4 Hen. VII c.* 10 Wood called Tolowse Wode. **1494** in *Somerset Med. Wills* (1901) 322, ij mesers of Ode. **1495** *HALYBURTON Ledger* (1867) 45, 3 ton of waid. **1545** *Rates of Custome Ho.* dj, Woad of goscoyne the pipe .iii. pound vi.s. viii. d. Woad of the Ile of Surrey the ballet x.s. Woad of the Ile of Assornis [= Azores] the ballet x.s. **a1548** *HALL Chron., Hen. VIII*, 200 The Merchant strangers. . . daily brought Oade, Oyle, Sylke, . . . and other Merchandysse into this Realme. **1563** *GOLDING Cæsar* (1565) 117 Al the Britons doe dye themselves wyth woade, which setteth a blewish color upon them. **1601** B. JONSON *Poetaster* II. i. 59 He that respects to get, must relish all commodities alike; and admit no difference betwixt oade and frankincense. **a1618** *Rates of Marchandizes* F 4 b, Iland or green Woad. . . Tholozæ Woad. **1634** *SIR T. HERBERT Trav.* 224 Azores. . . They afford much Oade, which has made them most famous and best enriched them. **1715** *GARTH Claremont* 91 When Dress was monstrous, and Fig-leaves the Mode, And Quality put on no

Paint but Woad. **1800** *MARIA EDGEWORTH The Will* iii, A gentleman who had set up an apparatus for manufacturing woad. **1867** *MORRIS Jason* vi. 327 Deep dyeing-earths, and woad and cinnabar. **1882** J. SMITH *Dict. Pop. Names Plants* 441 Woad. . . is manufactured now only at Parsons Drove near Wisbech. **1894** *VICKERMAN Woollen Spinning* 102 The woad cut into small pieces is cast into the vat, which is then filled with water.

fig. 1667 *WATERHOUSE Fire Lond.* 42 This. . . gives the judgement a tincture, nay, a deep woad of intense displeasure.

† *pl.* **1598** *Stow Survey* x. 64 The Marchants of Normandie made fine for licence to harbor their woads, till it was otherwise provided. **1599** *NASHE Lenten Stuffe* 27 They retorne wine and Woades, for which is alwaies paid ready Golde. **1622** *BACON Hen. VII.* 75 The King. . . ordained; That wines and woads from. . . Gascoigne and Languedocke, should not be brought but in English bottomes.

2. The plant *Isatis tinctoria*, formerly extensively cultivated for the blue colouring matter furnished by it (see 1). Sometimes called *dyer's* or *garden woad*, and DYER'S WEED. Also applied to other species of the genus *Isatis*.

c1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 94 ðenim wades croppan. **1538** *ELYOT, Glastum*, an herbe lyke to plantayne, . . . some men englyshe it woadde. **1538** *TURNER Libellus, Isatis sive glastum*, . . . uulguis herbam appellat wad. **1548** — *Names Herbes* (E.D.S.) 40 Glastum is called. . . in english wad, & not Ode as some corrupters of the englishe tonge do nike-name it. **1562** — *Herbal* II. 11 The diers occupy the garden wadde. . . in dyenge of wull and clothe. **1585** *Procl. agst. sowing of woad* 14 Oct., That no maner of person or persons . . . shal. . . breake vp. . . any maner of grounde. . . for the. . . purpose to sowe or plant woade in. **1601** *HOLLAND Pliny* xxii. i. II. 114 An hearbe. . . Glastum, (i. Woad) with the juice whereof the women of Brittain. . . annoint and die their bodies all over. *Ibid.* xxxiii. xiii. 484 'These Azurs, receive first a dye, and are boiled with a certaine hearbe. . . called Oad, the colour and juice whereof Azur is apt to drinke in and receive. **1633** *Costlie Whore* i. ii. in Bullen O. Pl. IV, To . . . make our land beare woad instead of wheate. **1739** *TROWELL Treat. Husb.* etc. 33 Of Woad or Wade, the best Land for it. **1778** *Eng. Gazetteer* (ed. 2) s.v. *Bedfordshire*, Woad, a plant used by dyers, is also cultivated here. **1856** *Farmer's Mag.* Jan. 77 A long and explicit covenant [in a lease] against growing pernicious weeds, such as flax, hemp, woad.

b. wild woad, the plant *Reseda Luteola*: = WELD sb.¹ i. bastard woad = WELD sb.¹ i b.

1578 *LYTE Dodoens* i. xlvii. 66 There be two sortes of Woad: the one is of the garden. . . The other is wilde Woad. **1597** *GERARDE Herbal* II. cxxviii. 396 Of Sesamoides, or bastard Weld or Woade. **1611** *COTGR., Guesde sawage*, wild woad, which growes of it selfe in grounds wherein th' other hath beene sowne; and differs not much from it but in stauke. **1796** *WITHERING Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 445 *Reseda Luteola*. . . Wild Woad. Dyers-weed. **1821** *CLARE Vill. Minstr., Couper Green* iv, Thy wild-woad on each road we see.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *woad-blue*, -colour, -farm, †-fat (= vat) -gore (GORE sb.¹ i), -house, †-lead, -man, -mark, -plant, -planter, -rose, -vat; *woad-leaved*, -painted adjs. † *woad-nut*, ? corruptly -net, ? a ball of woad.

a1667 *SIR W. PETTY in Sprat Hist. Royal Soc.* 289 Nor is Allum used in many Colours, viz. In no *Woad or Indico Blews. **1658** *ROWLAND tr. Moutet's Theat. Ins.* 968 The outmost border of the innermost wings is sky or *Woad-colour. **a1667** in *Sprat Hist. Royal Soc.* 301 An intense Woad-colour is. . . of a Damson-colour. **1892** *Daily News* 23 July 5/4 There are now only four *woad farms and factories in the entire kingdom. **1479** *Will of Swayne* (MS.), *Odefatis. **1496** *Bk. St. Albans, Fishing* hij, Lete woode your heer in an woodefatte a lyght plunket colour. **1569** *Bury Wills* (Camden) 155 My woadfat coveryns. **1778** D. LOCH *Tour Scot.* 43 Adam Dickson, dyer and clothier, . . . works two woad fats. **1856** *Morton's Cycl. Agric.* II. 1162 The hands. . . weed the *woad-fields three times. **1419** *Liber Albus* (Rolls) I. 335 Qe nulle ne gette estreyyn, poudre, fymys, *wodegor, nautre vilenye. **1705** *tr. Art of Dying* (1913) 350 Sheep should be put into the *Woad grounds to eat up the Grass and Weeds. **1829** [H. BEST] *Lit. Mem.* 456 We rode over the farm to the *woad-houses. **1485-6** *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 157, ijs. pro operatione lxxix petr. plumbi operati in j *Wadde. **1822** *Hortus Anglicus* II. 417 *Woad-leaved Centaury. **14** . . in *York Myst.* Intro. p. xxvi, *Wadmen. **1799** A. YOUNG *Agric. Lincoln* 155 It [sc. the woad] becomes what the woadmen term foxy. **1800** J. HAIGH *Dyer's Assist.* 32 Woadman, . . . the name given to the Journeyman Dyer, whose principal business is to conduct the woad. **1613** J. MAY *Decl. Estate Cloth* 30 Some colours haue a slight ground of woad, but farre too weake for the depth of that colour it beares, yet can set vp the *woade marke, or *woade rose, which is vpon the piece at a farre richer depth than the peice is woaded throughout. **1545** *Rates of Custome Ho.* c.viiij, *Wodnuttes the C. li vi. s. viii. d. *Ibid.* dij, Wodenuttes. **1583** *Ibid.* F vij, Wood-nets the c. **1642** *Rates of Merchandizes* 79 Woad-nets the hundred containing five score, oo 10 oo. **1891** *FARRAR Darkn. & Dawn* xlv, But how could those *woad-painted fighters withstand the skill. . . of our legionaries? **1799** A. YOUNG *Agric. Lincoln* 155 The colour resulting from the *woad plant. *Ibid.* 197 The *woad-planter gives 4 or £5. per acre per annum. **1800** J. HAIGH *Dyer's Assist.* 36 A *woad vat may be set without the addition of indigo. **1865-72** *WATTS Dict. Chem.* III. 252 Woad-vat (Pastel vat).

† *woad*, *sb.*² *local. Obs.* Also 7 oade. [Error for *woar*, *oare*, ORE⁵, by confusion with prec.] *woad of the sea*: seaweed.

1603 G. OWEN *Pembrokeshire* (1892) 55 Havinge lyme, sand, woade of the sea and divers other principall helps to better the soile, where neede is. *Ibid.* 59 Oade of the sea. *Ibid.* 75 The sea ore, or woad as some call yt, which is verye weedes growinge vnder water in the sea.

woad (wəʊd), *v.* Also 7 wad, oad; 5 *pa. pple.* y-wooded. [f. WOAD *sb.*¹]

1. *trans.* To dye, colour, or stain with woad, sometimes (in dyeing) as a ground for another colour. Often *fig.* or in *fig.* context (cf. *double-dyed*).

1464 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 562/1 Cork may be used in dying upon Wolle y wooded. 1549-50 *Act 3 & 4 Edw. VI.* c. 2 §1 Nor that any person shall...dye any Wooll to be converted into Cloth called Russettes [etc.], unless the same Wooll be perfectlie woaded boyled and maddered. 1603 *HARSNET Pop. Impost.* 132 His wit beeing deepe woaded with that melancholick blacke dye. 1613 [see *woad-mark*, *woad sb.*¹ 3]. c 1613 *Overbury's Wife*, etc. *Elegies Wks.* (1856) 6 Some murdering hand, oaded in guiltlesse blood. 1651 *CLEVELAND Poems, Upon Sir T. Martin* 31 Tom never oaded Squire, scarce Yeoman high, Is Tom twice dipt Knight of a double dy? 1655 *GURNALL Chr. in Arm.* II. 99 The hypocrite is not thus woaded with impudency, to sinne at noonday. 1660 *FULLER Mixt Contempl.* I. xlix. 76 It was never wet wadded, which giveth the fixation to a colour, and setteth it in the cloth. 1678 *Pol. Ballads* (1860) I. 206 Foul Error's motly vesture first Was oaded in a Northern blue. 1820 *SOUTHEY Wesley* I. ix. 306 The Picts were apparently an unconverted tribe of indigenous savages, still tattooed and woaded. 1847 *TENNYSON Princess* II. 105 Tattoo'd or woaded, winter-clad in skins. 1894 *VICKERMAN Woollen Spinning* 98 A piece is sent to the dyer with strict injunctions that it must be 'woaded,' that it must have a ground of indigo put upon it for making the colour of the cloth or wool more durable.

b. To treat with woad, in dyeing.

[1579-1862: see WOADED.] 1705 *Whole Art of Dying* (1913) 244 'Tis above all of great importance to take care to have a perfect Black, whether it be Madder'd or Woaded only. 1727-38 *CHAMBERS Cycl.* s.v. *Dyeing*, Bright green is first dyed blue, ... and lastly woaded.

† c. *transf. (fig.)* To ingrain like a dye or stain.

1647 *TRAPP Comm. Matt.* xxi. 37. 511 Sin had woaded shamelesnes in their fore-heads. — *Jude* i. 2 Sin having oaded an impudency in their faces. 1647 *C. HARVEY Schola Cordis* Ode xvii. (1674) 67 The stains of sin I see Are oaded all, or did'd in grain.

2. To plant (land) with woad. *rare.*

1799 *A. YOUNG Agric. Lincoln* 154 He has now between two and three hundred acres of arable, on land he does not woad, in a course of crops.

† **'woad'-ashes**, *sb. pl.* *Obs.* [f. WOAD *sb.*¹ + *pl.* of ASH *sb.*²; corresp. to MLG. *wed(e)asche*, MDu. *weedassche* (*weed-*, *weydasschen* 'cineres clavellati' cineres smigmatici', Kilian), MHG. *weidaschen* 'sandix', 'clavellati cineres' (G. *waidasche*), whence F. *védasse*, †*wedasse*. Sense b is properly *wood-ash*, but the formal similarity of *woad* and *wood*, and the double use of the MDu. form, produced confusion.] a. The ashes of burnt wine-lees, used by dyers: = med.L. *cineres clavati* or *clavellati*, OF. *cendres clavelés*, F. *cendres gravelées*. b. The ashes of burnt wood used to make a lye.

a 1387 *Simon. Barth.* 16 *Cineres clavellate*, an. woode ashes. 1545 *Rates of Custome Ho.* aij, Asshes called woad asshes the laste xx, s. 1562-3 *Act 5 Eliz.* c. 4 §23 The art or occupation of a .burner of Ore and woade ashes. 1583 *Rates of Custome Ho.* Aijijb, Ashes called wood or sope Ashes. 1663 *BOYLE Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* II. 363 This way was only to mingle exquisitely a quantity of Sal-Armoniack, with about thrice its weight of strong Wood-ashes. 1705 *tr. Art of Dying* (1913) 113 A Perfect Description, of Pot and Woad-Ashes. a 1756 *MRS. HAYWOOD New Present* (1771) 267 Some persons at a great wash put ode, or pearl ashes tied in a cloth, and let it lie in the water. 1780 *Act 20 Geo. III.* c. 25 Preamble, Whereas Pot and Pearl Ashes, Wood and Weed Ashes, are essentially necessary in the whitening of Linen Cloth and Thread.

† Forms representing the G. and LG. words are illustrated in the following:—

1705 *tr. Art of Dying* (1913) *title-p.*, A Discourse of Pot and Weyd Ashes, as well as several other Foreign Ingredients used in Dying. *Ibid.* 136 Wayd-Ashes are prepared in the same manner [as pot-ashes], from the Ashes of burnt Wayd, that is Willow. 1708 *SEWEL Dutch-Eng. Dict.*, *Weedash*, Weed-ashes. 1780 [see above].

woaded ('wəʊdɪd), *ppl. a.* [f. WOAD *sb.*¹ or *v.* + -ED.] a. Of a colour or dye: Having a basis of, or treated with, woad. b. Of cloth, etc.: Dyed with woad or woaded dye.

1579-80 *NORTH Plutarch* (1595) 85 As a deepe woded die, which went to the bottome, and pearced into the tender wolle. 1580-1 *Act 23 Eliz.* c. 9 §2 A .perfitte couler of woaded and mathered Blacke. 1613 *J. MAY Decl. Estate Cloth* 30 The diers of London doe best observe a true course in setting a woaded seale vpon woaded colours. 1615 *S. WARD Coal fr. Altar* 24 The set vp blewes haue made strangers loath the rich oaded blewes. 1653 *BLITHE Engl. Improver Impr.* xxxv. (ed. 3) 227 Woad.layes the foundation for the solidity of very many colours more: A Woaded colour is free from stayning. 1862 *C. O'NEILL Dict. Calico Printing* etc. 212 The term *woaded colours*, still in common use for colours which are supposed to be dyed upon a basis of woad blue. 1869 *A. MACDONALD Love, Law & Theol.* iv. 66 The glossy woaded blacks of the unique Webster, which usually adorn the backs of youthful Sneakers. 1894 *Times* 14 May 4/3 Some good parcels of woaded wool serges.

So 'woading' *vbl. sb.*

1613 *J. MAY Decl. Estate Cloth* 30 The ground of good colours is substantiall woading, without which diuers colours cannot be perfectly made, as blackes, russets, . . and such like. 1894 *VICKERMAN Woollen Spinning* 111 The 'woading' of blacks in too many instances has become so much of a formality . . that the old tests are no longer of any service.

woader ('wəʊdə(r)). *rare.* Also 5 woder. [f. as prec. + -ER¹.] a. A dyer with woad. b. A cultivator of woad.

1415 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 75/1 Deux Drapers, un Woder, & un Tinctour. 1424 *Will of John Rouwe* (Somerset Ho.) Tinctor siue Woder. 1616 *Rich Cabinet* 55 b, To goe afield with victuals to his woaders or weeders. 1830 *Withering's Brit. Plants* (ed. 7) III. 752 *note*, The gangs of people called Woaders, who make the culture of this herb their peculiar employment. 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 67 Silk Bleacher, Woader.

woad-waxen: see WOODWAXEN.

woag(e), *obs. Sc. ff. VOYAGE.*

woak, *dial. f. OAK.*

woald, *var. WELD sb.*¹; *obs. f. WOLD.*

woan(e), *var. WONE.*

woant, *obs. f. WANT sb.*¹

woar, variant of ORE⁵, seaweed.

1586 *J. HOOKER Hist. Irel. in Holinshed* II. 43/1 The woars of the seas.

woar, *obs. form of WOOR.*

woat, *obs. form of OAT sb.*

1673 *G. Fox in Jnrl. Friends' Hist. Soc.* (1914) July 98 Pease & barley & woats 2 shilens a bueshell.

wob, wobat: see WEB *sb.*, WOUBIT.

wobbegong ('wɒbɪŋŋ). Also wobbygong, wobegong. [Aboriginal name.] A brown carpet shark with buff markings, *Orectolobus maculatus*, found off the coast of Australia.

1852 *G. C. MUNDY Our Antipodes* I. xii. 392 The most hideous to behold of the shark tribe is the wobegong, or wobegone, as the fishermen call it. . . His broad back is spotted over with leopard-like marks. 1882 *J. E. TENISON-WOODS Fish & Fisheries N.S.W.* iv. 94 The wobegong . . is chiefly nocturnal. 1917 *Chambers's Jnrl.* Sept. 588/1 There is also the well-known wobbygong, a creature of extraordinary and beautiful colouring. 1937 *Z. GREY Amer. Angler in Austral.* vi. 53 The most remarkable feature of the wobegong is his teeth. 1956 *S. HOPE Diggers' Paradise* xx. 183 The worst types are the white pointer, . . hammerhead and carpet shark, also called the wobegong. 1981 *B. STONEHOUSE Sharks* iv. 46 Woggegongs. . . add to their camouflage by growing fronds that look like seaweed on their faces.

wobble ('wɒb(ə)l), *sb.* Also † wabble. [f. next.]

1. a. The action or an act of wobbling; an unsteady rocking motion or movement; also *fig.*

1699 *Phil. Trans.* XXI. 286 That direction being nothing but a certain wabble in the Earth's Motion. 1842 *FRANCIS Dict. Arts etc.*, *Wabble*, a hobbling unequal motion. 1867 *F. FRANCIS Bk. Angling* iv. 89 The long, slow wobble of a badly spinning bait. 1870 *STEINMETZ Gaming Table* II. v. 154 The mouth[s] of the pockets. . . are easier of access; and the chance of a wobble all but avoided. 1896 *WELLS Wheels of Chance* v, The bicycle. . . began an absolutely unprecedented wobble. 1911 *Sat. Rev.* 19 Aug. 223/1 That is a quite characteristic wobble on the part of Sir Wilfrid Laurier.

b. *pl. (Austral.)* A disease in cattle caused by eating the leaves of the palm-tree.

1895 *Queenslander* 7 Dec. 1090 Rickets or Wobbles in Cattle.

2. *Biochem.* The variable pairing that is possible between a base in a transfer RNA anticodon and the corresponding base in a messenger RNA codon. *Freq. attrib.*

1966 *F. H. C. CRICK in Jnrl. Molecular Biol.* XIX. 548 (heading) Codon-anticodon pairing: the wobble hypothesis. *Ibid.* 551, I now postulate that in the base-pairing of the third base of the codon there is a certain amount of play, or wobble; such that more than one position of pairing is possible. 1974 *Nature* 22 Feb. 517/2 tRNA^{met} of *E. coli*, yeast and mouse ascites tumour cells has the ability to recognise both the codons A₃U₃G and G₃U₃G and to thus exhibit code degeneracy or 'wobble' at the third base (3' end) of the anticodon. 1982 *K. H. MUENCH in T. M. Devlin Textbk. Biochem.* xix. 921 According to the wobble rules 31 different tRNAs would suffice to read the 64 codons.

wobble ('wɒb(ə)l), *v.* Also † wabble, *Sc.* 8-9 wauble. [Corresponds to Upper, Middle, and Low G. *wab(b)eln*: cf. MHG. *wabelen* to move restlessly, and ON. *vafla* (synonymous with *vafra* WAYER *v.*): f. Teut. *wab-* (see WAVE *v.*). A parallel Teut. *wap-* appears in LG. *wappeln*, ON. *vappa* to waddle, OE. *wapolian* to bubble. (Cf. SWABBLE *v.*)]

1. a. *intr.* Of a person or animal: To move from side to side unsteadily or with uncertain direction.

1657 [see WOBBLING *ppl. a.*]. 1694 *tr. Marten's Voy. Spitzbergen in Acc. Sev. Late Voy.* (1711) II. 91 This Bird is a Diver. . . They go wabbling from side to side. *Ibid.* 101 When they go to fly up they wabble a great way before they can raise themselves upon the Wind. 1705 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4178/4 Advt., Wabbles in his walking. 1749 *MRS. DELANY Autobiogr.* (1861) II. 515 James came wabbling on with the broken equipage, his Fribbleship much ruffled. 1786 *BURNS Auld Farmer's Salut. Mare* vii, Ye . . ran them 'till they a' did wauble, Far, far, behin'. 1789 *D. DAVIDSON Seasons* 156 The snipe . . Starts frae the slimy drain; and, to the spring. . . now wabbles fast. 1833 *CARLYLE Cagliostro* Ess. 1872 *V.* 73 'The two pinions on which History soars'—or flutters and wabbles. 1856 *WHYTE-MELVILLE Kate Cov.* vi. 69 Such a figure I never saw on a horse! . . bumping when she trots, and

wobbling, when she canters. 1896 *WELLS Wheels of Chance* viii, He resumed the treadles, . . jolted over a stone, wabbled, recovered, and began riding faster.

b. Of a piece of mechanism, a top, a missile, etc.

1677 *MOXON Mech. Exerc.* iii. 45 The wheel . . would not move perpendicularly, but wabble towards the Fore or Backsides of the Jack frame. 1680 *Ibid.* xii. 215 If in going about of your Work you find it Wabble, that is, that one side of the Flat incline either to the Right or Left Hand. 1706 *PHILLIPS* (ed. Kersey), To *Wabble*, to wriggle about as an Arrow sometimes does in the Air. 1806-7 *J. BERESFORD Miseries Hum. Life* iv. xv, [A] hat. . . which . . wabbles over your eyes and ears. 1828-32 *WEBSTER s.v.*, A top wabbles, when it is in motion, and deviates from a perpendicular direction; a spindle wabbles, when it moves one way and the other. 1884 *E. P. ROE in Harper's Mag.* June 88/1 Well now, watch the floats. If you see one bob under and wobble, a shad has struck the net near it. 1884 *Sat. Rev.* 6 Sept. 320/2 A projectile from a smoothbore is apt to 'wobble' and go wide.

c. To bubble; to boil. Now *dial.*

1725 *New Canting Dict.*, *Wobble*, to boil. The Pot wobbles, i.e. The Pot boils. 1825 *T. HOOK Sayings* Ser. II. *Passion & Princ.* xv. III. 397 Sir Frederick smoked his chilum . . and whiffed and 'wobbled', and wore away the evening. 1854 *MISS BAKER Northampt. Gloss.*, *Wabble*, to boil fast.

d. To shake or quiver like a jelly or fleshy body.

1748 [see WOBBLING *ppl. a.*]. 1854 *R. S. SURTEES Handley Cr.* xxxvi, Away Jorlocks went, wobbling like a great shape of red Noyeau jelly. 1875 *HOWELLS Foregone Conclus.* xvii, Her chin wobbled pathetically. 1881 *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 643 He wabbled with laughter at the delicious absurdity of the reminiscence.

e. To move unsteadily from side to side or backwards and forwards (without progression). Also *fig.*

1858 *H. MAYHEW Upper Rhine* iv. 214 From the mouth of the . . figure a long tongue . . was made to wabble. 1865 *BARING-GOULD Werewolves* xv. 264 You see it well in old women: how the last teeth wobble. 1878 *TYNDALL Fragm. Sci.* (1879) II. xiii. 307 The field of the microscope is crowded with organisms, some wabbling slowly. 1895 *S. CRANE Red Badge* xiii, His knees wobbled. 1903 *G. H. LORIMER Lett. Self-made Merch.* xix. 288 He . . shouted 'Hello!' in what he tried to make a big, brave voice, but it wobbled a little all the same.

2. *fig.* To hesitate or waver between different opinions or courses of action; to be inclined to favour first one side and then the other.

1884 *Bath Herald* 20 Sept. 3/1 *The Standard* . . has . . wobbled back to its old ways. 1885 *DILKE in Life* (1917) II. 111 The other members of the Cabinet either wobbled backwards and forwards, or did not care. 1906 *G. W. E. RUSSELL Social Silhouettes* 161 If you wobble or rat or play the Candid Friend, you are only too likely to find yourself cast at the next election.

3. *trans.* To cause to move unsteadily from side to side.

1831 *T. ALLEN Hist. Co. York* III. 41 The convex surface, with its glass pieces, is then turned and wobbled in the concave basin by steam power. 1881 *P. M. DUNCAN in Academy* 23 Apr. 468/3 One of the rigidly armoured Silurian fishes which learned to snap at its prey and got more food by the attempt to wobble its cranium.

4. *U.S.* To crumple up.

1869 *MRS. WHITNEY We Girls* vi. (1874) 119 The dish-towels dirty, and the dish-cloth all wobbled up in the sink. 1884 *E. P. ROE in Harper's Mag.* June 88/1 To keep the net straight, and not all tangled and wobbled up.

5. *Comb.*: wobble-heat, a form of heat-energy caused by vibration; wobble plate = *swash-plate* s.v. SWASH *sb.*¹ 9; *freq. attrib.*; wobble-saw, a circular saw mounted askew on its spindle so as to cut a groove wider than its own thickness.

1899 *LOCKYER in Nature* 20 Apr. 585/2 To get concrete images of these effects we spoke of path-heat, spin-heat, and *wobble-heat. 1929 *V. W. PAGÉ Mod. Aviation Engines* II. xlvii. 1897 A peculiar 'wobble' plate mechanism replaces the usual crankshaft arrangement. *Ibid.* (caption) Wobble plate. *Ibid.* (caption) A typical example of a 'wobble' plate or barrel type engine. 1943 *Wobble-platemeter* [see NUTATE *v.*]. 1875 *KNIGHT Dict. Mech.* 2717 **Wabble-saw*. 1917 *H. W. DURHAM Saws* 53 'Drunken' or 'Wobble' saws.

wobbler ('wɒblə(r)). Also 8 wabler, 9 wabbler. [f. WOBBLE *v.* + -ER¹.] 1. One who or that which wobbles; a person or animal that walks unsteadily; one who wavers or vacillates in opinion; also *spec.* (see *quots.* 1785, 1823, 1875).

1785 *GROSE Dict. Vulgar T.*, *Wabler*, foot wabler, a contemptuous term for a foot soldier, frequently used by those of the cavalry. 1823 *'JON BEE' Dict. Turf, Wabbler*, a boiled leg of mutton, alluding to the noise made in dressing it. 1875 *KNIGHT Dict. Mech.* 2717 *Wabblers*, an elliptical cutter-head placed at such obliquity on the shaft as to revolve in a circular path. Sometimes called a *drunken cutter*. 1887 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 20 Aug. 1/1 Such a Government of Wobblers. 1897 *BARRÈRE & LELAND Dict. Slang, Wobbler*, . . a horse that swerves from side to side when trotting.

2. *Mech.* a. A projection on a roll in a rolling-mill, by means of which it may be turned.

1904 *J. W. HALL in F. W. Harbord Metallurgy of Steel* xvi. 294 At the outer end of each neck forming part of the casting is a 'wobbler', provided with either three or four prongs or corners, by means of which the roll is driven. 1919 *Jnrl. Inst. Metals* XXII. 383 *Rolls*.—These are usually of chilled cast iron or hardened steel. For wobbler ends, the four-horn design is the most general in use. . . A rule is suggested regarding length of spindles and clearance between wobbler and box. 1930 *Engineering* 25 Apr. 539/1 A driving bar socket for the wobbler drive is bolted to the face-plate. 1978

W. L. ROBERTS *Cold Rolling of Steel* iii. 64 Wobblers are shown in Figure 3-3, and flat roll ends in Figure 3-4.

b. = *wobble plate* s.v. **WOBBLE** *v.* 5.

1950 W. E. WILSON *Positive-Displacement Pumps & Fluid Motors* iii. 42 Oil pressure forces the pistons against the nonrotating wobbler. The resultant force is transmitted through ball and roller bearings to the wobbler plate on the shaft and imparts a rotating action to it.

3. Angling. A lure that wobbles and does not spin.

1928 E. F. SPENCE *Pike Fisher* v. 55 The 'shining streak of silver' does not resemble any inhabitant of river or lake, but the 'wobbler' does look something like an injured fish. **1945** [see LEERVIS]. **1960** M. SHARCOTT *Place of Many Winds* vii. 120 'I bought a dozen new wobblers,' he says as he lifts the lid to reveal the shiny brass cohoe-spoons. **1977** *Best of Austral. Angler* 49/1 The wobbler and spoon type lure, however, whilst also being highly attractive to trout, are more suited to the physical requirements.

wobbling ('wɒblɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. **WOBBLE** *v.* + -ING¹.] The action of the *vb.* **WOBBLE**.

1836 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* Ser. i. xxvii. No wabblin' of his hind parts, but steady as a pump bolt. **a 1848** N. Y. *Com. Adv.* (Bartlett) Leverrier's calculations gave the mass of the unknown planet, by which the 'wabblings' of Herschell were to be set right, at so much. **1861** MISS E. A. BEAUFORT *Egypt. Sepulchres* II. xvi. 26 He nearly fell off his mule with the excess of the wabbling. **1876** VOYLE & STEVENSON *Milit. Dict.* (ed. 3). *Wobbling*, the unsteady motion of an elongated projectile through the air. **1907** *Athenæum* 27 Apr. 513/2 Here... is a slight wobbling in the artist's intention.

wobbling ('wɒblɪŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. **WOBBLE** *v.* + -ING².] That wobbles, in senses of the *vb.*

1657 LIGON *Barbadoes* 62 Cockroches, a creature... of a pure hair-colour, which would set him off the better, if he had not an ugly wabbling gate. **1748** RICHARDSON *Clarissa* VI. 99 [An old man] Shaking his loose-flesh'd wabbling chaps. **1774** GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* IV. 140 Its [sc. the bat's] evening flight and its unsteady wabbling motion amuse the imagination. **1821** CLARE *Vill. Minstr., Rustic Fishing* 46 Still wobbling curves keep wavering like a bite. **1883** GROVE *Dict. Mus.* III. 509/2 His whole singing was a bad wobbling trill. **1884** J. H. WALSH *Mod. Sportsman's Gun* II. 7 When discharged from a smooth bore... an oscillating or 'wobbling' flight is produced. **1898** *Catholic News* 21 May 8/4 It cannot be said that the constituency is a wobbling one.

wobbly ('wɒbli), *a.* Also wabbly. [f. **WOBBLE** *v.* + -Y¹.] Inclined to wobble.

1851-61 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* III. 149/1 The knees, which at first is weak and wabbly, gets strong. **1871** *Daily News* 11 Apr. 6 A brigade can fight as well if its line be slightly 'wobbly' as if it were dressed to death. **1873** MISS BROUGHTON *Nancy* I. 279 'Nancy!' cries Bobby, ... speaking in a wobbly, quivering voice. **1878** *Athenæum* 13 July 42/1 His English... is decidedly 'wobbly'.

Hence 'wobbliness', the state of being wobbly. **1880** MISS BROUGHTON *Second Thoughts* i. ii, General Tarlton is observing with chill misgiving a certain threatening wobbliness in the gait of his [top]. **1881** J. MORLEY *Recoll.* (1917) I. 174 A 'wobbliness' which nobody is more conscious of or more disgusted by, than I am.

'wobbly, sb.¹ orig. *U.S.* [Origin uncertain.] A member of the Industrial Workers of the World (see **INDUSTRIAL** *a.* e).

1913 *Miners Mag.* 24 Apr. 5 Joe Elton, Sabotist, Syndicalist and fearless I.W.W. with a red, flowing tie, with fire in his eye and fight in his backbone, the I Wobbly-Wobbly organizer... is traveling the country delivering his message. **1914** *Rep. Calif. District Courts of Appeal* (1915) 402 He telegraphed... Send all speakers and wobblers [sic] possible... It appeared at the trial that the term 'wobblers' meant members of the I.W.W.] **1914** *Voice of People* (Portland, Oregon) 1 Oct. 2/4 The workers are... asking why the wobblers are not holding meetings. **1921** *Outing* (U.S.) Nov. 94/3, I saw an angel and the devil standing side by side. The devil wore a 'Wobbly' (I.W.W.) button. **1923** *Nation* 5 Sept. 242/2 In Vancouver, in 1911, we had a number of Chinese members and one restaurant keeper would trust any member for meals. He could not pronounce the letter *w*, but called it *wobble*, and would ask: 'You I, Wobble Wobble?' and when the card was shown, credit was unlimited. Thereafter the laughing term among us was *I. Wobbly Wobbly*. **1932** E. WILSON *Devil take Hindmost* xxi. 218 The Wobbly leaders... called the men out of the tunnels. **1948** V. PALMER *Golconda* xxx. 251 And sometimes he [sc. the Labour Party candidate] was bothered by young fellows, usually advocates of One Big Union, who tried to lure him into deep water... He came to recognize them in the end and to stop them with light thrusts before they had lured him too far. 'What're you fellows? Wobblers, aren't you? I.W.W.—I Won't Work, but listen to me talk, eh?' **1957** [see *I.W.W.* s.v. I III]. **1967** A. L. LLOYD *Folk Song in Eng. v.* 387 'The celebrated working man', a song of American origin... was brought to Durham by a Wobbly collier from Kentucky. **1980** *Times* 21 June 6/1 A poor white American, probably a Wobbly—a member of the Industrial Workers of the World, a group of radical labour unions largely made up of itinerant workers.

'wobbly, sb.² *colloq.* [f. the adj.] *to throw a wobbly*: to lose one's self-control in a fit of nerves, panic, temperament, annoyance, or the like; also, to act in an unexpected way, causing surprise or consternation.

1977 *Telegraph* (Brisbane) 13 Apr. 13/2 The world has used him, exploited his talent and brains and then discarded him... is it any wonder that he throws a wobbly? **1978** D. NORDEN in Muir & Norden *Take my Word for It* 59 Not only did she throw a wobbly at the slightest murmur of tango rhythms, even the sight of a piano-acordion brought her out in hives. **1981** *Radio Times* 22-28 Aug. 6/4 The debriefing... seemed to take an inordinately long time... 'By lunch,' he [sc. Simeon Harris] says, 'I was getting a bit fed up, so I threw a wobbly.' **1982** *Guardian* 30 Oct. If the men heard my name called on the public address system all kinds

of stories would go round. They'd say 'Someone's thrown a wobbly again.' **1987** *Daily Tel.* 28 Jan. 13/4 When Susannah was 15 Leslie threw the biggest wobbly of all. She uprooted the family from Kent... and went to farthest Pembrokeshire.

wobbulator ('wɒbjʊlətə(r)). *Electronics.* Also wobulator. [f. **WOBB**(LE *sb.* or *v.* + **MOD**)ULATOR.] A device for producing a signal whose frequency varies rapidly and repeatedly between two limits.

1945 COOKE & MARKUS *Electronics Dict.* 428/1 Wobbulator. **1958** *Electronic Engin.* XXX. 541 A wobulator for amplitude testing often gives errors because of unwanted signal amplitude variations. **1977** S. W. AMOS *Radia, T.V. & Audio Technical Reference Bk.* xxxii. 9 Alignment should not be attempted on any u.h.f. tuner without the use of a u.h.f. wobulator.

So 'wobulated *ppl. a.*, varied or produced by means of a wobulator; **wobbu**lation, repeated variation of a frequency by a wobulator.

1944 *Electronic Engin.* XVI. 327/3 A powerful high-frequency sound with a wobulated effect might give the birds a disagreeable sensation. **1957** *Practical Wireless* XXXIII. 569/1 Apply a 10.7 Mc/s signal, wobulated 300 kc/s, to a test point. **1965** *New Scientist* 15 Apr. 156/1 'Wobulation' or the sweeping of the modulation frequency through 15 per cent either way of its mean value. **1982** *IEEE Jnl. Solid-State Circuits* XVII. 671/1 The initial and final frequencies, the wobulation rate, the ramp amplitude and frequency, and the wobulation mode are all controlled from the input data.

woc, var. **WOKE** *a.* *Obs.*

woce, obs. *Sc. f.* **VOICE**.

woch(e): see **VOUCH**, **WHICH**, **WOW** (wall).

woch(e)safe, obs. *ff.* **VOUCHSAFE**.

wod, obs. *f.* **WOOD** *sb.* and *a.*; obs. *pa. t.* of **WADE** *v.*

wod, obs. *Sc. form* of **VOID** *v.*

1477 *Lydgate's Dietary* 54 in *Makculloch MS.* (S.T.S.) 31 Wod al dronkynness, learis & lechoris.

wod, obs. *form* of **HOOD**.

1559 *Inv.* (Warw.) in *N. & Q.* 12th Ser. II. 502/1 A crest cap and a wod to weyr upon his sholder iiij s.

wodake, obs. *f.* **WOODHACK** (woodpecker).

wodbill, **-bin**, **-binde**, **-cok(ke**, etc., obs. *ff.* **WOODBILL**, **WOODBINE**, **WOODCOCK**.

wodd(e, wodden, obs. *ff.* **WOOD**, **WOODEN**.

wodder, **-ir**, obs. *ff.* **WEATHER**.

wodderwight, obs. *f.* **WITHERWEIGHT** *Sc.*

woddie, obs. var. **WIDDY**, **WOODY**.

woddish, **-y**, obs. *ff.* **WOODISH**, **-Y**.

woddram, **wodrome**, early forms of **WIDDENDREAM**.

1644 in S. Hibbert *Shetl. Isl.* (1822) 594 The said sickness was taken off the said Marion and casten upon a young cow of the said John's, which took wodrome. *Ibid.*, An uther cow... also died mad and in wodram.

wode, obs. *Sc. f.* **VOID**; obs. *pa. t.* of **WADE** *v.*; obs. *f.* **WOAD**, **WOOD**.

wodehouse: see **WOODWOSE**.

Wodehousian (wud'həʊsiən), *sb.* and *a.* [f. the name of Sir Pelham Greville *Wodehouse* (1881-1975), British author + -IAN.]

A. sb. *a.* A typical character in one of the comic novels of P. G. Wodehouse. *b.* An admirer or an habitual reader of Wodehouse's novels. *B. adj.* Pertaining to or characteristic of Wodehouse or of his works.

1931 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 21 May 409/4 Berry Conway and Lord Biskerton, the lads who are after Big Money, are true Wodehousians, stamped with the authentic stamp. **1938** *Ibid.* 12 Feb. 107/3 One may wince at Wodehousian baronets taking lodgers. **1943** *Scrutiny* XI. 288 About every seven pages some Wodehousian character receives a severe and almost mortal shock. **1958** *Times Lit. Suppl.* 14 Feb. 85/4 An up-to-date version of gaily irresponsible Wodehousian farce. **1973** M. MUGGERIDGE *Infernal Grove* iv. 229 The broadcasts, in point of fact, are neither anti- nor pro-German, but just Wodehousian. **1979** *Daily Tel.* 2 Aug. 11/3 With some minor reservations... this addition to Wodehousian lore can safely be admitted. **1980** *Times* 2 Feb. 7/2 The experienced Wodehousian's heart leaps.

wodeland, **-liche**, **-ness(e)**: see **WOODLAND**, **WOOLLY**, **WOODNESS**.

Wodenism ('wɒdənɪz(ə)m). *rare.* [f. *Woden* (see **ODINISM**) + -ISM.] **Odinism**.

1891 ATKINSON *Moorland Par.* 236 Wodenism was so completely vanquished that even the coming of the Danes failed to revive it.

Wodensday, obs. *f.* **WEDNESDAY**.

woder, obs. *f.* **OTHER**, **WEATHER**.

woderofe, **-rove**, **-rowe**, obs. *ff.* **WOODRUFF**.

wodershins, obs. *f.* **WITHERSHINS**.

wodeship, **-sour**, etc., **-wale**, **-ward**: see **WOODSHIP**, etc.

wodewe, obs. *f.* **WIDOW**.

wodewose: see **WOODWOSE**.

wodge (wɒdʒ). *colloq.* (orig. *dial.*). Also wadge. [Perh. phonæsthetic alteration of *wedge*: cf. **WEDGE** *sb.* 4 and *Eng. Dial. Dict.*] A bulky mass; a chunk or lump; a wad (of paper).

1860 *All Year Round* 28 July 368/2 The unhappy children [Blue-coat boys]... are compelled... to turn their skirts up and gird them in a great hot wadge about their loins. **1862** C. A. COLLINS *Cruise upon Wheels* xxiv. (1863) 413 That monstrous wadge of a dressing-gown. **1913** E. POUND *Let.* 7 Nov. (1971) 25, I don't want a great wadge of prose, but about double what we have at present. **1922** *Chambers's Jnl.* Dec. 797/1 A 'wodge' in his left breast-pocket. **1949** D. SMITH *I capture Castle* II. viii. 112 You must take only one kind of food on the fork at a time; never a nice comfortable wodge of meat and vegetables together. **1958** HAYWARD & HARARI tr. *Pasternak's Dr. Zhivago* I. vii. 195 He held out a wadge of papers across the hand-rail. **1963** A. SMITH *Throw out Two Hands* iii. 39 We strode out into the rain with a wodge of well-stamped supplications. **1977** *Private Eye* 4 Mar. 7/3 True, there's a wadge of self-opinionated dolts who drive around in head scarves and Range Rovers. **1981** *Brit. Med. Jnl.* 21 Mar. 968/1 A posterior pack is made from a wadge of gauze as large as the end of the patient's thumb, which is rammed tightly into the posterior choana. **1984** *Listener* 6 Dec. 35/1 These tomes are usually given a lively, busy design, with screaming wodges of colour. *Ibid.* 20-27 Dec. 7/2 Cross-headings, the lay reader should know, are those devices used to break a grey wodge of type and encourage you to keep reading.

wodginite ('wɒdʒɪnaɪt). *Min* [f. *Wodgina*, name of a locality in Western Australia + -ITE¹.]

A rare oxide of tantalum, niobium, and manganese (usu. also containing tin and iron) which occurs as brown or black monoclinic crystals or grains.

1963 E. H. NICKEL et al. in *Canad. Mineralogist* VII. 390 The name wodginite is proposed for a mineral found at two widely separated localities—Wodgina, Australia and Bernic Lake, Manitoba. **1978** *Mineral. Rec.* IX. 18/2 (*caption*) Unusual twin crystal of wodginite/cassiterite. The size is about 6 × 4.5 × 3.5 cm.

wodgy ('wɒdʒɪ), *a.* [f. **WODGE** *sb.* + -Y¹.]

Solid, bulky. Also *fig.*

1907 PHYLLIS DARE *From School to Stage* v. 84 Not a London thin-bread-and-butter tea, but a great, wodgy, six-sliced repast. **1928** *Daily Express* 8 June 5/5 Wedding cakes... are fattening and indigestible; they are 'wodgy' to the palate. **1978** *Daily Tel.* 30 Aug. 13 (*caption*) Swirl a piece of totally straight hair high, pin a little wodgy bun of bright crepe paper on over the kerby grips: that's Patrick Ales [*sic*] way. **1979** *Hi-Fi News* Dec. 169/2, I only wish I could be as totally enthusiastic about the recording. At average levels it is fine but sudden fortes come with a wodgy quality that is not at all pleasing; there are too many individual resonances for the ear to cope.

wodhacke, obs. *f.* **WOODHACK**.

wodhed, var. **WOODHEAD**.

Wodinsdai, obs. *f.* **WEDNESDAY**.

wodky, variant of **VODKA**.

wodland, **-liche**, **-ly**: see **WOODLAND**, **WOOLLY**.

wodmell, obs. form of **WADMAL**.

1522 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) V. 154 A wodmell slope and a pare of breche of the same.

wodnes(s, var. **WOODNESS**.

wodou, obs. var. **WOODOO**.

wodowes, var. **WOODWOSE**.

wodowhod, obs. *f.* **WIDOWHOOD**.

wodrofe, **-roffe**, **-rove**: see **WOODRUFF**.

wodrome: see **WODDRAM**.

wodschipe, var. **WOODSHIP**, madness.

wodset(t, obs. *ff.* **WADSET**.

wodsore, **-sour**: see **WOODSOUR**.

wodur, obs. *f.* **OTHER**.

wodwale, **-ward**, **-wose**: see **WOODWALE**, **WOODWARD**, **WOODWOSE**.

woe (wəʊ), *int.*, *adv.*, *sb.*, *a.* Forms: *a.* 1-6, 8-9 *Sc.* and *north.* *wa*, 3-5, 9 *north.* *waa*, (*Sc.* or *north.* 4, 6, 9 *way*, 5 *ua*, 7 *weay*, 7-9 *wea*, 8 *weea*), 5- *Sc.* *wae*; (with *is*) *Sc.* 4, 6 *wais*, 6 *waiss*, *wayis*, 7 *waies*, *wayes*, 8 *waes*; (with *is the*) *Sc.* and *north.* 7 *wee*'st, 8 *wae*'st, *wa*-ist, *wazist*, 9 *wa*(a)st, *waest*; 5 *Sc. sup. of adj.* *wast*, *wayest*; 1 *Northumb.*, 3 *Lay.* *wæ*. *β.* 2- *wo*, (3 *woa*, *wao*, *wuo*, 4 *who*, 5 *whoo*, *wooe*, 6 *Sc.* *voo*, *woi*), 4-6 *woo*, 4- *woe*. *γ.* 3 *Orm.* *wa33*, 2-3 *wei*, 3-4 *wai*, *way*, 4 *weye*, *we*. [Com. Indo-European interjection, used as a natural exclamation of lament; its forms fall into types distinguished by

variety of vocalism, and reduplicated forms are characteristic of several of the Germanic langs.; most of these langs. have developed a substantival use of the simple forms (through such constructions as that in A. 6), and English and German have developed an adj. use.

OE. *wá*, also *wé*, corresp. to OS., MLG. *wê*, (M)Du. *wee*, OHG., MHG. *wê* (G. *weh*, also *wehe*), ON. *vei*, *væ* (Sw., Da. *ve*), Goth. *wai* *ōwai*, and further to L. *væ*, Lett. *vai*, OIr. *fē*, W. *gwae*. (Arm. *vay* and late Gr. *ōá*, *ōvá*, *ōvái* are new formations.) Teut. **wai* is the source of the exclamations F. *ouais*, It. *guai*, Sp. *guay*.

The *γ*-forms are from ON. *vei* (cf. WELLAWAY). The spelling *wo* has been long prevalent in exclamatory use, and is still affected in poetry.

The forms properly substantival (as distinct from the above forms, which belong primarily to the int. and adv.) are:—OE. *wéa*, also the reduplicated *wáwa* wowe, MLG. *wēue*, OHG. *wēwo* m., *wēwa* f. (MHG. *wē*, gen. *wēwes* str. n., *wēwe*, *wēhe* wk. m., str. and wk. f.); otherwise the orig. interjectional forms are used as sbs.

OE. *wéa* entered into compounds in the sense of 'grievous, evil, bad'; one of these, *wéamód* peevish, survived into ME., see WEMOD; so Gothic *wai* in *waidēdja* ληστικός (f. **waidēps* = OE. *wéadēd* crime), OHG. *wē* in *wēturt* evil fate, misfortune; cf. Lett. *vājš* weak, ill.

Partially disguised compounds are WELLAWAY, WELLAWO, and WAIL v.]

A. int. and adv.

I. 1. a. As an exclamation of grief or lamentation: = Alas! Often in combination with another int., as *ah*, *lo* (see WALE int., WELLAWO); cf. WAESUCKS. *arch*.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss*. Int. 327 *Ua*, euwa [= eow + wa]. *c* 1250 *Death* 167 in *O.E. Misc.* 178 *Wai* hwi noldestu er of pisse beon icnowe? 1297 *R. Glouc.* (Rolls) 6446 Awey [v.r. awai] seli songe pinges, frendles were hii pere. *c* 1320 *Cast. Love* 188 A-wei, to sone he hit for-les. *c* 1330 *R. Brunne Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 15879 Cried he neyper wo ne way, But ded he was, & per he lay.

c 1400 *26 Pol. Poems* xxiv. 366 Allas, oure synnes. . say, 'wo, wo, wo!' *c* 1470 *HENRY Wallace* iv. 760 At hir he speryt giff scho forthocht it sar. 'Wa, ya', scho said. 1676 *DRYDEN Aurengz.* v. 76 Ah wo, wo, wo! the worst of woes I find! 1729 *G. ADAMS tr. Sophocles, Antig.* v. iv, Wo! and wo! Again, thou hast ruined an unhappy Man. 1854 *PATMORE Angel in Ho., Betrothal* 126 And if, ah woe, she loves alone.

† b. with following clause or phrase expressing the object of the lament. *Obs*.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 21 O, seið þus þe boc, wei þet he eure hit wule þenchen in his ponke. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night*. 120 *Wai* [v.r. way] þat hit nis þarof bireued. *c* 1275 *LAY.* 8013 Wei þat ich nadde bi war. *a* 1400 in *Minot's Poems* (ed. Hall) App. ii. 23 We for his Ending!

II. Construed with a dative (or, later, its equivalent), with or without a verb of being or happening, in sentences expressing the incidence of distress, affliction, or grief.

2. In prophetic or denunciatory utterances of the type of OE. *wá biþ þæm mannum* = affliction or grief shall be the lot of the men; *woe be to us* = may affliction or distress light upon us; *woe is him* = cursed is he. *Obs.* or *arch*.

Beowulf 183 *Wa* bið þæm ðe sceal þurh sliðne nið sawle bescufan in fyres fæpm. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 61 *Wa* biþ ponne þæm mannum þe ne ongytþ pisse worlde ymþa. *a* 1023 *WULFSTAN Hom.* xxx. (1883) 146 *Wa* byð ðam þe þær bið geteohod to. *c* 1300 *Harrov. Hell* (Harl. MS.) 102 *Wo* ys him þat þe knowe ne shall. 13.. *Northern Passion* 249 (Camb. Gg.) Who be þat man At þat treson fyrst began. 1390 *GOWER Conf.* I. 98 Sche seide: 'Ha treson, wo thee be'. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 4564 Waylaw to wriches & wa is þow in erthe. *c* 1400 *MAUNDEV.* (Roxb.) xiii. 55 *Wa* be to þe, Bethsaida! *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 4 Then woo shall be to hom þat schall here þys rebuke yn þat day. 1475 *Bk. Noblesse* (Roxb.) 41 Heh allas! . . and woo be the tyme they saide, that ever we shulde put. . . trust to the Frenshe partie. 1533 *FRITH Mirr.* ii. A vij, *Woe* be to them that couple and knytte houses to gether. 1542 *BOORDE Dyetary* xvi. (1870) 273 Bacon is good for carters and plow-men. . . but & yf they haue the stone. . . they shall synge, 'wo be the pye!' *c* 1560 *A. SCOTT Poems* (S.T.S.) xxxiv. 151 Weiss þow. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 187 *Way* is the Herdis of Israell. 1583 *STUBBES Anat. Abus.* ii. (1882) 59 *Woe* were vs, if wee were at the rule and gouernement of creatures. 1636 *EARL MANCH. Al Mondo* (ed. 3) 162 *Woe* is him whose bed is made in hell. 1680 in *Proc. Soc. Antiq. Scot.* XLV. 246 *Woes* us that we can nether shew nor receive kindness without danger. 1748 *RICHARDSON Clarissa* (1768) V. 25 *Wo* be to the Villain, if he recollect not this! *c* 1860 *FABER Child's Death* vi, Thou are welcome, thrice welcome:—yet woe is the day! 1880 *BLACKMORE Mary Anerley* xi, But woe is him, if a nasty foe . . smite him to the quick.

3. a. In merely declaratory statements of the type of OE. *him bið or is wá* = he will be or is distressed, afflicted, grieved, or sorrowful; ME. *him is (full) wo* = he is (much) distressed or grieved. *Obs.* exc. as in b.

c 893 *ÆLFRED Oros.* iii. vii, þæm folce wæs ægþres waa, ge þæt hie þæt mæste yfel forberan sceoldon, ge eac þæt hie his sciran ne dorstan. *a* 1000 *Sal. & Sat.* 104 Huru him bið æt heartan wa, ðonne he hangiende helle wisceð ðæs engestan eðelrices. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 149 *Tedet anima mea uite mee.* *Wuo* is mi soule þat ich bide here swo longe. *c* 1200 *ORMIN* 11904 *Himm* wass waz3 & ange Off þatt he nohht ne wisste off Crist. *c* 1205 *LAY.* 1660 *Sua* swiðe wa him was þat al his wit he for-les. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 96 *Me* is wo þet tu hit wost. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 882 *þat* beop her, wo is hom þes. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3749 *Me* es sua waa, almost i weede.

c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 209 *Him* was ful wo þan on is þo3t, & ofte sekede amonge. ? *a* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 2684 *Be* alle the welthe of the werlde, so woo was theme neuer! *c* 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 816 *Cuthbert* sawe, him was full wa.

b. very freq. in *woe is me* (occas. †to, unto me): I am distressed, afflicted, unfortunate, grieved. Now only *arch.* and *dial*.

c 1205 *LAY.* 28345 *Wa* is me þat ich was mon iboren. *a* 1240 *Ureisin* in *O.E. Hom.* I. 185 *Wa* is me þet ic am swa fremede wiþ þe! *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxiii. (George) 146 *Wais* me, douchtir, for þe. *a* 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 3075 'Wa is me!' quod he, . . 'wa is me vnhappy!' *c* 1400 *Anturs Arth.* 196 (Douce MS.) 'Wo is me for þi wo!' quod Waynour. *c* 1480 *HENRYSON Swallow & Other Birds* 265 Now ar þaj deid, and wo is me þairfore! 1513 *DOUGLAS Æneis* xi. i. 133 Bot netheles, quhat harm, ful wayis me! 1526 *TINDALE I Cor.* ix. 16 *Wo* is it vnto me [WYCLIF wo to me, COVERDALE wo vnto me, 1611 *Woe* is vnto me] yf I preache not the gospell. 1579 *SPENSER Sheph. Cal.* Sept. 25 *My sheepe* bene wasted, (wae is me therefore). 1683 *G. M[ERITON] Yorks. Dial.* 6 *Waies* is me Husband, our awd Breads all gane. 1729 *G. ADAMS tr. Sophocles, Antig.* ii. v, *Wo* is me a Wretch! 1785 *BURNS Death & Dr. Hornbook* xxiii, *Waes* me for Johnie Ged's Hole now. . . if that thae news be true! 1842 *TENNYSON Morte d' Arth.* 120 *To whom* replied King Arthur, much in wrath: 'Ah, miserable and unkind, untrue, . . *Woe* is me!' 1892 *FURNIVALL Hoccleve's Minor Poems* p. xlv, Lastly (woe is me!) I printed it in 1878 from [etc.].

4. a. *woe worth* (in 16th and 17th cent. sometimes hyphenated): may evil befall or light upon; a curse upon; cursed be or shall be: often in phr. *woe worth the day* (*the while, the time*). *arch*.

c 1205 *LAY.* 1562 *Wa* wrðe auer þene smið. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* (1922) 37 *Wa* wrðe þat chaffere. *c* 1275 *LAY.* 8011 *Wo* worþe onread [earlier text *Wale* wale vnred]. 1340 *HAMPOLE Pr. Cons.* 7396 Cursed kaytif and wa worth þe. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 4118 And jifi wrong seie any word, wo worþ me euer. *a* 1400 *Sir Perc.* 139 'Wo worthe wykkyde armour!' Percyvelle may say. *a* 1470 *HENRY Wallace* iv. 744 Allace That I was maide, wa worthe the coursit cas! *a* 1500 *Chaucer's Dreame* 1715 *Alas* my birth, wo worth my life. 1549 *LATIMER Ploughers* (Arb.) 34 *Wo* worth the, O Deuyll, wo worth the. . . that thou haste made Englande to worshyppe false Goddes. 1563 *Homilies* ii. *Passion* ii. 199 *May* we not iustly crye wo worth the tyme that euer we synned? 1593 *NASHE Christ's T.* 66 *Fall* England, farewell peace, wo-worth our Weale and tranquillitie. 1683 *G. M[ERITON] Yorks. Dial.* 16 *Weayworth* this Trash. 1684 *BUNYAN Pilgr.* ii. 7 *Then* they all wept again, and cryed out: Oh, *Wo* worth the day. 1714 *GAY Sheph. Week* i. 17 *Woe* worth the Tongue! may Blisters sore it gall, That names Buxoma, Blouzelind withal. 1785 *BURNS Sc. Drink* xv, *Wae* worth that brandy, burnin trash! 1810 *SCOTT Lady of L.* i. ix, *Woe* worth the chase, woe worth the day, That costs thy life, my gallant grey! 1870 *LOWELL Study Wind.* 244 *Woe* worth the hour that I beheld thee born.

† b. As an independent exclamation: = sense 1.

1553 *T. WILSON Rhet.* i. 43 *Wo* worthe, thei are dedde. 1598 *MARSTON Seco. Villanie* i. 23 *Woe* worth when trees drop in their proper kind!

† c. *woe worth me!* used occas. loosely = *woe* is me.

1887 *SWINBURNE Locrine* v. ii, *Estrild.* *Woe* worth me! *Sabrina.* *Nay*, woe worth Her wickedness. 1891 *CONAN DOYLE White Company* ix, *Wo* worth me when Agatha the tire-woman sets eyes upon it!

d. Similarly, *woe betide you* (etc.). In mod. use *collog.* with weakened sense: You (etc.) will get into trouble (if . . .). Also without obj.

1362 *LANGL. P. Pl.* A. ii. 86 And ar þis weddyng beo wrou3t wo þe beo-tyde! *Ibid.* iii. 116 *Er* Icb wedde such a wyf wo me bi-tyde! 1588 *SHAKS. Tit.* A. iv. ii. 56 *Now* helpe, or woe betide thee euermore. 1808 [see BETIDE v. 1 c]. 1819 *KEATS La belle Dame sans Merci* ix, And there I dream'd d, ah! woe betide, The latest dream I ever dream'd. 1819 *SCOTT Ivanhoe* xxvii[i], Go to the sick man's chamber. . .; and woe betide you if you again quit it without my permission! 1840 *DICKENS Old Cur. Shop* vi, If you're not sharp enough I'll creak the door, and wo betide you if I have to creak it much. 1868 [see BETIDE v. 1 c].

5. Without verb. a. const. dative (or its equivalent) = *woe be, woe worth, woe betide. arch*.

c 897 *ÆLFRED Gregory's Past. C.* xlv. 328 *Hit* is gecweden: *Wa* eow þe gadriab hus to huse. *Ibid.* xlix. 378 *Wa* me ðæs ic swugode! 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 25 *Wa* eow þe nu hlihap. *c* 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xviii. 7 *Wa* pysum middan-gearde þurh swicdomas. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 19 *Wa* hem ð at hie æure iscapene waren. 1382 *WYCLIF Rev.* viii. 13. I. . herde the voys of an egle. . seiynge. . Wo! wo! wo! to the dwellinge men in erthe. 1390 *GOWER Conf.* II. 355 *Wo* the while, he was a thief! *c* 1400 *LOVE Bonavent. Mirr.* (1908) 139 *Woo* to vs jif we wole folowe hym that wolde sette his fete in the hille of lordschippe. *c* 1460 *Play Sacram.* 853 *Woo* the whyle that bargayn I dyd euer make. 1535 *COVERDALE I Cor.* ix. 16 And wo vnto me [1611 *woe* is vnto me], yff I preach not the Gospell. 1589 *GREENE Menaphon* (Arb.) 55 *Then* woe mine eyes vnlesse they beauteie see. 1610 *SHAKS. Temp.* i. ii. 15 *O* woe, the day. 1697 *DRYDEN Virg. Georg.* iii. 389 *Wo* to him, that in the desert Land Of Lybia travels. 1721 *RAMSAY Prospect of Plenty* 25 *Wae* to that hand that dares. . . Defile the stream. 1794 *BURNS Song, Lovely Lass Inverness* 13 *Now* wae to thee, thou cruel lord, A bluidy man I trow thou be. 1829 *DIGBY Broad Stone Hon., Godfridus* 205 *But* woe the while! our fathers' minds are dead. 1842 *LYTTON Zanoni* i. ii, *Woe* to thine ears hadst thou heard the barbiton that night!

b. const. preps. on, for.

1823 *SCOTT Quentin D.* xxx, Some articles we will minute down with which he shall comply, or wo on his head! 1851 *CARLYLE Sterling* i. xiv, It has ended thus. *Wo* on it! 1852 *MRS. STOWE Uncle Tom's C.* xxvi, Oh, woe for them. . . when they shall wake!

† 6. to do or work (a person) *woe*: to inflict distress or trouble upon; to afflict; to do harm to. Also without regimen. *Obs*.

Orig. *woe* is adv. in this phr., but later apprehended as sb. (B. 1). (Cf. other langs., e.g. G. *weh(e) tun.*)

c 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) cxviii. 138 þa me grame wæron worda þinra, and me wa dydan. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 289 in *O.E. Hom.* I. 177 *Ac* 3et ne deð heom nout so wo in þo loþe biende bute þat hi witeð þat heore pine ne scal neure habben ende. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 364 *Is* hit nu wisdom mon to don so wo him suluen? *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* (1922) 49 *Hu* moni earmðen anan awakeneð þer-wið, þat wurched þe wa inoh. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 880 *Abram* hem folwede and wro3te woa. *Ibid.* 2100 *Deden* ut-comen .vii. neet, . . And .vii. lene after ðo, ðe deden ðe .vii. fette wo. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 5531 Bot ai þe mare þai did [þ]am wa þis folc multiplid ai maa. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxx. (Theodora) 624 þe feynd, oure fa, Cesit nocht to wirk hyr way. *c* 1400 *26 Pol. Poems* x. 65, I do þe wele, why dost me woo? *c* 1425 *WYNTOUN Cron.* i. xvi. 1571 *Iubiter* sulde noucht. . . wyrk hym mar wa na dispyte. *a* 1500 *Bernard. de cura rei fam.* iii. 55 *He* kest the stone in þe watter, & bad it wae worghie. 1509 *HAWES Past. Pleas.* xviii. (Percy Soc.) 86 *It* doth right well appere. . . that love hath done you wo. 1553 *Respublica* 1648 *Theis ladies.* . . prepare to weorke vs wo and doo vs all mischiefe.

B. sb. (See also A. 6.)

1. a. A condition of misery, affliction, or distress; misfortune, trouble; grievous or sorrowful state. *poet.* or *rhet.* Freq. in phr. *tale of woe*, a narrative of (one's) misfortunes. Now usu. *joc*.

c 1200 *ORMIN* 897 *Bape* hemm fell to þolenn wa þurh ifell wifess irre. *Ibid.* 4766 *Tenn* menn. . . Forrlæs þe gode Job þatt daz3, . . & 3et bilampp himm oþerr wa. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 237 *Issa* was hire firste name. . . Siðen 3he brocte us to woa, *Adam* gaf hire name eua. 1297 *R. GLOUC.* (Rolls) 7770 þe king & oþer riche men. . . wolde euer abbe ynou wanne þe pouere adde wo. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 2196 *Nembrot.* . . þat in his time wrought mikel waa. 13. . . *Ibid.* 22472 (Edin.) *Quar-* sold we be born to-day, *Quen* al þing sal com to way? *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* vi. (Thomas) 250 *He* vald firste quyke þam fla, & bryne þame syne in doile & va. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 4951 *Youthe* hem putte in Iupardy, In perell and in mych woo. *c* 1480 *HENRYSON Prais of Aige* 12 *Wrechitnes* has wroht all welthis wele to wo. 1523 *LD. BERNERS Froiss.* i. ccccxix. 308b/2 *The* capitayne. . . had dayly great payne and to defende their towne. 1592 *SHAKS. Rom. & Jul.* v. iii. 309 *For* neuer was a Storie of more *Wo*, *Then* this of Iuliet, and her Romeo. 1655 *MILTON Sonn. Massacre Piedmont* 14 *From* these may grow *A* hunder'd-fold, who. . . Early may fly the Babylonian wo. 1667 — *P.L.* i. 3 *The* Fruit Of that Forbidden Tree, whose mortal taste Brought Death into the World, and all our woe. 1770 *GOLDSM. Des. Vill.* 160 *Pleased* with his guests, the good man learned to glow, And quite forgot their vices in their woe. 1790 *COLERIDGE Genevieve* 8 *Within* your soul a voice there lives! It bids you hear the tale of *Woe*. 1813 *BYRON Giaour* 983 *My* days, though few, have pass'd below In much of joy, but more of woe. 1814 — *Lara* i. ii, *Lord* of himself,—that heritage of woe. 1821 *SCOTT Kenilw.* xxii, *A* screech-owl denouncing some deed of terror and of wo. 1837 *CARLYLE Fr. Rev.* III. ii. viii, This scene of wo. 1848 *MRS. GASKELL Mary Barton* iii, Her goodness, her lightness of conduct, had wrought this woe. 1882 *E. FIELD Compl. Tribune Primer* 111 (heading) *A* tale of woe. 1951 *Sport* 16–22 *Mar.* 4/2 *Listen* to the tale of woe from Swindon Town, who. . . suffered their 16th away league defeat. . . Swindon. . . lost goalkeeper Norman Uprichard at a goalless stage of the game. 1967 *BAKER & JONES Coffee, Tea or Me?* xvi. 199 *Kelman* savored a crisp piece of sausage pizza as he thought about our tale of woe. 1973 *Times* 11 *June* 18/8 *Yet* it is not all a tale of woe. An entirely new management structure has been brought into force, and Liverpool was the first port in the world to link a computer service to its cargo handling. *personified.* *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 4995 *With* hir labour and traualle Logged ben with sorwe and woo.

b. in conjunction with *weal*.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 216 *A* fruit, ðe kenned wel and wo. 13. . *K. Alis.* 3449 *There* his folk come wel or weye, *Him* tofore nys bote deth. *a* 1340 *HAMPOLE Psalter* i. 2 *Day* & nyght, þ' is assidually, in wele & wa. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxiii. (George) 235 *Fore* wele na way Off þis place sal I nocht ga. *c* 1385 *CHAUCER L.G.W.* 687 *Cleopatra*, 3e nere out of gyn hertis remembrance For wel or wo for carole or for daunce. *c* 1400 *26 Pol. Poems* v. 66 *God* hap lent þow discrecioun Boþe of wele and of woo. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 182 *Greit* cause thay haif for till repent, *Zot* will thay nocht do so, *Nouthor* for weil nor wo. 1812 *J. WILSON Isle of Palms* i. 351 *Whate'er* betide of weal or woe. 1860 *MOTLEY Netherl.* vi. i. 299 *Two* important commonwealths, upon whose action. . . the weal and wo of Christendom was hanging.

c. In particularized use; chiefly *pl.*, Misfortunes, troubles, griefs.

1382 *WYCLIF Rev.* ix. 12 *Oo* woo passid, and lol 3it comen two wos. 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* iii. 153 *All* the wois that Ouid in Ibin Into his pretty lyttill buik did wryte. *a* 1568 *MONTGOMERIE Misc. Poems* iii. 9 *That* curst inconstant catue till accuse, *Epais* variance of all my wois I wyt. 1599 *DRAYTON Heroic. Qu.* *Q. Isab.* to Mortimer 16 *One* woe makes another woe seeme lesse. 1642 *J. TAYLOR* (Water P.) *Mad Fashions* A 2 b, Those Rebels that doe breed her [sc. Ireland's] woes. 1697 *DRYDEN Æneis* xii. 892 *Latinus* tears his Garments as he goes, Both for his publick, and his private Woes. 1714 *YOUNG Force Relig.* i. 258 *Now* she revolves within her anxious mind, *What* woe still lingers in reserve behind. *a* 1720 *SEWEL Hist. Quakers* (1795) I. 61 *The* Lord sent me to you, to warn you of the woes that are coming upon you. 1832 *W. IRVING Alhambra* i. xii. 152 *Who* has not been touched with the woes of his lovely and gentle queen, subjected by him to a trial of life and death, on a false charge of infidelity? 1920 *Discovery* May 146 *The* most fundamental cause of all our present economic woes.

† d. *transf.* A cause of misfortune. *Obs. rare.*

c 1400 *Beryn* 1176 *My* wele, my woo, my paradise, my lyvis sustenaunce!

† 2. a. Physical pain or distress; disease or infirmity. *Obs.* or merged in sense 1.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 220 He lette ham polien wo inouh—hunger & purst, & muchel swinc. 1297 *R. GLOUC.* (Rolls) 1918 He was . . . pur mesel þo, & he bicom in is baptizinge hol of al is wo. 13. . . *Northern Passion* 49 (Camb. Gg.) þai . . . dyd hym tyll pyne and waa And euyr þai thoght hym for to sla. 1340-70 *Alex. & Dind.* 1033 A litil wetinge of watur his wo wol amende. a 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 539, I am all in aunter sa akis me þe wame, Of werke wel ne I wede & slike wae tholis. c 1425 *Hampole's Psalter* Metr. Pref. 36 Thys holy man . . . keuord mony of hur wo, the dumble, the defe, and other seke. [1783 *CRABBE Village* 1. 227 Thus groan the old, till, by disease oppress'd, They taste a final woe, and then they rest.]

b. With reference to the pains of hell.

c 1200 *ORMIN* Ded. 209 To takenn ut off helle wa þa gode sawless alle. *Ibid.* 1400 Forr whatt te33 fellenn sone dun off heffine untill helle Till eche wa. c 1290 *St. James* 77 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 36 þou sendest us þare we gret wo ifelde In gret torment and brenningue. c 1315 *SHOREHAM* VII. 534 þus þe deuyl ydampned hys, And wyþ hym . . . Deuelen wel mo; . . . Moche hys þe pyne þat hem eyleþ, And eke þe who. c 1400 26 *Pol. Poems* i. 108 The more he dwelleth theryn long, To his soule he encreseth woo. 1781 *Transl. & Paraphr.* xli. 8 Who looks to him with lively faith is sav'd from endless woes.

† 3. Sorrow, grief, anguish (as a state of mind or feeling). *Obs.* or merged in sense 1.

a 1300 *K. Horn* 263 Heo louede so horn child þat . . . In heorte heo hadde wo. c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1483 Neigh wod of witte for woo of þat sawe. 13. . . *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1717 With alle þe wo on lyue, To þe wod he [sc. the fox] went away. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1360 Mony wyues, for woo, of þere wit past. c 1410 *HOCCEVE Mother of God* 57 Tendrely remembre on the wo & peyne, þat thou soufferidst in his passioun. c 1530 *Crt. Love* 256 'For-soth, quod she, 'they wailen of their wo.' c 1560 *A. SCOTT Poems* (S.T.S.) xxv. 21 My hairt, tak nowdir pane nor wa, For Meg, for Meriory, or 3it Mawis. 1620 *J. TAYLOR* (Water P.) *Jack a Lent* C2, The poore Currus . . . stinke for woe for feare that another Lent is come sodainly vpon them. [1709 *PRIOR Henry & Emma* 118 His down-cast Eye reveals his inward Woes. 1719 *YOUNG Busiris* i. i, While the big Woe lies throbbing at my Heart.]

† 4. Lamentation, mourning. Chiefly in phr. *to make woe.* *Obs.*

c 1300 *Havelok* 465 Godard herde here wa, Ther-offe yaf he nouth a stra. 13. . . *K. Alis.* 2360 (Laud MS.), Michel woo & grete wailynge Was made. c 1385 *CHAUCER L.G.W.* 1839 *Lucrece*, The woo to telle hyt were impossible, That she and al hir frendes make attones. c 1412 *HOCCEVE De Reg. Princ.* 1057 For shame! why makest þou al this wo? 1508 *DUNBAR Tua Mariit Wemen* 437, I haif a water sponge for wa, within my wyde clokis, Than wring I it full wylely, & wetis my chekis.

5. An utterance of the word 'woe' in denunciation; an anathema, curse.

c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* p. xi, Her enden the eighte woos that God wishid to freris. Amen. 1546 *BALE Engl. Votaries* i. 75 He went fearcelye vpon them with wo vpon wo. 1637 *RUTHERFORD Let. to Ld. Craighall* 10 Aug., There is a woe, woe to him by whom offences come: This woe came out of Christ's mouth. 1638 *Penit. Conf.* vii. (1657) 146 A necessity is laid vpon us with a woe, and an Anathema, if we come not to confession. 1818 *SCOTT Hrt. Midl.* xxii, She bore a male-child, under circumstances which added treble bitterness to the wo denounced against our original mother. 1821 *MRS. WHEELER App. Cumblid. Dial.* 9 Here it was (a way light on the peacel) At first I got a gliff o' Betty's feace. 1867 *LADY HERBERT Cradle L.* viii. 228 The woe . . . pronounced by the Saviour—that woe so literally fulfilled.

6. *attrib. and Comb.*: simple attrib., as *woe-hurricane*, *-mark*, *-trumpet* (Rev. viii, ix); also adj. = *woeful* (cf. C), as † *woe-day*, † *-thing*, † *-word*; objective, as *woe-begetting*, *-boding*, *-denouncing*, *-foreboding*, *-revolving* adjs.; instrumental, as *woe-adumbred*, *-beseen*, *-bested*, *-cross-wounded* (see CROSS- B), *-dejected*, *-delighted*, *-embroidered*, *-exhausted*, *-fraught*, *-illumed*, *-infirmid*, *-stricken*, *-struck*, *-surcharged*, *-tied*, *-wearied*, *-weary*, *-whelmed*, *-worn* adjs.; *woe-enwrap*, *-wrinkle* vbs.; in other advb. relations, as *woe-betrothed*, *-destined*, *-sprung*, *-wedded* adjs.; † *woe-heart* [cf. C. i b, d], an affliction; also WOSITH.

1609 *J. DAVIES Holy Roode* I 1, Thy *Woe-adumbred Front. 1760-72 *H. BROOKE Fool of Qual.* (1809) IV. 3 The natural progeny of that *wo-begetting parent. 1390 *GOWER Conf.* III. 370 Al my face . . . So riveled and so *wo besien. c 1470 *HARDING Chron.* XLIII. ii, Full *wo bystad . . . with sorowe and with care. c 1510 *MORE Picus* Wks. 29 If thou be neuer so wo bestad. c 1530 *Crt. Love* 845 Ye made me wo bestad. 1777 *POTTER Æschylus, Supplicants* 75 My bursting heart. *woe-betroth'd, fears e'en its friends. 1838 *ELIZA COOK Holy* iv, The raven . . . with its *woe-boding tone. 1609 *J. DAVIES Holy Roode* F2, Comfort . . . Her *woe-crosse-wounded Heart. c 1205 *LAY.* 8750 Nu is icumen pin *wa-dæi. c 1346 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) I. 48 Ipsis sit Waleway, meschef tristissima woday. a 1796 *BURNS Bannocks* 0' Barley, Wha in his wae-days Were loyal to Charlie? 1786 — *To Ruin* 4 Thy cruel, *woe-delighted train. 1809 *CAMPBELL Gert. Wyoming* III. xvi, [He] smote his breast with *woe-denouncing hand. 1796 *ELIZA HAMILTON Lett. Hindoo Rajah* (1811) I. 86 The . . . years, which might change the abode of the souls of these tyrant whites into the frames of *woe-destined negroes. 1729 *SAVAGE Wanderer* II. 203 She muses o'er her *woe-embroider'd Vest. 1593 *NASHE Christ's* T. 26 Adams fall neuer so *woe-enwrapped the earth, as the relation of them shall. 1797 *MRS. M. ROBINSON Walsingham* III. 56 The *woe-exhausted poet. 1854 *J. S. C. ABBOTT Napoleon* (1855) I. ii. 56 The beleaguered and woe-exhausted city. 1813 *SCOTT Rokeby* I. xxviii, Three banners . . . The *woe-foreboding peasant sees. 1797 *T. PARK Sonn.* 103 *Woe-fraught breast of kesar or of queen. 1818 *HOLDER Poems* 69 From whose woe-fraught bosom break Those dismal cries? 1639 *RUTHERFORD Let. to Vctess. Kenmure* 1 Oct., I hope that Christ, when he married you, married you

and all the crosses and *wo hearts that follow you. 1818 *KEATS Endym.* IV. 527 *Woe-hurricanes beat ever at the gate. 1820 *SHELLEY Prometh. Unb.* i. i. 637, I . . . see more clear Thy works within my *woe-illumed mind. 1593 *NASHE Christ's* T. Ep. Ded., My *woe-infirmid Witte, conspired against me. 1848 *MRS. GASKELL Mary Barton* ix, The distress . . . which was crushing their lives out of them, and stamping *woe-marks over the land. 1824 *SYMMONS tr. Æschylus, Agamemnon* 65 Many a *woe-revolving year [πολύβρονον αἰών]. 1776 *MICKLE tr. Camoens' Lusiad* 276 Their *woe-sprung tears shall sue. 1850 *THACKERAY Pendennis* lviii, Arthur could not see how pallid and *woe-stricken her face was. 1770 *HODSON Ded. Temple of Solomon* 5 The Fury of the *Woe-struck King. 1828 *CARLYLE Misc.*, *Werner* (1840) I. 169 A certain woestruck martyr zeal. 1615 *BRATHWAIT Strappado* 97 A *Woe-surcharged heart. 1675 *COTTON Burlesque upon B.* 6 What! must I undergoe this *wo-thing, And suffer thus for doing nothing? 1619 *DRAYTON Bar. Wars* vi. xcv, Her *woe-ty'd Tongue. 1680 *C. NESSE Church-Hist.* 493 While the Church lay under the *Wo-Trumpets. 1826 *E. IRVING Babylon* III. I. 196 We expect the seventh trumpet, the last of the three woe trumpets. 1615 *CHAPMAN Odys.* XIX. 700 When all poore men . . . Would . . . get their *wo-watch pow'rs relieu'd. 1594 *SHAKS. Rich. III.* IV. iv. 18 My *woe-wearied tongue. c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 793 He slod sliþli a-doun a-slepe ful harde, as a *woe weygh for-waked-to-fore. 1393 *LANGL. P. Pl. C.* XXI. 1 Wo-werie and wet-schod wente ich forth after. 1613 *J. DAVIES Muses Teares* C3, When thou . . . Cam'st to espouse his Halfe; *wo-wedded now! 1777 *POTTER Æschylus, Agamemnon* 255 On its woe-wedded [ἀνδρόκτρον] Paris' hated head. 1875 *BROWNING Aristoph. Apol., Herakles* 851 This . . . I pondered, though *woe-whelmed. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 306 Heren þat harde word, þat *waword. 1601 *Mary Magd. Lament.* ii. 132 Poore *wo-worn woman. 1799 *Cupid & Psyche* 46 These wan and woe-worn cheeks of mine. 1857 *MRS. GASKELL C. Brontë* II. xiii. 324 She saw her husband's woe-worn face. 1871 *SWINBURNE Songs bef. Sunrise, Halt bef. Rome* 86 The woe-worn people. 1593 *NASHE Christ's* T. 29 Let me . . . wake olde and *woe-wrinkle my cheekes.

C. *adj.* (orig. and chiefly predicative).

This use has developed by a process common to the history of impersonal expressions in which an original dative has been converted into a nominative; *me is wo* became *I am wo*, as *me longeth* became *I long*.

1. a. Grieved, wretched, miserable, sorrowful. *Obs. exc. Sc. and north. dial.*

The first instance, like many more in early ME., is doubtful, because it is impossible to determine whether *sancte paul* is dative (See A. 3) or nominative.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 45 þa we sancte paul swiðe wa and abeh him . . . to his lauerdes fet. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 173 Danne stondeþ þo wreches also þo þe wo beð. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 14546 His discipulis þan war ful waa, þat þair maister was hated sau. 1340 *HAMPOLE Pr. Cons.* 1452 Now er men wele, now er men wa. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* iii. (*Andreas*) 799 þan was egeas wondir wa, þat saw hym-self confundit sa. 1399 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) I. 364 The swan is ded; his make is woo. c 1470 *HENRY Wallace* i. 401 Willham was wa he had na wappynis þar. 1470-85 *MALORY Arthur* VIII. xxxix. 334 Ful wo was la Beale Isoud. 1515 *Let. in Douglas' Poet. Wks.* (1874) I. Biogr. Introd. p. xxiii, I am ryght sory and voo therfor. 1523-34 *FITZHERB. Husb.* § 15 It is an olde saying, 'The oxe is neuer wo, tyll he to the harowe goo'. 1535 *COVERDALE Jer.* xxii. 10 Mourne not ouer the deed, and be not wo for them. 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* iii. 10 My freind, quhat makis the sa way? 1632 *HOLLAND Cyropædia* 130 Cyrus understanding that Gadatas was long since full woe and even out of the world for feare. 1637 *RUTHERFORD Lett., to T. Corbet* (1671) 173 If it be not so, I will be woe to be a witness against them. a 1648 *Ld. HERBERT Hen. VIII* (1683) 515 He was woe that ever she came into England. 1700 *DRYDEN Wife of Bath* s. T. 108 Woe was the Knight at this severe Command! 1721 *KELLY Sc. Prov.* 211, I am wae for your Skathe. 1816 *SCOTT Bl. Dwarf* vii, I'm wae ye suld hae cause to say sae. 1835 *MRS. CARLYLE Lett.* (1883) I. 44 Poor Queen! . . . I was wae to look at her, wae to think of her. 1887 *HALL CAINE Deemster* xxxv, She had grown 'wae' as folk said.

in comp. and sup. forms.

1375 *BARBOUR Bruce* xvi. 245 Micht no man se ane vrather [MS. E. waer] man. a 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 2004 And he þe waest [v.r. woest] of þe werd. 14. . . *Chaucer's Compl. Pite* 3 (Phillips MS.) In this worlde was no wight woer. c 1450 *HOLLAND Howlat* 963, I couth nocht won in to welth wretch wast [v.r. wayest]. c 1475 *Partenay* 2855 More neuer ne [? he] was woer at no stounde Then off that he hade wrethed so Raymounde.

b. Said of the heart or soul, and in phr. *woe in heart*, etc.; esp. in north. dial. phr. *wae's þ heart* (*wast-heart*, *waestart*, etc.) = *woe is me!* alas!

The earliest quotes are doubtful: cf. 1 above.

c 1205 *LAY.* 2260 Corineus wes un-eðe & wa on his mode. a 1300 *K. Horn* 275 þe stuard was in herte wo, For he nuste what to do. c 1375 *Cursor M.* 12440 (Fairf.) For-sop myne hert is wa. c 1400 *Gamelyn* 335 Gamelyn in his hert was ful woo. c 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 3446 He nas neuer ere so sore aferde Ny neuer in hert half so wo. 1591 *DRAYTON Harmony* C. (Roxb.) 26 Oh holy blessed Sion hill! my heart is woe for thee. 1600 *W. WATSON Decacordon* (1602) 266 How woe my hart was. 1695 [see WEE'ST HEART]. 1703 *THORESBY Let. to Ray Gloss.* (E.D.S.), *Wae'st heart*, a condolence to the same purport with *wae's me*, woe is the heart, &c. 1728 *RAMSAY Anacreontic on Love* 11 With his complaint my soul grew wae. 1773 *FERGUSON Ode Gowdspink* 21 'Mang men, wae's heart! we aften find The bravest drest want peace o' mind. 1786 *BURNS Two Dogs* 94 An' mony a time my heart's been wae. 1829 *J. HUNTER Hallamsh. Gloss.*, *Wast-heart-a-day*, an expression of grief or of commiseration. 1854 *N. & Q.* 1st Ser. IX. 349/2 *Waestart*, a common expression of sorrow or condolence among the lower classes . . . around Leeds. 1894 *R. BRIDGES A Robin* iv, She was not there, and my heart is woe.

† 3. In exclamations similar to those in A. 2, 3.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 22105 Corozaim, ai be ye waa! And sua be ye beth[s]laida! c 1340 *HAMPOLE Wks.* (Horstman) I. 165 Wo is he þat watnot [etc.]. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* vii. (*Jacobus Minor*) 332 Iervsalem, euir va þu be! c 1435 *Torr. Portugale* 1691 This Giaunt hym toke, wo he be! 1520

Calisto & Melib. Cijb, A boudy wych Callyd celystyne that wo myght she be.

d. In attrib. relation (cf. *woe-day*, etc. in B. 6). *Obs.* or *dial.*

a 1670 *SPALDING Troub. Chas. I* (Bannatyne Club) I. 125 Some . . . left their lodgings desolate, . . . with wae and sorry hearts. 1728 *THEOBALD Double Falsehood* IV. i, If he have a Mother, . . . she's a Woe-woman for him at this Hour. 1778 *H. BROOKE Female Officer* II. iii, I am a woe woman this heavy day. 1913 *N. MUNRO in Blackw. Mag.* Dec. 784/2 The wae wee chirrup of the yellow-yite.

† 2. Of an event, situation, etc.: *Woeful*, miserable, 'sorry'. *Obs.*

1588 *Marprel. Epist.* (Arb.) 38 Then alas, he was in a woe case. 1612 *DAY Festivals* vi. (1615) 155 Were it not for Bread, it would be woe with Mankind. 1638 *HEYWOOD Wise Woman* III. i, I hope so, or else I were in a woe case. 1642 *J. EATON Honey-c. Free Justif.* 69 If he did, it would soon be woe with us all. 1795 *SOUTHEY Joan of Arc* VI. 256 Oh! woe it is to think So many men shall never see the sun Go down!

woe-begone ('wəʊbɪɡən, -ɔː-), *a.* (*sb.*) [The construction out of which this word arose is illustrated by the quotes. immediately following, in which an objective pron. is governed by a compound tense of *BEGO* (q.v. sense 8) with *WOE sb.* as subject (*me is wo begon* = woe has beset me):—

c 1330 *Amis & Amil.* 2150 Me nas neuer so woe bigon, Yif thou it wost understand! For . . . almost ichaue him slon. c 1386 *CHAUCER Frankl. T.* 588 Noght wolde I telle how me is wo bigon But certes outhor moste I dye or pleynne.

Subsequently a change of construction took place, parallel to the passing of *me is woe* into *I am woe* (see *WOE a.*), *woe* and *begone* becoming consequently so indivisibly associated as to form a compound.

In the following quot. there seems to be a blend of the old and new constructions:

1593 *T. WATSON Tears of Fancie* xxxviii, My hart doth whisper I am woe begone me.]

1. 'Beset with woe'; oppressed with misfortune, distress, sorrow, or grief. *Obs.* or *arch.*

13. . . *Guy Warw.* (A.) 312 He went and trent his bed opon, So man þat is wo bigon. ? a 1366 *CHAUCER Rom. Rose* 336 In worlde nys wyght so harde of herte . . . That nolde haue had of her pyte So wo begone a thyng was she. 1390 *GOWER Conf.* II. 272 Hellen . . . Which of the See was wo bego, For pure drede hire herte hath lore. 13. . . *Northern Passion* (1913) I. 140 Tyll anoynt with all his seke body þat wafull was and wa began. c 1430 *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 207 þou my3tist han holpe 3ong & oolde þat ben disied and woo-bigoon. c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxiii. 257 Beestys, byrds, alle haue thay rest, when thay ar wo begon. c 1480 *HENRYSON Sheep & Dog* 1291 So is mony one Now in this warful trent wonder wo be gone. 1513 *DOUGLAS Æneis* x. xiii. 79 Sa wobegone becam this lusty man That salt teris fast our his chekis ran. 1597 *SHAKS. 2 Hen. IV.* I. i. 71 Euen such a man, so faint, so spiritlesse, So dull, so dead in looke, so woe-be-gone. 1603 *J. DAVIES Microcosmos* 192 To succour one another woe-begon. 1615 *BRATHWAIT Strappado* (1878) 93 All wea-begane, thus liu'd the Shepheard long. 1805-6 *CARY Dante, Inf.* xviii. 83 That lofty shate, who . . . seems too woe-begone to drop a tear. 1852 *THACKERAY Esmond* III. ix, Poor Frank Castlewood, who Esmond thought might be wobegone on account of parting with his divine Clotilda.]

2. Of persons in respect of their looks, appearance, or manner: Exhibiting or betraying a state of distress, misery, anguish, or grief. Also *transf.* of inanimate objects.

The rise of this sense in the modern period was due to an archaistic revival of the word, perhaps with special reference to such contexts as that of quot. 1597 in sense 1.

1802 *MRS. E. PARSONS Myst. Visit* IV. 135 You have left all your woe-begone looks behind. 1809 *W. IRVING Knickerb.* II. v. (1849) 112 The wo-begone heroes . . . eyed each other with rueful countenances. 1825 *WATERTON Wand. S. Amer.* IV. 275 St. John's is the capital of Antigua. . . At present it appears sad and woe-begone. 1837 *LOCKHART Scott* I. ii. 89 A poor mendicant approached, old and woe-begone. 1862 *SALA Accepted Addr.* 153 It was the most woe-begone excavation . . . you ever saw. 1883 *D. C. MURRAY Hearts* viii, Remembering how sad and woe-begone the little man seemed at leaving England. 1891 'J. S. WINTER' *Mrs. Bob* xviii, 'And I dare say I should', she ended, laughing at this woe-begone picture of herself.

Comb. 1844 *KINGLAKE Eothen* ii, Some woe-begone looking fellows were . . . laden with our baggage. 1858 *R. S. SURTEES Ask Mamma* lxvi, A wretched, dilapidated woe-begone-looking place.

b. as *sb.* A woe-begone creature.

1879 *E. ARNOLD Lt. Asia* v. 117 Whom sadly eying spake our Lord to one, Chief of the woe-begones. 1893 *KINNEY in The King's Business* (New Haven, Ct.) 138 The streaming tears of those woe-begones.

Hence 'woe-begoneness', 'woe-begonish a.

1826 *B. HALL in Lockhart Scott* (1837) VI. 316 His countenance . . . a little woe-begonish. c 1863 *J. BROWN John Leech* etc., *Thackeray's Death* (1882) 187 A strange visage, staring at him with an expression of comical woe-begoneness. 1885 *H. O. FORBES Nat. Wand. E. Archip.* 159 The intermittent 'All'-il-allahs—whose very woe-begoneness made me smile.

woed, *obs.* form of *WOOD a.*

woeful ('wəʊfʊl), *a.* Also *woful*. [f. *WOE sb.* + *-FUL*. (Revived or newly formed c 1750.)]

1. Of persons, their attributes, actions, etc.: Full of woe; afflicted with sorrow, distress, or misfortune; sorrowful, mournful.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 11564 Ful waful made he mani wijf! c 1384 *CHAUCER H. Fame* 1. 214 Wepynge with ful woful

chere. **1390** GOWER *Conf.* III. 260 Wher thei myhten se The wofulleste upon this Molde. ?a **1400** *Morte Arth.* 950 A wery wafulle wedowe, wryngande hire handez. **1470-85** MALORY *Arthur* iv. vi. 126 Herynge aboute hym many complayntes of woful knyghtes. **1549** *Compl. Scot.* vii. 68 It aperit be hyr woful conteneys, that sche vas in grite dout ande dreddour. a **1557** GRIMALDE in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 112 For Wilford felt the wayters wayfull wo. **1603** KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* Introd. (1621) A4, The infinite number of wofull Christians (whose grievous groanings vnder the heauie yoke of infidelitie no tongue is able to expresse). **1655** FULLER *Ch. Hist.* i. v. §14 They dispatch Petition after Petition, Embassie on Embassie, representing their wofull estate. **1802** LEYDEN *Lord Soulis* xl, When Soulis thought on his merriemen now, A woful wight was he. **1825** MACAULAY *Ess.*, *Milton* ¶45 The haggard and woful stare of the eye. **1885** E. ARNOLD *Secret of Death* 10 Be sure that woful father wept.

2. Of times, places, occurrences, etc.: Fraught with woe, affliction, or misery; miserable.

a **1300** *Cursor M.* 2882, I rede yow take Ensampler bi þis waful wrake. c **1400** *Melayne* 260 Oure knyghtis one þe gronde lyse With wondes wyde one wafull wyse. c **1480** HENRYSON *Want of Wyse Men* 7 This is a wofull werde. **1592** SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* iv. v. 49 O wo, O wofull, wofull, wofull day. **1610** HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* i. 240 That wofull war betweene the houses of Lancaster and Yorke. **1630** R. JOHNSON's *Kingd. & Commw.* 554 In this wofull Towne dwell not above two or three hundred Inhabitants. **1642-3** *Petit. Gen. Assembly* 4 Jan. 1 In this wofull case, and lamentable condition of your Majesties Dominions. **1777** DALRYMPLE *Trav. Sp. & Port.* lvi, Many old palaces going to ruins, the woful memorials of antient splendour. **1803** SCOTT *Gray Brother* xx, A woful place was that, I ween, As sorrow could desire. **1853** HAWTHORNE *Tanglewood T.*, *Minotaur* 28 The wofulest anniversary in the whole year.

3. In weakened or trivial senses: Such as to excite commiseration or dissatisfaction; 'grievous', 'sad', 'unpleasant; very bad, poor, or mean; 'pitiful', 'deplorable', 'wretched'.

1619 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Kicksey Winsey* B5, These mens honesties are like their states, At piteous, wofull, and at low priz'd rates. **1647** in *Verney Mem.* (1907) I. 496 Mun, poore childe, is a wofull schollar. **1650** B. *Discolliminum* 2 It is a wofull while a coming. **1691** MRS. D'ANVERS *Academia* 53 She's in a woful taking, When once she comes to miss her Bacon. **1709** POPE *Ess. Crit.* 418 What woful stuff this madrigal would be. **1723** CHAMBERS tr. *Le Clerc's Archit.* I. 117 Two Imposts over each other wou'd have a woful Effect. **1798** S. & Ht. LEE *Cant. T.*, *Young Lady's T.* II. 546 [She] had many good qualities, but was a woful manager of children. **1853** DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* lxiii, He... has a woful consciousness upon him of being a scapegrace. **1863** W. C. BALDWIN *Afr. Hunting* ii. 44, I had to return to camp... in a woful plight, minus my hat, and my shirt torn to ribbons. **1905** *Times Lit. Suppl.* 2 June 176/3 Wild dogs have... made woful havoc of the sambar and spotted deer. **1920** *Ibid.* 2 Sept. 558/1 The woful results of uncritical thinking.

4. In comb. with another adj., as *woful-wan*; also advb. = WOEFULLY.

1750 GRAY *Elegy* 107 Now drooping, woful-wan, like one forlorn. **1794** *Girlhood of M. J. Holroyd* (1896) 259 His others are woful bad. **1820** S. ROGERS *Hum. Life* 282 One woful-wan, one merrier yet as mad.

wofefully ('wəʊfʊl), *adv.* Also wofully. [f. WOEFUL + -LY².]

1. In a woful manner or condition; miserably, grievously; mournfully, sadly. *arch.*

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 198, I am A womman wofully bestad. *Ibid.* 267 Whan thei herde Hou wofully this cause ferde. c **1480** HENRYSON *Trial of Fox* 275 The 3ow... Put out hir playnt on this wyis wofullie. **1526** *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 302 b, As thou were so wofully arayed. **1590** SPENSER *F.Q.* i. v. 33 Where many soules sit wailing wofully. **16..** MIDDLETON, etc. *Old Law* v. i, These that do lead this day of jollity Doe march with Musick. . Those that doe follow sad, and wofully. a **1656** Bp. HALL *Specialities Life Rem.* Wks. (1660) 35 That wofully distracted Church. **1751** SMOLLETT *Per. Pickle* cxiii. [cv], I know... what makes you laugh so wofully. **1865** TROLLOPE *Belton Estate* xiii, 'I suppose she thinks so of me,' said Belton wofully. **1876** SWINBURNE *Erechtheus* 570 Wofully wed in a snow strewn bed.

2. So as to excite commiseration or dissatisfaction; grievously, deplorably, 'sadly'.

Occas. as a mere intensive: cf. *awfully*, *terribly*. **1648** JENKYN *Blind Guide* iii. 58 You say but very little... but in that little you wofully trifle. **1766** GOLDSM. *Vicar W.* xxiv, Thou hast once wofully, irreparably deceived me. **1831** JAMES *Philip Aug.* xix, Of defensive armour the supply was wofully small. **1843** *Peter Parley's Ann.* IV. 266 Mrs. Clinker, who was wofully, as she termed it, fond of pigs. **1885** *Truth* 11 June 928/1 The other exhibits are... wofully bad, and deplorably uninteresting.

woffulness ('wəʊfʊlnɪs), *arch.* [f. WOEFUL + -NESS.] Woful condition; sad misery.

1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* i. 3171 O dredefull thetde... Takynge our heed from vs... Hath brought vs to drethdome, wofulnes and payne. a **1586** SIDNEY *Arcadia* iii. (1922) 61 The harte stuffed up with wofulnes. **1686** G. STUART *Jocoser. Disc.* 2 Their waedeum [marg. Wofulness] seem'd vanish't. **1867** MORRIS *Jason* xvii. 1118 He... muttered low for fear and woffulness.

woele, obs. form of WHEEL.

† **woeless**, *a. Obs. rare.* In 6 woles. [f. WOE *sb.* + -LESS.] Free from woe.

c **1560** A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) iii. 28 Petously complene 30' woles pane.

woemen, obs. pl. of WOMAN.

† **woeness**. *Obs. rare.* In 6 *Sc.* wanes. [f. WOE *sb.* + -NESS.] Grief, sorrow.

1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) I. 80 The wemen... tuke sic melancoly, That sum for wanes lap into the se.

woer, woerd, woes: see WOOR, WORD, OOE.

woesome ('wəʊsəm), *a.* Also *Sc.* waesome. [f. WOE *sb.* + -SOME.] Woful.

1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xlv, She kend her lot would be a waesome anc. **1867** G. MACDONALD *Songs Summer Nts.* i. iii, 'Tis not a flowing wind, I see—An ebbing woesome thing. **1897** *Outing* (U.S.) XXIX. 356/1 The copper blade passed through Lakanoo's breast-bone, cutting a woesome gash.

wof, obs. pa. t. and pa. pple. of WEAVE *v.*

woff, var. WAFF *v.*³

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 156/40 To woff like a dog, *latritare*.

woffle, var. WAFFLE *v.*, *sb.*²

woft, *Sc.* var. WEFT *sb.*¹

wog¹ (wɒɡ). *slang.* [Origin uncertain: often said to be an acronym, but none of the many suggested etymologies is satisfactorily supported by the evidence.] 1. A vulgarly offensive name for a foreigner, esp. one of Arab extraction.

1929 F. BOWEN *Sea Slang* 153 *Wogs*, lower class Babu shipping clerks on the Indian coast. **1932** R. J. P. HEWISON *Essay on Oxford* 5 And here the *Ethiop* ranks, the wogs, we spy. **1937** F. STARK *Baghdad Sketches* 90 When I return, Nasir fixed me with real malignity in his little placid eyes. 'I knew she wanted me to go,' he said. 'I could see what she was thinking. They call us wogs.' **1942** C. HOLLINGWORTH *German Just behind Me* xiii. 258 King Zog Was always considered a bit of a Wog, Until Mussolini quite recently Behaved so indecently. **1944** [see COME *v.* 39c]. **1955** E. WAUGH *Officers & Gentlemen* II. 323 He turned up in western Abyssinia leading a group of wogs. **1958** *Times Lit. Suppl.* 11 Apr. p. vi/3 We have travelled some distance from the days when Wogs began at Calais. **1965** [see COMMIE]. **1982** J. SAVARIN *Water Hole* i. iv. 42 He hated Arabs... They were all wogs to him.

2. The Arabic language.

1977 P. RAYMOND *Matter of Assassination* vi. 63, I can't speak Wog and don't seem to be getting anywhere. **1982** 'W. HAGGARD' *Mischief-Makers* xiv. 157 'I've picked up a few words of wog, sir.'... The driver spoke terrible barrack-room Arabic.

3. *a. attrib.* passing into *adj.*

a **1963** J. LUSBY in B. James *Austral. Short Stories* (1963) 236 Wog chappie scuttling around seeking safe side of the beast. **1970** G. F. NEWMAN *Sir, You Bastard* viii. 234 We were hawking, and getting treated like bleeding wog brush salesmen. **1973** *Daily Tel.* 31 May 3/2 Judge Sheldon heard that trouble started... when white girlfriends of coloured soldiers... were taunted by members of the Royal Scots as 'wog lovers'. **1977** *Drive* Sept.-Oct. 112/2 Any foreign car, even a Ferrari or a Mercedes, is a *wog motor*, unless it's a *Yank*.

b. Comb. *wogland derog.*, a foreign country.

1961 [see NIG, NIG *sb.*]. **1967** 'J. MUNRO' *Money that Money can't Buy* ii. 24, I don't live in Wogland [sc. Spain] because I like it.

Hence also 'wogger'; 'woggy' *a.*

1922 JOYCE *Ulysses* 740 She called him wogger. *Ibid.* 741 She may have noticed her wogger people were always going away. **1973** M. CATTO *Sam Casanova* iv. 75, I met some kid in a night-club here, does some sort of Woggy belly-dance. **1979** REESE & FLINT *Trick* 13 100 That woggy fellow... was cleaning up.

wog² (wɒɡ). *Austral. slang.* [Origin uncertain.] A germ or parasite; an insect; an illness or disease. Cf. BUG *sb.*² 3 d.

1934 *Bulletin* (Sydney) 31 Oct. 20/4 Buckley's fluke... is a wog that enters the nostrils of these snakes during hibernation. **1941** C. BARRETT *Coast of Adventure* iii. 51 Jolly little people... popping into old jam tins a miscellany of wogs—from bull-ants to scorpions and centipedes. **1953** A. UPFIELD *Murder must Wait* xxi. 191 The wogs flying about the light. **1964** R. BRADDON *Year Angry Rabbit* i. 9 But find the wog, find the super-myxomatosis, the whatever-it-may-be that kills today's rabbits. **1976** D. FRANCIS *In Frame* viii. 126 A beastly stomach wog, so he couldn't come.

wog, obs. *Sc.* f. VOGUE *sb.*

c **1700** M'ALPHE *Cert. Cur. Poems* (1828) 6 For we declair it wnto yow, The man hes gott the wog.

Wogdon ('wɒɡdən). Also *erron.* Wogden. The name of Robert *Wogdon* (fl. 1776-1800), a noted gunsmith, used *absol.* to designate a duelling pistol made by him.

c **1810** W. HICKEY *Mem.* (1923) III. 150 By God, Bill, you shall shoot the dirty little rascal through the head. I have a delicate pair of Wogdens that will do his business effectually. **1969** G. LYALL *Venus with Pistol* xxv. 161 Give it a little time for the word to go round that Bert Kemp had matched a pair of fancy Wogdens. **1981** 'J. STURROCK' *Suicide Most Foul* vi. 127 Had I been armed with only one of my Wogdens the end would have been different, but a gentleman does not take pistols to a ball.

woggle ('wɒɡ(ə)l), *v.* Variant of WAGGLE *v.*

1648 HEXHAM, *Loteren*, to Wagge, or to Woggle. **1918** *Blackw. Mag.* June 767/1, I woggle my machine [sc. an aeroplane] from side to side. **1921** S. GRAHAM *Europe—Whither bound?* 131 The miserable green waggons of open horse-trams woggled along the main ways.

woggle ('wɒɡ(ə)l), *sb.* [Origin unknown: cf. TOGGLE *sb.*] A loop or ring of leather, cord, etc., through which the ends of a Scout's neckerchief are threaded.

1930 *Daily News* 10 May 4/4 Woggles have now become an established part of Scout uniform, and I have seen some very good examples made by Scouts. **1977** *Grimsby Even.*

Tel. 27 May 2/7 The woggle—the ring holding the neckerchief in place on the Scout uniform. **1983** J. DEPT *Beaver Leader's Handbk.* 32 You must decide yourself whether each new Beaver should be asked to pay for his scarf and woggle, or whether these should be provided by the Colony.

wɔʒte, obs. var. VAULT *sb.*¹

wogue, obs. *Sc.* f. VOGUE.

Wogul, var. of VOGUL.

woh, var. WOUGH, WOW *sb.*¹ *Obs.*

wohe, obs. *f.* WOO.

wo hey, etc.: see WO.

Wöhler ('vɔ:lə(r)). *Mech.* [The name of August *Wöhler* (1819-1914), German railway engineer.] *Wöhler test*: a fatigue test in which a horizontal bar is rotated axially while supported at one end and loaded at the other.

[**1888** *Rep. Brit. Assoc. Adv. Sci.* 1887 434 (caption) Limits of stress from Wöhler's endurance tests.] **1911** *Jrnl. Iron & Steel Inst.* LXXXIV. 655 The testing machines include... a rotary fatigue (Wöhler test) machine. **1948** P. F. FOSTER *Mech. Testing of Metals & Alloys* x. 203 One objection urged against the Wöhler test is that it is merely a skin test, since the major part of the section is but comparatively lightly stressed. **1980** *Proc. European Offshore Steels Res. Seminar* 1978 (Welding Inst.) p. III/P7-2 The test programme included Wöhler tests (fatigue tests) with an alternating load.

woice, obs. *f.* VOICE.

woid(e), obs. *Sc.* ff. VOID, WOOD *a.*

woidie, var. VOISDIE.

woifen, obs. *Sc.* pa. pple. of WEAVE *v.*

wois, *woise*, obs. ff. WHOSE.

woitting, obs. *Sc.* f. VOTING.

woiwode, var. VOIVODE.

wok (wɒk). Also wock. [a. Chinese (Cantonese).] A bowl-shaped pan used in Chinese cookery.

1952 D. Y. H. FENG *Joy of Chinese Cooking* i. 37 A well-stocked Chinese kitchen usually has... several convex-bottomed circular pans hammered out of thin iron or copper called *wock*. **1962** E.-M. WONG *Chinese Cookery* i. 4 For versatility and easy handling the wok is indispensable. **1969** *Britannica Bk. of Year* (U.S.) 801/1 *Wok*, a bowl-shaped cooking utensil used especially in the preparation of Chinese food. **1972** *Maclean's Mag.* Mar. 46/3 The Chinese wok technique is my mainstay of cooking, although I do it in a plain frypan. **1973** J. GORES *Final Notice* (1974) x. 61 The pixie-like waitress came in with a boardful of fresh vegetables for the wok. **1977** *Sunday Times* (Colour Suppl.) 4 Dec. 20/2 Wok cooking is about to sweep the Western world. **1983** *Listener* 30 June 17/1 By 1972 I needed a small pantechnicon to convey all my books on macrobiotic cookery, my plants, wall-hangings and floor cushions, my astrological tables, women's-lib posters and my wok.

† **woke**, *a. Obs.* Forms: *a.* 1-3 *wac* (1 *waac*, *infl.* *wake*), 4 *north.* *wake*, 4-5 *wake*; *β.* 2-3 *woc*, (3 *wooc*, *infl.* *woke*), 3-5 *wok*, 5 *woke*; 1 *comp.* *waccra*, *superl.* 1 *waccust*, 4 *wakkest*. [Com. Teut. (wanting in Goth. and Fris.): OE. *wác*, corresp. to OS., MLG. *wêk*, MDu. *weec* (Du. *week*), OHG. *weih* (MHG., G. *weich*) yielding, soft, ON. *veikr*, *vøyk-r* (Sw. *vek*, Da. *veg* soft, Norw. *veik*) weak:—O Teut. **waikwo-*, f. **waikw-*: **wikw-* to yield, give way: see WIKE *v.* Cf. WEAK *a.*, a. ON. *veikr*.

The word died out in the 15th c., being superseded by WEAK; if it had survived, its form in mod. Eng. would have been **wook* (wuk), the vowel being modified in quality by the initial (w) and shortened by the final (k).]

= WEAK *a.* in various senses. *a.* Pliant, flexible (only OE.). *b.* Lacking in strength, vigour, endurance, or courage; inferior physically or morally. *c.* Lowly in status or degree; insignificant.

c **897** ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past.* C. xlii. 306 Sua sua wac hreod & idel, ðe ælc hwiða windeð mæx aweccgan. a **1000** *Wanderer* 67 Ne sceal no to hatheort ne to hrædwyrde ne to wac wiga ne to wanhydig. c **1000** ÆLFRED *Hom.* I. 2 Ic Ælfred munuc and mæssepreost, swa peah waccere ponne swilcum hadum gebyrige. c **1050** *Suppl. Ælfred's Gloss.* in Wf. Wülcker 191/19 *Lentus*, waac. **1050-73** *Charter* in Thorpe *Charters* (1865) 430, ii forealdode rædingbec swiðe wake, and .i. wac mæssereaf. c **1200** ORMIN 18328 Ic amm i me sellfenn wac & full off untrummesse. c **1205** LAM. 23593 Ah fehten ich wulle... wið Arðure kinge, whader unker swa beoð pere wakere sone he bið þe laðere. a **1225** *Ancr. R.* 12 Do wel & dem ðe suluen euer woc. *Ibid.* 52 Ofte a ful hawur smið smeoðis a ful woc knif. c **1230** *Hali Meid.* (1922) 9 Drehen se moni war, for swa wac huire as te world forzelt eauer at ten ende. c **1250** *Gen. & Ex.* 1197 3he wurd wið child, on elde wac. a **1275** *Prov. Alfred* 581 in O.E. *Misc.* 135 Min hew falewidp, and min wile is wan, and min herte woc. **13..** *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 354, I am þe wakkest, I wot, and of wyt feblest. c **1375** *Sc. Leg. Saints* xvi. (*Magdalene*) 389 For þu art wak & gret with barne. c **1425** *Engl. Conq. Ireland* 146 The englysshe weren both argh & woke to assayllen and to fyght, þe Iresshe stronge & bold to wythstonde. c **1450** *Mirk's Festial* 196 Then callyd þe norys to þe modyr, and bade hur... helpe hur forto folde þe chyl dys clopis; for scho was to woke, and myght not welde hom. **1457** HARDING *Chron.* i. in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* (1912) Oct. 743 With incurable mayne that maketh me wake.

d. *woke fish* [cf. G. *weichfisch*], dried cod, stockfish.

1386 in R. R. Sharpe *Cal. Letter-bk. H Lond.* (1907) 299 Stokfisse [called] halfwoxfisse [sic].

† *woke, v. Obs.* Forms: 1 *wacian*, 3 *wakien*, 3-4 *woke*, *wokie*. [OE. *wácian*, f. *wác* WOKE *a.*]

1. *intr.* To grow or become weak, to weaken; to become less severe, be mitigated.

993 *Battle of Maldon* 10 þe þam man mihte oncnawan þæt se cniht nolde wacian æt þam wige. 1003 *O.E. Chron.* (Laud MS.), Ðonne se heretoga wacað, þonne bið eall se here swiðe gehindred. c 1205 *LAY.* 2938 þa ældede þe king & wakede an æðelan. *Ibid.* 13466 þa heo weore swa drunken þæt waken heore sconken. *Ibid.* 19798 His heorte gon to wakien [c 1275 *wokie*]. c 1275 *Signs of Death* 2 in *O.E. Misc.* 101 [H]wenne þin heou blokep And þi strengpe wokep. c 1374 [see WEAK *v.* 2].

2. *trans. a.* To dilute, water. *b.* To soften (in quot. *fig.*). *c.* To soak in water: = WEAK *v.* 1 b.

1377 *LANGL. P. Pl. B.* xv. 332 As who so filled a tonne of a fresshe ryuer, And went forth with þat water to woke with themese. 1393 *Ibid.* C. xv. 25 Ac grace growep nat til goode wil gynne reyne, And wokie þorwe good werkes wikkede hertes. *Ibid.* xvii. 332 [He] with warme water of hus eyen wokep hit til hit white.

Hence † *woked ppl. a.*, steeped.

1408-9 in R. R. Sharpe *Cal. Letter-bk. I Lond.* (1909) 71 [A proclamation forbidding the sale by retail of watered fish] pessoun eawee [called in English] Wokedfyssh.

woke, obs. pa. t. of ACHE *v.*; pa. t. and pple. of WAKE *v.*; obs. form of OAK, WEEK.

† *wokely, adv. Obs.* [OE. *wáclíce*, f. *wác* WOKE *a.*: see -LY².] Weakly, feebly, poorly.

a 1000 *Boeth. Metr.* v. 34 Ne eft to waclice geortreowe æniges godes. c 1000 *ÆLFRIC Hom.* I. 528 ðe hwam sceamað, gif he gelaðoð bið to woruldlicum gyftum, ðæt he waclice geseryd cume. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 294 3if þu.. werest te erest wolliche [*MS. C.* wachlichliche] & 3iuest þe ueonde in 3ong. c 1230 *Hali Meid.* (1922) 10 þe poure, þe beoð wacliche ieuen and biset on uuele.

'*woken, ppl. a. rare.* [pa. pple. of WAKE *v.*] Awakened.

1649 C. WASE *Sophocles, Electra* 2 Birds with chirping Mattins call from bed The woken Suns already rising head. 1924 *Serena Blandish* vii. 120 Her newly woken spirit.

† *wokeness. Obs.* [OE. *wácnēs*, f. *wác* WOKE *a.*: see -NESS.]

1. Weakness, debility; (in OE. also) lowliness, inferiority.

c 1000 *ÆLFRIC Hom.* I. 68 Hi bædon ðæt ða gymstanas awendon to heora wacnyssce. a 1100 *Althelm Gloss.* I. 1384 (Napier 37) *Uilitas, abiectio*, wacnys. c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 83 þu hafdest me imaked glad and bliðe; ac ich hes haue forþen for mine woenesse. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 232 þet we iknowen ure owune feblesce & ure owune muchele unstrenceðe, & ure owune woenesse. a 1240 *Wohunge* in *O.E. Hom.* I. 273 And te strengðe of þe helpe mi muchele wacnesse. 1547 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 258 The debilitie and wakenes of my bodie.

2. Moisture. (Cf. *wakness* s.v. WAK.)

1340 *Ayenb.* 95 Guod molde, woenesse norissynde, and reabale hete.

† *wokethistle. Obs.* [app. f. WOKE *v.* (2c) + THISTLE *sb.*] The teasel (the upper leaves of which form a cup, which is usually full of water).

a 1387 *Simon. Barthol.* (Anecd. Oxon.) 27 *Labrum veneris*, an. wokethistel.

† *wol(e, woll, adv. Obs.* Orig. unstressed form of WELL *adv.*

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1995 Putifar was wol riche man. 13.. *Coer de L.* 1280 A wol bold baroun. 1399 *LANGL. Rich. Redeles* I. 67 Woll wo beth þe wones. a 1450 *Songs & Carols* (Warton Club) 75 My cause xal be wol i-doo. c 1460 *Play Sacram.* 178 Datis wole dulcett for to dresse.

wol(e: see WHILE, WILL, WOOL.

wolant, wolbede, etc., *wolcome*, obs. ff. VOLANT *a.*, WOUBIT, WELCOME.

wolchonskoite, walk-, obs. varr. VOLKONSKOITE.

wold (would). Forms: *a.* 1, 3, 4-6 *Sc.* wald, 5 walde, 7- *dial.* waud, 8 *dial.* wadd, 9 *Sc.* wauld. *β.* 3- wold, 4-6 wolde, 5-8 would, 7 wowld, *pl.* woles, 8 woald. *γ.* 6-7 old, 7 ould. See also WEALD. [Com. Teut. (not extant in Gothic): OE. (Anglian) *wald* (WS. *weald*: see WEALD) str. masc. forest, wooded country = OFris. *wald* forest, MDu. *wout, woud-* (Du. *woud*), OS. *wald* forest, ? wilderness (MLG., LG. *wold*), OHG. *wald* forest, wilderness (MHG. *walt, wald*-forest, wood, timber, G. *wald* forest), ON. *völlr* untitled field, plain (Sw. *vall* pasture, Norw. *voll* grassy plain): -OTeut. **walpuz*, of which the ulterior relations are doubtful. (From Teut. is derived OF. *gua(l)d* woodland, scrub, untitled land, whence *gaudine* bower, grove.)

After the early 16th cent., the word ceased to be in general use and became restricted to localities in which it entered into the proper designation of characteristic tracts of country,

probably at one time thickly wooded; thence arose the general literary (esp. poetical) use defined in sense 3.]

† 1. Forest, forest land; wooded upland. *Obs.* 786 in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* (1885) I. 344 In limen were wealdo, & in burh waro uualdo. a 1000 *Judith* 206 þæs se hlanca gefeah wulf in walde. a 1225 *St. Marher.* 10 Wilde deor þet on peos wilde walde wunieð. c 1300 in Stow *Surv. Lond.* (ed. Strype 1755) II. 280/2 *marg.*, Fabri de Waldis. ? 13.. in Somner *Roman Ports & Forts Kent* (1693) 110 Septem Dennas in sylva quæ vocatur Wald. *Ibid.* 113 Homines quoque de Walda debent unam domum æstivalem quod Anglicè dicitur Sumerhus, aut xx solidos dare. a 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 3799 þai dro3e furth be dissert & drinkles þai spill, Was nouthire waldis in þar walke ne water to fynde.

† 2. A hill, down. *Obs.*

c 1205 *LAY.* 21530 Childric com sone ouer wald liðen [*later text* ouer dounes wende]. *Ibid.* 25758 Na whit heo ne funden quikes uppen wolden [*later text* vp þan hulle]. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 938 Dre der he toc, ilc ðre 3er hold, And sacrede god on an wold. c 1275 *Passion our Lord* 27 in *O.E. Misc.* 38 þe holy gost hyne ledde vp into þe wolde For to beon wuonded of sathanas. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 406/2 Y^e Walde, *alpina*. a 1500 *Cov. Corpus Chr. Plays* 15/436 Hereby apon a wolde Scheppardis wachyng there fold. 1513 *DOUGLAS Æneis* x. xiii. 111 The traveller 3ond vnder the wald Lurkand wythdrawis to sum sovir hald. [1590 *CAMDEN Britannia* 279 *Cotswold*.. Montes enim & colles *Woulds* olim dixerunt Angli, vnde Glossarium antiquum Alpes Italiæ *The Woulds of Italie* interpretatur.]

3. A piece of open country; a plain; in early use (with *the*) sometimes = 'the plain', the ground, the earth; in later use chiefly, an elevated tract of open country or moorland; also *collect. pl.* or *sing.* rolling uplands. (Frequent since c 1600 in vague poetical use.)

c 1205 *LAY.* 10001 Stod þe wuoldliche wude amidden ane wælde [*later text* wolde]. *Ibid.* 16461 Hengest bah a pene wald [*later text* Hii wende in to þan felde]. *Ibid.* 20842 þenne he bið baldest ufe nan þan walde. c 1220 *Bestiary* 606 Elpes.. to-gaddre gor. o wolde, So sep ðat cumen ut of folde. *Ibid.* 757 Ik der ðe him hereð to him cumeð, And fole3eð him up one ðe wold. 1375 *BARBOUR Bruce* xviii. 555 Thair fayis, with thair mycht, noyand, Quhill to the wald cummy n war thai. Syne northwarde tuk thai hame thar way, And distroyit, in thair repair, The vale haly of Beauvare. 1425 in *Rep. MSS. Ld. Middleton* (1911) 107 No man with comyn herd ne with sched herd com on the wold after gresse be mowen to it be maked and led away. c 1425 *Cast. Persev.* 826 in *Macro Plays* 102 Why l he walky th in worldly wolde, I, Bakbyter, am with hym holde. 1471 *Hist. Arrivall Edw. IV* (Camden 1838) 26 Aboute that place was a great and a fayre large playne, called a wold. 1513 *DOUGLAS Æneis* ix. xi. 13 Rane.. dois smyte apon the wald [orig. *humum*]. 1538 *STARKEY England* (1878) 73 The wast groundys (as hethys, forestys, parkys and oldys). 1587 *HARRISON England* II. xix. 206 in *Holinshead*, This may suffice for the vse of the word Wald, which now differeth much from Wold. For as that signifieth a woodie scile, so this betokeneth a soile without wood, or plaine champaine countrie, without anie store of trees. 1605 *SHAKS. Lear* III. iv. 125 Swithold footed thrice the old. 1636 *W. DENNY in Ann. Dubrenia* (1877) 16 Faire fleec'd Sheepe, which beautifie the Woulds. 1740 *SOMERVILLE Hobbinol*. I. 237 On the bleak Wold the new-born Infant lay, Expos'd to Winter Snows. 1810 *SCOTT Lady of L.* IV. xiii. Or who may dare on wold to wear The fairies' fatal green? 1812 *BYRON Ch. Har.* II. lxiix. Till he.. from his further bank Ætolla's wolds espied. 1832 *TENNYSON To J. S. i.*, The wind, that beats the mountain, blows More softly round the open wold. a 1845 *BARHAM Ingol. Leg. Ser.* III. *Blasphemer's Warn.* 5 With broad lands, pasture, arable, woodland, and wold. 1865 *KINGSLEY Herew.* Prel., Between the forests were open wolds. 1905 *A. C. BENSON Thread of Gold* III, Beyond all ran the long pure line of the rising wold.

b. fig.

1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Pilgrimage* iii, That led me to the wilde of passion, which Some call the wold. a 1640 *JACKSON Creed* x. Notes to xxxi. 3141 Though I have cut up in the Wolds of Gentilism, and layd together a Turf or two. 1877 *L. MORRIS Epic of Hades* II. 117 The thick-leaved coverts deep And wind-worn wolds of life.

c. In alliterative conjunction with *wood* (occas. with *waste, wild*).

1813 *SCOTT Trierm.* I. xi, On vent'rous quest to ride,.. by wood and wold. 1821 — *Pirate* xxvi, On they went, through wild and over wold. 1847 *LONGF. Ev.* II. iv, The notes of the robin.. Sounded sweet upon wold and in wood. 1896 *J. DAVIDSON Fleet St. Eclogues* Ser. II. 70 And waste and wold Took heart and shone.

4. Used in the specific designations of certain hilly tracts in England, viz. the hill country of North Yorkshire and Humberside (*Yorkshire Wolds*, † *York(e)swold*, † *York-wolds*), the Cotswold district, the hilly districts of Leicestershire and Lincolnshire.

1472-5 *Rolls of Part.* VI. 157/2 Fell called Shorlyng and Morlyng, growyng in Yorkeswold. 1548 *N. Country Wills* (Surtees 1908) 202 My manor in Willoughby upon the woldes. 1596 *LAMBARDE Peramb. Kent* (ed. 2) 408 Those large champaignes of Yorkswold, and Cotswold. 1610 *HOLLAND Camden's Brit.* I. 523 Part of it [sc. Leicestershire] is called the Wold, as being hilly without wood. 1622 *DRAYTON Poly-olb.* xxvi. Arg't., Tow'rds Lester then her course she holds, And sailing o'er the pleasant Oulds, She fetcheth Soare down from her springs. 1622 *W. BURTON Leicestersh.* 206 Waltham on the Wouldes. 1641 *BEST Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 28 Most of the grasse that groweth on the landes, and especially on the leyes of the wolds, is a small, sparrie, and dry grasse. 1669 *Phil. Trans.* IV. 1012 In some woody parts of the Woles in Lincoln-shire. 1697 *MERITON Praise York-sh. Ale* (ed. 3) 80 (East-Riding Yorks.). *For Wolds or Woulds* [they say] *Wauds*. 1725 *MSS. Dk. Portland* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) VI. 95 The Yorkshire Wolds, called here the Wadds. 1778 *Eng. Gazetteer* (ed. 2) s.v. *Yorkshire*, A large tract called the York-Woulds. 1891 *SCRIVENER Fields & Cities* 20 The north of Lincolnshire is..

high and dry. It is called the 'Wold'; but that does not mean big stones and heather. The Wold is not a moor; it is a succession of good turnip fields.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *wold-dweller*, *-fire*, *-hill*, *-land*; *wold-like* adj.; *wold-mouse*, a vole; *woldsmán*, a dweller in the wolds.

1907 *M. C. F. MORRIS Nunburnholme* 12 The early *Wold-dwellers. 1813 *HOGG Queen's Wake* II. (1814) 147 Like *wold-fire, at midnight, that glares on the waste. 1850 'SYLVANUS' *Bye-lanes & Downs* Introd. p. ix, A view of pastures, turnip and corn-fields, and *wold-hills, terminating in a distant glimpse of the ocean. 1799 *View Agric. Lincoln.* 12 The *wold land about Louth. 1848 *LYTTON Harold* I. iii, Lands.. wild and *wold-like. 1892 *Daily News* 18 Nov. 5/1 Voles, or '*wold-mice'. 1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. xxx. 138, I am told by the experienced *woldsmen, that there is as great difference as possible in the neatness of the making up the sheaves. 1895 *Naturalist* 322 The Louth woldsmen were in the habit of attending Lincoln [market].

Hence 'wolder in *Yorkshire wolder*, an inhabitant of the Yorkshire wolds.

1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. xxx. 139 The experience of our Yorkshire wolders.

wold, var. *quold*, pa. pple. of QUELL, to kill.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 255 Til he was on ðe rode wold, And bried in ðe rocke cold. *Ibid.* 420 Abel an hundred 3er was hold, Dan he was of is broder wold. *Ibid.* 526 Dor is witen quat a3te a wold, Dat ðis werld was water wold.

wold(e, obs. ff. OLD, WELD *sb.*², WIELD, WOOLD.

† *wolden-eized, a. Obs. rare*-1. [App. an alteration of *wald-eized* WALL-EYED *a.*, due to the influence of ME. **walden*, OE. *gewæalden* small. Cf. WALDENEIE.] ? = WALL-EYED *a.*

13.. *K. Alis.* 5274 (Laud MS.) Alle wolden-eized hij [sc. the Albanians] beep By ny3th als a Catt hij seep.

wole, obs. f. WHOLE, WILL, WOLD, WOOL, WOOLD.

wolen, obs. form of WOOLLEN.

wolf (wulf), *sb.* Pl. wolves (wulvz). Forms: *Sing.* 1-6 wulf, 3-4 wlf (dat. -ue), 4-6 wulfe, 4-7 woulf(e, 4-8 wolfe, (1 uulf, 4 *Sc.* wulf, 5 wlf, wulff, *Sc.* wouff, 5-6 wolff(e, 5-8 woolf(e, 6 wolph, *Sc.* vuolfe, volue, 6, 8 *Sc.* wowf, 7 wolph, in Comb. wolve, 8 *Sc.* wouf, 9 *Sc.* woof), 3- wulf. *Gen.* 1 wulfes, 3 wulues, etc., 4-6 wolves, 5 wolffys, 6 woulfes, woluís, 6-7 woolfes, -ues, 7 wulues, 8 wolve's, 7- wulf's. *Pl.* 1 wulfas, 3-4 wulues, 3-7 wulues, 4-6 woulfes, 4-7 wolves, (4 woluys, -ez, wolwes, *Sc.* w(o)lfis, 5 woluess, vulves, 6 woulfes, wolffes, wolffys, wulphes, *Sc.* woulfis, voulfis, wolffis, volf(f)is, voffis, voluis, vowis, woves), 7 wolfs, 7-8 woofls, 4- wolves. [Com. Teut. and Indo-European: OE. *wulf* = OFris. *wolf*, OS., MLG. *wulf*, MDu. *wolf, wulf* (Du. *wolf*), OHG., MHG., G. *wolf*, ON. *ulfr* (Sw. *ulf*, Da. *ulv*), Goth. *wulfs*: -OTeut. **wulfaz*. Feminine formations in Germanic are OE. *wylf*, OHG. *wulpa* (MHG. *wülpe*), ON. *ylgr*.

Indo-Eur. **wlqwo-* is represented outside Germanic by Skr. *vṛkas*, Zend *vahrkō*, Gr. *λύκος*, Alb. *ul'k*, Arm. *gail*, L. (dial.) *lupus*, OSl. *vlūkū*, OPruss. *wilkis*, Lith. *vilkas*, Lett. *vīlks*, and the corresp. fem. **wlqw-* by Skr. *vṛkī*, Lith. *vilkė*, Russ. *vol'ī-ca*.

Various details of these relationships have been much disputed, and the proposed ultimate connexion with Gr. *ἔλκεν* to draw, OSl. *vlēka*, Lith. *velkū* to tear, or L. *vellere* to pluck (see WOOL *sb.*) is problematical.]

1. *a.* A somewhat large canine animal (*Canis lupus*) found in Europe, Asia, and N. America, hunting in packs, and noted for its fierceness and rapacity. Also applied, with or without defining word, to various other species of *Canis* resembling or allied to this: see also PRAIRIE-wolf, TIMBER-wolf.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) L 332 *Lupus*, wulf. c 1000 *Be manna wyrdum* 12 (Gr.), Seæl hine wulf etan, har hæðstapa. c 1205 *LAY.* 21305 þenne comed þe wlf wilde. 1297 *R. GLOUC.* (Rolls) 5774 King edgar.. her þat he him sende ech 3er.. þre pousend of wulues in name of truage. 1340 *HAMPOLE Pr. Consc.* 1228 Lyons, libardes and wolwes kene. 1362 *LANGL. P. Pl. A.* x. 207 Wandren as wulues, and wasten 3if þei mouwen. ? a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3446 The wolfes in the wode, and the whille bestes. 1483 *CAXTON Gold. Leg.* 16/2, I sought the, to thende that of the vulues ne of the euyl bestes thou were not eten ne all to torne. 1500-20 *DUNBAR Poems* xxxii. 57 Throw hiddowis 3owling of the wowf [rime growf]. 1516 *Kal. New Leg. Eng.* (Pynson) 5b, Two wood wulphes. 1533 *GAU Richt Vay* (S.T.S.) 66 Etine with vowis lions and oder bestis. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* viii. 73 The beiris, lyons, voluis, foxis, and dogis. 1552 *HULOET*, Wolfes denne, *lupanarium*. 1593 *SHAKS.* 3 *Hen. VI.* I. i. 242 The trembling Lambe, muirronned with Wolues. 1607 *TOPSELL Four-f. Beasts* 753 The laps or fillets of a Wolues Liuer. 1624 *CAPT. SMITH Virginia* II. 27 The Woolues [are] not much bigger then our English Foxes. c 1643 *LD. HERBERT Autobiog.* (1824) 90 The Wolves,.. of which are found two sorts; the Mastiff Wolf thick and short..; the Greyhound Wolf long and swift. c 1645 *HOWELL Lett.* I. III. 120 Two huge Woolfs. a 1718 *PRIOR Power* 306 The Wolfe's Portion, or the Vulture's Prior. 1726-46 *THOMSON Winter* 395 Assembling wolves in raging troops descend. 1730 *RAMSAY Fables, Condemned Ass* 7 The

wolf and tod. **1814** LEWIS & CLARK *Trav. Missouri* (1815) I. 206 We caught in a trap a large gray wolf. **1855** LONGF. *Hiaw.* xv. 48 The wolves howled from the prairies. **1858** BAIRD *Cycl. Nat. Sci.* 99 The American wolf, *Canis (lupus) occidentalis*. **1880** HUXLEY in *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 278 The Indian Wolf, *Lupus pallipes*, ... approaches the Jackals. **1888** F. COWPER *Caedwalla* 55, I have a wolf's snout hung about my neck, and no witch can hurt me. **1890** MIVART *Dogs, Jackals*, etc. 6 The size and proportions of the Wolf roughly resemble those of a large mastiff. **1891** FLOWER & LYDEKKER *Study of Mammals* 548 The true Wolves are (excluding some varieties of the domestic Dog) the largest members of the genus, and have a wide geographical range. **1902** *Nature* 30 Oct. 661/1 The South American maned wolf ... carrying its head very low.

b. In comparisons, with allusion to the fierceness or rapacity of the beast; often in contrast with the meekness of the sheep or lamb.

c. **950** *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. x. 16 Heonu ic sendo iuih swæ scip in middum vel inmong uulfa. c. **1205** LAY. 1545 Corineus heom rasde to swa pe rimie wulf. a. **1225** *Leg. Kath.* 31 [He] Bigon anan ase wed wulf to weorin hali chirche. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5680 No licchere is broper him nas þane wolf is a lomb. c. **1330** *Arth. & Merl.* 4047 Al so wulf pe schip gan driue, Arthour smot hem after swiþe. c. **1400** *Destr. Troy* 10207 He fore with his fos in his felle angur, As a wolfe in his wodenes with wethurs in fold. **1562** WINSET *Cert. Tractatis* i. Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 14 The reularis in the middis of it ar lyke woulfis rausiching thair pray. **1605** SHAKS. *Lear* III. iv. 96 Hog in sloth, Foxe in stealth, Wolfe in greedinesse. **1795** SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* I. 176 Unhappy France! Fiercer than evening wolves thy bitter foes Rush o'er the land. **1815** BYRON *Destr. Sennacherib* i The Assyrian came down like the wolf on the fold. **1860** *All Year Round* No. 63. 307 I'm as hungry as a wolf; run, or I shall eat thee!

c. The skin or fur of the animal. (Chiefly attrib.: see sense 11 a below.)

1805 LEWIS & CLARK *Orig. Jnls. Lewis & Clark Expedition* (1904) II. 377, I have also observed some robes among them of beaver, moonox, and small wolves. **1876** *Smithsonian Misc. Coll.* XIII. vi. 69 Furs... Wolf, (*Canis lupus*)—linings, rugs, and robes. **1940** *Chambers's Techn. Dict.* 911/1 *Wolf*, the dressed skin of one of the varieties of wolf. **1974**, etc. [see *wolf hat*, etc., sense 10 a below].

2. a. A figure or representation of a wolf.

1562 LEIGH *Armory* 97b, The field is Azure, a wolfe Saliaunte, Argent. **1610** GUILLIM *Heraldry* III. xv. 145 Hee beareth Gules, two Wolues passant, Argent. **1727** GOLDEN *Hist. Five Ind. Nations* Introd. (1747) 1 Three Tribes or Families, who distinguish themselves by three different Arms or Ensigns, the Tortoise, the Bear, and the Wolf. **1870** C. C. BLACK *Tr. Demmin's Weapons of War* 548 Another very usual [armourers'] mark is a wolf. **1885** E. CASTLE *Sch. Fence* Plate I, Grooved single-edged blade, with 'wolf' or 'fox' mark.

b. *Astron.* The constellation *Lupus* (LUPUS 2).

1551 RECORDE *Cast. Knowl.* iv. (1556) 270 This Centaure with his righte hande dooth holde a Wolfe, which is a seueral constellation made of 19 starres. **1868** LOCKYER *Guillemin's Heavens* (ed. 3) 334 One detached branch of the Milky Way traverses the Wolf, and is lost in the Scorpion.

3. Applied to other animals in some way resembling wolves. a. (a) In S. Africa, a hyena: see also AARD-WOLF, STRAND-wolf, TIGER-wolf. (b) A Tasmanian marsupial, *Thylacinus cynocephalus*: see also ZEBRA-wolf. Freq. as *Tasmanian wolf*; = THYLACINE.

1596 T. JOHNSON *Cornucopia* B4, A certaine Wolfe called Hyena. **1812** ANNE PLUMPTRE *Lichtenstein's S. Africa* II. 15 The spotted hyena, *hyaena crocuta*, is here called simply the wolf. **1891** *Guide Zool. Gard., Melbourne* (Morris) In this cage are two marsupial wolves, *Thylacinus cynocephalus*, or Tasmanian tigers as they are commonly called. **1908** RIDER HAGGARD *Ghost Kings* iv. 53 She saw the hyenas, two of them, wolves as they are called in South Africa. **1941** E. TROUGHTON *Furred Animals Austral.* 50 (heading) Tasmanian wolf or tiger. **1966** G. DURRELL *Two in Bush* vi. 178 The predators are represented by such things as the Tasmanian Wolf—not a true wolf, of course, but a marsupial, looking remarkably like its counterpart.

b. A name for various voracious fishes (after Gr. *λύκος*, *L. lupus*): see also SEA-WOLF 2, RIVER-wolf.

1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 251 Woolues of the sea which sum thynke to bee those fysshes that wee caule pikes. **1569** BLAGUE *Sch. Conceytes* 153 The Cockatrice on a time went to the sea side in the clothing of a Monke, and called to him the Wolf... The Wolf fishe... knowing what he was, sayde [etc.]. **1634** [?] BRATHWAIT *Strange Metam.* C3, The Pike... is called the Wolfe of the water. **1653** WALTON *Angler* vii. 144 Pikes... called the Tyrant of the Rivers, or the Freshwater-wolf, by reason of his bold, greedy, devouring disposition. **1808** NEILL in *Mem. Wernerian N.H. Soc.* (1811) I. 539 *Trigla Gurnardus*. Grey Gurnard... known... as Captain, Hardhead, Goukmev, and Woof. **1896** *Westm. Gaz.* 16 Sept. 3/3 This defence of the 'wolf of the stream' will, we are afraid, be regarded in many quarters as nothing short of rank heresy.

†c. = *wolf-spider*: see 11 e. *Obs.*

1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* 247 Spyderys... which by reason of their rauenous gut... haue purchased to themselves the names of wolves, and hunting Spyderys.

d. A name for various destructive insect larvæ, esp. that of the wolf-moth, which infests granaries.

1682 LISTER *Godartius Of Insects* 65 Live Wormes, which our Dutch Boors call Woolves. **1694** A. VAN LEUWENHOEK in *Phil. Trans.* XVIII. 194 The Wolf is a small white Worm armed with two red Sheers or Teeth... wherewith it bores and feeds on the Grains of Corn. **1743** H. BAKER *Microscope* 223. **1815** KIRBY & Sp. *Entomol.* ii. (1818) I. 32 Leeuwenhoek's wolf (*Tinea granella*).

4. = *wolf tree*, sense 11 e below.

1949 *Q. Jnl. Forestry* XLIII. 127 Most props containing large knots have been prepared from quick-grown heavily

branched trees such as wolves. **1966** *Times* 21 Apr. 16/7 Douglas fir plantations nearly always have some undesirable wolves which have to be cut out.

5. a. A person or being having the character of a wolf; one of a cruel, ferocious, or rapacious disposition. In early use applied esp. to the Devil or his agents (*wolf of hell*); later most freq., in allusion to certain biblical passages (e.g. Matt. vii. 15, Acts xx. 29), to enemies or persecutors attacking the 'flocks' of the faithful.

a. **900** O.E. *Martyrol.* 24 Jan. 30 þu eart deofles wulf. a. **900** *Cynewulf's Crist* 256 Hafað se awyrðda wulf tostenced, deor dædscea, dryhten, þin eowde. c. **1380** WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 149 Woluys of helle stranglen hem. c. **1386** CHAUCER *Pars. T.* ¶ 694 As seith seint Augustyn, they been the deueles wolues that stranglen the sheepe of Ihesu crist. c. **1450** *Godstow Reg.* 18 (Kalendar, June) Cyryce and Iulytte, kepe us fro pe wulfe. **1497** BP. ALCOCK *Mons Perfect.* A iij, It putteth from us the wulf the deuyll deuourer of mannes soule. **1577** KENDALL *Flowers Epigr.* 43 The feend the woulfe of hell.

c. **1205** LAY. 21315 Ich am wulf & he is gat. a. **1225** *Ancr. R.* 120 Mon wroð is wulf, oðer leun, oðer unicorne. **13..** *Cursor M.* 20935 (Edin.), Paul... Eftirward bicom prechure, Schepe of wlue, meke of felle. c. **1386** CHAUCER *Prol.* 513 [A priest] kepeth wel his folde So that the wolf ne made it nat myschare. c. **1450** *Cov. Myst.* vii. 102 From þe wulf to saue al shepe of his flok. a. **1529** SKELTON *Col. Cloute* 153 The wolf from the dore To werryen and to kepe From theyr goostly shepe. **1577** [see 9 j]. a. **1586** SIDNEY *Arcadia* IV. (1922) 134 Since such a slye wolfe was entred among them, that could make justice the cloake of tyrannye. **1637** MILTON *Lycidas* 128 Besides what the grim Woolf with privy paw Daily deuours apace. **1722** CROXALL *Fables Æsop* xlii. 79 If Wolves sometimes creep into the Church in Sheep's Cloathing. **1781** A. COWPER *Charity* 287 Let just restraint... Chain up the wolves and tigers of mankind. **1847** TENNYSON *Princess* II. 173 Why who are these? a wolf within the fold! A pack of wolves! **1860** EMERSON *Cond. Life, Fate* Wks. (Bohn) II. 321 What good, honest, generous men at home, will be wolves and foxes on change!

†b. Applied to a person, etc. that should be hunted down like a wolf. (Cf. WOLF'S-HEAD.) *Obs.*

[1375] BARBOUR *Bruce* VI. 470 To hunt hym out of the land, With hund and horn, rycht as he were A wolf.] ? **1554** W. TURNER (*title*) *The Hunting of the Romyshe Vuolfe*. **1593** SHAKS. 3 *Hen VI.* II. iv. 13 Nay Warwick, single out some other Chace, For I my selfe will hunt this Wolfe to death. **1606** DEKKER *Seven Deadly Sins* 9 Hunt these English Wolues to death. a. **1638** BROWNLOW *Rep.* II. (1652) 113 He is called the Oppressor of the Poore, and *Fleta* calls him Woolfe which ought to be hunted from place to place.

c. *slang.* (a) A sexually aggressive male; a would-be seducer of women; (b) orig. U.S., a male homosexual seducer or one who adopts an active role with a partner.

Occas. applied to a woman: see quot. 1968 s.v. WOLFESS 2. (a) **1847** THACKERAY *Van. F.* (1848) xxxvii. 335 'Rawdon,' said Becky, 'I must have a sheep-dog... I mean a moral shepherd's dog... to keep the wolves off me.' **1862** MRS. H. WOOD *Mrs. Haliburton's Troubles* II. ii. 23, I vowed I'd tell Mark what I had seen and heard, and what sort of a wolf she allowed to make her presents of fine clothes. **1945** S. LEWIS *Cass Timberlane* xix. 113 She was innocent, but this Roskinen was a wolf. **1968** [see KARATE v.]. **1973** 'E. PETERS' *City of Gold & Shadows* II. 25 He did not look like a wolf, but he did look like a young man with an eye for a girl.

(b) **1917** *New Republic* 13 Jan. 293/2 The sodomist, the degenerate, the homosexual wolf. **1931**, etc. [see JOCKER]. **1950** PATTERSON & CONRAD *Scottsboro Boy* II. ii. 91, I learned men were having men. Old guys, they called them wolves, they saw me looking at this stuff and thought I might be a gal-boy. **1978** K. J. DOVER *Greek Homosexuality* II. 87 In prisons the 'wolf' is the active homosexual, and does not reverse roles with his partners.

6. a. As a type of a destructive or 'devouring' agency, esp. hunger or famine; often in such phrases as *to keep the wolf from the door* (now always = to ward off hunger or starvation).

c. **1470** HARDING *Chron.* xcvi. xii. (1812) 181 Endowe hym now, with noble sapience By whiche he maye the wolf werre [v.r. bete] frome the gate. **1555** *Instit. Gentil.* G.ij, This manne can litle skyl... to saue himself harmlesse from the perilous accidentes of this world, keping y^e wulf from the doore (as they cal it). c. **1645** HOWELL *Lett.* VI. ix. (1650) I. 254 That Hee or Shee should have wherewith to support both, ... at least to keep the Woolf from the doore, otherwise 'twere a meer madnes to marry. **1679** J. GOODMAN *Penit. Pard.* I. ii. (1713) 31 That hungry Wolf, want and necessity, which now stands at his doore. **1726** LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* I. 75/1 Poets call the Earth... the Woolf of the Gods, because it deuours and consumes every thing. **1755** *Mem. Capt. P. Drake* II. v. 176 Business began to flag, and the most I could do was to keep the Wolf from the Doore. **1858** [see 9 a]. **1891** HERMAN *His Angel* 73 It makes a lot of difference to... one's happiness if the wolf is not scratching at the doore.

b. Applied to a ravenous appetite or craving for food.

1576 BAKER *Gesner's Jewell of Health* 66b, The water cureth that sore feeding, which most men name the Wolfe. c. **1600** G. PEELE's *Merrie Jests* 18 Hauing as villanous a Wolfe in his belly as George. **1693** *Humours Town* 38 There is a monstrous Disease... in Nature, which they... call the Wolf, which makes the distemper'd eat beyond Reason. **1823** SCOTT *Quentin D. x.* I know thine appetite is a wolf... Canst thou yet hold out an hour without food? **1848** MRS. GASKELL *Mary Barton* vi, There was no breakfast to lounge over; their lounge was taken in bed, to try... to deaden the gnawing wolf within.

7. a. A name for certain malignant or erosive diseases in men and animals (see quotes.); esp. = LUPUS 4. *Obs.* or *dial.*

1559 MORWYNG *Evonymus* 86 Aqua vitae is commodious and profitable... against the disease called the Wulfe. **1572** J. JONES *Bathes Buckstone* 16 b, Frettinge vlcers, wolues in the brest, and many dangerous pustles. **1576** TURBERV. *Venerie*

(1908) 230 The disease called the Wolfe, which is a kernell or round bunch of flesh, which groweth... untill it kill the dogge. **1577** GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. 131 A disease [in cattle] which they call the Woolfe, others the Tayle [TAIL sb. 10]. **1589** *Nottingham Rec.* IV. 225 A poore woman that had a wolfe in her legge. **1684** J. S. PROFIT & PLEAS. *United* 207 (*Horse*), Wolf, or over-growing of the Flesh. *Ibid.* 208 The Shee-Wolf, or Boyls and Knobs on the Foot [of a horse]. **1709** *Brit. Apollo* II. No. 2. 2/2 What is call'd by... Surgeons a Wolf, is a sort of Cancerous Ulcer, more properly so called when in the Legs. **1741** [see TAIL sb. 10]. **1796** PEGGE *Anonym.* (1809) 108 The common people usually call a cancer in the breast a Wolf. **1801** *Sporting Mag.* XVII. 153 All sorts of cancers, wens, and wolves.

†b. = *wolf's-tooth*: see 11 f. *Obs.*

1607 MARKHAM *Cavel.* VII. xxxvii. 54 The woolfes... are two sharp teeth more then nature allowes, growing out of the vpper iawes, nexte to the great teeth.

8. A name for apparatus of various kinds.

†a. An ancient military engine with sharp teeth, employed for grasping battering-rams used by besiegers. *Obs.*

1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A. II.* xxxvi. Kvj, Men make another engyn whiche is called wolffe that hath an yron bowed with grete and sharp teeth whiche engyn is in suche manere sette to the walle that hyt cometh and grophith the maste of the mowton, and holdeth it so fast that hit can not be drawe nother forward nor bakward. **1632** HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Eromena* 150 Nor had they as much as iron Wolves [orig. lupi] and Crows to graspe the Ram withall.

b. A kind of fishing-net: also *wolf-net* (see 11 e).

1725 *Bradley's Family Dict.*, *Wolf*, the name of a Net that is a great destroyer of Fish, as well in Rivers as in Ponds. **1847** HALLIWELL. **1867** SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Wolf*, a kind of fishing-net.

c. *Textile Manuf.* A willow or willy (WILLY sb. 1 3). (Cf. G. *wolf*, Sw. *wulf*.)

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Wolf*, a beating or opening machine, for tearing apart the tussocks of cotton as delivered in the bale.

9. *Mus.* a. 'The harsh howling sound of certain chords on keyed instruments, particularly the organ, when tuned by any form of unequal temperament' (Grove's *Dict. Mus.*); a chord or interval characterized by such a sound.

After G. *wolf* (Arnolt Schlick, *Spiegel der Orgelmacher*, 1511).

1788 in *Abridgm. Specif. Patents, Music* (1871) 22 By this means the temperature of all thirds and 'fifths' can be highly improved, and what is called the 'wolfe' is entirely done away. **1889** HIPKINS in *Grove's Dict. Mus.* IV. 188 The G[♯] to the E[♭], he [sc. Schlick] calls the 'wolf', and says it is not used as a dominant chord to cadence C[♯]. *Ibid.* 485 In the mean-tone system... there is one fifth out of tune to this extent [nearly half a semitone]... There are also four false thirds, which are sharp to about the same extent... All chords into which any of these five intervals enter are intolerable, and are 'wolves'.

b. In instruments of the viol class, a harsh sound due to faulty vibration in certain notes.

1876 STAINER & BARRETT *Dict. Mus. Terms*. **1884** HAWEIS *Mus. Life* 225 A slight mistake in position [of the sound-bar], a looseness, an inequality or roughness of finish, will produce that hollow teeth-on-edge growl called the 'wolf'. **1901** *Blackw. Mag.* July 15/2 There's a hantle o' wolfs on my father's strings.

10. Phrases. a. *to cry 'wolf'*: to raise a false alarm (in allusion to the fable of the shepherd boy who deluded people with false cries of 'Wolf!'). b. *to keep the wolf from the door*: see 6.

c. *to have or hold a wolf by the ears* [= Gr. *τὸν ὠτῶν ἔχειν τὸν λύκον*, *L. lupum auribus tenēre*]: to be in a precarious situation or predicament (see quotes.). †d. *a hair of the same wolf*: cf. DOG sb. 1

17e. †e. *to howl among wolves* [= F. *hurler avec les loups*]: to adapt oneself to one's company, though one disapproves of it. f. *a wolf in a lamb's skin, in sheep's clothing*, etc.: a person who conceals malicious intentions under an appearance of gentleness or friendliness (in allusion to Matt. vii. 15). †g. *to be in the wolf's mouth* [cf. F. *à la gueule du loup*]: to be in deadly peril. h. *to see or have seen a wolf* [= Gr. *λύκον ἰδεῖν*, etc.]: to be tongue-tied (from the old belief that a man on seeing a wolf lost his voice). i. *to wake a sleeping wolf*: to invite trouble or disturbance (cf. DOG sb. 1 17k). j. In various proverbial expressions. k. *to throw to the wolves*: to sacrifice (a subordinate, friend, ally, etc.) to one's enemies in order to save oneself. l. *lone wolf*: see LONE a. 3 c.

a. [1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* ccclx. 332 The Boy... would be Crying a Wolf, a Wolf, when there was none, and then could not be Believed when there was.] **1858** MRS. CRAIK *Woman's Th.* xii. 316 She begins to suspect she is 'not so young as she used to be'; that after crying 'Wolf' ever since the respectable maturity of seventeen... the grim wolf, old age, is actually showing his teeth in the distance. **1886** BARING-GOULD *Court Royal* xxxviii, This is Beavis' cry of wolf, is it?

c. **1560** DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 425 The Bishop of Rome... as the prouerbe is, helde the woulfe by both eares, ... he coueted to gratifie the kyng, and also feared themperours displeasure. **1631** QUARLES *Samson* xi. 63, I have a Wolfe by th' eares; I dare be bold, Neither with safety, to let goe, nor hold: What shall I doe? **1884** *Times* 29 Oct. 9/3 These expressions come from a man who has a wolf by the ears, whose task is well-nigh desperate.

d. 1614 B. JONSON *Bart. Fair* i. iii, 'Twas a hot night with some of vs, last night, Iohn: shal we pluck a hayre o' the same wolfe, to-day?

e. 1578 TIMME *Calvin on Gen.* vi. 181 This diuclishe prouerbe.. we must howle among the Wolues. 1649 BP. *HALL Cases Cons.* (1650) 187 What do you howling amongst Wolves, if you be not one?

f. [c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 6260 Who-so toke a wethers skin, And wrapped a gredy wolf therin.] c 1460 *Wisdom* 490 in *Macro Plays* 51 Ther ys a wolffe in a lombys skyn. 1533 MORE *Debell. Salem* xvi. 87 He wyl play the woulfe in a lambes skynne. 1591 SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI.* i. iii. 55 Thou Wolfe in Sheepes array. 1718 BREVAL *Play is the Plot* i. i. 9 Mercy o' me! what have we here then? a Wolf in Sheep's cloathing? 1722 [see 5]. 1857 TROLLOPE *Three Clerks* xiv, Why had this tender lamb been allowed to wander out of the fold, while a wolf in sheep's clothing was invited into the pasture-ground?

g. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 42 þan was Eilred in þe wolwes mouth.

h. [1480 CAXTON *Mirour* ii. xv. 100 Yf a wulf and a man see that one other fro ferre, he that is first seen becometh anon aferd. 1562 LEIGH *Armory* 98.] 1575 A. FLEMING *Virg. Bucol.* ix. 29 Mæris holdes his tounge, The wolfe hath spide out Mæris fyrst. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Past.* ix. 75 My Voice grows hoarse; I feel the Notes decay; As if the Wolves had seen me first to Day. 1767 FAWKES *tr. Idyll. Theocritus* xiv. 30 'What are you mute?' I said—a waggish guest. 'Perhaps she's seen a Wolf,' rejoind'd in jest. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* xviii, Our young eompanion has seen a wolf, and he has lost his tongue in consequence.

i. 1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV.* i. ii. 174 Since al is wel, keep it so: wake not a sleeping Wolfe.

j. c 1412 HOCCEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 3064 A flye folweþ the honye; þe wolf, careyn. 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* (1580) 202 We saie whishte, the Woulfe is at hande, when the same man cometh in the meane season, of whom we spake before. [After *L. lupus in fabula*.] 1577 WOLTON *Cast. Christians* Biiij b, Lyons. . doo not one encounter another, the Serpent stingeth no Serpent: but Man is a Woolfe to Man. 1643 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Let. sent to London* 6 It is a hard world when one Wolfe eates another. 1721 KELLY *Scot. Prov.* Y 67 You have given the Wolf the Wedder to keep. 1784 COWPER *Task* iv. 103, I mourn the pride And av'rice that make man a wolf to man. 1872 BROWNING *Fifine* ix, If hunger, proverbs say, allures the wolf from wood.

k. 1927 F. HARRIS *My Life & Loves* III. x. 146 But if Gladstone had had his letter back, I think the G.O.M. would have thrown Dilke to the wolves. 1958 *Listener* 6 Nov. 743/2 This able and agreeable doctor [sc. Lord Addison] was thrown to the wolves by a Prime Minister who had good reason to know that his own position was desperate. 1980 P. KINSLEY *Vatchman Switch* xli. 236 If anyone.. showed disloyalty he would throw him to the wolves.

11. *attrib. and Comb.* a. Simple attrib., as *wolf bark, bite, chase, den, eye, fur, growl, hair, hunt, kind, pack, pelt, pest, snow, tail, track, -trap*; appositive, as *wolf ancestry, bitch, burd* (= offspring), *cub, dam, nurse, whelp*; in connexion with belief in lycanthropy or the association of human beings with wolves, as *wolf boy, brethren, charm, child, clan, dance, devil, life, man, mask, people, race, totem, type, woman*; also with reference to the skin or fur of the animal, as *wolf-belt, coat, collar, hat, jacket, -shirt*; b. Objective, as *wolf-breeding, -catcher, -hunter, -hunting, -rider, -scaring, -slaying, -spearing* sbs. and adjs. c. Agential or instrumental, as *wolf-begotten, -haunted, -moved* adjs. d. Similitative and parasynthetic, as *wolf-coloured, -eyed, -grey, -headed, -shaped* adjs.; also *wolf-like* adj. and adv.

1860 O. W. HOLMES *Elsie V.* iii, The great cur showed his teeth,—and the devilish instincts of his old *wolf-ancestry looked out of his eyes. 1845 R. W. HAMILTON *Pop. Educ.* ix. 251 Was that the *wolf-bark of the Corsican dynasty? 1866 J. B. ROSE *tr. Ovid's Met.* 73 The *wolf-begotten Nape. 1883 STALLYBRASS *Grimm's Teut. Mythol.* III. 1094 Our oldest native notions make the assumption of wolf-shape depend on arraying oneself in a *wolf-belt or wolf-shirt. c 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) vi, When þe *wolfe bycche hath hir whelpes. 1820 SCOTT *Abbot* xix, He who speaks irreverently of the Holy Father.. is the cub of a heretic wolf-bitch. 1873 FAYRE *Clin. Observ. India* 261 *Wolf Bite of the Forearm. 1857 DALTON (*title*) The *Wolf-Boy of China. 1889 W. B. YEATS *Wanderings of Oisín* 77 *Wolf-breeding mountains. 1892 RIDER HAGGARD *Nada* xiv, As yet the *Wolf-Brethren and their pack killed no men. 1827 SCOTT *Highl. Widow* v, There shall never be.. dirge played, for thee or thy bloody *wolf-burd. 1611 COTGR., *Louvetier*, a *Wolfe-catcher. 1644 *Early Recs. Portsmouth, R.I.* (1901) 33 That the Wolfe Catcher shall be payed out of the treasury. 1921 *Chamb. Jnl.* July 473/1 The *wolf-charms he used. 1824 in *Coll. Missouri Hist. Soc.* (1928) VI. 75 Had a *wolfe chase. 1835 C. F. HOFFMAN *Winter* in West I. 244 That most exciting of sports, a wolf-chase on horse-back. 1859 LANG *Wand. India* 268 In this district.. 'a *wolf child,' as the natives of India express it, was found some years ago. 1890 FRAZER *Golden Bough* iv. II. 351 The Indians of this part of America are divided into totem clans, of which the *Wolf clan is one of the principal. 1977 P. WAY *Super-Celeste* II. 117 She put on her Siberian *wolf coat. 1974 *Selfridge Christmas Catal.* 14 Leather coat with *wolf collar and hamster lining. 1770 FORREST *Voy. N. Guinea* 135 The largest bird of Paradise.. The breast.. is black, or *wolf-coloured. 1926 *Wolf-coloured* [see KEESHOND]. 1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* II. (Arb.) 55 Lyke rauening *wooldams vpsaockt and gaunted in hunger. 1908 *Sunset Mag.* Apr. 566/1 A *wolf-dance [by] painted naked savages. c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 307 þai fand in þe wud a *wulfe den & þer was wulfe-whelpis þerin, þod þer dam was away. 1895 KIPLING *2nd Jungle Bk.* 70 We will teach them to shelter *Wolf-devils! 1922 JOYCE *Ulysses* 434 Her *wolfeyes shining. 1866 LYTTON *Lost Tales Miletus, Fate Catchas* 86 A *wolf-eyed rover. 1883 'OUIOA' *Wanda* I. 15 The little fierce half-naked boy who in frost was wrapped in *wolf-fur.

1863 BARING-GOULO *Iceland* 118 Coarse *wolf grey hair. 1895 KIPLING *2nd Jungle Bk.* 223 A deep *wolf-growl that silenced the curs. 1865 BARING-GOULD *Werewolves* v. 59 When the *wolf-hair began to break out and his bodily shape to change. 1974 *Country Life* 3 Oct. 980/2 Natural wolf three-quarter length jacket worn with a *wolf hat. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* Prel., The dark *wolf-haunted woods. 1898 *Saga-Bk. Viking Club* Jan. 35 Two *wolf-headed serpents. 1835 C. F. HOFFMAN *Winter in West* II. 12, I was on a *wolf-hunt by moonlight. 1841 *Ir. Penny Jnl.* 8 May 355 He took the spear from the *wolf-hunter's hand. 1690 TEMPLE *Misc.* II. iv. 44 In his *Wolf-Huntings.. when he used to be abroad in the Mountains three or four Days together. 1731-2 *Norwich Mercury* 19-26 Feb. 1/1 The King went a Wolf-hunting. 1841 *Ir. Penny Jnl.* 8 May 353 No particular breed of dogs was ever kept for wolf-hunting in this country. 1976 *Jnl.* (Newcastle) 26 Nov. (Adv.), Mink coat.. also modern *wolfjacket with matching fox hat, both coats new. 1892 RIDER HAGGARD *Nada* xiv, Galazi asked him if he would.. rule with him over the *wolf-kind. *Ibid.*, The desire of this *wolf-life. 1580 HOLLYBANO *Treas. Fr. Tong. Manger Louwicheant*, to eat *Wolfe like. 1593 Q. ELIZ. *Boeth.* iv. pr. iii. 51 The violent robber of others goodes.. swellth in coueting, & [thou] mayst call him wolfe lyke, ferce & contentious. 1612 J. DAVIES *Muses Sacrif.* (Grosart) 82/2 Our Wolfe-like Appetites. 1725 POPE *Odys.* x. 513 Will you.. wolf-like howl away the midnight hour? 1844 KINGLAKE *Boeth.* i, Big wolf-like dogs. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* II. (Ireland) 83 Some.. doe affirme, that certaine men in this tract are yearly turned into Wolves [marg. *Wolf-men]. 1892 RIDER HAGGARD *Nada* xiv, I have become a wolf-man. For with the wolves I hunt and raven. 1913 FRAZER *Golden Bough* xi. (ed. 3) II. 271 Indians dressed in wolf-skins and wearing *wolf-masks. 1868 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* I. II. 489 *Wolf-moved battered shields, O'er poor dead corpses. 1887 BOWEN *Virg. Æneid* I. 275 The yellow skin of his [sc. Romulus's] *wolf-nurse. 1923 D. H. LAWRENCE *Birds, Beasts & Flowers* 200 On to the fur of the *wolf-pelt that strews the plain. 1892 RIDER HAGGARD *Nada* xvi, That *wolf-people of yours. 1872 *Gentl. Mag.* Dec. 680 We hear no more of the *wolf-pest till the days of Queen Mary. 1911 A. LANG in *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 137/1 The.. totem of the *wolf-race of men. 1848 LYTTON *Harold* v. i, Belsta, and Heidr, and Hulla.. the *wolf-riders. 1804 CAMPBELL *Soldier's Dream* 6 The *wolf-scaring faggot that guarded the slain. 1891 *Hardwick's Sci. Gossip* 1 Oct. 233/1 The *wolf-shaped Mânagarm. 1883 *wolf-shirt [see *wolf-belt*]. 1649 C. WASE *Sophocles, Electra* 1 [Apollo] the *wolf-slaying god. c 1878 G. M. HOPKINS *Poems* (1967) 73 There did storms not mingle?.. *wolfsnow, worlds of it, wind there? 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xii. III. 136 note, In a poem published as late as 1719, and entitled *Macdermot*,.. wolfhunting and *wolfspearing are represented as common sports in Munster. c 1674 MILTON *Hist. Moscovia* i. Wks. 1851 VIII. 431 The Russe of better sort goes.. on his Sled.. drawn with a horse well deckt; with many Fox or *Wolvetails about his neck. 1911 J. A. MACCULLOCH *Relig. Anc. Celts* xiv. 218 An early *wolf-totem. 1780 EOMONOSON *Her. II. Gloss.*, *Wolf-Trap is a German bearing. This trap is made of a stick, bent like the head of a pick-ax, and having in the centre a ring, whereto the collar is fixed. 1883 STEVENSON *Treas. Isl.* xxx, If we both get alive out of this wolf-trap, I'll do my best to save you. c 1440 *wolf-whelp [see *wolf-den*]. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* xvi, He was the imprisoned wolf-whelp, which at the first opportunity broke his chain. 1863 W. K. KELLY *Curios. Indo-Europ. Tradit.* 252 Mention is made of a *wolfwoman in the Maboginog.

e. Special Combs.: *wolf-berry*, a N. American shrub, *Symphoricarpus occidentalis*, allied to the snowberry; *wolf call colloq.* (orig. U.S.) = *wolf-whistle*; † *wolf-claw* = *wolf's-claw* (see f); *wolf-cry* [f. vbl. phr. to cry 'wolf': see 10 a] = *false alarm* s.v. FALSE a. 14 c; *wolf cub*, (a) a young wolf; (b) = *CUB* sb.¹ 2 c; also fig.; *wolf-drum*, a drum with head made of wolfskin; † *wolf-fly*, a kind of large fly which preys upon other insects; *wolf-greyhound*, a greyhound used in hunting wolves; † *Wolfland*, a former nickname for Ireland; *wolf-madness*, a form of mania in which a man imagines himself to be a wolf (= LYCANTHROPY I); *wolf-moth* (see quot., and cf. 3 d); *wolf-net* = 8 b; *wolf-note* = 9 b; *wolf pack*, a number of wolves naturally associating as a group, esp. for hunting; also fig., esp. denoting an attacking group of German submarines in the war of 1939-45; *wolf pen* U.S., a strong box made of logs used for trapping wolves; *wolf-platform* *Archæol.*, a hill-side embankment in the form of a platform, suggested to have been used as a means of defence against the wolves of the lowlands; † *wolf-sheep*, a tribute of a sheep paid by a tenant for protection against wolves; *wolf-spear*, a wolf-hunter's spear; *wolf-spider*, a spider of the family *Lycosidæ*, which hunts after and springs upon its prey; *wolf-stone* (cf. DOG-STONE); † *wolf-thistle* = *wolf's-thistle* (see f); *wolf-tick*, a tick of the genus *Ixodes* infesting wolves and dogs; *wolf-tooth* = *wolf's-tooth* (see f); *wolf tree*, a tree that is occupying more space than has been allowed for it, so restricting the growth of its neighbours (cf. sense 4 above); *wolf-willow* *Canada*, any of several shrubs, esp. *Elæagnus commutata*, which has silver-grey foliage. See also WOLF-DOG etc.

1834 G. DON *Gen. Syst. Gard.* III. 451 *Wolf-berry. 1948 *Time* 27 Sept. 12/1 Grins, whistles, *wolf-ealls.. followed her in this exclusively male territory. 1958 *Spectator* 6 June 726/3 The streets are lined by groups of lounging youths watching the girls go by (but no whistles or wolf-calls). 1597 GERAROE *Herbal* III. elvii. 1374 *Woolfe claw Mosse. 1915

W. J. LOCKE *Jaffery* xxii. 315, I have a habit of losing things and setting the household in frantic search,.. only to discover that I have had the wretched object in my pocket all the time. So accustomed is Barbara to this *wolf-cry that if I came up to her without my head and informed her that I had lost it, she would be profoundly sceptical. 1980 *Listener* 9 Oct. 462/3 The news that the Met season might have to be cancelled.. is an annual threat, a wolf-cry. 1817 SCOTT *Harold* I. viii, A she-wolf, and her *wolf-cubs twain. 1860 G. H. K. *Vac. Tour.* 130 Five or six active wolf-cubs. 1916 R. BADEN-POWELL in *Wolf Cub* Dec. 2/1 Hullo, Wolf Cubs! What swells you are to have a newspaper all to yourselves! 1963 H. WILSON in *Times* 8 May 6/3 If we had to face a really dedicated and trained spy, not an overgrown wolf cub who had gone wrong, then the system would have been wide open in respect of security. 1981 E. LONGFORD *Queen Mother* II. 35 (caption) Wellington: the Duchess of York inspects a pack of wolf cubs. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. I. III. *Furies* 107 At the sound of *Wolf-Drum's rattling thunder Th'affrighted Sheep-skin-Drum doth rent in sunder. 1658 ROWLAND *tr. Moutet's Theat. Insectes* 934 The first.. called in Latine, *Lupus*, in English, the *Wolf fly.. feeds especially upon flies, if he cannot come by these he preys upon other Insects. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl. Suppl.* s.v. *Lupus*. 1829 *Glover's Hist. Derby* I. 177 *Asilus*, Wolf Fly. 1825 SCOTT *Talism.* vi, Three alans, as they were then called (*wolf-greyhounds, that is) of the largest size. 1692 *Advice to Painter* 20 A chilling Damp, And *Wolfe-land Howl, run thro' the rising Camp. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xii. III. 136 note, In William's reign Ireland was sometimes called by the nick-name of Wolf land. 1662 BAYFIELO *Treat de Morb.* 49 *Lupina insania*, *Wolf-madness. 1854 *Jnl. Mental Sci.* 52 Lycanthropy or Wolfmadness. 1863 WOOD *Illustr. Nat. Hist.* III. 544 Another species.. popularly called the *Wolf-moth (*Tinea granella*).. haunts granaries and malhouses, and does great damage by feeding on the grains and fastening them together with its silken web. 1819 REES *Cycl.*, *Wolf-Net, .. a kind of net used in fishing, which takes great numbers, and has its name from the destruction it causes. 1915 *Proc. Camb. Philos. Soc.* XVIII. 85 On all stringed instruments of the violin type a certain pitch can be found which it is difficult.. to produce by bowing. This note is called the *wolf-note. 1895 SIR H. MAXWELL *Duke of Britain* viii. 105 Supposing the *wolf-pack over-whelmed you. 1941 *Hutchinson's Pict. Hist. War* 9 July-30 Sept. 270/1 The U-boat is now being used as a unit in a flotilla.. We had a hint of it a year ago when the Berlin bulletins talked about 'wolf pack' attacks on convoys. 1951 W. STEVENS *Let.* 2 Oct. (1967) 731 There is probably a sort of wolf-pack that follows him [sc. Hermann Hesse] round. His idea of throwing out a poem or two to slow them up and invite them to devour each other sounds almost like folklore. 1977 *Time* 26 Sept. 9/2 What Andreas Baader and Ulrike Meinhof spawned as a small wolf pack of urban guerrillas has now become a scattered army of vicious malcontents, bent on destroying the society around them. 1980 'D. GRANT' *Emerald Decision* vi. 129 They were headed for the perilous North Channel.. if they survived the wolfpacks. 1647 in *Watertown (Mass.) Rec.* (1894) I. 12 The Towne gaue: to John Witherill: there Right in the palisado that inelosed the *woulfe pen. 1876 J. S. INGRAM *Centennial Expedition* 106 The places of interest are.. the Aviary, the Fox Pens, the Wolf-Pens. 1906 *Cornh. Mag.* May 615 At [the] base [of the hill] the great *wolf platforms would be set in a position where a conflict might be carried on without stampeding the herds in the camp above. 1528 in *Archæologia* LIII. 381 He hath yerely.. one shepe of the best instede of a tolle called the *wolfe shepe, for the which.. he ys bownde to hunt the wolfe. 1823 MRS. HEMANS *Siege of Valencia* vi. *Cid's Battle Song*, That her sons.. may.. sharpen the point of the red *wolf-spear. 1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* 270 One kind of Autumnall Lupi, or *Wolfe-Spyder. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl. Suppl.* s.v. *Lupus*. 1863 WOOD *Illustr. Nat. Hist.* III. 656 The *Lycosidæ*, or Wolf-spiders,.. take their prey in fair chase instead of catching it in nets. *Ibid.* 657 About sixteen or seventeen British species of Wolf-spider are already known. 1640 in *Entick London* (1766) II. 181 For a dog-stone, 2.6. For a *wolf-stone, 2.0. 1525 *Grete Herbal* cxxii. (1529) H ij, De cameleonta. *Wolfe thystle. 1579 LINGHAM *Gard. Health* (1633) 683 Wolfthistle. 1861 HULME *tr. Moquin-Tandon* II. vi. 302 The Ticks, or Ixodes.. In France the two principal species are—1, the *Wolf Tick; 2, Reticulated Tick. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl. Suppl.*, *Wolf-Tooth. 1928 R. S. TROUP *Silvicultural Systems* xix. 187 The stands.. were kept fairly dense in order to promote clean stems, congested thickets being thinned and *wolf-trees removed. 1966 D. WATERS *Forestry* xviii. 94 Wolf trees are large mis-shapen trees which do not provide good timber. 1889 J. G. DONKIN *Trooper & Redskin* 86 The luscious perfume of a *wolf-willow and wild rose.. come scampering on the western breeze. 1948 A. L. RAND *Mammals Eastern Rockies* 90 Wolf-willow clumps, gopher holes, odd stones, aspen bluffs. 1974 M. LAURENCE *Diviners* 357 There were these thin prairie maples and the wolf willow.

f. Combinations with genitive, as *wolf's-hide* (attrib.); *wolf's-claw*, a name for club-moss (= LYCOPodium I); *wolf's-foot*, † (a) ? the sea-wolf, *Anarrichas lupus*; (b) = *wolf's-claw*; † *wolf's-thistle*, a species of carline thistle, *Carlina acaulis*; *wolf's-tooth*, *Farriery* [cf. MHG. *wolfzan*, G. *wolfszahn*] (see quot.); † *wolf's-wort* = WOLF-WORT a. See also WOLF'S-BANE, etc.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* III. lxxi. 412 The fifth kinde of Mosse, called *Wolfe clawe. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl. Suppl.* s.v. *Lycopodium*, The common wolf's claw moss. 1861 S. THOMSON *Wild Fl.* III. (ed. 4) 289 The.. common club-moss, or wolf's-claw, or 'stag's-horn.' 1443 in *Bekynnton's Corr.* (Rolls) II. 238 Chatotk dedit piscem vocatum Pedulupum aut *Wolfe's-foote al. Luperius. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* III. clvii. 1374 Called.. in English Woolfes foote, or Woolfes clawe, and likewise Club Mosse. 1859 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* vi, Crowd close, little snipes, among the cup-moss and wolf's foot. 1866 LYTTON *Lost Tales Miletus* 125 A *wolf's-hide mantle for his robe of state. a 1400-50 *Stockh. Med. MS.* 170 *Wolfys thystyl: camalion. 1597 GERAROE *Herbal* Suppl., Wooluisthile is Chamæleon. 1565-6 BLUNOEVI *Illoremanship* iv. xlvii. (1580) 19b, A horse.. having two extraordinarie teeth called the *Woolfes

teeth, which be two little teeth growing in the vpper iawes, next vnto the great grinding teeth. 1737 BRACKEN *Farrery Impr.* (1756) I. 323 A Horse is said to have Wolves-Teeth, when his Teeth grow either Outwards or Inwards so that their Points prick and wound either the Tongue, or Gum when he eats. 1864 E. MAYHEW *Illustr. Horse Management* 146 At one year old, . . . frequently at birth, little nodules of bone, without fangs, merely attached to the gums, appear in front of each row of grinders. These are vulgarly denominated 'Wolves' Teeth'. 1575 BANISTER *Chyurg.* 95 *Aconitum* *woulfes wort.

Hence 'wolfdom, the realm or domain of wolves, wolves collectively; 'wolfhood, the state or condition of being a wolf; 'wolfkin, a young wolf; 'wolfless *a.*, free from wolves; 'wolflessness *nonce-wd.* [cf. 6a], the state of 'not having the wolf at the door', i.e. being free of poverty.

1851 *Sun* 21 Jan. 3/2 Before the House of Hanover or Stuart, . . . Alfred or Boadicea, *Wolfdom was, and is and is to be. 1889 J. JACOBS *Fables of Æsop* I. 209 To him cunning was foxiness, . . . cruelty, *wolfhood. 1706 MRS. CENTLIVRE *Basset-Table* v. 59 Oh! thou *Wolfkin instead of Lambkin. 1864 TENNYSON *Boadicea* 15 Make the carcass a skeleton; . . . wolf and wolfkin, from the wilderness, wallow in it. 1893 L. STEPHEN in *Contemp. Rev.* Aug. 160 The sheep of a *wolfless region. 1928 D. H. LAWRENCE *Rawdon's Roof* 26 The perfect *wolflessness of Rawdon's door, the perfect windlessness of Rawdon's roof.

wolf (wolf), *v.* [f. WOLF *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To eat like a wolf; to devour ravenously.

1862 SALA *Seven Sons* III. xi. 272 [She] used to . . . wolf her food with her fingers. 1880 SPURGEON *Ploughm. Pict.* 105 Hungry dogs will wolf down any quantity of meat. 1903 *Speaker* 24 Jan. 419/1 The men . . . wolfing up meals of oyster stew in an atmosphere of perpetual dyspepsia.

2. *intr.* with *it*: To behave like a wolf; = WOLVE *v.* 1. Also without *const.*: cf. WOLF *sb.* 5 c. *Occas. trans.*

1865 W. G. PALGRAVE *Arabia* I. 126 While 'Obeyd was wolfing it in Kaseem. 1929 *World's Work* Nov. 40 The college boy (in 1929) knows a smoothie who wolfed on a friend and creamed his lady. 1934 G. & S. LORIMER *Stag Line* vii. 232 No matter how I feel, I wouldn't wolf a brother's girl. 1940 J. O'HARA *Pal Joey* 186, I give with the vocals and wolf around in a nite club.

3. *trans.* To delude with false alarms: cf. *prec.* 9 a.

1910 *Contemp. Rev.* Jan. 55 Those whose interest it was to wolf the credulous public out of their pence. 1917 'CONTACT' *Airman's Outings* 4 The dwellers in the blinking hole, having been wolfed several times, are sceptical.

4. *trans.* U.S. *Blacks.* (See *quots.* and cf. WOOFING *vbl. sb.*) *Occas. intr.* with *at*.

1966 *Urban Education* II. ii. 108 *Wolf*, to make fun of someone. 1969 *Sports Illustr.* 3 Nov. 36/2, I turned round and started wolfing at the guy, and he just strolled off. 1971 E. E. LANDY *Underground Dict.* 199 *Wolf v.*, criticize; chop down. 1974 H. L. FOSTER *Ribbin', Jivin', & Playin' Dozens* iv. 172 *Wolf*, wolf'n, woof, woofin, wolf ticket, can mean anything from making fun of someone to challenging someone to a fight, a powerful person. 1978 *Detroit Free Press* 2 Apr. (Detroit Suppl.) 8/3 'C'mon, man,' they tell Balls, backing down, 'we was just wolfin' ya. We gotta be careful who we sell to.'

wolfbane: see WOLF'S-BANE.

'wolf-dog. [Cf. G. *wolfshund*.]

1. Any of several large varieties of dog formerly kept for hunting wolves, *esp.* the Irish greyhound or wolf-hound.

1652 *Order Ir. Privy Council* 27 Apr., Such great dogges as are commonly called Wolfe dogges, . . . which are useful for destroying of wolves. a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 16 June 1670, The bulls did exceeding well, but the Irish wolfe-dog exceeded, which was a tall greyhound. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 180 Wolf-dogs (once so useful and celebrated) were perhaps peculiar to Ireland, but that species is now nearly extinct. 1840 C. H. SMITH *Dogs* II. 139 The Great Wolf-dog is not common in central Europe; and appears at present almost confined to Spain. 1845 YOUATT *Dog* 66 The Italian or Pomeranian wolf-dog. 1884 TENNYSON *Becket* III. ii. When that horn sounds, a score of wolf-dogs are let loose.

2. A cross of a domestic dog and a wolf.

1736 AINSWORTH, *Lycisca*, a dog ingendered of a wolf and a bitch, or a shepherd's dog, a wolf dog. 1755 JOHNSON. 1896 M. MCNAUGHTON *Overland to Cariboo* 47 A large number of wolf-dogs were prowling about. 1910 *Encycl. Brit.* VIII. 377/1 The black wolfdog of Florida resembles the black wolf of the same region. 1924 R. ARUNDEL *Police Dogs* 6 The German Sheep Dog (known in this country as the Alsatian Wolf Dog). 1953 B. J. BANFILL *Labrador Nurse* 19 The mossy grass knolls were dotted with tethered wolf dogs.

wolfdom: see after WOLF *sb.*

wolfe, obs. ff. WOLF, WOOF.

wolfeite ('wulfart). *Min.* [f. the name of Caleb W. Wolfe (1908-80), U.S. crystallographer + -ITE¹.] A basic phosphate of ferrous iron and bivalent manganese, (Fe²⁺, Mn²⁺)₂(PO₄)(OH), that occurs as transparent or translucent monoclinic crystals and forms a series with tripliodite.

1949 C. FRONDEL in *Amer. Mineralogist* XXXIV. 694 The name wolfeite is proposed for the mineral and is particularly appropriate in view of Professor Wolfe's studies of iron and manganese phosphates from Palermo and other localities. 1951 C. PALACHE et al. *Dana's Syst. Min.* (ed. 7) II. 853 The names tripliodite and wolfeite are applied to those parts of the series with Mn > Fe and Fe > Mn, respectively. 1979

Mineral. Mag. XLIII. 507/1 Unlike wolfeite from the Palermo pegmatite, the wolfeite at Thackaringa [Australia] does not appear to be an alteration phase of a pre-existing phosphate and is a late stage phase in the core of the pegmatite.

†'wolfen, *sb.* Obs. rare. Forms: 1 wylfen, 3 wuluene, wluine, 6 Sc. wolfyne. [OE. *wylfen*, of which the normal representative would be *wilven; f. wulf WOLF *sb.* + -EN². Cf. MHG. *wülvinne* (G. *wölfen*), MDu. *wolvinne* (Du. *wolvin*), Da. *ulvinde*, etc.] A she-wolf.

c 1000 Sax. *Leechd.* I. 362 ðif he drinceð wylfene meolc. a 1225 Ancr. R. 120 Wummone wroð is wuluene, & mon wroð is wulf. *Ibid.*, þeo þet is iwend to wuluene, i Godes eien, & is ase wuluene stefne in his swete earen. c 1300 *Havelok* 573 Leoun or wlf, wluine or bere. 15.. *Henryson's Trial of Fox* 107 (Bannatyne MS.), The..wildcat, & the wild wolfyne.

'wolfen, *a.* rare⁻¹. [f. WOLF *sb.* + -EN⁴.] Pertaining to a wolf, wolfish.

1810 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* XXIX. 320 To wreathe anew the bonds of love, Which strife with wolfen tooth No more shall gnaw in twain.

wolfer ('wulfə(r)). [f. WOLF *sb.* and *v.* + -ER¹. Cf. WOLVER.]

1. A wolf-hunter.

1872 Rep. *Indian Affairs* 1871 410 A regular stampede took place out of that section of the country of 'Wolfers' and whiskey traders. 1877 HALLOCK *Sportsman's Gaz.* 13 The 'wolfers' proceed to gather up animals slain, carry them to camp [etc.]. 1888 *Century Mag.* Feb. 501/2 Trappers and wolfers, whose business is to poison wolves. 1930 C. M. MACINNES *In Shadow of Rockies* 66 Even more disreputable than the whiskey traders were the wolfers. 1973 R. WIEBE *Temptations of Big Bear* II. iii. 101 Settlers ripping up land and knocking down trees and wolfers dashing about scattering poison and killing wolves and buffalo. 1976 *Times* 8 July 16/4 The ghoulish wolfers poisoned the plains with strychnine.

2. One who 'wolves' food or drink. *rare*

1897 A. R. MARSHALL *Pomes* 118 (Farmer), The worn-out whiskey wolfer calmly slumbered through it all.

'wolfess. *rare.* Also 5 wuluesse, -as. [f. WOLF *sb.* + -ESS¹.] 1. A she-wolf.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 43 A wollesse [v.rr. wuluesse, woluas] þat hadde i-lost hir whelpes. 1550 W. LYNNE *Carion's Cron.* 25 b, By chaunce came a wollesse out of the nexte mountaynes. 1820 W. TOOKE tr. *Lucian* I. 560 *note*, The wolf lives instinctively solitary . . . so that even his connection with the wolfess is but of short duration.

2. A woman who is sexually aggressive; a woman who seeks to seduce men.

1945 *Bulletin* (Philadelphia) 27 Nov. 42/1 A nice girl hasn't got a chance with a wolless around. 1968 *Word Study* Dec. 4/2 *Wolf* suggests the sexually aggressive female as well as the sexually aggressive male, though it is often expanded to *wolless* when applied to a woman.

Wolfian ('wulfɪən), *a.* Anat. and Zool. [f. the name of the German embryologist K. F. Wolff (1733-94) + -IAN.] In *Wolfian body*, the mesonephron or primitive kidney; either of the two renal organs of the embryo of vertebrates; so *Wolfian duct*. Also *Wolfian ridge*, each of two longitudinal ridges on either side of the embryo on which the limb buds arise.

1844 HOBLYN *Dict. Med.*, *Wolfian Bodies*, false kidneys. . . The substance by which the kidneys are preceded in the embryo, and which was first remarked by Wolff. 1859 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* V. 594/1 The parovarium is formed out of the Wolfian body. 1874 FOSTER & BALFOUR *Elements Embryol.* I. vi. 143 The somatopleure . . . is raised up . . . into a low rounded ridge which runs along nearly the whole length of the embryo from the neck to the tail. . . This ridge . . . is known as the Wolfian ridge. 1879 tr. *Haeckel's Evol. Man.* II. 414 The earlier, primitive kidney duct is distinguished as the 'Wolfian duct.' 1931 A. ROBINSON *Cunningham's Textbk. Anat.* (ed. 6) 76 By the end of the first month . . . the Wolfian ridges have appeared. 1976 N. J. BERRILL *Development* xiv. 309 In amniotes the combined epidermal-mesenchymal thickening extends as a horizontal ridge along each side of the body (the Wolfian ridges). The intermediate part of the ridge later disappears, leaving anterior and posterior regions as the definitive limb areas.

'wolf-fish. [After L. *lupus* (see WOLF *sb.* 3 b). Cf. G. *wolfsfisch*.] A large and voracious sea-fish, *Anarrhichas lupus*, having numerous sharp teeth and edible flesh; also called *sea-wolf*. Also applied to other fishes of the same genus.

1569 BLAGUE *Sch. Conceytes* 153 Of the Cockatrice and Seawolf. . . The Wolf fishe marking him well . . . sayde [etc.]. 1605 R. F. DEDEKIND'S *Sch. Slovenrie* (1904) 77 As for the Wolfe-fish, gluttons hold the tale to be the best. 1774 *Phil. Trans.* LXIV. 315 The mouth of the wolf-fish is almost paved with teeth. 1855 KINGSLEY *Glaucus* 64 In Torbay . . . where no wolf-fish (*Anarrhichas lupus*) or other shell-crushing pairs of jaws wander.

wolfhood: see after WOLF *sb.*

'wolf-hound. = WOLF-DOG.

1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* xxii, We have brought down the game at last, quoth my lady's brach to the wolf-hound. 1871 M. COLLINS *Marq. & Merch.* I. i. 27 An enormous Pyrenean wolf-hound. 1899 *Dogs, their Managem. & Treatm.* 20 The Irish wolfhound, as he is known to-day, will weigh as much as one hundred and fifty pounds. 1923 *Westm. Gaz.* 22 Mar., It was discovered when the Show opened that a valuable Alsatian wolf-hound had disappeared.

Wolfian ('wulfɪən, 'wulfɪən), *a.*¹ and *sb.*¹ Also **Wolffian**. [f. the name of the German philosopher Christian Wolf or Wolff (1679-1754) + -IAN.] *a. adj.* Pertaining to the philosophical system of Wolf, which was an eclectic adaptation of Leibnitzianism and scholasticism. *b. sb.* An adherent of this system. Hence 'Wolfianism, the philosophical system of Wolf; 'Wolfianize *v.*, *trans.* to render Wolfian.

1791 ENFIELD *Brucker's Hist. Philos.* II. 572 Almost every German university was inflamed with disputes on the subject of liberty and necessity; and the names of Wolfians and Anti-Wolfians were every where heard. 1843 *Eclectic Rev.* Feb. 163 The influence of the Wolfian philosophy. *Ibid.* 164 It is undoubtedly to Wolfianism that we are to trace, in great measure, that coldness and lifelessness which characterizes the sermons of the latter part of the preceding century. *Ibid.* 165 The already Wolfianized mind of the rising ministry. 1874 G. S. MORRIS tr. *Ueberweg's Hist. Philos.* II. 116 Lange . . . sought . . . to demonstrate the Spinozistic and atheistic character of the Wolfian doctrine.

So 'Wolfio-Leib'nitzian *a.*, characterized by a combination of Wolfian and Leibnitzian views.

1877 E. CAIRD *Philos. Kant* I. 150 The artificial harmonies of the Wolfio-Leibnitzian philosophy.

Wolfian ('wulfɪən, 'wulfɪən), *a.*² and *sb.*² [f. the name of the German philologist F. A. Wolf (1759-1824) + -IAN.] *a. adj.* Of or pertaining to F. A. Wolf or his theory regarding the Homeric poems (developed in his *Prolegomena ad Homerum*, 1795). *b. sb.* One who accepts this theory.

1824 DE QUINCEY in *London Mag.* Jan. 5/1 Was the Iliad the work of one mind, or (on the Wolfian hypothesis) of many? 1875 W. D. GEDDES in *Contemp. Rev.* July 234 The Wolfian theory . . . that the Homeric poems were a congeries of originally independent lays . . . moulded into a unity in the time of Pisistratus. *Ibid.* 235 Next to him [sc. G. Hermann] in importance among the later Wolfians . . . stands Lachmann.

wolfin, obs. Sc. form of WOVEN.

wolfing ('wulfɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. WOLF *sb.* + -ING¹.] Hunting for wolves. Also *attrib.*

1875 F. T. BUCKLAND *Log-Bk.* 128 When the wolfing season has commenced on the prairies, the hunter impregnates the carcass of a buffalo . . . with strychnine and places it in a likely position. 1877 HALLOCK *Sportsman's Gaz.* 13 The stock in trade of a party engaged in 'wolfing' consists in flour, bacon and strychnine.

wolfish ('wulfɪʃ), *a.* Also 8 woolf-. [f. WOLF *sb.* + -ISH¹. Cf. MHG. *wolfsisch*, and WOLVISH.]

1. *a.* Of or pertaining to a wolf or wolves.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 146/8 Wolfish, *lupinus*. 1687 DRYDEN *Hind. & P.* i. 160 The wolfish race, Appear with belly Gaunt, and famish'd face. 1690 C. NESSE O. & N. *Test.* I. 213 Ye may beat a wolf . . . yet all this will not drive away his wolfish nature. 1868 *Cornh. Mag.* July 70 The bristles that ornamented him in his wolfish state. 1890 *Temple Bar* Nov. 355 So vigorously had the wolfish tribe been hunted down that only one couple survived.

b. Abounding in wolves. *nonce-use.*

1747 COLLINS *Ode Liberty* 72 Where Orcas howls, his wolfish mountains rounding.

2. *a.* Characteristic of, befitting, or resembling that of, a wolf.

1674 *Govt. Tongue* viii. 146 All the wolfish designs walk under this sheeps clothing. 1750 LARDNER *Wks.* (1838) III. 79 His . . . unsociable and wolfish disposition. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* vi, Grope your way with me into this wolfish den. 1848 LYTTON *Harold* vii. v, The eyes of the three men, with a fierce and wolfish glare.

b. In sense 8 b of WOLF *sb.* *rare.*

1889 *Grove's Dict. Mus.* IV. 89/1 Bad Tenors [sc. tenor violins] are worse than bad violins; they are unequal and 'wolfish'.

3. *a.* Resembling a wolf, wolf-like.

1775 ADAIR *Amer. Indians* 259 To keep the [Indian] wolf from our own doors, by engaging him with his wolfish neighbours. 1854 J. S. C. ABBOTT *Napoleon* (1855) II. xiv. 242 Swarms of Cossacks, on fleet and wolfish horses.

b. Ravenously hungry. U.S. *colloq.*

[1842 *Fraser's Mag.* Dec. 652/2 My appetite was growing decidedly wolfish.] 1848 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.*, *Wolfish*, savage, savagely hungry. 1894 FENN *In Alpine Valley* II. 133 I'm wolfish.

4. *Comb.*, as *wolfish-faced*, *-looking*, *-visaged* *adjs.*

c 1779 CRABBE *Midnight* 295 Avarice . . . A Woolfish-Visag'd Fiend. 1820 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* I. i. 14 A rugged wolfish-looking dog . . . half mastiff, half greyhound. 1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunters* xxvii, [The animal] is wolfish-looking. 1894 MRS. CROKER *Village Tales* (1896) 162 The wolfish-faced crowd had melted away.

Hence 'wolfishly *adv.*; 'wolfishness.

1676 MARVELL *Mr. Smirke* 66 The Wolfishness of those which . . . ought to have been the Christian Pastors, but went on scattering their Flocks, if not devouring. 1831 J. WILSON in *Blackw. Mag.* XXIX. 703 The Red Rover yowls wolfishly to the moon. 1842 BORROW *Bible in Spain* xl, Wolfishly eager for booty. 1890 J. PULSFORD *Loyalty to Christ* I. 205 Compare . . . the consummate wolfishness of Christian Europe with the simpler wolfishness of heathen nations.

wolfkin, **wolfless**: see after WOLF *sb.*

wolfling ('wulfɪŋ). [f. WOLF *sb.* + -LING¹.] A young or little wolf. Also *fig.*

13.. *K. Alis.* 6256 (Laud MS.), Wulfflynges he bischette also, Merueillous men ben poo. 1570 FOXE *Serm. Christ Crucif.* 8 If a mighty hunter . . . happenyng vpon the Wolfes

denne, findeth there the young Wolfelynges. 1746 W. HORSLEY *Fool* (1748) I. 94 Wolfings the Lambs embrace. 1759 J. DOWNES in Tyerman *John Wesley* (1870) II. 342 Two bold, though beardless divines, so young, that they might rather be called wolfings than wolves. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. v. iii, Young children were thrown in [the river], their mothers vainly pleading: 'Wolfings,' answered the Company of Marat, 'who would grow to be wolves.' 1895 KIPPLING *2nd Jungle Bk.* 204 Thou art a man, Little Brother, wolfing of my watching.

wolfram ('wulfɾəm, 'vɒlfɾəm). [a. G. *wolfram* (*wolform* in Mathesius, 1562, *wolffram* in Ercker, 1580, wolfram in Wallerius, *Mineralogia*, 1747), of uncertain formation: generally assumed to be an old miners' term f. *wolf* *wolf* + *rahm* cream (cf. *rahmerz* foamy wad), and to be the source of mod.L. *lupi spuma* (Agricola *De Nat. Foss.*, 1546), which corresponds, however, to G. *wolffschäum*; but perh. f. MHG. *râm* dirty mark, soot.

The variants of the G. word, e.g. *wolffram*(m), *wolf(f)ert*, *wolfart*, *wolfrath*, suggest association with proper names. Since Agricola describes the *lupi spuma* as a light 'stone', it is improbable that it was the mineral wolfram.]

1. *Min.* A native tungstate of iron and manganese.

1757 tr. *Henckel's Pyritologia* ix. 132 Though this tin ore be not easily separable from wolfram, a kind of mock-tin, or an iron tin mineral. 1787 GROESCHKE tr. *Klaproth's Observ. Fossils Cornwall*. 32 Wolfram of a foliated texture united to quartz and clay, is brought from Poldice. 1849 D. CAMPBELL *Inorg. Chem.* 292 Oxide of tungsten... Preparation.—The mineral wolfram is reduced to the finest powder [etc.]. 1916 *Lancet* 8 Jan. 76/1 These electrodes are made... from a mixture of... ores... the chief one being a tungstate of iron and manganese, known as wolfram.

2. The metal tungsten, obtained from this mineral.

1845 W. GREGORY *Outl. Inorg. Chem.* 197 Tungsten... Syn. Wolfram—Occurs in nature, chiefly in the mineral wolfram. 1907 *Proc. Soc. Antiquaries* 2 May 456 Wolfram, or tungsten, a metal which is used as an alloy for hardening steel.

3. *attrib.*, as *wolfram mine*, *ore*; *wolfram lamp*, *-steel* = TUNGSTEN *lamp*, *-steel*; *wolfram-ochre* = TUNGSTIC ochre, TUNGSTITE.

1862 wolfram-steel [see TUNGSTEN 3]. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 903 Trioxide of Tungsten... occurs native as tungstic ochre, wolfram-ochre, or wolframine. 1907 *Westm. Gaz.* 24 July 10/1 Dr. Auer... claims that the light obtained from the wolfram lamp is three or four times as brilliant as that given by the ordinary carbon lamp with the same consumption of electricity. 1914 *Brit. Mus. Return* 227 A large specimen of hübnerite from Huara wolfram mine. 1916 *Chamb. Jnl.* 9 Sept. 655/2 Quantities of wolfram ore are also produced in Australia.

Hence *'wolframate'*, = TUNGSTATE; *'wolframed a.'*, having wolfram added; *'wolfram-ic a.'*, = TUNGSTIC; *'wolframine'*, tungstic ochre, tungstite; *'wolframite'*, = WOLFRAM 1.

1864 *Q. Jnl. Sci.* I. 693 M. Le Guen has solicited attention to what he calls **wolframed pig-iron*. 1860 MAYNE *Expos. Lex. s.v. Wolframate*, **Wolframic acid*. 1854 DANA *Min.* 143 **Wolframine*. 1868 *Ibid.* 601 **Wolframite*. 1914 *Brit. Mus. Return* 228 Wolframite and smoky quartz, from Burma.

Wolf-Rayet ('vɒlfreɪ, wɒlf-). *Astr.* The names of C. J. E. Wolf (1827–1918) and G. A. P. Rayet (1839–1906), French astronomers, used *attrib.* to denote any of a class of hot white-to-blue stars (first described by them in 1867) which are characterized by bright, broad spectral lines due to hydrogen, helium, carbon, or nitrogen and are believed to be short-lived and unstable.

1890 A. M. CLERKE *Syst. of Stars* v. 71 Accurate measurements of the three original Wolf-Rayet stars... were made. 1930 R. H. BAKER *Astron.* ix. 356 The Wolf-Rayet stars are distinguished from the other Class O stars by the great width of the bright lines in their spectra. 1978 PASACHOFF & KUTNER *University Astron.* ii. 40 Astronomers think that the emission in Wolf-Rayet stars comes from shells of material that the star has ejected into the space surrounding it.

wolf's-bane ('wɒlfzbeɪn), †**wolfbane**. [f. *wolf's*, gen. of WOLF *sb.* + BANE *sb.*¹, rendering mod.L. *lycoctonum*, a. Gr. *λυκοκτόνον* lit. 'wolf-slayer'.] A plant of the genus *Aconitum*, esp. *A. lycoctonum*, with dull yellow flowers, occurring in mountainous regions in Europe. Also applied to *Arnica montana* (*winter wolf's-bane*), and to the winter aconite, *Eranthis hyemalis*.

1548 TURNER *Names Herbes* (E.D.S.) 9 The other kynde [of Aconitum] is called Lycoctonum, & in englishe it maye be called wolfe bayne. But this kynde is deuided into two other kyndes, of whiche... the one may be called in englishe monkes coule or blew wolfsbayne. The other kynde... may be called in Englishe yelow wolfsbayne. 1578, 1597 [see MONK'S-HOOD 1]. 1629 PARKINSON *Parad.* xxvii. 216 Most Herbarists call it *Aconitum hyemale*, and we in English thereafter, Winters Wolfbane. 1656 W. COLES *Art of Simpling* 66 The Oyntment that Witches use is reported to be made... of the Juices of Smallege, Woolfsbayne and Cinquefoyle. 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* App. 332. 1785 MARTYN *Lett. Bot.* xxi. (1794) 298 Wholesome Wolfbane [*Aconitum Anthora*]... has five capsules, and the flowers are sulphur-coloured. 1820 KEATS *Melancholy* i, Go not to Lethe, neither twist Wolf's-bane, tight-rooted, for its poisonous wine. 1846–50 A. WOOD *Class-bk. Bot.* 146 *Aconitum uncinatum*. American Wolf's-Bane. 1856–60 A.

GRAY *Man. Bot. N.U.S.* 13 *Aconitum reclinatum*. Trailing Wolfsbane. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1235/2.

†**wolf's-fist**. *Obs.* In 3 wuluesfist, 6 woolfes fistes, 7 wolues fyste; also 6 wolfyst, 7 woolfist. [f. gen. of WOLF *sb.* + FIST *sb.*², of which LYCOPERDON (Tournefort) is a translation.] The puffball, *Lycoperdon Bovista*. Also used as a term of abuse.

c1265 *Voc. Plants* in Wr.-Wülcker 556/45 Fungus, wulues-fist. 1530 PALSGR. 289/2 Wolfyst, uesse de loup. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* iii. clxii. 1386 Puffes Fistes, are commonly called in Latine *Lupi crepitus*, or Woolfes Fistes. 1606 Wily *Beguiled Prol.*, Out you soust gurnet, you Woolfist. 1611 COTGR., *Vesse de loup*. . Wolues fyste.

'wolf's-head, wolf-head. Forms: see WOLF *sb.* and HEAD *sb.*¹

1. The head of a wolf; a figure of this, e.g. as a heraldic bearing.

c1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 360 To slæpe, wulfes heafod leze under þone pyle. ? a1400 *Morte Arth.* 1093 Alle falterde þe flesche in his foule lypþys, lke wrethe as a wolfe-hevede, it wraythe owtt at ones! 1586 FERNE *Blaz. Gentrie* 230 Hugh the firste Earle of Chester, was surnamed de Loupe, because he bare a Wolfes head in his shield. 1610 GULLIM *Heraldry* iii. xv. 145 Hee beareth Azure, two Barres, Argent, on a Canton Sable, a Wolues head Errased of the second. 1875 F. T. BUCKLAND *Log-Bk.* 5 A young man holding a wolf's head high up in the air. 1891 *Daily Tel.* 16 Apr. 7/2 Minnesota spent last year twenty-five thousand dollars in bounties on wolf-heads brought in.

2. *Old English Law*. A cry for the pursuit of an outlaw as one to be hunted down like a wolf; *transf.* (orig. in phr. *to cry wolf's head*) an outlaw.

17th century law books have various corrupt forms, as *wolferfod*, *woolfeshered*, *woolfertshod*, *wolfetchsod*.

[c1000 *Laws Edw. Conf.* vi, Lupinum enim gerit caput a die utlagationis sue, quod ab Anglis uulfesheued nominatur.] ? c1300 *Mirr. Justices* iv. iv. (Selden Soc.) 125 E point ne vient, qe des adune le tiegne lem pur lou e est criable Wolvesheved, pur ceo qe lou est beste haie de tote gent. c1400 *Gamelyn* 700 (Harl. MS.) Whan Gamelyn her lorde wolues-heed was cryed & made. 1430–40 LYDG. *Bochas* vii. 1261 Out of their court banyshed was prudence, .. Cried woluis hed was vertuous sobrinnesse. c1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxi. 139 Now wolues-hede and out-horne on the be tanel 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* i, By that time I shall be a wolf's head, and out of the law. 1914 *Blackw. Mag.* Jan. 95/2 Vengeance on these cruel wolfheads.

'wolfskin. The skin or pelt of a wolf; a garment, etc. made of this. Also *attrib.*

c1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) vi, þe wolfe skynn is hote forto make koffes or pylches. a1612 HARRINGTON *Sch. Salerne* ii. (1624) 37 Garments... of Martyn or Wolfe-skinnes. 1734 *Free Briton* No. 255. 2/2 Multitudes believe... that a Sheep-skin Drum bursts asunder at the beat of a Wolf-skin Drum. 1805 SCOTT *Last Minstr.* iii. xvi, His bugle-horn... in a wolf-skin baldrick tied. 1859 TENNYSON *Elaine* 809 His battle-writhen arms and mighty hands Lay naked on the wolfskin. 1918 *Blackw. Mag.* June 743/1 When our own ancestors were... barbarians in wolfskins.

'wolf's-milk. [Cf. LG. *wulfsmelk*, MHG. *wolfmilch*, (G. *wolfs-*), Da. *ulvemelk*, etc.]

1. a. A spurge, esp. the sun-spurge, *Euphorbia Helioscopia*; so ealled from the acrid milky juice.

1575 BANISTER *Chyrurg.* 101 *Esula*, Woulfes milke. 1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physique* 364/1 For the Felone of the Finger. Take the herbe called Woluesmilcke, tye the same with the Flowers on the Felon [etc.]. 1861 MISS PRATT *Flower. Pl.* V. 5 *Euphorbia helioscopia* (Sun Spurge)... Country people call it... Wolf's-milk. 1897 R. N. BAIN tr. *Jókai's Pretty Michal* xxv. 201 The witch took freshly plucked wolf's-milk flowers.

b. The fungus *Lycogala*.

1861 H. MACMILLAN *Footn. Page Nat.* 288 The beautiful round vermilion balls of the Lycogala, or Wolf's milk.

2. The milk of a wolf.

1847 TENNYSON *Princess* vii. 115 Half the wolf's-milk curdled in their veins. 1892 RIDER HAGGARD *Nada* xvii, They have drunk wolf's milk.

'wolf-whistle. *colloq.* Also wolf whistle. [f. WOLF *sb.* 5c + WHISTLE *sb.* 3.] A distinctive whistle from a man expressing sexual admiration for a woman; also *transf.*

1952 *Time* 21 Jan. 29/3 No one took exception to U.S.N. wolf-whistles at the señoritas. 1953 N. BALCHIN *Sundry Creditors* 46 Some vulgar female person let out a low wolf-whistle as she passed him. 1958 *Daily Express* 13 Mar. 8/5 She heard one kid give a wolf whistle, and his chum exclaim: 'Coo, what a smashing car!' 1960 A. KIMMINS *Lugs O'Leary* i. 11 They passed the pretty probationer. Lugs gave her a low wolf whistle. 1971 *New Scientist* 29 Apr. 246/1 A young housewife... recently asked for a reduction in the rates of her residence because of nuisance from wolf-whistles. 1980 'T. HINDE' *Daymare* vi. 61 Bob Smiles whistles at him... a hideous wolf-whistle.

Hence as *v.*, to utter a wolf-whistle (at); **'wolf-whistling** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1955 *Sun* (Baltimore) 2 Sept. 1/5 The Governor of Mississippi today called for a complete investigation of the kidnap-killing of a Negro youth who allegedly wolf-whistled at a white woman. 1958 L. LITTLE *Dear Boys* 222 They had their heads and shoulders hanging dangerously out of the windows [of a coach], wolf-whistling the odd bints on the pavements. 1958 *Times* 2 Sept. 11/7 Surrounded as I am by thousands of barking dogs, wailing cats, and wolf-whistling budgerigars. 1961 WODEHOUSE *Ice in Bedroom* 41 Dolly Molloy unquestionably took the eye... Wolf-whistling is of course prohibited in the lobby of Barribault's Hotel so none of those present attempted this form of homage. 1976 J.

GRENELL Joyce Grenfell requests the Pleasure i. 17 An American sailor wolf-whistled at her. 1981 G. PETRIE *Tondeau of Chartres* i. 19 Julie and Elaine took their bows to a cacophony of wolf-whistling.

wolfwort ('wɒlfwɜ:t). ? *Obs.* [f. WOLF *sb.* + WORT.] a. A plant of the genus *Aconitum*: = WOLF'S-BANE. b. A plant of the genus *Periploca*, the juice of which was used for poisoning wolves.

1611 COTGR. s.v. *Loup, Herbe au loup*, Wolues-bane, wolfe-wort (a kind of Aconitum). 1658 [see LEOPARD'S BANE]. 1773 J. HILL *Vegetable Syst.* IX. 43 Wolfwort. *Periploca*.

wolfy ('wɒlfɪ), *a.* U.S. [f. WOLF *sb.* + -Y¹.] Wolf-like; characterized by, or suggestive of the presence of, wolves; ferocious, uncivilized.

1828 *Western Souvenir* 1829 314 'Couldn't you take a pack or two of wolves along?' said Pete, sneeringly. 'We can spare you a small gang. It's mighty wolfy about here.' 1831 J. K. PAULDING *Lion of West* (1954) II. 54 Well, I hadn't had a fight for as much as ten days—felt as though I must kiver myself up in a salt bin to keep—'so wolfy' about the head and shoulders. 1838 B. DRAKE *Tales & Sk., from Queen City* 36, I say, Mr. Jack-of-knaves, it looks rather wolfy in these parts. 1927 C. M. RUSSELL *Trails plowed Under* 114 This talk makes the whole bunch wolfy.

wolfyst: see WOLF'S-FIST.

wolhe, nolhe: see WILL *v.*¹ 50 b.

wolken(e, -in, obs. ff. WELKIN.

woll: see WELL, WHILE, WILL, WOOL, WOOLD.

Wollaston ('wʊləstən). *Physics*. [The name of W. H. Wollaston (1766–1828), English physicist.] *Wollaston* (s) *prism*: a prism made by cementing together two prisms of calcite or quartz with their optic axes perpendicular to each other and to the incident light, which is thereby separated into two diverging beams of polarized light.

1890 T. PRESTON *Theory of Light* xi. 258 Wollaston's Prism.—This prism differs from that of Rochon only in that the optic axis of the first prism ABD is parallel to the face AB, so that it is merely Rochon's prism turned through a right angle. 1970 *Nature* 18 July 264/2 The Wollaston prism, which splits the incident starlight into two beams, polarized in mutually perpendicular planes, was placed in an adjustable mounting above the spectrograph slit.

wollastonite ('wʊləstənait). *Min.* [Named by Lehman (1818) after the chemist and physicist W. H. Wollaston (1766–1828): see -ITE¹.] Native metasilicate of calcium; tabular spar.

Applied also by T. Thomson to PECTOLITE. 1823 W. PHILLIPS *Introd. Min.* (ed. 3) 211 Wollastonite... This substance occurs in the lava of Capo di Bove, near Rome, in small masses. 1836 T. THOMSON *Outl. Min.* etc. I. 131 This was the reason which led me to give the appellation *Wollastonite* to the present species, which occurs... near Kilsyth... It is related to *table spar*. 1888 RUTLEY *Rock-Forming Min.* 183 Wollastonite... occurs as a rock-forming mineral chiefly in... rod-like or platy crystals.

wolle: see WALL *sb.*¹, WILL *v.*¹, WOOL.

wolle bode, obs. var. WOUBIT.

†**wollecyn**, suggested by Lyte [after WOOLLEN, q.v. ¶] as an alternative for MULLEIN.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* i. lxxxii. 118 Mulleyn (or rather Wolleyn). *Ibid.* 119 Mulleyne, or rather Wulleyne.

wollop, var. WALLOP.

wollow, obs. form of WALLOW *v.*¹

1622–5 *Essex Archæaconries Depos. Bk.* lf. 129 (MS.) She was drunck and lay wollowing in the durt.

wolly ('wɒli). *slang*. Also wally. [Origin unknown: cf. WALLY *sb.*²] A uniformed policeman, esp. a constable. Cf. WOOLLY *sb.* 3.

1970 G. F. NEWMAN *Sir, you Bastard* 8 The wollies were out in their cars, patrolling for drunks and discontents. 1977 'D. CORY' *Bennett* ii. 69 The doorman... mentioned it to one of our wollies on the beat. 1983 J. B. HILTON *Asking Price* v. 33 These traffic Wollies make sure it all goes down, once they've licked their pencils.

wollyn, obs. form of WOOLLEN.

Woloff ('wəʊləf), *sb.* and *a.* Also Jolof ('jəʊləf), Woloff, etc. [Native name.] *A. sb.* a. (A member of) an African people of Senegal and the Gambia. *b.* The language of this people, belonging to the Niger-Congo family.

1745 F. MOORE in *New Gen. Coll. Voy.* II. 227/2 The Natives, who were Jolloifs, had taken his chief Mate and Surgeon Prisoners. 1823 MRS. H. KILHAM (*title*) African lessons. Wolof and English. 1848 *Rep. Brit. Assoc. Adv. Sci.* 162 Here the Woloff has not only no particular affinities, but fewer miscellaneous ones than any other language. 1883, etc. [see PEULH *sb.* and *a.*]. 1908 T. G. TUCKER *Introd. Nat. Hist. Lang.* 147 This process is common in Wolof. 1930 C. G. SELIGMAN *Races of Afr.* iii. 58 The lower and middle portions of the Senegal River form the ethnic divide between Hamites and Negroes. Immediately south of the river the latter are represented by the Wolof (or Jolof). 1961 *Guardian* 25 Nov. 7 Senegal combines at least six different tribes... The largest is the Wolof numbering about 800,000. 1972 J. L. DILLARD *Black Eng.* iii. 74 The widespread use of

Wolof, which seems to have a special *lingua franca* status among West African languages, in the thirteen colonies. 1976 *Times* 20 Nov. 11/4 The third largest group are the Wolofs, whose women... are... among the most beautiful in Africa.

B. adj. a. gen.

1828 MRS. H. KILHAM *Specimens African Languages Sierra Leone* p. vii, In the Jolof Language there are two sounds of the guttural kind. 1865 R. F. BURTON *Wit & Wisdom in W. Afr.* i. 2 (heading) Proverbs in the Wolof tongue. 1879 J. A. FARRER *Primitive Manners & Customs* iii. 92 The Wolof proverb, that 'lies, though many, will be caught by Truth as soon as she rises up'. 1918 *Harvard Afr. Studies* II. 98 De Rochebrune distinguishes the gluteal accumulation of fat commonly found in Wolof women and girls from true steatopygia. 1961 F. G. CASSIDY *Jamaica Talk* vii. 146 The word *juke*, as in the American *juke box*... has been traced by Turner to Wolof *jug*, to misconduct oneself. 1977 J. WYLLIE *To catch a Viper* (1979) vii. 45 The original African ethnic groupings such as those represented by the Yoruba, the old nations of Ashanti, Dahomey and Goshi and the Mossi, Mende, Mandinka and Wolof peoples.

b. Special collocation: **jollof rice** (see quot. 1982).

1959 [see FUFU]. 1966 C. ACHEBE *Man of People* ii. 25 Whenever you allowed him a say in this matter he invariably came up with Jollof rice—his favourite dish. 1982 G. M. DALGISH *Dict. Africanisms 761 Jollof rice*, a West African dish, a stew of fish, chicken or beef, tomatoes, onions, rice, and chili peppers; said to be ultimately of Sierra Leone origin.

wolp, obs. form of WUP *v.* *Sc.*

wolron, var. WILRONE *Obs.*

wölsendorfite ('vɔ:lzəndɔ:fart). *Min.* [a. F. *wölsendorfite* (J. Protas 1957, in *Compt. Rend. CCXLIV*. 2942), f. *Wölsendorf*, name of a locality in Bavaria: see -ITE¹.] A hydrated oxide of lead, calcium, and uranium, (Pb,Ca)U₂O₇ · 2H₂O, found as orange or red orthorhombic crystals.

1957 *Chem. Abstr.* LI. 13659 (heading) Wölsendorfite, a new uranium mineral. 1975 *Mineral Abstr.* XXVI. 321/1 Red and orange aggregates of wölsendorfite are described from the oxidation zone of a U-Mo ore deposit [in the U.S.S.R.].

wolsome, var. WILSOME *a.*¹

wolsted, obs. form of WORSTED.

Wolstonian (wul'stəʊniən), *a. Geol.* [f. *Wolston*, name of the village in Warwickshire where the type site is situated: see -IAN.] Epithet of the penultimate Pleistocene glaciation in Britain (identified with the Saale of continental Europe), and of a stratigraphic stage of the Pleistocene lying above the Hoxnian and below the Ipswichian; of or belonging to this stage or glacial. Also *absol.*

1969 *Proc. Geol. Soc.* Aug. 152 It is recommended that for the Pleistocene and Holocene of the British Isles the following ages/stages be adopted as a regional scale... Pleistocene: Devensian, Ipswichian, Wolstonian [etc.]. 1975 *Nature* 9 Oct. 478/2 The Sugworth deposit lies topographically well above the Hanborough Terrace which has been ascribed both to the Hoxnian Interglacial and, more recently, to an early part of the Wolstonian. 1981 F. W. SHOTTON in Neale & Flenley *Quaternary in Brit.* xiii. 143 This makes the gravels post-Hoxnian or at least late-Hoxnian, and the overlying Wetton Till even later. So if the latter is pre-Devensian, it can only be Wolstonian.

wolt, obs. pa. t. of WIELD.

wolt(e), obs. var. VAULT *sb.*¹; see WILL *v.*¹ A. 3.

woltou, -towe = *wilt thou*: see WILL *v.*¹ A. 6a.

wolum, obs. *Sc.* f. VOLUME.

wolunte, var. VOLUNTY *Obs.*

wolve (wulv), *v.* [f. inflexional stem of WOLF *sb.*]

1. *intr.* (also with *it*). To behave like a wolf, play the wolf.

1702 C. MATHER *Magn. Chr.* III. III. 187/2 If any Seducers were let loose to wolve it among the good people of Roxbury. 1909 E. THOMPSON SETON *Billy* i. (C.D. Suppl.) A Wolf was 'wolving' on the east side of Sentinel Mountain.

2. Of an organ: To give forth a hollow wailing sound like the howl of a wolf, from deficient wind-supply.

1864 LE FANU *Uncle Silas* I. xxv. 325 What an awful storm!... Don't you like the sound? What they used to call 'wolving' in the old organ at Dorminster! 1919 M. R. JAMES *Thin Ghost* 130 The organ wolved—you know what I mean: the wind died.

†**wolvering**. *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. *wolv-*, inflexional stem of WOLF *sb.* + -LING¹.] = WOLFLING.

1798 W. ROSCOE tr. *Tansillo's Nurse* I. (1800) 23 Whilst ten young wolverings shelter find.

wolver ('wulvə(r)). *rare*. Also 6-7 *wooluer*. [f. WOLVE *v.* or inflexional stem of WOLF *sb.* + -ER¹.]

1. One who behaves like a wolf; a ravenous or savage creature.

1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* 147 Three meales of a Lazarello, make the fourth a Woolner [sic]. 1604 T. M. Black *Bk. Epistle* to Rdr., Scylla and Charibdis, those two Cormorants and Woolners [sic] of the Sea. 1883 *Cornh. Mag.* Feb. 184 Jelly-fish, fierce little 'wolvers' throwing out their... stings.

2. One who searches or hunts for wolves.

a 1909 E. THOMPSON SETON *Billy* i. (C.D. Suppl.) As the wolver rode down an adjoining cañon, he saw a Wolf come out of a hole. 1921 *Chambers's Jnl.* July 473/1 The wolver, exploring unsurveyed territory.

wolverene, -ine (wulvə'ri:n). Forms: 6-9 *wolvering*, 8- *wolverene*, -ine (6 *wool-*, *ulvering*(e), 7 *woolverin*(e), *Sc.* *voluering*). [app. f. *wolv-*, inflexional stem of WOLF *sb.*, but the formation is obscure.]

1. The glutton (*Gulo luscus*), now esp. the North American variety: see GLUTTON A. 4.

1574 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 236 Fures of wolveringes for pedlers capps. 1591 G. FLETCHER *Russe Commw.* (Hakl. Soc.) 14 Their beasts... are the losh... the beare, the wolvering or wood dogge. 1619 MIDDLETON *Love & Antiq.* D. 1, Beasts bearing Furr... Racoon, Moashye, Woluerine. 1747 G. EDWARDS *Nat. Hist. Birds* II. 103 The Quick-Hatch, or Wolverene. 1812 J. SMYTH *Pract. Customs* (1821) 225 Wolvering is a large animal, almost equal in size to the wolf. 1820 HARMON *Jnl. Voy. N. Amer.* 426 The carcajou or wolverine, in shape and the colour of the hair, greatly resembles the skunk. 1855 LONGF. *Hiau*. xvi. 40 How the Wolverine, uprising, Made him ready for the encounter. 1896 KIPLING *Seven Seas, Song of Dead* 8 Where the wolverine tumbles their packs from the camp.

2. The fur of the wolverene.

1596 *Lanc. Wills* (Chetham Soc. 1861) 2 A cassocke of grogran edged wth ulveringe. 1612 *Sc. Bk. Rates in Halyburton's Ledger* (1867) 307 Fures called... Volueringis the peice, vi li. 1833 *Act 3 & 4 Will. IV.* c. 56 Wolverings, undressed. 1890 *Daily News* 28 Jan. 7/1 It is already prophesied that wolverine is to be the favourite fur next winter. 1895 KIPLING *2nd Jungle Bk.* 158 The long wolverine-fur fringe of her ermine hood.

3. A nickname for an inhabitant of Michigan. So *Wolverine State*, Michigan.

1835 C. F. HOFFMAN *Winter in Far West* I. 207 The genuine wolverine, or naturalized Michiganian. 1847 *Congressional Globe* 5 Feb. 332/2 A great Government bank... a full-grown... Wolverine wild-cat. 1875 *Chamb. Jnl.* 13 Mar. 171/2 Michigan is Lake State or Wolverine State.

Wolves (wulvz). [pl. of WOLF *sb.*] Colloq. name for Wolverhampton Wanderers Football Club.

1908 O. SEAMAN *Salvage* 140, I hardly care at all Whether the Wolves break up the Throstles' wings. 1923 *Racing Record* 10 Feb. 3/2 Bradford City I take to defeat the Wolves. 1960 [see SLATE *sb.*¹ 2 b]. 1978 P. BAILEY *Leisure & Class in Victorian Eng.* vi. 139 A Church of England school team in Wolverhampton, later the Wolves.

wolvin, obs. *Sc.* form of WOVEN.

'wolvish, a. Also 5-6 *wolw-*, 6 *woulu-*, *wollw-*, *Sc.* *volw-*, 6-7 *wo(o)lu-*, 7-9 *woolv-*. [f. *wolv-*, inflexional stem of WOLF *sb.* + -ISH¹.]

1. = WOLFISH 2, 3.

c 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 174 Among wolvys be wolvysshe of corage. 15.. *Six Ballads with Burdens* (Percy Soc.) 5 This wolwysse shepe. 1540-7 COVERDALE *Fruitful Less.* i. (1593) M. I. Iudas... hauing woluish conditions vnder sheepes cloathing. a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* v. (1922) 191 This wolwisch sheeheard. 1604 *Supplic. Mass-priests, Ans.* K. 2, The woluish cruelty of popish Inquisitors. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* I. iv. 330 With her nailes Shee'l flea thy Woluish visage. 1632 MASSINGER & FIELD *Fatal Dowry* II. i. D. 3 b, Out you woluish mungrells! 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* i. clvi. 141 These Wolvish Back-Friends. 1817 COLERIDGE *Biog. Lit.* I. x. 181 If superstition and despotism have been suffered to let in their wolwisch sheep. 1911 D. H. LAWRENCE *White Peacock* I. vi. 97 There was a report of two grey wolwish dogs. a 1945 E. R. EDDISON *Mezentian Gate* (1958) i. 16 'Nay, read it if you please: I had it but five minutes since.' And with a wolwish look he tossed the letter upon the table. 1978 J. UPDIKE *Coup* (1979) vii. 267 She tugged at his hand with that fretful, proprietorial impatience of her wolwish race.

2. = WOLFISH 1. Also *Comb.*, as *wolvish-looking* adj.

1565 *Satir. Poems Reform.* i. 133, I sawe the ffrendlie man wounde in a wolwyshe weede. 1577 T. KENDALL *Flowers Epigr.* 87 The founder of the same [sc. Rome] with Woluise milke was fedde. 1793 BLAKE *Songs Exper., Little Girl Found* 51 Nor fear the wolwish howl Nor the lions' growl. 1954 J. R. R. TOLKIEN *Fellowship of Ring* iv. 101 Two wolwish-looking dogs sniffed at him suspiciously, and snarled.

Hence †**wolvishly** *adv.*; **'wolvishness**; †**wolvly a.** *Obs. rare*⁻⁰.

1538 BALE *Three Lawes* 1211 Thy woluyssnesse by thr crownes wyll I hyde making the a pope. 1611 COTGR., *Louvier*, Woluie, Wolfe-like. 1628 WITHER *Brit. Rememb.* iv. 663 Some, wolwishly, did prey upon the quick. a 1945 E. R. EDDISON *Mezentian Gate* (1958) xxxvii. 191 God shield us from women on our councils of war... Besides, I mistrust Parry wolwishness. And bitch-wolf was ever more fell than dog-wolf.

wolward, obs. f. WOOLWARD.

wolwat, obs. f. VELVET.

wolx, obs. pa. t. of WAX *v.*

wom, obs. form of WHOM.

woman ('wʊmən), *sb.* Pl. women ('wɪmɪn). Forms (case-inflexions in OE. and early ME. as in MAN *sb.*¹): *Sing.* a. 1-5 *wifman*, 2-3 *-mon*, 2-4

wimman, (3 *wim(m)on*, *wyman*), 3-4 *wymman*, 3-5 *wymmon* (4 *wyfman*). *β.* 3 *wummon*, 3-5 *wumman*. *δ.* 3-5 *womman*, *wommon*, 4-6 *voman*, 5 *vomman*, *woman(n)e*, 5-6 *wommane*, 7 *whoman*, (also 9 *dial.*) *wooman*, 3- *woman*. *γ.* 5 *oman*, 6 *owman* (?), 7 *Anglo-Welsh* o'man, 7-9 *uman*, 9 *'oومان*, *umman*. *Pl. a.* 1-4 *wifmen*, 1-4, 8 *wimmen*, 3-5 *wymmen*, (4 *wyfmēn*, *wimēn*, *wemmen*, 4-5 *wymen*, 5 *vymmen*, 7 *Anglo-Welsh* ymen). *β.* 3-4 *wummen*. *γ.* 3-5 *wommen*, 5 *womene*, *vommen*, *woymen*, 6-7 *woemen*, 4- *women*. *δ.* 4 *Sc.* *vemene*, 4-7 *wemen*, 5 *wemyn*, *whemen*, *weymen*, 5-7 *woemen*, 6 *vemen*, 6-7 *weemen*, 7 *weamen*. [OE. *wifmon(n)*, *-man(n)* masc., later fem., pl. *wifmen(n)*, f. *wif* woman, *WIFE sb.* + *mon(n)*, *man(n)* human being, MAN *sb.*¹ A formation peculiar to English, and not extant in the earliest period of OE., the ancient word being *WIFE*.

The regular ME. descendants of OE. *wifman*, *-men*, viz. *wimman*, *wimmen* (cf. OE. *lēofman*, ME. *lemman*, *LEMAN*) continued in use until the 15th century. By c 1200 the rounding of *wi-* to *wu-* is clearly established, and is at that time characteristic of western ME. texts. The form *womman* appears in the late 13th century (first in western texts), and the corresponding pl. *wommen* in the late 14th. The simplification of *mm* in *womman*, *-en* and *wimman*, *-en*, and the consequent conversion of the first syllable into an open syllable gave rise to forms with *ō* and *ē*, which, continuing to the early modern period, provided the occasion for punning analyses of *wōman* and *wēmen* (see 1 k below). From c 1400 *woman* and *women* became regular spellings for sing. and pl., and have been retained as a properly corresponding pair to *man* and *men*; but in the standard speech the pronunciation (wu-) was ultimately appropriated to the sing. and (wi-) to the pl., probably through the associative influence of pairs like *foot* and *feet*.

From at least the 16th century, the only variety in the pronunciation of the pl. has been in respect of the quantity of the first vowel, which was either short or long in the 16th and 17th centuries; but in the same period no less than five pronunciations of the sing. are recognized by orthoepists, viz. ('wʊmən), ('wʊrmən), ('wāmən), and ('ʊmən), of which all but the first have now sunk to vulgar or dialectal status.

Examples of the *δ*-forms of the sing., without initial *w*, follow here; for illustration of the more normal forms see sense 1.

? 1455 *Paston Lett.* I. 343 Youre pore bede oman and cosyn, Alice Crane. 1558 CHARNOCK *Bk. Astron.* Title of Chapter (MS.) Is the theffe man or owoman or bothe? 1623 SHAKS. *Merry W.* iv. i. 52 *Eua*. Leave your prables (o'man) ... *Eua*. O'man, forbear. 1632 NABBES *Cov. Gard.* v. ii, Your Ladships uman. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* xv. x, When her Laship was so veri kind as to offar to mak mee hur one Uman. 1808 JAMIESON, *Uman*, the pron. of *woman*. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xiii, Putting on his spectacles to look at a married 'ooman! 1838 JAS. GRANT *Sc. Lond.* 69 Bad luck to the 'ooman! 1898 G. W. E. RUSSELL *Coll. & Recoll.* 14 Like other high-bred people of his time, he [sc. Lord John Russell]... called a woman an 'ooman'.

1. 1. a. An adult female human being. (The context may or may not have special reference to sex or to adult age: cf. MAN *sb.*¹ 4 a, c, d.)

†*man* or (or *and*) *woman* used appositionally = male or (and) female.

sing. a c 893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* III. vi. §2 Minutia hatte an wifmon, þe on heora wisan sceolde nunne beon. c 1000 ÆLFRED *Gen.* ii. 22 God... geworhte ðæt rib, ðe he genam of Adame, to anum wifmen. — *Judges* iv. 22 Ða clipode seo wimman cuðlice him to. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 15 3if þa laze weren nu, nalde na mon mis-don wið oðre, ne wepmon ne wifmon ne meiden. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 133 þe lif holi wimman sarra. a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1357 If wymmon pencheþ luuye derne. c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 486/53 Com ageyn & bring this swyn a-now To this pore wifman. c 1300 *Havelok* 1156 þe fayrest wymman under mone. 13.. *K. Horn* 552 (Harl. MS.) Er ne he eny wyf take Oþer wyf wymmon forewart make. 1340 *Aenb.* 31 He... zayþ to þe manne and to þe wyfmanne [etc.].

β. a 1225 *Anr.* R. 12 Hwase wummon lueð oðer mon bi him one. *Ibid.* 58 þis is a swuðe dredlich word to wummen þæt scheawed hire to wepmones eien. a 1240 *Ureisin* in *O.E. Hom.* I. 191 Nis no wummon iboren þæt ðe beo iliche. 13.. *Coer de L.* 3863 Man, wumman, every Sarasyn. 1499 *Promp. Parv.* 534/2 (ed. Pynson), Wumman.

γ. c 1275 LAY. 2237 Womman [c 1205 wifmon] pou hart hende. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 211 Al vor a woman þæt heleine was icluped þis bataille verst bigan. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 9000 Foluand a wicked womman will. *Ibid.* 20285 Quils scho spac pus, þæt suet woman... saint iohan... com. 1362 *LANGL. P. Pl.* A. VIII. 74 þei weddeþ no wommon þæt þei with delep. 14.. in *Rel. Ant.* I. 275 To onpreyse womene yt were a shame, For a womane was thy dame. 1476 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) II. 7 And yff ye wold be a good etter off your mete allwaye, that ye myght waxe and grow flast to be a woman. 1546 in J. Bullock *Pynours* (1887) 63 Euery pynour baytht man and voman. 1588 SHAKS. *L.L.L.* IV. i. 125 One... that was a woman when Queene Guinouer of Brittainne was a little wench. 1591 — *Two Gent.* IV. iv. 165 Our youth got me to play the womans part, And I was trim'd in Madam Iulias gowne. 1667 DRYDEN & DK. NEWC. *Sir M. Mar-all* III. (1668) 26 A Woman's in a sad condition, that has nothing to trust to, but a Perriwig above, and a well-trim'd shoe below. 1697 CONGREVE *Mourn. Bride* III. ad. fin., Heav'n has no Rage, like Love to Hatred turn'd, Nor Hell a Fury, like a Woman scorn'd. 1735 POPE *Ep. Lady* 216 Men, some to Bus'ness, some to Pleasure take; But every Woman is at heart a Rake. 1780 J. BROWN *Toleration* (1803) 81 No ecclesiastical power can reside in a heathen, a woman, or a child. 1804 WORDSW. 'She was a Phantom' 27 A perfect Woman, nobly planned, To warn, to comfort, and

command. 1818 BYRON *Juan* l. lxi, Her stature tall—I hate a dumpy woman. 1835 HOOK *G. Gurney* vii. in *New Mo. Mag.* XLIV. 18 A girl of seventeen is a woman, when a man of seventeen is a boy. 1867 *Act* 30 & 31 *Vict.* c. 130 §3 In this Act... 'Woman' shall mean a Female of the Age of Eighteen Years or upwards. 1887 *Act* 50 & 51 *Vict.* c. 58 §75 In this Act... 'Woman' means a female of the age of sixteen years or upwards. 1889 'J. S. WINTER' *Mrs. Bob v.* A girl she was not, but a woman of at least nine and twenty.

pl. a. c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* iii. v. (1890) 162 ðe wæpnedmen ge wimmen. c 1000 *Christ's Descent* 48 Wifmonna preat, fela fæmnena. 1154 O.E. *Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1137 þa namen hi... carl-men and wimmen & diden heom in prisun. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 215 3if þe hodede wileð mid stefne for to liken wimmannen. c 1290 *John* 196 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 408 Twelf pousend Men... Withoute children and wimmen. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2753 Ofte in wimmen [v.r. wimmane, wommannes, wommanys, wommens] fourme hii comeþ to men al so. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7044, Zamazims... þe wimmen land wit-outen man. a 1300 *K. Horn* 67 Of alle wymmene [v.r. wimenne] Wurst was godhild panne. 13... *Cursor M.* 24644 (Edin.) Wit opir wimen þat him soht. 1340 *Ayenb.* 10 To habbe uelagrede uleslich mid wyfmen. c 1375 *Cursor M.* 8583 heading, How ij. wemmen ware iugged for a childe þe tane slogh in hir bedde. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* ii. vii. 83 For her sake I shal owe al wymmen the better loue. c 1500 *God speed the plough* 87 Wymen commeth weping on the same Maner. c 1620 *Welsh Embass.* iv. 1509 (Malone Soc.) Our valliant Comragues... so fright the ymen that [etc.]. 1790 MRS. WHEELER *Westmld. Dial.* 60 What is cum amang Wimmen an Lassess E this Parish?

þ. c 1205 LAY. 11718 Æc heo nomen wummen wunder ane monie. a 1240 *Ureisin* in O.E. *Hom.* i. 191 þu ert bñit and blisful ouer alle wummen. 13... *Cursor M.* 23451 (Gött.) Man [has] gret liking... On wummen fair for to bihalð.

γ. 1340-70 *Alex.* & *Dind.* 1016 Þoure fingrus of fin gold 3e fullen wiþ ryngus, As is wommenus wone for wordliche glose. c 1386 CHAUCER *Melib.* ¶ 91 Of alle wommen good woman foond I neuere. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* i. 58 Of body bothe and of visage Lik unto wommen of yong age. c 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xiii. 143 Amazoyne, that is the Lond of Femyne, where that no man is, but only alle Wommen. c 1430 *LYDG. Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 46 Here gynneth a dyte of women-his horns. c 1449 *PECOCK Repr.* i. xx. 119 Bi wering of wommennys couercheefs. c 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 22 All good men and woymen. c 1450 *Cursor M.* 10528 (Laud) Ouyr alle women to bere crown. 1553 *Respublica* 1454 Men shoulde kysse woomen. 1573 L. LLOYD *Pilgr. Princes* (1586) 55b, The fiftie virgins... certaine... baies being set of purpose by the gentlemen of Messina for their virginities, and now readie... being then maidens, to bee made women that night. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* v. (S.T.S.) i. 290 Woemen guha had vowet chastitie. 1611 CORYAT *Crudities* 247 (*Venice*), I saw women acte, a thing that I neuer saw before. 1753-4 RICHARDSON *Grandison* ii. viii. 51 Girls are said to be sooner women than boys are men. 1818 SHELLEY *Julian* 592 Like one of Shakespeare's women. 1874 HARDY *Far fr. Mad. Crowd* xxv, They were already loading hay, the women taking it into cocks, and windrows. 1904 MAX PEMBERTON *Red Morn* viii. The women first, and one by one... If any man goes out of his turn, I will shoot him like a dog.

δ. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* iii. 734 Men mycht her wemen hely cry. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* x. (*Mathou*) 347 Mariage... To cople men & vemene. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8056 Hit is a propertie apreuit... To all wemen in the world... To be vnstable. *Ibid.* 10904 The wemyn... welt hom to ground with swappis of hor swordes. 1456 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 288 Most excellent princes of weymen mortall. 1503-4 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1904) 252 For the makkyng of the new vemens pevys. 1512 WRIOTHESLEY *Chron.* (Camden) i. 8 Servantes, prntises, woemen, and all other to pay 4d. a peece. 1553 *Respublica* 1462 Thei bee weemen and perehaunce maye bee faced owte. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* i. 168 The French Liberty of the Woemen makes the Italians judge them without shame. 1641 (*title*) The Petition of the Woemen of Middlesex. a 1699 LADY A. HALKETT *Autobiog.* (Camden) 22, I dresed him in the wemen's habitt that was prepared, wch fitted his Highnese very well.

b. Generically without article: The female human being; the female part of the human race, the female sex. Hence gen. *woman's* = womanly, female, feminine.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xix. 4 *Masculum et feminam fecit* eos, woepen-monn & wifmonn geworhte hia. c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Deut.* xxii. 5 Ne scryde nan wif hi mid wæpmannes reafe. a 1250 *Prov. Alfred* 281 in O.E. *Misc.* 118 Wymmon is word-wop and haueþ tunge to swift. c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 29 þe beste bern... þat euer of womman was i-bore. c 1386 CHAUCER *Melib.* ¶ 142 What is better than wisdom? womman. And what is better than a good womman? no thyng. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 271 b, For in man as man is no assurance, & moche lesse in woman. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* iv. 820 Woman's a various and a changeful Thing! 1753-4 RICHARDSON *Grandison* iii. xvii. 133 Woman is the glory of all created existence:—But you, madam, are more than woman! 1766 GOLDSM. *Vicar W.* xxiv. *Song*, When lovely woman stoops to folly. 1808 SCOTT *Marmion* vi. xxx. 1 O Woman! in our hours of ease, Uncertain, coy, and hard to please. 1823 — *Quentin D.* xiv, Get thee gone with thy woman's ware! 1849 FROUDE *Nem. Faith* 224 All that woman's care or woman's affection could do to soften off her end was done. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xiv, 'But Wooman, lovely Wooman,' said Mr. Turveydrop, 'what a sex you are!' 1855 KINGSLEY in *Life* (1877) i. 453 Woman's heart is alike in all ranks. 1894 'MAX O'RELL' *John Bull* & Co. 284 Of all the domestic animals invented for the service of man in South Africa, the most useful is woman.

c. pl. in pregnant use with reference to (irregular) intercourse with women.

c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 127 He... seið þat for ates ne for drinches ne for wifmanne... ne scal man naure ben forelorn. 1420-22, a 1532, 1621, 1727, 1819 [see WINE sb.¹ 1 f (b)]. 1535 COVERDALE *Sam.* xxi. 4 Yf the yonge men haue once refrained them selues from wemen. 1577 FRAMPTON *Joyful News* 15 Above all thynges let hym keepe hym self from Women.

d. As a mode of address. (Cf. MAN sb.¹ 4 e.) Now (except *dial.* and in renderings of foreign modes of speech) used chiefly derogatorily or jocularly.

c 1230 *Hali Meid.* (1922) 42 Wummon, 3ef þu hauest were after þi wil. a 1240 *Ureisin* in O.E. *Hom.* i. 189 Helpe me... marie, moder and maiden, deorwurp wimmon. c 1250 *Kent. Serm.* in O.E. *Misc.* 29 Ure louerd... sede to hire, Wat belongeth hit to me oper to þe, wyman? a 1300 *Cursor M.* 16651 Wimmen, wimmen, dos a-wail! wepe yee noght for me. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. iii. 105 Vnwittily, womman! wrougt hastow oft. 1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* xv. 28 O thou womman, thi feith is grete. c 1440 *York Myst.* ix. 93 O! woman, arte þou woode? 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* iv. i. 12 *Virg.* Oh heauens! O heauens! *Corio.* Nay, I prythee woman. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* ix. 343 O Woman, best are all things as the will Of God ordaind them. 1726 R. WEST *Hecuba* iv. 24 Oh Woman! thy Calamities are great. 1842 *LOVER Handy Andy* ix, Arrah, woman, don't be talkin' your balderdash to me. 1860 SALA *Badd. Peer.* i. iii. 63 'Will you hold your tongue, woman?' her husband... cried out... 'Woman! held my tongue! This language to me!' 1901 S. MACNAUGHTAN *Fortune of Christina M'Nabi*, 'Woman, you are just perfect', responded Colin, 'but you have not got the English tone.'

e. With allusion to qualities conventionally attributed to the female sex, as mutability, capriciousness, proneness to tears; also to their traditional consignment to a position of inferiority or subjection (phr. *to make a woman of*, to bring into submission).

c 1400 *Beryn* 872 She had done a wommans dede. c 1400 *Anturs Arth.* 107 Hit waried, hit wayment as a womane. c 1515 *Interl. Four Elem.* (Percy Soc.) 23 Then know I a lyghter mete than that... It is evyn a womans tounge, For that is ever steryngel a 1548 HALL *Chron.*, *Hen. VIII* 185 b, This peace was called the womennes peace, for because that notwithstanding this conclusion, yet neither the Emperoure trusted the Frenche kyng, nor he neither trusted nor loued hym. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* i. ii. 23 *Lu.* Your reason? *Lu.* I haue no other but a womans reason: I thinke him so, because I thinke him so. 1593 *Passionate Morrice* (1876) 79 At last, with a resolution, she played the woman, falling into so kinde a vaine of scoulding, as she had charged him with a thousand discourtesies. 1595 SHAKS. *John* v. vi. 22. 1596 — *Tam. Shr.* iv. v. 36. 1596 — *Hen. IV.* ii. iii. 112. 1602 — *Ham.* i. ii. 146 Frailty, thy name is woman. 1605 *1st Pt. Jeronimo* i. ii. 62 Be woman in all partes, saue in thy eyes. 1612 FIELD (*title*) A Woman is a Weather-cocke. 1677 W. HUGHES *Man of Sin* ii. viii. 125 O what great Bargains are thesē and cheap enough in any Womans Conscience! 1742 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* IV. 579 We conquer'd You, we made Women of you. 1836 W. IRVING *Astoria* xxi. II. 40, I have seen your husband carrying wood into his lodge to make the fire. Where was his squaw, that he should be obliged to make a woman of himself? 1850 SMEDLEY *F. Fairlegh* xxvii, Don't make such a fuss; you're as bad as a woman. 1851 KINGSLEY *Three Fishers* 5 For men must work, and women must weep.

f. (Now always with *the*.) The essential qualities of a woman; womanly characteristics; that which makes a woman what she is; womanliness; *occas.* the feminine side or aspect; †predicatively = feminine, womanish.

1611 BEAUM. & FL. *King & No K.* iv. iv, But that my eyes Have more of woman in 'em than my heart, I would not weep. 1637 N. WHITING *Albino & Bellama* 18 Not in a fit of woman cry and whine. 1661 EVELYN *Tyrannus* 25 It is not possible to say which is the more Woman of the two Coated Sardanaspalus's. 1676 DRYDEN *Aurengz.* v. 80 All the Woman work'd within your mind. 1771 MACKENZIE *Man Feel.* xxi. (1803) 28 Take away that girl... she has woman about her, already. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xiv, It might be... said, that the Earl of Sussex had been most serviceable to the Queen, while Leicester was most dear to the woman. 1834 SIR H. TAYLOR *Artevelde* i. ii. iii, Teach her to subdue The woman in her nature. 1844 *Fraser's Mag.* XXX. 532/2 Liddy was really taking the woman upon her in earnest. 1885 'MRS. ALEXANDER' *At Bay* vii, She knew that all the woman in her somewhat masculine nature had gone out, in maternal affection to her husband's nephew. 1894 'G. EGERTON' *Keynotes* 188 To get at the woman under that infernal corset.

†g. *one's own woman*: mistress of oneself, independent. (After MAN sb.¹ 4 l.) *Obs.*

1605 MARSTON *Dutch Courtezan* iii. i, I assure you ile nere marry... Marry God forfend... ile liue my owne woman.

h. In contrast, explicit or implicit, with 'lady' (see LADY sb. 4).

1788 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) VII. 34 Hunting, shooting, fishing, wherein not many women (I should say ladies) are concerned. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxxii, 'You are such an unreasonable woman,' remonstrated Mr. Benjamin Allen. 'I beg your parding, young man,' said Mrs. Raddle, 'but who do you call a woman?' 1847 *Athenæum* 30 Oct. 1128/1 Defendant pleaded... that the person described as a woman was in fact a lady. 1855 MRS. GASKELL *North & South* xxxix, So that was the lady you spoke of as a woman?... You might have told me who she was.

i. With qualification denoting status, occupation, or character, *woman* enters into many compounds or collocations more or less permanent, corresponding to those of *man* (MAN sb.¹ 4 p) but much less numerous: see the various qualifying words and BONDWOMAN, CHARWOMAN, COUNTRYWOMAN, GENTLEWOMAN, HORSEWOMAN, MAN-WOMAN, NEEDLEWOMAN, OLD WOMAN, TIRE-WOMAN, TOWNSWOMAN, WISE WOMAN, YOUNG WOMAN, etc.

†*woman bond*, nonce-inversion of BONDWOMAN. *first woman* = PRIMA DONNA. *little woman*: a female child, girl (cf. *little man*, MAN sb.¹ 4 f); also, an affectionate or playful form of address to a girl or young woman, esp. one in whom womanly qualities are conspicuous. *new woman*: a woman of 'advanced' views, advocating the independence of her sex

and defying convention; hence *new-womandom*, *new-womanish* adj.

1675 HOBBS *Odyssey* iv. 12 The second wedding was his son's, Whom on a woman bond he had begot. 1827 EARL MOUNT-EDGUMBE *Mus. Remin.* (ed. 2) 47 At one of the smaller theatres, however, the part of first woman in an intermezzo... was filled by a very promising singer, who became in time one of the best first men. 1868 LOUISA M. ALCOTT (*title*) *Little Women*; or Meg, Jo, Beth, and Amy. 1880 [see PRIMA DONNA]. 1893 G. GISSING *Odd Women* I. viii. 235 A strong character, of course. More decidedly one of the new women than you yourself—isn't she? 1894 SARAH GRAND in *N. Amer. Rev.* March 271 Both the cow-woman and the scum-woman are well within the range of the comprehension of the Bawling Brotherhood, but the new woman is a little above him. 1894 'OUIDA' *Ibid.* May 616 The elegant epithet of Cow-woman implies the contempt with which maternity is viewed by the New Woman. 1894 *Granta* 8 Dec. 122 The Alexandra (Dublin) ladies... are models of new womandom. 1896 *Harper's Mag.* XCIII. 32/1 She is not at all of an unsentimental nature—only fractious—new-womanish, perhaps. 1897 'OUIDA' *Massarenes* iv, They were pretty babies, dear little men and women.

j. In phraseological collocations corresp. to those s.v. MAN sb.¹ 18, as *woman of all work*, *business*, *colour*, *fashion*, *honour*, *letters*, *livelihood*, *pleasure*, *the people*, *property*, *sense*, *the town*, *the world*: see also these sbs. *woman about town*: see TOWN sb. 8 b; *woman in the street*: see STREET sb. 3 h; *woman-to-woman*: cf. MAN sb.¹ 4 h.

1484 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) III. 257 Or ellis to marye hym till a woman of lived to his degre. 1607 DE FOE *Ess. Projects* 303 A Woman of Sense and Breeding. 1705 VANBRUGH *Country-ho.* ii, You must behave yourself like a woman of honour, and keep your word. 1742 FIELDING *J. Andrews* i. vii, She resolved to preserve all the dignity of the woman of fashion to her servant. 1818 'T. BROWN' *Brighton; or The Steyne* i. i. 20 She passes for a woman of letters. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxxii, The young woman of all work. 1838 — *O. Twist* xlviii, 'Coming,' 'Ah, and so's the young 'ooman of property that's going to take a fancy to me.' 1847 L. HUNT *Men, Women & B.* (1876) 316 Our little woman of letters [sc. Lady Mary W. Montagu] read all the books she could lay her hands on. 1849 LVELL *2nd Visit U.S.* II. 11 The pleasant expression of countenance of a young woman of colour. [1859 LYTON *What will he do with it?* III. vi. ix. 302 Talking thus, Arabella forgot the relationship of pupil and teacher; it was a woman to woman—girl to girl—friend to friend.] 1907 G. B. SHAW *Major Barbara* iii. 274, I thought she was a woman of the people, and that a marriage with a professor of Greek would be far beyond the wildest social ambitions of her rank. 1929 J. B. PRIESTLEY *Good Companions* iii. v. 586 'I should think you have news,' said Susie, smiling and being tremendously woman-to-woman. 1933 KIPLING *Souvenirs of France* ii. 44 A woman of the people led her away. 1935 E. BOWEN *House in Paris* ii. iii. 114 Her round slate-blue eyes rolled in a woman-to-woman way. 1962 'L. GREX' *Terror wears Smile* iv. 58 'There's not going to be any nonsense. You know what I mean.' Those words had been uttered in a quiet woman-to-woman chat some weeks before. 1982 H. INNES *Black Tide* v. iii. 272 If I told her, woman-to-woman, the sort of person Karen was... Perhaps she'd understand then.

†k. In the 16th and 17th centuries freq. with play on a pseudo-etymological association with *woe*; also, less freq., between *weemen* (= women) and *we men*. *Obs.*

a 1500 *Chester Plays, Creat.* 259 Woman... soothe said I in prophesie when thou wast taken of my body, mans woe thou woldest be withe, therfore thou wast so named. 1534 MORE *Comf. agst. Trib.* To Rdr., Man himselfe borne of a woman, is in deede a wo man, that is, ful of wo and miserie. 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* ii. vii, A woman! As who saith, woe to the man! 1589 PUTTENHAM *Engl. Poesie* ii. xviii. (Arb.) 147 Not money: nor many, Nor any: but any, Not weemen, but weemen beare the bell. 1601 in Bullen *Not Lyrics* (1888) 143 Women, what are they?... We men, what are we? 1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle* v. 1962 Woemen when they will Can weep. 1653 FLECKNOE *Misc.* 70 *Shep.* Woe has end, when 'tis alone: But in woman never none. *Nim.* Say of Woman worst ye can, What prolongs their woe, but man? 1. Proverbs.

c 1425 *Cast. Persev.* 2650 in *Macro Plays* 156 þer wymmen arn, are many wordys. c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 396 Socrates... sayd þat womman, ay þe mor sho was bett, þe wars was sho. 1520 *Calisto & Melib.* A iij b, Yt is an old saying That women be the dyuells nets and hed of syn. 1541 *Schole-h. Women* 690 in Hazl. *E.P.P.* IV. 131 Women and dogges cause much strife. 1545 TAVERNER *Erasm. Prov.* 31 b, Fyre, See, Woman, thre euyls. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Engl. Poesie* iii. xix. (Arb.) 239 It... may be likened to the maner of women, who as the common saying is, will say nay and take it. *Ibid.* xxiv. 297 A woman will weepe for pitie to see a gosling goe barefoote. 1594 *Mirr. Policy* (1599) Xij, Is it not an old Prouerbe. That Women and Shippes are neuer so perfect but still there is somewhat to bee amended. 1599 SANDYS *Europæ Spec.* (1629) 194 Seeing as the Proverbe is, a dead woman will haue foure to cary her forth. 1639 J. CLARKE *Paræm.* 117 A woman, asse, and walnut-tree, the more you beat the better be. 1659 N. R. *Proverbs* 110 Three Women make a Market. *Ibid.* 120 Women laugh when they can, weep when they will. 1670 RAY *Prov.* 50 A womans work is never at an end. *Ibid.* 54 England is the Paradise of women. c 1825 MRS. CAMERON *The Cradle* 12 You know they say 'A woman's business is never done.'

m. *hell hath no fury like a woman scorned* and var. (see SCORN v. 3 a, quot. 1697). Hence *woman scorned*, used allusively; also as *attrib. phr.*

1868 J. G. SAXE *Poems* 291 In classic authors we are often warned, There's naught so savage as a 'woman scorned'. [1886 M. H. E. BATES *Chamber over Gate* xxvi. 363 You know 'Hell hath no fury', etc. If your wife should ever wake up to the true state of the case... I'm afraid she'd be an ugly customer.] 1927 W. JOHNSTON *Affair in Duplex* 9B 60 The old idea of 'the woman scorned' on which Chilton had been

relying this time failed utterly. 1932 W. McFEE *Harbourmaster* xxi. 333 They say hell hath no fury like a woman scorned. 1940 G. H. COXE *Glass Triangle* x. 126 If you really want to know who could have wanted to kill him, you might as well start with me... You've heard that one about hell having no fury like a woman scorned? Well, that was me. 1942 N. MARSH *Death & Dancing Footman* iii. 49 He broke out into...merriment calculated...to arouse in Chloris the pangs proper to a woman scorned. 1967 — *Death at Dolphin* viii. 222 She really does bear out the Woman Scorned crack. She is...not all that charitably disposed at any time. 1971 'J. RIPLEY' *Davis doesn't live here any more* 124 The discarded mistress—the 'woman scorned'—motive. 1973 I. MURDOCH *Black Prince* 330 'Hell hath no fury like a woman scorned.' In a way I might have been flattered.

2. A female servant, esp. a lady's maid or personal attendant. Often *pl.* (†also = WOMENFOLK).

a766 *Pænit. Abp. Ecgbert* iv. in Thorpe *Laws* (1840) II. 182 Sið hwylic wif. hire wifman swingð. c1000 *Ælfric Gen.* xx. 18 God gewitnode ealle hys wimmen. 1340 *Ayenb.* 67 þis zenne ine uelc maneres ase ine sergons aye hire lthordinges, ine wifmen aye hare leuedis. c1450 *Merlin* v. 90, I...require that as soon as it is born that ye take it to oon of youre moste secrete woman. 1565 *Cal. Scott. Papers* (1900) II. 142 To play a partie at a playe theie call the biles, my mestres Beton and I agaynste the Quene and my lord Darlye—the women to have the gayne of the wyngynnes. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII.* i. iv. 93 Sir Thomas Bullens Daughter...One of her Highnesse women. 1663 DRYDEN *Rival Ladies* i. ii, A Note put privately into my hand by Angellina's Woman. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* vii. viii, In Town I visit none but the Women of Women of Quality. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* x. ix. (Rtdg.) 360 Another coach and four, with Seraphina's women. 1893 'LESLIE KEITH' *Lisbeth* iii, I wonder ye dare put such an affront on me before the women! 1898 HICHENS *Londoners* x, From Mrs. Crouch, ma'am, her Grace's woman.

3. †a. A lady-love, mistress. *Obs.* b. A kept mistress, paramour.

13...K. *Alis.* 7567 They toke and slowe Hirkan And yolde Kindeleke his woman. 1561 HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtier* iii. (1577) Qvj, A feruent Dialogue full of the affection of a louter with his womanne. 1639 J. S. *Clidamas* 25 Agree to bee my woman, and I will consent to bee thy man. 1666 PEPYS *Diary* 13 Oct., The Duke of York...leaves off care of business, what with his woman, my Lady Denham, and his hunting three times a week. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 384 If any of you take any of these Women, as a Woman or Wife,...he shall take but one. 1924 GALSWORDTHY *White Monkey* iii. vii, They tell me Elderson keeps two women.

4. a. A wife. Now only *dial.* and *U.S.*

Cf. OLD WOMAN 1 b and the corresp. use of *man* (MAN sb. 1 8).

c1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 7041 A night be his woman [*cum uxore*] he lay. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* ii. ii. 305 See the hell of having a false woman: my bed shall be abus'd. a1625 FLETCHER *Nice Valour* II. i, A man can in his lifetime make but one woman, But he can make his fifty Queanes a month. 1693 DRYDEN *Juvenal* vi. 295 Prepare thy Neck and put it in the Yoke: But for no mercy from thy Woman look. 1765 in *Buckleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 416 My poor little woman has been in the drooping mood for two or three days. 1841 THACKERAY *Gt. Hoggarty Diam.* x, Gates and his woman thought that they should come for'ard...to help the kindest master and missus ever was. 1866 CARLYLE *Remin.* (1881) II. 193, I persisted in them to the last, as did my woman. 1897 KIPLING *Capt. Cour.* vii. 147 He married my woman's aunt.

†b. The female mate of an animal. *Obs. rare.*

1577 GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* iii. 144 b, The hee Goate, ...by a certayne instinct of nature, ...goeth alwayes before his woman.

5. The reverse of a coin; in reference to the figure of BRITANNIA (q.v.) upon it. (Cf. MAN sb. 1 17.)

1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T.* s.v. *Harp*, *Harp*...is also the Irish expression for woman, or tail, used in tossing up in Ireland. 1835 MARRYAT *Olla Podr.*, Ill-Will iii, Thos. Here goes—heads or tails? *John. Woman* for ever. 1888 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Robbery under Arms* xi, I pulled out a shilling. 'If it's head we go, Jim; if it's woman, we stay here.'

II. *attrib. and Comb.*

6. a. Simple attrib. = 'of or characteristic of a woman or women, feminine, womanly': *woman-city*, *-eye*, *-flesh*, *-godhead*, *-haunt*, *-luck*, etc.

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 29 The woman sexe is no lesse apte to learne al maner thynges then menne arc. 1621 LADY M. WROTH *Urania* 104 Woman modestie kept her silent. 1622 FLETCHER *Prophetess* iii. iii, You'll find it but a woman-fit to try ye. 1631 HEYWOOD *1st Pt. Fair Maid of West* iii. i. 31 In this woman shape Ile cudgell thee. 1726 POPE *Odyss.* xix. 82 Into the woman-state asquint to pry. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* v. xxvi, The only man, in whom a foe My woman-mercy would not know. 1845 CLOUGH *Poems*, 'O *Θεὸς μετὰ σοῦ* 7, I shall see thy soft brown eyes dilate to wakening woman thought. 1846 MRS. CARLYLE in *Jane Welsh Carlyle* (1924) 278 What a contrast I often think betwixt that woman and Geraldine! the opposite poles of woman-nature! 1880 G. MEREDITH *Trag. Comedians* II. v. 83 Exactly what his appreciation, in womanflesh, would lead him to fix on. 1883 BROWNING *Joch. Hakkadosh* 310 The woman-nature—the soft sway Of undefinable omnipotence O'er our strong male-stuff. 1895 *Outing* (U.S.) XXVI. 346/2 The next moment he had taken the fair woman face between his hands. 1895 *Cath. Mag.* Dec. 453 Her shrewd woman-wit. 1897 'H. S. MERRIMAN' In *Kedar's Tents* xxvi, heading, *Womancraft*. 1915 D. H. LAWRENCE *Rainbow* iii. 81 He must get out of this oppressive, shut-down, woman-haunt. 1922 JOYCE *Ulysses* 468 Under it lies the woman-city. *Ibid.* 155 Mrs Breen's womaneyes said melancholily. 1923 D. H. LAWRENCE *Ladybird* 53 She could not finally believe in her own woman-godhead. 1946 DYLAN THOMAS *Deaths & Entrances* 40 The next-door sea dispelled Frogs and satans and woman-luck. 1971 V. CANNING *Firecrest* vi. 83 He put

his arm round her shoulder...and felt through silk the warmth and firmness of woman flesh.

b. appos. (a) = 'female', esp. with designations of occupation or profession: *woman doctor*, *driver*, *-help*, *journalist*, *officer*, *p.c.*, *police officer*, *-savage*, *teacher*, etc.

a1300 *Cursor M.* 29420 If pou wit þi woman frend Find clerk be doand dede vn-hende. 1382 WYCLIF I *Kings* xvii. 9 A womman widowe. c1400 *Three Kings Cologne* (1886) 33 A womman-paynym pat was his moder. 14...*Lat.-Eng. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 600/47 *Sacerdotissa patrina*, a wommangossyb. 1530 PALSGR. 289/2 Woman coke, *cuisiniere*. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* i. 258 The famous woman poet Sapho. 1632 BROME *Court Beggar* v. ii. (1653) S3 b, What Woman Monster's this? 1659 D. PELL *Improv. Sea Ep.* Ded. dj, Wee are so wise now, that wee have our woman Politicians. 1675 T. BROOKS *Gold. Key Wks.* 1867 V. 442 A woman-martyr who...offered herself to martyrdom. 1680 SHADWELL (*title*) *The Woman-Captain*. 1693 DRYDEN *Juvenal* vi. Note 31 A Woman-Grammarian, who corrects her Husband for speaking false Latin. 1697 — *Aeneis* xi. 996 [1016] A Woman Warrior was too strong for thee. 1706 PRIOR *Ode to Queen xxvi*, The Woman Chief is Master of the War. 1717 POPE *Iliad* ix. 756 One Woman-Slave was ravish'd from thy Arms. 1805 FORSYTH *Beauties Scot.* II. 54 A woman-shearer, through the harvest, is reckoned equal to the rent of a cottage and yard. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* iv. 540 The Princess with her monstrous woman-guard. 1853 DICKENS *Child's Hist. Eng.* xxix, in *Househ. Words* 12 Mar. 48/2 Edward was now sinking in a rapid decline... They handed him over to a woman-doctor who pretended to be able to cure it. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *Adam Bede* I, Lisbeth's obstinate refusal to have any woman-helper in the house. 1877 BLACK *Green Past.* i, With scarcely a woman-friend in the world. 1899 W. JAMES *Talks to Teachers on Psychol.* II. i. 227 What our girl-students and woman-teachers most need...is...the toning-down of their moral tensions. 1902 A. BENNETT in *Academy* 21 June 635/1 The average woman-journalist is the most loyal, earnest and teachable person under the sun. 1911 D. H. LAWRENCE *White Peacock* i. ix. 158 At any rate the extra woman-help came. 1921 R. MACAULAY *Dangerous Ages* iii. 65 Pamela bright and cool and firm, like a woman doctor. 1930 D. H. LAWRENCE *A Propos of Lady Chatterley's Lover* 25 We read of the woman-savage who wore three overcoats on top of one another to excite her man. 1968 R. L. FISH *Bridge that went Nowhere* iv. 44, I might have known it would be a woman driver! 1972 L. LAMB *Picture Frame* xviii. 154 A woman p.c. was clearing an outside drain. 1973 'B. MATHER' *Snowline* x. 121 I'll send a couple of woman officers along. 1976 R. LEWIS *Witness my Death* i. 36 You've shown all the worst traits that can be expected in a woman doctor. 1976 *Southern Even. Echo* (Southampton) 11 Nov. 32/5 A chase through rush-hour crowds ended with a suspected shoplifter escaping into the darkness...as he was pursued by a woman police officer. 1982 D. MACKENZIE *Raven's Revenge* xi. 104 A small car stopped... The woman driver was already crossing the pavement, house-keys in hand. 1982 A. BROOKNER *Providence* ix. 108, I wonder why they didn't send a woman teacher.

†(b) = 'having the character of a woman, feminine, womanly; effeminate'. *Obs.*

a1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* iii. xxv. (1912) 497 Rather then onely shew her selfe a woman-lover in fruitles lamentations. 1635-56 COWLEY *Davideis* i. 319, I have been a pious fool, a Woman-King.

(c) With names of animals, forming designations of creatures having the qualities or properties of a woman and of the particular animal.

a1625 FLETCHER *Womans Prize* iv. iv, I...know her To be a Woman-wolfe by transmigration. 1673 *Lady's Calling* i. iii. §23 Nothing can be more unnatural, more odious, then a woman-tiger. 1889 RIDER HAGGARD *Allan's Wife* xi, The brutes, acting under the direction of that woman-monkey. 1893 RODWAY *Hand-bk. Brit. Guiana* 67 How such an unwieldy creature [as the manatee]...could ever have been figured as a woman-fish can hardly be understood by anyone who has seen it.

c. objective, as *woman-follower*, *-killer*, *†-queller*, *-scorner*, *-slayer*, *-spiter*, *-worship*, *-worshipper*, *-wronger*; also *woman-bearing*, *-churching*, *-degrading*, *-despising*, *-flogging*, *-murdering*, *†-quelling*, *-worshipping*, *adjs.*; *woman-hating* *adj.* and *sb.*; *simulative* and *parasynthetic*, as *woman-breasted*, *-faced*, *-fair*, *-headed*, *-hearted*, *-proud*, *-vested* *adjs.*; *instrumental*, as *woman-bred*, *-built*, *-conquered*, *-daunted*, *-governed*, *-made*, *-ridden*, *-tended* *adjs.*

1928 W. B. YEATS tr. *Sophocles' King Oedipus* 42 Oedipus overcame the *woman-breasted Fate. 1946 DYLAN THOMAS *Deaths & Entrances* 30 The woman breasted and the heaven headed Bird. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxxviii, The boy grew up delicate, sensitive, imperious, *woman-bred. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* iv. 466 A new-world Babel, *woman-built. a1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* iii. xli. 336 An uprising or *Woman Churching Treatment. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* iii. 333 *Woman-conquer'd [stood] there The bearded Victor of ten-thousand hymns. 1598 ROWLANDS *Betraying Christ*, etc. Div, *Woman-daunted Peter. 1895 G. ALLEN *Woman who did* (1906) 84 Their own vile *woman-degrading and prostituting morality. 1610 HEALEY *St. Aug. Cite of God* 686 Ausonius makes her [sc. the Sphinx]...*woman-faced. 1866 LYTTON *Lost Tales Miletus* 96 Beside him sate An image *woman-fair. 1794 SOUTHEY *Coleridge's Fall of Robespierre* iii. 181 The *woman-govern'd Roland. 1939 W. FORTESCUE *There's Rosemary* xii. 87, I even got personal praise from a *woman-hating Don who acted as dramatic critic for the 'Varsity magazine. 1973 E. TAYLOR *Serpent under It* xi. 172 He was really an old deer—all that woman-hating stuff was just a pose. 1902 10th Cent. Dec. 989 The *woman-headed serpent. 1813 H. G. KNIGHT *Alashtar* iii. xiii, Well may the mild, the *woman-hearted fail. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxix, Having a firm conviction in his own mind that he was a *woman-killer and

destined to conquer. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV.* II. i. 58 Thou art...a Man-queller, and a *woman-queller. 1611 J. DAVIES *Scot. Folly* (Grosart) 10/1 Bossus the woman-queller. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* II. iv, A weak priest-ridden, *woman-ridden man. 1935 AUDEN & ISHERWOOD *Dog beneath Skin* i. v. 57 But perhaps you're a *woman-scorner. 1591 HARRINGTON *Orl. Fur.* xxix. xxxii, He had prou'd him selfe a *woman-slayre. 1847 MRS. GORE *Castles in Air* v, A perpetual sense of aggression had converted me, not into a woman-hater, but a *woman-spiter. 1857 LD. DUFFERIN *Lett. High Lat.* vi. 36 The elegance and comfort of a *woman-tended home. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* iv. 163 *Woman-vested as I was. 1848 KINGSLEY *Saint's Trag.* Introd. p. xviii, The *woman-worship of chivalry. 1856 READE *Never too Late* ix, Next Lady-day, as the *woman-worshipper calls it. 1921 D. H. LAWRENCE *Sea & Sardinia* iii. 114 *Woman-worshipping Don Juans. 1596 SPENSER *F.Q.* vi. vii. 7 Foule *womanwronger.

7. Special comb.: †woman-actor, (a) an actress; (b) an actor who takes women's parts; *woman-boat* = *women's boat* (10); *woman-body dial.*, a person of the female sex, woman; *woman-born a.*, born of woman; *woman-dangler*, one who dangles after women; †*woman-errant*, one who goes after women; *woman-grown a.*, that has become a woman; *woman-hour*, an hour's work done by a woman; †*woman-house Sc.*, a laundry: see also *women-house* (9c); †*woman-keeper*, a female nurse; †*woman-louper Sc.*, a whoremonger; *woman-mad a.*, mad after women; *woman-man*, an effeminate man, or one who in some way resembles a woman; *woman-market*, a place for the sale (*lit.* or *fig.*) of women; *woman-movement*, the movement for the emancipation of women, or the recognition and extension of women's rights; *woman-palaver African*, illicit commerce with a woman or women; *woman-physician*, (a) a woman's doctor; (b) a woman-doctor; *woman-post*, a female messenger or courier; *woman-power*, (a) the exercise of authority by women; (b) the number of women available for work; the power of women in work; *woman question*, a controversy over the rights of women, esp. that in the nineteenth century; *woman-raving a.* = *woman-mad*; †*woman-reputation*, reputation with women; †*woman-shoemaker*, a maker of women's shoes; *woman-slaughter*, the killing of a woman by a human being; *woman-suffrage*, the right of women to vote in public affairs; hence *woman-suffragist*, an advocate of woman-suffrage; †*woman-surgeon*, one who beautifies women by the aid of paints, washes, etc.; †*woman-tired a.* [*TIRE* v. 2], hen-pecked; *woman trouble colloq.*, (a) *U.S.*, gynæcological problems (cf. TROUBLE sb. 4); (b) difficulties caused to a man by a relationship with a woman or women; †(*on*) *woman-ways*, *-wise advs.*, after the manner of a woman or women; *woman-year*, a year of a woman's life; esp. used as a cumulative measure in medical tests carried out on a number of different women.

1739 CIBBER *Apol.* (1756) II. 146 (*Dial. old Plays*) Alexander Goffe, the *woman-actor at Blackfriars...used to be the jackall. 1895 KIPLING *2nd Jungle Bk.* 146 Big skin *woman-boats', when the dogs and the babies lay among the feet of the rowers. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* x, It was an awkward thing for a *woman-body to be standing among bundles o' barked leather her lane, selling saddles and bridles. 1887 HALL CAINE *Deemster* xii, The young woman-body is dead in child-bed. 1781 COWPER *Charity* 181 Canst thou...Buy what is *woman-born, and feel no shame? 1842 J. WILSON *Chr. North* (1857) I. 217 Nor in those days needed he [sc. Burns] help from woman-born. 1850 FRASER'S *Mag.* Nov. 508/2 That when his back is turned the Senecas may not call him a thief as well as a *woman-dangler. 1628 SHIRLEY *Witty Fair One* II. ii, What make you here, my *woman errant? 1785 BURNS *Cotter's Sat. Nt.* iv, Their Jenny, *woman-grown, In youtful bloom. 1864 TENNYSON *Aylmer's F.* 108 The maiden woman-grown. 1961 *Guardian* 23 Mar. 24/6, I shudder to think how many man-hours and *woman-hours are spent...typing, 'Dear So-and-So'. 1979 M. MCCARTHY *Cannibals & Missionaries* i. 4 I'm doing a serious study of the woman-hours expended in this family. 1616 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 555/2 Camerlain lie *woman-hous. 1754 *State of Process, Mrs. Forbes v. D. Scot* (Jam.) Water lying on the floors of the woman-house and kitchen. 1552 WRIOTHESLEY *Chron.* (Camden) II. 80 Betwene euery xx children [of Christ's Hospital] [there was] one *woman keeper. 1630 ? DEKKER *Blacke Rod* (1925) 217 No Women-keepers to rob you of your Goods, or to hasten you to your End. a1568 in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club.) 419 A *woman lowpar, landless. 1848 BUCKLEY *Iliad* 249 Accursed Paris, *woman-mad, seducer. 1605 SYLVESTER *Du Barts* II. iii. 1. *Vocation* 344 May one hope...In *Woman-Men a manly Constancie? 1621 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Superbiae Flagellum* C6, The Woman-man, Man-woman, chuse you whether, The Female-male, Male-female, both, yet neither. 1889 TENNYSON *On one who affected an effeminate manner* 4 But friend, man-woman is not woman-man. 1760-72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 103 Another lady then demanded, if we had not a *woman-market. 1864 TENNYSON *Aylmer's F.* 348 He never yet had set his daughter forth Here in the woman-markets of the west. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Aug. 468/2 Whether the great progress of the 'woman movement'...is due to the agitation of 'woman's rights', or proceeds in spite of it. 1898 *Daily News* 14 Dec. 5/1 It is in educational affairs that the Woman

Movement appears to be making the most progress. 1897 HINDE *Congo Arabs* 32 What every African traveller knows as 'woman-palaver'. 1533 MSS. *Dk. Rutland* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) IV. 274 To a 'woman physician'. iij. iij. 1591 H. SMITH *Prepar. Marr.* 76 To help him in his sickness, like a woman Physician. 1625 HART *Anat. Ur.* II. vi. 85 Much less than the ignorant Empiric, the peticoate or woman-physician. 1595 SHAKS. *John* I. i. 218 But who comes in such haste in riding robes? What 'woman post' is this? 1626 Raleigh's *Ghost in Harl. Misc.* (Malh.) III. 547 How he [sc. Gondomar] answered the expectation... of... the king... shall be declared upon the next return of the woman-post, which passeth betwixt the English and the Spanish Jesuits. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* IV. 357 A woman-post in flying raiment. 1927 *Amer. Jnl. Philol.* XLVIII. 201 In the kingdoms established by the Successors in Egypt and in Syria women appear as co-rulers with their husbands and as regents during the minority of a son or the exile of a husband. This 'woman-power' is sometimes regarded as a Macedonian tradition. 1938 *Lancet* 5 Nov. 1071/2 If the aim is to use the woman-power of the countryside to the best advantage it will often be best for the women themselves to organise their work collectively. 1941 *New Yorker* 29 Mar. 463 The long-threatened drive to bring womanpower into the war effort. 1968 *Ramparts* May 8 If you had a cover on Black Power like your cover on Woman Power, it would be a picture of a sharecropper with a harmonica in one hand and a piece of watermelon in the other. 1973 *Black World* June 32 Woman power Is Black power Is Human power Is Always feeling. 1976 H. WILSON *Governance of Britain* 7 Ernest Bevin... was in charge of the industrial and military mobilization of Britain's manpower and woman-power. 1977 *Spare Rib* July 23 We're desperately short of woman-power on all areas of the magazine. 1984 *Sunday Times* (Colour Suppl.) 28 Oct. 80/2 The more progressive industries are beginning to realise that they can't afford to waste Britain's womanpower. 1857 GEO. ELIOT *Let.* 21 Sept. (1954) II. 383 Quite delivered from any necessity of giving a judgment on the 'Woman Question' or of reading newspapers about the Indian Mutinies. 1884 T. STANTON (title) The woman question in Europe. 1930 J. COLLIER *His Monkey Wife* ix. 119 A belated essayist on the Woman Question. 1981 R. TREMAIN *Cupboard* II. 31 The attitude of men to the Woman Question. 1848 BUCKLEY *Iliad* 50 Cursed Paris, thou 'woman-raving seducer. a1641 BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* VII. (1642) 395 To which popular credit and 'woman-reputation they attained... by their saint-seeming sanctity. 1704 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4003/4 Robert Fleetwood, a 'Woman Shoemaker. 1639 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Crabtree Lect.* 82 Least there should be man-slaughter, or 'woman-slaughter committed. 1720 T. GORDON *Humourist* I. 169 But only be deem'd Woman-slaughter. 1844 J. T. HEWLETT *Parsons & W.* ix, They had never heard of a verdict of woman-slaughter in their lives. 1867 *Times* 11 Apr. 12/1 'Woman Suffrage. [Text of two petitions.] 1888 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 26 Jan. 10/1 The snufflower badge... has been adopted by the Iowa 'woman suffragists. 1628 FORD *Lover's Mel.* I. ii. Pel. My nurse was a 'woman-surgeon... Rhe. A she-surgeon, which is in effect a mere matter of colours. 1959 N. MAILER *Aduts. for Myself* (1961) 95 She comes to see him about something or other, 'woman trouble maybe, and he seduces her in his medical chambers. 1967 J. IRWIN *Murderous Welcome* vi. 51 She repudiated strongly any suggestion of discord between husband and wife and poured scorn on the mere idea of woman-trouble. 1977 L. MEYNELL *Hooky gets Wooden Spoon* xi. 127 'What's happening to Len Carron these days?'... 'Woman trouble.' 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* II. iii. 74 Thou dotard, thou art 'woman-tyr'd: vnroosted by thy dame Partlet heere. a1568 *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 174 With welwet bordour abowt his threidbair coit, On 'woman-wayis weill toyt abowt his west. 1865 SWINBURNE *Atalanta* 2308 This man Died 'woman-wise. 1959 *Science* 10 July 81/2 Sixteen certain and one probable pregnancy occurred in women taking the medication; this represented a rate of 2.7 pregnancies per 100 'woman-years.

8. Comb. with *woman's*, as *woman's* †*poet*, *tailor*; *woman's boat* = *women's boat* (see 10); *woman's magazine*, a magazine designed primarily for women; also (*colloq.*) *woman's mag*; freq. *attrib.*, esp. alluding to superficiality or stereotypical attitudes regarded as associated with such productions; *woman's man*, a lady's man, a gallant; †*woman's-meadwort* = MEADWORT 2; *woman's movement* = *woman-movement*, sense 7 above; *woman's page*, a page of a newspaper devoted to topics intended to be of special interest to women; *woman's woman*, a woman whose qualities are appreciated by other women, a woman who is popular with other women (cf. *man's man* s.v. MAN sb.¹ 21); *woman's work*, work traditionally undertaken by women.

1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1776) s.v. *Canoe, Umiak*, the 'woman's-boat. 1912 *Magazine Maker* Sept. 7 (title) Making a 'woman's magazine. 1944 U. ORANGE *Company in Evening* II. 34 The woman's magazine short story market may be a foating one. 1958 *Observer* 23 Feb. 14/2 The play... fools about at woman's-mag-whimsy level of moral convention. *Ibid.* 25 May 16/7 A Miss Lonelyhearts on a founding woman's mag. 1958 *Spectator* 13 June 768/2 Ophelia's infatuated woman's magazine royalism rings with a specially hollow tinkle in Glen Byam Shaw's production of *Hamlet*. 1959 J. BRAINE *Vodi* xxi. 231 Honestly, that woman's magazine stuff, just the sort of advice these damned aunts give. 1974 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 3 May 483/2 Without these pages of imaginative grace, the novel would be dangerously close to the woman's magazine level of romantic fiction with which it persistently flirts. 1599 BRETON *Wil of Wit* (Grosart) 57/1, I think it better to be thought a good 'womans man than an ill mans woman. 1693 CONGREVE *Old Bach.* IV. xiii, Railing is the best qualification in a woman's man. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 156 ¶1 The Woman's Man is a Person in his Air and Behaviour quite different from the rest of our Species. 1729 T. COOKE *Tales*, etc. 93 And him the Women call'd a Woman's Man. 1818 FESSenden *Ladies' Monitor* 31 Nor will I sanction any plan T'annihilate your pretty woman's man. a1400-50 *Stockholm Med. MS.* lf. 209 Freynch cresse or

*wymmanny's medewourth. [1881 E. C. STANTON et al. *Hist. Woman Suffrage* I. xiv. 577 The 'Woman's Rights' Movement is a practical one.] 1894 J. E. SCHMAHL in *Englishwoman's Rev.* 16 Apr. 90 For many years Maria Deraismes was looked upon as the sole and undisputed head of the 'woman's movement in France. 1906 C. P. GILMAN *Women & Economics* (ed. 5) iii. 49 So utterly has the status of woman been accepted as a sexual one that it has remained for the woman's movement of the nineteenth century to devote much contention to the claim that women are persons! 1933 E. WAUGH *Scoop* I. i. 15 Those carefree days when he had edited the 'Woman's Page. 1952 M. STEEN *Phoenix Rising* IV. 87 An editor or a publisher or a woman's page-writer. 1971 *Woman's page* [see SEXISM]. 1620 B. JONSON *Masque, News fr. New World* (1641) 42 *Chro.* Is he a Mans Poet, or a 'Womans Poet I pray you? 2 *He.* Is there any such difference? *Fac.* Many, as betwixt your maits Taylor, and your womans Taylor. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV.* III. ii. 161 What Trade are thou Feeble? *Feeble.* A 'Womans Taylor sir. 1886 KIPLING *Plain Tales* (1888) 47 Mrs. Hauksbee was honest... and, but for her love of mischief, would have been a 'woman's woman. 1923 G. ATHERTON *Black Oxen* xl. 246 She had never been a 'woman's woman', and it was patent that, as ever, she was far more animated in the company of men. 1976 'M. NELSON' *Crusoe Test* i. 12 Elegant was the word for Carla Bayer... She was not a woman's woman. [1670 'Woman's work: see sense 1.] 1890 A. J. ARMSTRONG *Ingleside Musings* 139 Thae bairns are just a woman's work To keep them clean an' tidy. 1971 K. MILLETT *Sexual Politics* (1972) I. ii. 39 The 'woman's work' in which some two thirds of female population... are engaged is work that is not paid for.

9. Comb. with *women*: a. appos., serving as plurals of combs. with *woman* (see 6b, 7); *women doctors, drivers, friends, journalists, ministers, priests, professors, students*, etc.

13.. *Cursor M.* 2672 (Gött.) bat ilke lym quar-with bat pai er kend fra wimmen kith. 1382 WYCLIF 2 *Sam.* xix. 35, I may here... the vois of men syngers and of wymmen syngers. 1494 in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 125 The women officers for to receave it in the chamber. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 1044 There is in the Church an order of women ministers called women-deacons. 1588 KYD *Househ. Phil. Wks.* (1901) 273 Homer, who... brought Penelope and Circes in the number of women weauers. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* III. 148 The third kinde of diuiners are women-witches. c1610 *Women Saints* (1886) 30 The moste famous women saints. 1614 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* V. xvii. (ed. 2) 542 Ten women-slaues. 1622 PEACHAM *Compl. Gentl.* I. 11 Women Doctors (of whom for the most part there is more danger, then of the worst disease it selfe). 1625 HART *Anat. Ur.* I. i. 8 By the aduice of her women-gossips. 1632 BROME *Court Beggar* v. ii. (1653) S 2 b, Women-Actors now grow in request. 1661 WALTON *Angler* xviii. (ed. 3) 233 A Sticklebag... is good... only to make sport for boyes and women-Anglers. 1771 T. HULL *Sir W. Harrington* (1797) III. 226 A parcel of women-relations. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *Adam Bede* xlii, These poor silly women-things. 1878 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 602/2 The established physicians shook their heads. They never believed in 'women doctors'. 1893 *Dict. Nat. Biogr.* XXXIV. 200 A procession, chiefly of women-workers. 1896 C. L. DODGSON (title) Resident women-students. 1898 *Daily News* 2 Dec. 5/1 The Guild of Women-Binders. 1930 A. BENNETT *Imperial Palace* xi. 63 A strong sex-bias which had persuaded him that women-drivers were capable of any enormity. 1935 D. L. SAYERS *Gaudy Night* vii. 147 There are much better ways of enjoying Oxford than fooling round... with the women students. 1941 J. D. CARR *Case of Constant Suicides* xi. 142 What kind of a professor are you, anyway? Running around with women professors from other colleges. 1956 A. S. C. ROSS in M. Black *Importance of Lang.* (1962) 97 The custom is now obsolescent, save perhaps between close women-friends. 1967 L. MEYNELL *Mauve Front Door* xi. 138, I switched off the engine and climbed out of the cab; bloody women drivers, I thought. 1971 *Guardian* 15 Apr. 11/1 The diocese of Hong Kong, the only diocese out of 300 to have stated openly its support for the ordination of women priests. *Ibid.* 11/2 In the Congregationalist church... it can no longer be considered particularly unusual to have women ministers. 1975 *Ibid.* 21 Jan. 6/2 Creches should be provided at places where women journalists work. 1981 'J. Ross' *Dark Blue & Dangerous* iv. 22 Did he have friends? Women friends? 1981 'A. CROSS' *Death in Faculty* ix. 106 Most women students... don't really believe women professors actually exist.

b. objective, etc. synonymous with the corresp. combs. with *woman* (see 6c, 7).

1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) IV. 159 As Daughters will (when women-grown especially). 1753-4 — *Grandison* IV. xiii. 81 These women-frightening heroes. 1856 'C. BEDE' *Tales of Coll. Life, Long-Vac. Vigil* x, The *Morning Post*... devoted... half a column to these women-absorbing topics. 1896 *Daily News* 26 Dec. 2/2 A nation of women-supported men.

c. Special comb.: *women-house Sc.*, a building set apart for women only; *women liberators*, women's liberationists (see sense 10 below); †*women-matters pl.*, matters relating to women; *women-men pl.* (see *woman-man*, 7); *womenpower*, = *woman-power*, sense 7 above; †*women-sleepers pl.*, female nurses (cf. *woman-keeper* in sense 7); †*women-strikers pl.* [STRIKER sb. 2 d], prostitutes; *women-suffrage* = *woman-suffrage* (see 7); *women-wise adv.*, in the fashion or way of women; *women-years, pl.* of *woman-year*, sense 7 above.

1792 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* II. 149 At these [bleach-] fields, ... there are a number of women not having families, nor residing in families, but in 'women-houses, so called, erected on purpose. c1865 J. SHAW in R. Wallace *Country Schoolm.* (1899) 154 Large central buildings of the public works called 'women-houses'. 1969 *Time* 21 Nov. 53 'Women Liberators at Atlantic City. 1632 B. JONSON *Magn. Lady* iv. ii, Keep these 'women-matters... in our own verge. 1864 MEREDITH *Emilia* xxxvi, Are there men-women and 'women men?... have we changed parts to-night? 1968

Ramparts Feb. 28 Her concept of 'women power, then, is assimilation to achieve a grey-flannel equality for the purpose of bettering women's estate in society by having them beat the hell out of... the men at the Establishment game. 1978 *Daily Tel.* 3 May 17/2 Consultants to advise businesses on... how to improve their use of manpower (or womenpower for that matter). 1630 ? DEKKER *London looke back* (1925) 190 When the Bell hath ceast tolling for thee, and thy 'Women-sleepers leaue gaping for thy Linnen. 1665 NEEDHAM *Med. Medicinæ* 73 [Zacutus] hardly grants any possibility of 'Women-strikers escaping [pox]. 1867 *Times* 4 Mar. 6/4 Mr. Mill upon 'Women Suffrage. 1930 'Women-wise [see *man-wise* s.v. MAN sb. 20a]. 1977 *Lancet* 29 Oct. 922/1 The latest report is based on 206 689 'women-years of observation.

10. Comb. with *women's*: *women's-boat*, a boat to be used by women only = UMIK; *women's college*, a university college that admits only women as students; *women's courses*, †*evil* = CATAMENIA; *women's group*, a group formed for the discussion or furtherance of the interests of women; *Women's Institute*, an organization of women in rural areas who meet regularly and engage in various social and cultural activities; †*women's-kins*, of the female sex; *women's liberation*, the liberation of women from subservient social status and all forms of sexism; also (usu. with cap. initial) a militant movement with these aims; also abbrev. as *women's lib* (cf. LIB); hence *women's libber* [LIBBER], liberationist; *women's magazine* = *woman's magazine*, sense 8 above; similarly *women's mag*; *women's men*, pl. of *woman's man* (see 8); *women's movement*, (a) = *woman-movement* s.v. WOMAN sb. 7; (b) the women's liberation movement (see above); *women's page* = *woman's page*, sense 8 above; *women's room U.S.* = *ladies* s.v. LADY sb. 4 f; *Women's Rural Institute*: see RURAL a. 6; *women's studies* orig. *U.S.*, academic studies concerning women, their role in society, etc.; *women's suffrage* = *woman-suffrage* (see 7); *women's wear*, clothing for women; *women's work* = *woman's work*, sense 8 above.

1823 SCORESBY *Jnl.* p. xxx, They had made a three years excursion along the eastern coast in a 'women's-boat. 1867 GEO. ELIOT *Let.* 22 Nov. (1956) IV. 401 There is a scheme on foot for a 'women's college, or rather university... to be in connection with the Cambridge university. 1920 A. N. WHITEHEAD *Concept Nature* i. 7 Suppose that the expositor is in London, say in Regent's Park and in Bedford College, the great women's college which is situated in that park. 1948 M. LASKI *Tory Heaven* vii. 92 The women's colleges at Oxford... became reserved for B's. 1984 'A. CROSS' *Sweet Death* xi. 129 Can you offer me one reason for women's colleges these days? 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 62 Where we apply cupping glasses to bring down 'womens courses. 1379 MS. *Glouc. Cathedr.* 19. i. iv. 2b, Menstrua. In Englyssh 'wymmens yvell. 1968 *Ramparts* May 8 Your attitude was descending throughout, and your analysis of radical 'women's groups... amounted to a movement fashion report. 1977 *Evening Post* (Nottingham) 27 Jan. 4/4 He is a solicitor... and while in Paris he was invited to talk to an American women's group. 1906 *Rep. Women's Institutes Province of Ontario* 69 After placing before them the aims and objects of the 'Women's Institute... the warden kindly assured us that he was... in sympathy with our work. 1909 *Jnl. Home Econ.* I. 161 The usual practice has been to hold the Women's Institute on the same day... as the institute for men. 1912 *Rep. Farm & Agricultural Schools & Colleges in France, Germany, & Belgium* (Board of Educ.) 20 The success which has followed the formation of Women's Institutes in Poland, the United States, and Canada incited some social and agricultural reformers in Belgium to organise similar means of education. *Ibid.* 20 The Women's Institute is an association of farmers' wives, daughters, and sisters who meet periodically... to hear lectures, read papers, and study books on professional subjects. 1921 *Daily Colonist* (Victoria, B.C.) 20 Mar. 32/2 The first general meeting of the Victoria Women's Institute... was held Friday afternoon. 1924 [see SCOUT sb.² c (a)]. 1935 N. & Q. 2 Feb. 87/2 The Women's Institute of the old village of Cambo. 1982 *Daily Tel.* 25 Nov. 14/6 With reference to the letter from a Women's Institute member in Yorkshire regarding the splitting up of the Yorkshire federation [etc.]. 1534 *Will of Sir W. Butler* (Somerset Ho.), Eucrye of my seruantes as well menskynes as 'womenskynes. 1969 *Time* 21 Nov. 15 'My twelve-year-old son has been hearing a lot about 'Women's Lib lately,' says Ruth. 1971 *Times* 17 July 5/8 Ecology... one Texas paper said recently, has replaced women's lib as the people's favourite cause. 1976 P. & W. PROCTOR *Women in Pulpit* i. 10 The earring criticism soon subsided as they got used to her and saw that she wasn't interested in staging women's lib demonstrations. 1971 'Women's libber [see LIBBER]. 1973 *Lancet* 24 Feb. 419/1 We have heard a lot lately from unhappy ones of one kind and another—the women's libbers, the occasional bleat from the male side, [etc.]. 1978 J. GALWAY *Autobiogr.* II. 16 It sounds now like a good case for the women's libbers but my mother was essentially a happy woman. 1985 *Observer* (Colour Suppl.) 14 Apr. 23/2 What the women's libbers don't realise is that what they denigrate as domestic drudgery is exactly the right sort of thing to be doing when you are mucking around with the under-tuos. 1966 *New Left Rev.* Nov./Dec. 12 Fourier was the most ardent and voluminous advocate of 'women's liberation and of sexual freedom among the early socialists. 1967 *New Left Notes* 10 July 4/1 The SDS National Convention adopts the following statement and program as written by the Women's Liberation Workshop. 1974 L. DEIGHTON *Spy Story* v. 55 Women's Liberation... planned to march to Westminster. 1978 S. SHELTON *Bloodline* iv. 64 There were rumors that Hélène Roffe was an advocate of the women's liberation movement. 1969 *Leviathan* (Berkeley,

Calif.) June 43/1 The radical *women's liberationists believe that the true extent of women's oppression can be revealed and fought only if the women's liberation movement is dominated by working class women. 1979 R. RENDELL *Means of Evil* 147 Sheila singing lustily, Sylvia, the Women's Liberationist, with less assurance as if she doubted the ethics of lending her support to so... sexist a ceremony. 1959 *Observer* 18 Jan. 19/2 The daydream world of *women's mags. 1942 D. POWELL *Time to be Born* ii. 42 All Vicky could do was to read the *women's magazines and discover how other heroines had solved this problem. 1960 K. AMIS *New Maps of Hell* iii. 81 Art is mentioned... with a frequency not even paralleled in women's-magazine stories. 1981 J. B. HILTON *Playground of Death* vi. 72 There were shopping notes, memos... a pile of women's magazines. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 536 ¶2 That part of Mankind who are known by the Name of the *Women-Men or Beaus. 1781 R. KING *Mod. Lond. Spy* 59 We now drank our tea, which, to what are called women's men, is at that time of the evening generally very agreeable. 1902 H. BLACKBURN *Women's Suffrage* vi. 107 The Married Women's Property Bill occupied the main attention of those engaged in the *women's movement. 1944 G. MYRDAL *American Dilemma* App. 5 The women's movement got much of its public support by reason of its affiliation with the Abolitionist movement. 1968 *Ramparts* Feb. 31 The most active of the new radical women's movements is in Berkeley—which should surprise no one. 1985 *Observer* (Colour Suppl.) 14 Apr. 18/3 She champions women who simply want to stay at home with their babies without a lot of pressure from the women's movement. 1929 E. LINKLATER *Poet's Pub* xiii. 154 She had had two or three articles accepted for the *women's page of the *Daily Day*. 1980 M. BABSON *Dangerous to Know* i. 8 There weren't all that many openings for Women's Page Editors around the Street these days. 1961 WEBSTER, *Women's room. 1977 M. FRENCH (title) The women's room. 1981 'A. CROSS' *Death in Tenured Position* i. 5 The women's room on the ground floor. 1972 *Newsweek* 10 Dec. 124/3 In the classroom, many women think less of competing with men than of learning about themselves. *Women's studies' was nearly unknown before 1970; now 78 institutions have complete women's studies programs. 1976 *Spare Rib* Nov. 14/2 Last year there was one women's studies course here. This year four are planned. 1868 *Times* 11 May 10/4 A branch of the National Society for *Women's Suffrage. 1919 MENCKEN *Amer. Lang.* iv. 121 *Women's wear, in English shops, is always ladies' wear. 1980 *Times* 22 Jan. 9/6 Austin Reed is planning to open a womenswear area in the Regent Street branch. 1974 R. ADAMS *Shardik* xxv. 209, I can't help wondering why he trims lamps at noon. Or why he trims lamps at all, if it comes to that, seeing it's *women's work and he has that girl to help him. 1977 *Undercurrents* June-July 41/3 Spinning, weaving, knitting, crocheting, sewing are women's work and are called crafts.

woman ('wʊmən), *v.* [f. prec.]

†1. Early nonce-uses. *a. intr.* To become woman-like; with *it*, to behave as a woman, be womanly. *b. trans.* To make like a woman in weakness or subservience. *c. pa. pple.* Accompanied by a woman. *d. To make 'a woman' of*, deprive of virginity.

1595 T. EDWARDS *Cephalus* (1878) 55 Her courage was euen then a wannanning. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* iii. ii. 53, I haue felt so many quirkes of ioy and greefe, That the first face of neither on the start Can woman me vntoo't. 1604 — *Oth.* iii. iv. 195, I... thinke it no addition nor my wish To haue him see me woman'd. 1611 HEYWOOD *Golden Age* iii. i. G 1 b, I woman'd first Calisto, and made thee A grandfather. 1613 DANIEL *Hymen's Tri.* iii. ii, This day I should Haue seene my daughter Siluia how she would Haue womand it.

2. *trans.* To furnish or provide with women; to equip with a staff of women. (After MAN *v.*)

1706 MRS. CENTILVRE *Basset-Table* Epil., The Ship's well mann'd, and not ill Woman'd neither. 1830 WHEATON *Jrnl.* 271 The tops of the houses were manned and womaned for many a square. 1865 BURRITT *Walk to Land's End* 108 A sea-boat womaned by a set of Grace Darlings. 1894 *Daily Tel.* 7 Aug. 5/2 Our hospitals, ... not manned, but womaned, with intelligent nurses.

3. To address as 'woman': see prec. 1 d. So to *dear woman*, to address as 'dear woman'.

1740 RICHARDSON *Pamela* II. 269 She call'd her another time Fat-face and woman'd her most violently. 1822 *Blackw. Mag.* XI. 399 Whom call you woman? Dare to woman me! 1883 D. COOK *Paul Foster's Dau.* iii, Don't come dear womaning of me.

'woman-child. *arch.* Pl. 'women-children. [WOMAN *sb.* 6 b.] A female child.

1558 T. WATSON 7 *Sacram.* iii. 15 If it be a woman childe, than let the christener say thus, [etc.]. 1560 BECON *New Catech.* vi. Wks. 1564 I. 537 It is expedient, y'... scholes for women children be erected. 1625 K. LONG tr. *Barclay's Argenis* iv. viii. 265 The women, by stealth, put a woman-child into the Princes cradle. 1765 BLACKSTONE *Comm.* i. xvii. 449 The father might... assign a guardian to any woman-child under the age of sixteen. 1825 J. NEAL *Bro. Jonathan* i. 183 Such a temper—in one so young—... a child—a woman-child. 1866 LYTTON *Lost Tales Miletus* 108 An aged king, to whom the fates had spared But one fair woman-child.

womandom ('wʊmændəm). [f. WOMAN *sb.* + -DOM.] The realm of women; womankind.

1838 *New Monthly Mag.* LIII. 452 The whole womandom of the rooms is up in arms. 1891 *Pictorial World* 31 Oct. 19/1, I had a special brief for Fashion in the High Court of Womandom.

womanfully ('wʊmənfuli), *adv.* [f. WOMAN *sb.* after *manfully*.] With womanly courage or perseverance; like a woman of spirit.

1821 M. EDGEWORTH *Let.* 29 Jan. (1971) 236, I will trample... upon all the prickles of the impossibilities and flatten them womanfully. 1822 *Blackw. Mag.* XII. 660 Do all manfully and womanfully, good ladies and gentlemen, without let or gainsay. 1824 SOUTHEY *Let. to John* May 29

Aug. in *Life* (1849) I. 140 This she resisted most womanfully. 1870 TYNDALL *Imag. Sci.* 25 You will manfully and womanfully prolong your investigations.

'woman-hater. Also (in pl.) women-. One who hates women; a misogynist.

1607 [FLETCHER] (title) The Woman Hater. 1629 MASSINGER *Picture* II. ii, Surely, madam, I am no woman-hater. 1698 COLLIER *Immor. Stage* iv. 171 This Coarseness [toward women] does not alwaies come from Clowns, and Women-haters. 1728 SWIFT *Jrnl. Mod. Lady* 8 Against the sex to write a satire, And brand me for a woman-hater. 1847 [see *woman-spiter* s.v. WOMAN *sb.* 6 c]. 1877 'RITA' *Vivienne* i. i, I should scarcely think that the sudden introduction of a young and beautiful woman... into your domestic life was quite welcome to such a woman-hater as yourself. 1951 M. McLuhan *Mech. Bride* (1967) 99/1 The glamour business... is crammed with both women-haters and men-haters of dubious sex polarity. 1982 J. FOX *White Mischief* xxi. 247 Colville was a great woman hater.

†**'womanhead.** *Obs. or rare arch.* Forms and etym.: see WOMAN *sb.* and -HEAD. = next.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Anel. & Arc.* 299 (Fairf. MS.) And shal I prey, and weyve womanhede? c 1386 — *Knt.'s T.* 890 The queene anon for verray womanhede Gan for to wepe. c 1386 — *Man of Law's T.* 753 Thow glorie of womanhede, thow faire maye. c 1448 HOCCELEVE *Min. Poems* (1892) 50 To recommaide me... To hir benigne & humble wommanhede. c 1470 HENRY Wallace v. 691 Fra Inglismen to saiff my womanheid. 1496-7 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 126 She is amayable and good, with great wysdome and womanhead. 1508 DUNBAR *Gold. Targe* 160 Sute Womanhede I saw cum in presence. 1570 DRANT *Serm.* D viij b, The Church of Christ is a woman, and hath womanhead towards her beloved. 1597 in *J. Melvill's Autob. & Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 432 Deir damiselles! leave af your dreirie mean, And grow in godlines to womanhead. 1627 DRAYTON *Moon-calf* Agincourt etc. 165 When I sawe her rampant to transcend All womenhead [sic]. a 1631 DONNE *Relique* 3 Graves have learn'd that woman-head To be to more then one a Bed. 1894 J. DAVIDSON *Ballads & Songs* 3 Now you surely know The wrongs of womanhead At last are fairly dead.

womanhood ('wʊmənhd). Forms and etym.: see WOMAN *sb.* and -HOOD.

1. The state or condition of being a woman. c 1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* i. 283 Alle here lymes so wel answerynge Weren to womanhode. 1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 545 She... contrarie to Gods lawe, and the honest estate of womanhood, was clothed in mans apparell. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* iv. ii. 220 May we with the warrant of womanhood... pursue him with any further reuenge? 1823 BYRON *Juan* ix. lxxi, Her womanhood In its meridian. 1859 TENNYSON *Marr. Geraint* 176 She... with all grace Of womanhood and queenhood, answer'd him. 1860 HAWTHORNE *Marble Faun* v, Her first conception of the stern Jewess had... been that of perfect womanhood.

b. (a) The state of being a grown woman; the period of life succeeding to girlhood.

1608 WILLET *Hexapla Exod.* 470 *Si appareant in ea signa pubertatis*, if the signs of her womanhood appeared. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 534 ¶1 This has been my State, till I came toward Years of Womanhood. 1784 COWPER *Task* iv. 227 Misses... assume the dress Of womanhood. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xlvii, The change from childhood to womanhood. 1893 CROCKETT *Stickit Minister* 40 Janet grew to womanhood without a sweetheart.

(b) attrib. in womanhood suffrage, formerly freq. used (after MANHOOD 7) for *woman-suffrage* (WOMAN *sb.* 7).

1892 *Daily News* 28 Apr. 3/2 A future system of manhood and womanhood suffrage.

2. The disposition, character, or qualities natural to a woman or womankind; womanliness.

c 1385 CHAUCER *L.G.W.* 1041 *Dido*, If that god... Wolde han a loue for beaute & goodnesse And womanhod [v.r. womanhede] & trouthe. 1552 HULOET, Womanhode, muliebritas. 1590 GREENE *Never too late* i. (1600) E2, Courage is knowne in extremities, womanhood in distresse. 1596 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV.* iii. iii. 125 There's neyther Faith, Truth, nor Woman-hood in me else. 1621 BRATHWAIT *Nat. Embassie* 160 To transgresse the bounds of womanhood. 1755 JOHNSON, *Womanhood, Womanhead*, the character and collective qualities of a woman. Obsolete. 1840 DICKENS *Old Cur. Shop* xxxiii, Miss Brass's maiden modesty and gentle womanhood. 1886 RUSKIN *Præterita* I. viii. 255 My mother... had sympathy with every passion of true womanhood.

3. Women collectively, womankind.

1523 SKELTON *Garl. Laurel* 992 Maydenly demure, Of womanhode the lure. 1718 *Freethinker* No. 39 They contribute to make this kind of Womanhood more universal, than it would otherwise be. 1858 MISS MULOCK *Woman's Th.* 71 The infinite wrongs, errors, and sufferings of this mass of womanhood. 1889 SKRINE *Mem. Thring* 203 Uppingham womanhood must next be taught to cook.

womanish ('wʊmənɪʃ), *a.* [-ISH¹ 2.]

1. Of or belonging to a woman or women; a woman's; used or done by women. Now *rare*.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 58 With so swete a stevene Lik to the melodie of hevene In wommanysse vois thei singe. 1555 LADY VANE in Foxe *A. & M.* (1563) 1445/1, I... doe prepare... my womanishe backe to their burthens of reprofue. 1610 A. COOKE *Pope Joan* 100 They might haue pretended that they would not be subject to a womanish and an whorish gouvernement. 1624 HEYWOOD *Gunaik.* III. 130 Spinning, weaving, and the like womanish chares. a 1661 HOLYDAY *Juvenal* II. Notes (1673) 25 That this was a Womanish wear may be seen by the same Authors 97. Ep. of his i. L. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* i. iv. 342 *Peplum* is properly a womanish Pall or Veil. 1896 F. HARRISON in *19th Cent.* Mar. 501 A separate degree-conferring and exclusively womanish university.

2. Characteristic of or proper to a woman or women; womanly, feminine.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* iv. 694 Tho wordes and po wommanyssh [v.r. womanliche] pynges. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 72 Wherof in wommanysse drede Sche wok and nyste what to rede. *Ibid.* III. 304 Sche wolde hire goode name kepe For feere of wommanysse schame. 1513 MORE *Rich. III* Wks. 46/1 The mothers drede and womanishe feare. a 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* i. (Arb.) 39 A voice, not softe, weake, piping, womanissh, but audible, stronge, and manlike. 1606 G. WOODCOCK *Lives Emperors in Hist. Iestine* Kk 4, Her priuat matters she had beene able to gouerne easily by her owne womannish wysedome. 1611 BEAUM. & FL. *Maid's Trag.* i, She has a brother... Like her, a face as womanish as hers. 1706 KENNETT *Hist. Eng.* III. 784 He had a particular Averseness to Dancing, and all Womanish Exercises. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 363 ¶9 Eve's Complaint... is wonderfully beautiful: The sentiments... have something in them particularly soft and womanish. 1740 RICHARDSON *Pamela* I. 203 Nothing, said she, but Womanish Curiosity. 1844 KINGLAKE *Eothen* xvii, To love her [sc. the camel] for the sake of her gentle and womanish ways. 1866 MRS. H. WOOD *St. Martin's Eve* xix, The pale features, regular to a fault, were of almost womanish beauty.

b. In derogatory use.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 229 As he which hath himself restreigned... Out of the manere of a man, And tok his wommanysse chiere. 1532 MORE *Confut. Barnes* VIII. Wks. 760/2 Her questions... wer like to be but friuolous & womannish. 1534 — *Conf. agst. Trib.* II. vi. (1553) GJ, Weping for our sinnes... they reckyn shame almost and womanysh peuisshnes. 1592 A. DAY *Engl. Secretorie* II. (1625) 46 Womanish encountings, vnseemly lyings and childish threatenings. 1685 DRYDEN *Thren. August.* viii, So weak, so womanish a woe. 1771 GOLDSM. *Hist. Eng.* II. 207 She betrayed neither weakness, nor womanish submission. 1813 E. S. BARRETT *Heroine* x. (1909) 57, I do not like... his pencilled eyebrows and curled locks, they look so womanish. 1889 *Sat. Rev.* 6 Apr. 402/2 He must have been under the influence of fears which it would be an excess of flattery to call womanish.

3. Resembling a woman, womanlike: in later use chiefly derogatory; also of a girl, Like a grown woman in her ways.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 93 He syh wher sat a creature, A lothly wommanysch figure. c 1470 HARDING *Chron.* LX. ii, Elyne... was... More Angelyke then wommanysse of hewe. 1604 T. WRIGHT *Passions* v. §2. 167 If musicke can make warriers womanish. 1788 WESLEY *Jrnl.* 10 June, This girl... being then between fourteen and fifteen years old. But she was then quite a womanish girl. 1891 FARRAR *Darkn. & Dawn* lxv, Lascivious Otho, gluttonous Vitellius, savage Domitian, womanish Elagabalus.

†4. Having a great inclination or liking for women. *Obs. rare.*

1529 MORE *Dyaloge* i. xii. 18/1 A freer wylbe womanysh loke the holy horeson neuer so sayntly. 1579-80 [implied in WOMANISHNESS].

5. *Comb.*

1382 WYCLIF *1 Kings* xv. 12 He took away the wommanysch maad men [effeminatos] of the loond. a 1623 FLETCHER *Love's Cure* III. ii, One so full of childish fear, And womanish-hearted.

Hence †**'womanish** *v. trans.*, to render womanish, to womanize.

1561 T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtyer* i. Iij, Men... who ought not with suche delicacies [as music] to womanishe their mindes. a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* i. xii. §5 This effeminate love of a woman, doth so womanish [so ed. 1590; edd. 1593-1674 womanize] a man, that (if he yeeld to it) it will... make him... a launder, a distaff-spinner.

womanishly ('wʊmənɪʃli), *adv.* [f. WOMANISH *a.* + -LY².] In a womanish manner or style.

1573 BARET *Alv.* W 319 Womannishly, faintly, fearfully, muliebriter. 1579 TWYNE *Phis. agst. Fortune* II. lxvi. 242 When as she womanishly lamented that he should die an innocent. 1665 BRATHWAIT *Comm. Two Tales* (1901) 13 To have his hair curled, and so womanishly disheveled. 1731 G. JEFFREYS *Merope* i. i. 2 Are we sunk so womanishly low, That we can only mourn, and rail, and pray? a 1845 T. O. DAVIS *Life Curran* (1846) 69 They had... the same impassionate, womanishly sensitive hearts. 1860 SIR T. MARTIN *Horace* i. xxxvii. 65 A woman, yet not womanishly weak.

So womanishness ('wʊmənɪʃnɪs), the quality or state of being womanish.

1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* i. (Arb.) 41 The minstrelsie of lutes... is farre more fitte for the womannishnesse of it to dwell in the courte among ladies. 1579-80 NORTH *Plutarch, Theseus & Romulus* (1595) 43 That his womanishenes was rather to satisfie lust, then of any great loue. 1607 MARKHAM *Cavel.* i. 25 Such as out of their flemye womanishnesse seeke for such secrets. 1664 H. MORE *Exp. 7 Epist.* Pref. c vj b, The more-then-ordinary Womanishness of the Church of Rome in that Intervall. 1858 *Househ. Words* XVIII. 414/1 There was no nonsense about Katie; no silly affectation of boyishness, no still sillier affectation of premature womanishness. 1860 *Sat. Rev.* 7 Jan. 12/2 The clergyman's acquired womanishness. 1883 J. HAWTHORNE *Dust* I. 207 A certain softness or womanishness in his nature, which his masculine taste condemned.

womanism ('wʊmənɪz(ə)m). [f. WOMAN *sb.* + -ISM.] Advocacy of or enthusiasm for the rights, achievements, etc. of women.

1863 LD. W. P. LENNOX *Biogr. Remin.* I. 286 It became quite the rage to quote the ambiguous passages of her worst productions... as reflecting the strong-minded womanism of the nineteenth century. 1880 BLACKMORE *Mary Anerley* xxvii. II. 165 That the mother of his daughter... should now turn round and take her part, from downright womanism, in the teeth of all reason.

†**'womanist.** *Obs. rare.* [f. WOMAN *sb.*: see -IST.] A womanizer.

1608 DAY *Law-Tricks* v. I 2 b, Hee's a sweet womanist.

womanity (wʊ'mænɪti). *humorous*. [f. WOMAN *sb.* + -ITY, after *humanity*.] The normal disposition or character of womankind.

1843 MRS. BROWNING *Lett. R. H. Horne* (1877) I. xviii. 81, I will be secret beyond womanity, if you are frank beyond discretion. **1868** HELPS *Realma* I. vi. 115 Mrs. Milverton and Lady Ellesmere are very like ordinary women. Womanity is strong in them. **1892** M. C. SALAMAN *Woman* 6 Each fresh experience of love... increases one's knowledge of 'Womanity'—if I may be allowed the term. **1896** *Daily Tel.* 4 Mar. 7/3 What will it profit a woman to gain an Oxford degree and lose her womanity?

womanize ('wʊmənəɪz), *v.* [f. WOMAN *sb.* + -IZE.]

1. *trans.* To make a woman of (a man); *gen.* to render effeminate, to emasculate.

1593 [see WOMANISH *v.*, quot. a 1586]. **1643** TORSHALL *Case Consc.* 9 We may not now suffer the thoughts of safety elsewhere to womanize our spirits. **1647** STAPYLTON *Juvenal* 19 *margin*, The Roman Sardinapali, men womanized. **1755** JOHNSON, *Womanise*, to emasculate; to effeminate; to soften. Proper, but not used. **1782** V. KNOX *Ess.* No. 156 ¶5 To vitiate their morals, to womanize their spirits. **1853** LYTTON in *Lett. Robt. 1st Earl Lytton* (1906) I. 40 Don't let Italy womanise you. **1881** MEREDITH *Tragic Com.* I. vii. 146 Men who have the woman in them without being womanized.

†2. *intr.* To become womanlike; to behave like a woman. *Obs.*

1604 EARL STIRLING *Cræsus* III. ii. F 3, From the height of Honour to digresse, To womanize with courtly vaine delights. **1613** WITHER *Abuses* II. Juvenilia (1633) 232 Such as can So much degenerate themselves from Man, In tyre and gesture both to womanize. **1736** BAILEY (fol.).

3. To consort illicitly with women. *colloq.*

1893 FARMER & HENLEY *Slang, Goose*... to go wenching; to womanize. **1914** C. MACKENZIE *Sinister St.* III. xii, The Bad Men went up to London and womanized.

Hence 'womanized *ppl. a.*, in senses of the verb; also, rendered womanly; 'womanizing *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*; 'womanization; 'womanizer, one who goes after or consorts illicitly with women.

1624 GEE *Foot out of Snare* 62 Fit... to act a womanized Chaerea in Terence his Eunuchus. **1633** DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Entert. K. Chas.* iv. 31 Gorgeous rayments, womanising toys. **1634** T. JOHNSON *Parey's Chirurg.* I. xi. (1678) 17 These are some womanizing or womanish men. **1775** ASH, *Womanizing*, the act of softening down to the qualities of a woman. **1839** MRS. KIRKLAND *New Home* xviii. 121 The womanized tone of the proud and happy mother. **1878** M. C. JACKSON *Chaperson's Cares* iii, She is a womanized likeness of poor Edward. **1914** A. HARRISON *Kaiser's War* v. 141 The growing softness of life beyond the Fatherland—the world's general womanization, as they [sc. Germans] called it. **1924** GALSWORDY *White Monkey* II. ix, Somehow... I feel he's a womaniser.

†'womankin. *Obs.* In 3 (*Orm.*) wifmann-, wimmankinn. [f. WOMAN *sb.* + KIN *sb.*¹: cf. MANKIN¹.] = next, 1.

†**1200** ORMIN 2334 Wel 3ho sahh... patt 3ho wass ædiz wimmann an all wimmankinn bitwenenn. *Ibid.* 3058 Till weppmann & till wifmannkinn.

womankind ('wʊmənkaɪnd). [f. WOMAN *sb.* + KIND *sb.* Cf. WOMENKIND.]

1. The female part of the human race; the female sex; women in general.

†**1375** *Cursor M.* 9024 (Fairf.) For alle we come of womman kinde. **1387** TREvisa *Higden* (Rolls) II. 317 Pharaoh... heelde womman kynde ful feble to be rebel. **a1400** *Prymer* (1891) 21 Byseche for the deuowte wommankynde [Prymer (1895) 6 wommans kynde]. **c1450** *Bk. Curtasye* 259 in *Babees Bk.*, Speke neuer vnonestly of woman kynde. **1500-20** DUNBAR *Poems* lxxxiv. 4 The foul delyte Off woman-kynd that dreidis for na schame. **1535** COVERDALE *Lev.* xviii. 22 Thou shalt not lye with mankynde as with womankynde. **1590** SPENSER *F.Q.* III. v. 52 In gentle Ladies brest, and bounteous race Of woman kind. **a1670** HACKET *Abp. Williams* II. (1692) 35 This man would suffer no woman-kind to do any service within his gates. **1760-72** H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 9 In womankind, I can love nothing but you. **1782** COWPER *Gilpin* v, I do admire Of womankind but one. **1822** BYRON *Juan* VI. xxvii, My wish is... That womankind had but one rosy mouth, To kiss them all at once from North to South. **1847** TENNYSON *Princess* VI. 290 The soft and milky rabble of womankind.

†b. appositively or predicatively: Female. *Obs.*

†**1570** R. COXE *Injunctions*, Their chyldren and seruantes both mankinde and womankinde. **1577** BP. AYLMEY *Articles to be enquired of* A 4 b, Any of his parish... eyther mankind or womankinde. **1614** R. TAILOR *Hog hath lost Pearl* II. D 2b, Did I but only know her to be woman kind, I thinke it were sufficient.

2. The women of a family, household, company, country, etc.; female relatives and friends (sometimes also servants); (one's) women-folk.

1573 L. LLOYD *Pilgr. Princes* (1586) 8 Agreeing that the womankinde should passe away that night. **1825** SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) III. 518 My womankind join in kind regards. **1850** THACKERAY *Pendennis* lvi, Pen, chafing under the persecution which his womankind had inflicted upon him. **1862** KINGSTON *Three Midshipmen* viii, All the womankind in and out of the house, for a long way round.

†3. A female human being; a woman. *Obs.*

†**a1685** Warr. *Married Women* xxviii. in Child *Ballads* (1892) IV. 363/2 Since that time the woman-kind was never seen no more. **1711** *Acts & Laws Massachusetts* (1724) 270 Whosoever shall be convicted of Assaulting... any Woman or Woman-kind. **1816** SCOTT *Antiq.* ix, 'Where's the younger womankind?'... 'Indeed, brother,... Maria... set away to the Halket Craig-head—I wonder ye didna see her.

1823 BYRON in Trelawny *Shelley* (1887) 213 If we had a womankind on board, she would set us all at loggerheads.

†4. Womanhood. (Cf. MANKIND A. 2.) *Obs. rare.*

1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. 1 Peter* iii. 7 Let your wisdom succour the frailtie of their womankynde.

womanless ('wʊmənɪs), *a.* [f. WOMAN *sb.* + -LESS.] Without a woman or women; having or containing no women.

1846 in WORCESTER. **1859** *Athenæum* 10 Dec. 771/2 It is a strange arena, the womanless world of cassocks. **1872** M. COLLINS *P'cess Clarice* I. xvi. 254 Arthur Swingate found himself womanless. **1912** *Engl. Rev.* June 494 A womanless play called *The New Sin*.

womanlike ('wʊmənlaɪk), *a.* and *adv.* [f. WOMAN *sb.* + -LIKE.] *A. adj.* Like, resembling, or characteristic of a woman or women; in derogatory use, womanish, effeminate.

†**c1440** *Promp. Parv.* 154/2 Femynyne, or woman lyke, muliebris. **1550** CROWLEY *Way to Wealth* 315 Fingered ladies, whose womanlike behaviour... ought to be a light to al women. **1561** T. NORTON tr. *Calvin's Inst.* IV. xix. 156 b, Clerkes were commaunded... to sheare their head... that they should not beare any shewe of womanlyke trimming. **1597** DRAYTON *Heroical Ep., Isab. to Mortimer* Notes 20 b, His behaviour and attire euer so womanlike, to please the eye of his lasciuious Prince. **1624** CAPT. J. SMITH *Virginia* 31 Scorning to be seene in any woman-like exercise. **1647** HEXHAM 1, Womanlike, delicate and tender. **1825** SCOTT *Talism.* xiv, Ashamed at being surprised in a womanlike expression of sorrow, Sir Kenneth dashed his tears indignantly aside. **1878** *Contemp. Rev.* Feb. 521 Trees were credited with woman-like inhabitants capable of doing good and ill. **1880** L. WALLACE *Ben-Hur* 516 The tearful woman-like face of the Christ.

B. adv. In a manner characteristic of women; after the fashion of women; like a woman.

†**c1440** *Alphabet of Tales* 365 Sho was not ferd for swerd nor wovnd, nor wepid wommanlyke. **1556** PHAER *Aeneid.* IV. (1558) Iivb, This pranking Paris fyne... With grekische wymple pynkyd, womanlyke. **1635** *Life Long Meg of Westm.* (1872) 43 She... dressed him full womanlike. **1743** FRANCIS tr. *Hor., Odes* I. xxxvii. 28 But she a nobler fate explored, Nor woman-like beheld the deathful sword. **1857** W. COLLINS *Dead Secret* v. iv. (1861) 221 'Of course', cried Rosamond, looking, womanlike, straight on to the purpose she had in view. **1898** 'H. S. MERRIMAN' *Roden's Corner* xxix. 303 He would not, it appeared, sit down without her permission. And, womanlike, she gave it.

womanliness ('wʊmənɪnɪs). [f. WOMANLY *a.* + -NESS.] The quality of being womanly; womanly character; 'effeminateness.

1538 ELYOT *Dict., Mollicies, et mollicia*,... womanlynesse. **1549** COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. 1 Pet.* iii. 1-6 The entier vpryghtnes, godlynnes, womanlynnes,... and sufferance of the wyfe. **1596** DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* IV. (S.T.S.) I. 214 Through the negligence of King Constantine, and his womanlines. **1647** HEXHAM 1, Womanlienesse, *vrouwachtigheydt*. **1864** *Reader* 30 Apr. 564/2 *The Portia* of Mrs. Vezin is endued with the grace and womanliness that characterize all her performances. **1876** J. PARKER *Paracel.* I. xvi. 259 The womanliness of the Divine nature, its infinite grace and pathos. **1881** G. MEREDITH *Trag. Com.* I. vii. 146 The choicest women are those who yield not a feather of their womanliness for some amount of manlike strength.

†'womanlish, *a.* *Obs. rare.* [Blending of WOMANISH and WOMANLY *a.*] Womanlike, effeminate. 'womanlishly *adv.*, 'womanlishness.

1579 TWYNE *Phis. agst. Fortune* II. xii. 181 Womanlyshly glorying [she] shewed her most precious and fayre Iewelles. **1647** HEXHAM 1, Womanlish or effeminate, *vrouwachtigh*. Womanlishly, *vrouwachtighlick*. **1648** *Ibid.* II, *Wijflickheydt*, Womanlishnesse, or Effeminatenesse.

womanly ('wʊmənli), *a.* [f. WOMAN *sb.* + -LY¹.]

1. *a.* Possessing the attributes proper to a woman; having the qualities (as of gentleness, devotion, fearfulness, etc.) held to be characteristic of women; also said of these qualities or of actions which exhibit them. *Freq.* in phr. *womanly woman*.

†**c1374** CHAUCEY *Troylus* III. 106 .O. wommanlyche wyf. *Ibid.* IV. 694 (Camb. MS.) þo wordis & þo womanliche pyngis Sche herde riȝt nouȝt þow sche pere were. **c1385** — *L.G.W.* 175 So womanly so benygne & so meke. **c1386** — *Knt.'s T.* 2225 Yourre wommanly pitie. **1387-8** T. Usk *Test. Love* II. xii. (Skeat) l. 114 So precious perle, as a womanly woman in her kynde. **1421** HOCCEVE *Jereslaus's Wife* 466 A lady the womanlyeste Of cheere. **c1485** *Digby Myst.* III. 525 Your person, itt is so womanly. **a1548** *HALL Chron., Hen. VI* 115 b, Where was her womanly pitie? **1579** LYLIE *Euphuës* (Arb.) 69 She coule scarcely conteine hir selfe from embracing him, had not womanly shamefastnes... stayed hir wisdom. **1614** B. JONSON *Barth. Fair* I. iii, Be womanly, Win; make an outcry to your mother, Win! **1676** DRYDEN *Aurengz.* IV. 54 Rage choaks my words: 'tis Womanly to weep. **1712** STEELE *Spect.* No. 272 ¶1 One who was growing up to the same womanly Virtues which shine to Perfection in her. **1805** SOUTHEY *Madoc* I. xvii. 132 Womanly sobs were heard, and manly cheeks Were wet with silent tears. **1852** MISS MITFORD in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) III. 235 Lady Goldsmid [that impersonation of all that is womanly and motherly]. **1872** (title) Woman's rights and the wife at home. By a womanly woman. **1874** GREEN *Short Hist.* vii. §3. 368 Whatever womanly tenderness she [sc. Elizabeth] had, wrapt itself around Leicester. **1891** G. B. SHAW *Quintessence of Ibsenism* iii. 34 In real life a self-sacrificing woman, or, as Mr. Stead would put it, a womanly woman, is not only taken advantage of, but disliked as well for her pains. **1926** WODEHOUSE *Heart of Goof* iii. 96 The least you can do, as a good womanly woman, is to have a capable

lawyer watching your interests. **1958** M. KENNEDY *Outlaws on Parnassus* xii. 196 Telemachus... upbraids his mother for not behaving like a womanly woman. **1978** J. PORTER *Dead Easy for Dover* vii. 78 The Brigadier... only exists to make Madame more credible as a womanly woman.

b. In derogatory use, with reference to the bad qualities attributed to women; †(of men) effeminate, womanish.

†**a1225** *Ancr. R.* 274 þet nis nout iwar ne waker ne nis nout monlich, auh is wummonlich. **1382** WYCLIF *1 Kings* xiv. 24 Men maad wommanlich weren in the loond. **a1400** *New Test.* (Pauces) 1 Pet. iii. 7 Departynge to hem worschupe, as to a wommanlyche vessel pat is more febel þan 3e bep. **1519** HORMAN *Vulg.* 228 b, Nyce aray, and new fangled garmentis, welthy fare and ydelnes: make men to be womanly. **1538** ELYOT *Dict.* s.v. *Mollis*, *Mollis homo*, a man effeminate, or womanlye. **a1548** *HALL Chron., Hen. V* 57 b, For very womanly malice, she set in the highest authoritie aboute the kyng her husband. **1558** KNOX *First Blast* (Arb.) 21 Lest that again she slide and fall by womanlie facilitie. **1615** G. SANDYS *Trav.* 23 Burning with a womanly spleen. **1716** LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Lett., to Lady X*—1 Oct. (1887) I. 128 The womanly spirit of contradiction. **1830** JAMES *De L'Orme* xvii, Senor, are you a man? I would not, for very shame, have any one see you look so womanly. **1862** MISS BRADDON *Lady Audley* xix, Has she baffled me by some piece of womanly jugglery?

2. Having the character of, befitting or characteristic of, a woman as contrasted with a girl.

1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 15 ¶2 The Girl was very proud of the Womanly Employment of a Nurse. **1732** ARBUTHNOT *Aliments, Rules of Diet* (1736) 408 Young Persons under a womanly Age. **1753-4** RICHARDSON *Grandison* II. xxxvi. 279 The girl begins to be womanly. **1848** DICKENS *Dombey* iii, A short, brown, womanly girl of fourteen. **1853** — *Bleak Ho.* xv, A very little girl... wearing a womanly sort of bonnet much too large for her.

3. Belonging or proper to the female sex.

1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* xlii, Her early training had kept her aloof from such womanly labours. **a1873** LYTTON *Pausanias* (1876) 90 Cleonice... had enjoyed those advantages of womanly education wholly unknown at that time to the freeborn ladies of Greece. **1875** JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 146 Many types of manly and womanly beauty.

'womanly, *adv.* *Obs.* or *arch.* [f. as prec.: see -LY².] In a womanly manner; like a woman.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 9391 Wat he ap Manliche bigonne, he it ap bileued Wommanliche, as vor defaute of wit in his heued. **c1400** *Destr. Troy* 3994 Cassandra... was a Clene Maydon,... Womonly wrought. **1476** *Stonor Papers* (Camden) II. 7 Where as ye, full womanly and lyke a loffer, remembre me with manyffolde recommendacion in dyuersse maners. **1508** DUNBAR *Tua Marii Wemen* 496 To euery man in special speke I sum wordis, So wisly, and so womanly, quhill warmys ther hertis. **1575** GASCOIGNE *Flowers, Lullabie of Lover* 4 And lullaby can I sing to, As womanly as can the best. **1612** T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* iii. 2 (1619) 578 For how womanly haue many behaved themselues. **1723** *Briton* No. 7 (1724) 28 You... then very Womanly expect a Consideration, for the Trouble we put you to in Swearing. **1844** MRS. BROWNING *Rom. Page* xxvii, Oh, womanly, she prayed in tent, When none beside did wake!

womanness ('wʊmənɪs). *rare.* [f. WOMAN *sb.* + -NESS.] Womanliness; the quality of being a woman.

1845 MRS. CARLYLE in *Jane Welsh Carlyle* (1924) 230 The only chance of my getting any right good of him was to make him forget my womanness. **1881** *Blackw. Mag.* Oct. 433 Above... all stood her feminineness, her thorough womanness. **1926** D. H. LAWRENCE *Plumed Serpent* II. 29 They hated her mechanically for the very fact that she was a woman. They hated her womanness. **1971** *Guardian* 2 Dec. 11/4 There may be something about 'woman-ness' which has to be defined in its own terms, not by reference to maleness.

'woman-servant. *Pl.* women-servants. A female servant.

1529 *Sel. Cases Star Chamber* (Selden Soc.) II. 43 Other wymen and wymen seruands. **1539** *Bible* (Great) Gen. xx. 14 Men seruantes & wemenseruantes [1560 *Geneva* women seruantes]. **1589** RIDER *Bibl. Schol.* 1670 A woman seruant. **1779-81** JOHNSON *L.P., Pope Wks.* 1787 IV. 15 She bribed a woman-servant to procure her a sword. **1838** DICKENS *O. Twist* xxxiv, At this, the two women-servants lifted up their hands and eyes. **1855** MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* II. 263 A dirty woman-servant opened the door.

'womanship. *nonce-wd.* [f. WOMAN *sb.* + -SHIP.] *her womanship*: jocular title for a woman.

1609 HEALEY *Discov. New World* II. ii. 99, I... told her Womanship that for my part I had [etc.].

'womanshire. *nonce-wd.* [f. WOMAN *sb.* + SHIRE *sb.*] The domain or sphere of women.

1606 Wily *Beguiled* 73 Thou hast got the merriest woer in all Womanshire.

woman's rights, women's rights. The rights claimed for women of equal privileges and opportunities with men. Also *attrib.*

1632 (title) The lawes resolutions of womens rights, or the lawes provision for women. [1799 the rights of woman: see RIGHT *sb.* 10.] **1840** THACKERAY *Shabby-genteel Story* iv, One may sympathise with the advocates of woman's rights who point out this monstrous wrong. **1842** E. PEASE *Let.* 29 Mar. [MS. in Library of Society of Friends, London], I believe that the Chartists generally hold the doctrine of the equality of woman's rights. **1850** (title) Women's Rights Convention. **1859** A. J. MUNBY *Diary* 28 Jan. (1972) 18 Those who prate of women's rights, if they knew their own meaning, would honour such mighty daughters of the plough. **1864** 'ANNIE THOMAS' *D. Donne* III. 33 Even though Stephanie Fordyce

was no woman's rights girl. 1876 H. JAMES Roderick Hudson xi. 378 Five unmarried sisters, one of whom gave lyceum-lectures on woman's rights. 1883 F. M. CRAWFORD *Dr. Claudius* v. We have seen something of the 'woman's rights' question in America. 1897 E. BELLAMY *Equality* xx. 119 There was a great stir about women's rights, but the programme then announced was by no means revolutionary. 1902 G. B. SHAW *Let.* 20 June (1972) II. 276 The Woman's Rights young lady. 1963 B. FRIEDAN *Feminine Mystique* i. 28 The fact is that no one today is muttering angrily about 'women's rights', even though more and more women have gone to college. 1977 *Socialist Press* 2 Mar. 4/1 The latest in a series of non-political jamborees organised around the question of women's rights took place at Alexandra Palace last Saturday. 1982 *N.Y. Times Mag.* 1 Aug. 6 Campaigning by the women's-rights movement to purge the English language of sexism.

Hence woman's (women's) righter, a believer in or supporter of woman's rights.

1858 J. J. BOYER *Let.* 9 July in *Lawrence* (Kansas) *Republican* 15 July 1/4 Capt. Holmes and lady joined us. She is a regular woman's righter, wears the Bloomer, and was quite indignant when informed that she was not allowed to stand on guard. 1885 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 23 Feb. 3/2 Women's righters in Germany. 1894 LE GALLIENNE *Retrospect.* *Rev.* (1896) II. 179 May she be saved from being a... woman's-righter!

womanthrope ('wʊmənθrəʊp). [Joc. formation f. WOMAN *sb.* + -thrope as in MISANTHROPE.] A hater of women.

1891 O. WILDE *Intentions* 126 They would become confirmed misanthropes, or if I may borrow a phrase from one of the pretty Newnham graduates, confirmed womanthropes for the rest of their lives. 1902 'COLDSTREAMER' *Ballads of Boer War* iv. 35 I'm quite willing for to be Wot scholars calls a 'womanthrope'.

womar, var. WOOMERA.

womb (wʊ:m), *sb.* Forms: α. 1-2, 4 womb, 4-5 wambe; see also WAME. β. 1- womb; 1 uommb, 3-7 wombe, 5 north. wombe, 6 *Sc.* voyme, voymbe. [Com. Teut.: OE. *wamb*, *womb* str. fem. = (M)LG., MDu. *wamme* (Du. *wam*), OHG. *wamba*, *wampa* (MHG. *wamme*, *wampe*, G. *wamme*, dial. *wampe*), ON. *vǫmb* (MSw. *vamb*), Goth. *wamba* *koilía*, *γαστήρ*: ulterior relations obscure.

For a Romance deriv. of the Teut. word see GAMBESON.] †1. = BELLY. α. The abdomen. *Obs.*

c825 *Vesp. Ps.* xlii[i]. 25 *Adhesit in terra venter noster*, ætflah in eorðan womb ur. a1000 *Riddles* xxxvii. 3 Ic wiht geseah on wege feran, seo . . hæfde feowere fet under wombe. c1205 *LAY.* 19800 His neb bigon to blakien, his wombe gon to swell. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 10794 Wan richard þe marschal. . toward is fon in þe feld þar is wombe iwent, Ssold he turne hom is rugh? c1305 *Judas* *Isa.* 141 in *E.E.P.* (1862) 111 His wombe to-berste amide atuo. c1340 *Nomiale* (Skeat) 66 Inwyth the wombe of man. . Is herte lyuer and longes. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 144 His wombe & his wast were worthily smale. 1390 *Lower Conf.* I. 24 Tharmes, The wombe and al down to the kne, Of bras thei were. *Ibid.* III. 215 What man that . . wery is to swinke, Upon his wombe and lith to drinke, Forsak. a1425 *Voc.* in *Wr.-Wülcker* 635/33 *Hic uenter*, wambe. c1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 39 Take þe Wombe of A luce, & sepe here wyl. c1440 *Pallad.* on *Husb.* i. 53 Her wombis [L. *venter*, aut *viscera*], sidis, reynys, swelle or ake. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* eijij b. All thyng with in the wombe saue onli the gall. 1509 *BARCLAY Shyp of Folsy* (1874) I. 12 If he haue a great wombe, and his Cofers ful. 1526 R. WHYTFORD *Maritoge* 100 They were racked, . . than were theyr wombes or belyes flayne the skynne of. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV.* iv. iii. 25 And I had but a belly of any indifference, I were simply the most actiue fellow in Europe: my wombe, my wombe, my wombe vndoes mee. 1632 *LITHGOW Trav.* x. 462 The Tormentor . . drew violently with his hands, making my Wombe support the force of his feet. 1684 J. S. *Profit & Pleas. United* 35 As for your Mare; let her have a compleat Body, Indifferent Long with a large Womb.

†b. The stomach (as the receptacle of food).

c950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xv. 17 Ne oncnauas gie forðon eghuelc þæt in muð inggaas in womb gaas? a1100 *Gloss.* in *Wr.-Wülcker* 159/27 *Aluus*, rif uel seo inre wamb. c1160 *Hatton Gosp.* Luke xv. 16 Ða gewilnede he his wambe fellen of þam beancoddan þe þa swin æt. a1200 *Moral Ode* 145 in *O.E. Hom.* I. 169 Ful wombe mei lihtliche spoken of hunger & of festen. c1200 *Vices & Virtues* 137 Of here wombe he mækieð here godd. c1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 37 þe fule man þe folceð his wombes wil. 13.. *Cursor M.* 536 (Gött.) Manes wambe all licur drinkis. 1340 *Ayenb.* 53 þanne ssolle we betuene þe porse and þe wombe of þe gloutone habbe a uayr strif. 1362 *LANGL. P. Pl.* A. vii. 162 Hongur . . wrong him so be þe wombe, þat boþe his eȝen watreden. 13.. *E.E. Allit.* P. B. 462 He . . Fallez on þe foule flesch & fyllez his wombe. c1386 CHAUCER *Monk's T.* 447 Thanne sholde nat hunger in my wombe crepe. c1430 *LYDG. Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 170 Withe ful wombe þe preche of abstinence. c1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 39 Do in þe grete wombe of þe Schepe, þat is, the mawe. 1515 *BARCLAY Egloges* iv. (1570) Cijij b/2 When ye be mery and stuffed is your wombe. . Then laude ye songes. 1601 *HOLLAND Pliny* xxvi. viii. II. 248 The wombe . . oftentimes in a day calleth unto us for victuals. 1603 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Microcosmos* Wks. (Grosart) I. 58/2 If nought from without come in the wombe The Body needes must die. 1756 *Poor Robin* June B 1 b. Who makes a swill tub of his womb, Is but a speaking, prattling tomb.

†c. The bowels. *Obs.*

c1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 186 Se ȝepigeda mete hefeȝap þone maȝan & he þone sammeltan purh ða wambe utsent. c1400 MAUNDEV. (1919) xviii. 101 Men putten it in medicynes. . to make the Wombe lax. c1400 *tr. Secr. Secr., Gov. Lordsh.* 70 A potage nesseshe and laxatyue to þe wombe. c1400 *Langfranc's Chirurg.* 51 If þat he be feble . . voider þe fecis of his wombe bi clisterie. c1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* II. xxxiv. (1869) 88 þou berest him to priuee chambres . . to voider his

wombe. 1544 *PHAER Regim. Lyfe* (1560) Mij, It is holsofme for you, every day once to procure the duety of the wombe.

†d. The belly-piece of a hide or skin. *Obs.*

1434 *Will of Ruddok* (Somerset Ho.) Calabir wombis. 1483 in *Antiq. Rep.* (1807) I. 32 A greete bordure and purfile of ermyne wombes. 1531 *Dunmow Churchw.* MS. lf. 11 b. Item, for a payer of wombs tande . . vid ob. 1551-2 *Act 5 & 6 Edw. VI c.* 15 §3 Everie Girdler . . maye . . sell . . Neckes, Wombes and Shredde of tanned Leather. 1592 *GREENE Upst. Courtier* Wks. (Grosart) XI. 269 Whereas you should only put the backs of skinnies into facing, you taw the wombs. 1612 *Sc. Bk. Rates in Halyburton's Ledger* (1867) 305 Beaver bellies or wombes the peice, viiis.

¶(a) In translations of the Vulgate rendering *venter* in the sense of 'heart, soul'.

c825 *Vesp. Hymns* vi. 31 *Expavit venter meus*, forhtade womb min. 1382 *WYCLIF Eccl.* li. 29 My wombe [later version soule] is disturbit in seyching it.

(b) tr. L. *ventriculus* = VENTRICLE I.

1398 *TREvisa Barth. De P.R.* v. xxxvi. (1495) i vij b/2 The herte hath two holownesses. . And these two holownesses ben callyd the wombes of the herte [L. *ventriculi cordis*]. *Ibid.* i vij i/1 In the wombe of the hert is a pyece shappe as an eere without.

2. The uterus.

c825 *Vesp. Ps.* cxvii[i]. 3 *Fructus ventris*, westem wombe. c950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke xxiii. 29 Eadgo biðon ða unberendo & ða wombo ða ðe ne acendon. c1200 *Vices & Virtues* 87 Hv mai ðat moder forseten ðat child ðe hie bar in hire wombe? c1205 *LAY.* 199 Heuede Lauine þa quene kine-bearn on wombe. a1300 *Cursor M.* 3460 Childir tuiþ þat lai þer moder wamb wit-in. c1400 *Beryn* 859 A child gan stere in hir wombe. c1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 63 What wommans wambe myght bere so grete a light? a1548 *HALL Chron., Hen. VI* 134 They were his bretherne of one wombe descended. 1626 *BACON Sylva* §94 Birds, that are shaped without the Females Wombe, haue in the Egge. . Matter of Nourishment. 1718 *PRIOR Solomon* III. 115 Naked from the Womb We yesterday came forth. 1820 *SHELLEY Cloud* 83 Like a child from the womb. 1842 *TENNYSON Day-dream* 28 Like hints and echoes of the world To spirits folded in the womb.

b. Phr. *womb-to-tomb*, esp. used attrib. to denote procedures, etc., which span a lifetime. Cf. *cradle-to-grave* s.v. CRADLE *sb.* 2.

1964 A. WYKES *Gambling* i. 8 During our womb-to-tomb progress we never stop gambling, for we cannot know the outcome of each of the many decisions we have to make every day. 1967 *McLUHAN & FIORE Medium is Message* 12 Electrical information devices for universal, tyrannical womb-to-tomb surveillance are causing a very serious dilemma between our claim to privacy and the community's need to know. 1968 G. JACKSON *Let.* 29 June in *Soledad Brother* (1971) 163 From the womb to the tomb this plays in our minds. We are not worth more than the amount of capital we can raise. 1979 *Bookseller* 23 June 2830/3 *Kane and Abel* . . is a womb-to-tomb tale.

3. *transf.* A hollow space or cavity, or something conceived as such (e.g. the depth of night); †also, a belly-shaped object or part.

969 in *Birch Cart. Sax.* III. 532 þæt swa on east crofte þæt swa ondlong þære hege ræwe þæt on ondancilles wombe. a1000 *Riddles* iv. 48 [Clouds] feallan lætað sweart samsundu seaw of bosme, wætan of wombe. *Ibid.* xxxviii. 1 Ic þa wihte geseah; womb wæs on hindan þripum aprinten. 1382 *WYCLIF Isa.* xix. 7 Nakeden shal be the fod wombe [alveus rivi]. c1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* i. §3 The moder of thin Astrelabie is þe thikkeste plate, perced with a large hole, þat resseyuyth in hir wombe the thynne plates. 1471 *CAXTON Recuyell* (Sommer) 56, I had moche leuer that the erthe wold opene and swalwe me in to his wombe. 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* II. iii. 239, I may be plucked into the swallowing wombe, Of this deepe pit, poore Bassianus graue. 1592 — *Rom. & Jul.* v. i. 65 As violently, as hastie powder fier'd Doth hurrie from the fatal Canons wombe. 1602 *MARSTON Antonio's Rev.* III. v, Yee sootie coursers of the night, Hurrie your chariot into hels black wombe. 1615 *CHAPMAN Odysse* x. 471 The fourth brought water, and made fuel shine In ruddy fires beneath a womb of brass. 1616 T. SCOT *Philomythie* I 3 b. And both these rudely enter The strong ships wombe. 1661 *CHILDREY Brit. Baconica* 141 When the wind is gathered into that hole, and tossed to and fro in the womb of it, there is to be heard as it were a musical sound. 1697 *DRYDEN Æneis* XII. 1278 What Earth will open her devouring Womb, To rest a weary Goddess in the Tomb? 1715 *tr. Pancirollus' Mem. Things* II. x. 334 There was seen at Mecklin fifteen Pair of Dice . . in the Womb of a Cherry-Stone. 1722 *SWIFT Stella's Birthday* 68 As you raise it [sc. the bottle] from its Tomb, It drags behind a spacious Womb. 1797 J. CURR *Coal Viewer* 45 Inclosing it [sc. the boiler] with a circular wall 10 inches thick, as high as the womb of the boiler. 1827 *KEBLE Chr. Y., Palm Sunday* iii, Stones in earth's dark womb that rest. 1857 B. TAYLOR *Northern Trav.* xxx. (1858) 315 You can . . watch, through the vortex of whirling spray in its tortured womb, the starry coruscations which radiate from the bottom of the fall. 1863 — *Poems, Poet's Jnl., and Eve in Winter*, Wait in the womb of the snow. 1887 *IAN HAMILTON Ballad of Hadji* 14 Then, through the womb Of night I galloped.

4. *fig.* (from 2) A place or medium of conception and development; a place or point of origin and growth; sometimes *spec.*, as †the matrix of metals, etc.

1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II.* II. i. 51 This England, This Nurse, this teeming wombe of Royall Kings. *Ibid.* ii. 10 Some vnborne sorrow, ripe in fortunes wombe. 1604 — *Oth.* I. iii. 377 There are many Euent in the Wombe of Time, which wilbe deliuered. 1622 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Shilling* C6b, Siluer . . from the wombe of vaust America. 1631 *WIDDOWES Nat. Philos.* 15 Elements are simple essences. . and are the wombs of mixed things. 1665 J. SPENCER *Vulg. Proph.* 8 There is not a more fruitful womb of seditions and confusions in States than the Opinion of such predictions is. 1667 *MILTON P.L.* I. 673 Undoubted sign That in his womb was hid metallic Ore, The work of Sulphur. a1708 *BEVERIDGE Thes. Theol.* (1711) III. 29 The empty Womb of Nothing delivered itself of that Lump and confused Chaos, which . . God . . digested into that . . Order we now see it in.

1757 [BURKE] *Europ. Settlem. Amer.* VII. xxix. II. 282 The cold womb of the earth is incapable of any better production than some miserable shrubs. 1776 J. LEE *Introd. Bot. Explan.* Terms 396 *Pericarpium*, the Womb of the Plant big with Seeds, which it emits when mature. 1810 *COLERIDGE Friend* No. 22 ¶8 The various unforeseen Events that are ripening in the womb of the Future. 1866 *VENESS El Dorado* ix. 95 The fulfilment of her destiny is in the womb of time.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *womb-element*, *-fruit*, *-land*, *-life*, *part*, *passage*, *-pipe*, *side*; *womb-enclosed*, *-fibrilled*, *-like*, *-lodged* adjs.; *womb-ward* adv.; †womb ache, belly-ache, stomach-ache; †womb brother, a uterine brother; †womb-cake = PLACENTA I; †wombzate [GATE *sb.*], = VULVA I; womb-grain [tr. G. *mutterkorn*], ergot of rye (Dunglison *Med. Lex.* 1848); †womb-infant, an unborn child; †womb-joy, gratification of the appetite, luxurious fare, belly-cheer; †womb-liver = *womb-cake*; †womb-pancake = *womb-cake*; †womb-rope, a belly-band of rope; womb-stone, a calcified fibroid tumour of the womb (Billings *Med. Dict.* 1890); womb-syringe, a uterine syringe; †womb syrup (see quot.); †womb-tack [cf. TACK *sb.*, v.] = WOMB-TIE; †womb-trumpet [cf. G. *muttertrompete*], a Fallopiian tube, oviduct.

1398 *TREvisa Barth. De P.R.* xvi. xlviii. (1495) fiiij b/1 Gete . . swagyth *wombe ache. 1647 *TRAPP Comm.* 2 *Thess.* ii. 1 Brethren, *womb brethren, as near in nature as is possible. a1661 *FULLER Worthies, Hartfordshire* (1662) II. 19 Son to Queen Katherine by Owen Theodor, her second husband, womb-brother to King Henry the Sixth. 1668 *CULPEPPER & COLE Barthol. Anat.* *Introd.*, The Navil-vein, receiving blood out of the *Womb-cake. 1743 R. POOLE *Journ. France* etc. (1744) I. 132 The Placenta or Womb Cake. 1923 D. H. LAWRENCE *Birds, Beasts & Flowers* 94 Who lies with the waters of his silent passion, *womb-element?—Fish in the waters. a1593 *MARLOWE Ovid's Elegies* II. xiv. 8 Thy *wombe-inclosed off-spring. 1923 *Womb-fibrilled [see *INTURNED ppl. a.*]. 1922 *Wombfruit [see *QUICKENING vbl. sb.*]. 1379 *Gloucester Cath. MS.* 19 Press No. 1 *Tentigo* ys ycalled paries vulue Anglice the *Wombezates wall. Or elles lingua vulue Anglice the Wombezates tunge. 1611 *COTGR., Vraque*, the pipe or passage whereby a *wombe-infants vrine is carried from it. c1380 *WYCLIF Wks.* (1880) 68 Prelatis. . sillen. . trewe prechynge for . . worldli lordschipe, & *wombe ioie and idelnesse. 1388 *Songs & Poems on Costume* (Percy Soc.) 45 Unthriftie and wombe-joye, steriles et luxurios. 1398 *TREvisa Barth. De P.R.* vi. vi. (Tollem. MS.) [Children] bipinkeþ only in wombe ioie, and knowep not þe mesure of here owen wombe. 1930 A. HUXLEY *Vulgarity in Literature* iv. 16 Those yearning popular songs which are the national anthems of *Wombland. 1876 G. M. HOPKINS *Wr. Deutschland* vii, in *Poems* (1967) 53 Warm-laid grave of a *womb-life grey. a1930 D. H. LAWRENCE *Last Poems* (1932) 308 The shell-like, *womb-like, convoluted shadow. 1981 J. WAINWRIGHT *All on a Summer's Day* 24 An Interview Room . . is womb-like in its complete isolation. 1668 *CULPEPPER & COLE Barthol. Anat.* I. xxxvi. 80 That same round mass is called Placenta Uteri, the Womb-pancake. .; also the *Womb-liver. 1684 *tr. Bonet's Merc. Compit.* II. 2 On the seventh day she . . voided the placenta (or womb liver). 1611 *COTGR. s.v. Agneliere*, A *wombe-lodged infant. 1668 *Womb-pancake [see *womb-liver*]. 1598 *FLORIO, Vulva*, . . the *wombe part or *womb passage. 1860 *MAYNE Expos. Lex., Womb-Passage*, . . common term for the Vagina. 1611 *COTGR., Vulve*, the *wombe-pipe, or priuie passage. c1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbestu* in *Wright Voc.* 168 Ke porte a dos une dossere [gloss rige-leyther], E au ventre une venter [gloss a *wombe-rop]. c1340 *Nomiale* (Skeat) 882 *Sele coler et ventrer*, Sadul hamborwe and wombero. c1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* II. §29 The lyne Meridional on the *wombe-side. c1450 *Two Cookery-bks.* 101 Ley the pike in A charger, the wombe side vpward. 1694 *SALMON Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 5/1 This Water is to be injected into . . the Womb with a *Womb-Syringe. *Ibid.* 609/1 *Syrupus Uterinus*, i.e. *Carannæ*, The *Womb Syrup, or Syrup of Gum Caranna. 1729 P. WALKDEN *Diary* (1866) 56 Henry Charnley viewed the horse, with packsaddle and *woontak, at £2 10s. 1703 *Etmullerus Abridged* 596 The Egg thus influenc'd, falls off into one of the *Womb-Trumpets. 1923 D. H. LAWRENCE *Birds, Beasts & Flowers* 19 There was a flower that flowered inward, *womb-ward.

womb (wʊ:m), *v.* [f. WOMB *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To enclose as in a womb.

1557 *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 239 The hidden harme . . Wombed within our walles and realme about, As Grekes in Troy were in the Grekish beast. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* IV. iv. 501 Not . . for all the Sun sees, or The close earth wombes, . . will I breake my oath. 1855 *SINGLETON Virgil* I. 113 In this from out another tree A bud they womb. 1871 G. MACDONALD *Somnium Myst.* v. 30 A world that lay Wombed in its sun.

†2. To cause to swell out: = BELLY *v.* I. *nonce-use*.

1628 *FELTHAM Resolves* I. [II.] lxi. 57 Once lanced forth, hee may . . find the blast, to wombe out his sailes more fully.

3. *pa. pple.* Impregnated with. *nonce-use*.

1786 J. COURTENAY *Poet. Rev. Char. Johnson* 16 As womb'd with fire the cloud electrick flies.

wombat ('wɒmbæt). Also womat, wombach, wo(o)mbach. [Native Australian name.] Any of the burrowing marsupials of the genus *Phascolomys*, native to South Australia and Tasmania, characterized by a thick heavy body, short legs, and a general resemblance to a small bear.

1798 FLINDERS in *Voy. Terra Australis* (1814) *Introd.* p. cxxviii, Point Womat, a rocky projection of Cape-Barren Island, where a number of the new animals, called womat,

were seen. [*Ibid.* p. cxxxv, Called by the natives, *womat*, *wombat*, or *womback*, according to the different dialects, or perhaps to the different rendering of the wood rangers who brought the information.] **1827** in Bischoff *Van Diemen's Land* (1832) 175 The dogs had caught them three kangaroos, and two badgers or wombacks. **1852** J. WEST *Hist. Tasmania* I. 324 The Wombat, commonly called in the colony Badger. **1896** Gosse *Critical Kit-Kats* 267 Pater has often reminded me of some such armadillo or wombat. *attrib.* and *Comb.* **1847** G. F. ANGAS *Savage Life* I. 66 Wombat burrows. **1859** C. G. ROSSETTI *Goblin Market* xvii, Cat-like and rat-like, Ratel- and wombat-like. **1870** GORDON *Bush Ballads, From the Wreck* 24 Look out for the holes On the wombat hills.

†**wombclout**. *Obs.* Forms: 4 wombecoute, 5 wamclowte, womclotte. [f. WOMB *sb.* + CLOUT *sb.*¹] The omentum; tripe. (Cf. *paunch-clout*, PAUNCH *sb.*¹ 3.)

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIII. 63 He eet many sondry metes mortrewes and puddynges, Wombe-cloutes and wyld braune. **c1440** *Prompt. Parv.* 503/1 Trype (or pawnecheclowt, or wamclowte...), *scrutum*. **c1475** *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 789/19 *Hoc omentum*, a womclotte.

wombed (wu:md), *a.* [f. WOMB *sb.* + -ED².] Having a womb or belly (of a specified kind); also (quot. *c* 1430), great-bellied.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 7731 Suipe pikke mon he was & of grete strengpe, Gret wombede & ballede. **c1430** *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* II. cvi. (1869) 115 Swollen and wombede thanne j bicom. **1602** MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* III. Wks. 1856 I. 32 This hollow wombed masse shall inly grone. **1791** COWPER *Odyss.* VIII. 533 O'er the fire A tripod ample-womb'd.

†**wombful**, *sb.* *Obs.* [f. WOMB *sb.* + -FUL.] As much as will fill the womb or the stomach.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 437 Sche leved pere thritene dayes in fleschliche likyng, and hadde her wombeful, and went hir wey [L. *impleto utero abscessit*]. **1637** RUTHERFORD *Let.*, to *Parishioners* 13 July (1664) 7 The earth worme, who can never get his wombfull of clay. **1637** — *Let. to A. Gordon* 234, I would break the door and be in upon him, to get a wombfull of love; for I am an hungered... soul.

†**wombful**, *a.* *Obs. rare.* [f. WOMB *sb.* + FULL *a.*] Having a full stomach.

1450-80 tr. *Secr. Secr.* xlix. 30 He that lythe with women wombe fulle [cf. *ante* with fulle wombe].

wombill, **womble**, *obs.* ff. WIMBLE.

Womble ('wɒmb(ə)l). [Shortening of *Wombleton*, fanciful alteration of WIMBLEDON.] An imaginary animal depicted as inhabiting Wimbledon Common (see quot. 1968). Also, a soft toy representing this creature. Also *transf.*

1968 E. BERESFORD *Wombles* (1974) (*dust-jacket*), The Wombles are a bit like teddy bears to look at but they have real claws and live underneath Wimbledon Common and devote their lives to 'tidying up' all the things those untidy Human Beings leave behind. **1975** *Sunday Express* 15 June 6/3 In addition to the Wombles pop group and the TV series, there are Womble jigsaws, Womble dolls, Womble T-shirts, Womble pillow cases... Now...there are Womble-approved crisps. **1977** *Lancashire Life* Dec. 77/2 Now she had locked herself in the ladies' with five rubber frogs and a selection of plastic Wombles and was refusing to come out. **1978** *Times* 26 Aug. 3 (*caption*) Members of the Outset youth service group felling and clearing dead trees on Wimbledon Common. These 'Wombles' have also assisted in pond clearing. **1982** *Buses* Sept. 393/2 The customers being predominantly senior citizens or 'wombles' in the London Transport vernacular.

womble, **wombly**, *var.* ff. WAMBLE, WAMBLY *a.*

†**wombling**, **-long**, *adv. Obs. rare.* [f. WOMB *sb.* + -LING, -LONG.] With the belly on the ground or along a surface.

13... *K. Alis.* 5658 (Laud MS.) þe Adress...to-cleuep wombelýng. **c1460** J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 451 Lay your cony wombelonge vche side to þe chyne.

†**womb-tie**, **-tow**. *Obs.* In 5 wom(e)tye, wombtye, 6 womtoe. [f. WOMB *sb.* + TIE *sb.*, TOW *sb.*² Cf. WAME-TOW, WANTY.] A girth or belly-band.

1481-3 *Acc. Exch. K.R.* 496. No. 26 (P.R.O.) Bely girthez Wometyes. **1485** in *Computus Rolls Obedientiaries St. Swithun's, Winch.* (1892) 383 Et in corda empta ad faciendum lez Wombtyes iiij. **1587** *Wills & Inv. Durham* (Surtees) II. 150, ij load saddles, a womtoe and a halter.

womby ('wu:mi), *a.* [f. WOMB *sb.* + -Y¹.] Having a womb-like cavity; hollow. Also *fig.* **1599** SHAKS. *Hen. V.* II. iv. 124 Caues and Wombie Vaultages of France. **1858** SINGLETON *Virgil* II. 536 To hide thee in the womby earth [orig. *cava*...*terral*]. **1934** DYLAN THOMAS *Let.* 2 May (1966) 117 I've a good mind to ferret an Old Boys' Society, & read them the waxiest and wombiest efforts that I've got. **1951** W. SANSOM *Face of Innocence* xi. 150 The sense of round shapes about—the rounder mouldings of stone, the curves of boats...roundness, if you like, that is womby. **1977** *Time* 5 Sept. 44/1 It [sc. a van] is self-contained and self-containing, and its womby little room is packed with the motherly comforts of home.

wome, *obs.* form of WHOM.

womell, *obs.* form of WIMBLE.

womenfolk ('wimɪnfəʊk). Also *dial.* and *U.S.* -folks. [f. *women*, pl. of WOMAN *sb.* + FOLK.]

a. Women collectively, womankind. Now *dial.* **b.** The women of a household, a party, or the like: *dial.* the female servants.

1833 T. Hook *Parson's Dau.* I. vii, You have been snubbed—the women-folk, as I call them, have driven you away. **1849** E. E. NAPIER *Excurs. S. Afr.* II. 389 Making your appearance in such a fashion, and that too, when you know there are --omen-folk in the house. **1851** J. J. HOOPER *Widow Rugby Husband* 50 Such wimmen folks. **1877** BLACK *Green t. st.* i, There was a stir among our women-folk. **1879** BURROUGHS *Locusts & Wild Honey* 131 We could gain no information from the 'women-folks'...nor from the men who had just come in. **1896** RIDEAL (*title*) Charles Dickens's Heroines and Women-Folk. **1911** *Times* 2 Aug. 3/2 Foreign residents have sent their women-folk by train to Mexico City.

'**womenish**, *a.* [f. *women*, pl. of WOMAN *sb.* + -ISH¹.] Of, pertaining to, or characteristic of, women. Also in phr. *wine and womenish*: cf. WINE *sb.*¹ f(b).

1892 S. HALE *Let.* 28 Apr. (1919) 273 The day was so hot that it smelled perspiration of emigrant women-ish. **1920** D. H. LAWRENCE *Let.* 4 Jan. (1962) I. 606 At midnight the Monty crowd ordered champagne and tried to look wine and womenish.

†**womenkin**. *Obs.* [f. *women*, pl. of WOMAN *sb.* + KIN *sb.*¹] = next, 1.

1387 *wommen kyn* [see MEN-KIND].

womenkind ('wimɪnkaind). [f. as prec. + KIND *sb.* Cf. MEN-KIND.] 1. = WOMANKIND 1.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 335 þis pope is nouzt i-rekened in þe book of poores for he was of wommen kynde. **1577** GRANGE *Golden Aphrod.* Fij, I can not for thy sake but say and thinke well of all womenkinde. **1611** BEAUM. & FL. *Philaster* III. i, 'Tis the truth that all womenkind is false. **1652** H. L'ESTRANGE *Amer. no Jewes* 26 A curse entailed upon Eve, and all women kind ever since. **1694** SALMON *Bate's Dispens.* (1699) 599/2 It...cures the Green-sickness in Virgins, and most Diseases of the Womb in Women-kind. **1880** BLACKMORE *Mary Anerley* xxxvi. II. 300 The women-kind always do think that. **1883** *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 539/1 The...foot-warmers...used by all womenkind in church churches. **1889** MRS. E. KENNARD *Landing a Prize* i. (1891) 1 This behaviour disgusted Mr. Bousfield with womenkind.

†**b.** = WOMANKIND 1 b. *Obs.*

1571 GRINDAL *Injunct.*, *Laity* §10 Their children and seruauents both menkinde and womenkinde. **1588** in Wadley *Notes Wills Bristol* (1886) 255 [Every servant] bothe men kinde and women kinde. **1596** DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. (S.T.S.) I. 133 Gif the king left succession behind him vndir xiiii zeiris in menkynd, and xii zeiris in womenkynd.

2. = WOMANKIND 3.

1648 JOSSELYN *Diary* (Camden 1908) 59 Some of the women-kind of the parrish. **1674** [see MEN-KIND]. **1852** MISS MULOCK *Agatha's Husb.* xiii. (1875) 159 The old gentleman evidently took a secret pride in his womenkind. **1905** W. B. BOULTON *Gainsborough* 328 The patronage of gentlemen and their womenkind alone enabled him to live.

womens ('wimɪnz). *U.S. dial.* Non-standard pl. of WOMAN *sb.*

1928 [see SPADE *sb.*² 3 a]. **1945** L. SAXON et al. *Gumbo Ya-Ya* i. 8 'It's damn funny' Fisher sniffed, 'how womens is.' **1967** *Boston Sunday Herald* 26 Apr. (Comic Section), Sometime I think wimmens is the strongest gender. **1970** R. D. ABRAHAM *Positively Black* iv. 84, I got so many womens I cannot call they name.

woment, *var.* WAYMENT *v.*

womerah, **womerar**, *varr.* WOOMERA.

womet, **-it**, *obs.* Sc. ff. VOMIT.

wommal, *var.* WARNEL *dial.*

wommil, **-ill**, *obs.* ff. WIMBLE.

wommle, *var.* WAMBLE.

womoonless (wu'mu:nlis), *a. nonce-word.* [See def.] Joc. combination of WOMANLESS *a.* and MOONLESS *a.*

1922 JOYCE *Ulysses* 278 Croak of vast manless moonless womoonless marsh.

wompam, **wompom**, *obs.* ff. WAMPUM.

womple, **wompyll**, *obs.* Sc. ff. WIMPLE.

womward(e), *obs.* forms of HOMEWARD *adv.*

1507 in Leadam *Sel. Cases Star Chamber* (Selden Soc.) I. 249 They...returnyd womward.

womyl, **-ylle**, *obs.* forms of WIMBLE.

won, **wone** (wan, wəʊn), *v.* *Obs. exc. Sc.* and *north.*, and *arch.* Forms: 1 wunian, (1-2 uni-), 2-3 wnien, wunen, 3 wunie(n, wunye(n, wune, Ormin wunenn, 3-4 wne; 2-4 wonien, 3 wonin, 4 wonen, wonize(n, wonze, wonie, -y, 4-5 -ye; 4-8 wonne, 4-9 won(n, wone, 5 wonon, -yn, (5-7 woon, 7 woone); *Sc.* and *north.* 4 vone, vonne, 5-9 wun, 9 woan(e, woon, wonne, wunn. *Pa. t.* 1 wunode, 2 wnede, 3 wunede; 4 wonid, wonyed, wonde, *Sc.* wonnyt, 4-8 woned, 5 wonyd, wonnyt, 6 woond, (*pseud-arch.* wonne), *Sc.* wonnit, 4- wonned, wonn'd, woned, won'd. *Pa. pple.*: see WONT *pa. pple.*; also 5 wunte. See also WIN *v.*² [OE. *wunian*, corresp. to OFris. *wunia*, *wonia* to

dwel, OS. *wunôn*, *wonôn*, (M)LG., (M)Du. *wonen*, OHG. *wonên* (MHG. *wonen*, G. *wohnen*) to be accustomed, remain, dwell, ON. *una* to rejoice, Goth. **wunan* in *unwunands* troubled:—**wunōjan*, -*ējan*, f. Teut. *wun-*, for further relations of which see WEAN *v.*, WIN *sb.*², etc.]

I. 1. *intr.* To stay habitually, dwell, live (in a place or with some one).

Beowulf 1128 Hengest...wunode mid Finn. **c725** *Corpus Gloss.* 1140 *Inmoratur*, wunat. **971** *Blickl. Hom.* 57 Seo fægernes þære saule þe on ecesne wunap on heofena rices gefean. *Ibid.* 105 Ac þær wunian mot [he]...mid engla sibbe on ecean wuldre. **c1000** *Ags. Gosp.* John i. 39 Hiȝ comon & ȝesawon hwar he wunode, & mid him wunodon on ðam dæge. **a1175** *Cott. Hom.* 231 His under-peoden...on his cyne rice wuneden. **c1175** *Lamb. Hom.* 51 þer wunieð fower cunnes wurmes inne þet fordoð nuðe al þeos miderlæd. **c1205** LAY. 17681 þene bezste læche þe wunode an æi londe. **c1220** *Bestiary* 517 ðis fis [sc. whale] wuneð wið ðe se grund. **c1250** *Gen. & Ex.* 2742 Raguel Ietro ðat riche man, Was wuniende in madian. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 2678 þou and pi childer it sal bigin And þat wons pi house wit in. **1338** R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 17 He com his eam to socour for fer þer he gan wonne. **1377** LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. II. 232 He...is welcome whan he wil and woneth wyth hem oft. **c1440** *Alphabet of Tales* 54, I hafe wunte with pis knyght þis xiiij yere. **1513** DOUGLAS *Æneis* XI. xi. 82 In maner of hyrdis in pasturage, On wild montanis he wonnit all his age. **1557** PHAER *Æneid.* VII. (1558) Siv, What people dwells hereby, what townes they keepe, and where they wonne. **1610** HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 88 Wheresoever the Romane winneth...there he woneth, and inhabiteth. **1614** GORGES *Lucan* VI. 240 Dis that woonneth still below. **1621** BRATHWAIT *Nat. Emb.*, etc. N2, Simple and meane's the cottage where I won. **1667** MILTON *P.L.* VII. 457 Out of the ground up rose As from his Laire the wilde Beast where he wonns In Forrest wilde. **1728** RAMSAY *Monk & Miller's Wife* 5 An honest Miller wond in Fife. **c1746** J. COLLIER (Tim Bobbin) *View Lanc. Dial.* Wks. (1862) 46 There's o Gentlemon ot woans abeawt three Mile off. **1810** SCOTT *Lady of L.* IV. xiii, Up spoke the moody Elfin king, Who won'd within the hill. **1827** HOOD *Mids. Fairies* lii, Neither in forest haunts love I to won. **1848** H. MILLER *First Impr. Eng. v.* (1857) 85 There wons a barber in Dudley...of whom I purchased several fine trilobites. **1867** JEAN INGELOW *Gladys* 563 The wizard that wonned...underground.

b. transf. and *fig.*

Beowulf 2242 Beorh ealgearo wunode on wonge. **971** *Blickl. Hom.* 111 We sceolan...þone rihtan ȝeleafan fæste staðelian on urum heortum wunap he ðær wunian mæge. **c1000** *Phænix* 82 þær se halga stenc wunap ȝeond wynlond. **c1175** *Lamb. Hom.* 7 3if we pis doð þenne wunet god almihti in us. **c1250** *Prov. Alfred* 391 in O.E. Misc. I 126 þeyh o mon wolde al þe worlde And al þe wunne þe par-inne wunyeþ. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 9666 For pes mai nourquar abide þar harte wons, or werr, or pride. **c1400** *Rule St. Benet* (prose) 2 He dos all to noht þe sinne þat wnis in his poht. **a1529** SKELTON *Col. Cloute* 141 They haue...ryght sklender connyng Within theyr heedes wonnyng. **1590** SPENSER *F.Q.* III. i. 3 Wastefull wayes, Where daungers dwelt, and perils most did wonne. **a1592** GREENE *Jas. IV.* I. iii, Thy sight hath cleerd my thoughts Of many banefull troubles that there woond. **1622** DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xix. 17 For in that happy soil, doth pleasure ever wonne. **a1641** BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* i. (1642) 56 And if it be blasphemy or Heresie, let them looke unto it, where it wonneth so familiarly with so many men. **1828** HOOD *'Oh! well may poets make a fuss'* 81 Where are ye, London meads...And gardens redolent of flow'rs Wherein the Zephyr wons? **a1839** LADY FLORA HASTINGS *Poems, Lay of Bell* 222 Ever within those sashless walls Sorrow woneth. **1852** BAILEY *Festus* (ed. 5) 504 That Wisdom yet might wonn with them again.

†2. To continue to be, remain (in a certain state, condition, or way of life); to have existence, live.

Beowulf 1735 Wunað he on wiste, no hine wiht dweleð adl ne yldo. **971** *Blickl. Hom.* 155, & heo was fæmne ær hire beorpre & heo wunap fæmne æfter hire beorpre. **c1000** *ÆLFRIC Saints' Lives* iii. 595 Se læce...cwæð þæt he ȝelyfan wolde...ȝif he wunode ofer] mid-dæge. **c1175** *Lamb. Hom.* 63 3ife us...pet he...mid his halie gast us lihte and in cherite to wnien inne. **c1200** *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 3 Men þe waren wunende on elche of pese prie times. *Ibid.* 179 *Viuimus in labore*,...on swunche we here wunien. **1340** *Ayenb.* 54 þo pet libbeþ be þe goste byeþ þo pet ine þe loue of god wonyeþ. **a1375** *Lay Folks Mass Bk.* App. IV. 205 3if pou wol wone in weole, Prey for þe prest. **c1450** HOLLAND *Howlat* 963, I couth nocht won in to welth wretch wast, I was so wantoun of will. **1590** SPENSER *F.Q.* I. vi. 39 How might that bee, And he the stoutest knight, that euer wonne? **1595** — *Col. Clout* 307 Like as in this same world where we do wone. **1633** P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* VII. xxvii, Fancie, a lad that all in feathers wons.

†3. To remain (in a place); to stay. *Obs.*

c1000 *ÆLFRIC Saints' Lives* ix. 146 Seo eadiga lucia on þære ylcan stowe wunode þe heo ofslagen wæs oðpæt sacerdas coman. **c1430** *How Good Wife taught Dau.* 83 in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 40 Wone at hom, doubtir.

†4. *trans.* To dwell in, inhabit. *Obs.*

Beowulf 1260 Grendles modor...se þe wæteregeas wunian scolde, cealde streamas. **a1000** *Phænix* 172 ðær he heanne beam on holtwuda wunað. **1565** GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* II. (1593) 39 The fire he ay doth shon, And chooseth him the contrary continually to won. **a1586** SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (1922) 75 When all this Earth...Was onely won'd with such as beasts begot. **1600** FAIRFAX *Tasso* XII. xxv, The toure wherein she lay enclos'd, Was with her damsels onely wond and mee.

II. †5. *intr.* To be accustomed or used to do something. *Obs. to be wont*: see WONT *pa. pple.*

The regular form in this sense in OE. was *gewunian*. **c1000** *ÆLFRIC Gram.* xli. (Z.) 247 *Soleo* ic ȝewunige [v.rr. iwunige, wunige], *solens* wunigende. **c1440** *Prompt. Parv.* 532/1 Wonon', or vse custumably, *usito*. **1579** SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Feb. 119 And thereto aye wonned to repayre The shepheards daughters. **1590** — *F.Q.* III. ix. 21 Her well plighted frock, which she did won To tucke about her

short, when she did ryde. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* l. 1. xxxii. These parts that won To drag in dirty earth.

†6. *trans.* To accustom (a person to something); *refl.* to accustom oneself, become or be accustomed.

c1200 ORMIN 19541 He was sennd to fullhtennn, To wunenn swa þe folc þæto, forr þatt tæ33 sholdennn 3ernenn Affterr þe Laferrd Jesu Crist. a1300 *Cursor M.* 12088 If þou . . wald luee þi sun, Til oþer thues þou suld him won. c1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 532/1 Wonon', or make to be custumyd or vsyd . . assuefacio. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 423/1 To Wonne, assuefacere.

c1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 85 Seint nicholas þe on his chilhode wunede him to fasten. a1225 *Anr. R.* 412 Wunieð ou to lutel drunch. a1250 *Prov. Alfred* 367 in O.E. *Misc.* 124 From lesynge þu þe wune. 1340 *Ayenb.* 7 þe ilke þet mest him woner to zuerie mest zenezep. 1387 *TREVISIA Higden* (Rolls) II. 167 þey woner hem to glotonye. c1400 *Rule St. Benet* (prose) 10 Ye sal wne yu til strate gate. c1449 *PECOCK Repr.* v. xiv. 559 For to sette thee and wone thee to not loue money.

won (wan), *ppl. a.* Also 6 wonne. Pa. pple. of WIN *v.*¹, in various senses of the vb.

1500-20 Ill-won [see ILL- 7]. 1553 *BECON Reliques of Rome* (1563) 155b. An holy nation, a wonne people. 1598 *BERNARD tr. Terence, Phormio* l. v. Whatsoeuer may happen vnlooked for, account that as wonne good. 1827 *SCOTT Surg. Dau.* v. A won battle. 1860 *LÖWENTHAL Morphy's Games Chess* 56 A won game. 1883 *Mem. Sam. Miller* iv. 108 Rendering at last to God His own won heritage.

won (wɒn, wɔ:n), *sb.* [ad. Korean *wân* in same sense.] The basic monetary unit of (North and South) Korea.

1950 *Times* 16 Nov. 7/7 Between June 25 and October 1 expenditure totalled 28,000m. *won*, while revenue amounted to about 1,000m. *won*. 1952 R. CUTFORTH *Korean Reporter* x. 85, I gave him 20,000 won, patted him on the back and said goodbye. 1981 'A. HALL' *Pekin Target* vii. 62, I declared 100,000 won and asked where I could change pounds sterling. 1984 *Times* 25 Jan. 6/8 Twelve South Korean herb medicine dealers were arrested for selling 1bn won (£850,000) worth of false cures.

won, obs. form of ONE, WAN *a.*, WHEN; pa. t. and pple. of WIN *v.*¹ and ²; obs. pa. pple. of WIND *v.*¹; var. WONE.

wonable *a.*, Sc. var. of WINNABLE (see WIN *v.*¹ Forms *Inf. β*).

c1610 *SIR J. MELVIL Mem.* (1683) 125 So many of the King's Servants, as were thought to be most wonable.

wonce, obs. form of ONCE.

1599 *HARINGTON in Nugæ Ant.* (1804) I. 272 The rebell wonce in Rorie O More shewed himselfe.

†**wond**, *sb.*¹ *Obs. rare.* [a. ON. *vándr* bad, wicked (Sw., Da. *ond*, Norw. *vond*, mod. Icel. *vondr*.)] The evil one, the devil. (So Da. *den onde*.)

c1250 *Death* 112 in O.E. *Misc.* 174 Nu þu schalt in þe putte wunie wid þe wonde.

†**wond**, *sb.*² *Obs. rare.* In 4 wa(a)nd. [f. WONDE *v.*] Hesitation.

a1300 *Cursor M.* 8465 Man it clepes ecclesiastes, þat spekes mast wit-vten waand, Hu fals þis werld es for to faand. *Ibid.* 11517 þat þai faand, wit-vten wand þai tok.

wond, south. ME. var. FOND *v.* *Obs.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 9600 King henri wondede muche to abbe men in offis . . þat of conseil were . . wis.

wond, south. ME. var. fond, pa. t. of FIND *v.* 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 561 He astore wel is lond Wiþ homber kinges god þat me of his wond. *Ibid.* 3726 He . . wan it [sc. Ireland] al clene to him & al þat he wonde [*v.r.* wond].

wond(e): see WAND, WIND, WONE, WONT, WOUND.

†**wonde**, *v.* Forms: 1-2 wandian, 4-5 wand(e), wond(e), (4 waand, want, 5 whonde, wound(e), woonde; Sc. 5 waynd(e), 5-6 waind). [OE. *wandian* to shrink, hesitate, refrain, spare, corresp. to ON. *vanda* to make elaborately, make difficulties, find fault (cf. *vandr* difficult, etc.), *vandi* difficulty, etc.): app. f. *wand-*, *wend-* to turn (see WAND *sb.*, WEND *v.*, WIND *v.*¹; and cf. WANDIS *v.*.)]

1. *intr.* To shrink or flinch for fear; to hesitate (esp. const. inf.); to refrain.

c897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past.* C. xx. 149 Oft mon bið suide wandigende æt ælcum weorce & suide lætræde. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 43 [Sins] swiþe unsyferlice þæt se man wandap þæt he hi æfre asecgge. c1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* xxvii. (Z.) 162 *Uereor* ic andræcige oððe ic wandige. a1122 O.E. *Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1052 Ac he ne wandode na him metes to tyllenne. a1300 *Cursor M.* 4334 How sco broght him to þe fand, Forth to tell wil i noght waand. *Ibid.* 5293 For-þi, leue fader, want þou noght, Al þi will it sal be wrought. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Syme* 1693 Also šal þe womman wonde To take [in marriage] here godmodrys husbonde. c1330 *King of Tars* 898 The soudan tok the prest bi the honde, And bad him go and nothing wonde. c1350 *Will. Palerne* 4071 For drede of duresse nor of deth in erpe, nel i wonde in no wise what i þougt to seie. c1385 CHAUCER *L.G.W.* 1187 *Dido*, Loue wil loue, for no thing welle it wande. c1400 *Destr. Troy* 590, I wole . . Do my deuer yf I dar, & for no dethe wonde. *Ibid.* 3380 Wond of þi weping, whipe vp þi teris. c1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* v. 3961 (MS. W.) Scho wayndit nocht þare fide to wesche. c1470 HENRY *Wallace* l. 198 Quhar he fand ane . . To cutt his throit, or steik hym sodanlye. He wayndyt nocht. c1500 *Melusine* 219 But the duc Anthony wanded.

a1510 DOUGLAS *K. Hart* l. 91 Richt as the rose vpspringis fro the rute, . . Nor waindis nocht the levis to outschute.

2. *trans.* To refrain from; to shrink from, avoid, shun; to refuse.

13. . . *Cursor M.* 8361 (Gött.) He . . bad hir say, ne wond it noght, Quat war best as hir thocht. c1315 *SHOREHAM Poems* l. 2031 Ne hy ne wondþ messeday, Ne none holy tyde. 1390 *GOWER Conf.* III. 268 This worthi kniht with swerd on honde His weie made, and thei him wonde. c1430 *Syr Tryam.* 1526 My ryght name schalle y not wande. c1450 *Erle Tolous* 1155 Soche wordes y rede thou wonde. ?a1500 *Chester Plays* (E.E.T.S.) xxiii. 29 His wickednes he would not wonde [*v.r.* wound], Till he was taken and putt in Band.

Hence †wonding *vbl. sb.*, flinching, hesitation.

c1440 *York Myst.* xxviii. 77 Nowe will we lere, Full wærely to were þou fro alle wandynge.

wonde, irreg. pa. t. of WIN *v.*¹

1571 FORTESCUE *Forest of Hist.* 65 Who so wonde [ed. 1576 wan] then the price.

wonder ('wʌndə(r)), *sb.* Forms: 1 wundor, 2-5 wonder, (3 wnder, *Orm.* wunnerr, 4 wondere, wonþer), 4-5 wondre, wundur, wondire, -yr(e), wundyr, 4-6 wundir, woundir, -er, *Sc.* vounder, vondir, 4-6, 8 *Sc.* wondir, (5 wundur, wonther, wonþur, 6 *Sc.* winder, -ir), 6-7 woonder, 8-9 *Sc.* wonner, 3- wonder. [OE. *wundor* neut. = OFris. *wunder*, OS. *wundar*, (M)Du. *wonder*, OHG. *wuntar* (MHG., G. *wunder*), ON. *undr* (Sw., Da. *under*): of unknown origin.]

1. Something that causes astonishment.

1. a. A marvellous object; a marvel, prodigy. *The seven wonders of the world* (= L. *septem mira, miracula, or spectacula*), the seven monuments regarded as the most remarkable structures of ancient times; so *eighth wonder of the world* (used hyperbolically of any impressive object, etc.); *nine days' wonder*, and allusive uses: see NINE *a.* 3a and 4b.

Beowulf 840 Ferdon folctogan . . 3eond widwezas wundor sceawian, lapes lastas. c700 CÆDMON *Hymn* 3 Sue he uundra 3ihwæs . . or astelade. a1000 *Sal. & Sat.* 281 Ac hwæt is ðæt wundor ðe 3eond ðas world færeð, styrengea gæð? c1205 LAY. 21738 þa . . gunnen to fleonnen . . into þan wætere, þer wunderes beoð inose. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 151 Mirabilia Anglie. þre wondres beþ in engelond, . . þat water of bape is þat on, þat euee is iliche hot. *Ibid.* 155 Vpe þe plein of salesbury þat oper wonder is þat ston heng is icluped. 1387 *TREVISIA Higden* (Rolls) I. 43 For þey schulde . . write and certifie þe senatoures where and what wondres were i-founde. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* i. i. 6, I rather would entreat thy company, To see the wonders of the world abroad. 1592 — *Rom. & Jul.* III. iii. 36 Carrion Flies . . may seaze On the white wonder of deare Iuliets hand. 1616 R. COCKS *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 194, I doo esteem it [sc. the idol] to be bigger then that at Roads, which was taken for 1 of the 7 wonders of the world. 1681 [see PEAK *sb.* 3]. 1712-14 POPE *Rape Lock.* l. 142 The fair . . Repairs her smiles, . . And calls forth all the wonders of her face. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) I. 267 All the wonders of the Mediterranean sea are described in much higher colours than they merit. 1831 M. EDGEWORTH *Let.* 20 Jan. (1971) 473 A . . spoiled child of 30 whose mother and father having not been able to conceal from him that they think him the 8th wonder of the world have at last brought him to acquiesce in their opinion. 1878 BROWNING *La Saisiaz* 71 We must have our journey marge Ample for the wayside wonders. 1930 *Amer. Speech* VI. *Eighth wonder of the world.* . . Ford runabout. 1977 H. FAST *Immigrants* IV. 267, I rode the first cable car on Halfway Street . . The Eighth Wonder of the World.

b. Marvellous character or quality; wonderfulness; marvels collectively. (Cf. MARVEL *sb.*¹ 2 c.)

c1220 *Bestiary* 266 3et is wonder of ðis wirm [sc. the ant] More ðanne man weneð. 1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* I. v. 6 Whiles I stood rapt in the wonder of it, came Missiues from the King. 1610 — *Temp.* v. i. 181 *Mir.* O wonder! How many goodly creatures are there heere? 1613 — *Hen. VIII.* v. v. 41 As when The Bird of Wonder dyes, the Mayden Phoenix, Her Ashes new create another Heyre. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* VII. 70 Great things, and full of wonder in our eares. 1738 GRAY *Tasso* 35 Great things and full of wonder in your eares I shall unfold. 1801 'MONK' LEWIS (title) Tales of Wonder. 1842 TENNYSON *Locksley Hall* 16 When I dipt into the future . . Saw the Vision of the world, and all the wonder that would be. 1872 BLACK *Adv. Phaeton* ix. 129 We went out into the bright wonder of the moonlight.

c. (*transf.* from 7.) The object of astonishment (usually implying profound admiration) for a particular country, people, age, or the like.

world's wonder: the Marvel of Peru. *wonder of the world*, the ginseng, *Panax Shinseng* (Treas. Bot. 1866).

1591 SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI.* IV. vii. 48 Hack their bones assunder, Whose life was Englands glory, Gallia's wonder. 1597 *HOOKER Eccl. Pol.* v. xi. §1 The bewtie whereof . . was such, that euen this was . . the wonder of the whole world. 1607 *Ld. Coke's Sp. & Charge* F, This Sea-Inuyronnd-Iland, the beauty, and wonder of the world. 1639 MAYNE *City Match* l. iv, She's the wonder of the Court, And talke oth' Towne. 1671 MILTON *P.R.* III. 280 Babylon the wonder of all tongues. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Marvel of Peru*, a kind of Night-shade . . with Flowers of such Variety that it is also call'd *The World's Wonder*. 1733 POPE *Ep. Cobham* 180 Wharton, the scorn and wonder of our days. 1831 E. BURTON *Eccl. Hist.* vii. 205 In Ephesus this feeling found an additional vent in the pride of having their temple considered the wonder of the world.

d. A marvellous specimen or example (of something); in *Sc.* used contemptuously. *boneless wonder*, a gymnast; *fig.*, someone or something lacking 'backbone'; *chinless wonder*: see CHINLESS *a.* b.

1721 BRADLEY *Philos. Acc. Wks. Nat.* 182 In this Wonder of a Garden there is neither Grass-work nor Gravel. 1786 BURNS *Twa Dogs* 65 Our Whipper-in, wee blastit wonder, Poor worthless elf. 1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* xxiii, But surely she was a very wonder of beauty! 1898 *Atlantic Monthly* LXXXII. 499/2 It was a wonder of beauty, . . the fairest piece of earth my eye ever rested upon. 1931 W. S. CHURCHILL in *Hansard Commons* 28 Jan. 1022, I remember, when I was a child, being taken to the celebrated Barnum's Circus . . The exhibit on the programme which I most desired to see was the one described as 'The Boneless Wonder'. My parents judged that that spectacle would be too revolting and demoralising for my youthful eyes, and I have waited 50 years to see the boneless wonder sitting on the Treasury Bench. 1946 Boy wonder [see CHATTERTONIAN *a.* and *sb.*]. 1951 'J. TEY' *Daughter of Time* xiv. 186 The spectacle of Dr. Gairdner trying to make his facts fit his theory was the most entertaining thing in gymnastics that Grant had witnessed . . As a contortionist Dr. Gairdner was the original boneless wonder. 1963 *Guardian* 15 Feb. 20/6 One of those boneless wonders that go by the name of 'Observer' editorials. 1967 M. SHULMAN *Kill* 3 IV. ii. 168 Reconciling more contradictory positions than could be broken up by a boneless wonder on a trapeze.

e. U.S. A kind of cake; = CRULLER.

1848 DRAKE *Pioneer Life in Kentucky* (1870) 97 Other dainties awaited us as the result of killing hogs. They were 'dough-nuts' and 'wonders'. 1859 MRS. STOWE *Minister's Wooing* iv. 34 A plate of crullers or wonders, as a sort of sweet fried cake was commonly called.

2. a. A deed performed or an event brought about by miraculous or supernatural power; a miracle. *to do or work wonders*, to perform miracles. *arch.*

c950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John ii. 11 ðis uorhte frumma ðara uundra se hælend in ðær byrig. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 15 Eal þæt folc þe þis wundor geseah, his noman mycledon. c1200 ORMIN 9499 Crist . . wrohhte wundres miccle ma þann icc 3uw ma33 nu tellenn. c1275 *Passion our Lord* 60 in O.E. *Misc.* 39 Hi seyden . . Alle his wndres þat he doþ is þurch pene vend. 1387 *TREVISIA Higden* (Rolls) III. 125 By wycchecraft he schal wirche wondres. c1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xi. 43 With þat ilke 3erde Moyse . . didd many wondres. c1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 785 He couth werk wounderis quhat way that he wald. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 3 For they se hym in his great myracles & wondres. 1562 WINJET *Cert. Tractatis* ii. Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 17 He send His Apostolis and seuinty-twa Discipulis . . geuand thaim also power to wyrk wounderis. 1591 SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI.* v. iv. 48 You iudge it straight a thing impossible To compass Wonders, but by helpe of diuels. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacra* II. iii. §6 That doctrine which was confirmed by undoubted miracles, hath assured us of the coming of flying wonders. 1781 COWPER *Expost.* 155 They saw distemper heal'd, and life restor'd, . . Confess'd the wonder. 1846 TRENCH *Mirac.* 6 The healing of the paralytic . . was a wonder, for 'they were all amazed'.

†b. An extraordinary natural occurrence, esp. when regarded as supernatural or taken as an omen or portent. Chiefly *pl. Obs.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 8612 Wanne me sede him of suche wondres þat god on erpe sende þat it was vor is lupernesse to truße he it wende. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 4004 For wondres þat shuld falle, als I trow, Agayn þe wordes hende er sene now. c1400 *Destr. Troy* 11827 When he wist of thies wondres, thies wordes he said: 'Yonder towne wilbe taken in a tyme short.' 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VIII. viii. 36 We haue bot sobir pissance, and no wonder, To help in battale. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 422 He rekened vp the wonders that went before his death. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 13 Mony sygnes be God war schawne and wonndiris. 1655 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* II. iii. (1687) 66/1 Of the Wonder [sc. a meteor] Aristotle gives a very slight account. 1681 DRYDEN *Abs. & Achit.* I. 320 My Father Governs with unquestion'd Right; . . And Heav'n by Wonders has espous'd his Cause.

3. A marvellous act or achievement. *to work, do, or perform wonders*: to do marvellous acts or bring about marvellous results; hence *gen.* to do surprising things.

c1220 *Bestiary* 398 Listneð nu a wonder, Dat tis der [sc. the fox] doð for hunger. 1390 *GOWER Conf.* I. 5 This bok schal afterward ben ended Of love, which doth many a wonder. *Ibid.* 136 With strengthe he [sc. Nebuchadnezzar] putte kinges under, And wroughte of Pride many a wonder. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 378 In this bataill hercules dide wondres & meruailles. 1591 SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI.* I. i. 122 Where valiant Talbot . . Enacted wonders with his sword and Lance. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 295 Don Sebastian did wondres in his own person, but overpowered with number, he [etc.]. 1727 E. LAURENCE *Duty of Steward* 207 Lay on Twenty Loads of Chalk alone upon an Acre, and it will perform wonders. 1731 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. i. 270 The Millipedes or Wood-lice have a sulphureous spirit in them wch I have known do wonders on weak constitutions. 1784 COWPER *Tiroc.* 23 For her the fancy, roving unconfin'd, . . Works magic wonders. 1784 — *Task* IV. 87 Katterfelto, with his hair on end At his own wonders. 1827 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* v. vi, Inspired by your Ladyship's approbation, my steward has really done wonders. 1834 L. RITCHIE *Wand. Seine* 192 Habit effects wonders.

4. a. *gen.* An astonishing occurrence, event, or fact; a surprising incident; a wonderful thing. *to hear, read, speak, talk wonders*, to hear, etc., surprising accounts.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 319 A temple hii vovnde vair inou & a maumet amide þat ofte tolde wonder gret & 3wat men bitidde. 1390 *GOWER Conf.* II. 67 Who that wolde ensample take . . Of many a wondre hiere he mihte. 1398 *TREVISIA Barth. De P.R.* xvi. xlvi. (1495) L iij b/1 Gete . . is kyndled in water and quenched in oyle: and that is wonder. a1425 *Cursor M.* 11 (Trin.) Man 3ernen . . romaunce rede . . Of kyng Arthour . . Of wondris þat his knyghts felle. 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* 47 b, I ought . . not turne my tale to talke of Robbyn Hoode, . . or to speake wounderis of the man in the Mone. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W. v.* i. 13 Bee you in the Parke about midnight, at Hernes-Oake, and you shall see wonders.

1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] tr. *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* III. xvi. 171 Some of these Lakes be very hote, which is another wonder. 1611 BEAUM. & FL. *Philaster* II. i. The love of boyes unto their Lords is strange, I have read wonders of it. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 136 They talk Wonders of her Beauty. 1784 COWPER *Task* IV. 563 The chilling tale Of midnight murder was a wonder... told to frighten babes. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* xix. Why should you make a wonder of my wearing the badge of my company? 1890 HARTLAND *Science of Fairy Tales* i. (1891) 1 The weary hunters beguile the long silence of a desert night with the mirth and wonders of a tale.

† b. app. = MIRACLE sb. 4. *Obs.*

1435 MISYN *Fire of Love* 5 No3t standyng in ydilnes, nor to plays no wondyrs rynnynge.

† 5. a. Evil or shameful action; evil; pl. evil or horrible deeds. *Obs.*

1154 O.E. *Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1137, I ne can ne i ne mai tellen alle þe wonder ne alle þe pines ðæt hi didnen wrecce men on þis land. c1200 *Vices & Virtues* 15 Ic ne mai rimen... alle ðo sennes, ... ne alle ðo wundren ðe ich, wrecche senfulle, habbe idon. a1225 *Ancr. R.* 72 Moni mon weneð to don wel þat he deð alto cweade [MS. C. wonder]. c1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 69 Pride made angel deuel dwale, Ðat made... euerilc wonder, and euerile wo. *Ibid.* 3588. a1300 K. *Horn* 1440 (Cott.) Fykenild me hap gon vnder Ant do rymenild sum wonder.

† b. Destruction, disaster. *Obs.*

c1205 LAY. 7855 þa scipen wenden to wundre oðer half hundred. *Ibid.* 12590 Heo sloþen þer muchel wonder, twa & fifti hundred. 13... *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 16 Bretayn... Where werre, & wrake, & wonder Bi syþez has wont þer-inne.

† c. Great distress or grief. *Obs.*

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 5262 Yn þe put... He sagh so moche sorowe and wundyr, Of fendes fele þat pere wore. c1430 *Syr Tryam.* 190 (Percy Fo.), Of this... I have great wonder; for sorrow my hart will breake assunder. a1600 *Northumberland Betrayed by Douglas* II. in Child *Ball.* III. 411 As woe and wonder be them among!

6. Phraseological uses. † a. to wonder: dreadfully, horribly, terribly. (Cf. sense 5.) *Obs.*

c1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* xxiii. 654 Ealle men hine fram stowe to stowe brudon and to wundre tawedon. c1230 *Hali Meid.* (1922) 23 Leccherie seið 'schome þe menske of þi meidenhad,' & tukeð hire to wundre [v.r. al to wundre]. a1300 *Cursor M.* 22606 Heuen he sal se part in sundre, And he sal here it cri to wonder.

b. to a wonder, in early use also † to wonder [after F. à merveille], marvellously, wonderfully, marvellously well. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1661 GLANVILL *Van. Dogm.* 175 The unparalleled'd Des-Cartes hath unriddled their dark Physiology, and to wonder solv'd their Motions. 1698 CROWNE *Caligula* IV. Y'are to a wonder fair. a1700 EVELYN *Diary* 27 Jan. 1658, Sentences in Latin and Greeke, which on occasion he would produce even to wonder. 1751 *Female Foundling* II. 11 He is better to a Wonder. 1792 COWPER *Let. to Carwardine* 11 June, His motives were not, nor could be, of the amorous kind, for she was ugly to a wonder. 1828 LYTTON *Pelham* xxxi, I have flattered him to a wonder! 1843 THACKERAY *Mr. & Mrs. Berry* II, He ties his white neckcloth to a wonder.

† c. to think wonder [THINK v.1] (const. dative of person): to seem a matter of astonishment (to); hence, of the person, to be astonished, to marvel, wonder. So, rarely, to think it wonder, [THINK v.2] to be amazed at it. *Obs.*

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 33þonne ne pincþ us þæt nan wundor. c1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 484 Wundor me ðincð eower ðingræden. c1200 ORMIN 218 All þe folc... puhhte mikell wunddr forrwhi þe preost swa lannge wass... att Godess allterr. a1225 *Ancr. R.* 8 3if him püncheð wonder & selkuð of swuch onswere. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 1786 Of þe dede here men may thynk wonder, For alle thyng it brestes in sonder. 1362 LANGE. P. Pl. A. III. 176 Whi þou wrappest þe now wonder me pinkþ. a1586 MONTGOMERIE *Misc. Poems* xl. 54 Quhat Natur works, we may not think it wonder.

d. it (or † that) is (was, were, etc.) no wonder: it is (etc.) not surprising; usually with dependent that- or if-clause. Similarly, it is † great, little, small wonder, it is very, not very surprising; it is (a) wonder, wonder it is, it is wonderful.

† a wonder is to speak, it is surprising to tell... † make it no wonder, do not be surprised at it.

a900 CYNEWULF *Crist* 1016 Forþon nis ænig wundor hu him worulðmonna se onclæne gecynd cearam sorgende hearde ondrede. c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 23 Hit nis nan wonder þah mon sunezie oðer hwile unwaldeas, ah hit is muchele mare wonder 3if he nule nefre swiken. c1200 ORMIN 9327 & tatt nass wunnderr pwerit ut nan þatt he wass wis o lare. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 378, & lute wonder it was þat strange men in is owe lond dode a such trespas. 13... *Cursor M.* 746 (Gött.) Wonþer was hu he pider wan. c1320 *Sir Tristr.* 2215 Sore him greued his vene, As it no wonder nes. 1362 LANGE. P. Pl. A. v. 102 3if schrift schulde hit þenne swopen out, a gret wonder hit were. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 382 Though god his grace caste aweie No wondir is. a1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 811 þare slike wirschip he wan ware wonder to tell. c1400 *Brut* I. 1 þere pey lyved in ioy and merthe y-now, that it was wonder to wete. c1520 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 85 And it is wonder that your wyld Insolence Can be content with Measure presence. c1540 tr. *Pol. Verg. Engl. Hist.* (Camden No. 29) 50 He went... to the duke of Bedford, whose arrivall, a wonder is to speake, how much it encouraged his owne frendes. c1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) II. 167 For he affeird, it wes na wonder, His cursour sult him cast. 1579 W. FULKE *Heskins' Parl.* 168 It was a wonder, howe the corporall nature passed through the impenetrable body. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* III. II. 193, I must away to day before night come, Make it no wonder. 1600 E. BLOUNT tr. *Conestaggio* 268 It was therefore no woonder, if without the kings consent... he attempted many things. 1651 HOBBS *Leviath.* III. xxxv. 219 It were a wonder there is no greater notice taken of it. 1673 *Vinegar & Mustard* (1873) 19 That's a wonder you have none of your trollops with you. 1706 E.

WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 100 If he has a Reversion clear of Incumbrances, it's a Wonder. 1741 WARBURTON *Div. Legat.* VI. VI. II. 639 It is no Wonder his Arguments should look asquint. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* III. IV, 'No Man is wise at all Hours'; it is therefore no Wonder that a Boy is not so. 1860 THACKERAY *Lovelie*, You consume more tea than all my family, ... and as much sugar and butter—well, it's no wonder you are bilious!

e. Without verb, esp. in no wonder that, if, or though; similarly, small wonder that (etc.), what wonder if...? Also interjectionally in (and) no wonder!, and what wonder!

Cf. L. *nimirum*, Gr. οὐ θαῦμα, θαῦμα οὐδέν. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 100 No wonder thogh he siketh ofte. a1400 *Pistill of Susan* 201 And heo wepte for wo, no wonder, I wene. c1400 T. CHESTRE *Launfal* 204 No wonther dough me smerte. c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 360/1 Nowundyr, (P. nowonder), *nimirum*. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* III. viii. 103 Na wondir, this is the selcouth Caribdis. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* III. VI. 11 Will poore Folkes lye...? Yes; no wonder, When Rich ones scarce tell true. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* III. 606 What wonder then if fields and regions here Breathe forth Elixir pure. 1795-6 WORDSW. *Borderers* II. 812 *Her.* I was alarmed. *Mar.* No wonder; this is a place That well may put some fears into your heart. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* IV, Pa's miserable, and no wonder! 1862 H. KINGSLEY *Ravenshoe* xviii, She has given her honest little heart away—and what wonder! 1891 FARRAR *Darkn. & Dawn* xxxix, No wonder Nero loves her better than that pale sad lady who sits among the six Vestals. 1913 H. L. JACKSON *Eschatol.* *Jesus* 6 If 'the great authorities differ' small wonder that weaker minds are in doubt.

f. the wonder is..., what is surprising is... 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* v. iii. 316 *Edg.* He is gon indeed. *Kent.* The wonder is, he hath endur'd so long. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* xi, The wonder is, not that there should be so many fatal accidents, but that any journey should be safely made. 1856 MISS YONGE *Daisy Chain* I. IV, The only wonder was, that it had not happened sooner.

g. for a wonder: as an instance of a surprising fact; strange to say.

1782 BOSWELL *Jrnl.* 16 July in *Boswell, Laird of Auchinleck* (1977) 456 While she was out, my father and Lady Auchinleck called, for a wonder. 1811 PRINCESS CHARLOTTE *Let.* 13 Nov. (1949) 12 Soon for a wonder I plucked up courage & went in. 1856 READE *Never too Late* xxvii, For a wonder he was not sea-sick. 1881 SAINTSBURY *Dryden* vii. 145 For a wonder Dryden resists... his unhappy tendency to exaggerate the coarseness of his subjects.

h. in the name of wonder: used with an interrogative word to give emphasis to a question; also *colloq.* or *dial.* shortened to the wonder.

1626 MASSINGER *Roman Actor* IV. II, In the name of wonder, What's Cæsar's purpose? 1716 ADDISON *Freeholder* No. 9 ¶ 12 What in the name of wonder do you mean? 1862 MRS. H. WOOD *Mrs. Hallib.* xxxv, How the wonder do you manage it? 1889 R. BRIDGES *Feast of Bacchus* III. 814 Who in the name of wonder are these queer foreigners?

i. wonders will never cease: that is indeed surprising; now freq. *ironic.*

1828 T. CREEVEY *Let.* 11 Feb. in *Creevey's Life & Times* (1934) xii. 258 Off he went with, 'Well, Creevey, wonders will never cease!' I met Lord Bathurst at the Duke of Buccleuch's [etc.]. 1837 DICKENS *Pickwick Papers* xlv. 489 Vonders vill never cease... I'm wery much mistaken if that 'ere jingle worn't a doin' somethin' in the vater-cart way! 1902 CONRAD *Typhoon* xxiv. 191 'Solomon says wonders will never cease,' cried Mrs. Rout joyously. 1962 M. SUMMERTON *Nightingale at Noon* (1963) viii. 105, I offered: 'I'll help you...' She... gave me a cheeky grin. 'Hear that! Wonders will never cease!' 1974 A. PRICE *Other Paths to Glory* I. vii. 88 Wonders will never cease... Early Tudor—practically untouched.

II. 7. a. The emotion excited by the perception of something novel and unexpected, or inexplicable; astonishment mingled with perplexity or bewildered curiosity. Also, the state of mind in which this emotion exists; † an instance of this, a fit of wonderment.

c1290 *St. Dunstan* 8 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 19 þat folk stod al in gret wonder. 1382 WYCLIF *Luke* v. 26 And greet wondir took alle men, and thei magnyfieden God. c1450 *Mirk's Festial* 18 When Thomas had soo ydo, anon he criet for wondyr and for fere. 1561 HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtier* II. (1577) K vij b, Then he turning about, and beholding him... with a wonder [orig. *con marauiglia*] stayed a while without any word. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V.* II. IV. 135 You'll find a difference, As we his Subjects haue in wonder found. 1611 *Bible* Acts iii. 10 They were filled with wonder and amazement at that which had happened vnto him. 1659 *Vulg. Err. Cens.* 31 Galen was hushd into a wonder by some anatomical observations. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* III. 542 Satan... Looks down with wonder at the sudden view Of all this World at once. a1700 EVELYN *Diary* 23 Nov. 1690, Lord Godolphin, now resuming the commission of the Treasury to the wonder of all his friends. 1738 GRAY *Tasso* 25 Fix'd in wonder stood the warlike pair. 1770 GOLDSM. *Des. Vill.* 215 And still they gazed, and still the wonder grew, That one small head could carry all he knew. 1814 CARY *Dante, Parad.* XXXI. 31 The grim brood... Stood in mute wonder 'mid the works of Rome. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lxxv, Max and Fritz were at the door listening with wonder to Mrs. Becky's sobs and cries. 1870 LOWELL *Among my Books* Ser. I. 143 The faculty of wonder is not defunct, but is only getting more and more emancipated from the unnatural service of terror.

† b. to have wonder, to be greatly surprised; to marvel: = WONDER v. 1, 2. *Obs.*

a1300 *Cursor M.* 17288 & 171 I was our lordez ordinans, for-þi no wonder has. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* III. 485 And quhen he hard sa blaw & cry, He had wondir quhat it mycht be. c1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints x.* (*Mathou*) 121 All þat harde hyme, 3ald or 3ynge, Had wondyre þat sik grace suld be In ony manne. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* I. xiv. 55 Thenne syre Arthur dyd so merueillously in armes that all men had

wondyr. 1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxxii. 37 Thay saw that I nocht gladder wax of cheir, And thair of had thai winder. † c. Profound admiration. *Obs.*

a1586 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetry* (Arb.) 19 To so vnbeleued a poynt hee proceeded, as that no earthly thing bred such wonder to a Prince, as to be a good horseman. 1588 SHAKS. *L.L.L.* IV. II. 117 All ignorant that soule, that sees thee without wonder. 1605 — *Macb.* I. III. 92 His Wonders and his Prayes doe contend, Which should be thine, or his. 1607 BP. HALL *Holy Observ.* I. XX. (1609) 32 No man hath beene so exquisite, but some haue detracted from him, euen in those qualities which haue seemed most worthy of wonder to others.

8. [f. WONDER v. 2.] A state of wondering (whether, etc.). *rare.*

1853 MRS. GASKELL *Ruth* xix, Many profound secrets... most of which related to their wonders if Jimema and Mr. Farquhar would ever be married. 1889 'J. S. WINTER' Mrs. *Bob* IV. (1891) 45 Haunted by... a wonder whether he would find his way to St. Eve's.

III. attrib. and Comb.

9. Simple attrib. (sometimes passing into adj.). a. = 'that is a wonder, marvel, or prodigy', as wonder-avenue, -beauty, boy, -child (after G. wunderkind), drug, -flower, -gleam, -goal, -horse, -look, -night, -sight (after G. wundergesicht), -treasure, -woman.

1838 LONGF. in *Life* (1891) I. 293 The great wonder-flowers bloom but once in a lifetime; as marriage and death. 1845 J. C. MANGAN *German Anthol.* I. 185 But, lol a wonder-sight!—Ere long Rose, blooming... The fairest lily ever seen. 1866 HOWELLS *Venetian Life* viii. 120 That wonder-avenue of palaces [the Grand Canal]. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Miner's Right* xli, You... discover so many wonder-treasures... that you will never consent to return. 1890 — *Col. Reformer* xviii, A Pharos, a wonder-sign, an exemplar throughout all the civilised world. 1896 *Catholic Mag.* May 258 Hermann Cohen, by reason of his marvellous piano-playing, was looked upon as a 'wonder-child'. 1921 D. H. LAWRENCE *Sea & Sardinia* v. 210 Real fresh wonder-beauty all around. 1922 — *Aaron's Rod* xviii. 269 The glimmer of the open flower, the wonder-look, still lasted. 1927 E. O'NEILL *Marco Millions* III. i. 167 Worth while your waiting, eh? ... Yes, my wonder boy! 1927 A. CONAN DOYLE *Case-Bk. Sherlock Holmes* 15 A wonder-woman in every way. 1929 R. BRIDGES *Test. Beauty* IV. 188 The shifting hues that sanctify the silent dawn with wonder-gleams. 1938 *Encycl. Brit. Bk. of Year* 38/2 The one signed work in the series... was the wonder-child of the project. 1939 *Time* 14 Aug. 50/2 Sulfanilamide, the 'wonder drug', introduced into the U.S. in 1936, is credited with remarkable cures. 1939 Wonder horse [see SECOND-GUESSER]. 1939 JOYCE *Finnegans Wake* 395 You know her, our angel being, one of romance's fadeless wonderwomen. 1948 Wonder drug [see SUBTILIN]. 1958 P. SCOTT *Mark of Warrior* I. 82 Ramsay's something of a wonder boy. He'll be top cadet of the course. 1975 *Daily Tel.* 18 June 2/8 Experts... began work on the vaccines following the failure of the post-war 'wonder drugs' such as sulphonamides and penicillin to wipe out these two diseases. 1976 *West Lancs. Evening Gaz.* 15 Dec. I. 4/7 He scored a superb hat trick with a wonder goal to round it off. 1976 *Liverpool Echo* 23 Nov. 7/1 Southport's golden sands, world famous as the training track of wonderhorse Red Rum. 1980 'R. B. DOMINIC' *Attending Physician* xiv. 117 Senator Gerald Ewell was a Democrat... 'What's Wonder Boy done this time?' demanded Tony. 1980 I. HUNTER *Malcolm Muggeridge* IV. 59 Various bizarre proposals to sort out and rearrange our genes so that everyone will become a superhero and wonderwoman. 1985 *Times* 2 Jan. 15/2 The word from the market is that a replacement 'wonder drug' is now in clinical trials.

b. = 'of wonder or wonders', as wonder-book, -city, -life, -literature, song, -story, -tale, -world (cf. G. wunderwelt).

1851 HAWTHORNE (title) *A Wonder-Book for Girls and Boys*, (including 'Tanglewood Tales'). 1851 H. MELVILLE *White I.* 7 The great flood-gates of the wonder-world swung open. 1854 *Zoologist* XII. 4487 A kind of wonder-story in zoology. 1865 TYLOR *Early Hist. Man.* VI. 144 The native wonder-tales must only be told in the winter. 1881 — *Anthropol.* 380 It is known to be only a version of the... wonder-tale told by Herodotus. 1895 KIPLING *Seven Seas* (1896) 84 The everlasting Wonder Song of Youth! 1896 *Tablet* 15 Feb. 257 That Asiatic wonder-world, the Indian Empire. 1896 J. DAVIDSON *Fleet St. Ecl.* Ser. II. 78 To wonder-worlds of old romance Our aching thoughts for solace run. 1905 ROOSEVELT *Outdoor Pastimes* XI. 339 To read and enjoy the wonder-book of nature. 1907 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 Sept. 6/2 All our wonder-literature. *Ibid.* 20 Sept. 2/1 Everything in that wonder-city [sc. Fez] was so like a half-remembered dream. 1929 R. BRIDGES *Test. Beauty* III. 105 With what other numberless wonder-lives of the Saints they wrote.

c. = 'miraculous, magic, magical', as wonder-offspring, -staff (cf. G. wunderstab magic wand), -stroke.

1846 TRENCH *Mirac.* Introd. IV. §3. 46 By a mighty wonder-stroke of grace the polarity in the man is shifted. *Ibid.* xxix. 421 *note*, Sometimes [in early Christian art] he [sc. Jesus] is touching with his wonder-staff the head of Lazarus. 1907 *N. & Q.* 10th Ser. VIII. 208/2 The belief in such wonder-offspring was once as common in Europe.

10. a. Objective and obj. genitive, as wonder-bearing, -exciting, -hiding, -loving, -promising, -raising, -seeking, -stirring, -writing adjs.; † wonders-doing adj.; wonder-hider, -seeker, wonder-worth, -worthy adjs; instrumental, as wonder-dumb, -fed, -ridden, -smit, -stricken, -struck, † -strucken, -wide, -wounded adjs.; wonder-beaming, -striking, -teeming, -waiting adjs.; † wonder-rap [RAP v.3], -strike vbs.

1799 CAMPBELL *Pleas. Hope* I. 130 Wilt thou, with him [sc. Newton],... watch the shrine with *wonder-beaming eye?

1552 HULOET, *Wonders doynge, *mirificus*. **1898** HARDY *Wessex Poems* 167 Shy birds stood Watching us, *wonder-dumb. **1855** MILMAN *Lat. Christ.* xiv. ii. (1864) IX. 77 This *wonder-fed and wonder-seeking worship. **1831** CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* iii. viii, The deceptions, and *wonder-hiding stupefactions, which Space practises on us. **1851** *Zoologist* IX. 3167 The *wonder-loving and credulous Northmen. **1817** COLERIDGE *Biog. Lit.* viii. (Bohn) 64 The *wonder-promising Matter, that was to perform all these marvels. **1813** — *Remorse* Epil. 28 Saintly hermits' *wonder-raising acts. **1612** J. DAVIES *Muses Sacrif.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 27/2 O sight of force to *wonder-rap all Eyes! **1791** COWPER *Odyssey* vi. 199 *Wonder-rapt I gaze. **1916** D. H. LAWRENCE *Amores* 76, I see each shadow start with recognition, and I Am *wonder-ridden. **1599** T. M[OUTFET] *Silkworms* 53 Then list a while, you *wonder-seekers great. **1856** FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* I. iv. 296 The phenomena known to modern wonder-seekers as those of somnambulism or clairvoyance. **1855** *Wonder-seeking [see *wonder-fed*]. **1615** SYLVESTER *Job Triumph.* iii. 99 Therefore, before Him, am I *wonder-smit. **1799** *Cupid & Psyche* 33 He'll tell the *wonder-stirring tales. **1818** SHELLEY *Laon & Cythna* v. xliii. 114 The morning's golden mist, Which now the *wonder-stricken breezes kist With their cold lips, fled. **1855** SINGLETON *Virgil* I. 51 At whose lay wonder-stricken were the pards. **1856** HAWTHORNE *Engl. Note-bks.* (1870) II. 65 The...mysterious plan which perplexes and *wonder-strikes me in most cathedrals. **1644** VICARS *God in Mount* 4 The memorable and *wonder-striking Parliamentarie mercies. **1598** SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. ii. 1. *Noah* 597 Ashamed, *wonder-strook. **1638-56** COWLEY *Davidis* IV. 855 If wonder-strook I at your words appear, My wonder yet is Innocent of Fear. **1796** MME. D'ARBLAY *Camilla* II. xiii, [She] seemed wonder-struck, without knowing why. **1817** MALTHEUS *Popul.* II. 210 Great and astonishing as this difference is, we ought not to be so wonder-struck at it. **1628** MURE *Doomesday* 562 *Wonder-strucken wights. **1798** SOUTHEY *Blenheim* v, With *wonder-waiting eyes. **1922** JOYCE *Ulysses* 530 Milly Bloom...calls, her young eyes *wonderwide. **1864** BROWNING *Dram. Pers.*, *Abt Vogler* 44 Had I painted the whole, Why, there it had stood, to see, nor the process so *wonder-worth. **1622** MIDDLETON *Honour & Virtue* Wks. (Bullen) VII. 361 Which is not the least *wonder-worthy note. **1905** G. BLOUNT *Rustic Renaiss.* i. 10 [This] is in itself a wonder-worthy paradox. **1602** SHAKS. *Ham.* v. i. 280 Like *wonder-wounded hearers. **1603** in J. DAVIES *Microcosmos* Wks. (Grosart) I. 103/1 His *wonder-writing Hand.

b. advb., = 'wonderfully'. (After G. *wundergross*, *wunderschön*, etc.; cf. *WONDER adv.*) *wonder-fine*.

1872 J. PAYNE *Songs Life & Death* 214 Oh, wonder-lovely maidens were the seven! **1903** *Westm. Gaz.* 14 Feb. 2/1 Oh, how wonder-beautiful! **1904** *Ibid.* 12 Feb. 2/3 Delicate wonder-white crystals. **1929** R. BRIDGES *Test. Beauty* I. 29 Not to these look we with grateful pleasur or satisfaction of soul, wonder-fine tho' they be.

11. Special comb.: *wonder-bag*, a Negro amulet, = OBEAH I; *wonder-horn*, (a) a cornucopia of marvels; (b) a magical horn; *wonder-man*, a wonder-worker; also in weakened sense, a man whose achievements are admired; †*wonder-master*, a magician; †*wonder-maze* v. *intr.* and *trans.*, to be amazed, or to amaze, with wonder; *wonder rabbi*, in the Chasidic movement, a TSADDIK; *Wonder State U.S.*, a nickname for the state of Arkansas.

1793 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Ep. the Pope* Wks. 1812 III. 209 Quako...full of negro faith in conjuration, Loaded his jackass deep with *wonder-bags Of Monkeys' teeth, glass, horsehair, and red rags. **1864** LOWELL *Fireside Trav.* 178 Their world was a huge *wonder-horn. **1906** *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 231 Was it that the wonder-horn was still echoing from the far-off, summoning the man...to the soul-roads? **1883** STALLYBRASS tr. *Grimm's Teut. Mythol.* III. 1232 He was the greatest magician or *wonder-man of them all. **1901** *Daily News* 9 Feb. 6/1 Cornelius Drebbel, 'the wonder-man of Alkmaar'. **1933** *Amer. Speech* VIII. iii. 39/2 *Wonderman*. Foreign fighters are often thus described [by sports writers]. **1935** WODEHOUSE *Luck of Bodkins* xv. 173 They get the idea that they are sort of wonder-men who can just look around and find talent where nobody else would suspect it. **1961** *Catholic Herald* 23 June 3/1 (heading) De Gaulle, hero and wonderman. **1962** A. SAMPSON *Anat. of Britain* xxvii. 450 In Whitehall he had the reputation of a wonderman, and had even been tipped by some as an eventual head of the Treasury. **1603** HARSNET *Pop. Impost.* 57 This foule *wonder-maister is too full of wonders euer to be good. **1603** in J. DAVIES *Microcosmos* Wks. (Grosart) I. 7/2 Men did *wonder-maze, Which wonderment, this later work of thine (Not by detracting from it) doth deface. **1618** J. DAVIES *Wit's Pilgr.* *ibid.* II. 51/1 Hee taught...Rights Ruines to repaire...with Words, that wonder-mazed men. **1907** I. ZANGWILL *Ghetto Comedies* 409 We Chassidim have no fear. Our *wonder-rabbi has power over all the spheres. **1970** C. KERSH *Aggravations of Minnie Ashe* i. 11 [Her] father had been a wonder rabbi in some obscure Jewish village in Galicia—a worker of miracles. **1923** *Gen. Acts Arkansas* 804 Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Arkansas... That hereafter Arkansas shall be known and styled 'The *Wonder State'.

†*wonder*, a. *Obs.* Forms: see prec. [repr. OE. *wundor* *WONDER sb.* in compounds, as *wundorcraft* marvellous skill or power, *wundordéed* miracle, *wundortācen* wondrous sign, miracle, prodigy (so OS. *wundarquāla* extreme torment, OHG. *wuntarsiht* 'spectaculum', MHG., G. *wundertat* miracle, ON. *undrsjón* spectacle, etc.; see also *WONDER THING*); cf. the similar origin of MAIN a., and see *WONDERS a.*] *Wonderful*, wondrous, marvellous. *on* or *in* (a) *wonder* wise,

wonderfully (cf. MLG. *wunderwīs(e adv.)*). See also *WONDER THING*, *WONDER-WORK*.

a 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 235 He cweð a wonder word to par sawle bi þa witte ysaiam. **c 1205** LAY. 1147 Heo dude wnder craftes. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6919 þat folc com pikke amorwe to se þis wonder dede. *Ibid.* 8593 þe sichte 3er per com also a wel wonder cace. **c 1350** *Will. Palerne* 1873 So wonder a wilde best þat weldes no mynde. **13..** E.E. *Allit.* P. A. 1095 So sodanly on a wonder wyse, I was war of a proressyoun. **c 1374** CHAUCER *Troilus* I. 419 Allas what is þis wonder maladye. **c 1382** *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) I. 250 This warnynges beoth wonder and feole. **1393** LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. II. 126 In wonderwyse holy wryt tellith how þei fullen. **a 1400** *Hymns Virg.* (1895) 46 Wyyn of watir he makip blyue, And doop manye a wondir dede. **c 1425** *Engl. Cong. Irel.* 130 About that tyme, befel a wonder aduentur yn a wodde of Myth. **c 1425** *Seven Sag.* (P.) 2643 Thou schalt telle me of that cas; Hyt hys the wonderest that ever I herde. **1470-85** MALORY *Arthur* xvii. i. 689 He passed by a Castel where was a wonder turnement. **a 1529** SKELTON *E. Rummyng* 73 With clothes vpon her hed... Wrythen in wonder wyse, After the Sarasyns gyse. **1535** COVERDALE *2 Chron.* xxxii. 24 And he prayed vnto the Lorde, which made him promes, and gaue him a wonder-token. **c 1590** GREENE *Fr. Bacon* iv. 58 And, wonder Vandermast, welcome to me.

wonder ('wanda(r)), v. Forms: I *wundrian*, 3-4 *wondri*, 4-5 *woundre*, 4-6 *wondre*, *wondir*, (3) *wundren*, *wundre*, *wndre*, *wundrie*, *wondry*, *Orm.* *wunndrenn*, 4 *wondur*, 5 *wondyr*, *wundur*, *wunderon*, *wunderyn*, 5-6 *wunder*, *wounder*, -ir, 6-7 *woonder*, 4- *wonder*. [OE. *wundrian* = OS. *wundrōn*, (M)Du. *wonderen*, OHG. *wuntarōn* (MHG., G. *wundern*), ON. *undra* (Sw. *undra*, Da. *undre*): f. *WONDER sb.*]

1. *intr.* To feel or be affected with wonder; to be struck with surprise or astonishment, to marvel. Also *occas.* to express wonder in speech. **a.** in OE. const. genitive of the object of wonder, also with preps., now nearly always *at*, *occas.* *over*, formerly also *on*, *upon*, *of*.

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxiv. §10, Hwa mæð þæt he ne wundrie swelcra gesceafte ures scyppendes? **971** *Blickl. Hom.* 33 Nis þæt to wundrigenne...þæt he acwæld ben wolde. *Ibid.* 153 He gehyrde heora þrowunga & he þa wundrode æfter þære gesihpe. **a 1000** *Phœnix* 331 Donne wundriað weras ofer eorþan wlite & wæstma. **c 1000** *Ags. Gosp.* Mark vi. 2 Manege gehyrdon & wundrodron on his lare. **c 1200** ORMIN 7633 Josæp... & Marje... wundredenn bape off all þatt hemm was cwiddedd tære off Criste. **a 1250** *Owl & Night* 228 þu flist a nist and noyt a-dai, þar-of ich wndri. **c 1250** *Gen. & Ex.* 3716 3etenisse men ben in ebron, Quilec men mai 3et wunden on. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5353 In lepes & in coufles so moche viss hii ssolleþ hom bringe, þat ech mon ssal wondry of so gret caccinge. **a 1300** *Cursor M.* 18774 Godmen o galilee, apon quat thing sa wonder yee? **c 1386** CHAUCER *Sqr.'s T.* 217 Somme of hem wondred on the Mirour... Hou men myghte in it swiche thynges se. **c 1430** *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 7599 Mirabel wondred of hir woo, Whi hir ladie ferd soo. **1483** CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 125 b/1 All the peple drewe to hym and wondred on hym. **1529** MORE *Dyaloge* x. 16 b/2 We nothyng wonder at the ebbing and flowyng of the see. **1590** SHAKS. *Mids. N.* IV. i. 136, I wonder of this being heere together. **a 1600** MONTGOMERIE *Misc. Poems* xxiv. 16 O, wareit be my weird, For wondring on a deitie diuine. **1667** MILTON *P.L.* ix. 856 Hast thou not wonderd, Adam, at my stay? **1753** RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1754) IV. 191, I wonder at you. **1780** COWPER *Progr. Err.* 191 Rufillus...Wonders at Clodio's follies, in a tone As tragical, as others at his own. **1818** J. W. CROKER *Jrnl.* 7 Dec. in *C. Papers* (1884) I. iv. 123, I cannot but wonder at her living here and bearding the Prince in a way so indelicate. **1844** EMERSON *Lect. New Eng. Ref.* Wks. (Bohn) I. 273 The unwise... wonders at what is unusual, the wise man wonders at the usual. **1919** B. CAPES *Skel. Key* xvii. 213 His benevolent truthfulness was a thing to wonder over.

b. with clause expressing the motive or object of wonder.

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke i. 21 þæt folc wæs zachariam geandbiðende, & wundrodron þæt he on þam temple læt wæs. **c 1386**, **c 1430** [see *a*]. **1553** *Respublica* 602 Nowe I doe lesse wonder that lost men, life to save, Ferre from lande dooe Labour againste the roring wave. **1596** DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 36 This causes men meruellouslie to wondir, that vndir that earth ar fund gret stokis... of wondirful akes and vthir tries. **1599** SHAKS. *Much Ado* I. i. 117, I wonder that you will still be talking, signior Benedicke, no body markes you. **1671** MILTON *Samson* 215, I oft have heard men wonder Why thou shouldst wed Philistian women rather Than of thine own Tribe fairer. **1676** in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 33, I wonder my father would not ease himselfe from his Haddon iniquities by staying at Belvoir. **1708** SWIFT *Bickerstaff Detected* 5 A Thir Rogue tips me by the Elbow, and wonders how I have the Conscience to sneak abroad. **1846** GREENER *Sci. Gummery* 133 We wonder the parties did not take a patent for the discovery. **1885** 'MRS. ALEXANDER' *At Bay* vii, I wonder he is not more confidential with you.

c. const. to with inf. (usually = *at* with gerund).

1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] tr. *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* III. xix. 183 When we goe... to the Indies, wee wonder to see the land so pleasant, greene and fresh. **1711** ADDISON *Spect.* No. 34 ¶4 He wondered to hear a Man of his Sense talk after that Manner. **1798** FERRIAR *Illustr. Sterne*, etc. 222 We cannot wonder to find a joint occasionally added to this part. **1840** THACKERAY *Pictorial Rhapsody* Concl., Wks. 1900 XIII. 354 The drawing is executed in a manner so loose and slovenly that one wonders to behold it.

d. in indirect passive (now only in *to be wondered at* as adj. or pred. phr.).

1532 MORE *Confut. Barnes* VIII. Wks. 741/2 He had so monstrously dressed himself he would be wondered on. **1549** COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. Rom.* xii. 16-19 That to hymself... he seme a stoute felow and one to be wondered

at. **1588** SHAKS. *L.L.L.* v. ii. 266 Are these the breed of wits so wondered at? **a 1701** MAUNDRELL *Journ. Jerus.* (1732) 28 Nor is this ignorance to be much wondered at. **1825** SCOTT *Talism.* xi, It cannot be wondered at if he took such opportunities as offered.

e. Without construction. Now *rare*.

c 1205 LAY. 473 3if heo willeð frescipe bi-winnen ne wndre pou nawiht per fore. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 11409 A sterre... þat comete icluped is Aros... þat ech man miȝte wondri þat þe sterre isei. **c 1380** WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 306 Herfore þei alle abaishiden and woundriden. **1390** GOWER *Conf.* I. 185 Wherof thei merveile everychon, Bot Elda wondreth most of alle. **1533** FRITH *Answ. More* (1548) Dvjb, They... vnderstode not the Spirituall wordes of our Sauoure Christe, and therefore wondered and murmured. **1567** Gude & Godlie B. (S.T.S.) 100 Quhen men sall se this haistie suddand change, Than sall thay wonder. **1611** SHAKS. *Cymb.* I. vi. 81, Whil'st I am bound to wonder, I am bound To pity too.

f. *pass.* (obs.) and *refl.* (obs. or dial.) in the same sense. Also †*impers.* (*me wondreth* = I wonder).

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 376 Ne wundrie heo hire nowiht, 3if heo nis nout Marie. **a 1300** *Floriz & Bl.* 354 Mucche he wule ponki þe And of þe supe iwundred beo. **a 1330** *Roland & V.* 161 Me wondrep... þat þu comest nouȝt to do batayl. **c 1330** R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 4295 Vs wondrep at 3owre nuture of pris, þat swylke vilenie in þe now lys. **c 1400** *Destr. Troy* 9821 þof þow wyne to þe wer, wonders vs noght. **a 1400-50** *Wars Alex.* 2856 þai ware so woundird of þat werke. **c 1430** *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. iv. (1869) 3 Yit more j wundrede me of a thing that j seigh. **1533** TINDALE *Supper of Lord Bvjb*, I wonder me, that hys scholmaister here fayled him so conyng as he maketh hym selfe therin.

g. *I shouldn't wonder* (*colloq.*): I should not be surprised (if, etc.).

1836 DICKENS *Sk. Boz*, *Gt. Winglebury Duel*, 'Do you think you could manage to leave a letter there?' interrogated Trot. 'Shouldn't wonder,' responded boots. **1875** JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 19, I should not wonder if he who said this did not understand what he was saying. **1913** EDITH WHARTON *Custom of County* I. iii. 35 Saying... 'I wouldn't wonder' when she thought any one was trying to astonish her.

2. Usually with clause: To ask oneself in wonderment; to feel some doubt or curiosity (*how, whether, why*, etc.); to be desirous to know or learn.

I wonder is often placed after a question which expresses the object of curiosity or doubt; e.g. 'How can that be, I wonder?' = I wonder how that can be. Also *I wonder!*, *colloq.* exclamation expressing doubt, incredulity, or reserve of judgement.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 160 þe stones stondeþ þere so grete... & opere liggeþ heie aboue... þat eche man wondry may hou hii were ferst arered. **1377** LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIX. 199, I wondred what þat was. **1390** GOWER *Conf.* I. 210 Thei wondren what sche wolde mene, And riden after softe pas. **a 1425** tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula* etc. 6 3if the pacent considere or wondre or aske why that he putte hym so long a tyme of curyng. **1590** SHAKS. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 1, I wonder if Titania be awak't. **1611** — *Wint.* T. III. iii. 71 What haue we heere? Mercy on't, a Barne? ... A boy, or a Childe I wonder? **1651** HOBBS *Leviath.* II. xxvi. 139 A man may wonder from whence proceed such opinions. **1681** EVELYN *Let. to Pepys* 6 Dec., P.'s Diary 1879 VI. 138, I know it has been wondered upon what pretence I should have sought to sit at the Navy Board. **1716** ADDISON *Freeholder* No. 43 ¶1 One would wonder how any Person endow'd with... ordinary... Prudence... should [etc.]. **1782** COWPER *John Gilpin* 66 His horse... What thing upon his back had got Did wonder more and more. **1784** — *Task* I. 469 The heart... finds no music in the song... and wonders why. **1847** TENNYSON in *Ld. Tennyson Mem.* (1897) I. 244, I wonder whether you can read this scrawl. **1853** DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* iv, I still remained before the fire, wondering and wondering about Bleak House. **1858** *Punch* XXXIV. 2 Well, I'm sure! What next, I wonder! **1864** MRS. H. WOOD *Ld. Oakburn's Dau.* xvii, 'But what is it all to me?' wondered the captain. **1885-94** R. BRIDGES *Eros & Psyche* Feb. v, Wondering of her wiles, and what the charge Shute in the dark obsidian pyx might be. **1898** J. K. JEROME *2nd Thoughts of Idle Fellow* 5 She wonders would they change it, if she went back. **1922** STORER *CLOUSTON Lunatic at large again* I. vi. 70 'Oh, it was entirely his own idea.' Mr. Mason threw him a curious look. 'I wonder!' said he.

†**3.** *trans.* To regard with wonder; to marvel at: often implying profound admiration (cf. *WONDER sb.* 7 c). *Obs.*

1535 COVERDALE *Ecclus.* ix. 8 Many a man wonderinge the bewtie of a strange woman, haue bene cast out. **1567** PAINTER *Pal. Pleas.* II. 156b, That which was more to be wondred in hym. **1593** R. BARNES *Parthenophil* xxvi. in *Arber's Garner* V. 354 If She be silent, every man in place With silence, wonders her! **1631** HEYWOOD *2nd Pt. Fair Maid West* I. C2, *Good!* You wonder me. *Mull.* No, thou art dull, or fearful, fare thee well. **1821** LAMB *Elia* Ser. I. *My first Play*, I knew nothing, understood nothing, discriminated nothing. I felt to be wondered = it was all.

b. *impers.* *pass.* It is to be wondered = it is to be wondered at (1 d). Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1654 EARL MONM. tr. *Bentivoglio's Wars Flanders* 2 You shall see them so favour'd... as it is not to be wondered if they have made so long opposition. **1771** GOLDSM. *Hist. Eng.* I. 350 It is not then to be wondered, that there were many complaints. **1827** *Westm. Rev.* Apr. 284 If it is wondered that they abused what was in their power. **1886** SYMONDS *Renaiss. It., Cath. Reaction* II. 434 It is not to be wondered that... a mournful discouragement should have descended on the age.

†**4.** To affect or strike with wonder; to cause to marvel, amaze, astound. (See also 1 f.) *Obs.*

1558 G. CAVENDISH *Poems* (1825) II. 123 But how they durst presume it wonders me therefore. **1627** W. SCLATER *Expos. 2 Thess.* (1629) 187 It wonders me to hear the desperate inference. **1638** — *Serm. Experimental* 28 Of all passages in the story of Job, that one thing wonders me. **1788** MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 25 Oct., She alarms me

sometimes for herself, at other times she has a sedateness that wonders me still more.

5. *intr.* To perform wonders. *nonce-use.*

1784 COWPER *Task* IV. 87 Katterfelto, with his hair on end At his own wonders, wond'ring for his bread.

'**wonder**, *adv.* *Obs.* or *arch.* (in later use *Sc.*). Forms: see WONDER *sb.* [Partly OE. *wundor* WONDER *sb.* in compounds, as *wundorágræfen* wonderfully carved (so in OFris. *wundergrât* wonderfully great, OHG. *wunterwas* very sharp, MHG. *wunderschæne* very beautiful); partly OE. *wundrum*, *advb.* dative pl. of *wundor* (cf. MHG. *wundernalt* very old, etc., and the similar use of gen. pl. of ON. *undr* in *undradigr*, *-hár* wondrously big, high, etc.).] Wondrously, marvellously, surprisingly; exceedingly, very.

c1200 ORMIN 7284 Wunderr mikell shame wass till Issraæle pede. c1205 LAY. 1154 þa wnder creftie men. *Ibid.* 1744 þat feht wss wnder strong. 13.. *Cursor M.* 4448 (Gött.) þe king wid þaim wass wonder wrath. c1369 CHAUCER *Dethe Blaunche* 452 (Fairf.) Than founde I sitte even vþryght A wonder wel farynge knyght. c1420 *Prose Life Alex.* 46 This pryncce was a wyghte man. & wonder trewe till Alexander. c1420 *Liber Cocorum* 23 Wasshe hom and hew hom wondur smalle. 1536 CRANMER *Let.* in *Misc. Writ.* (Parker Soc.) 322 Wherein I would wonder fain break my mind unto you. a1550 *Freiris Berwik* 167 in *Dunbar's Poems* (S.T.S.) 290 With that scho smylit woudir lustely. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. (S.T.S.) I. 169 Hadrian heiring this, wass woudir discontent. 1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* II. iv, Now I believe ye like me wonder weel.

†'wonderclout. *Obs. rare.* [f. WONDER *sb.* + CLOUT *sb.*] ? Something showy but worthless.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 228/46 A Wonderclout, blabbe, *garrulus, linguax.* 1593 HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* Z1b, O wretched Atheisme, Hell but a scarecrow, and Heauen but a wonderclout in their doctrine. *Ibid.* Ff4, Her meritorious worke, a Wonderclowte.

wondered ('wändəd), *ppl. a.* [f. WONDER *sb.* or *v.* + -ED.]

†1. Wonderful, marvellous. *Obs.*

c1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* xcvi. ii, Of his actes the wondred story Paint unto each people forth. *Ibid.* cvi. ix, God. . Preserv'd them soe by miracles of might, . . And wondred works. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* viii. 448 Into what sundry gyres her wondred self she throws.

2. *wondered-at:* see WONDER *v.* 1, a, d.

c1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* XXIV. 420 A great time Achilles gaz'd vpon His wondred-at approach. 1615 — *Odyss.* xi. 242 My Father. . vsde no sumptuous beds, Wondred at furnitures. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Let.* 8 Aug. (1881) 96 My. . never-enough-wondered-at Lord Jesus.

¶In the following, *wondred* is virtually in parasynthetic comb. ('performing such rare wonders').

1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* IV. i. 123 So rare a wondred Father.

†'wonderel. *Obs. rare.* In 5 wunderelle, wundrel. [Of Scand. origin (cf. MDa. *underls*): see WONDER *v.* and -ELS (cf. -LE I b).] A wonder, marvel.

c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 534/2 Wunderelle (*K.* wundrel. .), *prodigium.*

wonderer¹ ('wändərə(r)). [f. WONDER *v.* + -ER¹.] One who wonders at something.

1573 BARET *Alv.* W 323 A Wonderer: a marueler, *mirator.* [1589 PUTTENHAM *Engl. Poesie* III. xix. (Arb.) 233 *Paradoxon*, or the Wonderer.] 1602 CHETTLE *Hoffman* III. (1631) F4 b, That giddy wonderers may amazed stand. 1648 GAGE *West Ind.* I To advance that crackt-brain head in the conceits of his European wonderers. 1734 J. RICHARDSON *Milton's Par. Lost* p. xciii, Had the Bishop known This Story. . he would not have been One of the Wonderers at Milton's Escape. 1797 JANE AUSTEN *Sense & Sensib.* xiv, She was a great wonderer, as every one must be who takes a very lively interest in all the comings and goings of all their acquaintance. 1852 R. B. MANSFIELD *Log Water-Lily* 19 At our start, crowds of wonderers hung over the bridge. 1865 DE MORGAN in *Athenæum* 25 Nov. 730/1 His backers and his quizzers, his admirers and his wonderers.

†'wonderer². *Obs. rare.* [f. WONDER *sb.* + -ER¹.] A wonder-worker.

1647 TRAPP *Comm. Rev.* xiii. 4 The Pope can doe whatsoever Christ can doe; yea and more too, it should seem by these wise wonderers.

wonderful ('wändəfʊl), *a.*, (*sb.*), and *adv.* [late OE. *wunderfull*, f. WONDER *sb.* + -FUL; cf. MLG. *wonderfull*, MSw. *under(s)fulder*.] A. *adj.*

1. Full of wonder; such as to excite wonder or astonishment; marvellous; sometimes used trivially = surprisingly large, fine, excellent, etc.

a1100 *Aldhelm Gloss.* I. 2757 (Napier 74/2) *Stupendo*, i. *mirando*, mid wunderful, *spectaculo*, wæfersyne. c1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 177 Wunderliche ben þe sæ ut sondes, and wunderful is ure louerd on þeunesse. c1275 LAY. 280 Hii funde. . þat 3e mid one sone wass wonderfol to telle. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 8575 God sende uor is luperneesse mon deouloual cas in þis lond & wonderoulo. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 6404 Of þe day of dome. . And of þe wondirful takens many, þat salle falle byfor þat day. c1400 *Destr. Troy* 1355 There were wemen to wale, A wonderfull nowmbur. a1425 *Cursor M.* 9314 (Trin.) Men shul him calle nomes sere Wondirful & counsellere. c1450 *Mirk's Festial* 20 þer God worcheth mony wondyrfull myracles for hym. 1508 DUNBAR *Tua Marit Wemen* 451 Wise women has. . wonderfull gydingis, . . to beaiþ ther ielyus husbandis. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 49 The wonderfull and sumptuous woorke of the sepulcher whiche Artemisia made. 1596 J.

SMYTHE in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 91 Whereof ensued unto me. . a wonderfull payne in my stomacke. 1611 *Bible Prov.* xxx. 18 There be three things which are too wonderfull for me; yea foure, which I know not. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* IV. 134 They made a wonderfull massacre of poore afflicted Christians. 1779 MRS. DELANY *Let. to Mrs. Port* 17 Apr., Give him the juice of elivers or goose grass, which is wonderfull, pounded with a little cold water. 1827 CARLYLE *Misc.*, *Richter* (1872) I. 11 The unhappy man persuades himself that he has. . become a new creature, of the wonderfulest symmetry. 1834 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Boarding-ho.* II, Mr. Tomkins. . had a wonderful eye for the picturesque. 1840 FABER *Hymn*, My God, how wonderful Thou art! 1880 BLACKMORE *Mary Anerley* xxxvi. II. 303 Every Sunday morning, he trimmed his whiskers, and put on a wonderful waistcoat. 1884 RUSKIN *Pleas. Eng.* III. §78 Robert Guiscard, the most wonderful soldier of that or any other time.

b. *the wonderful:* that which is wonderful. †Also *sb. pl.* wonderful things.

1727 DE FOE *Syst. Magic* I. iii. (1840) 75 This temper of the people. . drove the magicians. . to a confederacy with the Devil for a supply of wonderfules to delude the people. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* VIII. i, Every Writer may be permitted to deal as much in the Wonderful as he pleases. 1815 W. H. IRELAND *Scribbleomania* 20 One unvarying predilection for the wonderful runs through the whole series of his poems.

†2. Filled with wonder or admiration. *Obs. rare.*

c1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 308 Makinge persones wonderful bi cause of here wyynnyng. 1552 HULOET, *Wonderfull*, . . *admirabundus*. 1583 HARNSET *Serm. Ezek.* in *R. Stuart's Serm.* etc. (1658) 132 The H[oly] Fathers are wonderfull in the contemplation of mans excellency at the first.

B. *adv.* = WONDERFULLY I. Now *dial.*

c1400 Rowland & O. 50 Now come þam. . wondirfull hasty thyhande. 14. . *Sir Beues* (M.) 3866 A wonderfull gret route. 1531 ELYOT *Gov.* I. xi. (1883) I. 79 Cosmographie is to all noble men, nat only pleasant, but. . wonderfull necessary. 1625 BACON *Ess.*, *Boldness* (Arb.) 518 Wonderfull like is the Case of Boldnesse, in Ciuill Businesse. 1722 HEARNE *Collect.* (O.H.S.) VII. 381 Being full of wooden Cutts, w^{ch} makes the Book wonderfull curious. 1786 BURNS *Two Dogs* 84 They're maistly wonderfu' contented. 1885 'MRS. ALEXANDER' *At Bay* ix, She was wonderful fond of Elsie.

wonderfully ('wändəfʊli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY².] In a wonderful manner.

1. So as to excite wonder; †miraculously; to a wonderful degree or extent; marvellously, astonishingly, surprisingly: often passing into a mere intensive = amazingly well or much; extraordinarily, exceedingly.

a1300 E.E. *Psalter* xlv. [xlv]. 6 þy pouste shal laden þe wonderfullliche. 13.. *Cursor M.* 11424 (Gött.) þe stern went forwið þat þaim ledd, And wonderfulli [Cott. ferilic, *Fairf.*, *Trin.* wondirly] þan war þai fedd. a1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xcvi. 1 God. . þat wonderfulli made man and wondirfulliere boght him. a1400 Prymer (1891) 35 He was boren wonderfullliche of a mayde. a1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat.* *Fistula* etc. 69 Ane emplastre of þe white of ane rawe ey and oile. . is seid wonderfulli for to be mitigatiue. a1513 FABYAN *Chron.* VI. cc. (1533) 123 b/2 He arreded excedyngly imposycions of the people, and greued them wonderfully. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* IV. (S.T.S.) I. 237 Eugenie had ane onlie dauchtir. . quha wonderfullie was. . mouet with effectiōne of a religious lyfe. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 813 A chappell wonderfully built out of a rocke hewen hollow. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 23 The conversation of the English abroad, is wonderfullie pleasing unto strangers. 1642 *Caldwell Papers* (Mait. Club) I. 94, I pray God send her safe hither; wee wonderfully want her. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 336, I wonderfully lik'd the Man. 1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. 258 The seed being exceeding small, and to be sown wonderfully thin. 1789 Mrs. Piozzi *Journ. France* I. 149 Their wonderfully-situated metropolis [sc. Venice]. 1839 THACKERAY *Fatal Boots* Jan., It got through the measles wonderfully. 1885 'MRS. ALEXANDER' *Valerie's Fate* iv, It was a capital play, too, and so wonderfully acted.

†2. With wonder or admiration. *Obs. rare.*

c1450 *Merlin* xiii. 200 Ther dide Gawein soche merueilles in armes that wondirfully was he be-holden of hem of logres. 1570 J. DEE *Math. Pref.* *, How Immateriall. . Number is, who doth not perceauē? yea, who doth not wonderfully wonder at it? 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstrel* I. 35 The crowd that wonderfully stares, To hear him talk of things in foreign land.

'wonderfulness. [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality or condition of being wonderful.

†1. The state of being filled with wonder. *Obs. rare.*

1387-8 T. USK *Test. Love* I. ii. (Skeat) I. 14 Angels ben adradde, not by ferdnes of drede, . [but] as [by] affection of wonderfulness and by service of obedience.

2. Wonderful character, marvellousness.

1574 tr. *Marlorat's Apoc.* 3 He called the Wyze men by a strange starre, . the Gentiles by the wonderfulness of Miracles. 1579 TWYNE *Phisicke agst. Fortune* I. xxx. 41 What by the wonderfulness and number of the woorkes, there was nothing in all the whole world to be wondred at, but Rome. 1652 FRENCH *Yorksh. Spaw* III. 32 The wonderfulness of the waters that I shall mention, consists. . in the strangeness of their colours, tastes, [etc.]. 1674 ALLEN *Danger Enthus.* 100 The wonderfulness of his Birth of a Virgin. 1714 DERHAM *Astro-Theol.* IV. ii. (1769) 101 The wonderfulness of the things of the heavens or the earth. 1870 MAX MÜLLER *Sci. Relig.* (1873) 27 The Buddhist. . miracles, which in wonderfulness certainly surpass the miracles of any other religion. 1892 HENLEY *Song of Sword, Lond. Voluntaries* I. 39 Dispossessed of wonderfulness, they stand Beggar and common. 1908 *Athenæum* 22 Aug. 205/1 A knowledge of the wonderfulness of life.

wondering ('wändəriŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. WONDER *v.* + -ING¹.]

1. The action of the verb WONDER.

a900 CYNEWULF *Crist* 89 Hwæt is peos wundrung þe ge wafiað? c1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* xxiii. 627 þa þa he on þære micclan his modes wundrunge þær gestod. a1300 *Cursor M.* 11453 þan þai gedir þam to-gedir, And spak hir-of wit gret wondring. 1382 WYCLIF *Acts* III. 10 And thei weren fulfillid with wondryng, and exstasie. c1386 CHAUCER *Sqr.'s T.* 300 Swich wondryng was ther on this hors of bras. c1450 tr. *De Imitatione* III. lix. 139 He desirþ. . to do suche þinges wherof preisinge & wondring miȝt arise. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 44 Whan he had herd their reasons & had seen their wonderinges. a1500 in *Kingsford Chron. Lond.* (1905) 221 Perkyn was conueyd ayen thorwth Candylwyke strete. . with many a curse and wonderyng Inowth. 1600 SHAKS. *A.Y.L.* III. ii. 181 But didst thou heare without wondering, how thy name should be hang'd and carued vpon these trees? 1645 MILTON *Tetrach.* Wks. 185 I IV. 145 It may save the wondring why in this age many are so opposite both to human and to Christian liberty. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xxiii, Into her mind. . there had stolen solemn wonderings and hopes. 1858 J. MARTINEAU *Stud. Christ.* 291 The infinite wonderings of the religious life.

†2. An object of wonder; a wonder, marvel, prodigy. *Obs. rare.*

a1100 *Aldhelm Gloss.* I. 4370 (Napier 114/2) *Spectaculi*, wundrunge, wæfersyne. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VI. iv. 92 Witles Discord, that wondering maist crewell.

3. *attrib.*, as *wondering food*, *stock* (STOCK *sb.*¹ 59).

c1550 G. WALKER *Dice-Play* (Percy Soc. 1850) 36 The poor boy. . continued. . a wondering-stock to all the house. 1570 FOXE *A. & M.* 72/2 Thus were the bodies of the Martyrs made a wondering stocke. 1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* lxxi. 7 He had. . bin. . counted as a wonderingstocke by reason of his miserable affliction. 1819 KEATS *Otho* I. ii. 111 Let me no longer be the wondering food Of all these eyes.

'wondering, *ppl. a.* [f. WONDER *v.* + -ING².] That wonders.

1592 TIMME *Ten Engl. Lepers* A2, The woondring Queene of Sheba. . presented the most wise Salomon with the golde of Ophyr. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* VIII. 257 Strait toward Heav'n my wondering Eyes I turnd. 1715 POPE *Iliad* I. 524 Then. . the Monster Titan came, . Thro' wondring Skies enormous stalk'd along. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* I. iii, The falcon, from her cairn on high, Cast on the rout a wondering eye. 1840 DICKENS *Old Cur. Shop* xiii, 'Where in the devil's name are they gone?' said the wondering Dick. 1846 MRS. A. MARSH *Fr. Darcy* xxxvi, The two priests could only look on him with a sort of wondering astonishment. 1872 MORLEY *Voltaire* 8 The. . sinister method of assault upon religion which we of a later day watch with wondering eyes.

Comb. 1895 MRS. K. T. HINKSON *Miracle Plays* Proem, Thy little one and wondering-eyed.

wonderingly ('wändəriŋli), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY².] In a wondering manner; in or with wonder.

1556 J. HEYWOOD *Spider & F.* lxii. 33 Two flies together wondringlie. . In talke betweene them selues, as folowith did saie. 1602 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* XI. lxiii. (1612) 272 They, seeing vncouth Men, and Shippes, weare wondringly agaste. a1736 in *Spurgeon Treas. Dav.* Ps. cxxvi. 1 They were looking on each other wonderingly, like sleepers on an empty dream. 1847 C. BRONTË *Jane Eyre* xv, I meditated wonderingly on this incident. 1881 STEVENSON *Virg. Puerisque, Some Portraits by Raeburn*, The little child who looks wonderingly on his grandfather's watch.

wonderland ('wändəlænd). (Also occas. with hyphen.) [f. WONDER *sb.* + LAND *sb.*¹ Cf. G. *wunderland*.] a. An imaginary realm of wonder and faery. b. A country, realm, or domain which is full of wonders or marvels.

1790 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Compl. Ep. James Bruce* 332 Wks. 1812 II. 368 Where other trav'lers, fraught with terror, roam, Lo! Bruce in Wonder-land is quite at home. 1866 'LEWIS CARROLL' (*title*) *Alice's Adventures* in Wonderland. 1894 *Outing* (U.S.) Apr. 66/1 Every mile of my journey opened to me anew. . the surprises of this wonder-land. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 24 May 9/1 That wonderland of the world, Egypt. 1903 AGNES M. CLERKE *Probl. Astrophysics* 6 The wonderland of molecular physics.

'wonderlandish, *a.* [f. WONDERLAND + -ISH¹.] Seemingly enchanted.

1929 J. B. PRIESTLEY *Good Companions* III. v. 590 He was beginning to feel wonderlandish again, what with Mr. Memsworth and the champagne.

'wonderless, *a. rare.* [f. WONDER *sb.* + -LESS.] Destitute of wonder.

1601 DEACON & WALKER *Answ. Darel* 47 A very world of wonderles wonders.

'wonderling. *rare nonce-wd.* [f. WONDER *sb.* + -LING.] A wonderful being.

1658 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* II. 190 This made Job such a wonderling to his wife. 1913 A. O'CONNOR *Poems* 8 Sweet wonderlings Of passing fancy, slight, too slight for birth, Yet dazlingly alive with sudden mirth.

†'wonderly, *a. Obs.* Forms: see WONDER *sb.*; also 6 *Sc.* wnderlie, vnderlie. [OE. *wundorlic* = OS. *wundarlic* (MDu., MLG. *wunderlik*, Du. *wonderlijk*), OHG. *wuntarlih* (MHG.), G. *wunderlich*), ON. *undrliġr* (Sw., Da. *underlig*): f. WONDER *sb.* + -LY¹.] Wonderful.

c893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* II. iv. §8 Nu seo burg swelc is þe ær wæs ealra weorca. . wonderlecast & mærastr. 971 *Bickl. Hom.* 181 þa færinga coman þær hundas forþ on wonderlicre mycelnesse. 1154 O.E. *Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1137 He maket. . wonderlice & manifældlice miracles. c1200 ORMIN

15645 þatt Godess Sune off heffne stah purrh wunderrli3 mecnesse. **1387** *TREVISIA Higden* (Rolls) I. 427 There is a roche wel wonderly. **c 1475** *Partenay* 1241 The fyfte child. . . had on ey and no mo. . . wonderly to se. **1481** *CAXTON Reynard* xxvii. (Arb.) 61 Dame said the foxe, thauntere of the world is wonderly, it gothe otherwyle by wenyng. **1533** *GAU Richt Vay* (S.T.S.) 29 The vnderlie secret thyngis of God. *Ibid.* 40 His nayme sal be callit wnderlie consalour.

†**wonderly**, *adv.* *Obs.* Forms: see *WONDER sb.*; also 5 wonderly. [OE. *wunderlice* = OS. *wundarlico* (MLG.), MDu. *wunderlike*, OHG. *wuntarlihho* (MHG. *wunderliche*) f. *WONDER sb.* + *-ly*.] = WONDERFULLY 1. a. In a wonderful manner; marvellously.

c 897 *ÆLFRED Gregory's Past.* c. liv. 423 Swa wundorlice hit todæð. . . se godcunda wisdom be hira æðeres gear-nungum. **c 1000** *Sax. Leechd.* I. 194 Wundurlice heo hælep. **c 1205** *LAY.* 28627 Twa wimmen. . . wonderliche idithe. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 10043 þat water suppe heye aros. . . & mo þan ten þousand men wonderliche adrencet. **c 1350** *Will. Palerne* 2535 Wonderli a werwolf yesterday hem saued. **1387** *TREVISIA Higden* (Rolls) II. 207 Som tyme burpes beep i-bore wonderliche and wonderliche i-schape. **c 1400** 26 *Pol. Poems* xxiv. 374 Wip py blod principal, Wonderly þou haste vs bo3t. **c 1500** *Melusine* i. 5 Wherefore he punysshed them so secretly & so wonderly. **a 1529** *SKELTON Bouge of Court* 283 Anone ther mette with him. . . A man, but wonderly besene was he. **a 1562** G. CAVENDISH *Wolsey* (1893) 32 The court. . . was wonderly furnysshed with noble men and gentilmen.

b. To a wonderful extent or degree.

c 1000 *ÆLFRED Saints' Lives* xxiii. 616 þær wearð þa gegade-rod wundorlice micel folc. **c 1205** *LAY.* 7320 He was wonderliche wrað [= wraþ]. **c 1275** *Ibid.* 2677 He. . . one neuwe borh makede. . . wonderliche [c 1205 mærlliche] fair. **1340** *Ayenb.* 267 þe profetes. . . & þe patriarkes wonderliche glediynde ine blisse. **c 1386** *CHAUCER Prol.* 84 Wonderly delyuere and of greet strengthe. **c 1412** *HOCCEVE De Reg. Princ.* 520 His garnamentes. . . hym becam wonderly wel. **? 1482** J. WATTON *Speculum Christiani* 46b, Their sence [= intense] was wonderly wrought With riche spices. **1556** J. HEYWOOD *Spider & F.* lxxxvii. 198 His hart wunderlie faynted.

wonderment ('wʌndəmənt). Chiefly *literary*. [f. *WONDER v.* + *-MENT*.]

1. The or a state of wonder; = *WONDER sb.* 7.

1535 in *Leti. Suppr. Monast.* (Camden) 78 After most shamefull rumors rayseed uppe to theyre dyffamacion, with slaundersouse wonderment of the towne. **1569** *GOLDING tr. Heminge's Postill* 30 Wee must with holy wonderment embrace the heavenly Oracles. **1571** — *Calvin on Ps.* viii. Contents, Dauid bethinking himself of Gods fatherly bountifunesse towards mankind. . . is rauished into a wonderment of it. **1590** *SPENSER F.Q.* i. xii. 9 Whom all admired, as from heauen sent, And gazd vpon with gaping wonderment. **1688** *BUNYAN Sol. Temple* xxii. 52 That which added to their adoration, was the wonderment of a Queen. **1787** *MME. D'ARBLAY Diary* 19 Feb., The wonderment with which they heard a proposal so new was diverting. **1799** *COLERIDGE 'Nor cold, nor stern, my soul'* 8 They gape for wonderment. **1815** *WORDSW. Prose Wks.* (1876) II. 119 Much of what his biographer deemed genuine admiration must in fact have been blind wonderment. **1879** *LEWES Study Psychol.* viii. 155 The mind passes from wonderment at the miraculous to the discernment of order.

b. An expression of wonder: chiefly in *to make a wonderment*, to express wonder.

1553 M. WOOD tr. *Gardiner's True Obed.* 54b, Her parentes. . . would make suche a lyke wonderment, as these men seme to vse against me. **a 1565** R. TURNER in *Marbeck Bk. Notes* (1581) 243 A great outerie & wonderment was made against the Deacons & Priests of Constantinople. **1630** tr. *Camden's Hist. Eliz.* II. 2 (an. 1570) Much talke there was. . . of the murder of the Regent, many making a wonderment at vaine things, as his mothers dreame. **1681** R. L'ESTRANGE *Tully's Offices* 110 What a wonderment is made of it. **1748** *RICHARDSON Clarissa* (1768) III. 71 Why, Jack, thou needest not make such a wonderment, as the girls say. **1838** *Bentley's Misc.* III. 331 After the usual wonderments, and mutual applauses of our marvellous good looks. **1840** *MRS. TROLLOPE Widow Married* xxiv, What wonderments you do make about nothing.

2. An object of or a matter for wonder; a wonderful thing; = *WONDER sb.* 1-4.

1542 *UDALL Erasm. Apoph.* 70b, The games called Dionysiaca, . . he called the great woondrementes & gazynges of foolles. **1563** *FOXE A. & M.* 50/2 This obstinate and stoburn rebellion of tharchbishop stirred vp much anger. . . that almost he was alone a wonderment to al the realme. **1568** *GRAFTON Chron.* II. 213 *marg.*, Sir Hugh Spencer the yonger leab about for wonderment, lyke a beast. **1584** *CONSTABLE Diana* vii. i, A flouring felde, the world's sole wonderment. **1591** *SPENSER Ruins of Rome* 28 Seuen Romane Hills, the worlds 7. wonderments. **1618** *ROWLANDS Sacred Mem.* 8 Therefore in Heathens Images he spake, Wrought wonderments, and wrought them so from grace. **1628** *PRYNNE Love-locks* 33 They turne themselves into. . . so many Monuments, and wonderments of the World. **1643** *TRAPP Comm. Gen.* xxxv. 1 Deliverances, commonly, are but nine days wonderment, at utmost. **1757** *FOOTE Author Prol.*, 'Tis Wonderment, them Boobies ben't asham'd. **1841** J. F. COOPER *Deerslayer* xv, It's a wonderment to me. . . how you got us off. **1859** *REEVE Britanny* 87 A shop with all sorts of household wonderments exposed for sale. **1915** H. JAMES *Sense of the Past* (1917) 150 To determine wonderments that should be beyond answering.

b. A wonderful example or instance (of something): = *WONDER sb.* 1 d.

1606 G. W[OODCOCKE] *Hist. Iustine* v. 25 But vpon Alcibiades they threw down a wonderment of welcoms. **1607** *BEAUM. & FL. Woman Hater* iv. i, How many. . . have dedicated grave Works to Ladies, toothless, [etc.], and have call'd them. . . the patterns of perfection, and the wonderment of Women. **1917** *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 253 The untended orchards are arrayed in a wonderment of blossom.

3. Wonderful quality: = *WONDER sb.* 1 b.

1596 *SPENSER F.Q.* IV. v. 20 That strange Dame, whose beauties wonderment She lesse esteem'd, then th' others vertuous government. **1633** P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* III. xxxii, How should I. . . limme forth her virtues wonderment? **1647** N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* i. lxxi. 313 That King will be looked upon as a King of wonderment. **1801** *SURR Splendid Misery* III. 251 As a climax of wonderment, the Jacobin Winterton has succeeded with Lady Amelia. **1871** *SMILES Charac.* ii. (1876) 33 The child. . . opens his eyes upon things all of which are full of novelty and wonderment.

'**wonder-monger**. [f. *WONDER sb.* + *MONGER sb.* 2.] One who deals in wonders; a wonder-worker, or relater of wonders.

1612 *BP. HALL Contempl.*, O. T. IV. iv, How are the great wonder-mongers of Ægypt abashed. **1651** *WITTIE tr. Primrose's Pop. Err.* 436 Those Wondermongers cannot take away the Kings evill. **1745** *ELIZA HAYWOOD Female Spect.* No. 18 (1748) III. 281 Invention! cried our wonder-monger, do I not tell you, sir, . . . that I saw it with my own eyes! **1751** *LAVINGTON Enthous. Meth. & Papists* III. (1754) Pref., The God Proteus. . . famous for being a juggling Wonder-monger. . . and turning himself into all Shapes. **1851** *NEWMAN Pres. Pos. Cath.* 231 Future story-tellers and wonder-mongers. **1863** *DE MORGAN Pref. in From Matter to Spirit* p. xii, That some tricky wonder-monger had stuck the bill of a duck upon the neck of a quadruped. **1867** *SWINBURNE Blake* (1868) 94 No wonder-monger of the low sort need here have hoped for a pupil.

Hence '**wonder-mongering**.

1886 *GURNEY, etc. Phantasms of Living* I. 128 Another instinct which tends directly to discourage wonder-mongering. **1911** W. DE MORGAN *Likely Story* iv. 112 That. . . class of persons which, when its attention turns towards wonder-mongering, . . . loses its head promptly.

†**wonderness**. *Obs. rare.* In 3 wonderness. [f. *WONDER sb.* + *-NESS*.] A wonder.

c 1275 *Wom. Samaria* 40 in *O.E. Misc.* 85 Bi-twene þis twam volke me puncheþ a wonderness.

†**wondernize**, *v. nonce-wd.* [irreg. f. *WONDER* + *-IZE*.] *trans.* To make a wonder or marvel of. **1599** *PORTER Angry Wom. Abingt.* F 1, Some iudgements. . . wondernize the birth of common wit.

†**wonders**, *a. and adv.* *Obs.* Also 6 *Sc.* wonderis. [gen. of *WONDER sb.*; a *Scand.* idiom: cf. *MSw. unders*, gen. of *under WONDER sb.* in *unders miraculum*, *teken*, *thing* marvel, miracle, prodigy. Cf. *lives* alive (*LIFE sb.* 15). See also *WONDROUS*.]

A. adj. = *WONDROUS a.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1529 þaa þat þa wonders [Gött. wonper] werkes wrought. . . Tua pilers þa mad. **a 1500** *Sir Beues* 1469 (Chetham MS.) A wonders thinge [13. . . *MS. A.* wonder-þing] ye may here. **1509** *HAWES Past. Pleas.* xxxvi. (1555) 211b, It was a wonders case. **c 1511** *1st Engl. Bk. Amer.* (Arb.) Introd. 29/1 Many dyuers maner and wonders bestes. **c 1520** *SKELTON Magnyf.* 89 A, ye be wonders men! **c 1530** *LD. BERNERS Arth. Lyt. Bryt.* xxxv. (1814) 111 Whan the duke sawe these thre knyghtes do suche wonders meruayles in armes. . . he was. . . dyspleased. **1602** W. BASSE *Three Past. Elegies* i. (1893) 44 An luory boxe of wonders cost.

B. adv. = *WONDROUS adv.*

1387-8 T. USK *Teste Love* II. iii. (Skeat) l. 45 Ye. . . let light of that thing which firste ye maked to you wonders dere. **c 1395** *Plowman's Tale* 699 in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) I. 324 These folkes be wonders stout. **c 1520** *Everyman* 7 This matter is wonders precyous. **1551** *ROBINSON tr. More's Utopia* II. (1895) 220 Hym they receyue and interteyne wonders gentyllye. **1567** *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 207 In danger of deith, . . . Do weill is harnessit, and wouderis bauld. **? a 1600** *Dialogue in Verse in Marlowe's Wks.* 1850 III. 304 But a' dances wonders well.

Hence †**wondersly** *adv.* wondrously.

1489 *SKELTON Dethe Erle Northumb.* 193 Operlese Prince. . . ! Which to thy resemblance wondersly hast wrought All mankynd. **1556** J. HEYWOOD *Spider & F.* xiv. 5 Be ye sure it doth wondersly well.

'**wondersome**, *a. rare.* [f. *WONDER sb.* + *-SOME*.] Wonderful.

1774 *DIBDIN Waterman* l. i, I have often-times thought to myself, that it was a wondersome kind of thing, how it came to pass, that you two agree so badly.

wonderstone ('wʌndəstəʊn). [f. *WONDER sb.* + *STONE sb.*] 1. (See *quots.*)

1824 *Trans. Geol. Soc.* I. 295 In the neighbourhood of Wells, and at Bleydon near the Bristol Channel, it [sc. the conglomerate] forms a beautiful breccia, called wonderstone, consisting of yellow transparent crystals of carbonate of lime, disseminated equably through a dark-red earthy dolomite. **1887** H. B. WOODWARD *Geol. England & Wales* (ed. 2) II. 232 The road to Wookey Hole. . . and that leading to Dulcote. . . show in places in the Red Marl a bed termed the 'Wonder Stone'.

2. A soft bluish-grey rock of volcanic origin in South Africa that takes a high polish.

1936 *Mineral Resources Union S. Afr.* (Geol. Survey, Union S. Afr.) (ed. 2) 299 Wonderstone appears to be one of the most indestructible of building stones. **1952** *Archit. Rev.* CXI. 329/1 Some of the work in 1936 by Henry Moore in African wonderstone and by Barbara Hepworth was very derivative, in the best sense, of the shapes assumed by. . . the stone and pebble plants of the African Karoo. **1952** L. MACNEICE *Ten Burnt Offerings* 84 He was. . . Firm as a Rameses in African wonderstone. **1975** *Stand. Encycl. S. Afr.* XI. 490/1 Large quantities of high quality wonderstone are available in the Dominion Reef System, 10 km north of Ottosdal in the Western Transvaal.

†**wonder thing**. *Obs.* (Also as one word.) [f. *WONDER sb.* or *a.* Cf. *G. wunderding*, *MSw.*

unders thing (see *WONDERS a.*.)] A wonderful thing, wonder, marvel.

c 1290 *St. Brendan* 677 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 238 A wonder þing it was to seo. . . A so gret best a-boute wiende. **13. . .** *Sir Beues* (A.) 1527 A wonder-þing now 3e may here. **a 1340** *HAMPOLE Psalter* cxviii[i]. 18, I sall bihalde wondirthyngis [Vulg. *mirabilia*] of þi laghe. **c 1435** *Torr. Portugale* 53 He sware. . . Ther was told hym a wondyr-þyng In hys chambyr to nyght. **1500-20** *DUNBAR Poems* xxxii. 2 This hindir nycht. . . To me was tawld ane windir thing. **1546** J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 27 A wonder thing what thingis these olde thinges tell.

'**wonder-work**. [OE. *wundorweorc* = *WFr.* *wunderwirk*, MHG. *wunderwerck* (G. *-werk*), MDa. *underværk*, etc., f. *WONDER sb.* + *WORK sb.* In ME. treated as two words (cf. *WONDER a.*); in the modern period, a new formation.]

1. A marvellous or miraculous act; = *MIRACLE* 1. Also *gen.* a wonderful achievement.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 161 Hie. . . wundorweorcum swipe wuldorlice ascinon. **a 1000** *Andreas* 705 Swylce he [sc. Christ] oðerra unrim cyðde wundorworca on wera gesyhðe. **13. . .** *Évang. Nicod.* 39 in Herrig's *Archiv* LIII. 392 þan wirkes he wonder werkes new. **13. . .** *Cursor M.* 1529 (Gött.) þai þat þir wonper werkes wrought. **c 1375** *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvii. (*Machar*) 30 In þis land we ken hym nocht, Quhare he wondir werkis wrocht. **1570** *DEE Math. Pref.* Aj, By sundry meanes, this Wonderworke is wrought.

1846 *TRENCH Mirac.* 60 While the Christians, . . on account of a few insignificant wonder-works, proclaim their Jesus for a god. **1889** *JAS. GIBBONS Our Chr. Heritage* 242 Saint John referring to the wonder-works of Christ.

2. A wonderful work or structure.

c 1275 *LAY.* 17376 þo gonnen hij wende. . . to þan hulle. . . war stod þat wonder worc. **1387** *TREVISIA Higden* (Rolls) VI. 275 He bygan to bulde Seynt Albons his grete chirche from the foundement of a wonder werk of brend tyle.

1816 *BYRON Ch. Har.* III. x, Fit speculation; such as. . . He found in wonder-works of God and Nature's hand. **1887** *WALLIES Throne of Fisherman* 150 Forums which should surpass Trajan's wonderwork. **1895** *Outing* (U.S.) XXVII. 238/1 These wonder works of the sea are broken. . . into the most fantastic forms. **1904** *Westm. Gaz.* 22 Oct. 2/3 The hotel is, like everything else here, a wonder-work.

3. Marvellous work or workmanship.

a 1513 *FABYAN Chron.* v. cxxxiii. (1811) 116 A beer of wonder warke, standith. . . ouer y' graue.

1863 *Pilgrimage over Prairies* II. 265 Impassive spirits. . . whom the daily wonderwork of nature, her glorious displays of the solemn, the lovely and the wild, seem never. . . to affect. **1883** in *Spurgeon Treas. Dav. Ps.* cxxvi. 4 God was alone in the wonderwork of Creation.

'**wonder-worker**. [f. *WONDER sb.* + *WORKER*.] One who performs wonders or marvellous things; *esp.* a worker of miracles; a thaumaturge.

1599 *SANDYS Europæ Spec.* (1632) 169 Some of their better Prælates have removed. . . an image of our Lady, upon the broaching of a report that it discovered it selfe for a Wonder-worker. **1641** S. FAWCET *Seasonable Sermon*. 17 The praying generation are the wonder-workers of the world. **1668** H. MORE *Div. Dial.* III. xix. 427 That he may be accounted a stupendious Wonder-worker, a Creatour of his Creatour. **1718** *ATTERBURY Sermon*, *Acts* xxvi. 26 (1734) I. 18 In China and Japan these Wonder-workers may pretend to have done as many Miracles as they please. **1856** *MISS YONGE Daisy Chain* II. xviii. (1879) 546 A wonderworker in cloth. **1878** *BOSW. SMITH Carthage* 375 Hannibal. . . taking his place. . . among the great wall-builders and wonder-workers of Eastern history and legend. **1895** *FR. MARIANUS St. Anthony of Padua* 145 The saintly Friar, the Wonder-worker filled with love and sympathy.

So '**wonder-working ppl. a. and vbl. sb.**

1594 *Selimus* 284 Your wisedomes ouerflowing wit, Digs deepe with learnings wonder-working spade. **1644** *VICARS God in Mount* 199 To the high honour of our great and wonder-working God. **1679** *Hist. Jetzer* 18 They fall down before this wonder-working Image. **1710** *BRooke Paraphr. Habakkuk* iii. iii, Waving his Wonder-working Wand. **1776** *BURNEY Hist. Mus.* I. 194 The music of Orpheus, Amphion, and such wonder-working bards. **1809** W. IRVING *Knickerb.* I. ii. (1861) 10 The wonder-working sword of Harlequin. **1847** *KEBLE Sermon*. x. 270 In the mysterious and wonder-working Prayer of Consecration. **1895** *Catholic Mag.* Aug. 228 There came. . . the wonder-working body of St. Cuthbert. **1900** F. T. ELWORTHY *Horns of Honour* iii. 180 There is some confusion about the several stories told of its [sc. the hand of glory's] wonder-working.

wonderwyse: see *WONDER a.*

†**wondlich**, *a. Obs. rare.* In 3 wandlich. [app. a. ON. *vándsligr* bad, wicked, evil, f. *vándr*: see *WOND sb.* and *-ly*.] app. Bad, evil.

c 1205 *LAY.* 6358 He hauede bi þære wimman enne swiðe wandliche sune [*later text* ohte man].

wondrous ('wʌndrəs), *a. and adv. literary.* Also 6-9 wonderous, 6 wonder(e)rouse, wo(u)nderus, wondrous, 6-7 woondrous, 7-9 wond'rous. [Alteration of *WONDERS a.* by substitution of suffix *-OUS*, after *marvellous*.] Wonderful.

a 1500 *Chaucer's Dreame* 1898 The sede wex grene, And on the dry herse gan spring Which me thought a wondrous thing. **1509** *HAWES Past. Pleas.* iv. (1555) Ciii, The wonderous serpente Of the seuen metals, made by enchantment. **1535** *COVERDALE Ps.* cxix. 18, & so shal I spie out wonderous thinges in thy lawe. **1590** *SPENSER F.Q.* II. viii. 5 A faire young man, Of wondrous beaute. **a 1656** *HALES Gold. Rem.* (1673) 7 The Grecians, till barbarism began to steal in upon them, were men of wonderous subtlety of wit. **1667** *MILTON P.L.* VII. 483 Some of Serpent kinde Wondrous in length and corpulence. **1709** *WATTS Hymn*, When I survey the wondrous cross On which the Prince of glory dy'd. **1781** *COWPER Hope* 155 Hope. . . has the wondrous virtue to educe From emptiness itself a real use.

1844 KINGLAKE *Eothen* viii, For hours, and hours, this wondrous white woman poured forth her speech. **1864** BRYCE *Holy Rom. Emp.* xix. (1875) 357 The German mind, just beginning to put forth the blossoms of its wondrous literature.

B. adv. = next. *arch.*

a 1557 MRS. M. BASSET tr. *More's Treat. Passion* M.'s Wks. 1391/2 An vrgnt and wonderous necessarye cause. **1632** LITHGOW *Trav.* v. 229 We found this auncient Well so wondrous deepe, that scarcely all our ropes could sinke our bucket in the water. **1678** HOBBS *Decam.* vii. 77 As he made some Bodies wondrous great, so he made others wondrous little. **1740** RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1824) I. xxiii. 35 They tell me she is grown wondrous pretty. **1781** COWPER *Anti-Thelyphth.* 38 Some she would teach (for she was wondrous wise). **1843** JAMES *Forest Days* vi. This horse eats so wondrous slow. **1856** MRS. BROWNING *Aur. Leigh* II. 428 Lady, thou art wondrous fair.

wondrously ('wandrəslī), *adv. literary.* [f. prec. + -LY².] In a wondrous manner; to a wonderful degree; wonderfully, marvelously.

1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* lxxxi. 12 Thane thocht I thus, this is an felloun phary, Or ellis my witt rycht woundrouslie dois varie. **1535** COVERDALE *Wisd.* xvii. 3 They were . . . put to horrible feare & wonderously vexed. **c 1586** C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* lxxiv. xiv, Thou wondrously didst cause . . . From thirsty flynt a fountayne flow. **1607** SHAKS. *Timon* III. iv. 71 My Lord leanes wondrously to discontent. **1667** MILTON *P.L.* III. 587 So wondrously was set his Station bright. **1807** W. IRVING *Salmag.* No. 17 (1824) 319 So wondrously adroit in pedestrian exercises. **1905** TREVES *Other Side Lantern* II. ix. (1906) 83 The walls of the main building are wondrously carved.

So 'wondrousness.

1851 NICHOL *Archit. Heav.* 240 Because of the very wondrousness of this universe.

†**wondsom(e), a.** *Obs. rare.* [Of Scand. origin (cf. MSw. *vandsamr* difficult, troublesome; Norw. *vandsam* difficult to please): see WONDE *v.* and -SOME.] Beset with difficulty; in quot. quasi-sb. (see FOR *prep.* 10). So †**wondsomely** (**wandsomdly**) *a.* [cf. MSw. *vandsamliker*].

? **a 1400** Morte Arth. 3836 And for wondsom(e) and wille alle his wit failede. *Ibid.* 4012 The waye vnto Wynchestre thay wente . . . Wery and wandsomdly.

†**wone, sb.¹** *Obs.* Forms: 3-4 wune, 3-6 wone, 4-7 won, 4-8 wonne, (5 wne, woone, 6 wun). [ME. *wune*, *wōne*, aphetic f. I-WUNE, I-WONE, OE. *gewuna* = OS. *giwono* (MDu. *ghewone*, MDu., (M)LG. *wone*), OHG. *giwona* (MHG. *gewon(e)*), related to MHG. *gewan*, ON. *vane*, which represent another grade: f. Teut. *ga-* Y- + *wun-*, WON, WONE *v.*]

I. [See WON *v.* II.] Habit, custom.

1. Habitual action or conduct (of a person); (one's) habits or practices collectively.

a 1225 Ancr. R. 266 [Heo] dude hit eft & eft, & feol so into ful wune pet hie lei & rotede ierinne. **c 1275** LAY. 14017 þe Peutes dude hie wone [c 1205 iwune]. **13..** Guy W. (A.) 230 Artow. . . Sward sone, þat of al godenes hap þe wone? **c 1320** Cast. Love 278 þis kyng hedde a sone, Of such wit and of such wone. . . As was his fader. **c 1386** CHAUCER *Prolog.* 335 To lyuen in delit was euere his wone, For he was Epicurus owene sone. **c 1400** Rule St. Benet (prose) 6 Chasti þaim fra iuil wne, als þe fadir dos his sune. **c 1425** Engl. Conq. Irel. 66 Mych horynesse or oryble synnes that . . . weren amendet, & yn better wonne I-broȝth. **c 1440** York Myst. xxix. 252 His wone was to wirke mekill woo. **1450-80** tr. *Secr.* xl. 26 He vsith not his custome [of eating twice a day] for þe stomak is out of his wone.

b. In particularized use; *pl.* habits.

c 1200 Trin. Coll. Hom. 85 Seint nicholas þe on his childhode wunede him to fasten, and þat wne heold to his liues ende. **a 1250** Owl & Night. 272 Hit is min hiȝte, hit is mi wne, þat ich me drage to mine cunde. **13..** K. Alis. 2715 (Laud MS.), He was þe Emperoures sone, Wel to juste was his wone. **1362** LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. viii. 29 Treupe. . . Bad hem. . . wikkede wones whittly to amende. **c 1450** Mirk's *Festial* 79 He was wont before to stele, and cowpe not leue his old wone. **a 1500** Assemb. Ladies 5 In a gardyn, about twayn after noon, Ther were ladyes walking, as was her wone.

2. Established usage or custom (of a people, country, etc.).

c 1200 Trin. Coll. Hom. 105 Seint iacob. . . nam ȝeme of þe wne þe weren þo, and ȝet bien mid mannen. **c 1220** Bestiary 368 Dis wne he [sc. harts] hauen hem bi-twen, Doȝ he an hundred-to-gidde ben. **c 1250** Gen. & Ex. 1681 Quat laban, 'long wne is her driuen, Firmer on elde, first ben giuen'. *Ibid.* 3137 Danne he lereden hem newe wunen. **c 1290** St. Edward 12 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 47 Seint Edward. . . is sone Aftur him was king j-mad, ase lawe was and wone. **a 1300** Cursor M. 10915 þe lauere es nu bicommen threll, þe doghter moder again al won. **c 1385** CHAUCER *L.G.W.* 714 *Thisbe*, There was but a ston wal hem be-tweene, As ofte in grete tounnys is the wone. **c 1425** Engl. Conq. Irel. 34 Thay ne hadden no wone of waytres; & þerfor þey. . . drent ham. **c 1450** Mirour Saluacioun (1888) 163 Dede mens bodies to byrre with mirre was the olde wone.

3. Phr. *in wone*: as a matter of custom, customarily. *to have in wone*: to be accustomed to do something; to practise habitually; so *to be in wone*, *to have wone*. *to be of common wone*: to be common custom. *by* or *with wone*: as a matter of custom; used as a tag (also *in good wone*).

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4718 Hii dude hom vorþere in þis lond þan hii were in wone. **a 1300** Cursor M. 21237 Marc was gospellere wit won. **c 1330** Assump. Virg. (B. M. MS.) 20 He callide to hym seynt Iohan. . . And seide, 'womman, lo, here þi sone, And, man, take hure to moder in good wone'.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 284 Of comun wone In chambre thei togedre wone. *Ibid.* II. 143 At hom if that a man wol wone, This Fievere [sc. jealousy] is thanne of comun wone Most greuous in a mannes yhe. **c 1400** Titus & Vesp. (Roxb.) 5058 Aftur hym regnede Titus his sone, The Emperour most curteys by wone. **c 1425** WYNTOUN *Cron.* VIII. 3292 (Cott.) He. . . had in won, By his wiff, oftsyis to ly Opir syndry women by. **14..** Guy Warw. (C.) 230 'Bee ye', she seide, 'Sywardes sone, That all goodnesse hath in wone?' **c 1436** Libel Engl. Pol. in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 196 In somere tede wolde he have in wone, And in custome, to be fulle redy sone, Wyth multitude of men. **c 1460** Towneley Myst. II. 116 All the good thou has in wone Of godis grace is bot a lone. **1562** TURNER *Herbal* II. 31 They that vse to eat of it loken much more freshly then they had won to do.

II. [See WON *v.* I.] The action of staying or remaining; place of dwelling.

4. Phr. *withouten wone*, without delay. Cf. *withouten hore* (HONE *sb.*²).

c 1440 Bone Flor. 215 And yf thou sende hur not soone, Hastelye, wythowten wone, Then ryseth ther a stryfe. **c 1596** King & Backer in Hazl. E.P.P. I. 5 Gramercy, fellow, seyde ower kyng, withowtyn eney wone.

5. A dwelling-place, abode; *spec.* this world: = WONE *sb.*² 1, 3 b.

c 1205 LAY. 13492 Ne mæi i noht for muchele scome habben here þesne wone. **c 1250** Gen. & Ex. 513 Or enoch wente fro werldes wone Matusale was boren is sune. **a 1300** XV Signa 164 in E.E.P. (1862) 12 Wel ætist þe faire to lede Wile þou art in þis wreche wone [*prime* wone]. **1340-70** Alisaunder 598 Of any wighes in wonne wysest i-holde. **a 1450** Le Morte Arth. 3377 Sythe bretayne owte of troy was sought And made in bretayne hys owne wonne. **1563** SACKVILLE *Induct. Mirr. Mag.* xxiii, Howe she telde Both what she was, and where her wun she helde. **1590** SPENSER *F.Q.* III. iii. 7 There the wise Merlin whylome wont (they say) To make his wonne. **1608** TOPSELL *Serpents* 269 She. . . from the Center draweth a thred like wooll to lye vpon While double worke on euery part doth fortifie her wone. **1642** H. MORE *Song of Soul* I. II. xxii, That free light hath given a free wonne [*times* sun, shone, begun] To this dependent ray. *Ibid.* xxiii, Flocks of souls. . . that have their won Where they list most to graze. **1685** — *Paralip. Prophet.* Pref. p. xxvi, The Wilderness the Won of Spirits and Ghosts. **1748** THOMSON *Cast. Indol.* II. viii, With all the gods that love the rural wonne [*times* run, son, undone].

†**wone, sb.²** *Obs.* Chiefly *poet.* Forms: 3 woan, 3-4 won, 4-5 woon, wone. [Midland and Southern variant (with *o*) of WANE *sb.*², which is probably a. ON. *ván* hope, expectation, and therefore identical with WONE *sb.*³ The germ of the sense of 'dwelling-place' is to be seen in ON. examples such as *pá er allar vánír vóru ramsakaðar* when all the 'expected places' (places where it might be expected to be) were searched; cf. Norw. *von* place where one expects to find something, fishing-place, hunting-ground. Association with WON *v.* assisted the establishing and further development of the sense in ME.; cf. also WONE *sb.*¹ II. The allocation of meaning in particular instances is often doubtful.]

1. A place of habitation or abode, dwelling-place.

c 1275 *Serving Christ* 68 in O.E. Misc. 92 Me grauep þis gode, in greote and in ston, þer werep vre wite in wurmene won. **a 1310** in Wright *Lyric P.* xiv. 46 So wyde in world ys huere won, In uch a tounne untweie is on. **c 1320** Sir Tristr. 2456 No hadde þai no won to wille Bot þe wode so grene. **14..** Songs, Carols, etc. (E.E.T.S.) 85/116 Pray we þat byrde so bright as bon. . . þat ower dwelling may be in her wone, With hym that for ower sake was slone.

2. *sing.* and *pl.* A dwelling-house, dwelling, habitation: freq. applied to a palace.

a 1225 Ancr. R. 418 Wiðinnen ower woanes ne lete ȝe nenne mon slepen. **c 1350** Athelston 755 Bope in-same þey rod To Westemynstyr wone. **13..** E.E. Allit. *P. B.* 140 Hov wan þou into þis won in wedez so fowle? **13..** Gaw. & Gr. Knt. 2400 ȝe schal in þis nwe ȝer aȝayn to my woneȝ. **c 1394** *P. Pl. Crede* 172 A woon wonderlie well y-beld, Wip arches on eueriche half. **c 1400** Laud Troy Bk. 18361 Thei caste al doun thes worthi wones, Led & tyle, sclat & stones. **c 1430** *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 207 And al þe welpe withinne þi woon To susteine þee and þin household. **1501** DOUGLAS *Pal. Hon.* I. xxxiv, Reparrellit was that godlike plesand wone. **15..** Flodden F. lxxvii. in Furniv. *Percy Folio* I. 332 He tooke me from my father deere & kepted me within his woone. **1570** LEVINS *Manip.* 168/11 A Wone, *habitation*.

b. *pl.* Rooms, chambers, apartments.

c 1325 Orfeo 351 Amyd the launde a castel he sye. . . Within were wyde wonys. **13..** E.E. Allit. *P. A.* 917 Haf ȝe no woneȝ in castel walle? **c 1440** Pallad. on Husb. I. 331 The wyter wones on the sonny side. **14..** Tundale's *Vis.* 1623 Large and rownde were tho wones, þe flore was paved with precious stones.

c. *sing.* and *pl.* (with *sing.* concord). A city.

? **a 1400** Morte Arth. 2472 Thay had wonne that wone be there awene strenghele **c 1400** Destr. Troy 9857 Yonder won [sc. Troy] for to wyn. **c 1440** CAPGRAVE *Life St. Kath.* I. 141 For the grete welthe þat was in þat wonys [sc. the city of Alexandria].

d. *in* or *within one's wones*: in one's possession.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 76 He that stant to day alofte And al the world hath in hise wones. *Ibid.* 134 Thogh a man at ones Of al the world withinne his wones The tresor myhte have everydel.

3. *sing.* and *pl.* An inhabited place; a country, realm, territory, domain; *gen.* a place. Phr. *within wones*, *in wone* (freq. as a tag) = everywhere, anywhere.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 8951 Passent calanged his fader wones, þe kyng for robberye of þe stones. **1338** — *Chron.* (1810) 75 [He] fulle bare mas many wone, Of gode men er non left. **c 1386** CHAUCER *Sir Thopas* 90 He so longe hadde riden and goon That he foond in a pryue woon The contree of Fairye So wilde. **1390** GOWER *Conf.* III. 295 Ther was ynowh withinne wones Of wepinge and of sorghes tho. **1393** LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. I. 18 Ðep, as ich lyuede, Woned in þo wones, and wyckede spiritus. **1399** — *R. Redeles* II. 180 Wher so þey fierde be fryth or be wones. **a 1400** Leg. Rood viii. 347 Fadres and Modres þat walken in won. **c 1400** 26 *Pol. Poems* xxiii. 8 Prestes are lanterne hem to wysse þe wise weyes to heuene wones. **1412** *Ibid.* xi. 94 Hem thar not drede, where þey go, Here wele and worship, in euery won. **c 1440** CAPGRAVE *Life St. Kath.* I. 26 A noble man, . . . Gracious in feld, peisable in wones. **c 1450** LOVELICH *Grail* liii. 126 Twelve the wysest Of Al that won. **14..** *How Good Wife taught Dau.* 44 in *Q. Eliz. Acad.* 45 Ne fayre wordes brake neuer bone, Ne neuer schall in no wone.

b. Applied to this world (esp. in *worthly* or *worldly wone*); also to heaven (cf. also quots. 14.. in 1 and c 1400 in 3). Phr. *worthly* or *worthy in wone*, distinguished in the world or in this life.

a 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xvi. 51 In al this wurhliche won, . . . Never ȝete y nuste non lussomore in londe. **a 1375** Lay Folks Mass Bk. App. iv. 637 From his blisse we schal be flemed Out of þat worpli won. **a 1400** Pistill of Susan 54 þo þouȝte þe wreches to bewile þat worly [v.rr. worpi, wrthi] in wone. *Ibid.* 134 With wordus þei worshiþe þat worliche in wone. **c 1400** Melayne 168 þose worthly men in wone. **c 1400** Anturs Arth. xiii, Welcum, Waynor, i-wys wurlok in wone. **14..** T. CHESTRE *Launfal* 933 To wonye yn worldly wone. **c 1460** Towneley Myst. I. 184 To walk here in this worthly wone.

†**wone, sb.³** *Obs. poet.* Forms: 3-5 won, 3-7 wone, 4 whon, 4-5 woon, wonne, 5 won, woone; 5 oon, one; *Sc.* and *north.* 3-4 wan, 3-6 wane, 4-6 wayn(e), (4 vayn, 6 vaine). [ME. *wōn*, app. a. ON. *ván* (see WONE *sb.*²), but the earliest form with prefixed *i-* (Y-), viz. I-WON (q.v.), is remarkable in a word of Scand. origin.]

I. 1. Hope or expectation of a favourable issue; choice of alternative; hence, resource, expedient, course. Often in phr. *to have, know, see*, etc. *no other* (or *better*) *wone*.

c 1290 S. Eng. Leg. I. 7/226 þo he nuste non opur won [v.rr. whon, iwon]. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 442 þis gode folc of troye. . . flowe in to hor castles, vor hii nadde oper won. *Ibid.* 1915 He him vnderstod of þe beste won. *Ibid.* 6540 He þoste of luper won, Vor to sle þis godwine. *Ibid.* 10749 He of scapede to church, as him þoste best won. **a 1300** Cursor M. 5679 Moyses sagh na better wan Bot fled he in-to madian. **c 1400** St. Alexius (Vernon) 247 Whon he sauȝ non opur won, He bi-þouȝte him sone anon, Wher him was best to be. **c 1410** Sir Cleges 313 Sir Cleges sey non other von; Thereto he grauntid sone anon. **c 1425** WYNTOUN *Cron.* III. vi. 874 Sen opir succoure haf ȝhe nane, Na ȝhe can se na bettyr wayne. **c 1435** Torr. Portugale 1295 The theff couth no better wonne, In to the see rennyth he sone. **c 1450** St. Cuthbert (Surtees) 7779 He wist nost whilk was better wane, To dye in fire, or els be slane. **1535** STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) I. 191 Flie mycht tha nocht, thair was na vther wane. **1583** Leg. Bp. St. Androis 85 Than, when he had na vther vaine, He maid him for the kirk againe.

b. phr. (*north.*) *will of wane* [WILL a.] (less freq. *wone*), occas. *wilsome of wane*: at a loss, in bewilderment, without resource.

13.. Cursor M. 3051 (Gött.) Nou gas þat wreche wille of wane Wandrand in wildernes alane. **1375** BARBOUR *Bruce* VII. 2 The kyng toward the vod is gane, Wery for-swat and vill of vayn. **c 1400** Destr. Troy 12823 All will of his wone his werdis to laite. **c 1420** Sir Amadace (Camden) xxxiv, Nowe may wise men sitte atte home, Quen folus may walke full wille of wone. **c 1450** HOLLAND *Howlat* 43 Wa is me, wretche in this world, wilsome of wane! **1535** STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) II. 496 Preist or clerk that tyme tha sparit nane; Full mony one tha maid rycht wille of wane.

2. Opinion, belief. (Cf. WEEN *sb.* 1.)

c 1300 Havelok 1711 More he louede haelok one, þan al denemark, bi mine wone! *Ibid.* 1972. **1370-80** Visions of St. Paul 207 in O.E. Misc. 229 Hose leueup not in wone þat lesu crist, Godus sone, Tok Flesch and blod. **c 1375** Sc. Leg. *Saints* xix. (Cristofore) 89 Trowand in wane, forowt wene, þat þu þe maste master had bene.

II. Resources; abundance.

3. Phr. (*full*) *good wone*, (*full*) *great wone*: a good number, a great quantity; used either in apposition (often following the sb. qualified), or with dependent *of*. Also *advb.*, more or less vaguely, but chiefly with reference to the exercise of great force or speed. So *evil wone*, scarcity, dearth.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 17 Engelonde is vol inoȝ of frut & ek of tren. . . Of stel of yre & of bras, of god corn gret won. *Ibid.* 5359 His vissares. . . so gret won of fisse him broȝte, þat wonder it was. **a 1300** Cursor M. 7921 O secp he had ful mikel wan. **c 1300** Havelok 1907 He leyden on heuedes, ful god won. **c 1330** King of Tars 635 Whon thei weore bete ful good won. **c 1350** Leg. Rood iii. 447 We sall gett water grete wane Here out of þis hard stane. **1377** LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xx. 170 Lyf. . . gaf hym golde, good woon, þat gladdid his herte. **a 1400** Relig. Pieces fr. Thornton MS. (1914) 102 þou gafe thaim welthe mare wone þan þay euer hadde. **14..** T. CHESTRE *Launfal* 360 He. . . keste her well good won. **14..** Sir Beues (M.) 1344 Bred ne corne he ete none, But water had he good one. **14..** Guy Warw. (Cambr. MS.) 10329 Of harnes þou haste here gode oon. **c 1470** HENRY WALLACE VIII. 948 Thir wermen tuk off veynsoune gud wayn. ? **a 1500** Chester Pl., Balaam 125 Yea, looke, thou het hym gold great wone [v.rr. one], And riches for to lyve upon. **c 1530** in N. & Q. 3rd Ser. XI. 7/2 Fruytes and corne shal fayle, gret woone. **1570** LEVINS *Manip.* 168/24 Good wone, *abundantia*. Euil wone, *inopia*.

4. Abundance, plenty. *in wone*: in abundance, plentifully.

a1300 Cursor M. 2876 Thoru brennyng of þe brinstane, Quare-of þar es sa mikel wan. *13.. Ibid.* 641 (Gött.) þis is a stede of welthful wone, Of ioye ne blis ne wantis nane. *Ibid.* 4353 Worldes welth to welde in wone. *1340-70 Alex. & Dind.* 499 þere won wallep of watur in þe welle-springus. *c1470 Gol. & Gau.* 37 All thair vittalis war gone, That thay weildit in wone.

5. Fortune, wealth, riches, possessions.

a1300 Florice & Bl. (C.) 386 þe ne failþ non Gold ne seluer ne riche won. *c1300 Prov. Hending* xxvi, 3ef þou haue pin oune won. *a1310 in Wright Lyric P.* iv. 24 This worldes won. *13.. K. Alis.* 5658 Hy ben y-clothed in alle wones. *13.. Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1269 Were I worth al þe wone of wymmen alþue. *c1440 CAPGRAVE Life St. Kath.* 11. 1370 That ye shuld parte al this welthe and wone. *a1500 Flower & Leaf* 201 The large wones Of Prester John, ne al his tresory Might not unneth have bought the tenth party.

† *wone*, *a. Obs.* Forms: *a.* 1-2 *gewuna*, 4 *ywon(e)*, 5 *iwone*; *þ.* 3 *wune*, 4-5 *won*, *wonne*, *wone*. [OE. *gewuna* = OS. *giwono* (MDu. *ghewōne*, Du. *giwoon*), OHG. *giwon*: f. *ge-*, *y-* + *wun-*, *WON* *v.*]

1. Accustomed, used, wont (*to do* something).

a. c950 Lindisf. Gosp. Mark x. 1 *Sicut consuuevat*, suæ pætte he gewuna wæs. *a1122 O.E. Chron.* (Laud. MS.) an. 1006 Dydon eall swa hi ær gewuna wæron. *c1330 Arth. & Merl.* 176 Why he nold with hem come, So he tofore was ywone. *13.. Guy Warw. (A.)* 188 þerl a gret fest held At Warwike in pat cite, þat þan was y-won to be. *c1400 Sowdowe Bab.* 358 For ever he was thereto I-wone, To do Cristen men grette pyne.

þ. *c1250 Gen. & Ex.* 3569 And Iosu cam him a-gen, Als he was ilc dæl wune to don. *a1300 Cursor M.* 1384 þe pine to bere a fruit es won. *Ibid.* 2861 þar þaa fūe cites war won to be Es noht now bot a stinkand see. *c1300 Havelok* 2151 He.. was here king, þat was hem wone Wel to yeme. *1375 BARBOUR Bruce* iv. 246 [Satan] as he al tyme wes wone, In-to dissat maid his ansuer. *c1425 WYNTOUN Cron.* viii. xxxii. 5516 Folk, þat was nought wone To se sic awant.. Abayssit of pat sicht pai war. *c1450 CAPGRAVE Life St. Aug.* 23 þe heruest dayes wer ny whan skole is wone to cese. *a1500 Hist. K. Boccus & Sydracke* (? 1510) Uij b, And hayle that to fal is wone The eyght daye of the mone.

2. Customary, usual. *rare*.

This is a doubtful sense assumed from such phrases as *as it is wone*, where *wone* is orig. and prob. always *WONE sb.*¹ (cf. quot. *c1290* in sense 2).

c1205 LAY. 11184 He dude also hit is wune, he streoned hire on enne sone. *1338 R. BRUNNE Chron.* (1810) 83 Roberd Courthouse his sonne he gaf all Normundie, To hold, as it was wonne, als heyre of ancestrye.

wone, *v.*¹: see *WON v.*

† *wone*, *v.*² *Obs.* Forms: 1 *wanian*, 3 *wanenn* (*Ormin*), *wony*, -ie, *wone*, 3-4 *wane*. [OE. *wānian* = OFris. *wēnia*, MLG. *wēnen*, OHG. *weinōn* (MHG., G. *weinen*), ON. *veina* :—OTeut. **wainōjan*, f. *wai-* *woe*.]

1. *trans.* To bewail, bemoan.

Beowulf 787 þara þe.. gehyrdon.. sar wanigean hellehæfton. *a900 CYNEWULF Juliana* 538 Siðfæt seofian, sar cwanian, wyrd wanian. *c1205 LAY.* 25847 þa fōnd he þer ane quene.. wanede hire siðes þæt heo wæs on lues.

2. *intr.* To lament, moan. Also *transf.*

a900 CYNEWULF Crist 992 Beornas gretað, wepað wanede wergum stefnum. *c1200 ORMIN* 5653 þe þridde seollþe dōp þe mann wepenn wiþ skill & wanenn.. forr hiss aþhenn sinne. *a1250 Owl & Night.* 975 Solde euch mon wonie and grede, Riht suich hi weren unlede. *c1275 LAY.* 25827 þo ihorde he.. weape and wony [c 1205 weinen] reuliche beares. *c1275 XI Pains of Hell* 187 in *O.E. Misc.* 152 Heo wonyþ and groneþ day and nyht. *c1375 Cursor M.* 12196 (Fairf.), I likkin ham to a brasin belle þat.. wanis forþ wiþ-out resoun.

wone: see *WANE*.

woned: see *WONT pa. pple.*

wonene, var. *WHENNE Obs.*, whence.

woner: see *WONNER*.

† *wonesome*, *a. Obs.* In 3 *wunsum*. [f. *WON v.* or *WONE sb.*¹ + -*SOME*.] Customary, usual.

c1200 Trin. Coll. Hom. 181 Ac wowe beð wunsum þei hit ne bie naht lefsun. *Ibid.* 203.

wong, *þ.* exc. in place-names. Also *wang*. [OE. *wang*, *wong* = OS. *wang*, OHG. *wang*, only in *holzwangā* 'campi nemorei' and in place-names, (G. dial. *wang* mountain slope), ON. *vangr* (Sw. dial. *vång*, Da. *vang*), Goth. *waggs* *παράδεισος*. (See *WANG*¹.)] A plain, field; a piece of meadow land; *spec.* a portion of unenclosed land under the open-field system: now surviving locally in the proper designations of certain fields or common lands.

Beowulf 2242 Beorh ealgearo wunode on wonge wæteryðum neah. *971 Blickl. Hom.* 105 Scoppian hefonas tohlidon, & seo hea miht on bysne wang astag. *a1000 Phenix* 13 þæt is wynsum wong. *c1300 Havelok* 1444 Borwes, tunes, wodes and wonges. ? *13.. in Spelman Gloss. Arch.* (1664), Tres acra terræ jacentes in lez wongs. *1371 in Cal. Close Rolls* 351 [A third part of a furlong called the] Londmedewong.. [a third part of a furlong called] Londwong. *c1440 Promp. Parv.* 532/1 Wonge of londe, territorium. *1525 in Lincoln Wills* (Linc. Rec. Soc. V) I. 157, ij acres landes lying in burgh callyd scothorne wang. *1528 Ibid.* 11. 97 A certeyn lande callyd Bawdwyngwang. *a1825 FORBY Voc. E. Anglia*, *Wong*, an agricultural division or district of some uninclosed parishes.. In the parish of Horningtoft, in Norfolk, for instance, there is the

How-wong, q.d. the wong by the hill. *1856 N. & Q.* 2nd Ser. II. 79 At Tickhill [Yorks] are lands, all or mostly meadow, called the North Wongs, South Wongs, Saffron Wongs, and Church Wongs. *1877 N.W. Linc. Gloss.* s.v., At Horncastle there is a piece of common land near the town called The Wong.

wong, obs. form of *WANG*¹, cheek.

wongai ('wɒŋɡai). *Austral.* [Aboriginal name.] A name used in the islands off the north coast of Australia for the jujube, *Zizyphus jujuba*. Also *wongai tree*.

1947 I. L. IDRIESS Isles of Despair xxii. 146 All the yams and berries and wongais will soon ripen. *1959 K. TENNANT All Proud Tribesmen* vii. 84 Wongai trees.. have big dark berries like dates. *1968 Courier-Mail* (Brisbane) 10 July 2/8 Thursday Island.. has an informal charm and friendliness which easily tempts one to bite into the sticky fruit of the wongai tree. If you eat this fruit, legend says, you are bound to return.

|| *wonga-wonga* ('wɒŋɡə'wɒŋɡə). *Austral.* Also *wanga-wanga*. [Native name.]

1. An Australian pigeon, *Leucosarcia melanoleuca*. Also *wonga(-wonga) pigeon*.

1821 L. MACQUARIE Jnl. of Tours (1956) 223 Major Morisset has most kindly sent his young friend Lachlan the following very handsome presents of pets; vizt. four black swans.. and one wanga-wanga pigeon. *1827 P. CUNNINGHAM Two Yrs. N.S.W.* I. xviii. 321 A large pigeon named the wanga-wanga, of the size and appearance of the ringdove. *1846 J. L. STOKES Discov. Australia* I. x. 314 At Captain King's table I tasted the wonga-wonga pigeon. *1887 W. S. TYRWHITT New Chum in Queensland Bush* viii. 149 An occasional plain or scrub turkey, and wonga or squatter pigeons.

2. In full *wonga(-wonga) vine*. An evergreen climber, *Pandorea pandorana*, of the family Bignoniaceæ, native to Australia and bearing panicles of pale yellow or pink flowers.

1895 J. H. MAIDEN Flowering Plants & Ferns N.S.W. 33 The Wonga Wonga Vine... A tall, woody, glabrous climber with more or less twining branches. *1936 F. CLUNE Roaming round Darling* xvii. 162 Another shrub was the wonga-wonga vine. It has white flowers, and the blacks used to hollow the stems and make whistles from them. *1946 K. TENNANT Lost Haven* (1947) xvii. 278 The bells of the Wonga vine, milky with plum velvet in their throats.

wongen, variant of *WANIGAN*.

wonger (e, var. ff. *WANGER Obs.*

wongge tooth, obs. var. *WANG-TOOTH*.

wongi ('wɒŋɡi). *Austral. local.* [Aboriginal.] A talk or chat; a speech.

1929 K. S. PRICHARD Coonardoo xxv. 243 He.. had seen smoke.. and come in for a bit of sugar and a wongie. *1939 X. HERBERT Capricornia* xxiv. 354 'Give's a drink Joe — I've rasped me old throat raw.'.. 'By cripes, Andy, that was a great wongi.' *1969 L. HADOW Full Cycle* 178 If he asks you to have one.. well, he's out for a wongi.

woning, *vbl. sb.*¹: see *WONNING*.

† *woning*, *vbl. sb.*² *Obs.* Forms: 1 *wanung*, 2-3 *waning*, 3-5 *woning* (e, -yng(e), 5 *wowenyng*. [OE. *wānung*, f. *wānian* *WONE v.*² + -ING¹.] Moaning, lamentation.

c950 Lindisf. Gosp. Mark v. 38 Ʒesæh þæt wanung. *c1000 ÆLFRIC Saints' Lives* xxiii. 104 La.. hwæt mæg beon Ʒeomrung and wanung Ʒyf þæt næs se fulla æðores? *c1175 Lamb. Hom.* 33 In helle.. þer is waning and graming and toþen grisbating. *c1200 Trin. Coll. Hom.* 177 Ðanne hauen wanspedie men on heorte wowe and on muðe woninge. *a1250 Owl & Night.* 311 þu.. tellest þæt ich ne can nouht singe Ac al my reorde is wonyng. *c1400 Laud Troy Bk.* 15454 Achilles ligges.. Ded In Troye In gret wowenyng. *c1425 Engl. Cong. Irel.* 144 In al places was weyllynge & wonynge, yollynge & crynge.

*wonk*¹ (wɒŋk). Also *wunk*. [Said to repr. pronunc. of Chin. *huāng gōu* yellow dog.] In China, a dog. Also *wonk dog*.

1900 H. A. GILES Gloss. Subjects Far East (ed. 3) 318 *Wunk*.. yellow dog. A term commonly applied by foreigners to the ordinary Chinese dog. From the Ningpo pronunciation *wou*² *kui*, of the above two characters. *1909 J. O. P. BLAND Houseboat Days in China* vii. 78 Particularly around the great cities you find him of the modern type, sporting a muzzle-loader.. and a half-trained wonk. *1939 'A. BRIDGE Four-Part Setting* i. 4 Away in the Chinese village a wonk dog bayed at the moon. *Ibid.* 5 There are all these Chinks and wonks about—you oughtn't to go alone. *1967 'A. CORDELL Bright Cantonese* vi. 67 Starving wonk dogs, the scavengers of China.

*wonk*² (wɒŋk). *slang.* [In sense 1 related to *WONKY a.* The other senses may represent different words.] † 1. In phr. *all of a wonk*, nervous, upset. *Obs. rare.*

1918 [see *DOODAH* 1].

2. *Naut.* (See quotes.)

1929 F. C. BOWEN Sea Slang 153 *Wonk*, a useless hand, or a young naval cadet who has not yet learnt the elements of his job. *1962 W. GRANVILLE Dict. Sailors' Slang* 134/1 *Wonk*, midshipman.

3. *Austral. a.* A white person.

1938 X. HERBERT Capricornia 252 He went to the Dagoes and Roughs of second-class and won their friendship by.. telling them how he had been cast out by the Wonks of the saloon. *1959 BAKER Drum* 157 *Wonk*, a white man or white woman. Aborigines (esp. half-castes) use this pejorative much as whites use the word *boong* to denote an aboriginal.

b. An effeminate or homosexual man.

1945 BAKER Austral. Lang. vi. 123 An effeminate male is a.. gussie, spurge and wonk. *1970 P. WHITE Vivisector* 213 I'd have to have a chauffeur to drive me about—with a good body—just for show, though. I wouldn't mind if the chauffeur was a wonk.

4. *U.S.* A disparaging term for a studious or hard-working person.

1962 Sports Illustrated 17 Dec. 21 A wonk, sometimes called a 'turkey' or a 'lunch', roughly corresponds to the 'meatball' of a decade ago. *1970 E. SEGAL Love Story* 32 Who could Jenny be talking to that was worth appropriating moments set aside for a date with me? Some musical wonk? *1980 N. Y. Times Mag.* 20 July 8 At Harvard the excessively studious student is derided as a 'wonk', which Amy Berman, Harvard '79, fancifully suggests may be 'know' spelled backward. (In British slang, 'wonky' means 'unsteady'.)

wonky ('wɒŋki), *a. slang.* [Obscure: the G. element *wankel-* has similar force.] Of a person: shaky, groggy; unstable. Of a thing: faulty, unsound; unreliable.

1919 LD. NORTHCLIFFE Let. in Hist. The Times (1952) IV. i. xi. 507 Am weak, and wonky, as the telephone girls say, after a bad morning with the subscribers. *1923 H. C. BAILEY Mr Fortune's Practice* iii. 81 'Who runs the "Daily Watchman?".. It's the wonkiest print on the market.'.. 'You said "on the market".... Corrupt?' 'Well, naturally.' *1925 E. WALLACE Strange Countess* ix. 83 Financial adviser to some heads of departments, whose accounts went a little wonky. *1929 P. GIBBS Hidden City* xvi. 79 It had made his heart jump in a wonky sort of way. *1932 KIPLING Limits & Renewals* 127 Haman's headlight's wonky. Something must have happened. *1957 Listener* 11 July 67 Despite the perfection of isolated lines and phrases.. most of the poems seem slightly out of shape, wonky, as if the kiln had not been hot enough. *1958 Observer* 23 Feb. 15/5 Would they really have sent her on a dangerous mission with an ankle still wonky from an old parachute fall? *1981 Times Lit. Suppl.* 5 June 633/3 The vast majority of murderers are *ipso facto* acutely wonky, and most frequently wonky in dispiriting and unimaginative ways. *1983 D. BOGGIS Woman they sent to Fight* ii. 17 The window fitted badly, and her chair was.. wonky with one short leg. *1984 A. CARTER Nights at Circus* ii. vii. 156 'How's the wonky arm?' she enquired. He showed his sling.

Hence *'wonkiness*.

1982 Times 29 Apr. 10/8 Do not be disconcerted by its [sc. a book's] wonkiness of style.

wonly, obs. f. *ONLY*.

wonn (e, obs. ff. *ONE*, *WAN a.*, *WHEN*.

'wonner, *'woner. arch.* Also 4 *wonere*, *wonyer*. [f. *WON v.* + -*ER*¹. Cf. G. *bewohner*, *einwohner*.] A dweller, an inhabitant.

a1340 HAMPOLE Psalter, Song of Moses 506 All þe woners of chanaan wex starke. *1382 WYCLIF Ps.* cxviii[i]. 19 A comeling wonere I am in the erthe. *1387 TREVISIA Higden* (Rolls) VII. 33 þat is noust plesynge to God, þat graunted þe place to be olde wonyer. *a1513 Fabyan Chron.* vi. cxcvi. (1811) 201 *Wonner* [citing Trevisa]. *1885 JEAN INGELW Sleep of Sigismund* xxvii. The shy wood-wonners.., bright-eyed furry things.

'wonning, *woning*, *vbl. sb.*¹ *Obs.*, *dial.*, or *arch.* Forms: 1 *wunung*, 2-3 *ining*, -ieng, (3 -i)unge, -izinge, wun(n)ing, wonninge, 4 -yizing, -enge, -(e)yinge, -iing, *Sc.* *wonnyne*), 4-5 *wonyng* (e, -inge, -iyng, 4-6 *wonnyng* (e, (5 *wunnyng* (e, *vonyng*, 6 *arch.* *woonning*, 9 *dial.* *wunung*, *wunnen*), 4- *wonning*, *woning*. [OE. *wunung*, f. *wunian*: see *WON*, *WONE v.* and -ING¹.]

I. 1. The action or state of dwelling or abiding. *to make one's woning*, to take up one's abode, to dwell.

c960 ÆTHELWOLD Rule St. Benet (1885) 109 Ʒif he eft on ænigne timan hine sylfne to mynstres wununge Ʒefæstnian wile. *971 Blickl. Hom.* 13 We þæs Ʒelefað.. þæt swa hwylc man swa mildheortnesse nafað, ne biþ þær Cristes.. wunung on þære heortan. *c1200 Trin. Coll. Hom.* 127 þerefore he makede his wunienge in þe wilderne. *a1225 Ancr. R.* 190 Mi cume & mi wunienge, pauh hit punche attri, hit is pauh healuwinde. *1297 R. GLOUC.* (Rolls) 2604 In is stepmoder herte is woniinge he [sc. the Devil] nom. *a1300 Cursor M.* 914 In womman sal mi wonning be. *Ibid.* 6157 þair wonning þar.. Four hundred yere to þan had bene. *a1340 HAMPOLE Psalter* lxxvii. 66 His wonnyngne is amange men that has clene thoghtis. *c1375 Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxvi. (Baptista) 761 Sum cristine þære wonnyne mais, þat þar þapire kirkis hase. *1407 SCOGAN Mor. Balade* 86 Let hem [sc. vices] have no wonning In your soules. *c1440 York Myst.* iv. 3 The place That I haue graunte you.. To haue your wonnyng in. *c1440 Promp. Parv.* 532/1 Wonyng, or dwellynge, *mansio*.

2. A place of habitation, dwelling-place.

c1000 ÆLFRIC Saints' Lives xxx. 315 Wæs seo wunung þær swyþe wynsum on to wicenne. *c1000 Ags. Hom.* (Assmann) iii. 454 Se hæland sæde þæt on his fæder huse syndon manega wununga. *c1200 Trin. Coll. Hom.* 69 þole me louerd aliteltwan þæt ich biurne mi sor, er ich wite to þe pestere wunienge. *1297 R. GLOUC.* (Rolls) 5572-3 To certein woniinge he hom broȝte bope lowe & heye. So þat þor woniinge were al bi weste weye. *1340 Avenb.* 149 þe erpe is woniynge of bestes and of men. *1398 TREVISIA Barth. De P.R.* viii. iv. (Tollem. MS.), þe.. hyȝest heuen,.. cuntrey and wonynge of blisful men. *c1400 Lay Folks Mass Bk.* App. iii. 123 His soule þat is þe wonynge of crist. *c1430 Hymns Virgin* (1867) 28 Ihesul me brynge to þi woniynge. *c1470 HENRY Wallace* ix. 442 In Gyan land full haistely couth ryd, Raissyt feill fyr, and waistyt wonnyngis wid. *1592 GREENE Groat's W. Wit* (1617) 3 When I came first to this Citty, my whole wardrobe was onely a sute of white sheepe skins.. my woonning, the wide world. *1602 W. BASSE Three Past. Elegies* ii. (1893) 66 My wonning is in yonder stall.

3. A dwelling-house or dwelling-room, dwelling, habitation.

c1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* vi. 14 Wyrce ðe nu anne arc. . & ðu wyrceſt wununga binnan ðam arce. *a1225* *Ancre R.* 74 *Habitatio eorum non habet januam* . . . Hore wunnunge naued no 3et. *1297* R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 594 He made hire vnder erpe a woininge. . & huld hire pere . . priuclieche. *13* . . *E.E. Allit.* P. B. 921 Nov walle þe a wonnyng þat þe warisch my3t. *1375* BARBOUR *Bruce* v. 177 The lady hir leif has tane, And went hyr hame to hir wonnyng. *c1450* CAPGRAVE *Life St. Gilbert* xlii. 28 When he say verly þat he was hool he took leue and walkith on-to his wonyng. *a1529* SKELTON *E. Rummyng* 94 Her name is Elynour Rummyng, At home in her wonnyng. *1824-8* *Craven Gloss.*, Wunnen, Wunning, a dwelling. In some parts of Craven this word is nearly extinct. When a cottage is divided into two parts, or habitations, it is called a house with two wunnings. *1901* G. MEREDITH *Reading of Life*, etc. 115 Clouds of them [sc. flies], under some herdsman's winning, where there are the milk-pails.

II. 4. Custom, usage, habit. *rare*.

c1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 534/2 Wunnyng, or vsynge of custome, frequentacio. *1624* in *Cosin's Corr.* (Surtees) i. 23 He knoweth my woining, lett me se what he can say.

III. 5. *attrib.*: won(n)ing-place, -stede (STEAD sb.), -wane (WANE sb.²; cf. *winning-wane*, WINNING *vbl. sb.*²), a dwelling-place.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 1404 Here *wonyng placys yn joye were dyghte. *13* . . *Cursor M.* 2076 (Gött.) Bi me au þu [sc. Cain] noight to duell, þi woining place es made in hell. *c1400* *Laud Troy Bk.* 18358 In helle mot be her wonyng-plas! *a1400-50* *Bk. Curtasye* 847 in *Babees Bk.* 327 Of alle oure synnes cryst be oure leche, And bryng vs to his vonyng place! *a1547* SURREY *Æneis* ii. 842 For if the Gods my life wold haue proroged, They had reserued for me this winning place. *a1300* *Cursor M.* 5375, I giue him *woningsted to wale For euermare. *1338* R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 76 So grete vengeance he nam. . Fro 3ork vnto Durhem no wonyng stede was. *a1400-50* *Wars Alex.* 3734 Oure werkis & of oure wonyng-stede, if 3e wald knawe, I sal declare 3ow þe cas. *a1500* *Hist. K. Bocce & Sydracke* (? 1510) Hiiij. Where hath y^r sowle. . In mannys body his wonyng-stede. *c1400* *Anturs Arth.* 316 (Th. MS.), For me buse wende one my waye. . Vn-to my *wonyngstede wane. *c1500* *Gest Robyn Hode* cxlviii. in *Child Ballads* III. 63/2 Where is thy wonyngstede wane?

wonryde, var. WANDRETH *Obs.*

wons, obs. f. ONCE.

wonsom, obs. f. WINSOME *a*.

wonsped, var. WANSPEED *Obs.*

wonst: see ONCE *adv.* A. 8.

wont (wəunt; also (*now chiefly* U.S.) want), *sb. arch.* Also 6 woont(e, wonte, *Sc. wont*). [Early history and origin doubtful; perh. arose from a conflation of two synonymous constructions, *it is my wone* (WONE sb.) *to* . . , and *I am wont* (WONT *pa. pple.*) *to* . . , whence *it is my wont to* . . (In view of the textual variants in the quot. from 'Cursor Mundi', this must be considered a dubious instance.) Johnson marks this word as 'out of use'.] Habitual or customary usage, custom, habit. *use and wont*: see USE sb. 9 b; *of* (†*in*) *wont*, customary, usual.

13 . . *Cursor M.* 13693 (Gött.) For piper 3ode he ai vmstunt, þar to prai ofte was his wont [other texts was wont].

1530 PALSGR. 290/1 Wont or custome to an yvell thyng, amorse. *1543* *Rental Bk. Cupar-Angus* (1880) II. 24 Payand zeirly. . the sowm of xx^v bollis. . with all. . vther dew seruice, vse and wont. *a1548* *HALL Chron.*, *Hen. VIII* 196 b, After our old wont, we came together vpon our othe in the church of S. Maturyne. *1548* *GESTE Agst. Priv. Masse* Liv. It was fyrst in wont that al the togethers assembled persones in y^e church did communicat eche day. *1550* LATIMER *Serm. preached at Stamford Bij*, They [sc. the Pharisees] wolde be ordred by olde wont, customes, forfathers. *1593* SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI*, iii. i. 2 'Tis not his wont to be the hindmost man. *1602* — *Ham.* i. iv. 6 Then it drawes neere the season, Wherein the Spirit held his wont to walke. *1607* BEAUM. & FL. *Woman Hater* iii. iv, She shall come in a white wastcoat, And— . . And perhaps torn stockings, she hath left her old wont else. *1667-8* PEPYS *Diary* 10 Mar., As merry as that fellow Joyce could make us with his mad talking, after the old wont. *1818* SHELLEY *Julian & Maddalo* 13 A narrow space of level sand. . . Where 'twas our wont to ride. *1822* SCOTT *Nigel* xi, Her lodger . . gave her, contrary to his wont, a signal to leave the room. *1848* LOWELL *Fable for Critics* liii, His wont is to say very sharp things and do very blunt. *1850* NEWMAN *Serm. Var. Occas.* xii. (1881) 199 His commemoration is of daily wont in this neighbourhood. *a1866* WHEWELL in *Life* (1881) 563 Can I forget that this for thee too is Christmas, Christmas not as of wont—Christmas not of the earth? *1879* FARRAR *St. Paul* i. 385 They were. . . liable beyond the common wont of mobs to sudden gusts of feeling and impulse. *1903* *Times* 14 July 11/2 Bosnian use and wont and Oriental ideas were taken into full consideration. *1906* *Athenæum* 24 Nov. 665/2 The story is extravagant beyond the author's wont.

transf. *1581* A. HALL *Iliad* vi. 118 My heart to alter from his wont it also doth disdaine. *1594* HOOKER *Ecl. Pol.* i. iii. §5 When things naturall in that regard forget their ordinary naturall wont. *1637* C. DOW *Ans. to H. Burton* 128 Envy her selfe. . would have lost her wont. *a1854* H. REED *Lect. Brit. Poets* ix. (1857) 312 It is the wont of hollow things to echo.

b. in particularized use.

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 135 b, Diogenes of a customizable woonte auouched to bee a thyngne muche more daungerous to falle in the handes of flaterers. . then to lighte emong crows. *1556* M. PARKER *Psalter* lxxviii. 226 To theyr old wontes they dyd retyre, as sturdy bow in bent. *1612* T.

TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* iii. 3. 597 He is a foole still, he leaueth not his old wonts. *1674* N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* i Whoever . . betakes himself to the scanning of bodies, . . either as to their kinds of being or wonts of working. *1854* S. DOBELL *Balder* xxiii. 103 She [sc. Morn] won of God That ever when she walketh in the world It shall be Eden: and around her come The happy wonts of early Paradise.

wont (wəunt; also (*now chiefly* U.S.) want), *v. arch.* Forms: 5 wunte, -on, wontyn, 6 wonte, wount, *Sc. pa. t.* vont, 6-7 woont, 6- wont; *pa. t.* 6- wonted, wont. [f. WONT *pa. pple.* or back-formation f. WONTED.]

1. *trans.* To make (a person, etc.) accustomed or used to (occas. *with*); = ACCUSTOM 3, USE *v.* 19.

c1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 228 þat he mott wunte þaim & make þaim perfite in wirkyng of wull. *c1440* *Prompt. Parv.* 534/2 Wuntyn, or gretely to 3eue an other vse and custome (P. wontyn or gretely to vse and custom), assuefacio, usito. *1535* *Goodly Primer* Ps. xxv, Wont me to thy pathys. *1544* BETHAM tr. *Purillia's Precepts* Wat II. xxxii. K v, It shal not be vnprofitable to acquaynten and wount your horses. . to suffer the sytter whyche is a gunner. *1600* SURFLET *Countrie Farme* vii. xlvii. 882 And so offering her such meat as is most easie, you shall wount her to eate of the said hart. *1606* PEACHAM *Art of Drawing* 12 Before you. . have wounted and made your hand ready in proportions of all sorts. *1656* J. OWEN *Mortif. Sin* (1668) 108 Wont thy Heart to thoughts hereof. *c1682* in *Verney Mem.* (1907) II. 312 When I have visited her and a little wonted her to the place, I'll come home. *1916* *Contemp. Rev.* June 689 The various defence and relief committees. . have wonted people to the notion of organising the community.

b. *refl.* (rarely *intr.* for *refl.*)

1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 1213 He. . woonteth himselfe to keepe farre from any unjunt and unlawfull taking of money. *1614* T. ADAMS *Sinners Passing Bell* Wks. (1629) 268 So these, that in youth haue wonted themselves to the load of lesse sinnes. *1652* H. L'ESTRANGE *Amer. no Jewes* 18 To wont and accustom to the waters, they practising very much swimming. *1699* R. L'ESTRANGE *Erasm. Colloq.* (1725) 83 It is the best Course we can take to wont ourselves to that which is good. *1856* EMERSON *Engl. Traits* xvi. 275 We walked round the stones. . to wont ourselves with their strange aspect.

†2. *trans.* To use habitually. *Obs. rare.*

1530 PALSGR. 784/1 It is no wysdome to wont a thyng that is nat honest.

3. *intr.* To be wont or accustomed; to be in the habit of (doing that which is expressed by the inf.). Chiefly in *pa. t.* = used (USE *v.* 21).

a1547 SURREY *Poem in Add. MS.* 17492 in *Anglia* XXIX. 337 Helpe to be walle the woffulle casse. . off me that wotende to rejoyces the fortuene offe my pleassante chyes. *a1578* LINDSAY (Pittscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 29 Flatteraris. . spurit him to grettar tyrannie and oppressioun nor any man vont to do befoir. *1591* SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI*, i. ii. 14 Talbot is taken, whom we wont to feare. *1592* NASHE P. *Penillesse* (ed. 2) 31 b, He determined. . to poyson the streame, where this illy Forester wonted to drink. *1632* LITHGOW *Trav. Ded.* A4, And how often wont your euer blessed Father, graciously to peruse Lines of mine. *1671* MILTON *Samson* 1487 Sons wont to nurse their Parents in old age, Thou in old age car'st how to nurse thy Son. *a1700* SEDLEY *Poet. Pieces* Wks. 1722 II. 10 To bouze old Wine, mad Pindar wonted. *a1703* BURKITT *On N.T.* Luke ii. 45 Had he not wonted to converse formerly with them, he had not now been sought amongst them. *1771* BEATTIE *Minstr.* i. xxxv, Where Fays of yore their revels wont to keep. *1837* WORDSW. *Cuckoo at Laverna* 60 With beast and bird. . He wont to hold companionship so free. *a1851* MOIR *Sonn.*, *Scottish Sabbath* v, With those he loved. . He wont on Sabbath morn to cross the plain!

transf. *1599* THYNE *Animadv.* Ded. (1875) 2 Not degenerating from youre former curtesy wontinge to accompanye all youre actions. *1640* R. BAILLIE *Canterb. Self-convict.* Pref. 13 England wont not. . to bee so scant of faithfull witnesses. *1726* POPE *Odyss.* xix. 11 His arms deform the roof they wont adorn. *1833* CHALMERS *Const. Man* (1835) II. vii. 46 In as far as this wont to consist of potatoes or grain. *1884* W. C. SMITH *Kildrostan* 43 He never can Bring back the glory that wont to be. *1885-94* R. BRIDGES *Eros & Psyche* Sept. 12 The merry pipe, That wont to cheer the harvesting, is mute.

b. *absol.* (without inf.)

1585 LAMBARDE in *Camden's Lett.* (1691) 28 Sorrowing that I may not now, as I wonted, dwell in the meditation of the same things. *1590* SPENSER *F.Q.* II. xi. 26 The villen turn'd his face, (As wons the Tartar. . . When as the Russian him in fight does chase). *1590* SHAKS. *Com. Err.* iv. iv. 40, I beare it on my shoulders, as a begger woont her brat. *1593* NASHE *Christ's T.* 28 The Earth left to be so fruitful as it wont. *1594* R. C[AREW] *Godfrey of Bulloigne* (1881) 109 And with a semblant braue and nobeltest, (As lightning wons) he in his armour shines. *1598* SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. i. *Eden* 461 Ile not exact hard fines (as men shall woont). *1836* RUSKIN *Marcolini* II. iii. Wks. 1903 II. 494 Peace, he is here—Lo you, he comes not forward as he wont.

†4. To dwell habitually, have its habitat. *Obs.*

1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* i. clxvii. 140 The Kingfisher is a Solitary Bird, that Wonts commonly by the Water-side.

wont (wəunt; also (*now chiefly* U.S.) want), *pa. pple.* and *ppl. a.* Forms: a. 1 gewunod, -ad, -ed, 2-3 iwuned, 2-5 iwoned, 3-4 ywoned, 4-5 ywoned(e (5 i-, ywonynd); 3 wuned, 4 wonde, 4-5 woned, -yd, 5 woond, 7 won'd, wond, wound. β. 3 iwunet, iwonet, 4-5 iwont (4 iwonte, ywont, 5 ywonet); 4-6 wunt, wount, wonte, (4 wonnt, wonp, *Sc. vont*, 4-5 wnt, 5 won(n)et, w(o)unte, 6 wante), 5-7 woont(e, 4- wont. [OE. *gewunod*, *pa. pple.* of *gewunian* WON *v.*]

A. *pa. pple.* †1. Accustomed, used to, familiar with (a thing, practice, or condition). *Obs.*

c888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* i, His mod. . to þam woruldsælþum gewunod was. *c1000* ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 278 Næs þæt Israhela folc gewunod to hreawum flæsce. *c1200* *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 181 Ach wanne hit [sc. the child] beð þarto wuned, hit wepeð þe lasse. *a1300* *Cursor M.* 28462 Til tauerne huse my-seluen was wont. *c1374* CHAUCER *Boeth.* iv. pr. iv. (1868) 128 þei han hire eyen so wont to derkenesse of erpely pinges. *c1386* — *Clerk's T.* 283 She neuere was to swiche gestes woned. *a1400* *Theophilus* xxi. in *Engl. Studien* XXXII. 8 For I was wont to noble fare Among prynces of londes. *c1450* HOLLAND *Howlat* 164 Cardinalis. . With red hattis on hed, in haile takynning Off that deir dignite, with worschipe ay wont. *c1520* BARCLAY *Jugurth* lvii. 83 From his youth he was euer wont with hardnesse, hunger, thyrst, and labour.

2. (a) Conjugated with the verb 'to be', and const. inf. (with or less freq. without to): Accustomed, used; in the habit of (doing something).

a. *c1175* *Lamb. Hom.* 143 Vre drihten wile cumen. . and wile for-berne alle his fon and heom pet beoð iwunede uuel to done. *c1200* ORMIN 12695 /Ær was he wuned offte To cumenn till þe flumm till himm. *1297* R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1431 Gwider vr king of þis lond is truage athuld sone Of rome pat is eldore were iwoned [v.rr. ywoned, ywonte, wonnte, wonte] to done. *13* . . *Sir Beues* (A.) 3776 Whan wer we woned be by-hinde? *1340* *Ayenb.* 106 Al pet me wes ywoned byuore to louie. *c1384* CHAUCER *H. Fame* III. 486 His clarioun. . With which he wonde is to hiraude Hem that me list preised be. *1393* LAGL. P. Pl. C. vii. 143 Among wyues and wodewes ich am ywoned [v.rr. wonet to, wont to] sitte Yparoked in puwes. *c1450* *Godstow Reg.* 106 Iohn Waleys and Alice his wyf. . quyteclaymed. . ij. d. of yerely rente, the which they were I-wonyd to haue. *1483* CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 111/1 Lyke as he was woond to telle and reherce. *1489* — *Faytes of A.* III. xiii. 196 Of suche thynges men are woned to vse.

β. *a1240* *Sawles Warde* in *O.E. Hom.* I. 257 Ant al þat hird pat ha wes i wunet to dreaien after hire. *c1290* *Beket* 247 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 113 With more nobleie he rod i-nou3 pane he was i-wonet to do. *a1300* *Cursor M.* 3922 A godd. . þe quilk pat he was wonnt anthe. *Ibid.* 4452 To comforth þam wel was he wont. *Ibid.* 28223 My breth it wald be til vnhoue þat many man was wonto droue. *13* . . *Bonaventura's Medit.* 975 Sone, y was wunt þe swetly to wrappe. *1375* BARBOUR *Bruce* i. 220 That folk, that euir wes fre, And in fredome wonto for to be. *c1440* *Alphabet of Tales* 292 He forgatt hur. . nor did hur nott wurshup as he was wunte to doo. *a1450* MYRC *Par.* Pr. 1353 Art þow I-wont at lychwake Any pleyres for to make? *c1470* *Stonor Papers* (Camden) l. 110 Servantes be not so delygent as þei were wonto bee. *c1520* SKELTON *Magnyf.* 1890 He was wonte to boste, brage, and to brace. *1590* SPENSER *F.Q.* i. i. 16 Ay wont in desert darknesse to remaine. *1664* BUTLER *Hud.* II. III. 599 Your Ancient Conjurers were wont To make her from her Sphere dismount. *1741-2* GRAY *Agrip.* 108 Legions, wont to stem With stubborn nerves the tide. *1810* SCOTT *Lady of L.* vi. xxiv, The lark was wont my matins ring. *1814* JANE AUSTEN *Manf. Park* xli, He might have more good qualities than she had been wont to suppose. *1850* TENNYSON *In Mem.* viii, Every pleasant spot In which we two were wont to meet. *1869* TOZER *Highl. Turkey* II. 350 The poet is wont to ignore the rivers when it suits his convenience to do so.

(b) predicated of things.

a1200 *Moral Ode* 57 Vre swinc and ure tilþe is ofte iwoned [v.rr. iwuned, wuned] to swinden. *1303* R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 914 And so, grette tempest secede al, þat on peyr frutys was wnt to fal. *1387* TREVISIA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 85 Parthia. . was i-woned to conteyne al þe lond of foure contrees, of Assyria, of Media, of Persida, and of Carmania. *c1400* MAUNDEV. i. (1919) I. 5 Constantynoble þat was wont to be clept Bezanon. *1444* *Rolls of Parl.* V. 114/1 Al manere of Wynes. . were woned and used to pass through a vessell. *1566* *S'hampton Crt. Lett Rec.* (1905) I. i. 44 Where the Backe was wante to stonde. *1647* in *Verney Mem.* (1907) I. 359 The longer your letters were the more they were wont to please mee. *1667* MILTON *P.L.* v. 123 Those looks That wont to be more chearfull and serene. *1794* PALEY *Evid.* III. viii. (1817) 373 The prejudices which are wont to arise in our minds. *1875* WHITNEY *Life Lang.* vii. 127 Such a distinction is wont to be termed 'inorganic'.

b. Conjugated with the verb 'to have': in *had wont*, had been accustomed. Now *rare*.

1594 O. B. *Quest. Profit. Concern.* 15 b, One of his good dames. . who had wont to bestow the best room. . in her house on him. *1606* G. W[OODCOCKE] *Hist. Iustine* XLIV. 137 A narrow path, where catel had wont to go through. *1655* tr. *Sorel's Com. Hist. Francion* i. 16 My Couch had wont to be upon curious Satin quilts. *1682* BUNYAN *Holy War* 239 The love-feasts that had wont to be between their Prince and them. *1870* J. BRUCE *Life of Gideon* vii. 120 He who had wont to come to the patriarchs. . had actually come to him.

c. without inf.

c1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 138 þes. . hal3a wer was gewunod þæt he wolde gan on niht to sæ. *a1300* *Cursor M.* 3520 Esau went for till hunt, A day, sum he was oft wont. *c1375* *Sc. Leg. Saints* x. (*Mathou*) 68 þai cuth. . Ger serpentis strik men ful sare, As befor-tyme wechis wont ware. *c1380* WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 321 3if lif of pise newe ordri be more medeful þen mannes lif was woned. *c1470* HENRY *Wallace* xi. 349 Inglismen thoct he tuk mar boundandy Than he was wont at any tym befor. *1535* COVERDALE *Ps.* cxviii[i]. 149 Quycken me acordinge as thou art wont. *1656* EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advt. fr. Parnass.* II. xv. (1674) 164 He found her not to have that Grace and Majesty which she had wont. *1719* YOUNG *Revenge* v. i, He fought as he was wont, and four he slew. *1812* CARY *Dante, Parad.* xvii. 52 The common cry, Will, as 'tis ever wont, affix the blame Unto the party injur'd. *1848* DICKENS *Dombey* xli, All is going on as it was wont.

†B. *ppl. a.* = WONTED B. *Obs.*

1382 WYCLIF *Jer.* lviii. 33 The tredere of the grape the wont myrie song shal not syng. *14* . . HOCCEVE *Min. Poems* 70/107 Lady! Of thy wont bontee, keepe alway the cours! *c1450* tr. *De Imitatione* III. vii. 73 þou. . turnest anoon ayen to be wont iapes of þyne herte. *1535* JOYE *Apol. Tindale* (Arb.) 17 Aftir his wont disdaynful maner. *1596* SPENSER *F.Q.* v. iii. 1 So comes it now to Florimell by tourne. . To tast of ioy, and to wont pleasures to retourne.

b. ought and wont (Sc.): due and customary. (Cf. *used and wont* s.v. *USED ppl. a. 2 b.*)

c 1450 Godstow Reg. 258 Yeldyng therof yere to the chief lordis dewe and woned rentis. *1477 in Exch. Rolls Scot.* IX. 102 All uthir dew service aucht and wount. *1535 Reg. Privy Seal Scot.* II. 261/2 With uthir service and dewiteis aucht and wonit alanerlie.

wont: see WANT, WEEN *v.*

won't (wəunt), colloq. contraction of *woll not* = *will not* (see WILL *v.* ¹ A. 6 b). Also (cf. DON'T, SHAN'T) as *sb.* = refusal.

1902 Monthly Rev. Aug. 168 Already he was beginning to know the just value of a woman's won't, so he gave up the contest. *1911 B. HOLLAND Life Dk. Devonshire* I. xiii. 293 Hartington's 'won't' was stronger than his 'will'.

b. In hyphenated comb. with *infin.*, forming sbs. (occas. adjs.), e.g. *won't-learn*, one who refuses to learn; *won't-work*; *won't-wait*, that won't wait.

1857 R. M. BALLANTYNE Coral Islands xxiv, People... who are sich born drivellin' won't-believers that they think [etc.]. *1868 FURNIVALL Babees Book* 200 John Russell lets off his won't-learns very easily. *1904 Westm. Gaz.* 20 Feb. 7/1 The 'unemployables' and the 'won't works' are the recipients of most of the relief. *1909 Daily Chron.* 8 Apr. 1/7 Won't-wait agitators.

wonted ('wəuntid; also (now chiefly U.S.) 'wantid), *pa. pple.* and *ppl. a.* [Either f. WONT *sb.* + -ED, or an extension of WONT *pa. pple.*, apprehended later as *pa. pple.* of WONT *v.*]

A. pa. pple. †1. = WONT *pa. pple. 2. Obs.*
a1413 Chaucer's Troylus v. 277 (Campsall MS.) And whiten gan the Orisonte shene Al Estward as it wonted is to done [*v.rr.* Al Esturwarde as it wonte is to done; Al est-ward as it was wone to done]. *c 1450 LOVELICH Merlin* 6779 Lo, Sire, Merlyne Js come to 3ow here, That 3e Weren Wonted to loven so Wel. *1557 PHAER Æneid. v.* (1558) Nijb, Syr Erix wonted was to giue combat. *1566 Acts Privy Counc. Irel.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) 152 Omagher to contribute to Occarrall, as hath been wonted, the thirde parte of the said bonnacht. *1583 STOCKER Civ. Warres Loue* C. 1. 15 A great Image... which was wonted to be set vp. *1606 G. WOODCOCKE Hist. Iustine* xxxii. 109 Being enticed with the sweetness of the prey as men wonted to lue together vpon the spoile. *1612 R. SHELTON Serm. preached at S. Martins in the Fields* 15 O theefe, wonted with violence to violate men.

2. = WONT *pa. pple. 1.* Now U.S.
1610 C. HAMPTON Serm. 2 He prouided... a tent, whereunto it had bene wonted. *1614 SYLVESTER Parl. Vertues Royall* 1305 The Angell, wonted to Heav'n's Blissefull Hall, Made little stay in this unholosome Stall. *1637 EARL MONM. tr. Malvezzi's Romulus & Tarquin* 295 The Romanes were... accustomed to war, wonted to victory. *1692 R. L'ESTRANGE Fables* I. clxv. 138 She was wonted to the Place, she said, and would not Remove. *1847 EMERSON Repr. Men, Shakespeare* Wks. (Bohn) I. 364 Dramatic materials to which the people were already wonted. *1851 HAWTHORNE Ho. Sev. Gables* v. (1904) 98 Hepzibah had fully satisfied herself of the impossibility of ever becoming wonted to this... obstreperous little bell. *1878 Scribner's Monthly* XVI. 56/2 Afterward we grew wonted to their beauty. *1893 Harper's Mag.* LXXXVI. 855/1 He became wonted to his new station.

b. absol. Made familiar with one's environment. Now U.S.

1610 MARKHAM Masterp. 1. lxxvi. 159 Others vse to leade the horse to a... sheepe-pen, where great store of sheepe are wonted. *1641* [see WONTING c]. *1870 LOWELL Study Wind.* I. 14, I had crows... They grew so wonted as... to tolerate my near approach. *1874* — *Lett.* II. 138, I long to get back, and yet am just beginning to get wonted (as they say of babies and new cows) over here.

B. ppl. a. Accustomed, customary, usual. Now *arch.* or U.S.

1408 in HAKL. *Voy.* (1599) I. 177 According to their wonted maner. *1553 ASCHAM Rept. Germany* Aij, Letters... full of your wonted good will towards me. *1574 in Hist. Fam. Fortescue* (1869) II. 234 Savage did send into the grounds, with the hounds, but the wonted boy, with 2 keepers. *1576* in W. H. TURNER *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 384 The wonted streame... ys... taken away. *1624 CAPT. J. SMITH Virginia* v. 199 It being growne past the wonted season of the comming in of ships. *1671 MILTON P.R.* IV. 449 Out of the wood he starts in wonted shape. *1710 BERKELEY Princ. Hum. Knowl.* §3 Wks. 1871 I. 138 The wonted indulgent methods of Providence. *1750 GRAY Elegy* 92 E'en in our Ashes live their wonted Fires. *1823 SCOTT Quentin D.* xxvi, The King... in a threadbare cloak, with his wonted old high-crowned hat stuck full of images. *1848 LOWELL Fable for Critics* lii, Archæologists... Have tried to make out, with a zeal more than wonted, 'T was a kind of wild swine that our ancestors hunted. *1850 TENNYSON In Mem.* ci. 22 As year by year the labourer tills His wonted glebe. *1860 MAURY Phys. Geog.* xii. §539. 299 Which obstructions may prevent the winds from taking up... their wonted supplies of moisture.

absol. *1837 CARLYLE Fr. Rev.* III. v. i, The Wonted tumbles down; by imitation, by invention, the Unwonted hastily builds itself up.

'wontedly, adv. [f. prec. + -LY².] Customarily, habitually, usually.

1567 PAINTER Pal. Pleas. (1575) II. 182 [Her] hands wontedly were so cold both in Wynter and Sommer as the Mountayne ice. *1611 SPEED Hist. Gt. Brit.* IX. ii. §25. 425 Wontedly the Land was defended by dint of Swords. *1625 JACKSON Creed* v. l. 449 Oftimes more then wontedly pampering their wonted greene desires, vnder the shelter of a sable suite. *1653 R. SANDERS Physiogn.* 189 If the sight appear not as formerly or wontedly it did. *1913 W. OWEN Let.* 4 Jan. (1967) 175 The Vicar's presence (taciturn instead of wontedly gay)... sat heavy on my soul the night. *1980 N. Y. Times* 12 Dec. c-30/3 On Sunday at 7.30 P.M., South Street's 19th-century surroundings will be wontedly

hushed, except at Bowne. *1981 Guardian* 4 Oct. 21 Dexter was wontedly tough on some of the actors.

'wontedness. rare. [f. as prec. + -NESS.] Accustomedness, habitation.

1648 Eikon Bas. xvii. 92, I might suspect my Judgement to be biassed... with some Prejudice and wontedness of Opinion. *1656 Artif. Handsom.* 173 Wontednesse makes even Blackamores seem handsome to one another. *1868 A. D. T. WHITNEY Patience Strong's Outings* iii, We shaded off our wontedness from one [carpet] into the other.

wonter, var. WANTER², mole-catcher.

1657 in Giles *Bampton* (1847) Suppl. 3 Within these two meadows are several Hams of meadow, viz. the Bull Ham, .. the Worden Ham, the Wonter's Ham [etc.].

wonti(e, obs. forms of WANT *v.*

'wonting, vbl. sb. [f. WONT *v.* + -ING¹.] The action of the verb WONT. **a.** The accustoming (of a person to something).

1692 R. L'ESTRANGE Fables Pref. A 2, The Wonting of us to the Use and Liking of these Levities, Leads... us to a Misunderstanding of Things.

b. Custom, wont.

1667 COTTON Scarron. IV. 78 Æneas and the Queen have made... A match to go, after her wonting, Into the Woods a Squirrel hunting.

c. attrib.: †wonting penny, wages paid to a cattle-herd for keeping beasts in a place until they are accustomed to it (cf. WONTED *pa. pple. 2 b*).

1641 BEST Farm. Bks. (Surtees) 120 The nowt heard hath for everie beast one pennie, which is called a wontinge pennie; hee... keepeth them... till they bee wonted and hanted togeather.

'wontless, a. poet. Obs. or arch. [f. WONT *sb.* + -LESS.] Unaccustomed, unwonted, unusual.

1587 T. HUGHES Misfort. Arthur I. ii, That both my hart and marrow quite be burnt, And synewes dried with force of wontlesse flames. *1596 SPENSER Hymn Hon. Beauty* 2 What wontlesse fury dost thou now inspire Into my feeble breast? *1628 MURE Fancies Farewell* i. 12 Mounted on wings of immortalitie, I feele my brest warme with a wontless fire. *1795 SOUTHEY Joan of Arc* VI. 349 He, ... all astonish'd at their force And wontless valour, rages round the field. *1855 SINGLETON Virgil* VI. 21 Daedalus... Along a wontless region floated off To th' icy Bears.

†wontlike, a. Obs. rare. In 7 woont-. [f. WONT *sb.* or *ppl. a.* + -LIKE.] Wonted, accustomed.

1601 R. JOHNSON Kingd. & Commw. 64 He stirred not, neither with woontlike disdain once offered to reuenge so great an indignitie.

†wontly, adv. Obs. rare. [f. WONT *ppl. a.* + -LY².] According to custom, usually.

1654 VILVAIN Enchir. Epigr. v. li, Hot Fume... Which Wind And Earthquake wontly breeds. *Ibid.* 191 b.

won ton (wɒn tɒn). Also wan tan, wun tun, and as one word. [Chinese (Cantonese), Pinyin *húntun*.] A small round roll or pocket of dough containing a savoury filling, eaten alone (after being deep-fried) or boiled in soup (*won ton soup*).

1948 R. W. DANA Where to eat in New York 66 The theater and night-club performers drop in late for chicken egg foo yong, a won ton soup, squab, or Chinese steak. *1952 W. Y. HONG Chinese Cook Bk.* 37 Pick up about ½ teaspoon of meat (or fish) mixture and place on one corner of the wonton skin. Roll almost to the opposite corner... The usual serving is 12 to 15 won-ton-s per person. *Ibid.* 38 Chicken Won-Ton Soup... 8 cups super soup stock... 2 cups chicken meat... 90 pieces of won-ton. *1956 'E. MCBAIN' Cop Hater* (1958) xx. 172 The wonton soup was crisp with Chinese vegetables... The wontons were brown and crisp. *1972 K. LO Chinese Food* I. 54 Well made *wuntuns* floating in clear soups resemble clouds. *1976 Times* 20 Aug. 12/8 Two spring rolls for 25p, skins for Wan Tan dumpling at 60p a lb. *1976 Time* 27 Sept. 63/2 The Chinese deep-fry everything from shrimp toast and *wontons* to beef and chicken.

†wontsomeness. Obs. rare. [f. WONT *sb.* + -someness (see -SOME¹).] Rare, habit.

c 1425 WYNTOUN Cron. lxx. 2124 Alkyne tame best... ran... To woddis and to wildernes, Leiffand thare avne wontsumnes [*MS. Cott.* awide hamlynnes].

wonus, obs. form of ONCE.

woo (wu:), *v.* ¹ Now *literary*. Forms: 1 *wogian*, 3 *wohe*, 3–4 *wo3e(n, wowen, 3–6 wowe, (4 wouwe, 5 wowyn, wogh), 5–7 wow, woue, 6–7 wo, 6–8 woe, 6– woo.* [Late OE. *wōgian* (also *āwōgian* in trans. sense), of obscure origin.]

I. intr. (or absol.) 1. To solicit or sue a woman in love; to court, make love.

a 1050 Liber Scintill. xiii. (1889) 68 Bearn worulde pissere wogiað & hi beoð gesealde to gyftum. *Ibid.*, Ne hi ne wogiað ne hi ne lædað wif. *Ibid.* 70 Naht framað flæsc habban mæden gif on gæpance ænig wogað. *a 1225 Ancr. R.* 388 Æsa a mon þet woweð [*MS. Titus* woues]—ase a king þet luæde one lefdi of feorrene londe. *a 1300 K. Horn* 793 (Camb.) Whan þu farst to wo3e, Tak him pine gloue. *1338 R. BRUNNE Chron.* (1810) 40 Unto þe duke of Normundie he went for to wouwe. *1390 GOWER Conf.* II. 7 Wher a womman is al one, It makth a man... The more hardi forto wowe. *1500–20 DUNBAR Poems* xiii. 44 Religious men of diuerser placis Cumis thair to wow and se fair facis. *1600 SHAKS. A. Y. L.* v. ii. 3 Is't possible, that... but seeing, you should loue her? And louing woo? and wooing, she should graunt? *1670 RAY Prov.* 30 To wo is a pleasure in a young man, a fault in an old.

1792 BURNS Duncan Gray i, Duncan Gray came here to woo. *1822 CAMPBELL Maid's Remonstr.* i, Never wedding, ever wooing, Still a love-lorn heart pursuing, .. Wed, or cease to woo. *1859 TENNYSON Marr. Geraint* 442 A creature wholly given to brawls and wine, Drunk even when he woo'd.

b. Of animals.

a 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* 44 Woves this wilde drakes. *Ibid.*, Wormes wowedth under cloude. *1398 TREVISA Barth. De P.R.* XII. i. (1495) Aij/1 Males [of birds] drawe to company of females... and wowe wyth beκες & voyce.

c. in fig. context.

a 1225 Ancr. R. 400 Lo! þus ure Louerd woweð: nis heo to herd i-heorted þet a swuch wouare ne mei turnen hire luue to him. *1390 GOWER Conf.* II. 78 In loves court... The povere vertu schal noght spiede, Wher that the riche vice wowedth. *c 1400 26 Pol. Poems* xx. 120 He [sc. Christ] is woryþe loued, þat so dede wowe.

2. To make solicitation or entreaty; to sue for; to 'invite', 'call'. Also const. clause.

1615 BRATHWAIT Strappado (1878) 143 Th' Maide... Wooing with teares... That loue would giue this Monster th' ouer-throw. *1634 BP. HALL Contempl.*, N.T. IV. xv, Even after an ill harvest we must sow, and after denials we must woo for God. *1647 TRAPP Comm.* 2 Cor. iv. 5 (1656) 711 We are Christs Paranymps, or spokesmen, and must woo for him. *1877 MRS. FORRESTER Mignon* I. 222 So poor George wooves and prays and pleads in vain. *1896 A. E. HOUSMAN Shropsh. Lad* iv, Towns and countries woo together.

II. trans. 3. To sue to or solicit (a woman) in love, esp. with a view to marriage; to pay court to, court.

[*c 1000 ÆLFRIC Saints' Lives* vii. 14 þa ða heo gewende of scole, ða awogode hi sum cniht. *a 1020* in Thorpe *Charters* (1865) 312 þa foreward ðe Godwine worhte wið Byrhtic þa he his dohter awogode.]

c 1290 St. Matthew 84 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 80 A king... wolde ire habbe to his spouse and wowed hire wel faste. *a 1300 K. Horn* 546 (Camb.) Ischal... mi kni3thod proue, Ar ihc þe ginne to wo3e. *a 1300 Cursor M.* 27998 If þou man nedd þe euer þar-till At force womman... Or woud hir wit wordes slight. *c 1385 CHAUCER L.G.W.* 1247 *Dido*, He... wowed hyre to han hire as his wyf. *c 1440 Generydes* 4442 Ther is a knyght hir wowith euery owre, Not for to wedde butt for his paramour. *1530 PALSGR.* 783/2 Thou arte but a foole to wo her, she is nat for the. *1580 LVLV Euphues* (Arb.) 307 Wooe hir, win hir, and weare hir. *1589 WARNER Alb. Eng.* VI. xxix. (1612) 146 Thus wowed he her, thus wonne he her, thus wowed and wonne hee sped. *1590 SPENSER F.Q.* III. vii. 59 Long thus I woo'd her with dew obseruance, In hope vnto my pleasure to haue won. *1714 T. LUCAS Mem. Gamesters* (ed. 2) 41 He presum'd to woe a great Lady, who was a Widow. *1842 TENNYSON Dora* 37 He woo'd and wed A labourer's daughter. *1861 GEO. ELIOT Silas M.* iii, For four years he had thought of Nancy Lammeter, and wooed her with tacit patient worship.

b. Of animals.

1398 TREVISA Barth. De P.R. XVIII. i. (1495) Xvj b/2 The males wowedth & plesyth the females. *1684 J. S. Profit & Pleas. United* 35 If she [sc. the Mare] refuse him... you may put a small Stone Nag to wooe her. *1855 Poultry Chron.* II. 412 [We] heard their loud gobbling on a sunny spring morning when wooing their mates.

†c. Said of the female: 'To solicit the love of'. *c 1425 WYNTOUN Cron.* II. v. 344 Scho... Said Iosephe walde haf lyin hyr by, Qwhar to scho wowitz hym besely. *1470–85 MALORY Arthur* XIX. viii. 784 [She] wowed hym to haue layne by hym.

d. in fig. context.

a 1225 Ancr. R. 390 Iesu Crist... þet al o pisse wise wouwde ure soule. *a 1240 Ureisin* in *O.E. Hom.* I. 187 A swete ihesu... hwine con ich þe wo3e [later text wouwen þe] wiþ swete luue. *c 1430 Hymns Virgin* (1867) 69 In 3oughe whanne y was wilde & stronge, þe fals world fair dide me wowe. *1601 SHAKS. All's Well* II. i. 15 See that you come Not to wooe honour, but to wed it. *1672 DRYDEN 2nd Pt. Conq. Granada* III. 113 In gaining him, I gain that Fortune too Which he has Wedded, and which I but Wooe. *1784 COWPER Task* III. 126 They are lost In chase of fancied happiness, still woo'd And never won. *1844 KINGLAKE Eothen* III, Venice... in old times would send forth the Chief of the State to woo and wed the reluctant sea.

4. To move or invite by alluring means; to entreat or solicit alluringly. (Said properly of persons, fig. of things.) **a.** const. obj. and inf.

c 1400 Song Roland 546 His bugle to blow, they hym wowed. *1593 NASHE Christ's T.* 4 He... wooed them (with many fayre promises) to repent. *1604 SHAKS. Oth.* III. iii. 293 My wayward Husband hath a hundred times Woo'd me to steale it. *1621 ELSING Debates Ho. Lords* (Camden) 81 He was wood to consent to the patent of Inns. *1629 MILTON Nativity* 38 Only with speeches fair She [sc. Nature] woo's the gentle Air. To hide her guilty front with innocent Snow. *1728–46 THOMSON Spring* 1036 Then forth he walks, ... and woos the bird of eve To mingle woes with his. *1791 COWPER Iliad* I. 217 Begone!—I woo thee not to stay. *1820 W. IRVING Sketch Bk.* II. 175 A mild air... wooing every bud and flower to burst forth into... beauty. *1864 TENNYSON Aylmer's F.* 487 Him they lured Into their net... wooing him to woo.

b. const. obj. and advb. phr. (or simple adv.).

1387 TREVISA Higden (Rolls) VI. 91 þey heo were... byslych ywowed to cosses and clippynge...; 3it sche lefte clene mayde. *1601 B. JONSON Poetaster* II. ii, This gentlewoman is wooing Hermogenes for a song. *1612 Two Noble Kinsmen* II. i. 109 All those pleasures That wove the wils of men to vanity. *1639 FULLER Holy War* v. xxv. 272 With the oratorie of so pious a project to woo money out of peoples purses. *1682 BURTON Admirable Curiosities* (1684) 23 To little purpose he wooed the King and Queen for Reparation. *1703 ROWE Ulysses* I. i, Well might you hope to woe me to your Wishes. *1781 COWPER Expost.* 627 Those truths... Invite thee, woo thee, to the bliss they share. *1820 BYRON Mar. Fal.* IV. i. 17, I... will woo my pillow For thoughts more tranquil. *1830 TENNYSON Owl* II. ii, Thee to woo to thy tuwhit. *1875 McLAREN Serm.* Ser. II. vii. 121 In spite of every silvery voice that woos him aside. *1882 T. G. BOWLES Flotsam & Jetsam* 8 A splendid summer day, wooing the very coat off your back.

5. To sue for or solicit the possession or achievement of; hence *fig.* to 'court', 'invite', 'tempt'.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 533/1 Wowyn', *proco, procito.* 1570 *LEVIN'S Manip.* 180/1 To wowe, *procare, ambire.* *a* 1585 *MONTGOMERIE Cherrie & Slae* 140 'Mak choice then of those then, Or of a thousand things'; . . . With that I wowd his wings. 1600 *SHAKS. A. Y. L.* 11. vii. 10 What a life is this That your poore friends must woe your companie. 1613 — *Hen. VIII.*, v. i. 140 You take a Precepit for no leape of danger, And woe your owne destruction. 1625 *BACON Ess., Honour & Reputation* (Arb.) 67/2 Some in their Actions, doe Woove and affect Honour, and Reputation. 1639 *FULLER Holy War* 1. iv. 5 Some . . . rather wooed then waited for their own deaths. 1678 *BUTLER Hud.* 111. i. 90 Their Bones were drubb'd so sore They durst not woove one Combat more. 1781 *COWPER Expost.* 413 All fasting else . . . Is wooing mercy by renew'd offence. 1781 — *Hope* 420 They that woo preferment. 1792 *S. ROGERS Pleas. Mem.* 1. 14 Whose hollow turret wooves the whistling breeze. 1820 *BYRON Juan* iv. xliii, Pale, statue-like, and stern, she woo'd the blow. 1882 *W. BALLANTINE Exper.* xxiii. 224 A theatre which for years before had wooed in vain the patronage of the public. 1883 *R. BRIDGES Prometheus* 935 She fled Into the sea, preferring there to woo The choking waters.

Hence wooable ('wu:əb(ə)l) *a.*, suitable to be wooed.

1903 *ZANGWILL Grey Wig, Merely Mary Ann* 262 She was well-nigh of wooable age.

woo (wu:), *v.*² [Origin unknown.] = MAH JONG *v.*

1922 *H. STERLING Standard Rules & Instr. Chinese Game Mah Chang* (ed. 4) 6 Experienced players invariably prefer to 'Woo' quickly with a small score rather than fail to 'Woo' at all. *Ibid.* 12 The Woo hand adds 2 points if he Woo with only one possible piece . . . or if he hold one of his last pair and Woo with the other. 1943 *K. S. WHITEHEAD Mah Jong Chinese Way* §59 A player whose hand contains a false set has a 'foul hand', and cannot woo. 1973 *J. SCARNE Scarne's Encycl. Games* xxiii. 451 When he completes his hand, four sets and a pair, a player may woo or mah-jongg by showing his whole hand. He wins the deal, ending play.

woo (wu:), *sb.* [f. *woo v.*¹] (A spell of) caressing or love-making; esp. in phr. to *pitch a woo*: see *PITCH v.*¹ 17 d.

1937, etc. [see *PITCH v.*¹ 17 d]. 1938 *N. MARSH Artists in Crime* ix. 120 Hello, you two, what are you up to? Having a woo or something? 1959 — *Singing in Shrubs* vi. 111 A pair of tango dancers . . . strutted and stalked . . . and frowned ineffably at each other. 'What an angry woo,' Tim said. 1968 *Guardian* 27 Nov. 9/6 Couples making woo in motor-cars should be careful not to rock them too much.

woo, var. WHOO *int.*

woo, dial. f. wo *int.*

woo, woo', dial. ff. WOOL.

wooc, wooch, var. WOKE *a.* *Obs.*, WOOSH.

wood (wud), *sb.*¹ Forms: 1 widu, wiodu, wudu, 2-3 wude, 3-6 (7 *Sc.*) wode, 4-6 wodd, woode, (7 *Sc.*) wod, wodde, (3 wd(d)e, 4 uud, *Sc.* vod, woud, voud, 5 woyd, whode, vode, voode, 6 woodde, wud), 5-6 *Sc.* wid(d, 5- wood, (9 *Sc.* wudd). [OE. *widu, wiodu*, later *wudu* str. m. = OHG. *witu, wito* (MHG. *wite, wit*), ON. *viðr* (Sw., Da. *ved*):—OTeut. **widuz* (cf. OIr. *fid* tree, wood, Gael. *fíodh* timber, wood, wilderness, W. *gwýdd* trees:—**widu-*).]

1. † *a.* A tree. *Obs.*

Beowulf 1364 Wudu wyrtum fæst. *c* 725 *Corpus Gloss.* P.420 *Pinus*, furhwudu. *a* 1000 *Phoenix* 37 Wintres & summeres wudu bið gelice bledum gehongen. *c* 1220 *Bestiary* 245 Ilkines sed Boðen of wude and of wed. *Ibid.* 326 He werpeð er hise hornes In wude er in ðornes. [1526 *TINDALE Rev.* xxii. 2 Off ether syde off the ryver was there wode [Gr. *ξύλον*] off lyfe: which bare xij manner off frutes; . . . and the leves off the wodde served to heale the people with all.]

† *b.* *transf.* applied to objects made from trees or their branches, e.g. a ship (in OE. freq.), a spear, the Cross. (Cf. *TREE sb.* 3-6.) *Obs.*

In mod.arch. use associated with sense 7. *a* 1000 *Dream of Rood* 27 Ongan sprecan wudu selesta. *a* 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 798 So sare was þe semble þire seggis be-twene, þat al to-wraiste þai þar wode & werpis in-sondire. 1866 *NEALE Sequences & Hymns* 46 His precious Body . . . broken on The Wood.

2. *a.* A collection of trees growing more or less thickly together (esp. naturally, as distinguished from a *plantation*), of considerable extent, usually larger than a *grove* or *copse* (but including these), and smaller than a *forest*; a piece of ground covered with trees, with or without undergrowth.

† *honey of the wood*: = *wood-honey* (sense 10).

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* ciii. 20 Omnes bestiae silvarum, alle wilddeor wuda. 858 *Grant* in Birch *Cartul. Sax.* 11. 101 Butan ðem wioda ðe to ðem sætern limpð. *c* 1000 *ÆLFRIC Saints' Lives* xxx. 31 He . . . ræsse into þam wudu þær he piccost was. *a* 1122 *O.E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1112 Dis was swiðe god gear & swiðe wistfull on wudan & on feldan. *a* 1200 *Moral Ode* 344 in *O.E. Hom.* i. 181 Hi muwen lihtliche gon. . . Durh ane godliese wude in-to ane bare felde. *c* 1290 *Kenelm* 150 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 349 He[o] wende to þe wode of clent. 1297 *R. GLOUC.* (Rolls) 3887 In þe oper half þeþ gæde wodes, lese & mede al so. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 8785 Mani wodds ha þai thoru gan, Bot suik a tre ne fand þai nan. *c* 1380 *WYCLIF Sermon* Sel. Wks. 11. 4 Hony of þe

woode. *c* 1385 *CHAUCER L.G.W.* 806 *Thisbe*, There comyth a wilde lyones Out of the wode. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1350 Ouer hilles & hethes into holte woddes. 14. . . *Stat. King's Forests* (Douce MS. 335 fol. 73) As touching the kinges veert that is to say the kinges wodes. 1426 *LYDG. De Guil. Pilgr.* 11606 Gladly folkys I conveye. . . To ward the woode, to gadre flours. *c* 1480 *HENRYSON Robene & Makyne* 11 Nathing of lufe I knaw, Bot keipis my scheip vndir zone wid. 1535 *COVERDALE Ps.* lxxix. 13 The wilde bore out of the wod hath wrutt it vp. 1598 *MANWOOD Lawes Forest* viii. 41 Where the trees do grow scattering here and there one, so that those trees do not one of them touch an other, such places are called woods, but they are not properly to be called courts. *c* 1614 *MURE Dido & Aeneas* 11. 216 Then are those lovers two A hunting in the woddes resolvd to goe. 1617 *MORYSON Itin.* 1. 203 Hils . . . adorned with some pleasant woods (which in higher Germany are of fire). 1754 *GRAY Poesy* 66 Woods, that wave o'er Delphi's steep. 1847 *TENNYSON Princess* 11. 180, I . . . push'd alone on foot. . . Across the woods. 1860 *TYNDALL Glac.* 1. xxv. 177 We proceeded slowly upwards, through woods of pine. 1880 *STEVENSON Across the Plains* 11. (1892) 81 All woods lure a Rambler onwards.

b. *Woods and Forests*, more fully *Woods, Forests, and Land Revenues*, a department of the Civil Service (see quot. 1810; merged with the Forestry Commission in 1923).

1803 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 15547. 34/1 Surveyor-General of His Majesty's Woods, Oaks, Forests, and Chases. 1810 *Act 50 Geo. III c. 65* §1 Such Commissioners so to be appointed, shall be and be called 'The Commissioners of His Majesty's Woods, Forests, and Land Revenues'. 1812 *1st Rep. Comm. Woods, Forests, etc.* 18 Department of Woods and Forests. 1850 *CARLYLE Latter-d. Pamph.* vii. (1858) 247 But as to Statues, I really think the Woods-and-Forests ought to interfere. 1853 *DICKENS Bleak Ho.* xii, You can't offer him the Presidency of the Council, . . . You can't put him in the Woods and Forests.

3. Without article, in general or collective sense: Wooded country, woodland; trees collectively (growing together). Now *rare* exc. as in *BRUSHWOOD* 2, *COPEWOOD* 2, *UNDERWOOD*.

c 897 *ÆLFRED Gregory's Past.* C. xxi. 167 To wuda we gað mid urum freondum. *a* 1100 *Gerefa in Anglia* IX. 259 ðe on dune, ge on wuda, ge on wætere. *c* 1200 *ORMIN* 14568 Wude, & feld, & dale, & dun, all wass i waterr sunnkenn. *c* 1300 *K. Horn* 661 (Laud) þe king rod on huntingge, To wode he gan wende. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 33 In toftis in croftis, in wode and mede. 1557 *Lanc. Wills* (1884) 58 Towe hundredh Acres of Pasture xx^{ia} acres of woodde. 1615 *G. SANDYS Trav.* 89 High land . . . full of tall wood. 1686 *tr. Chardin's Trav. Persia* 199 Luarzab. . . shut up the Passages by felling an infinite number of Wood. 1737 *Daily Gazetteer* 21 Feb. 2/2 Advt., To be Sold. A very large Quantity of all Sorts of Wood, with or without the Estate on which it stands. 1767 *A. YOUNG Farmer's Lett. to People* 149 The real interest of the country requires that none but the worst lands be covered with wood. 1810 *SCOTT Lady of L.* 111. vi, Whole nights he spent by moon-light pale, To wood and stream his hap to wail.

4. *transf.* and *fig.* A collection or crowd of spears or the like (suggesting the trees of a wood); *gen.* a collection, crowd, 'lot', 'forest'. (After *L. silva*.) Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1584 *HUDSON Du Bartas' Judith* v. 500 Though my buckler bore a wood of darts. 1610 *B. JONSON Alch.* 111. ii, The whole family, or wood of you. [1664 *H. MORE Myst. Iniq.* 331, I might . . . observe what is answerable in the Church of Rome to the *Vinalia, Robigalia, Terminalia, Parentalia, Proserpinalia*, and other Feasts of the Gentiles; but this wood is so wide, that I may easilier lose my self in it then get through it.] 1670 *G. H. tr. Hist. Cardinals* 111. 111. 328 Cardinal Savelli . . . having discover'd his natural infirmities . . . the whole Wood of his other good qualities were not sufficient to ballance them. 1670 *DRYDEN 1st Pt. Conq. Granada* 11. (1672) 14 A wood of Launces. *a* 1674 *MILTON Hist. Moscovia* Pref., Wks. 1851 VIII. 469 In such a wood of words. 1704 *NORRIS Ideal World* 11. ii. 79 What a wood of difficulties and objections this side of the question is encompassed with. 1798 *SOTHEY tr. Wieland's Oberon* (1826) I. 2 A wood of threat'ning lances.

5. Phrases and Proverbs. † *a.* *in a wood*: in a difficulty, trouble, or perplexity; at a loss. So *b.* *out of the wood* (U.S. *woods*). (Cf. quot. 1664 in sense 4.) *c.* *to go to the woods*: to lose social status, be banished from society. *d.* *man of the woods*: = *ORANG-OUTANG*. *e.* *a bird in the hand is better than two in the wood* (and similar phrases; now usually with substitution of *bush*, *BUSH sb.*¹ 1 c): a smaller actual advantage is preferable to the mere chance of a larger one. † *f.* *to have an eye to the wood*: to be on the look-out for some advantage. *g.* *not to see the wood* († see *wood*) *for the trees* († *for trees*): to lose the view of the whole in the multitude of details. † *h.* *more ways to the wood than one*: different methods of attaining the same result (and similar phrases). *i.* *to have the wood on* (a person) and *varr.*: to have the upper hand, to have a hold on. *Austral.* and *N.Z. colloq.* Cf. *to have the goods on s.v. GOOD a.* C. 8.

a. 1658-9 *Burton's Diary* (1828) 111. 415, I am afraid we are in a wood. No wonder the nation is puzzled, when the wisdom of the nation is puzzled in this place. 1700 *T. BROWN tr. Fresny's Amusem.* 115, I am in a Wood, there are so many of them [sc. coffee-houses] I know not which to enter. 1786 *MME. D'ARBLAY Diary* 28 Nov., I assured him I was quite in a wood, and begged him to be more explicit.

b. 1792 *MME. D'ARBLAY Lett.* 20 Dec., Mr. Windham says we are not yet out of the wood, though we see the path through it. 1801 [see *HALLOO v.* 2 b]. *a* 1849 *POE X-ing a Paragrab*, Dxn't crxw . . . befexre yxu're xut xf the wxxds. 1887 *Times* (weekly ed.) 21 Oct. 8/3 It remains to be seen yet

whether the Germans are not shouting before they are out of the wood. 1889 'EDNA LYALL' *Derrick Vaughan* i. 12 In a few months, . . . I noticed a fresh sign that he was out of the wood. 1890 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 21 Nov. 2/2 The people of North Dakota seem not to be out of the woods in the matter of prohibition. 1902 *WISTER Virginian* xxix, When a patient reaches this stage [of convalescence], he is out of the woods.

c. 1891 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 16 June 2/1 Two other gamblers whose social position was at least equal to Sir William's have gone . . . 'to the woods'.

d. 1755 *Hist. Descr. Tower Lond.* 25 You are . . . shewn in this Yard a Man of the Wood. 1774, 1836 [see *ORANG-OUTANG*]. 1852 *ROSS tr. Humboldt's Trav.* 11. xx. 270 The hairy man of the woods.

e. *c* 1530 [see *BIRD sb.* 6]. 1546 *J. HEYWOOD Prov.* 1. xi. (1867) 30 Better one byrde in hande than ten in the wood. 1621 *T. GRANGER Eccles.* xi. 5. 297 A bird in the hand is far better then two in the wood.

f. 1578 *H. WOTTON Courtlie Controv.* 292 The Damoyseil making a signe to hir supplyante [printed supply oute] (who had always an eie to the wood).

g. 1546 *J. HEYWOOD Prov.* 11. iv. (1867) 51 Plentie is no deintie, ye see not your owne ease. I see, ye can not see the wood for trees. 1583 *MELBANCKE Philotimus* Sijb, Thou canst not or wilt not see wood for trees. 1640 *HOWELL Dodona's Gr.* 217 He could not have beene able as hee went along to have seene the Wood for Trees. 1751 *Affect. Narr. H.M.S. Wager* 92 This was like, not seeing the Wood for Trees. 1888 *PATER Ess. fr. Guardian* (1896) 95 Garrick . . . bears no very distinct figure. One hardly sees the wood for the trees.

h. 1546 *J. HEYWOOD Prov.* 11. ix. (1867) 75 Ye tooke The wrong way to wood. *Ibid.* 77 There be mo waies to the wood than one. 1569 *BLAGUE Sch. Concyetes* 64 Couetous men, which studie all the wayes to the wood to saue their money. 1597 *T. MORLEY Introd. Mus.* 74 There bee (as the Prouerbe sayeth) more wayes to the Wood then one.

i. *c* 1926 'MIXER' *Transport Workers' Song Bk.* 7, I hold the 'wood' on those who work. 1944 *J. H. FULLARTON Troop Target* vi. xxii. 168 Then we've taken another hiding. And I thought we had the wood on Jerry today. 1954 *T. A. G. HUNGERFORD Sowers of Wind* xxi. 264 Can't you realize I've got the wood on you? You've got two minutes. 1965 *L. HAYLEN Big Red* i. 55 It was another of her occasions of fear: she liked having the wood on you. 1974 *D. STUART Prince of My Country* ix. 66 Father stands up. 'Look, Marney. . . . Get down and be civil or shut up and get to hell out of it!' Mr Marney dismounts. . . . Mr Molloy pours tea and makes room on the bench. It looks as if Father has the wood on this sour old man right from the start.

II. 6. *a.* The substance of which the roots, trunks, and branches of trees or shrubs consist; trunks or other parts of trees collectively (whether growing or cut down ready for use).

Also with qualification, as *BRUSHWOOD* 1, *TALWOOD*; *small wood*, *young wood*.

c 897 *ÆLFRED Gregory's Past.* C. xxi. 167 Se se ðe unwærlice ðone wuda hiewð, & sua his freond ofsliehð. *a* 1000 *Gnomic Verses* ii. 110 Wuda and wætres nyttað. *c* 1205 *LAY.* 8700 Heo bi-gunnen þene wude feollen. *c* 1400 *tr. Secr. Gov. Lordsh.* 97 Hewynge of wode. *c* 1440 *LYDG. Hors, Shepe & G.* 121 The hors is nedeful wode & stuf to carie. 14. . . *Stat. King's Forests* (Douce MS. 335 fol. 73) If ther be any man that . . . caryeth a way any smal wode. ? 1479 *Engl. Gilds* (1870) 425 That no wodde there be solde vntil the price be sett vpon it by the saide maire. 1482 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) 11. 141 That non young vode be strydyd. 1547 *BOORDE Introd. Knowl.* (1870) 121 In dyuers places in England there is wood the which doth turne into stone. 1573-80 *TUSSER Husb.* (1878) 40 Fruit gathered too timely will taste of the wood. 1611 *COTGR., Bois de brin*, round, or vncleft-small-wood. 1642 *FULLER Holy & Prof. St.* v. xiv. 414 The wood will pay for the ground. 1756 *C. LUCAS Ess. Waters* 111. 64 This stone I took to be wood petrified. 1828 *L. KENNEDY & GRAINGER Tenancy of Land* 151 Timber elm grows more commonly than any other kind of wood excepting beech. 1855 *T. F. HARDWICH Phot. Chem.* (ed. 2) 289 Acetic Acid is . . . produced . . . by heating wood in close vessels.

b. as prepared for and used in arts and crafts.

In predicative use sometimes = wooden. (OE. regularly used *tréow TREE* (*sb.* B. 2) in this sense.)

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 22543 Wodd and wall al dun sal drau. 1551-2 in *Feuillerat Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 80 Y^e scabbarde of wood turned. 1577 *GOOGE tr. Heresbach's Husb.* 46 Sythes we vse to sharpe with Whetstones or instruments of Wood. 1591 *SHAKS. 1 Hen. VI.*, v. iii. 90 He talkes of wood: It is some Carpenter. 1622 *J. TAYLOR* (Water P.) *Merry Wherry-Ferry Voy.* Wks. (1630) 11. 15 Edwin . . . pluck'd the Minster down that then was wood, And made it stone. 166. *PETTY in Sprat Hist. Roy. Soc.* (1667) 285 Colouring of Wood and Leather by Lime, Salt, and Liquors. 1687 *A. LOVELL tr. Thevenot's Trav.* 1. 22 The model of the Mosque in wood. *a* 1700 *EVELYN Diary* 4 Sept. 1677, The gates are wood . . . plated over with iron. 1711 *ADDISON Spect.* No. 37 ¶ 1 Other Counterfeit Books upon the upper Shelves. . . were carved in Wood. 1776 *GIBBON Decl. & F.* ii. (1782) 1. 56 No wood, except cedar, very curiously carved, was employed in any part of the building. 1781 *CRABBE Library* 502 Bibles bound in wood. 1816 *W. Y. OTTLEY Hist. Engraving* 1. i. 5 The Origin of Engraving in Wood. 1852 *R. A. WILLMOTT Pleas. Lit.* (ed. 2) vii. 40 All the classic authors—in wood, with bright backs.

c. as used for fuel; FIREWOOD.

† *Occas. coll. sing.* faggots; locally, small coal (quot. 1805). *c* 888 *ÆLFRED Boeth.* xxxix. §4 Ær he hi bewæg mid wuda utan & forbærnde þa mid fyre. *a* 1225 *Anr.* R. 402 Gedereð wude perto, mid þe poure wummon of Sarepte. 1340 *HAMPOLE Pr. Cons.* 3189 Als wode brinnes, þat es sadde and hevy. *c* 1425 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 657/15 Hoc focale, wode to the fyre. 1480 *Howard Househ. Bks.* (Roxb.) 18 Thei have received opon making of the iij. M. wode xiiij. s. viij. d. 1497 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 224, cc wode xij^d & iiij candell v^d. 1560 *Bible* (Geneva) Ezek. xxiv. 10 Heape on muche wood: kindle the fyre. *a* 1568 in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 35 As fyre the wid we se Dois burne. 1639 *J. TAYLOR* (Water P.) *Part Summer's Trav.* 44 The miserable Stipend or Hiring wages will hardly buy wood to make a fire for him. 1805 *FORSYTH Beauties Scot.* 111. 511 The small coal used to heat the salt-pans is universally called wood by the salters on the eastern coast of Scotland. 1808

SCOTT *Marm.* vi. Intro. 1 Heap on more wood!—the wind is chill.

d. *Hort.* The substance forming the head of a tree or shrub; branch-wood; also, branches collectively; in a fruit tree, primarily leaf-bearing, as distinguished from fruit-bearing, branches. (Cf. *wood-bud*, *-branch* in 10.)

1523-34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 130 [Withies] be trees that wyll soone be nourysshed, and they wyll beare moche woodde. 1572 MASCALL *Plant. & Graff.* 46 If there be in your trees certain branches of superfluous wood that ye will cut of. 1658 EVELYN *Fr. Gard.* (1675) 32 Every Bud which hath but a single leaf produces only wood. 1721 MORTIMER *Husb.* II. 302 A Peach, the more it runs to Wood, . . . the better it will bear. 1842 LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 705 Gardeners, when pruning for wood, cut farther back than when pruning for fruit. 1858 GLENNY *Gard. Every-day Bk.* 211/1 When a Heath has done blooming, and before it makes its new wood, is the time for pruning it into shape.

e. As the material of an idol or image. (Biblical.)

1535 COVERDALE *Ezek.* xx. 32 Wod & stone wil we worshipec. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 236 Bewar, I am ane Ielous God, I am na Image, stock nor wod. 1682 *Letany for S. Omers* II. ix, All Adorers of the Mass, Who bow to Wood, and Stone, and Brass. 1819 HEBER *Hymn*, 'From Greenland's icy Mountains', The Heathen, in his blindness, Bows down to wood and stonel

f. *spec.* (*Hort.* and *Bot.*) The hard compact fibrous substance lying between the bark outside and the pith within.

1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* III. xiv. 449 It is vsuall to graft betwixt the wood and the barke, when trees begin to put vp their sap. 1673-4 GREW *Anat. Pl.* (1682) 113 The next general Part of a Branch, is the Wood; which lyeth betwixt the Barque and the Pith. 1875 LASLETT *Timber* 20 A drying up or wasting away of the wood immediately surrounding the pith. 1877 A. W. BENNETT *Thomé's Bot.* 333 In the anatomical structure of the wood Gymnosperms resemble Dicotyledons in all essential particulars.

g. A particular kind of wood; freq. *pl.* kinds of wood. In *Pharmacy* formerly applied to particular kinds used medicinally: see *quots.*

Phr. † to tell what wood the ship is made of, to be seaisick. 1580 LYLLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 248 Philautus not accustomed to these narrow Seas, was more redy to tell what wood the ship was made of, then to answer to Euphues discourse. 1581 A. HALL *Iliad* IV. 73 A wood full fit to forge the troling wheeles Of chariots. 1602 W. S. THOMAS *Ld. Cromwell* II. ii. To my victualles went the Sailers, and thinking me to bee a man of better experience then any in the shippe, asked mee what Woodde the shippe was made of. [1608 ARMIN *Nest Ninn*. C 1 b, Iemy stood fearefull of euery calme bellow, where it was no boote to bid him tell what the ship was made of, for he did it deuoutly.] 1661 CULPEPPER & COLE *Pharm. Lond.* 7/3 Cypress. This Wood laid amongst cloaths, secures them from Moths. 1687 *Bloomé Pres. St. Amer.* 14 Woods for the use of Dyers. . . Sweet smelling and curious Woods. 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 63 The Nephritic Wood is thick, without Knots. a 1774 GOLDSM. *Surv. Exp. Philos.* (1776) I. 292 To ascertain how much friction some woods have more than other woods. 1829 LOUDON *Encycl. Plants* 604 Many of the red Indian woods tra[n]sude a blood red juice. 1875 LASLETT *Timber* 27 The hard and strong woods used for architectural purposes.

1772 MACBRIDE *Th. & Pract. Physic* 635 A pint of decoction of the sudorific woods. 1799 UNDERWOOD *Dis. Childhood* (ed. 4) II. 15 A decoction of the woods. 1848 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex., Woods, Sudorific*. . . This term is applied, collectively, to the guaiacum, sassafras, china, and sarsaparilla; which are often used together to form the sudorific decoction. 1890 BILLINGS *Med. Dict., Woods, the*, those formerly in repute as antisiphilitics.

h. *transf.* A hard substance found in the head of an elephant.

1829 C. ROSE *Four Yrs. S. Africa* 236, I sat on one [elephant] while they searched for the wood in his head. It lies about an inch beneath the skin imbedded in fat, just above the eye, and has the appearance of a thorn, or a small piece of twig broken off.

i. In echoes of the L. proverb which appears in Erasmus's *Adagia* II. v. xlvii in the form *Ne e quouis ligno Mercurius fiat* (see *quot.* c 1594, and cf. A. Otto *Sprichwörter der Römer* 220); hence, the 'material' or 'stuff' of which a person is 'made'.

Cf. similar uses of Gr. *ύλη*, F. *bois*.

[1588 SHAKS. *L.L.L.* IV. iii. 249 Is Ebonie like her? O wood divine? A wife of such wood were felicitie.] c 1594 BACON *Promus of Formularies & Elegancies* (1898) 19 A mercury cannot be made of every wood (bvt priapus may). 1594 — *Let. to Ld. Puckering* in *Spedding Lett. & Life* (1861) I. 293, I hope you will think I am no unlikely piece of wood to shape you a true servant of. 1626 T. H[AWKINS] tr. *Caussin's Holy Cr.* 5 Vertue is a merueylous worke-woman, who can make Mercury of any wood. 1826 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* IV. i, I know better than most men of what wood a minister is made. 1831 SCOTT *Cast. Dang.* v, The wood of which a knight is made, and that is a squire.

7. Something made of wood: *spec.* a. The wooden part of something, as the shaft of a spear. b. A block of wood used for engraving or printing, as distinguished from a metal plate or type. c. The cask or barrel as a receptacle for liquor, as distinguished from the bottle. d. *slang.* The pulpit. e. The wooden wind-instruments in an orchestra collectively (also called *the woodwind*: see 10 below). f. Each of the bowls in the game of bowls. g. A golf club with a wooden head; a shot made with such a club (more commonly *wood shot*). h. The wooden frame or handle of a racquet, with reference to a

shot in which these parts are accidentally used instead of the strings.

a. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.*, *Printing* xv. ¶ 9 A long piece of . . . Wyer . . . fastned into the Wood of the under half of the Mold. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* XI. 1191 The Wood [of the javelin] she draws, the steely Point remains.

b. 1839 J. JACKSON *Wood Engraving* viii. 720 Wood engraving is necessarily confined, by the size of the wood, to the execution of subjects of . . . small dimensions. 1856 in Ruskin *Rossetti* (1899) 137 An engraving on wood of my picture . . . there is an objection to sending 'the wood' travelling.

c. 1822 *Sunday Times* 20 Oct. 1/2 (Adv.), The long established system of serving wine from the wood, in full measures. 1826 J. WILSON *Noctes Ambr.* Wks. 1855 I. 174 When the speerit's been years in the wudd. 1882 J. ASHTON *Social Life Reign Q. Anne* I. 199 Ordinary clarets from the wood.

d. 1854 THACKERAY *Newcomes* xi, They say he's a pleasant fellow out of the wood. 1886 *Sat. Rev.* 10 July 45/2 Mr. Beecher's activity has not been altogether confined to what irreverent people call 'the wood'. 1897 RYE *Norfolk Songs* 129 You are very good in flannel, Sir. I'll come on Sunday, and see if you are as good in wood.

e. 1879 E. PROUT *Instrum.* 77 The brass instruments, used . . . in combination with strings or wood. 1901 W. J. HENDERSON *Orchestra* 81 The 'wood' . . . in the modern orchestra consists of flutes, oboes, clarinets and bassoons.

f. 1884 DOHERTY N. *Barlow* viii. 49 Here ancient fogies . . . tried To better aim their wandering 'woods' to guide. 1912 J. A. MANSON *Compl. Bowler* 194 The skip may . . . summon a player from the mat to look at the lie of the 'woods' before delivering his bowl.

g. 1915 A. W. TILLINGHAST *Cobble Valley Golf Yarns* 75 Hodge couldn't quite get there with two from his wood. 1927 JONES & KEELER *Down Fairway* xv. 203 For the drive with the wood, and for all normal wood shots, I play the ball opposite the arch of the left foot. 1928 *Evening News* 5 May 8/3, I do not think another professional golfer in America is hitting such terrific tee shots and full woods off the fairway as Gene. 1952 W. J. COX *Play Better Golf* xi. 54 The normal flight of the ball from a No. 4 wood is high. 1971 'D. HALLIDAY' *Dolly & Doctor Bird* viii. 104 Lady Edgcombe . . . hit her first ball . . . a good third of the distance, nicely placed for a wood shot fairly close to the green. 1977 *Times* 17 June 28/1 (Adv.), Uxbridge Golf Centre. . . 4 woods, Nos 1, 3, 4, 5 and Irons 3-9.

h. 1955 *Times* 30 June 4/1 Could Nielsen save the set? He did after a lucky one off the wood had been a help. 1961 [see *double-fault* vb. s.v. DOUBLE A. C. 3]. 1974 MILLS & BUTLER *Tackle Badminton* ii. 27 A fault can occur even when the shuttle is struck by the wood.

8. Phrases. † a. *against the wood*: 'against the grain' (GRAIN *sb.* 1 16 b). † b. *a piece of wood*: a contemptuous appellation for a stupid person; a blockhead. c. *wood and wood*: see *quots.* d. *to take in wood* (local U.S. colloq.): see *quot.* e. In names of certain trees: *wood of Jerusalem*, a variety of pear; *wood of life* = LIGNUM VITÆ I. f. *dead wood*: see as main entry. g. *to touch wood*: see TOUCH v. 29.

a. a 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* (Arb.) 35 Such a witte . . . well handled by the mother, . . . and wrought as it should, not ouer-thwartle, and against the wood, by the scholemaster.

b. 1691 *New Disc. Old Intreague* xxv, Next him Sir Ralph, . . . a very piece of Wood.

c. a 1625 MANWAYRING *Seaman's Dict., Wood and Wood*, that is when two timbers are let into each other so close that the wood of the one doth join close to the other. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 337/2 A straight Board, with a Staffe in the side, to draw over Corn in measuring. . . Which measuring is termed Wood and Wood. 1805 *Shipwright's Vade-m.* 142 *Wood and Wood*. This term implies that when a treenail, &c. is driven through, its point is directly even with the inside surface, whether plank or timber.

d. 1839 MARRIAT *Diary Amer.* Ser. I. II. 230 In the West, where steam-navigation is so abundant, when they ask you to drink they say, 'Stranger, will you take in wood?'

e. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* III. cxviii. 1309 Italian Lignum vitæ, or woode of Life, groweth to a faire and beautiful tree. 1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* III. xlix. 537 Peares, such as . . . the wood of Hierusalem. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 79/1 The Lignum Vite, or wood of Life, hath a smooth leaf. 1760 J. LEE *Intro. Bot.* App. 332.

III. *attrib. and Comb.*

9. General: a. *attrib.* or as *adj.* Made or consisting of wood, wooden.

1538 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 76 All wodde implementes. 1545 *Rates of Custome Ho. dj.* Wod crosses for bedes. 1578 *Knarebs. Wills* (Surtees) I. 133 Fower woodd bottels, one lether botle, a 1674 MILTON *Hist. Moscovia* i. Wks. 1851 VIII. 471 The . . . Sap of this Wood-fewel burning on the fire. 1770 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Printing* 316 This Wood Handle with long working often grows loose. 1846 MRS. GORE *Engl. Char.* (1852) 3 Smooth as glass, —level as wood pavement. 1849 D. CAMPBELL *Inorg. Chem.* 16 A wood match red immediately rekindles when dipped into a jar of [oxygen]. 1863 A. YOUNG *Naut. Dict.* (ed. 2) 448 Wood-sheathing is used most generally for covering a vessel's bottom that has been partially wormed. 1879 E. PROUT *Instrum.* 57 The 'wood instruments' in ordinary use in the orchestra. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 378 To store enough wood to go twenty miles you had to have wood billets everywhere; all over the deck, . . . &c. 1901 J. BLACK'S *Carp. & Build., Home Handicr.* 61 Tarsia . . . was a species of wood inlay or mosaic. 1912 T. D. ATKINSON *Cathedrals* 180 The nave was covered with a wood ceiling.

b. *attrib.* (a) in sense 2 or 3, as *wood country*, † *-dike*, † *-eaves*, *-edge*, *-end* (END *sb.* 2), *-ground*, *-music*, *-path*, *-pathway*, *-ride*, *-riding*, † *-rim*, *-scenery*, *-shadow*, *-song*, *-stream*, *-top*, *-walk*, *-way*, *-wonder*, *-world*; dwelling in or haunting a wood or woods, sylvan, as *wood-bird*, † *-burgess* (fig.), *-child*, *-chorister* (fig.), *-demon*, *-folk*, *-fowl*, *-god*, *-goddess*, *-knight*, *-rhapsodist*, *-tike*; growing in

woods, as *wood-moss*, *root*, *-weed*; *-woman*; (b) in sense 6, as *wood-bote* (BOOT *sb.* 1 5 b), *-cell* (CELL *sb.* 1 12), *charcoal*, *-fibre*, *fire*, *reek*, *rick*, *shade*, *smoke*, *stack*; in sense 6 d, as *wood-shoot*; used for storing or conveying wood, as *wood barge*, *boat*, *box*, *cart*, *cellar*, *hoy*, *loft*, *sled*. c. objective, etc., (a) in sense 2 or 3, as *wood-keeper*, *-owner*; (b) in sense 6, as *wood-bearer*, *-broker*, *-carrier*, *-carter*, *-chapman*, *-chopper*, *-cleaver*, *-eater*, *-feller*, *-grower*, *sculptor*, *-seller*, *-turner*, *-worshipper*; *wood-carting*, *-chopping* (cf. *wood-chop*, sense 10 a below), *-eating*, *-hewing*, *sculpture*, *-turning* sbs. and ads.; *wood-like* adj. d. locative, as (a) in sense 2, *wood-creeper*, *-dweller*, *-retreat*, *-rover*, *-well*; *wood-born*, *-bred*, *-embosomed* ads. (b) in sense 7 c, as *wood port*. e. instrumental and parasyntetic, (a) in sense 2 or 3, as *wood-crowned*, *-encumbered*, *-fringed*, *-girt*, *-grown*, *-lost*, *-skirted* ads.; (b) in sense 6, as *wood-built*, *-cased*, *-faced*, *-feeding*, *-fired*, *-hooped*, *-keyed*, *-panelled*, *-paved*, *-roofed*, *-sheathed*, *-tongued*, *-walled* ads.; *wood-pave* vb.

1538 ELYOT *Dict., Rataria naues*, lyghters, or *woode barges. 1568 in Marsden *Sel. Pleas Court Admir.* (Selden) II. 139 A woodbarge alias the Woolfe of Dorney. c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 531/2 *Woodeberare, or caryare of fowayl. 1536-7 *Privy Purse Exp. P'cess Mary* (1831) 10 My ladys grace wodberer. 1684 E. CHAMBERLAYNE *Pres. St. Eng.* 1. (ed. 15) 159 Wood-bearer, one. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* IV. i. 145 Begin these *wood birds but to couple now? 1709 T. ROBINSON *Vind. Mosaic Syst.* 97 The Wood-Birds feed upon the Fruits of Trees. 1839 EMERSON *Poems, Problem* 25 Yon woodbird's nest Of leaves, and feathers. 1458 in 10th *Rep., Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 299 Maistres of *woodbotes. 1691 *Andros Tracts* I. 142 Shallops and Wood-boats. 1883 'MARK TWAIN' *Life on Mississippi* xvi. 166 Those boats never halt a moment . . . except . . . to hitch thirty-cord wood-boats alongside. 1590 SPENSER *F.Q.* I. vi. 16 The *wood-borne people . . . worship her as Goddess of the wood. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Hor., Art P.* 347 The Wood-born Satyr. 1882 J. F. S. GORDON *Hist. Moray* III. 87 A forest, in which the burgesses had the privilege of *wood-bote granted to them. 1850 S. JUDD R. *Edney* ix. 135 The Old Man romanced with the fire, making it seem how he could graduate it exactly to the necessities of the wood, and the state of the *wood-box. 1893 *Outing* (U.S.) XXII. 135/1, I looked for a place to rest, but there was nothing but a large wood-box, with an old hemp sack to lie on. c 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* LXXX. iv, The *woodbred swine. 1597 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 417 Thomas Jhones *woodbroker. 1861 THACKERAY *Four Georges* I, A very humble *wood-built place. c 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* CIV. ix, *Wood-burgesses . . . Lions I meane. 1541 *Old Ways* (1892) 71 He see a *wood-carrier come. 1921 *Daily Colonist* (Victoria, B.C.) 8 Oct. 9/1 (Adv.), Before you put on your slippers fill up one of our strong, attractive, useful, tidy Wood Carriers. It holds about six pieces of stove wood. c 1330 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 518 In 6. Coleris pro equis del *Wodecartes. 1377-8 *Ibid.* 586. 1898 *Atlantic Monthly* Apr. 462/1 The *wood-carter answering them in a neighbourly spirit. 1890 'R. BOLDEWOOD' *Miner's Right* (1899) 58 Amos Burton . . . at present does *wood carting. 1892 W. B. YEATS *Countess Kathleen* 71 Between the pepper-pot And *wood-cased hour glass. 1907 *Install. News* Dec. 21/1 The board . . . is a D.P. Fuse and S.P. Switch wood-cased type. 1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 13 In the *wood-cells of some trees we find their walls present . . . large circular dots or discs which encircle them. 1875 BENNETT & DYER *Sachs' Bot.* 98 To the Vascular forms belong the ducts and the vascular wood-cells or Tracheides. 1833 LOUDON *Encycl. Cottage Archit.* § 712 The coal and *wood cellar. a 1722 LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 368 The *wood-chapmen did not care to have their wood faggotted so early. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* (1862) xiv. § 2. 892 The specific heat of *wood charcoal. 1925 BLUNDEN *Eng. Poems* 86 The *wood-child with man's torture racked Dares seek him out, if he'll retract. 1779 *Mass. Hist. Soc. Coll.* (1814) II. 458 The Century discover[ed] a man creeping towards the *wood choppers. 1841 EMERSON *Lect., Man the Reformer* Wks. (Bohn) II. 239 My wood-chopper, my ploughman, . . . have some sort of self-sufficiency. 1845 THOREAU *Jrnl.* 14 July in *Writings* (1906) VII. 367 He was going to do his *woodchopping. 1897 HENTY *On the Irrawaddy* 163 The sound of wood-chopping. 1933 *Bulletin* (Sydney) 23 Aug. 35/3 Woodchopping . . . is a fine, healthy and manly sport. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* I. II. lx, There the *wood-queristers sat on a row. 1889 R. HARVEY *Pl. Perc.* (1590) 1 The medling Ape, that like a tall *wood cleaver, assaying to rend a . . . billet in two peeces, did wedge in his pettitoes. 1657 TRAPP *Comm. Ps.* cxli. 7. 918 As wood-cleavers make the shivers flye hither and thither. 1523-34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* § 124 Gette thy quyksettes in the *woode-countrie. 1570 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 188/1 A certayne wood countrie in Somersetshire, called Etheling. c 1580 *Bugbears* III. iii. 50 Som are called folletti, foraboscki, forasiepi, that ys *wood-crepers, hedg creepers, & the whyte & red fearye. 1727-46 THOMSON *Summer* 559 The *wood-crowned hill. 1820 W. IRVING *Sk. Bk., Spectre Bridegroom* (1821) I. 297 Some talked of mountain sprites, of *wood-demons. 1591 *Exch. Rolls Scot.* XXII. 135 For upholding of the *wooddikis of Falkland. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* III. IV. 404 The abode of some stout *wood-dweller. 1693 S. DALE *Pharmacol.* 539 Teredo. . . The *Wood-Eater. 1844 *Zoologist* II. 410 It is hard to attribute carnivorous propensities to so harmless a wood-eater as Hylobius. 1854 A. ADAMS, etc. *Man. Nat. Hist.* 202 *Wood-eating Snout-Beetles. c 1325 *wodehevese [see EAVES 1 b]. ? a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3376 Cho wente to the welle by pe wode euis. a 1375 *Joseph Arim.* 475 He seig vnder a *wode-egge . . . Fyue hondred men of Armes. 1888 STEVENSON *Black Arrow* 8 There was a stout fellow yonder in the wood-edge. 1805 SCOTT *Last Minstr.* IV. ix, High over Borthwick's mountain-flood His *wood-embosom'd mansion stood. 1817 LADY MORGAN *France* (1818) II. 300 The Château . . . so lonely, so wood-embosomed. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* III. ix, Kentucky's *wood-encumber'd brake. 1583

Reg. Privy Council Scot. Ser. i. III. 592 Hir duelling house in the *Wodend callit Daveschaw. c1640 J. SMYTH *Lives Berkeleys* (1883) I. 331 Lands in Wixstowe at the wodend of Hill. 1919 J. MASEFIELD *Reynard* 69 The wood-end rang with the clear voice crying. 1840 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jnl.* III. 402/1 The improved metallic wheel with *wood-faced tyre. 1946 *Nature* 9 Nov. 644/2 Protozoa and bacteria are essential for digestion in the *wood-feeding termites. 1974 W. TRAGER in K. Elliott et al. *Trypanosomiasis & Leishmaniasis* 247 Hypermastigote flagellates of the wood-feeding roach *Cryptocercus*... have a whole variety of sexual phenomena. 14... *Nom.* in Wt.-Wülcker 697/17 *Hic frondator*, a *woodfeller. 1569 *BLAGUE Sch. Conceytes* 54 As a Woodfeller was cutting wood neere a riuer side, he lost his axe. 1786 tr. *Beckford's Vathek* (1868) 90 The wood-fellers who directed their route. 1875 BENNETT & DYER *Sachs' Bot.* 100 Whether *wood-fibres occur in Cryptogams is at least doubtful. 1493 *Festivals* (W. de W.) 131 b, A *wode fyre, for people to syt & wake therby. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* xlii[i], The dying embers of a wood fire still glimmered on the hearth. 1823 J. BADCOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 185 Bugs never infest houses... in which wood-fires only are used. 1956 *Railway Mag.* Mar. 163/1 The *wood-fired locomotives were never very efficient. 1978 M. DUFFY *Housespy* vi. 157 I've built a wood-fired kiln. 1867 MORRIS *Jason* i. 262 All about The *wood-folk gathered. 1398 *TREVISIA Barth. De P.R.* xii. i. (Bodl. MS.), *Wood foules... dwellep in woodes and in pikke coppes of treen. 1787 BURNS 'Admiring Nature in her wildest grace' 13 The lawns *wood-fring'd in Nature's native taste. 1828 G. W. BRIDGES *Ann. Jamaica* II. xv. 227 Surprised to find their *wood-girt town surrounded by an armed force. 1590 SPENSER *F.Q.* i. vi. 9 The wyld *woodgods. 1610 FLETCHER *Faithf. Sheph.* i. i. No Goblin, Wood-god, Fairy, Elfe, or Fiend. 1820 KEATS *Lamia* i. 34 Full of painful jealousies Of the Wood-Gods, and even the very trees. c1843 CARLYLE *Hist. Sketches* (1898) 270 The *wood-goddess with her nymphs. 1581 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 824 & so followe the broke into another *woodground. 1611 *COTGR.*, Laie, Wood-ground, by measure, or quantite of *Arpens*. 1835 *URE Philos. Manuf.* 258 [He] has to pay... more for his timber, to protect the *wood-grower. 1922 W. B. YEATS *Trembling of Veil* 135 Little *wood-grown islands. 1956 R. MACAULAY *Towers of Trebizond* xiii. 142 The white-walled, red-roofed town and the wood-ground height beyond it. 1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp-Hunters* vi. 48 The water-drawing, *wood-hewing pueblos. 1891 HARDY *Tess* xxvii, The *wood-hooped pails... hung... ready... for the evening milking. 1537 *Wood boy [see WEND v. 6c]. 1843 *Cath. Angl.* 423/1 A *Wodde keper, *lucarius*. 1519 *Pres. Juris in Surtees Misc.* (1890) 32 That noo wode kyeper take no swyn into the woddys for akeornes. 1868 'HOLME LEE' *B. Godfrey* xvii. 95 He is woodkeeper to Squire Gisborne. 1874 THEARLE *Naval Archit.* 27 The pieces of which it is composed are connected by *wood-keyed hook scarphs. 1845 BROWNING *Flight of Duchess* xvii. 78 Like Orson the *wood-knight. 1548 THOMAS *Ital. Dict.* (1550), *Seluaggio*, wilde, or *wooddelike. 1713 *Phil. Trans.* XXVIII. 224 A sort of sullen greenish Wood-like rust. 1785 COWPER *Let. to Newton* 19 Mar., We... have... more than two wagon loads of them in our *wood-loft. 1916 BLUNDEN *Pastorals* 15 Voices of *wood-lost winds. 1796 T. TOWNSHEND *Poems* 104 For many a long and languid day Upon the *wood-moss laid. a1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (1922) II. 74 The Nightingale *woodmusiques King. 1757 *Refl. Importation Bar-Iron* 17 The *Wood-Owner... divides his Wood into a Number of Cuts. 1832 *Gentl. Mag.* CII. i. 578/2 The *wood paneled ceiling. 1827-35 N. P. WILLIS *Idleness* 60 *Woodpath or stream, or slope by hill or vale. 1856 VAUGHAN *Mystics* (1860) I. 139 These *wood-pathways... led up a steep hill. 1842 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jnl.* V. 281/1 To *wood-pave all the turnpike roads. 1887 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 14 Nov. 2/1 The *wood-paved part of the Space. 1972 *House & Garden Feb.* 109/4 Each shipment of *wood ports will have a continuity of quality... Ruby, tawny and white ports are all matured in wood. *Beowulf* 3144 *Wudu-rec astah. [1895 W. MORRIS *Beowulf* 109 The wood-reck went up.] 1898 *Pall Mall Mag.* May 87 That the blue wood-reck might chase away the flies. 1909 T. S. ELIOT in *Harvard Advocate* 26 Jan. 135 As if one should meet A pensive lamia in some *wood-retreat. 1885 W. B. YEATS in *Dublin Univ. Rev.* May 82/1 The birds that nestle in the leaves arc sad, Poor sad *wood-rhapsodists. 1869 BLACKMORE *Lorna D.* x, The bark from the *wood-ricks [being] washed down the gutters. 1827 CLARE *Sheph. Cal.* 9 Beside the *woodride's lonely gate. 1928 BLUNDEN *Retreat* 36 And wood-rides never reach the glittering gate. 1972 R. ADAMS *Watership Down* vii. 24 The head moved slowly, taking in the dusky lengths of the wood-ride in both directions. 1934 BLUNDEN *Mind's Eye* 154 An abundant round of skilful practical doings, from the wagon-shed to the *wood-riding. 1943 N. & Q. 9 Oct. 234 *Wood-riding*, green way across a wood. Northants. 969 *Lease in Birch Cartul. Sax.* III. 528 Of sweepelan streame west be *wudu riman. c1205 LAY. 739, I pon wode rime. 1837 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jnl.* I. 24/1 The *wood-roofed house. c1205 LAY. 467 Leouere heom his to libben bi pan *wode-roten. 1825 HAZLITT *Spirit of Age* i. Wks. 1902 IV. 198 Wreaths of snow under which the wild *wood-rovers bury themselves... in winter. 1817 LADY MORGAN *France* (1818) II. 309 Our celebrated landscape-painter, Robert... assisted me in laying out the grounds, and disposing of my *wood scenery. 1968 *Canad. Antiques Collector* Aug. 13/3 Quevillon, one of the leading *wood-sculptors of the early 19th century, worked at Longueuil from 1818 to 1821. 1977 *Belfast Tel.* 27 Jan. 10/7 It's a new oak prie-dieu... and it has taken wood sculptor Billy Graham and joiner Tommy Simons 120 man-hours to turn it out. 1974 *Saturday* (Charleston, S. Carolina) 20 Apr. 5-A/2 (Advt.), Children up to 15 are encouraged to come and participate free in learning to paint, make jewelry, *wood sculpture and other crafts with all materials free. 1479 in *Engl. Gilds* (1870) 425 Proudlyd... that the *woddessillers leve not the bak... bare of wodde. 1554 in *Wadley Notes Wills Bristol* (1886) 189 Wodseller and Citesin of the Cite of Bristowe. 1755 JOHNSON, *Woodmonger*, a woodseller. 1828 MRS. HEMANS *Peasant Girl Rhone* 16 Sad and slow, Through the *wood-shadows, moved the knightly train. 1922 JOYCE *Ulysses* 11 Woodshadows floated silently by through the morning peace. 1691 T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* 9 *Wood-sheathed Ships. c1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 531/2 *Wodeschilde..., teda. 1577 in J. R. Boyle *Hedon* (1875) 65 For nailes and wodshiddes and two skottells vjd. 1842 J. AITON *Dom. Econ.* (1857) 299 Take the *wood-shoots close by their roots,

so that the bark may grow over the wound. 1822 HOME *Fatal Discov.* III. On the *wood-skirted lawn. 1858 O. W. HOLMES *Aut. Breakf.-t.* ix. (1891) 211 The creaking of the *wood-sleds, bringing their loads of oak and walnut. 1747 H. GLASSE *Art of Cookery* ii. 42 Hang it up in a Chimney where *Wood-Smoke is. 1847 MRS. GORE *Castles in Air* vii. (1857) 48 Smelling of fresh straw in summer, and wood-smoke in winter. 1601 *Death of Robt. Earl of Huntington* D2, Fall to your *wood-songs therefore, yeomen bold. 1834 MRS. HEMANS *Poems, Happy Hour* 7 The sweet wood-song's penetrating flow. 1930 T. S. ELIOT *Marina*, Those who suffer the ecstasy of the animals, meaning Death Are become unsubstantial, reduced by a wind, A breath of pine, and the woodsong fog By this grace dissolved in place. 1538 ELYOT *Dict.*, Lignile, fuell, or a *wodde stacke. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* 379 The size of Faggots and Wood Stacks... differs in most Countries. 1913 'Q' Hetty Wesley II. v. The wood stack hid her from the Parsonage windows. c1820 MRS. HEMANS *Tale 14th C.* 322 The *wood-stream's plaintive harmony. a1583 MONTGOMERIE *Flying* 737 *Woodtyk, hoodpyk, ay like to liue in lacke! 1938 DYLAN THOMAS *Map of Love* (1939) 13 But I, Ann's bard on a raised hearth, call all The seas to service that her *wood-tongued virtue Babbles like a bellbuoy over the hymning heads. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* xxxii[i], The passing gleam fell on the *wood-tops below. 1839 in *Inquiry, Yorksh. Deaf & Dumb* (1870) 22 William... Sedgwick, *wood-turner. 1901 *Scotsman* 5 Apr. 7/2 *Wood-turning tools. 1791 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Celestina* (ed. 2) I. 228 Birds, who found food and shelter amid the shrubberies and *wood-walks. 1595 MARKHAM *Trag. Sir R. Grimule* (Arb.) 46 The *wood-walled Citizens at sea. c1325 in Kennett *Par. Antiq.* (1818) I. 566 Duæ acrae... juxta le *wode wey. 1906 S. W. MITCHELL *Pearl* 19 The beauty of those wood-ways green. 1850 *Household Words* I. 29/1 *Wood-weeds, river-weeds, and other weeds. 1920 E. SITWELL *Wooden Pegasus* 106 Dark *wood-wells. 1903 W. B. YEATS *In Seven Woods* 21 And the *wood-woman whose lover was changed to a blue-eyed hawk. 1925 BLUNDEN *Eng. Poems* 92 Oh could it but be held by these *wood-wonders. a1887 JEFFERIES *Field & Hedgerow* (1889) 331 The humble-bee the wide *wood-world may roam. 1579 FULKE Conf. Sanders 587 To proue them *woode worshippers and idolaters.

f. In ME. poetry, in combs. *wood bough*, *lay* (LEA sb.¹) = ? glade or grove, *lind* (= tree), *rise* (RICE sb., small branch), esp. in phr. *under wood bough*, etc. = in the woods, in the leafy shade: sometimes with allusion to secret love-making.

Cf. J. Hall's ed. of *King Horn* 1227 note. a1225 *Ancre. R.* 96 Euer is pe eie to pe wude leie [v.r. wodelese], perinne is pet ich lueie. a1290 *S. Eustace* 20 in Horstm. *Allengl. Leg.* (1881) 212 pe hert was muelch... per he was ounder wode lunde. *Ibid.* 32 here he was ounder wode leye. *Ibid.* 76 [He] was ounder wode-bowe. 13... K. Horn 1160 (Harl.) 3ef pou horn euer seze vnder wode leye. c1320 *Sir Tristr.* 2485 Vnder wode bou3 hai knewen day and nist. c1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 4734 Wyld walkande by wode lyndes. 1387-8 T. USK *Test. Love* III. vii. (Skeat) l. 53 Beware of thy lyfe, that thou no wodelay use, as in asking of things that strechen in-to shame! c1400 *Gamelyn* 633 Adam loked the vndir wode bough. *Ibid.* 676 As men that ben... hard be-stad vnder wode lynde. c1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 1344 Rachis can ryn vndir the wod rise.

g. attrib. uses and comb. of pl. (sense 2). U.S. 1849 F. DOUGLAS *Life* 59, I stopped my oxen to open the woods gate. 1868 *Rep. U.S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 391 Any land... may be improved by the addition of vegetable matter, such as woods litter. 1880 S. LANIER *Hymns of Marshes, Sunrise* 47 The woods-smell. 1902 S. E. WHITE *Blazed Trail* v, Bands of woods-creatures. 1904 — *Forest* xiv, He was... comparatively inexperienced in woods-walking. *Ibid.*, A good woods-walker progresses without apparent hurry. 1908 — *Riverman* vii, Still lingering at the woods camps, ... five hundred woods-weary men.

h. similitive, as *wood-green*, *-wild* adjs. 1807 J. BARLOW *Columbiad* v. 169 The sandy stream-bank and the woodgreen plain Raise into sight the new made seats of man. 1925 E. SITWELL et al. *Poor Young People* 10 His Wood-green laughter. 1953 — *Gardeners & Astronomers* 37 And is blown by the bright air Upon your wood-wild April-soft long hair.

10. a. Special Combs.: *wood-acid* = *wood-vinegar*; *wood-agate*, agatized wood (*Cent. Dict.*); *wood-alcohol* = *WOOD-SPIRIT* 2; *wood-and-water joey Austral. slang*, an odd job man; *wood-axe*, an axe for hewing wood or felling trees; *wood-block*, (a) a block of wood, esp. one on which a design is cut for printing from (cf. *wood-engraving*, *WOODCUT*); (b) *Mus.*, a hollow wooden block used as a percussion instrument; cf. *Chinese block* s.v. CHINESE a. 2 and *temple block* s.v. TEMPLE sb.¹ 6c; *wood-block v.*, to pave with wood-blocks; † *wood-bone* [BOON sb.¹ 6], ? a boon-day for wood-cutting; *wood-borer*, something that bores wood; esp. any one of certain insects and other invertebrates which make perforations in wood; so *wood-boring a.*; *wood-bound a.*, (a) bound or fastened with wood; (b) of land, encumbered with woody hedges or trees; (c) enclosed by woodland; (d) see quot. 1892; *wood-branch*, a branch of a fruit tree kept primarily for growth of wood (6d); *wood brick*, a block of wood cut to the size and shape of a brick, inserted in the interior walls of a building as a hold for joinery (Gwilt); *wood-bud*, a bud forming the rudiment of a wood-branch; *wood-burner*, (a) a locomotive that is fuelled with wood; (b) a wood-burning stove or fire; *wood-burning a.*, using wood as fuel; † *wood-bush*¹ [BUSS sb.¹], a vessel for conveying wood, a wood-barge; *wood-bush*² [BUSH sb.¹ 9],

name of a wooded region in S. Africa; *wood-butcher U.S. slang*, an inexperienced carpenter; *wood-carpet*, (a) a floor-carpet made of thin pieces of wood arranged in patterns (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875); (b) the geometer moth *Melanippe rivata* (E. Newman, 1869); † *wood-carriage*, a tenurial obligation to carry wood; *wood-carving*, the ornamental carving of wooden utensils, furniture, etc.; *concr.* a piece of such carving; hence *wood-carved a.*, *-carver*; † *wood-cast* [CAST sb. 13], a pile or stack of wood; *woodchip*, a chip of wood; also (in full *woodchip paper*), wallpaper with woodchips, etc., embedded in it to give an uneven appearance; *woodchip board* = *chipboard* s.v. CHIP sb.¹ 9; *wood-chop Austral. and N.Z.*, a wood-chopping contest; *wood-colour*, the colour of wood; a pigment of such a colour; *wood-copper*, a wood-brown fibrous variety of olivinite; † *wood-corder U.S.*, a town official responsible for stacking cut wood for sale into standard 'cords' piles; *wood-corn*, 'some quantity of Oats or other Grain, paid by Customary Tenants to the Lord, for liberty to pick up dead or broken Wood' (*Cowel's Interpr.* 1701); *wood-draughtsman*, one who draws for wood-engraving; so *wood-drawing*; *wood-dried a.*, dried by the heat of burning wood; *wood-drink*, a decoction of some medicinal wood (cf. 6g); *wood-engraver*, (a) one who engraves on wood, an artist who does wood-engraving; (b) a name for various species of N. American wood-boring beetles, esp. *Xyleborus cælutus*; *wood-engraving*, the process or art of engraving on wood or of making wood-cuts; *concr.* a design so cut upon a wood-block or obtained by impression from it, a woodcut; *woodfall*, a felling of trees for their wood, a cutting of timber; *wood-farm*, (a) a farm on which trees are grown for timber; † (b) an office in the Port of London, which dealt with the delivery of wood and other goods discharged; *wood-farmer* (see quot.); *wood-flat U.S.*, a raft or flat-bottomed boat used for transporting wood by water; *wood-flour*, (a) a substance obtained by grinding wood containing starchy matter, proposed as a substitute for flour; (b) a very fine sawdust obtained from pine-wood, used as an absorbent surgical dressing; † *wood-fold*, a wood-yard; *wood-forester Sc.*, one who has charge of woods; *wood-free a.* (a) [cf. FREE a. 27 b], entitled to take wood gratis; (b) *Paper-making*, made free from mechanical wood, though not necessarily from chemical wood; also as sb., a wood-free paper; *wood-freter* (cf. *wood-borer*); *wood-fungus*, a fungus that infests wood; † *wood-garth* = *WOOD-YARD*; *wood-gas*, gas for illumination obtained from wood; † *wood-geld* [GELD sb.], money paid for the privilege of cutting or gathering wood in a forest; also (according to 17th c. legal writers), the privilege of immunity from such payment; *wood-gum* = *XYLAN*; † *wood-hag* [HAG sb.³], the right to cut wood; † *wood-hagger*, a wood-cutter, wood-hewer; *wood-hanging*, 'thin veneer on a paper backing, to be used as wall-paper' (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875); *wood-heap Austral.* = *wood-pile*; *wood-hewer*, (a) one who hews wood, a wood-cutter; (b) a bird of the family *Dendrocolaptidae*, a South American tree-creeper; † *wood-hire*, payment or outrent for wood; *wood-hole*, a hole or recess in which wood is stored for fuel (cf. *coal-hole*); † *wood-honey* [OE. *wuduhuniſ* = L. *mel silvestre*, Gr. μέλι ἄγριον], wild honey; *wood-hook*, a hook for cutting off pieces of wood from trees; *wood-horse U.S.*, (a) a sawing-horse; (b) the walking-stick insect (*Cent. Dict.*); *wood-hung a.*, bordered with hanging woods; † *wood-iron*, ? iron smelted by means of wood; † *wood-leave* (Sc. *-leif*, *-lief*, *-leive*), leave or permission to cut or procure wood; *transf.* a duty charged for this; *wood-lock Naut.*, a piece of hard wood sheathed with copper, fitted closely beneath the pintle of a rudder to prevent the latter from rising; hence *wood-locked a.*, secured by a wood-lock; † *wood-lode*, the carriage or conveyance of wood; the right or privilege of carrying wood; *wood-lot orig. U.S.* [LOT sb. 6a], a plot of land containing or consisting of woodland; *wood-maid*, *-maiden*, a mythical female being dwelling in or haunting woods; † *wood-maker* = *WOODMAN* 2; *wood-master*, now *Hist.* the master or overseer of a wood; *wood-meal*, (a) a kind of flour, resembling sawdust in

appearance, prepared from the root of the manioc or cassava-plant; (b) the powdered wood produced by the wood-worm; **wood-money** (see quot.); **wood-mote**, now *Hist.*, a court for determining cases in forest law, later called *court of attachments* (ATTACHMENT 3); **wood-mould**, mould consisting of decayed wood; **wood naphtha** = **WOOD-SPIRIT** 2; **wood-note**, a natural untrained musical note or song like that of a wild bird in a wood (in later quots. echoing Milton); **wood offering**, an offering of wood to be burnt in sacrifice; **wood-opal** [G. *holzopal*], opal formed by petrification of wood, opalized or silicified wood; **wood-paper**, paper made from wood-pulp; **wood-peat**, peat formed from decayed wood (*Cent. Dict.*); † **wood-penny**, (a) ? = *wood-silver*; cf. *woodland penny*; (b) Paul's betony, *Veronica officinalis*; **wood-piercer**, -**piercing** a. = *wood-borer*, -**biting**; **wood-pile**, (a) a pile or stack of wood, esp. for fuel; (b) phr. a *nigger in the woodpile*: see **NIGGER** sb. 1 d; also in allusive and euphemistic varr.; (c) *Mus. slang*, a xylophone; **wood-plant**, (a) a plant with woody stem and branches; (b) a plant that grows in woods, a woodland plant; † **wood-plea court**, ? = *wood-mote*; † **wood-pleck** [PLECK], ? an enclosure in which wood is stored; **wood post**, a station where wood is procured; **wood powder**, (a) powder made by disintegration of wood, as sawdust; (b) a kind of gunpowder made from light porous wood; **wood-print**, a print from an engraved wood-block, a woodcut; **wood-pulp**, a pulp made by mechanical or chemical disintegration of wood-fibre, and used for making paper; also *attrib.*; **wood-ranger** orig. and chiefly U.S., one who ranges woods; a scout or sharpshooter in American armies (cf. **RANGER** sb. 3); **wood ray** *Bot.* (see quot. 1933); † **wood-vent**, ? = *wood-silver*; **wood-road**, a track or rough road through woods; **wood-rock**, a compact variety of asbestos resembling dry wood, also called *mountain wood* (*Cent. Dict.*); **wood rot**, a fungal disease that causes wood to rot; so **wood-rotting** a.; **wood-saw**, a saw for cutting wood, as a buck-saw (Knight 1875); **wood-sawyer**, (a) a man employed in sawing wood; (b) the larva of a wood-boring beetle or other insect, which cuts off twigs, etc. (*Cent. Dict.*); † **wood-scathe** [SCATHE sb. 1], a fiend or monster of the wood; **wood-screw**, a metallic screw specially adapted for fastening together parts of woodwork or wood and metal; **wood-service**, service as a wood-ranger; † **wood-silver**, ? a payment made in lieu of a supply of wood; cf. *woodland silver*; **woodskin**, a light canoe made of bark, used by native tribes in Guyana; in full *woodskin canoe*; **wood-soot**, the soot of burnt wood, formerly recognized in the British Pharmacopœia as *fuligo ligni*, and used in dyeing; † **wood-speech** [SPEECH sb. 1 to b], a kind of wood-mote; **wood-still**, a still for distilling tar or turpentine from pine-wood (Knight *Dict. Mech.* 1875); **wood-stone**, petrified wood, esp. a form of quartz consisting of silicified wood; **wood-stove**, a stove adapted for burning wood (Knight 1875); **wood-sugar** = **XYLOSE** (*Cent. Dict. Suppl.*); † **wood-tale**, a quantity of wood supplied as a due; **wood-tar**, a bituminous liquid obtained in the destructive distillation of pines and other trees; **wood-tin** [G. *holzzinn*], a variety of cassiterite or tin-stone of brownish colour and fibrous structure, resembling dry wood; **wood-vessel**, (a) a vessel carrying a cargo of wood; (b) *Bot.* a sap-conducting vessel in the woody tissue of a plant; **wood-vinegar**, vinegar or crude acetic acid obtained by distillation of wood, also called *pyroligneous acid*; † **wood-waste** (meaning unknown); **wood-wharf**, a wharf at which cargoes of wood are landed or shipped; so *wood-wharfing*; † **wood-whistle**, ? the bishop's weed, *Ammimajus*; **woodwind**, the wooden wind-instruments in an orchestra collectively (cf. 7 e above, and **WIND** sb. 1 12 b; now often made of some other material); also, an individual instrument of this kind; **wood-wing** *Theatr.*, a wing which is shaped and decorated so as to represent a tree or trees; **wood-wool**, † (a) cotton; (b) fine shavings of wood, usually pine-wood, used as a surgical dressing and for various other purposes; **woodwright**, a worker in wood, as a carpenter.

1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, *Wood-acid, an inferior pyroligneous acid, distilled from oak, beech, ash, &c. 1861 *Wood alcohol [see PYROLIGNEOUS]. 1887 *All Year Round* 30 July 67/2 A *wood-and-water Joey' is a hanger about hotels, and a doer of odd jobs. 1930 V. PALMER *Passage* 1. v.

42, I wanted you to be something different from a wood-and-water joey, earning a few pounds here and there. 1966 *Woman's Day* (Sydney) 31 Oct., He is a 'wood and water joey'—the lad who does the odd jobs around the homestead. c 1356 *Durham Acc. Rolls* 557 In factura unius *Wodeax. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 454 With ane wod-ax thair tha straik of his heid. 1625 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 300/2 Lie shaft of the wode aix. 1900 R. W. CHAMBERS *Cardigan* xxix, 1. . . unslung my wood-axe. He drew his hatchet. 1837 HEBERT *Engin. & Mech. Encycl.* II. 825 Two specimens of *wood-blocks, cut by Mr. Wightman. 1877 H. LAW & D. K. CLARK *Constr. Roads* 17 Following the experience of stone-set paving, the wood blocks of narrower dimensions answered better. 1883 *Builder* 24 Nov. 704/2 The prejudice against the use of good elm for purposes such as wood-block floors. 1930 *Etude* Sept. 620 (caption) The drummer in a modern theater orchestra uses the assortment of instruments here shown. There are . . . Trap Console, Italian Tam Tam, and Wood Block. 1969 *Listener* 23 Jan. 121/2 The viola players also plays a woodblock, and the viola and cello bow a suspended cymbal. 1972 *Jazz & Blues* Oct. 28/2 The drummer accompanies on the drums, with woodblocks used to give tonal contrast. 1908 *Westm. Gaz.* 13 Aug. 4/2 The road leading from Shepherd's Bush to Uxbridge . . . the major part of which was *wood-blocked by the United Tramways Company. 1524 *Computus of monastic property in Cottingham, Northants* (MS.), Vnu' *Wodbone in autumpno, vnam Gallinam ad Natale D'ni, et decem oua ad Pascha. 1850 A. WHITE *List Crustacea B. Mus.* 56 *Chelura terebrans*. Sea *Wood-Borer. 1815 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* viii. (1818) I. 240 The little *wood-boring beetles . . . (*Anobium pertinax* and *striatum*) also attack books. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2275/1 *Spiral Bit*, a wood boring tool . . . made of a twisted bar of metal. 1570 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 229 Two pairs of *wood boune wheills. 1710 HILMAN *Tusser Rediv.* Mar. (1744) 35 Where it fronts the Sea, pois'nous Marshes, Wood-bound, over-shelter'd by Woods, and the like. 1796 MARSHALL *Planting* I. 56 High Hedges, and low Pollards, are the bane of corn fields . . . in Norfolk, lands thus encumbered are . . . said to be wood-bound. 1876 HARDY *Hand of Ethelberta* xv, Ethelberta and Christopher hardy within the wood-bound circle alone. 1892 *Labour Commission Gloss.*, *Wood-bound Trade*, in the coopering industry making packing casks in which to put bottles for export from breweries. 1706 LONDON & WISE *Retir'd Gard'ner* I. II. iii. 111 The *Wood-Branches are those that form the Shape of the Tree. 1842 *Wood Bricks [see **NOG** sb.]. 1763 MILLS *Syst. Pract. Husb.* IV. 249 Care should . . . be taken to cut them a little sloping behind a *wood bud, which may be easily distinguished from the blossom buds. 1840 *Penny Cycl.* XVII. 346/1 The flower-buds are plump and roundish; the wood-buds are more oblong and pointed. 1901 *World's Work* (N.Y.) Dec. 1518/2, I began when there was nothing but *wood-burners, big flaming smokestacks, and all that. 1965 G. MCINNES *Road to Gundagai* v. 81 A gas stove and an old fashioned woodburner. 1980 *Sunday Times* (Colour Suppl.) 30 Mar. 69/3 Finland's last wood-burner steams through an Arctic Circle blizzard. 1951 W. FAULKNER *Requiem for Nun* III. 225 The light-wheeled bulb-stacked *wood-burning engines shrieking among the swamps. *Ibid.* 251 The intractable and obsolescent of the town who still insisted on wood-burning ranges. 1960 *Times* 20 Oct. 15/2 A wood-burning river steamer. 1980 A. E. FISHER *Midnight Men* xv, 187 Sarah's studio . . . was warm . . . with a big wood-burning stove. 1587 K.R. *Mem. Roll* 392 Mich. v. 3 Navis Angl' voc' *woodbushe. 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 Sept. 2/3 Majajie, the mystical Queen of the *Wood-bush tribes. 1903 J. BUCHAN *Afr. Colony* 114 A delight in the Wood Bush is apt to spoil a man for other scenery. 1883 *Sporting Life* 27 May 4/3 What has he done to the New York Clipper's *wood butcher that he should be thus caricatured? 1890 in Barrère & Leland *Dict. Slang* s.v., Counting carpenters and wood-butchers together, it is estimated that about 20,000 men make their living in London as carpenters and joiners. 1557 *Acts Privy Counc. Irel.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) 39 The freholders . . . hathe been accustomed . . . to pay . . . certain *woodd carriages and other duties. 1885 HALLIWELL *Life Shaks.* (ed. 5) 521 The elegant *wood-carved roof. 1859 W. S. COLEMAN *Woodlands* (1862) 62 The wood [of the alder] . . . is a favourite material for many purposes of the turner and the *wood-carver. 1847 LD. LINDSAY *Chr. Art* I. p. ccix, Artists in *wood-carving. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib.*, Brit. II. No. 5723, Book-case, wood-carvings, stone-sculpture. 1883 *Cath. Angl.* 423/1 A *Wodde caste, strues. 1612 N. RIDING *Rec.* (1884) I. 259 Chr. Wright . . . [presented] for building his wood-cast and laying his tymbre in the Kinges street whereby the people . . . cannot conveniently passe. 1958 *Times Rev. Industry* Dec. 61/3 Information service, covering all aspects of the production of *wood-chip board. 1973 *Nation Rev.* (Melbourne) 31 Aug. (Suppl.) 1/1 The impending threat to Australia's native forests from intensive forestry, and particularly from woodchip projects. 1976 *Dumfries & Galloway Standard* 25 Dec. 4 (Advt.), Top quality woodchip reduced from 49p to only 39p roll. 1976 *Milton Keynes Express* 18 June 14/1 (Advt.), Woodchip paper—ideal for overpainting. Sale price 37p. 1977 *Abingdon Herald* 2 June 9/2 (Advt.), Fine quality woodchip (ideal for overpainting) only 39p per roll. 1918 *Bulletin* (Sydney) 16 May 48/2 Bill Lucas will chop against a local champion . . . After the *wood-chop five rounds between. 1934 T. WOOD *Cobbers* xvi. 191, I saw a good wood-chop and some tumultuous steer-riding. 1964 *Courier-Mail* (Brisbane) 27 July 8/5 It will be dearer at this year's Show if you want to just drop in to see one or two woodchops. 1622 PEACHAM *Compl. Gent.* xii. 116 Your *Wood colours are compounded either of Vmber and White, Char-coale and White [etc.]. 1884 BOWER & SCOTT *De Bary's Phaner.* 507 The sap-wood . . . has a light whitish or yellowish wood-colour. 1823 W. PHILLIPS *Introd. Min.* (ed. 3) 320 Hæmatitic Arseniate. *Wood Copper. 1681 *Rep. Record Commissioners City of Boston* (1881) VII. 143 Chosens . . . Over-seers of *Wood Corders. 1781 *First Records Baltimore Town* (1905) 43 The Commissioners had it [sc. an oath] administered to him and afterwards appointed him Wood-corder. 1850 *Knickerbocker* XXXVI. 105 When he has a long wand, he is a wood-corder. 1235-53 *Rentalia Glaston.* (Somerset Rec. Soc.) 76 Facit easdem consuetudines sicut Robertus de Stodleghe preter *Wdecorn unum ferdelum. 1894 HERKOMER in *Daily News* 28 Apr. 6/7 Nearly all the *wood-draughtsmen of my time have become painters of eminence. *Ibid.*, He watches over the welfare of the artists now as much as he did in my *wood-drawings days. 1577

HARRISON *England* III. 1. 96/1 The *woode dried mault . . . doth . . . annoy the heade of him that is not vsed thereto because of the smoke. 1591 R. HITCHCOCK in Arb. *Garner* II. 216 Wood-dried malt will make unsavoury drink. 1611 FLORIO, *Pigliare il legno*, to take the *wood or dyet drinke for the pox. 1696 FLOYER *Humours* 190 Drinking Wine, and two parts of Water, or Wood-Drinks. 1816 OTTLEY *Hist. Engraving* I. 97 It appears that the old German *wood engravers manufactured prodigious quantities of these religious cuts. *Ibid.* 31 The professors of *wood engraving. *Ibid.* 32 Another large wood engraving, representing the Madonna. 1588 WALSHINGHAM in *Collect.* (O.H.S.) I. 230 Yearly *woodfals in Middlesex. 1619 T. CLAY *Chorol. Disc.* 25 To see that the Woodfalls be made at seasonable times. 1767 A. YOUNG *Farmer's Lett. to People* (1771) I. iii. 153 note, *Wood-farms . . . not being very common. 1812 J. SMYTH *Pract. Customs* (1821) 388 The business of the Woodfarm or River Office in the Port of London. 1831 LOUDON *Encycl. Agric.* (ed. 2) 1123 *Wood-farmers, such as rent woodlands, to be periodically cut for fuel [etc.]. 1785 in *Maryland Hist. Mag.* (1925) XX. 42 He hath gone up and down frequently in battans, scows and *wood-flats. 1838 *Jrnl. & Register* (Columbus, Ohio) 27 Apr. 2/5 There were no boats at hand except a few large and unmanageable wood flats which were carried to the relief of the sufferers . . . by the few persons on the shore. 1883 'MARK TWAIN' *Life on Mississippi* 237 The Pennsylvania was creeping along . . . towing a wood-flat which was fast being emptied. 1845 DODD *Brit. Manuf. Ser. v.* 18 The wood is next dried . . . and is afterwards ground repeatedly, till it assumes the form of a rough flour. The *wood-flour is then formed into small flat cakes by the addition of water. 1885 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* I. 265/2 Wood-wool and wood-flour, the latter the finest, are made from pine wood. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 219/20 A *Wodfould, *lignarium*. 1865 Q. VICTORIA *More Leaves* (1884) 32 The Duke's head *wood-forester. 1899 CROCKETT *Kit Kennedy* 175 Kit's uncle Rob, the wood forester. 1554 *Charters rel. Glasgow* (1906) II. 513 Archinbalde salbe *wod fre and querell fre to the bigging . . . of the saidis mylne and hir dame. 1904 *Jrnl. Soc. Chem. Industry* 15 Jan. 34/2 (heading) Manufacture of wood-free cardboard for printing. 1966 *Economist* 24 Sept. 1269/1 The mill will make . . . good quality 'wood-frees'. 1979 *Morning News* (Karachi) 24 May 5/2 This variation is applied for woodfree and mechanical pulp. 1611 COTGR., *Tavelliere*, the little worme called a *wood-fretter. 1876 PREECE *Telegraphy* 161 Dry-rot . . . is due to a species of *wood-fungus—the *Merulius lacrymans*—which destroys the tensile and cohesive power of the wood, and gradually reduces it to . . . a fine powder. 1343 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 39 Lapides pro pavimento made of *Wodegarthe. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 34/5 Y^e Wodgarth, *lig[n]arium*. c 1865 LETHBY in *Circ. Sci.* I. 125/2 The . . . city of Heilbronn has recently been lighted up with *wood-gas. 1220 in *Spelman Gloss. Archæol.* (1664) 260 Et sint quieti . . . de omnibus geldis, & danegeldis, & wodegeldis. 1334 in N. RIDING *Record Soc. N.S.* III. 108 Quod ipse et homines sui sint quieti de omnibus geldis . . . Et de wodegeldis. 1594 CROMPTON *Jurisd.* 197 Wodegeld, is properly to be discharged of gathering within the forest, for the behoofe of the foresters, and other ministers there. 1628 COKE *On Litt.* 233 Pudzeld [i.e. pudgeld] or Wodgeld is to be free from payment of money for taking of Wood in any Forest. 1894 MUIR & MORLEY *Watts' Dict.* Comm. IV. 868/1 Tree gum. *Wood gum. 1569 in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 1580, 810 Cum . . . lapicidiis, silvis, nemoribus cum lie *wode hage. 1569 *Charters Crosraguel Abbey* (1886) I. 195 Cum earundem silvis et nemoribus cum lie Wodhag. 1295 *Acc. Exch. K.R.* 5/8 m. 2 (P.R.O.) In stipendii Walteri Le *Wodhagger pro meremio prosternendo in bosco de Staghholme. 1624 CAPT. J. SMITH *Virginia* III. vii. 69 Let no man thinke that . . . these gentlemen spent their times as common wood-haggers at felling of trees. 1868 *Rep. U.S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 15 The American *wood-hanging . . . has been applied for the finish of the suite of rooms. 1943 K. TENNANT *Ride on Stranger* (1968) iii. 21 Get back to the *wood-heap. 1966 'J. HACKSTON' *Father clears Out* 77 Father was out at the woodheap chopping Mother's wood for her. c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Deut.* xxix. 11 Butan *wudu-heawerum & ðam ðe water berað. 1300 *Rolls of Parlt.* I. 255/1 Roberto le Wodehyewere. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 423/1 A Wodde hewer, *lignarius*. 1867 SCLATER & SALVIN *Exotic Ornith.* (1869) 71 *Xiphocolaptes major*. (Rusty Wood-hewer). 1361 in Blount *Fragm. Antig.* (1815) 368 Pro *wodehyre ob'. 1438-9 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 74 Pro Wodhire apud Aldyngrige, Brome, et Ryllay, hood anno, iij d. ob. 1668 (MS.), Pro Wodhire in Aldyngryge et Ryllay, iij d. ob. 1668 ETHEREDGE *She Wou'd if she Cou'd* 1. i, Creep into the *Wood-hole here. 1703 J. PHILLIPS *Splendid Shilling* 44 Confounded, to the dark recess I fly Of wood-hole. c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark i. 6 *Mel siluestrae*, *wudu hunig. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P.R.* xvii. lxiii. (1495) P vj/2 Been haunte the floures [of beech] and gadre wode hony in holowe trees. c 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 184/30 Saynt Ion ete leues, brod and rownd and whyt . . . and when pay byn froute . . . they byn swete as hony . . . and byn callid wode hony. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 531/2 *Wodehoke, or wedehoke, *sarculus*. 1598 BARRET *Theor. Warres* v. iii. 134, 1500 wood hookes, and tooles to make faggots. 1849 F. DOUGLAS *Life* 116 Mr. Johnson kindly let me have his *wood horse and saw. 1745 WARTON *Pleas. Melanch.* 315 *Wood-hung Menai, stream of druids old. 1536-7 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 694 Et in 4^{xx} petr. ferri de stauro dni Prioris pro le *Wodyron ad 4d., 26s. 8d. 1503 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* II. 283 Payit be the said Robert for *wod leif in France, xvij frankis. 1610 in *Rec. Convent. Burghs Scot.* (1870) II. 300 Dewteis for grundlieve and woodlieve. 1805 *Shiptwright's Vade-m.* 142 *Wood-lock, a piece of elm or oak . . . in the throating or score of the pindle, near the load-water line. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 529 The pintles are hooks which enter the braces, and the rudder is then *wood-locked. 1263 *Cal. Inquis. p. M. Hen.* III (1904) 563, 15s. 4d. *wodelode. 1377 in *Somerset & Dorset N. & Q.* (1911) Dec. 342 Johannes Purdy tenet unam virgatum . . . reddit per annum vijs. vj d. pro Wodelode iij d. 1658 *Suffolk* (Mass.) *Deeds* (1885) III. No. 174, 1 heeretofore purchased . . . all the rights to any *wood Lott. 1706 *Town Records* (Manchester, Mass.) (1889) I. 115 It is Voted and agreed to lay out 50 or 60 Acres of land at the west end of our common for a wood lot. 1742 in W. M. SARGENT *Maine Wills* (1887) 473 A third part of a Wood Lott for Cutting of y^e wood or for feeding. 1866 LOWELL *Among my Bks., Lessing* (1870) 304 He would soon be driven to the cutting of green stuff from his own wood-lot, more

rich in smoke than fire. 1975 *N.Z. J. agric. Sci.* Sept. 25/2 Burning requires fuel, but... piles of branches from the woodlots... are soon used up. 1976 *Shooting Times & Country Mag.* 18-24 Nov. 28/2 Not that Jim wouldn't shoot a woodcock that got up in front of him, or a pheasant from the plough between a couple of woodlots. 1616 *MS. Acc. St. John's Hosp., Canterb.*, For bread and drink to the teners and *wood makers. 15... in Blount *Anc. Tenures* (1679) 168 The *Woodmaster and Keepers of Needwoode shale every yere mete at... Birkeley Lodge... and Seynt Laurence dey; at which dey and place a Woodmote shal be kept. 1826 *HOR. SMITH Tor Hill I.* 292 A Woodmote having been held on the same day... the wood-master and his men came to swell the procession. 1760-72 J. ADAMS tr. *Juan & Ulloa's Voy.* (ed. 3) II. 324 The common food of the inhabitants... throughout Brazil, is the farina de Pau or *wood-meal, which is universally eaten instead of bread. 1852 J. J. SEIDEL *Organ* 121 Pipes... so completely eaten by the wood-worm, that the wind blows out the dust or wood-meal through all the holes. 1892 *Labour Comm. Gloss. s.v. Money*, Some yards in the barge-building industry allow the men to take home... small pieces of wood; others allow 2d. per day in lieu of wood; this is termed *wood money. 15... 1826 *Woodmote [see wood-master]. a 1610 MANWOOD *Lawes Forest* xxii. §1 (1615) 207 The said Court of attachments then called the Wood-mote Court. 1768 *BLACKSTONE Comm.* III. vi. 71 The court of attachments, wood-mote, or forty days court, is to be held before the verderors of the forest once in every forty days. 1900 J. NISBET *Our Forests & Woodlands* i. 29 In the Charter of 1217 provision was made for a Court of Attachment or 'Woodmote' being held every forty days... Like the Woodmote, the Swainmote was originally held at irregular times. 1978 *Lancashire Life* Apr. 27/2 One named Ughtred Hodgkinson attended a woodmote at Whitewell in Bowland in 1570. 1868 *Rep. U.S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 424 A small portion of the field was manured with a compost of night-soil and *wood-mold. 1842 *wood-naphtha [see wood-spirit 2]. 1632 MILTON *L'Allegro* 134 If... sweetest Shakespear fancies childe, Warble his native *Wood-notes wilde. 1789 BURNS *Let. to M'Auley* 4 June, Mrs. Burns... has a glorious 'wood-note wild' at either old song or psalmody. 1887 S. COLVIN *Keats v. 105* Wild wood-notes of Celtic imagination. 1611 *Bible Neh. x. 34* We cast the lots among the priests, the Levites, and the people, for the *wood offering... to burne vpon the altar. 1816 R. JAMESON *Syst. Min. I.* 246 *Wood-Opal. 1800 KOOPS *Hist. Acc. Inv. Paper* 88 The substance of the *Wood Paper on which these lines are printed. 1261 *Cal. Inquis. p. M. Hen. III* (1094) 502, 2d, *Wudepanies. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 102/29 Wodenpie, betonica *Pauli*. 1713 PETIVER *Aquat. Anim. Amboinae* Tab. 10/8 *Pholas Lignorum*... *Wood Peirce. 1802 BINGLEY *Anim. Biog.* (1813) III. 279 The *Wood-Piercing Bee. 1552 HULOET, *Woode pyle, *strues*. 1696 AUBREY *Misc.* vi. 68 The Cook Maid, going to the Wood-pile to fetch Wood to dress Supper. 1699 DAMPIER *Voy. II. i.* 107 They built a Town and fenced it round about with a kind of Wood-pile, or Wall of great Timber Trees. 1883 'MARK TWAIN' *Life on Mississippi* xxi. 222 The seldomest spectacle on the Mississippi to-day is a wood-pile. 1936 *Metronome* Feb. 61/2 *Wood pile*, xylophone. 1936 W. STEVENS *Let.* 13 May (1967) 311, I agree that there is something wrong in the woodpile. 1951 *Time* 22 Oct. 69 Red Norvo kept salting his half-hour stands with such tunes as... he used to rap out on his 'woodpile' (xylophone) with Paul Whiteman's band 20 years ago. 1977 'J. D. WHITE' *Salzburger Affair* xvi. 139 He was the odd man out, the African in the woodpile. 1773 *Holme on Spaldingmoor Incl. Act* 18 Banks, *Wood-Plants, Quicksets, or Fences. 1908 [ELIZ. FOWLER] *Betw. Trent & Ancholme* 19 Wood-plants flourish about this border. 1672 *Covel's Interpr.*, *Woodplea-Court, is a Court held twice in the year in the Forest of Clun in Con. Salop... and perhaps was anciently the same with Woodmote-Court. 1521 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 668 That no inhabitant... make eny gardeyn or *woodpleck with-in xlth fote [of the town wall]. 1904 *Brit. Med. J. nrl.* 17 Sept. 662 Leisha *wood post is on the bank of the river surrounded by forests. 1870 in *Boorde's Introd. Knowl.* 99 *Wood-powder, Boorde's remedy for Excoriation. 1881 *GREENER Gun* 322 In combustion wood powder is far more rapid than black. 1816 W. Y. OTTLEY *Hist. Engraving* I. 91 The very early *wood-prints of Germany. 1908 *Dublin Rev.* July 216 The book is adorned with charming wood-prints. 1866 *Patents, Abridgm. Specif. Manuf. Paper* II. (1876) 427 Improvements in preparing... *wood pulp for the manufacture of paper. 1734 in *Accet. Progress Colony Georgia* (1741) App. v. 51 [The French] have Five hundred Men in Pay, constantly employed as *Wood-Rangers, to keep their neighbouring Indians in Subjection. 1757 [BURKE] *Europ. Settlem. Amer.* vii. xxvii. II. 270 A company of wood rangers... to scour the country near our settlements. 1896 *Harper's Mag.* XCII. 712/1 The white wood-rangers were as ruthless as their red foes. 1915 W. B. YEATS *Reveries* (1916) 137, I could not sleep... from my fear of the wood-ranger. 1933 *Trop. Woods* XXXVI. 3 *Wood ray or xylem ray, the part of a ray internal to the cambium. 1975 *Sci. Amer.* July 102/2 Among the components of the cambium are what are called ray initials; the continuation of a ray initial down into the sapwood of a stem, a branch or a trunk is known as a wood ray. 1774 T. WEST *Antiq. Furness* 109 These [iron forges] were destroyed... at the request of the customary tenants, who charged themselves with paying the rent of 20. l. by a rate which is now called *Woodrent or Bloomsmithy rent. 1821 J. F. COOPER *Spy* (1831) vii. 81 The English captain took the advice of this mysterious being and finding a *wood-road... turned down its direction. 1891 *Century Mag.* Apr. 921, I moved camp, following the wood-road to the summit. 1954 C. BRUCE *Channel Shore* 89 In early winters he and James had cut firewood there and hauled it out over the wood road he had swamped, and up the main road, home. 1926 *Rev. Appl. Mycol.* V. 521 The winter draws attention to the misleading impression created by the use of the term 'branch canker' for two totally distinct types of injury: one caused by the attacks of such organisms as *Macrophoma theicola*, and the other resulting from a *wood rot. 1931 E. E. HUBERT *Outline of Forest Path.* xi. 449 The classification of wood rots is largely based upon the colour changes produced in wood by fungi. The discolorations produced by wood-rot and sap-stain fungi... are responsible for a large part of the loss due to degrade in lumber. 1973 C. BONINGTON *Next Horizon* viii. 128 The garden bounded by a high hedge with an old wooden seat, softened with age and wood-rot. 1918 *Wood-rotting [see sap-rot s.v. SAP sb.¹ 7a]. 1971 P. H. B. TALBOT *Princ. Fungal Taxonomy* i. 17 One can

only conjecture how different the course of history might have been if the British fleet had not been laid low at times by the action of wood-rotting fungi. 1816 *Austin Papers* (1924) I. 264, 1 *Wood Saw. 1884 'MARK TWAIN' *Huck Finn* vi. 39, I found an old rusty wood-saw without any handle. 1815 *North Amer. Rev.* II. 143 Deaths by Violence... In New York Mr. John Wood, killed in the street by Patrick Hart, a *wood-sawyer, with a stick of wood. 1844 EMERSON *New Eng. Reform. Wks.* (Bohn) I. 260 The labour of the porter and wood-sawyer. 1891 M. E. WILKINS *New Eng. Nun* 43 Matilda's antecedents had come of wood-sawyers and garden-laborers. c 1275 LAY. 25859 Wola pat pe *wode-scape hauep pe pus for-fare. 1733 TULL *Horse-hoeing Husb.* xxiv. 402 What is meant by *Wood Screws, are taper Screws made with Iron, having very deep Threads, whereby they hold fast when screw'd into Wood. 1868 *Rep. to Govt. U.S. Munitions War* 222 These plates... are attached to the ship's side by a plentiful supply of wood-screws, screwed into the timber backing. 1757 R. ROGERS *Jrnl.* (1769) 52 Volunteers in the regular troops, to be trained to the ranging, or *wood-service. c 1245 in Lysons *Environs Lond.* (1796) IV. 131 [In this survey two payments are mentioned called] *wodeselver [and] averselver [a composition for labour]. 1355-6 *Abingdon Obedientians Acc.* (Camden) 5 De redditu de wodeseluer xli. iij s. 1510-11 in Eyton *Antiq. Shropsh.* (1856) III. 325. 1825 WATERTON *Wand. S. Amer.* 1. (1903) 32 There is neither curial nor canoe, nor purple-heart tree in the neighbourhood to make a *wood-skin to carry you over. 1904 W. H. HUDSON *Green Mansions* xxi. 289 Some compassionate voyager would let me share his *wood-skin. 1934 E. WAUGH *Handful of Dust* v. 287 The canoes were made of woodskin... They worked patiently but clumsily; one woodskin was split in getting it off the trunk. 1958 J. CAREW *Wild Coast* iii. 44 He had to fetch his woodskins from Honey Reef. 1966 P. SHERLOCK *West Indian Folk-Tales* 37 Each morning the men of the tribe went out in their woodskin canoes. 166. SIR W. PETTY in *Sprat Hist. Roy. Soc.* (1667) 296 In Cloth Dying *wood-soot is of good use. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl. s.v. Dy(e)ing*, Wood-soot, containing not only a colour, but a salt, needs nothing to... make it strike on the stuff. 1770 *Cook's Voy. round World* III. viii. (1773) 632 Of the colour of wood soot, or what is commonly called a chocolate colour. 1222-3 in *Dugdale Monast. Angl.* (1825) V. 268/1 In curiis nostris... shiris, halemotis, et *wodespiches. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 315 *Woodstone... is commonly... the substance of petrified wood. 1839 *URE Dict. Arts* 647 Hornstone occurs under three modifications; splintery hornstone, conchoidal hornstone, and woodstone. 1235-52 *Rentalia Glaston.* (Som. Rec. Soc.) 83 Et debet habere *wdetale contra Natale, scil. unum truncum [etc.]. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.*, Org. iv. §6. 198 *Eupione*, which Reichenbach obtained during the rectification of the products from *wood-tar. 1787 GROSCHKE tr. *Klaproth's Observ. Fossils Cornw.* 13 The most remarkable species of stream-tin is a tin-ore like haematites, or what is called *Wood-tin. 1855 LEIFCHILD *Cornwall* 201 The famous wood-tin, so called from the woody appearance of some of the pebbles, was formerly found in the Loth stream works in abundance. 1796 NELSON 26 July in *Nicolas Disp.* (1845) II. 220 Not a *Wood-Vessel bound to Piombino would go out of the Port. 1883 McNAB *Bot., Morphol. & Physiol.* ii. 42 The xylem... consists... of three sets of cells, viz. the wood vessels, the wood prosenchyma, and the wood parenchyma. 1837 HEBERT *Engin. & Mech. Encycl.* II. 849 There are four principal kinds: namely, wine vinegar, malt vinegar, sugar vinegar, and *wood vinegar. 1235-52 *Rentalia Glaston.* (Som. Rec. Soc.) 135 Et debet cariare bladum cum caretia sua per j diem et debet auxiliari ad *wddewaste. 1279 *Liber Cust.* (Rolls) 150 Qil serra lie au pilier qj estet en Tamise a *Wodehwarfe. 1594 NORDEN *Spec. Brit., Essex* (Camden) 10 Places where they take in wood... wch places are called upon the Thames, westward, haws or woodwharves. a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 5 Sept. 1666, The coale and wood wharves. 1902 CORNISH *Naturalist Thames* 212 A tug was taking a couple of deal-loaded barges to a woodwharf. 1840 *Evid. Hull Docks Comm.* 136, I propose what in the neighbourhood of Hull is called *wood-wharfing. a 1400 *Alphita* (Anecd. Oxon.) 8 *Ameos agreste*, similis fraxinarie, anglice, *wodewhisgle [v.r. wodewhistle]. 1876 *Wood wind [see WIND sb.¹ 12b]. 1901 W. J. HENDERSON *Orchestra* 19 Next in importance to the strings is the wood-wind, which is divided into three families—flutes, oboes, and clarinets. 1922 JOYCE *Ulysses* 280 Double-basses, helpless, gashes in their sides. Woodwinds mooring cows. 1926 WHITEMAN & McBRIDE *Jazz* ix. 195 Musicians recognize four general classes of instruments in speaking of the orchestra—strings, wood winds, brasses, and the battery of traps. 1967 T. STOPPARD *Rosencrantz & Guildenstern are Dead* III. 83 One of the sailors has pursed his lips against a woodwind. 1978 *Early Music* July 333/2 Vivaldi had to rely on Austrian and German makers for the newer woodwinds. 1933 P. GODFREY *Back-Stage* i. 19 *Wood-wings are lugged into position. 1974 D. SMITH *Look back with Love* xvi. 164 One of these quick-changes occurred during my first scene, and to cover it, I had... a short soliloquy, halfway through which a glance into the wood-wings showed me that our leading man was still three-quarters Lesurques when he should have been seven-eighths Dubosc. 1559 MORWYN *Evonymus* 323 With a little *wode woul dipte therein rub the teethe. 1885 [see wood-flour]. 1887 *Advance* (Chicago) 7 July 431 In workshops, the wood-wool is even replacing cotton waste for cleaning machinery. 1867 MORRIS *Jason* III. 75 All who chanced to know The *woodwright's craft. 1883 J. PARKER *Tyne Chylde* 6 At a woodwright's door, where I stood on a large block of old oak.

b. In names of animals, chiefly birds and insects: (i) that live in woods, as *wood bee*, *fly*, *gnat*, *hornet*, *moth*; esp. in designations of particular species or groups, as *wood Argus* (ARGUS 3), *dormouse*, *fly*, *lady* (LADY sb. 9), *mite*, *rattlesnake*, *red-bird*, *sandpiper*, *swift* (SWIFT sb.² 4), *tattler*, *tiger* (TIGER sb. 11), *wagtail* (see QUOTE.); *wood mouse*, PEWEE, PIE (sb.¹ 3 b), SWALLOW (sb.¹ 2 b); (ii) that live, bore, or burrow in wood; e.g. in local names of species of woodpecker, as *wood-jobber*, *-knacker*, *-tapper*, and in *wood-borer*, *-fretter*, *-piercer*, *-sawyer* in 10; *wood-ant*, (a) a large ant, *Formica*

rufa, living in woods; (b) a termite or white ant, which burrows in wood; *wood baboon* = DRILL sb.³; *wood-beetle*, a wood-boring beetle; *wood bison*, *wood buffalo*, a variety of American bison (*Bison bison athabascæ*) found in the wooded parts of the west of Canada; *wood-bug*, an insect of the genus *Pentatoma*; *wood-cat*, †(a) a fanciful name for the hare; (b) a wild cat living in woods, *spec.* the S. American species *Felis geoffroyi*; *wood-cracker dial.*, the nuthatch, *Sitta cæsia*; *wood-cricket*, a species of cricket found in woods, as *Nemobius sylvestris*; *wood-culver* = WOOD-PIGEON; *wood-deer* = *wood-goat*; *wood-digger*, a West Indian insect (see QUOTE.); *wood-drake*, the male of the *wood-duck*; *wood-duck*, a species of duck inhabiting woods, *esp.* the N. American summer duck, *Æx sponsa*, and the Australian *Bernicla jubata*; *wood-frog*, a species of frog found in woods, as the N. American *Rana sylvatica*; *wood-goat*, a S. African species of antelope, *Antelope sylvatica*; *wood-grouse*, (a) the capercaillie *Tetrao urogallus* (see GROUSE sb.¹ 1); (b) the spotted Canada grouse, *Canace* (*Dendragapus canadensis*, or allied species; *wood grub*, the larva of any of several wood-boring insects; † *wood hog* U.S., a variety of pig which feeds in woods; *wood hoopoe*, any of several birds of the genus *Phœniculus* (or the family Phœniculidae), native to Africa and distinguished by blue and green plumage and a long tail; *wood-ibis*, a stork of the subfamily *Tantalinae*, *esp. Tantalus loculator*, which inhabits wooded swamps in southern U.S.; a *wood-stork*; *wood-kingfisher*, a name for birds allied to the kingfisher, living in woods: = *king-hunter* (KING sb. 13 b); *wood-leopard* (*moth*), a species of spotted moth (*Zeuzera pyrina*), the larva of which bores into the wood of trees; = *leopard-moth* s.v. LEOPARD 6b; *wood-owl*, any species of owl living in woods, as the tawny or brown owl, *Syrnium aluco*; *wood-partridge* = *wood-grouse*; *wood-pelican* = *wood-ibis*; *wood-pheasant*, (a) = *wood-grouse* (a); (b) in Zanzibar (see QUOTE. 1892); *wood(s)-pussy* N. Amer. *colloq.*, a skunk; *wood-quad*, any bird of the genus *Rollulus*, of the Malay archipelago; *wood-rabbit*, the common rabbit of U.S., *Lepus sylvaticus*, also called *cotton-tail*; also, any rabbit living in a wood; *wood-rat*, any rat of the American genus *Neotoma*; *wood-robin*, a local name of the American *wood-thrush*; *wood-shrike*, (a) = WOODCHAT; (b) an African shrike of the genus *Prionops*; *wood-shrimp*, a crustacean of the family *Cheluridae*, as *Chelura terebrans*, which bores in submerged wood; *wood-slave*, a West Indian lizard of the species *Mabouya*; *wood-snail*, any species of snail inhabiting woods, *esp. Helix nemoralis*; *wood-snake*, a snake that lives in woods, as those of the family *Dryophidae*; *wood-snipe*, *-snite*, names for the woodcock (British or American); *wood-star*, a name for several species of humming-birds, as those of the genus *Calothorax* and the Bahama sheartail, *Doricha evelynæ*; *wood-stork* = *wood-ibis*; *wood-swine*, a swine living in woods; *spec.* the bosch-vark, a ferocious wild swine of S. and E. Africa; *wood-tantalus* = *wood-ibis*; *wood-thrush*, (a) a species of thrush of the eastern U.S., *Turdus (Hylocichla) mustelinus*, noted for its beautiful coloration and sweet song; (b) a local name of the missel-thrush, *T. viscivorus*; *wood-tick* [TICK sb.¹], a tick of the family *Ixodidae*, found upon plants; *wood-warbler*, (a) the wood-wren, *Phylloscopus sibilatrix*; (b) a general name for the American warblers (WARBLER 2 b), *esp.* those of the genus *Dendraeca*; *wood-wasp*, (a) a wasp that lives in woods, as *Vespa sylvestris*; (b) a wasp that burrows in rotten wood, as some species of *Crabronidae*, or a wasp-like insect whose larvae bore in wood, as the horn-tails; *wood-worm*, an insect larva or other invertebrate, as the ship-worm (see TEREDO), which bores in wood (also *fig.*); *wood-wren*, a species of warbler, *Phylloscopus sibilatrix*, or its congener the willow-wren, *P. trochilus*. See also WOODCOCK, etc.

1709 T. ROBINSON *Vind. Mosaick Syst.* 90. The *Wood-Ant feeds upon Leaves. 1781 *Phil. Trans.* LXXI. 140 In the West Indies, [they are called] Wood Lice, Wood Ants, or White Ants. 1889 *Science-Gossip* XXV. 33 Length of the wood-ant (*F. rufa*) three-eighths of an inch. 1781 PENNANT *Hist. Quadrap.* I. 176 *Wood Baboon... Inhabits Guinea. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P.R.* xviii. xii. (Bodl. MS.), Some beþ feelde been and some beþ *wood been. 1609 C. BUTLER *Fem. Mon.* H 5 b, The wood-pecker... doth more harme to

wood-bees then garden-bees. 1836 *Southern Lit. Messenger* II. 96 The wood-bee revels on their sweets. 1953 A. CLARKE *Coll. Plays* (1963) 344 The wood-bees court tangles of dew. 1795 WINTERBOTHAM *View U.S.* IV. 413 *Wood-beetle, Leptura. 1825 R. T. GORE *Blumenbach's Nat. Hist.* 190 Leptura. . . 1. Aquatica. . . The Wood-beetle. . . On aquatic plants of all kinds. 1843 JOHNSTON in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. No. xi. 78 As thoroughly drilled as . . . a piece of wood that has been eaten with the maggot of the wood-beetles. 1895 C. W. WHITNEY in *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 10/2 To hunt *wood-bison, . . . now become the rarest game in the world. 1892 W. PIKE *Barren Ground N. Canada* 143 These animals go by the name of *wood buffalo. 1897 E. COVES *New Light on Early Hist. Greater Northwest* II. xviii. 622 They are the wood buffalo, more shy and wild than those on the plains. 1961 W. P. KELLER *Canada's Wild Glory* v. 274 One small pocket of pure wood buffalo persist in a remote corner of the area, and plans are afoot to establish new sanctuaries for these. 1972 Wood buffalo [see *plain(s) buffalo* s.v. PLAIN sb.¹ 10]. 1836 REDDING *Hist. Mod. Wines* iii. (ed. 2) 47 A nauseous odour. . . from a vast number of *wood bugs which had been . . . crushed in the [wine] press. c1280 *Names of Hare in Rel. Ant.* I. 133 The frendlese, the *wodecat. 1791 J. LONG *Voyages* 41 The country every where abounds with wild animals, particularly . . . otters, martins, minx, wood cats, racoons, [etc.]. 1892 W. H. HUDSON *Nat. La Plata* 15 It is called wood-cat, and . . . is an intruder from wooded districts north of the pampas. 1898 STANLEY J. WEYMAN *Shrewsbury* xxvi, Speak, you viper, and don't stand there glowering like a wood-cat! 1677 PLOT *Oxfordsh.* 175 A little Bird, sometimes seen, but often heard in the Park at Woodstock, from the noise that it makes, commonly called the *Wood-cracker. 1774 GOLDSMITH *Nat. Hist.* VII. 350 The *wood-cricket is the most timorous animal in nature. a1100 *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 131/32 *Palumbus*, *wudeculfre. 1533 ELYOT *Cat. Helthe* (1541) 15 Meates and drynkes makynge good iuste. . . Wodde culvers. 1662 J. CHANDLER *Van Helmont's Oriat.* 201 Mice, Dormice, and Swine do sooner perish with hunger, than they do eat of a Ring-Dove or Wood-Culver. 1812 PLUMTRE *Lichtenstein's S. Africa* I. 194 Large animals, such as buffalos, *wood-deer (*antilope sylvatica*). 1838 W. P. HUNTER tr. *Azara's Nat. Hist. Paraguay* I. 145 Laborde says that his first species is called red deer and wood deer (*Cierba roxa y cierba de Bosques*) in Cayenne, being always met with in woods. 1756 P. BROWNE *Jamaica* 433 The *Wood-Digger. This insect . . . digs frequently into soft places of timber, where it keeps a throbbling noise, not unlike our death-watches in Europe. 1801 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* II. 166 *Wood Dormouse. *Myoxus Dryas*. . . It is said to be a native of Russia, Georgia, &c. inhabiting woods, &c. 1777 *Wood duck [see NARRAGANSETT 2]. 1814 A. WILSON *Amer. Ornith.* VIII. 97 Summer Duck, or Wood Duck. *Anas sponsa*. 1847 LEICHHARDT *Jrnl.* v. 147 The wood-duck (Bernicla jubata) abounded on the larger water-holes. 1911 C. E. W. BEAN 'Dreadnought' of *Darling* vi. 57 Wood duck . . . are really not duck at all, but Queensland geese. 1980 *Outdoor Life* (U.S.) (Northeast ed.) Oct. 80/1 Grain-fed mallards or pintails are superb table fare, as are wood ducks fattened on acorns. 1827 CLARE *Sheph. Cal.* 54 Green *wood-fly, and blossom-haunting bee. 1854 A. ADAMS, etc. *Man. Nat. Hist.* 258 Wood-Flies (Platypezidae). 1698 M. LISTER *Journ. Paris* 73 Very large *Wood-Frog, with the extremity of the Toes webbed. 1895 SWETTENHAM *Malay Sketches* 288 The fitful and plaintive croak of a wood-frog. 1882 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* VI. 77 The *Wood Gnat (*Culex nemorosus*) frequents woods and does not come into houses. 1785 G. FORSTER tr. *Sparman's Voy. Cape Gd. Hope* vii. I. 276 This *wood-goat, or, as it is called, *bosch-bok*. 1776 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* (ed. 4) I. 223 *Wood Grouse. . . It inhabits wooded and mountainous countries. 1838 T. NEED *Six Years in Bush* iv. 30 And the woods with partridges, wood-grouse, black squirrels and occasionally a turkey. a1861 T. WINTHROP *John Brent* (1862) xxii. 245 The brace of wood grouse he had shot that morning. 1917 T. G. PEARSON *Birds Amer.* II. 14 Hudsonian Spruce Partridge. *Canachites canadensis canadensis*. . . Wood Grouse; Wood Partridge. 1956 *Numbers* (Wellington, N.Z.) May 8 The rotten wood . . . split lengthwise and fell apart, barring the wet sawdust tunnels of *woodgrubs. 1964 R. BRADDOY *Year Angry Rabbit* (1967) xx. 158 Her husband fed their child with a wriggling wood grub. 1805 R. PARKINSON *Tour in Amer.* 290 The real American hog is what is termed a *wood-hog: they are long in the leg, narrow on the back, [etc.]. 1840 *Cultivator* VII. 81 The next fall, *mast* was plenty, and 'wood hogs' were fat. 1908 HAAGNER & IVY *Sk. S. Afr. Bird-Life* 26 The *Wood Hoopoes . . . are represented in South Africa by two well-marked species. 1953 R. CAMPBELL *Mamba's Precipice* xi. 115 A whole flock of wood-hoopoes with scarlet beaks and silk-shot, glossy, green and purple feathers were raising the most amazing din in the tree. 1964 A. L. THOMSON *New Dict. Birds* 894/2 The wood-hoopoes . . . are very unlike the true hoopoes in general appearance. 1658 ROWLAND tr. *Mouflet's Theat. Ins.* 928 The *wood or wilde Hornet (saith Pliny) live in hollow trees all the winter. 1785 LATHAM *Gen. Syn. Birds* V. 104 *Wood Ibis. . . found in Carolina, and in various parts of South America. 1875-84 *Layard's Birds S. Afr.* 735 *Pseudo-tantalus ibis*. African Wood-Ibis. 1819 *Wood leopard-moth [see LEOPARD 6b]. 1856 *Knight's Eng. Cycl.*, *Nat. Hist.* IV. 1276 *Zeuzera Esculi*, the Wood-Leopard, is a rare species, of a white colour, with numerous steel-blue spots. 1854 A. ADAMS, etc. *Man. Nat. Hist.* 277 *Wood-Mites (Orbitidae). a1678 MARVELL *Appleton Ho.* 542 The hewel. . . Doth from the bark the *wood-moths glean. 1916 A. HUXLEY *Burning Wheel* 24 Mottled and grey and brown they pass, The wood-moths, wheeling, fluttering. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* xxx. viii. II. 384 If the seat be galled, it is thought that the ashes of the *wood-Mouse tempered with honey, cureth the same. 1834 MARY HOWITT in *Tait's Mag.* I. 445/2, I saw a little Wood-mouse. . . Sit under a mushroom tall. 1809 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* VII. 253 *Wood Owl. . . As the bird seems to be the only British species . . . more particularly found in woody than in other situations, the title of Wood Owl seems best adapted to its nature. 1772 *Phil. Trans.* LXII. 389 *Woodpartridge. 1830 GALT *Lavrie* T. viii. v. (1849) 370, I heard the wood-partridge drumming on a neighbouring tree. 1754 CATESBY *Carolina* I. pl. 81 *Pelicanus Sylvaticus*. The *Wood Pelican. 1810 A. WILSON *Amer. Ornith.* II. 81 *Wood Pewee Flycatcher. *Muscicapa rapax*. 1705 tr. *Sir J. Ware's Antiq. Irel.* vii. 20 The Cock of the Wood, which Giraldus Cambrensis calls the *Wood Pheasant. 1892 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 12 Nov. 3/1 What is called the 'wood-pheasant' is a big long-tailed bush

cuckoo. 1899 F. D. BERGEN *Anim & Plant Lore* 61 *Wood pussy, skunk. 1950 *Chicago Daily News* 16 Feb. 5/1 Miss Bennett paid \$35 for the deodorized house-broken wood pussy. 1972 *Islander* (Victoria, B.C.) 18 June 9/2 You would never have known that said woods pussy had met its doom and left so many 'scents' behind in its will. 1891 *Cent. Dict.* s.v. *Rollulus*, The red-crested *wood-quail is *R. cristatus* or *routroul*. *Ibid.*, *Wood-rabbit. 1902 CORNISH *Naturalist Thames* 73 These wood-rabbits differ in their way of life from those in the open warren outside. 1766 J. BARTRAM *Jrnl.* 10 Jan. 30 We found a great nest of a *wood-rat, built of long pieces of dry sticks. 1879 W. L. LINDSAY *Mind in Lower Animals* II. xi. 151 The Californian wood-rat. 1802 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* III. 335 *Wood Rattle-Snake. *Crotalus Dryinas*. 1805 MITCHELL & MILLER *Med. Repos.* 122 Fire-bird or *wood red-bird with blue wings. 1808 A. WILSON *Amer. Ornith.* I. 29 Wood Thrush. *Turdus melodus*. . . It is called by some the *Wood Robin. 1882 *Garden* 11 Nov. 425/1 The chief bird friend and companion of the wanderer in the New Zealand bush is the wood robin. 1784 PENNANT *Arctic Zool.* II. 482 *Wood. . . Sandpiper. . . *Tringa Glaireola*. . . Inhabits the moist woods of Sweden. 1824 [see SANDPIPER 1]. 1875-84 *Layard's Birds S. Afr.* 401 *Bradyornis mariquensis*. Mariqua *Wood-Shrike. 1725 SLOANE *Jamaica* II. 185, I saw one of these Spiders eat a small lizard call'd a *Wood-slave. 1864 N. *Brit. Rev.* Dec. 404 The baleful race of woodslave and slippery-back, those hideous brown and yellow lizards of the West Indies. 1831 AUDUBON *Ornith. Biog.* I. 19 They now and then descend . . . to pick up a *wood-snail or beetle. 1865 *Gosse Land & Sea* (1874) 118 The pretty banded wood-snail (*Helix nemoralis*). 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 75/2 *Coluber*. . . a landsnake or *woodsnake. 1887 *St. James's Gaz.* 14 Mar. 6/1 It would seem that in times past the *woodsnipe was considered a stupid bird. c1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 363/27 *Cardiolus*, *wudusnite. 1655 MOUFET & BENNET *Health's Improv.* xi. 96 There is a kind of Wood-Snipe in Devonshire, greater than the common Snite. 1859-62 SIR J. RICHARDSON, etc. *Mus. Nat. Hist.* (1868) I. 311 The Short-tailed *Woodstar (*Calothorax macrurus*) . . . is one of the most diminutive even in the family of dwarfs, measuring rather less than two inches and a half in length. 1884 COUES N. *Amer. Birds* (ed. 2) 653 American *Wood Star. 1854 A. ADAMS, etc. *Man. Nat. Hist.* 37 *Wood-Swallows (*Artamidae*). 1869 E. NEWMAN *Brit. Moths* 19 The *Wood Swift (*Hepialus sylvinus*). c1480 HENRYSON *Trial of Fox* 894 The Uild *wood Swyne. 1785 G. FORSTER tr. *Sparman's Voy. Cape Gd. Hope* x. II. 23, I saw . . . a herd of *bosch-varkens*, or, as they are likewise called, *wilde-varkens*, (wood-swine, or wild-swine). 1834 [see *bosch-vark* s.v. BOSCH]. 1824 STEPHENS in Shaw's *Gen. Zool.* XII. 3 *Wood Tantalus. (*Tantalus loculator*). 1852 MACGILLIVRAY *Brit. Birds* IV. 346 *Totanus Glaireola*. *Wood Tatler. 1791 W. BARTRAM *Trav. N. & S. Carolina* (1792) 179 The shrill tuneful songs of the *wood-thrush! 1817 STEPHENS in Shaw's *Gen. Zool.* X. 179 Wood Thrush. (*Turdus melodes*). 1841 W. C. BRYANT *Earth's Children* 11 Wks. 44 Dark maples where the wood-thrush sings. 1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 49 *Ricinus*. . . the *Wood Teek, or, Dogs Teek. 1819 D. B. WARDEN *Acc. United States* II. 180 The wood tick. . . resembles a bug, and lives upon trees and rushes. 1869 E. NEWMAN *Brit. Moths* 32 The *Wood Tiger . . . (*Chelonia Plantaginis*). 1868 J. BURROUGHS *Wake-robin* v. (1884) 207 The well-known golden-crowned thrush (*Sciurus aurocapillus*) or *wood-wagtail. *Ibid.* viii. 296 [see WAGTAIL 2a]. 1817 STEPHENS in Shaw's *Gen. Zool.* X. 748 *Wood Warbler. (*Sylvia Sylvicola*). 1868 *Rep. U.S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 310 The *wood-wasps . . . are often seen resting on leaves in the sunshine. 1871 STAVELEY *Brit. Insects* 203 The second division of the predaceous stinging Hymenoptera, known as *Fossores* or diggers, consists of the Sand-wasps and Wood-wasps. 1895 RIDER HAGGARD *Heart of World* x. (1899) 135 Tiny grey flies, wood-wasps, and ants . . . tormented us with their bites and stings. 1540 *Septem Ling. Dict.* D.vj, Teredo . . . a woodworm. 1607 B. BARNES *Devils Charter* (ed. McKerrow) 1376 Now skelder yee scouderels, . . . you wood-wormes. 1725 SWIFT *Wood an Insect* 17 An Insect we call a Wood-Worm, That lies in old Wood like a Hare in her Form. 1855 BROWNING *Mesmerism* 7 At night, when . . . the wood-worm picks, And the death-watch ticks. 1792 T. LAMB in *Trans. Linnean Soc.* (1794) II. 245 A New Species of Warbler, called the *Wood Wren. . . It . . . comes with the rest of the summer warblers. 1839 MACGILLIVRAY *Brit. Birds* II. 371 *Phyllopneste Trochilus*. The Willow Woodwren.

c. In names of plants or their products (usually designating particular species) growing in woods, as *wood calamint*, *fern*, *germander*, *horsetail*, *hyacinth*, *liverwort*, *pea*, *pimpernel*, *rasp*, *reed*, *rose*, *sedge*, *violet*, etc. (see *quots.* and CALAMINT, etc.); *wood-almond*, a West Indian shrub, *Hippocratea comosa*, producing edible seeds like almonds; *wood-anemone*, the common wild anemone, *A. nemorosa*, abundant in woods, and blossoming in early spring; also applied to other species; *wood-apple*, (a) a wild apple, crab-apple; (b) the fruit of *Feronia elephantum*, an East Indian gum-yielding tree allied to the orange, or the tree itself; also called *elephant-apple*; *wood betony*, (a) the common betony, *Stachys Betonica*; (b) *N. Amer.*, a kind of lousewort, *Pedicularis canadensis*; *wood crab* = *wood-apple* (a); *wood cranesbill*, *Geranium sylvaticum*, a wild species with light purple flowers; *wood-grass*, any species of grass growing in woods; *wood-lily*, †(a) ? the meadow-saffron, *Colchicum autumnale*; (b) the lily-of-the-valley, *Convallaria majalis*; (c) the common winter-green, *Pyrola minor*; (d) any plant of the N. American genus *Trillium*, grown in the U.K. as a spring-flowering perennial; †*wood-march* [OE. *wudumerce*: see MARCH sb.¹], the common or wood sanicle, *Sanicula europaea*; †*wood-mint*, pennyroyal, *Mentha Pulegium*; †*wood-nep* [NEP sb.¹ or ²], see *quots.*;

wood nut (tree), the hazel, *Corylus avellana*; *wood sanicle*: see SANICLE 1; *wood-spurge*, a species of spurge, *Euphorbia amygdaloides*, with greenish-yellow flowers; *wood strawberry*, the common wild strawberry, *Fragaria vesca*; *wood-vetch*, any species of vetch growing in woods, esp. *Vicia sylvatica*, with pink or white flowers streaked with purple; *wood-vine*, (a) the bryony, *Bryonia dioica*; (b) *yellow wood-vine*, a species of mulberry, *Morus Calcar-galli*. See also main words.

1657 W. COLES *Adam in Eden* cxcxi, The *Wood Anemone or Wind-flower. 1816-20 T. GREEN *Univ. Herbal* I. 100 *Anemone Ranunculoides*; Yellow Wood Anemone. c1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 190 *Desodene* *wudu æpla. 1439 in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* (1899) July 514 Ooke, esshe, holyn, woadpilte and crabtre. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Vellanga, Yelanga*, vernacular Indian names for the wood-apple, *Feronia elephantum*. 1859 MISS PRATT *Brit. Grasses* 121 *Hordeum sylvaticum* (Lyme-grass, or *Wood Barley). 1657 S. PURCHAS *Pol. Flying-Ins.* 1. xv. 92 Bees gather not of flowers which have deep sockets, as . . . *Wood-betony. 1747 WESLEY *Prim. Physick* (1762) 117 Apply Wood Betony bruised. 1886 *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 99/1 The wood-betony, it is called—to select its worthier title—a common early flower of our woods. 1976 *Hortus Third* (L. H. Bailey Hortorium) 832/1 Wood betony. Pubescent per., to 1½ ft. . . Spring. Que. to Fla., W. to Tex. and n. Mex. 1712 J. JAMES tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 152 The Box proper for planting Palisades, is the *Wood-Box. 14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 715/38 *Hec arbitus*, *wodcrabtre. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 423/1 A Wodde crab, *acroma*. 1525 *Grete Herbal* cclxxxiii. (1529) Qij, Wood crabbes, or wyldynges. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) III. 602 *Geranium batrachoides alterum*. . . *Wood Cranesbill. 1863 BARING-GOULD *Iceland* 214 A hill purpled with wood cranesbill. 1884 MILLER *Plant-n.*, *Aspidium nevadense*, Nevada *Wood-fern. *Ibid.*, *Polypodium vulgare*, Adder's Fern, *Common Polypody, . . . Wood Fern. 1844 WHITTIER *Pumpkin* 26 When *wood-grapes were purpling. 1597 *GERARDE Herbal* i. vi. 7 *Wood grasse hath many thicke and threadie rootes. *Ibid.* 8 *Gramen sylvaticum* . . . is called in our toong Wood grasse or Shadow grasse. 1882 *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* IX. No. iii. 475 *Listera ovata* was plentiful, as well as *Calamintha Clinopodium*, and several wood-grasses. 1597 *GERARDE Herbal* ii. ccccxlii. 957 *Wood Horse taile. 1871 RUSKIN *Fors. Clav.* vi. 7 The *wood-hyacinth is the best English representative of the tribe of flowers which the Greeks called 'Asphodel'. a1400 *Stockholm Med. MS.* ii. 517 in *Anglia XVIII.* 320 *Wode-lilie with. . . Blo purple flowres, no lefe on stele. 1579 LANGHAM *Gard. Health* 679 Wood-lillie, or Lillie conuale. 1882 *Garden* 20 May 352/1 The Virginian Cowslip. . . attains true development in semi-shady spots. . . and so does the large white Wood Lily. 1884 MILLER *Plant-n.*, *Pyrola minor*, Common Winter-green, Wood Lily. *Ibid.*, *Trillium*, American Wood-lily. c1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 22 *Senim* . . . *wudumerce. c1265 *Voc. Plants* in Wr.-Wülcker 554/8 *Saniculum*, i. *sanicle*, i. wudemerc. a1387 *Sison*, *Barthol.* (Anecd. Oxon.) 38 *Sanicula*, i. wode-merche. 1597 *GERARDE Herbal* Suppl., Wood March is Sanicle. c1265 *Voc. Plants* in Wr.-Wülcker 557/20 *Origanum*, i. *puliot real*, i. *wde-minte. 1525 *Grete Herbal* xlviii. (1529) Cvb, Ameos, *woodnep, or penywort. 1599 *GERARDE Catal. in horto* 19 *Sison*. Wood Nep. 1597 — *Herbal* ii. lviii. 279 The later Herbarists have named this plant *Dulcamara*, *Amarodulcis*, and *Amaradulcis*. . . we call it Bitter sweete, and *Woodnightshade. 1578 *Wood Nut tree [see HAZEL¹ 1]. 1634 T. JOHNSON *Merc. Bot.* 24 *Astragalus sylvaticus*. *Wood-pease, or Heath-pease. 1820 HOGG *Tales, Bridal of Polmood* (1836) II. 82 Gathering *wood-rasps for a delicate preserve. 1816-20 T. GREEN *Univ. Herbal* I. 129 *Arundo Calamagrostis*. *Wood Reed-grass. c1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 90 *Senim* *wudu rosan. 1614 MARKHAM *Cheap Husb.* Table Hard Words, Woodrose or wilde-Eglantine. 1705 tr. *Cowley's Plants* Wks. 1711 III. 363 Nought by Experience than the Wood-Rose found, Better to cure a mad Dog's poisonous Wound. 1597 *GERARDE Herbal* i. xvi. 20 *Wood Rushie grasse. 1793 J. SOWERBY *Eng. Bot.* II. 98 (table) *Sanicula europaea* *Wood Sanicle. . . Common enough in woods, growing among dead leaves of trees. 1857 A. PRATT *Flowering Plants & Ferns* III. 12 *S[anicula] Europaea* (Wood Sanicle). 1961 R. W. BUTCHER *New Illustr. Brit. Flora* I. 816 The Wood Sanicle is a perennial plant with erect, ribbed stems. 1816-20 T. GREEN *Univ. Herbal* I. 256 *Carex Sylvatica*; *Wood Sedge. 1597 *GERARDE Herbal* ii. cxxxii. 403 Sweete *wood Spurge. . . Vnsaurie wood Spurge. 1707 *Curios. Husb. & Gard.* 154 Spurges of Different Kinds . . . the Wood-Spurge, the Cypress-Spurge, and the Mirtle-Spurge. a1869 ROSSETTI *Songs, Woodsurge* 12 Among those few . . . The woodspurge flowered, three cups in one. 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.*, *Fragaria vulgaris*. Common or *Wood-Strawberry. 1766 *Complete Farmer* s.v. *Pulse* 6 G 1/2 Dr. Lister . . . recommends for the improvement of sandy, light ground, . . . all plants of the . . . pea kind, and particularly . . . the *wood vetch. 1813 SCOTT *Rokeby* iv. ii. Where profuse the wood-vetch clings Round ash and elm, . . . Its pale and azure-pennell'd flower Should enanopy Titania's bower. 1861 MISS PRATT *Flower. Pl.* II. 312 This Bryony is commonly called also Wild Vine, or *Wood-vine. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* s.v., Woodvine, Yellow, *Morus calcar galli*.

d. *pl. used attrib.* in senses 2 or 3, as *woods boss* *N. Amer.* *Lumbering*, a foreman in charge of lumberjacks; *woods colt* *U.S. colloq.*, a horse of unknown paternity; also, a foundling; an illegitimate child.

1928 C. PERRY *Two Reds of Travoy* 44 'He's a scrapper from way back. Sort of a bully in the village, I guess.' 'Derosier's woods boss,' breathed Gwen. 1946 K. TENNANT *Lost Haven* (1947) xiv. 231 Alec strolled ashore to talk with the 'woods boss'. 1970 *Islander* (Victoria B.C.) 17 May 6/3 Pete Haramboure became manager and his son, John, woods boss. 1895 *Dial. Notes* I. 395 *Woods colt*, foundling, Winchester, Ky. 1903 *Ibid.* II. 337 *Woods colt*, a horse of unknown paternity. Also applied to a person of illegitimate birth. 1913 [see OUTSIDER 1 c]. 1959 W. FAULKNER *Mansion* i. 4 Will Varner was going to have to marry her off . . . quick, if he didn't want a woods colt in his back yard next grass.

wood, *a.* (*sb.*², *adv.*) *Obs. exc. dial. or rare arch.*
Forms: 1-6 (9 *Sc.*) wōd, 3-7 (9 *arch.*) wode, (4 *Sc.*) wode, 4-5 woed, 4-6 woode, woud(e), wodde, (5 *ode*, oothe, *Sc.* woide, void, 5-7 *Sc.* woid), 6 wodd, (oode, wyd, *Sc.* vod, wuid), 6-7 woodde, (6, 9 *Sc.* wid, 7 would, 8- *Sc.* and *dial.* wud), 4-wood. [OE. *wōd* = OHG. *wuot* (in *ferwuot* raging, frantic), ON. *ōðr*, Goth. *wōd-*, **wōps* possessed (cf. OHG., MHG. *wuot*, G. *wut* rage); f. Teut. *wōð* - (to which belong also OE. *wōp* song, sound, ON. *ōðr* poetry, and WODEN) :—Indo-Eur. *wāt-*, represented by L. *vātēs* seer, poet, OIr. *faith* poet, W. *gwawd* song of praise, the fundamental meaning being 'to be excited or inspired'. From the mutated stem are OE. *wēde* mad, *wēdan* WEDE *v.*, *wēden* in WEDENONFA', WIDDENDREAM. The form *oothe* is from Scand. Compounds are BRAIN-WOOD, RED-WOOD *a.*]

1. Out of one's mind, insane, lunatic: = MAD *a.* 1.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) E249 *Epilenticus*, woda. *c* 1000 *Ag. Gosp.* John x. 21 Ne synt na pis wodes mannes wōd. *c* 1200 ORMIN 15506 He draf ut off wode menn Defless. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 11026 A wode man touched on hys bere... And a-none he hadde botenyng. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 554 3if i told him treuli my tene... He wold wene i were wode. *c* 1430 *Hymns Virgin* (1867) 46 Woode men, he zeuep hem per mynde, And makip mesels hool. *c* 1440 *York Myst.* xi. 334 His folke sall no ferre Yf he go welland wode. *c* 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 372/2 Oothe, or woode, *amens.* 1540 HYRDE tr. *Vives' Instr. Chr. Wom.* (1592) G, They bee bitten of the wood dog the devil, & be fallen wood themselves. 1572 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxviii. 101 Anis wōd and ay the war. 1590 SPENSER *F.Q.* i. iv. 34 Through vnaduzied rashnesse woxen wood. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.* 82b, Gif any man is Lunatick, woodde, or furious, with space of manifest wit and judgement betwix ilk time. 1627 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Armado* D 1 b, In the North parts of England... when they thinke that a man is distracted or frenzy, they will say the man is Wood. 1724 RAMSAY *Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) I. 86 The wife was wood, and out o' her wit. *c* 1730 — *Betty & Kate* iv, That's like to put us wood. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* xxvii, Some folk say, that pride and anger hae driven him clean wud. 1828 *Craven Gloss.*, Wood, mad, rhyming with food. This word is rarely used. 1843 LYTTON *Last Bar.* i. ix, Am I dement? Stark wode?

b. Of a dog or other beast: Rabid: = MAD *a.* 6.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 4 Wið woden hundes slite. 1398 TREvisa *Barth. De P.R.* xii. iv. (Tollem. MS.), [Honey] helep þe bitnyng of a wood hounde. 1481 CAXTON *Reynard* xviii. (Arb.) 44 Ye sawe neuer wood dogges do more harme. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 57 Quhen it [sc. the dog-star] ringis in our hemispere, than dogis ar in dangeir to ryn wod. 1551 TURNER *Herbal* i. Bv, Garlyke... is good agaynst the bitynges of madd or wood beastes. 1608 *Melrose Regality Rec.* (S.H.S. 1914) 60 Scho [sc. a mare] ran woid and drouneit hirsell in Tueid. 1610 FLETCHER *Faithf. Sheph.* II, Bitten by a wood-Dogs venom'd tooth. 1733 *Cutross Town Rec.* (MS.), There has been some wood dogs going through the town. 1856 G. HENDERSON *Pop. Rhymes* 58 The bull ran wud. *a* 1869 SPENCE *Braes of Carse* (1898) 181 The dog ran wud that barkit at her.

c. In phr. of comparison, often expressing fury or violence (cf. 3): e.g. *as (if) he* (etc.) *were wood*; *as or like wood* (cf. MAD *a.* 1 c).

c 1220 *Bestiary* 338 We brennen in mod, And wurðen so we weren wod. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 508 Starinde als he were wod. 1340 *Ayenb.* 140 Hi yerneþ hi lheaþeþ ase wode. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 3859 He cryedde & rorede as þaw he were wode. *a* 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* xxviii, They... beganne to crye lyke wode folke. *c* 1460 *Play Sacram.* 403 in *Non-Cycle Myst. Plays* (1909) 70 Yt bledyth as yt were woode, I wys. *a* 1510 DOUGLAS *K. Hart* i. 224 Thai preik, thai prance, as princis that war woode. 1568 T. HOWELL *Newe Sonets* (1879) 121 From me he fled as woode. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* II. iii. 30 Like a would-woman. 1647 H. MORE *Song of Soul* I. II. xciii, Thou... rav'st as thou wert wood. 1721 RAMSAY *To Earl Dalhousie* 13 Some like to... gar the Courser rin like wood.

d. With qualification, as *half*, *near* (*nigh*), *worse than*, etc., the combined phrase becoming virtually equivalent to one of the derived senses below.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 3840 He was ney uor wrappe wod. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 36 He gan to berke on pat barn... þat it was neiz of his witt wod for fere. 14... *Childh. Jesus* 133 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 113 Frawdys was wroþ e & nydel ode [*v.r.* nerehande wode]. *c* 1440 *Gesta Rom.* xxvi. 99 þe knight was halfe woode for wo. *c* 1470 HENRY Wallace VI. 418 In propyr ire he wox ner wode for teyne.

2. Going beyond all reasonable bounds; utterly senseless; extremely rash or reckless, wild; vehemently excited: = MAD *a.* 2, 4, 7.

c 900 ÆLFRED *Solil. August.* (1922) 25 Hwa is swa wōd þæt he dyrrc cweþan þæt God ne se æce? *c* 1205 LAY. 1714 Swa wōd he was to fehte. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 120 þet tu schalt demen þi suluen wod, þo þu þer toward pouhstest. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 99 þat man may be halden wode, þat cheses þe ille and leues þe gude. ?*a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 203 Coueitise is euere wode. To gripen other folkis gode. 1390 GOWER *Conf. I.* 164 Aweie he fledde... As he that was for love wod. *c* 1400 *Pride of Life* 499 in *Non-Cycle Myst. Plays* 104 Be he so hardy or so wode In his londe to aryue, He woc se his herte blode. *c* 1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 76 A woode wisdom, and a wise woode nesse. 1435 MISYN *Fire of Love* II. viii. 89 Wode luste, made lufe. 1509 BARCLAY *Shyp of Folsys* (1874) I. 116 Whiche of theyr myndes ar so blynde and wode And so reted in theyr error and foly. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Mar. 55 Thelf was so wanton and so wode. 1584 *Mirr. Mag.* 26 b, Incontinent desire maketh him wood of their societie. 1617 COLLINS *Def. Bp. Ely* II. x. 413 Vnles you wil be so wood now, as to ade brutish

Ubiquitisme, to your barbarous Cyclopisme. *a* 1708 T. WARD *Eng. Ref.* 14 What sees he in her, he's so wood for? 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xiv, The folk in Lunnun are a' clean wud about this bit job. 1895 CROCKETT *Men of Moss-Hags* liv. 382 The lassie's gane wud! There's nae reason in her.

¶ b. Used inaccurately to render L. *furialis*. 1387 TREvisa *Higden* (Rolls) I. 197 In þat lond is a lake wonderful and wood [L. *furialis*], for who þat drynkep perof he schal brenne in woode nesse of leccerie.

3. a. Extremely fierce or violent, ferocious; irascible, passionate.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 66 Monie cumeð... ischrud mid lombes fleose, & beoð wode wulues. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 2224 Als wode lyons þai sal þan fare. 1435 MISYN *Fire of Love* II. viii. 89 A sheep cled in foxis skyn, & a dowe wodar þen any wode best. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Cock & Fox* 195 A nyce proud man, void and vane glorious. 1538 STARKEY *England* (1878) 12 Ther ys no best... so wyld, oode, or cruel, but to man by wysdom he ys subduyd. 1556 LAUDER *Tractate of Kyngis* 286 3e sulde nocht chuse vnto that cure Ane Vinolent nor wōd Pasture. 1590 BARROUGH *Meth. Phisick* I. xxvii. (1596) 44 They that haue this disease [sc. mania] be wood & vnryly like wilde beasts. 1747 UPTON *New Canto Spenser's F.Q.* xxvi, Guileful Dissimulation, and pale Fear, And Discord wood.

b. Violently angry or irritated; enraged, furious.

c 1205 LAY. 2189 Humber wes swa swiðe wod for al þat lond on him stod. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5979 Suan... þo he hurde of þis cas Made him wroþ & wōd ynou. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 25 þei... ben wode 3if men speken treuly agenset here cursd synnes. 1422 YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* 229 Tho that haue a brandynge colure like the lye of fyre, tightly wexen woode. 1481 CAXTON *Godfrey* lxvii. 112 The grete stedes... becam alle araged and wood for thurst. *a* 1540 BARNES *Wks.* (1573) 282 Ye more it is preached the more they grudge, and the woodder bee they. *a* 1578 LINDESAY (Pittscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 146 To quhome scho turnit about witht ane wode and furieous contenance. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* II. i. 192 Heere am I, and wood within this wood, Because I cannot meet my Hermia. 1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* IV. xix. 267 Be not thou wood too, nor a jot inraged. 1682 SHADWELL *Lanc. Witches* I, Pray now do not say ought to my Lady, by th' Mass who'l be e'en stark wood an who hears on't. 1786 BURNS *Sc. Drink* xiii, When neebors anger at a plea, An' just as wud as wud can be. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* xlii, Now he's anes wud and aye waur, and roars for revenge. 1858 KINGSLEY *Red King* 23 King William sterite up wroth and wood.

c. *transf.* of rage, pain, etc. (Cf. MAD *a.* 5.)

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4415 In is wod rage he wende Vor to awreke is vnle dep. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* III. met. ii. (1868) 68 þe woode wrappes of hem. 1390 GOWER *Conf. I.* 287 In this wilde wode peine. *a* 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 1168 þar is na wa in þe werd to þe wode hunger. *c* 1500 Lancelot 2695 Thar was the batell furyous and woud. 1607 J. CARPENTER *Plaine Mans Plough* 193 To execute... against them (in his wood furie) whatsoever he listeth.

d. *fig.* of inanimate things, as the sea, wind, fire: Violently agitated; 'furious', 'raging'. (Cf. MAD *a.* 7 b.)

c 1100 O.E. *Chron.* an. 1075 (MS. D) Seo wode sæ & se stranga wind hi on þæt land awarep. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 371 þe waves were so wode Wip winde. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Miller's T.* 331 A reyn... so wilde and wood That half so greet was neuere Nooes flood. *c* 1400 *St. Alexius* (Laud 622) 593 Wynde aroos wip wood rage. 1477 NORTON *Ord. Alch.* vi. in Ashm. (1652) 98 Flames brenning fierce and woode. 1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* x. 39 Tempestes horrible of the woode see. *a* 1510 DOUGLAS *K. Hart* I. 75 About the wall thair ran ane water void, Blak, stinkand, sour, and salt as is the sey. 1593 Q. ELIZ. *Boeth.* I. met. iv. 7 Wood Vesevus... that burstz out his smoky fires.

† B. quasi-*sb.* (a) madness; (b) in phr. *for wood* (see FOR-*pref.* 10), 'like mad', madly, furiously.

c 1275 xi *Pains of Hell* 48 in O.E. *Misc.* 148 Snaken and neddrin stingeþ for wod. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6201 þeruore hii flowe vor wod. ?*a* 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 276 She... hath such wo, whan folk doth good, That nygh she meltith for pure wood. *c* 1384 — *H. Fame* III. 657 Lat vs seme... That wommen louen vs for wode. 1390 GOWER *Conf. I.* 286 Between the wawe of wod and wroth Into his dowhtres chambre he goth. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 5777 Out of witt he was for wode.

† C. *adv.* Madly, frantically, furiously (chiefly in *wod wroth*). *Obs.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6109 þe king knout wip hom was þo so wod wroþ. *c* 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 5 3if þei... haten and ben woode wroþ with men þat trewly dispisen synne. *c* 1425 *Engl. Conq. Irel.* xxxviii. 94 The knyght... bytwene twe perylle: on on halue, þe wode-ymerynge watyr so grysly; on other halue, hys fomen. *c* 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 4913 The king of kinges quooke wode That any shuld be hold... better than him self were. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. (1811) 515 The more the Kyng spake for the Englysshe men, the more woder were they dysposyd agayne them. 1513 DOUGLAS *Aeneis* XII. vii. 9 Wod wroth he worthis, for dysdene and dyspyte That he ne mycht his feris succur. 1535 COVERDALE *Hosea* vii. 5 They begynne to be woode droncken thorow wyne. 1569 BLAGUE *Sch. Conceytes* 94 The pacient hearing this... was wood angrie, and commaunded all ye Phisitians to be put out of doores. 1601 DENT *Pathw. Heaven* (1831) 142 They are so extraordinarily enamoured... and are so wood-mad of it, that they will have it.

D. *Comb.*: † wood-like *a.* = WOOLLY *a.*; † woodsek [SICK *a.*], mad. See also WOODMAN².

1578 T. PROCTOR *Gorg. Gallery* Oiv b, Wherwith distrest with *woodlike rage, thes[e] words he out abraide. *c* 890 WÆRFERTH tr. *Gregory's Dial.* (1900) 135 þa wæs gelæded se *wodseoca [*v.r.* wedendseoca] man to... Benedicte. 14... in Wr.-Wülcker 595/25 *Meger*, wode sek.

Wood (wud), *sb.*³ The name of B. Wood (see quot. 1860¹) used in the possessive to designate an easily melted alloy consisting of bismuth,

lead, tin, and cadmium in decreasing proportions and used esp. for soldering.

Patented by Wood in U.S. *Patent* 27,590 (1860). 1860 *Amer. Jnrl. Sci.* LXXX. 271 [New 'fusible metal'. —Dr. B. Wood of Nashville, Tenn., has secured a patent (Weekly Scientific Artizan, Cincinnati, May 5th, 1860,) for an alloy composed of cadmium, tin, lead and bismuth, which fuses at a temperature between 150° and 160° F.] *Ibid.* 272 We have had time only to repeat a few of Dr. Wood's interesting experiments... The alloy made by fusing together two parts of cadmium, two parts tin, four parts lead and eight parts bismuth melts at a temperature varying not far from 70° C. (158° F.) It may appropriately be called 'Wood's fusible metal'. —Eds. 1876 *Jnrl. Chem. Soc.* XXX. 592 The author then describes the method adopted by himself to measure the volumes of the four following fusible alloys at temperatures between 0° and 120°:—... III. Wood's alloy, the composition of which is represented by the formula Bi, Pb Cd₂ Sn₂. 1947 J. C. RICH *Materials & Methods of Sculpture* vi. 192 Wood's metal is rarely employed sculpturally although the material could be used as a casting medium because of its low melting point. 1974 *Nature* 11 Oct. 506/2 One eye was centred on a projection perimeter... and the visuotectal representation for that eye on the right tectum mapped with a Woodsmetal microelectrode.

Wood (wud), *sb.*⁴ *Med.* The name of Robert W. Wood (1868-1955), U.S. physicist, used in the possessive to designate (a) a special glass that is opaque to visible light but transmits ultraviolet, and (b) ultraviolet light obtained by using this glass as a filter to remove visible components.

1925 *Index Medicus* X. 988/1 Experimental tumours studied by Wood's light. 1927 *Brit. Jnrl. Actinotherapy* Jan. 24/2 The healthy scalp under Wood's light gives only a feeble fluorescence of a dark violet colour. 1927 *Brit. Jnrl. Dermatol. & Syphilis* XXXIX. 352 Wood's glass costs about 1s. 6d. per square inch, but only a small piece is required. 1951 WHITBY & HYNES *Med. Bacteriol.* (ed. 5) xiv. 261 The microscope is illuminated by a mercury-vapour lamp with a Wood's glass filter which transmits ultraviolet but not visible light. 1958 *New Biol.* XXVII. 56 In 1925 two French workers discovered that *Microsporum*-infected hairs showed a very characteristic greenish fluorescence in ultra-violet light which had been filtered through glass containing nickel oxide, the so-called Wood's Light. 1961 R. D. BAKER *Essent. Path.* ix. 223 (caption) A Negro child developed papular white scaly oval lesions... The involved regions fluoresced with Wood's light. 1983 *Oxf. Textbk. Med.* I. v. 371/1 When large numbers of children are involved, screening of scalp infections with a filtered ultra-violet (Wood's light) lamp is useful.

† wood, *v.*¹ *Obs.* Also 4-5 wode. [f. prec.] *intr.* To go mad; to rave, rage (also *fig.*).

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* IV. met. iii. (1868) 123 þouȝ þei ne anoye nat þe body, gittre vices woden to distroien men by wounde of pouȝt. *c* 1386 — *Sec. Nun's T.* 467 He stareth and he woodeth in his Aduertence. 1390 GOWER *Conf. I.* 282 Whan I ne may my ladi se, The more I am redy to wraththe, ... I wode as doth the wyld Se. *c* 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. xcvi. (1869) 61 Deth is a beste so wyld that who so seeth it he woodeth. *c* 1440 *Ipomydon* 1144 The kyng... began to wode, That his knyghtes bore downe were.

wood (wud), *v.*² [f. WOOD *sb.*¹ (Cf. OE. *wudian* to fell wood.)]

I. † 1. *trans.* To surround with or inclose in a wood or trees; *refl.* and *intr.* to hide or take refuge in a wood. *Obs.*

1538 in *Lett. Suppr. Monast.* (Camden) 195 The howse... ys metely wodeyd in hege rowys. *a* 1589 R. LANE in *Hakluyt's Voy.* 741 The Sauages... betooke themselves to flight: we... followed for a smal time after them, who had wooded themselves we know not where. 1645 *City Alarum* 13 We should not tread those Mazes of fortune, wherein we have often wooded.

2. *trans.* To cover (land) with wood, as trees; to plant with trees, convert into woodland.

In this sense a back-formation from WOODED *ppl. a.*, q.v. for earlier quot.; cf. also WOODING 2.

1807 SOUTHEY *Espriella's Lett.* xxxiv. (1808) II. 36, I was delighted with the fine pear-trees which wooded the country. 1828 STEUART *Planter's Guide* (ed. 2) 10 Transplanting could do this;... an entire Park could be thus wooded at once. 1896 HOWELLS *Impressions & Exp.* 6 The primeval forests densely wooeding the vast levels.

II. 3. a. *trans.* To supply with wood for fuel; to load (a vessel) with wood.

1628 in Foster *Engl. Factories India* (1909) III. 260 Wee wooded and ballasted our shippis. 1712 E. COOKE *Voy. S. Sea* 117 This Island where we careen'd, wooded, water'd, and fitted our Ships. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* I. v. 42 Our next employment was wooeding and watering our squadron. 1804 NELSON 22 Mar. in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) V. 471 Seahorse being in want of wood, to be ordered... to the Island of Asinara, to cut wood, for which purpose she may remain forty-eight hours. In much less time the Victory could be wooded. 1902 LENNOX *James Chalmers* x. 72 The people helped in wooeding the vessel.

b. *intr.* To procure or take in a supply of wood for fuel. Also (in mod. use) with *up*.

1630 CAPT. J. SMITH *Trav. & Adv.* II. 57 In this little Ile of Mevis, ... I have remained... to wod and water and refresh my men. 1726 SHELVOCKE *Voy. round World* 76 In this river I imagined we might wood and water. 1856 ÖLMSTED *Slave States* 369 Soon after leaving, we passed the Zephyr, wooeding-up: an hour later, our own boat was run to the bank, ... and we also commenced wooeding. 1891 C. ROBERTS *Adrift Amer.* 220 We went on down the river, ... stopping... occasionally to 'wood up', as taking in fuel was termed. 1921 W. P. LIVINGSTONE *Laus of Livingstonia* 56 The vessel was wooeding... with rosemary and ebony logs.

4. Bowls. *to be wooded*: see quot.

1897 *Encycl. Sport* I. 130/2 The jack is said to be 'wooded' when surrounded by bowls.

5. *trans.* To furnish with a wooden support; to prop with wood.

1918 *Glasgow Her.* 14 June 6 Simpson wooded the place [in a coal-mine] temporarily, in order . . . to prevent a further fall.

wood, obs. form of **WOAD**.

† **woodage**. Obs. rare. [f. **WOOD** *sb.*¹ + *-AGE*.] 1611 *COTGR.*, *Lignade*, woodage; prouision of wood.

'wood-ash. *Pl.* -ashes. [**WOOD** *sb.*¹, **ASH** *sb.*²] The ash or ashes of burnt wood.

1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. ii. 135 This oil served . . . when mixed with wood-ashes, to supply the use of tallow. 1836 *C. WORDSWORTH Athens v.* (1855) 26 Kneading some cakes to be placed among the wood-ashes of the fire, and baked. 1884 *Littell's Living Age* 659 Natives who had rubbed themselves with wood-ash until their complexions were 'the color of slate-pencil'.

¶ See **WOAD-ASHES**.

wood-bill ('wudbil). [*OE. wudubil* (l: see **WOOD** *sb.*¹ and **BILL** *sb.*¹) An implement used for cutting wood, pruning, etc.: = **BILL** *sb.*¹ 4.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) F48 *Falcastrum*, wudubil. c 890 *WÆLFERTH tr. Gregory's Dial.* (1900) 113 Sume dæge sealde he him irengeloman, þæt is haten wudubill. 1356 in *Riley Mem. Lond.* (1868) 284, 3 twybilles, 3 wodbilles. 1485 in *Ripon Ch. Acts* (Surtees) 373, j wodbill. 1660 *BLOUNT Boscobel* I. (1680) 44 His Name was agreed to be Wil-Jones, and His arms a wood-Bill. 1788 *COWPER Let.* 28 July, The axe and the woodbill . . . have . . . been constantly employed.

woodbine ('wudban), **woodbind** (-band). Forms: see **WOOD** *sb.*¹: a. 1 -bind, -bend, 1-6 -binde, 4-7 -bynde, 5 -bende, 5-6 -bynd, 6-woodbind; β. 6 -byne, -bin, (9 *dial.* wid(d)bin), 6-woodbine. (Also with hyphen, formerly occas. as two words.) [*OE. wudubind*, -binde, also -bend, f. *wudu* **WOOD** *sb.*¹ + root of **BIND** *v.* (*bend*-, *band*-); cf. *Da. vedbende* ivy, and, for the second element, **WITHBIND**. For the loss of final *d* cf. *line* for *lind*, *rine* for *rind*.]

Similar formations are *OE. widuwinde* 'volvola', 'edera', 'viburna', 'convolvulus', *widubindle* 'involuco', *ON. viðvindill* ivy, *Norw. vi(d)vendel*, *vivendel*, *vibendel* 'caprifolium'.

1. A name for various plants of a climbing habit; in early use (later only *dial.*), *convolvulus* and ivy; now chiefly (*U.S.*) the Virginia Creeper *Ampelopsis quinquefolia*, and the West Indian *Ipomœa tuberosa* (Spanish Woodbine).

a. c 875 *Erfurt Gloss.* 1059 *Volvola*, uuudubindae. *Ibid.* 1082 *Viburnum*, uuudubindae. c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark I. 6 *Wudu* hunig þæt waxes on wudu binde [*Rushw.* wudebendum]. c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 302 ðenim þysse wyrte wyrtruman þe man cappariss & oþrum naman wudubend hateð. *Ibid.* II. 34 Wyrce eagesealf wudubindes leaf. c 1050 *Voc.* in *Wr.-Wülcker* 418/25 *Hedera nigra*, wudubind, eorþfiðg. c 1425 *tr. Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 30 Recipe—þe Iuyse of smalache or mereh, wuðmode, . . . petite consoude, wudbynd. 1525 *Grete Herbal* cccclxvii. (1529) Aa iv b, *De Volubilis*. Woodbynde. 1562 *PILKINGTON Expos. Abdyas* Pref. A a iij, The woodbinde . . . climbs vp & spreades it selfe ouer all the branches, vnto it haue ouergrown and kylled the hole tree. 1562 *BULLEIN Bulwarke, Bk. Simples* (1579) 21 b, This is called *Helxine*, *Smilax*, or *Campanella*, or the Bell Wodbinde. 1570 *BUCHANAN Chamæleon* Wks. (S.T.S.) 44 As ye wud bind clymeth on ye oik and syne with tyme distroyis ye tre. 1597 *GERARDE Herbal Table Eng. Names*, Blew Woodbind, or ladies bower. 1624 *CAPT. J. SMITH Virginia v.* 170 A kinde of Wood-bind, . . . which runnes vpon trees, twining it selfe like a Vine: the fruit . . . eaten wroth . . . in the nature of a purge. 1625 *GORDON Pharmacop. pinax* 11 *Baccæ Hederæ*. Berries of Wood-bind. 1760 *J. LEE Intro. Bot. App.* 332 Woodbind, Spanish, *Ipomœa*.

β. 1573 *TÜSSER Husb.* (1878) 97 Necessarie herbes to growe in the garden for Physick . . . 23 *Stitchwort*. 24 *Valerian*. 25 *Woodbine*. 1846-50 *A. WOOD Class-bk. Bot.* 212 *Ampelopsis quinquefolia* . . . has long been cultivated as a covering for walls, and is best known by the name of Woodbine.

2. *esp.* The common honeysuckle, *Lonicera Periclymenum*, a climbing shrub with pale yellow fragrant flowers; also extended to other species, as the N. American *L. grata*.

a. c 1265 *Voc. Plants* in *Wr.-Wülcker* 556/39 *Mater silua*, i. *cheuefoil*, i. wudebi[n]de. c 1374 *CHAUCER Troylus* III. 1231 As aboute a tre . . . wrype the soote wode bynde. a 1387 *Sinon. Barth.* (Anecd. Oxon.) 14 *Caprifolium*, wodebinde. 1562 *TURNER Herbal* II. 82 Wodbynde or Honysuckle . . . windeth it self about bushes. 1624-5 *SHIRLEY Sch. Complement* 11. (1631) 18 The Honey Wudbynde, Circling a withered Bryer. 1776 *R. GRAVES Euphrosyne* I. 159 See! how that woodbind round the door And lattice blooms! 1785 *MARTYN Lett. Bot.* xvi. (1794) 204 The Woodbind has . . . slender trailing branches, twining round the boughs of trees.

β. 1548 *ELYOT, Periclymenon*, an herbe called woodbyne, whiche beareth the honysuckle. 1590 *SHAKS. Mids. N.* II. i. 251, I know a banke where the wilde time blowes, . . . Quite ouer-canoped with luscious woodbine. 1637 *MILTON Lycidas* 146 The Musk-rose, and the well attir'd Woodbine. 1718 *LADY M. W. MONTAGU Let. to Abbé Conti* 19 May, The walls are in the nature of lattices; and, on the outside of them, vines and woodbines planted. 1847-60 *DARLINGTON Amer. Weeds* 160 Agreeable *Lonicera*. Wild Honeysuckle. American Woodbine. 1856 *MISS MULOCK John Halifax* ix, There was a yellow jasmine over the porch at one front door, and a woodbine at the other.

3. a. (Normally Woodbine.) A proprietary name for a brand of cheap cigarettes; a cigarette of this brand.

[1886 *Trade Marks Jnl.* 6 Jan. 8 *Wild Woodbine Cigarettes*. W. D. & H. O. Wills, Bristol & London.] 1907 *Ibid.* 11 Sept. 1602 *Woodbine* . . . Tobacco whether manufactured or unmanufactured. The Imperial Tobacco Company . . . Bedminster, Bristol. 1910 *Sessions Paper of Central Criminal Court* 16 Nov. 18 Prisoner asked for a packet of Woodbine cigarettes (1 d). 1914 *Autocar* 21 Nov. 736/1 'Woodbine! This is a bit of luck,' he exclaimed, taking a cigarette. 1924 *H. DE SÉLINCOURT Cricket Match* ii. 21 He picked a woodbine out of its paper on the mantelpiece. 1939 *JOYCE Finnegans Wake* 587 First a couple of Mountjoys and nutty woodbines . . . in the snug at the Cambridge Arms. 1970 *B. CARTLAND We danced All Night* vii. 198 It was only during the war [of 1914-18] that Tommies had got used to the cheaper type, especially Woodbines. 1979 'P. O'CONNOR' *Into Strong City* x. 29 A Woodbine cigarette found in my pocket. 1983 *J. CROALL Neill* viii. 148 As long as . . . he had enough for a packet of Woodbines, he was fine.

b. An Englishman, esp. a soldier, considered as a habitual smoker of Woodbine cigarettes. *Austral. slang*.

1919 *W. H. DOWNING Digger Dial.* 54 *Woodbine*, an English soldier, so called from the name of a cheap brand of cigarette favored by Englishmen. 1937 *E. HILL Water into Gold* 192 Bagtown became 'Woodbine Ave' . . . so-called for the number of English settlers in residence. [1978 *R. BELL Gunner* 43 'Inglesi,' he grinned. 'Pommies. Chooms. 'Bines. That's what we call them.']

4. *attrib. and Comb.*

1588 *SPENSER Virgils Gnat* 82 Others . . . brouze the woodbine twiggies. 1599 *SHAKS. Much Ado* III. i. 30 Beatrice . . . Is couched in the wood-bine coverture. 1599 *CUTWODE Caltha Poet.* lxxiv. C 6 b, She commeth to the woodbind tree. *Ibid.* cxvi. E 8, She goes vnto the Woodbine Tree. 1704 *POPE Spring* 97 Haste to yonder woodbine bow'rs. 1713 *Guardian* No. 125 To taste the odours of the wood-bine grove. 1727-46 *THOMSON Summer* 461 In the gelid caverns, woodbine-wrought. 1845 *J. E. CARPENTER Poems & Lyrics* 93 The cottage . . . With porch—all woodbine-clad. 1855 *TENNYSON Maud* I. xxii. 1, The woodbine spices are wafted abroad. 1895 *R. W. CHAMBERS King in Yellow, Street of Our Lady of Fields* II. (1909) 232 A white house and woodbine-covered piazza. 1908 [*ELIZ. FOWLER*] *Betw. Trent & Ancholme* 141 Aerss a woodbine hedge.

Hence 'woodbined' (-band) a., overgrown or adorned with woodbine.

1795 *SOUTHEY Joan of Arc* v. 104 The woodbined wall. 1895 'COTSWOLD ISYS' *Lyra Piscat.* 109 Those woodbined oriels.

'wood-brown. Also 3 wudebrune, 4 wodebron, 4-5 -broun, 6 (?) *erron.* woodbroney. [f. **WOOD** *sb.*¹ 6 + **BROWN**.]

† 1. The herb bugle, *Ajuga reptans*, in reference to the brownish tint of the leaves. *Obs.* c 1265 *Voc. Plants* in *Wr.-Wülcker* 554/7 *Buglosa*, i. bugle, i. wudebrune. a 1387 *Sinon. Barthol.* (Anecd. Oxon.) 13 *Bugla*, bugle, i. wodebroun.

¶ Glossing *L. fraxinus* ash-tree.

a 1400 *Stockh. Med. MS.* 188 Hertwout or wodebroun, f[r]axinus. 1597 *GERARDE Herbal Suppl.*, Woodbroney is *Fraxinus*.

2. [partly after *G. holzbraun*.] The brown colour characteristic of wood (see quot. 1805). Also as *adj.*

1805 *T. WEAVER Werner's Ext. Charact. Fossils* 63 Wood-brown is a very pale colour, being a mixture of yellowish-brown and much ashes-grey. 1839 *MAGGILLIVRAY Brit. Birds* II. 367 The wings and tail wood-brown. 1866 *MRS. WHITNEY Leslie Goldthwaite* ii, The loveliest balmoral I ever saw in my life! . . . Why, you'll look like a hamadryad, all in these wood-browns!

Woodbury ('wudbəri). The name of *Walter Bentley Woodbury* (1834-1885), inventor of many contrivances connected with photography, used *attrib.* in designations of processes invented by him, as *Woodbury-gravure*, -*process*; esp. *Woodburytype* ('wudbəri,taip) [see *-TYPE*], a process in which a design on a film of gelatine, obtained from a photographic negative, is transferred by heavy pressure to a metal plate from which it may be printed; a print thus produced; also *attrib.*

1869 *Photogr. Jnl.* 16 Jan. 218/2 The Woodbury Type Company. 1872 *WOODBURY Patent Specif.* 4 Dec., in *Ure's Dict. Arts* (ed. 7) III. 565 The ordinary Woodbury printing-press. 1875 *tr. Vogel's Chem. Light* xv. 245 Woodbury printing. 1878 *ABNEY Treat. Photogr.* 174 The Woodbury-type process. 1881 *Athenæum* 22 Jan. 134/1 This book . . . is illustrated by Woodburytype reproductions of contemporary views of the Tower of London. 1881 *Nation* (N.Y.) XXXII. 219 A two-page Woodburytype of a Caxton eaten . . . by book-worms. 1892 *Hazell's Annual* 559 It is an improvement upon the well known Woodbury process, and has been given the name of Woodbury-gravure.

wood-carne, -*cerne*, obs. ff. **WOOD-KERN**.

woodchat ('wudtʃæt). [First found in a posthumous work of Ray's (see first quot.), where it appears to be for **wood-cat*, a literal rendering of *G. waldkatze* (Naumann) or *waldkater* (Brehm): thus not connected with **CHAT** *sb.*²] A species of shrike, *Lanius rutilus* (*rufus*, or *auriculatus*), a rare summer visitor to England; also called *woodchat-shrike*.

a 1705 *RAY Synops. Meth. Av.* (1713) 19 The lesser Ash-coloured Butcher-bird with a white Spot on each Shoulder: The Wood-chat. 1774 *GOLDSM. Nat. Hist.* V. 136 The wood-chat resembles the [red backed butcher-bird] except in the colour of the back, which is brown and not red as in the other. 1781 *LATHAM Syn. Birds* I. i. 169 Wood chat

shrike. *La Pie-griesche rousse*. 1862 *WOOD Illustr. Nat. Hist.* II. 376 The Woodchat Shrike has occasionally but very rarely been found in England. 1894 *NEWTON Dict. Birds* 845 The Woodchat, . . . with a bright bay crown and nape, and the rest of its plumage black, grey and white.

woodchuck ('wudtʃʌk). [Alteration, by association with **WOOD** *sb.*¹, of American Indian name: cf. Cree *wuchak* (Watkins), *otchock* (J. Richardson), *WEJACK*.] a. A common N. American species of marmot, *Marmota monax*, of a large stout form, which burrows in the ground, and hibernates in winter.

1674 *Cal. State Papers, Amer. & W. Indies* (1889) VII. 581 The natural inhabitants of the woods, hills, and swamps, are . . . rabbits, hares, and woodchucks. 1689 in *Hist. Coll. Essex Inst.* (Mass.) IV. 236/1 A parcell of meadow commonly called Woodchuck meadow. 1778 *J. CARVER Trav. N. Amer.* xviii. 454 The Woodchuck is a ground animal of the fur kind, about the size of a martin. 1819 *WARDEN Acc. U.S. I.* 225 Marmot of Maryland, *Arctomys monax*, . . . known by the names of woodchuck and ground hog. 1855 *LONGF. Hiaw.* vi. 125 O'er these logs we cannot clamber; Not a woodchuck could get through them. a 1864 *HAWTHORNE Septimus* (1883) 230 Caverns which they had dug out for their shelter, like swallows and woodchucks.

b. *woodchuck hole*.

1853 *H. D. THOREAU Jnl.* 29 Mar. (1949) V. 62 Looking at the mouth of a woodchuck-hole . . . [I see] that those places are sprinkled with . . . salt-shaped masses of frost. 1974 *P. GZOWSKI Bk. about this Country* 43/2 The hay wagon had dropped into a woodchuck hole.

'wood-coal.

1. Charcoal obtained from wood; with *pl.*, a piece of this: = **COAL** *sb.* 4. *arch.* or *Hist.*

1653 [see **COAL** *sb.* 4]. 1727 [DORRINGTON] *Philip Quarll* (1816) 14 In both . . . places appeared to have been fire made . . . by wood coals. 1855 *BROWNING Fra Lippo* 38 It's not your chance to have a bit of chalk, A wood-coal or the like?

2. = **LIGNITE**.

1799 *KIRWIN Geol. Ess.* 348 Coal . . . is often . . . found under basalt:—Wood coal is sometimes found under both. 1830 *HERSCHEL Study Nat. Phil.* I. iii. (1851) 45 Thin seams . . . of fossil-wood and wood-coal.

Hence † **'wood-coaler**, -*collier*, a maker of or dealer in 'wood-coal' (sense 1): = **COLLIER** 1, 2.

1600 *West Riding Sessions Rolls* (Yorks. Rec. Ser. III.) 216 Robertus Scoorer nuper de Emley . . . woodcollier. 1659 in *Marshall Edwinstow Reg.* (1891) 32 Elizabeth Childe wood coalers wife. 1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4447/4 Richard Badily, a Wood-Collier.

woodcock ('wudkɒk), *sb.* Forms: see **WOOD** *sb.*¹ and **COCK** *sb.*¹; also 2-3 wide cok, 4-5 wodekoc, 5 -kok, wodkoke, 6 wodecoe, *Sc.* widcoik. [Late *OE. wudu-*, *wudecoc* (c, f. **WOOD** *sb.*¹ and **COCK** *sb.*¹) Appears in *OF.* as *huitecox*, *witecos*, *videcos*, etc., and in *Norman dial.* as *videcoq*.]

1. a. A migratory bird, *Scolopax rusticola*, allied to the snipe, common in Europe and the British Islands, having a long bill, large eyes, and variegated plumage, and much esteemed as food. Also, the allied *Philohela minor* of N. America, similar in appearance and habits but smaller.

Properly denoting the male bird, but commonly applied to both sexes; cf. **WOOD-HEN** 1. In sportsman's use with collective *pl.* *woodcock*; cf. *grouse*, *snipe*, *teal*, etc.

c 1050 *Voc.* in *Wr.-Wülcker* 258/5 *Accega*, wuducoc. a 1100 *Gloss. ibid.* 132/20 *Aceta*, snite, uel wudecoec. 1273 *Liber Cust.* (Rolls) 82, ii wodecokes pro iii obolis. 1321 *Ibid.* 304 Le bon wodecok pur i denier. c 1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in *Wright Voc.* 164 Un arseye [gloss a wode-koc]. *Ibid.* 174 Assez [gloss wodekok]. 1347 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 41, ix pluuers, ij Wodecokes. c 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 35 þo crane schalle . . . be . . . Drayun at þo syde as wodecokis. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans, Hawking* di, The wodecok is comorous to sle: bot if ther be crafte. 1533 *ELYOT Cast. Helthe* (1539) 30 Wodecokes, are of a good temperance, and metely lyghte in dygestion. 1538 *Burgh Rec. Edinb.* (1871) II. 92 A mure fowle viij d, a widcoik viij d. 1658 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. 1. 58 Send to the fouller and sie if he can get moor fowles or plivers or partridges or wodecokis. 1700 *T. BROWN tr. Fresny's Amusem.* 28 Mayors and Woodcocks come in about Michaelmas. 1768 *PENNANT Brit. Zool.* II. 348 Woodcocks generally arrive here in flocks. 1819 *BYRON Juan* II. lxxvii, He cannot live, like woodcocks, upon suction. 1872 *COUES N. Amer. Birds* 249 In woodcock and true snipe . . . the eye . . . is placed far back and high up. 1902 *BUCHAN Watcher by Threshold* 152 The woodcock are notoriously late.

b. Applied to other birds.

(a) Local name for the pileated woodpecker of N. America, also called *log-cock*. (b) *little woodcock*: = woodcock-snipe (see 4). (c) *sea woodcock*: see **SEA** *sb.* 23 c. a 1813 *A. WILSON Foresters Poet.* Wks. (1846) 228 Crested wood-cocks hammer from on high. 1885 *SWAINSON Prov. Names Birds* 191 Great Snipe (*Gallinago major*) . . . Little wodecock, Woodcock snipe (Ireland). 1888 *G. TRUMBULL Bird Names* 151.

2. In allusive use (from the ease with which the woodcock is taken in a snare or net), in reference to capture by some trickery, or as a type of gullibility or folly; hence applied to a person: a fool, simpleton, dupe. *Obs.* or *arch.*

c 1430 *LYDG. in Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 48 With wodecokes, lerne to dare. a 1500-34 *Cov. Corp. Christi Pl.* II. 432 For, dame, woll I neuer vast my wyttis, To wayte or pry where the wodecokc syttis. 1533 *MORE Debell. Salem* Wks. 958/2 As though he trusted that all the worlde wer wodecokes saue himselfe. 1579 *GOSSON Sch. Abuse* Apol. (Arb.) 72 Cupide sets vpp a Springe for Wodecokes, which are entangled ere they descie the line. 1601 *SHAKS. Twel. N.*

(Arb.) 72 Cupide sets vpp a Springe for Woodcockes, which are entangled ere they descie the line. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* II. v. 92 Now is the Woodcocke neere the gin. 1645 MILTON *Colast. Wks.* 1851 IV. 376 This most incogitant woodcock. 1654 T. WASHBOURNE *Div. Poems* I Or like the Wood-cock hide their heads, and then, 'Cause they see none, think none sees them agen. 1679 *Hist. Jetzer* 25 What have the wise Woodcocks of the Council to do with our Affairs? 1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 3. 2/2 That he shou'd not, In his own Trade appear a Woodcock. 1828 SCOTT *F.M. Perth* xxxii, Poor woodcock, thou art snared! 1877 TENNYSON *Harold* II. ii, We hold our Saxon woodcock in the springe, But he begins to flutter.

3. Various transferred uses. a. = *woodcock-shell* (see 4); more fully *thorny woodcock*. b. A variety of apple. c. = *woodcock soil* (see 4). d. *Scotch woodcock*: fancy name for a savoury dish: see quot.

a. 1815 S. BROOKES *Introd. Conchol.* 157 Woodcock, *Murex Haustellum*. 1815 BURROW *Elem. Conchol.* 202 *Murex Tribulus*, Thorny Woodcock or Venus Comb.

b. 1700 NOURSE *Disc. Benefits Husb.* x. 148 The Woodcock is a fair large Apple, and produces an excellent Cyder. 1803 *Trans. Soc. Arts* XXI. 262 The old pauson, woodcock, and red musk, are generally large apples.

c. 1764 *Museum Rust.* III. xlvii. 197 Our soils are, in general, either a loam, brick earth, or woodcock, and under them clay.

d. 1861 MRS. BEETON *Bk. Househ. Managem.* xxxiii. 822 (heading) *Scotch woodcock*. 1879 *Birmingham Weekly Post* 24 May 1/4 'Scotch Woodcock' . . consists of hard boiled eggs chopped up, mixed with . . anchovy sauce, and then laid on slices of hot buttered toast.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *woodcock-pie*, *-shooting*; *woodcock clay* = *woodcock soil*; *woodcock-eye*, = SNAP-HOOK 2; *woodcock-fish* = SNIPE-FISH 1; *woodcock-fly*, a fly used by anglers (see quot.); *woodcock gun*, a gun used for shooting woodcocks; *woodcock owl*, a local name for the short-eared owl; *woodcock(s) pilot*, a local name for the golden-crested wren (see quot. 1893); *woodcock-shell*, one of several species of *Murex* having a long spout resembling a woodcock's bill; *woodcock-snipe*, the great snipe, *Scolopax major*; *woodcock soil*, a loose soil consisting of a mixture of clay and gravel; *woodcock wing*, (a) the wing of a woodcock; (b) = *woodcock fly*.

1780 YOUNG *Tour Irel.* II. 8 A hill . . which is wet *woodcock clay. 1794 W. FELTON *Carriages* (1801) II. 155 Having the trace-rings . . made with a screw, whereby they may be changed, and *woodcock eyes substituted in their place. 1880-4 DAY *Fishes Gt. Brit. & Irel.* I. 250 *Centiscus scolopax* . . The trumpet, bellows-fish, *woodcock or snipe-fish. 1787 BEST *Angling* (ed. 2) 24 Oakfly, Ash-fly, or *Woodcock-fly, found on the body of an Oak or Ash . . is a brownish fly and is taken from the beginning of May till the end of August. 1858 GREENER *Gunnery* 205 If making *woodcock guns, less elevation is required, the distance of shooting being shorter. 1840 MACGILLIVRAY *Brit. Birds* III. 461 *Asio brachyotos*. The Streaked Tufted-Owl . . *Woodcock Owl. Mouse-hawk. 1598 *Mucedorus* v. ii. 86 Now wee maie goe to breakefast with a *woodcoke pie. 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 24 Dec. 11/1 Woodcock-pie is . . a famous Christmas dish at the Palace. 1871 *East Anglian* IV. 112 *'Woodcock Pilot'. 1893 NEWTON *Dict. Birds* 368 The bird [sc. Golden-crested Wren] in autumn visits the east coast in enormous flocks, . . they are well known to the fishermen as 'Woodcock's Pilots,' from their generally preceding by a few days the advent of those regular immigrants. 1907 *Athenæum* 11 May 570/2 The most interesting of these local terms is that of 'woodcock pilot', by which the goldcrest is known to all the wild fowlers. 1850 R. G. CUMMING *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* (1902) 98/1 Taking my breakfast . . with as much indifference as if I were going *woodcock-shooting. 1885 *Woodcock snipe (see 1 b). 1764 YOUNG in *Museum Rust.* III. lxiii. 284 Loose, *woodcock, brick-earth soils. 1775 N. KENT *Hints to Gentl.* 14 Woodcock-soil generally consists of yellow, or white clay, with a mixture of gravel; is seldom fruitful. 1535 LYNDESAY *Satyre* 3528 Except God make me lighter nor ane fedder, Or send me doun gude *Widcock wingis to flie. 1888 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 7 Apr. 6/1 A bull trout . . succumbs to the woodcock wing.

Hence (*nonce-wds.*) 'woodcock v., intr. to act like a woodcock (see quot., and cf. quot. 1654 in 2 above); 'woodcockize v., trans. to make a 'woodcock' of, to befool.

1817 MARIA EDGEWORTH *Ormond* vi, Like all cunning people, he *woodcockes—hides his head, and forgets his body can be seen. 1611 COTGR., *Beccassé*, gulled, abused, *woodcockised, make a woodcocke.

woodcraft ('wudkra:ft, -æ-). (Also *U.S. woodcraft*: see WOOD sb.¹ 9 g.) [f. WOOD sb.¹ + CRAFT sb.]

1. Skill in, or skilled practice of, matters pertaining to woods or forests, esp. (in early use) to the chase; now (chiefly *N. Amer.*, *Austral.*, etc.) applied esp. to such knowledge of forest conditions as enables one to maintain oneself or make one's way.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1605 A wyȝe þat was wys vpon wod craftez To vnlace þis bor lufly bigynnez. c1386 CHAUCER *Prolog.* 110 Of woodcraft wel koude he al the vsage. A Forster was he.

1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* ix, Thou hast begun thy woodcraft well. 1835 W. IRVING *Tour Prairies* xxxiv, One or two other leaders of the camp, versed in woodcraft, examined with learned eye the trees. 1870 BRET HARTE *Idyl of Red Gulch* Wks. (1872) 58 When he had built a fire against a tree, and had shown them other mysteries of wood-craft. 1890 'R. BOLDRWOOD' *Col. Reformer* xi, The . . steering straight in a country without a landmark, was likely to bear hard upon his

woodcraft. 1902 S. E. WHITE *Blazed Trail* xviii, He was full of delight over everything that savored of the woods or woodcraft.

2. Skill in woodwork, or in constructing something of wood.

1833 MRS. BROWNING *Prometh. Bound* 525 They . . Nor knew to build a house. . . With wicked sides, nor any woodcraft knew. 1891 E. PEACOCK *N. Brendon* I. viii. 127 The chief carpenter [has] some good books on woodcraft.

Wood Cree. Also Woods Cree. [f. WOOD sb.¹ + CREE sb. and a.: a shortening of earlier *Strong* (also *Thick*) *Woods Cree*, tr. a Wood Cree name.] 1. a. One of the major divisions of the Cree Indians, inhabiting woodland areas of Saskatchewan and Manitoba in Canada. b. A member of this people. Cf. PLAINS CREE.

1885 *Boston Jrnl.* 23 June 1/8 The Wood Crees have gone back to get a cache of provisions. 1910 F. W. HODGE *Handbk. Amer. Indians* II. 414/1 *Sakawithiniwuk* ('people of the woods'). The Wood Cree, one of the several divisions of the Cree. 1947 *Beaver* June 15/1 The Wood Crees, who were in the minority, were, in general, less troublesome. 1972 [see PLAINS CREE].

2. The language spoken by the Wood Cree.

1958 R. A. LOGAN *Cree Lang.* 4 One dialect (Moose Cree) uses the sound of L where another dialect (Northern or Woods Cree) uses the sound of TH. . . Only Northern Cree uses TH. 1978 D. H. PENTLAND in Cook & Kaye *Ling. Stud. Native Canada* 190 Woods Cree is now spoken by about five per cent of the total number of Cree Speakers.

woodcut ('wudkʌt). [f. WOOD sb.¹ + CUT sb.² 22.] A design cut in relief on a block of wood, for printing from; a print or impression obtained from this; a wood-engraving. (Formerly more freq. called *wooden cut*: see WOODEN a. 4.)

1662 EVELYN *Chalcogr.* 84 All those excellent Wood Cuts of Hans Schiurstyn and Adam Altorf. 1816 OTTLEY *Hist. Engraving* I. 102 The wood-cuts, which constitute what are termed the old block-books. 1835 DICKENS *Let. to Miss Hogarth*, A new publication . . each number to contain four woodcuts. 1857 H. SPENCER in *Westm. Rev.* Apr. 460 The woodcuts of the *Illustrated London News*.

attrib. 1865 WAY *Promp. Parv.* p. xlv, The well-known wood-cut device used by Wynkyn de Worde. 1887 R. R. BOWKER in *Harper's Mag.* July 182/1 Charles Knight's popular illustrated books . . again revived wood-cut work.

wood-cutter ('wud,kʌtə(r)).

1. One who cuts wood; one who cuts down or fells trees, or cuts off their branches, for the wood; a wood-hewer.

1774 *Pennsylv. Gaz.* 14 Dec. Suppl. 2/3 Cross-cut, pit, hand, woodcutters, tennon, and a variety of other saws. 1775 LYNCH in Sparks *Corr. Amer. Rev.* (1853) I. 84 Will it be right to keep your heroes for wood-cutters? 1837-42 HAWTHORNE *Twice-told T.* (1851) II. ix. 129 The axe of the woodcutter echoes . . in the forest. 1844 DICKENS *Mart. Chuz.* xxiii, The huts of the wood-cutters, where the vessel stopped for fuel.

2. A maker of woodcuts, a wood-engraver.

1821 T. G. WAINWRIGHT *Ess. & Crit.* (1880) 194 Our historical wood-cutters have thought it much to follow . . those lines ready-pencilled by the inventor on the blocks. 1924 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 12 June 365/2 Mr. Maudslay interpreting the stone carvings, and the woodcutters interpreting Mr. Maudslay.

'wood-cutting, sb.

1. Wood-engraving. Also *attrib.*

1722 *Hearne's Collect.* (O.H.S.) VII. 381 Wood-cutting being not so much used since engraving came up. 1871 ALABASTER *Wheel of Law* liv, The arts of printing and woodcutting have, in China and Japan, made books very cheap. 1890 *Athenæum* 1 Mar. 281/2 Many inequalities . . observed in the output of woodcutting *botteghe*.

2. The action or employment of cutting down trees for wood, or of cutting wood with saws or other appliances. Also *attrib.*

1872 J. RICHARDS *Wood-working Machines* 32 Wood-cutting Machines. 1893 *RODWAY Hand-bk. Brit. Guiana* 49 Wood-cutting grants are obtainable. 1899 — *Guiana Wilds* 19 Now and again he did a little wood-cutting.

wooddie, -y, -ish, obs. ff. WOODY, WOODISH.

'wood-dove. [Cf. Du. *houtduif*, G. *holztaube*.] = WOOD-PIGEON. Also applied to certain S. African birds allied to this (see quot. 1875-84).

c1386 CHAUCER *Sir Thopas* 59 The wodedowue vpon a spray She sang ful loude and cleere. c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 531/2 Wode Dowe, or stokk dowe, *palumba*. c1530 *Songs, Carols*, etc. (E.E.T.S.) 114 Whan . . curlews cary clothes, . . & woddowes were wodkniffis, theves to kyll, . . Than put in a woman your trust & confidence. 1729 SAVAGE *Wanderer* v. 92 While the soft-murm'ring am'rous Wood-Dove cooes. 1837 MACGILLIVRAY *Hist. Brit. Birds* I. 287 *Columba (Enas)* . . Stock Dove. Wood Dove. c1843 CARLYLE *Hist. Sk. Jas. I & Chas. I* (1898) 74 Melodious as the voice of wood-doves. 1875-84 *Layard's Birds S. Afr.* 564 *Haplopelia larvata*. Rufous-breasted Wood-Dove. *Ibid.* 570 *Chalcopelia afra*. Emerald-spotted Wood Dove. *Ibid.* 571 *Tympanistria tympanistria*. White-breasted Wood Dove.

woode, obs. form of WOAD, WOOD.

wooded ('wudid), *ppl.* a. [f. WOOD sb.¹ or v.² + -ED.] Furnished with wood or woods; covered with growing trees; abounding in woods or forests. (a) predicative, in *ppl.* construction; in later use giving rise to sense 2 of WOOD v.², of which it may be taken as the *pa. ppl.* Usually with adv.

1605 CAMDEN *Rem.* 1 Isle of Britaine . . abundant in pasture, . . plentifully wooded. 1625 MASSINGER *New Way* IV. i, It is well wooded, and well watered, — the acres Fertile and rich. a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* *Introd.*, His estate was . . well wooded and full of timber. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 141 The land is flat, marshy and wooded with pines, birch, larch and willows. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xii. III. 137 The neighbourhood of Kenmare was then richly wooded.

fig. a 1616 BEAUM. & FL. *Bonduca* I. ii, The hills are wooded with their partizans. And all the valleys overgrown with darts, As moors are with rank rushes.

(b) in *attrib.* construction, preceding the sb.

1782 PENNANT *Journ. Chester to Lond.* 292 Some pretty pieces of water, winding along a fine wooded dell. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* iii, In a wooded park . . was situated the ancient mansion. 1920 *Blackw. Mag.* Jan. 107/2 The . . Ganges Canal . . runs straight as a die between its wooded banks.

wooden ('wud(ə)n), a. Also 6-7 wodden, wooden, 6-8 woden. [f. WOOD sb.¹ + -EN⁴.]

1. a. Made or consisting of wood.

1538 ELYOT *Dict.*, *Durateus*, wodden. 1577 GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. 37 Raking them with wooden Rakes. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* II. ii. (1592) 121 To fall downe prostrate before a wooden Idoll. 1611 CORYAT *Crudities* 34 The images of many of the French Kings, set in certain wodden [ed. 1776 woden] cupboards. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.*, *Printing* xxiv. ¶ 1 If the Joyner performed his Work well in making the Wooden-work. 1683 J. REID *Scots Gard'ner* (1907) 40 Beat every two or three rows of turf, while moist, with the wooden-beater. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* II. vii, A kind of wooden Machine. 1831 SCOTT *Ct. Rob.* xv, A massive wooden stool. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xxvii. 197, I reached a wooden hut. 1898 A. AUSTIN *Lamia's Winter Quarters* 69 The slowly-rolling wheels of a wooden wain . . with wooden wheels, wooden pole, and wooden yoke.

b. *transf.* in various occas. senses: Made or produced by means of wood; dull or dead, as the sound of wood when struck; relating to or occupied with wood; full of objects made of wood; hard and stiff like wood.

1606 SHAKS *Tr. & Cr.* I. iii. 155 Like a strutting Player . . To heare the wootten Dialogue and sound 'Twixt his stretch footing, and the Scaffolage. 1610 — *Temp.* III. i. 62, I . . would no more endure This wodden slauerie [sc. piling logs]. 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. ii. 699 Secure from Wooden Blow. 1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* iii. 57 Put the whole lump into a wooden Fire. 1703 T. N. *City & C. Purchaser* 261 Trees . . useful for the Carpenter, Joyner, or other wooden Tradesman to work upon. 1897 HOWELLS *Landlord at Lion's Head* 442 In the woodenest outskirts of North Cambridge. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* IV. 762 A feeling as if the throat were 'wooden'. 1899 J. HUTCHINSON in *Archives Surg.* X. No. 38 Descr. Plate xvii, The fingers have . . become slender, pale and wooden.

2. *fig.* Having some quality likened to the hard dry consistence of wood, or to its inferior value as compared with precious metal or the like.

a. Lacking grace, liveliness, interest, or the like; expressionless, spiritless; dull and inert; stiff and lifeless.

a 1566 R. EDWARDS *Damon & Pithias* (1571) B3b, He wyll neuer blush, he hath a wodden face. 1625 BACON *Ess.*, *Boldness* (Arb.) 519 When a Bold Fellow is out of Countenance; . . that puts his Face into a most Shrunken, and wootten Posture. 1813 R. H. in *Examiner* 17 May 315/2 The drawing and character are . . in some parts feeble and wooden. 1863 KINGLAKE *Crimea* I. xiv. 215 The seeming poverty of his intellect, his blank wooden looks. 1887 SAINTSBURY *Hist. Elizab. Lit.* iv. (1890) 130 This earlier and wootten matter [of poetry]. 1899 *Athenæum* 29 Apr. 526/1 A dryasdust antiquary of the most wooden type.

b. Of persons or their attributes: Mentally dull; insensitive, inapprehensive; unintelligent, blockish.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Astr. & Stella* Sonn. vii, Who have so leaden eyes, as not to see sweete Beauties showe: Or seeing, have so wooden wits as not that worth to knowe. 1591 SHAKS. *I Hen. VI.* v. iii. 89 Ile win this Lady Margaret. For whom? Why for my King: Tush, that's a wootten thing. 1659 S. LEE *Temple of Solomon* 194 Their lying wonders . . so often recited in their wootten Legends. a 1697 AUBREY *Lett. Eminent Persons* (1813) II. 453 *note*, The Rump of a House, 'twas the wooden invention of Generall Browne (a woodmonger). 1698 *Christ Exalted* 40 To talk of a Law that admits of Sin, is to make the Maker of such a wooden Law to be little better than a wooden God. 1805 MOORE *To Lady Heathcote* 51 Those fops . . With heads as wooden as thy ware, And, Heaven knows! not half so polish'd. 1830 GALT *Laurie T.* IV. ii. (1849) 150 The sight of that wooden old man, as I had often spoken of him . . weeping like a woman . . surprised me. 1833 CARLYLE *Ess.*, *Diderot* (1872) V. 7 Withal, however, he is wooden; thoroughly mechanical. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *Adam Bede* v, He's got a bad ear for music. . . When people have wooden heads . . it can't be helped. 1871 EARLE *Philol. Engl. Tongue* iv. 178 The wooden notion that it is an inherent quality in a word to be of this or that part of speech.

† c. Of inferior character, poor, worthless.

1592 LYLly *Gallanthea* II. iii, I shall haue but wodden lucke. c1630 RISDON *Surv. Devon* §104 (1810) 100 In old time were golden prelates, and wooden chalices, but in this time, wooden prelates and golden ebalices. [Cf. CHALICE 2 y, quot. 1528.] 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 119 Making a wooden Spade . .; but this did my Work in but a wooden manner.

† 3. a. Belonging to the woods, sylvan. *Obs. rare.*

1606 CHAPMAN *Gentl. Usher* I. B2b, Syluanas . . this wodden god.

b. *U.S.* = WOODEN *ppl.* a. ? *Obs.*

1816 U. BROWN *Jrnl.* 15 Aug. in *Maryland Hist. Mag.* (1910) X. 358 To Smith field a Wooden Town in a Wooden Country & a wooden bred set of Tavern-keepers. 1843

CARLTON *New Purchase* 115 Religious meetings in the wooden world. **1843** CARLTON *New Purchase* 50 Our wooden country's mighty rough... for some folks. **1891** M. E. RYAN *Pagan of Alleghanies* i. 12 And then there are others more seldom seen, the women from the 'wooden' country of the interior.

II. Special Collocations. †4. **wooden cut:** = WOODCUT. So *wooden picture, print. Obs.*

1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.*, *Printing* 1 Cutting their Letters upon Blocks in whole Pages or Forms, as among us our Wooden Pictures are Cut. **1691** WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* I. 31 Printed from a Wooden Cut the Picture of a Bear baited by six Dogs. **1706** HEARNE *Collect.* 25 Feb. (O.H.S.) I. 194 Raphael, a Wooden Print. **1770** LUCKOMBE *Hist. Printing* 92 Elegant initial letters, and fine wooden cuts. **1837** HALLAM *Lit. Eur.* I. 1. ix. §18. 470 Otto Bremfels of Strasburg... published a... work in three volumes folio, with 238 wooden cuts of plants. **1848** LOWELL *Fab. Critics* 1596 *note*, Cuts rightly called wooden, as all must admit.]

5. **wooden horse.** a. [cf. *L. equus ligneus.*] A designation for a ship. *Obs. or arch.*

1599 NASHE *Lenten Stufe* 29 They are glad on their wooden horses to post after [the herring]. **1639** FULLER *Holy War* v. xxi. (1647) 264 The Low-countreys, the best stable of wooden horses, and most potent in Shipping. **1824** SCOTT *Redgauntlet* ch. xv. [He] saw nothing in this worse than an ordinary fit of sea-sickness... He assured his passenger... that he hoped to drink a can... with him... for all that he felt a little out of the way for riding the wooden

b. An instrument of punishment, chiefly military, formerly in use (= HORSE sb. 6b): see quot. **1688. Hist.**

1629 *Lex Scripta Isle of Man* (1819) 103 The Offender [for theft]... under the Value [of 6d.] to be whipped, or sett upon a Wooden Horse ordained for such Offenders. **1648** in Rushw. *Hist. Coll.* iv. II. 1369 Henry Matthews and Robert Rowe were... tried by Court Marshal and sentenced to ride the Wooden-Horse at the Royal Exchange. **1678** BUTLER *Hud.* III. iii. 212 Worse than manning a Wooden Horse. **1688** HOLME *Armoury* III. xix. (Roxb.) 220/1 Moderne punishments used among the Souldiery... Ridding the wooden horse; setting him on an horse made of wood with a sharp rigged back, his hands tyed behind him, and Muskets or weights hung at his feet. c **1700** J. LEWIS *Mem. Pr. William Henry* (1789) 11 The Duke bid his boys... put the taylor on the wooden horse, which stood in the presence-room for the punishment of offenders, as is usual in martial law. **1760** *Cautions & Advices to Officers of Army* 44 Punishments... inflicted by Officers without the Sentence of a Court-Martial... Picketing—tying neck and heels, and riding the wooden horse. **1899** BALDOCK *Cromwell* 360 Two soldiers of Dean's regiment rode the 'wooden horse' for an hour.

†c. A name for the scaffold or gallows; also for an instrument of torture: = HORSE sb. 25. *Obs.*

1642 [see HORSE sb. 25]. **1731** CHANDLER tr. *Limborch's Hist. Inquis.* II. 222 A Wooden Bench, which they call the Wooden Horse [described at length].

d. The wooden figure of a horse (ἵππος δούπατος, Odyssey VIII. 492, 512) in which the Greek invaders were concealed at the siege of Troy. Hence †wooden-horse v. (nonce-wd.), trans. to capture by means of this.

1622 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Sir Gregory Nonsense* Wks. (1630) II. 3/2 Untill the Wooden Horse of trusty Synon, Foald a whole litter of mad Colts in Harness. **1666** *Third Advice to Painter* 32 Hark to Cassandra's Song, e're Fate destroy, By their own Navyes; Wooden-horse thy Troy. **1835** THIRLWALL *Greece* I. vi. 226 Epeus was celebrated as the builder of the wooden horse in which the heroes were concealed.

e. A wooden structure in a gymnasium, for vaulting exercise: = HORSE sb. 6c.

1854 G. ROLAND *Gymnastics* 27 The wooden horse... interesting from the number of exercises practised upon it.

6. **wooden shoe:** a shoe made of wood, as the French SABOT; in the 18th c. popularly taken as typical of the miserable condition of the French peasantry.

1607 [see SABOT 1]. **1701** DE FOE *Trueborn Eng.* I. 268 Two hundred Thousand Pair of Wooden Shoes, Who God be thanked, had nothing left to lose. **1715** ADDISON *Drummer* ProI. 8 Round-heads and Wooden-shoes are standing Jokes. **1766** GOLDSM. *Vicar W.* xix. What! give up liberty, property, and, as the Gazetteer says, lie down to be saddled with wooden shoes! **1807-8** SYD. SMITH *Plymley's Lett.* iii. (1852) 29 He calls all hands on deck; talks to them of king, country, glory, sweethearts, gin, French prison, wooden shoes, Old England, and hearts of oak. **1818** SCOTT *Rob Roy* ix, King William... our immortal deliverer from papists and pretenders, and wooden shoes and warming pans. **1859** W. S. COLEMAN *Woodlands* (1862) 62 In France great numbers of the peculiar wooden shoes, called 'sabots', are made of Alder.

7. **wooden spoon:** a spoon made of wood; *spec.* one presented by custom at Cambridge to the last of the Junior Optimes, i.e. the lowest of those taking honours in the Mathematical Tripos; hence, this position in the examination, or the person who takes it. Also in extended use, referring to the lowest of a list or set in other connexions. Hence *wooden-spooner*, -*spoonist*, a competitor who is awarded the 'wooden spoon'; a loser.

'At Yale, formerly, the student who took the last appointment in the Junior Exhibition; later, the most popular student in a class' (*Cent. Dict.*).

1803 *Gradus ad Cantab.* 137 Wooden Spoon, for wooden heads:... the lowest of the Junior Optimes. **1820** BYRON *Juan* III. cx. Sure my invention must be down at zero, And I grown one of many 'wooden spoons' Of verse (the name with which we Cantabs please To dub the last of honours in degrees). **1858** EARL MALMESBURY *Mem.* (1884) II. 127 The 'wooden spoon' which is given to the Minister in the House

of Commons who has been in the fewest divisions. **1883** in *Standard* 20 June 2/7 There was no opposition to the presentation of the time-honoured 'Wooden Spoon'. **1900** *Westm. Gaz.* 19 Mar. 8/2 The international matches... have now all been played... Ireland, who won the championship last year... have only 1 point, and take the 'wooden spoon'. **1927** *Daily Express* 23 Mar. 13/3 Champions and wooden spoonists of the Isthmian League last season were opposed on the Civil Service ground at Chiswick. **1954** J. FINGLETON *Ashes crown Year* 275 Somerset were wooden-spooners last summer and will be so again. **1973** *Nation Rev.* (Melbourne) 31 Aug. 1442/3 4BH slips to fourth place in the five station market, with perennial wooden spooners, 4BK, only 2000 listeners behind. **1975** *Globe & Mail* (Toronto) 26 May 85/1 England won the British soccer championship... with Wales, once again the wooden spoonists. **1981** *Daily Mail* 25 Nov. 30 (heading) A flat rate from the wooden spoonists.

8. **wooden walls** (after ξύλινον τεῖχος, Herodotus vii. 141); ships or shipping as a defensive force. (*Rarely in sing.*)

1598 W. PHILLIP tr. *Linschoten To Rdr.*, Our Wodden Walles (as Themistocles called the Ships of Athens). **1598** *Stow Surv.* 468 [484] Ships... bee the woddnen walles for defence of our Realme. **1625** SANDERSON *Serm.*, *Ad Mag.* iii. (1681) 129 Our carnal confidence and security in the strength of our woddnen and watry walls. c **1645** in *Wood's Life*, etc. (O.H.S.) II. 55 Your stone and woddnen wall Shall not defend you, but shall then Begin to sink and fall. **1750** BEAWES *Lex Mercat.* (1752) 248 Our wooden walls are our bulwarks and redoubts, to which we owe our safety. **1849** LONGF. *Building of Ship* 69 Every climate, every soil, Must bring its tribute, great or small, And help to build the wooden wall! **1862** GEN. P. THOMPSON in *Bradford Advertiser* 26 Apr. 6/1 Your wooden walls wherein was your trust, have become fit only for firewood, or at most for transports.

9. In various special collocations: †wooden bridle, a fanciful name for a rudder; †wooden casement, cravat, slang or jocular names for the pillory (cf. *hempen cravat* s.v. CRAVAT sb. 1b); wooden cross *Mil. slang*, a wooden cross on a serviceman's grave; hence, death in action regarded ironically as an award of merit; †wooden dagger, the dagger of lath worn by Vice in the old moralities; †wooden doublet jocular, a coffin; wooden island (see quot.); wooden isle, a rhetorical designation for a ship; wooden kimono *U.S. slang*, a coffin; wooden leg, an artificial leg made of wood; also *fig.*; wooden mare = wooden horse, 5b; wooden nickel (or money) *U.S. slang*, a worthless or counterfeit coin; chiefly in *fig. phr.* to take a wooden nickel and varr., to be swindled or fooled; wooden nutmeg: see NUTMEG 1b; wooden overcoat: see OVERCOAT; wooden pear, an Australian tree, *Xylomelum pyriforme*, bearing hard inversely pear-shaped seed-vessels; †wooden ruff = wooden cravat (see RUFF sb. 24); wooden suit *slang*, a coffin; wooden surtout *slang*, = wooden doublet; wooden tongue, an infectious disease of cattle and horses, in which the tongue is enlarged and hardened; wooden ware, articles, esp. household utensils, made of wood (sometimes written with hyphen or as one word; cf. *earthenware*); wooden wedding orig. *U.S.*, the fifth anniversary of one's wedding, on which it is appropriate to give presents made of wood; wooden wedge *Cambridge Univ.* (see quot. and WEDGE sb. 8).

1614 SYLVESTER *Parl. Vertues Royall* 705 A skilfull Pilot, Her winged manage rightly to command With hempen Rains, and *wooden Bridle. **1685** ROXB. *Ball.* (1885) V. 606 To be pelted with Eggs thro' a lewd *wooden-casement. **1676** *Poor Robin's Intell.* 4-11 Apr. 2/1 We hear of none this bout that are to wear the *Wooden Crevat. **1917** A. G. EMPEY *Over Top* 314 *Wooden Cross, two pieces of wood in the form of a cross placed at the head of a Tommy's grave. **1919** in *Amer. Speech* 1972 (1975) XLVII. 117 Seven of the 'Blue Tails' went down to get their Wooden Crosses. **1949** A. MURPHY *To Hell & Back* xvi. 195 There is no other branch of the army that offers so many chances for the Purple Heart, the Distinguished Wooden Cross, the Royal Order of the Mattress Covers. **1589** NASHE *Martins Months Minde* Wks. (Grosart) I. 181 The *woodden dagger may not bee worne at the backe, where S. Paules sword, hangs by the side. **1599** SHAKS. *Hen. V.* iv. 77 This roaring duell i'th olde play [sc. Pistol], that euerie one may payre his nayles with a wooden dagger. a **1625** FLETCHER *Noble Gentl.* v. i. According to his merits he should wear, A guarded coat, and a great wooden dagger. **1761** [F. FORREST] *Ways to kill Care* Ded. p. ii. Where to find a guardian for the bawling brat, in case papa... should suddenly tumble into his *wooden doublet. **1808** ASHE *Trav. Amer.* III. 310 *Wooden Islands, are places, where... large quantities of drift-wood have... been arrested and matted together in different parts of the river. **1603** CHETTLE *Eng. Mourn. Garm.* E3, The inhabitants of those *wooden Isles, are worthy Sea-men. **1926** MAINES & GRANT *Wise-Crack Dict.* 15 *Wooden kimona, case for cold storage. **1946** MEZZROW & WOLFE *Really Blues* ii. 19, I expected the man to turn up... with his tape measure to outfit me with a wooden kimono. **1582** *Aldeburgh Rec.* in *N. & Q.* 12th Ser. VII. 366/2 P^d to ye Joyner for a *wooden Legge.. xviii^d. a **1663** KILLIGREW *Parson's Wedd.* I. iii. (1664) 81 She hates a man with all his Limbs; a Wooden-leg, a Crutch... wins her heart. **1668** R. STEELE *Husbandman's Calling* i. (1672) 7 Every man should be of some use in the body politick... else he is but an artificial member, a meer wooden leg. **1709** STEELE *Tatler* No. 48 ¶2, I was the old Soldier who... pretended that I had broken my Wooden-Leg. **1887** BESANT *The World went* ii, His right leg had been lost in action, and was replaced by a

wooden leg. **1819** *Wooden mare [see MARE' 2b]. **1829** SCOTT *Old Mort.* ix. *note*, The punishment of riding the wooden mare was... one of the... cruel modes of enforcing military discipline. **1915** C. MATHEWSON *Catcher Craig* ii. 25 He was instructed... not to take any *wooden money. **1922** S. LEWIS *Babbitt* v. 67 S'long! Don't take any wooden money. **1971** F. P. GROVE *Tales from Margin* 27 'Well,' said Walt, 'be good, fellah! Don't take any wooden money!' Even this cheap vulgarity irritated her now. **1927** *Amer. Speech* III. 132 [College slang.] Not to 'take any *wooden nickels', in other words, to be alert. **1937** L. HELLMAN *Diary* 23 Oct. in *Unfinished Woman* (1969) viii. 100 Luis and I got to Madrid. He said I was not to take any wooden nickels. **1964** in Hamblett & Deverson *Generation X* 90 Then one night I met Johnny, one of the biggest sharks in the Mayfair aquarium, and that was the end of that. Nobody ever sold Johnny a wooden nickel. **1971** M. TORRIE *Bismarck Herrings* ii. 29 Having advised her... not to accept any wooden nickels, [he] drove back. **1971** R. DENTRY *Encounter at Kharmel* iii. 58 There hadn't been a tribal rising worth a wooden nickel since the Partition troubles died down. **1860** G. BENNETT *Gatherings of Naturalist* 322 The *Wooden Pear-tree of the colonists... is peculiar to Australia. **1889** MAIDEN *Usef. Pl. Australia* 615 *Xylomelum pyriforme*... Native Pear. Wooden Pear. **1968** W. GARNER *Deep, Deep, Freeze* xx. 188 Any mistake on his part could win him the prize of the *wooden suit. **1972** J. S. HALL *Sayings from Old Smoky* 42 When a guy comes and steals my stuff, he better be ready for a wooden suit or Boot Hill. **1865** *Slang Dict.*, *Wooden surtout, a coffin, generally spoken of as a wooden surtout with nails for buttons. **1884** KLEIN *Micro-organisms & Dis.* xvi. 148 In cattle the disease [actinomycosis] manifests itself by firm tumours in the jaw... and particularly by a great enlargement and induration of the tongue—*wooden tongue. **1914** *Christian World* 12 Mar. 3/2 A Haverfordwest saddler has died from the disease known as 'wooden tongue'. It occurs occasionally among horses, but is extremely rare in human beings. **1727** EARBERRY tr. *Burnet's St. Dead* 20 If a Man should build a fine and magnificent Seat, and fill the Inside thereof... with... *Wooden-ware and the most sordid Furniture. **1884** SARGENT *Rep. Forests N. Amer.* 495 Large quantities of... woodenware, handles, spools, bobbins, etc. **1870** D. MACRAE *Americans at Home* II. 293 The fifth anniversary is called the *wooden wedding... The presents suitable to this anniversary are of wood. **1888** *Girl's Own Paper* 24 Mar. 407/3 In America, too, the fifth anniversary of the marriage ceremony is known as the 'wooden-wedding'. **1918** H. BARNETT *Canon Barnett* I. xiv. 162 In 1893 we decided to commemorate our wooden wedding by a congregational party. **1860** *Slang Dict.* (ed. 2) *Wooden wedge, the last name in the classical honours list at Cambridge.

III. 10. Combinations, as (in sense 1) *wooden-barred*, -*hooped*, -*hulled*, -*legged*, -*pinned*, -*seated*, -*shoed*, -*soled*, -*walled*, *adjs.*; also (in sense 2a) *wooden-faced*, -*featured* *adjs.*; also †wooden-footed a., wooden-shoed; woodenhead, a stupid person, a blockhead; wooden-headed a., having a 'wooden head', stupid (hence *wooden-headedness*); woodentop *slang*, (a) a uniformed policeman; (b) a dim-wit; wooden-weary a., stupefied with weariness.

1854 *Poultry Chron.* II. 23/1 Every one of our pens was made with an open *wooden-barred back. **1605** CAMDEN *Rem.* 78 By this name [sc. Dorcas], the Amorous Knights were wont to salute freckled... *wooden-faced wenches. **1863** MISS BRADDON *Eleanor's Vict.* xxx. His nieces, whose wooden-faced stolidity had... something... suggestive of being listened to and stared at by two Dutch clocks. **1848** DICKENS *Dombey* vii, A *wooden-featured... Major. **1670** G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* i. 1. 12, I heard a certain *wooden footed [orig. zoccolante] Friar Preach. **1831** CARLYLE *Let. to Wife* 8 Sept., I... saw the coronation procession, which seventy or eighty thousand *woodenheads besides were looking at. **1906** J. OXENHAM *Giant Circumstance* x. 140 Is it true that that woodenhead placed you under arrest? **1865** *Sat. Rev.* 4 Feb. 143/1 That still more *wooden-headed creature, a man who fails to appreciate his value. **1850** DICKENS *Let. to Mrs. Watson* 14 Dec., For which *wooden-headedness the Child shall be taken to task. **1906** *Macm. Mag.* Apr. 454 A large *wooden-hooped net. **1883** *Whitaker's Alm.* 445/1 Of the *wooden-hulled vessels the largest is the *Lissa*. **1840** THACKERAY *Shabby-genteel Story* i, A stout old *wooden-legged Scotch regimental surgeon. **1895** KIPLING *Red Jungle Bk.*, Undertakers 86 Square-sailed, *wooden-pinned barges. **1890** 'R. BOLDBREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* xxv, The *wooden-seated American chairs. **1800** *Wooden shoed [see SABOT 1]. **1840** THACKERAY *Paris Sk.-bk.*, *Cartouche*, Virtue... may exist among wooden-shoed Papists as well as honest Church-of-England men. **1810** MILMAN in *Biogr. Sk.* i. (1900) 18 *Wooden-soled shoes. **1910** CROCKETT *Dew of Youth* i. ii. 10 Tramp of wooden-soled clogs. **1981** J. WAINWRIGHT *All on Summer's Day* 96 I'm a copper. An ordinary flatfoot... A real old *woodentop. That's me. **1983** A. BEEVOR *Faustian Pact* v. 33 They've even got the bleeding Army out... Bunch of woodentops from Chelsea barracks. **1984** *Listener* 16 Feb. 24/3 A policeman who is called a 'butter boy' or a 'wolly' must be something like a 'woodentop'. **1891** C. JAMES *Rom. Rigmarole* 23, I walked on between the tall, straight stems... A sudden turn in the *wooden-walled alley... brought me face to face with a great, still lake. **1888** DOUGHTY *Trav. Arabia Deserta* I. 427 Hounds... *wooden-weary with long watch.

Hence (chiefly *fig.*) 'wooden v. trans., (a) to render wooden; (b) *Austral.* and *N.Z. slang*, to render insensible; to knock unconscious; also const. out; 'woodenize v. (nonce-wd.) trans. = wooden (a); 'woodenly adv., in a wooden manner; 'woodenness, wooden quality or style; 'woodeny a., of a wooden quality.

1641 MILTON *Animadv.* Wks. 1851 III. 239 How little we neede feare that the ungiulding of our Prelates will prove the *woodening of our Priests. **1904** 'G. B. LANCASTER' *Sons of Men* 252 He'll wooden more of you out if you scare him. c **1926** 'MIKER' *Transport Workers' Song Bk.* 126 It [sc. a block of ice] 'woodened' him out, and he lay there quite flat. **1952** M. ALLINGHAM *Tiger in Smoke* xi. 184 If you 'ad only woodened 'er, we'd have 'ad all the time in

the world. **1974** *Southerly* XXXIV. 145 If you can't wooden 'em [sc. kangaroos] at a 'undred yards with one I.C.I. bullet, you're not tryin'! **1877** SINCLAIR *Mount* 235 When the poetic vigour was enfeebled and *woodenised by age. **1653** DOROTHY OSBORNE *Lett.* (1888) 63 You would have both pitied and laughed at me if you could have seen how *woodenly I entertained the widow. **a 1734** NORTH *Lives* (1826) I. 361 To have some sport in seeing how woodenly he would excuse himself. **1881** D. C. MURRAY *Joseph's Coat* I. xi. 262 Sitting by the fireside, . . . looking woodenly respectable as of old. **1894** W. C. RUSSELL *Good Ship 'Mohock'* i. 15 The mechanical hireling . . . who does his duty woodenly. **1854** H. D. THOREAU *Walden* 356 Many concentric layers of *woodenness in the dead dry leaf of society. **1860** F. W. FABER *Precious Blood* ii. 66 Considerable dryness, stiffness, woodenness, . . . would characterize this philanthropic city. **1872** *Daily News* 30 July, Woodenness . . . cannot with truth be said to be banished from the handling of the Aldershot force. **1886** *Spectator* 6 Nov., Lit. Suppl. 1505 The book is . . . readable, notwithstanding faults of woodenness, which are inevitable whenever authors do not make their studies from life. **1888** SWEET *Hist. Eng. Sounds* p. xi, The 'woodenness' which then characterized German philology. **1864** *Morning Star* 19 Sept., Some of the horses . . . are *woodenly old screws without a pace in them beyond the regulation amble. **1885** C. L. PIRKIS *Lady Lovelace* III. xxxviii. 19 Making . . . hard woodenly angles against the . . . leaden sky. **1898** P. MANSON *Trop. Diseases* xii. 210 Wooden hardness [of the heart-muscle]. **1905** *Sat. Rev.* 1 Apr. 415/2 The capercaillie . . . gives vent to . . . several hard woodenly clicks.

wood-end. *Shipbuilding.* = *hood-end* (HOOD *sb.*¹ 8). Cf. *whooding*, HOODING (sense 3, 1627). **1867** SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*

† **wooder** ('wudə(r)). *Obs.* [OE. *wudere*, f. *wudian* to cut wood; later directly f. WOOD *v.*² or *sb.*¹ + -ER¹. Cf. WOODYER.] = WOODMAN¹ 2.

c 1050 *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 371/5 *Calones*, *wuderars*. **1275** *Rot. Hundr.* II. 210 Andreas le Wodere. **1307** *Cal. Close Rolls* 35 *Edw. I* 484 Matthew le Woder. **1767** Wallis's *Voy.* in Hawkesworth *Voy.* (1773) I. 468, I ordered that no man, except the wooders and waterers, with their guard, should be permitted to go on shore. **1773** *Gentl. Mag.* XLIII. 419 They . . . sent wooders to fell timber.

'**wood-evil.** [? f. WOOD *a.* + EVIL *sb.*] Local name for dysentery or a similar disease in sheep and cattle; also called *moor-evil* or *black-legs*.

1523-34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* §50 A sickness among shepe . . . called the wode eyll . . . cometh in the sprynge of the yere, . . . and maketh them to halt, and to holde theyr necke awry. **1614** MARKHAM *Cheap & Good Husb.* III. xix. 75 The wood-euill or Crampe . . . is a weakenesse or straying of the sinewes got by colds and surfets. **a 1722** LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 295 They have a distemper in Leicestershire frequent amongst the calves, which in that country they call the black-legs; but . . . in Staffordshire . . . the wood-evil. **1741** *Compl. Fam. Piece* III. 495 The Wood-evil is seldom or never found among Sheep that have their Pasture in low Grounds. **1749** [see *moor-evil*, MOOR *sb.*¹ 6]. **1847** W. C. L. MARTIN *Ox* 151/2 Wood-evil, moor-ill, or pantas . . . is brought on in cattle by their devouring the acrid buds of trees, by bad winter provision, by impure water, and similar causes.

† **'woodful**, *a.* *Obs. rare.* [irreg. f. WOOD *a.* + -FUL.] Mad, furious.

1582 STANYHURST *Aeneis* II. (Arb.) 56 This sight foule freighted with woodful phrensye Chorebus.

woodhack ('wudhæk). *Obs.* (or *dial.*) Forms: 5 wodehake, wodake, 6 wo(o)dhacke, 9 woodhack. [f. WOOD *sb.*¹ + stem of HACK *v.*¹ (Cf. *notehake*, NUTHATCH.)] A woodpecker.

c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 531/2 Wodehake, or reyne fowle. **c 1475** *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 763/1 *Hic icter*, a wodake. **a 1529** SKELTON *P. Sparowe* 418 The woodhacke, that syngeth chur Horsly, as he had the mur. **1530** PALSGR. 289/2 Wodhacke a byrde. **1885** SWAINSON *Prov. Names Birds* 100 Green woodpecker (*Geococcyx viridis*) . . . Wood hack (Lincoln). So † **woodhacker** (*rare*).

1548 THOMAS *Ital. Dict.* (1550), *Picchio*, a woodhacker or a woodwall.

† **'woodhede.** *Obs.* Forms: 3 wod(h)ed, 4 wod(e)hede. [f. WOOD *a.* + -hede, -HEAD.] Madness, extreme folly.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 533 Wimmen . . . swilc woded wenten on, Golhed hunkinde he gunnen don. *Ibid.* 3539 Swilc wodhed ðis folc cam on, Ðat he seiden to aaron, 'Mac vs godes foren us to gon'. **1303** R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 9017 Twelue folys a karolle dy3t; Yn wodhed, as hyt were yn cuntek. **1340** *Ayenb.* 18 þe oþer ontreupe pet comp of prede is wodhede.

'**wood-hen.** [f. WOOD *sb.*¹ + HEN *sb.*]

1. A female woodcock. Now *rare*.

Formerly, like the woodcock, often rendered as a tenant's due.

1281-2 *Yorkshire Inquis.* (Yorks. Rec. Soc. 1892) I. 248 [One fowl at Christmas, called] le Wodehen. **1343** in Blount *Fragm. Antiq.* (1815) 358 Reddendo . . . et unam Wed-henne. **1371** *Close Roll* m. 4 *dorso*, Tercia pars gallinarum illarum que erunt leuate infra dominium de Groby que vocantur le Wodehennes. **c 1520** *Dial. Creatures Moralised* lxxi. A A iij, Ornix the wodehenne espyed the eggis of a Pecocke. **1612** *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 280/2 Cum silvarum gallinis le wodehennis. **1836-48** B. D. WALSH *Aristoph.*, *Clouds* iv. iv, I will not pay one groat to anyone, Who's ass enough to misname woodhens 'woodcocks'. **1901** RHYS *Celtic Folklore* i. 55 The wife then flew away like a wood-hen . . . into the lake.

2. Any flightless rail of the genus *Ocydromus*, of New Zealand and other Pacific islands: = WEKA.

1773 COOK *Voy. South Pole* i. iv. (1777) I. 73 In the bottom of this arm or cove [of Dusky Bay] we found many

ducks, wood hens, and other wild fowl. **1845, 1873** [see WEKA].

woodhenge (wud'hendʒ). *Archæol.* [f. WOOD *sb.*¹, after STONEHENGE.] A henge (a prehistoric circular bank enclosing a circular ditch) believed to have contained a circular timber structure, as represented by a ring of post holes; *spec.* (with capital initial) and orig., the proper name of the first example of this kind to be discovered, near Stonehenge.

1927 M. E. CUNNINGTON in *Antiquity* Mar. (caption to plate between pp. 92 and 93) 'Woodhenge': oblique view from the south. **1927** *Times* 28 Nov. 17/5 Woodhenge is assigned to the Early Iron Age, say, 500 B.C., with a claim that the close correspondence in lay-out proves it to be a prototype in wood of Stonehenge. **1933** W. A. DUTT *Norfolk* (ed. 8) 60 One of the remarkable prehistoric circles known as 'Woodhenges'. **1935** *Nature* 7 Sept. 365/1 The generic term 'Woodhenge' was first used by Mrs. M. E. Cunnington to describe the circle near Amesbury with wooden uprights in place of stone, which she excavated in 1926 and 1928. The Norfolk Woodhenge, which was discovered from the air in 1929, was known from air photographs to be a striking example of the type. **1939** JOYCE *Finnegans Wake* 596 The Diggins, Woodhenge, as to hang out at. **1951** [see HENGE²]. **1970** *Sci. Amer.* May 58 The four largest henge monuments in England, each surrounded by earthworks measuring more than 1,000 feet in diameter, are Avebury and three woodhenges. **1977** *Griffith Observer* (Griffith Observatory, Los Angeles) May 14/2 The Cahotian circles bore a superficial resemblance to neolithic timber structures like Woodhenge, near Stonehenge. . . . Witty therefore dubbed Circle 2 as an 'American Woodhenge'.

wood-house ('wudhaus). [HOUSE *sb.*¹ 3.] A house, shed, or room in which wood is stored.

[**1274** *Close Roll* 2 *Edw. I* m. 10 De wodehusis videlicet Johanne Heruy pro quatuor acris & dimidis terre quatuor solid.] **1356-7** *Abingdon Rolls* (Camden) 13 In . . . emendacione ostij de le Wodehou, v.s. viij d. **c 1450** *Godstow Reg.* 318 In the which mese is l-conteyned:—j halle, with ij. celers; j kechyn, . . . j doffe hous; j wodehou. **1570** LEVINS *Manip.* 225/16 A Wodehouse, *lignarium*. **1674** T. FLATMAN *Poems, To Mr. Austin* 14 Thus a black velvet Casket hides a Jewel; And a dark woodhouse, wholesome winter fuel. **a 1721** PRIOR *Dial. Locke & Montaigne* Wks. 1907 II. 243 To the Coal hole or woodhouse? **1833** LOUDON *Encycl. Cottage Archit.* §721 The Coal-house and the Wood-house should always be adjoining the kitchen. **1856** MISS YONGE *Daisy Chain* i. viii, They claimed him for a good game at play in the wood-house.

woodhouse, var. WOODWOSE.

woodhouseite ('wudhausait). *Min.* [f. the name of C. D. Woodhouse, 20th-c. U.S. mineral collector + -ITE¹.] A hydrated sulphate and phosphate of calcium and aluminium, CaAl₃(PO₄)(SO₄)(OH)₆, found as colourless rhombohedral crystals and belonging to the beudantite group.

1937 D. M. LEMMON in *Amer. Mineralogist* XXII. 943 Woodhouseite is a late hydrothermal mineral lining vugs in quartz veins that cross the andalusite zones [in a Californian deposit]. **1980** *Mineral. Mag.* XXXI. 318/2 Heating such minerals as apatite . . . and woodhouseite to 600°–800° followed by quenching destabilizes these phosphates and allows more complete extraction of their uranium content.

woodie ('wudi). [-IE.] *colloq.* abbrev. of WOOD-PIGEON.

1947 *Contemp. Rev.* June 368 Their habits were not so regular as the woodies. **1960** *Farmer & Stockbreeder* 23 Feb. 57/3 These birds eat wood pigeons' eggs. . . . Some keen observers estimate that something like 80 per cent of the 'woodies' eggs that are laid are so destroyed. **1972** *Shooting Times & Country Mag.* 4 Mar. 17/3 There shouldn't be many woodies remaining in the area. **1980** G. HAMMOND *Reward Game* ix. 129 Do you want sixty-odd woodies for the freezer?

woodie, var. WIDDY; obs. f. WOODY *a.*

woodie, var. WOODY *sb.*

woodiness ('wudinis). [f. WOODY + -NESS.] The quality or condition of being woody.

1. Woody texture, consistence, or appearance. **1601** HOLLAND *Pliny* xv. xxviii. I. 450 Some fruits, . . . neither without in shell, nor within-forth in kernell, have any of this woodiness. **1670** EVELYN *Sylva* xxx. (ed. 2) 149 The Vatican Ilex, the Vine which was grown to that bulk and Woodiness, as to make Columns in Juno's Temple. **1760** ELLIS in *Phil. Trans.* LI. 933 It promises, from the thickness and woodiness of its stem, . . . to become a shrub of six or seven feet high. **1850** NICHOL *Archit. Heavens* i. 17 Until individual trees could no longer be distinguished, and the view terminated in a . . . vague appearance, which I may be permitted to call a diffused woodiness. **1860** RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* V. vi. viii. § 10. 71 A very characteristic example of two faults in tree-drawing; namely, the loss not only of grace and spring, but of woodiness.

2. The condition of being full of woods or forests; prevalence or abundance of woodland; *concr.* woody growth.

1796 MARSHALL *Planting* I. 119 By Woody Waste [is meant] grass land over-run with rough woodiness. **1799** STUART in Owen *Wellesley's Desp.* (1877) 114 Their movements were so well concealed by the woodiness of the country. **1869** BLACKIE *Lett. to Wife* (1909) 180 The rich-sloping . . . woodiness that you remember on the Rhine.

wooding ('wudin), *vbl. sb.* [OE. *wudung*, f. *wudian*: see WOOD *v.*² and -ING¹.]

1. The action of procuring or taking in wood for fuel, esp. on board a vessel; also, feeding a fire with wood.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 222 þæt Israhela folc geðafode þæt sume ða hæðenan on heora ðeowte leofodon, to wudunge and to wæterunge.

1613 J. SARIS *Voy. Japan* (Hakl. Soc.) 69, I gaue leaue to as manye as would to goe ashoare, hauing done watring and wooding. **1745** P. THOMAS *Jrnl. Anson's Voy.* 116 Besides our constant Employment in Wooding and Watering. **1866** HOWELLS *Venetian Life* 35 By dint of constant wooding I contrived to warm mine [sc. stove]. **1875** BEDFORD *Sailor's Pocket Bk.* v. (ed. 2) 145 Notice any convenient creeks or rivers for wooding or watering.

attrib. **1789** PORTLOCK *Voy.* 314 At this island I would advise the watering and wooding business to be done. **1804** GILLESPIE in A. Duncan *Nelson* (1806) 222 The wooding and watering parties. **1863** RUSSELL *Diary North & South* I. 269 The scenery and the scenes were just the same as yesterday's—high banks, cotton-slides, wooding stations.

2. The action of planting ground with trees; *concr.* a plantation or collection of trees. *Sc.*

1788 PICKEN *Poems* 76 The mantlan ivy clings To wooding in the grove. **1790** A. WILSON in *Poems & Lit. Prose* (1876) II. 106 Deep in lanely woodings lost. **1827** STEUART *Planter's G.* (1828) 355 The wooding of two acres of ground . . . as a Close Plantation. **1875** W. MCLLWRAITH *Guide Wigtonshire* 103 Much of the wooding which gives variety . . . to the landscape.

woodish ('wudɪʃ), *a.* Now *rare*. Also 6 wodd-, 6-7 woodd-. [f. WOOD *sb.*¹ + -ISH¹.]

1. Having the nature, quality, or consistence of wood; (somewhat) woody.

1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 40b, The braunches [of Lithospermon] are . . . strong . . . and woddish. *Ibid.* 87 A . . . woddish torche or fyrebrande. **1620** VENNOR *Via Recta* vii. 115 Quince-Peares are of a verie hard and woddish substance. **1721** MORTIMER *Husb.* II. 214 Bastard-bittany . . . having many brown woodish Stalks.

† 2. Belonging to or characteristic of the woods or wooded country; sylvan. *Obs.*

1588 T. THOMAS *Lat. Dict.* (1615), *Faunicus* . . . wilde, woddish, rude. **1612** DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xi. 116 Wanton woodish sports. **1630** CAPT. J. SMITH *Trav. & Adv.* 2 He retired himself into a little wooddie pasture. . . . Here . . . he built a Pavillion of boughes. . . . His friends perswaded one Signior Theadora Polaloga . . . to insinuate into his woddish acquaintances.

† **'woodist.** *Obs. nonce-wd.* In 7 wooddist. [f. as prec. + -IST.] = WOODWOSE, WOODMAN¹ 4.

1613 T. CAMPION *Relat. Royal Entert.* B 1, Such musick as the wilde Wooddists shall bee ashamed to heare the report of it.

'**wood-kern, -kerne.** *Hist.* Also 6 -karne, 7 -carne, -cerne. [tr. Ir. *ceithearnach coille* (*ceithearn* KERN *sb.*¹, *coill* wood).] An Irish outlaw or robber haunting woods or wild country; such outlaws collectively.

Used by Holland to render *L. latro*. **1548** *State Papers Irel.*, *Edw. VI.* I. 84 (MS.) The kynd of peopull which we call outlawes & wodkerne. **1581** DERRICKE (*title*) The Image of Irelande, with a Discoverie of Woodkarne, wherein is . . . expressed, the Nature . . . of the . . . Wilde Irishe Woodkarne, their notable aptnesse celeritie and pronesse to Rebellion. **1600** HOLLAND *Livy* XL. ix. 1065 The same is said unto me . . . which were more beeseeming to speake unto a wood-kerne and robber by the high-way side. **1617** MORYSON *Itin.* II. 101 Cormacke O Neale . . . was of a mild honest disposition . . . yet . . . little lesse barbarous then the better sort of wood kern. **1632** LITHGOW *Trav.* v. 210 The Lawlesse Wood Carnes in Ireland. **1656** in P. H. HORE *Hist. Wexford* (1911) VI. 516 Mount Leinster . . . which by reason of the great adjoining woods hath always beene haunted with Irish Tories or Woodcernes. **1845** PETRIE *Eccl. Archit. Irel.* 96 At the close of the sixteenth century, these Towers became the receptacles of thieves and wood-kerne.

'**wood-knife.**

1. A dagger of short sword (KNIFE *sb.* 1 b) used by huntsmen for cutting up the game, or generally as a weapon. *arch.* or *Hist.*

1426 E.E. *Wills* (1882) 76 A swerd harnessed, a wodeknyf harnessed, and a Dagger. **1470-85** MALORY *Arthur* XVIII. xxi. 764 They were shoters, and coude wel kylie a dere . . . and they dayly bare bowes and arowes, hornes & wood knyues. **1568** FULWELL *Like Will to Like* Eij b, Come no neer me you knaues for your life. Lest I stick you bothe with this woodknife. **1611** COTGR., *Malcus*, a Fuchion, Hangar, Wood-knife. **a 1650** Boy & Mantle xxxviii. in Child *Ballads* I. 273/2 He pulld forth a wood kniffe, . . . He brought in the bores head. **1721** STRYPE *Eccl. Mem.* III. xxvi. 212 He drew his woodknife and hit the priest on the head. **1821** SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxxiv, The gay baldrick, which sustained a bugle-horn, and a wood-knife instead of a sword. **1867** MORRIS *Jason* i. 83 The wood-knife at the side.

2. A large knife for cutting off branches or twigs.

1880 C. R. MARKHAM *Peruv. Bark* vii. 54 The *cateador* . . . conducted the party for hours through the tangled brushwood . . . using the wood-knife at every step.

woodland ('wudlənd). Forms: see WOOD *sb.*¹ and LAND *sb.*¹ 1. a. Land covered with wood, i.e. with trees; a wooded region or piece of ground.

869 in Birch *Catul. Sax.* II. 141 Ægþer ge etelond ge eyrð lond ge eac wudulond. **c 1205** LAY. 1699 Wenne hundes hine bistondeð i þon wode-londe. **a 1400** *Sir Perc.* 208 In that wonde land. **1456** SIR G. HAYE *Gw. Princes Wks.* (S.T.S.) II. 137 Cow or calf . . . in wodland upbrocht. **1536** BENESE

Meas. Land Aij, Woodlande and fyldelande be not measured with perches of lyke and equale length. 1573 TUSSEB. (1878) 31 What champion vseth, That woodland refuseth. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* 567 In the mids of this Woodland standeth Coventry. 1622 SELDEN *Illustr. Drayton's Poly-olb.* xiii. 15 What is now the Woodland in Warwickshire, was heretofore part of a larger Weald or Forest, called Arden. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* (1681) 88 There's no Field Champion-Land of that yearly value for either Corn or Pasture, as is the Wood-land. 1709 PRIOR *Henry & Emma* 307 She to the Wood-land with an Exile ran. 1763 W. ROBERTS *Nat. Hist. Florida* 34 The number of marshes and woodlands prevented the horse from pursuing them. 1793 M. CUTLER in *Life*, etc. (1888) II. 276 Tracts of woodland never yet cleared, but kept inclosed for a supply of fuel and timber. 1824 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* II. iv. 1. 214 A hunting-seat of Queen Elizabeth, when the neighbourhood was all woodland. 1867 'OUIDA' Cecil Castlemaine i, The morning was fair and cloudless, its sunbeams piercing through the darkest glades in the woodlands.

b. attrib. Of or pertaining to woodland; used, situated, dwelling, or growing in woodland; consisting of or containing woodland; belonging to or characteristic of woodland; sylvan. **woodland caribou**, a northern caribou, *Rangifer tarandus*, found in forested areas of Canada.

† **woodland penny**, *silver* = *wood-penny*, *-silver*: see *WOOD sb.*¹ 10.

1351-2 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 552, vij li. iij s. i. d. de Woodland penys ad festum Nat. beati Joh. Bap. 1396-7 *Ibid.* 136 Ep'o pro Woodlandsliuer, vj d. 1536-7 *Ibid.* 674 Pro Woodlandpennenz ejusdem ville. 1536 BENESSE *Meas. Land* Aij, Two maner of perches, the woodlande perche and the fyldeland perche. . . The woodlande perche is communely .xviii. foote in length. But in some places it is longer. 1577 HARRISON *England* III. xii. 111 b/1 in *Holinshead*, Adders. . . are found only in our woodlands countries and highest groundes. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* IV. v. 49, I am a woodland fellow sir, that alwaies loued a great fire. 1610 HOPTON *Baculum Geodat.* VI. lii. 264 The woodland measure of 18 feete in the pole. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 783 Adore the Woodland Pow'r with Pray'r. 1725 POPE *Odys.* IX. 178 Rows'd by the woodland nymphs. . . The mountain goats came bounding o'er the lawn. 1798 WORDSW. *Tables Turned* III, Come, hear the woodland linnet. — *We are Seven* III, She had a rustic, woodland air. 1805 SCOTT *Last Minstrel* III. xiii, They came to a woodland brook. 1831 — *Quentin D. Intro.*, In the more woodland districts of Flanders. 1854 MAYNE REID *Young Voyageurs* 154 He had killed three caribou, of the large variety known as 'woodland caribou'. 1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Hol.* xxv, Garments. . . rather the worse for a fortnight's woodland travel. 1855 TENNYSON *Maud* I. xii. ii, Gathering woodland lilies. 1877 BLACK *Green Past.* I, The secrecy and silence of the still woodland ways. 1879 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* III. 68 The Woodland Caribou and the Barren-ground Caribou are the names given to a larger and a smaller breed in Canada. 1902 CORNISH *Naturalist Thames* 76 The [grey] partridge is becoming a woodland bird. 1921 *Daily Colonist* (Victoria, B.C.) 30 Oct. 21/1 The only caribou I've ever hunted were in the Kootenays, woodland caribou. 1965 F. SYMINGTON *Tuktuk* 44 The woodland caribou eats about the same forage as the barren-ground caribou.

2. Archaeol. (With capital initial.) The name of a culture that existed in eastern North America between approximately 1000 B.C. and A.D. 1000, characterized by agriculture, hunting, burial mounds, and a distinctive style of pottery.

1917 C. WISSLER *Amer. Indian* xiv. 219 We now come to the so-called Eastern Woodland area, the characterization of which is difficult. 1946 *Nature* 2 Nov. 615/2 A single mound-group belongs to a later phase, the Middle Mississippi, and the village site and one mound are ascribed to the Woodland-culture pattern, probably still later. 1967 *Listener* 2 Mar. 290/2 Most of the characteristic traits of the late, i.e., the Woodland, period are found in incipient form in the late Archaic, and it is a period about which it is difficult to generalize. 1977 G. CLARK *World Prehistory* (ed. 3) ix. 408 Hunting and fishing continued to play significant roles. . . even during the terminal phase of the Woodland culture (A.D. 900-1300).

Hence '**woodlanded ppl.** *a.*, covered with woodland; '**woodlander**, an inhabitant of the woodland; *occas.* an animal that lives in woodland; also, a plant whose natural habitat is in woodland.

1774 T. WEST *Antiq. Furness* (1805) 40 The woodlanders of High Furness were charged with the care of the flocks and herds. 1810 WORDSW. *Prose Wks.* (1876) II. 259 A few vassals following the employment of shepherds or woodlanders. 1887 HARDY (*title*) The Woodlanders. 1889 F. A. KNIGHT *By Leafy Ways* 61 Another much calumniated woodlander, the badger. 1945 J. BETJEMAN *New Bats in Old Belfries* 6 By roads 'not adopted', by woodland ways She drove to the club in the late summer haze. 1948 W. ARNOLD-FORSTER *Shrubs for Milder Counties* iv. 113 *Daphne Blagayana*. A dwarf woodlander, evergreen. 1974 *Country Life* 12 Dec. 1896/1 American woodlanders, such as shortias and erythroniums revel in it [*sc* beech leaf-mould]. 1982 *Garden CVII*. 487/2 All [*clintonias*] are woodlanders or shade plants.

woodlark ('wudlɑ:k). Forms and etym.: see *WOOD sb.*¹ and *LARK sb.*¹ A species of lark (*Alauda arborea*) which perches on trees; distinguished from the skylark by having a shorter tail, more variegated plumage, and a different song.

c1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 164 La calaundre [*gloss* wode-larke]. c1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 808 Esperuer tele et chalaundre and wodelarke. 1544 TURNER *Avium Tracip.* E1b, Superset tertium galertiae genus, Germanis copera. *Marg.* a uuodlerck. 1686 [see *SKYLARK sb.* 1]. 1769 G. WHITE *Selborne* (1789) 69 In hot summer nights woodlarks soar to a prodigious height and hang singing in

the air. 1818 KEATS *Walking in Scotland* 14 Wood-lark may sing from sandy fern. 1868 MORRIS *Earthly Par.*, *Man born to be King* 1496 Mid them [*sc.* yew-trees] did the woodlark flit, Or sang well sheltered from the wind.

woodless ('wudlis), *a.* [*f.* *WOOD sb.*¹ + *-LESS.*] Destitute of wood or woods; treeless.

1551 TURNER *Herbal* I. Pij, Our heth groweth in playnes . . and vpon sum wodles hylles. a1661 FULLER *Worthies, Norfolk* (1662) 246 Here are Fens and Heaths, . . and Meddows and Pasture, and Arable and Woody, and (generally) woodless land. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 141 The coasts are . . rocky . . and woodless. 1835 J. DUNCAN *Beetles* (Nat. Lib.) 96 Travellers across the woodless pampas sometimes make their fire of a dead horse. 1881 MORGAN *Contrib. Amer. Ethnol.* 106 The woodless plains of the Sacramento.

woodlet ('wudlit). *rare.* [*f.* *WOOD sb.*¹ + *-LET.*] A little wood.

1821 FOSBROKE *Berkeley MSS.* 226 This elegant woodlet. 1890 *An Australian Girl* II. v. 57 Groves and woodlets.

wood-louse ('wudlaus). Pl. wood-lice (-lais). [*f.* *WOOD sb.*¹ + *LOUSE sb.*] 1. A small isopod crustacean of the genus *Oniscus* or family *Oniscidae*; *esp.* the common species *O. asellus*, found in old wood, under stones, etc., and having the property of rolling itself up into a ball; also called †*cheeselip*, *hog-louse*, *slater*, *sow-bug*, etc.

1611 COTGR. s.v. *Anthoine*, The vermine called, a Cheslop, or Wood-louse. 1663 BOYLE *Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* II. 154 Those vile Insects commonly called in English, Woodlice, or Sows. 1725 SWIFT *Wood an Insect* 3 An Insect they call a Wood-Louse, That folds up itself in itself for a House. 1844 HOOD *Haunted House* 177 The wood-louse dropped and rolled into a ball. 1869 MRS. I. L. BISHOP *Notes on Old Edinb.* 11 The walls were black and rotten, and alive with woodlice.

2. Locally or occas. applied to various other small invertebrates found in woodwork or in woods, or resembling the crustacean described in 1.

a. A white ant or termite. b. A species of infusorian. c. One or more species of mite or other parasite. d. Various insects of the family *Psocidae*, as the book-wood and death-watch. e. A millepede of the family *Glomeridae*; a pill-millepede.

1666 J. DAVIES *Hist. Caribby Isles* 149 A kind of Ant. . . bred of rotten wood, and thence some call them Wood-lice. 1769 ELLIS in *Phil. Trans.* LIX. 150 The *volvex oniscus*, or wood-louse. 1770 J. R. FORSTER tr. *Kalm's Trav. N. Amer.* (1772) II. 133 Wood-lice (*Acarus Americanus*, Linn.) abound here. 1781 [see *wood-ant*, *WOOD sb.*¹ 10b]. 1819 D. B. WARDEN *Acc. U.S.* I. 496 Mosquitoes and wood-lice [note, *Acarus Americanus*] are most troublesome in thickly wooded vallies. *Ibid.* II. 525 The wood louse, or Chigo, or Bete Rouge (*Acarus sanguinis*). 1825 JAMIESON, *Wood-louse*, a book-worm. 1863 *WOOD Illustr. Nat. Hist.* III. 631 The Great Sea-slater or Sea-woodlouse. *Ibid.* 632 The well-known Pill-woodlouse.

3. attrib.

1796 STEDMAN *Surinam* II. xxv. 234 The . . bird, which. . the negroes called *woodo-louso-fowlo*, from its feeding on wood-lice. *Ibid.* (Illustration), The Yellow Woodpecker or Wood-louse fowl. 1817 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xxiii. (1818) II. 307 The woodlouse tribe (*Oniscidae*). 1854 A. ADAMS, *etc. Man. Nat. Hist.* 267 Woodlouse-Millipedes (*Glomeridae*). 1859 P. P. CARPENTER in *Rep. Smithsonian Instit.* (1860) 207 Chitonidae or Woodlouse shells.

† '**woodly**, *a.* *Obs. rare.* [*OE. wōdlic*: see *WOOD a.* and *-LY*¹.] Mad, frantic, furious.

c1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 182 Sa eadiga Benedictus. . . manode pone reðan ehtere þæt he ðære wōdlican reðnysse geswicce. c1222 HOCCELEVE *Learn to Die* 700 The fyry flambes. . . In which the soules brenne in woodly wyse. 1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* II. 789 Roryng and yellyng his outrageous trespass, [he] Tore his tonge a-sonder in wodely violence.

'**woodly**, *adv. Obs. or dial.* Forms: see *WOOD a.* [*OE. wōdlice*: see *WOOD a.* and *-LY*².] Madly, ferociously, furiously, wildly, passionately.

c1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 230 Hi wæron . . mid deofle afylde, ðaða hi swa wōdlice to ðam welwillendan Hælende spræcon. c1000 tr. *Basil's Admon.* vi. (Norman 1849) 46 Ðam wulfe gelic ðe wōdlice abiteð ða. . . sceap. c1000 in Assmann *Hom.* (1889) 6/145 þam undeafwæstum, ðe wōdlice drincað and heora gewitt amyræð. c1205 LAY. 3201 He mochlut a þa wodeloker wiledne þeos mæidenes. c1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 9426 King Margaras. . . Ban asailed wodeliche. c1350 *Will. Palerne* 550 þat i wroust so wōdly & wold to him speke. c1385 CHAUCER *L.G.W.* 1752 *Lucrece*, Desyr That in his herte brende as any fer So wōdly that his wit is al forgetyn. ? a1400 *Morte Arth.* 2827 Wyes. . . appone wyght horsez, Walopande wodely. c1400 *Destr. Troy* 3694 The wyndes full wodely wackont anon. a1500 *Ilist. K. Boccus & Sydracke* (? 1510) Pivb, Yf he loue one wōdly. 1556 OLDE *Antichrist* 163 Antichrist layeth about him so wōdly. 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Anagr. & Sonn.* Wks. II. 251/1 He rose. . . And frankly ran wōdly through the wood. 1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* v. iii, They skelpit me when wōdly feed.

woodman¹ ('wudmən). Pl. woodmen. Forms and etym.: see *WOOD sb.*¹ and *MAN sb.*¹ (Cf. *WOODSMAN*.)

The meaning in the following is uncertain:—972 in *Birch Cartul. Sax.* III. 603 Fram hwiſtingho to wudemannes tune. 1275 *Rot. Hundr.* II. 19 Johanni Wodeman.

1. One who hunts game in a wood or forest; a huntsman. *Obs. or arch.*

c1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xxxiii, As of þe manere howe he shulde be vndo y passe ouere lightly, for þer is no wodemann nor glove hunter in Inglonde, but þei can

do it wele ynowgh. 1555 *Instit. Gentl.* Hv, Ther is a saying emonge hunters that he cannot be a gentelmen which loueth not hawkyng and hunting, whiche I haue heard olde woodmen wel allowe. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* v. v. 30 Am I a Woodman, ha? Speake I like Herne the Hunter? 1616 *Boys Expos. Proper Ps.* xlvii. 9 Wks. (1629) 935 Woodmen say that Deere are most circumspect in fat pasture. 1676 SHADWELL *Virtuoso* III, I have taken more Pains to single you out, than ever Wood-man did for a Deer. 1805 SCOTT *Last Minstrel* VI. vii, Conrad. . . Was by a wood-man's lymedog found. [1835 W. IRVING *Tour Prairies* xi. 85 He looked down with contempt upon the rangers, as. . . inexperienced woodmen, but little skilled in hunting lore.]

b. fig. or allusively.

1590 GREENE *Never too late* (1600) 47 He was not. . . so ill a Woodman to giue over the chace at the first default. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* IV. iii. 170. 1618 FLETCHER *Chances* I. ix, I see ye are a wood-man, and can chuse Your dear. 1673 DRYDEN *Marr. à la Mode* II. i. 18 Has the old Cupid, your Father, chosen well for you? is he a good Woodman?

2. One who looks after the trees in a wood or forest; one who fells or lops trees for timber or fuel; also, one who provides or purveys wood.

1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 17745 Her ys a woode off lytel prys, Wych a woodeman sellethe me. 1530 PALSGR. 289/2 Wodman that lyveth by fellyng wode, *bocquillon*. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 519/2 *Dendrophori*, . . woodemen or such as carrie wood about streetes to be sold. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 484 Either som one like us night-founder'd here, Or els som neighbour Wood-man. 1726 J. LAURENCE *New Syst. Agric.* 229 Of the Aspen Tree our Woodmen make Hoops, Firewood, and Coals. 1800 CAMPBELL *Beech-Tree's Petition* 2 Spare, woodman, spare the beechen tree. 1856 KANE *Arctic Expl.* II. vii. 83 Bonsall and Petersen are now woodmen, preparing our daily fuel. 1875 BEDFORD *Sailor's Pocket Bk.* vii. (ed. 2) 250 Each half company providing 2 woodmen, 2 watermen. 1903 MAUD S. RAWSON *Apprentice* 141 The oldest woodmen say that it takes a hundred years to grow a perfect oak for an English ship.

† 3. A forester having charge of the king's woods.

1594 CROMPTON *Jurisd.* 146b, Auant que sera perfect Forest, le Roy couient appointer certaine officers, come vn keeper, Forester, Woodmen, Regarders, Agistors. 1604 MANWOOD *Lawes Forest* xxi. (1615) 193 The foresters & woodmen did take no good regard to the forests.

† 4. An inhabitant of the woods, a wild man, a savage; a person representing one in a pageant, or a figure of one in heraldry: = *WOODWOSE*. *Obs.*

1442 *Extr. Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 9 The fleschowares sal fynd [for a play], twa or four wodmen. 1566 in J. Nicholl *Comp. Ironmongers* (1866) 85 They shall fynde us two woodmen, w^t clubbes, squibbes and powder. 1601 in Moryson *Itin.* II. (1617) 106 To march. . . into Colrane. . . to have brought into subjection all the woodmen. 1660 J. TATHAM *Royal Oake* 10 Several persons in the habit of Wood-men and Wood-Nymphs. 1780 EDMONDSON *Heraldry* II. *Gloss.*, *Woodman*, a name given by several Writers to the wild man, or savage.

5. A workman who makes something of wood, esp. the woodwork of a carriage.

1879 *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 175/1 When the body is finished from the hands of the woodman, it passes into the hands of the currier. 1908 *Advt.*, Wanted Coach Builders and Wheelwrights.—Good woodman.

Hence '**woodman(s)craft**, '**woodmanship**, the business or skill of a woodman; † '**woodmanlike**, † '**woodmanly advs.**, in the manner of or befitting a woodman.

c1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xxxiii, If þe lorde will haue þe deere vndone, he þat he biddeth. . . shulde vndo hym þe moste wodemany and clenly þat he cann. And wondreth ye nought, pough y say wodmanly, for it is a poynte of wodemancrafte. 1479 [see *WOODSALE*]. 1575 GASCOIGNE *Hearbes* 156 Gascoignes woodmanship written to the L. Grey of Wilton. 1627 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Armado* Ep. Ded. A3b, You know what belongs to the Wood-manship, the Wardship, and Stewardship. a1650 *Marr. Sir Gawaine* in Furniv. & Hales *Percy Folio* I. 106 The kyng in hys hand toke a bowe, And wodmanly he stowpy'd lowe. 1831 SCOTT *Ct. Rob.* xxix, It were bad woodmanship to raise the hollo upon the game, ere it had been driven within compass of the nets. 1881 *Sat. Rev.* 23 July 122/1 Colonel Fraser's political sagacity hardly seems on a par with his woodmancraft. 1911 A. C. BENSON *Ruskin* v. 180 He was fond of woodmanship. His. . . hedging-gloves and his chopper were very characteristic signs of his presence.

† '**woodman**². *Obs.* Forms and etym.: see *WOOD a.* and *MAN sb.*¹ A madman, lunatic, maniac.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 3338 Hii verde as wodemem; hii wende hii were ynome. c1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xi. (*Symon & Iudas*) 412 Wodmen. . . In quhame þe feyndis þan can dwel. *Ibid.* xix. (*Cristofore*) 285 þe Iugis, . . Fore a wodman demyt hym. c1400 *Beryn* 1351 He trampelid fast with his feet, & al to-tare his ere And his visage both, ry3t as a woodman. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* x. xii. 432 Cryenge and rateynge hym as a wood man. 1512 J. PARFRE *Candlemas-Day* in Marriott *Miracle-Plays* (1838) 200 Like as a wodman he gan to fray.

woodmonger ('wud,məŋgə(r)). Now *rare* exc. *Hist.* Forms and etym.: see *WOOD sb.*¹ and *MONGER sb.* A dealer in wood; a timber-merchant, or (*esp.*) a seller of wood for fuel.

1260-1 *Cal. Wills Crt. Husting, Lond.* I. (1889) 8 Robert le Wudemongere. 1372 *Ibid.* II. 147 William Wodemongere. 1464 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 567/2 Carpenters, Woodmongers and Colemakers. 1567 in *Archaeologia* XXXVI. 51 Paide to Mr. Fermer, wodemonger, for a M and iii qrs. of billets, xvij s. viij d. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V.* v. i. 69. 1609 DEKKER *Ravens Alm.* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 186 Winter, . . the friend to none but Colliers and Woodmongers. 1632 MASSINGER *City Madam* II. i, Though The dishes were raised one upon another, As woodmongers do billets. 1667 *Lond. Gaz.* No.

215/4 The many great abuses committed by the Company of Woodmongers in the Sale... of Fuel. 1720 STRYPE *Stow's Surv.* II. vi. v. 76/1 Two Woodmongers Wharfs for the Sale of Fuel. 1722 DE FOE *Plague* (1754) 254 Vessels, such as the Wood-mongers, that is the Wharf Keepers, or Coal-Sellers furnished. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* iii. These sturdy oaks had long since become the property of some honest woodmonger. 1908 W. G. COLLINGWOOD *Scandinavian Britain* 111 'Six score to the hundred' is still familiar to Lake District gardeners and wood-mongers.

'woodness. *Obs. exc. dial. or arch.* Forms: see WOOD *a.* [OE. *wōdnes*: see WOOD *a.* and -NESS.]

1. Mental derangement, insanity, mania, frenzy, lunacy, craziness: = MADNESS 1.

c1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 458 þa geaxode se cýning Polimius be ðam witsecum menn, hu se apostol hine fram ðære wodnysse ahredde. 1382 WYCLIF *Acts* xxvi. 24 Poul, thou maddist...; manye lettris turnen thee to woodnesse. 1493 H. PARKER *Dives & Pauper* v. xviii. (W. de W. 1496) 220/1 Yf a man in his woodness & raungee slee man & woman or childe. 1565 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* III. (1593) 72 Drunken woodnes wrought by wine. 1605 VERSTEGAN *Dec. Intell.* (1634) 238 Wee yet retayne in some parts of England the word *wodnes* for furiousnesse or madnesse. 1657 THORNLEY tr. *Longus Daphnis & Chloe* 60 Their minds were struck with a kind of Woodnesse. 1803 W. S. ROSE *Amadis* 128 Wrapt in imagin'd flames to woodness stung Deep in a roaring stream, she headlong sprung.

2. Extravagant folly or recklessness; vehemence of passion or desire; wildness, infatuation. Cf. MADNESS 2.

c1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* (1889) 60/212 þa sæt he... tælende pone hælend... His wodnys wearð gewrecen swa purh god. c1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* III. 1382 They callen loue a woodnesse or folye. 1387 [see WOOD *a.* 2 b]. c1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 76 A woode wisdom, and a wise woodnesse. 1435 MISYNN *Fire of Love* II. viii. 90 Here is lufe with-outen meylkes, wodnes ful likynge. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Aian* vi. Now perceyue I wel thy folly and grete woodnesse. 1588 A. KING tr. *Canisius' Catech.* II. i. viii. It is extreme wodnes to doubt quithier thay ar to be kept haly or nocht. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 284 When their genitalles are full of seede they grow into woodnesse and rage of lust.

3. Violent anger, wrath, fury, rage; extreme fierceness, ferocity, savageness, cruelty. Cf. MADNESS 3.

c1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 30 þæt earne wif gelyfde his wæhlreowum geðeahte... and wearð mid maran wodnysse astyrod. a1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* vi. 1 Lord in thi wodnes argu me noht. *Ibid.*, Wodness or ire is a styringe of mannys will, excitand to vengeance. c1375 Sc. Leg. *Saints* II. (Paulus) 704 Nero was brocht In sa mekill wodnes of thoht, bat he his awne modir gert sla. c1400 St. *Alexius* (Vernon) 474 Heo ter his cloþus al in sunder, in a gret woodnesse. 1460 CAPGRAVE *Chron.* (Rolls) 237 In her wodnes thei kyllid the bischop of Canturbiry. a1533 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) Rviii, You haue chased the bulle, and scaped his woodnes. 1550 BALE *Engl. Votaries* II. Qj. He fretted for wodeness, and was angry with himselfe. 1577 HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* (1663) 166 He proceeding in cruelty, and daily increasing his savage woodness against the Saints of God. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* xxvi. xiii. 593 Wild and savage beasts... madded... with blind rage and woodnesse against one. 1825 J. WILSON *Noct. Ambr. Wks.* 1856 I. 12 Whiles I just girm out-by yonner, wi' perfect wodness when I think o' you... rinning down me, and ither men of genius. 1906 DOUGHTY *Dawn in Britain* XIII. IV. 36 So woodness kindles his great heart, against Romans.

b. *fig.* Excessive violence or severity, 'fury' (of pain, or of inanimate things, as wind, fire, etc.).

a1400 *Stockholm Med. MS.* II. 704 in Anglia XVIII. 324 It doth noth away all þe pyne, But all þe wodnesse for þe tyme. c1400 *Destr. Troy* 2008 þe fuerse wyndes, And the wodeness of waghes. c1425 *Found. St. Bartholomew's* (E.E.T.S.) 21 His kechyn was a-fyre sodenly, and likely to perissh with wooddeness of fyre. 1450-1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* II. 189 Fayre flowres wherof the nynte parte faded by the wodnesse of the northe. 1508 DUNBAR *Gold. Targe* 220 The Lord of Wyndis, wyth wodeness, God Eolus, his bugill blew. 1557 *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 127 No rage of drenching sea, nor woodenesse of the winde.

'wood-nymph.

1. A nymph of the woods; a superhuman being imagined as a beautiful maiden inhabiting woods; a dryad or hamadryad.

1577 GRANGE *Golden Aphrod.* Mijb, The Woodnymphes likewise followed moste nicely tripping. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 120 By dimpled Brook, and Fountain brim, The Wood-Nymphs deckt with Daisies trim, Their merry wakes and pastimes keep. 1667 — *P.L.* IX. 386 She...like a Wood-Nymph light Oread or Dryad...Betook her to the Gloves. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Mystr. Udolpho* xxxvii, Marble statues of wood-nymphs. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxvii, She possessed the form and hue of a wood-nymph, with the beauty of a sylph. 1867 MORRIS *Jason* I. 92 Then mayst thou find, In some fair grassy place, the wood-nymphs kind.

b. *transf.* (cf. DRYAD 2 a, NYMPH sb. 2).

1780 MRS. COWLEY *Belle's Stratagem* II. i, The maxims you learnt among the wood-nymphs, in Shropshire, won't pass current here.

2. a. Name for certain species of humming-bird, esp. of the genus *Thalurania* (Gould). b. Collector's name for moths of the genus *Eudryas*.

1861 GOULD *Trochilidæ* II. Plates 99-109. 1885 *Riverside Nat. Hist.* (1888) II. 462 The beautiful wood-nymph, *Eudryas grata*.

'wood-oil. A name for several oils or oily substances obtained from various trees: (a) from the East Indian *Dipterocarpus alatus* and other species (= GURJUN *balsam* or *oil*); (b) from the East Indian Satinwood, *Chloroxylon Swietenia*; (c) from the seeds of the Chinese Oil-

tree or Varnish-tree, *Aleurites cordata* (also called *tung-oil*, from Chinese *yu-t'ung* or *t'ung-tzū-shu*, native names of the tree), used chiefly for varnishing woodwork. Also *attrib.*

1759 in A. Dalrymple *Oriental Repertory* (1793) I. 109 The Bûragmah Dominions yield Gold... Earth-Oil, and Wood-Oil. 1800 *Asiat. Ann. Reg., Misc. Tracts* 95/1. 1841 W. ROBINSON *Assam* 62 The Dipterocarpus levis... yields the thin liquid balsam commonly known by the name of 'wood oil', and which is much used in painting. 1857 HENFREY *Bot.* §438 *Chloroxylon Swietenia* furnishes East Indian Satin-wood, and an oil called Wood-oil is obtained from it. 1881 *Spons' Encycl. Manuf.* IV. 1411 Tung-, Tree-, or Wood-oil... is a product of the so-called 'oil-tree' of China, Cochinchina, and Japan. 1890 HOSIE *Three Yrs. W. China* 18 The wood-oil tree... was scattered about among the fields.

|| **woodoo** (wu:'du:). Also 8 wodou, 9 wazzoo, wuzu. [Turkish *wazû*.] The minor ablution of the Muslims. Cf. ABDEST.

1794 P. RUSSELL *A. Russell's Hist. Aleppo* I. 194 The ordinary preparation for prayer, consists in washing the face, hands, and feet, and is termed Wodou. 1813 J. FORBES *Oriental Mem.* III. 124 Ablutions, called the wazzoo, preparatory to the namauz, or prayer. 1836 LANE *Mod. Egypt*. I. ii. 67 The father usually teaches his son to perform the 'woodoo' and other ablutions. 1855 BURTON *Meccah & Medinah* (1879) 56 The first thing on rising is to perform the Wuzu, or lesser ablution.

woodos(e, -owes, var. WOODWOSE.

† **'woodpeck.** *Obs.* Also 6 -pyke. [app. alteration of WOODSPECK after next.] = next, 1.

1552 HULOET, *Woodepyke byrde, picus*. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 224 Certeyne byrdes... lyke vnto those which we caule woodwales or woodpeckes. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* x. xxix. I. 285 Men say that in the territorie of Tarentum there be no wood-pecks or tree-jobbers. 1694 ADDISON *Poems, Virgil's 4th Georg.* 19 Nor Wood-pecks, nor the Swallow harbour near. 1706 GARDINER tr. *Rapin's Gardens* (1728) 197 Wood-pecks, and various birds the trees invade.

woodpecker ('wud,pækə(r)). Also 7 -picker. [f. WOOD sb.¹ + PECK v.¹ + -ER¹. (Cf. the Gr. names δρυ(ο)κολάπτης, δρυκοκόλαψ, δρυκοκόπος, f. δρύς tree + κολάπτειν to peck, κοπ- to strike.)]

1. a. A bird of the family *Picidæ*, esp. of the sub-family *Picinæ*, comprising very numerous genera and species found in most parts of the world; usually having variegated plumage of bright contrasted colours with various markings; characterized by their habit of pecking holes in the trunks and branches of trees.

1530 PALSOR. 289/2 Woodpecker a byrde, *espec.* 1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. v. 228 As the Wood-pecker, his long tongue doth lill Out of the clov'n pipe of his horny bill, To catch the Emets. 1604 DRAYTON *Owle* 191 The Wood-pecker, whose hardned beake hath... pierc'd the heart of many a solid Oke. 1624 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* v. 171 Numbers of small Birds... Wood-pickers. 1778 J. CARVER *Trav. N. Amer.* xviii. 471 The Woodpecker... is a very beautiful bird; there is one sort whose feathers are a mixture of various colours; and another that is brown all over the body, except the head and neck, which are of a fine red. 1806 MOORE *Ballad Stanzas* II, I heard not a sound But the woodpecker tapping the hollow beech-tree. 1859 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* vi. (1860) 184 In North America there are woodpeckers which feed largely on fruit. 1862 — *Orchids* iii. 127 As a woodpecker... climbs up a tree in search of insects. 1872 COUES *N. Amer. Birds* 191 Woodpeckers nest in holes in trees.

b. With defining words, denoting various species.

The three British species are the Green Woodpecker (*Gecinus viridis*), the Pied or Greater Spotted Woodpecker (*Dendrocopus major*), and the Barred or Lesser Spotted Woodpecker (*D. minor*). Others are the Great Black Woodpecker (*Picus or Dryocopus martius*) of the northern parts of Europe and Asia, and many N. American species, as the Downy W. (*Picus or Dendrocopus pubescens*), the Golden-winged W. (*Colaptes auratus*), the Hairy W. (*Picus or Dendrocopus villosus*), the Pileated W. (*Hylotomus or Dryotomus pileatus*) etc. Several of these are locally known by special names, as FLICKER, HICKWALL, IVORY-BILL, LOG-cock, POPPINJAY, SAP-sucker, WITWALL, WOODSPITE, YAFFLE, etc. (see these words).

1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 86 *Picus Martius*... the great Wood-pecker. 1731 CATESBY *Nat. Hist. Carolina* (1754) I. 21 *Picus varius minor, ventre luteo*. The yellow belly'd Wood-pecker. 1782 LATHAM *Gen. Syn. Birds* I. 558 Red-necked woodpecker. The whole head and neck... are crimson. *Ibid.* II. 591 Yellow Woodpecker... less than our green Woodpecker: being only nine inches in length... is common at Cayenne. 1782-1890 [see SPOTTED ppl. a. 4 b]. 1802 BINGLEY *Anim. Biog.* (1813) II. 129 The Black Woodpecker subsists on insects, which it catches on the bark of trees... It is able to pierce... hard trees, as the oak and hornbeam. 1808 A. WILSON *Amer. Ornith.* I. 142 His tricolored plumage... is so striking... that almost every child is acquainted with the Red-headed Woodpecker. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 622/2 The golden-winged, and the yellow-bellied woodpeckers... are also with us. 1898 MARIA R. AUDUBON *Audubon & Jrnl.* II. 51 Harris and Bell had gone shooting and returned with several birds, among which was a female Red-patched Woodpecker.

† 2. *Cant.* At gaming, a bystander who encourages novices by putting up small stakes. *Obs.*

1608 DEKKER *Lanth. & Candle Lt.* iii. D 2, He that winnes all, is the Eagle. He that stands by and Ventures, is the Woodpecker. a1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew.*

3. *U.S. and Austral. Mil. slang.* A machine-gun.

1898 J. H. PARKER *Hist. Gatling Gun Detachment* vii. 127 Goin' to let the woodpeckers go off? 1932 J. DOS PASSOS 1919 410 The shrill bullets combing the air and the sorehead woodpeckers the machineguns mud cooties gasmasks and the itch. 1945 BAKER *Austral. Lang.* viii. 157 *Woodpecker*, a Japanese .77 machine-gun. 1945 *Yank* 27 July 7 The Japs opened up with what sounded like dual-purpose 75s, 20-mm pompoms and woodpeckers. 1976 G. MARKHAM *Japanese Infantry Weapons World War Two* 41 The popular Taishō 3rd year type machine-gun... was introduced in 1914. Its peculiar stuttering fire earned the gun the Australian nickname of 'woodpecker' (or 'woodchopper').

'wood-pigeon. Any of the species of pigeon that live in woods, as the stock-dove, *Columba oenas*, and (now esp.) the ring-dove, *C. palumbus*.

1668 CHARLETON *Onomast.* 77 *Columba Cavernalis*... the Stock-dove, or Wood Pidgeon. 1743 SHENSTONE *Pastoral Ballad* II. v, I have found out a gift for my fair; I have found where the wood-pigeons breed. 1780 G. WHITE *Selborne, Let. to Pennant* 30 Nov., As to the wild wood-pigeon, the *oenas*, or *vinago*, of Ray, I... see no reason for making it the origin of the common house-dove; but suppose those that have advanced that opinion may have been misled by another appellation, often given to the *oenas*, which is that of stock-dove. 1837 P. KEITH *Bot. Lex.* 217 Knots or bunches... formed by means of a plexus of young shoots... apt to be mistaken... for a wood-pigeon's nest. a1887 JEFFERIES *Field & Hedgerow* 303 The forest is not vacant... Wood-pigeons and turtle-doves abound.

'wood-quest, -quist, -queest. Now *dial.* Also 6-7 -quyst(e, -coyst, 7 -quiste, -coist. [f. WOOD sb.¹ + *quest, quist, QUEEST.*] = prec.

1543 TRAHERON *Vigo's Chirurg.* III. xvi. 109/2 Grated bread in the broth of a woodquyste. 1580 T. NEWTON *Approved Medicines* 85 b, Y^e stockdooue, or Woodquist. 1582 BATMAN *Trevisa's Barth. De P.R.* XII. vi. 181/1 The Stock-doue or Wood-coyst. 1623 tr. *Favine's Theat. Hon.* II. xiii. 231 Ring-doues, or Wood-coysts. 1761 JACKSON'S *Oxf. Jrnl.* 12 Dec. 2 Two Brothers being out a shooting Wood-quists. 1806 J. N. WHITE *Poems* 18 The wood-quest wild. 1825 JENNINGS *Obs. Dial. W. Eng.*, Wood-quist. 1877 *Hon. Miss Ferrard* II. ii. 173 The woodquests' cooing formed a melodious bass.

'wood-reeve. Also 6 -ryfe, 7 -reefe, 8 -reef. [f. WOOD sb.¹ 2 + REEVE sb.¹ 2.] The steward or overseer of a wood or forest.

1579 TWYNE *Phisicke agst. Fort.* I. xlvii. 70 What is he now other then a Woodryfe, or Woodman? 1643 *MS. Acc. St. John's Hosp., Canterb.*, Spent vpon our woodreefe for coming to giue vs notice of some abuses done to our wood. 1795 *Trans. Soc. Arts* XIII. 218 Those [trees] that fail to form so desirable a shape as in the opinion of a judicious wood-reef is necessary. 1866 *Morn. Star* 6 Mar. 6/5 The case was proved by Wm. Goodweh, woodreeve to Miss Hayes. 1913 *Daily News* 15 Aug. 5 We are mostly shepherds and wood-reeves and thackers and foresters here.

† **'wood-rowel.** *Obs.* [f. WOOD sb.¹ + ROWEL sb., in reference to the whorled leaves.] = next.

1568 TURNER *Herbal* III. 24 Of wood rofe or wood rowell. 1579 LANGHAM *Gard. Health* 683 Woodrowell... is a good healer vp of wounds. 1905 *Engl. Dial. Dict.*, Wood-rowell, sb. *Obsol.* Yks. The sweet woodruff, *Asperula odorata*.

woodruff¹ ('wudrʌf). Forms: 1 wudu-, wuderofe, -rife, 3 wuderoue, 4 woderowe, 4-5 -rove, 5 -rofe, woderove, -roffe, -ruffe, 5-6 -rofe, 6 woodroue, -rowe, -rofe, -roof(f)e, 7 -rof, -rough, 7- -roof, (8 -roof), 9 woodruff, (*Sc.* -riff, *arch.* wooderoofe, wood-ruffe). [OE. *wudurofe*, f. *wudu* WOOD sb.¹ + **rofe, *rife*, of unknown meaning.] A low-growing herb (*Asperula odorata*, N.O. *Rubiaceæ*) found in woods in Britain and Europe generally, with clusters of small white flowers, and strongly sweet-scented leaves in whorls; also descriptively or distinctively called *sweet woodruff*. Also *attrib.*

c1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 18 Herba astula regia þæt is wudu rofe. *Ibid.* II. 64 Wiþ þære winestran sidan sare wudurifan gecnuwa on eced. c1265 *Voc. Plants* in Wr.-Wū lcker 558/10 *Hastula regia*, i. *muge de bois*, i. wuderoue. a1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xiii. 43 A-way is huere wynter wo, when woderowe springeth. a1400 *Stockholm Med. MS.* 191 Woderowe, *hastilogia*. 14.. in Wr.-Wülcker 566/20 *Astula regia*, woderofe. 1477-9 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1905) 81 Rose-garlandis and woderove-garlandis. 1525 *Grete Herbal* xli. (1529) Civ, De astula regia. Woodroue. 1597 *GERARDE Herbal* II. cccclxvii. 966 In English Woodrooffe, Woodrowe, and Woodrowell. 1785 MARTYN *Lett. Bot.* xv. (1794) 164 Sherardia and woodroof have funnel-shaped corollas. 1824 *Hogg Tales & Sk., Priv. Mem. Fanatic* (1837) V. 83 Murder will out, though the Almighty should lend hearing to the ears of the willow, and speech to the seven tongues of the woodriff. 1872 BLACK *Adv. Phaeton* xix. 263 As a bunch of woodruff will sweeten a lumber-room.

b. Extended to other species of *Asperula*.

1597 *GERARDE Herbal* II. cccclxvii. 965 There is another sort of Woodrooffe called *Asperula Cærulea*, or blew Woodrooffe. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 98/2 Woodroof... Some have blew, others purple coloured flowers. 1841 CATLIN *N. Amer. Ind.* II. App. A. 260 Woodroof, a species of madder used as a red dye. 1865 *Sowerby's Engl. Bot.* (ed. 3) IV. 231 *Asperula Arvensis*... Blue Field Woodruff. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1236 Woodroof, or Woodruff..., Quinsy, *Asperula cynanchica*.

Woodruff² ('wudrʌf). *Mech.* [See quot. 1892.] *Woodruff key*: a key whose cross-section is part

circular (to fit into a curved keyway in a shaft) and part rectangular.

1892 P. BENJAMIN *Mod. Mechanism* 455 [The Woodruff System of Keying.—The Woodruff Manufacturing Co., of Hartford, Conn., has brought out a novel system of keying.] *Ibid.* 924 (Index), Woodruff keys. **1923** C. D. ALBERT *Machine Design Drawing Room Probl.* i. 63 Woodruff keys are quite extensively used in machine tools and in machine construction generally. **1976** *New Motorcycling Monthly* Oct. 34/1 Remove Woodruff key from its slot in magneto shaft.

woodruffite ('wudrʌfɪt). *Min.* [See quot. 1953 and -ITE¹.] A hydrated oxide of zinc and manganese, (Zn,Mn⁺⁺)Mn⁺⁺O₇·1-2H₂O, found as black or grey monoclinic crystals.

1953 C. FRONDEL in *Amer. Mineralogist* XXXVIII. 769 The name woodruffite is proposed for this species after Samuel Woodruff (deceased), for many years employed as a miner by the New Jersey Zinc Company. **1979** *Ibid.* LXIV. 1214/1 The spectrum of woodruffite shows it to be a structural analog of todorokite, as has been assumed from the similarity of their X-ray powder patterns.

'wood-rush. [RUSH sb.¹] Any plant of the genus *Luzula*, comprising grass-like herbs allied to the rushes, with clusters of chaffy brown flowers.

The name belongs properly to the sylvan species, as *L. sylvatica* (Great Wood-rush, also called *wood-grass*); the common species *L. campestris* (Field Wood-rush) is better called *field-rush*.

1776 WITHERING *Bot. Arrangem.* 213 Small hairy Wood-rush. **1857** MISS PRATT *Flower. Pl.* V. 299 [*luzula*] *sylvatica* (Great Hairy Wood Rush). **1861** S. THOMSON *Wild Fl.* III. (ed. 4) 170 The broad-leaved wood-rush, with its hairy leaves, may be gathered in woods. **1889** *Science-Gossip* XXV. 188 *Luzula albidula* is a very graceful woodrush of a peculiar shade of light green.

'wood-sage. [SAGE sb.¹] A common name for Wood Germander (*Teucrium Scorodonia*), a labiate herb with dull greenish-yellow flowers, and leaves having a heavy aromatic smell like sage and a bitter flavour like hops.

1570 PENA & LOBEL *Stirp. Advers. nova* (1576) 210 Scordium alterum Plinij... Wood sage. **1597** [see SAGE sb.¹ 3]. **1758** BORLASE *Nat. Hist. Cornw.* 229 Wood-sage, *Salvia agrestis seu scorodonia*, at St. Michael's Mount. **1796** WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) III. 519. **1880** JEFFERIES *Gt. Estate* 91.

†'woodsale. *Obs.* [SALE sb.²] A periodical sale of wood or timber from an estate.

1479 in *Catal. Anc. Deeds* (1915) VI. 168 The said beches to be drawn on the said ground woldmanlyke after the custome of wodsale. **1540** *Act 32 Hen. VIII.* c. 46 §10 The said Maistre of the Wardes... shall have auctorite... to make wood sales to the Kinges use of al underwooddis. **1562** LEIGH *Surv.* (1577) Div. Profites of woodsale, is where sometimes the Lord of a Mannour doeth make a yerely sale of his woodes. **c1617** BACON *Memorial Wks.* 1819 V. 485 What course shall be taken for the rest of the years with the wood sales for supply of this 25,000*l.* yearly. **1786** in *Jrnl.* *Ho. Comm.* XLIII. 622 Warrants for raising £2,000... by Wood Sales in Dean Forest.

attrib. **1605** SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iii. IV. *Captains* 243 A sort of lusty bil-men set In wood-sale time to sell a cops.

wood-sear, -seer, -sere ('wudsɪə(r)). *Obs.* or *dial.* Also 9 *erron.* -sour. [? f. WOOD sb.¹ + SERE a.]

1. A frothy exudation on plants, produced by an insect: = CUCKOO-SPIT² 1; also, the insect itself.

1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 72/1 *Attelabus*,... the smallest sort of locusts that be wingless: ye woodseare. **1589** [? LYL] *Pappe w. Hatchet* Bij, Such a warming, as shall make all his deuces as like wood, as his spittle is like wood-seare. **1600** SURFLET *Country Farm* i. viii. 39 Spiders, wormes, woodseare and other such like vermine. **1664** POWER *Exp. Philos.* i. 28 That spumeous froth or dew (which here in the North we call Cuckow-Spittle, and, in the South, Woodsear...) looks like a heap of glass-bubbles. **1821** CLARE *Vill. Minstrel* I. 135 Insects of mysterious birth... Hid in knots of spittle white... 'Wood seers' call'd, that wet declare, So the knowing shepherds say. **1825** HONE *Every-day Bk.* I. 535 The abundance of woodseare and honey dew on herbs indicates fine weather.

attrib. **1599** CUTWODE *Caltha Poet.* lviii. C2 b, I will not (as the creeping canker) waste thee, nor as the worm in wodsar time bespew thee.

2. The season in which a tree or shrub will decay or die if its wood be cut.

Erroneously explained as 'the season for cutting wood'.

1573 TUSSEER *Husb.* (1878) 111 From Maie til October leaue cropping, for why? In wood sere, whatsoever thou croppest will dy. *Ibid.* 119 The bushes and thorne... In woodseer or sommer cutt downe to destroy. **1603** SIR C. HEYDON *Jud. Astrol.* ii. 43 If wood be cutte after the sunne decline from vs till he come to the equinoctiall, (which time they call woodseer) it will neuer growe againe. **1610** FOLKINGHAM *Feudrig.* i. ix. 22 All sappie weedes cutt downe in Wood-seare, and often mowne againe..., their roots will putrifie and rotte. **1851** GLOSS. *Essex* 14 *Woodseare*, decayed or hollow pollard, also the season for felling wood.

3. *attrib.* or *adj.* Applied to 'loose, spungy ground' (Lisle). Hence 'wood-,seary a., in same sense.

1670 AUBREY in *Miscell. Cur. Subj.* (1714) 24 Let us imagine... what Kind of Country this was... by the Nature of the Soil, which is a Soure, Woodseare Land, very natural for the Production of Oaks especially. **a1722** LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 27 Chalk fills up the vacuities of sandy, or wood-seary ground. *Ibid.* 79 Cold, loose, hollow, wood-sear land. **1759** tr. *Duhamel's Husb.* i. viii. (1762) 37 Chalk laid on sandy or wood-seary ground. **1811** T. DAVIS *Agric. Wilts* 112 The

red strong land on the high level parts of the Downs, which was once woodland, and sometimes expressly called 'wood-sour land'.

†'wood-shaw. *Obs.* Forms and etym.: see WOOD sb.¹ and SHAW sb.¹; also with gen. 4 wodeschawe. A thicket: = SHAW sb.¹ 1 b.

c1205 LAY. 21561 Halden ut of wude scaze scalles swide kene. **a1300** *Thrush & Night.* 179 in Hazl. *E.P.P.* (1864) I. 57 Fowel, for thi false sawe, For bedd i the this wode shawe; Thou fare into the filde. **1390** GOWER *Conf.* II. 339 Whan sche under the wodeschawe Hire child behield. **a1400** *Isumbras* 73 And als he wente by a wodschawe [v.r. came by a lytell schawe] þare mett he with a lyttill knaue. **c1400** *Laud Troy Bk.* 7618 Then men my3t se swordes drawe Thikkere then trees by wode-schawe. **1470-85** MALORY *Arthur* ix. xii. 356 Sir lamorak... rode vnto the forest, and there he mette with two knyghtes houynge vnder the wood shawe. **1513** DOUGLAS *Aeneis* i. vi. 10 His navy derne amang the thik wod schaw.

woodshed ('wudʃɛd), *sb.* Also wood shed, woodshed. [f. WOOD sb.¹ + SHED sb.²] 1. A shed for storing wood, esp. for fuel. Also *euphem.*, a lavatory.

1844 LOUISA S. COSTELLO *Bearn & Pyrenees* I. 282 We were glad to take shelter in a wood-shed. **1854** H. D. THOREAU *Walden* 54, I have also a small wood-shed adjoining, made chiefly of the stuff which was left after building the house. **1868** N.-HAWTHORNE *Passages from Amer. Notebks.* II. 9 We have been employed partly in an augan labor of clearing out a wood-shed. **1921** W. DE LA MARE *Mem. Midget* ii. 10 Pollie had gone to the wood-shed to fetch kindling. **1940** W. FAULKNER *Hamlet* II. ii. 129 Serve you right for keeping a mare like that in a woodshed. **1974** M. HOYT *Thirty Miles* i. 1 The plumbing wasn't. Its place was taken by a small building known by the somewhat less-than-frank title of 'woodshed'.

2. *fig. a.* Phr. to take into the woodshed and varr.: to reprimand or punish. *N. Amer. colloq.*

From the old tradition of giving a child a spanking in the woodshed, i.e. not in the presence of others.

1907 St. Nicholas July 826/2 He could save himself and most of his companions from unpleasant reckonings in various and sundry woodsheds. **1949** *Time* 18 Apr. 22/2 If you don't do what we tell you to do we are going to take you out into the woodshed. **1966** *Toronto Daily Star* 21 Dec. 14 (heading) Taking the Senator to the woodshed. **1983** *Chicago Sun-Times* 16 July 34 Assuming the Fed is traditionally pliant, why does not Reagan simply take Volcker to the woodshed and tell him to ease up?

b. Phr. something nasty in the woodshed: see NASTY a. 7. Also in allusive varr.

1940 AUDEN *Another Time* 111 What was it, Ernst, that your shadow unwittingly said? O did the child see something horrid in the woodshed long ago? **1958** *Times Lit. Suppl.* 17 Jan. 30/1 Mr Amis does not, however, present Garnet Bowen as a case-history, whose dislike of foreign parts could be explained on a woodshed basis. **1959** *Listener* 8 Jan. 78/3 As the leading Torquemada, Miss Margaret Lane clearly felt some obligation to strive to uncover something—well—interesting in the woodshed.

c. *Mus. slang.* As a place where a musician may, or should, practise in private (see also quot. 1937).

1937 *Printers' Ink Monthly* May 45/3 *Wood shed*, a severe rehearsal. **1946** *Hollywood Note* June 4 T.D. [sc. Tommy Dorsey] goes back to the woodshed. **1977** *Rolling Stone* 16 June 66/2 Leavell's playing won't scare many jazz pianists into the woodshed.

woodshed ('wudʃɛd), *v.* *Mus. slang.* [f. the sb.] *trans.* and *intr.* To practise or rehearse, esp. privately (see also quot. 1978).

1936 L. ARMSTRONG *Swing that Music* 71 We used to practice together, 'wood-shed' as we say (from the old-time way of going out into the wood-shed to practice a new song). **1946** MEZZROW & WOLFE *Really the Blues* viii. 108 I'll have to woodshed this thing awhile so I can get straight with you all. **1950** BLES & JANIS *They all played Ragtime* (1958) x. 203, I would hear the tunes and, to make sure, go home and 'woodshed' them in every key, put them in major and minor and all the ninth chords. **1968** A. YOUNG in A. Chapman *New Black Voices* (1972) Drew's got an alto [horn]... Drew dont hardly touch it, he too busy woodshedding his drums. **1978** *Amer. Speech* 1975 L. 302 [Jargon of barber-shop singing.] *Woodshed*, work out the harmony parts (to a known melody) by ear; sing as a group for the first time...; improvise (an interpretation).

Hence 'woodshedding *vbl. sb.*, (a) the dispensing of punishment; (b) the practice or rehearsal of music; (c) spontaneous or improvised barber-shop singing.

1940 *Amer. Speech* XV. 205 *Woodshedding*, disciplinary action. **1946** MEZZROW & WOLFE *Really the Blues* ix. 151 Instead of woodshedding, he went out after the big money with the primitive equipment he had when he started. **1955** SHAPIRO & HENTOFF *Hear me talkin' to Ya* xi. 190 It was here that the term 'Woodshedding' originated. When one of the gang wanted to rehearse his part, he would go off into the woods and practice. **1956** S. LONGSTREET *Real Jazz* xiii. 101 Bix [Beiderbecke] did plenty of woodshedding, playing alone, to some recording on the family Victrola. **1973** T. PYNCHON *Gravity's Rainbow* i. 129 No head falsetto here but complete, out of the honest breast, a baritone voice brought over years of woodshedding up to this range. **1974** *Harmonizer* Jan.-Feb. 18/2 Woodshedding is not a 'spectator sport'—only participants can fully enjoy it. **1976** *Times* 27 Sept. 12/4 Spontaneous barbershoppping is known as woodshedding, because a woodshed is as good a place as any to burst into sudden song.

†'woodship. *Obs.* [OE. *wódsceipe*: see WOOD a. and -SHIP.] Madness; = WOODNESS.

c1000 *Ags. Gloss.* in Wt.-Wülcker 245/12 *Furia, insania, amencia*, wodsceipe, repnes. **a1225** *Ancr. R.* 120 *Ira furor brevis est*: wreðe is a wodschipe. **a1240** *Lofsong* in O.E.

Hom. I. 211 Leste þu wreoke ham on me i wodschipe of pine wreðe. **a1325** *Prose Psalter* xxxvi[i]. 8 Ende fram ire, and forsak wodeship. **c1430** *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* i. cxx. (1869) 62 Glotonye hath double wodschipe; wodschipe of savouring, and wodschipe of outrageous spekinge.

woodshock ('wudʃɒk). [app. popular alteration of a native form of WOODCHUCK (see WEJACK).] A North American species of marten or its fur: = FISHER¹ 2 b, PEKAN.

1829 J. RICHARDSON *Fauna Bor.-Amer.* I. 52 *Mustela Canadensis* (Lin.) The Pekan or Fisher... Its skins are... imported into England... under the names of Woodshocks or Fishers.

Woodsia ('wudzɪə). *Bot.* Also woodsia. [mod.L., f. the name of Joseph Woods (1776-1864), architect and botanist + -IA¹.] A fern of the genus of this name (family Polypodiaceae), comprising small, rock-loving, tufted plants found in mountainous parts of Britain and other temperate regions and in the Arctic.

1815 R. BROWN in *Trans. Linnean Soc.* XI. 171 This genus I have named in honour of my friend Mr. Joseph Woods... The character distinguishing *Woodsia*... consists in its involucre being inserted under the group of capsules... the *sorus*, which it completely surrounds at the base; while it is in every stage open at top. **1848** T. MOORE *Handbk. Brit. Ferns* iii. 37 The Woodsias have no especial claim to be esteemed for their elegance. **a1894** W. FALCONER *Let. in W. Robinson Wild Garden* (ed. 4) viii. 83 Woodsias, tiny Aspleniums, and other Ferns. **1908** E. STEP *Wayside & Woodland Ferns* 55 Oblong Woodsia (*Woodsia ilvensis*). This species differs but slightly from the Alpine Woodsia, and some botanists deny its distinctness. **1961** R. W. BUTCHER *New Illustrated Brit. Flora* I. 176 *Woodsia alpina*.... This Northern Woodsia occurs very rarely on mountain cliffs and rocks in a few places in Scotland and N. Wales.

woodside ('wudsɪd). Forms and etym.: see WOOD sb.¹ and SIDE sb.; also with gen. 4 wodessyde, 6 woodessyde. The side or edge of a wood.

Chiefly in phr. with prep., as *by* or *under the* or *a woodside* = beside a wood; cf. BEDSIDE, ROADSIDE, WAYSIDE.

a1300 *Cursor M.* 5734 Bi a wildrin wod side. **a1300** K. Horn 1024 (Camb.) His folk he dude abide Vnder wude side. **1375** BARBOUR *Bruce* ix. 139 Thai that in the wodsye weir. **c1400** *Parce Michi* 181 in 26 *Pol. Poems* 148 By dale, by doune, by wodes syde. **c1430** LYG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 110 So that ye wylle goo thys tyde Downe to the chapylle under the wood syde. **1530** PALSGR. 290/1 Woodessyde, *oriere du boys*. **a1533** LD. BERNERS *Huon* vii. 18 They came to a lytyll woodsyde. **1658** CROMWELL *Sp.* 4 Feb. in *Carlyle*, I would have been glad to have lived under my woodside, to have kept a flock of sheep, rather than undertaken such a government as this. **1666** DRYDEN *Ann. Mirab.* ccxlviii, Thus to some desert Plain, or old Woodside, Dire Night-hags come. **1774** GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* IV. 11 A buck, or male hare, is known by its... feeding farther from the wood-sides. **1818** HAZLITT *Eng. Poets* ii. (1870) 47 You see a little withered old man by a wood-side opening a wicket. **1853** G. JOHNSTON *Nat. Hist. E. Bord.* I. 253 The woodside on the south is very swampy. **1865** KINGSLEY *Herew.* xxxv, It will be as well for some of us to remain here; and, spreading our men along the wood-side, prevent the escape of the villains. **1895** *Atlantic Monthly* Mar. 425 The snow may be gone... except... along fences and wood-sides. *attrib.* **1863** COWDEN CLARKE *Shaks. Char.* xvi. 402 Like a babbling woodside brook. **1871** PALGRAVE *Lyr. Poems* 68 In the wood-side field.

woodsman ('wudzɪmən). *Pl.* woodsmen. (Chiefly U.S.) [f. *wood's* gen. sing. or *woods* pl. of WOOD sb.¹ + MAN sb.¹; cf. BACKWOODSMAN.] A man who inhabits, frequents, or ranges the woods, as a huntsman, sportsman, wood-cutter, etc. (cf. WOODMAN¹ 1, 2, 4); one accustomed with or accustomed to the woods.

1688 CLAYTON *Virginia in Phil. Trans.* XVIII. 122 There are abundance of brave Red Deer, so that a good Woodsman, as they call them, will keep a House with Venison. **1699** DAMPIER *Voy.* II. ii. 86 The Captain... told him... that he was but a sorry Woodsman, and that he would swing him but twice round and he should not guess the way out again. **1755** R. ROGERS *Jrnl.* (1769) 9 One company of woodsmen or rangers... to make excursions towards the enemy's forts. **1797** F. BAILY *Jrnl. Tour N. Amer.* (1856) 358 My companion... was an excellent woodsman; and I... trusted myself to his guidance, well knowing that he would not easily mistake the track. **1817** SCOTT *Harold* II. xiv, A woodsman thou and hast a spear, And couldst thou such an insult bear? **1825** — *Talism.* xxii, The low wail of a dog... which, as an experienced woodsman, he had no hesitation in recognising to be that of his own faithful hound. **1827** HOOD *Plea Mids. Fairies* xlv, A merry Woodsman, clad in green, Stept vanward from his mates. **1875** WHYTE-MELVILLE *Katerfelto* xvi, Rube was far too practical a woodsman to pass such a slot without inquiry. **1896** N. Y. *Weekly Witness* 30 Dec. 13/1 The woodsmen were going for the opposite party. **1902** S. E. WHITE *Blazed Trail* vi, A veteran woodsman who had come to swamping in his old age.

'wood-sorrel. [Englishing of *sorrel de boys*, superseding WOODSOUR: see WOOD sb.¹ and SORREL sb.¹ (3 a): so called from the sour taste of the leaves, resembling sorrel.] The common name of *Oxalis Acetosella*, a low-growing woodland plant having delicate trifoliate leaves and small white flowers streaked with purple, appearing in spring.

1525 Grete Herball I. (1529) Cvj, Alleluya, wood sorell or cocowes meate. **1578** LYTE *Dodoens* iv. xliii. 502 Woode Sorrel is a lowe or base herbe, without stalkes. **1634-5**

BRERETON *Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) 192, I took a good quantity of mithridate and wood-sorrel. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* III. 166 Wood sorrel, . . being boiled up with [milk], and coagulating, the whole is put into casks. . . and kept under ground to be eaten in winter [in Lapland]. 1888 T. W. REID *Life W. E. Forster* (ed. 2) I. ii. 42 The first appearance of cuckoo or swallow, of wood sorrel or anemone. 1899 R. BRIDGES *Idle Flowers* vii, Woodsorrel's pencilled veil.

b. Applied with defining words to other species of *Oxalis*; also in the West Indies to species of *Begonia*.

1770 J. R. FORSTER tr. *Kalm's Trav. N. Amer.* I. 201 The yellow wood sorrel, or *Oxalis corniculata*. 1855 DELAMER *Kitch. Gard.* (1861) 49 The *Oxalis crenata*, or Notched Wood-sorrel, a tuberous-rooted esculent, cultivated in Peru under the name of Oca. 1858 A. IRVINE *Handbk. Brit. Plants* 754 *Oxalis stricta*, . . Upright Yellow Wood-sorrel. 1864 GRISEBACH *Flora W. Ind.* Isl. 787/2 Sorrel, wood, *Begonia acutifolia*.

† **wood-sour.** *Obs.* Forms: see WOOD *sb.*¹; 4-6 -sour, 5 -sowr, -soure, -soour, 6 -sore, -sower. [f. WOOD *sb.*¹ + SOUR *sb.*, corresp. to ON. *skógarsúra* (skóg SCOGH, wood, *súra* sorrel), Da. *skovsyre*. Cf. (= sorrel) MDu. *suerkruyd*, *suerick*, Du. *zuring*, WFr. *súrblédén* pl., G. *sauerampfer*, etc., and (= wood-sorrel) G. *sauerklee*, *sauerkraut*, Da. *surklever*, etc.] = prec.

a 1387 *Sinon. Barthol.* (Anecd. Oxon.) 10 *Alleluia*, i. wodesour. a 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula* etc. 68 Panis cuculi alleluia, i. wodsour, is a treyfole growng vnder buschez and berep white flourez, is a ful sour herbe. 1538 TURNER *Libellus, Oxy.* . . a latinis dicitur trifolium acetosum, ab officinis Alleluia, vulgus etiam uocat Alleluia wodsore, & cuckowes meat. 1562 — *Herbal* II. 74 Oxy. . . shuld be called wud sour or sorrell. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* IV. xliii. 503 This herbe is called. . . in English Woodsorel. . . and Woodsower. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* Suppl., Woodsower is Oxy.

wood-sour, *erron.* form of WOOD-SEAR.

woodspeck ('wudspɛk). *dial.* Also 6 -spike, 9 -spack. [See WOOD *sb.*¹ and SPECK *sb.*³ Cf. WOODSPITE.] A woodpecker.

15. . . Woodspecke [see SPECK *sb.*³]. 1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 25 Euery suche leafe or pricke [of Juniper] is very like vnto y^e ende of the tonge of an hueholl or wodspike. 1567 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* XIV. (1593) 330 On the head thereof were garlands store, And eke a woodspecke. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* xxx. xvi. II. 399 As many as have about them the bill of a woodspeck when they come to take hony out of the hive, shall not be stung by bees. 1847 HALLIWELL, *Woodspack*, a woodpecker. 1885 [see WOODSPITE].

† **wood-spell**¹. *Obs.* [f. WOOD *sb.*¹ + SPELL *sb.*¹ 3.] A spell or charm against danger in passing through a wood or forest.

1579 [see SPELL *sb.*¹ 3]. 1612 J. MASON *Anat. Sorc.* 63.

wood-spell². *U.S.* [f. WOOD *sb.*¹ + SPELL *sb.*³ 2.] A spell or turn of work at piling or storing wood for fuel.

1864 WEBSTER, *Spell* . . 2. A gratuitous helping forward of another's work; as, a wood-spell. (U.S.) 1869 MRS. STOWE *Oldtown Folks* xxxvii, It was in the winter of this next year that the minister's 'wood-spell' was announced. . . There was a certain day set apart in the winter, . . when every parishioner brought the minister a sled-load of wood. 1878 — *Pogamus* P. ii. 12 The great wood-pile in the back yard, where, at the yearly 'wood-spell', the farmers deposited the fuel needed for the long. . . winters.

wood-spirit. [f. WOOD *sb.*¹ + SPIRIT *sb.* 3, 21.] 1. *Myth.* A spirit or imaginary being, fabled to dwell in or haunt woods.

1845 [C. H. J. ANDERSON] *Swedish Brothers* 4 The Nipen, or wood-spirit was . . said to haunt these woods. 1877 J. E. CARPENTER tr. *Tiele's Hist. Relig.* 184 The wood-spirits, *Lyeshie*, bear most resemblance in conception and character to Pan and the Satyrs. 1911 W. W. FOWLER *Relig. Exper. Roman People* x. 235 Diana was a wood-spirit, a tree-spirit.

2. Crude methyl alcohol obtained from wood by destructive distillation.

1842 in *Ure Revenue in Jeopardy* (1843) 11 A sample of crude naphtha. . . the unrectified combustible liquid obtained from the distillation of wood, . . imported from Scotland under the name of naphtha or wood-naphtha. . . It is named in Chemistry wood-spirit or pyroxylic spirit. 1854 RONALDS & RICHARDSON *Chem. Technol.* (ed. 2) I. 367 Wood-spirit is used to some extent. . . in place of alcohol, in spirit-lamps. 1887 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* IV. 751/1 Methyl alcohol, . . more popularly known under the several names of pyroligneous spirit, pyroxylic spirit, wood spirit, wood alcohol, and wood naphtha.

woodspite ('wudspait). Now *dial.* Also 6 -specht, 7 -speight, -spight. [f. WOOD *sb.*¹ + SPEIGHT.] A woodpecker; *esp.* the Green Woodpecker, *Gecinus viridis*.

1555 GESNER *Hist. Anim.* III. *Avium* 680 Primum pici genus Angli spechtam & wodspectham. . . nominant. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* xxvii. x. II. 282 The roots must be dugged up in the night season, for feare that the Wood-speight or Hickway should see them: for in the day time the said bird would flie in their faces that carie it away, and be ready to job out their eyes. 1606 N. B[AXTER] *Sydney's Ourania* H 2, The coloured Woodspite runs along the trees. 1618 REYCE *Brev. Suffolk* (1902) 45 Others, whose notes I cannot commend . . . as the Cockcow, the Jay, the wood spight, the owle. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* V. 249 The Green Wood-spite or Wood-pecker is called the Rain-Fowl in some parts of the country. 1885 SWAINSON *Prov. Names Birds* 99 Green Woodpecker. . . Wood spite (Norfolk). Wood spack (Norfolk; Suffolk).

woody ('wudzɪ), *a.* orig. and chiefly U.S. Also -ey. [irreg. f. *woods*, pl. of WOOD *sb.*¹ (see 9 g) + -Y¹; formed thus for distinction from *woody*.] Of, pertaining to, characteristic or suggestive of the woods; sylvan.

1861 WHITTIER *Cobbler Keezar's Vision* vi, Woody and wild and lonesome, The swift stream wound away. 1869 MRS. STOWE *Oldtown Folks* xxxvii, [We] ran. . . about the piles of wood. . . with a joyous satisfaction. How fresh and spicy and woody it smelt! 1883 *Longm. Mag.* II. 78 Their songs have the delicacy and wildness of most woody forms. 1900 'MARK TWAIN' *Man that corrupted* etc. 367 There was a deep, woody stillness everywhere. 1973 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 27 Apr. 472/5 The merely woody setting of the keeper's activities and of his meetings with Connie. 1977 *Daily Tel.* 9 Apr. 7/3 Scatter them on woody bits of the garden. 1981 'D. JORDAN' *Double Red* xxi. 92 The same perfume, a cool tinge of something woody. 1985 *Dirt Bike* Mar. 44/2 Duane Summers powers the XC up a woody strail.

woodwall ('wudwɒl). Now *dial.* Forms: 3 wude-, 3-5 wodewale, 5 -woll, wodwale, 6 wode-, woodw(h)ale, -waule, -weele, 7 -wal, woodhall, 6-woodwall. See also *Eng. Dial. Dict.* [ME. *wodewale*, ad. or cogn. w. MLG. *wedewale* (early Flem. *widewael* 'orielus') f. *wede* WOOD *sb.*¹ + **wale* of obscure origin. (Cf. WITWALL, and, for sense 2, HICKWALL.)]

† 1. A singing bird: in early quots. of uncertain identity, but prob. (as later) the Golden Oriole, *Oriolus galbula*, which has a loud flute-like whistle: = WITWALL 1. *Obs.*

a 1250 *Owl & Night*. 1659 (Cott. MS.) brusche & proste & wodewale [Jesus MS. wodewale] An fuheles bope grete & smale. a 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* v. 26 The wilde laveroc ant wole ant the wodewale. c 1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesto* in Wright *Voc.* 166 Escoter la note de l'oriel [gloss a wodewale]. ? a 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 658 In many places were nyghtyngales, Alpes, fynches, and wodewales, That in her swete song deliten. *Ibid.* 914 With popyniay, with nyghtyngale, With Chalaundre, and with wodewale. c 1430 *LYDG. Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 23 On fresh braunches syngheth the wodwale. a 1600 *Robin Hood* ii. in Child *Ballads* III. 91 The woodweele sang, and wold not cease, Amongst the leaues a lyne. a 1650 *Eger & Grine* 922 in Furniv. & Hales *Percy Folio* I. 383 The throstlecocke, the Nightingale, The laueracke & the wild woodhall. 1657 TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 24 That Bird which Holerius calls Galbula, that is Woodwall. a 1667 SKINNER *Etymol. Ling. Angl.* (1671), Witwall vel Woodwall, . . galbula.

2. A woodpecker; *esp.* the Green Woodpecker, *Gecinus viridis*: = WITWALL 2.

In quot. 1489 tr. OF. *bruhier* buzzard. c 1489 CAXTON *Blanchardyn* xlii. 173 But men saye in a comyn langage that 'neuer noo wodewoll dyde brede a sperhawke'. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 224 Byrdes. . . sumewhat lyke vnto those which we caule woodwales, or woodpeckes. 1566 *Act & Eliz.* c. 15 §2 For the Head of everie Woodwall Pye Jaye Raven or Kyte, one peny. 1815 *Shaw's Gen. Zool.* IX. 185 [The Green Woodpecker] is called in different parts of England by the various names of Woodspite, . . Woodwall, and Poppinjay. 1916 J. R. HARRIS in *Contemp. Rev.* Feb. 212 In Devonshire a common name for the bird is Woodall.

woodward ('wudwəd), *sb.* *Hist.* Forms: see WOOD *sb.*¹; also 6 wodwarte, 7 wooddard. [Late OE. *wuduweard*, f. WOOD *sb.*¹ + WARD *sb.*¹ Survives as a surname in the forms *Woodward* and *Woodard*.] The keeper of a wood; an officer of a wood or forest, having charge of the growing timber.

c 1050 *Rect. Sing. Pers.* §19 (Liebermann 452) Wuduwearde gēbyrē ælc windfyllē treow. 1290 *Rolls of Parl.* I. 26/1 Wodewardos & proprios Forestar' ac Ministros Boscorum suorum predictorum. 1324-5 *Ibid.* 422/2 Le Wodeward Sire Johan de Brakenbery. c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 531/2 Wodewarde, or walkare in a wode for keypyng, *lucarius*. 1495 *Rolls of Parl.* VI. 466/1 The Office of Woodwarde within the Countie of Caernarvan. 1563 Bp. SANDYS in *Strype Ann. Ref.* (1709) I. xxxv. 356 [He] is now my tenant and my bailiff and woodward of my manour. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 33/43 A Wodwarte, *saltuarius*. 1619 T. CLAY *Chorol. Disc.* 25 The Wood-ward is. . . an Officer of Charge, vnto whose care and trust, the custodie of the Lords Woods, and Receipt of the profits arising out of the same, are chiefly committed. 1638 WHITING *Albino & Bellama* 109 The wooddards greene with Tyrian dye was dight. a 1647 HABINGTON *Surv. Worc.* (Worc. Hist. Soc. Proc.) I. 454 Heerevpon dyd the Byshop of Worcester appoynt hys servant to bee hys woodward in Wenlond, and within the chace of Maluern. 1710 *Brit. Apollo* III. No. 119. 4/1 James Worseley, Esq.; is made Woodward of the New Forest. a 1722 LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 361 My woodward assures me, that it would otherwise do. 1791 W. GILPIN *Forest Scenery* II. 20 The first officer [of the New Forest], under the lord-warden, is the woodward. . . Under the woodward are twelve regarders. 1871 *Daily News* 21 Sept., The under-keeper of the Loughton and Theydon Walks, gave evidence. . . that the . . Lord of the Manor of Loughton had enclosed a thousand acres of the public land, . . and that his woodward. . . had cut down several thousand trees.

¶ Used for WOODWOSE.

1488 *Acc. Ld. H. Treas. Scot.* I. 82 A wodward of gold with a diamant. 1552 *Elyot's Dict.*, *Cæpus*, a beast in face like a Satyre, or woodward. 1566 in J. Nicholl *Comp. Ironmongers* (1866) 90 Hewe Watts and Xpofer Beckes, Wadwardes, or Iyemen.

b. As the title of an officer of the 'Ancient Order of Foresters'.

1886 *Rules Court No. 2991 Foresters* No. 22 The Woodwards shall visit the sick members . . once a week.

Hence † **woodwardship**, the office of woodward.

1418 in *41st Dep. Kpr.'s Rep.* 700 [The] Wodewardships [of the commotes of Penthlyn and Thalepont, Merionethshire]. 1485 *Rolls of Parl.* VI. 379/1 The Office of Keping of the Parke of Haseley, with the Wodewardship. 1586-7 in H. Hall *Soc. Eliz. Age* (1886) 242 Mr. Inkpen. . . sold him the woodwardship of that manor for 33/4. 1640 in *Jrnl. Ho. Comm.* XLIII. 589/1 The. . . best Ship Timber there within the Wood-Wardship of Cesar Robert, Esquire.

woodward, -wards ('wudwəd(z), *adv.* *rare.* [f. WOOD *sb.*¹ + -WARDS(S.) Towards or to the wood. † *from the woodward*: away from the wood.

1621 LADY M. WROTH *Urania* 238 An other Lady. . . running from the Wood-ward. a 1849 J. C. MANGAN *Poems* (1859) 371 Rury rode woodwards. 1893 N. GALE *Country Muse* Ser. II. 9 When the hush. . . brings the pigeons woodward.

woodwarden. *rare.* [f. WOOD *sb.*¹ + WARDEN *sb.*¹] = WOODWARD *sb.*

1748 in *Trans. Cumb. & Westm. Archæol. Soc.* (1903) III. 205 That some of the Woodwardens go and view y^e wood blown down.

Woodward-Hoffmann ('wudwəd 'hɒfmən). *Chem.* The names of Robert Burns Woodward (1917-79), U.S. chemist, and Roald Hoffmann (b. 1937), Polish-born U.S. chemist, used *attrib.* with reference to a series of generalized symmetry selection rules first proposed by them in 1965 which predict whether a particular pericyclic reaction will be allowed under the given conditions.

1968 *Jrnl. Amer. Chem. Soc.* XC. 1920/2 A considerable amount of research has been directed toward exploring the validity and extent of applicability of the 'Woodward-Hoffmann rules'. 1974 GILL & WILLIS *Pericyclic Reactions* iv. 100 (*heading*) The general Woodward-Hoffmann rule for pericyclic reactions. 1980 M. ORCHIN et al. *Vocab. Org. Chem.* x. 330 Sigmatropic shifts. Here the 'migrating bond' is treated as though it were heterolytically cleaved, then the Woodward-Hoffmann rules are applied.

woodware ('wudwɛə(r)). [f. WOOD *sb.*¹ + WARE *sb.*²] Articles made of wood, collectively.

1559 CORNWALLIS *New World* I. 326 Ironmongery, matches, . . hatchets, woodware, and nails. 1894 J. DAVIDSON *Random Itin.* 49 'And what is there at Chesham?' 'Woodware. They make chairs, and bats, and . . toy spades.'

woodwax ('wudwæks). ? *Obs.* Also 6 wodwesce, -wosse, 9 *dial.* woodwish, etc. [OE. *wuduweaxe*, f. *wudu* WOOD *sb.*¹ + **weaxe*, presumably f. Teut. *ways-* to grow, WAX *v.*¹] = WOODWAXEN.

c 1000 Sax. *Leechd.* II. 66 Wudu weaxe & hegerife gecnuwa þa togædere. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 85/35 Wodwesce, *glastum*. *Ibid.* 175/37 Wodwosse, *glastum*. a 1667 SIR W. PETTY in *Sprat Hist. Royal Soc.* 296 The Yellows are Weld, Wood-wax, and old Fustick. a 1691 AUBREY *Nat. Hist. Wilts* (1847) 49 In Bradon Forest grows very plentifully rank wood-wax. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* 241 Green-weed or Wood-wax. 1824 MACTAGART *Gallovid. Encycl.* 486 *Wudwise*, a yellow flower, which grows on bad land, and has a bitter taste. 1845 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* V. II. 435 The wood-wax and gorse are very abundant.

Hence **woodwaxer**, one who gathers woodwax.

1829 J. L. KNAPP *Jrnl. Nat.* 77 Our poorer people. . . used to collect it by cart loads. . . and the season of 'woodwaxen' was a little harvest to them: . . the old woodwaxers tell me that [etc.].

woodwaxen ('wud,wæksən). Forms: 4-5 wodwexen, 6-9 woodwaxen, 9- woad-waxen. [app. oblique case of OE. form of WOODWAX (*wuduweaxan*) taken as nom. The form *woodwaxen* is due to association with WOAD.] The plant dyer's broom or greenweed, *Genista tinctoria*.

1367 *Close Roll 41 Edw. III.* m. 9 dorso, Tercia pars tocius comoditatis. . . tam in denariis quam de subbosco & wodwexen. a 1400 *Old Usages Winchester in Engl. Gilds* (1870) 358 Euerych a cart y-lade w^t mader, þ^t comep to selle, twey pans; . . Also, y cart y-lade w^t wodwexen to sale, fowre pans. 1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 51 The Marigole of Manardus is called Lysimachia. . . Woodwaxen [*glastum*] . . groweth in Medowes and Pastures like to Brome. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* vi. viii. 667 Of base Broome or Woodwaxen. 1650 [W. HOWE] *Phytol. Brit.* 46. 1829 [see WOODWAXER above]. 1861 S. THOMSON *Wild Fl.* III. (ed. 4) 236. 1946 G. STIMPSON *Thousand Things* 50 It is supposed that the original green cloth made at Kendal by the Flemish weavers was colored with a dye obtained from the plant known as woadwaxen.

woodwork, wood-work ('wudwɜ:k).

1. † a. A piece of work in wood; an article made of wood, or such articles collectively. *Obs.*

1650 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 226, I give vnto my sonne Edmund Bacon all my plate, . . hangings, wood worke, household stuffe, and furniture. 1681 GREW *Museum* II. i. ii. 192 With these, all the turn'd Wood-Works in India and China are wrought and burnished. 1714 *Fr. Bk. of Rates* 57 Wood-works, such as Pater-Nosters, Button-Molds, Toys, &c. c 1792 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) IX. 342/2 The acknowledged skill of her ancient artisans in wood-works.

b. (without *pl.*) Work in wood; *esp.* those parts or details of a manufactured object or artificial structure which are made of wood; the wooden part of something.

1684 T. BURNET *Th. Earth* i. 205 If we could suppose this mill to have a power... of repairing all the parts that were worn away, whether of the wood-work or of the stone. 1725 *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Plough*. This depends much upon the Truth of the Iron Work, and therefore it is best the Plough should rather be accommodated to the Irons... the Wood-work being easily alter'd. 1837 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jnrl.* I. 6/1 A groin is a frame of wood-work, constructed across a beach. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* III. vii. That long cupboard over the woodwork of the mantelpiece. 1880 McCARNEY *Own Times* III. xxxviii. 178 Some of the woodwork of the benches was... torn from its place.

c. *Assoc. Football slang*. The frame of the goalposts.

1960 *Times* 21 Nov. 4/2 Three more times they hit Bonetti's woodwork. 1977 *Grimby Even. Tel.* 5 May 18/6 Twice in the first half, Scunthorpe hit the Bradford woodwork.

d. Phr. *to come or crawl out of the woodwork* and *varr.*, to come out of hiding; to emerge from obscurity. So *to crawl (back) into the woodwork* and *varr.*, to disappear into obscurity.

1964 'E. LATHEN' *Accounting for Murder* (1965) vii. 59 These nutboys start crawling out of the woodwork. 1973 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 9 Feb. 15/4 The Nazi elite faded into the woodwork without waiting to be removed, making it tempting to say that denazification should have been left to the Germans. 1973 *Current Affairs Bull.* (Sydney) Aug. 31/1 They are the new Australian playwrights and they are coming out of the woodwork everywhere. 1974 'M. INNES' *Appleby's Other Story* iv. 30 At least we can tell this bloody wog to crawl back into the woodwork. 1977 C. McCULLOUGH *Thorn Birds* xii. 289 Funny how the men in my life all scuttle off into the woodwork, isn't it? 1979 'J. LE CARRÉ' *Smiley's People* (1980) iii. 39 George Smiley, sometime Chief of the Secret Service... had one night come out of the woodwork to peer at some dead foreigner. 1984 *Broadcast* 7 Dec. 27/1 The imminence of a BBC licence increase application brings the advertising agencies out of the woodwork.

†2. A grove or plantation artificially laid out. 1712 J. JAMES tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 28 A large Wood-cut into a Star, with a circular Alley.

3. a. Work done at cutting wood. *nonce-use*. a 1861 T. WINTHROP *Life in Open Air* xii. (1863) 94 We... chopped at the woods for fuel. Speaking for myself, I should say that our wood-work was ill done.

b. Work done in wood, as carpentry. 1913 *Board Educ. Rep. Pract. Work Secondary Sch.* 84 Syllabus of wood-work for country or small isolated Schools.

c. Forestry, work done in woods. 1738 W. ELLIS *Timber-Tree Improved* i. 24 There is in my Neighbourhood a Man that is... often employed in Wood-Work. 1904 G. A. B. DEWAR *Glamour of Earth* x. 243 Making a good and sure living... and filling an honourable post in wood work, to our surprise he took one day a strange step: flung up his work and migrated... to the town.

4. *attrib.* 1959 I. & P. OPIE *Lore & Lang. Schoolch.* xvii. 362 The gardening master is commonly 'Spuds', the woodwork teacher is 'Chips'. 1980 E. BLISHEN *Nest of Teachers* i. iv. 22 The woodwork master... insisted that I come with him to his woodwork centre.

So 'woodworker, (a) a worker in wood, one who makes things of wood; (b) a machine for working in wood (= JOINER *sb.* 3); 'woodworking, the action of working in wood, the manufacture of wooden articles (also *attrib.*); also, forestry. †'woodworkman = woodworker (a).

1659 in Marshall *Edwinstow Reg.* (1891) 32 Geo. Wightman... a woodworkman. 1872 J. RICHARDS (title) A Treatise on the construction... of Wood-working Machines. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 418/1 Cabinet-file, a smooth, single-cut file, used in wood-working. *Ibid.* 2813/2 Woodworker, a machine-tool having various attachments and adjustments for different kinds of work. 1890 W. J. GORDON *Foundry* 71 We stroll through the woodworking-shops, where nothing is done by hand that can be done by machine. 1892 *Labour Commission Gloss.* s.v., In the coach-making trade wood workers consist of wheel-makers, body-makers... and carriage-makers. 1950 *New Yorker* 26 Aug. 71/1 Woodworking firms are making a candid twelve-per-cent profit. 1951 R. FIRTH *Elem. Social Organization* ii. 51 Their introduced steel tools must have materially lightened the labour of wood-working and clearing of brush-wood in agriculture.

†'woodwose, 'woodhouse, *sb.* *Obs.* (exc. *Hist.*). Forms: 1 wudewasa, 4 wodwos, (-wysse), 4-5 wodewese, 4-6 wodewose, 5 wodwose, (-wous(e), -woys, -wosh(e), -wyssh(e), wodewyse), 5-6 woodwose, -wyss, 6 -woss, *pl.* wodys, vodys. β. 5 woodwoses, 6 wodwoses, woodos(e), wodhouse, -howse, wood(e)hous(e). [Late OE. *wudewāsa*, f. *wudu* WOOD *sb.*¹ + **wāsa* (of obscure origin).] A wild man of the woods; a savage; a satyr, faun; a person dressed to represent such a being in a pageant.

Sometimes taken for or construed as *pl.* a 1100 *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 108/22 *Satiri, uel fauni*,... *uel fauni ficarii*, unfæle men, wudewasan, unfæle wihtu. 13... *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 721 Sumwhyly wyth wormez he werrez... Sumwhyly wyth wodwos, þat woned in þe knarrez. 13... *Met. Hom.* (Vernon MS.) in Herrig's *Archiv* LVII. 261 þis Breusteres douhtur... tolde þe folk as wodewose wilde Who gat on hire þis forseide childe. 1398 TREVISAR *Barth. De P.R.* xv. xix. (Tollem. MS.) þerin [sc. in Africa] ben satires, wodewoses, tigris, and oþer horrible bestes. ? a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3817 Alls vnwyse wodewyse he wente at þe gayneste. c 1440 *Partonope* 7691 [4737] in *Anglia* XII. 616 Partanope hath now forsake The wodwous [v. rr. wodwoys, wodwose, wodwouse] lyfe. 1460 CAPGRAVE

Chron. (Rolls) 257 The Kyng of Frauns daunsed in his halle with 1111 knites, and was arayed lich a wodwous. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Auian* xxii. A wodewose named Satyre. 1519 HORMAN *Vulg.* 109 Woode wosis be vpward nostrelde, *Satiri sunt sili.* 1555 MACHYN *Diary* (Camden) 96 Men lyke wodys alle in gren. 1556 WITHALS *Dict.* (1562) 15 A wodewose, *satyrus*.

β. a 1505 in Kingsford *Chron. Lond.* (1905) 251 Fourthly came... the Erle of Essex... w^t a woodhous preceedyng, and beryng a Sere tre. ? 1525 FITZHERB. *Husb.* Colophon, Emprynted at London in Southwarke, at the sygne of the wodowes. a 1548 HALL *Chron.*, *Hen. VIII.*, 9b, These beastes were led with certayne men appareiled like wilde men, or woodhouses. 1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* Pref. Aiiij, Some wente naked, some romed lyke wodowes, none did anye thing by reason. [1832 ASPIN *Anc. Customs* etc. *English* 251 The savage men, or woodhouses, as they are sometimes called, frequently made their appearance in the public shows. 1866 J. NICHOLL *Comp. Ironmongers* 86 note, The engravings... represent ivy-men or wood-wards, characters introduced in the pageants... of that period [c 1515]. They were sometimes called woodhouses.]

b. A figure of such a being, as a decoration, a heraldic bearing or supporter, etc.

1355 in *Rep. MSS. Ld. Middleton* (1911) 465 Item j. botoner de roses, pris xl s. Item j. botoner de wodewoses, pris c s. 1381 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) I. 121 Lectum... broudatum cum signis de wodewose. a 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 1540 A vestoure... Wrogt full of wodwose & oþer wild bestis. 1498 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) IV. 133 Sex coeliaria optima arg[entea] ebor woodwoshes.

β. 1493 *Will of Feld* (Somerset Ho.), Dosen spones of siluer with woodowes on thende. 1513 in *Archaeologia* LXVI. 347 A Counterpoint of woodhouse lyned w^t canvas. 1531 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1905) 49, vj Sponys with woodos gylt. [1910 F. BOND *Misericords* 16 The woodhouse is a very common supporter in heraldry. 1920 *Archaeologia* Ser. II. XIX. 81 Three woodhouses; between crosses.]

Hence †'woodwose v. *intr.*, to run wild. 13... *Met. Hom.* (Vernon MS.) in Herrig's *Archiv* LVII. 274 Ho is wodore þen þat mon þat mucche skile and resun con... And go sipen wod wosande?

woody ('wudi), *a.* Forms: 4 wodi, 4, 6 woddy, 6 woddye, wood(d)ye, 6-7 woddie, wood(d)ie, 6-8 wooddy, 6- woody. [f. WOOD *sb.*¹ + -y¹.]

I. 1. Covered or overgrown with wood; having a growth of trees or shrubs; full of or abounding in woods or forests; wooded.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* IV. 492 In a woddy glen. 1382 WYCLIF *Num.* xiii. 20 The erthe, fat, or bareyn, wodi, or with outen trees. 1545 BRINKLOW *Compl.* iv. (1874) 17 Such heathy, woddy, and moory ground, as is vnfruteful for corne or pasture. 1590 SPENSER *F.Q.* II. x. 33 Whence as he to those woodie hills did flie. a 1672 WOOD *Life* (O.H.S.) II. 134 The said mannour was in antient time, when 'twas wooddy, a stall or den for wild boares. 1788 GIBBON *Decl.* & *F.* xlii. IV. 250 A small woody island. 1796 [see WOODINESS 2]. 1835 THIRLWALL *Greece* viii. I. 305 The woody mountain tracts. 1842 HOWITT *Rur. & Dom. Life Germany* 251 As we approached, the hills... became wilder and woodier. 1867 MORRIS *Jason* xvii. 7 The rose-hung lanes of woody Kent.

¶ b. Bushy. 1609 *Bible* (Douay) 2 Kings xvii. 10 They made them statues... under everie thicke woddie tree [Vulg. *omne lignum nemorosum*].

†2. Belonging to, inhabiting, or growing in woods or woodland; sylvan. *Obs.*

1590 SPENSER *F.Q.* I. vi. 18 The woody Nymphes, faire Hamadryades. 1599 T. M[OUTET] *Silkwormes* 14 The heards of woody outlaws fell. 1610 G. FLETCHER *Christ's Vict.* *Earth* vii, A grassie hillock... With woodie primroses befreckled. 1655 J. S. Bonarelli's *Filli di Sciro* I. v. 20 Some woody Deity.

b. Of, pertaining to, or situated in a wood. a 1721 PRIOR *Colin's Mistakes* i, To Wimpole's woody Shade his Way he sped. 1809 COLERIDGE *Three Graves* 495 Deep in a woody dell. a 1840 JOANNA BAILLIE *Verses Kirtled Spring* 17 The woody nook where bells of brighter blue Have clothed the ground. 1911 MRS. H. WARD *Case Rich.* *Meynell* xiv. 288 As they neared the end of the woody path, he looked up again.

II. †3. Made of wood, wooden. *Obs. rare.* a 1540 BARNES *Images* Wks. (1573) 346/1 Stony & woody Images. 1563 *Mirr. Mag.*, *Hastings* xx, In pryson pent, whose woddye walles to passe Of no less peryll than the dying was.

4. Of the nature of or consisting of wood; of or belonging to the wood as a constituent part of the plant; ligneous.

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* i. xvi. §2. 17 Salt Marsh Spike grasse hath a woddie tough thicke roote. a 1704 LOCKE *Elem. Nat. Philos.* ix. (1754) 33 Herbs are those plants, whose stalks are soft, and have nothing woody in them. 1776 WITHERING *Bot. Arrangem.* 804 *Shrubby*, somewhat woody, as the stems of the Rose. 1846 *Zoologist* IV. 1282 The small roots of rose-bushes... sometimes produce rounded, warty, and woody knobs, inhabited by... gall-insects. 1859 DAWSON in *Q. Jnrl. Geol. Soc.* XV. 630 Leaves... strengthened by nerves... composed of scalariform and woody tissue. 1908 *Animal Managem.* 87 Fibrous and woody elements... exist in varying proportions in all vegetable foods.

b. Of a plant: Of which wood is a constituent part; forming wood; having the stem and branches of wood; woody plant, a tree or shrub, as distinguished from a herb; *spec.* in distinctive names of particular species, as woody nightshade.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* III. lvii. 398 Some Herboristes of Fraunce do cal it *Solanum lignosum*, that is to say, Woody Nightshade. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 48 Hardly to be called herbaceous; it is rather hard and woody. 1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 99 The most northern woody plant... known is a kind of Willow, *Salix*

arctica. 1883 *Longm. Mag.* July 307 Cinquefoil, grown woodier... from its... upland situation.

c. Resembling wood; having the texture or consistence of wood.

1791 W. BARTRAM *Carolina* 468 The fruit is a large, round, dry, woody apple... with dry woody cuneiform seed. 1840 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jnrl.* III. 68/2 The coal is... rendered tougher, or, in the language of the colliers, more 'woody'. 1871 *Yng. Gentleman's Mag.* Mar. 132 An immense woody shell as large as a baby's head... hanging on one of the lower branches of the very tree on which I was sitting.

5. Pertaining to or characteristic of wood; resembling that of wood; having some quality (e.g. the smell) of wood.

1830 J. G. STRUTT *Sylvia Brit.* 46 A piece of oak... which, ... exposed to the sun and rains for a century, ... yet smells woody. 1860 W. WHITE *Wrekin* xi. 100 Apples... Their substance is as hard as their flavour is woody and sour. 1876 MORRIS *Aeneis* XII. 782 The gripping woody bite [of an arrow]. 1900 'H. S. MERRIMAN' *Isle of Unrest* ix, Clean woody odours.

b. Having a dull sound like that of wood when struck.

1875 R. H. R. *Rambles in Istria* 50 A good campanile... with two sweetly toned bells—why is it that ours are always so unmusical and woody? 1877 *Hon. Miss Ferrard* I. vii. 241 A little cottage piano, woody and dull of tone.

woody ('wudi), *sb.* *slang* (orig. *Surfing*). Chiefly U.S. Also woodie. [f. WOOD *sb.*¹ + -y¹.] An estate car with timber-framed sides.

1961 *Surfer Q.* Winter 34 (caption) A 'woodie' piled high. Photographer Larry Stephens... challenges anyone to produce a picture of a surf car with more boards than his. 1969 *Surf Internat.* (Austral.) I. xi. 13 Nat and Paul push the woodie, it's stoked too, an' finally blows its gasket. 1973 J. MARKS *Mick Jagger* 87 Ramada Inn, the Yucca Hotel, Holiday Inn and the Seven Seas Hyatt Lodge—all in a row—saluting Dominique and the horde of military foundlings who plunge along Hotel Circle in borrowed woodies—those immaculate 1954 jobs by Ford: sturdy station wagons, armoured in wood. 1980 L. BIRNBACH et al. *Official Preppy Handbk.* 18/1 The other children were quite happy with their little red wagons; she would accept nothing but a woody.

woody, variant of WIDDY.

'wood-yard. Forms and etym.: see WOOD *sb.*¹ and YARD *sb.*¹ A yard or inclosure in which wood is chopped, sawn, or stored, esp. for use as fuel. Also *transf.* (quot. 1774).

1309-10 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 7 In j securi empt. pro le Wodyard, xjd. 1537-8 *Privy Purse Exp. P'cess Mary* (1831) 54 Item to the Squillary, vjs. Item to the Wodyerde, vijs. vjd. 1541-2 *Act 33 Hen. VIII.*, c. 12 §3 The sergeant of the Wodyarde. 1627 CAPT. J. SMITH *Sea Gram.* i. 1 To those Docks... belongs their wood-yards, with saw-pits. a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 12 Sept. 1676, Over against his Majesties wood yard. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* IV. 166 Their wood-yards are larger or smaller, in proportion to the number in family; and... the usual stock of timber, for the accommodation of ten beavers, consists of about thirty feet in a square surface, and ten in depth. 1825 LONGF. in *Life* (1891) I. v. 62 There is no wood to be had from the College woodyard. 1859 JEPHSON & REEVE *Brittany* 268 We begged permission of the buxom proprietress of a woodyard, to pitch our tent among her heaps of timber.

† woodyer. *Obs.* In 5 wodyere. [OE. *wudi(g)ere*, f. *wudian* to cut wood: see -IER. Cf. WOODER.] = WOODMAN¹ 2.

a 1100 *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 139/32 *Calones*, wudieras. *Ibid.* 150/31 *Calones*, wudigeras. c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* III. li. (1869) 146 A wodyere that solde me... wode in his foreste. 1802 *Sussex Weekly Advert.* 29 Nov. in N. & Q. (1910) 11th Ser. II. 529 To Be Sold Eight acres... of Underwood... Apply to James Wratten... the woodyer, who will shew the wood.

wooded (wu:d), *ppl. a.* [f. WOO *v.*¹ + -ED¹.] That is courted by a lover. Also *absol.*

1582 BENTLEY *Mon. Matrones* Pref. B 1 b, The wooed woman not to be by anie means cosined or abused in marriage. 1891 LE GALLIENNE *Retrospr.* *Rev.* (1896) I. 13 A wooer at a certain hot moment entreates the wooed: 'Will you, I ask once more, show your belief in me by letting me encircle you with my arm?'

wooper ('wu:ə(r)). Forms: 1 wogere, 3, 5 woware, 4-5 wower(e), 4 wouwere(e), 4-6 wower, 5-6 chiefly *Sc.* wowar, 5 woar, *Sc.* woweir, 6 *Sc.* wawar, 6-8 woer, 6- wooer. [OE. *wōgere*, f. WOO *v.*¹ + -ER¹.] One who woos a woman, esp. with a view to marriage, a suitor; rarely a woman who woos a man. Also in fig. context.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* xvii. 157 Summe hi wyrcað heora wogerum drenca... þæt hi hi to wife habbon. c 1025-50 *Rule of Chrodegang* lii. (1916) 64 þonne wite þu þæt hi beoð wogeras swiðor þonne preostas. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 90 Ich am woware scheomeful. Ich nulle nouware bicluppe mine leofmon bute ine stude derne. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xi. 71 3e faren lyke piwe woweres, þæt wedde none wydwes but forto welde here godis. a 1395 HYLTON *Scala Perf.* (W. de W. 1494) II. xlv. That it myghte come to theeffecte of true spousage he hathe suche gracyous spekynges this maner of a wower to a chosen soule. 1513 DOUGLAS *Aeneis* IV. Prol. 196 Traist nocht all talis that wantoun woweris tellis. 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 73 He vnto hir a goodly tale began, More like a wooer, than a wedded man. 1635 A. STAFFORD *Fem. Glory* 88 He compares God to a Woer, the Angell to a sollicitour, and Mary to the beloved. 1724 RAMSAY *Tea-T. Misc.* (1733) I. 8 Now, Woer, quoth he, wou'd ye light down I'll gie ye my doghter's love to win. 1828 SCOTT *F.M. Perth* v. She were fittest Valentine in Perth for so craven a wooer. 1854 DICKENS *Hard T.* I. xvi, Mr. Bounderby went... to

Stone Lodge as an accepted wooer. 1869 SPURGEON *Treas. Dav.* Ps. xviii. 44 'Love at first sight' is no uncommon thing when Jesus is the wooer.

b. *transf.* of the lower animals.

1577 GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* 126 b, If shee haue not been horsed before, she wil so beate her woer, y^e [etc.]. 1889 *Science-Gossip* XXV. 236 It is not always the males [sc. butterflies] who are the wooers.

c. *Comb.*

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XII. Prol. 300 To crowd In amorus voce and wovar soundis lowd. 1785 BURNS *Halloween* iii, The lads sae trig, wi' wooer-babs. 1825 JAMIESON, *Woover-bab*, ... the garter knotted below the knee with a couple of loops, formerly worn by a young man who was too sheepish to announce in plain terms the purpose of his visit.

woof (wuf), *sb.*¹ Forms: a. 1 owef, 3 of, 4-5 oof, 4, 6 ofe, 5 offe, 6 owfe, 7 oufe. β. 6-7 woofe, wouf(e), (6 wolfe, wowe, 7 pl. woovis), 7-8 wooff, (8 wooft, whoof), 7- woof. [OE. *ówef* (later *áwef*), f. *ō-* + *wefan* TO WEAVE. (Cf. the later parallel formation *óweb*, *áweb* ABB.) ME. **owf*, *oof* became *woof* partly by association with WARP *sb.* in *warp* and (*w*)*oof*, or with WEFT.]

1. The threads that cross from side to side of a web, at right angles to the warp: = WEFT *sb.*¹ 1.

a. c.725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) C.467 *Cladica*, weft uel owef. c.1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 364/23 *Cladica*, weft, oððe owef, oððe claudica. c.1200 *MS. Bodl.* 730 lf. 145/1 *Subtemen*, of. 1382 WYCLIF *Lev.* xiii. 47 A wullun clooth, or lynnyn, that hath a lepre in the oof, or in the werpe. 1398 *TREvisa Barth De P.R.* xviii. xi. (1495) aaivb/1 The spynner... begynnyth fro the mydyll poynt & gooth rounde abawe the ofe. 14... *Metr. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 628/1 *Subtegmē*, [gloss warpe], sic quoque stamen, [gloss offe]. c.1440 *Promp. Parv.* 362/1 Oof, threde for webbynge, trama. 1556 WITHALS *Dict.* (1562) 35 b/2 The warpe, stamen. The ofe, subtegmē. 1599 MINSHEU *Sp. Dict.* s.v. *Lizos*, The owfe or thred of linnen. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 337 To spoole, winde quils, lay his warpe, shoot oufe.

β. 1530 TINDALE *Lev.* xiii. 48 Whether it be in the warpe or wolfe of the lynnyn or of the wollen. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 157/25 Y^e Woofe of a web, subtegmē. 1626 BACON *Sylva* §846 As it is in the Warpe, and the Woofe, of Textiles. 1657 TRAPP *Comm. Ps.* xv. 2 Such, as through whose whole lives godliness runneth, as the Woof doth through the Warp. 1714 *Fr. Bk. Rates* 188 The Workmen shall not make Use, neither in the Warp or the Woof, of any Yarn of a different Quality. 1780 A. YOUNG *Tour Irel.* I. 324 Threads thrown across by the shuttle are called the woof. 1802 JOANNA BAILLIE *1st Pt. Ethwald* iii. iv, But tell them, British matrons cross the woof With coarser hands than theirs. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) V. 76 In a web the warp is stronger than the woof.

b. *fig.* and in *fig.* context, often in collocation with *warp*.

1583 MELBANCKE *Philotimus* Ij, To... wrappe vp his life-warpe woofe with so euill a liste. 1596 NASHE *Saffron Walden* M2, The process of that Oration, was of the same woofe and thrid with the beginning. 1627 W. HAWKINS *Apollo Shroving* i. i. 8 Where euery English thread is ouer-cast with a thicke woollen woofe of strange wordes. 1757 GRAY *Bard* II. i, Weave the warp, and weave the woof, The winding shed of Edward's race. 1849 [see WARP *sb.*¹ 1 b]. 1863 GEO. ELIOT *Romola* xix, That commerce of feigned and preposterous admiration which... made the woof of all learned intercourse. 1882 MISS BRADDON *Mt. Royal* II. 19 The woof of self-interest is so cunningly interwoven with the warp of righteous feeling that very few of us can tell where the threads cross.

2. Thread used to make the woof; also in vague poetical use.

1540 HYRDE tr. *Vives' Instr. Chr. Wom.* i. iii. (1541) 3 b, To warpe, or els wynd spindels in a case, for to throw wofe of. 1598 R. BERNARD tr. *Terence, Heautontim.* II. iii, The old wife shee spun the woofe. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 83 First I must put off These my skie robes spun out of Iris Woof. 1638 *Burgh Rec. Glasgow* (1876) 388 Their suld be no woovis wovin of townis folkis thairin. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* XI. 244 Iris had dipt the wooff. 1892 RIDER HAGGARD *Nada* xi, Did I weave these visions from the woof of my madness?

3. A woven fabric, esp. as being of a particular texture: = WEFT *sb.*¹ 3; also, the texture of a fabric. Often *transf.* or *fig.*

1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 74 That woof and plight that the whole ticklish frame of worldly beings are wheel'd into at such a tide of day [viz. dawn]. *Ibid.* 74 That we can sometimes force bodies to close with the woof or tenor of the whole. 1725 POPE *Odys.* IV. 164 To spread the pall beneath the regal chair Of softest woof. 1757 DYER *Fleece* III. 40 Curious woofs of beauteous hue. 1790 COWPER *Odys.* XIX. 173 A robe... of subtilst woof. 1811 SCOTT *Don Roderick* II. xxiv, Flames dart their glare o'er midnight's sable woof. 1820 KEATS *Lamia* II. 232 There was an awful rainbow once in heaven: We know her woof, her texture. 1826 JOANNA BAILLIE *Martyr* II. ii, The very spider through his circl'd cage Of wiry woof, Scarce seems a lothly thing. 1838 LYTTON *Alice* v. v, That girl's thread of life has been the dark line in my woof. 1846 — *Lucretia* II. xviii, The Parcae closed the abrupt woof, and lifted the impending shears. 1866 — *Lost Tales Miletus, Secret Way* 4 The woofs of Phrygian looms. 1871 BRYANT *Odys.* v. 416 Receive this veil, and bind its heavenly woof Beneath thy breast.

†4. The action of weaving. *Obs. rare.* 1700 DRYDEN *Ceyx & Alc.* 237 Alcione... hastens in the Woof the Robes he was to wear.

woof (wuf), *int.* and *sb.*² Also wouf, wowff.

1. Imitation of a gruff abrupt bark of a dog; also *transf.* (Cf. WHOOF.)

1839 J. BALLANTINE in *Whistle-Binkie* Ser. II. 26 The wooff o' the colley. 1859 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* xxv, Every now and then... he [sc. a dog] would discharge a 'Woof', like a minute-gun at sea. 1885 RIDER HAGGARD *K. Sol. Mines* iv, Presently... came a loud 'woof, woof' 'That's

a lion', said I. 1918 B. CABLE *Air Men o' War* 14 The hoarse 'woof' of a bursting anti-aircraft shell.

2. Var. WHOOF *int.* (*sb.*)

3. Low-frequency sound of poor quality from a loudspeaker.

1961 in WEBSTER. 1962 *Listener* 22 Nov. 882/1 It isn't only technicians who can justifiably complain about too much tweet and woof. 1978 *Gramophone* Jan. 1298/3 They... are every bit the equal of the LPs, a beautifully warm and detailed orchestral tapestry, with... a richly resonant bass (without too much 'woof').

woof (wuf), *v.*¹ *rare.* [f. WOOF *sb.*¹ Cf. WOOFED.] *trans.* To arrange (threads) so as to form a woof; to weave. Also *transf.*

1894 ALICE C. MACDONELL in *Lyra Celtica* (1896) 252 Woof well the cross threads, To make the colours shine. 1922 *Blackw. Mag.* July 6/2 The fearful tangle of vegetation, warped and woofed together by lianas and creeping plants.

woof, *v.*² Also wouff. 1. (Of a dog) to utter a gruff abrupt bark.

1804 TARRAS *Poems* 59 (Jam.) Curs began to wouff an' bark. 1932 E. M. BRENT-DYER *Chalet Girls in Camp* vi. 97 Rufus... crossed the meadow at his best pace, woofing indignantly at intervals. 1955 V. NABOKOV *Lolita* II. xxviii. 171 A nondescript cur came out from behind the house, stopped in surprise, and started good-naturedly woof-woofing at me, his eyes slit, his shaggy belly all muddy, and then walked about a little and woofed once more. 1974 *Publishers Weekly* 5 Aug. 53/3 His attempt suggests a puppy woofing at a caterpillar—but keeping a safe distance.

2. *U.S. Blacks' slang.* a. *intr.* To talk (or, *trans.*, to say) in an ostentatious or aggressive manner.

1934 *Amer. Speech* IX. 290/1 [Negro slang.] *Woof*, to talk much and loudly and yet say little of consequence. 1935 Z. N. HURSTON *Mules & Men* i. iv. 86 The men would crowd in and buy soft drinks and woof at me, the stranger, but I knew I wasn't getting on. 1941 *Life* 27 Jan. 78 To reinforce a statement, a sub-deb says, 'I ain't woofin'... which means 'I'm not fooling'. 1941 *Direction* Summer 15/2 Stack got all big at the nose and woofed: 'All right, boss, you either fixes me up with that gin, or I pulls down this bar!' 1972 J. WAMBAUGH *Blue Knight* vi. 86 He was woofing me, because he winked at the blond kid. 1974 H. L. FOSTER *Ribbin', Jivin', & Playin' Dozens* iv. 140 A student might say, 'Mr. Foster, he's woofin' on me.' This may have meant anything from he is challenging me to a fight, to he is making fun of my clothing or my mother.

Hence 'woofing *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1942 *Amer. Mercury* July 96/2 *Woofing*, aimless talk, as a dog barks on a moonlight night. 1969 H. R. BROWN in H. L. FOSTER *Ribbin', Jivin', & Playin' Dozens* (1974) v. 179 Those young brothers came out of this woofing, diddy-bopping and raising hell period. 1973 B. G. COOKE in T. KOCHMAN *Rappin' & Stylin' Out* 45 'Woofing' is a style of bragging and boasting about how 'bad' one is and is sometimes used by males and females when rapping to each other. 1975 *Today's Education* Sept./Oct. 54 Some of the woofin' has been precipitated by Whites trying to hustle Blacks out of goods and materials which have been promised or which are rightfully theirs. 1977 *Time* 14 Nov. 90/3 Cosby, who has one of the great faces of the Western world, is the best thing in this woofin', shuckin' film.

woof, obs. pa. t. of WEAVE *v.*

woofed (wuf), *poet.* 'wu:fid), *ppl. a.* [f. WOOF *sb.*¹ + -ED. (Cf. WOOF *v.*¹)] Woven; *fig.* intricate. 1820 KEATS *Eve St. Agnes* xxxii, So mus'd awhile, entail'd in woofed phantasies.

woofers ('wu:fə(r), 'wufə(r)). [f. WOOF *v.*² + -ER¹.]

1. *U.S. Blacks' slang.* (See quot. 1934.)

1934 *Amer. Speech* IX. 289/1 *Woofers*, applied to one who talks constantly, loudly, and in a convincing manner, but who says very little. 1935 Z. N. HURSTON *Mules & Men* i. iv. 88, I want outside to join the woofers, since I seemed to have no standing among the dancers. 1974 H. L. FOSTER *Ribbin', Jivin', & Playin' Dozens* v. 202 The woofers may also move his body in a menacing way to make his woof more threatening and intimidating.

2. A loudspeaker designed to reproduce accurately low-frequency sounds whilst being relatively unresponsive to those of higher frequency. Cf. SQUAWKER 3, TWEETER.

1935 K. HENNEY *Radio Engin. Handbk.* (ed. 2) XXIV. 830 Wide range of frequency response is sometimes secured by using as many as three groups of speakers: low ('woofers'), medium, and high ('tweeters'). 1959 *Consumer Rep.* Sept. 453/1 The Best Buy... is... much the better value of the two tweeters when coupled to a check-rated woofers. 1964 M. McLuhan *Understanding Media* (1967) xxxi. 348 It is like a badly wired woofers in a hi-fi circuit that produces a tremendous flutter in the bottom. 1979 *Arizona Daily Star* 5 Aug. 1. 10/1 (Adv.), Big savings on a great sounding speaker. 8" woofers for deep bass and 2½" tweeter for clear highs.

woofits ('wu:fits). *slang.* [Origin unknown.] An unwell feeling, esp. in the head; moody depression.

1918 J. M. GRIDER *War Birds* (1927) 96 Curtis says he is suffering from the Woofits, that dread disease that comes from overeating and underdrinking. *Ibid.* 207, I drank too much coffee before getting up and I'm as nervous as a kitten now. Must be getting the Woofits. 1932 *Amer. Speech* VII. 338 [Johns Hopkins jargon.] *Woofits*, ailment that comes with 'the morning after the night before'. 1958 'N. SHUTE' *Rainbow & Rose* 100 Getting the woofits now, because I don't sleep so good.

woofers ('wufə(r), 'wufə(r)). *slang.* Also **woofah**. [Fanciful alteration of POOFER.] = POOFER.

1977 *Private Eye* 8 July 5/1 The headshrinker had been reduced to a nervous wreck, and was prepared to dismiss the rabidly heterosexual Tynan as a woofah. 1980 A. N. WILSON *Healing Art* iv. 47 The two young woofers in the pub.

woofy ('wufi), *a.*¹ *rare.* [f. WOOF *sb.*¹ + -Y¹.] Resembling a woof or woven fabric; of dense texture. Also *transf.*

The sense of the 20th-c. quots. is unclear.

1826 JOANNA BAILLIE *Martyr* II. i, Close round us hung, the vapours of the night Had form'd a woofy curtain. 1976-7 *Art N.Z.* Dec./Jan. 15/1 She would have none of the delirious woofy mango-swamp muck of the then Auckland School. 1983 R. SUTCLIFF *Blue Remembered Hills* xvi. 124 A moustache... not of the woofy RAF variety but more akin to the kind worn by sergeant-majors.

woofy ('wufi), *a.*² [f. WOOF *int.*, *sb.*², and *v.*² + -Y¹.] Of reproduced sound: having too much bass, or bass that is indistinct.

1932 J. H. REYNER *Mod. Radio Communication* (ed. 4) xx. 204 We shall experience a loss of the upper frequencies, the reproduction lacking brilliance and sounding 'woofy'. 1975 *Gramophone* Nov. 819/2, I prefer the sound of the horns... on the Decca Ace of Diamonds record, a much cleaner sound than the rather 'woofy' quality on the new record.

woofy, *a.*³ *nonce-wd.* [Perh. f. WOOF *v.*²]

?Talkative.

1960 C. P. SNOW *Affair* xl. 371 The hairline which, when he was drunk, separated the diffuse and woofy benevolence from a suspicion of all mankind.

wooning ('wu:ŋ), *vbl. sb.* Forms: 1 woŋung, 3 wouhinge, wouwunge, 4-6 wowyng, -ing, 6 woyng, woyng, 7-8 woing, 7- wooing. [f. WOO *v.*¹ + -ING¹.] The action of the verb woo; amorous solicitation, courtship: in ME. often with dyslogistic implication.

c.1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* vii. 301 Wearð þa se casere for þære woungne astyrod. a.1225 *Ancre. R.* 204 Mid wouhinge, mid togginge, oðer mid eni tollunge. a.1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* vi. 28 Icham for wowyng al for-wake, wery so water in wore. 13... *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 2361 Now know I wel þy cosses, & þy costes als, & þe wowyng of my wyf. c.1385 CHAUCER *L.G.W.* 1553 *Hypsip. & Medea*, As wolde god I leyer hadde & tyme by þyces al his wowyng for to ryme. c.1440 *Jacob's Well* 164 Caste out... lecherous woordys, wowynges, lecherous sytes. a.1548 HALL *Chron., Edu. IV.* 195 Hys vnaduised wowyng, hasty louyng and to spedly mariage. 1588 SHAKS. *L.L.L.* v. ii. 884 Our woing doth not end like an old Play: lacke hath not Gill. 1645 FULLER *Good Th. in Bad T.* (1646) 106, I do not like the wooing, that you should fetch a Bride with Fire and Sword. 1721 RAMSAY 'The Last Time I came o'er the Moor' i, I met betimes my lovely Maid, In fit Retreats for wooing. 1792 BURNS *Song, Duncan Gray*, Duncan Gray cam' here to woo, Ha, ha, the wooing o't. 1867 TENNYSON *Window* 166 Here is the golden close of love, All my wooing is done. 1882 BESANT *All Sorts* xxvii, No girl likes to do her own wooing; she must be courted.

Proverbs. [1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* II. i. 75 *Pet.* I would faine be doing. *Gre.* I doubt it not sir. But will curse Your wooing.] 1659 N. R. *Proverbs* 24 Courting and wooing brings dallying and doing. 1670 *RAY Prov.* 48 Happy is the woing, that is not long in doing.

b. freq. in *to go, come, ride a* (or *†on*) *wooning*.

c.1460 METHAM *Wks.* (1916) 150 Yt ys spedeful that day to go a wowyng. 1595 *Knareb. Wills* (Surtees) I. 201 His short gowne... which he had lent to Tho. Atkinson for iij dayes to ride on woweinge with. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* III. iii. 71 What? Michael Cassio, That came a woing with you? a.1611 in T. Ravenscroft *Melismata* F 1 b, The Frogge would a woing ride. 1690 LOCKE *Govt.* I. xi. §135 His Servant whom he sent a wooing for his Son. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 129 ¶10 When they go a wooing... they generally put on a red Coat. 1841 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* iii, He went out to-day a wooing.

c. *fig.*

a.1225 *Ancre. R.* 116 þis is wouwunge efter Godes grome, & tollunge of his vuel. a.1240 O.E. *Hom.* I. 269 Her bigennes þe wohunge of ure lauerd. c.1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 533/1 Wowyng, *procacio*. 1596 DRAYTON *Leg. Robt. Dk. Norm.* xxvi, Except in Perill, thou do'st not appeare; Yet scarcely then, but with Intreats and Wooing. 1613 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* I. ii. (1616) 41 My Maiden-Muse flies the lasciuious Swaines... Will not dilate... His curious searches, his respectlesse wooings. 1856 GRINDON *Life* xviii. (1875) 218 Work is the wooing by which happiness is won.

d. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *wooning act, dance, day, language, mind, suit*.

1704 *Phil. Trans.* XXIV. 1589 (2), I have plainly shewed their Ticking noise to be a *wooning Act. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* I. ii. 68 As wealth is burdened of my *woing dance. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 130 In loue is no lacke, no in no *wooyng day. 1878 *GIBBON For the King* iii, The ardour of our wooing days. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* To Rdr. (end), To Gentlewomen and their Loves is consecrated all the *Wooing Language... feigned by the Muse amongst Hills and Rivers. 1588 SHAKS. *L.L.L.* v. ii. 412 Henceforth my *woing minde shall be express In russet yeas, and honest kersie noes. 1622 *Buccluch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 210 He comes upon a *wooning suit for the Infanta.

wooning ('wu:ŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. WOO *v.*¹ + -ING².] That woos. a. That solicits in love; courting, as a lover; †wanting.

1382 WYCLIF *Prov.* vii. 13 The caste 3unge man she kiseth; and with wouwende [1388 wowyng] chere she flatereth. 1387 *TREvisa Higden* (Rolls) VII. 409 [He] ordeyned wommen to seruen hem... þat semede wowyng geigelottes in cloping, face, and semblant. c.1440 *Jacob's Well* 163 Whan þou, wyth wowyng woordys, styrest opere to þi lust, it is dedly synne. 1746 DUNKIN in Francis tr. *Hor., Sat.*

11. v. 11 The wooing Tribe, in Revellings employ'd, My Stores have lavish'd.

b. *fig.* Alluring, enticing.

1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. James* iv. 1-6 He maye not abyde the wowyngye worlde to bee louted. c 1620 Z. BOYD *Zion's Flowers* (1855) 73 They... step back, or forward, in their wooingye wise. 1838 LYTTON *Alice* xi. iv, The letter was most courteous, most complimentary, most wooing. 1838 MANGAN *Poems* (1903) 204 Each wooing Zephyr that goes, At will from flower to flower a-maying. 1878 B. TAYLOR *Deukalion* ii. iv, Be thou a wooing breeze.

Comb. a 1661 HOLYDAY *Juvenal* (1673) 95 No Hæmus or soft Carphorus appears More wooing-voic'd.

woolingly ('wu:ɪŋli), *adv.* [f. WOOLING *ppl.* a. + -LY².] In a wooing manner.

†1. Wantonly, impudently. *Obs.*

1382 WYCLIF *Prov.* xxi. 29 The vnputous man wowendeli [1388 vnschamefastli, Vulg. *procciter*] stablith his chere. 1552 HULOET, Wowingly, *procciter*.

2. Enticingly, alluringly.

1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* i. vi. 6 The Heuens breath Smells wooingly here. 1824 MISS FERRIER *Inher.* lxxxi, I perhaps did not go so wooingly to work as some one more designing would have done. 1849 MISS MULOCK *Ogilvies* xl, It came over her senses wooingly. 1884 MRS. C. PRAED *Zero* viii, The air kissed wooingly.

3. Like a wooer; with amatory speeches.

1868 HOLME LEE *B. Godfrey* xvi, He was... whispering... wooingly.

wook(e, obs. pa. t. of WAKE *v.*, obs. f. WEEK.

wool (wul), *sb.* Forms: 1, 5-6 wul, wull, 3-6 woll, 4-5 wulle, wolle, 4-6 wole, woolle, 5-6 *Sc.* vol, (1 uul, 3, 6 wol, 5 who(o)ll, whowl, *Sc.* woyll, voyll, wo, 6 woull(e), 5-7 *Sc.* wow, 6-8 wooll, (8 owl, 8-dial. woo, oo', oo), 6- wool. [Com. Teut. and Indo-Eur.: OE. *wull*, str. f. = OFris. *wolle*, *ulle*, (M)LG. *wulle*, MDu. *wolle*, *wulle* (Du. *wol*), OHG. *wolla* (MHG. *wolle*, *wulle*, G. *wolle*), ON. *ull* (Sw. *ull*, Da. *uld*), Goth. *wulla*:—O Teut. **wullō*:—pre-Teut. **wlnā*.

Cognate are Skr. *ūrnā*, Zend *varānā*-, OSlav. *vlūna*, Lith. *vilna* thread of wool, pl. *vilnos* wool, OPruss. *wilnis* coat, Russ. *vōlna* fleece, wool, Gr. *lānos* (Dor. *lānos*) wool, *oīlos* (—**folnos*) woolly, curly, Lat. *vellus* (—**welinos*) fleece, *lana* (—**wlānā*) wool, Ir. *olann*, Welsh *gwan*. The ultimate etymology is doubtful.]

1. a. The fine soft curly hair forming the fleecy coat of the domesticated sheep (and similar animals), characterized by its property of felting (due to the imbricated surface of the filaments) and used chiefly in a prepared state for making cloth; freq., the material in a prepared state as a commodity.

Spanish or oriental wool, wool treated with a dye, used as a cosmetic.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) L 84 *Lana*, uul. c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* i. 356 Blacu rammes wul on wætere gededyd. c 1100 *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 190/25 Unawæscen wull. c 1290 *Kath.* 246 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 99 Also man draweth with combes wolle. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 10033 Greye monekes pat newe come & pouere þo were, 3eue al hor wolle perto of one 3ere. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 168 þe mene folk... doand him seruisse, þat bies woule & wyne. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. xi. 18 Hit beo caried with Couetise, as clopers dop heor wolle. c 1385 CHAUCER *L.G.W.* 1721 *Lucrece*, Softe wolle... she wroughte To kepe hire from slouthe & Idilnesse. 1436 *Libel Eng. Policy* in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 161 Oure Englysshe commodytees, Wolle and tynne. 1480 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 33 Howr father wyll schype the remanand of good whooll of thisy sorte. 1506 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* III. 249 Item, for woll to the schulderis of it [sc. a gown], xvjd. 1535 COVERDALE *2 Kings* iii. 4 Mesa ye kynge of the Moabites... payed tribute vnto the kynge of Israel with the wolle of an hundredth thousande lambes. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 751 To teize the huswifes wooll. 1678 *Spanish wool* [see SPANISH a. 7]. 1712 J. MORTON *Northampton*. 451 Wool wrought together and compacted as closely, as Wool is by the Workman's Hands, in the making a Hat. 1755 *Connoisseur* No. 65 ¶2, I am ashamed to tell you that we are indebted to Spanish Wool for many of our masculine ruddy complexions. 1757 DYER *Fleece* ii. 72 In the same Fleece diversity of wool Grows intermingled. 1826 J. RENNIE *New Suppl. Pharm.* 292 Oriental Wool. This coloured wool comes from China in large round loose cakes... The finest of these gives a most lovely and agreeable blush to the cheek. 1832 TENNYSON *Enone* 246, I hear Dead sounds at night... Like footsteps upon wool. 1871 W. REID *Sheep* 82 An increased supply of mutton and wool.

b. The fleece or complete woolly covering of a sheep, etc.; *out of the wool*, shorn.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 161 This whethur and þe wole were wonderly keppit By... Mars. 1550 in Philipps *Wills* (c 1830) 180 Threescore Sheep, to be delivered unto him out of their wool. 1572 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxii. 42 To bring the wolle, the skin, and hyde To Edinburgh Towne. 1841 SARAH, LADY LYTTTELTON in *Corr.* (1912) 310 Lord S... left town... 'to see the sheep just out of the wool after shearing.'

c. The short soft under-hair or down forming part of the coat of certain hairy or furry animals.

1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* iv. i. 15 Eye of Newt, and Toe of Frogge, Wool of Bat, and Tongue of Dogge. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 274 The powder of the wool of a Hare burned... fasteneth the haire from falling off. 1615 MARKHAM *Country Contentm.* i. 103 After your dogge hath courted... first cleanse his mouth and chaps from the wool of the Hare. 1623 B. JONSON *Underwoods, Celebr. Charis* iv. 25 Ha' you felt the wool of Bever? 1757 *Refl. Importation of Bar-Iron* 13 The American bought the Beaver Wool (the raw Material [of a hat]) at a much cheaper Rate. 1837 YOUATT *Sheep* iii. 57 The camel has, at the base of its long hair, a quantity of wool. 1870 YEATS *Nat. Hist. Comm.* 288.

†d. As the material of the thread spun and cut off by the Fates. *Obs.*

1608 B. JONSON *Hue & Cry after Cupid* Wks. (1616) 939 That was reseru'd, vntill the Parca spunne Their whitest wool; and then, his thred begun. 1648 HERRICK *Hesper.*, *Epithal.* 162 Let bounteous Fate your spindles full Fill, and winde up with whitest wool.

e. With qualifying word. See also *fell-wool* (FELL *sb.*¹ 4), *goat's-wool* (GOAT a 4), LAMB'S-WOOL, *skin-wool* (SKIN *sb.* 16), etc.

1495 *Nottingham Rec.* III. 42 Centum stones de fesse wolle et skyn wolle. 1498 HALYBURTON *Ledger* (1867) 219 A pok of lam vol. c 1541 *Tenours Indentures* 19 Cotiswold wolle of the growynge of this present yere. 1698-9 *Act 17 Will. III.* c. 20 §1 Manufactures... made of Sheeps Wool or Coney Wool.

f. In comparisons, e.g. *as soft, white as wool*.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* cxlvii. 16 Se seleð snawe swe swe wulle. c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* i. 265 Hire her was hor and swipe 3wijst as þei it were wolle. 1382 WYCLIF *Rev.* i. 14 The heed of him and heeres weren white, as whijt wulle. c 1386 CHAUCER *Miller's T.* 63 Softer than the wolle is of a wether. c 1480 HENRYSON *Two Mice* 359 Als warme as wolle. 1533 GAU *Richt Vay* (S.T.S.) 63 Giff þour sinnis be... reid as purpur neuthertheles yai sal be quhit as wow. 1742 R. FORBES *Ajax* etc. *Shop Bill* (1755) 38 Some are cotton, That's safer far na' any woo, that grows on mutton. 1839 LONGF. *Wreck of Hesperus* xviii, She struck where the white and fleecy waves Looked soft as carded wool.

g. Phrases and proverbial sayings. (a) *against the wool*: contrary to the direction in which wool naturally lies, the wrong way. (b) *to draw* (or *pull*, †*spread*) *the wool over* (a person's) eyes: to make blind to facts, to hoodwink, to deceive. orig. U.S. (c) *to dye in the wool*: to dye the wool before spinning; *fig. in pass.* to be thoroughly imbued; *dyled in the wool* (chiefly U.S.), thoroughgoing, out-and-out (cf. *wool-dyed* in 5 d). †(d) *to gather wool*: see WOOL-GATHERING 2. (e) *great (much) cry and little wool* (etc.): much talk or clamour with insignificant results (see CRY *sb.* 16). (f) *all wool and a yard wide* and varr., of excellent quality; thoroughly sound or honourable. (g) *wool away!* (*Austral.* and *N.Z.*) (see quot. 1965). (h) *to lose one's wool* (slang), to lose one's temper; similarly *to keep one's wool*, etc. (cf. HAIR *sb.* 8s and sense 2 c below). (i) Miscellaneous.

(a) 1531 TINDALE *Expos.* i *John* iv. Wks. (1573) 415/1 He wresteth all the Scriptures & setteth them clean agaynst the woll, to destroy this article. 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* i. xi. (1867) 30 What should your face thus agayne the wolle be shorne For one fall? 1599 BRETON *Wil of Wit* (Grosart) 60/2 But begging is a vile life in the meane time. *Patience*. Then worke. *Anger*. That goes against the wooll. a 1693 *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xxxvii. 298 Let us... brush our former Words against the Wool.

(b) 1839 *Jamestown* (N.Y.) *Jrnl.* 24 Apr. 1/6 That lawyer has been trying to spread the wool over your eyes. 1842 *Spirit of Times* (Phila.) 29 Sept. (Th.), Look sharp, or they'll pull wool over your eyes. 1855 FRANCES M. WHITCHER *Widow Bedott* xv. (1883) 55 He ain't so big a fool as to have the wool drawd over his eyes in that way. a 1859 in Bartlett *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 2) 517 They think they find a prize, If they can only pull their wool o'er other people's eyes. 1884 HOWELLS *Silas Lapham* vii, I don't propose he shall pull the wool over my eyes.

(c) 1579-80, 1679 [see DYE v. 1 c]. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxxii. §18 Children as it were in the Wool of their infancy dyed with hardnesse may neuer afterwards change colour. 1830 D. WEBSTER *Sp.* in *Mass. Spy* 10 Feb. (Thornton) In half an hour [he can] come out an original democrat, dyed in the wool. 1840 J. P. KENNEDY *Quodlibet* ii. 52 As patent a dyed-in-the-wool Democrat as Theodore Fog himself. 1871 *College Courant* 21 Jan. (Schele de Vere *Amer.*) A drenching rain has washed the indigo from his new suit dyed in the wool at home, into his skin. 1885 HUMMEL *Dyeing Textile Fabrics* 289 If in any dyed woollen fabric the colour has been imparted to it while it was yet in the state of unspun wool, it is said to be wool-dyed, or to have been dyed in the wool. 1900 *Century Mag.* Feb. 503/2 Socialists dyed in the wool. 1903 *Smart Set* IX. 23/2 The governor of Alleghenia is a dyed-in-the-wool scoundrel.

(d) 1577 T. KENDALL *Flowers Epigr.*, *Trifles* 15 The Papist praiseth with mouth, his minde on gathering wooll doeth ge. 1603 BRETON *Packet Mad Lett.* ii. (1633) 83 For their wits, if they loose not their owne fleeces, let them gather Wool where they can.

(e) c 1460 FORTESCUE *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* x. (1885) 132 His hyghnes shall haue peroff, but as hadd þe man þat sherd is hogge, muche crye and litil wolle. 1579 GOSSON *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 28 Here is... as one said at the shearing of hogs, great cry and litte wool. 1644 PRYNNE *Falsities & Forgeries* 2 Here is a great cry indeed, but litte wool. 1721 KELLY *Sc. Prov.* 165 Humph, quoth the Dee'l when he clip'd the Sow, A great cry, and litte Woo. a 1734 NORTH *Life Ld. Kpr. North* (1742) 170 For Matter of Title he thought there was more Squeak than Wool. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* v. i. (Rtdg.) 201 At first, there was much cry but litte wool. 1862 HISLOP *Prov. Scot.* 142 'Mair whistle than woo', quo' the souter when he sheared the sow.

(f) 1882 G. W. PECK *Peck's Sunshine* 85 You want to pick out (as the 'boss combination girl' of Rock Co.) a thoroughbred, that is, all wool, a yard wide. 1909 [see LALLAPALOOSE a.]. 1913 J. LONDON *Valley of Moon* 60 You're a live one, all wool, a yard long and a yard wide. 1963 L. MEYNELL *Virgin Luck* v. 114 It didn't seem to matter so much with people as decent as that about. She was all wool and a yard wide, that one. 1974 'A. GILBERT' *Nice Little Killing* iii. 40 No one will ever catch her... with an alibi all wool and a yard wide.

(g) c 1897 D. MCK. WRIGHT in A. E. Woodhouse *N.Z. Farm & Station Verse* (1950) 33 Wool away! Wool away is the cry And the merry game of busting is begun. 1949 P. NEWTON *High Country Days* v. 53 The call of 'wool away'

had lagging fleecies dashing to rescue fleeces before the shearer would be out with his next sheep. 1965 J. S. GUNN *Terminol. Shearing Industry* II. 38 Wool away, the call of a shearer who wants the picker-up to carry away a fleece. This has to be done after each sheep, and fleeces are not left lying around on the floor while another sheep is being shorn.

(h) 1830 R. LOWER *Tom Cladpole's Journ.* cxxxvi, Dat rais'd ma wool. 1890 BARRÈRE & LEYLAND *Dict. Slang* s.v., 'Keep your wool on,' don't get angry. 1926 'A. BERKELEY' *Wychford Poisoning Case* v. 48 'All right,' Alec said soothingly. 'Keep your wool on.' 1944 D. WELCH *In Youth is Pleasure* v. 87 Dennis said a lot more, growing increasingly vicious with each new sentence... 'My dear, don't lose your wool,' she said, mimicking old-fashioned schoolboy slang. 1959 [see RAG *sb.*¹ 3 c]. 1967 O. NORTON *Now lying Dead* vi. 108, I lost my wool then.

(i) 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. x. 264 Thyne sheep ar ner al shabbyd, þe wolf shitep woolle. 1583 HOWARD *Defensative* Ajb, Wooll driueth backe the Cannon shotte. 1620 SHELTON *Don Quix.* II. lxvii. 455, I would not haue her come for wooll, and returne shorne. 1680 C. BLOUNT tr. *Philostratus* 243 It is ill Wooll that will take no Dye. 1825 WATERTON *Wand. S. Amer.* iii. 242 Sancho Panza... says, many go for wool, and come home shorn. 1864 BROWNING *Mr. Sludge* 630 If such as came for wool, sir, went home shorn; Where is the wrong I did them?

2. Applied to substances resembling sheep's wool. a. A downy substance or fibre found on certain trees and plants; also, the thick furry hair of some insects or larvæ. Cf. COTTON-WOOL *sb.* 1.

c 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xxvi. 268 In that Lond ben Trees, that beren Wolle, as thogh it were of Scheep; where of men maken Clothes, and alle thing that may ben made of Wolle. 1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 59 b, His Apple or fruite is all ouer appaialed with a certaine kinde of wooll called Cotton. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* i. lxxxi. 118 The other white Mulleyne... hath white leaues frysed with a soft wooll or Cotton. 1684 J. PETER *Siege Vienna* 108 Sacks of Wool made of Trees. 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Xylon*, Seeds... wrapped within that soft ductile Wool, commonly known by the Name of Cotton. 1827-8 R. SWEET *Flora Austral.* 15 Leaves... thickly clothed with white wool. 1831 DON *Dichlamydeous Pl.* i. 513 The wool contained in the fruit is called *Samauma* in Brazil, with which the natives stuff pillows and bolsters. 1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 611 The *Noctualites*... The body is generally clothed with scales rather than with wool. 1885 TENNYSON *Spinster's Sweet-Arts* xii, The wool of a thistle a-flyin'. 1895 OLIVER tr. *Kerner's Nat. Hist. Pl.* i. 354 Horse-chestnut leaves, when they make their way through the... bud-scales, are thickly covered with wool.

b. Any fine fibrous substance naturally or artificially produced. †Also (*poet.*) applied to ice.

philosophic(al, philosophers' wool, (L. *lana philosophica*), oxide of zinc, deposited as a fine flocculent powder, during the combustion of the metal.

[1596 T. JOHNSON *Cornucopiae* C 3 b, A stone named Abeston... which hath... a kinde of Wooll growing about it.] 1599 M[OUTER] *Silkwormes* 74 The smel... of silken wool that's new. 1606 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. 1. *Tropheis* 751 As the rigour of long Cold congeals To harsh hard Wool the running Water-Rills. 1758 REID tr. *Macquer's Chym.* I. 94 Into this form may the whole substance of the Zinc be converted. Several names have been given to these flowers, such as Pompholix, Philosophic Wool. 1850 C. J. HEMPEL *Homœopathic Pharm.* 275 Flowers of Zinc, Philosophical Wool. c 1865 J. WYLDE in *Circ. Sc.* i. 191/2 A flocky-white powder, which has been called 'philosophers' wool'. 1866 BRANDE & COX *Dict. Sci.*, etc. II. 886/1 *Philosophic Wool*. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Wool*... a slag of iron blown by steam into a fibrous form. Known as slag-wool, or silicate cotton. 1884 LOCK *Workshop Rec.* Ser. III. 439/2 Slag-wool... The wool... is principally used for covering boilers or steam-pipes. 1885 [see GLASS *sb.*¹ 16].

c. The short, tightly-curled hair of Negroid peoples (*depreciating*). Also *gen.* (jocularly), the hair of the head.

1697 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3256/4 Run away... a Negro Boy... the Wooll off the right side of his Head about the breadth of a Crown Piece. 1730 SOUTHALL *Bugs* 6 Meeting with an uncommon Negro, the Hair or (rather) Wooll on his Head, Beard, and Breast being as white as Snow. 1767 CARTERET in *Hawkesw. Voy.* (1773) I. 599 The people are... woolly-headed, like Negroes... the hair, or rather the wool upon their heads, was very abundantly powdered. a 1853 in 'C. Bede' *Verdant Green* i. ix, He'd got no wool on the top of his head,—just the place where the wool ought to grow, you know. 1884 SIR S. ST. JOHN *Hayti* iv. 146 The principal trouble to the female negro mind is her unfortunate wool.

3. a. Woollen clothing or material; a woollen garment. *Sc. phr.* *among the woo'*, in the blankets.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 11112 He... Ne wered noþer wol ne line. 1534 MORE *Treat. Passion* Wks. 1272/2 How proude is many a man ouer his neighbour, because the wull of his gowne is fyerer? a 1625 FLETCHER *Noble Gentl.* i. i, A Countrey Fool, good to... eate course bread, weare the worst Wooll. 1818 J. KENNEDY *Poet. Wks.* 44 (E.D.D.) They... den among the woo, Fu' quiet that night. 1882 EDITH A. BARNETT *Common-sense Clothing* 28 Wear wool in hot weather; do as you please in cold. 1933 H. ALLEN *Anthony Adverse* II. iv. xxv. 354 'I am a little cold after all,' said Father Xavier, looking at the fire regretfully. 'A second till I change into my wool.' 1952 M. LASKI *Village v.* 94 The beige silk frock could at last be discarded for a really not-too-bad navy blue wool. 1975 BYFIELD & TEDESCHI *Solemn High Murder* (1976) i. 10 Mueller had taken away his rumpled suit, leaving his heavier woolls hanging in the open closet. 1978 S. BRILL *Teamsters* ix. 340 The custom-tailored woolls that might... have made him look like a well-heeled Wall Street lawyer.

b. The nap of a woollen fabric.

1563 FULKE *Meteors* (1571) 14 Garmentes, whose wolle is hyghe, as fryse mantels, and suche lyke. 1577 HARRISON *England* II. i. (1877) i. 34 Such patrons doo scrape the wooll from our [the parsons'] clokes. 1836 H. MANWARING *Tailors' New Guide* 16 First open the cloth with the wool to

go with the back seam. 1892 N. GALE *Country Muse* 32 How his Pilot Jacket shows Ghosts of snowballs on the wool!

c. Twisted woollen yarn used for knitting and mending garments.

1840 MRS. GAUGAIN *Lady's Assist. Knitting* I. 22 The Cap requires eight penny skeins of coloured Berlin wool, and six of white. *Ibid.* 27 Work... with white, ... never breaking off the wools till the whole is finished. 1849 ESTHER COPLEY *Compr. Knitting-bk.* 4 Embroidery Wool is about the size of the thinnest Lady Betty. *Ibid.*, Shetland Wool... is in use for shawls, handkerchiefs, and scarfs. 1885 *Bazaar* 30 Mar. 332 Stocking... knitted with German fingering wool.

4. A quantity or supply, or a particular kind or class, of wool. Chiefly in *pl.*

1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* IV. 11 Whane þe countis were caste with þe custum of wullus. c. 1400 *Contin. Brut* cxxv. (1908) 293 þe King askep þe vif part of alle þe meble goodez of Engeland, and þe wolles. 14... *Chaucer's Pard.* T. 582 (Corp. MS.) Comeþ vp, 3c wyues, offref 3oure wullus. ? c. 1470 in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 283 The marchauntes comme oure wollys for to bye. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 118b, They followe... but one kynde of marchaundyse as Woules or Sylkes. 1586 A. DAY *Engl. Secretorie* II. (1625) 61 Wools are as yet at high rate, but I thinke shortly they will fall. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* IV. xxxiii. 299 If they could make profite of their wools by sending them into Europe. 1706 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4288/3 The Wools to be seen at Leathersellers Hall. 1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 124 Wools have been distinguished in commerce into two classes; fleece wools and dead wools. 1859 E. B. RAMSAY *Remin. Scott. Life & Char.* (ed. 5) 67 Cus. A' ae oo? *Shop.* Ay, a' ae oo [= Aye, all one wool].

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: a. simple *attrib.*, as *wool-bale*, *basket*, *bin*, *-blanket*, *-bob* (BOB sb.¹ 6), *-clip*, *-coat*, *-crop*, *-import*, *-lock*, *-mattress*, *-produce*, *-production*, *-sheet*, *shop*, *-side*, *-tax*, *-top* (TOP sb.¹ 2); = relating to or concerned with the manufacture, storage, transport, or commercial handling of wool or woollen goods, as *wool-bill*, *-boat*, † *chamber*, *-dray*, *duty*, *-fair*, *-hall*, *-loft*, *-market*, *quay*, *-room*, *-sale*, † *-ship*, *-store*, † *-tool*, *trade*, *-wain*, *warehouse*, *weight*, *-wharf*. b. objective, etc. esp. in terms denoting operatives or machines concerned with the manufacture of wool or woollen goods, as *wool-breaker* (BREAK v. 2c), † *-brogger*, *-broker*, *-burler*, *-buyer*, † *-chapman*, *-classer*, *-cleaner*, *-cutter*, *-dealer*, *-dresser*, *-drier*, *-duster*, *-dye*, *-factor*, *-farmer*, *-gleaner*, *-grower*, *-holder*, *-jobber*, *-maker*, *-merchant*, *-monger*, *-moter*, *-oiler*, *-picker*, *-printer*, *-puller*, *-roller*, *-scourer*, *-scribbler* (SCRIBBLER²), *-scutcher*, *-seller*, *-shubber*, *-washer*, *-wearer*, *-weaver*, † *-webster*, *-weigher*, *wool-bearing*, *-broking*, *-bundling*, *-burring*, *-classing*, *-cleaning*, *-growing*, *-picking*, *-printing*, *-producing*, *-rearing*, *-scouring*, *-washing* sbs. and adjs. c. instrumental, similitive, and parasynthetic, as *wool-backed*, *-fringed*, *-laden*, *-lined*, *-o'erburdened*, *-white*, *-woofed*, *-woven* adjs.; also *wool-like* adj.

1907 *Westm. Gaz.* 26 Oct. 13/2 Soft *wool-backed satin. 1852 MUNDY *Antipodes* (1857) 31 Long caravans of drays... laden with *wool-bales, hides, &c. c. 1878 J. ALBERY *Dram. Wks.* (1939) II. 300 Fawley places a note in Haidee's *wool-basket. 1965 J. S. GUNN *Terminol. Shearing Industry* II. 38 *Wool basket*. There are several of these containers into which various locks and bellies are thrown to be baled up separately. 1792 A. YOUNG *Trav. France* I. 74 Our woollen manufacturers... when suing for their *wool-bill, of infamous memory, bringing one Thomas Wilkinson from Dunkirk quay... to swear that wool passes from Dunkirk without entry, duty, or any thing being required. 1933 *Press* (Christchurch, N.Z.) 30 Dec. 13/7 *Wool bins, open compartments like stalls in a stable, where wool is stacked by classes until it is pressed. 1974 D. STUART *Prince of My Country* I. 3 The woolbins loom broad and tall, the press towers above them, there are bales in squat heaps. 1519 *Registr. Aberdeen*. (Maitl. Club) II. 174 Ane payr of dowbill *wool blankets. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 570 It is not that wool-blanket, smothering affair that we were wrapped in down by Buana. 1898 *Dublin Rev.* July 171 The journey was continued in a flat-bottomed *wool-boat. 1891 *Miss Dowie Girl in Karp.* 101 The lads of the village had... coloured *wool-bobs... in their black felt hats. a. 1691 AUBREY *Nat. Hist. Wilts* (1847) 110 Mr. Ludlowe... and his predecessors have been *wool-breakers 80 or 90 years. a. 1722 LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 427 Wool-breakers... separate the fleeces by themselves that run most of a sort. 1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 219 Gill-machines of the ordinary construction as represented in the wool-breaker. 1714 [BLANCH] *Beaux Merchant* III. 42 The *Wooll-brogger buys his Wool in the Summer, and sells out the greatest part in the Winter. 1852 T. BAINES *Hist. Liverpool* 756 note, Mr. Thomas Southey, *wool-broker, London. 1871 W. REID *Sheep Contents* p. vii, *Woolbroking advantageous to the Grower. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Wool-bundling Machine. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, *Wool-burlers, women who remove the little knots or extraneous matters from wool, and from the surface of woollen cloth. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Wool-burring Machine, a machine for picking the burs from wool. 1641 D. FERGUSON's *Scot. Prov.* (S.T.S.) 8 A woole seller kens a *woole buyer. 1775 W. DONALDSON *Agric.* 110 The rich grazier, who can... compel the wool-buyers to his own terms. 1876 J. S. BLACKIE *Lett.* (1909) 245 We took dinner... with the big sheep lairds, the wool-buyers and wool-brokers. 1603 in *Gage Hengrave* (1822) 22 Y^c graneries; y^c *woole chamber. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* III. 157 The fete and the skin they sell vnto the *wool-chapmen. 1892 W. E. SWANTON *Notes on N.Z.* II. 96 There is the *wool classer with his assistant rollers. 1911 W.

H. KOEBEL *In Maoriland Bush* viii. 122 The wool-classer takes his stand before the sorting table. 1968 *Guardian* 29 Feb. 14/3 Ian Redpath (Victoria), 26. Wool classer. Opening bat. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* xi, A natural aptitude for *wool-classing. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Wool-cleaner, a machine for cleaning dust, burs, and other foreign matters from wool. *Ibid.*, Fig. 7345 *Wool-cleaning machine. 1904 McCABE *Haackel's Evol. Man* I. 107 The embryonic *wool-coat usually, in the case of the human embryo, covers the whole body. 1884 HELEN JACKSON *Ramona* I, You could reckon up the *wool-crop to a pound while it was on the sheep's back. 1723 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6192/9 Mary Louff... Coney *Wooll-Cutter. 1819 REES *Cycl. s.v. Wool*, The English *wool-dealers. 1845 D. MACKENZIE *Emigr. Guide Australia* 91 Of these bales, ... one of our ordinary *wool-drays, drawn by eight bullocks, will carry to Sydney from 15 to 20. 1727 ARBUTHNOT *Tables Anc. Coins* etc. 300 Struthium... is a Root us'd by the *Wool-dressers. 1867 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade Suppl.*, *Wool-drier, a workman who dries wool after washing. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Wool-dryer, a machine for removing the moisture from wool after washing, dyeing, or what not. *Ibid.*, *Wool-duster, a machine for mechanically removing the coarser impurities from wool. 1673-4 EARL ESSEX *Papers* (Camden) I. 172, I cannot learn that any more than 1500^l, or at most 2000^l a year, was ever made for *wooll duties to y^c chief Govern^r. 1858 E. BAINES in T. BAINES *Yorks.* (1875) I. 648 *Wool dyers. 1801 T. PECK *Norwich Direct.* 10 Coulsen Ralph, *Wool-Factor. 1806 *Monthly Mag.* June 481/1 At a recent meeting of... wool growers of Glamorganshire, resolutions were adopted for establishing a *wool-fair in that county. 1742 JARVIS 2nd Pt. *Quix.* III. xvii. II. 258 Pedro Perez the *wool-farmer. 1834 M. SCOTT *Cruise Midge* xviii, The heavy clouds... had... settled down in a black, *wool-fringed bank. 1899 H. JOHNSTON *Chron. Glenbuckie* xxii. 255 Her profession was that of a *wool-gleaner. 1806 *wool growers [see *wool-fair*]. 1921 *Daily Colonist* (Victoria, B.C.) 11 Oct. 6/3 Mr. Vernon, a wool-grower of Albert Head. 1962 *Economist* 31 Mar. 1275/1 Australian woolgrowers stand to earn £24 million more this season. 1971 *Sunday Australian* 8 Aug. 1/5 Half of Australia's 93,000 woolgrowers will get less than \$600 each from the Federal Government's new wool subsidy. 1847-54 WEBSTER, *Wool-growing, a., producing sheep and wool. 1868 *Rep. U.S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 42 *Wool-growing would be profitable if it were not for ravenous dogs. 1751 *Engl. Gazetteer* I. s.v. Buckingham, This Town was many years a wool-staple, and many of its *wool-halls are yet standing. 1842 BISCHOFF *Woollen Manuf.* II. 57 Another meeting of foreign *wool holders. 1919 *Glasgow Herald* 27 June 7 A congestion of *wool imports at the docks. 1775 ASH, *Wool-jobber, one who buys up small parcels of wool and sells them again. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* xii, The teams *wool-laden departed. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 159 The straight hairs on the leaves disappear by cultivation, but the *wool-like hairs continue on the stem. 1880 C. R. MARKHAM *Peruv. Bark* 251 Dense bodies of white wool-like exhalations fill the deeper valleys. 1824 E. WEETON *Let.* 22 May (1969) II. 270 My *wool-lined beaver gloves. 1891 C. ROBERTS *Adrift Amer.* 43 He then told me to put on my wool-lined rubber boots. 1382 WYCLIF *Wisd.* v. 15 The hope of the vnputous is as a *wille loke, or thistil-doun. c. 1422 HOCLEVE *Leve to Dye* 219 Myn hope is as it were a wolle-loke Which the wynd vp reisith for his lightnesse. c. 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 534/2 Wullok, villus. 1497 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 245, xix new cabulles owte of the *Wolofte at Southampton. 1833 LOUDON *Encycl. Archit.* 8887 The wool-loft bears evidence that sheep form a part of the live stock. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 423/1 A *Wolle maker, lanifex. 1886 C. SCOTT *Sheep-farming* 192 It will take a long time to cause such a demand for woollen goods as appreciably to affect the *wool-markets. 1899 *Daily News* 11 Sept. 2/6 A mattress invoiced as a *wool mattress'. 1836 *Pigot & Co's Lond. Commerc. Direct.* II. 315 *Wool merchants and warehouses. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) II. 1173 [They] þe porters bede To late in tueie *wolumongers, hor chaffre in to lede. a. 1400 *Old Usages Winch.* in *Engl. Gilds* (1870) 353 No wollemongere... ne may habbe no stal in þe heye-stret. 1697 *View Penal Laws* 257 Wool and Woolmongers. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 551/2 Impurities... are afterwards picked out by boys or women, called *wool-moaters, or *wool-pickers. 1654 BLOUNT *Acad. Eloq.* 47 The *Wool-ore-burthened sheep. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Wool-oiler... a device for attachment to the first breaker over the feed-apron, and immediately in front of the feed-rolls of the carding-machine. 1536 *Act 28 Hen. VIII* c. 4 §1 Weauers, tuckers, spinners, diers, and *wulpikers... haue ben... without worke. 1843 [see *wool-moter*]. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Wool-picker, a machine for burring wool. 1817 M. BIRKBECK *Notes Journ. Amer.* (1818) 56 The wife was at a neighbour's on a *wool-picking frolic, which is a merry-meeting of gossips... to pick the year's wool and prepare it for carding. 1867 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade Suppl.*, *Wool-printer. 1852 *EARP Gold Col. Austr.* 3 The *wool produce of Australia. 1886 C. SCOTT *Sheep-farming* 186 A *wool-producing breed. 1903 FLEMMING *Pract. Tanning* I The first operation to which sheepskins are subjected by the tanner or *wool-puller is soaking. 1376 *Rolls of Parlt.* II. 351/1 Charges sur les Laynes... al *Wolkey en la Port de Londres. 1476 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) II. 5 The ij pokets woll, beyng at the Wollkey. 1721 *Act 8 Geo. I* c. 31 All that Piece or Parcel of Ground... called or known by the Name of Wooll Key, situate... in the Parish of All Saints Barking in the City of London. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 19 Feb. 10/1 A large *wool-rearing district. 1890 *Melbourne Argus* 20 Sept. 13/7 The fleece he carries to the 'skirting table,' where the *wool roller stands. 1833 LOUDON *Encycl. Archit.* 8779 The granary and the *wool-room are both seven feet high. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, *Wool-sale, a periodical public sale, in London or Liverpool, for the disposal of large quantities of wool. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* xii, The reputation of the Garrandilla clip in the forthcoming wool sales. 1858 E. BAINES in T. BAINES *Yorks.* (1875) I. 652 *Wool Scourers, Driers, &c. 1860 JUBB *Shoddy-trade* 60 *Wool-scouring... has become general, as regards fine foreign and colonial wools. c. 1830 in *Southey Comm.-Pl. Bk.* (1851) IV. 491 Mr. Taylor, *wool-scribbler, ... City Road. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, *Wool-scribbler, machines for combing... wool into thin downy translucent layers. 1884 *Spectator* 26 Apr. 548 An ideal *wool-scutcher, with more tearing-power than any other combination of iron teeth. 1641 *woole seller [see *wool-buyer*]. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, *Wool-sheet, a packing-wrapper for bales of

wool. 1481 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 80, I undyrstond be yowr letter that aull the *whowlschypys ar cwm to Calles. 1923 *Harmsworth's 'Best Way' Series* No. 95 15/1 Ask at any *wool shop for 'Beehive' Recipe Card No. 50 (price 2d.). 1943 A. CHRISTIE *Moving Finger* xiii. 147 She was knitting—ever so vexed she'd run out of wool... So I ran her in, dropped her at the wool shop. 1983 C. BOWDER *Birth Rites* I. 38 The colour's a bit unusual. It was a discontinued line in my local wool-shop. 1903 FLEMMING *Pract. Tanning* 65 By which all fleshy particles are removed from the inner or flesh side and the loose dirt removed from the *wool side [of the pelt]. 1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 9 The *wool slubber, ... after a visit to the beer-shop, resumes his task with violence. 1828-43 TYTLER *Hist. Scot.* (1864) I. 241 The *wool-tax fell heavily upon the inhabitants. 1842 BISCHOFF *Woollen Manuf.* II. 2 Deputies from the manufacturing districts, anxious for the repeal of the wool tax. 1578 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 282 Studills, wheles, card and all *wooll toiles. 14... in *Wt.-Wülcker* 588/31 *Icarpa*, a *wolletoppe. 1775 ASH, *Wooltrade, the trade of buying and selling wool. 1906 KIPPLING *Puck of Pook's Hill* viii. 242 They go over to Rye o' Thursday in the *wool-wains. 1808 W. WILSON *Hist. Diss. Ch.* I. 397 The meeting-house in Gravel-lane, was afterwards occupied as a *wool-warehouse. 1884 W. S. B. McLAREN *Spinning* (ed. 2) 51 No *wool-washer ought to allow his suds to run away in the form they leave the bowls. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech. Suppl.* 955/2 'Smith's' wool washer. 1884 W. S. B. McLAREN *Spinning* (ed. 2) 38 So much has been heard... of the superior *wool-washing in Verniers. 1553 W. TURNER in *Strype Eccl. Mem.* (1721) III. iv. 49 Whereas there sitteth but seven or eight linnen-wearing bishops... in the convocation-house, if there be threescore pastors and elders, they are *woolwearers. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 506/2 *Lanarius*, ... a *wooll weauer. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* Prol. 219 *Wollewebsteres and weueres of lynnene. a. 1661 HOLYDAY *Juvenal* vi. (1673) 123 (Illustr.) The word... is by the Scholiast expounded so, by *Lani-pendia* (a *wool-weigher). 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, *Wool weight. The following are the subdivisions used in weighing wool. 1326 *Cal. Wills Crt. Hust.* *Lond.* 1. (1889) 319 Le *Wollewharf. 1423 *Ibid.* II. (1890) 433. 1818 SHELLEY *Rosal. & Helen* 1092 The hissing frankincense, Whose smoke, *wool-white as ocean foam, Hung in dense flocks beneath the dome. 1848 TENNYSON in *Mem.* (1897) I. 281 Thick wool-white fog. 1821 KEATS *Lamia* II. 179 A sacred tripod... Whose slender feet wade-swerv'd upon the soft *Wool-woofed carpets. 1888 G. M. HOPKINS *Poems* (1967) 198 No more: off with—down he dings His bleached both and *wool-woven wear.

d. Special *comb.*: wool alien, a plant introduced into a country by means of imported wool containing its seed; wool-ball (see *quot.*); † wool-battery, a battery faced with wool-packs built up as a breast-work; wool-bird *slang*, a lamb; wool-blind *Austral.* and *N.Z.*, (of a sheep) having its sight obscured by its growth of wool; also *ellipt.*; hence wool-blindness; † wool-bow (see *quot.* and *Bow sb.*¹ 13); † wool-butter, butter used to salve the wool of sheep; wool church, one of the English churches built or modified out of the wealth produced by the Tudor wool trade; wool clip = CLIP *sb.*² 2b; wool-clipper, a clipper for carrying wool; † wool-craft, wool manufacture; wool-driver, one who buys wool from a sheep-owner to sell it in the market or to manufacturers; wool-dyed a., dyed 'in the wool' (see 1g(c)); wool-fat, (a) = SUINT; (b) = LANOLIN; wool-flock, coarse, inferior wool; † wool-folder = WOOL-WINDER; † wool-gatherer, one who collects wool from the flockmasters; † wool-graither, one who prepares wool for the manufacturer; wool-grass, name for various grasses or grass-like plants having woolly spikelets, as the American *Scirpus cyperinus* (*S. eriophorum*) and the European *Erianthus ravenneæ*; wool-grease = SUINT; wool hat, (a) a hat made of coarse wool; † (b) U.S., a supporter of the Democratic Party (*obs.*); (c) U.S., a small farmer, or an unsophisticated or conservative countryman, from the South; also (senses (b) and (c)) wool hat boy; wool-hole *Printing*, also *Printers' slang* (see *quot.*); † wool-hurdle, a sheep-fold; wool king *Austral.* and *N.Z. colloq.*, a wealthy or large-scale sheep farmer; Woolmark = SHEEP-MARK; an international quality symbol for wool instituted by the International Wool Secretariat; also *transf.*; † wool-master, an owner of wool-producing sheep; a wool-producer; wool-mill = WILLY *sb.*¹ 3; wool-moth, the clothes-moth, *Tinea sarcitella*; wool-needle, a blunt needle used for wool-work; wool-nipping, a portion of wool nipped off a sheep in branding; wool-oil, † (a) oil used to salve the wool of sheep; (b) = LANOLIN; wool-owner, a sheep-owner; wool-pated a., woolly-headed; wool-plant, ? = MULLEIN; wool-press, a press used in packing wool; wool presser, one who operates a wool press; wool-pulling *vbl. sb.*, (a) the removal of wool from a sheepskin; (b) the act of pulling the wool over a person's eyes; deception; wool-scour *Austral.*, a large shed where wool is washed; wool-screw, a wool-press; wool-shear, now only *pl.* -shears, shears used for shearing sheep; also † wool-shearers; wool-shed *Austral.* and *N.Z.*, the large building

at a sheep-station in which the shearing and wool-packing are done; wool-sorter, a sorter of wool; *wool-sorters' disease*, anthrax, also known as *splenic fever*; so wool-sorting; wool-spinner, (a) a workman who spins wool; (b) a species of mussel (see quot. 1815); so wool-spinning; wool-sponge *U.S.*, a variety of bath-sponge; wool-stock, a heavy wooden hammer used in fulling cloth; wool table *Austral.* and *N.Z.* (see quot. 1965); wool team *Austral.* and *N.Z.*, a team of draught animals for transporting wool; wool-thistle = *woolly-headed thistle* (see WOOLLY-HEADED a); wool-track *Austral.*, a track along which wool was conveyed to a port; wool-tree, any species of *Eriodendron*; wool-wax, (a) = SUINT; (b) = LANOLIN; wool-weed, any species of *Eriocaulon* (pipewort); † wool-weight *sb.* [WEIGH *sb.*¹ 2], scales for weighing wool; † wool-weight *a.*, that weighs out wool for spinning; wool-wheel, a wheel for spinning wool; wool-witted *a.*, woolly-minded; wool-yarn, yarn spun from wool; *spec.* (see quot. 1863).

1919 HAYWARD & DRUCE *Adventive Flora Tweedside* p. xxi. It must not... be assumed that all the *wool aliens will disappear. 1961 *Proc. Bot. Soc. Brit. Isles* IV. 221 The party visited a railway siding in the same county, and further wool aliens were found... On enquiry he found that wool waste ('shoddy') was unloaded at the sidings and delivered to local farmers for use as a manure, and when this was followed up foreign weeds were found to be plentiful in their fields. 1976 *B.S.B.I. News* Sept. 22 J. R. Palmer searched hop fields near Watlington (Kent) and also found wool aliens present although no 'shoddy' has been used here for at least four years. 1973 *Chambers' Cycl. Suppl.*, *Wool-balls... masses of Wool compacted into firm and hard balls, and found in the stomachs of sheep. 1852 COL. HAWKER *Diary* (1893) II. 341 A large model of my wheel-barrow stanchion gun artillery, with *wool battery, for raking a close column of infantry. 1825 C. M. WESTMACOTT *Engl. Spy* I. 156 The wing of a *wool bird [= shoulder of lamb]. 1933, 1953 *Wool-blind [see eye-clip vb. s.v. EYE *sb.*¹ 28]. 1955 J. MORRISON in B. James *Austral. Short Stories* (1963) 158 Worse than pushing a mob of wool-blinds up the ramp of a shearing shed. 1965 J. S. GUNN *Terminol. Shearing Industry* II. 37 The wig is removed with all the wool during shearing... because, if it is not done, the sheep may become 'wool-blind' before shearing time. 1950 *N.Z. J. agric. Oct.* 349/3 Through eye clipping, *wool blindness is avoided. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 291/1 *Wool-Bow... an Instrument by which Wool is rent and torn and beaten very fine... before it can be worked into Hats. 1600 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 352/2 Reddendo... barrellam butiri lie *woolbutter. 1936 M. ALLIS *Eng. Prelude* xxxiii. 252 Long Melford... with the stately *wool church, a miracle of lace in stone and flint. 1950 H. J. MASSINGHAM *Curious Traveller* ix. 175 Wild nature is the architect in Pembrokeshire and the massive castles... bear the same architectural relation to cliff and mountain as... the wool-churches of the Cotswolds. 1976 *Cambridge Independent Press* 16 Dec. 1. 3/5 An interesting talk, illustrated with coloured slides, on the wool churches of East Anglia was given. 1862 *Rep. Comm. Patents 1861: Agric.* 131 The *wool-clip of New England commands a ready cash market in Boston. 1893 *Times* 18 July 2/6 The wool-clip of the year throughout Australia. 1977 *Weekly Times* (Melbourne) 19 Jan. 3/4 The Corporation had put proposals to the Minister for Primary Industry... to acquire the export portion of the Australian wool clip. 1984 *N.Z. Farmer* 12 Apr. 12/1 The wool clip never strayed far from about 5kg per sheep wintered. 1984 *Oxf. Illustr. Hist. Brit.* iii. 160 Their reserves of liquid capital enabled Italian companies to offer attractive terms. They could not only buy an abbey's entire wool clip for the current year; they could also buy it for years in advance. 1903 C. PROTHEROE *Life in Mercantile Marine* 4 The *Chatto* was a full-rigged ship of a thousand odd tons, in reality a *wool-clipper, but being winter time, she was now loaded with tallow and grain. 1924 J. MASEFIELD *Sard Harker* 37 The wool-clippers and big four-masters were being squeezed out. 1387 *TREVISIA Higden* (Rolls) II. 297 Pallas... fonde vp meny crafts, and specialliche *wolcraft [L. *lanificium*]. 1398 — *Barth. De P.R.* xv. xlv. (1495) G iij. This londe [sc. Cos] was fyrste endowed wyth wolle crafte. 1555 *Act 2 & 3 Phil. & Mary* c. 13 Yf... the said *Wooll-dryver shall sell his sayd Woolles at any other place forthe... of Halyfaxe. 1775 W. DONALDSON *Agric.* 111 The wool-drivers, or owlers, are the only persons who profit by their necessities. 1832 *Niles' Weekly Reg.* XLIII. 65/2 Messrs. Randolph and Ritchie who are chiefs of the *wool-dyed democrats' of the present day. 1844 G. DODD *Textile Manuf.* iii. 97 The distinction between 'wool-dyed' cloth and 'piece-dyed' cloth. 1904 *Charlotte* (N. Carolina) *Observer* 19 June 2 Higginson is one of the old abolition gang, is wool-dyed and blind. 1875 *Chem. News* 15 Jan. 26/2 The question as to the composition of the *wool-fat could not be fully solved. 1891 *J. agric. Soc. Chem. Industry* X. 709/1 An Improved Manufacture of Saponifiable Fatty Matter from Wool-Fat. 1555 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) 451 A new charter... by the whiche they have the forfaiteours of *wooll flocks. 1662 *Act 14 Charles II* c. 18 §1 Whereas... great quantities of Wooll Woolfels... Yarn made of Wool Woolflocks... are secretly exported. 1904 *Daily Chron.* 27 Aug. 7/2 We would not object if Parliament forbade the sale of wool-flock as bedding material. 1550 *Proclam. Winding of Woolls* 23 May 2 No grower... or gatherer of any wolles... shall... set a worke any *wolfeolder, or wollewinder to folde or wynde his... wolles or wolles, vnlesse [etc.]. 1482 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 102 Aull *wholl getherars wher sent for be wryt. 1551-2 *Act 5 & 6 Edw. VI* c. 7 §1 The corrupt practises of diverse... Woolgatherers and Regrators. c. 1420 *Pref. Ep. Jerome* vi. in *Wycliffite Bible* (1850) I. 67 *Wulle graithers and fullers. 1854 THOREAU *Walden* xvii. (1863) 331 The arching and sheaf-like top of the *wool-grass. 1856 A. GRAY *Man. Bot. U.S.* (1860) 501 *Scirpus Eriophorum*, Michx. (Wool-Grass). 1875 *Chem. News* 15 Jan. 26/2 We have examined two fresh kinds of *wool-grease. 1891 *J. agric. Soc. Chem. Industry* X.

709/1 Acids generally used in the recovery of wool grease from the waste water from wool washing and combing factories. 1794 T. COXE *View U.S.* 314 *Wool hats, of Winchester make, are in much repute. 1828 *Western Intelligencer* (Hamilton, Ohio) 3 Oct. 3/1 Thus has Mr. Woods endeavored to gain the votes of the wool hats as he terms his Jackson friends in Washington. 1836 *Western Hemisphere* (Columbus, Ohio) 3 Aug. 1/7 The very men whom a few years ago they called the 'ragged wool hat boys' and 'Tories', they are now seeking to attach to their [Whig] party!! 1856 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 8) XI. 240/2 Wool hats are made entirely of coarse native wool and hair stiffened with glue. Before the emancipation act these hats were largely exported for negroes' wear. 1880 *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 159 An old 'wool-hat' came along with a cart drawn by a single ox. 1898 B. H. YOUNG *Hist. Jessamine County, Kentucky* 163 They made wool hats. 1927 K. EUBANK *Horse & Buggy Days* 170, I was a smart boy from town, and this particular guy thought I was a wool-hat boy. 1942 J. A. RICE *I came out of Eighteenth Cent.* ii. 95 South Carolinians liked their hatred to be personal, and the 'Wool Hat Boys' whooped with delight when Tillman ripped the hide off the 'Columbia Ring' and the Charlestonian gentlemen. 1942 *Time* 21 Sept. 19/3 Georgia's 'wool-hat' boys (small farmers). 1960 *Spectator* 2 Sept. 332 The 'wool-hats' (i.e. dyed-in-the-wool segregationists) of the rural Tobacco Roads who fear negro competition. 1980 *Washington Star* 29 Sept. A13/5 Carter knows that when... Eugene Talmadge shouted about 'state's rights', the 'woolhats' of Georgia knew what he was saying. 1841 *Savage Dict. Printing* 814 *Wool hole, a place boxed off sometimes under a stair case, or in any situation where the dust will not affect the press room... in which the wool is carded wherewith to make the balls. *Ibid.*, Wool hole, the workhouse. When a compositor or pressman is reduced by age or illness to take refuge in the workhouse, it is said he is in the Wool Hole. 1586 [? J. CASE] *Praise Mus.* vi. 76 When he hears his maids either at y* *woolhurdle, or the milking pail. 1889 G. R. HART *Stray Leaves from Early Hist. Canterbury* iii. 19 Founders of the present race of *wool kings in many parts of Canterbury. a 1922 H. LAWSON in *Penguin Bk. Austral. Ballads* (1964) 156 These are men who died to make the Wool-Kings rich. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 93 It is in your power to follow your strayed stock, and claim it anywhere by the *wool-mark. 1964 *Wool Future* Sept. 1/1 Woolmark, the international quality symbol for pure new wool, will be seen in British and Irish shops for the first time this month. 1980 *Times* 8 July 10/5 To get the Woolmark seal of approval you can only have a minute percentage of gorse... or whatever still stuck on the yarn. 1983 D. DUNNETT *Dolly & Bird of Paradise* xi. 141 One or two sheep... with no barbed wire in sight to ruffle their gorgeous Woolmark. 1550-3 *Decay Eng.* in *Suppl.* (E.E.T.S. 1871) 101 Refusing none, but only them that hath all this abundance, that is to saye, shepe or *woolmasters, and inclosers. a 1691 AUBREY *Nat. Hist. Wills* (1847) 110 Our clothiers combine against the woolmasters, and keep their spinners but just alive. 1905 *New Mills Cloth Manufactory* Introd. p. lxxx. The woolmasters secured a small advantage. 1819 REES *Cycl. XXXVIII.* 4 O 3 b, The wool for coarse goods is passed several times through the *wool-mill. 1830 BOUCHER *Analyt. Dict.* 176 The Woolmill, (commonly called the Devil). 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 887 The *wool-moth then takes up its residence, in summer, amongst such fleeces. 1882 CAULFIELD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework* 522 *Wool Needles... are short and thick, with blunt points, and long eyes, like those of darning needles. 1669 *WORLDIDGE Syst. Agric.* (1681) 83 Course *Wool-nippings and Tarry Pitch-marks... having great virtue in them. 1760 R. BROWN *Compl. Farmer* II. 68 Wool-nippings... are beneficial for lands. 1545 *Rates of Custome* Ho. dj. *Woll oyle called trane the tonne. a 1585 in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* (1914) XXIX. 519 All our wolles oyles and swete oyles. 1894 H. NISBET *Bush Girl's Rom.* 225 Wil Drake came down with Mr. Craven and the other *wool owners. 1703 DAMPIER *Voy.* III. 1. 27 The Inhabitants of this Island... are all Negro's, *Wool-pated like their African neighbours. 1883 BROWNING *Joch. Hakkadosh* 18 Hairs silk-sot, silver-white, Such as the *wool-plant's. 1846 C. J. PHARAZYN *J. agric. Soc.* 21 Dec. (MS., Turnbull Libr., Wellington, N.Z.) 67 Employed all day at Watarangi assisting in packing fleeces. George making *wool press. 1859 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* xxiv, I dreamed... that the devil had got me under the wool-press, screwing me down as hard as he could. 1892 W. E. SWANTON *Notes on N.Z.* ii. 96 There is... the *wool presser and his mate to bale up the wool. 1847 J. S. ROBB *Squatter Life* 16 In short I'm up to the whole *wool pulling' system. 1885 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 278/2 A high duty on wool makes it cheaper to have the 'wool-pulling' done in England, and let the skins come to us as our raw material. 1971 D. BAGLEY *Freedom Trap* iii. 59, I was given permission to start correspondence courses... It was all a bit of wool-pulling to make them think Rearden was reconciled to his fate. 1911 BEAN *'Dreadnought' of the Darling* xi. 101 The wool... goes on to be washed by machinery in a second big shed, the *wool-scour, so as to get the grease and dirt out of it. 1828 P. CUNNINGHAM *N.S. Wales* (ed. 3) II. 82 Wooden *wool-screw. 1643 *Orkney Witch Trial in Abbotsford Club Misc.* I. 184, I took ane seif and... set ane cogge full of water in the seive, and then laid ane *wool scheir on the coggis mouth. 1831 LOUDON *Encycl. Agric.* (ed. 2) 373 The wool-shears are... worked with one hand. 1809 *Med. J. agric. Soc.* XXI. 414 A Lad... was wounded in the abdomen by a pair of *wool-shearers. 1846 C. J. PHARAZYN *J. agric. Soc.* 11 Dec. (MS., Turnbull Libr., Wellington, N.Z.) 67 Counted rams after breakfast. George finished washing penn at river with Robin and Teddy and self to *wool shed at Watarangi and finished the same. 1850 CLUTTERBUCK *Port Phillip* II. 23 In some instances the flood has swept away the wool-sheds. 1859 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* xxiii, Backed by huts, sheep-yards, a wool-shed, and the usual concomitants of a flourishing Australian sheep station. 1977 *N.Z. Herald* 8 Jan. 4-7/7 (Adv.), Four-brm home, 3-stand woolshed, barn, yards, airstrip. 1834 *Tait's Mag.* I. 411/2 Merchants in Sydney, some of whom employ *wool-sorters of their own to assort and repack it for the London market. 1844 G. DODD *Textile Manuf.* iii. 97 If the wool-sorter be out of practice for any considerable time, his fingers lose the delicacy of touch indispensable to his occupation. 1880 *Daily Tel.* 10 Dec. 3/8 Henry Slater has died here from 'wool-sorter's disease'. 1858 E. BAINES in T. Baines *Yorks.* (1875) I. 653 The *wool sorting done by the proprietors themselves. 1815 S. BROOKES *Conchol.* 157 *Woolspinner, *Mytilus discors*. 1848 *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 208 In proportion, however, to his taciturnity was the

loquaciousness of a woolspinner. 1821 *GALT Ann. Parish* xii. (1895) 85 Superintending... a great *wool-spinning we then had. 1879 *SIMMONDS Comm. Products Sea* 159 The [American] grades are glove sponge... *wool sponge... and yellow and hard head. 1858 — *Dict. Trade*, *Wool-stocks, heavy wooden hammers for milling cloth, or driving the threads of the web together. 1865 M. A. BARKER *Let.* 1 Dec. in *Station Life N.Z.* (1870) 32 We next inspected the *wool tables, to which two boys were incessantly bringing armfuls of rolled-up fleeces. 1950 *N.Z. J. agric. Oct.* 310/2 The scrubbing of the shearing board and the wool table is an essential practice. 1965 J. S. GUNN *Terminol. Shearing Industry* II. 40 Wool table, a table of spaced ridged lateral slats on which the fleece is rolled and skirted and the pieces picked. Any loose locks fall through to be picked up. 1865 R. HENNING *Let.* 18 Feb. (1952) 82/3 Biddulph... has sent both the bullock-drivers to the Port with the *wool-teams. 1959 H. P. TRITTON *Time means Tucker* v. 41/2 Yarragrinn... was also famous as a camp for the wool-teams, coming in from the north-west. 1769 J. HILL *Herb. Brit.*, *Wool-thistle. 1903 'T. COLLINS' *Such is Life* (1937) vi. 317 These *wool-tracks, that knew him so well, will know him no more again for ever. 1959 J. WRIGHT *Generations of Men* (1960) xvii. 217 They followed a line through the trees that led southward across the road, once an important wool-track to the coastal ports. 1831 DON *Dichlamydeus Pl.* I. 512 *Eriodendron leiantherum*... Smooth-anthered *Wool-tree. 1911 *Encycl. Brit.* XX. 51/2 An exceptional position [among animal waxes] is occupied by *wool wax, the main constituent of the natural wool fat which covers the hair of sheep... Wool fat is now being purified on a large scale and brought into commerce, under the name of lanolin, as an ointment. 1943 *Thorpe's Dict. Appl. Chem.* (ed. 4) VI. 135/2 Wool grease (wool fat...) is the crude mixture of wool wax and fatty acids recovered from the soapy liquor used for the scouring of raw wool. *Ibid.*, Crude wool grease is used as a lubricant...; some is refined for use as 'lanolin' (pure wool wax) in... cosmetics... rust preventives, etc. 1954 [see DEGRAS, DÉGRAS b]. 1956 *Nature* 10 Mar. 470/1 Further work was carried out... on the formation of polyacrylonitrile in wool and on suint and wool wax. 1964 N. G. CLARK *Mod. Organic Chem.* xvii. 340 Wool wax occurs to the extent of 20 to 30 per cent in raw sheep's wool. 1966 GETTENS & STOUT *Painting Materials* 81 Wool Wax... is the natural grease from the fleece of sheep. 1772 J. HILL *Veg. Syst.* X. 26 *Woollweed. *Eriocaulon*. c 1100 *Gloss.* in *Wr.-Wülcker* 148/21 *Campana*, *wulwæga. 1533 *Extr. Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 451 Ane pair of woll weyiss, ane pair of ballendis of brass, [etc.]. a 1661 HOLYDAY *Juvenal* i. (1673) 100 Illustr. 123 Wo to the *Wool-weigh-maide. 1630 in *Ramsay Bamff Charters* (1915) 223 Ane *woll qwehill. a 1806 JAS. THOMSON *Poems* (1894) 233 A gude woo' wheel, my wife to spin on. 1865 MRS. GASKELL *Sylvia's Lovers* iv, A woman stands at the great wool-wheel, one arm extended, the other holding the thread. 1905 A. T. SHEPPARD *Red Cravat* i. 12 A belated Mastodon, stumbling from some old German forest... would have caused little more sensation among the *wool-witted villagers. 1429 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 360/2 Grete quantite of fyne *Wolle yerne. 1556 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 88 To Jenet my doghter, all my wolle and wolle yarne. 1863 J. WATSON *Weaving* 39 Wool yarn is spun from the short fibres of the fleece... and Worsted yarn from the long staple.

wool (wul), v. [f. WOOL *sb.* (Cf. OE. *wullian* to wipe with wool.)]

1. *trans.* † a. To coat or line with wool. *Obs.* 1660 in *N. & Q.* 7th Ser. XII. 67/2 One Richard Bailey, who... is also very skilfull in the Art of Oyling of Linnen Cloath or Taffaty, or Woolling of either, so as to make it Impenetrable.

b. To stuff up with wool. 1883 'OUIDA' *Wanda* viii, I feel as if some hand had woolled up my ears.

2. *U.S. slang.* a. To pull the 'wool' or hair of (a person) in sport or (esp.) in anger.

c 1831 A. LINCOLN in H. Binns *Life Lincoln* (1927) 34, I never use tussle and scuffle. I don't like this wooling and pulling. 1854 in *Congressional Globe* July 1690 (Thornton). I regret very much to see these two gentlemen from Illinois wooling each other in the most approved fashion. 1869 LE FANU *Wyvern Myst.* I. 163 The more you and the old boy wool each other the better for Hal. 1894 H. GARDENER *Unoff. Patriot* 315 Wool little Margaret's curly pate for me.

b. To 'pull the wool over the eyes of': see quot. 1890 BARRERE & LELAND *Dict. Slang, Wool*, to (common), to get the better of, to discomfit.

† 'woolage. *Obs. rare.* In 7 wollage. [f. WOOL *sb.* + -AGE, after obs. F. *lanage*.] (See quot.)

1611 COTGR., *Lanage*, wollage; the trade of wooll, or gaine thats made thereof.

woolant, obs. form of VOLANT a.²

1503 in *Meyrick Ant. Armour* (1824) III. 238 Woolant piece over the head.

wool-beard, -bed: see WOUBIT.

'wool-bearer. An animal that bears wool, esp. a sheep.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 423/1 A Woll berere, *laniger*. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 631 The Epithets of this beast are, horne-bearer... wool-bearer [etc.]. c 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* xxiv. 134 A huge wooll-bearer, slaughtered there. 1651 BARKSDALE *Nympha Lib.* II. xlv. 45 The trembling Wool-bearer. 1837 YOUATT *Sheep* iii. 95 Many an animal that had not been dreamed of as a wool-bearer. 1891 C. ROBERTS *Adrift. Amer.* 245 To maunder on behind the slow and harmless wool-bearers.

So 'wool-bearing a.

1830 BOOTH *Analyt. Dict.* 186 The Sheep, or Woolbearing animal (*Ovis aries*).

† 'wool-blade. *Obs.* [ad. MDu. *wolblad*, f. *wolle* WOOL *sb.* + *blad* BLADE *sb.*] Mullein.

1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 138/1 *Verbascum*... wool-blade: loongwoort. 1606 *Holyoke's Rider's Dict.*, Etymol. II. K k k iij/3 *Candelaria*, torch-hearbe, wooll-blade, long-wort. 1858 LADY WILKINSON *Weeds & Wild Flowers* 59.

'wool-card. [Cf. LG. *wull(e)karten*, MDa. *uldkard*, etc.] An instrument (see CARD *sb.*¹ 2) used in carding wool. Also in comb.

1564 *Knaresb. Wills* (Surtees) I. 96, iij paire of woll cardes. **1587** MASCALL *Bk. Cattell* i. (1596) 71 Ye shall therefore vse to kembe them with wooll cards or horse combe, as some do. **1629** *Leather* to Woll-Card makers. **1630** *Proclam.* in Rymer *Foedera* (1732) XIX. 164 English Wyer. . for the making of good Wooll Cardes. **1750** in *6th Rep. Dep. Kpr.* App. ii. 125 For pricking the Leathers of Wool, Silk, Cotton, or any other Cards. **1833** J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* II. 231 The works [at Barnsley] were long famous for the manufacture of wool-cards.

So **'wool-carder**, one who cards wool; **'wool-carding** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong. Cardeur de laine*, a wooll carder. **1806** *Balance* (Hudson, N.Y.) V. 288/2, I was, lately, much pleased with seeing a wool-carding machine in operation. **1835** URE *Philos. Manuf.* 166 The wool-carding engine. **1863** GEO. ELIOT *Romola* i, Streets. . noisy with the . . broad jests of wool-carders in the cloth-producing quarters.

'wool-comb. [OE. *wullcamb* = OHG. *wollakampâ* (MHG. *wollechampe*, *wollekam*, G. *wollkamm*), ON. *ull(ar)kambr* (Sw. *ullkam*, Da. *uldkam*): see COMB *sb.*¹] The toothed instrument used in carding wool by hand; later also, a machine to perform the same operation.

a 1100 *Gerefa* in *Anglia* (1886) IX. 263 Wulcamb, cip, amb. **1418** *Bury Wills* (Camden) 3, j. par de wolcombes. **1533** *Extr. Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 451 Ane par of woll camis. **1613** in *Trans. Soc. Antiq. Scot.* (1792) I. 173 An heckell with a pair of clating wooll cammis. **1780** EDMONDSON *Her.* II. Alph. Arms, *Bromley*, Sa. three wool-combs ar. **1797** W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* III. 125 Bishop Blaze, to whom their traditions ascribe the beneficial invention of the wool-comb. **1854** R. S. SURTEES *Handley Cr.* xv, Just as if I'd had it teased with a pair of wool-combs. **1870** MORRIS *Earthly Par.* III. iv. 111 Withal the wool-comb's sound within the fleece Began and grew.

'wool-comber. [Cf. MLG. *wulkemmer*, (M)Du. *wolkammer*, G. *wollkämmer*.]

1. One who combs or cards wool.

1702 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3820/4 Philip Adams, . . aged 25, a Woolcomber. **1776** ADAM SMITH *W.N.* I. x. I. 156 Half a dozen wool-combers perhaps are necessary to keep a thousand spinners and weavers at work. **1835** URE *Philos. Manuf.* 144 The wool is not carded in the factory, but is given out to the wool-combers, who comb it by hand. **1889** J. BURNLEY *Hist. Wool* etc. 210 The term 'woolcomber' had completely changed its significance. In 1825 it indicated a member of the operative classes; in 1873 it was only used in regard to a class of employers. **1913** *Times* 9 Aug. 17/2 An outbreak [of fire] at a Bradford woolcomber's.

2. = WOOL-COMB. *rare.*

1854 R. S. SURTEES *Handley Cr.* I, I should sit on pins —on woolcombers— with nothin' but summer drawers on, till the account appeared.

So **'wool-combing** *vbl. sb.* (also *attrib.*).

1723 *Abridg. Specif. Patents, Spinning* (1866) 3 Two instruments of iron, to be used in the said trade of wooll kembering and pressing. **1813** VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* 387 The woolcombing business was formerly carried on. . . at Chumleigh. **1837** HEBERT *Engin. Encycl.* II. 913 Wool-combing by machinery has now almost superseded the work by hand. **1841** *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jnrl.* IV. 440/1 A new wool-combing apparatus.

woold (wuld), *sb.* Forms: 7 wolde, would, 9 woold. [Related to next.] a. *Naut.* = WOOLING. b. *attrib.* in *woold cord*, *rope* (cf. WFlem. *oelkorde*): binding cord or rope.

1628 *Toke* (Kent) *Estate Accts.* lf. 115 (MS.) For making 16 lbs of hempe into a wolde rope. 4/- **1639** *Ibid.* lf. 202 A payer of would 10ppps. **1688** HOLME *Armoury* III. xv. (Roxb.) 43/1 The Would or wouldings of the moust or yarde: is the ropes about them to keep on a fish. **1805** R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* II. 775 [Bundles of weld plants] are tied up by a string made for the purpose, and sold under the title of woold cord.

woold (wuld), *v.* Forms: a. 7 woll (*pa. t.* and *pa. pple.* wolloed, woollod), 9 wool; β. 7- would, 8- woold (9 wowld, wold). [The late appearance of this word suggests that it is a back-formation from WOOLING (q.v.), but it was probably a late ME. adoption of MLG. *wolēn*, *wölen* (LG. *wölen*, *pa. pple. wöld*), MDu. *woelen* 'premere. . constringere, torquere' (Kilian), Du. *woelen* to woold (whence G. *wuhlen*, *wulen*, Da. *vule*), also Du. *bewoelen* (G. *bewuhlen*), Flem. *woeln*, *oelin* to bind round with cord or rope, WFr. *woelje* to wind. (Further relations are uncertain.) The infinitive forms *would*, *woold* appear to be due to the influence of the *pa. t.* and *pa. pple.*] *trans.* (*Naut.*) To wind rope or chain round (a mast or the like) to strengthen it where it is broken or where (being made of two or more pieces) it is fished or scarfed. Also said of the rope.

a. **1616** R. COCKS *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 96 The master sent hym to tell me the mast was wolloed. **1622** R. HAWKINS *Voy. S. Sea* xxxvi. 88 Wee wolloed the two byghtes to the shanke. *Ibid.* lxi. 147 In fishing and wolling our mastes and yards. **1674** JOSSELYN *Two Voy.* 5 We found the head of our mainmast . . shivered and the fore-top-mast crackt; So they wolloed them both.

β. a **1625** MANWAYRING *Sea-man's Dict.* (1644) 116 To Woold; or Wouling is to bind Roapes about any Mast, yard, or the like, to keepe on a fish, or somewhat to strengthen it. **1691** T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* 35 With her whole Body wooulded about with Hawsers for preventing her very sides

falling out. **1730** W. WRIGLESWORTH *MS. Log-bk. of the 'Lyell'* 30 Oct., Yesterday in the afternoon stowed the Lazaretta, and this morning Woolded the Main Mast. **1750** [see WOOLING 1 b]. **1804** NELSON 27 Aug. in *Nicolas Disp.* (1846) VI. 172 You will use every dispatch in woolding and securing the foremast. **1837** MARRYAT *Perc. Keene* xx, Our main-mast had received so many shots, that we were obliged to wold it for its support.

b. *gen.* To wrap or bind round.

1775 ROMANS *Florida App.* 65 Keeping your lead going, till you come on soundings so soft that the lead will bring none of the mud up, unless it be woolded with canvas. **1823** [see WOOLDER]. **1833** MARRYAT *Peter Simple* xliii, A carronade, well wooulded up. **1837** E. HOWARD *Old Commodore* xiv, This love of a sail was wooulded, with studied accuracy, by brilliant, black, and very narrow ribbon. **1847** HALLIWELL, *Wool*. (2) To twist a chain round a refractory horse to render him obedient. *Kent.* **1890** W. C. RUSSELL *Nelson* 62 Her hull was kept together by cables, which frapped or wooulded the fabric from stem to stern.

woold, obs. form of WELD *sb.*¹

woolder ('wu:ldə(r)). Also 6 woller, 8 wooler, 9 wolder, wooulder. [f. WOOLD *v.* + -ER¹.]

† a. *Naut.* A woold rope. *Obs.* b. *Rope-making.* A stick used as a lever in woolding; also, a workman operating this. By extension applied also to other similar levers (see quotes. 1863, 1875). c. *dial.* A rolled bandage.

1548 *Acts Privy Council* (1890) II. 177 Six coyle of rope for wollers. **1750** BLANCKLEY *Nav. Expositor* 190 *Woolers*, Double, Single, Hand—used at the Rope Yard, and the Men that work with them, are a great Help to those that heave at the Hooks in laying or closing Cables. **1794** *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 59 *Woolders*, single and double handed, are sticks about three feet long and four inches in circumference, with strops of rope-yarn made fast, to fix on the rope and assist the men at the hooks in closing the rope. **1797** *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVI. 487/1 (Rope-making), The woolders should keep their eye on the men at the crank, and make their motion correspond with his. **1823** MOOR *Suffolk Works* 497 *Woolders*, bandages. 'Teent quite well, I'm forced to keep the woolders on.' Woold is also used as a verb. **a 1825** FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Wolder*, a rolled bandage. **1863** A. YOUNG *Naut. Dict.* (ed. 2) 360 *Spanish Windlass*, a wooden roller having a rope wound round it, through the bight of which rope an iron bolt called a woolder is inserted as a lever for heaving it round. **1875** KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1981/1 The three [strands] are placed in the three groves of a conical wooden block termed a *top*, through which is passed a transverse stick forming the handles or *woolders*.

woolding ('wu:ldɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* Forms: a. 5 wolling, 5-6 wolyng(e, 6 woolling(e, β. 5 woldyng(e, 7 *pl.* wouldens, 7-8 woolding, 7- woolding (9 wolding). [late ME. *wol(l)ing*, prob. ad. MLG. **woling*, MDu. **woeling* (Du. *woeling*, whence G. *wuhling*, *wuling*, Da. *vuling*, cf. Sw. *vulning*), f. MLG. *wolēn*, etc. WOOLD *v.*]

1. The action of binding an object tightly with cord; esp. *Naut.* the action of winding rope or chain round a mast or yard, to support it where it is fished or broken. Also *attrib.*

c **1440** *Prompt Parv.* 532/1 Wolyng(e, or stronge byyndyng(e (K. woldyng(e, S. W. worlyng(e), *provolucio*, *prostriccio* (*perstriccio*). **1495** *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 207 A cabellet of cc weght occupied & spent Abought the wollyng of the mayne yerde. **15..** in Meyrick *Ant. Armour* (1824) III. 290 Ropis of hempe for wolyng and brechyng. **1548** *Acts Privy Council* (1890) II. 174 Wolling ropes, xij coyles. **1670** in *Cal. St. Pap.*, *Cal.*, *Amer.* (1889) 50 It is a common thing amongst the [W. Indian] privateers, . . . to cut a man in pieces, . . . sometimes tying a cord about his head, and with a stick twisting it till the eyes start out, which is called 'woolding.' **1677** W. HUBBARD *Pres. St. New-Eng.* 59 He would owne nothing but what was forced out of his mouth, by the woolding of his head with a cord. **1750** BLANCKLEY *Nav. Expositor* 110 *Nails, Woolding*, drove through the Ropes that Woold the Ship's Masts. **1804** LARWOOD *No Gun Boats* 14 Such masts require no splicing, no woolding, no fishing. **1883** W. D. CURZON *Manuf. Industries Worcs.* 76 For Barge and Ship Builders, barge nails, . . . scupper and woolding and lap nails.

2. *concr.* a. A wrapping, swathing (in first quot. glossing L. *pero* a rustic boot); esp. *Naut.* (often *pl.*) the rope or chain used in woolding a band or wrapping of rope wound round a mast, spar, etc.

c **1425** *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 656/9 *Hic pero*, -ri, wolyng. **1558** in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 123 The Tyger sprong the woollings of her boltspreete. a **1625** MANWAYRING *Sea-man's Dict.* (1644) 117 Also those Roapes, which come from the beake-head, over the bolt-spritt, and Lashes it fast downe from rising off the pillow are called the Wooldings of the bolt-spritt. **1626** CAPT. J. SMITH *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 12 Coates and wooldings, for all masts and yards. **1699** T. ALLISON *Voy. Archangel* 36 We . . . got two Wooldens on our Rudder Head. **1729** SHELVOCKE *Artillery* v. 388 Sew up your Cloth, and reinforce it throughout with a Woolding of Marline. **1748** *Anson's Voy.* i. v. 54 The main-mast was sprung at the upper woolding. **1769** FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780) s.v. *Yard*, They [sc. the lateen yards] are . . . composed of several pieces fastened together by wooldings. **1788** A. COCHRANE *Direct. Using Coal Tar* 11. **1837** E. HOWARD *Old Commodore* xiii, The immense woolding of flannel and swathing around his right leg.

woolf(e, obs. forms of WOLF *sb.*

'wool-fell. *Hist.* [FELL *sb.*¹] = WOOL-SKIN.

1422 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 173/2 All sakes of Wolle and Wolle felle yshipped by Marchants English. **1543** *tr. Stat. Staple* 27 *Edw. III* c. 1 The staple of wolles, lether, wol felles, and leade growynge and comynng forth within our sayd

realme. **1612** DAVIES *Why Ireland*, etc. 41 Wooll and Wooll-fels were euer of little value in this Kingdome. **1675** HOBBS *Odyssey* xvi. 39 To which [seat] Eumæus a Wool-fell apply'd With Rushes under it. **1765** BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. viii. 304 The duties on wool, sheep-skins, or wool-fells, and leather, exported, were called *custuma antiqua sive magna*. **1829** R. THOMSON *Magna Charta* 389 A half mark upon every 300 wool-fells, or undressed sheep-skins. **1888** DOWDEN *Transcripts* 196 Chaucer loved the woollfells and leather of the Petty Customs only because they helped to save his purse from getting light.

Woolfian ('wulfɪən), *a.* and *sb.* [f. the name *Woolf* + -IAN.] *A. adj.* Of, pertaining to, or characteristic of Virginia Woolf (1882-1941), English writer, or her work. *B. sb.* An admirer or devotee of Virginia Woolf. *rare.*

1936 *Scrutiny* V. 183 The more discerning might have noticed that it [sc. *A Note in Music*] was drawn not from life but from *Jacob's Room* and *Mrs. Dalloway*, a solemn exercise in Woolfian style and structure. **1944** E. H. W. MEYERSTEIN *Let.* 24 Nov. (1959) 296, I read the proofs of *Mrs. Dalloway* years ago which a Woolfian gave a friend of mine. **1977** W. HILDICK *Loop* viii. 40, I don't think I'd ever used the word 'lark' like that . . . before. It was . . . something I'd picked up in my Woolfian researches.

woolfist, var. WOLF'S-FIST.

'wool-gathering, *vbl. sb.* and *gerund.*

1. The action of gathering fragments of wool torn from sheep by bushes, etc.

1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 424 b, Your Diuinitie raungeth very much at randon, as if it were strayed and runnyng in some wildernes a woollgathering. **1878** E. PEACOCK in *Archaeologia* XLVI. 384 Wool-gathering yet goes on in many places even on enclosed lands. **1889** H. JOHNSTON *Chron. Glenbuckie* xxii. 261, I got it by working for it—hard 'oo'-gathering and hard spinning.

2. In fig. phr. to go (*run*, *be*) *wool-gathering*, formerly always *a* (or *†on*, *†of*) *wool-gathering*: to indulge in wandering fancies or purposeless thinking; to be in a dreamy or absent-minded state: said esp. of 'the wits', etc. Similarly, *to send or set (a) wool-gathering*.

1553 T. WILSON *Rhet.* II. 59 Haekyng & hemmyng as though our wittes and our senses were a woll gathering. **1577** *tr. Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 652 Their mindes goe a wool-gathering. **1579** GOSSON *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 42 To busy the wittes of his people, for running a woollgathering. **1601** W. PERCY *Cuckqueanes & Cuckolds Errants* iv. i. (Roxb.) 46 My Husband. . . [had] so drawne mee, after him, on woole-gathering, in search of him, as now you see mee. **1607** R. C[AREW] *tr. Estienne's World of Wonders* xxxix. 349 This gentle Frier (whose wit was not gone of wool-gathering). **1625** BP. MOUNTAGU *App. Cæsar* 23 If you read them, but marked them not, your wits went on wooll-gathering at that instant. **1652** GAULE *Magastrom.* 41 He. . . sends his father-in-law almost a wooll-gathering. **1748** RICHARDSON *Clarissa* VII. 326 That my wits may not be sent a wooll-gathering. **1796** *Girl.* M. J. *Holroyd* (1896) 386, I suppose you thought my Brains were Wool gathering! **1845** CARLYLE *Cromwell* (1873) I. i. 7 Sacred Poets have . . . gone a woollgathering after 'Ideals' and suchlike. **1890** J. HATTON *By Order of Czar* 11. xii, You are wool-gathering a little, eh?

b. Hence, *Indulgence* in idle imagining or aimless speculation.

1607 MIDDLETON *Fam. Love* v. iii, Ha' you summoned your wits from wool gathering? **1824** LADY GRANVILLE *Let.* (1894) I. 279 A great deal of wool-gathering about what it will bring. **1859** GEO. ELIOT *Adam Bede* xxvii, There never was such a chap for wool-gathering. **1893** PATMORE *Religio Poetae* (1898) 90 The crazy wool-gathering which is ordinarily regarded as thought.

So **'wool-gathering** *a.*, indulging in wandering thoughts or idle fancies.

1850 MRS. STOWE in *Life* (1889) 140 If my wits are somewhat wool-gathering and unsettled. **1859** GEO. ELIOT *Adam Bede* i, It was Seth Bede, as was allays a wool-gathering chap. **1893** E. H. BARKER *Wand. Southern Waters* 259 At those moments when the wool-gathering mind has to be hurried back and fixed upon the sacredness of the ritual.

'woolgathersome, *a. nonce-wd.* [-SOME¹.] Suggestive of wool-gathering.

1922 C. E. MONTAGUE *Disenchantment* vii. 91 The average German soldier, the docile blond with yellow hair, long skull, and blue, woolgathersome eyes.

† **'wool-house.** *Obs.* [HOUSE *sb.*¹ 3.] A building for the storage (or manufacture) of wool.

1295 *Cal. Wills Crt. Husting, Lond.* i. (1889) 122 [House called] Wolhous [in] Sporiereslane. **1340** *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 540 Et in planks sarrandis pro le Wollehous de Pytingdon, 6s. c **1475** *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 804/12 *Hoc lanifisium*, a wulhowse. **1497** *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 249 Havyng owte the cordage owte of the Wollehouse. **1541** *Lanc. Wills* (Chetham Soc. 1857) I. 81 In ye wullhouse a pyle of wole. **1646** *Inv. in Milton Papers* (Camden) 92 In the wooll-house, hoppes at 2 o o. **1783** BERRIDGE *Wks.* (1864) 430 Mr. John Raymond's great house, with his wool-house . . . and two thousand pounds worth of wool.

woolled (wuld), *a.* Forms: 5-6 wolloed, *Sc.* wollit (6 vollit), 6- woollod, 8- (now *U.S.*) woollod. [f. WOOL *sb.* + -ED².]

1. Bearing wool, covered with wool; having the wool still on, unshorn.

1425 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 292/2 Many . . . personnes leeden oute of the Roiaume . . . grete nombre of Shepe wolloed into Flaundres. **1489** *Acta Dom. Conc.* (1839) 117/1, v alulde wollit scheip. **1513** DOUGLAS *Aeneis* III. x. 9 The wollit scheip him followand at the bak. **1550** *Rec. Elgin* (New Spald. Cl. 1903) I. 104 The said wollit skynnis. **1552** HULOET, Wolloed or wrapped in wolle, *lanatus*. **1890** *Cornh. Mag.* Oct. 385 At times we find a 'woolled one' on the fell

after a shepherds' meeting, then we just shear it. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 21 Sept. 6/3 Bales of woolled sheepskins.

2. Having wool of a specified kind.

1577 GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* 137b, Looke, that your Ewe haue a large body, deepe woolled. 1611 COTGR. s.v. *Houssu*, *Mouton houssu*, a sheepe well woolled. 1778 D. LOCH *Tour Scot.* 20 Well adapted for...feeding the best woolled sheep. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 883/2 The best breeds of fine-woolled sheep. 1801 *Farmer's Mag.* Jan. 74 A good long-woolled skin. 1886 C. SCOTT *Sheep-farming* 183 The original sheep in most countries where improved species are now found, were invariably fine woolled.

†b. Of cloth: Having a (good) nap. *Obs.*

1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* II. liii. 381 You must then couer such chafe with thicke new cloath being well woolled [Fr. *bien lainu*].

woollen ('wulin), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: 1, 5 wullen, 4-6 wolen, 4-7 wollen, (4-ene, welyn, wullun, 4-5 wollin, 5-yn, wolland, -on, 6 wolan, woulne, *Sc.* volene, woone, 7 wollan, 8-9 north. woon, woun), 6- woollen, (now *U.S.*) woolen. [Late OE. *wullen*, f. *wull* WOOL *sb.* + -EN⁴, replacing the mutated form *wyllen* (= OHG., MHG. *wullin*). Cf. (MLG. *wullen*, (M)Du. *wollen*, Fris., G. *wollen*.] *A. adj.*

1. Made of or manufactured from wool.

1046 in Kemble *Cod. Dipl.* IV. 107 Ic ge-an sancte Ædel-ðryðe anes wullenan kyrtles. 13... *K. Alis.* 4445 (Laud MS.), þe spere carf porouȝ out As porouȝ a wollene clout. 1376 *Rolls of Parlt.* II. 353/1 File de Layn appelle Wolyn-yerne. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. v. 215 My wyf was a webbe and wullen cloth made. c. 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* I. 32 þen take a quantyte of wullen clope. 1556 *Extr. Aberd. Regr.* (1844) I. 300 Scottis wairis, sic as clait, lynning and woone. 1575 A. FLEMING *Virg. Bucol.* III. 9 Nowe doth the Ram, and other sheepe theyer wullen garments drye. 1674 *Essex Papers* (Camden) I. 278 Woollen Yarne being within y^e prohibition of y^e aforesaid Acts. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W.N.* I. i. 1. 13 The wullen coat... which covers the day-labourer. 1799 *Med. Jnrl.* I. 41 Coarse wullen stockings. 1815 ELPHINSTONE *Acc. Caubul* (1842) I. 183 In winter, the people are all clad in wullen garments. 1858 LARDNER *Hand-bk. Nat. Phil.* 403 A wullen carpet is a non-conductor of heat. 1884 W. S. B. McLAREN *Spinning* 60 A wullen yarn... is a thread spun from wool in which the fibres are arranged so as to lie in every direction.

†b. Covered with (a fleece of) wool. *Obs. rare.*

1482 in *Charters &c. Edin.* (1871) 169 Of the hundreth skynnis, wollin, calfis, gaittis, [etc.]

†c. fig. Silent, as if padded with wool: said of the feet or footsteps. *Obs.*

After L. *pedes laneos* or *lanatos habere*, 'to have woollen feet', to walk silently, to move unperceived.

1597 J. KING *On Jonas* (1618) 173 Following with wullen feet, but smiting with an arme of iron. 1617 COLLINS *Def. Bp.* Ely II. ix. 362 You shall find... woollen pace and iron vengeance.

¶ The allusion in the foll. quot. is uncertain.

1596 SHAKS. *Merc.* V. iv. i. 56 There is no firme reason... Why he cannot abide a gaping Pigge?... Why he a woollen bag-pipe. [See 1876 STAINER & BARRETT *Dict. Mus. Terms* 43/2 s.v. *Bagpipe*.]

†2. Wearing woollen clothing, (*a*) as a mark of penance (cf. WOOLWARD *a.*), (*b*) as a mark of poor or lowly status. *Obs.*

1481 CAXTON *Godfrey* cci. 293 By comyn acord of the bisschoppes they cam wullen and barfote in the chirche of our lord. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* III. ii. 9, I muse my Mother Do's not approue me further, who was wont To call them Wollen Vassailes, things created To buy and sell with Groats.

B. sb. Cloth or other fabric made of wool or chiefly of wool. Now *rare*.

†to lie in the woollen: to sleep with a blanket next to one. *ta be buried in woollen*: to have a woollen shroud, as required by the Act of 18 & 19 Chas. II for the encouragement of the woollen manufacture.

a. 1300 *Fragm.* 7 *Sins* 16 in *E.E.P.* (1862) 19 Linin, wollin, glouis and schone. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. i. 18 He hihte þe corpe to seruen ow vchone Of wollene, Of linnene. a. 1425 *Cursor M.* 11112 (Trin.) He wered nouper wullen ny lynne. 1459 *Paston Lett.* I. 457 Vessels or vestmentes of sylke, lynen, or wollin. 1577 GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* 122 In Winter, they would be clothed with Wollen for taking of cold. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* II. i. 33, I could not endure a husband with a beard on his face, I had rather lie in the woollen. 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. i. 309 His Breeches were of rugged Woollen. 1666 *Act 18 & 19 Chas. II c. 4* (title) An Act for Burying in Woollen onely. 1719 D'URFEE *Pills* III. 187 Let 'em damn us to Woollen, I'll never repine At my Lodging when Dead. 1778 D. LOCH *Tour Scot.* 14 There are several looms employed here... for linens and coarse woollen, adapted for country use. 1791 A. MACAULAY *Hist. Claybrook* 116 An affidavit was sent... of the body having been buried in woollen in Saint Pancras church-yard. 1836 C. WORDSWORTH *Athens* v. (1855) 27 Over which is a shorter vest of woollen. 1885 ADA S. BALLIN *Sci. Dress* 128 Woollen should be worn not only in winter but in summer also. 1908 *Animal Managem.* 73 Knee caps... are made of stout woollen or kersey.

b. pl. Woollen cloths or clothes.

1800 STUART in Owen *Wellesley's Desp.* (1877) 577 A great quantity of English goods, particularly woollens, found their way into that country. 1816 TUCKEY *Narr. Exped. R. Zaire* II. (1818) 52 Instead of melting under an equinoctial sun in the lightest clothing... they were glad to resume their woollens. 1823 J. BADCOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 53 They grew small sallad by means of woollens, in which the seeds were sown. 1876 BANCROFT *Hist. U.S.* III. iv. 358 The exportation of Irish woollens to the colonies and to foreign countries was prohibited.

¶ A proposed name for the Mullein, *Verbascum Thapsus*, formed by substituting *wull*, *wall* WOOL *sb.* for the first syllable (but cf. MLG. *wullene* '? *verbascum*').

1578 [see WOLLEYN]. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. cclvi. 630 Mullein is called... in English Mullein, or rather Woollen. 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, Woollen. *Verbascum Thapsus*.

C. attrib. and Comb. (chiefly of the sb.):

a. simple attrib., as woollen †card, district, -loom, manufacture, -mill, -trade, -weaving; b. objective, as woollen-dyer, -manufacturer, scribbler (SCRIBBLER²), -spinner, †-webster, -worker; c. instrumental and parasynthetic, as woollen-clad, -frocked, -stockinged adjs.; d. Special comb.: Woollen Act, the act of 18 & 19 Chas. II prescribing burial in woollen; †woollen-going *vbl. sb.* = *woolward going* (see WOOLWARD b); †woollen-head, a thick-headed or dull person (in quot. *attrib.*); †woollen-witted *a.*, = WOOLLY-HEADED c; woollen-work, †(a) woollen manufacture; (b) = *wool-work*. Also WOOLLEN-DRAPER.

1678 DRYDEN *Edipus* Prol. 36 Record it... The first Play bury'd since the *Woollen Act. 1612 *Sc. Bk. Rates in Halyburton's Ledger* (1867) 294 Cardes called *woollen cardes. 1890 W. J. GORDON *Foundry* 162 The *woollen-clad soldiers of Alexander. c. 1890 CASMEY *Ventilation* 14 In the *woollen districts. 1709 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4611/4 James Ford of Bow... *Woollen-dyer. 1864 *Bryce Holy Rom. Emp.* x. (1866) 175 An imperial penitent, standing barefoot and *woollen-frocked on the snow. 1493 [H. PARKER] *Dives & Pauper* I. xxxvi. (W. de W. 1496) 76/1 All they that vse... masses syngynge, fastynge... *wullen goeynge, and such other in theyr wytchecraftre. 1756 TOLDERVY *Hist.* 2 *Orphans* III. 31 Proving to that *woollen-head justice, that we are neither felons nor vagrants, tho' he was disposed to call us so. 1538 *Nottingham Rec.* III. 200 Unum *wollenlome. 1565 *Burgh Rec. Prestwich* 15 Oct. (Maitl. Club) 69 Ane volene lwyne. 1666 *Act 18 & 19 Chas. II c. 4* For the Encouragement of the *Woollen Manufactures of this Kingdom... Be it enacted [etc.]. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* I. viii. 1846 McCULLOCH *Acc. Brit. Emp.* (1854) I. 277 Various branches of the woollen manufacture have been introduced into Roxburghshire. 1732 BERKELEY *Alciph.* II. §2 Other manufacturers, as well as the *woollen. 1802 *Ann. Reg.*, *Chron.* 67 The woollen-manufacturers are incensed at the introduction of new machinery. 1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 72 At Bannockburn and Stirling, are a few *woollen-mills. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, *Woollen-scribblers... machines for combing or preparing wool into thin downy translucent layers. 1884 W. S. B. McLAREN *Spinning* (ed. 2) 61 The object of the *woollen-spinner will always be to have yarn in which [etc.]. 1907 *Daily Chron.* 7 Dec. 4/4 Women, thick-booted, *woollen-stockinged, flannel-petticoated. 1735 BERKELEY *Querist* §89 Our hankering after the *Woollen-Trade. 1842 BISCHOFF *Woollen Manuf.* II. 68 The wool and woollen trade. 1588 KYD *Househ. Phil.* Wks. (1901) 272 [A wife's] principall care should be of Lynnen or of *wollen weauing. 1630 tr. *Camden's Hist. Eliz.* I. 119 Other such like stufes of linnen and woollen weauing. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. Prol. 99 (MS. T.) *Wollene websteris and weueris of lynen. 1638 *Knaresh. Wills* (Surtees) II. 170, I, Richard Umpelbie of Linelandes, wollan webster. ? 1622 FLETCHER *Love's Cure* II. i, Thou *Woollen-witted Hose-heeler. 1635 SHIRLEY *Lady Pleas.* III. (1637) G1, Course woollen witted fellows. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 423/1 *Wolland warke... lanificium. 1866 *All Year Round* XV. 189/2 Four young ladies, carrying baskets of woollen-work. 1872 YEATS *Growth Comm.* 287 The arrival from the Spanish Netherlands of *woollen-workers.

'woollen-draper. Now *Hist.* [f. prec. sb. + DRAPER *sb.*] A dealer in woollen goods.

1554 *Act 1 & 2 Phil. & Mary* c. 7. §1 Lynnen Drapers, Woollen Drapers, Haberdashers and Grocers. 1619 PURCHAS *Microcosmos* IV. 521 The Woollen Draper hath belonging to him, the Dier, Cottoner, Sherman, Fuller [etc.]. 1641 EARL MONM. tr. *Biondi's Civil Wars* VI. 24 The Company of Wollen-drappers kept a Store-house in Calceis, from whence the Low-countries, and all Germany were furnished. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* XI. v, I can neither live on Hopes or Promises, nor will my Woollen-draper take any such in Payment. 1815 JANE AUSTEN *Emma* xxi, Ford's was the principal woollen-draper, linen-draper, and haberdasher's shop united. 1890 GROSS *Gild Merch.* II. 55 The trades of clothiers, weavers, woollen-drappers.

So 'woollen-drapery, woollen goods; also, a shop for the sale of these.

1688 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2322/4 All sorts of Woollen Drapery. 1766 ENTICK *London* IV. 40 Dealers in upholstery... woollen drapery. 1919 *Jnrl. Friends Hist. Soc.* XVI. 141 Daniel Dunbabin, of Warrington, of a substantial woollen-drapery.

woollenette ('wulinet). *U.S.* Also woolenet. [f. WOOLLEN *sb.* + -ETTE.] A thin woollen stuff.

1825 MOTLEY *Corr.* (1889) I. 3, I wish you would send me up some nankeen pantaloons, as my woolenet ones are so tight that they are uncomfortable. 1846 WORCESTER, *Woollenette*, a thin woollen stuff.

woollenize ('wulinəiz), *v.* [f. WOOLLEN *a.* and *sb.* + -IZE.] *trans.* To impart to (vegetable fibres) the appearance and texture of wool. Hence 'woollenizing *vbl. sb.*

1890 *Times* 19 Aug. 10/4 The various processes to be carried out at the model fibre factory... comprise... cottonizing and woollenizing fibres to imitate fine cotton or wool. 1927 *Daily Tel.* 21 June 8 (Adv.), Successful fancy cloth effects have been attained by the application of mercerising and woollenising processes to these yarns.

woolleny ('wulini), *a. rare.* [f. WOOLLEN *a.* and *sb.* + -Y¹.] Made of or resembling woollen cloth.

1863 'G. HAMILTON' *Gala-Days* 41, I have a veil—none of your woolleny gruff fabrics.

†'wooller. *Obs. rare.* Also 5 woller. [f. WOOL *sb.* + -ER¹.] A wool-carrying ship.

1482 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 111 Yowre oder stuffe I shall send... unto yowre masterschypp be on of the wollers. 1693 *Ho. Lords MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) 384 The Bill... gives but half to the privateers of all Owlers and Woollers.

Woollies ('wuliz). Also Wooleys, Woolies, Woollys. *colloq.* name for a shop bearing the name of F. W. Woolworth PLC (cf. WOOLWORTH); occas. used for the company itself.

1939 *Airman's Gaz.* Dec., At Woollies store they congregate For powders, creams and lotions. 1957 R. HOGGART *Uses of Literacy* v. 120 Popular shops (with 'Wooley's'—Woolworth's—a clear favourite with working-class people). 1962 *Guardian* 24 Dec. 4/2 Some of them are shoplifting: not Woollies combs, but watches and rings. 1971 *Daily Tel.* 16 July 17 'Woollies' says that profits for the first half included a surplus of £261,000 on property sales. 1980 J. DITTON *Copley's Hunch* I. ii. 33 It's a good one. Not one of your Woollie's specials at a tanner a throw.

woollily ('wulili), *adv.* Also woolily. [f. WOOLLY *a.* (sb.) + -LY².] In a way lacking in clarity or incisiveness.

1937 *Daily Express* 5 Feb. 13/2 Since nothing reads more woolly than descriptions of colours... I'll skip a list of new shades. 1979 *Guardian* 26 Oct. 2/8 Mr Atkins [was] saying a thing woollily not once... but twice.

woolliness ('wulinis). [f. WOOLLY *a.* + -NESS.] The quality or condition of being woolly, in various senses; also *concr.* a woolly substance.

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. cclix. 634 Leaues... like vnto those of Hygtaper, but far whiter, softer, thicker, & fuller of woolliness, which wool is so long, that one may with his fingers pull the same from the leaues. 1721 MORTIMER *Husb.* II. 210 The Seed with its Woolliness, beginning a little to rise of its self at the lower-end of the Head. 1785 MARTYN *Let. Bot.* xiii. (1794) 142 The woolliness of the flowers in the Reed. 1824 *Examiner* 307/2 Mr. Fielding's execution is... soft without woolliness. 1856 *Mem. W. Yarrell* p. xvii, He [sc. Yarrell] said that though pretty well he felt a 'woolliness' in the brain. 1859 GULLICK & TIMBS *Painting* 198 A 'muzzy', feeble, unpleasant appearance... technically called 'woolliness'. 1862 M. HOPKINS *Hawaii* 344 The hair is black and waving... Its curl is perfectly free from the woolliness of the African. 1883 *Hardwich's Phot. Chem.* (ed. 9) 152 In attempting to coat a large plate, a wavy appearance, often known as woolliness of the film, is seen at the lower corner. 1883 MISS BROUGHTON *Belinda* IV. v, That state of numb woolliness to which yesterday a less portion of labour had brought her. 1894 H. O. FORBES *Primates* I. 204 The woolliness of their under-fur.

†'woolling, *vbl. sb.* *Obs.* [f. WOOL *sb.* + -ING¹.]

1. Combing wool; only in *woolling comb*. 1599 in *Antiquary* XXXII. 243 One p^r of wooulinge combes.

2. Coating or lining with wool.

1660 [see WOOL v. 1 a].

3. Carrying of wool, esp. illicitly (= OWLING).

1665 SIR J. LAUDER *Jnrl.* (1900) 3 The great number we meit of souldiers all the way begat in us great fears of woolling, yet it pleased God to bring us most safely to Paris. 1764 A. ANDERSON *Hist. & Chron. Deduction* (1787) II. 480 The mischievous practice of woolling, as it is vulgarly termed, that is, the running of our English and Irish wool into France.

4. = WOOL-GATHERING 2.

1705 E. WARD *Hud. Rediv.* I. i. 6 When these the Sons of Knipperdoling, Let all their Senses run a woolling.

†'woollish, *a. Obs.* [f. WOOL *sb.* + -ISH¹.] Resembling wool, woolly.

1562 TURNER *Herbal* II. 65 The fruit [of oleander]... when as it openeth sheweth a wollyshe nature lyke an thystel down. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* VI. lxxi. 750 The leaues... be neither white, smooth, nor wollysh.

woolly ('wuli), *a. (sb.)* Also 6 woolley, 7 wolly, 7, 9 wooly, 8 *Sc.* ooy. [f. WOOL *sb.* + -Y¹. Cf. (M)LG. *wullig*, Du., G. *wollig*.]

A. adj. 1. Consisting of wool. Also *transf.* relating to wool; containing wool (or sheep).

1591 SPENSER *M. Huberd* 302 Giuing accompt of th' annuall increace Both of their lambes, and of their woolley fleece. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 165 He had upon his upper Garment, some black Sheep-skin, the woolly side out. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 493 Thus while she sings, the Sisters turn the Wheel, Empty the wooly Rock, and fill the Reel. 1700 — *Ovid's Met.* xv. *Pythag.* Phil. 171 The Sheep... A patient, useful Creature, born to bear The warm and woolly Fleece, that cloth'd her Murderer. 1820 KEATS *Eve St. Agnes* I, Silent was the flock in woolly fold. 1891 M. MURIEL DOWIE *Girl in Karp.* 214 The high perfection of all woolly occupations.

2. *a.* Of the nature, texture, or appearance of wool; resembling wool; wool-like.

c. 1586 C'LESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* cklvii. v, Snowes woolly locks by him wide scatt'ed are. 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* II. iii. 34 My fleece of Woolly haire. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* I. lxxiii. 106 Called... in Latine *Laniferus*, because of his abundance of woolly flocks, wherewith the whole plant is in euerie part full fraughted. 1652 BENLOWES *Theophila* III. iii, The woolly-curdled Clouds, a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 18 June 1657, Its haire was woolly like a lamb. 1708 J. PHILIPS *Cyder* II. 186 O, may'st Thou often see Thy Furrows whiten'd by the woolly Rain [cf. ὄμις ἐπιδίδες], Nutricious! 1726 POPE *Odys.* XIX. 280 Short woolly curls o'erfleece'd his bending head. 1801 SHAW *Gen. Zaal.* II. 91 Its fur... is of a woolly nature. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. the Mast* xiii. 31 Coarse black hair, but not woolly, like the negroes. 1856 GEORGE ELIOT *Scenes Cler. Life, A. Barton* II, The sky had the white woolly look that

portends snow. 1902 *Words of Eye-witness* 53 A puff of woolly smoke in the air.

b. Having a soft and clinging texture; said esp. of edible things which are consequently unpleasant to the palate; also of the surface of a road.

1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 117 The Fruit... is pretty sweet but woolly [orig. *cotonneux*]. 1829 *Sporting Mag.* XXIII. 416 He... has a pair of leaders ready when the roads run woolly. 1849 D. J. BROWNE *Amer. Poultry Yd.* (1855) 207 Barley... is apt to render the flesh [of poultry] insipid, and woolly. 1854 *Poultry Chron.* I. 619 She has found the eggs of Spanish fowls eat woolly. 1862 WHYTEMELVILLE *Inside Bar!* ix. 345 Time's short, ... roads woolly, and whip-cord scarce. 1874 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 497 The pulp soon assumes a spongy appearance, technically known as 'woolly'. 1882 *Garden* 18 Mar. 176/2 Turnips have become all tops, and ... are just getting into the woolly stage.

3. a. Having a natural covering of wool, wool-bearing.

1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* i. iii. 84 When the worke of generation was Betwene these woolly breeders in the act. 1697 DRYDEN *Aeneis* III. 844 Like him in Caves they shut their woolly Sheep. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* XII. 319 Then suddenly was heard... To low the ox, to bleat the woolly train. 1788 PICKEN *Poems* 104 T'wall score o' sheep... sal be thine, O' ooy sheep, the fattest o' the plain. 1860 G. H. KINGSLEY in *Galton Vac. Tour.* 139 [The colly dog] is jumping from one woolly back to another, intent on singling out the one which has been indicated to him.

b. Having hair resembling wool: applied esp. (depreciatingly) to Blacks of African origin or descent (= *woolly-haired* or *-headed*).

1767 CARTERET in *Hawkesw. Voy.* (1773) I. 568 Two of the natives... were black, with woolly heads. 1812 MRS. BARBAULD *1811*, 166 Streets, where the turban'd Moslem, bearded Jew, And woolly Afric, met the brown Hindu. 1881 MISS BRADDON *Asphodel* xxiv. He had eaten pemmican, and ridden a woolly horse. 1886 W. J. TUCKER *E. Europe* 351 It was a large, woolly poodle, snowy white.

c. In specific names of animals, often rendering *L. lanatus*, *laniger*.

woolly bear, (a) *colloq.* (esp. *children's*), also *dial.* a hairy caterpillar; also *spec.* the larva of the carpet beetle; freq. *attrib.*; (b) *Mil. slang* (see *quots.*); woolly boy, a large hairy caterpillar, esp. the larva of the tiger-moth. woolly mammoth = MAMMOTH *sb.* 1; woolly worm *U.S.*, a hairy caterpillar.

1781 PENNANT *Hist. Quadr.* I. 213 Woolly Maucauco. 1793 *Ibid.* (ed. 3) II. 196 Woolly Rat. 1805 DOROTHY WORDSWORTH *Jrnl.* 7 Nov., Like an immense caterpillar, such as, when we were children, we used to call Woolly Boys, from their hairy coat. 1842 LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 551 The pear... is seldom affected with the woolly aphid. 1863 WOOD *Illustr. Nat. Hist.* III. 535 Its [sc. the Tiger-moth's] caterpillar is... familiar under the name of Woolly Bear. *Ibid.* 508 Fig., Woolly crab, *Dorippe lanata*. 1877 *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* I. 171 The Woolly Monkeys, *Lagothrix*. *Ibid.* 221 The Woolly Lemur—The Avahi. *Indris laniger*. 1878 *Ibid.* II. 333 *Rhinoceros trichorhinus*, or the Woolly Rhinoceros. 1909 WEBSTER, *Woolly worm*, the larva of any sawfly that covers itself with a white woolly secretion. 1911 E. FERBER *Dawn O'Hara* ii. 19 I'd eat woolly worms if I thought they might benefit me. 1915 *War Illustr.* 31 July 546/2 The German high-explosive shell, known to our men by the nickname of the 'Woolly Bear',... detonates with a cloud of thick white smoke. 1918 H. W. McBRIDE *Emma Gees* 135 'Woolly Bear' is the name given to a large, high explosive shell, with a time fuse, which bursts overhead, giving out a dense black smoke. 1923 KIPLING *Irish Guards in Gt. War* II. 82 They were drenched with a five hours' bombardment of 4.2's and 'woolly bears'. 1933 A. S. ROMER *Vertebr. Paleontol.* xix. 376 The woolly mammoth was a form adapted to cold climates. 1940 R. G. RUSSELL *101st Field Artillery 1917-19* 94 A German 150-millimetre battery fired 'woolly bears', time-fuse shells, which burst too high to do any harm. 1950 *N.Z. Jnl. Agric.* Nov. 478/3 The most common enemy of cinerarias in New Zealand is the 'woolly-bear' caterpillar, the larva of the magpie moth. 1951 *Good Housek. Home Encycl.* 324/2 Woolly bear. This is the grub of a small beetle which... congregates in hot airing cupboards. 1961 Woolly bear [see *carpet beetle* s.v. CARPET *sb.* 5]. 1969 BENNISON & WRIGHT *Geol. Hist. Brit. Isles* xvi. 359 The presence of either the woolly mammoth or the reindeer does not necessarily indicate an arctic climate. 1972 E. WIGGINGTON *Foxfire Bk.* 209 The woolly worm tells of a bad winter if: there are a lot of them crawling about. 1974 A. DILLARD *Pilgrim at Tinker Creek* xiv. 247 Woolly bears, those orange-and-black-banded furry caterpillars of the Isabella moth, were on the move. 1976 *Islander* (Victoria, B.C.) 16 May 6/1 The woolly mammoth... roamed the tundra areas. 1980 *Blair & Ketchum's Country Jnl.* Oct. 28/2 October is the month when the woolly bear caterpillar, sometimes called a fuzzy-wuzzy or woolly worm, can be seen crossing country roads. 1983 *Listener* 27 Oct. 16/3 Our wall-to-wall carpets attract the 'woolly bear' grubs of the carpet beetle.

d. *wild and woolly*, orig. applied to the Far West (WEST *sb.* 1 3 b) of the United States of America on account of its rude and uncivilized character; hence *gen.* barbarous, lacking culture. Also *transf.*, and as *woolly* simply.

1884 A. J. SOWELL *Rangers & Pioneers of Texas* xi. 330 Occasionally, in some Western village, you will hear a voice ring out on the night air... 'Wild and woolly',... and then you may expect a few shots from a revolver. It is a cowboy out on a little spree. 1891 A. WELCKER *Tales of the 'Wild & Woolly West'* Publishers' Note, Woolly... seems to refer to the uncivilized—untamed—hair outside—wool still in the sheepskin coat—condition of the Western Pioneers. 1891 M. E. RYAN *Told in Hills* III. iv. 191 Let us 'move our freight', 'hit the breeze', or any other term of the woolly West that means action. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 Aug. 2/1 How many Indians did you kill? Now, Cappen, I want something wild and woolly. 1907 S. E. WHITE *Arizona Nights* viii. 130 'Who's your woolly friend', the shiny Jew asks of the girls. 1940 R. S. LAMBERT *Ariel & All his Quality* viii. 197 [They]

looked with scepticism upon a plan which they regarded as wild and woolly.

†e. = WOOLLEN *a.* 1 c. *Obs. rare.*

1631 DEKKER *Match Mee* II. D 1 b, Thanks vengeance; thou at last art come (Tho with woolly feet).

4. a. Of parts of plants: Covered with a pubescence resembling wool; downy, lanate, tomentose.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* 1. lxxiv. 124 Aethiopis hath great brode woolly leaues. 1616 B. JONSON *Forest* II. The blushing Apricot, and woolly Peach. 1697 DRYDEN *Aeneis* XII. 611 Rough is the Stem, which woolly Leafs surround. 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Abutilon*, The large-leav'd American *Abutilon*, with woolly Stalks. 1845 BROWNING *Lost Mistr.* II. The leaf-buds on the Vine are woolly. 1870 HOOKER *Stud. Flora* 53 *Githago segetum*... Calyx woolly.

b. In specific names of plants, often rendering *L. lanatus* or *tomentosus*.

woolly butt [BUTT *sb.* 3 4], an Australian name for species of *Eucalyptus*, esp. *E. longifolia*.

1597 GERARDE *Herbal* 1. lxxiii. 106 *Bulbus Eriophorus*, Woolly Iacint. *Ibid.* II. clix. 634 We may call it Mullein of Aethiopia, or woolly Mullein. 1650 [W. Howe] *Phytol. Brit.* 61 *Hypericum tomentosum*... Lobells Woolly S. Iohnswort. 1830 J. D. MAYCOCK *Flora Barbadosensis* 294 *Phaseolus Mungo*... Woolly-Pyroe. 1857 ANNE PRATT *Flower. Pl.* V. 111 *Salix lanata*... Woolly Broad-leaved Willow. 1862 *Internat. Exhib., Catal. Products Queensld.* 25 *Eucalyptus* sp... Woolly Butt. 1889 J. H. MAIDEN *Usef. Pl. Australia* 524 'Woolly Gum' of Berrima... This is the smooth-barked variety of *Eucalyptus Stuartiana*. 1912 *Contemp. Rev.* Aug. 247 Giant woolly-butt forests.

5. *gen.* Having a wool-like texture, surface, or covering.

1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 27 The nativo [nitre] is generally acicular or woolly. 1914 C. MACKENZIE *Sinister St.* III. xv. The golf-bag... woolly now with the accumulated mildew of neglect.

6. *transf.* and *fig.* Lacking in definiteness or incisiveness; 'muzzy'; (of the mind, etc.) confused and hazy; (of painting, etc.) lacking in clearness or definition; (of sound, etc.) dull and indistinct.

1815 *Sporting Mag.* XLVI. 54 It [sc. a picture] looks woolly, undecided in shapes. 1839 CHATTO & JACKSON *Wood Engraving* 711 Some of the chiaro-scurios... seem too soft and woolly. 1864 YATES *Broken to Harness* I. viii. 146 The daughter of old Dunkel... was a little woolly. 1865 HAWKER in *Life* (1905) 518 Pusey's woolly mind appears to cling to him [sc. Gladstone]. 1872 GEO. ELIOT *Middlem.* xxxv. II. 198, 'I suppose you know...' said Mrs. Waule, in she lowest of her woolly tones. 1874 LISLE *Carr Jud. Gwynne* v. The farm-servants... lost in woolly wonder. 1878 LOCKYER *Stargazing* 354 Except on the finest of nights the stars... appear woolly. 1879 G. MACDONALD *Sir Gibbie* xix, 'That is not a bad remark, Joseph,' replied the laird, with woolly condescension. 1881 STEVENSON *Virg. Puerisque, Some Portraits by Raeburn* (1905) 142 Dugald Stewart's woolly and evasive periods. 1884 *Bazaar* 26 Dec. 681/3 A drawing to look into, but rather woolly at a few paces off. 1895 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 572 The performance... growing woollier and woollier in tone, and then dying out in sleep. 1897 *Graphic* Christmas No. 9 The stiff woolly piano.

7. *Comb.*, as *woolly-butted* (BUTT *sb.* 3 4), *-coated*, *-haired*, *-leaved*, *-looking*, *-minded* (hence *-mindedness*), *-pated*, *-tailed*, *-witted* adjs.

1843 J. BACKHOUSE *Narr. Visit Austral. Col.* 445 The Gum-trees... are of several species. One called here, the *Woolly-butted Gum, seems identical with the Black-butted Gum of Tasmania. 1852 R. S. SURTEES *Sponge's Sp. Tour* (1893) 341 A lank, *woolly-coated weed [sc. a horse]. 1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* 3 June an. 1781, Lord Monboddo's notion, that the ancient Egyptians... were not only black, but *woolly-haired. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xii, Miss Swartz, the woolly-haired young heiress from St. Kitt's. 1868 LYELL *Princ. Geol.* III. xlvii. (ed. 10) II. 563 The... woolly-haired rhinoceros. 1822 *Hortus Anglicus* II. 380 *Inula Suaveolens*. *Woolly-leaved Inula. 1859 W. S. COLEMAN *Woodlands* (1862) 128 The Woolly-leaved Rose (*Rosa tomentosa*). 1881 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.*, *Breislakite*... a *woolly-looking variety of aluminous pyroxene. 1898 *Daily News* 8 Nov. 5/4 There are plenty of such *woolly-minded men in high places. 1923 *Blackw. Mag.* May 598/2 The Don, with much alacrity and *woolly-mindedness, proceeded to ransack all the lockers. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India* & P. 18 A comely well Limb'd Person, though a *Woolly-pated Coffery. 1848 tr. *Hoffmeister's Trav. Ceylon* etc. x. 362 *Woolly-tailed Yak ox. 1927 *Observer* 6 Nov. 15/1 The managerial attitude towards producers is at present *woolly-witted. 1949 ST. J. ERYNE *Craigavon* II. lviii. 273 That woolly-witted insurrectionist.

B. *sb.* 1. A woollen garment or covering; now esp. *pl.*, garments or wraps knitted of (fleecy) wool. *winter woollies*, warm underwear (not necessarily of wool); freq. *joc.* Also *fig.*

1865 *Slang Dict.*, Woolly, a blanket. 1899 *19th Cent.* Aug. 283 'Granny the Thimbleman'... knits woollies for the 'quality'. 1916 *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 514 note, Flannel shirts... and woollies of all sorts for the wounded soldiers. 1919 *Blackw. Mag.* Feb. 148/2 Some thin underclothing and a 'woolley' in addition to the spare shirt and socks. 1926 WODEHOUSE *Heart of Goof* vi. 194 His mother had bought him a new set of winter woollies which felt like horsehair. 1933 DYLAN THOMAS *Sea. Lett.* (1966) 24 Catch him [sc. Wordsworth]... walking the hills with a daffodil pressed to his lips, and his winter woollies tickling his chest. 1964 *Observer* 13 Sept. 11/3 If we wear the winter woollies of traditional trade unionism against the hot sun of automation, we may sweat it out instead of thinking it out. 1974 *Nature* 18 Oct. 569/1 The dinosaurs' unsatisfied need was not so much for laxatives as for winter woollies!

2. A sheep; esp. (*Austral.* and *N.Z.*) one before shearing. *U.S.*, *Austral.*, and *N.Z. colloq.*

1910 J. G. NEIHARDT *River & I* iii. 92 In Scotland when a feller sees a sheepman coming down the road with his

sheep, he says: 'Behold the gentle shepherd with his fleecy flock!'... In Montana, that same feller says... 'Look at that crazy blankety-blank with his woollies!' 1930 *Bulletin* (Sydney) 2 Apr. 23/1 We curse the stubborn woollies... as the sweating shearers tussle. 1935 H. DAVIS *Honey in Horn* xi. 162 She had a little short-bodied guitar of the kind that Mexican sheep herders used to carry around behind their saddles to entertain the woollies with. 1949 F. SARGESON *I saw It in my Dream* II. xiii. 111 White dots that you could tell were both sheep and lambs; and they were so white it was easy to tell that they weren't woollies any more. 1972 P. NEWTON *Sheep Thief* vi. 48 The biggest proportion proved to be Totara sheep of mixed ages, three of them woollies.

3. [Cf. WOLLY.] A uniformed policeman.

slang. 1965 R. E. RIDGWAY in B. Wannan *Fair Go, Spinner* II. 66 Later on, as the station expanded and more 'woollies' were added, the shed grew accordingly. 1975 *Listener* 6 Feb. 163/2 Sir Robert Mark... saw its [sc. the CID's] members behaving as if they could walk on water, and looking down on the 'woollies' who had to plod the beat in uniform. 1978 'B. GRAEME' *Double Trouble* xv. 191 One of the woollies blew his whistle. 1984 *Private Eye* 20 Apr. 6/2 A small army of 'Woollies'—CID slang for uniformed officers—were summoned.

woollyer, wooll(e)ying, var. forms of WILLYER, WILLYING *vbl. sb.* (s.v. WILLY *sb.* 1).

1828 T. ALLEN *Co. York* II. 302 Teasing, or as it is sometimes called, woolleying, is done upon a large cylindrical machine. 1875 BAINES *Yorks.* I. 670 Woollyers.

'woolly-head. A person with woolly hair, esp. (*disparagingly*), a Black, a Negro; hence, a nickname for an abolitionist in America.

1859 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 2), *Woolly-heads*, a term applied in the first place to negroes, and then to anti-slavery politicians. 1864 *Daily Tel.* 20 Sept., I must do the American press the justice to say that... I get it quite as hot from the Woollyheads as from the Copperheads. 1884 *19th Cent.* June 993 Our friends the 'woolly heads' [sc. Arabs] are peeping at us from amongst the bushes.

'woolly-headed (stress variable), a. Having a woolly head: a. in specific names of plants; b. Woolly-haired; c. *fig.* Dull-witted.

a. 1650 [W. Howe] *Phytol. Brit.* 22 *Carduus eriocephalus*... Woolly-headed Thistle. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) III. 701 *Carduus eriocephalus*... Woolly-headed Thistle. 1857 ANNE PRATT *Flower. Pl.* III. 237 *Cnicus eriocephalus*... (Woolly-headed Plume-thistle). 1889 J. H. MAIDEN *Usef. Pl. Australia* 72 *Andropogon bombycinus*... 'Woolly-headed Grass'.

b. 1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 5. 2/1 The Blacks in Guinea are Woolly-headed. 1813 PRICHARD *Phys. Hist. Man* vi. §6. 307 Most of them resembled the woolly-headed Papuas. 1877 MISS A. B. EDWARDS *Up Nile* xvi. 435 Abyssinians and Nubians... flat-nosed, and woolly-headed.

c. 1883 MISS BROUGHTON *Belinda* IV. iv, She has taken... the Borrowdale road, walks along it for some distance confused and woolly-headed. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Oct. 708/2 This, too, not by silly, woolly-headed people, but by practical, hard-headed men of business.

woollyish ('wulnʃ), a. *rare.* [f. WOOLLY *a.* + -ISH.] Somewhat woolly.

1793 MARTYN *Lang. Bot.* (1796), Woollyish, ... *sublanatus*.

'woolman. Now chiefly *Hist.* [f. WOOL *sb.* + MAN *sb.* 1; cf. MDu. *wolman* 'lanarius'.] A dealer in wool, a wool-merchant.

1390 *York Memorandum Bd.* (Surtees) I. 43 John de Gysburn, wolleman. 1424 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 84 Joh. Deyster, wolman. 1458 in *Hearne's Collect.* (O.H.S.) V. 256 Hic jacent Johannes Townsende, quondam... Wolman istius villae [etc.]. 1550 *Proclam. Winding of Woods* 23 May 1 The Masters & wardens of the company, and fellowship of the wolmen of the Cytie of London. 1641 *BEST Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 27 Woolmen dislike and find greate falt with woll that hath much salve or tarre in it. a 1722 LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 425 When the wool-man was weighing my wool, he shewed me the difference of some fleeces in goodness. 1761 *Lond. & Environs* VI. 363 *Woolmen*, a company probably of great antiquity, though they have no charter, and are a community only by prescription. 1912 J. S. M. WARD *Brasses* 20 The brasses of the woolmen are the finest. 1920 *Glasgow Herald* 21 Oct. 7 Woolmen, bankers, and journalists were consulted.

†'woolner. *Obs. rare.* In 7 wollner. [f. WOOLLEN + -ER.] A dealer in woollen goods.

1619 in *Foster Engl. Factories India* (1906) 87 To publish unto the brokers and wollners of the towne your intente to sett them a worke in the making of broade baftaes.

'wool-pack. [f. WOOL *sb.* + PACK *sb.* 1]

1. A large bag into which a quantity of wool or of fleeces is packed for carriage or sale.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) II. 171 [They] Ride vpe tueye wolpakes, chapmen as hii were. 14... in *Krapp Leg. St. Patrick's Purg.* (1900) 65 Stoppeng and shovyng pe felthe downe into here bodies as pe wold stoppe a wullepak. 1600 *Maldon, Essex, Docts.* Bundle 162 lf. 3 (MS.), iis. of Richard Studd, collector for the woolpacks, for the profits of his office this year. 1601 WEEVER *Mirr. Mart.* D. 1, In chaires of hardest oke they sate Insteede of wooll-packs. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 285/1 A Wool Pack... is a great number of Fleeces made up together on a cloth tied at the four ends. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* II. iv, There was a Fellow with a Wen in his Neck, larger than five Woolpacks. 1758 *Hist. London-Bridge* 14 The Foundation of this Bridge is by the Vulgar generally believed to be laid upon Woolpacks; which Mistake probably arose from a Tax upon Wool towards its Construction. a 1763 SHENSTONE *Progr. Taste* i. 104 This wards the jokes of ev'ry kind... As wool-packs quash the leaden ball. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* xx, This coming Countess... hangs on our arms as dead a weight as a wool-pack. 1845 D. MACKENZIE *Emigr. Guide Australia* 91 One man is employed in gathering the fleeces as they are shorn

—another in folding them up, and handing them to a man who is pressing them into a large bag, called a wool pack, capable of containing . . . about 250 lbs. of wool, or about 100 average fleeces. **1866** ROGERS *Agric. & Prices* I. xxii. 568 Hempen fabrics were used for woolpacks.

† **b.** = WOOLSACK 2. *Obs.*

a **1658** CLEVELAND *Epig. on People Wks.* (1687) 254 We . . . Call'd out a Parliament, . . . Which being obtain'd at last, what did they do? Even squeeze the Wool-packs, and lye snorting too. **1660** PEPYS *Diary* 20 Aug., My Lord Chancellor being gone to the House of Lords, I went thither, and . . . there staid all the morning, seeing their manner of sitting on woolpacks, &c. which I never did before. **c** **1710** CELIA FIENNES *Diary* (1888) 261 These twelve judges sitt in the House of Lord[s] on wool packs.

2. transf. Something resembling a wool-pack.

† **a.** A large mass of white water. *Obs.*

1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe Wks.* (Grosart) V. 267 Boystrous woolpacks of ridged tides, came rowling in, and raught him from her. **1733** *Trav. J. Massey* 36 We spy'd that which Sailors call a Wool-Pack, seemingly as big as a great Cask, within Cannon-shot of our Ship.

b. orig. **wool-pack cloud:** A fleecy cumulus cloud. Chiefly *pl.* (or *collect. sing.*).

1648 EARL WESTMLD. *Otia Sacra* (1879) 128 A day most clear; . . . wherein Some wool-pack Clouds in corner's bin. **a** **1722** LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 440 The sky full of light wool-pack clouds boding no rain. **1794** G. ADAMS *Nat. & Exp. Philos.* IV. lii. 483 In the north of England, such clouds are called woolpacks. **1869** *Daily News* 13 Feb., The ordinary cumulus or woolpack cloud. **1883** BURTON & CAMERON *Gold Coast* I. iii. 69 The bright blue air, flecked with wool-pack.

c. pl. Masses of Wenlock limestone. *local.*

1848 J. PHILLIPS in *Mem. Geol. Surv.* II. 1. 185 The solid masses of limestone are locally termed 'Woolpacks'.

3. attrib., as **wool-pack cloud** (see 2 b); in quot. **a** **1651**, ? resembling a pack of sheep.

a **1651** CLEVELAND *Mixt Assembly* 4 Chaos of Presbyt'ry, where Lay-men guide With the tame Woolpack Clergy by their side.

'wool-packer. One who makes up packages of wool for transport or sale. Also, later, a machine for packing wool. So **'wool-packing.**

1376 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 584 In donis dat. Wolpackers, 4s. ? **1480** *Cely Papers* (Camden) 30, xxvj sarplers the weche ys fayre woll as the woll packar . . . saythe to me. **1543** tr. *Act 8 Hen. VI*, c. 22 That no wolpacker shal make within the realme but good and due packyng. **1604** *Proclam. Winding Wool* 18 June §1 All Wool-packers, and Winders of woolls. **1633** *Stow's Surv.* 640 The Company of Woolpackers. **1808** W. WILSON *Hist. Diss. Ch. I.* 330 [The old meeting-house] is at present occupied by a wool-packer. **1875** KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Wool-packer*, a machine for compressing and tying fleeces. *Ibid.*, *Wool-packing table.* **1894** H. NISBET *Bush Girl's Rom.* 33 The wool-packing season was at its busiest.

Woolpit ('wulpit). The name of a village in Suffolk, used *attrib.* in *Woolpit brick*, a pale-coloured brick made from earth there.

1887 J. E. TAYLOR *Tourist's Guide Suffolk* 103 One of its chief industries is brickmaking, for the bed of brick-earth here makes a beautiful stone known everywhere as 'Woolpit Brick'. **1966** G. E. EVANS *Pattern under Plough* ii. 36 The Tudor front of the house was given a severe façade of Woolpit brick.

woolsack ('wulsæk). [*f.* WOOL *sb.* + SACK *sb.*¹ Cf. Du. *wolzak*, G. *wollsack*.]

1. A large package or bale of wool.

a **1300** *Sat. People Kildare* xi. in *E.E.P.* (1862) 154 3e marchans wip sur gret packes of draperie . . . and sur wol sakes. **1390** GOWER *Conf.* I. 99 Bot lich unto the wolleasak Sche proferth hire unto this knyht. **a** **1552** LELAND *Itin.* (1768) II. 32 Sum say . . . that Wollesakkes be yn Ewelme in token of Marchaundise. **1575** GASCOIGNE *Posies, Praise Mistr.* (1907) 55, I seeke to wey y^e wollsack down, with one poore pepper grain. **1611** BEAUM. & FL. *Knt. Burn. Pestle Prol.*, The rearing of London bridge upon Woolsacks. **1657** TRAPP *Comm. Esther* i. 10. 107 Having farced his body with good chear like a wool-sack. **1715** *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5324/2 Woolsacks and other Materials of use in making a Siege. **1758** JOHNSON *Idler* No. 87 ¶2 As woolsacks deaden arrows though they cannot repel them. **1879** FARRAR *St. Paul* (1883) 457 Old London Bridge was built not 'on woolsacks', but out of the proceeds of a tax on wool.

b. Applied jocularly to a corpulent person.

1596 SHAKS. *I Hen. IV*, II. iv. 148.

2. A seat made of a bag of wool for the use of judges when summoned to attend the House of Lords (in recent practice only at the opening of Parliament); also, the usual seat of the Lord Chancellor in the House of Lords, made of a large square bag of wool without back or arms and covered with cloth. Often *allusively* with reference to the position of the Lord Chancellor as the highest judicial officer; hence, *the woolsack*, the Lord-Chancellorship; *on the woolsack*, in this office.

[**1539**: see SACK *sb.*¹ d.]

a **1577** SIR T. SMITH *Commw. Eng.* II. iii. (1589) 49 In the middest thereof vpon woolsackes sitteth the Iudges of the realme, the maister of the roubles, and the secretaries of estate. But these that sit on the woolsackes haue no voice in the house. **1586** J. HOOKER *Hist. Irel. in Holinshed* II. 123/2 In the middle roome beneath them sit the chiefe iustices and iudges of the realme, the barons of the exchequer, the kings sergeants, and all such as be of the kings learned counsell, . . . and all these sit upon great woolsacks, couered with red cloth. **1647** CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* III. §11 The Lord Keeper of the Great Seal, upon the Wool-sack. **1710** J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* 95 The Lord Chancellor . . . sits on the first Wool-Sack. . . Upon other Wool-Sacks sit the Judges, the King's Council at Law, and the Masters of

Chancery. **1737** *Gentl. Mag.* VII. 536/2 The noble Lord on the Wool-Sack. **1785** *Rolliad. Prob. Odes* xvi. 8 By G—d I swore, while George shall reign, The Seals, in spite of changes, to retain, Nor quit the Woolsack, till he quits the throne. **1796** T. MORTON *Way to get Married* I. i. (1800) 16 *Caust.* Pray stick to the law. *Tang.* And to the woolsack. Does not the hope of that . . . cram our courts full of barristers, with heads as empty as they leave their clients' pockets? **1817** EVANS *Parl. Deb.* 414 The Lord Chancellor took the Woolsack at one o'clock. **1842** J. WILSON *Chr. North* (1857) I. 108 What seated Thurlow, and Wedderburne, . . . and Brougham on the woolsack? Work. **1854** EMERSON *Lett. & Soc. Aims, Eloquence Wks.* (Bohn) III. 189 If the performance of the advocate reaches any high success, it is paid in England . . . with seats in the cabinet, earldoms, and wool-sacks. **1862** MISS BRADDON *Lady Audley* xxv, She drags her husband on to the woolsack, or pushes him into parliament. **1901** *Empire Rev.* I. 467 The woolsack is technically not in the House, a fact recognised by the Standing Orders which provide that when the Lord Chancellor wishes to speak he is 'to go to his own place as a Peer'.

attrib. **1633** DAVENANT *Caelum Brit. Wks.* 1673 I. 362 Though I am but a Woolsack-god, and have no vote in the sanction of new Laws.

|| **woolsaw** ('wulsɔ:). Also 8 woolesaw, 9 oulasser. [Mosquito *wulasha*.] Among people of African descent in Central America, an evil spirit or demon.

1757 R. HODGSON *Mosquito Territ.* (1822) 46 A kind of priests called Sookies, who . . . pretend to deal with an evil spirit called Wooleasaw. **1827** O. W. ROBERTS *Voy. Centr. Amer.* 267 Their great evil spirit is the 'woolsaw' or devil. **1842** T. YOUNG *Residence on Mosquito Shore* vi. 72 After sun-set a Sambo will not venture out alone, lest the Oulasser should carry him away.

† **woolsey, sb.** *Obs. rare.* The second element of LINSEY-WOOLSEY used independently.

1737 BENTLEY *Rem. Disc. Free-Thinking* liv. III. 12 Unless he thought his Verses were to sell by the Foot, no matter for the Stuff whether Linsey or Woolsey.

woolsey ('wulzi), *a. rare.* [*f.* WOOL *sb.* + -sey derived from LINSEY-WOOLSEY.] Woolly; wool-len.

1839 LANDOR *Andrea of Hungary* iv. iv, This woolsy race [*i.e.* sheep]. **1877** BLACKMORE *Cripps* i, The Carrier's mantle, or woolsey coat.

woolskin ('wulskɪn). Also 6 wol-, volskyn(g. [*SKIN sb.*]) A sheepskin with the fleece on it.

c **1440** LYDG. *Hors, Shepe & G.* 361 The wolle skynns makith men to rise To gret richesse in many sondry wise. **1482** *Acta Audit.* (1839) 103/1 þre hundreth & foure skore wol skynnes. **1531-2** *Durham Househ. Bk.* (Surtees) 109 Expensidur 448 wolskyns. **1533-4** *Ibid.* 313 Vocatæ volskyns. **1612** *Sc. Bk. Rates in Halyburton's Ledger* (1867) 340 Woll skins the hundreth, xxli. **1643** *Docq. Lett. Pat. at Oxf.* (1837) 370 Lettres Patentes . . . for the collectinge of the Custome of wooles hydes wolskinnes. . . in the Porte of . . . Southampton. **1903** FLEMMING *Pract. Tanning* 64 Woolskins are also very cheaply tanned in the following manner.

'wool-staple'. [*STAPLE sb.*²] A market appointed for the sale of wool.

1593 NORDEN *Spec. Brit.*, *M'sex* (Camden) Introd. p. xvii, Ther are within this cytie the longe Woulstaple and the rounde, both which take name of the Staple that ther was kepte for wooules. **a** **1700** EVELYN *Diary* 8 July 1656, The pinnacle of one of their wool-staple houses. **1778** *Engl. Gaz.* (ed. 2) s.v. *Sandwich*, The wool-staple was removed hither from Queenborough, in the reign of Richard II.

So **'wool-stapler** [*STAPLER* 2], a merchant who buys wool from the producer, grades it, and sells it to the manufacturer. Also **'wool-stapling.**

1709 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4529/3 Eden Hardy, . . . Bermondsey, . . . Woolstapler. **1835** *Ure Philos. Manuf.* 160 The matted fleeces supplied by the wool-stapler. **1888** T. W. REID *W. E. Forster* I. 137 The wool-stapling business of James Fison and Son of Thetford. **1897** 'OUIDA' *Massarenes* xlviii, An Australian wool-stapler.

'wool-staple'³. [*STAPLE sb.*³] The staple of (a particular) wool.

1835 *Ure Philos. Manuf.* 155 The distance between the first and last pair of rollers is much greater, on account of the greater length of the wool-staple.

woolsted, obs. for of WORSTED.

woolster ('wulstə(r)). *Sc.* [*f.* WOOL *sb.* + -STER.] A wool-stapler (Jam. 1825).

1577 in *Agric. Surv. Ayrs.* 99 (Jam.) All other art or trade viz. of shoemakers, . . . carpenters, and woolsters.

woolsy: see WOOLSEY.

Woolton ('wultən). The title of F. J. Marquis (1883-1964), 1st Earl of *Woolton*, used in (*Lord*) *Woolton pie*, a vegetable pie publicized when he was wartime Minister of Food.

1941 *Food Facts for Kitchen Front* 44 *Lord Woolton Pie*. The ingredients of this pie can be varied according to the vegetables in season. Potato, swede, cauliflower and carrot make a good mixture. **1955** E. WAUGH *Officers & Gentlemen* II. vi. 291 The London crowd shuffled past, surfeited with tea and Woolton pies. **a** **1969** O. SITWELL *Queen Mary* (1974) 47 At luncheon . . . we found a new and rather horrible war-time dish had been prepared for us, called Lord Woolton Pie. **1981** *Times* 16 Mar. 12/7 A wartime diet of Woolton Pie and whalemeat.

wooluish, var. WOLVISH *a. Obs.*

† **'woolward, a.** *Obs.* Forms: see WOOL *sb.*; also 6 woldward. [*ME. wolleward*, prob. alteration of

**wollewerd* (of which there is perh. a relic in the form *wellewerd*, for *wollewerd*, of quot. 1480), from an unrecorded OE. **wullwerd*, *f. wull* WOOL *sb.* + -werd, -wered wearing, clothed (in), *f. stem* of *werian* WEAR *v.*¹ (cf. OE. *linenwerd* clothed in linen, and prob. *scirwered*, *sweglwered* 'clothed' or enveloped in brightness). The assimilation of -werd to -WARD, initiated by lack of stress, would be furthered by the prevalence of the word in the phr. *to go woolward* (cf. *to go heavenward*.) Wearing wool next the skin, esp. as a penance: chiefly in *to go woolward*.

c **1315** SHOREHAM *Poems* I. 1024 Baruot go, Woll-ward and wakyng. **1377** LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* XVIII. 1 Wollward and wete-shoed went I forth after. **c** **1450** *Mirk's Festial* 43 Saynt Thomas, be come to Caunturbury, wolward and barfote. **1480** CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* xcix. f. 1, Good men . . . that wenten baarfoot & wellewerd [*Brut* 99 wolward] for to haue mercy of the ij. kynges. **c** **1489** — *Sonnes of Aymon* xxvii. 574 He is goon his wayes wulwarde & barefoote with a sory staff in his hande. **1508** FISHER *7 Penit. Ps.* cii. Wks. (1876) 181 Truly it was a more glorious sight to se saynt Poule . . . in hungre, thirst, watchyng, in colde, goyngye wol-ward. **1588** SHAKS. *L.L.L.* v. ii. 717 The naked truth of it is, I haue no shirt, I go wolward for penance. **1621** BURTON *Anat. Mel.* III. ii. v. i. 627 Poore people fare coursly, worke hard, goe wolward and bare. **1646** TRAPP *Comm. John* xvi. 2 If he thought his shirt were infected with that heresie, he would tear it from his own back, and rather goe wolward. **1822** SCOTT *Nigel* xvii, To walk wool-ward in winter.

b. in *attrib.* position or comb.

1493 [H. PARKER] *Dives & Pauper* iv. xxi. (W. de W. 1496) 186/2 Auowe that she hath made to god as of fastyngye, of pylgremage, contynence, wolwarde goyngye, and such other. **1531** TINDALE *Expos.* 1 *John* (1537) 23 His fastyngye, his wolward goyngye, bare foote goyngye. **1628** Bp. HALL *Serm.* 30 Mar., Wks. 1634 II. 327 Their wolward and barefoot walks. **1655** [G. HALL] *Tri. Rome* vi. 73 What wolward penances, what weary pilgrimages?

c. to lay woolward: to bury in wool. *rare.*

1604 T. M. Black *Bk. in Middleton's Wks.* (Bullen) VIII. 25 The sexton . . . so laid the dead bodies wool-ward.

Woolwich ('wulɪdʒ). The name of a town in Greater London (formerly in Kent), used *attrib.*, esp. to designate productions of its old dockyard and the Royal Arsenal, as *Woolwich-gun*, -hulk; also *Woolwich-beds* *Geol.* (see quot. 1859); *Woolwich infant*, a jocular name given to a class of heavy guns.

1794 BURNS *Epist. fr. Esopus* 40 The shrinking Bard . . . dreads a meeting worse than Woolwich hulks. **1859** PAGE *Handbk. Geol. Terms, Woolwich-beds*, a name occasionally employed by English geologists to designate those beds of plastic and mottled clays, sands, and rolled flint-pebbles which lie between the 'Thanet Sands' and the 'London Clay'. **1871** RUSKIN *Fors Clavig.* ii. 21 The 35-ton gun called the 'Woolwich infant', which is fed with 700 pound shot and 130 pounds of gunpowder at one mouthful. **1875** W. T. VINCENT *Warlike Woolwich* 30 note, The name of the 'Woolwich Infant' . . . was suggested to the writer of these pages by Sergeant Major Adamson, of the Depot Brigade, Royal Artillery. **1876** VOYLE & STEVENSON *Milit. Dict.* (ed. 3) 472 *Woolwich Gun*, a gun rifled on the French system, with this modification, that the grooves are shallower, and have their corners rounded off.

'wool-winder. [*WINDER sb.*¹ (*WIND v.*¹ 16, 23 b).] **1.** One who 'winds' or packs up fleeces for transport or sale.

1523-34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* §52 Let the wol be well folden or wouden with a woll-wynder, that can good skylly therof. **1550** *Proclam. Winding of Wools* 23 May 1 The feloweshippe of wole wynders, otherwyse called wollmen. **1657** HOWELL *Londinor.* 63 The residue of the Lofts were letten out to Marchants, the Wooll-winders and Packers therein, to winde and pack their Wools. **1727** BYRON *Rem.* (Chetham Soc.) I. 286 It was the feast day of the woolwinders. **1886** C. SCOTT *Sheep-farming* 138 Pick up the fleeces, and carry them to the wool-winders.

2. A frame on which wool is wound.

1969 *Canad. Antiques Collector* Aug. 20/2 An old wool-winder, still in its original state, stands to the left. **1976** *Evening Post* (Nottingham) 15 Dec. 20/6 (Advt.), Knit-master 321 Punchcard Knitting machine, with worktable, woolwinder, punch etc.

'wool-work. [*Cf.* G. *wollwerk* woollen goods.]

† **1.** Working in wool; manufacture of woollen goods. *Obs.*

c **1475** *Cath. Angl.* 423/1 (Add. MS.) Woll werke, lanificium. **a** **1513** FABYAN *Chron.* vi. clvi. (1811) 145 His daughter he set to spynnyng and woll warke. **1570** LEVINS *Manip.* 171/39 Wolworke, lanificium. **1630** BRATHWAIT *Engl. Gent.* 125 The Towne of Kendall, so famous for Wooll-worke.

2. Needlework executed in wool usually on a canvas foundation. Also, knitted wool fabric.

1871 *Cassell's Househ. Guide* IV. 5 Design for a fire-screen in wool-work. **1882** CAULFIELD & SAWARD *Dict. Needle-work* 465 Berlin woolwork. **1888** FERGUS HUME *Mme. Midas* Prol., A red cap of wool-work.

attrib. **1899** *Westm. Gaz.* 26 Mar. 3/2 The eye of a wool-work needle. **1905** MRS. BARNES-GRUNDY *Vacil. Hazel* 55 She placed a woolwork cushion at the back of my head.

So **'wool-worked a.**, worked in wool, consisting of wool-work.

1870 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* Apr. Suppl. 8/2 A good wool-worked Cricket-belt. **1900** *Bookseller's Catalogue*, Magnificent Woolworked and Silk Picture.

'wool-worker. [Cf. G. *wollwinker*.] One who works in wool.

1372 *Cal. Wills Crt. Husting, Lond.* 11. (1890) 151 [The light of] Wolwyrchers [in the same church]. **1552** HULOET, Wolle worker, *lanifex*. **1903** A. ROBERTSON *R.C. Ch. in Italy* ix. 187 St. Blaise . . . was once venerated in Yorkshire as the patron of woolworkers.

Woolworth ('wulwɜ:θ). The name of the retailing company (orig. sixpenny store) F. W. Woolworth PLC, used *attrib.* to designate low-priced goods regarded as typical of its merchandise.

1931 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 5 Nov. 862/3 Miss Helen Simpson is refreshingly modern with her 'Woolworth craze' at Oxford as the real villain. **1932** AUDEN in *Rev. Eng. Stud.* (1978) XXIX. 292 Moving woodenly like a woolworth doll, A lady came in clothes so ugly . . . that the eye was cruel. **1939** T. S. ELIOT *Old Possum's Bk. Pract. Cats* 22 One of the girls Suddenly missed her Woolworth pearls. **1948** 'J. Tey' *Franchise Affair* vii. 69 Some Woolworth plants in the gardens. **1974** *Guardian* 21 Mar. 10, I am never likely to be involved in a study of . . . Lehar and can only look on all of it as real Woolworth stuff (in contrast to, say, Mozart, who is vintage Fortnum and Mason). **1980** I. ST. JAMES *Money Stones* III. iii. 106 You couldn't swing a Woolworth watch on diamonds found here.

Hence **Wool'worthian** *a.*

1933 R. W. CHAMBERS *Whatever Love Is* xx. 286 A strange, stark, snowless, dingy Christmastide with a Wool'worthian cheapness about it. **1937** P. THORNTON *Dead Puppets Dance* II. vii. 144 There were hundreds of people at Kučević, and many of them wore . . . high-heeled shoes and Wool'worthian stockings if their husbands could afford . . . them. **1978** *Washington Post* 27 Aug. c-38/2 Nowadays the plates are chipped and the tables lit by Wool'worthian gilded pierced tin lamps flickering with candles.

woom, var. **VOME** *Obs.*, vomit.

woomera ('wu:mərə). *Austral.* Forms: wom(m)erah, womrah, wom(m)-, wummera, wommeira, womera, wo-, wamara, woom-, wammera, wommora, -ala. [Native name, given as *womar*, *womerra*, *wommerru*, etc. in various vocabularies.] A throwing-stick used by Australian aboriginals. = THROWING-STICK *a.* Also = next.

1817 OXLEY *Jrnl.* *Two Exped. N.S. Wales* (1820) 117 He [sc. the native] was quite naked, except the netted band round the waist, in which were womerahs. **1835** J. BATEMAN in *Cornwallis New World* (1859) I. 407 We . . . encountered six men, armed with spears fixed in their wommeras. **1845** J. O. BALFOUR *Sk. N.S. Wales* 17 *A whamery* whizzed past where I was standing, and with unerring aim struck Fighting Jemmy on the arm. **1907** *Macm. Mag.* Oct. 935 He . . . with the aid of a favourite womerah, could send a long spear, tipped with palm-wood, through a deal plank an inch thick a hundred yards away.

woomerang ('wu:mərəŋ). *Austral.* Also wom-. [Native name (*wo-mur-rāng*) in D. Collins *N.S. Wales*, 1798, I. 613.] A missile club used by Australian aboriginals. = THROWING-STICK *b.*

1849 J. C. PRICHARD *Ethnol. in Man. Sci. Enquiry* 433 The ancient Gauls were known by their gæsa or javelins. . . The Australians by their woomerangs or throwing-sticks. **1864** J. ROGERS *New Russh* II. 46 Next—high in air the womerang-spear he flings.

woomph (wu:mɸ, wumɸ), *int.* (*sb.*, *adv.*) *slang.* Also woomf. [Imitative.] (Expressing) a sound similar to a 'whoof' (WHOOF *int.* (*sb.*) 2) but with a deeper or more resonant component. Cf. the synonymous WHOOMPF *int.* (*sb.*).

1955 LD. WINTERTON *Fifty Tumultuous Years* 82 Two old gentlemen were dozing in their chairs when the 'Woomph', 'Boomph' of a bomb simultaneously woke them up. **1979** R. FIENNES *Hell on Ice* ix. 144 There was a sudden woomf as the fumes and the liquid ignited. **1982** S. BRETT *Murder Unprompted* xiv. 133 He threw a cushion, which went woomph into the side of Charles's head.

wooms. (See quot.)

1834 McCULLOCH *Dict. Commerce* (ed. 2) 628 A mixture of *cheek* beaver, with white and brown stage beaver, or seasoned beaver, commonly called 'wooms'.

woon (wu:n). Also **wun.** [Burmese *wun*.]

A Burmese administrative officer. Also **woondock**, **woongee**, names for different grades of this.

1800 M. SYMES *Acc. Embassy Ava* xiii. 308 To assist in the administration of affairs, four officers, called Woondocks, are associated with the Woongees. *Ibid.* 309 There are . . . officers . . . who bear no ostensible share in the administration of public affairs, such as the Daywoon, or King's armour-bearer; the Chaingeewoon, or master of the elephants; also the Woons of the Queen's household. **1856** *Putnam's Monthly Mag.* June 561/1 A message came down from the Woon, or head man, of the friendly people who inhabited the interior town of Pegu. **1886** LD. R. CHURCHILL in *Daily News* 26 Jan. 2/4 Those [English] officers were supported by troops and were working through local woons. **1898** H. F. HALL *Soul of People* vii. 92 Outside Mandalay the country was governed by *wuons* or governors. **1972** A. T. Q. STEWART *Pagoda War* ix. 112 (*caption*) Thibaw's envoy, the *wun* with his golden umbrella, stands beside him.

woon, var. **WONE**, **WOOLLEN**.

woond(e, woonder, woone, woont: see **WIND** *v.*¹, **WONDER**, **ONE**, **WONT**.

woontak: see **womb-tack**, **WOMB** *sb.* 5.

† **woop.** [? var. of **HOOP** *sb.*³ 2.] The bullfinch. **1668** CHARLETON *Onomast.* 91 *Rubicilla*, Pyrrhula, the Woop, or Bullfinch.

woop, variant of **WOUP** *Sc. Obs.*

woop woop ('wupwup). *Austral.* and *N.Z.* Also **woop-woop(s, wop-wop.** [Sham Aboriginal (but see below).] *a.* A jocular name for a remote rural town or district; also (without *the* and with capital initials) as the name of an imaginary place in a remote area.

One suggestion is that the term is derived from the 'geolorious town o' Whoop-Up' in E. L. Wheeler's *Deadwood Dick on Deck* (1878), where 'Whoop-Up' is the name of a back-country American goldmining town.

1926 'J. DOONE' *Timely Tips for New Australians* 23 *Woop Woop*, a humorous method of alluding to the country districts used most frequently in New South Wales. **1928** A. WRIGHT *Good Recovery* 34 They're chasin' Murraba out along the Woop Woop Road, or somewhere. **1930** *Bulletin* (Sydney) 1 Jan. 28/2 'Who on earth is she?' gasped the visitor from Woop-Woop. **1958** J. LINDSAY *Life Rarely Tells* 213 Next morning he'd rush away. 'Off to the Woop-woop!' Somewhere in the backblocks that meant. **1960** N. HILLIARD *Maori Girl* III. i. 174 'Where do you come from?' 'Up in the wilds—the woop-woops, Taranaki.' **1963** *Truth* (Wellington, N.Z.) 8 Oct. A job was found tight out in the wop-wops. **1970** *N.Z. Listener* 21 Dec. 51/2 While you're out in the woop-woops next time, spare a thought for the local farmer. **1975** *Courier-Mail* (Brisbane) 26 Mar. 12/6 Police feared they would be transferred to 'Woop Woop'.

b. An inhabitant of such a place; a country bumpkin. *rare.*

1936 M. FRANKLIN *All that Swagger* 472 Adrienne was no blob or woop-woop. **1950** *Coast to Coast* 1949–50 201 I'll make a fair dinkum woop-woop out of you in no time.

woorali, wourali (wu:'ræli:). Also 8–9 **woorara, 9 woorrara, wooraly.** See also **OORALI, URALI, URARI.** [See **CURARE.**] A South American climbing plant, *Strychnos toxifera*, from the root of which one of the ingredients of the poison **CURARE** is obtained; also, the poison itself. Also *attrib.*, as **woorali poison, vine.**

[**1596** L. KEYMIS *Relat. Second Voy. Guiana* G 2, Names of poisoned hearbes. Ourari.] **1769** E. BANCROFT *Ess. Nat. Hist. Guiana* 101 The Woorara, which is the principal ingredient in the composition of the fatal Indian arrow poison of that name. **1796** SREDMAN *Surinam* I. xv. 395 A few of the above arrows are frequently dipped in the woorara poison, which is instantaneously fatal. **1803** WINTERBOTTOM *Sierra Leone* I. xv. 271 A kind of dart, . . . dipped in a poison called woorara. **1825** WATERTON *Wand. S. Amer.* 53 *A vine grows in these wilds, which is called wourali. Ibid.*, The wourali poison destroys life's action so gently, that the victim appears to be in no pain whatever. *Ibid.* 54 He scrapes the wourali vine and bitter root into thin shavings. **1842** *Penny Cycl.* XXIII. 152/2 Wooraly, Urari, or Poison-plant of Guiana. **1862** N. *Syd. Soc. Year-bk. Med.* 18 Nervous sensibility, after its suspension by woorara poisoning. **1902** P. FOUNTAIN *Mts. & For. S. Amer.* vii. 185 My mixture . . . was, like the true wourali, innocuous if swallowed. *Ibid.* 189, I have . . . strong grounds for believing that it is snake-poison that is the active principle in the wourali paste.

woord, woorld, woory(e, etc., obs. ff. WORD, WORLD, WORRY *v.*, etc.

woos, obs. *f.* **OOZE**, **WHOSE**.

woosel(l, obs. ff. OUZEL.

woosh, var. **WHOOSH** *v.*, *sb.*

woost, obs. 2 sing. pres. ind. of **WIT** *v.*¹

Wooster ('wu:stə(r)). The name of Bertie Wooster, an amiable, vacuous, young man about town in the novels of P. G. Wodehouse, used allusively. Also *attrib.*

1939 AUDEN & ISHERWOOD *Journey to a War* i. 44 He was so much more subtle, more intelligent than his cultivated Bertie Wooster drawl. **1960** *New Statesman* 24 Sept. 424/2 Very young men about town . . . quite amiable in a Bertie Wooster sort of way. **1963** R. H. MORRISSON *Scarecrow* (1964) xii. 135 Her husband, the aged Wooster type whom Angela and I had encountered.

Also as *v. intr.*, to behave in the manner of Bertie Wooster; 'Woosterish *a.*; 'Woosterism, a remark or action characteristic of Wooster.

1959 *Observer* 26 Apr. 23/5 Harold . . . lives in a pretty Woosterish way. **1964** *Punch* 17 June 906/3 Frolicsome nitwits woostering in well-heeled suburbia. **1969** *Times* 5 May 23/3 Dapper, cheerful young men without the disdain of the real Jeeves when provoked by inane Woosterisms. **1978** *Country Life* 14 Dec. 2103/1 A ridiculous pink velvet dog with inane Woosterish eyes. **1979** K. BONFIGLIOLI *After you with Pistol* xvii. 130 We Woostered away for a while, giggling slightly. *Ibid.*, While we idly bandied these Woosterisms . . . he slid a scribbling-pad across the desk. **1983** *Times* 17 Oct. 15/4 This show . . . reducing Olivia to a charm-school hostess, Andrew to a Woosterian silly ass and . . . Toby to a bar-fly.

woosy(e, obs. ff. OOZY.

woot(e, obs. ind. pres. of WIT *v.*¹

wootes, obs. *pl.* of **OAT**.

1559 in *15th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. III. 74, *v*^e peckes wootes.

wootz (wu:ts). Also **wudz.** [app. orig. misprint for *wook*, repr. Canarese *ukku* (pronounced with initial *w*) steel.] A crucible steel made in

southern India by fusing magnetic iron ore with carbonaceous matter. Also *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1795 *Phil. Trans.* LXXXV. 322 Doctor Scott . . . has sent over specimens of a substance known by the name of wootz; which is considered to be a kind of steel. **1824** *Encycl. Brit.* Suppl. III. 456/2 Wootz, a steel from India, has lately been most successfully employed [for cutlery]. **1839** *URE Dict. Arts* 1176 The wootz ore consists of the magnetic oxide of iron, united with quartz. **1869** BALDWIN *Preh. Nations* vi. (1877) 229 The celebrated India steel called wudz. **1881** *Blackw. Mag.* May 569/1 The Indian 'wootz' steel, . . . which possesses remarkable toughness and sharpness.

woo-woo. Imitative of the sound of wind.

1841 CARLYLE *Misc. Ess.*, *Baillie* (1872) VI. 215 The ever-moaning . . . unsyllabled woo-woo of wind in empty churches!

wooy, *Sc. form of WOOLLY* *a.*

wooze, var. **OOZE**.

woozy ('wu:zi), *a. colloq. orig. U.S.* Also **whoosy, whoozy, woozey.**

1. Dizzy or unsteady as when fuddled with drink; muzzy; 'dotty'.

1897 *Voice* (N.Y.) 22 Apr. 3/2 In the woozy lexicon of the voting church there is no such word as power. **1909** 'O. HENRY' *Roads of Destiny* iv. 64 A woman gets woozy on clothes. **1915** WODEHOUSE *Psmith, Journalist* xvi. 114 'He's still woozy,' said the Kid. 'Still—what exactly, Comrade Brady?' 'In the air,' explained the Kid. 'Bats in the belfry. Dizzy.' **1917** CONAN DOYLE *His Last Bow* viii. 292 The man was mad. Well, he went a bit woozy. **1929** *Kipling Limits & Renewals* (1932) 356 He had kept himself going on rum sometimes, and was woozy when the pinch came. **1937** *Black Mask* Jan. 24/2, I got hit. It made me woozey for a minute. **1952** B. MALAMUD *Natural* 17 He got up whoozy and walked, finding it hard to believe his eyes. **1961** J. B. PRIESTLEY *Saturn over Water* iii. 29 The woozy state I was in. **1977** M. HINXMAN *One-Way Cemetery* xix. 139 He'd have phrased it more delicately if he hadn't felt quite so whoosy. **1978** *Daily Tel.* 17 Jan. 17/2 Liquid lunches can leave a man weak and woozy late in the afternoon, drinkers were told.

2. Representing or marked by muddled thinking or unclear expression; lacking rigour or discipline; sloppy.

1941 AUDEN *New Year Let.* II. 37 All vague idealistic art . . . Is up his alley, and his pigeon The woozier species of religion. **1961** *Catholic Gaz.* May 129/2 To Dickens, Christmas meant a debauch of vague and woozy sentiment. **1970** AUDEN in *New Yorker* 21 Feb. 118/1 Like Ruskin, he can at times write sentences which I would call 'woozy'; that is to say, too dependent upon some private symbolism of his own to be altogether comprehensible to others. **1971** *Daily Tel.* 15 Mar. 13/4 One wonders if it is not simply the drink that has made so many Irish writers bury their poetic insights beneath so much that is garrulous, maudlin and whoozy. **1975** *New Yorker* 3 Feb. 84/2 There are gaps in the plot and woozy lapses in time. **1977** *Rolling Stone* 24 Mar. 41/2 She supports the old male stereotype of woman as overwhelmingly physical, instinctual, and her writing is too woozy for me. **1977** *N.Y. Rev. Bks.* 9 June 16/3 The other poem of 1939 [by Auden], with its 'affirming flame', is woozy too. **1980** *Times Lit. Suppl.* 25 Apr. 470/5 A level of woozy tautology.

Hence **'woozily** *adv.*, **'wooziness.**

a 1911 D. G. PHILLIPS *Susan Lenox* (1917) I. xxi. 395 'Shut up!' cried the drunken man . . . He caught them each by an arm, stared woozily at Etla. **1924** *Black Mask* Nov. 48/2 This thing had fallen on me while my nerves were ragged from three days of boozing . . . [Now] my wooziness had passed. **1937** *Ibid.* Jan. 23/2, I shook my head woozily. **1937** AUDEN *Let.* in Auden & MacNeice *Let. from Iceland* 221 Landscape's so dull if you haven't Lawrence's wonderful wooziness. **1967** *Listener* 9 Feb. 193/2 Staring woozily at a wine flask. **1977** C. ISHERWOOD *Christopher & his Kind* xii. 181 Much of what Christopher called Wyster's wooziness was essentially religious in context. **1984** *Observer* 19 Feb. 25/5 Later in life she more stubbornly shut herself off from the world's demands behind the defences of deafness, bad English and Benedictine-fuelled wooziness.

† **wop, sb.**¹ *Obs.* [OE. *wóp*: see **WEEP** *v.* etym.] Weeping. Hence † **wopi** *a.*, tearful.

Beowulf 785 para pe of wealle wop gehyrdon, gryreleod galan godes andsacan. *c 1000* *Ag. Gosp.* Matt. viii. 12 þær bið wop & topa gristbitung. *c 1175* *Lamb. Hom.* 157 Ure drihten . . . iturnd hore horte and heore wode to muclehe blisse. *c 1205* LAY. 5970 Wælle mucleh wes þa wop [c 1275 wepinge]. *a 1225* *Ancr. R.* 376 Iblesced beo þu, Louerd, þet . . . after wopie wateres zeldest blið muruhðes. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6912 Heo . . . bileuede þer al niȝt In wop & in orisons. **1340** *Ayenb.* 71 Oure blisse is ywent in-to wop.

wop (wɒp), *sb.*² and *a. slang* (orig. U.S.). Also **Wop.** [Origin uncertain; perh. ad. It. dial. *guappo* bold, showy, ruffian, *f. Sp. guapo* bold, dandy, *f. L. vappa* sour wine, worthless fellow.]

A. sb. *a.* An Italian or other southern European, esp. as an immigrant or foreign visitor (see also quot. 1914). Now considered *offensive.*

[**1912** A. TRAIN *Courts, Criminals & Camorra* ix. 232 There is a society of criminal young men in New York City. . . They are known by the euphonious name of 'Waps' or 'Jacks'. These are young Italian-Americans who allow themselves to be supported by one or two women. . . They form one variety of the many gangs that infest the city.] **1914** JACKSON & HELLYER *Vocab. Criminal Slang* 88 *Wop*, noun. Used principally in the east. An ignorant person; a foreigner; an impossible character. . . Example: 'You couldn't find a jitney with a search warrant in this bunch of wops.' **1915** WODEHOUSE *Psmith, Journalist* xix. 138 He's a wop, kid. . . A wop. A dago. . . An Italian. **1924** E. HEMINGWAY *In our Time* 17 Wops, said Boyle, I can tell wops a mile off. **1930** G. B. SHAW *Apple Cart* II. 78 *Lysistrata*. What they call an American is only a wop

pretending to be a Pilgrim Father. He is no more Uncle Jonathan than you are John Bull. *Magnus*. Yes: we live in a world of wops, all melting into one another. 1940 N. MITFORD *Pigeon Pie* i. 7 Luke's Italian was far more affected than that of any native wop. 1942 *R.A.F. Jnl.* 13 June 26 The pilots... suggested that the 'Wops were yellow' or that they could not 'take it through cloud'. 1952 E. F. DAVIES *Illyrian Venture* ii. 26 We had breakfast in the mess tent, waited on by a cheerful wop. 1973 'I. DRUMMOND' *Jaws of Watchdog* ii. 26 Sandro dived into the pool... 'You great fat clumsy Wop,' said Jenny, 'you've put my cigarette out.'

b. The Italian language.

1937 [see for all I know s.v. KNOW v. 11 g]. 1938 E. POUND *Let.* 6 May (1971) 313 'Sardinia is Barbagia' don't seem either English or Wop. 1982 A. MELVILLE-ROSS *Trigger* xx. 225 There's a lot of chat in Wop which I doesn't understand.

B. adj. Italian.

1938 E. POUND *Let.* 8 Jan. (1971) 303 'Praedis': I don't care how you spell your wop painters. 1940 [see KIKE]. 1941 C. E. MILBURN *Diary* 15 Feb. (1979) 83 We have dropped parachutists in Italy... A very nice surprise for our 'Wop' enemy! 1955 E. WAUGH *Officers & Gentlemen* 326 You'll find her full of wop prisoners. 1983 S. F. X. DEAN *It can't be my Grave* iv. 64 Are you telling me, you Wop son of a bitch, that I can't get into my father's lift?

wop (wɒp), *sb.*³ *R.A.F. slang*. [Acronym from *wireless operator* (cf. *op*³ 2b).] A radio operator.

1939 *Airman's Gaz.* Dec., You have a choice of three... trades—... W.O.M.,... W.E.M.,... and the W/Op, which rude people twist into Wop (most unfairly). 1957 R. BARKER *Ship-Busters* iv. 70 Wireless operator/air gunners... most of the wop/A.G.s... came straight from gunnery school.

wop, var. WHOP.

wopen, obs. f. WEAPON.

† **wopne**, **-one**. [?]

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 532/2 Wopne, or pyse (S. wopone of pis), *urina*.

wopnen, obs. form of WEAPON *v.*

wopper, var. WAPPER *a.*

a 1658 CLEVELAND *Old Man courting young Girl* 62 Perish'd Lungs and wopper Eyes.

wopper, var. WHOPPER.

wops, dial. and joc. var. WASP *sb.*

wor, var. WAR *a.* and *adv.*, worse.

† **'worble**, *v.* *Sc. Obs.* [var. WARBLE *v.*³; cf. WRABBLE *v.*] *intr.* To wriggle, writhe; to wallow. a 1598 ROLLOCK *Serm.* Wks. 1849 l. 444 We wer... then worbling [ed. 1616 warbling] and waltering in our awin sinne and filthinesse. a 1600 MONTGOMERIE *Sonn.* xlvii. 10 Vhy haif I not, O God, als blunt a [braine] As he that daylie worbleth in the wyne. 1808 JAMIESON s.v. *Wrabil*, S. *warble*, *wurble*: as to *wurble in* or *out*.

worble, variant of WARBLE *sb.*²

Worcester ('wʊstə(r)). 1. The name of the county town of Worcestershire, used *attrib.* to designate articles originating there, e.g. (formerly) a fine cloth, (now chiefly) a kind of China ware; also *ellipt.* = †Worcester cloth, Worcester porcelain, Worcester sauce, etc.

Worcester sauce = Worcestershire sauce (see WORCESTERSHIRE).

1551-2 *Act 5* & 6 *Edw. VI.* c. 6 §5 All and everie white Clothe and Clothes whiche shalbe made within the Cittie of Worcester commonlye called Longe Worcesters. *Ibid.* §7 All and everie White Clothe and Clothes comonlye called Shorte Worcesters. 1802 R. WARNER *Town Northern Counties* I. 47 That exquisite porcelain... known by the name of Worcester china. 1822 *Auction Catal. Ponthill Abbey* 45 A Worcester tea and coffee set. 1848 H. R. FORSTER *Stowe Catal.* 2 An oval sugar-basin, cover, and stand, of rare old Worcester. *Ibid.* 92 A pair of vases, or Worcester porcelain. 1863 MISS BRADDON *Aurora Floyd* xxxi, He poured Worcester sauce into his coffee, and cream over his devilled cutlets. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 642/1 Dr. Wall... started the Worcester Porcelain Company in 1751. 1889 J. K. JEROME *Three Men in Boat* ii. 22 If Harris's eyes fill with tears, ... it is because Harris has been eating raw onions, or has put too much Worcester over his chop. 1897 *Daily News* 15 Nov. 8/6 Hops. Worcester... Trade in Worcesters keeps quiet. 1981 T. HALD *Murder at Moose Jaw* ix. 103 A straight tomato juice with a liberal splashing of Worcester.

2. Used *attrib.* (with *Pearmain* or *apple*) and *absol.* to designate an early, slightly conical red-skinned eating apple belonging to a variety introduced to cultivation about 1875 by Richard Smith, a Worcester nurseryman.

1877 *Garden* 13 Oct. 344/1 Worcester Pearmain Apple. —Of this beautifully coloured, fully flavoured new Apple, Mr. Richard Smith, of Worcester, has sent us samples. 1929 E. A. BUNYARD *Anat. Dessert* 6 The really ripe Worcester has character... and the Raspberry flavour distinctive. 1958 *Listener* 27 Nov. 903/1 Four medium-sized Worcester Pearmain apples. 1936 H. V. TAYLOR *Apples of England* iii. 43 Worcester Pearmain... became the most important of the commercial early dessert apples. 1982 R. HOLLES *Sun Blight* i. 6 She walked along... inspecting the piles of Worcester apples. *Ibid.* ix. 98 In the Portobello Road... mounds of apples grinned at him, Worcesters, Granny Smiths, Golden Delicious.

Worcesterberry ('wʊstəbəri). Also worcester-. [f. prec. + BERRY *sb.*¹] A small black gooseberry of the North American species *Ribes*

divaricatum, once believed to be a hybrid of the blackcurrant and the gooseberry and sold as such by a Worcester nurseryman.

1923 *Amat. Gardening* 27 Oct. p. ix/3 (Advt.), Worcesterberry. Cross between gooseberry and black currant. Fruiting trees. 3/- each. Richard Smith & Co... Worcester. 1926 *Observer* 5 Sept. 9/2 New fruits, such as the logan and most excellent worcesterberry, multiply almost yearly. 1969 *Oxf. Bk. Food Plants* 80/2 The so-called 'Worcesterberry'... seems first to have been sold by a nurseryman in Worcester who thought it was a black currant gooseberry hybrid. 1980 *Amat. Gardening* 25 Oct. 20/2 If spraying fails, or if you do not like doing it, why not try growing the Worcesterberry instead?

Worcestershire ('wʊstəʃə(r)). The name of an English county: *attrib.* in *Worcestershire sauce*, which is made in Worcester (also *ellipt.* for this).

1686 *PLOT Staffordsh.* ii. §107 Worcestershire Salts. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* x. iii, They found no fault with my Worcestershire Perry, which I sold them for champagne. 1843 *Naval & Military Gaz.* 1 Apr. 208/2 (Advt.), Lea and Perrin's 'Worcestershire Sauce', prepared from a recipe of a nobleman in the county. 1870 LOWELL *Study Wind*. (1886) 22 A bottle of Worcestershire. 1889 G. ALLEN *Falling in Love*, etc. 205 Mulligatawny soup, Worcestershire sauce, preserved ginger, hot pickles.

worch, **worcher**, **worship**: see WORK, WORKER, WORSHIP.

word (wɜ:d), *sb.* Forms: 1- word, 1-6 wurd, (3 wored, woerd, weord, wuord, wort), 3-6 werd, 3 (4-6 *Sc.*) wourd, (4 wrd, 4-6 worde, wurde, *Sc.* vord(e, vourd, 5 worp (?)), 4-7 woord (6-7 -e), 5-6 *Sc.* wird(e. [OE. *word* str. n. = OFris., OS. *word*, MDu. *wort* (Du. *woord*), OHG., MHG., G. *wort*, ON. *orð* (Sw., Da. *ord*), Goth. *waurd*:—OTeut. **wurdom*:—pre-Teut. **wrdho*;- cf. Lith. *vařdas* name, Lett. *wārd*s word, forename, OPruss. *wirds* word, OIr. *fordat* 'inquiet'.

Indo-Eur. *werdh-* is generally taken to be a deriv. of *wer-*, *werē-*, which appears in Gr. *ῥεπέω* I shall say, *ῥήτωρ* speaker, L. *verbum* word, Skr. *vrātām* command, law, etc.]

1. Speech, utterance, verbal expression.

1. *collect. pl.* Things said, or something said; speech, talk, discourse, utterance; *esp.* with possessive, what the person mentioned says or said; (one's) form of expression or language. Often in such phrases as *in these*, *other*, etc. *words*, in (such-and-such) language; *many words*, *few words* (see also 22, 26); *to give words to*, *to put into words*, to express by means of language; *beyond words*, incapable of being expressed in language, unutterable, unspeakable.

a 900 CYNEWULF *Juliana* 83 ƿif ƿas word sind sop. a 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 2389 Ne wile Sarran... gelyfan wordum minum. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 27 Ne mai no man pese word seggen... Ʒief he hæuē on his heorte onde. *Ibid.* 43 Vnderstonde we on ure heorte his holie wordes. *Ibid.* 217 On pesse fewe litle wored lotie fele gode wored, Ʒif he weren wel ioponed. c 1205 LAY. 3606 þe alde king... ƿas wuord seide. *Ibid.* 8835 Nu beoð his word [c 1275 wordes] gode. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 890 Til ƿat worm ƿan drightin spak Wordes bath o wrath and wrak. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* ix. 752 Sen thou spekis so ryaly, It is gret skill at men chasty Thi prouwd wordis. 1450-1530 *Myrr. Our Ladye* i. i. 11 These ar the wordes of the prophete Dauid. *Ibid.* ii. 66 Youre holy rewle forbydeth you all wayne and ydel wordes. 1526 TINDALE *John* vi. 63 The wordes that I speake vnto you are sprete and lyfe. 1533 GAU *Richt Vay* (S.T.S.) 5 Ane prayer is noth the mair plesand to god for causz we wsz mony vordis in it. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* iv. iii. 209 Giue sorrow wordes; the griefe that do's not speake, Whispers the o're-fraught heart, and bids it breake. *Ibid.* v. viii. 6, I haue no words, My voice is in my Sword. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 89 Seeing they cleare such a great point in a few words. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* x. 865 Soft words to his fierce passion she assay'd. 1709, 1795 words of course [see COURSE *sb.* 37a]. 1749 *Coply Let. Fr. Lady at Paris* 17 Not yet, answered Mr. de Vaudreuil, at which Words, the Prince darted a menancing Look at him. 1813 LADY BURGHERSH *Let.* (1893) 61 Words can't describe the figures the women dress here. 1817 SHELLEY *Sonn., Ozymandias* 9 And on the pedestal these words appear. 1825 SCOTT *Betrothed* xvii, Forbear these wild and dangerous words!... There may be here those who will pretend to track mischief from light words. 1847 HELPS *Friends in C.* i. viii. 124 All this is what I have often heard you say yourself in other words. 1848 THACKERAY *Van, Fair* xx, When he had a duty to perform, Captain Dobbin was accustomed to go through it without many words or much hesitation. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* v. i, I sometimes hold it half a sin To put in words the grief I feel. 1878 BESANT & RICE *Celia's Arb.* xvii, I have no words... to express the very great thanks which I... owe you. 1882 BESANT *All Sorts* viii, At a loss to give indignation words. 1885 'H. CONWAY' *Family Affair* xxvii, To use his own words, he was in a cleft stick. 1892 *Temple Bar* Dec. 541 She could not put her fear into words. 1905 ELIN. GLYN *Viciss. Evang.* 277 Her tact is beyond words.

b. In various obsolete or casual use (sometimes *spec.* speech as distinguished from writing).

Beowulf 612 Dær was hælepa hleahtor, hlyn swynsode, word wæron wynsume. a 940 in Kemble *Cod. Dipl.* V. 248 Ic ƒeðelstan... on ðisum gewrite mid wordum afeastigne, ðæt ic wille [etc.]. c 1000 ƒELFRIC *Hom.* (Th.) I. 24 ƿa com se engel to hire and hi gægette mid Godes wordum. c 1205 LAY. 51 Feferen he nom mid fngren... & ƿa soƿere word sette togadere & ƿa pre boc prumde to are. *Ibid.* 6675 Mid wurdan and mid writen he dude heom wel to witen ƿat [etc.]. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 12226 Fle for-soth fra him wil i, His wordes i mai noght vnderli. c 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 313

Discreet he was and of greet reuerence; He semed swich his wordes weren so wise. a 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* 18 We felle in wordes of prisoners. *Ibid.* 25 The wiff aught to... lete the husbonde haue the wordes, and to be maister. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 542 Stameriung in his wordes. c 1489 — *Blanchardyn* vii. 28 Wythout moo wordes the knyght mounted... on horsbake. 1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* xlii. 47 Sayand till hir with wurdis still, Haif pety of 3our presoneir. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 1 [They] affirmed their doynge to be good, bothe in wordes and writyng. 1563 FOXE *A. & M.* 1225/1 We had more woordes of thys matter. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* i. iii. 134, I would not... Haue you... giue words or talke with the Lord Hamlet. 1677-8 in *Jnl. Friends Hist. Soc.* XIX. 61 Shee... was much runn into words. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* vi. 723 They... in Words and Tears had spent The little time of stay.

c. *spec.* The text of a song or other vocal composition, as distinguished from the music; also, the text of an actor's part.

In first quot. also *sing*.

1450-1530 *Myrr. Our Ladye* i. xxi. 56 Whye there ys thre thynges in goddes seruyce... The sentence, the worde, and the songe, the notes and songe serue to the wordes, and the wordes serue to the inwarde sentence. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* i. iii. 88 To th' selfe-same tune and words. 1611 — *Cymb.* iv. ii. 238. 1761 VICTOR *Theatres Lond. & Dublin* II. 5 The Rehearsals... begin to be of Use to the Actor: When he is quite perfect in the Words and Cues. 1774 [see SET *v.*¹ 73]. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* vii. 270 Till at the last she set herself to man, Like perfect music unto noble words. 1890 BARING-GOULD *Old Country Life* 279 A marvellous store of old words and tunes in her head.

d. *too* — for words: — to an extent that cannot adequately be described. *colloq.*

1913 *Vanity Fair* Nov. 65 New York is beginning to look too smart and clean for words. 1928 E. O'NEILL *Strange Interlude* viii. 289 But for Gordon to... propose marriage — it's too idiotic for words! 1937 J. MERCER *Too Marvellous for Words* (song), You're just too marvellous, too marvellous for words.

2. a. *sing.* Something said (= sense 1); a speech or utterance; esp. defined by a possessive or demonstrative. *arch.*

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. iv. 4 Ne leofað se man be hlafe anum ac be ælcum worde þe of godes muðe gæð. a 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 235 He cweð a wunder word to þar sawle bi þa witie ysaim. c 1200 ORMIN Ded. 45 Min word... Ma33 hellpenn þa patt redenn itt to sen & tunnderstannnden. *Ibid.* 282 Swa wass filledd opennl3 patt word tatt er wass cwiddead. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1600 þis word out of his hert sprang... 'Me reus pat euer made i man.' 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* xv. 145 With that vorde assemblit thai. c 1400 *Anturs of Arth.* xvi, Ways me for thi wurdle! c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* vi. 538 Wallace was blyth fra he had hard thair wourd. 1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxxvii. 15 The wurd of Jesew is fulfillit rhyt, Surrexit sicut dixit. 1534 FEWTERER *Myrrour Cristes Passion* 124 A contemplation of this seconde worde spoken by Christe vpon the crosse. *Ibid.*, This moste comfortable worde of our most swete sauour Iesu spoken vnto the thefe. 1563 FOXE *A. & M.* 1258/1 At this worde which he coupled with an othe, came I in. 1781 COWPER *Conversat.* 533 He bless'd the bread, but vanish'd at the word. 1801 SCOTT *Eve St. John* xxviii, Yet hear but my word. 1831 JAMES *Philip Aug.* xxviii, We have striven... to draw some word from her; but she... sobs, and answers nothing. 1867 MORRIS *Jason* i. 217 So at this word the king along the shore Built many a tower. 1871 B. TAYLOR *Faust* (1875) I. iv. 69 The word, alas! dies even in the pen.

b. with negative expressed or implied, or with *every*: Any or the least utterance, statement, or fragment of speech; anything at all (said or written).

a 1000 *Riddles* xix. 1 Ic... ne mæ3 word sprecan. c 1200 ORMIN Ded. 70 patt uppenn all þiss boc ne be Nan word 3æn Cristess lare. a 1300 K. *Horn* 260 (Harl.) þah hue ne dorste at bord Mid him speke ner a word [v.r. no word]. c 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 1166 Thair was na word muuand, Sa war thai all still. a 1508 DUNBAR *Tua Mariit Wemen* 157, I sall say furth the south, dissymyland no word. 1581 J. HAMILTON *Cath. Traictise* Viv b, He sal not haif ane vourd to ansueir. 1611 *Bible* 2 Sam. xix. 10 Why speake ye not a word of bringing the king backe? 1667 EARL ORRERY *St. Lett.* (1742) 305 He... got an order... without so much as telling me one word of it. 1676 EARL ESSEX in *Essex Papers* (Camden) II. 83, I was above four months before I could gett one word of answer from him. 1720 DE FOE *Capt. Singleton* xi. (1840) 198 They never heard a word of English. 1753-4 RICHARDSON *Grandison* I. xlviii. 342 You undo me, if one word of this matter escape you. 1758 MRS. LENNOX *Hemietta* ii. ii. (1761) I. 105 That... her every word and action [might] be under his direction. 1797 JANE AUSTEN *Sense & Sensib.* xxx, I would not mention a word about it to her. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xi. III. 10 No word indicating that he took blame to himself. 1863 W. C. BALDWIN *Afr. Hunting* vii. 294 It is now eighteen months since I heard a word... from my friends. 1879 MC CARTHY *Donna Q.* I. iii, Before she had time to put in a word. 1882 BESANT *All Sorts* xxi, Her ladyship held out her hands, without a word.

c. *a word*: a (short or slight) utterance or statement; a brief speech or conversation; similarly *a word or two*, † *a couple of words*; *a word in your ear* (*colloq.*): a brief message for you in confidence.

c 1485 Digby *Myst.* (1896) iii. 1423 Master of þe shepe, a word with þe. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 142 Than yf we be touched with a sharpe worde, we shal yelde a... gentyll answer. 1581 T. WILCOX *Glass Gamesters* v. cv b, Nowe a worde or two, out of the fathers... for the ouerthrowing of Dise and Cardes. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Engl. Poesie* iii. xxv. (Arb.) 307 So occupied... in the Princes affaires, as it is a great matter to haue a couple of wordes with them. 1599 SHAKES. *Much Ado* iv. ii. 27 Come you hither, sirrah; a word in your ear, sir. 1611 *Bible* Isa. i. 4 To speake a worde in season [Geneva a worde in time] to him that is wearie. 1639 [see WISE *a. c.*]. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* II. iii, I entreated to be heard a Word or two. 1810 CRABBE *Borough* xxii. 5 Peter... had of all a civil word and wish. 1836 DICKENS

Sk. Boz, Visit to Newgate, Some ordinary word of recognition passed between her and her mother. **1837** — *Pickw.* xxxiv, And now, gentlemen, but one word more. **1838** DICKENS *Let.* 25 Jan. (1965) I. 360 A word in your ear. *Macready objected to Talfourd's play.* **1842** TENNYSON *Dora* 42 If you speak with him... Or change a word with her. **1855** BROWNING *Men & Women*, (title) One Word More. **1893** MAX PEMBERTON *Iron Pirate* iii, I leave in ten minutes and write you here my last word. **1980** *Daily Tel.* 9 May 18 Salome and Kumba [*sc.* two gorillas] would like a word in your ear.

d. *spec.* Something said on behalf of another; esp. in such phrases as *to speak a (good) word for*: see also 23. †In quot. 1625, *pl.* votes.

1540, etc. [see 23]. **1617** MORYSON *Itin.* 1. 197 A Gentleman... understood that I had been robbed in France, where-upon hee gave his word for me unto the Maior. **1625** in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 472 Whosoever... shall labour or practise to gaine woordes for to make a Mayor, Sheriffe, or any other officer. **1831** CARLYLE *Misc. Ess.*, *Early Ger. Lit.* (1872) III. 196 The venerable man deserves a word from us. **1849** MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. 1. 301 Any dissolute courtier for whom one of the king's mistresses would speak a word.

e. *spec.* A watchword or password.

to give the word: (a) to utter the password in answer to a sentinel's challenge; (b) to inform officers or men of the password to be used.

[c1400-: see WATCHWORD.]

a **1533** LD. BERNERS *Huon* lxvii. 230 When he sawe his tyme, he cryed his worde & token. **1605** SHAKS. *Lear* iv. vi. 93 *Lear*. Give the word. *Edg.* Sweet Mariorum. *Lear*. Passe. **1667** DUCH. NEWC. *Life Dk. N.* (1886) ii. 92 He offered my Lord the keys of the city, and desired him to give the word that night. **1847** MARRYAT *Childr. New Forest* v, He gave the word, and the gate was opened. **1849** MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. 1. 608 The word by which the insurgents were to recognise one another in the darkness was Soho. **1855** *Ibid.* xvi. III. 679 The first morning on which Marlborough had the command, he gave the word 'Wirtemberg.' **1868** *Queen's Reg. & Orders Army* ¶ 42 The Governor... will give the Word or parole in all places within his government.

†3. *abstr. or collect. sing.* (without a or pl.) Speech, speaking: often as distinguished from writing, esp. in phr. *by word*, now *by word of mouth* (see 19); also, the faculty of speech; occas. language, tongue. *Obs.* exc. as in 19.

a **1000** *Gloria Patri* 56 þu...him...sealdeþ word and gewitt. c **1200** ORMIN 3043 þatt Godess engnell se3jde þær Till Jospþ puss wipþ worde. a **1300** *Cursor M.* 24074 Es na tung mai speke wit word, Ne writter write wit pens ord. **1390** GOWER *Conf.* I. 206 Couste in Saxoun is to sein Constance upon the word Romein. *Ibid.* III. 135 Above alle erthli creatures The hihe makere of natures The word to man hath yove alone. c **1400** *Rule St. Benet* (prose) 44 Sho sal be repreuid foure siþe with worde. c **1475** *Rauf Coilþear* 100 The Carll was wantoun of word. **1491** *Acta Dom. Conc.* (1839) 185/2 Duncane laid in wedset a land and tenement in Linlithgw to Thomas Gudelad be word and but charter or possessione. a **1553** UDALL *Royster D.* II. iii. (Arb.) 36 No man for despite, By worde or by write His felowe to twite. **1580** HAY in *Cath. Tractates* (S.T.S.) 39 The traditions quihik ye have learned ather be wourd, or be our epistle. **1628** A. LEIGHTON *Appeal to Parlt.* 74 The Anti-episcopall government... which by word and writ he had maintained. **1728** P. WALKER *Life Peden* To Rdr. (1827) p. xiii, It is... maliciously spread, both by Word and Writ.

4. *sing. and pl.* Speech, verbal expression, in contrast with action or thought.

Beowulf 289 Bescad witan worda and worca. **971** *Blickl. Hom.* 35 We... agyltap... purh gepoht, & purh word, & purh weorc, & purh willan. c **1175** *12th Cent. Hom.* 118 Mid worde, mid dæda, & mid alle heorte. c **1200** *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 65 3if man haueþ wið us agilt, woerdes oðer wurkes. a **1300** *Cursor M.* 15263 For pat i sai yow here wit word, þar sal yef find in dede. **1338** R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1725) 94 Ouper in word or dede has þou greued him. **1390** GOWER *Conf.* I. 7 The word was lich to the conceite Withoute semblant of deceite. c **1400** in 26 *Pol. Poems* xiii. 127 Wip word of wynd, mad neuere werre ende. **1471** CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 19 He was iust & trewe in dede & in word. **1500-20** DUNBAR *Poems* ix. 6 Baith in werk, in word, and eik intent. c **1560** A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) i. 109 Wordis w'out werkis availþeis nocht a cute. **1601** B. JONSON *Poetaster* III. v, Great Caesars warres cannot be fought with worde. **1602** SHAKS. *Ham.* III. iii. 97, 98 My words flye vp, my thoughts remain below, Words without thoughts, neuer to Heauen go. **1605** — *Macb.* II. i. 61 Words, to the heat of deedes, too cold breath gies. **1605** BODLEY *Let. to James* I May, Wordes are women, and deedes are men. **1667** SPERAT *Hist. Royal-Soc.* 434 A Society that prefers Works before Words. **1671** MILTON *P.R.* III. 9 Thy actions to thy words accord. **1800** COLERIDGE *Piccol.* I. iii. 61 Men's words are ever bolder than their deeds. **1862** [see DEED sb. 5b]. **1875** [see DEED sb. 1].

5. *pl.* orig. in various phr. denoting verbal contention or altercation, e.g. †to be or fall at words (into words), †to have some or many words, †(some) words are between..., etc., now chiefly to have words or a word (with); hence simply words = contentious or violent talk between persons, altercation; also with epithet, as *hard, high, sharp*.

†occas. Defamatory or libellous statement.

1462 *Paston Lett.* II. 105 Your brother and Debenham were at words. c **1489** CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* iii. 88 Whan we playd togyder, we hade some wordes. **1526** *Hundred Mery Talys* (1887) 8 The other agayn said he shuld not, & he agayn said he wold bryng them ouer spyte of his teth & so fell at wordys. a **1533** LD. BERNERS *Huon* lxxv. 222 Whan I se that wordes [be] between you, I shall Issu out. **1565** COOPER *Thesaurus s.v. Altercor*, Cum patre altercasti dudum, thou wast at words. **1590** *Tariton's News Purgat.* (1844) 82 Whereupon they grewe to woords, and from woords to blowes. **1591** SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI.* II. v. 46 In argument vpon a Case, Some words there grew 'twixt Somerset and me. **1663** BUTLER *Hud.* I. i. 3 When hard Words, Jealousies, and Fears Set Folks together by the Ears. **1684** LUTTRELL *Brief*

Rel. (1857) I. 307 His royall highnesse has brought his action of scandalum magnatum against Dr. Titus Oates for words. **1753-4** RICHARDSON *Grandison* II. xii. 86 High words passed between them. They parted in passion. **1777** W. MAWHOOD *Diary* 24 Aug. in *Publ. Cath. Rec. Soc.* (1956) L. 117 Came to Town to breakfast had words with Mrs. Mawhood. **1815** *Sixteen & Sixty* II. iii, Propriety and myself have been at high words on your account. **1839** DICKENS *Nicholas Nickleby* xlviii. 480 'We were a very happy little company, Johnson,' said poor Crummles. 'You and I never had a word.' **1842** TENNYSON *Dora* 16 He and I Had once hard words, and parted. **1848** DICKENS *Dombey* xxxi, Words have arisen between the housemaid and Mr. Towlinson. **1862** MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* III. 103 We had got into words about an invitation. **1901** 'ZACK' *White Cottage* 37 Have you and Mark had wuds? **1910** KING GEORGE V in H. Nicolson *George V* (1952) vii. 105, I have lost my best friend & the best of fathers. I never had a word with him in his life. **1913** M. ROBERTS *Salt of the Sea* vii. 182 My old man said he was a blood-sucker, and that led to words. **1935** Z. N. HURSTON *Mules & Men* II. vi. 287 Celestine is not mad any more about the word we had last week.

6. a. Report, tidings, news, information. (Always in *sing.* without article, in such phrases as *to bring, send, write word; to have word; word came*, etc.)

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 173 Sona swa þæt word becom to Nerone. a **1122** O.E. *Chron.* an. 1046 þam cyngc com word þæt unfriscpa lægen be westan and hergodon. c **1205** LAY. 3732 And Cordoille com pat wourd þat heo was iworden widewe. c **1205** [see SEND v. 1 6b]. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 826 He sende þe quene is doþter word wuch is aunteres were. a **1300** *Cursor M.* 11454 Word cum til herod þe kyng þat þar was sulk kynges cummun. c **1400** MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxv. 119 He schall hafe worde within a day and a nyght. **1415** SIR T. GREY in *43rd Rep. Dep. Kpr. Rec.* 583 He sende me no more worde of yat mater til I cam to Yorke. c **1440** *Alphabet of Tales* 102 Hur husband... hard no tithandis nor wurd of his wyfe nor of his childer. a **1533** LD. BERNERS *Huon* lxx. 221 My brother Huon... is now... in the abbay of seint Mauryse, the abbot there hath sent me worde therof. **1598** SHAKS. *Merry W.* III. v. 48, I must carry her word quickly. **1606** — *Ant. & Cl.* II. v. 118 Bid you Alexas Bring me word, how tall she is. **1662** STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacra* I. iv. § 11 Alexander... writ word to his Mother he had found out the bead of Nilus in the East Indies. **1712** STEELE *Spect.* No. 284 ¶ 5 Send me Word... whether he has so great an Estate. **1848** DICKENS *Dombey* xlvii, We had word this morning... that Mr. Dombey was doing well. **1850** THACKERAY *Pendennis* lxx, A servant brought word that Major Pendennis had returned. **1853** LYTTON *My Novel* iv. xxiii, The Parson writes word that the lad will come to-day. **1948** 'H. GREEN' *Concluding* 205 Word had gone round that at last they were engaged. **1958** M. L. KING *Stride toward Freedom* iii. 45 The arrest... was becoming public knowledge. Word of it spread around the community like uncontrolled fire. **1983** *Times* 16 Sept. 16/2 Word is the Government is offering a fixed price for small investors. **1984** *Times* 14 June 22/2 Word in the market suggests Mr Holmes a'Court may be prepared to sell on his stake.

b. Common report or statement, rumour. (Usually with *the, this*, etc.) Now usu. in phr. *the word is that* (...) (chiefly U.S.).

c **1000** *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xxviii. 15 þis wurd wæs gewidmærsod mid iudeum. c **1205** LAY. 160 þa com þat word to him, þat was widene cuð, þat þe king Latin 3ef Lauine his douter Eneam to are brude. a **1300** K. Horn 1017 (Camb.) þe word bigan to springe Of Rymenhilde weddinge. **1375** BARBOUR *Bruce* II. 78 Our all the land the word gan spryng, That the Bruce the Cumyn had slayn. a **1578** [see SPRING v. 1 2]. **1718** RAMSAY *Christ's Kirk Gr.* III. 38 Word gae'd me was nae canny. **1819** SHELLEY *Cenci* I. iii. 6 An evil word is gone abroad of me. **1819** SCOTT *Noble Moring* xxi, Her husband died in distant land, such is the constant word. **1963** R. JESSUP *Cincinnati Kid* iv. 55 Money is beginning to show for you against The Man, Kid... The word is... that you're good enough to take Lancey, if anybody can. **1965** P. O'DONNELL *Modesty Blaise* vii. 82, I know of him. The word is that he's good. **1982** P. LOVESEY *False Inspector Dew* iv. 153 The word is that the captain will be speaking to us.

†c. Common report in praise or celebration of a person or his actions; fame, renown, high repute.

c **1000** ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* vii. 388 þa asprang his word wide æond land. c **1200** *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 127 Ðo sprong þe word of his holi liflode wide into þe londe. c **1205** LAY. 6302 Of hire wisdom sprong þat word wide. a **1225** *Ancr. R.* 88 Wo is me þe þe, oðer heo, habbeð swuch word ikeiht. **13...** *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1521 Your worde & your worship walkeþ ay quere. c **1400** *Destr. Troy* 295 The worde of his werkes thurgh þe worlde sprange. c **1470** HENRY WALLACE III. 252 The worde of him walkit baith fer and ner.

d. Reputation, character (of being or having what is stated). *Sc.*

1722 RAMSAY *Three Bonnets* I. 89 Rosie had word o' meikle siller, Whilk brought a hantle o' wooers till her. **1825** JAMIESON *s.v.*, 'She gets the word o' being a licht-headit queyn', i.e. it is generally said of her.

7. a. A command, order, bidding; a request. (See also 17.) Usually qualified by possessive or *the*.

to say the word: to give the order, say 'go' or the like. In phr. *to send word* sometimes combining senses 6 and 7.

873-89 K. Ælfred's *Will*, þa word gelæstan þe on mines fæder yrfewrite standað. a **900** CYNEWULF *Crist* 1630 Hy braec cyninges word. c **1220** *Bestiary* 51 Silden he us willæ, If we heren to his word. c **1250** *Gen. & Ex.* 736 God seide wurd to abram: 'Abram, ðu fare ut of lond and kin.' c **1275** *Passion our Lord* 363 in O.E. *Misc.* 47 Alle pat beop in soþe i-herep myne word. a **1300** *Cursor M.* 18053 Quen i word herd þat he badd I quok for him. **1486** *Bk. St. Albans* v b, The first worde to the houndis that the hunt shall out pit. **1496** in *Ellis Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. 1. 29 Please your Graice to send me wourd quhat serves... I sall do. **1526** TINDALE *Luke* v. 5 Yet nowe at thy worde I wil loose forthe the net. a **1548** *Hall Chron.* *Hen. VI.* 164 His worde only ruled, & his voyce was only hearde. **1560** GOOGE tr. *Palingenius' Zodiac*

III. (1561) Evij, If thou sayst the woord, we goe. **1594** SHAKS. *Hen. V.* IV. vi. 38 Then euery souldiour kill his Prisoners, Giue the word through. **1601** — *Jul. C.* I. ii. 104 Vpon the word, Accounted as I was, I plunged in. **1631** HEYWOOD *1st Pt. Fair Maid West* IV. i. 44 Shall I strike that Captaine? say the word, Ile have him by the eares. **1667** MILTON *P.L.* III. 708 When at his Word the formless Mass... came to a heap: Confusion heard his voice, and wilde uproar Stool rul'd. **1753-4** RICHARDSON *Grandison* I. xxxvii. 270, I rang... to beg my cousins' company. They wanted but the word: In they came. **1803** WORDSW. *Sonn. Pass Killicranky* 12 O for a single hour of that Dundee, Who on that day the word of onset gave! **1806** [see SPEAK v. 21]. **1842** TENNYSON *Dora* 25 In my time a father's word was law. **1856** DICKENS *Christmas Stories* (1874) 50, I gave Rames the word to lower the Longboat and the Surf-boat.

b. Ten Words: the Ten Commandments, the Decalogue. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1382 WYCLIF *Deut.* iv. 13 The ten wordis, that he wroot in the two stonen tablis. **1650** TRAPP *Comm. Exod.* xx. 17 These ten words written by God himself. **1884** S. COX *Miracles* 18 The fundamental moralities of the 'Ten Words'.

8. A promise, undertaking. Almost always with possessive, as in *to give (pass, pledge) one's word, to keep (hold arch.) one's word, to break one's word; to be as good as one's word*, to keep one's promise (so to be worse than one's word, to break one's promise); a man of (†master of, etc.) his word, one who keeps his promises; also on (†in, under) the word of (a prince, etc.). See also 15, 18, 28 b.

See also BOND sb. 1 8, BREAK v. 15 c, PLEDGE v. 2 b, PLIGHT v. 1 2, etc.

[**971** *Blickl. Hom.* 243 Hwær syndon pine word, Drihten... '3if ge me gehyrað & ge me beoð fylgende, ne an loc of eowrum heafde forwyrð?' a **1122** O.E. *Chron.* an. 1014 (Laud MS.) Man... freondscipe gefæstnode mid worde & mid wædde.] **1390** GOWER *Conf.* I. 67 It sit wel every wight To kepe his word in trowthe upryht. **1474** CAXTON *Cheese* II. i. (1883) 22 That the symple parole or worde of a pryncce ought to be more stable than the otb of a marchaunt. **1496** *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 513/2 The said Kyng... bound hym by his wrytyng... and also in the worde of a Kyng promysed to kepe the same. **1526** *Reg. Privy Seal Scot.* I. 527/2 Our soverane lord promittis fathfullye and on the word of ane kyng, that [etc.]. **1542** UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 304 Neither proued Marcus Tullius a false manne of his woorde. a **1548** *Hall Chron.* *Hen. VI.* 98b, My Lorde of Winchester... hath subscribed... vnder the worde of priestehod, to stande at the aduise... of the persones abouesaied. **1555** *Instit. Gentl.* Eijij b, The seconde... poynte in a Gentleman... is promes keepyng, as to bee Mayster to hys woorde. **1580** T. FORREST *Perf. Looking Gl.* 5 b, Hauce... greater care in geuing thy worde, then in lending thy money. **1584** LODGE *Alarum* (Shaks. Soc.) 60 Promising... (so his creditour woulde be his wordes master) to doo his indeavour to perfourme his will. **1590** SHAKS. *Mids. N.* I. i. 222 Keepe word Lysander. *Ibid.* III. ii. 266-8, *Lys.* I will keepe my word with thee. *Dem.* I would I had your bond... Ile not trust your word. **1593** NASHE *Christ's T.* To Rdr. *4 b, The deuill & he be no men of their words. **1598** SHAKS. *Merry W.* v. v. 258 To Master Broome, you yett shall hold your word. **1601** — *Twel. N.* III. iv. 357 For that I promis'd you Ile be as good as my word. **1633** BP. HALL *Occas. Medit.* (ed. 3) 256 An honest mans word must be his maister. **1672** WYCHERLEY *Love in Wood* v. v, Will you be worse then your word? **1744** M. BISHOP *Life* 130 They... did not fly from their Words but stood firmly to what they first proposed. **1813** SCOTT *Trierm.* III. xxii, I swore upon the rood, Neither to stop, nor turn, nor rest... In life or death I hold my word! **1849** MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. 1. 535 Having solemnly pledged his word... not to attempt anything against the government. **1861** READE *Cloister & H. lv*, Give me your words to show her no countenance. **1886** RIDER HAGGARD *Jess* iii, No English government goes back on its word.

9. With possessive: Assertion, affirmation, declaration, assurance; esp. as involving the veracity or good faith of the person who makes it. See also 15, 18, 28 b.

1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* I. v. 87 Sir Toby will be sworn that I am no Fox, but he will not passe his word for two pence that you are no Foole. **1610** — *Temp.* II. i. 86 His word is more then the miraculous Harpe. **1730** *Lett. to Sir W. Strickland rel. to Coal Trade* 30 The Buyer... must take his Goods unseen on the Seller's Word. **1736** AINSWORTH *Engl. Lat. Dict.*, To call back one's word, *recanto, retracto, denego*. **1744** M. BISHOP *Life* 211, I just saved my Word. **1850** THACKERAY *Pendennis* xi, I give you my word that my brother did not leave a shilling to his son. **1859** H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* vi, What surety had he that Lee would leave him in peace...? none but his word—the word of a villain like that. **1869** SPURGEON *Treas. David* Ps. vii. 3-6 If we cannot be believed on our word, we are surely not to be trusted on our oath.

10. a. An utterance or declaration in the form of a phrase or sentence. *arch.* (Cf. 25.)

c **1000** ÆLFRIC *Hom.* (Th.) II. 236 Ðæt word belimpð synderlice to Gode anum, Ic eom. **1593** SHAKS. *Rich.* II. I. iii. 152 The hopelesse word, of Neuer to returne, Breath I against thee. **1780** COWPER *Boadicea* 13 Rome shall perish — write that word In the blood that she has split. **1903** J. KEATINGE *Priest* iii. 46 We should put down the three words 'Peace', 'Perseverance', 'A worthy Communion to-day.'

b. A pithy or sententious utterance; a saying; a maxim; a proverb. Now *rare* or merged in 2, exc. in BYWORD 1, NAYWORD¹ 2 (*dial.*), *household word* (see HOUSEHOLD 8); †in first quot., a 'dark' saying, riddle.

c **1375** *Sc. Leg. Saints* iii. (*Andreas*) 1079 Gywe [= if] he cane vndo þat worde. a **1400** *Relig. Pieces fr. Thornton MS.* 49 Ife þou will be lufely, resayfe these three wordes with-outen forgetyng. **1599-1888** [see HOUSEHOLD 8]. **1645** BP. HALL *Rem. Discontents* 130 It is a true word of Saint Augustine, that every soul is either Christs Spouse, or the Devils Harlot. **1833** DE QUINCEY *Revol. Greece* Wks. (ed. Masson) VII. 317 It seemed likely... that... Shakspeare's deep

word would be realized, and 'darkness be the burier of the dead'. 1853 TRENCH *Prov.* 26 That well-known word which forbids the too accurate scanning of a present, 'One must not look a gift horse in the mouth'.

†c. A significant phrase or short sentence inscribed upon something; = MOT¹ I, MOTTO I. *Obs.*

1431 E.E. *Wills* (1882) 88 My creste, myn armes, . . . and my word 'mercy and ioie'. a 1500 *Assemb. Ladies* 87 On her purfyl her word. . . *Bien et loyalment.* 1562 LECH *Armorie* (1568) 42b, The armes of euery gentleman. . . with the supporters helme, wreath, and creast, with mantelles, and the woorde. 1589 *Pasquil's Ret.* Diiij, The Painter . . . hath drawne him his word with a Text-pen. *Zelus domus tuæ comedit me.* 1590 SPENSER *F.Q.* II. iv. 38 And round about the wreath this word was writ, *Burnt I do burne.* c 1630 RISSON *Surv. Devon* § 144 (1810) 159 His word was *quid non*.

11. Religious and theological uses (in *sing.*, mostly with possessive or def. article); often in full, *the word of God* (God's word), *the word of the Lord*, etc.

a. A divine communication, command, or proclamation, as one made to or through a prophet or inspired person; *esp.* the message of the gospel (also *the word of Christ, of grace, of life*, etc.).

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 141 On þa ilcan stowe on þære þe we wæron gesamnode þær we zeherdan Godes word. c 1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Matt. xiii. 19 Ælc þæra þe godes wurd zehyrð. — Mark iv. 14. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 81 þis monne me mei sermonen mid godes worde, for hwat he scal his sunne uorsaken. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 19214 Vte o þair hali hertes hord Spedli þai speld godds word. a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* cxviii[i]. 172 My tunge sall shew forth þi worde. 1382 WYCLIF 2 *Sam.* vii. 4 And lool the word of the Lord to Nathan, seiynge, Go, and speke to my seruauit Daud, Thes thinges seiþh the Lord. — Col. iii. 16 The word of Crist dwelle in 3ou plenteuously. 1450-1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* II. 145 As my sowlle suffereth pacyently wronges. . . in obedyence of his worde. So I hope to be rewarded after the trouthe of his worde. 1526 TINDALE *Mark* iv. 17 As sone as eny trouble or persecution ariseth for the wordes sake, anon they fall. 1526 — *Acts* iv. 31 They spake the worde of god boldly. *Ibid.* xx. 32, I commende you to god and to the worde of his grace. 1564 MARTIAL *Treat. Crosse* 83 The lawes of the church (which lawes are the worde off god). 1601 BP. W. BARLOW *Defence* 181 The ministerie of the word is a coadiutor with the Spirite. 1648 T. SHEPARD *Clear Sunshine of Gosp.* 12 This old man hath much affection stirred up by the Word. 1758 WESLEY *Hymn*, 'See how great a flame aspires' iii, Sons of God, your Saviour praise! . . . He hath given the word of grace. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *Adam Bede* xlix, Where I used to be blessed in carrying the word of life to the sinful and desolate. 1921 *Act 11 & 12 Geo. V.* c. 29 Sched. vii, To . . . promote union with other Churches in which it finds the Word to be purely preached. 1927 ABP. DAVIDSON *Addr. Convoc.* 29 Mar. in *Church Times* 1 Apr. 392/1 Right Reverend and Reverend Brothers in the Sacred Ministry of Word and Sacrament.

b. The Bible, Scripture, or some part or passage of it, as embodying a divine communication.

1553 *Proclam.* 18 Aug. 1 Some euell disposed persons, whiche take vpon them . . . to interpret the worde of God, after theyr owne brayne. 1570 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 2187/1 *Gage*, The worde sayth it is his body before it is eaten. *Wood*, Those words would I faine heare; but I am sure they be not in the Bible. 1567 ALLEN *Def. Priesthood* Pref., They remember well (such is theyr exercise in y^e woord) how y^e disdayne of Moyses & Aarons prelacy ouer y^e people [etc.]. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* III. i. 44 What? the Sword, and the Word? Doe you study them both, Mr. Parson? 1781 COWPER *Hope* 659 Mighty to parry and push by God's word With senseless noise. 1859 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* xl, Read us a chapter out of the Bible. I am very low in my mind, and at such times I like to hear the Word. 1875 MANNING *Mission Holy Ghost* i. 7 The word of God declares, first of all, that the Son of God is 'The true Light'.

c. the Word (of God, of the Father), the Eternal Word, etc., as a title of Christ: = LOGOS, q.v.

c 950 *Landisf. Gosp.* John i. 1 *In principio erat uerbum*, in fruma uas uord. 1340-70 *Alex. & Dind.* 615 Godus worpliche word as we wel trowen. Is sone sopliche of man. c 1400 *Sowdone Bab.* 3 God. . . That al thinge made in sapience By vertue of woorde and holy goost. 1450-1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* II. 103 The endesse worde of the father that is oure lorde Iesu cryste. 1567 ALLEN *Def. Priesthood* 19 The seruile fourme of our owne nature, ioyned merueilously in one person, to the woorde and eternall Sonne of God the Father. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* vii. 163 And thou my Word, begotten Son, by thee This I perform. 1784 COWPER *Task* v. 897 Thou art the source and centre of all minds. . . eternal Word! 1805-6 CARY *Dante, Parad.* vii. 29 Until it pleas'd the Word of God to come Amongst them down. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* xxxvi, And so the Word had breath, and wrought With human hands the creed of creeds. 1875 LIGHTFOOT *Colossians* 221/2 The Eternal Word is the goal of the Universe, as He was the starting-point.

II. An element of speech.

12. a. A combination of vocal sounds, or one such sound, used in a language to express an idea (e.g. to denote a thing, attribute, or relation), and constituting an ultimate minimal element of speech having a meaning as such; a vocable. Also *four-letter word*: see *four-letter* adj. s.v. FOUR C. 2.

Sometimes with reference to the writing of a word as an indivisible unity, e.g. *as one or a single word, as two words*. c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* II. (Z.) 5 Butan ðam stafum ne mæz nan word beon awriten. ? a 1400 Wyclif's *Bible* Prol. 57 This word *autem*, either *uero*, mai stonde for *forsothe*, either for *but*. 1450-1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* I. ii. 7 There ys many wordes in Latyn that we haue no propre englyssh accordyng thet. *Ibid.* II. 77 Thys worde Amen ys a worde of hebrew. 1581 MULCASTER *Positions* xli. (1888) 244

Wordes be names of thinges applyed and giuen according to their properties. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* IV. i. 68 You doe ill to teach the childe such words. 1651 HOBBS *Leuiath.* II. xxxi. 192 Words . . . have their signification by agreement, and constitution of men. 1677 [see WITTICISM]. 1694 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* III. ii. § 1 (ed. 2) 223 *marg.*, Words are sensible Signs necessary for Communication. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Hor.*, *Epist.* II. ii. 170 Long darken'd Words he shall with Art refine. 1802 WORDSW. *Resolution & Indep.* xiv, Choice word and measured phrase, above the reach Of ordinary men. 1819 SHELLEY *Cenci* v. iv. 14 These three words. . . 'They must die'. 1853 TRENCH *Prov.* 31 So long as a language is living, it will be appropriating foreign words, putting forth new words of its own. 1875 JEVONS *Money* (1878) 250 We use a great many words with a total disregard of logical precision. 1884 J. A. H. MURRAY *N.E.D.* I. Gen. Explan. p. xxiii, There are necessarily many compounds as to which usage has not yet determined whether they are to be written with the hyphen or as single words.

b. †(a) As designating a thing or person: A name, title, appellation. *Obs.* (b) As expressing an idea: A term, expression.

c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* v. xi, On his mæran ceastre, seo ealde worde þære þeoda is nemned Wiltaburh. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 135, 'Ic eow sende frofre Gast.' þæs wordes andgit is swa mon cwepe pingere oþ þe frefrend. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* v. xv. (S.T.S.) 200 Sa þir gaulis, following the werde of þe said place (quhare þai war cumin to), biggit ane toun namit millane. 1571 LD. BURCHLEY in E. Nares *Mem.* (1830) II. 544 *note*, Your assured loving friend, William Cecil. I forgot my new word, William Burleigh. 1596 *Edw. III.* II. i. 85 Deuise for faire a fairer word then faire. 1596 HARINGTON *Metam.* Ajax H4, I doe before hand gye the worde of disgrace to any that shal so say. 1626 BACON *Sylva* § 354 Sulphureous and Mercuriall, which are the Chymists Words. 1668 MOXON *Dyalling* 48 An Explanation of some Words of Art used in this Book. 1848 CLOUGH *Amours de Voy.* 1. 10 Rubbishy seems the word that most exactly would suit it.

c. A written (engraved, printed, etc.) character or set of characters representing this.

a 1000 *Riddles* xlvi[i], Moððe word fræt. 1521 [see WRITE v. B. 2]. 1612, 1888 [see SPELL v. 2 § 3]. 1725 WATTS *Logic* I. iv. § 1 We convey [our Ideas] to each other by the Means of certain Sounds, or written Marks, which we call Words. 1845 MAURICE *Mor. Philos.* in *Encycl. Metrop.* II. 556/1 Betokening, as the words inscribed upon their foreheads implied, that they were a dedicated race. 1904 BUDGE *3rd & 4th Egypt. Rooms Brit. Mus.* 210 The common name for words of power of all kinds is 'heku', and whether they were inscribed upon amulets, or merely recited over them, the effect was the same.

d. In contrast with the thing or idea signified.

c 1450 *Bk. Curtesy* (Oriol MS.) 343 His [sc. Chaucer's] longage was so feyre and pertinent, That semed vnto mennys heryng, Not only the worde, but verely the thing. 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* vii. 189 Wise men take Words for the shadow of Things. 1722 WOLLASTON *Relig. Nat.* v. 87 This word [sc. nature] . . . frequently . . . is used merely as a word. . . they who use it not knowing themselves, what they mean by it. 1754 GRAY *Poesy* 110 Thoughts that breath, and words that burn. 1782 PRIESTLEY *Corrupt. Chr.* I. i. 114 A business of words only, and ideas not concerned in it. 1822 *Examiner* 723/2 Men are apt to be led away by words. 1827-1876 [see THING sb. 1 8a]. 1867 DK. ARGYLL *Reign of Law* II. (ed. 4) 63 Words, which should be the servants of Thought, are too often its masters. 1898 'H. S. MERRIMAN' *Roden's Corner* x. 106 'You don't take any interest in the Malmagite scheme?' 'No, . . . And I am weary of the very word.' 1912 *Times* 5 Aug. 7/3 A question of words.

e. the word (as predicate): the right word for the thing, the proper expression; hence contextually denoting or indicating the thing spoken of, *esp.* the business in hand or to be done. *colloq.*

1596 SHAKS. *Merch.* V. III. v. 58 Bid them prepare dinner. *Clow*, That is done to sir, onely couer is the word. 1611 — *Cymb.* v. iv. 155 Come Sir, are you ready for death? . . . Hanging is the word, Sir. *Ibid.* v. 422 Pardon's the word to all. 1700 CONGREVE *Way of World* I. ix, If Throats are to be cut, let Swords clash; Snug's the Word, I shrug and am silent. a 1704, 1852 [see MUM sb. 1 B]. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 403 ¶ 5 Sharp's the Word. 1775 SHERIDAN *Diuenna* II. ii, Trust me when tricking is the word. 1848 DICKENS *Domby* xlviii, Steady's the word, and steady it is. Keep her so! 1885 HOWELLS *Ind. Summer* II. 16 Lady-like was the word for Mrs. Bowen. 1885 W. S. GILBERT *Princess Ida* II, Contempt? Why, damsel, when I think of man, Contempt is not the word.

f. *Telegr.* Any of the sequences of a prescribed fixed number of characters (including a space) in a telegraphic message that has been coded or reduplicated for transmission.

1897 J. NICOLSON *Telegraphic Signals* II. 20 Artificial letter-grouping, mathematically called 'words', or permutations, . . . is referred to in a pamphlet by the French cryptographer, M. le Marquis de Viaris. . . as a substitute for telegraphic codes composed of dictionary words. 1911 *Encycl. Brit.* XXVI. 521/2 An experimental printer constructed about 1908 by the British Post Office, operated . . . at the rate of 210 words (1260 letters) per minute. 1976 R. N. RENTON *Telegraphy* I. 14/2 The 'telegraph word' is taken as an arbitrary 5-letter word with one letter-space, making six characters in all.

g. *Math.* An ordered sequence of generators of a group.

1952 S. C. KLEENE *Introd. Metamath.* xiii. 382 A finite sequence of zero or more (occurrences of) the letters, we call a word. 1971 G. HIGMAN in Powell & Higman *Finite Simple Groups* vi. 212 Any word in the n_i and their inverses determines a partial map of the set of equivalence classes into itself. 1972 M. KLINE *Math. Thought* xlix. 1141 There may be relations among the generators, and these would be of the form $F_i(A_j) = 1$; that is, a word or combination of words equals the identity element of the group. 1981 *Sci. Amer.* Mar. 26/1 A lovely 'pretty pattern' called the 6-U state. . . can be reached from the start position by way of the word $L^2 R^2 F^2 L^2 B^2 U B L F R U^2 R L R F, F, U, R$.

h. *Computers.* A consecutive string of bits that can be transferred and stored as a unit (see quot. 1969); *machine word*, a word of the length appropriate for a particular fixed word-length computer.

1946 [see WRITE v. 3 h]. 1948 *Proc. R. Soc. A* CXCv. 272 Certain of these numbers or 'words' are read, one after another, as orders. 1954 *Computers & Automation* Dec. 16/1 *Machine word*, a unit of information of a standard number of characters, which a machine regularly handles in each register. 1964 F. L. WESTWATER *Electronic Computers* ix. 140 The basic unit of internal storage is called a 'word', which may contain either instructions or data. 1969 P. B. JORDAIN *Condensed Computer Encycl.* 566 Computers with words less than 9 bits long call the words bytes, characters, or digits (decimal). 1970 A. CAMERON et al. *Computers & O.E. Concordances* 58 It is heavily dependent upon fitting x number of characters into each machine word, a problem we cannot get around easily. 1980 C. S. FRENCH *Computer Sci.* vi. 24 The number of bits in each location (word), known as the word length will depend on the make and model of computer.

III. Phrases. (See also above senses.)

* with preposition.

13. a. at a or one word: (a) upon the utterance of a single word; as soon as a word is spoken; without further parley; without more ado; at once, forthwith; so † at the first word; (b) in short, briefly, in a word; so † at wordes thre, † at fewe wordes, † at wordes short, etc. to be at a or one word: to be brief. *Obs.* exc. *arch.* or *dial.*

a 1300 K. Horn 118 (Harl.) þe children ede to þe stronde . . . Ant in to shipes borde At þe furste worde. 13. . . Gregorius 618 in Herrig *Arch. Neu. Spr.* LV. 435 A Cardinal per spac a mong, schortliche he seide at wordes preo. 13. . . Coer de L. 101 Seuene score, and moo j wene, Welcomyd hem alle at on wurd. *Ibid.* 2813 The Sarezynes. . . comen afftyr flaste fflyngyng, At schorte wurdas a gret route. c 1375 *Cursor M.* 7770 (Fairf.) þen drogh saule his awen squorde And slogh him-self atte a worde. c 1386 CHAUCER *Melib.* Prol. 11 Pleylnly at a word, Thy drasty rymyng is nat worth a toord. 14. . . Seege of Troy 1724 Alisaunder dyed at worddis short. a 1400-50 *Bk. Curtasye* 764 in *Babees Bk.*, When þe sewer comys vnto þe borde, Alle þe mete he sayes at on bare worde. c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 2129 Thou shalt be holpen at wordis fewe. c 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 17 Hakke hom on a borde, As smalle as þou may, at a worde. c 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 363 Thes vii sages. . . bad here lodesman at a word Shuld cast hem ouer the ship bord. 1483 *Vulgaria quedam ab Terentio* 2 b, Tell me att oon word [uno verbo] what thou woldest wyth me. 1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 123 At a word I would haue flung it awaie. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV.* III. ii. 319 Go-too: I haue spoke at a word. Fare you well. 1598 — *Merry W.* I. i. 109 He hath wrong'd me, indeed he hath, at a word he hath. *Ibid.* III. 15, I am at a word: follow. 1599 — *Much Ado* II. i. 118 *Vrsula*, I know you well enough, you are Signior Anthonio. *Anth.* At a word, I am not. 1601 — *Jul.* C. i. ii. 270 If I would not haue taken him at a word, I would I might goe to Hell. 1605 CAMDEN *Rem., Surnames* 104 At a word, all [names] which in English had Of set before them, . . . and all which in Latine. . . haue had De prefixed, . . . were borrowed from places. 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* 231 That I may speake fully at a word, it is the most plentifull habitation and seat of Kings. 1694 PENN *Rise & Progr. Quakers* II. 45 They were at a Word in Dealing: Nor could their customers many Words tempt them from it. 1777 S. J. PRATT *Emma Corbett* i. 1 To be at a word, will you render it possible for me to call you my son? 1831 SCOTT *Ct. Rob.* xxvi, So you may at a word count upon remaining prisoner here until [etc.]. a 1845 B'NESS NAIRNE *Song, Caller Herrin'* vii, At ae word be in ye're dealin'.

† b. at one word: of one mind. *Obs.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6812 Bope hii were at one worde to libbe in clene liue, So pat hii were wipoute eir.

c. to take a person at his word: to assent to his statement, or agree to his proposal; to accept what he says and act accordingly.

1535 COVERDALE 1 *Kings* xx. 33 He sayde: yf he be yet alyue, he is my brother. And the men toke him shortly at his worde, . . . and sayde: Yee Benadab is thy brother. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* I. ii. 17 *Ant.* Get thee away. *Dro.* Many a man would take you at your word And goe indeede. 1670 DRYDEN *Conq. Granada* II. i, Old as I am I take thee at thy word, And will tomorrow thank thee with my sword. 1742 FIELDING *J. Andrews* III. xii, One of the servants whispered Joseph to take him at his word, and suffer the old put to walk if he would. 1800 WORDSW. *Idle Shepherd-Boys* v, 'Come on, and tread where I shall tread.' The other took him at his word, And followed as he led. 1884 *Manch. Exam.* 12 May 4/7 Our contemporaries must not be offended if we decline to take them quite at their word.

14. a. in a word: in a simple or short (*esp.* comprehensive) statement or phrase; briefly, in short. Now only introductory or parenthetical. *Occas.* in *one word*; also † with a word.

1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* II. iv. 71 His yeares but yong, but his experience old; His head vn-mellowed, but his Iudgement ripe; And in a word. . . He is compleat in feature, and in minde. 1596 — 1 *Hen. IV.* II. iv. 283 Then did we two, set on you foure, and with a word, outfac'd you from your prize. 1598 R. BERNARD tr. *Terence, Andria* I. i, Tell me in a word what ist you would with me? 1665 BOYLE *Occas. Refl.* II. xiv. 235 To return to my former Studies, and Recreations, and Dyet; and in a word, to my wonted course of Life. 1704 NORRIS *Ideal World* II. xii. 496 If you will have in one word a just distribution of each, it is this, that the Idea we see in God, but the sentiment we feel in ourselves. 1710 BERKELEY *Princ. Hum. Knowl.* I. § 4 Houses, Mountains, Rivers, and in a word all sensible Objects. 1855 ORR's *Circ. Sci., Inorg. Nat.* 236 Some natural exposure on a cliff, in a valley, by a stream, or wherever—in a word—the surface coating of soil being absent, the underlying rock can be seen. 1892 WESTCOTT *Gospel of Life* 13 Man in a word is dependant on that which lies outside himself.

b. in so many words (tr. *L. totidem verbis*, cf. So 37 d): lit. in precisely that number of words; in those very words; also, †word for word.

1670 W. WALKER *Idiomat. Anglo-Lat.* 23, I rendred it even almost in so many words. *totidem fere verbis interpretatus sum.* 1720 DE FOE *Capt. Singleton* xv. (1840) 253 William told us in so many words, that it was impossible. 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Scotland-Yard*, That the Lord Mayor had threatened in so many words to pull down the old London Bridge, and build up a new one. 1881 W. COLLINS *Black Robe* I. 194 That the object was to bring Romaine and Stella together. . . was as plain to him as if he had heard it confessed in so many words.

15. a. on or upon one's word: (a) in const. with a verb, in sense 8 or 9: On the security of, or as bound by, one's promise or affirmation; hence (b) as an asseveration, *on* or *upon* (†*of*, †*a*) *my word*: Assuredly, certainly, truly, indeed.

(a) 1598 R. BERNARD tr. *Terence, Andria* v. i, The good turne that . . . you promised me on your word. 1600 E. BLOUNT tr. *Conestaggio* 206 If he woulde assure him vpon his word, he would go to the campe. 1607 DEKKER & WEBSTER *Northw. Hoe* II. i, *Doll* . . . Tis but poore fifty pound. *Alla*. If that bee all, you shall vpon your worde take vp so much with me.

(b) 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* iv. iii. 59 Of my word, I haue written to effect. 1592 — *Rom. & Jul.* I. i. 1 A my word wee'l not carry coales. 1598 — *Merry W.* iv. ii. 61 He will seeke there on my word. 1643 *Decl. Commons Rebelle. Irel.* 52 Upon my word your Lordship is little beholding to him. 1646 in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 308 But of my word she will not meet with the like proffer again. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vicar W.* xvii, A very good boy, Bill, upon my word. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xxxix, Upon my word and honour, Captain Gills, it would be a charity to give me the pleasure of your acquaintance. 1871 GEO. ELIOT *Middlem.* xxxviii. II. 295 Upon my word, I think the truth is the hardest missile one can be pelted with.

b. (with ellipsis of prep.) my word! as an ejaculation of surprise. *colloq.* (†*vulgar*).

1841 MRS. GASKELL *Lett.* (1966) 44 My word! authorship brings them in a pretty penny. 1857 LOCKER *Lond. Lyrics* 72 Half London was there, and, my word, there were few. . . But envied Lord Nigel's felicity. 1890 'R. BOLDEWOOD' *Col. Reformer* xix, My word! . . . that's something like a mob!

**** with another sb.**

16. a word and a blow: a brief utterance of anger or defiance, followed immediately by the delivery of a blow, as the beginning of a fight; hence in reference to prompt or sudden action of any kind; sometimes used predicatively of a person. Also (with hyphens) *attrib.*

1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* III. i. 43 Tyb. . . Gentlemen, Good den, a word with one of you. *Mer.* And but one word with one of vs? couple it with something, make it a word and a blow. 1639 J. CLARKE *Parcem.* 178 He's but a word and a blowe. 1753 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1811) IV. xxvi. 207 My cousins are grieved [at my going so soon]: they did not expect that I would be a word and a blow, as they phrase it. 1820 BYRON *Juan* III. xlviii, With him it never was a word and blow, His angry word once o'er, he shed no blood. 1840 MRS. TROLLOPE *M. Armstrong* iv, Mr. Joseph Parsons had a Napoleon-like promptitude of action, which the unlearned operatives described by calling him 'a word-and-a-blow man'. 1847 RUXTON *Adv. Mexico* xxvii. 242 Firm friends and bitter enemies, with them it is 'a word and a blow'.

17. word of command: a word or short phrase uttered by an officer to a body of soldiers as an order for some particular movement or evolution; also by a carter to a horse, etc.

1639 R. WARD *Animado. War* I. 230 You are to use these words of Command following. 1684 R. H. *School Recr.* 45 Keep . . . your Musket hard against your Shoulder after you have fired, till the next Word of Command. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* II. vii, I have seen this whole Body of Horse upon a Word of Command draw their Swords at once. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* iv, The hoarse shout of the word of command ran along [the line]. 1853 [see COMMAND *sb.* 1 b]. 1898 [see GEE *int.*, def.].

18. word of honour: an affirmation or promise by which one pledges one's honour or good faith.

1814 D. H. O'BRIEN *Captiv. & Escape* 65 They suspected we were deserters. . . We assured them upon our word of honour, they were very much mistaken. 1896 EDITH THOMPSON in *Manthly Packet* Christmas No. 97 He had passed his word of honour . . . that he would report himself at the fort.

19. a. by word of mouth: by speaking, as distinguished from writing or other method of expression; orally. Also *word of mouth* *sb.* *phr.*, oral communication, oral publicity; so *word-of-mouth* *attrib.*, executed, done, given, etc. by speaking; oral.

a 1553 UDALL *Royster D.* III. ii. (Arb.) 40 A little message vnto hir by worde of mouth. 1598 R. BERNARD tr. *Terence, Hecyra* I. ii, It cannot be told by word of mouth, howe desirous I was to returne hither againe. 1601-1849 [see MOUTH *sb.* 3 c]. 1638 FEATLY *Strict. Lyndon.* II. 121 Pretending I know not what nuncupatory will by word of mouth. 1639 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Pt. Summers Trav.* 44 They can flatter . . . with Pen, Picture, and by word of mouth. 1752 BERKELEY *Th. Tar-water* Wks. 1871 III. 498 Of this I have been informed by letters, and by word of mouth. 1883 D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* xxxiv. (1885) 288 He would rather tell him of this by word of mouth than by letter. 1934 in WEBSTER. 1951 B. SCHULBERG *Disenchanted* vi. 67 He tells everyone . . . that you're one of his favorite American authors and . . . that kind of word of mouth ain't bad. 1967 B. WHITAKER *Of Mice & Murder* xiii. 147, 'I wonder how he heard it was for sale.' 'Word of mouth, I suppose.' 1980 'D. KAVANAGH' *Duffy* iii. 43 The only way to get successful . . . was to work at being really efficient and then hope for word-of-mouth to back you up. 1984 A. BROOKNER *Hôtel du Lac*

i. 14 The only publicity from which the hotel could not distance itself was the word of mouth recommendations of patrons of long standing.

1802-12 BENTHAM Ration. Judic. Evid. (1827) II. 562 Word-of-mouth wills are, in certain cases, allowed by the Statute of Frauds. 1829 — *Justice & Cod. Petit., Abr. Petit. Justice* 6 The language. . . employed in word-of-mouth discussion. 1894 K. HEWAT *Little Scott. World* Pref. p. xii, The author has to acknowledge his indebtedness. . . for much word-of-mouth information.

b. humorously in reference to drinking.

1738 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* II. 164 Come, Sir John, take it by Word of Mouth, and then give it the Colonel. (Sir John drinks.)

20. a. word for word: in the exact, or (in reference to translation) precisely corresponding, words: = VERBATIM A. 1 a, b. Also (with hyphens) *attrib.* = VERBATIM B. 1.

c 1385 CHAUCER *L.G.W.* 1002 *Dido*, I coude folwe word for word Virgile. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* II. v. (1883) 61 He . . . dyde do saye to hym word for worde lyke as the physicien had sayd. 1538 COVERDALE *N.T. Ded.* + ijb, We do not followe thys olde Latyn texte word for word. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* I. iii. 28 He . . . speaks three or four languages word for word without booke. 1656 COWLEY *Pindar. Odes* Pref., If a man should undertake to translate Pindar word for word. 1686 HORNECK *Crucif. Jesus* xxii. 741 Some . . . have been able to rehearse the whole New Testament word for word. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Horace, Art of Poetry* 191 Dwell not on Incidents already known; Nor Word for Word translate with painful Care. 1862 MRS. H. WOOD *Mrs. Hallib.* I. viii, 'I will faithfully repeat it to you', . . . 'Faithfully?—word for word?' 1878 W. T. THORNTON (title) Word for Word from Horace. 1891 *Law Times* XCII. 107/1 The 8th section of the Act of 1874 is word for word the same as the 40th section of the Act of 1833.

c 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* To Rdr. A 4 b, Those Translators . . . that affect Their word-for-word traductions. 1858-9 G. P. MARSH *Engl. Lang.* xvii. (1860) 361 More closely literal, more exactly word-for-word translations.

b. So †word after word (occas. †*after the word*), †*word in word*, †*fro word unto word*. *word by word* (also *attrib.*); also *spec.*, in alphabetization; opp. *letter by letter* (see LETTER *sb.* 1 c).

[a 1000 *Ælfred's Boeth. Proem*, Hwilum he sette word be worde, hwilum andgit of andgit.] c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 17 Ich wille . . . segge ou þe erede word after word. 1379 *Glouc. Cath. MS.* 19 No. I. i. iii. lf. 7 All that I have sayde yn this chapitre Isaac techith word by word. ? a 1400 *Wyclif's Bible* Prol. xv. 57 This wole . . . make the sentence open, where to Englissh it affir the word, wolde be derk and douteful. c 1449 *PECOCK Repr.* II. ii. 144 The . . . late named psalmes . . . ben ouer long to be rehercid word bi word here. c 1475 *Partenay* 3187 Geffray the letters after breke and rayd, Fro wurde unto word. 1493 *Acta Dom. Conc.* (1839) 308/2 þe bill of Complaint . . . of þe quihik þe tenour folowis word in word. a 1548 *HALL Chron., Hen. IV* 2 b, Then turnyng hymself to his accuser, [he] declared worde by worde what he had said. 1575 (title) A Commentarie of M. Doctor Martin Luther upon the Epistle of S. Paul to the Galathians first collected and gathered word by word out of his preaching. 1613 R. C. *Table Alph.* (ed. 3), *Verbatim*, word by word. 1865 RUSKIN *Sesame* i. §25 The kind of word-by-word examination of your author which is rightly called 'reading'. 1927 H. W. FOWLER *S.P.E. Tract No. XXVI* 193 And let me here accept my title word by word: I am a moralizer because I wish morals to be drawn [etc.]. 1938 L. M. HARROD *Librarians' Gloss.* 12 There are two methods [of alphabetization] in use: 1, 'letter by letter'; 2, 'word by word', or 'nothing before something'. In the former method 'Newton' precedes, in the latter it follows, 'New York'. 1951 *British Standard Alphabetical Arrangement* (B.S.I.) 6 Items having the same first word shall be arranged in the alphabetical order of the second word, those with no second word standing first. Similarly those having two words in common are arranged in the alphabetical order of their third word and so on. The whole group thus arranged shall precede any word alphabetically qualified to follow the first word of the group. (This is known as the 'word-by-word' or 'nothing-before-something' principle.) 1979 *Amer. Speech* 1976 LI. 149 This dictionary uses word-by-word rather than letter-by-letter alphabetizing.

***** with qualifying adj.**

21. fair words (FAIR a. 5): pleasant or attractive speech (usually implying deceitfulness or insincerity).

a 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 899 Me nædre . . . to forseape scyhte & to scyldfrec fah wrym purh fægir word. c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* (1888) 11 Ic habbe beswiken min emcristen mid faire wordes. 1538 STARKEY *England* II. ii. (1878) 191 By his dyssymulaton and fare wordys. 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* I. ix. (1867) 18 It hurteth not the tounge to geue fayre wordis. 1639 [see PARSNIP 1 b]. 1676 WYCHERLEY *Plain Dealer* v, Fair words butter no cabbage. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* I. 282 The men began to murmur against Captain Swan . . . but he gave them fair words. 1897 *Pall Mall Mag.* Nov. 340 'Ho, ho! my masters', cried he; 'fair words break no bones'.

22. of few words: not given to much or lengthy speaking; taciturn; laconic.

c 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 175 Off fewe wordis, full wyss and worthy thai war. 1561 HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtier* I. Eijj, Of few wordes, and no bragger. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V.* III. ii. 38 That men of few Words are the best men. 1697 *Land. Gaz.* No. 3260/4 Well set and middle sized, and of few Words. 1759 DILWORTH *Pape* 120 [Gay] had always been a man of but few words. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxiv, Mr. Dubbley, who was a man of few words, nodded assent.

23. good word: a friendly, favourable, or laudatory utterance; something said on behalf of or in commendation of a person or thing. *to give* (one) *a good word*, to speak well of. *to say* or *speak a good word for*, (*spec.*) to recommend to the favour of another. †In *pl.* also (a) used *ellipt.* in deprecation of angry or violent speech (see

GOOD a. 7 b, quot. c 1592); (b) in bad sense = *fair words* (21).

c 1205 LAY. 665 Heo hine gretten mid godene heore worden. [a 1300 *Cursor M.* 20095 þan spak ihesus wordes gode, Als he hang þar on þe rode.] 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* III. i. Niv, [Thou] dyddest speke a good word for me, and dydst tourne away . . . the . . . strokes from me. 1548, a 1632 [see GOOD a. 7 b]. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* II. ix. (1867) 77 Good woordes bryng not euer of good deedes good hope. 1573 BARET *Alv.* W 352 That helpeth one with his good worde at a time, *suffragatorius*. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* I. ii. 217 You gaue good words the other day of a Bay Coursier I rod on. 1622 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Farew. Tower-bottles* A 7, False hearts can put on good wordes and lookes. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 222 Only giving us good words instead of Payment. 1699 BENTLEY *Phal.* Pref. p. xlviii, The Good Word, that Mr. Græuius has been pleas'd publicly to give me. 1731-8 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* i. 71, I know I shall always have your good Word. 1852 C. B. MANSFIELD *Paraguay* etc. (1856) 364 My friend M. Cerruti . . . has diplomatic business here; and with his good words. . . I hope to be in clover. a 1859 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xxxiii. V. 78 It was . . . not in the character of tenant that the Czar was likely to gain the good word of civilised men. 1892 [see GOOD a. 7 b].

24. half a word (HALF a. 1 b): a very short utterance, a slight fragment of speech or conversation.

1700 T. BROWN tr. *Fresny's Amusem.* 19 Taking it for granted, that we two understand one another by half a Word. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. vi, Might I have half a word with you?

25. last word (in special senses). a. The final utterance in a conversation or (esp.) dispute. b. *pl.* The latest utterance of a person before death. *The Seven Last Words*, the seven utterances of Christ on the cross (also simply *The Seven Words*). c. The final or conclusive statement, after which there is no more to be said; hence *transf.* (also *latest word*) the final achievement, the latest thing.

a. 1563 FOXE *A. & M.* 1416/2 My lorde of Lincolne . . . sayde that thou were a frantike fellow, and a man that wyll haue the last worde. 1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 43 Come hee—and shee—scoldes, you that . . . will rather loose your liues, then the last word. 1875 LE FANU *Willing to Die* xxxvi, It was plain . . . she would have one last word more.

b. 1692 H. HARRISON (title) The Last Words of a Dying Penitent. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* VI. xxxii, 'Charge, Chester, charge! On, Stanley, on!' were the last words of Marmion. 1870 tr. *Bellarmino* (title) The Seven Words from the Cross. 1874 E. KING (title) Meditations on the last seven words of our Lord Jesus Christ. 1883 GROVE *Dict. Mus.* III. 476 *Seven Last Words*, The . . . a composition of Haydn's dating about 1785. . . The 'Seven Words' were for long a favourite in Vienna both in church and concert-room.

c. 1881, 1891 [see LAST a. 6]. 1888 *Daily News* 21 Sept. 5/6 The long mantles that are the latest 'word' of Paris fashions. 1901 'L. MALET' *Sir Richard Calmady* v. vi, The clothes . . . supposed . . . to present the last word of English fashion.

26. of many words: given to much or lengthy speaking, loquacious, talkative, verbose; also said of a statement, verbose.

c 1430 *How Good Wife taught Dau.* 43 in Hazl. *E.P.P.* I. 183 Be noght of many wordes. 1563 FOXE *A. & M.* 1438/1 Your diffinition is of many wordes to no purpose. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* I. i. 158, I thanke you, I am not of many words, but I thanke you. 1797 JANE AUSTEN *Sense & Sensib.* xxxiv, She was not a woman of many words. 1854 R. S. SURTEES *Handley Cr.* iii. (1901) I. 18 Augustus Barnington, . . . not being a man of many words, contented himself by stammering something about honour.

****** with verb.**

27. make words. †*a. to make few or many words:* to speak briefly or at great length. Also *to make but one word.* *Obs.*

1530 PALSGR. 843/1 To make fewe wordes, a brief dire. a 1634 CHAPMAN *Alphonsus* III. (1654) 38 Fall to thy business and make few words. 1677 MIEGE *New Dict.*, 'To make many words about a small trifle, barguigner, contester pour une chose de neant. 1752 AINSWORTH *Engl.-Lat. Dict.* s.v., I will make but one word with you. . . te absolvam brevi.

b. with neg.: (Not) to say anything (more) about a matter; (not) to speak or make mention of.

1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 67 To make no words of that which I have oftentimes read, . . . what harme can there be in death. 1579-80 NORTH *Plutarch* (1595) 50 Lycurgus neuer bashed or made worde at the matter. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 259 Those Chronicles of the English Saxons. . . reported only their owne fortunate batailles, and victories but never made words of their foiles & overthrowes. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* VII. xiv, I will be so far from making any Words with you, that I will give you a Shilling more than your Demand. 1773 GOLDSM. *Stoops to Conq.* IV, Bring me your bill, and let's make no more words about it. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* III. IV. 8 Then no more words the Strong Man made, but straight Caught up the elder in his arms.

†*c. To make a proposal of.* *Obs.*

1645 MILTON *Tetrach.* 43 Herod . . . cast his eye . . . upon Herodias. . . and durst make words of marrying her.

d. To speak at (too) great length of. *Sc.*

1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* xxxvi, You make words of nothing. 1825 JAMIESON s.v., To make words, to talk more about any-thing than it deserves.

28. a. take (up) the word: to begin speaking, esp. immediately after or instead of some one else.

Partly after F. *prendre la parole*; partly from Gr. *την παραβολήν υπολαβείν* to take up one's 'parable' (PARABLE *sb.* d). c 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Ayman* IX. 204 The kinge Yon toke the worde & sayd [etc.]. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I.

cccxlili. 219/1 Than the duke of Breayne toke the wordes, & sayd [etc.]. 1557 N. T. (Genev.) *Luke* x. 30 Iesus taking his word said [etc.]. 1697 DRYDEN *Aeneis* xi. 510 Then Drances took the word. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* i. xxii, Young Selby.. reverently took up the word: 'Kind uncle, [etc.].' 1811 *Ora & Juliet* II. 192 Henry.. was going to address Mrs. Brewster; but lady Harriet took the word. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* xxxv, There was a general murmur. 'My Lord Duke', said the Count of Crèvecoeur, taking the word for the rest, 'this must be better thought on.' 1884 HOWELLS *Silas Lapham* x, The Colonel, left alone with his wife..., made haste to take the word. 1887 MORRIS *Odyssey* i. 32 The Father of Gods and of men... took up the word.

b. to take (a person's) word: to accept (his) statement or assertion as true or trustworthy: usually with *for*, esp. in the phrase *take my word for it* used to emphasize an assertion = I can assure you, you may be sure, believe me. †Formerly also, to accept or trust (a person's) promise; to give (him) credit (*for* a debt).

1587 in W. M. Williams *Ann. Founders' Co.* (1867) 69 He givinge his fayth promyse to M^r Alderman... M^r Alderman tooke his worde. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV.* iv. ii. 66, I take your Princely word, for these redresses. 1597 E. S. *Discov. Knts. Poste* A 4, Will you take my word for two pence? Take thy word? He see thee hangd first (qd she) pay me my money. 1628 SHIRLEY *Witty Fair One* i. i. B 4, Saue your credit and let swearing alone, I dare take your word. 1672 WYCHERLEY *Love in a Wood* iv. i. 62 But may I take your word Jonas? 1693 *Humours Town* 38 Take my word for't. 1712 STEELE *Spec. No.* 284 ¶ 4 Take my Word for it, there is nothing in it. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* ii. iii, Nobody will take our words for sixpence. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humphry Cl.* 30 Sept., I took his word and honour that he would make an effort. 1864 WHATELY *Chr. Evid.* iii. 21 How can you know, except by taking the word of the learned for it? 1889 J. K. JEROME *Three Men in a Boat* 186 On a matter of this kind you can take Harris's word.

c. to take (a person) at his word: see 13 c.

IV. 29. *attrib. and Comb.* a. Simple attrib. Of, pertaining or relating to, or consisting of a word or words, as *word-accent*, *-boundary*, *-break*, *-combination*, *-division*, *-element*, *-end*, *-ending*, *-family*, *-form*, *-function*, *-game* (also *fig.*), *-group*, *-history*, *-idea*, *-memory*, *-music*, *-order*, *-pattern*, *-patterning*, *-position*, *-sound*, *-status*, *-stem*, *-store*, *-stress*, *-structure*, *-study*, *-taboo*, *-tone*, *-trap*, *-usage*, *-value*, *-weapon*; (with agent-n. or the like) dealing with or acting by means of words, as *word-artist*, *-conjurer*, *-epicure*, *-juggler*, *-master*, *-merchant*, *-musician*, *-pirate*, *-smith*, (also *word-smithing*), *-warrior*, etc.; (with n. of action or the like, in instrumental sense) done or carried on by means of words, as *word-battle*, *-fence* (FENCE sb. 2b), *-jugglery*, *-war*, *-wound*, *-wrangle*, etc.; also *word-based*, *-like* adjs. b. Instrumental, as *word-beat*, *-drunk*, *-pity* vbs.; *word-charged*, *-clad*, *†-strooken*, *-wounded* adjs. c. Objective, as *word-bearer*, *-breaker*, *†-bridger* (BRIDGE v.²), *-coiner*, *-hunter*, *-spinner*, etc.; *word-breaking*, *-building*, *-coining*, *-compelling*, *-finding*, *-juggling*, *-keeping*, *-making*, see also sense d below, *-setting*, (SET v. 73), *-spinning*, *-splitting*, *-twisting*, etc. sbs. and adjs.; also with pl., *†words-speaking*; *word-choice*, *-coinage*, *-composition*, *-creation*, *-formation*, etc.; also *word-formational*, *-formative* adjs. d. Special comb.: word association *Psychol.*, a psycho-diagnostic technique based on analysis of a person's reactions to the presentation of stimulus words, esp. with regard to the (subconscious) contents and type of the immediate associations formed, reaction time, etc.; more generally, the associations connected with certain words; freq. *attrib.*; *word-base* *Philol.*, the simple word from which its derivatives and inflected forms arise; a root morpheme, etc.; *†word-bate* [BATE sb.¹], contention about words; *word-blind* a. *Path.*, affected with *word-blindness*, i.e. inability to understand written or printed words when seen, owing to disease of the visual *word-centre*; *word-bound* a., (a) restrained in speech, unable to use words freely or fluently; (b) bound by one's word or promise; *†word-braving*, boasting; *word-catcher*, (a) one who catches or cavils at words, a petty or carping critic; (b) one who catches and collects words: applied contemptuously to a lexicographer (quot. 1835); *word-catching*, catching at words, petty criticism; *word-category* *Linguistics* = *word-class*; *word-centre* *Anat.*, each of certain centres (CENTRE sb. 7a) in the brain which govern the perception and use of words (spoken or written); *word-class* *Linguistics* [cf. G. *Wortklasse*], a category of words of similar form or function; esp. applied to parts of speech; *word-count*, a statistical study of *word frequency* (see below); *word-craft*, the art of using words, oratorical or literary skill; *word-deaf* a. *Path.*, affected with

word-deafness, i.e. inability to understand words when heard, owing to disease of the auditory *word-centre*; *†word-dearthing* a., producing dearth of words, involving a great expenditure of words; *word-field* *Linguistics*, a group of lexical items seen as associated in meaning because occurring in similar contexts; *word-final* a., occurring at the end of a word; also as *sb.*, a letter or sound occurring in this position; hence *word-finally* *adv.*; cf. *word-initial* *adj.* below; *†word-flowing* a., fluent in speech; *word frequency*, the relative frequency with which a word is used in a given text or corpus; *word geography*, the study of the regional distribution of word and phrases, or a book treating of this; hence *word-geographical* a.; *word-hoard*, literal rendering of OE. *wordhord* treasure of speech; recently in general use, the words used by a person or group of people, vocabulary; also, a source or store of words; *word-index*, a list of the words used by a given author or in a given work (or corpus) with reference to the passages in which they occur, but without quotations (cf. *CONCORDANCE sb.* (6b)); *word-initial* a., occurring at the beginning of a word; also as *sb.*, a letter or sound occurring in this position; hence *word-initially* *adv.*; *word-internally* *adv.*, = *word-medially* below; *word-ladder*, a puzzle in which a word has to be converted into another of equal length by being taken through a series of word-changes, each word differing by one letter from the last; also called *doublets*; *word length* *Computers*, the number of bits, digits, etc., in a word (sense 12g above); *word-magic* *Anthropol.*, magic thought to be exerted by the knowledge or use of the proper name or term for something, or the supposed magical property residing in such a name; also *transf.*; *word-making* and *word-taking*, a game played with lettered cards, app. a forerunner of the modern *Lexicon* or *Scrabble*; *word mark*, (a) a real or invented word used as a trade mark; (b) *Computers*, a bit that takes a different value according as the character containing it does or does not begin (or end) a word; a character containing such a bit; *word-medial* a., occurring in the middle of a word; hence *word-medially* *adv.*; *word method* *Educ.*, a method of teaching pupils to read in which they are taught to recognize words as complete units before learning the letters or syllables which compose them; the 'look-and-say' method (see LOOK v. 47); *word-paint* v. *trans.*, to 'paint' in words, describe vividly, make a *word-picture* of; so *word-painter*, *word-painting* sb. and a.; *word-painted* a., (a) decorated or adorned with words; (b) 'painted' or described vividly in words; *word-pair*, a pair of words resembling each other in sound or form; *word-palatogram* (see quot. 1948); *word-perfect* a., knowing perfectly every word of one's lesson, part, etc.; *word-picture*, a vivid description in words, presenting the object to the mind like a picture; *word-play* [cf. G. *Wortspiel*], a play of or upon words (see PLAY sb. 7b); *word problem* *Math.*, the problem of determining whether two different products are equal, or two sequences of operations are equivalent; *word processing* [cf. G. *Textverarbeitung* text processing], the storing and organizing of texts by electronic means, *spec.* by a word processor; hence (as a back-formation) *word-process* v. *trans.* to edit, produce, etc., using a word processor; *word-processed* ppl. a.; *word processor*, a keyboard device incorporating a computer programmed to store, amend, and format text that is keyed in, a printer to print it automatically, and often also a screen to display it; *word recognition* *Educ.*, the process or faculty of perceiving words in reading and identifying them with the ideas they represent; *word-salad*, a type of speech indicative of advanced schizophrenia in which random words and phrases are mixed together unintelligibly; also *fig.*; *word-shot* *nonce-wd.* [after *earshot*], the distance within which one person can speak to another; *word-sign*, something used to represent a word; *spec.* a graphic character representing a complete word; esp., in Egyptian hieroglyphics, etc. = LOGOGRAM 2b; *word-spite*, spite or ill-will expressed in words (in quot. *attrib.*); *word square*, a set of words of the same number of letters to be arranged in a square so as to read the same horizontally or vertically; a puzzle in

which such a set of words has to be guessed (Webster Suppl. 1880); *word-stock*, the sum of words available to a language, dialect, etc.; vocabulary; also *fig.*; *word-strife*, a rendering of LOGOMACHY; *word-symbol*, a word used as a sign or symbol; *spec.* = LOGOGRAM 2b; *word time* *Computers*, the time between the reading of the first bits of successive words; *word-type*, (a) a word used to symbolize or represent an idea; (b) *Philos.* (see quot. 1936); (c) a word forming a distinct item in a vocabulary; *word-vision*: see quot., and cf. *word-blindness*; *word-watch* v. *intr.*, to observe linguistic usage, esp. with regard to changes and innovations; also *word-watcher*; *word-watching* vbl. sb.; *†word-wood* a. [WOOD a.], 'mad', wild, or unrestrained in speech; *word-wrap* [cf. WRAP-AROUND sb. 3] (see quot. 1982); so *word-wrapping* vbl. sb.; *word-writing*, Bloomfield's term for ideographic writing. See also WORD-BOOK, etc.

1903 WINBOLT *Lat. Ilexam. Verse* 75 Discrepancy... between *word-accent and metrical stress. 1933 DYLAN THOMAS *Let. Sept.* (1966) 20 Mr. Neuburg has payed you a... compliment. 'One of the most exquisite *word-artists of our day.' 1945 C. BAX *Vintage Verse* III. 95 This faultless word-artist [sc. Milton]... was buried in St. Giles's, Cripplegate. 1910 *Rev. Neurol. & Psychiatry* VIII. 641 (title) The practical value of the *word-association method in the treatment of the psycho-neuroses. 1918 M. D. EDER *Jung's Stud. in Word-Association* p. v, We owe to Dr. Jung... the application of the association method to unconscious mental processes... These studies in word association have now acquired a permanent place in the historical development of this [sc. psychoanalytical] theory. 1946 A. CHRISTIE *Hollow* xxvi. 221 'What is there about that that interests you so, M. Poirot?' 'Association—a point of the psychology.' 'Word association? Horse and cart. Rocking horse?' 1952 C. P. 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class, e.g. voices, aspects, cases. 1964 J. VACHEK in D. Abercrombie et al. *Daniel Jones* 195 The comparative suffix *-er* does not imply the change of the word-category of the basic word, while the agentive *-er* necessarily does so. 1898 H. C. BASTIAN *Aphasia* etc. 14 It is permissible to speak of these portions as auditory and visual 'word centres' respectively. 1941 E. BLUNDEN *Thomas Hardy* xi. 236 An innovation of *word-choice. 1879 SPURGEON *Serm.* XXV. 328 He sought truth, not controversy and *word-chopping. 1812 W. TENNANT *Anster F.* vi. lxi. Sweet utterance of *word-clad breath. 1914 L. BLOOMFIELD *Introd. Study Lang.* iv. 108 (title) *Word-classes. *Ibid.* iv. 109 Other word classes which are not expressed by formal similarity. 1924 O. JESPERSEN *Philos. Gram.* iv. 61 We have a great many words which can belong to one word-class only: *admiration, society, life* can only be substantives [etc.]. 1953 C. E. 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COLVIN *Learning Process* (1931) vii. 108 The *word-types of images, as can be readily seen, are symbolic; they stand for concrete realities, which, however, generally are not revived in connection with the symbol. 1936 *Jrnl. Philos.* 17 Dec. 702 Let us call a 'word-type' a class or kind of defining character of a class of tokens which are similar to one another in certain essential aspects. 1961 *Brno Studies* III. 33 Mathesius laid special stress on the part played in English complex condensation cases by three types of nominal forms derived from verbal bases... The word-types will be referred to as... condensers. 1976 *Biometrika* LXIII. 435 How many word types did Shakespeare actually know? 1924 R. M. OGDEN tr. K. Koffka's *Growth of Mind* v. 270 A difference in the serial order of the correct *word-usage must then depend... upon a difference in the colour-phenomenon itself. 1971 *Jrnl. Gen. Psychol.* Apr. 188 Creativity and originality were not measured by any of the three types of word-usage. 1932 FAUCETT & MAKI (title) *Study of English *word-values*. *Ibid.* 8 This book will... be useful to those interested... in fixing a graded vocabulary scale for supplementary readers, in helping teachers and students to develop a sense of word-values [etc.]. 1938 I. GOLDBERG *Wonder of Words* xx. 438 For & has the phonetic value of et, but it has the word-value of and. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 313 Visual ideation, more particularly in reference to the association of written symbols with their meaning—that is, *word-vision—is specially impaired by lesion of the left angular gyrus. 1647 TRAPP *Comm. Jas.* ii. 14 (1656) 906 Livy telleth us of the Athenians, that they waged *Word-war against Philip. 1862 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* lxvii. VII. 460 The word-war of

the dogmatists. 1856 R. A. VAUGHAN *Mystics* (1860) I. 123 He regarded with dislike the idle *word-warfare of scholastic ingenuity. 1600 NASHE *Summers Last Will* 1447 Those *word-warriors... Had their heads filed with cooing fantasies. 1866 LIDDON *Bampton Lect.* i. (1867) 17 Professional word-warriors of the fourth and fifth centuries. 1968 *Listener* 25 Apr. 525/1 What happens if in turn we *word-watch on Mr. Davie? Could it be that to use the word 'histrionic' ten times in one short article is itself somewhat histrionic? 1973 *N.Y. Times* 7 May 39/1 *Word watchers introduce a note of good sense... to the action and passion of their times. 1980 *Amer. Speech* LV. 77, -gate has undergone some developments that should interest word-watchers. 1981 *Verbatim* VII. III. 20/2 Collectors are needed to find quotations for a new dictionary of American slang... The chief motivation for volunteering should be interest in specialized *word-watching. a 1555 RIDLEY *Cert. Godly Confer.* (1556) 34 b, Truste not... to these *worde weapons, for the kingdom of godde is not in wordes, but in power. 1849 LYTTON *Caxtons* viii. iii. (1874) 199 Trevanion was a terrible *word-weigher. a 1250 *Prov. Alfred* 281 in O.E. *Misc.* 118 Wymmon is *word-wop [v.r. word-wod]. 1902 F. E. HULME *Proverb-Lore* I 14 Sword-wounds may be healed, *word-wounds are beyond healing. 1810 CRABBE *Borough* iv. 523 When the preacher... Dropp'd the new word, we heard the cry Of the *word-wounded. 1643 HERLE *Answ. Ferne* 11 Indisposed to this kind of *word wrangle. 1914 D. CRAWFORD *Thirsting After God* III. i. 152 Mere windy *word-wrangling. 1977 *IEEE Trans. Professional Communication* June 14/2 One very useful feature... is called *word wrap. 1982 A. J. MEADOWS et al. *Dict. New Information Technol.* 103/1 Word-wrap, a word processing term. It refers to the way in which a partially typed word is moved to a new line if its length proves too much to fit into the existing line. 1983 *Austral. Personal Computer* Sept. 124/2 Automatic wordwrap operates at the end of a screen line (40 chars). 1984 *Computing Today* May 93 (heading) *Word-wrapping. 1985 *Listener* 25 Apr. 38/1 Word-wrapping, that puts in the ends of lines automatically on reaching the right-hand side of the screen, was another counter-creative feature. 1571 GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* xii. 3 This dubblehartednesse... maketh men dubble-tunged & *wordwresters. 1933 L. BLOOMFIELD *Language* xvii. 285 A better name [for ideographic writing]... would be *word-writing or logographic writing. 1942 — in C. Hockett *Bloomfield Anthol.* (1970) 385 In word writing each word is represented by a conventional sign... Chinese writing is the most perfect system of this kind.

word (wɜ:d), *v.* [f. WORD *sb.*; cf. OHG. *wortōn* in *spilewortōn* to jest, MHG. *worten* to converse, discourse, ON. *orða* to talk, Goth. *-waurdjan* to speak.]

1. *a. intr.* To utter words; to speak, talk, *Obs.* or *arch.*

c 1205 LAY. 18052 þe king wordede þus. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* xiv. 246 Whi 3e worden to me þus was for ich aresonede reson. ? a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3393 And now wate thou my woo, worde as the lykes. c 1400 *Beryn* 326/1 Al be that Geoffrey wordit sotilly, The Steward & þe burgeysis held it for foly, Al that evir he seyde. 1690 C. NESSE O. & N. *Test.* I. 131 The judge... will not ask men... how they have worded, but how they have walked. 1819 KEATS *Hyperion* II. 251 Thus wording timidly among the fierce. 1850 [see WORDING *vbl. sb.* 1].

b. *to word it:* to talk, esp. excessively or violently; to have (high) words *with*. *Obs.* or *dial.*

1612 WEBSTER *White Devil* II. i. C 3 b, My Lords, you shall not word it any further Without a milder limit. 1613 DAY *Dyall* vi. (1614) 102, I will not wording it with our Adversaries. 1643 TRAPP *Comm. Gen.* xi. 7 Thus God words it with them. 1647 — *Comm. Jas.* iii. 13 (1656) 909 [Who is a Wise man.] Not he that words it most; for multiloquio stultiloquium. 1692 L'ESTRANGE *Fables* ccccxiii. 399 He that... contemns a Shrew to the Degree of not Descending to Word it with her. a 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (1744) X. 148 Men may snarl, and word it high against providence. a 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Word*, to dispute; to wrangle. Ex. 'They worded it a long while'.

2. *trans.* To utter in words, say, speak (occas. as distinct from singing); †also, to speak of, mention. *Obs.* or *arch.*

13.. E.E. *Allit. P. C.* 421 When I hade worded quatsoeuer I cowpe, To manace alle pise mody men. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. Cl.* iv. xiii. 9 Say, that the last I spoke was Anthony, And word it (prythee) pitteously. 1611 — *Cymb.* iv. ii. 240, I cannot sing: Ile weepe, and word it with thee. 1663 WATERHOUSE *Fortescut Illustratus* 424 This way of Government being... changed... it was made capitall (not only to endeavour, but even to word the restitution thereof). 1849 [see WORDING *vbl. sb.* 1].

† 3. *a.* To ply or urge with words. *Obs. rare.* 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* v. ii. 191 He words me Gyrls, he words me, That I should not be Noble to my selfe.

† b. To bring by the use of words (into or out of a specified condition or course of action). *Obs.*

c 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) II. xix. 32 To have to doe with perverse irrational half-witted men, and to be worded to death with nonsense. 1692 SOUTH *Serm.* I. Ep. Ded. A 3 b, Men are not to be worded into new Tempers, or Constitutions. a 1716 *Ibid.*, 1 Peter ii. 23 (1744) VIII. 187 Not... to word away our souls, or declaim ourselves into perdition.

4. *a.* To express in or put into words; to compose, draw up. *Obs. exc.* as in b.

1613 (title) *Songs of Mourning*... Worded by Tho. Campion. And set forth to bee sung with one voyce to the Lute, or Violl: by John Coprario. 1623 LISLE *Ælfric on O. & N. Test.* To Rdr. 32 It would giue vs occasion either in wording or sentensing the principall parts thereof to looke back a little into this outworne dialect. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 210 Before the first Logician ever worded a Proposition. 1658-9 BURTON's *Diary* (1828) IV. 225, I would have the question worded, before you rise, lest to-morrow be spent in it. a 1700 KEN *Hymnotheo* Poet. Wks. 1721 III. 282 Love dictated, Love worded ev'ry Line. 1806 W. TAYLOR in *Ann. Rev.* IV. 604 Spreading languages... have

flourished and have faded, without wording one eminent narrative poem. **1831** GEN. P. THOMPSON *Exerc.* (1842) 1. 456 This statement of limits is found worded over again in the Protocol.

b. esp., and now only, with reference to the kind of language or form of words used; hence freq. with advb. qualification.

1619 MIDDLETON *Love & Antiq.* Wks. (Bullen) VII. 315 Triumphs, wherein Art hath been but weakly imitated and most beggarly worded. **1671** BAXTER *Holiness* lxiv. 18 They have not the skil to word and methodize their notions rightly. **1701** J. NORRIS *Ideal World* i. ii. 126 'Tis in reality one and the same question, only differently worded. **1713** POPE *Let. to Addison* 14 Dec., This little instant of our life, which (as Shakespear finely words it) is rounded with a sleep. **1836** THIRLWALL *Greece* xx. III. 153 Instructions angrily worded. **1883** MISS BROUGHTON *Belinda* i. viii. It is coarsely worded, I admit, . . . but, believe me, the advice is sound. **1908** R. BAGOT *A. Cuthbert* xxii. 267 She kept repeating to herself various ways of wording her message; for it was . . . no easy one to construct.

c. *nonce-uses*. To represent as in words; to pad out with (unnecessary) words.

1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* i. iv. 16 This matter of marrying his Kings Daughter . . . words him (I doubt not) a great deale from the matter. **1646** T. COLEMAN *Brotherly Exam. Re-ex.* Postscript 22 Pamphlets . . . wherein six pages . . . are worded out to thirty six.

d. *intr.* for *pass.* To admit translation into words. *poet.* —¹ (after WEAR *v.* ¹ 15).

1935 L. MACNEICE *Poems* 26 My dream will word well — But will not wear well.

5. To speak to, accost; to tell, pass word to. Also to rebuke or tell off. *Austral. slang.*

1906 E. DYSON *Fact'ry 'Ands* i. 2 I'll word 'em [girls] when they pass again. **1916** C. J. DENNIS *Songs Sentimental Bloke* 50 I met 'im on the quite, An' worded 'im about a small affair. **1936** N. MARSH *Death in Ecstasy* vi. 79 He looks more like a regular dick. An' yet if I worded him maybe he'd talk back like a bud's guide to society stuff. **1945** BAKER *Austral. Lang.* vi. 121 He . . . words him, rebukes him. **1967** K. S. PRITCHARD *Subtle Flame* 234 Ted worded a mate of his on the *Western Star*.

word, obs. (erron.) form of WEIRD *sb.*

14.. *Guy Warw.* (Camb.) 1155, 7416.

word: see ORD, WORLD, WORTH *v.*

wordage ('wɜːdɪdʒ). [f. WORD *sb.* + -AGE.] Words collectively; = VERBIAGE *1*. In recent use also, an amount of words written or spoken; the number of words in a document.

1829 *Westm. Rev.* Apr. 417 The plates are . . . sufficient without all the wordage. **1858** ARNOT *Laws from Heaven Ser.* ii. 22 [The tongue] may revolve with the rapidity . . . of . . . machinery, throwing off . . . a continuous web of wordage. **1926** *Glasgow Herald* 19 May 7/2 Managers of the great news agencies . . . have never placed upon the eables so large a wordage concerning any British domestic event. **1958** *Times* 26 Aug. 5/7 Telegrams will carry a fixed charge irrespective of wordage. **1966** *Punch* 21 Sept. 455/2 Obviously he took his correspondence as seriously as he took his Journals and his daily wordage of publishable prose. **1975** G. HOWELL *In Vogue* 64/1 [Tallulah Bankhead] spoke seventy thousand words a day—the wordage of *War and Peace* over a weekend. **1985** *Univ. Cape Town Studies in English* Feb. 61 Scientists and scholars who have published in abundance are actively solicited by editors, bookmen, and publishers for still more wordage to be put into print.

word-book ('wɜːdbʊk). [f. WORD *sb.* + BOOK *sb.*; in sense 1 cf. G. *wörterbuch* (f. gen. pl. of *wort* word + *buch* book), Du. *†woordboek*, *woordenboek*, Icel. *orðabók*, Sw. *ordbok*, Da. *ordbog*.]

1. A book containing a list of words (as of the vocabulary of a language, a book, an art, or science) arranged in alphabetical or other systematic order.

The term is often used where it is desired to avoid the implication of completeness or elaboration of treatment characteristic of a dictionary or lexicon.

1598 FLORIO *Ital. Dict.* To Rdr. b.1, If no other bookes can be so well perfected, but still some thing may be added, how much lesse a Word-booke? **1730** BAILEY (fol.), *Vocabulary*, a Word-Book, a little Dictionary containing a Collection of Words. **1791** BOSWELL *Johnson* an. 1755 (1904) I. 197 Johnson's Dictionary . . . a work of much greater mental labour than mere Lexicons, or Word-books, as the Dutch call them. **1867** SMYTH (*title*) The Sailor's Word-book: an Alphabetical Digest of Nautical Terms. **1879** MISS JACKSON (*title*) Shropshire Word-Book: a Glossary of Archaic and Provincial Words, etc. used in the County. **1882** (*title*) A Word-Book for Students of English History.

2. The 'book of the words' or libretto of a musical composition.

1878 J. MARSHALL in *Grove Dict. Mus.* I. 353 Besides translating many foreign libretti, [H. F. Chorley] wrote the original word-books of one version of the 'Amber Witch' (Wallace), . . . of the 'May Queen' (Bennett), [etc.]. **1891** *Guardian* 23 Sept. 1531 Mr. Culwick's interesting summary of the word-book and its annotations.

worde: see ORD, WORD, WORLD, WORTH *v.*

worded ('wɜːdɪd), *ppl. a.* [f. WORD *sb.* or *v.* + -ED.]

1. Formed into words; expressed in or put into words. *rare.*

1606 CHAPMAN *Gentl. Usher* iv. i. 69 Away with this vnedicinal balme Of worded breath. **1869** RUSKIN *Q. of Air* i. §42 Capable of interpretation only by the majesty of ordered, beautiful, and worded sound. **1880** 'MARK TWAIN' *Tramp Abr.* 1. 516 No worded description of a moving

spectacle is a hundredth part as moving as the same spectacle seen with one's own eyes.

b. Qualified by an adv.: Expressed in a particular kind of language or form or words; phrased in such-and-such a manner.

1848 W. K. KELLY tr. *L. Blanc's Hist.* Ten Y. II. 210 A cautiously worded, but firm answer. **1871** MISS BRAOON *Lovels* i. Every occasion brought . . . the same coldly worded letter. **1899** MACKAIL *W. Morris* II. 270 His latest and most carefully-worded confession of faith.

2. Full of words: **a.** involving the use of many words, wordy; **b.** having a good stock of words at command. *nonce-uses.*

1638 WILKINS *New World* vi. 81 He was much opposed by Aristotle in some worded disputations, but never confuted by any solid reason. **1734** J. RICHARDSON *Milton's P.L.* p. lxxxiii, A Man of Learning indeed, and a Great Etymologist, but a Meer Scholar . . . Morus was also a Worded Man; and he was a Celebrated Preacher.

wordel, wordely, obs. ff. WORLD, WORLDLY.

worder ('wɜːdɜ(r)). *rare.* [f. WORD *v.* + -ER¹.]

†a. One who uses (many) words; a chatterer, prater. *Obs.* **b.** One who puts something into words; one who frames the words or terms of a subject.

1606 J. CARPENTER *Solomon's Solace* i. 3 They were neither worders, or giuen to high laughter. **1654** WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 206 Each good Action speaking more effectually . . . Conviction to Spectators, than any (though the subtlest worder) could ever arrive to. *Ibid.* 359 It were to be wished, we cold not say as much of our high worders, of their Covetousnesse. **1683** E. HOOKER *Pref. Pordage's Mystic Div.* 36 Other worders as there are too mani, not to conceal som of our impertinently idl Pulpit-praters [etc.]. **1887** KNOLLYS *Sk. Life Japan* 267 The . . . details belong to the worders of science.

wordeyn, obs. form of ORDAIN.

wordie, var. WORDY *sb.* *Sc.*; obs. f. WORDY *a.*, WORTHY.

wordily ('wɜːdɪli), *adv.* [f. WORDY *a.* + -LY².] In a wordy manner or style; with excess or abundance of words; verbosely.

1522 *World & Child* 277 The kynge of Wrathe full wordely . . . wyll me mayntayne. **1609** J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Hum. Heav.* on *Earth* II. lxviii, Some wordy-men . . . raught at Rethorikes Rules to rule thereby: . . . they rul'd wordily. **1702** CALAMY *Life R. Baxter* x. 564 This Article of the Controversie hath been manag'd very Wordily. **1873** SYMONDS *Grk. Poets* i. 32 Sophists and rhetoricians begin to flourish and everything that can be wordily elaborated, is grist for their mill. **1891** SMILES *Mem. J. Murray* I. ix. 198 Southey wrote so smoothly, so easily, so wordily.

wordine, obs. *Sc.* pa. pple. of WORTH *v.*

wordiness ('wɜːdɪnɪs). [f. as prec. + -NESS.]

The quality of being wordy; excess or multiplicity of words; verbosity.

1727 BAILEY (vol. II), *Wordiness*, . . . Talkativeness, &c. **1809** W. IRVING *Knickerb.* VII. xiii. 112 The empty wordiness of his factious subjects—their interperate harangues. **1862** J. ANGUS *Handbk. Engl. Tongue* 373 A copious phraseology is one cure of wordiness, and is essential to effective writing.

wording ('wɜːdɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. WORD *v.* (or *sb.*) + -ING¹.]

1. Speaking, talking, utterance. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1604 DEKKER *Honest Wh.* Wks. 1873 II. 62 The Senate will leave wording presently. **1625** MASSINGER *New Way* III. ii, *Marvall*. Pray you a word Sir. *Greed*. No wording now. **1819** KEATS *Otho* II. i, Fine wording, Duke! but words could never yet Forestall the fates. **1849** SEARS *Regenerations* III. i. (1859) 126 The wording and rewording of liturgies is not prayer. **1850** BUSHNELL *God in Christ* 159 They must have their reality to me in what they express when taken as the wording forth of God.

attrib. **1860** SWINBURNE *Queen-Mother* i. ii, All this wording-time I am not perfect where this wrong began.

†b. A saying, statement. *Obs. rare.*

1606 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* xiv. lxxxiii. 348 Old Wordings . . . prouing trew.

†2. Angry or abusive speech; 'having words' (see WORD *sb.* 5). *Obs.*

1564 *Child-Marriages* 129 In wordinge betwixe the mother of the said Isabell & the said Rafe, the said Rafe said to her, that 'her daughter Isabell was a hoore and a thief'. **1594** O. B. *Quest. Profit. Concern*. 13 She termeth . . . his outfacing & wording at me, audacitie and manly boldnesse. **1614** PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* VIII. viii. (ed. 2) 780 They are great gamsters, their play like that of Dice: in which they carrie themselves very patiently without swearing or wording.

3. The action of putting or condition of being put into words; composition or expression in language (spoken or written), esp. in reference to the words used; mode of speech, form of words, phrasing.

1649 MILTON *Eikon*. iv. 36 Tis beleev'd this wording was above his known stile and Orthographie. **1654** WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 364 If constancy may be tainted with this selfishnesse (to use our new Wordings of old and general Actings). **1657** HEYLIN *Ecclesia Vind.* Pref. c 1 b, The Directory which prescribes . . . the sense and scope . . . of the Prayers and other parts of publick Worship, doth in effect leave nothing to the Ministers spirit but the wording of it. **1687** LO. SUNOERLANO in *Magd. Coll.* (O.H.S.) 169 His Majesty leaves the wording of it to you. **1718** BREVAL *Play is the Plot* II. i. 18 Take me Pen, Ink, and Paper, and write him a Letter of my Wording. **1765** BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. Introd. 7 Some forms necessary in the wording of last wills

and testaments. *Ibid.* vi. 228 This is the form of the coronation oath, as it is now prescribed . . . but the wording of it was changed at the revolution, because . . . the oath itself had been framed in doubtful words and expressions. **1818** KEATS *Endym.* IV. 962 Things for which no wording can be found. **1837** DICKENS *Pickw.* xxxiv, I entreat the attention of the jury to the wording of this document. **1839** HALLAM *Lit. Eur.* IV. vii. §43 His plain and manly sentences often give us pleasure by the wording alone. **1865** M. ARNOLO *Ess. Crit.* x. (1875) 411 The clear thought which is . . . at the bottom of that troubled wording. **1882** PROCTOR *Fam. Science Studies* 43, I have altered the wording . . . in such a way as to avoid the use of technical expressions. **1913** *Spectator* 26 July 148/1 The meaning . . . is plain, though the wording is, to say the least, . . . involved.

4. A set of written words, an inscription. *rare.*

1908 *Times* 28 Jan. 4/6 A box . . . with . . . the well-known Havana indications, including the lock-label with the Spanish wording.

So **†wording ppl. a.** (a) consisting in (mere) words, verbal; (b) using many or empty words, wordy; (c) characterized by angry words, contentious, quarrelsome.

1601 CORNWALLIS *Ess.* II. xxx. (1631) 48 Patrone of the vulgar whose wording favour . . . hath such an operation with mans frailtie. **1615** J. STEPHENS *Satyr.* *Ess.* 315 It is probable she was begotten by some . . . wording Poet, for she consists of as many fearful sounds without science. **1682** BUNYAN *Holy War* To Rdr. (1684) A 3 b, In Parleys, or in wording Jars.

†wordish, a. *Obs.* [f. WORD *sb.* + -ISH¹.]

1. Consisting in or concerned with words, esp. mere words (as opposed to realities); verbal: cf. WORDY *a.* 3.

1586 SIONEY *Apol. Poetry* (Arb.) 33 A perfect picture I say, for hee yeeldeth to the powers of the minde, an image of that whereof the Philosopher bestoweth but a wordish description. *Ibid.* 69 Both [Poetry and Oratory] haue such an affinity in this wordish consideration. **1657** J. SERGEANT *Schism Dispac'h* 36 Blundering the plainest truths with multitudes of wordish evasions. **1675** CROWNE *Calisto* v. 73 All wordish praise she is so much above That eloquence would prophanation prove. **1697** J. SERGEANT *Solid Philos.* 454 To make the Doctrine of Words to be a . . . part of Philosophy, is to make Philosophy Wordish.

2. Using, or containing, an excess of words; verbose: = WORDY *a.* 1.

1604 SCOLOKER *Daiphantus* Arg't., More desirous to be thought honest, then so to be wordish beyond discretion. **1657** R. LOVEOAY *Lett.* (1663) 19, I have made my story too wordish; . . . I should have pared much away.

Hence **†wordishly adv.**, **†wordishness.**

1657 J. SERGEANT *Schism Dispac'h* 26 Loquacity, that is, voluntary talking wordishly without a syllable of sense. *Ibid.* 390 The empte wordishnes in his 'Reply'. **1697** — *Solid Philos.* 286 All the Wordishness, and empty Disputes among Trivial Philosophers.

wordle, obs. f. WORLD; var. WORTLE.

wordless ('wɜːdlɪs), *a.* [f. WORD *sb.* + -LESS.]

1. Inexpressible in words; unspeakable, unutterable. *Obs.* or merged in 2.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 113 Wordles song is pe herte michele blisse, pe beo haueð of heuenliche ðinge, and ne mai peroffe be stille ne mid worde hem atellen. **1647** TRAPP *Comm.* 1 *Cor.* xv. 51 (1656) 701 This, likely was one of those wordless words [ἀρρητα ῥήματα: 1611 unspeakable words] that Paul heard in his rapture, 2 *Cor.* 12. 4. **1683** E. HOOKER *Pref. Pordage's Mystic Div.* 66 Hee was caught up into the third Heaven . . . where Hee heard wordless Words (so the Græc most emphatically) Words unutterabl, unexpressibl.

2. Not expressed in words; unsoken, unuttered.

a 1500 *Chaucer's Dreame* 889 So thought I . . . That wordlesse answere in no toun Was tane for obligacioun. **1633** P. FLETCHER *Elisa* II. iv, So sat she joylesse down in wordlesse grief complaining. **1820** BYRON *Juan* III. lviii, The stern, . . . deep, and wordless ire Of a strong human heart. **1870** MORRIS *Earthly Par.* II. III. 189 Some wordless prayer of agony. **1871** TYLOR *Prim. Cult.* I. viii. 270 The deaf-and-dumb . . . work out . . . such analogies . . . in their wordless thought. **1884** 'EONA LYALL' *We Two* xix, Love of the deepest sort is wordless.

3. Not uttering a word; not speaking, silent, speechless. Also *transf.* of action or feeling (cf. 2).

a 1500 *Chaucer's Dreame* 516 Wordlesse he was, and semed sicke. **1593** SHAKS. *Lucr.* 112 Her ioie with heaued-vp hand she doth expresse, And wordlesse so greetes heauen for his successe. **1852** BAILEY *Festus* (ed. 5) 522 She, wordless, went, But looked her thanks. **1881** CHRISTINA ROSSETTI *Later Life* III. Poems (1904) 298 Our wordless tearless numbness of distress. **1890** *Brit. Med. Jnl.* 8 Feb. 300/2 The patient was quite speechless, or, at least, wordless. **1904** G. WATSON *Sunshine & Sentim.* 188, I was unable to follow her, and stood dumfounded and wordless.

b. Lacking the faculty or power of speech.

1648 J. QUARLES *Fons Lachrym.* 52 The wordless tongues of thirsty children cleave To their unliquid mouths. **1846** *Chambers's Jnl.* 16 May 312 A Word for the Wordless.

c. Lacking words for expression.

1881 POYNTER *Among the Hills* I. 282 Her mind was too uncultivated, too wordless. **1896** HOWELLS *Impressions & Exp.* 104 The innocence of wordless infancy.

4. Not accompanied by words; (of a play) acted without words.

1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. ii. II. *Babylon* 333 The winged quiers, . . . Their sound want sense; their notes are word-lesse still. **1855** BAILEY *Mystic* 137 No wordless murmurs of expectant joy. **1882** J. HAWTHORNE *Fort. Fool* xxx, The little wordless song which his . . . mother had sung. **1897** *Westm. Gaz.* 9 Jan. 3/2 The history of wordless plays on the modern London stage. **1922** G. K. CHESTERTON *Man*

who knew 258 The man . . . cast it down with a wordless sound more shocking than a curse.

Hence **'wordlessly adv., 'wordlessness.**

1852 BAILEY *Festus* (ed. 5) 250 The eagle they petitioned to preside, . . . The bird of curved beak and radiant eye Bowed wordlessly, and swept down from the sky. 1891 M. MURIEL DOWIE *Girl in Karp.* xiii. 178 We were left, . . . wordlessly grateful. 1895 *Westm. Gaz.* 8 June 3/1 The momentary wordlessness that is certain to fall occasionally to the lot of everyone.

wordli(e, -lich(e, wordling, obs. ff. WORLDLY, WORLDLING.

wordlore ('wɜːdlɔː(r)). [f. WORD *sb.* + LORE *sb.*¹ Cf. G. *wortlehre*.] a. The study of words and their history; the words collectively of a language and their history. b. (= G. *wortlehre*.) The doctrine of the forms and formation of words; morphology. Hence **'wordlorist.**

1861 *Trans. Philol. Soc.* 1860-1 154 A perfect Dictionary must not only be a complete Repertory, but also an available Directory within the whole province of word-lore (*wortlehre* as distinguished from *satz-lehre*). 1870 *Dublin Univ. Mag.* Mar. 282 (art.) Word-lore. 1871 KENNEDY *Public Sch. Lat. Gram.* 5 Etymology comprises:—I. Phonology or Soundlore, the doctrine of Sounds. II. Morphology or Wordlore, the doctrine of Words. 1904 A. S. PALMER (*title*) The Folk and their Word-Lore: an Essay on Popular Etymologies. 1929 *N. & Q.* 15 June 419/2 No word-lorist who studies place-names.

'wordly, a. rare. [f. WORD *sb.* + -LY¹.] Dealing in, or consisting in, mere words; verbal.

1633 AMES *Fresh Suit agst. Cerem.* Pref. p. v, These wordly gossellers. *Ibid.* 11. 36 A wordly distinction betwixt Doctrinal and Ritual Ceremonies. 1927 M. SADLER *Trollope* 370 This fact indicates . . . two of his personal qualities . . . his wordly proficiency and his good manners.

wordly, -lyche, obs. forms of WORLDLY.

wordman ('wɜːdmən). *rare.* [f. WORD *sb.* + MAN *sb.*¹] A man who deals with or has command of words; a master of language. So **'wordmanship, skill in the use of words.**

1623 COCKERAM II, A great Word man, *grandiloquus*. 1654 J. WEBSTER *Acad. Exam.* 68 Men that . . . think themselves the most skilful wordmen or Logodædalists in the world. a 1721 PRIOR *Dial. betw. Charles & Clenard* Wks. 1907 II. 213, I will not shew my Anger against this Word-man. 1882 STEVENSON *Men & Bks.* Pref. p. xiii, The great contemporary master of wordmanship, and indeed of all literary arts.

wordmonger ('wɜːdməŋgə(r)). [f. WORD *sb.* + MONGER.] One who deals in words, esp. in strange or pedantic words, or in empty words without sense or substance. Orig. *contemptuous*.

1590 *Tarlton's News Purgat.* Ep. Ded. A2b, The word-mongers of malice, that like the Vipers grew odious to their own kinde. 1628 SHIRLEY *Witty Fair One* v. iv, A pedantic, lousy wordmonger. 1749 LAVINGTON *Enthus. Meth. & Papists* (1820) 331 God hath cautioned me against these word-mongers. 1855 MOTLEY *Dutch Rep.* vi. iii. (1866) 813 The word-mongers who could clothe one shivering thought in a hundred thousand garments. 1884 TENNYSON *Becket* 11. ii, Diagonalise! thou art a word-monger. 1916 *Daily News* 8 Nov. in E. Weekley *Etymol. Dict. Mod. Eng.* (1921) 944 Professor Weekley is well known to our readers as the most entertaining of living word-mongers. 1981 V. GLENDINNING *Edith Sitwell* 4 She is a poet of dream and vision, a musical wordmonger.

So **'wordmongering, -mongery.**

1879 H. N. HUDSON *Hamlet* Pref. p. xiv, Too much time . . . spent in mere word-mongering and lingual dissection. 1881 MAX MÜLLER tr. *Kant's Critique Pure Reason* II. 11. iii. 223 There remains nothing but mere wordmongery. 1903 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 20 Mar. 87/3 Word-mongery has been overdone here and there.

wordre, obs. form of ORDER *sb.*

wordsman ('wɜːdzmən). = WORDSMAN. So **'wordsmanship.**

1599 I. & P. OPIE *Lore & Lang. Schoolch.* iii. 50 Wordsmanship. It is common practice to snub a companion who makes irritating use of words such as 'Well!' 'What?' and 'Eh?' 1962 *Canadian Intelligence Service* XII. 11. 3/1 The U.S. Senate Security Subcommittee recently issued a report entitled *Wordsmanship; Semantics as a Communist Weapon*. 1981 W. SAFIRE in *N.Y. Times Mag.* 27 Apr. 18/3 Robert Burchfield, chief editor of the Oxford Dictionaries, known to wordsmen as 'Superlex'. 1984 *N.Y. Times Mag.* 30 Dec. 6/2 The occasion was a gathering at the library of renowned scholars, including a babble of wordsmen, to mark the 200th anniversary of the death of Samuel Johnson.

wordster ('wɜːdstə(r)). *nonce-wd.* [f. WORD *sb.* + -STER.] One who deals in or handles words: (a) one who indulges in talk rather than action; (b) a skilful user of words; (c) a student of words and their meanings.

1917 H. A. JONES *Pacifists* [Dedication], *Dedicated* To the tribe of Wordsters, Pedants, Fanatics, and Impossibilists, who so rabidly pursued an ignoble peace, that they helped to provoke a disastrous war. 1965 *English Studies* XLVI. 465 [The suffix *-ster*] may serve the function of condensing long words such as 'philologist' and 'lexicographer' into short *wordster*. 1971 'J. QUARTERMAIN' *Man who walked on Diamonds* ii. 14 The . . . brilliant wordster, always good for the *bon mot*. 1976 *Verbatim* Dec. 8/2 As an amateur wordster, my personal lexicon contains lengthy lists of various types of words.

Wordsworthian (wɜːdz'wɜːθiən), *sb. and a.* [f. the name of the English poet William Wordsworth (1770-1850) + -IAN.] a. *sb.* An admirer or imitator of Wordsworth, or a student of his works. b. *adj.* Of, belonging to, or characteristic of Wordsworth; (of a poem) composed by, or in the style of, Wordsworth.

1815 *Sporting Mag.* XLVI. 12, I am enough of a Wordsworthian not to confine my tastes to the received elegancies of society. 1817 W. WHEWELL *Let.* in M. Moorman *William Wordsworth* (1965) II. ix. 325 His [sc. Coleridge's] critique on the Daffodils might serve as a model for similar strictures on all Wordsworth's Wordsworthian poems. 1825 LOCKHART in *Scott's Fam. Lett.* (1894) II. 342 Miss Hume is an ecstatic Wordsworthian, and is to go to see him one of these days in the flesh. 1845 A. DE VERE *Let.* 28 Sept. in *Recoll.* (1897) x. 204 You are a greater admirer of the special Wordsworthian genius. 1856 RUSKIN *Mod. Painters* III. iv. xvii. §29. 304 'J'aime mieux ma mie', is . . . the first Wordsworthian poem brought forward on philosophical principles, to oppose the schools of art and affectation. 1874 BLACKIE *Self-Cult.* 44 Given to indulge in Wordsworthian musings. 1878 R. H. HUTTON *Scott* xvi. (1888) 162 Even Scott, who was so little of a Wordsworthian, . . . must have recurred that day . . . to that favourite Wordsworthian poem. 1921 *Spectator* 2 July 7/1 Imagine a poet whose mind was perfectly balanced between the desirability of gorgeous Swinburnesque ornament and Wordsworthian austerity.

Hence **'Wordsworthiana** [-IANA suffix], things connected with Wordsworth, writings about Wordsworth; **'Wordsworthianism; Wordsworthy a. colloq.,** typical or suggestive of Wordsworth.

1881 *Sat. Rev.* 12 Feb. 215 There has been of late a recrudescence of Wordsworthianism. 1889 W. KNIGHT (*title*) *Wordsworthiana*: papers read to Wordsworth Society. 1938 S. BECKETT *Murphy* v. 106 They [sc. sheep] seemed in rather better form, less Wordsworthy. 1983 *London Rev. Bks.* 7-20 July 18/4 Recent items of Wordsworthiana include *The Visionary Company*.

wordy, wordie ('wɜːdi), *sb. Sc.* [f. WORD *sb.* + -Y⁶.] A little or slight word.

1718 RAMSAY *Christ's Kirk Gr.* III. xx, She her man like a lammy led Hame, wi' a well-wail'd wordy. 1785 BURNS *To Rev. J. M'Math* iii, A pack . . . Wha . . . Can easy, wi' a single wordie, Lowse hell upon me. a 1840 JOANNA BAILLIE *Song, Woe'd & Married* 38 Weel waled were his wordies.

wordy ('wɜːdi), *a.* [Late OE. *wordig*, f. WORD *sb.* + -ig, -Y¹.]

1. Full of or abounding in words. a. Of speech or writing: Consisting of or containing many words; = VERBOSE 1.

c 1100 *Aldhelm Gloss.* in Napier *O.E. Glosses* 38/1416 *Uerbosa*, wordig. 1382 WYCLIF *1 Cor. Prol.*, Wordy eloquence of philosophie. 1641 BP. HALL *Answ. Vind. Smect.* 103 In this their wordy, and wearisome Volume. 1713 ROWE *Jane Shore* III. i, To deal in wordy Complement is much against the Plainness of my Nature. 1778 BP. LOWTH *Transl. Isaiah* Prelim. Diss. p. lxxviii, The Chaldee Paraphrase . . . often wanders from the Text in a wordy allegorical explanation. 1853 HALLAM *Mid. Ages* (ed. 10) ii. Note 5. I. 297 If the Franks scorned the complex and wordy jurisprudence of Rome. a 1873 LYTTON *Pausanias* i. (1876) 49 The Athenian fashion of wordy boasting. 1877 KINGLAKE *Crimea* (1880) VI. ix. 309 This despatch was beyond measure wordy.

b. Of a person: Using an excess of words; = VERBOSE 2; *occas.* garrulous, talkative.

1382 WYCLIF *Job* xvi. 21 My wordi frendis [1388 ful of wordis]. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 423/2 Wordy, *verbosus*, & cetera; *vbi* Chaterer. 1636 SIR R. BAKER *Cato Variegatus* 9 Words against wordy men, thou must not vse. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 448 P. 1 Phocion, beholding a wordy Orator, while he was making a magnificent Speech to the People. 1854 R. S. SURTEES *Handley Cr.* xiv. (1901) I. 106 The barber's pretty but rather wordy wife. 1881 STEVENSON *Virg. Puerisque* 80 A wordy, prolegomenous babbler.

† 2. Skilled in the use of words. *Obs. rare.*

1603 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Microcosmos* Wks. (Grosart) I. 80/1 Be he a Pleader, and a wordie Man. 1609 — *Hum. Heav. on Earth* II. lxxviii, Some wordy-men, by words, sought worthinesse. 1680 OTWAY *Orphan* IV. vii, You talk to me in Parables, Chamont; You may have known that I'm no wordy Man.

3. Consisting of or expressed in words; of words; verbal. Now chiefly in phr. **'wordy war.** (Often with mixture of sense 1 a.)

1627 W. SCLATER *Expos. 2 Thess.* (1629) 129 Intrusion on Gods Prerogatives royall is rather in facts, then wordy profession. 1685 BAXTER *Paraphr. N.T.* James ii. 14 Is not a meer wordy Profession an unprofitable thing to your selves . . . ? Will . . . saying you believe, profit to Salvation, if you . . . live not according to the Gospel? 1715 ROWE *Lady Jane Gray* i. i, These Clergy Quarrels, These wordy Wars of proud ill-manner'd Schoolmen. 1741 B. FRANKLIN *Poor Richard* (1890) 111 He that talks much, talks in vain; We from the wordy torrent fly. 1791 COWPER *Iliad* II. 463 All that wordy tempest for a girl. 1814 BYRON *Lara* I. xxiii, To mar The mirthful meeting with a wordy war. 1860 TENNYSON *Sea Dreams* 31 When the wordy storm Had ended.

wordy, -nesse, obs. ff. WORTHY, WORTHINESS.

† **wore, sb.** *Obs.* Of doubtful origin and meaning; perh. identical with WARE *sb.*¹, ORE⁵ (OE. *wār*) seaweed, but possibly repr. OE. *wāra, wārum*, glossing med.L. *sablonum, sablonibus* ? sandy or pebbly shore (see, however, note in Napier's *O.E. Glosses*, p. 49).

a 1310 *Alysoun* iv. in Wright *Lyric P.* 28 Icham for wowyng al forwake, very so water in wore. 13.. *Maximon*

in Bōddeker *Altengl. Dicht.* 249 Y wake as water in wore; iesu crist, pin ore!

† **wore, v.¹ Obs. rare.** Also *wori*. [perh. to be referred to OE. *wōrian* only intr. to wander, f. *wōr*, root of *wērig* WEARY *a., q.v.*] *trans.* To trouble, disturb, confuse.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 386 þis mong woreð [v.r. weorreð] so þe eien of þe heorte pet heo ne mei iknowen God. c 1230 *Hali Meid.* (MS. Bodl.) 714 þet hare flesches eggunge, ne þe feondes fondunge . . . ne wori [v.r. weorri] hare heorte wit. a 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* iv. 24 Ther afterward this worlde won with muchel unwynne us worn wolde.

† **wore, v.² Naut. Obs.** Pa. t. of WEAR *v.*² irreg. used for inf.

1744 J. PHILIPS *Jrnl. Exped. Anson* 8 At 8 made the Signal to wore Ship. *Ibid.* 41 Fresh Gales . . . which obliged most of the Ships to wore and bear down to the Leeward.

wore (wɔː(r)), pa. t. of WEAR *v.*¹; pa. t. and pple. of WEAR *v.*²

wore, obs. pa. t. of BE *v.*; obs. f. ORE², ORE⁵; var. WARE *sb.*⁶ Obs.

wored, obs. form of WORD.

'wori, a. Obs. [? f. stem of WORE *v.*¹ + -i, -Y¹. (Connexion with OE. *wārig* is improbable.)] 'Troubled', disturbed, turbid.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 29 Hu maht þu iseon þine sceadewe in worie watere. a 1200 *Moral Ode* 142 in *O.E. Hom.* I. 169 Betere is wori water drunch þen after meind mid wine. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 386 Haue euer schir heorte pus, & do al þet tu wilt. Haue wori heorte & al þe sit vule. c 1290 *St. Brendan* 260 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 226 Twey faire wellene, þat on was suyþe cler, And sumdel wori . . . þat oper was.

worie, obs. form of WORRY *v.*

work (wɜːk), *sb.* Forms: a. 1—4 weorc, 2—4 weork(e, (3 *Orm.* weorrc, weorrk-). β. 1—4 werc, (3 wærc, wærk, *Orm.* werrc), 3—6 werk(e, (4 -cke, -kke, 5 wherk, 6 *Sc.* verk); *Sc. and north.* 4 warc(ke, vark, 4—7 warke, 4— wark. γ. 1 wyrk, 1—2 wurc, 3 wurck, wurk, (5 wrke); 4 wirke. δ. 1—3 worc, 3—7 worke, (3, 6 worck, 4 vorke, 6 woorke, wourke, 6—7 worcke), 6— work. ε. 2—3 werch, 3, 5—6 worch(e, wurch, 9 *dial.* wurtch; 3, 7— warch (see WARK *sb.*¹). [OE. *weorc* = OFris., OS., (M)LG., (M)Du. *werk*, OHG. *werah, werc* (MHG. *werch, werc, G. werk*), ON. *verk* (Sw., Da. *verk*):—OTeut. **werkom* (see WARK *v.*); cognate are Gr. *ἐργον*, Arm. *gorc*, Zend *varəza-*activity. Forms γ and ε show partial assimilation to the forms of WORK *v.*; see also WARK, WARCH *sb.*¹ (in a specialized sense).]

I. 1. Something that is or was done; what a person does or did; an act, deed, proceeding, business; in *pl.* actions, doings (often collectively = 3). *arch. or literary* in gen. sense.

sing. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 47 þis weorc bip deoflum se mæsta teona. c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xxvi. 10 God weorc heo worhte on me. c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 318 þæt weorc wæs begunnen ongean Godes willan. c 1205 LAY. 2574 Menbriz dude an vuel weorc. c 1230 *Hali Meid.* (1922) 25 Halden ham i reste fram þæt fleschlike werc. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 80 Or it wer alle ent þe werke þæt þei did wirke. c 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 446 Chaistese þam . . . Efter þe wark þæt þai haue wrought. 1450-1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* III. 310 Whyle god fulfylleth thys daye the worke of nature. c 1470 HENRY WALLACE i. 434 Quhen Wallas thus this worthi werk had wrocht. a 1529 SKELTON *P. Sparowe* 569 The kestrell in all this warke Shall be holy water clarke. a 1548 HALL *Chron., Edw. IV* 207 b, Se the worke of God, . . . ther rose suche a sodain wynde and a terrible tempest. 1595 SHAKS. *John* IV. iii. 57 It is a damned, and a bloody worke. 1599 PEELE *David & Bethsabe* Eij b, Is not the hand of Ioab in this worke? 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* III. xv. 272 A people of that beastly disposition, that they performed the most secret worke of Nature in publike view. 1679 SOUTH *Serm., Prov.* iii. 17 (1697) I. 28 After a long fatigue of Eating, and Drinking, and Babbling, he concludes the great work of Dining Gentilely. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lxxvii, For almost the last time in which she shall be called upon to weep in this history, she commenced that work. 1859 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* viii, All this doctor's stuff is no use, unless you can say a charm as will undo her devil's work.

pl. *Beowulf* 289 ðescad witan worda and worca. c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past.* C. xxxii. 210 ƿif we hie myndgĩað hiera godna weorca. c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xxiii. 3 Ne do ge na æfter heora worcum; Hīg secgeað & ne doð. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 145 Alle we beoð in monifald wawe . . . hwat for ure elders werkes, hwat for ure aȝene gultes. c 1250 *Hymn* 16 in *Trin. Coll. Hom.* App. 257 þæt ic non þing mid unrich Wurche þe werches þe beoð towilde. c 1250 *Prayer to our Lady* 29 in *O.E. Misc.* 193 Ich habbe isuneȝet mid wurken and midd muðe. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1983 Wit lebe werkes lok ȝee dele. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* Prol. 3 In Habite of an Hermite vn-holy of werkes. 1471 CANTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 19 She was . . . wyse in her werkes honeste in conuersacion & flowryng in alle vertuys. 1526 TINDALE *Matt.* xi. 2 When Jhon beinge in prison herde the workes of Christ. 1560 *Bible* (Genev.) Isa. lix. 6 Their workes are workes of iniquitie. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* i. viii. 119 Hypocrisie loues her workes should be seene, but not her humour. a 1763 SHENSTONE *Ess.* xxxi. Wks. 1765 II. 223 A Deity, whose very words are works, and all whose works are wonders. a 1863 WHATELY *Chr. Evid.* v, The works performed by Jesus and His disciples were beyond the unassisted powers of man.

b. *Theol. (pl.)* Moral actions considered in relation to justification: usually as contrasted with *faith* or *grace*. Rarely in *sing.* (See also 32.)

Covenant of Works: see COVENANT sb. 8a.
1362 LAngl. P. Pl. A. xi. 268 3if I shal werke be here werkis to wyenne me heuene. . . þanne wrouyte I vnwisly.
1382 WYCLIF Eph. ii. 9 By grace 3e ben sauēd bi feith. . . it is the 3ifte of God, not of werkis, that no man glorie. **c1480** HENRYSON Fox, Wolf & Husb. 207 Warkis that fra ferme faith proceidis. **1526** TINDALE Rom. xi. 6 Yff hit be of grace then is it not by the deservynge of werkes [1611 then is it no more of werkes]. **1533** GAU Richt Vay (S.T.S.) 107 Faith causis hime to virk throw lwiff godlie and chrisinne varkis. **1625** MOUNTAGU App. Cæsar. 164 The person with God must be made acceptable. . . before any work of his become approveable. **1635** D. DICKSON Hebr. vii. 19. 131 To seeke to bee. . . justified and saved, by werkes, is to seeke that by the Lawe, which could never bee brought to passe, by it. **1739** J. WESLEY Doctrine of Salvation 5 Because all Men are Sinners against God, and Breakers of his Law, therefore can no Man by his Works be justified, and made righteous before God. **1883** W. C. DOWDING Luther & his Work 6 We are accounted righteous before God only for the merits of our Lord Jesus Christ, by faith; and not from our own works or deservings. **1906** W. WALKER John Calvin xv. 415 Calvin . . . leaves room for a conception of 'works' as strenuous. . . as any claimed by the Roman communion. **1963** E. P. THOMPSON Making of Eng. Working Class xi. 364 How, then, to keep grace? Not by good works, since Wesley had elevated faith above works: . . . Works were the snares of pride and the best works were mingled with the dross of sin; although. . . works might be a sign of grace. **1972** Q. BELL Virginia Woolf I. i. 4 The Clapham Sect was concerned with works rather than with faith.

c. Qualified by phr. with of expressing the moral quality of the action, as *a work or works of charity, of darkness, of mercy*, etc.

c1200 Trin. Coll. Hom. 11 De werce of pesternesse þat ben alle heuie sennen. **a1300** Cursor M. 19764 Cristen sco was and euer fus Abute all werkes of almus. **1340-1824** [see MERCY sb. 7]. **c1380** WYCLIF Sel. Wks. II. 25 It is werk of mercy to birie dede men. **c1440** Gesta Rom. 341 It was a werke of charitee. **1526** TINDALE Eph. v. 11 Have no fellowshipe with the vnfruitful werkes of dercknes. **1560** Daus tr. Sleidane's Comm. 18 Amonges other werkes of Charitie. . . we shoulde. . . comforte the sicke. **1703** EARL ORRERY As you find it v. ii. 63, I have another Work of Charity upon my hands. . . to reform an extravagant Husband. **1816** J. WILSON City of Plague III. ii. Even in her dreams Her soul is at some work of charity.

d. *the work of* . . . a proceeding occupying (a stated length of time). So *a work of time*: a proceeding which takes a long time.

1605 BACON Adv. Learn. i. vi. §2 The confused mass and matter of heaven and earth was made in a moment; and the . . . disposition of that chaos or mass was the work of six days. **1749** J. CLELAND Mem. Woman of Pleasure II. 120 All this was not the work of the fourth part of a minute. **1813** SCOTT Rokeby II. xxi. To wrench the sword from Wilfrid's hand. . . Was but one moment's work. **1818** — Hrt. Midl. li. They had now only to double a small head-land. . . ; but in the state of the weather, and the boat being heavy, this was like to be a work of time. **1819** — Ivanhoe xxxi. **1834** MARRYAT Peter Simple xxxiii. All this was. . . but the work of a few minutes. **1871** HARDY Desperate Remedies II. ii. 74 To bring him out and lay him on a bank was the work of an instant. **1906** ALICE WERNER Natives Brit. Central Africa vi. 136 Once the water has been brought to the boil, which. . . is apt to be a work of time. **1927** C. ASQUITH Black Cap 73 To light his candle and put on his dressing-gown and slippers was the work of a moment.

e. *spec.* (see quotes.).

1869 LANDRETH Life Adam Thomson i. 43 The services on such an occasion [sc. the communion] were. . . emphatically designated by devout people 'the work'. **1887** W. S. S. TYRWHITT New Chum in Queensland Bush viii. 147, I have found the Cape rifle. . . a very useful gun for Queensland work [i.e. kangaroo shooting]. **1888** BRYCE Amer. Commv. lvii. II. 395 The 'work' of politics means in America the business of winning nominations. . . and elections.

2. Something to be done, or something to do; what a person (or thing) has or had to do; occupation, employment, business, task, function.

Often only contextually distinguishable from 1; in later use viewed as a fig. or extended application of 4 or 5.

c1000 Ags. Gosp. Mark xiii. 34 Se man [þe]. . . sealde his þeowum þæne anwald gehwylces weorces. **c1200** ORMIN 1833 Whatt weorrc himm iss purrh Drihhtin sett To forþenn her onn eorpe. **c1489** CAXTON Blanchardyn x. 40 The werke that he hath undertaken. **1596** SHAKS. 1 Hen. IV. II. iv. 118 Fie vpon this quiet life, I want worke. **1602** — Ham. v. ii. 333 The point envenom'd too, Then venome to thy worke. **1611** COTGR. s.v. *Ouvrage*, Euerie bodies worke is no bodies worke. **1643** BURROUGHS Exp. 1st 3 ch. Hosea ix. (1652) 302 It is not my worke to handle the point of the Sabbath-day or Lords-day now. **1786** BURNS Twa Dogs 206 Gentlemen, and Ladies. . . Wi' ev'n down want o' wark are curst. **1852** MRS. STOWE Uncle Tom's C. xxviii. 259 The Lord has a work for mas'r. **1862** RUSKIN Unto this Last iv. §82 The desert has its appointed place and work. **1865** TROLLOPE Belton Est. i. 9 To fight the devil was her work, — was the appointed work of every living soul.

b. *Cricket*, *Rowing*, etc. What a batsman, an oarsman, etc. has to do, esp. with reference to the points at which his force is to be applied.

1851 PYCROFT Cr. Field vii. 117 Be sure you stand up to your work, or close to your block-hole. **1856** 'STONEHENGE' Brit. Rural Sports II. viii. iii. §2. 476/1 He [sc. a rower] sits quite square to his work. **1925** G. C. BOURNE Oarsmanship 32 Those theorists who would have us place oarsmen some three to six inches away from their work.

3. †a. Action (of a person) in general; doings, deeds; conduct. (Often conjoined with *word*.) *Obs.*

971 [see WORD sb. 4]. **a1200** Moral Ode 108 in O.E. Hom. I. 167 His aȝe werch and his þonc te wissnesse he scal demen.

c1200 ORMIN 5426 Whase maȝ3 wipp word & weorrc Her fillenn Goddess wille. **a1300** Cursor M. 8696 Bath warr and wis in all his werce. **c1400** Rule St. Benet (prose) 3 Wha sam heris my word and dos it in werke. **c1470** Gol. & Gaw 1244 Ilkane be werk and be will ls worth his reward. **1533** GAU Richt Vay (S.T.S.) 9 Inuertlie in thair hart and outuertlie in thair word and wark. **1564-78** BULLEIN Dial. agst. Pest. (1888) 34 The euill [man], whose woork is either dronkenness, adulterie, theft. **1581** Satir. Poems Reform. xlv. 15 Maisters of aen euil steik of vark Sould ay detest the godlie, vpricht lyf. **1609** Bible (Douay) Deut. v. 1 Heare Israel the ceremonies & judgements. . . and fulfil them in worke.

b. Action (of a person or thing) of a particular kind; †doing, performance; working, operation. In various connexions; of a thing, often in reference to result; *to do its work*, to produce its effect (cf. 9b).

c1440 Gesta Rom. 4 In werke of ony goode dede. **c1449** PECOCC Repr. i. xvi. 89 If the maner of outring which is saury in a sermonynge schulde be sett. . . in the office of scole prouynge. . . al the werk ther of schulde be the vnsauyner and the vnspeider. **1480** Cely Papers (Camden) 58 Hys howsse. . . schall come to be pluckyd schortly down or elles burnyd for the schortter warke. **a1635** SIBBES Confer. Christ & Mary (1656) 92 The work of God's spirit in his children, is like fire. **1644** DIGBY Nat. Bodies v. 36 The composition or dissolution of mixed bodies. . . is the chiefe worke of Elements, and requieth an intime application of the Agents. **1731** Art of Drawing & Paint. 23 When the Spirit of Wine has done its Work, it must be pour'd off. **1763** Museum Rust. I. 348 It will be so steady that no unevenness of the ground will be able to throw it out of its work, as a clod or stone will a common harrow. **1819** BYRON Juan II. cii. Famine, despair, cold, thirst, and heat, had done Their work on them by turns. **1837** DICKENS Pickw. iii. The brandy-and-water had done its work.

c. *Cricket*. Deflection of the ball after touching the ground, resulting from the spin or twist imparted to it by the bowler.

1846 W. DENISON Sk. Players 12 His delivery is from over the wicket, so there is. . . scarcely any 'work' from it. **1882** Evening News 2 Sept. 1/6 The amount of work the bowlers could get on the ball.

4. Action involving effort or exertion directed to a definite end, esp. as a means of gaining one's livelihood; labour, toil; (one's) regular occupation or employment.

c825 Vesp. Ps. ciii. 23 Utgaed mon to werce his. **c1000** ÆLFRIC Exod. xx. 9 Wyrc six dagas ealle ðine weorc. **c1000** Rule of Chrodegang xiv. Niht was geworht to reste ealswa dæg to worce. **c1290** S. Eng. Leg. 61/248 An Asse. . . is i-harled here and pere and to file weorke i-do. **a1300** Cursor M. 5870 þat. . . ned-waisd suld þai Do tua dais werkes on a dai. *Ibid.* 21528 Of he kest al to his serk, To mak him nemel til his werk. **c1400** MAUNDEV. (1839) xxvi. 265 Thorghre werk of his men. **1557-8** in Feuillerat Revels O. Mary (1914) 236 Doinge certen lobbies of woork. **1611** R. FENTON Usurie 29 A dayes worke is valuable at a certaine price. **1665** Phil. Trans. I. 88 In Carpentry and Joyners work. **1667** MILTON P.L. iv. 618 Man hath his daily work of body or mind Appointed. **1783** Jnl. Ho. Comm. XLVII. 372/1 To leave off Work perhaps Half an Hour before Bell Ringing. **1840** DICKENS Old Cur. Shop xxxiv. I do all the work of the house. **1866** RUSKIN Crown Wild Olive i. 40 There must be work done by the arms, or none of us could live. There must be work done by the brains, or the life we get would not be worth having. **1871** SMILES Charac. iv. (1876) 98 Work—employment, useful occupation—is one of the great secrets of happiness. **1895** Manch. Guardian 14 Oct. 5/6 Half the workmen employed are Italians, who are said to do four times as much work as the Bulgarians. **1914** 'IAN HAY' Knt. on Wheels xiii. §3 Philip was a glutton for work.

b. Used *gen.* in reference to any action requiring effort or difficult to do. Often with epithet.

1518 Star Chamber Cases (Selden Soc.) II. 141, I had as myche work as I cowde by ony meyns to pacyffye theyme. **1626** BACON New Atl. 20 Wee had Worke enough to get any of our Men to looke to our Shipp. **1806-7** J. BERESFORD Miseries Hum. Life (1826) ii. 8 Walking obliquely up a steep hill when the ground is what the vulgar call greasy. Sad work! **1832** HT. MARTINEAU Life in Wilds vi. 76 It. . . was weary work with any tool but the hatchet. **1864** BROWNING Rabbi Ben Ezra xviii. Here, work enough to watch The Master work, and catch Hints of the proper craft. **1902** BUCHAN Watcher by Threshold 127 It was hard work rowing, for the wind was against him.

c. *spec.* The labour done in making something, as distinguished from the material used (in reference to the cost); = WORKMANSHIP I.

1737 W. SALMON Country Builder's Estimator (ed. 2) 25 Steps of common Stairs. . . of Oak, 8d. per Foot; the Work only 1d. per Foot. *Ibid.* 26 Whole Deal-Doors. . . are allowed, work and half work, or double work, if of two-inch Stuff, in consideration of their being wrought on both sides.

d. Exercise or practice in a sport or game; also, exertion or movement proper to a particular sport, game, or exercise.

1856 'STONEHENGE' Brit. Sports I. III. vi. §2. 194 On all occasions after the day's work, the frictioning must be had recourse to. **1874** Kennel Club Stud Bk. 161 Lilly then made a good point, and the other backed very well, these two doing the prettiest work seen as yet. **1877** [see WORKER 2]. **1882** Society 7 Oct. 23/1 As a man he has done extraordinary work at long-jumping, sprinting, and hurdle-racing. **1895** foot work [see FOOT sb. 35].

5. A particular act or piece of labour; a task, job. Also *gen.* something difficult to do, a 'hard task' (cf. 4b); or in special connexions, e.g. a particular operation in some manufacture. *Obs. exc. Hist.*

c960 ÆTHELWOLD Rule St. Benet (Schröder 1885) 65 3if hy ut an æcere wurc [u.r. weorc] habben [L. si opera in agris habuerint]. **c1205** Lay. 8709 An are nihte firste þat worc

[c1275 worch] wes iforðed. **a1300** Cursor M. 5527 Wit herd werkes þai heild pam in. **13..** E.E. Allit. P. B. 136 A þral . . . vnþryuandely cloped, Ne no festuall frok, bot fylled with werkke. **1382** WYCLIF Gen. iv. 22 Alle werkis of bras and of yrun. **c1450** Godstow Reg. 318 He ought to mowe the ladies corne ix. daies. . . without other werkes that he shold do. **1513** DOUGLAS Æneis viii. v. heading. In loving of the douchty Hercules The pepill singis his werkis. **c1520** SKELTON Magnyf. 1095 Cockys armys! this is a warke, I trowe. **1580** G. HARVEY Let. to Spenser Poet. Wks. (1912) 627/2 Vnlesse ye might. . . haue your meate, and drinke for your dayes werkes. **1819** REES Cycl. s.v. Foundery, The ear of the bell requires a separate work, which is done during the drying of. . . the cement. **1894** MAITLAND in Engl. Hist. Rev. IX. 419 At the beginning of the fourteenth century we see that some of the 'works' were done in kind, while others were 'sold to the homage'.

†b. In early use applied *spec.* (in *sing.* or *pl.*) to the building or repair of a church. *Obs.*

Cf. Beowulf 74, Crist 3.

1387 E.E. Wills (1882) 1 To the werkes of our lady of Abbechurch xxs. **1398** Munim. de Melros (Bann.) 490, I. . . sal paye ilke wowe. . . halfe a marc. . . to pair new werke of Melros. **1428** E.E. Wills (1882) 81 Y be-quethe to the werk of the Ill of the toon side of the Cloistere. . . vj s viij d. **1482** in Charters &c. Edin. (1871) 169 Of ilk schip in generale of gudis ii bollis. . . to sanct Gelis werk.

c. *slang*. A criminal act or activity. Cf. JOB sb. 2 1b.

1812 J. H. VAUX Vocab. Flash. Lang. in Mem. (1964) 270 An offender having been detected in the very fact. . . is. . . said to have been *grab'd at work*. **1865** in Comments on Etym. (1983) XIII. iii. iv. 17 We. . . surrounded her from observation while at 'work'. **1926** J. BLACK You can't Win xxi. 338 Coppers located 'work' for burglars and stalled for them while they worked. *Ibid.* xxiv. 379 That kind of 'work' is unprofessional, unnatural, and disgusting. **1963** T. TULLETT Inside Interpol xiv. 192 If he netted only about 200 guilders he would start 'work' again in a week.

6. a. Trouble, affliction; in later use in lighter sense: Disturbance, fuss, 'ferment'. (See also 31.) b. Pain, ache: see WARK sb. 1 dial.

a900 CYNEWULF Juliana 569 þæt þam weligan wæs weorc to polianne. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 9207 Holichirche He bigan to worri & made him þe worse wurche. **1473** Paston Lett. III. 92 He seyde that thys troble sholde begyn in Maye, . . . that the Scotts sholde make us werke. **1676** EARL OF ANGLESEY in Essex Papers (Camden) 71 Philipsburgh and Masticr are sore pressed, and there is hot worke at both. **1717** PRIOR Alma III. 250 Tokay and Coffee cause this Work, Between the German and the Turk. **1848** MRS. GASKELL Mary Barton ii. This work about Esther, and not knowing where she is, lies so heavy on my heart. **1896** Warwicksh. Gloss. s.v., There'll be nice work over this broken window.

7. *Math.* The process of or an operation in calculation; a process of calculation written out in full; = WORKING vbl. sb. 7, 7b. Now rare or *Obs.*

1557 RECORDE Whetst. Ccij, The totalle will bei (as here in worke appeareth) 335016. **1623** J. JOHNSON Arith. i. C1, The prooffe of Addition is made by Subtraction; for if you subtract the numbers which you added from the totall of the Addition, there will remaine nothing, if the worke be truly done. **a1675** COCKER Arith. (1688) 249 Reduce a fraction to its lowest terms at the first Work. *Ibid.* 270 Quest. 6. What is the Quote of 8 divided by 3? Answ. 2 2/3 which is equal to 1 1/3. . . See the work in the margin. **1709** J. WARD Introd. Math. (1734) 19 Take a few Examples without their Work at large. **1839** MAYNARD Goodacre's Arith. (ed. 9) 37 When. . . the remainder is more than the divisor, the quotient figure was too small, the work must be rubbed out, and a larger number supplied.

8. *Physics* and *Mech.* The operation of a force in producing movement or other physical change, esp. as a definitely measurable quantity: see quotes.

1832 W. WHEWELL First Princ. Mech. iv. 52 The work done does not depend on the pressure alone. *Ibid.* 53 The work done by a machine may be represented as certain pressures exerted through certain spaces. **1855** RANKINE Misc. Sci. Papers (1881) 216 'Work' is the variation of an accident by an effort, and is a term comprehending all phenomena in which physical change takes place. Quantity of work is measured by the product of the variation of the passive accident by the magnitude of the effort, when this is constant; or by the integral of the effort, with respect to the passive accident, when the effort is variable. **1873** MAXWELL Electr. & Magn. (1881) I. 5 The unit of Work is the work done by the unit of force acting through the unit of length measured in its own direction. **1877** ATKINSON tr. Ganot's Physics (ed. 8) 42 When a force produces acceleration, or when it maintains motion unchanged in opposition to resistance, it is said to do work. **1879** THOMSON & TAIT Nat. Phil. I. I. §238 In lifting coals from a pit, the amount of work done is proportional to the weight of the coals lifted; that is, to the force overcome in raising them; and also to the height through which they are raised.

II. 9. With possessive: The product of the operation or labour of a person or other agent; the thing made, or things made collectively; creation, handiwork. Also vaguely, the result of one's labour, something accomplished.

c825 Vesp. Psalter viii. 7 ȝesettes hine ofer werc honda ȝinra. *Ibid.* cxliv. 10 Ondettað ȝe, dryhten, all werc ȝin. **c888** ÆLFRED Boeth. v. §3 Ic wat ȝætte God rihtere is his agenes weorces. **971** Blickl. Hom. 207 Wæs þæt ilce hus eac hwem dragen, nalas æfter gewunan mennisces weorces þæt þa wægas wæron rihte. **1382** WYCLIF 2 Chron. xx. 37 For thou haddist couenaunt of pese with Ochosis, the Lord smote thi werkes. — Jer. i. 16 Hem, that. . . offreden to aliene goddis, and honoureden the werc of their hondis. **c1400** 26 Pol. Poems xxiv. 236 Lord, þou shalt clepe me, And I shal answere to þe, werk of þyn hande. **1535** COVERDALE Isa. lxiv. 8 We all are the worke of thy hondes. **1551** ROBINSON tr. More's Utopia II. (1895) 156 Thether the werkes of euery familie be brought. **a1593** MARLOWE & NASHE Dido III. ii. Ile make the Clowdes dissolue their watrie werkes. **1667**

MILTON *P.L.* III. 59 The Almighty Father . . bent down his eye, His own works and their works at once to view. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 809 The waxen Work of lab'ring Bees. 1773 MONBODDO *Lang.* (1774) I. Pref. 1 Man in his natural state is the work of God. 1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pr.* III. iv. And now thy work, where is thy work? Swift, out with it; let us see thy work! 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* III. 281 Dare we dream of that . . Which wrought us, as the workman and his work, That practice better? 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 298 Workmen and also their works are alike apt to degenerate. 1890 KIPLING *Deparm. Ditties*, etc. (ed. 4) 102 Mine's work, good work that lives!

b. The result of the action or operation of some person or thing; 'effect, consequence of agency' (J.); (one's) 'doing'; the device or invention of some one.

1382 WYCLIF *Isa.* xxxii. 17 Ther shal be the werk of rytwisnesse pes. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* v. ii. 364 Looko on the Tragick Loading of this bed: This is thy worke. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* v. 112 Mimic Fancie . . misjoyning shapes, Wilde work produces oft, and most in dreams. 1707 *Curios. Husb. & Gard.* 35 This wonderful Economy for the Propagation . . of Animals can not be the Work of the fortuitous meeting of Atoms. 1753 CHALLONER *Cath. Chr. Instr.* 171 Other Hereticks . . condemned Marriage as the Work of the Devil. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* iv. What has been between us has been the work of the law, not my doing. 1859 G. MEREDITH *R. Feverel* xxiii. This suggestion, the work of the pipe.

10. Without possessive: A thing made; a manufactured article or object; a structure or apparatus of some kind, esp. one forming part of a larger thing. Now chiefly in generalized sense with qualification, esp. in established compounds such as BRICKWORK, FIREWORK, FRAMEWORK, LATTICEWORK, WAX-WORK.

c 825 *Epinal Gloss.* 699 *Opere plumario*, bisiuuidi uerci. 1382 WYCLIF *Isa.* xxix. 16 As if . . the werk sey to his makere, Thou hast not mad me. c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* v. 1135 Tre warke thai brynt, that was in to tha wanyis. 1535 COVERDALE *Ezek.* i. 15, I sawe a worke off wheles vpon the earth. 1591 RALEIGH *Last Fight of Revenge* (Arb.) 21 All her tackle cut a sunder, her vpper worke altogether rased. 1598 BARRET *Theor. Mod. Warres* 134 Eight men who haue in their charge the iron workes, cables, anchors, and grappling. 1621 *Abridgm. Specif. Patents, Iron & Steel* (1858) 1 The misterie and arte of meltinge iron ewre, and of making the same into cast workes or bars. 1697 DRYDEN *Eneis* VIII. 825 The radiant Arms beneath an Oak she plac'd . . He rowl'd his greedy sight Around the Work. 1706 PHILLIPS, *Pastry*, Work made of Paste or Dough. 1805 T. LINDLEY *Voy. Brazil* 45 A long arched vault, with a plank work on one side. 1819 REES *Cycl.* s.v. *Foundry*, Foundry of statues, great guns, and bells . . The matter of these large works is . . commonly a mixture of several [metals].

†11. An architectural or engineering structure, as a house, bridge, pier, etc.; a building, edifice.

a 900 CYNEWULF *Crist* 3 Se weallstan pe ða wyrhtan iu wiðwurpon to weorce. c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 368 Se ðe ne bytlað of ðam grundwealle, his weorc hryst to micclum lyre. 1076-85 *Westm. Abbey Domesday Book* lf. 463 De quadam mansione terre apud London quam Anglica lingua 'Vuerc' appellat. c 1205 LAY. 16951 He lette bulden halles & rihte al pa workes pe ær weore to brosene. c 1300 *Cursor M.* 8780 be wrightes þat suld rais þe werck. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* i. (Petrus) 14 þu art petir, at is, oure stane, to byg myn wark one haff I tane. c 1450 *Merlin* ii. 27 The mountayne that the werke was sette on gan to tremble. 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* II. i. I iij b. This warke that is in buyldynge. 1660 M. CARTER *Honor Rediv.* 248 Gresham Colledge . . This famous work and most worthy Colledge. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* I. 731 The work some praise And some the Architect.

b. *pl.* Architectural or engineering operations. *Clerk of the Works, Master of the Works*: see CLERK sb. 6c, MASTER sb. 19a.

a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 12 Sept. 1641, The New Citidall was advancing with innumerable hands . . I was permitted to walk the round and view the works. 1907 J. H. PATTERSON *Man-Eaters of Tsavo* vi. 66, I had works in progress all up and down the line.

12. *spec. (Mil.)* A fortified building, fortress, fort; a defensive structure, fortification; any one of the several parts of such a structure (often in *pl.*). Also as second element of a compound, as *earth-work, field-work, hornwork, outwork*, etc.

The continental equivalent is found in BULWARK.

a 1000 *Daniel* 44 To ceastre . . þær Israēla ahta wæron bewrigenne mid weorcum. c 1470 HENRY *Wallace* xi. 19 Fortrace, and werk that was with out the toun, Thai brak, and brynt. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 137 b. He taketh Turrine . . and fortieth it with workes and strength of men. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* III. ii. 3, I will be walking on the Workes. 1613 — *Hen. VIII.* v. iv. 61, I was faine to . . let 'em vin the Worke. 1669 STAYURED *Fortification* 4 There may be . . occasion in Forts to raise . . Platforms, or Batteries, to command all the other Works. 1755 R. ROGERS *Jrnl.* (1769) 6, I . . sent out four men as spies, who . . informed me, that the enemy had no works round them, but lay entirely open to an assault. 1826 J. F. COOPER *Last of Mohicans* xv. Some six or eight thousand men . . whom their leader wisely judges to be safer in their works than in the field. 1834-47 J. S. MACAULAY *Field Fortif.* (1851) 87 If the ditches of a work can be filled with water, it is an excellent means of defence. 1879 TENNYSON *Defence of Lucknow* ii. Frail were the works that defended the hold that we held with our lives.

13. A literary or musical composition (viewed in relation to its author or composer); often *pl.* and *collect. sing.*, (a person's) writings or compositions as a whole.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 112 In hir wirschip wald I bigyn A last-and warc apon to myn. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* v. (Johannes) 524 Als tellis elyndandus Of sancte Johnnis varkis, sayand þu, Quene he suld þe ewangel wryte [etc.]. c 1450 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Aug.* Prol. 1 Than wil I, in þe name of our

Lord Ihesu, beginne þis werk. c 1520 SKELTON *Garl. Laurel* 381 Plutarke and Petrark . . With Vincencius . . that wrote noble warkis. 1525 *Extr. Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 111 One bukys or verkys of the saide Lutheris. 1540-1 ELYOT *Image Gov.* 41 He made also a newe lybrary, garnysyng it . . with most principall warkes in euery science. 1555 *Instit. Gentl.* Kvj b. Alexander Magnus . . used alwayes to carrie wyth hym the woorkes of Homer. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 681 When I was first writing this worke. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 124 ¶ 1 A Man who publishes his Works in a Volume. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xv. The famous foreigner — gathering materials for his great work on England. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* i. A Johnson's Dictionary — the interesting work which she invariably presented to her scholars on their departure. 1865 MAX MÜLLER *Chips* (1880) I. i. 18 This title distinguishes the Vedic hymns . . from all other works. 1879 GROVE *Dict. Mus.* I. 116 Bach wrote unceasingly . . and the quantity of his works is enormous. 1885 *Manch. Exam.* 11 Nov. 3/3 It bears a stronger resemblance to the work of 'Ouida' than to that of any other English writer. 1900 W. P. KER *Ess. Dryden* Introd. p. xix, The history of Corneille's original work.

14. A product of any of the fine arts (in relation to the artist), as a painting, a statue, etc. In the phr. *a work of art* including, besides these, literary or musical works (13), and connoting high artistic quality. Also (without *pl.*), artistic production in the abstract, or artistic products collectively.

1531 ELYOT *Gov.* I. viii. Pandenus, a counnyng painter, . . required the craftsman to shewe him where he had the . . paterne of so noble a warke. 1539 *Bible* (Great) Ps. lxxiv. 6 They breake downe all y^e carued worcke therof. 1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* v. ii. 107 Her Mothers Statue . . by that rare Italian Master, Iulio Romano, who (had he himselfe Eternitie, and could put Breath into his Worke) would beguile Nature of her Custome. 1611 COTGR., *Ouvrage de Marqueterie*, Checker-work, or Inlaid worke, of sundrie colours. a 1721 *Prior Dial.*, Locke & Montaigne Wks. 1907 II. 243 Your Work is meer Grotesque, half images of Centaures and Sphynxes trailing into Flowers and branches. 1736 T. ATKINSON *Conf. Painter & Engraver* 16 If the Engraver . . with masterly shading Touches improve the Work. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* vii. [The portrait] is considered a perfect likeness, and the best work of the master. 1877 S. REDGRAVE *Descr. Catal. Water-Col.* 22 Protect your drawings . . from the utter destruction so many fine works have suffered from exposure to the direct rays of the sun. 1883 *Atlantic Monthly* Jan. 86 The homage of rapt appreciation due to a great work of art. 1884 W. C. SMITH *Kildrostan* 43 The carved work mouldered fast 'Neath the suns, and the frosts.

†15. Make, workmanship; esp. ornamental workmanship (phr. of work = ornamental). *Obs.*

1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. I. 179 Colers of crafty werke. c 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xi. 46 Ane ymage of stane of alde werk. 1424 E.E. *Wills* (1882) 56 Too fyne borde-clothes, þe one of werk, þe oþer playn. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* III. vii. (1883) 140 A gate of marble of meruayllous werke. 1529 CROMWELL in *Merriman Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 57 My best ioynd bed of Flaunders wourke. 1603 in Gage *Hengrave* (1822) 26 One large coobard carpet . . of Turkeye work. a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 17 Nov. 1644, A rare clock of German work. *Ibid.* 18 Jan. 1645, The walls . . are incrusted with most precious marbles of various colours and workes. 1795 MRS. COWLEY *Town before you* I. iii. 9 Why did I never tell you before that she is a sculptor. She has a large room full of fine things of her own work.

b. *concr.* An ornamental pattern or figure, ornament, ornamentation, decoration. *Obs.* or merged in other senses.

c 1467 *Noble Bk. Cookry* (1882) 52 Mak gret coffynes with lowe liddes . . and lay on the liddes wild werkes. 1547 in *Feuillart Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 11 Cootes . . of clothe of golde with workes. 1622 *Mourt's Relat. Engl. Plant.* 12 Baskets . . curiously wrought with blacke and white in pretie workes. *Ibid.* 38 Their faces . . painted . . some with crosses, and other Antick workes. a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 23 Mar. 1646, The bed was dress'd up with flowers, and the counterpan strewed in workes.

16. The operation of making a textile fabric or (more often) something consisting of such fabric, as weaving or (usually) sewing, knitting, or the like; esp. any of the lighter operations of this kind, as a distinctively feminine occupation; also *concr.* the fabric or the thing made of it, esp. while being made or operated upon; needlework, embroidery, or the like.

See also DRAWN-WORK, FANCY WORK, LACE-WORK, OPEN-WORK, etc.

1382- [see NEEDLEWORK]. [1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 41 When sche takth hir werk on honde Of wevinge or embrouderie.] 1440 in *Peacock Eng. Ch. Furniture* (1866) App. 182 A vestment of baudekyn y^e ground black with grene Werk. 1530 PALSGR. 290/1 Worke made of woll, *œuvre de layne, lamfice*. 1560 *Bible* (Genev.) Ezek. xvi. 10, I clothed thee also with broyded work. 1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* IV. xli. 320 Their maner of weaving their workes, being both sides alike. 1783 JOHNSON *Let. to Miss Thrale* (1788) II. 290 Your time, my love, passes, I suppose, in devotion, reading, work, and company . . Of work, unless I understood it better, it will be of no great use to say much. 1795 MRS. COWLEY *Town before you* I. i. 2 Mrs. Fancourt . . (rising and laying down her work). 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* iii. The work she had knitted, lay beside her. 1862 LYTON *Str. Story* xlviii. Taking pleasure . . not in music, nor books, nor that tranquil pastime which women call work. 1882 BESANT *All Sorts* vii. (1898) 65 On the other side [sat] a girl, with work on her lap, sewing.

17. An excavation in the earth, made for the purpose of obtaining metals or minerals; a mine. *Obs. exc.* = WORKING vbl. sb. 16.

1475 *tyl werk* [see TIN sb. 5]. 1482 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 113 All the gounes yn the colle warkys and abowte the marttes were schett for joye. 1540-1 ELYOT *Image Gov.* 46

He wolde haue them sent into . . the iles called Cassiterides, to labour in tynne workes. 1565 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 400 Saufland the werk and mynd of Glengonar and Wenlok. 1604 G. BOWES in *Cochran-Patrick Early Rec. Mining Scot.* (1878) 111 Clensing an ould worke . . I found the same 13th feette deepe. c 1610 in G. C. BOND *Early Hist. Mining* (1924) 15 After . . his colliers have wrought sixe dayes in the workes. 1665 *cole-workes* [see COAL-WORK 2]. 1769 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 102 Four colliers at work in a pit near Whitehaven, were all suffocated by the foul air of an old adjoining work. 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-m., Work*, a stall or working place.

b. A kind of trench in draining. *local.*

1653 BLITH *Eng. Improver Impr.* vii. 93 Cut a good substantiall Trench about thy Bog . . ; And . . make one work or two just overthwart it. 1794 T. DAVIS *Agric. Wilt.* 31 That the disposition of the trenches (provincially 'the works of the meadow') should be uniform. 1799 T. WRIGHT *Art of Floating Land* 60 That one feeder made diagonally, and two others in different directions . . will . . with the assistance of the smaller works . . be competent to effect a regular distribution of the water.

18. *pl.* An establishment where some industrial labour, esp. manufacture, is carried on, including the whole of the buildings and machinery used; a factory, manufactory, etc. In later use commonly construed as *sing.*, in earlier use (to c 1860) also in *sing.* form. Often as the second element of a compound; see references below.

1581 iron workes, 1634-5 iron-work [see IRONWORK 2]. 1617 *allome workes* [see ALUM sb. 5]. 1722 DE FOE *Col. Jack* (1840) 273 The servants . . in both the workes, were upwards of three hundred. 1748 in *Jrnl. Friends Hist. Soc.* (1918) 24 At Liverpool. We went to see . . silk workes where one wheel works above 300 Twisting bobbins. 179. BURNS *Verses on window at Carron*, We came na here to view your warks In hopes to be mair wise. 1819- gas workes [see GAS sb. 1 7]. 1822 *tan-work* [see TAN sb. 1 C. 1]. 1848 MRS. GASKELL *Mary Barton* vii. During the half-hour allowed at the works for tea. 1882 *Daily News* 4 Mar., A new work for the manufacture of steel wire. 1898 MRS. H. WARD *Helbeck* III. i. On night-duty at a large engineering 'works'.

attrib. 1885 W. S. HUTTON (*title*) *The Works Manager's Hand-Book*. 1901 *Scotsman* 11 Mar. 8/7 The position of the directors . . of their consulting chemist, and of their works chemist.

b. Phr. *in the works* = *in the pipeline* s.v. PIPE-LINE sb. b. N. Amer.

1973 *Globe & Mail* (Toronto) 12 July 2/3 In his statement, Mr. Cote said he had been informed during the election campaign that a 'telegraph organization was in the works in certain ridings of the South Shore'. 1976 *National Observer* (U.S.) 16 Oct. 10/3 As might be expected, a movie deal is in the works. 1979 *Tucson Mag.* Jan. 10/3 Actually there is a sequel in the works and the project was begun as a two film package. 1984 *National Times* (Austral.) 2 Nov. 41/2 There are, of course, follow-up books in the works.

19. Something that is to be or is being operated upon: in various connexions (see *quots.*; cf. also 15).

1680 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* x. 190 The Diameter of the Work they intend to Turn in the Lathe. 1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* I. 104 Boil the work, either in alum-water, or aqua fortis. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss., Work*. Ore not yet dressed.

20. A set of parts forming a machine or piece of mechanism: orig. *sing.*, esp. as the second element of compounds (see references below); as an independent word now only *pl.*, the internal mechanism of a clock or watch, which actuates the hands or the striking apparatus.

Also (*colloq.*) humorously applied to the internal organs or viscera of an animal, as in *to take out the works* = *to 'draw' a fowl*, etc., or of a person.

a 1628- [see CLOCK-WORK]. 1667- [see WATCHWORK]. 1670- [see WHEELWORK]. 1766 A. CUMMING (*title*) *Elements of Clock and Watch-work*. 1760 W. EMERSON *Mechanics* 109 This work is within the watch between the two plates. 1773 T. MUDGE *Descr. Timekeeper* (1799) 40 The repeating work. *Ibid.*, The balance work. 1819 REES *Cycl.* s.v. *Watch*, The interior works of an ordinary watch. 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Parish* ii. He took to pieces the eight-day clock . . under pretence of cleaning the works. 1884 'MARK TWAIN' *Huck Finn* xxxii. 333 Here we're a running on this way, and you hain't told me a word about Sis, nor any of them. Now I'll rest my works a little, and you start up yourn. 1885 — in *Century Mag.* Dec. 196/1 Then it would bray . . spreading its jaws till you could see down to its works. It was a disagreeable animal. 1906 E. DYSON *Fact'ry 'And's* xv. 197 'Ceptin fer er hun-expected wail he jerked out iv' 'sorks now 'n 'again, that cat was just er livin' silence.

b. *slang* (orig. U.S.). *the (whole) works*, the whole lot, everything; *esp.* in phrases, *to give (or tell) the works*: to tell the whole story; *to shoot the works*: see SHOOT v. 23j; *to give (someone) the works*: to give (him) a rough time, *spec.* to murder; also, to give (someone) the full treatment (not necessarily unpleasant); *to get the works*: to receive severe punishment, reprimand, adverse criticism, etc.

1899 J. LONDON *Let.* 18 May (1966) 38, I . . quite enjoyed the thought of saying good-bye to the whole works. 1920 *Collier's* 5 June 36/3 'I ain't trying to jimmy into your most intimate affairs, but is they — is they a girl?' . . He . . sat down . . and gimme the works. 1927 *Vanity Fair* XXIX. 134/2 'Giving a guy the works' is handing someone a raw deal. 1928 *Amer. Mercury* Apr. 429/2 One-Lung here squealed, an' I got the works for two years — poundin' rocks wit' a sledge. 1929 C. F. COE *Hooch* vii. 156 This man never was bumped here at all. They gave him the works some place a long way off. 1930 *Daily Express* 23 May 11/3 Threatening that unless the money was produced somebody would 'get the works'. 1934 WODEHOUSE *Right Ho, Jeeves* ix. 111 Heave

a couple of sighs. Grab her hand. And give her the works. 1936 J. STEINBECK *In Dubious Battle* iii. 35 Tell him the works. 1969 E. BAGNOLD *Autobiogr.* xii. 236 *The Chinese Prime Minister* is a better play than *The Chalk Garden* but it didn't get the works. 1979 L. KALLEN *Introducing C. B. Greenfield* xiv. 193, I have uncovered a sensational story that is crying to be written. . . Best-seller list, movie, the works.

c. *pl.* A drug addict's equipment for taking drugs. *U.S. slang.*

1934 L. BERG *Revelations of Prison Doctor* iv. 42 All became adept in the use of 'the works'; this was a syringe and needle. 1951 *N.Y. Times* 15 June 14/3 Do they ask you if you want the 'works' when you're buying needles? 1953 W. BURROUGHS *Junkie* xiv. 140, I went into the bathroom to get my works. Needle, dropper, and a piece of cotton.

21. A froth produced by fermentation in the manufacture of vinegar: cf. *WORK v.* 33.

1839 *Ure Dict. Arts & Co.* . . see if the fermentation [of the vinegar] has been complete. . . we plunge into the liquor a white stick or rod. . . if it be covered with a white thick froth, to which is given the name of work (*travail*), we judge that the operation is terminated.

III. Phrases. (See also above senses.)

* with *work* as obj. of a preposition.

† 22. a work, awork [*A prep.*]: = *at*, *on*, *to work* (23, 26, 28, 29); esp. *in to set a work*. *Obs.* exc. as in A-WORK (q.v.).

c 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 16 Monkis and freris assenten to werris wipouten cause, and bringen pes lordis awerke. c 1400 *Sowdow Bab.* 2599 Tho was Durnedale set a werke. 1450 *Paston Lett.* I. 167 Asay how ye can sett hem a werk in the Parlement. 1450-1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* II. 67 That your redyng & study be . . pryncypally to enforme your selfe, & to set yt a warke in youre owne lyuynge. 1480 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 431 That they that set them awarke shuld pay for hym. 1530 PALSGR. 712/2 Sette hym nat a worke, he can do yvell ynoughe of hymselfe. 1556 in *Vicary's Anat.* (1888) App. iii. 4. 175 Beggars . . to be sett a worke, & be compelled . . to gett their owne lyvings. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. iv. 437 The Gods and Demons being first made, by the Supreme God, were set a work. . . by him afterward in the making of man. 1694 W. WOTTON *Anc. & Mod. Learn.* (1697) 371 To set their Members awork to collect a perfect History of Nature. a 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (1823) I. 170 To move and set a work the great principles of actions.

23. at work.

Used predicatively with *set* (SET v.¹ 25); *to work* is now more usual (see 29).

a. Occupied with labour; engaged in a task; working, esp. at one's regular occupation. (Of a person or animal; also of a machine.)

1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII.* III. i. 74, I was set [= seated] at worke, Among my Maids. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.*, *Printing* xvii. ¶ 1 That the Matrice fly or start not back when it is at Work. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 369/2 You may rest your right Hand or Arm upon it [sc. the maulstick], . . whilst you are at work [sc. painting]. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* ccccxl. 417 You [the Mole] have Nothing for Digging 'tis True; but pray who set you at Work? 1709 STRYPE in *Thoresby's Lett.* (1832) II. 235 The book will make one hundred sheets. . . there are three presses at work about it. 1765 GOLDSM. *Ess.* Misc. Wks. 1837 I. 351 We may . . set beggars at work. 1840 DICKENS *Old Cur. Shop* x, The poor woman was still hard at work at an ironing-table. 1882 BESANT *All Sorts* xxxii. (1898) 222 The street . . was as quiet as on the Sunday, the children being at school and the men at work.

b. *gen.* Occupied in some action or process, esp. one directed to a definite end or result; actively engaged; operating. (Of persons or their faculties, or of animals; also of forces or influences.)

1655 *Clarke Papers* (Camden) III. 17 The Bladec. . . who were at worke to have brought new troubles upon us. c 1680 BEVERIDGE *Serm.* (1729) I. 344 The Father is always at work in the government of the world. a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 7 Oct. 1688, The Jesuites hard at worke to foment confusion among the Protestants. 1820 SOUTHEY *Wesley* I. 3 He has set mightier principles at work. 1862 *Cornh. Mag.* V. 35 The mare . . continued her feeding. How she enjoyed this plashy young grass! She had been at work in this way for the last five or six hours. 1887 LOWELL *Democracy* etc. 12 The little kernel of leaven that sets the gases at work. a 1890 LIDDON *Life Pusey* (1893) II. 151 Newman. . . was at work on his article on 'The Catholicity of the English Church'. *Ibid.* 170 The same influence. . . was already at work.

c. in passive sense: In process of being worked. 1911 *Act 1 & 2 Geo. V* c. 50 § 36 Two shafts. . . with which every seam for the time being at work in the mine shall have a communication.

24. in work. a. †(a) = *at work*, 23 a; (b) in regular occupation; also with qualifying adj., as *in full work*, *in good work* = working full time or remuneratively.

1535 COVERDALE *Chron.* x. [ix.] 33 Day and night were they in worke with I. 1568 ABP. PARKER *Corr.* (Parker Soc.) 328, I am content to set some of my men in work. c 1610 in G. C. Bond *Early Hist. Mining* (1924) 15 It is mutche wished. . . that suche an ingein may be scene in worcke. 1842 W. C. TAYLOR *Notes Tour Lancs.* 39 When in good work the united earnings of both averaged about 30s. weekly.

† b. to put in work: (a) to make use of; (b) to put in operation: = *set to work*, 29. *Obs.*

c 1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) xxviii. 288 In that Contree. . . men putten in werke the Sede of Cotoun. 1626 C. POTTER tr. *Sarpi's Hist. Quarrels* 100 The Iesuites. . . put in worke all their artifices. 1653 URQUHART tr. *Rabelais* I. viii. 41 For his Gloves were put in work sixteen Otters skins. . . for the bordering of them. 1664 J. WEBB *Stone-Heng* (1725) 193 These rude Remains being put in Work, in his Judgment, before the Flood.

25. of work. a. *piece of work*: see *PIECE sb.* 7. b. — of all work (†works): employed in all kinds

of work, esp. in a household; chiefly in *maid-of-all-work* (see *MAID sb.*¹ 4 b); hence allusively.

1775 *Pennsylv. Even. Post* 30 Mar. 114/2 Advt., Wanted a complete Servant for a Place of all Work, in a middling Family. 1797 JANE AUSTEN *Sense & Sensib.* xxxviii, Two maids and two men, indeed. . . No, no; they must get a stout girl of all works. 1821 SCOTT *Mrs. Radcliffe Biogr. Mem.* (1834) I. 359 A garrulous waiting-maid; . . a villain or two of all work. 1821 BYRON *Reply to Southey Wks.* (1846) 513/1 This arrogant scribbler of all work. 1822 — *Vis. Judgem.* c, Mine is a pen of all work. 1886 RUSKIN *Præterita* I. iii. 97 The kitchen servant-of-all-work.

† 26. on work, in to set (a person, etc.) on work = *to work* (29). *Obs.*

1549 LATIMER *4th Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 40 To the setting his subiectes on worke, and keyping them on idleness. 1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* Transl. Ep. (1895) 16 Having no profitable busines wherupon to sette himself on worke. a 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* II. Wks. (1904) 239 His witte shalbe new set on worke. 1576 GASCOIGNE *Droome of Doomeday Wks.* 1910 I. 224 They. . . buyld houses, . . till feildes, . . and set milles on worke. a 1645 FEATLY *Reynolds in Fuller Abel Rediv.* (1651) 487 It pleased his Majesty to set some learned men on worke, to translate the Bible. 1692 NORRIS *Pract. Disc. Div. Subj.* (1722) III. 134 When the Powers of the Soul shall be more awaken'd, and its thoughts more vehemently set on work. 1788 PRIESTLEY *Lect. Hist.* v. lii. 401 By setting on work such immense numbers of our manufacturers.

27. out of work (OUT OF 11 b): having no work to do, unemployed, workless. Also (with hyphens) *attrib.*, or as *sb.*; hence *out-of-worker*; *out-of-workness*.

1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V.* I. ii. 114 All out of worke, and cold for action. 1864 J. O'NEIL *Diary* 10 Apr. in J. Burnett *Useful Toil* (1974) I. 85 One half of the time I was out of work and the other I had to work as hard as ever I wrought in my life. 1885 *Marine Engineer* 1 Sept. 157/2 'Out-of-work benefit' came to £57,000. 1886 *Daily News* 4 Feb. 5/7 The Amalgamated Engineers. . . had lost £40,000 last year in out-of-work pay. 1887 *Spectator* 4 June 763/2 Afraid of being out of work. 1888 [see OUT OF III.]. 1894 A. MORRISON *Tales of Mean Streets* 48 The advent of a flush sailor. . . disposed to treat out-o'-workers. 1903 A. McNEILL *Egregious Engl.* v. 49 Out-of-workness is. . . the most fearful thing in life that can happen to an Englishman. 1906 *Westm. Rev. Jan.* 39 The unemployed of all classes, including the genuine out-of-workers. 1913 A. SPENDER in H. Barnett *Canon S. A. Barnett* (1918) II. xlvii. 273 How to tide over the winter for the out-of-work docker. 1939 'G. ORWELL' *Coming Up for Air* II. ix. 153 We'd suddenly changed from gentlemen. . . into miserable out-of-works whom nobody wanted. 1955 M. GILBERT *Sky High* viii. 105 He was an out-of-work actor. 1974 R. BUTLER *Buffalo Hook* v. 45 I'm just an out-of-work who wants to stay that way.

28. to go to work (GO v. 34): to proceed to some action (expressed or implied); to begin doing something; to commence operations. So *to fall to work* (see *FALL v.* 67 e).

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. v. 347 Vche a mayde that he mette he made hir a signe Symynge to synne-ward. . . and to the werke zeden. 1393 *Ibid.* C. vii. 181 To werke we zeden. 1593-87 FOXE A. & M. (1596) 1811/1 Say your mind, & go briefly to worke: for I think it almost dinner time. a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. ii. (1912) 152 Swearing he never knew man go more aukwardly to worke. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel.* N. iv. i. 36 He goe another way to worke with him: He haue an action of Battery against him. 1718 *Free-thinker* No. 20 ¶ 2, I shall go a shorter and a plainer way to work. 1771 GOLDSM. *Hist. Eng.* I. 363 This parliament. . . went expeditiously to work upon the business of reformation. 1890 *Temple Bar* July 329 His wits went instantly to work.

29. to set to work (SET v.¹ 112, 113). a. *trans.* (a) To set (a person, the faculties, etc.) to a task, or to do something; less commonly, to put (a thing) in action; *refl.* to apply oneself to labour, or to some occupation or undertaking; to set about doing something.

1497-8 in *Archæol. Jnrl.* (1886) XLIII. 168 A fyne. . . for werkyng by nyght & setting to werk a child vnbound & vnabild. c 1520 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 1246 A nysot. . . That wyll syt ydyll. . . And can not set herselfe to warke. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 246, I set Friday to Work to boiling and stewing. 1749 SMOLLETT *Gil Blas* xii. i. (1782) IV. 211 The time draws near when I shall set thy address to work. 1827 FARADAY *Chem. Manip.* iv. (1842) 105 Such a lamp. . . is. . . soon set to work, and as soon extinguished. 1867 'OUIDA' *Cecil Castlemaine*, etc. 235 Somebody else daring him to go in for honours. . . he set himself to work to show them all what he could do. 1879 SALA *Paris Herself Again* xxxi, The owners set their wits to work.

† (b) To begin working upon: cf. 23 c. *Obs.*

1694 T. HOUGHTON *Royal Instit. Ded.* A 3 Which Veyns and Mines, if they was. . . Set to Work, by any that understands them, would. . . prove as Rich.

b. *intr.* for *refl.*: see a (a): = 28.

1691 W. NICHOLLS *Answ. Naked Gospel* 92 The Doctor sets to work to his exposition of the Trinity. 1782 R. CUMBERLAND *Anecd. Emin. Painters* I. 147 The devout painter sate to work. 1825 *New Monthly Mag.* XVI. 353, I. . . set to work at another two-act piece. 1889 H. D. TRAILL *Stratford* iv. 46 Charles. . . set seriously to work to govern alone.

** with *work* as obj. of a verb. (See also 3 b.)

30. to cut out work for a person: to prepare work to be done by him, to give him something to do; now only to have (all) one's work cut out (for one) (colloq.): to have enough, or as much as one can manage, to do.

1619, 1795 [see CUT v. 57 l]. 1843 DICKENS *Christmas Carol* ii. 61 Old Fezziwig stood out to dance with Mrs. Fezziwig. Top couple too; with a good stiff piece of work cut out for them. 1862 TROLLOPE *Orley Farm* II. xxxi. 247 Then Mr. Chaffanbrass rose. . . and every one knew that his work was cut out for him. 1866 [see CUT v. 57 l]. 1874 HARDY *Far from*

Madding Crowd II. xxii. 276 What with one thing and another, I see that my work is well cut out for me. 1879 H. C. POWELL *Amateur Athletic Ann.* 19 This [race] Crossley had all his work cut out to win. 1893 R. L. STEVENSON *Catriona* vii. 71 'Ye'll find your work cut out for ye to establish that,' quoth she. 1899 E. W. HORNING *Amateur Cracksman* 43 'We shall have our work cut out,' was all I said. 1927 R. AUSTIN FREEMAN *Magic Casket* vii. 222 'You will have your work cut out,' I remarked, 'to trace that man. The potter's description was pretty vague.' 1951 *Sport* 27 Jan.-2 Feb. 9/3 The Quakers will have their work cut out to keep the bigger clubs away.

31. to make work. a. (also *to make a work*): To work havoc or confusion; hence, to make a to-do or fuss, to cause disturbance or trouble (cf. 6); †in quot. 1574, to trouble oneself to do something. *dial.*

1530 PALSGR. 616/2 He maketh suche a worke whan he cometh that all the house is very of hym. 1574 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xlii. 234 Thay maid na werk To seek ony. 1581 PETTIE *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* III. (1586) 136 These women. . . like some Phisitons, make work where all was well before. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* I. iv. 20 There is Auffidious. List what worke he makes Among'st your cloven Army. 1678 *Lauderdale Papers* (Camden 1885) III. 102 It is a foolish thing for scots men to complain or make worke heir, or to endeavour a Rebellion in scotland. 1867 E. B. RAMSAY's *Remin.* (ed. 15) 30 People make a work if a minister preach the same sermon over again. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* ix, Ou dear! Monkbarns, what's the use of making a wark? 1884 WALFORD *Bobby's Grandmother* iv, Passing in and out and making no end of a work.

b. *to make work for*: to give (a person, etc.) something to do.

1595 SHAKS. *John* II. i. 303 Yong Arthur. . . Who. . . this day hath made Much worke for teares in many an English mother. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 238 Lest by sauing their workmanship, my selfe might haue made worke for the hang-man. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 2 To make more Work for the Hempen Whores in London.

c. with qualifying adj., as *to make good, short, sure* (etc.) *work* (of or with a person or thing): to do the business, or deal with the person or thing, well, shortly, surely, etc.; often with special implication, as *to make short work* of or *with*, to destroy or put an end to quickly; to settle and dismiss peremptorily; *to make sure work with*, to secure, to get safely into one's possession or control.

1592 SHAKS. *Rom.* & *Jul.* II. vi. 35 Come with me, & we will make short worke. 1607 — *Cor.* IV. vi. 95, 100 You haue made good worke, You and your Apron men. . . You haue made faire worke. 1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* 265 Having made sure worke with one, she [sc. the spider] hyeth her to the Center of her Web, obseruing. . . whether any newe prey will come. 1706 M. HENRY *Gen.* xxxviii. 7 Sometimes God makes quick work with sinners. a 1774 GOLDSM. tr. *Scarron's Com. Romance* (1775) I. 164 Believing they would at last make shorter work with me, and dispatch me with pistols. 1789 TWINING *Aristotle's Treat. Poetry* (1812) II. 52 Seeing what strange work Lord Shaftsbury has made with this passage in his. . . translation of it. 1824 SCOTT *Redgauntlet* let. xi, Wild wark they made of it; for the Whigs were as dour as the Cavaliers were fierce. 1826 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* VI. i, It is a very awful tale, sir, but I will make short work of it. 1859 H. KINGSLAY *G. Hamlyn* xli, The Doctor, on his. . . mare, was making good work of it across the plains. 1885 *Law Times* LXXIX. 169/2 A Lords Committee would probably make very short work of these precedents. *** with qualifying adj. (or phr.): see also 1 c, d,

14, 31 c).

32. good work: a morally commendable or virtuous act; an act of kindness or good will; esp. (in religious and theological use) an act of piety; usually *pl.* such acts done in obedience to divine law, or as the fruits of faith or godliness (cf. 1 b).

c 1000 *Rule of Chrodegang* i, þurh soðe lufe & þurh hyrsumnesse & þurh oðre gode worc. c 1020 *Rule St. Benet* (Logeman) 14 5if beteran oðram on godum weorcum & eadmodren we beoð gemette. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 9 Oðre gode werke þe nu were long eou to telle. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 26525 Es na god were wit-vten mede, Ne na wic wit-vten wrak. 1340 *Ayenb.* 160 Zigge ieh wel, þet in on wyt pise zeue uirtues be-uore yzed byþe þe bojes of rihtuolnesse, and al þet frut of guod werkes þet of ham weþex belongeþ to pise trawe. 1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* xxvi. 10 What be 3e heuy [gloss or sory] to this womman? sothely a good work she hath wrougt in me. c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* I. iii. 13 He ouȝte be doughty and strong into gode werkis. 1516 *Kal. New Leg. Eng.* (Pynson) 2 He dyed in great Age full of gode werkes & vertues. 1596 HARRINGTON *Metam. Ajax* 41 When a man hath done but two good werkes in all his life. 1653 W. RAMESEY *Astrol. Rest.* 183 Those times are to be shunned at the beginning of any good work. 1724 ERSKINE *Serm.*, *Tit.* iii. 8 Wks. (1791) 92 To make a work a good work, it must be done, by a good and holy person, renewed by the Spirit of Christ, and justified by his merit. a 1819 G. HILL *Lect. Div.* v. iii. (1850) 472 Good works are the fruits and evidences of a true and lively faith. 1887 J. HUTCHISON *Lect. Phil.* iii. 25 Every good work wrought within us and wrought by us.

b. In trivial sense, esp. in phrases *carry on with*, *get on with*, *keep up*, etc. *the good work*.

1920 'SAPPER' *Bull-Dog Drummond* xii. 309 Vallance Nestor carried the good work on. 1938 G. GREENE *Brighton Rock* vii. ix. 347 Drink up. We better get on with the good work. a 1953 E. O'NEILL *Long Day's Journey* (1956) I. 17 So keep up the good work, Mary.

**** 33. Proverbs and proverbial sayings.

14. . . [see *HAND sb.* 62 e]. c 1530 R. HILLES *Comm.-pl. Bk.* (1858) 140 Meny hondys makyth lyght werke. 1670 RAY *Prov.* 158 All work and no play, makes Jack a dull boy. 1897 *Globe* 9 July 1/2 Heroic conduct of this type has to be, and is, regarded by British officers. . . as 'all in the day's work'.

IV. 34. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. Simple *attrib.*, as *work-boat*, *-chant*, *-hour*, *-life*, *light*, *-load* (LOAD sb. 4 c), *-norm* (NORM I c), *-pause*, *-place*, *-plan*, *-room*, *-site*, *-song*, *-thing*, *-time*, *-tool*, *-week*, *-yard* (see also WORK-DAY, etc.); (of persons) employed in manual, mechanical, or industrial labour, as *work-gang*, *-girl*, *-lass*, *-person*, *-servant* (see also WORK-FOLK, -MAN, etc.); (of animals) used for work on a farm or otherwise (= 'of burden' or 'of draught'), as *work-beast*, *-horse*, *-mare*, *-nag*, *-ox*, *-steer*, *-stock* (cf. OE. *weorcnieten*); (of clothes) worn for work, as *work boot*, *-clothes*, *pants*, *-shirt*, *-shoe*, *-wear*, pertaining to or used for needlework or the like (see 16), as *work-case*, *-desk*, *-drawer*, *-pattern*, *-stand* (see also *work-bag*, etc. in d). b. Objective, etc., as *work-seeker*, *work-producing* adj. c. Instrumental, as *work-driven*, *-gnarled*, *-hard*, *-hardened*, *-soiled*, *-stained*, *-thickened*, *-wan*, *-weary*, *-worn* adjs. d. Special comb.: *work-and-back* *Printing* = *sheet-work* s.v. SHEET sb.¹ 12 b; *work and tumble*, *work and turn*, *work and twist*, methods of printing the second side of a sheet of paper from the same forme as the first (see *quots.*); *work-bag*, *-basket*, a bag, or basket, to contain implements and materials for needlework; *work-bench*, a bench, with accessories, at which mechanics work, esp. a carpenter's bench; *work-board*, a board upon which some kind of manual work is done; *work book*, (a) in a business firm etc., a book containing a record of daily duties, work (to be) done, etc.; (b) (chiefly U.S.), a book in which are set out problems to be worked out, questions to be answered, etc.; *work-box*, a box to contain instruments and materials for needlework; *work camp* orig. U.S., (a) a camp organized for a work project, esp. by volunteers serving the community; (b) = *labour camp* s.v. LABOUR, LABOR sb. 8; *work card*, (a) a card issued by one's employer and serving as a kind of identity document; (b) a pupil's card on which are set out questions to be answered, problems to be worked, etc. (cf. *work-book* (b) above); *work-covenant* *Theol.* = *Covenant of Works* (see COVENANT sb. 8 a, and cf. sense 1 b above); *work ethic*, work seen as virtuous in itself, a term usu. connected with Protestant attitudes and deriving from Max Weber's thesis on the origins of modern capitalism (cf. *Protestant ethic* s.v. PROTESTANT a. 1 b); *work experience*, work projects arranged for the purpose of providing experience of employment, esp. for school-leavers; *work-fellow* = *work-mate*; *work-field*, (a) a field or piece of ground used for training in farm-work; (b) a 'field' of work, region of activity; *work flow*, in an office or industrial organization, the sequence of processes through which a piece of work passes from initiation to completion; *work-force*, the workers or employees collectively, usu. of a particular firm or industry; *work furlough* U.S., leave of absence from prison by day in order to continue in one's daily work; *work group*, (a) a group of people in a factory or the like who customarily work together; (b) = *work party* (a) below; *work-hand*, (a) [HAND sb. 8] a person employed by another to do work; (b) with defining adj. [HAND sb. 9], as a *good work-hand*, one who is a 'good hand' at work, a capable worker; *work-harden* v. *trans.* *Metallurgy*, to toughen (a metal) by cold-working; also *intr.*, to become tough as a result of cold-working; so *work-hardened* *ppl.* a., *work-hardening* *vbl.* sb.; *work head*, (a) = HEADSTOCK 1 b; (b) an interchangeable working attachment for a powered implement or tool; *work-holder*, a device in a sewing-machine for holding the work or fabric; † *work-holy* a. *Theol.*, aiming at or pretending to holiness on the ground of works (see 1 b); *work-horse*, (a) a horse used for work on a farm; (b) *fig.*, a machine, person, etc., that dependably performs arduous labour; *work-in-progress*, work undertaken but not completed, esp. (a) in commerce (see *quot.* 1978); (b) in the arts; † *work-jail*, a penal workhouse; *work-lead*, † (a) a vat (LEAD sb.¹ 5 a) used for fermentation; (b) = G. *werkblei*, lead as it comes from the smelting furnace, containing impurities; † *work-like* a., inclined for work, industrious; *work-mate*, a fellow-labourer, one engaged in the same work with another or others; *work measurement* (see *quot.* 1979); *work-minded* a., eager to work hard; eager to go out to work;

hence *work-mindedness*; *workmonger*, a controversial term for one who expects to be justified by works (see 1 b); *work name*, an alias used by someone engaged in secret intelligence work; *work party*, (a) a group of people who come together to carry out a piece of work of mutual or social benefit; (b) = *working party* s.v. WORKING *ppl.* a. 2 c (d); *work permit*, a document representing official permission to take a job in a foreign country; *workpiece*, the object which is worked on with a machine or tool; *work point*, in the People's Republic of China, a unit used in calculating wages due, based on the quality and quantity of work done; *work rate* *Football*, the extent to which a player contributes towards the fatiguing running and chasing in a game; *work release* U.S. = *work furlough* above; *work-rule* U.S., one of a set of regulations governing working procedures, conditions, etc., in a business or industry; *work-sharing*, short-time working by all employees within an industry intended to prevent redundancies when there is an excess of available man-power; *work-sheet*, (a) = *work-book* (a) above; also *fig.*; (b) U.S., a questionnaire; (c) a paper on which are recorded notes, calculations, etc., relating to work in progress; (d) a list of exercises, problems, etc., to be worked by a student (cf. *work-book* (b) above); *work-shy* a., shy of or disinclined for work, lazy; also *absol.* as sb.; hence *work-shyness*; *work-space*, (a) *Computers* = *working storage* s.v. WORKING *vbl.* sb. 16 b; (b) space (for people) to work in; *work-stone*, a sloping cast-iron plate (? originally a stone) in the front of an ore-hearth, with a groove down which the melted metal flows; *work study*, (a) investigation of the methods of working in a business, etc., with the aim of increasing output and efficiency; (b) used *attrib.* with reference to schemes of combining work and study established in Communist China; *work surface* = *work-top* below; cf. *working surface* s.v. WORKING *vbl.* sb. 16 b; *work-table*, a table for supporting working materials and tools; esp. a small table with compartments and drawers, and sometimes with a well for needlework; *work-team*, (a) a team of draught-horses, oxen, etc.; (b) a team of people who work together, a work group, *spec.* in Communist China any of the working units making up a commune; *work-top*, a table or other flat surface suitable for working on, esp. in a kitchen; *work-train*, a train of wagons or trucks for conveying materials for construction or repair of a railway, etc.

1959 L. M. HARROD *Librarians' Gloss.* (ed. 2) 249 *Sheet work*, printing one side of a sheet of paper from an 'inner forme' and the other from an 'outer forme'. Also called 'work and back'. 1967 E. CHAMBERS *Photolitho-Offset* ii. 18 *Sheet work* is the term used to indicate that two formes are used to print the sheet, sometimes called 'work and back'. 1931 H. JAHN *Hand Composition* xvi. 251 The 'work-and-tumble' method... in a broad sense is also a work-and-turn method. *Ibid.* 254 In the work-and-tumble form the pages are so imposed that the sheet must be 'tumbled' or turned on the 'long cross'. 1959 L. M. HARROD *Librarians' Gloss.* (ed. 2) 296 *Work and tumble*, the method of printing the second side of a sheet of paper by turning it over in its narrow direction and feeding it into a printing machine to print the reverse side. 1888 *Work and turn [see *sheet-work* s.v. SHEET sb. 12 b]. 1919 V. POSSNETT *Stonework* 49/3 The sheet may be turned over after the first side has been printed, and the same edge of the sheet fed to the grippers for a second impression. This is termed 'work-and-turn'. 1931 H. JAHN *Hand Composition* xvi. 263 The Dexter standard jobbing folder... makes thirteen different folds adapted to work-and-turn and sheetwise forms. 1964 *Work-and-turn* [see *half-sheet* (b) s.v. HALF- II. n]. 1930 20th Cent. *Encycl. Printing* viii. 253 The 'work and twist' form is used for the printing of ruled work where the vertical and horizontal rules of a sheet are printed with one impression. 1968 *Gloss. Terms Offset Lithogr. Printing* (B.S.I.) 25 *Work and twist*, printing one side of the sheet, then reversing the sidelay edges and front and back edges of the sheet, and printing the same side again with the same printing plate. 1775 TWISS *Trav. Port. & Sp.* 36, I bought here several *work-bags made in the Brasils. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* v. Some half-dozen reticules and work-bags, 'containing documents', as she informed us. 1743 BULKELEY & CUMMINS *Voy. S. Seas* 39 A small Basket... about the Size of the Womens *Work-baskets in England. 1897 VOYNICH *Gadfly* i. vii, His mother's work-basket stood in a little cupboard. 1380 *Lay Folks Catech.* (L.) 866 Thow schalt not coueyte py neyzborys wyf... ne his oxe ne his *werk-best. 1782 T. JEFFERSON *Notes State Virginia* (1787) 275 While we have land to labour then, let us never wish to see our citizens occupied at a *work-bench, or twirling a distaff. 1864 R. KERR *Gentl. Ho.* 307 A Carpenter's Shop... will contain... the well-known work-bench of the trade, and perhaps a lathe. 1811 SUTCLIFF *Trav. N. Amer.* 58 A tailor... whose *work-board being at a front window, he had an opportunity of noticing the passengers in the street. 1885 C. G. W. LOCK *Workshop Rec.* Ser. IV. 325/1 The [watchmaker's] 'workboard' should be made of well-seasoned wood. 1941 H. I. CHAPPELLE *Boatbuilding* v. 339 Lines of a 45-foot

*workboat. 1977 *Washington Post* 4 Sept. A12/3 A fleet of workboats is continually dredging a passable channel. 1910 A. BENNETT *Clayhanger* III. vi. 371 Edwin was familiar with every detail of the printer's *work-book. 1932 W. D. LEWIS et al. (title) *Practical workbook* in English. 1959 HALAS & MANVELL *Technique Film Animation* xix. 171 The Work Book is derived directly from the final storyboard, and is an analysis of each shot and sequence on a frame-by-frame basis. 1960 G. E. EVANS *Horse in Furrow* ix. 115 Work Books offer us a great deal of information about farming methods at this time [sc. early nineteenth century]. 1975 *Publishers Weekly* 17 Nov. 98/1 With its workbook approach of charts, graphs, questionnaires and the like, this book will put some women off. 1976 *National Observer* (U.S.) 22 May 16/1 At first wearing a suit, then gradually assuming *work boots and old clothes. 1605 P. ERONDELL *French Garden* sig. E7 verso, I haue not my siluer thimble, it is within my *work-box. 1790 F. BURNAY *Diary* Jan. (1940) 263 Everything... was spread about, as in any common day—work-boxes, netting-cases, etc. etc! 1811 MISS HAWKINS *Countess & Gertrude*, Workbox. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* viii, Berry brought out a little work-box... and fell to working busily. 1933 NICHOLS & GLASER *Work Camps for America* 13 The types of participants in *work camps vary according to the purpose of the camps and the organizations which control them. 1943 F. L. WRIGHT *Autobiogr.* (rev. ed.) IV. 309 Now by way of an architect's work-camp comes fresh adventures in the desert. 1964 M. BANTON *Policeman in Community* iii. 56 They stopped to talk with a youth they knew who was serving a sentence in a work camp. 1970 *Honey* June 106/3 International Work Camps are held in most countries. Some camps offer paid work in forestry or farming. Others have specific projects that are usually related to social service. 1981 'W. HAGGARD' *Money Men* i. 18 The Gestapo... had sent him back to Germany to a work camp where he'd been starved to death. 1984 *Listener* 11 Oct. 26/1 An elaborate process of deception was instituted, by which the evacuation of Jews to the death-camps was disguised as a 'resettlement' into 'work-camps'. 1959 M. LEVIN *Eva* 4, I managed to get a blank German *work card. 1966 J. DERRICK *Teaching Eng. to Immigrants* 230 The work cards, picture-cards, wall pictures and flashcards which accompany the course, are also recommended. 1975 A. WATSON *Living in China* iv. 99 The work card issued by the place of employment is an important means of social identification. 1980 *Daily Tel.* 12 Feb. 6/8 Instead of text books the scheme uses a series of work-cards... These... are distributed to the pupils according to their ability. 1879 MRS. A. E. JAMES *Ind. Househ. Managem.* 25 You must... have a *work-case with thread, cotton, needles, pins, thimble, scissors, knife, and pencil. 1946 R. BLESCH *Shining Trumpets* i. iii. 57 Perhaps the most familiar form of *work-chant is the vendor's street cry. 1967 A. L. LLOYD *Folk Song in Eng.* i. 54 The work-chants of Portland quarrymen. 1901 'MARK TWAIN' in *Century Mag.* Nov. 26/2 Tommy was... in his dreadful *work-clothes. 1978 F. WELDON *Praxis* xx. 170 She changed out of her work clothes. 1892 WESTCOTT *Gospel of Life* 260 The *work-covenant of Sinai brings to light the duty and the weakness of men. 1611 FLORIO, *Scrinetto*, a little shrine, chest, coffin, or deske... Also a womans *worke-deske. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* viii, She took from her *work-drawer an enormous... piece of knitting. 1880 E. H. ROLLINS *New Eng. Bygones* (1883) 42 These farmers... were almost always *work-driven and weary. 1959 *Past & Present* xv. 44 Weber also asserted that Calvinistic Protestantism was an indispensable precondition of the development of a capitalistic *work ethic. 1973 P. A. WHITNEY *Snowfire* vi. 112 The work ethic, you mean?... my little Puritan. 1980 *Jrnl. R. Soc. Arts* July 468/1 They are showing the way which we should follow—if only we were not 'locked on to' some puritanical work ethic. 1975 *Whitaker's Almanack* 1976 1041/2 In recent years there has been a marked growth in the provision of *work-experience' schemes which involve the participation of pupils in the work of industrial, commercial and other firms. 1983 *Fortune* 16 May 112/3 CETA's primary approach, providing 'work experience' in temporary public service jobs, does no good at all, presumably because the jobs don't lead anywhere. Work experience has big payoffs, however, when it comes in the form of on-the-job training for a permanent position in the private sector. 1526 TINDALE *Rom.* xvi. 21 Thimotheus my *worke fellow. 1564 *Brief Exam.* D. iij b, We nede many workefellowes. a 1890 J. H. NEWMAN *Meditations* (1893) II. 289 We thus pray... for our associates and work-fellows. 1903 C. COLERIDGE *Charlotte M. Yonge* x. 276 She was the most delightful comrade, workfellow, or playfellow. 1888 *Times* (weekly ed.) 9 Nov. 9/3 A training-farm or *workfield' managed by the poor-law authorities. 1918 ABP. DAVIDSON in *Times* 30 Dec. 6/3 Their activities are in his larger workfield now. 1950 I. A. HERRMAN *Office Methods, Systems, & Procedures* vii. 131 *Work flow diagrams are effective in solving various kinds of problems. 1976 *National Observer* (U.S.) 19 June 2/4 Byrd is a master of legislative detail with a reputation as a fair-minded manager who accelerates the work flow. 1961 *Times* 30 May 13/7 Books come off no assembly line. The raw material is provided by a notoriously undisciplined *work-force. 1982 *Daily Tel.* 18 Nov. 2/1 They were non-unionised because 'that is the wish of the majority of the work force'. 1957 *Statutes of California* 1956 & 1957 II. MDLXXX. 2933 If the court so directs that the prisoner be permitted to continue in his regular employment, the *work furlough administrator shall arrange for a continuation of such employment so far as possible without interruption. *Ibid.* 2934 This section shall be known... as the 'Work Furlough Rehabilitation Law'. 1970 *Criminology* May 63 Work furlough has been used... for felons as well as misdemeanants. 1980 *New Age* (U.S.) Oct. 15/2 Both men received suspended jail sentences and three years probation; each will serve about a month in a work-furlough program or community service and must undergo psychiatric counselling. 1948 *Common Ground* Summer 41/2 Their pianos sound the *work-gang chorus. 1981 W. EBERSOHN *Divide Night* xii. 157 A work gang... cleaning up the litter along the road. 1848 MRS. GASKELL *Mary Barton* iv, The blooming young *work-girl. 1886 BESANT *Childr. Gibbon* i. vi, We're work-girls, and we've got to earn our living. 1913 D. H. LAWRENCE *Sons & Lovers* x. 256 She began to spare her hands. They, too, were *work-gnarled now. 1957 J. KEROUAC *On Road* vi. 216 A wiry... man... with work-gnarled hands. 1954 J. A. C. BROWN *Social Psychol. of Industry* iv. 114 A factory or a society is not ordinarily a mass of isolated individuals...; it is an integrated pattern of

primary *work-groups. 1960 *Ann. Reg.* 1959 381 All of them [sc. sects] laid emphasis on activity: dancing, propagation of the faith, and free labour with work-groups building and cleaning temples. 1972 M. ARGYLE *Social Psychol. of Work* ix. 233 Many studies have shown that job satisfaction is affected by relationships in the work group. 1834 W. SEWALL *Diary* (1930) 154 He was an excellent *work hand. 1866 CARLYLE E. *Irving in Remin.* (1881) I. 129 Miller's assistant and work-hand for many years was John Bell, a joiner. 1893 T. N. PAGE *Ole Virginia* 173 He was a good work-hand, and a first-class boatman. 1932 W. FAULKNER *Light in August* i. 14 The gray woman not plump and not thin, manhard, *workhard, in a serviceable gray garment. 1924 *Engineer* 7 Mar. 249/1 Metal rolled cold or drawn through dies may be *work-hardened to an extent rendering it quite unsuitable for further working. *Ibid.* 251/2 It may be that its [sc. 'browning's'] real function is to reduce the tendency of the steel to work-harden. 1961 *New Scientist* 16 Mar. 672/1 The ability of the material to work-harden by deformation more than compensates for the thermal weakening of the interatomic bonds. 1972 *Mineral. Mag.* XXIII. 265/2 Naturally deformed galena has been 'work-hardened' by tectonic movement. 1984 E. P. DEGARMO et al. *Materials & Processes in Manuf.* (ed. 6) ii. 41 When most materials are plastically deformed, they work-harden; that is, they become harder and the yield-point stress is raised. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *Adam Bede* iv. She stands knitting... with her *work-hardened hands. 1924 *Jrnl. Iron & Steel Inst.* CX. 431 The abnormally low value of the limit of proportionality... is found in both quench-hardened and work-hardened steels. 1973 J. G. TWEEDDALE *Materials Technol.* II. iv. 102 Cold drawing can impart a good surface finish and accurate size to a product and leaves the material in a work-hardened condition which is often desirable. 1924 *Engineer* 7 Mar. 248/2 (heading) *Work-hardening of metals and the Herbert tester. 1973 J. G. TWEEDDALE *Materials Technol.* II. iv. 87 The work-hardening can be used to give enhanced strength. 1930 *Engineering* 25 Apr. 538/3 A pair of flat ways for the *work-head, tailstock and journal supports. 1960 *Farmer & Stockbreeder* 12 Jan. 121/1 (Advnt.). Other workheads, quickly interchangeable without tools, include — 12 and 17 in. hedge-cutters, pruning saw, etc. 1964 S. CRAWFORD *Basic Engin. Processes* vii. 194 The workhead is... a self-contained unit carried at the opposite end of the table to the tailstock. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2120/2 The cylinder sewing-machine has a cylindrical *work-holder for sewing seams on sleeves, trousers, ... and other tubular work. 1528 TINDALE *Obed. Chr. Man* 42b, The sophistres, *werke-holy, & iustifiars, ... which so magnifie their dedes. 1543 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 41 Inventarye... in y^e stable... Item iiij^{or} *warke horses. 1812 SIR J. SINCLAIR *Syst. Husb.* Scot. i. 17 A pair of work-horses may be accommodated in a space of sixteen feet by eight. 1949 *Sun* (Baltimore) 3 Oct. 2/6 This caliber howitzer has gained the reputation of being the 'work horse' of the Army. 1966 *Electronics* 3 Oct. 54 The satellites will be launched on improved versions of the workhorse Delta vehicle. 1973 *Listener* 20 Dec. 841/2 Gerald Ford... has been known... as the most dependable of Republican work-horses. 1981 H. ENGEL *Ransom Game* (1982) xxii. 133 The big barn doors. The entrance is on the lower floor, where the cows and work horses used to be. 1982 *Habitat Catal.* 1982/83 56/2 A real workhorse of a table, with maple block top. 1985 A. BLOND *Book Book* iii. 42 An admirable workhorse of a publisher. 1848 MRS. GASKELL *Mary Barton* vii. To try and get a little sleep before *work-hour. *Ibid.*, Unfettered by work-hours. 1930 *Times* 25 Mar. 24/5 *Work in progress, less instalments thereon, is £141,069, against £47,351 in the previous year. 1952 R. GIROUX *Let.* 10 Mar. in Breit & Lowry *Sel. Lett.* M. Lowry (1967) 450 It is clear that the place of the finished book will be important in your long work-in-progress. 1976 P. ISRAEL *French Kiss* (1977) ii. 24 The work-in-progress on one of the easels. 1978 J. KELLOCK *Elements of Accounting* x. 176 *Work-in-progress*, is the value of incomplete work in the factory and is usually computed on the following basis: the cost of materials and production labour plus the proportion of indirect expenses chargeable to the work up to its present stage of manufacture. 1618 BOLTON *Florus* (1636) 233 Breaking up the *werke-jayles, or bridle-wels [L. *refractis ergastulis*] by right of Warre. 1834 POULETT SCROPE in *Hansard's Parl. Debates* Ser. III. XXIII. 1326 The whole country must be studded with district workhouses, or rather work-gaols. 1920 D. H. LAWRENCE *Lost Girl* vi. 98 Yet it was always packed with colliers and *work-lasses. 1471-2 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 156 Pro operatione cc^o v^o viij petr. plumbi in iiij *workledes, brewedes, et j stpled. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, *Work-lead*. See *Base bullion*. 1946 J. W. DAY *Harvest Adventure* vii. 112 The pond... is tenanted by tame decoy ducks, pinioned, whose *work-life is to lure the wild birds down. 1977 *National Observer* (U.S.) 1 Jan. 1/2 Men... committed to serious and demanding work lives. 1947 J. STEINBECK *Wayward Bus* 13 Get the *work-light on the long cord connected. 1977 *Chicago Tribune* 2 Oct. 1. 53 (Advnt.), Self-cleaning oven... Fluorescent worklight. a 1642 BEDELL *Erasmus* in Fuller *Abel Rediv.* (1651) 57 Seven Cities, no contemptible portion of witty and *work-like Greece. 1946 *Work-load [see LOAD sb. 4c]. 1962 *Listener* 4 Jan. 4/1 The application of time study to speed and tighten up the work load. 1962 J. GLENN in *Into Orbit* 195, I pushed and pulled thirty times at the bungee cord which permitted me to exercise with a known workload. 1978 G. A. SHEEHAN *Running & Being* xv. 210, I shift to shorter steps... to maintain the same workload. 1985 *Times* 18 Jan. 5/1 He is one of more than 1,000 teachers whose workload is being analysed by the National Union of Teachers in a survey to be published next week. 1627 DRAYTON *Agincourt* lxxviii, A *Work-mayd in her Summers weed, With Sheafe and Sickle. 1587 *Lanc. Wills* (Chetham Soc.) 144 One *worke horse or maire. 1851 H. MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* (1861) II. 95 The man accordingly got a boat, and was soon afloat among his old *workmates. 1948 (title) Manual of procedures: *work measurement in public works offices (U.S. Bureau of Yards & Docks). 1969 J. ARGENTI *Managem. Techniques* 271 The procedure used in Work Measurement to determine the amount of labour required to do a job is to time how long it takes the average man to perform each element of the job. 1979 *Gloss. Terms Work Study* (B.S.I.) 2 *Work measurement*, the application of techniques designed to establish the time for a qualified worker to carry out a task at a defined rate of working. 1954 *Encounter* Sept. 33/1 The Army requires... *work-minded people who try to do a good job of whatever they're told to do. 1968 *Economist* 11 May 46/1

The more 'work-minded' a mum in her later years, the less available she is to look after her daughter's kids. 1960 *Encounter* Nov. 27/1 William H. Whyte, Jr.,... points out that some large corporations, worried about the decline in *work-mindedness, are seeking to substitute an ideology of corporate loyalty. 1549 ALLEN *Jude's Par.* Rev. xii. 3-6 The truth of the christen faith... beyng persecuted... of Emperours and Kynges, of *workmongers. 1581 MARBECK *Bk. Notes* 882 The Harlots and Publicans repenting truly, and... submitting themselves to the mercie of God, are more acceptable vnto God, then y^e proud workmongers, that trust in their owne righteousness. 1882 MRS. BOOTH *Addr. Crit. Salvation Army* 7 One class of critics stigmatise us as being... work-mongers. 1576 *Wills & Inv. N.C.* (Surtees 1835) I. 411, ij *woryke nagges. 1977 'J. LE CARRÉ' *Hon. Schoolboy* iii. 54 Karla... was the *workname of the Soviet case officer who had recruited Bill Haydon... and had the running of him. 1959 *Encounter* Feb. 14/2 At the local level, there must always be potential disputes between workers and management over redundancy, *work-norms, wage-differentials... and so on. 1980 *Times* 24 May 14/7 You can poke fun at life under Communism... how to fiddle your work-norms. 1567 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 210, xxj *work oxen. 1897 O. WISTER in *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 534/2 He looked as wise as a work-ox. 1927 *Amer. Speech* II. 366/2 The man had on his *work pants this morning. 1978 H. C. RAE *Sullivan* i. ii. 19 Denim workpants slung low on his thick hips. 1957 R. FRANKENBERG *Village on Border* 20 They [sc. women] also work together in sewing groups and *work-parties preparing material for sales-of-work. 1957 V. W. TURNER *Schism & Continuity in an African Society* 1. 22 The cutting and clearing of bush... may involve a collective work-party... of kin and neighbours. 1981 I. BOLAND tr. *Ginzburg's Within Whirlwind* i. iii. 22 Many considered the shock of being drafted to a work party every bit as bad as being arrested. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* xxix, Miss Bertram's *work-patterns. 1894 A. S. ROBERTSON *Provost o' Glendookie* 91 The Glendookie year contained two *work-pauses. 1965 *Globe & Mail* (Toronto) 26 June 13/3 The Union des Artistes will give endless *work permits, he points out, but is most cautious about applications for membership. 1971 *Times* 25 Feb. 4/1 A Commonwealth citizen wishing to work here in future will need a work permit issued for a specific job in a specific place for a fixed initial period. 1983 *Daily Tel.* 12 May 4/8 Work permit clamp. The Singapore Government has tightened up on employment permits for foreigners. 1807 *Monthly Mag.* 1 Feb. 67/1 The return of the carriage without any assistance from the *work-person. 1980 S. BRETT *Dead Side of Mike* ii. 17 Even the most brilliant workperson in the world needs some sort of tools. 1934 WEBSTER, *Workpiece. 1949 *Tool Engineers Handbk.* (Amer. Soc. Tool Engineers) xcviij. 1544 Improper workpiece locating can readily result in excessive troubles and spoilage. 1952 *Economist* 6 Dec. 721 The guiding wheel is charged negatively and the work-piece positively. 1978 *Sci. Amer.* Nov. 110/2 The surface of the workpiece undergoes much more heating in abrasive machining than in conventional machining. a 1828 BEWICK in *Zoologist* (1862) Ser. I. XX. 8150 He had it sent for to my *work-place. 1875 *Act 38 & 39 Vict.* c. 55 §91 Any factory, work-shop, or workplace... not kept in a cleanly state. 1957 J. KEROUAC *On Road* II. ix. 170 A paper for the want ads and *workplans. 1976 *Columbus* (Montana) *News* 10 June 1/1 A district program and a work plan was written outlining the conditions and situations relating to soil and water conservation within the district. [1959 C. K. YANG *Chinese Village in Early Communist Tradition* xv. 246 For most co-operatives the distribution of income was based neither on equal sharing nor on individual needs but on the quantity and quality of labor performed under the system of labor units or points.] 1964 *Current Scene* 15 Apr. 2/2 The use of *work points rather than absolute money terms to express wages... preserves Peking's control over the allocation of the harvest. 1969 [see TACHAI]. 1979 *China Now* Jan.-Feb. 14/1 She cultivates vegetables... and earns nine workpoints a day. 1969 *Work-rate [see through ball s.v. THROUGH- 2]. 1976 *South Notts. Echo* 16 Dec. 7/5 In midfield J. Uren read the game well and with a higher work rate could be destined for higher things. 1957 *Session Laws & Resolutions State of N. Carolina* 489 The governing body of the State Prison System is authorized and directed to establish a *work release plan for those serving sentences for misdemeanors. 1981 C. BARTOLLAS *Introd. Corrections* viii. 168 Objectives of work release. 1828 SCOTT *F.M. Perth* vii. The *work-room of Simon Glover was filled to crowding by personages of no little consequence. 1848 MRS. GASKELL *Mary Barton* xiii. Thoughts... of the morrow... to be spent in that close monotonous work-room. 1963 *Economist* 16 Mar. 997/2 A committee made a two-year study of the railway dispute and recommended far-reaching changes in the *work-rules on the trains [in the U.S.], to try to eliminate the 'feather-bedding' which keeps unnecessary men on the job. 1979 *Wall Street Jrnl.* 20 Dec. 18/5 Mr. Church will be under considerable pressure to implement the [U.S. mineworkers'] convention's... work-rule demands. 1892 *Daily News* 18 May 6/1 There are no openings for *work-seekers. 1593 *Lanc. Wills* (1884) 155, I gyve... unto every one of my *work servants over and besides their waigs x s. apiece. 1934 *Planning* II. xxxiv. 12 Another group of proposals look to *work-sharing as a method of adjusting labour to labour requirements. a 1974 R. CROSSMAN *Diaries* (1976) II. 56 They were entirely concerned about the problem of redundancy and in particular the impression created by Gunter's public statements that in principle the Government is opposed to work-sharing in the motor-car industry. 1925 S. LEWIS *Arrowsmith* xxxix. 427 'I'll find out from my wife what dates we have already and telephone you tomorrow evening'. 'So you let the Old Woman keep the *work-sheet for you, huh?' 1930 *Dialect Notes* VI. 73 Professor Jud made a number of specific suggestions regarding mechanical features of the work-sheets. 1958 *Listener* 31 July 155/1 Sorted away in the stacks are some 5,000 sets of poets' worksheets, the notes, drafts, revisions. 1966 J. DERRICK *Teaching Eng. to Immigrants* 238 A new type of course, designed for eight-year-old foreign learners, consisting of gramophone records, teacher's notes, and pupils' 'working scripts' which are work-sheets and meant to be expendable. 1967 R. BREGZIS in Cox & Grose *Organization & Handling Bibl. Rec. by Computer* v. 118 NUC catalogues and other files or catalogues are checked as necessary, and all information [is] recorded on a catalogue worksheet. 1975 *Language for Life* (Dept. Educ. & Sci.) x. 145 It is even less likely to happen where children work

individually through assignment cards or work sheets. 1976 P. ALEXANDER *Death of Thin-Skinned Animal* xx. 206 Look, if you haven't done any maintenance there, boyo, how come I've got a work-sheet for renewing thirty foot of ogee guttering and repointing the bloody gable end? 1981 *Amer. Speech* 1977 LII. 167 He employed a variable questionnaire based upon the New England short worksheets. 1923 *Dialect Notes* V. 235 A *work shirt made of crossbarred cotton cloth. 1980 *Daily Tel.* 19 Nov. 15/8 (Advnt.), Fisherman's smock. Original workshirt of local fishermen. 1965 H. I. ANSOFF *Corporate Strategy* (1968) vi. 96 Royal Little has built the successful Textron Corp. composed of consumer electronics, textiles, helicopters, *work shoes, and satellite motors. 1980 D. E. WESTLAKE *Castle in Air* vi. 63 Manuel was dressed in rough corduroy trousers, heavy workshoes, and a coarse cotton shirt. 1904 H. PRESTON-THOMAS *Rep. Vagrancy Switz.* 4 If the council... decide that (to use the expressive term officially employed) he is *work-shy (*Arbeits-scheu*). 1928 *Daily Express* 2 Apr. 7/4 To make the lot of the work-shy as favourable as that of the worker. 1983 *Times* 12 Oct. 14/5 The Gravediggers' Union, understandably affronted by having their members portrayed as drunken workshies. 1904 H. PRESTON-THOMAS *Rep. Vagrancy Switz.* 9 The offence of most of them has been begging or *work-shyness. 1975 *BP Shield Internat.* May 5/4 Up to three teams of divers may be maintained under these conditions to permit a 24-hour per day diving operation at the *work-site. 1980 *Daily Tel.* 20 Mar. 28 (Advnt.), He must be an engineer, between 30 and 50, perfectly fluent in French and English, with overseas experience in work-site construction. 1932 W. FAULKNER *Light in August* ii. 28 The men in faded and *work-soiled overalls. 1911 *Jrnl. Amer. Folk-lore* XXIV. 379 Like the other songs, the *work-songs give a keen insight into the negro's real self. 1933 E. CALDWELL *God's Little Acre* xiv. 205 The sound of the picks... rose and fell in their ears to the rhythm of Uncle Felix's work-song. 1977 *Listener* 25 Aug. 244/3 The persistent play with three for four notes suggests incantation or work-songs. 1959 *New Scientist* 25 June 1375/2 Such a code would mean building an automatic translating system into existing designs of computers, thereby reducing their *work-space. 1979 KRAFT & TOY *Mini/Microcomputer Hardware Design* vii. 413 Its general register set is placed in main storage and realized as a 16-word area of memory that is considered a workspace. 1979 *Tucson* (Arizona) *Citizen* 20 Sept. 10/1 Several high-rise government office buildings with a combined work space of perhaps 100,000 to 150,000 square feet. 1985 *Which Computer?* Apr. 53/2 Even on a fully configured IBM PC... you can find yourself running out of workspace. 1892 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 15 Jan. 3/2 His rough and *work-stained hearers. 1901 *Scotsman* 8 Oct. 5/1 There are some of us who have learned to love that work-stained river. 1849 C. BRONTE *Shirley* xxix. He placed another chair opposite that near the *work-stand. 1911 *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 359/2 Setting him up with a *work-steer and a milk cow. 1877 *Rep. Indian Affairs* 22 Unprecedented storms and heavy roads had... broken down our light Indian *work-stock. 1883 'MARK TWAIN' *Life on Miss.* 603 The people cared first for their work stock, horses and mules were housed in a place of safety. 1911 *Blackw. Mag.* Sept. 360/2 Wheat... for his work-stock feed. 1667 in Pettus *Fodina Reg.* (1670) 35 Five Hearths with Backs, Cheeks, *Workstones, Iron Plates, and other necessities. 1884 C. G. W. LOCK *Workshop Rec.* Ser. III. 336/2 Extending forwards from the front of the hearth... is an iron plate called the 'fore-stone' or 'work-stone'. c 1951 (title) The implications of *work study (Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd.). 1962 E. SNOW *Other Side of River* (1963) xxx. 227 Part-time and work-study middle schools are discussed in the next chapter. 1965 J. CH'EN MAO & *Chinese Revolution* (1967) i. iii. 72 In August 1920 Mao and others founded a small Russian affairs study group as well as sponsoring a Work-study Scheme for students to go to Russia. *Ibid.* v. 95 Work-study students who had just returned from France or Russia. 1978 *Cornish Guardian* 27 Apr. 6/7 (Advnt.), Applicants would be expected to have at least two years' practical experience in the Work Study and O & M field. 1971 *House & Garden* Dec. 76/2 Spotlights illuminating *work surfaces and dining-area. 1979 J. BARNETT *Backfire is Hostile!* xii. 117 They were inside a kitchen, work surfaces, refrigerator, an electric cooker gleamed. 1790 F. BURNET *Diary* Jan. (1905) IV. 348 Dr. Fisher says he hopes it was not a card-table, and rather believes it was only a Pembroke *work-table. 1800 S. & HT. LEE *Canterb. T.* (ed. 2) III. 139 On one side stood an ornamental work-table. 1885 'MRS. ALEXANDER' *At Bay* i. A small basket work-table, overflowing with bright-colored wools and silk. 1885 *Ann. Rep. U.S. Office Indian Affairs* 41 There is a growing desire among these Indians to obtain and care for stock and work cattle... The desire to obtain *work-teams has been great. 1933 L. I. WILDER *Farmer Boy* xi. 75 He was old enough to... drive the old, gentle work-team... They were wise, sober mares. 1951 R. FIRTH *Elem. Social Organization* ii. 47 The clash between the values of... work-team and church which so often occurs in a highly differentiated larger community. 1965 *New Statesman* 3 Sept. 321/1 The giant communes were divided into smaller units. The basic unit is a work-team, generally about the size of an average village. 1972 M. ARGYLE *Social Psychol. of Work* x. 252 The construction of work-teams, introducing democratic supervision, participation in management, and arousal of intrinsic motivation all increase cooperation. 1978 *China Now* Mar./Apr. 18/2 Each family belongs to a work team... a group of teams makes up a brigade, and... the brigades together make up the commune as a whole. 1931 W. FAULKNER *Sanctuary* xvi. 146 Along the fence a row of heads hatted and bare above *work-thickened shoulders. 1970 L. JEFFERS *My Blackness is the Beauty of this Land* 8 Work-thickened hand thoughtful and gentle on grandson's head. 1812 MISS MITFORD in L'Estrange *Life* (1870) I. 168 The playthings and the *workthings, that this unlucky search discovered. 1882 BESANT *All Sorts* xx. (1898) 143 During *work-time he planned amusements for Miss Kennedy and her girls. 1889 BROWNING *Asolando, Epilogue* iv. At noonday in the bustle of man's work-time. 1588 *Lanc. Wills* (Chetham Soc.) 151 Bellows and other *work tools. 1955 E. POUND *Classic Anthol.* 1. 78 We have blunted our axes, We lack work-tools. 1953 *Archit. Rev.* CXIV. 127/1 Though not as highly resistant to abrasion as Formica it is considerably cheaper, and suitable for anything but *worktops where there is much cutting and sliding. 1967 *Observer* 21 May 30/5 A work-top bridging two drawer units makes a perfectly good dressing-table. 1978 *Lancashire Life*

Oct. 125/1 (Adv.). Now in our upstairs showroom shown in three displays of door and worktop colour—the kitchen of rounded edges—doors and worktops in a host of colours and textures. 1984 *Which?* Oct. 458/3 If you are going to use tiles for a worktop, check that they have good scratch resistance. 1884 *Lisbon* (Dakota) *Star* Oct. 10 The *work-train is again engaged in hauling gravel on the road. 1877 TENNYSON *Harold* i. 1. 54 Look! am I not *Work-wan, flesh-fallen? 1967 *St. Andrews Citizen* 25 Feb. 5/4 Men's *workwear. Full range mens overalls...trousers, jackets, coats and boilersuits. 1981 *Daily Tel.* 22 Sept. 9 (Adv.). The workwear rental company. 1853 C. BRONTË *Villette* I. v. 82 A brief holiday, permitted for once to *work-weary faculties. 1865 MRS. L. L. CLARKE *Common Seaweeds* iv. 75 The man of business takes a ramble on the sea shore, work-weary. 1935 *Economist* 26 Oct. 802/1 Hourly wage rates are a little higher...the *work-week is a little longer. 1980 *News & Observer* (Raleigh, N. Carolina) 28 Oct. 21/3 Layoffs in a local furniture plant and shortened workweeks at county textile mills. 1865 C. STANFORD *Symb. Christ* vi. (1878) 170 When for a few moments that *work-worn man takes up his Bible. 1614 T. GENTLEMAN *England's Way* 31 Houses, and *work-yards erected for Coopers, and Rope-makers. 1864 R. KERR *Gentl. Ho.* 308 An enclosed Work-yard is...required... The Workshops ought to face it.

35. *attrib. and Comb. with works* (sense 18), as *works bus, canteen, club, kitchen, manager, outing; works committee, council*, a committee of workers or their representatives, formed for joint discussions with employers.

1969 R. BLYTHE *Akenfield* iv. 80 Works-bus waiting to carry him from door to site. 1980 A. TOWNSIN *Blue Triangle* iii. 48/1 A second works bus. 1963 A. HOWARD in *Sissons & French Age of Austerity* i. 17 The Naafi and the works-canteen. 1978 J. B. HILTON *Some run Crooked* iii. 19 He ate his midday meal in a works canteen. 1908 *Mod. Business* Aug. 69/1 Any surplus is devoted to some charity or to some of the works clubs. 1917 *Interim Rep. on Joint Standing Industr. Councils* 4 in *Parl. Papers* 1917-18 (Cd. 8606) XVIII. 415 We are of opinion that...Works Committees, representative of the management and of the workers employed, should be instituted...to act in close co-operation with the district and national machinery. 1966 T. LUPTON *Managem. & Social Sci.* iii. 63 In a small firm, Joint Consultation might take place in a Works Committee. 1925 *Glasgow Herald* 31 July 5 The most important is the Works Council Law of 1920, which requires a works council to be set up in each establishment employing 20 persons or more. 1977 *Times* 22 Sept. 2/8 The need to develop industrial democracy on the shop floor through works councils. 1908 *Mod. Business* Aug. 69/1 Another valuable outlet for its energies is the management of a Works Kitchen. 1918 A. BENNETT *Pretty Lady* xxvii. 177, I used to take their part against the works-manager. 1976 *Derbyshire Times* (Peak ed.) 3 Sept. 3/7 Mr. Marshall (26), works manager... escaped unhurt. 1943 J. B. PRIESTLEY *Daylight on Saturday* viii. 47 His bus ride to the factory... took on the air of a works outing. 1974 *Listener* 23 May 664/2 A works outing to Blackpool.

work (wɜ:k), *v.* Pa. t. and pple. worked (wɜ:kt), *arch. and techn.* wrought (rɔ:t). Forms: see below. [(1) OE. *wyrcean*, pa. t. *worhte*, pa. pple. *geworht*, = OS. *workian*, OHG. *wurchen*, *worhta*, *wurhta*, *giworht*, *gewurchet* (MHG. *wurken*, *würken*, *worhte*, *geworht*, *gewürket*), ON. *yrkja*, *orta*, *ortr*, Goth. *aurkjan*, *aurhta*, *aurkht*;—Oteut. **wurkjan*, **wurxt*; (2) OE. (Mercian) *wircan*, = OFris. *werkia*, *wirza*, *wrochte*, *wrocht*, OS. *wirkian*, *war(a)hta*, *war(a)ht*, OHG. *wirchen*, *warahtha* (MHG. *wirken*, *warhte*, G. *wirken*; *wirkte*, *gewirkt*), ON. *verkja*, *virka* to feel pain:—Oteut. **werkjan*, **warxt* (-**wurxt*-.). A third OE. type represented by late *wercan*, *weorce*(e)*an* seems to point to early influence of the sb. *we(o)rc* (see *WORK sb.*) upon the vowel of the vb.

Other Teut. forms are OFris. *werka*, OS. *-werkon*, (-*werkot*), (MDu., M(LG.) *werken*, (*wrochte*, etc.), OHG. *werchôn* (MHG. *werchen*, *werken*), ON. *verka* (-*añ*) in certain technical uses, *orka* to manage, effect, contrive (Sw. *verka* to do, perform, *virka* to crochet, Da. *virke* to operate, act, weave, etc.).

The Indo-Eur. base *worg-*, *werg-*, *wrg-* is represented outside Germanic by Zend *varəzayeti* he works, Gr. *ἐργάω* (-**wergō*), *ῥέλω* (-**wergō*) I do, perf. *ἐργα*, *ῥεργανον* ORGÁN, *ῥεργον* ORGY, OIr. *fairged* they made, *do-fairce* prepares, and the forms s.v. *WARK sb.* and *v.*, and *WORK sb.*

The normal representative of OE. *wyrcean* would be **worch* (for the vocalism cf. *worm*, *worse*, *wort*); the substitution of *k* for *ch*, producing the modern standard form (wɜ:k) instead of (wɜ:tʃ), is shown in north-midland areas c 1200, and is due mainly to *WORK sb.*, though Scandinavian influence (see various forms above) is possible.

The new pa. t. and pa. pple. *worked*, formed directly on the inf. stem, became established in the 15th century; it is now the normal form except in archaic usage (in which the older form *wrought* may appear in any sense), and in senses which denote fashioning, shaping, or decorating with the hand or an implement: see *WROUGHT*.]

A. Illustration of Forms.

1. *Inf. and Pres.-stem.* a. 1 *wyrce*(e)*an*, (*wyrcean*), 2-3 *wurchen*, (3 *wrchen*, *wuerche*, *wourche*), 3-6 *wurche*, 5-6 *wurch*. β. 1 *wirc*(e)*an*, 3-5 *wirche*(n), 4-6 *wyrche*, 5 *wyrch*, *wirch*, (*whirche*), 9 *dial. wirtch*. γ. 1 *weorcean*, *wercan*, (2 *imper. wrec*), 2-4 *werchen*, (3 *werechen*), 3-5

werche. δ. 3-6 *worch*(e), (4 *worsche*, 6 *arch. woorch*en).

a. c950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. iii. 2 Hreonnisse doas *vel* *wyrca*s. *Ibid.* xxi. 28 Wuirc in winegard minne. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 75 þæt we sceolan god weorc wyrcean. c1000 *Sax. Leechd.* 11. 264 Hu mon læcedomas wiþ þon wyrcean. c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 109 On monie wisen mon mei wurchen elmessan. c1200 *wuerche* [see B. 3d]. c1205 *LAY.* 1547 Scaðe weorc wrchen. a1250 *Owl & Night.* 408 (Jesus MS.) He wile of bore wurchen [Cott. wrchen] bareh. c1450 *Godstow Reg.* 24 With feyth truly for to wurch. 1538 *BALE Thre Lawes* 1382 In Gods seruyce they honourabyle wurchen.

β. c825 *Vesp. Psalter* xiv. 2 Se...wirceð rehtwisnisse. a1250 *Owl & Night.* 722 (Cott. MS.) Clerkes ginneþ songes wirche. 13... *Northern Passion* 1354 Alle the bettry pey myghte wyrche. c1400 *Rom. Rose* 6659-65 He bad wirken whanne that neede is... Seynt Poule that loued al hooly chirche He bade thapostles forto wirche And wyngen her lyfode... And seide wirkeþ with youre honden. c1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 344 Elburwe þæt religyose house let after wirche. a1425 *tr. Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 45 þe place wher arsenek is putte in, if it wirch perfetly, shal bycome blo & bolned. c1449 *PECOCK Repr.* 11. xiii. 222 Forto...wirche holi deedis. 15... *Merch. & Son* 200 in *Hazl. E.P.P.* I. 146 He made hym evyn with every man, as far as he cowde wyrche. 1847 *HALLIWELL, Wirtch*, to ache. *North.*

γ. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 67 þæt þu scealt...Godes willan wercan. c1000 *Rule of Chrodegang* xvii, þonne hi ne purfon gemæne worc weorcean, wirce ælc sum þing þæs þe his agen neod sy. a1175 *Cott. Hom.* 225 Wrec þe me an arc. c1200 *wercheð* [see B. 21]. c1275 *LAY.* 12167 Ich wolle werechen after pine willen. c1460 *werche* [see B. 1c].

δ. c1275 *XI Pains of Hell* 310 in O.E. *Misc.* 220 Wo-so-euer wil halou þis sununday Wele and worch it ful. 1362 *LANGL. P. Pl.* A. viii. 84 Wyymen with childe þæt worchen ne mowen. c1380 *WYCLIF Wks.* (1880) 123 þei wolen not...worsche aftir good conscience. c1400 *R. Glouc. Chron.* (Rolls) App. xx. 94 Hi poute wourche wo. c1450 *Godstow Reg.* 8 Crist grawnt us grace truly to worch. 1566 *DRANT Horace, Sat.* viii. 6 To woorchien all our will. 1865 *WAUGH Lancs. Songs* 24 When a mon's honestly willin' To worch.

ε. 3 (*Orm.*) *wirrkenn*, 4 *wirc*, *wirck*(e), *wirkke*, *wyrkke*, *wyrc*, (*wrick*, *wrik*, *wryk*, *Sc. vyrk*), 4-6 *wirke*, *wyrk*(e), *Sc. virk*, 4-6, 8 *Sc. wirk*, 5 *wirken*, 5-6 *wyrcke*. ζ. 3-6 *werke*, 4 *werc*, *werkke*, *werken*, 5-6 *werk*, (6 *weorke*). η. 4-7 *worke*, 6 *woorke*, *wurk*, *Sc. vurk*, 7 *worck*, 6- *work*. θ. 5-6 *warke*, 9 *dial. wark*.

ι. c1200 *ORMIN* 10118 To wirrkenn allmess werckess. a1300 *Cursor M.* 1229 To wrik þare wik wil. *Ibid.* 2200 To wryk wondres. *Ibid.* 25251 þi will to wirc. c1330 *R. BRUNNE Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 5001 How þey schuld wyrke. c1375 *Lay Folks Mass Bk.* (MS. B.) 4 þo bokes of holy kyrc, þæt holy men...con wyrc. c1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xix. (*Christopher*) 79 To wryk in ws his wekit pouste. 1375 *BARBOUR Bruce* v. 488 He thought to wrik with slicht. a1400 *Morte Arth.* 1468 Fulle graythelye he wyrkkes. c1400 *wirken* [see 1 β]. 1530 *PLASGR.* 783/1, I wyrke...Declared in 'I worke'. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* i. 21 The iugement of gode (quhilk virkis al thyng). 1550 *CROWLEY Last Trumpet* 482 For to worycke. 1596 *DALRYMPLE tr. Leslie's Hist. Scot.* ix. (S.T.S.) II. 201 Feireng...that Angus suld wrik thame sum...iniure.

ζ. c1220 *werkeð* [see B. 10]. a1300 *Cursor M.* 14704 þe werkes þæt i werc. c1386 *CHAUCER Can. Yeom.* T. 1477 As for to werken any thyng in contrarie. c1450 *HOLLAND Howlat* 785 He couth werk wonderis. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 136b, It can werke no effect. 1553 *Respublica* 86 Avaryce maie weorke factes.

η. 1340 *Ayenb.* 206 Alneway workinde. 14... *Sir Beues* 1798 (Pynson) Lat god worke what his wol is. 1546 *St. Papers Hen. VIII* XI. 225, I will do what I can...then must Godd worke. 1551 *CROWLEY Pleas. & Payne* Ded. 108 The Lorde work in the hertis of the rych. 1570 *G. HARVEY Letter-bk.* (Camden) 9 Matter...for them to work uppon. 1581 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xlv. 368 Destroy the block, That vorkis thir Turkis aganis the. 1596 *SPENSER State Irel. Wks.* (Globe) 634/1 Divine powers which should woorke vengeance on perjurers. 1625 in *Foster Eng. Factories Ind.* (1909) III. 52 Discharging our broadsides as fast as wee coule laied them and workt them. 1645 in *N. & Q.* 12th Ser. IX. 223/2 Brick to worke up the wall.

θ. 1450-1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* i. xiii. 35 The handes warke. a1529 *SKELTON P. Sparowe* 799 Whereat they barke, And mar all they warke. 1880 *MRS. PARR Adam & Eve* II. 143 If 'tis to be done, he'll wark the oracle for me.

2. *Pa. t. a. 1-3 worhte* (1 *worohte*, *uorhte*); 1-4 *wrohte*, (3 *wrocte*, *Orm. wrohhte*), 3-4 *wrouht*(e), 3-5 *wrozt*(e), 3-6 *wrouzt*(e), *wrou(e)*, *wroght*, 4 *wroghte*, *wroht*, *wrowht*, (*wroth*), 4-5 *wroughte*, *Sc. wroucht*, 4-6 *Sc. wrocht*, (*vrocht*), 5 *wrowzte*, *wrowt*, (*wrouth*), 6 *wrowght*, 5- *wrought*. β. 1-2 *warhte*; 3 *wrahte*, *wrauhthe*, 3-4 *wrazte*, 4 *wraht*, 5 *Sc. wraucht*, 6 *wraught*.

a. c950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* John ix. 6 Uorhte lam of ðæm spadle. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 19 Hælend...þæt wundor worhte. 1056-66 *Inscr. on Dial. Kirkdale Ch.*, Yks., Haward me wrohte. c1200 *ORMIN* 2256 Godd...þæt alle shaffte wrohte. c1205 *LAY.* 12024 He harm worhte. a1225 *Ancr. R.* 258 þe pet wrouhte þe eorðe. c1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 156 His miȝt...ðe wroutis [= wrought them] on ðe ferðe day! *Ibid.* 230 It ne wrocte him neuere a del. a1300 in *Anecd. Lit.* (1844) 91 Tenk, mon, werof Crist the wroute. a1300 *Cursor M.* 362 First þan wroght he angel kind. 13... *Northern Passion* 1367 (MS. Camb. Gg.) þei wrothin hit wit maistrie. c1350 *Will. Palerne* 3694, I wrouzt nouzt þe best. 1375 *BARBOUR Bruce* xviii. 158 Johne wroucht syne sa vittely. c1386 *CHAUCER Monk's T.* 403 Ful many an hethen wroghtestow ful wo. c1400 *Parce Michi* 53 in 26 *Pol. Poems* 144 In youthe I wrought folyes fele. c1400 *Apol. Loll.* 106 þe apostil wrowt wiþ his handis pingis able to manniss vse. c1425 *Cast. Persev.* 3277 in *Macro Plays* 174 Wheyþer he wrouth wel or wyckydnesse. a1529 *SKELTON Woffully Araid* 49 Y wrouzt the, I bowgt the frome eternal fyre. 1533 *GAU Richt Vay* (S.T.S.) 39 The halie spreit vrocht this conceptione. 1539 *Bible* (Great) Ruth ii. 19 Where wroughtest thou? 1572 in *Feuillerat Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908)

159 His servantes that attended and wroute at the Coorte. 1573 *Ibid.* 196 The wyerdrower...that...wrowgþt upon sundry propertes. 1596 *DALRYMPLE tr. Leslie's Hist. Scot.* iii. (S.T.S.) I. 199 How...vnwislie thay wrocht.

β. a1100 *Life S. Chad in Anglia* X. 64 He warhte cac degulan earding stowe. c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 91 þa warhte god feole tacne. a1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1071 þæt he wrahte pulliche wundres. a1250 *Owl & Night.* 106 He...of his eyre briddes wrauhthe [Cott. wrahte]. 13... *E.E. Allit. P. A.* 56 My wreched wyll in wo ay wrahte. c1425 *WYNTOUN Cron.* v. xiii. 5314 Al þe wilis þæt he wraucht [rime noucht]. 1667 *MILTON P.L.* ix. 70 Sin, not Time, first wraught the change.

γ. 1 *wyrcte*, 2 *wercte*; 5 *wyrkkyd*, 6- *worked* (7- *work'd*).

c825 *Vesp. Hymns* i. 3 *Digiti mei aptaverunt psalterium*, fingras mine wyrctun hearpan. a1175 *Cott. Hom.* 229 þa wercte he fele wundra. c1470 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 284 They that wyrkkyd soche wooll. 1523 *LD. BERNERS Froiss.* I. cccxvi. (1530) 24/1 Vrbyayne...waxed proude and worked all on heed. 1743 *BULKELEY & CUMMINS Voy. S. Seas* 106 It being smooth water, she work'd very well.

3. *Pa. pple.* a. 1 *geworht*, etc.: see *YWROUGHT*.

β. 4 *worzt*, *worht*; 3 *Orm. wrohht*, 3-4 *wrozt*, 4 *wroghte*, *wrouht*(e), *wrow(h)t*, (*wrohut*, *wro3th*, *wrouth*), 4-5 *wro3te*, *wrouzt*(e), *wroht*, 4-6 *wroght*, *Sc. wrocht*, 4-7 *wroughte*, (5 *wrowgt*, *wrow(g)th*, *wrouth*, *wrothte*, *wroth*, *wrht*), 5-6 *wrowght*, 6 (*wrowte*, *wrotte*, *rought*), *Sc. wroucht*, (*vrocht*, *rocht*), 7 *wrote*, 4- *wrought*. γ. [1 *gewarht*], 3 *wraucht*, 6 *wraught*.

β. [a 900 *Leiden Riddle* 3 Ni uat ic mec biuorthæ uullan flusum.] c1200 *ORMIN* Ded. 153 Icc hafe hemm wrohht tiss boc. c1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 40 Of no3t Was heuene and erðe samen wrozt. a1300 *Cursor M.* 25914 (Cott.) þerfor haf i worht þis bok. c1300 *Havelok* 1352 Dwelling haueþ ofte scape wrouth. *Ibid.* 2453 He haue[de] ful wo wrowht. 13... *Cursor M.* 1564 (Gött.) Iesu þæt all has wroht. 13... *Harrow. Hell* (E.) 167 3if ich haue sinnes wroust. 13... *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 264 To his licnesse pou art wroust. 1375 *BARBOUR Bruce* 1. 94 3e had nocht wrocht on that maner. a1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 3264 Had he wor3t ay to wees welth. c1400 *Apol. Loll.* 16 Lord, þu hast wroust al our warkis in vs. c1400 *Rule St. Benet* (prose) *Pro.* iii. 3 It was wrht o-pon þe harde stane. 1447 *BOKENHAM Seyntys* (Roxb.) 79 O juge thi decre Is...wroct ful unrychtfully. c1460 *Promp. Parv.* 278 (Winch. MS.), Madde, or wroth be crafte or cunning, *factus*. a1500 *Bernard. de Cura Rei Fam.* 111. 81 Qwhat wonder sulde be wrothte. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vii. 69 The...figuris that hed bene grauit, vrocht, and brodrut. 1556 *Chron. Grey Friars* (Camden) 36 A tylte...the wrych was wrotte on Assencion day. 1581 *N. BURNE Disputation in Cath. Tractates* (S.T.S.) 119 The lyme...could not be vrocht. 1585 *DANIEL Pref. & Ep. bef. Paulus Iouius* To Rdr., Wks. (Grosart) IV. 24 This [invention]...which time hath now at length perfited and rough into a more regulare order. 1635 *Maldon, Essex, Borough Deeds* Bundle 145, No. 2b, The earth being lately by the tide wroughthe.

γ. [c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* C 780 *Conderetur*, *gewarht*. c893 *ALFRED Oros.* v. ii. 216 Mon hæf Corinthisce fatu ealle þe þærof gewarhte wæron. a1100 *Life S. Chad in Anglia* X. 230 Heo wes gewarht ufan on huses gelicnesse.]

c1275 *Serving Christ* 7 in O.E. *Misc.* 90 Yef we habbeþ werkes yeynes þi wille wrauhth. 1518 *Sel. Pleas Star Chamb.* (Selden) II. 135 To...cawse furer myscheft to have byn wraught. a1542 *WYATT Poems* (1908) 55 Gesse, frend, what I am, or how I am wraught.

δ. 5 *worched*. ε. 6 *workyd*, 6- *worked*.

1470-85 *MALORY Arthur* vi. xi. 199 We haue worched al maner of sylke werkes. 1538 *workyd* [see B. 8]. 1733 *BUDGELL Bee* No. 5. I. 180 In what an hurly a Weekly Pamphlet of three Sheets must be work'd off.

B. Signification.

I. Transitive senses.

* To perform, execute.

1. To do, perform, practise (a deed, course of action, labour, task, business, occupation, process, etc.). Now *arch.*; chiefly with cognate obj. *work* or *deed*, or in such phr. as *to work a miracle*, *to work wonders* (pa. t. and pa. pple. freq. *wrought*), in which sense *ro* is blended with *this*.

Beowulf 930 A mæx god wyrcean wonder æfter wundre. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 21 Eal swa hwæt swa se gesenelica lichama dep oppe wyrcep. c1000 *ELFRIC Gen.* xlvii. 3 He axode hwæt hy wyrcean cupon: hi andswarodon...We synd sceaphyrðas. c1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xxvii. 10 God weorche he worhte on me. — John iii. 2 Ne mæx nan man þas tacn wyrcean þe ðu wryest, buton God beo mid him. c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 117 Leorniað god to wurchenne. c1200 *ORMIN* 9988 Swillke sinnðenn alle þa þatt wirrkenn gode werckess. c1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 59 Swich elmesse to wurchen. c1200- [see *WONDER sb.* 2, 3]. a1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1053 Oðre...þurh wiccheceftes wurchið summe wundres. a1225 *Ancr. R.* 424 Wurchen þæt me hat hire wiðuten grucunge. c1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2218 Ðe breðere ne wisten it no3t Hu ðis dede wurdē wrozt. 1297 *R. GLOUC.* (Rolls) 2569 Seint gerdemayn...prechede...& vair miracle wrozte. c1375 *Cursor M.* 5870 (Fairf.) þai salle...wrik...ij. dayes werk a-pon a day. c1386 *CHAUCER Merch. T.* 241 Wrik alle thyng by conseil. c1449 *PECOCK Repr.* i. x. 50 And wolde...wirche sumwille the oon craft and sumwille the other craft. 1508 *DUNBAR Tua Mariit Wemen* 351, I maid that wif carll to werk al womenis werkis. 1594 *HOOKER Eccl. Pol.* i. ii. §3 God worketh nothing without cause. c1600 in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* (1919) July 435 She worketh knitting of stockings. 1618 *W. LAWSON New Orch. & Garden* x. (1623) 27 Grafting...is thus wrought. 1649 *BP. HALL Cases Consc.* iv. viii. (1654) 361 A Sacrament, conferring Grace by the very work wrought. 1746 *FRANCIS tr. Horace, Art Poetry* 264 Let not such upon the Stage be brought, Which better should behind the Scenes be wrought. 1784 *COWPER Task* vi. 557 So God wrought double justice. 1821 *JOANNA BAILLIE Metr. Leg., Wallace* xci, In Guienne right valiant deeds he wrought. 1851 *DIXON W. Penn* ii. (1872) 12 The miracles wrought by Spanish saints. 1863 *STANLEY Jew. Ch.* I. iii. 64 The twenty

years of exile and servitude had wrought their work. **1904** BUDGE 3rd & 4th Egypt. Rooms Brit. Mus. 181 Stone object, with twenty facets, . . . probably used in working magic. **1920** Engl. Hist. Rev. Jan. 25 The special work which he undertook, and the rich ability with which he wrought it.

b. To do (something evil or harmful); to commit (a sin, wrong, or crime). *arch.*

c 825 Vesp. Psalter v. 7 Alle ða ðe wircað unrehtwisnisse. **c 1220** Bestiary 569 Sipes 3e sinkeð, and scafe ðus werkeð. **a 1300** Cursor M. 24158 Vn-reufully yee wirc vnright. **c 1325** Spec. Gy Warw. 759 Anon, so þu hast sinne wrouht, . . . to shrifte þat þu gange. **1340-70** Alex. & Dind. 688 þe hete . . . þat enforceþ pe flech folie to wirche! **a 1352** MINOT Poems (ed. Hall) vii. 62 Fals treson alway þai wrouht. **c 1449** PECOCK Repr. iii. xi. 342 The pseudo Apostilis wrouhten persecucioun . . . aȝens the trewe Apostlis. **c 1450** St. Cuthbert (Surtees) 5638 When he had þis theft wrought. **c 1470** HENRY Wallace 1. 161 Mony gret wrang thai wrocht. **1535** COVERDALE Ezek. xxxiii. 26 Ye worke abhominacions, euery one defyleth his neighbours wife. **1611** Bible Matt. vii. 23 Depart from me, ye that worke iniquity. **1613** PURCHAS Pilgrimage (1614) 25 Working that malice on the creatures . . . which he could not . . . wrecke on their Creator. **1829** HOOD Eug. Aram xiii, Methought, last night, I wrought A murder, in a dream!

c. To perform, observe (a ceremony, etc.). *Obs. exc. in Freemasonry.*

c 950 Lindisf. Gosp. Matt. xxvi. 18 Mið ðec ic wyrco eastro [*facio pascha*] mið ðegnum minum. **c 1325** Chron. Eng. 311 in Ritson Metr. Rom. II. 283 Eleutherie, the pope of Rome, Stabdele suiþe sone Godes werkes wurchen, Ant singe in holy Chirche. **1340** HAMPOLE Pr. Consc. 3685 Goddess minister . . . þat þe sacrament of þe auter wirkes. **c 1460** Play Sacram. 325 Seyng hys evynsong as yt hys worseþe for to werche. **1884** W. J. HUGHAN Origin Eng. Rite Freemasonry i. 5 It seems difficult to understand how any one conversant with their noble Histories can cherish the fancy that the Craft . . . and other degrees were worked by our ancient brethren during the seventeenth century. **1903** J. T. LAWRENCE Masonic Jurisprudence & Symbolism viii. 74 What generally takes place in a lodge of instruction is that the lectures, or sections of them, are worked, officers to conduct the same being appointed at a previous meeting. **1954** W. HANNAH Christian by Degrees iv. 65 The 26th degree known as Prince of Mercy (not worked in England) also regards Hiram as a type of Christ in His death and resurrection. **1978** Lochaber News 31 Mar. 2/7 An EA Degree was worked and was well received by the Brethren present.

† d. To carry on, wage, make (war). *Obs.*

c 1250 Gen. & Ex. 3220 Ðat folc ebru to werchen wi. **a 1352** MINOT Poems (ed. Hall) vii. 31 A were es wroght . . . þowre walles with to wrote. **c 1374** CHAUCER Boeth. iv. metr. vii. 114 (Camb. MS.) Agamenon, þat wrowhte and continuede the batayles by x. 3er. **c 1475** Partenay 4056 Where this Geant were procured and wrought.

2. To perform, carry out, execute (a person's will, advice, etc.). *Obs. or arch.* (in later use passing into sense 10).

971 Blickl. Hom. 67 þæt þu scealt on æghwylee tid Godes willan wercan. **c 1000** Ags. Gosp. Matt. vii. 21 Se þe wyrcoð mines fæder willan. **c 1175** Lamb. Hom. 81 Hu me sulde godalmihtig serue, and his wille wurchen in orde. **a 1225** Juliana 35 (Bodl. MS.) Wurch eleusius wil for ich þe ȝeoue leaue. **c 1350** Will. Palerne 307 He . . . graunted him . . . Forto worchon his wille as lord wip his owne. **a 1375** Joseph Arim. 401 His riche men . . . þat his red wrouhten. **c 1400** Destr. Troy 1881 All the soueranis . . . assignet me hir, For to wirke with my wille, & weld as myn owne. **1500-20** DUNBAR Poems lxix. 23 Lat Fortoun wirk furthe hir rage. **1595** MUNDAY John a Kent (Shaks. Soc.) 12 Leave the God of heaven to worke his will. **1700** DRYDEN Cock & Fox 589 The false loon, who could not work his will By open force, employ'd his flattering skill.

****** To construct, produce, effect.

3. To produce by (or as by) labour or exertion; to make, construct, manufacture; to form, fashion, shape. *Obs. or arch.* in general sense; often, now usually, implying artistic or ornamental workmanship (most commonly in pa. pple. *wrought*; see also e). See also *work up*, 39 h.

Beowulf 1452 Swa hine fyrndagum worhte wæpna smið. **c 1205** LAY. 22911 Ich þe wulle wurchen a bord . . . þat þe maygen setten to sixtene hundred & ma. **a 1366** CHAUCER Rom. Rose 559 Of body ful wel wrought was she. **c 1386** — Spr. s. T. 120 He þat it wroghte koude ful many a gyn. **c 1420** Pol. Rel. & L. Poems (1903) 271 A bok . . . þat men callyt an abece, Pratylych l-wrouht. *Ibid.*, Wrouht is on þe bok with-oute, V. paraffys [Bodl. MS. 789 wroust]. **c 1420** LYDG. Assembly of Gods 1882 So curiously, in so lytell a compace, In all thys world was neuer thyrgh wrought. **c 1475** Rauf Collyear 264 To ane preuie Chalmer . . . thay him led, Quhair ane burely bed was wrocht. **1513** DOUGLAS Æneis xii. Prol. 138 Quharof the beis wrocht thar hunny sweet. **1545** ASCHAM Toxoph. (Arb.) 115 Some of them, whych . . . worke ye kinges Artillarie for war. **1584** COGAN Haven Health lxxxiii. (1636) 86 The liver . . . is the place where all the humours of the body are first wrought. **1697** DRYDEN Virg. Georg. i. 267 The blind laborious Mole In winding Mazes works her hidden Hole. **1752** HUME Ess. & Treat. (1777) I. 103 A hundred cabinet-makers in London can work a table . . . equally well. **1791** COWPER Iliad xvi. 272 A goblet exquisitely wrought. **1817** J. EVANS Excurs. Windsor, etc. 258 A public road, beneath which is worked a path conducting to a fine lawn. **1850** SCORESBY Cheever's Whalem. Adv. i. (1858) 4 Whether the first . . . whaling harpoon used in America was wrought there. **1864** J. HUNT tr. Vogt's Lect. Man x. 269 The [flint] instruments of oval shape have been mostly worked by gentle blows.

(b) with immaterial object.

a 1300 Cursor M. 20326 All þaa þat wirkes Laus gain right of hali kirkis. **1721** PRIOR Predestination Wks. 1907 II. 351 Are not the Texture of our Actions wrought By something inward that directs our thought? **1752** GRAY Bentley 7 Each dream, in fancy's airy colouring wrought.

b. Said of God: To create. Also in *pass.*, the pa. pple. sometimes becoming equivalent to 'born'. *Obs. or rare arch.* See also 7.

Beowulf 92 þæt se ælmihtiga eorðan worhte. **c 950** Lindisf. Gosp. Matt. xix. 4 Qui fecit ab initio masculum et feminam fecit eos, seðe worhte from fruma woepen-monn & wifmonn ȝeworhte hia. **a 1225** Leg. Kath. 369 Nis buten an godd, . . . þet al þe world wrahte. **a 1300** Cursor M. 373 He wroght apon þe toper day þe firmament. **c 1369** CHAUCER Dethe Blaunche 90 Alas (quoth shee) that I was wrought. **c 1441** in Pol. Poems (Rolls) II. 205 Alle women that in this world be wroght. **a 1550** Freiris Berwik 364 in Dunbar's Poems (1893) 297 Quhat sall I do? Allace, that I wes wrocht. **c 1586** C'TESS PEMBROKE Ps. cxlv. v. All creatures thou hast wrought. . . shall their Creator sound. **1639** MURE Ps. viii. iii. The moone, the twinkling stars. . . Works, by thy finger wrought. **1648** BP. HALL Breathings Devout Soul §19 The less I can satisfie my self with marveling at thy works, the more let me adore the majesty and omnipotence of thee that wroughtest them.

c. To construct, build (a house, church, wall, bridge, etc.). *Obs. or rare arch.* See also 39 a.

c 1000 ÆLFRED Hom. I. 22 Da cwædon hi betwux him þæt hi woldon wyrcan an burh. **13..** Leg. Gregory 218 Chirches, chapels, bope ysame Werche sche dede. **14..** Sir Beues (MS. M.) 3685 Beues dyd wyke Abbeys, mynesters, and meny a kirke. **c 1470** Gol. & Gaw. 64 Weill wroght was the wall, And payntit with pride. **1667** MILTON P.L. x. 300 They . . . the Mole immense wrought on Over the foaming deep high Arch. **a 1701** MAUNDRELL Journ. Jerus. 7 Mar. (1707) 18 An old Bridge. . . exceeding well wrought. **1735** J. PRICE Stone-Br. Thames 7 Scaffolds for working the said Piers from Bottom to Top. **1747** GOULD Eng. Ants 12 Their [sc. ants'] double Saw, by means whereof they work their Apartments. **1876** MORRIS Sigurd i. 1 Earls were the wrights that wrought it [sc. a house].

† d. To 'make', obtain (a friend). *Obs. rare.*

c 888 ÆLFRED Boeth. xxiv. §3 Mid þis and weardan welan mon wyrcoð offor fiond ðonne freond. **c 1200** Trin. Coll. Hom. 41 Mid weldede of giue [man mail] frend wuerche.

e. const. of, rarely out of (the material or constituents); also in (some material), usually implying artistic or ornamental workmanship. (In later use almost always in pa. pple. *wrought*.)

c 888 ÆLFRED Boeth. xxxix. §12 Hit is þæs godcundan anwealdes gewuna þæt he wircoð of yfle good. **c 1000** Ags. Gosp. John ii. 15 He worhte swipan of strengon. **c 1000** ÆLFRED Gen. vi. 14 Wyrce ðe nu anne arc of aheawenum bordum. **c 1000** — Hom. I. 12 God . . . cwæð þæt he wolde wyrcan mannaf of eorðan. **c 1200** ORMIN 15182 Nollde nohht te Laferrd Crist. . . Hemm wirrkenn win inoh off nohht. . . Acc wollde off waterr wirrkenn win. **a 1300** Cursor M. 22804 He þat dos flexs worth in to lame, O lam mai wirc flessli licam. **a 1375** Joseph Arim. 204 A newe chaumbre-wrouht wroust al of bordes. **c 1400** MAUNDEV. (1919) xxiv. 141 In the myddes of this playis is the mountour for the grete Cane þat is alle wrought of gold & precyous stones. **1567** Gude & Godlie B. (S.T.S.) 131 O Lord, quihik wrocht all thising of nocht. **1596** Edw. III. iii. i. 68 Their streaming Ensignes, wrought of coulloured silke. **1610** HOLLAND Camden's Brit. 681 Good milstones are wrought out of the rocke. **1709** A. PHILIPS To Earl of Dorset 34 Every shrub, and every blade of grass, And every pointed thorn, seem'd wrought in glass. **1842** LOVER Handy Andy xl, Various ornaments . . . wrought in the purest gold. **1877** HUXLEY Physiogr. 206 Forty-six noble columns, some wrought in granite and some in marble.

† 4. To compose (a book or writing), to write.

c 900 tr. Bæda's Hist. iii. xvii, On þære bec, þe ic worhte. **971** Blickl. Hom. 169 Se ðe þas boc worhte. **c 1200** ORMIN Ded. 24 þatt icc þiss werre þe sholde wirrkenn. *Ibid.* 14269 þatt boc, þatt Moyses & tatt profetess wrohhenn. **a 1272** Luue Ron 2 in O.E. Misc. 93 A Mayde cristes me bit yorne þat ich hire wurchen a lue ron. **c 1330** R. BRUNNE Chron. Wace (Rolls) 14836 Of Ynge saw y neuere nought, Neyþer in boke write ne wrought. **c 1385** CHAUCER L.G.W. Prol. 372 As thogh that he of malice wolde endyten Despyt of love, and had him-self hit wrought. **1617** WOODALL Surg. Mate Pref., Wks. (1653) 13 Who likes, approves, and usefull deems This work, for him 'tis wrought. **1746** FRANCIS tr. Hor., Sat. i. iv. 60 Some therefore ask, can comedy be thought A real poem, since it may be wrought In style and subject without fire or force.

† b. To utter, speak, say. *Obs. rare.*

c 1350 in Horstmann Altengl. Leg. (1881) 30 þai ditted paire eris, for þai suld noht Here þir wurdas þat pus war wrought. **a 1352** MINOT Poems (ed. Hall) i. 45 Philip Valays wordes wrought And said he suld paire enmys sla.

5. To make (a 'web' or textile fabric), to weave; to make (something consisting of such fabric, as a garment, quilt, etc.) by means of needlework, to sew or knit; to ornament with a design, figure, or pattern in needlework, to embroider.

c 1250 Gen. & Ex. 377 Two pilches weren ðurȝ engeles wroȝt. **a 1400** Engl. Gilds (1870) 350 Non of þe Citee ne shal don werche qwylyte ne chalouns by-poute þe walles. **c 1449** Gesta Rom. xliii. 171 A damisell . . . þe whiche can wel werche your sherte. **1511-12** Act 3 Hen. VIII c. 6. §1 The Walker and Fuller shall truly walke fulle thikke and werke every webbe of wollen yerne. **1592** SHAKS. Ven. & Ad. 991 Now she vnweaves the web that she hath wrought. **1595** — John iv. i. 43 My hand-kercher. . . (The best I had, a Princess wrought it me). **1651** DAVENANT Gondibert II. xxviii, These belts (wrought with their ladies' care). **1768** STERNE Sent. Journ., Pulse, She was working a pair of ruffles. **1784** COWPER Task i. 33 A splendid cover. . . of tapestry richly wrought. **1833** HT. MARTINEAU Loom & Luggar i. ii. 21 You have wrought your web thinner and thinner. **1839** URE Dict. Arts 654 In the weaving of ribbed hosiery, the plain rib courses are wrought alternately. **1849** MACAULAY Hist. Eng. vii. II. 174 The princess, who had been educated only to work embroidery, to play on the spinet, [etc.]. **1868** LOUISA M. ALCOTT Little Women vi, I'm going to work Mr. Laurence a pair of slippers.

b. const. with the design, figure, or pattern.

a 1366 CHAUCER Rom. Rose 897 His garnement was euerydell Portreied and wrought with floures. **1480** Wardr.

Acc. Edw. IV. (1830) 115 An hoby harneis . . . enbrowdered and wrought with agelets of silver and gilt. **1575** in Archaeologia XXX. 12 Sixe quysions, wrought withe my L. [= Lord's] armes. **1842** TENNYSON Audley Court 20 A damask napkin wrought with horse and hound.

c. with the design, figure, or pattern as obj.

1610 HOLLAND Camden's Brit. 207* The Danes bare in their Ensigne a Raven wrought . . . in needle-worke. **1841** Hari's Fancy-work Bk. 18 To work patterns drawn on canvas. **1859** J. BROWN Horæ Subs. Ser. i. (1861) 286 Working her name on the blankets. **1883** D. C. MURRAY Hearts ix. (1885) 65 The maxims you cherish would have served . . . for your grandmother to work on samplers.

6. To make (an image or figure); to delineate, paint, or draw (a picture, ornamental design, etc.); to carve (a statue or piece of sculpture); also, to represent by an image, portray, picture. *Obs. or arch. exc. in special connexions.* See also 39 h.

a 1300 Cursor M. 23216 Painted fire . . . þat apon a wagh war wrought. **1448-9** METHAM Amoryus & Cleopes 60 Lettyrrys off gold, þat gay were wrought to þe ye. **1597** W. BARLOW Navig. Supply H 1, If these diuisions be wrought vpon Latten plates. **1680** MOXON Mech. Exerc. xii. 206, I shall proceed to the working a Pattern or two in Soft Wood. **1697** DRYDEN Æneis v. 328 There, Ganymede is wrought with living Art. **a 1707** PRIOR To the Hon. C. Montague ii, Each, like the Graecian Artist, woo'd The Image He himself has wrought. **1769** SIR J. REYNOLDS Disc. (1778) 19 The pictures, thus wrought with such pain, now appear like the effect of enchantment. **1780** Mirror No. 103 A large iron gate, at the top of which the family arms are worked. **1874** J. H. POLLEN Anc. & Mod. Furniture S. Kens. Mus. 129 As the ornamental tooling is worked on leather by the book-binder.

† 7. With complementary word or phrase: To cause to be . . . , make, render; to change, convert, turn into something different; to bring into a specified state; also, to make or create in the form of. With simple compl. or const. *to*, *into*. *Obs.*

c 1000 Ags. Gosp. Matt. xxi. 13 Hyt ys awriten, min hus is ȝebedhus; witodlice ȝe worhton þæt to þeofa cote. **c 1205** LAY. 18737 His lond þu forbernest, & hine blað wurchest. **a 1300** Cursor M. 8392 For þi luue was i widue wrought. *Ibid.* 12370 Ye þat he has wroght to men And þat efter his aun ymage. *Ibid.* 24088 (Edin.) þat wroht me out of wite. **13..** *Ibid.* 13824 (Gött.) He þat me hal has wrought. **c 1400** Destr. Troy 9004 Mony woundet þat worthy & wrought unto dethe. **c 1410** Sir Cleges 336 Thys sawe I neuer . . . Syn I was man wrowght! **c 1480** HENRYSON Want of Wyse Men 6 Welth is away, wit is now wrochtin to wrinkis. **15..** DUNBAR Poems lxxii. 115 Ordane for Him ane resting-place, That is so worie wrocht for the. **1613** SHAKS. Hen. VIII, ii. ii. 47 We had need pray . . . for our deliuerance; Or this imperious man will worke vs all From Princes into Pages. **1639** SALTMARSH Policy 43 If you suspect the performance of a promise, worke them obliged by some speciall engagement and pawne.

8. To make, form, or fashion *into* something (formerly also *† in*); to make up; to compound (ingredients); to shape (material). See also 39 e.

In various connexions; cf. senses above. Often with special reference to the process or operation performed; thus passing into branch ***.

1538 STARKEY England II. i. 173 Our marchantys cary them [sc. lead and tin] out . . . and then bryng the same in workyd agayn, and made vessel therof. **1558** in Hakluyt Voy. (1599) I. 303 All our olde hempe is spunne and wrought in tenne cables . . . and thirteene Hausers. **1669** STURMY Mariner's Mag. v. xii. 65 Gun-powder of a . . . Russet colour . . . may be judged to have all its Receipts well wrought. **1677** MOXON Mech. Exerc. i. 9 When you joyn several Bars of Iron together . . . and work them into one Bar. **1717** PRIOR Alma III. 461, I . . . melted down my Plate, On Modern Models to be wrought. **1748** Anson's Voy. II. ii. 135 To unlay a cable to work into running rigging. **1820** Q. Mus. Mag. II. 17 The subject of the Fugata . . . is a very good one. It were to be wished that it had been worked into a regular Fugue. **1882** CAULFIELD & SAWARD Dict. Needlework 464 String Rugs . . . are made from odds and ends of . . . wool, which are . . . worked into coarse canvas in loops.

† b. To inflict (wounds). *Obs.*

c 1400 Melayne 1522 We sall wirke þam wondis full wyde. **c 1460** Towneley Myst. xxvi. 363 Anoyntmentys . . . flor to anyontt his woundys sere, That lues hym wrought. **1471** CAXTON Recuyell (Sommer) 339 These theues and robeurs smote . . . fiersly vpon philotes . . . , worchynge and gyuyng to him many woundes.

c. To produce or cause by continued application of physical force, e.g. friction; to 'wear' (a cavity, etc.) by attrition.

1836 C. WORDSWORTH Athens xxvi. (1855) 174 The wheels have worked deep grooves in the rock. *Mod.* He works holes in the seat of his trousers.

9. To put in, insert, incorporate, esp. in the way of construction or composition (cf. 3, 4): in various special connexions (see quotes.). See also 36 a.

1663 GERBIER Counsel 83 Glasse wrought with good lead, . . . Glass wrought with an Arch well leaded. **1707** Curios. Husb. & Gard. 262 We . . . work into the Aperture, the Colours we would give the Flower. **1710** STEELE Tatler No. 226 ¶1 Those occasional Dissertations, which he has wrought into the Body of his History. **1711** W. SUTHERLAND Shipbuild. Assist. 48 To . . . work 3 whole Plank between 2 Buts. **1753-4** RICHARDSON Grandison II. vii. 42 The love of pleasure . . . was wrought into his habit. He was a slave to it. **1868** Rep. U.S. Comm. Agric. (1869) 254 Such a hedge may be repaired by thrusting . . . brush . . . into the holes . . . and . . . working saplings through it obliquely. **1888** Iron 25 May 465 Heavy coils of iron . . . have been wrought round the . . . fore part of each gun.

b. Hort. To graft (*on a stock*): also *fig.*

1658 SIR T. BROWNE *Hydriot*. ii. 10 The Romanes early wrought so much civility upon the Brittish stock. **1715** DE FOE *Fam. Instruct.* i. i. (1841) I. 28 Getting the word of life wrought in your heart. **1837** T. RIVERS *Rose Amateur's Guide* 72 A collection of Chinese Roses worked on short stems. **1859** R. THOMPSON *Gard. Assist.* 387 The . . portion cut off, is termed the scion, or graft, and the rooted plant, on which it is placed or worked, is called the stock. **1868** Rep. U.S. Comm. Agric. (1869) 203 [The Kilmarnock willow] is frequently worked on low stems, and in consequence much of its beauty is lost.

10. To effect, bring about, bring to pass; to accomplish, achieve; to cause, produce. (In early use often approaching sense 1.) Esp. in phr. to *work havoc*, where the pa. t. *wrought* is common (though it is often interpreted as the pa. t. of *wreak*: cf. *WREAK* v. 8b). See also 38f, 39h.

c 1220 *Bestiary* 498 He him iuel werkeð. **c 1250** *Gen. & Ex.* 850 He werken sckaðe and bale. *Ibid.* 1812 De ne leate ic no3t, Til ðin bliscing on me beð wro3t. **c 1315** SHOREHAM *Poems* i. 774 Sauuacion to werche. **1340-70** *Alisaunder* 412 With his ferefull folke to Phocus hee rides, And is wilfull in werk to wirchen hem care. **13..** *Cursor M.* 20926 (Edin.) To quillis he wro3te þe cristin scam. **c 1350** *Will. Palerne* 1173 Forto wirch me no wrong. **1382** WYCLIF 2 *Cor.* vii. 10 That sorwe that is afir God, worthith penaunce . . forsoth sorwe of the world worthith deeth. **c 1385** CHAUCER *L.G.W.* 1606 *Lucretia*, Ful longe lay the sege & lytil wroughten. **1398** TREvisa *Barth. De P.R.* iv. i. (1495) eivb/1 In dyuerse maters [heete] werkyth dyuerse effectes. **c 1400** *Pety Job* 32 in 26 *Pol. Poems* 122 So moche woo hit [sc. sin] hath vs wrought. **1500-20** DUNBAR *Poems* xxxi. 5 He wirkis sorrow to him sell. **1549** *Compl. Scot.* xv. 135 Tariaud quhil the tyme virk ane bettir chance. **1568** GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 110 They were confederated . . to worke him an vtter mischiefe. **1576** FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 39 Whose daggers dinte wrought his dolefull death. **1596** BACON *Max. Com. Law* iii. (1636) 15 Words are so to be understood, that they worke somewhat, and be not idle and frivolous. **1601** DANIEL *Civ. Wars* i. 1. Who else . . his safetie might haue wrought. **1648** GAGE *West Ind.* 200 He replied, that what Porke might work upon mans body in other Nations, it worked not there. **1724** RAMSAY *Vision* xxiv, Lat them . . stryve to wirk my fall. **1751** JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 87 ¶ 2 Though good advice was given, it has wrought no reformation. **1825** JEFFERSON *Autobiog.* Wks. 1859 l. 17 To wait the event of this campaign will certainly work delay. **1831** JAMES *Philip Aug.* xxxi, The ravages that confinement and sorrow had worked upon him. **1840** DICKENS *Old Cur. Shop* xxvi, The beer had wrought no bad effect upon his appetite. **1843** MACAULAY *Lays Anc. Rome, Virginia* 78 Let him who works the client wrong beware the patron's ire! **1844** H. H. WILSON *Brit. India* i. 475 They were objects of general esteem and respect . . and wrought an impression favourable to the ultimate reception of the doctrines which they taught. **1877** HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 183 The destruction wrought by the sea. **1900, 1908** [see HAVOC sb. 2]. **1912** *Halsbury's Laws of England* XXIV. 250 An alienation by tenant in tail . . worked a discontinuance. **1978** *Washington Post* 30 Nov. A-14/2 Settlers who are prone to California dreaming . . and on whom . . the anything-goes atmosphere and the wide-open spaces work havoc. **1983** *National Law Jnl.* (U.S.) 4 July 14/2 With hard disk technology . . power failures can often work havoc. **1984** *Financial Times* 4 June III. p. vii, A decade of inflation had wrought havoc with its portfolio of fixed interest mortgages.

†**11.** To act in order to or so as to effect (something); to plan, devise, contrive; to put in practice, manage (a business or proceeding). *Obs.*

c 1300 K. Horn 288 (Laud) Wat reymnild wroute Mikel wonder him poute. **1362** LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. II. 85 Such Weddyng to worche to wrappe with trupe. **1561** HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtier* II. (1577) Gviii, Hee ought to worke the matter wisely. **1621** J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Umat. Father* Wks. (1630) II. 137/2 He resolved to worke some meanes to take away their . . liues. **1635** R. N. tr. *Camden's Hist. Eliz.* i. 78 The Conspiratours so wrought the matter, that very many of the Nobility assented to the marriage. **1647-8** COTTRELL tr. *Davila's Hist. France* (1678) 19 The Cardinal ardently wrought the Prince's destruction by counseling the King. **1667** MILTON *P.L.* i. 646 To work in close design, by fraud or guile What force effected not.

b. colloq. To arrange, engineer, or bring about. *Usu. const. it.*

1889 E. DOWSON *Let.* 1 Mar. (1967) 42 If you can possibly work it meet me somewhere to-morrow. **1911** G. B. SHAW *Doctor's Dilemma* III. 57 The way to work it is this. I'll postdate the cheque next October. **1953** K. TENNANT *Joyful Condemned* xxxi. 305 I'll get young Rene . . I guess I can work it. **1962** WODEHOUSE *Service with Smile* xi. 177 Uncle Fred, did you work this? **1975** D. LODGE *Changing Places* i. 17 Masters (who was Chairman) was prepared to work it for Philip if he was interested.

*** To do something to an object (thing or person).

12. To bestow labour or effort upon; to operate upon: in various connexions and shades of meaning. **a.** To till, cultivate (land): = *LABOUR* v. 1; rarely, to cultivate (a plant or crop).

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* ix. 20 Nub . . began to wyrceenne ðæt land. **c 1440** *Pallad. on Husb.* III. 589 Faat lond, ydonged, moyst, & well ywroght Oynons desire. **1526** *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 49b, [God] dyd . . set hym in paradyse . . for that entent that he sholde worke and kepe it. **1573** TUSSEY *Husb.* (1878) 120 Choose soile for the hop of the rottenness mould, well doonged and wrought. **1622** in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. i. 107 The earth is soft and sandy, esy to be wrought. **1744** in *6th Rep. Dep. Kpr.* App. II. 121 For the . . raising, planting, and working a vegetable (called Sesamo) extraordinary productive of oyl. **1796** C. MARSHALL *Garden.* xx. (1813) 394 When the ground can be conveniently worked. **1799** J. ROBERTSON *Agric. Perth* 263 The common of Rattray . . is indeed very barren; but if it were wrought, it would produce turnips and then grass.

b. To get, 'win' (stone or slate from a quarry, ore or coal from a mine, etc.) by labour; also with the quarry, mine, etc. as obj.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 3069 Me wolde wene pat in pis lond no ston to worke nere. **1604** E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* IV. vii. 226 The silver that hath bene wrought in the country. **1618** RALEGH *Apol. Guiana* (1650) 54 It had been no lesse a breach of Peace to have wrought any Myne of his, . . then it is now cald'd . . a breach of peace to take a towne of his. **1709** T. ROBINSON *Nat. Hist. Westmld.* x. 62 We found the Vein wrought three Yards wide, and twenty Fathom deep. **1778** PRYCE *Min. Cornub.* 21 Several parts of the Lode . . have been indiscreetly hulked and worked. **1791** SMEATON *Edystone L.* §99, I . . went to view the quarries where the flat paving and steps were wrought. **1839** DE LA BECHE *Rep. Geol. Cornwall*, etc. iv. 124 Roofing-slates and flagstones have been worked in some places. **1844** J. DUNN *Oregon Terr.* 241 The natives were anxious that we should employ them to work the coal. **1879** *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 212/1 Several mines were worked for this metal.

c. with various objects: see quotes.

c 1385 CHAUCER *L.G.W.* 1721 *Lucretia*, Softe wolle . . she wroughte. **1770** LUCKOMBE *Hist. Printing* 360 When he worked White Paper, he caught the sheet by the upper further corner. **1839** MRS. KIRKLAND *New Home* x. 60 The road had been but little 'worked' . . and in some parts was almost in a state of nature. **1880** CARNEGIE *Pract. Trap.* 7 The heaps with the most distinct tracks and most worked (i.e., continually used). **1883** *Chamb. Jnl.* 15 Dec. 791 Produce of value, such as tea, coffee, indigo, drugs, etc., have to be 'worked' for sale purposes; and this term embraces the opening of the package, examination for sea-damage, sorting into qualities, and a host of other operations.

d. To manipulate (a substance) so as to bring it into the required condition; esp. to knead, press, stir, etc. (a plastic substance), or to mix or incorporate (such substances) together by this means; also, to spread (a colour or pigment) over a surface.

1417 York *Memorandum Bk.* (Surtees) I. 183 That he wyrk na lede amanges any other metall . . bot if it be in souldur. **1466** Cal. *Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) 326 That no tanner, ne glover, . . wyrche harr lededyr at the ryver. **1494** *Act 11 Hen. VII.* c. 19 Cussions stuffed with . . gotis here, which is wrought in lyme fattes. **1565-6** BLUNDEVIL *Horsemanship, Horses* Dis. liii. (1580) 22 Mingle them together, & stirre them continuallie in a pot . . untill the Quicksilver be so wrought with the rest, as you shall perceiue no quicksilver therein. **1575** GASCOIGNE *Glasse Govt.* Wks. 1910 II. 36 You shall see . . how I will worke this geare lyke wax. **1653** WALTON *Angler* viii. 172 Mix with it [sc. paste] Virgins-wax and clarified honey, and work them together with your hands before the fire. **1747-96** MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* xxi. 340 When they are wrought to a paste, roll them with the ends of your fingers. **1756** MRS. CALDERWOOD in *Coltness Collect.* (Maitl. Club) 147 This salt they work into the butter. **1852** *Jnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XIII. 1. 41 After the butter is taken from the churn it must first be well squeezed or 'worked' by the hand. **1853** SOYER *Pantraph.* 285 Some cooks . . worked sesame flour . . with honey and oil. **1885** C. WALLIS *Dict. Water-colour Technique* 14 The first tone should be decidedly grey . . and on this may be worked Raw Sienna and Brown Madder.

e. To shape (stone, metal, or other hard substance) by cutting or other process; also, to beat out or shape (metal) by hammering (see *WROUGHT ppl.* a. 4). Also with *down*. Also *transf.* to wear by friction or attrition. Also *fig.*

1665 *Phil. Trans.* I. 65 Before the Glass is wrought down to its true Figure. **1679** MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* ix. 157 A greater number of Boards to work to a Level. **1703** *Ibid.* 37 Till you have wrought [ed. 1677 filed] the Spindle from end to end. **1717** BERKELEY *Tour in Italy* Wks. 1871 IV. 550 Stone easily wrought. **1781** COWPER *Flattening Mill* 2 When a bar of pure silver or ingot of gold is sent to be flatted or wrought into length. **1844** MRS. BROWNING *Lady Geraldine's Courtship* li, Little thinking if we work our souls as nobly as our iron. **1853** KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xlix. (1856) 465 It [sc. an iceberg] is an amorphous mass, so worn that it must have been sorely wrought before its release from the glacier. **1855** SQUIER *Adv. Mosquito Shore* ix. (1856) 146 The trunk of the ceiba . . is invaluable. . . The wood is easily worked. **1885** *Athenæum* 21 Mar. 382/1 The facility of working it [sc. limestone] would lead one to expect that an arcuated architecture would have sprung up in Assyria.

f. To do artistic work upon; to decorate, inlay (with something). (Cf. *INWROUGHT* i.) *rare*.

1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 61 Two Pillars . . couered and wrought with blue and Gold. *Ibid.*, Roofe and sides imbost and wrought with gold.

g. *Sporting* (with the game, or the scent, as obj.).

1568 in *Archaeologia* XXXV. 207 The Emperore and my Lord wente a hontynge of the hare . . and worked xx. hares or theare aboutes. **1855** SMEDLEY *H. Coverdale* iii. 13 He says we've worked them [sc. the rabbits] quite enough. **1888** *Times* 16 Oct. 10/5 When I tried to work the scent of a deer which had got away . . the hound proved quite useless.

h. to *work one's passage* (etc.): to pay for one's passage on board ship by working during the voyage. Also *fig.*

app. arising from ellipsis for *work for*; but cf. 38 e. **1727** 'E. DORRINGTON' *Hermit* II. 121 He sees . . Hay-makers, going to work, . . and resolves to make one of their Number, and work his passage up to London. **1743** [see PASSAGE sb. 4 b]. **1751** *Affect. Narr. Wager* 151 The Captain of this Vessel he prevail'd on to carry them . . on Condition of . . their Working the Voyage for their Passage. **1803** D. WORDSWORTH *Jnl.* 25 Aug. (1941) I. 257 He was just come from America . . I do not think that he had brought much [money] back with him, for he had worked his passage over. **1836** MRS. C. P. TRAILL *Backw. Canada* 8 A pretty yellow-haired lad, . . who works his passage out. **1849** THACKERAY *Pendennis* xxv, Some months afterwards Amory made his appearance at Calcutta, having worked his way out before

the mast from the Cape. **1884** *Century Mag.* Jan. 365/1 An educated young Englishman . . worked his passage as a coal-passer and ash-heaver. **1934** G. B. SHAW *Village Wooing* 113, I have no time for talk. I have to work my passage. **1958** *Oxf. Mag.* 15 May 448/2 Italy, liberated piecemeal and 'working her passage' to the improved status of the Hyde Park Declaration and the New Deal for Italy. **1973** *Times* 20 Mar. 13/2 One of the greatest bores in packing is choosing which shoes to take. . . They are heavy . . and do not really work their passage.

i. colloq. or slang. To go through or about (a place) for the purposes of one's business or occupation; to carry on one's trade or business, or some operation, in.

spec. (a) of a hound, (b) of an itinerant vendor, beggar, etc.; (c) of a clergyman; (d) of a canvasser; (e) of a thief, esp. a pickpocket.

1834 COL. HAWKER *Diary* (1893) II. 68, I gave up my bitch . . to Joe, to work the enclosures, and he got 5 brace and 1 hare. **1851** MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* II. 79 I've worked both town and country on gold fish. **1859** *Slang Dict.* 117 To work a street or neighbourhood, trying at each house to sell all one can. **1859** H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* xii, Frank Maberly [a parson] had been . . as he expressed it, 'working the slums' at Exeter. **1865** *Leaves from Diary Celebrated Burglar & Pickpocket* xvi. 55/2 They agreed, upon their discharge, to 'work' together. *Ibid.* xvi. 53/1 Joe edged himself into the Scotch Boy's 'mob' . . and 'worked' with them. **1882** J. D. McCABE *New York* 520 Even vessels lying at anchor in the harbor, are busily worked by [thieves]. **a 1885** SLADEN *Poetry of Exiles* (ed. 2) I. 24 You and I . . Were working on this very Twelfth the old Dumfriesshire moor. **1893** *Daily News* 18 Feb. 3/5 To use an electioneering phrase, it is not easy to 'work' this hilly region. **1897** *Tit-Bits* 4 Dec. 186/2 A professional beggar who 'works' seventy or eighty streets in a few hours. **1905** E. WALLACE *Four Just Men* viii. 153 The night being comparatively young, Billy decided to work the trams. **1930** — *Lady of Ascot* i. 19 It's the same crowd that has been working country houses for weeks. **1938** F. D. SHARPE *of Flying Squad* xvi. 181 They [sc. pickpockets] used to go off in busloads . . to 'work' various districts of London. **1951** W. C. WILLIAMS *Autobiogr.* xlv. 299 He had been a fur thief working the big department stores. **1963** T. TULLETT *Inside Interpol* xii. 171 A Pole . . last caught in August, 1957, working a crowd in Geneva.

transf. **1883** *Century Mag.* XXVI. 393 He 'worked' the hunting-field largely. It constantly reappears in his novels.

j. slang. To deal with in some way; to get, or to get rid of, esp. by artifice; (of an itinerant vendor) to hawk, sell.

1839 *Dict. Flash or Cant. Lang.* 36 Work the Bulls, get rid of bad 5s. pieces. **1851** MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 84 They made more money 'working' these [sc. pine-apples] than any other article. **1890** 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* x, Somebody might claim the colt . . —say you'd worked him on the cross.

k. To investigate or study systematically. See also *work out* (38k), *work up* (39j).

1900 J. SHEPARD & W. STRICKLAND in *Handbk. Austral. Assoc.*, Melbourne 74 The aquatic worms are an untouched group. There are very many forms and when worked they will doubtless yield interesting results.

l. To operate upon so as to get into some state or convert into something else; to bring or reduce to; *refl.* with *compl. adj.* to go through some process so as to become . . See also *work up*, 39 e.

1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho.* 70 An English trauayler . . aduised me to make the same [sc. Malmesey] alwaies about the midst of Maie, that it might haue 3. hot moneths together to work it to his ful perfection. **1713** ADDISON *Cato* i. *ad fin.*, So the pure limpid Stream, when foul with Stains . . Work's it self clear, and as it runs, refines. **1753-4** RICHARDSON *Grandison* II. ix. 59 His estate would . . work itself clear. **1879** GEO. ELIOT *Theo. Such* v. 113 All human achievement must be wrought down to this spoon-meat. **1884** *Manch. Exam.* 20 Feb. 4/6 It would take some time for the trade to work itself right.

13. Math., etc. = *work out*, 38g; cf. 28.

1593 P. FALE *Horologiogr.* 25, I worke this altogether like to the South reclining 45°. . . until I have found out the Elevation of the Meridian. **1623** J. JOHNSON *Arith.* II. 137 A second way more briefly to worke this question. *Ibid.* 291 The same example wrought another way. **1669** STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* II. xiv. 86 English Navigators work their Observation by the Complement of the Sun's Altitude. **1794** J. H. MOORE *Pract. Navig.* (1828) 40 In all proportions wrought by Gunter's Scale. **1803** BEDDOES *Hygeia* ix. 72 To sit a horse and to work figures by head at the same time. **1852** THACKERAY *Esmond* II. v, The sum comes to the same figures, worked either way. **1885** S. LAING *Mod. Sci. & Th.* 5 To calculate the distance . . with as much ease . . as if we were working a simple sum of rule of three.

14. (= *work on*, 30). **a.** To act upon the mind or will of; to influence, prevail upon, induce, persuade (esp. by subtle or insidious means); more widely, to bring into a particular mental state, disposition, etc. Also, in later use, to strive or take measures to induce or persuade; to urge. See also *work up*, 39k.

1595 DANIEL *Civ. Wars* v. lxxvii, For frends, opinion, & succeeding chaunce, Which wrought the weak to yeld, the strong to loue. **1605** BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. xviii. §2 In Negotiation with others; men are wrought by cunning, by Importunitie, and by vehemencie. **1610** HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* 532 Yet could hee not bee wrought . . to disclose his complices. **1642** ROGERS *Naaman* 45 What doth the Lord? workes Peters heart from that objection, and so from unwillingnesse. **1713** ADDISON *Cato* II. i, Are your Hearts subdu'd . . and wrought By Time and ill Success to a Submission? **1832** TENNYSON *Miller's D.* xxx, God . . who wrought Two spirits to one equal mind. **1858** G. MACDONALD *Phantastes* iii, The house or the clothes . . cannot be wrought into an equal power of utterance.

1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xxxvi, I have been working him even now to abandon her. **1857** HUGHES *Tom Brown* i. iii, He was constantly working the Squire to send him . . . to a public school. **1880** BLACKMORE *Mary Anerley* liv, Sooner, or later, he must come round; and the only way to do it, is to work him slowly.

b. To act upon the feelings of; to affect, agitate, stir, move, excite, incite. Also *reft.* (occas. *intr.* for *reft.*). Now usually *work up*; see 39 k.

1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* i. iii. 149 My dull Braine was wrought with things forgotten. **1610** — *Temp.* iv. i. 144 Your fathers in some passion That workes him strongly. **1697** DRYDEN *Aeneis* x. 1247 Love, Anguish, Wrath, and Grief, to Madness wrought, . . . his lab'ring Soul oppress'd. **1732** BERKELEY *Alciph.* i. § 4 Sometimes they work themselves into high passions. **1809-11** COMBE *Syntax* xx. 21 The well-dress'd man now stopp'd, to know What work'd the angry Doctor so. **1838** DICKENS *O. Twist* iv, Grasping his cane tightly, as was his wont when working into a passion. **1838** — *Nich. Nick.* xxxiv, 'Who has?' demanded Ralph, wrought by the intelligence . . . and his clerk's provoking coolness, to an intense pitch of irritation. **1848** — *Dombey* xxiii, Endeavouring to work herself into a state of resentment. **1854** MILMAN *Lat. Christ.* ix. ii. (1864) V. 210 Philip . . . wrought by indignation from his constitutional mildness. **1883** R. W. DIXON *Mano* i. v. 13 Which rigour wrought those children of the ground To that mad rising.

c. Of medicine: To take effect upon.

1712-13 SWIFT *Jrnl.* to Stella 25 Mar., I take a little physic over-night, which works me next day. **1771** SMOLLETT *Humphry Cl.* 26 Apr., Let. ii, It worked Mrs. Gwyllim a pennorth.

d. To practise on, hoax, cheat, 'do'. *U.S.*

1884 'MARK TWAIN' *Huck. Finn* xix. 183 Preachin's my line, too; and workin' camp-meetin's. **1892** Boston (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 21 Sept. 6/1 (*heading*) Waltham officers looking for a horse dealer who has been working that town. **1894** HOWELLS *Trav. fr. Altruria* 122, I might . . . suspect him . . . of . . . working us, as my husband calls it.

**** To move, direct.

15. To move (something) into or out of some position, or with alternating movement (to and fro, up and down, etc.): usually with some implication of force exerted against resistance or impediment. Also *fig.*

1617 MORYSON *Itin.* i. 115 This little ditch is not alwaies in one place but in time workes it selfe from one place to another. **1691** T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* 49 Her Rudder wrought it self out of the Irons, hanging only by the uppermost Pintell. **1720** DE FOE *Capt. Singleton* ix. (1840) 166 The rage of the floods . . . works down a great deal of gold out of the hills. **1831** SCOTT *Cast. Dang.* xx, That secret charm, which, once impressed upon the human heart, is rarely wrought out of the remembrance by a long train of subsequent events. **1842** LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 327 Water is poured into it, and soil stirred in till the pit is half full of mud. . . . The roots of the tree are then inserted, and worked about. **1857** B. TAYLOR *Northern Trav.* xii. (1858) 127 In vain I shifted my aching legs and worked my benumbed hands. **1867** F. FRANCIS *Bk. Angling* v. 135 Some people work their flies. **1889** *Science-Gossip* XXV. 62 The tube . . . can be 'worked down' through the hyaline cap. **1902** *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 12 Apr. 878 Loose body felt at inner side of knee and by working the knee he can make it evident to the touch. **1918** *Times Lit. Suppl.* 11 July 325/4 A neighbouring battery of guns . . . were being worked into position with a heaving-song.

16. To direct or manage the movement of; to guide or drive in a particular course; *spec., Naut.* to direct the movement of (a ship) by management of the sails and rudder; to move and direct (a boat), as with oars; also in *Angling*, to 'play' (a fish). Also of a locomotive engine, to pull (a train).

1667 MILTON *P.L.* ix. 513 A Ship by skilful Steersman wrought Nigh Rivers mouth or Foreland. **1669** STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* i. ii. 15 The Practick Part of Navigation, in working of a Ship in all Weathers at Sea. **1719** DE FOE *Crusoe* ii. (Globe) 336 Having no Sails to work the Ship with. **1762** MILLS *Syst. Pract. Husb.* i. 160 Make a dam . . . and a sluice, and work the water upon it through the winter. **1807** P. GASS *Jrnl.* 193 Making the finest canoes, . . . and . . . expert in working them when made. **1825** J. WILSON *Noctes Ambr.* Wks. 1855 i. 74 He worked a salmon to a miracle. **1857** HUGHES *Tom Brown* i. v, Getting on the box, and working the team down street. **1878** C. TUTTLE *Border Tales* 31 To work the ship out of danger. **1912** *Standard* 20 Sept. 7/2 Special trains . . . will be worked over the systems of the Great Northern [etc.] railways. **1982** *Railway Mag.* Nov. 508/1 A replacement . . . powered the train as far as Carnforth where another '47' was later provided to work it forward.

b. To herd (sheep, cattle, etc.). Also *intr.* for *pass.* Chiefly *Austral.* and *N.Z.*

1930 L. G. D. ACLAND *Early Canterbury Runs* 1st Ser. i. 5 The practice was for a shepherd to go round the boundary once or twice a day, and at night work the sheep below one of the river terraces to camp. **1946** F. DAVISON *Dusty* (Foreword), Sheep dogs . . . working lost flocks in the mountain gullies. **1950** *N.Z. Jrnl. Agric.* July 5/2 Sheep work and draft best on a slight up-grade. **1961** B. CRUMP *Hang on a Minute* 87 With Jack working along the top of the ridge and Sam half-way down the side they worked all the sheep off that side of the valley. **1976** *Evening Post* (Bristol) 23 Apr. 24/9 (Adv.), Border collie bitch starting to work cattle.

17. reft. To make one's (or its) way; = 18.

1576 TURBERV. *Venerie* 196 [The vermin] will . . . worke themselves further in, so that your Terriers shall not be able to find them. **1639** S. DU VERGER tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* 99 Octavian . . . wrought himself into her good will. **1655** MRQ. WORCESTER *Cent. Inv.* § 15 How to make a Boat work it self against both Wind and Tide. **1711** ADDISON *Spect.* No. 121 ¶ 5 [The mole] so swiftly working her self under Ground, and making her way so fast in the Earth. **1838** DICKENS *O. Twist* i, The women worked themselves into the

centre of the crowd. **1857** HUGHES *Tom Brown* i. iv, Tom . . . worked himself into his shoes and his great coat. **1871** SMILES *Charac.* i. (1876) 21 The solitary thought of a great thinker will dwell in the minds of men for centuries, until at length it works itself into their daily life.

18. with *way*, etc. as obj., usually to *work one's* or *its way*: = 33, 33 b; also *fig.*

1713 ADDISON *Cato* i. iii, Through Winds, and Waves, and Storms, he works his way. **1725** DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 311 They worked their way down these streams. **1831** SCOTT *Cast. Dang.* ix, [A contagious disease] ravaged the English Borders, and made some incursions into Scotland where it afterwards worked a fearful progress. **1889** 'J. S. WINTER' *Mrs. Bob* ii. (1891) 20 Mrs. Trafford worked her way round to Major Lovelace. **1889** R. BRYDALL *Art Scot.* vi. 106 He gradually wrought his way against the usual obstacles which a poor artist must always encounter. **1908** [ELIZ. FOWLER] *Betw. Trent & Ancholme* 23 The fluffy golden kerria . . . having worked its way through the thick wall.

***** Causal senses.

19. To set or compel (a person, animal, etc.) to work; to exact labour from; to employ or use in work. *spec.* in *N.Z.*, to use (a dog) for the purpose of herding sheep or cattle. See also 40 i.

1445 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 225 What man that wurchithe ony man of the seide craft in contrarie-weise he shall forfeit. . . . to the Towne walle. **1607** MARKHAM *Cavel.* i. (1617) 50 Many good breeders . . . will let their Mares after they are quickened be moderately trauelled or wrought. **1707** SLOANE *Jamaica* i. p. xvii, Oxen . . . are reckoned the best meat, if not too much wrought. *Ibid.* clii, The Slaves are usually so well wrought in the day, . . . that they do not easily awake. **1798** J. NAISMITH *Agric. Clydesdale* 123 Some gentlemen have again begun to use oxen for all the purposes of draught. The Right Honourable Lord Douglas always works a few. **1841** R. OASTLER *Fleet Papers* i. 267 Whether it was right to work little boys and girls in the mills, longer than from six o'clock in the morning to six o'clock in the evening. **1878** E. S. ELWELL *Boy Colonists* 48 Fricker. . . [was] delighted to shew the 'new chum' how to work a cattle dog. **1888** *Times* 13 Oct. 7/6 The manner in which the hounds should be worked. **1912** SIR G. O. TREVELYAN *Geo. III & C. Fox* i. vii. 243 The occupants of the best-paid places for the most part were not worked at all. **1928** P. T. KENWAY *Pioneering in Poverty Bay* viii. 56 It was said of the Highland shepherd in New Zealand, that he would . . . work his dogs, getting in stray sheep, every day for a month.

b. To bring or get into some condition by labour or exertion.

1628 FOLKINGHAM *Panala Med.* 72 As Oxen wrought leane, regaine the flesh of young beefes by good pasturage. **1727** A. HAMILTON *New Acc. E. Ind.* II. li. 246 He . . . protested that he would not be accessory to the Destruction of so many Innocents, whom he foresaw, would be wrought and starved to Death. **1834** G. THORBURN *Resid. Amer.* 224 When first I began to handle the hammer, . . . my hands blistered too; but I wrought the blister down. **1840** DICKENS *Old Cur. Shop* xlv, She worked herself to death. **1853** — *Bleak Ho.* xiii, Richard said that he would work his fingers to the bone for Ada. **1908** H. WALES *Old Allegiance* viii. 134, I should think you were working the edge away by this time.

20. To set in action, cause to act; to direct the action of; to exercise (a faculty, etc.); to actuate, operate, manage: with various objects, as a machine or apparatus (passing into ****: cf. 16), an institution or scheme, etc.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* i. 63 The raueshyng to wroken of Eleyne . . . þei wroughten al hire payne. **c 1550** ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* i. 772 To mend the crime thai will wirk all thair mane. **1591** DRAYTON *Harmony Ch., Deborah's Song* 59 Her left hand to the naile she put, her right the hammer wrought. **c 1610** in G. C. BOND *Early Hist. Mining* (1924) 15 A smale weight . . . will growe heavey before it be worked up and worke many wheeles. **1756** C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* i. 128 Water is raised by a machine, . . . wrought by an horse. **1791** R. MYLNE *2nd Rep. Thames Navig.* 15 The Power of the Millers in working their Heads of Water. **1798** COLERIDGE *Anc. Mar.* v. xi, The mariners all 'gan work the ropes. **1832** BABBAGE *Econ. Manuf.* xxxi. (ed. 3) 312 The cabinet-makers . . . combined against it, and the patent has consequently never been worked. **1853** KINGSLEY *Hypatia* xiii, They are . . . dead dolls, wooden, worked with wires. **1860** MILL *Repr. Govt.* (1865) 1/2 No one believes that every people is capable of working every sort of institutions. **1877** *Daily News* 19 Oct. 5/6 The best way to 'work' the elections. **1885** 'MRS. ALEXANDER' *At Bay* ix, Always working her money and my own very cautiously. **1922** TREVELYAN *Brit. Hist.* 19th Cent. ix. 154 Great noblemen who were also great coalowners, working their own mines. **a 1923** W. P. KER *Tasso in Ess.* (1925) i. 339 The best way of working figures on their stage.

b. In *fig.* or allusive phrases expressing cunning management or manœuvring, as to *work the oracle* (see ORACLE sb. 1 b), *the ropes, one's ticket* (TICKET sb.¹ 6 b).

1859 *Slang Dict.* 117 Work the oracle, to succeed by manœuvring, to concert a wily plan, to victimize. **1884** RIDER HAGGARD *Dawn* xvii, How our mutual friend worked the ropes is more than I can tell you. **1919** *Athenæum* 15 Aug. 759/1 'Working one's ticket' means taking steps, such as feigning insanity or sickness, in order to get discharged from the army.

c. To cause to ferment.

[Cf. quot. 1594 in 121.] **1764** ELIZA Moxon *Engl. Housew.* (ed. 9) 140 To make Balm Wine. . . . When it is cold put a little new yeast upon it, and beat it in every two hours, . . . so work it for two days.

II. Intransitive senses.

* To act; to perform work or labour.

21. Of a person: To do something, or to do things generally; to act, esp. in the particular way mentioned; to proceed; to conduct oneself, behave, 'do'. *Obs.* or *arch.*, or merged in other senses.

a 1000 *Soul & Body* 64 (Gr.) Swa þu worhtest to me. **c 1200** *Vices & Virtues* 27 Hem ðe on him belieueð and ðar after wercheð. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5819 Wisemen he drou to him, & after hom he wro3te. **1340-70** *Alisaunder* 517 In battail . . . bigly too wirch. **c 1386** CHAUCER *Prol.* 497 This noble ensample to his sheepe he yaf That firste he wroughte, and afterward that he taughte. **1387** TREvisa *Higden* (Rolls) i. 7 þey schullep fonge her mede of hym þat rewardep . . . al þat wel worchep. **c 1400** 26 *Pol. Poems* v. 8 Gostly bylnd . . . þat leuep wit, and worchip by wille. **c 1430** LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 140 Wher God list werche may be noon obstacle. **1471** CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 340 [He] putte hym self in to the grettest prees of the bataylle wher he wrought mortally. **a 1529** SKELTON *Dyuers Baletts* Wks. (Dyce) i. 24 Aduertysing you . . . to warke more secretly. **1550** CROWLEY *Last Trumpet* 1357 If he haue wrought against the lawes. **1568** GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 63 He, because he could not otherwise speake vnto him, wrought by signes. **1601** SHAKS. *All's Well* iv. ii. 29 This ha's no holding To swaere by him whom I protest to loue That I will worke against him.

† **b.** to *let work*: to allow to act or proceed (*let God work* = leave the rest to God). *Obs.*

c 1230 *Hali Meid.* (1922) 13 Ne þarf þe bute wilnen, & lete godd wurchen. **14..** *Sir Beues* (Pynson) 3372 Iosyan . . . trauayled of chylde. . . . She sayde, . . . 'go hens away, . . . And late me worke and our lady'. **1546** [see A. 17].

22. To act for a purpose, or so as to gain an end; to plan, plot; to contrive, manage. *arch.*

a 1000 *Boeth. Metr.* xx. 87 þæt ðu mid gepeahte pinum wyrcest þæt ðu þæm gesceaftum swa gesceadlice mearge gesettest. **c 1386** CHAUCER *Merch. T.* 417 God . . . may so for yow wirche, That . . . Ye may repente of wedded mannes lyf. **1390** GOWER *Conf.* i. 63 How he can werche Among tho wyde furred hodes, To geten hem the worldes goodes. **c 1470** HENRY Wallace II. 242 Thai wyrk ay to wayt ws with supprys. **a 1548** HALL *Chron., Edu.* IV 239 Se how politikely the French kyng wrought for his aduantage. **1613** SHAKS. *Hen. VIII.* III. ii. 311 Without the Kings assent or knowledge, You wrought to be a Legate. **a 1674** MILTON *Hist. Moscovia* v. Wks. 1851 VIII. 511 The Chancellor, with others of the great ones . . . so wrought, that a Creature of thir own was sent to meet Sir Jerom. **1887** MORRIS *Odyssey* XII. 445 So wrought the Father of Gods and of men that I was not seen.

23. Of a thing (abstr. or concr.): To do something; to perform a function, or produce an effect; to act, operate, take effect; *esp.* to act in the desired way, do what is required; to be practicable or effectual, to succeed. See also 33.

1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 3137 þat fire . . . wirkes on wonderful manere, . . . Thurgh wilk þe saule most clenbed be In purgatory. **a 1375** *Joseph Arim.* 49 Louse þi lippes atwynne & let þe gost worche. **c 1375** *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxii. (*Justin*) 593 þi strinth sal nocht wyрке Agane þe treuth of haly kirke. **1379** *Glouc. Cath. MS.* No. i. i. iii. ff. 3 b, As the sonne wirkyth in all creaturis her beneath. **c 1386** CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 1901 Ther Nature wol nat wirche, Fare wel Phisik; go ber the man to chirche. **c 1400** tr. *Secr. Secr., Gov. Lordsh.* 71 Whanne þe wyt werketh and þe wyl ys trauaylled. **1422** YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* 206 Prayer, . . . out-sayd in erthe, worchyth in hevyn. **1471** CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 376 Thise wordes wroughte in the hertes of the calcedonyens and gaf to them corage. **1526** TINDALE *Rom.* viii. 28 All thynges worke for the best [1611 worke together for good] vnto them that love god. **1585** T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* III. xi. 91 b, Opium . . . doth so worke with them . . . that they loose both their wits and vnderstanding. **1602** MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* iv. iii, My plot begins to worke. **1651** FRENCH *Distill.* i. 40 This Oil taken inwardly worketh upward and downward. **1667** MILTON *P.L.* viii. 507 Nature her self . . . Wrought in her so, that seeing me, she turn'd. **1671** — *Samson* 850 It was not gold. . . . That wrought with me. **1784** TWAMLEY *Dairying* 30 This [salt] will . . . cause the Rennet to work quick. **1832** *Edin. Rev.* Oct. 245 How will the Reform Bill work in the return of members to Parliament? **1843** R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* vi. 75 The stomach works well and performs its functions with vigour. **1846** TRENCH *Mirac.* xvi. 262 [He] left the difficulty . . . to work in the minds of the apostles. **1861** TROLLOPE *Framley Parsonage* xxix, Lady Lufton was beginning to fear that her plan would not work. **1869** W. T. THORNTON *On Labour* iv. i. 357 The cases . . . showing how this arrangement works. **1891** SCRIVENER *Fields & Cities* 116 This is how private ownership of property works. **1892** MRS. CLIFFORD *Aunt Anne* i. ii. 40 Walter had tried sending Florence and the children and going down every week himself; but he found 'it didn't work'.

b. Of a machine or apparatus: To perform its proper function; to act, operate.

Sometimes felt as *intr.* for *pass.* from 20. In this and next sense passing into **.

c 1610 in G. C. BOND *Early Hist. Mining* (1924) 15 Smale modles often fayle . . . when they cume to worcke upon heavey . . . weights. **1702** *Post Man* 21-24 Feb. 2/2 Adv., There is a small Engine, that Raises Water . . . now set up at the Engine-House . . . in Dorset Garden, which will Work every Saturday and Wednesday. **1726** LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* II. 11 Cranes or Skrews, or any other Engine, working either by Leavers or Pullies. **1842** DICKENS *Amer. Notes* ii, Telegraphs working; flags hoisted. **1867** tr. *Clausius' Mech. Theory Heat* 198 A machine which works with expansion. **1889** GUNTER *That Frenchman* iv. 37 Maurice . . . closes the door . . . trying it to be sure the spring lock has worked. **1917** MISS M. T. JACKSON *Museum* ii. 67 Like all mechanical devices it [sc. the thermostat] does not always work.

c. Of a part of mechanism: To have its proper action or movement in relation to another part with which it is in contact.

1770 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Printing* 324 [He] besmears . . . so much of the Checks as the ends of the Head works against. *Ibid.* 366 The square holes the Hose works in. **1825** J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 130 The four bevelled nuts work into the bevelled wheels . . . and so turn them. **1892** *Photogr. Ann.* II. 172 An index working over a scale.

d. to *work like a charm*: see CHARM sb.¹ i c.

24. To do something involving effort (of body or mind); to exert oneself (physically or

mentally) for a definite purpose, esp. in order to produce something or effect some useful result, to gain one's livelihood or some profit or advantage, or under compulsion; to do work, perform a task or tasks, to toil: = LABOUR *v.* 11. (Opposed to PLAY *v.* 10, or to REST *v.* 12.)

to work like a beaver, horse, nigger: see these words. Similarly *to work like a dog*, *to work one's tail off*. *to work double tides*: see TIDE *sb.* 14.

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xli. §3 Hwy sceall þonne ænig mon bion idel, ðæt he ne wyrce? c 1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Matt. xxi. 28 Ga and wyrce to-dæg on minum wingearde. a 1225 *Aner. R.* 44 Lokeð... þæt þe ne beon neuer idel: auch wurched, oder redeð, oder beoð i beoden. c 1275 *LAY.* 8710-11 þære wrohte þeines, þære wrohte swaines, and þe king mid his honde. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 6843 Sex dais sal yee wirce... And yee sal rest þe sevend dai. 13... *Sir Beues (A.)* 58 Me lord is olde & may nouȝt werche. 13... *E.E. Allit. P. A.* 525 þay wente in to þe vyne & wroȝte. c 1386 *CHAUCER Sec. Nun's T.* 14 Wel oghte vs werche, and ydelnesse withstonde. c 1449 *PECOCK Repr.* iii. xi. 342 Poul... wrouȝte with hise hondis forto hawe his lijfode to preche. 1513 *BRADSHAW St. Werburge* 11. 880 A woman which... sabbat-day dyd violate Vn-lauflyly wurkyng. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 72 b. We must work and labour in goostly exercyse certayn dayes. 1546 *J. HEYWOOD Prov.* i. xi. (1867) 36 As good play for nought as woork for nought. c 1595 *CAPT. WYATT R. Dudley's Voy. W. Ind.* (Hakl. Soc.) 50 Our men wrought dalie to hoysse aborde all such goodes. 1620 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 784/1 At such one of the saidis mynes as they sall have last wrought into. 1621 *T. GRANGER Expos. Eccles.* xii. i. 315 We must worke with the Oare while we hawe strength, and after sit at the sterne. a 1633 *G. HERBERT Jacula Prudentum* 178 Think of ease, but worke on. 1851 *KINGSLEY Three Fishers*, For men must work, and women must weep. 1861 *GEN. P. THOMPSON Audi Alt.* III. clxiii. 180 To have taxed his paper, or his ink, or the rush-lights that he wrought by. 1866 *RUSKIN Croton Wild Olive* i. 40 Our third condition of separation, between the men who work with the hand, and those who work with the head. 1926 [see PERISH *v.* 1e]. 1969, etc. [see TAIL *sb.* 5a]. 1976-7 *Sea Spray (N.Z.)* Dec./Jan. 95/2 These lads have worked like dogs all winter.

b. const. *at, on or upon*, rarely *in, of* (a material object, esp. in making (cf. 14), a subject of study or literary treatment, an occupation, etc.).

1154 *O.E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an 1137 Martin abbot... wrohte on þe circe. c 1200 *ORMIN* 16283 Swa þe33 stoden... To wirkenn o þe temple. 1375 in *Horstm. Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 137/1 [Solomon] peron... Dede wochen foure & twenty gere. 1497 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 324 Certeyn Shipwryghtes that wrought of the seid Ship. 1569 *Aideburgh Rec.* in *N. & Q.* 12th Ser. VII. 184/1 P4 to Rodger coke and his man for workyng in the seatts at Church. 1612 *J. DAVIES (Heref.) Muse's Sacrifice* Wks. (Grosart) II. 6/2 That proud Pyramde... Whereon, threehundred-three-score-thousand wrought full twenty Yeeres. 1623 *LISLE Ælfric on O. & N. Test.* Pref., A sentence of Hesiod so commendable, that... Livie in that [Orator] of Minutius hath it well and diversly wrought-on. 1687 *PRIOR Hind & P. Transv.* Wks. 1907 II. 15 Vulcan working at the Anvil. 1712 *J. JAMES tr. Le Blond's Gardening* 205 Some Basons have been worked upon several times, without being able almost to make them hold Water. 1840 *G. GODWIN Last Day* i. 5 How hard some folks do work at what they call pleasure. 1853 *DICKENS Bleak* Ho. xviii, The little [church-] porch, where a monotonous ringer was working at the bell. 1893 *LIDDON*, etc. *Pusey* I. v. 96 Pusey... spent from fourteen to sixteen hours a day working at Arabic. a 1923 *W. P. KER Tasso in Ess.* (1925) I. 342 Tasso had been working at his epic poem.

(b) In humorous or trivial use, implying vigorous action of some kind.

1840 *THACKERAY Barber Cox* Feb., The Duchess and the great ladies were all seated... working away at the ices and macaroons.

25. To exert oneself in order to accomplish something or gain some end (expressed by context); to strive: = LABOUR *v.* 12.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1470 He wroten and figt, Queðer here sulde birðen bi-fren. c 1380 *WYCLIF Wks.* (1880) 352 He is frend to þe frere þat hatip þus his synne & worchip to distrie it. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 420 To Wyrc, aporiare & -ri, anxiani, conari, cooperari, conmitti. 1591 *SHAKS. 1 Hen. VI.* iii. 27 Your Honors shall perceiue how I wil worke, To bring this matter to the wished end. 1818 *SCOTT Rob Roy* xxxiv, Such a deed might make one forswear kin, clan, country, wife, and bairns! And yet the villain wrought long for it. 1873 *BURTON Hist. Scot.* v. lviii. 230 He was a refugee in England during the regency of Morton, who wrought hard to lay hands on him. 1891 *FARRAR Darkn. & Dawn* xvii, That guilty and intriguing minister of Tiberius... had for years worked on with the deliberate intention of clearing every one of them from his path, and climbing to that throne himself.

26. To do one's ordinary business; to pursue a regular occupation; to be regularly engaged or employed in some labour, trade, profession, etc. (*in a place, for or under a master or superior*). Said also of animals. Also more widely, to do something for a definite end, to engage in some systematic occupation. (Often coinciding with 24.) *to work out of*, to use it as a base, office, etc., for work; *to* (a person), to be responsible to as one's immediate superior or supervisor.

1307 *York Memorandum Bk.* (Surtees) I. 181 Boclemakers... to serve and to work to pouer and to riche within this cite. a 1400 *Isumbras* 398 'For mete', he sayde, 'I wold wyrc fayne'. c 1450 *CAPGRAVE Life St. Aug.* xii. 17 Be-neth þat hous... was housyng be þe ground, in which dwelt cōynours of siluyr, and wroute pære ful bisily. 1552-3 in *Feuillerat Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 130 Taylours woorkyng by greute or taske woork. 1590 *SHAKS. Mids. N.* iii. ii. 10 Rude Mechanicals, That worke for bread vpon Athenian stals. 1612 *S. RID Art of Jugling* C.4, The... matters wherevpon lūglers worke vpon, and shew their feates. 1676 *MARVELL*

Mr. Smirke 14b, Did not St. Paul himself, being a Tent-maker... work of his trade... to get his living? 1702 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3809/8 He [sc. a glover] wrought in Coleman's-alley. 1704 *DE FOE Giving Alms no Charity* (1859) 58 'Tis the men that wont work, not the men that can get no work, which makes the numbers of our poor. 1771 *GOLDSM. Hist. Eng.* III. 326 He wrought for some days in the habit of a peasant, cutting faggots in a wood. 1854 *H. MILLER Sch. & Schm.* ii. (1858) 35 The farmers for whom he wrought. 1866 *GEO. ELIOT F. Holt* xi, He's one of the Company you work under. 1879 *LUBBOCK Sci. Lect.* ii. 34 Ants work not only all day, but in warm weather often all night too. 1883 *SWINBURNE Misc.* (1886) 117 It was not the aim of Wordsworth to work on the same lines, to rule in the same province as do these. 1898 'H. S. MERRIMAN' *Roden's Corner* iv. 40 It is he who has made the discovery upon which we are working. 1941 *B. SCHULBERG What makes Sammy Run?* xii. 300 She's turned pro... She's working out of Gladys'. 1961 *B. FERGUSSON Watery Maze* xiv. 360 The Forward Officer (Bombardment) working to H.M.S. *Roberts* was killed with his signaller. 1972 *Where Sept.* 263/1 Registration officers work to the Registrar General. 1975 *I. MURDOCH Word Child* 6, I worked to a man called Duncan, now briefly seconded to the Home Office. 1976 *M. DELVING China Expert* i. 12 He had no shop but worked out of the small, comfortable house he had bought. 1979 *P. COSGRAVE Three Colonels* viii. 174 They had all worked either to Davies... or Morgan... None had come in contact with the head of the department.

b. const. *in* (†*with*) the material upon which labour is expended in some business or manufacture.

1471 *CAXTON Recuyell* (Sommer) 54 Than Iupiter began to lerne spyne and to werke in the silke. 1474 — *Chesse* iii. iii. (1883) 93 Thise... ben named drapers... for so moche as they werke wyth wolle. 1538 *ELYOT Dict., Plasma*, the warke of a potter, or of hym that worketh in erthe. 1539 *Bible* (Great) Isa. xix. 9 They that worke in flaxe. 1604 *E. G. RIMSTONE D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* iv. vi. 223 The veine of Tinne... is... rough and very painfull to worke in. 1759 *R. SMITH Harmonics* (ed. 2) 176 Any man who works true in brass may easily apply it [sc. this mechanism], to any harpsichord ready made. 1869 *BOUTELL Arms & Armour* ii. 38 The Greeks of that age... were able to temper it [sc. iron], and they had actually commenced working in it.

c. *spec. of sporting dogs*. (Cf. 12 g.)

1832 [see WORKING *vbl. sb.* 1]. 1874 *Kennel Club Stud Bk.* 165 Bruce and Rob Roy... both worked in good style. 1874 *CARPENTER Mental Phys.* i. ii. §3. (1879) 104 Young Pointers and Retrievers, when first taken into the field, will often 'work' as well as if they had been long well trained.

27. To perform the work proper or incidental to one's business or avocation; to operate or practise in a professional way. *Obs. exc. in general sense.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 174 þe leche ne may naȝt werche mid þe zike bote-yef he yzi his wonde. a 1425 *tr. Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 45 Wip som men it is to wirche wip cauteries. 1471 *CAXTON Recuyell* (Sommer) 233 Iupiter... wrought in his science and made his charmes. a 1500 in *Arnolde Chron.* 63 b/2 Wan y' mone is... in cankro Leone or Libra it is good [to] wurch in trees that bethe newe sprongen.

b. Said esp. of the performance of artistic work or the practice of an artist. †*worked upon*, †*about*: decorated or ornamented, e.g. with embroidery, engraving, or the like; also *fig. worked over*: having the surface remodelled or redecorated.

1539 *Bible* (Great) Ps. xlv. 10 A vesture of gold (wrought about with dyuerse colours). a 1586 *SIDNEY Arcadia* ii. xxii. (1912) 291 Her apparrell of white, wrought upon with broken knots. 1607 *SHAKS. Timon* i. i. 200 How lik'st thou this picture?... Wrought he not well that painted it? 1638 *JUNIUS Paint. Ancients* 102 Exercising his scholars... in the necessary rudiments... before he would suffer them... to worke in colours. 1706 *tr. De Piles' Art Painting* 336 He work'd also in Sculpture. 1733 *Sch. Miniature* 42 When you work after Prints. 1786 *STRUTT Biogr. Dict. Engravers* II. 422 This artist worked with the graver only. 1874 *J. H. POLLEN Anc. & Mod. Furniture S. Kens. Mus.* 131 The work is profusely gilt and worked over with tooling. 1875 *FORTNUM Maiolica* iv. 39 He worked about 1550. 1883 *T. WESTWOOD & SATCHELL Bibl. Piscat.* 219 The scroll has... been 'worked over', much to its detriment. 1889 *R. BEYDALL Art in Scot.* vii. 125 The students wrought in the academy daily at painting.

fig. 1875 *WHITNEY Life Lang.* iii. 39 For a long time there has existed... a tendency to work over such verbs, abandoning their irregularly varying inflection, and reducing them to accordance with the more numerous class of the 'regularly' inflected.

c. *slang*. (See quot. 1839.) Cf. sense 12i (e) above.

1839 *H. BRANDON in W. A. Miles Poverty, Mendicity & Crime* 166/1 *Work*, to rob, or act in any way according to the divers occupations of thieves, &c. 1882 *Sydney Slang Dict.* 10/2 We went to the gaff that night and tried to work. 1955 *Publ. Amer. Dial.* Scot. xxiv. 70 Some Americans [sc. pickpockets]. are front workers...; that is, they can and do work facing the victim. 1963 *T. TULLETT Inside Interpol* x. 150 Huffman 'worked' for a short time in Rome, where he defrauded several shopkeepers.

d. *to work to rule*: to follow the rules of one's occupational duties punctiliously in order to reduce efficiency, usu. as a form of protest in an industrial dispute. So *work-to-rule* attrib. phr.; also as *sb.* Similarly, in the professions, *work-to-contract*.

[1940 *Ann. Reg.* 1939 310 A 'ca' canny' movement—called 'work to rules'—among the [railway] employees.] 1950 *Ann. Reg.* 1949 40 The delegates replied by ordering a general work-to-rule 44-hour week... unless claims were settled. 1952 *News Chron.* 13 Mar. 5/7 That conductor was working to rule... All passengers must be seated before moving off; no overtaking of other buses; and no efforts to make up lost time. 1958 *Times* 4 Aug. 6/4 A report that prison officers...

were working to rule in protest against the report... that prisoners there had been assaulted. 1959 *Daily Tel.* 21 Nov. 1/5 The work-to-rule and shut-down were expected to be carried out in Manchester, Birmingham, Liverpool and other provincial cities. 1960 *Guardian* 13 June 1/6 A 'work-to-rule' plan instituted by members of the Amalgamated Engineering Union after pay negotiations... had broken down. 1962 *Spectator* 26 Jan. 96 What about lesser sanctions—go-slows, work-to-rules and overtime bans? 1967 *R. WHITEHEAD in Wills & Yearsley Handbk. Managem. Technol.* 69 The system would fail even more often if the staff stuck rigidly to the rules. We see the results when they 'work to rule', as it is. 1969 *Daily Tel.* 19 Apr. 23/3 Members of the London Schoolmasters' Association will 'work to contract' next term because of the two weeks' suspension without pay earlier in the year of 22 teachers. 1972 'M. SINCLAIR' *Norslag* x. 82 A work-to-rule among ground staff had led to some flights being delayed. 1975 *Times* 13 Jan. 15/1 Instead of wholesale industrial action by most of the [medical] profession, we are left with the consultants and their 'work-to-contract'.

28. *Math.*, etc. To proceed (in a particular way) in calculation; to perform a calculation; to go through the process of solving a problem.

c 1391 *CHAUCER Astrol.* ii. §5 Whan þat the degree of thy sonne falleth by-twixte two Almykanteras... thow Most werken in this wise. c 1425 *Crafte Nombryne* (E.E.T.S.) 23 Here he teches how þou schalt wyrch in þis craft. þou schalt multiplie þe last figure [etc.]. 1610 *A. HOPTON Baculum Geodeticum* 35 For the distance of sides of Triangles, worke thus. 1614 *HANDSON tr. Barth. Pittiscio's Trigonum.* ii. 20 If you worke by the table of latitudes... the difference of longitude will be 68 deg. 1669 *STURMY Mariner's Mag.* v. xii. 62 You must work as if the Piece were fortified no more than you so much as the thinnest part of the Metal is. 1766 *Complete Farmer* s.v. *Surveying* 7 G2/1 If instead of squaring the half feet, you square the half yards... and work with them, you will attain the same end without any regardable difference. 1823 *J. GUY Tutor's Assist.* 79 Work for the tare and trett as before.

29. Of a substance (corresp. to various senses in 12); usually with qualifying adv. or phr.: To behave in a particular way while being worked. See also 39 d.

c 1489 *CAXTON Sonnes of Aymon* vi. 136 Whan the yron is well hoote, hit werket the better. 1662 *GERBIER Princ.* 24 Portland Stone works well. 1676 *J. SMITH Art of Painting* ii. 16 Vermillion... If it be ground fine... no Colour works better. 1764 *Museum Rust.* III. xlvi. 205 Whilst in the quarry, it works better than after it has been exposed to the sun. 1815 *J. SMITH Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 732 Yellow ochre... is... much used [sc. in painting], as it works very freely. 1877 *Paper hanger* etc. 68 Distemper mixed with jellied size will lay on better... than when the size is used hot. Colour mixed on the former plan works cool and floats nicely, while the latter works dry, and drags and gathers.

30. With *on or upon* (†*into*, †*of*, †*to*, with arch.): To operate upon, produce an effect upon, take effect on, affect, influence: a. physically or generally.

1375 *BARBOUR Bruce* iv. 700 Of the hevyn... How that the disposicion Suld apone thingis virk hire doune. 1542 *UDALL Erasm. Apoph.* 219 He toke poison... but... it would not worke vpon hym. c 1560 *A. SCOTT Poems* (S.T.S.) iii. 55 As for a weddow, wirk weill on hir wame, I know no craft sall cause hir lufe 30w bettir. 1587 *GOLDING De Mornay* xvii. 314 This fault cannot bee imputed to the body... neither can it be imputed to any infection receiued first from the body; for the Soule could not be wrought into by the body. 1601 *SHAKS. Twel. N.* ii. iii. 188, I know my Physicke will worke with him. 1627 *HAKEWILL Apol.* iv. xiv. §5 (1630) 514 The same [sun-] beams exhale both stinking vapours out of the dunghills and sweete savours out of flowres, the beame is every way the same which workes vpon them, only the difference of the subjects... is it that... diversifies the effects. 1730 *W. BURDON Gentl. Pocket-Farrier* 75 When a Purge works... too strong vpon him... give him an Ounce of Venice Treacle. 1847 *TENNYSON Princess* iv. 137 Cyril, with whom the bell-mouth'd glass had wrought... began To troll a... tavern-catch.

b. mentally or morally; sometimes, to do something in order to affect, strive to influence (with *to* = LABOUR *v.* 13); sometimes, to influence successfully, prevail upon, induce, persuade: = 14 a. (Often in indirect passive.)

1616 *W. BROWNE Brit. Past.* ii. ii. 737 Which wrought so on the Swains, that they could not smother Their sighes. 1632 *LITHGOW Trav.* iv. 140 Sir Thomas... seriously wrought with the Grand Signior and his Counsell, to haue had him restored againe to his Lands. 1647 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) I. 435 Shee cries and tacks on... but all we can doo will not worke of her. 1662 *ATWELL Faithf. Surveyor* 4 He works to the Lady [owner] to send another to measure it [sc. the farm]... He prevails with her, she sends another. 1669 *PEPYS Diary* 10 May (1879) VI. 79 The King may yet be wrought upon... to bring changes in our Office. a 1715 *BURNET Own Time* (1823) I. 339 But he would not be wrought on. 1799 *WASHINGTON Let. Writ.* 1893 XIV. 184 He was not to be worked upon by Intriguers. 1823 *SCOTT Quentin D.* xxviii, Sweetest Lady, work with thy child, that he will pardon all past sins. 1849 *MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 72 She... worked on his feelings by pretending to be ill. 1869 *FREEMAN Norm. Cong.* III. xiii. 266 He had many minds to work upon and to win over to his cause.

31. To ache, hurt: = WARK *v.* *Obs. exc. dial.* a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 2688 Thoffe my schouldire be schrede, ... And the wiede of myne arme werkes a littile. a 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 531 Sa sare werkis hire þe wame... þat all scho dredis hire dede. c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 1814, I felte such wo, my wounde ay wrought. 1470-85 *MALORY Arthur* xxi. v. 848, I may not stonde, myn hede werches soo. 1808 *JAMIESON, To werk*, to ache.

32. Of liquor: To ferment.

1570 *TIMME tr. Marlorat's Expos. Matt.* ix. 17 When the newe wyne worketh or spourgeth, the vessels breake. 1577 *GOOGE Heresbach's Husb.* iv. 183 b, The Hony is... suffered to stand vncouered a fewe dayes tyll it hawe wrought, and

cast vp a loft all his drags. 1673 *Phil. Trans.* VIII. 6021 About 7 or 8 dayes after the Must hath been thus boyled it begins to work. 1715 LEONI *Palladio's Archit.* (1742) I. 57 The tubs wherein the Wine is working. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* (1862) ii. §5. 129 The liquid becomes turbid, and small bubbles rise to the surface; or in popular language, it begins to work or to ferment.

fig. 1602 2nd Pt. *Return fr. Parnass.* i. ii. (Arb.) 9 Such barmy heads wil alwaies be working. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxxiv, Men's brains are working like yeast.

** To move in a particular way or direction.

33. To go or move along, or in a particular course; to make one's (or its) way, take one's (or its) course; now usually, to make way slowly, laboriously, with some exertion or difficulty, or in an indirect course. (Usually with adv. or phr. expressing the direction or course: see also 36 b, 38 b, 39 c.)

c 1400 *Treat. Astron.* 3 (MS. Add. Bodl. B. 17), Therbe . . . vij. planetis that meuynd and werkyn in the .vij. heuenes. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* iii. ii. (1883) 87 Fortune hath of no thinge so grete playsir as for to torne & werke all way. 1535 COVERDALE *Jonah* i. 13 The see wrought [Luther *fuhr*, Vulg. *ivit*, LXX. *ἐπορεύετο*] so, & was so troublous agaynst them. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* v. 891 The raging Fires . . . lurking in the Seams, . . . Work on their way, amid the smouldring Tow. 1802 COLMAN *Broad Grins, Elder Bro.* (1819) 118 Being *Bacchi plenus*,—full of wine,—He work'd, with sinuosities, along. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* I, [The dog] worked round and round him, as if . . . undecided at what particular point to go in for the assault. 1862 PYCROFT *Cricketer Tutor* 57 A ball working away only a little way to the leg. 1878 LADY BRASSEY *Voy. Sunbeam* i. 2 After midnight . . . the wind worked gradually round . . . and blew directly in our teeth. 1898 G. A. B. DEWAR *In Pursuit Trout* 26 The trout was working up stream, always keeping under the bank. 1912 *Times* 19 Oct. 7/3 The Russians . . . worked round to the rear of the Turkish army.

b. To make one's (or its) way slowly or with effort through something, as in penetrating gradually through a substance, burrowing in the ground, etc.

c 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxix. 132 So lang sall pis fox wirk in pe erthe pat at pe last he schall comme oute among pis folk. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 12007 All the cite . . . pai set vpon fyre, . . . Wroght vnder walles, walt hom to ground. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 47 Sum says it is a mater that wirkes out of the stanes. 1691 in *Archaeologia* XII. 189 Sometimes the coneyes work under the wall into the garden. 1766 *Complete Farmer* s.v. *Walk* 7 Z 3/2 The bottom of the walks should be laid with rubbish, coarse gravel, &c., . . . and beaten down close, to prevent the worms from working through it.

c. *Naut.* Of a sailing vessel: To sail in a particular course, to make sail; esp. to beat to windward, to tack. See also 39 c.

1633 T. STAFFORD *Pac. Hib.* ii. xii. 204 The shipping . . . had direction to work about to another Creak. 1704 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4054/1 Perceiving . . . that they wrought from us, we followed them . . . with all the Sail we could make. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* ii. viii. 223 She had sprung her fore-top-mast, which had disabled her from working to windward. 1768 *Phil. Trans.* LX. 116 A little before noon we weighed, and worked up the river. 1823 SCORESBY *Jrnl.* 2 We reached down the river, and, on the ebb, worked out of the Rock Channel. 1836 MARRYAT *Pirate* xvi, The Comus . . . worked, in short tacks, outside the reef. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xxiii. (1856) 184 We are working, i.e., beating our way in the narrow leads . . . between the main ice and the drift.

d. To proceed in a particular direction in some operation.

1877 *Paper Hanger*, etc. 26 The paper hanger generally works from left to right. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, *Working home*, working toward the main shaft in extracting ore or coal. 1910 F. FAWCETT in *Folk-Lore* (1912) XXIII. 39 He is given several sharp blows on the ribs, beginning under the armpit and working downwards.

e. *transf.* and *fig.* in various connexions. See also 39 c.

1691 T. TRYON *Art Brewing* (ed. 3) 49 So soon as it [your Corn] begins to come, or as some calls it Work. 1848 LYTTON *Harold* ix. iii, A silent war between the two for mastery was working on. 1857 MRS. GASKELL C. *Bronte* i. ii. 27 Their religion did not work down into their lives. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* ii. ix, Hoping as Our Johnny would work round [= recover]. 1883 SIDGWICK *Fallacies* ii. vi. 205 Hence . . . the name [sc. demonstration] often works round again, in popular usage, to mean proof which is 'sufficiently' or 'practically' conclusive. 1895 P. HEMINGWAY *Out of Egypt* ii. 158 A new conversation starts up every hour, and debateable points acquire a fresh interest because there is never time to work to a conclusion.

34. To move restlessly, violently, or convulsively; to be in a state of agitation or commotion; to toss, seethe, rage (as a stormy sea, etc.); to struggle; to twitch; *Naut.* of a ship, to strain, or 'labour' so that the fastenings become slack (cf. 35); so of an engine or carriage (see quotes. 1791, 1892 s.v. *WORKING vbl. sb.* 12). Also *fig.* of thought or feeling; sometimes with allusion to 32.

1581, 1582 [see *WORKING vbl. sb.* 10, *ppl. a.* 4]. 1608 SHAKS. *Per.* iii. i. 48 The sea workes hie. 1652 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Relat. Journ. Wales* (1859) 11 The well . . . doth continually work and bubble with extream violence. 1689 H. PITMAN *Relat.* in Arb. *Garner* VII. 351 Our little vessel . . . wrought so exceedingly by reason of the great motion of the sea, that we could not possibly make her tight. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1776) s.v., A ship is . . . said to work, when she strains and labours heavily in a tempestuous sea, so as to loosen her joints or timbers. 1770 WESLEY *Jrnl.* 4 July, She . . . wrought, like one strangled, in her breast and throat. 1815 JANE AUSTEN *Emma* i. xiii, With men he can be . . . unaffected, but when he has ladies to please, every feature works. 1840

DICKENS *Old Cur. Shop* lviii, Shaking his head, and working with both his hands as if he were clearing away ten thousand cobwebs. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xi. 25 While everything was working, and cracking, strained to the utmost. 1886 STEVENSON *Kidnapped* 5 With his face all working with sorrow.

fig. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vii. II. 215 While thoughts like these were working in the minds of many Dissenters. 1859 TENNYSON *Elaine* 1300 Sea was her wrath, yet working after storm. 1865 C. STANFORD *Symb. Christ* vi. (1878) 161 Tempests of feeling often work beneath an unchanged face.

35. With complement: To move irregularly or unsteadily so as to become out of gear.

1770 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Printing* 325 [To] hinder the Press from working into a twisting position. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xxv. 83 The anchor on the lee bow had worked loose, and was thumping the side. 1874 J. D. HEATH *Croquet-player* 26 If the handle [of the mallet] be properly wedged into the head, it ought never to work loose.

III. With adverbs, in special senses.

36. work in. a. *trans.* To insert, introduce, incorporate (in various connexions: see 9, 12 d).

1675 A. BROWNE *App. Art Paint.* 11 Working in, driving, and sweetening the same Colours one into another. 1728 E. SMITH *Compl. Housew.* (ed. 2) 129 Work in three quarters of a pound of Sugar. 1826 M. CROSFIELD in *Jrnl. Friends Hist. Soc.* XX. 93 The 5 American Epistles . . . abound with choice passages of Scripture well wrought in. 1847 HELPS *Friends in C.* i. viii. 124, I would try and work in the old good thing with the new. 1870 FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* (ed. 2) II. App. 584 A . . . tale in which several particulars . . . are worked in with a lofty contempt for chronology.

b. *intr.* To make one's (or its) way in. *lit.* and *fig.* See 33.

1748 *Anson's Voy.* ii. i. 116 These . . . sudden gusts make it difficult for ships to work in with the wind off shore. 1849 HELPS *Friends in C.* ii. i. 12 All he meets seems to work in with, and assimilate itself to, his own peculiar subject. 1918 *Westm. Gaz.* 29 Apr. 5/4 Yorkshire troops . . . threw the enemy out of the village . . . but the enemy again worked in.

c. To co-operate or get along with.

1915 E. FENWICK *Diary* 14 Oct. in *Elsie Fenwick in Flanders* (1981) 89, I had tried so hard to work in with her. 1960 M. SFARK *Ballad Peckham Rye* viii. 181 If Mr. Druce thought I was working in with you, he'd kill me. 1974 O. MANNING *Rain Forest* i. ix. 101, I am a very fast learner, and I work in well with Mr. Axelrod.

37. work off. * a. *trans.* To print off (as from a plate); esp. to print in final form, so as to be ready for publication or distribution.

1662 EVELYN *Sculptura* 36 The very first . . . who published any works of this kind under their names, wrought off by the Rolling-Press. 1672 WOOD *Life* (O.H.S.) II. 247 Wee were then looking over and correcting the story of John Wyeleve in 'Hist. et Antiq. Univ. Oxon.' before it was to be wrought off from the press. a 1704 T. BROWN *Laconics* Wks. 1711 IV. 7 That . . . execrable Dog of a Printer . . . has work'd off the last Sheet . . . without sending me a Proof. 1708 T. HEARNE *Coll.* 11 Apr. (O.H.S.) II. 102 Mr. Thorpe gave but 10 pence per hundred for working off his Plates to Schutser. 1754 *Gentl. Mag.* XXIV. 58/1 An accident . . . to the Plate prevented a sufficient number [of etchings] from being wrought off. 1868 E. EDWARDS *Raleigh* II. Introd. p. lxxxi, By an accident of a miscarriage of proofs in the Post Office, the three letters . . . were worked off, prior to correction of the press. 1882 PEBODY *Engl. Journalism* xv. (1883) 107 The printers . . . often found themselves working off papers half through the night and all through the day.

† b. To make and throw off. *Obs.*

1695-6 *Act 7 & 8 Will. III.*, c. 20 §3 A . . . profitable Invention . . . for the . . . more speedy . . . knitting of . . . Stockings . . . whereby great Quantities are wrought off in a little tyme. 1739 MELMOTH *Fitzosb. Lett.* lxii. (1749) II. 118, I am willing enough to join with you in thinking, that [the souls of both sexes] may be wrought off from different models.

c. To get rid of, palm off, pass off; to perpetrate, 'play off'. *Oecas. refl.*

1813 M. L. WEEMS *Wks. & Ways* (1929) III. 92 The Maps . . . may be work[ed] off and in time to give you bank interest. 1884 KIPLING *Let.* 21 Nov. in C. Carrington *Rudyard Kipling* (1955) iv. 58 I've been writing a story . . . I'm trying to work it off on some alien paper to get myself pice thereby. 1891 NAT. GOULD *Double Event* xvi, A nice little swindle you worked off on me that time. 1897 'O. THANET' *Missionary Sheriff* 7 The lightning-rods ain't in it with this last scheme—working his self off as a Methodist parson. 1900 'MARK TWAIN' *Speeches* (1910) 164 He had not written as many plays as I have, but he has had that God-given talent, which I lack, of working them off on the manager. 1948 V. PALMER *Golconda* viii. 58 Corney had been skitting about his claim for months, and everyone knew it was a duffer, but he hung on in the hope of working it off on someone.

** d. To take off or away by a gradual process, effect a riddance of; to get rid of, disburden oneself of, free oneself from, by some continuous action or effort.

1678 RYMER *Trag. Last Age* 83 This Scene having wrought off the Remains of Phedra's frenzy, in the next she seems more calm. 1702 A. DE LA PRYME *Let.* 27 Mar. in *Diary* (Surtees) 251 Returning to his labour, . . . he sweat and wrought it [sc. canine madness] of [= off] without any physic. 1737 BRACKEN *Ferriery Impr.* (1756) I. 216 Nature is working off some latent Enemy. 1836 MARRYAT *Midsh. Easy* xxv, You . . . take some of his quack medicine, and then he will allow you a run on shore to work it off. 1873 SYMONDS *Gk. Poets* vii. 194 Should a man arise capable of seeing rightly and living purely, he may work off the curse. 1880 MRS. LYNN LINTON *Rebel of Family* x, So full of thoughts and energies she does not know how to work them all off.

† e. To draw off or dissuade (a person) from a certain course. Cf. 14 a. *Obs.*

1655 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* i. iii. xvi. (1687) 94/1 Glauco before he was 20. years old had . . . aimed at some great office in the Common-wealth, not to be wrought off from this

fancy . . . untill address by some friends to Socrates, who made him acknowledge his own error.

† f. To take or tear off by continuous application of force. *Obs.*

1703 PARKER *Eusebius* viii. 146 When the Flesh of her Sides and Breasts had been wrought off with Pincers, she was Sentenc'd to the Sea.

g. To finish working at; to dispose of and get done with.

1800 J. HAIGH *Dyer's Assist.* 33 When a vat has been heated two or three times, and a good part has been worked off. 1892 W. S. GILBERT *Mountebanks* I, Giuseppe, he's to be married tomorrow, . . . and so on until we are all worked off. 1920 *Westm. Gaz.* 2 Dec. 4/2 When the existing contracts for new steamships are worked off.

h. To put to death; to hang. *slang.*

1840 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* lxiii, He was ready for working off.

38. work out. * a. *trans.* To bring, fetch, or get out by some process or course of action; to get rid of, or effect a riddance of; to expel, deliver, efface, etc. Also *refl.*

1595 DANIEL *Civ. Wars* v. lxxi, These people-minions they must fall To worke out vs, to worke themselves int' all. 1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* ii. xxii. §10 That . . . you may worke out the knots and Stondes of the mind. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 226 If the Fox be in the earth, . . . they take this course to worke him out. 1648 GAGE *West Ind.* 2 Such plenary Indulgences, which may . . . work that soul out, which lyeth . . . in the deepest pit of Purgatory. 1660 DRYDEN *Astræa Redux* 275 Tears of Joy . . . Work out and expiate our former Guilt. 1691 HARTCLIFFE *Virtues* p. x, Strong Bodies will work out the Poyson they take, by degrees. 1758 *Hist. in Ann. Reg.* 3/2 To work out the old servants of the Crown, in order to make way for a more uniform system. 1874 WILLSHIRE *Anc. Prints* iii. 91 The engraver of metal plates has not rested satisfied with the chafing-tool, [etc.] . . . in working out their substance, but has had recourse to corrosives . . . to bite . . . away the metal. 1906 *Jrnl. Abnormal Psychol.* I. 37 We might properly say that the 'uncompleted emotion' . . . could be given an opportunity to work itself out.

b. *intr.* To make its way out, esp. from being imbedded or inclosed in something; to become gradually loose and come out: cf. 33, 35.

In quot. 1698, to lose its effect gradually.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* xxx. xiii. II. 394 To draw forth spils of bones, and make them to worke out. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.*, *Printing* ii. ¶1 Underlays . . . are often apt to work out, and . . . subject it to an unstable and loose position. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 127 The Liquor working out by his Walking, he began to grow weary. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 151 *Forelock*, a small wedge of iron driven through a hole near the end of iron pins to keep them from working out. 1832 MARRYAT *N. Forster* iii, Fresh splinters of the bone continually worked out.

c. *trans.* To work (a mine, etc.) until it yields no more; to exhaust by 'working'.

1545 in G. C. Bond *Early Hist. Mining* (1924) 8 [The parties shall cause all such coalpits as shall hereafter be] clenwrought out and gettyn [to be] caste in and stopped. 1827 SCOTT *Chron. Canongate* vii, The Highlands were indeed a rich mine; but they have, I think, been fairly wrought out. 1857 WESTGARTH *Victoria & Gold Mines* 226 The diggings, the greater part of which . . . had been abandoned as ground 'worked out,' to use the digger's phrase. 1906 HOCKADAY in *Vict. County Hist.*, *Cornwall* I. 520/1 As one part [of the rock] was worked out it was filled in with rubble from the new excavations.

d. To wear out, esp. by labour, or by continued application of force. *Obs.* or *rare.*

1611 COTGR. s.v. *Ouvrer*, *Le temps ouvre*. Time workes (or weares) out euerie thing. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lvii, During what long thankless nights had she worked out her fingers for little Georgy.

e. To discharge (a debt or obligation) by labour instead of a money payment.

1670 MARVELL *Corr. Wks.* (Grosart) II. 354 Who cannot pay his 5 s . . . shall worke it out in the House of Correction. 1773 *Pennsylv. Gaz.* 28 Apr. 3/2 Whereas I . . . am indebted £28:7:6, . . . I am desirous to engage and work it out. 1828 KENNEDY & GRAINGER *Tenancy of Land* 297 The highway-tax is most frequently worked out. 1840 DICKENS *Old Cur. Shop* xiv, Mind you're here, my lad, to work it out.

** f. To bring about, effect, produce, or procure (a result) by labour or effort; to carry out, accomplish (a plan or purpose).

In quot. 1597, to preserve to the end.

1534 TINDALE *Phil.* ii. 12 Worke out youre awne saluacion with feare and trembling. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV.* i. i. 182 We . . . Knew that we venturd on such dangerous Seas, That if we wrought out life, was ten to one. 1621 T. GRANGER *Expos. Eccles.* vi. ii. 148 Doth he not most often by his wit worke out his woe? and by his strength procure his owne ruine? 1633 BP. HALL *Hard Texts* Hosea x. 11, Hee loves to injoy blessings, but not to earne, and worke them out. 1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* III. 225 To go about to work out true peace by . . . compliances with men, is an endlesse work. 1805 WORDSW. *Waggoner* iv. 118 When the malicious Fates are bent On working out an ill intent. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* II. 75 O lift your natures up: . . . work out your freedom. 1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* I. 141 The natural tendency of their mode of life . . . worked itself out as time went on. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* ii. §7. 95 The fortunes of England were being slowly wrought out in every incident.

g. To go through a process of calculation or consideration so as to arrive at the solution of (a problem or question), to solve; also, to reckon out, calculate. Cf. 13.

1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xix, Day after day, Old Sol and Captain Cuttle kept her reckoning . . . and worked out her course, with the chart spread before them. 1849 C. BRONTE *Shirley* vi, While she completed the exercise, or worked out the sum (for Mdle. Moore taught her arithmetic, too). 1856 MISS YONGE *Daisy Chain* i. xviii, She tried to work out the question in her own mind, whether her eagerness for

classical learning was a wrong sort of ambition. **1891** *Speaker* 2 May 533/1 A practised novel-reader could probably work out the problem and complete the plot.

h. intr. for *pass.*: (a) of a course of events, narrative, etc.: To proceed so as to issue in a particular result; (b) with *at*, of a quantity: To amount to (so much) when reckoned up, to 'come to'.

1885 LD. COLERIDGE in *Law Rep.* 14 Q. Bench Div. 826 The justice of that course, and how it works out is shewn... by the late Lord Chief Justice. **1887** *Spectator* 3 Sept. 1173 It is... impossible to tell... how the situation in Ireland will work out. **1898** *Tit-Bits* 16 July 311/3 This [quantity of tea] when infused works out at about 4,000,000 gallons.

i. trans. To fashion by cutting out, excavation, or the like. ? *Obs.*

1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* 1. (Globe) 68 When I had wrought out some Boards... I made large Shelves. **1774** GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VIII. 100 The old one then, with as much assiduity as it before worked out its hole, now closes the mouth of the passage.

j. To bring to a fuller or finished state; to produce or express in a complete form or in detail; to develop, elaborate.

1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xvii. To see how Marlow, Shakspeare, and other play artificers, work out their fanciful plots. **1861** WHYTE-MELVILLE *Good for Nothing* xxxix, A picture... worked out with a skill and knowledge of light and shade. **1865** J. FERGUSSON *Hist. Archit.* II. 1. ii. 1. 380 [Italy] did not work out the Basilican type for herself. **1880** McCARTHY *Owen Times* IV. lxxvii. 518 The theory [of the survival of the fittest]... was worked out with the most minute and elaborate care. **1882** BESANT *All Sorts* xxviii, An idea... which... works itself out in his brain. **1895** F. HARRISON in *19th Cent.* Aug. 217 This important and far-reaching truth is worked out by Mr. Mallock with much acuteness.

k. To study or investigate completely; to work through. *Obs.* or *rare.*

1830 H. N. COLERIDGE *Grk. Poets* (1846) 10 After a boy has worked out a book or given portion of a classic poem.

*** **1. Pugilism. intr.** To box for practice, as distinguished from engaging in a set contest. Also *gen.* to practise, take exercise, rehearse.

1927 *Daily Express* 27 May 13/7, I saw Barber work out in the gymnasium... boxing four rounds with Young Johnny Brown. **1929** *Cosmopolitan* Aug. 72/2 Feet's feet take up so much room when he is on the floor that only two other dancers can work out at the same time. **1948** G. VIDAL *City & Pillar* II. ix. 264 Jim worked out in the YMCA. **1965** C. BROWN *Manchild in Promised Land* viii. 221 I'd go up to the gym and work out for a little while, and I wasn't tired any more. **1973** R. L. SIMON *Big Fix* (1974) xv. 110, I sat... watching the members of the Teatro Comunal work out. **1980** J. BALL *Then came Violence* xiv. 117 He belonged to a health club where he worked out regularly. **1984** *Daily Tel.* 30 Apr. 15/7 He does not look his 59 years. Perhaps it helps that he had his face lifted twice, works out with weights and had synthetic implants in his jaw.

39. work over. slang. To beat up, thrash (a person).

1927 *Dialect Notes* V. 467 *Work one over*, to resort to violence in the third degree inquisition of the police. **1934** D. HAMMETT *Thin Man* viii. 37 Morelli's face was a mess: the coppers had worked him over a little just for the fun of it. **1947** *Partisan Rev.* XIV. 329 The crooked cop can't look at Marlowe without a self-revealing yen to 'work him over'. **1970** *Daily Tel.* 11 Dec. 1/1 An engineer was followed into a sub-station by two men who threatened to 'work him over'. **1978** R. PERRY *Dutch Courage* ii. 23 Alan held me and Bernard worked me over.

40. work up. * †a. *trans.* To build up, construct, 'raise' (a wall, etc.): usually with special reference to the actual process. Cf. 3 c. *Obs.*

Occas. to build up material around (quot. 1712). **c1400** *Destr. Troy* 1542 The walles [were] vp wrought, wonder to se. **c1435** *Torr. Portogale* 1532 The Giant wrought vp his wall And laid stonys gret and small. **1703** MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* 259 In working up the Walls of a Building, do not work any Wall above 3 foot high before you work up the next adjoining Wall. **1712** J. JAMES tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 119 Set this Pole very upright... and work up the Foot of it with Rubble... for fear its own Weight, or the Wind, should throw it down. **1735** J. PRICE *Stone-Br. Thames* 8 Strong Cross-Walls... must be work'd up to the Top of the Crown of the Arches.

†b. To lift or raise (a weight) by labour; to hoist. *Obs. rare.*

c1610 [see 20].

c. intr. To make one's (or its) way up, esp. against impediment or indirectly; to ascend, advance; also *fig.* Cf. 33, 33 c, 33 e.

1667 MILTON *P.L.* v. 478 Till body up to spirit work. **1790** BEATSON *Nav. & Mil. Mem.* II. 194 He ordered the Queenborough ahead to observe their motions, and continued endeavouring to work up after them. **1865** KINGSLEY *Herew.* xxvi, Nearer and louder came the oar-roll, like thunder working up from the east. **1882** *Daily Tel.* 28 Oct. 2/4 The Torridge is in full flood, and plenty of salmon are working up to spawn. **1899** KIPLING *Stalky* i. 27 He was merely working up to a peroration. **1903** G. H. LORIMER *Lett. Self-made Merch.* viii. 109 He was... drawing ten thousand a year, which was more than he could have worked up to in the leather business in a century. **1916** LD. E. HAMILTON *1st Seven Divisions* (1917) 41 An additional flanking corps that was said to be working up from the direction of Tournai.

*** **d. trans.** To stir up, mix, or compound, as a plastic substance or substances: cf. 12 d. Also *intr.* for *pass.*: cf. 29.

c1450 *M.E. Med. Bk.* (Heinrich) 127 Let hit stande nyne dayes & nyne nyttes, & pan go werche hit vp, & let frye hit in apanne. **c1550** LLOYD *Treas. Health* V2, Take...

Frankencense, [and] as much oyle as shalbe thought sufficient, make it and worke it vp well. **1584** COGAN *Haven Health* (1636) 53, I advise all students that be troubled with wind... to cause Fennell seeds, Anise or Careway to bee wrought up in their bread. **1840** DICKENS *Old Cur. Shop* xviii, A stew of tripe, ... and cow-heel, ... and bacon, ... and steak, ... and peas, cauliflowers, new potatoes, and sparrow-grass, all working up together in one delicious gravy. **1855** Orr's *Circ. Sci., Inorg. Nat.* 213 Any hard material, that does not soon work up into mud or grind into dust. **1868** LOUISA M. ALCOTT *Little Women* xi, Hannah had left a pan of bread to rise, Meg had worked it up early, ... and forgotten it.

e. To make up (material) into something by labour (cf. 8); also, to bring into some condition, esp. so as to be ready for use (cf. 12 l).

1591 in G. C. Bond *Early Hist. Mining* (1924) 11 The fyner and hammerman for working up the said 50 tonns of barr iron. **1698** *Acts Massachusetts* (1724) 116 No Person... shall work up into Shoes... any Leather that is not tanned and curried in Manner as aforesaid. **1739** LABELYE *Short Acc. Piers Westm. Bridge* 60 Fir... Timber was chosen as being... the easiest work'd up. **1768** TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 325 Seneca... starting a doubt whether God made His own materials, or only worked up such as He found already in being. **1797** BURKE *Regic. Peace* iii. Sel. Wks. (1802) 236 The raw and prepared material [sc. silk]... is worked up in various ways. **1844** G. DODD *Textile Manuf.* Intro. 7 The straw-plait... is wrought up into hats and bonnets. **1869** W. T. THORNTON *On Labour* III. v. 323 A builder... willing to keep his men employed during the bad weather... allowed them to work up a quantity of stone to be ready for use in the spring. **1899** *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 106 Mediastinal sarcoma... spreads in upon and works up the pulmonary tissue in an irregular and crab-like manner, simulating cancer.

f. gen., or in reference to something immaterial: To make up, develop, expand, enlarge (to or into something).

1693 CREECH in *Dryden's Juvenal* xiii. (1697) 336 For he that but conceives a Crime in thought, Contracts the danger of an Actual Fault: Then what must he expect that still proceeds To finish Sin, and work up Thoughts to Deeds? **1712** BUDGELL *Spect.* No. 307 ¶2 Your agreeable manner of working up Trifles. **1820** W. IRVING *Sketch Bk., Rural Life* (1821) I. 112 A spray could not tremble in the breeze—a leaf could not rustle to the ground—...; but it has been noticed by these... observers, and wrought up into some beautiful morality. **1869** FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* III. xiii. 278 All this could easily be wrought up into a claim. **1907** MRS. C. KERNAHAN *Fraud* iv. 28 He had got a dramatic situation... which he meant Danvers to work up.

g. To bring by labour or effort to or into a higher state or condition. Cf. k below.

1668 DRYDEN *Dram. Poesy* 66 This last is indeed the representation of Nature, but 'tis Nature wrought up to an higher pitch. **1760** D. WEBB *Inq. Beauties Painting* 158 The expression in this statue [Laocoon], is worked up to such a just extremity... that, as the least addition would be extravagance, so every diminution would be a defect. **1861** HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* i, The kitchen and buttery were worked up to a high state of perfection. **1875** E. WHITE *Life in Christ* III. xviii. (1878) 237 A man can work himself up into an immortal condition of 'equality with the angels'... no more than an ox or an ass can work himself up into humanity.

h. To make up, form, construct, compose, produce (something material or immaterial): with special reference to the process, or to the labour, exertion, or care expended upon it. Cf. 3-6, 10.

1710 ADDISON *Tatler* No. 153 ¶1 An eminent artist, who wrought up his pictures with the greatest accuracy. **1713** — *Cato* i. iv, The Sun... Works up more fire and colour in their cheeks. **1820** Q. *Mus. Mag.* II. 60 Fugues wrought up with infinite art, and little effect. **1885** *Manch. Weekly Times* 7 Mar. 5/5, I have perhaps worked up this picture a little too elaborately. **1897** HENTY *On the Irrawaddy* 120 My uncle is working up a very good business. **1911** 'G. A. BIRMINGHAM' *Lighter Side Jr. Life* i. 9 He stood... in front of the looking-glass working up appropriate gestures.

i. Naut. To set to or keep at needless and disagreeable hard work as a punishment. Cf. 19.

1840 R. H. DANA [see HAZE v. 2]. **1841** — *Seaman's Man. Dict.*, *Work up*... a phrase for keeping a crew constantly at work upon needless matters, and in all weathers, and beyond their usual hours, for punishment. **1897** F. T. BULLEN *Cruise of 'Cachalot'* 208 The hands no longer felt that they were continually being 'worked up' or 'hazed' for the sole, diabolical satisfaction of keeping them 'at it'.

j. To 'get up' (a subject) by mental labour; to study carefully and in detail; to master by research. Cf. 12 k.

Mod. I'm working up mathematics for my examination. He's working up the history of the period for his new book.

*** **k. trans.** To bring by effort, or by some influence, into a particular state of mind or feeling, esp. one of strong emotion; to stir up, arouse, excite, incite (the mind, imagination, etc., or the person) to or into a state or action; to induce or persuade by effort to do something; without const., to put into a state of excitement, excite, agitate. Also *refl.* Cf. 14 a, b.

1688-9 STILLINGFL. *Serm., 1 Pet. iv.* 18 (1698) III. 120 It is no very hard Matter to work up a heated and devout Imagination to the Fancy of Raptures and Ecstasies. **1698** COLLIER *Immor. Stage* 25 To work up their Lewdness with Verse and Musick. **1710** STEELE *Tatler* No. 172 ¶2 We cannot but tremble to consider, what we are capable of being wrought up to. **1752** YOUNG *Brothers* iv. i, When I have work'd him up to violence. **1831** JAMES *Philip Aug.* xxx, His whole powers and energies had been wrought up to bear it firmly and calmly. **1842** LOVER *Handy Andy* x, Tell him magnificent lies—astonish him with grand materials for a note-book and work him up to publish. **1874** BURNARD *My*

Time xxxi. 306 My father had tried to work himself up into a passion. **1906** BEATRICE HARRADEN *Scholar's Dau.* xiii, Every time I speak of it, I get fearfully worked up.

l. To put into commotion, stir up, agitate (physically). *rare.*

1705 ADDISON *Italy* 54 This Lake [Garda] perfectly resembles a Sea, when it is work'd up by Storms.

m. intr. To be gradually stirred up or excited; to proceed or advance to a state of agitation or commotion. Cf. 34, and c above.

1681 DRYDEN *Abs. & Achit.* 141 So, several Factions from this first Ferment, Work up to Foam. **1709** STEELE *Tatler* No. 36 ¶3 You know a premeditated Quarrel usually begins and works up with the words, *Some people.*

n. U.S. Med. (See quot.) Cf. WORK-UP 2.

1961 *Amer. Speech* XXXVI. 145 *Work up*, to perform a series of diagnostic procedures (X-rays, laboratory blood tests, electro-cardiograms, and so forth).

workability ('wɜ:kə'bɪlɪtɪ). [f. next + -ITY.] The condition of being workable; capability of being worked.

1874 *Daily News* 17 July 5/5 The workability, to coin a word, of the Militia. **1876** in F. S. Williams *Midl. Railw.* 300 We must have the engineer before us to prove the workability of the line. **1892** *Solicitor's Jnl.* 5 Nov. 4/2 We... hope that the new rules will be drafted with a full regard to practical workability in detail.

workable ('wɜ:kəb(ə)l), *a.* [f. WORK v. + -ABLE.]

1. Of substances or materials: That can be worked, fashioned, or manipulated for use; said also of the state in which they are capable of being worked.

1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 139 As the potter most conningly doth cast his pottes when his claye is softe and workable. **1629** JACKSON *Creed* vi. II. ix. §1 Workable or fashionable unto any set forme. **1709** T. ROBINSON *Nat. Hist. Westmld.* ix. 55 It is but eight or nine Inches thick, but the Roof and Covers being strong, it is a workable Coal. **1853** *Pharmac. Jnl.* XII. 118 Coal and fireclay, of workable value. **1879** *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* v. 299 Many heavy clays... might be made friable, and easily workable by a liberal application of lime. **1887** P. McNEILL *Blawearie* 90 The 'ochre hole'... had been found too wet to be workable.

2. That can be worked, managed, or conducted, as a contrivance, establishment, institution, etc.

1756 in *Naval Chron.* (1799) I. 267, I stood off... to put the ship in a workable state. **1862** SMILES *Engineers* III. 367 Often making a circuit to secure good, workable gradients. **1859** W. CHADWICK *Life De Foe* v. 272 Each of those hands was well furnished with a good workable hedging-bill. **1881** *Daily Tel.* 29 Nov. 5 The only workable boat of the Lord Hood was manned. **1881** MISS BRADDON *Asphodel* xii, There's not one of 'em knows how to plan a good workable hot-house. **1901** *Daily News* 28 Feb. 9/1 To realise how much had been done to make the hospital a really workable place.

b. of a plan, system, scheme, or the like.

1865 MILL *Repr. Govt.* (ed. 3) 63/1 Assuming the plan to be workable. **1878** BAYNE *Purit. Rev.* xi. 445 A permanently workable, broadly comprehensive ecclesiastical scheme.

3. Capable of working. *rare.*

1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* II. 358 Very nearly seven millions of wives and children of a workable age still unoccupied.

Hence 'workableness, workability.

1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* Contents p. viii, Tried the workableness of the Rock. **1874** MORLEY *Compromise* i. 2 The immediate and universal workableness of a policy.

workably ('wɜ:kəb(ə)lɪ), *adv.* [f. WORK v. + -ABLY.] In a workable way; so as to be workable.

1943 NISSEN & BERGMANN *Cineplastic Operations on Stumps of Upper Extremity* iii. 36 Three sutures are placed, one in each of the free corners... and one in the centre edge of the pediculated flap for the purpose of holding it workably tense. **1971** *Nature* 12 Mar. 69/2 Should there not... be some kind of rebate for bulk delivery or, more workably, a charge for single delivery which is mitigated by bulk delivery?

workaday, work-a-day ('wɜ:kədeɪ), *sb.* and *a.*

Forms: *a.* 3 (*Orm.*) *werrkedaz33*, *werkedei*, 4-5 *werkeday*(e). *β.* 6- *workyday*, 7- *worky-day* (6-7 *workie-*, 7 *worki-*, *workey-*). *γ.* 9 *workaday*, *work-a-day*. [ME. *werkeday* (3 syllables), of uncertain origin: possibly f. gen. pl. (OE. *weorca*) of WORK *sb.* + DAY *sb.*¹, but perh. more probably f. directly on these with assimilation to the trisyllabic *sunnedei* SUNDAY, *messedei* MASSDAY. The type *workyday* is due to the influence of HOLIDAY, and *workaday* presumably to that of NOWADAY(S).]

A. sb. A day on which work is ordinarily done (distinguished from *holiday*); a work-day, working-day. *Obs.* or *dial.*

a. **c1200** ORMIN 11315 For þu wuke gifeþ þu wu A33 sexe werrkedaz33esse. *a* **1225** *Ancl. R.* 18 Valled to þer eorðe 3if hit is werke dei, mit te Gloria Patri. **1387-8** T. USK *Test. Love* i. v. (Skeat) l. 104 After the seven werkedays of travayle. **c1412** HOCCEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 4971 In þe longe 3ere be werke daye[s] I-nowe. **1426** AUDELEY *Poems* 80 On the werkeday 3if that thou be About thi labor treuly. *a* **1450** MYRC *Par. Pr.* (1902) 893 For, a-pon þe werkeday, Men be so bysy in vche way.

β. **1550** in Strype *Eccl. Mem.* (1721) II. i. xxvii. 218 That divers preachers within your diocess... do preach as well the worky days as the holy days. **1566** DRANT *Horace, Sat.* II. F5, On workyday I neuer coule be taken With better meate... then roots or chimny bacon. **1598-9** B. JONSON *Case is Altered* iv. iii, Fellow Onion for thy sake I finish this workyday. **1603** in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) II. 700

Sondaies, Holydaies, and workie days. **1653** FLECKNOE *Misc.* 127 He is one that makes alwayes Holy day for others, and worky-day for himself by taking upon him all the business. **1725** BOURNE *Antiq. Vulg.* xii. 116 We find a great Deference paid to Saturday Afternoon, above the other worky Days of the Week. **1789** H. WALPOLE *Let. to Mrs. H. More* 20 July, What the common people call a worky-day. **1860** W. WHITE *Wrekin* xvii. 170 If our teacher ain't ashamed to stop and shake hands with us, o' worky-days. **1840** DICKENS *Old Cur. Shop* xlix, In the very clothes that he wore on work-a-days. **1883** Harper's *Mag.* Jan. 238/2 Life was an unbroken work-a-day.

B. attrib. passing into *adj.* (cf. WORKING DAY). Belonging to or characteristic of a work-day or its occupations; characterized by a regular succession or round of tasks and employments; of ordinary humdrum everyday life: freq. in phr. *this workaday world*.

β. 1554 Bury Wills (Camden) 146 My worky day cassocke. **1606** SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* i. ii. 55 Prythee tel her but a worky day Fortune. **1672** DRYDEN *Assignment* iii. i, With such a Workiday-rough-hewn face too! **1751** MISS TALBOT *Let. to Mrs. Carter* 27 Sept., Oh this nasty worky-day world! **1877** F. JACOB *Scripture Prov.* xlix. 545 In the common law of facts in this worky-day world.

γ. 1802 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Gaston de Blondville* Posth. Wks. 1826 I. 6 The plain reality of this work-a-day world. **1838** DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* xviii, The less of real, hard, struggling work-a-day life there is in that romance, the better. **1857** MUSGRAVE *Pilgr. Dauphiné* I. i. 8 Their work-a-day dress is a coarse brown or blue serge surtout. **1859** JEPHSON *Brittany* xvii. 284 We cannot long indulge in day-dreams in this workaday world. **1874** P. RUSSELL *Leaves Journalist's Notebook* 53 Goswell-road is...one of the most work-a-day of London thoroughfares. **1898** 'H. S. MERRIMAN' *Roden's Corner* xii. 128 He did not attempt to understand the lighter side of life, but took it seriously as a work-a-day matter.

workaholic ('wɜ:kəhɒlɪk), *colloq.* (orig. U.S.). [*f.* WORK *sb.*, after *alcoholic*.] One who is addicted to work, or who voluntarily works excessively hard and unusually long hours. Also *attrib.* or as *adj.*

1968 W. E. OATES in *Pastoral Psychology* Oct. 16 (*heading*) On being a 'workaholic'. **1971** — (*title*) Confessions of a workaholic. **1973** *Bulletin* (Sydney) 25 Aug. 45/2 The workaholic, as an addict is called, neglects his family, withdraws from social life, and loses interest in sex. **1974** *Daily Colonist* (Victoria, B.C.) 17 July 18/8 Often the workaholic boss threatens the health and welfare of those unfortunate enough to work for him. **1976** S. WALES *Echo* 27 Nov. 6/9 At all costs you should avoid becoming a 'Workaholic'... You should leave your work behind with the office. **1981** *Time* 13 May 67/3 Unlike their workaholic American cousins Europeans tend to see lengthy vacations as somehow part of the natural order of things. **1984** *Guardian* 22 Oct. 11/4 They're concerned about the pressures of their jobs, which demand that they become workaholics.

Hence 'workaholism, the condition of being a workaholic.

1968 W. E. OATES in *Pastoral Psychol.* Oct. 16/2, I have dubbed this addiction of myself and my fellow ministers as 'workaholism'. **1971** — (*Confessions of a Workaholic* i. 1) Workaholism is a word which I have invented... It means addiction to work, the compulsion or the uncontrollable need to work incessantly. **1981** *Farmstead Mag.* Winter 23/2 For them it requires no effort of will to go off energy-saving appliances... leave off gluttony on home-grown foods or security schemes, give up workaholism. **1983** *Sunday Tel.* (Colour Suppl.) 20 Feb. 14/4 We talked about... workaholism, autobiography and Isaac Asimov.

workalike ('wɜ:kəlaɪk), *a.* and *sb.* Also work-alike. [*f.* WORK *v.* + ALIKE *adv.*] *A. adj.* Of a computer: able to use the software of another machine and behaving in the same way when the software is used. *B. sb.* A workalike computer.

1981 *Infoworld* 13 Apr. 54 (*heading*) PMC-80: TRS-80 'workalike' computer. *Ibid.* 54/1 Personal Micro Computers has renamed the Video Genie PMC-80, and uses the phrase 'TRS-80 workalike' in some of its advertising. **1983** *Austral. Personal Computer* Aug. 90/2 Most software writers recognise the existence of IBM workalike machines and therefore attempt to avoid nucleus calls to direct device I/O. **1983** *Popular Computing* Dec. 83/2 The Ace is an Apple II workalike that accepts Apple II software, disk drives, and... add-on cards. **1985** *Daily Tel.* 9 Sept. 2 (Advt.), A true, 16-bit, µPD8086 chip. (Not the humble 8088 of so many IBM work-alikes.)

workaway ('wɜ:kəweɪ). U.S. [*f.* WORK *v.* + -a-way *sb.*] One who works his passage on a ship.

1906 *Federal Reporter* CXXXIX. 92 He authorized the mate to take four men as workaways to earn their passage from Nome to Tocomá. **1933** M. PELL *S.S. Utah* 58 The workaway, a quiet young Swede, also went. **1945** *Seafarers' Log* 20 July 3/3 From there [*sc.* from Honolulu] they were sent as workaways back to San Francisco. **1973** *Art Internat.* Mar. 100/2 If one didn't have the price, one could present one's self to a ship's purser and ask for a job as a workaway.

work-brittle, *a. dial.* Also -brattle, -brackle, etc. (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s.v. *Work-bracco*). [*f.* WORK *sb.* or *v.*; the second element appears to be BRITTLE *a.*, but the sense-development is obscure.] Eager to work, industrious.

1647 TRAPP *Marrow Gd. Authors in Comm. Ep.* 627 What need she [*sc.* Anne Bullen] be so work-brittle, being a Queen? **1691** RAY *N.C. Words, Work-bracco*, i.e. work-brittle, very diligent; earnest or intent upon one's work. **1800** PEGGE *Suppl. Grose, Warck-brattle*, fond of work. *Lanc.* **1881** *Oxfordsh. Gloss. Suppl.* (E.D.S.), *Work-brittle*, eager to work.

work-day ('wɜ:kdeɪ), *sb.* and *a.* [OE. *weorcdæg* (= Du. *werkdag*, OHG., MHG. *werctac*, G. *werktag*, ON. *verkdagr*) does not seem to have survived; ME. *werkday* is prob. a new formation on WORK *sb.* + DAY *sb.*¹, or ad. ON.; cf. WORKADAY.]

A. sb. A day on which work is ordinarily performed; a week-day.

c. 1430 *Freemasonry* (1847) 270 That the mason worche apón the werk day. **c. 1440** *Prompt. Parv.* 522/2 Werkday, *feria*. **1488** *Somerset Med. Wills* (1901) 279, I wold my prest shuld sing in them the werke daies during the 12 monethis. **1535** COVERDALE *Ezek.* xlvii. 1 Y^e dore of the ynnermer courte... shall be shut the vj. worke dayes. **1548-9** *Bk. Com. Prayer, Communion* rubric, When the holy Communion is celebrate, on the workeday. **1563** *Homilies* II. *Of Place & Time of Prayer* 1. 139 They vse all dayes a lyke, workedayes and holidayes are all one. **a. 1639** HINDE *J. Bruen* xlvii. (1641) 153 Neither holy-day, nor work-day. **1706** MRS. CENTLIVRE *Platonic Lady* i. ii. Wks. 1760 II. 194 She... paid the Labourers their Wages on Work-days, and took a Jigg with them on Holy-days. **1824** MISS MITFORD *Village Ser.* 1. *Hannah* 22 We (the privileged) see on a work-day the names which the sabbath announces to the generality.

¶ Used for DAYWORK 2.

1670 BLOUNT *Law Dict.* (1691), When they performed their Boons or Work-days to their Lord.

B. attrib. passing into *adj.* Belonging to or characteristic of a work-day; performed, worn, etc. on a work-day; also *fig.* = WORKADAY B.

c. 1500 *Ely Episc. Rec.* (1891) 211, I give to Edmund Garred my worke day gown. **1540** *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 103 My workday gowne. **1563** in *Strype Ann. Ref.* (1709) I. xxxv. 357 My Visitation Sermons and Workday Sermons. **1622** *Knaresb. Wills* (Surtees) II. 77 My woorkday gowne... thre woorkday aprens, one woorkday band. **1808** SCOTT *Marm.* vi. iii, Ne'er, in work-day world, was seen A form so witching fair. **1831** JAMES *Philip Aug.* xl, [It] relieves the mind from petty calculation and workday cares. **1849** MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* II. 72, I saw him... after unloading the waggon, in his workday clothes. **1859** KINGSLEY *Misc.* I. 16 Unfit for this workday world. **1889** CORBETT *Monk* xiv. 195 This dull work-day soldier.

worked ('wɜ:kt), *ppl. a.* [*f.* WORK *v.* + -ED¹.]

1. Used for farm-work.

1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* 170 An old worked Ox fattening as well, and being as good Meat as a young one.

2. Executed or ornamented with needlework, engraving, or the like.

1740 MRS. E. MONTAGU *Corr.* (1906) I. 47, I desire you to send me up my worked facing and robing. **1746-7** MRS. DELANY *Autobiogr.* (1861) II. 447 In my Irish green damask and my worked head. **1816** SCOTT *Old Mort.* xl, The worked-worsted chairs. **1857** DICKENS *Dorrit* II. xxx, She turned the watch upon the table, and... looked at the worked letters within. **1884** E. YATES *Recoll.* I. 181 Elaborately dressed, with a worked shirt-front and huge white waistcoat.

3. Shaped, fashioned, or dressed for use or ornament.

1864 J. HUNT tr. *Vogt's Lect. Man* x. 288 He reports that he has found... worked flints at a depth of twelve feet in a stratified soil. **1892** *Archaeologia* LIV. 110 Many fragments of worked bone and horn were discovered.

4. In various senses: Contrived, managed, conducted, etc.; *Hort.* grafted.

1848 W. PAUL *Rose Gard.* 106 When potting worked plants, we should have an eye to suckers from the wild stock. **1882** F. E. HULME (*title*) Worked Examination Questions in Plane Geometrical Drawing. **1886** COL. MAURICE *Lett. fr. Donegal* 4 A cleverly-worked intrigue. **1904** *Westm. Gaz.* 1 June 12/1 'Leased' or 'worked' lines.

5. With *adv.*, as *worked-off*, *-out*, *-up* (see the corresponding senses of the verb).

1770 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Printing* 360 He grasps off the Worked off Heap so much at once... as he can well govern. **1831** P. EGAN *Show Folks* 41 Like a well-worked up scene on the stage. **1864** 'MARK TWAIN' in *Californian* Nov. 5 We admire his mature judgment in selling out of a worked-out mine. **1882** *Rep. Ho. Repr. Prec. Met.* U.S. 641 The worked-out space becomes more or less filled with bowlders. **1893** *Helps to Study of Bible* 269 Some old worked-out mines. **1903** *Daily Chron.* 29 Oct. 3/3 The worked-up feelings of a personal witness of these scenes. **1908** *Stage Year Bk.* 21 An ingeniously conceived and vigorously worked-out spectacle play.

worker ('wɜ:kə(r)). Forms: see WORK *v.* [*f.* WORK *v.* + -ER¹. Cf. Du. *werker*, MHG. *wercker* (G. *werker*).]

1. One who makes, creates, produces, or contrives.

†*a.* Applied to God as maker or creator; sometimes *absol.* the Creator, (one's) Maker. *Obs.*

13... *E.E. Allit.* P. B. 1501 þe worcher of þis worlde. **1382** WYCLIF *Dob xxxvii.* 3 My werkere I shal proue riȝtwis. **1500-20** DUNBAR *Poems* xlvii. 53 He, of natur that wirker wes and king. *Ibid.* 60 He, the wirker, that put in hir sic grace. **1557** N.T. (Genev.) Ep. *ij, God the Creatour, moste perfect and excellent worker of all thinges. **1594** HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* I. ii. §2 Only the workes and operations of God have him both or their worker, and for the lawe whereby they are wrought. **a. 1602** W. PERKINS *Cases Consc.* (1619) 4 He is the author and worker thereof [*i.e.* of goodness].

b. An author, producer, contriver, or doer; †also with epithet, as *evil worker* = evil doer. *arch.*

c. 1374 CHAUCER *Compl. Mars* 261 And therefore in the worcher was the vice. **c. 1380** WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 266 þus men mai have prophecie, and al þes habitis in þer soule, and be schrewid wirchirs. **1382** — *Luke* xiii. 27 Alle worcheris of wickidnesse. **1387-8** T. USK *Test. Love* III. ii. (Skeat) 1.

63 Al your werkes be cleped seconde, and moven in vertue of the firste wercher. **c. 1400** tr. *Secr. Secr., Gov. Lordsh.* 88 þe werkere of meruayles ys oon god. **c. 1449** PECOCK *Repr.* IV. ii. 427 God is the cheef and principal and veri worcher of the principal effect. **c. 1470** HENRY WALLACE III. 344 Causer of wer, wykar of wykitnes. **1513** DOUGLAS *Eneis* XII. iii. 103, I sall the warrand, and the wirkar [*orig. auctor*] be To mak the baldy vndertak. **1526** TINDALE *Phil.* iii. 2 Beware of dogges, beware of evyll workers. **1549** COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. Rom.* iii. 5-8 They can not laye to goddes charge the synnes, wherof themself be wyflw workers. **1598** R. BERNARD tr. *Terence, Andria* II. vi, If any thing happen otherwise then well, euen that same varlet is the worker of it. **1623** BINGHAM *Xenophon* 107 The workers of the common safetie. **1796** MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 286 They believe that the devil is the doer or worker of every thing that gives offence. **1843** TAIT's *Mag.* X. 606 The worker of all this evil. **1867** MORRIS *Jason* XVII. 441 She grew to be the sorceress, Worker of fearful things.

c. transf. of things.

a. 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* II. 11 Dred is wirkere of vertus. **1604** JAS. I *Counterbl. to Tobacco* (Arb.) 106 The Tobacco... was the worker of that miracle. **1612** BEAUM. & FL. *Coxcomb* IV. i, You can say well: if you be mine, wench, you must doe well too, for words are but slow workers. **1842** DICKENS *Amer. Notes* iii, What a worker of hypocrisy this sight... would appear to be!

†*d.* ? A commercial agent. *Obs.*

1560 GRESHAM in Burdon *Life* (1839) I. 323 The cheiffe sercher (whome ys all my worcker, and conveyer of all my velvets).

2. *a.* One who works or does work of any kind (sometimes with *adj.* denoting the quality of the work); esp. one who works in a certain medium, at a specified trade or object of manufacture, or in a certain position or status (often denoted by prefixed *sb.*, etc., as *boiler-worker*, *cloth-worker*, *iron-worker*, *metal-worker*; *co-worker*, *fellow-worker*; *brain-worker*, *hand-worker*); in early use also, †*a* maker or manufacturer (of a specified thing).

1382 WYCLIF *Ecclus.* xxxvii. 13, 14 With the werkere, of alle werk [Vulg. *cum operario agrario, de omni opere*]. **1388** — *Acts* xix. 24 A man, Demetrie bi name, a worcher in siluer. **c. 1400** *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) v. vi. 98 Now haue we none instrumentes, ne here ben no werkfers for to make them newe. **c. 1440** *Pallad.* on *Husb.* vi. 62 Oon of thi workers falle [the tree] That kunyngest is of his felous alle. **1474** CAXTON *Chesse* III. v. (1883) 119 The two tase that ben practisiens and werkfers ben callyd phisiciens and cyrurgyens. **1487** *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 404/2 Th' Offices of Maister and Werker of oure Money. **1530** TINDALE *Exod.* xxxv. 35 Broderers and workers with needle. **1566** *Act 8 Eliz.* c. 11 §4 Every Hatmaker that is nowe a maker or worker of Hates. **1611** COTGR., *Ouvrier*, a workeman; an Artificer, or handi-craftsman... & generally, any worker. **1660** F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 357 Lazy people, and no good workers. **1663** COWLEY *Ode upon Dr. Harvey* iii, He so exactly does the work survey, As if he hir'd the workers by the day. **1760** *Court & City Reg.* 224 His Majesty's Mint... Master and Worker. Hon. Wm. Chetwynd, Esq. **1765** *Museum Rust.* IV. 76 Mr. Naish, tin-plate-worker. **1767** *Phil. Trans.* LVIII. 41 Another worker in ivory cut through that tusk which Lord Shelburne gave me. **1838** DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* x, I spoke of you as an out-of-door worker. **1877** *Oxf. & Camb. Undergrad. Jnl.* 25 Jan. 173/2 Cowles not only has the knack of getting work out of his men, but is a very hard worker himself, though not a pretty oar. **1882** BESANT *All Sorts* xxxv. (1898) 242 There are a great many workers—ladies, priests, clergymen—among them, trying to remove some of the suffering. **1887** RUSKIN *Præterita* II. 207 The full happiness of that time to me cannot be explained except to consistently hard workers.

b. In emphatic use, esp. as opposed to *idler*, or the like.

1628 C. LEVETT *Voy. N. Eng.* viii. in *Collect. Mass. Hist. Soc.* Ser. III. VIII. 190 Except for every three loiterers, he have one worker. **1852** MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's* C. xxviii, A dreamy, neutral spectator... when he should have been a worker. **1866** RUSKIN *Crown Wild Olive* i. 8 The distinction between workers and idlers, as between knaves and honest men. **1871** — *Fors Clav.* ix. 4 *note*, Here and there we have a real worker among soldiers, or no soldiering would long be possible. **1889** G. B. SHAW in *Fabian Ess.* 6 Rent... paid... by a worker to a drone.

c. One who is employed for a wage, esp. in manual or industrial work; now often in the language of social economics, a 'producer of wealth', as opposed to *capitalist*.

1848 KINGSLEY in Benham *Cassell's Bk. Quot.* (1907) 185 Workers of England, be wise, and then you must be free. **1857** *Househ. Words* 27 June 603/1 The first great body of workers, namely the clerks [*i.e.* railway clerks]. **1862** SMILES *Engineers* III. 14 They belonged to the ancient and honourable family of Workers—that extensive family which constitutes the backbone of our country's greatness, the common working people of England. **1867** LEVI *Wages Working Classes* 6 Some have limited the meaning to such as are in receipt of weekly wages, and some would limit the term 'workers' to such as are employed in the production of wealth. It might seem also a condition of such appellation that the person should stand in the capacity of servant or worker for others... On the other hand, we must remember that in many occupations the workers are paid by the month or quarter. **1885** E. B. BAX *Relig. Socialism* (1886) 125 This, then, is the empire which the blood and sinew of you, workers, are squandered to maintain and extend. **1891** MORRIS *Poems by Way* 112 For that which the worker winneth shall then be his indeed, Nor shall half be reaped for nothing by him that sowed no seed.

d. Of animals: †(*a*) A draught animal. *Obs.*

1617 Toke (Kent) *Estate Acc.* (MS.) fol. 9 One payer workers at £15.

(*b*) A horse, dog, etc. that works (well).

1844 [J. W. CARLETON] *Hyde Marston* I. 74 It's not fair to keep the double thong always going with a free worker. **1874** *Kennel Club Stud Bk.* 161 Bell and Lilly... the latter being a

small, mean-looking white bitch, but a very good worker. 1908 *Animal Managem.* 283 Geldings... were proved to be very good workers in Somaliland.

(c) The neuter or undeveloped female of certain social hymenopterous and other insects, as ants and bees, which supplies food and performs other services for the community.

1747 W. GOULD *Engl. Ants* 73 As soon as the Queen has deposited a Parcel of Eggs, the Workers take them under their Protection. 1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xvii. (1817) II. 32 The workers or larvæ, answering to the hymenopterous neuters, are the most numerous and at the same time most active part of the community. 1855 *Poultry Chron.* III. 351 Fertile workers lay none but male eggs.

e. U.S. Politics. One of a class of political agents or partisans subordinate to a 'boss'.

1873 'MARK TWAIN' *Gilded Age* xlv. 399 In Washington he was... clerk of two house committees, a 'worker' in politics. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commw.* II. lxiii. 451 The large and active class called, technically, 'workers', or more affectionately, 'the Boys'.

3. Applied to apparatus or pieces of machinery.

†a. A vessel in which wine has 'worked'. *Obs.* b. One of the small card-covered cylinders or 'urchins' in a carding-machine. c. A leather-worker's two-handled knife (Knight *Dict. Mech.*, *Suppl.* 1884). d. In pillow lace-making, *pl.* the bobbins that are worked across a pattern. e. = WASHER *sb.* 1 sb. f. With prefixed *sb.*, applied to an apparatus for 'working' the material denoted by the *sb.*, as *butter-worker*.

1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho.* III. 70 Let your vessel be such as hath already contained some muste or other liquor that hath wrought therein, (for he that knoweth not the vse of a worker is but a slender artist). 1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 167 Each pair of cylinders consists of a worker and a cleaner somewhat less in size than its fellow, and turning in the reverse direction of the drum. 1853 — *Dict. Arts* I. 766 The points of this roller (called a 'worker') are inclined in a direction opposed to the movement of the swift. 1853 BEILS' *Technol. Wbch.*, *Worker, Washer* in paper manufacture. 1878 *Technol. Dict.*, *Worker, Stripper* of the scribbling-machine. 1885 J. J. MANLEY *Brit. Almanac Comp.* 18 The butter-milk and water are carefully pressed out in one of Bradford's butter workers.

4. With adverbs, as *worker-up* (see *WORK* v. 40).

1656 *Second Ed. New Almanack* 10 He be no very good worker up. 1698 *Acts Massachusetts* (1724) 116 Tanners, Curriers, and Dressers, or Workers up of Leather. 1848 *Sinks of Lond.* 3 The worker-up of novels.

5. *attrib.*, as (sense 2 d (c)) *worker ant*, *bee*, *cell*, *grub*; *worker bobbin* = 3 d; *worker card* = 3 b. *worker-director*, a worker who is also on the board of directors of a firm; *worker participation* [PARTICIPATION 2 b], participation of workers in the management of the firms or industries for which they work; *worker-peasant*, used *attrib.* with reference to co-operation between urban and rural communities in Communist China; similarly *worker-peasant-soldier*; *worker-priest*, orig. a Roman Catholic priest in post-war France who earned his living as a factory-worker or the like; now more widely, a priest who engages in secular work for part of his time.

1882 *Athenæum* 1 July 18/3 As in bees and wasps, worker ants occasionally produce fertile eggs. 1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xix. (1817) II. 138 The instinct and industry of the worker-bees. *Ibid.* xxiv. 394 When all the worker-brood was removed from a hive, and only male brood left. 1894 VICKERMAN *Woollen Spinning* 159 We call one of each of the pairs of top rollers a 'worker' card, in distinction from the adjoining one, which is a stripper. 1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xix. (1817) II. 161 The instinct of the queen invariably directs her to deposit worker eggs in worker cells. 1881 COWAN *Bee-keeper's Guide Bk.* vii. 20 If we examine a hive, we shall find that worker-comb is 1/3 of an inch... thick. 1968 *Economist* 3 Aug. 53 The proposal—that worker-directors should be put on the boards of a number of nationalised industries...—is a waste of time. 1980 *Whitaker's Almanack* 1981 583/2 Sir Keith Joseph announced the ending of the Post Office worker-director experiment. 1855 *Poultry Chron.* III. 561 It is not invariably found that the bees will at once convert a worker grub into a queen. 1973 *Guardian* 19 June 17/4 Mr Heath's... flourish of the worker participation banner. 1978 *Jrnl. R. Soc. Arts CXXVI.* 326/2 'Industrial democracy', probably better called 'worker participation'. [1937 E. SNOW *Red Star over China* IV. vi. 173 The Chinese Workers' and Peasants' Revolutionary Committee was organized about this time.] 1962 — *Other Side of River* (1963) xviii. 135 This he managed to do by means of postulating the existence of a 'rural proletariat' and a worker-peasant army under the leadership of the Communist party itself acting as the vanguard of the true (urban) proletariat. 1968 in Gray & Cavendish *Chinese Communism in Crisis* 210 All enterprises with suitable conditions should introduce in a big way the worker-peasant labour system. 1976 tr. Tuan Jui-hsia in *Yenan Seeds & Other Stories* 19 Spring was very much in the air in the Worker-Peasant-Soldier Theatre. 1949 *Commonweal* 29 July 385/2 We must bow our heads in deep humility before the heroism of the worker priest. 1959 *Manch. Guardian* 4 Aug. 3/3 Five worker-priests... believed to be the only ones in the Church of England... do manual work, live on their factory earnings and receive no ecclesiastical stipends. 1970 *Daily Tel.* 29 Dec. 11/3 The Anglican church makes a distinction between worker-priests, who exercise a priestly function at their workplace, and priest-workers, who do an ordinary job, then return to parish work, usually as curate, in their 'spare time'. 1984 *Times* 28 May 10/8, I could not help wondering how it would be received by the congregations of, say, a worker priest in Nicaragua.

6. *Comb.* with *workers'*, as (sense 2 c) *workers' committee*, *control*, *flat*; *workers' co-operative*,

a business or industry owned and managed by those who work for it; *Workers' Educational Association*, the name of an organization founded in 1903 to provide evening classes and tutorials in economic, political, and liberal studies, originally for working people.

1965 J. KOLAJA *Workers' Councils* II. 28 The highly skilled workers' committee, and the apartments committee were considered temporary. 1972 M. ARGYLE *Social Psychol. of Work* viii. 217 The workers' committees have worked well, and members have acted responsibly on them. 1928 *Britain's Industrial Future* (Liberal Party) III. xviii. 228 Consultation with a body of workers will improve and strengthen it [sc. a business]; anything that can accurately be described as 'workers' control' will destroy it. 1974 *Times* 5 Apr. 16/5 As a trades unionist, I am in favour of workers' control. [1923 in *Internat. Index to Periodicals* (1924) III. 1417/1 What is the United Workers' co-operative association?] 1937 *Commonweal* 3 Dec. 145 (heading) Workers' co-operatives. 1965 B. PEARCE tr. *Preobrazhensky's New Economics* 220 Workers' co-operatives... essentially do nothing more than rationalize the system of distribution within the state sector. 1981 J. TILLEY in J. Thornley *Workers' Co-operatives* p. vi, Workers' co-operatives are suddenly being hailed as panaceas for unemployment, alienation, inner city decay and industrial strife. 1993 (title) The Workers' Educational Association. 1936 N. & Q. II. 11 July 19/2 What is gained from the University Extension, the Workers' Educational Association, or a year of study at Ruskin College? 1980 J. L. THOMPSON *Adult Education for Change* 22 The Workers' Educational Association provision has in many respects become barely distinguishable from that promoted by the universities, despite its roots in workers' education and political and economic studies. 1932 S. JAMESON *Single Heart* v. 127 She was able... to buy a slum estate in Evan's constituency and build on it blocks of workers' flats. 1982 S. GRANT DUFF *Parting of Ways* vi. 54 The shelling of the workers' flats in Vienna in February 1934.

workerist ('wɜ:kərist), *a.* and *sb.* [f. *WORKER* + *-IST*.] *A. adj.* Of, pertaining to, or characteristic of a worker-oriented view of society; (too) sympathetic to the role of labour in the class struggle. *B. sb.* One who adopts workerist values; *spec.* applied (somewhat *derog.*) to a member of the middle or upper classes who espouses the cause of the working class.

1959 W. BIRMINGHAM tr. J. Daniélou in *Cross Currents* Fall 381/2 The workerist conception locates poverty on the level of the standard of living. The 'collectivist' locates poverty on the level of private property. 1981 *Filmnews* (Austral.) May 6/2 The practice of Cinema Action was criticised as workerist for assuming that there was a unified working class. 1984 *Sunday Tel.* 2 Dec. 21/2 Oxford, long the home of what is now known as the 'workerist' (public school student turning very Left-wing). 1985 *Daily Tel.* 11 Feb. 12/2 The genuine proletarians of the hard Left who regard him [sc. Mr. Benn] as 'workerist'.

workfare ('wɜ:kfɛə(r)), *orig.* and chiefly *U.S.* [f. *WORK* *sb.*, after *welfare*.] A policy of requiring recipients of welfare money to do some work in exchange for this benefit.

1968 *Harper's* July 71 One of Evers' programs is what he calls workfare; he has said that everybody ought to work for what he gets. 1969 R. NIXON in *Washington Post* 9 Aug. 1/2 What America needs now is not more welfare but more 'workfare'. 1978 *Globe & Mail* (Toronto) 28 Nov. 5/3 Mr. Walker, one of the most conservative politicians in the Legislature... thinks they would support a pilot project in an interested municipality, although he is not claiming Government support for workfare. 1981 *Daily Tel.* 26 May 5 Two California towns... are at the forefront of a movement to implement 'workfare'—projects aimed at forcing welfare recipients to do some labour in exchange for taxpayers' money. 1985 *Times* 12 Feb. 14/5 There must be a real inducement to work. In the US a number of states have introduced 'Workfare' to complement welfare.

workfolk ('wɜ:kfɔ:k). Also (now *rare*) -*folks*. [f. *WORK* *sb.* + *FOLK* *sb.* Cf. *Du. werkvolk*.] = *WORKPEOPLE*, *esp.* farm labourers.

c 1475 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 285 That syche wyrfolk be payd in good monye. 1566 *Engl. Ch. Furniture* (Peacock 1866) 114 One sacring bell—wch Mr Edmond Haselwood... used in his house (as he said) to call workfolke to dinner. 1572 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 164 Wages by him payd to 214 workfolkes. 1578 *Bk. Chr. Prayers* 88 b, We beseech thee (O thou Lord of the harvest) send workfolks into thy harvest. 1600 *SURFLET Country Farm* II. 1. 327 At the discretion of the gardener... according as his number of workfolkes is more or lesse. 1612 *Shampton Assembly Bks.* (1924) III. 40 Theis seargmakers... were... desired to paie good English money to their worcke folkes. 1702 *Guide for Constables* 30 Clothiers must pay their... workfolks their wages in ready money. 1828 *Craven Gloss.*, *Wark-folk*, labourers. 1849 *Rock Ch. Fathers* II. vii. 411 The lowliest work-folk in the town. 1883 T. HARDY in *Longman's Mag.* July 255 The regular farmer's labourers—'workfolk' as they call themselves. 1891 *Daily News* 26 Aug. 6/4 A slight improvement in the conditions under which farm workfolks live. 1902 *Athenæum* 20 Dec. 831/3 The writer... had... smoked with the workfolk in their public-houses.

workful ('wɜ:kfʊl), *a.* [f. *WORK* *sb.* + *-FUL*. Cf. *OE. weorcfull* 'operosus'.]

†1. Active, operative. *Obs.*

1340 *Ayeb.* 199 þe uirtues hucrof we habbeþ y-speke aboue be-longep to þe uerste liue þet is cyleped workuol. 1552 HULOET, *Warkfull, operosus*. 1565 *HARDING Confut.* II. xiii. 97 Seest thou then how workfull is the word of Christ? 1587 *GOLDING De Mornay* v. 60 In the most single essence of God, there is a workfull power. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* To Rdr., The Philosophy of our day and Land being so much workful as the world knows it to be.

2. Full of (hard) work; hard-working.

1854 DICKENS *Hard T. I. v.* You saw nothing in Coketown but what was severely workful. 1875 HOLYOAKE *Hist. Coop.* I. 353 Being very watchful and workful as a secretary. 1891 *Review Rev.* 15 Oct. 352/2 Seven happy workful months spent in Paris.

Hence 'workfulness, †activity; laborious activity.

1573 DAUS tr. *Bullinger on Apoc.* 17 In the meane tyme his workfulness perceth euen into y^e uery Church. 1854 *Tait's Mag.* XXI. 459 He might have seen, in any Coketown of the manufacturing districts, an allowance of what is playful, to compensate for its workfulness. 1903 J. C. SMITH *Robt. Wallace* vi. 174 He resigned... a position of usefulness and workfulness.

work function. *Physics.* [f. *WORK* *sb.* + *FUNCTION* *sb.*] 1. The minimum quantity of energy, characteristic of the material concerned, which is required to remove an electron to infinity from the surface of a solid (usu. a metal). Symbol: ϕ .

1923 *Proc. R. Soc. A. CIV.* 637 The estimations of the photo-electric work function... are in all cases a good deal greater than the corresponding values of the thermionic work function. 1950 A. KOLIN *Physics* xxxv. 715 The work function can be determined by finding the threshold frequency ν_0 below which no photoelectrons are emitted. 1972 *Sci. Amer.* Mar. 53/1 When two metals are placed in contact, electrons pass from one to the other because of the difference in the metals' quantum-mechanical work functions. This process continues until an equilibrium is reached.

2. A thermodynamic property of a system: its internal energy minus the product of its temperature and entropy. Symbol: *A*.

1929 R. H. FOWLER *Statistical Mech.* iv. 96, $k\log K(T)$ for the crystal is the thermodynamic function known as Planck's characteristic function, and $-kT \log K(T)$ is the more usual work function... A. 1937 P. S. EPSTEIN *Textbk. Thermodynamics* v. 92 When the temperature and the volume of a system are kept constant, its work function has a tendency to decrease. 1978 P. W. ATKINS *Physical Chem.* v. 139 If we know the value of ΔA for a change we can also state the maximum amount of work the system can do. This relation is the reason why *A* is sometimes called the maximum work function, or the work function.

workhouse ('wɜ:khaus). [*OE. weorchus*: f. *WORK* *sb.* + *HOUSE* *sb.* Cf. *MDu. werchhus*, *Du. werkhuis*, *MHG. werchūs* (G. *werkhhaus*), *ON. verkhūs* (in comb.).]

1. a. A house, shop, or room in which work is regularly performed; a workshop or factory. *Obs.* or *Hist.*

a 1100 in *Wr.-Wülcker Voc.* 185/3 *Officina*, *smiðye uel weorchus*. *Ibid.* 186/27 *Ergasterium uel operatorium*, *weorchus*. 1350 in *Riley Mem. London* (1868) 262 In the workhouse... 12,000 of plaunce-nail... 3000 of dornail. 1387 *TREvisa Higden* (Rolls) VII. 307 þe werkhous pere þey doop here werkes. 1431-40 in *Glasscock Rec. St. Michael's, Bp.'s Stortford* (1882) 6 Le Werkhous latomorum iuxta cimiterium. 1497 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 324 The Gronde wher as the seid Ship was made & the Workehouse Belonging to the same. 1575 in *Plomer Abstr. Wills Engl. Printers* (1903) 23 My werkehowse of printing. 1601 *HOLLAND Pliny* III. vi. 1. 61 The worke houses and furnaces of potters. 1697 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3260/3 There were taken with him several Pairs of Stockins wet, as if they had been taken out of a Dyers Work-House. 1752 *HUME Ess. & Treat.* (1777) I. 445 His workhouse, of 20 cabinet-makers, is said to be a very considerable manufactory. 1881 S. R. MACPHAIL *Hist. Pluscardyn* Introd. 7 The court by which we first entered is occupied with stables and work-houses.

b. *fig.*

1548 *UDALL Erasm. Par. Luke* i. 34-35 The holy ghoste... in thy wombe, (as it wer in an heauenly workehouse) shall accomplshe the wyking of this holy babe. 1581 *MULCASTER Positions* vi. (1888) 48 The liuer... the workhouse of thicke and grosse blood. 1645 *RUTHERFORD Tryal & Tri. Faith* 125 Christ being the very worke-house, and shop of the Devil, in which he wrought. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compt.* III. 112 The Heart is the Workhouse of life and heat. a 1761 W. LAW *Conf. Weary Pilgr.* (1809) 81 The works of the devil are all wrought in self, it is his peculiar workhouse.

2. *spec.* orig. A house established for the provision of work for the unemployed poor of a parish; later, an institution, administered by Guardians of the Poor, in which paupers were lodged and the able-bodied set to work. The official name in 1928 was *Poor-law Institution*.

Earlier (and *obs.*) names were †*house of work* (1552, see *HOUSE* *sb.* 2), †*WORKING-HOUSE* (1597-8, etc.); names of later introduction are †*house of industry* (1771-2 *Irish Act* 11 & 12 *Geo.* III. c. 30, see *INDUSTRY* 4 b), *POOR-HOUSE* (1782); for *union workhouse*, abbreviated to *union*, see *UNION* *sb.* 10 b, 12.

1652 in W. Cotton & H. Woollcombe *Glean. Munic. Rec. Exeter* (1877) 156 The said house to bee converted for a workhouse for the poore of this citte and also a house of correction for the vagrant and disorderly people within this citte. 1653 *Act Commw.* c. 13 (1658) 259 If he hath not wherewith to satisfie such Fine, the said Judges may adudge him to the Pillory or a Work-house, or both. 1670-1 *Act 22 & 23 Chas. II.* c. 18 (title) An Act for the better regulateing of Workhouses for setting the Poore on Worke. 1702 *Post Man* 10-13 Jan. 2/1 The President and Governours for the Poor of the City of London, having enlarged their Workhouse without Bishops-gate. 1731 *Flying Post* 12 Aug. 2/2 His Mother, who was maintain'd by his Labour, being come upon the Parish, is sent to the Work-house at Wandsworth. 1782 *Act 22 Geo. III.* c. 83 § 18 The several Poor Houses or Workhouses to be built... under the Authority of this Act, shall be situate within the Parish or Township for which they shall be used. 1797 *MRS. BERKELEY Poems G. M.*

Berkeley Pref. p. cccx, Most well-regulated Bridewells are Paradises compared to the Oxford Work-house. 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, First of May*, He believed he'd been born in the vorkis, but he'd never know'd his father. 1856 EMERSON *Engl. Traits, Wealth Wks.* (Bohn) II. 71 Hargreaves invented the spinning-jenny, and died in a work-house. 1922 J. J. CLARKE *Soc. Administr.* 83 The work-house or institution is the representative institution of the Union, and is the foundation of all indoor relief. *allusively*. 1690 C. NESSE O. & N. Test. I. 58 Through Adams fall the world was become a work-house, an house of correction for mans sin.

3. A prison or house of correction for petty offenders. U.S.

1653 *Boston Rec.* (1886) X. 26 The setting up of a Bridewell or Workhouse for Prisoners Malefactors &... poore people. 1772 A. G. WINSLOW *Diary* 25 Feb. (1895) 36 She... soon got into the workhouse for new misdemeanours. 1870 'MARK TWAIN' *Curious Dream* (1872) 83 Eggs... so unwholesome that the city physician seldom or never orders them for the workhouse. 1888 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.* 1964 *Federal Probation Dec.* 8/2 The Workhouse receives and releases the work-release prisoner any time during the day or night, depending on his working hours.

4. attrib. and Comb.: †a. in sense 1, as *workhouse stable*.

1569 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 218 In the warkhouse stable, saddles, haltars.

b. in sense 2, as *workhouse brat, cough, fever, inmate, master, system; workhouse-bred, clearing* adjs.; *workhouse sheeting*, strong twilled unbleached cotton material used for sheeting, curtains, etc.; *workhouse test*, the test of good faith put to an applicant for poor relief by which he was obliged to consent, as a condition of relief, to go to the workhouse if required.

1810 *CRABBE Borough* xxii. 60 Workhouse-clearing men, Who, undisturb'd by feelings just or kind, Would parish-boys to needy tradesmen bind. 1834 E. LYTTON BULWER in *Hansard's Parl. Debates* Ser. III. XXII. 891 In those states [of America] where a strict workhouse discipline was kept up. 1838 DICKENS O. *Twist* v, Then I'll whop yer when I get in... my work'us brat! *Ibid.* xxxvii. Admiration at the workhouse-master's humility. 1846 *Blackw. Mag.* Nov. 560/2 The Utopian expectations of many, that a strict workhouse-test would destroy pauperism. 1850 CARLYLE *Later-day Pamph.* i. 49 This brutish Workhouse Scheme of ours. 1857 *BORROW Rom.* Rye xlii. He would rob... a workhouse child of its breakfast, as the saying is. 1859 H. KINGSLEY G. *Hamlyn* xlii. Base-born, workhouse-bred! 1875 L. TROUBRIDGE *Life amongst Troubridges* (1966) 116 A Workhouse sheeting jacket, body and tablier... to wear with dark blue frilled petticoat and sleeves. 1880 [see BOLTON]. 1889 CONAN DOYLE *Sign of Four* ix, You would have made an actor, and a rare one. You had the proper workhouse cough. 1891 C. CREIGHTON *Hist. Epidem. Brit.* 538 There was no gaol-fever, workhouse-fever, or domestic typhus in general. 1894 OAKSHOTT *Humanizing of Poor Law* 26 Nearly one-third of the workhouse inmates are sixty-five years old or over. 1925 J. J. CLARKE *Local Govt.* 316 Workhouse infirmaries.

Hence 'workhoused' a., lodged in, or habituated to, a workhouse.

1837 *New Monthly Mag.* LI. 115 Poor, workhoused wretches! 1895 in *Begbie Life W. Booth* (1920) II. 204 The parishes can send people to us before they have become workhoused.

work-in ('wɜ:kɪn). [f. WORK v. + -IN³.] A form of protest, usu. against threatened closure of a factory, etc., in which workers occupy the workplace and continue working. Also *transf.*

1968 *Punch* 6 Mar. 327/1 Student protest reached an all-time high with Leicester University's plan to stage a '24-hour work-in'. 1973 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 30 Nov. 1469/1 The series of work-ins or sit-ins in the past two or three years in which workers have occupied factories in pursuit of wage claims or as a refusal to accept redundancy notices. 1976 [see SIT-IN sb. 1]. 1983 *Daily Tel.* 23 June 19/3 A judge strongly attacked the police for staging a dawn raid to break up the work-in.

working ('wɜ:kɪŋ). *vbl. sb.* [f. WORK v. + -ING¹. Cf. MDu., MLG. *werkinge*, OHG. *wer(a)chung*, MHG. *werkunge*; MHG. *wurk-ung*; (MH)G. *wirkung*.] The action of WORK v.; the result of this.

I. 1. a. Performance of work or labour; †formerly also, that which is done, work.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 11997 Qui dos pou men sli plaint to mak, For pi wircking on vr sabbat? 13... *Ibid.* 5522 (Gött.) We sal find wirking for pair sake; Apon pair neckes sal pai bere Bollis wid stan and wid mortere. c 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 605 Coterellis, rentis, workyngis, helpis, wardis, relefis. 1494 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 245 For vj dayis wyrken, vjs. 1550 CROWLEY *Epigr.* 186 To se where the treasure will finde them workinge, To the profit of the Citye. 1579 RICE *Invest. Vices Biji*, Is Carde playng workyng? Is the blasphemie of Goddes moste holic name a workyng? 1616 SIR E. MOUNTAGU in *Bucleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 249 He... wondered at what you had told him of my mother's working, being stone blind. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 357 There has been no working in the Gold Mine for this long time. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. iii. 147 The working upon the wreck, and the securing the provisions. 1832 P. EGAN'S *Bk. Sports* 237/1, I like to see the working of the hands; to see them in difficulty; to mark the threading; the stopping, the eagerness to find. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* iv, The laws of the State forbid their working more than nine months in the year. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 Apr. 2/3 Working is agreeable to my nature and to my health.

b. *working to rule*, the action of strictly observing the limits of one's occupational

duties; also = *work-to-rule* sb. (see WORK v. 27 d).

1927 W. E. COLLINSON *Contemp. Eng.* 84 The inconveniences of lightning-strikes, ca' canny policy (deliberate restriction of output) and working-to-rule. 1951 *Engineering* 2 Nov. 568/3 The overtime ban and working to rule have remained in force. *Ibid.*, Similar working-to-rule methods... were put into operation by lightermen at the Port of London. 1958 *Times* 19 Aug. 8/3 To what extent the 'working to rule' will apply will depend on the attitude of individual busmen. 1964 M. ARGYLE *Psychol. & Social Probl.* xiv. 172 Anti-organization practices such as restriction of output, unofficial strikes and working to rule. a 1974 R. CROSSMAN *Diaries* (1976) II. 686, I tried to make them realize... what I meant by quietism. I suggested that it meant a 'non-enthusiastic execution'—working to rule, shall we say?

†2. a. Performance, execution, achievement (of some particular work or action); procedure. *Obs.*

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xiii. (Marcus) 50 Of pe virkine Of ferly werkis pat he wrocht. 1382 WYCLIF I Cor. xii. 10 The workinge of vertues. 1390 GOWER *Conf. I.* 276 To se the workinge of the dede. 1422 YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* 136 In Suche shewyng and oppnye wyrchyng of good werkis. a 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 21 A maner of wirchyng in fistula in ano. c 1449 *PECOCK Repr.* II. xiii. 224 Bi her... wirching of miraculis. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 74b, In declynyng from euyl, and in dylygent workyng of good. 1604 E. G. [RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* III. viii. 143 For the working whereof, the vapors and exhalations of the sea, are sufficient. 1611 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. 1. 530 For y^e working of their other endes. 1675 A. BROWNE *Appendix Art Paint.* 10 Observe that you be not too Curious in the first Working, but rather make choice of a good Free and Bold Following of Nature. 1693 *MOXON Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 261 In which Fig. 1. is shewn the usual way of bad Working.

b. *spec. in Freemasonry*, (the performance of) a rite, a system of ritual.

1884 W. J. HUGHAN *Orig. Eng. Rite Freemasonry* p. iii, Although under various Grand Lodges the details of the working differ, the landmarks remain practically identical. 1903 J. T. LAWRENCE *Masonic Jurisprudence & Symbolism* viii. 75 The more important one [sc. duty] is to see that ceremonies are conducted in accordance with working sanctioned by the Grand Lodge of England. 1932 S. M. HILLS *Freemason's Craft* viii. 64 The Articles of the Union... stipulated that there should henceforth be perfect unity of working, and the Lodge of Reconciliation was formed... to agree upon a working.

†3. Making, manufacture, production, preparation, construction; also, the manner or style in which something is made, handiwork, workmanship. *Obs.*

1362 *LANGLE. P. Pl. A.* III. 49 We han a wyndow in working [C. IV. 51 a working] wol stonden vs ful heise. 1452 in *Willis & Clark Cambridge* (1886) I. 282, iij senglere Principalls in werkyng in inbowyng and in Scantylon accordyng to the Principalls. 1460-70 *Bk. Quinte Essence* 5 Anoper maner workinge of oure quinta essencia is pis. 1496 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 278 For werking of the irne werk to the samyn hous, vj li. xij d. 1535 in *Gage Hengrave* (1822) 51 For working of ij doores. 1538 *STARKEY England* I. iii. (1878) 94 A thousand such tryfelyng thyngys, wych other we myght wel lake, or els, at the lest, our owne pepul myght be occupyd wyth the working therof. 1601 *Act 43 Eliz. c. 10* (title) An Acte for the true workinge and makinge of Wollen Clothe. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* IV. xx. Two streets... Of severall stuffe, and severall working fram'd. 1677 *MOXON Mech. Exerc.* II. 21, I shall now shew you the working of a Spring-lock. 1726 *LEONI Alberti's Archit.* I. 55 The difference between the working of a Vault and a Wall.

4. a. The action of operating or performing work upon something; manipulation, management (of an apparatus, a vessel in navigation, etc.); exploitation (of a mine, etc.); also in *Angling* (see quot. 1880).

†in (the) working: being worked upon, when worked upon; in operation; in use.

1450 *Rolls of Parlt. V.* 202/1 No maner of Merchaundises... of the growyng nor wurkyng of the Landes and parties that the seide Duke... occupieth. 1545 *ASCHAM Toxoph.* II. (Arb.) 114 Whan the backe and the bellye [of the bow] in woorkyng, be muche what after one maner. 1577 *HARRISON England* III. i. 95 b/1 in *Holinshead*, Because it [sc. brown bread] is dry and brickle in the working... some adde a portion of rye meale. 1618 *RALEIGH Apol. Guiana* 57 The working of a Myne there. a 1642 SIR W. MONSON *Naval Tracts* I. (1704) 190/1 They could not discern the Lord General's Working, but stood their Course as before directed. 1680 *MOXON Mech. Exerc.* xi. 201 When the Tredde comes down in working. *Ibid.* xiii. 222 A piece of Ivory... strong enough to bear working till they bring it to as small a Cilinder as they can. 1795 *Local Act 35 Geo. III.* c. 156 §30 Nothing in this Act... shall... prevent the working or scouring of the same... Mines. 1831-3 P. BARLOW in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 546/2 This scraping, or working, as it is termed... renders the skin soft and pliant. 1853 *Beil's Technol. Wbch.*, Working of a blast-furnace (the mode of action to which the quality of iron is subjected). 1880 F. FRANCIS *Bk. Angling* vi. (ed. 5) 225 You must... flip your fly to and fro to shake the water out and so dry it for another cast. This sometimes will require seven or eight 'flips' or workings to effect. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 535 Should it be wished during the lecture to introduce a mechanical slide... the working of it is as follows. 1894 *Jrnl. Anthropol. Inst.* XXIII. 273 If they [sc. flints] possess definite characteristics of form, of wear, of weather, of material, of working.

b. The carrying on or putting into operation (of a scheme, system, legislation, etc.).

1832 *Edin. Rev.* Oct. 245 heading, Working and Prospects of the Reform. 1845 C. F. BARKER *Mem. on Syria* title-p., The Purchase and Tenure of Land, And the Working of the Old and New Tariff. 1847 *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 397 Exhibiting on that wide theatre the useful working of the fundamental institutions of the British monarchy. 1884 *STOCKTON Lady*

or *Tiger* 14 His majesty... was greatly interested in the workings and development of this trial. 1884 *DILKE in A. Cawston Street Improv. London* (1893) 101 The working of the byelaws in Birmingham under the 90th section of the Public Health Act. 1912 *Engl. Hist. Rev.* Jan. 43 Some changes in the working of the chancery.

5. Action, operation. a. Of a person; esp. *collect. sing.* and *pl.* actions, doings, deeds. †good working (rare): good works. *Obs.* or *arch.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 386 God is so parfyte in alle his worchyng pat [etc.]. c 1386 CHAUCER *Wife's Prolog.* 698 The children of Mercurie and Venus Been in hir wirkyng ful contrarius. c 1400 *Cursor M.* 29441 (Cott. Galba) bou may with him comun in dede, Bot pe wers may pi wirking spede. c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 6123 Thou most discouere all thi wurchyng, How thou seruest, and of what thyng. c 1407 *LYDG. Reson & Sens.* 3169 Withoute engyn of fals werkyng. 1426 — *De Guil. Pilgr.* 11511 They sholde ellys for hunger deye, Ne were I & my werchyng. c 1440 *Jacob's Well* 110 To wythstonde alle temptacyouns & to be perseueraunt in good werkyng. c 1449 *PECOCK Repr.* II. xviii. 258 That he was lijk in wirching to a vyne. c 1480 *HENRYSON Swallow* i, The hie prudence, and wirking meruelous... of god omnipotent. 1539 *MORISON Invest. agst. Treas.* title-p., Wherein the secrete practises, and traitorous workings of theym that suffrid of late are disclosed. 1594 *HOOKER Eccl. Pol.* I. ii. §2 The being of God is a kind of Law to his working. 1692 *L'ESTRANGE Fables* cxlvii. 134 The Wayes and Workings of Providence are unsearchable. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 21 Against Wind and Tide too, there's no Working. 1742 *RICHARDSON Pamela* (1785) IV. 146, I leave you to your own Workings. 1874 W. P. MACKAY *Grace & Truth* 220 In the twelfth chapter of Revelation we have depicted a remarkable series of Satan's workings. 1909 W. JAMES *Unveiled Heart* 70 Almighty and Everliving God... it is Thy glory to conceal Thy workings.

†b. Of a thing; sometimes *pl.*, functions. *Obs.* in general sense.

1340 *HAMPOLE Pr. Consc.* 4907 pe wirkyng of pe fire swa brinnand. 1398 *TREvisa Barth. De P.R.* xviii. i. (1495) Yj b/2 Membres [of beestys] ben... dyuers in werkyng, as it faryth in the eeres of the olyphaunt with the whyche he fyghteth. c 1400 tr. *Secr. Secr., Gov. Lordsh.* 80 Alle pe fyue wyttes pat sholde gouerne... alle pe wyrkynge of pe body. c 1449 *PECOCK Repr.* II. xvi. 242 That the seid parties of heuen reuliden ful myche the workingis of bodies here binethe in the louzer world. c 1460 SIR R. ROS *La Belle Dame* 342 (Camb. MS.) Loue is sotle, Scharpe in working. c 1470 *HENRY Wallace* vi. 10 In Aperill quhen cleith is... The abill grounde be wyking off natur.

c. Of a drug, medicine, etc.

a 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 45 pat worchyng shal better done and soner if pe secounde day after pe puttyng to of arsenek be putte to larde wip be emplastre sanguiboetes. 1562 *TURNER Herbal* II. (1568) 96 The lesse kynde [of Poly] is... more effectuous or stronger in working. 1567 *MAPLET Gr. Forest* 1 b, She shal whilest she is in sleepe imbrace hir husband through the working of this stone. 1580 T. B[EDFORD] *Treat. Med.* (1615) 17 These strange workings of these foreigne drugges in our bodies. 1631 *WIDDOWES Nat. Philos.* 39 His Rozen is in smell, taste, and working better than common Turpentine. 1648 *GAGE West Ind.* 79 After my physicks working. 1694 *SALMON Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 281/2 It is a good Medicine for the Purposes intended... In the working of it, you must be sure to provide two or three Quarts of Posset-drink... aforehand.

d. Of the mind, conscience, etc. Often *pl.*

1588 *SHAKS. L.L.L.* IV. i. 33 Glory grows guiltie... When for Fames sake... We bend to that, the working of the hart. 1591 — *1 Hen. VI.* v. v. 86, I am sick with working of my thoughts. c 1600 — *Sonn.* xciii, What are thy thoughts, or thy hearts workings be. 1602 — *Ham.* II. ii. 580. 1707 *ROWE Royal Convert* v. 1, The secret workings of my Brain, Stand all reveal'd to thee. 1748 *RICHARDSON Clarissa* (1768) III. 310 Who can account for the workings of an apprehensive mind, when all that is dear and valuable to it is at stake? 1798 S. & HT. LEE *Cant. T.* II. 380 A friend... would find a generous pleasure in aiding the workings of an ingenious nature. 1801 *SOUTHEY Thalaba* xii. ii, His brain, with busier workings. a 1845 *BARHAM Ingol. Leg.* Ser. III. *Hermann. Workings* Of conscience. 1869 *FREEMAN Norm. Conq.* III. xii. 138 note, The Archdeacon now gets very eloquent, and gives us all the inner workings of the mind.

e. The conduct or operations collectively of a factory, vessel, or the like.

1873 *Act 36 & 37 Vict.* c. 71. §58 Any grating... placed so as... to interfere with the effective working of any mill. 1920 *GOODE Econ. Cond. Centr.-Europe* 1. 12 In full working the cotton mills of Russia consumed about 1,500,000 bales of cotton per annum. 1920 *Act 10 & 11 Geo. V.* c. 30 Sch. I. II, The profits or the gross earnings of the working of the vessel.

f. Of a bus, train, etc.

1978 M. KEELEY et al. *Birmingham City Transport* 181 City—Bull Ring—Coventry Road—Lyndon End. Short working of 94. 1982 *Railway Mag.* Nov. 508/1 A reader who visited Scarborough... noted a wide variety of locomotive classes in use on summer-holiday workings.

6. Influential operation; influence, effectiveness; also, the result or effect of operation or influence. Somewhat *arch.*

c 1374 *CHAUCER Boeth.* III. pr. xi. (1868) 95 Whan pei ben gadred to-gidre al in to a forme and in to oon wirchyng [orig. in unam veluti formam atque efficientiam]. 1414 *BRAMPTON Penit. Ps.* (Percy Soc.) 24 Thanne schal the werkyng be ful sene Of 'Ne reminiscaris, Domine!' 1450-1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* I. xii. 34 Whan they began to prayse god; god tornyd the enemys eche of them agenste other... A maruelous werkyng of goddes seruyce. 1547 *Homilies* I. *Exhort. rdg. Holy Script.* ijb, [The words of Scripture] haue euer an heauenly spiritual workinge in them. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 14 Throw wirking of the Spirite in til our hart. a 1586 *SIDNEY Arcadia* II. xxiii. (1912) 295 Her fayre colour decayed;... and hastily grew into the very extreme working of sorowfulness. 1592 *TIMME Ten Engl. Lepers* E 2 b, There is as great difference between the working of hypocrisie and the working of grace, as betwene the working of arte, and the operation of nature. 1718 *Free-thinker* No. 96. 291 The Workings of Superstition are insinuating and slow. 1759

STERNE *Tr. Shandy* I. xix, The workings of a parent's love upon the truth and conviction of this very hypothesis. 1861 BROUGHAM *Brit. Const.* xi. 150 *note*, The working of clerical prejudice in... a liberal mind. 1875 MANNING *Mission Holy Ghost* i. 10 Faith, hope, and charity, are the three primary workings of the Holy Ghost in the soul.

7. Mathematical calculation; the process of calculating, or performing the necessary mathematical operations for ascertaining, a quantity, etc. Now chiefly, the statement of the operations involved in solving a mathematical problem.

c1386 CHAUCER *Frankl. T.* 552 By his .8. speere in his wirkyng He knew ful wel how fer Alnath was shoue. c1391 — *Astrol.* II. §35 This is the workinge of the conclusion, to knowe yif pat any planete be directe or retrograde. a1400 in Halliwell *Rara Mathem.* (1841) 61 pat leves after pi wirkyng es pe heght fro A poynte to pe heght of pe thyng. c1425 *Crafte Nombryng* 30 þou most know well pe craft of pe wyrchyng in pe tabulle. 1543 RECORDE *Gr. Artes* 123 Ye same yf appeareth of ye other working before. 1654 J. EYRE *Exact Surveyor* 75 Which by the working according to the former directions, will be found to be about 63 yards. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* xvi, The observation every day at noon, and the subsequent working of the ship's course. 1873 TOPHUNTER *Confl. Studies* 74 That a knowledge of mathematics may be gained without the perpetual working of examples. 1883 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 8 Nov., No marks are to be allowed in the arithmetic paper unless the candidate shows up the 'working' of the sums as well as the final result.

†8. a. Aching; ache, pain. *Obs.*

a1400 *Stockholm Med. MS.* 96 For werkyng of the hed. *Ibid.* 151 For wynd in pe hed, & werkyng in pe hed. *Ibid.* i. 11 in *Anglia* XVIII. 295 3if a man... In hys heed hath grete sekenesse, Or only grewaunce or only werkyng. c1400 *tr. Secr. Secr., Gov. Lordsh.* 76 Corupcioun of sight, werkyng of pe brayn. *Ibid.* 77 He felys his mete bitter in his brest, and werkyng of pe koghe.

†b. Stomachic or intestinal disturbance. *Obs.*

1577 STANYHURST *Descr. Irel.* ii. 4 b/1 in *Holinshead*, Beyng moderately taken... it [sc. *Aqua vitæ*] kepeth... the belly from wirtchyng. 1650 VENNOR *Via Recta, Tobacco* 407 So... as to cause a violent and sickly working both upward and downward. 1717 FLOYER *Asthma* i. 9 A loose Stool frequently happens from the great working in the Belly, occasion'd by the Fit.

9. Fermentation of liquor.

1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Aestus mustulentus*, the fomyng or sprinclyng vp of newe wine, in ale we call it working. 1626 BACON *Sylva* §992 Staying the Working of Beere. 1662 CHARLETON *Myst. Vintners* (1675) 153 Sickly commotions, or (to speak in the dialect of Wine-coopers) Workings. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* 561 It will set your Wine in a gentle working, and purifie it in twenty four Hours. 1753 *Chambers' Cycl. Suppl.* s.v. *Wash*, With respect to the... workings of this liquor, great regard is to be had to the containing vessel. 1826 *Art Brewing* (ed. 2) 103 Conclude the fermentation in from 40 to 50 hours, and when it is cleansed do not fill up too frequently, for it will work off with great rapidity; rather, by moderate fillings, encourage its working. 1833 LOUDON *Encycl. Archit.* §1324 Unless the weather be very severe, the working (as it is called) proceeds equally well with that removed to the vaults or cellars.

10. a. Restless movement of water (esp. the sea); straining of a ship, a vehicle, etc. so as to loosen the fittings.

1582 N. LICHFIELD *tr. Castanheda's Cong. E. Ind.* i. xxix. 73 The Seas went so high... they thought it impossible for the shippes to escape;... by the working of them it was thought, that sometime they did hoys up theyr shippes about the Element. 1662 R. VENABLES *Exper. Angler* iii. 34 The working of the Lough makes it sandy. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. iv. 157 The water the Pink had made by her working and straining in bad weather. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* §301 By the continual working of the carriage [sc. a carrier's cart], two of them had been broken. 1892 *Lockwood's Dict. Terms Mech. Engin.* 414 The working of the frames of locomotives signifies the loosening of their joints, due to the strains communicated to them by the engines. 1901 *Scotsman* 6 Nov. 10/5 Owing to the working of the masts the deck was opening up.

b. Involuntary movement of the face or mouth, esp. due to emotion.

1800 WORDSW. *Pet Lamb* 18, I unobserved could see the workings of her face. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xii, As if to prevent his seeing the working of his countenance. 1844 ELIZ. SEWELL *Amy Herbert* xi. 1. 201 The working of her forehead showed the storm that was gathering. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* lii, Lighting a candle, which displayed the workings of her mouth [sc. 'mumbling and munching'] to ugly advantage.

11. The proper action or movement of a piece of mechanism or the like.

c1645 HOWELL *Lett.* I. ii. xi. (1890) 110 To hinder the working of your Fire-works. 1727 [DORRINGTON] *Philip Quarll* (1816) 38 Quarll... was astride on the main yard, with a hatchet to cut down what stopped the working of it. 1827 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 77/1 The only noise he heard... was the working of a neighbouring pump. 1851 KINGSLEY *Yeast* ix, The workings of his lungs pumped great jets of blood out.

12. Gradual movement or progress (as against resistance).

1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc., Printing* xi. ¶23 It will so enrage the Oyl, and raise the Scum, that it might endanger the working over the top of the Kettle. 1802 PLAYFAIR *Illustr. Huttonian Theory* 401 The working of water collected from the rains and the snows.

II. *concr.* †13. Decorative work. *Obs.*

1536 in *Antiq. Sarish.* (1771) 193 Curiously ornate with dyvers workings and chasings. 1707 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4373/4 A... Purse, worked round with 3 distinct Rows of Gold Working.

14. A place in which mineral is or has been worked; a mining excavation.

1766 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 86 The foul air in an old working took fire. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 969 Many water-logged

fissures come to be cut by the workings. 1872 *Echo* 8 Oct. 3 An explosion... occurred in a part of the working which extends in a northerly direction beneath the town. 1912 *Times* 10 July 8/1 Another explosion... took place, while a rescue party was below in the workings.

III. 15. With adverbs, as *working-off*, *-together*, *-up* (see *WORK* v. 40); also *attrib.*; *working-out*: also spec. in *Mus.* = DEVELOPMENT 10; *working-over* (*slang*) = GOING OVER, GOING-OVER 2 b and c.

1662 EVELYN *Sculptura* iii. 33 They also engrave upon stone, and imprint with it; but with this difference in the *working-off; that the paper being black, the Sculpture remains white. 1836 *Penny Cycl.* V. 240 By being careful in the operation of working off, a thinner paper is employed. 1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Hol'* xxxii, Let him have his humour... It may be the working off of his madness. 1842 MANNING *Serm.* i. (1848) 17 All the face of the world bespeaks the *working-out of the prophecy. 1862 Mrs. H. WOOD *Mrs. Hallib.* III. xx, 'It will be the working-out of my visions', said Henry. 1880 GROVE *Dict. Mus.* IV. 486/2 *Working-out* (also called *Free Fantasia*; and *Development*; *Durchführung*), the central division of a movement in Binary form, such as commonly occupies the first place in a modern sonata or symphony. 1894 C. N. ROBINSON *Brit. Fleet* 215 The working-out of Descharge's idea revolutionized sea warfare. 1914 *Brit. Mus. Return* 184 The determination and working out of the Tabanidae of Tropical Africa. 1936 *Discovery* Apr. 124/1 The music of Bach, with its perfect counterpoint and logical working-out. 1948 *Penguin Music Mag.* VII. 43 The... sleight-of-hand that Grieg saw fit to employ in a 'working-out'. 1960 C. HAMBLETT in J. Pudney *Pick of Today's Short Stories* XI. 143 The cops frisked him... hoping he would put up a fight, so they could give him a *working-over first. 1964 L. DEIGHTON *Funeral in Berlin* viii. 55 A girl with too much make-up... gave her eyebrows a working over. 1623 COCKERAM II, A *working together, cooperation. 1678 RYMER *Trag. Last Age* 76 If the Poet observe not these measures, the *working up of a Scene, is plainly the tormenting of nature, and holding our ears to the Grindstone. 1817 J. SCOTT *Paris Revisit.* (ed. 4) 135 All... is done... under the force of artificial impulse, causing what is called a working-up. 1893 *Daily News* 6 Feb. 7/4 Best steel working-up sheets. 1913 *Athenæum* 10 May 528/1 A working-up to a strong climax.

IV. 16. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. Simple *attrib.*: = of or for working or the performance of a certain work, as *working arrangement*, *bee*, *hour(s)*, *humour*, *life*, *light*, *method*, *part*, *rate*, *talent*, *time*, *-week* (cf. *WORKING-DAY* 2), *week-day*, *year*; = used or worn when one is working, as *working apron*, *clothes*, *dress*, †*gear*, *instrument*, *model*, †*stole* (*STOOL* sb. 6), *stone*, *tool*; = pertaining or necessary to, involved in, the conduct of a business, etc., as *working capital*, *costs*, *expenses*, *fund*; = belonging to or situated in or at a working (sense 14), as *working breast*, *drift*, *face*, *floor*, *headway*, *pit*. b. Special *comb.*: *working-arch*, a tympanum; *working-barrel*, the cylinder in which the piston of a pump works; *working-beam*, a walking beam; *working-big a.* (see *quot.*); *working-box*, = *work-box* (*WORK* sb. 34 d); †*working canvas*, canvas upon which embroidery is worked; *working card U.S. obs.* = *union-card* s.v. *UNION* sb. 1 i c; *working copy*, a copy of a book or other document used or annotated by someone working on its contents; *working cylinder* (see *quots.*); *working dinner*: see *working lunch*; *working door* (see *quots.*); *working drawing*, usually pl., the drawings made of the plan, etc. of a building from which the workmen employed carry out the construction of the work; *working heat* (see *quot.*); *working-hole*, (a) the opening in a furnace at which the melted glass is drawn out; (b) any of the holes which bees use in working; *working load*, the maximum load that a member in a machine or other structure is designed to bear; *working lunch*, a lunch at which those present discuss business (so *working dinner*); *working order*, a condition in which a machine, system, etc. works (well, badly, etc.); *working outline*, an outline which forms the basis of a finished drawing; *working place*, †(a) a work-shop; (b) the place at which a worker executes his work, *spec.* that at which a miner is engaged in excavation; *working plan*, a plan serving as the basis for the construction of a building, management of a project, etc.; *spec.* in *Forestry* (see *quots.* 1895, 1926); *working point*, the 'point' in a machine at which the useful work is done; *working rate* (see *quot.*); *working room*, (a) space in which one may work, room for the performance of work; (b) a work-room; †*working school*, a kind of industrial school; †*working-shop*, = *WORKSHOP* 1; *working space* = *working storage*; cf. *work-space* (b) s.v. *WORK* sb. 34 d; *working storage*, part of a computer's memory that is used by a program for the storage of intermediate results or other temporary items; *working surface* = *work-top* s.v. *WORK* sb. 34 d; *working title*, a provisional title given to a book, film, or other work before

the final title is settled; *working top* = *work top* s.v. *WORK* sb. 34 d; *working-tube*, a glass-worker's blowing-iron; *working-tun*, a vessel in which fermentation takes place.

1769 LADY MARY COKE *Jrnl.* 4 May (1892) III. 67, I had but just time to throw off my *Working Apron. 1853 *Beil's Technol. Whch.*, *Working arches... of a blast furnace. 1854 *Household Narrative* Apr. 80/2 He stated... that the more complete fusion of capital into one company ought not to be sanctioned, but that sort of combination known as *working arrangements should be encouraged. 1904 *Windsor Mag.* June 16/1 A simple working arrangement is usual based on a percentage division of the gross receipts between the two. 1970 *New Yorker* 29 Aug. 45/1 Jews and pagans would never get to Heaven, with the exception of... Moses, who had a close working arrangement with Allah. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVII. 750/1 To return the pump pistons into their places at the bottom of their respective *working barrels, in order that they also may make a working stroke. *Ibid.* 751/1 The rod X of the piston P is suspended from the arch of the *working-beam. 1883 'A LADY' *Facts: or, Exper. Recent Colonist in N.Z.* viii. 68 The ladies of the community... meet for a common cause... *Working bees are then got up. 1956 W. R. BIRD *Off-Trail in Nova Scotia* i. 23 We were told much of working bees, barn raisings, the making of maple sugar. 1849-50 *Weale's Dict. Terms*, *Working-big, in mining, signifies sufficiently large for a man to work in. 1778 J. WOODFORD *Diary* 9 Sept. (1924) I. 235 It... looks when covered like a *working Box for Ladies. 1838 in *N. & Q.* 11th Ser. I. 423 My small inlaid Working Box. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, Put, to convey coal from the *working breast to the tramway. 1612 *Sc. Bk. Rates in Halyburton's Ledger* (1867) 319 Linning cloth... *working canves for cusheonis. 1657 *Acts of Interreg.* (1911) II. 1213 Canvas called... Working Canvas for Cushions. 1912 *Pitman's Commenc. Encycl.* IV. 1690 The *working capital of a business is the amount available for conducting its operations after it has been equipped in such a manner as to be in the condition desired in regard to fixed assets. 1872 *Pacific States Enterprise* (San Francisco) 16 Mar. 3/1 They have adopted the 'working card' system. 1874 *Internat. Typogr. Union Proc.* 34 Subordinate Unions are recommended to... enforce the 'working-card' system. 1896 *Ibid.* 35/2 It was agreed to issue him a working card. 1923 *Proc. 43rd Convention Amer. Fed. of Labor* 324/2 This resolution... affects such other organizations as they seek to affect with an exchange of working cards and other courtesies. 1892 E. REEVES *Homeward Bound* 309 Drugged in ordinary *working clothes of varied colours. 1897 W. C. HAZLITT *Confessions of Collector* vi. 100, I would gladly pay him a guinea for it, and find him a *working copy into the bargain. 1967 E. R. LANNON in Cox & Grose *Organization & Handling Bibl. Rec. by Computer* iv. 95 We can... print the dictionary in two forms; one form is referred to as the 'Working Copy' edition, intended for the use of our own editorial staff. 1912 *Times* 19 Dec. 19/2 The *working costs, including the London expenses. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 143 Such low steam... being admitted into a steam-vessel... or *working cylinder... will there be expanded in any ratio required. 1853 *Beil's Technol. Whch.*, *Working cylinder*, principal cylinder of a water-pressure engine. 1970 *Daily Tel.* 22 Sept. 1/8 Union chiefs and chairmen of five nationalised industries had a *working dinner... last night. 1853 *Beil's Technol. Whch.*, *Working door of a reverberatory furnace (that opening through which the crucible is brought). 1877 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 393 The furnace has a working door at the side, and a charging door at the end. 1832 BABBAGE *Econ. Manuf.* xxvii. (ed. 3) 262 The actual execution from *working drawings. 1887 D. A. LOW *Machine Draw.* Pref. p. iv, The illustrations for this work... have been specially prepared by the author from working drawings. 1853 Mrs. S. MOODIE *Life Clearings* 59 Her coloured flannel *working-dress. 1882 *Rep. Ho. Repr. Proc. Met. U.S.* 639 Further connections between these cross-drifts are made by *working-drifts parallel to the central one. 1868 *N. Amer. Rev.* Jan. 46 Returns for *working expenses. 1886 J. BARROWMAN *Sc. Mining Terms* 73 *Working face, the place where the miner is excavating the mineral. 1914 *Brit. Mus. Return* 90 An important series of implements and flakes from *working-floors in or below brick-earth at Round Green near Luton. 1905 'G. THORNE' *Lost Cause* x, A contribution to the *working fund. 1638 *Knarsh. Wills* (Surtees) II. 170 All my loume, *working gear and my husbandrie gear. 1640 *Ibid.* 174 All my working gear which belong to my trade. 1790 *Act 30 Geo. III.* c. 21 §1 To make, erect, Water Wheels, Fire Engines, Mills, Machinery, Working Gears, for raising... Water from the said River Wenson. 1855 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Inorg. Nat.* 242 Running a gallery... above the *working headway to the highest place worked. 1782 *Phil. Trans.* LXXII. 320 The fire is afterwards increased, for working the glass, to what is called the *working heat; and this I found, in plate-glass, to be 57°. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 577 Semi-circular holes... a little above the top of each pot, called *working holes. 1868 *Rep. U.S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 276, I pack them [sc. bees] closely on benches in the cellar, leaving the box and working-holes open. 1832 Ht. MARTINEAU *Hill & Valley* vii, After *working hours the evening before. 1882 BESANT *All Sorts* xxi. (1898) 154 His pay by the piece... gave him, as already stated, tennepence for every working hour. 1840 DICKENS *Old Cur. Shop* xxxv, I'm in a *working humour now... so don't disturb me, if you please. c1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 305/2 *Werkyng instrument for sylke women. 1864 C. KNIGHT (*title*) *Passages of a *Working Life* during half a century. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 459 A square of ruby fabric admits a safe *working light. 1891 KIPLING *Light that Failed* vi. 102 If there's a good working light to-morrow I lose a day. 1875 MARTIN *tr. Havrez's Winding Mach.* 19 A round steel rope would bear a *working load of 13-158 kilograms. 1964 *Guardian* 27 Oct. 18/6 After these meetings there was a *working lunch at the British Embassy. 1912 *Nature* 26 Dec. 460/1 Formulæ and tables selected from the *working methods of practical photographers. 1966 H. MOORE *On Sculpture* 247 The first maquette for the wood Interior Exterior Forms was produced in 1951, later the same year I made the *working model (24½ in. high), which was cast into bronze. 1982 *Sunday Tel.* (Colour Suppl.) 14 Nov. 33/1 Carvings were plastercast, moulds were taken and durable metal-alloy working models were made. 1845 *Knickerbocker* XXVI. 410 The use of steam-pumps is requisite night and day, to keep

them [sc. mines] in *working order. 1872 *Chamb. Jnl.* 29 June 410/2 To see that the [telegraph] line is in working order. 1875 HIGGINSON *Hist. U.S.* xviii. 178 They at once began to get the militia into good working order. 1883 D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* xiii. Mark took care that his appetite, usually in good working order, should be deranged by the emotions of the morning. 1859 GULLICK & TIMBS *Painting* 147 A finished drawing of the full size being ready, a part of this *working' outline... is now nailed to the wall. 1703 T. N. City & C. Purchaser 84 The *working part [of architecture] may be helped by deliberation. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* i. (Globe) 72 The working Part of this Day. 1726 LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* i. 38 The whole Business of the working Part of building is this. 1773 *Gentl. Mag.* XLIII. 617 [The fire] breaking down the... partition between the waste and the *working pit, made the most terrible explosion ever beheld. 1554-5 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Mary* (1914) 176, ij dozen of Russches for the *working places of thofice. 1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong. L'ouvroir d'un chacun mestier, ou on besogne*, a working place, a shop. 1827 FARADAY *Chem. Manip.* xxi. (1842) 562 Besides the working-place..., another, unconnected with the busy part of the laboratory, should be appointed. 1839 *URE Dict. Arts* 960 Each miner continues to advance his room or working-place. 1880 MARK TWAIN *Tramp Abroad* xxxiv. 370 The ghastly desolation of the place was as tremendously complete as if Doré had furnished the *working-plans for it. 1895 W. SCHLICH *Man. Forestry* III. iii. 173 Forest working plans regulate, according to time and locality, the management of forests in such a manner, that the objects of the industry are as fully as possible realized. 1926 TANSLEY & CHIPP *Study of Vegetation* xi. 255 The Working Plan forms... a scheme for exploiting the forest whereby regeneration will keep pace with exploitation. 1983 *National Trust Spring* 10/1 Constructive, planned woodland management... only became possible after the war, and our oldest working plans are now barely thirty years old. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Oper. Mech.* 51 All the motion which has been accumulated on the fly during the whole progress of its accumulation, is exerted in an instant at the *working point. 1886 J. BARROWMAN *Sc. Mining Terms* 73 *Working rate, the rate per ton paid to a miner. 1775 ROMANS *Florida App.* 9 From Beak's-Key, to the Riding Rocks, and Roques, there is *working room plenty, and good anchorage. 1827 FARADAY *Chem. Manip.* i. (1842) 16 There is working room all round it. 1898 *Albutt's Syst. Med.* V. 258 The atmosphere of their working-rooms is so poisonous that birds die after being exposed to it for a fort-night. 1787 HAWKINS *Life of Johnson* 391 Dr. Madden, so well-known by his premiums for the encouragement of Protestant *working-schools in Ireland. 1783 *Phil. Trans.* LXXIII. 450 The dust of a *working-shop. 1954 *Working space [see *surface sterilization* s.v. SURFACE sb. 6c]. 1973 M. WOODHOUSE *Blue Bone* vii. 63 The converted hold... had contained a full-sized billiards table. There was, at least, plenty of working space. ?c1475 *Prompt. Parv.* 305/2 (Camb. MS.) Lyncet, a *werkynge stole. 1502 *Privy Purse Exp. Eliz. of York* (1830) 7 For the stuff and making of iiij working stoles for the Quene... vs. iiij d. 1530 PALSGR. 290/1 Working stole fore a sylkeman, mettier. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 410/1 A *working stone: a stone that serueth to worke withall, as the whetstone. 1954 *Computers & Automation* Dec. 23/1 *Working storage... Like a work-sheet in pencil and paper calculation. 1971 N. CHAPIN *Computers* xv. 445 In the operand data structures, programmers commonly distinguish between constants that are not part of the program, working storage (for intermediate results and status or progress indicators), and input-output buffer areas. 1983 D. H. SANDARS *Computers Today* v. 113 This total earnings figure is copied (instruction, 08) in address 15, which is the working storage area. 1962 A. WISE *Death's-Head* iii. 23 The electric percolator standing on the formica *working-surface. 1970 *Which?* Sept. 279/1 Three of the small freezers... had laminated tops you could use as a working surface. 1863 P. BARRY *Dockyard Econ.* 218 The *working system of the Thames Company is contract between owner and ship-builder. 1870 EMERSON *Soc. & Solit.* iv. 66 The solid result depends on a few men with *working talent. 1783 *Jnl. Ho. Comm.* XLVII. 372/2 The *Working Time that is now lost in making up the Bundles. 1940 R. CHANDLER *Let.* 27 June in Gardiner & Walker *Raymond Chandler Speaking* (1962) 211 The title of my book is not *The Second Murderer*. I used that for a while as a *working title, but I didn't like it. 1977 G. FISHER *Villain of Piece* iii. 32, I was now busy turning the whole caboodle into a series of four articles... I gave it a working title: 'My Life with Britain's Top Villain'. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 101 Thou handledst no caruyng nor *workynge toole. 1690 CHILD *Disc. Trade* (1698) 182 Not to hinder any man from keeping as many servants as he can, nor looms, working-tools, &c. a1728 WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Fossils* 30 A people so barbarous, and destitute of all Working-Tools. 1869 BOUTELL *Arms & Armour* i. 3 Employing a second stone as his working-tool, ... he struck off splinters from the first stone. 1959 *Housewife* June 70/2 Table-top refrigerators are popular because they give an additional *working top. 1980 D. CLARK *Golden Rain* v. 115 'Which cupboard please?' 'The last one under the working-top on the left.' 1845 G. DODD *Brit. Manuf.* IV. 63 After the *working-tube has collected nearly sufficient colourless glass from one pot. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* 572 Covering your Fat close, that it [sc. yeast] fall not in your *Working-Tun. 1890 J. E. C. MUNRO in *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* 472 If the *working week was reduced from 56½ to 48 hours. 1867 AUG. J. E. WILSON *Vashti* xiv. She remarked that your eyes were, in comparison with other folks', what Sabbath is to *working week-days. 1913 *Times* 13 Aug. 3/1 The *working years of life.

working ('wɜ:kɪŋ), *ppl.* a. [f. WORK v. + -ING². (In several uses formerly often hyphenated to the sb.)] That works, in various senses.

1. a. Of a person, personal attribute, etc.: Active, operative; energetic. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1387-8 T. Usk *Test. Love* II. v. (Skeat) l. 43 He... that neither han lyf ne soule, ne ordinaunce of werching limmes. a1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* i. iii. (1912) 20 A woman... of so working a minde... it was happie shee tooke a good course. 1635 F. WHITE *Sabbath* Ep. Ded. 9 They command whatsoever their own working-heads affect. 1646 J. WHITAKER *Uzziah* 14 He had a working head, and a

dextrous hand. 1681 FLAVEL *Meth. Grace* xxviii. 476 The working-heads of the enemies of that State. 1706 ? PRIOR *Ep. Elector Bavaria* 58 Wks. 1907 II. 371 Preluding cannons tell th' approaching storm. And working armies take a dreadful form. 1820 KEATS *Ode to Psyche* 60 A rosy sanctuary will I dress With the wreath'd trellis of a working brain.

†b. Of a thing (concr. or abstr.): Operative, effective. *Obs.*

1586 MARLOWE *1st Pt. Tamburl.* II. iii. You see, my Lord, what working woordes he hath. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII.* Prol. 3 Things... Sad, high, and working, full of State and Woe. 1622 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Shilling* B4, A gentle working Potion. 1644 MILTON *Areop.* (Arb.) 49 Childish men, who have not the art to qualifie and prepare these working minerals. 1654 E. JOHNSON *Wonder-wkg. Provid.* 16 This was the first working providence of Christ to stir up our English Nation. a1709 J. LISTER *Autobiog.* (1842) 43 Some working physic that might be likely to... remove the distemper.

2. a. That works or labours; esp. that works for an employer in a manual or industrial occupation (see also WORKING-CLASS, -MAN). Also *spec.* of a girl or woman: that goes out to earn a living rather than remain at home, as; *working girl*: also *euphem.*, a prostitute (*U.S. slang*).

1639 G. PLATTES *Discov. Infin. Treas.* Pref. C4 b, How the working poore may be employed in these new improvements. 1830 *Poor Man's Guardian* 31 Dec. 4/2 The evils that beset the working population. 1864 RAMSBOTTOM *Phases* 23 Honest worthin' folks one sees By scores reawnd th' Poor-law Office dur. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* II. iv. vi. 209, I am removed from you and your family by being a working girl. 1871 SMILES *Charac.* i. (1876) 25 The common body of working-people. 1889 [see SISTER sb. 2]. 1913 MACLEWEN *Hist. Ch. Scot.* I. xviii. 388 There must have been innumerable parishes which had no working parish priests. 1913 J. VAIZEY *College Girl* ix. 119 'I shall have to earn money myself, so I want to pass all the exams. I can.' The Percivals stared... They had never met a prospective working girl before! 1922 W. P. KER *Coll. Ess., Molière* (1925) I. 352 Respectable advice to working playrights. 1933 D. C. PEEL *Life's Enchanted Cup* xv. 183 It was, perhaps, because she had known what it was to study in the intervals of tending children... that she could sympathise with working mothers. 1963 *Times* 2 Jan. 10/3 Many Australians had to take two jobs to make ends meet, and 'there were any number of working wives'. 1970 O. NORTON *Dead on Prediction* i. 7 I'm going to be a working girl again now. Doing some articles for *Mercia*, for a start. 1978 F. WELDON *Praxis* xx. 174 Praxis gave up her job: Ivor did not want a working wife. 1979 *Arizona Daily Star* 5 Aug. 13/2 There were studies showing juvenile delinquents springing from single-parent or working-mother homes.

1968 *Current Slang* (Univ. S. Dakota) Fall 52 *Working girl*, n., a prostitute. 1971 N. Y. *Times* 9 Aug. 33/5 They call themselves 'working girls'... Their work is a 'business', or even... a 'social service'... By the prostitute's code, prostitution is moral. 1984 *Chicago Sun-Times* 26 Mar. 12 U.S. Prostitutes has estimated that thousands of 'working girls' will travel to San Francisco for business generated by the convention.

b. In contrast with: (a) 'master', 'managing', etc., in designations of trade or occupation; (b) 'sleeping', in reference to partners in a firm. Also in designations of persons or animals that work or are active in a special way.

1708 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4436/3 He is by Trade a Working-Goldsmith. 1793-4 *Matthews's Bristol Directory* 78 Tanner, George, Working-cutler, Maryport-street. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* iv. vii. ¶2, I. became the working partner in a new firm. 1839 in *Orders of Council Naval Service* (1866) I. 478 The Working Petty Officers of the Royal Navy. 1855 *Poultry Chron.* II. 507 The working Committee of a show. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* i. vii. A working-jeweller population. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* x. §2. 747 Benjamin Franklin, who had risen from his position of a working printer in Philadelphia to high repute among scientific discoverers. 1898 *Daily News* 5 Jan. 2/4 Working homers, wonderful for their speed, such as are used on Government ships. 1908 *Church Times* 20 Mar. 374/1 Working House-keeper, ... required by gentleman, to work... small house.

c. *working party*: (a) *Mil.* a party of men detailed for a special piece of work outside their ordinary duties; (b) a group of women, meeting to do work, esp. sewing, for a good cause; (c) a committee appointed to examine and report on a particular subject and to make recommendations based on its findings; (d) a group of prisoners engaged on outdoor work, freq. outside the perimeter of the prison.

1744 M. BISHOP *Life* 204, I mounted Guard as Sergeant upon a working Party, and took them to a Mine, in order to work at a Sap. 1834-47 J. S. MACAULAY *Field Fortif.* (1851) 171 The men who undertake a surprise may be divided into four parties: 1st, the guides and interpreters; 2nd, the combatants; 3rd, the troops to cover the retreat; 4th, the working party. 1876 C. M. YONGE *Three Brides* I. viii. 127 Cecil had offered to take Anne to see the working party, and let her assist thereat. 1900 — *Modern Broods* vii. 72 The parish room, where the ladies were to hold a working party for the missions. 1946 *Times* 10 Jan. 2/3 The 'working party' is a device for securing the best possible guidance on the policies that should be adopted to bring an industry to the highest pitch of efficiency under private enterprise. 1948 *Hansard Commons: Written Answers* 8 Mar. 112 The Working Party on the Turn-Round of Shipping was set up to examine the causes of delay... Teams from the Working Party have visited the major ports. 1963 T. PARKER *Unknown Citizen* v. 136 Charlie was out of the prison that day, on a working party at a farm some miles away. 1976 L. KENNEDY *Presumption of Innocence* i. 46 One day at Parkhurst he walked away from an outside working-party... Although he was wearing prison overalls, no one paid any attention. 1981 E. LONGFORD *Queen Mother* v. 82 The

Queen and her working party met twice a week to make surgical dressings and comforters for the troops. 1982 *Church Times* 12 Nov. 1/3 The General Synod's Board of Education has set up a working party on independent schools which will look at the Independent sector in education 'from a Christian perspective'.

d. Of horses and cattle: Employed in work, esp. in agricultural work. Also of dogs used for hunting, herding, guard duties, etc. Also *fig.*

1613 *Liber Deposit. infra Archidiacon. Colcestrensem* lf. 29 (MS.), The herbadg or pasture of anye workeing cattell. 1773 *Pennsylv. Gaz.* 21 Apr. Suppl. 1/2 To be sold... several pair of working oxen. 1801 *Farmer's Mag.* Apr. 224 Bean and pease-straw is the customary fodder of the working stock. c1830 *Glouc. Farm Rep.* 19 in *Libr. Usef. Knowl.*, *Husb.* III. Two colts are generally bred from the mares to keep up the stock of working-horses. 1890 'R. BOLDEWOOD' *Col. Reformer* xiii. Like an old working bullock in a lucerne field. 1897 *Blackw. Mag.* June 744/1 Notwithstanding the care most people take to buy pups of 'good working parents', it is the blood that tells. 1908 *Animal Managem.* 124 A working horse... will... swallow an inordinate quantity of water very rapidly. 1936 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 25 Jan. 73/2 The American husband (in fiction) is losing his working-dog quality, his ambition to toil. 1947 C. L. B. HUBBARD (*title*) Working dogs of the world. 1982 G. HAMMOND *Fair Game* xi. 99 [The dog] went for the pigeon... and fetched it back... Miss Wyper was overwhelmed. This was her first introduction to the truly fulfilled dog, the working dog doing the job for which it was bred.

e. Of a bee or ant: That is a 'worker'.

1766 *Compl. Farmer* s.v. *Queen-bee* 6 H 1/2 Not only these common or working bees, but also the drones, or male bees. 1816 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* xxvii. (1818) II. 513 If we suppose them to know that the queen and working-grubs are originally the same.

f. In comb.: Producing, creating.

1595 W. C. Polimanteia (1881) 82 Glittering hate-working gold.

†3. Aching, throbbing with pain. *Obs.*

c1460 *Towneley Myst.* vi. 8 Sore bonys, & warkand feete. c1470 HENRY WALLACE III. 204 With mony werkand wound. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) I. 75 Ay quhair tha hit makand ane warkand wound.

4. Of the sea, etc.: Agitated, tossing. *poet.*

1581 A. HALL *Iliad* i. 6 The working sea I wil goe seeke in point of morning gray. *Ibid.* vii. 123 Much like the Ocean wau, Which working storme, not green, but black doth make y^e colour haue. 1621 W. MASON *Ess.* 23 The billows of the working-sea that cannot rest. 1666 DRYDEN *Ann. Mirab.* clxxi. On Biscay's working-Bay. 1676 — *Aurengz.* iv. i, A working Sea, remaining from a Storm. 1725 POPE *Odys.* xii. 265 Oars they seize, Stretch to the stroke, and brush the working seas. 1934 DYLAN THOMAS in *New Verse* No. 9. 12 The dry Sargossa of the tomb Gives up its dust to such a working sea.

5. Of liquor: Fermenting.

1675 EVELYN in J. Rose *Engl. Vineyard* 44 Some replenish their working Wines with Water only.

6. Of the features of the face: Moving involuntarily or convulsively, esp. as the result of emotion.

1753-4 RICHARDSON *Grandison* II. xi. 75 That little witch, I have been watching her eyes, and every working muscle of her saucy face. 1838 LYTTON *Alice* ix. iii. The smile vanished at once, as her eyes met his changed and working countenance. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xi. The working lip was loosened; and the tears came streaming forth. 1865 — *Mut. Fr.* iv. vii, 'I heard of the outrage,' said Bradley, trying to constrain his working mouth.

7. a. Of an organism, a piece of machinery, etc.: That performs its function (esp. in a specified manner); that 'goes' (as opposed to being stationary).

1608 SHAKS. *Per. v.* i. 155 But are you flesh and bloud? Haue you a working pulser, and are no Fairie? 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1789), *Vaisseau qui se manie bien*, a good working ship; a ship that is easily managed and steered. 1770 J. FERGUSON *Intro. Electricity* 134 A working model of the great crane at Bristol. 1822 C. F. PARTINGTON *Hist. & Descr. Account Steam Engine* i. 13 In the following year a working model of the above engine was submitted to the Royal Society. 1859 *Newton's Lond. Jnl.* Arts 1 Feb. 115 Mr. J. A. Haswell exhibited a large working model of the new [railway]-switch. 1874 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 393 A continuous-working reverberatory furnace.

b. *Naut.* applied to certain sails.

1882 *Standard* 11 Aug. 6/6 Lorna and Chittywee last, the latter with a large jackyardtopsail set, the others having working squareheaders. 1883 *Harper's Mag.* Aug. 450/2 Racing or working rigs. 1898 ANSTED *Dict. Sea Terms*, *Working foresail* (in fore-and-aft rig), a foresail which runs on a horse. *Working lug*, the same as a standing lug; and it often has a boom.

8. a. Of a majority: Sufficient to secure the passing of measures.

1858 *Penny Cycl.* 2nd Suppl. 495/2 With the command of a working majority of about a hundred in the House of Commons, Sir Robert Peel entered on the greatest period of his political career. a1859 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xxiv. (1861) V. 131 It was not impossible that the servants of the Crown might, by prudent management, succeed in obtaining a working majority.

b. Of a theory, etc.: That provides a basis upon which to work.

1849 GROTE *Greece* II. xlv. V. 399 The confederacy would never have become a working reality. 1871 R. H. HUTTON *Ess.* I. v. 112 If it be only a working hypothesis, to keep us, while confined in the human, from blindly and unconsciously dashing ourselves against the laws of the divine. 1875 MAINE *Hist. Instit.* xiii. 400 He wishes to alter... them according to a working rule gathered from his reflections. 1894 H. DRUMMOND *Ascent of Man* 8 No one asks more of Evolution at present than permission to use it as a working theory. 1919 G. HUDDLESTON *Peacemaking at Paris* ii. 25 To make a temporary treaty which would give us a working relationship with Germany.

Hence 'workingly *adv.*, 'effectively; industriously; 'workingness, 'effectiveness.

1611 FLORIO, *Operosita*, workingness or operation. **1642** J. EATON *Honey-c. Free Justif.* 269 Christ. . in the residue of his whole life, afterwards fulfilled the whole Law, actually, workingly and perfectly. **1859** ATKINSON *Walks & Talks* (1892) 291 Such pretty birds hammering away so cheerfully and workingly.

'working(-)'class. Chiefly *pl.* 'working 'classes. [WORKING *ppl. a.*, CLASS *sb. 2.*] The grade or grades of society comprising those who are employed to work for wages in manual or industrial occupations.

1789 J. GRAY in G. Dempster *Discourse containing a Summary of Proceedings of Soc. for extending Fisheries & improving Sea Coasts of Gt. Britain* 50 More spacious plots of ground . . . may be allowed to the clergyman and schoolmaster, and to other persons superior to the working class. **1795** J. AIKIN *Descr. Country 30-40 Miles round Manchester* 262 Houses for the working class are not procured without difficulty. **1813** R. OWEN *New View Soc.* 5 The poor and working classes of Great Britain and Ireland have been found to exceed twelve millions of persons. **1844** H. COCKBURN *Jrnl.* (1874) II. 83 What are termed the working-classes, as if the only workers were those who wrought with their hands. **1875** *Act 38 & 39 Vict.* c. 36 § 5 The accommodation of . . . as many persons of the working class as may be displaced. **1890** *Act 53 & 54 Vict.* c. 69 § 18 The provisions of section eleven of the Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1885, . . . shall have effect as if the expression 'working classes' included all classes of persons who earn their livelihood by wages or salaries.

b. *attrib.*, as *working-class family, house, vote.*

1839 J. S. MILL in *Westm. Rev.* Apr. 497 The Working Men's Association . . . who represent the best and most enlightened aspect of working-class Radicalism. **1849** F. D. MAURICE *Let.* 3 Mar. in J. F. Maurice *Life F. D. Maurice* (1884) I. xxv. 513 Thank you very much for entering so heartily into my working class meetings. **1869** W. T. THORNTON *On Labour* III. v. 316 Leading unionists, and working-class leaders. **1884** in A. Cawston *Street Improv. London* (1893) 105 Those working-class houses that you have bought up and repaired. **1895** *Q. Rev.* Oct. 558 The working-class vote. **1913** *Times* 14 May 5/5 The 3,000 working class families which form the population.

'working(-)day. (Also 6 warkynday, 6-7 workenday.) [f. WORKING *vbl. sb.* + DAY *sb.*']

1. a. A work-day.

1478 *Paston Lett.* III. 237 A hose elothe, one for the halydays . . . and a nothyr for the working days. **1538** in R. G. Marsden *Sel. Pleas Crt. Admiralty* (1894) I. 62 The said John Halmdry shalbe dyscharged and his shyp of the sayd salt . . . within vj lawfull working days. **1549** W. THOMAS *Hist. Italie* 79 Euerie holidai, and many times the workendaies, the same sitteth from diner till nyght. **1561** Bp. J. PARKHURST *Injunct.* Aijb, That they baptize not children on the working daies. **1626** in *Cheque-bk. Chapel Royal* (Camden) 71 That a competent number of the gentlemen be appointed to attend the service upon the working days throughout the yeare. **1671-2** in C. Worthy *Devon. Wills* (1896) 27 My blew coat which I did weare worken daies. **1725** DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 340 They quite forgot the days, and knew not a Sunday from a working-day any longer. **1832** SIR F. PALGRAVE *Rise & Progr. Eng. Commw.* II. p. clii. The first open or working day after the two great weekly festivals of Sun-day and Moon-day. **1839** THACKERAY *Fatal Boots* Feb., Then comes dismal February, and the working-days with it, . . . after the Christmas and the New Year's heyday and merry-making are over. **1911** ONIONS *Shaks. Gloss.* p. vi, The compilation of which has occupied the full working-days of a year and a half.

b. *attrib.* or as *adj.* (= WORKADAY B.), as *working-day clothes, dress, face, world.*

1533 in Weaver *Wells Wills* (1890) 26 A roond warkynday gownd. **1589** GREENE *Menaphon* (Arb.) 25 Our shepheard must put on his working day face, and frame nought but dolefull Madrigalls. **1594** GREENE & LODGE *Looking Gl.* (1598) C4, If you heard her working-day words, . . . they be rattlers like thunder. **1600** SHAKS. *A.Y.L.* I. iii. 12 Oh how full of briers is this working day world. **1683** in *Bedfordshire N. & Q.* (1889) II. 237 All my working-day clothes of wollen or stuffe. **1835** LONDON *Misc. Poet. Wks.* 2 The working-day portion of life's wondrous whole. **1840** DICKENS *Old Cur. Shop* xlv, The working-day faces come nearer to the truth. **1872** GEO. ELIOT *Middlem.* lvi, The working-day world. **1873** NEWMAN *Serm. Var. Occas.* (1881) xiv. 275 The working-day dress.

2. The portion of a day devoted to work or allotted to labour as a day's work.

1553 Hogg's *Instructor* X. 282/2 To grant the Saturday afternoon holiday, and to limit the duration of every other working day within a certain definite period of time, not exceeding twelve hours, including the proper interval for meals. **1875** J. MACDONELL in *Fortn. Rev.* Mar. 389 Leaving the length of the working day unchanged. **1890** J. E. C. MUNRO in *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* 472 The more rational proposals to establish a short working day.

†'working-house. *Obs.* [WORKING *vbl. sb.*] = WORKHOUSE 1, 2.

1487 in *Cal. Lett.-bk. L. London* (1912) 242 [That no time-expired apprentice . . . set up shop or] wirkyng hous [within the City]. **1599** SHAKS. *Hen. V.* v. Chor. 23 In the quick Forge and working-house of Thought. **1711** *Act 10 Anne* c. 19. § 55 Any such Goods, so made, printed, painted, or stained . . . in . . . their Ware-houses, Working-houses, or Places aforesaid.

1597-8 *Act 39 Eliz.* c. 5 (title) An Acte for erecting of Hospittals or abiding and working Howses for the Poore. **1639** *Bury Wills* (Camden) 178 The common workinghouse of Bury.

'working-man. a. A man of the working classes; a man employed to work for a wage, esp.

in a manual or industrial occupation; a term inclusive of 'artisan', 'mechanic', and 'labourer'.

1816 T. WILLIAMS *Means Improv. Condit. Poor* 23 How much more pleasant is the occupation of a working-man than of a beggar, or a vagrant! **1830** B'ham *Petit. Rights* § 6 in *Life T. Attwood* (1885) 154 That . . . all the taxes ought to be taken off from those articles necessary for the subsistence and comfort of working men. **1873** *Iron* 5 July 5/1 The . . . prevalence of what are called 'working-men's candidates'. **1896** *Westm. Gaz.* 4 Mar. 8/2 The word 'working-man' was here held to include a clerk or small shopkeeper, or anyone whose total income did not exceed £150 a year. **1901** W. R. H. TROWBRIDGE *Lett. her Mother to Eliz.* x. 43 Mr. Wertzelmänn . . . held out a hand like a working-man's.

b. *Comb.* in the possessive, denoting institutions established for working men, as *working man's* (or *men's*) *association, club, college, institute.*

1839 Working men's association [see WORKING CLASS b]. **1844** *Lexington (Ky.) Observer* 2 Oct. 3/1 The Working Men's Clay Club of this city will hold an adjourned meeting. **1861** MRS. GASKELL *Let.* 16 Apr. (1966) 650 He has . . . established a small working man's Club, with the help of a low Church curate. **1961** *Economist* 30 Dec. 1270/1 The Working Men's Club and Institute Union achieves its centenary next year. **1976** *National Observer* (U.S.) 18 Dec. 1873 It opens in a Manchester secondary-school classroom, where a sextet of aspiring stand-up comics has assembled for their Big Chance, an audition before a real . . . agent at a local working-man's club. **1856** C. FOX *Let.* 27 June in *Jrnl.* (1972) 223 Oxford. . . I was delighted to hear of their successful experiment to unite Town and Gown by a Working Man's College. **1921** G. B. SHAW *Back to Methusalem* II. 61, I was asked to deliver an address to the students at the Working Men's College. **1971** G. STEINER *Bluebeard's Castle* iii. 61 The categories of schooling and public enlightenment—the lyceum, the public library, the working men's college. **1882** F. A. KEMBLE *Records of Later Life* III. 293 A reading that I gave for the Working Men's Institute in Brighton. **1980** E. BLISHEN *Nest of Teachers* I. i. 4 A Working Men's Institute . . . established in the last century.

So 'working-'woman.

1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xv, A child, playing at washing, and imitating a poor working-woman. **1918** *Current History* Feb. 200 Workingmen and workingwomen have raised the cry for bread, peace, and liberty in the street.

workless ('wɜ:kli:s), a. [f. WORK *sb.* + -LESS.]

1. Doing no work; inactive, idle. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* v. ix. (1889) 150 What doo ye here, why are you werkless? **1493** [H. PARKER] *Drives & Pauper* I. xxx. (W. de W. 1496) 69/1 Nedy werklesse men that go so gay & spende grete. **1571** GOLDING *Calvin on Ps.* lxxv. 8 Wee imagin I wote not what maner of werklesse and ydle soverieintie, as though he ruled not mankynd with his power and providence. **1629** C. POTTER *Consecration Serm.* Mar. 15, 1628 77 These verball Doctors, these werklesse talkers. **1881** 'VERNON LEE' *Belcaro* vii. 195 Inactive, with listless limbs and workless hands.

†2. Of faith: Without works. *Obs.*

1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* Wks. 529/2 A manne maye . . . have the righte faythe ydle and woorklesse. **1653** MANTON *Exp. James* II. 14 The apostle calleth a workless faith a dead or lifeless faith.

3. Unprovided with work; having no work to do; out of work, unemployed. Often *absol.* with *the*.

1848 *Tait's Mag.* XV. 356 The workless silence, wageless misery. **1887** *Pall Mall Gaz.* 22 Nov. 1/1 The bitter cold of the fireless room . . . will wring from the workless workers a still more piteous moan. *Ibid.* 7 Dec. 10/2 The Workless in the Country. **1892** MRS. G. A. SALA *Famous People I have met* 18 The . . . workless weavers of the East-end.

Hence 'worklessness, the condition of being workless; unemployment.

1883 G. MACDONALD *Donal Grant* xlii, Ye maun be growin' some short o' siller i' this time o' warklessness! **1892** *Toynbee Rec.* Dec. 29 We are confronted this Winter with a worklessness which approaches . . . that of 1886.

'work-loom. *Sc.* and *north.* (now in form wark-). [f. WORK *sb.* + LOOM *sb.*'] A tool or implement, esp. one used in manual labour.

c 1425 *Noah's Ark in Non-Cycle Myst.* Pl. 22/82 Unlusty I am . . . Worklooms for to work and weeld. **1475-6** *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1869) I. 33 Gude and suffieand graith and werklooms. **1513** DOUGLAS *Æneis* VII. xi. 82 The lust of all sic werklooms was adew. **1570** LEVINS *Manip.* 161/34 A Worke loome, instrumentum. **1583** MONTGOMERIE *Flying* 43 That warkloome quite [sc. a pen]. **1691** SIR J. FOULIS *Acc. Bk.* (S.H.S.) 140, 4 pund steell for y^e work loomes. **1785** BURNS *Addr. to Deil* xi, The best wark-lume i' the house. **1796** GALL *Tint Quey* 9 [He] gat his wark-looms a' in tune, To ca' some tacketts in his shoorn.

workman ('wɜ:kmə:n). *Pl.* workmen. Forms: see WORK *sb.* and MAN *sb.*'; also 4 werman, *Sc.* warman. [OE. *weorcman* = Du. *werkmán*, OHG. *werahman* (MHG. *werch-*, *werckman*), ON. *verkmaðr*.]

1. a. A man engaged to do work or (usually) manual labour, esp. one employed upon some particular piece of work: an operative; often (contextually) a skilled worker; †occas. a worker (in a medium).

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xvii, He sceal habban gebedmen & fyrdmen & weorcmen. **c 950** *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. ix. 37 *Operarii*, weorcmen. **c 1205** LAY, 22892 A crafti weorc-man. **a 1225** *Ancr.* R. 404 Iðen euentid, hwon me jelt weorc-men hore deies hure. **13..** *Sir Beues* (A.) 3230 A morwe þe barouns gonne arise Sum to honten and sum to cherche, And werk men gonne for to werche. **1362** LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. II. 91 *Dignus est operarius mercede sua*: Worpi is þe Werkmon his hure to haue. **c 1375** *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxii. (*Laurentius*) 594

It mycht noch suffice . . . at a met bred to be, . . . to warmen thre. **c 1450** *Mirk's Festial* 39 He had so mony werkemen of dyuerse craftys, þat a man schuld not here his felow speke for dount of strokes. **1474** CAXTON *Chesse* II. i. (1883) 22 A werkman in metall. **1562** J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* II. ix. (1867) 77 What is a workman, without his tooles? **1651** HOBBS *Leviath.* III. xlii. 306 A man is obliged in conscience to set on work upon all occasions the best workman. **a 1700** EVELYN *Diary* 21 May 1645, This place has also been famous for lutes made by the old masters . . . the workmen were chiefly Germans. **1725** WATTS *Logic* I. vi. § 8 If I would learn the Nature of a Watch, the Workman takes it to pieces. **1842** GWILT *Archit.* Gloss. s.v. *Beds of a Stone*, In arching the beds are called summerings by the workmen. **1883** W. D. CURZON *Manuf. Industries Worcs.* 48 There were under the hands of the workmen, . . . some of the cylinders for the bridge across the Dubbo river.

b. Connoting a class or grade, or in correlation with 'employer', 'capitalist', or the like.

1704 DE FOE *Giving Alms no Charity* (1859) 38 The price of wages not only determines the difference between the employer and the work-man, but it rules the rates of every market. **1727** — *Eng. Tradesman* I. Intro. 2 There are several degrees of people employ'd in trade below these, such as workmen, labourers, and servants. **1868** RONEY *Rambles on Rlws.* 62 These companies issue what are called 'work-man's tickets'. **1872** RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* II. Index 27 By workmen I mean people who must use their heads as well as their hands for what they do; by labourers, those who use their hands only. **1875** *Act 38 & 39 Vict.* c. 90 § 10 The expression 'workman' does not include a domestic or menial servant, but save as aforesaid, means any person who, being a labourer, servant in husbandry, journeyman, artificer, handicraftsman, miner, or otherwise engaged in manual labour, . . . has entered into or works under a contract with an employer. **1906** *Economist* 15 Dec. 2048/2 At the present time . . . there is a widespread tendency to consider that no one is a work-man unless he be engaged in manual labour. **1908** *Daily Chron.* 12 Sept. 5/4 It was declared that the term 'work-man' should include clerks.

c. Of ants or bees: = WORKER 2 d (c). *rare.*

1870 DUNCAN *Blanchard's Transf. Insects* 349 Besides the neuters, workmen, and soldiers, two sorts of nymphs.

2. a. A skilled or expert craftsman. *Obs.* exc. in *Glassmaking*, the first man of a 'chair'.

1478 *Acta Dom. Conc.* (1839) 4/2 þe lordis . . . causit þe chenye to be weyt and prisit be werkmen, quhilikis prisit it to v li Scottis. **1496** *Cov. Lett Bk.* 574 There shall no persone of þe Craft set no straunge Journeyman on warke without license of þe Maisters of þe Craft, and they to see that he be a workman. **1530** PALSGR. 472/2 This kote was never made of a workman, it is but boughed up. **1553** ASCHAM *Rep. Germany* Aijb, Here is stuffe plenty to furnish well vp a trimme history if a workman had it in handlyng. **1597** MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 88 By working we become workemen. **1657** WORTHINGTON *Diary* etc. (Chetham Soc.) I. 100 He was not satisfy'd in William Pope, because he was not a workman of his trade. **1706** E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 71 From whence one may reasonably infer, that he's himself no Work-man. **1721** PERRY *Daggenham Breach* 68, I had answer'd them like an Artist, and like a Workman. **1849** [see SERVITOR 5].

b. *transf.*; e.g. applied to a rider, esp. in hunting, who manages his horse well or is conversant with the technique of the field; also to a horse that takes its fences well, etc.

1832 *Q. Rev.* XLVII. 238 The Squire having hit off his fox like a workman. **1840** J. C. WHYTE *Hist. Turf* II. 577 Although so splendid a rider over a race-course, Old Chifney by no means shone as a workman across a country. **1868** WHYTE-MELVILLE *White Rose* I. xiv. 177 'I'm blessed if the young 'un isn't a workman!' he mutters, while he marks Gerard's easy seat. **1887** F. GALE *Game Cr.* 63 [Our opponents] were all 'workmen', . . . and a tough job, clearly, was cut out. **1891** 'R. BOLDRWOOD' *Sydney-side Sax.* xii, A fine, solid, but active-looking horse, . . . looking more of a workman over timber than the other.

†3. The Creator; = WORKER 1 a. *Obs.*

1551 T. WILSON *Logike* Pjb, The greate workman of thynges god almightie himselfe. **1560** B. GOOGE *tr. Palingenius's Zodiac* III. (1561) GJ, That workman first, that made y^e skies the earth, and seas also. **1587** GOLDING *De Mornay* vi. (1592) 64 This Speech [= Logos] being the workman of God the Lord of the whole World. **1616** T. SCOT *Philomythie* D 7 b, Darknes was not created; tis as old As that great workman which the whole doth mold.

4. One who works or practises his craft or art (in some specified manner).

1484 CAXTON *Fables of Alfonse* xiii, As good a workman of his craft as any was at that time in alle the world. **1620** I. C. *Two Merry Milkmaids* IV. i. L 4 b, And thou beest so good a workman, thou shalt draw my Picture. **a 1633** G. HERBERT *Outl. Prov.* 67 Never had ill workman good tooles. **1668** EVELYN *tr. Freart's Idea Perfect. Paint.* Advt. to Rdr. a 2, Albert Durer, a German Painter, and a most incomparable Workman. **1849** PARKER *Gothic Archit.* 88 It being one of the characteristics of a good workman not to waste his material. **1868** DARWIN in F. Darwin *Life & Lett.* (1887) III. 98 My health makes me a very slow workman.

5. *attrib.*

1549 *Compl. Scot.* vii. 69 Mony politic verkmanlumis for mecanyc craftis. **1803** HEBER *Palestine* 199 No workman steel, no ponderous axes rung. **1908** *Westm. Gaz.* 7 Feb. 5/2 The workmen-shareholders.

6. *Comb.* in the possessive, denoting things (esp. transport) provided for workmen (sense 1), as *workman's* (or *workmen's*) *bus, club, compensation, train, tram.*

1965 A. PRIOR *Interrogators* xi. 198 An early morning workman's bus roared and rumbled. **1980** 'D. GRANT' *Emerald Decision* I. 20 Workmen's bus, heading for the harbour. **1911** G. B. SHAW *Doctor's Dilemma* I. 22 Except for the workmen's clubs, my patients are all clerks and shopmen. **1921** *Daily Colonist* (Victoria, B.C.) 12 Mar. 6/4 Compensation was paid to him by the Workmen's Compensation Board and he was later discharged as having recovered. **1940** *Economist* 3 Feb. 198/2 An all-round increase in the rates payable for workmen's compensation.

1872 JERROLD *London* p. ix, The workman's train and the crowds pressing over London Bridge. **1975** P. McCUTCHAN *Very Big Bang* xi. 105 'They'll call back when the current's off.' 'No more workmen's trains?' 'Not on this section.' **1906** JACKSON'S *Oxford Jnl.* 8 Sept. 6/6 At 5.10 the workmen's tram joined in the procession. **1970** S. ALEXANDER *St. Giles's Fair* 19 The workman's tram passed through St. Giles at five ten a.m.

workmanlike ('wɜ:kmənləɪk), *adv.* and *a.* [See -LIKE.]

A. adv. In a manner or style characteristic of a good workman.

1447 Hist. *Dunelm. Scriptores Tres* (Surtees) App. p. cccxiii, The said . . . Alexander [etc.] . . . sail wirke the said myne werkmanlike. c. **1565** J. SPARKE in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1600) III. 504 They . . . doe iagge their flesh, . . . as workmanlike, as a ierkin maker with vs pinketh a ierkin. **1612** DRAYTON *Polyolb.* xviii. 691 The Gardiner . . . their selected plants doth workman-like bestowe. **1618-19** in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) III. 305 To be all plastered over with lyme and hayer workman lyke. **1634** SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 20 Darts of blacke Ebony barbed strongly and workmanlike. **1897** 'O. RHOSCOMYL' *White Rose Arno* i, You do your work as workmanlike as ever.

B. adj.

1. Of or pertaining to a workman; characteristic of or suitable to a workman. *rare.*

1663 GERBIER *Counsel* 103 To write, in such workman-like termes, as may serve for a Clark of the works to speak unto them. **1857** DICKENS *Dorrit* i. xxvi, An old workmanlike habit of carrying his pocket-handkerchief in his hat.

2. Characteristic of or resembling (that of) a good workman; orig. said of the execution of a work; later applied also to persons or animals having an efficient, 'business-like', or 'smart' appearance or action.

1739 LABELYE *Short Acc. Piers Westm. Bridge* 66 To compleat the intended Bridge . . . in a compleat and workman-like Manner. **1758** *Extr. Crt. Rolls Wimbledon* (1866) 318 To cause the same [lane] to be restored . . . in a workmanlike manner. **1768** TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) i. 475 A clock of artificial and workman-like construction. **1837** DICKENS *Pickw.* xlv, [He] filled out three glasses of gin, which Job Trotter and Sam disposed of in a most workmanlike manner. **1842** LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 365 In nailing in the young shoots, dispose them as straight and as regular as possible: it will look workmanlike. **1861** WHYTE-MELVILLE *Mkt. Harb.* 58 Never in his life had he seen such a thoroughly workmanlike exterior. **1874** *Fancier's Gaz.* 4 Dec. 618/1 [A dog] Nice and evenly-balanced all over, workman-like. **1878** LORD R. GOWER *Remin.* (1883) II. 207 Two very workman-like little horses. **1884** *Contemp. Rev.* July 98 There is very much . . . to be done that requires nothing more than good workmanlike ability.

Hence **'workmanlikeness'**.

1890 DAY *Every-day Art* 90 Even the amateur should know something of the value of workmanlikeness in ornament.

workmanly ('wɜ:kmənlɪ), *adv.* and *a.* [f. WORKMAN *sb.* + -LY.]

A. adv. = WORKMANLIKE *A.*; efficiently, skilfully.

1467 York *Memorandum Bk.* (Surtees) I. 185 Suche girdelles as be clerely and workmanly made upp. **1523** [COVERDALE] *Old God* (1534) Cj, An ymage of his father very cunningly and workmanly carued. **1543** BALE *Yet a Course* 27 That he hath not gone processyon vpon saturdayes at euensonge, nor workmanlye made hys holye water and holy breade. **1545** — *Image Both Ch.* i. Pref. (1550) A vib, The beastes head that was wounded, is now healed vp againe so workmanly. **1550** — *Engl. Votaries* II. 104 Here was a gnat workmanly strayed out to swalowe in a camell for it. **1591** HARRINGTON *Orl. Fur.* To Rdr. (1634) A 1, Some three or foure pretie pictures (in octavo) cut in brasse very workmanly. **1656** DUGDALE *Antiq. Warw.* 355/2 To make and set up, finely and workmanly, a parclose of timber. **1905** *Times Lit. Suppl.* 1 Sept. 278/2 The four famous folio volumes workmanly bound in grey boards and canvas.

B. adj. = WORKMANLIKE *B.* (esp. sense 2).

1545 BALE *Myst. Inq.* 43 Marke the good workmanlye handelynge . . . therof. **1570** LEVINS *Manip.* 100/47 Workmanly, *artificiosus*. **1582** MULCASTER *1st Pt. Elem.* (1925) 64 Whatsoever shall belong to coloring, to shadowing, and such more workmanly points. **1590** WEBBE *Trav.* (Arb.) 33 The roofes are couered with fine gold, in a very workmanly sort. **1766** BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. xxx. 452 He has it upon an implied contract to render it again when made, and that in a workmanly manner. **1860** RUSKIN *Mod. Paint.* V. ix. iii. §4 Rudders, and yards, and cables, all needing workmanly handling and workmanly knowledge. **1907** *Times* 22 May 3/2 Not only the best architectural, but the best workmanly, skill has been employed.

workmanship ('wɜ:kmənsɪp). [f. WORKMAN + -SHIP.]

† **1.** The performance or execution of work or a work; work, labour: in early use often, the labour or amount of labour performed on a particular task or piece of work. *Obs.*

c. **1375** *Cursor M.* 1684 (Fairf.) Loke þi werk-monshepe be sleychthe. **1377** LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. x. 288 þanne shal borel elerkes . . . drede to wratthe þow . . . þowre werkmanship to lette. **1390** GOWER *Conf.* I. 127 With gret sleight Of werkmanship it was begrave. c. **1407** LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 6132 Nature . . . Passeth soothly werke-man-shepe. **1467-8** *Rolls Parlt.* V. 620/1 To oversee the werkmanship of the seid Craftymen. **1503** *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* II. 206 For making and werkmanship and inlayk of the samyn xx li. **1552** in Feuillerat *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 124 The charges of garniture & workmanship with stuf & other prouisions bought & made of new this year. **1581** PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* i. (1586) 9b, The knowledge of . . . handicrafts, of workmanships. c. **1586** C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* xciv. ii, Sight

shall he want, From whose first workmanship the eye did grow? **1612** Churchw. *Acc. Pittington*, etc. (Surtees) 163 Paid for mendinge the bell ropes with leather and workmanship, x d. **1617** MORYSON *Itin.* i. 150 A table . . . the Jewels wherof they valued at fiftie thousand Crownes, and the workmanship at twelve thousand Crownes. **1686** PLOT *Staffordsh.* 297 In case they would be at the charge of bringing stone, he would find Workmanship, and build them a Tower. **1751** LABELYE *Westm. Bridge* 78 All Workmanship to be performed at a fixed Price. **1793** J. LODGE *Topogr. Hist. Heref.* 54 Second year's rent and workmanship 2 3 o. **1818** *Min. Evid. Committee Ribbon Weavers* 195 An instance . . . where a master took a man up to a magistrate for spoiling the work, and the man paid every penny of the workmanship of it.

† **2.** Action, agency, operation. *Obs.*

1534 MORE *Treat. Passion Wks.* 1343/2 By the workemanshippe of his heauenly mercy. **1545** BALE *Myst. Inq.* 20b, Eyther has prestes wyues of their owne in those dayes, or els there was some other good workemanshype a brode. **1546** — *Engl. Votaries* i. 4b, The deceptfull workemanship of the instrumentes of Sathan. **1641** MILTON *Ch. Govt.* i. v. 19 Before his audacious workmanship the Churches were rul'd in common by the Presbyters.

† **3.** Creation, making, manufacture, production.

1578 TIMME *Calvin on Gen.* 49 After that the workmanshippe of the World was fully perfected. **1594** PLAT *Jewell-ho.* i. 70 That it might haue 3. hot moneths together to work it to his ful perfection. . . I haue thought good . . . to set downe mine own fansie, for the easier stirring vype of this Malmesey to his workmanship. **1695** WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Earth* 259 'Tis a great Mystery . . . how Tubal-Cain . . . could ever have taught the Workmanship and Use of them.

† **c.** Make, fashion. *Obs. rare.*

1578 BANISTER *Hist. Man v. 8ob*, As he varied from the workmanshipe of other bodies, so had he one passage also of choler that visited the ventricles.

3. That which is wrought or made by a workman or craftsman; (a person's) work. Also *transf.* something produced: *arch. exc.* as in *piece of workmanship*, which may properly belong to 1.

1523 Act 13 & 14 Hen. VIII, c. 2 A proper marke . . . by the which their wares, vessels, and workmanshippes . . . may be knownen. **1535** COVERDALE 2 *Esdras* viii. 7 We all are one workmanshipe of thy handes. **1549** *Compl. Scot.* vii. 69 The pleisan verkmenkschips that was in the middis of hyr mantil. **1551** T. WILSON *Logic* Lijb, The daie . . . whiche is the effecte, or workemanship of the Sunne. **1570** DEE *Math. Pref.* aij, Formally, Number, is the Vnion, and Vnitie of Vnits. Which vnyng and kniting, is the workmanshipe of our minde. **1632** LITINGOW *Trav.* i. 18 To worship . . . the workmanship of mens handes. **1641** J. JACKSON *True Evang.* T. iii. 183 It was the onely quarrell he pickt with his workmanship, that man was alone. **1710** PRIOR *Examiner* No. 6 ¶ 2 A curious Piece of poetical Workmanship. **1729** BUTLER *Serm.* Wks. 1874 II. 102 Human nature, considered as the diuine workmanship. **1732** BERKELEY *Alciph.* vii. § 12 Inconsistent ideas which are often the workmanship of their own brains. **1751** *Affect. Narr.* Wager 28 A little Hut, . . . the Workmanship, I guess, of some Indian. **1796** H. HUNTER tr. *St. Pierre's Study Nat.* xi. III. 266 This ball is the workmanship of the ants. **1857** RUSKIN *Pol. Econ.* Art. i. 63 A new piece of gold or silver . . . with noble workmanship on it. **1859** GEO. ELIOT *Adam Bede* xiv, There's no denying she's a rare bit o' workmanship. **1892** WESTCOTT *Gospel of Life* 200 As the world was His workmanship; so man was made in His image.

4. Skill or cunning as a workman; craftsmanship as exhibited in a piece of work.

1529 *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1871) 6 Of gud and sufficient stuff . . . and sufficient workmanshipe. **1541** COPLAND *Galyen's Therap.* 2 C iv, For to cut is a redy and easy thyng, but for to heale by medycamentes is a greater thyng and that requyeth workmanshipe. **1601** R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 68 The inhabitants . . . doe excell in curious workmanshipe and mechanical inventions. **1663** BOYLE *Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* i. i. 17 Idiots admire in things the Beauty of their Materials, but Artists that of the Workmanship. **1678** MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* iv. 66 It is counted a piece of good workmanship in a Joyner, to haue the craft of bearing his hand so curiously even. **1838** MISS MITFORD in *L'Estrange Life* (1870) III. vi. 93 Some rings of negro workmanship. **1889** *Contemp. Rev.* Dec. 911 It is subject . . . that makes plays enduring, plus of course the requisite dramatic workmanship. **1909** *Mem. W. E. H. Lecky* 48 He had a high ideal of literary workmanship.

'work-master. Now *rare.* [Cf. MLG. *werkmester*, ON. *verkmeistari* (MSw. *werkmestare*)] A master workman; an overseer or employer of workmen.

a. **1533** FRITH *Disput. Purgat.* II. Hvijb, Lyke a wyse workmaster haue I layed the fundacyon, for I fyrst beganne to preche you Christ. **1535** COVERDALE *Song Sol.* vii. i Like a fayre jewell, which is wrought by a connyng workmaster. a. **1589** M. PHILIPS in Hakluyt *Voy.* 580, I came to Siuill, and sought me out a workmaster, that I might fall to my science, which was weauing of taffataes. **1617** WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1639) 193 This medicine . . . to an Artist which is a true Preparer of medicines . . . is plaine and pleasant to be done, and . . . will doe the worke-master credit that useth it. **1632** in E. B. Jupp *Carpenters' Co.* (1887) 297 That the workmaster be left at Liberty to make choyce whether he will haue a Carpenter or Joyner to lay the same. **1703** T. N. City & C. *Purchaser Title-p.*, Contracts betwixt the Workmaster and Workman. **1816** COLERIDGE *Lay Serm.* (Bohn) 307 The contents of every work must correspond to the character and designs of the work-master. **1876** BANCROFT *Hist. U.S.* IV. xxiv. 492 Like a bravo who loves his trade, he set about the task of his work-masters.

b. *fig.*: esp. applied to God as creator and ruler; rarely of a thing.

1535 COVERDALE *Job* xiii. 4 Ye are workmasters of lyes. — *Wisd.* vii. 22 The workmaster of all thinges hath

taught me wysdome. a. **1548** HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII*, 198 These moste solempne ordinaunces of y^e most high workmaster God. **1605** *London Prodigal* III. ii. 93 Nature, in her building, is a most curious worke-master. **1607** MARKHAM *Cavel.* i. xix. (1617) 79 The braine of a man being a busie and laborsome workmaster. **1630** LENNARD tr. *Charron's Wisd.* i. iii. 16 The armes and hands, the worke-masters of all things. *Ibid.* lxi. 225 The greatnesse, goodness, wysdome, power of the chiefe work-master.

'work-mistress. [f. WORK *sb.* + MISTRESS, after prec.] A woman who controls or superintends work: only *fig.*, chiefly of Nature (personified).

1568 HACKET tr. *Thevet's New found World* lxviii. 108b, Nature the great workmistresse. **1603** HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 337, I assure you Venus is the work-mistresse of mutual concord. a. **1635** NAUNTON *Fragm. Reg.* (Arb.) 60 God, . . . by an evident manifestation, that the same work which she acted, was a well-pleasing service of his own . . . had decreed the protection of the work-Mistresse. **1675** A. BROWNE *Appendix Art Paint.* 22 Since Nature, that Cunning Work-Mistress, is so extremely Various in her Representations. **1877** CARPENTER tr. *Tiele's Outl. Hist. Relig.* 224 Athena, the goddess of art, the 'workmistress' (*Erganē*).

'work-out. [See WORK *v.* 381.] a. A boxing bout for practice; more widely, an exercise session, practice, or test.

1909 R. A. WASON *Happy Hawkins* 161, I expect to give it a fair good work-out before I'm through with it. **1923** H. C. WITWER *Fighting Blood* iii. 96, I ain't going to get no gym workout. **1927** *Daily Express* 27 May 13/7 Either in a work-out or in an actual contest. **1938** M. K. RAWLINGS *Yearling* ix. 98 'Will we take both dogs?' 'Nobody but old Julia. She ain't had a work-out since she was hurt. A slow hunt'll do her good.' **1952** *Sun* (Baltimore) 3 Mar. 28/3 The United States Air Force Filter Center here had its first surprise workout yesterday. **1960** *Sunday Express* 27 Nov. 14/3 Work-out gymnasia with . . . general slimming equipment. **1963** A. ROSS *Australia* 63 vii. 128 Both teams had work-outs at the Oval, over-watered pitches making net practice impracticable. **1972** *Daily Tel.* 6 Sept. 6/8, I am not suggesting that old people should do strenuous physical work-outs, but stiff joints and muscles may be helped by properly supervised exercises. **1979** *Tucson Mag.* Apr. 56/1 (Advt.), A multitude of weight training systems designed to accomodate your kind of workout room. **1981** J. FONDA *Jane Fonda's Workout Bk.* (1982) 22 She took me to an exercise class that put me through the most vigorous and thorough workout I had ever had.

b. *fig.*

1934 J. O'HARA *Appointment in Samarra* i. 17 Four of the young men had had work-outs with her off the dance floor, and as a result Constance was not a virgin. **1941** *Punch* 10 Sept. 222 This passage of rich prose is designed as a sort of test or work-out for the new alphabet. **1958** B. HAMILTON *Too Much of Water* viii. 161 A public work-out would test audience reaction. **1967** *Melody Maker* 29 Apr. 10 (Advt.), The totally new snare drum. This one you must see! Get round to your dealer and give it a workout. **1977** *New Yorker* 24 Oct. 173/1 The Villa-Lobos provides a thorough workout for the bassoon.

'workover. [f. WORK *v.* + OVER *adv.*] The repair or maintenance of an oil well.

1976 *Offshore Platforms & Pipelining* 232/3 A conventional wellhead is installed, and the wells are completed by a workover rig. **1977** *Financial Times* 1 Apr. 11/5 Some have suggested a well work-over every three years; others say once every 15 years will be sufficient. **1977** *Offshore Engineer* Aug. 12/3 The workover programme on B-14 well is now complete. **1980** *Daily Tel.* 11 Sept. 29 (Advt.), Jack Up Rig in the Southern North Sea on Viking workovers and new developments. **1985** *New Yorker* 22 Apr. 51/1 The auction business thrived: deep rigs, workover rigs.

workpeople ('wɜ:kpi:p(ə)l). [WORK *sb.*] People employed in manual or industrial labour for a wage; workmen and (or) workwomen.

1708 *Caldwell Papers* (Maitland Club) I. 216 You cannot imagine what a parcel of cheating brutes the work people here are. **1818** *Min. Evid. Committee Ribbon Weavers* 152 How many people do they employ, weavers, warpers, winders and work people, of every description? **1848** MILL *Pol. Econ.* i. iv. § 1 (1865) I. 69 Each capitalist has money, which he pays to his workpeople, and so enables them to supply themselves. **1883** W. D. CURZON *Manuf. Industries Worcs.* 36 Mechanical skill on the part of the workpeople not being necessary—the machines in fact doing the most part of the work.

workshop ('wɜ:kʃɒp). [f. WORK *sb.* + SHOP *sb.* 3.] **1.** a. A room, apartment, or building in which manual or industrial work is carried on.

1582 T. WATSON *Centurie of Love* Ep. Ded. (Arb.) 25 Alexander the Great, passing on a time by the workshop of Apelles, curiouslye surueyed some of his doings. **1775** JOHNSON *West. Isl.* 132 (*Östig*) Supreme beauty is seldom found in cottages or work shops. **1813** CLARKSON *Mem. W. Penn* xviii. 335 All prisons were to be considered as workshops. **1865** DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* i. ii, What was observable in the furniture, was observable in the Veneerings—the surface smelt a little too much of the workshop and was a trifle sticky. **1901** Act 1 *Edw. VII*, c. 22 § 149 The expression 'workshop' means . . . any premises, room or place, not being a factory, in which . . . or within the close or curtilage or precincts of which . . . any manual labour is exercised.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1562 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* Table s.v. *Supper of Lord*, The constitution which toke away from lay men the cup of the Lorde, came out of the deuells workshop. **1781** GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xvii. II. 62 note, Two accurate treatises, which come from the workshop of the Benedictines. **1814** SCOTT *Wau.* lii, Fergus's brain was a perpetual workshop of scheme and intrigue. **1838** DISRAELI *Sp.* 15 Mar. in *Hansard's Parl. Debates* XLI. 939/2 To suppose that . . . the continent would

suffer England to be the workshop for the world. 1878 GURNEY *Crystallogr.* 8 The workshop of Nature. 1900 W. P. KER *Ess. Dryden* Introd. p. xxi, If he cannot explain the secrets of the dramatic workshop.

c. attrib.

1869 J. G. WINTON (*title*) Modern Workshop Practice as applied to marine, land, and locomotive engines. 1873 SPON (*title*) Workshop Receipts, for the use of manufacturers, mechanics, and scientific amateurs. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 29 Apr. 3/5 The workshop system answers because the master works with his men, and gets the best out of them.

2. a. A meeting for discussion, study, experiment, etc., orig. in education or the arts, but now in any field; an organization or group established for this purpose.

1937 *N.Y. Times* 1 Aug. vi. 5/3 The major requirement for admission to this Summer workshop is an approved project for which the applicant seeks aid and advice. 1938 L. MACNEICE *Mod. Poetry* xi. 200 The communist poet, Maiakovski, established a 'word work-shop'... to supply all revolutionaries with 'any quantity of poetry desired'. 1952 L. ROSS *Picture* (1953) 21 The elder Reinhardt... came to Hollywood in 1934... For the next five years, he ran a Hollywood school known as Max Reinhardt's Workshop. 1959 *Ottawa Citizen* 14 Sept. 6/1 At a conference or 'workshop' or road safety sponsored by the Ontario Department of Transport recently, there was general agreement that much more must be done to improve driving standards. 1961 in *B.B.C. Handbk.* (1962) 36, I want to see a Television Workshop—a regular period in which everyone feels he can have a go without having to mind too much whether he is successful straight off. 1967 P. McGIRR *Murder is Absurd* ii. 33 In college Kenny joined the... drama workshop and began work on a play. 1972 *Computers & Humanities* VII. 96 The participants then divided into four workshops and, after five intensive meetings, reconvened to present their findings at the fourth and final plenary session. 1984 *Times* 17 Mar. 15/8 Priority bookings for their tastings, wine workshops and special dinners.

b. attrib.

1937 *N.Y. Times* 1 Aug. vi. 5/4 The importance of the workshop idea to American education. 1968 *Globe & Mail* (Toronto) 3 Feb. B 2/3 Local residents considered... 17 consumer protection items suggested by workshop groups conducted on Thursday. 1976 S. BRETT *So much Blood* ii. 25 The Masonic Hall was not free for Charles to rehearse in... Michael Vanderzee had just started a workshop session... Charles... had no objection to... workshop techniques. They were useful exercises for actors. 1983 *National Trust* Spring 24/1 In the morning, group discussions were led by the Company's seven actor/teachers in a 'workshop' atmosphere concentrating on the social history of the early eighteenth century.

†**work-silver.** *Obs.* [WORK sb. 5.] A customary money payment made in lieu of service.

1391 *Ancient Deed A.* 1413 (P.R.O.), Septemdecim solidis annuis vocatis Werkseluer. 1430 *Ibid.* A. 8351, xvij's annuis vocatis Werkseluer et quinque solidis annuis vocatis lesowseluer. 1544 *Patent Roll* 36 *Hen. VIII* p. 3, m. 4 (P.R.O.) Proficia nostra quecumque vocata le Custumary Work Syluer in hemynghorde abbatis. [1795 LYONS *Environ's Lond.* II. 564 The Tenants services due formerly in this manor [Sudbury] seem to have been commuted for certain sums of money called work-silver.]

'**worksome, a. nonce-wd.** [f. WORK sb. or v. + -SOME.] Explained in Dicts. as = Industrious, diligent; but perh. modelled on G. *wirksam* efficacious, operative.

1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* III. vi. vi, Equality, Frugality, worksome Blessedness.

work station. Also 'workstation. [f. WORK sb. + STATION sb.] 1. A location at which one stage in the manufacture or assembly of a product is carried out before it is moved on for the next stage.

1950 T. M. LANDY *Production Planning & Control* vii. 161 The assigning of work stations by the planners is largely influenced by these considerations: costs, centralization of work within a section... and existing labor load. 1980 M. P. GROOVER *Automation, Production Systems & Computer-Aided Manufacturing* iv. 66 An automated flow line consists of several machines or workstations which are linked together by work handling devices that transfer parts between the stations.

2. A desk with a computer terminal and keyboard; the terminal itself.

1977 *Which Computer?* Sept. 25 Another cavil on the workstation is the absence of a 'home' key to return the cursor to the head of a new page. 1981 *Office* June 23/1 Wordcom 70 can be used as a shared facility system with up to eight work-stations using the cartridge disk. In this way a number of departments can have access to a single database. 1983 *What's New in Computing* Jan. 53 (Adv.), Featured above in teak: printer stand, linking quadrant and 3' by 2' workstation with monitor shelf. 1985 *Which Computer?* Apr. 122/3 It can then be viewed by users at any workstation attached to the system.

work-to-contract, work-to-rule: see WORK v. 27 d.

'**work-up.** [f. vbl. phr. to *work up*: see WORK v. 40.] 1. *Printing.* A piece of spacing material that works loose in the forme and prints a smudge, or the mark so printed. Also, an instance of this.

1948 R. R. KARCH *Graphic Arts Procedures* x. 270 The pressfeeder watches the sheets carefully so that if *work-ups* appear he will not spoil the run. A work-up is spacing material that has risen in the form so that it prints on the sheet. 1950 D. G. HYMES *Production in Advertising* vii. 279 Alert pressmen can... stop the press, and hammer down the workups after only a few sheets have been spoiled. 1967

KARCH & BUBER *Offset Processes* ii. 24 The letterpress printer may be plagued by 'work-up'.

2. *Med.* A diagnostic examination of a patient. orig. U.S.

1961 in WEBSTER. 1966 *Current Diagnosis* 206/2 (*heading*) Diagnostic work-up for patients with diastolic hypertension. 1972 *Sci. Amer.* Aug. 71/3 A mother who was told that her child would be 'admitted for a work-up' did not realise that he was to be hospitalized. 1977 *New Yorker* 12 Sept. 103/1 We gave him the usual workup, including neurological and ear-nose-and-throat evaluations. 1978 PARSONS & SOMMERS *Gynecol.* (ed. 2) xx. 313/2 A few cases where the borderline between virilism and hirsutism is hazy will benefit from an extensive work-up.

3. *Chem.* The experimental procedures followed to separate and purify substances for analysis or the products of a chemical reaction.

1967 *Chem. Abstr.* LXVII. 10187/2 (*heading*) Workup of chlorohydrin process waste products. 1971 *Canad. J. Chem.* XLIX. 2467/1 The resulting mixture was then heated to reflux for 1 h to complete the acetylation and gave after usual work-up a quantitative yield of [compound] 12. 1978 *J. Amer. Chem. Soc.* C. 3548 Water added during work-up serving as the proton source at C-1.

4. The process of bringing a ship into seaworthy condition.

1971 *Daily Colonist* (Victoria, B.C.) 27 May 35/4 Canadian forces ships work on a 20-month cycle basis containing four parts: refit, trials, workups, and operational. 1978 *Navy News* Oct. 2/6 After trials and work-up the Achilles will return to Chatham for Christmas.

workwise ('wɜ:kwaɪz), *adv.* [f. WORK sb. + -WISE.] As far as work is concerned.

1962 *Punch* 6 June 864/1 Workwise, your future is clear. 1979 *Yale Alumni Mag.* Apr. (Suppl.) c32/1 Although Carol has kept herself busy (workwise) she managed to spend Thanksgiving in Portugal. 1981 S. JACKMAN *Game of Soldiers* i. ii. 33 The unit ticks over well enough work-wise. ... Trouble is, there's not enough work.

workwoman ('wɜ:kwʊmən). [f. WORK sb., after *workman*.] A woman who works; a female worker or operative; †a woman who does needlework.

1530 PALSGR. 290/1 Workwoman, ouueriere. 1581 A. HALL *Iliad* vi. 119 That they good workwomen may bin. 1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witcher.* xiii. iv. 291 Wherein... nature sheweth hir selfe a proper workwoman. 1591 SPENSER *Muipotmos* 260 The most fine-fingred workwoman on ground. 1626 T. H. [AWKINS] *Causin's Holy Crt.* 5 Vertue is a merueylous worke-woman, who can make Mercury of any wood. 1675 HOBBS *Odyssey* (1677) 188 One of these merchants sooth'd her into sin: For good work-women may be made do that. 1755 JOHNSON, *Workwoman*... 2. A woman that works for hire. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 180/1 While the work-woman produces a kind of chain-work on the surface of the muslin. 1865 ESQUIROS *Cornwall* 74 The work-women of the mines. 1882 BESANT *All Sorts* xxxix. (1898) 263 To live here as a workwoman among other workwomen.

Hence 'workwomanlike a. or adv., -womanly a.

1641 C. VAN PAS *Les abus du Mariage* Pl. 4, I now am Mistris of my crafte, and can Worke-womanlike deale in it. 1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 Nov. 6/2 The silver spade, to which she put her foot in true workwomanly fashion.

worky ('wɜ:ki). U.S. [f. WORK sb. + -Y⁶.] A worker or operative. Also *attrib.*

1833 T. HAMILTON *Men & Manners Amer.* (1843) 171 The operative class [of New York] have already formed themselves into a society, under the name of 'The Workies'. *Ibid.* 175 The Worky convention. 1855 HT. MARTINEAU *Autobiog.* (1877) II. 305 The reasons why no gentry were admitted were... because there was no room for more than the 'workies'. 1894 *Sunday Reform Leaflet* (Columbus, Ohio) Sept. 5 Take away this rest-day, and you... turn us into a nation of mere 'workies'.

workyday, *obs. var.* WORKADAY.

†**worl**, *v.* *Obs.* prob. var. WHIRL *v.*

c1530 *Songs, Carols*, etc. (E.E.T.S.) 126 All þat euer myght it here, They myght not them self asstere, But worled on a hepe. c1600 CHALKHILL *Thealma* 1577 Why do you kneel?.. I know No worth in me to worl you down so low.

worlais, *obs. pl.* of WARLOCK.

a1300 *Hayl Mari* l 5 in *Minor Poems* fr. *Vernon MS.* 755 þe worlais, þai wil be her Fort take þair pray.

world (wɜ:ld), *sb.* Forms: a. 1 weorold, wuruld, worold, uoruld, wiarald, 1-3 weoruld, woruld, -eld, -old, 2 wuorold, 3 we(o)reld, wæruuld, *Orm.* we(o)reld. β. 1- world; 1-3 weorld, 4-6 worlde (2 world, 3 wurld, 5 whorlde); 2-3 werld, 3 *Orm.* werld, 3-5 werld(e); *north.* and *Sc.* 3- warld, 5-6 warlde, varld, (5 warlede). γ. 4-6 wordle, 5 wordel, wordil; *north.* and *Sc.* 5-7 wardle, 6 wardill, vardil, wardel, vardel; 3 werdle. δ. 3-6 word, 4-5 worde (6 woauode); 3-5 werd, 4-5 werde; 4 wurd; *north.* 4, 6 ward. ε. 3 worl, 3-5 worle, 5 worlle, orlle, 6 worell; 8 worl', *north.* and *Sc.* 5 warle, 8 warl', 9 warl. [Com. Teut. (wanting in Gothic): OE. *weorold*, *worold*, *world* str. f., rarely m., corresp. to OFris. *wrald*, *ruald*, *warld* (Efris. *warld*, Wfris. *wrôd*), OS. *werold* (MLG. *werlt*, *warlt*, LG. *werld*, MDu. *werelt*, Du. *wereld*), OHG. *weralt* (MHG. *werelt*, *werlt*, *welt*, G. *welt*), ON. *veröld* (Sw. *verld*, Da. *verden*): a formation peculiar to Germanic, f. *wer-* man, WERE sb.¹ + *ald-* age (cf. OLD a., ELD

sb.²), the etymological meaning being, therefore, 'age' or 'life of man'.]

1. Human existence; a period of this.

1. a. Chiefly *this world, the world*: the earthly state of human existence; this present life.

to (*unto*, OE. *oð*) *the world's end*: as long as human things shall last, to the end of time (with admixture of senses 7, 9). Similarly in phrases such as *as long as the* or *this world lasts*, and *in this world*.

832 *Charter* in Sweet *O.E. Texts* 447 Det he ðas god forðleste oð wiaralde ende. c897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past.* C. xviii. 137 [Hi] ne dooð him nan oðer god ðisse weorolde. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 57 We witon þæt ælc wite... to ende efstep & onettep þisse weorlde lifes. c1200 *Vices & Virtues* 17 'Andswere me'... he wile seggen, 'hwat hafst ðu swa lange idon on ðare world?' c1205 LAY. 5028 þa wifmon þa þe a ðas weorold ibær. c1250 *Kent. Serm.* in *O.E. Misc.* 33 þæt ha yef us swiche werkes to done in þise worde þæt þo saulen of us mote bien isauued a domes dai. c1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 32 Fader... ðu giue me seli timinge To thaunen ðis werdes biginninge. a1300 *Cursor M.* 91 Quat bote is to sette traueil On thyng... þæt es bot fantum o þis world? c1300 *Havelok* 2335 Is neuere yete ioie more In al þis werd, þan þo was þore. c1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* v. 1058 Allas of me vn-to þe worldis ende Schal noþer ben wretyn noþer I-songe No good word. c1400 26 *Pol. Poems* i. 123 They han here heuene in this world here. 1426 AUDELAY *Poems* 12 Ale the wyt of this world fallus to foly. c1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 43 Wa is me, wretche in this world, wilsome of wane! 1451 *Paston Lett.* I. 189 In this werd that now is. 1513 *Life Hen. V* (1911) 22 Yearelie to be distributed... twenty pounds in pence to the poore people duringe the Worlde. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* x. 36 He sall with vs rest, And we with him, sa lang as warld may lest. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* ii. ii. 108 Time himselfe is bald, and therefore to the worlds end, will haue bald followers. 1597 — 2 *Hen. IV.* v. iii. 102, I prethee now deliuer them, like a man of this World. 1670 T. BLOUNT *Acad. Eloq.* (ed. 4) 230 The Heir of a Knight in the right line shall be an Esquire to the worlds end. 1794 PALEY *Evid.* ii. ii. §8 A Christian's chief care being to pass quietly through this world to a better. 1797 JANE AUSTEN *Sense & Sensib.* xlv, 'As to that,' said he, 'I must rub through the world as well as I can.' 1856 DICKENS *Christmas Stories* (1874) 43 She was too good for this world and for me, and she died six weeks before our marriage-day.

b. With reference to birth or death; esp. to *bring into the world*, to give birth to (see BRING v. 7 c); to *come into* (or *to*) *the world*, to be born (see COME v. 4 c); *fig.* (of a book) to be published; to go or depart out of this world.

Beowulf 60 ðæm feower bearn forð Ʒerimed in worold wocun. a1000 *Genesis* 2284 þu scealt, Agar, Abrahame sunu on worold bringan. a1000 *Epist. Alex.* in Cockayne *Narrat.* (1861) 31 ðin modor Ʒewiteð of weorlde purh scondlicne deað. c1205 LAY. 17235 He sæt stille alse þeh he wolde of worliden iwiten. c1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2389 Ic sal to min sune fare... or ic of werlde chare. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5116 & þe nyentepe day of aueryl out of þis worl he wende. [1382], c1510- [see COME v. 4 c]. a1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 2653 (Dubl.) Qwen he went of þis world. c1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 3953 þaw y shulde now oust of þis worde gone. 1579 RANDOLPH *Let.* in Buchanan *Wks.* (S.T.S.) 56 The last little Treatise... that lately come into the World. c1588 *Cath. Tractates* (S.T.S.) 250 Not doutand bot angels and sanctis departed out of this wardle may and do pray for us. 1607 [see BRING v. 7 c]. 1784 BURNS *Addr. Illeg. Child* iv, My funny toil is now a tint, Sin' thou came to the warl askent. 1914 IAN HAY *Knt. on Wheels* xiii. §3 Having been born into the world with a club foot.

c. without article (with blending of sense 7):

†(a) *on, o, in world*, in this life, on earth.

c900 tr. *Beda's Hist.* iv. xliii. (1890) 332 Eal þæt heo for worlde [v.r. on weorlde] hæfde. c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 111 Vncleue wif poleð some on weorlde & uncene wif bið unwurð on liue. c1205 LAY. 22069 þe king for-bæd heom... þat na mon on worlde swa wud no iwurbe... þat his grið breke. *Ibid.* 23475 þæt nuste he neuere on weorlde hu feole þusend per weoren. c1220 *Bestiary* 120 An wirm is o werlde, wel man it knoweð. c1300 *Havelok* 1349 Hwore so he o worde aren. 13... *Gau.* & *Gr. Knt.* 871 Whepen in worlde he were, Hit semed as he myst Be pryncce. c1320 *Sir Tristr.* 1270 In world was non so wiis Of craft þæt men knewe. 1457 *HARDING Chron.* i. in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* (1912) Oct. 740 This book... Whiche no man hath in worlde bot onely ye. c1475 *Partenay* 3816 Pray for me All dais while lif in worle here haue ye.

†(b) in genitive = temporal, earthly, secular: freq. in *world's* (*worldes*) *riches, wealth, win* (WIN sb.² 2), and the like. *Obs.* (in later use *Sc.*)

Beowulf 2343 Ende gebidan worulde lifes. c1175, etc. [see WIN sb.² 2]. c1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 51 þe hie weres wuniende in ierusalem... and hadden þe fulle of worlde richesse. c1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 48 Hise wise sune, ðe was of hin fer ear bi-foren Or ani werldes time boren. a1300 *Cursor M.* 8314 Salamon... sal be a man o pes, And mikel haf o werldes es. *Ibid.* 12416 To sett iesu to world lar. 1390 *GOWER Conf.* I. 362 For coiteitise and worlde pride. ? a1400 *Morte Arth.* 674 Alle my werdez wele. c1400 *Love Bonauent. Mirr.* xxxiii. (1908) 159 Forsakynge all worlde besynesse. 1508 *DUNBAR Poems* vi. 34 A barell bung ay at my bosum, Of varldis gud I bad na mair. 1611 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Of Work of Syluester* 52 S.'s Wks. 816 For whose deare birth, thou didst all ease refuse, Worlds-weal, and (being a Marchant) thy Receipts. 1606 G. WOODCOCKE *Hist. Justine* 15 b, When he saw they would not sel their liberty for any worlde good. 1781 BURNS *My Nanie*, O vi, My riches a's my penny-fee... But warl's gear ne'er troubles me. 1786 — *To Mr. J. Kennedy* iv, Now if ye're ane o' warl's folk, Wha rate the weaver by the cloak. a1796 — *Now bank & brae* ii, The chield wha boasts o' warld's wealth. 1820 *Blackw. Mag.* May 165 Let warld's gear gang.

d. *the other, another, the next, a better world, the world to come* or *to be*: the future state, the life after death. Sometimes viewed as the 'realm' of departed spirits.

c1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xii. 32 Ne byð hyt hym forgyfen, ne on þisse worulde, ne on þære toweardan [1382 WYCLIF,

nether in this world, ne in the tother; **1526** TINDALE, nether in this worlde, nether in the worlde to come]. **c1200** ORMIN 4192 Ressted33. . . tacnepp all þatt resste & ro þ att hallshe sawless brukenn Inn operr werelld. **1548-9** Bk. Com. Prayer, Nicene Creed, The lyfe of the worlde to come. **1581** HAMILTON in *Cath. Tractates* (S.T.S.) 73 The horribill tormentis preparit for thame in the varld to cum. **1611** BEAUM. & FL. *Philaster* IV. iii, Will there be no slanders, No jealousies in the other world? **1715** I. MATHER *Several Serm.* title-p., When Godly Men dye, Angels carry their Souls to another and a better World. **1738** WESLEY Hymn, 'Attend while God's Eternal Son' v, Far from . . Sin, and Earth, and Hell, In the new World thy Grace hath made, May I for ever dwell! **1770** GOLDSM. *Des. Vill.* 170 He. . . Allured to brighter worlds, and led the way. **a1796** BURNS *Epit. on Friend* 7 If there's another world, he lives in bliss. **1809** MAGEE *Atonement* (1816) II. 107 The appellation, 'mighty dead', . . becomes applicable to all the inhabitants of the invisible world. **1816** SHELLEY *Mont Blanc* 49 Some say that gleams of a remoter world Visit the soul in sleep,—that death is slumber. **1846** TENNYSON *Golden Year* 56 'Tis like the second world to us that live. **1864** — *En. Ard.* 899 Who will embrace me in the world-to-be.

e. gen. A state of (present or future) existence. **c1300** *Beket* 77 Heo . . . geode aboute as a best. . . As heo were of another worlde. **1602** SHAKS. *Ham.* IV. v. 134 Both the worlds I giue to negligenee, Let come what comes. **1807** WORDSW. *Ode Intim. Immortality* 149 Blank misgivings of a Creature Moving about in worlds not realised. **1859** FITZGERALD *Omar* xxv, All the Saints and Sages who discuss'd Of the Two Worlds so learnedly.

2. The pursuits and interests of this present life; *esp.*, in religious use, the least worthy of these; temporal or mundane affairs. † *world's* = worldly.

a1000 Guthlac 399 [370] Ne won he æfter worulde ac he in wuldre ahof modes wyne. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 10103 Thrin fas. . . þis world, my fleche, þe warlau als. **1340** Ayenb. 92 þe more þet [me] lykep þe zuetnesse of þe wordle, þe lesse me wylnep þe zuetnesse of god. **c1410** *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) Prol. lf. 4, þe deuel, þe worlde, ande the flessch. **c1425** *Cast. Persev.* 192 in *Macro Plays* 83 Who-so spekyth a-3eyn þe werd, In a presun he schal be sperd. *Ibid.* 1009, 107 þe Werld, þe Flesch, & þe Deuyl, are knowe grete lordis. **1540** PALSGR. *Acolastus* I. iii. Fiv, Bycause he is so sore sette, or to gredy vpon the world, or his thrift. **1564** J. MARTIAL *Treat. Crosse* 17 Christ hath subdued sinne, conquered the worlde, discomfited the deuil. **1579** SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* May 73 Ah Palinodie, thou art a worldes childe: Who touches Pitch mought needes be defilde. **1675** OWEN *Indwelling Sin* ii. (1732) 17 Whence is it, that Men follow and pursue the World with so much greediness? **1780** COWPER *Love of the World Reproved* 25 Renounce the world — the preacher cries. **1784** — *Task* II. 389 Infidelity and love of world. **1807** WORDSW. *Misc. Sonn.* I. xxxiii. 1 The world is too much with us. **1843** J. MARTINEAU *Chr. Life* xvii. 255 The world. . . i.e. the opportunities of action with a view to temporal good. **1882** SEELEY *Nat. Relig.* II. i. 130 The World is the collective character of those who do not worship.

3. a. The affairs and conditions of life; chiefly in phr., esp. with the verb *go* (e.g. *how the world goes*, how events shape themselves; *how goes the world with* (a person), how are his affairs; *as the (or this) world goes*, as things are, considering the state of affairs); also † *to let the world slide*, to allow things to take their course, to leave matters alone; *to let the world wag* (see WAG v. 7 c).

Beowulf 1739 Ac him eal worold wendeð on willan. **c888** ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxvi. §1 ðeþenc þu nu. . . Boetius. . . hwæðer þin worold þa eall wære æfter þinum willan. **a1000** *Cædmon's Gen.* 318 Hyra woruld wæs gehwyrfed. **1362** LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* Prol. 19 A Feir feld ful of folk fond I þer bi-twene. . . Worching and wondring as þe world askep. **13** . . *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 530 & wynter wyndez agayn, as þe worlde askez. ? **c1460-5** MS. *Trin. Coll. Dubl.* D. 4, 18 in *Archæologia* XXIX. 341 Trust not . . . youre foos, For þei be double in wirking, as þe worlde gos. **1478** *Paston Lett.* III. 232 William Paston. . . paid to the parson. . . xxiiijl. . . It is yerly worth, as the world goth now, xli. **1481** *Cely Papers* (Camden) 81 Howr father. . . thynkes the whorlde qwhessy . . . and therfor he whowlde that ze gepart not yowrselfe to hofton to Bregys. **a1529-** [see WAG v. 7 c]. **1540** PALSGR. *Acolastus* IV. iv. Tiiij, What is the matter, or howe gothe the worlde with hym? **1564** BULLEIN *Dial. agst. Pest.* (1888) 26 Now let vs go. . . and see how the worlde goeth with Master Antonius. **1570** FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 1848/1 What a Gospeller [he]. . . was in King Edwardes tyme, which now turning with the world, sheweth him self such a bytter Persecuter. . . in Queene Maries time. **1596**, **1611** [see SLIDE v. 5 b]. **1602** SHAKS. *Ham.* II. ii. 178 To be honest as this world goes, is to bee one man pick'd out of two thousand. *Ibid.* III. ii. 285 Some must watch, while some must sleepe; So runnes the world away. **a1677** BARROW *Serm.* Wks. 1686 III. 74 However the world goes, we may yet make a tolerable shift. **1713** POPE *Let. to Addison* Wks. 1737 VI. 32 And give me leave to tell you, that (as the world goes) this is no small assurance I repose in you. **1855** DICKENS etc. *Househ. Words* Christmas No. 23/1 How's the world used you since this morning? **1862** H. KINGSLEY *Ravenshoe* xviii, The world is out of joint. **1886** BARING-GOULD *Crt. Royal* iv, What was the world coming to, when the police poked their noses into his shop?

† **b.** State of human affairs, state of things; hence, season or time as marked by the state of affairs. *Obs.*

1456 *Paston Lett.* I. 402 And as for the iiij^{xx} li. to be sette on Oliver's tale, I can not see it wole be, for there is noo suche worlde to bringe it abowte. **1479** *Cely Papers* (Camden) 19 Here ys but strange warlede. . . the sekenese raynyd sore at London. **1484** *Ibid.* 152 What world we schall hawe w' Flaunders I can nott say, I feyr me they wyll breke w' us. ? **1503** in *Lett. Rich. III & Hen. VII* (Rolls) I. 232 Good yt is that we see to our owne surtie. . . wat world so euer shall hapen to fall here after. **1513** MORE *Rich. III* Wks. 70 If the worlde would hawe gone as I would hawe wished, king Henryes sonne had had the crown. *Ibid.*, What neede in

that grene world y^e protector had of y^e duke. **c1523** — in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. I. 295 They do but seke delays till they may se how the world is. **1530** PALSGR. 559/2 Let the place be well fumygate. . . it is a dangerous worlde [Fr. *temps*] nowe a dayes. **a1548** HALL *Chron.*, *Edw. IV.* 195 b, Til he might spy a tyme conuenient, & a world after hys awn appetite. **c1555** HARPSFIELD *Divorce Hen. VIII* (Camden) 178 Others which foretold this dolorous doleful wretched world that followed upon this divorce. **1596** SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV.* II. iii. 94 This is no world To play with Mammets. **1614** CHAPMAN *Odyssey* XI. 602 But take close shore disguise, nor let her know, For tis no world to trust a woman now.

† **c.** (One's) condition in life, (good) fortune. *Obs.*

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 16 Bot every clerk his herte leith To kepe his world in special. *Ibid.* 84, I not in what degree Thou schalt thy goode world achieve. *Ibid.* III. 170 Whan that he weneth best achieve His goode world.

4. a. Secular (or lay) life and interests, as distinguished from religious (or clerical); also (by association with III, as in b and d below), secular (or lay) people. *of the world*, † *world's*: secular; see also MAN OF THE WORLD a.

a1030 *Rule St. Benet* (Logeman) 109 Oððe æfter gode oððe æfter wurulde he sy. **c1200** [see MAN OF THE WORLD a]. **a1225** *Aner. R.* 24 Hwon þe preostes of ðe worlde singeð hore messen. **c1290** *Beket* 244 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 113 þo þis holi Man was i-torned fram þe office of holi church to a gret office of þe world. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 27172 Werlde man, or clerik, or closterer. **1340** *Ayenb.* 49 þe enlefte [sin of adultery] is of man of þe wordle to wyfman of religioun. **c1400** *Rule St. Benet* (prose) 37 Bot bettir chepe sal ye selle þan þe men of þe werld dose. **1526** *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 1 That is to say, some chose to go by the worlde and some by religion. **1533** GAU *Richt Vay* (S.T.S.) 25 The oder varkis qwhilk ar techit in al the buikis of the wardel. **1610** HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 521 Hee taking a loathing to the world. . . retired into that hospitall. . . where with poore people hee lived to God. **1671** RAVENSCROFT *Mamamouchi* II. i. (1675) 24 I'll threaten to flee beyond Sea to a Nunnery, and for ever seclude my self from the World. **a1700** in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* IX. 337 In the 20th of her age, forsaking y^e world she desired nothing more, then to dedicate herselfe to God, in a Religious estate. **1717** POPE *Eloisa* 208 How happy is the blameless Vestal's lot! The world forgetting, by the world forgot. **1808** SCOTT *Marmion* II. iii, The Abbess. . . early took the veil and hood, Ere upon life she cast a look, Or knew the world that she forsook. **1845** M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 12 A book which is not only esteemed in the Church, but has had the honour. . . of commanding the respect of the world. **1888** 'BERNARD' *Fr. World to Cloister* II. 12 Having resigned the situation I held in the world.

b. In the Society of Friends applied to those outside their own body.

1648 G. Fox *Jrnl.* (1852) I. 70 The Lord commanded me to go abroad into the world. **c1680** in *Sussex Archaeol. Coll.* (1912) LV. 81 The Other Months Named after ye Manner of ye world. **1698-9** STORY & GILL in S. B. Weeks *Southern Quakers* (1896) 67 The displeasure of God. . . against mixed marriages between them [sc. Quakers] and the world. **a1713** THOMAS ELLWOOD *Hist. Life* (1714) 340 Thomas Dell and Edward Moor [were discharged] by other People of the World, paying their Fines and Fees for them. **1837** HT. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* II. 57 They are receiving a perpetual accession to their numbers from among the 'world's people'. **1867** DIXON *New Amer.* II. x. 93 Some of these [Quaker] ladies. . . have husbands (as the world would call them).

c. † *to go to the world, to be* (a man, woman) *of the world*: to be married.

1565 CALFILL *Ans. Martiell* 109 b, Ye say when a man wyl marry, then be goeth to the world. **1579** TOMSON *Calvin's Serm. Tim.* 23c/2 This man is of the worlde, that is to say, he is married: This man is of the Church, that is to say, Spirituall. **1599** SHAKS. *Much Ado* II. i. 331 Good Lord for alliance: thus goes euery one to the world but I. **1600** — *A.Y.L.* v. iii. 5, I do desire it [marriage] with all my heart: and I hope it is no dishonest desire, to desire to be a woman of y^e world? **1601** — *All's Well* I. iii. 20 But if I may haue your Ladships good will to go to the world, Isbell the woman and we will doe as we may.

d. In biblical and religious use: Those who are concerned only with the interests and pleasures of this life or with temporal or mundane things; the worldly and irreligious.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* I. 37 Leef not þi licam, for lyzere him techep, þat is þe Wikkede word þe to bi-traye. **1382** WYCLIF *John* xv. 19 But I chees 3ou fro the world, therfore the world hatith 3ou. **1540-7** COVERDALE *Fruitf. Less.* (1593) E 1 b, The world, that is to say, fleshy men and children of the world, receiue not this spirite. **1738** WESLEY Ps. IV. vi, The World with fruitless Pain Seek Happiness below.

† **5. a.** An age or (long) period of time in earthly or human existence or history; *pl.* ages. *Obs.*

Phrases. † *by long worlds*: ages ago. *in or to worlds long*: for ages. *worlds of years*: ages, centuries. *the world(s) to come*: future ages, posterity.

c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 81 þis bitacneð þe world þet wes from biginnegge [etc.]. . . In þisse worlde nas na laze ne na larpeu. **c1205** LAY. 23425 A þere ilke worlde [c1275 worlde] þa þis wes iwurden wes Francene lond Gualle ihaten. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 1491 þe formast werld adam be-gan, þar-of lameth þe last man. *Ibid.* 15128 Sulic a man was neuer yeitt Sin ani werldes ware. **1390** GOWER *Conf.* III. 176 These olde worldes with the newe Who that wol take in euidence, Ther mai he se [etc.]. **c1400** tr. *Secr. Secr., Gov. Lordsh.* 113 þe olde philosophers vsyd it by longe werldes. **c1440** *Pallad. on Husb.* xi. 162 Who wol do puruyauce in this worlde longe, The palmes forto sette he must ha mynde. *Ibid.* 482 Tyl worldis longe This drynkis wole abide and ay be stronge. **1450-1530** Myrr. *Our Ladye* II. 115 All thys worlde ys departed in to thre tymes. The fyrst tyme was when men lyued after the lawe of nature [etc.]. **1549** RIDLEY in Potts *Liber Cantabr.* (1855) 245 note, A dangerous example to the worlde to cum. **1567** Gude & Godlie B. (S.T.S.) 44 He that all worldis was beforne, Come downe of Marie to be borne. **1574** HELLOWES *Gueuara's Fam. Ep.* (1577) 18 For that in the worldes to come, it might be known who was the author

therof. **1587** GOLDING *De Mornay* vii. (1592) 87 The Heauen goeth about continually, and in so many worlds and ages as hawe beene, we perceiue no alteration at all. **1593** BILSON *Perpet. Govt. Ch.* 5 This was the blessing due to the elder Brother in the first world. **1596** HARRINGTON *Metam. Ajax* D 7, Tarquinius. . . prouident in peace, & in that young world, a notable politician. **a1600** HOOKER *Serm., Habak.* ii. 4 Wks. 1874 III. 640 Adam and all the fathers before Christ, till Christ's coming, were for so many worlds together detained. **1603** KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 2 Forgetfull of all other things in their ancient country, after so many worlds of yeeres. **1606** SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* III. ii. 180 True swaines in loue, shall in the world to come Approue their truths by Troylus. **1674** N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 202 [200] From all which 'tis as clear, that we meant in the dayes of yore by the word World, time, ages [etc.].

b. A period or age of human history characterized by certain conditions or indicated by the character of those living in it. *Obs.* exc. as coloured by 16 a.

1530-1600 Golden world [see GOLDEN a. 7]. **1630** R. JOHNSON's *Kingd. & Commw.* 160 It was used in that good old world, when men wiped their nose on their sleeve (as the French man sayes). **1781** BLAIR in *Sc. Transl. & Paraphr.* (1793) 12 All old things now are past away, and a new world begun. **1849** MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 401 These were men whose minds had been trained in a world which had passed away. **1886** E. B. BAX *Relig. Socialism* 166 In Shakespeare's 'historical plays' the characters live and speak in the world of the sixteenth century.

6. In various phrases translating eccl. Latin in *secula seculorum*, in *seculum seculi* = for ever and ever, for all time, through eternity. † **a.** *from world into world(s), in world of world(s), in to (the) world(s) of world(s), through all worlds, world always.*

c888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxi, þa nu sculon standan to worulde. **c1110** *Ælfred's Boeth.* Epil., Si þe lof & wylder nu & a a to worulde buton æghwicum ende. **c1175** *Lamb. Hom.* 25 þe lauere. . . wuniende and rixlende on worulde a buten ende. **c1230** *Hali Meid.* (1922) 39 Ah schal ifinden him ai swettere & sauurre, fram worlde in-to worlde. **a1300** *E.E. Psalter* lx. 9 Swa salme saie sal I þe same In werld of werld vnto þi name. **1382** WYCLIF *Isa.* xxxiv. 10 Desolat shal [his land] be in to worldis of worldis. **a1400** *Prymer* (1891) 34 As hit was in the bygynnynge and now and euere: in the worldes of worldes amen. **c1400** *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 331 Sche sal. . . loue god euer of al his lone And wirchip him werld alwais. **c1420** *Prymer* (1895) 16 Glorie be to pee, lord. . . in euerlastynge worldis. *Ibid.* 74 He ordeynede þo þingis into þe world, & in to þe world of world [L. in aeternum, et in saeculum saeculi]. **1434** MISYNN *Mending of Life* 131 To qwhome be wyrschip & ioy. . . in world of worldys. Amen. **1551** RECORDE *Cast. Knowl.* (1556) 1. 4 Thorough worlde of worldes: whiche signifieth for euer. **1584** R. SCOT *Discov. Witchcr.* xv. xii. 411 Eternall God, which liuest and reignest euer one God through all worlds, Amen. [1842] TENNYSON *Gard. Dau.* 205, I heard his deep 'I will,' Breathed, like the covenant of a God, to hold From thence thro' all the worlds.]

b. *world without* (ME. *abuten* or *buten*) *end*; later used hyperbolically: Endlessly, eternally. Hence as *adj. phr.* = perpetual, everlasting, eternal; and as *subst. phr.* eternal existence, endlessness, eternity.

a1225 *Aner. R.* 182 þeo þet hefden ofearned þe pinen of helle worla a buten ende. **c1305** *St. Swithun* 109 in *E.E.P.* (1863) 46 þat vuel. . . ne schal no leng ileste, Ac þu worst þerof hol and sound, wordle wipouten ende. **c1460** *Towneley Myst.* II. 465, I must nedis weynd, And to the dwll be thrall warld withoutten end. **1483** CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 94/1 Many benefetes ben gyuen to thonour of our lord Jhu crist whiehe is blessed world wythouten ende. Amen. **1548-9** Bk. Com. Prayer, *Mattins*, As it was in the beginning, is now, and euer shalbe, world without ende. **1588** SHAKS. *L.L.L.* v. ii. 799 A time me thinkes too short, To make a world-without-end bargain in. **1649** MILTON *Eikon.* xxi. Wks. 1851 III. 484 This man. . . thinks by talking world without end, to make good his integrity. **1753** in *Life Ld. Hardwicke* (1847) II. 499 L^d Chesterfield writes Worlds without End. **1881** MORRIS *Mackail's W.M.* (1899) II. 34 This world-without-end-for-everlasting hole of a London. **1888** *Advance* (Chicago) 20 Dec. 831 A city pastor, with a world-without-end of things to be done. **1896** HOUSMAN *Shroph. Lad* xiv, My heart and soul and senses, World without end, are drowned. **1905** F. YOUNG *Sands of Pleasure* I. v, Small wonder if the embodiment of the world-without-end should prove no encourager of man's happiness!

II. The earth or a region of it; the universe or a part of it.

7. a. The earth and all created things upon it; the terraqueous globe and its inhabitants. (See also 21 a, 22 a.)

citizen of the world: see CITIZEN 2 c. *universal world*: see UNIVERSAL a. 8. *wide world*: see WIDE a. 1 b.

c888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxiii. §5 þeah þu þa calle gesceafta ane naman genemmede, elle þu nemdest togedere & hete woruld. **c893** — *Oros.* I. vi. §1 On þæs Ambiciondes tide wurdon swa mycele waterflood geond ealle worle. **a900** CYNEWULF *Crist* 659 Se þas world gescop, godes gæst-sunu. **c1175** *Lamb. Hom.* 19 We habbeð ihereden þurh wise witega hu he erest astalde þeos worlde al for ure neode. **c1200** ORMIN 15460 Godd shop all þe werld off noht. **c1205** LAY. 7206 He [Julius Cæsar] pohte to bi-winnen. . . al middel-eærdes lond and halde þat worlde in his hond. **c1250** *Gen. & Ex.* 901 Wiste no man of werlde ðo, Quat kinde he was kumen fro. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 346 Bot he þat mad al þing o noht To-geder he al þis worlde wrought. **c1330** R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 222 Noe sonces. . . departed al þys werd. . . in þre parties. **1393** LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* I. 4 Ich wente forth in þe worlde wonders to hure. **a1400-50** *Wars Alex.* 1502 He mon ride þus & regne ouire all þe ronde werde. **c1400** *Maunde.* (1839) 180 Men myghte go be Schippe alle aboute the World, and aboven and benethen. **14..** *Childh. Jesus* 111 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 113 Jhesu, pat alle þys orlle hath wrowt. **1539** *Bible* (Great) Psalms lxxxix. 12 Thou hast layed the foundation of the

rounde worlde, and all that therein is. 1555 EDEN *Decades* 214 b. The voyage made by the Spanyardes rounde abowte the worlde. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Barlas* II. ii. 1. *Ark* 60 The World's-re-colonizing Boat [viz. Noah's ark]. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* III. ii. 168 And thirtie dozen Moones... About the World haue times twelue thirties beene. 1653 H. COGAN tr. *Pinto's Trav.* viii. 25 The Bisquayn Ship... wherein Magellan compassed the World. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* XII. 646 The World was all before them, where to choose Thir place of rest, and Providence thir guide. 1784 COWPER *Task* I. 372 Its own revolvency upholds the world. 1877 *Encycl. Brit.* VII. 390/1 (*Drake*) This voyage round the world, the first accomplished by an Englishman, was thus performed in two years and about ten months.

b. transf. and fig.

1556 in T. Sharp *Cov. Myst.* (1825) 73 Paid to Crowe for making of iij worldys... 1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 408 Her breasts like luory globes circled with blew, A paire of maiden worlds vnconquered. 1597 — *Lover's Compl.* 7, I... Ere long espied a fickle maid full pale... Storming her world with sorrows, wind and raine. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Hor. Epist.* I. xix. 29 Through open Worlds of Rhime I dar'd to tread In Paths unknown. 1873 BROWNING *Red Cott. Nt.-cap* 706 See, the sun splits on yonder bauble world Of silvered glass.

c. In phr. with *go round*, orig. referring to the rotation of the earth, but used chiefly fig. with implication of other senses (e.g. 1 a, 3).

1782 BURNS *A Toast* 4 Their fame it shall last while the world goes round. 1788 HURDIS *Village Curate* (1797) 21 'Tis drink, And only drink, that makes the world go round. 1882 W. S. GILBERT *Iolanthe* II, It's Love that makes the world go round!

d. *the world's end*: the farthest limit of the earth. Chiefly used hyperbolically.

Used as the proper name of out-of-the-way localities or houses, esp. formerly, of certain inns kept for illicit purposes (cf. quot. 1695).

1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* II. i. 272 Will your Grace command mee any service to the worlds end? I will goe on the slightest errand now to the Antypodes. 1628 tr. *Matthieu's Powerfull Favorite* 13 Is it for this (say they) that they haue sent him to the worlds end. 1695 CONGREVE *Love for L.* II. ix, Poor innocent! you don't know that there's a place call'd the World's End? 1727 BOYER *Dict. Royal* II. s.v. *World*, He lives at the World's end (or a great way off). 1863 W. C. BALDWIN *Afr. Hunting* vi. 216 We saw... the fresh footprints of a Kaffir, and resolved to follow that to the world's end.

attrib. 1839 BAILEY *Festus* 90 Now we stand On the world's-end-land!

e. In generalized sense, usually qualified by a.

1676 DRYDEN *Aurengz.* III. 33 Too truly Tamerlain's Successors they, Each thinks a World too little for his sway. 1713 DERHAM *Phys.-Theol.* II. i. (1720) 39 This [spherical figure] must be allowed to be the most commodious, apt Figure for a World on many Accounts. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) VIII. 190 They have great force upon me... or one world would not have held Mr. Lovelace and me thus long. 1784 COWPER *Task* IV. 89 'Tis pleasant through the loop-holes of retreat To peep at such a world. 1865 SWINBURNE *Chastelard* v. ii. 189 Life is not worth a world That you should weep to take it.

f. *pl.* Used hyperbolically for: 'a great quantity'; often advb. 'a great deal', 'infinitely' (cf. 19 b). (a) *pl. not (...)* for worlds: not for all the wealth in the world, not on any account.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (1912) 517 Like two contrarie tides, either of which are able to carry worldes of shippes, and men upon them. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* II. i. 223 Nor doth this wood lacke worldes of company. 1621 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Unnat. Father* Wks. 1630 i. 142 Through worldes of Deaths I'll breake to fly to him. [1831 JAMES PHILIP *Aug.* xix, I would not part with this for worldes of ore.] *Ibid.* xxiv, Nor would he do one act for worldes, that could... cast a shade over the fame and honour of one —. 1872 LOCKER *Lond. Lyrics* (ed. 5) 178 I'd give worldes to borrow Her yellow rose with russet leaves. 1874 W. S. GILBERT *Sweethearts* II, I'm sure I wouldn't stand in his way for worldes. 1891 FARRAR *Darkn. & Dawn* x, She seemed to be separated by whole worldes of difference from such ladies as his own mother. 1892 'G. TRAVERS' *Mona Maclean* vi, I was worldes too shy. 1900 H. S. HOLLAND *Old & New* 33 They look to you worldes apart.

(b) sing., in negative context, e.g. *not for the world, all the world, half the world*.

1588 SHAKS. *L.L.L.* II. i. 99 *Prin.* He'll be forsworne. *Nau.* Not for the world faire Madam, by my will. 1604 — *Oth.* IV. iii. 68 Would'st thou do such a deed for al the world? 1605 ERONDELLE *Fr. Gard.* N 6 b, I would not faile in it for any thing in the world. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 32 Not for all the world, purposing any hurt vnto him. 1664 in *Trans. Cumbld. & Westmld. Antiq. Soc.* (N.S.) 178 A thing I would not have been guilty of for halfe the world. 1665 BOYLE *Occas. Refl.* IV. i. 6 He would not for all the World return again. 1731-8 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* 43, I wou'dn't be as sick as she's proud, for all the World. 1784 COWPER *Task* III. 807 He... Can dig, beg, rot... but could not for a world Fish up his dirty and dependent bread, [etc.]. 1797 JANE AUSTEN *Sense & Sensib.* xxviii, But I am sure I would not do such a thing for all the world. 1822 SCOTT *Nigel* viii, Not for the world... will I be a spy on my kind godfather's secrets. 1847 BUCKSTONE *Flowers of Forest* III. vii, No, no — not for the wide wide world. 1881 MISS BRADDON *Asphodel* I. iii. 62 Daphne, usually loquacious, felt as if she could not have spoken for the world.

g. *broke to the world*: see BROKE *ppl.* a. 3; (*it's a small world*: see SMALL a. 3 b; (*on*) *top of the world*: see TOP *sb.* 1 16.

8. a. With qualification: Any part of the universe considered as an entity, as † MIDDLE WORLD (the earth), *lower* or *nether world* (Hades or hell, less freq. the earth), UNDERWORLD 1.

c 1200, c 1250, 1822 [see MIDDLE WORLD]. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* I. i. 44 This beneath world. 1609- [see UNDERWORLD

1]. 1720 [see NETHER a. 6]. 1784 COWPER *Task* VI. 729 The groans of nature in this nether world, which Heav'n has heard for ages. 1786 BURNS *Nature's Law* II, This lower world I you resign. 179- — *To Mr. Renton*, Though 'twere a trip to yon blue warl' [i.e. hell]. 1814 CARY *Dante, Parad.* XVII. 22, I... With Virgil... visited the nether world of woe.

b. A planet or other heavenly body, esp. one viewed as inhabited.

1713 ADDISON *Cato* v. i, But thou shalt flourish... Unhurt amidst... The Wrecks of Matter, and the Crush of Worlds. 1732 POPE *Ess. Man* I. 254 Being on Being wreck'd, and world on world. 1781 COWPER *Retirem.* 81 The sun, a world whence other worlds drink light. 1870 R. A. PROCTOR (title) *Other Worlds than Ours.* 1872 BLACK *Adv. Phaeton* xxxi. 419 Overhead the great worlds became more visible in the deep vault of blue.

9. The material universe as an ordered system; the system of created things; 'heaven and earth'; the cosmos. Also (rarely) a system of heavenly bodies. Also fig. † In early use chiefly in the *greater* or *more world*, the macrocosm, and the *less* or *little world*, the microcosm, man. Now rare.

c 1200 ORMIN 17597 Mycrocosmos, patt nemmedd iss After Ennglishe spæche þe little werelld. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 552 For þis resun þat 3ee haue hard, Man es clepid þe lesse werld. 1340-70 *Alex. & Dind.* 645 3e likenen a lud to a litil wordle. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 71 A soubtil man... Which thurgh magique and sorcerie Couthe al the world of tricherie. 1450-1530 *Myrr.* our *Ladye* II. 181 No meruayle thoughte god had more delyte in the thow lesse worlde that were yet to be made, then of thys more worlde. 1481 CAXTON *Myrr.* I. xvi. 50 This clerenesse... enuyronneth al aboute the worlde the foure elementis whiche god created. 1519 *Interl. Four Elem.* A vj b, The yerth as a poynt or center is sytuat In the myddes of the worlde. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 1 Lyke as the great worlde was made perfecte in vij dayes, so y^e lesse worlde, that is man, is made... perfecte by grace in these vij spiritual dayes. 1551 RECORDE *Cast. Knowl.* I. (1556) 4 The worlde is an apte frame of heauen and earth, and all other natural things contained in them. 1605 SHAKS. *Lea* III. i. 10 (Qo. 1) In his little world of man. 1633 HERBERT *Temple, Man* viii, Man is one world, and hath Another to attend him. c 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* II. I. (1890) 444 Surely the Astronomers had reason to term this Sphere... a thing of no dimension at all, being compar'd to the whole World. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* II. xxiv. § 1 The great collective Idea of all Bodies whatsoever signified by the name World. 1709 SHAFESB. *Moralists* III. i. 182 Thy Works apparent to us, the System of the bigger World! 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* s.v. *University*, The four Faculties are supposed to save the World or Universe of Study. 1755 B. MARTIN *Mag. Arts & Sci.* 8 The Philosophers of the present Age teach us, that the Universe... is replenished with Systems or Worlds of different Bodies. 1882 T. FOWLER *Shaftesbury & Hutcheson* 106 We may infer that Shaftesbury conceived the relation of God to the World as that of soul to the body. Nature is... the vesture of God, and God the soul of the Universe.

10. The sphere within which one's interests are bound up or one's activities find scope; (one's) sphere of action or thought; the 'realm' within which one moves or lives.

In the earliest instances with allusion to the microcosm of man (see 9).

a 1586 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetry* (Arb.) 31 How it [sc. virtue] extendeth it selfe out of the limits of a mans own little world, to the gouernment of families. a 1642 SUCKLING *Poems* (1648) 11 In each mans heart that doth begin To love, there's euer fram'd within A little world. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* III. II. xv, She dwells in her own self, there doth reside, Is her own world, and more or lesse doth pen Her self. 1807 WORDSW. *Personal Talk* 23 Children are blest and powerful; their world lies More justly balanced; partly at their feet, And part far from them. 1837 DISRAELI *Venetia* II. ii, With no aspirations beyond the little world in which she moved. 1837 HT. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 28 The atmosphere of insolence in which he dwells;... the taint of contempt which infects all the intercourse of his world. 1853 T. T. LYNCH *Self-Improvem.* iii. 53 A man's world is not of the senses simply, but of the spirit too. 1898 'H. S. MERRIMAN' *Roden's Corner* xvi. 168 [His] world was a narrow one, consisting as it did of himself and his bank-book.

11. A section or part of the earth at large, as a place of inhabitation or settlement; † a country or region.

New World, a continent or country discovered or colonized at a comparatively late period, esp. the continents of America (the Western Hemisphere) as distinguished from the *Old World*, or the continents of the Eastern Hemisphere, esp. Europe and Asia, as being known before the discovery of America.

1555 EDEN *Decades* title-p., The Decades of the Newe Worlde or West India. 1581 PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* Ep. Ded. A iij b, Some of them... seeke new Countries and new worldes to shew their valiancie in. 1589 HAKLUYT *Princ. Navig.* (title-p.), The English valiant attempts in searching almost all the corners of the vaste and new world of America. a 1593 MARLOWE & NASHE *Dido* I. i, Of Troy am I... driuen by warre from forth my natue world. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II.* II. i. 45 This little world, This precious stone, set in the siluer sea. 1600 HAKLUYT *Voy.* III. title-p., Voyages... to all parts of the Newfound world of America, or the West Indies. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* VI. I. I. 115 From the one side to the other [of the Bosphorus]... men out of these two worldes may parly one to another with audible voice. 1627 MAY *Lucan* III. E 2 b, Tanais... doth diuide Europe from Asia, giuing to each side The name of seuerall worldes. 1638 BROME *Antipodes* I. vi, No Isle nor Angle in that Neather world, But I haue made discovery of. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India* & P. 133 This World produces two Harvests. 1709 POPE *Ess. Crit.* 711 Thence Arts o'er all the northern world advance. 1741 WATTS *Improv. Mind* I. (1801) 16 Alexander the Great... when he had conquered what was called the Eastern World... wept for want of more worlds to conquer. 1812 ROGERS *Voy. Columbus* II. 39 From world to world their steady course they keep. 1842 TENNYSON *Ulysses* 57 Come,

my friends, 'Tis not too late to seek a newer world. 1859 CORNWALLIS (title) *A Panorama of the New World* [Australia]. 1861 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 46 Before the New World poured in so many objects hitherto unknown to Europe. 1888 BRYCE *Amer. Commu.* I. 29 note, The influence which American freedom would exert upon the Old World.

12. A division of created things; esp. each of three primary divisions of natural objects (the animal, vegetable, and mineral kingdoms).

organic world, the animal and vegetable kingdoms; *inorganic world*, the material world outside these.

1695 WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Earth* I. (1723) 3 Nor... did I neglect... whatever either the Vegetable or Animal World afforded. 1727-46 THOMSON *Summer* 112 The vegetable world is also thine, Parent of Seasons! 1861 BUCKLE *Civiliz.* (1873) II. viii. 530 In the inorganic world, the magnificent discoveries of Newton were contumeliously rejected. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 70 As in the animal or vegetable world.

13. a. A group or system of things or beings associated by common characteristics (denoted by a qualifying word or phrase), or considered as constituting a unity.

1673 T. BLOUNT (title) *A World of Errors* discovered in the New World of Words. 1685 G. SINCLAIR (title) *Satans Invisible World* discovered. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* IV. iii. § 27 (1695) 319 The whole intellectual World; a greater certainly, and more beautiful World, than the material. 1701 NORRIS *Ideal World* I. vi. 389 Truth is where the Divine Ideas are... in the Intelligible World, that world of true light and glory. 1704 *Ibid.* II. iii. 253 Intellectual world means the world of spirits, whereas by intelligible world we mean the world of Ideas. 1781 COWPER *Retirem.* 536 Then, all the world of waters sleeps again. 1807 WORDSW. *Personal Talk* 33 Dreams, books, are each a world. 1821 LAMB *Elia* I. *Witches*, Dear little T. H... finds all this world of fear [i.e. night fears]... in his own 'thick-coming fancies'. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* xvi, We carried in the steerage nearly a hundred passengers: a little world of poverty. 1851 [see VISIBLE a. 1]. a 1862 BUCKLE *Misc. Wks.* (1872) I. 213 The external world is governed by acts, the internal world by opinions. 1874 MIVART *Contemp. Evol.* (1876) 199 The mingling of the hyperphysical world of rationality with the irrational creation. 1893 W. S. FURNEAU (title) *The Outdoor World*; or, Young Collector's Handbook.

† b. *world of words*: a dictionary. *Obs.*

1598 FLORIO (title) *A Worlde of Wordes*, Or Most copious, and exact Dictionarie in Italian and English. 1611 COTGR., *Vocabulaire*, a Vocabulaire, Dictionarie, world of words. 1696 PHILLIPS (title) *The Moderne World* of Words, or A Uniuersall English Dictionary... *Novus Orbis Verborum*.

III. The inhabitants of the earth, or a section of them.

14. a. The human race; the whole of mankind; human society. (See also 21 b, 22 b.)

Sometimes passing into 15. a 900 CYNEWULF *Crist* 1424 Hwæt! ic þæt for worulde gepolade. c 1200 ORMIN 17496 Swa lufede þe Lafferð Godde þe werelld, tatt he sende Hiss aþhenn Sune... to wurrpenn mann onn erpe. c 1205 LAY. 9072 Jesu Crist... alre worulde wunne. c 1275 *XI Pains of Hell* 128 in O.E. *Misc.* 214 þe sun of god, þat aþayn boþt þe word. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 1 So that it myhte in such a wyse, Whan we ben dede... Beleue to the wordes eere. c 1400 *Pety Job* 596 in 26 *Pol. Poems* 140 And so shall I see my sauour Deme the worlde. 1535 in *Lett. Suppr. Monast.* (Camden) 31, I suppose it wolbe hard for you to purge your selfe before God or the worle. 1567 JEWEL *Def. Apol.* VI. vi. § 2. 620 They make Decrees expressly againste Goddes Woorde, and that not... covertly, but openly, and in the face of the worlde. 1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacra* II. i. § 2 It being impossible that persons employed by a God of truth should make it their design to impose upon the world. 1714 DERHAM *Astro-Theol.* (1769) 27 The condition, state and order of the world inhabiting the earth. 1733 POPE *Ess. Man* III. 307 In Faith and Hope the world will disagree, But all Mankind's concern is Charity. 1842 TENNYSON *Locksley Hall* 128 In the Parliament of man, the Federation of the world. 1842 — *Walking to Mail* 69 You know That these two parties still divide the world—Of those that want, and those that have. 1866 LIDDON *Bampton Lect.* VI. (1875) 337 The whole world was redeemed by Christ.

† b. *world's, worlde's, shame, shame of the world*: universal or public disgrace. *Obs.*

Replacing the OE. compound *woruldscamu* (ME. *worldscome*): see 25 a.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 353 He schal with worldes shame Himself and ek his love shame. 1483-4 *Act 1 Rich. III.* c. 4 Persones of noo substance ne havur, not dredyng God nor worldez shame. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III.* IV. iv. 27 Worlds shame. 1611 CHAPMAN *May Day* IV, Has not one of them [sc. disguises] kept you safe from the shame of the world? 1731-8 SWIFT *Pol. Conversat.* 32 Fie, fie, Miss! for Shame of the World, and Speech of good People. 1882 PUSEY *Par. & Cath. Serm.* xii. 164 One decided act of blind, obedient faith, ready... to bear what might bring the world's shame.

c. *against the world*: in opposition to or in the face of all mankind; hence, against all opposition, † in preference to everything else. (See also 21 b.)

1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* III. ii. 124 But yesterday, the world of Casar might Haue stood against the World. 1690 W. WALKER *Idiomat. Anglo-Lat.* 531, I am for the woods against the World, i.e. before any thing. 1859 TENNYSON *Guinevere* 114 There will I... hold thee with my life against the world.

15. The body of living persons in general; society at large, 'people', the public; often with reference to its judgement or opinion.

1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* I. ii. 120 Fellow, why do'st thou show me thus to th' world? Bear me to prison. 1616 R. COCKS *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 127 Yet let both hym and the world judg of me yf I dealt freely with hym. 1693 *Humours Town* 29 To make the World think he has been at a good Meal. 1738 POPE *Epil. Sat.* I. 147 In golden Chains the

willing World she [sc. Virtue] draws. **1762** CHURCHILL *Night* 351 You must be wrong, the World is in the right. **1784** COWPER *Task* vi. 681 He... call'd the world to worship on the banks of Avon, fam'd in song. **1828** LD. ELLENBOROUGH *Diary* (1881) I. 201 There are all sorts of stories of the Lord High Admiral, and the world says he is mad. **1833-5** NEWMAN *Hist. Sk.* Ser. III. x. (1873) 191 It is harder to resist the world's smiles than the world's frowns. **1858** MRS. CRAIK *Woman's Th.* ix. 230 How often do we hear the phrases,—"What will the world say?" **1859** TENNYSON *Elaine* 936 The world, the world, All ear and eye. **1893** BOOKMAN June 85/1 From the world's point of view his unpopularity was richly deserved.

16. Usually with qualification: A particular division, section, or generation of the earth's inhabitants or human society. a. with reference to the place or time of their existence.

1382 WYCLIF *2 Pet.* ii. 5 If God... spare not to the first world, but kepte Noe [TINDALE the olde worlde but saved Noe]. **1601, 1704** Western world [see WESTERN a. 4]. **1615** G. SANDYS *Trav.* 76 The old world, as is thought, was ignorant of this sport. **c1670** A. WOOD *Life* (O.H.S.) I. 317 The world of England was perfectly mad. **1781** COWPER *Charity* 40 While Cook is lov'd for savage lives he sav'd, See Cortez odious for a world enslav'd. **1822** SHELLEY *Calderon's Magico Prodigioso* i. 126 The wisdom Of the old world masked with the names of Gods. **1890** WRIGHTSON *Sancta Respubl. Rom.* 4 Theodosius led the Roman world in peace. **1922** G. M. TREVELYAN *Brit. Hist. 19th Cent.* v. 91 To prevent the domination and exploitation of the European world by France.

b. with reference to their interests or pursuits.

1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* iv. iv. 2 One of the greatest in the Christian world Shall be my surety. **1658** R. BAILLIE in *Durham's Comm. Rev.* (1660) To Rdr. B 1 b, The matter of it... cannot but be very welcom and acceptable to the world of Believers. **1710** STEELE *Tatler* No. 195 ¶1 The Learned World are very much offended at many of my Ratiocinations. **1779** SHERIDAN *Critic* i. i, A gentleman well known in the theatrical world. **1796** NELSON 25 Nov. in *Nicolas Disp.* (1845) II. 305 The part allotted to me... ended, as our world here, say, much to my credit. **1779** MIRROR No. 38 The female world. **1798** CHARLOTTE SMITH *Yng. Philos.* III. 74 Satiated as I am, and as I suppose two thirds of the reading world have been with sonnets. **1807** T. THOMSON *Chem.* (ed. 3) II. 470 A fact now well known to the chemical world. **1810** *Sporting Mag.* XXXV. 304 An extraordinary circumstance is stated to have taken place in the musical world. **1854** *Poultry Chron.* II. 219 Two noblemen, whose names are as eminent in the poultry world as in rank. **1870** HUXLEY *Lay Sermon* iii. 48 The serene resting-place for worn human nature—the world of art. **1882** SALA *Amer. Reviv.* vii. (1885) 160 'The whole world of ruffianism. **1886** RUSKIN *Præterita* II. 5 He brought us news from the mathematical and grammatical world. **1897** MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 441 An old marine engineer... who loves them [his engines] as living things... defending them... against the aspersions of the silly, uninformed outside world.

17. a. Human society considered in relation to its activities, difficulties, temptations, and the like; hence, contextually, the ways, practices, or customs of the people among whom one lives; the occupations and interests of society at large.

to begin the world: to begin to take an active part in the affairs of life; to start one's career.

1449 *Paston Lett.* Suppl. (1901) 21 He seythe that he shall dwell with his wyffes fader... and he will no further medill in the werde. **1556** in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Mary* (1914) 215 These two will attempt the worlde to seke theyr fortune. **1570** FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 2) 2237/2 A stocke of money to begin the world withall. **1598** SHAKS, *Merry W.* II. ii. 136 Olde folkes you know, haue discretion, as they say, and know the world. **1704** M. HENRY *Church in House* 55 You are beginning the World (as you call it). **1712** STEELE *Spect.* No. 491 ¶2 However he had so much of the World, that he had a great share of the Language which usually prevails upon the weaker Part of that Sex. **1732** BERKELEY *Alciph.* i. §1 That great Whirlpool of Business, Faction, and Pleasure, which is called the World. **1753-4** RICHARDSON *Grandison* II. xvi. 124 He will be still kinder to them, when they are old enough to be put into the world. **1796** (title) Address to a Young Lady on her entrance into the world. **1839** NEWMAN *Par. Sermon* IV. xii. 212 By the world, I mean all that meets a man in intercourse with his fellow men. **1853** DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xiii, The world is before you; and it is most probable that as you enter it, so it will receive you. **1882** W. BALLANTINE *Exper.* I. ix. 115 He was a perfect child in the world's ways. **1882** BESANT *All Sorts* xxxii. (1898) 227 Two thousand pounds; that's a large sum to hand over... Upon my word... you will have to begin the world again. **1899** JESSE L. WILLIAMS *Stolen Story* etc. 186 Hamilton J. Knox had been one of the great men of his day... when in college. He was in the World now.

b. with reference to social status or worldly fortune.

Phrr. *to get up in the world, to go down in the world;* † *to be beforehand or behindhand in* (or *with*) *the world:* to be in prosperous or indigent circumstances.

1687 MIEGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* II. s.v. *World*, To be before hand in the World, être à son aise... To be behind hand in the World, faire mal ses Affaires. **1777** THICKNESSE *Journ. France* (1789) I. 10 My landlord, Monsieur Dessein, who was behind-hand with the world ten years ago, is now become one of the richest men in Calais. **1784** COWPER *Tiroc.* 672 Low in the world, because he scorns its arts. **1791** J. WOODFORD *Diary* 20 Mar. (1927) III. 257 John Greaves, my Carpenter... married about 2 Years or more ago, to a Servant Maid of Mrs. Lombe's... and lived very happy together and daily getting up in the World. **1837** J. S. MILL *Let.* 6 Aug. in *Works* (1963) XII. 346 To alter their style of living and go (as the vulgar phrase is) down in the world. **1838** DICKENS *O. Twist* xxxix, Indications of the good gentleman's having gone down in the world of late. **1840** MARRYAT *Poor Jack* xxviii, His family is getting up in the world. **1883** D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* xiv. (1885) 112, I am getting on a little in the world, and am in the way to earn a little money. **1889** [see COME v. 60e].

18. High or fashionable society. More explicitly *the world of fashion, the fashionable world; also the polite world, the great world, †occas. the very first world.* (See also 21 c.)

half-world (= DEMI-MONDE): see HALF- II. n.

1673 DRYDEN *Marr. à la Mode* I. i, He talks too like a man that knew the world To have been long a Peasant. **1711** ADDISON *Spect.* No. 15 ¶7 She... fancies herself out of the World, when she is not in the Ring, the Play-House, or the Drawing-Room. **1713** SWIFT *Cadenus & Vanessa* 430 To know the world! a modern phrase For visits, ombre, balls, and plays. **1726** LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to C'tess Mar Wks.* 1837 II. 185, I leave the great world to girls that know no better. **1750** CHESTERFIELD *Let. to Son* 11 June, The court is called the world here, as well as at Paris; and nothing more is meant, by saying that a man knows the world, than that he knows courts. **1763** *Brit. Mag.* Jan. 14/2 The polite world. **1786** BURNS *Two Dogs* 158 To mak a tour, an' tak a whirl, To learn bon ton an' see the worl'. **1791** BOSWELL *Johnson* 24 Apr. 1779 (1904) II. 292 Mr. Beauclerk... told us a number of short stories in a lively elegant manner, and with that air of the world which has I know not what impressive effect. **1791** CHARLOTTE SMITH *Celestina* (ed. 2) I. 32 His solicitude to maintain his importance as a man of taste in the fashionable world. **1796** — *Marchmont* IV. 280, I saw enough of the lives of people of the very first world. **1853** DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* ii, It is but a glimpse of the world of fashion that we want. **1889** 'J. S. WINTER' Mrs. Bob ix. (1891) 109, I must tell you that the Parish set comprised 'the world' of the ancient city.

IV. Idiomatic uses and phrases: see also above.

19. a world. a. A vast quantity, an 'infinity'; in early use, esp. a vast expanse (of land or water). *a world of years, of time* (obs. or dial.): a vast extent of time, an age, an eternity. (Sometimes more emphatically *a whole world of*.)

c1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* vii. 28 The playner part of fraunce a craft hath fonde To repe in litel space a world of lond. **1423** JAS. I *Kingis Q.* lxxxii, Standing there I sawe A world of folk. **1579-80** NORTH *Plutarch, Nicias* (1595) 589 A world of trumpets, howboyes, and such marine musick. **1588** SHAKS. *L.L.L.* v. ii. 353 A world of torments though I should endure. **1589** WARNER *Alb. Eng.*, *Æneidos* 151 My Father... deliuered mee with a world of Treasure to Polymnestor. **1590** SPENSER *F.Q.* i. i. 39 He, making speedy way through spersed ayre, And through the world of waters wide and deepe. **1596** SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV.* III. i. 94 For there will be a World of Water shed, Vpon the parting of your Wiues and you. **1598** CHAPMAN *Blinde Beg. Alexandria* D 3 b, What a worlde of tyme Is it for me to lie as in a sounde, Without my life. **1601** HOLLAND *Pliny* XIV. i. I. 404 Yet continued it hath a world of yeares uncorrupt. **1620** QUARLES *Pentel.* N 4, Seruing a world of yeeres. **1632** LITHGOW *Trav.* i. 16, I beheld a world of old Bookes. **1662** EVELYN *Sculptura, Acc. Signor Favi* c 6, He had made provision of sundry huge Volumes, besides a world more which he had sent away. **1703** EARL ORRERY *As you find it* II. ii. 22, I have a World of Business to do this Afternoon. **1779** G. KEATE *Sketches fr. Nat.* (ed. 2) II. 78 A ship that hath traversed the globe, and cut her passage through a world of waters. **1791** F. BURNEY *Jrnl.* Sept. (1972) I. 57 The Water has done me a World of good—I drink it at morning & Noon regularly. **1804** SCOTT 19 Mar. in *Lockhart* I. xii. 412, I had a world of things to say to you. **1812** ROGERS *Voy. Columbus* v. 2 A world of waves, a sea without a shore. **1849** ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. i. v. (1866) 79 A whole world of passions. **1854** ANNE E. BAKER *Northampton. Gloss.* s.v., It'll take a world of time to do it. **1897** S. CRANE *Third Violet* iv. 22 These long walks in the clear mountain air are doing you a world of good.

b. Used advb.: Infinitely, vastly. (Cf. *worlds*, 7 f.) *arch.*

1600 SHAKS. *A.Y.L.* II. vii. 160 His youthfull hose well sau'd, a world too wide, For his shrunke shanke. **1879** 'HESBA STRETTON' *Needle's Eye* xxxiv, Her smile... had a world more tenderness in it. **1887** *Pall Mall Gaz.* 22 June 5/2 The Venus Anadyomene is a fine thing, but the Statue of Liberty is a world finer.

† *c. it is a world:* it is a great thing, it is a marvel. Similarly † *it is a world and wonder, † wonder a world.* Obs. or dial.

c1440 *Generydes* 2205 Euerychone on other ferly they sette... and trewly for to speke It was a world to here the sperys breke. **1519** *Interl.* 4 *Elem.* Cvb, It is a worlde to se her whyrle Daunsynge in a rounde. **a1562** G. CAVENDISH *Wolsey* (1825) I. 145 It is not a world to consider the desire of wilful princes, when they fully be bent... to fulfil their voluptuous appetites. **1596** SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* II. i. 313. **1600** HOLLAND *Livy* III. xxvi. 105 A world and wonder it is to hear them speak. **1620** BP. ANDREWES *96 Serm.*, *Holy Ghost* xiii. (1629) 738 But it were a world to rake up old errors. **1666** DUGDALE *Orig. Jurid.* 152/1 The Prince so served will tender meats... as it seemed wonder a world to observe the provision. **1881** *Leic. Gloss.* s.v., It's a woo'd to see that theer little un order the big uns to the roight about!

20. the world (see also above senses). a. *in the world:* on earth, in existence; (a) as an intensive phrase after a superlative or *all, no, not a, everything, nothing, etc.* Also occas. † *in (a) world;* OE. *on worulde.*

a1070 *Laws Ethelred, Be griðe* §25 On hwam mæðs huru æfre ænig man on worolde swyðor God wurðian ðonne on cyrcan? **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 181 þe veireste men in þe world þer inne [sc. in England] þep ibore. **1375** BARBOUR *Bruce* i. 240 Mar to prys Than all the gold in world that is. **a1400-50** *Wars Alex.* 5131 Thretti gobletis of gold, þe grattest in þe worde. **c1489** CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* ix. 224 He began to make the gretest sorow in the worlde. **c1500** *Melusine* v. 27 He had nat mow say one only word for all the gold in the world. **1588** SHAKS. *L.L.L.* v. i. 74 And I had but one penny in the world, thou shouldst haue it. **a1589** R. LANE in *Hakluyt's Voy.* 739 The Riuer of Choanoak, and all the other sounds, shewe no currant in the world in calme weather. **1606** SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* II. vii. 3 The least winde i' th' world wil blow them downe. **1606** — *Tr. & Cr.* i. ii. 41 *Cre.* Hectors a gallant man. *Man.* As may be in the world Lady. **1694** ATTERBURY *Serm.* (Isa. lx. 22) (1726) I. 110 The

Gospel of Christ, at its Earliest appearance, had all the Probabilities in the World against its Success. **1711** STEELE *Spect.* No. 142 ¶7 It is the hardest thing in the World to be in Love, and yet attend Business. **1716** WODROW *Corr.* (1843) II. 123 They would have given all they had in a world to have been off. **1790** MRS. WHEELER *Westmld. Dial.* (1821) 21 Thats aw spite, nowt ith ward else. **1826** DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* III. viii, Here is everybody in the world that I wish to see, except yourself. **1833** DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Mr. Minns*, He was... the most retiring man in the world. **1890** 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* xxvi, Hartley enjoyed his dinner... as if he had not a debt in the world.

(b) intensifying an interrogative.

1530 PALSGR. 467/2 He wyste nat in the worlde what to do. **1595** SHAKS. *John* v. iv. 26 What in the world should make me now deceiue...? **1600** J. PORY *tr. Leo's Africa* i. 11 He knew not what in the world to doe. **1614** DAY *Dyall Ep.* Ded. ¶2 b, Hee... could not tell where in the world he had laid it. **1835** DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Private Theatres*, And if they don't know how to do this sort of thing, who in the world does? **1865** MRS. WHITNEY *Gayworthys* xxvi, How in the world did you persuade the captain?

† *b. of the world* [cf. *F. du monde*]: = *in the world* (20 a). Obs.

13... *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 238 Al studied þat þer stod, & stalked hym nerre, Wyth al þe wonder of þe worlde, what he worch schulde. **1476** *Stonor Papers* (Camden) II. 7 Yff ye wold be a good etter off your mete... ye shuld make the gladdest man off the world. **c1477** CAXTON *Jason* 69 Wherefore they began to crye and demene the gretteste sorow of the worlde. **1589** PUTTENHAM *Engl. Poesie* III. xxiv. (Arb.) 300 The most gentle and affable Prince of the world. **1611** SHAKS. *Wint.* T. v. iii. 72 No settled Sences of the World can match The pleasure of that madnesse. **1620** SHELTON *Quix.* III. ix. 203 He began the most sadd and dolefull lamentation of the world.

c. *of (all) the world:* out of the whole world, above all others in the world. Obs. or arch.

1760-72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) II. 150 The man of the world, excepting yourself... for whom I have the dearest respect. *Ibid.* III. 3 You are the man of the world whom I would have chosen. **1781** COWPER *Hope* 427 The book of all the world that charm'd me most Was—well-a-day, the title page was lost!

† *d. all to the world:* in every respect; = 21 e.

1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* VIII. viii, There the Bastard was bred up... all to the World like any Gentleman.

e. *to think the world of:* to have the highest possible opinion of or regard for.

[**1852** H. B. STOWE *Uncle Tom's Cabin* II. xxxiv. 206 He had a cousin come to New Orleans, who was his particular friend,—he thought all the world of him.] **1892** 'MARK TWAIN' *Amer. Claimant* iii. 24 They... think the world of Mulberry. **1894** 'L. KEITH' *Lisbeth* xvii, She thinks the world of 'Lisbeth. **1905** F. YOUNG *Sands of Pleasure* II. i, She was kept by a Russian Prince, who thought the world of her.

f. See MAN OF THE WORLD. Similarly *woman of the world*, a woman who is experienced in the ways of life or the conventions of society.

1780 F. BURNEY *Diary* Apr. (1904) I. vii. 328 She is an easy, chatty, sensible woman of the world. **1822** M. EDGEWORTH *Let.* 10 Apr. (1971) 393 Lady Clare is a painted—made up—vulgar thorough going woman of the world. **1837** HT. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 132 Girls... boldly staring at all that is going on, and serving themselves, like little women of the world. **1844** KINGLAKE *Eothen* viii, Presently (though with all the skill of a woman of the world) she shuffled away the subject.

21. all the world. a. The whole of the inhabited globe; the entire earth (or universe).

c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 35 We were leofere þenne al world [etc.]. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 705 þei al þe world wer min & al þe richesse iwis. *Ibid.* 7551 þer nas prince in al þe world of so noble fame. **c1300** *Havelok* 1290 It [sc. the hill] was so hey, þat y wel mouthe Al þe werd se, als me pouthe. **1382** WYCLIF *Mark* viii. 36 What profitith it a man, if he wyne al the world, and do peyringe to his soule? **a1400-50** *Wars Alex.* 18 þat was þe athill Alexandire... þat aye euyñ as his awyn all the werd ouire. **1420** in *Ellis Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. I. 70 Aboue all erthely Princeps thow all the word Christene and Hethene. **c1450** *Hymns Virgin* (1867) 122 Alle the worlde schalle to-dryve. **1567** *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 4 Go zour way into alle the world, and preiche the Euangell. **1600** SHAKS. *A.Y.L.* II. vii. 139 All the world's a stage, And all the men and women, meereley Players. **1713** DERHAM *Phys.-Theol.* II. v. (1720) 48 Every where all the World over. **1784** COWPER *Task* i. 698 Such London is, by taste and wealth proclaim'd The fairest capital of all the world. **1830** TENNYSON *Sea-Fairies* 41 Who can light on as happy a shore All the world o'er? **1833** — *New Year's Eve* 24 In the early morning... Before the red cock crows... When... all the world is still.

b. Everybody in existence; in narrower sense, everybody in the community, the public. *against all the world:* in opposition to or competition with everybody. (= *F. tout le monde*.)

all the world and his wife: see WIFE sb. 2 b.

a1300 *Cursor M.* 14495 All þe world mon wit him rijs. **1303** R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 2386 þou mayst nat excuse þe with rous [v.r. ros]. And sey, 'al þe worlde so dous'. **1393** LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XXII. 219 For antecrist and hise shal al þe worlde greue. **1426** AUDELEY *Poems* 2 That al the werd schal have wytyng. **1523** CROMWELL in Meriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 33 Their insaciable apete... ys so manyfest and notorys to all the word. **1588** in *Border Papers* (1894) I. 307 The Kinge... will mayntaine it [sc. religion] to the uttermoste of his power against all the worlde. **1597** SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV.* iv. v. 225 Which I, with more, then with a Common paine, 'Gainst all the World, will rightfully maintaine. **1617** MORYSON *Itin.* II. 157, I will faithfully serve her against all the World. **1660** JER. TAYLOR *Ductor Dubit.* III. iv. rule 13. 284 The Rogation fast (all the world knows) was instituted by Mammercus Bishop of Vienna. **1768** GOLDSM. *Goodn. Man* i. i, All the world loves him. **1841** THACKERAY *Gt. Hoggarty Diam.* xii, A man has no

business to place them on paper for all the world to read. 1854 TENNYSON *Charge of Light Brigade* iii, Charging an army, while All the world wonder'd. 1879 McCARTHY *Donna Q.* I. 60 A woman can be handsome without all the world running after her.

c. Everybody in fashionable society; everybody of account.

1813 *Sk. Char.* (ed. 2) I. 39 Oh, all the world's here, the season was never so full. 1860 TROLLOPE *Castle Richmond* xxvii, All the world—her world and his world—would think it better that they should part. 1877 *Echo* 31 July 1/4 The London Season when 'everybody' goes out of town—all the world, indeed.

d. Everything in existence: often in intensive emotional use = All that is of value or account to a person, something supremely precious.

Cf. quot. 1382 in a. above.

1595 SHAKS. *John III.* iv. 104 My life, my ioy, my food, my all the world. 1704 POPE *Autumn* 88, I may... Forsake mankind, and all the world—but love! 1797 JANE AUSTEN *Sense & Sensibility* xlvii, You, my mother, and Margaret must henceforth be all the world to me. 1853 MRS. GASKELL *Ruth* iv, Happiest of all, there was the consciousness of his love, who was all the world to her.

e. for all the world: in regard to, or taking into consideration, everything in the world; hence, in every respect, exactly (like, etc.). Also occas. †for all this world, †in all the world. (See also 7f(b).)

c1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 16063 For al pe werd, so ferde he, On lyue wolde he non let be. c1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* iii. 1244 For alle pis world in swich present gladnesse Was Troilus and hath his lady swete. c1386 — *L.G.W. Prol.* 218 For al the world ryght as the dayseye I-coroune is with white leuys lite. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* iii. vii. 40 Sic ene had he, and sic fair handis tway, For all the world, sic mouth and face, perfoy. 1596 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV.* iii. ii. 93 For all the World, As thou art to this houre, was Richard then. 1596 — *Merch. V.* v. i. 149 A paltry Ring... whose Poesie was For all the world like Cutlers Poetry Vpon a knife. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* xi. xlv. i. 349 Thumbs and great toes they have moreover, with joints like (in all the world) to a man. 1609 DEKKER *Gull's Horn-bk.* iii. 15 Two narrow paire of staires, that for all the world haue crooked windings like those that lead to the top of Powles steeple. 1621 BP. MOUNTAGU *Diatribe* 339 Iust, for all the world, as the Pharises are taxed by our Sauour. 1775 SHERIDAN *Duenna* ii. iii, As to her singing... she has a shrill, cracked pipe, that sounds for all the world like a child's trumpet. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* iv. v. ¶3 She... dressed herself up in such a costume, as to look for all the world as if her sex were of a piece with her appearance. 1893 STEVENSON *Catrina* 3 This city... was for all the world like a rabbit warren.

22. the whole world. a. = 21 a.

1534 TINDALE *Luke* ix. 25 What avantageth it a man, to wyne the whole worlde, yf he loose him sylfe? 1557 *Bible* (Geneva) i John v. 19 We knowe... that the whole worlde lyeth in wyckednes. c1570 *Misogonus* iii. iii. 72 (Bond) As any is ith whole woade. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 4 The vther parte... sa is situat, as frome the hail warlde it war diuidet. 1625 N. CARPENTER *Geogr. Delin.* ii. i. 7 Man... had left him notwithstanding for his lot the whole world besides. 1759 STERNE tr. *Shandy* i. x, It being just so long since he left his parish, and the whole world at the same time behind him. 1856 MISS YONGE *Daisy Chain* ii. viii, Ethel [was] full of glee and wonder, for once beyond Whitford, the whole world was new to her.

b. = 21 b.

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 62, I had the whole worlde against me with all their force and myght. 1569 J. ROGERS *Glasse Godly Love in Tell-trothes N. Yr.'s Gift* etc. (1876) 188 The amendment of all the whole world. 1570 BUCHANAN *Admonit. Wks.* (S.T.S.) 22 3e haif obleist your selfis befor eyr haill warld to continew in yatilk vertew of justice. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* iii. iii. 175 One touch of nature makes the whole world kin. 1773 FOOTE *Bankrupt* ii. Wks. 1799 II. 112 The whole world concur in giving him sense. 1918 *Nation* (N.Y.) 7 Feb. 135/1 The whole world is begging itself by war.

23. this world. a. out of this world: (i) superlatively good, fine beyond description; beautiful, delightful, wonderful. Also as adv. and attrib. phrases. *colloq.* and *slang* (orig. U.S. *jazz*).

1928 R. FISHER *Walls of Jericho* 303 Out (of) this world, beyond mortal experience or belief. 1931 *Inter-State Tatler* 17 Dec. 12 Alberta Hunter... warbles out of this world. 1935 *Swing Music* July 11/4/2 Benny's clarinet playing here is out-of-this-world for beauty of tone. 1946 *Sat. Rev. Lit.* (U.S.) 19 Oct. 25/3 Petarded on his own cliché And violently hurled, Should be the Joe whose one bon mot Is 'It's out of this world!' 1952 G. WILSON *Julien Ware* 36 A slender, graceful, out-of-this-world bridge Claud... had been. 1957 J. BRAINE *Room at Top vi.* 51 You've got a lovely part. Out of this world. 1972 J. ROSSITER *Rope for General Dietz* v. 61 She gave me the skinned fruit... With Cointreau poured on, mine tasted out of this world.

(ii) In neutral or derogatory contexts: unworldly; quite remarkable; also incredibly bad or repulsive.

1941 B. SCHULBERG *What makes Sammy Run?* vii. 149 The gallery was in a funny little bungalow with an easy-going, out-of-this-world atmosphere. 1951 'A. GARVE' *Murder in Moscow* ii. 32 They hate our guts, and the way they behave is out of this world. 1958 *Oxford Mail* 27 Aug. 6/1 The worst part of a woman's magazine... is the fiction. Stories about quite impossible people in out-of-this-world situations. 1963 P. WILLMOTT *Evolution of Community* viii. 92 The L.C.C.'s wallpapers... are very antiquated, out of this world. b. the (personal or other proper name, pl.) of this world: people (countries, etc.) considered to represent the type specified; people, etc., like (sb. sing.). *colloq.* Freq. somewhat *derog.*

1960 J. STROUD *Shorn Lamb* iv. 44 He's settling... We're quite used to the Egberts of this world. 1969 M. PUGH *Last Place Left* xiv. 106 The Pardoes of this world would always

brownnose to the landed gentry. 1972 *Observer* 20 Feb. 11/3 There is a limit on how far the Libyas of this world can bid up the price of oil.

V. attrib. and Comb.

24. a. Simple attrib. = 'of, pertaining to, or relating to the world' (in various senses), as world-age, -architect, area, battle, -construction, craft, cruise, day, egg, -end (attrib.), era, events, field, formation, formula, government, hero, -image, level, love, -model, nausea, noise, ocean, -outlook, philosopher, première, principle, record, riddle, sadness, sect, sorrow, stratum, -structure, stuff, -system, -theory, tour, wilderness, -will, wisdom, wreckage, wright; in certain cases with reference to early cosmogonies, as world-egg, mill, mother, oak, tortoise, tree.

Some of these are translated from or modelled on G. compounds, as *weltalter* world-age, *weltgeräusch* world-noise, *weltschmerz*, *weltsorge*, world-sadness, world-sorrow. (Not clearly distinguishable from some of the examples in sense 25 b.)

1908 *Ch. Times* 5 June 761/4 Our Lord's teaching... was that the end of the present 'world-age' was at hand. 1877 E. CAIRD *Philos. Kant* ii. xviii. 635 The idea... of a 'world-architect, who is limited by the character of the material he uses. 1911 ZWEMER *Unoc. Mission Fields* Pref. p. vii, The entire 'world-area has not yet been wholly covered by the tracks of the explorer. 1871 R. B. VAUGHAN S. *Thomas of Aquin* II. 205 He was a world-saint, for he had a 'world-battle to fight and win. 1906 W. R. INGE *Truth & Falsehood in Relig.* 115 Science has no commission to produce an ideal 'world-construction on a materialistic basis. 1840 STRICKLAND *Lives Queens Eng.* I. 87 William Rufus... had an abundant share of 'world-craft, and well knew how to adapt himself to his father's humour. 1933 'World cruise [see CRUISE sb. 1a]. 1977 A. C. H. SMITH *Jericho Gun* iv. 54 Let's take a world cruise. 1851 MRS. BROWNING *Casa Guidi Wind* ii. 758 The earliest 'world-day light that ever flowed. 1848 BAILEY *Festus* (ed. 3) 108 The azure serpent... that sloughs its years And lays its 'world-eggs in thy brightness. 1874 SAYCE *Compar. Philol.* iii. 99 The primeval world-egg of Egyptian philosophy, out of which all things have been generated. 1896 KIPLING *Seven Seas* p. vii, I was born in her gate... Where the 'world-end steamers wait. 1858 J. MARTINEAU *Stud. Christ.* 139 The end of the great 'world-era of the Lord. 1940 J. PEDERSEN *Israel* II. iv. 559 Like Isaiah he [sc. Jeremiah]... undertakes to interpret 'world-events. 1840 S. WILBERFORCE *Sp. Missions* (1874) 72 How great a thing... it is to be entrusted with sowing the 'world-field with the seed of man. 1884 *Century Mag.* XXVII. 916 A part of the 'world-formation. 1888 J. ROYCE *Let.* 21 May in R. B. PERRY *Thought & Char. W. James* (1935) I. 800, I have largely straightened out the big metaphysical tangle about continuity, freedom, and the 'world-formula. 1907 W. JAMES *Pragmatism* ii. 50 The whole function of philosophy ought to be to find out what definite difference it will make to you and me, at definite instants of our life, if this world-formula or that world-formula be the true one. 1915 N. L. MCCLUNG *In Times like These* ix. 153 The problems of discovery have been solved; the problems of colonization are being solved. and when the war is over the problem of 'world government will be solved. 1958 B. W. ALDISS *Non-Stop* iv. v. 241 The ship is in an orbit round Earth and there it must stay. That was the edict of the World Government. 1981 *Washington Post* 18 Mar. 1 He would never be part of an organization that advocated world government. 1844 MARG. FULLER *Wom. 19th C.* (1862) 27 To improve these 'world-heroes'... to beware of cant above all things. 1936 *Discovery* May 162/1 The Determinists have created for themselves an intellectual structure which represents a 'world-image or rather a physical world-image. 1891 H. CROSBY *Conform. World* 10 Many an honest... Christian has unguardedly gone down to the 'world-level. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Let. to Lady Robertland* 4 Jan. (1671) 205 Pride, & self love, & Idol-love, & 'world-love. 1889 R. B. ANDERSON tr. *Rydberg's Teut. Mythol.* 118 That the 'world-mill has a *möndull*, the mill-handle, which sweeps the uttermost rim of the earth. 1949 G. J. WHITROW *Structure of Universe* v. 75 In order to obtain some picture of the universe as a whole, we must construct a 'world-model which will reproduce satisfactorily the properties of this observable (limited region of space and time). 1902 19th Cent. Dec. 991 The 'World-Mother looked down through the ascending incense, as through the veil of centuries. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* xxiv, She had a 'world-nausea upon her. 1916 S. BROOKE in *Life & Lett.* (1917) II. 663 You are in the roar and hustle of 'world-noises and affairs which make history. 1904 *Folk-Lore* Sept. 295 The 'world-oak or cloud-oak of Central and Southern Europe. 1877 J. E. CARPENTER tr. *Tiele's Outlines Hist. Relig.* 181 A sea-voyage over the 'world-ocean. 1915 (serial title) 'World outlook. 1929 *New Statesman* 31 Aug. 628/1 All poetic genius has always fumbled instinctively for a world-outlook in which everything has significance at all times. 1976 tr. Shih Min in *Yenan Seeds & Other Stories* 75 Remould your world-outlook and steel yourself into a self-aware revolutionary. 1853 THACKERAY *Engl. Hum.* iv. 160 Mat was a 'world-philosopher of no small genius. 1934 WEBSTER, 'World première. 1948 *Daily Ardmoreite* (Ardmore, Okla.) 7 July 1/5 'Return of the Bad Man' will open a three day engagement in Ardmore just one day after its world premier. 1981 LD. HAREWOOD *Tongs & Bones* ix. 150 He... put on several important world premières of British operas. 1854 GEO. ELIOT tr. L. Feuerbach's *Essence of Christianity* x. 101 Individual subjectivity... is regarded as the highest essence—the omnipotent 'world-principle. 1912 W. TEMPLE in *Foundations* v. 311. 243 A World-principle, the Logos of the Stoics. 1909 G. B. SHAW *Pen Portraits & Reviews* (1931) 236 In his stories of mystery and imagination Poe created a 'world-record for the English language. 1976 *Daily Tel.* 20 July 1/5 Cornelia Ender won 100m women's freestyle gold medal in world record 55.65 secs. 1909 *Hibbert Jnl.* July 723 Science... knows that the pretence of solving the 'world-riddle' by her means alone is a mere echo of youthful enthusiasm. 1901 *Chamb. Encycl.* VIII. s.v. *Pessimism*, The same 'world-sadness' (*Weltschmerz*)..

colours... the poetry of Omar Khayyam, Leopardi, Heine, and Byron. 1853 T. PARKER *Theism, Atheism* Introd. p. xlviii, All the 'world-sects, as well as all the Christian sects. 1868 GEO. ELIOT *Spanish Gypsy* II. 173 Silva had thought To melt hard bitter grief by fellowship With the 'world-sorrow trembling in his ear In Pablo's voice. 1896 *Sunday Mag.* Nov. 729 The World-Sorrow. 1868 M. COLLINS *Sweet Anne* Page I. 185 That 'world-stratum called society. 1920 A. S. EDDINGTON *Space, Time & Gravitation* ix. 150 The 'world-structure is not of a kind which can be traced in an exact way by mesh-systems, and in any large region the mesh-system drawn must be considered arbitrary. 1886 WINCHELL *Geol. Talks* 213 The background of the heavens is phosphorescent with the glow of these distant fields of 'world-stuff. 1874 G. H. LEWES *Problems* I. 85 Our parochial system will sometimes be favourably contrasted with the results of their 'world-system. 1977 P. JOHNSON *Enemies of Society* ii. 12 We have characterized its [sc. Freedom's] development into the Roman world-system as essentially a liberal economic process, presided over by a night-watchman state. 1834 J. S. MILL in *Monthly Repos.* VIII. 657 They are probably as sincere as they are capable of being, in any creed, or 'world-theory, or abstract principle. 1960 W. V. O. QUINE *Word & Object* i. 24 The saving consideration is that we continue to take seriously our own... aggregate science, our own particular world-theory or loose total fabric of quasi-theories, whatever it may be. 1958 J. POPE-HENNESSY in P. QUINNELL *Lonely Business* (1981) III. 210 Maps of his 'world-tours on the walls. 1971 'G. BLACK' *Tome for Pirates* v. 84 A very slow world tour from which he returned with reluctance. 1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* I. iv. I. 46 Scepticism, which is there beginning at the very top of the 'world-tree. 1872 HARDWICK *Trad. Lanc.* 177 The great world-tree, *Yogdrasil*. 1848 BAILEY *Festus* (ed. 3) 108 The scape goat of this dark 'world-wilderness. 1891 G. B. SHAW *Quintessence of Ibsenism* iv. 70 The 'world-will shall answer for Julian's soul. 1892 J. ROYCE *Spirit Mod. Philos.* 239 We ourselves are embodiments of the world-will. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* VIII. 1410 'World-wisdom much has done, and more may do. 1899 WATTS-DUNTON *Aylwin* II. iv, The narrow world-wisdom of this Welsh aunt. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. vii. x, The Cimberian 'World-wreckage. a 1721 PRIOR *Cromwell & Porter Wks.* 1907 II. 267 Your System-Makers and 'World-wrights.

b. Objective, as world-beater, -betterer, -builder, -changer, -controller, -creator, -destroyer, -encircler, -girdler, -improver, -lover, -maker, -monger, -saver, -sharer, -stormer, -teacher, -watcher, -wielder, -worker; world-building, -conquering, -embracing, -fearing, -forgetting, -making; world-adorning, -alarming, -beating, -bettering, -changing, -cheering, -creating, -commanding, -compassing, -compelling, -contemning, -covering, -despising, -destroying, -devouring, -embracing, -encircling, -enfolding, -forgetting, -girdling, -knowing, -lifting, -mothering, -producing, -rejoicing, -renouncing, -reviving, -revolving, -scorning, -shaking, -shattering, †-shogging, -subduing, -supporting, -surrounding, -swallowing, -tossing, -transforming, -troubling, -wasting, -welding, -winning adjs.; world-despise vb. c. Instrumental, as world-adored, -besotted, -despised, -entangled, -forgotten, -fretted, -jewelled, -read, -ridden, -studded, -used, -worn adjs.; world-deep, -great, -high, -like, -long, -old adjs.; see also WORLD-WIDE. d. In other adverbial uses: (a) 'from or to the world', 'in, about, or over the world', 'to the end of the world', as world-abiding, -abstracted, -bound, -lost, -minded (so -mindedness) adjs.; -dweller, -famed, -famous [cf. G. *weltberühmt*] adjs., -flight, -lasting, -roving, -wandering adjs.; (b) 'over the whole world', 'to all the world', as world-famed, -familiar, -famous, -known, -noted, -renowned, -spread adjs.; (c) 'of or in regard to the world', as world-†rich, †-seely, -sick, -tired, -worn, -weary (hence -weariness); (d) with pl. in sense 7 e, as worlds-high adj.

1876 F. HARRISON *Choice of Bks.* (1886) 52 The world-wide and 'world-abiding masterpieces. 1898 *Trans. Yorks. Dial. Soc.* 1. 7 A 'world-abstracted monk in his solitary cell. 1852 BAILEY *Festus* (ed. 5) 554 King, conqueror, and master, 'world-adored! 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. i. *Eden* 231 Thy wondrous 'World-adorning Fruit. a1699 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* xvi. xci, The 'World-alarming Trumpets. 1893 *Outing* (U.S.) XXII. 103/1 The master of Palo Alto believed that the filly would prove to be a 'world-beater. 1928 *Sunday Express* 24 June 20/4 The way he flashed the passing shot wide of Higgs... was 'world-beating stuff. 1977 *Daily Mail* 24 Sept. 15/1 The BBC... never became the really 'world-beating station that I would like it to have been'. 1932 W. B. YEATS *Words for Music* 15 Imitate him if you dare, 'World-besotted traveller; he Served human liberty. 1875 W. CORY *Let. & Jnls.* (1897) 376 One should... try to be an improver, a 'world-betterer' (Cambridge slang of my time). 1896 TOLLEMACHE *Jowett* 118 That ardent world-betterer T. H. Green. 1877 BAILEY *Festus* (ed. 10) 148 Great deeds, great thoughts, great schemes, 'world-bettering. 1797 T. PARK *Sonn.* 9 My 'world-bound bark must course an harder way. 1884 J. PARKER *Apost. Life* II. 264 He saw us world-bound. 1884 J. TAIT *Mind in Matter* (1892) 158 Imaginary 'world-builders, like Mr. Spencer, lay their foundations in shallows. 1920 A. S. EDDINGTON *Space, Time & Gravitation* x. 160 It might seem that this kind of fantastic 'world-building can have little to do with practical problems. 1891 W. JAMES *Let.* 30 Jan. (1920) I. 305 Verily you are the stuff of which 'world-changers are made! 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* I, The 'world-changing battle of Sadowa. 1603 CHETTLE *Eng.*

Mourn.-Garm., Sheph. Spring Song F 4. The Sun, which now doth gild the skie, With his light-giving and *world-cheering eie. 1603 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Extasie* Wks. (Grosart) I. 90/1 A Ladie... Cladd like a *World-commanding Potentate. 1861 MAX MÜLLER *Sci. Lang.* Ser. i. vi. (1864) 236 Their *world-compassing migrations. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 27 Dec. 5/4 Wartburg, whence Luther's song entered upon its *world-conquering career. 1603 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Sonn. Ld. Kinlosse* Wks. (Grosart) I. 98/2 Thy *World-contemning Thoughts. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* viii. How now!... our world contemning daughter—Are you robed for a hunting-party, or for the convent, this morning? Speak. c1648-50 BRATHWAIT *Barnabees Jynl.* I. (1818) 33 Joviall, jocund, jolly bowlers, As they were the *world-controulers. 1826 W. ELLIOTT *Nun* 80 There lies a *world-corrupted friend. 1854 GEO. ELIOT tr. *Feuerbach's Essence* Chr. xxii. 218 The *world-creating activity in itself negatives every determinate activity. 1877 CAIRD *Philos. Kant* II. xviii. 635 The idea of a *world-creator, for whom the means can have no existence apart from the end. c1843 CARLYLE *Hist. Sk.* (1898) 299 The grand interior tide-stream and *world-deep tendency. 1857 HAWTHORNE *Engl. Note-bks.* (1870) II. 272 Their world-wide, though not world-deep, experience. 1692 EVELYN *Let. to Pepys* Aug. P's Diary (1889) IX. 365, I have been philosophizing and *world-despising in the solitudes of this place. 1847 HELPS *Friends in C.* I. vi. 91 How often has fiction made us sympathize... with the *world-despised. 1603 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Extasie* Wks. (Grosart) I. 90/1, I took her for some *World-despising Dame. 1858 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Audi Alt.* xlv. 1. 171 The tyrants and *world-destroyers of antiquity. 1909 G. K. CHESTERTON *Orthodoxy* (ed. 2) iv. 92 We count on the ordinary course of things... We risk the remote possibility of a miracle as we do that of a poisoned pancake or a *world-destroying comet. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. II. Ark 449 These stormy Seas' deep *World-devouring waves. 1938 DYLAN THOMAS *Let.* 1 June (1966) 199 A world-devouring ghost creature bit out the horror of tomorrow from a gentleman's loins. 1900 *Daily News* 17 Jan. 5/1 The *world-disturbing turmoil [in the days of the Reign of Terror]. c1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* XLIX. i. *World-dwellers all. 1807 J. BARLOW *Columbiad* iv. 155 The *world-embracing scope That prompts his genius and expands his hope. 1848 R. I. WILBERFORCE *Doctr. Incarnation* ii. (1852) 18 The world-embracing benefits of his [Abraham's] seed. 1827 KEBLE *Chr. Y.*, 5th *Sund. in Lent* xii. The *world-encircling sun. 1928 W. B. YEATS tr. *Sophocles' King Oedipus* 6 For all is *world-enfolding sea. 1609 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Holy Rood* Wks. (Grosart) I. 8/2 Ye heau'ns weepe out your *world-enlight'ning eies. 1812 CRABBE *Tales* xix. 202 *World-entangled men! 1858 *World-famed [see *seven-cubit* s.v. SEVEN a. and sb. C. 2]. 1866 TREVELYAN in *Macm. Mag.* Mar. 411 The world famed Straits of Salamis. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. iv. iv. 176 A cunningly devised Beheading Machine, which shall become famous and *world-famous. 1873 SYMONDS *Grk. Poets* xi. 373 One who made the insignificant place of his origin world-famous. 1841 HELPS *Ess., Dom. Rule* (1842) 58 Ridicule... tends to make a poor and *world-fearing character. 1895 K. GRAHAME *Golden Age* 54 Rosa looked far away in a visionary, *world-forgetting sort of way. 1861 *Westm. Rev.* LXXVI. 281 Such a *world-forgotten village as Raveloc. 1941 I. L. IDRIESS *Great Boomerang* iv. 29 This man's dream was to become a peaceful and world-forgotten patriarch. 1813 L. HUNT in *Examiner* 15 Feb. 104/1 The charm that stillness has for a *world-fretted ear. 1892 *Outing* (U.S.) Mar. 447/1 They probably learned enough about it to make them treat the next *world-girdler with high respect. 1934 A. WOOLCOTT *While Rome Burns* 93 Twenty such *world-girdling tales. 1978 H. WOUK *War & Remembrance* xxi. 209 All the members of a world-girdling alliance were attacking us. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. i. ii. And so... did this of Royalty... grow mysteriously... till it also had grown *world-great. 1853 T. T. LYNCH *Self-Improvement* 25 'Young men and others' as self-improvers are to become *world-improvers. 1839 BAILEY *Festus* 243 Night comes, *world-jewelled. 1833 T. HOOK *Parson's Dau.* I. vii. The... well-turned insinuations of his *world-knowing mother. 1845 BAILEY *Festus* (ed. 2) 172 *World-known for strange powers. 1851 BRIMLEY *Ess.* 105 No marble of which *world-lasting statue... may be hewn. 1894 KIPLING *Seven Seas* (1896) 45 O' that *world-liftin' joy no after-fall could vex. 1839 BAILEY *Festus* 274 It hath starlike beauty, And *worldlike might. 1842 MANNING *Serm.* i. (1848) 18 Then shall... the *world-long growth and gathering of this awful mystery be accomplished. 1854 J. G. WHITTIER in *Nat. Era* 17 Aug. 130/4 New-born, the *world-lost anchorite A man became! 1941 T. WOLFE *Hills Beyond* iii. 235 He abandoned finally the world-lost fastnesses of Zebulon for the more urban settlement of Libya Hill. 1633 EARL MANCH. *Al Mondo* (1636) 87 The *world-lover ends his hope and happiness, when he dyes. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 138, I can't find in my heart to deny that skill to a *World-maker, that I must needs give to a Watch-maker. 1871 R. B. VAUGHAN S. *Thomas of Aquin* II. 678 Plato... who admitted a world-maker, and a Providence. a1776 HUME *Dialogues conc. Nat. Relig.* (1779) v. 61 A slow, but continued improvement carried on during infinite ages in the art of *world-making. 1884 *Century Mag.* XXVII. 914 World-making as practiced by the Astronomers. 1945 G. MURPHY *Human Nature & Enduring Peace* xvi. 241 What we mean by *world-minded education. We mean education for intelligent world citizenship. 1979 *Amer. Speech* 1976 LI. 79 Germans have traditionally been world-minded, receptive to foreign influences. 1926 *Religious Education* Apr. 190 Character is not a cause of world-mindedness, it is a result of *world-mindedness and many other attributes. 1960 A. BJERSTEDT in *Jrnl. Conflict Resolution* IV. 185 (title) Ego-involved world-mindedness. 1682 PEDEN *Lord's Trumpet* (1739) 7 O... *World-monger that thou art, hath not Christ answered thee in that 6th of Matthew 33 Verse? 1883 G. M. HOPKINS *Poems* (1967) 93 Wild air, *world-mothering air, Nestling me everywhere. 1615 T. ADAMS *Blacke Devill* 48 Monstrous and *world-noted wickednesse. 1858 M. C. CLARKE (title) World-noted Women. 1727-46 THOMPSON *Summer* 1747 The *world-producing Essence, who alone Possesses being. 1912 HARDY *Jude the Obscure* p. x, An influential article... printed in a *world-read journal. a1644 QUARLES *Sol. Recant.* xi. 20 Every one Takes pleasure in the *world-rejoicing Sunne. 1910 W. MONTGOMERY tr. A. Schweitzer's *Quest Hist. Jesus* xvi. 247 Inexhaustible reserves of *world-renouncing, world-contemning sayings. 1964 C. S. LEWIS *Discarded*

Image iii. 47 A world-renouncing, ascetic, and mystical character then marked the most eminent Pagans. 1831 CARLYLE in *Foreign Q. Rev.* Oct. 372 The wild, deep, and now *world-renowned, *Legend of Faust*, belongs to a somewhat later date. 1854 tr. *Hettner's Athens & Peloponnese* 1 The world-renowned islands of Ægina and Salamis. 1728-46 THOMPSON *Spring* 51 Thou *world-reviving sun. 1727-46 — *Summer* 32 With what an awful *world-revolving power Were first the unwieldy planets launched along The illimitable void! 1393 LANGL. P. Pl. C. xvii. 16 pese *world-riche men. 1848 ELIZA COOK *Dreamer* xxvii. The dense *world-ridden brain. 1757 DYER *Fleece* I. 460 Inferior theirs to man's *world-roving frame. 1952 B. WOLFE *Limbo* IV. 214 A 'messianic complex', an urge to be a *world-saver'. 1606 Sir G. Goosecappe II. i. in *Old Pl.* (1884) III. 29, I That have studied with *world-skorning thoughts The way of Heaven. c1205 LAY. 11043 ba comen to-somme *weorlde-seli men. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. ii. 1. Ark 444 *World-shaking Father. 1884 J. PARKER *Apost. Life* II. 5 Christianity... was a world-shaking faith. 1893 *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 36/1 The... tragic and world-shaking events which are associated with the history of the... Parliament of Great Britain. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* II. vii. 76 These three *World-sharers, these Competitors are in thy vessell. 1974 M. TIPPETT *Moving into Aquarius* II. 155 During those years there have been huge and *world-shattering events in which I have been inevitably caught up. 1611 COTGER., *Croule-vniuers*, *World-shogging, all-shaking. 1884 R. F. BURTON *Bk. Sword* Introd. p. xiii. Their recklessness of all consequences soared *worlds-high above the various egotistic systems. 1836 NEWMAN in *Lyra Apost.* (1840) 239 *World-sick, to turn within and image there Some idol dream. 1886 W. J. TUCKER *E. Europe* 233 Your *world-spread language. 1878 BOSW. SMITH *Carthage* 271 The man who, like one of the *world-stormers of more modern times... could carry everything before him. 1852 BAILEY *Festus* (ed. 5) 12 The ætherial web, *world-studded, of the skies. 1851 BRIMLEY *Ess.* 105 Iron, of which *world-subduing machines may be wrought. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* lii, A *world-supporting elephant. 1817 SHELLEY *Tr. Constantia Singing in Posthumous Poems* (1824) 144 Whilst, like the *world-surrounding air, thy song Flows on. 1820 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* I. 661 World-surrounding aether. 1885 R. L. & F. STEVENSON *Dynamiter* 166 At one *world-swallowing stride, the heart of the tornado reached the clearing. 1887 HAWES *Lt. Ages* viii. 211 The Jew never was to have an Empire. He was the *world-teacher not the world-ruler. 1608 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. iv. Decay 657 *World-tossing Tempest! 1935 W. B. YEATS *Full Moon in March* 68 What sacred drama through her body heaved When *world-transforming Charlemagne was conceived? 1895 — *Poems* 259 And shook at Invar Amargin The hearts of the *world-troubling seamen. 1860 TROLLOPE *Cas. Richmond* xxvi. That dry, time-worn *world-used London lawyer. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* x. 292 Those poore *world-wandering men. 1820 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* I. 325 Jove's world-wandering herald, Mercury. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* v. iii. 112 This *world-wearied flesh. 1838 LYTTON *Alice* II. vi. It was... this singular purity of heart which made to the world-wearied man the chief charm in Evelyn Cameron. 1858 FABER *Spir. Confer.* (1870) 142 *World-weariness is a blessed thing in its way. 1768 MURPHY *Zenobia* I. i. 16 This sad *world-weary spirit. 1876 SWINBURNE *Erechtheus* 1140 Night that lulls world-weary day. 1881 G. M. HOPKINS in *Note-Bks. & Papers* (1937) 346 Satan... is the κοροϊκράτορ, the *worldwielder. 1887 — *Poems* (1967) 70 And the azureous hung hills are his world-wielding shoulder. 1822 BYRON *Werner* IV. i. 410 A *world-winning battle. 1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pr.* III. vi. (1872) 146 Giant Labour, truest emblem there is of God the *World-Worker. 1826 A. A. WATTS *Richmond-Hill* ix, The *world-worn man may here repair. 1842 MANNING *Serm.* xxi. (1848) I. 310 The wearied and world-worn spirit.

25. Passing into adj.: a. in comb. derived from OE. compounds of *woruld*, in which this is equivalent to 'of or pertaining to this world, earthly, mundane', as *woruldæht*, -god, -ping, -wela worldly possessions or wealth, *woruldcyning* an earthly king, *woruldscamu* public disgrace (cf. 14 b above), *woruldwynn* earthly joy.

c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 143 þer scal beon worldwunne wiðuten pouerte. c1200 ORMIN 7513, & uss birrp weoreldþingess lusst forrbuþhenn & forrwerppenn. *Ibid.* 12079 Off þatt hemm weoreldahthess spedd A33 waxeþþ mare & mare. c1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 29 Gef þu hauest world wele þu miht þarof wurðlice fare. c1205 LAY. 7345 Freoliche we hit haldeþ wið alle weoruld kingen. *Ibid.* 8323, & æfter muchel weorlde-scome wurð-scipe wurthen. 12... *Moral Ode* 365 (Egerton MS.) Ne scal þer beo scead ne scrud ne woruld wele none. c1250 *Prov. Alfred* 382 in *O.E. Misc.* 124 Alle world-ayhte schulle bi-cumen to nouhte. c1275 LAY. 28131 Nolleþ hii hit bi-gynne for none worle-pinge. a1300 *Cursor M.* 13281 Petre and andreu... wit a world pai left þair scippis tuin, For þat was al þair world win [Gött. worldis win]. 14... MS. Sloane 2593 xlii. 25 in *Herrig's Archiv* (1902) CIX. 60 If þu welde þi wordel goodes [etc.]. *Ibid.* 81 þis wordel good xuld increas.

b. With the meaning 'of or pertaining to the whole world, embracing the whole world, world-wide, universal'.

Orig. translating or modelled on G. compounds, as *welthandel* world-commerce, *weltkrieg* world-war, *weltmacht* world-power, *weltreich* world-empire.

(Not clearly distinguishable from some of the examples in sense 24 a.)

1833 J. S. MILL in *Monthly Repos.* VII. 510 The most stirring scenes of that mighty world-drama, under his pen turn flat, cold, and spiritless. 1839 BAILEY *Festus* 53 [Immortality] That is the great world question. 1848 *Ibid.* (ed. 3) 172 Pride and World-Ambition. 1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pr.* II. ii. The World-Dramaturgist has written: *Exeunt*. 1850 BLACKIE *Æschylus* II. 6 That primeval age of gigantic 'world-strife' (if we may be allowed to Anglicize a German compound). 1852 TENNYSON *Ode Wellington* 42 The great World-victor's victor will be seen no more. *Ibid.* 133 In that world-earthquake, Waterloo! 1856 GROTE *Greece* II. xciv. XII. 367 Alexander, had he lived, would... have multiplied... the communications... between the various parts of his

world-empire. 1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* I. i. I. 20 The huge world-conflagration. *Ibid.* v. vi. 594 The Second Act... of this foolish World-Drama of the Double-Marriage opens. 1860 PUSEY *Min. Proph.* 553 Alexander's policy was essentially different from that of the world-monarchs before him. 1864 — *Daniel* ii. 78 When He took away their world-rule, He left them in being as nations. 1864 BRYCE *Holy Rom. Emp.* vii. (1866) 99 The two great ideas which expiring antiquity bequeathed to the ages that followed were those of a World-Monarchy and a World-Religion. 1879 G. H. LEWES *Stud. Psychol.* ix. 162 The World-process has been assigned to a Soul of the World. 1887 *Contemp. Rev.* May 699 With the world price of wheat so closely approximating to the cost of production. 1890 W. MORRIS *News from Nowhere* xv. 129 They had gradually created... a most elaborate system of buying and selling, which has been called The world-market. 1894 A. J. BALFOUR *Found. Belief* (1895) 3 Looking at the World-problems which... we are compelled to face. 1898 G. B. SHAW *Perfect Wagnerite* 14 He is trusting to another great world-force, the Lie. 1898 Q. *Rev.* July 264 In any serious world-struggle we should be certain to have each other's sympathy. 1899 *Daily Tel.* 21 Aug. 6/7 We have had thrust upon us a drama played upon a world-stage. 1904 W. JAMES *Ess. Radical Empiricism* (1912) I. 8 Experience, at this rate, would be much like a paint of which the world pictures were made. 1904 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 Nov. 4/2 The great British World-Empire. 1905 *Ibid.* 21 Sept. 3/2 The great world-commerce, upon which the very existence of England will depend. 1906 *Ibid.* 26 Sept. 5/2 A world-parliament of the Universities. 1910 A. G. SPINK *National Game* 309 (heading) World champions. 1914 G. FRANKAU *Poet. Wks.* (1923) I. 185 Battlers for world-peace, slaves of Honour's lamp. 1920 B. RUSSELL *Pract. & Theory Bolshevism* ix. 109 The following passages [from article by Lenin] seemed to me illuminating:—The present world-situation in politics places on the order of the day the dictatorship of the proletariat. 1921 J. C. MAXWELL GARNETT (title) Education and world citizenship. 1921 D. H. LAWRENCE *Sea & Sardinia* v. 163 Will the last waves of enlightenment and world-unity break over them [sc. the Sardinians] and wash away the stocking-caps? 1923 — *Fantasia of Unconscious* 15 No more little Excelsiors crying world-brotherhood. 1927 A. CECIL *Brit. Foreign Secretaries* vii. 353 Aberdeen would have felt all the talk about German world-domination too journalistically sensational to be politically probable. 1929 J. BUCHAN *Courts of Morning* 14 America... could not take a big hand in world affairs... She had too much to do at home. 1930 J. H. RANDALL (title) A world community. 1932 A. G. HERBERT tr. *Nygren's Agape & Eros* I. vi. 146 For Plotinus the whole world process is summed up in the double conception of the out-going of all things from the One... and the return of all things to the One. 1936 *Mind* XLV. 460 It was left to the Stoics to elaborate the conception of the world-state and of the world-citizen. 1936 *World-culture* [see CULTURE sb. 5]. 1937 'G. ORWELL' *Road to Wigan Pier* xii. 247 It is quite easy to imagine a world-society, economically collectivist. 1940 *World opinion* [see APPEASE v. 2 c]. 1943 E. M. W. TILLYARD (title) The Elizabethan world picture. 1945 AUDEN *For Time Being* 89 Instead of Country Fair, there is World Market. 1946 J. S. HUXLEY *Unesco* i. 17 The task of unifying the world mind. 1948 L. SPITZER *Linguistics & Literary History* 220 This is also the main idea of Claudel's Spanish Catholic world-drama *Le soulier de satin*. 1954 'M. Cost' *Invitation from Minerva* 218 The world-press... was hourly dominated by bulletins of their plight. 1959 *New Yorker* 24 Oct. 185/1 Joyce... gave her... world rights to publish and sell 'Ulysses'. 1962 *Listener* 22 Mar. 498/1 Goethe, it will be remembered, spoke of *Weltkultur*... The great Russian component of world culture is as individual as our own or the French. 1966 S. BEER *Decision & Control* xv. 391 As usual, the study begins with a... world situation. 1967 P. D. JAMES *Unnatural Causes* I. xv. 116 He was completely unconcerned with world affairs. 1974 I. WALLERSTEIN (title) The modern world system and the origins of the European world-economy in the 16th century. 1977 P. JOHNSON *Enemies of Society* v. 61 Britain expanded this initial overseas foothold by the Navigation Acts... which... constituted the beginning of an English-controlled world market. 1981 *Listener* 2 July 3/1 American columnists... are querying whether Reagan is not hazarding world peace. 1981 N. TUCKER *Child & Book* iv. 108 In Enid Blyton's work, this excessively simple world picture is carried to extremes. 1983 *Times* 14 May 8/3 The power of world opinion is a vital adjunct to non-violence.

26. Special comb.: world-all [tr. G. *weltall*], the world considered as a unit; the universe; world-auxiliary, a language (esp. an invented one) which may be used as a standard means of communication between speakers from different language communities throughout the world; cf. *auxiliary language* s.v. AUXILIARY a. 2a; World Bank, an international banking organization established to control the distribution of economic aid between member nations, *spec.*: †(a) the Bank for International Settlements, established through the League of Nations at Basle in 1930 (*obs.*); (b) the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, affiliated to the United Nations and operational since 1946; world-class a., applied to persons or things regarded as outstanding throughout the world; World Court, the International Court of Justice (formerly, the Permanent Court of International Justice, 1921-45), established in 1946 as the principal judicial arm of the United Nations; World Cup, in Assoc. Football, a quadrennial competition amongst national teams for the Jules Rimet trophy, first contested in 1930; also *transf.* in other sports; world-divided a., (a) separated from the rest of the world; (b) 'worlds' apart or asunder; world English = *Standard English* s.v. STANDARD a. 3 e; world fair = *world's fair*, sense 27 a below;

world ground, the reality, or principle, that underlies the world; **World Health Organization**, an international body established in 1948 to promote co-operation between nations to improve health conditions (abbrev. *W.H.O.*: see *W3*); **world-history** [*G. weltgeschichte*], history embracing the events of the whole world; hence *world-historic*, *-historical* adjs.; **world-language**, (a) a language universally read and spoken by educated people; (b) a language for international use; **world-life**, life in the world, earthly life; **world-line** *Physics* and *Philos.* [tr. *G. weltlinie* (H. Minkowski, as for *world-point*)], the succession of points in space-time that are occupied by a particle; **world-literature** [cf. *G. weltliteratur*], (a) a body of work drawn from many nations and recognized as literature throughout the world; (b) (the sum of) the literature of the world; **world-old** [*G. weltalt*], as old as the world; **world-order**, an organized state of existence in this or another world; **world-point** *Physics* and *Philos.* [tr. *G. weltpunkt* (H. Minkowski in H. A. Lorentz et al. *Das Relativitätsprinzip* (1913) 57)], a point in space-time; a particular point in space at a particular instant of time; **world-policy**, **-politics** [*G. weltpolitik*], a policy or politics based upon considerations affecting the world as a whole; hence *world-politician*, *world-political* a.; **world-ranking** a., that ranks among the best in the world; **world-revolution**, a world-wide revolution in the social order or in any sphere of activity; **world-ruler**, a ruler of the (known) world; **World Series**, a series of games contested annually as a play-off between the champions of the two major baseball leagues in the U.S.; also *transf.*; **World Service**, a B.B.C. radio service with a strong content of news and current affairs, broadcast principally for English-speaking listeners overseas (formerly called the *Overseas Service*); **world-soul** [*G. weltgeist, weltseele*], the animating principle which informs the physical world; **world-spirit**, (a) the spirit of the world in its mundane aspects and activities; (b) = *world-soul*; **world-state**, (a) a state comprising the whole world; (b) a state possessing world-power; **world-thane** *Hist.* [OE. *woruldþegn*], a secular 'thane'; **world-view** [*G. weltanschauung*], contemplation of the world, view of life; so *world-viewer*; **world-wise** a., wise in the things of the world, worldly-wise; **world-worm**, a low creature of earth; **world-year** (see *quot.*).

1847 J. D. MORELL *Hist. Philos.* (ed. 2) I. II. 369 Fichte founded a subjective idealism in which the me was the **world-all*. 1925 R. M. OGDEN tr. *Koffka's Growth of Mind* 347 For a child there is as yet no single world-all. 1927 E. S. PANKHURST *Delphos* v. 49 The **world-auxiliary*, used by everyone as a second language, will obviate the need for any other language save the native one. 1930 *Business Week* 28 May 9/2 French shares for the **World Bank* were offered publicly this week. 1943 *N.Y. Times* 5 Apr. 6/3 Senator Elmer Thomas said... that the establishment of a world bank founded on a standard international coin was inevitable. 1944 *St. Louis (Missouri) Post-Dispatch* 23 July 6A/3 (heading) Russia agrees to boost quota in World Bank. 1973 'D. JORDAN' *Nile Green* xi. 47 The statistical boys... had worked out all the flaws in the World Bank report. 1950 *Sport* 22-28 Sept. 14/2 Such is the magnetism of **world class heavyweight boxers*! 1973 *Daily Express* 11 May 22/1 Keegan, looking every inch a world-class player... scored with a spectacular header. 1973 *Guardian* 22 Oct. 21/4 The timescale of astronomers is human and to those in world class research... too short to waste much time on bumbledom. 1979 *Beautiful British Columbia* Winter 40 A total of more than \$100 million is expected to be spent at Whistler... to make the area competitive with world-class resorts in the United States and Europe. 1927 *New Republic* 21 Sept. 110/2 Our reservations to the resolution adhering to the **World Court* were received with an apathy which was next door to hostility. 1946 *N.Y. Times* 7 Feb. 8/2 (heading) 15 Judges elected for World Court. 1984 *Times* 10 Apr. 1/6 The Reagan Administration said yesterday it believed the World Court in The Hague did not have jurisdiction. 1950 B. WRIGHT *Captain of England* xvii. 154 For the first time in my experience the words **World Cup* began to come into the discussions footballers have when they meet, and as the four British home associations had re-entered F.I.F.A., it was only to be expected that they would... enter this competition. 1954 *Times* 8 Nov. 10/1 (heading) Rugby League results... World Cup. 1967 *Times* 9 Nov. 16/4 (heading) World Cup golf. 1978 R. WESTALL *Devil on Road* x. 185 An action-replay of a World Cup goal on telly. a1618 SYLVESTER *Sonn.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 321 Our little **World-divided* Ile. 1743 FRANCIS tr. *Hor.*, *Odes* III. v. 3 Since world-divided Britain owns his sway. 1899 *Folk-Lore* Mar. 75 Races world-divided in their range and their social conceptions. 1927 K. MALONE in *Amer. Speech* II. 323/2 He... warns against a slavish conformity to the dictionary, i.e., to the prescriptions of standard English, or **world-English*, as some people call it. 1980 *English World-Wide* I. 1. 80 The categories or types of AVE... can be seen as existing across a scale having 'World English' ('book English', 'standard English', 'teachers' preferred English', &c.), at one end, and a national variety most distinct from it at the other. 1899 C. STUMPF *Let.* 8 Sept. in R. B. Perry

Thought & Char. W. James (1935) II. 193 The tumult of a **world fair*—even the thought of it makes me nervous! 1978 P. BOARDMAN *Worlds of Patrick Geddes* vi. 179 A brief... account of the city [sc. Paris]... from pre-Roman times up to the greatest of world fairs. 1898 W. JAMES in *Psychol. Rev.* July 424 The world is evidently more complex than we are accustomed to think it, the 'absolute **world-ground*', in particular, being farther off (as Mr. F. C. S. Schiller has well pointed out) than it is the wont either of the usual empiricisms or of the usual idealisms to think it. 1948 *Scot. Jrm.* *Theol.* I. 121 The most that science, working with its concepts of causation on a different level, can offer is a world-ground, or mind-energy at work in the world. 1946 *N.Y. Times* 28 June 9/1 The vanquished nations... with their large health problems, have acute need of the **World Health Organization* that the United Nations is creating. 1977 *New Scientist* 7 Apr. 3/2 All the more horrendous, then, are the statistics which the World Health Organisation has published to publicise World Health Day, which falls today (7 April). 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* lxiii. In this romantic **world-historic* position of his. 1854 C. C. J. BUNSEN *Outl. Philos. Universal Hist.* I. 64 Both these researches, the philosophical and the **world-historical*, will be reserved for the second volume of our sketch. 1879 GEO. ELIOT *Theo. Such.* xiv. 255 Something truly Roman and world-historical. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. i. ii. Of these ages **World-History* can take no notice. 1902 *Fortn. Rev.* Dec. 1006 A philosophy of history and civilisation... which holds its ground as the basis both of World-history and Christian theology. 1867 W. D. WHITNEY *Lang. & Study Lang.* xii. 469 If we expect... that our tongue become one day a **world-language*, understood and employed on every continent... then it is our bounden duty [etc.]. 1889 *Athenaeum* 24 Aug. 256/3 The two classical and four great modern 'world-languages'. 1899 *Daily News* 3 July, A German Professor has proposed English as a World-language. c1000 *Agg. Ps.* (Th.) ciii. 33 [civ. 35] þæt hio ne wunian on **world-life*. c1200 ORMIN 2980 All þiss weoreld-lif iss full off sinness þeossternesne. c1205 LAY. 32075 þu uindest ænne pape... he þe scal scriuen of pine weorld-lifen. 1848 BAILEY *Festus* (ed. 3) 324 With the world thy part is now... Now behoves to live The worldlife of the future. 1916 *Monthly Notices R. Astron. Soc.* LXXVI. 700 The points of space occupied by a given material point at successive times form in the four-dimensional time-space a continuity of one dimension, which is called the **world-line* of the point. 1946 *Mind* LV. 146 The intersection of the world-lines AM and TM. 1962 *Listener* 27 Dec. 1095/3 According to Einstein's General Theory of Relativity it seems that objects which appear to be responding to the pull of gravity... are simply following the shortest available world-line through the space-time continuum. 1976 *Nature* 1-8 Jan. 30/2 The eollapsing star is represented by some of its (time-like) worldlines including the worldline of its centre. 1831 CARLYLE in *Edin. Rev.* CV. 179 Instead of isolated, mutually repulsive National Literatures, a **World Literature* may one day be looked for? 1908 P. E. MORE *Shelburne Essays* V. 140 Longfellow brought from Germany the ideal of a world literature which should absorb the best of all lands. 1949 WELLEK & WARREN *Theory of Lit.* v. 41 The term 'world literature', a translation of Goethe's *Weltliteratur*, is perhaps needlessly grandiose. 1963 *English Studies* XLIV. 148 He has noted the widespread occurrence of the bond-story of *The Merchant of Venice* in world-literature. 1840 T. GORDON tr. *W. Menzel's Ger. Lit.* I. 265 The **world-old* Oriental idea of the mystic unity of those contrasts which... are all united in God. 1862 STANLEY *Jew. Ch.* (1877) I. i. 7 No modern traveller... has left a written account of this world-old place. 1875 LOWELL *Wordsw.* *Prose Wks.* 1890 IV. 357 The world-old question of matter and form. 1846 TRENCH *Mirac.* *Intro.* (1862) 72 There is a nobler **world-order* than that in which we live and move. 1894 H. DRUMMOND *Ascent of Man* 38 The Struggle for the Life of Others... [is] engrained in the world-order as profoundly as the Struggle for Life. 1923 PERRET & JEFFERY tr. H. Minkowski in *Lorentz's Princ. Relativity* v. 76 A point of space at a point of time, that is, a system of values *x, y, z, t*, I will call a **world-point*. The multiplicity of all thinkable *x, y, z, t* systems of values we will christen the world. 1930 L. SILBERSTEIN *Size of Universe* I. 1 The event thus localized in space... and in time is called a worldpoint. 1967 R. A. GEORGE tr. *Carnap's Logical Structure of World* iv. 194 The points of *n*-dimensional, real-number space, we call *world points*. 1975 R. ADLER et al. *Intro. Gen. Relativity* (ed. 2) iv. 122 An event is a point in four-space: a world-point. 1896 *Daily News* 10 Mar. 6/5 The Minister again declared that Germany did not think of inaugurating a **world-policy*. 1905 *Westm. Gaz.* 24 Mar. 2/1 A world-policy alliance with Japan. 1936 **World-political* [see *anti-Comintern* s.v. ANTI-1 3a]. 1958 S. SPENDER *Engaged in Writing* vii. 133 He was the first world-political, international, intellectual man. 1905 *Daily Chron.* 27 May 3/2 Our Future is on the Sea? Critical Inquiries and Deductions by a German **World Politician*. 1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt. v.* iv. I. 571 Papa [King George I.] and Husband [the King of Prussia] being so blessedly united in their **World-Politics*. 1905 *Daily Chron.* 24 June 4/3 The considerable measure of success which the Kaiser's intervention in Morocco has attained is an instructive lesson in the solidarity of world-politics. 1970 *Daily Tel.* 19 Aug. 10/4 Here in Britain we have two **world-ranking* centres of radio astronomy. 1832 CARLYLE *Remin.* (1881) I. 60 The great **world-revolutions* send in their disturbing billows to the remotest creek. 1911 G. ELLIOT SMITH *Anc. Egyptians* i. 6 The great world-revolution inaugurated by the advent of the Age of Metals. 1874 W. P. MACKAY *Grace & Truth* 160 We protest against the awful power that the **world-rulers* used in former days. 1881 N.T. (R.V.) *Eph.* vi. 12 Our wrestling is not against flesh and blood, but... against the world-rulers [κοσμοκράτορας] of this darkness. 1918 *The Crime* II. 423 The bombastic... vision of the future as it appears to the German World-ruler. 1913 *Collier's* 4 Oct. 5/1 In this next impending **world-series* carnival between Giants and Athletics we have had the hunch [etc.]. 1951 *Time* 12 Mar. 59 For Norwegians... the Holmenkollen is the World Series, and stars such as Hoel and Bjørnstad are Norway's Di Maggios and Musials. 1973 M. WOODHOUSE *Blue Bone* iii. 20 'We could have played half the World Series by now...' 'Yes, we take three days to play a game of cricket.' 1966 B.B.C. *Handbk.* 83 The **World Service* addresses itself to those who understand English, wherever they happen to be—listeners throughout the Commonwealth and English-speaking people in other countries. 1981 *Times* 22 Jan. 8/7 The embassy press officer

... was waiting for news from the World Service of the BBC. 1848 BAILEY *Festus* (ed. 3) 202, I am the **world-soul*, nature's spirit am I. 1856 R. A. VAUGHAN *Mystics* I. iii. 27 The philosophers who believe themselves organs of the world-soul. 1846 G. H. LEWES *Biogr. Hist. Philos.* IV. 212 The **World-Spirit* (*Weltgeist*) has at last succeeded in freeing himself from all incumbrances. 1850 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. III. xxi. The world-spirit can rebuke as sharply as the Spirit which was in John. 1909 INGE *Faith* viii. 129 This World-Spirit was once incarnated in a human life. 1890 COSTELLOE *Ch. Cath.* (1892) 25 She prophesies of a **World-State*, and laughs at the little fences statesmen draw upon the map. 1902 *Daily Chron.* 1 Nov. 3/1 However desirable may be the lot of a small State among small States, the conditions are changed in a world of world-States. 1614 SELDEN *Titles Hon.* 225 Ealdormen, Holdes, Heterrefas, Messethegnes, and **Werldthegnes*. 1839 KEIGHTLEY *Hist. Eng.* I. 83 The mass-thane or clergyman stood on a par with the world-thane or gentleman. 1858 J. MARTINEAU *Stud. Christ.* 321 The deep penetration of his [sc. Paul's] mistaken **world-view*. 1906 D. S. CAIRNS *Christ. in Mod. World* v. 233 Christianity, alike in its Central Gospel, and in its World-view, must come to terms with Hellenism. 1862 GEN. P. THOMPSON in *Bradford Advertiser* 20 Dec. 6/1 More instances will occur to the thoughtful **world-viewer*. c1205 LAY. 13721 þa **weorldewis* mon þa oðere children biwusten. 1845 BAILEY *Festus* (ed. 2) 240 Was he world-wise? 1862 LYTTON *Str. Story* lviii. II. 192 Silently thinking, I walked by the side of the world-wise woman. 1617 FLETCHER *Mad Lover* II. i. Away thou **World-worm*, Thou win a matchless Beauty? 1826 E. IRVING *Babylon* II. 429 Rear your children to be men, not to be world-worms; to be saints, not to be drudges. 1860 CHAMB. *Encycl.* I. 76/1 These Ages were regarded as the divisions of the great **world-year*, which would be completed when the stars and planets had preformed a revolution round the heavens.

27. In the possessive. a. In senses corresponding to those at 25 and 26, as *world's championship*, *record*, *Series*; *world's fair* orig. U.S., an international exposition of arts, science, industry, and agriculture.

1888 *Spaulding's Base-Ball Guide* 47 In 1887 the world's championship series became an established supplementary series of contests. 1910 A. G. SPINK *National Game* 312 The world's championship. 1850 *New-England Farmer* II. 413 The State Board of Agriculture are making up a collection of samples of Indian corn for the World's Fair. 1908 E. TERRY *Story of my Life* xii. 280, I had loved the Chicago of the Lake with the white buildings of the World's Fair shining on it. 1982 J. S. BORTHWICK *Case of Hook-Billed Kites* iv. 193 Like those rides at world's fairs... where you sit in a little car that draws you through different habitats. 1893 *Outing* (U.S.) XXII. 154/2 He has... held the world's record in the pole vault for distance. 1905 *Sporting Life* 7 Oct. 3/1 Jack Sheridan and Hank O'Day have been appointed to umpire the world's series. 1925 F. SCOTT FITZGERALD *Great Gatsby* iv. 88 He's the man who fixed the World's Series back in 1919. 1965 F. O. DU PRE *U.S. Air Force Biogr. Dict.* 58/1 He won the Schneider Cup Race—the World's Series of seaplane racing—in 1925, with an average speed of 232 mph.

b. In hyperbolic phr. *the world's worst* (...), the very worst or most incompetent. *colloq.*

1921 T. WOLFE *Let.* 13 Nov. (1956) 22 'The Woman of Bronze', the world's worst play. 1929 J. B. PRIESTLEY *Good Companions* II. i. 248 She was easily the world's worst as a pianist. 1933 L. EINSTEIN in O. W. Holmes *Holmes-Einstein Lett.* (1964) 352, I hasten to add that they are the world's most famous bridge players and she the world's worst! 1954 R. BISSELL *High Water* i. 11 He shaved every other day and of all the Second Mates in the company they could have dumped on me he was the world's worst. 1962 C. DRAPER *Mad Major* iv. 88, I am probably the world's worst dancer.

c. In colloq. phr. *one of the world's workers*, an industrious person. *Freq. in neg. contexts.*

1933 [see *PULL* v. 25 f]. 1964 D. GRAY *Devil wore Scarlet* x. 91 'Mr. Weston isn't one of the world's workers, exactly,' said Mary. 1976 G. MOFFAT *Short Time to Live* ii. 20 Jackson... is not one of the world's workers, as you must have noticed.

† **world**, *v.* *Obs. rare.* [f. *prec.*] *trans.* a. To furnish with a world of people; to people. Also *intr.* with *it*. b. To bring (a child) into the world.

1589 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* VI. xxxi. 140 Zamois, when Troy must perish, shall send downe her Floods a Fleet, And world it where our Father rulede... But long time hence, that World shall world an Ile. 1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. [I.] lix. 170 Like Lightning, it can strike the childe in the wombe, and kill it ere 'tis worlded.

'**worlded**, (*ppl.*) *a. rare* (chiefly *poet.*). [f. *WORLD sb.* or *v.* + *-ED.*] Containing worlds. Also with qualifying word.

1885 TENNYSON *Tiresias* 167 The fires that arch this dusky dot—Yon myriad-worlded way. 1907 'MARK TWAIN' in *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 44/2, I think there is such a planet... in one of the thinly worlded corners of the universe. 1934 DYLAN THOMAS *18 Poems* 31 How light the sleeping on this soily star, How deep the waking in the worlded clouds.

worldful ('wɜ:ldfʊl). Also *-full*. [f. *WORLD sb.* + *-FUL*.] As much or as many as would fill a world. Chiefly in hyperbolic use.

1846 HARE *Mission Conf.* (1850) 4 Spiritual food wherewith to feed the whole world through all the generations of mankind, and worldfuls over and above. 1879 P. BROOKS *Influence of Jesus* ii. 81 'That through His sonship this world-full of men is to learn that they are God's sons. 1879 BLACK *MacLeod of D.* xxiii. The one small word filled with a whole worldful of light and joy.

† **worldhood**. *Obs. rare.* [f. *WORLD sb.* + *-HOOD*.]

1. Worldly possessions.

15... HEN. VIII in D'Israeli *Amen. Lit.* (1841) II. 136 Content yourselves with what you have already, or else seek honest means whereby to increase your worldhoods.

2. State or condition as a world.

1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 183 Not in the world as now 'tis, but chang'd in its kind of worldhood.

'worldish, *a. rare.* [f. WORLD *sb.* + -ISH¹.] Of or belonging to this world; worldly.

13.. *Cursor M.* 22754 (Edin.) Al pinges þat ani werdische [v.r. worldis] hald wit hings. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 951 Swilk men worldisshe men men calles þat pair luf mast on þe world settes. *Ibid.* 1065-6 þas men worldesshe men men calles. For about worldisshe pynges þai here travaille Ful bysily. 1827 CUNNINGHAM *Lass of Gleneslan-Mill* iv, Wert thou an idol all of gold, Had I the eye of worldish care, I could not . . . love thee mair.

'worldkin, *nonce-wd.* [f. WORLD *sb.* + -KIN.] A little world, microcosm.

1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* II. ix, I too could now say to myself: Be no longer a Chaos, but a World, or even World-kin.

worldless ('wɜ:ldlis), *a. rare.* [f. WORLD *sb.* + -LESS.]

1. Not having a world to live in.

1826? LAMB in *Wks.* (1909) II. 824 Can the houseless have a claim above the worldless?

2. Not containing a world or worlds.

1848 BAILEY *Festus* (ed. 3) 222, I have seen him seize upon an orb, And cast it careless into worldless space. 1856 AIRD *Tragic Poem of Wold* i. i, The timeless, worldless, infinite abyss.

3. Free from the world, unworldly.

1864 TENNYSON *Aylmer's F.* 471 He pluck'd her dagger forth From where his worldless heart had kept it warm.

worldliness ('wɜ:ldlinis). [f. WORLDLY *a.* + -NESS.]

1. The condition of being worldly; devotion to worldly affairs to the neglect of religious duties or spiritual needs; love of the world and its pleasures.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 121 þes proude possessioners lien on seyntis & sclaudren hem wip worldly lif. . . And þei bryngen for þoyntis of here worldlynesse whanne þei diden aenst holy lif & techynge. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 522/1 Werldynesse, *mundialitas*. c 1480 HENRYSON *Fables, Trial of Fox* 36 O fulsche man! plungit in warldlines, To conqueis warldlie gude. c 1590 *Faire Em* I. ii. 41 Yet may our myndes as highly scorne to stoop to base desires of vulgars worldynes. 1685 BAXTER *Paraphr.* N.T. Mark xii. 37 Hypocrites. . . who by their long Liturgies, and Ceremonies, . . . do but cloak their Worldliness, Pride and Oppression. a 1768 SECKER *Serm.*, *Haggai* i. 5 (1771) VII. 12 But, supposing we are clear both of Worldliness and Vanity, still what can we answer with respect to Pleasure? 1845 S. AUSTIN *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* II. 163 The Latin church stood in need of reform. Its thorough worldliness . . . rendered this necessary in a religious view. 1884 PENNINGTON *Wiclit* viii. 266 The sight of the vice and worldliness of many of the bishops around him.

† 2. Worldly affairs. *Obs. rare.*

a 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* v. lxxxiii. (1811) 61 The Saxons . . . couenaunted w^t the Brytons, y^t the Brytons shuld entende theyr worldlynes and other necessities. And the Saxons as theyr Sowdiours shuld defende the lande.

worldling ('wɜ:ldlɪŋ). [f. WORLD *sb.* + -LING. Cf. *G. weltling*.]

1. One who is devoted to the interests and pleasures of the world; a worldly or worldly-minded person.

1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. Jude* 23 b, They bee worldelinges, and geuyng them selues in to the seruice of worldly affectes. 1553 SAUNDERS in Coverdale *Lett. Martyrs* (1564) 214 You haue dronke of the holy spirite with other, vnto whom the knowledge hereof semeth not folysynes (as it doth vnto worlynges). a 1614 J. MELVILL *Autob. & Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 271 The godlie, for his . . . doctrine, lovit him; the warldlings, for his parentage and place, revered him. a 1659 BP. BROWNRIE *Serm.* (1674) I. xxvii. 350 A Worldlings thoughts, like a Fools, are all for the present. 1700 DRYDEN *Ceyx & Alcione* 186 The covetous Worldling in his anxious Mind Thinks only on the Wealth he left behind. 1707 *Curios. in Husb. & Gard.* 19 Trifles, with which those Worldlings are taken up. 1821 BYRON *Mar. Fal.* II. i, The world will think with worldlings; but my heart Has still been in my duties. 1844 LINGARD *Anglo-Sax. Ch.* (1858) II. App. H. 369 The various pretexts under which Worldlings delude themselves and neglect the welfare of their Souls. 1912 LADY BURGHCLERE *Life James, 1st Dk. Ormonde* I. xv. 474 A gay worldling of no known occupation.

† 2. *a.* A 'citizen of the world', cosmopolite. *b.* An inhabitant of the world. *Obs.*

1586 T. B. LA PRIMAUD *Fr. Acad.* (1589) 329 Socrates said, that he tooke not himselfe to be either an Athenian or a Grecian, but a worldling. c 1600 *Timon* I. iv. (Shaks. Soc. 1842) 13 *Gelas*. What cuntreyman, I pray you, sir? *Pseud.* A Wordling. 1625 N. CARPENTER *Geogr. Del.* II. viii. 133 God revealed not this art [of navigation] to the old worldlings. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Bergerac's Com. Hist.* 26 Which our Worldlings call a Moon also. 1816 BYRON *Ch. Har.* III. liii, The heart must Leap kindly back to kindness, though disgust Hath wean'd it from all worldlings.

3. *a. Comb.*, as *worldling-like* adv.

a 1639 WOTTON *Poems, Descr. Country's Recreat.* v, The fond Credulity Of silly Fish, which worldling-like, still look Upon the bait, but never on the hook.

b. attrib. or adj. Worldly.

1720 WELTON *Suffer. Son of God* II. xiv. 377 Those . . . conceal a Wicked and Worldling-heart, under the Garb . . . of Religion. 1845 MANGAN *German Anthol.* I. 74 That to which worldling natures are blind.

worldly ('wɜ:ldli), *a.* Forms and etym.: see WORLD *sb.* and -LY²; also 3 worlich, 8 Sc. warly. [OE. *woruldlic*: cf. OFris. *wraldlik*, OS.

weroldlik, MLG. *wer(l)tlīk*, MDu. *wereldlik*, Du. *-lijk*, OHG. *weraltlīh* (MHG. *wer(e)tlīch*, G. *weltlich*), ON. *veraldligr* (Sw. *verldslig*, Da. *verdslig*).]

1. Of or belonging to this world (as distinguished from the other world); pertaining to or connected with man's earthly existence; earthly, mundane.

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* viii, ðesege . . . hwæðer þe betere pince, nu nanwuht woruldlices fæstes & unhwearfendes bion ne mæg? c 1000 ÆLFRIK *Hom.* I. 60 To forsewennysse woruldlicra æhta. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 149 If he ne mei mid woruldlice echte his neode ibete þet him sare rowep. c 1200 ORMIN 1628 þatt tu þweorrt ut . . . forwerppe All weoreldlike lif & lust. a 1225 *Ankr.* R. 94 þeos siððe [of the bliss of heaven] . . . schal urouren ou more þene muhte eni woruldlich siððe. *Ibid.* 190 Euerich worlich wo is Godes sonde. c 1325 *Song of Yesterday* 29 in *E.E.P.* (1862) 134 þis eorþeli ioie þis worldly bliss Is but a fykel fantasy. c 1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* III. 813 Worldly selynesse Which clerkes callen fals felicity. c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 453 þis is þe freest vss þat men han off worldly godis. 1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 241 Alle fleschly lustys she dede despyse, No werldly wurshepe myht hyr supprise. c 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* 14 Humilite is the first end and wey of frenship and wordely loue. c 1475 *Partenay* 3838 Adieu, my plesaunce And gladnesse worly! 1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* xii. 13 Welth, warldly gloir, and riche array. 1548-9 *Bk. Com. Prayer, Matrimony*, With al my worldly Goodes I thes endowe. 1556 J. HEYWOOD *Spider & Fly* ii. 94 Then doth all worldlie pleasure past apeare . . . all vanitee. 1617 SIR W. MURE *Misc. Poems* xviii. 6 Too sone (alace!) . . . Thy pairt is acted on this worldie stage. 1671 MILTON *P.R.* IV. 213 And thou thy self seem'st otherwise inclin'd Then to a worldly Crown. 1708 PRIOR *Turtle & Sparrow* 139 Exempt from worldly Hopes and Fears. 1742 FIELDING *J. Andrews* IV. viii, The parson . . . persisted in doing his duty without regarding the consequence it might have on his worldly interest. 1784 BURNS 'Green grow the Rashes' iv, Warly cares, an' warly men, May a' gae tapsalteerie, O! 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xlix, Too much a child in worldly matters. 1849 LEVER *Con Cregan* xviii, While I wander along . . . my worldly substance a few dollars. 1856 FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* I. iii. 246 In point of worldly prudence, his conduct was unexceptionably wise. 1871 SMILES *Character* i. (1876) 8 Indeed, goodness in a measure implies wisdom—the highest wisdom—the union of the worldly with the spiritual.

† 2. Of, belonging to, or connected with this world and its inhabitants; earthly, human, mortal.

c 1205 LAY. 6304 Heo wes swiðe wis of wordliche dome. 1340-70 *Alex. & Dind.* 58 þe weies þat were here wordliche makus. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. IV. 371 Who so wol haue to wyue my wordliche daughter. c 1400 MAUNDEW. (Roxb.) Pref. 2 Wald Godd þat þir worldly lordes ware at gude accorde. 1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* xlv, Gif 3e be warldly wight, that dooth me sike. c 1440 *York Myst.* xxvii. 128 No wordly drede shall me withdrawe, That I schall with þe leue and dye. 1528 TINDALE *Obed. Chr. Man* 55 Is it not . . . a monstrous thinge y^t no man shulde be founde able to governe a worldly kingdome save Bisshopes and prelates that have forsaken the worlde. 1558 KNOX *First Blast* (Arb.) 6 Kings, princes and worldlie rulers did conspire against God. 1583 STANYHURST *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 73 Too what soyle worldlye to iourney Thow doost command vs? 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II.* III. ii. 56 The breath of worldly men cannot despoile The Deputie elected by the Lord. 1601 W. PERCY *Cuckqueanes & Cuckolds Errants* IV. i. (Roxb.) 45 Dou. I had a husband once, but he has left mee. *Aru.* A worse then myne the wordly eye beholds not. *Dou.* A worse then myne the heauenly coupe enfolds not. 1614 J. DAVIES in W. BROWNE *Sheph. Pipe*, etc. G 4 b, Of world, ne worly men take thou no keepe. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 193 God did not make the world or worldly beings, that the bigness . . . of them should set forth to us his allfingness.

† *b.* Of the whole world, universal, general. *Obs.*

1538 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 153 Ye do thus admonyshe them, to thintent they shuld . . . eschewe . . . the wordly rebuke that they might incur hereafter. a 1550 *Vox Populi* xi. 38 in *Skelton's Wks.* (1843) II. 410 There is no smale nombre That this faute dothe incombred: Yt is a wordly wondre.

c. Of the terrestrial globe. *rare.*

1812 CARY *Dante, Parad.* I. 40 [The sun] comes; and, to the worldly wax, best gives Its temper and impression.

† 3. Of or belonging to the world (as distinguished from the church or the cloister); secular; *occas.* †lay. *Obs.*

a 900 O.E. *Martyrol.* 7 Mar. 36 He forlet þa wæpna ond þa woruldlican wisan ond eode on þæt mynster. c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 121 Bi colour þat crist was þus worldly lord, þe forþe þei schulden haue þus secular lordschips bi heritage of crist. c 1390 in *Wyclif's Wks.* (Wycl. Soc. 1910) 145 A curat and an officer in wordly seruise. a 1400 HYLTON *Scala Perf.* (W. de W. 1494) I. lxii, It may be that there is many a wyf and many worldlyche woman shall be nerer god than thou. c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 6230 It folowith not that they Shulde . . . her soules leese, That hem to worldly clothes chese; . . . Men may in secular clothes see Florishen hooly religioun. a 1500 *Bernard de Cura rei fam.* I. 4 Sum [books] maide for law of god in document, And opir sum for warldly regiment. c 1500 *Melusine* lvii. 336 There he herd the deuyne seruise deuoutly but yet had he on hys worldly gownes. 1562 JEWEL *Apol. Ch. Eng.* 56 b, What other be the Abbots at this day in y^e Popes kingdom, but worldly Princes? 1658 in Morris *Troubles Cath. Foref.* (1872) I. vi. 315 All this time [of the floods], Shrovetide, some worldly people came in to see the harm which the waters had done us.

4. Of persons, their actions or attributes: Devoted to the world and its pursuits.

c 1320 *Cast. Love* 983 þe worldlich mon euee i-liche Louep ping þat is worldliche. 1340 *Ayenb.* 210 Alle þoȝtes ulesliche and worldliche me ssel digte uram þe herte. c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 89 Worldly prelatis ful of coueitise symonye & heresie. c 1410 LOVE *Bonavent. Mirr.*

xxxii. (1908) 153 Worldely men and fleschely. 1570 GOOGE *Pop. Kingd.* II. 20 Besides more worldly mindes they haue, and of more wanton chere, Than worldlymen. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* I. ii. 89, I thus neglecting worldly ends, all dedicated To closenes. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* XI. 803 The conquer also . . . Thenceforth shall practice how to live secure, Worldlie or dissolute. 1693 PRIOR *To C'tess of Exeter* 26 You far above Both these Your God did place; That Your high Pow'r might worldly Thoughts destroy. 1785 BURNS *Ep. Lapraik* xx, Awa, ye selfish, warly race. 1832 LYTTON *Eugene A.* I. xii, The worldlier passions are the growth of mature years. 1860 HAWTHORNE *Transformation* xii, It is the surest test of genuine love, that it brings back our early simplicity to the worldliest of us. 1875 MANNING *Mission H. Ghost* viii. 218 A man who is trying to serve two masters is a worldly man. 1902 VIOLET JACOB *Sheep-Stealers* xi, The 'Green Dragon' . . . was the point of migration to the worldly part of the county, just as the Cathedral was the point of migration to the spiritual.

5. *Comb.*, as *worldly-witted* adj.; †worldly-handed *a.*, occupied in worldly or secular employment; worldly-minded *a.*, having a worldly mind, having the thoughts set upon the things of this world (hence 'worldly-mindedness').

1657 J. WATTS *Vind. Ch. Eng.* 256 You have brought us to be 'worldly-handed men, handy-crafts-men. 1601 *Song of Mary* in Farr *Sel. P. Eliz.* (Parker Soc.) II. 426 The world disdaineth them; And why? because they are not 'worldly-minded. 1611 Bible Luke xiv. (heading), Vnder the parable of the great supper, sheweth how worldly minded men . . . shalbe shut out of heauen. a 1838 [see UNHUMBLED *ppl. a.*] a 1628 PRESTON *Mt. Ebal* (1638) 36 *Worldly mindednesse . . . begets coldnesse of affection. 1748 HARTLEY *Observ. Man* II. iv. §4. 405 Men . . . carried from Worldly-mindedness to Heavenly-mindedness. 1849 LONGF. *Kavanagh* vii. Prose Wks. 1886 II. 313 Evil propensities, and self-seeking, and worldly-mindedness. 1563 *Homilies* II. *Inform. Places Script.* I. Sssjb, And some 'worldlye witted men, thynke it a great decaye to . . . their common wealthes, to geue eare to the simple . . . preceptes of . . . Christ. 1845 MRS. NORTON *Child of Islands* (1846) 168 The shallow craft of worldly-witted fools.

Hence (chiefly *nonce-wds.*) 'worldlify *v. trans.*, to render worldly; †worldlihood, worldliness; 'worldlily *adv.*, in a worldly manner; †worldlyship, worldliness.

1612 T. JAMES *Jesuits' Downf.* 57 When religion was once 'worldified in him, and that state-matters . . . had so great a part in his studies. c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* III. vii. 319 Tho persoones . . . were religiose men, forsaking miche of 'worldlihode and of fleischlihode. 1818 BENTHAM *Ch. Eng.*, *Ch. Eng. Catech. Exam.* 122 Hired and 'worldly-interested advocates. 1825 T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. *Doubts & F.* iv, He began to reconsider *worldly* and suspiciously all the incidents. c 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 151 And þis 'worldlyship shal laste as longe as prelatis ben þus worldli.

worldly ('wɜ:ldli), *adv.* [f. after prec. with -LY². Cf. OHG. *werltlīchi*.] In a worldly manner; with a worldly intent or disposition: freq. qualifying an adj. used attrib. (and hyphenated). See also next.

a 1225 *Ankr. R.* 234 Alle þe haluwen weren worldliche itented. 1340-70 *Alex. & Dind.* 427 We ben busy of no swink nor no burn maken For to wirchen our wil & wordliche serue. c 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. II. 151 Here is þe world taken for men þat lyuen worldli. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 162 It were als litel nede or lasse, That thou so worldly wolt compasse With flaterie forto serve. c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 104 þei lifen worldly, & hidun þer vicis wip a veyn higt of better lif. c 1485 *Wisdom* 405 Her is a man that leuith wardly. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 20 Worldly lyuynge chrysten people. 1534 MORE *Conf. agst. Trib.* III. xi. Pjb, Those worldly disposed people. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* XII. 568 By things deemed weak Subverting worldly strong, and worldly wise By simply meek. 1700 DRYDEN *Wife of Bath's Tale* 493 Since I see your Mind is Worldly bent. 1883 H. DRUMMOND *Nat. Law in Spir.* W. (ed. 2) 197[A] lowering of religious tone to the level of the worldly-religious world around. 1884 J. TAIT *Mind in Matter* (1892) 332 They embrace and sanctify every form of worldly-personal consequence. 1896 BLACK *Briseis* xvii, Worldly-pious waverings.

'worldly-wise (stress variable), *a.* Wise in a worldly manner or in worldly affairs; *transf.* of actions or conduct. Also *absol.*

c 1400 26 *Pol. Poems* i. 45 Worldly wys is gostly nys. c 1415 *Crowned King* 85 þou most be worldly wys & ware þe bytymes. 1540 COVERDALE *Fruitf. Less.* To Rdr. (1593) ¶ 3 b, This is peraduenture laughed to scorne of the vnexpert, proud, worldly wise. 1562 PILKINGTON *Expos. Abdyas* Ee ij, These Edomites . . . picked oute . . . the worldly wisest men, thei coule finde to be their rulers. 1667 [see prec.] 1753-4 RICHARDSON *Grandison* II. xiii. 97 It was now, in the worldly-wise way of thinking, become his interest to keep up the distance . . . between them. 1851 MRS. BROWNING *Casa Guidi Wind.* I. 485 The friars with worldly-wise Keen sidelong glances. 1865 KINGSLEY *Hereu.* iv, The lads . . . imposed on by the cynical and worldly-wise tone which their . . . uncle had assumed.

b. *worldly wiseman* (cf. WISE MAN): a worldly-wise man; now only with allusion to the character so named in Bunyan's *Pilgrim's Progress*. So †worldly wiseling [-LING].

1591 LODGE *Catharos* (Hunter. Club) 22 Oh worldly wiseman, you are still entering into the marrow of matters. 1620 DONNE *Serm.*, *Ps. cxlv.* 15 (1640) 749 Not onely a worldly wiseman, but a Christian wiseman may reach out both hands, to both kinds of blessings, . . . spirituall and temporall. 1681 H. MORE *Exp. Dan.* Pref. 30 The worldly Wiselings who for coarse carnal ends decry all pretence to the understanding of Prophecies. 1821 *Blackw. Mag.* VIII. 434 There worldly wisemen sold the damaged beast.

'world-man. [OE. *woruldman*, f. *woruld* WORLD *sb.* + *MAN sb.*']

1. A man of this world, a human being.

a900 CYNEWULF *Crist* 1016 Woruldmonna seo unclæne gecynd. a1000 *Boeth. Metr.* xxviii. 10 An para tungla woruldmen hatað wænes pīsla. c1205 LAY. 28131 Nulleþ [hii] hit biginne for nane woruld-monne [later text worleþinge].

1852 BAILEY *Festus* (ed. 5) 341 The hero is the world-man, in whose heart One passion stands for all, the most indulged.

†2. A man who is devoted to this world; a worlbling. *Obs.*

a1225 *Leg. Kath.* 881 Ichulle fordon þe wisdom of peos wise world men. 1601 BP. W. BARLOW *Eagle & Body* (1609) E2b, An infallible note, he will not say of a reprobate, but certainly of a worldman, not yet regenerate.

'world-power. [After G. *weltmacht*.]

1. The power of 'this world' (as distinguished from the spiritual world); secular power.

1866 BARING-GOULD *Cur. Myths Mid. Ages, Antichr.* & *Pope Joan* 159 Christ will descend to avenge the blood of the saints, by destroying Antichrist and the world-power. 1884 *Expositor* Feb. 89 To crush the heathen world-power, and thereby abolish idolatry.

2. Any of the powers (nations, empires) that dominate the world. Also *transf.* of a person.

1860 PUSEY *Min. Proph.* 409 He has, like all great world-powers, a real dignity and majesty. 1900 *Congress Rec.* 29 Jan. 1259/1 We have become a 'world power'. 1901 B. HARRISON in *N. Amer. Rev.* Feb. 184 If the World Powers have any recognized creed, it is that it is their duty as 'trustees for humanity' to take over the territories of all the weak and decaying nations. 1904 J. GAIRDNER in *Camb. Mod. Hist.* II. xiii. 472 The foundation of England's greatness as a world-power.

†**world-riche.** *Obs.* Also 4 worldesriche. [OE. *woruldriche*: see *WORLD sb.* and *RICHE sb.*] 'The kingdom of the world', the world.

c897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past.* C. iv. 38 þa he hine asced of ðæm worlðrice. c1200 ORMIN 11800 þurh þatt to lape gast himm bæd All weoreldrichess ahhete. c1205 LAY. 17182 Swa wid swa is weorlde-riche nis nan weorc his iliche. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 366 To seche in al this worldesriche, Men schal noht finde upon his liche. *Ibid.* II. 130, I hadde hir levere than a Myn Of Gold; for al this worldesriche Ne mihte make me so riche As sche.

†**'worldship.** *Obs.* [OE. *woruldscipe*: see *WORLD sb.* and *-SHIP*.] Worldly things.

c897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past.* C. xviii. 130 Nele nan Godes ðeow hiene selfne to ungemetlice gebindan on worlðscipum. c1200 ORMIN 1633 Swille lif iss all þwerit ut dæd Fra weoreldshipess luttess.

World War, world war. [f. *WORLD sb.* + *WAR sb.*]; cf. G. *weltkrieg*.] 1. A war involving many important nations; *spec.* that of 1914-18 or of 1939-45.

1909 *Westm. Gaz.* 8 Apr. 4/2 This... is the type of dirigible by which in a world-war... 360,000 German troops could be transported from Calais to Dover in half an hour. 1914 B. VAUGHAN *What of To-Day?* xii. 103 What the South African War failed to teach I really believe this world-war will bring home to us. 1921 A. HUXLEY *Crome Yellow* ix. 82 Armageddon, that world war with which the Second Coming is to be so closely associated. 1949 G. A. BIRMINGHAM *Laura's Bishop* 171 To call this, when it comes, a world war is to minimize its importance. It will be worse than a world war. 1978 I. B. SINGER *Shosha* v. 90 Let's snatch a little peace before another world war breaks out.

2. In the designation of a particular (real or hypothetical) war, as *First World War*, *World War (No.) I* (or *One*): see *FIRST a. C. 2 a*; *Second World War*, *World War (No.) II* (or *Two*): a subsequent world war, *spec.* that of 1939-45: see *SECOND a. 7 a*; *Third World War*, *World War (No.) III* (or *Three*): see *THIRD a. 5*. Also *transf.*

1919 *Manch. Guardian* 18 Feb. 10/2 (*heading*) World War No 2. 1939 *Time* 11 Sept. 38/1 Some of the diplomatic juggling which last week ended in World War II was old-fashioned international jockeying for power. *Ibid.* 18 Sept. 10/2 Exports of arms, munitions and related materials in World War I amounted... to only 25% of total exports to the Allies. 1945 DUKE OF BEDFORD *Let.* 16 Apr. in B. Russell *Autobiogr.* (1969) III. i. 44 You will have to postpone your visit until the brief interlude between this war & world-war no 3. 1947 *Time & Tide* 29 Nov. 1269/2 The despair and cynicism that followed what it has now become fashionable to call World War One. 1948 N. WIENER *Cybernetics* 7 When I came to the Institute after World War No. 1 [etc.]. 1959 *N.Z. Listener* 17 Apr. 6/1 Clearly the meaning of the treaties in case of wars which can be limited is somewhat different from the meaning they have in the event of World War III. 1963 D. BROWN *Egypt's Choice* i. 12 'During World War Deuce, sir,' the Colonel said. 1968 K. BIRD *Smash Glass Image* viii. 102 Rattling their rifles as if they were fighting World War Three. 1968 *Listener* 12 Dec. 787/3 When World War Two broke out on 3 September 1939, Monnet remembered his World War One experiences. 1976 P. R. WHITE *Planning for Public Transport* iv. 72 As early as World War One some minor stations and routes were closed.

worldward ('wɜ:ldwəd), *adv.* (a.) [f. *WORLD sb.* + *-WARD*.]

1. (orig. *to the worldward*) In regard to the world; in worldly respects.

1583 GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* iv. 19 Although I be rich and honorable to the worldward. 1587 — *De Mornay* xvi. (1617) 283 Considering man what hee is to Godward, to the Worldward, to Manward and to himselfe. a1617 BAYNE *Lect.* (1634) 148 Such as live worldward just, but have no oare of religion. a1639 W. WHATELEY *Prototypes* i. vi.

(1640) 82 Be not Hypocrites, satisfied with some external shew of religiousnesse, and orderly living to the world-ward. 1651 J. READING *Guide Holy City* xix. 215 Another man riseth in honours... another is many waies prosperous to the world-ward.

2. Towards or in the direction of the world.

1642 ROGERS *Naaman* 45 Thoughts that were roving helward, worldward, and sinward. 1865 LOWELL *Thoreau Prose Wks.* 1890 I. 368 Emerson... has drawn steadily manward and worldward.

B. adj. Directed towards or facing the world.

1857 J. HAMILTON *Lessons fr. Gt. Biog.* 261 Over his general and world-ward conduct his eye could glide with prevailing satisfaction. 1883 *Evang. Mag.* Oct. 464 Such vanities had a worldward tendency. 1900 *Longm. Mag.* May 26 They chose a beggar from the world outside To keep their worldward door for them.

So 'worldwards *adv.*, in respect of the world.

1845 BAILEY *Festus* (ed. 2) 79 Thy church,—One, universal, and invisible World-wards, yet manifest unto itself.

worldwide (stress variable), *a.* Also world-wide. [f. *WORLD sb.* + *WIDE a.*]

a. 'As wide as the world'; extending over or covering the whole world.

1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* II. 71, I had the ground to be a pillow, and the world-wide-fields to be a chamber.

1842 TENNYSON *Locksley Hall* 125 The world-wide whisper of the south-wind rushing warm. 1851 MRS. BROWNING *Casa Guidi Wind.* I. 899 The world-wide throes Which went to make the popedom. 1860 WORCESTER, *World-wide*, coextensive with the world; as, 'World-wide fame'. 1877 C. GEIKIE *Christ* lvii. (1879) 693 The Jews thought Christ would raise Israel to world-wide supremacy. 1896 HOUSMAN *Shropshire Lad* xlii, The world-wide air was azure. 1912 *Athenæum* 24 Aug. 183/1 The problems he undertook to solve were worldwide.

b. as *adv.*

1892 E. REEVES *Homeward Bound* 294 Where in caves live the world-wide known gipsies. 1953 *Reader's Digest* July 27 World-wide, three million dogs have already safely got this... vaccine. 1972 *Nature* 24 Mar. 184/3 Workers in the field number no more than about fifty, worldwide. 1980 *Bookseller* 14 June 2528/1 (*Advt.*), Subscriptions manager required for expanding publishing business trading worldwide.

Hence **worldwidely *adv.*, worldwideness. nonce-wds.**

1897 *Daily News* 25 Nov. 5/1 World-widely famous. 1920 *19th Cent.* July 37 Don Sturzo's ambitions are Caesarean in their world-wideness.

†**'worldy, a. Obs. rare.** [f. *WORLD sb.* + *-y*.] (The difficulty of writing *-ldl-* correctly makes it probable that some examples are errors for *worldly*.)] *Worldly*.

c1380 *Sir Ferumbas* 5202 þan scholdest þow of al þis lond be kyng, And y þy quene, my swete þyng, & þy worldy make. 1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburga* 1. 2539 Worldy desyres she clerely dyd subdue. 1526 TINDALE *Eph.* vi. 12 For we wrestle... agaynst power, and agaynst worldy ruelars of the darknes of this worlde. 1552 AEP. HAMILTON *Catech.* (1884) 5 Nothing in this life apperis to warldy men mair faill.

worley, worlie, var. forms of WURLEY.

worling, var. WARLING Obs.

worm (wɜ:m), *sb.* Forms: 1 *wyrm*, 3, 5-6 *Sc. wirm(e)*, (3 *wrim*, 5 *wyrme*, 6 *Sc. virme*); 1-3 *weorm*, 3-5 *werme*, 4-5 *werme*; 1-4 *wurm*, (3 *wurem*, *Orm. wurrm*, 3, 5 *wrm*); 6 *wourme*, *Sc. woirme*, 6-7 *woorme*, 4-7 *worme*, 3- *worm*. [OE. *wyrm* (:—**wurmi-z*) = OFris. *wirm* (WFr. *wjrm*, NFr. *würm*, EFr. *wurm*), OS. *wurm* serpent (MLG., LG. *worm*, MDu., Du. *worm*), OHG., MHG., G. *wurm* †serpent, worm; also (with *a*-stem) ON. *ormr* (for **wormr*) serpent (Sw., Norw., Da. *orm*); the stem of Goth. *waurns* *ōpis* is uncertain. Related to L. *vermis* worm, Gr. *ῥόμος, ῥόμοξ* wood-worm.]

In this word, as in *WORM* and *WORT*, the spelling *wo* is an early graphic substitution for *wu* (cf. ME. *wolf*, *wolle*, *wonder*, for OE. *wulf*, *wull*, *wunder*), and this again is a reversion from OE. *wy* (i.e. *wū*) to the unmutated vowel through the influence of the following *r*. More normal developments of OE. *wyrm* appear in the ME. (eastern and Sc.) *wirm* and (south-eastern) *wurm*.]

1. 1. A serpent, snake, dragon. Now only *arch.*

Beowulf 2287 þa se wyrm onwoc. c1000 ÆLFRED *Deut.* xxxii. 24 Ic sende wildeora teð on hi mid wurmum & næddrum. c1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 321 He... Wente in to a wirme, and tolde eue a tale. c1290 *St. James* 179 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 39 A fuyr Drake þar-opon a-3ein heom cominde huy seize... Anon hadde þis lufere worm is pouwer al ilore. a1300 *Cursor M.* 5896 þan tok aaron þis ilk yeird, And on þe flore he kest it don, And it become a worme felon. 13... *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 720 Sumwhyle wyth wormez he werrez, & with wolues als. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. xi. 66 Whi wolde God vr saueour suffre such a worm In such a wrong wyse þe wommon to bi-gyle? c1475 *Partenay* 5859 The serpent fill don dede... Which worme was ny ryght ten hole feete of length. 1526 TINDALE *Acts* xxviii. 4 When the men off the countree sawe the worme hange on hys honde. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* v. ii. 243 Hast thou the pretty worme of Nylus there, That killes and paines not? 1667 MILTON *P.L.* ix. 1068 O Eve, in evil hour thou didst give care To that false Worm. 1727 POPE *To Mr. John Moore* iii, That ancient Worm, the Devil. 1778 W. HUTCHINSON *View Northumb.* ii. 162 The Laidley Worm of Spindleston Heughs. 1784 COWPER *Task* vi. 780 The mother sees, And smiles to see,

her infant's playful hand Stretch'd forth to dally with the crested worm. 1867 MORRIS *Jason* x. 258 Therewith began A fearful battle betwixt worm and man.

†2. a. Any animal that creeps or crawls; a reptile; an insect. *Obs.* In ME. often *wild worm*.

Cf. *blind-worm, slow-worm* (a lizard); also *galleyworm, glow-worm*.

c893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* i. vii, Froxas comon... swa fela þæt man ne mihte... nanne mete gegyrwan, þæt þara wyrma nære emfela þæm mete, ær he gegearwod wære. c1000 ÆLFRED *Deut.* iv. 18 Ne wyrce ge eow... nane anlicnyssa... ne fugeles, ne wyrmes [reptilium], ne fisses. c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 51 þer wunies fower cunnes wurmes inne [viz. adders, toads, frogs and crabs]. a1225 *Ancr. R.* 206 þe scorpiun is ones cunnes wurm. c1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2982 Dis wurmes [frogs and toads] storuen in ðe stede. c1325 *Sir Orfeo* 252 (Sisam) Now seþ he nopring þat him likeþ, Bot wilke wurmes bi him strikeþ. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xiv. 112 Brides and bestes... And wilde wurmes in wodes. c1386 CHAUCER *Pard.* T. 27 If Cow or Calf or Sheepe or Oxe swelle That any worm hath ete or worm ystonge. ? c1400 *LYDG. Æsop's Fab.* v. 117 Thus were these wurmes [the frog and mouse] contrary of living. 1535 COVERDALE *Exod.* viii. 21, I wil cause cruell wurmes (or flies) to come vpon the. 1561 HOLLYBUSH *Hom. Apoth.* 37 Cantarides... are grene wurmes shewing with a glosse lyke golde. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* II. xxxvii. 196 This herbe dryueth away... the stinking wurmes or Mothes called Cimici. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. viii. 41 b, Certaine small flying wurmes, which with their billes and stinges picking the other figs, sodaynely after they are picked, they come to a good and perfect ripenesse. 1587 TURBERV. *Trag. Tales* ix. 128 b, Vnderneath this bed of Sage, The fellow that did dig, Turnd vp a toade, a loathsome sight, A worme exceeding big. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* vii. 476 At once came forth whatever creeps the ground, Insect or Worme. 1805 WORDSW. *Prelude* xiv. 274 The meek worm that feeds her lonely lamp Couched in the dewy grass. 1820 SHELLEY *Prometheus Unb.* iv. 545 Ye beasts and birds, Ye worms, and fish.

†b. Applied (like *vermin*) to four-footed animals considered as noxious or objectionable. *Obs.*

c1400 *Destr. Troy* 1573 Lions & Libardes & other laithe wurmes. 1481 CAXTON *Reynard* xxxiv. (Arb.) 100 Alas me groweth of thise fowle nyckers [sc. young marmosets]... I sawe neuer fowler wurmes.

3. a. A member of the genus *Lumbricus*; a slender, creeping, naked, limbless animal, usually brown or reddish, with a soft body divided into a series of segments; an earthworm. More widely, any annelid, terrestrial, aquatic, or marine.

Also with defining term, as *dew, earth, ground, lug, mud, pipe, rag, rain, sand, sea, tag, tube, water*: see the words.

a1100 *Voc.* in Wr.—Wülcker 320/31 *Uermis, wyrm*. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P.R.* xviii. cxv. (1495) hhi b/1 Some ben water wurmes and some ben londe wurmes. c1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 44 Maddockis, þat ben wurmes of þe erpe. c1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 530/1 *Wyrm, vermis*. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 234 b, Lyke as the worme y^e is crused or poisoned, may scanty crepe or lyfte vp her heed. 1530 PALSGR. 290/2 *Worme* in the erthe, *uers de terre*. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* 149 A marrish is to be preferred before a dry ground, that they [viz. swine] may... digge vp woormes. 1608 SHAKS. *Per.* iv. i. 79, I neuer... trode vpon a worme against my will, but I wept fort. 1731 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. 1. 269 The slimy tribe of Snails and Worms. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VII. 144 We now are in doubt whether he means a real worm, or a young animal of the lizard species. 1840 NEWMAN *Paroch. Serm.* V. viii. 128 Like worms working their way upwards through the dust of the earth. 1855 KINGSLEY *Glaucus* (1878) 166 *Pectinaria Belgica*... is an Annelid, or true worm. 1855 GOSSE *Mar. Zool.* i. 84 The Sea-mouse (*Aphrodita*) one of the most common as well as the largest of our Worms. 1881 DARWIN *Form. Veget.* *Mould* i. 13 Worms are nocturnal in their habits.

b. Prov. *tread on a worm and it will turn*: i.e. even the humblest will resent extreme ill-treatment. Also in variant or abbreviated forms, e.g. *even a worm will turn*.

Cf. F. *un ver se recoquille bien quand on marche dessus*.

1546 HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 52 Tread a woorme on the tayle and it must turne agayne. a1548, 1641 [see *TURN v.* 66 d]. 1593 SHAKS. *3 Hen. VI.* II. ii. 17 The smallest Worme will turne, being troden on. 1611, 1641 [see *TURN v.* 59 c]. 1691 S. SHAW *Diff. Humours Men* 18 He has scarce the courage of a Worm, to turn at him that treads upon him. 1818 [see *WOUND v.* 3]. 1857 G. A. LAWRENCE *Guy Liv.* xxv. 245 It exhausted the patience of the much-enduring Willis; so that the worm turned again—insolently. 1864 BROWNING *Mr. Sludge* 72 Tread on a worm, it turns, sir! If I turn, Your fault!

†c. *naked as a worm*: entirely naked (= F. *nu comme un ver*), or in allusion to this. *Obs.*

? a1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 454 Nakid as a worme was she. c1386 — *Clerk's T.* 824 Lat me nat lyk a worm go by the weye. c1450 *Cov. Myst.*, *Fall of Man* 291, I walke as worm with-outyn wede. a1467 [see *NAKED a.* 1 b].

†d. *to look worms*: ? to peer narrowly (through). *Obs.* (But perh. a corrupt reading.)

c1600 *Timon* I. ii, I'll make the[e] looke worms through the pryson grates, Vnlesse thou satisfie to me my debt.

e. *transf.* and *fig. phr.* *worm's-eye view* [after *bird's-eye view* (BIRD'S-EYE *a.* 3); see also *EYE VIEW*], a view taken as from the standpoint of a worm, i.e. from ground-level; a revealing or detailed perspective of a subject. Also *worm's-eye map* (Geol.) (see *quot.* 1972).

1908 [see *EYE VIEW, EYE-VIEW*]. 1933 *Archit. Rev.* LXXIII. 67/2 The illustration is a worm's-eye view of a corner of the building. 1945 A. HUXLEY *Time must have Stop* xiv. 145 He... looked... up at the statue above him. What a curious worm's-eye view of a goddess! 1951 KRUMBELN & SLOSS *Stratigr. & Sedimentation* xiii. 421 Such

paleogeologic maps, in which the observer looks upward at the base of a higher unit, have been called worm's eye maps. **1960** John o' London's 14 Apr. 428/3 His 'worm's eye view' of Dublin was beginning to give way to the great vision of a major artist. **1964** Bull. Amer. Assoc. Petroleum Geologists XLVIII. 1187/2 A lap-out map, commonly known as a 'worm's eye' map, is a special method of paleogeologic expression where post-unconformity geologic relations are portrayed. **1972** Gloss. Geol. (Amer. Geol. Inst.) 797/1 *Worm's-eye map*, (a) a term applied, in reference to the pattern of formations that would be visible to an observer looking upward at the bottom of the rocks overlying a given surface. (b) A map showing overlap of sediments. **1982** A. PRICE *Old Vengeful ix*. 147 This is the worm's-eye view of what you seek. If you wish for the eagle's-eye view, you must go to Paris.

4. Any endoparasitic helminth breeding in the living body of men and other animals. *Usu. pl.* (formerly often with *the*). Also, the disease or disorder constituted by the presence of these parasites.

The numerous kinds are indicated by a defining term, as *flat, gourd, Guinea, hair, mau, palisade, pin, round, tape, thread*: see these words.

c 1000 Sax. *Leechd.* II. 120 Wip þam wyrmm þe innan eglāð sam men. **c 1290** Becket 2213 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 170 Ful of wormes was is flesch. **1382** Wyclif *Acts* xii. 23 And he waastid of wormes, deiende. **c 1440** *Alphabet of Tales* 466 Als lang as he liffid after, wormes & mawkis bred in his flesch & eate it away. **1486** Bk. St. Albans cvij b, A medecyne for wormys called anguillis. **1523-34** FITZHERB. *Husb.* §103 The wormes is a lyght dyscase, and they lye in the greate panche, in the belye of the horse, and they are shynynge, of colour lyke a snake, syxe inches in lengthe. **a 1530** J. Heywood *Play of Love* 676 (Brandl) Wherby loue is a drynk mete To gyue babes for wormes, for it drynketh bytter swete. **1630** RANDOLPH *Aristippus* 25 The King of Russia had died of the wormes, but for a powder I sent him. **1652** W. POOLE *Country Farrier* 33 To cure the Wormes, or Bottes that doe wring his belly. **1665** *Golden Coast, Guinney* 10 There is a kinde of long Worm, that ariseth in the Legs, Arms, and Thighs of some men that come hither. **1705** BOSMAN *Guinea* xiii. (1721) 94 The National Diseases here are the Small-Pox and Worms. **1732** ARBUTHNOT *Rules of Diet* (1736) 413 Children subject to Worms ought not to live much upon Milk, Cheese, or ripe Fruits. **1822** GOOD *Study Med.* (1829) I. 365 In an attack upon worms, brisk cathartics should always take the lead. **1826** J. EVANS *Brit. Herbal* 57 Germander, the juice of the leaves dropped in the ears killeth the worms in them. **1898** P. MANSON *Trop. Diseases* xxxvi. 534 A dose of santolin often produces results which will seem to justify a diagnosis of 'worms.'

5. a. The larva of an insect; a maggot, grub, or caterpillar, esp. one that feeds on and destroys flesh, fruit, leaves, cereals, textile fabrics, and the like. Also collect. *the worm*, as a destructive pest.

With defining term prefixed, as *book, caddis, canker, case, fawel, horn, measuring, palmer, red, rook, silk, slug, span, tobacco, whirl, white, wire*: see these words.

a 1000 Riddles xlviij. 3 Me þæt puhte wærlæcu wyrd. . þæt se wyrmm forswælg wera gied sumes. **a 1225** Ancr. R. 138 Wiðuten salt fleshs gedereð wormes. . & forroteð sone. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 10045 þo grene corn in somer ssolede curne. To foule wormes muchedel þe eres gonne turne. **a 1300** *Cursor M.* 6612 þai fand bot wormes creuland emid [i.e. in the manna]. **1398** TREvisa *Barth. De P.R.* xvii. cxiv. (Tollemache MS.) In somer þe tender leues þerof bep eten with smal schaggas, and with oper wormes. **1415** HOCLEVE *To Sir John Oldcastle* 466 The worm for to sleen in the pesecod. **c 1440** *Palladius on Husb.* iv. 965 Now pike out moughthes, attercoppes, wormes, And butterflie whos thot engendering worm is. **1450-1530** Myrr. *our Ladye* p. xxv. The Chambres schal haue al the clothes in her warde, . . making, repayryng, and keyping them from wormes. **1578** LYTE *Dodoens* iv. lx. 522 The small wormes that are found within the knoppes or heades of Teaselles. **1601** SHAKS. *Tuel. N.* II. iv. 114 She. . let concealment like a worme i'th budde Feede on her damaske cheeke. **1608** TOPSELL *Serpents* 78 The small Wormes of the Drones. **c 1630** MILTON *Arcades* 53 Or what the cross dire-looking Planet smites, Or hurtfull Worm with canker'd venom bites. **1654** WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 230 Books are subject among other Chances to fire, and the Worme. **1677** *Rector's Bk. Clayworth* (1910) 35, I observed worms in wheat and Rye. **1718** PRIOR *Solomon* III. 132 The Worm that gnaws the ripening Fruit. **1797** in A. Young *Agric. Suffolk* 39 Wheat never plants kindly after a thin crop of clover; but is subject to the worm, and to be root fallen. **1807** CRABBE *Par. Reg.* III. 239 The crawling worm, that turns a summer-fly. **1847** EMERSON *Repr. Men, Shakesp.* Wks. (Bohn) I. 358 They have left. . no file of old yellow accounts to decompose in damp and worms. **1848** THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xli, The worms have eaten the cloth a good deal. **1857** KINGSLEY *Lett.* (1877) II. 41 The office of worms in this world is to prevent, while they seem to accelerate, putrefaction. **1884** J. PHIN *Dict. Apicult.* 78 When worms are spoken of by the ordinary beekeeper, the larvæ of the bee-moth are almost always meant. **1886** *Tobacco* (ed. Lock) 55 Worms, in the American phraseology, here generally known as caterpillars, are the *bête noire* of the tobacco grower.

fig. **1557** R. EDGEWORTH *Serm.* 305 b, Pride, which is the mought, the worme that eateth vp the riche men. **1860** PUSEY *Min. Proph.* 287 Nothing can man have so pleasing, green, and, in appearance, so lasting, which has not its own worm prepared by God, whereby, in the dawn, it may be smitten and die.

b. The larva or grub of many kinds of beetles, destructive to trees, timber, furniture, etc. (Cf. **9** and *wood-worm* (WOOD sb.¹ 10 b).)

a 1100 Gloss. in Wr.-Wülcker 121/35 *Termes, uel teredo*, wyrmm þe borað treow. **c 1386** CHAUCER *Wife's Prol.* 376 Right as wormes shendeth a tree. **c 1470** E.E. *Misc.* (Warton Club) 70 Iff wormys wex in a tre. **1531** ELVOT *Gov.* II. xiv. ¶1 As the wormes do brede moste gladly in softe wode and swete. **1567** *Satir. Poems Reform.* iv. 154 As the worme that workis vnder cuire At lenth the tre consumis that is duire. **1601** HOLLAND *Pliny* xvii. xxiv. I. 539 As touching the Worme, some trees are more subject unto it than others.

1657 R. AUSTEN *Fruit Trees* I. (ed. 2) 72 Four Diseases that sometimes happen to Fruit-trees. Mossiness, Bark bound, Canker, and Wormes. **1733** W. ELLIS *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 190 The Worm is very apt to get between the Bark of this Wood after it is fell'd. **1807** CRABBE *Par. Reg.* III. 236 Worms ate the floors, the tap'stry fled the wall. **1925** C. J. GAHAN *Furniture Beetles* 5 Furniture or . . . woodwork. . . destroyed by what is commonly known as the worm—little six-legged, white grubs which live inside the wood, devouring it and turning it to powder.

c. contextually. A silkworm.

a 900 *Leiden Riddle* 9 Uyrmas mec ni auefun uyndicraftum. **1559** W. CUNINGHAM *Cosmogr. Glasse* 196 In this country breed the Wormes which make silk. **1599** T. M[OUFET] *Silkwormes* 53, I thinke that God and nature thought it meete, The noblest wormes on noblest tree to feede. **1604** SHAKS. *Oth.* III. iv. 73 The Wormes were hallowed, that did breede the Silke. **1626** MIDDLETON *Anything for Quiet Life* II. ii, An especial good piece of Silke; the Worm never spun a finer thread. **1634** MILTON *Comus* 715 Spinning Worms, That in their green shops weave the smooth-hair'd silk. **1707** MORTIMER *Husb.* 220 It is good to let the [Mulberry] Leaves be clear of Dew or Rain before you give them unto the Worms. **1887** *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 59/1 As these moulting periods approach, the worms lose their appetite and cease eating.

6. a. A maggot, or, in popular belief, an earthworm, supposed to eat dead bodies in the grave.

a 900 *Juliana* 416 þæs lichoman sepe on leȝ re sceal weorðan in worulde wyrme to hropor. **a 1000** *Soul & Body* 114 Rib reafað reðe wyrmas. **c 1200** *Vices & Virtues* 15 We beoð wiðuten al swa ðe deade mannes pruh, þe is wiðuten iwhited, and wiðinne stinkende and full of wormes. **c 1250** *Death* 157 in O.E. *Misc.* 178 Nu þe sculen wormes [Jesus MS. wurmes] wunien wiðinne. **a 1300** *Cursor M.* 14321 Wormes bigennes at ete him nu. **a 1400** *Minor P.* *Vernon MS.* 661/114 Wormes blake wol vs enbrace. **1477** EARL RIVERS (Caxton) *Dities* 37 b, Thou shalt haue no power to fele the stenche of thy body, nor howe the wormes shall suke thy roten kareyn. **1542** *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 164 My soull to God my maker, and my bodie to the wormes. **1560** *Bible* (Geneva) Job xix. 26 Thogh after my skin wormes destroy this bodie. **1600** SHAKS. *A.Y.L.* IV. i. 108 Men haue died from time to time, and wormes haue eaten them. **1611** *Bible* Job xxiv. 20 The worme shall feed sweetly on him. **a 1679** J. WARD *Diary* (1839) 274 Three months after, his bodie went to the wormes. **1795** M. G. LEWIS *Monk* (1796) III. 65 (*Alonso the Brave* xii), The worms they crept in, and the worms they crept out, And sported his eyes and his temples about. **1815** SOUTHEY *Life & Corr.* (1850) IV. 135 Some of our party told me of a third [grave], in which the worms were at work, but I shrunk from the sight. **1892** W. WATSON *Great Misgiving* 4 in *Lachrymæ Musarum* 52 Life is a feast, and we have banqueted—Shall not the worms as well?

punningly. (Cf. SHAKS. *Ham.* IV. iii. 21-3.) **1785** GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T.* s.v., He is gone to the diet of worms, he is dead and buried, or gone to Rot-his-bone.

b. fig. as one of the pains of Hell (Mark ix. 48, Isa. lxvi. 24).

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Mark ix. 48 Aworpen on helle fyr, þar hyra wyrmm ne swytl. **c 1275** *Sinners Beware* 53 in O.E. *Misc.* 73 þe wurmes. . þæt dop þe saule teone. **a 1340** HAMPOLE *Psalter* i. 1 þe saule thurgh assent gets þe worme þ' neuer sall dye. **1547** BECON *Agst. Whoredom* iii. in *Homilies* I. Rivb, The worme, that shall there gnawe the conscience of the dampned, shall neuer dye. **1654** WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 230 As to the other Fate of Books, it is to be feared these feed their Authors never dying Worme. **1667** MILTON *P.L.* VI. 739 Driven down To chains of Darkness, and th' undying Worm.

c. worm's or worms' meat, said of a man's dead body, or of man as mortal. Also † *worms' food or ware; food or meat for* (or †to) *worms*.

[**a 1000** *Soul & Body* 127 Lic. . bið þonne wyrmes gief. **a 1023** WULFSTAN *Hom.* xxx. 145 We syndon deadlice menn and to duste sceolon on worulde wurðan wurmm to æte.] **a 1225** Ancr. R. 276 Ne schalt tu beon wurmes foete. **c 1230** *Hali Meid.* (1922) 59 þæt lam & wurmene mete. **1340** *Ayenb.* 216 Saint bernard ȝayp huet is man bote uelpe. . wormene mete [esca vermium]? *Ibid.*, He is . . mete to wormes ine his dyape. **c 1400** *Pety Job* 7 in 26 *Pol. Poems* 121, I shalbe wormes ware. **1411-12** HOCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 1087 It is to get an abusioun, To seen a man, þat is but wormes mete, Desire riches. **1561** B. GOOGE tr. *Palingenius' Zodiac* vi. Qj b, To day with myrthe alyue, and foode to wormes within a while. **1592** SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* III. i. 112 They haue made wormes meat of me. **1637** RUTHERFORD *Lett.* (1671) 235 Fear not clay and worm's meat. **1675** COCKER *Morals* 45 Poor Worms-meat, Soar not to the height of State. **1677** OTWAY *Cheats of Scapin* II, By Heaven, he shall be Worms-meat within these two hours.

7. † a. A tick or mite breeding in the hand, foot, or other part of the body. *Obs.*

See also HANDWORM, nose-worm (NOSE sb. 18), wheel-worm (WHEEL sb.¹ b), RING-WORM, DEW-WORM (etym. note).

c 1000 Sax. *Leechd.* II. 124 ðif wyrm hand etc. **1523-34** FITZHERB. *Husb.* §47 There be some shepe, that hath a worme in his foote, that maketh hym halte. **1530** PALSGR. 290/2 Worme in the hand, *ciron*. **1545** ASCHAM *Toxoph.* I. (Arb.) 49 A little blayne, a small cutte, yea a sillie poore worme in his finger, may kepe him from shooting wel ynough. **1592** SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* I. iv. 65 Her Waggoner, a small gray-coated Gnat, not halfe so bigge as a round little Worme, prickt from the Lazie-finger of a man [Qo. 1 maide]. **1605** ERONDELLE *Fr. Gard.* G 7 b, His knees are very round, he hath a worme at the right knee.

† **b. fig. or allusively.** *Obs.*

1577 GRANGE *Golden Aphrod.* Kivb, To picke a worme betwene two forked fingers [i.e. to make horns: cf. Cotgrave s.v. *Ciron*]. **1604** ? DEKKER *Nouvelles Fr. Grauesend* Ep. Ded. in *Plague Pamphlets* (1925) 67 Strange fashions did I pick (like wormes) out of the fingers of euery Nation.

c. popularly = COMEDO.

1730 SWIFT *Lady's Dressing Room* 64 A Glass that can to Sight disclose The smallest Worm in Cælia's Nose, And faithfully direct her Nail, To squeeze it out from Head to

Tail. **1899** *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 752 It is also known as grub, worm, black-head, or 'waster'.

8. An earthworm, or a larva (see 3, 5 above). **a.** as the food of birds.

a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 601 Ac wat etestu. . Bute attercoppe and fule ulize, An wormes, ȝif þu myzte finde Among þe uolde of harde rinde? **c 1381** CHAUCER *Parl. Foules* 326 The foules smale That eten as that nature wolde enclyne, As worme, or thyng of whiche I tel no tale. **c 1386** — *Sgr.'s* T. 609 And to the wode he wole and wormes etc. **c 1480** HENRYSON *Cock & Jewel* 94, I had leuer haif scrapit heir with my naillis Amangis this mow, and luke my lyfis fude, As draf, or corne, small wormis or snailis. **1605** SHAKS. *Macb.* IV. ii. 32 How will you liue? *Son.* As Birds do Mother. *Wife.* What with Wormes, and Flyes? **1670** RAY *Prov.* 84 The early bird catcheth the worm. **1815** STEPHENS in *Shaw's Gen. Zool.* IX. 1. 18 The old birds feed them with small worms, caterpillars and insects. **1836** [HOOTON] *Bilberry Thurland* III. 195 As brisk as a robin w' worms. **1864** BROWNING *Dram. Pers.*, *Caliban* 51 The pie with the long tongue That pricks deep into oakwards for a worm. **1865** DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* I. vi, As the early bird catches the worm.

b. as bait for fish.

Also with defining term prefixed, as *caddis, dew, dug, lob, lug, red*, etc.: see these words.

c 1320 *Cast. Love* 1129 As fisch þat is w' hok inomen, þat won þe worm he swoleweþ alast, He is bi þe hok itised fast. **1510** STANBRIDGE *Vocabula* (W. de W.) Dj, *Lumbrex*, a worme or an angle twache. **1566** *Nottingham Rec.* IV. 130 Diggyng dovne the comon dycke. . for gettingyn of wormes. **1604** SHAKS. *Ham.* IV. iii. 28 (Qo. 2) A man may fish with the worme that hath eate of a King, and eate of the fish that hath fedde of that worme. **1622-34** PEACHAM *Compl. Gent.* xx. (1906) 258 For your live baits they are wormes of all kinds, especially the red worme. **1657** T. BARKER *Barker's Delight* (1659) 41 For the Barbell, I have taken great ones in Ware river with wormes, for I know no better bait than wormes. **1806** WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Tristia, Elegy Donithorne* 6 Patient as men, upon the river's side, Who for a dinner throw the worm or fly.

collect. sing. **1909** W. C. PLATTS *Light Lines* 82 There may be no particular skill required in catching a few trout with worm in coloured water.

c. In colloq. phr. (*to open*) *a can of worms*, (*to address*) a complex and largely unexamined problem or state of affairs the investigation of which is likely to cause much trouble or scandal.

1962 *Times* 21 Feb. 12/4 He. . knew that he had opened the bidding on what is sometimes called 'a can of worms'. **1969** *N. Dakota Law Rev.* XLV. 215 Counsel can. . better comprehend. . the domestic can-of-worms that appears in so many delinquency and neglect cases. **1973** *Times* 22 May 16/5 Mr Berger has opened, in the old American phrase, a fine can of worms. He is suggesting that an impeached President, should he be found guilty, could appeal to the Supreme Court. **1976** L. BERNSTEIN *Unanswered Question* vi. 418 There are so many of those 'underlying strings' . . waiting to be tied up; so many cans of worms have been opened, and a lot of those slippery little beasts are still wriggling around. **1984** A. PRICE *Sion Crossing* vii. 137 Oliver isn't up to this sort of thing. And this is my can of worms.

9. A name for various long slender crustaceans and molluscs (e.g. *Teredo navalis*, the ship-worm) which destroy timber by boring. Also collect. *the worm*, as a destructive pest.

Formerly supposed to be a grub or larva: cf. 5 b and TEREDO. See also *ship-worm* (SHIP sb.¹ 9 b), † *TREE-WORM*. **1621** in *Foster Eng. Factories* Ind. (1906) 314 She being a new shipp, onely spoyled with the worme. **1691** T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* 7 Securing the Hulls of his Majesties Ships against the Worm. **1774** E. LONG *Jamaica* III. 740 This tree . . having been found to stand the sea-water very well, uncorroded by. . the worm, which is not able to penetrate it. **1864** BROWNING *James Lee's Wife* II. iii, Some ships, safe in port indeed, Rot and rust, Run to dust, All through worms i' the wood.

II. 10. fig. a. A human being likened to a worm or reptile as an object of contempt, scorn, or pity; an abject, miserable creature.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* xxi. 7 Ic soðlice eam wyrmm [vermis] & nales mon. **c 1200** ORMIN 4870 Icc amm an wurrm, & noht nan mann. **1340** *Ayenb.* 215 Ich am, he zede, a lite worm, and no man. **c 1400** MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) Pref. I In þat land he wald. . suffer hard passion and dede of þe Iews for vs synfull wormes. **1402** *Friar Daw in Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 45 Sith that wickide worme, Wiclyf be his name, began to sowe the seed of cisme in the erthe. **c 1450** tr. *De Imitatione* III. iv. 67, I am þi most poure seruauant, and an abiecte worme. **a 1586** SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. xiii. §2 O Clinias, . . the wickedest worme that euer went vpon two legges. **1598** SHAKS. *Merry W.* v. 87 *Pist.* Wilde worme, thou wast orelook'd euen in thy birth. **1623** MASSINGER *Dk. Millaine* III. ii. G 4 b, If I am dull now, may I liue and dye The scorner of wormes & slaues. **a 1662** DUPPA *Rules & Helps Devot.* I. (1675) 26 A Dignity that raiseth us poor Worms of the Earth to a kind of equality with the Angels themselves. **1732** POPE *Ess. Man* I. 258 All this dread Order break—for whom? for thee? Vile worm! **1859** TENNYSON *Enid* 213 He, from his exceeding manifoldness. . . Wroth to be wroth at such a worm. **1864** TROLLOPE *Small Ho. Allington* xxvii, Poor reptile; wretched worm of a man! **1882** BESANT *All Sorts* vii. (1898) 67 The meanest amongst us poor worms of earth. **1926** *Introduction to Sally* iv. 51 In the presence of her loveliness, what a mere mincing worm he was.

b. Similarly *the son of a worm* (after Job xvii. 14).

1633 SHIRLEY *Gamester* II. (1637) D 1, He that affronts Me, is the sonne of a Worme, and his father a Whoore. **1872** MORLEY *Voltaire* (1886) 3 Man, who is a worm, and the son of a worm.

† **c.** With qualification expressing tenderness, playfulness, or commiseration: A human being, 'creature'. *Obs.* (In 16th c. esp. *loving worm*.)

Cf. G. *das arme wurm*, applied to a child.

a 1553 UDALL *Royster D.* III. ii. (Arb.) 41 Yea and he is as louing a worme againe as a doue. **1561** HOV tr. *Castiglione's*

Courtier II. Rij, Thus because they woulde bee counted to lounge wormes, they make menne counte them lyars, and fonde flatterers. **1568** FULWELL *Like will to Like* Aijb, Yet are women kinde wormes I dare wel say. **1593** G. HARVEY *Pierces Super. Wks.* (Grosart) II. 247 Apuleius Asse was . . a cunning Ape, a loungeing worme. **1610** SHAKS. *Temp.* III. i. 31 Poore worme thou art infected. **a1625** FLETCHER *M. Thomas* I. i. *Val.* How does his father? *Hyl.* As mad a worm as e'er he was. **1626** B. JONSON *Staple of Newes* v. iii, There hee sits like an old worme of the peace.

†d. Used, like CATERPILLAR *sb.* 2, for: One who preys on society. *Obs.*

1591 GREENE *Notable Disc. Coosnage* Wks. (Grosart) X. 30 The seruing-man sent with bis Lordes treasure, loseth oftentimes most part to these wormes of the commonwelth. **1633** Costlie *Whore* v. i. in Bullen O. Pl. IV. 296 Lords, see these wormes of kingdoms be destroyed. [Cf. 295 *ante* the caterpillars of the state.]

e. *slang.* A policeman.

1865 *Slang Dict.* 272 *Worm*, the latest Slang term for a policeman.

11. *fig.* a. A grief or passion that preys stealthily on a man's heart or torments his conscience (like a worm in a dead body or a maggot in food); esp. the gnawing pain of remorse. Cf. CANKERWORM 2.

Sometimes 'the worm that never dies' (as in 6b).

a900 *Andreas* 769 Brandhata nið weoll on gewitte, weorm blædum fag. **c1386** CHAUCER *Doctor's T.* 280 The worm of conscience. **1560** *Nice Wanton* 281 (Manly) The worme of my conscience, that shall neuer dye, Accuseth me dayly more and more. **1578** H. WOTTON *Courtlie Controv.* 143 Euery man read easily in his face . . that some secret worme gnawed vpon his accustomed ioy. **1594** SHAKS. *Rich.* III. i. iii. 222 The Worme of Conscience still begnaw thy Soule. **1623-4** MIDDLETON & ROWLEY *Changeling* III. iv, 'Twill hardly buy a capcase for ones conscience tho 'To keep it from the worm. **1727** POPE *To Mr. John Moore* vii, Their Conscience is a Worm within, That gnaws them Night and Day. **1753** SMOLLETT *Ct. Fathom* xlv, While in this manner he secretly nursed the worm of grief that preyed upon his vitals. **1813** BYRON *Br. Abydos* II. xxvii, And, oh! that pang where more than madness lies! The worm that will not sleep — and never dies. **1826** HAZLITT *Plain Speaker* x. Wks. 1903 VII. 106 We secretly persuade ourselves that there is no such thing as excellence. It is that which we hate above all things. It is the worm that gnaws us, that never dies. **a1865** J. GIBSON in T. MATTHEWS *Biog.* (1911) 56 Nor did I feel the worm of envy creeping round my heart whenever I saw . . a beautiful idea skilfully executed by any of my young rivals.

†b. A whim or 'maggot' in the brain; a perverse fancy or desire; a streak of madness or insanity. Often *wild worm* (cf. 2). *Obs.* (So G. *wurm*.)

a1500 MEDWALL *Nature* II. 307 (Brandl) The wylde worm ys com into hys hed, So that by reason only he ys led. **a1530** J. HEYWOOD *Play of Love* 678 (Brandl) Our louer, in whose hed by a frantike worm his opinion is brcd. **a1548** HALL *Chron., Hen. V* 44 Some private Scorpion in your heartes or some wild worme in your heades hath caused you to conspire my death and confusion. *Ibid.*, 3 *Rich.* III. 42 The wilde worme of vengeance wauerynge in his hed. **1606** CHAPMAN *Gent. Usher* v. iv. 50 But a father Would rather eate the brawne out of his armes Then glut the mad worme of his wilde desires With his deare issues entrailes. **1623** MASSINGER *Dk. Mollaine* v. i. L 2 And if I now out-strip him not, and catch him, . . hereafter I'll sweare there are wormes in my braines. **1653** DOROTHY OSBORNE *Lett.* (1888) 84 Lest you should think I have as many worms in my head as he. **1674** RYMER *Rapin's Aristotle's Poiesie* 47 The Emperor Nero who had the Worm in his Head, and conceited himself a Wit. **1678** RAY *Prov.* (ed. 2) 278 He has a worm in 's brain. **1705** HEARNE *Collect.* 26 Nov. (O.H.S.) I. 100 He presently after laid it aside, by reason the worm (wth w^{ch} he is possessed) mov'd in his head another way.

†c. *greedy worm* (cf. 13): avarice or greediness as an itching passion in the heart. *Obs.*

1430-40 LYDG. *Bochas* III. 4251 Auarise, to al vertu contraire, The gredi worm, the serpent vnstaunchable. **1587** HOLINSHED *Chron.* III. 137/1 Thus we see . . what occasion the emperour and duke did take, to enrich themselves by the meanes of the king, whome they forced not to impoverish, so their owne greedie worme were serued. **1607** BEAUM. & FL., *Woman-Hater* I. iii, He is of good wit, and sufficient understanding, when he is not troubled with this greedy worm.

12. *the worm*: formerly a popular name for various ailments supposed to be caused by the working of a 'worm', or resulting in a worm-shaped tumour or growth. †a. Colic. *Sc. Obs.*

c1500 *Roule's Cursing* 57 in *Maitland Fo.* (1919) 163 The worme, the wareit vedumfa [= wedenonfa]. **c1633** SIR A. JOHNSTON (Ld. Wariston) *Diary* (S.H.S.) I. 12 That Sunday . . schoe took the worme at midnight, begoud to cast, and so continued al Mononday. **1654** *Ibid.* II. 275, I heard after sermon of M. W. G. haiving the worme, and not being able to com to the kirk al the Saboth.

b. Toothache. *Sc. ? Obs.*

Cf. SHAKS. *Much Ado* III. ii. 27.

a1583 MONTGOMERIE *Flying* 301 (Tullibard. MS.) The choikis, the charbunkill, with þe wormis in thy cheikis. **1673** WEDDERBURN *Vocab.* 20 (Jam.) *Laborat dolore dentium*, he hath the worm. **1881** W. GREGOR *Folk-Lore N.E. Scot.* x. 48 It was a common belief that toothache was caused by a worm at the root of the tooth, and toothache was often simply called 'the worm'. **1890** SERVICE *Thir Notandums* vii. 44 The auld man was girm'n' wi' the worm.

†c. ? An abscess or swelling thought to resemble a worm in shape. *Obs.*

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* (1658) 336 If a Horse do labor in that kinde of impostume which they vulgarly call the Worm, either any where as well as in the nose, they do open the skin with a searing iron.

III. 13. a. A small vermiform ligament or tendon in a dog's tongue, often cut out when the

animal is young, as a supposed safeguard against rabies; = LYTTA.

Also †*greedy* or †*hungry worm*: see GREEDY 1 d, HUNGRY 4.

1530, 1585, 1627 [see GREEDY 1 d]. **1538** ELYOT *Dict., Lytta*, a worme in a dogges tongue. **1589** NASHE *Pasquil's Ret.* Wks. (Grosart) I. 113 Full of play like a wanton whelpe whose worme was not taken out of his tongue. **1654** C. WASE *Gratius' Cyneget.* B8b, Where the tongue is with fast tendons bound, The fury (call'd a worme) is thence convey'd. **1737** [see HUNGRY 4]. **1868** R. OWEN *Anat. Vertebr.* III. 197 The long cylindrical fibrous body . . called 'lytta', and in Dogs, where it attains its largest size, 'the worm'.

fig. **1599** Broughton's *Lett.* i. 6 Your worme from your youth hath been a proud conceit of your self, which, being nourished vnder your tongue so long, makes it now runne riot.

b. A tendon in a dog's tail, often cut or pulled out when the tail is being docked.

1877 STABLES *Pract. Kennel Guide* 141 There is no earthly occasion for pulling out the nerve or 'worm' as it is called.

14. Used to render L. anatomical terms. †a. The epididymis (see quot. and cf. WORMY a. 2). *Obs.*

1545 RAYNALDE *Byrth Mankynde* I. xi. (1552) 23 Thys parte of the sede carians may be called the worme: in latyn, *Corpus lumbricosum*: for because that it hath many conuolutions as wormes lying together haue.

b. The median lobe of the cerebellum; the *vermis* or vermiform process.

1857 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.* **1899** *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

15. a. An artificial or natural object resembling an earthworm.

1702 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3858/4 A small Picture of a Man in Armour, set in Gold in a Shagrin Case, 2 little Gold Worms on each side the Picture. **1894** K. GRAHAME *Pagan Papers* 129 The drippings made worms of wet in the thick dust of the road. **1907** *Westm. Gaz.* 1 Jan. 7/2 The 'worm' of the Somerset Light Infantry . . is a black thread woven into the gold lace on the officers' sleeves.

b. *pl.* The coiled poods of *Astragalus hamosus*.

1849 *Gardeners' Chron.* 3 Feb. 96 Vegetable and Flower Seeds . . Hedgehogs per paper os. *3d.* . . Snails os. *3d.* . . Worms os. *3d.* **1902** L. H. BAILEY *Cycl. Amer. Hort.* 1990 Under the name of 'Worms,' 'Snails' and 'Caterpillars,' various odd fruits of leguminous plants are grown as curiosities. . . *Astragalus hamosus* . . is the one usually known as 'Worms'.

16. Used as the name of various implements of spiral form. (Supposed to resemble the sinuous shape and movement of an earthworm.) †a. The serew of a screw-press. *Obs.*

1548 Elyot's *Dict., Cochlea*, . . the vice or wourme of a presse. **1565** COOPER *Thesaurus*.

b. A double or single screw fixed on the end of a rod, used for withdrawing the charge or wad from a muzzle-loading gun.

1591 G. CLAYTON *Mart. Discipl.* 17 Euery Souldiour to haue a sufficient Caliuier, . . rammer, worme [etc.]. **1594** BARWICK *Disc. Weapons* 8 His scrues and wormes to serue all for his skowring stickie. **1600-1** *Churchw. Acc. E. Budleigh* (Brushfield 1894) 19 P⁴, the makinge cleane of the musketts and for a worme and scowerer. **1703** *La Hontan's Voy. N. Amer.* I. 132 My Men began . . to unload their Pieces with Worms, in order to charge 'em afresh. **1708** *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4455/4 Fine Triangle Worms. . . experienc'd for drawing of Balls out of Pieces, with Scowerers and Washers to them, made either to screw upon the Rod with a Socket, or to pin on. **1774** *Pennsylv. Gaz.* 9 Feb. Suppl. 2/3 Best double worm, box handle, single worm, ash handle. **c1860** H. STUART *Seaman's Catech.* 4 What is the use of the worm? To draw the gun after loading.

c. A sharp-pointed spiral tool, used for boring wood or soft stone; an auger or gimlet, or the screw of such a tool. *local.*

1594 PLAT *Jewel-ho.* II. 28 If there happen to bee any quarrie of soft stone betweene him and the marle; he must firste make his entrance thorough the stone with a piercing worme. **1812** [see SCREW *sb.* 5]. **1875** KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Worm* 6. **1886** *Cheshire Gloss., Worm*, a gimlet.

d. The thread or spiral ridge of a male screw.

1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* ii. 31 The Rules and manner of cutting Worms upon great Screws. The Threds of Screws when they are bigger than can be made in Screw-plates are called Wormes. **1688** R. HOLME *Armoury* III. 321/2 The Screw-Pin (of a vice) is cut with a square strong Worm or Thred. **1726** LEONI *Alberti's Archit.* II. 12/2 If these Rings or this Worm be . . cut in too near to the centre of the Skrew, the weight will then be moved by shorter Leavers. **1750** BLANCKLEY *Nav. Expositor* 143 *Screws for Haiches*, are made with a very nice Worm, that works in a Nutt let into a Sort of Drum-head. **1773** W. EMERSON *Princ. Mech.* (ed. 3) 42 The endless or perpetual screw *AB*, having one worm, leaf, or tooth, which drives the teeth of the wheel *CD*. **1802** *Trans. Soc. Arts* XX. 254 He . . made the thread of the worm too fine. **1833** J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* II. 152 Fly-screws and others having several worms. **1884** *Longm. Mag.* Mar. 488 The inner end of the spoke has a worm cut upon it and is screwed into a solid metal centre, or hub.

e. A spiral channel cut in a hollow cylinder to correspond to the ridge of a screw which turns in it; the spiral of a female or hollow screw.

1725 Bradley's *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Reservatory*, Each Pipe is three foot and a half long, and there are Bridles at each end of them, which are join'd and closed together by Screws and Worms. **1835** *Brit. Cycl. Arts & Sci.* II. 357/1 In the head is fixed a metal nut, containing a worm or hollow screw. The worm is adapted to receive the screw by which the pressure is produced. **1875** FORTNUM *Maolica* vi. 52 Some of these pieces have a stopper fitting into the neck by a screw, the worm of which is worked upon it by means of a piece of wood formed with projecting teeth, the interior of the neck being furnished with a corresponding worm. **1878** 'H. COLLINGWOOD' *Secr. Sands* iii, In either end of each length

was inserted a narrow band of metal thick enough to allow of a worm and screw, so that all the lengths of each cylinder could be screwed together perfectly water-tight.

f. The spiral of a corkscrew; also, the corkscrew as a whole. *local.*

1681 GREW *Musæum* III. §i. v. 303 A Steel Worme used for the drawing of Corks out of Bottles. **1702** *Phil. Trans.* XXXIII. 1367 A close spiral revolution like the Worm of a Bottle Screw. **1875** KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Worm*, . . The spiral of a cork-screw. **1887** *Kentish Gloss., Worm*, a corkscrew.

g. An endless or tangent screw the thread of which gears with the teeth of a toothed wheel (or similar device).

1729 DESAGULIERS in *Phil. Trans.* XXXVI. 197 Where Goods are to be rais'd high, . . then an endless Serew turn'd by an Handle at each End . . leading an Axis in Peritrochio, or as it is commonly call'd, a Worm and Wheel applied to a Crane, with a Gibbet, is most useful. **1855** LARDNER *Handbk. Nat. Phil., Hydrostatics* etc. §145 This wheel revolves on an axis, upon which there is a worm or endless screw. **1863** SMILES *Industr. Biogr.* xv. 293 The plan he adopted was to fix a worm-wheel on the side of the ladle, into which a worm was geared. **1904** MECREY *Dict. Motoring* 129 Worms were formerly cut on a lathe, and the wheels in a gear-cutting machine in the usual way, the teeth being set diagonally to match the angle of the worm.

h. A long spiral or coiled tube connected with the head of a still, in which the vapour is condensed.

1641 FRENCH *Distill.* i. (1651) 25 Put it into a Copper Still with a worme. **1682** *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1686/4 Six Backs, several Stills and Worms. **1757** A. COOPER *Distiller* 1. (1760) 2 A subsequent Treatment of the fermented Liquor by the Alembick, or hot Still, with its proper Worm and Refrigeratory. **1885** 'C. E. CRADDOCK' *Prophet Gt. Smoky Mts.* xv, They . . cut the tubs and still to pieces, destroyed the worm, demolished the furnace. **1887** *Manch. Exhib. Catal.* 239 Samples of Whisky. Model Still and Worm.

i. A spiral heating flue in a furnace or coiled steam pipe in a boiler.

1758 [DOSSIE] *Elaboratory Laid Open* 9 Another great error in the building furnaces, particularly those for harts-horn pots, or sand-pots, is the earring the fire round the object, to be heated, in a vermicular flew, or worm (as it is commonly called); . . as the principal forcce of the fire is exercised on that great mass of brickwork, which forms the worm. **1766** *Museum Rust.* VI. 299 They [sc. two caldrons] may be set in the open fire, without any flew or worm round them, in an oven-like furnace. **1857** MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* 371 The steam is either admitted into the copper by a perforated pipe, or it is made to circulate within it through a closed coil or worm.

j. A spring or strip of metal of spiral shape.

1724 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6318/2 A Steel Worm or Rowling Spring, . . to be used in hanging of Coahes. **1840** *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jnrl.* III. 172/2 The cutting instrument . . performs its operations with wonderful precision, frequently cutting a large and continuous shaving of thirty or forty feet in length . . which, curling up, forms a curious and perfect worm or screw.

IV. 17. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. gen., as *wormfinger*, *-kind*, *-tribe*; objective, as *worm-breeding* adj.; instrumental, as *worm-cankered*, *-chewed*, *-consumed*, *-gnawed*, *-gnawn*, *-laid*, *-spun*, *-worm* adjs.; dative, as *worm-reserved*, *-ripe*; parasynthetic, as *worm-faced*, *-shaped* adjs.

1611 FLORIO, *Vermifero*, *worme-breeding. **1830** TENNYSON *To J. M. K.* 6 Thou art no sabbath-drawler of old saws, Distill'd from some *worm-canker'd homily. **1927** D. H. LAWRENCE *Mornings in Mexico* 28 Rattling the *worm-bewed window-frames. **1612** J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Muses Sacrif.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 65/1 The *Worme-consumed Corse. **1934** DYLAN THOMAS *Lett.* 12 Apr. (1966) 105 Avaut, you *worm-faced fellows of the night. **1922** JOYCE *Ulysses* 550 Jogging, mocks them with thumb and wriggling *wormfingers. **1793** WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Epistle to the Pope* 76 The wise Parisians mock her *worm-gnaw'd shrine. **1598** SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. ii. 11. *Babylon* 491 Th' old, rusty, mouldy, *worm-gnawn words of yore. **1774** GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VIII. 166 Animals of the *worm kind . . being entirely destitute of feet. **1933** C. S. LEWIS *Pilgrim's Regress* 248 Once the *worm-laid egg broke the wood. **1611** COTGR., *Vermiformes*, two *worme-resembling parts of the *Cervelet*. **1593** NASHE *Christ's T.* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 176, I am the vnwortheiest of all *worme-reserved wretches. **1893** 'Q' (Quiller Couch) *Delect. Duchy* 117 A glance up at *worm-riddled rafters. **1893** J. STRONG *New Era* xi. 247 This morbid, *worm-ripe piety, once in favor. **1767** *Phil. Trans.* LVII. 430 When it is extended, it is of a *worm-shaped figure. **1870** P. M. DUNCAN *Blanchard's Transf. Insects* 384 The larvæ are worm-shaped. **1922** *The Enchanted April* ix. 138 Mrs. Fisher had never cared for maccaroni, especially not this long, worm-shaped variety. **1593** NASHE *Christ's T.* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 214 Though we glister it neuer so in our *worme-spunne robes. **1774** GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VIII. 5 This may serve to distinguish them [sc. caterpillars] from the *worm tribe. **1820** PRAED *Eve of Battle* 119 Sleep, in Honour's *worm-worn bed. **1828** LYTTON *Pelham* lxiii, Worm-worn volumes.

b. In sense 8b, as *worm-bag*, *-bait*, *farm*, *-hook*, †*-poke*, *-tackle*, *-tin*; *worm-bobber*, *-catcher*, *-catching*, *-fisher*, *-fishing*, *-hunter*, *-hunting*; †*worm-embowelled* adj.

1909 W. C. PLATTS *Light Lines* 83 Scudding across the meadows, with his rod and his *worm-bag, to the river. **1842** PULMAN *Rustic Sk.* 48 On the Axe the only kind of *worm-bait used is the blackhead or bluehead. **1844** J. T. HEWLETT *Parsons & Widows* i. 11 He is a mere *worm-bobber—cannot throw a fly or spin a minnow. **1880** F. BUCKLAND *Nat. Hist. Brit. Fishes* II A short gentleman, like you, sir, . . would never make a *worm-catcher. **1881** *Athenæum* 30 Apr. 594/2 Mr. Wells offered to back against Frank Buckland a long-legged and long-armed friend . . on any night at *worm-catching. **1608** DAY *Hum. out of Breath*

1. [ii.] B 3 b, And see if any siluer-coated fish Will nibble at your *worme-emboweld hooks. 1880 F. BUCKLAND *Nat. Hist. Brit. Fishes* 10 A *worm farm at Nottingham. 1847 STODDART *Angler's Comp.* 115 The *worm-fisher ought... always to possess a stock of it [hart's-horn moss]. 1904 GALLICHAH *Fishing Spain* 64 The worm fisher has his opportunity when the streams are in spate. 1842 PULMAN *Rustic Sk.* 48 *Worm-fishing is followed with greatest success... during the season of mowing grass. 1857 W. C. STEWART *Pract. Angler* vii. (ed. 3) 133 Fly-fishers are apt to sneer at worm-fishing. 1747 BOWLKER *Art Angling* 64 This is a very large Fly, and is to be made upon a small *Worm-hook. 1837 KIRKBRIDE *North. Angler* 12 In Carlisle... we speak of... large worm, middle, and small worm hooks. 1865 A. S. MOFFAT *Secr. Angling* 165 If the *worm-hunter only takes care to tread softly upon the bosom of his mother earth. 1890 *Science-Gossip* XXVI. 159 The worm-hunter will turn over every likely stone or rubbish heap which comes in his path. 1852 *Zoologist* X. 3421 He employed himself in this *worm-hunting for a considerable time. ? 1630 W. LAUSON *Comm.* on J. Denny's *Secr. Angling* Note 13 *Worme poake of cloath. 1835 *Chambers's Edin. Jnl.* Jan. 390/3 First of all, the *worm-tackle. For this, sizeable hooks... are generally preferred. 1847 STODDART *Angler's Comp.* 108 In preparing worm-tackle. 1906 *Macm. Mag.* Apr. 417 The rod, basket, and... the *worm-tin.

c. In sense 4, as *worm-colic*, -*disease*, -*fever*, -*sickness*; also in names of remedies, as *worm-cake*, -*lozenge*, -*medicine*, -*powder*, -*preventive*, -*syrup*, -*tea*; also *worm-killing* adj.

1773 *Pennsylv. Gaz.* 23 June, Suppl. 2/3 His never failing *worm cake, which destroys that vermin so pernicious to children. 1788 J. HURDIS *Village Curate* (1797) 102 His worm-cake and his pills. 1810 JAMES *Milit. Dict.* (ed. 3), *Worm-cholic, a distemper in horses, occasioned by broad, thick, and short worms or truncheons. 1848 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.* (ed. 7), *Helminthiasis*, *worm disease. 1792 J. TOWNSEND *Journ. Spain* II. Index, *Worm fever. 1899 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Worm fever*, pyrexia consequent on the irritation set up by intestinal worms. 1763 FOOTE *Mayor of G. 1. Wks.* 1799 I. 164 You... *worm-killing, blistering, glistening —. 1818 SUSAN FERRIER *Marriage* I. xxvii, If Mary had taken some of her nice *worm-lozenges. 1889 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* VIII. 2/1 The popular 'worm lozenges'. 1702 J. PURCELL *Cholick* (1714) 177 Two Girls... were seized with most violent Cholicks... which no Clysters, Purges or *Worm Medicines could appease. 1799 *Med. Jnl.* II. 151 Recommenders of some newly-broached worm-medicines. 1727 POPE in *Miscellanies*, To Mr. John Moore, Author of the celebrated *Worm-Powder. 1880 GARROD & BAXTER *Mat. Med.* 447 The *worm-preventives are medicines which give tone to the intestinal membrane. 1899 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, *Worm-sickness, a severe disease occurring among sheep in Holland, set up by the fly *Lucilia sericata*. 1773 *Pennsylv. Gaz.* 30 June 3/3 A new invented *Worm-Syrup. 1897 *Sears, Roebuck Catal.* 27/2 *Worm syrup*... for expelling worms from children. 1972 E. WIGGINGTON *Foxfire Bk.* 247 Take 'worm syrup' which is made by boiling Jerusalem oak and pine root together. 1850 PEREIRA *Elem. Mat. Med.* (ed. 3) II. 1478 A preparation kept in the shops of the United States, and much prescribed by physicians, under the name of *worm tea, consists of spigelia root, senna, manna, and savaie, mixed together.

d. In sense 16g, as *worm-drive*, -*gear*, -*gearing*, -*jack*, -*pinion*, -*rack*, -*screw*, -*shaft*, -*spindle*, -*thread*, -*wheel*, *worm-gear* adj.

1907 *Westm. Gaz.* 19 Nov. 4/2 This machine... retains... the silent *worm-drive. 1884 *B'ham Daily Post* 24 Jan. 3/1 Wanted, 10 ton Foundry Ladle, extra strong, with *worm gear. 1936 *Discovery* Aug. 238/2 It [sc. the camera] is loaded into position on the plane with a *worm-gear winch and pulley system. 1973 *Gloss. Terms Materials Handling (B.S.I.)* VI. 16 *Worm geared chain pulley block*,... mechanical advantage is obtained chiefly by... use of a worm wheel and worm. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech., Suppl.*, *Worm Gearing... has an arrangement for transmitting circular motion in either direction. 1904 MCREEDY *Dict. Motoring* 128 Worm gearing is used in the steering apparatus for adjustments. 1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* iii. 37 Fig. 1. is call'd a *Worm-Jack. 1913 F. YOUNG & ASTON *Complete Motorist* (ed. 8) 177 A worm-driven axle with the *worm pinion underneath. 1891 *Century Dict.*, *Worm-rack, a rack gearing with a worm-wheel. 1677 FLAMSTEED in Rigaud *Corr. Sci. Men* (1841) II. 172 To this a toothed arch was fastened, by the help of which, and a *worm screw, the piece of wood... might be raised or depressed easily. 1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 228 The toothed wheel, acted on by the worm-screw. 1892 *Photogr. Ann.* II. 391 The mechanical power is a central worm screw working in four racks on pillars. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 372 Screws or *worm-shafts, which are placed so as to keep the carriage parallel to the drawing rollers [in a spinning-mule]. 1677 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* iii. 45 That the Teeth of the Worm wheel may gather themselves into the Grooves of the Worm in the *Worm-spindle. 1773 W. EMERSON *Princ. Mech.* (ed. 3) 43 All things here laid down relating to the perpetual screw, do suppose that the axis of the worm-spindle lies in the plane of the wheel it works in. 1925 *Chamb. Jnl.* May 332/2 The *worm-thread and the teeth in the strip are square and of great strength. 1677 *worm-wheel [see *worm-spindle*]. 1842 *Civil Engin. & Arch. Jnl.* V. 73/1 A vertical shaft, on the bottom of which is a worm, taking into a worm-wheel. 1925 *Chamb. Jnl.* May 332/1 An ideal clip for hose connections... based on the worm and worm-wheel principle.

e. In sense 16h and similar applications, as *worm-cooler*, -*maker*, -*pipe*, *refrigeratory*, -*safe*, -*tank*, -*tub*.

1812 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 35 A large *worm cooler, which contained nearly 60,000 gallons of water. 1793-4 *Matthew's Bristol Directory* 31 Pewterers, *Worm-makers, and Copper-smiths. 1850 *Patent in Law Times Rep.* X. 861/1 The coal is... put into a common gas retort, to which is attached a *worm pipe passing through a refrigerator. 1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 6 A clean copper still, furnished with a capital and *worm-refrigeratory. 1853 *Ibid.* (ed. 4) I. 594 The *worm-safe... is a contrivance for permitting the distiller to observe and note at any period of the distillation the alcoholic strength or specific gravity of his spirits, without access to the still. 1860 GESNER *Coal, Petrol.*, etc. (1865) 79 The worm is... fastened securely by iron stays into the *worm

tank. 1756 P. BROWNE *Jamaica* (1789) 158 Barbadoes Cedar... is... frequently made into *worm-tubs. 1757 A. COOPER *Distiller* I. xvi. (1760) 74 Another Requisite to be observed is that the Water in the Worm-tub be kept cool. 1880 *Act* 43 & 44 *Vict. c. 24* §143 (1) An officer may require a distiller... to cause the water in any worm tub... to be drawn off.

f. Special combinations: *worm-bark*, the anthelmintic bark of the West Indian cabbage-tree, *Andira inermis*; *worm-burrow*, the hole made by a worm in the earth; a fossil perforation of this sort; *worm-cast*, the convoluted mass of mould thrown up by an earthworm on the surface of the soil after passing through the worm's body; so *worm-casting*; *worm-conveyor* (see quot. 1910 and CONVEYOR 4b); † *worm-earth* = *worm-cast*; *worm-fence* U.S. = SNAKE-FENCE; † *worm-fowl*, *collect.* birds that feed on worms; † *worm-fret* a. [*fret*, obs. pa. pple. of FRET v.], *worm-eaten*; *worm-killer*, a preparation for destroying garden worms; † *worm line*, a spiral; *worm month* Sc. and N. Ir., July (or the second half of July and first half of August); cf. Da. *ormemaaned*; *worm-oil* = *wormseed oil*; *worm pipe-fish*, *Syngnathus (Nerophis) lumbriciformis*; *worm red* a., ? dull brownish red; also sb.; *worm-shell*, the twisted shell or tube of a marine annelid or mollusc, as *Serpula* and *Vermetus*; also applied to the animal itself; *worm-snake*, a name for various small harmless snakes, as *Typhlops nigrescens* and *Carphophis amoena*; *worm-spring*, a spiral spring; † *worm-state*, the larval stage in insect transformation; † *worm-stone*, a spirally-twisted fossil; † *worm-tongued* a. (see sense 10); *worm-track* = HELMINTHITE; *worm-tube* = *worm-shell*; *worm-web* Sc., a cobweb; † *worm-work*, ? a winding earthwork.

c 1791 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) VII. 631/2 *Geoffraea*,... also called the *worm-bark tree. 1860 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Worm-Bark*,... the bark of the *Geoffraea Surinamensis*. 1859 PAGE *Geol. Terms, Arenicolites*,... those circular holes... which appear... on the upper surface of many sandstones, and which seem to have been *worm-burrows. 1883 *Science* I. 520/2 The more slender side-roots descend chiefly through worm-burrows. 1914 *Brit. Mus. Return* 213 One worm-burrow from the Cambrian of Bray Head. 1766 *Complete Farmers* s.v. *Walk*, Which will be of service to prevent weeds from growing through the gravel, and to hinder *worm-casts. 1862 *Chambers' Encycl.* III. 740/2 (*Earthworm*) Worm-casts gradually accumulate on the surface to form a layer of the very finest soil. 1881 DARWIN *Veg. Mould* 10 On such grassy paths *worm-castings may often be seen. 1884 C. G. W. LOCK *Workshop Rec.* Ser. III. 439/1 From the stones it [sc. crushed slag] passes through a *worm conveyor to a brick-press. 1910 *Encycl. Brit.* VII. 53 The worm conveyor, also known as the Archimedean screw, consists of a continuous or broken blade screw set on a spindle. This spindle is made to revolve in a suitable trough, and as it revolves any material put in is propelled by the screw from one end of the trough to the other. a 1722 LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 2 *Worm-earths also abound most in the richest land. 1796 F. BAILY *Jnl. Tour N. Amer.* (1856) 111 They place split logs angular-wise on each other making what they call a *worm-fence and which is raised about five feet high. 1833 T. HAMILTON *Men & Manners Amer.* (1843) 149 The worm fences and the freshness and regularity of the houses are sadly destructive of the picturesque. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* xiv, The primitive worm-fence is universal, and an ugly thing it is. c 1381 CHAUCER *Parl. Foules* 505, I... wol sey my veyrdit... For watir foule... And I for *worme foule, seyde the foule cuckowe. 1430-40 LYDG. *Bochas* I. 6566 *Wormfrete stokkes. 1915 H. H. THOMAS *Gardening for Amateurs* I. 22/1 Proprietary *worm-killers can also be obtained, and these must always be employed as directed. 1959 *Times* 7 Mar. 9/1 There are always the lead arsenate wormkillers. 1551 RECORDE *Pathw. Knowl.* Aiiijb, An other sorte of lines is there, that is called a spirall line, or a worm line, whiche representeth an apparant forme of many circles, where there is not one in dede. 1782 J. RAMSAY in *Allardye Scot. & Scotsmen* 18th C. (1888) II. 256 It looked like February than the *worm month. 1825 JAMIESON, *Worm-month*,... the month of July, Perth... from the hatching of many kinds of reptiles in this month. 1880 *Antrim & Down Gloss.*, *Worm month*,... a fortnight before and a fortnight after Lammas. 1855 OGILVIE *Suppl.*, *Worm-oil. 1835 JENYNS *Man. Brit. Vertebr. Anim.* 488 *Syngnathus lumbriciformis*, Nob. (*Worm Pipe-Fish). 1831 J. HOLLAND *Manuf. Metal* I. 309 The files... are then heated... to a sort of *worm-red. 1833 *Ibid.* II. 80 The [sword-] blade is then hardened... by the smith heating it in the fire until it becomes worm red. 1881 GREENER *Gun* 252 The pot is then placed in a bright coal fire, where it remains till the whole is of a worm red. 1666 MERRET *Pinax* 194 *Tubuli in quibus vermes*, *Worm-shells. c 1711 PETIVER *Gazophyl.* vi. liii, Great Indian furrowed Worm-shell. 1767 *Phil. Trans.* LVII. 432 The *Serpula*, or Worm-shell. 1776 MENDES DA COSTA *Elem. Conchol.* 148 The third family is the Vermiculi, or Worm Shells. 1860 P. P. CARPENTER in *Rep. Smithsonian Instit.* 1859, 206 The Ivory Worm-shell (*Vermetus eburneus*). 1861 *Ibid.* 1860, 210 Family Vermetidae. (Worm-Shells.) 1885 F. MCCOY *Prodromus Zool. Victoria* xi. 7 *Typhlops nigrescens*,... The Blackish Australian *Worm-Snake. 1885 [see *ground-snake*, *GROUND sb.* 18b]. 1729 *Phil. Trans.* XXXVI. 133 The upper Wire or Point... is by Means of the *Worm-spring EF..., made to push the said Beam upwards with the Force of the Spring. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XIII. 488/1 There must be a worm-spring fastened to the key, and to the bar W..., to keep down the end of the key. 1752 J. HILL *Hist. Anim.* 64 This Insect, in the *worm-state, is about the bigness of a louse. 1677 PLOT *Oxfordsh.* 126 At the same rubble Quarries we find also the *Lapides vermiculares*, or *Worm-stones. 1681 GREW *Museum* III. §1. v. 303 The Worme-Stone... Not much unlike a Steel

Worme used for the drawing of Corks out of Bottles. 1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* 17 *Woorme-tongued Oratours, dust-footed Poets, and weatherwise historians. 1859 PAGE *Geol. Terms, Vermiculites*,... the smaller... *worm-tracks which appear on the surfaces of many flaggy sandstones. 1776 MENDES DA COSTA *Elem. Conchol.* 285 A single Vermiculus, or *Worm-tube. 1883 *Science* II. 88 2 As the coral grows, it spreads round the worm-tube. 1914 *Brit. Mus. Return* 213 A supposed Worm-tube from the Chalk... of Bridlington. c 1817 HOGG *Tales & Sk.* V. 214 My bed-cloth consisted of a single covering not thicker than a *wormweb. 1821 GALT *Sir A. Wylie* I. xxi. 178 Your Ledyship's character's no a gauze gown, or a worm web. 1643 *Lancash. Tracts Civil War* (Chetham Soc.) 179 They bringe up an open trench in a *worme work, the earth being indented or sawed, for the securitie of their myners.

worm (wɜ:m), *v.* Forms: 3 wirme, 6-7 worme, 7 woorme, 7- worm. [f. the sb. Cf. Du., G. *wurmen* (in various senses).

In *Gen. & Ex.* 3342 'Quo so nome up forbone mor it [the manna] wirmede, bredde, and rotede ðor' read 'wirmes bredde' (cf. Petrus Comestor *scatebat vermis*).]

I. 1. *intr.* To hunt for or catch worms.

1576 TURBERV. *Venerie* li. 153 When he [the boar] feedeth on fearne or rootes, then is it called rowting or fearning, or (as some call it) worming; bycause when he doth but a little turne vp the grounde with his nose, he seeketh for wormes. *Ibid.* liiii. 154 In soft places where he wormeth. 1611 COTGR., *Vermiller*, to worme, to root for wormes. 1614 MARKHAM *Cheap & Good Husb.* vi. i. 115 It is good to keepe Chickens one fortnight in the house, and after to suffer them to goe abroad with the Henne to worrne. 1880 F. BUCKLAND *Nat. Hist. Brit. Fishes* 11 Men, women, and children are employed in 'worming'. 1899 R. HAGGARD in *Longm. Mag.* Apr. 520 The old thrush goes on worming without even taking the trouble to look up.

2. *a. trans.* To cause to be eaten by worms; to devour, as a burrowing worm does. Chiefly *pass.*, to be eaten by worms. Also *fig.*

1604 DEKKER *Honest Wh.* I. i. A 3, The body, as the Duke spake very wisely, is gone to be wormd. 1633 T. ADAMS *Exp. 2 Pet.* ii. 4. 530 The people called him [Herod] a god, but the wormes soone confuted their ridiculous deity, That... when the Angell had worm'd that Idoll, he might say, Behold your king. 1784 COWPER *Task* II. 816 Ev'ry plague that can infest Society, and that saps and worms the base Of th' edifice that policy has rais'd. 1821 GALT *Ann. Parish* xxvii. 235 The Manse had fallen into a sore state of decay — the doors were wormed on the hinges. 1864 T. S. WILLIAMS & SIMMONDS *Engl. Commer. Corresp.* 285 Buffalo hides except rubbed, holed, or wormed, cannot be laid down at all near your limit. 1895 *Bookseller's Catal.*, Some few margins are wormed, but this can be repaired at a trifling cost. 1900 *Trans. Highland & Agric. Soc. Scot.* Ser. v. XII. 235 It might have been suspected that part of the thinness [of the oats] at one end of the plots was due to worming.

b. To eat (one's way) *through*. (Cf. 9c.)

1858 MASSON *Milton* I. 481 There were men who had wormed their way through libraries, and might be classified according to the colours left in them by the food they had devoured.

II. 3. a. To extract the 'worm' or lytta from the tongue of (a dog). (Supposed to be a safeguard against madness: see WORM sb. 13.)

1575 TURBERV. *Faulconrie* 369 It shall be good when spanell whelpes are one moneth olde... to worme them vnder the tounge. 1599 Broughton's *Lett.* i. 6 A dog not wormed while he is yong, will in time proue mad. 1632 B. JONSON *Magn. Lady* I. vii, *Int.*... Hee Will screw you out a Secret from a Statist —. *Com.* So easie, as some Cobler wormes a Dog. 1641 PEACHAM *Worth of Penny* 21 For a peny you may have your dog worm'd, and so be kept from running mad. 1743 H. WALPOLE *Lett. to Mann* 3 Oct., Patapan is in my lap; I had him wormed lately, which he took heinously. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* vii, The men... assisted the laird in his sporting parties, wormed his dogs, and cut the ears of his terrier puppies. 1855 BROWNING *Protus* 50 He wrote the little tract 'On worming dogs'.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* (as a remedy for madness, a ribald tongue, or greediness).

1564-78 BULLEIN *Dial. agst. Pest.* (1888) 62 You learned your Retorike in the vniuersitie of Bridewell; you were neuer well wormed when you were young. 1589 NASHE *Counterjuffe* Wks. (Grosart) I. 77 The blood and the humors that were taken from him, by launcing and worming him at London vpon the common Stage. 1615 DAY *Festivals* xii. 335 Abishai desiring leave... to go and worrne that unhappy Tongue of his [Shimei's]. 1619 R. HARRIS *Drunkard's Cup* 9 He bans, and cannot be quiet till his tongue be wormed. 1621 FLETCHER *Pilgrim* IV. i, Is she grown mad now? Is her blood set so high? I'll have her maddened, I'll have her worm'd. 1623 MASSINGER *Dk. Millaine* III. ii. G 3 When I had worm'd his tongue, and trussed his hanches. 1676 SHADWELL *Virtuoso* I. 12 He is such a froward testy old fellow, he should be Wormed like a mad Dog. a 1679 J. WARD *Diary* (1839) 137 A certaine woman that eat much before her husband, and hee complained of her to her mother, shee told him itt was her fault, for she had not wormd her.

† c. *to worm a person in the nose*: to extract information from him by adroit questioning. *Obs.*

Cf. F. *tirer à quelqu'un les vers du nez*.

1613 *Treas. Aunc. & Mod. Times* IX. xxii. 953/2, I have so cunningly wormed my husband in the nose; that he hath discouered vnto me, more Mony then hee acquainted you withall.

4. a. To rid (plants, esp. tobacco) of 'worms' or grubs.

1624 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* v. 172 Wormes in the earth also there are but too many, so that to keepe them from destroying their Corne and Tobacco, they are forced to worrne them euery morning... else all would be destroyed. 1641 [cf. WORMING *vbl. sb.* 2]. 1649 W. BULLOCK *Virginia* I 1 The poore Servant goes daily through the rows of Tobacco stooping to worrne it. 1779 J. CARVER *Treat. Culture Tobacco*

iv. 23 This is termed 'worming the tobacco'. 1864 DE COIN *Cotton & Tobacco* 274 The plants ought to be wormed—which means searched and cleared of worms—at least once a week.

absol. 1886 C. G. W. LOCK *Tobacco* 69 The usual practice is to worm and sucker while the dew is on in the morning.

b. To treat (an animal) with a preparation designed to free it of parasitic worms.

1932 N. MITFORD *Christmas Pudding* xi. 179 Lady Bobbin spoke to those about her of horses, hounds, and such obscure eventualities as going to ground... and being thoroughly well wormed. 1940 W. FAULKNER *Hamlet* iv. 1 276 He drenched and wormed and... drew the teeth of horses and mules. 1961 C. H. D. TODD *Pop. Whippet* 69 Having decided upon your puppy... ask if it has been wormed. 1978 *Detroit Free Press* 5 Mar. c20/3 (Advt.), Collie Pups... wormed, pet or show.

III. † 5. To pry into the secrets of (a person); to play the spy upon. *Obs.*

1607 BEAUM. & FL. *Woman-Hater* iii. iii, O he is a very subtle and a dangerous knave, but if he deal a Gods name, we shall worm him. *a 1616* — *Wit without Money* iv. iv, I'll teach you to worm me, good Lady sister, and peep into my privacies to suspect me. 1648 *Hunting of Fox* 41 You have... a Lay-presbytery to worme your Purposes and Consciences. 1807 J. BARLOW *Columb.* iv. 211 Spies with eye askance, Pretended heretics who worm the soul.

6. to worm (a person) out of: to deprive or dispossess of (property, etc.) by underhand dealing. ? *Obs.*

1617 W. FENNOR *Compters Commw.* 10 It was onely a trick to worme mee out of my money. 1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch.*, *Hen.* IV xi, Richard (whom late wee left dethron'd) is not Worme from the Storye, though worm'd out of King. *a 1700* B. E. Dict. *Cant. Crew*, Worm'd out of, Rookt, Cheated, Trickt. 1718 tr. *Tournefort's Voy. Levant* I. 58 This gave us a suspicion... that they jointly contriv'd to worm us out of this Mony. 1838 LYTTON *Alice* iii. viii, We cannot wrestle against the world, but we may shake hands with it, and worm the miser out of its treasures.

7. to worm out: to thrust out, get rid of, expel, by subtle and persistent pressure or undermining.

1594 LYLly *Mother Bombie* ii. ii, I haue tied vp the louing worme my daughter, and will see whether fansie can worme fansie out of her head. 1643 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* I. §30. 67 It is a riddle to me, how this story of Oracles hath not worm'd out of the World that doubtful conceit of Spirits and Witches. *a 1662* HEYLIN *Laud* I. (1671) 46 He did not only stock his Colledge with such a generation of Non-conformists as could not be wormed out in many years after his decease; but [etc.]. 1665 *Surv. Aff. Netherl.* 127 The industrious Portugeze, whom they have wormed almost out of all their discoveries in Asia and Africa. 1683 in J. Wickham Legg *Eng. Ch. Life* (1914) 115 A Temper, which must Inevitably... Worme out once againe the Common Prayer. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), To Worm, to work one out of a Place, &c. 1714 R. FIDDES *Pract. Disc.* II. 271 He who has the handsomest address... in worming others out of business, and winding himself in. 1748 E. ERSKINE *Serm.* (1755) 332 The Venom of the Old Serpent has diffused itself through all the Powers and Faculties of the Soul and Body; and it is worming out your Life. 1760 *Ann. Reg.*, *Chron.* 114/1 Such a body of troops as... in time might be able to worm out the English from the trade of Bengal. 1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T.*, Worm, to worm out, also to undermine, or supplant. 1811 LAMB *Elia* Ser. I. *Bachelor's Complaint*, Innumerable are the ways which they take to insult and worm you out of their husband's confidence.

8. to worm out: a. to extract (information, a secret, etc.) by insidious questioning. Similarly *const. out of or from* (a person).

1715 ADDISON *Drummer* II. i, I fancy... thou could'st worm it [a secret] out of her. 1785 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T.*, Worm, to worm out, to obtain the knowledge of a secret by craft. 1800 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Pop. T.*, *The Will* iv, I do not want to worm your secret from you. 1807 CRABBE *Birth of Flattery* 56, I... Who've loosed a guinea from a miser's chest, And worm'd his secret from a traitor's breast. 1840 THACKERAY *Catherine* xi, Old Wood knew all her history... He had wormed it out of her, day by day. 1844 A. SMITH *Mr. Ledbury* xx. (1886) 60 He was able... to worm out a description of the locality. 1853 LYTTON *My Novel* x. xx, By little and little our Juvenile Talleyrand... wormed out from Dick this grievance. 1863 COWDEN CLARKE *Shaks. Char.* iii. 68 He counsels his mother not to let the king worm from her his secret. 1865 BARING-GOULD *Werewolves* v. 62 The judge ordered one of his peasants to visit the man, and to worm the truth out of him. 1900 'ANTHONY HOPE' *Quisanté* i. 14 She could not get much out of him, but she found herself trying to worm out all she could.

b. To extract (money, etc.) out of (a person) by pleading.

1851 KINGSLEY *Yeast* xiii, They make the labourer fancy that he is not to depend upon God and his own right hand, but on what his wife can worm out of the good nature of the rich.

9. a. *intr.* To move or progress sinuously like a worm; also *transf.* of things. Usually with adv., as *about*, *along*, *up*, *down*, or *prep.*, as *in*, *into* (a confined space). Also, to move windingly *through*; to twine or twist *about* (something).

1610 G. FLETCHER *Christ's Tri.* I. xxii, Thousand flaming serpents hissing flew... And worming all about his soule they clung. 1802 G. COLMAN *Br. Grins, Elder Bro.* (1819) 118 He [a drunk man] work'd, with sinuositics, along, Like Monsieur Corkscrew worming thro' a Cork. 1826 J. F. COOPER *Last of Mohicans* xx, I little like that smoke which you may see worming up along the rock above the canoe. 1839 BAILEY *Festus, The Centre*, Through seas and buried mountains... have we wormed Down to the ever burning forge of fire. 1884 *Century Mag.* XXIX. 139 They wormed through the grass to within forty or fifty feet of the rifle-pits. 1885 *Cyclist* 19 Aug. 1101/1 The procession... moved off in a straggling manner... Once in order, however, the riding was excellent, and a very presentable line wormed through the Newport Road. 1896 BADEN-POWELL *Matabele*

Campaign xvi, The caves and their passages worm about inside the koppie.

b. *refl.* in same sense.

1865 GOSSE *Land & Sea* 255 So, kneeling... or fairly stretched at full-length supine... we worm ourselves into the holes and crannies. 1899 D. C. MURRAY *Dangerous Catspaw* 200 Gale wormed himself into the little passage. 1927 AGATHA CHRISTIE *Big Four* viii. 107, I crawled cautiously out of the bushes, and inch by inch... I wormed myself down the steep path.

c. With advb. acc., as *to worm one's way*. Also of figurative progress (cf. next).

1822 GOOD *Study Med.* (1829) I. 399 Fistulous ulcers... have sometimes... wormed a sinuous path, and opened into the vagina. 1845 LINGARD *Hist. Anglo-Saxon Ch.* I. ii. 95 Through such intrigues it occasionally happened that men, in no wise qualified for the episcopal office, wormed their way to the episcopal bench. 1851 F. B. HEAD *Stokers & Pokers* iii. 39 A number of newspaper-vendors... are worming their way through the crowd. 1869 TROLLOPE *He Knew*, etc. lxii. (1878) 348 That snake in the grass who wormed his way into my house. 1883 F. M. CRAWFORD *Dr. Claudius* vii. 117 The screw... rushed round, worming its angry way through the long quiet waves.

10. fig. a. To make one's way insidiously like a worm into (a person's confidence, secret affairs, etc.); to burrow in so as to hurt or destroy. Also, to wriggle out of (a difficulty).

1627 P. FLETCHER *Locusts* iv. xxi, To comply With that weak sex, and by fine forgerie To worme in womens hearts, chiefly the rich and high. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Church-Rents* ii, But when debates and fretting jealousies Did worm and work within you more and more, Your colour faded. 1639 SALTMARSH *Policy* 231 Vse subtle and crafty men, they will search, and skrew, and worme into busines of difficulty. 1833 RITCHIE *Wand. Loire* 138, I worm into their secrets like a being of supernatural power. 1868 *Cornh. Mag.* July 68 We cannot pause to tell how imposters... wormed into his confidence. 1881 TENNYSON *Cup* I. i. 54 And once there I warrant I worm thro' all their windings. 1893 in J. H. BARROWS *World's Parl. Relig.* I. 618 These facts... are exceedingly embarrassing for the adherents of the evolutionary theory; but they worm out of the difficulty in a manner that provokes... a smile.

b. *refl.* To insinuate oneself into (a person's favour or confidence, a desirable position, etc.).

1711 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 1 Aug., I was endeavouring to settle some points of the greatest consequence, and had wormed myself pretty well into him, when his Under Secretary came in... and interrupted all my scheme. 1712 *Perquisite Monger* 10 One Zaraida... so worm'd herself into the Confidence of her Mistress, as to be in the highest Esteem with her. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* iii. iii. ¶4 If you have management enough to worm yourself into his confidence. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* vi, Worm yourself into her secrets; I know you can. 1853 READE *Chr. Johnstone* iii, Flucker... with admirable smoothness and cunning, wormed himself into cabin-boy on board the yacht. 1871 DIXON *Tower* III. v. 45 He was to worm himself into the family councils. 1911 J. H. ROSE *W. Pitt & Gt. War* xx. 432 This was before Wedderburn had wormed himself into favour with Lord North.

11. *trans.* with predicate-extension: To move (an object) off, down, through, etc. by a gradual tortuous propulsion or dragging.

a 1861 T. WINTHROP *Life in Open Air* (1863) 117 Aided by the urgent stream, we carefully and delicately... wormed our boat off the rock. 1873 J. T. MOGGIDGE *Harv. Ants* I. 33 We measured a tunnel [formed by ants] by worming a straw down it. 1888 STEVENSON *Black Arrow* 251 Dick had gradually wormed his right arm clear of its bonds. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 11 Dec. 2/1 To repel all attempts on the part of the enemy to worm his patrols through our advanced troops.

IV. 12. [See WORM sb. 16 d, e.] To make a screw-thread on. † *to worm in*, to screw in; to insert and secure by screwing.

1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. iv. *Handie-Crafts* 523 He hatcheth files, and winding vices wormeth. 1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.*, *Printing* xi. ¶18 It hath four Iron Hooks... whose Shanks are Wormed in. 1868 ROGERS *Pol. Econ.* x. (1876) 130 A smith may be engaged generally in forging or worming screws. 1884 M. MACKENZIE *Dis. Throat & Nose* II. 271 Its outer surface is smooth for four inches from the distal end; but for the rest of its length it is wormed.

13. a. *Naut.* To wind spun-yarn or small rope spirally round (a rope or cable) so as to fill up the grooves between the strands and render the surface smooth for parcelling and serving.

1644 [implied in WORMING vbl. sb. 6]. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), To Worm a Cable, or Hawser... to succour or strengthen it, by winding a small Rope all along between the Strands. 1730 CAPT. W. WRIGLESWORTH *MS. Log-bk. of the 'Lyell'* 22 Sept., Got our Main Stay down, Wormed the lower end of it. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780) *Emmieller un étai*, to worm a stay. 1799 *Hull Advertiser* 13 Apr. 2/2, 60 fathom of cable, part of which is wormed. 1860 H. STUART *Seaman's Catech.* 28 It should be tarred and wormed with stout spunyarn. 1875 BEDFORD *Sailor's Pocket Bk.* x. 360 Three men can worm, parcel, and serve 2 fathoms of 12-inch in an hour.

b. *transf.* To wind packing strips between (the cores of a multicore electric cable) so as to give a more nearly circular cross-section; also, to wind (conductors) together to form such a cable.

1909 COYLE & HOWE *Electric Cables* ii. 112 Prior to impregnating, the paper-insulated cores are laid up together and wormed with jute. 1953 C. C. BARNES *Power Cables* i. 6 The laid-up cores are wormed into circular formation and are armoured overall. 1982 KING & HALFTER *Underground Power Cables* ii. 31 These solid-type multicore cables are of belted construction, in which the conductors are separately paper-insulated, 'wormed' together and the interstices filled with a packing or filling of fibrous material in order to obtain a circular section.

14. To remove the charge or wad from (a gun) by means of a worm (see WORM sb. 16 b). Also *absol.*

1802 C. JAMES *Milit. Dict.* s.v., To worm a Gun, to take out the charge of a fire-arm by means of a worm. 1859 F. A. GRIFFITHS *Artil. Man.* 209 No. 4. Worms, sponges, rams home, runs out, and trains. 1873 *Routledge's Young Gentlm. Mag.* Jan. 79/1 The guns were 'wormed', 'sponged', loaded, and run out.

† **wor'matic**, *a.* *Obs.* [f. WORM sb., prob. after *rheumatic*.] Of, consisting of, or containing worms.

1665 NEDHAM *Med. Medicinæ* 177 The Wormatick Cadaverous Humor and Matter. *Ibid.* 511 It came from a Wormatick Cause in the Bowels... Salts might kill the Worms. 1690 R. CLARK *Vermiculars Destroyed* 15 Slime and wormatick matter.

† **worm-eat**, *ppl. a.* *Obs.* = WORM-EATEN, *lit.* and *fig.*

1597 BP. HALL *Sat.* I. iv. 6 Some brauer braine in high Heroick rimes Compileth worm-eate stories of olde tymes. 1601 2nd Pt. *Return fr. Parnass.* iv. iii. 1936 Spending the marrow of their flowring age, In fruitlesse poring on some worme eate leafe. 1607 R. TURNER *Nosce Te* E 3, This worme-eate Churle.

† **worm-eat**, *v.* *Obs.* [Back-formation from next.]

1. *trans.* To eat into by, or as by, worms. 1598 FLORIO, *Tarmare*, to mothe-eate or worme-eate. 1653 CHISENHALE *Catholike Hist.* 109 Should the gnawing rusty teeth of time worm-eat and rase all his Records. 1663 HEAD *Hic & Ubique* II. i. 20 Let 'em rot with their cares And worldly affairs, And worm-eat their souls with their treasures. *a 1739* JARVIS *Don Quix.* II. iv. x, Leave off these vanities, which worm-eat your brain.

2. *intr.* To undergo being worm-eaten. 1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 125 That they bee reade-deale, which are almost as durable as oake, and will not worme-eate so soone as white deale.

'worm-eaten, *pa. pple.* and *ppl. a.* Eaten into by a worm or worms.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P.R.* xvii. lxxiv. (1495) Qijj/1 Frute... yf it be not roten other worme eten. *c 1420 Liber Cocorum* (1862) 45 Take white pese and washe him wele;... Devoyde po worme-etone alle bydene. 1493 *Festynall* (W. de W. 1515) 139 An olde staffe of asshe that... was all worme eten. *c 1570 Misogonus* III. iii. 84 A neighbour of yours wch is payned in hir mandible wth a wormetone toth. 1590 SPENSER *F.Q.* II. ix. 57 Some made in books, some in long parchment scrolles, That were all worme-eaten, and full of canker holes. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* III. iii. 145 Smircht worm-eaten tapestry. 1600 ABBOT *On Jonah* xx. 434 The worke of wormes shall not be refused, to cloath a worme-eaten body. 1653 W. RAMESEY *Astrol. Restored* 72 He found [it] in an old rotten worm-eaten book. 1679 *Rector's Bk. Clayworth* (1910) 45 Ye beans were sound and ye pease wormeaten. *a 1704* T. BROWN *Walk Lond. & Westm.* Wks. 1720 III. 316 Old worm-eaten Presses, whose Doors flew open on our Approach. 1827 CLARE *Sheph. Cal.* 148 Then, like worm-eaten fruit, it drops and dies. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* xxxviii, Old worm-eaten ship timber. 1883 J. G. WOOD in *Sunday Mag.* Oct. 628/2 No one ever yet found an unsound or worm-eaten nut in a squirrel's store.

b. *transf.* Applied to organic tissue which is indented with small holes.

In Elizabethan writers as a jocular description of a 'grog-blossom' nose.

1592 NASHE *P. Penilesse* Wks. (Grosart) II. 18 A huge woorme-eaten nose, like a cluster of grapes hanging downwards. 1603 DEKKER *Wonderf. Yeare* F1 An Antiquary might haue pickt rare matter out of his Nose, but that it was worme-eaten (yet that proved it to be an auncient Nose). 1897 ALLBUTT *Syst. Med.* III. 966 The whole of the colon above the stricture was distended and worm-eaten by small ulcers. *Ibid.* IV. 746 A larger superficial ulcer... with irregular 'worm-eaten' or 'mouse-nibbled' margins. 1899 *Ibid.* VI. 550 The surface [of the bone] has a worm-eaten appearance.

c. *fig.* (of persons and things). Decayed, decrepit; antiquated, outworn.

c 1575 W. WAGER *Longer thou livest* 329 (Brandl) You begin to be scabbie and worme eaten, It is time Salt vpon you to strow. 1589 R. HARVEY *Pl. Perc.* (1590) 6 His worm-eaten Conscience. 1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 158 Your close in the treble part is so stale that it is almost worme eaten. 1604 ? DEKKER *Neues fr. Grauesend* Ep. Ded. A 4 That worme-eaten name of Liberall... It's a name of the old fashion. 1614 RALEGH *Hist. World* I. vii. §4. 103 And therefore... were all things among the Greekes (which antiquitie had worme out of knowledge) called *Ogygia*, which we in English commonly call (worme-eaten) or of defaced date. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* (1671) 187 O poor fools who are beguiled with painted things... and rotten worm-eaten hopes! 1721 RAMSAY *Tartana* 362 These musty Fools Who only move by old worm-eaten Rules. 1888 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 13 Sept. 5/1 The worm-eaten bibliophile.

absol. 1730 POPE *Lett. to Gay* 1 Oct., The employment I am fittest for—conversation with the dead, the old, and the worm-eaten.

Hence † **worm-eatenness**, worm-eaten condition.

1617 RIDER *Bibl. Schol.*, *Caries*... Rottenness or worm-eatenness in wood. 1617 BARBIER *Janua Ling.* 94 The tops of chesnut trees rot with rustie wormeatenness. 1666 J. SMITH *Old Age* 85 By the ceasing of the teeth we must understand, all those infirmities that are incident to them by reason of age, whether looseness, hollowness, rottenness... wormeatenness, [etc.]. 1730 BAILEY (folio), *Verminousness*, Fulness of Worms, Worm-eatenness.

'worm-eater.

1. A bird or other creature that feeds on worms; *spec.* the Worm-eating Warbler (see below).

1760 G. EDWARDS *Glean. Nat. Hist.* II. 200 The Worm-eater [of Pennsylvania]. 1831 SWAINSON & RICHARDSON *Fauna Bor.-Amer.* II. 221 *Sylvicola (Vermivora) peregrina*. . . Tennessee Worm-eater. 1878 J. BULLER *New Zealand* I. v. 39 A desperate gang headed by a chief called 'Kaitoke' (worm-eater).

2. [f. WORM-EATEN.] (See quotes.)

1890 *Boston (Mass.) Jnl.* 22 Apr. 2/3 A man . . . gave his occupation as that of a worm-eater. . . He said he was employed by a furniture manufacturer to fire shot at furniture so as to give it a worm-eaten appearance. 1900 *Daily Mail* 31 Oct., Worm-eaters . . . assist the makers of spurious oak furniture to deceive the public by drilling worm holes into the wood so as to give it an ancient appearance.

† **'worm-eating, vbl. sb.** *Obs.* The eating of worms into fruit, timber, etc.

1594 PLAT *Jewell-ho.* I. 36 Steeping of seeds in the infusion of wormwood, century, coloquintida, and such like, will defende them from worme-eating. 1600 SURFLET *Cauntrie Farme* I. x. 48 Hee shall cleanse them [*sc.* trees] from wormes, filthines, and worme eatings. 1677 N. COX *Gentl. Recreat.* IV. 15 To preserve these Stocks or Tops from rotting, or worm-eating, rub them over thrice a year with Sallet or Linseed-oyle. 1691 T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* 40 To make good the damage she brought home by Worm-eating.

'worm-eating, ppl. a. That eats worms for food. *worm-eating warbler*, the bird *Helminthotherus vermivorus* of the eastern U.S.

1817 STEPHENS in Shaw's *Gen. Zool.* X. 730 Worm-eating Warbler. *Sylvia vermivora*. . . Inhabits Pennsylvania. 1831 SWAINSON & RICHARDSON *Fauna Bor.-Amer.* II. 204 The worm-eating Warblers (*Vermivora*). 1872 COUES *Key N. Amer. Birds* 93 *Helmi[antho]therus vermivorus*. Worm-eating Warbler.

wormed (wɜ:md), *ppl. a.* [f. WORM *v.* and *sb.* + -ED.]

1. Eaten into or bored by worms; infested with worms.

1846 A. YOUNG *Naut. Dict.* 371 Wormed, the state of timber or plank when a number of internal cavities are made in it by a particular kind of worm, called the *Tereda navalis*, that abounds chiefly in tropical climates. 1853 G. JOHNSTON *Nat. Hist. E. Bord.* I. 96 Old bushes may generally be seen growing, all knaggy and wormed, about decaying onsteads. 1860 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 8) XXI. 976/1 There is great reason to believe that some inflammatory action of the liver, of the eye, and of other wormed viscous, precedes the evolution of parasites in them. 1883 R. BRIDGES *Prometheus* 102 Then in the ruined dwellings and old tombs He dug, unbedding from the wormed ooze Vessels and tools of trade and husbandry. 1913 MASEFIELD *Daffodil Fields* III, Wormed hard-wood piles were driv'n in the river bank.

2. Formed with a screw-thread. Also in parasynthetic combinations = furnished with a (specified) number of screw-threads.

1683 MOXON *Printing* xi. ¶1. 62 A Three-Worm'd Spindle comes faster and lower down than a four-Worm'd Spindle. 1884 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 8 Aug. 11/1 Two perpendicular bars of iron are firmly fixed at B B, the upper portion of each of them deeply wormed for a screw. When the silo is full, planks are laid lengthwise over its whole surface, through which the wormed ends of the iron bars protrude.

wormer ('wɜ:mə(r)). [f. WORM *v.* + -ER¹.]

1. One who pries into the affairs of others; one who 'worms out' (secrets).

The meaning in quot. 1602 is uncertain. 1602 CHETTLE *Haffman* III. (1631) F1b, How say you, most valiant and reprobate Country men: haue ye not heard I haue bin a stinger, a tickler, a wormer. 1822 MRS. NATHAN *Langreath* III. 465 The insidious wormer of family secrets.

2. a. One who catches or collects worms for bait.

1880 F. BUCKLAND *Nat. Hist. Brit. Fishes* 11 It is a very interesting sight to see the lights of the numerous wormers when they are out with their lanterns collecting of a dark night. 1881 *Athenæum* 30 Apr. 594/2 A long reach is indispensable to a good wormer.

b. One who angles with a worm or worms as bait.

1891 A. LANG *Angling Sk.* 26 In a small burn a skilled wormer may almost depopulate the pools. 1909 W. C. PLATTS *Light Lines* 82 And how keen some of these old wormers are!

3. *U.S.* = WORM *sb.* 16 b.

1891 *Century Dict.* 1895 *Funk's Standard Dict.* 1911 WEBSTER.

4. A preparation used to rid animals of worm infestations.

1934 in WEBSTER. 1971 *Farmer & Stockbreeder* 23 Feb. 45 (Advt.), An ideal wormer. It is highly effective against all roundworms in the gut. 1980 *Kenya Veterinarian* June p.v (Advt.), There's only one total spectrum wormer for sheep and cattle.

wormery ('wɜ:məri). [f. WORM *sb.* + -ERY 2 b.] A place or container in which worms are kept.

1952 *Britannica Bk. Year* 667/1 Wormery, a place for breeding worms. 1972 *Daily Tel.* 10 July 14 We kept a wormery and during our observations we found the worms had pulled leaves down under the soil. 1980 M. DRABBLE *Middle Ground* 129 She complained about the smell of the hamster and rabbits, and thought the wormery disgusting.

† **wormete, a.** *Obs.* In 4 *wermethe*. [OE. *wyrmæte*, f. *wyrm* WORM *sb.* + *æt*-pret. stem of *etan* EAT *v.* Cf. MHG. *wurmæze*.] Worm-eaten.

c 1000 Sax. *Leechd.* II. 126 Wip wyrmætum lice. 1340 *Ayenb.* 229 Ase pet hit ne is naȝt guod, paȝ hit by wel uayr wip-oute, huanne hit is uorroted and wermethe.

'worm-grass.

† 1. A species of stonecrop, *Sedum album*, with worm-like leaves. *Obs.*

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. lxxvii. 114 Wilde Prickmadam, great Stone Croppe, or Worme grasse. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. cxxxvi. 414. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Worm-Grass*, an Herb that kills Worms.

2. The Pinkroot, *Spigelia marilandica*, of the Southern U.S., the root and leaves of which are used as a vermifuge. Also applied to *S. Anthelmia*.

1756 P. BROWNE *Jamaica* 156 *Anthelmenthia*. . . *Spigelia*. . . Worm-grass. 1786 ABERCROMBIE *Arrangem.* 66 in *Gard. Assist.*, *Spigelia marilandica*, or Mariland worm grass, or Carolina India pink. 1822 GOOD *Study Med.* (1829) I. 375 The Indian-pinks, or worm-grasses. . . [*spigelia*] *anthelmia*, and *s. Marylandica*. 1864 GRISEBACH *Flora W. Ind.* Isl. 789 Worm-grass, *Spigelia Anthelmia*.

'worm-hole. Also wormhole. 1. A hole made by a burrowing worm or insect in wood, fruit, books, etc.

1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 946 To fill with worme-holes stately monuments. 1599 — *Hen. V.* II. iv. 86 'Tis no sinister, nor no awk-ward Clayme, Picket from the worme-holes of long-vanisht dayes. 1615 ROWLANDS *Melancholie Knt.* 33 Old bookes, wherein the worm-holes doe remaine. 1684 J. S. *Profit & Pleas. United* 167 As for your Float let it be of the lightest Cork you can get, clear from cracks or worme holes. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VIII. 23 Others, whose time of transformation is also near at hand, fasten their tails to a tree, or to the first worm-hole they meet, in a beam. 1858 O. W. HOLMES *Aut. Breakf.-T.* (1883) 261 An apple with a worm-hole. 1874 WILLSHIRE *Anc. Prints* iii. 79 The worm-holes so frequently to be met with in the old crab and pear-wood blocks of the early masters.

2. *Physics.* A hypothetical interconnection between widely separated regions of space-time.

1957 MISNER & WHEELER in *Ann. Physics* II. 532 This analysis forces one to consider situations . . . where there is a net flux of lines of force through what topologists would call a handle of the multiply-connected space and what physicists might perhaps be excused for more vividly terming a 'wormhole'. 1978 PASACHOFF & KUTNER *University Astron.* xii. 326 Thus, in principle, mass that disappears in a black hole may emerge somewhere else. If the somewhere else is a distinct region in our universe, the connection is called a wormhole. 1981 P. DAVIES *Edge of Infinity* ix. 179 The quantum disturbance will be so severe that even the topology of spacetime will alter. Instead of a 'bumpy sheet', it will display a foam-like structure, full of worm-holes and bridges.

Hence **'worm-holed, a.**, perforated with worm-holes.

1870 LOWELL *Among my Bks.* Ser. 1. 202 The resolution and persistence of the one, like sound timber wormholed and made shaky, as it were, by the other's infirmity of will and discontinuity of purpose. 1875 'S. BEAUCHAMP' *N. Hamilton* I. 166 'See, sir', he would say as he turned the chairs over with a rap on the floor, to shake the sawdust out. 'There's the proof: worm-holed you see, sir, worm-holed'.

'wormhood. nonce-wd. [-HOOD.] The state or condition of being a worm.

1692 S. SHAW *Diff. Humaurs Men* 26, I doubt he will make a worse Beast of him than a Worm; if the company do not over-rule him, he'll make him that he cannot crawl, and then he will lose his worm-hood as well as his manhood. 1917 LD. BRAYE *Lines in Verse & Fable* 63 Extinction of all influence and fame, And abject knowledge of my wormhood.

wormian ('wɜ:mɪən), *a.* *Anat.* [ad. mod.L. (*ossa*) *Wormiān-a*, f. the name of the Danish physician Olaus Worm (1588-1654).] The designation of small bones of irregular shape (otherwise styled *ossa triquetra*), frequently found in the sutures of the skull.

1831 R. KNOX *Claquet's Anat.* 59 A wormian bone, which varies in size, and is frequently of an oval form. 1849-52 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 960/1 An interval is formed, which is afterwards filled up with Wormian ossicles. 1866 HUXLEY *Prehist. Rem. Caithn.* 88 There is a large Wormian bone in the right crus of the lambdoid suture. 1884 J. G. GARSON in *Jrnl. Anthropol. Inst.* XIII. 391 The wormian bones are small in most instances.

'worming, vbl. sb. [f. WORM *v.* + -ING¹.]

1. a. Extraction of the 'worm' or lytta from a dog's tongue.

1575 TURBERV. *Faulcanrie* 371 The worming doth discharge the Spanell of madnesse and frenesie. 1654 C. WASE *Gratius' Cyneget.* Illustr. 13 To prevent Madnesse by Worming. 1818 *Sporting Mag.* II. 31 Worming . . . is most efficacious.

b. *slang.* (See quot.)

1859 *Slang Dict.*, *Worming*, removing the beard of an oyster or muscle.

2. a. The action of ridding (plants, etc.) of 'worms' or grubs.

1641 MILTON *Animadv. Remonstr.* Def. 52 [He] challenges as his right . . . the clipping of every bush, the weeding and worming of every bed. 1864 DE COIN *Catton & Tobacco* 274 The worming must continue, after the hoeing is done, until the plants are ripe for cutting.

b. Treatment administered to rid an animal of parasitic worms.

1936 J. Z. RINE *Dog Owner's Man.* vi. 99 All worming may prove more effective if preceded by a twenty-four-hour diet of buttermilk. 1947 *New Biol.* III. 69 The cost and labour of rounding them [*sc.* sheep] up for this periodical 'worming' may be . . . great. 1981 *Times* 22 May 3/2 Worker cats needed neutering, vaccinating, worming, regular feeding.

3. † a. The practice of a spy or informer. (In quot. *attrib.*) *Obs.*

1607 BEAUM. & FL. *Woman-Hater* III. iii, Has not many men been raised from this worming trade?

b. The use of insidious methods of progress or advancement.

1916 *Nineteenth Cent.* Nov. 1074 In the Two Americas, . . . Deutschum has, by silent worming, won enormous power all the way from Chicago to the Chilean coast.

4. Angling with worms as bait.

1842 PULMAN *Rustic Sk.* 48 Zo 't's all up wi' wormin', an' huomward da trot Th' angler, wull pleyz'd wi' th' spoor e've a-got. 1910 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 28/1 The other methods of taking trout . . . are spinning, live-baiting and worming. 1922 *Blackw. Mag.* Jan. 39/1 When I showed him how to cast the worm up-stream, . . . he was delighted with this, to him, novel method of worming.

5. The action of catching worms (for bait).

1881 *Athenæum* 30 Apr. 594/2 Worming is an art; the worms are very cunning, and apt to pop back into their holes if the hunter treads heavily.

6. a. *Naut.* The process of winding spun-yarn round a rope or cable, so as to fill up the spiral furrows between the strands (cf. WORM *v.* 13). Also *concr.*, the yarn or line thus used as a filling.

1644 MANWAYRING *Sea-mans Dict.* 116 Worming is the laying of a small-roape, or line alongst, betwixt the strands of a cabell or hawser. 1711 W. SUTHERLAND *Shipbuild.* Assist. 120 Lanyards, Ratling, Worming. 1791 SMEATON *Edystone L.* (1793) §137 Not only the service and worming were cut, but the cable itself was . . . injured by the sharpness of the rocks. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 65 Worming is made of 2 or 3 strands. c 1860 H. STUART *Seaman's Catch.* 27 The worming is put in the lay. 1897 F. T. BULLEN *Cruise Cachalot* 84 A favourite design is to carve the bone into the similitude of a rope, with 'worming' of smaller line along its lays.

b. *transf.* The action of worming electric cables; also *concr.*, material used for this.

1909 COYLE & HOWE *Electric Cables* ii. 112 The specific gravity of the worming jute. 1949 *Proc. Inst. Electr. Engineers* XCVI. 11. 633/1 Would the author indicate . . . in what sizes additional worming or padding is required to allow the inclusion of the 0.0225-in² conductor and yet produce a good cable design? 1962 P. DUNSHEATH *Hist. Elect. Engin.* xvi. 259 Much attention was given to such refinements as . . . construction of wormings.

7. A worm-like incrustation.

1903 CONRAD & HUEFFER *Romance* v. iii. 425, I knew the feel of every little worming of rust on the iron candlestick.

8. *Comb.* worming machine (for making screw-threads); worming-pot, a utensil for forming worm-like ornaments on stoneware.

1866 J. CHAMBERLAIN in *B'ham & Midl. Hardware Distr.* 607 They [*sc.* screw-blanks] are next carried to the *worming machine. 1839 *URE Dict. Arts* 1017 Common stoneware is coloured by means of two kinds of apparatus; the one called the blowing-pot, the other the *worming-pot.

'worming, ppl. a. [f. WORM *v.* + -ING².] Winding, twisting; *fig.* working or advancing insidiously or tortuously.

1626 B. JONSON *Staple of Newes* v. ii, I ha' you in a purse-net Good Master Picklocke, wi' your worming braine, And wringing ingine-head of maintenance. 1650 FULLER *Pisgah* III. v. 369 But Saint Hierome will have them [*sc.* windows] lattised, *Lignis interrasilibus, et vermiculatis*, with worming or winding splinters of shaved wood. a 1764 LLOYD *Charity Poet.* Wks. 1774 II. 156 You sly, sneaking, worming souls, Whom Friendship scorns, and Fear controuls. 1835 W. G. SIMMS *Yemassee* i. 14 (Funk) Around the fields the negro piles slowly the worming and ungraceful fence.

'wormish, a. rare. [-ISH.] Worm-like; as weak or despicable as a worm. Also 'wormishness, wormish or craven behaviour.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* v. (1922) 177 In such a shadowe, or rather pit of darkenes, the wormish mankinde lives, that neither they knowe how to foresee, nor what to feare. 1616 HAYWARD *Sanct. Traub. Soul* I. §3. 52 Be not angry with vs (wormish weakelings) although we offend; for thou knowest what we are and whereof we are made. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* I. 3, I haue a . . . iudgement to discern such wormish waspes. 1923 V. WOOLF *Let.* 1 Apr. (1977) III. 26 Murry wrote me a wormish letter, by the way, about the differences between us, and our memories and so on. 1925 H. NICOLSON *Let.* 23 July in J. Lees-Milne *Harold Nicolson* (1980) I. xi. 239 My wormishness to Elizabeth.

† **worm-kin.** *Obs.* Forms: 1 *wyrmcyn*(n), 3 *wrimkin*. [OE. *wyrmcyn*(n) = OHG. *wurmchunni*, -*khunni*, MHG. -*künne*, f. WORM *sb.* + *KIN sb.*'] The race of worms or serpents, or a species of these.

Beowulf 1425 ðesawon ða æfter wætere wyrmcynnes fela, sellice sædracan sund cunnian. c 893 ÆLFRED *Oras* III. ix. (1883) 136 On westennum wildeora & wyrmcynna missenlicra. c 1000 *Ags. Gasp.* Luke xi. 12 Scorpionem, þæt is an wyrm-cynn. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3895 Ðor-fore hem cam wrim kin among, ðat hem wel bitterlike stong.

wormless ('wɜ:mlɪs), *a. rare.* [-LESS.] Free from, destitute of, worms.

1837 DARLEY *Syren Sangs* v. Poet. Wks. (1908) 441 In the wormless sands shall he Feast for no foul gluttons be. 1902 MABEL BARNES-GRUNDY *A Thames Camp* vii. 111, I was in a shocking bad temper owing to the absolutely wormless condition of our plot.

† **'wormlet.** *Obs.* —⁰ [-LET.] A little worm.

1611 FLORIO, *Vermineucci*, . wormlets. *Ibid.*, *Vermolini*, little wormes, grubs, or wormelets.

'worm-like, a. and adv.

A. adj. Resembling a worm in structure, form, movement, etc.; vermiform.

1721 BAILEY s.v. *Valvula major*, . the foremost Worm-like Process of the *Cerebellum*. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* I. 173 The whole body of the water then is found replete with little worm-like insects. 1854 *Poultry Chron.* I. 77 A strange spiral, or worm-like, motion. 1868 W. CORY *Lett. & Jnls.* (1897) 218 A dreadful fat worm-like black thing with onions. . it was lamprey. 1885 *Guide Mammalia Brit. Mus.* 50 The Ant-eaters have narrow heads with long snouts, to accommodate their enormously long worm-like tongues.

b. fig. (Cf. *WORM sb.* 13.)

1805 WORDSW. *Prelude* xi. 252, I. . wished that Man Should start out of his earthy, worm-like state, And spread abroad the wings of Liberty. 1877 GLADSTONE *Diary* 7 May in Morley *Life* II. vii. iv. 565 Never did I feel weaker and more wormlike.

B. adv. After the manner of a worm.

1813 BYRON *Corsair* i. xiv, That heart hath long been changed; Worm-like 'twas trampled, adder-like avenged. 1841 BROWNING *Pippa Passes* III, A pale wretch. . Who through some chink had pushed and pressed, On knees and elbows, belly and breast, Worm-like into the temple.

wormling ('w3:mliŋ). Also 7 wormeling, wormlin. [f. *WORM sb.* + -LING. Cf. *ON. yrmlingr.*] A small worm; chiefly *fig.*, a poor despicable creature.

1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. ii. *Imposture* 408, O dusty wormling! dar'st thou strive and stand With Heav'n's high Monarch? 1612 SHELTON *Quix.* III. iv. (1620) 149 God. . doth not abandon the little flies of the aire, nor the wormelings of the earth, nor the spawnlings of the water. 1621 BRATHWAIT *Nat. Embassie* (1877) 14 Thou wormlin, how dar'st thou reuile his name? 1628 SIR W. MURE *Doomesday* 185 Vile wormeling, Thou whose tender pride The weakest sunshine scarce couldst byde. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* etc. II. 129 The good and great, That lent a portion of their wealthy power, And sav'd a wormling from destruction's fate. 1858 E. CASWALL *Masque of Mary* etc. 179 The uncreated Word, who flesh became For us poor wormlings creeping on the ground. 1891 C. DAWSON *Avonmore* IV. 85 But if [there is] a God, what of the wormling man, Who madly dares impeach His awful will?

† **'wormly.** *Obs. rare.* [? Named from *Wormley* in Herts. or that in Surrey.] A horse.

1605 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iii. i. *Vocation* 852 Thy white Wormly brave [ton blanc corserot].

wormseed ('w3:msi:ɪd). [*WORM sb.* 4.]

1. A name for various plants considered to have anthelmintic properties; as swine's fennel or sulphurwort, *Peucedanum officinale*; *Artemisia Santonica*, *A. Vahlia*, *A. judaica*, *A. maritima*; *Erysimum cheiranthoides* (Treacle or English Wormseed); *Chenopodium anthelminticum* and *Ambrina anthelmintica* (American Wormseed); *Halogeton tamariscifolium* (Spanish Wormseed).

a1400-50 *Stockh. Med. MS.* 188 Swynys fenkel or wyrmsed: *feniculus porosus*. c1400 [see *swynesfenel*, SWINE 5b]. 1541 *Bk. Properties Herbs* DJ, *Feniculus poeticus*. . is called worme seed. It is good to destroy wormes in a mannes body. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. xxii. 212 Cameline, or English Woormseed. *Ibid.* 213 Treacle Wormeseede riseth vp with tough and pliant braunches. *Ibid.* II. ccccxxxv. 942 The Latines name it *Sementina*: the seede is called *Semen sanctum*, Holie seede, and *Semen contra Lumbricos*: in English Wormseed; the herbe it selfe is also called Wormseed, or Wormseedwoort. 1640 PARKINSON *Theat. Bot.* VII. xxviii. 867 *Camelina*. . English Wormeseede. 1686 RAY *Hist. Plant.* I. 368 Absinthium Santonicum Alexandrinum C.B. . Semen Sanctum Park. *Sementina* Ger. . Wormseed. 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot. App.* 332 Worm-seed, *Chenopodium*. 1770 J. R. FORSTER tr. *Kalm's Trav. N. Amer.* I. 163 *Chenopodium anthelminticum* is very plentiful on the road. . The English who settled here, call it Worm-seed and Jerusalem Oak. . In Pensylvania and New Jersey its seeds are given to children, against the worms. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* III. 585 *Erysimum cheiranthoides*. . Treacle Wormseed. 1831 J. DAVIES *Mat. Med.* 418 Wormseed. Jerusalem Oak. *Chenopodium anthelminticum*, . growing all over America. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* s.v., Spanish Wormseed, *Halogeton tamariscifolium*.

2. The dried flower-heads of one or other of these plants, used as an anthelmintic. Formerly also in pl. *Levant, Alexandrian, Barbary, Tartarian wormseed*, that prepared from species of *Artemisia*.

1502 ARNOLDE *Chron.* (1811) 234 Worme sede, ij. s. vi. d. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 269 Woorme seede of the best kynde, cauled *Semenzina*. 1594 R. WILSON *Coblers Prop.* II. 427 (Malone Soc.) *Sould*. I abhorre and defie thee. *Con. Euen* as the child doth wormeseed hid in Raisons. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. ccccxxxv. 941 This Wormwood called *Sementina* and *Semen sanctum*. . beareth that seede which we haue in vse, called Wormseed: in shoppes *Semen santolinum*. 1615 in W. Foster *Lett. recd. E. Ind. Co.* (1899) III. 177 Wormseeds likewise doth grow in Corosson. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* I. ii. §25 The Child certainly knows. . That the Wormseed or Mustard it refuses, is not the Apple or Sugar it cries for. 1704 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3983/4 The Cargo of the Ship Hamstead Galley, . consisting of. . Wormseeds, Gum Arabick [etc.]. 1727-51 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, Wormseed, *Semen contra, semen sanctum, or semen santonicum*. 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Chenopodium*, The fourth and fifth Sorts were brought from America, where the Seeds are call'd Worm-Seed. 1789 *Phil. Trans.* LXXIX. 82 The *Chenopodium*, producing the *semen santonicum*, or worm-seed, a medicine formerly in great character. 1866

Treas. Bot., Wormseed. . The name is applied in herb-shops to *Semen contra*, the produce of several species of *Artemisia*. 1867 WATTS *Dict. Chem.*, Wormseed. *Semen Cinæ. Semen Contra. Semen Santonici*. — The flower-buds of *Artemisia Vahlia*, *A. Sieberi*, and *A. inculta*. 1880 GARROD & BAXTER *Mat. Med.* 293 *Santonica* or worm-seed.

3. The eggs of the silkworm moth. Cf. *SEED sb.* 6a.

1733 P. LINDSAY *Interest Scotl.* 133 By supplying the Planters in those Parts with small Quantities of Wormseed, of the best Breed.

4. *attrib.* in *wormseed mustard, oil, †stone, weed, †wort* (see *quots.*).

1856 A. GRAY *Man. Bot.* (1860) 35 *Erysimum cheiranthoides*. *Worm-seed Mustard. 1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 167 The essential oil of *Chenopodium anthelminticum*, known in North America under the name of *Worm-seed Oil, is powerfully anthelmintic. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.*, Wormseed-oil. *Oleum cinæ.* 1729 WOODWARD *Nat. Hist. Fossils* I. 65 A Stone. . found in. . Cornwall: and is called there, *Wormseed-Stone, being thick set with small Bodies, not unlike the *Semen Santonici*, or Wormseed. 1750 G. HUGHES *Barbados* 170 The *Worm-Seed Weed. 1830 J. D. MAYCOCK *Flora Barbadosensis* 446 Worm Seed Weed. *Chenopodium anthelminticum*. 1597 *wormseedwoort [see 1].

'wormship. *nonce-wd.* [-SHIP.] The personality of a worm. (With possess. pron., as a mock-title.)

1648 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* v. cxlix, Vain Son of Dust pull down thy foolish Crest, And in this Glasse thy feeble Wormship see. 1652 BENLOWES *Theophila* II. xviii, Now serves our Guiltiness, as winding sheet To wrap up Lepers; Cover meet; While thus stern vengeance does our Wormships sadly greet. 1775 S. J. PRATT *Liberal Opin.* cxxxiv. (1783) IV. 217 A dead man being. . property under the earth; so that. . as the property properly belonged only to the worms, the matter ought to be submitted to their worshipful wormships.

† **'wormstall.** *Obs.* [? Altered f. dial. *oumer*, *UMBER sb.* + *STALL sb.* +] An outdoor shelter for cattle in warm weather.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XVIII. xxxiii, Drive thy sheepe and catlaile out of the Sunne, into some worme-stall and place of shade. 1613 MARKHAM *Eng. Husb.* Former Pt. II. A.4, The shelter will. . be an excellent wormstall for cattell in the summer. 1703 THORESBY *Lett. to Ray*, *Wormstall*, shelter for cattel in hot weather.

wormwood ('w3:mwud). Forms: 5 *wyrmwode*, 5-6 *worm(e)wod(e)*, 6 *wormwodd*, *worme*, *wormewowodde*, *wormewowode*, 6-7 *-wood(e)*, 6- *wormwood*. [Altered f. *VERMOD*, as if f. *WORM sb.* + *WOOD sb.* +]

1. The plant *Artemisia Absinthium*, proverbial for its bitter taste. The leaves and tops are used in medicine as a tonic and vermifuge, and for making vermouth and absinthe; formerly also to protect clothes and bedding from moths and fleas, and in brewing ale. It yields a dark green oil.

a1400-50 *Stockh. Med. MS.* 11 For to makyn surripe of violet; it. of wormwode. c1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 530/1 *Wyrmwode*, herbe, *absinthium*. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans*, *Hawking* ev, A medecyne for an hawke that hath mites. Take the lucc of wormwode and put it ther they be and thei shall dy. 1573 in *Gage Hengrave* (1822) 201 For wormwode to lay amongst the bedding at Coleman Streete, xij d. 1573-80 TUSSEER *Husb.* (1878) 123 Where chamber is sweeped, and wormwood is strowne, no flea for his life dare abide to be knowne. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* I. iii. 30 When it did tast the Worme-wood on the nipple of my Dugge, and felt it bitter. 1610 BEAUM. & FL. *Faithf. Shepherdess* II. ii. D i b, These for frenzy be A speedy and a soueraigne remedie, The bitter Wormewood, Sage and Marigold. 1626 MIDDLETON *Anything for Quiet Life* II. i, He burnt wormwood in't, to kill the fleas i' the rushes. 1807 CRABBE *Par. Reg.* I. 628 And *Artemisia* grows, where Wormwood grew. 1855 DELAMER *Kitchen Garden* (1861) 140 Wormwood gives its flavour to the 'purl' of the English workman. 1899 BRIDGES *Idle Flowers* xv, Ragwort and stiff Wormwood And straggling Mignonette.

b. With qualifying word, designating species of *Artemisia* and some similar plants; as

† *French wormwood, A. gallica* or *A. Santonica*; † *holy w., A. Santonica*; † *Pontic, Roman w., A. pontica* or *A. Absinthium*; † *sea w., A. maritima*; † *tree w., A. arborescens* of the Mediterranean. Also *Roman w., Ambrosia artemisiaefolia*; † *wild w., Parthenium Hysterophorus*.

1548 TURNER *Names of Herbes* 7 Wormwod pontike. . in englishe maye be also called wormwod gentile. *Ibid.* 8 Absinthium santonicum. . may be called in englishe frenche wormwod. *Ibid.*, Frenche wormwod is weaker then Sea wormwod is. 1551-*Herbal* I. A iijj, Ponticum absinthium. . maye be named in english, wormwode gentile or wormwode Romane, Wormwode pontyke. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* I. ii. 5 The second kinde of Wormwood is called. . in Latine *Seriphium*, and *Absynthium Marinum*. . In English Sea wormwood. *Ibid.* 6 *Santoni* wormwood, or French wormwood. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. ccccxxxiii. 940 It is called in English small leaved Wormwood, Romaine Wormwood, garden or Cypress Wormwood, and French Wormwood. *Ibid.* II. ccccxxxv. 941 Holie Wormwood. . called *Sementina* and *Semen sanctum*. . beareth that seede which we haue in vse, called Wormseede. *Ibid.* II. ccccxxxvi. 943 *Absinthium arborescens*. Tree Wormwood. 1696 SLOANE *Catal. Plant. Jamaica* 127 *Artemisia humilior* flore majore albo. . Wild Wormwood. 1721 *Queen's Closet* 10 To make Syrup of Wormwood. Take Roman Wormwood, or Pontick Wormwood, half a Pound. 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Absinthium*, The Roman and Sea Wormwoods are great Creepers at the Root. . The Tree Wormwood rises to be a Shrub five or six Foot high. 1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot. App.* 332 Wormwood, Wild, *Parthenium*. 1854 THOREAU *Walden* xiv. (1886) 261 It was overrun with Roman wormwood and

beggar-ticks. 1864 GRISEBACH *Flora W. Ind. Isl.* 789 Wormwood, wild, *Parthenium Hysterophorus*.

allusively. 1672 R. WILD *Poet. Licent.* 27 This bitter Cup hath Roman Wormwood in 't.

c. *salt of wormwood*, an impure carbonate of potash, obtained from the ashes of wormwood.

1617 WOODALL *Surg. Mate Wks.* (1639) 209 The salt of wormwood is esteemed hot and dry like the hearb. 1666 WOOD *Life* (O.H.S.) II. 95 Salt of wormwood and juyce of lemmmon. 1756 F. HOME *Exper. Bleaching* 277 To four pints of lime-water. . I added 20 gr. of salt of wormwood. 1789 BUCHAN *Dom. Med.* xiv. (1790) 153 An ounce of the bark. . with an equal quantity of salt of wormwood. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 95/1.

2. *fig.* An emblem or type of what is bitter and grievous to the soul.

1535 COVERDALE *Deut.* xxix. 18 Lest there be amonge you some rote, that beareth gall & wormwood. — *Amos* v. 7 Ye turne the lawe to wormwood. *Ibid.* vi. 12 Ye haue turned true iudgment in to bytternesse, and the frute of rightuousnesse in to wormwod. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 90 But. . amonge his soo many prosperous, pleasaunte, and luckye affayres, fortune mengelde some seedes of wormewoodde, and corrupted his pure corne with the malicious weedes of coccle. 1588 SHAKS. *L.L.L.* v. ii. 857 To weed this Wormewood from your fruitfull braine. 1593 G. HARVEY *New Let. Notable Cont.* Wks. (Grosart) I. 285 Conuerting the wormewood of iust offence into the angelica of pure attenment. 1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* F 4 Too much gall dyd that wormwood of Gibeline wittes put in his inke. 1617 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *London to Hamburgh* C 4 b, All his sugred sweet promises, were in the prooffe but Gall and wormwood in the performance. 1622 BACON *Hen. VII* 209 These two Persons. . turned Law and Iustice into Woorme-wood and Rapine. 1628 FORD *Lover's Mel.* II. ii. (1629) 33 *Mel.* Ha, ha, ha, *Rhe.* There's wormewood in that laughter. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* III. 107 Venemous also is the Wormewood of his braine. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Repentance* iv, Sweeten at length this bitter bowl, Which thou hast pour'd into my soul; Thy wormwood turn to health. 1641 MILTON *Animadu.* Wks. 1851 III. 232 It had beene happy for this land, if your priests had beene but onely wooden; all England knowes they have been to this lland not wood, but wormewood. 1691 HARTCLIFFE *Virtues* 239 Thus Judgment is turned into Wormwood: for it is embittered by injustice, and delays make it sour. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* iii. 13 My life is bitter as wormwood.

b. *to be wormwood (or gall and wormwood):* to be acutely mortified or vexing (to a person).

1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* XII. x. (Rtldg.) 435 The accounts her ladyship brought from Madrid were wormwood to the duke. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xl, His presence and his communications were gall and wormwood to his once partial mistress. 1856 R. A. VAUGHAN *Mystics* (1860) II. VIII. iv. 51 It was wormwood to the proud spirit of Agrippa to be treated as a mere astrologer. 1898 F. T. BULLEN *Cruise Cachalot* 339 The sight of other people's good fortune is gall and wormwood to a vast number of people.

3. Used as a name or specific epithet for certain moths.

1832 J. RENNIE *Butterfl. & Moths* 91 The Wormwood (*Cucullia Absinthii*, Ochsenheimer). *Ibid.* 134 The Wormwood Pug (*Eupithecia Absinthiata*, Stephens). *Ibid.* 169 The Wormwood Eyelet (*Semasia pupillana*, Stephens). 1869 E. NEWMAN *Brit. Moths* 136, 434.

4. Short for *wormwood ale* (see 5).

a1843 SOUTHEY *Comm.-pl. Bk.* IV. 425 Oxford, All Souls. . Their silver cups. . are called ox-eyes, and an ox-eye of wormwood was a favourite draught there. Beer with an infusion of wormwood was to be had nowhere else.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *wormwood-bush, †-cake, -diet, -draught, -drink; wormwood-coloured* adj.; *wormwood-ale, -beer*, ale or beer in which wormwood is infused; *wormwood coal* (see *quot.*); *wormwood water, wine*, a cordial prepared (like absinthe or vermouth) from wormwood; also *fig.*

1603 *wormewode ale [see *w. beer*]. 1665 in *Maitland Club Miscell.* (1840) II. 528 For wormewood aill and other aill in the morninge 000 03 00. 1603 F. HERING *Cert. Rules* B i b, You may vse a good draught of *wormewode beare or ale. 1718 *Poor Robin* May A 8 b, Scurvy-grass Ale, clarified Whey, And Wormwood Beer are good they say. 1858 LADY WILKINSON *Weeds & Wild Flowers* 418 Purl, or wormwood-beer. 1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunt.* v. 38, I came opposite to a small clump of *wormwood bushes. 1658 W. M. *Queens Closet Opened* (ed. 4) 15 *Wormwood Cakes good for a cold Stomach, and to help Digestion. 1858 LADY WILKINSON *Weeds & Wild Flowers* 353 An old belief continues to be connected with the circumstance of the dead roots of wormwood being black, and somewhat hard, and remaining for a long period undecayed beneath the living plant. They are then called *wormwood coal; and if placed under a lover's pillow they are believed to produce a dream of the person he loves. 1816 Beckford's *Vathek* (ed. Garnett) 72 He awoke. . stung to the quick by *wormwood-coloured [1786 wormwood-colour] flies. 1655 VAUGHAN *Sillex Saint.* II. *Providence* 46 Gladly will I, like Pontick sheep, Unto their *wormwood-diet keep. 1750 LADY LUXBOROUGH *Lett. to Shenstone* 9 Sept., I have a return of my fever to-day; and take *wormwood-draughts. 1658 in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS.* *Comm.* App. v. 6 [Let it] be celebrated with cow-heeles, and tripes, the keenest mustard, and the bitterest *wormewood drinke. 1612 WEBSTER *White Devil* v. vi. 5 *Vit.* Ha, are you drunke? *Flam.* Yes, yes, with *wormewood water; you shall tast Some of it presently. 1620 VENNER *Via Recta* II. 45, I aduise them to take two or three parts of wormwood-water, and one of *Aqua vitæ*. 1725 G. SMITH *Distilling* 46 Wormwood-water is in good demand in the Country. 1832 G. DOWNES *Lett. Cont. Countries* I. 168, I was. . attacked with a violent pain in my stomach, which yielded only to a strong dram of wormwood water (*Eau d' Absinthe*). 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Absynthites*. . *wormewoodde wyne. 1587 HARRISON *England* II. vi. (1877) 150 Artificiall stuffe, as yprocas and wormewood wine. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 81 In upper Germany the first draught commonly is of wormewood wine. 1692 in *Earthquake at Lima* (1748) App. 328 This Gentleman. . engaged me to take a Glass of

Wormwood Wine with him, as a Whet before Dinner. **1806** J. PINKERTON *Recoll. Paris* II. xv. 208 A decanter of Jamaica rum, Wormwood wine, or that of Vermouth. **1844** MANGAN *Love & Madness Poems* (1903) 323 Why must Medinims evermore Drink their tears as wormwood wine?

b. fig. Attrib., passing into adj. = bitter, tart, unpleasant to experience. So also † **wormwood lecture**, a scolding or 'talking to'.

1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 893 Thy secret pleasure turnes to open shame, . . . Thy sugred tongue to bitter wormwood tast. **1601** B. JONSON *Poetaster* I. ii, An honest decayed commander, cannot skelder, cheat, nor be seene in a bawdie house, but he shall be straight in one of their wormewood comœdies. **1608** DAY *Law Trickes* II. C 2 b, Trust me, loue hath kild That worme-wood humor. **1640** *Womens Sharpe Revenge* 5 And now lately one or two of the sonnes of Ignorance have pen'd three severall . . . ill-favoured Pamphlets. . . called Lectures, as the Juniper Lecture, the Crabtree Lecture, and the Wormwood Lecture, wherein they have laid most false aspersions upon all women generally. **1678** DRYDEN *Kind Keeper* II. i. (1680) 14, I shall read him a Worm-wood Lecture, when I see him. **1682** M. PARKER (*title*) A briefsum of certain wormwood lectures: Which women used to sing and say Unto their husbands every day. **1871** F. T. PALGRAVE *Lyr. Poems* 24 Clouding with wormwood drops the wine of life. **1895** G. P. LATHROP in *Month* (B.C.) Jan. 6 Notwithstanding the wormwood memories of wrongs in the past. **1897** HARDY *Poems of Pilgrimage, Lausanne*, Still rule those minds on earth At whom sage Milton's wormwood words were hurled.

wormy ('wɜ:mi), *a.* [f. WORM *sb.* + -Y¹. Cf. MHG. *wurmig*, -*ec*, G. *wurmig*, Du. *wormig*.]

1. Attacked, gnawed, or bored by worms or grubs; worm-eaten.

c. 1430 *Pilgr. Lyr. Manhode* II. cxxxiii. (1869) 128, I am a wormy wilowh; who so leneth to me is lost. **1562** LEGH *Armorie* (1568) 120 b, Studiously keeping those monuments from wormie wemes. **1611** COTGR., *Vereux*, wormie, full of wormes. **1708** OZELL *tr. Boileau's Lutrin* 54 The wormy Boards, by Time's corroding Spight disjoin'd. **1756** MRS. CALDERWOOD in *Coltness Collect.* (Maitland Club) 213 All the fruit in that country is very wormy, and some of the finest nuts had a great worm in the kernal. **1847** EMERSON *Poems, Woodnotes* II. 307 And thou,—go burn thy wormy pages. **1848** DICKENS *Dombey* lvii, An old brown, pannelled, dusty vestry, . . . where the wormy registers diffuse a smell like faded snuff. **1864** LOWELL *Fireside Trav.* 176 We have picked nearly every apple (wormy or otherwise).

transf. **1833** in *New Statist. Acc. Scott.* (1845) III. *Selkirk* 41 The . . . herbage on the hills . . . was destroyed by a caterpillar in 1762, long called the *wormy* year.

b. fig. = WORM-EATEN *c.*

1611 Coryate's *Crudities, Panegyrs. Verses* c 5 b, Old wormy age that in thy mustie writs Of former fooles records the present wits. **1908** HARDY *Dynasts* III. vii. viii. 343 Europe's wormy dynasties rerobe Themselves in their old guilt.

c. Arch. = VERMICULATED *I C.*

1823 [see VERMICULATED *I C.*]

2. Of the body, its parts and secretions: Infested or affected with worms, itch-mites, etc. Of fish: Lousy (*U.S.*).

1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physicke* 362/1 An oymnt for the Wormye, and itching Handes. **1600** SURFLET *Countrie Farme* II. xlii. 255 The iuice thereof dropped into wormie eares, doth kill the wormes that is in them. **1625** HART *Anat. Ur.* II. viii. 105 What would . . . he presage by such a wormie vrine? **1679** TRAPHAM *Disc. Health Jamaica* 103 Children the chief subjects of Worms and wormy Slime. **1707** SLOANE *Jamaica* I. 140 It is used by Chirurgeons in putrid and wormy ulcers. **1766** *Compl. Farmer* s.v. *Ascarides*, The horses that breed ascarides are, above all others, subject to slime and wormy matter. **1860** *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 8) XXI. 974/2 The poor of Scotland . . . are not more wormy than the better fed poor of England. **1884** *Springfield* (Mass.) *Wheelmen's Gaz.* Nov. 110/3 The stream was fairly alive with trout but the large ones were wormy.

3. Of earth, soil, the grave, etc.: Infested with worms, full of worms.

1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 384 Damned spirits all, . . . Alreadie to their wormie beds are gone. **1625** MILTON *Death fair Infant* 31 Yet can I not perswade me thou are dead. . . Or that thy beauties lie in wormie bed. **1631** W. LISLE *Faire Ethiopian* x. 176 The men of Sere, Who brought the King two silken robes to weare, Of daintie sleaued drawne from their wormie trees. **1686** PLOT *Staffordsh.* 345 Loose wormey ground. **1814** WORDSW. *Excurs.* III. 281 Feelingly sweet is stillness after storm, Though under covert of the wormy ground! **1838** DE QUINCEY *Shaks.* Wks. 1890 IV. 76 The wormy grave brought into antagonism with the scenting of the early dawn. **1852** HAWTHORNE *Blithedale Rom.* II. iv. 71 Birds . . . busily scratched their food out of the wormy earth.

transf. **1820** KEATS *Isabella* xlix, Wherefore all this wormy circumstance? Why linger at the yawning tomb so long?

4. Resembling a worm; worm-like.

Formerly in techn. terms, esp. *Anat.*; as *wormy body* [tr. corpus lumbricosum: see WORM *sb.* 11 a], the epididymis; *wormy process* = vermiform process (VERMIFORM 3 b).

1545 RAYNALDE *Byrth Mankynde* I. xi. (1552) 23 b, When thys foresayd wormye body hath attayned to the myddle regyon . . . of thee stone, it . . . is no more . . . thyecke wretched, but playne, smoth, and round. **1615** CROOKE *Body of Man* 477 The anterior and posterior processes of the braine, called vermi-formes or the wormy processes. **1634** T. JOHNSON *Parey's Wks.* vi. xxix. 222 The 4. other [muscles of the hand] are called, by reason of their figure, the *Lumbrici* or wormy muscles. **a. 1682** SIR T. BROWNE *Tracts* (1683) 60 Pliny . . . calls it *Coccus Scolecus*, or the Wormy Berry.

1856 MRS. BROWNING *Aur. Leigh* I. 220 A weary, wormy darkness, spurred i' the flank With flame, that it should eat and end itself Like some tormented scorpion. **1876** MORRIS *Aeneids* vii. 351 The dreadful wormy thing Seemed the wrought gold about her neck [fit tortile collo aurum ingens coluber]. **1888** *Harper's Mag.* Aug. 327 With fleshy, brilliant, long, wormy feelers instead of fins. **1895** MRS.

CROKER *Village T.* (1896) 152 Lumps of sticky cocoanut and deliciously long, wormy native sweets.

b. fig. Grovelling; earthy; crooked, tortuous.

1640 BP. REYNOLDS *Passions* xxxvii. 459 Hereby wee are brought to a Just Contempt of sordid and wormie Affections. *Ibid.* xxxviii. 499 To be of a creeping and wormy disposition, . . . to raise the Soule unto no higher Contemplations, than Base and Worldly. **1662** J. CHANDLER *Van Helmont's Oriat.* 353, I have constantly considered the light of the Sun married as a husband to the Splendour of the Glo-worm; . . . one Heavenly and constant; but the other wormy or corruptible. **1868** BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* vii. 669 That is the fruit of all such wormy ways, The indirect, the unapproved of God: You cannot find their author's end and aim.

5. Of or pertaining to worms. *poet.*

1801 SOUTHEY *Thalaba* ix. xxiii, Next with naked hand, She pluck'd the boughs of the manchineel; And of the wormy wax she took, That, from the perforated tree forced out, Bewray'd its insect-parent's work within. **1842** HOOD *Elm Tree* III. 351 With sudden fear her wormy quest The Thrush abruptly quits.

† **worn**, *v.* *Obs. rare.* [? repr. OE. *weornian* to wither, fade.] *intr.* To waste away.

1538 STARKEY *England* 76 And so hyt fallyth into manyfest dekey, and by lytyl and lytyl wornyth away.

worn (wɔ:n, wɔ:n), *ppl. a.* Forms: see WEAR *v.* 1; also 7 wooren. [pa. pple. of WEAR *v.* 1]

1. *a.* Impaired by wear or use, or by exposure; showing the results of use or attrition.

1508 FISHER *7 Penit. Ps.* cii. Wks. (1876) 196 Heuen & erth shall perysshe . . . theyr condycyons shall in maner be olde & worne. **1563** in *Inuentaires de la Roynie Descosse* (Bannatyne Club) 57 Mair ane vther coitt of blew veluot weill auld and worne. **1573** BARET *Alv.* s.v., Old worne houses and rotten, *exesæ aedes*. **1575** A. FLEMING *Virg. Bucol.* vi. 17 The waightye pott of Bacchus with worne eares [attrita ansa]. **1576** TURBERV. *Venerie* xxii. 64 Whether it be a worne footing or a sharpe cuttying foote. **1817** KEATS *Spec. Induction* 15 From the worn top of some old battlement. **1840** DICKENS *Old C. Shop* iii, His dress consisted of . . . a worn dark suit. **1847** A. GATTY *Bell Pref.*, The worn pen of an habitual sermon writer. **1897** *Westm. Gaz.* 31 Mar. 8/1 By the new arrangement, bankers in the country are deprived of all excuse for not sending in their worn coins. **1913** EDITH WHARTON *Cust. Country* II. xv. 203 The curtains of worn damask.

b. fig. Of words or ideas: Hackneyed by use or repetition; trite.

1569 ROEST tr. *J. van der Noot's Theat. Worldlings* 37 Hys worn Romysh trashes patched and newly redressed. **1642** R. CARPENTER *Experience* III. v. 47 According to the worne axiome of Divinity, Grace perfecteth nature. **1853** LANDOR *Imag. Comw.*, L. *Philippe & Guizot* Wks. 1876 VI. 565 There you will see the most honourable men at the helm of government, who never thought their worn words worth keeping any more than their worn cloaths.

2. *a.* Of persons: Wasted, enfeebled, or exhausted by toil, exposure, age, anxiety, or ill-health; showing signs of such enfeeblement. (Cf. *care-worn*.) Also of animals. Also *Comb.*, as *worn-looking* adj.

1508 [see 1]. **1573** BARET *Alv.* s.v., An old worne souldiour. **1579** LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 64 Finding him so worne and wasted with continual mourning. **1581** A. HALL *Iliad* ix. 164 Though . . . The hie and mightie gods should say they would againe renew To youth my worne corpse. **1587** FLEMING *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1368/1 To doctor Sanders a naturall borne subject, but an vnnatural worne priest. **1690** PEPYS *Mem. Navy* (1906) 85 A worn unassisted Secretary. **1697** DRYDEN *Aeneis* xi. 400 So worn, so wretched, so despis'd a Crew. **1814** WORDSW. *Excurs.* vii. 906 To conceal Tender emotions spreading from the heart To his worn cheek. **1842** DICKENS *Amer. Notes* viii, The President . . . looked somewhat worn and anxious, and well he might. **1853** — *Bleak Ho.* xxiv. I. . . was shocked to see the worn look of his handsome young face. **1870** HUXLEY *Lay Sermon*. iii. 48 The serene resting-place for worn human nature—the world of art. **a. 1891** T. B. ALDRICH *Lander* (Cent.) Lead the worn war-horse by the plumed bier. **1918** MRS. B. LOWNDES *Out of War?* 48 Stern worn-looking man. **1978** D. MURPHY *Place Apart* vi. 120 They seem so watchful and worn-looking.

b. Of land: Spent, exhausted, no longer fertile.

1681 R. KNOX *Hist. Ceylon* 20 Which Inclosures they will keep up for several years, until the Ground becomes so worn, that the Flowers will thrive there no longer. **1860** WORCESTER cites Gray.

† 3. Of time, a period: Past, spent. *Obs.*

1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* v. i. 142 Infirmitie (Which waits vpon worne times).

4. With adv. (See also WORN-OUT.)

a. worn-down: in senses 1, 2 above.

1814 *Sporting Mag.* XLIV. 147 The poor worn-down sort [of horses] are the most common victims of this barbarity. **1833** C. LYELL *Princ. Geol.* III. 265 A worn-down crater. **1845** DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* xix. (1873) 440 The worn-down sandstone. **1849-52** *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 876/2 The old worn-down tooth is shed.

b. worn-in, ingrained by attrition or exposure to weather. (Cf. *INWORN*.)

1883 *Gd. Words* Aug. 543/2 Weather-stain and worn-in dirt.

† **c. worn-up** (WEAR *v.* 1 10 b) = WORN-OUT 2. **1812** *Sporting Mag.* XXXIX. 209 A purchaser of worn-up horses.

Hence 'wornness, worn condition.

1873 MRS. WHITNEY *Other Girls* vi. 72 The first poetry, the first fresh touches [of her new life] . . . were passed into established use, and dulled into wornness and commonness.

worne, rare obs. form of WARN *v.* 2

wornel, wornil, var. ff. WARNEL.

worn-out, ppl. a. [See WEAR *v.* 1 9 b, 10 b, 11, 17. Cf. *OUTWORN*.]

1. Of material things: Injured, damaged, defaced by wear, usage, attrition, or exposure, esp. to such a degree as to be no longer of use or service. † Of graphic characters: Obliterated.

1612 SELDEN *Illustr. Drayton's Poly-olb.* iv. 72 The error I imagine to be from restoring of wooren out times in Bede and others. **1615** SANDYS *Trav.* 40 The bases whereof did beare these now worne out characters. **1637** SPELMAN in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 153 A single letter in a worne-out worde, is a great help to revive what wanteth. **a. 1653** GOUGE *Comm. Heb.* xiii. 1 It is a very obscure and almost worn-out stamp of that glorious Image in which at first God made man. **1683** MOXON *Mech. Exerc.*, *Printing* xiii. ¶ 2 For . . . Triangular Punches, I commonly reserve my worn out three square Files. **1756** C. SMART tr. *Horace, Epist.* I. xix. 38 For the bribe of a worn-out coat. **1835** DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Pawnbroker's Shop*, The worn-out thin shoes. **1851** RICHARDSON *Geol.* (1855) 439 A worn-out vein of ironstone. **1865** TROLLOPE *Belton Est.* xxii. 259 The worn-out carpets and old-fashioned chairs. **1874** BURNAND *My Time* xxxiv. 372 There was a worn-out old safe in a corner.

b. Of a colour: Dull; not bright or vivid.

1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v. *Apocynum*, Small Umbels of worn-out purple-colour'd Flowers. **1812** *New Bot. Garden* I. 6 These [flowers of *Asclepias Syriaca*] are of a worn-out purple colour.

2. Of persons, living things, etc.: Utterly exhausted and wasted in strength or vitality.

a. 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 17 Feb. 1695 The Hospital design'd to be built at Greenwich for worn-out seamen. **1758** P. WILLIAMSON *Life* (1812) 49 They used all proper means to recover my worn-out spirits. **1789** WESLEY *Minutes* Wks. 1872 VIII. 327 Every worn-out Preacher shall receive, if he wants it, at least ten pounds a-year. **1793** COWPER *To Mary* 55 Thy worn-out heart will break at last. **1795-6** WORDSW. *Borderers* II. 927 We kill a worn-out horse, and who but women Sigh at the deed? **1796** MARSHALL *Planting* I. 93 The rough and the worn-out Hedges. **1851** D. JERROLD *St. Giles* xi. 105 Her father was a worn-out, broken merchant. **1852** HOSKYNs *Talpa* 78 The specific operation of lime upon a worn-out soil. **1854** *Poultry Chron.* I. 595 This practice of crossing with a Gamecock was much in vogue with the old breeders, to improve a worn-out stock. **1876** BANCROFT *Hist. U.S.* V. xiv. 496 There, in the woods, worn-out men sank down on the bare, frozen ground.

b. Of a smile: Faint, feeble, 'wan'.

1842 LOVER *Handy Andy* xiv, At last, with 'bated breath,' and a very worn-out smile, [she] faltered forth.

3. Of ideas, devices, etc.: Hackneyed by use, trite, stale, out of fashion. Of institutions: Effete.

1713 ADDISON *Cato* I. iii. 7 Your cold Hypocrisie's a stale Device, A worn-out Trick. **1782** COWPER *Mutual Forbearance* 5 Those hangings, with their worn-out graces. **1801** Hrs. LEE *Canterb. T.* IV. 5 Under the claims of a sort of antiquated and worn-out nobility. **1819** in *Croker Papers* 3 May, His speech . . . treated a worn-out subject so as to make it appear a new one. **1841** W. SPALDING *Italy & It. Isl.* II. 23 This composition . . . exhibits the worn-out Grecian mythology in an aspect of picturesque novelty. **1851** KINGSLEY *Yeast* xv, I am too old for that worn-out quibble. **1882** BESANT *All Sorts* xxviii. (1898) 194 The House of Lords . . . was an effete and worn-out institution.

† 4. Of time: Past, departed. *Obs.*

1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 1350 This pattern of the worne-out age.

Hence **worn-outness** (also -*outiness*).

1844 J. T. HEWLETT *Parsons & W.* ii, The worn-outness of the old pony on which he used to ride. **1898** B. GREGORY *Side Lights* 434 Receiving allowances . . . on the same plea of wornoutness.

worod, obs. pa. t. WORRY *v.*

worow(e), obs. forms of WORRY *v.*

worop, obs. form of WARP.

worple, var. of WARPLE *sb. dial.*

† **worral**. *Obs.* Also warral, waral, (woralla). [a. Arab. *waral*.] A monitor lizard; = VARAN.

1714 MAUNDRELL *Journ. Aleppo* Add. 3 Here is found a large Serpent which has legs and claws, called Woralla. **1738** T. SHAW *Trav.* 429 Of the Lizard Kind, the Warral is of so docible a Nature, and appears withal to be so affected with Musick, that I have seen several of them keep exact Time and Motion with the Dervishes, in their circulatory Dances. **1743** R. POCOCKE *Descr. East* I. 208 The Worrall . . . is . . . four feet long, . . . has a forked tongue. **1744** C. THOMPSON *Trav.* III. 326 The Worrall is a Sort of Lizard, which sometimes is thirty or forty Inches in Length.

worre, obs. f. WAR *sb.* 1, *v.* 1, WAR *a.* and *adv.*

worret, worrey: see WORRIT, WORRY *v.*

worriable ('wariəb(ə)l), *a.* [f. WORRY *v.* + -ABLE.] That can be worried or roughly treated.

1882 C. LLOYD MORGAN in *Nature* XXVI. 524/2 A dog can call his companion's attention to a worriable cat.

worricow ('wariəkau). *Sc.* Forms: *a.* 8 wirricow, -kow, 8-9 wirricow, -kow. *β.* 8-9 worry-, worricow (9 worriecow, warricoe). [f. WORRY *v.* + COW *sb.* 3 (as if 'a goblin apt to worry').] A scarecrow; a hobgoblin. Also *transf.* a person of frightful or unprepossessing appearance.

a. **1711** RAMSAY *On Maggy Johnstoun* xi, I hirs'l'd up my dizzy Pow, Frae 'mang the Corn like Wirricow. **1728** —

Gen. Mistake 181 Much hated Gowk, tho' vers'd in kittle Rules, To be a Worry-kow to writing Fools. 1815 G. BEATTIE *John o' Arnha* (1826) 41 Or yet wi' wirriekows to mingle, That brinstane belsh. 1894 CROCKETT *Raiders* vi, That's Yawkins and his crew. . the ill-conceiving wirriekows. β. 1757 SMOLLETT *Reprisal* II. i, It canna be our commander Monsieur de Champignon, running about in the dark like a worricow. 1789 D. DAVIDSON *Seasons* 122 The worrycow gid sic a yell. 1809 T. DONALDSON *Poems* 37 Where harpie, imp, an' warriecoe, An' goblins dwell. 1816 SCOTT *Bl. Dwarf* ii, They do say there's a sort o' worricows and lang-nebbit things about the land. 1818 — *Hrt. Midl.* xxviii, It . . keeps unceevil folk frae staring as if ane were a worrycow.

b. with *the* = the Devil.

1719 W. HAMILTON *3rd Ep. Ramsay* xiii, May thou . . thro' thy creed, Be keeped frae the wirricow, After thou's dead. a 1774 FERGUSSON *Farmer's Ingle* vii, Auld warld tales. . O' warlocks loupin' round the wirrikow.

worried ('wariɪd), *ppl. a.* [f. WORRY *v.* + -ED.] In senses of the vb.: Killed or mangled by biting, etc.; maltreated, harassed; troubled or distressed in mind. Also *Comb.*, as *worried-looking* adj.

1559 BP. COX in *Strype Ann. Ref.* (1709) I. vi. 99 God was mightily angered with his People, because they offered unto God the Blind, Lame and worried Sacrifice. 1624 QUARLES *Sion's Elegies* III. ii, Heauen's souldiers doe beleager My worried soule. 1646 — *Judgem. & Mercy Wks.* (Grosart) I. 115/2 Can poore affrighted Lambs wanton, and frisk upon the pleasant plains, when as their worried Mothers tremble at the Quest of every Curre? a 1699 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* xiv. lxx, His worried limbs forthwith the Soldiers stretch To fit Him to His wide tormenting Tree. *Ibid.* xix. xxxviii, Must thou Sail from thy quiet Home, and yield to be The worried Slave of all the Winds that blow. 1800 HURDIS *Fav. Village* 111 To the branch Which midway meets him in his worried flight. 1825 C. K. SHARPE *Corr.* (1888) II. 347, I am now better—but a good deal shaken, as they say of half-worried kittens. 1864 SIR F. PALGRAVE *Norm. & Eng.* IV. 194 A fagged, worried, hard-working, dusty-footed labouring man. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* III. v, 'I don't mean that,' said Mrs. Boffin, with a worried look. 1887 MISS BRADDON *Like & Unlike* xxxviii, 'You look ill and worried,' said the Colonel. 1903 BRIDGES *Winty Delights* 248 And 'tis a far escape from wires, wheels and penny papers And the worried congestion of our Victorian era. 1942 'N. SHUTE' *Pied Piper* 26 Howard saw him the first Saturday that he was there, a sandy-haired, worried-looking man of forty-five or so. 1982 T. HOLME *Devil & Dolce Vita* vii. 49 She's been a bit worried-looking. . . Distracted.

Hence '**worriedly** *adv.*, in a worried or distressed manner, concernedly.

1924 'L. MALET' *Dogs of Want* v. 125 She worriedly wondered whether green isn't a more trying colour than blue when you get hot. 1952 S. KAUFFMANN *Philanderer* (1953) xii. 195 'That's wonderful.' He looked at her worriedly. 'Only it's got to be your decision. Your responsibility.' 1976 'R. GORDON' *Doctor on Job* iii. 18 'It won't take long, will it?' he asked worriedly.

worrier ('wariə(r)). Forms: 6 *Sc.* wirrear, -iare, 7 -ier; 6 wurrier, *Sc.* worriar, 7- worrier. [f. WORRY *v.* + -ER.]

1. An animal that kills or injures others by biting and rough treatment. Also *fig.*

c 1536 LYNDESAY *Compl. Bageche* 26 For I haif bene, ay to this hour, An wirrear of lamb and hog. 1583 *Elgin Rec.* (New Spalding Club) I. 173 Calling him auld wouff facet theiff carle and worriar of scheip. 1606 BIRNIE *Kirk-Buriall* vi. (1833) B4b, Diogenes. . being admonished that so he should be torne by birds and beasts, did reiyre a taunt, in requyring a cudgell to be couched beside, whereby to weare his wirriers away. 1634 CANNE *Necess. Separ.* 35 Beeing doubtlesse very theeves, robbers, wolves, and worriers of the Flocks. 1663 J. SPENCER *Prodigies* iii. §4 (1665) 229 *Kúves xóðmou* terrestrial Dogs (as they called their more material and coarser sort of Dæmons, conceived the Worriers of Souls). 1732 SWIFT *Exam. Abuses Dublin* 12 Tory Dogs; whereof great Numbers have since been so prudent, as intirely to change their Principles, and are now justly esteemed the best Worriers of their former Friends. 1839 HOOD *To Lady Dept. India* 31 Go where the fierce musquito is a worrier. 1862 CALVERLEY *Verses & Transl.* (ed. 2) 29 The Worrier-Dog—the Cow with Crumpled horn.

†b. *jocularly*. A swiller of (liquor). *Sc. Obs.* 1584 *Leg. Bp. St. Androis* 12 Still daylie drinckand or he dyne, A wirriar of the gude sweet wyne.

2. One who harasses or persecutes another.

1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 304 ¶6 Certain Persons . . who by the Strength of their Arms, and Loudness of their Throats, draw off the Regard of all Passengers from your said Petitioners; from which Violence they are distinguished by the Name of the *Worriers*. 1734 SWIFT *Yahoo's Overthrow* xi. Wks. 1765 XIII. 291 On this Worrier of Deans whene'er we can hit, We'll shew him the way how to crop and to slit.

3. One who causes distress of mind to another; also, one who gives way to anxiety or mental disquietude.

1891 *Cent. Dict.* 1897 *Voice* (N.Y.) 11 Feb. 3/1 'Worry' is from inside, and the fault of the 'worrier.' 1912 *Sat. Rev.* 28 Dec. 802/1 Both brothers write of their mother, an excellent woman but a worrier—of the son she was with and about the son she was absent from.

worriless ('wariɪlɪs), *a.* [f. WORRY *sb.* + -LESS.] Free from worry.

1889 *Science* 1 Feb. 88/2 The professor, leading a comparatively congenial and worriless life, is a deeper sleeper [than the teacher].

worrimment ('wariɪmənt). Chiefly U.S. [f. WORRY *v.* + -MENT.] The act of worrying or causing anxiety; the state of being worried or

troubled in mind. Also, something that harasses or causes worry.

1833 S. SMITH *Life & Writings Major J. Downing* 161 I've had a good many head-flaws and worriments in my life time. 1855 HALIBURTON *Nat. & Hum. Nature* I. v. 128 The worrimment we have had about money lately has set you a dreaming. 1863 B. TAYLOR *H. Thurston* I. iv. 91 Over and over again he had been on the point of giving her up, out of sheer worrimment and exhaustion of soul. 1866 'G. F. HARRINGTON' *Inside* i. 9 It was a special weapon in her arsenal in the worrimment of her husband. 1883 E. P. ROE in *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 46/1 Her slight tendency to worry saved others a world of worrimment. 1886 B. ROOSEVELT *Copper Queen* I. x. 165 Ready with vinegar, hartshorn, and the usual worrimments towards resuscitation. 1912 MRS. ALLEN HARKER *Mr. Wycherly's Wards* vii. 108, I don't know how they'll take this fresh worrimment.

worrisome ('wariɪsəm), *a.* [f. WORRY *sb.* or *v.* + -SOME.] Apt to cause worry or distress; given to worrying.

1845 W. G. SIMMS *Wigwam & Cabin* 1st Ser. viii. 107, I . . followed the old man into the house, with my feelings getting more and more strange and worrisome at every moment. 1869 BLACKMORE *Lorna D.* xlv, I must give orders . . that you come in at once, with that worrisome cough of yours. 1882 H. C. MERIVALE *Faust* of B. II. i. xix. 43 Which is likely . . to become before long the highest good of these worrisome days. 1893 *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 61/1 The best an' the most worrisome woman that God ever made.

So '**worrisomely** *adv.*

a 1699 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* xix. vii, How worrisomely cross and peevish were Thy feeble years. 1973 *Newsweek* 23 Apr. 22/1 Three simultaneous crises. . that seemed worrisomely different from those of the past. 1981 G. McDONALD *Fletch & Widow Bradley* xiii. 51 Charley is a worrisomely tight man. . . Anything out of the ordinary rattles him.

worrit ('wariɪt), *sb. colloq.* Also 9 -et. [f. the vb.] A state of worry or mental distress; a fretting care or anxiety. Also, a person that worries others or himself.

1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* xvii, 'A porochial life, ma'am,' continued Mr. Bumble, . . is a life of worrit, and vexation, and hardihood.' 1844 v. in Ashwell *Life Bp. Wilberforce* (1880) I. vi. 221 Assuaging any and every worrit, temporal and spiritual. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xxiii, 'Mrs. Richards's eldest, Miss!' said Susan, 'and the worrit of Mrs. Richards's life!' 1861 CALVERLEY *Charades* i, Endless cares and endless worrits, well I knows it, has a wife. 1889 GRETTON *Memory's Harkback* 68 The young men did not mind strictness, but they would not stand worrying. . . B was as kindly and good-natured as possible, but he was a 'worrit.'

worrit ('wariɪt), *v. colloq.* Also 9 -et. [App. a vulgar alteration of WORRY *v.* Cf. WHERRIT, WERRIT.]

1. *trans.* To worry, distress, vex, pester.

1818 LAMB *Let. to Mrs. Wordsworth* 18 Feb., These pests worrit me at business. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxvi, 'Don't worrit your poor mother,' said Mrs. Sanders. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lviii, Lord bless us, how she did use to worrit us at Sunday-school. 1854 W. COLLINS *Hide & Seek* II. xiv. (1904) 313 Why worrit yourself about finding Arthur Carr at all? 1869 J. R. GREEN *Lett.* (1901) III. 235, I have been worritting myself these last days with those Welsh chaps and our early history.

b. with *advb.* extension.

1854 W. COLLINS *Hide & Seek* II. x. (1904) 259 It don't do me no good: it only worrits me into a perspiration. 1855 TROLLOPE *Warden* viii. 116 Sir Abraham won't get papa another income when he has been worretted out of the hospital. 1871 GEO. ELIOT *Middlemarch* xxvi. II. 66 It will worret you to death, Lucy; that I can see.

2. *intr.* To give way to worry; to experience or display mental disquietude, impatience, etc.

1854 W. COLLINS *Hide & Seek* II. xiv. (1904) 317 It was how to track the man as was Mary's death, that I puzzled and worried about in my head, at that time. 1857 KINGSLEY *Two Y. Ago* viii. (1881) 127 He . . snaps, and worrits, and won't speak to her sometimes for a whole morning. 1868 WHYTE MELVILLE *White Rose* vii, 'Look alive, girl! Come—bustle, bustle! It's gone six o'clock.' 'Why, father, how you keep on worritting!'

Hence '**worritting** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1857 DICKENS *Dorrit* I. xxiii, There would be none of this *worrying and wearing. 1845 GERALDINE JEWSBURY *Zoe* I. 33 [He] is just the naughtiest and most *worritting boy I ever saw. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* I. xi. 194 Here and there some . . worritting, energizing mortal. . . gets command of a boat. 1871 SMILES *Character* viii. 219 Worritting, petty, and self-tormenting cares.

worwrow, obs. form of WORRY *v.*

worry ('wari), *sb.* [f. the vb.]

1. a. A troubled state of mind arising from the frets and cares of life; harassing anxiety or solicitude.

1804 W. WILBERFORCE in *Life* (1838) III. 190 Broomfield . . is a scene of almost as much bustle as Old Palace Yard. So much so, that the incessant worry (it is an expressive word) of this house makes me think of quitting it. 1835 MARRYAT *Jac. Faithf.* xxv, It were better to know the worst at once, than to be kept on the worry all your days. 1838 BUCKSTONE *Our Mary Anne* 20 After all the worry of mind I have endured this day. 1844 DICKENS *Martin Chuz.* xxii, Martin felt, from pure fatigue, and heat, and worry, as if he could have fallen on the ground. 1862 MRS. H. WOOD *Mrs. Hallib.* II. xxvi. (1888) 290 The fact is. . I have a good deal of worry upon me. 1871 SMILES *Character* viii. 219 Cheerfulness. . . enables nature to recruit its strength; whereas worry and discontent debilitate it. 1879 MRS. CRAIK *Young Mrs. Jardine* III. ix. 227 It is not work that kills, but 'worry'. *transf.* 1866 LONGF. *Flower-de-luce* ii, Thou laughest at the mill, the whir and worry Of spindle and of loom.

b. An instance or case of this; a cause of, or matter for, anxiety; *pl.* cares, solitudes.

1813 *Sketches of Character* (ed. 2) I. 178 You may suppose what a worry Mrs. Mac. was in. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* v. 27 Eliza came in here. . in a great worry, crying and taking on. 1861 FLOR. NIGHTINGALE *Nursing* 66 There is scarcely a greater worry which invalids have to endure than the incurable hopes of their friends. 1859 LEVER *Davenport Dunn* ix. 76 'Delicious spot to come and repose in from the cares and worries of life', said Lord Lackington. 1868 LOUISA M. ALCOTT *Little Women* iv, Rich people have about as many worries as poor ones, I think. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 25 To learn to write with the left hand is a labour and a worry. 1912 *Times* 1 May 10/2 His chief worry was that he was unable to be of any further use.

2. The act of biting and shaking an animal so as to injure or kill it. (Properly of hounds when they seize their quarry.)

1847 SURTEES *Hawbuck Grange* xii. 250 The whole pack flew from their noses to the worry, and rolled one over another with their victim into the river. 1859 G. A. LAWRENCE *Sword & Gown* iii. 28 They will. . join in the 'worry' as eagerly as the youngest hound. 1882 C. LLOYD MORGAN in *Nature* XXVI. 524/2 But no dog could tell his companion of the successful 'worry' [sc. of a cat] he had just enjoyed. 1886 *Fores's Sporting Notes* III. 155 And then among the reeds is a rolling over, a confusion, and a worry.

transf. 1901 'LINESMAN' *Words by Eyewitness* (1902) 100 There is a brief and breathless 'worry' at the top, and the hill is ours. Few Boers have managed to face the bayonets.

3. Irritation or morbid stimulation (of bodily tissue).

1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 750 This form of looseness appears to be due to direct worry of the mucous membrane.

4. Special Combs. **worry beads**, a string of beads manipulated by the fingers as a means of occupying one's hands and calming the nerves; **worry lines**, lines or wrinkles on the forehead supposedly formed by a habitual expression of worry.

1964 in M. McLuhan *Understanding Media* viii. 78 You will notice that many Greek men . . spend a lot of time counting the beads of what appear to be amber rosaries. . . They are *komboloia* or 'worry beads'. 1978 G. GREENE *Human Factor* v. i. 233 The man had a rosary in his lap and seemed to be using it like a chain of worry beads. 1985 *Observer* 3 Feb. 19/3 Sheikh Yamani, worry beads to hand, sums up the general feeling of unease as OPEC last week managed to preserve its fragile unity. 1972 'J. QUARTERMAIN' *Rock of Diamond* xvi. 99 Worry lines creased his forehead. 1982 L. CODY *Bad Company* xiv. 102 There was grey in her hair and worry lines between her brows.

worry ('wari), *v.* *Pa. t.* and *ppl.* worried. Forms: a. 1 *wyrġan*, 4 *wyrȳ3*(e, 4-5 *wirwe*, *wirie*, *wiry(e, wryie, wryre)*, 5 *wyrwȳn*, *wyrhy*, 5-7 *wirrie*, *wyrry*, 6 *Sc.* *wirrey*, *virry*, 5-6, 9 *Sc.* *wirry*. β. 4 *werew*, *Sc.* *ver(r)y*, 4-6 *wery(e, (5 were, werou-), 5-7, 9 dial.* *werry*, 6 *wearry*, 6-7 *wearie, weary*. γ. 4-6 *worow(e, (4 pa. ppl.* *yworewid, 5 pa. t.* *worod, 6 3rd sing.* *woroeth), 5 worwyn, 6-7 worrow, 7 wurrow; 4-7 worry(e, (5 vory), worie, 6 worrye, 6-7 woorry(e, 7 woorie, worrey, whorry, worr' (in verse), 6-8 wurry, 6- worry. [OE. *wyrġan* = OFris. *werġia* to kill, MLG. *worgen*, MDu. *worghen* (Du. *worgen, wurgen*), to strangle, throttle, OHG. *wurgan, wurkjan* (MHG. *wurgen, würgen, G. würgen*), to strangle, worry, kill by violence:—OTeut. **wurgjan*, related to **werg-*, a strong vb. stem found in MHG. *irwergen* to throttle:—Indo-Eur. **werg-*].*

The α- and β-forms (*wirry* and *werry*) are normal ME. developments of OE. *wyrġan*: cf. the forms of MERRY *a.* The γ-forms apparently represent a late WS. **wurgan*, with later graphic substitution of *wo-* for *wu-*; see the note to WORM *sb.* The original u-sound of this form is indicated by the late spellings with *woo-*].

†1. a. *trans.* To kill (a person or animal) by compressing the throat; to strangle. *Obs.*

a. c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* S 558 *St(r)angulat, wyrȳð uel smorað.* c 1300 *Havelok* 1921 On þe morwen, hwan it was day, Ilc on other wirred lay, Als it were dogges þat weren hanged. 1387 TREvisa *Higden* VII. 534 (MS. β) Harald. . . threw hym to the grounde and had wyried [MS. γ *wywyried*] hym with his hondes, nadde he be the rather delyvered out of his clowes. 1540 *Promp. Parv.* 530/1 *Wyrwȳn, strangulo, suffoco.* 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VIII. v. 26 Tua gret serpentis. . The quhilk he wyrreit wyth his handis tuay. a 1578 LYNDESAY (Pittscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 101 Thy wirrit him to the deid. 1606 *Reg. Privy Counc. Scot.* (1885) VII. 185 He tuike the said compleiner be the throat and thought to have wirried her or she had awakid.

β. c 1300 *Havelok* 1915 Weren he werewed. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvi. (*Nycholas*) 994 He. . weryt hym [eum *strangulavit*]. 1456 SIR G. HAVE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 23 The fende weryit him in his bed. 14. . *Quatuor Serm.* (Caxton 1483) d4, I denounce. . al that that werye or seee theyr generacions. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 414/2 To Wery, *strangulare, suffocare.*

γ. 13. . . *St. Greg. Trental* 19 in *Min. Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 261 Anon as hire child I-boren was, þe Nekke heo nom, þe child heo woriede [Cott. MS. *wyryede*]. 14. . *Prompt. Parv.* 532/2 (MS. K.) *Worwyn, supra in wyrwȳn.* 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 423/2 To Worowe, *jugulare, suffocare.* 1558 KENNEDY *Compend. Tractive* ii. in *Wodrow Misc.* (1844) I. 104 That thay abstayne. . fra it that is worreit [Acts xv. 20]. 1600 HAMILTON in *Cath. Tractates* (S.T.S.) 240/5 East Laudiane knawis the loue and fidelitie of ane of thair Ministers towards his wyf, wha worriet hir before he passit to his preaching.

†b. *fig. Obs.*

1387 TREVISA *Higden* VII. 465 þese . . . wexe so riche þat it semede þat þe douȝter passede and weried [v.r. wyryȝede, wyryed, wyryde] þe moder [ut filia ditata matrem supergredi videretur et suffocare].

†**2. a.** To choke (a person or animal) with a mouthful of food. Used with the food as subj., or *refl.* and *pass.* Const. *on* (the food); hence *to be worried*, or *worry oneself*, *on* = to devour greedily. Also *fig. Obs.*

a1300 *Cursor M.* 16929 Ai til iesus þe thrid dai had fughten gain sathan, And werid him on his aun bit, als hund es on a ban. **14..** WYNTOUN *Chron.* vii. 514 (Wemyss MS.) God lat neuer of it a crote, Till I be weryit [v.r. wyrryd, weryet], pasc oure my throte. **c1520** SKELTON *Magnyf.* 1568 On suche a female my flesshe wolde be wroken . . . weryed I wolde be on suche a bayte. **a1529** — *P. Sparowe* 29 Gib, I saye, our cat Worroyd her on that Which I loued best. **1535** STEWART *Cron. Scot.* II. 663 How Godowyn worreit himself to Deid in Presence of Edward King. *Ibid.*, The breid . . . stak so fast . . . it wirreit him to deid. **1536** BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* (1821) II. 276 'God gif that breid worry me, gif evir I wes othir art or part of Alarudis slauchter.' And incontinent, he fel doun weryit on the breid. **1674** RAY *N.C. Words* 55 To be *Worried*, to be choak't. **a1779** D. GRAHAM *Collect. Writ.* (1883) II. 39 She . . . squattles up a mutchkin at a waught, which was like to worry her.

†**b. intr.** (for *refl.*) To be choked, to choke. Const. *on* (as above). *Obs.*

c1420 WYNTOUN *Chron.* vii. 504 Swa suddandly richt at þe burde He werreit. **1500–20** DUNBAR *Poems* xxxi. 24 Now quhill thair is gude wyfe to sell, He that dois on dry breid virry [v.r. wirrie], I gif him to the Devill of hell. **1715** in Maidment *Old Ballads* (1844) 33 He . . . like a fool, did eat the cow, And worried on the tail. **1756** MRS. CALDERWOOD *Lett. & Jnrls.* (1884) v. 123 A great fat carle . . . so short necked that you would think he would worry [at] every word he spoke. **1721** KELLY *Scot. Prov.* 385 You fasted long, and worried on a Fly.

†**c.** Of smoke: To suffocate (a person). *Obs.* **1755** *Edom of Gordon* xv. in Child *Ballads* III. 434 Dear mother, gie owre your house, . . . For the reek it worries me.

3. a. trans. To seize by the throat with the teeth and tear or lacerate; to kill or injure by biting and shaking. Said e.g. of dogs or wolves attacking sheep, or of hounds when they seize their quarry.

a. c1380 [see b.]. **1393** LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. x. 226 Wolues þat wyryep men, wommen and children. **c1480** HENRYSON *Fox, Wolf & Cadger* 25 Mak ane suddand schow vpon ane scheip, Syne with thy wappinnis wirrie him to deid. **1549** *Compl. Scotl.* 156 There is ouer mony doggis in scotland that virreis there master as acteon was virreit. **1606** *Wily beguiled* 71 My dog wirried my neighbours sow, and the sow died. **1623** *Extr. Aberd. Reg.* (1848) II. 383 Mastishe and cur doggis . . . quha . . . wyrries and devouris thair sheip.

†**b. c1375** *Sc. Leg. Saints* iii. (Andrews) 259 Sewine hundis com quhare he lay, and verrit hym sodanly. **c1400** *Rom. Rose* 6264 He wolde hem wery and drinke the bloode. **c1400** LOVE *Bonavent. Mirr.* xviii. 46 þe prophete Abdo þat was weroude [v.r. wirwed] of þe lyoune. **1554** W. PRAT *Aphrique* K iv b, Manye othir beastes wichche the dogges do werye & kyll. **1586** WHETSTONE *Engl. Mirror* 44 If a Beare appeare, . . . they will all joyne to wearie him. **1599** PEELE *David & Bethsabe* B iv, The mastiues of our land shall werry ye. **1609** *Ev. Woman in Hum.* v. i. in Bullen *O. Pl.* IV, Acteon . . . was . . . worried to death with his own dogs. **a1653** GOUGE *Comm. Hebr.* xi. 37 When he observeth that the Wolf hath wearied some sheep.

absol. **1638** BRATHWAIT *Barnabees Jnrl.* III. (1818) 141 Farre from home old foxes werry.

†**γ. 1340** HAMPOLE *Pr. Cons.* 1229 Lyons, libardes and wolwes kene, þat wald worow men bylyve, And rogg þam in sonder and ryve. **13..** *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1905 Ry3t before þe hors fete pay fel on hym alle, And worried me pis wyly wyth a wroth noyse. **a1400** *Morte Arth.* 958 3one warlawe wyt, he worows vs alle! **c1400** *Laud Troy Bk.* 8777 To scle the Gregais wold he not ses, As hongre lyoun bestes vories. **c1440** *Alphabet of Tales* 421 And with þat he ran on þe selie lambe and word itt. **1579** GOSSON *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 47 The men of Hyrcania, that keepe Mastiffes, to woorrye them selues. **1592** BACON *Observ. Libel* (end) Resuscit. (1657) 150 The persecutions of the Primitive Church. . . As that, of Worrowing Priests, under the Skins of Bears, by Doggs, and the like. **1620** QUARLES *Feast for Wormes* Med. iii. D 4, Alas! the rau'nous Wolues will worr' thy Sheepe. **1639** J. CLARKE *Paræm.* 56 Many dogs may easily worrie one. **1680** P. HENRY *Diary*. *& Lett.* (1882) 285 Ralph Nixon had three sheep worry'd to death in one night. **1795** *Life John Metcalf* 3 One of the young hounds happening to worry a couple of lambs. **1844** STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 88 Many dogs . . . are in the habit of looking out for sheep to worry, at some distance from their homes. **1847** C. BRONTE *Jane Eyre* xx, She bit me. . . She worried me like a tigress. **1866** AUGUSTA WILSON *St. Elmo* v, Did not he worry down and mangle one of my best Southdowns? **1867** *Times* 8 May 13/2 Defendant's dog . . . seized Mrs. Miller by the leg, and bit her several times, throwing her down, and worrying her very much.

absol. **1872** TENNYSON *Gareth & Lynette* 990 Such a dog am I, To worry, and not to flee. **1899** H. D. RAWNSLEY *Life & Nat. Eng. Lakes* 173 A dog that shows signs of worrying is 'put down' at once.

b. fig. (or in figurative context).

c1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 24 No warde to hem hou faste þe wolues of helle wirien cristen soulis. **1399** LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* III. 72 His owen kynde briddis, þat weren . . . well ny yworewid with a wronge leder. **1529** MORE *Dyaloge* IV. xi. 114 b/2 To play y^e wyly foxes & wyrry simple soules & pore lambes. **1549** [see 3a]. **1560** DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 318 That they . . . ouerse that other Ministers do theyr dutye, that the wolues do not worrye the flocke. **1563** FOXE *A. & M.* 1442/2 My L. is it not enough for you to wery your own shepe, but ye must also meddle w^t other mens shepe? **1603** HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 238 Even so those parts of our life which are diseased, naught and ill affected, . . . these they seize upon, and are ready to worry and plucke in peeces. **1641** MILTON *Reform.* II. Wks. 1851 III. 67 To let them still hale us, and worry us with their band-dogs, and Pursiuvants.

1690 C. NESSE *O. & N. Test.* I. 317 Herod pretended to worship Christ when he intended to worry him. **1863** R. F. BURTON *Wand. W. Africa* I. 1 White sea-dogs coursed and worried one another over Father Mersey's breadth of mud.

c. trans. To bite at or upon (an object); to kiss or hug vehemently; to utter (one's words) with the teeth nearly closed, as if biting or champing them.

1567 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* XIII. 568 Queene Hecub ronning at a stone, with gnarring seazd theron, And wirryed it beetweene her teeth [morsibus insequitur]. **1611** SHAKS. *Wint. T.* v. ii. 58 Then againe worries he his Daughter, with clipping her. **1678** DRYDEN *All for Love* IV. 54 And then he grew familiar with her hand, Squeez'd it, and worry'd it with ravenous kisses. **1905** L. J. VANCE *Ter. O'Rourke* I. xiv, As the Irishman entered, Prince Felix said a word, or two, low-toned and tense—worried them between his teeth, like an ill-dispositioned cur. **1914** A. N. LYONS *Simple Simon* I. i. 13 Their sons, late of the Great School, home from India on leave and unanimously worrying small moustaches of the tooth-brush pattern.

d. intr. To pull or tear at (an object) with the teeth.

1882 *Little Folks* Jan. 24/2 There was Floss, worrying at the parcel, which had only thin paper wrapped round it.

4. trans. To swallow greedily, devour. Also with *up*. Latterly *north.* and *Sc.*

a1300 *Cursor M.* 5902 Bot aaron wand it wex sa kene þas oper it wired [Gött. wirid, Trin. worryed] al bidene. **1619** A. GIL Logon. *Angl. Pref.* B3 To worrow, *Voro.* **1634** SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 125 They had seene him weare many [jewels] and twas them, hee had worried in his Ostrich appetite. **1643** HORN & ROB. *Gate Lang. Unl.* li. §568 Stout feeders . . . do nothing else but devour (never lin wurrowing). **1728** RAMSAY *Monk & Miller's Wife* 138 Think ye . . . his gentle stamock's master To worry up a pint of plaister. **1805** G. McINDOE *Poems* 65 (E.D.D.) Great claggs o' meat they ne'er could worry. **1887** Jamieson *Suppl.*, Wirry, to worry, devour, eat ravenously.

5. a. To harass by rough or severe treatment, by repeated aggression or attack; to assail with hostile or menacing speech.

a1553 UDALL *Royster D.* III. iii. (Arb.) 46 But in spite of Custance, which hath hym weried, Let vs see his mashyp solemnly buried. **1594** NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* 34, I thought verilie they wolde haue worried one another with wordes, they were so earnest and vehement. **1610** ROWLANDS *Martin Mark-all* 12 Hath your nightly watchings and continual disorder of your braines so whorried your senses. **1652** PEYTON *Catastr. Ho. Stuarts* 74, I being a man can speak by experience, who hath been most justly worried by the hand of the Almighty for sins. **1675–7** WARWICK *Mem. Chas. I* (1701) 321 Cromwell . . . marched forwards into Scotland, and left Lambert to worry Hamilton in England. **a1680** GLANVILL *Serm.* iv. (1681) 212 No mans Life or property will be safe; mankind would worry and prey upon one another. **1725** B. HIGGONS *Rem. Burnet* II. (1736) 177 He cruelly worries the Memory of a Daughter of England. **1729** GAY *Polly* I. xiv, In conniving at my escape, you save me from your husband's worrying me with threats and violence. **1852** ROCK *Ch. of Fathers* III. 1. 302 They vowed they would give peace to the land they were then wasting and worrying by fire and sword. **1877** FREEMAN in *Brit. Q. Rev.* Jan. 182 He perhaps hardly brings out how thoroughly Edward the Third was worried into war by the aggression of Philip. **1885** *Manch. Exam.* 23 Feb. 5/3 Having found their range during daylight, they continued to worry our men all the night.

transf. **a1699** J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* XXII. x, Soil . . . if not duly worried, digg'd and plow'd, Harrow'd and torn. **1898** *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 304 A repeated application to some of these drugs . . . by worrying the cardiac ganglia . . . tends to dilatation of the heart.

b. with advb. extension expressing result, as *away, in, to death.*

1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s.v. *Abigo*, He chased or weried away his sonne to Rhodes. **1603** DEKKER *Wonderful Year* E 4 First to scratch out false Cressidaes eyes, and then (which was worse) to woorry her to death with scolding. **1659** MILTON *Civil Power* 74 If departed of his own accord, like that lost sheep . . . the true church either with her own or any borrowd force worries him not in again. **1678** *Poor Robin's True Char. Scold* 6 Thus she worries him out of his senses at home. **1711** in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. V. 184 He is wurried to death by those ungrateful nations.

c. transf. With adv. (e.g. *out, down*) or advb. phr.: To get or bring into a specified condition by harassing treatment, persistent aggression, or dogged effort. Similarly *to worry one's way*. Also without adv. (phr.), to worry about (a problem, etc.) (*U.S. colloq.*).

1727 E. LAURENCE *Duty of Steward* 55 The Tenants . . . have been suffer'd to . . . worry out the strength of the Land by sowing Rape, &c. **1806–7** J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* (1826) xx. xxx. 256 You at last worry out a solitary spark [from the flint]. **1811** JANE AUSTEN *Sense & S.* II. x. 186 She was sometimes worried down by officious condolence to rate good-breeding as more indispensable to comfort than good-nature. **1870** E. E. HALE *Ten Times One* iii. 61 While she 'worried down' the tea, and ate a slice of toast. **1890** *Nature* 4 Sept. 455/2 All such points he will delight to worry out for himself. **1894** CROCKETT *Play-actress* iv. 52 Worrying out a knotty point in the 'Original Hebrew'. **1898** L. STEPHEN *Stud. Biogr.* II. ii. 48 Scott . . . worried his way into some understanding of the language by main force. **1920** A. HOPE *Lucinda* ii. 24 Waldo was not quick-witted, but he had a good brain. If he got hold of a problem, he would worry it to a solution. **1959** N. MAILER *Advt. for Myself* (1961) 119 He had always asked too many questions, he had worried the task too severely. **1963** N. & Q. Dec. 443/1, I shall not worry the distinction between *alba* and *aube*. **1978** T. L. SMITH *Money War* I. 17 He had worried the chance meeting on the flight home.

d. To irritate (an animal) by a repetition of feigned attacks, etc.

1807–8 SYD. SMITH *Plymley's Lett.* iii. Wks. 1859 II. 146/2, I admit there is a vast luxury in selecting a particular set of Christians, and in worrying them as a boy worries a puppy dog. **1840** DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xxi, Hissing and worrying the animal [a chained dog] till he was nearly mad.

e. U.S. To afflict with physical fatigue or distress.

1828 WEBSTER, *Worry* . . 2. To fatigue; to harass with labor; a popular sense of the word. **1876** HOLLAND *Sevenoaks* v. 66 For three steady hours he went on, the horse no more worried than if he had been standing in the stable.

f. Fencing. *to worry the sword*: 'to fret one's opponent by small movements in rapid succession which seem about to result in thrusts or feints' (*Century Dict.*).

6. a. In lighter sense: To vex, distress, or persecute by inconsiderate or importunate behaviour; to plague or pester with reiterated demands, requests, or the like.

1671 MILTON *Samson* 906 Witness when I was worried with thy peals. **1728** GAY *Begg. Op.* II. xiii, 'Tis barbarous in you to worry a Gentleman in his Circumstances. **1788** FRANKLIN *Autobiogr.* Wks. 1840 I. 196 He had continually worried the Assembly with message after message. **1840** DICKENS *Old C. Shop* vii, You worry me to death with your chattering. **1846** LANDOR *Wks.* II. 9 (*Albani & Picture-dealers*), I am infested and persecuted and worried to death by duns. They belabor and martellate my ears. **1882** MISS BRADDON *Mt. Royal* II. v. 103 She will worry you till you give your consent. **1885** *Manch. Exam.* 15 July 5/3 The supply of ignorant *ciceroni* to worry visitors with their foolish babblement. **1889** JESSOPP *Coming of Friars* vi. 281 The scholars were not to be worried with everlasting ritual observances. **1927** J. B. PRIESTLEY *Adam in Moonshine* x. 203 They won't really do anything but worry you with questions.

b. with advb. extension as *out, out of* (something).

1729 SWIFT *Grand Question debated* (1732) 8 But, Madam, I beg, you'll contrive and invent, And worry him out, till he gives his Consent. **1853** WHYTE MELVILLE *Digby Grand* I. x. 269 Addressing 'dear Angelina' in an affectionate whisper that would never have led one to suppose she worried the poor girl's life out at home. **1876** HOLLAND *Sevenoaks* xv. 209 She . . . had worried him out of his life, and he had gone and left her childless. **1898** *Times* 18 Oct. 9/3 If by chance it [the French Government] imagines that this country is going to be worried out of the position taken up by Lord Salisbury, it is making a very grave mistake.

7. a. To cause distress of mind to; to afflict with mental trouble or agitation; to make anxious and ill at ease. Chiefly of a cause or circumstance, or *refl.* or *pass.*

1822 HAZLITT *Table-Talk* xxiii. (*On great and little Things*), Small pains are . . . more within our reach; we can fret and worry ourselves about them. **1822** W. IRVING *Bracebr. Hall, Bachelor's Conf.*, He had settled the point which had been worrying his mind. **1848** DICKENS *Domby* v, I quite fret and worry myself about her. **1866** GEO. ELIOT *F. Holt* i. (1868) 21 Increasing anxieties about money had worried her. **1867** TROLLOPE *Last Chron. Barsel* II. lvi. 121 Men when they are worried by fears . . . become suspicious. **1874** L. STEPHEN *Hours in Libr.* (1892) II. iii. 95 This self-plagiarism sometimes worries us. **1875** MRS. RANDOLPH *Wild Hyacinth* I. 74 Don't worry yourself about it, my love. **1889** 'J. S. WINTER' *Mrs. Bob* xxi. (1891) 238 It puzzles me and worries me to guess why Miss Lavinia always wanted to drop the subject.

b. in pa. pple., denoting a state of mind.

1863 PRINCESS ALICE *Mem.* (1884) 60, I am sure, dear Mama, you are worried to death about it. **1867** TROLLOPE *Last Chron. Barsel* I. xxi. 179 The subject . . . was a sore one, and he was worried a little. **1871** GEO. ELIOT *Middlemarch* xxiii. II. 25 He felt a little worried and wearied, perhaps with mental debate. **1899** *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 602 Some patients are attacked [by lichen] when worried or in low condition.

c. intr. (for *refl.*) To give way to anxiety or mental disquietude. Also in colloq. phrases, as *I should worry*: see SHALL v. 18 d; *not to worry*: see NOT adv. 4.

1860 WORCESTER, *Worry* v.n., to indulge in idle complaining; to fret; to be troubled. (Colloquial.) *Roget*. **1861** HOLLAND *Lessons in Life* xiii. 181 When she can find nothing to do, then she worries. **1874** LD. COLERIDGE in *Life* (1904) II. ix. 244 'Don't coddle and don't worry' is his recipe for longevity. **1879** H. GEORGE *Progr. & Pov.* ix. iv. (1881) 414 Men would no more worry about finding employment than they worry about finding air to breathe. **1901** ALDRIDGE *Sherbro* xx. 205 My head-man . . . begged me not to worry.

8. intr. with advb. extension (cf. the *transf.* uses 5 b, c, 6 b above): **a.** To advance or progress by a harassing or dogged effort; to force or work one's way *through*. Of the wind: To go on blowing in a harassing way.

a1699 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* IV. xcvi, Yet worrying among the waves they spy'd A wracked Mortal. *Ibid.* xiii. iv, Winter . . . worries forward at his due Determin'd season, spight of all the Ice Which clogs his heels. **1820** W. IRVING *Sk. Bk., Spectre Bridegroom* ¶ 11 He was naturally a fuming, bustling little man, and could not remain passive . . . He worried from top to bottom of the castle with an air of infinite anxiety. **1883** SYMONDS *Ital. Byways* i. 13 For the next three days the wind went worrying on. **1901** *Daily Express* 21 Mar. 7/1 In the end we worried through and . . . anchored. **1903** KIPLING *5 Nations* 211 When the wind worries through the 'ills.

b. To get *through* (a business, piece of work) by persistent effort or struggle; so with *through* adv. *to worry along*: to contrive to live, 'keep going', in the teeth of trials or difficulties (*U.S.*).

1871 'MARK TWAIN' *Screamers* xxix. 146 My friend, you seem to know pretty much all the tunes there are, and you worry along first rate. **1873** HOWELLS *Chance Acquaint.*

(1882) 299 She must . . . try to worry along without him. 1876 BESANT & RICE *Gold. Butterfly* xx, I worried through that war without a scratch. 1878 — *Celia's Arb.* xii, Often on Saturday night I wonder how I have managed to worry through the work of the week. 1885 HOWELLS *Silas Lapham* (1891) I. 269, I think I can manage to worry along. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 7 Oct. 2/2 The British farmer has . . . much to contend with, but on the whole he worries through a great deal more successfully than could be expected.

9. *Comb.*: worryguts *dial.* and *colloq.* = worry wart; freq. as a term of address; † worry pear (tree) = CHOKE-PEAR; worry wart *colloq.* (chiefly U.S.), an inveterate worrier, one who frets unnecessarily.

1932 *Somerset Year Bk.* 83 The missis, who be a prapper worryguts. 1966 O. NORTON *School of Liars* iv. 72 He laughed, 'Worryguts!' 'I wasn't worried. I was just trying to be efficient.' 1982 D. PHILLIPS *Coconut Kiss* ix. 94 It's all right . . . isn't it? I asked. 'Course it is, Worryguts,' said Vera. 1562 TURNER *Herbal* ii. 108 The wyld Pere tre or chouke Pere tre or worry Pear tre. 1956 I. BELKNAP *Human Problems of State Mental Hospitals* x. 177 The persevering, nagging delusional group—who were termed 'worry warts', 'nuisances', 'bird dogs', in the attendants' slang. 1974 J. HELLER *Something Happened* 445 'Don't be such a worry wart.' 'Don't use that phrase. It makes my skin prickle.'

worrying ('wʌrɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. WORRY *v.* + -ING¹.]

1. The action of strangling or of biting and tearing by the throat.

In quot. 1621 'worrien' is perhaps this word, altered for the rhyme.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 414/2 Werying, jugulamen, . . . suffocamen. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 422 The moste importune barkynge of Dogges, and werieng one an other. 1621 BRATHWAIT *Nat. Embassie* etc. 194 How duely I did keepe My woollie store (as I had care) from worrien, Scab, sought, the rot or any kind of murren. 1859 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* xii, Then the astounded Tom heard the worrying of a terrier, and the squeak of a dying rat.

2. The action of harassing, pestering, or distressing.

1848 DICKENS *Dombey* lix, Worryings and quellings of young children. 1862 *Sat. Rev.* 8 Feb. 157 Amidst all this worrying and being worried. 1864 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* xvi. vii. (1872) VI. 218 Such worryings (*ces sortes de compromis*) leave their mark on a man.

'worrying, *ppl. a.* [f. WORRY *v.* + -ING².]

† 1. Given to harrying or raiding. *Obs.*

1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* 109 A greater rabble of worrying freebutters.

2. Harassing; distressing to the mind or spirits.

1826 F. REYNOLDS *Life* I. 212 Your whole conduct is literally worrying and annoying in the extreme. 1834 Hook *Gilbert Gurney* xi. *New Mo. Mag.* XLII. 470 Whether she would allow me to send her anything to cheer her up after her worrying journey. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxxvi, There are few things more worrying than sitting up for somebody, especially if that somebody be at a party. 1853 — *Bleak Ho.* vii, Whatever the sound is, it is a worrying sound.

Hence 'worryingly *adv.*

1842 MOORE *Mem.* VII. 311 The difficulty . . . still haunts me most worryingly.

worsam, var. of **WORSUM** *Obs.*, *pus*.

worse (wɜ:s), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: *a.* 1 wiersa, wirsa, 1-2 wyrsa (1 wuyrsa), 2 wursa, 2-6 wurse, 4 wirse, 3 wise, 3-6 wurs; 3- worse, 3-6 worsche, 4 worss, 3-7 wors, 6 woorse, wourse, 7 wours, 9 vulgar wuss. *β.* 2 wærsa, wersa, 2-6 werse (3 *Orm.* werrse), 3 weorse, 4 wersse, 4-5 vers, 4-6 wers, 5 werce; 5-6 wars, warsse, 5-6, 8-9 north. warse. [OE. *wyrsa*, *wiersa* = OFris. *wirra*, *werra* (for **wirsa*, **wersa* by assimilation), OS. *wirsa*, OHG. *wirsiro*, -ero, -oro (MHG. *wirser*), ON. *verri* (for **wersi*; Sw. *värre*, Da. *værre*; see *WAR a.*), Goth. *wairsiza*:—O'Teut. **wersizon*-, f. root **wers-*, found in OS., OHG. *werran*, G. (*ver-*) *wirren* to entangle, confound (see *WAR sb.*) + -izon- compar. suffix.

For the graphic change of *wu-* to *wo-* see the notes to *WORM sb.* and *WORRY v.* The *β*-forms appear first in north-east midland texts and are app. due to Scandinavian.]

A. adj. Used as the comparative of *BAD*, *EVIL*, *ILL*, or as the opposite of *BETTER*.

1. *a.* More reprehensible morally; more wicked, depraved or vicious; more cruel, unkind, or ill-conditioned.

c888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xiv. §3 bi hi send wyrsan ponne nytenu py hi nellað witan hwæt hi sint. c1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xii. 45 ðonne gæð he, and hym to genimð seofun oþre gastas wyrsan ponne he. a1122 O.E. *Chron.* an. 979 (Laud MS.) Ne wearð Angelcynne nan wærsa dæd gedon. 1154 *Ibid.* an. 1140 Oc æfre þe mare he iaf heom, þe wæsse hi wæron him. a1225 *Ankr.* R. 82 Idel speche is vuel; ful speche is wurse. c1300 *Havelok* 1100 He werse was þan Sathanas. 1340 *Ayenb.* 64 Ine pise zenne [of swearing] byep þe cristene worse þanne þe sarasyn. c1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 348 þei stelen þore mennis children, þat is werse þan stele an oxe. c1386 CHAUCER *Nun's Priest's T.* 466 Now certes I were worse than a feend If I to yow wolde harm or vileynye. 1396 — *Lenvoy a Bukton* 18 Bet ys to wedde than brenne in worse wise. c1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxx. 195 It is saide in old sawes. Wars pepill wars lawes. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II.* iii. 132 Three Iudasses, each one thrice worse than Iudas. 1671 H. M. tr. *Erasm. Colloq.* 226 And didst thou return holy from thence? . . . Nay somewhat worse than I went. 1718 PRIOR *An Epitaph* 26 So ev'ry Servant took his Course; And bad at First, They all grew worse. 1818 WILBERFORCE in *Life* (1838) IV. 395 Keswick worse now as

to morals than thirty years ago. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* iv. 232 The song Might have been worse and sinn'd in grosser lips Beyond all pardon. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xi, 'He be a bad'n, sure enough,' Mr. Horrocks remarked; 'and his man Flethers is wuss.' 1863 W. C. BALDWIN *Afr. Hunting* iii. 69 Considering it no worse to employ myself usefully than to pass the time loitering about.

b. qualifying an agent-noun.

1653 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) I. 547 Wors livers then my self have seen their errors. 1871 GEO. ELIOT *Middlemarch* xxxv. II. 199, I only hope and trust he wasn't a worse liver than we think of.

c. **worse and worse** = worse in an increasing degree, progressively worse.

1535 COVERDALE *Ecclus.* iii. [26] He that is frowarde of hert wyll euer be the worse and worse. 1567-9 JEWEL *Def. Apol.* (1611) 151 That the Wicked and Wilfull . . . should . . . wax woorse and woorse. 1596 SPENSER *F.Q.* v. Proem. i, The world . . . being once amisse growes daily woorse and woorse.

2. *a.* More harmful, painful, grievous, regrettable, unpleasant, offensive, unfavourable, unlucky, etc.

Beowulf 2966 He . . . forgeald hraðe wyrsan wrixle wælhlem pone. c888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxix. §2 Hwylc is wursa wol . . . þonne he hæbbe on his geferrædenne . . . feond & freondes anlicnesse? c897 — *Gregory's Past* C. xvii. 122 Oft sio wund bið ðæs þe wiersæ & ðy mare, gif hio bið unwærllice gewriþen. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 243 by læs wen sie þæt . . . God . . . us sende on wyrsan tintrege. c1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. ix. 16 Se slite byð þe wyrsa [þeior scissura fit]. c1200 ORMIN 7395 þa bep hemm jarrkedd mare inoh & werse pine inn helle, þann iff [etc.]. c1230 *Hali Meid.* (1922) 19 Se herre degre, se þe fal is wurse. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 7691 Wo so come to esse him riht of eni trespass, Bote he payde him þe bet, þe wors is ende was. c1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 366 Now is my prison worse than biforn. a1440 *Sir Eglam.* 293 Yn werse tyme blewe he never hys horne. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Aelian* xiii, Wersæ the stroke of a tonge than the stroke of a spere. 1531 ELVOT *Gov.* i. xiii. (1883) I. 116 Whiche now, beinge men, nat onely have forgotten their congruite . . . but, that wars is, hath all lernynge in derision. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* ii. 300 And to that horrible cruell dede he gaue no wurse name but vncomely demeanure. 1580 G. HARVEY *Three Proper Lett.* 35 *Non omni dormio*, worse lucke. 1596 *Edward III.* ii. i. 451 Lillies that fester smel far worse then weeds [= Shaks. *Sonn.* xciv. 14]. 1597 MIDDLETON *Hist. Chino* v. F4, Closelie pent vp in delights, farre more worse vnto her than darke Dungeons. 1602-12, 1693 [see *REMEDY sb.* 1 b]. 1634 A. WARWICK *Spare Min.* i. (ed. 2) 14, I will either make my fortunes good, or bee content they are no worse. 1658 STYLE *Rep.* 23 Oftentimes dubious words shall be taken in the worse sense. 1685 DRYDEN *Sylvæ* Pref. a3, But it will be ask'd why I turn'd him into this luscious English, (for I will not give it a worse word). 1697 — *Æneis* iv. 526 What have I worse to fear? 1732 POPE *Ep. Bathurst* 319 Which of these is worse, Want with a full, or with an empty purse? 1775 SHERIDAN *St. Patrick's Day* i. i, I never see her but she puts me in mind of my poor dear wife. O'Con. Ay, faith; in my opinion she can't do a worse thing. 1834 MARRYAT *P. Simple* xxxviii, 'If the weather becomes worse—' 'It can't be worse,' interrupted O'Brien, 'it's impossible to blow harder.' 1835 T. MITCHELL *Acharn. of Aristoph.* 584 note, This word [ἀσχαρός] bore two meanings; its better sense implying brightness and splendour, its worse betokening fatness and grease. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* vi, Come, you drop that stick or it'll be worse for you. 1870 J. H. NEWMAN *Gram. Assent* ii. x. 398 If logic finds fault with it, so much the worse for logic. 1871 GEO. ELIOT *Middlemarch* xxv. II. 56 No very good news; but then it might be worse. 1876 Q. VICTORIA *More Leaves* (1884) 333 The rain continued persistently, having got worse just as the prayer began. 1879 MC CARTHY *Donna Q.* I. 55 There are worse things to be endured in life than being thought too much of by one's husband. 1881 MISS BRADDON *Asphodel* II. 6 If you have not profited by my outlay, so much the worse for you.

† *b.* Harder to deal with, more difficult. *Obs.*

a1225 *Ankr. R.* 50 þe blake cloð . . . is piccure ægin þe wind, & wurse to þurhseon. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1114 Vor 3if hii adde o þing iwonne of castel oþer of toune, Wel þe worse it wolde be to bringe hom þer doune.

c. More unattractive; more unsuitable or unfitting; more faulty, incorrect, ill-conceived, etc.

1640 HOBBS *Hum. Nat. Ep. Ded.* (1650) A7, For the Stile, it is therefore the worse, because, whilst I was writing, I consulted more with Logick then with Rhetorick. 1666 EARL ORRERY *St. Lett.* (1742) 187 The argument was bad, the plot worse, the contempt of authority worst of all. 1741 CTESS. POMFRET in *Ctess. Hartford's Corr.* (1805) III. 85, I . . . went to see the palace of prince Giustiniani. In my life I never saw a worse. a1745 SWIFT *Story Injured Lady* (1746) 2 She has bad Features, and a worse Complexion. 1797 Ht. LEE *Canterb. T.* (1799) I. 338 Nothing makes a man worse company than being in love with his own thoughts. 1841 SPALDING *Italy* I. 372 They were much given . . . to fixing maximum prices on provisions of every sort, but in respect to corn they did what was even worse. 1841 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* lxx, 'Worse manners', said the hangman, . . . 'I never see in this place afore.' 1847 RUXTON *Adv. Mexico* xxxiii. 306 Old manuscripts, written on bad paper, and with worse ink. 1868 A. L. GORDON in Turner & Sutherland *Developm. Austral. Lit.* (1898) 201 Mount . . . has a head worse if possible for business than mine.

d. With agent-noun: More unskilful or inefficient; that does the work more badly. Also, more addicted to some (specified) bad habit.

1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* i. (Globe) 136 If I was a bad Carpenter, I was a worse Taylor. 1827 FARADAY *Chem. Manip.* xvii. (1842) 459 These remarks . . . become more applicable, when the substance acted upon is a worse conductor of electricity. 1871 GEO. ELIOT *Middlemarch* xxxiii. II. 21, I never heard but one worse roarer in my life, and that was a roan. 1898 J. ARCH *Story of Life* xii. 281 The more uneducated a man is the worse hand he is at waiting.

e. **worse and worse**: cf. 1 c.

1154 O.E. *Chron.* an. 1137 (Laud MS.) And ðæt lastede þa .xix. wintre wile Stephne was king & æure it was werse & werse. c1522 SKELTON *Why nat to Courte?* 132 Whyles he doth rule, All is worse and worse. a1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. IV* 2b, All thynges . . . as well in the realme as without, waxed worse and worse. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* v. ii. 93 Worse and worse, she will not come: Oh vilde, intollerable, not to be indur'd. 1682 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1760/2 The affairs of Hungary grow worse and worse. 1720 LADY B. GERMAINE in *Ctess. Suffolk's Lett.* (1824) I. 73 Worse and worse here every day—no soul left that we know but Lady Kit and Mrs. Coke. 1735 POPE *Donne Sat.* iv. 121 So when you plague a fool, 'tis still the curse, You only make the matter worse and worse. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* iii. 13, I have been patient; but it's growing worse and worse—flesh and blood can't bear it any longer. 1885 'MRS. ALEXANDER' *At Bay* iv, 'This is worse and worse,' said Lady Gethin, gravely.

3. *a.* Less good, not so good, inferior; of lower quality or value.

Beowulf 1212 Wyrsan wigfrecan wæl reafedon æfter guðsceare. c888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxx. §1 Ic wat . . . þæt mænigne mon sceamap þæt he wiorðe wyrsa þonne his eldran wæron. c1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John ii. 10 Ælc man sylp ærest god win & þonne hig druncene beoð þæt þe wyrsæ byð. c1200 *Vices & Virtues* 65 þe pingð ðat þu naust naht to wurðin . . . ane wurse mann ðane ðu art. c1200 ORMIN 14064 Sippenn he beginneþ to bringenn forþ summ werse win, Son summ þe follc iss drunnkenn. c1205 LAY. 383 Heo was a cheuese, hire cheap wes þe wurse. a1300 *Cursor M.* 38 O gode petre coms god peres, Wers tre, vers fruit it beres. c1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 190 And so þei menen þat crist . . . nedid alle prestis to leue þe betre and take the worse lif. c1386 CHAUCER *Reeve's Prol.* 18 That ilke fruyt [the medlar] is euer leng the wers Til it be rotten. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 5 Men sein it [the world] is now lased, In worse plit than it was tho. 1481 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 65, I saw newer Hollendars make whorse payment in my dayys. 1573-80 TUSSEY *Husb.* (1878) 35 The soile and the seede, with the sheafe and the purse, the lighter in substance, for profite the worse. 1594 *Knaresb. Wills* (Surtees) I. 200 My worse cloke. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lviii. §1 They which at all times haue opportunitie of vsing the better meane to that purpose, will surely hold the worse in lesse estimation. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* iii. i. 139 The Master is a Wise and Valiant Romane, I neuer thought him worse. 1606 — *Ant. & Cl.* iii. ii. 52 He ha's a cloud in 's face. *Eno.* He were the worse for that, were he a Horse. 1615 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Urania* xliii. B8b, Worse then the dust, that vnder-foot is trod. 1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* i. 2, I attribute this Costiveness . . . to his yeares, being on the worse side of forty. 1759 BROWN *Compl. Farmer* 32 Sheep . . . should be bought from a worse land to bring on to a better. 1776 ADAM SMITH *W.N.* iv. viii, Though it is acknowledged, that the commodity of the distant country is of a worse quality than that of the near one. 1770 *Cases temp. Hardwicke* 35 It can never be interpreted, that removing oneself from a worse prison to a better is a surrender of oneself into custody. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* Introd. Ep., 'They are prime stanes' . . . 'worse than the best wad never seer the monks, I'se warrant.' 1894 *Times* 10 July 11/3 [Tennis] Two fine chases—worse than a yard and better than half a yard.

† *b.* Of silver or coin: Of less value than (a specified standard). *Obs.*

1488-9, 1676, 1681 [see *STERLING B.* 3]. 1549 LATIMER *Ploughers* (Arb.) 27 The saying is, that since priests haue bene minters, money hath bene worse then it was before. 1715 in *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5349/3 A certain Person was indicted for selling Silver Wares worse than Sterling. 1716 *Ibid.* No. 5404/4 Silver . . . one third Part worse than the said Act directs. 1782 in *Phil. Trans.* (1803) XCIII. 135 The coins were worse than standard.

† *c.* In phrases implying loss or defeat, as *the worse deal, end, part, side.* *Obs.*

a900 CYNEWULF *Crist* 1225 Ond þær womsceapan on þone wyrsan dæl fore scyppende scyrede weorþað. a1300 *Cursor M.* 21466 þan said þat juu, bi sant drightin Mi thinc þe wers part es mine. 1387 TREvisa *Higen* II. 29 þat zere men of þat side schal haue the worse ende and be ouercome. 14 . . . *Guy Warw.* (Cambr. MS.) 602 Wyth pryde he wolde juste wyth Gye: The worse parte come hym bye. *Ibid.* 3537 Yf he falle on þe worse syde. a1530 J. HEYWOOD *Play of Love* 1258 (Brandl) Then shall I shewe such a thyng in this purs As shortly shall shewe herein your part the wurs. 1583 GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* lxxiii. 449/1 He shall obtayne no right in Law. And if he doe, yet shall he haue the worse end of the staffe.

d. *to be worse than one's word*: to fail to carry out, or act up to, what one has promised.

1672 WYCHERLEY *Love in a Wood* v. v. 89 Will you be worse then your word? 1715 DE FOE *Fam. Instruct.* i. viii. (1841) I. 139, I will not be worse than my word to my lady. 1826 GALT *Last of Lairds* xxxix. 352 Mrs. Soorocks was not worse than her word, for [etc.].

e. **worse half**: used jocularly to match *better half* (see *BETTER A.* 3 c).

1783 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Lady Browne* 19 Oct., It is not fit my better-half should be ignorant of the state of her worse-half. 1884 FLOR. MARRYAT *Under Lilies & Roses* iv, The preparations would serve to occupy our time, whilst our worse halves are out shooting.

4. Predicatively (often with *the*: see *THE adv.*).

a. Of persons: Less fortunate, less well off; in less favourable circumstances or position. Const. *for* (some person or thing that causes deterioration or loss).

a1122 O.E. *Chron.* an. 1064 (Laud MS.) Swa pet seo scyre & þa oðra scyre þe þær neht sindon wurdon fela wintra þe wyrsan. a1250 *Owl & Night.* 303 Wenest þat bæuec bo þe worse þo3 crowe bigrede him bi þe mershe? 1340-70 *Alex. & Dind.* 231 For þe wers is no weih, wis 3if he seme, þouh he finde oþur folk folewen his dedus. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. i. 26 And drink whon þou druizest, but do hit not out of Resun, þat þou worpe þe worse whon þou worche scholdest. c1520 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 1761 To make fayre promyse, what are ye the worse? a1542 SIR T. WYATT *Poems* (1913) I. 150 A diligent knave that pikes his maisters purse May please him so that he withouten mo Executor is, and what is he the worse? 1595 SHAKS. *John* i. i. 183 A foot of Honor better

then I was, But many a many foot of Land the worse. **1596** — *Merch. V.* III. ii. 263 When I told you My state was nothing, I should then have told you That I was worse then nothing. **1601** — *Twel. N.* v. i. 30 Thou shalt not be the worse for me, there's gold. **1610** — *Temp.* II. i. 261 Say, this were death That now hath seiz'd them, why they were no worse Then now they are. **1621** LADY M. WROTH *Urania* I. i. Miserable Vrania, worse art thou now then these thy Lambs; for they know their dams, while thou dost lie vnknewne of any. **a 1708** BEVERIDGE *Thes. Theol.* (1711) III. 203 Thou art never the worse, for others being better. **1777** SHERIDAN *Sch. Scand.* III. i. I hadn't the Pleasure of knowing his Distresses till he was some thousands worse than nothing. **a 1784** JOHNSON in Mrs. Piozzi *Anecd.* (1925) 43 How would the world be worse for it, . . . if all your relations were at once spitted like larks, and roasted for Presto's supper? **1840** BARHAM *Ingol. Leg. Ser. 1. Jackdaw of Rheims*, Nobody seem'd one penny the worse!

b. Less well in health, physical condition, or spirits; less hale or strong.

the worse for (Sc. of): overcome or intoxicated by (liquor, drink). Also *transf.*

c 1000 AGS. *Gosp.* Mark v. 26 [Hire] hit naht ne fremode, ac wæs þe wyrse. **1388** WYCLIF *Mark* v. 26 [She] was nothing amendid, but was rather the wors. **c 1440** *Partonope* 6402 (E.E.T.S.) Forthewyth was broghte hym hys hakeneye, Neyther better ne worse, but in þe same a-Raye As he hym fryste broste frome the foreste: He semyd no-pynge a lusty beste. **1508** KENNEDIE *Flying* 464 And now thy wame is wers than ewir it was. **1540** PALSGR. *Acolastus* IV. vi. V i v b. It liketh me not to remember it. i. I am the worse when I thynke on it. **1552** HULOET, Warsse to be for age, *vetutesco*. **1594** SHAKS. *Rich. III.* I. iii. 3 Ther's no doubt his Maiesty Will soone recouer his accustom'd health. *Gray*. In that you brooke it ill, it makes him worse. **1597** — *2 Hen. IV.* II. iv. 113, I am the worse when one sayes, swagger. **1603** DEKKER *Wonderful Year* E 2 b, There was she worse then before. **1776** *Trial of Nundocomar* 23/1 He was at first very ill, then got better; he is now worse. **1837** LOCKHART *Scott* IV. viii. 261 He answered, that he had ridden more than forty [miles], a week before, . . . and felt nothing the worse. **1856** MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* (1871) V. xliii. 196 Germanicus grew rapidly worse. **1861** FLOR. NIGHTINGALE *Nursing* 10, I hope you were not the worse for my visit.

(b) 1835 MARRYAT *Jac. Faithf.* i. My mother had retired to her bed a little the worse for liquor. **1871** GEO. ELIOT *Middlemarch* xxxix. II. 316 When a man . . . has . . . made himself the worse for liquor, he's done enough mischief for one day. **1881** J. B. GOUGH *Sunlight & Shadow* 266 Who ever saw me the worse for drink? **1885** STEVENSON *Prince Otto* III. ii. 268 To tell you the open truth, your Highness, I was the worse of drink. **1913** *Spect.* 24 May 874/1 A learned judge said of Mr. Gladstone that he was often 'the worse' for flattery.

c. Of things: In less good condition; showing signs of damage, deterioration, or loss of quality. Const. *for* (see 4 a), obs. or dial. of.

it would be none the worse for: i.e. it would be all the better for, would be improved by. *collog.*

c 1290 *St. Dominic* 64 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 279 þat writ lay longue in þat fuyr, and neuere þe weorse it nas, Ne nougt i-wemned of one letter. **c 1440** *Pallad. on Husb.* XI. 101 Let brede hem [sc. olives], lest they hete and be the wers. **1546**, **1706**, **1711** [see WEARING *vbl. sb.* 1 3]. **1592** SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 207 What were they tips the worse for one poore kis? **1596** SPENSER *F.Q.* v. xii. 35 Euery matter worse was for her melling. **1753-4** RICHARDSON *Grandison* II. xviii. 129 Sir Charles answered. . . That he would take a survey of the timber upon his estate, and fell that which would be the worse for standing. **1782** COWPER *John Gilpin* 183 A hat not much the worse for wear. **1824** in *Spirit Public Jnrls.* (1825) 213 His face. . . rather the worse of the dirt by which it was encased. **1835** DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Greenwich Fair*, Blue satin shoes and sandals (a leetle the worse for wear). **1839** FR. A. KEMBLE *Resid. Georgia* (1863) 20 Their allowance of rice and Indian meal would not be the worse for such additions. **1883** D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* xvii. (1885) 137 Her finery was naturally all the worse for having been fine. **1911** *Athenaeum* 19 Aug. 216/3 We do not know that his book is much the worse for this avowal of purpose. *Mod.* His coat would be none the worse for a good brushing.

d. worse and worse: cf. **1. C. 2 e.**

1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 23 Saturne thus felyng hym in grete sorow & trowble and alwey wors and wors as a fore is sayd. **1553** *Respublica* IV. iii. 1019 Truelic, I fele miselfe hitherto worse and worse. **1605** SHAKS. *Macb.* III. iv. 117, I pray you speake not: he growes worse and worse. **1848** THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xiv, 'Well, Jane?' 'Wuss and wuss, Miss B.' Firkin said, wagging her head. 'Is she not better then?'

5. Comb., as worse-natured, -tempered adjs.

1648 JENKYN *Blind Guide* Pref. A 3, His being badly nurtur'd formerly, and worse natur'd still. **1659** *Genil. Calling* 446 These differ from the former. . . as a worse natured fool from a better. **1747** RICHARDSON *Clarissa* I. ii. 10 My poor sister is not naturally good-humoured. . . She must therefore have appeared to great disadvantages when she aim'd to be worse-temper'd than ordinary.

B. absol. or as *sb.* Chiefly ellipt. or absol. uses, with or without the def. or indef. article.

1. a. A person that is less good, virtuous, kindly, etc. As *pl.*, those that are worse.

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 85 In halie chirche boð betere and worse. **13..** *Cursor M.* 1057 (Gött.) Caym was þe feindes fode, was neuer wers of moder born. **13..** *E.E. Allit.* P. B. 80 Boþe burnes & burdez, þe better & þe wers, Lapez hem alle luflyly to lenge at my fest. **a 1529** SKELTON *Agst. Garnesche* iv. 17 Beholde thi selfe, and thou mayst se; Thow xalte beholde no wher a worse. **1579** SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Envoy 12 The better please, the worse despise, I aske. nomore. **1601** SHAKS. *Jul. C.* III. ii. 116, I feare there will a worse come in his place. **1606** — *Ant. & Cl.* I. ii. 68 And let her dye too, and giue him a worse, and let worse follow worse. **1667** MILTON *P.L.* x. 903 He. . . shall see her gaine By a farr worse. **1823** BYRON *Juan* x. lxxvii, That worse than worst of foes, the once ador'd False friend. **1901** *Westm. Gaz.* 6 Nov. 2/4 Fool will take Fool, and Worse take Worse.

† **b. the worse**: the Evil One, the Devil. *Obs.*

c 1200 *Trim. Coll. Hom.* 187 Iob. . . þe wan wið þe wurse. *Ibid.* 191 Neddre smuhgð digeliche. Swo doð þe werse. **c 1205** LAY. 1140 Temple heo funden par ane. . . þe wrse hit hafde to welden. *Ibid.* 11091 þe wurse [c 1275 þe feond] hine luuede. *Ibid.* 29188 Crist seolue he forsoc and to þan wursen he tohc.

c. sb. pl. (one's) worses = inferiors. (Nonce-use, after *bettters*.)

1873 RUSKIN *Fors. Clav.* xxviii. 9 Speaking to you, then, as workers, and of myself as an idler, tell me honestly whether you consider me as addressing my *bettters* or my *worses*? *Ibid.* 18 The question whether you are the *bettters* or the *worses* of your masters.

2. a. Something worse; what is more evil, harmful, grievous, unlucky, etc.; a greater degree of badness.

Beowulf 1739 He þæt wyrse ne con. **c 888** ÆLFRED *Boeth.* x, Hu meahþ þu þonne mænan þæt wyrse & þæt laðre nu ðu ðæt leofre hæfst gehælden? **a 900** CYNEWULF *Elene* 1039 He þæt betere geceas. . . & þam wyrsan wiðsoc. **c 1205** LAY. 3431 Ich wende swiðe wel to don ac wurse ich habbe vnderfon. *Ibid.* 24822 3if þu swa nult don þu scalt wursen vnderfon. **c 1330** R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 2432 Alas! he seyde, y hider cam! Fro wycke vntil wors y nam. **c 1374** CHAUCER *Troilus* III. 1074 Now is wykke i-turned vnto worse. **c 1500** *Lancelot* 515 Wers than this can nat be said for me. **1581** A. HALL *Iliad* I. 10 This tyrant too, whose senses stil to worse and worse do runne. **1590** SPENSER *F.Q.* II. iii. 46 For feare of worse, that may betide. **1593** SHAKS. *Rich. II.* I. iii. 301 Oh no, the apprehension of the good Giues but the greater feeling to the worse. **1602** — *Ham.* III. iv. 179 Thus bad begins, and worse remaines behinde. **1606** — *Tr. & Cr.* III. ii. 79 To feare the worst, oft cures the worse. **1614** BP. HALL *Recoll. Treat.* 974 Weake and base mindes euer incline to the worse. **1667** MILTON *P.L.* IX. 128 Though thereby worse to me redound. **a 1796** BURNS *Grace bef. Dinner*, And, if it please thee, Heavenly Guide, May never worse be sent. **1812** BYRON *Ch. Har.* I. iv, Worse than adversity the Childe befell. **1824** SCOTT *Redgauntlet* ch. xx, With fair warning not to come back on such an errand, lest worse come of it. **1864** TENNYSON *Enoch Arden* 742 That which he better might have shunn'd, if griefs Like his have worse or better. **1864** G. A. LAWRENCE *Maurice Dering* I. 132 You had better take yourself off peaceably, before worse comes of it. **1869** MORRIS *Earthly Par.* III. 423 (*Lovers of Gudrun*), Ah, farewell. Lest of mine eyes thou shouldst have worse to tell Than now thou hast! **1896** HOUSMAN *Shropshire Lad* xlv, Dust's your wages, son of sorrow, But men may come to worse than dust.

b. to do worse: to behave more wickedly, badly, foolishly, etc.; also, with dative of person or *to*, to deal with or treat (a person) more harshly or unkindly.

Orig. const. with the adv.: see **WORSE** *adv.* 1, 1 b. In the early examples given here, the inflexion seems to indicate the neut. adj. or quasi-sb., and the word is perh. usually so apprehended in later use. Cf. *do good*, *GOOD sb.* 5 a.

1154 O.E. *Chron.* an. 1137 (Laud MS.) Næure hethen men werse ne didnen þan hi didnen. *Ibid.* 1140 He. . . ðanne wære þanne he hæf sculde. **c 1200** *Moral Ode* 223 (Trin. MS.) Werse he doð his gode wines þan his fiendes. **c 1205** LAY. 3496 Nule heo me do na wurse þanne hire lond forwurpen. *Ibid.* 29186 Gurmundes mon he becom: ne mihte he na wurse don, for crist seolue he forsoe. **a 1250** *Owl & Night*. 1408 Hweper ðep wurse, flesch þe gost? **c 1330** R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 8696 Syn pey had mercy & pyte, Wirse pan pey schul nought do we. **c 1380** WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 250 Why schulde noȝt men now reprove popes, 3if þei don now werse? **c 1386** CHAUCER *Squire's T.* 592 Who kan sey bet than he, who kan do werse? **1396** — *Envoy a Bukton* 17 But yet lest thou doo worse, take a wyfe. **c 1500** MEDWALL *Nature* II. 245 In good fayth syr ye may do wurs. **1535** COVERDALE *Jer.* III. 5 Thou speakest soch wordes, but thou art euer doinge worse, and worse. **1605** SHAKS. *Macb.* IV. ii. 71 To do worse to you were fell Cruelty.

c. What is less good or precious or valuable. (Cf. **WORSE** *a.* 3.)

a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. Wks. 1922 II. 22 Never after to feede of worse then furmentie. **1596** SHAKS. *Merch. V.* II. vii. 55 Neuer so rich a Iem Was set in worse then gold. **1667** MILTON *P.L.* IX. 102 For what God after better worse would build? **1697** DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* I. 289 All below, whether by Nature's Curse, Or Fate's Decree, degen'rate still to worse. **1876** GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* Ivi, That thorn-pressure which must come with the crowning of the sorrowful Better, suffering because of the Worse.

d. Used as an alternative or addition to an unfavourable epithet or characterization = something worse still. Usually *or worse*, and *worse*.

1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* XVIII. 72 Men may lykne letterid men to a lusseborgh, oþer werse. **1513** BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* I. 1011 A vyllayne orels wers sothly thou was borne. **1653** WALTON *Angler* vii. 147, I might say more of this, but it might be thought curiosity or worse. **a 1734** NORTH *Ld. Kpr. Guilford* (1742) 224 The Man's Wife was his Nurse, or worse. **1851** KINGSLEY *Yeast* xiii, They say, sir, he went up to court, and slandered the nuns there for drunkards and worse. **1898** 'H. S. MERRIMAN' *Roden's Corner* xxv. 269 Everybody knows that it is a disgrace or worse—perhaps a crime.

3. In phrases with a preposition. **a. for better, for worse**, also *for better or (for) worse*: used where an issue is doubtful or beyond human control.

to put to better and to worse: ? to subject to every kind of luck (quot. *c 1430*).

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 24 For bet, for wers, for oght, for noght, Sche passeth nevere fro my thought. **c 1430** *Chev. Assigne* 244, I wolle putte my body to better & to worse, To fyzte for þe qwen. **a 1500** *Sarum Manuale, In sponsalibus* (Rouen 1501) fo. xlviii, I N. take the N. to my wedded wif to haue and to holde for this day forward for bettere for wers for richere for pouerer. **a 1548** HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII* 59 b, And so for better or worse, the Frenchman called the Englishman knaue and went away with the stockdouses. **1639** J. CLARKE *Paræm.* 122 For better for worse. **1848**

DICKENS *Dombey* lix, Mr. Towlinson. . . informs the kitchen that him and Anne have now resolved to take one another for better for worse. **1871** SMILES *Charac.* i. (1876) 10 Character is undergoing constant change, for better or for worse. **1905** H. W. BOYNTON *Bret Harte* 85 He had also, for better or worse, a decided instinct to invest human nature. . . with certain attributes of ideal grace.

b. for (†to, †into) the worse: chiefly used to indicate the result of a change in condition or quality, fortune, or circumstances.

c 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxiv. 113 þe iournee chaunged efter to þe werse. **1548** FORREST *Pleas. Poesye* 352 The worlde is chaunged from that it hathe beene, Not to the bettre but to the warss farre. **1620** [? G. BRYDGES] *Horæ Subs.* 319 Honor nourisheth in light and vain men a wrong opinion of their own worth, and consequently, often changeth their manners into the worse. **1668** DRYDEN *Maiden Q.* III. i, All we have done succeeds still to the worse. **a 1712** W. KING *Letter Wks.* 1776 III. 272 It is thy curse Ever to change, and ever for the worse. **17..** [BURNS] *Carl, an the king come* ii, I trow we swapped for the worse. **1835** T. MITCHELL *Acharn. of Aristoph.* 263 *note*, The Doric character generally was undergoing a most important change for the worse.

c. from bad (†evil, †ill) to worse.

1549 LATIMER *4th Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 121 He by vnrepentance fell from euill to worse, and frome worse, to worse of all. **1550** LEVER *Serm.* (Arb.) 32 You which haue gotten these goodes into your own handes, to turne them from euill to worse. **1562** J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 73 Suche driftes draue he, from yll to wars and wars. **1579** SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Febr. 12 Must not the world wend in his commun course From good to badd, and from badde to worse, From worse vnto that is worst of all. . . ? **1639** J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Pt. Summers Travels* 43 You draw us from bad to worse, and from worse to worst. **1640** C. WASE *Sophocles, Electra* 38 See then lest Bad enough to Worse advance. **1667** MILTON *P.L.* XII. 106 Thus will this latter, as the former World, Still tend from bad to worse. **1739-40** RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1740) I. xxvii. 85 How easy it is to go from bad to worse, when once People give way to Vice. **1804** SOMERVILLE & 'ROSS' *Real Charlotte* I. vii. 87 The land went from bad to worse. **[1930** F. A. POTTLE *Stretchers* 64 The weather was warm, and if worse came to worst, we could encamp in our pup tents where we were.] **1961** NEW ENG. BIBLE 2 *Tim.* iii. 13 Wicked men and charlatans will make progress from bad to worse.

† **d. (to judge) to the worse**: disadvantageously, unfavourably. *Obs.*

1549 COVERDALE *Erasm. Par. Rom.* xiv. 39 Take heede that no man iudge others actes to the worse [*neq alius alium iudicet in malum*].

e. (to differ) for the worse: to one's disadvantage.

1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* III. xi. 83 The situation of the Quaker differed from that of other dissenters, and differed for the worse.

4. a. the worse, the losing or less desirable part (in a contest, or the like); disadvantage. Cf. **A. 3 c** and **WORST sb.** 8. Chiefly in the phrases which follow (**b, c, d**).

c 1205 LAY. 26594 And ær heo to-tweinden þe wurse wes Rom-leoden. *Ibid.* 26997 Bruttes wokeden pa & heore wes þat wurse. **14..** *Guy Warw.* (Cambr. MS.) 11073 He poght, þe warse went on hyss syde. **a 1425** *Cursor M.* 7760 (Trin.) Of þis batail þat was so snel þe wors [Cott. force, Gött. fors] on kyng saul fel. **c 1489** CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* i. 39, I byleue, yf the kynge beseege the castelle that the worsse shalle retourne vnto hym.

b. to have the worse: to be worsted or defeated in a contest. Also *gen.* to have the disadvantage in a comparison with another.

c 1205 LAY. 26712 þa iwræð sone þat Bruttes hafden þat wurse. **c 1330** R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 16373 He þat hit gan, þe worse he hadde. **13..** *E.E. Allit.* P. C. 48 þenne is me lyztloker hit lyke & her lotes prayse, þenne wyper wyth & be wroth & þe wers haue. **c 1386** CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 490 Yow loueres axe I now this question, Who hath the worse [v. r. werse], Arcite or Palamon? **1390** GOWER *Conf.* II. 380 Wicke is to stryve and haue the worse. **c 1450** *Merlin* iii. 56 In that bataile was grete mortalite on bothe parties, but the hethen peple hadde moche the werse. **1470-85** MALORY *Arthur* VII. xxx. 261 Sir Gawayne and syr Trystram mette, and there syr Gawayne had the werse. **1567** PAINTER *Pal. Pleas.* II. xxx. 352 b, In the end, the Salimbene had the worse [in a skirmish with the Montanines]. **1590** SPENSER *F.Q.* II. v. 15 Was neuer man, who most conquestes atchieu'd, But sometimes had the worse, and lost by warre. **1860** EMILY EDEN *Semi-attached Couple* iv, Perhaps the instinct that always leads a man to foresee when an impending explanation is not likely to end in his favour, prompted him to divine that he should have the worse of this. **1888** OMAN *Hist. Greece* xv. (1901) 142 A running fight ensued, in which the invaders had greatly the worse.

† **c. to go (away) with, to go (or come) to, unto, by the worse**: to be defeated or worsted, fail, miscarry.

(a) c 1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* IV. 49 The folk of Troye hem seluen so mysledden That with þe worse at nyght homward pey fledden. **1632** HOLLAND *Cyropædia* I. 12 Went he any time away with the worse? very pleasant he was and laughed at himselfe most of all.

(b) 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* I. ix. 46 Fyghte not with the swerde ye had by myracle, til that ye see ye go vnto the wers. **1532** TINDALE *Exp. v-vii Matt.* vii. (c 1550) 87 b, Which handes, if thou for werines once let fal, thou goest to the worse immediatly. **1591** SAVILE *Tacitus, Hist.* II. xi. 67 In those ordinary bickerings. . . he commonly went to the worse. *Ibid.*, *Agricola* 251 Now sommer and winter alke they went to the worse [*tum aestate atque hieme iuxta pellebantur*]. **1597** BEARD *Theatre God's Judgem.* (1612) 96 As Truth goet euer the vpper hand, . . . so the brochiers and vpholders of falshood came euer to the worse.

(c) 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 310 The beginning should procede of you, whiche in the cause are inferiours, and goe by the worse. **1565** GOLDING *Cæsar* I. 23 [c. 31] To whom the Heduanes and their confederates had diuerse

tymes gyuen battell: wherin going by the wors, they had receyued great damage. **1641** C. BURGESS *Serm.* 5 Nov. 55 Have they not miscarried, and gone by the worse all along? **1641** J. SHUTE *Sarah & Hagar* (1649) 34 Neither let us despair of them, because they have been foiled, that they will still hereafter go by the worse. **1671** MILTON *Samson* 904 In argument with men a woman ever Goes by the worse.

† **d.** to *put to the* (or *one's*) *worse*: to defeat, worst, discomfit, in a contest or conflict. *Obs.*

1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* x. lviii. 512 He put me to the worse or on foot or on horsbak. **c 1482** J. KAY tr. *Caoursin's Siege of Rhodes* Ded. in Gibbon's *Crusades*, etc. (1870) 136 But ther [at Rhodes] he was put to hys worse and to shame. **1538** ELYOT *Dict.*, *Pessundo*, to cast vnder foote, to put to the worse. **1568** GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 78 For euer, if they chaunced to skirmishe, the Frenchmen were put vnto the worse. **1584** POWELL *Lloyd's Cambria* 9 When he had by the space of ten yeares warred with diuers Kings, and often put them to the worse. **1606** G. WOODCOCK *Hist. Iustine* iv. 22 He was twice put vnto the worse [iv. iv. 9 *duobus proeliis victus*]. **1611** Bible 2 Chron. vi. 24 If thy people Israel be put to the worse before the enemy. **a 1641** BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 265 Aretas . . took the field againe, but was put to the worse.

† **e.** to *wring to the worse*: to vex, distress. *Obs.*

1553 ASCHAM *Germany* Wks. (1904) 133 Octauio was euermore wrong to the worse by many and sundry spites.

worse (wɜ:s), *v.* *Obs.* exc. in nonce-use. Forms: 1 *wyrsian*, *wyrsigan*, 2 *wursien*, 3 *wurse(n, wursi, wursin, werse(n, Orm. werrsen*, 4 *worsi*, 4, 6-7, 9 *worse*. [OE. *wyrsian*, f. *wyrsa* WORSE *a.* Cf. OFris. *wersia* to resist, withstand, OHG. *wirson* (MHG. *wirsen, wursen*) to make worse.]

1. *intr.* To become or grow worse, deteriorate.

c 825 *Vesp.* Ps. xxxvii. 6 Fuladun & wyrsadon [*deteriora uerunt*] wundsewe mine. **c 1000** ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 124 He sceolde beon ascyred fram manna neawiste, gif his hreoſla wyrsigende wære. **a 1023** WULFSTAN *Hom.* xxxiii. (1883) 158 Folclaga wyrsedan ealles to swyðe. **a 1122** O.E. *Chron.* an. 1085 (Laud MS.) & aa hit wyrsode mid mannan swiðor & swiðor. **c 1175** Lamb. *Hom.* 47 þa sende me clæbes. . . for to biwinden þe rapes, þæt his licome þe feble wes ne sceolde noht wursien. **c 1205** LAY. 18931 3if ich wilne æhte, þenne wursede [*c 1275* wersed] ich on crafte. **a 1225** Ancr. R. 326 þe wunde þæt euer wursed an hond, & strengre is forte helen. **a 1240** *Saules Warde* in O.E. *Hom.* I. 265 Sikere ha beoð . . of þulli blisse, þæt hit ne mei neauer mare lutlin ne wursin. **1340** *Ayenb.* 33 Eftward comþ werihede þæt makeþ pane man weri and worsi uram daye to daye. **1854** SIR J. D. HOOKER in L. Huxley *Life* (1918) I. 352 Evil as our days are, whether they mended or worsed, it would [etc.].

2. *trans.* To make worse, impair, injure, blemish.

c 1200 ORMIN 11845 To werrsen & to nipprenn uss Biforenn Godess ehne. **a 1225** Ancr. R. 428 3e muwen muchel puruh ham beon i-goded, and i-wursed [*MS. T. wursnet*]. **a 1225** Leg. *Kath.* 2165 þæt tet wake ules ne wursi neauer mi mod. **a 1240** *Ureusin* in O.E. *Hom.* I. 202 Mine sunnen habbeð grimliche iwursed me. **c 1320** *Cast. Love* 811 Hire holy maidenhod þæt neuer for no þing i-worsed nas. **c 1380** WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 161 Oper creaturis ben beteterid, and noon ben worsid, bi þis gifte. *Ibid.* III. 349 Whan þei maken feris, þæt ben worsid bi þis makyn, þei don hem a goostli harm. **1598** R. HAYDOCKE tr. *Lomazzo* To Rdr., Other Translators, who are reputed to haue taken great paines in worsing their authors. **1616** BRETON *Good & Bad* 39 His breeding may eyther better or worse him. **1621** QUARLES *Esther* Wks. (Grosart) II. 52/1 What's good, (like Iron) rusts for want of vse, And what is bad, is worsed with abuse. **1667** MILTON *P.L.* vi. 440 Perhaps more valid Armes, . . when next we meet, May serue to better us, and worse our foes. **1867** A. TROLLOPE *Last Chron. Basset* (1869) I. xlii. 446 [Waiter at country inn *log.*] Them as goes away to better themselves, often worses themselves, as I call it. **1886** *Referee* 21 Feb. 7/4 Instead of bettering it [*sc.* their condition] they haue 'worsed' it.

worse (wɜ:s), *adv.* Forms: *a.* 1 *wiers, wirs*, 1-2 *wyrs*; 2-6 *wurs*, 3 *wrs(e, 3-6* *wurse*; 3-6 *wors*, 3-*worse*, 4 *worsse*, 6 *woorse*. *β.* 2-6 *wers*, 4-6 *worse*, 5 *werce*; 5-7 *wars*, 5, 8-9 *north. warse*, 5-6 *warsse*. [OE. *wyrs, wiers* = OS. *wirs*, OHG. *wirs* (MHG. *wirs, würs*), ON. *verr* (for **wers*; hence *WAR adv.*; SW. *värr*), Goth. *wairs*: see WORSE *a.*] Used as the comparative of the advs. *badly, ill, evil, evilly*.

1. More badly or wickedly; more censurably or foolishly in regard to conduct.

In *do worse*, the word is now perh. usually regarded as the neuter adj. or sb.: see WORSE *sb.* 2 *b.*

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past.* C. xxviii. 189 Da under-ðiodan ðæt hie wiers ne don ðonne him man beboede. **a 1000** *Sal. & Sat.* 181 Wyrs deð se ðe liehð oððe ðæs soðes ansæcð. **a 1250** Owl & Night. 1416 Such heo mahte beo of golnesse, þæt sunegeþ wurse in modinesse. **c 1315** SHOREHAM III. 221 þou halst wel wors pane masseday þane man myd hys workynge. **1340-70** *Alex. & Dind.* 783 Wers wirchen no folk pan 3e weizles ale. **1362** LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. III. 102 Unwittily, ywys, wrouht hastou ofte, Bote worse wrouhtest þou neuere þen won þou fals toke. *Ibid.* A. xi. 279 þanne marie þe maudeleyn þou mihte do wers? **c 1380** WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* I. 44 But oure Pharisees to dai done wel wers. **1546** J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* i. xi. (1867) 32 We maie doo much ill, er we doo much wars. **1781** COWPER *Table Talk* 518, I judg'd a man of sense could scarce do worse Than caper in the morris-dance of verse.

b. More severely, hardly, harshly, unkindly, or unfavourably.

† to *do* (a person) *worse*, to treat more harshly or severely. Cf. *worse sb.* 2 *b.* and, for the use of the adv., *WOE A.* 6. **a 1200** *Moral Ode* 236 (Lambeth) Hi hem deð wa inoch. . . Nute hi hwepor hom dep wurs [*Trin. Coll.* doð wers]. **c 1200** *Vices & Virtues* 57 Deih he betere do ðan an oðer, peih hwæðere he læte wers of him seluen, ðanne he do of oðre. **a 1250** Owl & Night. 793 Telstu bi me þe wrs [*Cott.* wurs]

for þan þæt ic bute enne craft ne kan? **c 1400** 26 *Pol. Poems* ii. 66 Euel thou spekest, worse dost mene. **c 1440** *Generydes* 1365 He hym reportid wers thanne euer he ment. **1471** CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 68 Her sone tytan gouerned hym so maliciously and allewey worse and worse with out any compasson on the peple. **1535** COVERDALE *Gen.* xix. 9 We will deale worse with the then with them. **1553** *Respublica* 13 But let this be taken no worse then yt ys mente. **1590** SHAKS. *Mids.* N. III. ii. 45 Now I but chide, but I should vse thee worse. **1598** — *Merry W.* II. i. 56, I shall thinke the worse of fat men. **1605** — *Lear* II. ii. 155 My Sister may recieue it much more worse, To haue her Gentle-man abus'd, assaulted. **1667** in *Extr. St. Papers Friends* Ser. III. (1912) 271 They haue used us worse then they did before. **1667** MILTON *P.L.* XII. 484 Will they not deale Wors with his followers then with him they dealt? **1802** WORDSW. *Stanzas Castle Indol.* 33 Some thought far worse of him, and judged him wrong. **1853** DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xiv, I hope you won't think the worse of me for hauing made these little appointments at Miss Flite's. **1880** TENNYSON *Columbus* 106 Being but a Genovese, I am handled worse than had I been a Moor. **1881** W. COLLINS *Black Robe* I. 236 You are sure you won't think the worse of me, if I tell it?

c. More carelessly, faultily, unskilfully, imperfectly, etc.

c 1205 LAY. 28560 Mon i þan fihte non þer ne mihte ikenne nenne kempe, no wha dude wurse [*c 1275* wurs], no wha bet. **a 1225** Ancr. R. 208 Oðer 3if me zemeð wurse ei þing ileaned oðer biteih to witene, þer he wenē þæt hit ouh. **a 1250** Owl & Night. 505 Yet þu singest wrse [*Cott.* worse] þan þe heysuige. **1377** LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XVII. 322 It doth hym worse þan his wyf or wete to slepe. **c 1400** 26 *Pol. Poems* ix. 51 Here wastes, þæt þey waye þe wurs. *Ibid.* x. 10 We fareþ as knaue þæt takeþ his hyre byfore, Serue his mayster wel þe worse þefore. **1442** *Rolls of Parl.* V. 64/1 Your Souleours . . the wers paied of their wages. **1538** STARKEY *England* 99 The ground also wors tylyd and occupyd. **1546** HEYWOOD *Prov.* i. xi. (1867) 32 Who is wurs shod than the shoemakers wyfe? *Ibid.* 34 At end I might put my winnyng in mine eye, And see neuer the woorse. **1580** SIDNEY in A. Collins *Lett. & Mem.* (1746) I. 285, I would . . your Worship would learne a better Hand, you write worse then I, and I write evell enough. **1611** SHAKS. *Wint.* T. IV. i. 30 If euer you haue spent time worse, ere now. **1709** POPE *Ess. Crit.* 35 There are who judge still worse than he can write. **1749** FIELDING *Tom Jones* VIII. vii, I may put all the good I haue ever got by you in my eyes, and see never the worse. **1769** ROBERTSON *Chas. V.* III. xi. 368 Raw soldiers, ill-disciplined, and worse commanded. **1821** SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) III. 288 The prints are ill drawn and worse executed upon stone. **1849** MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* I. iii. 394 The English women of that generation were decidedly worse educated than they have been at any other time since the revival of learning.

2. More unfortunately, unluckily, or unhappily. *worse off*, in worse circumstances, less happily or fortunately situated: see *OFF adv.* II.

In early use often with impers. vb. and dat. of person, e.g. (*it is, cheves, limps him wurs* (cf. *WOE A.* 3 and *Héliand* 1347 'wirs is thēm ððrun'); later, *it is, goes, etc. worse with him*.

Prov. to go further, and fare worse: see *FURTHER adv.* 1 *a.*

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past.* C. xxxvi. 247 Dylæs him dy wirs sie. **c 1000** *Ags. Gosp.* John v. 14 Ne synza þu, þe-læs þe þe on sumon pingon wirs getide. **c 1100** O.E. *Chron.* an. 994 (MS. F) Ac hi þar . . wyrs geferdan þonne hi æfre wendan. **c 1205** LAY. 3453 Wel oft weis Leir wa and neuer wurs þanne þa. **a 1250** Owl & Night. 34 Me is þe wurs þæt ich þe iseo. **c 1275** *Vox & Wolf* 202 in *Rel. Ant.* II. 276 Therefore ich fare the wurs. **a 1300** K. Horn 116 Ofte hadde horn bec wo Ac neure wurs þan him was po. **a 1300** *Cursor M.* 26784 And worthes þam wel wers þan ar, And quilum bettis neuer mare. **c 1325** Sir Orfeo 98 (Sisam) When Orfeo herd þæt tiding, Neuer him nas wers for no þing. **1377** LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. ix. 143 And alle for her forfadres þei ferdan þe worse. *Ibid.* xiv. 226 And if he chydre or chatre, hym chieueth þe worse. **c 1380** Sir Ferumb. 4550 þay awondrede of him ecchon, þæt for al þe strokes þæt þay gerde on, þæt hym nas nost þe wers. **c 1386** CHAUCER *Miller's T.* 547 And Absolon hym fil no bet ne wers. **c 1400** *Gamelyn* 749 By god, for thi wordes he shal fare the wurs. **c 1400** *Destr. Troy* 5985 The Troiens full tyte were tyruit to ground: Thurghe Achilles chialny hom cheuyt the worse. **c 1400** 26 *Pol. Poems* xiv. 51 Make opere folk þe worse to lyue, For synguler profyt þou wolde haue. **c 1420** *Anturs of Arth.* 615 But him lympeþ þe worse. **c 1440** *Alphabet of Tales* 502 'Suster, how is it with the?' And sho answwerd agayn & said: 'Neuwr wars.' **c 1460** Towneley *Myst.* iii. 191 God spede, dere wife, how fayre ye? *Vxor.* Now, as euer myght I thryfe, the wars I thee see. **c 1500** *Melusine* xix. 216 It is now with me wers than euer was. **1525** BP. J. CLERK in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. I. 316 He shall ryght well knowe that he fayrthe nothyng the wars for the Kynges Highnes and your Grace is recommendation. **1548** HALL *Chron.*, *Hen. V* 67 But this mocion worse succeeded then the entreators deuised. **1573-80** TUSSEY *Husb.* (1878) 44 But worse shall he speed, that soweth ill seed. **1609** ROWLEY *Search for Money* (Percy) 12 Seeke him and finde him hee must, or it would goe worse with him. **1639** G. PLATTES *Discov. Subterr.* Treas. 21 But the more I tried the worse I sped. **1667** MILTON *P.L.* II. 996 With ruin upon ruin, rout on rout, Confusion worse confounded. **1832** G. C. LEWIS *Lett.* (1870) 20 On the whole they are rather worse off than the convicts in the hulks. **1847** TENNYSON *Princess* IV. 467 A clamour grew As of a new-world Babel, woman-built, And worse-confounded.

b. worse and worse. Cf. *WORSE a.* 2 *e.*

1487 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 159 The exchaunge goyth ever the lenger warsse and wars. **1553** *Respublica* IV. ii. 990 And howe doo youe mend now in your thrifte & your purse? *People.* As zoure ale in sommer, that is still worse & worse. **1562** J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 105 How dooth youe syght? woorse and woorse (said he). **1639** J. CLARKE *Paræm.* 83 It mends like soure ale in summer worse and worse.

3. *a.* As an intensive, with verbs of hurting, harming, vexing, fearing, hating, etc.: More greatly, severely, or intensely; in a greater degree.

1596 SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV.* IV. ii. 21 Such as feare the report of a Caliuor, worse then . . a hurt wilde-Ducke. **1599** — *Much Ado* II. iii. 163 He would but make a sport of it, and torment the poore Lady worse. **a 1600** DONNE *Sat.* iv. 90 As Itch Scratch'd into smart, and as blunt iron ground Into an edge, hurts worse. **1607** SHAKS. *Cor.* I. viii. 2, I do hate thee Worse then a Promise-breaker. **1613** — *Hen. VIII* III. ii. 295 Ile startle you Worse then the Sacring Bell. **1667** MILTON *P.L.* II. 293 Such another Field They dreaded worse then Hell. *Ibid.* vi. 607 Back defeated to return They worse abhor'd. **1676** HOBBS *Iliad* I. 312 Which, angry as he is, will vex him worse. **a 1796** BURNS *Ep. from Esopus* 65 Thou know'st, the virtues cannot hate thee worse. **1819** KEATS *Cap & Bells* xviii, That fellow's voice, which plagues me worse than any. **1819** SHELLEY *Cenci* v. ii. 110 That stern yet piteous look, those solemn tones, Wound worse than torture.

b. As a diminuent, with verbs of liking, trusting, praising, pleasing, etc.: In a lesser or lower degree, less, less well. Similarly *worse at ease*, less well at ease.

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past.* C. xix. 143 Dylæs hira lufu laslagic, & he him ðe wirs licige. **a 1122** O.E. *Chron.* an. 1043 (Laud MS.) Se arcebiscop wende þæt hit sum oðer mann abiddan wolde. . . þe he his wyrs truwude and uðe. **a 1300** *Cursor M.* 9035 þe wick er neuer þe worthier, þæt man tell quat þe dughti er, Ne þe gode þe wers to prais, Quat-so men o þe wick sais. **1362** LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. III. 168 Nay, lord, quap þæt ladi, leef him þe worse, Whon 3e witen witerliche wher þe wrong lihp. **c 1530** REDFORD *Wyt & Sci.* 835 (Manly) Ye, and I lyke him never the wurs. **1592** SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 774 Your treatise makes me like you worse and worse. **1600** — *A. Y. L.* III. ii. 25 The more one sickens, the worse at ease he is. **1607** — *Cor.* v. ii. 75 The glorious Gods. . . loue thee no worse then thy old Father Menenius do's. **1607** HARRINGTON in *Nugæ Ant.* (1804) II. 250 Even Augustus was the worse beloved for appointing an ill man to his successor.

4. *worse than* used before an adj. (sb., vb.) as a form of pejorative comparison. Cf. *MORE C.* (*adv.*) 5.

13 . . Gosp. Nicod. 741 (MS. G.) 3e wers [*v.rr.* wurs, wars] þan wode, how dar 3e negh þis stede? **1588** SHAKS. *Tit. A.* II. iii. 175 Oh keepe me from their worse then killing lust. **1605** — *Lear* I. ii. 82 Brutish Villaine; worse then brutish. **1607** — *Timon* III. v. 106 I'm worse then mad. **1671** MILTON *P.R.* III. 419 Besides thir other worse then heathenish crimes. — *Samson* 893 By worse than hostile deeds. **1799** WORDSW. *Ruth* 164 O Ruth! I have been worse than dead. **1810** — *Sonn.*, 'Yet, yet, Biscayans' 3 Else 'twere worse than vain To gather round the bier these festal shows. **1867** A. T. DRANE *Christian Schools* II. vi. 253 Among the scanty relics that escaped the hands of these worse than Vandals. **1867** AUGUSTA WILSON *Vashti* xx, To feed the worse-than-Ugolino hunger of never-satiated scandal and gossip. **1897** *Westm. Gaz.* 18 Jan. 3/2 He deliberately chose to worse than waste his opportunities and his talents.

5. Used parenthetically or conjunctionally to introduce an additional clause or sentence containing a further and stronger instance of action which incurs reprobation. Cf. *MORE adv.* 6.

1784 COWPER *Task* II. 21 Thus man devotes his brother, and destroys; And, worse than all, and most to be deplor'd, . . Chains him, and tasks him, and exacts his sweat With stripes. **1805** WORDSW. *Rob Roy's Grave* 24 They stir us up against our kind; And worse, against ourselves. **1913** G. MURRAY *Euripides* vii. 166 He had denied the gods; worse, he had denounced the doings of the gods as evil. **1926** H. E. ROLLINS *Gorgeous Gallery* p. xvi, Worse still, he has omitted one leaf.

6. *Comb.*, as *worse-affected, -applied, -armed, -bodied, -born, -calculated, -disposed, -executed, -governed, -ordered* adjs.; also † *worse-opinionated a.*, having a more unfavourable opinion (*of*); † *worse-willing a.*, less well-disposed; more unwilling.

1617 MORYSON *Itin.* II. 63 It was apparant that either he was growne weaker in iudgement or *worse affected to the Queenes seruice. **1591** SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. ii. 418 Before the rest of my deere Country-men, Of better wit, but *worse-applied pen. **1829** SCOTT *Anne of G.* xxviii, If the Lord of Hosts should cast the balance in behalf of the fewer numbers and *worse-armed party. **1590** SHAKS. *Com. Err.* IV. ii. 20 Ill fac'd, *worse bodied, shapelesse euery where. **1834** H. LYTTON *Bulwer France* I. 92 That 'great manner,' . . by which the old nobility strove to keep up the distinction between themselves and their *worse-born associates. **1817** JAS. MILL *Brit. India* III. vi. i. 50 Parliament was so completely an instrument of bad government, that it was *worse calculated to produce good results than the mere arbitrary will of a King. **1579** T. F. *Newes fr. North Djb.* I am very sure, that many are *worse disposed, and much more vnghodly in high and honorable calling. **1820** Q. *Mus. Mag.* II. 454 Irregular, ill-directed, and *worse-executed rehearsals. **1672** SIR W. TEMPLE *Ess. Govt.* Misc. (1680) 69 Fugitives out of some *worse governed Family. **1642** HEYLYN *Hist. Episc.* II. vi. 436 Confessors. . . who, having suffered much in testimonie of their perseverance, became the *worse-opinionated of those, who had not beene endued with an equal constancie. **a 1715** SOUTH *Serm.* IV. 366 An ill-inclined Judgment, and *worse-ordered Morals. **1549** COVERDALE *Erasm. Par.* I Cor. ix. 20-3 That. . . I might, folowing their mindes, allure them either vnto Christ, or at the least, not make them thereunto *worse willing by displeasing their mindes. **1550** SOMERSET tr. *Calvin's Epistle* Bijb, But this muste not astonshe vs, nor make vs worse willynge or fearefull. **1584** R. SCOT *Discov. Witcher.* II. ii. (1886) 15 The people would be worse willing to accuse them; for feare least they worke revenge upon them.

worsement ('wɜ:smənt). [*f.* *WORSE v.* + -MENT, after *betterment*. Cf. *WORSENMENT*.] Deterioration and depreciation of real property caused

by the action of persons outside without the owner's consent.

1884 LD. SALISBURY in *1st Rept. Royal Commiss. Housing Working Classes* Q. 13690 If you charge for betterment, do not you think you should pay for worsement? **1890** *Pall Mall Gaz.* 18 July 2/2 We doubt whether the abolition of the gates and bars will in fact conduce to the 'worsement' of the squares and streets in question. **1908** ARNOLD-FORSTER in *Mem.* (1910) xxii. 340 That the principle of betterment should only be adopted concurrently with the principle of worsement, or deterioration.

b. transf. and gen. (nonce-uses).

1893 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 May 1/1 This morning's batch contains 52 pages of 'amendments' (or worsements, ought not Mr. Plunket to call them?) on the Home Rule Bill. **1902** *Ibid.* 17 June 11/1 The 'Worsement' or 'Betterment' of Directors... Do the Directors stand to lose or gain... by the consolidation of the companies and the enlargement of the capital?

worsen ('wɜːs(ə)n), *v.* [f. WORSE *a.* + -EN⁵ I. Cf. LESSEN *v.*

The word is common in dialect (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*) and was reintroduced to literature c 1800-1830 (by writers like Southey and De Quincey) as a racy vernacular substitute for *deteriorate* and the like.]

1. trans. To make worse; to impair, vitiate, cause to deteriorate.

a 1225 [see WORSE *v.* 2]. **c 1450** *Mirk's Festial* 112 Tymes byn changet, men byn worsont. **1533** tr. *Erasm. Com. Crede* 171b, Such persons which by crafte done appayre and worsen the commune coyne. **1641** MILTON *Reform.* 1. Wks. 1851 III. 10 It is still Episcopacie that... worsens and slugs the most learned, and seeming religious of our Ministers. **1644** DIGBY *Nat. Soul* x. §11. 432 A... state, where she can neyther be bettered, or worsened. **c 1647** FELTHAM *Resolves* II. xiii. (1661) 205 Life in it self is a Blessing: And it is not worsened by being long. **1670** BROOKS *Wks.* (1867) VI. 239 The righteous are signally sanctified by fiery dispensations, but the wicked are signally worsened by the same dispensations.

1806 W. TAYLOR in *Ann. Rev.* IV. 251 If effeminacy could become the attribute of a whole nation, it would be proper to institute societies for worsening the condition of the poor. **1807** SOUTHEY *Espriella's Lett.* (1808) II. 357 Methodism... has worsened whatever it has altered. **1816** — *Ess.* (1832) I. 172 The manufacturer worsened his wares, the landholder increased his rents. **1832** — *Penins. War* III. 703 Men whose nature, originally bad, had been worsened by their way of life. **1835** CARLYLE in Froude *Life in London* (1884) I. i. 19 To ask able editors to employ you will not improve but worsen matters. **1853** DE QUINCEY *Autobiogr.* Sk. ii. Wks. 1862 XIV. 93 Their case was certainly not worsened by being booked for places in the grave. **1870** MORRIS *Earthly Par.* IV. 40 There sat a woman all alone Whom some ten years would make a crone, Yet would they little worsen her. **1906** *Spectator* 30 June 1043/2 Irrelevance and confusion are worsened, not bettered, when advanced under the cloak of a distinguished reputation.

b. spec. To inflict loss upon (a person, locality) in respect of real property (see WORSEMENT).

1894 *Times* 4 Apr. 6/2 Every man who was worsened having to be compensated before he was turned out. **1894** *Daily News* 21 June 2/3 The construction of these thoroughfares had worsened Wardour-street and other streets through diversion of the traffic.

c. To represent (a thing) as worse than it is; to depreciate.

1885 JEAN INGELow *Perdita* 66, I have worsened life, I have wronged the world. **1885** GLADSTONE in *Times* 28 Apr. 7/4 The policy which is necessary in the existing circumstances, which I shall say nothing to exaggerate or worsen.

d. refl. To make oneself worse or (*dial.*) worse off.

1828 CARR *Craven Gloss.* s.v., I will not worsen myself. **1860** PUSEY *Min. Proph.* 167 Moab and Ammon chose them gods like themselves, and worsened themselves by copying these idols of their sinful nature. **1864** KINGSLEY *Water of Life* (1879) iv. 51 They feel that they have weakened and worsened themselves thereby. **1866** GEO. ELIOT *F. Holt* v. That's how the working men are left to foolish devices, and keep worsening themselves.

2. intr. To become worse, deteriorate.

1795 WORDSW. in *Mem.* (1851) I. 86, I am still much engaged with my sick friend; and sorry am I to add that he worsens daily. **1823** DE QUINCEY *The Dice* Wks. 1862 X. 325 Next day Schroll was in a violent fever... On hearing this report, Schroll rapidly worsened. **1829** SOUTHEY *Sir T. More* (1831) II. 183 It is the nature of man to worsen if he be left to himself. **1839** CARLYLE *Chartism* II. (1858) 9 If life last longer... the general condition of the poor must be bettering instead of worsening. **1861** BERESF. HOPE *Engl. Cathedral* v. 184 However the world may mend or worsen. **1880** MISS BROUGHTON *2nd Thoughts* II. iii. vi. 226 The weather has again changed and worsened. **1882** MORRIS *Hopes & Fears for Art* iv. 119 Whether the times better or worsen.

Hence 'worsened *ppl. a.*; 'worsening *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

(a) **1830** SOUTHEY *Let. to Allan Cunningham* 4 Mar. in *Life* (1850) VI. 89 The portrait... is a worsened copy of 'Fitzbust the Evangelical'. **1875** A. J. ELLIS tr. *Helmholtz's Sensat. Tone* 783 Skhismic Intonation exaggerates the errors of the Thirds in Bosanquet's, of which it is simply a worsened form. **1888** *Jewish Chron.* 17 Feb. 11/2 Even this worsened condition is disputed by some eminent authorities.

(b) **1831** SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) IV. 250 To the serious injury of his health, and even to the worsening of his temper. **1837** CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* II. v. i, Such... desperate hope that worsening of the bad might the sooner end it and bring back the good. **1876** GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* xix, The ten or twelve years since the parting had been time enough for much worsening. **1887** *Athenæum* 29 Jan. 153/3 The steady worsening of social conditions.

(c) **1858** CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* IX. x. (1873) III. 173 Does not reach Potsdam till the 14th September, and then in a weak, worsening, and altogether dangerous condition. **1891**

G. A. SMITH in *Robert W. Barbour* (1893) 425 A very large number of worsening or desperate cases [of drunkenness].

'worsen, dial. or illiterate alteration of WORSE *a.* and *adv.* (? arising from the colloq. *worse'n* = worse than).

1634 HEYWOOD & BROME *Lancash. Witches* v. i. L 1, It stinket... worsen than any brimstone. **1854** DICKENS *Hard T.* i. xi, From bad to worse, from worse to worsen. **1854** A. E. BAKER *Northampton Gloss.* s.v., It's worsen than it was.

worseness ('wɜːsnɪs). [f. WORSE *a.* + -NESS. Cf. WORSENESS.] The quality or state of being worse or inferior.

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* I. 187 And siþ þe worsnesse of þing is matere of sorewe, man shulde have more sorewe for synne þan for ony oper þing. **1845** SIR J. D. HOOKER in L. Huxley *Life* (1918) I. 207 The badness of the specimens, the worseness of the published descriptions. **1871** RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* v. 23 We will have... no equality...; but recognition of every bestness that we can find, and reprobation of every worseness. **1913** J. HUNTER in L. S. Hunter *Mem.* (1921) 248 He said I was worse than when I came the first time — the worseness due, no doubt, to the strain and worry of last winter.

† **b. spec.** Quality below the standard for gold or silver. Cf. WORSE *a.* 3b and BETTERNESS 1b.

1782 in *Phil. Trans.* (1803) XCIII. 135 The accuracy of these assays was farther confirmed, by nearly the same average of worseness being found upon more than 170000 guineas.

'worsenment. [f. WORSEN *v.* + -MENT.] Occas. used in preference to WORSEMENT as a more analogical form.

1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 26 July 2/1 The word, we suppose, ought to be 'worsenment', for while the verb of better is 'to better', the verb of worse is 'to worsen'. **1905** J. M. ROBERTSON *Chamberlain* ix. 43 Whereafter his worsenment is swift indeed. **1906** *Pall Mall Gaz.* 10 Mar. 2 If 'betterment' is recognised, worsenment should be equally allowed for.

worser ('wɜːsə(r)), *a.* and *adv.* Also 6 wurser, woorsen, 9 vulgar wusser. [A double comparative, f. WORSE *a.* and *adv.* + -ER³. Cf. lesser.]

The word was common in the 16th-17th c. as a variant of 'worse', in all its applications. In modern use, it is partly a literary survival (esp. in phrases like *the worser part, sort, half*), partly dial. and vulgar.]

A. adj. = WORSE *a.*

1495 Trevisa's *Barth.* De P.R. XIX. cvi. llviii/1 More-thurmbles egges ben lyke to Geys egges but they ben lesser... and worser of smellynge. **1553** BRENDEN tr. *Curtius* VII. 122 b, Fearing the sequel of worser inconueniences. **1553** T. WILSON *Rhet.* (1580) 127 If one should sett Lukes Veluet against Geane Veluette, the Lukes will appeare better, and the Geane will seeme worser. **1559** *Mirr. Mag.*, Duke of Suffolk xxiii, To preserve me from a wurser yll. **c 1566** Merie *Tales of Skelton* in *Wks.* (1843) I. lix, The one woulde call thother Swanborn, the whyche they dyd take for a worser woorde then knaue. **1572** R. T. *Discourse* 40 Vniuster then Pilate, worser then Lucifer. **1573-80** TUSSEER *Husb.* (1878) 99 What worser for barlie than wetnes and cold? **1582** T. WATSON *Centurie of Love* xxx. (Arb.) 66 In harder case and worser plight am I. **1583** STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 33 They are not onely not inferior to any nation in the world in the exesse of apparell, but are farre woorsen, if woorsen can be. **1591** SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI.* v. iii. 36 Chang'd to a worser shape thou canst not be. **1595** MARKHAM *Trag. Sir R. Grinuile* clxxi, His pure part, from worser parts refin'd. **1605** *London Prodigal* v. i. 68 (Brooke) Such bad beginnings oft haue worser ends. **1605** ROWLANDS *Hell's broke loose* To Rdr. (Hunterian Club) 7 All compos'd of the scumbe and waste worser-sort. **1633** FORD *Love's Sacrif.* v. i. K 2, I find she is A diuell, worser then the worst in hell. **1638** CHILLINGW. *Relig. Prot.* i. i. §8. 36 The conclusion alwaies followes the worser part, if there be any worse. **a 1639** W. WHATELEY *Prototypes* I. iv. (1640) 15 We must speake of Caine, who being the elder brother was yet the worser man. **1643** TRAPP *Comm. Gen.* xxxviii. 26 The worser sort of Papists. **1667** *Termes de la Ley* 352 It is there taken in the worser sense. **1682** NORRIS *Hierocles* 88 Hence 'tis that the worser actions are accompani'd with the worser pleasures. **1713** DERHAM *Phys.-Theol.* III. iv. 83 Our own great infirmities and failings... deserve a worser place, a more incommodious Habitation. **1742** *Lond. & Country Brewer* 1. (ed. 4) 38 The worser earthy Part of the Hop is greatly the Cause of that rough, harsh, unpleasant Taste. **1783** BURNS *Remorse* 9 Or worser far, the pangs of keen Remorse. **1811** SOUTHEY in *Edinb. Ann. Reg.* II. 1. 417 Upon the convention of Cintra ministers had chosen the worser part. **1827** [see HALF *sb.* 4b]. **1829** SOUTHEY *Sir T. More* II. 208 Lawcraft, if not a twin-fiend with Priestcraft, is... perhaps the worser devil of the two. **1854** S. AUSTIN *Germany* 312 The worser part of the press was timid, venal and obsequious. **1871** M. COLLINS *Inn Str. Meetings* 33 One might imagine it a worser Troy. **1876** FARRAR *Marlb. Sermon* xxvii. 272 He must break, if need be, his old life in two, and fling away the worser half. **1887** MORRIS *Odys.* xi. 621 For I, e'en I, the bondsman of a worser man was made.

vulgar. **1837** DICKENS *Pickw.* xxii, You might ha' made a worser guess than that, old feller. **1845** DISRAELI *Sybil* III. i, 'It's the butties', said Nixon; 'they're wusser nor tommy.'

b. absol. and ellipt.

1586 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* I. iv. (1592) 13 He... setteth Tenedos on fire, whose fearefull flames espipe, Gaue Sommons vnto carelesse Troy for worser to prouide. **1587** GOLDING *De Mornay* II. (1617) 22 [He] shall not bee able to discern which is the worser. **1622** MABBE tr. *Aleman's Gzman d' Alf.* II. 269 If thou shalt reserue the better for thy selfe, and giue the worser vnto God. **1632** LITHGOW *Trav.* IX. 394 A worser neuer liued. **1635** HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Banish'd Virg.* 58 If the change chance to be from a bad Prince to a worser. **1660** GAUDEN *God's Gt. Demonstr.* 50 There is no necessity... to make evil deeds good by doing worser. **1680** W. ALLEN *Peace & Unity* 75 This was no call to the better sort of Christians to separate from the worser.

1840 G. GODWIN *Last Day* i. 5 Fanny, you are a hignorant creature, and Mr. Brisk's a worser. **1887** *Field* 19 Feb. 233/1, I hear it was a toss up which day was the better or 'wusser' of the two.

† **c. sb. pl.** (One's) inferiors. *Obs.*

1581 PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* II. (1586) 91 b, They ought to beholde their inferiours with a more gracious eie, . . by meanes whereof they get the good will of their worsers.

B. adv. = WORSE *adv.*

1560 PILKINGTON *Expos. Aggeus* Ciiib, And the worser learned be preferred afore the better, to the ministry, . . let not the better disdayn him. **1573-80** TUSSEER *Husb.* (1878) 90 There pasture and cattel... worser do fare. **1584** LYLIV *Campaspe* v. i, How like you this? doth he well? *Diog.* The better, the worser. *Ibid.* v. iv. I pray thee, what doost thou think of loue? *Diog.* A little worser then I can of hate. **1602** WARNER *Alb. Eng.* IX. li. 232 But thus do ye, nay worser. **1604** SHAKS. *Oth.* IV. i. 105 How do you Lieutenant? *Cas.* The worser, that you giue me the addition. **1606** — *Ant. & Cl.* II. v. 90, I cannot hate thee worser then I do, If thou againe say yes. **a 1625** FLETCHER *Woman's Prize* III. i, 'Twould make his head ake worser than his horns do. **1628** *Mad Pranks Robin Goodfellow* (Percy Soc.) 45 My hostesse asked me how I liked this tale? I said, it was... good enough to passe time that might be worser spent. **1642** D. ROGERS *Naaman* 435 Where he does well, none does better, but where ill, none worser. **1664** J. WEBB *Stone-Heng* (1725) 21 His Draught... I am confident you will like the worser, because he likes it so well. **1671** tr. *Palafox's Conq. China* xxiv. 429 The other Chinese Merchants... were much worserused. **1700** T. BROWN *Amusem. Ser. Com.* 48 Persons... that have a great deal of Idle Time lying upon their Hands, and can't tell how to employ it worser. **1835** DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Pawnbroker's Shop*, Your poor dear wife as you uses worser nor a dog.

worser ('wɜːsə(r)), *v. rare.* [f. WORSE *a.*, after BETTER *v.*] *trans.* To make worse; *refl.* to impair one's worldly position. Hence 'worsering *vbl.* *sb.*

1842 *Collectanea Glocestr.* 283 *Worsered*, made worse. **1883** *Century Mag.* Oct. 827/2 This, be it for the bettering or the worsening of the type, is to our democratic... civilization forbidden forever. **1906** *Macm. Mag.* Oct. 914 She says, 'Be going to better myself, Guv'nor.' I says, 'Take care you don't worser yourself.'

worserer ('wɜːsərə(r)), *a.* A further extension (jocular or vulgar) of WORSE *a.*

1752 FOOTE *Taste* 1. (1781) 8, I have heard, good Sir, that every Body has a more betterer and more worserer Side of the Face than the other. **1842** *Collectanea Glocestr.* 283 *Worser, worserer, worse.*

'worserment. [f. WORSE *a.* or *v.* + -MENT, after *betterment*.] = WORSEMENT.

1890 *Daily News* 10 Feb. 5/5 What, if we may coin so barbarous a term, may be called the avoidance of 'worserment'. **1902** C. G. HARPER *Holyhead Road* I. 93 They received no compensation for this 'worserment' which must have practically ruined many of them.

† 'worserness. *Obs. nonce-wd.* [f. WORSE *a.* + -NESS. Cf. WORSENESS.] The quality of being 'worser' or inferior.

1602 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* XIII. lxxviii. 322 In Heats and Colds Extremities is Worsenesse in neither: Nor, working in their Seasons, is a Betternesse of Either.

worstest ('wɜːstɪst), *a.* A jocular and dial. refashioning of WORST, as if f. WORSE *a.* + -EST. (See *Eng. Dial. Dict.*)

1838 Bentley's *Misc.* III. 104 But a laughing woman, with two bright eyes, Is the worstest devil of all.

worset(t, worssett, north. ff. WORSTED.

worship ('wɜːʃɪp), *sb.* Forms: *a.* 1 weorðscipe, -scype, *north.* worðscip, 3 worðscipe, -schipe, -schepe, 4 worþssipe, -schip, wortscip, -schyp; 3 worþsipe, 4 -ssipe, 4-6 -schipe (4 -schupe, 5 -schype, whorshype); 4-5 worschepe, -shepe; 4 worchipe, -chepe; 4-5 worschipe (5 -schyppe), 4 -chipe, 5-6 worshyppe, 5-7 -shippe; 4 worþscip (-sip), 4-6 worþschip (4-5 -schipp, 4 -schyp); 4-5 worchþip, -chyp, -chep; 4- worþschip (6-7 -shipp), 5-6 worshyp (5 -shypp); 6 *Sc.* wourship, 7 woorschþip; 9 *vulg.* wash-up. *β.* 1-3 wurð-, worþscipe (1 -scype), 3 wurð-, worþschipe, -schipe (*Orm.* wurþschipe), -sipe, -sype, wurhschipe; 3 wrð-, wrþsipe, wrh-, wrscipe (-sipe), 4 wrshepe, -chepe; 3 wurschipe (*Orm.* wurrshippe), -sipe, 4 -shype, 5 -chipe; 4 wurshippe, 5 -chipe, 6 wushippe; 5 wurschþip (-chþip, -chyp, -chep), 5-6 wurship. *γ.* 1 wyrðscipe; (chiefly *north.* and *Sc.*) 4 wirscipe, -schepe, 5 -shipe, -chipe, -chepe, wyr-, 4 wirschipe, 5 -shippe, wurschyppe, -chipe (vir-, vyrchþippe); 4 wirschþip, -scep(p, 4-6 wirschþip (6 -schep, virschþip), wirchþip, -chep; 5 wir-, wyrship. [OE. *weorðscipe*, later *wurð-, wyrð-*, northern *worðscipe*, f. *weorð* WORTH *a.* + -scipe -SHIP. The formation is peculiar to English.]

I. 1. a. The condition (in a person) of deserving, or being held in, esteem or repute; honour, distinction, renown; good name, credit. *Obs. exc. arch.* (Common down to 16th c.)

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xl. §4 Hi wunnon æfter weorðscipe on pisse worulde, & tiolodon godes hlisan. **c 950** *Liudf. Gosp.* John iv. 44 Witga on his æðle worðscipe ne hæfis. **c 1000** *Ags. Gosp.* *ibid.*, Nan witega næðf nanne weorðscype on his aenum earde. **c 1205** LAY. 3159 Worðschepe [*c 1275*

worsipe] haue pu. *Ibid.* 3291 Me puncheð þat mi fæder nis no whit felle, no he wurh-scipe ne can. *a 1250 Owl & Night.* 1342 An maide mai luue cheose þat hire wurpschipe ne forlose. *c 1330 Arth. & Merl.* 8619 (Kölbing) On him y told hir wele bitowe: So ful y knawe him of worpschipe. *c 1350 Will. Palerne* 551 þat were semlyest to seye to saue my worchep. *c 1386 CHAUCER Frankl. T.* 83 To seke in Armes worshippe and honour. *1387 TREvisa Higden I.* 155 To wynne þe maystrie of wommen þou getest þat litel worpschipe. *c 1430 Complaynt* 341 in Lydg. *Temple Glas* 63 Of worshpe, honour & mesure She is the welle. *1425 Paston Lett.* I. 21 Because ye arn... of worshepe and cunningn worthly endowed. *1432 Ibid.* 35 The said Erle... bath... desired... to kepe his trouthe and worship unblemyshed. *1485 CAXTON Paris & V.* (1868) 9 Every man dyd hys best to gete worship there. *1530 PALSGR.* 418/1 If he wyll say it of his worship [*sur son honneur*] I dare affyrme it. *1555 Instit. Gentl. Prol.* *vjb, Thus most men desyre the title of wurship, but fewe doo worke the dedes that vnto worship apperteigne. *c 1586 C'LESS PEMBROKE Ps.* cxxx. ii, With thy justice mercy dwellthe, Whereby thy worship more excellethe. *1859 TENNYSON Elaine* 1318 It will be to your worship, as my knight... To see that she be buried worshipfully.

†b. A source or ground of honour or credit (to a person). *Obs.*

a 1240 Ureison in O.E. Hom. I. 199 Nis hit ðe no wurðscipe, þet þe deouel me to-drawe. *c 1386 CHAUCER Melib.* ¶2675 Salomon seith It is a greet worshippe to a man to kepen hym fro noyse and stryf. *c 1400 Gamelyn* 185 Moche worship it were... to vs alle Might I þe ram and þe ryng bryngen home to þis halle. *c 1430 Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 7099 Little worship had it been If ye my ladies clothes hed seen. *1470-85 MALORY Arthur* iv. xxi. 146 Me semeth hit were your worship to helpe that dolorous knyghte. *1493 Festivall* (W. de W. 1515) 3b, The synnes that a man... is shryuen of... shall be moche worshypp to hym. *1535 COVERDALE Prov.* xix. 22 It is a mans worshippe to do good.

†c. One who, or that which, constitutes a source or ground of honour. *Obs.*

c 1410 HOCCEVE Mother of God 23 Thow art ensaumple of ehasitee, And of virgynes worship and honour. *1513 DOUGLAS Aeneis* x. xiv. 73 He bad ga fech Rhebus, hys ryall steyd, Quikhe was hys wirschip and hys comfort hayll. *1535 COVERDALE Ps.* iii. 3 But thou (o Lorde) art my defender, my worshippe, and the lifter vp of my heade. *1596 DALRYMPLE tr. Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 345 Wallace, the cheife honour and Wirschep of the Weiris, drew him back to the Scotis partie.

†d. *spec.* Worthiness in battle; valour. *Obs.*

a 1300 Cursor M. 7022 After þam com Iedeon, þat wirscop in his time had don. *1375 BARBOUR Bruce* iii. 50 And throw his worship sa wroucht he, Tbat he reskewyt all the flearis. *Ibid.* xv. 154 Bot thar fell fayis sa an assaill, That thar mycht no worship avail. *c 1420 WYNTOUN Cron.* ii. xvi. 1521 Hir doughty... Tuk vp armys in hir stede, þat worschep pruffit in mony deide.

†2. In phrases: a. to win (one's) worship: to gain honour or renown. *Obs.*

c 1200 ORMIN 12373 Forr þurh patt tatt te33 woll denn ba 3æn Godd wurshippe winnenn. *a 1300 Cursor M.* 2439 He luued hir wil mare þan are, For wirscipp þat sco did him win. *13... Guy Warw.* (A.) 818 Who þat per be of mest mi3t, Grete worpschipe he winnep. *c 1350 Will. Palerne* 618 Nis no man vpon mold þat more worchipp winnes. *c 1400 26 Pol. Poems* iii. 57 A worþi kny3t wol worchipp wyenne. *a 1450 Le Morte Arth.* 35 That Auntre shall by-gynne... That knightis shall there worship wyenne. *1471 RIPLEY Comp. Alch.* v. xxviii. in *Ashm.* (1652) 155 But wyll ye here what worship and awayle, They wyne in London. *a 1513 Fabyan Chron.* (1811) 574 Vpon y^e v. day played togyder an Henauder, and a squyre called John Steward, whiche daye also the Englysshe man wan y^e worship. *1572 Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxvi. 157 Quha vantis be bluid thay all thair worship wan. *1590 SPENSER F. Q.* i. i. 3 Vpon a great aduenture he was bond... To winne him worship. *1598 MARSTON Sco. Villanie* i. iii. 184 Tbat with industrious paines hath... wonne His true got worship.

†b. to get, or have, the worship of: to gain the honour of overcoming or winning. *Obs.*

1481 CAXTON Godfrey lxiii. 116 Bawdwyne, and they that were with hym... said that they ought to haue the worship of this toun. *a 1502 ARNOLDE Chron.* (1811) p. xxxv, A batell in Smythfeld, betwene the Lord Scales and the bastard of Burgoyne, and the Lord Scales had the worship of the felde. *a 1513 Fabyan Chron.* (1811) 574 An Englysshe esquier... gatte suche worship of the same Henauder, that the kyng... made hym streyght knyght.

3. a. The condition (in a person) of holding a prominent place or rank; dignity, importance, high standing or degree. Now *arch.*

c 888 ÆLFRED Boeth. vii. §3 Swelce þu... sie ðines agnes benumen, æþþer ge þinra welona ge þines weorpschipes. *c 1030 Rule St. Benet* (Logeman) 105 Swa hwylcere ylde oððe wurðscipe [*Ln. dignitatis*] he si. *a 1154 O.E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1132, He com on s' Petres messe dei mid micel wurscipe into the minstre. *a 1200 Vices & Virtues* 55 Ðanne hie scolde forliessen ða michele wurðscipe mang ðo angles. *c 1205 LAY.* 22452 Swa þu scalt wunien in wurðscipe þire. *a 1225 Ancr. R.* 278 Al so as prude is wilnunge of wurðschipe, riht al so... edmodnesse is forkesting of wurðschipe. *c 1330 R. BRUNNE Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 7099 Constant [a monk] þe coroune tok, &... þus to worschipe gan he londe. *1340 Ayeub.* 18 Guodes of aenture, ase richesses, worssipe, and hegnesse. *c 1380 WYCLIF Wks.* (1880) 13 For to haue lykynge of mete and drynk and cloþ and worldly worschipe. *c 1435 Chron. Lond.* (Kingsford 1905) 42 We pryve hym [Richard II.] off alle kyngly dignyte, and worship. *1461 Paston Lett.* II. 13 Ye ar inbylled to be made knyghth at this Coronacion... but and it lyke you to take the worship uppon you [etc.]. *1483 CAXTON Golden Leg.* 409/2 There was a clerke moche renomèd at rome whiche could not come to the worship that he desyred. *1535 COVERDALE Job* xiv. 21 Whether his children come to worshippe or no, he can not tell: And yf they be men of lowe degre, he knoweth not. *1549 in Tytler Eng. under Edw. VI* (1839) I. 219 And we... and others of worship in these countries... do incur by these means much infamy. *1573-80 TUSSEY Husb.* (1878) 208 Yet is it not to be forgot, In Court that some to worship come. *1597 HOOKER Eccl. Pol.* v. lxxiii. §7 In professing that his

intent was to adde by his person honour and worship vnto hers, he tooke her plainly and clearly to wife. *1607 Stat. in Hist. Wakefield Gram. Sch.* (1892) 57 Savinge unto everye man his higher place of worshipp and degre. *1731-8 SWIFT Polite Conv.* 194 She was as fine as Fi pence; but truly, I thought there was more Cost than Worship. *1765 FOOTE Commissary* i. Wks. 1799 II. 8 Indeed you labour... for little or nothing: only victuals and cloaths, more cost than worship. *1814 SCOTT Lord of Isles* II. vii, Worship and birth to me are known By look, by bearing, and by tone.

†b. With a and pl.: A distinction or dignity; a position of honour or high place. *Obs.*

1340 Ayeub. 75 Al þe blisse of pise wordle him solde by drede and wo, rychesses dong, worpssipes uoulhede. *1340 HAMPOLE Pr. Consc.* 1139 Pride oflyf þat some in hert kepes, Falles to honours and worshepes. *1387 TREvisa Higden* II. 113 Offa... was wroop wip men of Caunterbury, and byname hem þat worschipe [*sc. the archbishopric*]. *a 1395 HYLTON Scala Perf.* II. xxvii. (W. de W. 1494), He þat hatb forsake the loue of the worlde in worshyppes and riches. *? a 1400 Morte Arth.* 22 How they whanne wyth were wyrcchippis many. *c 1400 Cursor M.* 25368 (Cott. Galba MS.) He þat victori may gete sall be corond [with] wirschippes grete. *c 1450 tr. De Imitatione* i. xxiv. 35 If þou haddist lyued unto now in worships & lusted of þe worlde. *c 1491 Chast. Goddes Chyld.* 69 Riches and worships ben þu lente to man for a tyme. *1605 SHAKS. Lear* i. iv. 288 Men... That... in the most exact regard support The worships of their name. *1606 G. WOODCOCK Hist. Iustine* III. 19 That it should be lawfull for them... to possesse all their estates and worships whatsoever.

†c. An alleged name for a company of writers.

1486 Bk. St. Albans f. vij, A worship of wryters.

4. a. man, gentleman, etc., of worship: a person of repute and standing. Now *arch.*

In quot. 1598 contrasted with *of honour* (= belonging to the nobility).

1340 Ayeub. 259 Hit becomþ wel to man of worssipe... þet he by... amesured ine alle his dedes. *1340-70 Alex. & Dind.* 17 þanne weies of worschipe... Wip his lettres he let to þe lud sende. *c 1386 CHAUCER Frankl. T.* 234 He... was a man of worshippe and honour. *1463 Bury Wills* (Camden) 18 With other folkes of worshippe, preests, and good frendys. *1523 FITZHERB. Surv.* Prol. bij, Euery great estate, bothe men & women of worship, that haue great possessyons of landes and tenementes, shulde haue [etc.]. *1556 Acts Privy Counc. Irel.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) 21 They... shall examyne hym or them before the nexte gentelman of worshippe. *1577-87 STANYHURST Descr. Irel.* 39/1 in *Holinshed*, There are besides these noble men, certeine gentlemen of woorschip, commonlie called baronets. *1592 CHETTLE Kind-harts Dr.* To Gentl. Rdrs. 3 Besides, diuers of worship haue reported, his vprightnes of dealing. *1598 STOW Surv.* 265 In this Cloyster were buried many persons, some of worship, and others of honour. *1618 J. TAYLOR* (Water P.) *Pennyles Pilgr.* C2 b, Kinde Mr. Thomas Banister, the Mayor, Who is of worship and of good Respect. *1655 FULLER Ch. Hist.* ix. 178 Our Author (though a person of witt and worship) deriveth his intelligence from a French writer disaffected in religion. *1693 CONGREVE Old Bach.* v. vi, All the World know me to be a Knight, and a Man of Worship. *1820 SCOTT Monast.* xix, 'This in our presence, and to a man of worship!' said the Abbot. *1837 BARHAM Ingol. Leg., Leech of Folkestone*, Which [mansion] bespoke the owner a man of worship, and one well to do in the world. *1889 GRETTON Memory's Harkback* 295 His unele and his grandfather were both men of worship in my boyish days.

†b. So of good, or great, worship. *Obs.*

1555 J. PROCTOR Wyat's Rebell. 6b, Christopher Roper (a man of good wurshippe, and so esteemed of them). *Ibid.* 7 Maister Tucke... & maister Dorrel... gentlemen of good wurshippe, and Iustices of peace. *1583 STUBBES Anat. Abus.* i. (1879) 103 One dish or two of good wholesome meate was thought sufficient for a man of great worship to dyne withall. *1592 GREENE Upst. Courtier* F2, The other two... seemed meaner then himselfe, but yet Gentlemen of good worship. *1603 G. OWEN Pembrokehire* (1892) 12 It hath ben allwaies inhabited with diuerse Knights and gentlemen of greate worshippe.

†c. place of worship: a 'good house'. town of worship: an important town. *Obs.*

1484 MARG. PASTON in P. Lett. III. 314 Sweche dysports... as sche hadde seyn husyd in places of worschip ther as sche hatte beyn. *1494 in Househ. Ord.* (1790) 130 The said lordes going on foote in everie towne of worshippe.

5. a. With your or his: A title of honour, used in addressing or speaking of a person of note. In later use *spec.* as the title of a magistrate.

1548 GESTE Pr. Masse Ded., I... doo offre y^e same... to your worshipful mastership, not that I adiudge it a present, worthy your worship, but that [etc.]. *1557 Order of Hospitalis* B6b, Your worships... were then elected Governours of this said Hospital. *1570 G. HARVEY Letter-bk.* (Camden) 1 Your wurship is not ignorant that [etc.]. *1607 SHAKS. Timon* III. iv. 61 What does his easheer'd Worship mutter? *1631 HEYWOOD 1st Pt. Fair Maid of West* III. i. 28 Roughm. Ha, what will you draw? *Clem.* The best wine in the house for your worship. *1693 DRYDEN Persius* v. 111 Now Marcus Dama is his Worship's Name. *1722 DE FOE Relig. Courtsh.* i. ii. (1807) 59 Indeed I did not know your worship at first; I am sorry to see you out so late, and 't please your worship, and all alone. *1742 FIELDING J. Andrews* iv. v, He... arrived when the justice had almost finished his business. He... was acquainted that his worship would wait on him in a moment. *1768 Complete Letter-Writer* (ed. 12) 45 To P.S. Esq; High Sheriff of the County of Y. *Sir, your Worship.* *1773 GOLDSM. Stoops to Conq.* iv. i, Dig, I have got a letter for your worship. *1797 LAMB Lett. to Coleridge* 10 Jan., Is it a farm you have got? And what does your worship know about farming? *1837 DICKENS Pickw.* xxv, 'This here's Pickwick, your wash-up,' said Grummer. *Ibid.*, 'Muzzlele!' 'Your worship.' 'Open the front door.' 'Yes, your worship.' *1861 AGNES STRICKLAND Old Friends* Ser. II. 73 For which I humbly hopes your worship will be pleased to send him to Botany Bay. *1861 Hand-bk. Letter-writing* 63 To his Worship... E. C. Walton, Esq., Mayor of Manchester.

†b. Without personal pronoun. *Obs. rare.*

1606 WARNER Alb. Eng. xvi. cii. 404 If Variance hapt to fall, They went not to such Worships as like Tyrants men miscall. *1663 BARROW Serm.* (1687) I. xii. 171 The next in dignity to himself. (Though such an alliance would perhaps be thought derogatory to the Worships of our days).

†c. my worship: jocular for 'me', 'myself'. *Obs.*

1601 W. PERCY Cuckqueanes III. v. (Roxb.) 39 If I shewe you not such a peice of Hammer-craft, ... neuer giue you my worship credit hencefurb. *1668 in Verney Mem.* (1907) II. 223, I saw 3 good matches at Newmarket which pleased the king well, but not my worshipspe, for I gott no money by them. *1728 [DE FOE] Street-Robberies* 10 My Mother... got a Hand-Basket, into which... she put my Worship. *Ibid.* 26 She let him know that her Husband (meaning my Worship...) was out of town.

†6. Of things: Repute, worth, value. *Obs. rare.*

c 1200 Trin. Coll. Hom. 29 Wel wurð wunne be of wurðschipe swo hit be. *a 1300 Cursor M.* 8259 O worpsch was þis tre to wonder. *1398 TREvisa Barth. De P.R.* xvi. xcix. (1495) Miiij b/i Moost worshyp is in whyte glasse [Isidore xvi. xvi. 4 *maximus honor in candido vitro*].

II. †7. a. Respect or honour shown to a person or thing. *Obs.*

c 1000 ÆLFRIC Hept., On Old Test. (1922) 28 He heold his fæder on fullum wurðscipe þær. *c 1020 WULFSTAN Hom.* xxxiii. (1883) 163 Ealne þære bysmor... we gylðað mid wurðscype þam þe us scendað. *a 1122 O.E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1115, He his onfeng mid mycelan wurðscipe. *c 1200 ORMIN* 3925 Si Drihtin. Wurrpschipe & loff & wulderr. *c 1205 LAY.* 1211 Ich þe wulle huren mid wrhschipe hæzan. *a 1225 Ancr. R.* 68 Bereð wurðschipe þerto, uor þe holz sacrament þet 3e iseoð þer purh. *a 1300 Cursor M.* 12092 Til eldrin men wirscip to scau. *c 1369 CHAUCER Dethe Blanche* 1032 That I may of yow here sayne Worshyp or that ye come agayne. *1389 Eng. Gilds* (1870) 7 To bringe þe body in to þe place þider with the worschepe. *c 1400 Rule St. Benet* (Verse) 1950 A souerayn sal ger gestes kepe With honour & with gret wirchepe. *c 1420 Pol., Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 241 He salutyd his moder with gret worchepe. *1422 YONGE tr. Secreta Secret.* 181 And therfor grete honour, glorie, and Perpetuel virchipe, is to the Prynce. *1480 Cely Papers* (Camden) 54, I haue spokyn w^t Bongay and he spekys of yow myche whorschype. *1508 DUNBAR Flying* 103 Sen thow with wirschep wald sa fane be styld, Haill, souerane sen3eour! *1535 COVERDALE Apoc. Esther* xiii. ¶2 Thou wotest that I loue not the glory and worships of the vnrighteous. *1576 FLEMING Panopl. Epist.* 117, I pretermitted nothing, which might make for your aduancement... in respecte of the worship that might be ministred by wordes. *a 1604 HANMER Chron. Ireland* (1633) 70 So that they were then received with all worship.

†b. in, for or to (one's) worship: in honour of. Also with dat. *Obs.*

c 1175 Lamb. Hom. 5 Heo... nomen þa... blostmie and... bistrweden al þane weye him to wurpscipe. *a 1225 Ancr. R.* 30 Halewen þet ge luuieð best & mest, in hore wurðschipe siggeð oþer les, oþer mo. *c 1290 Magdalena* 338 in *S.E. Leg.* 472 þe Marie heo mauden wardein of heom... þe swete holie Maudeleyn in cristes wurthschipe, For heo was þe kyng of heouene leof and deore. *a 1300 Cursor M.* 111 In hir wirschip wald i bigyn A lastand warc apon to myn. *1338 R. BRUNNE Chron.* (1810) 17 In stede of kynges banere he did him bere þe eroice, In wirschip of Jhesu. *1387 TREvisa Higden* I. 93 Medus... cleped þe citee Media also, in worshippe of his moder. *1389 Eng. Gilds* (1870) 27 A bretherhode þer is ordened of barbres... in þe worschep of god and ys moder. *c 1430 Complaynt* 550 in Lydg. *Temple Glas* 66 In hir worshepe & memoyre, Was mad a laumpe of this ston. *c 1450 CAPGRAVE St. Aug.* Prol. 1 Than wil I... beginne þis werk, to þe worship of þis glorious doctour. *1465 Paston Lett.* II. 235, I wold make my doblet all worsted for worship of Norffolk. *1494 Cov. Leet Bk.* 558 Such Craftes... as bere 3erely charge in þis Cite to þe worship of the same. *1526 R. WHYTFORD Martiloge* 51 b, The dedicacyon of a chirche that saynt Boniface y^e pope halowed in the worship of our lady & of all martyrs. *1568 GRAFTON Chron.* II. 125 It is written at the length, and in most shewing maner, to their honour and worship.

†c. to do (one) worship: to show honour, pay respect or homage, to. *Obs.*

c 1205 LAY. 9828 Claudien... wes þi cudliche freond, þe dude þe þa wurhschipe. *c 1250 Gen. & Ex.* 2757 [Jethro's daughters] gunen him ðore tellen, Hu a junge man... ðewe and wursipe hem dede. *c 1375 Cursor M.* 5290 (Fairf.) He has me cast of alle my care, and done me worschepe. *1357 Lay Folks' Catech.* (T.) 206 Our gastly fadirs... tecbis us... til ilk man that worshipfull is, for to do worship aftir that it is. *14... Sir Beues* (C.) 1222 So moche worscheypp he hap for me ido. *c 1450 Life St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 7090 Kyng william in his 3ere thryd Worshipp to Robert comyn did. *c 1489 CAXTON Sonnes of Aymon* xiv. 320 Ye haue don to them soo grete worship. *1526 TINDALE Titus* ii. 10 That they maye do worshippe to the doctryne off god oure sauoure in all thynges. *a 1553 UDALL Royster D.* i. iv, Do your maister worship as ye haue done in time past. *1610 B. JONSON Alchemist* III. iv, That shirt may doe you More worship then you thinke. [1871 FREEMAN Norm. Cong. xvii. §3 IV. 78 To accompany the King on his voyage or simply to do him worship on his departure.]

†d. to have, or hold, in worship: to hold in honour. *Obs.*

c 1380 WYCLIF Serm. Sel. Wks. II. 67 For þe puple hadde Crist in worship as a prophete. *1387 TREvisa Higden* I. 429 Belles and staues [That] in worschipe men haues. *c 1400 MAUNDEV.* (Roxb.) ix. 34 þai hafe þat place in grete worshippe. *1450-80 tr. Secreta Secret.* iii. 6 That his philesofris... be had in worschipe and high recomendacioun. *Ibid.* xviii. 15 And euyrmore luke that thou holde alle thi lordis in gret worships as they ben of estate.

8. a. Reverence or veneration paid to a being or power regarded as supernatural or divine; the action or practice of displaying this by appropriate acts, rites, or ceremonies.

place of worship: see PLACE sb. 16.
a 1300 Cursor M. 5980 be folk... of egypte... mas to beistes þair wirscipe. *Ibid.* 5985 Thre ðaas gang... We most weind in to wildirness To mak vr lauerd his wirscip to. *c 1330 R.*

BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 7362 We [Saxons] haue Godes seeres, for whos wyrship we make auteres. c1350 *Leg. Rood* iii. 63 Oure angels went fra vs oway, Bifor god paire wirship to ma. c1400 *Rule St. Benet* 1141 þarfor þe rowle I wil reherce, How þai sal do wirchep alway, When þai to god sal sing or say. 1450-1530 *Myrr. Our Ladye* ii. 208 When theyre ioye ys not else but that worship and glory be gyuen vnto god. 1550 *Crowley Way to Wealth* 215 Doinge them dayly worships and reuerence in the temples. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 12 Lord, thow wilt haif. . . Wirship in Spirite and veritie. *Ibid.* 87 Quhilk is the trew wirship and rychteousnes That God requyris of mankynd. 1596 BARLOW *Three Serms.* i. 3 His presence in that temple so holy, so glorious, and appointed for his worship. 1641 J. BURROUGHS *Sions Joy* 53 The changers of Gods worship amongst the ten Tribes were wiser. 1644 (*title*) A Directory for The Publique Worship of God, Throughout the Three Kingdoms. 1662 STILLINGFEL. *Orig. Sacra* ii. iv. §7 Which Pliny takes notice of as a great part of the Christians worship. 1680 BURNET *Rochester* 53 He believed there should be no other Religious worship, but a general Celebration of that Being in some short Hymn. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 147 ¶4 As the matter of Worship is now managed, in Dissenting Congregations. 1759 ROBERTSON *Hist. Scot.* vii. Wks. 1813 I. 485 In some places scarce as many ministers remained as to perform the duties of religious worship. 1777 *Archaeologia* (1779) V. 197 The Church of Kirkdale was considered in Domesday-Book as the place of worship belonging to that manor. 1820 HAZLITT *Lect. Dram. Lit.* 20 He redeemed man from the worship of that idol, self. 1838 LYTTON *Leila* i. iv. The attitude that Nature dedicates to the worship of a God. 1876 MOZLEY *Univ. Ser.* vi. 129 To think that we know everything about God is to benumb and deaden worship; but mystical thought quickens worship. 1883 C. D. WARNER *Roundabout Journ.* 45 Protestant worship was forbidden in this region, houses of worship were pulled down, meetings for worship were forbidden.

b. trans. Veneration similar to that paid to a deity. *Obs.*

1838 MRS. BROWNING *To Bettine* 3 Upturning worship and delight. . . To his grand face, as women will. 1851 RUSKIN *Stones Ven.* (1874) I. i. 25 The dying city. . . obtained wider worship in her decrepitude than in her youth. 1893 *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 13/1 The General Assembly addressed James in terms of worship extraordinary to a republican ear.

9. a. With *a* and *pl.* A form or type of veneration or adoration; †a single instance or occasion of performing the acts associated with this.

1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D' Acosta's Hist. Indies* v. iii. 334 Virachocha, which helde the chiefe place amongst the worships which the Kings Inguas made. 1643 TRAPP *Comm. Gen.* xxxv. 1 The Church, in her Worships, is terrible as an army with banners. 1657 J. WATTS *Scribe*, etc. iii. To Rdr. *1 b, This Dipping of two new Sisters in a Pond of the Yard. . . being in publick, upon the Lords-day, and betwixt the Morning and Evening Worships, drew away much people thither. 1669 W. PENN in *Extr. St. Papers rel. Friends* iii. (1912) 282 The Pharisees, Esseans, Saducees &c had the free exercise of their distinct worships. 1687 *Proclam.* in *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2221/5 And likewise Indemnifying fully and freely all Quakers, for their Meetings and Worships. 1835 T. MITCHELL *Acham. of Aristoph.* Introd. p. xii, A faith, which. . . stood far indeed above the baser worships, which surrounded it. 1845-6 TRENCH *Huls. Lect.* Ser. ii. v. 217 Free from the more debasing admixtures of most. . . worships of heathendom. 1859 I. TAYLOR *Logic in Theol.* etc. 210 Continuing. . . to dispense the customary gratuities among the ministers of worships, which were still adhered to by large masses of the Roman people. 1906 A. E. WHATHAM in *Amer. Jnrl. Relig. Psychol.* II. 56 Asherah worship was a combination of two separate worships.

b. poet. An object of worship. *rare.*

1621 FLETCHER *Isl. Princess* II. vi. By that brightness That glides the world with light, by all our worships, . . . I will not rest.

III. 10. attrib. and Comb., as †worship-deed, †house, -music, service, -song; worship-worth, -worthy adjs.; †worship-willer, one who desires to be worshipped.

c1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 12770 But wold 3e, lord, do my rede, 3e scholde do a worship-dede. 15.. *Plowman's T.* i. 228 (Urry), Soche worship-willers mote ill fele. 1570-6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* 364 Then were the wisest of the people worship worthe. 1794 in *Jnrl. Friends' Hist. Soc.* (1918) 9 The Castle. . . with their Worship House adjoining is a fine Object. 1871 FORMAN *Living Poets* 363 This. . . offers positive existences as worship-worthy in the room of those ideas. 1884 *Chr. World Pulpit* 12 Nov. 309/2 This passage. . . indicates. . . the true nature of worship-song. 1884 PAYNE *1001 Nights* IX. 151 None is worshipworth save God alone. 1919 C. A. HARRIS *Brit. Music* 130 The Fathers of the Genevan School prohibited all worship-music except unisonous psalm-tunes. 1954 *Grove's Dict. Mus.* (ed. 5) VIII. 10/2 In the worship services of those groups among which the urban urge has been less evident, they [sc. gospel songs] have been immensely useful now for nearly a century. 1978 R. M. NIXON *Mem.* 538 On our first Sunday in the White House we held the first White House worship service in the East Room.

worship ('wɜːʃɪp), *v.* Forms: *a.* 4 *worþ*-, *worssipie*; 4-5 (6 *Sc.*) *worscipe*, 4-*schupe*, 5-6 *-schype* (6 *-schypen*); 4-5 *worship(e)n*, -*sship*-, -*shepe(n)*, 4-*shupe*; 4-5 *worschipe*, 5-*shippe*, 5-6 *-shypp*; 4 *worsip*, 4-5 (6 *Sc.*) *worschip* (5-*schyp*), 4-6 *worshyp*, 4-*worship*; 6 *woorship*, *Sc.* *wourschipe*; 3-5 *worchip* (5-*chep*, -*chyp*, -*chypyn*), 4-5 *worchipe* (5-*chepe*, -*chepyn*). *β.* 3 *wurðsupen*, *wursipe*, 5 *wurshepe*, -*schip*, -*shup*, -*chippe*, -*chep*, 6 *wurship*. *γ.* (Chiefly *north.* and *Sc.*) 4 *wyr*-, *wirschipe*, 5 *wir*-, *virschepe*; 4 *wirsc(h)ippe*, 5-*schuppe*; 4 *wirscip* (-*scep*), 4-5 *wirship* (6-*schep*, *virship*); 5 *wirchip* (-*chep*,

wyrchip. [Early ME. *wurp*-, *worpscipien*, *f. wurp*-, *worpscipe* WORSHIP *sb.*]

1. a. trans. To honour or revere as a supernatural being or power, or as a holy thing; to regard or approach with veneration; to adore with appropriate acts, rites, or ceremonies.

c1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 5 We understonden ure louerd on ure eðele bede, and wurðsupen him on ure edie dede. c1275 *XI Pains of Hell* 94 in O.E. *Misc.* 213 Hole cherche is a house of prayere, þe 3at of heuen crist dop hit calle, To worchip þer-in our saueour. a1300 *Cursor M.* 1937 Noe. . . did to rais an auter syth; He 3od to wirscippe godd als wis. *Ibid.* 22292 þat hali trinite. . . aght ouer-all wirscaped be. 1340 *Ayenb.* 5 þou ne sselst habbe god bote me ne worssipie ne serui. *Ibid.* 6 Zuiche byep þe ilke pet worssipeþ þe momenes. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 170 The Cronique. . . Seith that the gentils most of alle Worschipe hire and to hire calle. 1412-20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* II. 5796 And þei of Lewne worship Wlcanus, þe god of fyre. 1447 BOKENAM *Seyntys, Marg.* 153 And for she dede wurshepe Crist and loue. . . Hyr fadyr hyr hatyd. c1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xiv. 315, I come from Ierusalem, where I have worshypd the holy grave. 1529 MORE *Dyaloge* IV. Wks. 253/1 Euery man well woteth how reuerently hym selfe worshypped both our lady and all saintes. 1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* i. v. 8 To driue farre away the true God whome we ought to feare and worship. 1599 NASHE *Lenten Stuffe* 53 The King was as superstitious in worshipping those miraculous herrings as the fisherman. 1639 J. CLARKE *Paræm.* 12 Men use to worship the rising sunne. 1647 COWLEY *Mistr.*, *Leaving me* 6 They worshippt many a Beast, and many a Stone. 1680 MORDEN *Geog. Rect.*, *Poland* (1685) 74 There is no City in the World where God is Worshipped after so many different Ways, unless in Amsterdam. 1743 J. MORRIS *Serm.* vii. 200 The true God, whom their fathers had worshipped. 1756-7 tr. *Keyser's Trav.* (1760) III. 328 The virgin Mary, with the infant Jesus, and St. Mary Magdalene worshipping him. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VII. 191 We may say. . . that the most frightful of reptiles is worshipped by the most. . . barbarous of mankind. 1847 HELPS *Friends in C.* i. vii. 102 Men have worshipped some fantastic being for living alone in a wilderness. 1876 L. STEPHEN *Engl. Th.* 18th Cent. i. v. 293 The God whom Butler worships is, in fact, the human conscience deified.

b. trans. To regard with extreme respect or devotion; to 'adore'.

Phr. to *worship the ground* (one) *walks or treads on*. 1720 MRS. MANLEY *Power of Love* i. (1741) 126 Why may I not know and worship my Benefactor? 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* XI. ii, Men are strangely inclined to worship what they do not understand. 1837 LOCKHART *Scott* IV. ii. 63 Under the shadow of the genius that he had worshipped almost from boyhood. 1848 A. BRONTË *Tenant of Wildfell Hall* II. viii. 147 As to looking askance to another woman—he's safe enough for that. . . he worships the very ground I tread on. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vii. II. 258 Lady Churchill was loved and even worshipped by Anne. 1851 KINGSLEY *Yeast* x, She had worshipped intellect, and now it had become her tyrant. 1854 DICKENS *Hard Times* III. iii. 287 There are ladies—born ladies. . . who next to worship the ground I walk on. 1856 DICKENS, etc. *Wreck Golden Mary* ii. 19, I worshipped the very ground she walked on! 1889 'J. S. WINTER' *Mrs. Bob* iv, Our mother was the sweetest. . . of women—Maimie and I worshipped her. 1906 *Lit. World* 15 Nov. 508/2 His wife simply worshipped him.

c. absol. To engage in worship; to perform, or take part in, the act of worship.

a1703 BURKITT *On N.T. Matt.* iv. 9 If to worship before the devil, be to worship the devil, then to worship before the image, is to worship the image. 1824 LAMB *Elia* Ser. II. *Blakesmoor*, I. . . knew every nook and corner, wondered and worshipped everywhere. 1860 WARTER *Seaboard* II. 462 It distresses me sadly to see the effect of not worshipping where good men of all ages have been used to worship. 1889 'J. S. WINTER' *Mrs. Bob* ii, Ever since the first day. . . he had persistently and abjectly worshipped at the shrine of Mrs. Lovelace. 1908 R. BAGOT *A. Cuthbert* vi. 52 The parish church in which the Cuthbert family had worshipped.

†2. a. trans. To honour; to regard or treat with honour or respect. *Obs.*

c1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 511 Siðen sal. . . chircches ben wursiped mor and mor. a1300 *Cursor M.* 6474 Fader and moder þou wirship ai. *Ibid.* 28141 Ic hafe coueitid in blis to be for-þi þat alle suld wirschippe me. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 163 Richard curteise was. . . Forgaþ alle þe trespas, wirschipid himself aboue. . . Wirschippid him at reson, right as himself was digne. 1366 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. vii. 94, I wol Worschupe þer-Wip Treupe in my lyue. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 7 The privilege of regalie was sauf, and al the baronie Worschipped in his astat. c1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 39 þai war fayr yong men. . . and þai war wurshuppid & had in grete dayntie with euvre man. c1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xxv. 538 Worship your better, & love your neighbour. 1530 PALSGR. 784/2, I worshyp a man, *Je honnore*. . . I have ever worshyppid hym for his great vertues. 1561 T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtier* III. (1577) Qivb, A woman knowing hir selfe so muche beloued and worshipped many yeares together. . . at length is brought to loue him. 1579 LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 120, I. . . will honour those alwayes that be honest, and worship them. . . whom I shall know to be worthy in their liuinge.

†b. To treat with signs of honour or respect; to salute, bow down to. *Obs.*

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. xi. 168, I grette þe goode mone as þe gode wyf me tauste, And afterward his wyf, I worshupet hem bope. c1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 62 And þis Putiphar & his wife come & mett hym, and wurschippid hym. c1450 LOVELICH *Grail* lii. 480 Thanne his Meyne Aysens hym gonne gon, and hym worschepid Everichon. 1523 BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cxlvi. 175 When he had thus sayde, euery man worshypped hym, and dyuers kneled downe at his fete. 1535 COVERDALE *1 Kings* ii. 19 The kyng stode vp, and wente to mete her, and worshipped her. a1591 H. SMITH *Serm.* (1594) 228 If they doe so admire me in sikkes, how would they cap me. . . and worship mee, if I were in veluets? 1737 WHISTON *Josephus, Antiq.* vii. ix. §5 When he had worshipped Absalom, he withal wished that his Kingdom might last a long time.

†c. To honour with gifts, etc. *Obs.*

1387 TREvisa *Higden* II. 113 Offa. . . worshipped [L. *insignivit*] Aldulf, bisschop of Lichefeld, wip þe archebisschoppes pal. *Ibid.* III. 69 þe kyng of Babilon worschepede [L. *honoravit*] þis Ezechias wip giftes. c1450 *Lay-Folks Mass-Bk.*, *Bidding Prayer* iii. 71 We sal pray specially for all paes pat wirchips þis kirke owther with buke or bell, uestment or chales. 1475 *Bk. Noblesse* (Roxb.) 84 So that none of us reserve and kepe to his propre use but ringis and uouches for to worship his wiffe and children withalle. 1482 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 87, I suppose. . . that oure lord dyd worschype hys seruante with seche benefetyts to geue oþer example.

†3. To invest with, raise to, honour or repute; to confer honour or dignity upon. *Obs.*

1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 330 At London is his heued, his quarters ere leued, in Scotland spred, To wirship þer iles. c1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* I. 286 þe manheod of Crist is a margarite pat worship þis Chirche and confort þe mennis hertis. a1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula* 4 The excercise of bokes worshippeþ a leche. *Ibid.* 38 Sich pronosticacion. . . shal worshippe þe bisynes of þe leche. c1450 BURGH *Secrees* 2326 Lyke as a Robe fayr of greet Rychesse, Worshippeth the body of a mighty kyng, So fair language Worshippeth a lettir with good endityng. c1530 *Songs, Carols*, etc. (E.E.T.S.) 111 She had a-went, she had worshipped all her kyn. a1591 H. SMITH *Serm.* (1594) 337 He gapes for a phrase that. . . he may haue one figure more to grace and worship his tale. 1601 A. MUNDAY *Downf. Earl Huntington* i. iii. B3, You haue dishonoured mee, I worship you, You. . . Unto a Iustice place I did preferre, Where you vniustly haue my tenants rackt.

worshipa'bility. *rare.* [f. next.] Capability of being worshipped.

1812 COLERIDGE *Lit. Rem.* (1836) I. 378, I commend the modern Unitarians for their candour in giving up the possible worshipability of Christ.

worshipable ('wɜːʃɪpəb(ə)l), *a.* [f. WORSHIP *v.* + -ABLE.]

†1. Entitled to honour or respect; honourable, worshipful. *Obs.*

c1407 LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 3511 Thy disposicion Ordeyned had the table By lyklyhede of high degre And of estate ful worshipable. c1410 — *Life Our Lady* (MS. Ashm. 39 lf. 94 b), Se howe lowely in a stall or stabill howe that she satte this lady worshipabill. 1426 — *De Guil. Pilgr.* 7724 A Gorgor off Sobyrnesse, The wych Armure ys profytable, To alle folks worshopable.

2. Capable of being worshipped.

1840 CARLYLE *Heroes* i. (1858) 196 Nature is still divine, . . the Hero is still worshipable. 1857 P. FREEMAN *Princ. Div. Serv.* II. 173 A worshopable Presence of Christ, resulting from their consecration. 1883 *American* VI. 7 Woman's being is to him fairly worshipable.

worshipful ('wɜːʃɪpʊl), *a.* (*sb.*, *adv.*). Forms: *a.* 4 *worþssipul*; 4 *worshup*, 4-5 *worschip*-, *worschep*-, (4 *worsship*-), 5 *worchip*-, 4-*worship*-, 5-6 *worshypful*, *Sc.* *wourschipe*-, 6 *woorshipfull*, etc. *β.* 5 *wurschipe*-, -*chep*-, 5-6 *-shipful* (l. *γ.* 5 *wir*-, *wyrship*-, etc. [f. WORSHIP *sb.*])

1. Of things: Notable or outstanding in respect of some (good) quality or property; distinguished, imposing; reputable, honourable. *Now arch.*

a1300 *E.E. Psalter* lxxi. 14 Worschepfulle [L. *præclarum*] þe name of þa Bifore hime it sal be swa. 1340 *Ayenb.* 80 Vor uirtue is ping wel worþssipul, lostual and uremool. 1357 *Lay-Folks Mass-Bk.* App. ii. 119, I beleve that the moost worshipful sacrament of the auter is Crystis body in fourme of bred. 1388 WYCLIF *Gen.* xxviii. 17 Hou worshipful [L. *terribilis*] is this place! 1398 TREvisa *Barth. De P.R.* xiv. xlv. (Tollem. MS.) With his comynge pertu oure Lorde made þis Mount [Tabor] worshipful [L. *commendabilem*]. c1450 *Merlin* v. 85 He. . . seide that so high and wurschippul a-mendes dide neuer a lorde to his man. c1450 LOVELICH *Merlin* 6815 In the most worscheppul and reuerent gyse they hym beryeden as they cowde devyse. 1479 *York Memo. Bk.* (Surtees) I. 171 The mare of this said wirshupfull cite for time beyng. 1508 FISHER *Penit. Ps.* cii. Wks. (1876) 189 He shall gyue vs power to preche. . . whiche shall be a very worshypfull offyce. 1560 PILKINGTON *Expos. Aggeus* (1562) 182 They shall finde moe worshipful names geuen to the preachinge minister, then to any one sorte of men. 1575 LANEHAM *Lett.* (1871) i, I am placed at Court her (as yee wot) in a worshipfull room. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* 175 When this right worshipful title [of knighthood] was by the Prince conferred upon one. a1661 FULLER *Worthies, Suff.* (1662) 65 His Posterity still flourish in a Worshipful equipage at Nacton. 1687 *Reflect. on Hind & Panther* 34 No Romance can furnish us with such pleasant and worshipful Tales. 1826 SCOTT *Woodst.* ii. Will he give us the remains of his worshipful and economical house-keeping? 1871 FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* xxi. IV. 626 Whether standing or sitting, his look was worshipful and kingly. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Deronda* xxxvii, Isn't that better than painting a piece of staring immodesty and calling it by a worshipful name?

absol. a1871 GROTE *Eth. Fragm.* v. (1876) 176 Aristotle distributes good things into three classes—the admirable or worshipful [*τὰ τίμα*]—the praiseworthy—the potential.

2. Of persons: Distinguished in respect of character or rank; entitled to honour or respect on this account. *Now arch.*

a1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xxviii. 4 Konyng that makis men worshipful. 1357 *Lay Folks' Catech.* (T.) 205 Ilk man that worshipfull is. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 182 And ek so worshipful a wif, The daughter of an Emperour, To wedde it schal be gret honour. c1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 3147 A worshipfulle woman in þat contre po dwelt. 1450-80 tr. *Secreta Secret.* lviii. 34 þus shalt thou be holden wys and worshipfulle for thi governance. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* x. viii. 425 Syr Tristram that is the worshipfullest knyght that now is luyngye. *Ibid.* xvi. iii. 668 Of a moche more worshypfuller mans hand myghte I not dye. c1530 *Prov.* in *Pol., Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 58 A nobyll and a worshipfull

hert nevyr askyth of womens dedys. **1555** EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 272 Wyse & woorschypful men experte in nauigations. **1579** W. WILKINSON *Confut. Fam. Love* To Rdr. 1b, The answer... beyng intercepted by my worshipfull frend, came not into my handes. **1610** HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* 199 Small townlets... which have given surnames to ancient and worshipfull families. **1632** LITHGOW *Trav.* ix. 396, I encountered with a Worshipfull English Gentleman Mr. Stydolfte Esquier of his Maiesties body. **1655** FULLER *Ch. Hist.* ix. 197 Edwin Sands, Arch-Bishop of Yorke, born in Lancashire of worshipfull Parentage. **1819** MISS MITFORD in *L'Estrange Life* II. 52 Oh! what a delicious painter of mind and body is that worshipful Master Aubrey! **1845** CARLYLE *Cromwell* Let. ccxvii. (1871) IV. 239 If not the noblest and worshipfulest of all Englishmen, at least the strongest and terriblest.

†b. Applied to Bede, = VENERABLE *a.* I. *Obs.*

14.. ? LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 1583 Behynde all these was worshipfull Beede. *c* **1450** *Compend. Olde Treat.* (Arb.) 175 Worshipfull Bede in his first booke telleth [etc.]. **1483** CAXTON *Golden Leg.* 411/1 He is not called of holy chyrche Saynt bede but woorschypful bede.

3. a. As an honorific title for persons or bodies of distinguished rank or importance: formerly used very widely, but now restricted to the livery companies and freemasons' lodges and their masters. *right worshipful* is applied to mayors.

1398 Test. Ebor. (Surtees) III. 316 Y... by for yow hier, woorschepful fader in God, and lord, Richard, by the grace of God erche bysshop of York, ... make avowe [etc.]. **1405** *Rolls of Parlt.* III. 605/1 To comend... with the Wyrshipfull Prince Robert the King of Scotland, and his Conseil. **1426** in *Surtees Misc.* (1890) 10 Vnto his wirshipfull Mair, ... and all pe wirshipfull Counsell of pe cite of York. **1473** *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 79/1 The fundation of that worshipfull Fader William Wykeham, sumtyme Bisshop of Wynchestre. **1578** T. NICHOLAS tr. *Cortes' Conq. W. India* (1596) Ep. Ded., Whilest I abode... in the Isle of Palma, in affaires of merchandize for the worshipfull Thomas Lock deceased. **1605** CAMDEN *Rem. Ded.* 1 To the Right Worshipfull, Worthy and Learned Sir Robert Cotton. **1615** R. COCKS *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 48 The Worshipfull Companys letters. **1639** J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Part Summers Trav.* 20 The right worthy worshipfull Knight Sir Paul Neale. **1641** W. S. MORE's *Edw. V* Ded., To the Right Worshipfull Sir Iohn Lenthall Knight. **1720** A. PETRIE *Rules Depoym.* (1877) 79 The Manner of directing of your Letters... To the Right Worshipfull Lady M.S... To the Worshipful Lady A.S. **1732** POPE *Hor. Satires* II. ii. 75 How pale, each Worshipful and Rev'rend guest Rise from a Clergy, or a City feast! **1756** C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* III. 286, I thanked... his worshipful brethren of the Council. **1768** *Complete Letter-Writer* (ed. 12) 46 To the Master and Wardens of the Worshipful Company of Mercers. **1848** DICKENS *Dombey* lvii, A dusty old beadle... who has something to do with a Worshipful Company who have got a Hall in the next yard. **1849** JAMES WOODMAN ii, Sir Charles Weinants, a right worshipful gentleman also. **1876** *Law Rep.* 2 *Probate Div.* 382 A certain Cause now pending in our Consistory Court, before the Worshipful Thomas Hutchinson Tristram, ... our Vicar General.

b. Used in forms of address, as *worshipful sir*, (*right*) *worshipful master*, etc.

1425 *Paston Lett.* I. 19 Right worthy and woorschepfull Sir, I recommaunde me to yow, [etc.]. **1440** *Corr. etc.* *Coldingham Priory* (Surtees) 114 Wirshipfull sir I comend me to 3owe. *c* **1440** MARG. PASTON in *P. Lett.* I. 42 Ryth reverent and woerschepful husbon. *c* **1455** BEKYNTON *Corr.* (Rolls) II. 342 [To Henry, Duke of Somerset, begins] High mighty Prince and my right worshipful and good lord. **1473** *Paston Lett.* Suppl. (1901) 144 Ryght wyrshypfull and my ryght tendre modre, I recommaunde me to yow. **1542** UDALL in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 2 Right worshipfull and my singlar good Maister. *a* **1592** GREENE *Alicida* (1617) Ded. A 3, To the Right Worshipfull, Sir Charles Blount, Knight. *Ibid.*, So (right worshipfull) after your returne from the Low Countries, [etc.]. **1681** OTWAY *Soldier's Fort.* III. i, Her Ladyship, Right-worshipful, is pleas'd not to be at home. **1768** *Complete Letter-Writer* (ed. 12) 48 Justices of the Peace, and Mayors, are stiled Right Worshipful. **1818** SCOTT *Rob Roy* ix, 'Thanks, most worshipful,' returned Miss Vernon. **1843** LYTTON *Last Bar.* i. i, It shall not be my fault if I do not, though but a humble headman to your worshipful Mastership, help to make them so. **1861** *Dict. Daily Wants* s.v. *Addresses*, The Mayors of all Corporations, with the Sheriffs, Aldermen, and Recorder of London, are stiled *Right Worshipful*; and the Aldermen and Recorder of other Corporations, as well as Justices of the Peace, *Worshipful*. **1906** *Complete Letter-writer* 21 A Mayor is addressed as The Worshipful the Mayor of—; in a few cities as 'Right Worshipful'.

c. *absol.* (chiefly pl.) or as *sb.* In later use *spec.* a magistrate.

c **1450** MS. *Trin. Coll. Camb. R.* 3. 19 lf. 170b, Worshipfull and dyscrete that here present be, I wyll you tell a tale, two or thre. *c* **1460** J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 655 þan durst y do my devoire with any worshipfulle to be wonnyng. **1536** in *Lett. Suppress. Monasteries* (Camden) 129 As by the reporte of dyvers woorschypfulles... yt ys to us openly declared. **1565** *Child-Marriages* (1897) 49 As he hard it reported by diuerse worshipfull and others. **1579** W. WILKINSON *Confut. Fam. Love* 30b, Hauyng... deuced some Justices of Peace, and other woorschypfull of cuntry, where they dwell. **1595** *Churchw. Acc. St. Marg. Westm.* (Nichols 1797) 24 When the worshipfull of the parish... went the perambulation to Kensington. **1806** *Spirit Publ. Jnls.* X. 213 Anon the day of trial comes, The Worshipfuls were on their bums, And all the court in solemn silence sat.

†4. Showing or bringing honour or distinction to a person; reputable or honourable for one. *Obs.*

c **1380** WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 14 And 3if þei seyn þat grete chirchis ben woorschypful to god [etc.]. *c* **1400** *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 46 þer is no þing more woorschypful to a leche... þan to kepe a lyme woundid fro swellynge. **1455** *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 325/1 Craftes which be convenient, wurshipfull and accordyng for Gentil wymmen, and oþer wymmen of

wurship. ? **1472** *Paston Lett.* Suppl. (1901) 143 That shuld not be wurcheppful for you; for men shull not than set be you. **1474** CAXTON *Chesse* II. v. (1883) 63 For he had oppynyon that hit was as worshipfull and fittyng to a kynge to pardone as to punyssh.

5. Imbued with the spirit of worship or veneration.

1809 W. TAYLOR in Robberds *Mem.* II. 274, I should have been more humble, panegyric, worshipful. **1840** *Tait's Mag.* VII. 3 The Whigs... are more worshipful of that perfection of wisdom, the glorious British constitution. *a* **1861** T. WOOLNER *My Beautiful Lady, Night* ix, Or kneels she worshipful beside her bed. **1891** HARDY *Tess* xxxi, He would sometimes catch her large, worshipful eyes... looking at him from their depths.

6. Deserving or capable of being worshipped; worshipable.

1872 BROWNING *Fifine* xxxii, Obey Implicitly, nor pause to question, to survey Even the worshipful! **1901** *Athenaeum* 19 Jan. 72/3 The theory of transmigration of ancestral souls into worshipful plants and animals.

†7. *adv.* = next. *Obs. rare.*

1470 *Paston Lett.* Suppl. (1901) 135 It is a fowle slaunder that he was so wurcheppful beried... and so litill do for hym sithen.

'worshipfully, *adv.* Now *rare*. Forms: *a.* 4-5 *worschipp-*, 5 *worschyppe-*, *worssep-*, *worschipp-*, 5-6 *worschyp-* (5 *warshyp-*), 6 *worschyp-*, *woorshipfully*, etc.; 4 *worchipfulli*, *worchepefulleke*. *β.* 4 *wurschyp-*, 5 *wursheppfully*. *γ.* 4 *wirship-*, *wirshyp-*, 4-5 *wirschip-*, 5 *wirchyp-*, *wyrshipfully*. [f. prec. + -LY².]

†1. With due honour; with words, acts, or attentions, expressive of esteem or regard. Now *arch.*

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 9897 þat y pys wrpy sacrament mowe begynne, And wurschypfully par-of to speke. **1357** *Lay Folks' Catech.* (T.) 186 That we neuen noght his name but worshipfully. **1389** *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 57 þan xal ilk a broper... comyn and gon wit þe cors to cherche, worchepefulleke. *c* **1400** LOVE *Bonavent. Mirr.* (1907) 248 Oure lady and hir susters and Maudeleyn rescyeued hem worshipfully with knelyng and lowe bowynge to the erthe. **1447** BOKENAM *Seyntys, Marg.* 872 Fro whens... they come to... a relygyous place... wher wurschepfully Austyn was receyued. *c* **1500** *Melusine* i. 10 It is grett shame to me... that I ne doo you to be conueyed worshipfully through my land. **1535** COVERDALE *Ecclus.* xlvii. 10 He ordeyned to kepe the holy daies worshipfully, and that the solempne feastes... shulde be honorably holden. **1579** TWYNE *Phis. agst. Fortune* II. xliii. 219b, Thou oughtest eyther to speake woorschypfully of thy father, or els to holde thy peace. **1859** TENNYSON *Elaine* 1319 It will be to thy worship, as my knight, ... To see that she be buried worshipfully. **1872** — *Gareth & L.* 809.

†2. In such a way as to confer honour or dignity, or to make a good appearance. *Obs.*

c **1330** R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 12462 He schulde set hit most woorschypfully, ffor he wolde vrlie his pane wyppal. *c* **1350** Will. *Palerne* 5157 God has þe noust for-gete... for woorschypfulli artou wedded to welde a kinges sone. *c* **1400** MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) vi. 20 He gers þam be kepted honestly and woorschypfully... þan sall scho be... bawmed and woorschypfully cledde. **1448** HEN. VI *Will* in Willis & Clark *Cambridge* (1886) I. 378 To thetenth that diuine seruice shal mowe be doon therin woorschypfully vnto the honour of god. *a* **1450** Le *Morte Arth.* 1117 Woorschypfully we shulle hyr lede into the palyis and bery her so. **1535** COVERDALE *Neh.* iii. 20 After him buylded Baruc the sonne of Sabai the other pece woorschypfully & costly. **1577** tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 42 The wisdom of Salomon, is woorschypfully thought of throughout the whole compasse of the world. **1606** DEKKER *Seven Deadly Sins* Wks. (Grosart) II. 38 Woorschypfully is this Lord of Limbo attended, for Knights themselues follow close at his heeles.

†3. So as to obtain or deserve honour or praise; worthily. *Obs.* (or *arch.*)

1439 E.E. *Wills* (1882) 127 If she gouerne hir woorschypfully. **1450-80** tr. *Secreta Secret.* iv. 8 If a kyng wolle regne woorschypfully, it bihouyth him neyver to haue... skarste ne fool large. **1470-85** MALORY *Arthur* iv. iv. 123 The thyrd... is wel to be one of the knyghtes of the round table... for many tymes he hath done ful woorschypfully. **1485** *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 336/1 Charges, which must be kept and borne Woorschypfully and Honourably. *a* **1500** Bale's *Chron.* in *Six Town Chron.* (1911) 141 They woorschypfully ruled and governed. *a* **1529** SKELTON *Col. Cloute* 914 To take on hande Woorschepfully to withstande Sch temporal warre and bate. **1545** in *Cal. St. Papers* *Irel.* Pref. 6 The said Wyllame foughtt styll manly and woorschypfully. *a* **1661** FULLER *Worthies, Berks* (1662) 109 A family of his alliance is still woorschypfully extant in this County. **1859** TENNYSON *Elaine* 490 Then Sir Lavaine did well and woorschypfully.

†4. *Ironically*. Finely, properly. *Obs.*

1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* III. Wks. 463/2 Is not this conclusion woorschypfully deduced vpon scripture?

5. In a spirit of worship.

1886 RUSKIN *Præterita* I. i. 39 Gleaning woorschypfully what fragmentary illustrations of the history... of the family might fall from their lips.

worshipfulness ('wɜːʃɪpfulnɪs). Also 4 *worschupefulness*, 5 *worschipfulness*, 6 *woorship-*. [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The quality of being worshipful, in various senses.

a **1400** *Minor Poems* fr. *Vernon MS.* 501/292 Vppon a day for woorschupefulness þe Pope wolde synge a Messe. **1482** *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 82 Y saw al seche [= such] with a special certen woorschipfulness put to ful softe and esy peyns. **1556** J. HEYWOOD *Spider & Fly* xxxix. 16 Honestnes is vertuousnes, and woorschipfulness Due where honestnes, or vertues, bearth rout. **1628** FORD *Lover's Mel.* v. i, I owe all Sir-Reuerence to your Right Woorschipfulness. **1877** BLACKIE *Wise Men* 137 We may not confront the polished and blazoned worshipfulness of the

Ten Hundred, with our blank smocks and uncurried roughness. **1887** FLOR. WARDEN *Scheherazade* III. 168 Distant awe and reverent worshipfulness.

†'worshipfully. *Obs.* *nonce-wd.* [f. WORSHIPFUL *a.* + -TY¹.] Worshipfulness; in quot. as a title.

1589 NASHE *Countercaffe* A iij b, To be brefe with your woorschypfultie, Pasquill hath posted very dilligently ouer all the Realme.

†'worshiphead. *Obs. rare.* In 4 *worþssiphede*. [f. WORSHIP *sb.* + -HEAD.] Dignity, rank.

1340 *Ayenb.* 49 þis zenne anheþeþ and loþeþ by the hodes and þe woorschippheade.

worshipless ('wɜːʃɪplɪs), *a.* [See -LESS.]

1. Not practising worship; unworshipping.

1765 J. BROWN *Chr. Jnrl.* 231 What mad-men are these, who thrust themselves... into wicked, worshipless families.

2. Destitute of worship; unworshipped.

1815 BYRON *Hebrew Mel.* *On Jordan's Banks* 12 How long by tyrants shall thy land be trod? How long thy temple worshipless, Oh God? **1839** BAILEY *Festus* xxxiii. (1848) 356 Who gave their names to stars which still roam round The skies, all worshipless. **1842** *Blackw. Mag.* LII. 455 Long has the god been worshipless!—To prayer! *c* **1914** H. S. HOLLAND in S. Paget *Mem.* (1921) 300 [He felt the Cathedral services] rather limp and worshipless.

†'worshiply, *a.* *Obs. rare.* In 4 *worþssiplich*. [f. WORSHIP *sb.* + -LY¹.] Honourable.

1340 *Ayenb.* 80 Me can todele pri manere guodes, guod woorschipplich, guod lostuol, and guod unemuol.

†'worshiply, *adv.* *Obs.* Forms: *a.* 4 *worþschiplich*(e), *worschip-*, *worssip-*, *worshepliche*; 4 *worshepeli*, -ly, 4 *worschip-*, 5 *worschyp-*, *worshup-*, *worshep-*, 5- *worshiply* (-lie, etc.). *β.* 5 *wurchiply*, 7 *wurshiply*. *γ.* 4 *wirshiply*, 5 *wyrchply*. [Irreg. f. WORSHIP *sb.* + -LY².]

= WORSHIPFULLY *adv.* (in various senses).

a **1300** *Cursor M.* 27498 Wirshiply, i thanc i þe, þat suilk a simple wrought als me Did be broght vnto preist-hade. **13..** *Guy Warw.* (A.) 131 His lordis honour he hclde woorschipliche, & defended it wele & hardiliche. *Ibid.* 5040 þan y-herberwed weren he Woorschipliche in þat cite. **1338** R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 81 To 3orke þe[i] com aþeyn, & wrouht þer woorschply... a Kirk of our Lady. **1340** *Ayenb.* 54 þo þet libbeþ be hyre onestete: þe ilke... libbeþ woorschipliche to þe wordle. *c* **1400** *Brut* xxii. 26 þis Belyn duelled þo in pees, and woorshepliche him helde amonges his barons. **1459** *Paston Lett.* I. 494 My Lord Chancellor wold that my master schuld be beryed wurchply. **1475** *Bk. Noblesse* (Roxb.) 69 The whiche king Cirus received the saide Lizarder full worshiplie in his palais. **1489** SKELTON *Death Earl Northumbld.* 186 Barons and those knyghtes bold... Whom he as lord woorschply mainteyned. **1601** J. DEE *Diary* (Camden) 64 He used me and reported of me very freely and woorschply.

worshipped ('wɜːʃɪpt), *ppl. a.* [f. WORSHIP *v.*]

Regarded with worship; adored, venerated.

1757 DYER *Fleece* II. 361 To Agra, the proud throne Of India's worshipp'd prince, whose lust is law. **1803** VISCT. STRANGFORD *Poems of Camoens* Sonn. xviii. (1810) 104 Dear band, which once adorn'd my worshipp'd fair. **1867** AUG. J. E. WILSON *Vashti* xxviii, Heaven shield you, my worshipped one! **1871** SMILES *Charac.* ii. (1876) 49 The poet himself was... interred beside her worshipped grave.

absol. **1860** N. Brit. Rev. XXXII. 141 The Worshipped and the worshipper are there.

worshipper ('wɜːʃɪpə(r)). Also 4 *worschiper*, *wirshiper*, 5 *wor-*, 6 *woorshypper*, 7, 9 *wirshiper*. [f. WORSHIP *v.* + -ER¹.]

1. One who worships. Freq. const. *of* (the deity or thing worshipped).

c **1380** WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 88 þes wickid ydolatrours, woorschiperis of false goddis. **1382** — 2 *Macc.* i. 19 Prestis that thanne weren woorschiperis of God. — *Acts* xvii. 22 Men of Athenis, bi alle thingis I se þou as veyn woorschiperis. **1526** *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 168 God... is a spiryte; and they that be his true woorschippers, must woorschyp hym in spiryte. *a* **1533** BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) P iij b, He was a greate loue of his goddis, and woorschyper of theym. **1549** CHEKE *Hurt Sedit.* (1569) Mj, Such fansies lighted nowe in Papistes, and irreligious mens heades... delighteth in true woorschippers hurt. **1612** *Two Noble K.* v. i. 41 True woorschippers of Mars. **1631** GOUGE *God's Arrows* III. §3, 187 This immortal fewde against woorschippers of the true God. **1756-7** tr. *Keyser's Trav.* (1760) I. 58 The ready imitation of his [Odin's] superstitious woorschippers. **1794** R. J. SULLIVAN *View Nat.* I. 141 Fire, being the purest body in nature, its woorschippers supposed that it ought to be honoured with the purest kind of devotion. **1828** SCOTT *F.M. Perth* xxxii, The good father... is already a woorschiper of the Deity whom I have served. **1843** CARLYLE *Past & Pr.* II. iii, All men, especially all women, are born woorschipers. **1868** FITZGERALD *Omar* ii, When all the Temple is prepared within, Why lags the drowsy Woorschiper outside? **1876** J. PARKER *Paraclete* i. vii. 108 The woorschippers of Intellect may not know that they are woorschippers of God under another name.

b. One engaged in, or taking part in, divine worship.

1825 SCOTT *Talism.* ix, Did you, or did you not, know any lady amongst that band of woorschippers? **1855** MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xiii. III. 252 The woorschippers were dispersed, beaten, and pelted with snowballs. **1914** J. MACKAY *Ch. Highlands* v. 107 Few woorschippers could be got together.

2. *transf.* One who regards a person or thing with feelings akin to worship; a devotee.

1647 COWLEY *Mistr.*, *Her Unbelief* 10 Thou sit'st, and dost not see, nor smell, nor hear Thy constant zealous woorschiper. **1694** tr. *Milton's Lett.* *State* 142 All your

Enterprizes... in asserting the Liberty of the Gospel and the Worshippers of it. 1788 CROWE *Levesdon Hill* 3 And, vested so, Thou dost appear more gracefully array'd Than Fashion's worshippers. 1792 ALMON *Anecd. W. Pitt* I. xx. 331 Notwithstanding the state of modern depravity, Truth will continue to have her worshippers. 1805 SCOTT *Last Minstrel* v. i. When the Poet dies, Mute Nature mourns her worshipper. 1829 LYTTON *Devereux* II. v. A worshipper of the 'Glass of Fashion', rather than of 'the Mould of Form'. 1847 S. HICKSON in *Westm. Rev.* XLVII. 60 We can only conclude, worshipper of Shakspeare as he is, that he prejudged the question. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xvii. IV. 85 Sarsfield was... too honourable a gentleman to abuse his immense power over the minds of his worshippers.

worshipping ('wɜːʃɪpɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. WORSHIP *v.* + -ING¹.]

1. The action of offering worship (to a deity). 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 9372 But yn alle here moste gladynge, To fals goddys þey made worschypynge. c1315 SHOREHAM II. 4 þou opene myne lyppen, lord, . . . And my moupe . . . Schel þyne worschypynge sende. 14.. *Pol., Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 174 Angels alle in his presence Ar vndyr thyn obedyence, And do the worschypynge! 1450-1530 *Myrr. Our Ladye* II. 195 They felle . . . by ydolatrie from the worschypynge of very god. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 36 The abhominable synne of ydolatrie, y^t is the worschypynge of false goddesses. 1535 COVERDALE *Wisd. Contents*, The worschippinge of ymages. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* IV. xxxvi. 158 b, [They left] the worschipping and calling on their false gods. 1623 COCKERAM II. A worschipping of Idols, *Idolatrie*. 1851 MRS. BROWNING *Casa Guidi Wind* II. 375 For . . . virtue, and God's better worschipping.

b. With a and pl. An instance of this; a form or variety of worship.

1450-1530 *Myrr. Our Ladye* II. 197 They.. were wretchedly ledde to the worschypynge of Idols. 1549 OLDE *Erasm. Par. Ephes.* Prol. Cijj, To walke . . . as it were before the porche of the temple, . . . to expell and kepe out all false worschypynge. 1587 GOLDING *De Morney* xx. (1617) 348 What are all the worschippings of God which man hath ordained of his owne head, but childish imaginations. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* v. vi. 406 To acknowledge one God, whome varietie of Sects and worschippings should best content. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 193 That the thoughts . . . should enkindle in us . . . hearty worschippings, of a boundless goodness.

†2. The action of honouring, revering, or treating with profound respect. *Obs.*

13.. *Gosp. Nicod.* 993 Hauē pese with wirschipping, ioseph of Aramathy. c1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 440 Too myche worschypynge of Antecristis lawe. 1423 JAS. I. *Kingis Q.* cxxxix, He that to hir worschipping Myght ought auale. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* I. xiii. (Arb.) 45 Some perchance would thinke that next after the praise and honoring of their gods, should commence the worschippings and praise of good men. 1645 MILTON *Tetrach.* 77 For the dignities sake of religion, which cannot be liable to all base affronts, merely for the worshiping of a civil marriage.

attrib. 1611 TOURNEUR *Ath. Trag.* I. ii, This worschipping kinde of entertainment is a superstitious vanitie.

'worshipping, ppl. a. [f. as prec. + -ING².] That worships; engaged in worship.

1760-72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) IV. 116 Then will his cross be exalted for an ensign to the circling, bending, and worshipping universe. 1789-96 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* I. 446 In 1738, there were seven worshipping assemblies in this town [Newport]. 1876 BLACKIE *Lett. to Wife* (1909) 240 Either I must speak the truth and offend the worshipping widow, or print lies and prostitute my own intellect. 1880 'MARK TWAIN' *Tramp Abr.* xxxii. 308 She was a brand-new bride, . . . happy in herself and her grave and worshipping stripping of a husband.

Hence **'worshippingly adv.**, adoringly.

1850 MISS MULOCK *Olive* xxiii, Once again I will lie on the floor of the Sistine, and look up worshipingly to Michael the angel. 1891 D. DORMER *Steven Vigil* II. IV. x. 51 Mary's eyes were continually straying across to rest worshippingly on her sister's face.

'worsifi'cation. rare. [Humorous corruption of *versification*, as if f. WORSE *a.* and -FICATION.]

The composition of bad verses; poor versification.

1849 J. R. LOWELL in *Mass. Q. Rev.* Dec. 51 Since we have found fault with some of what we may be allowed to call the worsification, we should say that the prose work is done conscientiously and neatly. 1908 *Let. to F. J. Furnivall* 27 Nov., The worsification of the poetry written in younger days is far more complete and thorough in the Italian and French poets [sc. Tasso and Ronsard] than in the English one [sc. Langland].

†**'worsing, vbl. sb. Obs.** [f. WORSE *v.* + -ING¹.] Deterioration.

c1575 Balfour's *Practicks* (1754) 195 He.. is haldin to restoir.. the wad [= pledge] to the debtour, without worsing or deterioratioun.

'worsle, v. Sc. and north. dial. Also 6 *worsill*. [var. of WARSL *v.* Cf. MDu. and Du. *worstelen*.] *intr.* To wrestle. Hence **'worsler**; **'worsling vbl. sb.**

1513 DOUGLAS *Aeneis* III. iv. 138 Our fallowschip exerce palestra play, . . . Nakit worsling and strouglung at nyse poynt. 1535 [see WARSL *v.* 1]. 1571 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxviii. 43 Be worsling first in faith the feild was myne. 1573 *Ibid.* xxxix. 350 Then wes he worsland our ane wondie swyre. 1629 Z. BOYD *Last Battell* 12 (Jam.), I cannot expresse what a worsling I finde within mee. *Ibid.* 1073 (Jam.) We shall worsle with God in prayer that your end may be peace. 1828 CARR *Craven Gloss.*, *Worsle*, to wrestle, to contend. *Worsler*, a wrestler. *Worsling*, wrestling.

worst (wɜːst), *a.* and *sb.* Forms: *a.* 1 *wyrresta*, *wyrsta*, *wirresta*, *wierresta*, (wyrest); 1 *Northumb.* *wurresta*, 2-6 *wurst*, 3-4 *wrst*; 3-6 *worste*, 3- *worst*, 6 *woorst*, 9 *vulgar* *wust*. *β.* 1 *werresta*, 1-2 *wersta*, 2-6 *werst(e)*, 3 *wer(r)est*, 4 *Sc.* *verste*, 4, 6 *Sc.* *verst*; 4-6, 8-9 *north.* *warst*, 5-6 *warste*. [OE. *wyrresta*, *wyrsta*, *wierresta*, *werresta*, *wersta* = OFris. *wersta*, OS. *wirsista*, OHG. *wirsisto*, -*esto* (MHG. *wirseste*, *wirste*, *würste*), ON. and Icel. *verstr* (Norw. *verst*, Sw. *värst*, Da. *værst*) — OTeut. **wersistaz*, f. *wers-*: see WORSE *a.* and -EST.]

The *β*-forms, which were local in OE., were reinforced in Anglian ME. by Scandinavian; cf. WORSE *a.*]

A. adj. Used as the superlative of the adjs. *bad*, *evil*, or *ill*.

1. *a.* Most bad or evil, in regard to moral character or behaviour; most vicious, wicked, cruel, etc.

c888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxix. §11 He ne sceal lufian to ungemetlice ðas woruldgesælða, forðæm hie oft cūmað to þæm wyrrestum monnum. c897 — *Gregory's Past.* C. xxi. 153 ðeseoh ða scande & ða wierrestan ðing ðe ðas menn her doð. c1000 *Ags. Gosp. Matt.* xii. 45 And swa byð þysse wyrrestan cneorysse. c1200 *Vices & Virtues* 77 Gif ðu luuest ðo ilche ðe ðe luuiðe: ne don swa ðe werste menn of ðe world? c1205 LAY. 29545 þer he funde þa wurste men þa on londē wuneden. a1225 *Ancre. R.* 82 Idel speche is vuel; ful speche is wurse; attri speche is þe wurste. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 8616 þe worste men of þe lond, & mest cruel al so, He wolde make is consailers. a1300 K. Horn 648 Fikenhild, þat was þe wurste moder child. a1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* 99 When y my self have thourh-soht, y knowe me for the wrst of alle. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr.* C. 4456 Gog and Magog . . . þe wrst folk þat in þe world duels. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 2098 þer wonez a wyze in þat waste, þe wrst vpon erpe. c1386 CHAUCER *Shipman's T.* 161 Myn housbonde is to me the worste man That euer was. — *Merch. Prol.* 6, I have a wyf, the worste that may be. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 145 Pride, Which is the werste vice of alle. c1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 57 He . . . went vnto a grete company of thevis; & he, þat was gude emang his brethir, was þer þe warste of all. c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 523/1 Werst, or most badde, *pessimus*. a1500 *Mankind* 297 in *Macro Pl.* 12 He ys worst of þem all. 1552 HULOET, Warste of all, *nequissimus, pessimus*. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* I. iv. 13 His worst fault is that he is giuen to prayer. 1607 — *Timon* IV. ii. 39 Strange vnusual blood, When mans worst sinne is, He do's too much Good. 1709 POPE *Ess. Crit.* 579 The worst avarice is that of sense. 1737 — *Hor. Epist.* II. i. 37 Chaucer's worst ribaldry is learn'd by rote. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* 299 It will be impossible to keep the new tribunals clear of the worst spirit of faction. 1829 LYTTON *Devereux* I. iii. 11 The worst passions are softened by triumph. 1918 *Cornhill Mag.* June 562 Able editors, who most often quoted what was worst and most Prussian in Carlyle.

b. Qualifying an agent-noun or the like.

c1000 ÆLFRED *Hom.* I. 66 þu ne cūest ðone soðan freond; and for ði þu beurne on ðone wyrstan feond. c1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* I. 140 Homely enymies ben þe worste. 1382 — *Ephes.* vi. 16 The fry dartis of the worste enmye [tela *nequissimi ignea*]. 1435 MISYNN *Fire of Love* 62 þe fowlest worme, þe warst synner, þe lawest of men. 1675 DRYDEN *Aurengz.* I. (1676) 13 And yet believe your self, your own worst Foe. 1840 DICKENS *Old C.* *Shop* Ivi, My worst enemies . . . never accused me of being meek. 1854 J. S. MILL *Lett.* (1910) II. App. A. 371 His worst flatterer is himself. 1862 H. KINGSLEY *Ravenshoe* xx, Lord Welter's worst enemies could not accuse him of driving slow. 1872 MORLEY *Voltaire* (1886) 12 The man of the world, that worst enemy of the world.

2. *a.* Most grievous, painful, unlucky, uncomfortable, unpleasant, unfavourable, etc.

c825 *Vesp. Psalter* xxxiii. 22 *Mors peccatorum pessima*, deað synfulra se wyrresta. c888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxviii. §2 Ðæt is þæt sweetoloste tacen þæs mæstan yfeles on þisse weorlde, & þæs wyrrestan eðleanes æfter þisse worlde. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 245 Ic was getogen to þæm wyrstan tintregum. a1122 O.E. *Chron.* an 1086 (Laud MS.) Swylc coðe com on mannum, þæt full neah æfre þe oðer man wearð on þæm wyrrestan yfele, þet is on ðam drife. a1200 *Moral Ode* 217 (Lamb. MS.) þe þe dep is wille mest, he haueð wurst mede. a1300 *Cursor M.* 14555 Of all him fell þe wrst lot. 1382 WYCLIF *Rev.* xvi. 2 A wounde feers and worst [1388 *worst*, Vulg. *vulnus saevum et pessimum*]. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 349 False Egiste . . . Was demed to diverse peine, The worste that men cowthe ordeigne. c1450 *Mirk's Festial* 145 Then come pay all wrope and beten pys man on þe worst maner þat pay cowpe. c1470 HENRY WALLACE ix. 174, I traist to God our worst dayis ar gane. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Auian* xxvii. (1889) 248 Of two euyls men ought euer to eschewe and flee the worst of bothe. 1552 HULOET, Worste tyme for a publicyque weale, *alienissimum rei publice tempus*. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* IV. 176 b, If he bee angry, and fierce, and round, he is worst of all. 1596 *Edw. III.* II. i. 449 Poyson shewes worst in a golden cup. 1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* III. iii. 132 Giue thy worst of thoughts The worst of words. 1639 S. DU VERGER tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* 123 He repaires to his owne house, meager, pale, and in the worst case that can be imagined. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* VI. 462 But pain is perfect miserie, the worst Of evils. 1697 DRYDEN *Aeneis* ix. 392 That hope alone will fortifie my Breast Against the worst of Fortunes and of Fears. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 498 We thought they ought to be every one of them put to the worst of Deaths. 1765 GRAY *Shakespeare* 8 What awaits me now is worst of all. 1803 *Med. Jnrl.* IX. 527 The worst cases were discharged cured . . . in about an average period of twelve days. 1805 *Ibid.* XIV. 227 Bleeding had been attended with the worst consequences. 1809 *Ibid.* XXI. 410 The two worst wounds in the loins were foul and deep. 1866 CARLYLE *Remin.* (1881) II. 240 It was by her address and invention that I got my sooterkin of a 'study' improved out of some of its worst blotches. 1881 W. COLLINS *Black Robe* I. 272 'How does Stella bear it?' 'In the worst possible way . . . In silence.'

b. Hardest, most difficult to deal with. *Const.* to and inf.

c1400 *King Solomon's Bk. Wisdom* 100 þre þinges on erpe beþ þat men mowen nouȝt yknowe . . . þe werst is þe fierþe. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 35 Moost peryulous kynde of leproy & worst to be cured. 1639 J. CLARKE *Paræm.* 87 The best things are worst to come by. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xiv. 98 Our worst piece of work was now before us.

c. U.S. colloq. phr. *the worst kind*; also used adverbially = most severely, most thoroughly. Also, *the worst way*.

1839 MARRYAT *Diary Amer.* Ser. I. II. 227 He loves Sal, the worst kind. 1859 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.* (ed. 2) 517 *Worst kind*. Used in such phrases as, 'I gave him the worst kind of a licking.' Also adverbially; as, 'I licked him the worst kind,' i.e. in the worst manner possible, most severely. 1904 N. Y. *Tribune* 26 June (Illustr. Suppl.) 4/4 'So you want to go to Cuba, do you?' asked Colonel Roosevelt. 'I do, worst kind,' replied McShane. 1914 G. ATHERTON *Perch of Devil* I. 55, I need new duds the worst way.

d. *worst-case* adj. phr.: that is or pertains to the worst of a number of possibilities.

1964 R. F. FICCHI *Electrical Interference* II. 18 It is first assumed, using a worst-case analysis technique, that the mean beam of the receiver and transmitter antenna are in direct line of sight. 1979 R. LITTELL *Debriefing* v. 88 Worst-case contingency planning is still the basis of scenario construction. 1980 *Times* 18 Jan. 14/1 Analysts believe that the Kremlin drew up a 'worst-case' scenario which took into account both an embargo on American grain and a threat to the Moscow Olympics. 1985 *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 68/2 Pickens could spin off a royalty trust, perhaps sell the downstream operations. . . Such a move had been possible all along, but it was obviously the worse-case method of going about the task.

3. *a.* Most wanting in the good qualities required or expected; least good, valuable, desirable, or successful; most inferior; meanest or poorest in quality; least considerable or important.

c1325 *Sir Orfeo* (Sisam) 367 þe wrst piler on to biholde Was al of burnist gold. c1400 *Destr. Troy* 1570 The wrst walle for to wale. . . Was faury cubettes by course. c1420 *Sir Amadas* (Weber) 345 The worst hors is worthe ten pownde Of hom all that here gon. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* x. xvi. 439 The wrst of them wille not be lightly matched of no knyghtes that I knowe lyuyng. 1493 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 82, iii syluer sponys of the werste sorte. 1540 *Test. Ebor.* VI. 113 To John Colson my worst chamlet dublet. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 38 marg., The more hast y^e wurst speede. 1562 WINSET *Wks.* (S.T.S.) I. 114 The best geris tane away and sauld, and the wrst reseruit. 1573-80 TUSSEY *Husb.* (1878) 49 Graie wheat is the grosest, yet good for the clay, though woorst for the market, as fermer may say. 1644 MILTON *Areop.* (Arb.) 33 Natrall endowments haply not the worst for two and fifty degrees of northern latitude. 1654 GAYTON *Pleas. Notes* IV. 226 He was secure, being on the worst side of fifty. 1696 PRIDEAUX *Lett.* (Camden) 182 For then y^e University would have the disposall of their livings, w^{ch} now they give to y^e worst men they can find. 1732 POPE *Ep. Bathurst* 299 In the worst inn's worst room. 1740 MRS. E. MONTAGU *Corr.* (1906) I. 42 Living in a cottage on love is certainly the worst diet and the worst habitation one can find out. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* VIII. vii, To charge the same for the very worst provisions, as if they were the best. 1786 BURNS *Auld Farmer's Salut. Mare* xv, They drew me threteen pund an' twa, The very warst. — 'My Father was a Farmer' II, My talents they were not the worst. 1825 LYTTON *Falkland* 10 He was one of that class . . . who, with the best intentions, have made the worst citizens. 1836 SOUTHEY *Lett.* (1856) IV. 436 Burnaby Green was the worst of translators. 1839 LANE *Arab. Nts.* I. 127 One of the worst dogs is then slipped at the herd. 1855 *Poultry Chron.* III. 466 It was the worst [show] I ever saw, cattle included.

†b. Phr. *at (the) worst hand*: (a) in a position of defeat; (b) most dearly or unprofitably; (c) on the lowest estimate. *Obs.*

c1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xiv. 352 He saw well that his folke was at the worste hande, soo made he to sowne the retrete. a1604 HANMER *Chron. Irel.* (1809) 380 They were driven at the worst hand to sell unto the merciless Merchants, their Cowes, Hackneyes [etc.]. 1621 BP. MOUNTAGU *Diatribæ* 421 More ignorant barbarisme here, than in Paulus, who at worst hand hath related it in good and true Latine.

†c. *in worst part*: in the most unfavourable aspect or construction. *Obs.*

a1530 J. HEYWOOD *Play of Love* 1508 A louer best loued hath paynes in lyke wyse As here hath apered by sondry weys Which sheweth his case in worst part to aryse. c1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* xxiv. 124 Myself take that wrong he hath done To Hector in worst part of all.

†d. *to have the worst end (of the staff, etc.)*: cf. WORSE *a.* 3 c. *Obs.*

1564 T. DORMAN *Proof Cert. Articles Relig.* 92 Yow maie haue cause to thincke, that yow holde by the worst end of the staffe. 1597 MONTGOMERIE *Cherrie & Slae* 1204 Persave then, 3e haif then The warst end of the trie.

4. *predicatively*. Most unfortunate or badly off.

1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* III. i. 126 Or to be worse then worst Of those, that lawlesse and incertaine thought Imagine howling. 1605 — *Lear* IV. i. 2 To be worst, The lowest, and most delected thing of Fortune.

5. *Comb.*, as *worst-humoured*, *-intentioned*, *-natured*, *-surfaced*, *-willed* adjs.

c1400 *Apol. Loll.* 105 Warst willid traytoris [maligissimi proditores]. 1656 HARRINGTON *Oceana* (1658) 103 When I consider that our Country-men are none of the worst natur'd. 1678 OTWAY *Friendship in F.* III. i. 25 Every body knows I am the worst natur'd fellow breathing. a1680 EARL ROCHESTER *Allus. Horace* 60 The best good Man with the worst natur'd Muse. 1774 Goldsmith's *Retal.* Postscript, Thou best humour'd man with the worst humour'd Muse. 1896 CROCKETT *Grey Man* xxxiv. 231 The greediest and

worst-intentioned rascals in the world. 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 3 Mar. 3/1 From Blois to Chartres was the worst-surfaced road we came across.

B. sb. (absol. uses of the adj.; usu. with *the*.)

1. the worst: a. one who is, or those who are, most objectionable or least estimable in moral character, behaviour, accomplishments, etc.

1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* i. ii. 68 And let worse follow worse, till the worst of all follow him laughing to his graue. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Church-porch* st. 72 Judge not the preacher... The worst speak something good. 1757 W. WILKIE *Epigoniad* ix. 270 Favor, your sex and innocence will plead, Ev'n with the worst. 1827 POLLOK *Course T.* i. 435 Lovely to the worst she [Virtue] seems. 1880 TENNYSON *First Quarrel* xiii, An' she wasn't one o' the worst. 1898 KIPLING *Day's Work* (1923) 363 Mr. Pepper himself, heyond question a man of the worst.

†**b. spec.** The Devil. Cf. *WORSE sb.* 1 *b. Obs.* 1388 WYCLIF *Ephes.* vi. 16 The fry darts of the worst [1382 the worst enemy]. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1961 Thou sot with vnself, seruand of o þe werst!

2. a. What is most objectionable or deplorable in regard to morals, taste, etc.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* i. 174 How so his mouth he comely, His word sit evermore awry And seith the worst that he may. a 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 4656 He þat wayues ay þe werst & wirlis þe hettir. c 1400 *Pilgr. Soule* (Caxton 1483) i. xvii. 14 He is euermore redy to do and say the worst. c 1480 HENRYSON *Trial of Fox* 10 Of euill cummis war, of war cummis werst of all. c 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* cl. 8 In the very refuse of thy deeds, There is such strength and warrantie of skill, That in my minde thy worst all hest exceeds. 1600 E. BLOUNT tr. *Conestaggio* 65 For that we easily incline to the worst. 1855 LYNCH *Letters to the Scattered* vii. 95 Unchecked sin tending to the perfect worst in wretchedness because to the perfect worst in character.

b. With of: What is most reprehensible or faulty in a person's character.

1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* i. vi. Do you know the worst of your father? 1871 GEO. ELIOT *Middlemarch* xxxviii. II. 284 He's Whiggish himself...; that's the worst I know of him. 1897 WATTS-DUNTON *Aylwin* viii. ii, 'We's all so modest in Primrose Court, that's the wust on us,' replied the woman.

3. a. What is most grievous, unlucky, painful, hard to bear; a state of things that is most undesirable or most to be dreaded.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* ii. 304 Beth nought agast... For hardly þe werste of þis is do. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* i. 25 Bot yet the werste of everydel Is last. a 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 532 All scho dredis hire dede & doute for þe werst. c 1440 *York Myst.* xxxv. 212 þe werste is paste. c 1470 HENRY WALLACE xi. 1222 Off Wallace end my selff wald leiff, for dredis To say the worst. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 166 Prouye for the worst, the best wyll saue it selfe. 1577 GRANGE *Golden Aphrod.* i. iv. N.O. (fearynge the worst). 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* i. ii. 96 And the worst fall that euer fell. 1605 — *Lear* iv. i. 8 The Wretch that thou hast blowne vnto the worst, Owes nothing to thy blasts. 1605 B. JONSON *Volpone* v. xii, Take good heart, the worst is past, sir. You are dis-possesst. 1631 GOUGE *God's Arrows* v. § 15. 428 Wisdome teacheth men to forecast the worst, that they may be provided against the worst. c 1660 J. GWYNNE *Milit. Mem.* (1822) 84 We were prepar'd, as knowing the worst, to receive our doome hravelly. 1665 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) II. 251, I beleeeve she conceales the worst from you. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* ix. 269 Her Hushand... Who guards her, or with her the worst endures. 1674 — *Samson* 1570 Then take the worst in brief, Samson is dead. a 1796 BURNS 'In vain would Prudence' 4 Above that world on wings of love I rise, I know its worst—and can that worst despise. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* xxv, Tell me the worst at once. 1796 MME. D'ARBLAY *Camilla* iv. 220 The best thing we can do, is to get off as fast as we can, for fear of the worst. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xxxvi, I knew the worst now, and was composed to it. 1859 W. COLLINS *Q. of Hearts* ii, To face the worst that might happen. a 1873 LYTTON *Pausanias* ii. i, I am prepared for the worst, even recall. 1893 ASHBYS-STERRY *Naughty Girl* vii. 68 She turned pale... and faneied the very worst.

b. A course of action ill-advised in the highest degree.

1568 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 767 Wherefore me thinketh it were not the worst to send to the Quene some honourable and trustie personage. 1591 SAVILE *Tacitus Hist.* ii. § 39 Neither can it so easily be discerned what had bene best to haue done, as that it was the worst which they did.

c. The worst part, degree, or phase of.

1615 SANDYS *Trav.* 138 Hauiug with two daies rest refreshed them, now to hegin the worst of their journey. 1889 'J. S. WINTER' Mrs. Bob xxii. (1891) 252 Miss Theodosia had already got the worst of her grief over. 1919 *Glasgow Herald* 8 Sept. 7 The confectioners... have got over the worst of their sugar troubles.

d. the worst is: the most painful or unfortunate thing or circumstance is (*that...*). Also *the worst of* (something), *the worst of it*, etc.

1581 PETTIE *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* i. (1586) A 6b, The worst is, they thinke that impossible to be done in our Tongue. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* ii. xv. 50 The worst of all was that more then 13000 persons remayned dead. 1682 BUNYAN *Holy War* (1905) 379 Now the worst not was, a Chirurgion was scarce in Mansoul. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 184 ¶ 5 The worst of it is, that the drowsy Part of our Species is chiefly made up of very honest Gentlemen. 1762 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* vi. xviii, And 'twill be lucky, if that's the worst on't. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* i. ii. (Rtldg.) 6 But paying through the nose was not the worst of it. 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Parish* ii, The worst of it is, that having a high regard for the old lady, he wants to make her a convert to his views. 1849 ROCK *Ch. of our Fathers* i. v. (1903) I. 293 But this is not the worst of having a church too near the houses of a small town. 1853 MRS. GASKELL *Cranford* xiv, Here I broke down utterly... The worst was, all the ladies cried in concert. 1873 MRS. WHITNEY *Other Girls* vi. 68 And she couldn't help it, poor lady, either; that is the worst of it; one gets so as not to be able to help things.

e. Phr. to come, †fall to the worst; †to go all of the worst.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 237 Ful many a worthi kniht It hadde assaiid, . . . And euer it fell hem to the worst. *Ibid.* 380 Falle it to beste or to the werste. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 212 h, And therefore the matter goeth not all of the worst, when the lighter maladie... expelleth and driueueth out the greater. 1863 W. C. BALDWIN *Afr. Hunting* 253 Things never come to the worst but they mend.

f. if the worst come(s) to the worst; if things fall out as badly as possible or conceivable.

1597 E. S. *Discov. Knts. Poste* C 3 b, If the worst come to the worst, it is but the hiering of a hackney to ryde to London. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* i. 28 Had the worst come to the worst, yet could we not haue wanted meate and drinke. 1667 DRYDEN & DK. NEWCASTLE *Sir M. Mar-all* II. (1668) 14 Why, if the worst come to the worst, he leaves you an honest woman. 1700 T. BROWN *Amusem. Ser. & Com.* 108 Let the Worst come to 'th Worst. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* i. (Globe) 201 If the worst came to the worst, I could but die. 1821 GALT *Ann. Parish* xiii. (1895) 93 Which would have been a witness for the elders, had the worst come to the worst. 1904 WEYMAN *Abb. Vlaye* iii, If the worst comes to the worst, I can aid him.

†**g. pl. worsts** = the things that are worst (in phr. *worst of worsts*). *poet. Obs.*

1609 JONSON *Epicoene* v. iv, This is worst of all worst worsts! that hell could haue deuist. 1624 QUARLES *Job Militant* xv. 37 But what is worst of worsts, (Lord) often I Haue cry'd to Thee, a stranger to my cry.

4. What is least good in quality or least valuable; the most inferior kind or lowest quality (of an article).

? a 1400 *Stanzaic Life of Christ* 2344 But Caynes cornes God forsok, that of the worst made his offryng. 1509 *Will in Archael.* LXVI. 314 Item ij grayles oon of the best another of the worst. 1573-80 TUSSEER *Husb.* (1878) 125 Paie Gods part furst, and not of the wurst. 1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* ¶ iijj, The very worst of all being of great vertue and value. 1587 HARRISON *England* II. vi. (1877) 149 Being sure that they [the clergy] would neither drinke nor be serued of the worst. 1615 SANDYS *Trav.* 136 The merchants brought with them many Negroes; not the worst of their merchandizes. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* (1671) 215 The worst of Christ, even his chaff, is better than the world's corn.

5. at (the) worst. a. In the most evil or undesirable state that can be; at the greatest disadvantage; fallen to the lowest degree of badness, illness, or misfortune. Similarly *at one's worst*.

1532 MORE *Confut. Tyndale* Wks. 1557 fol. 611/2 That they shalbe no woorse, parde, not when they be at y^e very worst, then faithful harlottes. a 1586 SIDNEY *Astr. & Stella* xcv. 2 Yet sighes, deare sighes, indeede true friends you are, That do not leave your best friend at the wurst. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V.* v. ii. 250 Thou hast me, if thou hast me, at the worst. 1605 — *Mach.* iv. ii. 24 Things at the worst will cease, or else climb vpward, To what they were before. 1605 — *Lear* iv. i. 27 Who is't can say I am at the worst? 1671 MILTON *P.R.* III. 209, I would be at the worst; worst is my Port. 1771 T. HULL *Sir W. Harrington* (1797) III. 122 Mrs. Stanhope was at the worst.

1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. xxiii. § 6 A man leaveth things at worst, and depriveth himself of means to make them better. 1639 J. CLARKE *Paræm.* 122 When the world is at worst it will mend.

1845 HT. MARTINEAU *Autobiog.* (1877) II. 362 Your people (never beginning to do their best till they are at their worst). 1846 LANDOR *Imag. Conv., Southey & Landor* Wks. 1853 II. 168/1 Unhappily Italian poetry in the age of Milton was almost at its worst. 1872 MORLEY *Voltaire* (1886) 12 A dark and tyrannical superstition at its worst. 1885 *Spectator* 30 May 716/1 No Dickens himself at his very worst has such tiresome repetition. 1887 SAINTSBURY *Hist. Eliz. Lit.* 284 Heywood, even at his worst, is a writer whom it is impossible not to like.

b. Even on the most unfavourable view or estimate or surmise.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* v. 96 Somwhat shal I seye; For at the worste it may yit shorte our weye. 1729 P. WALKDEN *Diary* (1866) 73 At the worst, I would subscribe to take half a quarter. 1771 JUNIUS *Lett.* liv. 288 At the worst, what do they amount to. 1824 SOUTHEY *Lett. to May* 29 Aug., He had seasons of good-nature, and at the worst was rather to be dreaded than disliked. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* ix, I thought... that if a man played long enough he was sure to win at last, or, at the worst, not to come off a loser. 1871 THIRLWALL *Lett.* (1881) II. 267 Urban II pronounced that the killing of an excommunicated person was not a murder, but at the worst an offence to be expiated by a penance.

1598 FLORIO, *Alpeggio andare*, at woorst, if the woorst fall out. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 484 Or els som neighbour Woodman, or at worst, Som roaving Robber calling to his fellows. 1667 — *P.L.* II. 100 If our substance... cannot cease to be, we are at worst On this side nothing. 1670 DRYDEN *1st Pt. Cong. Granada* v. ii, But 'tis, at worst, but so consumed by fire, As cities are, that by their falls rise higher. 1758 J. BLAKE *Plan Mar. Syst.* 36 He is at worst sure of wholesome bread. 1778 SIR J. REYNOLDS 7 *Disc.* 215 So that not much harm will be done at worst. 1837 LANDOR *Pentam.* i. Wks. 1853 II. 308/1 Brutus and Cassius, at worst, but slew an atheist. 1881 MISS BRADDON *Asphodel* I. vii. 209 This kind of thing went on for another week of weather which at worst was showery.

6. (to do) the worst or one's worst: the utmost evil or harm possible. Hence occas. *one's worst*, without do.

c 1489 CAXTON *Blanchardyn* xiv. 48 Blanchardyn herkned the prouost, to whom boldly he answered that he shold doo the best and the worst that he coude [in the joust]. c 1489 — *Sonnes of Aymon* iii. 78 It is the man among all our enmyes, that worste dooth to vs. 1528 *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden) II. 177 [He] beds them to do to hym the best and the worst that they can For he setts not a Strawe by them all. 1553 ASCHAM *Germany* Wks. (1904) 133 Let his enemies do to him the worst they could. 1567 *Horestes* 385 (Brandl)

Drawe thy sword, vylyne, yf thou be a man, And then do the worst, that euer thou can. 1568 NORTH *Gueuara's Diall Pr.* iv. xiv. 150b, The worst they can doo, they can but murmur. 1608 SHAKS. *Per.* III. i. 40, I do not feare the flaw, It hath done to me the worst. 1869 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* III. *Low. Gudrun* (end), I did the worst to him I loved the best.

(b) 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 311 Ha, thou fortune, I thee deffie, Nou hast thou do to me thi werste. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* x. lvii. 511 Wete ye wel that I am sire Tristram de lyones, and now doo your werste. 1605 SHAKS. *Mach.* III. ii. 24 Treason ha's done his worst. 1616 T. DRAKE *Bibl. Scholast.* 30 A fig for him. Let him doe his worst. 1639 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Pt. Summers Travels* 43 And there-fore now you with all double diligence, doe endeavour to doe your best to doe your worst. 1650 T. VAUGHAN *Anthroposophia* 27 When Death hath done her worst. 1653 WALTON *Angler* iv. 115 Let the winde sit in what corner it will, and do its worst. 1713 ADDISON *Guard.* No. 102 ¶ 8 To defie the Cold and Rain, and let the Weather do its worst. 1781 COWPER *Table Talk* 729 Satire has long since done his best; and curst And loathsome ribaldry has done his worst. 1842 BROWNING *Pied Piper* xi, You threaten us, fellow? Do your worst, Blow your pipe there till you burst! 1882 BESANT *All Sorts* xxxii. (1898) 226 Now you may go away and do your worst.

(c) 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V.* III. iii. 5 Therefore to our best mercy giue your selues, Or like to men prouid of destruction, Defie vs to our worst. 1611 — *Wint. T.* III. ii. 180 What old or newer Torture Must I receiue? whose euery word deserues To taste of thy most worst.

7. a. The harshest view or judgement; as to *peak or think the worst* (of a person or thing).

c 1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* cxix. C. iv, Let princes talk, And talk their worst of me. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* II. iii. 159 She's my good Lady, and will concieue, I hope, But the worst of me. 1632 HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Eromena* 63, I hold my selfe greatly injured of such as judge of me rather the worst than the best. 1871 RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* ix. 2 The worst he can venture to say is, that it is ridiculous.

†**b. to take or wrest to the worst, to take at worst:** to put the most unfavourable construction upon. *Obs.* Cf. *WORSE sb.* 3 d.

1535 COVERDALE *Prov.* x. 32 The lippes of the righteous are occupied in acceptable thinges, but the mouth of the vngdoly taketh them to the worst. 1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Superer.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 52 Let me not bee mistaken by sinister construction, that wreasteth and wrigleth euery sillable to the worst. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* v. i. 181, I cannot choose hut tell him that I care not, And let him tak't at worst.

c. to make the worst of: to regard or represent in the most unfavourable light.

1796 MME. D'ARBLAY *Camilla* II. 162 But it's over, you know; so what signifies making the worst of it? 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xxxvi, Now I was hot, and had made the worst of it, instead of the best. 1877 TRENCH *Lect. Med. Ch. Hist.* 115 Roman Catholic writers make no attempt to conceal the depth of desecration and dishonour which the Papacy then passed through; nay, they seem rather to take a pleasure in making the worst of this.

8. Defeat in a contest. (Cf. *WORSE sb.* 4.)

†**a. to put to the worst:** to defeat, overcome. Also *to put at, drive to the worst; to give* (one) *the worst on't.* *Obs.*

c 1460 *Three 15th C. Chron.* (Camden) 59 She... put him dyverse tymes at the worst. 1574 HELLOWS *Guevara's Ep.* (1584) 328 They liued by rohbing and pilling one from another, euermore driuing the weakest to the worst. 1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict., Destroço*, putting to the woorst, putting to flight. 1598 R. BERNARD *Terence, Andria* i. iii. (1607) 20 *Me & illum herus pessumdedit.* My master hath put him and me to the worst. 1644 VICARS *Jehovah-Jireh* 194 Our left wing being thus put to the worst. 1684 BUNYAN *Pilgr.* II. (1900) 229 Why, I would a fought as long as Breath had been in me; and had I so done, I am sure you could never have given me the worst on't. a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 10 Mar. 1687 The party were exceedingly put to the worst by the praeching and writing of the Protestants. 1726 DE FOE *Hist. Devil* i. v. (1840) 69 Putting Michael and all the faithful army to the worst.

b. to have the worst: to be defeated. †Similarly *to go or come to, come or go by, come off by, go away with, come off with the worst.*

1529 Morte *Darthur* i. ix. (W. de W.) Fyghte not with the swerde... til that ye see ye go to y^e worste [Caxton vnto the wers]. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shrew* i. ii. 14, I should knocke you first, And then I know after who comes hy the worst. 1597 BEARD *Theatre God's Judgem.* (1612) 90 His owne side came to the worst, doing more scath to themselves than to their enemies. 1605 *London Prodigal* i. i. 51 He is a mighty brawler, and comes commonly by the worst. 1613 SIR E. HOBY *Counter-snarle* 24 Hee which bringeth a great Armie into the field, without victuall or munition, is like to goe by the worste. 1639 [see GO v. 57 c]. c 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1650) I. II. 29 There was a shrewd brush lately twixt the young King and his Mother, who... met him in open field...; but she went away with the worst. 1710 E. WARD *Brit. Hud.* 26 Those who laugh'd aloud at first, At last may chance to come by th' worst. *Ibid.* 116 Those who hy reviling first Begot the Fray, came off by th' worst. 1834 GODWIN *Lives Necrom.* 184 In these wars, the Peris generally came off with the worst.

1598 R. BERNARD *Terence, Andria* II. v. (1607) 43 *Nostræ parti timeo.* I feare our side will haue the worst. 1670 G. H. *Hist. Cardinals* III. III. 300 There happen'd a fray betwixt the Souldiers... and the Halberdiers...; the last of which had the worst of it. 1709 MRS. MANLEY *Secret Mem.* (1720) III. 166 The King of the Bulgari made a troublesome, uncertain War upon the Empire, which sometimes had the better, oftentimes the worst. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xlvi, George... bragged... about his valour in the fight, ... in which he decidedly had the worst.

worst (wɜːst), *v.* [f. *WORST a.*]

†**1. trans.** To make worse, impair, damage, inflict loss upon: = *WORSE v.* 2, *WORSEN v.* 1. *Obs.*

1602 HARRINGTON in *Nugæ Ant.* (1804) I. 321 Her bettering the state of my father's fortune (which I have,

alass! so much worsted). 1648 EARL WESTMORELAND *Otia Sacra* (1879) 22 God makes all things for good; 'tis Man Sowers and worsts Creation. 1649 JER. TAYLOR *Gt. Exemp.* Pref. ¶ 16 If I be intemperate I grow sick and worsted in some faculty. 1682 PENN in Clarkson *Mem.* (1849) xviii. 115 Thy father's public spirit had worsted his estate. 1728 W. SMITH *Ann. Univ. Coll.* 88 By which the College may be said to be worsted [sic] above 3l. 10s. per Annum. a 1741 TULL *Horse-hoeing Husb.* ii. (1822) 26 A pear grafted upon a quince may be mended but if grafted upon a white thorn will be worsted. *Ibid.* xix. 274 note, But suppose I had worsted my substance, are there not many who... have lessened their estates, though they have never practised agriculture? 1742 RICHARDSON *Pamela* III. 26 To better the Condition of the Tenants at the same time, at least not to worst them. 1748 — *Clarissa* (1811) VII. 341 Suppose you kill one another, will the matter be bettered or worsted by that? 1745 tr. *Columella's Husb.* II. xiv, Nor is there any doubt but the land is annoyed and worsted [infestetur]... by these seeds. 1783 POTT *Chirurg. Wks.* II. 69 He may be much worsted by the experiment.

†b. *intr.* To grow worse, deteriorate. *Obs. rare.*

1781 P. BECKFORD *Th. Hunting* (1802) 314 We perceived that our scent worsted, and were going to stop the hounds. c 1815 JANE AUSTEN *Persuasion* (1818) I. i. 10 Anne haggard, Mary coarse, every face in the neighbourhood worsting.

2. *trans.* To defeat, overcome, get the better of (an adversary) in a fight or battle.

1636 BRATHWAIT *Rom. Emp.* 20 After many batailles Otho being worsted... slew himselfe. 1657 EARL MONM. tr. *Paruta's Pol. Disc.* 187 He got a notable Victory, worsting a great many of the Enemy with a much lesser number. 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. ii. 878 The Bear was in a greater fright, Beat down and worsted by the Knight. 1703 EARL ORRERY *As you find it* II. ii. 27 There's no more believing him than the Paris-Gazette, when it relates a Battle where the French were worsted. 1772 PRIESTLEY *Inst. Relig.* (1782) II. 194 The Syrians having been worsted in the hilly country. 1849 GROTE *Greece* II. liv. (1862) IV. 527 A battle ensued, in which that prince was completely worsted. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* I. xxix. 391 He turned on them and worsted them badly before making his escape. 1886 CHILD *Eng. & Sc. Ballads* II. 441/2 The page worsts his accuser in a duel. 1889 MORRIS *Ho. Wolfings* 18 In forty fights hast thou foughten, and been worsted but in four. 1902 J. F. RUSLING *European Days & Ways* 290 Blücher now took pleasure in getting even with Napoleon for worsting him at Ligny.

b. To defeat in argument, in a suit, attempt, etc.; to outdo, prove better than; to quell (an attack). *Freq. in pass.*

1651 BAXTER *Inf. Bapt.* 209 Lest if you were silent the people should think you were worsted. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 150 How are al Lyricks out-gon by Davids Harp and how do Salomons Proverbs (for contracted sense) worst Seneca? 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* v. 229 And where His Highnesse was worsted or wearied, Arch-bishop Cranmer supplied His place. 1664 BUTLER *Hud.* II. ii. 520 Remember how in Arms and Politicks We still have worsted all your holy Tricks. 1693 *Humours Town* 20 If I must be worsted, it shall be in good Christian English. 1694 KETTLEWELL *Comp. for Persecuted* 69 Who art oftentimes pleased to permit a righteous Cause to be worsted. 1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* an. 1781 (Oxf. ed.) II. 414 Johnson could not brook appearing to be worsted in argument. 1802 MAR. EDGEWORTH *Irish Bulls* ix, I could not bear to go away worsted, and borne down as it were by the English faction. 1868 MILMAN *St. Paul's* iii. 70, He appealed to Rome, but was worsted in his appeal. 1881 MISS BRADDON *Asphodel* I. v. 136 In any skirmish with this young lady he was likely to be worsted. 1887 RUSKIN *Præterita* II. 273 [I was] in the habit of feeling worsted in everything I tried of original work. 1911 ROSE *Pitt & Gt. War* x. 234 In this secret chaffering Pitt and Grenville were worsted.

Hence 'worsting' *vbl. sb.*

1842 J. H. NEWMAN *Ch. Fathers* 60 We might have conquered by a worsting which was honourable and dignified. 1883 MISS BROUGHTON *Belinda* I. ix, The dispute ends in the worsting of the person to whom alone it is of any consequence to succeed.

worst (wɔːst), *adv.* Forms: a. 1 wyrst, wyrrest, wierst, 2-3 wurst, 4-5 worste, 6 woorst, 4- worst. β. 1-2 wærst, 3-6 werst (3, 6 *Sc.* verst, *Orm.* werst, 4 werist), 4-5 werste, 6- *Sc.* warst. [OE. *wyrrest*, *wyrst*, *wierst* = ON. (Icel., Norw.) *verst* (Sw. *värst*, Da. *værst*). Cf. WORST a.] a. In a manner, or to a degree, that is most (or extremely) bad or evil.

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past.* C. xxxii. 209 Donne hie wenen ðæt hie hæbben betst gedon, ðæt we him ðonne secgen ðæt hie hæbben wierst [Cott. *wyrst*] gedon. a 1000 *Boeth. Metr.* xxvii. 60 þa ofermodan oðre rican ðe þis werige folc wyrst tuciað. a 1122 O.E. *Chron.* an. 1087 (Laud MS.) [He] dyde ȝit callra wærst ofer eall þæt land. a 1200 *St. Marher.* 14 þis beoð þe wepenen þet me wurst wundeð. c 1200 *ORMIN* 4250 Uss birp clippenn all aweȝȝ þe flæshess fule wille, þatt allre werst & allre mast Werdeþþ þe wrecche sawle. a 1300 K. *Horn* 68 Of alle wymanne Wurst was godhild panne. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 21450 [I shall treat him] þe werst [Gött. *werist*] þat euer i can or mai. c 1380 *Sir Ferum.* 2809 þat me greueþ werst. c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 370 As þe peple of israel wern werst gouernyd undir her prestis. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 121 Thus he, which love hadde in desdeign, Worste of all othre was bcein. *Ibid.* II. 15 When that he worst ferde. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vii. 60 The third part of hyr mantil... was verst grathit. c 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* xvi. 46 Thay carþa victuallis to þe town That werst dois dyne. 1575 GASCOIGNE *Glasse Govt.* Wks. 1910 II. 11, I am not the worst furnished of a servaunt with this good fellow. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul.* C. iv. iii. 106 When thou didst hate him worst. 1629 N. CARPENTER *Architophel* II. (1640) 66 Oftentimes he that can best act, can worst þen his own part. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* iv. 142 The Turkes Sabbath is worst kept of all. 1786 BURNS *Twa Dogs* 205 But Gentlemen, an' Ladies warst, Wi' ev'n down wark o' wark are curst. 1787 — *John Barleycorn* xi, But a miller us'd him worst of all, For he crush'd him between two stones. — 'My Father was a Farmer' iii, And

when my hope was at the top, I still was worst mistaken. 1888 SAINTSBURY in *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 293/1 In this great mass [of correspondence] Voltaire's personality is of course best shown, and perhaps his literary qualities not worst.

b. With a vb. of liking, loving, allowing, pleasing, etc.: Least well, least.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 195 Oft hit gesælep þæt his æhta weorþap on þæs onwealde þe he ær on his life wyrrest upe. c 1375 *Cursor M.* 4386 (Fairf.), I salle þe make wiþ myne housbande þe werst loued [Cott. *luue*] of alle þis lande. c 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) iv. xxxvii. 84 Oftyme suche maystres as ben of lest reputacion ben mooste necessary, and worst mowe ben myssed. a 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* II. (Arb.) 153 Cæsar and Cicero, whose puritie was neuer foiled, no not by the sentence of those, that loued them worst. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. (1586) 150 Swine of al other beastes can woorst away with hunger. 1608 SHAKS. *Per.* iv. iii. 21 Of all the faults beneath the heauens, the Gods doe like this worst. 1613 — *Hen. VIII.* v. iii. 78, I cry your Honour mercie; you may worst Of all this Table say so. 1634 J. LEVETT *Ordering Bees* 8 Bees of all other creatures can worst away with any great noyse. 1786 BURNS 'What ails ye now' xii, But, Sir, this pleas'd them worst awa.

c. *Comb.*, as *worst-affected*, *-bred*, *-damaged*, *-deserving*, *-favoured* (*Sc.* *-fauerd*), *-formed*, *-governed*, *-looking*, *-managed*, *-manned*, *-paid*, *-used* adjs. *worst-seller*, a book distinguished commercially by its low sales (opp. *best seller* s.v. *BEST adv.* 3b); the writer of such a book; also *worst-selling* a.

1556 *Aurelio & Isab.* (1608) F 5 The pehenne (the whiche of price unto him without comparison is the worste faverdeste). 1701 ROWE *Amb. Step-Mother* II. i, What Titles had they had, ... if Nature had not Strove hard to thrust the worst-deserving first? 1721 AMHERST *Terræ Fil.* xxxii. 170 His majesty's worst-affected subjects. 1751 CHESTERF. *Lett.* (1774) II. 103 The worst-bred man in Europe, if a lady let fall her fan, would certainly take it up and give it her. 1768-74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II, 283 In the worst-formed bodies... there lies an immortal spirit. 1813 HOGG *Queen's Wake* 74 The worst-fauerd wyfe on the shoris of Fyfe Is cumlye comparet wi' thee. 1831 SCOTT *Ct. Rob.* xxiii, Waiting for the slowest and worst manned vessels. 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Streets—Morning*, The hardest worked, the worst paid, and too often, the worst used class of the community. 1853 — *Bleak* II. ix, I thought him the worst-looking dog I had ever beheld. 1857 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* II. 318 The worst-used woman I ever knew. 1871 LE FANU *Checkmate* I. 276, I believe that we are the worst-governed and the worst-managed people on earth. 1890 W. J. GORDON *Foundry* 55 The worst-damaged plate was taken out, re-rolled, and replaced. 1924 O. SITWELL *Triple Fugue* 73 Could a written testimonial be obtained from the shades of... Dryden, ... Gray, Keats... and from their heirs, the worst-sellers of to-day, it is probable that the purport... would be found... to be remarkably alike in every case. 1925 V. WOOLF *Common Reader* 262 There is... the best-seller public and the worst-seller public. 1933 T. E. LAWRENCE *Lett.* 17 Dec. (1938) 783, I confess to a lively apprehension of that potential worst-seller of yours. 1956 A. HUXLEY *Adonis & Alphabet* 120 If there were no 'angels', there would be no worst-selling literature to leaven the enormous lump of intellectual and artistic conformity. 1980 'J. GASH' *Spend Game* vi. 65 A tatty copy of the world's worst-seller like Dr Chase's book.

worsted ('wʊstɪd), *sb.* Forms: a. 3-4 worth-, 4 wurthstede, worsthested(e, worstested; 3 wr-, 4-5 wurstede, 6 -steede, 5-6 wursted (5 -stet); 4-5 wirsted, 6 wyrsted, 5 werstede; 4-6 worstede (5 wore-), 4- worsted (4 -seted, 6 -stedd, -stydy; 5 -stet, 6 -stett; 6 vorsted), 5 worsteyd, 6 -steid; 6-8 worstead; 6 woorstred, 7 -sted, -stead. β. 5-6 wolsted(e, 6 wullstid, ulsted, 7 wolsteed, 6, 8 woolsted. γ. 5-6 wusted, 5-7 wosted, 6-8 woosted. δ. *Sc.* and *n. dial.* 4, 6-7, 9 worset, 4, 6-7 worsett, 7 worssett; 5-6 worsat, 6 worsatt, -ait, 9 wurset, -it, wossat, wusset; 4 wirset, 5 wirrsatt, 6 wirsatt; 5 wersed. [From the name of a parish in Norfolk, north of Norwich, originally (OE.) *Wurðestede*, later *Wurthstede*, *Worthsted*, etc., and now written *Worstead*.]

†1. (Anglo-Latin) *pannus*, (Anglo-French) *drap*, de *Wurthstede*, etc.: = sense 2. *Obs.*

1296 *Cal. Close Rolls* (1904) 511 Pannum de Worthstede. 1301 *Let. Pat.* 4 Oct. in *Northampton Bor. Rec.* (1898) I. 59 De quolibet panno de wurthstede qui vocatur coverlit. 1328 *Rolls of Parlt.* II. 281/1 Ses poueres... Overours des Draps de Wurthstede en le Counte de Norff. 1347 *Ibid.* 168/2 Pur Draps de Worstede une nouvelle Custume levee. 1350 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 173 In 11 pannis de nigro worseto. 1402-3 *Ibid.* 182 In tribus pannis de wirsted. 1442-3 *Ibid.* 185 In 1 panno nigro de worstestede.

2. a. A woollen fabric or stuff made from well-twisted yarn spun of long-staple wool combed to lay the fibres parallel.

a. 1293 in *Camden Misc.* II. 13 Pro xj. ulnis de wrstede ad caligas faciendas. 1345-9 in *Archæologia XXXI.* 78 Eidem ad vnam aulam de worstede operatum cum papagalles. c 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 262 Of double worstede was his semycope. 1393-4 *Act 17 Rich II.* c. 2 Les Marchants & overours de draps appelez sengle Worstede. 1411 E.E. *Wills* (1882) 19 Also y be-queyete to Robert, myn heldest son, a reed bedde of worsteyd. 1459 *Paston Lett.* I. 478 Item, j pece of grene wurstet xxx yards longe. 1465 *Ibid.* (1904) IV. 201 A coverlyte of whyte werstede longyng therto. 1535 in *Archæologia IX.* 249 A dublette of wurstede. a 1548 HALL *Chron.*, *Hen. VIII.* 61 b, Within hys gate... dwelled dyuerse Frenchmen that Kalendred Worsted, contrary to the kynges lawes. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* 475 They obtained... that the Worstede made there [at Norwich] might be transported. a 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Norf.* (1662) 247 It surpasseth my skill to name the several stuffs (being

Worsted disguised with Weaving and Colouring) made thereof. 1728 POPE *Dunc.* II. 150 The very worstead still look'd black and blue. 1771 MRS. HAYWOOD *New Present for Maid* 258 Directions for cleaning of Worsted and other Sorts of Stuffs. 1886 BECK *Draper's Dict.* 373 *Worsted*, cloth of long stapled-wool, combed straightly and smoothly, as distinct from woollens, which are woven from short staple wool, crossed and roughed in spinning.

β. 1436 *Nottingham Rec.* II. 152 Unum cowl de nigro wolstede. 1551-2 *Act 5 & 6 Edu. VI.* c. 7 § 1 Any kynde of Clothe Chamletttes Wolstede Sayes [etc.]. 1598 STOW *Surv.* 76 His guarde... all in a Liurey of Wolsted.

γ. 1440 in *Peacock Eng. Ch. Furniture* (1866) 182 A vestment of Black worsted. 1481-90 *Howard Househ. Bks.* (Roxb.) 38 A piece wusted ij. yerdes deppe, for streamers and standartes. 1537 in *Glasscock Rec. St. Michael's, Bp.'s Stortford* (1882) 126 Item a vestment of grene wusted w' an obe. 1556 *Towrson's 1st Voy.* in *Hakluyt* (1589) 108 They shewed vs a certaine course cloth, ... it was course wooll, and a small threed, and as thicke as wosted. 1607 R. C[AREW] tr. *Estienne's World Wond.* 235 Sleeues..., one halfe of woosted, the other of veluet.

δ. 1350 [see 1]. 1375 *Exch. Rolls Scot.* II. 505 Per empchonem de xij ulnis cum dimidio de wirset. 1436 *Registr. Aberdon.* (Maitl. Club) II. 148 Vnum vestimentum integrum de nigro wersed. 1483 *Acta Auditorum* (1839) *112/1 A covering of Inglis worsat. 1520-1 *Fabric Rolls York Minster* (Surtees) 305 One vestment of blacke worsett. 1565 in *Hay Fleming Reform. Scot.* (1910) 610 Ane baithkyt [sic] of roich worsat, to ly under nobillis feit. 1612 *Sc. Bk. Rates in Halyburton's Ledger* (1867) 289 Beltis... of worsett the groce, viij li.

b. With *pl.* A particular variety of this fabric.

1314-5 *Rolls of Parlt.* I. 292/2 Draps qe homme appele Worthstedes & Aylehames. 1348 in *Rymer Fœdera* (1708) V. 618 Stapula... aliorum Pannorum de Worstedes. 1393 *Pat. Roll 16 Rich. II.* II. 28 Feb., Pro mercatoribus et operatoribus de worstedes. 1442 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 60/2 Persones that maken untrewre ware of all maner Worstedes. 1471 *Paston Lett.* III. 14 A Worsted man of Norfolk, that solde worstedys at Wynchester. 1541-2 *Act 33 Hen. VIII.* c. 16 § 2 The making and weaving of worstedes and other clothes. 1573-80 *BARET Alv.* V 92 As if a man should carrie Mockadoes and woosteds to be sold at Norwich. 1603 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commu.* 27 They inuented... the making of tapestry, saies, searges, wosteds, russets. 1853 *URE Dict. Arts* II. 833 The class of goods technically distinguished as 'woollens' in distinction to 'worsteds.' 1895 *Daily News* 13 Sept. 5/3 The revival is more apparent in the production of the higher class of goods known as worsteds than in that known as woollens.

c. *ellipt.* for a garment made of worsted cloth; a worsted jacket or suit.

1962 L. DEIGHTON *Iperess File* i. 9, I struggled into the dark worsted and my only establishment tie. 1972 K. BONFIGLIOLI *Don't point that Thing at Me* iii. 20, I put on a dashing little tropical-weight worsted, curly-brimmed coker and a pair of buckskins. 1975 *Times* 8 Jan. 12/7 Behaving in a manner more suited to the canvas jacket than the charcoal-grey worsted.

3. A closely twisted yarn made of long-staple wool in which the fibres are arranged to lie parallel to each other. Later, a fine and soft woollen yarn used for knitting and embroidery (cf. WOOL *sb.* 3b).

1465 *Paston Lett.* II. 235, I pray yow ye woll send me hedir ij. clue of worsted for dobletts, to happe me thys cold wynter. 1546 *Extracts Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 236 Ane grit buyst, and certane kemmis, worsettis, spectikyllis, and wther small geir in it. 1612 *Sc. Bk. Rates in Halyburton's Ledger* (1867) 296 Sewing worssett. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 143 Their loom stands before them, and in their left hand they have several ends of round bottoms of Worstead of many colours, which they place in their several places. 1709 *Phil. Trans.* XXVIII. 265 She being a Spinner of Yarn or Woosted. a 1745 SWIFT *Story Injured Lady* (1746) 7 If a Tenant carried but... an Inch of Worsted to mend his Stockings, he should forfeit his whole Parcel. 1784 ADAM SMITH *W.N.* IV. viii. (1793) II. 507 Woollen yarn and worsted are prohibited to be exported under the same penalties as wool. 1841 *BARHAM Ingol. Leg., Nell Cook* Scene, Mrs. John Ingoldsby at the table, busily employed in manufacturing a cabbage-rose... in many-coloured worsteds. 1854 *SURTEES Handley Car.* lx. (1901) II. 152 The young ones sought out their threads and their worsteds to work her a collar or a piece of crochet work each. 1889 *Hardwicke's Sci.-Gossip* XXV. 134 The syphon, which may consist of a single thread of wool or worsted.

4. *attrib.* or *adj.* Made of worsted or worsted yarn; said of cloth, thread, garments, etc.; also in specific names of fabrics or materials, as *worsted braid*, *damask*, etc.

1410 *Rolls of Parlt.* III. 637/2 Les Worstedes appelez Worsted-beddes, doubles, & sengles. 1492 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 202 For ij dowbil wirrsatt beltis til him, price iij s. 1502 *Ibid.* II. 198 For iij elne worsait ribane to cord the said goune. 1533 *Test. Ebor.* VI. 43 A wolsted dublet. 1566 in *Peacock Eng. Ch. Furniture* (1866) 67 Item iij worsted copes. 1589 *GREENE Menaphon* (Arb.) 74 Spangled like to the woosted stockings of Saturne. 1605 ÉRONDELLE *Fr. Gard.* D 8 b, I will have no woosted hosen. 1647 *HERRICK Noble Numb., Widow's Tears* iv, The woosted thred Is cut, that made us clothing. 1720 T. GORDON *Humourist* I. 45 Renouncing his Buckles and conforming to Woolsted-Tapes. 1748 SMOLLETT *R. Random* xvii, His white silk stockings were converted into black worsted hose. 1828 SCOTT *F.M. Perth* vi, The thumb of his mother's worsted glove might hold the treasure of the whole clan. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 555/2 Worsted shag [is made] at Banbury and Coventry. 1858 LYTTON *What will He do?* i. vi, Two small worsted rugs. 1878 MISS BRADDON *Eleanor's Vict.* ii, Voluminous worsted curtains falling before the narrow windows. 1882 CAULFIELD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework* 524 Worsted Braids... Worsted Damasks.

Comb. 1767 *Ann. Reg.* 158 The looms of a worsted-lace-weaver.

5. Simple *attrib.* and adjective *comb.*, as *worsted-breaker*, *-comber*, *-dealer*, *-factory*,

machinery, -maker, -making, manufacture, -manufacturer, merchant, mill, repository, †-shearing, †shearman, -spinner, -spinning, -throwster, trade, -weaver, -weaving; worsted work, embroidery done with worsted yarn on canvas; an example of this; hence worsted-worked a.

1835 URE *Philos. Manuf.* 217 These two endless chains pass over fluted guide-rollers (like those more obviously seen in the *worsted-breaker). **1702** in P. Wright *New Bk. Martyrs* (1784) 808/1 William Hussey, a *worsted comber. **1830** PARSON & WHITE *Directory Leeds* etc. 426 *Worsted Dealers. **1843** Penny Cycl. XXVII. 554/1 A *worsted factory in the north. **1875** KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2819 *Worsted machinery. **1538** STARKEY *England* i. iii. 95 Weucrys, *worstyd-makys, tukkarys and fullarys. **1534** Act 26 Hen. VIII. c. 16 §5 The said mysterie and occupation of *Worsted makinge. **1805** LUCCOCK *Wool* 156 The state of the *worsted manufacture. **1736** in *Rec. Convent. Royal Burghs Scot.* (1885) V. 604 The case of the silk and *worst manufacturers. **1801** T. PECK *Norwich Directory* 11 Crowe William, Worsted-Manufacturer. **1481** Paston Lett. III. 278 One Bolt, a *worstede marchand. **1880** GOLDW. SMITH *Couper* vii. 100 The letter slides from spiritual despair to the worsted-merchant. **1836** W. WHITE *Hist. etc. Norf.* 96 Two *worsted mills at Norwich. **1858** SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, *Worsted-repository*, . . . a shop where fancy knitting-wools are sold. **1503-4** Act 19 Hen. VII. c. 17 §1 The *Worsted Sheremen wythin the said Citie . . . have chosen Wardens of *Worsted sheryng. **1830** PARSON & WHITE *Directory Leeds* 171 *Worsted spinners. **1895** *Daily News* 21 June 2/2 The *worsted-spinning business of Henry Pease and Company. **1716** Lond. Gaz. No. 5401/4 A *Worsted-Throwster by Trade. **1835** URE *Philos. Manuf.* 68 The *worsted trade of England. **1442** *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 60/2 The craft of *Worsted Wevers. **1707** Lond. Gaz. No. 4319/4 George Durant, of the City of Norwich, Worsted-Weaver. **1702** C. FIENNES *Journeys* (1947) 277 One with a half bedstead as the new mode, dimity with fine shades of *worsted works well made up. **1826** M. WILMOT *Let.* 25 Sept. (1935) 250, I do *worsted work* . . . but . . . my eyes are too weak to count the threads of any but coarse canvas . . . What do you make of yours? Foot stools! cushions! bell pulls! **1888** MRS. H. WARD *Robert Elsmere* I. i. x. 280 His wife, whose head was bent close over her worsted work. **1853** MRS. GASKELL *Cranford* viii. 116 Carlo lay on the *worsted-worked rug.

worsted ('wɜːstɪd), *ppl. a.* [f. WORST *v.* + -ED.] Defeated.

1690 CHILD *Disc. Trade* (1698) 198 The worsted party, by the fate of war, being deprived of their estates. **1780** S. J. PRATT *Emma Corbett* (ed. 4) II. 52 The general on the worsted side affected to be dismayed. **1812** J. & H. SMITH *Rej. Addr.* i. (1873) 6 God bless the guards, though worsted Gallia scoff. **1869** GLADSTONE *Juventus Mundi* iii. 84 A place of refuge for fugitives, and for the worsted party expelled from other portions of Greece.

absol. **1855** BROWNING *Old Pict. Florence* xiv, To submit is the worsted's duty.

'worstness. *rare.* [f. WORST *a.* + -NESS.] The quality or state of being worst.

a 1665 J. GOODWIN *Filled w. the Spirit* (1867) 92 Lastness or worstness in estate or condition.

†**'worsum, 'wursum.** *Obs.* Forms: *a.* 1 worms (uorsm), wursm, 3 (9 *north. dial.*) wursum (wrusum), 4, *Sc.* 6-7, 9 worsum; *Sc.* 7 worsam, -some, 6 woursome, 9 woursum. *β.* 3, 6 *Sc.* wirsum (3 *Orm.* wirrsenn), 9 *north. dial.* wirsom. [OE. *worsm, wursm*, metathetic form of the more usual *worms, wurms* (also *wyrms*), app. related to *wyrm* WORM *sb.*] Purulent matter, pus.

a. **c 825** Epinal Gloss. 777 Pus, uorsm. **c 1000** Sax. Leechd. I. 100 Heo . . . pæt worms [v.r. worms] ut atyhð. *Ibid.* II. 202 Op pæt he pæt wursm of muðe hræce. **a 1225** Ancr. R. 274 Mine wunden . . . gedereð neowe wrusum [v.r. wursum] & foð on eft uorte rotien. **a 1300** Cursor M. 11835 Quer-al wrang vte worsum and ware, And wormes chead here and þære. **1513** DOUGLAS *Æneis* III. ix. 64 Thir wretchit mennis fescche, that is his fude, And drinkis worsum, and thair lopperit blude. **1595** DUNCAN *App. Etym.* (E.D.S.), Pus, sanies, worsum of a byle. **1610** in Pitcairn *Crim. Trials* III. 95 For Bewitching of ane kow, quhairthrow þe hail milk that scho pairfretir gaif was bluid and worsam. **1613** P. FORBES *On Rev.* iv. 15 It is not mixed with blood . . . much lesse with bloody worsum. **1666** Despaut. *Gram.* D4a (Jam.), *Tabes* . . . rotten and putrifid blood and worsome. **1808** JAMIESON, *Worsum, Wursum*, purulent matter; S. pron. *wursum*. **1846** BROCKETT *N.C. Words* (ed. 3), *Wursum*, pus; particularly when foul.

β. **c 1200** ORMIN 4782 War & wirrsenn toc anan Ut off hiss lic to flowenn. **a 1250** Ancr. R. 322 (Titus MS.), Hwon . . . al þe fulðe scheawes him & wringes ut tat wirsum. **1597** in *Misc. Spalding Club* (1841) I. 93 Thow . . . keist witchcraft on the said cow, . . . that scho gewo no milk, bot . . . lyk wirsum or wenem. **1847** HALLIWELL, *Wirsom*, foul pus. *Yorksh.*

b. quasi-adj. Purulent.

a 1599 ROLLOCK *Serm.* Wks. 1849 I. 444 He hes not skunnert . . . at thy worsum bylis, and botchis.

wort (wɜːt), *sb.*¹ Forms: 1 wyrt, 2 wirtē, 6 *pl.* wirtes; 2 wert, 4 *pl.* wertes; 1, 3, 5-7 wurt (5 *pl.* wurten), 3 wrt, 3-7 worte (5 *wourte*), 4- wort (5 *pl.* worttus, 6 *woort*). [OE. *wyrt* root, plant = OS. *wurt*, OHG. (MHG. and G.) *wurze*, ON. (Icel., Norw., Sw., Da.) *urt*, Goth. *waurts*; the stem is related to those of ON. *rót* ROOT *sb.*, and of L. *rādix*, Gr. *ρίζα*.

For the history of the spelling and pronunciation, see the note to WORM *sb.*

1. A plant, herb, or vegetable, used for food or medicine; often = pot-herb.

Not in ordinary use after the middle of the 17th cent. and now *arch.* As a second element, however, retained in various plant-names, as *colewort*, *liverwort*.

c 825 Vesp. Psalter lxxxix. 6 On marne swe swe wyrt leoreð. **c 897** ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past.* C. xxiii. 173 Manegra cynna wyrtta & grasu. **c 950** Lindisf. Gosp. Luke xi. 42 Siæ teiðas meric & cunela & ælc wyrt. **c 1000** Sax. Leechd. I. 70 Deos wyrt þe man betonicam nemneð. **c 1250** LAY. 31884 þat folc flah in to wudes . . . heo luueden bi wurten. **c 1250** Gen. & Ex. 119 Ilk gres, ilc wurt, . . . His owen sed beren bad he. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6999 It wolde finde hom lec & worten inowe bi þe zere. **13..** E.E. Allit. P. A. 42 Schadowed pis worte ful schyre & schene, Gilofre, gyngure, & gromlyoun, & pyonys. **c 1386** CHAUCER *Clerk's T.* 170 Whan she homward cam she wolde byrynge Wortes or othere herbes tymes ofte. **c 1420** Liber Cocorum (1862) 46 Hakke smalle þy wortis and persyl. **c 1475** Macro Plays, *Mankind* 265, I was neuer worth a pottfull a wortis, sythyn I was borne. **1531** ELYOT *Governor* III. xxii. (1883) II. 343 Wortes that the felde do brynge furthe, for their potage. **1578** LYTE *Dodoens* v. lxxv. 642 Cyues . . . is set in gardens amongst potte herbes, or wurtis. **1605** VERSTEGAN *Dec. Intell.* vii. 238 Wirta or Wurta. Woortes, for which wee now vse the French name of herbes. **1653** JER. TAYLOR *Serm. Yr., Winter* xvi. ii. 204 It is an excellent pleasure to be able to take pleasure in worts and water, in bread and onions. **1755** JOHNSON, *Wort*, 1. Originally a general name for an herb; whence it still continues in many, as *liverwort*, *spleenwort*. **1864** COCKAYNE *Leechd.* (Rolls) I. Pref. p. liii, We find the healing power of worts spoken of as a thing of course. **1888** A. S. WILSON *Lyric Hopeless Love* cxv. 330 And worts and pansies there which grew Have secrets others wish they knew.

†2. A general name for any plant of the cabbage kind, genus *Brassica*; colewort. *Obs.*

c 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 190 Woman mylk and worts soupith. **c 1440** Palladius on Husb. i. 154 Saue wortis [exceptis caulibus] sowe in hem what euer hit be. **c 1450** Two Cookery-Bks. 69 Hare in Wortes—Take Colys, and stripe hem faire from the stalkes. **a 1500** Mourn. Hare in E.E. Misc. (Warton Club) 44 Yf I to the toune come or torne, Be hit in worttus or in leyke. **1538** TURNER *Libellus, Brassica* . . . *anglice uocatur* wortes aut Cole aut Cole Wortes. [1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* i. 1. 123 *Fal.* Good worts? good Cabidge.] **1601** HOLLAND *Pliny* XIX. iv. II. 11 Here is the stem of a wort so well growne, here is a cabbage so thriven and fed, that a poore mans boord will not hold it. **1617** FLETCHER *Valentinian* III. ii, I am poor, . . . yet digging, pruning, . . . Planting of Worts and Onions, any thing That's honest, . . . I'll rather chuse. **1648** HERRICK *Hesper.*, To M. Jo. Wicks 12 A Dish Of thrice-boyl'd-worts. **1755** JOHNSON, *Wort* 2. A plant of the cabbage kind.

†3. *pl. a.* = POTTAGE 1. *Obs.*

c 1400 Master of Game (MS. Digby 182, Prol. 231 He shall lat ordeynn wele his soper with worts of the necke of the hert and of oþer good metes. **1545** RAYNOLD Byrth Mankynde 114 Wortes made of olde chese, cicer, cristall beaten to powder and taken with hony. **1547** BALDWIN *Mor. Philos.* 7 If thou, Diogenes, couldest flatter Dionise, thou shouldst not need to make woorts. **1556** WITHALS *Dict.* (1562) 51/2 Pulmentum, a meate made lyke greswell or wortes.

†*b.* With qualifying word: esp. *long worts*.

c 1430 Two Cookery-Bks. 5 Lange Wortes de chare.—Take beeff and merybonys, and boyle yt in fayre water; þan take fayre wortys and . . . parboyle hem in clene water [etc.]. *Ibid.*, Lange Wortes de pesoun. **c 1460** J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 518 Frumenty with venesoun, pesyn with bakon, longe wortes not spare. **c 1500** Wyl Bucke's *Test.* (Copland) B 1 b, For to make small worts. . . then take herbes of the beste that thou can gette for wortes, and hewe them small.

4. *Comb.*, as †*wort blade*, †*leaf*, †*plant*, †*porridge*; *wort-blue* adj.; †*wort-cropper*, a name for the hare; *wort-cunning* (pseudo-*arch.*), the knowledge of herbs and plants; †*wort-stock*, a cabbage-stalk; †*wort-yard*, a herb-garden. Also WORTWORM.

14.. Lat.-Eng. Voc. (MS. Harl. 2257), *Caulis*, . . . a *worte blade. **1933** AUDEN in *Rev. Eng. Stud.* (1978) Aug. 304 Wound round neek the *wort-blue tie. **13..** Names of Hare (MS. Digby 86 ff. 168 b), þe cawelherth, þe *wort-croppere. **1864** COCKAYNE (title) *Leechdoms*, *Wortcunning, and Starcraft of Early England. **1579** LANGHAM *Gard. Health* 13 Rosted in a Docke or *Worte leafe. **c 1475** Pict. Voc. in Wr.-Wülcker 786/37 *Hoc olusculum*, a *wurtplant. **1556** in W. H. Turner *Select. Rec. Oxford* (1880) 240 Item, *worte porrege, . . . iij^d. **14..** in Wr.-Wülcker 594/31 *Mandarus*, . . . a *wortstoke. **1601** Holland *Pliny* XX. ix. II. 50 Wort-stocks beeing dried and burnt into ashes. **c 1000** Cambr. Ps. cxliii. 13 *Promptuaria*, hordyrn vel *wyrtr-geardas. **c 1380** WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 331 He . . . suffrede not, for defeaute of preching, Goddis vynejerde passe to a wortjerd. **1382** — 1 *Kings* xxi. 2 3if to me thi vyn 3erd, that I make to me a wort 3erd.

wort (wɜːt), *sb.*² Forms: 1 wyrt, 5 wirt; 4- wort, 4-7 worte (5 *wortte*), 4 wourt, 5 wurt(e, 5-7 woort (6 *woorte*). [OE. *wyrt* = OS. *wurtja* spicery, MHG. and G. *würze*, spice, brewer's wort), f. the stem *wurt-*; cf. *wyrt* WORT *sb.*¹]

1. The infusion of malt or other grain which after fermentation becomes beer (or may be used for the distillation of spirits), unfermented beer. †Of beer: (to be) in *wort*, still unfermented. (See also SWEETWORT.)

c 1000 Ags. Leechd. II. 268 Bewylle þone þridan dæl on hwætene wyrt. **c 1325** Gloss. W. de Bibbesw. in Wright Voc. 158 Fro wort to ale. **a 1387** Sinon. Barthol. (Anecd. Oxon.) 16 *Ciromellum*, worte. **c 1450** Two Cookery-Bks. II. 107 Seth hem [sc. quinces] in goode wort til þey be soft. **1492** Acta Dom. Concil. (1839) 243/1 þe spoliatioun . . . of . . . half a chalder of malt in ail and wort. **1574** R. SCOT *Hop Garden* (1578) 54 In the first Woorte . . . there goeth out of these Hoppes almost no vertue at all. **1588** SHAKS. *L.L.L.* v. ii. 233 Nay then two treyes, an if you grow so nice Metheglie, Wort, and Malmsey. **1602** ROWLANDS *Greenes Ghost* 8 They put in willowe leaues and broome buds into their woort in

steed of hoppes. **1626** BACON *Sylva* §385 It were good also to try the Beere, when it is in Wort, that it may be seene, whether [etc.]. **1697** DAMPIER *Voy.* (1699) I. 314 This in 2 hours time will ferment and froth like Wort. **1731** P. SHAW *Three Ess. Artif. Philos.* 65 When a parcel of Wort, brewed in the common manner, is become fine by standing. **1738** Gentl. Mag. VIII. 140/1 An eighth Part of the Wort evaporated in three Hours boiling. **1837** Penny Cycl. IX. 24/1 By the exeise rules, 100 gallons of such wort ought to yield one gallon of proof spirit for every five degrees of attenuation. **1868** SPENCER *Princ. Psych.* vi. vii. (1872) II. 71 Fermenting wort gives out carbonic acid. **1880** Act 43 & 44 Vict. c. 24 §5 (1) No person may, without being licensed . . . Brew or make wort or wash.

†*b.* *Sc.* to play wort: to work or stir the mash in the brewing vessel. *Obs.*

1644 Markinch Kirk Sess. Rec. 10 Jan., The collecteres . . . delateth that Alex^r Greig his wyff & his woman wer playing wort. *Ibid.* 12 May, James Robertson . . . denyed that thair was any wort played in his hous the fasting Wednesday.

†*c.* *fig.* to cast in one's worts that, etc.: to give one something to meditate upon or consider. *Obs.*

1539 CROMWELL *Let. to Hen. VIII.* 5 Feb. (1902) II. 176 And yet further I casted in his wortes that if they wold regarde them [sc. the Pope's censures] your highnes was and should be habile . . . to defende . . . yourself . . . and that . . . they should not fynde your grace unfurnished of all thinges expedient.

2. An infusion or decoction of malt formerly used in treatment of ulcers, of scurvy, and other diseases.

1694 SALMON *Bate's Dispens.* (1713) 717/2 This medicine will do much better in a strong Decoction of Ground Malt, Anglice Wort. **1766** in Macbride *Th. & Pract. Physic* (1772) 642 The first day he took the wort, he had the following scorbutic symptoms. **1770** Rush in *Med. Observ.* (1772) IV. 367 An Account of the Usefulness of Wort in some ill-conditioned Ulcers.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, chiefly in names of utensils and materials used in brewing, as †*wort-cake*, *-condenser*, *-cooler*, *copper*, †*dish*, †*fat*, *-filter*, †*lead*, *-refrigerator*, †*stone*, †*-trough*, *tub*, *tun*; also *worts-receiver*.

1795 SIR J. DALRYMPLE *Let. to Admiralty* 3 My Yeast-powder . . . to set the first parcel of *Wort-cakes in fermentation. **1875** KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Wort-condenser, one for condensing the vapor which rises from the wort in the process of boiling. *Ibid.*, *Wort-cooler, usually a shallow vat of large area, in which the infusion of malt is placed to cool. **1838** Civil Engin. & Arch. Jnl. I. 406/2 The consumption of fuel was much more considerable in the immense grate under the *wort copper. **1747** in *Nairne Peerage Evid.* (1874) 80 In the brewhouse . . . a *wort dish, sixpence. **1367** Priory of Finchale (Surtees) p. lxxviii, iij gilfatts sive *wortfatts. **1583** Rec. Elgin (New Spald. Club 1903) I. 172 Ane masking fatt, ane wortfatt. **1875** KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Wort-filter, one for extracting the clear liquor from the boiled mash. **1420** Inventory in Lincoln Chapter Acc. Bk. A. 2. 30. f. 69, 2 *wortleddes. **a 1550** in Strutt *Horde* (1776) III. 65 Item 6 wort leeds, callyd coolars. **1893** NETTLETON *Manuf. Spirit* 103 They drain by several pipes . . . into a *worts-receiver. **1875** KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Wort-refrigerator, an apparatus for cooling wort after boiling with hops and previous to fermentation. **1529** Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot. (1883) 178 A mask fatt, a *wort stane. **1542** Richmond Wills (Surtees) 30 A brown leed . . . a maskefatt, . . . and a worston. **1485** in Ripon Ch. Acts (Surtees) 371, j *wort trogh de lapide. **1660** Melrose Regality Rec. (S.H.S.) I. 295 Ane woorttroch. **1580** Reg. Privy Council Scot. III. 320 Foure gyle fattis and ane *wort tube. **1635** Toke (Kent) Estate Actts. (MS.) fol. 178 The great *worte tunne in bruhouse.

†**wort**, *sb.*³ *Sc.* *Obs.* [Metathetic form of *wrot* WROOT *sb.*] The snout of a pig.

1507 Extracts *Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 436 That nay swyne be haldin within this toun, vteuche band, or ane ring in thar wort, . . . and gif thai be fundin vteuche band, and without ring in thar wort, . . . thai salbe eshet, [etc.].

wort, variant of WHORT.

1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 376 Black Worts. Black Whortle-berries.

†**wort**, *v.* *Sc.* *Obs.* [Metathetic form of *wrot* WROOT *v.* Cf. WORT *sb.*³] *trans.* Of swine: To root or dig up (ground).

1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* (1821) II. 164 Ane swine that . . . worts othir mennis landis, sal be slane. **1560** Maitl. Club Misc. III. 218 That odious Beast and lecherouse Swyne (quhai hais worted and ruted vp the Lordes wyne yard so far as in him wes). **1597** Jas. VI *Demonol.* III. i. 59 When as Swine wortes vppe the graues. **1808** JAMIESON, To Wort, Wort-up, v.a., to dig up.

wort, var. *vorte*, FORTE *conj.* (= until).

a 1400 R. GLOUC. *Chron.* (Rolls) 4920 + 22 Vorte [MS. a. wort] God yt wolde amende.

||**Wörter und Sachen** ('vœrtər unt 'zaxən). [Ger., words and things (R. Meringer *Indogermanische Forschung* (1904) XVI. 101).] (See quot. 1964.) Freq. *attrib.*

1937 J. ORR tr. *Jordan's Introd. Romance Linguistics* i. 73 Their researchers imply the investigation of a variety of cultural influences and exchanges which entitles them to be associated . . . with the Wörter und Saehen movement. **1957** Language XXXIII. 54 The twin methods of 'Wörter-und-Sachen' and 'Sachen-und-Wörter', devised half a century ago by . . . Meringer and Schuchardt . . . require no formal introduction at this late date. **1964** R. H. ROBINS *Gen. Linguistics* 79 A special aspect of dialect study is known as *Wörter und Sachen*. . . This involves the detailed study in different dialects of the forms of words relating to material objects and processes. **1976** Amer. Speech 1973 XLVIII. 164 The Wörter-und-Sachen technique has been used for five decades by Swiss and German dialectologists to probe

the relationship between words and the objects and processes they describe.

worth (wɜ:θ), *sb.*¹ Forms: 1 *weorþ*, *weorð* (1-2 *weorð*), *wurð* (2 *wurhðe*), *wyrþ*, 1, 3 *wurþ*, 2-3 *wurth* (5 *wurthe*, *wyrtht*); 1, 4 *worþ*, 3- *worth* (6 *worht*), 4-7 *worthe*, 6 *woorth*, *wourth*(e). [OE. *weorþ* (*wurp*, *worþ*) neut., = OFris. *werth*, OS. *werd*, OHG. *werd* (MHG. *wert*, G. *werth*, *wert*), ON. *verð* (Norw. *verd*, Da. *værd*), Goth. *wairþ*. Cf. *word* a.]

1. Pecuniary value; †price; †money.

c825 *Vesp. Psalter* xliii. 13 Ðu bihohtes folc ðin butan *weorðe*. c893 ÆLFRED *Oros*. iv. x. 198 þe he hie sume wið feo gesealde, . . he þæt weorð nolde agan. 971 *Blickling Hom.* 89 Hire innop þu gefyldest nigon monap mid ealles middangeardes *weorpe*. c1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xxvi. 9 þys mihte beon geseald to miclum *weorpe*, and þearfum gedæled. c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 31 þet he nime þa ilke ehte oðer his *wurð*. a1225 *Ancr. R.* 150 Nis heo uniseli þet mit te wurð of heouene buð hire helle? 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 7674 þe King Willam uorto wite þe wurp of is londe Let enqueri streitliche [etc.]. a1300 *Cursor M.* 12390 Treen beddes for to make, Was he wont for worth to take. 1390 *Gower Conf.* II. 46 That al the gold of Cresus halle The leste coronal of alle Ne mihte have boght after the worth. c1450 *Godstow Reg.* 539 He sholde yeve to them eschange to the worthe of the same acris. 1581 A. HALL *Iliad* i. 1 Chryses . . with things of price, . . His daughter captiue helde by Greekes by worth hir home to buy. 1642 D. ROGERS *Naaman* 133 A pearle . . makes all base, & to come under the worth thereof. 1695 LOCKE *Further Consid. Value Money* 27 Rising and falling of Commodities is always between several Commodities of distinct worths. 1781 *Cowper Charity* 133 The bark . . Charg'd with a freight transcending in its worth The gems of India. 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Doctors' Commons*, Some poverty-stricken legatee, . . selling his chance . . for a twelfth part of its worth. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* iv. 41 Of little worth Was all the gear that hall did hold.

b. The equivalent of a specified sum or amount.

For OE. examples see PENNYWORTH, and cf. HALFPENNYWORTH, *pounds' worth* (s.v. POUND *sb.*¹ 4), SHILLINGSWORTH.

1508 *Reg. Privy Seal Scot.* I. 258/1 The malis . . of the vi merkis worth of land of the Redecastell. 1583 STOCKER *Civ. Warres Lowe* C. iv. 55 b, This victualler had about him in Gold to the Worth of 20. Florins. 1607 SHAKS. *Timon* iii. iii. 22 I'de rather then the worth of thrice the summe, Had sent to me first. 1627 *Treasurer's Almanack* (ed. 2) B6, The Operation of the worth of 30 li. Annuite for 6 yeares. a1687 PETTY *Polit. Arith.* viii. (1691) 108 If the Tradesmen . . could do one Million worth of Work extra-ordinary. 1781 *Cowper Table-T.* 85 The worth of his three kingdoms I defy, To lure me to the baseness of a lie. 1859 TENNYSON *Graunt & Enid* 410 'Take Five horses and their armours,' . . 'My lord, I scarce have spent the worth of one!' 1890 R. BOLDREWOOD 'Col. Reformer' xxiii, He always gets the worth of his money.

†c. In allusive phr.: The amount or value of something small or insignificant. *Obs.*

13. . . *Guy Warw.* (A.) 150 þer nas man . . þat bireft him worp of a slo. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. iv. 170 3it 3eue 3e me neuere þe worthe of a russhe. 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* i. x. (1867) 24 Begging of hir booteth not the woorth of a beane. 1674 Money (in contrast to goods). *Obs. rare.* a1300 *Cursor M.* 5393 þai had noþer worth ne ware þat þai moght for þair mete spare.

2. The relative value of a thing in respect of its qualities or of the estimation in which it is held.

Freq. with implication of high value: cf. b.

1340 *Ayenb.* 82 Hit sseweþ þet þe wordle is ydel, ine byinge vyl, in worþ biter. 1390 *Gower Conf.* I. 25 Of Selver that was overforth Schal ben a world of lasse worth. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 174/2 Y^e Worth of a thing, *precium, dignitas*. 1599 STORER *Life & D. Wolsey* C 3, A man made old to teach the worth of age. 1605 CAMDEN *Rem., Epitaphs* 42 This bad inscription which I insert more for the honor of the name, then the worth of the verse. 1616 DRAXE *Bibl. Scholast.* 2 A man knoweth not the worth of a thing before that he wanteth it. 1663 BUTLER *Hud.* i. i. 880 Nor doth the bold'st attempts bring forth Events still equal to their worth. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Horace, Art Poet.* 526 Let them not come forth, 'Till the ninth ripening Year mature their Worth. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* viii. ix, I knew not . . the full worth of steadiness and prudence till I knew this young man. 1857 MAURICE *Epist. St. John* i. 4 He made me see the worth of habits, the worth of acts, the worth of moral purposes. 1877 C. GEIKIE *Christ* xxxi. (1879) 370 The worth of man's homage to God does not depend on the place where it is paid.

b. High or outstanding value, excellence. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1617 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Three Weeks' Observ.* D 2 b, A paire of such Organs, which for worth and workmanship are vnparelleld in Christendome. 1659 *Gentl. Calling* vi. xvii. 435 Any thing that carries the stamp of ancient worth and nobility. 1678 WANLEY *Wond. Lit. World* v. ii. §16. 469/2 A covetous Pelagian, and one that had nothing of worth in him.

3. The character or standing of a person in respect of moral and intellectual qualities; *esp.* high personal merit or attainments.

In early use also comprising rank or dignity.

1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* ii. iv. 102 His worth is warrant for his welcome hether. 1593 — *Rich.* II, iii. iii. 110 By the Worth and Honor of himselfe, . . His comming hither hath no further scope, Then for his Lineall Royalties. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 19 He was a iust Prince, full of worth and magnanimitie. 1621 BRAITHWAIT *Nat. Embassie* Ded. A 2, The accomplished mirror of true worth, Sr. T. H. the elder. 1655 ASHE *Funeral Sermon. Gataker* 46 To favour the Son very highly for his own worth and work in the Ministry. 1728 YOUNG *Love Fame* iii. 265 How hard for real worth to gain its price? 1753-4 RICHARDSON *Grandison* I. xvi. 103, I regard him . . for his own worth's sake, and for his uncle's. 1788 J. HURDIS *Village Curate* (1797) 14 The down-cast eye of modest worth, Which shrinks at its own praise. 1827

SOUTHEY *Funeral Song, P'cess Charlotte of Wales* 21 Henry, thou of saintly worth. 1872 MORLEY *Voltaire* 3 Each did much to raise the measure of worth . . of mankind.

b. In pl., †sometimes of one person.

a1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* ii. ii. §4 How can you him unworthy then decree, In whose chiefe parte your worthes implanted be? a1593 MARLOWE & NASHE *Dido* iii. iv. 1037 If that you maiestie can looke so lowe, As my despised worths. 1616 T. SCOT *Philomythie* ii. C 3, If either of you, thinke you can Out of your owne worths, proue more fit. 1631 WEEVER *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 116 Honourably preferred, and prouided for according to their worthes.

4. In the phrases of *great, little, no*, etc., *worth*.

1590 SPENSER *F.Q.* ii. iii. 21 A goodlie Ladie . . That seemed to be a woman of great worth. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxiii. §15 As the sacrament it selfe is a gift of no meane woorth. 1600 SHAKS. *A.Y.L.* v. iv. 161 Euerie day Men of great worth resorted to this Forrest. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 70 Seeing resistance of no worth, [they] fled. 1784 COWPER *Task* vi. 952 Forgive him, then, thou bustler in concerns Of little worth. 1820 SHELLEY *Hymn Merc.* xxx, Caldrons and tripods of great worth. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* ii. 397 And two dear things are one of double worth. 1846 LANDOR *Imag. Conv., Colonna & Buonarrotti* Wks. II. 217/2 A man of highest worth.

b. of *worth*: of high merit or excellence.

c1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* xlv. i, My harte endites an argument of worth. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* iii. i. 107 She . . is promis'd by her friends Vnto a youthfull Gentleman of worth. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 38 Rings and Jewels of Gold inammeld and set with stones of worth and lustre. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Coronat. Solyma* 84 All the Kaanas or Governments of Persia were likewise bestow'd upon persons of worth. 1766 FORDYCE *Serm. Yng. Wm.* (1767) I. Pref. p. vii, Women of worth and sense are to be found every-where. 1816 L. HUNT *Rimini* iv. 391 Her thin white hand, that wore a ring of worth. 1825 SCOTT *Betrothed* xxvii, The sordid wretches . . conceive those temptations too powerful for men of worth.

5. The position or standing of a person in respect of property; hence *concr.*, possessions, property, means. *Obs.* or *arch.*

1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* ii. vi. 32 They are but beggars that can count their worth. 1598 MANWOOD *Lawes Forest* xvi. (1615) 109 Euery Gentleman, Husbandman, Farmer and householder of any worth. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 206 They . . generally loue play: . . so that . . they will hazard all their worth, themselves, wiues, children and other substance. 1753-4 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1781) II. 227 She gave in an estimate of her worth, to what amount the Ladies knew not. 1812 CRABBE *Tales* xvii. 172 To legal claims he yielded all his worth.

†6. to take at, of, or to worth; to take (*accept, bear, have*) in worth, or in good worth; to take (or bear) well in worth; to take (something) at its true or proper value; to take in good part, to be content with. (See also AWORTH *adv.*) *Obs.*

(a) 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xii. 125 Take we her wordes at worthe, for here witnessse be trewe. 1483 *Vulgaria abs Terentio* nij, I thanke the that thou tokist it to worthe. *Ibid.* qij b, Thy mynde or hert that shulde take it at worthe. c1520 *Everyman* 903 This memorayall men may haue in mynde, Ye herers take it of worth.

(b) c1481 *Paston Lett.* III. 278 Yf she be eny better than I wryght for, take it in woof[r]the, I shew the leeste. c1490 CAXTON *Rule St. Benet* (1902) 134 He that it was sent vnto shall take it in worthe & cherefully. c1520 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 1439 And so as ye se it will be no better, Take it in worthe such as ye fynde. 1576 GASCOIGNE *Kenelw. Castle* Wks. 1910 II. 100 That you take in worth my will, which can but well deserve. 1636 SIR R. BAKER *Cato Variiegatus* 16 When a poore friend, a small gift gives to thee: Take it in worth: and let it praysed be.

(c) c1500 *Yng. Child. Bk.* 114 in *Babees Bk.*, Be it gode or be it badde, Yn gud worth it muste be had. 1523 [COVERDALE] tr. *Dulichius' Old God* (1534) Oj, Yf greate abbottes wolde take my salutation in good worthe it sholde be redy for theym. 1549 LATIMER *3rd Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 82 It becommeth me to take it in good worthe, I am not better then he was. 1576 R. PETERSON *G. della Casa's Galateo* 26 Some . . neuer take in good worthe the honour and courtesie that men doe vnto them. 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* Aijb, Not doubting that you wil take this small gift in good worth. 1642 FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* i. vi. 16 He compounds with his father to accept in good worth the utmost of his endeavour.

(d) a1542 WYATT *Poems, Lo! how I seek* 8 Hap evyll or good I shall be glad To take that comes as well in worthe. 1564 *Brief Exam.* Aiiij, I trust your most Reuerende fatherhood will beare all these thynges well in worth. 1592 TIMME *Ten Eng. Lepers* A 2, Pardon my rudenesse herein, and take it well in worthe.

worth (wɜ:θ), *sb.*² Now only *Hist.* Also 7 *woorth*. [OE. *worþ* (*weorþ*), *wurp*, = OS. *wurd*, MLG. *wurd*, *word*.] An enclosed place, a homestead.

Except in quot. 1649, only by inference from place-names in which it forms the second element.

1575 LANEHAM *Let.* (1871) 4 The name . . iz called Kenelvorth. Syns most of the Worths in England stand ny vntoo like lakez [etc.]. 1628 COKE *On Litt.* 5b, Worth signifieth a watry place or water. 1649 *Deed of Conveyance, Windsor*, All those two closes . . one . . on y^e Spittlehill and the other in the Woorth comonly called Margret Acre. 1917 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 338 Probably the 'worths' were farms on clearings made later than the original settlements.

†worth, *sb.*³ *Obs. rare*—¹. [Perh. an error for WORTHING.] Manure.

1609-10 *Act 7 Jas. I.* c. 18 §1 The Counties of Devon and Cornwall, where the moste parte of the Inhabitantes have not commonly used any other Worth, for the betteringe of their Arrable Groundes and Pastures.

worth, *sb.*⁴ error for ORD (beginning).

14. . . *Sir Beues* (S) 293 [He] tolde [it] boþ worth and ende.

worth (wɜ:θ), *a.* Forms: 1-2 *weorþ*, *weorð*, *weorðe*, 1-5 *worþ*, 3-5 *worpe*, 3-6 *worthe*, 3- *wurth*; 1, 3 *wurð*, 1-5 *wurþ* (*Orm. wurrþ*, 3, 5 *wrp*), 3-5 *wurth* (5 *wurght*), 4-5 *wurthe*; 5 *wourth*, 6-7 *woorth* (6-the); 5 *werth*, 9 *dial. wirth*. [OE. *weorþ*, *worþ*, *wurp*, = OFris. *werth*, OS. *werd*, MDu. *wert*, *weert* (Flem. *weerd*), *waert* (Du. *waard*), OHG. *werd* (MHG., G. *wert*), ON. *verðr* (Icel. *verður*, Norw. *verd*, Sw. *vård*, Da. *værd*), Goth. *wairþs*; the relationships of the stem are obscure. OE. also had the derivative form *wierðe*, *wyrðe*, which is represented by *wurðe*, *wurthe*, in early southern texts; see WURTHE *a.* The Anglian form of this, *weorðe*, cannot in ME. be distinguished from *weorð*.]

Almost always (now only) in predicative use, or following the *sb.* as part of a qualifying phrase.

I. 1. a. Of the value of a specified amount or sum; equivalent to (something) in material value.

Also used indefinitely in direct or indirect questions; see group (b).

(a) a695 *Latw Ine* lv, Ewo bið mid hire giunge sceape scill. *weorð*. *Ibid.* lviii, Oxan horn bið x. pæniga *weorð*. c1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 11416 Somme riche robes, wyþ [v.r. worth] many poundes. c1350 *Athelston* 391 Now is my goode hors forlorn, . . He was wurp an hundryd pounde. c1435 *Torr. Portugal* 712 At the beddes hed he fond A swerd, worthe an Erllys lond. c1450 *Mirk's Festial* 86 3e haue a comyn sayng among you, and sayn pat Godys grace ys worth a new fayre. 1480 WARKWORTH *Chron.* (Camden) 25 Alle the good that was therin, whiche was worthe xx. ml. li. or more. c1530 [see MARCH *sb.*² 2]. 1544 tr. *Littleton's Tenures* 81 Though the horse . . be nat the .xx. part worth of value of the summe of money. 1573-80 TUSSEUR *Husb.* (1878) 44 A rottenly mould is land woorth gould. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* vii. 289 An ell of the scarlet of Venice or of Turkie-cloth is here worth thirtie ducates. 1639 J. CLARKE *Paræm.* 45 A penny at a pinch is worth a pound. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Past.* v. 127 What Present worth thy Verse can Mopsus find! 1705 ADDISON *Italy, Pavia* 28 It [the statue] is esteem'd worth its weight in Gold. 1779 WARNER in *Jesse Selwyn & Contemp.* (1844) IV. 285 He would be worth a mint of money, and make one of the best hunters in the kingdom. 1839 LANE *Arab. Nts.* I. 80 It is worth ten pieces of gold. 1869 RUSKIN *Q. of Air* §122 The money of all nations is worth, at its maximum, the property of all nations, and no more.

(b) a1122 *O.E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1085 He lett gewritan . . hu mycel ælc mann hæfde . . & hu mycel feos hit wære wurð. c1400 *Rule St. Benet* lvii. 37 Loke what it is wrz [= wrþ], þat ye ne sette na felun price þar-on. 1528 *SL Cases Star Chamber* (Selden) II. 19 A Fyne . . whych amountyth nygh asmoche as the sayd landes . . be worth clyerly to be solde. 1605 ERONDELLE *Fr. Gard.* K 5 b, There is a fayre Diamond, what is it worth? 1795-6 WORDSW. *Borderers* iii. 1278 Pray tell me what this land is worth by the acre. 1905 'G. THORNE' *Lost Cause* ii. 37 What'll it be worth when it is reaped?

ellipt. a1690-1874 [see CANDLE *sb.* 5f]. 1883 D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* xviii, The game didn't seem worth the candle.

b. Of (such-and-such) value to a person. Also with dative of person.

1484 CAXTON *Fables of Poge* xii, [The Dene sayd] I pray yow what is this benefyce worth to yow a yere. 1533 MORE *Apol.* x. Wks. 867/1 Al the landes and fees that I haue . . is not at this daye . . woorth the yerele to my luyynge, the summe of full fyfthe pounde. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 303 Certainly that cuntry is not so much worth vnto hym, but that, if he myght with his honour, he coulde be content to forgoe it. 1632 *Star Chamber Cases* (Camden) 160 He said the first oath should stand and that it should be worth her 100^{li}. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Coronat. Solyma* 83 Which Employment was worth to him about fifteen thousand pounds yearly.

c. In contemptuous comparisons. Sometimes *ellipt.* after verbs of action: see (b).

For further examples see BUTTON *sb.* 1 b, CRESS 2, FAS 2, FIG *sb.*¹ 4, FLY *sb.*¹ 1 d, HALFPENNY 1, HAW *sb.*² 2, LEEK 3, MITE² 1 b, PEASE *sb.* 2 b, PIN *sb.*¹ 3 b, PREEN *sb.* 1 b, STRAW *sb.*¹ 7, TURD 1 b.

c1250 *Orison of Our Lady* 28 in *O.E. Misc.* 160 þis liues blisse nis wurð a slo. a1272 *Luue Ron* 86 *ibid.* 95 Hit nere on ende wrþ on heryng. c1290 *St. James* 52 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 35 Ower power nis nougt wurth an hawe. a1300 *Cursor M.* 26991 Hop es god at hald wth houe, bot til vnskil noght worth a gloue. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 769 For euery gadlyng nat wurp a pere Takyp ensample at 30w to swere. c1320 *Sir Tristr.* 3167 þis lond nis worþ anay [= an egg], When þou darst do swiche adede. a1352 MINOT *Poems* i. 24 þai fled, . . And all paire fare noght wurth a flye. 1390 *Gower Conf.* I. 334 To hasten is noght wurth a kerse. 14. . ? YLDG. *Assembly of Gods* 597 For all the baytys that ye for hym haue leyde . . be nat worth a peere. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 8 Whereas in maters not worth a blewie point . . wee will spare for no cost. a1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VII.* 7 She knewe it to be but a feigned & peined matre & not worth two strawes. 1580 FULKE *Retentive, Discov. Dang.* Rock ii. 181 Therfore these three differences are not worth three chippes. 1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 72, I would say they [the Jesuits] had no scholerisme worth a blew button amongst them.

ellipt. 1776 FOOTE *Bankrupt* ii. 36 Manufacturers, and meagre mechanicks? fellows not worth powder and shot. (b) 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1725) 204 þou fisses (not worpe a leke, rise & go pi ways. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. viii. 54 Schal no deuel at his dep-day deren him worp a Myte. c1425 *Macro Plays, Castle Persev.* 2227 Go hens! 3e do not worthe a tord!

2. a. Of material value; capable of being estimated in terms of money or some other material standard; valuable as a possession or

property. Qualified by adv. of quantity, as *little*, *much*, †*nought*. †*well worth*: of full value. *arch*.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 213 þe sullere loueð his þing dere and seið þat it is wel wurð, oðre betere; þe beþer. . . seið þat hit nis noht wurð. c 1340 *Nominal* (Skeat) 306 Lityl is worth the reme of an ey. 1482 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 118 As for a gosse hawke I gett non here yett for. . . my lordd Chamberleyn beyth hem upp and [= if] they be any thing wurth. 1558 T. WATSON *Seven Sacr.* xviii. 113 Bye me one or twoo of the best of them and leaste woorth. 1568 *Jacob & Esau* II. iv. Civ b, Ah sir, when one is hungry, good meat is much worth. 1581 PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* III. (1586) 138 It may rightly be saide. . . that the feathers are more worth then the byrde. 1615 W. LAWSON *Country Housew. Garden* (1626) 6 Fruit blown vnripe, are small worth. 1718 *Entertainer* No. 19. 126 A Carbunkle is more worth than a Rock. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 68 My Time or Labour was little worth, and so it was as well employ'd one way as another.

b. Of value in other than material respects. *arch*.

c 1200 ORMIN 1156 Mare wass hiss bede wurp þann alle þeþre lakess. c 1205 LAY. 26555 Nis noht wurð þratte buten þer beo dede æt. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2318 His sacringe was lute worp & napeles it was ydo. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 25 That figure. . . Betokneþ how the world schal change And waxe lasse worth and lassc. c 1430 *Freemasonry* (1840) 36 Hyt ys so muche worthe. . . The vertu theof no mon telle may. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* I. xii, Better worthe is to lyue in pouerte surely, than to lyue rychely beyng euer in daunger. 1568 CECIL in *Cal. St. Papers Irel.* Pref. 8 Marry! an ounce of advise is more worth to be executed aforehand than in the sight of perrills. 1579 GOOGE *Lopez de Mendoza's Prov.* 32 That wisdome is more woorth then the weapons of the mightie. 1648 GAGE *West Ind.* 37 Their prayers for them is more worth then the means of sustenance which they receive from them. 1672 MARVELL *Reh. Transp.* I. 19, I do not think it so much worth to gain his approbation. 1781 C. JOHNSTON *Hist. J. Juniper* II. 173 A blessing that is more worth than all the wealth of which the Jews have ever cheated honest men. 1834 SOUTHEY in *Corr. w. C. Bowles* (1881) 311 He will have. . . a living lesson, better worth than Divines could teach. 1871 B. TAYLOR *Faust* II. II. ii. 148 Little worth is woman's beauty, So oft an image dumb we see.

3. a. Of a specified or certain value in other than material respects.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 810 To soþ þou seiðest me, þat as muche as ich hadde ich was worp. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 8550 þy lyfe hym þynkeþ ys wurp no þyng. 1340-70 *Alex. & Dind.* 261 For riht wisdam is worp þe world riche. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A. Prol.* 75 Weore þe Bisschop. . . worpe boþe his Eres, Heo scholde not beo so hardi to deceyue þe peple. 1526 J. RASTELL *Hundred Merry Tales* (1866) 93, I pray y^e teche me my Pater noster, & by my trouth I shall therefore teche the a songe of Robyn hode that shall be worth .xx. of it. 1590 SPENSER *F.Q.* I. iii. 30 A dram of sweet is worth a pound of sowre. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 248, I thought an howers rest worth a Kings ransome. 1638 CHILLINGW. *Relig. Prot.* I. iii. §26. 139 Neither is this deduction worth any thing. 1713 ADDISON *Cato* II. i, A Day, an Hour of virtuous Liberty, Is worth a whole Eternity in Bondage. 1795-6 WORDSW. *Borderers* II. 1003 A thought that's worth a thousand worlds! 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* xxviii, A night-cowl of good claret is worth all the considering-caps in Europe. 1849 LYTTON *K. Arthur* VI. lxxx, But one live dog is worth ten lions dead. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* I. vi. 574 The judgement of a competent tribunal is always worth something. 1894 *Solicitor's Jnl.* XXXIX. 2/1 In a matter of this kind a grain of common sense is worth a peck of scientific hair-splitting.

b. In the phrase as *much as* . . . is worth.

1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 24 ¶4 It is as much as my Life is worth, if she should think we were intimate. 1849 CUPPLES *Green Hand* x, To haul on a wind was as much as her spars were worth.

c. for all (it, one) is, was worth: to the fullest extent. Orig. U.S.

1875 'MARK TWAIN' *Sk. New & Old* 310 We shall fly our comet for all it is worth. 1883 *Mercury* (N.Y.) in Ware *Passing Engl.* 5 Scalchi, to use a side-walk phrase, played Siebel for all the character was worth. 1884 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jnl.* 1 Oct. 2/14 The Boston Post, having worked the bogus . . . letter for all that it was worth, now admits that it was a forgery. 1889 GUNTER *That Frenchman* xxi. 298 [The steamer] is driving, for everything she is worth, down the waters of the Finnish Gulf. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 197 We spun round and round. . . I steering the whole time for all I was worth.

d. for what it is worth, a dismissive phr. intimating that something (esp. an accompanying statement) is of uncertain or little value. Often parenthetically.

1888 J. ROSS *Three Generations* 228 There is my opinion; I give it for what it is worth. 1922 F. HARRIS *My Life & Loves* I. xv. 327 However, the fact is so peculiar that I insert it here for what it may be worth. 1952 M. NORTON *Borrowers* xx. 157 'Well,' she conceded at last. 'I'll tell you. For what it's worth.' 1962 A. HUXLEY *Let.* 19 Jan. (1969) 928 Laura brought up the idea suddenly and it fired my imagination. So here, for what it is worth, it is. 1979 J. JOHNSTON *Old Jests* 152 You're going to have to decide which side you're on. Nancy, for what it's worth, seems to have made her decision.

†4. a. Valuable; of value or use (to some end); worthy. *Obs*.

1340 *Ayenb.* 90 Zaynte paul. . . heþ hyer ynemned þe meste gentile guodes þet man may do and þet mest were ywoned to by worp and profit. 1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* v. 13 To no thing it [salt] is worth ouer, no bot that it be sent out, and defoulid of men. 1422 YONGE tr. *Secreta Secret.* 196 Hit is noht wurth, the Science and Iugementes of the Sterrys. 1449 PECOCC *Repr.* III. viii. 325 And therefore this afore sett answer is not worth. a 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 2545 To Ryde A-þeyne hem All by dene Or ther worthe walles holde.

†b. Worth while. *Obs*.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 785 Vs thoughte it was noght worth to make it wys. . . And bad him seye his voirdit as hym leste.

1449 PECOCC *Repr.* II. i. 136, I wote not that it is worth forto talke in resonyng with eny persoon of the laife vpon eny mater of Goddis lawe, but if he be able [etc.].

5. Of standing in respect of possessions, property, or income; possessed of, owning. Usu. with specification of the sum.

1460 *Paston Lett.* III. 429 Enquire of hym wher his goode is, and what he is wurthe. . . for I undre stande that he is wurthe in money v^e marke. 1497 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 123 She is called worth m^{li} beside hir land. 1531-2 *Act 23 Hen. VIII.* c. 2 Euery suche person. . . beyng worthe in mouable substaunce the cleere value of .xx.li. or aboue. 1551 in Feuillerat *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 59 Gentlemen that. . . wolde not be seen in london so. . . disgysed for asmoche as they ar worthe or hope to be worthe. 1567 HARMAN *Caveat* 61 The troth is. . . she would wekely be worth vi. or seuen shyllinges with her begging. 1655 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) II. 257 S^r Theodore Mayerne is dead and left his dawghter wourth a hundred thousand pounds in ready mony. 1676 ETHEREDGE *Man of Mode* III. iii, You are for Masks, and Private Meetings; where Women engage For all they are worth I hear. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 260 ¶1 If. . . all my Securities are good, I shall be worth Fifty thousand Pound. 1778 MISS BURNEY *Evelina* lxxxii, She assures me. . . that I shall be sole heiress of all she is worth. 1821 LAMB *Elia* I. *Old Benchers Inner T.*, He was master of four or five hundred thousand pounds; nor did he look. . . worth a moire less. 1878 G. MACDONALD *Ann. Q. Neighb.* xxxii, She will be worth something when she is married.

†6. Of persons: of account or importance; entitled to respect or honour; worthy. *Obs.* (In OE. also of things.)

Beowulf 1902 He þæm batwearde. . . swurd gesealde, þæt he syðþan was. . . mæyme þy weorðra. c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxix. §2 Welig & weorð & rice & foremære on his agnum earde. a 1100 *Gerefa in Anglia* IX. 260 A swa he gæneordra, swa bið he weorðra. a 1122 O.E. *Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 876 þa gislas þe on þam here weorþuste wæron. c 1200 ORMIN 5020 & tu þe sellf narri riht noht wurp Wipputenn Godess hellpe. c 1205 LAY. 30993 þer neoren eorles no wurðer [c 1275 worþere] þene cheorles. c 1300 *Harrow. Hell* (E.) 172 3a, leue lord, godes sone, welcom be þou & worp come. 1340 *Ayenb.* 23 þet byep þe heze men and þet byep mest worp. *Ibid.* 90 Huo þet lest heþ, lest is worp. c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2498 He wan a-þen to william & to his worp make. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* XI. 310 Fore þe more a man may do. . . The more is he worth and worthe. 1535 COVERDALE *Prov.* xvi. 32 He that can rule him selfe, is more worth then he y^e winneth a cite.

II. †7. a. Of sufficient merit, entitled by merit, deserving, to be or do something. *Obs*.

In OE. usually expressed by *wyrðe*: see WURTHE a. c 1000 ÆLFRED *Hom.* II. 316 We ðe næron wurðe beon his wealas geciðe. c 1200 ORMIN 2357 þærþurh was þho wel wurp to ben Swa wurpðed her onn erpe. *Ibid.* 19875 Forþi wass þho wurp att Godd, . . To don þatt dede o Sannt Johan. c 1205 LAY. 2965 Hu mochel worþ leste þu me [c 1275 hu mochel worp holdist þou me] to walden kineriche. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 12822, I am noght worthe to lese þe thuanges of his sco. 1340 *Ayenb.* 231 Naht ne is worp to habbe maidenhold of bodye þet heþ wyl to by y-spoused. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* i. (Peter) 332 He. . . mad hym byschope; for þat he wes worth to haf sic degre. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 107, I trowe ther be noman. . . That halt him lasse worth than I To be beloved. c 1420 WYNTOUN *Cron.* v. 4502 He was worthe to wyn victoris.

b. Deserving or worthy of (something). †In early use with genitive.

In OE. only in form *wyrðe*, Angl. *weorðe*. c 833 *Will in Birch Cartul. Sax.* I. 575 Ða hwile þe God wille ðæt ðeara ænig sie þe londes weorde sie. c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xvi. §1 For his cræftum he bið anwealdes weorðe, gif he his weorðe bið. 12. . . in Bracton *De Leg. Angl.* IV. i. (Rolls) III. 184 He ne es othes worthe that es enes gylty of oth broken. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 10353 Now, loke if þis lede soche longyng be worthe, As þou writis in þi wordes. c 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 922 Than es þer wark worth mikyl mede. a 1425 *Cursor M.* 12302 (Trin.) þe childes frendes for þat houre helde ihesu worþe honoure. c 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 1245 Ilkane be wrk and be will Is worth his rewarde. 1615 W. LAWSON *Country Housew. Garden* (1626) 18 And it is hardly possible to misse in graffing so often, if your Gardiner be worth his name. 1772 T. MUDGE *Descr. Timekeeper* (1799) 19 It flatters me not a little that you should think any thing of mine so much worth your trouble. 1830 MARRYAT *King's Own* lii, The captain. . . is not worth his salt. 1873 BROWNING *Red Cott. Nt.-cap* 194 He will have been recognized. . . How much that's good in man. . . makes Monsieur Léonée Miranda worth his help.

†c. Without const.: Of merit, deserving. *Obs*. c 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 358 þour place is ordeyned in hevene after þat 3e ben worþe.

†d. Deserving on account of demerit or fault. *Obs*.

c 1375 *Lay Folks Mass Bk.* (MS. B.) 72 In worde, & werk I am to wite and worth to blame. c 1375 *Cursor M.* 44 (Fairf.) Our dedis fra our hert takis rote, queþer þai be worþ bale or bote. c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 7104 Wel were it worth to bene brent.

8. a. Sufficiently valuable or important to be an equivalent or good return for (something). Also const. of. *worth (the) while*: see WHILE sb. 3 b.

1387 TREvisa *Higden* IV. 355 The queene. . . beet Iudas ful ofte, but al for nougt, for it was not worþ þe while. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* II. vii. 129 Thair with my handis wrocht I worth my deid. 1556 HUGGARD *Display. Protestants* 40 It shall be worth the traueill to say somewhat therein. 1642 C. SALTONSTALL *Navigator* 65 They [the Theorems] will give you so great a light. . . that it will be well worth your labour. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* I. 262 To reign is worth ambition though in Hell. 1711 W. KING tr. *Naude's Ref. Politics* iii. 107 That the crown of France was well worth the trouble of hearing one mass. 1866 NEALE *Sequences & Hymns* 23 Ye, who sometimes think the glory Of the labour scanty worth.

b. With vbl. sb. (in early use with *the, one's*) as complement. †Also to with inf. (quot. 1559).

The const. also occurs with OE. *wyrðe*, *weorðe*.

In recent times the illogical use of *worth* for *worth while*, and vice versa, is frequent.

(a) 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* IV. vii. Xij b, My corne. . . was not worth the cuttyng downe. 1559 CLOUGH in Burgon *Life Gresham* (1839) I. 255 It was sure a sight worth to go 100 myles to see it! 1582 N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. v. 13 (margin) Three smal Indes discovered not worth the entering. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 32 A Tower. . . worth the seeing, for the antiquity and building. 1630 R. Johnson's *Kingd. & Commw.* 112 All histories will tell you, it is a point worth the looking into. 1669 EARL SANDWICH tr. *Barba's Art of Metals* I. (1674) 129 It is very well worth ones making a journey purposely to see them. 1692 L'ESTRANGE *Fables* cccxliii. 300 Hang 'em All up. . . they are not Worth the Begging. 1798 WORDSW. *Peter Bell* III. 815 An Ass like this was worth the stealing! 1832 LISTER *Arlington* II. 252 You may think it little worth the telling, . . but you shall know every thing.

(b) 1591-5 SPENSER *Col. Clout* 85 Well I weene it worth recounting was. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 28 Viewing round about all what was worth seeing in so famous a place. 1686 [ALLIX] *Dissert.* iii. in *Ratramnus' Body & Bl.* (1688) 54 It is worth observing. . . that the Adoration of the Sacrament sprang not up till some Ages after. 1751 HUME *Eng. Princ. Morals* vii. (1902) 256 [He] soon lost his iron lamp, the only furniture which he had worth taking. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* VIII. iv, That the matter is somewhat spread. . . is now not to be helped, and therefore little worth thinking of. 1836 *Hints on Etiquette* (ed. 2) 15 If a man be worth knowing, he is surely worth the trouble to approach properly. 1877 MALLOCK in *19th Cent.* Sept. 251 (article) Is Life worth living? 1889 T. A. TROLLOPE *What I remember* III. 285, I have then, as at all times, found life eminently 'worth living.' 1915 SISAM *Skeat's Havelok* p. xxxi, When a text has any claims to belong to the thirteenth century, it is worth noticing what evidence it contains for the lengthening of short vowels in open syllables.

c. With nouns having the force of vbl. sbs.

1660 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) IV. 231 He is acquainted with diuers things worth the knowledge. 1744 M. BISHOP *Life* 137, I. . . was very inquisitive in asking about every particular Thing that was worth my Observation. 1772 JUNIUS *Lett.* lxviii. 338 It is worth the reader's attention to observe. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* iii, 'They are not worth your notice,' said the dismal man. 1877 HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 76 The rusting of this particular metal is worth closer study.

†9. Fit, meet, proper. *Obs. rare*.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7515 It es noght worþ, leif sir king, þat man in godd haue mistrouing. a 1400-50 *Wars Alexander* 3426, I maynly 3ow swere, . . þe worthe wage þaim [to] wayue þat þai haue wele serued. c 1412 HOCCELEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 441 Certes to blame ben þe lodes grete, . . þat hir men lete Vsurpe swiche a lordly apparaille; [It] Is not worp.

worth (wɜ:θ), *v.*¹ *Obs. exc. arch.* Forms: (see below). [Common Teut.: OE. *weorðan*, *wurðan* (*wearp*, *wurdon*, *geworden*) = OFris. *wertha*, *wirtha*, *wirda* (WFrís. *wirde*), OS. *werðan* (MLG. and LG. *werden*; MDu. and Du. *worden*), OHG. *werdan*, *werthan* (MHG. and G. *werden*), ON. and Icel. *verða* (Norw. dial. *verda*, *verta*, MSw. *varpa*, *vardha*, Sw. *varda*, Da. *vorde*), Goth. *wairþan*. The stem is prob. the same as that of L. *vertēre*, OSlav. *vrītēti*, *vrātiti* (Russ. *vertjet*'), Lith. *versti* (stem *vert-*), Skr. *vrīt* (*vāriatē*, *variti*) to turn, the sense in Germanic having developed into that of 'to turn into', 'to become'. Cf. -WARD suffix.

OE. compounds are represented by the obsolete FORWORTH and I-WORTH.]

A. Illustration of Forms.

1. a. Inf. a. 1 *weorðan*, *wurðan*, *wyrðan*, 2-3 *wurðen*, *wurpen* (3 *Orm.* *wurpenn*), 3 *wrþan*, 4 *worþen*, *worþyn*. β. 2 *wurðe*, 4 *werþe*, 4-5 *worþe*, 4-6 *worthe*. γ. 4 *worþ*, 4-5 *worth*. δ. 4 *worde*, 5-7 *Sc. word*.

a. *Beowulf* 2526 Unc sceal weorðan. . . swa unc wyrd geteoð. a 900 *Andreas* 182 (Gr.) Sceal feorhgedal. . . æfter wyrðan. c 1000 *Daniel* 115 (Gr.) þætte rice gehwæs. . . sceolde. . . ende wurðan. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 147 He wiste. . . þat hit wurðen solde. c 1200 ORMIN 492 þatt nan ne sholde wurpenn þa sett to wurpenn prest. c 1205 LAY. 1234 þar on þu scalt wrþan sæl. c 1275 *Prov. Ælfred* 200 in O.E. *Misc.* 115 It sollen wurpen to nout. c 1330 *Assump. Virg.* 262 (B.M. MS.), Ne schal me neuer worpen wel. c 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 9 Schent mote y worpen. a 1400 in *Anglia* XVIII. 324 3if on be in poynnt to worþyn wod.

β. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 147 He spec of þat þe sholde wurþe. 13. . . Guy *Warw.* 1171 Swiche no migt y neuer werþe. c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 327 God lene him grace to god man to worthe. c 1400 *Gamelyn* 491 Cursed mot he worthe. a 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 1817 What shall worthe of vs two! γ. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 930 To puder sal þou worth again. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* II. 47 Lat hep man worþ til iewte be iustice. a 1400-50 *Wars Alexander* 2878 He bad hym. . . on a blonk worth. 1549 LATIMER *4th Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 120 What wyl worth. . . of thys man?

δ. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 22489 (Edinb.) þe sternes. . . sal. . . worde al blak sum ani col. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xviii. (Egipciane) 1181 Now quhat sal word of me? 1533 GAU *Richt Way* (S.T.S.) 30 He wald word man for our saluation. a 1665 W. GUTHRIE *Serm.* 14 (Jam.) What will word of my wife?

b. *Pres. Ind.* (3rd sing.) a. 1 *weorðeð*, (uiurthit), *wyrðeþ*, 3 *wurðeð*, 4 *worþeþ* (*pl. worþen*); *north.* 1 *worðes*, 4 *worþez*, -is (2nd *worþest*), 5 *worthis*, *Sc. wordis*, *wourdis*. β. 1 *weorð*, *wierð*, *wyrð*, *wirð*, *wurð*, 2 *wrð*, 3 *wurþ*, 3-4 *worþ*, 4-6 *worth* (4 *worht*); 2nd 1 *wyrst*, 3-5 *worst*.

In OE. and early ME. the present tense is sometimes used in place of the future.

a. 735 [see B. 2]. a 900 *Andreas* 483 (Gr.) ðif ðu. . . larna pinra este wyrðest. c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke I. 34 Huu

worðes ðis? *a1000 Laws of Æthelbirht* xxxiv, 5if banes blice weorðep, 111 scillingum gebete. *c1205 LAY.* 8786 For 3et heo wurððe þe laðe. *c1290 Beket* 998 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 135 Alle we worpeþ i-broust to nouste. *a1310* in Wright *Lyric P.* ix. 36 Hit wortheth al to wyn. *13.. Guy Warw.* 407 þou worpeþ to hewen. *13.. Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1106 Hit worpeþ to youreþ. *1398 TREVISIA Barth.* *De P.R.* vi. v. (Tollem. MS.), þe ouir party.. worpeþ more lyzte, and þe neper parties.. worpen more heuy. *a1450 Le Morte Arth.* 782 Vp he worthis vpon his stede. *c1475 Rauf Coilgear* 706 3one is Wymond, I wait, it worthis na weir. *c1480 HENRYSON Cock & Jewel* 23 þe bow þat ay is bent Wordis vnsmart.

β. *c888 ÆLFRED Boeth.* iv, þonne he betwux us & hire wyrð. *c897* — *Gregory's Past.* c. xvii. 111 He wierð self to ðæs onlicnesse. *c900 Bæda's Hist.* Pref. i. (1890) 2 Hu wurð he elles gelæred? *a1000 Laws Æthelbirht* lxxv, 5if he healt weorð, þær motan freond saman. *c1000 ÆLFRIC Gen.* iii. 19 Du.. to duste gewyrst [v.r. wyrst]. *Ibid.*, *Exod.* vii. 9 Heo wyrð to næddran. *a1175 Cott. Hom.* 235 Fram þa forme man to þa latst þe wrð et þes wrldes ende. *c1250 Prov.* *Ælfred* 304 in O.E. Misc. 120 And selde wurp he blype and gled. *1297 R. GLOUC.* (Rolls) 1570 Sois þe stude icluped nou & euer worp. *c1325 Spec. Gy Warw.* 128 Sauued worp he neuere mo. *c1380 Sir Ferumb.* 488 þyn auaunt worp dere aboþt. *1513 DOUGLAS Æneis* xii. Prol. 187 Slekyt worth thir bestis skynniss.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2232 þou worst þer king anon. *1377 LANGL. P. Pl. B.* xix. 404 Ysaueð worstow [v.r. worst þou] neure. *c1380 Sir Ferumb.* 805 Elles þow worst beleyn. *c1425 Seven Sag.* (P.) 1505 Certys, syre, thou worst schent.

c. *Pres. Subj.* 1 weorðe, (ueorþhae), 2-3 wurðe, (pl. wurðen), wurpe, 3 wurthe, 4 wurth; 3-4 worpe, 4-6 worthe; 4 worp, 4- worth, (4 wortht, 5 vorth); 6 Sc. wirth.

735 [see B.2b]. *c1000 Saxon Leechd.* III. 58 5if nægl of honda weorðe. *c1175 Lamb. Hom.* 153 I ponked wurðe him. *c1200 Trin. Coll. Hom.* 193 Ure fon.. wulled swo don, bute we wurðen us warre. *c1250 Prov.* *Ælfred* 633 Wel worpe þe wid. *c1300 Havelok* 434 Waried wurthe he. *Ibid.* 2873 Blissed worpe his soule ay! *a1352 MINOT Poems* ii. 11 Wele worth þe while. *a1375 Joseph Arim.* 146 Mensked he worp! *c1400 Destr.* *Troy* 597 Till ye fay worthe. *c1440 Generydes* 4871 Woo worth the tyme. *1500-20 DUNBAR Poems* xlv. 9 Wo wirth the fruct.. And wo wirth him. *1563 Homilies* ii. *Passion* ii. 199 Wo worth the tyme that euer we synned. *1611 SPEED Hist. Gt. Brit.* ix. xviii. 887 Ah woe worth him.

d. *Imper.* 4 worth, 5 worthe.

a1330 Otuel 828 Worþ vp bi-hinden me her. *c1450 Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 249 Thanne worthe upp, Walis.

2. *Past Tense.* (1st and 3rd sing.) a. 1-3 wearþ, wearð, warð, 2, 4 ward (2 uuard), 3-4 warþ (3 *Orm.* warrþ); 2-3 werð, werþ, 4 werpe, werth; pl. 1 wurdon, 2 wurðon, wurpen, 5 worden. β. 3 wurð, wurd, worp, (4 worpe), 4-6 worth (5 worthe). γ. *Sc.* and *north.* 5 word, 5-6 worde.

a. *a900 Andreas* 1343 (Gr.) Hwæt wearð eow? *c1000 Ags. Gosp.* Luke xxiii. 12 On ðam dæge wurdon herodes & pilatus gefrynd. *a1154 O.E. Chron.* an. 1135 Wurpen men suide of uundred. *c1160 Hatton Gosp.* Matt. viii. 26 þær warð 3eworðen mychel smoltnyss. *c1175 Lamb. Hom.* 133 Sum [seed]..werð totdreden. *c1200 Trin. Coll. Hom.* 167 þe lichame warð breful of wunden. *Ibid.* 181 He..wearð þar mide achede. *c1200 ORMIN* 10960 þæræftter warrþ itt efft to noht. *13.. Guy Warw.* 4723 Opon a mule sche warþ anon. *1387 TREVISIA Higden V.* 277 At laste he werpe sike. *c1400 Chron. R. Glouc.* (Rolls) App. G. 171 Noble he werp & riche. *c1400 T. CHESTRE Launfal* 131 He ward yn greet dette. *1481 CANTON Reynard* xvi. (Arb.) 34 Thus worden my teeth al bloody.

β. *c1200 Trin. Coll. Hom.* 99 þat bred wurð to fleis. *c1250 Gen.* & *Ex.* 995 His name ðo wurð a lettre mor. *Ibid.* 1197 3he wurd wið child. *c1275 Duty of Christians* 109 in O.E. Misc. 144 þat folk worp eft wrope i-spild. *1387 TREVISIA Higden V.* 195 Lowys..worpe sike. *c1440 Gesta Rom.* xlv. 186 What worthe of hit he ne knew. *c1470 HENRY Wallace* iii. 13 Wictail worth scant. *1513 DOUGLAS Æneis* v. xi. 86 The myndis worth agast.

γ. *c1375 Sc. Leg. Saints* xii. (Mathias) 420 He worde stane-blynde. *1570 Durham Depos.* (Surtees) 137 He knewe not..what worde of them.

3. *Past Participle.* a. 1 geworden, 2 -ðen, 3 iwurðen, 4 iworpe. β. 1 worden, 2 wurðen, 3 *Orm.* wurrþenn, 5 wurthen; 2-3 worðen, 4 worpen, 4-5 worthen; *Sc.* 4-5 worthyn, -ine, 5-6 worthin (6 -ing), 6 wordine. γ. 2 wurpe, 5 worthe. a. *971 Blickl. Hom.* 223 He..sona wearð hal geworden. *c1160 Hatton Gosp.* Matt. viii. 26 þær warð 3eworðen mychel smoltnyss. *c1230 Hali Meid.* 9 And is pat..iwurðen to meastling. *1387 TREVISIA Higden IV.* 187 þe Parthes pat were i-worpe rebel.

β. *c1000 Daniel* 124 (Gr.) Wearð he..acol worden. *c1200 Trin. Coll. Hom.* 147 He spec of pat..alse þeh3 hit wurðen were. *c1200 ORMIN* 3873 Goddess Sune..Wass wurrþenn mann. *c1375 Sc. Leg. Saints* iv. (James) 198 Herrod..wes worthine þe deuilis lyme. *c1400 Destr.* *Troy* 9691 To fretre hom with fyre, þat were fey worthen. *14.. WYNTOUN Cron.* (W.) iv. 1654 Thai had sene The wethere worthing brycht and schene. *c1430 Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* ii. cxli. (1869) 131 On horse he is worthen vp. *c1480 HENRYSON Want of Wyse Men* 6 Wit is worthin wrynkis. *1513 DOUGLAS Æneis* iii. Prol. 26 Wenis thou..the craw be worthin quithe. *1533 GAU Richt Vay* (S.T.S.) 29 That God is wordine mane.

γ. *c1200 Trin. Coll. Hom.* 219 Also suteliche swo it wurpe were. *c1449 PECOCK Repr.* v. vi. 516 Lete se what schulde hawe worthe of the men.

4. *Weak forms.* a. *Pa. t.* 3 wurðede, 5 wurthed; 4-5 worthede(-id (*Sc.* -yd); *Sc.* and *north.* worthit, -yt (5 worthit). b. *Pa. pple.* 4 worped, worthed, *Sc.* 7 wort. *c1250 Gen.* & *Ex.* 2046 De fissis..wurðeden dead. *13.. Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 485 Til worped an ende. *Ibid.* 678 A duk to hawe worped. *1375 BARBOUR Bruce* xiii. 354 Thame worthit..abyde. *c1400 MAUNDEV.* (Roxb.) xxiv. 112 þe whilk..worthed till a worthy and a..Cristen man. *c1440 Alphabet of Tales* 307 What at wurthed of þe bodie cuthe neuer man tell. *c1470 Gol.* & *Gaw.* 973 Thus worthit schir Gawyne wraith. *a1500 Hist. K. Boccus & Sydracke* (? 1510)

Sij, The kyng..worthed there vpon. *1570 Durham Depos.* (Surtees) 149 He knoweth not what is woorde of the grail. *1629 Z. BOYD Last Battell* 425 (Jam.) What can bee worde of such a..professor. *1818 HOGG Brownie of Bodsbeck* I. 38 What could be wort of a' the sheep.

B. Signification.

1. *intr.* To come to be, come to pass, come about, happen, take place.

c950 Lindisf. Gosp. Luke i. 34 Cuoeð..[Maria] to ðæm engel, huu worðes ðis? *c1000 Ags. Gosp.* Matt. viii. 26 He behead þam winde & þære sæ, & þær wearð geworðen mycel smyltness. *c1200 Trin. Coll. Hom.* 147 He spec of pat þe sholde wurðe. *Ibid.* 197 Hit is worðen alse ure louerd wolde. *13.. Northern Passion* H 410 Or þe kok hawe krawin thrise Sall it worth on þis wise. *13.. Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 485 Wyth wele walt pay þat day, til worped an ende, in londe. *c1400 Leg. Rood* iv. 127 And so it wurthed at þe last þe cros al out of minde was past. *c1425 Eng. Cong. Ireland* xvi. 38 Aftyr this, worth gret spech yn-to all þe lond.

b. In the subjunctive mood, expressing a wish for something to happen to one, usually with dat. of person.

13.. Cursor M. 25633 (Gött.) Gabriel..said, 'leuedil ful of blis, ai worth þe well'. *c1300 Havelok* 2221 He let his oth al ouer-go, Euere wurpe him yuel and wol. *c1350 Will. Palerne* 2567, I ne wot in wat wise to worche be best..but worpe god wiþ alle. *c1394 P. Pl. Crede* 493 Eft he seyde to hem-selfe wo mote 3ou worpen. *c1400 Gamelyn* 482 But ever worthe hem wel that doth thee moche sorwe. *c1450 Mirk's Festial* 295 þe dor tyneth on hym for euermore and so eurlasting farewel worthe hym and hys werkys.

c. In the phrases *woe worth* (now arch.), and *well worth* (obs.) followed by noun or pronoun. (Cf. *WOE A.* 4, *WELL A.* 1.)

(a) *c1205 LAY.* 3359 Wa worðe þan monne þe lond haueð mid menske. *13.. Cursor M.* 21992 (Edin.) Antecriste..wa worpe his wit! *c1350 Will. Palerne* 4118 3if i wrong seie any word, wo worp me euer. *1390 GOWER Conf.* III. 320 Wo worthe euer fals enuie! *c1440 Gesta Rom.* lxi. 260 Woo worthe the oure that euer I was made in! *1470-85 MALORY Arthur* iv. xi. 132 Wo worth this swerd, for by hit hawe I geten my deth. *a1542 Sir. T. WYATT Poems* (1913) I. 76 Thou toke her streight from me: that wo worth thee! *1600 HOLLAND Liuy* v. xlviii. 211 Wo worth men conquered, and downe with them still. *1647 HERRICK Noble Numb., Widow's T.* 21 Woe worth the Time, woe worth the day, That reav'd us of thee, Tabitha. *a1801 R. GALL Poems & Songs* (1819) 30 Wae worth ye, sir! it sets ye ill To talk to me in sic a style. *1810, 1870* [see *WOE A.* 4].

(b) *c1205 LAY.* 13079 Wel wurðe þe Vortiger þat þu ært icumen her. *c1250 Gen.* & *Ex.* 155 Wel wurðe his miht.. ðe wrouit is on ðe ferðe day! *13.. Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 2127 Wel worth þe, wyþe, þat woldeþ my gode. *a1352 MINOT Poems* ii. 5 It es wrokin, I wene, wele wurþ þe while. *c1374 CHAUCER Troylus* v. 379 Wel worth of dremes ay þese olde wyues. *c1480 HENRYSON Fox & Wolf* 35 Weill worth my Father, that send me to the lair.

2. To become, come to be (something): a. With sb. or adj. as complement.

735 Bæda's Death-verse 1 Fore there neidfaerae naenig uiuirthit thonesnotturra than him tharf sie. *971 Blickl. Hom.* 175 þa hwile þe he þær stod, he wearþ færinga 3eong cniht. *a1154 O.E. Chron.* an. 1135, And uuard þe sunne suile als it uware three niht ald mone. *Ibid.* an. 1154, þat ilce dæi..þa sæclede he & ward ded. *c1200 ORMIN* 160 Opres unnfæwe shullenn ec Full glade & blipe wurrþenn. *c1250 LAY.* 32107 þenne scullen ifn! Bruttene blissen wurðen riu. *c1250 Gen.* & *Ex.* 1175 Abimalech wurð sek on-on. *1297 R. GLOUC.* (Rolls) 2806 Louerd he worp of france. *c1320 Sir. Tristr.* 836 Til y tristrem se, No worp y neuer blipe. *1340-70 Alex. & Dind.* 265 Bute þe loweste þat liuede his lord mihte worpe. *1387 TREVISIA Higden I.* 189 Scheepe þat drynkep of pat oon [river] schulle worpe blak, and schepe þat drynkep of pat oper schul worpe whyte. *a1400 Stockh. Med.* MS. 699 in *Anglia* XVIII. 324 3if on be in poynt to worthyn wood For peyne of teth, dragance is good. *c1425 WYNTOUN Cron.* viii. iii. 145 He suld hawe worthyd rede for schame A fre kynryk swa he suld defame. *1456 Sir G. HAYE Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 45 For dout that thai worth proude and hautayn of thair office. *1513 DOUGLAS Æneis* iv. Prol. 245 O lust,.. Thyself consumyng worthis insaciable.

b. With past participles.

735 Bæda's Death-verse 5 Hwæt his gastæ..æfter deothdaege doemid ueorþhae. *a1154 O.E. Chron.* an. 1135, Wurpen men suide of uundred & of dred. *c1175 Lamb. Hom.* 133 Sum of pe sede feol..bi þe weie and werð totdreden. *c1200 ORMIN* 347 þat streon þat wass..lac to wurrþenn offredd her O rodetreowwess altterr. *c1250 Gen.* & *Ex.* 1943 In ðis ðisternisse,..3et wurðe [he] worpen naked and cold. *1297 R. GLOUC.* (Rolls) 2801 Cristendom worp icast adoun. *c1350 Will. Palerne* 2291 But god now hem help, slayn worp þeislepend. *1377 LANGL. P. Pl. B.* xix. 404 But þow lyue by lore of *spiritus iusticie*..ysaueð worstow neure. *c1380 Sir Ferumb.* 1871 If þou tarie longe her-wyp þou worst y-schent Heþe þow worst an honge. *c1425 Eng. Cong. Ireland* xlix. 124 Al the contrey forth ther-aftyr worth so I-storbet, that [etc.].

3. With prepositional or adverbial complements: a. To come to be, attain to being (in a particular place or condition).

c888 ÆLFRED Boeth. iv, Swa deð eac se mona..þonne he betwux us & hire [the sun] wyrð. *a900 CYNEWULF Crist* 1028 þonne..Adames cynn..weorpeð foldræste eardes æt ende. *1297 R. GLOUC.* (Rolls) 327 þo he adde is bone ido he werp aslepe riþt þere. *c1374 CHAUCER Compl. Mars* 248 He wend anon to worthe out of his mynde. *c1400 TREVISIA Higden VII.* 505 The strete werth a fuyre. *c1400 T. CHESTRE Launfal* 131 So savagelych hys good he besette, That he ward yn greet deete. *c1470 Gol.* & *Gaw.* 1096 Lat it worth at my wil the wourschip to wale.

b. To turn or be converted to something; to change in status to.

Beowulf 2203 Heardrede hildemeceas..to bonan wurdon. *a1122 O.E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 870, Hit þa þæt ær wæs ful rice, þa hit wearð to nan þing. *a1023 WULFSTAN Hom.* xxx. 145 We..sceolon on worulde wurðan wurmum to æte. *c1200 ORMIN* 6976 þatt steorne..Warrþ all to noht.. Aftter þatt Crist wass fundenn. *c1200 Trin. Coll. Hom.* 99

þat bred wurð to fleis and þe drinke to blod. *c1230 Hali Meid.* 9 And is pat tu wendest gold, iwurðen to meastling. *c1300 K. Horn* (Laud) 467 þou art so fayr and briycte, þou schalt worpe to knyete. *13.. Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1106 Quat-soeuer I wyneþ in þe wod, hit worpeþ to youreþ. *c1394 P. Pl. Crede* 746 And ich a beggers brol..worþ to a writere. *1456 Sir G. HAYE Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 211 Sa that, bot gif thare war a soverane..all the world wald worth to nocht.

c. To get up, on or upon, a horse, etc.

c1290 Beket 1164 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 139 þe holi Man..werth op..and rod him forth wel faste. *13.. Guy Warw.* 4723 Opon a mule sche warþ anon. *c1330 Arth. & Merl.* 5053 (Kölbing) A destrer þo ladde Agreuein..& seyð, 'Worþ her on hastiliche!' *c1374 CHAUCER Boeth.* ii. pr. ii. (1868) 35 Worpe vp [L. *ascende*] yif þou wilt. *c1400 Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xxxiii, þe horsmen þat beth þere at þe deth, schulde worthe vppe on horse. *c1450 LOVELICH Merlin* 11398 Kyng Arthwer þe þe Reyne his hors took son,.. 'My leue frend', he seide, 'worth vp jn haste.' *a1500 Hist. K. Boccus & Sydracke* (? 1510) Sij, For thy the kyng Boccus anon Toke hors and worthed there vpon.

d. To become of (= happen to, betide). Also with on.

c1380 WYCLIF Serm. Sel. Wks. II. 277 God behizt hem Isaac, and tolde what schulde worpe of him. *c1400 MAUNDEV.* (Roxb.) xxxi. 139 We wist neuere what worthed of þe remenaunt. *c1449 PECOCK Repr.* v. vi. 516 Lete se what schulde hawe worthe of the man in these 3eeris, if the hadden not be mad religiose. *1549 LATIMER 4th Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 120 What wyl worth, what wyl be the ende of thys man? *c1570 Durham Depos.* (Surtees) 150 He knew not from whence they came, or what worde of them. *1629 Z. BOYD Last Battell* 425 (Jam.) Then many shall wonder what can bee worde of such a blazing professor. *a1665 W. GUTHRIE Serm.* 14 (Jam.) What will word of my house? And, What will word of my goods and gear? *1818 HOGG Brownie of Bodsbeck* I. 38, I was..considering what could be wort of a' the sheep.

e. To pass away, go hence, remain after (= behind).

13.. Cursor M. 19110 (Edin.) þe lastand dede sal worpe awai. *c1350 Will. Palerne* 2355 Wende listly hennes & late me worp after. *c1400 Destr.* *Troy* 1975 þou shalt hawe þat I hete & þou hence worth. *a1425 Cursor M.* 22588 (Trin.) Lord god þat lasteþ ay þou shal vs do to worpe away.

4. to let (one) worth: to let alone; = I-WORTH 6.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2330 þer fore he was so prout & þe king nas him sulf bote as a ssade, & let im worpe al out. *c1350 Will. Palerne* 3597 'Lat me worp', quap william, 'þat schal i wite sone'. *1377 LANGL. P. Pl. B.* Prol. 187 For-þi i conseilie alle þe comune to lat þe catte worthe. *c1400 Rom. Rose* 6037 Late ladies worthe with her thyngis. *c1450 Merlyn* iii. 58 Than seide Merlyn, 'Let me worthen ther-with, and I shall a-quyte me of the couenaunt that I made'.

5. To behove, need, be necessary. *Usu.* impersonal with dative preceding (*him worthit*, etc.). *Sc.*

1375 BARBOUR Bruce iv. 194 Him worthit, magre his, abyde In till ane hamelat neir thair-by. *c1375 Sc. Leg. Saints* ii. (Paul) 651 þis Nero worthit ay of ned..ryse aye quhene his master come nere. *c1425 WYNTOUN Cron.* vi. 333 þis Pyppyne þan..Werthit til tak til hym..Off Frawns þat tyme þe gouernaylle. *c1470 HENRY Wallace* iii. 271 Schir Amar said; 'Trewis it wordis tak'. *Ibid.* viii. 1616 Off this sayn[g] me worthis for to ces.

†worth, v.² *Obs.* Forms: 1 weorðian, wurðian, wyrðian, north. worðigan, 2-3 wurðien, -in, wurðen (3 *Orm.* wurrþenn), wurðgin (*pa. pple.* 2 iwurðezed, 3 iwurð(d)get), wurðie, 3 wurrþe, worþi, 5 worth(e). [OE. *weorðian*, *wurðian*, f. *weorþ* WORTH sb.¹]

1. *trans.* To honour (a person or thing); to treat with honour or respect.

c897 ÆLFRED Gregory's Past. c. xvii. 123 Ðu weorðasð ðine suna ma ðonne me. *971 Blickl. Hom.* 11 Weorþian we eac þa clapas his hades. *c1000 Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xv. 8 þis folc me mid welerum wurpð [v.r. weorþað]. *c1175 Lamb. Hom.* 45 We aþen þene sunne dei swipeliche wel to wurþien. *c1200 ORMIN* 2358 þærþurh wass 3ho wel wurp to ben Swa wurrþedd her onn erpe. *c1205 LAY.* 13422 þas cnihtes weoren an hirede hahlliche iwurðe. *c1250 Gen.* & *Ex.* 262 Ihesus..Ros fro ded on ðe sunenday, ðat is forð siðen worðed ay. *Ibid.* 3503 Wurs ðin fader and moder so, ðat ðu hem drede. *a1400-50 Warr & Alexander* 2124, I wald more worth..a wyse man disciple, þan þe honour þat Acheles ayt.

b. To pay divine honours to (a deity); to worship.

c893 ÆLFRED Oros. iv. iv. 162 þa diofla þe hie an simbel weorþedon. *971 Blickl. Hom.* 27 5if þu feallest to me & me weorþast. *c975 Rushw. Gosp.* John iv. 22 ðie worðigas þte ge ne wutun, we worðigað þte we wutun. *c1175 Lamb. Hom.* 11 Hine 3e scule wurþian and hersumen and luuian mid al euwer heorte. *c1200 Trin. Coll. Hom.* 45 Ure louerd ihesu crist..heged and wurðed þe he. *c1205 LAY.* 1162 Heo wurðeden þæt anlicnes: þe scucke hit on-feng. *c1250 Gen.* & *Ex.* 1845 Wið newe alter wurðed he wel ðe strong god of ysrael.

2. To raise to honour; to distinguish.

a900 CYNEWULF Elene 1195 (Gr.) Bið..se hwæteadi3 wi3se weorðod, se þæt wigc byrð. *a1000 Waldere* i. 22 (Gr.) Weorða ðe selfne godum dædum. *c1205 LAY.* 2614 Al his cun he wurðede, richen & wrechen. *c1400 Chron. R. Glouc.* (Rolls) App. G. 154 þeos foure weyes on þis lond, king belin..Made & worpede ham wiþ gr[et] franchise.

'worthen, v. *nonce-wd.* [f. WORTH a. + -EN.] *trans.* To raise in worth.

1894 'G. EGERTON' Discords 241 Woman has cheapened herself..through ignorant innocence, she must learn to worthen herself by all-seeing knowledge.

worthethy, obs. form of WORTHY.

worthful ('w3:θful), a. Forms: 1 weorðful, 1-3 wurð-, wurpful (3 *Orm.* wurrþfull), 3 wurthful; 4

worþuol, 7 worthful(l); 6 wyrthfull. [OE. *weorþ-*, *wurþful*, f. *weorþ*, *wurþ*, WORTH sb.¹ In later use app. re-formed (partly to match *worthless*) in 16-17th and again in 19th cent., perhaps on the model of G. *wertvoll*.]

1. Of persons: Honourable; deserving of honour; meriting respect or reverence; full of worth or merit. Also *absol*.

Beowulf 3099 Swa he manna wæs wigend weorðfullost wide geond eorðan. c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke xiv. 8 Ne site þu on þam fyrmestan setle, þe læs. sum weorðfulra sig ingelaðod fram hym. a 1122 *O.E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1086. §8 Se cyng Willelm. . was . . swiðe rice & wurðfulre . . þonne ænig his fore-genga wære. c 1200 *ORMIN* 5195 Helyas wæs . . an wurðfull prophete. a 1250 *Owl & Night*. 1481 3ef he is wurðful and aht man. 1340 *Ayenb.* 16 þe heze men . . and þe hardi and þe worþuolle. 1536 in *Lett. Suppr. Monast.* (Camden) 126 Ryght wyrthfull sir, with due reverens my duty remembered [etc.]. 1607 *ROWLANDS Guy Warw.* Ep. Ded., Disdain not therefore (most worthful and precious spirit). . to vouchsafe the view of these Artless Lines. 1647 *TRAPP Comm.* 2 *Cor.* x. 13 (1656) 728 As any man is more worthful, he is more modest. 1849 *ROCK Ch. Fathers* II. 272 Those high-born dames and worthful females whom Margaret the queen had drawn about her. a 1909 *G. TYRRELL Autob.* (1912) I. 238 The more worthful have to repair the defective training of the noviceship.

† 2. Respectful, reverent; loyal. *Obs.*

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 440 Muncas gestapolode to weorþfulre þenunge hælandes cristes. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2678 Or [= before] haue he hire plijt & sworn, þat him sal feið wurðful ben boren.

3. Having worth or value; valuable; precious. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 140 þet heo . . strenðeð & deð menske hire wurðfulle soule. a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1017 His wundri werkes & wurðful in eorðe. a 1240 *Lofsong* in *O.E. Hom.* I. 211 Turn to þe worlde þi wurðful rode þet þu spreddest þe on. 1599 *MARSTON Antonio's Rev.* II. ii. That prince that worthful praise aspires, From hearts, and not from lips, applause desires. 1879 *PENTECOST In Vol. Bk.* vi. (1882) 43 Just as a man's note is only current and worthful because the man is good. 1888 *FURNIVALL E.E.T.S., Texts preparing, Gen. Notices* 3 Some [Lives of Saints] are dull. . But . . all are worthful for the history of our language. 1893 *UPTON Hibbert Lect.* (1894) 298 The presence of absolutely worthful ideas in our consciousness.

Hence †'worthfulhead, honour, dignity; 'worthfulness, value.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3499 Ne let ðu nogt min wurð-ful-hed forfaren in ðe fendes red. 1894 *PENTECOST* in *Brit. Weekly* 20 Sept. 338 Make this the touchstone of worthfulness in selecting the books.

†'worthihead, -hood. *Obs.* [f. WORTHY a.] Honour; distinction; worthiness.

1375 *BARBOUR Bruce* vi. 333 Thar may no man haf worthihede, Bot he haf wit to steir his stede [v.r. deid]. c 1470 *HARDING Chron.* Ed. Pref. (1812) p. x, He was a knight, electe for worthihode.

worthiless, obs. var. WORTHLESS a.

a 1542 *WYATT Ps. cii.* Proem. 15 The Justice y^t so his promesse complisshethe For his wordes sake to worthillesse desert. 1590 *J. PROCTOR* in *C.S. Right Relig.* A iij, I will leaue you, loth to keep you too long, perusing a worthillesse pamphlet.

†'worthily, a. *Obs.* Forms: 4 worþiliche, -lych, worthilyche; 4 worþili, worthily, -yly, 5 wurthyly, wordly. [var. of WORTHLY a., after *worthy*.] Worthy, honourable.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 343 Wolde 3e, worþilych lorde, . . Bid me boze fro þis benche. 13.. *E.E. Allit.* P. A. 846 For-þy vche saule þat had neuer teche, Is to þat lombe a worthily wyf. c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1642 Al! worþiliche wiȝt, wel wo is me nouþel? a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 695 Seyne that worthilyche wy went vn-to chambyre. c 1400 *Anturs of Arth.* 365 (Thornton MS.) Scho was the worthilieste wyghte, þat any wy myghte welde.

worthily ('wɜ:ðli), *adv.* Forms: a. 4 worþ-, worthilych, 5 wurthilyche; 4 worþili, -ily, -yly, 4-5 worthili, 4-6 worthily (4 -yllye, 5 -ylie, wurthyly), 4- worthily (5 worthithly, 7 worthilie); 5 wordily(e, 6 *Sc.* vordily. β. 4 wortheliche, -eli, 4-7 worthely (6 -elie, woorthely). [f. WORTHY a. + -LY². The β-forms are not always distinguishable from variants of WORTHLY *adv.*]

† 1. With due dignity, pomp, or splendour. *Obs.* (Passing into sense 3.)

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 72 When þay had waschen, worthily þay wenten to sete. c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 4290 With a real route he rod hire a-ȝens, & worþili hire he wolcomed. 1377 *LANGL. P. Pl.* B. II. 8, I. . was war of a womman wortheli yclothed. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1632 Priam . . a pales gert make, . . Full worthily wrought & by wit caste. c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* iv. 12 Thei buryed the body of the knyȝt, worthily among hem in a newe sepulcre. a 1450 *Contin. Brut* 461 This coronacion was worthily doon. *Ibid.* 486 Lordes and ladyes were worthely served thurgh all the Court. 1522 *World & Child* (facs.) A iij, I am not worthely wrapped nor went But powerly prycked in pouerte.

† b. Becomingly, elegantly. *Obs. rare.*

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 144 Bot his wombe & his wast were worthily smale.

2. In a manner befitting one of high standing or character; in accordance with one's own dignity or personal worth; honourably, nobly.

c 1374 *CHAUCER Troylus* II. 186 Men tellen þat he doth In arnes day by day so worþily . . þat alle prys hath he. 1382 *WYCLIF Éphes.* iv. 1 So I . . bysche, that 3e walke worthily in the clepinge, in which 3e ben clepid. a 1400-50 *Wars Alexander* 1405 þai within on þe wall worthili with-stude. 1450-1530 *Myrr. Our Ladye* II. 259 Al this sayde worþshyp

was done vnto oure lady . . by cause she had worthily overcome the fende. 1471 *CAXTON Recuyell* (Sommer) 462 Hercules and thesues did worthily and digne of memorye. 1569 *J. ROGERS Glaske Godly Love* (1876) 188 This blessed state of Matrimony . . I exhort you . . that you walke worthily therin. 1596 *SPENSER F.Q.* VI. ii. 25 Well may I certes such an one thee read, As by thy worth thou worthily hast wonne. 1606 *SHAKS. Ant. & Cl.* II. ii. 102 Worthily spoken Meneas. a 1629 *HINDE J. Bruen* xxxi. (1641) 97 He that had done so worthily at Ephrata, became famous in Bethlehem. 1658-9 *Burton's Diary* (1828) IV. 2 The gentleman has moved worthily, and like a gentleman. 1784 *COWPER Task* v. 807 The soul that sees Him, . . learns at least t' employ More worthily the pow'rs she own'd before. 1807 *G. CHALMERS Caledonia* I. III. vii. 380 He worthily fell, in fighting for his people. 1858 *J. G. HOLLAND Titcomb's Lett.* vii. 157 An incident of a life worthily spent. 1886 *Manch. Exam.* 8 Feb. 5/5 The office he has long worthily held as parliamentary secretary to the Trades' Union Congress.

b. Const. of, or ellipt. for this.

1841 *W. L. GARRISON Life* iii. 15 There are . . some . . who do not walk worthily of their profession. 1881 *F. T. PALGRAVE Visions Eng.* 237 Oft hast thou acted thy part, My country, worthily thee!

3. According to desert or merit; as one (or it) is deserving or worthy; deservedly, justly, rightly.

The attribution of desert may be either to the subject or object of the sentence.

a 1340 *HAMPOLE Psalter* Prol. 3 We munge wordis of louynge sa þat worthily he may trow him. 1447 *BOKENAM Seyntys, Marg.* 86 This blyssyd mayde Margrete wurthyly Be these sexe vertuhs to heuene dede stye. 1535 *COVERDALE 1 Chron.* xvi. 25 For the Lorde is grete and can not worthely be prayed. 1548 *PATTEN (title)* The Expedition into Scotlande of the most worthely fortunate prince Edward. 1591-5 *SPENSER Col. Clout* 375 Or be their pipes vtunable and craesie, That they cannot her honour worthilye? 1617 *MORYSON Itin.* I. 109 The other wines of this Country . . and all the other fruits cannot be worthily praised. 1642 *D. ROGERS Naaman* Ep. Ded. 1 For all men to cast their eyes upon, and that worthily; for most costly and pretious was their matter. 1695 *LD. PRESTON Boethius* II. 62 That which cannot be taken away is worthily esteemed the most excellent. 1825 *J. NEAL Bro. Jonathan* II. 2 We know of no case . . wherein he [the Wild Man] is worthily represented. 1844 *H. G. ROBINSON Odes of Horace* I. vi, Who worthily of Mars shall write In adamantine Tunic bound? 1865 *KINGSLEY Herew.* ix, His father . . promised him the succession—which indeed he had worthily deserved.

b. Used with reference to demerit or the punishment for this.

1398 *TREVISIA Barth. De P.R.* VI. xvii. (Bodl. MS.), Daud blamed worthilich þe seruantes of king saule þat were sleping. 1509 *BARCLAY Ship of Fools* (1874) I. 247 But suche youth . . worthily lyue in brawlynge stryfe and payne. 1550 *CROWLEY Last Trumpet* 175 But if thou wilt be styl sturdy . . The Lord shall plage the worthely. 1592 *GREENE Repentance* Wks. (Grosart) XII. 187, I haue so often offended thee that I haue worthely deserued death. 1624 *HEYWOOD Gunaik.* iv. 188 As the processe of her life was in many passages therof worthily infamous. a 1678 *T. STANLEY Hist. Philos.* XIII. xxix. (1687) 933/2 Ingratitude is worthily hateful to all men. 1784 *COWPER Tiroc.* 404 Egreious purpose! worthily begun In barb'rous prostitution of your son.

c. Fittingly, in respect of subject or matter.

1553 *EDEN Treat. New Ind.* (Arb.) 6 My trauayl herein coule no wayes be more worthily bestowed. 1565 *T. STAPLETON Fortr. Faith* 14 Here a man not knowing the mistery, might worthely be astonned. 1642 *J. EATON Honey-c.* *Free Justif.* 68 That new distinction . . is the more worthily to be suspected for a corrupter of the Gospel.

4. With due devotion or reverence; in a fitting spirit; reverently, devoutly; also, with real desert by reason of faith or good life.

a 1340 *HAMPOLE Psalter* xiv. 1 Lord wha sall won in þi tabernakile, þat is wha worthily lufis þe here. c 1386 *CHAUCER Pars. T.* ¶ 385 Men may also refreyne venial synne by receyuyng the worthly of the precious body of Ihesu crist. c 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. lxxiii. (1869) 42 And if this bred thou wolt nempne and clepe wel and wurthilyche, j sey it is bred of lyf. a 1500 *Hist. K. Boccus & Sydrache* (? 1510) Fivb, Yf this word be worthely spoken It shalbe hard fro erth to heuen. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 171 b, Clennesse of hert, wherby they may worthily laude and prayse god. 1565 *HARDING Answ. Jewel* 132 By the vertue and efficacie of this Sacrament duely and worthily received. 1610 *HEALEY St. Aug. Cite of God* xv. xxiii. 563 Wee do worthily beleuee that the 70. had the spirit of prophecy. 1755 *YOUNG Centauri* I. 11 As to God, they say, 'The natural religion commands us to think worthily, and speak reverently, of Him'. 1770 *Sacraments Explain'd* (ed. 2) 54 A second Thing required, is the State of Grace, without which, no one can worthily receive this Sacrament.

† 5. At a proper rate or value. *to take worthily*: to accept graciously. *Obs.*

c 1380 *WYCLIF Wks.* (1880) 381 Heliye left þe grete richesse . . & tooke worþili þe pore ordanance . . þat a goode man & his wyfe proferid to hym. 1390 *GOWER Conf.* I. 180 As thei come To hire. . To schewen such thing as thei broghte, Whiche worthili of hem sche boghte.

†'worthine. *Obs.* [OE. **wordīgn*, var. of *wordīg*, f. *worþ* WORTH sb.² Survives in place-names as *-wardine*.] An enclosure, close; see also quot. 1701.

12.. *Reg. Prior. B. M. Wigorn.* (Camd.) 95 b, W. persona de Wittuñ pro j Wrthin: In festo viij. d. 1701 *Cowel's Interpr.* (ed. Kennett), *Worthinus*, a Worthine of Land, a certain quantity or dimension of Ground so call'd in the Mannor of Kingsland, Com. Hereford.

worthiness ('wɜ:ðnis). Forms: a. 4 worþi-, worþynes(s)e, 4-7 worþi-, worthynes, 5-6 worthy-, 5- worthiness; 4 wurpy-, 5 wurthyness(e, wurthines (wurghtynesse); 6 woorthi-, woorthyness(e, wourthines. β. 5

wordynesse, 6 *Sc.* wirdines. [f. WORTHY a. + -NESS.]

1. The character or quality of being worthy, in various senses: a. Of persons.

a. 1340 *HAMPOLE Pr. C.* 3757 þc help . . Availles til þe saules in purgatory, . . Aftir þai er of worthynes. c 1374 *CHAUCER Troylus* II. 178 In al þis world þer nys a better knyght Than he þat is of worthynesse welle. 1390 *GOWER Conf.* I. 90 Remembrance That thei toke of his worthynesse Of knythod and of gentilesse. 1447 *BOKENAM Seyntys, Anna* 607 This lady to preysen . . Aftyr þe meryte of hyr worthynesse, Fer pasyth my wyt. c 1489 *CAXTON Blanchardyn* xliii. 167 By the hyghe prouesse & grete worthynes of blanchardyn. a 1533 *BERNERS Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) L vj b, All the world feared Rome onely, for her worthynes in armes. 1550 *CROWLEY Inform. Sel. Wks.* (1872) 163 Stand not to much in your own conceyte, gloryinge in the worthyness of your bloude. c 1590 *Faire Em.* I. iv. 35 Such costly robes As may become her beauties worthynes. 1604 *SHAKS. Oth.* II. i. 212 He is a good one, and his worthynesse Do's challenge much respect. 1651 *HOBBS Leviath.* I. x. 46 Worthynesse, is a thing different from the worth, or value of a man; and also from his merit, or desert; and consisteth in a particular power, or ability for that, whereof he is said to be worthy. a 1676 *HALE Common Law* (1713) 239 They are in Law in the same Right of Worthiness and Proximity of Blood, as their Root . . was. 1741 *RICHARDSON Pamela* I. 104, I am awaken'd to see more Worthiness in you, than ever I saw in any Lady in the Land. 1801 *WORDSW. Prioress' T.* I. 30 My knowledge is so weak, . . To tell abroad thy mighty worthiness. 1879 *FARRAR St. Paul* (1883) 173 A Divine Charity not only perceives real worth, but even creates worthiness where it did not before exist.

β. c 1450 *Merlin* xiv. 203 Thei semede to be of grete wordynesse. c 1489 *CAXTON Blanchardyn* xiv. 49 O thou free knyght, replenysshed wyth prowesse & of grete wordynesse.

b. Of things or qualities.

1398 *TREVISIA Barth. De P.R.* XVI. vii. (1495) 556 Siluer . . berep þe prise after golde in worþines and valow. c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 5536 For ther may be no Richesse Ageyns frendshipp of worthynesse. 1426 *LYDG. De Guil. Pilgr.* 17383 For love excellyth in worthynesse Euery tresour and rychesse. 1450-1530 *Myrr. Our Ladye* II. 288 All erthly creatures restored ageyne in maner to the worthynesse of effecte that they were made for. 1541 *Act 33 Hen. VIII.* c. 37 ¶ 1 Suche . . hereditamentes shoulde be knytt unyted and annexed, . . agreeable to the worthiness and dignity thereof. 1577 *B. GOOGE Heresbach's Husb.* II. 67 Next vnto the Rose in woorthynesse, for his Sauour and beautiful whitenesse is the Lillye. 1638 *JUNIUS Paint. Ancients* 47 Art can doe nothing without the materiall; whereas the material without Art hath her own worthynesse. 1675 *BAXTER Cath. Theol.* II. 1. 235 Is there ever the less worthiness in it, because God causeth it? a 1768 *SECKER Serm.* (1771) VI. 132 Convinced of their Mission from Heaven by . . the singular Worthiness of their Conduct. 1850 *CLOUGH Poems*, etc. (1869) I. 167 Say, if you can, . . when was there most real worthiness of existence.

c. With a (and plural), *that*, or *this*.

13.. tr. Ælfred in *Engl. Stud.* VII. 328 Now, suster, . . go nyer and chalange sum partye of alle þis swete wurþynes. c 1449 *PECOCK Repr.* II. xv. 235 Forto be . . deuoutli remembrid . . upon Goddis worthinessis. 1450-1530 *Myrr. Our Ladye* II. 91 A prerogatyue is an excellent worthynes. 1590 *STOCKWOOD Rules Construct.* 8 This worthiness of one person aboue another, is not of birth or blood. 1657 *JER. TAYLOR Disc. Friendship* 39, I may take in also the accidental and extrinsick worthinesses. 1685 *BAXTER Paraphr. N.T.* Matt. x. 11 There is a worthiness consistent with free Grace. 1753 *RICHARDSON Grandison* (1781) I. xxxvi. 256 My Brother is valued by those who know him best, not . . for this or that single worthiness [etc.]. 1803 *SOUTHEY Lett.* (1856) I. 243, I could make a swelling . . passage about the old gentlemen and their worthinesses. 1860 *TRENCH Serm. Westm. Abbey* xxxiii. 382 There is a worthiness in God's saints, . . though that worthiness is itself of God's free giving.

† 2. With possessive pron., as a title. *Obs.*

1390 *GOWER Conf.* Prol. 50* He . . bad me doo my besynesse That to his hihe worthynesse Som newe thing I scholde boke. a 1400-50 *Wars Alexander* 1938 Sire, wetis it wele, 3oure worthines [etc.]. *Ibid.* 3163 First wrate I to 3our worthines. 1455 *Rolls of Parl.* V. 287/1 The grete and outrageous costes and expenses not unknown unto your worthynesses, which . . I bare, in execution of the said charge. 1564 *Brief Exam.* Bj, Your worthynesse may knowe what my iudgement is. 1602 *CHETTLE Hoffman* I. (1631) C 1, We know your worthynesse is experienc't in all true wisdom. 1608 *HEYWOOD Sallust, Hist.* Ded., Your worthynesse.

† 3. Ceremony, pomp. *Obs.* -1

a 1450 *Contin. Brut* 428 The Quene was dellyuyryd of a feyre sone, . . whiche with high and grete worthynesse was brought forthe, and cristenyd.

† 4. The quality of deserving to be treated in a specified manner. *Obs.* -1

1396-7 in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* (1907) XXII. 303 3et [this sin] . . passith in worthynesse to ben punischid in peynis of helle.

†'worthing¹. *Obs.* Forms: 1 weorðung, 1-2 wurðung, 1-3 wurðing; 1 worðung, 3-4 worþing (4 worþynge). [OE. *worðung*, *wurðung*, f. *weorð-*, *wurðian* WORTH v.²] Honour; respect; worship.

c 897 *ÆLFRED Gregory's Past.* C. iii. 35 For ðære weorðunge ðæs folces he bið on ofermettu awended. c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark vi. 4 Ne is witge buta worðung. c 1000 *ÆLFRIC Lev.* ii. 2 Lecge uppan þæt weofod Drihtne to wurpunga. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 59 þencheð nu men hwilch wurðin(g) eow hæueð idon þe heouenking. *Ibid.* 109 Godes laze bit ec mon wurðie efre his feder and his moder mid muchelere wurpunge. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 33 Ðu giue me seli tinging To thaunen ðis werdes beginninge, Ðe, leuerd god, to wurðinge. *Ibid.* 3787 Of ðo Reklefates for wurðing, Woren mad. . Corunes. a 1300 *Fall & Passion* 5 in *E.E.P.* (1862) 13 þat ic mote wiþ moch worping . . to 3ov schow is

vp-rising. *c1135* SHOREHAM III. 182 As al holy cherche þe tekþ, þou make þyne worþynge.

b. *worthing* day, Sunday; *worthing-night*, ? Sunday night.

c1175 Lamb. Hom. 9 þat wes heore sunedei and bet heo heolden heore wurðing dei þene we doð. *a1327* Adam Davy's Dreams 87 Me met a sweuene, on worþing-niȝth Of þat ilche derworpe kniȝth.

†*worthing*². *Obs.* [app. f. ME. *wurp* WORTH *a.* Cf. GOODING *vbl. sb.*] Dung; manure. Also *fig.*, moral corruption or filth.

c1175 Lamb. Hom. 85 þet smal cheþ þet flid ford mid þe winde bicumeð wurþinge. *a1200* St. Marher. 3 Ne lettū neauer þe unwhiht warpen hire i wurðinge. *c1230* Hali Meid. 13 þe ilke sari wrecches þe i þe fule wurðinge vnwedde waleweð. . . þeos walewið i wurðinge, & forrotieð þrin.

c1582 in T. West Antiq. Furness (1774) App. viii. 3 D 4, Five hundred fudder, or wayne load, alias coupe load, of wurthinge or dung. *1591* Broomfleet Manor Roll (MS.), Item, that Thomas Waile remove his swynestyne. . . that the worthing or fylth theirof do not corrupt the water. *1592* in Lancs. Q. Sess. Rec. (Chetham Soc.) I. 54 Eighte wayne lodes of worthinge or dounge. *1605* Shuttleworths' Acc. (Chetham Soc.) 161, xxj lode of worthing for barlye. . . ; xv lodes of worthinge, with good store of lyme in yt.

attrib. *1688* HOLME Armoury III. 337/1 A Worthing Forke, or a Dung Fork. *1876* E. LEIGH Cheshire Gloss., *Wording hook*, dungfork.

worthless ('wɜ:θlis), *a.* [f. WORTH *sb.*¹ + -LESS.]

1. Of things, etc.: Destitute of (material) worth; having no intrinsic value.

1588 SHAKS. Tit. A. v. iii. 117 Me thinkes I do digresse too much, Cytting my worthless praise. *1591* — Two Gent. iv. ii. 6 But Siluia is. . . too holy, To be corrupted with my worthless guifts. *1664* DRYDEN Rival Ladies Ep. Ded., My Lord, this worthless Present was design'd you, long before it was a Play. *1693* PRIOR To Hon. C. Montague vii, Scorning at Night the worthless Prey, We find the Labour gave the Joy. *1726* POPE Odys. xviii. 435 A worthless triumph o'er a worthless foe! *1784* COWPER Epist. 7. Hill 18 Can gold grow worthless that has stood the touch? *1823* SCOTT Quentin D. xxiii, Why should I occasion more bloodshed than has already taken place on so worthless an account? *1849* MACAULAY Hist. Eng. vii. II. 208 The indulgence. . . was clogged by conditions which made it almost worthless. *1885* Manch. Exam. 11 Nov. 3/1 The book seems to us about as worthless as a book can be without being morally offensive.

2. Of persons: Lacking worth or merit; destitute of moral character; contemptible, despicable.

1591 SHAKS. I Hen. VI. v. v. 53 So worthless Pezants bargain for their Wiues, As Market men for Oxen, Sheepe, or Horse. *1611* BEAUM. & FL. Maid's Trag. II. Asp. . . Perhaps he found me worthless. *1619* J. TAYLOR (Water P.) Kicksey Winsey B5b, Seuenthy, and last's a worthy worthless crew, Such as heau'n hates. *1671* MILTON Samson 1020 The Timnian bride Had not so soon preferr'd Thy Paranymphe, worthless to these compar'd. *1713* ADDISON Catho. iv. ii, Am I then doom'd to fall By a boy's hand? . . and for a worthless woman? *1771* FRANKLIN Autobiog. Wks. 1840 I. 68 He was a worthless fellow, though an excellent workman. *1852* MRS. STOWE Uncle Tom's C. xxix. 275 They get lazy. . . and take to drinking, and go all about to be mean, worthless fellows. *1855* MACAULAY Hist. Eng. xx. IV. 384 A worthless adventurer, whose only recommendation was that he was a Papist. *1881* MISS BRADDON Asphodel III. 300, I am very sorry that an honest man. . . should have been fooled by a worthless girl.

absol. *a1768* SECKER Serm. (1770) III. 192 If it brings the Worthless and the Wicked into Credit and Familiarity with their Betters. *1890* W. JAMES Princ. Psychol. I. 552 The mode of genesis of the worthy and the worthless seems the same.

†3. Unworthy (in various senses) of something, or of a person. *Obs.*

1592 GREENE Philomela Wks. (Grosart) XI. 176 But now thou art valued worthless of all thy former honours. *1601* SHAKS. Jul. C. v. i. 61 A peeuish School-boy, worthless of such Honor. *1602* CHETTLE Hoffman iv. (1631) H2, The worthy Dutchesse, worthles of this death, Was murder'd. *1639* G. DANIEL Eccles. xxi. 79 But the wise Man will scorn soe poore An Act, soe worthless of him.

Hence '*worthlessly* *adv.*

1847 C. BRONTE Jane Eyre xxxii, Miss Oliver. . . was. . . exacting, but not worthlessly selfish. *1883* WHITELAW Sophocles, Ajax 1162 Me too it shames to hear Words of a babbler, prating worthlessly.

worthlessness ('wɜ:θlisnis). [f. prec. + -NESS.] The character or quality of being worthless.

1611 COTGR., *Vileté*, vilenesse, basenesse, worthlesnesse. *1642* FULLER Holy & Prof. St. II. ix. 87 That his people may find his worth by the worthlesnesse of him that succeeds. *1662* H. STUBBE Indian Nectar Pref. 12 Man ought to entertain other despair, then what his own Worthlessness creates in him. *1703* J. SAVAGE Lett. Antients liv. 139, I am heartily glad that other Ladies besides me have discovered thy Worthlessness. *1771* Junius Lett. lvii. 297 The meanness and intrinsic worthlessness of the object (supposing he could attain it) would fill him with shame. . . and disgust. *1817* J. SCOTT Paris Revisit. (ed. 4) 313 A cold cruelty of practice, quite equal to the worthlessness of her principles. *1852* GROTE Greece II. lxxi. IX. 247 He proclaimed that. . . he was ashamed of the worthlessness of his countrymen. *1884* R. W. CHURCH Bacon v. 102 The many extravagant tributes paid. . . to high-handed worthlessness.

†*worthly*, *a.* *Obs.* Forms: 1 *weorðlic*, *wurðlic*, 2 *wurdlich* (*comp.* *wuredluker*), 3 *wurð-*, *wurplich* (*sup.* *wurðlukest*), 4 *wurthli*; 3-4 *worplich* (3 *sup.* -lokest, 4 *comp.* -loker), 4 *wortlich*, -lych, *worpelych*, 5 *worpeliche*; 4 *worp-*, *worthli*, -ly,

worpe-, *worthely*. [OE. *weorðlic*, *wurðlic*, f. *weorð* WORTH *sb.*¹ + -LY¹.]

1. Of things: Having great value or importance; noble, fine, excellent, worthy.

c893 ÆLFRED Oros. III. x. 140 Papirius. . . *weorþlice* size hæfde. *a900* Juliana 9 Wæs his rice brad, wið & *weorðlic*. *c1000* ÆLFRIC Saints' Lives xix. 143 Hi worhton eac þa wurðlice cyrcan. *c1100* O.E. Chron. (MS.D.) an. 1058, He. . . *wurðlic* lac geoffrode. *c1175* Lamb. Hom. 47 Heo hæfð mid hire þreo wurdliche mihte. *c1205* LAY. 11772 Ah loke wulche. . . *wunliche* londes, whulche *wurðliche* wude. *Ibid.* 28923 He. . . bad alle þe ȝeonglinges. . . þat heo heom biȝeten *wurðliche* wepen. *a1240* Ureisin in O.E. Hom. I. 187 Hwi nis me unwurhþ elc *wurpliche* þing aȝein þe muchel delit of pi swetnesse. *c1320* Sir Tristr. 1029 Swiche meting nas neuer non made Wiþ worpli wepen wiȝt. *13*. . . E.E. Allit. P. C. 464, I wysse a worplokter won to welde I neuer keped. *1340-70* Alisaunder 1024 Hee aboute hath ibene. . . And iwonne at his will þe *wortlych* places. *c1350* Libeaus Desc. (Kaluza) 761 Her wer a worply won For man, þat wer in doute. *1422* YONGE tr. *Secreta Secret.* 146 Riches of golde, syluer, yowellis, and othyr *worthely* possessionys. *14*. . . in *Hist. Coll. Citizen London* (Camden) 126 The cyttezens. . . shall have alle ande every franchises. . . þe whiche of *worthely* mynde be progenys of oure lorde the kyngne, . . to hem and to hys sayde cytte were grauntyde.

2. Of persons: Estimable, honourable, worthy.

c888 ÆLFRED Boeth. xxxiii. §1 ȝeþenc hu *weorðlic* and hu *foremæric* þe wolde se mon þincan. *c1100* O.E. Chron. (MS. D.) an. 1023, Hi þa mid *weorðlicum* *weorode*. . . hine. . . feredan. *c1200* Trin. Coll. Hom. 29 Du ert wel don man and parto *wurðlich*. *c1205* LAY. 25496 Wenhauer his quene, *wurðlukest* [*c1275* worplokst] wiuen. *c1275* *Ibid.* 26459 Hii þanne gonne go and leope to horse, *worþliche* kempes. *c1320* Sir Tristr. 1687 Play miri he may Wiþ þat worpli wiȝt. *a1352* MINOT Poems v. 38 Als wise man of wordes and *worthli* in wede. *c1394* P. Pl. Crede 233 Canstou me graip tellen To any *worply* wiȝt. *c1467* in *Excerpta Hist.* (1831) 188 That no man thenk that I. . . undirtake the thynges abovesaide by any arrogance. . . to be callid *worthly*.

†*worthly*, *adv.* *Obs.* Forms: 3 *wurðeliche*, -like, *wurðliche* (*wirdliche*, *Orm.* *wurpþlike*), -lich, -lic; 3-5 *worpliche*, 3-4 *worp-*, *worthli*, 5 *worthely*, *wordly*, 4-6 *worthly*. [f. WORTH *a.* + -LY².] **1.** = WORTHILY *adv.* **1.**

c1200 ORMIN 8177 All he wass *wurpþlike* shridd, Alls iff he wære o life. *c1205* LAY. 14164 þu sca[ll]t habben ȝarsume hæhliche heom to ueden & *wurðliche* scruden. *a1252* Ancr. R. 174 Heo schulen beon ine heouene, ouer oðer kunnes folke, *wurðliche* iheied. *c1250* Gen. & Ex. 1518 Ðor he was for his fadres luuen Holden *wurðlike* a wel a-buuen. *c1350* Will. Palerne 673 He. . . welcomes hir worpli. *Ibid.* 3202 Whan þei were cloped worpli in here wedes. *c1400* Ywayne & Gaw. 184 When we war in that fayre palays, It was ful *worthly* wrought always.

2. = WORTHILY *adv.* **2.**

c1205 LAY. 5770 þe sculleð eow *wurðliche* wreken. *a1400-50* Wars Alexander 1428 þan Alexander. . . Wynnes *worthly* ouer þe wallis with-in to þe cite.

3. = WORTHILY *adv.* **4.**

c1200 Vices & Virtues 21 His flesc and his blod, . . ȝif ic hit swa *wurðliche* underfenge, swa hit *wurðe* wære. *c1200* ORMIN 1033 þatt folklæss haligdomess, þatt wærenn inn an arke þær Wel & *wurpþlike* ȝemmede. *a1300* Cursor M. 11618 þe laured aȝh wee *worthli* to lufe. *1551* S. GARDINER Expl. Cath. Fayth 18 For such as receaue Christes most precious body and blood in the Sacrament *worthly*, they haue Christ dwellyng in them.

4. = WORTHILY *adv.* **3.**

1482 Monk of Evesham (Arb.) 43 Hyt was so gret and ynestimable that y can not remembre. . . how y myght *wordly* speke of hyt.

†*worthmint*. *Obs.* Forms: 3 *wurðmunt*, -mund, *worðmunt*. [OE. *weorð-*, *wurð-*, *wyrðmynt* (also -mynd, -myndu), f. *weorþ*, etc., WORTH *sb.*¹] Honour; worship.

c1205 LAY. 18851 þe wile þe pis world stænt ilæsten scal is *worþmunt*. *a1225* Leg. Kath. 1455 O witti wummon! *wurðmunt* & alle *wurðschipe* *wurðel*. *a1225* Juliana 65 (Bodl. MS.) þu art *wurðe* *wurðmunt* from worlde into worlde.

†*worthness*. *Obs.* [OE. *weorð-*, *wurð-*, *wyrpnes* (north. *worðnis*), f. *weorþ*, WORTH *a.*] **a.** Honour. **b.** Worthiness.

1258 Proclam. Hen. III, §2 þæt vre rædesmen. . . habbep idon and schullen don in þe *worþnesse* of gode and on vre treowpe for þe freme of þe loande. *1486* Bk. St. Albans, Her. aj, Beyng in *worthenes* aarmes for to bere by the Royall blode in ordynance.

'worthship. [f. WORTH *sb.*¹ + -SHIP.] The condition of being of worth.

1843 CARLYLE Past & Pr. I. vi, It is the summary. . . of all manner of 'worship', and true *worthships* and noblenesses whatsoever. *1851* — Sterling I. v, The world. . . its *worthships* and *worships* unworshipful.

worth-while, *sb.* *rare*. [See WHILE *sb.* 3 b, and WORTH *a.* 8.] The quality of being, or that which is, worth while.

1867 MRS. WHITNEY Leslie Goldthwaite ii, How did the world seem to such a person, and where was the *worth-while* of it? *1899* Westm. Gaz. 3 Aug. 2/1 The pursuit of the *worth-while*.

worth-while, *a.* Also *worthwhile*. [Cf. prec.] That is worth while; of sufficient value or importance.

Common in recent use.

1884, *1904* [see next]. *1912* World 7 May 677/1 He has. . . scarcely any *worthwhile* reversionary interests. *1927* Publishers' Circular 30 Apr. 487/3 Each book is offered as a

book particularly *worth-while* in the judgment of the Board of Editors.

Hence *worth-whileness*, the quality of being *worth while*.

1884 B'ham Weekly Post 18 Oct. 5/1 The *worth-whileness* of forming a local portrait gallery. *1904* B'NESS v. HUTTEN Pam 128 If something does present itself to you in the light of *worth-whileness*, nothing can stop you.

worthy ('wɜ:ði), *a., adv., sb.* Forms: *a.* 3 *wurði* (*wrþi*), 4 *wurpy* (*wrþy*), 4-5 *wurthi*, -thy (5 *whurthy*); 5 *Sc.* *wirþy*, 6 *Sc.* *wirthie*, -thy; 3-5 *worþi* (4 *wortþi*), 4-5 *worþy*, 3-6 *worthi* (4 *worthti*, 6 *Sc.* *vorthi*), 3-7 *worthye*, 4-7 *worthie* (4-5 *worthé*), 3- *worthy* (4 *worthethy*, 5 *whorthy*; *Sc.* 5 *vorthy*, 6 *vorthty*); 5 *wourthy*, 6 *woorthie*, -thy, 6-7 *woorthy*. *β. Sc.* (and *north.*) 5-6, 8- *wordy*, 6 *vordy*, *wirdy*, -die, *worde*. [ME. *wurði*, *worði*, etc., f. WORTH *sb.*¹ + -Y, replacing OE. *wyrðe*, *weorðe*, WURTHE *a.*, and in some senses OE. *weorð*, *wurð*, WORTH *a.*

The following are illustrations of the *β*-forms:

c1375 Sc. Leg. Saints xl. (Ninian) 224 Sa. . . [he] made feil *wordy* goddis burde. *14*. . . Pol. Rel. & L. Poems (1903) 114 Alle men helde her *wordy* heuen. *c1460* Merita Missæ 71 in Lay Folks Mass Bk. 150 Pray. . . That thou be *wordy* to see that syght. *1513* DOUGLAS Æneis I. vii. 137 Ane *wordy* weriour. . . thai mycht hir ken. *1533* GAU Richt Vay (S.T.S.) 64 It is ane trew vord and aluay *wordy* to be resauit. *1583* Extracts Burgh Rec. Lanark (1893) 89 Quharfor. . . I am nocht *wirdie*. . . to be *ballie* [bailie]. *1721* [see 1 b]. *1724*, *1725* [see 8]. *1804* R. ANDERSON Cumbl. Ball. 114 It's for auld Kit Craffet, our *wordy* wise neybor. *1872* J. YOUNG Lochlomond 49 (E.D.D.) Cottars puir, wha ne'er had daurk *Wordy* the name o' honest wark.]

A. adj. **1.** **a.** Of things: Having worth; possessed of value or importance; good; excellent. Now *arch*.

c1250 Gen. & Ex. 1501 Firme birðe was *wurði* wune. *c1380* WYCLIF Serm. Sel. Wks. II. 226 Cristene men shulden þenke shame to. . . foule þe *worþi* suyt of Crist. *1393* LANGL. P. Pl. C. xiv. 28 Thauh ich preise pouerte þus and preoue hit by ensamples *Worthiour*. *c1440* Jacob's Well 190 Prayer is more *worthy* to god, þan almes or fastyng. *c1450* Mirk's Festial 86 þus ȝe may se by veray reson þat Godys grace ys more *worpy* þen any fayre. *c1450* Cursor M. 10160 (Laud) Of hym we wille our story rede, For *worhest* yt is in-dede. *1557* SEAGER Sch. Vert. 513 in *Babes Bk.*, Aristotle the Philosopher this *worthy* sayinge writ. *1577* B. GOOGE Heresbach's Husb. II. 108 The Date (a *worthy* tree) bendeth yr agaynst his burden. *1593* Bacchus Bountie B 1 b, The pots feet finely roasted In a *worthie* fire. *1628* R. HAYMAN in Eng. Hist. Rev. (1918) Jan. 31 Vnlesse your *maiestie* suddainly assist, this *worthie* busines is like to vanish Lamentably. *1666* WORLIDGE Syst. Agric. (1681) 171 Cows and Oxen are *worthy* Beasts, and in great request with the Husbandman. *1674* PLAYFORD Skill Mus. I. xi. 55 All the most passionate Graces used in this most *worthy* manner of singing. *1774* PENNANT Tour Scot. in 1772, 303 According to the *worthy* custom of these islands.

†b. Of the value of, worth (so much). *Obs.*

1303 R. BRUNNE Handl. Synne 6323 Hys vessel was ten mark *wurpy* [v.r. *wrþy*]. ? *a1500* Chester Pl., Nativ. 592 Thyrd parte the worlde, as reade wee, that temple was *worthy*. *1569* J. SANFORD tr. Agrippa's Van. Artes 160 The thinge is so muche *worthy* as it may be solde for. *1577* KENDALL Flowers Epigr. 36 b, If thou saie they are no gifts, but trifles *worthie* nought. *1604* E. G[IRIMSTONE] Acosta's Hist. Indies III. xx. 185 The traffike they make of it, is *worthy* much mony. *1721* RAMSAY Rise & Fall Stocks 124 We thought that dealer's stock an ill ane, That was not *worthy* half a million.

c. Capable of justifying (expense).

1785 J. PHILLIPS Treat. Inland Nav. 44 It would be found *worthy* the expence to carry the navigation. . . to Braintree.

2. a. Of persons: Distinguished by good qualities; entitled to honour or respect on this account; estimable.

13. . . K. Horn (Harl.) 1222 For þer buep myne knyhte *worþi* men & lyhte. *1338* R. BRUNNE Chron. (1810) 162 Of his men most *worþi*, at þam conseil gan [he] take. *c1385* CHAUCER L.G.W. 597 *Cleopatra*, This ilke senatour Was a ful *worthy* gentyl weriour. *c1400* MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xv. 67 Criste es þe best, þe *worthiest* and next to Godd. *1422* YONGE tr. *Secreta Secret.* 197 Iosue the *Wourthy* and wyse weryor. *1489* CAXTON Faytes of A. I. xxi. 36 The good. . . admonestyng of the *worthy* duc encreaceth in an oost hardynes. . . and vertue. *1548-9* (Mar.) Bk. Com. Prayer, Offices 24 Thou moste *worthy* iudge eternal. *1581* A. HALL Iliad II. 20 He calld the autients of the host, they that most *worthy* were. *1594* SHAKS. Rich. III. III. vii. 239 Long lue King Richard, Englands *worthie* King. *1639* W. C. Italian Convert xxx. 222 But especially his *worthy* wife did then shew her selfe most loving and loyall. *1663* JER. TAYLOR Funeral Serm. Abp. Armagh 20 He was bred in Cambridge, . . under Mr. Hulet, a grave and a *worthy* Man. *1711* ADDISON Spect. No. 106 ¶4 My *worthy* Friend has put me under the particular Care of his Butler. *1758* S. HAYWARD's Serm. Introd. p. iii, A small collection of your late dear and *worthy* Pastor's sermons. *1806* H. SIDDONS Maid, Wife, & Widow III. 211 That *worthy* man could read hearts with great perspicuity. *1848* LYTTON Harold III. ii, Slowly then rose Alred, Bishop of Winchester, the *worthiest* prelate in all the land. *1885* 'MRS. ALEXANDER' At Bay vii, She would like her to be. . . married to some *worthy* person.

b. absol. in sing. or plural sense.

1377 LANGL. P. Pl. B. XIII. 33 þis maister was made sitte as for þe moste *worthy*. *1390* GOWER Conf. II. 196 That he be [= by] *worthi* and be wise. . . was conseyled. *c1412-20* LYDG. Chron. Troy IV. 342-3 Howe Kyngye Pryamus, with al the *worthy* of Troyans partye, kame to the felde. *1490* Acta Dom. Concil. (1839) 149/2 To tak a deligent inquesiounne. . . of þe best and *wordiast* of þe said burgh. *1535* COVERDALE Gen. xlix. 10 The cepter shal not be remoued from Iuda. . . tyll the *Worthy* come. *1845* J. C. MANGAN German Anthol. I. 76 The *Worthy* possess not the earth.

c. worthy of blood in Eng. Law: see *quots.*

1544 tr. *Littleton's Tenures* 2b, The elder brother shall haue the lande by discent, . . . for that, that the eldest brother is more worthy of blod. **1628** COKE *On Litt.* 12 b, The bloud of the part of the father is more worthy. . . in iudgement of law, than the bloud of the part of the mother. **a 1676** HALE *Common Law* (1713) 230 In the Case of Purchasers, . . . it resorted to the Line of the Mother, and the nearer and more worthy of Blood were preferred. **1766** BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. 213 The worthiest of blood shall be preferred. **1841** STEPHEN *Comm. Law Eng.* I. 382 All the female ancestors. . . were equally worthy of blood.

d. Of mind or character: Having a high moral standard.

1753-4 RICHARDSON *Grandison* IV. 12 But all three are men of worthy minds, and deserve better fortune. **1788** WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) VI. 469 Such as are styled, in the cant term of the day, men of worthy characters; — one of the most silly, insignificant words, that ever came into fashion. **1843** MIALl in *Nonconformist* III. 1 An act of homage done to great and worthy principles.

Comb. 1590 SIR J. SMYTH *Disc. Conc. Weapons* 50b marg., No honorable nor worthy minded men. **1760-72** H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) II. 153 He is a worthy-hearted child. **1856** N. Brit. Rev. XXVI. 227 A worthy-minded parson of the old school.

† **3. a. Of persons:** Holding a prominent place in the community; of rank or standing. *Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Cant. T.*, Prol. 217 Famulier was he With frankelyns. . . And [seek] with worthy women of the toun. **c 1400** *Destr. Troy* 7607 There was Ecuba þe honerable. . . With women of worship, the worthiest of Troy. **c 1460** *Urbanitatis* 45 in *Babes Bk.*, If þou sytte be a worthy man Then þy self thow art on, Suffre hym fyrste to towche þe mete.

† **b. worthy man** (also as one word): a man of note or standing. *Obs.*

1427 in *Cov. Leet Bk.* (1907) 111 The seyd meir . . . made com afore hym thes wurthymen foloweng. **1435** *Ibid.* 182 The whyche bille the seyd meyre. . . send to all the wurthymen of the seyd lete. **c 1440** *Promp. Parv.* 537/2 3erde, borne a-forne a worthyman, *Quiris*. **1485** *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 338/1 Burgeis and Worthymen, Cominaltie and their Successours. **a 1500** *Bale's Chron.* in *Six Town Chron.* (1911) 133 To have . . . had diverse worthymen and their goodes of the citee.

† **4. Of things:** **a. Strong, powerful.** *Obs.* —1

a 1300 *E.E. Psalter* xlix. 3 Fire in his sight sal brenne sothli And in his vmgange storme worthi [L. *valida*].

† **b. Honourable; held in honour or esteem.** *Obs.*

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* xix. 24 Is cryst more of myȝte & more worthy name Than ihesu or ihesus? **c 1380** WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 98 þis stat is most worthi in þe chirche. **1557** N.T. (Geneva) *Mat.* xxiii. 6 They . . . loue to syt in the worthiest place at feastes. **1586** MARLOWE *1st Pt. Tamburl.* I. i. 191 We knew. . . The Lords would not be too exasperate. To inuere or suppress your worthy tytyle. **1597** A. M. tr. *Gullemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 5b/2 The worthiest partes of the bodye, as the Braynes, Harte, Liver, or throte. **1623** J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *New Discov. by Sea* Ep. Ded., All which . . . I humbly Dedicate to your Noble, Worshipfull and worthy Acceptances. **a 1721** *Prior Down-Hall* ix, He is a Lawyer of worthy Renown.

5. a. Of sufficient worth or value; sufficiently good; appropriate, fitting, suitable.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 11492 Ilkan him gaf worpi offrand. **a 1440** *Found. St. Bartholomew's* xviii. (1886) p. lxvii, God, that is mervelous in his seyntes he. . . with worthy preysyng magnified. **1563** *Homilies* II. *Sacram.* 1. 214 A right & a worthy estimation, and vnderstanding of this mistery. **1594** in *Brydges Restituta* (1815) III. 298 You that . . . sought for matter in a foraine soyle, As wortheie subjects of your silver pen. **1738** GRAY *Statius* 1. 19 Ye Argive flower. . . Receive a worthier load; yon puny ball Let youngsters toss. **1808** SCOTT *Marmion* 1. xii, We saw the victor win the crest He wears with worthy pride. **1870** F. R. WILSON *Ch. Lindisf.* 64 It was improved by the insertion of worthy windows.

† **b. Sufficiently heavy or severe; deserved, merited by default or wrong-doing, condign.** *Obs.*

1551 CROWLEY *Pleas. & Payne* 197 No hell can be worthy payne for your offence, it is so grate. **1574** *Homilies* II. *Wilful Rebell.* IV. 586 A woorthy end of al false rebelles, who . . . become hangmen vnto them selues. **c 1586** C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* cvi. xv, Often he freed them. . . But. . . Left them at length in worthy plagues to pine. **1601** SHAKS. *All's Well* IV. iii. 7 He has much worthy blame laid vpon him. **1622** J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Merry Wherry Voy.* Wks. 1630 II. 10/1 They. . . did as much as lay in them to doe, . . . to giue them worthy punishment.

6. a. Of persons: Possessed of sufficient worth, desert, or merit.

1552 2nd *Prayer-Bk. Edw. VI, Commun.*, rubric, The humble. . . acknowledging of the benefites of Chryst, geuen vnto the woorthye receyuer. **1788** PICKEN *Poems* 86 A wordy frien' is e'en right rare, An' virtue lit to hit on. **1818** BYRON *Ch. Har.* iv. clv, Thou Shalt one day, if found worthy, . . . See thy God face to face. **1832** *Edin. Rev.* Oct. 146 No worthy successor of Richard Turpin arises to 'murder sleep'. **1885** *Manch. Even. News* 6 July 2/1 Mr. Phelps. . . is bent on proving that he is a worthy successor to Mr. Russell Lowell.

b. Of actions, etc.: Adequate or suitable in respect of moral excellence or noble aims.

1563 *Homilies* II. 444 (*title*) An Homely of the worthy receauing. . . of the Sacrament of the body and bloud of Christ. **1609** DEKKER *Gull's Hornbk.* iv, Your next worthy worke is, to repaire to my Lord Chancellors Tomb. **1619** J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Kicksey Winsey* C3, I know there's many worthy proiets done, The which more credit. . . hath won. **1675** COMBER (*title*) A Companion to the Altar. Or, an Help to the worthy receiving of the Lords Supper. **1851** MRS. BROWNING *Casa Guidi Wind.* 1. 223 Before the eyes of men, awake at last, Who. . . turn to wakeful prayer and worthy act.

II. With various constructions.

Freq. intensified by *well*: see *WELL adv.* 16 b.

7. a. Of sufficient merit, excellence, or desert to be or have something. † Also with *that*.

c 1220 *Bestiary* 186 in *O.E. Misc.* 6 Ne deme ðe noȝt wurdī, Ðat tu dure loken up to ðe heueneward. **c 1250** *Gen. & Ex.* 1012 Of ðe ðre he wurdede ðe ton. . . De was wurdi wurded to ben. *Ibid.* 3753 He seiden he weren wurdi bet To ðat seruisse to ben set. **a 1300** *Cursor M.* 4056 Ioseph he sagh a night in sueuen, þe quilk es worpie for to neuen. **1362** LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* II. 91 Worpi is þe Werkmon his hure to haue. **1377** *Ibid.* B. III. 228 Mede is wel worthi þe maistrye to haue! **c 1400** *Rule St. Benet* 228 þat we may fle fro paines of hell And be worthi in blis to dwell. **1450-1530** *Myrr. Our Ladye* II. 97 O mayden worthy to be loued of god. **1526** *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 2, I requyre you all in the moost worthy to be loued woundes & passyon of Chryst. **1596** DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 11 He will, perchance, be fund wortheie to be counted among the maist wirthie vndir the sone in his tyme. **1642** D. ROGERS *Naaman* 130 Not worthy to be named the same day. . . with God. **1651** HOBBS *Leviath.* 1. x. 46 He is Worthiest to be a Commander . . . that is best fitted with the qualities required to the well discharging of it. **1708** ATTERBURY *Serm.* (Job xxii. 21) 24 That we may be found worthy to be admitted into the Blessed Vision of him in the next [life]. **1781** COWPER *Retirement* 700 All such as manly and great souls produce, Worthy to live, and of eternal use. **1799-1805** WORDSW. *Prelude* IV. 131 Those walks well worthy to be prized and loved. **1816** J. WILSON *City of Plague* II. iv. 53 One hand alone on all the earth was worthy To place these flowers. **1875** JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) III. 307 The only knowledge worthy to be called knowledge.

ellipt. **c 1420** *Sir Amadace* (Camden) xxxi, 3e mone haue maysturs euyrware As wele wurthi 3e ar soe.

b. With ellipsis of to.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1148 It es noght worpi forgiuen be. **1390** GOWER *Conf.* II. 46 As hire thoghte. . . Sche was noght worpi axen there, Fro when they come. **c 1400** 26 *Pol. Poems* xx. 120 He is worpi be loued.

† **c. Const. for (some purpose).** *Obs.*

1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* II. iv. 76 He is as worthy for an Emprise loue, As meet to be an Emperors Councillor. **1658** EABL MONM. tr. *Paruta's Wars Cyprus* 65 Doria refused to fall upon any petty businesse, as not worthy for his Kings Fleet, to run any hazard in.

8. a. Deserving of something, by reason of merit or excellence.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 10350 Berns. . . oft er for pair dughtihede Selcuth worpi mikel of mede. **1471** CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 492 Your labours shall neuer be dygne ne worthy of preysyng. **c 1534** TINDALE *Prol. Mark.* Ye see. . . of what authoritie his writing is, and how worthy of credence. **1565** STAPLETON tr. *Bede's Hist. Ch. Eng.* 177 He was founde. . . best worthy of that bishopprick. **1605** CAMDEN *Rem., Wise Sp.* 186 No mortall man doubtlesse is woorthy of such an high name. **1650** *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) 181, I thinke him worthy of much greater trust and favor. **1724** RAMSAY *Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) I. 68 For now she's. . . wordy of my hand. **1725** — *Gent. Sheph.* I. i, Weel are ye wordy o't. **1737** *Gentl. Mag.* VII. 596/1 The only Service. . . worthy of Preferment in the Army. **1798** FERRIER *Illustr. Sterne* iv. 137 It contains nothing worthy of attention. **1848** L. HUNT *Jar of Honey* Pref. 16 French has lately been thought worthy of cultivation. **1860** TYNDALE *Glac.* 1. xxvi. 192, I thought such services worthy of some recognition. **1874** GREEN *Short Hist.* III. §4. 128 Abelard was a foe worthy of the menaces of councils.

b. With ellipsis of of: Deserving, meriting.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 19362 (Edin.) þa wente ioifuler þan are, . . . þat tai for him war worþi grame. **c 1400** 26 *Pol. Poems* II. 40 The trewe seruant is worthy hys mede. **1494** FABYAN *Chron.* lxxxiii. (1811) 62 That thou. . . resygne. . . the Rule of thy lande to hym yt is more worthy this come than thou art. **1550** CROWLEY *Inform. Sel. Wks.* (1872) 162 Your owne conscience shall iudge you wortheie no merceye. **1563** *Homilies* II. *Martrimony* 540 This man is wortheie much commendation. **c 1600** SHAKS. *Sonn.* xxxviii, Oh giue thy selfe the thanks if ought in me, Worthy perusal stand against thy sight. **1639** in *Verney Mem.* (1904) I. 94 There is no newes worth your acceptance or worthy my labour. **1648** WINYARD *Midsummer Moon* 3 Good ingenious soules . . . are thought worthy heaven because they boast no merit. **1675** DRYDEN *Aurengz.* 1. (1676) 14 Be worthy me, as I am worthy you. **1727** SWITZER *Pract. Gard.* I. v. 38 And it is worthy remark, that be waters [etc.]. **1743** FRANCIS tr. *Hor., Odes* IV. ix. 30 Greece had with Heroes fill'd th' embattled Plain, Worthy the Muse in her sublimest Strain. **1777** W. DALRYMPLE *Trav. Sp. & Port.* cxxxii, It was worthy notice, I was informed. **1813** J. C. HOBHOUSE *Journ.* (ed. 2) 509 Whatever was worthy imitation was imitated by the Turks. **1864** TENNYSON *Aylmer's F.* 712 Him too you loved, for he was worthy love. **1889** SWINBURNE *Stud. B. Jonson* 83 Dame Polish is a figure well worthy the cordial and lavish commendation of Gifford.

c. With verbal sbs. (Cf. WORTH a. 8b.)

c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 90 þan þe grete devull. . . sayde þat he was wurthi lovyng. **1548** UDALL *Erasm. Par. Matt.* III. 1 Nowe is it worthy the hearyng to knowe how our Lorde Iesus Christ began & entred with the matter, that he came for. **1581** PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* 1. (1586) A 6 b, Either to doe thinges worth the writing, or to write thinges worthy the reading. **1613** PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 152 The wordes of Beniamin are worthy the inserting. **1685** *Caldwell Papers* (Maitl. Club) I. 145, I took boat from Middleburgh to Dort; nothing occurred wortheie noticeing. **1718** *Entertainer* No. 27. 179 He is not worthy regarding who has not some Spice of this Ambition. **1795-6** WORDSW. *Borderers* III. 1179 'Twere matter Worthy the hearing. **1879** MORLEY *Burke* III. 40 A time. . . when England would not be worthy living in.

9. Deserving or meriting by fault or wrong-doing. Const. as in senses 7 and 8.

(a) **c 1220** *Bestiary* 447 in *O.E. Misc.* 14 Man al so ðe foxes name Arn wurdi to hauen same. **c 1366** CHAUCER *A.B.C.* 123 And þat my soule is wurthi for to sinke. **1377** LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* v. 236 þow haddest [be] better worthy be hanged perfore. **c 1440** *Alphabet of Tales* 155 He said his head war wurthi to be smetyn off. **c 1449** PECOCK *Repr.* IV. iii. 435 Mannys lawe . . . is leeful and not worthei be vndirnome and blamed. **c 1460** *Contin. Brut* 517 þei said playnly þat þe Lorde Say. . . & many mo, wer traytours, & worthy to be dede. **1508**

STANBRIDGE *Vulgaria* (W. de W.) Bv, Thou arte worthy to be hanged. **1561** T. NORTON tr. *Calvin's Inst.* 1. ix. 20 Then suche carelesnesse is woorthye to bee laughed at. **1584** R. SCOT *Discov. Witcher.* III. xix. (1886) 56 Whereby it is inferred that they are worthie to die. **1632** *Star Chamber Cases* (Camden) 171, I think, therefore, he is worthie to paie 500*li* dammage.

ellipt. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1417 Pilatus he sende. . . Vorto holde hom harde inou, as hii wel wrpi were. **1556** *Chron. Gr. Friars* (Camden) 41 To be hongyd and heddyd. . . and there sufferde as they were wordy.

(b) **1340-70** *Alex. & Dind.* 746 As 3e ben worpi of wo whan þe word failus. **c 1350** *Will. Palerne* 4788 þat we ar worpi to þe deth, wel we be a-knowe. **1505** *Presentm. Juries in Surtees Misc.* (1890) 31 Yowr wyff hays had hyll wordes for me, quylk yt I was never worde off. **1583** STUBBES *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 84 There are manie woorthie of great blame in this respect.

(c) **a 1340** HAMFOLE *Psalter* vi. 1 Sett noght swilk skilles agayns me þat i be conuycte & worpi dampnacioun. **c 1400** *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) III. ix. 56 In this fyre haue they theyr sepulture, none other be they worthy. **1542** UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 10b, Idlenes euermore [is] wortheie blame. **1581** A. HALL *Iliad* II. 28 Oh hatefull case, worthy reproche. **1615** BRATHWAIT *Strappado* 193 O I were worthy death, Not to loue them.

10. Appropriate, suitable, becoming, fit: † a. In the phrase *it is worthy that* . . ., or variations of this. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7311 It es wel wortheie þat qua Mai bere no wel ne thole na wa. **13** . . . *Ibid.* 6508 (Gött.) þis ilk es he þat broght vs thoru þe rede se, . . . þar-for es worthei he honurd be. **c 1400** *Rom. Rose* 7573 It were worthy To putte thee out of this bailly. **c 1400** *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton) v. xiv. (1859) 79 Now for this feste shalle we seyen the graces, as worthy is, with all oure dylygence. **1450-1530** *Myrr. Our Ladye* II. 288 Yt is worthy that man shulde calle. . . all the workes of god to prayse hym. **c 1480** HENRYSON *Fox, Wolf & Cadger* 149 'It is weill wortheie', quod he, 'I want 3one tyke, [etc.]'.

b. Const. with noun as object. In later use = of sufficient excellence, etc., to be appropriate for (one). Now *arch.* and *rare.*

c 1440 *Jacob's Well* 267 þe glose. . . seyth, þat it is noȝt worþi god to be mercyfull to hym þat is cruel & vnmecyryfull. **c 1513** MORE *Hist. Edw. V* Wks. 35/1 Katheryne. . . is. . . in verye prosperous estate, and woorthye her birth and vertue. **1639** DU VERGER tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* 40 Her lookes. . . did but seeke to find a Rocke worthy her ship-wrackle. **1697** DRYDEN *Aeneis* VI. 1178 These are Imperial Arts, and worthy thee. **1718** POPE *Iliad* xviii. 166 The host to succour, and thy friends to save Is worthy thee. **a 1774** GOLDSM. *Hist. Greece* II. 130 To teach him all such arts and sciences as are worthy the heir to a great Kingdom. **1833** TENNYSON *Dream Fair Women* 164 A name for ever! . . . Worthy a Roman spouse. **1852** J. H. NEWMAN *Idea University* viii. (1873) 186 It is the drawing the mind off. . . to subjects which are worthy a rational being.

c. Const. of.

1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 219 Mine *Aeneas*, which if it were worthy of your person, I wold most willingly present it to your highnesse. **1591** SPENSER *Ruins Time* 287 Treasure passing all this wordes worth, Worthie of heauen it selfe, which brought it forth. **1637** RUTHERFORD *Lett.* xci. *To J. Kennedy* (1671) 186 That our little inch of time-succuri is not worthy of our first night's welcome-home to heaven. **1667** MILTON *P.L.* IV. 241 Nectar, visiting each plant. . . fed Flours worthy of Paradise. **1697** DRYDEN *Aeneis* XI. 633 Let that vile Soul in that vile Body rest; The Lodging is well worthy of the Guest. **1795** *Gentl. Mag.* LXV. 542/2 His charities. . . were truly splendid, worthy of the son of the celebrated Bishop of Cloyne. **1810** SCOTT *Lady of L. v. x*, The stern joy which warriors feel In foemen worthy of their steel. **1829** SCOTT *Anne of G. xxxv*, Your sentiments and conduct are worthy of the noble house you descend from. **1864** BYRCE *Holy Rom. Emp.* xv. (1875) 244 There had been pontiffs whose fearlessness and justice were worthy of their exalted office.

† **11. Under an obligation to do something.** *Obs.* —1

1469 *Paston Lett.* Suppl. (1901) 128 Wheche wele considered, shee were wurthi to recompense you.

B. adv. or quasi-adv. a. Worthyly; in a manner worthy of (something). *Obs.* or only *poet.*

13 . . . *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1477 Sir Wawen her welcumed worþ on fyrst. **c 1475** *Rauf Coilyear* 360 Thay callit it the best jule than, And maist wortheie began, Sen euer King Charlis was man. **1526** TINDALE *Ephes.* IV. 1, I. . . exhorte you thatt ye walke worthy [Gr. *ἀξίως*] off the vocation wher with ye are called. **1577** B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. 114 Among all other creatures. . . the Horse may wortheist challenge the chieffest place. **1806** H. SIDDONS *Maid, Wife, & Widow* II. 67 It is a prouder triumph to found a race by living worthy, than to receive the greatest honours from the records of the dead. **1815** MRS. PILKINGTON *Celebrity* III. 47 Satisfaction which arises from a conviction of having acted worthy of ourselves.

b. In comb. with adjs. or verbs, as worthy-sing vb. (= to sing worthily), *worthy-sweet* adj.

1606 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. *Tropheis* 34 Let me his Harp-strings. . . haue; His Lute, and not his Launce, to worthe-sing Thy glorie. **1844** MRS. BROWNING *Lady Geraldine's Courtship* xlv, The leafy sounds of woodlands. . . Brought interposition worthy-sweet.

C. sb. 1. a. A distinguished or eminent person; a famous or renowned man or woman; esp. a man of courage or of noble character.

13 . . . *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1508, 'I woled wyt at yow, wyȝe,' þat worpy þe sayde. . . 'what were [etc.]' **c 1350** *Will. Palerne* 755 A sete þat was. . . vnder a windowe of þat worpeis chamber. **c 1400** *Destr. Troy* 9481 He woundit þat worþi in his wide prote. **1412-20** *LYDG. Chron.* *Troy* 1. 4103 Vp-on þe wiehie. . . many worpi loste þe þis lif. **c 1450** HOLLAND *Houlate* 849 The Pape. . . Wosche with thir worthis, and went to counsall. **1535** COVERDALE *2 Sam.* i. 21 There is the shyld of the Worthies smytten downe. — *1 Mac.* ix. 21 Alas, that this worþi shulde be slayne. **1582** STANYHURST *Aeneis* II. (Arb.) 46 Too serue this woorthy. . . My father vrwelthy mee sent. **1605** *1st Part Jeronimo* III. ii. 30 This

fierce, courageous Prince, a noble worthy. 1628 A. LEIGHTON *Appeal to Parlt.* 126 Sundry worthies of the Scottish nation. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 222 Rule to trye the reall worth of Feminine worthies by. 1664 BUTLER *Hud.* II. ii. 149 Did not our Worthies of the House, Before they broke the Peace, break Vows? 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) Ded. A 6b, To excite some renown'd Worthy to do you Justice. 1784 COWPER *Tiroc.* 647 With commendation due, To set some living worthy in his view. 1805 SOUTHEY *Madoc* I. xviii, The Bard of years to come... Shall with the Worthies of his country rank Llewelyn's name. 1866 J. MARTINEAU *Ess.* I. 1 Before he can be... registered among the worthies of humanity. 1868 FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* II. vii. 81 In the course of the next year England lost one of her truest worthies.

b. *spec.* A hero of antiquity.

1552-3 in Feuillerat *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 133 A maske of grete personages representinge the woorthies of the greekes. 16.. ROWLEY *Birth of Merlin* IV. v. 119 He to the world shall add another Worthy. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 51 Hercules among all the other Worthies was most frequently made in a Lions skinn. 1711 POPE *Temple Fame* 65 *note*, The western front is of Grecian architecture: The Doric order was peculiarly sacred to Heroes and Worthies. 1762 HURD *Lett. Chivalry* 32 Do not you remember that the Grecian worthies were... as famous for encountering Dragons... as for suppressing Giants?

c. *the nine worthies*: nine famous personages of ancient and mediæval history and legend, also called †*the nine nobles* (see NOBLE sb.¹ 1 b).

The number is composed of three Jews (Joshua, David, and Judas Maccabæus), three Gentiles (Hector, Alexander, and Julius Cæsar), and three Christians (Arthur, Charlemagne, and Godfrey of Bouillon).

c 1417 *Agincourt* 13 Though thou be not set amonge ye worthies nyne, Yet wast thou a conquerour in thy tyme. 1454 *E.E. Wills* (1882) 133, I bequeth to my brother... the hallyng with the ix wurthy. 1550 J. COKE *Eng. & Fr. Heraldry* §11 (1877) 61 Charlemanyne... for his valyauntesse is of the nombre of the nyne worthies. [1589 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* VI. xxix. 128 For well this Subject might increase the Worthies vnto ten.] 1670 TOLTE *Honours Acad.* II. 3 That famous Iosuah, one of the nine Worthies. 1619 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Kicksey Winsey* C 1 b, Forgot had bin the thrice three worthies names, If thrice three Muses had not writ their fames.

transf. 1586 FERNE *Blaz. Gentry* 156 Semyramis... is one of the nine worthies of that sexe. 1906 G. B. SHAW *Let.* 29 Sept. (1972) II. 657 The points we cannot accept. These are 2. The triumvirates, on the ground that the nine worthies cannot be found to take the responsibility.

†d. A prominent scholar or theologian. *Obs.* 1605 HIERON *Short Dial.* A iij b, Popish grounds, which our owne worthies, long since haue razed and overthrowne. 1607 — *Defence* 1. Pref. *3 b, Is not this... to make voyd all the writings of our worthies written in condemnation of those corrupt translations? 1611 *Bible Transl.* Pref. ¶13 So many of their Worthies disclaiming the now receiued conceit.

e. Applied colloquially or facetiously to any person, esp. one having a marked personality. (Common in 19th cent.)

1751 WARBURTON *Pope's Wks.* III. 69 Thus it fared with our two Worthies. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* iii, Tressilian acquiesced, and the two worthies left the apartment together. 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Box, Streets—Night*, Stirring the taproom fire and... taking part in the conversation of the worthies assembled round it. 1850 'SYLVANUS' *Bye-lanes & Downs* i. 13 Another worthy of York appertaining to the turf about this period. 1880 BROWNING *Dram. Idyls* Ser. II. *Pietro* 351 Ho, my knaves without there! Lead this worthy downstairs!

2. A thing of worth or value. *rare.*

1588 SHAKS. *L.L.L.* IV. iii. 236 In her faire cheekes, Where seuerall Worthies make one dignity.

†worthy, *v.* *Obs.* [f. WORTHY *a.*]

1. *trans.* To render, or hold, worthy (of something); to raise to honour or distinction.

1387-8 T. USK *Test. Love* I. ii. 109 Who hath worthyed kinges in the felde? 1549 COVERDALE etc. *Erasm. Par. Jas.* i. 13-21 This is the honour that the heauenly father worthyed vs withal. 1565 CALPHILL *Answe. Martiell* 128 b, To make hir wel apayde, that she should be worthyed to haue a God to talk to hir. *Ibid.* 170 b, Sith the Scripture is worthyed of these titles. 1601 W. WATSON *Import. Consid.* (1831) 4 By how much I might be worthyed with a favourable conceit had of you all. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* II. ii. 128 When he... put vpon him such a deale of Man, That worthyed him, got praises of the King. 1624 QUARLES *Job Militant* Med. xvi. N 1, So wisedombe be the message; Embassadors are worthyed in th' Embassy.

2. To hold in honour, pay respect to.

c 1425 *Eng. Cong. Ireland* 93 The Pepil of the londe manshippy hym sholde vp-take, and worthy as lorde.

-worthy, the adjective employed as a second element in a number of compounds, of which only a few have come into regular use, as *blame-*, *note-*, *praise-*, *sea-worthy*. The earliest instances, occurring in the 13th century, are later variants of forms in -*wurthe* (OE. -*wyrðe*), as *dere-*, *luve-*, *stalworthy* for earlier *derewurthe*, etc., = OE. *déor-* and *stælwyrðe*. Other OE. examples, as *nytwyrðe*, are not represented in ME., and there is app. no direct connexion between OE. *pancwyrðe* and the late ME. *thankworthy*. Of new formations the 13th cent. affords *deathworthy*, the 14th *blame-* and *thankworthy*, and the 15th *sale-worthy*; the 16th adds *faith-*, *honour-*, *praise-*, *note-*, *fault-*, and *name-worthy*, and the 17th *worship-*, *wonder-*, *scorn-*, *fame-*, *laugh-*, and *labour-worthy*. The common *sea-worthy* is not recorded before 1807,

and more recent formations include *mark-*, *song-*, *battle-worthy*, and irregularly from verb-stems, *teach-* and *paint-worthy*.

wortle ('wɔ:tl(ə)). Forms: *a.* 5 wirtil, writel, 9 whirtle, wortle. *β.* 7 wurdle, 9 wordle. [Of obscure origin.] An implement used in the drawing of wire or lead-pipe (see *quots.* 1875). Also *Comb.*, as *wortle-maker*, -*plate*.

1430 *Cov. Leet-bk.* 142 Joh. Smyth, wirtilmaker. *Ibid.* 160 Tho. Smyth, writemaker. 1664 H. POWER *Exp. Philos.* 56 Your Wire-drawers know, that if they take a short piece of Wire, . . . and drill it through, that then though they draw it out to the smalness of a hair, yet will it still remain hollow quite through in despite of their Wurdle. 1819 REES *Cycl.* XXVII. 3 M2, The workmen are provided with a great number of these plates. . . they are called whirtles. *Ibid.*, This winds up the double chains, drawing the pipe through the whirtle, by which it diminishes its size and lengthens it out. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, Whirtle, a perforated steel plate through which pipe or wire is drawn to reduce its diameter. *Ibid.*, Wordle, one of the pivoted cams in a draw-head, . . . capable of simultaneous adjustment. . . to regulate the size of the throat through which the tube or wire is drawn. 1888 *Science* 14 Dec. 286/1 The wire . . . breaking into short lengths when being pulled through the wortles. 1913 *Engineering* 18 Apr. 541/3 It is also probable that the earliest wortles were hard stones. *Ibid.* 542/1 The wortle-plates required by those engaged in drawing wire by hand.

wortle(berry), obs. ff. WHORTLE(BERRY).

†'wortling. *Obs. rare.* [f. WORT sb.¹ + -LING.]

A young vine-plant.

1691 Y-WORTH *New Art Making Wines* 9 But if thou wilt repair an old Vine, these [roots] are taken out, and are now call'd Wortlings. *Ibid.*, These our Wortlings . . . are the better able to defend against the Frost.

wortwale, var. WARTWALE *Obs.*

†'wortworm. *Obs.* Forms: 4-5 worthe worm (6 worrne), 5 wortworme, -wyrme, wurtwurme. [f. WORT sb. + WORM sb.] A caterpillar that feeds on worts or cabbages.

1388 WYCLIF *Joel* i. 4 A locuste eet the residue of a worthe worm [L. *residuum erucæ*]. c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 532/2 Wort wyrme, pat etythe wortys, eruca. c 1440 *Palladius on Husb.* I. 880 Tak Iuce of hennebane With sour aysel, . . . Ereither wol be wortwormys bane. 1496 *Bk. St. Albans, Fishing* i j b, In August take wortwormes & magotes. 1530 PALSGR. 290/2 Wort worme.

worwyn, worry(e, obs. forms of WORRY *v.*

wos, obs. and vulgar f. *was*, pa. t. of BE *v.*

wos, wose, obs. forms of WHOSE.

wosbird, dial. var. *whore's bird* (WHORE sb. 3).

wose, obs. of OOZE.

wosen, obs. f. WEASAND.

wosie, obs. f. OOZY *a.*

wosing, obs. f. OOZING *vbl. sb.*

†wosith. *Obs.* Also 3 wasið, [wei-sið]. [f. WOE sb. + SITHE sb.¹] Trouble, affliction.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 209 3if he seð his emcristene polien wosið. [c 1205 LAY. 25846 ba fond he per ane quene . . . weop for hire wei-sið.] c 1230 *Hali Meid.* (Titus) 51 Alle þe alde wibes schome craft, þat cunnen of þat wasið. *Ibid.* 53 Lutel wat meiden . . . of hire wasiðes of þat fode fostringe. c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 15712 Manie opere sore hit ment, . . . þat wyth hym byde many wo sith.

wosse, wosshe, obs. ff. WISH. *v.*

wosseyle, obs. f. WASSAIL *v.*

wost, obs. f. VOUST *sb.*

wost(e, wostow(e, wostu: see WIT *v.*¹

wostour, obs. f. VOUSTER.

wosy(e, obs. ff. OOZY.

wot (wɒt), *v. arch.* Forms: (see below). [var. of WIT *v.*¹, due to the carrying over of the preterite-present stem *wōt* (earlier and northern *wāt*) into other parts of the verb. The substitution occurs first in the 2nd pers. sing. (*wāt*, *wōt* for *wāst*, *wōst*) and the plur. (for *wāten*) of the present tense, and appears in northern texts from the end of the 13th century. In the 14th cent. the new forms *wotest* and *woteth* (*wotis*) appear. The infin. *woten* occurs early in the 15th cent., and *wotte*, *wote*, *wot* in the 16th, together with the pres. pple. *wotting*. The pa. t. *wotted* is an archaism of the 19th cent.] *trans.* and *intr.* To know. Freq. const. with *of*. (See WIT *v.*¹)

1. 2nd sing. *pres. indic.* *a.* north. and *Sc.* 4-5 wat, 4-6 wate, (4 whate, quat, vat), 6 wait, (vait). *β.* 4 whote, 5 woot, wot.

a. c 1300 *Cursor M.* 766 Wat þou [Gött. quat. *Fairf.* wate] quairfor? 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 2666 Ne þou whate never in what stede þou sal dyghe. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* v. 241 Thou vat nocht quha is this frend. 1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* cxxix, Lo, wate thou quhy? c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* v. xiii. 5247 (Cott.) Quhar was God, wat þou oucht, Befor þat

hewyn and erde was wroucht? 1549 *Compl. Scot.* xv. 126 Thou vait that ane man vil haue childir of deferent conditionis. c 1550 ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* 1. 404 Thyris als mekle scho reuis, That thou not wait. a 1568 in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter, Club) 133 Thow wate nocht quhen that it will licht.

β. a 1352 *Minot Poems* (ed. Hall) xi. 4 þou whote wham I mene. c 1400 *Non-Cycle Myst. Plays* iii. 40 Now wot þou wele of all our wo. a 1425 *Cursor M.* 3231 (Trin.) Wende in hye vnto mesopothanye, pere þou woot our frendes wone.

2. *Pres. indic. plural.* *a.* north. and *Sc.* 4-6, 8 wat (4 quat, 5 vat), wate (5 quate), 5-6 wait (6 vait, waite). *β.* 4-6 wote (4 woteþ, wotin, 5 north. woteys), 5 woote, 5-6 woot, wott(e, 5-9 wot (5 whot).

a. c 1300 *Cursor M.* 4729 Wel wat [Fairf. wate] yee Mi stiward ioseph al fedes me. *Ibid.* 14571 We wat [Gött. quat] mast quat er þai þar. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 1432 Ofte chaunges þe tymes here, als men wele wate. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* vi. (Thomas) 172 Of pollucione of flesche grovis, as ve vat, giltines. c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* v. xi. 2931 (Cott.) As she wate and has herde tel. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 151 Changeing of men that wate the kingis secretis . . . may do grete scathe. 1513 DOUGLAS *Eneis* x. Prol. 66 Lik as the sawle of man is ane, we wait, Havand thre poweris distinct and separate. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* v. 32 Thai vait nocht quhat thing is the varld. 1596 DALRYMPLE *tr. Leslie's Hist. Scot.* I. 58 Quhilkes to cal scheip or gait . . . we knawe nocht, nor wat we weil. 1720 RAMSAY *Prosp. Plenty* 171 Right wiel they wate That truth and honesty hauds lang the gate. 1724 — *Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) I. 66 Now wat ye wha I met yestreen?

β. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 39 þys clerkys . . . wote þat ys to wetyn. c 1400 *tr. Secreta Secret.*, Gov. Lordsh. 51 We woot wel þat þe keypyng of largesse ys right herd. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 2432 They . . . whot nat wher to saue or lese. c 1460 *Play Sacr.* 334 Ye wott what I haue sayd. 1521 FISHER *Serm.* Wks. (1876) 315 We woot that that people of the Iewes was a shadow of the chrysten people. c 1530 LATIMER in *Strype Eccl. Mem.* (1721) I. App. xliii. 119 Ye call the Scripture the new Lerninge; which . . . is eldre than any lerninge, that ye wote to be the old. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* II. ii. 90 Then you may come and see the picture. . . that you wot of. 16.. MIDDLETON etc. *Old Law* III. i, I have found out the true age . . . of the party you wot on. 1657 TRAPP *Comm. Ps.* xxxii. 5 Wot you what? . . . he hath confessed himself as guilty . . . as his man. 1753-4 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1810) IV. xvii. 141 Wot ye not the indelicacy of an early present, which you are not obliged to make? 1841 JAMES *Brigand* iv, There are more dangers around than you wot of. 1874 MOTLEY *John of Barneveld* xi. II. 30 'Don't forget to caress the old gentleman you wot of,' said the Advocate frequently.

3. *a.* 2nd sing. *pres. indic.* 5 wotest, -ist, -ys(t, 6- wottest, 6 wottst, wotste, *Sc.* watis.

1387-8 T. USK *Test. Love* I. ii. 74 Wottest thou not wel . . . that every shepherde ought . . . to seke his sperkelande sheep. c 1400 *Beryn* 45, I myzte nat lyve els, þowe wotist. 1448-9 METHAM *Amoryus & Cleopes* 360 Wotys thou quat me thynkyth best? 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* I. xxiv. 72 This knyght is a man of more worship than thou wotest of. 1549 COVERDALE *Erasm. Par. Rom.* Prol. ¶iv b, Thou woteste not what thou teachest. 1579 HAKE *News out of Powles* (1872) A vi j, For well thou wotste, if thyrsty were my minde. . . Then would I [etc.]. a 1585 MONTGOMERIE *Cherrie & Slae* 426 Thou watis not quhat thou wald. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xxxvi, Wottest thou that Lucas de Beaumanoir . . . is now himself at Templestowe? 1844 MRS. BROWNING *Crowned & Buried* xv, I would have The dead whereof thou wottest, from that grave.

b. 3rd sing. *pres. indic.* 4 wotis, 6 woteth, -ith, 6 wottyth, 6- wotteth, 9 wots; *Sc.* 6 watis, 7 waits, 9 wats.

13.. *Cursor M.* 10506 (Gött.) He wotis þis haue i 3ernid ay. 1523 SKELTON *Garl. Laurel* 1431 Lytill wotith the goslyng what the gosse thynkith. *Ibid.* 1438 Wele wotith the cat whos berde she likkith. 1531 *Dial. Laws Eng.* II. liii. 44 It is therefore no synne to say he wottyth not where he is. 1535 COVERDALE *Baruch* iii. 32 He that woteth all thynges, knoweth her. 1577 *St. Aug. Man.* (Longman) 27 O kyngdome without ende; . . . where the day . . . woteth not what time meaneth. 1602 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Mirum in Modum* (Grosart) 6/1 Through which she wots what works hir woe or weale. 1633 SIR A. JOHNSTON (Wariston) *Diary* (S.H.S.) 81 Quho waits bot the Lord wil deal bountifully with his servant once this weak as he did [etc.]. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xi, Let her know that he she wots of remained here . . . expecting to see her. 1879 E. ARNOLD *Lt. Asia* VIII. 22 The ant wots of its ways, The white doves know them well.

4. *Infin.* 5 woten, 7 wote; 6 wotte, 6- wot. Also *subj.* 6 wote; *imper.* 6 wot, wat, 7 wote.

1414 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 59/1 Which is gret doel to alle the Kynges trewe lieges . . . to woten of swiche meschiefs done and used withinne the Rewme. 1509 FISHER *Ps.* cxlii. Wks. (1876) 253 No meruayle it is yf than the sely soule . . . wote not what to saye. 1530 PALSGR. *Ep.* Ded. p. iij, So that we myght wotte for the keypyng of trewe congruite in that tonge . . . how [etc.]. 1575 A. FLEMING *Virg. Bucol.* III. 8 If so much thou know not, then, well wot, the goate is mine. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* xxx. iii. II. 406 Wote well, that ordinarily the water thereof is not good. 1605 CAMDEN *Rem.*, *Lang.* 19 Conscience, they called Inwit, as that which they did inwardly wit and wote, that is, know certainly. 1813 SCOTT *Trierm.* I. xi, The . . . Monarch full little did wot That she smiled, in his absence, on brave Lancelot. 1875 MORRIS *Eneids* III. 379 The other things the Parca still ban Helenus to wot.

5. *Pres. pple.* (and *verbal sb.*). 6 wottyng, 6- wotting.

1523 CROMWELL in *Merriman Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 42 People brought to extreme distresse and not wottyng how to lyue. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 120 Wottyng and weenyng, were those two thingis one. 1574 A. L. CALVIN *Four Serm.* ii, He stammered, not wotting what to say. 1624 GATAKER *Transubst.* 60 Well wotting that there was no such thing. 1817 SCOTT *Harold* III. iii, Hardly wotting why, He doff'd his helmet's gloomy pride. 1887

MORRIS *Odyss.* xiv. 451 And neither the Queen nor Laertes the Elder were wotting of this.

6. *Past tense.* 9- wotted.

1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* viii. That honest gentleman's terror communicated itself to him, though he wotted not why. 1853 HUXLEY in *Life & Lett.* (1900) I. 114 Having rushed into more responsibility than I wotted of. 1901 'LINESMAN' *Words by Eyewitness* (1902) 217 He will see many things he wotted nothing of.

wot (wɒt), non-standard written form of WHAT *pron.*, *a.*¹, etc.

1829 [see SLAP-UP *a.* b]. 1865 [see WATER *sb.* 6 f]. 1898 [see CHIVVY *sb.*]. 1925 [see GARDEN *sb.* 1 f]. 1949 E. POUND *Pisan Cantos* lxxvii. 50 I'll tell you wot izza comin'. 1972 'H. CARMICHAEL' *Naked to Grave* v. 60 He's going to have a tough job convincing the police he wasn't the one wot done it.

b. In phr. *wot, no* —?: orig. (in the war of 1939-45) a catchphrase protesting against shortages, written as the caption accompanying a Chad (see CHAD); now also in extended humorous use.

1945 *Sunday Express* 2 Dec. 2/3 Chad is the Watcher. . . He peers over walls and asks, 'Wot, no . . . ?' 1946, 1950 [see CHAD, CHAD]. 1958 J. TOWNSEND *Young Devils* ii. 16 A rusty drawing-pin supported an old Teachers' Union notice. It had scribbled across it 'Wot, no money?' 1979 K. CONLON *Move in Game* 1. v. 64 Joanna sent a postcard which said, 'Wot no tulle and confetti?'

wot(e, obs. forms of OAT.

wotcher ('wɒtʃə(r)), *int.* Also *watcha*. Colloq. corruption of 'what cheer?' (CHEER *sb.* 3 b), a familiar greeting.

1894 A. CHEVALIER *Humorous Songs* 4 'Wot cher!' all the neighbours cried, 'Who're yer goin' to meet, Bill?' 1899 *North-China Herald* 13 Nov. 962/3 (Adv.). 'Wot Cher, Mate!' may be a rough form of salutation. 1928 *Granta* 2 Nov. 71 (caption) Wotcher! 1954 J. MASTERS *Bhovani Junction* xxxii. 279 Howland waved violently to Victoria. . . and shouted, 'Wotcher, Vickyl!' 1977 'J. GASH' *Judas Pair* iii. 38 'Watcha, Lovejoy.' 'Come in, Tinker.' 1980 'J. GASH' *Spend Game* xvi. 162 'Hello, Lovejoy.' 'Wotcher, love.'

wote, obs. Sc. form of VOTE *sb.*

wote: see WIT *v.*¹, WOT *v.*

woth, obs. ind. pres. of WIT *v.*¹

†**wothe**, *sb.* and *a.* *Obs.* Forms: *a.* 4 *waþe* (quæþe), 4-5 *waþe* (5 *waghe*, ? *wauhte*, *Sc. vathe*); 4 *wath* (quat, 5 *Sc. vath*); 4 *wayth*, 5 *Sc. waith*. *β.* 4-5 *wothe*, 5 *woth*. [a. ON. **wāðe* (ONorw. and Icel. *vāðe*, *vāði*, Norw. *vaade*, *vaae*; MSw. *vape*, *vadhe*, Sw. *våde*, Da. *vaade*), perh. f. **wā* (ONorw. and Icel. *vá*), harm, disaster.]

A. sb. The condition of being exposed to or liable to injury or harm; danger, peril; hurt or harm; a cause of harm or injury. Also const. *of*.

a. 1300 *E.E. Psalter* cxiv. 3 Sorwes ofe dede vmgafe me ai, And wathes ofe helle me fand pai. 1300 *Cursor M.* 1846 þe stormes starked wit þe wind, Wath vas bifor and sua bihind. *Ibid.* 29362 Quen man es in wath o ded. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1725) 293 If him com any seape, tinselle of seignorie, Tille þow it wille be waþe. 1440 *York Myst.* v. 65 Nay, certis it is no wathe, Ete it safely ye maye. 1470 HENRY WALLACE ix. 1737 Fast south thai went; to bid it was gret wath.

β. 13.. *E.E. Allit. P. A.* 375 Bot much þe bygger 3et was my mon, Fro þou was wroken fro vch a woþe. 13.. *S. Erkenwode* 233 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 271 Bot for wothe ne wele, ne wrathe ne drede. . . I remewit neuer for þe rist. 1400 *Destr. Troy* 6050 For to wacche and to wake for wothis of harme. 1400 26 *Pol. Poems* xx. 143 She seyp, þey go to helle wopes. 1460 *Towneley Myst.* iii. 416 Ye shuld not be so spitus standyng in sich a woth.

B. adj. Dangerous.

1300 *Cursor M.* 4213 Allal! pat i him [Joseph] ouper outesent, þat wai þat was so wath to wend. *Ibid.* 28687 To fall in syn hu gret foly,—hu quat [Cotton Galba wathe] it es par-in to ly.

Hence †**wothely** *adv.* [Icel. *váðaliga*, MSw. *vadheliþa*, *vadelige*], dangerously, perilously.

?1400 *Morte Arth.* 2090 This gentille. . . wondes alle wathely, that in the waye stondez! *Ibid.* 2186, I am wathely woundide, waresche mone I neuer! 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8827 Achilles woundit full wothely in were of his lyffe. 1420 *Anturs of Arth.* 303 (Thornton) Arthure. . . Salle be wondede, I wysse, fulle wathely [Douce wopely; Irel. wothelik], I wene.

wothe, var. of *woghe* WOUGH *sb.*²

wother, obs. form of OTHER.

wother, woper, obs. forms of WHETHER.

wother-weight (Sc.); see WITHER-¹, 2.

†**wotless**, *a.* *Obs. rare.* [irreg. f. WOT *v.*] Unknowing, ignorant.

1594 H. CONSTABLE *Diana* vi. x, Whose hands I kisse. . . when she stands wotlesse whom so much she blisseth.

wot-save, obs. form of VOUCHSAFE *v.*

wott, obs. Sc. form of WIT *sb.*

wott(e, obs. ind. pres. of WIT *v.*¹

†**wottingly**, *adv.* *Obs.* [f. *wotting*, pres. pple. of WOT *v.*] Wittingly, knowingly.

1530 PALSGR. 846/2 Wottingly, *a. escient.* 1851 *Gloss. Cumberld.*, Wittenly, wottenly; designedly.

†**wottoo** = wilt thou: see WILL *v.*¹ A. 3 a. 8. 1701 STEELE *Funeral* iii. (1702) 42 Wottoo, Wottoo Fright thy own Trembling shivering Wife.

wou, obs. f. HOW *adv.*; obs. Sc. f. VOW *sb.* and *v.*¹

'woubit, 'oobit. *dial.* Forms: *a.* 5 *wolbode* (welbode), *wolle bode*; 5 *wolbede*, 6 *wolbede*, 7 *wolbet*, *volbet*; 7 *wool-beard*, *woollbed*, 8 *wool bed*. *β.* *Sc.* 6 *wowbat*, *woubet* (*voubet*), *wobat*, 9 *vowbet*, *woubit*. *γ. north.* and *Sc.* 7 *oubut*, 9 *oubit*, *oobit*, *ubit*, *yeubit*, *hoobit*, *hubert*; *oobed*. [ME. *wolbode* and *wolbede*, app. f. *wol* WOOL *sb.* with obscure second element; the form *-bode* may be connected with BOUD or BUDDE.] A hairy caterpillar, esp. the larva of the tiger-moth; a 'woolly bear'. Also *transf.* (and *attrib.*) applied contemptuously to a person.

a. 14.. *Nom.* in Wr.-Wū lcker 706/15 *Hic multipes*, a welbode. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 423/1 A wolbe bode (*A.* Wolbode), *multipes*. 1496 *Treat. Fishing w. Angle* (1883) 24 Bynde it on your hoke with fletchers sylke and make it rough lyke a welbede. 15.. *Ortus Vocab.* (Shrewbury MS.) Wolbede. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* xxix. v. II. 369 The Woollbeads or Caterpillars, . . . which are a kind of earth-wormes. . . all hairie, having many feet, and courbing arch-wise as they creepe. 1662 R. VENABLES *Exper. Angler* iii. 27 Those rough insects (which some call Woollbeds, because of their wool-like outside, and rings of divers colours). 1681 CHETHAM *Angler's Vade-m.* iv. §8 (1700) 35 Palmer-worm, Palmer-fly, Wooll-bed, and Cankers, Are all one Worm. 1787 *BEST Angling* (ed. 2) 18.

β. 1508 DUNBAR *Tua Mariit Wemen* 89 Ane wallidrag, ane worme, ane auld wobat carle. 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) xxxiv. 94 Swa ladeis will nocht sounge With waistit wovbattis rottin. 1585 MONTGOMERIE *Flying* 268 Wanshapen woubet [v.r. wovbat, woubet], of the weirds invyit. *Ibid.* 614 An warloch, an warwolfe, an voubet but haire. 1802 SIBBALD *Chron. S.P.* Gloss., *Woubit*, *Oubit*, one of those worms which appear as if covered with wool. 1809 *Edin. Rev.* xiv. 143 The hairy woubet, or yeubit, . . . is the name given by boys [in Berwickshire] to the caterpillar of the tiger-moth.

γ. 1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* 103 The English-Northrenmen call the hairie Caterpillars, Oubuts. 1800 *Ayrs. Gl. Surv.* 693 (Jam.) *Ubit*, dwarfish. 1825 JAMIESON, *Oobit*, a hairy worm, with alternate rings of black and dark yellow. 1851 KINGSLEY *Poems*, *The Oubit*, It was an hairy oubit, sae proud he crept along. 1861 J. BROWN *Horæ Subs.* Ser. II. 117 Very like a huge caterpillar or hairy oobit. 1865- in dialect glossaries, etc. (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*).

wouch(e, var. forms of WOUGH *sb.*² *Obs.*

wouchaif(f)e, wouchesafe, etc., obs. forms of VOUCHSAFE *v.*

woud, obs. Sc. f. VOID *v.*, obs. f. WOOD *sb.*¹ and *a.*

wouf, var. WOOF *int.*

wouf(e, obs. form of WOOF *sb.*¹

wough (wəʊ, wɔː), *sb.*¹ *Obs. exc. dial.* Forms: *a.* 1-4 *wah* (5 *Sc. wacht*). *β.* 1 *waʒ*, 4 *wagh*, *wau*; 1 (*dat.*) *waʒe*, 3 *waʒhe*, *wauʒe*, 4 *waghe*, *wawe*; *pl.* 1 *waʒas*, 3 *waʒes*, 4 *waghis*, 5 *wawis*, -es. *γ.* 4 *woʒ* (*dat.* *woʒe*, *pl.* *woʒes*), 4, 7-9 *wogh*, 5 *woch*, 8 *woagh*; 3-4 *wouh*, 4 *wouʒ*, *woughe*, 5, 8-9 *wough*. *δ.* 4-5 *wowe*, 4 *wow*; *pl.* 3-5 *wowes* (3 *woawes*), 5 *wowen*. [OE. *wāʒ* (also *wāʒs*), *wāh*, = OFris. *wāch* (W.Fris. *weach*, E.Fris. *wōch*, N.Fris. *woch*, *wuch*, *ūch*, etc.), related to Goth. *waddjus*, ON. *veggr* (see WIG *sb.*²).

The later Sc. *waw*, *wa*, and northern dial. *waw*, *woa*, *wo*, are normal phonetic developments of *wall*, and their wide currency indicates that they represent that word rather than this.]

1. A wall of a house; a partition.

a. 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxvi. §7 Swa swa ælces huses wah bið fæst æððer ʒe on ðære flore ʒe on ðæm hrofe. 1000 ÆLFRED *Hom.* I. 288 Him ne wiðstent nan ðing, naðer ne stænen weall ne bryden wah. 1200 ORMIN 1015 An wagheriff Wass spredd fra wah to waʒhe. 1205 LAY. 25887 He nom þare halle wah [v.r. wað] and helden hine to grunde. 1240 *Sawles Warde* in O.E. *Hom.* I. 247 Is eauer hire unpeaw forte sechen in-ʒong abute þe wahes to a murðrin hire þrinne. 13.. *Cursor M.* 23216 (Edin.) Paintid fire. . . þat apon a wah war wroht. 1500 *Bernardus de cura rei fam.* (E.E.T.S.) 7 Quhile þa ly by þe wacht.

β. *Beowulf* 1662 þæt ic on wage ʒeseah wlitig hangian eald sword eacen. 893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* v. xv. 250 He oft. . . sloʒ mid his heafde on þone wah. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 151 Hie þa wurdon sona ablinde. . . & heora heafdu sloʒan on þa waʒas. 1200 ORMIN 6815 An waʒhe off Cristess kirrke. *Ibid.* 6825 þatt hirstan þatt band ta tweʒʒen waʒhess. 1205 LAY. 10182 Heo letten alle þa scrud at þere dure werpen vt, wascen þe waʒes [c. 1275 woves]. 1300 *Cursor M.* 7667 þe king þan hent a sper scarp To stair him thoru vnto þe wau [Gott. wawe; Fairf. wagh]. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Cons.* 6619 A purtrayd fire on a waghie, þat es paynted outhere heghe or laghe. 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 3222 3it ware þe wawes of þe wanes. . . Polischid all of pure gold.

γ. 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 95 Cariteð arist up fram ðe grundwalle, and beclepð all ðe wouh. 1290 *St. Dunstan* 132 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 23 þe harpe he heng vp bi þe wouh. 1300 *K. Horn* 970 (Camb.) þe se bigan to proʒe Vnder hir woʒe. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 1144 þys olde man was broght so loʒh þat he lay ful colde besyde a wogh. 1340 *Aeynb.* 72 Betuene ham and paradys ne is bote a lyte woʒ. 1382 WYCLIF *Ps.* lxi. 4 As to a boowid woughe, and to a ston wal put doun. 1400 *Destr. Troy* 4773 In the castell. . . all was

bare as a bast, to þe bigge woghes. 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* 1. 785 Hym liketh best a daubed wough, and he Wol haue a wal of cley and stoon. 1450 *Mrk's Festial* 181 An adyroscope. . . come of þe woch. 1674 RAY *N.C. Words* 54 A Wogh, a Wall, Lanc. 1703 THORESBY *Let.* to Ray, A Wogh, any Partition, whether of Boards or mud Walls, or Laths and Lime; as a Boardshed-wough, studded wogh. 1746 J. COLLIER (Tim Bobbin) *View Lancs. Dial. Wks.* (1862) 69, I crope under a Wough. 1847 LYTTON *Lucretia* ii. xix, She lived agin the wogh yonder, where you see that gent coming out.

δ. 1225 *Ancr. R.* 172 þauh hire licome beo wiðinnen þe uour woawes. 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1528 Wowes west and lere huse. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 4272 Here mayst thou bettyr slepe a throwe Than sytte and loke vppon a wowe. 13.. *E.E. Allit. P. B.* 1531 In þe palays princypale vpon þe playn wowe. 1390 *GOWER Conf.* 1. 324 Ther was nothing hem betwene, Bot wow to wow and wall to wall. 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 18388 Troye is doune & ouer-thrown, Tour & bour, walle & wouen. 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 533/1 Wowe, wal [v.r. wowe or wall], *paries*, *murus*. 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 551, j. yerde bitwene the woves. 1470 H. PARKER *Dives & Pauper* (W. de W. 1496) v. iii. 198/1 God lykeneth flaterers to theym that playstren & paynten walles and woves without.

2. *Mining.* The side of a vein.

1653 MANLOVE *Liberties of Lead-Mines* 234 If. . . woughs be strete, the Miner then may fire. *Ibid.* 259 Water holes, Wind holes, Veyns, Coe-shafts and Woughs. 1681 T. HOUGHTON *Rara Avis* (E.D.S.) 44 Woughs, the walls or sides, sometimes of hard stone, and sometimes soft. 1836 R. FURNESS *Astrologer* 1. Wks. (1858) 135 Where wough or rider, twitch'd a leading fast, There he was matchless at a tearing blast.

3. *Comb.*: †**wough-nail**, wall-nail (WALL *sb.*¹ 25).

OE. *wágrýft*, -rift occurs in the Ormulum as *wagheriffit*. 1331 in Topham *Colleg. Chap. St. Stephen* (1834) 67 Eidem pro 1000 de Wounail empti pro quadam interclusi in dicta domo faciendi. 1300 in Rogers *Agric. & Prices* 1. 498 [On the Irish estates we find a kind of nail called] 'woh' or 'wouwwe-nails'. 1411 *Ibid.* III. 447 Wogh prig nails.

†**wough**, *sb.*² *Obs.* Forms: *a.* 1-4 *woh*, 3 *woch*, 3 (5 *Sc.*) *wocht*, 4 *woht*. *β.* 1 (3) *dat.* *wo* (woo), 3-4 *woʒ* (4 *woʒh*), 3-5 *wogh*, 1 *dat.* *woʒe*, 3-4 *woʒe* (4 *woʒhe*), 3-5 *woghe*, 5 *wothe*. *γ.* 3 *wou*, 3-5 *wow*; 3-4 *wouh* (3 *pl.* *wouhwes*), *wouʒ* (5 *wough*, *wowʒ*), 4 *wough*, 5 *wugh*, *Sc.* *weuch*; 5 *wouche*, *wou*, *wowʒe*, *woughe*. [OE. *wóh* (inflected *wó-*, *wóʒ-*), neut. of *wóh* WOUGH *a.* used as *sb.*]

1. Wrong, evil; injury, harm.

a. 893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* vi. x. 264 þa sæde him hiora an, . . . þæt he woh bude. 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) xciii. 4 Hi. . . woh meldiað. 1205 LAY. 11589 þat wes swiðe mucleh woh. 1250 *Death* 261 in O.E. *Misc.* 184 Lete us hatie þat woh and luuie þat rist. 1250 *Orison* 16 *ibid.* 160 þu brohtest dai and eve niʒt, Heo broyste woht, þu broʒtest rist. 1300 *Harrow. Hell* (Harl.) 52 Mon hap do me shome ynogh wryp word ant dede in heore woh.

β. 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xl. §7 Englas. . . nanes was [v.r. woges] ne wilniað. 897 — *Gregory's Past.* C. xlv. 343 Hie. . . nyliað wietan mid hwelcum woo [v.r. wo] hie hit ʒestriendon. 924 *Let.* in Birch *Cartul.* II. 236 Ic him wolde fylstan to ryhte and næfre to nanan wo. 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 165 Al riht is leid and wogh arered. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1550 þus hym frayned þat fre, and fondet hym ofte, For to haf wonnen hym to woʒe. 1350 *Will. Palerne* 554 For þat were swiche a wogh þat neuer wolde be mended. 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 2812 As me is wa for þi woʒe & þi wrange bathe.

γ. 1225 *Ancr. R.* 126 Wough þet me mis-deð us, oðer of word oðer of werce. *Ibid.* 190 Wel is us nu, Louerd, uor þe dawes pet tu lowudest us mide oðre monnes wouhwes. 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* *Wace* (Rolls) 7279 Of two pynges wakned hys wough. 1320 *Cast. Love* 1117 3if þou wole a-menden his wouʒ, þou most deð polen þow strong pyne I-nouʒ. 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 1333 Her hertes was full of sorow and woughe.

2. In phrases: *a. to do or work wough*. Also const. *to, on* (a person) or with *dat.*

(a) 1205 LAY. 22456 þat ne scal þe king woh don. 1225 *Ancr. R.* 158 Vor polemod is þe þet puldeliche abereð wouh þet me deð him. 1300 *Cursor M.* 15828 Wit þair bastons bete þai him And did him mikel wogh. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 119 To William did he wouh, He did brenne Helwelle, & William broper slouh. 1400 *Rowland & O.* 119 For here schall no man do the woghe, till aughte dayes ben a-goo.

(b) 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 7687 Vor no mon ne durste him wipsegge, he wroʒte muche wou. 1300 *Cursor M.* 24340 (Edin.) To me his moder did þai þat mis, þat wroht on him þis woh. 13.. *E.E. Allit. P. A.* 622 þay laften ryst & wroʒten woghe. 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 700 The wys wroht vthir grete wandreth and weuch. *Ibid.* 1199 To wirk him wandreth or wough. 1550 *Hunt. Cheviot* xxvi. in Child *Ballads* III. 308/2 He wrought hom both woo and wouche.

b. *to have wough*: to be in the wrong.

1205 LAY. 3327 Leuiude þu haues mochel wouh. *Ibid.* 5043 þu hauest woh & [he] haued riht. 1225 *Ancr. R.* 54 Me leoue sire, þu hauest wouh. 1275 *Passion of Our Lord* 332 in O.E. *Misc.* 46 Seye þu me sop, Yf þu erit gywene kyng oþer hi habbeþ wouh. 1320 *Sir Trist.* 1531 þai seizen he hadde þe rist, þe steward hadde þe wouʒ. 1400 *Solomon's Bk. Wisd.* 284 Ac so wys clerk ne worp þer non, þat ne schal haue to don ynouʒ, fforto disputen aʒeins hym þeʒ he haue þe wouʒ.

c. *mid or with wough*: wrongfully. (OE. also *on wóh*.)

885 *Ælfred's Will* in Birch *Cartul.* II. 177 þæt ic mine mæʒeild oððe yldran oððe ʒingran mid wo forðemde. 960 *Laws Edgar* II. iv. & se þe oðerne mid woge forseggan wile, þæt he [etc.]. 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 29 þas ruperes and þas reueres þet nemeð oðres monnes eahte mid wohe. 1205 LAY. 24811 Of Frolle þan kinge, þat þu mid woʒe at Paris asloze. 1240 *Lofsong* in O.E. *Hom.* I. 205 Summe tide ich habbe iheuod of oðer monnes mid woh. 1290 *Beket* 1239 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 142 [They] talden þe kinge of al þe wo þat seint thomas hadde with wouʒ. 1300 *Cursor M.* 161 Herode kyng wit wogh For crist sak þe childer sloʒh. 13.. *Guy*

Warw. 5080 Ich on of hem pat he toke, he slou3, Were it wip r3t, were it wip wou3. [*c* 1300 *Arth.* & *Merl.* 4806 Wip gode r3t & no wou3.]

d. without(en) wough: truly.

13... *Guy Warw.* 6876 Ich it seye, wipouten wou3. *c* 1400 *Merlin* 1415 (Kölbing) Herknep alle, wip owte wou3h, Y schal 3ow telle, why y lou3h. 14... *Sir Beues* (S.) 2135 Certes, madame, with our wou3. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 1172 Suche virtuo3e werkus he wolde welle do Fulle sotelyche w't-owte ony wothe [*rime* bothe]. *Ibid.* 2100. *c* 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 1638 Withe Syr mador, with-outen woughe, Full sone acordement gon they make.

wough (wuf), *sb.*³ Also *Sc.* wouch. [Imitative. Cf. WUFF.] The bark of a dog or other animal.

1824 MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl.* 481 *Wouch*, the same with *bouch*, a dog's bark. 1850 MAYNE REIO *Rifle Rangers* II. xxii. 200 The hound, with a short 'wough' dropped in upon his head. 1898 *Longm. Mag.* May 67 Little squirrels... have quite a large vocabulary, ... a bark or wough when suddenly alarmed.

† **wough**, *a.* *Obs.* (or *dial.*) Forms: 1-4 woh (3 wop), 4 wou3, 9 *dial.* oogh; *pl.* etc.) 3 wo3e, wo3he, wowe. [OE. *wōh* (inflected *wō-*, *wōg-*), of obscure origin. Hence *WOUGH sb.*²]

1. Crooked, bent.

862 *Grant* in *Birch Cartul.* II. 114 Danne fram langan leage to bam won stoce. *c* 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past* C. xi. 67 Sio micle nosu & sio woo. *a* 1000 *Laws Æthelb* xlv, 3if muð oppe eage woh weorðeþ. *a* 1100 *Gloss.* in *Wr.*-Wülcker 146/38 *Diortia, diuerticula*, mistlice wo3e wegas. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 813 þe fox... can papes r3ste & wo3e.

1866 BROGDEN *Prov. Words* *Lincs.* 141 The woodman said that the stuff was kind, but all I've seen was oogh inclined.

2. Wrong, evil, bad. Also *absol.*

Beowulf 1747 Wom wundorbebodum wergan gastes. *c* 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxviii. 33 Hit is wo3 þæt hi mon læte unwitnode. *a* 1000 *Riddles* xl. 24 (Gr.) Woh wyrd gesceapu. *c* 1200 ORMIN 1375 þær Cristess mennissnesse Drannc dæpess drinnch o rodetreo forr ure wo3he dedess. *c* 1205 LAY. 4333 þæt is woh & na wiht riht. *a* 1225 *Ancr.* R. 2 Wiðute knotte & dolke of woh inwit & of wreinde. *c* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 164 Schild pine swikeldom vram þe li3te, & hud þæt wo3e [*v.r.* wowe] among þe r3ste. *c* 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 1730 Her wening was al wo3, Vntroweand til hem to. *a* 1400 *Octouian* (Weber) 1050 Florentyn na3t forsok hyt, bey hyt wer wo3.

† **wough**, *int.* *Obs.* -1 = WAUGH, WOW.

a 1553 UDALL *Royster* D. III. iv. (Arb.) 52 Wough, she is gone for euer, I shall hir no more see.

wou3, var. *HOW adv.*

c 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 356 Wip hertes of heynesse wou3 halwen þei churches.

† **wouhleche**. *Obs.* -1 [*f. wouh-*, repr. OE. *wōg-*, stem of *wōgian* to woo + *-lēche* -LEDGE.] Wooing, courtship. So also † **wouhlechung**.

a 1225 *Ancr.* R. 96 No wouhleche nis so culuert ase is o pleinte wis. *Ibid.* 388 He uor wouhleccunge sende hire his sonden.

wouke, *obs.* form of WEEK *sb.*

† **woul**, *v.* *Obs. rare.* [Imitative. Cf. WAWL *v.*] *intr.* To howl, cry, wail.

c 1340 *Nominale* (Skeat) 748 *Tesson craile*, Brok woulth. 1382 WYCLIF *Hosea* v. 8 Woule 3e in Bethauen. *Ibid.* vii. 14 Thei cryeden not to me in her herte, bot thei wouliden in her couchis.

would (wud). [The subj. of WILL *v.*¹ used substantively.] The feeling or expression of a conditional or undecided desire or intention.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 32 Bot yit is noght mi feste al plein, Bot al of woldes and of wisshes, Therof have I my fulle disshes. 1626 FENNER *Hid. Manna* (1656) 58 Thou hast a settled will to sinne, but a sorry would, or a months minde to repent. *a* 1653 BINNING *Serm.* (1735) 559/2 Your Woulds and Wishes after Christ and Salvation... are not the real Exercises of your Soul's flying unto him for Salvation. 1864 TREVELYAN *Compet. Wallah* (1866) 131 If all my 'woulds', dear Jones, were changed to 'coulds', I'd deek thy bungalow with Europe goods. 1876 EMERSON *Lett. & Soc. Aims, Poet. & Imag.* Wks. (Bohn) III. 151 All writings must be in a degree exoteric, written to a human *should* or *would* instead of to the fatal *is*.

b. With *the*, denoting desire or intention in contrast to duty or necessity.

1753-4 RICHARSON *Grandison* II. xvii. 127 But so it will always be with silly girls, that distinguish not between the *would* and the *should*. 1831 CARLYLE *Misc. Ess., Early Ger. Lit.* (1872) III. 188 When man, hemmed-in between the *Would* and the *Should*, or the *Must*, painfully hesitates.

would, *pa. t.* of WILL *v.*¹

would, *obs.* *f.* HOLD *v.*, OLD *a.*, WELD *sb.*¹, WOLD; var. WOOLD *sb.* and *v.*

woulda ('wudə), repr. U.S. *dial.* pronounc. of 'would have'.

1913 *Dialect Notes* IV. 6 *Would a went*, would have gone. 1925 T. DREISER *Amer. Trag.* (1926) I. i. xii. 83, I coulda chucked my job, and I woulda. 1952 B. MALAMUO *Natural* 103 If it was something serious you woulda been caught long ago. 1978 G. VAUGHAN *Belgrade Drop* x. 63 Security woulda got her. She'd never have the chance to tell DI.

would-be ('wudbi:), *a.* and *sb.* [The phrase *would be* (see WILL *v.*¹ 40) used attributively and absolutely.]

A. adj. *a.* Of persons: That would be; wishing to be; posing as.

In the earliest examples used as a mock addition to a designation or title: cf. B.

1300 GRAYSTANES in *Hist. Dunelm. Script. Tres* (Surtees) 77 Eum [*sc.* Henry de Luceby] contempserunt, vocantes eum H. walde be Priur. 1642 KYNASTON *Leoline* etc. 138 By the skill of Marquis would-be Iones, 'Tis found the smoakes salt did corrupt the stones.

1647 TRAPP *Comm. Matt. v.* 21. 286 Epictetus complained that there were many would-be Philosophers, as far as a few good words would goe. 1691 *Rabshakeh Vapulans* 2 The Wou'd-be-Wits, and wou'd-be-Wise, The witty Fool must have the foremost place. 1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 73. 2/2 The next a Proctor's Clerk, a Would-be Beau. 1750 *Student or Oxf. Misc.* I. 23 None but Academical Pedants and would-be-wits. 1794 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) IV. 112 We shall see what the court lawyers... and would-be ambassadors will make of it. 1832 LYTTON *Eugene A.* iv. ii, They are not rascals—they are would-be men of the world. 1864 PUSEY *Lect. Daniel* ii. 91 Antiochus was a propagator of false religions, a would-be destroyer of the true. 1889 GRETTON *Memory's Harkback* 307 Napoleon I... actually bequeathed a legacy... to Cantillon, the would-be assassin of Wellington.

b. transf. Of things: Intended as.

a 1839 PRAEO *Poems* (1864) II. 54 The burnished plate That decks the would-be rustic gate. 1856 MISS YONGE *Daisy Chain* II. xxvi, Speaking with a would-be tone of congratulation. 1869 TROLLOPE *He Knew* etc. xcii. (1878) 513 He had continued to speak with the same fluent would-be cynicism. 1901 H. SUTCLIFFE *B. Cunliffe* v. 75 His usual stilted gait softened to a would-be airiness.

c. With following *adj.*, forming a hyphened phrase.

1813 JANE AUSTEN *Let.* 11 Oct. (1952) 343 A large, ungenteel Woman, with self-satisfied & would-be elegant manners. 1826 GALT *Last of Lairds* xxvii. 238 The would-be-genteel coxcombs of Calcutta. 1840 T. GORDON *tr. W. Menzel's Ger. Lit.* II. 80 Books... are filled with Philistinism and would-be-wise morality. 1865 ANNIE THOMAS *On Guard* II. 90 A sayer of would-be-sensible things. 1883 MISS BROUGHTON *Belinda* I. iii, With a would-be-valedictory wave of the hand.

d. would-be-thought: wishing to be considered as.

1805 T. HARRAL *Scenes of Life* II. 67 The wits, and would-be-thought wits, of the day. 1815 MRS. PILKINGTON *Celebrity* II. 148 'Perhaps I might', rejoined the would-be-thought cynic.

e. Used *predicatively*: mannered, pretentious. (App. restricted to the works of D. H. Lawrence.)

1922 D. H. LAWRENCE *Lett.* (1932) 556 These drawings are so completely without irony, so crass, so strained and so would-be. 1928 *Ibid.* 751 James Joyce bores me stiff—too terribly would-be and done-on-purpose, utterly without spontaneity or real life. 1932 A. HUXLEY in *Lett. D. H. Lawrence* p. xvii, The symphony oppressed him; it was too big, too elaborate, too carefully and consciously worked out, too 'would-be'—to use a characteristic Lawrencian expression. He was quite determined that none of his writings should be 'would-be'. He allowed them to flower as they liked from the depths of his being.

B. sb. One who fain would be (something specified or implied).

Sometimes used as a fictitious surname.

(a) 1605 B. JONSON *Volpone* Dram. Pers. (1607), Politique Would-bee, a Knight... Fine Mada. Would-bee, the Knights wife. 1706 MRS. CENLIVRE *Love at Venture* I. i. 5 *Enter a Servant.* Ser. Sir, here is Mr. Wou'dbe to wait on you.

(b) 1672 MARVELL *Reh. Transp.* I. 238 They are the Politiek would-be's of the Clergy. *c* 1730 RAMSAY *To his Son* vi, Yet, this let little would-be's know. 1732 *London Mag.* I. 240 Of all the Fops in Nature, none are so ridiculously contemptible as the Wouldbees. 1781 COWPER *Conversat.* 612 A man that would have foiled, at their own play, A dozen would-be's of the modern day.

† **woulder**. *Obs.* [irreg. *f.* *would*, *pa. t.* of WILL *v.*¹ + -ER¹.] In the proverbial phrase *wishers and woulders*: those given to saying 'I wish...' and 'I would...', i.e. indulging idle wishes instead of making active efforts.

The proverb in which the word rimes with *householders* is freq. quoted (with slight variations) down to the 18th cent. 1508 STANBRIDGE *Vulgaria* (W. de W.) C vj, Wysshers and wolders be small householders. 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* I. xi. (1867) 26 Wishers and wolders be no good householders. *a* 1617 BAYNE *Lect.* (1634) 140 A man may bee a wisher and woulder with Balaam, but misse of his desires. 1623 R. CARPENTER *Consc. Christian* 18 The imperfect Essayes... of lazie languishing wishers and wolders. 1646 HAMMONO *Tracts, Consc.* 36 The hypocrisie of the wisher and woulder, that could wish he were better then he is. 1670 RAY *Prov.* 295 (Scot. Prov.) Wishers and walders are poor householders. [1870 SCHAFF *Comm. Prov.* xxi. 25-6 Wishers and wolders are neither good householders nor long livers.]

† **b.** In *well-woulder*: well-wisher. *Obs.* -1

1643 *Plaine English* 28 These are well-woulders to the Parliament.

would-have-been, *a.* [The verbal phrase used attributively.] That would have liked to be, that aimed at being, (something specified).

1744 ELIZA HEYWOOD *Female Spect.* v. (1748) I. 233 Her penetrating eyes immediately discovered her would-have-been gallant. *Ibid.* vii. II. 29 The would-have-been member was ready to burst with inward rage at this sneer. 1844 ALB. SMITH *Adv. Mr. Ledbury* xxxiv, The would-have-been assassin of Louis the Fifteenth. 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 Nov. 7/1 The hunt goes forward after the would-have-been invaders of Natal.

† **woulding**, *vbl. sb.* *Obs.* [irreg. *f.* *would* *pa. t.* of WILL *v.*¹] The action or fact of desiring. Usually coupled with *wishing*.

1549 CHALONER *Erasm. on Folly* K iii, There be some who onely with wishyng and wouldyng are riche in their owne

fantasie. 1620 SANDERSON *Serm. ad Clerum* iii. (1681) I. 51 You may call it wishing and woulding, (and we have Proverbs against wishers and wolders;) rather than Praying. 1655 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* I. (1656) 314 If woulding and wishing will bring them to heaven, then they may come thither. *a* 1714 M. HENRY *Wks.* (1835) I. 113 Wishing and woulding is but trifling.

b. pl. Desires, inclinations.

a 1640 FENNER *Sacrif. Faithfull* (1648) 38 Many a poore soule, that hath forcible wouldings, and wracked desires after grace and holinesse. 1661 GURNALL *Chr. in Arm.* III. (1662) 554 Some lazy wouldings or wishings, or weak velteties. 1710 J. NORRIS *Chr. Prud.* 217 They have a great many imperfect Motions, Inclinations, Half Consents, and Velleities or Wouldings to do so. *a* 1758 JON. EDWARDS in *Life Brainerd* (1845) 368 His desires were not idle wishings and wouldings.

† **'wouldingness**. *Obs. nonce-wd.* [*f.* as prec. + -NESS.] Desire, inclination.

a 1660 HAMMONO *Pract. Catech.* I. iii. Wks. 1674 I. 31 And 2. whatsoever you do, you do, first against one velleity (or wouldingness) or other; and secondly, with some mixture of the contrary.

Woulfe (wulf). Also Woulf. [The surname of Peter Woulfe (? 1727-1803), a London chemist.] *Woulfe's apparatus*, a series of glass receivers (*Woulfe's bottles*) formerly used in distillation.

1800 *tr. Lagrange's Chem.* I. 109 A bent tube immersed to the bottom of the water, contained in one of Woulf's bottles. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 311 Woulfe's apparatus evolved so large a quantity of subtle, elastic, and often incondensable vapours. 1827 FARADAY *Chem. Manip.* xv. (1842) 369 An arrangement of vessels first devised by Glauber, but which with some modifications, has since received the name of Woulfe's apparatus. 1855 SCOFFERN *Elem. Chem.* 358 The... Woulfes bottles are about two-thirds filled with water.

woulk, *obs.* *Sc.* form of WEEK *sb.*

woult, *obs.* *Sc.* var. VAULT *sb.*¹

wouman, *obs.* form of WOMAN.

wound (wund), *sb.* Forms: *a.* 1-3 wund, 3 wunde (wnde); 3-5 wonde, 4-6 wond (6 *Sc.* vond), 5 woynnd, 6 *Sc.* wind. *β.* 3-7 wounde, 3- wouund (5 wouund, *Sc.* wouund); 8 *pl.* wawnds. [Common Teutonic: OE. *wund* = OFris. *wunde*, *wund* (WFr. *woune*, EFr. *wûn*), MDu. *wonde* (Du. *wond*), OS. *wunda* (LG. *wunde*, *wunne*, *wunn*), OHG. *wunta*, *wunda* (MHG. *wunte*, *wunde*, G. *wunde*), ON. (Icel., MSw.) *und* (Da. *vunde* from LG.), of uncertain relationship.

The original *ū* was normally lengthened before *nd*, but in the standard pronunc. has been prevented from developing into *ou* (as in *bound*, *hound*, *ground*, etc.) by the influence of the *w* (in contrast to *wound*, *pa. t.* of WIND *v.*¹). The pronunc. (waund) is however given by some dictionaries of the 18th century (Kenrick, 1733; Jones, 1798), is widely current in dialects, is implied in various forms of WOUNOS and ZOUNOS, and was common in the adv. WOUNDY.]

1. *a.* A hurt caused by the laceration or separation of the tissues of the body by a hard or sharp instrument, a bullet, etc.; an external injury.

† *death's wound*: see OEATH-WOUND.

a. *Beowulf* 2711 Da sio wund ongon, þe him se eorðdraca ær geworhte, swelan and swellan. *c* 900 *Beda's Hist.* II. ix. (1890) 124 Eac wæs se cýning gehæled from þære wunde, þe him ær gedon wæs. *c* 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 180 Wið wunda, . . . genim þas wyrte þe we seneeio nemdun. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 79 þa com þer an helendis Mon and heuede roupe of him and wesch his wunden mid wine. *c* 1205 LAY. 23969 He wunde afeng feouwer unehene long. *c* 1275 *Passion of Our Lord* 187 in O.E. *Misc.* 42 Ne schullen hi nouht yete polie none wnde. *c* 1300 *Havelok* 1980 He haues a wunde in the side. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 5337 Byhalde þe wondes þæt yhe styked. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 501 þan he askede of Olyuere . . . If þat he any wunde bere in ys body þat tyde. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 6316 Achylles . . . hymselfe fore to no fyght for hys fel wondys. 1422 YONGE *tr. Secreta Secret.* 181 The bee is a Passynge wrathfull beste . . . and for vengeance they lewyth thar Styngill in the wunde. 1526 TINOALE *Acts* xvi. 33 He toke them . . . and Washed their wondes. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* xiv. 121 The mortal vonds that he hed resait fra bessus his seruituir.

β. *c* 1290 *Sancta Crux* 438 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 14 To-gadere huy smiten to grounde . . . and maden heom wel bitere woundes. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 11397 He hadde mo þan tuenti wounde ar he were inome. *c* 1325 *Spec. Gy Warw.* 442 And pere þeih sholen se sopliche, His grisli wounden openliche. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 137 Of word among the men of Armes Ben woundes heeled with the charmes, Wher lacketh other medicine. *c* 1400 MAUNOEY. (Roxb.) xix. 87 þe blude rynnez down fra þer woundes. *c* 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 533/1 Wownde, festryd, *cicatrix*. Wownde, made wythe swerde or other wepne, *stigma*. *c* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xv. 356 He . . . cast hym down to the grounde with a wounde mortall. 1547 BOOROE *Brev. Health* I. cccclxxvii. (1557) 120 b, There be dyuers sortes of woundes, some be newe and freshe woundes and some be olde woundes, some be depe woundes, [etc.]. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III.* I. ii. 55 Dead Henries woundes, Open their congeal'd mouthes, and bleed afresh. 1611 MIDOLETON & DEKKER *Roaring Girl* I. 3, Wounds should be drest and heal'd, not vext, or left Wide open, to the anguish of the patient. 1665 MANLEY *Grotius' Low C. Wars* 271 Octavius . . . was shortly after shot by the Besieged, and dyed of the Wound. 1679 OLOHAM *Sat. Jesuits* III. (1681) 70 A Wound though cur'd, yet leaves behind a Scar. 1732 LEOIARO *Sethos* II. viii. 222, I receiv'd a wound with a sword which laid me on the ground. 1744 J. ARMSTRONG *Art Preserv. Health* III. 516 For want of timely care Millions have died of medicable wounds. 1770

GOLDSM. *Des. Vill.* 157 The broken soldier. . . Wept o'er his wounds. 1804 *Naval Chron.* XII. 387 Having. . . several sabre and pike wounds. 1841 LEVER *O'Malley* lxxi, 'And his wound? Is it a serious one?' said a. . . voice, as the doctor left my room. 1866 G. MACDONALD *Ann. Q. Neighb.* xxvi, The blood flowed from a wound on the head. 1907 J. H. PATTERSON *Man-eaters of Tsavo* vii. 78, I. . . bathed and dressed his wounds.

b. Esp. in the (Five) Wounds of Christ.

c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 75 Ac he hom helde mid his halie fif wunden. a1225 *Ancr. R.* 292 Nem ofte Jesu. . . Vli into his wunden, creep in ham mid pine pouhte. a1300 *Leg. Rood* ii. 258 He aros to lyue From depe pen pridde dai myd is wunden viue. 13. . . *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 642 Alle his ayaunce vpon folde was in þe fyue woundez pat Crist kagt on þe croys. 1450-1530 *Myrr. Our Ladye* ii. 155 By meryte of our lordes fyue woundes. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 2 The moost worthy to be loued woundes & passyon of Chryst. 1533 in *Linc. Dioc. Docum.* (1914) 157 The ij. cunstableles. . . shall deyvl v^d in honor and worship of the v. woundes of our lord to the v. porest folkes in the towne. 1625 tr. *Camden's Hist. Eliz.* 220 They. . . brought into the field many men, vnder flying colours, wherein were painted in some, the fyue woundes of our Lord. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 53 The Church of the fyue woundes of our Saviour. 1807 WORDSW. *White Doe* ii. 21 And figured there The fyue dear woundes our Lord did bear. 1845 PUSEY tr. *Horst's Parad. Soul* (1847) II. vi. 81 Salutations to the Five Wounds of Christ. 1887 *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 549/2 As regards full stigmatization, with the visible production of the fyue woundes. . . the oldest case, after St. Francis, is that of Ida of Louvain.

c. Used as an oath or strong exclamation, as by Christ's, or His, wounds, His arms and wounds, Wounds of God, etc. (Cf. WOUNDS int.)

See also BLOOD sb. 1 e, GAD sb.⁵ 3, GOD sb. 14 a, GOG¹ 2, and OONS, SOUNDS, ZOUNDS.

c1350 *Aethelston* 144 Sodayny pan schalt þou dy, Be Cristes woundys fyue. c1480 HENRYSON *Wolf & Lamb* 2689 Be his woundis, fals tratour, thou sall de. a1533 BERNERS *Huon* clxxxix. 762 Than the maister ruffian began to swere bloode & woundes that thei schulde plei at the dyse. 1550 LATIMER *Serm.* G ii b, He cried out, what, shall I dye (quod he) woundes, sydes, hart, shal I dye, . . . woundes and sydes shal I thus dye? 1560 *Nice Wanton* 215 It is lost, by His woundes! and ten to one! 1568 FULWELL *Like will to Like* B 1 b, Gogs hart. . . Blood, wounds and nailes, it wil make a man mad. 1589 *Rare Tri. Love & Fort.* (Roxb.) 143 By his woundes I would never lin [etc.]. 1602 CHETTLER *Hoffman* iv. (1631) H 2 b, S'wounds ike confound her, and she linger thus. 1728 CIBBER & VANBR. *Provok'd Husband* i. 14 Ad's wounds, and heart! . . . I'm glad I ha' fun ye. 1748 SMOLLETT *Rod. Random* xi, 'Blood and wounds!' (cried Weazel) d'ye question the honour of my wife, madam! 1869 BLACKMORE *Lorna D.* xxv, Wounds of God! In what way thought you that a lawyer listened to your rigmarole?

d. fig. or in fig. context.

a900 *Cynewulf's Crist* 1314 Eala! þær we nu magon wraþe firene geseon on ussum sawlum synna wunde. c1000 *Rule St. Benet* (Logeman) 80 Ælfremeda wunda na abarian [L. *aliena vulnera non detegere*]. c1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 41 Ure helende com to helen þe wundes þe þe deuel badde on mancan broht. a1240 *Ureism* in O.E. *Hom.* i. 189 þine wunden healen þe wunden of mi saule. c1374 CHAUCER *Anel. & Arc.* 239 My foo that gave myn herte A wounde. 14. . . HOCLEVE *Virg. & Christ* 62 Vn-to the souerain leche, preyre of grace, þat be my wowndes vouchesauf to cure. 1530 TINDALE *Answ. More* i. Wks. (1572) 261/r The wound of temptation beyng greater then that it could bee healed with the preaching of a woman. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 231 That the woundes of the Church might be healed. 1592 TIMME *Ten Eng. Lepers* L 3 b, Who falleth from patience by the woundes of evil tongues. 1621 ELSING *Debates Ho. Lords* (Camden) 59 The wounde of the priuilege of the House not soe greate, as that his Majestie shoulde conceave a suspicion of our zeale to his honor. a1683 SIDNEY *Disc. Govt.* i. xi. 24 This Wound is not cured by saying, that he first conquers one, and then more. 1708 POPE *Ode St. Cecilia* 29 She. . . Pours balm into the bleeding lover's wounds. 1744 H. BROOKE in E. Moore *Fables* xv. 14 The woundes of honour never close. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* xvi, Louis, who searched the woundes of the land with steel and cautery. 1862 MRS. BROWNING *De Profundis* v, And tender friends go sighing round, 'What love can ever cure this wound?' 1885 'MRS. ALEXANDER' *At Bay* xi, My jewel will always believe the best of me; time will heal up her wounds.

2. *transf.* a. An incision, abrasion, or other injury due to external violence, in any part of a tree or plant.

1574 T. HYLL *Ordering Bees* etc. 77 Then the barke of him [an Apple tree] is sick: then cut it with a knife, . . . and when the humour thereof is somewhat flowen ouer, . . . stoppe diligently his wounde with clay. 1658 EVELYN *Fr. Gard.* (1675) 33 Make as few wounds in a Tree as possibly you can. 1707 MORTIMER *Husb.* 397 If you have occasion to make any great Wounds, cover them over with Clay. 1799 H. ROOKE *Gk. Sherwood Forest* 15 Where the Bark has been stript off for cutting the letters, the wood which grows over the wound never adheres to that part. 1837 P. KEITH *Bot. Lex.* 73 If the cortical layers, while yet young, are accidentally injured, the part destroyed is again regenerated, and the wound healed up without a scar. 1897 W. G. SMITH tr. *Tubeuf's Dis. Plants* 79 Wounds to the wood are also frequently produced during the felling of neighbouring Trees.

b. In other transf. uses.

1667 MILTON *P.L.* i. 689 Soon has his crew Op'nd into the Hill a spacious wound And dig'd out ribs of Gold. *Ibid.* ix. 782 Her rash hand. . . Forth reaching to the Fruit, she pluck'd, she eat: Earth felt the wound. 1792 PAKENHAM in *Trans. Soc. Arts* X. 210 Fifty-eight lower masts were wounded, . . . thirty-two of which had their wounds in the upper third.

3. *Surgery.* An incision or opening made by a surgical operator.

1668 CULPEPPER & COLE *Barthol. Anat.* III. vi. 143 If. . . you. . . then by a Wound made in an Artery shall put in a crooked hollow probe. 1805 *Med. Jnl.* XIV. 522 The wound of the integuments was contracted with strips of

adhesive plaster. 1884 THOMPSON *Tumours of Bladder* 37 At the operation no tumour was found. . . on Feb. 20, the wound was quite healed.

4. Something which causes a wound (lit. or fig.).

1715 POPE *Iliad* iv. 225 My varied belt repell'd the flying wound. 1844 MRS. BROWNING *Drama of Exile* 667 Let thy words be wounds. . . For, so, I shall not fear thy power to hurt.

†5. (= L. *plaga*.) a. A blow, a stroke. (Cf. PLAGUE sb. 1.) *Obs.*

1382 WYCLIF *Luke* xii. 47 Thilke seruauant that knew the wille of his lord, and made not him redy, and dide not vp his wille, schal be betun with many woundis. 1398 TREvisa *Barth. De P.R.* vi. xvi. (1495) nij/1 The seruauant that is not chastysed with wordes muste be chastysyd with woundes. 1450-1530 *Myrr. Our Ladye* ii. 68.

†b. A plague. *Obs.*

c1369 CHAUCER *Dethe Blaunche* 1207 That was the ten woundes of Egypte.

†6. An imperfection, a flaw. *Obs.*

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* i. i. 1 Our first and ingenerated forefathers, from whom. . . we derive our being, and the severall woundes of constitution.

7. *Her.* (See quot.)

1572 BOSSEWELL *Armorie* 10 Seuen signes, or tokens whiche are figured in Armes round. . . 7. Is of Purple, and is to be called a Wounde.

8. *attrib. and Comb.* a. simple attributive, as wound-complication, -fever, -mark, -print, -secretion, -surface, -typhoid, with meaning 'used for the healing of wounds', as wound balsam, -dressing (concr.: cf. 8b), -oil, -ointment, -paste; b. objective and instrumental, as wound-dilator, -dressing, explorer, wound-healing, -inflicting, -plowed, -producing, -scarred, -worn adjs.

1658 A. FOX tr. *Wurtz' Surg.* iv. i. 300, I like and approve better of Wound Oyles, and of Wound Ointments, than of *Wound Balsams. 1850 PEREIRA *Elem. Mat. Med.* (ed. 3) II. 1525 Wound Balsam. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 213 A common and formidable *wound-complication. 1846 JAMES HEIDELBERG III. 141 In every country town, . . . the latter [sc. the barber] exercised the craft of bone-setting and *wound-dressing. 1887 T. LONGMORE in J. B. HAMILTON *Trans. Internat. Med. Congress, 9th Session* II. III. 117 Primary wound dressings shall be available at all times and in all places. 1959 *First-Aid Boxes in Factories Order* 21 May in *Stat. Instruments* 1959 (1960) I. 1266 A sufficient number (not less than twelve) of adhesive wound dressings of an approved type and of assorted sizes. 1976 D. FRANCIS *In Frame* xi. 159 The outer bandages proved to be large strong pieces of linen. . . just below my shoulder blade, a large padded wound dressing. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Wound explorer, an electric sound used in searching for bullets. 1863 L. M. ALCOTT *Hospital Sk.* iv. 51, I. . . recognized a certain Pennsylvania gentleman, whose *wound-fever had taken a turn for the worse. 1888 FAGGE & PYE-SMITH *Princ. & Pract. Med.* (ed. 2) I. 70 Pyæmia (wound-fever, surgical infection). 1949 M. MEAD *Male & Female* x. 216 The resistance against certain diseases, the *wound-healing capacities of a whole people, may depend upon the meticulousness with which they use learned, not specific inherent, capacities. 1964 *Oceanogr. & Marine Biol.* II. 409 Under conditions of wound-healing and repair the normal inhibitor of melanogenesis present in the rest of the animal is overcome or absent. 1866 J. B. ROSE tr. *Ovid's Met.* 229 So did the *wound inflicting brute rush on. 1892 J. A. HENDERSON *Ann. Lower Deeside* 114 One of the survivors of the gang used to exhibit. . . the *wound-mark of a dagger. 1658 *wound-oil, *ointment (see *wound balsam* above). 1753 J. BARTLET *Gentl. Farriery* xxv. 224 Pledgits of tow spread with black or yellow basilicon (or the wound ointment). 1902 *Brit. Med. Jnl.* 12 Apr. 907 Herr König did not approve of *wound-paste. c1600 J. DAY *Begg. Bednall* Gr. i. i. (1881) 10 Thou art a Souldier, and thy *wound-plow'd face Hath every furrow fill'd with falling tears. 1862 J. M. NEALE *Hymns East. Church* 88 In His Feet and Hands are *Wound-prints, And His Side. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 9 Oct. 5/3 One of the most terrible *wound-producing bullets with which our military could be armed. 1888 GUNTER *Mr. Potter* xii. 144 The weather-beaten, *wound-scarred veteran of the plains. 1880 BARWELL *Aneurism* 2 This cord. . . was saturated in *wound-secretion. 1884 BOWER & SCOTT *De Barry's Phaner.* 108 *Wound-surfaces, of whatever sort, are closed and healed by it. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 611 Pyæmia has been called *wound-typhoid. 1820 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* II. i. 62 His pale *wound-worn limbs.

9. Special comb.: wound-cork, a protective layer formed on a damaged trunk or branch of a plant or tree; †wound-drink (see quot. 1694); wound-free adj., free from wounds; invulnerable; wound-fungus, a fungus which grows on the injured part of a plant; wound-herb, a plant used in the healing of wounds; = WOUNDWORT; wound hormone [tr. G. *wundhormon* (G. Haberlandt 1921, in *Sitzungsber. d. Preuss. Akad. d. Wissensch.* 222)], a substance that is produced in a plant in response to a wound and stimulates healing; cf. *traumatic acid* s.v. TRAUMATIC a. 3; wound-parasite, a parasite infesting damaged plants; wound-rocket (see quot.); †wound-shrub, a shrub having healing properties; wound-stripe *Hist.*, a strip of gold braid worn by a wounded soldier on the left sleeve, vertically, above the cuff; wound stump = CICATRIX 2; †wound-tree (see quotes. and cf. *wound-shrub*); wound-tumour disease, a plant disease marked by tumours on roots, stems, or leaves and

enlargement of veins and caused by the *wound-tumour virus*, *Aureogenus magnivena*, which is transmitted by leafhoppers; wound-weed = WOUNDWORT; wound-wood, wood formed over an injured part.

1897 W. G. SMITH tr. *Tubeuf's Dis. Plants* 76 A corky tissue—*wound-cork—may be formed in consequence of wounds to the bark. 1657 W. COLES *Adam in Eden* ceexxxv. 614 Of Bugle. . . The decoction. . . is an especial helpe in all *Wound-drinkes. 1694 W. SALMON *Pharm. Bate* 757/1 A *Wound Drink, or Drink for wounded People. 1609 HEYWOOD *Brit. Troy* xii. xciii. 263 Nor scapt the Troian *wound-free. 1613 — *Silver Age* III. i. When we prou'd his skin To be wound-free, not to be pierc'd with steele. 1624 — *Gunaik.* vi. 280 An bearse with whose juice if he would annointe any part of his bodie it should preserve it wound-free. 1897 W. G. SMITH tr. *Tubeuf's Dis. Plants* 77 They are less suited for the entrance of *wound-fungi than wounds on the living branch. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* II. cxci. 508 In the world there are not two better *wound herbes. 1640 PARKINSON *Theat. Bot.* 543 Golden Rodde. . . is the most soveraign woundherbe of many. 1671 SALMON *Syn. Med.* III. xxii. 416 Clowns-woundwort an excellent woundherb. 1955 A. L. ROWSE *Expansion of Elizabethan England* i. 6 Scottish practitioners flocked. . . to gather simples and wound-herbs. 1977 *Irish Press* 29 Sept. 10/1 The Yarrow was principally used by herbalists as a wound-herb. 1921 *Chem. Abstr.* XV. 2914 Exptl. evidence exists that the action of a wound as a stimulus in exciting cell division is due to decompn. products of the mechanically injured or dead cells. These products function as *wound hormones. 1966 R. M. DEVLIN *Plant Physiol.* xvii. 427 Most plant tissues do not respond to traumatic acid, suggesting that it may be a specific wound hormone for bean-pod tissue. 1897 W. G. SMITH tr. *Tubeuf's Dis. Plants* 76 The normal duramen is preyed on for nutriment by many *wound-parasites. 1548 TURNER *Names of Herbes* (E.D.S.) 82 Barbara herba. . . maye be called in englishe *wound-rocket, for it is good for a wounde. 1659 LOVELL *Herball* 542 *Wound-shrub, *Izontepcatlis*, *Vulnerum medicina*. 1919 *Chamb. Jnl.* Feb. 82/2 A young fellow with *wound-stripes on his arm. 1923 D. H. LAWRENCE *Birds, Beasts & Flowers* 52 Yet see him fling himself abroad in fresh abandon From the small *wound-stump. 1640 PARKINSON *Theat. Bot.* 1650 *Negundo mas & faemina*. The male and female *wound tree. *Ibid.*, *Nimbo*. Another healing or wound tree. 1945 L. M. BLACK in *Amer. Jnl. Bot.* XXXII. 408/1 It now seems that the terms '*wound-tumor virus' and 'wound-tumor disease' may be more appropriate and distinctive. 1967 K. M. SMITH *Insect Virol.* xi. 219 A quick method of detecting the wound-tumor virus in the leafhopper is by staining the hemolymph smears of the insect with the D (dialysis) conjugates. 1857 ANNE PRATT *Flower. Pl.* III. 288 *Solidago Virgaurea*. . . This Golden Rod. . . was called *Wound-weed. 1897 W. G. SMITH tr. *Tubeuf's Dis. Plants* 77 These reagents. . . even replace the formation of protective *wound-wood.

wound (wu:nd), *v.* Forms: 1 wundian, 2 wundie, 3 wunden (4 wnden); 3-5 wonde, 5-6 wond; 3-6 wounde (4 wounde, 5 wowndyn, 6 arch. wunden), 4- wound (5 Sc. wound). *Pa. t.* 5 (9 arch.) wound. [OE. *wundian* (f. *wund* WOUND sb.) = OFris. (*w*)*undia* (WFr. *wounje*), MDu. and Du. *wonden*, OHG. *wuntôn* (MHG. *wunden*, G. *verwunden*), Oicg. *undaðr* pa. pple.; also OE. *gewundian* = Goth. *gawundôn*.]

1. *trans.* To inflict a wound on (a person, the body, etc.) by means of a weapon; to injure intentionally in such a way as to cut or tear the flesh.

c760 *Pænit. Abp. Egbert* iv. xxii. in Thorpe *Laws* II. 210 3if hwyel læwede man oðerne wundige, gebete wud hine 8a wunde. c897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past.* C. xxxviii. 277 Swelce he. . . sua nacodne hine selfne eowige to wundigeanne [v.r. wundianne] his feondum. c1000 ÆLFRED *Exod.* xxi. 12 Se ðe man wundað & wile hine ofslean, swelte he deaðe. c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 15 3if þu rae wundedest, ic sculde wundie þe þer on-zein. c1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 33 Hie him bireuden alle hise riche weden and wundenen him swiðe. c1205 LAY. 1724 Heo. . . mid wepen hine wundenen [c1275 wondede] & seoððen hine slawen. c1290 *Beket* 2101 in S.E. *Leg.* 166 He wundede is Arm swype sore, þat blod orn faste a-doun. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 330 Come Roberde's squire, & wunded him wele more. c1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 421 Crist. . . koude not ordeyne sicbe buschementis to robbe men & to wounde hem. 1412-20 *LYDG. Chron. Troy* i. 3403 Eueryche kan oper for to hurte and wounde, Til eche his felawe hath cruelly y-slawe. 1503-4 *Act 19 Hen. VII.* c. 36 Preamble, Stanhop. . . lay in wayte uppon the seid sir William and hym greuously wounded and maymed. 1556 *Chron. Gr. Friars* (Camden) 17 Brake owte of the kynges jayle of Newgate Owyn. . . & wondyd hys keper. 1651 HOBBS *Leviath.* II. xxvii. 155 If he wound him to death, this is no Crime. 1704 POPE *Windsor For.* 180 With her dart the flying deer she wounds. c1800 *Young Hunting* iv. in Child *Ballads* II. 148/1 He. . . little thoct o that penknife Wherewith sbe wound him deep. 1839 LANE *Arab. Nts.* I. 110 From the day on which I had wounded him, he had never spoken. 1887 RIDER HAGGARD *A. Quatermain* xxii. 254 They hacked and hewed at him with swords and spears, wounding him in a dozen places.

refl. c1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xix. 87 þai wound þam self in þe legges and þe armes. a1450 *Mirk's Festial* 136 He wondyd hymselfe in þe honde wyth his nalle grevesly.

b. Said of the weapon, etc.

c1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) lvi. 5 Wæpen-strælas þa me wundenon. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 1374 One of þe arwys wounded [v.r. wunde] a knyzt. 1581 A. HALL *Iliad* IV. 75 His cruell darte did Pirus wounde. 1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 1185 My Honor ile bequeath vnto the knife Tbat wounds my bodie so dishonored. 1727 DE FOE *Hist. Appar.* iv. (1840) 31 No engine or human art can wound him. 1735 JOHNSON *Lobo's Abyssinia*, *Voy.* v. 29 One [of the muskets] . . . flew out of the Soldier's Hand, and falling against my Leg wounded it very much.

c. Freq. in passive.

*c*900 *O.E. Chron.* (Parker MS.) an. 894, Hiora cyning was gewundod on þam gefeohte, þæt hi hine ne mehton ferian. *c*1200 ORMIN 17431 A33 þan anig wundedd wass þurh þa firene neddress. *c*1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 853 Wunded ðor was gret folc and slagen. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2974 þe king let . . do vnder lechcraft hom þat iwounded were. *c*1300 *Cursor M.* 7762 þe king saul was wounded sare. *c*1350 *Will. Palerne* 1377 Wel weldes he nouȝt his hele, for wounded was he sore. 1382 WYCLIF *Zech.* xiii. 6 With these Y was woundid in the hous of hem that loueden me. *c*1450 LOVELICH *Grail* xliii. 283 Of a wilde swyn thow were wondid sore thoruh thin hype. 1538 in P. H. Hore *Hist. Wexford* (1900) I. 237 The residue being wondide to death fled away. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 453 Hee was deadlly wounded in the head. 1672 WISEMAN *Wounds* I. 88 In a wound in the right Temporal Muscle, where the Artery was wounded. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 383. ¶2 An honest Man that was wounded in the Queen's Service. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* xxv, Count Morano was wounded as bad as he. 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Tuggs's at Ramsgate*, All the coaches had been upset, . . each coach had averaged two passengers killed, and six wounded. 1891 FARRAR *Darkn. & Dawn* lxxv. For nearly three centuries the legend lingered on . . that Nero was the wild beast, wounded to death, but whose deadly wound had been healed.

2. *fig.* To injure, inflict pain or hurt upon, in a manner comparable to the infliction of a wound; in later use *esp.* to pain or grieve deeply.

*a*1200 *Vices & Virtues* 71 Dar ðu art ðurh hem [*sc.* sins] ȝewunded, ðat ðu curne hes halen. *c*1200 ORMIN 12484 þe deoffel comm to wundenn Crist þurh glutternessness wæppenn. *c*1230 *Hali Meid.* 15 He . . schoteð niht & dai hise earewen. . . to wundi þe wið wac wil & makien to fallen. *a*1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* vii. 14 Thai may say we ere woundid with charite. *c*1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* II. 533 So sore hath she me wounded That stod in blak wyth lokyng of her eyen. 1435 MISYN *Fire of Love* II. v. 78 Nedy I am & hongry, . . wonedyd & ill-coloide for absens of my lufe. 1531 ELYOT *Gov.* II. xii. (1883) II. 155 Wherwith Gysippus was so wounded to the harte, . . that oppressed with mortall heuynes he fell in a sowne. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* v. ii. 25, I thought thy heart had bene wounded with the clawes of a Lion. *Orl.* Wounded it is, but with the eyes of a Lady. 1667 PEPYS *Diary* 6 May, He has said that he would wound me with the person where my greatest interest is. 1675 DRYDEN *Aurengz.* II. (1676) 16 Oh! Indamora, hide those fatal Eyes; Too deep they wound, whom they too soon surprise. 1738 JOHNSON *Lond.* 168 Fate never wounds more deep the gen'rous Heart, Than when a Blockhead's Insult points the Dart. 1797 JANE AUSTEN *Sense & Sensib.* xxix, She dared not trust herself to speak, lest she might wound Marianne still deeper. 1814 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* v. xviii, And many a word, at random spoken, May soothe or wound a heart that's broken! 1873 BLACK *Pr. Thule* xxiv. 402 If he says something careless she is sensitive to it, and it wounds her. 1905 'G. THORNE' *Lost Cause* viii, It does wound one deeply to hear the Highest and Holiest things spoken of in this way.

b. With immaterial objects.

1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 1702 When þe saule es wounded with syn. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 43b, The mynde is so wounded with ignorance. . . that [etc.]. 1526 TINDALE *1 Cor.* viii. 12 When we synne so agaynst the brethren and wounde their weake consciences. 1609 B. JONSON *Sil. Wom.* v. i, We must not wound reputation. 16. . *Lust's Domin.* II. v, It wounds my soul, To see the miserabest wretch to bleed. 1631 HEYWOOD *1st Pt. Fair Maid of West* III. i. 31 To spare my flesh And wound my fame, what is't? 1713 ADDISON *Cato* I. iv, Better to die ten thousand thousand deaths, Than wound my honour. 1753-4 RICHARDSON *Grandison* II. xviii. 128, I come to attend you as a duty which I owe to my mother's memory; and I hope this may be done without wounding that of my father. 1832 J. AUSTIN *Jurispr.* (1879) I. 342 The execution would wound the sovereignty of the foreign supreme government. 1859 KINGSLEY *Misc.* I. 92 You have undone me, wounded my credit with the King, past recovery. 1884 L. J. JENNINGS *Crocker Papers* I. 51 Moore's vanity was easily wounded at any time.

c. Used to express the effect of harsh or disagreeable sounds upon the ear.

1669 DRYDEN *Tyrannic Love* I. i, [*A Dead March within, and Trumpets.*] Max. Somewhat of mournful, sure, my Ears does wound. *a*1675 TRAHERNE *Poems of Felicity* (1910) 52 The Bells do ring, . . Their shriller Sound doth wound the Air. 1766 FORDYCE *Serm. Yng. Wm.* (1767) I. iii. 94 Their ears are wounded by the language of vice. 1866 TROLLOPE *Claverings* i, I shall be away from Clavering, so that the marriage-bells may not wound my ears.

3. *absol.* or *intr.* To inflict a wound or wounds; to do harm, hurt, or injury (physically or otherwise); to impair in any way. Freq. *fig.*

*c*897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past.* C. xi. 71 Se cleweþa. . . wundað & sio wund sarað. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 2540 The swerd, Wych ys sharp. . . To wonde, & hurte, & parte atwene. 1591 DRAYTON *Harmony Ch., Song Moses* xx, I kil, giue life, I wound, make whole againe. ?1622 FLETCHER *Love's Cure* v. 1 This curtesie Wounds deeper than your Sword can, or mine own. 1668 J. WILSON tr. *Erasm. Praise of Folly* (1913) 137 Sometimes also they use somewhat of a sting, but so nevertheless that they rather tickle than wound. 1692 PRIOR *Ode Imit.* *Hor.* xi, He Wounds, to Cure; and Conquers, to Forgive. 1735 POPE *Prol. Sat.* 203 Willing to wound, and yet afraid to strike, Just hint a fault, and hesitate dislike. 1744 E. MOORE *Fables* x. 30 From the hoop's bewitching round, Her very shoe has pow'r to wound. 1818 SHELLEY *Julian & Maddalo* 413 Even the instinctive worm on which we tread Turns, though it wound not. 1829 CHAPMAN *Phys. Sci.* 272 Its strokes are so fine and delicate, that while it wounds it pleases. 1860 THACKERAY *Roundabout P., Thorns in Cushion*, Ah me! we wound where we never intended to strike.

4. *transf.* To pierce or cut as with a wound; to damage in this way.

*a*1225 *Ancr. R.* 124, & te ilke wind ne wundeð nout bute þe eare one. *c*1374 CHAUCER *Former Age* 9 Yit nas the grownd nat wounded with þe plowh. 1387 TREvisa *Higden* III. 459 Hit is unlawful among us to woundy þe hilles wip culter and wip schare. 1553 EDEN *Treat. New Ind.* (Arb.) 14 The anuyll and hammer shall soner be wounded and leape

away. 1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 267 His wouen girthes he [the steed] breakes asunder, The bearing earth with his hard hoofs he wounds. 1608 — *Per.* iv. Prol. 23 When she would with sharpe needle wound The Cambricke which she made more sound By hurting it. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* x. 412 Force on the Vessel that her Keel may wound This hated Soil. 1743 R. BLAIR *Grave* 192 The tapering Pyramid! . . whose spiky Top Has wounded the thick Cloud. *a*1766 J. W. BAKER in *Complete Farmer* s.v. *Turnep*, Some [turnips], which had been accidentally wounded by cows. 1833 *Penny Cycl.* I. 446/1 (*America*), The American aloe . . yields, when wounded, an abundance of sweet fluid. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 820/1 s.v. *Shipbuilding*, For the sake of avoiding unnecessarily wounding the timbers.

†b. *spec.* To damage (a mast), esp. in a naval action. *Obs.* (freq. in 18th cent.)

1743-4 in 10th *Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 211 The Namure being in a shattered Condition, . . all the Topmasts wounded. 1758 *Ann. Reg.* I. 100/2 The Orpheus . . is peppered very well too, her masts very much wounded. 1798 *Hull Advertiser* 16 June 1/3 Her rigging was much cut, and her mainmast wounded.

c. *fig.* Of wine: To overpower.

1613 T. MILLES tr. *Mexia's Treas. Anc. & Mod. T.* I. 610/1 Vpon the left hand. . . lay the bodies of beasts stretched out along, sleeping verie soundly. . . All were wounded with Wine. 1819 SHELLEY *Cyclops* 416, I. . . filled Another cup, well knowing that the wine Would wound him soon.

wound (waund), *ppl. a.* [*Pa. pple.* of WIND *v.*1] Subjected to winding, in various senses of the verb.

1382 WYCLIF *Isaiah* xxvii. 1 An eddere, . . a crookid wounde serpent. 1583 *Durham Wills* (Surtees) II. 78, ij paire of bownd wheales. . . j paire of wounde wheales. 1865 SWINBURNE *Chastelard* III. i. 88 Soft as the loosening of wound arms in sleep.

wound, *pa. t.* and *ppl.* of WIND *v.*1

woundable ('wu:ndəb(ə)l), *a. rare.* [*f.* WOUND *v.* + -ABLE.] Capable of being wounded; vulnerable.

1611 COTGR., *Blessable*, Woundable. 1650 FULLER *Pisgah* III. iii. 414 Power and Profit are the two apples of Princes eyes, woundable with the least touch thereof. 1655 — *Ch. Hist.* iv. xiv. 130 So woundable is the dragon, under the left wing, when pinched in point of profit. 1975 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 21 Mar. 293/1 When trauma appears on the scene. . . Scully shows that he is as woundable as the next boy. 1976 *Sunday Times* (Colour Suppl.) 22 Feb. 39/1 He is also shy, loyal and surprisingly woundable.

'wound-down, *a.* [*f.* wound, *pa. pple.* of WIND *v.*1 + DOWN *adv.*] That has undergone winding down (see WIND *v.*1 21); that has been lowered by winding.

1939 DYLAN THOMAS *Map of Love* 20 The wound-down cough of the blood-counting clock. 1974 P. MCCUTCHAN *Call for Simon Shard* xii. 110 He sniffed through the wound-down window. 1984 W. GARNER *Rats' Alley* xi. 218 He could hear its [*sc.* the helicopter's] racket through the wound-down window of the car.

wounded ('wu:ndɪd), *ppl. a.* [*f.* WOUND *v.* + -ED1.]

1. Subjected to, injured or impaired by, wounding; suffering from a wound or wounds; a. Of persons or animals.

1382 WYCLIF *Ps.* lxxxvii. 6 As woundid men slepene in sepulchris. *c*1400 *Destr. Troy* 7238 Mony woundit wegh fro his wepyn past. 1412-20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* III. 5410 pere I leue þi dedly wounded man, Ful sore seke. 1600 SHAKS. *A. Y. L.* III. ii. 254 There lay hee stretch'd along like a Wounded knight. 1672 WISEMAN *Wounds* I. 74 All these wounded Patients. 1709 POPE *Ess. Crit.* 357 A needless Alexandrine ends the song That, like a wounded snake, drags its slow length along. 1771 JUNIUS *Leti.* liv. 283 It is the wounded soldier who deserves the reward. 1795-6 WORDSW. *Borderers* v. 2152 The wounded deer retires to solitude. 1805 SCOTT *Last Minstrel* III. x, It stretch'd him on the plain, Beside the wounded Deloraine. 1846 MRS. A. MARSH *Father Darcy* II. xi. 205 Like some poor wounded bird that steals into a thicket to die. 1872 TENNYSON *Gareth & Lyn.* 633 Kay near him groaning like a wounded bull.

b. Of parts of the body.

1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 5b/2 We can not, without dilaniatione of the wounded parte, drawe forth the bullet. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V.* iv. vi. 25 Ouer Suffolkes necke He threw his wounded arme. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* XII. 946 Fix'd on his wounded Face a Shaft he bore. 1769 E. BANCROFT *Ess. Nat. Hist. Guiana* 399 A cataplasm. . . applied to the wounded part, is the general remedy for venomous Bites. 1826 S. COOPER *First Lines Surg.* (ed. 5) 101 A stratum of coagulated blood. . . extending from a few inches below the wounded part.

c. *fig.* Impaired, attainted.

1692 PRIOR *Ode Imit.* *Hor.* xiii, Tell 'em howe're, the King can yet Forgive Their guilty Sloth, . . And let their wounded Honour live.

2. *absol.* Those who have received wounds.

*c*1000 *Rule of Chrodegang* I, þam ȝemetu þe gode læcas doð ymbe ȝewundode. *c*1300 *E.E. Psalter* lxxxviii. 5 Als wounded, slepand þat are In throgthes. 1672 WISEMAN *Wounds* II. 67 From the defeat of the Scotch-army near Dunbar, there came many of the wounded to St. Johnstons. 1813 SCOTT *Rokeby* IV. xxiii, The yellow moon her lustre shed Upon the wounded and the dead. 1845 C. SUMNER *True Grandeur Nations* (1846) 15 A little cheese and a few vegetables are all that can be afforded to the sick and wounded. 1894 in W. W. Tomlinson *Songs & Ballads Sport* (1895) 260 Round the goals the wounded sit.

3. *fig.* Deeply pained or grieved.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 370 Sche hath my wounded herte enoight. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII.* II. ii. 75 The quiet of my wounded Conscience. 1647 FULLER (*title*) The Cause and Cure of a wounded Conscience. 1781 COWPER *Retirem.* 341

No wounds like those a wounded spirit feels. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xlix, The wounded heart of Florence. 1884 FLOR. MARRYAT *Under Lilies* II, The only person in the room who pours oil upon his wounded sensibility. 1891 FARRAR *Darkn. & Dawn* lix, If there were anyone who could bring healing to her wounded soul.

4. Of inanimate objects: Marked or injured by cutting or piercing.

*c*1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* LV. v, Their speach . . softer flowes then balme from wounded rind. *a*1717 PARNELL *Song Poems* (1737) 20 No more he. . . with a True-love Knot and Name Engraves a wounded Tree. 1718 PRIOR *Solomon* III. 229 Whom the cut Brass, or wounded Marble shows Victor o'er Life. 1801 NELSON in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) IV. 384 The greatest quantity of rope has been made from the wounded cables of the prizes. 1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* I. xlix, Wide scatter'd hoof-marks dint the wounded ground. 1846 DICKENS *Battle of Life* I, For a long time, there were wounded trees upon the battle-ground. 1897 W. G. SMITH tr. *Tubeuf's Dis. Plants* 75 A healing tissue immediately begins to form on wounded surfaces.

†5. = WOUNDY *adv.* *Obs.*

1753 A. MURPHY *Gray's Inn Jrnl.* No. 28 ¶2 A wounded sharp Boy he is.

'woundedly, *adv.* [*f.* WOUNDED *a.* + -LY2.]

†1. = WOUNDILY. *Obs.*

1794 WALDRON *Heigho for Husb.* III. ii. 33 Are you certain sure. . . it was only a leady I met?—it look'd woundedly like an angel!

2. In a wounded manner; as though wounded.

1802 COLERIDGE in Mrs. Sandford *T. Poole & Friends* (1888) II. 100 It does a friendship no good for a man to have felt resentfully, and woundedly, towards his friend. 1925 A. S. ALEXANDER *Tramps* 95 [The grey hen] rises, fluttering broken-wingedly or woundedly.

'woundedness. [*as prec.* + -NESS.] The state of being wounded.

*a*1640 FENNER *Serm.* (1657) 223 The Patients here are felt and discerned to have two wounds or maladies; First, brokenness in heart, Secondly, woundednesse.

†'wounded, *ppl. a.* *Obs.* [*pa. pple.* of WIND *v.*1] Twisted, twined.

Beowulf 1193 Him wæs. . . wunden gold estum ȝeawed, earmhreade twa. 13. . . *Evang. Nicod.* 65 in *Archiv Stud. neu. Spr.* LIII. 392 A wonden wrethe pat his heued hyd Spreð he all furth on brede. 1602 W. BASSE *Three Past. Elegies* II. (1893) 61 A wonden wreath she had of Baies and Firre.

wounder ('wu:ndə(r)). [*f.* WOUND *v.* + -ER.] One who or that which wounds.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 424/1 A Wounder, *plagarius.* 1573-80 TUSSEY *Husb.* (1878) 7 Your father was my founder, till death became his wounder. 1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witcher.* XVI. x. (1886) 410 The blood of him that is wounded, reboundeth and slippeth into the wounder. 1621 G. SANDYS *Ovid's Met.* IX. (1626) 179 Like a Bull, that beares A wounding iaelin; whom the wounder feares. 1818 TODD. 1877 MRS. OLIPHANT *Makers Flor.* I. 23 He was one of the *feditori* or wounders, i.e., one of the band of volunteers who . . made the assault upon the enemy. 1901 'LINESMAN' *Words by Eyewitness* (1902) 57 Shells are unlovely killers and wounders.

wounder, *obs.* form of WONDER *sb.* and *v.*

wounderus, *obs.* form of WONDROUS.

woundikins, *int.* [*f.* WOUND *sb.* I c: see -KIN.] A variant (with dim. ending) of WOUNDS *int.*

1836 E. HOWARD R. REEFER xxxii, Woundikins! if there bea'n't feyther.

woundily ('waundɪli), *adv.* *Obs.* exc. *arch.* [*f.* WOUNDY *a.*2 + -LY2.] Excessively, extremely, dreadfully.

1706 FARQUHAR *Recruit. Officer* I. i, It smells woundily of Sweat and Brimstone. 1710 in Wilkins *Pol. Ballads* (1860) II. 90 Sir Peter . . pour'd such charges that wounded much deeper, But yet he was woundily beat. 1749 SMOLLETT *Gil Blas* x. x. ¶28, I. . . got off in a twinkling; being woundily afraid that he would strip me of my clothes. 1796 *Hist. Ned Evans* I. 17, I own I's woundily afraid of dead men. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxxviii, The butler observed, 'It was burning clear now, but had smoked woundily in the morning.' 1850 THACKERAY *Pendennis* III, Pen. . . suffered woundily when called on to pay his share. 1880 L. WINGFIELD *In H.M. Keeping* II. 248 You convicts are woundily crooked cattle.

wounding ('wu:ndɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [*f.* WOUND *v.* + -ING1.]

1. The action of the verb; the fact of being wounded. Also *fig.*

13. . . *K. Alis.* 3737 (Laud MS.), Riȝth also he was arise, Of his woundyng he was agrise. *a*1400-50 *Wars Alexander* 4795 þare was hurling on hiȝe, . . Quat of wrestling of wormes, & wounding of kniȝtis. *a*1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat.* *Fistula* 52 If any man . . be smyten in any party of þe legge violently and without wondyng of þe skynne. 1518 *Sel. Cases Star Chamber* (Selden) II. 140, I ame Indytyd thear for beatyng and wondyng of one John Holt. 1581 A. HALL *Iliad* I. 2 Nine dayes Apollo bent, and shot, and them with wounding sped. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Piscat. Eclog.* v. xvi, How can thy eye most sharp in wounding be, In seeing dull? 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* III. iv, An Indictment of Assault, Battery, and Wounding, was instantly preferred against Tom. 1799 W. NICOL *Pract. Planter* 225 All wounding, in pruning, should be performed on, or towards the extremities of boughs which [etc.]. 1842 MANNING *Serm.* xviii. (1848) 267 The sharp wound of wounding of the soul. 1890 *Retrospect. Med.* CII. 275 All kinds of head injury from slight concussion to compound comminuted fractures of the skull with wounding of the brain substance.

2. = WOUND *sb.* I.

1581 A. HALL *Iliad* IV. 65 That this your wounding got, Which irkes you so, he should delay. 1595 MARKHAM *Sir R.*

Grinville (Arb.) 78 At length, the Maister..hath procurd The Knight descend, to haue his woundings curd. **1760-72** H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 7 The great physician of sin-sick souls..had healed my own woundings.

wounding ('wu:ndɪŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING².] That wounds or injures; capable of causing hurt or pain. *lit.* and *fig.*

a1225 *Ancr. R.* 60 Mid spere of wundinde word..weorðeð lecherie..wið þe lefdi of chastete. **c1586** C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* LXIV. iv, Their own tongues to their own woe Shall all their wounding sharpens bend. **1596** *Edward III.* v. 138 Crosbowes and deadly wounding darts. ? **1638** WOTTON in L. P. Smith *Life & Lett.* (1907) II. 384 You have left in him *illos aculeos*,..for you are indeed a wounding man, as my servant Nicholas saith. **1648** J. QUARLES *Fons Lachrym.* 13 Oh what a wounding sorrow 'tis to think How all will be destroyed. **1718** PRIOR *Solomon* III. 360 His Journey to pursue, Where wounding Thorns, and cursed Thistles grew. **1820** SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* I. i. 271 Forms Of furies, driving by upon the wounding storms. **1825** T. HOOK *Sayings Ser.* II. *Passion & Princ.* ix. III. 176 To a simple unsophisticated girl, this must surely have been cutting and wounding. **1915** F. S. OLIVER *Ordeal by Battle* III. i. 181 The result must necessarily be wounding to the credit of popular institutions all the world over.

Hence 'woundingly *adv.*

1887 *Temple Bar* May 144 What she had said to him gently, was said now roughly, woundingly. **1919** J. D. BERESFORD *Jervaise Comedy* xv. 272 What she implied was woundingly true of that old self of mine which had so recently come under my observation and censure.

woundir, obs. form of WONDER *sb.* and *v.*

woundit, obs. Sc. pa. pple. of WIND *v.*¹

woundless ('wu:ndlɪs), *a.* [f. WOUND *sb.* + -LESS.]

1. Free from a wound or wounds; unwounded.

1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Oct. 41 Doubted Knights, whose woundlesse armour rusts. **1591** SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. vii. 353 He that steals home wound-less from the Wars, Is held a Coward. **1635** J. HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Banish'd Virg.* 216 Undertaking to deliver them you in a short time woundlesse and friends. **c1650** *Don Bellianis* 42 So many sluggish knights lying in field, for all I see your person woundlesse. **1755** JOHNSON. **1817** MOORE *Lalla R.* *Fireworshippers* iv. 565 And some who, grasp'd by those that die, Sink woundless with them. **1855** M. ARNOLD *Balder Dead* ii. 18 All at night return to Odin's hall Woundless and fresh. **1891** MEREDITH *One of our Conq.* I. xii. 226 His pride in appearing woundless and scarless.

†2. That cannot be wounded; invulnerable. *Obs.*

1604 SHAKS. *Ham.* iv. i. 44 (Qo. 2) Whose whisper..may misse our Name, And hit the woundlesse ayre. **a1618** SYLVESTER *Maiden's Blush* 338 Th' Angell..through the woundless Welkin swifter glides Then Zephyrus.

3. Inflicting no wound, unwounding, harmless.

1795 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* VIII. 346 And not a dart fell woundless there.

woundly ('waundli), *adv.* ? *Obs.* [f. WOUNDS *int.* + -LY².] = WOUNDILY *adv.*

1646 QUARLES *Judgem. & Mercy Wks.* (Grosart) I. 80/1 One thing lice told nie, now I think on't, troubles me woundly. **a1661** FULLER *Worthies, Suffolk* (1662) 72 Wat [Tyler] was woundly angry with Sir John Newton. **1719** D'URFEE *Pills* III. 41 Andrew..talk'd woundly wittily to them all. **1839** C. CLARK *J. Noakes* xxxiii, A woundly larned man was he.

wondrous, obs. form of WONDROUS.

wounds ('waundz), *int.* *Obs. exc. arch.* Also 9 wouns; 7-8 wauns, 8 waund(s); *dial.* 8-9 wuns. [pl. of *wound*: see WOUND *sb.* I.c.] = God's wounds; used as an oath or asseveration.

a. 1610 DEKKER *Shoemaker's Holiday* D 1, Wounds then farewell. **1753** FOOTE *Englishm. Paris* I. 14 But Wounds how the Powder flew about. **1801** G. COLMAN *Poor Gentl.* I. i. 4 Wounds! let me come at him. **1820** KEATS *Cap & Bells* lxii, 'Wounds! how they shout!' said Hum. **1822** SCOTT *Nigel* ix, Wounds! man, we'll stuff his stomach with English land.

β. 1694 ECHARD *Plautus* 14 Waunds! I ha'nt let fly sure. **1706** FARQUHAR *Recruit. Officer* I. i, Wauns! I wish again that my Wife lay there. **1728** CIBBER & VANBR. *Provok'd Husb.* iv. 65 Waund, he'll storm any thing. *Ibid.* 68 Waunds! you have had one hundred this Morning. **1796** T. MORTON *Way to get Married* II. ii. (1800) 33 *Clem.* Who's at the door? *Serv.* Wauns I forgot. It be maister Dashall fra Lunnon. **γ. c1746** J. COLLIER (Tim Bobbin) *View Lanc. Dial.* Reader, Wks. (1862) p. xxxiv, Wuns eigh; theawrt likt' strowll ogen. **1843** T. WILSON *Pitman's Pay* 57 'Wuns', says aw, 'this rough beginnin'..freightens me'.

'wound-up, *a.* [f. *wound*, pa. pple. of WIND *v.*¹ + UP *adv.*] That has undergone winding up (see WIND *v.*¹ 20 and 24).

1788 J. WOODFORD *Diary* 27 Nov. (1927) III. 68 Ben returned about 4 o'clock this Aft. completely wound up, eat no Dinner but went directly to sleep in a Chair. **1837** LEVER *H. Lorrequer* i, All were breathless in their wound-up anxiety to hear of their countryman. **1853** DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xxxix, That..old gentleman is still murmuring, like some wound-up instrument running down. **1973** A. GREY *Some put their Trust in Chariots* v. 22 The wound-up windows of the car.

woundward ('wu:ndwəd), *a. nonce-wd.* [f. WOUND *sb.*: see -WARD.] Towards wounds or wounding.

1946 DYLAN THOMAS *Deaths & Entrances* 48 The woundward flight of the ancient Young from the canyons of oblivion!

woundwort ('wu:ndwɜ:t). [f. WOUND *sb.* + WORT *sb.*¹, after Du. *wondkruid*, G. *wundkraut*.] A popular name given to various plants from their use in healing wounds, *esp.* (a) one of the species of *Stachys*, often more fully as Clown's w., Downy w., Marsh w., etc.; (b) the golden-rod (*Solidago Virgaurea*); (c) the kidney-vetch (*Anthyllis vulneraria*); (d) the comfrey (*Symphytum officinale*); †(e) Saracen's w. (*Senecio saracenicus*); (f) Hercules' all-heal (*Opopanax Chironium*); (g) Knight's pondwort (*Stratiotes aloides*).

1548 TURNER *Names of Herbes* (E.D.S.) 87 *Solidago seracenica*..is called in duch Heidnishe wuntkraut.. It may be called in english Woundewurte. **1597** GERARDE *Herbal* II. xcvi. 347 *Saracenes* Consonde is called in Latine *Solidago Saracenica*..in English..*Saracenes* Woundwoort. *Ibid.* xcix. 349 Of captaine Doreas his Woundwoort. *Ibid.* cclxxxv. 677 It seemeth to be *Stratiotes aquatilis* or *Stratiotes potamos*, or Knights water Woundwoort. *Ibid.* cclxxiv. 851 Of Clownes Woundwoort or Alheale. *Ibid.* 852 Where-upon I haue named it Clounes Woundwoort. **1640** PARKINSON *Theat. Bot.* 693 *Achillea Sideritis lutea*. Achilles yellow Woundwort. **1657** W. COLES *Adam in Eden* ccxli. 381 Allheale..is called in English Hercules Allheale, and Hercules Woundwort. **1718** ROWE *Lucan* ix. 1566 Woundwort and Maiden-weed perfume the Air. **1756** P. BROWNE *Jamaica* 320 The downy Woundwort [sic]..is a native of..Jamaica. It should be a fine vulnerary. **1796** BURNEY *Mem. Metastasio* I. 364 You speak to me of dittany and wound-wort. **1796** WITHERING *Brit. Pl.* III. 531 *Stachys sylvatica*,..Hedge Nettle Woundwort. *Ibid.* 728 Common Goldenrod. Woundwort. *Solidago Virga-aurea*. **1819** REES *Cycl.*, *Wound-Wort*, Hercules's, or All-heal, the *laserpitium chironium* of Linnæus. **1852** G. W. JOHNSON's *Cottage Gard. Dict.*, *Anthyllis vulneraria* (common woundwort). **1857** ANNE PRATT *Flower. Pl.* IV. 190 *Stachys sylvatica* (Hedge Woundwort). *Ibid.* 191 *Stachys palustris* (Marsh Woundwort). *Ibid.* 192 *Stachys Germanica* (Downy Woundwort). *Ibid.* 193 *Stachys arvensis* (Corn Woundwort).

woundy ('wu:ndi), *a.*¹ *rare.* [f. WOUND *sb.* + -y¹.] a. Characterized by wounds. b. Causing wounds.

1660 WATERHOUSE *Discourse Arms* 30 Like Sicinius Dentatus who served his Country one hundred and twenty battayles, and brought from them woundy Testimonies of valour. **1826** HOOD *Love* 5 What art thou, Love?..a boy that shoots, From ladies' eyes, such mortal woundy darts.

woundy ('waundi), *adv.* and *a.*² *Obs. exc. arch.* Also 8 waundy. [f. WOUNDS *int.* + -y¹.]

The pronunc. ('waundi) is given by Sheridan (1789) and Smart (1846) in contrast with the noun (wu:nd).]

A. adv. Very; extremely; excessively.

a. c1621 ROWLEY etc. *Witch Edmonton* II. i, 'Tis woundy cold, sure! **1660** *Dial. betw. Tom & Dick* 1/2 And yet the Thief is woundy Close. **1695** CONGREVE *Love for L.* iv. xiii, He was woundy angry when I gav'n that wipe. **1706** E. WARD *Wooden World* Diss. (1708) 79 His drinking much Flip, makes him woundy subject to the Vapours. **1774** C. DIBDIN *Waterman* i, She keeps her a-bed woundy late of a morning. **1824** SCOTT *Redgauntlet* ch. xv, His orders are woundy particular. **1829** — *Jrnl.* 19 Apr., We smoked and I became woundy sleepy. **1864** LE FANU *Uncle Silas* II. 237 He was 'a woundy ugly customer in a wax, she could tell me.' **β. 1718** BEVAL *Play is the Plot* II. i. 19 And the Jade's a great Fortune, and waundy handsom too into the Bargain. **1791** O'KEEFE *Mod. Antiques* I. (1792) 16, I was waundy hungry.

B. adj. Very great; extreme.

1681 *Plain Dealing. Dial. Humphrey & Roger* 1/1 By the Mass, Hodge, thou say'st well, I have a woundy mind to do as thou say'st, but [etc.]. **1702** FARQUHAR *Twin-Rivals* v. iii, You must know Sir, there is a Neighbour's Daughter that I had a woundy Kindness for. **1718** BEVAL *Play is the Plot* II. i. 11 And has she such a woundy deal of Wit, do you say Sir? **1794** GODWIN *Caleb Williams* 37 So he flew into a woundy passion and threatened to horsewhip me. **1836** T. HOOK *G. Gurney* I. 213 You'll kill a woundy sight on 'em, I think, at that distance. **1888** F. COWPER *Capt. Wight* 2 18 They castle folk be a woundy lot of gallants.

woundyr, obs. f. WONDER *sb.*

wounded, wount(e, obs. ff. WONT *ppl. a.*

wounty, obs. f. WANTY.

†**woup**. *Sc. Obs.* Forms: 6 wowp, wop, 6-8 woup, 7 woupe, 8 woop. [Of obscure origin; the related verb is now represented by WUP.] A hoop or ring, esp. a finger-ring of plain metal as distinguished from one set with stones.

1511 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* IV. 310 For outquitting of Wille Wodis woup at lay in wed..xxvijs. **1535** in Ramsay *Bamff Charters* (1915) 70 Ane woup of gold. **1542** *Acts & Decrees* I. f. 140 Ane woup of gold about his arme of ane pund weycht. **1633** SIR A. JOHNSTON (Wariston) *Diary* (S.H.S.) 31 Thy uys woupe brak on thy finger in two halves. **1691** in *Proc. Soc. Antiq. Scot.* (1919) LIII. 54 Two stoned ringes,..with five gold woupes and ane gold lockit. **1720** in *Fraser Papers* (S.H.S.) 164 Three woupes and a pearl necklace..A small diamond ring, three woops and a pair of gold lockets.

wourali, var. WOORALI.

wourd, obs. form of WORD.

wourne, var. *worne*, *wurne*, WARN *v.*²

1568 *Jacob & Esau* I. iv. Biii, But wife Rebecca, I wouldne not haue you to mourne, As though I did your honest petition wourne.

wourt(e, obs. forms of WORT *sb.*¹, ².

wous, southern form of FOUS *a.* *Obs.*

13.. *Vox & Wolf* 12 in *Rel. Antiq.* II. 272 Withinne the walle wes on hous, The wox was thider swithe wous.

†**wous**, var. of VOUS *int.* *Obs.*

1674 J. HOWARD *Engl. Mounseur* v. ii. 62 *French.* Make way English Clown. *Wil.* Wous, but we won't.

woushesauff, obs. f. VOUCHSAFE.

woust, obs. f. VOUST.

woustour, var. VOUSTER *Sc.*

wout, var. VULT *Obs.*

wout(e, obs. varr. VAULT *sb.*¹ and *v.*¹

wou-wou, var. WOW-WOW.

wouyn, obs. pa. pple. of WEAVE *v.*¹

wove (wəʊv), *ppl. a.* and *sb.* [var. of WOVEN: see forms of WEAVE *v.*¹]

1. a. = WOVEN *ppl. a.* 1, 2, 3.

1710 SHAFTESB. *Soliloquy* III. ii. 147, I can't conceive..how a Writer changes his Capacity, by this new Dress, any more than by the wear of Wove Stockins, after having worn no other Manufacture than the Knit. **1817** JAS. MILL *Brit. India* I. i. ii. 37 Opening a trade for wove goods on the coast. **1831** SCOTT *Ct. Robt.* xii, The chairs and couches were covered with Eastern wove mats. **1840** MRS. GAUGAIN *Lady's Assist. Knitting* I. 57 If a wove stocking, open up the seam. **1903** KIPLING *Five Nations* 15 'Mid bergs about the Ice-cap Or wove Sargasso weed.

b. wove mould, the particular kind of mould used in making wove paper (see quot. 1854).

1806 H. FOURDRINIER *Brit. Patent* 2951 4 A number of moulds of the description called laid or wove, any number of which..are capable of forming one long mould. **1839** URE *Dict. Arts* 927 The frame-work of a wove mould is nearly the same. **1854** C. TOMLINSON *Obj. Art-Manuf.*, *Paper* 20 In wove moulds, as their name implies, the wire is woven into wire cloth.

2. *techn.* a. Of paper: Made on a mould of closely woven wire. (See 1 b, and cf. WOVEN *ppl. a.* 4.)

1809 R. LANGFORD *Introd. Trade* 63 Wove Foolscap. **1815** *Ann. Reg.*, *Chron.* 86 It is printed on the most splendid wove paper. **1879** *Print. Trades Jrl.* XXIX. 43 A hand-made, blue wove Foolscap paper.

b. absol. or as *sb.*

1859 *Stationers' Handbk.* 12 In woven papers may be mentioned *Blue Wove*..; then comes another, which..is termed *Yellow Wove*. **1880** J. DUNBAR *Pract. Papermaker* 56 That warm cream colour..so much desired in high-class cream wove and laid post.

wove, pa. t. and pple. of WEAVE *v.*¹

woved, obs. pa. pple. of WEAVE *v.*¹

woven ('wəʊv(ə)n), *ppl. a.* Also 6 wouen, wovyn; *Sc.* 5 wouen, 6 wolvin, 7 wolfin. [pa. pple. of WEAVE *v.*¹]

1. That has undergone the process of weaving; formed or fabricated by weaving.

c1470 HENRY Wallace 1. 242 A wouen quhyt hatt scho brassit on with all. **1560** B. GOOGE tr. *Palingenius' Zodiac* II. (1561) Ciiij, The wouen webbe of flaxe. **1575** in *Archaeologia* XXX. 19 Item v paire of wouen shets. **1612** *Sc. Bk. Rates in Halyburton's Ledger* (1867) 293 Busteanis or wouen tweill stuffe. **1727** DE FOE *Eng. Tradesm.* (1732) I. 332 Her Stockings from Tewskbury, if ordinary; from Leicester, if wouen. **1758** WHITEHEAD *Verses to People Eng.* 4 And Navies powerful to display Their wouen wings to every wind. **1819** SHELLEY *Cenci* v. ii. 27 You clothed me in a robe of wouen gold. **1833** MRS. BROWNING *Prometh. Bound* 834 Where Scythia's shepherd peoples dwell aloft, Perched in wheeled wagons under wouen roofs. **1883** W. D. CURZON *Manuf. Industries Worcs.* 80 Travelling endless wouen wire sieves.

fig. 1894 J. DAVIDSON *Ballads & Songs* 33 We set about To bring the world within the wouen spell.

2. Formed by interlacing or intertwining after the manner of weaving.

1590 SPENSER *F.Q.* I. v. 4 Soone after comes the cruell Sarazin, In wouen maille all armed warily. **1596** *Edu. III.* III. v. 31 Whilst he, Lion like, Intangled in the net of their assaults, Frantiquely wrends, and byt(e)s the wouen toyle. **1628** MAY *Virg. Georg.* II. 49 Take a thick-woven Osier colander, Through which the pressed wines are strained clear. **1658** ROWLAND tr. *Moufet's Theat. Ins.* 901 They live here longer..then in their artificial wouen Hives. **1793** WORDSW. *Evening Walk* 240 Long grass and willows form the wouen wall. **1820** SHELLEY *Witch Atl.* xxxiii, Woven tracery ran..o'er The solid rind. **1892** W. B. YEATS in *1st Bk. Rhymers' Club* 7 Under the wouen roofs of..boughs.

fig. 1644 VICARS *God in Mount* 6 A pernicious wouen-knot of malignant active spirits. **1815** SHELLEY *Alastor* 48 Voice of living beings, and wouen hymns Of night and day. **1891** CAYLEY *Math. Papers* (1897) XIII. 121 The groups thus obtained, with substitutions which interchange the two sets of letters, are said to be 'woven' groups.

Comb. 1885 MRS. CADDY *Footsteps Jeanne D'Arc* 12 Horses feed in the wide, woven-fenced fields. **1904** HARDY *Dynasts* I. 5 O woven-winged squadrons of Toulon..draw westward Ere Nelson be near!

3. Interlaced, intertwined; wreathed.

1815 SHELLEY *Alastor* 459 A well..Images all the woven boughs above. **1833** TENNYSON *Miller's Dau.* 232 The kiss, The woven arms, seem but to be Weak symbols of the settled bliss..I have found in thee. **1849** LYTTON *K. Arthur* III. cx, Fair was her prison, walled with woven flowers.

†4. Of paper: = WOVE *ppl. a.* 2. *Obs.*

1797 *Brit. Critic* IX. 72 We have volumes every day, on woven-paper, . . . in which war is execrated.

woves, obs. form of **vowess**.

a1550 LELAND *Itin.* (1768) II. 33 An Image in the Habite of a Woves.

wow (wau), *sb.*¹ [Imitative: cf. **WOUGH sb.**, and **BOW-wow**.] 1. a. A bark or similar sound. b. A waul.

1811 *Sporting Mag.* XXXVII. 131 Johnson with a surly wow, wow. **1862** HISLOP *Prov. Scot.* 125 It's weak i' the wow, like Barr's cat. **1913** *Blackw. Mag.* Mar. 452/2 A barking deer explodes in an unexpected 'wow' ten yards off.

2. Fluctuations in pitch in reproduced sound that are sufficiently slow to be heard as such in long notes; a property in a reproducer that gives rise to this, esp. uneven speed.

1932 *Wireless World* 16 Mar. 277/2 Wobble or 'wow'—to use the expressive American term. . . is not so troublesome nowadays, most modern sound cameras having anti-wow mechanism. **1942** *Electronic Engin.* XIV. 640/1 The principal snag of sub-standard projectors, that of speed variations, is well cared for in so far as relates to low-frequency variations, which are known as 'wow' and not, as stated, warble. **1960** K. AMIS *Take Girl like You* xxiii. 271 Every couple of weeks Graham found out some new way of reducing distortion or filtering off surface noise or eliminating wow. **1968** *New Scientist* 20 June 615/1 The Lick Observatory conclusion was entirely spurious, the result of undetected 'wow' in the tape recorder used. **1971** *Wireless World* Oct. 478/1 Wow can be caused by a badly eccentric or warped record. **1982** *Listener* 16 Dec. 34/2 Insist on listening to some music, preferably piano music that shows up wow and flutter especially well.

wow (wau), *sb.*² and *a. slang* (orig. U.S.). [f. **wow int.**] A. *sb.* A sensational success. Freq. const. of.

1920 *Collier's* 11 Dec. 21/1 In Round Five they stalled some more. . . The sixth innin' was a wow! **1926** [see **STOP v.** 21 c]. **1927** WODEHOUSE *Small Bachelor* vi. 94 'A friend of mine tipped me off that this company was a wow'. 'A what?' 'A winner. He said it was going to be big and advised me to come in on the ground floor.' **1944** S. BELLOW *Dangling Man* 54 What a wow of a finish. **1954** C. CHURCHILL *Let.* 1 Sept. in M. Soames *Clementine Churchill* (1979) xxvii. 445 Mr Graham Sutherland is a 'Wow'. He really is a most attractive man. **1962** V. CONNAUGHT *Secret Heart of Princess Alexandra* vii. 73 From that moment forward, she was a wow with every Australian in the land. **1983** D. FRANCIS *Danger* xvii. 236 Chattering guests all having a wow of a time.

B. adj. Exciting or expressing admiration and delight.

1921 *Variety* 9 Dec. 31 The *wow* comedy song. . . 'Say It With Liquor'. **1962** *John o' London's* 1 Mar. 211/2 A chorus of wow reviews from international critics. **1972** *Daily Colonist* (Victoria, B.C.) 13 Feb. 27/4 Two-foot-high letters inviting you to buy Vitamin E capsules, often at wow potencies, plaster the fronts of drug stores.

wow (wau), *v.*¹ [Imitative: cf. **wow sb.**¹] *intr.* To howl, to waul.

1806 R. JAMIESON *Pop. Ballads* I. 234 The wolf wow'd hideoos on the hill. **1824** CARR *Craven Gloss.*, *Wow*, to howl. **1900** C. LEE *Cynthia in West v.* 69 You should hear her wow, just like an owld cat!

wow (wau), *v.*² *slang* (orig. U.S.). [f. **wow int.**, *sb.*²] *trans.* To make enthusiastic, to impress or excite greatly (esp. an audience).

1924 *Variety* 24 Dec. 14/5 He doesn't wow 'em at any time and seems misplaced in the show. **1938** E. B. WHITE *Let.* 20 Dec. (1976) 191 Your Hollywood visit piece (which I had never read) wowed me. **1949** *Time* 19 Sept. 45/3 She wowed them with a dramatic reading of the death scene from *Romeo and Juliet*. **1950** BLESS & JANIS *They all played Ragtime* ii. 44 The ragtime pianists were already 'wowing' their audiences with syncopated renderings of the classics. **1961** *Sunday Express* 12 Mar. 14/5 Yet another new look . . . wowed London last week. **1980** *Times* 17 June 13/3 They are unlikely to wow anybody who does not already respond to Burne-Jones's rather wan charms. **1984** *Daily Tel.* 25 Sept. 11/4 Mr Macdonald, who supplied the off-screen commentary for this year's Channel 4 coverage of the SDP conference, had the bright notion of training up a novice speaker who would wow them at Buxton.

wow (wau), *int.* [Of exclamatory origin: cf. **vow int.**]

1. Chiefly *Sc.* a. An exclamation, variously expressing aversion, surprise or admiration, sorrow or commiseration, or mere asseveration.

1513 DOUGLAS *Aeneis* vi. Prol. 19 Out on thir wanderand spiritus, wow! thow cryis. **1511** *Pebilis to Play* 74 (Maitl. fol. 178) Ane winklot fell and hir tail vp; wow, quod malkin, hyd 3ow. **1721** RAMSAY *Prosp. Plenty* 74 Wow! that's brow news. **1789** BURNS *Grose's Peregr.* 11 And wow! he has an unco sleight O' cauk and keel. **1815** SCOTT *Guy M.* xi, Wow, woman, the Bertrams of Ellangowan are the auld Dingawaies lang syne. **a1840** JOANNA BAILLIE *Poems, Fy, let us a'* 16 But wow! he looks dowie and cow'd. **1892** LUMSDEN *Sheep-head* 36 As below the brig we turn—Oh, Wow! the deavin' din there!

b. Followed by *but* or *gin*.

1715 RAMSAY *Christ's Kirk Gr.* II. 40 And wow gin she was skeigh And mim that Day. **1724** — *Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) I. 8 The woer he step'd up the house, And wow but he was wond'rous crouse. **a1800** K. Henry x. in Child *Ballads* I. 299/1 O whan he slew his good gray-hound, Wow but his heart was sair! **1843** J. BALLANTINE *Gaberlunzie's Wallet* vi. 151 My auld uncle Willie cam down . . . An' wow but he was a brow man.

2. In general use. Now chiefly expressing astonishment or admiration.

1892 RIDER HAGGARD *Nada v.* 35 Wow! my father, of those two regiments not one escaped. **1896** ADE *Artie* 8 'The girls—wow!' 'Beauties, eh?' 'Lollypaloozers!' **1916** J. J. BELL *Little Grey Ships* 17 'Wow!' exclaimed the young seaman. 'Wish I was in Egypt. How's this for cold, old Bill?' **1931** R. CAMPBELL *Georgiad* i. 11 Bang on your nose my spectacles appear And (Wow!) an earring slits my tender ear. **1941** J. D. CARR *Case of Constant Suicides* i. 17 A brown-haired girl. . . straightened up to stare at him. 'Wow!' said Alan inaudibly. **1962** E. CLEAVER in A. Dundes *Mother Wit* (1973) 20/1 Wow, what a sight that would be! **1980** 'R. B. DOMINIC' *Attending Physician* xxiv. 217 'Wow!' Mike Isham whistled reverently. 'No wonder she was willing to murder.'

Also **wow'ee** († **wowey**) *int.*, = sense 2.

1921 S. FORD *Inez & Trilby* May xvi. 279 Think of the row that will start when it comes out that this is an inside job, with a princess playing the star part. Wowey! **1963** *Mad Mag.* July 23/2 Boy! Wow-wee! That's quite an exciting evening line-up! **1975** R. H. RIMMER *Premar Experiments* (1976) iii. 216 Bren was jubilant. 'My big sister is pregnant. Wow-ee! Unbelievable! Fantastic!' **1981** R. BARNARD *Sheer Torture* iii. 29 He had served on the Arts Council Music Panel, 1958–60. Wowee!

wow, obs. *Sc. f.* **vow sb.** and *v.*¹, *v.*²; obs. *f.* **woo v.**¹, var. **WOUGH sb.**²

woward(e, var. ff. **VAWARD**. *Obs.*

wowbat, obs. var. **WOUBIT**.

wowchaife, **wowchesaf**, obs. ff. **VOUCHSAFE v.**

† **wowe**. *Obs.* Forms: 1 **wawa**, 2–4 **wawe**, 3–4 **wowe**, 3 **wou**. [OE. *wāwa* = OHG. *wēwe*, ON. *vá*:—OTeut. **waiwan-*, f. the root **wai-*, repr. by OE. *wá* **WOE**.] Misery, distress, trouble, sorrow.

a. **a1000** *Genesis* 466 (Gr.) þæt þær ylðo bearn moste oncesan godes & yfeles, . . . welan & wawan. **c1000** ÆLFRIC *Gram.* xlviii. (Z.) 279 On ðære wæron awritene heofunga . . . and wawa. . . Se wawa getacnað pone ecan wawan, ðe ða habbað on hellewite. **c1175** *Lamb. Hom.* 73 He wurð idemed to polien wawe mid douelen in helle. **a1200** *Moral Ode* 151 in *O.E. Hom.* I. 169 Eure he walde her inne wawe and ine wene wunien. **c1200** ORMIN 13349 þatt he sholde wurppenn harrd To polenn alle wawenn.

β. **c1200** *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 165 Here is . . . smertinge, sorinesse, werinesse, and oðre wowe muchel. **c1205** LAY. 27560 þar was wowe and sorinisse inowe. **c1250** *Owl & Night*. 414 Al pat ho singep hit is for wowe. **a1300** *Fragm. Seven Sins* i. iii. in *E.E.P.* (1862) 17 þis worldis wel nis bot wowe. **c1315** SHOREHAM VII. 858 þanne falp ous rewelyche by kende To soffry wowe.

wowe, var. **WOUGH sb.**¹ and *a.*; obs. form of **woo v.**¹

† **wowell**. *Obs. rare.* [Of obscure origin; perh. connected with *uouelle* in *Saxon Leechd.* II. 266.] Coltsfoot.

c1450 *Alphita* (Anecd. Oxon.) 140 *Pes pulli, herba terrestris*, . . . donnhoue uel wowell uel feldhoue.

wowen, obs. *f.* **woo v.**¹; obs. *Sc. f.* **WOVEN ppl. a.**

wowf (wauƿ), *a. Sc.* [Of obscure origin.] Crazy, daft, mad.

1802 SIBBALD *Chron. S.P.* IV. Gloss., *Wowf*, mad. **1819** SCOTT *Leg. Montrose* vi. It is very odd how Allan, who, between ourselves, . . . is a little wowf, seems at times to have more sense than us all put together. **1824** — *Redgauntlet* ch. vii, 'What d'ye mean by deft [= daft]—eh?' 'Just Fiſh', replied Peter; 'wowf'. **1897** SNAITH *Fierceheart* ix. 101 Is yer honour gane clean wowf?

wowing, obs. form of **WOING vbl. sb.**

wowl (waul), *v.* [Imitative.] *intr.* and *trans.* To howl.

1757 [E. PERRONET] *Mitre* I. xxviii, A second blinks and wowlis his dread. **a1825** FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Wowl*, *v.* to howl, to wail vociferously.

wowld, obs. *f.* **WOLD**.

wown, obs. *pa. pple.* of **WIND v.**¹

wownd(e, obs. ff. **WOUND sb.** and *v.*

wowp, obs. var. **WUP v. Sc.**

wowser ('wauzə(r)). Also **wowzer**. orig. *Austral.* (now chiefly *Austral.* and *N.Z.*). [Of obscure origin.] a. A Puritanical enthusiast or fanatic; esp. a fanatical or determined opponent of intoxicating drink.

1899 *Truth* 8 Oct. 5 Willoughby 'Wowzers' Worried. 'The 'Talent' get a 'Turn'. . . Ten young men were fined. . . for having behaved in a riotous manner on the Military Rd. **1909** *Daily News* 1 Apr. 4 'Wowser' is a term applied by certain portions of the Australian Press to parsons of all denominations, more particularly to those who are fanatical on temperance and social evils. **1912** *Nation* 11 May 214/2 A wowser is one who wants to compel everybody else . . . to do whatever he thinks right, and abstain from everything he thinks wrong. **1918** *Chron.* *N.Z.E.F.* 79/2 The Wowzers look with disdain upon the 'Come and have a spot, old boy' kind of welcome. **1937** R. A. KNOX *Double Cross Purposes* ii. 40, I hope to God the old wowzer didn't see we'd been at it. He's as sharp as a weasel. **1939** R. CAMPBELL *Flowering Rifle* 1. 18 Where wowzers may discharge their wondrous lore Who'll 'fight for peace', and yet disarm for war. **1939** X. HERBERT *Capricornia* xviii. 233 Only ones't got a victory outer that flamin' war was the blasted wowzers! **1941** C. BARRETT *Coast of Adventure* iii. 56 Men without vision or liberal views. We might call them 'wowzers' today. **1949** D.

M. DAVIN *Roads from Home* i. v. 72 The good old days were gone. And it wasn't only the wowzers that had spoilt everything. **1961** *N.Y. Times* 12 Feb. 36/1 A relentless wowser (prohibitionist). . . banned saloons. **1963** *Economist* 3 Aug. 422/2 Some alien wowser such as Senator Goldwater. **1970** *N.Z. Listener* 12 Oct. 13/2 A bit late to find that out, you snobbish ratbag wowser. **1975** D. STUART *Walk, Trot, Canter & Die* xxiii. 137 But now in me old age I'm a wowser an' I don't have to worry about anything. I'd have a bottle of whisky in the packs. . . but most trips it wouldn't even get opened, so you can't say I was a drunkard. **1977** *Times* 18 Mar. 18/7 This country's pattern of . . . licensing hours . . . is the work of wowzers of every description. **1981** M. GEE *Meg* xiv. 142 You won't drink with me, will you? Didn't think so. I'm stuck in a family of wowzers. **1982** *Times* 7 Dec. 12/6 These authoritarian wowzers would like to see a law forbidding anybody to watch any programme they disapprove of.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1934 *Bulletin* (Sydney) 12 Sept. 11/4 That morbid sex curiosity which is the curse of wowser-ridden communities. **1936** R. CAMPBELL *Mithraic Emblems* 125 Let Spender over wowser-problems fret. **1966** G. W. TURNER *Eng. Lang. Austral. & N.Z.* i. 22 The wowser tradition is stronger in New Zealand, where there is less of the bush tradition; it usually takes the form of a cautious anxiety about life rather than open Puritanism. **1969** *Age* (Melbourne) 24 May 2/5 Sir Henry, while making his attack on NSW and its poker machines, maintained that Victoria was not a 'wowser' State. **1978** P. H. JOHNSON *Good Husband* xxii. 190 There were 'no smoking' notices, at which Maisie demurred. . . 'I find this wowser activity uncomfortable.'

Hence 'wowserish *a.*, of the nature of a wowser; puritanical; 'wowserism, the practice or beliefs of a wowser or wowzers; wowserite a supporter of wowserism.

1909 *Daily News* 1 Apr. 4 Their followers are called 'Wowserites', and their propaganda 'Wowserism'. **1933** F. CLUNE *Try Anything Once* 122 They had lost their dash and grown wowserish. **1936** M. FRANKLIN *All that Swagger* 1. 377 Novels which . . . provoked attention by their unreticent details of bodily functionings and provided capital sport when flung in the face of *fin de siècle* wowserism. **1966** *New Statesman* 4 Mar. 289/2 After a time, I warmed even to Stennis and Morse; though the first was narrow and wowserish. **1966** G. W. TURNER *Eng. Lang. Austral. & N.Z.* i. 21 Wowserism is prohibition elevated into a philosophy. **1971** *Observer* 14 Mar. 15/2 Australia's peculiar 'wowserism', the often unpredictable censorship of films, books and shows by the authorities, is largely a function of older Australia. **1983** *Age* (Melbourne) 3 Dec. 11/2 Coming hard on the heels of the casino inquiry, which also recommended in the negative, the Government's decision on poker machines may give it a puritanical or wowserish image. **1984** *Daily Tel.* 24 Aug. 10/4 When Pierre Trudeau visited Australia in 1970 he told the natives: 'You have wowserism; we have Toronto.'

wowt(e, obs. var. ff. **VAULT sb.**¹ and *v.*¹

|| **wow-wow**¹ ('wauwau). Also **wou-wou**, **wauwau**, **wawou**, **wa-wa**, **wawah**, **wah-wah**. [a. Malay *wauwau*, Javanese *wawa* (whence also Du. *wouwouw*, *wawwaw*), imitative of the animal's cry.] The silver gibbon of Java, *Hylobates leuciscus*. Also applied to *H. agilis*.

a. **1827** GRIFFITH tr. *Cuvier* I. 209 The Ash-coloured or Silvery Gibbon, also called the Wou Wou. **1838** *Libr. Entert. Knowl., Menageries, Monkeys* etc. I. 183 The wou-wou (*Hylobates Leuciscus*) is covered with a very fine long fur of a woolly texture. **1885** H. O. FORBES *Wand. Eastern Archip.* 70 The loud plaintive wailings of a colony of Wau-waus.

attrib. **1894** H. O. FORBES *Handbk. Primates* II. 154 The Wau-Wau Gibbon. *Hylobates leuciscus*.

β. **1882** DE WINDT *Equator* 102 Monkeys of every description, from the hideous proboscis to the pretty wa-wa. **1883** ISAB. L. BIRD *Golden Chersonese* 297 A little wah-wah, the most delightful of apes. **1939** A. KEITH *Land below Wind* xvii. 291 *Wah wah* was the native name for gibbon ape. **1959** 'M. DERBY' *Tigress* iii. 145 The birds and the *wah-wahs* . . . woke. **1975** *Blackw. Mag.* June 542/1 The only members of the ape family found in Malaya are the gibbons, the commonest of which is locally known as the *wah-wah*.

attrib. **1891** E. ARNOLD *Seas & Lands* xl. 520 A 'wah-wah' monkey . . . was a delightful little creature, with very long silky arms. **1964** J. POPE-HENNESSY *Verandah* ii. ii. 78 He [sc. Hugh Low] once wrote to his daughter Kitty that he loved only two creatures in the world—his wah-wah monkey, Eblis, and herself.

wow-wow². [Imitative.] A bird of Guyana.

1855 H. G. DALTON *Hist. Brit. Guiana* II. 413 The 'boclora', or wow-wow (*Trogon melanopterus*), so named from the noise it makes, is about the size of a small pigeon.

wow-wow³. ? *Obs.* [Of obscure origin.] Only in *wow-wow sauce*, a fanciful name for a preparation used with stewed beef.

1822 MAY *Cook's Oracle* (ed. 4) 325 Wow Wow Sauce for Stewed or Bouilli Beef. **1868** *Enquire Within* (ed. 35) 285.

wowyn, obs. *f.* **woo v.**¹

wox, obs. *Sc. f.* **VOICE sb.**

wox, **woxe**(n, obs. *pa. t.* and *pa. pples.* of **WAX v.**

woxin, **woxsen**, etc., obs. *pa. pple.* of **WAX v.**
woy, *int.* Also **woyh**. [Exclamatory.] A call to a horse to stop. (Cf. **WAY**, **wo**, **WHOA int.**)

1797 T. MORTON *Cure for Heart-ache* i. i, *Frank* (with-out) Woyh! whoh! Smiler! **1809** R. KERR *Agric. Berv.* 503 Formerly, in speaking to their horses, carters . . . in calling to stop used the incommunicable sound of *prroo*, now *wo*, or *woy*. **1828** CARR *Craven Gloss.*, *Who, Woy*, a word used to stop horses in a team.

woyage, obs. Sc. f. VOYAGE.

woyce, obs. Sc. f. VOICE *sb.*

woyd, obs. f. WOOD *sb.*¹

woyd(e), obs. Sc. and north. ff. VOID *a.*, *sb.*, and *v.*

woye, var. VOYE *Obs.*, way.

woyid, obs. Sc. f. VOID *v.*

woys(e), obs. ff. VOICE *sb.*

woyse, obs. f. OOZE *sb.*

woywod, var. VOIVODE.

woze, obs. f. OOZE *sb.*²

wozen, obs. f. WEASAND.

wp(e, wpone, etc.), obs. ff. UP, UPON, etc.

W particle: see W 4 b.

wr, obs. var. OUR *pron.*

wr- (r), a consonantal combination occurring initially in a number of words (frequently implying twisting or distortion), the earlier of which usually have cognates with the same initial sounds in the older Germanic languages. The combination is regularly preserved in Gothic, OS., OFris., and OE., but in OHG. is reduced to *r*. In ON. the *w* was lost before *rō*, *rū*, at an early date over the whole Scandinavian area; at a later period in all other words in ONorw. and Olcel. In the modern Germanic tongues *wr-* remains in Du., Flem., LG., and Fris., and is represented by *vr-* in Da., Sw., and some Norw. dialects.

Some 130 words in *wr-* are recorded from the OE. period, and a number of these survive in the later language, while others have been added from Du. and LG. Early difficulty in pronouncing the combination may be indicated by the Old Northumbrian spellings with *wur-*, and by the 14-15th cent. *weritt* 'writ', *werangus* 'wrongous'. The *r* is sometimes separated from the *w* by metathesis, as in ME. *wærð* for *wræð* 'wroth', *werch* for *wrech* 'wretch', *wirten* for *written*; but conversely *wr-* may arise from the same cause, as in OE. *wryhta* 'wright', for *wyrhta*. Signs of the dropping of the *w* begin to appear about the middle of the 15th cent. in such spellings as *ringe* for *wring* *v.*, *rong* for *wrong* *adj.*; these become common in the 16th cent. (for examples see WRANGLE, WRAP, WREAK, WRECK, WRENCH, WREST, etc.). Reduction of the sound is also indicated by the converse practice of writing *wr-* for *r-*, which similarly appears in the 15th cent. (in *wrath* for *rathe*), and becomes common in the 16th; for examples see the subordinate entries under WRACK, WRACKED, WRAGGED, WRAP, WRAPE, WRETCHLESS, etc. In standard English the *w* was finally dropped in the 17th century; it has remained (though now obsolescent) in Scottish, and in some south-western English dialects is represented by *v*, which is also regular in north-eastern Scottish.

The phonetists Bullokar (*Amendment of Orthographie*, 1580) and Gill (*Logonomia*, 1621) have *wr-* throughout, and no doubt pronounced the *w*. Later authorities, e.g. R. Hodges (*English Primrose*, 1644), mark the *w* in this combination as silent.

wra, ME. var. WRO.

wraak, var. WRAKE *sb.*¹ *Obs.*

wraaste, obs. var. WREST *sb.*¹

wrabbe, var. WROB *v.* *Obs.*

† **wrabbed**, *a.* *Obs. rare.* [Of obscure origin. Cf. WRAWED *a.*] Perverse; difficult to manage.

1540 J. HAYWOOD *Four P.P.* 986 By their condicions so croked and crabbed, Frowardly fashonde, so waywarde and wrabbed. 1568 *Jacob & Esau* II. ii. Haue any mo maisters suche a man as I haue?..so cluishe, so frowarde? So crabbed, so wrabbed, so stiffe, so vntowarde?

† **wrabble**, *v.* *Obs. rare.* In 6 wrable-, Sc. wrabill. [Of obscure origin. Cf. WARBLE *v.*³, WORBLE *v.*] *intr.* To wriggle.

1513 DOUGLAS *Aeneid* VIII. x. 84 About hir palpis.. The tua twynnis.. Sportand full tyte gan to wrabill and hing. 1534 MORE *Answ. Poysoned Bk.* I. iii. 7 The hote fyre of hell shalbe so fast tayed in all theyr tayles wrabelynge there together, y^e neuer shall they gete ye fyre fro theyr taylys.

wrable, obs. Sc. variant of WARBLE *sb.*¹

1513 DOUGLAS *Aeneid* XII. Prol. 245 In wrablis [ed. 1553 werblis] dulce of hevnyly armonyis The larkis.. Lovys thar lege with tonys curyus. [Cf. WRIBLE.]

W.R.A.C. Also WRAC and (*colloq.*) Wrac (ræk). [f. initial letters of its name.] The Women's Royal Army Corps, formed as the women's corps of the British Army in 1949 to replace the A.T.S.; also, a member of this corps.

1949 *Times* 1 Feb. 2/3 (*heading*) Inauguration of W.R.A.C. and W.R.A.F. *Ibid.*, The King has given orders for the following appointments in the W.R.A.C.:—The Queen to be Commandant-in-Chief the Women's Royal Army Corps. 1950 *R.A.F. Rev.* Sept. 7/2 They have defeated the W.R.A.C. in every championship shoot since the women's inter-Services championships were started in 1947. 1956 R. MACAULAY *Towers of Trebizond* xv. 179 Now the women who go with armies are not encouraged to be so useful to them, they are called Ats and Wrens and Waafs and Wracs and are kept behind the battle lines and are only a small consolation to the troops. 1982 *Whitaker's Almanack* 1983 482 Retirement Benefits... The annual rates for W.R.A.C. were given; these apply to equivalent ranks in all Services. 1984 *Daily Tel.* 7 Apr. 8/1 'You are following in the footsteps of great men,' said the Duchess, Contoller-Commandant of the WRAC.

wrache, obs. Sc. var. WRETCH *sb.*

wrachit(ness), obs. Sc. ff. WRETCHED(NESS).

wrack (ræk), *sb.*¹ Forms: 1 *wræc*, 3-5, Sc. 6 *wrak*, 4 *wrac*, 4- *wrack*, 6-7 *wracke*. [OE. *wræc* neut., f. pret. stem of *wrecan* to drive, etc., WREAK *v.* Cf. WRACK *sb.*², by which the later senses (esp. sense 5) may partly have been influenced; in writers of the 16-17th cent. it is sometimes uncertain which word is intended.

The evidence of rhymes shows that early northern ME. instances of the spelling *wrak* usually have a long vowel, and belong to WRAKE *sb.*¹]

I. 1. Retributive punishment; vengeance, revenge; in later use also, hostile action, active enmity, persecution. *Obs. exc. arch. or poet.*

Freq. coupled with words of similar meaning, as *war*, *wrath*, *wreak*, and tending to pass into sense 2.

c900 tr. *Baeda's Hist.* IV. xxv. (1890) 356 Hi.. mid þy wiite ðæs forespreceanan wræces slægene wæron. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 25 þæt unasecgenlice wræc & þæt ungeendode wite, þæt þon unlædon þær gæteohod biþ. 13.. *Cursor M.* 890 (Gött.), Til þat worm vr laured þan spack wordis bath of wreth and wrack. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) I. 24 Sic diuision may nocht lest rycht lang, But weir and wrak and mekle opin wrang. 1575 TURBERV. *Venerie* 177 And yet can man.. Use wracke for rewith! can murder like him best? c1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Psalm* LXXXVII. xix. Now pine and paine conspire With angry angells wreak and wrack to frame. 1596 SPENSER *F.Q.* VI. ii. 21 There gan he.. with bitter wracke To wreake on me the guilt of his owne wrong. 1863 LONGF. *Wayside Inn*, K. Olaf II. v. Strange memories crowded back Of Queen Gunhild's wrath and wrack. 1870 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* II. III. 516 Will it bring him back To let loose on the country war and wrack?

fig. 1590 SHAKS. *Com. Err.* v. i. 49 Hath he not lost much wealth by wrack of sea?

† b. In the phr. *to do or take wrack (on one)*. 12.. *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) I. 91 Tol Tem Sok et Sak with yryn' and with water deme and do wrak. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 1585 Myn hornys [are made] for to take wrak On shrewes, & to putte abak.

2. Damage, disaster, or injury to a person, state, etc., by reason of force, outrage, or violence; devastation, destruction.

In very frequent use from c 1580 to c 1640. c1407 LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 5426 The tother [bow], hydouise and ryght blak, Wrought al oonly for the wrak, Ful of knottys. 1412-20 — *Chron. Troy* I. 2184 For lak of manhod drawiþ hym euer a-bak; He is so dredful and ferful of þe wrak. 1557 *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 188 The golden apple that the Troyan boy Gaue to Venus.., Which was the cause of all the wrack of Troy. 1561 NORTON & SACKV. *Gorboduc* v. ii. Loe, here.. the wofull wracke And vter ruine of this noble realme! 1581 A. HALL *Iliad* VI. 120 On this odde knight alacke We neuer shall set eyes againe, this day wil be his wracke. 1596 SPENSER *F.Q.* IV. ix. 25 Eftsoones the others.. on their foies did worke full cruell wracke. 1634 *Malory's Arthur* I. cxxxix. Ff2, If he be angry he wil.. worke you much wrack in this countrey. 1640 T. CAREW *Perswasions to love* 69 Time and age wil worke that wrack Which time or age shall ne'er call back. 1659 *Bibliotheca Regia* (title-p.), Such of the Papers.. as have escaped the wrack and ruines of these times. 1817 SCOTT *Harold* I. i. When he hoisted his standard black, Before him was battle, behind him wrack. 1853 M. ARNOLD *Sohrab & Rustum* 414 The wind in winter-time Has made in Himalayan forests wrack. 1873 DIXON *Two Queens* I. 122 While the country was a prey to fire and sword, the Church stood high above the wrack and waste.

b. In the phr. *to bring, go, put, run to wrack (and ruin)*. Also fig. Cf. RACK *sb.*⁵ I.

In freq. use, esp. with *go (went)*, c 1560-c 1680. 1412 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* Prol. 161 For nere writers, al wer out of mynde, Nat story only, but of nature and kynde The trewe knowyng schulde haue gon to wrak. 1420-2 — *Thèbes* II. 2215 Vpon his foon he rolled it [sc. a huge stone] at onys, That ten of hem wenten vnto wrak. 1528 ROY *Rede Me* (Arb.) 41 What did monkes and fryeres thanne, When masse went thus to wracke? 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* III. iii. Pijþ, He whose shyppe is gone to wracke. 1581 MARBECK *Bk. of Notes* 70 This Arke.. by diuine prouidence.. was gouerned from running to wracke. 1591 SPENSER *Tears of Muses* 400 Thy scepter rent, and power put to wrack. 1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 111 Arezzo beeing by long dissention amongst themselves almost brought to wracke. 1606 G. WOODCOCK *Hist. Iustine* XVI. 67 The greater part of his army.. were all put to wrack. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* VI. 670 And now all Heav'n Had gone to wrack, with ruin overspred. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Josephus*, *Antiq.* v. ii. (1733) 115 All their Affairs went to wrack upon it. 1757 HUME *Ess. & Treat.* (1777) II. 421 All nature was going to wrack... Gods and men were perishing in one

common ruin. 1864 KINGSLEY *Roman & T.* II. (1875) 31 All things were going to wrack. 1876 BROWNING *Pacchiarotto*, etc. 129 The man but for whom had gone to wrack All that France saved from the fight.

(b) 1577 HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* I. ix. 12 Herod.. supposing.. his rule to goe to wracke, and ruine. 1577 H. BULL tr. *Luther's Comm. Ps.* (1615) 287 Whiles all things seeme to fall to wracke and ruine. 1585 ABP. SANDYS *Serm.* 196 Gods familie and the common wealth goe to wracke and ruine.

c. In other phrases, as † *at, in wrack*. *rare.*

1592 A. DAY *Eng. Secretorie* I. (1595) 51 When Rome was now at wracke, her Nobilitie spoyled, and her glorie trode vnder foote. 1901 J. BARLOW *Ghost-bereft* 113 Round his gang crashed roof and wall in wrack.

d. *dial.* The brunt or consequences of some action. (Cf. RACKET *sb.*³ 4.)

1844 W. BARNES *Dorset Gloss.* s.v., 'Mind you'll stan' the wrack o't'. 1871- in south. dial. use (Oxf., Berks., Devon): *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s.v.

3. A disastrous change in a state or condition of affairs; wreck, ruin, subversion. ? *Obs.*

c 1400 *Found. St. Bartholomew's* 49 Where oure dede and purpos ys of the wracke of chastite. 1557 *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 256 A frend no wracke of wealth, no cruell cause of wo, Can force his frendly faith vnfrendly to forgo. 1588 GREENE *Metam. Wks.* (Grosart) IX. 87 Wit oft hath wracke by selfe-conceit of pride. 1591 2nd Pt. *Troubl. Raigne K. John* (1611) 108 What haue I lou'd but wracke of others weale? 1595 MARKHAM *Sir R. Grinville* (Arb.) 42 The wet worlds sacke Swells in my song, the Dirge for glories wracke. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* III. v. 24 The miserie is example, that so terrible shewes in the wracke of maidenhood. 1692 LOCKE *3rd Let. Toleration* x. 281 Toleration then does not.. make that woful wrack on True Religion which you talk of. 1823 SCOTT *Peveril* xxvii, He that serves Peveril munna be slack, Neither for weather, nor yet for wrack. 1862 LYTTON *Strange Story* II. 159 Have all those sound resolutions.. melted away in the wrack of haggard dissolving fancies!

† b. The ruin, downfall, or overthrow of a person or persons; adversity, misfortune. *Obs.*

1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 7727 Lat no inan.. with hys wordys falsly smyte, Malyciously to make wrak Off hys neyhebour. a1578 LINDESAY (Pittscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 21 Tyrantis settand thair haille purpois and intent vponne mischeiff and wrack of vtheris. a1586 SIDNEY *Astr. & Stella* Sonn. xix. On Cupids bowe, how are my hart strings bent, That see my wracke, and yet imbracc the same? 1595 MARKHAM *Sir R. Grinville* lvii. To flye from them.. Were to.. crush my selfe with shame and seruile wrack. 1625 A. GIL *Sacred Philos.* i. 119 By sinne there was a generall wrack of mankind. 1667 DENHAM *Direct. Painter* 55 Presuming of his certain wrack, To help him late, they send for Rupert back. a1699 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* II. cxxxvii. That smooth-tongu'd Gale whose whispers woke That Wrack which stole on me.

II. † 4. An instance of suffering or causing wreck, ruin, destruction, etc. *Obs.*

1594 KYD *Cornelia* v. i. Amongst so many wracks As I haue suffred both by Land and Sea. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* 609 The new Conquerours.. by wrackes testified to the earth, that they had wrecked themselves on her and their enemies. 1630 LORD *Banians* 33 Thunder and lightning.. such as seemed to threaten a final wracke to the earth. 1632 HEYWOOD *1st Pt. Iron Age* I. i. Troy was twice rac't, and Troy deseru'd that wracke.

† b. A means or cause of subversion, overthrow, or downfall. *Obs.*

1579 GOSSON *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 20 The Syrens song is the Saylor's wrack. 1593 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI.* I. ii. 105 And thus I feare at last, Humes Knauerie will be the Duchesse Wracke. c1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* II. 781 The fool Amphimachus, to field, brought gold to be his wrack. 1613 DAY *Festivals* (1615) ix. 248 How at length might it haue proved a wrack to his owne Person. 1650 W. BROUGH *Sacr. Princ.* (1659) 183 When shall I be delivered from thee, gaol of my soul, and wrack of my saluation. 1682 COCHRAN in *Howie Cloud of Witnesses* (1778) 199 Jugling with the Lord.. hath been our ruin and wrack.

5. A thing or person in an impaired, wrecked, or shattered condition. (Cf. WRACK *sb.*²)

a1586 SIDNEY *Psalm* XXXVII. xv. The mann whom God direct.. Though he doth fall, no wrack he proveth. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* IV. ii. 366 Young one, who is this Thou mak'st thy bloody Pillow?.. What's thy interest in this sad wracke? a1803 in *Child Ballads* IV. 187/2 O spare me, Clyde's water, Mak me your wrack as I come back, But spare me as I gae. 1866 GREGOR *Banffshire Gloss.* 204 *Vrack*, a broken down person. 1888 *Scot. Sermons in Brit. Workman* May, Doon gaed the biggin', and unco wrack.

b. That which remains after the operation of any destructive action or agency; a vestige or trace left by some subversive cause. Also fig.

In later use, esp. with *leave*, freq. by misapprehension of Shaks. *Temp.* IV. i. 156, where the reading (altered by Malone to *wrack*) is *racke*: see RACK *sb.*¹ 3b.

1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* IV. iv. I am a poore, poore orphan—a weake, weake childe, The wrack of splitted fortune. 1656 COWLEY *Pindar. Odes, Muse* III. note, Poetry.. makes what Choice it pleases out of the Wrack of Time of things that it will save from Oblivion. 1793 WORDSW. *Evening Walk* 360 No wrack of all the pageant scene remains. 1813 BYRON *Giaour* 1237 The wither'd frame, the ruin'd mind, Tbe wrack by passion left behind. 1878 BOSW. SMITH *Carthage* 406 An ancient seat of civilisation.. was swept away at a single stroke, leaving hardly a wrack behind.

† c. A damaged or injured part; damage, impairment. Also fig. *Obs.*

1601 DONNE *Progr. Soul* I. vii. This soule which oft did teare And men the wracks of th' Empire. 1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* III. xvii. 151 With the threads.. [the spider] repairreth all rents and wracks of the same [web]. *Ibid.*, A man careful of his priuate estate, and of good foresight, in repairing of small decays and preuenting of wracks. a1631 DONNE *Paradoxes* (1652) 9 We mend the wrack and stains of our apparell.

wrack (ræk), *sb.*² Forms: 4-5, *Sc.* 6-7 *wrak*, 5 *Sc. wrac*, 6-7 *wracke*, 6- *wrack* (9 *Sc. wrack*). [a. MDu. (also mod.Du.) *wrak* neut. (older Flem. *wracke*, Kilian), or MLG. *wrak*, *wrack* (whence G. *wrack*), = MDa. *vrak* (Da. *vrag*) neut., MSw. *vrak* (*wrack*, *wragh*; Sw. *vrak*) neut., Norw. dial. *rak* neut., wreck, wrecked vessel, a parallel formation to OE. *wræc* WRACK *sb.*¹

Except for its frequent use by southern writers between 1508 and 1690 (cf. the note to WRACK *sb.*¹), the form is predominantly northern and Scottish.]

1. A wrecked ship or other vessel; a vessel ruined or crippled by wreck. Now *dial.*

c1386 CHAUCER *Man of Law's T.* 513 The Constable of the Castel down is fare To seen this wrak and al the shipe he soghte. 1626 CAPT. SMITH *Acid. Yng. Seamen* 29 She will . . . split or billage on a Rocke, a wracke. 1636 G. SANDYS *Paraphr. Ps.* xlviii. 76 Blacke Euris roars, And spreads his wracks on Tharsian shores. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* i. 126 Close by shoar we saw the wrack of that Saïque, which stranded the same day. 1692 in *Rec. Convent. Burghs Scot.* (1880) IV. 594 His ship became a wrak. 1756 in *Hist. Coll. Essex Inst.* (U.S.A.) V. 158/1 Drowned from the wrack of the sch[ooner]. *Ibid.*, The sea came and washed them over from the said wrack. 1772 ANNE LINDSAY *Auld Robin Gray* v. But hard blew the winds, and his ship was a wrack. 1862 LONGF. *Birds of Passage* II. The Cumberland vi. Down went the Cumberland all a wrack. 1905 *Cornh. Mag.* Feb. 209 'Wracks, man,' he shouted, . . . pointing to the double light-house, 'there is no chance of wracks for a pair fisherbody noo'.

transf. (of persons). 1589 GREENE *Menaphon* (Arb.) 27 Menaphon. . . espied certain fragments of a broken ship floating vpon the waues, and sundrie persons driuen vpon the shore. . . These three (as distressed wrackes) preserved by some further forepoynting fate [etc.]. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich III.* i. iv. 24 Me thoughts, I saw a thousand fearful wrackes: A thousand men that Fishes gnaw'd vpon. 1601 — *Twel.* N. v. i. 82 That most ingratefull boy. . . From the rude seas. . . Did I redeeme: a wracke past hope he was.

b. Remnants of, or goods from, a wrecked vessel, esp. as driven or cast ashore; shipwrecked effects or property, wreckage; also in earlier use, the right to have such. Now *arch.*

1428 *Excheq. Rolls Scotl.* IV. 439 Le wrak cujusdam navis combuste infra portum de Leth. 1452 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 125/1 Invenirent dictum forestarium custodem de Wrac et Waif infra dictum dominium de Coldingham. 1501 *Extr. Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 428 Ane brokin ship, . . . quhilk, throw storme of sey, happen to brek, and the wrak of hir come in on the cost of Croudane. 1584 GREENE *Morando Wks.* (Grosart) III. 84 Tis an ill flaw that bringeth vp no wracke. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V.* i. ii. 165 As rich. . . As is the Owse and bottoome of the Sea With sunken Wrack. 1639 in Maitland *Hist. Edinburgh* (1753) II. 151/1 All their antient Rights, . . . with Pit and Gallows, Sack and Soke, Thole, Theam, Vert, Wrack, Waifs [etc.]. a1662 HEYLIN *Cosmogr.* i. (1669) 71 Charybdis is a Gulf. . . which violently attracting all Vessels that come too nigh it, devoureth them, and casteth up their wracks [ed. 1652 wrecks]. 1670 DRYDEN *Conq. Granada* iv. i, My own lost Wealth thou giv'st not only back, But driv'st upon my Coast my Pyrat's Wrack. 1759 PHILIPOTT *Villare Cant.* 11 Witsom were goods driven to the shore, when there had not been for some space any wrack visible. 1883 WHITELAW *Sophocles, Antigone* 591 Casting up mire and blackness and storm-vext wrack of the sea. 1897 *Longm. Mag.* Feb. 333 Through the heaped mysteries of waith and wrack, When the long wave from the long beach draws back.

†c. *pl.* Fragments of wreckage. Also *fig. Obs.* a1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. (1912) 350 Who then my selfe should flie So close unto my selfe my wrackes doo lie.

2. The total or partial disablement or destruction of a vessel by any disaster or accident of navigation; = SHIPWRECK *sb.* 2. Now *rare.*

1579 GOSSON *Sch. Abuse* (Arb.) 41, I haue in my voyage suffered wrack with Vlisses. 1590 SPENSER *F.Q.* i. vi. i As when a ship. . . An hidden rocke escaped hath vnwares, That lay in waite her wrack for to bewaile. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 2 Glad that with wracke of ship, and losse of goods they may prolong a despised life. 1648 G. DANIEL *Eclog.* v. 331 In a wracke, wee trust A Sayle-yard, or a Planke of broken Chest, To carrie vs. 1673 DRYDEN *2 Pt. Conq. Granada* (ed. 2) III. 105 As Seamen, parting in a gen'l wrack, When first the loosening Pericles begin to crack Each catches one. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey) s.v. *Flotson*, Jetson, or Goods cast out of the Ship, being in danger of Wrack. a1879 H. DEWAR in *Poems of Places, Brit. Amer.* 35 In the wrack tall masts would crack.

b. *fig.* and in *fig.* context.

1580 H. GIFFORD *Posie of Gilloflowers* (1870) 52 Fell Satan is chiefe ruler of these seas: Hee seeks our wracke, he doth these tempestes rayse. a1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* v. Wks. 1922 II. 150 Yet being imbarqued in the same ship, the finall wrack must needs be common to them all. 1600 DEKKER *Fortunatus Wks.* 1873 I. 114 Ryot sets up sayles, And. . . Drives your unsteddie fortunes on the point of wracke inevitable. 1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* vi. lii. 57 When Seas did foame. . . His force effecting with his cares preuented still my wracke. 1628 FELTHAM *Resolves* II. ii. 5 Hee that steeres by that gale, is euer in danger of wracke. 1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch.*, *Rich. II.* vii, The greater winds of Faction broke in here, To make a wracke. a1699 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* I. cxxxiv, That venturing any longer stay to make, Was but to run upon a certain wrack.

3. Marine vegetation, seaweed or the like, cast ashore by the waves or growing on the tidal seashore. (Cf. WRECK *sb.*¹ 2, VAREC I.)

Also *cart.-grass-*, *kelp-*, *lady-*, *sea-wrack*.

In first quot. the precise sense is not quite clear.

1513 DOUGLAS *Aeneid* III. ix. 34 Rent me in pecis, and in the fludis swak, Or droun law vndir the large seis wrak. 1551- [see SEA-WRACK 2]. 1650 [HOWE] *Phytol. Brit.* 101 Divers sorts of Sea-Oake, or Wrack. 1668 WILKINS *Real Char.* 71 Herbs. . . growing commonly upon Stones and Rocks in the Sea: 14. Wrack. 1700 WALLACE *Descr. Orkney*

(1883) 42 note, When the sea-weed is driven in greater plenty, all the people. . . divide the wrack according to the proportion of land they have. 1716 *Petiveriana* I. 159 Full of small seedy Warts as in our common Wrack or *Quercus maritima*. 1785 MARTYN *Lett. Bot.* xxxii. 500 Fucus, Wrack, or Sea-weed properly so called, has two kinds of bladders. 1849 H. MILLER *Footpr. Creat.* i. 10 The shores. . . of the lake were strewed. . . by a line of *wrack*, consisting. . . of marine plants [etc.]. 1855 KINGSLEY *Glaucus* 57 The purple and olive wreaths of wrack, and bladder-weed, and tangle. 1880 *Antrim & Down Gloss.* 78 The farmers grow sea-weed for manure, cutting the wrack periodically. . . Stones are placed for the wrack to grow on.

b. Weeds, rubbish, waste, etc., floating on, or washed down or ashore by, a river, pond, or the like; = WRECK *sb.*¹ 2 b.

1598- water-wrack [see WATER *sb.* 29]. 1851 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* (ed. 2) I. 396/2 To prevent the *wrack* floating on the surface of the water finding its way into the sluice. 1865 LIVINGSTONE *Zambesi* i. 14 When we came within five or six miles of the land, the yellowish-green tinge of the sea. . . was suddenly succeeded by muddy water with wrack, as of a river in flood. *Ibid.*, The wrack, consisting of reeds, sticks and leaves. 1877 V. L. CAMERON *Across Africa* I. 63, I observed wrack of grass and twigs in the branches of small trees. . . showing how high the floods. . . must be at times.

c. Field-weeds, roots of couch-grass or the like, esp. as loosened from the soil to be collected for burning; vegetable rubbish or refuse found on agricultural lands; = WRECK *sb.*¹ 2 c.

1715 PENNECUK *Tweeddale* 6 [They] will not suffer the *Wrack* to be taken of their Land, because (say they) it keeps the Corn warm. 1825 JAMIESON, *Wrack*, Dog's grass, . . . *Triticum repens*, Linn.; Roxb. Perhaps denominated *Wrack*, because. . . it is harrowed out in the fall, and burnt. 1883 *Longm. Mag.* April 658 Seed has to be sown, turnips have to be thinned and hoed. . . and 'wrack' gathered. 1894 HESLOP *Northumb. Gloss.* 799 *Wrack*, weeds; especially 'whickens' and sea-weed.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as †*wrack-ship* (= sense 1); †*wrack-rich*; *wrack-threatened*, *-threatening*; also †*wrackfree*, = WRECKFREE *a.*; †*wrack-goods* [cf. Du. *wrakgoederen*, G. *wrackgut*] *Scots Law*, = sense 1 b; *wrack-spangle local* (see quot. 1856).

1570 in W. Boys *Hist. Sandwich* (1792) 775 Savyng that we shalbe wrakfree of oure owne goodes whatsoever. 1594 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 590 All which together like a troubled Ocean, Beat at thy rockie, and wracke-threatening heart. 1598 J. DICKENSON *Greene in Conc.* (1878) 138 More deafe. . . then are the wrack-rich Libique rocks. 1603 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Microcosmos Wks.* (Grosart) I. 38/2 A Sternelesse Shippe. . . On mightiest Seas, wrack-threat'n'd on each syde. 1671 *Shetland Docum.* in *Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.* (1892) XXVI. 194 To. . . secure all wrack and waith goods. 1681 STAIR *Instit.* vii. 76 Our Custome agrees with. . . other Nations, except in the Matter of waith and wrack Goods. 1693 *Ibid.* (ed. 2) III. iii. 420 Where the Wrack ship is, the Owner may be known by Writs in the Ship. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Wreckfry*, . . . wrack-free, exempt or freed from the forfeiture of Shipwrecked Goods and Vessels to the King. 1856 *Househ. Words* 8 Nov. 391/1 Wrack-spangle, the popular name of these things, implies that they deck the sea-weeds as spangles adorn robes. The savans call them Serpula.

wrack (ræk), *sb.*³ Also 5, 6 *Sc. wrak*, 6 *wracke*, 9 *Sc. vrack*. [a. (M)LG. or Du. *wrak* (whence MHG. and G. dial. *wrack* refuse, rubbish, Da. *vrag*, Sw. *vrak*, refuse); see also WRAKE *sb.*³, WRECK *sb.*², and cf. WRACK *a.*]

1. That which is of an inferior, poor, or worthless quality; waste material; rubbish. Now *rare.*

1472-5 *Rolls of Parlt.* VI. 156/1 Such [bowstaves] as were called the wrak, not goode ne able to make of but Childern' Bowes. 1492-3 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 249 Reparaciones [on a mill]. . . pro cariagio le remell et wrak a scaccario usque Viram. 1542-3 *Act 34 & 35 Hen. VIII.*, c. 9 §4 That no persone or persones doo caste or unlade out of any maner of Ship. . . any maner of Balaste rubbishie gravel or any other wracke or filthe, but onelie upon the Lande. 1866 GREGOR *Banffshire Gloss.* 204 *Wrack*, anything worthless. *Ibid.*, 'His nout's jist mere wrack.' 1885 *Pall Mall G.* 27 March 4 They send anything—the very wrack of towns—instead of the valuable agricultural labourer which we want.

†b. *Sc. world's wrack*, earthly 'pelf' or 'dross'; worldly possessions, goods, or gear. *Obs.*

c1480 HENRYSON *Swallow & Birds* 307 (Bann.), Our wickit ennemye. . . evir is reddyde, Quhen wretchis in pis warldis wrak do scraip, To draw his nett. 1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxiii. 10 For warldis wrak but weillfair nocht awails. a1568 in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Cl.) 223 Quhill. . . stuffit weill with warldis wrak, Amang my freindis I was weill kend. a1586 in *Maitland Fol. MS.* (S.T.S.) 241 Now he hes gold and warldis wrak lyand him besyd. 1792 BURNS *My Wife's a winsome wee thing* iv, The warld's wrack we share o't, The warste and the care o't.

2. An inferior grade of flax. Also *attrib.*

1879 J. PATON in *Encycl. Brit.* IX. 298/1 Of the lower qualities of Riga flax the following may be named:—Wrack flax, White picked wrack, . . . Picked wrack flax. *Ibid.*, The lowest quality of Riga flax is. . . Dreiband Wrack.

wrack, freq. erron. f. RACK *sb.*¹ 3, 3 b.

1794 Mrs. Piozzi *Synon.* II. 397 Observing how the wrack rides before the wind. 1848 LYTTON *Harold* v. i, The smoke rises. . . to join the wrack of clouds. 1878 H. S. WILSON *Alpine Ascents* ii. 57 A filmy wrack wreathes round and upward.

wrack, erron. f. RACK *sb.*³ 1, 1 b, 1 c.

1591 SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI.* II. v. 3 Euen like a man new haled from the Wrack, So fare my Limbes with long Imprisonment. 1666 Boyle's *Orig. Forms & Qual.* a 2

Mystical Notions, which put the Understanding upon the Wrack. 1866 SWINBURNE *Poems & Ballads* 306 For the pure sharpness of her miseries She had no heart's pain, but mere body's wrack.

wrack, erron. f. RACK *sb.*⁶

1829 H. MURRAY *N. America* II. III. iv. 442 They abhor a trot, and instruct the animal only in a pace and a wrack.

†**wrack**, *a.* *Obs. rare.* Also 4 *wrac*, 6 *Sc. wrak*. [a. MLG. *wrak*, *wrack*, LG. *wrak* (whence G. dial. *wrack* worthless, Sw. *vrak-*, Da. *vrag-*), or MDu. *wrac*, *wrak* (Kilian *wrack*, *wraeck*, Du. *wrak*), OFris. *wrak*, *wrac* base (WFrisk. *wrak* shaky): cf. WRACK *sb.*³]

1. Of persons: Worthless, base, evil.

c1375 *Kindheit Iesu* 315 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1875) 12 Bote a giw of heorte wrac Alle hise lawes pare he to brac.

2. Damaged, impaired, injured; unsound.

1487 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 164, iij last heryng, iij wrack & on rooue; the wrack cost vijli & the roue ixli. 1496-7 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1905) 32 Item, a diaper clothe, wrack, content in lengthe iij yardes di. 1584 *Burgh Rec. Edinb.* (1882) IV. 343 To devyde the guid and sufficient fische fra the wrak and evill.

†**wrack**, *v.*¹ *Obs.* Forms: 3 *wracken*, 4-5 *wrak*, 6 *wracke*. [Irreg. var. of WREAK *v.* Cf. *brack*, *brak*, for BREAK *v.*]

1. *trans.* To avenge or revenge (a person, deed, etc.); to punish. Also const. *on.*

c1205 LAY. 20256 Baldulf. . . pencheð in pissere nihte to slæn pe. . . to wracken his broðer. a1300 *Body & Soul* in *Map's Poems* (Camden) 338 Merci criende lutel availed, swan Crist it wolde so harde wrac. [1871 WADDELL *Psalm* xviii. 47 The God wha wracks a' right for me.]

2. To give vent to or wreak (spite, malice, etc.).

1635 J. HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Banish'd Virg.* 199 The King went to wrack his spite on their corpses. 1644 J. FARY *Gods Severity* (1645) 21 You. . . must needs wrack your malice by revenge. 1720 *Prior Cupid Mistaken* iii, Couldst thou find none other, To wrack [ed. 1709 wreck] thy spleen on?

wrack (ræk), *v.*² Now *arch.* or *dial.* Also 5-7 *wracke*, 6-7 *Sc. wrak*, 9 *rack*. [f. WRACK *sb.*² Cf. WRECK *v.*¹]

†1. *intr.* To suffer or undergo shipwreck. *Obs.*

1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* VIII. xxxviii. 331 One told hym there was a knyghte of kyng Arthur þ[at] had wrackyd on the rockes. 1596 [A. MUNDAY] tr. *Sylvain's Orator* 333 The ship happened to wracke, so that the poore man and his daughter saued themselves in a little Island. a1620 J. DYKE *Sel. Serm.* (1640) 146 When a Shippe wrackes at Sea, the goods are utterly lost. 1632 SANDERSON *Serm.* 56 We may. . . cast our wares into the Sea, to lighten the ship that it wracke not. *fig.* and in *fig.* context. a1592 GREENE *Aleida* (1617) C 1 b, Thus selfe-loue. . . Makes beautie wracke against an ebbing tide. 1596 Bp. ANDREWS *Serm.* (1629) 327 Their Love hath wracked, and from kind love, beene turned to deadly hate. 1616 B. JONSON *Forrest* iii. 95 God wisheth none should wracke on a strange shelve. 1622 BACON *Hen. VII.* 223 Sir, you haue beene saued vpon my coast, I hope you will not suffer mee to wrack vpon yours.

2. *trans.* To wreck (a vessel, mariners, etc.); to ruin or cast ashore by shipwreck. Chiefly *pass.*

1562 A. BROOKE *Romeus & Jul.* 1368 Driuen hard vpon the bare and wrackfull shore, In greater daunger to be wract, then he had been before. 1593 MARLOWE *Edw. II.* II. ii. I, I feare me he is wract vpon the sea. 1596 BACON *Max. & Use Com. Law* 1. (1636) 44 Goods wract. . . shall be preserved to the use of the owner. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist-World* III. (1634) 86 They pursuing the victorie, had left part of the fleet. . . to save those that were wract. 1683 *Brit. Spec.* 86 Most of the Fleet, wract that Night by a sudden Tempest, lay split on the Shore. 1699 T. ALLISON *Voy. Archangel* 22 Putting provision therein for subsistence, in case we should be forced ashore and wracked. 1755 JOHNSON. 1838 J. F. COOPER *Homeward Bound* xxiv, I esteem it a great privilege. . . to have the honour of being *wracked*. . . in such company. *Ibid.*, [If she [the ship] had been honorably and fairly wracked. 1871 PALGRAVE *Lyr. Poems* 19 The seas. . . With outstretch'd angry arms. . . Wracking whole fleets in pride like riven toys.

fig. and in *fig.* context. 1583 GREENE *Mamillia* Wks (Grosart) II. 193 A professed Curtizan, whose honestie and credit is so wracked in the waues of wantonnesse. *Ibid.* 242 No. . . tempests of aduersitie shal. . . wracke my fancie against the slipperie rockes of inconstancie. 1594 *Selimus* G 3 b, My feeble barke, . . . while thy foameie flood doth it immune, Shall soon be wract vpon the sandie shallowes. 1598-9 B. JONSON *Case Altered* II. vii, O! in what tempests do my fortunes saile, Still wract with winds more foule and contrary, Then any other northern guest. 1670 DRYDEN *1st Pt. Conq. Granada* III. (1672) 23 Though wrack'd and lost, My Ruines stand to warn you from the Coast. a1699 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* I. cxxviii, Till miserably wrack'd, most woful she Quite sinks in this self-torments monstrous Sea. [1897 W. BEATTY *Secretar* x. 77 The wind that drave them. . . was the same that had wracked. . . Darnley, and Bodwell.]

3. To cause the ruin, downfall, or subversion of (a person, etc.); to ruin, overthrow. Also *refl.*

1564 QUEEN MARY in *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* XIV. 201 Seing the puir men, awnaris of the saidis ship and guidis, ar. . . uterlie herit and wrakkit. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 186 Suppose we suld wrack [1621 wrake] our self, and tyme The feild, and all our kin be hangit syne. a1586 SIDNEY *Ps.* xli. iv, Now he is wrackt, say they, loe their he lies. 1604 A. CRAIG *Poet. Ess.* A.4, When Troy was wract, . . . He came. . . Yet sayd he nought. 1628 PRYNNE *Love-locks* 59 Externall Beautie. . . betrays and wrackes the Soules of many. 1792 BURNS *'What can a young lassie'* iv, I'll cross him, and wrack him, until I heart-break him. 1810 in R. H. CROMK *Remains* 27 He'll dance wi' ye, 'O'er Bogie', Maiden, and wrack ye.

refl. 1595 DANIEL *Civ. Wars* III. xvi. 47 b, That weake, and enuied if they should conspire They wracke themselues, and he hath his desire.

b. To render useless by breaking, shattering, etc.; to injure or spoil severely; to destroy.

1587 FLEMING *Contn. Holinshed* III. 1310/2 In the towne of Bedford the water came vp to the market place.; their fewell, corne and haie was wrackt & borne awaie. a 1593 MARLOWE *Dido* 1. i. Of them all scarce seuen [ships] doe anchor safe, And they so wrackt and weltred by the waues [etc.]. a 1678 MARVELL *Bermudas* 9 Where he the huge Sea-Monsters wracks, That lift the Deep upon their Backs. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* VII. xxxviii, As if the world's wide continent Had fallen in universal ruin wracked. 1845 MRS. S. C. HALL *Whiteboy* vi. 56 The [castle]... is wracked by the Saxon's breath. 1899 S. MACMANUS *Chimney Corners* 252 His queeny bee... was wrackin' an' ruinin' all afore her.

transf. a 1586 SIDNEY *Astr.* & *Stella* Sonn. lxvii, Doth Stella now beginne with pitteous eye The raigne of this her conquest to espie? Will she take time before all wracked be? 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III.* iv. i. 97 Eightie odde yeeres of sorrow haue I seene, And each howres ioy wrackt with a weeke of teene. 1648 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* III. cxxxii, The Precedent may dangerous prove, and wrack Thy Throne and Kingdome.

4. *intr.* To undergo ruin or subversion.

a 1586 SIDNEY *Ps.* xxxvii. xviii, [Those] who be swarved To ill, both they and theirs shall wrack. 1599 SANDYS *Europæ Spec.* (1632) 191 Ayde... without which the whole Empire were in danger of wracking. a 1600 MONTGOMERIE *Misc. Poems* xli. 56, I smore if I conceill, I wrak if I reveill, My hurt. 1607 J. CARPENTER *Plaine Mans Plough* 89 What gaine these... when they... themselves remaine castawayes, wracking in the depth of hell.

Hence 'wracking *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1611 COTGR., *Ruinement*, a ruining, *wracking, spoyling. 1642 VICARS *God in Mount* 13 The utter wracking and worrying of the... holy lambes of Christ. 1611 COTGR., *Naufrageux*, *wracking, shipwrack-bringing.

† **wrack**, *v.*³ *Sc. Obs.* [ad. MLG. *wracken* (whence *G. wracken* to sort), to reject, refuse, var. of *wraken*, *WRAKE v.*³] *trans.* = *WRAKE v.*³

1609 in *Rec. Convent. Burghs Scot.* (1870) II. 284 Ilk last vesetit urakit, jadget and brunt be thame [sc. inspectors]. 1611 *Ibid.* 326 Anent the mater of the hering and barrells thairof, sufficiencie of pakking and wracking of the same.

† **wrack**, *v.*⁴ *Obs.* —¹ (? ad. Du. *wraken* to make leeway. Cf. *G. wrak, wraking*, leeway.)

1635 L. FOXE in *North-West Fox* 180 In that distance holding the same course, I had 2 deg. 14 min. to wracke upon, and within one point at most of my parallell.

wrack, freq. erron. f. *RACK v.*³

1553-5 LATIMER in *Strype Eccl. Mem.* (1721) III. App. xxxv. 98 The Martyrs in the old Time were wracked. 1622 FLETCHER *Sea Voy.* 1. i. The Money I ha wrackt by usury. a 1637 B. JONSON *Discov. Wks.* (1641) 118 Doubtfull writing hath wrackt mee beyond my patience. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* To Rdr., As the one had wrackt and limm'd my thoughts, with endless tenters. 1683 CAVE *Ecclesiastici*, *Eusebius* 33 The Church rather expounds the Opinion... into a favourable sence, than nicely weighs and wracks their words. 1720 WELTON *Suffer. Son of God* II. xiv. 370 What great Concern wracks the Spirit of a faithful Servant of God. 1721 STRYPE *Eccl. Mem.* II. ii. xiv. 353 Landlords had now so wracked their rents. 1756 *Monitor* No. 72 II. 197 If they wrack their brains... to find out [etc.]. 1785 BURNS *Scotch Drink* i, Let... Crabbit names an' stories wrack us, An' grate our lug. 1895 PARKHURST in *Advance* (Chicago) 7 Mar. 80/2 Sin... wracks the machinery of the mind. 1898 *Daily News* 31 Aug. 5/3 They themselves are wracking their busy brains.

absol. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor. v.* i. 16 A paire of Tribunes, that haue wrack'd for Rome, To make Coales cheape.

wracked (rækt), *ppl. a.* [f. *WRACK v.*² + -ED¹.] That has undergone or suffered wreck, esp. shipwreck; ruined, destroyed.

1581 A. HALL *Iliad* 1. 15 Yeelding the Greekes a thorough feare, the Troyans courage hie, So that the wracked Campe restore his credite worthilie. 1608 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. *Schisme* 371 A hundred Prophets... from sad drowning keep The wracked planks on th' Idol-Ocean deep. 1648 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* iv. lxxxv, When Ioe an angry Sea... on its proud waves bears In dreadfull triumph a wrack'd Man. 1652 NEEDHAM tr. *Selden's Mare Cl.* 157 Those wrack't goods that had been seized by the Receivers of his Customs. 1747 *New Canto Spenser's F.Q.* xxiii, The wrack'd Merchant, now secure, from Shore Looks back with Dread on all his Perils past. 1864 MRS. LLOYD *Ladies Pole*. 17 Every body's troubles is her troubles, from a wracked boat to a broken putcher! 1875 MORRIS *Æneid* ix. 263 Two cups... which my father took from wracked Arisbe's hold.

wracked, erron. f. *RACKED ppl. a.*³

1606 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. *Tropheis* 823 Hee makes th' whole Kingdom's wracked ribs to meet. 1656 COWLEY *Davidis* III. 683 Merab rejoyc'd in her wrackt Lovers pain. a 1699 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* x. cccxxiv, New fear Stormed their wracked Souls. 1974 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 19 Apr. 417/4 Lowry could be sodden, sullen, wracked with shame and remorse: a figure of total anguish. 1974 A. DAVIS *Autobiography* iv. 279 During the few months of our friendship, I don't think I realized how wracked he must have been by that decade of accumulated frustrations, by that terrible sense of impotence.

wracker¹ ('rækə(r)). *rare.* [f. *WRACK v.*² + -ER¹.] One who wrecks, ruins, or subverts.

1611 COTGR., *Ruineur*, a ruiner, wracker, spoyler.

† **wracker**². *Obs. rare.* [f. *WRACK v.*³ + -ER¹, or ad. MLG. *wraker* (whence Da. *vrager* sorter).] = *WRAKER*.

1584 [see *WRAKER*]. 1719 in *Rec. Convent. Royal Burghs Scot.* (1885) V. 217 By means of wrackers of herrings to be

imported there. *Ibid.*, To appoint... ane overseer of these wrackers.

wracker³ ('rækə(r)). *rare.* [f. *WRACK sb.*² 3 + -ER¹ 1. Cf. *VRAICKER*.] One who collects wrack, vraic, or seaweed.

1833 *Fraser's Mag.* VII. 293 The Norman wrackers, as they gathered sea-weed on the beach.

wracker, obs. var. *RACKER*¹.

1736 AINSWORTH 1, *Contortor*,... a wracker, or wrestler.

† **wrackful**, *a.*¹ *Obs.* Also 3 wracful, 4 wrakful, 5 -fulle. [f. *WRACK sb.*¹ + -FUL.] Characterized by resentment or anger; vengeful, angry.

c 1230 [implied in next]. 13... *E.E. Allit. P. B.* 302 Now God in nwy to Noe con speke Wyldre wrakful wordez. *Ibid.* 541 Suche a wrakful wo for watsum dedez Parformed pe hyze fader. ? a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 3818 He wente at the gayneste, Wondis of thas wedirwyns with wrakfulle dynttys.

Hence † **wrackfully adv.**, vengefully. *Obs.*

c 1230 *Hali Meid.* 41 Hwengodd se wracfulliche fordemde his heh engel.

† **wrackful**, *a.*² *Obs. rare.* In 4 wrecful. [OE. *wracful*, f. *wrac* *WRACK sb.*¹ + -FUL.] Full of misery; wretched.

c 1311 in *Wright Pol. Songs* (Camden) 256 For wille is red, the lond is wrecful; For wit is qued, the lond is wrongful.

'**wrackful**, *a.*³ Now *arch.* and *rare.* [f. *WRACK sb.*² + -FUL.]

1. Causing shipwreck; wreckful.

1558 PHAER *Æneid* II. 64 To Syllas wrackfull shore with shypps approche we nye. 1583 MELBANCKE *Philotimus* Tivb, That... shears the fruitles sande with wrakfull waues. 1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* 1. ii. 353 To stand still firm against the roaring noise Of wrackfull Neptune. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* i. 326 Where king Latinus lent safe harbor for his Ships, with wrackfull tempests rent. 1623 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Floures of Sion* xii. 6 These Lockes, of blushing deedes the gilt attire, Waues curling, wrackfull shelfes to shadow deepe. 1633 T. BANCROFT *Gluttons Feauer* F 2b, A Vessell, neare some wrackfull strand.

2. Causing destruction or devastation; effecting damage or harm; destructive.

1578 *Mirr. Mag.* 23 b, Then my delight was in the diery dent Of wrackful warre. 1594 CAREW *Tasso* (1881) 24 Eu'n so the king of streames... Beyond his bankes abroad all wrackfull goes. c 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* lxxv. 6 O how shall summers hunny breath hold out Against the wrackfull siege of batring dayes? 1633 T. BANCROFT *Gluttons Feauer* B 6 Cracke all mine arteries with tortues tride, Yet must more stormes, more wrackfull woes abide? 1921 *Chambers's Jnrl.* Jan. 50/1 A people that... has not had its mind and feelings warped by that wrackful war.

3. Subject to, attended by, injury, harm, etc.

1581 T. HOWELL *Deuises* Biv, To shunne the sheete of shame, Which had bewrapt her wrackfull blemisht name. 1612 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Muses Sacr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 82/1 This Life, a Way; (a wrackfull way) that Wisedome lothes to proue. 1811 SCOTT *Don Roderick* III. vi, What wanton horrors marked their wrackful path!

wracking, erron. f. *RACKING vbl. sb.*³ (also *attrib.*).

1676 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1083/1 Certain Instruments... made use of for the wracking of Criminals. 1688 HOLME *Armory* III. 311/1 A Wracking Plank, with a Rowling Wheel of so many Spokes. 1803 W. BLAKE 'I saw a Monk' ii, Voltaire [arose] with a wracking wheel.

wracking, erron. f. *RACKING ppl. a.*¹ 2.

1749 *Milton's P.L.* (ed. Newton) II. 182 We perhaps... shall be hurl'd Each on his rock transfix'd, the sport and prey Of wracking whirlwinds. 1837 CARLYLE *Misc. Ess.*, *Mirabeau*, The sport of wracking winds.

wrack-rider. *north. dial.* Also rack-. (See quotes.)

1794 HUTCHINSON *Hist. Cumbl'd.* I. 460 [The] Brandling... is the Rackrider of the county of Durham, and the Samlet. 1825 BROCKETT *N.C. Words, Wrack, or Wrackrider*,... the same species of trout as the brandling.

† **wracksome**, *a.* *Obs. rare* —¹. [f. *WRACK v.*² + -SOME¹.] Destructive.

1584 HUDSON *Du Bartas' Judith* II. 361 Then mine not you their towers and tourets tall, Nor bring the wracksom engine to their wall.

wrackstaff, obs. erron. form of *RACK-STAFF*.

1706 E. WARD *Hud. Rediv.* I. xii. 6 If he eat Nothing but Wrack-staves for his Meat.

wrae, *Sc. var.* *WRO sb.*

wræcche, obs. var. *WRETCH*.

wræstlen, obs. f. *WRESTLE v.*

wræð, obs. pa. t. of *WRITHE*; obs. var. *WROTH a.*

W.R.A.F. Also *WRAF* and (*colloq.*) *Wraf* (ræf). [f. initial letters of its name.] The Women's Royal Air Force (1918-20, reformed 1949), the women's corps of the Royal Air Force; also, a member of this.

1918 *Times* 3 Apr. 4/4 No women for the 'mobile' branch will be enrolled at present. Candidates for posts as officers should apply to the W.R.A.F. Inquiry Office... Strand. 1921 *Spectator* 4 June 719/2 Sketches with pen and pencil of the duties of the 'Wrafs'. 1955 *Times* 23 May 6/6 Five women holding W.R.A.F. commissions, all with university degrees, are serving as technical officers in the R.A.F. 1977 *R.A.F. News* 11-24 May 2/5 A charity disco at Newton enabled the WRAF girls there to raise £58. 1983 *Daily Tel.*

22 Aug. 8/5 Dame Felicity Peake was director of the WRAF from its inception in 1949.

wrag, obs. erron. f. *RAG sb.*² 2.

1844 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jnrl.* VII. 63/1 Two stone offices... formed of Kentish wrag ashlar.

† **wrag**, *v.* *Obs. rare* —¹. [Of imitative origin. Cf. *WRAGGLE v.*¹] *intr.* To struggle or strive; to resist. Hence **wragging** *vbl. sb.*

a 1275 *Ancr. R.* (MS. Cleopatra C. vi) fol. 173 b, For þeo 3et [sic] fondunges... waggeð oðer hwiles, & [heo] mote wresten a3ein wið stronge wraggunge.

wrag, erron. f. *RAG v.*²

1841 J. BLACKWOOD in Mrs. Oliphant *Blackwood & Sons* (1898) II. 261, I do not forget to wrag the Doctor on this subject.

† **wragged**, obs. erron. f. *RAGGED* (rough).

c 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* vi, Then let not winters wragged hand deface, In thee thy summer ere thou be distil'd.

† **wragger**. *Obs.* Also *wrager*. [Cf. *WRAG v.*] One who wrangles.

c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xii. 58 Both bosters and braggers god kepe vs fro;... Sich wryers and wragers gose to and fro For to crak. *Ibid.* xxx. 143 A bag full... Of Wraggers and wears, a bag full of brefes, Of carpars and cryars [etc.].

† **wraggle**, *v.*¹ *Obs. rare.* In 3 wragel-, 6 *Sc.* wraggil, wraigle, 7 wragle. [See *WRAG v.* and -LE, and cf. *WFrisk. wraggelje* to waddle, LG. dial. *wraggeln* to wiggle, to wriggle.]

1. *intr.* To struggle or strive; to resist. Hence '**wraggling** *vbl. sb.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 374 þe oðer bitternesse is bitternesse in wrastlunge, & in wragelunge a3ean uondunges. *Ibid.*, For þe 3et [sic] fondunges, þet beoð þe deofles swenges, waggeð oðer hwiles, & [heo] moten wresten a3ean mid stronge wragelunge.

2. To wriggle. Hence '**wraggling** *ppl. a.*

1508 DUNBAR *Flying* 195 Wan wraiglane [Mail. wraggil-land] wasp! 1602 MIDDLETON *Blurt, Master Constable* C 2, I strugled and stragled, and wrigled and wragled.

'**wraggle**, *v.*² (See quot. and cf. *RAGGLE v.*)

1875 GILLIES in *Trans. N.Z. Inst.* (1876) VIII. 246, I could make out two or three holes... where the silk lining... was raised and wraggled.

wraggle-taggle, var. *RAGGLE-TAGGLE a.* and *sb.*

wragh, obs. var. *WRATH sb.*; var. *WRAW a.*

Freq. in the Egerton and Harleian copies of the *E.E. Psalter*, e.g. ii. 13, xvii. 9, lix. 1, lxxiii. 1.

† **wragland**. *Obs. rare.* [Of obscure origin. Perh. merely a var. of the erroneous form *wranglan(d)* cited s.v. *WRANLONS*; but cf. *WRAGGLE v.*¹]

1. (See quot. and cf. *WRANLONS*.)

1611 COTGR., *Raboudris*, wraglands; crooked, or misgowne trees which will neuer proue timber.

2. (See quot. and cf. *WRECKLING*.)

1611 COTGR., *Rabougrir*,... to wax mishapen, or imperfect of shape; to become a wragland, or grub.

wrah, variant of *WRAW a.* *Obs.*

wraht, var. *wrought*: see *WORK v.*

wrai(e, wraier, vari. WRAY(ER Obs.

† **wrain-bolt**, variant of *RING-BOLT*. Also † **wrain-stave**, a staff for inserting in an eye of this.

1750 BLANCKLEY *Naval Expos.* 17 *Wrain Bolts*. [Each] has a ring at one End for a Staff to go through, [etc.]. *Ibid.* 190 *Wrain Staves* are a Sort of thick Billets, tapered so at each End that they may go into the Ring of the Wrain Bolt. [Hence in Rees' *Cycl.* (1819), *Young Naut. Dict.* (1846), *Smyth Sailor's Word-bk.* (1867), etc.]

Hence † **wraining-bolt, -staff.** *Obs.* —¹

1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1776), *Antoit*, a crooked instrument of iron, used to bind the side-planks round the timbers in ship-building. The English artificers perform this operation by wraining-bolts and staffs.

wraist(e, obs. variants of WREST sb.¹, *a.*, and *v.*

wrait, obs. or *Sc. pa. t.* of *WRITE v.*

wraith (reiθ), *sb.* Orig. (and chiefly) *Sc.* Also 6 *wrath*, *wrayth*, *wraithe*, 7 *wreath*. [Of obscure origin.]

1. a. An apparition or spectre of a dead person; a phantom or ghost.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* x. 112 Nor 3it na vane wrathis nor gaistis quent Thi char constrenyt for to went. *Ibid.* xi. 93 In diuers placis The wraithis walkis of goistis that ar deyd. a 1585 POLWART *Flying w. Montgomerie* 658 Thy speech... is espyed, That wrytes of witches, warlocks, wraiths, and wratches. 1786 BURNS 'When Guilford good' viii, Chatham's wraith, in heavenly graith,... cry'd, 'Willie, risel' 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* vi. Introd. 146 In realms of death Ulysses meets Alcides' wraith. 1861 E. S. KENNEDY in *Peaks, Passes & Glaciers* Ser. II. 1. 170 She... died broken-hearted... Afterwards, in the still of the evening... the damsel's wraith would enter the dairy department. 1866 ALGER *Solit. Nat. & Man* IV. 288 While Winander, Fairfield and Rydal remain, to all visionary minds his [sc. Wordsworth's] wraith will haunt them. 1893 T. E. BROWN *Old John*, etc. 44 While I... Drift vaporous to the ancient sea, A wraith, a film, a memory. 1900 A. UPWARD *E. Lobb* 226 Tall, pale and

hollow-eyed, with gaunt cheek-bones, . . . like a wraith from an extinct world.

fig. 1880 G. MACDONALD *Diary Old Soul* Feb. ix, Duty's firm shape thins to a misty wraith.

b. An immaterial or spectral appearance of a living being, freq. regarded as portending that person's death; a fetch.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* x. xi. 127 Thydder went this wrath or schaddo of Ene. 1597 JAS. VI *Dæmonol.* III. i. 60 These kindes of spirites, when they appeare in the shadow of a person . . . to die, to his friendes, . . . are called Wraithes in our language. 1691 R. KIRK *Seer. Commonwealth* i. §7. 18 What the Low-countrie Scotts calls a Wreath, and the Irish *Taibhshe* or Death's Messenger. 1772-3 R. FERGUSON *To Mem. Dr. W. Wilkie* 35, I dream't yestreen his deadly wraith I saw Gang by my ein as white's the driven snaw. . . I kent that it forespak approachin' wae. 1802 SCOTT *Minstr. Scott.* *Bord.* I. p. cxxvii. The wraith . . . of a person shortly to die, is a firm article in the creed of Scottish superstition. 1824 MRS. GRANT in *Mem. & Corr.* (1844) III. 66 A wraith . . . is the shadowy likeness of an absent living person. 1838 LYTTON *Alice* XI. ii. As the shape of the warning wraith haunts the mountaineer. 1870 MYERS *Poems* 92 She and her love, —how dimly has she seen him Dark in a dream and windy in a wraith! 1871 TYLOR *Prim. Cult.* I. 404 This is well-shown by the reception not only of a theory of ghosts, but of a special doctrine of 'wraiths' or 'fatches'.

transf. 1849 C. BRONTE *Shirley* xvii, An opposition procession was there entering, headed also by men in black. . . 'Is it our double?' asked Shirley: 'our manifold wraith?' fig. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* lxxii. 13 O hollow wraith of dying fame, Fade wholly, while the soul exults.

c. Without article.

1884 E. GURNEY in *19th Cent.* 796 The coincidences of death and wraith are due to chance. 1898 H. NEWBOLT *Island Race* p. x, O Strength divine of Roman days, O Spirit of the Age of Faith, Go with our sons on all their ways When we long since are dust and wraith.

2. A water-spirit.

1742, etc. [see WATER *sb.* 24q]. 1801 M. G. LEWIS *Bothwell's Bonny Jane* ii, I hear, with mournful yell, The wraiths of angry Clyde complain. 1832 J. BREE *St. Herbert's Isle* 132 Wraiths and warlocks by the rush-grown mere. 1854 H. MILLER *Sch. & Schm.* x. (1858) 203 Highlanders . . . cutting down their corn, when the boding voice of the wraith was heard.

3. An appearance or configuration suggestive of a wraith or spectre.

1882 WHITTIER *Storm on Lake Asquam* iii, A fire-veined darkness swept Over the . . . range; A wraith of tempest, . . . From peak to peak the cloudy giant stepped. 1912 L. TRACY *Mirabel's Isl.* i, Through the wraiths of scud he thought he had seen something.

4. attrib. and Comb., as *wraith-land*, *-seeing*, *-ship*, *-spell*; *wraith-like* adj.

1756 *Yorkshire diary* in *N. & Q.* (1922) 390/2 For the warding off of all things whatsoever from the dead — be they imps, wraiths, spells, wick thins and the like ket. 1865 J. YOUNG *Homely Pictures* 126 Their leggies gat wraith-like, their cheekies gat death-like. 1871 TYLOR *Prim. Cult.* I. 405 In Silesia and the Tyrol the gift of wraith-seeing still flourishes. 1893 COLUMBUS (Ohio) *Dispatch* 27 Apr., What challenges are prompted to the great . . . to come from their wraithlands! 1924 V. F. BOYSON *Falkland Islands* viii. 181 Dimly as she came, so she passed away, as though in very truth the wraithship said to appear at every British naval fight.

wraith, obs. Sc. var. WRATH *sb.*, *v.*, WROTH *a.*

wraith(e), erron. varr. RATHE *sb.*²

1824 CARR *Craven Gloss.*, *Wraiths*, shafts of a cart. 1851 L. D. B. GORDON *Art Jynl. Illustr. Cat.* p. vii**, The 'wraith' is for the purpose of keeping the threads separate. 1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 2 Feb. 7/2 He got a rope, fastened it . . . to the cart wraiths, and . . . strangled himself.

wraithly (reithli), *a. rare*. [f. WRAITH *sb.* + -LY¹.] Resembling a wraith, wraith-like.

1909 M. B. SAUNDERS *Litany Lane* i. iv. 41 The tinkle-tinkle of a wraithly Tom Moore singing flowery lovesongs at fluted-silked pianos.

wraithly, etc., obs. Sc. varr. WROTHLY, etc.

wrak: see WRACK *sbs.*, WRAKE *sb.*¹, *sb.*³

† **wrake**, *sb.*¹ *Obs.* Forms: 1 wracu, 3-5 wrak, 4 north. wrac, 5 wraak, Sc. wrak; 2- wrake, 5-6 Sc. wraik. [OE. *wracu* (oblique cases *wrace*, *wræce*), f., revenge, vengeance, etc., = Goth. *wraka* persecution, f. the same stem as OE. *wræc* neut., WRACK *sb.*¹ For the related OS. *wrāka*, OHG. *rāhha*, see WRECHE *sb.*]

1. Suffering that comes or is inflicted as a retribution or penalty; retributive punishment, vengeance, revenge. Also (b) coupled with cognate terms.

Beowulf 2336 Him ðæs guðkyning, wedera pioden, wræce leornode. c825 *Vesp. Psalter* lvii. 11 Bið gæblissad se rehtwisa ðonne he geseð wrece ðeara arleasra. c1050 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* i. xv. §2 (MS. Corpus Camb.), Ne wæs ungelic wracu þam ðe iu Caldeas bærdnon Hierusalem weallas. c1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 61 Bute we turnen to gode anradliche, he wile his swerd dragen, þat is his wrake. a1225 *Juliana* 50 Ah we schulen sechen efter wrake on alle þat we biwited. a1300 *Cursor M.* 13055, I dred bot þou ne bete þi sake, þou sal noght dei wit-ven wrake. 13.. *E.E. Allit. P. B.* 386 [On] þe moste mountayne. . . flokked þe folke, for ferde of þe wrake. c1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xii. (*Matthias*) 179 At þe laste Iudas for wrake Rubene in þe nek . . . strake. c1430 *Chev. Assigne* 72 Wolt þou werne wrake to hem þat hit deserueth? a1500 *Hist. K. Boccus & Sydracke* (? 1510) Uj b, That scourge is a swerd of wrake That one shal agayne a nother take. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* II. ii. 120 The cruell wraik of that dissaitfull slycht.

(b) c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 13 3if 3e . . . to-brecað mine lare . . . þenne scal eou sone 3ewaxen muchele wrake and sake, here and hunger. a1250 *Owl & Night.* 1194 Ic wot hwar sal beo nip & wrake. c1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 552 So cam on werlde wreche and wrake. a1300 *Cursor M.* 890 Til pat worm þan drighnt spak wordes bath o wrath and wrak [*Trin.* wrake]. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 3389 þer shewed God weyl by pat kas þat þe kote a-cursed was, And tokened wel sorowe and wrake. 1382 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) I. 252 The grete vengeaunce and wrake That schulde falle for synnes sake. c1400 *Sowdone Bab.* 2446 Vengeaunce shalle than on you come, With sorowe, woo and wrake! a1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 1451 The knyghtis answerd with wo and wrake. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* VII. x. 117 Hevy wraik And sorofull vengeance 3it sall the ourtak.

b. In the phr. *to do, have, nim* (= take), *ta*, or *take wrake* (of, on, or upon a person or thing, or with indirect object).

In freq. use c1375-c1480, esp. with *take*.

? a900 *Laws of Ine* ix, 3if hwa wrace do, ærðon he him ryhtes bidde. c1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke xviii. 7 Ne deð god his gecorenra wrace . . . ? c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 9 þa ilke wrake þe ic dude þe, þu scoldest don me. a1200 *Moral Ode* 205 God nom . . . muchele wrake for are misdede. a1275 *Prov. Alfred* 647 in *O.E. Misc.* 136 For he þe wile wrake don. a1300 *Cursor M.* 11554 On þe sakles he suld ta wrake. 1357 *Lay Folks' Catech.* (T.) 485 For to take wrake Or wickedly to venge him opon his euen-cristen. c1450 *Ludus Cov.* 375 Mercy nay nay they xul haue wrake. c1489 CAXTON *Blanch.* xxvi. 95 To be presented . . . to the kyng of salamandrye, . . . for to haue wrake vpon hym. a1500 *Hist. K. Boccus & Sydracke* (? 1510) Ej, On thy goddes we shall do wrake. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* XI. vi. 80 The montane Caphareus, . . . That vengeans tuke and wraik upon our floit. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* III. xxiii. (S.T.S.) II. 40 We desire nowther þe goddis nor men to tak any wraik or punyissement on 3ow. 1613 CHAPMAN *Hymn to Hymen* Plays 1873 III. 122 Let Peace grow cruell, and take wrake of all.

c. in *wrake of*, in revenge or punishment for. *Sc.*

c1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxx. (*Theodera*) 799 In wrak of hyr fals plicht [the accuser] deit sodanely in þare sicht. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* III. iv. 91 For strang hunger sall 3e stand in sic state, In wraik of our iniuris and bestis slane.

2. Adverse action; active enmity; hostility; mischief.

a1023 WULFSTAN *Hom.* (1883) 106 His sunu hatte Mars, se macode æfre gewinn, and wrohte, and saca and wraca he styrede gelome. c1205 LAY. 4040 Wrake wes on londe; wa wes pone vnstronge. a1327 *Metz. Treat. Dreams in Rel. Ant.* I. 262 Armes y-sen ant eke bataille, Hit is strif ant wrake withoute faille. c1330 *Amis & Amil.* 397 All thus the wrake gan biginne, And with wrethe thai went atwinne, Tho bold bernes to. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XVIII. 85 What þowr werre and wrake and wycked hyfdes, May no preiour pees make in no place. c1430 LYDG. *Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 125 Hertis devided haue caused mochel wrake. a1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 1675 Syr gawayne And mordreite that mykelle couthe of wrake. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* xx. i. 797 For and there ryse warre and wrake betwyx syr launcelot and vs, wete you wel [etc.].

3. Distress of body or mind; pain, suffering, misery.

a1000 *Phoenix* 51 (Gr.), Nis þær on þam londe . . . ne wop ne wracu, weatacen nan. c1320 *Bonaventura's Medit.* 366 My breþren also, kepe hem fro wrake. 13.. *Sir Beues* (A.) 328 A was ibrougt in tene & wrakes Ofte for pat childes sake. 13.. *Leg. St. Gregory* 338 He tok þat child wiþouten hate and bar it hom wiþouten wrake. c1440 CAPGRAVE *St. Kath.* 866 þis wille turne vs all to wrake & to dole. c1450 *Ludus Coventrie* 189 He xall suffer for mannys sake. . . moch gret sorow and wrake.

4. Destructive harm or injury; wrecked, ruined, or impaired state or condition; ruin, destruction, wreck.

a1275 *Prov. Alfred* 142 in *O.E. Misc.* 111 For God may giuen wanne he wele good after yuil, wele after wrake. c1380 *Sir Ferum.* 1815 He wol þe chacy as ys fo & werche þe sorwe & wrake. a1400 R. GLOUCESTER'S *Chron.* (Rolls) II. 786 Her was muche manqualm, wrake was in londe. c1400 *Anturs of Arth.* xvii, These wrechut wurmus . . . wurchen me this wrake. Thus to wrake am I wroste, Waynor, i-wis. c1450 *Guy Warw.* (C.) 1158 For thy sake To vs ys comen moche wrake, And all for the loue of the. 1470-85 MALORY *Arth.* VII. xx. 244 He wil doo moche harme . . . and worche you wrake in this countray. a1586 MONTGOMERIE *Banks Helicon* 47 Fals Helene . . . causd King Priamus wraik [*v.r.* wrake] In Troy. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 178 That sik hatred war nocht the occasioun of the wrake of the hail Realmie. 1602 CHETTLE *Hoffman* i. (1631) B4 b, Newes . . . more welcome then the sad discourse Of Leninberg our nephewes timeles wrake.

b. In the phr. *to bring unto, to fall into, to go, put, or work to wrake*.

a1425 *Cursor M.* 9204 (Trin.), Ierusalem was stroyed & take; þat kyngdome fel in to wrake. c1425 *Non-Cycle Myst.* Pl. 35 Alas, all pen had gone to wrake; Wold ye haue slayne my son Isaac! c1435 *Chron. London* (Kingsford, 1905) 15 Jurrours went also to Wrake, wher that they myht be ffounde. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* II. vii. 110 By multitude and nomer on ws set All 3eid to wraik. c1550 R. BIESTON *Bayte Fortune* A ij b, Displeasure and thought doth bring him vnto wrake. 1565 *Satir. Poems Reform.* i. 107 W[hilch] made muche myserye, and wrought this realmie to wrake. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 158 Quhen he was all put to wrake.

5. An instance or occasion of suffering or inflicting vengeance, harm, injury, or the like.

c1300 *Cursor M.* 4950 Now es vs comen our aid sakes In to wandret new, and wrakes. 13.. *E.E. Allit. P. B.* 235 þat oper wrake þat wex on wy3ez. 13.. *Coer de L.* 1562 Kyng Rychard hys hostel gan take, Thar he gan hys fyrste wrak. c1425 WYNTOUN *Chron.* I. 1361, V. wrakys syndry has our tane. . . þis Brettane. *Ibid.* II. 533 The wrakys ten in Egipte rasse. c1440 *Bone Florence* 1977 God had sende on hym a wrake, That in the palsey can he schake. a1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 948 The quene . . . swore to venge hyr of that wrake.

a1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 125 Seand nathing bot wraikis to come to hir pretendit husband.

Hence †'wraikedom, revenge. *Obs. rare*—¹.

c1205 LAY. 76 For þe wrake-dome of Menelaus quene, . . for hire weoren on ane daze hund pousunt deade.

† **wraike**, *sb.*² Chiefly *Sc. Obs.* Also 6-7 *Sc.* wraik (6 wraik), 7 wraick. [var. of WRACK *sb.*²; the form may be due to the influence of the preceding word.]

1. Shipwreck; = WRACK *sb.*² 2.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* i. iii. heading, How that Enee wes witht the tempest schaik, And how Neptune his navy saifit fra wraik. 1530 PALSGR. 290/2 Wrake of a shippe, *naufraige*.

2. Wreck, wreckage; = WRACK *sb.*² 1 b.

1544 *Aberdeen Reg.* (1844) I. 205 Ane schip of fyr, quhilke wes storit as wraik in hir cumin in the havyn. 1581 *Sc. Acts Parlt., Jas. VI* (1814) III. 255/2 The haill wraik and wayth that sal happin to be fund . . . within the boundis of the saidis landis or sie cost thair off. 1610 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 146/1 Cum lie wraik et wair, piscaria de lie yair de Avach, silvis lie scroggis et bussis. 1615 [see WALTH *sb.*²]. 1632 *Extracts Burgh Rec. Lanark* (1893) 327 With furk, fork, . . . vert, vair, wraik, vennyson.

3. Sea-wrack; = WRACK *sb.*² 3.

1547 SALESBURY *Welsh Dict., Brockmor*, Wrake of the sea. 1597, 1657 [see SEA-OAK]. c1690 KENNETT in *Prompt. Parv.* (1865) 533 Reits, sea-weed, of some . . . called reits, of others wrack or wraik.

4. *Sc.* A wrecked edifice, etc. *rare*—¹.

c1625 A. CRAIG in H. BISSET *Rolment* (S.T.S.) I. 23 One man . . . consecratit religiis workis to Gods: ane Other leavs sad wrakis, and Ruynis now.

† **wraike**, *sb.*³ *Obs. rare*. Also 6 *Sc.* wraik. [var. of WRACK *sb.*³; for the long vowel cf. WRAKE *v.*²] Refuse, rubbish; something worthless.

a1350 *Northern Passion* (G.) 1372 þe met of þat opir [tree] ne wol it notht del. Hit was schortir þan þe make. Awei þei slongen hit alle for wrake. a1586 *Maitland Quarto MS.* (S.T.S.) 111 Sum houpe is 3it that my seruice sal speid, Without ye quhilke I wait I am bot wraik. 1604 A. CRAIG *Poet. Ess.* C3, Then shuld we not bin poynted at for wrake, scorne, and disgrace.

† **wraike**, *v.*¹ *Obs.* Also 4 *north.*, 5 *Sc.* wrak, 8 rake; 6 *pa. pple.* ywraike. [Irreg. var. of *wreke* WREAK *v.*, prob. influenced by WRAKE *sb.*¹ Cf. MDu. *wraken*, var. of *wreken*; MLG. *wraken* to torture.

OE. *wraciende* occurs as var. of *wrecende* (= carrying on) in *Oros* i. xi.]

1. *trans.* = WRACK *v.*¹ 1. *Occas. refl.* Also fig. c1205 LAY. 6015 Wrake we us on Bruttes & in to þan londen we sullen faren. a1300 *Cursor M.* 6256 Bot þan i sal me on him wrake. *Ibid.* 6597 Drighnt sal me on yow wrak [*v.r.* wrake], To sauue paa men þat has na sak. c1400 *Pride of Life* 88 in *Non-Cycle Myst. Plays* 90 Deth & Life . . . striuith a sterne strife King of Life to wrake.

2. *intr.* To execute vengeance (*on* a person).

a1300 *Cursor M.* 25458 O mans-slaughter had I na mak, Ne nan sa wild in wa to wrak [*Fairf.* wrake], To riue þe grene and gra. *Ibid.* 27459 Quare euer he mai þat man ouer-tak, He sal wit suerd apon him wrak [*Fairf.* wrake].

3. a. To be wroth or angry. *rare*—¹.

a1300 *E.E. Psalter* vii. 12 (E.), God demer riht, poland, and strang, Nou wrakes [*v.r.* wrathes] be daies alle lang?

b. To wax violent or furious; to rage.

c1330 *King of Tars* 148 Gret werre tho bigon to wrake, For the marriage ne moste be take Of that mayden heende.

4. *trans.* To vent (one's wrath); = WREAK *v.* 3.

1596 SPENSER *F.Q.* IV. viii. 14 Ah wofull man, what . . . wrath of cruell wight on thee ywrake . . . doth thee thus wretched make?

b. To take (vengeance) *on* some one.

1755 *Mem. Capt. Peter Drake* I. xiii. 102 In the End, I sufficiently raked my Vengeance on Mrs. Dickering.

† **wraike**, *v.*² *Sc. Obs.* Also wraik(e). [var. of WRACK *v.*² Cf. WRAKE *sb.*²]

1. *trans.* To bring (a person) to ruin; = WRACK *v.*² 3. Also *refl.*

1571 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxviii. 141 And scho wer wrakit, all the world may wene, Than sould the Duke but dout ressaif ye croun. a1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 71 They thoct no thing better nor to wraike them and that witht extreme weiris. 1599 ALEX. HUME *Poems* (S.T.S.) 41 The Lord the wicked wraikes. 1603 *Philotus* liii, Quhome haue 3e wraikit bot 3our awin. 1621 [see WRACK *v.*² 3, quot. 1567].

b. To subvert or overthrow.

1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xii. 74 Apperandly thir plaigis ar powrit out To wraik this world, and wait 3e quhair about? 1574 *Ibid.* xlii. 447 Quhen the Kirk sa 3e haue wrakit, 3it all the Kirkis sall not be stakit. a1614 J. MELVILL *Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 246 The presuming . . . of the cheiff corrupt members . . . had vitiat and wrakit the estate of the Kirk.

2. To hurt, harm, or injure severely; to damage, wreck, or ruin materially.

1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxiv. 8 Quhair furious Fleming schot his Ordinance, Willing to wraik him wantit na gude will. 1578 *Sc. Acts, Jas. VI* (1814) III. 113/2 Sum of thair housis wyiffis and bairnis being thairin wer alluterlie wraikit and brout. 1596 in *Spalding Club Misc.* (1841) I. 88 His hail geir surmounting to mair nor thrie thowsand lib. . . ar altogidder wrakit and away. 1607 *Extr. Aberd. Reg.* (1848) II. 295 Dumbartane . . . is liklie to be wrakit be the inundatioun of the watter of Clyde. 1692 in *Rec. Convent. Burghs Scot.* (1880) IV. 595 Ane bush . . . named the Generall, was wraked in this harbour.

3. *intr.* = WRACK *v.*² 4. *rare*—¹.

1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xii. 67, I dout not, in our dayis, Hepburnis will wraik for wryrring of the King.

Hence †'wraiking *vbl. sb.* *Obs.*

1569 *Diurn. Occurr.* (Bann. Cl.) 147 The wraiking of James erle of Mortoun and his assistaris.

† **wrake**, *v.*³ *Sc. Obs.* Also 7 wraik. [a. (M)LG. *wrāken* (whence Sw. *wraka*, Da. *vrage*), older Du. *wraaken*, Du. *wraken*, older Flem. *wraecken* (Kilian), to reject, etc. Cf. WRACK *v.*³] *trans.* To examine (goods, etc.) with a view to rejecting or destroying the unsound, faulty, or damaged. Hence *wraking vbl. sb.*

1584 *Burgh Rec. Edinb.* (1882) IV. 343 All the heiring and quhyte fische that sall cum within the said port. . . to be strukin vp, visitet and wraket. **1599** in *Rec. Convent. Burghs Scot.* (1870) II. 60 Anent the office of jedgerie wraking and burneing of all hogheidis and barrellis of herings. **1609** *Ibid.* 284 Nane to be transportit furth of the realm quhill thai [sc. herring-barrels] be packit, wraikit and merkett as followis.

'**wrakeful**, *a. Obs.* [f. WRAKE *sb.*¹ + -FUL. Cf. WRACKFUL *a.*¹, WREAKFUL *a.*]

1. Vengeful; = WRACKFUL *a.*¹
a. 1225 [implied in WRAKEFULLY]. **c. 1480** HENRYSON *Test. Cres.* 329 Ane wraikfull sentence geuin on fair Cresseid.
2. Of persons: Revengeful, vindictive.
a. 1300 E.E. *Psalter* xvii. 51 (E.), Leser min be niht and dai Fra mi faes.wrakeful [v.r. wrathful] are.
3. ? Wicked; sinful.

c. 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* iv. 23 This wrakeful werkes under wede in soule soteleth sone.

4. *Sc.* Destructive.
c. 1625 Bisset's *Rolment* (S.T.S.) I. 22 Evin in this act, thow rearest a Monument That all the spyte of wraikfull tyme out faces.

Hence †'wrakefully *adv.*, vengefully. *Obs.*
a. 1225 *Ancr. R.* 364 Wule God so wrakefuliche awreken him upon sunne? **a. 1225** *Leg. Kath.* 2047 (Royal MS.), Hu wrakefulliche [Cott. MS. wrakeliche] wenestu wule he ant wreððe uppon þe, wrecche!

†'wraker. *Sc. Obs.* [f. WRAKE *v.*³ + -ER¹ or a. (M)LG. *wraker*. Cf. WRACKER².] One who inspects goods and rejects or destroys the faulty.

1584 *Sc. Acts, Jas. VI.* III. (1814) 302 [To] appoint ane discrete man to be visitour, wraker [v.r. wracker], gager, and birnar of the saidis treis. **1584** *Burgh Rec. Edinb.* (1882) IV. 343 Jadgearis, wrakeris, visitouris and markeris of the haill bering and quhyte fische that sall cum within the port. **1598** in *Rec. Convent. Burghs Scot.* (1870) I. 31 Iadger burnear, or wraker of all barrellis and hogheidis of salmond and hering.

† **wrakling**. *Sc. Obs.* Also -lin, -lyne, -lene. [ad. MLG. *wrakelinge*, MDu. *wrakelinc* (whence also Fris. *wrakling* plank-nail, Da. dial. *vrækling*).] A large make of nail, esp. used in shipbuilding. Also *collect.*

1494 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 250 The expensis. . . for the macken of the erne grathe of the barge [include]. . . for wraklynys bocht, xvjd. *Ibid.* 253, vij stane and xij pundis of boltis and wrakling. **1496** *Ibid.* 310 Ane thousand of singil bowssleit, and iiij^m wraklene.

attrib. **1497** *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 334, iiij^c gret wraklin nalis.

† **wrall**, *sb. Obs. rare.* Also wrawl. [f. next.]

1. A winding or twisting; a twist or coil.
1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P.R.* xviii. ix. (Camb. MS.), þe eddir ampibibena. . . wiglæp wip wralles [ed. 1495 wrynkles] corckles & drauztis of þe bodi.

2. A wreathed decoration or ornamentation.
1540 in V. Green *Hist. Worcs.* (1796) II. App. p. iii, Item, vj spones with wrawles. *Ibid.* p. iv, vj spones with wralls.

† **wrall**, *v. Obs.* [Of obscure origin; cf. UNWRALL *v.*] *trans.* To wreathe, wind, or twist; to convolve.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P.R.* v. xii. (Tollem. MS.), These boles ben set in þe stony bon [of the ear]. . . and ben wrallid and wounde as a spyndel of a presse. *Ibid.* xvii. lxxx, Genista] hap. . . ȝelow floures in somer, pikke and wrallid [L. *involutos*]. *Ibid.* xviii. ix. (Bodl. MS.), Serpentes and addres þat may binde and wralle and folde is owne bodie.

fig. **c. 1395** *Plowman's Tale* i. 370 Such successours [of Peter] ben to bold, In winning all their wit they wral.

Hence †'wralling *vbl. sb. Obs.*

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P.R.* xvii. clxxiv. (Bodl. MS.), Smellinge smoke. . . croked wip many bendinges and wrallinges.

wrall, etc.: see WRAWL, etc.

wramp (ræmp), *sb. north. dial.* and †*Sc.* Also 9 ramp. [Of obscure origin. Cf. MLG. *wrampachtich*, Da. *wrampet* warped, twisted.] A twist or sprain. Chiefly *fig.*

1669 FLEMING *Fulfilling of Scripture* (1671) 99 How dreadful it is to give the conscience a wramp which is more easily hurt than healed. **1690** D. WILLIAMSON *Serm. bef. King's Commissioner* 17 Young ones may get a wramp, and a wrong set by bad Masters. **a. 1706** in J. Watson *Coll. Poems* i. 60 It will be better than Swine Seam, For any Wramp or minzie. **1724** M. SHIELDS *J. Renwick in Biogr. Presbyt.* (1827) II. 138 Grieved for the Wounds and Wramps, Stabs and Strokes his Mother Church of Scotland hath received. **1747** RELPH *Misc. Poems* 17 Oft wittingly. . . I fell, Pretendin some unlucky wramp or strean. **1846** BROCKETT *N.C. Words* (ed. 3). **1878-** in Cumb. and Northumb. glossaries (s.v. *Ramp*).

wramp (ræmp), *v. north. dial.* and *Sc.* [Related to prec.] *trans.* To twist or sprain (the ankle, etc.); to rick or wrench.

1808 JAMIESON *s.v. Ibid.*, Cumb., I've wrampit my kute. **1878-** in Cumb. and Northumb. glossaries (s.v. *Ramp*). **1897** LD. E. HAMILTON *Outlaws* ix. 101 He's wrampit his ankle.

wran, *Sc. or dial. var. WREN*¹.

† **wranchevel**. *Obs.* -¹ (Meaning obscure.)

c. 1315 SHOREHAM *Poems* i. 1608 þe fend hyt was þat schente hyt [sc. spousing] al Myd gyle and hys abette, Wrancheuel.

wrancke, obs. erron. f. RANK *a.*

wranckle, obs. erron. f. RANKLE *v.*

wrang, obs. or dial. pa. t. of WRING *v.*: obs., dial., or *Sc. var. WRONG*.

† **wrangel**. *Obs.* [Cf. WRONG *sb.*¹] The rib of a boat. Also *attrib.* in *wrangel-nail*.

1355 *Pipe Roll 32 Edw. III*, m. 33 Computat in. . . [3,900] de Wrangelnaille et .xlviij. doleis vacuis emptis. **1511** *Nottingham Rec.* III. 331 Reparacions of makying and amending the Boote belongyng to the Bridge. . . Peyd. . . for v wrangells, xvij d. Item. . . for ij wrangells, viij d.

wranglan(d)s: see WRANLONS, WRAGLAND, and WRONG *a.* 1.

wrangle ('ræŋg(ə)l), *sb.* [f. next.]

1. An angry dispute or noisy quarrel; an altercation or bitter disputation. Also *fig.*

1547 LATIMER in Foxe *A. & M.* (1563) 1350/2 Or els he had neuer come into this wrangle for his own goods with your brother. **1611** COTGR., *Noise*, brabble, . . . wrangle, squabble. **1673** *Essex Papers* (Camden) I. 92 [This] animated all those persons who were mutinous & discontented. . . to raise wrangles & cavills at what ever I did. **1732** SWIFT *Consid. Two Bills* Wks. 1841 II. 225/1 An infinite number of wrangles and litigious suits in the spiritual courts. **1779** G. KEATE *Sketches fr. Nat.* (ed. 2) II. 72 When discord agitated the assembly of the gods, and their wrangles bad made a bear-garden of Olympus. **1787** JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1859) II. 335 The complicated wrangles of this continent. **1839** T. MITCHELL *Frogs of Aristoph.* p. cvi, Preferring the songs of Colonean nightingales to the wrangles of the stage. **1859** HOLLAND *Gold Foil* xxiv. 279 The disgraceful wrangles of the religious newspapers. **1874** GREEN *Short Hist.* iv. §2 (1882) 171 Each. . . had to be extorted after a long wrangle between the borough and the officers.

attrib. **1602** PARSONS *Warn-word to Sir F. Hastings* 22 The arrival of O.E., his wrangle-word. *Ibid.* 26 This pedling marchant comming later to the faire with his wrangle-word.

transf. and *fig.* **1866** G. A. LAWRENCE *Sans Merci* II. 235 There are days when [the horse]. . . will jump only on compulsion; but he has to deal with sharp spurs and hands of iron; and he has never once got much the best of a wrangle. **1931** BLUNDEN *To Themis* 22 Rumour multiplies the wrangle of wheels and clash of hoofs abroad.

† 2. a. A disputatious answer or argument. b. A controversy. *Obs.*

1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Fam. Love* 21 b, To the fortune of wordes be hath formed a wrangle, the matter he graunteth belike to be true. **1752** LAW *Spirit of Love* i. (1766) 1 Your Objections rather tend to stir up the Powers of Love, than the Wrangle of a rational Debate.

3. Without article: The action of wrangling; angry altercation or argument; noisy dispute or contention.

a. 1797 H. WALPOLE *Mem. Geo. III* (1845) III. iii. 81 From this dialogue the assembly fell to wrangle, and broke up quarrelling. **1824** BYRON *Juan* xv. xci, None can hate So much as I do any kind of wrangle. **1834** LADY GRANVILLE *Lett.* (1894) II. 159 They are just well and ill enough together to turn the stream of wrangle into a new channel. **1877** TALMAGE *Serm.* 255 The Book of Job has been the subject of unbounded theological wrangle.

wrangle ('ræŋg(ə)l), *v.* Also 7-8 rangle. [Cf. LG. *wrangeln*, MHG. *rangelen*, frequentative f. *rangen* (= MLG. and LG. *wrangen*) to struggle, wrestle, make uproar, related to *ringen*: see WRING *v.*]

1. a. *intr.* To dispute angrily; to argue noisily or vehemently; to altercation, contend; to bicker.

1377 [see WRANGLING *vbl. sb.*] **1552** ELYOT, *Altercor*, to contend with wordes, . . . to wrangle. **1582** N.T. (Rhem.) 2 *Tim.* ii. 24 The servant of the Lord must not wrangle. **1582** MULCASTER *Elementarie* i. (1925) 83 The contrarie to right wold be soon espied, howsoever it [sc. the tongue] wrangle. **1633** G. HERBERT *Temple, Humility* iv, Here it is For which ye wrangle. **1653** WALTON *Angler* 211 None do here Use to swear, Oathes do fray Fish away. . . Fishes must not rangle. **1704** PRIOR *Let. to M. Boileau Despreaux* 192 With too much Heat, We sometimes wrangle, when We should debate.

1743 FIELDING *J. Wild* i. viii, First secure what share you can before you wrangle for the rest. **1774** GOLDSM. *Retal.* 55 Now wrangling and grumbling to keep up the ball. **1847** JAMES *Convict* iii, Sometimes they laughed and wrangled good-humouredly enough. **1867** [T. WRIGHT] *Some Habits Working Classes* 124 Even in cases in which no premeditated resolve to wrangle exists, wrangles often occur. **1879** DIXON *Windsor* I. iii. 22 While his Norman lords were wrangling. b. Const. about, against, anent, over, and esp. with (a person).

c. 1395 *Plowman's Tale* ii. 526 Why cleimen they wholly his powier, And wranglen ayenst al his hests? **c. 1400** *Langland's P. Pl.* C. xvii. 80 þaugh couetyce wolde with þe poure wraxle [Camb. MS. wrangle] þei mai nat come togederis. **a. 1553** UDALL *Royster D.* v. ii. (Arb.) 80 Certaine men with you haue wrangled about the promise of mariage by you to them made. **1596** BELL *Surv. Popery* ii. ii. 194 Howsoever you wrangle about your formall succession. **1609** DEKKER *Gull's Horn-bk.* i. 6 Did man. . . come wrangling into the world, about no better matters? **1650** W. D. tr. *Comenius' Gate Lang. Unl.* §795 They wrangle anent. . . that universal and present remedie, whether it bee to bee had or no. **1725** DE FOE *Voy. round World* (1840) 353 Quarrelling and wrangling about their wealth. **1746** LD. HARDWICKE in Harris *Life* (1847) II. 290 Wrangling about trifles, they lose great objects. **1816** SCOTT *Antiq.* xi, They sometimes

wrangle with her for an hour together under my study window. **1859** JEPHSON *Brittany* i. 3 While rival farmers wrangle over rates and road-making. **1904** *Verney Memoirs* II. 135 [They] were still wrangling with his mother and his many ereditors.

fig. **1604** SHAKS. *Oth.* iii. iv. 144 Mens Natures wrangle with inferiour things. **1614** J. COOKE *Greene's Tu Quoque* K 2 b, Let vs no longer wrangle with our Wittes, Or dally with our Fortunes. **1615** G. SANDYS *Trav.* 207 The windes favorable, and the seas composed; but anon they began to wrangle and we to suffer.

transf. **1648** CRASHAW *Delights Muses, Musicks Duell* 43 A nightingale. . . In controverting warbles evenly shar'd, With her sweet selfe shee wrangles.

c. To make a noise suggestive of or comparable to wrangling; to jangle.

1816 L. HUNT *Rimini* i. 178 The golden bits keep wrangling as they go. **1873** LONGF. *M. Angelo* i. ii. ad fin., Low and loud the bells. . . Jangle and wrangle in their airy towers.

2. To argue or debate; to engage in controversy; formerly also, to dispute or discuss publicly as at a university, for or against a thesis, etc. Freq. const. *about, over, upon, with.* Also with clause (quots. *a. 1586, 1586*).

1570 DRANT *Serm.* Cijij b, Hence wrangle the Iesuistes, hence wastle the Sorbonistes. **a. 1586** SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 41 So must they bee content little to moue: sauing wrangling, whether Vertue bee the chiefe, or the onely good. **1586** A. DAY *Eng. Secretorie* ii. (1595) 46, I must wrangle whie you stole awaie Toms bread and butter. **1612** BRINSLEY *Lud. Lit.* xvii. (1627) 208 In wrangling about words, not disputing to the purpose, and to the point. **1638** R. BAKER tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. II) 182 Being resolved. . . to forsake my own [opinion], if any man will wrangle with me for it. **1665** J. BUCK in Peacock *Stai. Cambridge* (1841) App. B. p. lxxii, The Commencers and their Sopbisters are disputing and wrangling there until the clock strikes 5. **1732** POPE *Ess. Man* i. 49 All the question (wrangle e'er so long) Is only this, if God has plac'd him wrong? **1773** LD. MONBODDO *Language* (1774) I. i. viii. 108 About which we see men wrangle and dispute without end. **1807** CRABBE *Par. Reg.* iii. 4 When. . . few [were ready] to write or wrangle for their creed. **1855** MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xiii. III. 365 The factions of the Parliament House, awe-struck by the common danger, forgot to wrangle. **1877** FIELD *Lakes of Killarney to Golden Horn* 75 For this reason. . . the Assembly wrangles over unimportant matters.

transf. **a. 1608** in Davison *Poet. Rhapsody* (1621) 102 Tell wit how much it wrangles In tickle points of nicenesse. **1858** H. BUSHNELL *Serm. for New Life* vii. (1861) 93 The mind that judges God. . . stumbles, complains, wrangles, and finds no issue to its labour.

3. *trans.* † a. With out: To argue out (a case, dispute, etc.); to contest or dispute contentiously to an end or issue. *Obs.*

1609 B. JONSON *Sil. Wom.* iv. vi, If I make 'hem not wrangle out this case to bis no comfort. **1632** BROME *North. Lass* v. ix, While they wrangle out their cause, let vs agree. **1664** POWER *Exp. Philos.* iii. 184 If he could but stiffly wrangle out a vexatious dispute. **1728** [DE FOE] *Street-Robberies* 42 The poor Captain was left to wrangle it out with the People of the House.

b. In pass. To be argued or debated.
c. 1734 NORTH *Ld. Kpr. Guilford* (1742) 165 And so it was wrangled off and on till the Session ended.

c. To utter wranglingly. *rare* -¹.

1760 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* iii. xxxviii, All that had been wrote or wrangled thereupon in the schools and porticoes of the learned.

4. To get (something) out of a person by bargaining; to obtain by wrangling.

1624 CAPT. SMITH *Virginia* iii. 75 We wrangled out of the King ten quarters of Corne for a copper Kettell. **1934** in WEBSTER. **1976** *National Observer* (U.S.) 31 Jan. 1/3 The pall of snowdrifts and ice would have impeded reinforcements' marching even if Arnold had been able to wrangle help from American Brig. Gen. David Wooster, a procrastinator who then occupied Montreal.

5. a. To influence or persuade (a person) by wrangling or contention; to argue out of a possession, etc., or in to some state.

1633 BURROUGHS *Sov. Brit. Seas* (1651) 4 Princes. . . disdaining to bee wrangled out of the ancient rights and regalities. **1658** BRAMHALL *Consecr. Bps.* viii. 182 To wrangle the Church of England out of a good possession. **a. 1659** BP. BROWNING *Serm.* (1674) I. xii. 165 Will a man. . . be wrangled out of his Evidences? **1675** BROOKS *Gold. Key* Wks. 1867 V. 525 All the devils in hell shall never wrangle a believer out of his heavenly inheritance. **1705** HEARNE *Collect.* (O.H.S.) I. 70 The Latter would have wrangled 'em out of it. **1847** MRS. GORE *Castles in Air* viii, Moral philosophy [has] wrangled the world in and out of its senses.

b. To force or drive out of a place by wrangling.

1693 C. MATHER *Wond. Inv. World* 26 To wrangle tbe Devil out of the Country, will be truly a new Experiment. † c. *refl.* To harass (oneself) by altercation. *Obs.*

1649 BP. SANDERSON in D'Oyly *Life Sancroft* II. 442 When we have wrangled ourselves as long as our wits and strengths will serve us. **1721** AMHERST *Terræ Fil.* No. 8 (1726) 37 In this. . . mischievous course have these our reverend old mothers continued for several centuries, wrangling themselves about trifles.

6. With away, out. To consume, spend, or pass away (time) in wrangling. *rare.*

1794 MRS. A. M. BENNETT *Ellen* IV. 230 They. . . may at last possibly agree to wrangle out the evening of their lives together. **1905** R. GARNETT *W. Shakespeare* 53 Do I weakly Wrangle away my precious moments?

7. *Western U.S.* To take charge of (horses); to herd.

1899 F. REMINGTON *Sundown Leflare* i i De herd, which was more horses. . . dan ten men kin wrangle. **1903** A. ADAMS

Log Cowboy xiii. 197 Forrest detailed Rod Wheat to wrangle the horses, for we intended to take Honey-man with us. **1952** H. INNES *Campbell's Kingdom* i. ii. 38 He wrangles a bunch of horses and acts as packer for the visitors in the summer.

wrangled ('ræŋg(ə)ld), *ppl. a.* [f. WRANGLE *v.* + -ED¹.] Disputed, contested.

1876 MISS BROUGHTON *Joan* II. ix, The children returning . . to ask loudly for arbitration on some wrangled point.

'wrangled, var. RANGLLED *ppl. a.*¹

wrangler ('ræŋglə(r)). [f. as prec. + -ER¹.]

1. a. One who wrangles or quarrels; an angry or noisy disputer or arguer.

c1515 *Cocke Lorell's B.* 4 Here is gyls Fogeler of ayebery, . . With wallys the wrangler. **c1520** *Dial. Creatures Mor.* v. Bijb, Many one . . ageynst Lawe and Reason somtyme wyll styue and . . be full of questyons, wherfore they be takyn for wranglers and euyl people. **1579** *LYLY Euphues* (Arb.) 106 Lucilla . . will either sbut mee out for a Wrangler, or east mee off for a Wiredrawer. **1619** in Foster *Eng. Factories Ind.* (1906) I. 68 Giles James, a swaggerer and wrangler, much discommended. **1654** *WHITLOCK Zootomia* 159 Convinced gainesayers and wranglers they are, in stead of convincers. **1741** *WATTS Improv. Mind* I. xiii. §20 Rather like well-bred gentlemen in polite conversation, than like noisy and contentious wranglers. **1790** *COWPER Iliad* i. 360 But this wrangler here—Nought will suffice him but the highest place. **1809** *IRVING Knickerb.* iv. i, His name . . was a corruption of Kyver, that is to say, a *wrangler* or *scolder*. **a1901** *STUBES Germany in Early Mid. Ages* (1908) 107 Henry the Wrangler conspired with the Czechs of Bohemia. *fig. and transf.* **1578** H. WOTTON *Courtlie Controv.* 129 Where so the wofull Louer is, euen there also is he [sc. Cupid], In bedde the wrangler will not misse his pillowbeare to be. **1606** *SHAKS. Tr. & Cr.* II. ii. 75 The Seas and Windes (old Wranglers) tooke a Truce. **1633** G. HERBERT *Temple, Family* ii, What doth this noise of thoughts within my heart? . . Lord, . . Turn out these wranglers, which defile thy seat. *Prov.* **1616** *DRAKE Bibl. Scholast.* 244 A wrangler neuer wanteth words. **1671** T. HUNT *Abeced. Scholast.* 18 Many Lawyers, many Wranglers.

b. One who engages in argument, debate, or controversy; a debater, disputant, or controversialist.

1561 T. N[ORTON] *Calvin's Inst.* iv. xviii. 145 b, Nowe least any wrangler shoulde stire vs vp strife by reason of the names of sacrifice and sacrificing prest. **1597** *MORLEY Introd. Mus.* 90, I set downe the proportions . . to content wranglers, who . . will . . take occasion to . . detract from that which they cannot disproue. **c1643** *LD. HERBERT Autobiog.* (1824) 42 Teaching them the subtilities of Logic, which as it is usually practised, enables them for little more than to be excellent wranglers. **1690** *LOCKE Hum. Und.* iv. viii. §11 These general Maxims . . are of great Use in Disputes, to stop the Mouths of Wranglers. **1741** *WARBURTON Div. Legat.* II. ii. Append. 23 There is indeed a Time when a serious Writer would not trouble himself to confute or set a Wrangler right. **1774** *REID Aristotle's Logic* vi. §1 (1788) 127 A man who has studied logic all his life may be, after all, only a petulant wrangler. **1842** I. TAYLOR *Enthus.* iv. 79 The argumentative resources of the modern . . wrangler [earlier edd. stoe]. **1881** *PAXTON HOOD Christmas Evans* 162 He was not a wrangler, not disposed to maintain debates as to his rights.

c. The name for each of the candidates who have been placed in the first class in the mathematical tripos at Cambridge University. See *TRIPUS* 2, and cf. *SENIOR a.* 3.

1750 *Friendly Adv. Old Tory to Vice-C. Cambr.* (1751) 26 The Wranglers . . have usually expected, that all the young Ladies of their Acquaintance . . should wish them Joy of their Honours. **1791** in C. Wordsworth *Schol. Acad.* (1877) 323, I did above three times as much as the Sen[i]or Wrangler last year. **1812** *Examiner* 7 Sept. 571/2 These two drivellers are represented as having been fellow-wranglers at College! **1831**—[see *SENIOR a.* 3]. **1859** H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* xii, He took up his books once more, and came forth third wrangler. **1874** C. WORDSWORTH *Soc. Life Eng. Univ.* 232 The set for Com. Priora, Feb. 9, 1748–9, . . being the earliest which beats on its back a list of the Wranglers and Senior Optimes.

fig. c1820 *BYRON Diary* Wks. (1846) 630/2 Lady B. would have made an excellent wrangler at Cambridge.

2. *Western U.S.* One who is in charge of a string of horses or ponies on a stock-farm; a herder.

1888 *ROOSEVELT in Cent. Mag.* April 851/2 There are two herders, always known as 'horse-wranglers'—one for the day and one for the night. **1901** *Munsey's Mag.* XXV. 405/2 One of them would . . overpower the 'wrangler' in the darkness, and turn the horses loose.

3. Also *Wrangler*. A proprietary name for jeans. *Freq. pl. orig. U.S.*

1947 *Official Gaz.* (U.S. Patent Office) 16 Dec. 395/2 Blue Bell, Inc., Greensboro, N.C. . . *Wrangler*. For Western style dungarees and pants. Claims use since Jan. 19, 1929. **1963** *Trade Marks Jnl.* 16 Oct. 1478/1 *Wrangler*. . . Articles of protective clothing . . and articles of sports clothing. . . Kilgour & Walker Limited. . . Aberdeen; manufacturers. **1966** *Ibid.* 7 Sept. 1313/2 *Wrangler*. . . Articles of protective clothing. . . trousers, jeans [etc.]. Blue Bell, Inc., Greensboro, State of North Carolina. **1972** *New Society* 13 Apr. 68/2, I suggested . . that . . the girls . . might like to travel in jeans and change into their best gear when we stopped for lunch. My idea . . produced . . a unanimous decision. . . that they were going in their wranglers anyway. **1978** D. BLOODWORTH *Crosstalk* xxvii. 211 A tall blond youth in wranglers and ringlets. **1981** C. WATSON *Bishop in Back Seat* xxi. 131 He was in his regulation costume: Wrangler jeans, soiled Stetson.

'wranglership. [f. prec. 1 c + -SHIP.] The position or rank of a wrangler of Cambridge University.

1791 in Wordsworth *Schol. Acad.* (1877) 323 I'm perfectly satisfied that the Senior Wranglership is Peacock's due. **1843** R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* xxx. 397 Obtaining the senior moderatorship [in Dublin university] (analogous to the wranglership of the English universities). **1882** *Standard* 30 Jan. 3 To witness the last conferment of degrees under the old system of Wranglership. **1883** MISS M. BETHAM-EDWARDS *Disarmed* xxx, Those young ladies as yet outside the intellectual region of Wranglerships and the Classical Tripos.

attrib. **1872** *Daily News* 25 Mar., Men break down under a wranglership competition.

wranglesome ('ræŋg(ə)lsəm), *a. colloq. or dial.* [f. WRANGLE *sb.* + -SOME.] Given to wrangling; quarrelsome; contentious, peevish.

1817 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* App. 215/1 Why do you flurry yourself so much: the child is only a little wranglesome and cross. **1847** *HALLIWELL*. **1869**— in dialect use (Yks., Lanc., and Chesh.).

'wrangling, *vbl. sb.* [f. WRANGLE *v.* + -ING¹.]

1. The action of the verb; noisy quarrelling.

1377 *LANGL. P. Pl. B.* iv. 34 There as wratthe and wranglyng is pere wyne pei siluer. **1551** *GARDNER Explic. Christ's Presence* 14 As for such other wranglyng . . shall after be spoken of by further occasion. **1598** *FLORIO, Contesa*, . . a strife, a debate or wrangling. **1653** W. RAMESEY *Astrol. Restored* 137 Mars . . causes discord and wrangling. **1722** *RAMSAY Three Bonnets* iv. 137 The king of brutes . . wad . . rage wi' bootless wrangling in his cage. **1813** *SCOTT Rokeby* III. xii, Though wild debate And wrangling rend our infant state. **1882** *SIR C. DILKE in Gwynn Life* (1917) I. 426 Much unseemly wrangling would be prevented for many years.

fig. **1609** *ARMIN Maids of More-cl.* C 2 b, 'Twill become ye, well, when wrangling wrestles with such violent iniurie.

b. Controversial argument or debate; contentious disputation.

1612 *BRINSLEY Lud. Lit.* 219 There falleth out amongst them oft-times . . much wrangling about the questions. **1641** *MILTON Reformation* 25 What wrangling the Bishops and Monks had about the reading, or not reading of Origen. **1679** *PENN Addr. Prot.* II. ii. (1692) 71 Philosophy . . became little else than an Art of Rangling upon a multitude of Idle Questions. **1720** S. PAYNE *Bp. R. Cumberland's Sanchon.* p. xxvii, His Averseness to any thing like Wrangling made him . . leave his Book to shift for it self. **1768–74** *TUCKER Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 334 All that wrangling and witticism wherewith the prophecies . . have been pelted by freethinkers. **1827** *WHATELEY Logic* 26 A system of such rules . . must, instead of deserving to be called the art of wrangling, be [etc.]. **1879** *FROUDE Caesar* xxv. 436 A refuge from platform oratory and senatorial wrangling.

attrib. **c1700** *POMFRET Strephon's Love* 10 Those dull, pedantic rules, They had collected from the wrangling schools. **1708** *ROWE Royal Convert* I. i, Unpractic'd in Disputes, and wrangling Schools.

2. A wrangle; a noisy quarrel.

1580 *LYLY Euphues* (Arb.) 472 They that can-not suffer the wranglyngs of young marryed women. **1605** *SYLVESTER Du Barlas* II. iii. *Vocation* 1152 He heard amid the street A wrangling, jangling, and a murmur rude. **1668** *GLANVILL Plus Ultra* Pref., Consider me as a Person that contemn's all Wranglings. **1727** *SWIFT To Stella* 7 Not in Wranglings to engage With such a stupid vicious Age. **1788** V. KNOX *Winter Even.* lxx. (1790) II. 530 The wranglings of Cambridge, and the disputations at Oxford, are apt to give young men a controversial turn, which [etc.]. **1821** *BYRON Sardanap.* II. i, Truce with these wranglings, and but hear me! **1890** *TALMACE Fr. Manger to Throne* 562 Unseemly wranglings concerning who should be greatest in the kingdom of Christ.

'wrangling, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING².]

1. That wrangles, quarrels, or disputes; engaged or embroiled in, given or addicted to, noisy altercation or dispute; contentious.

1487 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 161 Hys attorney ys a wranglyng felow, he wold not odyr mony but nemyng grotes. **a1529** *SKELTON Agst. Garnesche* II. 40 Thow manytycore, ye marmoset, . . Wranglynge, waywyde, wyties, wraw, and no-thing meke. **1581** A. HALL *Iliad* v. 100 Mars is a wrangling craking wretche. **1633** P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* VII. xxxiv, The third Hæreticus, a wrangling carle. **1656** *EARL MONM. tr. Boccalini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. xxxi. (1674) 36 It might serve . . for a Lesson to wrangling Courtiers. **1718** *POPE Let. to Caryl* 18 Jan., The unrighteous labours of wrangling statesmen, and the quarrelsome ones of uncharitable divines. **1759** *DILWORTH Pope* 39 After the death of poor wrangling Dennis. **1820** *WORDSW. 'Dogmatic Teachers'* 2 Ye wrangling Schoolmen, of the scarlet hood! **1825** *SCOTT Betrothed* Concl., For wrangling curs will fight over a banquet as fiercely as over a bare bone. **1846** *MRS. A. MARSH Father Darcy* II. v. 112 The wrangling nobles of Philistia.

transf. and fig. **1583** *MELBANCKE Philotomus* ddiv, A wrangling tongue is the best language thou hast. **a1721** *SHEFFIELD (Dk. Buckhm.) Wks.* (1753) I. 15 Thy happy stroke can into softness bring Reason, that rough and wrangling thing. **1898** *MEREDITH Odes Fr. Hist., Revolution* xiii, And he, the bright day's husband, . . Beheld a wrangling heart, as 'twere her soul On eddies of wild waters cast. **1899** *SWINBURNE Rosamund* I. 18 Let no wrangling breath distune the peace That shines . . about us.

b. Noisy; clamorous; also *transf.*, jangling.

1608 *MACHIN Dumb Knt.* III. E 3 b, When the sad nurse to still the wrangling babe, Shall sing the careful story of my death. **1845** *LONGF. Belfry of Bruges, Carillon* II, When the wrangling bells had ended. **1856** *MRS. GORE Life's Lessons* II. 227 Her remote Dale, with its wrangling beck. **1891** *Athenæum* 15 Aug. 214/1 So has it fared with the marshlands . . with their wrangling sea-fowl.

2. Of the nature of wrangling; contentious, noisy, clamorous.

1551 *GARDNER Explic. Christ's Presence* 43 Wherof this auctor may not thinke nowe as vpon a wrangling argument, to satisfie a coniecture diuised. **1614** *RALEIGH Hist. World* III. vi. §6 To finde him busie in wrangling altercation. **1641** *MILTON Animadv.* 57 Because hee may not as a Judge sit out the wrangling noyse of litigious Courts. **1663** *BP. PATRICK Parab. Pilgr.* xix, This wrangling piece of Learning. **1722** *HORROBIN in Keble Life Bp. Wilson* (1863) 507 The wrangling, jangling disputes about the Divinity of our Saviour. **1753** *MISS COLLIER Art Torment.* (1811) 216 Some wrangling dispute or other that shall sour the whole company.

3. Marked or characterized by noisy or contentious disputation or altercation.

1576 *WHETSTONE Rock of Regard* I. 97 A wrangling hate, where once was passing loue. **1594** *SHAKS. Rich. III.* II. iv. 55 Accursed, and vnquiet wrangling dayes. **1603** *HOLLAND Plutarch's Mor.* 251 Our wrangling humour and desire to be cavilling about questions disputable. **1628** *MAY Virg. Georg.* II. 61 He sees no wrangling courts, no lawes undone By sword. **1656** *COWLEY Pindar. Odes, Destinie* III, Thou neither great at Court, . . Nor at th' Exchange shalt be, nor at the wrangling Bar. **1715** *POPE Iliad* II. 307 Peace, factious monster, born to vex the state, With wrangling talents form'd for foul debate. **1851** *MAYNE REID Scalp Hunt.* xxxiv. 262 It is hard to behold the worshipped men of our wrangling days become degraded under modern light. **1883** *WHITELAW Sophocles, Antigone* III At call of Polyneices, stirred By bitter heat of wrangling claims, Against our land they gathered.

Hence **'wranglingly** *adv.*

1611 *COTGR., Tempestativement*, . . contentiously, seditiously, wranglingly. **1698** *NORRIS Pract. Disc.* IV. 65 We should . . discourse of it not, . . Wranglingly and Contentiously, . . but Cordially and Spiritually.

† **wrang-nail**. *Obs. rare.* [var. of ME. *angnail* (OE. *angnægel*), perh. by confusion with *warnail* (OE. *vernægel*) WARNEL.] A corn on the foot or hand; = AGNAIL 1.

? **c1530** *Pol., Rel., & L. Poems* (1903) 64 For to Dystroy a Wrang Nayle, othe[r]wyse callyd a Corne. **1556** *WITHALS Dict.* Xj, An agnayle or wrangnayle [**1562** wragnayle], clausus.

wrang-nail, -rope: see *WRONG sb.*¹

wrangous(lie, -uis(lie, -us(lie, etc., obs. varr. *WRONGOUS*(LY).

wrangwis(e, -ly, -ness, obs. ff. *WRONGOUS, -LY, -NESS*.

wrackle, obs. erron. f. *RANKLE v.*

† **wranlons**. *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [Of obscure origin. Cf. *WRAGLAND* 1.] *pl.* Unthriving trees that will never become timber.

1432–3 *MARTIN in Year-Book* II *Hen. VI* (1567) 1 b, Querkes qe sont appellees wranlons quel ne voet estre meresme, mes est suable bois, il nest auge wast. [Hence in *Kitchin Crt. Leet* (1580) *wranglans*, in translation (1651) *wrang-lands*, whence in Blount (1656), Skinner (1671), Coles (1677), etc.; also Bailey (1721) *wranglings*.]

wrap (ræp), *sb.* Also 5 *wrappe*. [f. the vb. Not usual before the 19th cent.]

1. a. A wrapper or covering. Also *fig.*

c1460 *J. RUSSELL Bk. Nurture* 212 Thow must square & proporcioun þy bred . . and so shalwot may by wrappe [v. r. wrapper] for þy master manerly. **1589** *HAKLUYT Voy.* 216 In Goa they vse not to abate any tare of any goods, except of sacks or wraps. **1873** *M. ARNOLD Lit. & Dogma* (1876) 100 That want of power to penetrate through wraps and appearances to the essence of things.

b. A cover, blanket, rug, or the like for laying over or drawing about the person when travelling, reposing, etc. (Cf. 2 b.)

1861 *Daily Chron.* 12 Sept., We have heard . . Livingstone, the African explorer, and many other travellers, say that at night no wrap could equal the beard. **1863** *DICEY Federal St.* I. 54, I had . . two large carpet-bags, a bundle of heavy wraps, and an umbrella, to transport with me. **1869** *TOZER Highl. Turkey* II. 15 A few wraps in case of a night bivouac.

c. Material used for wrapping, esp. very thin plastic film.

1930 *Food Industries* Jan. 13/1 [Cellophane] was first introduced into this country from France as a wrap for candy. *Ibid.*, The transparent type of wrap proved decidedly popular. **1958** *Chain Store Age* Apr. 168/3 The Aluminum Company of America is now packaging Alcoa wrap in a 'flat pak'. **1976** 'O. JACKS' *Assassination Day* v. 81 He bundled the notes up into foil wrap, put two in . . his refrigerator. **1977** *Time* 14 Mar. 39/3 The thin sail (ordinary plastic kitchen wrap is five times thicker) would be coated with an aluminum reflecting layer on the side that will face the sun. **1979** *Sci. Amer.* Jan. 131/1 You could also build up layers of stretched plastic food wrap. **1980** *Outdoor Life* (U.S.) (Northeast ed.) Oct. 126/2 Cover an exposed drain valve with plastic wrap to prevent road slush from accumulating.

2. a. A loose garment or article of feminine dress used or designed to envelop or fold about the person; a shawl, scarf, or the like.

1827 *Lady's Mag.* June 342/1 The Circassian wrap is much worn for half-dress; . . it well sets off the fine bust of a well-made female. **1840** *Ladies' Cabinet* Mar. 201 This is not however the case with the cloaks or shawls adopted as wraps for evening parties. **1885** *MABEL COLLINS Prettiest Woman* x, Arthur . . had the delight of putting Zadwidga's wrap around her shoulders. **1894** *MRS. DYAN Man's Keeping* (1899) 222 Her face . . was close to his shoulder; a light wrap of lace framed it.

b. An additional outer garment used or intended to be worn as a defence against wind or

weather when driving, travelling, etc. *Usu. pl.* (Cf. 1 b.)

a 1817 JANE AUSTEN *Watsons* (1879) 353 Tom Musgrave in the wrap of a traveller. 1855 A. MANNING *O. Chelsea Bun-* h. xiv. 229, I was taking off my wraps, and making ready to go up stairs. 1861 J. H. BENNET *Winter Medit.* (1875) i. x. 303 A bitter cold north-west wind... had been blowing, which obliged us to use all our wraps. 1898 J. B. WOLLOCOMBE *Morn till Eve* i. 2 After unrolling and unbuttoning his outer wraps, the doctor... ascended the stairs.

3. *a. spec.* A single convolution, twist, or winding of a thread in fastening an object.

1879 OGDEN in J. H. Keene *Fishing Tackle* (1886) 172 Secure it with one wrap and two hitches before taking the tweezers off, cut off silk [etc.].

b. techn. (See *quots.*)

1888 C. P. BROWN *Cattan Manuf.* 28 A complete revolution of the latter [worm-wheel] means 3564 yards—technically called a wrap. *Ibid.*, If a warp contains 4 wraps and 7 teeth, it is 14,445 yards long.

4. *pl.* In *fig.* phrases referring to concealment or disuse, as *under* or *in wraps*, concealed; in abeyance; to take or pull the wraps off, to disclose; to bring back into use.

1939 *Sur* (Baltimore) 18 Dec. 3/6 The fact that the belligerents have kept their air power under wraps almost from the beginning reveals more than meets the eye. 1950 'S. RANSOME' *Deadly Miss Ashley* xv. 178 You grabbed his notebooks and tried... to keep them under wraps. 1956 A. H. COMPTON *Atomic Quest* 49 Some members of the committee were insistent that the entire uranium project should be put in wraps for the duration. 1964 *New Society* 15 Feb. 21/2 The Government took the wraps off its plan for regenerating the Northeast. 1965 MRS. L. B. JOHNSON *White House Diary* 20 Jan. (1970) 226 Next Hubert [Humphrey] stepped forward—for once his exuberance was under wraps. 1973 *Times* 4 Oct. 4/3 Only now was the truth about battered wives being revealed 'because the wraps have just been pulled off a taboo subject'. 1978 *Dumfries Courier* 20 Oct. 11/1 Show visitors will see numerous others which are still under wraps until nearer the Show. 1984 *Times* 14 May 7/2 This week will see the wraps coming off another popular project, where Britain wants to be seen leading the way.

5. *Cinemat. and Television.* The end of a session of filming or recording.

1974 M. AYRTON *Midas Consequence* 1. 63 Other cars are heard starting up out of shot and the lights on the pergola go off so I assume it's a wrap and the crew is listening to the director saying something consequential and busy about tomorrow's call. 1980 J. KRANTZ *Princess Daisy* xii. 191 'Right, it's a wrap...' The large lights, cameras, sound equipment and other tools of the trade were quickly stowed away. 1983 *Listener* 23 June 18/2 The director says: 'Cut! Thank you, Ben, that's a wrap—there is no more filming.'

6. *Special Combs.* (see also WRAP-): *wrap party Cinemat.*, a party held to celebrate the completion of filming; *wrap reel, wheel*, a large revolving framework on which yarn can be wound and measured.

1978 J. KRANTZ *Scruples* xiii. 388 Work on *Mirrors* finished on schedule, on Friday, August 23rd, and the wrap party was scheduled for the next night. 1978 *Morning Bulletin* (Rockhampton, Queensland) 3 Apr. 6/4 At the wrap party... Syl played host in a three-piece white suit. 1889 G. E. DAVIS *Sizing & Mildew in Cattan Gaads* ii. 20 In order to test the fineness of yarn a wrap reel is used, measuring 54 inches in circumference, which is so arranged that by a single turn of a handle two complete revolutions are given to the reel itself. 1928 W. L. BALLS *Studies of Quality in Cotton* xii. 235 Thelea was wound upon wrap-reels of varying diameter. 1956 S. E. ELLACOTT *Spinning & Weaving* 36/2 Arkwright's wrap reel for measuring hanks of yarn (840 yards) was a six-armed revolving star with a winch handle. 1953 *Wrap wheel* [see RICE *sb.* 4]. 1969 E. H. PINTO *Treen* 318 After yarn had been spun on a spindle or spinning wheel, it was transferred on to a wrap or clock wheel, a rotary instrument which skinned and measured it. The original wrap wheel is always said to have been invented by Richard Arkwright.

wrap, obs. *erron. f. RAP sb.*¹

wrap (ræp), *v.* Also 4-7 *wrappe* (6 *arch.* *wrappen*), 6 *warpe*, 6, 9 *dial.* *warp*, 7-8 *rap*, 9 *dial.* *wrop*. [Of obscure origin. Cf. the earlier BEWRAP *v.* (also BELAP *v.*, LAP *v.*² with the variant WLAPE, and WAP *v.*³), and NFris. *wrappe* to press into, stop up, Da. *dial.* *vrappe* to stuff.

The dialect var. *wrop* had formerly greater currency. 'This word is often pronounced *rop*, rhyming with *top*, even by speakers much above the vulgar' (Walker, 1791). 'The same pronunciation is not uncommon in some parts of the United States' (Worcester, 1858).]

1. *a.* To cover, enwrap, or swathe (a person or part of the body) by enfolding in a cloth or the like; in later use esp., to envelop or enshroud with a garment; to attire, garb, clothe in an enfolding garment. *Occas. refl.* Also with *adv.*, as *about, around, round*.

c 1320 R. BRUNNE *Medit.* 975 Sone, y was wunt þe swetly to wrappe, Now swape y þe dede. 13.. *Coer de L.* 3094 Hys chaumberlayn hym wrappyd warm. He lay and slepte. *c* 1400 *Pilgr.* Sowle (Caxton, 1483) iv. xx. 64 When thou bytoke hym me to clothe and wrappe. *c* 1450 *Myrr. our Ladye* ii. 245 The vyrgyn wrappynge and gatherynge togyther the handes and fete of her lytel sonne... in a bande. 1560 *BIBLE* (Genev.) *Gen.* xxxviii. 14 She... couered hir with a vaille, and wrapped her selfe. — *Isaiah* xxviii. 20 For the bed is strict... and the couering narrowe that one can not wrap him self. 1629 *MILTON Hymn Nativ.* i. The Heav'n-born-child, All meanly wrapt in the rude manger lies. 1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* ii. 477 Some term Beasts thus wrapped about the Body [*ante* 'with a Towel'] charged with a pale.

1791 COWPER *Iliad* iii. 495 Helen... in her lucid veil close wrapt around, Silent retired. 1805 SCOTT *Last Minstrel* vi. xxvi. A shape with amice wrapp'd around. 1859 DICKENS *T. Two Cities* i. ii. All three were wrapped to the cheek-bones and over the ears. 1909 J. L. ALLEN *Bride of Mistletoe* vi. 159 Coarsely wrapped and carrying some bundle... [she] opened her front door.

b. Const. in (†on) or with. Also refl.

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 745 He gript his mantel; as a weizh woful he wrapped him þer-inne. *Ibid.* 2609 þei... wist wel þat þei went wrapped in þe skinnis. *c* 1375 *Pol., Rel., & L. Poems* (1903) 255/10 Iesu, swete, beo noth wrop þou ich nabbe clout ne cloþ... þe on to folde ne to wrappe. 1382 WYCLIF *Isaiah* xxxvii. 1 King Ezechie... kutte his clothis, and wrappid is with a sac. *c* 1410 LOVE *Bonavent. Mirr.* vi. (1908) 47 Sche... wrapped hym in the keuerchiefes of hir heued. 1430-40 *LYDG. Bochas* i. 6169 Pouert eek liggith the eolde wyntis nyht Wrappid in strauh, withoute compleynynge. 1526 TINDALE *Matt.* xxvii. 59 Joseph toke the body, and wrapped it in a clene lynnynne clooth. 1547 *Bk. Marchauntes* cvb. Thus coiffed and wrapped with their read hattes of this... capper, they go from town to town. 1590 SPENSER *F.Q.* ii. i. 52 Weake wretch I wrapt my selfe in Palmers weed. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* iii. 171 Married women... rap their heads and mouthes with a narrow long piece of linnen. *a* 1680 BUTLER *Charac., Carrupt Judge* (1908) 68 He wraps himself warm in Furs. 1755 J. SHEBBEARE *Matrimony* (1766) I. 186 With his Legs wrapt close in a Pair of good Hay-Boots. 1784 COWPER *Task* vi. 675 Some noble lord Shall... rap himself in Hamlet's inky cloak. 1825 SCOTT *Talism.* xxii, Sir Kenneth... then wrapped him in the haik, or Arab cloak. 1831 — *Ct. Rab.* xxviii, Let me wrap my head round with my mantle... to dispel this dizziness. 1871 CARLYLE in *Mrs. Carlyle's Lett.* III. 247 We had to wrap our invalid in quite a heap of rugs and shawls.

transf. and fig. 1382 WYCLIF *Job* xxxviii. 9 When I shuld setten the cloude his clothing, and with dercesne it... I wrappide aboute. *c* 1391 CHAUCER *Astral. Prol.* He wrappeth him in his frend, þat condescendith to the rihtful preiers of his frend. *c* 1412 HOCCELEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 1036 So lewdly in my termes I me wrappe. *c* 1550 in *Gamm. Gurtan* 11, I am so wrapt, and throwly lapt Of ioly good ale. 1575 VAUTROLIER *Luther on Ep. Gal.* 136 As he [sc. Christ] is wrapped in our flesh and in our bloud. *c* 1640 WALLER *Apol. Sleep* 28 Where Phoebus never shrouds His golden beams, nor wraps his face in clouds. 1675 T. BROOKS *Gald. Key* 359 Faith wraps it self in the righteousness of Christ. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* viii. 953 Sad Nilus... spreads his Mantle o'er the winding Coast; In which he wraps his Queen. 1753 RICHARDSON *Grandison* II. xli. 313, I was resolved, if I were applied to, to wrap myself close about in a general denial. 1759 MASON *Caractacus* 75 Silent, as night, that wrapt us in her veil, We pac'd up yonder hill. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* v. iii, In words, like weeds, I'll wrap me o'er. 1866 *Reader* 2 June 533 Francis II, wrapping the imperial phantom on its fall as decently as he could. 1880 MEREDITH *Tragic Cam.* (1881) 143 She had to wrap her shivering spirit in a blind reliance... on him.

c. Freq. with *up*; esp. in later use *passive*, = attired in warmer or protective clothing. Also, *refl.*

c 1645 HOWELL *Lett.* ii. lxi. (1892) 495 If you continue to wrap up our young acquaintance... in such warm choice swaddings, it will quickly grow up to maturity. 1652 BENLOWES *Theoph.* ii. xviii, Now serves our guiltiness as winding sheet, To wrap up lepers; cover meet. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Vay. Ambass.* 10 In the night time they are forc'd to wrap themselves up in certain linnen cloaths. 1756 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* I. 196, I know a gentleman... [whose] servant wraps him up in a sheet dipped in cold water. 1774 *GOLDSM. Nat. Hist.* (1776) I. 148 The former thinks the cold so severe, that he wraps himself up in all the garments he can procure. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ha.* lvii, Are you well wrapped up?... It's a desperate sharp night for a young lady to be out in. 1862 KINGSTON *Three Midshipmen* x, Their blankets... quickly dried, and the poor fellows were then wrapped up in them again. 1885 'MRS. ALEXANDER' *Valerie's Fate* v, He had to be wrapped up against the cold and further fortified by a cup of black coffee.

d. absol. for refl.

1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xl, She never wrapped up enough. If a man don't wrap up... he has nothing to fall back upon. 1872 MARCH. DUFFERIN *Canad. Jnl.* (1891) 52 The governess... won't wrap up... nothing but a frost-bite will make her careful. 1885 'MRS. ALEXANDER' *Valerie's Fate* ii, I advise you to take that delightful shawl of yours to wrap up in on your return.

2. *a.* To cover or envelop (an object) by winding or folding something round or about it; to surround *with* or enwrap *in* a covering, wrapper, or the like, esp. so as to protect from injury, damage, loss, etc. Also *transf.* (Cf. LAP *v.*² 3.)

1382 WYCLIF *I Sam.* xxi. 9 The swerd... is wrappid with a pal after the preestis coope. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Sqr.'s T.* 628 Canacee... softly in plastres gan hire [sc. an injured falcon] wrappe. 1398 TREvisa *Barth. De P.R.* x. iv. (Bodl. MS.), Brijte bemes of stronge fuyre hercuyep þat þei bep wrapped. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* 121 b, Hercules... brak the bondes in whiche he was wrapped and swaded in. 1484 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 149, iij Angelettes wrappyd yn paper. 1508 *Bk. Keruyng in Babees Bk.* 269 Yf ye wyll wrappe your soueraynes brede statly. *c* 1550 H. LLOYD *Treas. Health* Kij, Dyp wool in the decoction..., and let thy syde be wrapped often therewith. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 110/2 The cod, or coate wherewith any kind of pulse is wrapped or couered. 1602 2nd Pt. *Return Parnass.* i. iii. 352 He... furnishes the Chaundlers with wast papers to wrap candles in. 1647 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Kings Welcome to Hampton Court* 3 Thou hast not wrap'd thy Talent in a Clout. 1676 COTTON *Angler* ii. vii. 57 A great Hackle, the body black, and wrapped with a red feather. 1762 COWPER *To Miss Macartney* 33 Some Alpine mountain, wrapt in snow, Thus braves the whirling blast. 1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* i. 1, Subtle poniards, wrapt beneath the cloke. *c* 1890 Bp. SELWYN in F. D. How *Life* (1899) 260 We can't be kept in bandboxes and wrapped in cotton wool all our lives. 1893

HODGES *Elem. Photogr.* (1907) 49 Wrap the tube in a piece of clean white paper.

fig. 1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* iii. 122 For all his witte in his wede ys wrappid ffor sothe. 1545 BALE *Myst. Iniq.* 67 For that shall they be wrapped in the cheanes of longe darkenesse. *a* 1586 SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 27 Because thys second sorte is wrapped within the folde of the proposed subject.

refl. 1526 TINDALE *Gal.* v. 1 Stond fast therfore..., and wrappe nott youre selves agayne in the yoke of bondage.

b. Freq. with *adv.*, as *about, down, round, together*, and *esp. up*.

1382 WYCLIF *Isaiah* xiv. 19 Thou forsothe art cast aferr fro thi sepulcre...; and aboute wrappid with hem that ben slayn with swerd. 1577 HARRISON *England* iii. i. (1878) ii. 11 When the Bore is... cut out, ech peece is wrapped vp... with bulrushes, ozier peeles, packethreed, or such like. 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* iv. ii. 27 The old man... sends the weapons wrapt about with lines, That wound... to the quick. 1662 EVELYN *Chalcogr.* ii. (1906) 13 When he has quite don with his plates... see that he... cleanse them very perfectly, wrapping them up in papers. 1676 COTTON *Angler* ii. viii. 78 A white Hackle, the body of white Mo-hair, and wrapped about with a white Hackle Feather. 1726 SWIFT *Adv. Grubst. Writers* 8 Your still-born Poems shall revive, And scorn to wrap up Spice. 1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory* I. 35 When you see them, wrap them up in tow. 1827 FARADAY *Chem. Manip.* xxiii. 566 Waxed paper is very useful... for wrapping up deliquescent or changeable substances. 1846 TRENCH *Mirac.* xxix. (1862) 418 Every limb was wrapped round with these stripes by itself.

ellipt. 1879 OGDEN in J. H. Keene *Fishing Tackle* (1886) 170 Take a length of gut... test it... lay it underneath the hook, and wrap down with the waxed silk close and even.

† *c.* *Prov.* (See *quot.*, and cf. LAP *v.*² 3 d.)

Obs.—⁰

1677 MÎÈGE *Fr. Dict.* 11, Wrapped up in his mothers smock, *aimé des femmes*.

3. *a.* To envelop or enclose *in* a surrounding medium, as flames, water, etc. Freq. in *passive*. (Cf. 6 d.) Also *refl.*

1382 WYCLIF *Exod.* xiv. 27 The Egipcians fleynge... the Lord wrapte hem with ynnre in the myddel floodes. — *Judith* xiv. 4 The dukis of hem... finden hym heded, in his blod wrappid. *c* 1510 *Gesta Rom.* (W. de Worde) Av, In his blode the bone was wrapped. 1590 SPENSER *F.Q.* iii. xi. 55 Sad shadowes gan the world to hyde From mortal vew, and wrap in darkenesse dreare. *c* 1659 *Roxb. Ball.* (1888) VI. 326 A Man... Whose Father is wrapped in mould. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* ix. 158 Of these the vigilance I dread, and to elude, thus wrapt in mist Of midnight vapor glide obscure. 1715 POPE *Iliad* iv. 54 Fulfil thy stern desire, Burst all her gates, and wrap her walls in fire! 1761 GRAY *Odin* 93 Till wrap'd in flames, in ruin hurl'd, Sinks the fabric of the world. 1785 COWPER *Task* iv. 124 Oh Winter... Thy forehead wrapt in clouds, A leafless branch thy sceptre. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* i, The baron who wrapped the castle of his competitor in flames. 1908 G. CORMACK *Egypt in Asia* ii. 18 The loftier summits are wrapped in clouds.

fig. and in fig. context. 1382 WYCLIF *Job* xxxvii. 19 Wee forsothe ben wrappid in derenessis. 1508 FISHER 7 *Pem.* Ps. vi. Wks. (1876) 18 The fylthy voluptuousnes of the body, wherin the synner waltereth and wrappeth hymselfe lyke as a sowe waloweth... in the puddell. 1604 SHAKS. *Ham.* v. ii. 128 (Q. 2), Why doe we wrap the gentleman in our more rawer breath? 1896 MRS. CAFFYN *Quaker Grandmother* 176 Wrapping sin in clouds won't alter its character, my girl. *ellipt.* 1382 WYCLIF *Judg.* v. 27 And he was wrappid bifore the feet of hir.

† *b.* To involve, environ, or entangle (a person, etc.) in something that impedes movement or restricts liberty; to catch in this way. Chiefly in *passive*. Also with *in. Obs.*

c 1412 HOCCELEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 1686 Be war of pencombraunce Of þe feend, which... him castip þe wrappe in & wrye. 1560 A. L. tr. *Calvin's Faure Serm. Songe Ezech.* (1574) D vij, When we shall mourne so that we should be so wrapped in and tangled. 1562 A. BROOKE *Romeus & Jul.* 220 How surely are the wares wrapt by those that lye in wayte? 1569 BLAGUE *Sch. Conceytes* 268 The Hart... being entred into a thick wood, his horns were wrapped faste in the boughes. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* 158/1 Absalom... beeing wrapped by the haire to a tree.

fig. 1591 GREENE 2nd Pt. *Conny Catching* (1592) B4 These moathes of the Common-wealth, apply their wits to wrappe in wealthy farmers with strange and vncoth conceits. 1594 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 636 O how are they wrapt in with infamies, That from their own misdeeds askaunce their eyes?

c. To clasp, embrace. Also in *fig. context.* (Cf. LAP *v.*² 3 c.)

1588 SHAKS. *Titus A.* iv. ii. 58 What dost thou wrap and fumble in thine armes? *a* 1600 DELONEY *Gentle Craft* ii. vii, To perswade our great Grandmother the earth to wrap his cold body in her warme bosome. 1716 GAY *Trivia* i. 192 Others you'll see... Wrapt in th'embraces of a kersey coat. 1797 COLERIDGE *Melancholy* 3 Her folded arms wrapping her tatter'd pall.

4. *a.* To envelop, entangle, or implicate (a person, etc.) *in (†into)*, to surround, encompass, or beset *with*, some (esp. prejudicial) condition of things, as sin, trouble, sorrow, etc. (Cf. ENWRAP *v.* 2 c.) Also *occas. with up*.

Freq. in *passive*, not always distinguishable from 6. 1380 *Lay Falsk Catech.* (Lamb. MS.) 81 We be... wrappid with many myscheuys. *a* 1400 *Relig. Lyrics 14th C.* (1924) 234 Mannes soule was wrapped in wo. *c* 1412 HOCCELEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 959 My goost is wrapped in an heuy drede. *c* 1450 tr. *De Imitatione* iii. v. 68 A synner pou art & encombred and wrapped in many passions. 1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. vii. 16 Suche as than bare moost rule in the towne, were so wrapped with treason, y^t [etc.]. 1526 TINDALE *Rom.* xi. 32 God hath wrapped all nacions in vnbeleue. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 37 b, The deuil is disposed to drap vs in sondry calamities at one time. 1624 CARLETON *Thankf. Remembr.* ix. 95 They... stirred vp new troubles... by wrapping them in new garboiles against the King. *c* 1659 *Roxb. Ball.* (1886) VI. 326 It is a Man wrapped

in woe. **a 1839** PRAED *Poems* (1864) II. 40, I see him brood, Wrapt in his mental solitude. **1859** TENNYSON *Guinevere* 147 So the stately Queen abode . . . Wrapt in her grief. **1899** G. WYNDHAM in *Westm. Gaz.* 15 Dec. 5/3 We were living from day to day wrapp'd in anxiety.

refl. **c 1386** CHAUCER *Pars. T.* ¶ 586 Alle this manere of folk . . . wrappen hem in hir synnes. **c 1430** in *Pol., Rel., & L. Poems* (1903) 217 þou wrappist þee wip vanytees. **a 1548** HALL *Chron., Hen. VII.* 49 He brought him selfe into a streyghter custody . . . and wrapp'd him selfe into tortures and punyshmentes. **1565** COOPER *Thesaurus s.v. Induco*, To wrappe or intangle him selfe in captious questions. **1675** DRYDEN *Aurengz.* I. (1676) 13 Though in one Fate I wrap my self and you.

transf. **c 1611** CHAPMAN *Iliad* III. 418 Unhappy Deity! Why lov'st thou still in these deceits to wrap my fantasy?

b. To involve, enfold, or enwrap (a person, etc.) in some soothing or tranquillizing state or influence. Freq. in *passive*, = sunk in slumber, rest, etc. Also with *up*.

1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* III. 291 Ho so þus leued his lyff to the ende, Euere wrappid in welle, . . . Myzte seie [etc.]. **1414** BRAMPTON *Penit. Ps.* (Percy Soc.) 10 When I am wrappyd in wele. **1590** SPENSER *F.Q.* I. i. 41 Carelesse Quiet lyes, Wrapt in eternall silence farre from enemies. **1598** Mucedorus IV. i. 42 Musicke speake loudly now, the season's apt, For former dolours are in pleasure wrapt. **1717** POPE *Eloisa* 302 Enter, each mild, each amicable guest; Receive, and wrap me in eternal rest! **1730** THOMSON *Autumn* 1202 He . . . hears, At distance safe, the human tempest roar, Wrapt close in conscious peace. **1798** COLERIDGE *Fears in Solitude* 25 His senses gradually wrapt In a half sleep, he dreams of better worlds. **1841** DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* ix, The house is wrapped in slumbers. **1857** HOLLAND *Bay Path* xxx. 371 Wrapped in ineffable repose, lay her child. **1872** Punch 2 March 95/2 They were soon wrapped in sound and healthy slumbers.

fig. **1791** COLERIDGE *Happiness* 79 Where far from splendour, far from riot, In silence wrapt sleeps careless Quiet.

5. a. To involve or enfold (a subject or matter) so as to obscure or disguise the true or full nature of it; to conceal or hide by enveloping in a mass of different character. Cf. 3.

1382 WYCLIF *Job* xxxviii. 2 Who is this, wrappende in sentencis with wordis vnwise? **c 1386** CHAUCER *Sqr.'s T.* 507 Al were he ful of treson and falsnesse It was so wrapped vnder humble cheere And vnder hewe of trouthe. **c 1400** Destr. *Troy* 1426 A word þat is wrappid, and in wrath holdyn. **1565** COOPER *Thesaurus, Implicata res controversiis*, a matter wrapped and incombred with many controversies. **a 1586** SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. iv, He dispatched privat letters to al those principall Lords . . . wrapping their hopes with such cunning, as they rather [etc.]. **a 1639** T. CAREW *Ingrateful Beauty Threatened* iii, Wise poets, that wrapt Truth in tales. **1712-4** POPE *Rape Lock* II. 104 Some dire disaster . . . ; But what, or where, the fates have wrapt in night. **1759** MASON *Caractacus* 41 Heard'st thou the awful invocation, Youth, Wrapt in those holy harpings? **a 1770** JORTIN *Serm.* (1771) I. v. 85 The religion of the Egyptians . . . was all mystery, wrapt in obscurity. **1825** SCOTT *Talism.* xviii, I have no objection that leeches should wrap their words in mist. **1833** MRS. BROWNING *Prometh. Bound* Poems (1850) I. 184 Zeus requires Thy declaration. . . Do not wrap thy speech . . . but speak clearly! **1865** R. W. DALE *Jew. Temp.* iii. (1877) 35 The image wrapped in the word . . . is a very impressive and instructive one. **1869** FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* (1875) III. xii. 253, I found the question wrapped in darkness.

b. Freq. with *up*. Also *transf.*

1560 BIBLE (Genev.) *Micah* vii. 3 Therefore the great man he speaketh out the corruption of his soule: so they wrap it vp. **1601** DANIEL *To Egerton* vi, If it be wisdom . . . Which so imbroyles the state of truth with brawles, And wrappes it vp in strange confusednesse. **1619** VISCT. DONCASTER *Let. in Eng. & Germ.* (Camden) 119 Sum more bitternes then her Highnes had wrapped up in sweet termes. **1669** STILLINGFL. *Serm.* 125 Here is no wrapping up Religion in strange figures and mysterious non-sense, which the Egyptians were so much given to. **1712** ADDISON *Spect.* No. 271 ¶ 4 If it had been proper for them [sc. ladies] to hear, . . . the Author would not have wrapp'd it up in Greek. **1779** Mirror No. 22, It was some error in education which had wrapt up Cleone's character in so much obscurity. **1830** GEN. P. THOMPSON *Exerc.* (1842) I. 228 Their best . . . plan for seizing on the savings of other men's industry in the funds, is only spoliation wrapped up. **1897** P. WARUNG *Tales Old Régime* 14 Without troubling to wrap up his resolve in smooth-sounding words.

6. a. Of qualities, etc.: To invest, environ, or beset (a person, etc.); to encompass in some condition. Also with *up*. (Cf. 4.)

1382 WYCLIF *Job* xviii. 11 Al aboute feris shul gasten hym, and withinne wrappen his feet. **1549** COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. I Cor.* 18 Albeit matrimonie be a holy thyng, yet it wrappeth a man . . . in worldlye care. **1560** DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 358b, The self same cause . . . wyl shortly after wrap vp them also in great distresse. **1591** SPENSER *M. Hubberd* 602 Ay me . . . whom euill hap Vnworthy in such wretchednes doth wrap. **1608** SHAKS. *Lea* IV. iii. 54 (Q. 1) Some deere cause Will in concealement wrap me vp awhile. **1650** EARL MONM. tr. *Senault's Man bec. Guilty* 388 Humane Justice . . . wraps up the innocent and the guilty in the same punishment. **1665** SIR R. HOWARD & DRYDEN *Ind. Queen* II. i, Guilty rage, Which . . . wrapt all things in one cruel fate. **1734** WATTS *Reliq. Juv.* 122 Thy power, thy fulness of blessing, wrap my soul up in astonishment and devout silence. **1737** POPE *Hor., Ep.* II. i. 401 O'er the land and deep, Peace stole her wing, and wrapt the world in sleep. **1784** COWPER *Task* III. 146 They disentangle from the puzzled skein, In which obscurity has wrapp'd them, The threads of . . . shrewd design. **1817** SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* VI. xxx, Oblivion wrapped Our spirits.

transf. **a 1542** WYAT in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 73 Some pleasant how thy way may wrappe, and thee defend, and couer.

b. Of mould, etc.: To contain, cover (the dead). Of

1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* IV. v, By the fresh turned up mould that wraps my sonne. **1745** COLLINS *Ode on Death of Col. Ross* vii, Every sod, which wraps the dead. **1792** BURNS *Highland Mary* iii, Cauld's the clay, That wraps my Highland Mary! **1794** — *Sonn. Death R. Riddel* ii, The sod that wraps my friend.

c. To form a wrap or covering for (a person or thing); to cover, clothe. Also with *round*.

c 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* x. 122 About him a mandilion, . . . A garment that 'gainst cold in nights, did soldiers use to wrap. **1732** POPE *Ep. to Cobham* 249 Let a charming Chintz, and Brussels lace Wrap my cold limbs, and shade my lifeless face. **1805** SCOTT *Last Minstrel* II. xix, A palmer's amice wrapp'd him round. **1871** Amer. *Encycl. Printing* 504/1 Wrappers . . . differ from them [sc. labels] in having larger margins, so that they can inclose or wrap up a bottle of patent medicine, a bar of soap, etc.

fig. **1842** TENNYSON *Vis. Sin* IV. v, Wine is good for shrivell'd lips, When a blanket wraps the day.

d. Of flames, etc.: To spread or extend around, about, or over (something); to surround, encompass. (Cf. 3.) Also with advs., as *round, up*.

1656 COWLEY *Dauides* II. 534 [A] sudden cloud . . . all his fame benights, and all his store, Wrapping him round, and now he's seen no more. **1699** GARTH *Dispens.* II. 13 Night had wrap'd in Shades the Mountain Heads. **1716** GAY *Trivia* III. 385 Flames sudden wrap the walls. **1774** GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) I. 357 Our own muddy atmosphere, that wraps us round in obscurity. **1810** SCOTT *Lady of Lake* III. xxiv, Not faster . . . speeds the midnight blaze, . . . Wrapping thy cliffs in purple glow. **1860** TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xviii. 133 A thick fog . . . wrapped the mountain quip closely. **1899** CROCKETT *Kit Kennedy* 337 The snow had wrapped all the city in a white clinging mystery.

fig. **1794** MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* xv, How beautiful was the tranquility that wrapped the scene. **1813** SHELLEY *Q. Mab* IV. 4 The speaking quietude That wraps this moveless scene.

e. To veil or conceal from a person, etc.

1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* Ded. xiv, While clouds are passing by Which wrap them [sc. stars] from the foundering seaman's sight. **1867** MORRIS *Jason* II. 105 A cloud . . . That wrapt the Goddess from him.

7. to wrap up (fig.) a. trans. To put an end to, bring to completion; also, to defeat; to *wrap it up*, to stop doing something. *slang.*

1926 T. E. LAWRENCE *Seven Pillars* (1935) III. xxxvi. 213 The British were wrapping up the Arabs on all sides—at Aden, at Gaza, at Bagdad. **1937** Amer. *Legion Monthly* May 9/1 Only one shot to finish before midnight and we'd wrap it up in thirteen days. **1949** A. MILLER *Death of Salesman* II. 128 To hell with those fault it is. . . Let's just wrap it up, heh? **1957** J. OSBORNE *Look back in Anger* I. 25 Wrap it up, will you? Stop ringing those bells! **1957** P. FRANK *Seven Days to Never* II. vii. 80, I guess that wraps it up for tonight. . . I don't know of anything else we can do. **1960** G. SANDERS *Mem. Professional Cad* II. iii. 127 'Wrap it up,' he would shout. **1976** *Billings* (Montana) *Gaz.* 2 July 1-c/1 Nastase wrapped up Ramirez, 6-2, 9-7, 6-3. **1984** *Times* 14 Mar. 2/1 (heading) Labour MPs advised to wrap up their muck raking.

b. intr. To stop talking. Freq. as imp. *slang.*

1943 HUNT & PRINGLE *Service Slang* 70 *Wrap up*, stop talking. Or, get ready to go home. **1945** C. H. WARD-JACKSON *Piece of Cake* (ed. 2) 63 *Wrap up!*, Be quiet! Pipe down! **1958** F. NORMAN *Bang to Rights* I. 49 Why dont you rap up. **1959** 'O. MILLS' *Stairway to Murder* iv. 44 'Geoff, wrap up about the jigsaws,' Charles entreated him.

8. intr. Cinemat. and Television. To finish filming or recording.

1976 in B. Armstrong *Gloss. TV Terms* 94. **1983** *London Mag.* Aug./Sept. 30 We wrapped on schedule, three days later. . . The movie got terrible reviews.

II. 9. To wind or fold up or together, as a pliant or flexible object; to roll or gather up in successive layers; = LAP v. 2. Occas. with *up* or *together*. Also *transf.*

c 1350 Will. *Palerne* 2421 As bluipe pe bere schinnes from here bodi pei hent, & wistly wrapped hem to-gadere. **14** . . . *Trevisa's Barth. De P.R.* XVIII. ix. (B.M. Add. MS.) fol. 266 b/2 Alle kynde of serpentes and addres þat by kynde may wrappe and folde his owne body. **1535** COVERDALE 2 *Kings* ii. 8 Then toke Elias his cloke, and wrapped it together. **1555** WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* I. ii. Bv, For saie thei, the begynner of thinges visible, wrapped vp bothe heauen and earth . . . together in one paterne. **1590** SPENSER *F.Q.* I. i. 18 The vgly monster . . . wrapping vp her wretched sterne around, Lept fierce vpon her shield. **1600** in *Lyly's Wks.* (1902) I. 416 Can there be miste or darkenes where you are, whose beames wrappes up cloudes as whirlewindes dust? **1608** *Great Frost* in Arber *Garner* I. 87 The western barges might now wrap up their smoky sails; for . . . their voyage was spoiled. **1653** W. RAMESEY *Astrol. Restored* 304 Thunder is . . . an exhalation . . . thickened and wrapped into a cloud. **1662** R. VENABLES *Experienc'd Angler* v. 61 Bream loveth red worms, especially those that [lie] . . . wrapped up in a knot or round Clue.

fig. **c 1374** CHAUCER *Boeth.* II. met. vii. (1868) 60 Deep wrappeth to gidre þe heye heuedes and þe lowe. **1382** WYCLIF *Lam.* I. 14 Wakide the 30c of my wickenesses in his hond, wrappid thei ben togidere, and leid on my necke. **1399** LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* I. 82 Wayte well my wordis, and wrappe hem togedir. **a 1568** ASCHAM *Scholem.* I. (Arb.) 27 In these fewe lines, I haue wrapped vp the most tedious part of Grammer. **1576** FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 337 For end, he wisheth malicious . . . persons a better spirit. . . and so wrappeth vp all with commendations. **1618** DONNE *Serm.* (1661) III. 173 In all this, thou dost but wrap up a snow-ball upon a coal of fire. **1625** BACON *Ess., Cunning* (Arb.) 441 Some haue in readinesse so many Tales and Stories, as there is Nothing, they would insinuate, but they can wrap it into a Tale.

refl. **1565** COOPER *Thesaurus s.v. Torqueo*, The scalie serpent wrappeth himselfe in rounde rundels.

10. a. To fold, wind, or roll (a covering, garment, or the like) about a person, etc.; to

arrange or dispose (a wrapping, etc.) so as to cover or envelop; = LAP v. 2. 1. Usu. with advs. or preps., esp. *about, around, round*.

Somewhat rare before c 1700.

c 1400 Rom. *Rose* 7368 A large couerechief of threde She wrapped all aboute hir heede. **1565** COOPER *Thesaurus s.v. Intortus*, His garment wrapped rounde about his lefte arme. **1590** SPENSER *F.Q.* I. ix. 36 His garment . . . The which his naked sides he wrapt abouts. **1636** SIR H. BLOUNT *Voy.* 19 The Levantines used to wrap white linnen about their heads. **1773** GRAVES *Spiritual Quixote* XI. iv, Unto the old Incumbent at his gate. . . His banyan, with silver clasp, wrapt round His shrinking paunch. **1796** COLERIDGE *'Away, those cloudy looks'* vi, There shiv'ring sad, . . . Round his tir'd limbs to wrap the purple vest. **1813** SCOTT *Rokeby* I. i, The warder . . . wraps his shaggy mantle round. **1860** TYNDALL *Glac.* I. vi. 45 Wrapping my plaid around me, I wandered up towards Charmoz. **1882** *Blackw. Mag.* March 309/1 Dick . . . wrapped the heavy coat around her and held her in his arms.

fig. and transf. **a 1814** WORDSW. *Excurs.* IV. 83 Thou, who didst wrap the cloud of infancy around us. **1820** SHELLEY *Hymn Merc.* xxxvi, The God wraps a purple atmosphere Around his shoulders. **1865** BARING-GOULD *Werewolves* x. 160 Among many . . . people, the body is regarded as a mere garment wrapped around the soul.

b. To twist or coil (a pliable or flexible substance, etc.) *round, about, or on something*; to twine. Also *refl.*

1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* §127 Cutte the settes . . . the more halue a-sonder; . . . and wrappe and wynde theym together. **1535** COVERDALE *Jonah* ii. 5 The depe laye aboute me, and the wedes were wrapte aboute myr heade. **1560** BIBLE *Job* viii. 17 The rotes thereof are wrapped about the fountaine. **1578** LYTE *Dodoens* 390 Woodbine hath many small branches, whereby it windeth and wrappeth itself about trees. **1728** CHAMBERS *Cycl.* (1738) s.v. *Turban*, About this [cap] is wrapped a long piece of fine thin linnen or cotton. **1753-4** RICHARDSON *Grandison* II. xxxix. 310 Again she wrapped her arms about me. **1815** J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 119 The Screw of Archimedes . . . is formed by wrapping a tube round a cylinder. **1852** MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xxviii, 'What did you wrap this round the book for?' said St. Clare, holding up the crape. **1854** R. BLAKEY *Angling* 60 A strong peg . . . on which . . . the line can be wrapped.

11. a. intr. (for *refl.*). To twine, encircle, or wreath *round* or about something as or in the manner of a wrapper or cover; = LAP v. 2. 1 b. Also *transf.*

1608 *Relat. Trav. W. Bush* Djb, The Vyne so loueth the Elme by nature that it wrappeth more kindly about it. **1680** MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* xiii. 223 A Flat Leather Thong, which wrapping close and tight about the Rowler . . . commands it the easier. **1681** T. FLATMAN *Heraclitus Ridens* No. 35 (1713) I. 228 Well; and Conscience, . . . when you have once boild it tender in the Pipkin of Reformation, it will wrap about your Finger like a Glove. **1838** *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jnl.* I. 272/1 [With] the formation of the extreme end of the breakwater . . . it would be next to impossible for a sea to warp or wrap around it. **1855** Orr's *Circ. Sci., Inorg. Nat.* 55 Gneiss is often found wrapping round the central granitic axis of mountain chains.

b. Of a garment: To extend *over* the figure, etc., so as to cover it, or form a lap. (Cf. LAP v. 2 8.)

1798 *Lady's Monthly Mus.* Nov. I. 397 The gown, wrapping over one side, . . . drawn up a little with white cord. **1827** *Lady's Mag.* Nov. 621/1 Mantles . . . well wadded, capacious, and wrapping well over the form, are much in request.

12. to wrap oneself (a)round (an item of food or drink): to eat or drink it. Occas. with *non-refl.* direct obj., to make (another) eat or drink. *colloq.*

1880 J. C. HARRIS *Uncle Remus* xv. 219 She cut me off er slishe . . . an' I sot down on de steps an' wrop myse'f roun' de whole bleissid chunk. **1927** D. L. SAYERS *Unnatural Death* xii. 136 Lord Peter, having wrapped himself affectionately round an abnormal quantity of bacon and eggs, strolled out. **1946** K. TENNANT *Lost Haven* (1947) xviii. 305, I bet they had to wrap Alec round a few beers before they got him up to the mark. **1959** G. ENDORE *Detour through Devon* 3 Wrap yourself around a cup of coffee. **1962** A. LEJEUNE *Duel in Shadows* ii. 25, I shall be glad to get indoors and wrap myself round a large drink.

13. To crash (a vehicle) into a stationary object. Const. around, round. slang.

1950 J. D. MACDONALD *Brass Cupcake* (1955) x. 105, I took a car off the street and wrapped it around an oak tree. **1958** 'J. BROGAN' *Cummings Report* xvii. 183 Steady, or you'll have us both wrapped round a telegraph pole if you're not careful. **1969** L. G. ARTHUR in A. E. Wilkerson *Rights of Children* (1973) 132 If a child wraps a stolen car around a telephone pole, is \$2,000.00 restitution . . . an excessive fine? **1984** *Times* 19 May 8/1 The men towing the boat from one training venue to another wrapped it round a traffic light.

wrap, erron. f. (freq. c 1600-1680) of RAP v. 3

1561 NORTON & SACKV. *Gorboduc* IV. ii. 239 His noble limmes in such proportion cast As would have wrapt a sillie womans thought. **1592** *No-body & Some-b.* in Simpson *Sch. Shaks.* (1878) 317 Your kingle presence wraps my soule to heaven. **1615** DAY *Festivals* 295 Al they can wrap and rend is little enough for Wife and Children. **1622** PEACHAM *Compl. Gent.* xvi. 206 Whatsoeuer he could wrap or wring. **1641** SYMONDS *Serm. bef. Ho. Comm. C.* The command must needs come with much evidence when it wrappeth the will into such an height. **1653** HOLCROFT *Procopius, Vandal Wars* II. 55 Artabanus . . . [fell] into a deep musing, . . . seeming wrapt with the greatness of the action. **1679** C. NESSE *Antid. agst. Popery* 193 The Apostle . . . [was] wrap'd up to the third heaven. **1854** MISS BAKER *Northampton. Gloss.* II. 408 He wraps and wrings all he can. **1922** E. PHILLIPOTT *Grey Room* iv. 106 He was wrapt from this life to the next.

wrap-, 1. the verb stem in comb. with a sb. or adv., in sense of 'that which wraps or is wrapped about'; as **wrap reel** (see quot.), **wrap tobacco** (also *ellipt.*), = **WRAPPER sb.** 4. Also **WRAP-RASCAL**.

1888 Pall Mall G. 2 Oct. 11/1 What is known as 'wrap' tobacco is the special kind which it is sought to cultivate. *Ibid.*, 'Wrap' fetches from 2s. to 3s. 6d. [per lb.]. **1890 NASMITH Mod. Cotton Spinning Machinery** xiv. 291 In order to ascertain the counts of yarn, a machine known as a 'wrap reel' is employed. This consists of a small fly or swift.

2. spec. Designating a garment to be wrapped about the body for warmth, or a wraparound garment (see **WRAPAROUND a.** 1 a).

1845 Ainsworth's Mag. VII. 499 A wrap-cloak, or sheet, being thrown penance-ways over the head and shoulders. **1887 Manch. Exhib. Catal.** 64 Warm Wrap Shawls. **1928 Daily Mail** 9 Aug. 3/4 A. . . bathing dress worn under a well cut wrap-coat of crêpe de Chine. **1976 New Yorker** 8 Mar. 1 (Advt.), Reversible wrap skirt lined in red and white. **1980 L. BIRNBACH et al. Official Preppy Handbk.** 131/1 Diane von Furstenburg wrap dress. **1982 BARR & YORK Official Sloane Ranger Handbk.** 30/1 A belted wool wrap coat; this can be tweedy, checked or camel. **1984 Chicago Sun-Times** 25 Jan. 33/1 By 1976 she had designed the wrap dress, which became an overnight success.

wraparound ('ræpəraʊnd), *sb.* and *a.* Also **wrap-around**, **wrapround**, **wrap-round**. [*f.* **WRAP v.** + **AROUND adv.** and *prep.*]

A. sb. 1. A garment that is thrown or wrapped round the body; a wraparound garment (see sense **B.** 1 a below).

1877 BROWNING Agamemnon 120 A wrap-round [Gr. ἀμφίβλητρον] with no outlet. . . I fence about him—the rich woe of the garment. **1959 Vogue Pattern Bk.** June–July 25 A wrap-around that buttons into place. . . The sort of comfort-with-elegance dress. **1973 Harrods Christmas Catal.** 27 Casual wrap-around in figured polyester.

2. A fastening or label that wraps round a bottle.

1953 Federal Suppl. CXVIII. 182/2 The Guardian Seal, made of aluminum, attached to the bottle and requiring no secondary closure; . . . wrap-arounds, a laminated foil attached to a paper with an adhesive on the inside giving the same decorative features as a cellulose band; [etc.]. **1966 J. Aiken Trouble with Product X** iii. 43, I switched over to copy for a counter-card, window bill and wrap-around for Bom, the Meat'n Milk Drink. **1970 K. PLATT Pushbutton Butterfly** (1971) xiii. 149 He . . . came back with a bottle. He unfurled the plastic wraparound and broke it open.

3. Computers. The procedure or facility by which a linear sequence of memory locations or positions on a screen is treated cyclically, so that when the last has been counted or occupied the first is returned to automatically (on the line below in the case of screen displays). Also *transf.*

1965 E. A. WEISS Programming the IBM 1620 ii. 21 This wrap-around feature does not apply to addresses used in commands. **1970 O. DOPPING Computers & Data Processing** vi. 101 Even when the index register has no room for sign, subtraction can be done by utilizing the cyclic character of the addressing system ('wraparound'). **1979 J. E. ROWLEY Mechanised In-House Information Syst.** 1. 76 Display can be improved by . . . contextual wrap-around, or bringing the end of the title to the left hand side of a keyword and then marking the end of the title with a display device.

B. adj. 1. *Fashion.* **a.** Of a garment: that is open all the way down, wraps around the body, and is fastened usu. by tying. Also, of a belt.

1937 M. LEVIN Old Bunch 13 She dressed spiffy with wrap-around sport skirts. **1938 'E. QUEEN' Four of Hearts** (1939) x. 143 A silver lamé hostess-gown with a trailing wrap-around skirt over Turkish trousers. **1945** [see **POP-OVER** 2]. **1951 Rep. Patent, Design & Trade Mark Cases** (U.S.) LXVIII. 256 Mr. Percival contended that the Applicants' skirt was a novel 'wrap round' skirt. **1957 U.S. Supreme Court Rep.** 2nd Ser. I. 880/1, 1 Purple wool imitation lambskin wrap around short coat. **1972 J. GODEY Three Worlds** ii. 19 The man was wearing a wraparound coat of some synthetic fur. **1976 Scotsman** 20 Nov. (Weekend Suppl.) 4/3 (Advt.), Right: The unlined, hooded style of winter coat with wrap-around belt. **1976 T. STOPPARD Dirty Linen** 9 Maddie is . . . wearing . . . a wrap-round skirt, quite short. **1982 BARR & YORK Official Sloane Ranger Handbk.** 42/1 There are a few basic lines that continue practically for ever, like the pre-war wraparound double-breasted and the basic City three-piece.

b. Of sunglasses, goggles, etc.: that have lenses which extend around the side of the head.

1966 T. PYNCHON Crying of Lot 49 iii. 57 There stood Di Presso, in a skin-diving suit and wraparound shades. **1968 A. WILLIAMS Brotherhood** 1. iv. 50 He was no longer wearing his wrap-around dark glasses. **1976 National Observer** (U.S.) 27 Mar. 15 (Advt.), Space-age wraparound sunglasses make all others obsolete!

2. a. That extends round a corner, esp. of parts of a building or parts of a motor vehicle.

1954 Archit. Rev. CXVI. 92/1 The wrap-round cornices are used to tie it back to the side façade. **1957 H. ROTH Shadow of Lady** xiv. 103 A sturdy little car . . . even if without American flourishes, like 'wrap-around' wind-screens. **1959 Motor** 21 Jan. 95/1 Protective wrap-around bumpers. **1966 Daily Tel.** 9 Nov. 12/5 Recent years' flirtation with vestigial fins, wrap-around rear windows and other gimmicks. **1972** [see *wet-suited* adj. s.v. **WET a.** 21]. **1972 Village Voice** (N.Y.) 1 June 87/4 (Advt.), Huge liv rm & wraparound sundeck. **1976 Glasgow Herald** 26 Nov. 19/5 Visibility from the reclining driver's seat is outstanding, with a very wide and deep 'wrap around' rear window. **1980 J. S. STROUSE Alice James** (1981) xiii. 221 The buildings . . . are . . . ornamented with scrollwork, wraparound porches, archways.

b. Of a cinema screen: having a greater sideways extent than normal; subtending a large angle at the audience. Similarly of a view. Also *fig.*

1950 Pop. Sci. Monthly Aug. 75 You're not just looking at this 'wrap-around' movie show—you're in it! **1968 Globe & Mail** (Toronto) 17 Feb. 25 (Advt.), Look down on the world from Stop. 33. The room with the wrap-around view. **1968 Tel.** (Brisbane) 18 Sept. 34/5 His book is entitled *The Invasion*. . . Hay contents himself with a brief, wraparound picture of the real invasion. **1972 J. McCLURE Caterpillar Cop** i. 7 The Big Romance soon to be filmed in fabulous Technicolor on a wrap-round screen.

3. gen. That surrounds or encompasses.

1957 Times Survey Brit. Aviation Sept. 2/4 The missile has a two-stage propulsion system, consisting of wrap-around boosts and a sustainer rocket motor. **1964 M. McLuhan Understanding Media** (1967) xxviii. 300 Stereo sound . . . is 'all-around' or 'wrap-around' sound. **1967 Maclean's Mag.** Sept. 14 The Volkswagen is the German's ideal image of space: it's a wraparound, secure little thing. **1970 Gloss. Aeronaut. & Astronaut. Terms** (B.S.I.) vi. 3 *Wrap-round boost*, a number of boost rocket motor assemblies located externally along the sides of the missile body. **1978 Detroit Free Press** 5 Mar. A10 (Advt.), Wrap-around heat encircles the sides of the crotchware. **1979 Jmnl. R. Soc. Arts** CXXVII. 655/2 The 21 new rooms and the lower gallery . . . provide a more than adequate wrap-around environment for the works on display. **1981 Times** 27 Jan. 1/8 His wrap-around bodyguards leapt from the flower-beds . . ., shouldering reporters and Saudi policemen from his path so that . . . it was simply not possible to see more than his eyebrows and hair.

4. Printing. Designating a flexible relief printing plate which is wrapped round the cylinder of a rotary press, and machines or methods which employ one.

1959 Brit. Printer Dec. 116/3 (Index), Wrap-around, Harris letterpress rotary. **1962** [see **ROTARY a.** 2b]. **1963 Publishers' Weekly** 5 Aug. 87/1 Wrap-around relief printing—direct and indirect—is . . . being used increasingly. . . Most of the printing is for labels and packaging materials. **1972 A. TYRRELL Basics of Reprography** xiv. 216 In this way curved or wrap-around printing formes can be prepared by reprographic methods, from relief surfaces in the flat. **1983 A. CAMPBELL Designer's Handbk.** viii. 128 A modern development of letterpress printing is the wrap-around rotary press, which prints from a one-piece shallow relief plate fastened around a press cylinder.

5. Publishing. Designating (a) a book cover made from a single sheet of material; (b) a jacket whose design extends from front to back without being divided by the spine.

1968 G. A. STEVENSON Graphic Arts Encycl. 418 *Wrap-around cover*, soft cover used to bind or hold a booklet, brochure, etc. It consists of one sheet or stock that forms both front and back covers. Any type of mechanical binding may be used. **1972 N. Y. Law Jmnl.** 24 Oct. 4/2 It must have a wrap-around cover page containing the usual information. **1979 Bookseller** 23 June 2829/2 Mr. Paton thought that designers did not give nearly enough consideration to the potential of the spine. In this respect he was suspicious of the wraparound jacket.

6. U.S. Finance. Used with reference to (a) a mortgage which continues when the mortgaged property is sold, the repayments to the original lender being made by a new lender who also provides the additional funds needed for the purchase; (b) a tax-deferral scheme in which the interest on certain investments goes into paying the premiums for an annuity.

1968 Federal Suppl. CCXCII. 594 Midwestern would exchange a \$2.2 million wrap around note, secured by certain hotel properties. **1971 Legal Bull.** (U.S.) Sept. 185 *Wrap-around mortgage financing*. **1977 National Observer** (U.S.) 22 Jan. 8/2 The days may be numbered for a popular tax shelter known as the investment, or 'wrap-around', annuity. **1979 Arizona Daily Star** 5 Aug. (Advt. Section) 17/8 Priced below appraisal. Will consider a wrap-around deed or trust. **1981 U.S. Federal Reg.** 7 Apr. 20875/1 Official Staff Interpretation FC-0146 . . . treats 'wrap-around' loans as the equivalent of refinancings.

wrape, obs. *erron*. *f.* **RAPE v.** 2 4.

1584 PEELE Arraignm. Paris ii. 11, The least of these delights, . . . Able to wrape and dazle humane eyes.

wrap-over ('ræpəʊvə(r)), *sb.* and *a.* Also **wrap over**, **wrapover**. [*f.* **WRAP v.** + **OVER adv.**]

A. sb. Part of something, usu. a garment, that overlaps another part of itself.

1935 Times 21 Oct. 11/3 There is a good wrapover on the skirt of the coat. **1960 Vogue Pattern Bk.** Early Autumn 37 Divided skirt . . . concealed by a wrap-over at front and back.

B. adj. **a.** Of a garment: having a wrap-over. **b.** Overlapping.

1960 Guardian 19 Feb. 8/7 A wrap-over petal skirt. **1973 Harrods Christmas Catal.** 24/1 Wrap-over coat from Italy. **1979 Nature** 19 Apr. p. xvii/3 The simple laboratory stirrer . . . has a wrapover top to provide spillage protection. **1979 Homes & Gardens** June 103/1 The wrapover skirt, very fashionable this summer, is made of four flared panels, lightly gathered at the waist.

wrappage ('ræpɪdʒ). [*f.* **WRAP v.** + **-AGE**.]

I. 1. That which wraps, enfolds, or covers; a wrap or outer covering; a wrapper of a parcel, packet, or the like.

In freq. use, esp. *fig.*, from c 1860. *fig.* **1827 CARLYLE Ess., Richter** (1840) I. 15 Every work, be it fiction or serious treatise, is embaled in some fantastic wrappage, some mad narrative accounting for its appearance. **1842 SARA COLERIDGE in Coleridge Aids Refl.** (1843) II. 445 To consider the words of Scripture as mere

wrap-pages for some more definite revelation out of Scripture. **1851 CARLYLE Sterling** II. iii, Not till . . . he had unwinded from him the wrappages of it [ante the conscious life ecclesiastically], could he become clear about himself. **1859 HELPS Friends in C.** Ser. II. II. iii. 68 All these things, dress, fortune, etc. are mere wrappages compared with the substantial ground of a man's character. **1881 A. C. BRADLEY in Macm. Mag.** XLIV. 36 The words of the *Prometheus*, however insignificant their historical wrappage may have seemed to him.

lit. **1846-8 LOWELL Biglow P.** Ser. 1. vi. ad fin., Tomorrow this sheet . . . shall be the wrappage to a bar of soap. **1871 W. COLLINS Marq. & Merchant** I. 232 No possible wrappages can keep that poison from operating. **1886 D. C. MURRAY First Person Sing.** xxii, The knots were conquered, the paper wrappages removed.

b. Without article. Material used for covering or enveloping; wrapping material. Also *fig.*

a **1876 M. COLLINS Th. in Garden** (1880) I. 187 Odd things are met with in the papers used by shopkeepers for wrappage. **1881 E. DOWDEN in Academy** 12 Feb. 118 Nothing should be lost, except what is unvital, mere wrappage and encumbrance of history.

2. A loose garment for enveloping the person; a wrapper. Also in *fig.* context.

1831 CARLYLE Sart. Res. I. i, The vestural Tissue . . . which Man's Soul wears as its outmost wrappage and overall. **1837 — Fr. Rev.** II. III. iv, Figure under what thousand-fold wrappages and cloaks of darkness Royalty, meditating these things, must involve itself. **1863 D. WILSON in Edin. New Phil. Jmnl.** XVIII. 79 The constant laying of the infant to rest on its side, . . . along with the fashion of cap, hat, or wrappage, may [etc.]. **1868 BROWNING Ring & Bk.** III. 446 Another wrappage, namely one thick veil That hid her, matron-wise, from head to foot.

3. Something wrapped up; a package, parcel.

1883 Daily Tel. 19 Nov. 5/3 This paper wrappage was taken on by train to Stalybridge.

II. 4. The action of wrapping. rare—0.

1846 WORCESTER (citing *Ec. Rev.*). [Hence in later Dicts.]

wrappe, obs. var. (and *pa. t.*) of **WARP v.** 1.

1303 R. BRUNNE Handl. Synne 7517 Alle naked hym-self he wrappe Among pe pornes pat were sharpe. **1426 LYDG. De Guil. Pilgr.** 21932 Yiff I hadde wrappyd the, Nakyd, cast the vp and down In thornys for thy savacioun. **15.. Henryson's Paddock & Mouse** 171 (Harl. MS.), Now he, now law, . . . Now on the quheill, now wrappit [*Bann. MS.* wappit] to the ground.

wrapped ('ræpt), *ppl. a.* and *pa. pple.* Also 7-wrapt. [*f.* **WRAP v.** + **-ED**.]

I. 1. Concealed, covered, hidden.

1398 TREVISIA Barth. De P.R. x. iv. (Bodl. MS.), Fuyre . . . beschynep alle pinges wip his . . . wrapped [*L. circumvelatus*] bristenes. **1601 CHESTER Love's Mart.**, etc. (1878) 125 Ie be partener Of thy harts wrapped sorrow more hereafter.

2. With up: **a.** Involved, complicated; couched in complex, covert, or vague terms.

1787 JEFFERSON Writ. (1853) II. 304, I have analyzed these declarations, because being somewhat wrapped up in their expressions, their full import might escape, on a transient reading. **1896 Daily News** 13 Jan. 7/1 It is the way of the 'Temps' to speak in wrapped-up language, but throughout . . . the crisis its utterances have been even more than usually enigmatical. **1898 Ibid.** 14 Nov. 5/2 The beauty of the Fashoda Blue Book was the absence . . . of wrapped up phrases.

b. Muffled up in, covered up with, a wrap or enveloping garment.

1793 F. BURNEY Let. 24 Feb. (1972) II. 26, I live a Wrapt up Invalid, close to the Fire side. **1852 DICKENS Bleak Ho.** ii, The shining figure of a wrapped-up man. **1901 Westm. Gaz.** 8 June 1/3 The wrapped-up figure on a pedestal.

c. Marked or characterized by absorbed attention. (Cf. 6.)

1884 Pall Mall G. 8 Nov. 4/1 His incapacity to hear . . . gives him a more wrapped up air than the brother. **1893 Daily News** 27 June 6/3 Faces wore a 'wrapped up' expression, and voices were hard and tuneless.

3. Drawn together, fashioned, made, or constructed by wrapping or twining.

1820 KEATS Cap and Bells xxv, With hasty steps, wrapp'd cloak, and solemn looks . . . [he] upon his errand sallies. **1837 KIRKBRIDE Northern Angler** 2 The wrapt hackle flies are generally most esteemed in this part of the country. **1907 C. HILL-Tout Brit. N. Amer., Far West** vi. 109 Woven basketry . . . embraces by far the greater number of basket forms, and includes . . . such [kinds] as wicker-work, wrapped-work, twilled-work.

4. Enclosed in a wrapping; spec. prepackaged.

1957 M. SUMMERTON Sunset Hour xiii. 186 The loaf of wrapped bread. **1963 L. DEIGHTON Horse under Water** vi. 31 Plastic spoons and large wrapped sugar segments. **1976 Times** 13 Aug. 2/6 The familiar wrapped and sliced white loaf still accounts for more than half of bread sales. **1984 C. CURZON Masks & Faces** viii. 90 He fetched the wrapped loaf and filled the toaster.

II. In predicative use. 5. a. Deeply interested, centred or absorbed, *in* a person or thing.

a **1548 HALL Chron., Hen. V.** 34 b, Benedict the . . . xiii. . . was wrapped in his owne folishe and fantastical opinion. **1581 MARBECK Bk. of Notes** 599 Him that is wrapped in the business of this world. **1816 BYRON Ch. Har.** III. cxv, My daughter! . . . I see thee not, I hear thee not, but none Can be so wrapt in thee. **1848 DICKENS Dombey** xxxv, Whether Mr. Dombey, wrapped in his own greatness, was at all aware of this or no.

b. Freq. with *up*. †Also const. *with* (= *in*).

In very frequent use from c 1820.

(a) **1699 BOYER Fr. Dict.** II, I am so wrapt up with him: je l'aime si éperdument. **1704 F. FULLER Med. Gymn.** (1705) 142 How much soever some People may be Rapt up with their *Sal Volatile*. **1784 P. WRIGHT New Bk. Martyrs** 794/2 King James was . . . so wrapt up with a conceit, that he had now conquered the whole nation.

(b) 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 139 ¶5 Being wrapped up in the safety of my old age. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 105 ¶6 The State-Pedant is wrapt up in News. 1776 FOOTE *Bankrupt* 1. 3 His whole soul is wrapt up in Miss Lydia. 1784 P. WRIGHT *New Bk. Martyrs* 805/1, I want words to express it, he was like one wrapped up in heaven. 1806-7 J. BERSFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* (1826) XVI. iii, Before you are yet sufficiently wrapped up in the study. 1851 BRIMLEY *Ess.*, *Wordsw.* 166 His heart was wrapped up in his wife and sister. 1880 J. PAYN *Confid. Agent* I. 31, I like a man to be wrapped up in his own calling.

c. *wrapped (up) in*, entirely associated or bound up with; quite dependent on; involved in.

1648 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* v. 131 O then, first for your own illustrious sake, And next, for Us wrapp'd up in you, beware Of his Designs in time. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 123 ¶4 His young Wife (in whom all his Happiness was wrapt up) died. 1760-72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) II. 157 He was the only child . . . and . . . the lives of his parents were wrapt up in him. 1847 JAMES *Convict* I. 108, I put mine [*sc.* happiness] under your guardianship also, for mine is wrapped up in yours. 1859 MISS PIDDINGTON *Last of Cavaliers* II. 69 My mother's whole life is wrapped in him. 1892 J. TAIT *Mind in Matter* (ed. 3) 167 Wrapped up in the mysterious nature of Self-existence, is the equally mysterious power of communicating existence.

6. Absorbed or engrossed *in* thought, contemplation, etc. Also in earlier use with *up*.

Perhaps partly suggested by RAPT *pa. pple.* 4. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* v. iii. 128, I am wrap'd in dismal thinkings. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 546, I . . . began Wrapt in a pleasing fit of melancholy To meditate my rural minstrelsie. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* III. ii, He is always . . . wrapped up in cogitation. 1751 SMOLLETT *Per. Pic.* xiii, He seemed to be wrapped up in profound contemplation. 1771 BEATTIE *Minstrel* I. xix. 1 Where the stripling, wrapt in wonder, roves. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* VII. i. ¶2, I found . . . Don Caesar just as much wrapped up . . . in the contemplation of the happy couple. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *A. Bede* II, Some . . . were resting . . . with their eyes closed, as if wrapt in prayer or meditation. 1894 BARING-GOULD *Kitty Alone* II. 162 The girl stood wrapt in delight.

Hence † *wrappedly adv.* intricately. *Obs.* — 1589 RIDER *Bibl. Scholast.* 1685 *Wrappedly, contorte.* 1647 HEXHAM I. s. v.

wrapper ('ræpə(r)), *sb.* Also 6 *wraper*, 8 *rapper*, 9 *dial. wropper*. [*f.* WRAP *v.* + -ER¹.]

I. 1. a. That in which anything is wrapped, enveloped, or enclosed; a piece of fabric or other material forming a wrapping; esp. in later use, a protective covering for a parcel or the like.

c 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 224 Take bope endis of þe towelle . . . and wrythe an handfulle . . . next þe bred myghtily, and se þat thy wrappere be made strait. c 1500 *Melusine* xxiii. 153 His wounde opend, and out of it ranne blood throug the wraper. 1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Vne envelope & couverture*, a wrapper. 1611 COTGR., *Envelope*, . . . a wrapper; a peece of wast paper for that purpose. 1662 *Act 14 Chas. II*, c. 18 §6 Woolflocks . . . pressed together with Scrues . . . into Sacks Baggs and other Wrappers made of Wool or Linnen. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 90 ¶7 My legs [were] closed together by so many Wrappers one over another, that I looked like an Ægyptian Mummy. 1727 BAILEY (vol. II), *Wrapper*, a coarse Cloth in which Bale-Goods are wrapped, &c. 1785 W. TOOKE in *Ellis Lit. Lett.* (Camden) 430 As soon as such a number of books are perfected, the surplus of the various signatures are thrown aside for wrappers and other official uses. 1802 G. V. SAMPSON *Statist. Surv. Londonderry* 354 The fabric . . . is of two characters: 1st, Narrow, or 27 inches wide, called wrappers, and made of tow-yarn. . . 2d, Wide; . . . made of lint yarn. 1827 FARADAY *Chem. Manip.* xxiii. 574 The object would often be attainable by a wrapper of tin foil. 1844 KINGLAKE *Eothen* xvi, I saw the burial of a pilgrim, . . . miserably poor. . . There was no coffin, nor wrapper. 1901 *Wide World Mag.* VI. 442 The assassin . . . had torn open the wrapper of the package.

transf. 1552 RAYNALD *Byrth Mankynde* 35 b, The thyrede wrapper of the [fœtus]. *Ibid.* 36 These iii. wrappers or caules.

fig. 1859 DICKENS *T. Two Cities* I. ii, Each was hidden under almost as many wrappers from the eyes of the mind.

b. A detachable outer paper cover of a book, published part, etc., intended to protect the print, boards, or binding.

1806 *Med. Jnrl.* XV. 334 Any publication, calling itself a Review, . . . used as the means of circulating the celebrity of such remedies, . . . on their wrappers, covers, or a few leaves tacked at the beginning and end. 1825 HONE *Every-day Bk.* I. 597 The wrappers to the parts of this work. 1891 *Athenæum* 3 Oct. 448/2 Books . . . notable for the sylvan colour of the wrappers, their large print and liberal margin.

c. A covering to protect and compact a newspaper, magazine, etc., when sending by post or delivery.

1846-8 LOWELL *Biglow P.* Ser. I. vi. ad fin., Tearing off the wrapper of my newspaper. 1871 *British P.O. Guide* 1 Jan. 10 The postage must be prepaid . . . by the use of a stamped wrapper. 1898 'H. S. MERRIMAN' *Roden's Corner* II, A large table littered with newspaper wrappers.

d. *pl.* = WRAP *sb.* I b. ? *Obs.*

1853 *Heal & Son Catal. : Illustr. Catal. Bedsteads* 5 The plain Quilts . . . are applicable wherever extra warmth is required, either as a wrapper in the carriage, or as an extra covering on the bed. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade* 312 *Railway blanket*, . . . a traveller's warm wrapper. 1865 MRS. L. L. CLARKE *Common Seaweeds* I. 18 A double strap such as we use for a rolled railway wrapper. *Ibid.* vii. 137.

e. A sheet put over furniture, shop-goods, etc., to protect from dust or fading.

1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xxiii, The tarnished paws of gilded lions, stealthily put out from beneath their wrappers. 1905 H. G. WELLS *Kipps* I. ii. §2 At half-past six in the morning . . . he would . . . dust boxes and yawn, and take down wrappers and clean the windows. *Ibid.*, Hanging wrappers over the fixtures and over the piles of wares upon the counters.

2. a. An article of apparel for wrapping, rolling, or coiling from the head. *rare.*

a 1548 HALL *Chron.*, *Hen. VIII*, 7 Other two ladyes . . . and on theyr heades skayns and wrappers of Damaske golde with flatte pypes. 1789-96 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 264 The women of the lower class wear on their heads a wrapper of white linen.

b. A shawl, mantle, etc., for wearing about the person.

1782 J. WARTON *Ess. Pope* II. 330 Pope was so . . . infirm, and his body required so many wrappers and coverings, that it was hardly possible for him to be neat. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* xxv, A man . . . pulled off a large wrapper which had concealed the lower portion of his face. . . 'Pop that shawl away' [he said]. 1885 MABEL COLLINS *Prettiest Woman* I, She had thrown a loose white wrapper round her shoulders. 1897 *Daily News* 25 Dec. 2/3 The silk wrapper that he was wearing was stolen from off his neck.

3. a. An outer garment, esp. for indoor wear or use in household work, designed for loosely enveloping the whole (or nearly the whole) figure; a loose robe or gown. In later use chiefly *U.S.*

1734 in *Trans. Roy. Hist. Soc.* Ser. IV. VI. 42 The [Indian] Queen's [garment] was a sort of scarlet rosetti in the make of our English wrappers. 1740 H. WALPOLE *Lett.* (1903) I. 84 Her dress, her avarice, and her impudence must amaze any one that never heard her name. She wears . . . an old mazarine blue wrapper, that gapes open and discovers a canvas petticoat. 1745 *De Foe's Eng. Tradesman* xxvi. (1841) I. 265 Her wrapper, or morning-gown, a piece of Irish linen, printed at London. 1782 *Jnrl. Yng. Lady of Virginia* (1871) 42 We got up [from bed], put on our rappers, and went down in the Seller. 1839 DICKENS *Nickleby* xxiv, Mrs. Curdle was dressed in a morning wrapper. 1862 [see MORNING *sb.* 7 b]. 1883 MISS C. F. WOOLSON *For the Major* vii, His wife . . . had just risen—or so it seemed, for she wore a rose-colored wrapper. 1886 A. G. MURDOCH *Scotch Readings* (ed. 2) 15 She got on a working wrapper, and sat herself down. 1905 *Outlook* 11 Nov. 663/2 The English-woman . . . scorns the hideous 'wrapper' which so many French and Americans wear in the bosom of their family.

b. An article of dress, esp. for masculine wear, intended to wrap about or fit loosely over the person; a wrap. Now *dial.*

1799 *Hull Advertiser* 30 Nov. 2/3 Tandy was clad in a white serge wrapper, resembling a friar's gown. 1832 LYTTON *Eugene A.* II. vi, A shower of rain now began to fall. Sir Peter, . . . turning to Walter, . . . said to him, 'What! no cloak, sir? no wrapper even?' 1842 E. FITZGERALD *Lett.* (1889) I. 86 Just the same price as I gave for a Chesterfield wrapper (as it is called). 1844 STOCQUELER *Handbk. Brit. India* (1854) 411 The dress of the people, both male and female, commonly consists of a large loose wrapper and trousers. 1888 T. HARDY *Wessex Tales* I. 58 An old milkman near, in a long white pinafore or 'wropper'. 1891 — *Tess* xiv, The brown rough 'wropper' or over-all—the old-established . . . dress of the [harvesting] field-woman.

4. a. Also *wrapper leaf*. Tobacco-leaf of a superior grade prepared and used for the outer cover of cigars or of plug-tobacco; a covering made of this. Chiefly *U.S.*

1688 R. HOLME *Armoury* III. xxii. (Roxb.) 274/2 Filler, is the inside of the Roll [of tobacco]: which is any sorts of Leaves and Stalks. Wrapper, the out side of the roll, which are good leaves. 1839 LOWELL *Lett.* (1894) I. 48 The filling of cigars now belies the wrapper. 1864 R. L. DE COIN *Hist. & Cult. Cotton & Tobacco* 301 The best leaves . . . are required by the twistlers for wrappers around twists or plugs. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 17 May 4 A cigar consists of three parts, the wrapper, the bunch, and the filler. 1944 [see RUN *sb.* 1 20 e]. 1978 D. WILLIAMS *Treasure up in Smoke* v. 50 All hand-made cigars consist of a thick core of compressed tobacco leaf, a binder . . . and finally a wrapper leaf.

b. *U.S.* A cigar.

1849 HAWTHORNE *Twice-told T.* 60 Our friend . . . expending a whole bunch of Spanish wrappers among . . . horrified audiences.

5. *Bot.* † a. (See *quots.*) *Obs.*

1718 tr. *Tournefort's Voy. Levant* I. 256 The Wrapper of the Acorn . . . is a sort of Box set off with several Scales pale green. c 1789 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) III. 446/1 *Calyx*, the cup. . . *Involucrum*, or wrapper, a cup remote from a flower. 1793 MARTYN *Lang. Bot.* s. v. *Corolla*, The envelope, cover, or wrapper of the stamens and pistils.

b. In *Fungi*, = VOLVA¹.

1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) III. 286 *Agaricus volvaceus*. . . Wrapper at the root, grey or greenish. *Ibid.* 373 *Lycopodon*. . . Wrapper many-cleft, expanding. 1807 JAS. E. SMITH *Introd. Botany* 253 *Volva*, Wrapper, or covering, of the Fungus tribe. 1860 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 1337/1 *Volva*, . . . the membranous covering, curtain, or wrapper of the fungus tribe, hiding the parts of fructification, till bursting all round it forms a ring on the stalk.

6. *Amer. a.* (See *quot.*)

1792 G. CARTWRIGHT *Jnrl. Labrador* III. p. x, *Wrappers*, loose sleeve-pieces to button round the wrists, to defend them from the frost.

b. A make of leather boot adapted for fastening round the leg (also called *wrapping-boot*).

1808 PIKE *Sources Mississ.* (1810) III. App. 36 A kind of leather boot or wrapper. *Ibid.*, In the eastern provinces the dragons wear, over this wrapper or boot, a sort of jack-boot made of sole-leather.

c. An undershirt.

1891 *Cent. Dict.*

7. *Lumbering*. A chain for binding logs on a skid.

1901 *Munsey's Mag.* XXV. 391/2 The load is stopped exactly opposite long parallel skids. Two men cautiously unhook the 'wrappers'.

II. 8. One who wraps or packs up anything; *spec.* one whose occupation consists in wrapping parcels. Also with *up*.

1591 PERCIVALL, *Embolvedor*, a roller, a wrapper vp. 1755 JOHNSON. 1866 in S. Timmins *Resources*, etc. *B'ham* 356 Women & Girls as Lacquerers: Chargers of Tubes, Press Women, & Wrappers-up. 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* 45 Cutlery: . . . Wiper, . . . Getter up, Wrapper up. *Ibid.* 99 Factory Labourer. . . Storeman, Wrapper, Slinger. 1883 *B'ham Daily Post* 11 Oct., Grocery and Provisions.—Junior . . . wanted. . . Good flat wrapper and correct accountant preferred.

III. 9. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *wrapper-apron*, -*brat*; *wrapper-addresser*, -*writer*.

1876 MRS. G. L. BANKS *Manchester Man* II, She . . . had taken off her wrapper-brat [footnote A sort of close pinafore]. 1893 *Pall Mall G.* 23 June 11/1 They were . . . mostly clerks and . . . wrapper addressers. *Ibid.*, Some half-dozen wrapper-writers, . . . each . . . copying with lightning-like rapidity from a directory page before him. 1896 M. QUILLER-COUCH *Jane Vercoe*, etc. 145 Enveloped in what was commonly called a 'wrapper-apern'.

wrapper ('ræpə(r)), *v.* [*f.* prec.]

1. *trans.* To cover with, enclose or envelop in, a wrapper.

1885 C. G. W. LOCK *Workshop Receipts* Ser. IV. 263/1 Vegetable parchment . . . is used very extensively . . . for wrapping the better class of literature. 1890 W. J. GORDON *Foundry* 209 Delivering the papers folded and wrapped ready for post. 1893 *Sat. Rev.* 7 Jan. 24/2 A volume in quarto, handsomely, but alas! very loosely, wrapped.

2. To cover *up* in or as in a wrapper. Also *absol.* or *intr.*

1905 H. G. WELLS *Kipps* II. ix, All the stalls were wrapped up, and all the minor exhibitions locked and barred. 1934 H. G. WELLS *Exper. Autobiogr.* I. iv. 151 Half an hour before closing time we began to put away for the last time and 'wrapper up'.

Hence 'wrapped (-up), *ppl. a.* Also 'wrapperer, one who covers (esp. magazines or books) with wrappers.

1896 H. G. WELLS *Wheels of Chance* iv, A cheerless, shutter-darkened, wrapped-up shop. 1906 — *Days of Comet* I. v, Two other wrapped figures came out of the bungalows. 1908 *Daily Chron.* 24 April 11/3 Girls wanted as book wrapperers (magazine).

wrapping ('ræpəɪŋ). [*f.* as prec. + -ING¹ I d.]

1. Coarse fabric or material used or designed for wrapping or covering.

1844 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jnrl.* VII. 88/2 Upon the bricks is placed a quantity of . . . gravel, and a piece of fabric, such as common wrapping. 1864 MRS. H. WOOD *Oswald Cray* xlv, Her apron is a piece of wrapping off a bale of goods. 1867 *Morn. Star* 17 Sept. 6 Calverley . . . tied round his neck a piece of linen wrapping.

2. A loose outer garment; a wrap or wrapper.

1862 MRS. H. WOOD *Mrs. Hallib.* I. x, Mrs. Dare was silently removing some of her outer wrappings. 1900 F. S. ELLIS *Rom. Rose* I. 406 A great fur cloak for wrapping She wore.

† **'wrappery**. *Obs. rare* —¹. [*f.* as prec. + -Y³.] A wrap or covering.

1662 J. CHANDLER *Van Helmont's Oriat.* 354 The hand or arm of the Young is cut off . . . ; neither is it found among the wrapperies [*L. involucri*], even as the head is.

wrapping ('ræpɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [*f.* WRAP *v.* + -ING¹. App. rare between the 16th and 19th cent.]

1. a. The action of covering with or enveloping in a wrap or wrapper. Occas. with *adv.*, as *round, up*. Also *fig.*

c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 533/1 Wrappynge, or hyllynge, cooperio, involucio. 1553 BRENDE *Q. Curtius* 170 Which [arrow] he pulled out and without wrapping of his wound called for his horse. 1611 COTGR., *Emmailotement*, a swadling, or a wrapping in swathe bands. 1837 HT. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 73 A wrapping round of inconvenient considerations with an impenetrable cloud of the plainest-seeming words. 1872 MARCH. DUFFERIN *Canad. Jnrl.* (1891) 52 The children play in the snow. . . Their nurse, Mrs. Hall, dislikes the wrapping up.

b. The action of interlacing or intertwining; the fact of being interwoven. Also *fig.*

1553 BRENDE *Q. Curtius* 105 By reason that the wreathing and wrapping together of the bowes kept them of from the bodies of the tres. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s. v. *Implexus*, A wrappynge of armes crosse one within an other. 1836 J. GILBERT *Chr. Atonem.* iii. (1852) 70 Yet this artful wrapping together of the one with the other, this blending of things so dissimilar, will not accomplish the object designed.

2. a. Something used or designed for enveloping or wrapping up; a wrap or covering. Also in *fig. context*.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* I. 9 My witt is ful luyte to un-wralle þe wrappynge of so wonder werkes. 1388 Wyclif *Wisd.* vii. 4 Y was nurschid in wrappynge, and is grete bysynnes. 1855 [G. R. LEIFCHILD] *Cornwall* 298 The wearing of thin shoes and stockings during unsuitable weather, being a dangerous transition from the thick shoes and wrapping worn by the same persons in daily work. 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* V. 775/2 Broken leaf tobacco . . . firmly wrapped round with one or two wrappings of whole leaf tobacco. 1883 GILMOUR *Among Mongols* xvii. 201 The volumes are . . . carefully swathed up in their yellow wrappings. 1894 'J. S. WINTER' *Red Coats* 78 Dolly was eagerly tearing the paper wrappings off the big box of sweets.

fig. 1836 ARNOLD in *Stanley Life* (1844) II. 28 Having been enabled to receive Scripture truth in spite of the wrapping which has been put round it. 1901 F. CAMPBELL *Love* 319 Hidebound in a wrapping of utter selfishness.

b. An article of dress used or intended for enveloping the figure; a loose covering or upper garment; a wrap, wrappage, or wrapper.

1635 RAINBOW *Serm.* 15 The sheepe . . gives us shelter enough from the cold, why should we hunt after more costly fures and wrappings? **1853** DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* iii, A gentleman in the coach who . . looked very large in a quantity of wrappings. **1882** T. COAN *Hawaii* 35, I . . preached in wet clothes, continuing my . . labors until night, when in dry wrappings I slept well. **1899** RODWAY *Guiana Wilds* 30 No stiff wooden figure made up of corset and wrappings, but a woman of flesh and blood.

3. a. attrib. in sense of 'used or designed for wrapping or covering', as *wrapping-cloth*, *-silk*, *-wire*; † *wrapping boot* U.S., form of boot adapted for wrapping about the ankle and calf; *wrapping-paper*, a special make of strong paper for packing or wrapping up parcels.

1566 Eng. *Ch. Furniture* (Peacock, 1866) 75 A cup of sylver for the communion with ij wrapping clothes for yt. **1648** HEXHAM II, *Een Windel* . . , a Wrapping-cloath. ? **1715** POPE *Let. in Corr.* (1956) I. 317 If the Fruit is not so good as I wish, let the Gallantry of this Wrapping-paper make up for it. **1768** J. LYNDON *Let.* 17 June in *Rec. Colony of Rhode Island* (1861) VI. 548 One paper mill, at which is manufactured wrapping, package and other coarse paper. **1789** Deb. *Congr. U.S.* (1834) 1st Congress 1 Sess. App. 2130 The several duties shall be aid on the following goods. . . On all writing, printing and wrapping paper. **1808** PIKE *Sources of the Mississippi* (1810) III. App. 41 Their dress is . . the wrapping boot with the jack boot, and permanent spur over it. **1828-32** WEBSTER, *Wrapping paper*. **1842** FARADAY *Chem. Manip.* (ed. 3) 470 Strong common brown wrapping paper. **1860** RIMBAULT *Pianoforte* 183 Modern pianofortes have steel wire throughout, with about one octave in the bass closely lapped. The wrapping wire is of soft iron for the upper part of the octave, and of copper for the lower. **1883** *Daily News* 24 Apr. 5/8 The four main cables are 1½ inches in diameter. . . There are 243 miles 493 feet of wrapping wire on each. **1883** W. D. CURZON *Manuf. Industries Worcs.* 80 The manufacture of the heavy and coarse sorts of wrapping paper. **1890** Cent. *Dict.* s.v. *Silk, Wrapping-silk*, a fine strong floss employed in the manufacture of artificial flies.

b. In sense of 'used or worn as a wrapper or enveloping outer garment', as *wrapping cloak*, *coat*, *mantle*, *pelisse*, *robe*. Also WRAPPING-GOWN.

1787 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 8 Nov., What was my surprise to see a large man, in an immense wrapping greatcoat, buttoned up round his chin! **1800** *Lady's Monthly Museum* Nov. V. 408 White muslin wrapping robe, with full sleeves. **1818** SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxi, His dress [was] a horseman's wrapping coat. **1824** MEYRICK *Ant. Armour* II. 11 The birrus or large wrapping cloak. **1842** BORROW *Bible in Spain* x, The large wrapping man's cloak which she wore. **1870** MORRIS *Earthly Par.* III. iv. 198 He came, and to the floor he cast His wrapping mantle.

c. With advs., as *wrapping up department*. **1883** W. D. CURZON *Manuf. Industries Worcs.* 101 [In] the wrapping up department . . girls are busily engaged wrapping goods of all kinds.

'**wrapping**, *ppl.* *a.* [f. WRAP *v.* + -ING².] That wraps, covers, or envelops. Also *fig.*

1582 STANYHURST *Aeneis* II. (Arb.) 50 In wayne Laocoon . . Is to some embayed with wrapping girdle y coompast. **1586** SIDNEY *Ps.* xxxi. ii, Preserve me from the wyly wrapping nett, Which they for me . . have sett. **1813** [LEIGH HUNT] in *Examiner* 31 May 351/1 Give me . . a small wrapping silence about me. **1869** *Daily News* 13 Oct., The necessity of plunging through a deep gulph of air before one meets the wrapping and oblivious wave.

Hence †'wrappingly *adv.*, disguisedly. *Obs.*—1

1649 CANNE *Snare Broken* 12 It would not have been so ambiguously, darkly, wrappingly given forth.

†'wrapping-gown. *Obs.* [f. WRAPPING *vbl.* *sb.* 3 b + GOWN *sb.*] A night-gown.

1709 S. WESLEY in Quiller Couch *Hetty Wesley* (1903) I. viii, She had nothing on but her shoes and a wrapping-gown. **1709** STEELE *Tatler* No. 139 ¶ 7 She rush'd out of bed in her wrapping gown, and consulted her glass. **1777** SHERIDAN *Trip Scarb.* I. ii, I shall never be reconciled to this nauseous wrapping-gown. **1809** MALKIN *Gil Blas* VII. x. ¶ 5 What was my surprise at meeting him in his wrapping-gown and night-cap. **1827** SCOTT *Chron. Canongate* i, The wide wrapping-gown and night-cap. **1877** MISS YONGE *Cameos* III. i. 8 The King . . was soon standing before the fire in his wrapping-gown.

wrap-rascal ('ræprɑːskəl, -æ-). Now *arch.* or *dial.* [f. WRAP *v.* + RASCAL *sb.*³ Cf. *hap-harlot*.]

A loose overcoat or great-coat, esp. worn in the 18th century; a surtout.

1716 GAY *Trivia* I. 58 The true Surtout. *marg.*, A Joseph, a Wrap-rascal, etc. **1738** in W. C. Sydney *Eng. & Engl.* 18th C. (1891) I. 121 Those loose kinds of great-coats . . which I have heard called 'wrap-rascals'. **1802** BENTHAM *Ration. Judic. Evid.* (1827) II. 191 A sort of knave's coat; or (to use an appellative not many years ago applied in vulgar language to a particular sort of surtout) a wrap-rascal. **1845** PUNCH VIII. 87 The shapeless articles which, under the various names of Taglionis, Wrap-rascals, . . are now placed on the human form. **1884** SALA *Journ. due South* I. i, Muffled up in these hirsute wrap-rascals, and with wide-awake hats slouched over our eyes. **1893** STEVENSON *Catriona* xxv, On the threshold, in a rough wraprascal. . . stood James More. *fig.* **1812** J. O. in *Examiner* 23 Nov. 750/1 The specious cloak of Prudence, — that wraprascal of the worldly-minded. **1862** THACKERAY *Round. Papers, Letts's Diary*, There is the cozy wraprascal, self-indulgence — how easy it is!

attrib. **1898** WEYMAN *Castle Inn* 192 A big dingy man in a wrap-rascal coat.

†*b.* (See quot.) *Obs.*

1796 GROSE *Dict. Vulg. Tongue* (ed. 3), *Wrap Rascal*, a red cloak, called also a roquelaire.

wrap-round: see WRAPAROUND *sb.* and *a.*

wrapt, *obs. erron.* f. RAPT *ppl.* *a.* 2.

1796 MME. D'ARBLAY *Camilla* IV. 337 [She] was absorbed in . . wrapt expectation. **1809** MALKIN *Gil Blas* VII. xiii. ¶ 16 He will hear it read with so grave and wrapt a silence.

wrapture, *obs. erron.* form of RAPTURE.

wrap-up ('ræpəp), *sb.* and *a.* [f. *vbl.* *phr.* to *wrap up*: see WRAP *v.* 7 a.]

A. sb. **1. a.** An easily satisfied customer; an easy sale. *b.* Any easy task.

1938 Amer. *Speech* XIII. 150/2 *Wrap-up*, an easy sale. Also a customer easily satisfied. **1940** 'E. QUEEN' *New. Adventures* 284 Not too tough. A wrap-up. **1952** N. Y. *Times Mag.* 21 Sept. 58/3 The ideal customer is known as a 'wrap-up', which is self-explanatory.

2. A summary or résumé, esp. of news; a conclusion.

1960 WENTWORTH & FLEXNER *Dict. Amer. Slang* 588/2 *Wrap-up*, . . a conclusion, an ending; a summary and conclusion. **1961** *Times Lit. Suppl.* 13 Oct. 677/4 Finally, Mr. Kalb gives us what he calls the wrap-up [of a book]. **1966** *New Yorker* 30 Aug. 20 (*caption*) Suddenly . . a wrap-up of the highlights of my life flashed before my eyes. **1973** H. GRUPPE *Truxton Cipher* xv. 155 'I have no further questions for you.' . . This was the wrap-up. Harry knew . . he would be handed over for court-martial. **1975** *New Yorker* 5 May 128/2 NBC presented a thirty-minute 'special report' on Cambodia, which consisted mainly of a wrapup of NBC's regular news footage of the previous week. **1980** U. CURTISS *Poisoned Orchard* ix. 97 The wrap-up of a job I've been working on will have to be done tonight. **1981** *Daily Mail* 18 May 19/4 Last night's wrap-up saw the old soldier with the black eye-patch welcomed by desert Bedouins. **1985** *Village Voice* (N.Y.) 8 Jan. 39/2 Only in his final wrap-up does he concede that power can also take the form of creative 'attention, or love'.

B. adj. That concludes or sums up.

1968 MRS. L. B. JOHNSON *White House Diary* 9 Apr. (1970) 658 Here on the courthouse square at Gonzales was the wrap-up scene, an official good-by for our five-day adventure. **1976** *Publishers Weekly* 27 Sept. 82/2 A long wrap-up section amplifies this practical aspect of their book. **1977** *Church Times* 7 Apr. 2/4 A two-day centennial programme. . . The Archbishop will . . address the wrap-up banquet. **1980** *Jewish Chron.* 21 Mar. 23/3 This is what is described as a 'wrap-up' volume, summarising, in non-technical language, what has been learned. **1980** *Quilt World* Sept./Oct. 16/3 The group session wound down with a light monologue . . on 'Fifty Ways to Lose Business', and then small group discussions were held, followed by a wrap-up session.

†**wrase**. *Obs. rare.* Also 5 warse. [OE. *wrāsen* band, tie. Cf. also LG. *wrasen* stuffed pad for the head.]

1. A small bundle.

c 1275 *Passion of our Lord* 383 in O.E. *Misc.* 48 Of one wase of þornes he wrypen hym one crune. *c* 1470 *Cath. Angl.* 425/1 (A.), A Warse, [sic], fasciculus.

2. = WASE 2. (Cf. WREATH 5 a, WRITH.)

1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Arculum*, . . a roll that women weare on their heads to beare water: a wrase [Elyot wase].

wraskle, *obs. var.* WRAXLE *v.*

wrasle, **wrassil**, Sc. *varr.* WRESTLE.

wrasse (ræs). Also 8 wraws, 8-9 wrass. [ad. Cornish *wrach*, mutated form of *gwrach* = Welsh *gwrach* wrasse, also old woman (cf. OLD WIFE 3). Mod. Cornish dial. has also the form *wrath*, and *wrasse* may be an E. plural in -s.]

1. One or other species belonging to the acanthopterygian family *Labridæ* or esp. the genus *Labrus* of bony, thick-lipped, marine fishes; esp. the ballan (the 'old wife', *Labrus maculatus*) or the striped, red, or cook species (*L. mixtus*), found on the British coasts.

a 1672 WILLUGHBY *Hist. Pisc.* (1686) 319 *Turdus vulgatissimus, Tincti marini* Venetis: Cornub. *Wrasse. Ibid.* 320 *Cornubiensibus Wrasse dicitur.* *a* 1705 RAY *Syn. Pisc.* (1713) 136 *Turdus vulgatissimus*, . . the Wrasse, or Old Wife. **1752** J. HILL *Hist. Anim.* 249 The Wrasse, or Old-wife, . . is frequent in the Mediterranean. **1774** GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* VI. 307 The Labrus or Wrasse [has] the body oval; the head middling; the lips doubled inward. **1860** GOSSE *Rom. Nat. Hist.* 295 The brilliant wrasses dart out and in, decked in scarlet and green. **1888** *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 686/2 Some 450 species of wrasses . . are known.

b. With distinguishing epithet.

comber, cook, cuckoo, rainbow, red, small-mouthed, striped wrasse: see these words.

1769 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* III. 203-8 Ballan Wrasse. . . Bimaculated Wrasse, *L. bimaculata*. Trimaculated Wrasse. . . Striped Wrasse. . . Gibbous Wrasse. **1776** *Ibid.* (ed. 4) pl. xlvii, Comber Wrasse. Antient Wrasse. **1836** YARRELL *Brit. Fishes* I. 279-291 The Green-streaked Wrasse. . . Red Wrasse, Three-spotted Wrasse [etc.]. **1840** CUVIER's *Anim. Kingd.* 310 *L. Lineatus*, the Lineal-streaked, . . *L. variegatus*, the Blue-streaked, . . *L. carneus*, the Three-spotted Wrasse. **1848** MAUNDER's *Treas. Nat. Hist.* s.v., Several species of this Acanthopterygian fish, viz. . . the Cook Wrasse or Blue-striped Wrasse (*L. variegatus*), the Comber Wrasse (*L. comber*). **1874** COUCH *Brit. Fishes* III. 30-41 Green Wrasse. . . Scale-rayed Wrasse. . . Small-mouthed wrass. [etc.].

c. *New Zealand.* (See quots.)

1872 J. HECTOR *Fishes N. Zealand* 108 A small Wrasse, . . called the Spotty or Poddly. **1898** MORRIS *Austral Eng.* 518/2 *Wrasse*, this English name . . is given, in New Zealand, to *Labrichthys bothryocostus*, Richards. Called also Poddly, Spotty, and Kelp-fish.

2. Without article: Wrasses collectively.

1750 HEATH *Acc. Isl. Scilly* 45 The Fish are . . Pilchards, Hake, Wrasse, Whistlers. **1763** in Pennant *Brit. Zool.* (1776) I. 143 Where the whistling fish, wraws, and polacks resort. **1878** P. THOMSON in *Trans. N. Zealand Institute* XI. 384 Wrasse, Parrotfish, and Spotties are often in the market. **1883** *All Year Round* 16 June 16/1 The bill of fare of a family of the neolithic period . . They had mullet and wrasse, dogfish and skate.

3. attrib., as *wrasse family*, *-fish*.

1840 tr. *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 309 *Labridæ* (the Wrasse, or Rock-fish Family). **1890** Cent. *Dict.* s.v. *Labrus*, Wrasse-fish (*Labrus maculatus*).

wrassle, U.S. dial var. WRESTLE *v.*

†**wrast**, ? *sb.* *Obs.*—1 (Meaning obscure.)

Perhaps *to-wrast* pa. pple., 'wrested away' (from what is right): but cf. next.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1663 He . . dalt with hir al in daynte, how-se-euer þe dede turned to wrast.

†**wrast**, *a.* *Obs.*—1 [OE. *wræst*, *wrást* elegant, noble, excellent. In ME. perh. a back-formation from UNWRAS² *a.*] *a.* Of sound: Loud, strong. *b.* Of persons: Stout, active.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1423 Wyldre wordez hym warp wyth a wrast noyce. **1338** R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1725) 170 Wilde fire þei kast, þe kyng to confound, His schipmen were fulle wrast [*printed wrask*], els had he gon to ground.

wrast, etc.: see WREST, etc.

wrat (ræt). Now *dial.* or *Obs.* Also 6 wratte, 9 wrought. [a. (M)LG. *wratte* (LG. *wratt*, Du. *wrat*), or metathetic var. WART *sb.*] = WART *sb.* I.

1527 ANDREW BRUNSWYKE's *Distyll. Waters* II. ccxix. Pj/1 The syck wrattes in the foundment. **1562**, **1629** [see WART *sb.* 1]. **1768** ROSS *Helenore* I. 30 Black hairy wrats . . Out-throw her fiz were like mustaches seen. **1808** JAMIESON. **1825** BROCKETT *N.C. Words* s.v.

wrat(e, obs. or Sc. pa. t. of WRITE *v.*

†**wratbyhe**. *Obs.*—1 [Of obscure origin; perh. f. Cornish *wrath* WRASSE + *bihan* small.] (See quot.)

1443 in *Bekynton's Corr.* (Rolls) II. 238 Magister Tregoran dedit piscem vocatum base et le wratbyhe alias a tenche of the see.

wratch, etc.: see WRETCH, etc.

wrath (rɑːθ, rɒθ, U.S. rɑːθ), *sb.* Forms: *a.* 1 *wræððu*, -o, 3 *wræððe*, 2 *wredða*, 3 *wredðe* (*wreadðe*), 2-3 *wreððe*, 3-4 *wreþþe*, 4-5 *wretthe*. *β.* 1 *wraððo*, 3 *wraððe* (*wraððhe*), *wraðþe*, 3 *Orm.*, 4-5 *wraþþe*, 4-5 *wratthe*. *γ.* 3 *wraðe*, 4-5 *wraþe*, 4-6 *wrathe*; 3 *wrað*, 4- *wrath* (4 *wragh*, 5 *wraap*, *wraugh*, 7 *wrauth*). *δ.* *Sc.* 5-7 *wraith*, 6 -the, 6 *vraith*, vr-, *wrayth* (*wrayith*). [OE. *wræððu*, -o, = *wræþþu*, f. *wrāþ* WROTH *a.* + -*þu*:—Teut. -*ipō*: see -TH¹. Cf. WRETHE *sb.*

The original long vowel (æ) was shortened before the double consonant, and gave the two ME. types *wreþþe* and *wraþþe*. From the latter comes the mod. *wrath*, with later lengthening of the *a*, as in *path*, *lath*. The pronunc. (rɑːθ), regarded by Walker (1791) as 'more analogical', and formerly common in Eng. use but now displaced by that with the rounded vowel (rɒːθ), and later by (rɒθ), is still given as the standard by American dictionaries.]

1. Vehement or violent anger; intense exasperation or resentment; deep indignation:

a. In the phrases *for*, *to*, *þon*, *of*, *with* (†*mid*), or esp. *in wrath*.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark iii. 5 [Jesus] ymb-sceawde hia mið wræððo . . cued to ðæm menn, aßen hond ðin. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 113 þe laured [scal] do hit for rihtwinesse. . . and noht for wreððe. *a* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 121 Ne he ðe ðurhwuned on wraþþe, ne he ðe wuneliche lið on hordome. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1361 þe Keiser kaste his heaued, as wod mon, of wraððe. *Ibid.* 2048 Hu wrakeliche, wenestu, wule he, al o wraððe, wreken on þe, wrecche! **13..** *Guy Warw.* (C.) 3326 It is Guy, That in wrath from the woll departi truly. **1382** WYCLIF *Mark* iii. 5 He biholdyng hem aboute with wrathe . . seith [etc.]. *c* 1400 *Destr. Troy* 6697 Then for wrath of his wound . . He gird to a greke. *c* 1450 *Myrr. our Ladye* II. 79 Some vse when here the fende named in play or in wrathe to saye Aue Maria. **1586** MARLOWE *1st Pt. Tamburl.* II. ii, My heart is swolne with wrath, on this . . villaine Tamburlaine and of that false Cosroe. **1590** SPENSER *F.Q.* II. xii. 86 Yet being men they . . stared ghastly, . . some for wrath, to see their captiue Dame. **1663** DRYDEN *Wild Gallant* II. (1669) 24 Come not near me to night, while I'm in wrath. *c* 1743 SIR C. H. WILLIAMS *Wks.* (1822) I. 203 Great Earl of Bath, Be not in wrath, At what the people say. **1798** WORDSW. *Peter Bell* 348 On he drives with cheeks that burn In downright fury and in wrath. **1882** 'OUIDA' *Maremma* I. 243 But we may go in wrath.

b. In general use. Occas. *personif.*

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 105 Wreððe hafð wununge on þes dusian bosme. *a* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 41 All ðare hwile ðe ðu wraððe oðer nið hauest mid te. *c* 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3863 ðer ros wreððe and strif a-non Aȝen moysen and aaron. **1338** R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 6 He ne suffred neuere wrath to be aboute. **1362** LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. VI. 98 Beo wel i-war of wraþþe þat wykkide Schrewe. *c* 1412 HOCCELEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 3872 Wratthe, þe body of man inward fretith. *c* 1425 *Cast. Persev.* 210 in *Macro Plays* 83 Wretthe, þis wrecche, with me schal wave. *c* 1450 *Cov. Myst.* (Shaks. Soc.) 214 Ageyn hym wraþe if thou accende The same in happ wyllle falle on the. **1526** TINDALE *Ephes.* iv. 31 Let all bitternes, fearnes and wrath . . be put away from you. **1590** SPENSER *F.Q.* I. iv. 35 Such one was Wrath, the last of this vngody tire. **1640** G. SANDYS *Christ's Passion* II. 201 Wrath, the

Nurse of War. 1691 HARTCLIFFE *Virtues* 125 Upon every trifle they shall be provoked to Wrath. 1781 COWPER *Expost.* 132 He judg'd them with as terrible a frown As if not love, but wrath, had brought him down. 1839 J. H. NEWMAN *Par. Sermon*. IV. ii. 40 Wrath was abroad and in his path. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xlvii, Mrs. Brown's daughter looked out . . . and there were wrath and vengeance in her face. 1885 10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm. App. I. 143 He was now full of wrath and resentment against them.

transf. 1827 POLLOK *Course T.* v. 595 He . . . heard the weltering of the waves of wrath. 1848 O. W. HOLMES *Battle of Lexington* iii, Fast on the soldier's path Darken the waves of wrath.

c. With qualification (adj. or poss. pron.).

a. c900 *Rituaale Eccl. Dunelm.* (Surtees) 12 Ælc bitteresse & irra & wræððo . . . sie ȝ inmmen from ivh. c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 67 For-ȝif pi wreððe and pi mod, for penne is pi bode god. c1205 LAY. 1441 Corineus . . . seide þas ilke word mid muchelere wreððe. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* IV. 163 þe way was y-opened for to take wreche of al olde wrepppe. a1400 R. Gloucester's *Chron.* (Rolls) II. 857 þis spousing was enchesen of gret hate & wrepppe. c1440 *York Myst.* xxvii. 154 Of my wretthe wreke me I will.

β. a1200 *St. Markher.* 18 þa warð þe reue woð and beð . . . o great wræððe bringen forð a uet. c1205 LAY. 6379 Ah hit was muchel hærmne . . . þat purh his wræððe his wi wes awemmed. a1250 *Owl & Night.* 941 þe wrepppe binympet monnes red. c1350 *Will. Palerne* 728 ȝif þemperour were wiþ me wroþ his wrepppe forto slake. 1390 *Gower Conf.* I. 154 The king . . . Was . . . so wel paid That al his wraththe is overgo. c1425 *Cursor M.* 5085 (Trin.). Mi wrepppe is clene fro me goon. γ. c1300 *Havelok* 2719 Do nu wel with-uten fiht, Yeld hire þe lond . . . Wile ich forgiue þe þe lathe, Al mi dede and al mi wrathe. c1374 CHAUCER *Anel. & Arc.* 51 Mars which . . . The old wrath of Juno to fulfillle Hath sette the peoplis hertis . . . on fyre Of Thebes [etc.]. c1440 *Generydes* 1373 Yet in his wraught this thought he euer among, If he shuld avenge hym sodenly [etc.]. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* II. vii, His mayster . . . by grete wrathe beganne to bete gym. 1526 TINDALE *Ephes.* iv. 26 Lett nott the sonne goo doune apon youre wrathe. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III.* II. i. 106 Who sued to me for him? Who (in my wrath) . . . bid me be aduis'd? 1616 T. SCOT *Philomythie* II. C.3, Ech roreth out his wrath, Nor other need of drums or trumpets hath. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* iv. 651 The Seer . . . could not yett his Wrath asswage. 1735 POPE *Prol. Sat.* 30 Which must end me, a Fool's wrath or love? 1796 MME. D'ARBLAY *Camilla* I. 339 When he had respectfully suffered her wrath to vent itself, he made apologies. 1862 THACKERAY *Philip* xxvii, His chafing, bleeding temper is one ray; his whole soule one rage, and wrath, and fever. 1871 B. TAYLOR *Faust* (1875) I. xxv. 209 The evil one with terrible wrath Seeketh a path His prey to discover.

δ. c1480 HENRYSON *Fox, Wolf, & Cadger* 7 In his wraith he werryit thame to deid. c1520 M. NISBET *N. Test.* (S.T.S.) II. 238 *marg.*, As for malice or vnlawful wraith, it is vtrly forbiddin. c1614 SIR W. MURE *Dido & Æneas* I. 296 His hoarie head he reares Above the waters, toss'd by Juno's wraith.

d. Righteous indignation on the part of the Deity.

c900 *Rituaale Eccl. Dunelm.* (Surtees) 8 God, . . . beado folces ðines biddendes rvmmodlice biseh, & sv'oppa ðines wræððo . . . ymbwoend. a1200 *Vices & Virtues* 21 Fondie we te kelien godes wræððe mid teares. a1300 E.E. *Psalter* xciv. 11 (E.), Als in mi wrath swore I best, If þai sal in-ga in mi rest. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 780 He takyp more to wrepppe þat synne þan [etc.]. 1382 WYCLIF *Ezek.* xxxviii. 19 Saith the Lord God, myn indignacioun shal styre vp . . . in my wrath. a1450 *Knt. de la Tour* 13 Forto apease the wrathe of God . . . thei . . . fasted. 1535 COVERDALE *Hosea* xiii. 11, I gae the a kinge in my wrath. 1562 WINJET *Wks.* (S.T.S.) I. 30 For the abusing of thir dayis . . . God is at wrayith with vs. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 803 As when the wrath of Jove Speaks thunder. 1667 — *P.L.* III. 406 To appease thy wraith . . . [thy Son] offered himself to die For mans offence. 1827 POLLOK *Course T.* x. 556 The native fires, which God awoke, And kindled with the fury of His wrath. 1853 T. PARKER *Theism, Atheism*, etc. p. li, To appease the wrath of God, or purchase his favour.

e. *transf.* Violence or extreme force of a natural agency, regarded as hostile to mankind or growth.

1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Jan. 19 Thou barrein ground, whome winters wrath hath wasted. 1608 *The Great Frost* in Arber *Garner* (1895) I. 86 [This] may teach them . . . in summer to make a provision against the wrath of winter. 1648 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* II. xvi, Stern bristles hedg'd up high His back, which did all wrath of thorns defie. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of Lake* IV. xxi, A wasted female form, Blighted by wrath of sun and storm. 1813 — *Rokeby* vi. xxi, Mine be the eve of tropic sun! . . . No twilight dew's his wrath ally. 1833 WORDSW. 'If Life were slumber' 34 She knelt in prayer — the waves their wrath appease. 1876 SWINBURNE *Erechtheus* 588 All her flower of body . . . With the might of the wind's wrath wrenched.

2. An instance of deep or violent anger; a fit or spell of ire or fierce indignation.

a1200 *Vices & Virtues* 41 Ðe dieule . . . ararð upp ðe wræððes and þe cheastes and te bitere wordes. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 294 Bituex þe kyng of France & þe erle . . . Was pat tyme a distance, a wrath bituex þam nam. c1375 *Cursor M.* 27671 (Fairf.), To deme a man til ille for a wrap he has him tille. a1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 2310 In a wrath, þe wale kyng swyth Him of his principalete priued. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* II. v. (1883) 68 Hit is better to leue a gylty man vnþunysshyd than to punyshe hym in a wrath or yre. 1535 COVERDALE 2 *Cor.* xii. 20 Lest there be amonge you, debates, envyenges, wrathes, stryuynges. 1596 SPENSER *F.Q.* IV. vi. 8 So both to wreake their wrathes on Britomart agreed. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* III. iii. 79 Lingring perdition . . . shall step by step attend You, and your wayes, whose wraths to guard you from [etc.]. 1855 M. ARNOLD *Balder Dead* III. 79 For haughty spirits and high wraths are rife Among the Gods. 1864 TENNYSON *Aylmer's F.* 706 When some heat of difference sparkled out, How sweetly would she glide between your wraths.

†3. a. Impetuous ardour, rage, or fury. *Obs.* c1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* iii. 78 [They] go vpon the oost . . . by soo grete wrathe that it was merueyll. 1539 BIBLE

(Great) 2 *Macc.* iv. 25 Bearynge the stomach of a cruel tyraunt, & y^e wrath of a wyld brute beast. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV.* I. i. 109 Henrie Monmouth, whose swift wrath beate downe The neuer-daunted Percie to the earth. 1601 — *Twel. N.* III. iv. 257 Your opposite hath in him what youth, strength, skill, and wrath, can furnish man withall.

†b. The ardour of passion, love, etc. *Obs.* — 1600 SHAKS. *A.Y.L.* v. ii. 44 They are in the verie wrath of loue, and they will together.

4. Anger displayed in action; the manifestation of anger or fury, esp. by way of retributory punishment; vengeance: a. Of the Deity, etc. Freq. in *wrath of God, day of wrath*; also fig. in phr. *like the wrath of God*, dreadful, terrible; dreadfully, terribly.

c950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke xxi. 23 Bið forðon ofer-suiðnisso micelo on-ufa eorðo & wræððo folce ðissum. 1050-72 in *Leofric Missal* (1883) 1/1 Hæbbe he godes curs and wræð ealra halgena. c1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 27 He . . . biððeð pat godes wræððe cume uppen his oþen heued. 1382 WYCLIF 1 *Thess.* i. 10 Jhesu, that delyuerede vs fro wraththe to comynge. c1375 *Cursor M.* 27362 (Fairf.), þe day of wrap & wrakc & sorou. c1440 *Jacob's Well* 107 Sodeynly panne þe wretthe & þe wreche of god schal fallyn on þe. 1482 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 61 The whyche . . . tresur to hem fro daye to daye the wrathe of owre sauour ihesu cryste in the daye of hys wrathe. 1535 COVERDALE *Ecclus.* vii. 16 Remembre that the wrath shall not be longe in tarienge. 1583 W. HUNNIS *Ps.* vi. 11 If into heauen I might ascend, . . . O Lord, thy wrath would thrust me forth downe to the earthe againe. 1624 CHARLES *Job* ix. 46 The smoothest pleader hath No power in his lips, to slake his [sc. God's] Wrath. 1682 PEDEN *Lord's Trumpet* (1739) 13 When Wrath is so near, I pray You to take notice what Ye are doing, for . . . [soon] Ye shall . . . be overthrown with the Wrath of God. 1758 S. HAYWARD *Serm.* i. 7 Sin brings us under the wrath and curse of God. 1793 R. GRAY *Poems* 133 To redeem [him] from wrath, His Saviour once did bleed and die. 1820 SHELLEY *Fragm., Satire upon Satire* 14 Then send the priests . . . To preach the burning wrath which is to come. 1846 MRS. A. MARSH *Father Darcy* II. v. 107, I have dedicated myself to . . . the god of wrath and vengeance. 1936 J. BUCHAN *Island of Sheep* xii. 224 The winds . . . in the Norlands can blow like the wrath of God. 1955 M. ALLINGHAM *Beckoning Lady* xiii. 178 Fancy coming home like the wrath of God and starting a fight. 1967 'R. FOLEY' *Fear of Stranger* (1968) v. 56 You look like the wrath of God, Kay. . . No flesh on you to speak of. 1982 'W. R. DUNCAN' *Queen's Messenger* ii. 19 Are you ill? You look like the wrath of God.

b. Of persons.

a1500 *Songs & Carols* (Warton Cl.) 98 The chylderyng ȝyng, With Herowdes wretthe to deth were wrong. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* IV. (S.T.S.) II. 94 The wraith and Ire of romanis aganis þe veanis war deferrit to þe nixt ȝere. 1602 CHETTLE *Hoffman* III. (1631) F.3, The Dukes squadrons arm'd with wrath and death, Watch but the signall when to ceaze on you. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* IX. 14 The wraith Of stern Achilles on his Foe. 1781 COWPER *Table-T.* 597 Man lavish'd all his thoughts on human things—The feats of heroes, and the wrath of kings. 1805 WORDSW. *Prelude* x. 26 Avengers, from whose wrath they fled In terror. 1836 J. GILBERT *Chr. Atonem.* (1852) 339 Legal wrath is nothing else than the just award of crime. 1868 HEAVYSEGE *Jezebel* I. 130 My red wrath shall fall like you bright bolt.

5. An act done in anger or indignation.

c1440 *Jacob's Well* 42 ȝif ȝe wyl fle fro þe iiij wrettys [sic] of god. 1525 LD. BERNERS *Frøiss.* II. ccvii. [ccii.] 633 To make amendes for all wrathes, forfaytes, and dommages that euer they dyde to hym. 1611 BIBLE *Zech.* vii. 12 There-fore came a great wrath from the Lord of hostes. a1754 E. ERSKINE *Serm.* (1755) 200 No Man can read his Bible . . . but he must hear of a wrath to come from God upon Impenitent Sinners.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *wrath-bearing*, *-fire*, *-storm*; objective, as *wrath-provoking*, *†-venger*; similitative, as *wrath-faced*, *-like*; instrumental, as *wrath-bewildered*, *-consume* v., *-kindled*, *-swollen*.

a1593 MARLOWE *Ovid's Elegies* II. v. 52 She . . . kissed so sweetly as might make Wrath-kindled loue away his thunder shake. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II.* I. i. 152 Wrath-kindled Gentlemen be rul'd by me. 1600 ROWLANDS *Lett. Humours Blood* iv. D.8 b, [To] Threaten to drawe his wrath-venger, his sworde. 1644 VICARS *God in Mount* 42 The guilt of such a wrath-provoking sin. 1656 SPARROW tr. *Boehme's Aurora* xix. 434 When thou fightest against him, thou stirrest up his wrath-fire. 1718 WODROW *Corr.* (1843) II. 356 The extraordinary stirrings of the Jacobites, and their elevation, especially since our wrath-like divisions at Court. 1757 W. WILKIE *Epigoniad* III. 66 They fly dispers'd, nor tempt . . . His wrath-swoln neck and eyes of living fire. 1798 SOTHEYBY tr. *Wieland's Oberon* (1826) I. 27 His sov'reign's wrath-bewilder'd brain. 1850 FITZGERALD *Omar K.* lvi, Whether the one True Light Kindle to Love, or Wrathconsume me quite. 1886 J. PULSFORD *Infoldings* v. 63 The wrath-storm which our sins have created. 1892 G. MEREDITH *Poems* 81 It surges like the wrath-faced father Sea To countering winds. 1920 T. S. ELIOT *Ara Vos Prec* 12 These tears are shaken from the wrath-bearing tree.

Hence †*wrathhead*, *wrath*; deep anger. *Obs.* — 1

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 12460 God . . . Oper forȝyuep . . . alle with gladehede, Or alle abydeþ to hys wraphede.

wrath, ME. var. WROTH a.

wrath (rɔ:θ), a. [var. of WROTH a., prob. by association with WRATH sb.] Wroth, angry, irate; deeply resentful.

Somewhat rare; but occurring in various passages of the Douay Bible (1609) where earlier versions and the Authorized have *wroth*.

1535 *Trevisa's Barth. De P.R.* xviii. xii. 316/2 No creature is . . . more feruente to take wreche than is the bee when he is wrathe. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* II. i. 20 Oberon is passing fell and wrath [*rime* hath]. 1596 SPENSER *F.Q.* IV. viii. 43

Whereat the Prince full wrath, his strong right hand . . . heaued vp on hie. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Gen.* xl. 2 Pharao being wrath against them . . . sent them into the prison. 1629 MILTON *Hymn Nativ.* xviii, Th'old Dragon under ground . . . wrath to see his Kingdom fail. [1847 MADDEN *Layamon* I. 271 When he was wrath with any man.] 1860 THACKERAY *Lovel* iv, Lovel, seldom angry, was violently wrath with his brother-in-law. 1862 BULWER *Strange Story* II. 229, I saw the child . . . looking towards us, and . . . she seemed near. I felt wrath with her.

†*wrath*, v. *Obs.* Forms: a. 3 wreððen, wreppen, 4 wrepppe, wretpe, 4-5 wretthe. β. 3 wræððen (wraððhin), 3-4 wrappen (3 *Orm.* -enn), 4-5 wrappe, 5 wrappi, wrathpe; 3 wratþen, 4-5 wratthen, wratthe. γ. 3 wraðen, wraþen (wraþþen), 4 wrathen, 4-5 wrape, wrathe, wraþ (4 wragh), 4-6, *arch.* 9 wrath. δ. 5, *Sc.* 6 wraith. [Early ME. *wreppen*, *wraþpen*, f. the sb. (see WRATH sb.), taking the place of the earlier *wrēðen* WRETHE v. Cf. AWRATH, IWRATHE, and WROTH vbs.]

1. *intr.* To be or become angry, wrathful, or wroth; to feel, manifest, or exhibit anger; to rage.

c1205 LAY. 1450 þa iwredðede [*v.r.* iwreððede] Numbert. a1225 *Leg. Kath.* 746 þe king bigon to wreððen [Cott. MS. wraððen]. a1300 E.E. *Psalter* cxii. 10 Sinful sal se, and wrath he sal. 13. . . E.E. *Allit. P.* B. 230 3et wratthen not þe wyȝ, ne þe wrech saȝtled. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. I. 189 Yfhe wrathe, we mowe be war. 14. . . *Sir Beues* (C.) 632 He wrathed sore yn is hertte. c1450 *Merlin* i. 3 Whan the gode man herde this he gan to wratthe.

transf. c1275 LAY. 4577 þe wind com on wipere, And þe see wreppede. *Ibid.* 12006 þe see was wonderliche wod; and þe see wrappede.

b. Const. *against*, *at*, *in*, *with* (a person or thing).

1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 111 Whan wrathed Steuen with Dauid of Scotland. c1400 *Destr. Troy* 8442 The worthy at his wife wrathat a litte. a1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 20 A gentille knyghtes doughter that wratthed atte the tables with a gentille man.

transf. a1300 E.E. *Psalter* cxxiii. 3 When wrathed [*Harl.* wraged] breth of þa in us þus. 1382 WYCLIF *Ps.* cxxiii. 3 Whan shulde wrathen the wodnesse of hem in to vs.

c. Of the Deity: To be or grow righteously angry or wroth (*against* or *with* a person or thing).

a1300 E.E. *Psalter* vii. 12 (H.), God demer rith, . . . Nou wrathes be alle daies in land? 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. ix. 128 Caymes kynde & his kynde coupled togideres, Tyl god wratthed for her werkis. 1382 WYCLIF *Lam.* v. 22 Lord, . . . thou wrathedist aȝen vs hugely. a1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 77 And God wratthed therwith, and bade Moysees [etc.].

2. *trans.* To make (a person, etc.) irate, angry, or wroth; to move to wrath, ire, or deep resentment; to anger, enrage; to annoy, vex.

In very frequent use from c1350 to c1450.

a. c1205 LAY. 3771 Heo werðede [c1275 Hii wreppede] heore moddri mare þene heo sulden. a1225 *Ancr. R.* 426 On alle wise uorberen to wreððen hore dame. a1250 *Prov. Ælfred* (A.) 276 And þu hi myd wode irewreppede heudest. 1340 *Ayenb.* 8 þet we ous loky þet we ne wreppi uader ne moder wytindeliche. c1380 *Sir Ferumib.* 4045 þenk eftsones to auenged be of þe Amyral pat hap y-wrepped þe. a1450 *Northern Passion* (D) 727 Petir stod wretthid ful sore.

β. a1200 *Vices & Virtues* 99 Se ðe hafð ðese eadi mihte, him ne mai no mann wraðhin. c1205 LAY. 7200 þe feond wes iwaððed. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 7721 ȝif þat eni him [= William] wrappede, adoun he was anon. 13. . . *K. Alis.* 3369 (Laud MS.), Ne shaltou wrappe þi lorde gent. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 8584 Of pese dedly synnes seuen, þat we wrappe with God of heuene. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. II. 85 Serwe on þi lokkes, Such weddingy to worche to wrappe with trupe. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P.R.* xviii. xii. (Bodl. MS.), þe bee whan he is ywrapped. a1450 MYRC *Par. Pr.* 1142 Hast þou . . . Wrathped þy neȝbore in any þynge? 1480 CAXTON *Cron. Eng.* ccxxx. 244 The kyng was gretely meuid and wratthed.

transf. c1205 LAY. 12006 þe sæ wes wunder ane wod, and ladliche iwaððed.

absol. 13. . . *Pol., Rel., & L. Poems* (1903) 260 Lechery . . . wastep . . . hit wrepppe, hit bigilep.

γ. a1275 *Prov. Ælfred* (B.) 276 If . . . þu hire mid wode wraped hauedest. a1300 *Cursor M.* 16427 Pilate forthoght þaim bath to wrath. c1350 *Will. Palerne* 981, I wraped him neuer . . . in word ne in dede. c1369 CHAUCER *Dethe Blanchche* 1151 Ne I wolde haue wrathed her truly. c1450 *Mirk's Festial* 29 But yn a myshappe . . . þay wrapeden hor modyr. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* fvb, Wrath not thy neighbors next the. [1866 MORRIS *Ayenb.* 8 *marg.*, Wrath not thy Father or Mother.]

transf. c1205 LAY. 4577 þe wind com on weðere, and þa sæ he wraðede [c1275 þe see wreppede].

δ. c1400 *Brut.* II. 310 Wherfore þe King was gretly . . . wraithed. c1480 HENRYSON *Fables, Wolf & Lamb* 43 He wraithit me, and than I culd him warne Within ane ȝeir.

b. Predicated of things. Somewhat rare.

a1225 *Leg. Kath.* 238 Ne nis na þing hwerþurh monnes muclehe madschipe wreððeð [Cott. MS. wraððeð] him wið mare [etc.]. c1230 *Hali Meid.* 27 Moni þing schal ham wraððen & gremen. 1472 *Paston Lett.* III. 57 Sir Jamys is evyr choppyng at me . . . with syche wordes as he thynkys wrathe me.

c. To provoke or incite (the Deity) to righteous anger or wrath; to move to displeasure. Also const. *to*, *with*.

In frequent use from c1325 to c1425.

c1200 ORMIN 5615 þu Ne darst noht Drihtin wrappenn. a1225 *Ancr. R.* 138 Monnes soule . . . geð ut of hire heie heouenliche cunde, & forte paien hire, wreððet hire schuppere. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 8813 þo þou . . . wrappedest so muche god. c1330 *Amis & Amil.* 606 Al our

ioie.. We schuld lesc, and, for that sinne, Wretthi God thereto. *c1375 Cursor M.* 1227 (Fairf.), Vn-sely cayme.. and alle his osspringe.. wrapet him wip wikked rede. *c1430 Hymns Virg.* (1867) 16 Ihesu, for them y þe biseche þat wrappen þee in ony wise. *a1450 MYRC Par. Pr.* 978 Hast pou.. I-wrathþad py god greuowsly? *1485 CAXTON St. Wenefr.* 3 Thou hast gretely wrathede oure lorde.

3. *refl.* To wax, become, or grow angry.

c1205 LAY. 20345 Arður.. þis gomen isæh and wraðde hine sulfne. *a1225 Juliana* 10 (Royal MS.), þa þe reue iherde þis, he wreððede him swiðe. *c1290 Beket* 972 þo þe king i-saiþ him so come he wrathþede him a-non. *c1320 Sir Tristr.* 661 Fader, no wretþe þe nouzt. *1362 LANGL. P. Pl.* A. iii. 176 Whi þou wrappet þe now, wonder me pinkep. *c1420 Chron. Vilod.* 4125 Hurre brother wratthede hym þo at þe last. *c1450 LOVELICH Grail* xxxvii. 644 Anon to wraththen sche gan hire there. [1822 SCOTT *Peveril* xxii, 'Nay, wrath thee not, Will,' said Ganslesse.]

4. *trans.* To be or become angry with (a person); to treat with anger, ire, or deep resentment.

c1374 CHAUCER Troylus iii. 174 Ne I nyl forbere, yf þat ye don a-mys, To wrathen [Harl. MS. wreth] yow, and whil þat ye me serue, Cherycen yow right after ye deserue. *1375 Cantic. de Creatione* 288 þut bad me Michel with word od Worschipen þe, or elles god Wolde wrathen me. *c1430 in Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 191/11 Whi wrappist þou me? y greue þee nouzt. *1567 TURBERV. Ovid's Ep.* 73 b, A cruell stepdame will my children wrath [L. *saeviet in partus meos*].

5. To afflict, harm, or injure; to bring to grief or disaster.

13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 1529 Gwichard, who hap wretþed þe, & where hastow in bateyle þe? 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 726 For werre wrathed hym not so much, þat wynter was wors. *Ibid.* 2420 Adam, .. Salamon.. and Samson.. were wrathed wyth her [sc. woman's] wyles. 14.. *Guy Warw.* 1123 (Camb. MS.) 3252 Or they be passyd the hyllys hye, We schall þem wrath.

Hence †'wrather, one who excites, or moves to, wrath; †'wrathing *vbl. sb.* *Obs.*

1382 WYCLIF *Ezek.* ii. 7 Therfor thou shalt speke my wordis to hem, .. for thei ben *wraththers. *c1370 Stacions of Rome* 107 (Vernon MS.), *Wrapping of Fader or Moder 3if hit be In godes nome he forziueþ þe. *c1400 Cato's Morales* 296 in *Cursor M.* 1673 For nane alde wrapping hate nouzt þi frende if he change his manere. *c1440 Jacob's Well* 241 Princepally for dreed of god, for dreed of his wrerthyng. *a1450 Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 24 For drede of sclaunder and wrathinge of ber.

wrath, obs. erron. f. RATHE *adv.*

c1400 Arth. & Merl. 2145 (Linc. Inn MS.), King Anguis .. Did arme his men wrath & prest.

wrathe, obs. pa. t. of WRITHE *v.*

wrathier-hail, -heal, -hele, *vair.* WROTHER-HEAL *Obs.*

wrathful ('rðθfʊl, 'rɔ:θ-), *a.* [f. WRATH *sb.* + -FUL. Cf. WRETHFUL *a.*, WROTHFUL *a.*]

1. Of persons, etc.: Harboursing wrath; full of anger; enraged, incensed.

a1300 E.E. Psalter xvii. 51 Mi leser artou.. Fra mi faes ben wrathful ai. *c1330 Spec. Gyde Warw.* 262 þeder he wole lihten adoun Wrappful.. as a lion. *1388 WYCLIF Prov.* xv. 18 A wrathful man reisith chidyngis. *1398 TREVISA Barth. De P.R.* xviii. xii. (Bodl. MS.), Some [bees] bep.. foule to sijt and more wrappfulle panne oper. *c1430 in Babees Bk.* 12 [Do not be] to wiede, ne to wrapful, neiper waaste. *1568 GRAFTON Chron.* II. 758 He was malicious, wrathfull, enuyous. *1582 STANYHURST Æneis* i. (Arb.) 18 Al the frushe and leauings of Greeks, of wrathful Achilles. *1624 MILTON Ps.* cxxvii. 10 O let us his praises tell, That doth the wrathfull tyrants quell. *1697 DRYDEN Virg. Georg.* iv. 344 The Bees, a wrathful Race. *1697 — Æneis* viii. 81 With sacrifice the wrathful queen appease. *a1718 PRIOR 2nd Hymn of Callimachus* 22 Lest wrathful the far-shooting God emitt His fatal Arrows. *1775 ADAIR Amer. Ind.* 303 They hung down their heads, and looked gloomy and wrathful. *1846 W. H. MILL Five Serm.* (1848) 116 Describing Himself as wrathful against the determined sinner. *1877 'RITA' Vivienne* i. viii, Her heart was wrathful and indignant. *1892 A. E. LEE Hist. Columbus, Ohio* i. 315 The tollgates.. were torn away by wrathful citizens.

b. *transf.* Of things.

1563 SACKVILLE Induct. Mirr. Mag. i. The wrathful winter proching on a-pace. *1590 SPENSER F.Q.* ii. ii. 30 Thousand furies wait on wrathfull sword. *1591 SYLVESTER Du Bartas* i. ii. 902 Thou hast felt the rod Of the revenging wrathfull hand of God. *1605 SHAKS. Lear* iii. ii. 43 The wrathfull Skies Gallow the very wanderers of the darke. *1697 DRYDEN Æneis* ix. 461 Nor with less Rage Euryalus employs The wrathful Sword, or fewer Foes destroys. *1709 STEELE Tatler* No 38 ¶3 They stripp'd and.. fought full fairly with their wrathful Hands. *1727 THOMSON Summer* 741 Unusual Darkness.. gains The whole Possession of the Air, sur-charg'd With wrathful Vapour. *a1835 Mrs. HEMANS Treasures of Deep* ii, Sweep o'er thy spoils, thou wild and wrathful main. *1841 DICKENS Barn. Rudge* lvi, A threatening light.. which showed like a wrathful sunset.

2. Marked or characterized by, expressive of, of the nature of, wrath or anger.

1390 GOWER Conf. III. 98 Full of ymaginacion Of dresdes and of wrathful thoghtes, He fret himselven al to noghtes. *c1400 26 Pol. Poems* xx. 77 þan comep she hom in wrappful hete. 14.. *Of Manners* 8 in *Babees-bk.* 34 Of wrapful wordis euermore be ware. *1514 BARCLAY Ægloges* (1570) Biv/1 Better is.. a small handfull with rest and sure pleasaunce, Then twenty dishes with wrathfull countenance. *1535 COVERDALE i Macc.* ii. 49 Now is the tyme of destruccie and wrathfull displeasure. *1610 Mirr. for Mag.* 630 Ioue in the tempest of his wrathfull mood Pow'd downe his wreake vpon my wretched hed. *1631 GOUGE God's Arrows* iii. 53. 186 Wrathfull and revengefull affections. *1716 POPE Iliad* v. 1092 Him.. with a wrathful Look The Lord of Thunders view'd. *1834 PRINGLE Afr. Sh.* vii. 252 The tremendous screams of their wrathful voices. *1900 Longm. Mag.* March

452 His accelerated and somewhat wrathful departure from Brackenhurst.

Comb. 1885 C. J. LYALL Anc. Arab. Poet. 5 A lion wrathful-eyed.

'**wrathfully**, *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY². Cf. WRETHFULLY *adv.*] In a wrathful manner; angrily, wrothfully.

c1330 Arth. & Merl. 1362 þe king for þis was swiþe wroþ, wrapfulliche swore his op. *1390 GOWER Conf.* II. 375 Bot he hem wrathfulli congeide. *1596 SPENSER F.Q.* v. i. 18 His sword he drew all wrathfully. *1601 SHAKS. Jul. C.* ii. i. 172 Let's kill him Boldly, but not Wrathfully. *1740 RICHARDSON Pamela* II. 281 He.. said wrathfully, Begone, rageful Woman! *1833 Mrs. BROWNING Prometh. Bound* 189 Zeus.. Right wrathfully Bears on his sceptral soul unbent. *1839 DICKENS Nickleby* xii, 'Hold your tongue,' replied Miss Squeers wrathfully. *1885 L'pool Daily Post* 7 March 4/8 The recollections of our correspondent have apparently been wrathfully awakened.

'**wrathfulness**. [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The state, condition, or quality of being wrathful; wrath, ire.

1382 WYCLIF Eccles. i. 28 Wrathefulnessse forsothe of wilfulnessse.. is his turnyng vp so doun. *1546 Wycklyffes Wycket* (1828) 3 He shalbe rayseed tyll the wrathfulness before determynd is perfectlye made. *1583 GOLDING Calvin on Deut.* xxxii. 189 There is no wrathfulness in God. *1591 HARRINGTON Orl. Fur.* xlii. i. What iron band, or what sharp hard mouth'd bit.. Can bridle wrathfulness and conquer it? *1683 J. PORDAGE Mystic Div.* 118 To the Fire-essence do belong, Fierceness, Fieriness, Wrathfulness. *1727 BAILEY* (vol. II), *Irefulness*, wrathfulness. *1859 GEO. ELIOT Adam Bede* i, Adam.. was afraid she had thought him serious about his wrathfulness.

†'b'wrathless, *a.* Also 4 wrappelees. [f. WRATH *sb.* + -LESS.] Free from, devoid of, wrath.

c1310 in Wright Lyric P. xii. 42 To alle that ever hider eode, To do to day my neode, ichulle be wraththe-lees. *1598 SYLVESTER Du Bartas* ii. i. *Handycrafts* 635 Tost by the Fiend that fiercely tortures them, With wrathlesse wounds their senselesse members wounding. *c1636 WALLER On C'tess Carlisle's Chamber* 14 Before his feet so sheep and lions lay, Fearless and wrathless, while they heard him play.

wrathli, wraðliche, etc., *vair.* WROTHLY *adv.*

†'b'wrath money. *local.* [var. of *warth-money*: cf. *ward-silver* *WARD sb.*² 25 b and *WARDPENNY*.] = WROTH MONEY.

1730 THOMAS Dugdale's Warwick I. 4/2 The party paying it must go thrice about the cross, and say *The Wrath* money, and then lay it in the hole of the said cross before good witness.

†'b'wrathness. *Obs.* -¹ In 5 wrathenesse. [f. ME. *wrath* WROTH *a.* + -NESS.] Anger.

c1440 York Myst. xxxi. 12 Dragons.. schall derke in þer denne In wrathe when we writhe, or in wrathenesse ar wapped.

wrathy ('rðθi, 'rɔ:θi, U.S. 'rɑ:θi), *a.* Orig. (and chiefly) U.S. [f. WRATH *sb.* + -Y¹. Cf. WROTHY *a.*]

1. Of persons: Feeling, or inclined to, wrath; wrathful, very angry, incensed.

1828 J. F. COOPER Red Rover viii, You are wrathy, friend, without reason. *1828 WEBSTER, Wrathy*, very angry; a colloquial word. *1833 [S. SMITH] Lett. J. Downing* viii. (1835) 66 When things don't go right, and the Ginerall gits a little wrathy. *1859 TROLLOPE West Indies* (1860) xiii. 198 They are wrathy men, and have rough sides to their tongues. *1887 Mrs. D. DALY S. Australia* 307 The wrathy owner of the missing horses.

absol. *1902 C. G. HARPER Holyhead Road* II. 185 But the habitations of wrathy and peaceable are alike overthrown.

b. Marked or characterized by, expressing or evincing, deep anger or indignation.

1873 MISS BROUGHTON Nancy II. 112 A wrathy red light has come into his deep eyes. *1890 Big Game N. Amer.* 352 He was in a decidedly wrathy mood. *1897 H. G. WELLS Certain Matters* (1898) 131 Coming back to wrathy swearing.. I am sorry to see it decay.

2. *transf.* Of the elements, etc.: Fierce, violent, tempestuous.

1872 TALMAGE Serm. 100 The shrill blast of the wrathiest tempest that ever blackened the sky or shook the ocean. *1876 MISS BROUGHTON Joan* i. xxxi, The wrathy, masterful, winter sea.

Hence 'wrathily *adv.*, wrathfully. U.S.

1847 WEBSTER. 1879 G. W. CABLE Old Creole Days (1883) 235 The negro begged; the master wrathily insisted.

†'b'wratling, *a.* *Obs. rare* -¹. [Imitative. Cf. RATTLING *ppl. a.*] (See quot.)

a1661 FULLER Worthies, Leics. ii. 126 [They] have an harsh and wratling kind of Speech, uttering their words with much difficulty and warling in the Throat, and cannot well pronounce the Letter R.

wraught, obs. f. *wrought*, pa. t. of *WORK v.*

wraw, *a.* *Obs. exc. dial.* Forms: *a.* 3 wrah, 4 wragh, 5 wrage; 4 wrau, 4-5 (9 *north. dial.*) wrawe, 4-6 wraw, 9 *dial. raw.* β. 4 wrowe, wro3, 5 wrow. [Of obscure origin; the forms indicate an unrecorded OE. *wrah, *wrah3.]

1. Of persons: Angry, wrathful, wroth.

c1205 LAY. 3354 þis iherde Leir king; þar fore he wes swiþe wrah. *a1275 Ancr. R.* 416 (Cott. Cleop. MS.), þe nan from ow ne parti wið scandele, ne wrah, ne mispaiet. *a1300 Thrush & Night.* in Hazl. E.P.P. I. 51 Hy gladieth hem that beth wrowe. *c1315 SHOREHAM* iv. 139 Wat helpe hyt so wrau to be, Wanne þou wyþ gode chys? *c1386 CHAUCER*

Manc. Prol. 46 With this speche the Cook wax wrooth & wraw. *c1400 Rule St. Benet* (Prose) 8 Wisit pat er seke;.. Sahtil pat ere wrage. *c1500 Blowbol's Test.* in Halliw. *Nugæ P.* 9 They be than so angry and so wraw. *a1529 SKELTON Agst. Gernesche* ii. 40 Thow mantycore,.. Wranglynge, waywyrd, wytles, wraw, and nothyng meke. *1811 WILLAN in Archaeol.* (1814) XVII. 163 *Wrawe*, angry. *1887 Kentish Gloss.* 126 *Raw*, angry.—Sittingbourne.

b. Marked or characterized by anger or ire.

c1475 Promp. Parv. (K.) 80/2 Clenchyn a-3en in wraw speche,.. obgarrio.

2. Peevish, crabbed; perverse, contrarious.

c1386 CHAUCER Pars. T. ¶677 Accidie maketh hym heuy thoughtfull & wrawe [v.rr. wrowe, *Ellesm. MS.* wrawful]. *c1440 Promp. Parv.* 99/2 Crabbyd, awke, or wrawe... *ceromicus, bilosus. Ibid.* 533/1 Wraw, froward, ongoodly, .. *protervus, exasperans.*

Hence †'wrawful *a.*, = WRAW *a.* 2; †'wrawly *adv.*, perversely; †'wrawness, perverseness.

c1386 CHAUCER Pars. T. ¶680 He dooth alle thyng with anoy and with wrawnesse, slaknesse, and excusacion. *c1400 wrawful* [see prec. 2]. *c1440 Promp. Parv.* 18/2 Awkely, or wrawly, *perverse, contrarie. Ibid.* 533/1 Wrawnesse, *protervia, .. bilositas, peruersitas.*

†'b'wraw, *v.* *Obs. rare.* Also 5 wrawen. [ad. MDu. *wrauwen*, of imitative origin.] *intr.* To miaul, as a cat; to mew.

1481 CAXTON Reynard x. (Arb.) 22 Thenne.. began he [sc. Tybert the cat] to wrawen for he was almost ystranglyd. *1662 in Pitcairn Crim. Trials* III. 611 Quhan we vold [= would] be in the shap of cattis, we did nothing but cry and wraw.

†'b'wrawed, *a.* *Obs.* 5-6 wrawd. [f. WRAW *a.* + -ED¹.] Angry, wroth; perverse.

a1400-50 Wars Alex. 3167 For he.. Is wrawid & wrathfull of will, & wode as a lyon. *c1460 J. RUSSELL Bk. Nurture* 590 Crabbe is a slutt to kerve & a wrawd wight. *1582 STANYHURST Æneis* iv. (Arb.) 116 O forlorne Dido, now now wrawd destenye grubs the.

wrawl, *v.* *Obs. exc. north. dial.* Also 4 wral, 6 wrall, 7 wralle; 5, 7 wrawle, 6, 8 wraul, 7 wraule, 6- wrawl (9 *dial. rawwl*); also 4 (9 *dial.*) warl. [Imitative. Cf. Norw. *vraula, raula*; also *.Da. vraale, vræle*, Sw. *vråla*, LG. *wrålen*, to squall, bellow, scream.]

1. *intr.* To utter an inarticulate noise or sound; to bawl, squall.

c1440 Ipomydon 1835 Thus he wrawled & wroth a way, One word to hyr he nolde not say. *1573 TUSSEUR Husb.* (1878) 191 Bralling foolles that wrall for euerie wrong. *1601 HOLLAND Pliny* I. 152 Man alone.. she hath laid all naked upon the bare earth, .. to cry and wraule presently from the very first houre that he is borne into this world. *1606 BRYSKETT Civ. Life* 53 Euer crying and wrawling for they wote not what. *c1780 M. LONSDALE in S. Gilpin Songs Cumbl'd.* (1866) 276 Guidman stuid wrauln at her lug, An' ca'd her many a garrick. *1811 WILLAN in Archaeol.* (1814) XVII. 163 *Wrawling*, quarrelling, or contending with a loud voice. *1859 B. BRIERLY Daisy Nook* 49 A lot o' dhrunken chaps rawlin' wi' one another.

†2. Of cat: = WRAW *v.* *Obs.* -¹

1596 SPENSER F.Q. vi. xii. 27 Some were.. of cats, that wrawling still did cry.

Hence 'b'wrawler, one who brawls or squalls; 'b'wrawling *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

c1440 Promp. Parv. 37/2 Blaffoorde or *warlare [Winch. MS. wrawlere]... *traulus*. *1579-80 NORTH Plutarch* (1595) 55 Neither were.. [the children] cryers, wrallors, or vnappy children. *a1530 HEYWOOD Johan & Tyb.* (Brandl.) 365 She wyll neuer leue her *wrawlyng. *1570 Gooce Popish Kingd.* ii. (1880) 21 b, Children there that lye, And fill their eares with wrawling all the night. *1603 HOLLAND Plutarch's Mor.* 1219 Cries and wrallings of an infinite number of children. *1623 New & Merry Prognost.* E2, Beggars loue brawling, And wretches loue wrawling. *1573 A. ANDERSON Expos. of Benedict.* 30 To quiet & make stil his wanton and *wrauling cryes. *1619 R. WEST Bk. Demeanor* 60 in *Babees Bk.*, Nor practive snuffingly to speake, for that doth imitate The brutish Storke.. and the wralling cat. *c1620 Welsh Embass.* iv. 1510 [The women] to still their wrawlinge bastards cry out, husht [etc.].

wrax, erron. f. RAX *v.* *Sc. and north. dial.*

'b'wraxle, *v.* *Obs. exc. s.w. dial.* Forms: 1 wraxlian, 3-4 wraxli, 4-5, 9 *dial.* wraxle (5 wraxle, wraxle, 9 *dial.* wroxle, roxle). [OE. *wraxlian* = OFris. *wraxlia* (WFr. *wrakselje, wroksele*). The orig. form of the stem may have been *wrasc-*; cf. OE. *wræstlian* WRESTLE *v.*] *intr.* To wrestle; to contend, strive. Also *fig.*

c1000 ÆLFRIC Gen. xxxii. 24 Ða wraxlode an engel wið hyne on merigen. *c1000 — Saint's Lives* xxiii. 578 Ic wæs .. on unmaetum costnunga winnende and wraxligende. *c1275 LAY.* 1858 Brutus hine lette witie.. fort lete fondien of his main stronge, to wraxli to vore Brutus. *Ibid.* 24699 Somme þar wraxlede and wiper-game makede. *c1305 St. Swithin in E.E.P.* (1862) 45 þe baldelike he miȝte Huppe ouer diche wher hi wolde, bope wraxli and figte. *1393 LANGL. P. Pl.* C. xvii. 67 Yf wratthe wraxle with þe poure he hath þe worse ende. *Ibid.* 80 baugh coueteye wolde with þe poure wraxle þei mai nat come to-gederis. 14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 593 *Luctor*, to wraxle. *1746 Exmoor Scolding* (E.D.S.) 217 [Though he] wriggled, and pawed, and wraxled, and twined. *1851, 1886* in Devon and Isle of Wight glossaries. *1854 N. & Q.* 16 Dec. 479 (Cornish dialect), *Wroxle*, .. to wrestle.

Hence 'b'wraxling *vbl. sb.* (also *attrib.*) and *ppl. a.*

c1000 ÆLFRIC Voc. in Wr.-Wülcker 150 *Luctatio*, wraxling. *c1275 LAY.* 1871 þar was mochel folk at þare wraxlinge. *1746 Exmoor Scolding Gloss.*, *Wraxling*,

wrestling. 1837 [MRS. PALMER] *Dial. Devon Dialect* 9 Wot'n go... to rail and zee the wraxlin'. 1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* xxx, I'll... buy me a pair of horn-tips to my shoes, like a wraxling-man. 1867 ROCK *Jim an' Nell* cxxi. (E.D.S.), Jan's wraxling ginged tha wildego. 1892 SARAH HEWETT *Peasant Speech Devon* 150 A wraxling match between Joe Gooding and Dick Gollop.

wray, ME. or dial. var. **wro**.

† **wray**, *v.*¹ *Obs.* Forms: *a.* 1 *wrōgan*, *wreġan*, 2 *wreigen*, 3 *wrezen*, *wreizen* (*Orm.* *wre3(h)enn*); 2 *uureien*, 2-3 *wreien*, 3 *wreyen*, 5 *wreyyn*; 3 *wreize*, 3-4 *wreie*, 3-5 *wreie*, 4-5 *wreje* (5 *wreythe*), *wregh(e)*, 4 *wre3*, *wrei*, 4-6 *wrey*; 4 *wroie*, *wroye*, 4-5 *wraie*, 5-6 *wray* (6 *Sc.* *wray*). *β.* 3-4 *wryghe*, 5 *wriġh*, 4-5 *wryen*, *wrye*, 4-6 *wrie*, 5-6 *wry*. *γ.* 5 *Sc.* *wre*, 8 *north. dial.* *wree*. [Comm. Teut.: OE. *wrōgan*, *wrēgan*, = OFris. *wrōgia*, *wrēia* (WFr. *wroegje*, EFr. *wrōge*, *wrōg*, NFr. *wrōge*), MDu. *wroeghen* (Du. *wroegen*), OS. *wrōgian* (MLG. *wrogen*, *wrugen*, *rogen*, LG. *wrogen*, *wragen*, *wrōgen*, *rōgen*), OHG. *ruogen* (MHG. *rüegen*, G. *rügen*), ON. *rægja* (Icel. *rægja*; Norw. *røgja*, Sw. *röja*), f. the stem *wrōs-* (ON. *róg* slander, strife), with a variant *wrōh-* which appears in Goth. *wrōhs* accusation, *wrōhjan* to accuse.

By normal dialectal developments, three main forms of the stem appear in ME., viz. *wrey* or *wray*, *wry*, and northern *wre*.]

I. 1. To accuse, denounce, or inform on (a person); to expose (one) by revealing or divulging information, etc., to one's harm, prejudice, or discredit; to charge with a crime, offence, fault, etc.; = BEWRAY *v.* 2.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) D 74 *Defferuntur*, meldadun uel wroegdum. a 900 O.E. *Martyrol.* 10 Dec. 216 Ic cume eft on domes dæg ond þe þonne wrege beforan Crystes þrymsetle. c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Saints' Lives* ii. 184 Færde þa ardlice... to þam heah-geræfan... and begann hi to wrægenne. a 1122 O.E. *Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1069, Her man wræge ðone biscop Ægelric on Burh, & sence hine to West mynstre. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 29 Ne mei þe deofol þe wreien on þan oðre liue. c 1200 ORMIN 2889 He [sc. Joseph] wass ædmod & milde, I þatt tatt he ne wolde noht Unnshapig wimmann wreghenn. c 1275 *Passion of our Lord* 84 in O.E. *Misc.* 39 þe maystres of þe temple. For to vndermyne wre loured... were euer abute... þet heo hynemyhte wreie and don of lyf-daye. c 1330 *Amis & Amil.* 1090 Than told Sir Amis al that cas... And hou the steward gan hem wrain. 13... *Gosp. Nicodemus* (G.) 204 Pilat... seþin to þe iewes... sayd: '3e wrigh him wrangwisly'. c 1400 *Ywayne & Gaw.* 2859 Sho hyr talde... How wikkidly that sho was wreghed. And how that traytys on hir legged. c 1450 *Northern Passion* (MS. Ad.) 609 þe iewes... ledde hym... vn to... cayphase And by fore hym þe gune hym wrye. 1480 CAXTON *Trevisa's Higden* (1482) 167 b, Cithero... borwede of one scilla, but he was wryed er þe bargayne was made.

refl. c 1100 O.E. *Chron.* (MS. D) an. 1076, Walpeof eorl ferde ofer sæ & wreide hine sylfne & bæd forgyfenysse. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 27 3if þu wreiest þe seolfen to pine scrifte. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 304 Mon schal wreien him suluen ine scrifte. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 26706 Qua wil noght himseluen wrei... nu ar he dei. *Ibid.* 16466, 26701, 26716, 26967. fig. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 306 Let... pouhtes munegunge wreie him, & bicleoue him of misliche sunnen. a 1400 in *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 741 In bremlif bale he schal hit by, When cience his werk schal wrye.

b. Const. to (another), of (a thing).

a 900 O.E. *Martyrol.* 8 Nov. 202 þa wreġdon þa oðre crafþan hy to þam casere. c 1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Luke xxiii. 14 Ic nanne intingan findan ne mæg on þisum men of þam þe ge hine wreġað. c 1132 O.E. *Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1132, þa com Henri abbot & uureide þe muneces of Burch to þe king. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 172 He was sone iwreied to þe kinge Salomon. c 1308 *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 200 Ic am i-wreid, Sire, to the, For that ilk gilt. 13... *Guy Warw.* (A.) 3303 Here wil we no longer duelle: To pempour y-wraid we bep. c 1400 *Pepysian Gosp. Harmony* 95 þe Jewes euerichon bigonnen hyn to wryen of many pinges. c 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* (Roxb.) 134 Antipater... was wryed to the Emperoure Julian.

fig. c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 141 3if ure hierte... us ne undernemeð naht ne ne wreihð of nane sennne.

refl. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 26668 þat pou... wrei þi-self and oþer noght O þi wicked werkes wroght.

2. To declare or assert (something about another) by way of accusation or denunciation; to bring forward as a charge.

a 900 O.E. *Martyrol.* 25 Aug. 152 þa foron þa hæðnan bisecepas ond þæt wreġdon to þæs kyninges breðer. c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* 1. 478 þæt folc wrehton his modigysse to ðam casere. c 1200 ORMIN 416 þatt fand mann nan ping upponn hemm To wreġenn, ne to tælenn. c 1350 *Northern Passion* (1616) II. 128 Somme... folwede [Jesus] pinges to here; Wat þey miȝte on him leye To þe fuws vorto wrey.

3. To reveal or disclose (something secret) perfidiously or prejudicially; to divulge with breach of trust; to betray; = BEWRAY *v.* 3.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 26690 þat pou sa wrei aun dede, þat na soigne be for þe lede. c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 3656 Non com oȝain... To wray þe kinges parlement. 1387 TREVISIA *Higden* VI. 281 But his counsaile was i-wried, and he was... i-closed in an abbay. 1398 — *Barth. De P.R.* xvi. lxxxiii. (Tollem. MS.), Quyrin...; þis ston wryep and discouereþ in slep counsel and priuite. c 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 3546 Priamus has... spies That ȝoure consayl to him wries. c 1465 *Eng. Chron.* (Camden, 1856) 21 As sone as the said lordes wiste that their counselle was discovered and wraid, they fledde. 1563 *Mirr. Mag.*, *Lord Hastings* xlvii, Alas, are counsels wryed to catch the goode? 1576 GASCOIGNE *Steele Glas* 128 Cut out my tong, Least I should wraye this bloody deede of his.

4. gen. To reveal, disclose, or divulge (some fact, etc.); to declare, communicate, or make known; = BEWRAY *v.* 4.

a 1300 *Floriz & Bl.* 533 (Camb. MS.), Hele ihc wulle, and noþing wreie, Ower beire cumpaignie. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xviii. (*Egiphtian*) 1446 Ilke ȝere solemnynt fest... þai mad, one þat day scho deyt, fra þat he hyre lyf had wreie. c 1386 CHAUCER *Frankl. T.* 216 In his songes somewhat wolde he wreie His wo as in a general compleynynge. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* ix. iii. 5 The deid is auld for to beleif or wry, Bot the memor remanis perpetually. a 1542 WYATT in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 57 Your sighes yow fet from farre, And all to wry your wo. 1587 TURBERV. *Trag. T.* R viij b, Then gan hee wrie his former loue, And all his flame vnfolde.

transf. c 1374 CHAUCER *Compl. Mars* 91 Alas I dye; the toreh is come that al this world wol wrie. 1398 TREVISIA *Barth. De P.R.* x. v. (Tollem. MS.), Leye bischineþ derke pinges, and wryep pinges þat ben hidde, and makeþ hem knowe.

b. Const. with clause. *rare*—1.

1575 *Gascoigne's Poesies* Wks. 1097 I. 23 In thundring verse he wrayes, where highest mindes be thrall.

5. To reveal or make known the presence of (a person); to expose; = BEWRAY *v.* 5.

c 1290 *Beket* 1214 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 141 With him a morewe he nam His oste, þat he ne scholde him wreize forto he aftur weie cam. 13... *Sir Beues* (A.) 1675 And for þai scholde him nouȝt wrain, Vnder his hond he made him pai. 13... *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1706 þa sued hym fast, Wreizeand hym ful weterly with a wroth noyse. c 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 18341 To an... old tour... He hyed hem with mechel hast For drede lest thei were y-wraied.

b. To put (a person) in the power of an enemy or opponent by disloyalty or treachery; to betray.

c 1275 *XI Pains of Hell* 111 in O.E. *Misc.* 150 He... þat wreyep his sibbe oþer him fled Abuuhen his eyen þe flod gep. 1387 TREVISIA *Higden* V. 117 He was i-wreyed by þe same doughter Fausta... and fliz to Marcil. *Ibid.* 157 þere he was i-wreyed wip [= by] a wenche.

c. To expose (a person) by revealing some hidden fact or private matter.

c 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 5460-2 Als stolne thyng wreghes a thefe funden, When it es about his neke... bounden, Right swa þai syns sal wregeþ þam þar. c 1400 T. CHESTRE *Launfal* 147 Thane seyde syr Launfal... Tell ye no man of my povert... The knyghtes answered and seyde tho, That they nolde him wreie never mo. c 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Prose) 36 Wre3 hir noht þat te ping es sent to. a 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 62 As a theef wol be gladde there as he ys hidde, and not be wrayed of his thefte. a 1500 *Hist. K. Boccas & Sydracke* (? 1510) G j, Yf thou thy frende it sey, And wenyst he shal the not wrey.

6. To reveal, disclose, or discover the true character of; to show or expose the existence or presence of (something desired to be concealed); to betray; = BEWRAY *v.* 6.

1576 WHETSTONE *Rock of Regard* I. 38 Thou mayst (God wot) thy visard vaile, thy wanton maskes are wrayd. *Ibid.* 65 The colours which I wore, my secrete mourning wrayde. 1587 *Mirr. Mag.*, *Stater* iii, The werke wrayes the man, seeme he neuer so fine.

7. To expose to view; to exhibit, show.

1587 TURBERV. *Trag. Tales* Miii, He wried his wounds, he shewde the shameful blows, He told the trayters treason.

8. intr. or absol. a. To denounce or slander a person; to make accusations, cast aspersions.

c 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 2179 Meriadok wrayep ay, To þe king þus seyde he. 1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* II. 84 þat no manere mede shulde make him wrye. 14... *Wheatley MS.* (1921) 8 First ye glopered, now ye wrye.

b. To make disclosures or statements.

c 1425 *Thomas of Erceild* (1875) 2 If j solde sytt to domesdaye, with my tonge, to wrobbe and wrye. c 1440 *York Myst.* xxi. 25 They askid yf I a prophete ware, And I saide 'nay'; but sone I wreyede high aperte.

c. north. dial. (See quot.)

1781 J. HUTTON *Tour to Caves* (ed. 2) Gloss., To wree against a person, to insinuate to his disadvantage.

Hence **wraying** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* (Z.) 317 *Accusatio*, *wreġing. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 200 þe vifte [vice] is Wreunge. *Ibid.* 304 We schulen beon cwiite of wreunge ette mucle dome. c 1330 *King of Tar* 739 The ladi bad hire maydens anon, Out of hire chumbre forte gon, For drede of wryying sake. c 1400 *Cursor M.* 27671 (Cott. Galba MS.), þai will of deme a man with ill, And has bot a wreghing par-till. c 1425 *Eng. Conq. Ireland* 102 He beleued þe fals mannys talys & wryyngne. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 2 þe on [rule] riwleð þe heort, þe makeð hire efne & smeðe, wiðute knotte & dolke of woh inwit & of *wreinde. c 1300 *Cursor M.* 26350 [One should be] Wreia[n]d [in confession].

† **wray**, *v.*² *Obs.*—1 [See RAY *v.* 2. 5.] *intr.* To evacuate.

1620 I. C. Two Merry *Wid-maids* IV. i. M I, I thinke some Bird was traid in my eye.

† **'wray**. *Obs.* In 1 *wregere*, 2 *wreiere*, 4 -er, *wraier*, 4-5 *wreyer* (4 *wroyer*), 5 -are; 5 *wryer*; 5 *north. wear*. [OE. *wrēgere* (f. *wrēgan* WRAY *v.*¹ + -ER), = OFris. *wreiere*, *wrōger* (NFr. *wrōger*), MDu. and older Flem. (Kilian) *wroegher*.] One who denounces, discloses, or betrays; an accuser or betrayer.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 336 Se ealda wregere cwæð, Buton ge forġifon [etc.]. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 57 Prud ne wreiere ne beo þu noht. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 26709 He sal forsoth on domes-dai Hauw wreiers [Fairf. wroyers]. c 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 3288 þe wraiers þat weren in halle, Schamly were þai schende. c 1425 *Eng. Conq. Ireland* 102 He was onful & bakbyter, wreyer, false & traytury. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 37/2 Blabbe or labbe, wreyare of counselle, . . . *futilis*. c 1460 [see WRAGGER].

† **'wrayful**, *a. Obs. rare.* In 3 *wreiful*. [f. WRAY *v.*¹ + -FUL.] Containing or involving an accusation; accusatory.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 302 Schrif schal beon wreiful, bitter, mid seoruwe. *Ibid.* 304.

wrayst(e), *obs.* f. WREST *sb.*¹ and *v.*

wrayt, *obs.* pa. t. of WRITE *v.*

wraythe, *obs.* pa. t. of WRITHE *v.*¹

† **'wrayward**, *a. Obs. rare.* [Prob. an alteration of WAYWARD *a.*] Perverse, foward.

1516 *Prompt. Parv.* (W. de W.) Cijj, Crabbyd or wraywarde, *aceronicus, bilosus*. c 1520 *Dial. Creatures Mor.* v. Bij b, A wrayward man cawseth stryues. *Ibid.* xii. D ij b, A sertayne lorde somtyme had a wraywarde seruand and iuylwylyd.

wrd, *obs.* form of WORD.

wre, *obs.* Sc. variant of ORE².

1633 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 44/2 Reservand to ws yron wre and all other kynd of mineralis.

wrc, Sc. var. WRAY *v.*¹ *Obs.*; *obs.* var. WRY *v.*¹

wreachednes(s), *obs.* ff. WRETCHEDNESS.

wreade, *obs.* var. WREATH *v.*

1584 TWYNE *Æneid* xi. S i, The snake about him wryling winding wreades with griefe of wound.

wreak (*rick*), *sb.* Now *arch.* or *Obs.* Forms: 4-7 wreke (4, 6 wreke), 6-7 wreake, 6- wreake. [In early Northern texts a normal variant of WRECHE *sb.*; in later use prob. substituted for this, or for WRAKE *sb.*, under the influence of the verb.]

1. Pain or punishment inflicted in return for an injury, wrong, offence, etc.; hurt or harm done from vindictive motives; vengeance, revenge.

In frequent use from c 1540 to c 1620.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 22604 (Edin.), Saint peter sal be domb þat dai... For doubt of demeritis wreke [Cott. wreke]. c 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 5338 Howe suld pai pan in þe tyime of wreke Bestille? *Ibid.* 6101 þe day of wreke and of vengeance. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 12072 þe sayntis of hell Were wode in hor werkis for wreke of Achilles. c 1420 *Prose Life Alex.* 76 þe wrethe & þe wreke of oure goddez... fallez apou vs. ? a 1500 *Chester Pl.* x. 120 [On] knaves childer in this Countrey... shall fall the wreake. 1526 TINDALE *Procl. Romans* Wks. (1572) 49/1 He describeth the outward conuersation of Christen men, how they ought... to commit wreake and vengeance to God. 1559 *Myrr. Mag.* 63 But wrath of man his rancour to requite, Forgets all reason... I mean by rancour the parentall wreke. 1587 TURBERV. *Trag. T.* (1837) 158 Such flames of wreake withyn her bowels fride. 1629 SIR W. MURE *True Crucifixe* 2610 Thee carying headlongs to eternal wreake. 16... *Faithful Friends* II. iii, Nor shall the life or goods Of thee, or any thy assistants, feel The wreak of his just anger. 1865 *Reader* No. 142. 309/2 Pride and haughty wreak from irreverence begin. 1899 SWINBURNE *Rosamund* II. 32, I would... the wreak of wrath were wroken, and I Dead.

b. In the phr. to perform, seek, spend, work, and esp. take (...) wreake.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* Prol. 202 (Petyt MS.), When god toke wreke of Caym synne. c 1375 *Cursor M.* 1156 (Fairf.) þat I sal take wreke on þe. c 1440 CAPGRAVE *St. Kath.* v. 61 God... on the puple tho took ful grete wreke. c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxv. 191, I saide that he shuld... of youre warkys take wreke. 1525 TINDALE *Wks.* (Parker Soc. 1849) 229 No man should avenge himself, or seek wreak, no, not by the law. 1576 WHETSTONE *Rock of Regard* I. 72 Sith fortune threates, to woorko our wreake of ioy, By sowing of our ship in seas of yre. 1582 BATMAN *Barth. De P.R.* XVIII. xi. 349/1 No creature is more wreakful, nor more feruent to take wreak than is the Bee when he is wrath. 1607 R. C[AREW] tr. *Estienne's World Wond.* 162 A huswife of Millan... wrought her wreake vpon the fruite of her womb. 1613 CHAPMAN *Rev. Bussy d'Ambois* III. i. E 4 Dull and drossie in performing Wreake of the deare bloud of my matchless Brother. 1855 SINGLETON *Virgil* II. 308 Enough of wreak is spent; A passage hath been made among the foes. 1886 BURTON *Arab. Nts.* (abr. ed.) I. 167 None murdered the damsel but I; take her wreak on me this moment.

† **c. in (or for) wreake of**, in revenge of, in return or repayment for. *Obs.*

1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* II. iv, Would to heaven (In wreak of my misfortunes,) I were turn'd To some faire water-Nymph. 1599 PEELE *David & B. Eij*, They with him conspire, And kill thy sonne in wreake of Thamaris wrong. 1606 CHAPMAN *Gentl. Usher* v. i. 123 Death... he shall indure For wreake of that joyes exile I sustaine.

d. The avenging of a person.

1613 CHAPMAN *Rev. Bussy d'Ambois* III. i, Your defect of spirit and valour, First showne in lingring my deare Brothers wreake.

† **2.** An instance of taking vengeance or exacting retribution. *Obs.*

a 1300 E.E. *Psalter* xvii. 51 God þat giues wrekes me to. a 1547 SURREY *Æneid* II. 750 Of the Grekes the cruel wrekes. c 1586 C'LESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* LXXI. xiii, My tongue... [shall] Tell thy wreakes and their disgraces, Who this ill to me procure. 1591 SPENSER *Ruins of Time* 397 Where mortall wreakes their blis may not remoue. a 1626 BP. ANDREWS *96 Serm.*, *Passion* xvi. (1661) 224 To take a wreak or revenge upon sin.

† **3.** Harm, injury, damage. *Obs.*

15... *Parl. Byrdes* 24 in Hazl. *E.P.P.* III. 168 All the byrdes... Said, the Hauke doth vs great wreake. a 1542 WYATT in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 38 Vnkind tongue, to yll hast thou me rendred, For such desert to do me wreke and shame. 1591 SPENSER *Ruins Rome* 33 These same olde walls... is that which Rome men call. Behold what wreake, what ruine, and what wast. a 1600 MONTGOMERIE *Mindes Melodie*

vi. 44 My foes... would rejoice To see my wreak, and would my soule subuert.

wreak (rik), *v.* Forms: 1-2 wrecan, 2 wrecon, 2-4 wreken (3 wræken, wærken, wreoken, *Orm.* wreken), 5 wreke, wreky; 3-7 wreke (4 wreke), 4-5 wreke (4 wreke), wreke, 5 wreke, wreike, 5-6 *Sc.* wreik, 6-7 wreake, 6- wreake (7-8 reake); *Sc.* 5 wryk(e), 6 wrik. *Pa. t.* 1 wræc (uuraec, *pl.* wræcon), 2-3 wrac, 3 *pl.* wrake, 4-5 wrake, 5 wrak, 6-7, 8-9 *arch.* wroke (9 wrok); 4 wreke. *Weak:* 4-5 wreked, 4 -id, 5 -yd, *Sc.* -yt, 6- wreaked (8 raked, 9 wreake'd, *Sc.* wreakit). *Pa. pple.* 1 wrecon (gewrecon), 3-4 wreken (iwreken), 3-5 wreke (4 y-, 4-5 iwreke); 3-7, 9 *arch.* wroken (4-6 y-, 5 iwroken), 4, 5-6 *Sc.* wrokin, 4-5 wrokyn, 5 -yne, 6 wrokne, *Sc.* wrokin, wrockin, 6-7 wrocken; 4-5, 9 *arch.* wroke (4-5, 6 *arch.* ywroke, 5 iwroke), 6 wrooke, *Sc.* wrok. *Weak:* 6, 9 wreaked, 6 wrekte, wreackt, 7 wreakt, 9 *U.S.* reeked. [Common Teut.: OE. *wreacan* str. *v.* (*wræc*, *wræcon*, *wrecon*), = OFris. *wreka* (WFr. *wreke*), OS. *wrekan* (MLG. and LG., Mdu. and Du. *wreken*; also LG. *wræken*), OHG. *rēchan*, *rēhhan* (MHG. *rechen*, G. *rächen*), ON. and Icel. *reka* (Norw. *reka*; Sw. *vräka*), Goth. *wrikan* (to persecute), f. the Teut. stem *wrek-*, pre-Teut. **wreg-*, cognate with that of L. *urgere*. Cf. WRACK *v.*¹, WRECHE *v.*, WRECK *v.*², also A-, BEWREAK *vbs.*]

I. †1. *trans.* a. To drive, press, force to move. *Obs.* (OE. only.)

c725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) T 213 *Torquet*, uuraec. a1000 *Riddles* l. 1 (Gr.), Hwylc is hælepa þæs horsc... þæt þæt mæge aescgan, hwa mec on sið wræce? *Ibid.* xxi. 11 Me þurh hrycg wrecon hongap under an orponc pil.

†b. To cast or throw out of a place. *Obs.*

c1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3148 Ilc folc is to fode framen... And nozt ðor-of [sc. of a kid] vt huse wreken. *Ibid.* 3191 ðor he dolenen, ... and haenen up-brozt ðe bones ut of ðe erbe wreken.

†c. *transf.* With out. To pass or spend (time). Cf. DRIVE *v.* 21. *Obs.*—1

a1300 *Cursor M.* 1547 Quen sa fele yeier ar wroken oute, þe mikel spere es rune aboute.

†2. To banish or expel, to drive out or away. *Obs.*

c1100 *O.E. Chron.* (MS. D.) an. 1076, Sume hi wurdon gebende, & sume wrecon of lande. ?a1300 *Gregory* 216 Sc halpe þe pauer and þe lame, þe deul fram hir for to wreke. 1340 *Ayenb.* 215 Huerout he wreke þo þe zyalde and bozte ine þe temple.

fig. and *transf.* 1340 *Ayenb.* 189 Huanne he his esel wreke out of his uelazrede. a1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 4428 For all 3oure wisdom, I-wisod, is wroken to 3our tongis.

II. 3. a. To give vent or expression to, to exercise or gratify (wrath, anger, etc.); to vent.

a900 *Genesis* 2508 þas folc slean, cynn on ceastrum mid ewealmprea, & his torn wrecan. c1000 *Ag. Ps.* (Thorpe) lxxiv. 5 Ne wrece þu þine yre, wraðe mode, of cynne on cynn. c1200 *ORMIN* 19606 Forþ i let he takenn himm To wreken his tene. c1385 *CHAUCER L.G.W.* 324 He schal nat ryghtfully his yre wreke. 1421 26 *Pol. Poems* 83 Lete not vengeance þy wrappe wreke. Vengeance is goddis. c1430 *Syr. Gener.* (Roxb.) 4674 Darel roode wel wrothe and yll, For he had not wroken his fill. 1530 *PALSGR.* 785/1, I wreake myne anger. 1577 *HOLINSHED Chron.*, *Hist. Eng.* I. 231/1 The more to wreake his wrath, the King spoyled many Religious houses of their goods. 1596 *SPENSER F.Q.* iv. ix. 23 As when Dan Æolus... Sends forth the winds... Vpon the sea to wreake his fell intent. 1600 *HOLLAND Liuy* 323 They were staied... in this sweetness of wreaking their anger, and satiating their revenge. 1648 *Hunting of Fox* 10 [The] heart-breaking stile of Enemies; and such Enemies too, as to wreake their malice. 1819 *SHELLEY Cenci* iv. ii. 23 'Tis my hate and the deferred desire To wreake it, which extinguishes their blood. 1870 *BRYANT Iliad* iv. I. 113 So in time to come May Agamemnon wreak his wrath. 1878 *SEELEY Stein* III. 315 Stein wreaked his disappointment in unsparing criticism.

transf. 1794 *WORDSW. Guilt & Sorrow* 103 The only creature... On whom the elements their rage might wreak. 1817 *SHELLEY Rev. Islam* III. vii, Beneath most calm resolve did agony wreak Its whirlwind rage.

b. More usu. const. on (†in, against) or upon a person. (Freq. from c 1560.)

c1200 *ORMIN* 19866 3ho... þohhte patt 3ho sholld onn himm Wel wreken hire tene. c1374 *CHAUCER Troylus* v. 589 Wel hastow lord y-wroke on me þin ire. c1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* vii. (*James Minor*) 133 þar-fore þai wrekyt þar wodnes In þis Iamis, callit þe les. 1470-85 *MALORY Arthur* III. vii. 107 Leuer I had ye had wroken your angre vpon me. 1556 *Phaer Aeneid*, iv. (1558) Lij, On my brother fals I wroke my tene. 1588 *GREENE Pandosto* (1607) 9 Pandosto... determined to wreake all his wrath on poore Bellaria. 1627 *DRAYTON Agincourt* ccvi, I neuer will retire, Vntill our Teene vpon the French we wreake. 1697 *BURHOPE Disc. Relig. Assemb.* 180 As tho' they wou'd reake their Malice upon God. 1697 *DRYDEN Aeneis* xii. 1233 The moody Sire, to wreak his Hate On Realms. 1749 *SMOLLETT Regicide* Pref., I wreaked my Resentment upon the innocent Cause of my Disgraces. 1761 *HUME Hist. Eng.* lxiv. (1806) IV. 732 The church... persevered in the project of wreaking her own enmity against the nonconformists. 1818 *MRS. SHELLEY Frankenstein* viii. (1865) 119 That I might wreak the utmost extent of my anger on his head. 1840 *DICKENS Old. C. Shop* xiii, The dwarf... wanting somebody to wreak his ill-humour upon. 1871 *FREEMAN Norm. Cong.* IV. 112 To wreak a coward's spite on the corpse of the dead Harold.

c. *refl.* Of a passion, feeling, etc.: To give expression to (itself); to find utterance or free course.

1590 *SPENSER F.Q.* II. v. 5 Disleall knight, whose coward courage chose To wreake it selfe on beast all innocent. 1839 *DE QUINCEY Recoll. Lakes* Wks. 1862 II. 186 That the indignation of mankind should have wreaked itself upon the chief monsters. 1850 *HAWTHORNE Scarlet L.* xiii, In the education of her child, the mother's enthusiasm of thought had something to wreak itself upon. 1887 *R. S. STORRS in Libr. Mag.* Aug. 106 The Hellenic spirit... wreaked itself in immortal expressions on the choicest marbles and temples in the world.

d. To bestow or spend on a person, etc.; to expend.

a1586 *SIDNEY Sonn.* Wks. 1922 II. 303 She hath no other cause of anguish But Thereus love, on her by strong hand wrokne. 1819 *WIFFEN Aonian Hours* 107 To wreak Such love upon the task as [etc.]. 1871 *BROWNING Pr. Hohenst.* 174 God... Grants each new man... Intercommunication with Himself, Wreaking on finiteness infinitude. 1871 *B. TAYLOR Faust* (1875) I. iv. 76 *Mephis.* Here is the genuine path for you; Yet strict attention must be given. *Stud.* Body and soul thereon I'll wreak.

†4. a. To punish or chastise (a person); to visit with retributive punishment. Also *refl.* *Obs.*

c888 *ÆLFRED Boeth.* xli. § 3 þæt wæs þæt mon wræce & witnode hwone for his yfle. a1122 *O.E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1090, Se cyng wæs smægende hu he mihte wrecon his broðer Rodbeard, swiðost swencean. a1300 *Cursor M.* 11773 For to wreke þam was he bun þat þus did cast þair goddes dun. c1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxviii. 186 With the lues he [sc. Jesus] was so stad, to ded they can hym wreke. a1626 *BP. ANDREWS 96 Serm.* (1661) 165 To wreak our-selves for so often offering so foul indignities to Heaven.

transf. a1658 *LOVELACE Poems* (1904) 134 The desp'rate Heron... turns his last to wreak The palizadoes of his [sc. a falcon's] Beak.

†b. To injure, hurt, or harm (a person). *Obs.*

c1440 *Bone Florence* 104 He was... all to-brokyn, Ferre travelde in harnes, and of warre wrokyn. 1572 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxii. 124 Lat neuer thair nicht... Hauē strenth or power thame for to hurt or wreik. a1593 *MARLOWE tr. Ovid's Elegies* II. xi. 22 What each one speakes Beleeue, no tempest the beleueur wreakes [L. *credenti nulla procella nocet*]. 1683 *W. WALKER Phrascol. Gen.* 1351 In labour the stronger wreakes the weaker. In opere firmior (bos) imbecillior conficit.

III. 5. a. To avenge (a person).

In senses 5, 5b, very frequent c 1200-c 1600. The passive construction, to be wreaked (wroken), freq. implies that the revenge is taken by the injured party, and is thus equivalent to the reflexive use.

Beowulf 1385 Selre bið æg-hwæm þæt he his freond wrece þonne he fela murne. c950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke xviii. 5 Forðon woedo uel hefig wæs me... ðas widia ic wræco ða ilco. a1122 *O.E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 979, Hine nolden his eorðlican magas wrecan. c1205 *LAY.* 27612 Cumeð hidere to me, and wreke we Beduer min æm. c1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1856 Symeon and leui it bi-speken, And haugen here sister ðor i-wreken. c1320 *Sir Tristr.* 3295 Mani on slain þer lay... Ful wele wreken er pay. 13... *Sir Beues* (A.) 4466 Wrekep þour fader wiþ þour miztes. a1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 855 þe wee in his wreth wrekis his modire. c1450 *Merlin* xxv. 451 Thei thought well to be wroken when thei saugh tyme. ?a1500 *Chester Pl.* v. 101 Therefore how will I wroken be? 1530 *PALSGR.* 454/1 He wyll be wroken when you shall thyne lest. 1586 *J. HOOKER Hist. Irel. in Holinshed* II. 13/1 He counteth it for a sufficient reuenge, that he can reuenge and be wreaked. 1765 in *Percy Reliques* I. 106 And soon i' the Gordon's foul hartis bluid He's wroken his dear ladie. 1872 *TENNYSON Gareth & Lynette* 355 Grant me some knight to... Kill the foul thief, and wreake me for my son.

refl. c1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 179 Ne wree þu þe mid wussinge ne mid warienge. a1225 *Anr.* R. 186 Ne wrekie þe nout ou suluen, ne ne grucche þe nout. 1377 *LANGL. P. Pl.* B. v. 85 To wreke hymself he pouzte With werkis or with wordes when he seighe his tyme. c1407 *LYDG. Reson & Sens.* 369 Antropos, hir self to wreke, Doth ful many thredre breke. c1470 *HENRY WALLACE* I. 310 Will God I leiffe, we sall ws wreke on part. ?a1500 *Chester Pl.* xiv. 267, I am as wroth as I may be, And some way I will wreak me. 1530 *PALSGR.* 785/1 If thou cannest nat wreake the, byte the poste. 1596 *SPENSER F.Q.* v. viii. 44 How worthily... Justice that day of wrong her selfe had wroken. 1606 *BRYSKETT Civ. Life* 70 They that by combat seeke to wreake themselues. 1659 *SOMNER Dict.* s.v. *Wræcan*, *Vulgo dicimus*: to wreke ones selfe, or take revenge.

b. Const. of, on (†to, in), or upon (†up) one who has done harm, etc.

c950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke xviii. 3 Widia... cuoed wræc ðu mec of widerworde minum. 993 *Battle of Maldon* 279 He his singcyfan on þam sæmannum wurðlice wrec. a1200 *Vices & Virtues* 5 ðanne gelpð he ðat he is wel iwreken of his unwine. c1205 *LAY.* 12210 [To] wreken uppen [c1275 vppe] Maximien Valentin & Gratien. c1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2028 3he ðhenkeð on him for to ben wreken. c1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 5962 (Kölbing), þe king... Wele him wreke of his foman. 1362 *LANGL. P. Pl.* A. II. 160, I wolde be wreken on þis [B. II. 194 wroke of þo] wrecches. a1400 *Prymer* (1891) 31 In oure lordes name, y am wroken in hem. c1450 *Mirk's Festial* I. 88 Lorde... þou wreke me apon þis man. 1480 *CAXTON Trevisa's Higden* (1482) 358b, He wold be wroken vpon kyng rychard. 1575 *GASCOIGNE Dan Barth.*, *Dol. Disc.* 50 The Goddess of revenge devise So to bee wreackt on my rebelling wyll. 1596 *SPENSER F.Q.* iv. ii. 21 Both greedie fiers on other to be wroken. *Ibid.* iv. vi. 23 She... vpheld her wrathful hand, With fell intent, on him to bene ywroke. *transf.* 1390 *GOWER Conf.* II. 148 Be war forþi thou be noght sik Of thilke fievere [sc. jealousy]... For it wol in him-self be wroke. c1520 *SKELTON Magnyf.* 1566 That on suche a female my flesshe wolde be wroken. 1561 *NORTON & SACKV. Gorboduc* iv. i, Canst thou hope... that these handes will not be wrooke on thee? 1592 *SHAKS. Rom. & Jul.* III. v. 102 To wreake the Loue I bore my Cozin, Vpon his body that hath slaughter'd him.

refl. c1200 *ORMIN* 914 God wolld he himm wreken on þe preost. c1205 *LAY.* 15052 Wrekeð eow þif þe cunnen of Sexisce monnen. a1300 *Cursor M.* 11963 Vt nebburs mai þam on vs wreke. 1338 *R. BRUNNE Chron.* (1810) 46 Of fals Edrik fayn wold he him wreke. c1385 *CHAUCER L.G.W.* 395 *Balade*, Hym deynyth nat to wreke hym on a flye. c1450 *Crt. of Love* 702 She saw an egle wreke him on a flye. a1542

WYATT Poet. Wks. (1913) I. 131 Comfort thy self my wofull hert, Or shortly on thy self the wreke. 1561 *NORTON & SACKV. Gorboduc* II. i, Attempt redresse by armes, and wreake your-self Upon his life. 1604 *PARSONS 3rd Pt. Three Convers.* Eng. 192 The Duke thought best to vse this mans meanes, to wreake himselfe of the said Bishops. 1611 *CHAPMAN Widowes T.* III. i, That I may wreake my selfe vpon my selfe. 1730 *T. BOSTON Mem.* x. (1899) 292 They usually wreaking themselves on the ministers as the cause of all public evils. c1830 in *Child Ball* III. 438/1 He micht hae spared my lady's life, And wreakit himsell on me! 1872 *TENNYSON Gareth & Lynette* 800 Well that ye came, or else these caitiff rogues Had wreake'd themselves on me.

†c. To revenge (a person) of (on) a wrong, injury, etc. *Obs.*

1340-70 *Alisaunder* 76 þe King was carefull in hert, Till hee were wroken of þe wrong. c1386 *CHAUCER Frankl. T.* 56 On euery wrong a man may nat be wreken. a1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 3199 He will me wreke on 3oure werke wers þan of thefes. c1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 4634 Be wroke he wold of sum thing. c1450 *Erle Tolous* 1028 Syth hyt ys soo, Cryste wreke hur of hur woo. a1529 *SKELTON Col. Cloute* 600 Then ye wyll be wroken Of euery lyght quarell. 1535 *STEWART Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) I. 34 To find ane way of Pechtis to be wrok Of thair injure. 1590 *SPENSER F.Q.* II. v. 21 Stirring to be wroke Of his late wrongs. 1591 2nd *Pt. Troub. Raigne K. John* (1611) 73 Tis Gods decree to wreake us of these harmes.

refl. c1386 *CHAUCER Can. Yeom. Prol. & T.* 620 On his falshede fayn wolde I me wreke, If I wiste how. c1470 *HENRY WALLACE* v. 22 About the park thai set... With vi hundreth... All likly men, to wreke thaim of thair harmes. 1577 *HOLINSHED Chron.* II. 606/2 The man... wanted nothing but faithful subiectes to haue wroken himselfe of such wrongs. 1578 *T. PROCTER Gorg. Gallery* Biv, That thou and I shall ioyne in ioy, and wreake vs of our wrong.

†d. To deliver or rescue (a person) from or out of woe, etc. *Obs. rare.*

13... *E.E. Allit. P. A.* 375 Much þe bygger 3et was my mon, Fro þou was wroken fro vch a woþe. c1450 *Cov. Myst.* (Shaks. Soc.) 29 Out of whoo 3et art not wrokyn, In helle logge þou xalt be lokyn. *Ibid.* 330, I xal delyvere mannys kynne,—From wo I wole hem wreke!

†e. *refl.* To satisfy or gratify (oneself). *Obs.*—1

1377 *LANGL. P. Pl.* B. ix. 181 Whiles þow art 3onge, and þi wepne kene, Wreke þe with wyuynge, þif þow wilt ben exused.

6. a. To take vengeance or inflict retributive punishment for, to avenge or revenge (some wrong, harm, or injury).

Beowulf 1670 Ic...fyren-dæda wræc, deað-ewealm denigea. c825 *Vesp. Psalter* lxxviii. 10 Wrec blod ðiowa ðinra ðæt agoten is. c1205 *LAY.* 19365 He pohten hider wenden & wræken his fader wunden. a1300 *Cursor M.* 17332 Mi-self es sett to wreke þe wrang. c1300 *Havelok* 327 þat non ne mihte comen hire to... with hir to speken, þat euer mihte hire bale wreken. 1382 *WYCLIF Deut.* xxxii. 43 For the blood of his seruautis he shal wreke. c1400 *Destr. Troy* 1750 Now [is] tyme... To mene vs with manhode & our mys wreke. 1471 *RIPLEY Comp. Alch.* Ep. ii. in Ashm. (1652) 109 Of your great fortune ye be not presumptuous, Nor vengeable of my rode to wreke every wrong. a1525 *Vergilius* in *Thoms E.E. Prose Rom.* (1858) II. 23 When wyll you wreke your faders dethe? 1581 *A. HALL Iliad* ix. 169 Yet list he not their wretched woe to wreake. 1587 *TURBERV. Trag. T.* (1837) 141 The dome divine... Yet strikes at last, and surely wreakes the wrong. 1596 *SPENSER F.Q.* iv. xi. 5 For of a womans hand it was ywroke, That of the wound he yet in languor lyes. 1622 *FLETCHER Prophetess* II. ii, Lend me your helping hands To wreake the Parieide. 1700 *DRYDEN Ovid's Met.* xii. 338 Arms, Arms, the double-form'd with Fury call; To wreak their Brother's Death. 1813 *SCOTT Trism.* II. xxvii, Vanoc's death must now be wroken. 1814-*Lord of Isles* iv. xxx, O Scotland! shall it e'er be mine To wreak thy wrongs in battle-line. 1887 *SWINBURNE Locrine* iv. ii. 56 My will It is that holds me yet alive... Till all my wrong be wroken.

b. Const. on or upon (a person or persons).

a900 *Juliana* 204 þonne ic nyde seal... on þære grimmetan godscyld wrecan. a1300 *Cursor M.* 2586 Wroken on þaim sal be þat wrang. 1375 *BARBOUR Bruce* xii. 227 Wreik on thame the mekill ill That thai and tharis has done vs till. 1423 *JAS. I Kings* Q. lxix, On my-self bene al my harmys wrokin. 1577 *HOLINSHED Chron.*, *Hist. Scot.* I. 390/1 That he might have wroken his grief vpon him. 1590 *SPENSER F.Q.* III. xi. 15 Perhaps this hand may... wreake your sorrow on your cruell foe. 1717 *POPE Iliad* ix. 684 She... call'd the powers beneath On her own son to wreak her brother's death. 1882 *TENNYSON Promise of May* I. 507 Why then the crowd May wreak my wrongs upon my wrongers. 1883 *R. W. DIXON Mano* I. xii. 37 On him, [I] beseech thee, wreak my wrongs amain.

†c. To vindicate (something). *Obs.*

c1400 26 *Pol. Poems* 18 God biddeþ vengeance hize, And helpe troupe be wel wroken. 1589 *R. ROBINSON Gold. Mirr.* (1851) 10 Poore clout-shoes gate their clubs, and willingly attend, To wreke there mistris cause.

†7. To visit (a fault, misdeed, evil action) with punishment; to punish (wrong-doing). *Obs.*

c888 *ÆLFRED Boeth.* xxxviii. §7 þæt is þonne hiora mildsund þæt mon wrece hiora undeawas be hiora gewyrhtum. c897 — *Gregory's Past.* C. xlix. 383 Ðæt he ða gyltas... wrece on scyldegum monnum. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 185 Swa se wer hit wrecep gif his wif he forhealdeþ. c1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 161 Godes wreke cumeð on þis wrold to wreken on sun-fulle men here gultes. a1240 *Lofsong* in *O.E. Hom.* I. 209 Ne bi-hold þu ham [sc. sins] nout leste þu wreoke ham on me. c1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3067 So sal ðin hardnesse ben wreken, ðat men sulen longe ðor-after speken. 1338 *R. BRUNNE Chron.* (1810) 77 þat wikkednes, þat men suld haf wroken. a1375 *Lay Folks Mass Bk.* App. iv. 395 þat god may wreke Euerich a word þat we speke. 1481 *CAXTON Reynard* xix. (Arb.) 46 Al reynart that ye now al thus haue your wyl I pray god to wreke it. 1596 *SPENSER F.Q.* vi. ii. 22 There gan he... with bitter wracke To wreake on me the guilt of his owne wrong. 1610 *BEAUM. & FL. Faithf. Sheph.* v. i, Else Pan wreak, With double vengeance, my disloyalty.

8. a. To inflict or take (vengeance, etc.) *on* or *upon* a person: to execute or carry out by way of punishment or revenge.

In frequent use from c 1830.
c1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* i. 30 That ye make punysson thereof and wrek on hym grete vengauce. **1700** DRYDEN *Sigism. & Guisc.* 589 He left the Dame, Resolv'd... To wreak his Vengeance, and to cure her Love. **1758** P. WILLIAMSON *Life & Adventures* (1812) 39 So desirous was every man to have a share in wreaking his revenge on them [sc. dead Indians]. **1772** PRIESTLEY *Inst. Relig.* (1782) I. 412 Xerxes... wreaked his vengeance upon Babylon. **1809** W. IRVING *Knickerb.* iv. vii, An historian springs up, who wreaks ample chastisement on it [sc. a nation] in return. **1855** PALEY *Æschylus* Pref. (1861) p. xxv, Till vengeance had been wreaked for the wrongs suffered in life. **1872** TENNYSON *Gareth & Lynette* 1236 Thou hast wreak'd his justice on his foes. **1899** SWINBURNE *Rosamund* II. 32/2, I would the deed Were done, the wreak of wrath were wroken, and I Dead.

b. To cause or effect (harm, damage, etc.), esp. in phr. *to wreak havoc*. (For *wrought havoc* see **WORK** v. 10.)

1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* II. xxxix, With thee... will I seek Through their array of banded slaves to wreak Ruin upon the tyrants. **1818** — *Rosal. & Helen* 670 That poor and hungry men should break The laws which wreak them toil and scorn, We understand. **1865** DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* III. ii, [In] the fog... the unpopular steamer... always was... wreaking destruction upon somebody or something. **1880** *Daily News* 22 Sept., Landslips... are looked for and wreak but little harm. **1926** A. CHRISTIE *Murder of R. Ackroyd* xx. 239 Annie is not allowed to wreak havoc with a dustpan and brush. **1976** B. FELL *America B.C.* viii. 101 The storm waves could surely wreak more havoc upon the timbered hulls of Phoenician galleys than on the steel plates of modern ships. **1978** C. RAYNER *Long Acre* vii. 70 Fenton, well aware of the havoc he was wreaking in poor Miss Emma's heart, wickedly fed her passion for him. **1983** *Times* 21 Nov. 7/7 Moko, the banana disease, has already wreaked havoc on the trade. **1984** *Daily Tel.* 5 Nov. 20/2 The feared shake-out in microcomputer manufacturing... will wreak havoc in the industry.

c. To inflict or deliver (a blow, etc.); to deal.
1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* I. x, The wreathed Serpent... did ever seek Upon his enemy's heart a mortal wound to wreak. **1849** MEREDITH in *Chambers' Edin. Mag.* July 16/2 There the murder-mouthed artillery... Wrok the thunder of its treachery On the skeleton brigade. **1897** F. THOMPSON *New Poems* 55 Though they wreak Upon me stroke and again stroke.

9. With out. To exact by way of punishment.
1879 MOMERIE *Origin Evil* i. 16 Justice, which can only be appeased by wreaking out a certain quantity of agony as an equivalent for a certain quantity of sin.

IV. †10. intr. To take vengeance; to inflict punishment. Also const. *on*. *Obs.*

c825 *Vesp. Psalter* cxvii. 12 In nomian dryhtnes ic wreocu in him. **897** ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past.* C. lvi. 435 Ic wrice on eow æfter eowrum geðeahhte. **c1000** *Ag. Ps.* (Thorpe) cxlix. 7 Mid þy hi wrecan penceað wraðum cynnum. **a1200** *Vices & Virtues* 77 Lat him wreke ðe is riht deme ouer ðe liuende. **a1225** *Leg. Kath.* 2049 Hu wrakeliche, wenestu, wule he, al o wraððe, wreken on þe, wreche! **a1325** *Prose Psalter* cxviii. 9 Our God, þou herd hem; þou, God, was mercyful to hem and byginnand to wreke in alle her fyndeynes. **13...** *E.E. Allit.* P. B. 198 Bot neuer zet... I herde þat euer he wreke so wyperly on werk þat he made. **a1500** *Ratis Raving* 2786 Thai here glaidly, and lytill spekis, Laith for to crab and seldin wrekis. **c1614** SIR W. MURE *Dido & Æneas* III. 252 Fy, now þow oares employ, Sack, wreak, revenge, demolish and destroy!

Hence *'wreaking vbl. sb.*
a1300 *Cursor M.* 19336 (Edin.), Quepir zie wil driue on us þe blame Of ani wreking of [Fairf. on] þis name. **c1374** CHAUCER *Boeth.* IV. met. vii. (1868) 147 Agamenon... purged in wrekyng by þe destruccioun of troie þe loste chambres of mariage of hys broþer. **c1440** *York Myst.* xxix. 323 Thy wordis and werkis wil haue a wrekyng. **a1638** MEDE *Wks.* (1672) 298 When our hearts... tell us it is but the wreaking of our Malice. **1692** R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* xxxviii. 41 The Wreaking of a Malice, and... the gratifying of a Revenge.

wreak, *erron. f. reack*, *obs. var. RECK* v.
1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Dec. 29 What wreaked I of wintrye ages waste. **1592** R. JOHNSON *Nine Worthies* Fj, He layde him downe like one that wreaked no guerdon to this grace. **1594** *Selimus* 200, I wreake not of their foolish ceremonies. **1600** [see RECK v. 3 a]. **1683** G. MERITON *Yorks. Dialogue* 661 Better's a comming; pray thee, do not wreck [rime break].

wreak, *obs. erron. f. REEK sb.¹ and v.¹*

wreake, ? variant of **WRECK** sb.¹ 5.
1627 DRAYTON *Agincourt* 41 The French lye yonder like to wreakes of sand.

†**wreake**, *obs. var. WRECK* v.¹
1599 T. M[OUFET] *Silkwormes* 49 Huge whales in Seas that mighty carricks wreake.

wreaker ('ri:kə(r)). Now *arch.* and *rare*. Also 4-5 wreker (e.g. 5-ar, 6 Sc. wrekar. [f. **WREAK** v. + -ER¹. Cf. OHG. *rechâri* (MHG. -ære, -er, G. *rächer*), MLG. *wreker*, *wrecher*, (M)Du. *wreker*, and *WRECHER*.) One who takes vengeance; an avenger.

a1300 *E.E. Psalter* viii. 3 þat þou for-do þe faa, þe wreker him vnto. **c1374** CHAUCER *Boeth.* IV. pr. iv. (1868) 128 Ne seek no foreyn wreker [ed. 1560 wrekerie] out of þi self, for þou pi self hast prest þe in to wicked pinges. **c1381** — *Parl. Foules* 361 The stork the wreker of a-vouterye. **a1400** *Prymer* (1891) 18 That thow destroye the enemy and the wreker. **1483** CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 201 b/2 This holy man was a grete wreker and auenger on hymself. **1513** DOUGLAS *Æneid* vi. ix. 81 Tysyphone, the wrekar of misdedis. **1557** PHAER *Æneid*. vi. (1558) Sj, Brutus, mischief wreker. **[1599**

THYNNE *Animadu.* (1875) 68 The storke... ys a greater wreker of the adulterye of his owne kynde.] **1887** MORRIS *Odyssey* XI. 280 For him she left indeed All woes that a mother's wreakers to dreadful end may speed.

wreakful ('ri:kful), *a.* Also 6 wreke-, 6-7 wreakeful(l. [f. **WREAK** sb. + -FUL. Cf. **WRACKFUL**, **WRAKEFUL**, **WRECHFUL** *adjs.*]

Freq. from c 1560 to c 1610. Now *rare* or *Obs.*
1. Of persons, etc.: Given or addicted to revenge; vengeful.

1531 TINDALE *Wks.* (1572) 24/2 They also fayne y^e saintes... more wreakeful, and vengeable, then the Poetes fayne their goddes. **1562** A. BROOKE *Romeus & Jul.* 2116 Not helping to do any sinne that wrekefull Ioue forbode. **1570** T. NORTON tr. *Nowel's Catech.* (1583) 201 A wreakeful mind and reuengeful of injuries. **1582** [see **WREAK** sb. 1b]. **c1611** CHAPMAN *Iliad* XIV. 119 Atrides, this, doth passing fity stand With sterne Achilles wreakefull spirit. **1653** H. COGAN tr. *Scarlet Gown* 80 Knowing well, that Antonio was wreakeful, and vindicative. **1801** W. RICHARDSON *Maid of Lochlin* 111, Of their own renown Wreakeful assassins are those shallow rulers. **1805-6** CARY *Dante, Inf.* XI. 91 Less wreakeful pours Justice diuine on them its vengeance down.

b. transf. Of natural agencies.
1561 NORTON & SACKV. *Gorboduc* III. i, Destroy, I say, with flash of wrekefull fier The traitour sonne. **1594** WILLOBIE *Avisa* 7b, Was earth consumed with wreakeful waues? **1598** SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. *Eden* 197 The wreakeful nature-drowning Flood Spar'd not this beauteous place. **1616** W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* II. v. 344 Unsuccoured... From wreakeful stormes' impetuous tyranny. **1838** S. BELLAMY *Betrayal* 18 Summoning... From earth, and air, and their more proper hell, All wreakeful influences.

2. Marked or characterized by desire for revenge; of the nature of vengeance or retribution.

1532 Henryson's *Test. Cresseid* 329 (Thynne), So scheweth through thy dede, A wrekeful sentence gyuen on Cresseide. **1581** A. HALL *Iliad* IX. 166 This short discourse... is onely you to pray... to put this wreakeful wrath away. **1593** NASHE *Christ's T.* (1613) 153 He will (in wreakefull recompence that thou hast so disgrac't him)... deforme thee. **1610** NICCOLS *Eng. Eliza* Induct. 9 In top of heau'n he tooke his wreakefull stand Ore that great Towne. **1616** W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* II. ii. 592 Cold winter's stormes and wreakefull teene. **1751** MENDEZ *Seasons, Spring* 11 The cuckoo... with his wreakeful tale the spouse doth fray. **1757** MICKLE *Concub.* I. xxiv, Left to your Aunts fell Spright and wreakefull Crueltye.

wreakless ('ri:kli:s), *a.¹ rare*. [f. **WREAK** sb. + -LESS.] *a.* Unpunished. *b.* Unavenged.

1613 CHAPMAN *Rev. Bussy d'Ambois* III. i, Nought that is Approu'd by Reason, can be Cowardise. *Charl.* Dispute when you should fight. Wrong wreakelesse sleeping, Makes men dye honorlesse. **1615** — *Odyssey* II. 223 You still wreakelesse liue: Gnaw (vermine-like) things sacred: no lawes giue To your deuouring. **1880** SWINBURNE *Birthday Ode* 142 Under these the watch of wreakeless wrong With fire of eyes anhungered.

†**'wreakless**, *a.² Obs.* —¹ [Cf. **WREAK** v., *obs. var. RECK* v.] = **RECKLESS** *a.*

1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI.* v. vi. 7 So flies the wreakelesse shepherd from y^e Wolfe.

†**wreaks**, *erron. f. REAKS* (pranks) *Obs.*

1653 MORE *Antid. agst. Atheism* III. vi. 125 A very perfidious Master, who plays wreaks... on purpose to betray them.

wrear, *var. WRAYER* *Obs.*

wreast, *obs. f. WREST* v., **WRIST**.

wreastlen, *obs. f. WRESTLE* v.

wreat, *Sc. var. WRITE* sb. and v.

wreat(t), *obs. Sc. forms of WRITE* sb.¹

wreatch, *obs. f. WRETCH* sb.

wreath (ri:θ). Pl. wreaths (ri:ðz). Forms: 1 wriðā, wriþa, 4-5 wreþe, 4-6 wrethe, 5 *Sc.* wreth, 6 wreith, wraith, 6-7, 9 wreathe, 6-wreath (9 *north. dial.* wreath). [OE. *wriðā*, *wriþa*, f. the weak grade of the stem of *wriþan* WRITHE v.¹ Cf. WRITH sb.]

The alleged OE. *wræð* as a variant of *wræd* rests only on a transcript by Junius.

Walker (1791) gives the pronunciations (ri:θ) and (ri:ð), preferring the former on grounds of analogy, though he thinks it 'the least usual mode'. Occasional rimes of that period (e.g. Roscoe, Shelley) attest the currency of the latter pronunciation.]

1. Something wound, wreathed, or coiled into a circular shape or form; a twisted or wreathed band, fillet, or the like.

c1000 ÆLFRED *Saints' Lives* xxiii. 608 Hi... becnyttan anne wriþan eall onbutan his swuran. **a1050** *Liber Scint.* (1889) 200 Mid wriþan treowenum [L. *loramento ligneo*] gewripen grundweall... na byp toslopen. **13...** *Gosp. Nicod.* 65 A wonden wrethe þat his heued hyd Spreð he all furth on brede. **c1410** *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xxiii, For sometyme þei croiteth in wrethes and sometyme flatte. **1495** *Trevisa's Barth. De P.R.* xvii. clii, The sowles & stakes be pyghte in the grounde, & there abowte ben wrethes wouen & wounden of thornes & rodde. **1530** PALSGR. 290/2 Wrethe of olde cordes dypped in grece and pytche, ... *tourbignaulx*. **1552** in Feuillerat *Revels* *Edw. VI* (1914) 120 White taffata for wreathes abowte their hattes. **1634** SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 187 A low Tulipant (or wreath of silke and gold). **1642** FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* v. xv. 420 Where one gaineth a garland of bayes, hundreth have had a wreath of hemp. **1656** J. SMITH *Pract. Physick* 162 Let them be thicker, by wispes or wreathes of small sticks—wrapt up in

linnen. **1769** FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780) s.v. *Rigging*, A circular wreath or rope, called the grommet, or collar. **c1850** *Rudim. Navig.* (Weale) 122 *Grommets*,... wreaths of rope which confine the oars. **1868** ATKINSON *Cleveland Gloss.*, *Garlands*, wreaths of ribbon enclosing a white glove. **1883** GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-mining* 295 *Wreaths*, four short pieces of hemp rope placed round the legs of a horse.

b. A ring, band, or circlet of (usu. precious) metal, etc., esp. for wearing as an ornament; a torque.

a1000 *Riddles* lix. [lx.] 5 Fripospede bæd God nergende gæste sinum se þe wende wriþan. **c1000** ÆLFRED *Hom.* I. 568 Ic geslea ænne wriðan on his nosu, and ænne bridel on his weleras. **13...** *K. Alis.* 5723 (Laud MS.), A griselic best... Teep he had so wripen wriþen. **c1375** *Sc. Leg. Saints* xlvii. (*Euphemia*) 196 To quham þe lug... gef a kirtil & of fyne gold a wrethe par-til. **c1386** CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 1287 A wrethe of gold... Vpon his heed, set ful of stones brighte. **1456** SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 46 [He] take... a grete wreth of golde... and put it about his hals. **1443** in *Rep. MSS. Ld. Middleton* (1911) 111 The scheriffez of Coventre hath... a salt seller, the wrethis gilt. **1521** *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) V. 203 Cum uno flore argenti in fundo, cum uno wreith deaurato circa florem. **c1530** *Hickscorner* 587 They be yemen of the wrethe that be shakled in gyues. **[1855]** THORPE tr. *Beowulf* 4041 Oft she a ringed wreath [OE. *beah-wriðan*] to the warrior gave.]

c. Her. A representation of a ring or circlet used as a bearing; *spec.* the circular fillet or twisted band by which the crest is joined to the helmet; = **ORLE** 1 c. Also *fig.* (quot. 1622).

1478, etc. [see **TIMBRE** sb.²] **1513** in *Glover's Hist. Derby* (1829) I. App. 61 Robert Darley bayryth... 3 barrs upon his nek, sabul unde or wave, issant owt of a wraith goulis and sylver. **1572** BOSSEWELL *Armorie* 105 He beareth on a wreath 'Topaze' and 'Saphiere' an Alcan. **1622** BACON *Hen. VII* (1876) 15 The wreath of three, was made a wreath of five; for to the three first titles of the two houses... were added two more. **1688** HOLME *Armoury* II. 393/2 A Sarazens Face... environed about the Temples with a Wreath or Torce. **1780** *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 2) V. 3608 The Wreath is a kind of roll... which ancient knights wore as a head-dress when equipped for tournaments. **1864** BOUTELL *Her. Hist. & Pop.* xvii. 265 The Crest was worn supported by a Chapeau or Wreath. **1869** CUSSANS *Her.* 172 A Coronet, or a Wreath, ... was composed of two strands of twisted silk, on which the Crest appeared to be supported. *Ibid.*, The Wreath, Bandeau, or Torse (sometimes, though improperly, styled a Chaplet).

†**d.** A metal ring forming a holder for a spindle.

1733 TULL *Horse-Hoeing Husb.* xxii. 335 The Spindle is kept from moving end-ways, by Wreaths, in the same Manner as the Axis of a Wheel-Barrow is. *Ibid.* xxiii. 377 The Hopper and Spindle are... kept in their Place... by two Wreaths screw'd on to the Spindle.

2. Something resembling or comparable to a twisted or circular band; *esp.* a coil of a spiral column of smoke, steam, or the like.

Before c 1790 *rare*; freq. from c 1820: cf. next.
1667 MILTON *P.L.* vi. 58 So spake the Sovran voice, and Clouds began To darken all the Hill, and smoak to rowl In duskie wreathes. **1836** [HOOTON] *Bilberry Thurland* I. ix. 181 Having lit her pipe, to add a few more wreathes to the general volume. **1866** *All Year Round* XV. 189/1 Certain misty wreaths—the skirts... of an adjacent sea-fog—kept sweeping up the valley. **1899** GUNTER *M. S. Bradford* xvi, 210 As he puffs the wreaths out of his complacent lips.

b. Freq. const. of (smoke, etc.).

1789 WORDSW. *Evening Walk* 112 As the sun declines... The shepherd, all involved in wreaths of fire, ... shows a shadowy speck. **1794** — *Guilt & Sorrow* lviii, Where wreaths of vapour tracked a winding brook. **1797** SCOTT *Erl-King* II, It is but a dark wreath of the cloud. **1859** DICKENS *T. Two Cities* II. v, Wreaths of dust were spinning round... before the morning blast. **1875** BUCKLAND *Log-bk.* 365 Wreaths of sea came rolling in. **1894** HALL CAINE *Manxman* v. iii. 288 The homes of the fishermen were putting out curling wreaths of smoke.

c. A bank or drift of snow; a snow-wreath, snowdrift. Freq. *wreath of snow*. Orig. (and chiefly) *Sc.*

1725 RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* I. ii, The thick blawn Wreaths of Snaw... May smoor your Waters. **1744** THOMSON *Winter* 828 Scarce his Head Rais'd o'er the heapy Wreath, the branching Elk Lies slumbering sullen in the white Abyss. **c1790** in Burns *Wks.* (1800) IV. 177 Weeping at the eye o' life, I wander through a wreath o' snaw. **1806** J. GRAHAME *Birds of Scot.* 13 While yet in mountain cleughs Lingers the frozen wreath. **1843** PRESCOTT *Mexico* v. ii. (1864) 284 [He] lived to see his empire melt away like the winter's wreath. **1855** KINGSLEY *Glaucus* 26 Those wild gardens amid the wreaths of the untrodden snow.

d. transf. A bank of sand.

1892 STEVENSON *Across the Plains* 207 Endless links and sand wreaths.

3. Each of the turns, convolutions, or coils of a ringed or spiral structure, spiral shell, etc.; a whirl, whorl.

1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 61 There is in most hives 17 or 18 wreathes. *Ibid.*, 4 wreathes from the bottom. **1650** FULLER *Pisgah* v. vii. 155 The four first wreaths of my scrue are undoubtedly... true. **1669** *Phil. Trans.* IV. 1012 The open of the shell is pretty sound, the second turn or wreath is very large for the proportion. **1712** J. MORTON *Nat. Hist. Northampt.* 416 A small Brown Buccinum... with a roundish Mouth of six Wreaths. **1753** *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Scalare*, A peculiar species of... screw shell, the several wreaths of which [etc.]. **1778** [W. MARSHALL] *Minutes Agric., Observ.* 58 Let the wreaths (or twists) of the [sheaf] bands be turned upward, toward the ears. **1818** *Gleaner's Port-folio* Sept. 68 The wreaths being ornamented with transverse undulating costa.

b. Conch. The genus *Turbo* (**TURBO** 2); a turbinated or wreathed shell; a turbinate.

1777 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* (ed. 4) IV. 128 *Turbo*. Wreath. . . Its animal [is] a Slug. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 595/2 The clathrus, or barbed wreath, has a taper shell of eight spires. 1815 BURROW *Elem. Conchol.* 203 *Turbo*, Whorl or Wreath.

†c. Bot. = COROLLA 2. Obs.

1760 J. LEE *Introd. Bot.* i. iii. (1765) 7 The Petal . . . encloses and protects it [sc. the flower] in the manner of a Corolla, or Wreath.

4. A fold, crease, or wrinkle.

? a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1093 Alle falterde pe flesche in his foule lypys, Ilke wrethe as a wolfe-heuede, it wraythe owtt at ones! 1600 SURFLET *Countrie Farme* III. xxvii. 484 As it [sc. the fig] is verie fat the iuice doth constraîne the skin to fall into wreathes. 1610 MARKHAM *Masterp.* II. v. 225 If he haue a short chub neck, with a thicke skin, and many wreathes, or rolles, about the setting on of his chaps. 1677 N. COX *Gentl. Recreat.* i. 126 The Wild-Goat is as big as a Hart. . . They haue Wreaths and Wrinkles on their Horns. 1737 BRACKEN *Fariery Impr.* (1740) II. 71 You will know whether it [sc. the horny part of the hoof] be smooth and even, or, otherwise, in Wreathes or Wrinkles.

b. A raised band or string-course. *rare*—1.

1677 MÎÊGE *Fr. Dict.* 1, *Cordon de muraille*, an outstanding wreath or edge of stone on the out-side of a building, commonly distinguishing the several Stories.

c. north. dial. (See quot.)

1828 CARR *Craven Gloss.* 271 *Wreath*, the mark and swelling on the skin occasioned by a blow.

5. a. = ROLL sb.¹ 8c. Now dial.

1556 WITHALS *Dict.* (1562) 43 b/1 A wase or wreath to be layed vnder the vessell, that is borne vpon the head. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 213 A Wreath, *cirrus, cesticillus*. 1687 MÎÊGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* 1, *Tortillon*, . . . a Wreath of Cloth which Women lay upon their heads when they carry a Pail or Basket. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey). 1855-76 in *Yorks. glossaries*. 1876 *Whitby Gloss.* 172 The *skel* . . . is carried on a 'wreath' or pad.

†b. A roll of bread. (Cf. TORTE.) Obs.

1600 HAKLUYT *Voy.* III. 220 They beat their corne to powder: then they make paste of it, and of the paste, cakes or wreathes. 1615 R. COCKS *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 47 A present of . . . 10 wreathes of bread, and a basket of grapes.

†c. (See quot.) Obs. *rare*.

1611 COTGR., *Penide*, a Pennet; the little wreath of sugar taken in a cold.

6. a. A twist, coil, or winding (of some material thing or natural growth); a sinuosity; a winding motion.

1589 ? LYLX *Pappe w. Hatchet* D iv, The Cedar . . . knitteth it selfe with such wreaths into the earth, that it cannot be remoued. a 1600 HOOKER *Ecl. Pol.* vii. xviii. (1662) 53 The second wreath of that Cable. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* i. 242 The very tailes of them [sc. large sheep] hanging in many wreathes to the ground. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* ix. 517 Of his tortuous Traine [the serpent] Curld many a wanton wreath in sight of Eve. 1702 POPE *Sappho* 149 Round your neck in wanton wreaths I twine. 1762 FALCONER *Shipwr.* II. 213 A troop of porpoises . . . In curling wreaths . . . gambol on the tide. 1810 SHELLEY *Posth. Fragm.* M. *Nicholson, Spectral Horseman* 50 Then does the dragon . . . twine his vast wreaths round the forms of the daemons. 1815 — *Alastor* 338 Twilight . . . Entwined in dusky wreaths her braided locks O'er the fair front . . . of day. 1898 MEREDITH *Odes Fr. Hist.* 72 A lowly look on . . . twisted wreaths of the worm in dirt.

†b. *Venerary*. The tail of a boar. Obs.

1576 TURBERV. *Venerie* 241 The tayle of a Bore is to be termed his wreath. 1598 MANWOOD *Lawes Forest* iv. 27 b. 1616 BULLOKAR *Eng. Expos.* [Hence in some later Dicts.] 1627 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Navy Landships* D 2, A Deere, a Hare, . . . haue no more tayles then a Lack-an-Apes, for it is a Deeres Single, a Bores Wreath, a Hare or Connyes Scut. [1817 PUCKLE *Club* 90 [The flatterer's] next discourse was of the tail or single of a deer, the wreath of a boar.]

7. Something formed by twisting; yarn of a specified texture.

1757 DYER *Fleece* III. 61 A diff'rent spinning ev'ry diff'rent web Asks from your glowing fingers: some require The more compact, and some the looser wreath.

8. A curve in the handrail or string of a geometrical stair; that part of the handrail which bends round such curve.

1814 P. NICHOLSON in *Trans. Soc. Arts* XXXII. 134 The Plank, out of which the Wreath is to be cut. 1820 — *Staircases*, etc. p. iii, Squaring the wreath upon geometrical principles. 1871 R. RIDDELL *Carp. & Joiner* 68 In this case the wreath must be in two pieces. 1881 *Dict. Architecture* s.v., A wreath of a staircase handrail is continuous in a circular or elliptic staircase.

9. south. dial. (See quotes.)

1813 DAVIS *Agric. Wills.* 268 *Wreaths*, the long rods of hurdles used for sheep-folding. 1856 MORTON'S *Cycle. Agric.* II. 727 *Wreathes*, (Dorset.), withes to keep hurdles and sows together.

10. *techn.* A defect in glass (esp. flint glass), consisting in almost imperceptible striæ producing certain optical aberrations. ? Obs.

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 584 An uniform flint-glass, free from striæ, or wreath, is much in demand for the optician. *Ibid.*, Glass allowed to cool slowly in mass in the pot is particularly full of wreath.

II. 11. A chaplet or garland of flowers, leaves, or the like, esp. worn or awarded as a mark of distinction, honour, etc. Also rarely without article.

1563 SHUTE *Archit.* Div b, The whiche Astragalus shalbe as it were certaine round beryes and the other Astragalus . . . shalbe wrothonne [sic] like a wreath. 1589 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* i. iii. 7 Apollos sonne perceauing him with Garland on his head, . . . caused him to cast the wreath away. 1596 DRAYTON *Legends* iii. (1605) Gg 8, Goddess of Artes and Armes, . . . Be thou assisting to this Poet of mine, With funeral wreathes incompassing his browes. 1628, etc. [see LAUREATE a. 1 b]. 1694 PRIOR *Hymn to Sun* ii, As His Infant Months before Springing Wreaths for William's Brow. 1737 GLOVER *Leonidas* i. 196 He the wreath Pontific bore amid the Spartan camp. 1784 COWPER *Task* v. 712 But

fairer wreaths are due. . . To those who, posted at the shrine of truth, Have fall'n in her defence. 1821 BYRON *Sardanap.* i. ii, The shepherd kings of patriarchal times, Who knew no brighter gems than summer wreaths. 1839 DICKENS *Nickleby* xxiv, Mrs. Borum and the governess cast wreaths upon the stage. 1842 TENNYSON *Talking Oak* 288 She . . . shall wear Alternate leaf and acorn-ball In wreath about her hair. 1891 *Science-Gossip* XXVII. 29/2 He is ready to resign his victor's wreath to Darwin.

fig. and transf. 1593 MARLOWE *Edw. II.* v. i, [May] this crowne, . . . like the snakie wreath of Tisiphon, Engirt the temples of his hatefull head. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* v. 61 Hee . . . gained The Stewards nobler name; and . . . attain'd The royal Scottish wreath, upholding it in state. 1613 BROWNE *Brit. Past.* i. iv. 73 Sow-thistle . . . whose downy wreath If any one can blow off at a breath, We deeme her for a maide. 1784 COWPER *Task* vi. 938 There he . . . obtains fresh triumphs o'er himself, And never with'ring wreaths. 1799 CAMPBELL *Pleas.* Hope i. 46 Auspicious Hope! in thy sweet garden grow Wreaths for each toil. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* vi. xvii, Twilight o'er the east wove her serenest wreath. 1835 WORDSW. *Death Jas. Hogg* 30 Our haughty life is crowned with darkness. Like London with its own black wreath.

b. Const. of.

c 1450 *Mirk's Festial* i. 113, I for þe on my hed suffyr a wrepe of stynkyng þornes. 1595 SPENSER *Epith.* 256 Hymen also crowne with wreathes of vine. 1671 MILTON *P.R.* II. 459 A Crown, Golden in shew, is but a wreath of thorns, Brings dangers. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* v. 177 The common Crew, with Wreaths of Poplar Boughs, Their Temples crown. 1704 POPE *Summer* 10 The Muse . . . adds this wreath of Ivy to thy Bays. 1800 WORDSW. *Ellen Irwin* 4 A Grecian maid Adorned with wreaths of myrtle.

fig. and transf. 1605 SHAKS. *Learn* II. ii. 113 The wreath of radiant fire On flicking Phœbus front. 1812 J. WILSON *Isle of Palms* II. 397 The glory . . . That plays like a wreath of halo-light Around his Mary's head. 1841 EMERSON *Ess.*, *Love* § 5 The remembrance of these visions . . . is a wreath of flowers on the oldest brows. 1868 FARRAR *Silence & V.* iii. (1875) 60 The power and splendour of her literature, conferred upon her [sc. Greece] a wreath of unfading admiration.

c. A trailing cluster of flowers, tendrils, etc.

1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* 631 A poore Chappel . . . adorned onlie with wilde mosse, and wreathes of claspig Iuie. 1784 COWPER *Task* v. 158 Long wavy wreaths Of flow'rs . . . Blush'd on the panels. 1798 WORDSW. *Lines in Early Spring* 10 Through primrose tufts . . . The periwinkle trailed its wreaths. 1881 E. WAUGH *Lancs. Songs* (ed. 5) 84 Wreaths of fairy frost-work hung Where grew last summer's leaves.

d. *purple wreath*: (see PURPLE a. C 2 c).

1864 GRISEBACH *Flora W. Ind.* 789. 1890 *Cent. Dict.*, *Petrea volubilis*, the purple wreath, . . . is a native of the West India islands and of the mainland from Vera Cruz southward.

e. As the title of a book comprising a collection of short literary pieces: = GARLAND sb. 4.

In frequent use from c 1825.

1753 (*title*), *The Wreath: a Curious Collection of New Songs*. 1799 E. DUBOIS (*title*), *The Wreath*; composed of Selections from Sappho [etc.], accompanied by a prose Translation and Notes. 1843 (*title*), *The Ayrshire Wreath: a Collection of Original Pieces, in Prose and Verse*. 1881 'A.L.O.E.' (*title*), *A Wreath of Indian Stories*.

f. A representation of a wreath in decorative work, metal, stone, etc.

1847 C. BRONTE *J. Eyre* iii, A certain brightly painted china plate, whose bird of paradise, nestling in a wreath of convulvuli and rosebuds, had [etc.]. 1890 YOUNG *Ann. Barber-Surg. Lond.* 506 Four . . . wrought silver garlands or wreaths for crowning the Master and Wardens on Election Day.

†12. A twisted mass (of something). Obs.—0

1648 HEXHAM II, *Een Wroengel van Pieren ofte Wormen*, a Wreath of Wormes for bobbing.

III. 13. *attrib. and Comb.*, as *wreath hurdle*, *line*, *-offering*, *part*, *rail*, *work*; *wreath-drifted*, *maker*, *-wise*; *wreath animalcule* (see quot. and cf. PERIDINIAL a.); *wreath shell*, = sense 3 b; *wreath-wort*, the early purple orchis, *O. mascula*.

1854 A. ADAMS, etc. *Man. Nat. Hist.* 370 *Wreath-Animalcules (*Peridiniæ*). 1832 MOTHERWELL *Poet. Wks.* 76 More dazzlingly white Than the *wreath-drifted snows. 1818 *Sporting Mag.* II. 181 The making of *wreath hurdles is a profitable business. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 597 Draw a line, which will give the *wreath line formed by the nosings of the winders. 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* 55 Artificial Flower Maker: . . . Sheli Flower Maker. *Wreath Maker. a 1835 MRS. HEMANS *Korner & Sister Poems* (1875) 425 With his *wreath-offering silently to stand In the hush'd presence of the glorious dead. 1825 J. NICHOLSON *Operat. Mechanic* 597 In preparing the string for the *wreath part, a cylinder should be made. 1820 P. NICHOLSON *Staircases*, etc. 17 Getting a *wreath rail out of the least quantity of stuff. 1825 W. HAMILTON *Hand-book* 423 *Turbo*, the *wreath shell. 1845 J. C. MANGAN *German Anthol.* II. 105 Hand-with-hand, linked *wreathwise round, The virgins dance in order. 1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 384 The same person . . . hath contrived an Engine to turne *wreath work. 1730 W. GEORGE in *Mem. W. Stukeley* (Surtees) III. 255 Another large partition, encompassed with plaited wreath-work. 1884 W. MILLER *Plant-n.* 148 Purple *Wreath-wort.

Hence 'wreathage, wreaths collectively. *rare*—1.

1883 W. ALLINGHAM in *Athenæum* July 79 Then one sees . . . In their hedgerow wreathage manifold Clustering.

wreathe (rið), v. Also 6-7 wreth(e, 6-9 wreath, 7 wreeth, wreith, 9 Sc. wraith(e. [Early mod. Eng. *wrethe*, partly a back-formation from *wrethen* (see WREATHEN ppl. a.), pa. pple. of WRITHE v.¹, and partly f. WREATH sb. Senses 6-7 clearly show the influence of WRITHE v.]

I. 1. *trans.* To twist or coil (something); to form or fashion into a coil or coils. Occas. in fig. context. Also with *about*, *up*.

1535 *Trevisa's Barth. De P.R.* v. xii, These hooles bene wrethed and wounde as a spyndle of a presse. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 327 Longe heare which they wreath on both sydes theyr eares. 1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 879 An adder Wreathed up in fatal folds. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* i. 246 These parts yeeld sheepe, whereof the taile of one wreathed to the ground, doth [etc.]. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* iv. 346 Th' unwieldy Elephant . . . us'd all his might, and wreathd His Lithe Proboscis. 1668 CULPEPPER & COLE *Barthol. Anat.* i. x. 22 The Guts are oblong, round, hollow bodies variously wreathed about. 1738 THOMSON *Agamemnon* i. vii. 26 Troy . . . yet wreathing smoke to heaven. 1750 GRAY *Elegy* 102 Yonder nodding beech That wreathes its old fantastic roots so high. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* v. xviii, Fitz-James . . . wreath'd his left hand in the mane. 1818 KEATS *Endym.* i. 6 Therefore . . . we are wreathing A flowery band to bind us to the earth. 1826 SHERER *Notes & Refl. Ramble Germany* 126 A large hollow spire of open stone-work, wreathed and twisted as fancifully as an elegant toy might be. 1835 I. TAYLOR *Spir. Despot.* vi. 246 The chain of spiritual despotism had been beaten and wreathed upon the anvil . . . of the . . . afflicted Church.

refl. 1603 G. OWEN *Pembrokeshire* (1892) 68 To ymagine that the coale should wreth or turne it self in some place to the one [vein]. 1660 BOYLE *New Exp. Phys. Mech.* Digress. 379 The Beards of wilde Oats . . . continually wreath and unwreath themselves according to . . . the temperature of the ambient Air. 1753 *Adventurer* No. 31 ¶10 Wreathing themselves in various contortions, a new brood of serpents hissed round her head. 1758 *Phil. Trans.* L. 585 Like the slugs, they wreath themselves up, and when touched make themselves quite round. a 1853 ROBERTSON *Lect.* i. (1858) 20 The clouds wreathing themselves in that strange wild way.

b. To wind or turn (some flexible object) about or over something; to form or adjust as a wreath or encircling coil. Freq. with *round* or *about*. Also *transf.*

1530 PALSGR. 785/1 Hc had a kercher wreathed about his heed. 1583 tr. *Maison Neuve's Gerileon* i. 80 b, [This] dismeasured Crocodile . . . wreathyng his Tayle . . . all aboute his [sc. a horse's] Feete afore. 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* iv. xii. 125 They . . . weare on their heads a cloth wreathed. 1603 B. JONSON *Sejanus* v. K 4 b, A new Head being set vpon your Statue, A Rope is since found wreath'd about it. 1622 PEACHAM *Compl. Gentl.* v. 42 A Serpent wreathed about a Sword, placed vp right. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* i. 30 Round that, they wreath a white or red Turban. 1777 POTTER *Æschylus* 11 Ye waves That o'er th' interminable ocean wreath Your crisped smiles. a 1814 WORDSW. *Excurs.* viii. 352 An ill-adjusted turban . . . wreathed around their sunburnt brows. 1845 J. C. MANGAN *German Anthol.* II. 62 The white flowers wreathed Around my temples by thy whiter hand. 1877 TENNYSON *Achilles over the T.* 5 Around his head The glorious goddess wreath'd a golden cloud.

refl. 1600 SHAKS. *A.Y.L.* iv. iii. 109 About his necke A greene and guiled snake had wreath'd it selfe. 1631 BRATHWAIT *Eng. Gentlewoman* 122 The luye windes and wreathes it selfe about the Plant. 1866 BRYCE *Holy Rom. Emp.* v. 83 The gorgeous drapery of romance gradually wreathed itself round his name.

c. Sc. To fasten or secure (a yoke) upon a draught-animal. Only in fig. context.

Perhaps partly by influence of *Lam.* i. 14 (see 3 b. fig.). 1650 J. NICOLL *Diary* (Bann. Cl.) 17 These men . . . labour to wreith the yok of their oppressiounes upon thair bodies and soules. a 1732 T. BOSTON *Crook in Lot* (1805) 46 A yoke, which the wretched sufferers can neither bear, nor yet shake off, is wreathed about their necks. 1759 ROBERTSON *Hist. Scot.* II. (1817) i. 399 Troops . . . employed as instruments for subduing the Scots, and wreathing the yoke about their neck. 1777 WATSON *Philip II.* i. 92 Till, the yoke being wreathed about their necks, the most secret murmuring became . . . fatal to those who uttered them. 1827 POLLOCK *Course T.* vii. 509 Not those who . . . sailed To purchase human flesh, or wreath the yoke Of vassalage on savage liberty.

transf. 1852 J. JARVIE *Disc.* 108 The burden of man's guilt is wreathed to the neck of the Only Begotten.

2. To surround or invest with or as with something twisted or turned; to enwreath. Also with *advs.*, as *about*, *in*.

1558 in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 41, vj Corled hed Sculles . . . wrethen abowte with redd golde sarsnett and sylver Lawne. 1631 T. HEYWOOD 2nd Pt. *Fair Maid of West* i. Bjb, I for this Will wreathe thee in a glorious arch of gold, stuck full of Indian gemmes. 1671 MILTON *P.R.* iv. 76 Dusk faces with white silken Turbants wreath'd. 1769 SIR W. JONES *Palace Fortune Poems* (1777) 7 With stings of asps the leafless plants were wreath'd. 1832 SCOTT *Betrothed* Note D, Three hundred of the British, who fell there, had their necks wreathed with the Eudorchawg. 1833 WORDSW. *In Frith of Clyde* 4 Ne'er did morn . . . more gracefully . . . wreath with mist his [sc. a crag's] forehead high. 1854 F. W. MANT *Midshipman* 90 Like some huge baronial castle wreathed in with smoke. 1879 BARTLETT *Egypt to Pal.* i. 18 Wreathed with fresh Sculpturings of forgotten warfare.

fig. 1842 J. WILSON *Chr. North* (1857) i. 243 Contentment wreathes with silk and velvet the prisoner's chains.

b. To encircle or surround with a wreath or garland; to bedeck or adorn with or as with a wreath; to garland.

1634 MILTON *Comus* 55 This Nymph . . . gaz'd upon his clustering locks, With Ivy berries wreath'd. 1678 DRYDEN *All for Love* i. 5 With Laurels wreath your posts, And strow with Flow'rs the Pavement. 1702 POPE *Sappho* 25 Would you with ivy wreath your flowing hair. 1796 COLERIDGE *To a beautiful Spring* 6 With one fresh garland of Pierian flowers . . . My languid hand shall wreath thy mossy urn. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L.* II. xxi, To wreath a victor's brow. 1848 LYTTON *Harold* i. i, Doors and windows were . . . wreathed with garlands. 1887 BOWEN *Æneid* v. 73 Then with the myrtle of Venus the chieftain wreathes him.

c. Of flowers, etc.: To encompass or enclose (an object) as or after the manner of a wreath; to form a wreath about (something).

1718 PRIOR *Solomon* II. 140 In the Flow'rs that wreath the sparkling Bowl, Fell Advers his. 1796 COLERIDGE *On Autumnal Evening* 10 Each flower that wreath'd the dewy locks of Spring. 1908 *Westm. Gaz.* 10 Dec. 2/3 Flowers of heaven!...wreathing The God-centred vision of all coming years!

3. To unite (two or more things) by twining or twisting together; to entwine, intertwine; also, to fold (the arms).

1553 BRENDE *Q. Curtius* 13 A rope folded and knit with many knots, one so wreathed within an other, that [etc.]. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* II. 61 You shall wynde and wreath the greene blades [of the garlic] together, and treade them to the ground. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* II. i. 19 You haue learn'd...to wreath your Armes like a Male-content. 1596 MASCALL *Cattle* 275 To ring hogges...some put a red paste wyar vnder the skinn of his snout...then wreath it altogether. 1602 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* IV. Wks. 1856 I. 53 Enter Andrugio and Antonio wreathed together. 1808 WORDSW. *White Doe* 1724 If she too passionately wreathed Her arms. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* I. viii, I behold...An Eagle and a Serpent wreathed in fight. 1847 MADDEN *Lazamon* III. 31 Twelve swine, tied together, with withies exceeding great wreathed altogether.

b. To combine (several things into one structure) by interweaving; to twine together; to form or make by intertwining.

1547 SURREY *Par. Eccl.* IV. 34 Cables brayded thre fould...to gether wrethed swer [= sure]. 1579 E. K. *Gloss. to Spenser's Sheph. Cal.* Dec. 81 A kind of woodde...fit to wreath and bynde in leapes to catch fish withall. 1604 E. GRIMSTONE *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* V. xxix. 420 A great cord wreathed of chaines of roasted mayes. 1767 GRAY *Death of Hoel* 15 Chains...Wreath'd in many a golden link. 1788 COWPER *Gratitude* 7 She gave...me beside, Wreath'd into an elegant bow, The ribbon. 1811 T. DAVIS *Agric. Wilts* 263 Hurdles...made of hazel rods closely wreathed. 1844 W. BARNES *Poems Rural Life* 289 *Bliake*, a bar of wood...with holes to take the soles of a hurdle while the maker wreaths it. *refl.* 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 225 The leaues of this *Cocus*...wreathinge them selues one within an other.

fig. 1597 HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* V. lxxvi. §8 When...heauenly and earthly happines are wreathed in one crowne. 1611 BIBLE *Lam.* I. 14 The yoke of my transgressions is bound by his hand: they are wreathed, and come vp vpon my necke. 1716 SOUTH *Serm.* (J.), In such base noisome hearts you shall ever see pride and ingratitude indiuisibly wreathed and twisted together.

†c. *local.* To support, maintain, or hold up (a bank, etc.) by or as by wattled work. *Obs.*

1569 SURREY & Kent *Sewers Comm.* (L.C.C., 1909) 34 That he stake wreth & lande vppe so mutche earth as neade ys. 1572 *Ibid.* 120 To stake walle or wreath his banke against the riuer of Thames. 1576 *Ibid.* 252 To scale watle and wretche [*sic*] the outer side of the saied sewer.

4. To arrange or dispose flowers, etc., as (a wreath); in later use *esp.* to adjust or fashion (flowers, etc.) into a garland or chaplet.

1595 LOCRIE II. vi. 14 A flowering garland wreath'd of bay. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* IX. 892 From his slack hand the Garland wreath'd for Eve Down drop'd. 1828 *Lady's Mag.* Aug. 446/1 A very beautiful chintz, with flowers, delicately wreathed...on a striped ground of yellow muslin. 1849 RUSKIN *Sev. Lamps* IV. §2 His next step was to gather the flowers themselves, and wreath them in his capitals. 1892 TENNYSON *Akbar's Dream* 23 Gathering...From each fair plant the blossom choicest-grown To wreath a crown...for the king.

†5. To make (a bow) by a supple bending of the body. *Obs. rare*—1.

1730 THOMSON *Autumn* 1197 Let...those of fairer front...Wreath the deep bow, diffuse the lying smile.

II. †6. To strain or turn forcibly round or to a side; to wring, wrench, or wrest. *Obs.*

1590 SPENSER *F.Q.* II. i. 56 Sir Guyon...from so heauie sight his head did wreath. 1592 A. DAY *Eng. Secretorie* I. (1595) 23 Statelie trees (some tops wherof the wind seemeth to wreath and turne at one side). 1606 HOLLAND *Sueton.* 25 By wreathing their [sc. fugitives] throats he turned them againe vpon the enemies. 1617 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (ed. 3) 139 They killed a man which was a first-borne, wreathing his head from his body. 1662 EVELYN *Chalcogr.* II. (1906) 15 To wreath, rub, slap and smooth them [sc. blankets] till you have rendred them very soft and gentle. 1674 HOOKE *Animadv.* 52 This Plate...must be wreathed or wreathed, so that the Plain thereof must stand parallel to the Plain of the Index-Frame. 1712-4 POPE *Rape Lock* IV. 100 Was it for this you...your locks...with tort'ring irons wreath'd around? 1737 WHISTON *Josephus, Antiq.* II. ix. §7 Moses threw it [sc. a diadem] down to the ground, and...wreathed it round, and trod upon it.

fig. 1580 LYLLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 344 To wrest the will of man, or to wreath his heart to our humours.

†b. *fig.* To extend unduly the application or meaning of (a writer or writing); to 'wrest', stretch, strain. *Obs. rare.*

1566 STAPYLTON *Ret. Untr.* Jewel IV. 62b, To wreste and wrethe Scriptures at his pleasure. 1583 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 4) II. 1820 It is shame for you to wrast and wreath the Doctors as you do. 1656 J. HAMMOND *Leah & R.* (1844) 23 They were resolved to wreth and stretch their commission to the prejudice of Mary-well.

†c. *refl.* To worm (oneself) in; to insinuate.

1571 JEWEL *On 2 Thess.* II. 1, 2 [Antichrist] shall shew forth himself at the first with countenance of deuotion and holinesse, that hee may...secretly wreath in himselfe.

d. To twist, turn, or contort (the body, limbs, etc.); to writhe.

1642 MILTON *Apol. agst. Smect.* Wks. (1697) 334 When in the Colleges...young Divines...have been seen so oft upon the Stage wreething and unboning their Clergy-limbs. 1695 BLACKMORE *Pr. Arth.* VIII. 171 Octa his wounded Body wreaths in Pain. 1697 R. PEIRCE *Bath. Mem.* II. v. 318 He

was suddenly seized with a violent Convulsion Fit, which wreathed him every way. 1711 GAY *Rural Sports* I. 236 Impatient of the wound, He rolls and wreaths his shining body round. 1787 *Minor* III. ix. 187 My mother...wreathed her body,...and cried. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* XI. xi, Even in death their lips are wreathed with fear. 1855 MRS. GASKELL *North & South* IX, Margaret wreathed her throat in a scornful curve.

e. To alter (the features, etc.) in, into, or to a smile, etc. (Cf. WREATHED *ppl.* a. 1 c.)

1813 SCOTT *Rokeby* I. xxiii, Contempt kept Bertram's anger down, And wreathed to savage smile his frown. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* xvi, Gilbert...walked up to the pair, his weather-beaten countenance wreathed into...paternal smiles. 1877 MISS A. B. EDWARDS *Up Nile* x. 286 [They] wreathed their countenances in ghastly smiles.

refl. 1868 MISS BRADDON *Dead-Sea Fruit* I, The mobile mouth...will wreath itself into such a smile that [etc.].

†7. a. To take (something) by force; to wrest or seize. *Obs. rare.*

1590 C. S. *Right Reliq.* II To wreath from Princes their crownes is more impossible. *Ibid.* 15 Authoritie to wreath from kinges their crownes.

†b. To rend or tear. *Obs.*

1598 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. I. 104 If it should happen to haue lighted on any part of the shippe...it would rent and wreth sayles, mast, shroudes and shippe and all in manner like a wyth. 1606 N. B[AXTER] *Sydney's Ourania* Ej, The stemme of an Oke in peeces they wreath. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 487 Lyons...doe not onely bite, but also wreath and tear the wounds.

III. *intr.* 8. To undergo writhing, twisting, or deviation; to diverge or swerve; to bend, turn, or coil. Also with *round*.

1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witchcr.* XII. vii. 225 From their course the starres doo wreath, And soules she coniure can. 1599 T. CUTWODE *Caltha Poet.* (Roxb.) xxxi, The Bay tree...seems to sigh...And with the wanton wind to wrig & wreath, against the god. 1603 G. OWEN *Pembrokeshire* (1892) 64 Sometimes the same [vein of limestone] is found to wreath to the northe and southe. c1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* VII. 236 Aiax a farre greater stone lift up, and, wreathing round, With all his body layd to it, he sent it forth. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* II. 190 Downy bents, that to the air did wreath. 1878 SUSAN PHILLIPS *On Seaboard* 60 Where...the lithe brown sea-flowers wreath and sway.

fig. 1849 C. BRONTE *Shirley* III. 151 Beauty is never so beautiful as when, if I teaze it, it wreathes back on me with spirit. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* xlix, The lightest wave of thought shall lisp, The fancy's tenderest eddy wreath.

†b. To become involved or intertwined. *Obs.*

1631 BRATHWAIT *Eng. Gentlew.* Table †2, The Iuie while it is winding, decays the plant, with which it is wreathing.

9. To assume the form of, circle in the manner of, a wreath. Also *fig.*

1776 J. BARCLAY *Par. Psalms* 88 The flames of fire shall round him wreath. 1814 BYRON *To Belshazzar* II, Gol dash the roses from thy brow—Gray hairs but poorly wreath with them. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* (1856) 444 A strange, palpable obscurity, wreathing up in long strata to the northward. 1867 MORRIS *Jason* VII. 395 Real fire of pinewood...Wreathing around my body greedily. 1875 STEDMAN *Vict. Poets* III. (1887) 81 The weary penman who could send a smile wreathing from Land's End to John o' Groats.

b. *Sc.* To form into, assume the shape of, a snowdrift or snow-wreath.

1861 R. QUINN *Heather Lintie* (1863) 43 We'd na be rad o' scath fra wather, Though snaw was wreathin'. 1887 *Suppl. Jamieson* 280/1 The snaw was wraithin' in the glen.

10. Of flour or meal, in milling: To hug the eye of the millstone so closely as to hinder its descent.

1891 *Cent. Dict.* s.v.

wreathed (ri:ðd), *ppl.* a. [f. WREATH *v.* + -ED¹. Cf. next and WRITHED *ppl.* a.]

1. Formed by or as by wreathing, wrying, twisting, or twining; arranged or disposed in coils, curves, or twists; contorted, twisted.

In frequent use from c 1590 to c 1630.

c1530 TINDALE *Exod.* xxviii. 14 Thou shalt make...cheynes off fine golde: lynkeworle and wrethed, and fasten the wrethed cheynes to the hokes. 1535 in *Bury Wills* (Camden) 127 My ij wrethed rynges of gold. 1587 A. DAY *Daphnis & Chloe* (1890) 14 Yong rammes...with their wreathed hornes. 1605 B. JONSON *Masque Blackness* ¶1 Musique made out of wreathed shells. 1608 SIR H. PLAT *Garden of Eden* (1653) 142 Winding the young stock about the stick...it will grow in a wreathed form. 1665 G. HAVERS *P. della Valle's Trav. E. India* 114 [The] Diadem...might have been of wreath'd Linnen, or Gold, or other solid matter. 1711 KEN *Psyche* Poet. Wks. 1721 IV. 273 Unicorns...with their terrible wreath'd Hornes. 1743 DAVIDSON *Virgil, Aeneid* VII. 351 A chain of wreathed gold. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* I. x, The Eagle...unremittingly assailed The wreathed Serpent. 1820 P. NICHOLSON *Staircases* p. iv, The geometrical construction of the wreathed part of the Rail. 1844 KINGLAKE *Eothen* xx, The short and proudly wreathed lip. 1908 [MISS FOWLER] *Betw. Trent & Ancholme* 362 The fog at times lies wreathed, white and still.

fig. c1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* CXIX. Diuii, From falshoods wreathed way, O save me, Lord. 1846 J. C. MANGAN *Poems* (1903) 95 Whence flowed the tones Of silver lyres, And many voices in wreathed swell.

†b. Corrugated; wrinkled. *Obs.*

1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 42 The Fig tree;...all his Wood not so plaine, as wrethed & wrinckled. 1656 BEALE *Heref. Orchards* (1657) 12 You shall find the better-tasted fruit to be more wrethed or wrinckled.

c. Formed by wreathing the countenance.

1633 MILTON *L'Allegro* 28 Nods, and Becks, and Wreathed Smiles.

†2. Crossed, folded; also, having the arms folded.

1588 SHAKS. *L.L.L.* IV. iii. 135 Longaule Did...neuer lay his wreathed armes athwart His louing bosome, to keepe downe his heart. 1595 MARKHAM *Sir R. Grinville* iv, Thetis...with wreath's armes. 1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* III. ii, Another...walks off melancholic, and stands wreath'd As he were pinn'd up to the arras.

3. a. Of columns, etc.: Twisted or shaped in a screw-like form; contorted.

1624 WOTTON *Elem. Archit.* 31 Wreathed, and Vined, and Figured Columnes, which our Author himselfe condemneth. a1700 EVELYN *Diary* 25 Mar. 1644, Some of the columns wreathed, others spiral. 1823 P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Build.* 596 Wreathed columns; such as are twisted in the form of a screw. 1842 GWILT *Archit.* 1053 *Wreathed columns*...are...very appropriately called contorted columns.

†b. Having a spirally-grooved bore; rifled. *Obs.*

1681 R. CROMWELL *Let. in Eng. Hist. Rev.* (1898) XIII. 96 The little gun...is not so propper for shott it being a wreathed barrell.

4. Formed or combined by twining or interweaving; entwined, intertwined.

1578 H. WOTTON *Courtly Controv.* 8 A banquet...vnder a wreathed arbor of Laurell, Iesemen, Holly, and Iuy. *Ibid.*, A banke of wrethed boughes. 1633 T. ADAMS *Exp.* 2 Pet ii. 4. 524 These chaines...were they of cords, of wreathed trees, of iron,...might bee burst asunder. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Wreath* 1 A Wreathed garland of deserved praise. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 468/2 Two Serpents in Fesse to the sinister; wreathed, respecting. *Ibid.*, Two Snakes wreathed in pale. 1795 H. TOOKE *Purley* II. 256 A raddle hedge, is a hedge of...twisted or wreathed twigs or boughs. 1817 Dugdale's *Monasticon* I. 1 Here St. Joseph...erected...of wreathed twigs, the first Christian oratory in England. 1828 TENNYSON *Lover's Tale* II. 43 They vanish'd...Beneath the bower of wreathed eglantines.

transf. 1782 WARTON *On Sir J. Reynolds's Painted Window* 24 Where Superstition with capricious hand In many a maze the wreathed window plann'd.

fig. 1820 KEATS *Ode to Psyche* 6c A rosy sanctuary will I dress With the wreath'd trellis of a working brain.

5. Covered, decked, or encompassed by a wreath or wreaths; garlanded.

1819 KEATS *Lamia* I. 38 When from this wreathed tomb shall I awake? 1847 LONGF. in *Life* (1891) II. 76 Byron's wild and wicked travesty...hits the Laureate [sc. Southey] hard on his wreathed head. 1897 *Daily News* 30 June 6/2 The wreathed coffin was conveyed...to the burial ground.

b. *Her.* Encircled with a twisted band or wreath.

1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 473/2 A Flower de Lis Wreathed, or in the middle Wreathed. *Ibid.* 393/2 A Sarazens Head...wreathed about the temples. 1838 *Penny Cycl.* XII. 143/2 Heads are also blazoned wreathed or banded, as the case may be.

c. In the specific names of birds (see quotes.). Frequently used by Latham.

1781 LATHAM *Gen. Synop. Birds* I. 358 Wreathed Hornbill;...on the top of the upper mandible is an appendage...rounded at top. 1785 *Ibid.* V. 216 Wreathed Plover;...round the crown runs a list of white, encircling the head like a wreath. 1819 STEPHENS in Shaw's *Gen. Zool.* XI. 488 Wreathed Pluvian. *Pluvianus coronatus*,...[= Latham's] Wreathed Plover. 1823 LATHAM *Gen. Hist. Birds* VII. 140 Wreathed Warbler...From the eye round to the nape a white line, passing backwards, and surrounding it as a wreath at the back part.

Hence 'wreathedness. *rare*—0.

1730 BAILEY (fol.), *Contortuousness*, wreathedness.

wreathen (ri:ð(ə)n), *ppl.* a. Also 4-6 wrethen, 5 -yne, -in, (?) wrethe. [ME. *wrēden*, normal variant of *wriðen*, pa. *ppl.* of *wriðen* WRITHE *v.* Cf. WRITHEN *ppl.* a.]

1. = WREATHED *ppl.* a. 1.

a. a1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 5526 All pe watir of pe werd [to him seemed] bot as a wrethen neddire. 1401-2 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 393, vj libr. de wrethyn candell, xs. a1450 *Songs & Carols* 15th c. (Warton Club) 85 My baselard haiz a wrethin hafte. 1465 *Will of Pachett* (Somerset Ho.), A wrethyn ryng of golde. c1530 in *Gutch Coll. Cur.* II. 310 Great gilte Candilsteke costid withe wrethin shanks. a1548 *Hall Chron., Hen. VIII.* 207 b, Veluet...fret with flowers of Siluer, and small twiggies of wrethen worke. a1600 MONTGOMERIE *Misc. Poems* iv. 5 Mercure with his wrethin wand. 1887 *Suppl. Jamieson* 280 Wrethin' strae-rapes.

β. 1568 BIBLE (Bishops') *Exod.* xxviii. 22 Chaynes of pure golde and wrethen worke. 1598 DELONEY *Jacke Newb.* i. Wks. (1912) 7 The Bel-weather...by the force of his wrethen hornes...slew him. 1608 TOPSELL *Serpents* 245 Many...are the Epithets which are giuen to Snakes,...as...Gorgonean, wrethen, slyding. 1611 BIBLE *Exod.* xxviii. 14 Thou shalt make...two chaines of pure gold...of wrethen worke shalt thou make them. 1792 *Mass. Mag.* Nov., Imagination very easily giving them [sc. stalactites] pedestals and chapters, and even wreathen-work. 1871 J. HAY *Pike County Ball.* (1880) 154 Wreathen amulet Forged against sword-stroke. 1872 RUSKIN *Aratra Pentelici* 51 The wreathen work of its doors...the foliage of its capitals. 1875 — *Fors Clav.* lviii. 288 The pierced fractional coins will only bear a chased wreathen fillet. 1877 BLACKMORE *Erema* li, The glorious woods of wreathen gold...all were mine. *Comb.* 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) III. 566 Wreathen-podded Whitlowgrass. [Grows in] Fissures of limestone rocks.

2. Formed or arranged by or as by twining or interweaving; entwined, intertwined.

1611 SPEED *Hist. Gt. Brit.* VI. ix. §21. 81 Their Oratory, built onely of wrethen wands. 1631 WEEVER *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 58 To build a Church or Oratorie of wreathen wands. 1713 C'TESS WINCHELSEA *Misc. Poems* 39 The Flowers...In wreathen Garlands dropt agen On Lucullus. a1850 in Mrs. JAMESON *Leg. Monast. Orders* (1852) 45 A church of wreathen wands.

wreather ('ri:ðə(r)). [f. WREATH *v.* + -ER¹.] One who or that which wreathes, twists, or twines. Also *transf.*

1566 STAPLETON *Ret. Untr. Jewel* iv. 62 To proue you wreaters and wrethers of Gods holy worde. 1579-80 NORTH *Plutarch* (1595) 5 Pityocamtes, that is to say, a wreather or bower of pine apple trees. 1648 HEXHAM II, *Een Wrijter*, an Extorter, a Wreather, or a Wrester. 1817 KEATS *Sleep & Poetry* 14 Sleep, ... Soft closer of our eyes! ... Wreather of poppy buds, and weeping willows!

wreathing ('ri:ðɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. as prec. + -ING¹.]

1. The action of twisting or contorting; the fact of writhing; an instance of this.

1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong. Torsement*, a wreathing. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* xiii. 223 Leauing their mouings free; which yet... shall come to the end which God hath listed to appoint vnto them, whatsoever windings and wreathings they seeme to themselves to make. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 34 By the wreathing of their bodies... they seek to avoid the pursuer. 1668 CULPEPPER & COLE *Barthol. Anat.* i. v. 8 Touching the Contorsion or Wreathing of the recurrent Nerve. 1721 BRADLEY *Philos. Acc. Wks. Nat.* 130 The Earth-Worm... by a sort of wreathing... takes hold of the Ground with its small Feet. 1794 R. J. SULLIVAN *View Nat.* II. 456 The sun, ... whose oblique course is not unaptly represented by the wreathings of a snake. 1800 MED. *Jrnl.* III. 451 The attendants told me, from the wreathing of her body..., that she would soon have another fit. 1823 JOANNA BAILLIE *Poems* 260 [Steam] With tressy wreathings playing in the air. 1885 R. BRIDGES *Eros & Psyche* Oct. 23 Mid the wreathings of the vapour dim The goddess grew in glory visible.

fig. 1612 SHELTON *Quix.* I. iv. vi. (1620) 345 His Friend did notable injurie to their amitie in searching out wreathings and ambages in the discovery of his most hidden thoughts to him. 1641 FANNANT *True Relat. Parl. Rich.* II, 37 Those infinit wreathings of contention.

b. *concr.* That which is wreathed or twisted.

1600 SURFLET *Countrie Farme* III. xiii. 449 And for these grafts it is ynough, if euerie one of them, haue one good eielet or two about the wreathing. 1634 PEACHAM *Compl. Gentl.* (ed. 2) xii. 110 To Painters, for the picturing of some exquisit arme, leg, torse or wreathing of the body.

†2. A wresting of the sense or meaning of something. *Obs.*

1628 PRYNNE *Cens. Cozens* 67 Which is a grosse abuse, a wreathing, a peruerting of the Scriptures.

3. The action or fact of entwining or intertwining; an instance of this.

1533 [see WRAPPING *vbl. sb.* 1 b]. 1590 SPENSER *F.Q.* II. xii. 53 Boughes and braunches... did... dilate their clasping armes, in wanton wreathings intricate. 1661 BOYLE *Spring of Air* II. ii. (1682) 32 In strings there is required either wreathing or some... texture of component parts. 1844 MRS. BROWNING *Cry of Children* viii. Let them touch each other's hands, in a fresh wreathing Of their tender human youth! a 1901 W. BRIGHT *Age of Fathers* (1903) II. 23 The wreathing of a garland for the Penates.

4. The action of investing with a wreath.

1852 GROTE *Greece* II. lxx. IX. 137 The operations of wreathing and unwreathing must here have been performed by the soldiers symbolically.

'wreathing, ppl. a. [f. as prec. + -ING².]

1. That wreathes, twists, or twines; enwreathing.

1677 DRYDEN *State Innoc.* III. 16 When your kind Eyes look'd languishing on mine, And wreathing Arms did soft embraces joyn. 1697 — *Virg. Past.* iv. 22 Unbidden Earth shall wreathing Ivy bring. 1718 ROWE tr. *Lucan* 180 To cast from off her Brow the wreathing Green. 1816 BYRON *Siege Cor.* vi. In red and wreathing columns flash'd The flame. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* xiv. [To] see the wreathing water in the rapids hurrying on to take its fearful plunge. 1887 HISSEY *Holiday on Road* 327 The wreathing mists and wandering clouds of such a day.

†2. *wreathing-team*, part of the gear of a plough.

Perhaps an error for *wrethen* WREATHEN *ppl. a.*

1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* §5 He muste haue his ploughe and his... horses, and the gear that belongeth to them;... bowes, yokes, landes, stylkynges, wrethynges-temes.

Hence *'wreathingly adv.*

1845 J. C. MANGAN *German Anthol.* II. 59 That lone Gate which the tall wild weeds encircle wreathingly. 1891 *Temple Bar Mag.* Aug. 542 [The smoke] falls wreathingly upon the face of the sleeping child.

wreathless ('ri:θls), *a.* [f. WREATH *sb.* + -LESS.] Having no wreath; destitute or devoid of a wreath or wreaths.

1825 COLERIDGE *Work without Hope* 11 With lips unbrightened, wreathless brow, I stroll. 1878 SWINBURNE *Poems & Ball.* 139 While youth with burning lips and wreathless hair Sang toward the sun. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 30 March 5/7 The almost clandestine removal of the coffin... wreathless and flowerless to the numbered luggage-van.

wreathlet ('ri:θlt). [f. as prec. + -LET.] A small wreath.

1833 *Blackw. Mag.* XXXIV. 258 From that Wreath he has woven wreathlets. 1857 *Fraser's Mag.* LVI. 491 These tiny wreathlets wandered hither and thither. 1887 [C. MACKAY] *Twin Soul* I. xxii. 235 The blue smoke curled in beautiful wreathlets to the sky.

wreathy ('ri:θi), *a.* [f. as prec. + -Y¹.]

1. Of the form of a wreath, coil, or twisted band; marked or characterized by convolution, twisting, or twining; wreathing, curling.

1644 DIGBY *Nat. Bodies* xxiii. §1. 203 A vast multitude of seuerall little ioyntes, and wreathy labyrinthes of nature. 1658 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* (ed. 3) III. xxiii. 135 That famous one [sc. horn] which is preserved at St. Dennis near Paris, hath wreathy spires, and cochleary turnings about it.

1798 JOANNA BAILLIE *Fugitive Verses* (1840) 3 Slowly mounts the smoke in wreathy clouds. *Ibid.* 110 Wreathy folds. 1817 MOORE *Lalla R.*, *Nourmahal* 411 Those wreathy, Red Sea shells, Where Love himself, of old, lay sleeping. a 1851 MOIR *Evening Tranquillity* vi. Above yon cottage... The wreathy smoke ascends. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xxxvi. (1856) 332 The long, wreathy brown clouds. *transf.* 1784-5 *Ann. Reg.*, *Poetry* 137 Wreathy smiles, and roseate pleasures, Are thy richest, sweetest treasures. 1853 *Fraser's Mag.* XLVII. 513 The very foam of the sea, flung in all its wreathy airiness from the crest of a wave.

2. Decked with a wreath or wreathing.

1697 DRYDEN *Aeneis* iv. 438 The Bacchanalian Dames... houl about the Hills, and shake the wreathy Spear.

b. *Her.* (See quot.) *rare*—⁰.

1894 *Parker's Gloss. Her.*, *Tortilly*,... a term applied to Ordinaries which are wreathed; the term *wreathy* is also found.

3. Of the nature of, forming or constituting, a wreath or garland. Also *transf.*

1718 ROWE tr. *Lucan* 181 Her bristling Locks the wreathy Fillet scorn. 1725 POPE *Odyssey* vi. 152 Around his loins the verdant cincture spreads A wreathy foliage. c 1750 R. CUMBERLAND in *Mem.* (1806) 62 The victim beast, ... With all its wreathy honours on its head. 1818 *Blackw. Mag.* III. 90 On Carmel's brow the wreathy vine Had all its honours shed. 1828 MISS MITFORD *Village Ser.* III. 146 A wilderness of blossom, interwoven, intertwined, wreathy, garlandly. 1830 [see GARLANDY *a.*]. 1845 BROWNING *Flight of Duchess* xvii. 59 His forehead chapleted green with wreathy hop.

†**wrecche**, *v.* *Obs.* [OE. *wreccan* (*wreahte*, *wrehte*; *wreaht*, *wreht*) to arouse, undertake, raise. Cf. MDu. *wrecken*, NFr. *wrāki* to waken, *wrāken* (adj.) awake.] *trans.* To rouse, arouse; to bring to life.

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past.* C. xxviii. 193 Ne sceal he no ðæt an don ðæt he ana wacige, ac he sceal eac his friend wreccan [v.r. wreccan]. c 1000 ÆLFRED *Saints' Lives* xi. 241 We feollan on slæpe... ac he læg purh-wacol... and wrahte us siððan. a 1250 *Owl & Night*. 106 þo hit bycom þat he hayhte [= hatched] & of his eyre briddes wrauhete [Cott. wræste].

wrecche, **wreche**, etc.: see WRETCH, etc.

wrecful, variant of WRACKFUL *a.*² *Obs.*

†**wreche**, *sb.* *Obs.* Forms: *a.* 3 wræche, 3-6 wreche, 4-6 wrech, 4 wrieche, 4-5 wreeche, 5 wreach. *β.* 3-4 wreche, 5 wrach. *γ.* 4-5 wrecche (4 wrecche), 5-6 wretche. [The normal representative of an OE. *wræc* (with palatal *c*) fem., of which however the existing texts present no example which can be definitely distinguished from *wræc* neut., WRACK *sb.*¹ (A possible instance occurs in *Riddles* II. 4, if the reading *wræce* is correct.) The vowel of *wræc* (:—earlier **wrāk-jō*) corresponds to that of OFris. *wrēke*, *wrēse* (NFr. *wrêk*, *wrāk*), OS. *wrāka*, *wrēka* (MLG. *wrāke*; MDu. *wrāke*, Du. *wraak*), OHG. *rāhha* (MHG. *rāche*, G. *rache*), Goth. *wrēkei*.

The *β*-forms partly represent a south-eastern variant of *wræche*, and are partly due to confusion with *wrake* WRAKE *sb.*; the *γ*-forms show assimilation (in some instances merely graphic) to *wreche* WRETCH *sb.* The normal spelling, if the word had survived into modern English, would have been *wreach* or *wreech*.]

1. Retributive punishment; vengeance; = WREAK *sb.* 1.

In very frequent use from c 1290 to c 1450.

a. c 1200 ORMIN *Introd.* 19 Forr þatt wass mikell wræche wiss þatt all follc for till helle. c 1205 LAY. 29581 Vre drihte... his wreche sende an wræstliche þan folke. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 552 So cam on werlde wreche and wrake. a 1333 W. HERBERT in *Relig. Lyrics* 14th C. (1924) 20 Nou, dame, ich þe byseche At pylke day of wreche... spek uor me. 13... *E.E. Allit.* P. B. 230 þet wrathed not þe wy3, ne þe wrech saytled. c 1386 CHAUCER *Monk's T.* 625 The wreche of god hym smoot so cruelly, That thurgh his body wikked wormes crepte. c 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton, 1483) III. viii. 55 Euer haue they in theyr hertes holden wreche and rancour. 1477 NORTON *Ord. Alch.* i. in Ashm. (1652) 15 For doubt of such pride and wrech, He must be ware that will this Science teach. c 1485 Digby *Myst.* (1882) III. 469 To kepe þis place from wreche.

Personif. 1413 26 *Pol. Poems* 53 Euer þe troupe stondes wreche, For wreche is goddis champion. c 1460 *Wisdom* 698 in *Macro Plays* 58 Let se; cum in, Indignacion & Sturdynes, ... Wreche, & Dyscorde expres.

β. c 1200 [see 1 b]. c 1320 *Cast. Love* (H.) 1560 The eyghte day betokynth gret wreche. 13... *E.E. Allit.* P. B. 204 He forzet alle his fre pweles, & wex wod to þe wreche, for wrath at his hert. c 1450 *Mirk's Festial* I. 36 And for wrach schuld falle on hymselfe yn party, þerfor [etc.]. 1535 *Trevisa's Barth. De P.R.* xviii. xii. 315 b/1 Some [bees] for grette wrath and desyre of wrache stingethe soo depe, that [etc.].

γ. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1585 þus him vel wrecche of god, wor he þe apostles slou. c 1330 *King of Tars* 658 Leef on hym that strengor is, For doute of more wrecche [rimes teche, leche]. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* I. 253 Anon þe pride of Romayns, ... oper som oper wreche of God all mysti fallep vpon hem. a 1470 H. PARKER *Dives & Pauper* (W. de W. 1496) I. xxix. 67/2 Harde wreche was comyng but yf they wolde amende them of her falshode. a 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* vi. (1811) 147 Hir eyen dystylled dropes of blode, ... the which, in token of Goddes wreche, in y^e boke remayne at this day.

b. In the phr. *to do, have, make, nim, seek*, and esp. *take wreche*. (Cf. WREAK *sb.* 1 b.)

a. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 29 3ef þu wreche ne secst hwanne þu time siest. a 1240 *Ureusin* 107 in *O.E. Hom.* I. 197 3if þu heuedest wreche inumen of mine luðernesce.

c 1275 *Duty of Christians* 56 in *O.E. Misc.* 143 Elles vre louerd god on vs wulle don wreche. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1334 Ichabbe of him wreche inou, wanne he biseep min ore. a 1300 in *E.E.P.* (1862) 4 Tak wrech of sinful man. 13... *K. Horn* 1292 (Harl. MS.), þat lond ichulle porhreeche & do mi fader wreche. 1340 *Ayenb.* 45 He hep ynome to lite wreche. c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 3404 [They] pouzt manli to make wreche here lorde to queme. c 1425 *Eng. Conq. Ireland* 120 Yn hope þat god shold take wrech of ham. c 1430 *Syr. Gener.* (Roxb.) 6396 Generides, youre lord, now besech On this mater to doo som wrech. c 1450 LOVELICH *Grail* xii. 244 Be war lest god wele taken wreche. a 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* II. (1811) 24 This Appolyn toke wreche of them that spoyled the goddes & theyr Temples. 1529 RASTELL *Pastyme* (1811) 138 To take wrech for the cruell murder of his newew.

β. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 51 He nam stronge wrache per-of. c 1325 *Chron. Eng.* 724 in *Ritson Metr. Rom.* II. 300 Hou schulde he speren eni mon Wen he of bestes wrache nom?

2. An act or instance of vengeance; = WREAK *sb.* 2.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 641 On wreche ðat sal zet wurðen sent, wan al ðis werld wurðe brent. *Ibid.* 2985 ðe ðridde wreche dede aaron Bi-foren ðe king pharaon. 13... *E.E. Allit.* P. B. 229 Fro heuen to helle þat hatel schor laste... þis hit was a brem brest & a byge wrache. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* II. 329 Egipte was i-smyte wip ten grette wreches. 1398 — *Barth. De P.R.* IX. xxi. (Tollem. MS.), God sente mo wreches upon þe Egyptians þan ten. a 1425 *Cursor M.* 5943 (Trin.), Fast on god þo gon þei cal To deluyur þe folke of þat wreche. a 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. (1811) 241 By reason of a wreche done... vpon one of Kynge Wyllyams knyghtes.

3. Affliction or calamity; deep distress, misery.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3396 3et sal ðe kinde of amalech Ben al fled dun in deades wrech. 1387-8 T. USK *Test. Love* I. i. (Skeat) l. 60 Thinke on your wreche and your daunger. a 1400 *Leg. Rood* (1871) 138 Lord of loue... For þe was set sely sacrynge, To winne þe world þat was in wreche. c 1450 *Ludus Coventriae* 327 Cryst... hath us wonnyn owt of wreche. 1460-70 *Bk. Quintessence* 19 Sip þat deuelis be dampned, & ful of wreche of helle.

b. *to go to wreche*, to go to wrack. *rare*—¹.

13... *Body & Soul* 242 in *Map's Poems* (Camden) 343 Thyn other thing, nou thou art ded, Al schal geynliche gon to wreche.

†**wreche**, *v.* *Obs. rare.* [f. prec.]

1. *trans.* To rescue or deliver; = WREAK *v.* 5 d.

c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 16076 þat bischop cam, his folk to preche, þer Cristendand for Paen wreche [v.r. to reche].

2. *refl.* To avenge (oneself).

1398 TREVISA *Glanvil De P.R.* xviii. vii. (Bodl. MS.), þe bore... takep herte and strengpe to wreche hym of his aduersarye wip his tuskes.

3. To give effect to (wrath, etc.); = WREAK *v.* 3.

c 1420 LYDG. *Ballad Commend. Our Lady* 41 Or þe wycked fend his wrath up on us wreche [rime leche].

Hence †*wrecher*, an avenger (of some wrong).

a 1325 *Prose Psalter* viii. 3 þat þou destruye þe enemy and þe wrecher [L. *ultorem*] of Adam sinne.

†**wrecheful**, *a.* *Obs.* Also 3-4 wrech-; 4 wrac(c)h-, 5 wreechful. [f. WRECHE *sb.* + -FUL. Cf. WREAKFUL *a.*] Vengeful; revengeful.

c 1290 *St. Edmund* 333 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 309 God... nis nouzt so wrechful ase men weneth. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* I. 377 Seyntes and halowes of þis lond beep more wrechful þan seyntes of oper londes. 1398 — *Barth. De P.R.* xviii. xii. (B.M. Add. MS.), No creature is more wrecheful... þan is þe bee whanne he is ywrapped. a 1400 *New Test.* (Pauces) 1 Thess. iv. 6 God is wrachful of alle suche men. c 1410 *Lantern of Light* 99 He smytþ not to venge is owene wrechful herte but to do þe wille of God & saue his neiours soule.

wrecht, *obs.* Sc. form of WRIGHT *sb.*¹

wreck (rɛk), *sb.*¹ Forms: [1-3 wrec (1 werec, waerece, warec), 2 wrech, 3-4 wreck, 3 wreck-, 4 wreck,] 3, 5-6 wreck, 5-7 wrekke, wrecke, 6- wreck. [a. AF. *wrec*, *wrech*, *wrek* (also *werec*, *waerec*, *warec*, whence F. *warech*, *varec* VAREC), a. ON. **wrec*, **wrek* (Norw. and Icel. *rek* n.), f. the stem of *wrekan* to drive: see WREAK *v.*, and cf. WRACK *sb.*² The AF. word is also the source of med.L. *wreccum*, *warectum*. The ON. variant **wreke* (Icel. *reki*) is represented in English by the obsolete WREKE. Another French form appears in VRAIC.]

I. 1. *Law.* That which is cast ashore by the sea in tidal waters; esp. goods or cargo as thrown on land by the sea from a wrecked, stranded, or foundered vessel. Occas. *wreck of the sea* (med.L. *wreccum maris*, AF. *wrec* or *wreck de mer*), †*wreck of the king* (med.L. *wrech regis*). Cf. SHIPWRECK *sb.* 1, SHIPBRECKE.

[1077 Wm. I in *Chron. Abb. Ramsey* (Rolls) 201 Brameestre... cum omni maris eiectu quod nos *wrec* [v.r. *waerec*] nominamus. 1175-6 *Pipe Roll Hen. II* (1904) 83 Quia accepit wrech regis. 1200 K. JOHN *Charter to Dunwich* in *Rotuli Chart.* (1837) 51/2 De ewagio de wrec et lagan et de omnibus aliis consuetudinibus. a 1268 BRACTON *De Leg.* I. xii. (Rolls) I. 60 Item ubi non apparet dominus rei, sicut est de wrecco maris. 1292 BRITTON I. 216 Par franchises de aver wrech de mer trovē en soen soil. 1343 in *Rymer's Fœdera* (Rolls) II. II. 1225 Wreccum maris... tam de piscibus regalibus, quam de aliis rebus quibuscumque, ad terram ibidem projectis. 1600: see JETSAM I.]

1228 in *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) I. 52 Wrek, weyf, stray, merchet, lecherwyt, blodewyt. *Ibid.* 57 Wrek et weyf, stray. 1455 *Rolls of Parli.* V. 311/2 Wrecke of the Sea, Weywes, Estrayes. 1477 *Paston Lett.* III. 211 Mastras Clere hath sen down hyr men, and with set alle the stuff and wrekke. 1482

Rolls of Parlt. VI. 205/1 The same Duc shall have . . . Wrecke of the See, Tresour founde. **1570** LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* (1576) 229 If a ship were cast on shore . . . and were not repaired by such as escaped on liue within a certaine time, . . . this was taken for Wreck. *Ibid.*, If from thenceforth any one thing (being within the vessell) arriued on liue, then the ship and goods should not be seised for wrecke. **1630** *Aldeburgh Rec. in N. & Q.* May (1921) 427/2 Burying a man that came ashore when the Kings wreck came ashore. **1651** tr. *Kitchin's Courts Leet* (1657) 24 The Kings Prerogative, chap. 11. the King shall have Wreck of the Sea throughout the whole Realm. **1666** *N. Riding Rec.* VI. 101 A warrant against 11 Britton men for riotously taking a whale and other wrecke. **1728** CHAMBERS *Cycl.* (1738) s.v., Wreck, antiently, not only comprehended goods . . . from a perishing ship, but whatever else the sea cast upon land; whether it were precious stones, fishes, . . . or the like. **1765** BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. 283 If any persons . . . take any goods so cast on shore, which are not legal wreck. **1768** *Ibid.* III. 106 The court of the admiral [had] . . . no manner of cognizance . . . of any wreck of the sea: for that must be cast on land before it becomes a wreck. **1800** ADDISON *Amer. Law Rep.* 63 *Wreck*, in its legal signification, is confined to such goods as, after shipwreck at sea, are by the sea cast upon the land. **1822** *Act 1-2 Geo. IV.*, c. 75 §26 That no . . . person who may be entitled . . . to Wreck of the Sea . . . shall be entitled to appropriate such Wreck or Goods . . . until he [etc.]. **1866** *Daily Tel.* 3 Nov., The more scrupulous deliver up their spoil to the receiver of wreck. **1888** J. WILLIAMS in *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 687/1 As wreck in the last resort became crown property, it was never subject to forfeiture. *Ibid.*, Wreck was frequently granted to subjects as a franchise.

2. a. = WRACK sb.² 3, SEA-WRACK 2 a, VAREC 1. Latterly *Sc.* and *north. dial.*

Cf. *tangle-wreck* TANGLE sb.¹ 3, *sea-wreck* s.v. SEA-WRACK. **1499** *Promp. Parv.* (Pynson) s.v.b, Wrek of the see, *alga*, *norga*. **1500** *Ortus Vocab.* Biiij, *Alga*, . . . *herba marina*, i.e. *illud quod mare projicit*, wreke or frothe of the see. **1634-5** BRERETON *Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) 97 The grass, weeds and wreck, brought by the sea . . . and left upon the sands. **1728** CHAMBERS *Cycl.* (1738) s.v., Wreck . . . in some places . . . is used to manure the ground. **1752** in *Scots Mag.* (1753) July 335/2 He was then employed in gathering wreck. **1791** *Statist. Acc. Scotl.* I. 113 The shores [of Ayrshire] abound with . . . rich sea-weed or wreck for manure. **1806** FORSYTH *Beauties Scotl.* III. 351 Sea-ware . . . driven upon the shore by the tides . . . is commonly called *blown wreck*. **1876** in *Cleveland Gloss. Suppl.* **1894** K. HEWAT *Little Scottish World* vii. 112 The 'Wreck Brethren' . . . annually . . . raised funds for their purposes and regulated the carting of the wreck.

b. = WRACK sb.² 3 b. Now *dial.*

1440 *Promp. Parv.* 533/2 Wrek, of a dyke, or a fenne, or stondynge watyr, *ulva*. **1742** *N. Riding Rec.* VIII. 242 The Treasurer to pay £1 for clearing away the wreck from How and Kirby Misperton Bridges. **1851** MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunt* II. 298 Our faces were concealed by the 'wreck' that covered the stones. **1877-86** in *Lincoln and Chesh. glossaries*. **1884** G. S. STREATFIELD *Lincoln. & Danes* 376 Wreck, weeds and other rubbish floating down streams or on ditch water.

c. *Sc.* and *dial.* = WRACK sb.² 3 c.

1743 R. MAXWELL *Sel. Trans. Soc. Improv. Agric. Scot.* 11 Cause pull up and gather carefully the Wreck, or Roots of Weeds and Grass, into Heaps. **1787** W. H. MARSHALL *Norfolk II.* 392 *Wreck*, dead undigested roots and stems of grasses and weeds in plowland. **1801** *Farmer's Mag.* Jan. 59 A field . . . where dung was applied amid mountains of wreck, or couch grass.

3. a. A vessel broken, ruined, or totally disabled by being driven on rocks, cast ashore, or stranded; a wrecked or helpless ship; the ruins or hulk of such. Occas. also *wreck of a ship*.

[c. **1290** *Fleta* I. xlv. (1647) 61 Item dicitur wreckum navis vel batellus fractus, de quibus nihil vivum evaserit.] ?a **1500** *Chaucer's Man of Law's T.* 415 Wks. (1532) 24 b, 'The constable of the castel downe is fare To seen this wreke, & al the shyp he sought. **1611** COTGR., *Vuaresque*, a wrecke, or ship cast away. **1652** HEYLIN *Cosmog.* I. 67 Charybdis is a Gulf, . . . which violently attracting all Vessells that come too nigh it, devoureth them, and casteth up their wrecks. **1698** FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 80 He shall restore whatever Wrecks may happen on his Coasts. **1719** DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 189, I could plainly see . . . the Wreck of a Ship cast away in the Night. **1743** BULKELEY & CUMMINS *Voy. S. Seas* 14 The Ship is a perfect Wreck. **1762** FALCONER *Shipwr.* III. 669 Three . . . from the wreck on oars and rafts descend. **1805** J. TURNBULL *Voy. World* (1813) 391 The ship . . . struck upon a reef of rocks . . . and shortly became a total wreck. **1812** J. WILSON *Isle of Palms* I. 32 Fast the miserable Ship Becomes a lifeless wreck. **1865** H. KINGSLEY *Hillyars & Burtons* lxxix, 'The wreck of a little coasting craft still lay about two hundred yards to sea.

fig. and in *fig. context*. **1781** COWPER *Retirem.* 386 To the fair haven of my native home, The wreck of what I was, fatigu'd, I come. **1796** BURKE *Corr.* (1844) IV. 350 Such is the person you come to see, or rather the wreck of what was never a first-rate vessel. **1883** S. C. HALL *Retrospect* I. 322 All of manhood in him . . . had given way and left him a stranded wreck. **1885** TENNYSON *The Wreck* 5 My life itself is a wreck, . . . I am flung from the rushing tide of the world as a waif of shame.

b. An unserviceable or crazy old vessel.

1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 5 Dec. 5/1 There are too many of these old wrecks [= barges] on the river.

4. a. *Law.* A piece or article of wreckage; a fragment of a wrecked vessel or its cargo. *Freq. pl.*

1570 in *Boys Sandwich* (1792) 775 Wrecks and fyndalls floating, and the half of all wrecks and fyndalls jottsome. **1577** HOLINSHEO *Chron.* II. 489/2 [Richard I] pardoned al wrecks by sea . . . releasing for euer al his right to the same. **1579** [RASTELL] *Termes Lawes* 187 b, The Lorde shall have that as a wreck of y^e sea. **1652** NEEDHAM *Selden's Mare Cl.* I. xxv. (1663) 167 The Question is, whether the Goods bee . . . called Spoils or Wrecks. **1729** JACOB *Law Dict.* s.v. *Lagan*, [If] these Goods . . . are cast away upon the Land, they are then a Wreck. *Ibid.* s.v., It was usual to seise and forfeit

Wrecks to the King, only when no Owner could be found. **1768** [see 1].

b. Without article. = WRECKAGE 2.

1744 *Gentl. Mag.* 616/2 Several chests, broken masts, and other pieces of wreck floating in the sea. **1796** CHARLOTTE SMITH *Narr. Loss Transports* 34 The Chissel-bank . . . was strewn . . . with pieces of wreck, and piles of plundered goods. **1815** *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 42 Six men reached the shore . . . upon planks, being much bruised by the surf and wreck. **1833** REOOING *Shipwrecks* I. 194 All the crew believed the ship was crushed to pieces, but no wreck floated up. **1865** SWINBURNE *Felise* 80 [Such things] As the sea feeds on, wreck and stray and castaway.

5. A drifted or tossed-up mass; a large heap; a great quantity; an abundance. Now *north. dial.*

1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* II. 34 Where Chesill lifts Her ridged snake-like sands, in wrecks and smouldring drifts. **1683** G. M[ERITON] *Yorks. Dial.* 15 There's sike a wreck, it [sc. corn] ligges all down o'th Land. **1846** BROCKETT *N.C. Words* (ed. 3), *Wreck*, a great quantity . . . as a confused heap. **1876** *Whitby Gloss.* 224/1, I saw wrecks on 't.

6. a. That which remains of something that has suffered ruin, demolition, waste, etc.; the dilapidated, disorganized, or disordered residue or remainder of anything. Also (a) with *a* and *pl.*

(a) **1713** ADDISON *Cato* v. i, But thou shalt flourish . . . Unhurt amidst . . . The Wrecks of Matter, and the Crush of Worlds. **1756** MRS. CALDERWOOD in *Coltness Collect.* (Maitl. Cl.) 250 His friends . . . got him, out of the wrecks of his estate, betwixt L. 30 or L. 40 *per annum*. **1780** *Westm. Mag.* 371 He continued obstinate and mad, going . . . over the wrecks of the house. **1821** SHELLEY *Epipsych.* 493 An envy of the isles, a pleasure-house . . . It scarce seems now a wreck of human art. **1888** BRUCE *Amer. Commw.* II. lv. 335 The Republican party was formed . . . out of the wrecks of the Whig party.

(b) **1743** R. BLAIR *Grave* 30 Names once famed, now dubious or forgot, And buried 'midst the wreck of things which were. **1751** SMOLLETT *Per. Pic.* ix, From the wreck of the hammock [she] made an occasional bed for herself on the floor. **1794** MRS. RAOCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* xxviii, Assisted with suggestions which they had since executed with the wreck of their fortunes. **1804** W. L. BOWLES *Spir. Discov.* III. 46 My destined voyage, by the shores Of Asia, and the wreck of cities old. **1840** ARNOLO *Hist. Rome* II. xxxi. 255 There he was joined by the wreck of the consul's army. **1854** R. S. SURTEES *Handley Cr.* lxxvi, As Mamma surveyed the wreck of luncheon.

transf. and *fig.* **1791** BURNS *Song of Death* iii, Thou strik'st the dull peasant—he sinks in the dark, Nor saves e'en the wreck of a name. **1813** SHELLEY *Q. Mab* v. 109 He sheds A passing tear perchance upon the wreck Of earthly peace.

b. The broken-down, debilitated, or emaciated form of a person. (Cf. 7 b.)

1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk.* I. 225 It was, indeed, the wreck of her once noble lad. **1836** LYTTON *Duchess de La Vallière* v. iii, These wrecks of man Worn to decay. **1893** SELOUS *Trav. S.E. Africa* 62 All the Portuguese here were mere wrecks of men—frail, yellow, and fever-stricken.

7. a. That which is in a state of ruin; anything that is broken down or has undergone wrecking, shattering, or dilapidation.

1814 SOUTHEY *Roderick* xvi. 62 Amid heaps Of mountain wreck, on either side thrown high, . . . The tortuous channel wound. **1816** SCOTT *Antiq.* iii, This wreck of ancient books and utensils. **1842** MACAULAY *Horatius* lv, Like a dam, the mighty wreck [sc. of a bridge] Lay right athwart the stream. **1855** KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* xx, Alas! a crack, a flap, a rattle, . . . and all forward was a mass of dangling wreck. **1889** MRS. E. KENNARD *Landing a Prize* i. (1891) 4 What was left of the wreck had to be given up to creditors.

fig. **1849** ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. I. viii. (1866) 145 The life-hopes have become a wreck.

b. A person of undermined, shattered, or ruined constitution; one who is debilitated by ill-health, hardship, etc. (Cf. 6 b.)

1795-6 WORDSW. *Borderers* I. 336 *Osw.* But how fare you? *Her.* Well as the wreck I am permits. **1828** LYTTON *Pelham* I. xxxi, 'Yes,' continued the venerable wreck, after a short pause. **1857** MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* (1883) II. 335 It is easy to see you have suffered! an entire wreck, like myself. **1899** E. W. HORNUNG *Dead Men* xii, I was slowly dying of insomnia. I was a nervous wreck. **1901** W. R. H. TROWBRIDGE *Lett. of her Mother to Eliza* xxxi. 154, I think I am in for influenza. I feel a perfect wreck.

8. [By misapprehension.] = WRACK sb.¹ 5 b.

1787-9 WORDSW. *Evening Walk* 306 No wreck of all the pageantry remains. **1813** SHELLEY *Q. Mab* ix. 130 These ruins soon left not a wreck behind. **1835** I. TAYLOR *Spir. Despot.* v. 185 Other systems have . . . been swept away, leaving hardly a wreck behind.

II. 9. a. The disabling or destruction of a vessel by any disaster or accident of navigation; loss of a ship by striking on a rock, stranding, or foundering; an instance of this; = SHIPWRECK sb.

2. to make wreck: cf. MAKE v.¹ 64.

1463-4 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 507/1 Yf eny of the forseid Weyes or Chaffares . . . come into this Reame or Wales by way of wreck. **1477** *Paston Lett.* III. 211 There is a grete chyppe go to wreke be for Wynterton. **1568** GRAFTON *Chron.* I. 4 This Arke . . . by diuine prouidence . . . was gouerned from running to wreck. **1577** HOLINSHEO *Chron.* II. 490/1 That euery person making wreke by sea, and comming aliue to lande, shoulde haue all his goodes free. **1590** SPENSER *F.Q.* II. x. 6 Learning his ship from those white rocks to saue, . . . Threatning vnheddie wreke and rash decay. **1607** COWELL *Interpr.* s.v. *Flotsen*, Jetson is a thing cast out of the shippe being in danger of wreke. **1672** DRYDEN *2nd Pt. Conq. Granada* III. 107 As Seamen, parting in a gen'ral wreck, When first the loosening planks begin to crack, Each catches one. **1749** *Gentl. Mag.* 396/1 The ill behaviour of his crew, and the bad condition of the ship occasioned its wreck. **1795** BURNS *O Mally's meek* iii, Her two eyes . . . Would keep a sinking ship frae wreck. **1809** R. WARNER *Tour Cornwall* 158 A range of rocks, the terrible scene of many a disastrous wreck. **1845** C. WILKES *Narr. U.S. Explor. Exped.* II. 91 In

leaving the harbour we had a narrow escape from wreck. **1888** F. HUME *Mme. Midas* I. Prol., We are . . . shipwrecked sailors; and I will tell the story of the wreck.

fig. and in *fig. context*. **1564** BULLEIN *Dial. agst. Pest* (1888) 93 The ship of fooles . . . wanteth a good Pilot, the storme, the rocke, and the wreke at hand. **1770** COWPER *Let.* 25 Sept., The storm of sixty-three made a wreck of the friendships I had contracted.

b. *Stock Exchange.* (See first quot.)

1876 'E. PINTO' *Ye outside Fools!* 360 A Corner, Pool, Clique, Ring are all terms equivalent to a Rig or Wreck. *Ibid.* 408 The seductive interest of Rigs and Wrecks.

c. *N. Amer.* A road or railway accident.

1912 J. SANOILANOS *Western Canad. Dict. & Phrase-Bk.*, *Wreck*, the word to apply to a railway accident; or, more correctly, train wreck. **1974** *Evening Herald* (Rock Hill, S. Carolina) 19 Apr. 11/4 In spite of the reduction in accidents, the sergeant said, 'We still have too many wrecks'. **1979** N. MAILER *Executioner's Song* (1980) I. xviii. 304 On the drive back to Springville, she was dreaming away and got in a wreck. Nobody was hurt but the car.

d. The death of a large number of pelagic birds, usually as the result of a storm.

1936 *Brit. Birds* XXIX. 327 In January, 1915, there was a great oil 'wreck' of Scoters. **1971** *New Scientist* 8 Apr. 69/1 There have been similar wrecks in the past, and the report mentions 11 for guillemots and the auks in the last century.

10. a. The action of subverting or overthrowing an established order of things, etc.; the fact of being brought to disaster; downfall, overthrow, ruin.

1577 HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* 494 He came into Mesopotamia, not without plaine daunger and wreke to the state. **1594** SPENSER *Amoretti* xxv, Then all the woes and wrecks which I abide, as means of blisse I gladly will embrace. **1608** *Great Frost* ad fin., Being . . . thus round beset with the horrors of so present a wreck, he fell down on his knees. **1763** J. BROWN *Poetry & Music* v. 78 The most celebrated bards of ancient Greece, whose songs have perished in the wreck of time. **1775** SHERIDAN *Rivals* III. iii, Proud of calamity, we will enjoy the wreck of wealth. **1838** PRESCOTT *Ferd. & Is.* Intro. (1846) I. 23 The wreck of their ancient liberties. **1839** TALFOURD *Glencoe* I. i, You come To share the wreck of the Macdonalds. **1885** J. PAYN *Talk of Town* I. 182 It was not that she feared to risk the wreck of her own happiness.

fig. **1793** BURNS 'Where are the joys' iv, A' that has caused this wreck in my bosom, Is Jenny.

b. The action of wrecking or breaking apart; the fact of being materially wrecked or ruined; destruction or demolition.

1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 166 ¶ 2 Books, which . . . may last as long as the Sun and Moon, and perish only in the general Wreck of Nature. **1774** GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) I. 25 The manner in which he relieves the earth from this universal wreck. **1839** MURCHISON *Silur. Syst.* I. xxix. 376 In accounting for these extraordinary accumulations of broken coal we may undoubtedly refer their origin to the wreck of the regular seams. **1864** LOWELL *Fireside Trav.* 31 Dealing thunderous wreck to the two hostile vessels. **1886** J. BARROWMAN *Sc. Mining Terms* 73 *Wreck*, a break-down, as in a shaft or on an incline.

c. In the phr. to go to wreck (and ruin).

a **1547** SURREY *Aeneid* II. 542 Our fained shields and weapons then they found, And . . . our discording voice they knew. We went to wreck, with number ouerlaid. **1548** UOALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Mark* v. 11-17 The flocke goeth to wrecke and vterly perisheth. **1600** HOLLAND *Livy* 676 All things els about him went to wreck. **1721** DE FOE *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) 65, I saw our men go to wreck. **1789** BURNS *Elegy on Year 1788* 4 A Towmont, sirs, is gane to wreck! ? **1834** DE QUINCEY *Autob. Sk.* Wks. 1858 I. 126 To wreck goes every notion or feeling that divides . . . the brave man from the brave. **1877** BLACK *Green Past.* I, The whole estate is going to wreck and ruin. **1883** STEVENSON *Treas. Isl.* xxviii, Here you are in a bad way: ship lost, . . . your whole business gone to wreck.

ellipt. **1782** BURNS 'No Churchman am I' v, A letter inform'd me that all was to wreck.

III. 11. a. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *wreck buoy*, *case*, *chart*, *flag*; objective and instrumental, as *wreck-finder*, *raiser*, *-seeker*; † *wreck-fishing*, *-raising*, *-threatening*; also *wreck-devoted*, *-strewn*.

1874 BEDFORD *Sailor's Pocket-bk.* v. 109 *Wreck buoys are painted green. **1892** MARSDEN *Sel. Pleas* p. lxiv, In 1377 a *wreck case was tried before justices. **1862** *Catal. Internat. Exhib.*, *Brit.* No. 2747, Large *wreck chart of the British Isles for 1861. **1819** SHELLEY *Cenci* v. iv. 42 A *wreck-devoted seaman thus might pray To the deaf sea. **1902** *Daily Chron.* 29 Oct. 7/1 (citing *N.Y. Tribune*), The wreck of a coal barge was first located. . . Two boats, termed 'wreck-finders', then . . . by means of derricks or suction pumps raise the coal to the surface. **1674** TEMPLE *Let.* Wks. 1720 II. 310 This Invention of *Wreck-fishing [by Sir Edmund Curtis], for the Recovery of His Majesty's Tin, cast away before Ostend. **1807** *Daily News* 15 Sept. 8/4 The Thames Conservancy have hoisted their green '*wreck flag', warning all craft to steer clear of the debris. **1881** *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 36 Wharfinger, Wharf Agent, . . . *Wreck Raiser. **1898** *Westm. Gaz.* 14 July 5/2 The *wreck-raising vessels that are to make an attempt to save some of Admiral Cervera's unfortunate squadron. **1843** CAPT. MARRYAT *M. Violet* xxviii, The unconscious *wreck-seeker of a captain. **1821** SHELLEY *The Fugitives* 21 The Earth is like Ocean, *Wreck-strewn and in motion. **1757** DYER *Fleece* iv. 620 Inaccessible *Wreck-threatening Staten Land's o'erhanging shore.

b. *Attrib.* in names of persons having, or appointed to take, charge of wreck or wreckage, as *wreck commissioner*, *-master*.

1846 WORCESTER (citing *Lee*), *Wreck-Master*, a master of a wreck. a **1868** in *Grant Rep. Wrecking Bahamas* 77 The first-licensed wreck-master boarding a vessel wrecked, stranded, or in distress . . . shall . . . become the master of all wreckers employed on such vessel, and shall be styled the '*wreck-master'. **1876** *Act 39-40 Vict.* c. 80 §29 It shall be

the duty of a wreck commissioner . . . to hold any formal investigation into a loss. **1891** *Cent. Dict.* s.v., *Receivers of wrecks* (in Great Britain), *wreck-masters* (in New York and Texas), officers whose duty [etc.]. **1898** *Engineering Mag.* XVI. 70 Instructions for the handling of explosives . . . should be placed in the hands of the railroad staff, including wreckmasters.

c. Special Combs., as *wreck-fish*, the stone-bass; † *wreck-goods* *Sc.*, goods cast ashore from a wreck; † *wreck-make*, *poet.* that which causes wrecks; *wreck-ware* *Sc.*, -weed, = sense 2; *wreck-wood*, wood washed up or ashore from a wreck; also *attrib.*; *wreck-works*, salvage-works for raising a wreck or wrecks.

1880 *DAY Fishes Gt. Brit.* I. 18 This fish . . . is called in Devonshire, *Wreck fish, because it follows floating timbers. **1883** *Fisheries Exhib. Catal.* 270 Special Line, furnished with all accessories, used in fishing for Stone Bass or Wreck-fish. **1693** *STAIR Instit.* (ed. 2) Alph. Index K 2, *Wreck-goods . . . become Escheat as Publick. **1765-8** *ERSKINE Inst. Law Scot.* II. i. §13 Wreck-goods . . . were not claimed as escheat, but secured for the owners. **1582** *STANYHURST Aeneis* III. (Arb.) 88 And Caulons eastels we doe spy, with Scylla the *wreckmake. **1865** *WAY Promp. Parv.* 533 *note*, On the coasts of Scotland sea-weed is called *wreck-war'. **1821** *SCOTT Pirate* x, One whom the sea flung forth as *wreck-weed. *Ibid.* v, The *wreck-wood that the callants brought in yesterday. **1843** *Times* 25 July 3/2 The mast is still standing, and very little wreck-wood has driven from her. **1895** *QUILLER COUCH Wandering Heath* 5 The rain drove . . . aslant like threads of gold silk in the shine of the wreckwood fire. **1903** *E. CHILDERS Riddle of Sands* xx, The *wreck-works were evidently what they purported to be.

† *wreck*, *sb.*² *Sc. Obs.* [var. of *WRACK sb.*³, after *prec.*] 'Pelf'; 'dross'; = *WRACK sb.*³ 1 b.

1562 *WINSET Cert. Tractatus* Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 8 Hauand regarde to the wreck of this world or lustis of thair bodyis. **1568** *BLYTH in Bannatyne MS.* (Hunt. Club) 321/11 Ane wreche sall haif no mair, Bot ane schort scheit at heid and feit, For all his wreke and wair.

† *wreck*, *sb.*³ *Obs. rare.* [Alteration of *WREAK sb.*: cf. *WRECK v.*²] Vengeance; revenge.

1591 *Legh's Armory* 96 b, His irefull heart straight braided out wrothfull wordes of wreke [**1562** wreke] and reuenge. **1596** *SPENSER F.Q.* IV. vi. 16 Ah cruell hand, and . . . hart That worstk such wrecke on her.

wreck, obs. erron. var. *RACK sb.*¹ 3.

1707 *E. SMITH Phædra & Hipp.* III. 30 Why did you raise me to the height of Joy, Above the wreck of Clouds and Storms below?

wreck, var. *RECK sb.*² (= *RACK sb.*² 5 d).

1674 *RAY Coll. Words, Smelting Tin* 122 The head tin passes to the *wreck*, where they work it with a wooden rake in Vessels. **1800** *MISS EDGEWORTH Lame Jervas* ii, I had new models made of the sieves for lueing, the box and trough, the buddle, wreck, and tool.

wreck (*rek*), *v.*¹ Also 5-6 *wrek-*. [f. *WRECK sb.*¹ Cf. med.L. *wrecare* (12th cent.).]

In various senses common only in passive use.

† 1. *trans.* To cast on shore. *Obs.*

c1420 *Sir Amadas* (W.) 475 Folke fordryvon in the schores, . . . Brone stedes, . . . All maner of ryches, . . . Wrekkyd with the water lay. [= xliiv. (Camden), He fond wreken amung the stones Knyztes in meneuere.] **a1440** *Sir Eglam.* 894 He say that lady whyte as flowre, Was wrekyd on the sonde. **a1509** in *Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* Var. Coll. (1907) IV. 87 [Seizing them] as goodes wrekked, which neither can me soo bee taken as long as the veray owners thereof be certainly knowen. **1596** *SPENSER F.Q.* v. iv. 5 A Coffor strong, . . . seeming to haue suffred mickle wrong by being wrekt vpon the sands. **1729** *JACOB Law Dict.* s.v., If Goodes wreck'd are seised by Persons having no Authority. **1821** *Act 1-2 Geo. IV.* c. 75 §26 That Part of the Coast where the same [goods] shall have been stranded, wrecked or found.

2. To cause the wreck of (a vessel); to wreck (a ship); = *SHIPWRECK v.* 1 b. Chiefly *passive*. Also *fig.* and in *fig.* context.

1570 *LAMBARDE Peramb. Kent.* (1576) 228 A shippe laden with the Kings owne goods was wrecked within the precinct of this libertie. **1590** *SPENSER F.Q.* II. xii. 7 The ribs of vessels broke, And shiuered ships, which had bene wrecked late. **1732** *Gentl. Mag.* 976 A great Number of Ships were wrecked, . . . by stormy Weather. **1774** *GOLDSM. Nat. Hist.* (1776) VI. 395 Brought into the European seas, in some India ship that might be wrecked upon ber return. **1845** *J. C. MANGAN German Anthol.* II. 100 The shallop of my peace is wrecked on Beauty's shore. **1846** *MRS. A. MARSH Father Darcy* II. ii. 60 So bravely as we have struggled against the overwhelming waters! The vessel is finally wrecked! **1865** *H. KINGSLEY Hillyars & Burtons* lxxvii, If the *Wainoora* has sailed, . . . she is wrecked somewhere on the coast.

refl. **1864** *TENNYSON Aylmer's F.* 716 This frail bark of ours, when sorely tried, May wreck itself without the pilot's guilt.

b. To make or cause (a person) to suffer or undergo shipwreck; to involve in wreck; also, to cause the loss of (goods or cargo) by shipwreck; = *SHIPWRECK v.* 1. Chiefly *passive*.

1617 *MORYSON Itin.* II. 8 The . . . Spaniards, last yeere wrecked on the Coasts of Connaght . . . had left . . . great store of treasure. **1796** *CHARLOTTE SMITH Narr. Loss Transports* 14 A young Gentleman, . . . wrecked himself, and wandering along the unhospitalable shore. **1836** *MARRYAT Midsh. Easy* xx, We were wrecked in our boat last night. **1877** *TENNYSON Harold* II. i, Thy villains with their lying lights have wreck'd us! **1903** *S. E. WHITE Forest* vii, A big roller rips along your gunwale [of a canoe]. You are wrecked.

fig. **1821** *SHELLEY Epipsych.* 148 The rocks on which high hearts are wrecked. **1845** *BAILEY Festus* (ed. 2) 323 Bound to earth, Wrecked in the deeps of Heaven, in Death's expiring

birth! **1880** *W. H. D. ADAMS Wrecked Lives* Ser. 1, p. vi, If he would not wreck his life amid the rocks and quicksands of worldly lusts.

absol. **1881** *H. D. RAWNSLEY Sonn. Eng. Lakes* 115 So may it be when storms my life shall strand On treacherous shoal, . . . May . . . waves that wrecked reach out a pitying hand To gulf my sorrow.

c. *transf.* (See quot.)

1617 *MORYSON Itin.* III. 144 There be some quicksands, wherein footemen are in danger to be wrecked.

3. To cause or bring about the ruin or destruction of (a structure, etc.) as by violence or misuse; to reduce to a ruinous condition in this way; to shatter, ruin, destroy.

1510 in *Leadam Star Chamber Cases* (Selden) II. 70 [He] maketh Fysch garthes & weeres . . . by reason wherof the seid porte is so wrekked & shalowed, that [etc.]. **1594** *SPENSER Amoretti* lvi, That tree . . . am I, whom ye do wreck, do ruine, and destroy. **1821** *SHELLEY Epipsych.* 370 Thou too, O Comet . . . Who drew the heart of this frail Universe Towards thine own; till, wrecked in that convulsion, . . . Thine went astray. **1865** *Pall Mall G.* 14 July 9/2 The mob . . . commenced 'wrecking' Conservative houses, stoning one sick old gentleman as he lay in his bed. **1878** *BROWNING La Saisiaz* 34 The everyway external stream . . . leaves it [sc. a rush] . . . wrecked at last. **1899** *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 123 The joint is found to be completely wrecked.

transf. **1878** *BROWNING Poets Croisic* xli, How now? My Duke's crown wrecked?

b. To cause or bring about the subversion or overthrow of (some condition or order of things); to shatter, ruin.

1749 *SMOLLETT Regicide* I. vi, O recal Those flatt'ring arts thy own deceit employ'd To wreck my peace! **1791** *BURNS Fair Eliza* ii, Can'st thou wreck his peace for ever? **1826** in *Sheridiana* 334 Their want of tact and judgment has wrecked the party. **1858** *CARLYLE Fredk. Gt.* VII. iv, Do not wreck, upon trifles, a noble interest we have in common. **1883** *SIR C. S. C. BOWEN in Law Times Rep.* XLIX. 251/2 We hear of abuse of different kinds of process . . . which amounts to wrecking credit. **1884** *St. James's Gaz.* 11 Jan. 6/1 His Administration was very nearly wrecked at the outset.

c. To frustrate or thwart; to prevent the passing of (a measure, etc.).

1855 *MOTLEY Dutch Rep.* v. v, Every fresh attempt at an amicable compromise was wrecked upon the obstinate bigotry of the leading civic authorities. **1901** *Scotsman* 28 Feb. 7/2 The measure will, it is pretty certain, be wrecked before it gets out of committee.

4. To bring (a person) to ruin or disaster; to subvert, ruin. Also *refl.*

1590 *SPENSER F.Q.* III. ix. 4 All his mind is set on mucky pelfe, To hoord vp heapes of evil gotten masse, For which he others wrongs, and wreckes himselfe. **1594** [see 3]. **1644** *Raleigh's Remains* 48 If he resolve . . . to wreck him, and to have his life. **1732** *POPE Ess. Man* i. 254 Let ruling Angels from their spheres be hurl'd, Being on Being wreck'd, and world on world. **1782** *WOLCOT (P. Pindar) Ode R.A.'s* iii. Wks. 1812 I. 20 Despising Pride, whose wish it is to wreck 'em.

b. To shatter (a person's health, constitution, or nerves) by sickness, hardship, or the like; to destroy the quality or tone of. *Usu. in passive.*

1850 *ROBERTSON Serm.* Ser. III. (1857) 125 The drunkard . . . discovers that he is unexpectedly degraded, bis health wrecked. **1897** *KIPLING Capt. Cour.* 213, I wonder your nervous system isn't completely wrecked.

5. *intr.* a. To suffer or undergo shipwreck; = *SHIPWRECK v.* 2. Also *fig.* and in *fig.* context.

1671 *MILTON P.R.* II. 228 Honour, glory, and popular praise; Rocks whereon greatest men have ofttest wreck'd. **1671** — *Samson* 1044 What Pilot so expert but needs must wreck Embarqu'd with such a Stears-mate at the Helm? **1729** *BERKELEY Lett.* Wks. 1871 IV. 161 My letters were in one of the vessels that wreck'd. **1860** *MRS. C. CLIVE Why Paul Ferroll* iv, With all her early impressions wrecked around her, she did not know to what to cling. **1864** *LOWELL Fireside Trav.* 172 The *montagna bruna* on which Ulysses wrecked. **1884** *TENNYSON Becket* II. ii, Holy Church May rock, but will not wreck, nor our Archbishop Stagger on the slope decks for any rough sea.

b. To break down in health.

1876 *R. BRIDGES Growth of Love* xiv, What is this wreck of all he hath in fief, When he that hath is wrecking?

6. a. To cause damage by washing up.

1634 *Rotherham* (Yorks.) *Feoffees Accounts* (MS.), P[ai]d to Tho. Sandall . . . for paving at the bridge where the water had wreckt up.

b. To silt up, as with tide-driven sand, etc.

1786 in *Trans. Soc. Arts* (1789) VII. 56 By a gradual, continual loss of out-fall amongst the sands, and by the sluice on the marsh and other parts wrecking up.

7. To seize or collect wreck or wreckage; to search for wreck. Also *transf.*

1843 *Times* 28 Mar. 7/1 The news of the wreck spread rapidly . . . and in the evening a large mob assembled with a view of 'wrecking'. **1897** *Westm. Gaz.* 2 Oct. 3/1 [Your job,] perhaps, is to go 'wrecking' for firewood. Down upon the rocks the friendly tide casts many a spar and log.

† *wreck* (*rek*), *v.*² *Obs.* Also 6-7 *wrecke*, 6-7, 9 *reck*, 7 *recke*. [Late variant of *WREAK v.*; the exact reason for the shortening of the vowel is not clear, but cf. dial. *breck* for *BREAK v.*]

1. *trans.* = *WREAK v.* 5, 5 b. Chiefly *refl.*

1570 *LEVINS Manip.* 54 To Wreck, *vindicare*. **1583** *BABINGTON Commandm.* (1590) 331 Any larger commission granted to vs to wreck our selues vpon our brethren. **1612** *T. TAYLOR Comm. Titus* i. 10 The minde and intention of the Apostle here . . . was not . . . to wrecke himselfe vpon them. **1622** *P. HANNAY Philomela* lxxxiv, The world shall know I was not slow to wreck a wronged maid. **1670** *MILTON Hist. Eng.* VI. Wks. 1851 V. 242 They wreck'd themselves on the

Countries roundabout, wasting . . . all Essex, Kent, and Sussex.

2. = *WREAK v.* 3.

1658 *Whole Duty Man* xv. §31 It is a kind desire of his amendment (and not a willingness to wreck his own rage) which [etc.]. **1672** *MARVELL Reh. Transp.* I. 111 Being ready at once to assuage his Concupiscence, and wreck his Malice. **1681** *Character Ill-Court-Favourite* 5 These Insufferable Grantees, who reck their Private Spleens.

b. With preps., as *on*, *upon*, *against* (a person, etc.); = *WREAK v.* 3 b. Also with *out*.

1577 *GRANGE Golden Aphrod.*, etc. Qijb, She sought on me to wrecke hir spight. **1583** *GREENE Mamillia* II. Wks. (Grosart) II. 151 With what greater plague . . . can . . . the vnjust gods . . . wreck their wrath and extreme rigour vpon any man. **1613** *PURCHAS Pilgrimage* (1614) 25 That malice . . . which he could not there so easily wrecke on their Creator. **1649** *MILTON Eikon* xxvi, To wreck his spleen, or ease his mind upon the Parliament. **1702** *ROWE Tamerl.* IV. i, Give him Pow'r to wreck his Hatred Upon his greatest Foe? **1712** *ADDISON Spect.* No. 439 ¶3 [They] often wrecked their particular Spite or Malice against the person whom they are set to watch. **1777** *WATSON Philip II.* I. 191 The king . . . was determined to wreck his resentment on all concerned. **1793** *R. GRAY Poems* 25 Some in the fray wreckt out his spleen On some sly pate or sawney.

3. = *WREAK v.* 6, 7.

1593 *MARLOWE Edw. II.* IV. iv, For the open wronges and injuries Edward hath done to vs, . . . We come in armes to wrecke it with the swords. **1596** *SPENSER F.Q.* v. iv. 24 He Talus sent To wrecke on them their follies hardiment. **1667** *MILTON P.L.* IV. 11 Satan . . . came down . . . To wrecke on innocent frail man his loss Of that first Battel.

4. = *WREAK v.* 8.

1764 *GOLDSM. Hist. Eng. in Lett.* (1772) II. 231 There was no object on whom to wreck their vengeance. **a1790** *HENRY Britain* (1793) VI. 419 They not only wrecked their vengeance on the living, but on the ashes of dead heretics.

wreck, obs. erron. var. *RACK v.*³ 2 c.

1776 *G. SEMPLE Building in Water* 101 Splicing the long Sides of the Belts, so as they may not wreck in dropping them down. [Cf. *WRECKING*.]

wreck, obs. erron. form of *RECK v.*

wreckage ('rekɪdʒ). [f. *WRECK v.*¹ + -AGE 3.]

1. The action or process of wrecking; the fact of being wrecked. Also *fig.*

1837 *CARLYLE Fr. Rev.* II. v. ii, Wreckage and dissolution are the appointed issue for both [sc. wisdom and folly]. **1890** *GASQUET & BISHOP Edw. VI & Bk. Com. Prayer* 272 A lively picture of the wreckage of ecclesiastical structures at that time [1548-9]. **1899** *MACKAIL Life Morris* II. 291 There had been much wreckage of unverified beliefs and extravagant hopes.

2. Fragments or remains of a shattered or wrecked vessel; wreck.

1846 *WORCESTER* (citing *Times*). **1867** *Morn. Star* 4 Feb., A large quantity of timber, ship's spars, &c. . . The wreckage appeared to be that of a large ship. **1885** *T. P. BATTERSBY Elf Island* 36 The deck was . . . covered with wreckage. **1899** *DOYLE Duet* (1909) 119/2 Some of the wreckage from those vanished vessels.

attrib. **1898** *MEREDITH Odes Fr. Hist.* 23 His wreckage-spars, His harried ships.

b. *pl.* Pieces or fragments of wreck. *rare.*

1864 *CARLYLE Fredk. Gt.* xviii. vii, A bolt shot into the storm-tost Sea and its wreckage.

3. Material of or from a wrecked or shattered structure; a ruined fabric, building, etc.

1874 *J. GEIKIE Gt. Ice Age* xvi. 208 The ice-current . . . would leave upon their frozen shores the wreckage of the distant mountains. **1891** *BARING-GOULD In Troubadour-Land* viii. 112 They form the wreckage of a palace for princes. **1894** *DOYLE Mem. Sherlock Holmes* 103 The venerable wreckage of a feudal keep.

b. *fig.* Persons whose lives have been wrecked, who have failed to maintain a position in society.

1883 *F. PEEK (title) Social Wreckage*; a Review of the Laws of England as they affect the Poor. **1888** *Pall Mall G.* 26 Nov. 6/1 Twenty beds . . . are nightly filled by wreckage, more or less battered, from the stress of life. **1898** *Daily News* 18 Apr. 5/1 What a line of flotsam and jetsam it is! . . . that mass of human wreckage.

wrecked ('rekt), *ppl.* a. [f. *WRECK v.*¹ + -ED¹.]

1. That has undergone or suffered shipwreck; destroyed, lost, or cast ashore by shipwreck; = *SHIPWRECKED ppl.* a.

1729 *WOODWARD Fossils* I. 116 The Coral found affix'd and growing upon wreck'd Ships. **1795** *W. LEE Hist. Lewes* 547 It has . . . been the practice of many lords to keep the wrecked goods. **1818** *SHELLEY Rosal. & Helen* 394 Wrecked mariners, Who cling to the rock of a wintry sea. **1821** *SCOTT Pirate* vii, One wave . . . made the wrecked vessel completely manifest in her whole bulk. **1850** *W. IRVING Mahomet* II. 483 Whether the old man . . . was one of the wrecked cruisers, or a wrecker, . . . is not specified. **1869** *Daily News* 11 Aug., Throwing upon the holders of wrecked goods the burden of accounting for their possession.

2. a. Damaged or destroyed by wreck, violence, or disaster; shattered, ruined.

1818 *SHELLEY Julian* 224 Like weeds on a wrecked palace growing. **1818** — *Marengi* vii, Thou shadowest forth that mighty shape in story, As ocean its wrecked fanes, severe yet tender. **1867** *SMILES Huguenots Eng.* ix. (1880) 150 Amidst the ruins of a wrecked church. **1875** *KNIGHT Dict. Mech.* 2821/1 Removing obstructions from the track, such as wrecked cars or locomotives.

b. *fig.* That has suffered wreck; brought to ruin or disaster.

1819 *KEATS Lines to Fanny* 33 That most hateful land, [where] . . . my friends, . . . live a wrecked life. **1855** *G. BRIMLEY Ess.* (1858) 84 The incipient stage of madness, springing from the wrecked affections. **1879** *FROUDE Cæsar* xviii. 301

He flung into bribery what was left of his wrecked credit. 1901 *Munsey's Mag.* XXIV. 470/2 He was thinking of the old king with the wrecked mind.

c. Intoxicated; under the influence of drugs. *U.S. slang.*

1968-70 *Current Slang* (Univ. S. Dakota) III-IV. 139 *Wrecked*, intoxicated. 1973 D. LANG *Freaks* 63, I could not get it on, could not get it on, not unless I was, one: totally wrecked; and, two: had to have a gun in my hand.

wrecker¹ ('rɛkə(r)). [f. WRECK *v.*¹ + -ER¹.]

1. a. One who causes shipwreck, esp. for purposes of plunder by showing luring lights or false signals; a person who makes a business of watching for and plundering wrecked vessels; also, one who wrongfully seizes or appropriates wreck washed ashore.

1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk.* (1821) I. 27 The good people . . . thronged like wreckers to get some part of the noble vessel . . . driven on shore. 1843 *Times* 20 Jan. 3/6 Although the officers of the coast-guard keep a sharp look-out, considerable depredation was carried on by the wreckers. 1882 FARRAR *Early Chr.* xxii, Cornish wreckers went straight from church to light their beacon-fires.

fig. 1865 THOREAU *Cape Cod* vi. 105 Are we not all wreckers contriving that some treasure may be washed up on our beach?

b. One who wrecks or ruins a structure, institution, concern, etc.

1882 C. G. WALPOLE *Short Hist. Irel.* 441 The Defenders especially had begun to turn the tables upon the 'wreckers', and were the terror of the country side. 1889 GASQUET *Hen. VIII & Eng. Monast.* II. 426 Like a swarm of locusts the royal wreckers went forth over the land.

fig. 1883 *American VI.* 37 Lawyers and agents, who might be described with fairness as 'wreckers' and who generally manage to absorb the assets. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 28 Feb. 10/1 As a wrecker of Cabinets Ireland holds a proud position.

c. fig. One who wrecks, or successfully obstructs the passing of a measure, etc.

1892 *Pall Mall G.* 12 July 1/2 If . . . they are not able to reckon more than 8 Parnellite 'wreckers'. 1901 *Scotsman* 20 Nov. 8/4 The wreckers in the Senate claimed for America the right of fortifying the Canal.

2. *Stock Exchange.* (See first quot.)

1876 'E. PINTO' *Ye Outside Fools!* 359 *Wreckers*, . . . those who make a similarly-organized attack as bears upon some stock, rotten or good, . . . and force down the price by large and successive sudden sales. 1884 *American VIII.* 84 The clamor of contending inflaters and wreckers at the stock exchange.

3. A demolition worker.

1958 J. THURBER in *Atlantic Monthly* Feb. 52/1 Jacob Volk, a building wrecker . . . who tore down two hundred and fifty big structures in Manhattan. 1968 *Globe & Mail* (Toronto) 17 Feb. 6/3, I was saddened to discover wreckers' hoardings surrounding the Royal Bank building at 10-12 King Street East. 1977 H. FAST *Immigrants VI.* 352 He stood on the corner of California Street on Nob Hill watching the wreckers take the Seldon mansion apart, stone by stone.

wrecker² ('rɛkə(r)). Orig. (and chiefly) *Amer.* [f. WRECK *sb.*¹ + -ER¹.]

1. A person engaged in salvaging wrecked or endangered vessels or cargo; a salvager, salvor.

1804 M'KINNON *Tour West Indies* ix. 137 Those persons called wreckers, who are licensed by the Governor of the Bahamas, and cruise amongst these islands for the benefit of salvage. 1819 *Edwards' Hist. W. Indies* (ed. 5) IV. 225 The business of wreckers . . . consists in giving assistance to those who are wrecked, or in danger of being so, upon the almost endless rocks and shoals [of the Bahamas]. 1851 *Rovings in Pacific I.* 173 Our own vessel . . . had heeled on to a sunken patch in the offing. . . . It gave us wreckers a tremendous fright. 1875 TALMAGE *Old Wells* 273 The wreckers shoot a rope out to the suffering men.

2. a. A ship or vessel employed in salvaging sunk, wrecked, or stranded vessels.

1789 O. EQUIANO *Life II.* viii. 57 They met with this little sloop, called a wrecker; their employment in those seas being to look after wrecks. 1864 WEBSTER. 1868 [see WRECKING *vbl. sb.*² 2]. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 14 July 5/2 The Wreckers and Admiral Cervera's Vessels.

b. A railway vehicle with a crane or hoist for removing crashed trains or similar obstructions; also, a breakdown truck. Also *attrib.*

1904 *Booklovers' Mag.* May 663 This special train has been dubbed the 'Wrecker'. Really it is a relief train, ready to respond to any call for aid in case of accident. 1955 V. NABOKOV *Lolita II.* xxx. 188 Around midnight, a wrecker dragged my car out. 1970 *Globe & Mail* (Toronto) 28 Sept. 31/6 (caption) Ward has picked Maggie up . . . in a wrecker! 1973 *Amer. Speech* 1969 XLIV. 257 The wrecker train . . . has a flatcar with a crane. 1978 *Detroit Free Press* 16 Apr. F8/10 (Adv't.), Business offered. . . Car wash, wrecker service and . . . service station. 1980 R. L. DUNCAN *Brimstone* vi. 126 A couple of police cars and a wrecker pulling apart three cars that had tailed.

† **wreck-free**, *a.* Obs. [Early ME. *wrec-frī*, f. WRECK *sb.*¹ + FREE *a.*] Exempted or free from the forfeiture of wrecked vessels and goods.

1205 *Rot. Chart.* (1837) 153/2 Cum socca & sacca & thol & theam & infangeneth[ef] & wrefcī & witefī & lestagefī & locofī. 1278 *Charter to Cinque Ports in Rymer's Fœdera* (1816) I. ii. 558/1 Et quod habeant infangenethef; & quod sint wrefcī, & wytefī & lestagefī. 1598 HAKLUYT *Voy. I.* 117 (tr. quot. 1278), That they shall be wrekefree, lastagefree, and louecopfree. [1706 PHILLIPS (*Wrec-fry*); and in later Dicts.]

wreckful ('rɛkful), *a.*¹ [f. WRECK *sb.*¹ + -FUL.] Causing shipwreck, ruin, or disaster; dangerous, destructive.

1596 SPENSER *F.Q.* vi. viii. 36 Straungers . . . which on their border Were brought . . . by wreckfull wynde. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L. v. i.* The wreckful storms that cloud the brow of War. 1848 MANGAN *Poems* (1903) 106 This dull world still slumbers. . . . In a midnight dream, Drifts it down Time's wreckful stream. 1876 TENNYSON *Harold III.* i. 51 A summer mere with sudden wreckful gusts From a side-gorge.

† **wreckful**, *a.*² Obs. [f. WRECK *sb.*³ + -FUL. Cf. WRACKFUL *a.*¹, WRAKEFUL *a.*, WREAKFUL *a.*] Full of, manifesting or taking, revenge; marked or characterized by vengeance.

1557 NORTH *Guevara's Diall Pr.* iv. xvii. (1568) 158 Per force my self dooth straine the wreckfull gods, vouch saue it doo not so. 1601 W. T. LD. *Remy's Civ. Consid.* 36 If a man haue to deale with some manner of men which are wreckfull, of a strange nature, hard to please. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* i. 709 The Earle in wreckfull displeasure . . . laid his Castle even with the ground.

wrecking, *vbl. sb.*¹ [f. WRECK *v.*¹ + -ING¹.]

1. The action of destroying by shipwreck or causing wreck; the fact of having suffered wreck; demolition.

1775 ASH, *Wrecking*, . . . the act of destroying by dashing against rocks or sands at sea; the act of destroying by violent means. 1851 W. COLLINS *Rambles beyond Railw.* v. (1852) 108 'Wrecking' is a crime unknown in the Cornwall of our day. 1868 M. PATTISON *Academ. Org.* 3 Wrecking was no longer permitted by public morality. 1891 C. DAWSON *Avonmore* 46 Till drunk with wrecking's awful toil, Havoc will laugh and Ruin smile! 1940 *Construction Methods* Apr. 110/2 Wrecking is, in reality, construction in reverse gear. . . . At the Louisville, Ky. East End slum clearance project . . . there were approximately 480 buildings to wreck. . . . The Cleveland Wrecking Co. has had many large contracts of this type. 1972 *Times* 10 Mar. (Suppl.) p. ii/1 (Adv't.), The most experienced firm in the U.K. in the wrecking of blast furnaces.

attrib. 1885 N. & Q. 6th Ser. XI. 428/1 The Wrecking system once practised on the English coasts.

2. *concr.* That which is wrecked; *pl.* wrecked remains.

1855 SINGLETON *Virgil I.* 200 The more vigorously all will toil To mend the wreckings of a fallen race.

3. *attrib.*, as *wrecking company*; *wrecking ball*, a large, heavy metal ball which, hung from a crane, may be swung into a building to demolish it; *wrecking bar*, an iron bar with one end chisel-shaped for prising and the other bent and split to form a claw.

1952 *Business Week* 19 July 33/2 Instead of using a one-ton wrecking ball at the end of a 60-ft. beam, the building must be knocked down . . . with a 16-lb. sledge hammer. 1977 *Rolling Stone* 21 Apr. 34/4 It's the laugh of a man who just watched a wrecking ball smash his house to splinters so a new freeway could go through. 1984 *New Yorker* 20 Feb. 50/2 The wrecking ball bursts through the wall with the bookshelves, scattering the works of famous authors. 1924 *Sears, Roebuck Catal.* No. 148. 866/3 Wrecking Bars. Forged steel 24-inch, 30c. 1947 *Construction Methods* Mar. 88/2 To minimize damage to material during removal, the contractor developed his own tools as supplements to the standard wrecking bar and claw hammer. 1940 Wrecking company [see sense 1 above]. 1976 *National Observer* (U.S.) 3 Apr. 7/1 A wrecking company recently signed a contract to level all 30 of the remaining 11-story buildings.

wrecking, *vbl. sb.*² *Amer.* [f. WRECK *sb.*¹ 3.]

1. The action or business of salvaging a wreck or wrecks.

1804 [see 2]. 1868 H. D. GRANT *Rep. Wrecking in Bahamas* 35 Wrecking has become a regular vocation for considerable portion of the population. 1969 *Sydney Morning Herald* 24 May 63/2 (Adv't.), Jaguars, wrecking now. Continually dismantling 2-4, 3-4 and 3-8.

2. *a. attrib.*, esp. in sense 'used for, or in connexion with, relating to, salvaging wreck', as *wrecking car*, *crane*, *outfit*, *pump*, *train*; also *wrecking law*, *operation*.

1804 M'KINNON *Tour West Indies* ix. 144 Effecting an immediate escape in a wrecking-vessel from this wild and inhospitable spot. 1868 H. D. GRANT *Rep. Wrecking in Bahamas* 36 Copies of abstract of the wrecking laws. *Ibid.* 62 The harbour-master . . . who formerly commanded a wrecker and now owns licensed wrecking vessels. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 644/1 Fairbairn's traveling-crane . . . is adapted for a wrecking-crane for railroad use. *Ibid.* 2821/1 *Wrecking-car*, one carrying devices for removing obstructions from the track, such as wrecked cars or locomotives. *Ibid.*, 2821/2 *Wrecking-pump*, a steam-pump specially designed for pumping the water out of bilged or sunken vessels, in order to raise them. 1891 *Harper's Weekly* 19 Sept. 914/2 A wrecking train soon removed the debris. 1898 *Engineering Mag.* XVI. 68 The wrecking outfit should be immediately available. *Ibid.*, Wrecking operations.

b. In sense 'engaged in salvaging wreck or wrecks', as *wrecking company*, *crew*, *expedition*.

1851 *Rovings in Pacific I.* 149 Bound on a wrecking Expedition. 1878 B. HARTE *Man on Beach* 33 A wrecking crew of curlew hastily manned the uprooted tree that tossed wearily beyond the bar. 1891 in *Leeds Mercury* 19 Sept. 12 Captain Merritt, of the Merritt Wrecking Company. 1939 [see OUT-CITY *a.*]. 1968 *Globe & Mail* (Toronto) 13 Feb. 32/2 (Adv't.), Well established wrecking business with living quarters on large lot fronting on Napanee River.

wrecking, obs. *erron.* var. RACKING *vbl. sb.*³ 1.

1776 G. SEMPLE *Building in Water* 128 That the Timber . . . be both firmly spliced and bolted together, to prevent their wrecking, swagging or dislocating.

wrecking, *ppl. a.* [f. WRECK *v.*¹ + -ING².]

1. That wrecks; causing wreck, ruin, or destruction; destructive. *wrecking amendment* (Pol.), one designed to defeat the purpose of the bill concerned.

a 1677 BARROW *Serm.* Wks. 1686 III. 228 [Industry] is in itself . . . satisfactory; as freeing our mind from distraction, and wrecking irresolution. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* XII. ix. ¶4 The wrecking fury of the storm. 1880 R. BRIDGES *Shorter Poems* Wks. (1912) 275 The moon, That poured her midnight noon Upon his wrecking sea. 1893 *Westm. Gaz.* 9 Feb. 7/2 Playing a wrecking game towards the present Government. 1967 M. PINTO-DUSCHINSKY *Polit. Thought of Lord Salisbury* vii. 145 Its very moderation led directly to the passing of a wrecking amendment by Lord John Russell, who favoured a different and much more far-reaching measure. 1979 H. WILSON *Final Term* ix. 189 Again the Conservatives, with considerable Labour support, moved 'wrecking' or near-wrecking amendments.

2. Going to wreck; becoming wrecked.

1903 S. E. WHITE *Forest* viii, A man . . . scaled the face of the moving jam, and reached the top just as the two sections ground together with the brutish noise of wrecking timbers.

wreckle, variant of WRIGGLE *sb.* 3.

1816 BINGLEY *Usef. Knowl.* III. 225 Sand-launce, Sand Eel, or Wreckle (*Ammodytes tobianus*) is a small fish distinguished by its eel-shape.

wreckless ('rɛkɪs), *a.* *rare.* [f. WRECK *v.*¹ + -LESS.] That cannot be wrecked.

1821 BYRON *Heaven & Earth* iii. 753 Hence to where our all-hallow'd ark uprears Its safe and wreckless sides!

wreckless, obs. *erron.* f. RECKLESS *a.*

wreckling. Now *dial.* [var. of RECKLING. Cf. WREGLING.] A weak, puny, or dwarfish animal (or plant); *spec.* the smallest and weakest of a litter.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny I.* 530 It causeth it [sc. the vine] to seeme scortched and full of knots, yea and to grow like a dwarfe or wreckling. 1607 MARKHAM *Cavel.* i. 48 When shee shoulde come to foale, shee would bring forth nought but a wreckling. 1614 — *Cheap Husb.*, Swine xi. 94 Take the wreckling, or worst Pigge, and annoint it all ouer. 1781 [see RECKLING]. 1825- in *dialect glossaries*, etc. (N. Cy.; Nhb. to Warw.).

attrib. 1602 tr. *Pastor Fido* iv. viii. M2b, Too much I honour thee, poore weake and wreckling child.

wrecky ('rɛki), *a.* [f. WRECK *sb.*¹ + -Y¹.] Broken-down; debilitated.

1925 *Brit. Weekly* 17 Sept. 541/1 After which you are left a wreck and probably remain wrecky next day. 1973 M. AMIS *Rachel Papers* 15, I had a well-earned-half at the pub and chatted with the landlord and his wrecky wife.

wree, *Sc.* variant of WRY *v.*²

† **wreekes**, *erron.* f. REAKS (pranks) *Obs.*

1628 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* (ed. 3) III. ii. vi. iii. 515 Fawnes and Satyrs will certainly play wreekes.

wreest(e, obs. or dial. varr. WREST *sb.*

† **wregling**. *Sc. Obs.* = WRECKLING.

1679 in *Wodrow Ch. Hist.* (1828) IV. 501 What through grace he will make such a weak wregling able to endure.

wrehche, obs. f. WRETCH *sb.*

wrei, etc.: see WRAY *v.*, etc.

wreicht, **wright**, obs. ff. WRIGHT *sb.*¹

wreist, obs. *Sc.* var. WREST.

wreithe, obs. f. WREATH *v.*

wreitt, **wreitten**, obs. *Sc.* pa. t. and pa. pple. of WRITE *v.*

wrek, alteration of WRACK *v.*⁴

a 1635 L. FOXE *North-West Fox* in *Voy.* (Hakl. Soc. 1894) II. 280 In that distance holding the same course, I was 1 d. 17 m. wrekt from my true course.

† **wreke**. *Obs.* Also 6 reke. [a. early ON. **wreke* m. (Icel. *reki*, Norw. *reke*), from the same stem as **wrek* neut.: see WRECK *sb.*¹]

1. = WRECK *sb.*¹ 1.

1420 *Wenot Papers* (Camden) I. 32 Every man here knoweth wel pat þe wreke is parcel of þe enheritance of Ermyngton. 1477 *Paston Lett.* III. 213 Remember your ryth of your wreke at Wynterton. *Ibid.*, Gret plante of wreke of the schyppe . . . worth meche mony. 1495 *Act 11 Hen. VII.* c. 34 *Preamble*, With wreke of the Sea and all other forfeitures. [1535 *Act 27 Hen. VIII.* c. 26 §23 *Lords marchers* . . . shall have, hold, and kepe within . . . the precincte of their said Lordeshippes . . . wreke de mere, wharfage.]

2. = WRECK *sb.*¹ 2.

c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 553/2 Wreke, of þe see, *alga*, *norga*. 1500 *Ortus Vocab.* BB viij/b/1 *Norga*, *fex maris*, . . . wreke. 1545 ELYOT, *Vlua*, reke or wiesdes of the sea.

wreke, etc., obs. ff. WREAK *sb.* and *v.*

† **wrele**, *v.* *Sc. Obs.* [? Of imitative origin.] *intr.* To struggle or move about writhingly

1513 DOUGLAS *Eneid* I. Prol. 298 Quha is attachit on till a staik . . . Ma go no ferrar, but wrele about that tre. *Ibid.* v.

iv. 114 First Sergest behind sone left hes he, Wreland [L. *luctantem*] on skelleis and wndepis of the see.

wren¹ (rɛn). Forms: *a.* 1 wrenna (werna), 3-7 wrenne, 5 wrenn, 5-6 wrene (6 *pl.* wreneys), 5-wren. *β.* 1 wrænna (wærna), 3, *Sc.* 6-7 wranne, 5 *Sc.*, 9 *Sc.* and *dial.* wran (7 wrane, 9 ran), *Sc.* 6, 9 vran (9 vran). [OE. *wrenna* (wærna), obscurely related to OHG. *wrendo*, *wrendilo*, Icel. *rindill*.]

1. **Ornith.** *a.* One or other species of small denti-rostral passerine birds belonging to the genus *Troglodites*, esp. the common wren (jenny- or kitty-wren), *T. parvulus*, native to Europe.

In quot. *c.* 1450 used in some allusive sense.
a. *c.* 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) B 136 *Birbicularius*, werna. *a.* 1100 *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 132 *Parrax*, wrenna, uel hicemase. *a.* 1250 *Owl & Night*. 564 (Jesus Coll. MS), Hwat dostu godes among monne? Na mo pene dop a wrecche wrenne [Cotton MS. wranne]. *Ibid.* 1717 *pe* wrenne [Cotton MS. wranne] for heo cupe singe þar com. To helpe þare nyhtegale. 13. in *Rel. Ant.* II. 107 Levere is the wrenne, Aboute the schowe renne, Than the fithel draut, Othe floute craf. 1390 *GOWER Conf.* III. 349 So that the liel wrenne in his mesure Hath yit of kinde a love under his cure. *c.* 1401 *LYDG. Flour of Curtesye* 57 The sely wrenne, the timtose also, . . . have free eleccioun To flyen. . . . Wher-as hem liste. *c.* 1450 *Merlin* xxviii. 573 Thus shall the knyghtes of the rounde table go to a-venge the deeth of the wrenne. *a.* 1529 *SKELTON P. Sparowe* 600 The prety wren, That is our Ladyes hen. 1593 *MARLOWE Edu.* II. v. iii, The Wrenne may striue against the Lions strength, But all in vaine. 1613 *W. BROWNE Brit. Past.* i. iv. 13 As little wrens, but newly fledge, First by their nests hop up and downe the hedge. 1652 *BENLOWES Theoph.* i. xcvi, Shrubs cannot cedars, nor wrens eagles praise. 1710 *ADDISON Tatler* No. 224 ¶ 2 Thus the fable tells us, that the wren mounted as high as the eagle, by getting upon his back. 1750 *C. SMITH State Co. Cork* II 334 The Wren makes but short flights. . . to hunt and kill him is an ancient custom of the Irish on St. Stephen's day. 1768 *PENNANT Brit. Zool.* II. 268 The wren may be placed among the finest of our singing birds. 1825 *WORDSW. The Contrast* 30 This moss-lined shed, green, soft, and dry, Harbours a self-contented Wren. 1864 *BRYANT Little People of Snow* 21 A pleasant spot in spring, where first the wren Was heard to chatter. 1888 *NEWTON in Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 688/2 The range of the Wren in Europe is very extensive. *β.* *c.* 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 260 *Litorius*, wærna. *a.* 1100 *Voc.* *Ibid.* 286 *Bitorius*, wrænna, uel *pintorius*. *a.* 1250 [see *a.*] *c.* 1450 *HOLLAND Houlate* 649 The litill we Wran, That wretchit dorche was. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 39 Robeen and the litil vran var hamely in vnyntir. 1823 *JENNINGS Observ. Dial.* *W. Eng.* 128 Wrans an robin-riddicks. *a.* 1842 in *Halliwell Nursery Rhymes* 184 We'll hunt the wren, says Robin to Bobbin. *a.* 1859 in *N. & Q.* 2nd Ser. VIII. 209/1 The wren, the king of all birds. 1880-91 in *Antrim, Cornwall, and Devon glossaries*. 1899 *SOMERVILLE & ROSS Some Exer. Irish R. M.* i. The carpenter. . . wished the devil might run the plumber through a wren's quill.

Phrases. *a.* 1550 *Image Hypocr.* III. 105 in *Skelton's Wks.* (1843) II. 434 As wise as any wrenne And holy as an henne. *a.* 1598 *FERGUSON Prov.* (S. T. S.) 10 As sair fights wranes as cranes.

transf. 1601 *SHAKS. Twel. N.* III. ii. 70 [Stage direction] Enter Maria. *Toby.* Looke where the youngest Wren of mine comes.

b. With distinguishing epithets.

1638 *W. LISLE Heliodorus* vi. 87 A bird no bigger then. . . the Lynny Wren. 1648- [see JENNY WREN]. 1808-14 *A. WILSON Amer. Ornith.* (1831) II. 188 *Sylvia troglodytes*, Winter Wren. 1825- [see KITTY²]. 1831 *J. RENNIE Montagu's Ornith. Dict.* 570 Wren. . . Provincial[ly called] Vraun, or Ran. Cutty, Katy, or Kitty Wren. 1848 *Mauder's Treas. Nat. Hist.* s.v., The American House Wren (*Troglodites domestica*). . . inhabits the whole of the United States. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* March 616/1 The winter wren [*T. hyemalis*] . . . is a saucy little atom. 1914 *Brit. Mus. Return* 157 An example of the St. Kilda Wren (*Troglodytes hirtensis*).

2. *a.* Applied, esp. with distinguishing term, to various other small birds of the family *Trogloditidae* or *Sylviidae*, resembling the common wren in appearance or habits; esp. the gold-crest (*Regulus cristatus*).

Also *hill*, *marsh*, *reed*, *rock*, *sedge*, *willow*, *wood-wren*: see *HILL sb.* 4 f, *MARSH¹* 4 b, *REED-WREN*, *ROCK sb.* 1 c, *SEDGE sb.* 1 b, *WILLOW sb.* 6, *WOOD sb.* 1, Some provincial names are recorded by Swainson (1885), pp. 25-27.

1868 *Chambers's Encycl.* X. 287/1 The *Carolina wren . . . (*Thryophorus ludovicianus*) and the Marsh Wren . . . (*Cistophorus palustris*) . . . are found chiefly in the vicinity of water. 1674 *RAY Coll. Words Eng. Birds* 87 The *copped Wren: *Regulus cristatus*. 1700- [see *COPPED ppl.* *a.* 3]. 1750 *C. SMITH State Co. Cork* II. 335 The *Regulus* or *crested wren. . . is a smaller bird. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 583/2 [The] Golden-crested Wren. . . must not be confounded with the rarer *Fire-crested Wren. . . also to be seen in Britain. *Ibid.* 583/1 This species is the. . . *Gold-crested Wren. . . and Kinglet of the modern British. 1867 *H. MACMILLAN Bible Teach.* iv. (1870) 67 The twitter of the *golden wren. 1768 *PENNANT Brit. Zool.* II. 511 The small and delicate *golden Crested-wren. 1797 *BEWICK Brit. Birds* I. 170 The Golden-crested Wren is diffused throughout Europe. 1830 *BOOTH Analyt. Dict.* I. 98 The smallest of all the British birds, is called the Golden-crested Wren. 1678 *RAY Willughby's Ornith.* 227 The *golden-crown'd Wren: *Regulus cristatus*. 1774 *G. WHITE Selborne* xli, The feeble little golden-crowned wren, that shadow of a bird, braves our severest frosts. 1823 *LATHAM Gen. Hist. Birds* VII. 205 *Gold-naped Wren, *Sylvia elata*. . . inhabits Cayenne in the Winter. 1802 *MONTAGU Ornith. Dict.* s.v., Yellow Wren. . . Provincial[ly called] Willow Wren. *Ground Wren. 1758 *G. EDWARDS Glean. Nat. Hist.* I. 95 The *Ruby-crowned Wren. 1760 *Ibid.* II. 143 The *Yellow Wren hath. . . been figured and described by different authors under various names. 1776 *PENNANT Brit. Zool.* (ed. 4) II. 378 The yellow wren [*Sylvia*

trochilus] frequents. . . places where willow trees abound from which it takes one of its names.

b. Applied to various Australasian species of wren-like birds (see *quots.*).

Also *emu*, *rock-wren* (see *EMU* 4, *ROCK sb.* 1 c). 1848 *GOULD Birds Australia* III. 18 *Malurus Cyaneus*, . . . Superb Warbler, Blue Wren, etc., of the colonists. *Ibid.* 29 The Striated Wren [*Amytis striatus*] ran with amazing rapidity. *Ibid.* 19-31, 39-40 [many species of *Malurus*, *Amytis*, and *Hylacola*].

3. A woman, esp. a young woman. *U.S. slang.*

1920 *S. LEWIS Main Street* 388 Some tank, that wren! Ha, ha, ha! 1927 *Amer. Speech* III. 167/1 *Dame, frail, skirt, Jane, wren, broad, girl.* 1929 *A. CONAN DOYLE Maracot Deep* 198 Scanlan has. . . married his wren in Philadelphia. 1946 *B. TREADWELL Big. Bk. Swing* 125/2 *Wren*, small, fickle young girl. 1982 *M. McMULLEN Until Death do us Part* (1983) 9 Midge was, in her quiet unobtrusive way, a perfect marvel of efficiency, 'My dear wren', Jane sometimes called her.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *wren-hunting*, *-king*; *wren-like*, *-nested* *adjs.*; *wren-box*, a collecting-box used by 'wren-boys'; *wren-boys*, in Ireland, a party of boys or young men, carrying a decorated holly-bush with a wren or wrens hanging from it, who go about on St. Stephen's Day singing verses; *wren-bush*, a bush used for this; † *wren creeper*, a variety of tree-creeper (see *quots.*); *wren song*, the song carolled by the wren-boys; *wren-tail*, *wren's-tail*, an artificial fly for trout-fishing; *wren-tit* *U.S.* (see *quot.*); *wren-warbler*, any of several warblers of the genus *Primia*, found in tropical Africa or Asia; also, a brightly coloured wren of the subfamily *Malurinæ*, found in Australasia.

1901 *Folk-Lore* June 131 A *wren-box from the Pitt Rivers Museum at Farnham. ? *a.* 1800 in *Croker Researches in S. Ireland* (1824) 233 It won't agree with the *Wren boys at all. 1824 *CROKER Ibid.*, A holly bush. . . having many wrens depending from it. . . is carried from house to house with some ceremony, the 'Wren boys' chaunting several verses. *a.* 1855 in *N. & Q.* 1st Ser. XII. 489 Song of the Youghal Wren-boys. 1871 *Yarrell's Brit. Birds* (ed. 4) I. 465 The dead bird, hung by the leg between two hoops, . . . was carried about by the 'Wren-boys' [of Cork]. 1901 *Folk-Lore* June 131 [He] exhibited a *Wren-bush from co. Wicklow. 1904 *Longm. Mag.* Oct. 537 The practice of carrying about 'the wren-bush' on St. Stephen's Day. 1811 *SHAW Gen. Zool.* VIII. 268 *Wren Creeper, . . . Size of the. . . Willow Wren. 1822 *LATHAM Gen. Hist. Birds* IV. 271 Wren Creeper, *Certhia trochilea*, . . . inhabits America. 1696 *AUBREY Misc.* iv. 44 A whole Parish running like madmen from Hedg to Hedg a *Wren-hunting. 1885 *SWAINSON Prov. Names Birds* 36 Wren-hunting. [Particulars follow.] 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 15 Jan. 10/1 It used to be a common custom. . . to make wren-hunting parties a feature of the season from Christmas to New Year. 1965 *AUDEN About House* (1966) 13 From gallery-grave and the hunt of a *wren-king to Low Mass and trailer camp is hardly a tick by the carbon clock. 1641 *True Char. of Untrue Bishop* 4 Witness his many Sparrowish, *Wrenlike wanton extravagances. 1805 *WORDSW. Prelude* v. 207 From those loftiest notes Down to the low and wren-like warblings. 1878 *BROWNING Poets Croisic* cxxxi, I'm nobody—a wren-like journalist. 1925 *BLUNDEN Eng. Poems* 104 *Wren-nested hedges. 1855 *N. & Q.* 1st Ser. XII. 489 The *Wren Song in Ireland. 1837 *KIRKBRIDE Northern Angler* 40 The *Wren's Tail, . . . an excellent summer fly. 1856 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Sports* 245/2 The Wren's Tail. . . legs of a wren's tail-feather, used as a hackle. 1867 *F. FRANCIS Angling* vi. 204 The *Wrentail, Brown Bent, Frogghopper. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 38/1 Among the best of these are. . . the wren-tail, the grouse and partridge hackles. 1872 *COUES N. Amer. Birds* 79 *Chamaeidae*; *Wren-uts. . . much like a titmouse in general appearance, . . . with the general habits of wrens. 1924 *E. C. S. BAKER Fauna Brit. India: Birds* (ed. 2) II. 530 The Ashy *Wren-Warbler breeds from March to September. 1931 *Discovery* May 141/2 The tiny new wren warbler. . . a wee mite of a bird with a tail almost as long as its body. 1955 *MACKWORTH-PRÆD & GRANT Birds E. & N.E. Afr.* 392 Wren-warblers. . . occur in both woodland and thorn-scrub. 1974 *I. ROWLEY Bird Life* vi. 68 Most *Malurus* have distinctive and attractive songs so that the name 'wren-warbler' is an apt one.

Wren² (rɛn). Also *wren*. [f. three of the initial letters of the name of the Service, made into a singular noun.] A member of the Women's Royal Naval Service, formed in 1917; also (*pl.*), the Service itself.

1918 [see *PENGUIN* 2 b]. 1927 *Glasgow Herald* 15 Apr. 7 The war years with all their Waacs and Wrens and Wrafs, seem now to be immeasurably far off. 1940 *War Illustr.* 5 Jan. 558 At all Naval depots 'Wrens' are now doing work as clerks, cooks and in many other capacities, thus relieving men for more active work. 1946 'TACKLINE' (*title*) You met such nice girls in the Wrens. 1956 [see *W.R.A.C.*]. 1979 *D. GURR Troika* xi. 75, I. . . reported to the Admiralty. . . 'Captain Jackson's office, please?' 'Second floor, sir.' A good bust and a smile on the duty wren cheered me up.

Hence 'Wrennery *joc.*', a building used to accommodate Wrens.

1943 *HUNT & PRINGLE Service Slang* 70 *Wrennery*, billets of the 'Jenny Wrens'. 1945 'N. SHUTE' *Most Secret* 124, I shall be living in the Wrennery and coming out to Dittisham every day. 1959 *P. McCUTCHAN Storm South* ii. 41 Where did you pick up all this insight into human nature—in the Navy? Serve in a Wrennery or something, did you? 1964 *Navy News* July 5/4 The work included. . . the building of a Wrennery to accommodate 200 Wrens.

Wrenaissance (rɛ'neisəns, -ā's). *Archit.* [f. the name of Sir Christopher Wren (see *WRENEAN a.*) after RENAISSANCE.] An architectural style modelled on or influenced by that of Wren, esp.

as represented by some of the work of Sir Edwin Lutyens.

1942 *R. LUTYENS Sir Edwin Lutyens* iii. 40 Gothic and Renaissance ('Wrenaissance'! as father has punned. . .) are both architectures of meaning. 1944 *Archit. Rev.* XCV. p. xlvii/1 We cannot. . . allow ourselves, out of affection for a great man [*sc.* Lutyens] and out of admiration for his highly personal style, to be saddled with a Wrenaissance London as a monument to a period which the first world war brought to a murderous close. 1967 *Time* (Atlantic ed.) 26 May 45/1 Frederick Gibberd. . . extended a piazza to roof over an English Wrenaissance crypt built in the 1930s. 1980 *M. LUTYENS Edwin Lutyens* iv. 62 In 1906, with the building of Heathcote at Ilkley, Yorkshire, for Mr Ernest Hemingway. . . he reached what he called his 'Wrenaissance'; Wren thereafter became his lodestar. 1981 *Times* 12 Feb. 17/4 That heavy, florid. . . brick and stone style christened 'Wrenaissance'.

† **wrench**, *sb.*¹ *Obs.* Forms: *a.* 1-2 wrenc; 2-6 wrench, 3-6 wrenche. *β.* 6 wrinch(e). [OE. *wrenc*, corresponding in form to OHG. *renki* twist, sprain (G. *ränke* bend, hollow), and in sense to MHG. and G. *rank* bending, turning, trick, artifice. Cf. *WRENK sb.* and *WRENCH v.*]

1. A crooked, cunning, or wily action or device; a trick, wile, or artifice. *Freq.* coupled with *wile*.

a. *c.* 888 *ÆLFRED Boeth.* iv. § 1 Naut ne dregað monnum mane apas, ne þæt lease lot þe beoð mid þam wrencum bewrigen. *a.* 1050 *Liber Scintill.* xxxvii. (1889) 136 On swa hwyllum wrence worda ænig swerige. *a.* 1122 *O.E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1003, Ða sceolde. . . Ælfric lædan þa fyrdæc ac he teah forð þa his ealdan wrenceas. *c.* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 67 He fondede god solf mid his wrence. *a.* 1225 *Ansr. R.* 270 Auh pis heie sacrament. . . ouer alle ober pinges unwriðh his wrences, & brekeð his strenches. *a.* 1250 *Prov. Ælfred* 163 Monymon weneþ þæt he wene ne þarf, longes lyues, ac him lyeþ þe wrench. 1303 *R. BRUNNE Handl. Synne* 7711 He dredde hym of sum wykked wrence. 1387 *TREvisa Higden* I. 347 At þe laste Turgesius deide by gileful wyles and wrences. 14. . . *Sir Beues* (E.) 2753 + 32 þe dragoun cowde soo many a wrence. *a.* 1450 *Medit. Life & Passion of Christ* 1650 þere ne shal. . . No wrences ne no fendes wyle Make þat swetnesse away to gon. 1519 *HORMAN Vulg.* 23 b, All those thynges were wrought by wrences of wyked spyrritis. 1579 *HAKES Newes out of Powles* (1872) To Rdr. Aiiij b, The wrences and wyles. . . that the lewde sorte of this people. . . doe vse to gette money with.

β. 1530 *PALSGR.* 290/2 Wrinches or wyles, *chariuaris*. 1534 *LD. BERNERS Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) A a vij, If we take not hede to prepare against his wrinches, it wyl ouerthrow vs. 1547 *Bk. Marchauntes* eij, God knoweth what wily wrinches. . . they do commit fro day to day.

2. Without article: Trickery, deceit, guile; fraud.

1297 *R. GLOUC.* (Rolls) 2924 Of is luper wrence. . . Four hundred & four score mid treson he slou þere. *c.* 1300 *Beket* (Percy Soc.) 44 He was stronge adrad þut of wommanes wrence. 13. . . *Seuyn Sages* (W.) 438 She schette the dore, and set him on benche. Wil ye nou i-here of wommannes wrence? 1566 *STERNHOLD & H. Ps.* xxvi. 10 Their right hand with wrence and wile for bribes doth plucke and pull.

wrench (rɛn(t)ʃ), *sb.*² Also 5 wrynche, 6-7, *dial.* 9 wrinch (9 *dial.* wringe, ringe); 6 wren(t)che, 9 *Sc.* wrunch, runch. [App. not a continuation of the *prec.* word, but directly based upon the verb.]

† 1. *on wrench*, crosswise. *Obs. rare*—1.

? *c.* 1460 *MS. Porkington* 10 fol. 58 (Halliwell), The vij. wyffe sat one the bynche, And sche caste her legge one wrynche.

2. *a.* An act of wrenching, or the fact of being wrenched; a twisting or pulling aside, awry, or out of shape; a violent twist or turn.

1530 *PALSGR.* 290/2 Wrenche, *torche*. 1618 *BP. HALL Contempl.*, O.T. xii. 1, Gods iudgements are the racke of godlesse men: If one straine make them not confesse, let them bee stretched but one wrench higher, and they cannot be silent. 1755 *JOHNSON, Wrench*, . . . a violent pull or twist. 1771 *LONNERGAN Fencer's Guide* 87 A Wrench is thus formed. *Ibid.* 88 Retire a little upon the second wrench. 1837 *DICKENS Pickw.* xi, The little stone having been raised with one wrench of a spade. 1855 *MRS. GASKELL North & S.* xxii, They all could hear. . . the creak of wood slowly yielding; the wrench of iron; the mighty fall of the ponderous gates. 1861 *READE Cloister & H. lii*, [She] gave a contemptuous wrench of her shoulder. 1893 *MAX PEMBERTON Iron Pirate* iv, [The yacht] jibbed round of a sudden, with an appalling wrench at the horse.

fig. and in *fig.* context. 1533 *MORE Apol.* xxii. 128 The same reason wold. . . serue with one lytell wrenche farther, to take in lyke wyse a waye from euery other man. 1607 *SHAKS. Timon* II. ii. 218 A Noble Nature May catch a wrench. 1854 *B'NESS BUNSEN in Hare Life* (1879) II. 167 Quite conscious that it is a strong wrench that drags him out of so large a part of the habits of life. *a.* 1865 *MRS. GASKELL Wives & Daughters* (1866) I. 247 Then, with a wrench, changing the subject, . . . he broke out [etc.]. 1878 *BROWNING La Saisiaz* 51, I shall. . . bless each kindly wrench that wrung From life's tree its inmost virtue.

b. A sudden or sharp twist or jerk causing pain or injury to a limb, person, etc.; a sprain, strain. Also in *fig.* context.

1530 *PALSGR.* 290/2 Wrenche out of joynt, *deboytement, dejoincture*. 1545 *ASCHAM Toxoph.* (Arb.) 49 If he haue a wrenche, or haue taken colde in his arme. 1578 *H. WOTTON Courtlie Controv.* 28 If. . . a wrenche breake a bone without perishing the fleshe or skinne whiche couereth it. 1655 *FULLER Ch. Hist.* II. 69 Every small Wrencher, or stepping awrie, is enough to put an ill-set Bone out of joynt. 1665 *EARL ORRERY St. Lett.* (1742) 100, I have got such a wrench in my ancle. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* II. ix. 226 They haled him into the ship, without. . . any other injury than a wrench in his arm. 1802 *PALEY Nat. Theol.* viii. § 1 The contortions and

wrenches to which the limbs of animals are continually subject. **1860** TYNDALL *Glac.* i. xix. 134 They compelled the arms to take a position which, if the footing gave way, would necessitate a wrench. **1879** MEREDITH *Egoist* iv. She quietly gave a wrench to the neck of the young horse in her breast.

c. An instance of this in horses; also with *the*, as the specific name of an ailment.

1578 H. WOTTON *Courtlye Controv.* 301 Claribel supposing it hadde bin some wrench, commaunded his man to bathe the horse leg. **1580** BLUNDEVIL *Horsemanship* 59 The Curbe...commeth...by some straine or wrinch wherebie the tender sinewes are grieved. **1627** J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Navy Land Ships* C6b, The shedding of the haire, the Horse-hipped, the Wrench, the Neckecricke. **1639** T. DE GRAY *Expert Farrier* 306 A horse that hath gotten a wrench in his shoulder. **1695** *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3105/4 A dark brown gelding...goes waddling behind, as if he had a Wrench in his Back. **1727** BAILEY (vol. II), *Entorses*, Wrenches of the Pasterns in Horses.

d. *fig.* A parting or separation causing painful or violent emotion; pain or anguish resulting from leave-taking.

In frequent use from c 1875.

1849 ROBERTSON *Serm.* Ser. i. xii. (1855) 202 The misery of the wrench from all that is dear and bright. **1874** GREEN *Short Hist.* viii. §4 It was not without a wrench that they tore themselves from their English homes. **1889** 'J. S. WINTER' *Mrs. Bob x*, Now that it had come to parting with the last of them [sc. daughters] it was an undeniable wrench.

e. *Mathematical Physics.* (See first quot.)

1876 BALL *Theory of Screws* 4 We now introduce the word *wrench*, to denote a force and a couple in a plane perpendicular to the force. *Ibid.* 5 These wrenches could be replaced by one wrench which is called the resultant wrench.

†3. a. A sharp turn, bend, or deflection; an abrupt turning movement. *Obs. rare.*

1549 COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. Rom.* Arg. ad fin., The reader wandering vppe and downe, as it wer in wrenches, or in a mismase diuersly tournyng and wyndyng. **1596** SIR J. DAVIES *Orchestra* liii, I loue Meanders path, ... Such winding sleights, such turns and tricks he hath, Such Creekes, such wrenches, and such dalliance.

fig. **1654** I. AMBROSE *Ultima* 203 Austin after some turns and wrenches concludeth thus.

b. *Coursing.* A turning or bringing round of the hare or rabbit at less than a right angle.

1615 MARKHAM *Country Content.* i. viii. 105 That Dogge which giueth the first turne, if after the turnes be giuen and neither coat, slip, nor wrench extraordinary, then he [etc.]. **1686** [see WRENCH v. 2]. **1688** HOLME *Armoury* ii. ix. 189/1 A Wrench, is not a turn, but as it were, a half turn. **1840** BLAINE *Encycl. Rural Sports* 598/1 A cote is when...one [dog] outruns the other, and gives the hare a turn or wrench. **1856** 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Rural Sports* 212/1 Working Power is evinced by the Wrench and the Turn. **1887** *Field* 19 Feb. 235/3 The brindled [greyhound] eventually finishing the course with a couple of wrenches and a kill.

4. Change from the original purport or signification; a strained or wrested meaning; a forced or false interpretation. (Cf. WREST sb. 3.)

1603 J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Microcosmos* Wks. (Grosart) I. 55/2 If there be wrench in this Paralell, It is in that [etc.]. **1701** STRYPE *Life Aylmer* 265 Whence...the Popish Bishops might see their Wrenches and Cavillations...to be maintained thereby. **1864** LOWELL *Black Preacher* 11 But since I might chance give his meaning a wrench, ...I'll put what he told me...In a rhymed prose.

5. a. One or other form of mechanical screw.

1552 *Acts Hen. VIII* (ed. Berthelet) 40 The Bier [= buyer]...shall not...straine...the same clothes...by teintour or wrinche [**1514** wynche]. **1598** FLORIO, *Storta*, ...a wrench or wrest that ioyners vse. **1600** HAKLUYT *Voy.* III. 810 Hee was faine to cause them to bee tormented with their thumbs in a wrinche. **1618** DALTON *Country Justice* 34 Any teynters, wrinches or other engines whatsoever, whereby any deceipt may be vsed in...the stretching of any wollen Cloth. [**1702** *Guide for Constables* 31 Tenters, ...headwrinches, or other engines for stretching of cloth.] **1825** JAMIESON, *Wrunch*, a winch or windlass. *Lanarks*[hire].

†b. *fig.* A means of compulsion or constraint. *Obs. rare.*

1622 BACON *Hen. VII.* 90 He...resolved to make this profit of this businesse...as a Wrench and meane for Peace.

c. A tool or implement of various forms, consisting essentially of a metal bar with (freq. adjustable) jaws adapted for catching or gripping a bolt-head, nut, etc., to turn it; a screw-key, screw-wrench, or spanner.

Also *bed-, monkey-, pipe-, screw-, tap-, tube-wrench*: see those words.

1794 W. FELTON *Carriages* (1801) I. 78 A spindle that is turned with a wrench upon the outside. *Ibid.* 223 Tool-budget...[for carrying] the few requisites for the coachman's use—such as a wrench, a hammer, a chissel.

1834 MARRYAT *P. Simple* xxi, We worked very hard until the hole was large enough, using the crow-bar...and a little wrench. **1862** *Catal. Internat. Exhib.*, Brit. II. No. 6111, Patent wrench and mallet to save all taps from damage. **1879** *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 190/2 The wrench or spanner...is used for fastening the headstock or poppet down on the bed.

d. *Surg.* Applied to various makes of instruments having adjustable jaws, spec. for gripping a deformed foot to be rectified by torsion.

1895 *Arnold's Catal. Surg. Instruments* 774 Wrenches for bending Thomas's Splints. **1896** TUBBY *Deformities* 416 Some wrenches are formidable and powerful instruments. *Ibid.* 418 Holding the foot in the bite of the wrench too long.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *wrench finisher*, *forger*, *wrench hammer*, *handle*; *wrench fault Geol.* = *strike-slip fault* s.v. STRIKE sb. 20.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 282a/1 *Wrench-hammer*, a hammer having a movable member to form a spanner. **1880**

BLACKMORE *Mary Anerley* iv, Mr. Mordacks...holding him, as in a wrench-hammer, all the way, silencing his squeaks, with another turn of screw. **1881** *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 44 Wrench Finisher and Forger. **1884** KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* Suppl. 957/1 *Wrench Handle*, a double-arm wrench for use with dies for cutting threads, and other purposes. **1951** E. M. ANDERSON *Dynamics of Faulting* (ed. 2) i. 2 The term 'Blatt' will be translated as wrench fault. **1977** A. HALLAM *Planet Earth* 61/1 Major wrench faults (e.g., the Great Glen Fault of Scotland) exhibit displacements of 100km...or more.

wrench (rɛn(t)ʃ), *v.* Forms: a. 1 wrencan, 2-4 wrenchen, 4, 6 wrenche, 5- wrench, 6 wrensh (7-8 rench, 8 arch. wranch). β. 4 wrynch, 5 wrynche, 6 wrinche, 6-7 wrinch. [OE. *wrencan* to twist, turn (also *fig.* to practise wiles), = OHG. *renchan* (MHG. and G. *renken*) to twist; of obscure relationship. Cf. WRENK *v.*]

I. †1. *intr.* a. To perform or undergo a quick or forcible turning or twisting motion; to turn or writhe (*about* or *aside*). Also *fig.* *Obs.*

a. c 1050 *Indicia Monast.* (MS. Cott. Tib. A.111) fol. 97, Is pæs horderes tacen, pæt mon wrænce mid is hande, swilce he wille loc hunculan. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 211 At pleze...pih and shonkes and fet oppieð, wombe gosshieð, and shuldres wrenchieð. a 1240 *Wohunge in O.E. Hom.* I. 281 Hu þu was naket bunden faste to þe piler, þat tu ne mihtes now-hwider wrenche fra þa duntas. c 1375 [see WRENK *v.* I]. **1387** TREvisa *Higden* VII. 538 Anoon his knyghtes come to Venus to have the ryng, but heo wrenchide [MS. a. wrynchede] and blenchide and strof longe tyme, but [etc.]. c 1500 *New Notbr. Mayd* 152 in Hazl. *E.P.P.* III. 7 To fulfyll His wanton wyll, Wrenchyng from me alway. c 1530 TINDALE *Num.* xxii. 25 The asse...wrenshed vnto the walle and thrust Balams fote vnto the wall. **1591** SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* i. v. 258 This Torpedo...Doth not as other Fish, that wrench and wriggle When they be prickt. **1625** BP. MOUNTAGU *App. Casarem* 319 Setting some rigorous Puritans aside, that like no Religion but one of their owne making, ...there are few Calvinists...that will wrench at this. **1716** GAY *Trivia* iii. 123 Should thy shoe wrench aside, down, down you fall.

β. c 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Cons.* 1538 Some gase wryncand to and fra, And some gas hypand. **1509** HAWES *Past. Pleas.* xviii. (1845) 84, I can not wrynche by no wyle nor croke, My heart is fast upon so sure a hoke. a 1632 T. TAYLOR *God's Judgem.* i. i. xxii. (1642) 84 A charet..., wherein were certain yron-works, which with wrinching about gave an horrible sound. a 1641 BP. MOUNTAGU *Acts & Mon.* (1642) 497 Rather then goe to law, to sit down by losse; and without wrinching forgo what was his due.

†b. *Fencing.* (See quotes. and cf. WHIRL *v.* 3.)

1771 LONNERGAN *Fencer's Guide* Index, *Wrenching*, is to disarm, by whirling off your adversary's blade, without setting any bounds to it, or whirling to any certain parade. *Ibid.* 88 When you parry with a Prime, wrench round into a Tierce.

2. *Coursing.* Of a hare, etc.: To veer or come round at less than a right angle; to rick.

1576 TURBERV. *Venerie* 244 A deare...will holde on the same waye, and neuer turneth and wrencheth as a Hare will do before the Greyhounds. **1886** R. BLOME *Gentl. Recreat.* 11. 98/1 Sometimes the Hare doth not Turn, but Wrench; for she is not properly said to Turn, except she Turn as it were round, and two Wrenches stand for a Turn. **1753** *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Coursing*, If the hare turns not quite about, she only *wrencheth*, in the sportsman's phrase. **1839** *Laws of Coursing in Youatt Dog* (1845) 261 If a dog draws the fleck from the hare, and causes her to wrench or rick only.

II. 3. *trans.* To twist or turn (a thing) forcibly or with effort; to jerk or pull with a violent twist; = WREST *v.* 1. Also with advs., as *about*, *round*.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 210 Summe iuglurs beoð pet ne kunnen seruen of non oðer gleo, buten maken cheres, & wrenchen mis hore muð. *Ibid.* 222 Ich chulle wrenchen hire piderward ase heo mest dredeð. **1545** ASCHAM *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 146 Some will take theyr bowe and writhe and wrinche it. **1578** LYTE *Dodoens* 41 Small seedes, whiche be as they were wrenchen or writhen about. **1590** TARTON *News Purgat.* 22 Though shee could not treade right, yet wrincht her shooe inward. **1600** SURFLET *Countrie Farme* iii. xi. 444 The wood of such great plants, doth pinch and wrinche the graft mightily. **1674** [see WREATH *v.* 6]. **1718** BP. HUTCHINSON *Witchcraft* 146 One [cart carrying corn] wrench'd Amy Duny's House, upon which she came out in a Rage. **1819** SCOTT *Leg. Montrose* xiii, If you venture to call for assistance, I will wrench round your neck. **1825** — *Talism.* xxviii, Each strange and disproportioned feature wrench'd by horror into still more extravagant ugliness. **1839** MURCHISON *Silur. Syst.* 1. xxxi. 422 The limestone of the principal branch is suddenly wrench'd round. **1863** B. TAYLOR *Poets Jrnl.* iii. *Watch of Night* 7 Blow, winds...And wrench the trees forlorn That struggle where they stand. **1876** SWINBURNE *Erechtheus* 588 All her flower of body, ... With the might of the wind's wrath wrench'd and torn.

b. To tighten with or as with a wrest or wrench; †to tune (a harp, etc.) in this way. Also with *up*.

1577 GRANGE *Golden Aphrod.* Hiiij, Orpheus with thy Harpe in hande, Arion also..., Wrinche vp your strings. *Ibid.* Mijb, Playing...vponn their Harpes, wrinched and set to the highest note of Diatesseron. **1875** KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2253/1 The eye [of the spanner] is caught over the stud on the collar, so as to wrench it fast.

fig. **1607** SHAKS. *Cor.* i. viii. 11 For thy Reuenge Wrench vp thy power to th' highest.

†4. *fig.* a. To draw or turn (a person) aside; to force out of the right way. *Obs.*

a 1200 *St. Marher.* 4 þæt tu ne maht nanes weies...wenden me ne wrenchen ut of þe weie. a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 124 Nes þer nan þæt mahte neuer eanes wrenchen hire...ut of þe weie. c 1230 *Hali Meid.* 47 Ihesu crist...leue swa hare heorte halden to him, þæt hare flesches eggunge...ne weorri hare heorte wit, ne wrenche ham ut of þe wei þæt ha beoð in gongen.

†b. To draw out or expel (temptations); to withdraw or shelter (oneself); to divert or deflect towards another. (Cf. WRENK *v.* 2.) *Obs.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 244 Swuche pouhtes ofte, i vlesliche soulen, wrenched ut sonre vlesliche tentaciuns peone summe of þe uorne. *Ibid.* 294 þæt tu ne meiht þis scheld holden o pine heorte, ne wrenchen þe þerunder frommard þe deofles eare-wen. *Ibid.* 304 þif þu seist þæt þin unstrēncðe ne muhte nout elles, þu wrenchest pine sunne o God.

†c. To misrepresent or slander (a person).

c 1300 *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 157 þef y am wreint in heore write, Thenne am y bac-bite.

5. To injure or pain (a person, the limbs, etc.) by undue straining or stretching; to rick, sprain, strain.

a. **1530** PALSGR. 785/1, I wrenche my foote, or any lymme, I put it out of joynt. **1578** LYTE *Dodoens* 235 A playster... upon places that be out of joynt or wrench'd. **1611** FLORIO, *Storcisi le membra*, to straine or wrench ones limmes out of joint. **1638** W. LISLE *Heliodorus* viii. 141 Bagoas...with a fall Had wrench'd his leg. **1729** SWIFT *Direct. Serv.* Rules, You wrench'd your foot against a stone, and were forced to stay. **1835** T. MITCHELL *Acham. of Aristoph.* 1064 note, To wrench the ankle. **1854** THACKERAY *Newcomes* xxii, He...came down on the pavement and wrench'd his leg.

fig. **1642** FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* iii. xix. 204 Would it not have wrench'd and sprain'd his soul?

β. **1578** H. WOTTON *Courtlye Controv.* 259 By wrinching their foote in drawing on their hose. **1583** tr. *Maison Neuve's Gerileon* 54b, His fistes...so were wrinched that he felt them not. **1607** TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 78 If an Ox be wrinched and strayed in his sinewes. **1684** J. S. PROFIT & PLEAS. *United* 204 Leg out of Joynt or Wrinched.

b. To affect with severe pain, suffering, or anguish; to distress or pain greatly; to rack.

1798 COLERIDGE *Anc. Mar.* vii. xv, Forthwith this frame of mine was wrench'd With a woful agony. a 1814 WORDSW. *Excurs.* vii. 872 Through the space Of twelve ensuing days his frame was wrench'd. **1821** SHELLEY *Hellas* 456 A spirit not my own wrench'd me within.

transf. **1805** WORDSW. *Prelude* v. 31 Should the whole frame of earth by inward throes Be wrench'd.

6. To pull or draw with a wrench or twist; to twist or wrest out; to force, turn, etc., by a twisting movement: a. With preps., as *from*, *into*, *out of*, *to*.

1582 STANYHURST *Aeneis* iii. (Arb.) 72 Swiftlye they determnd...too wrinche thee nauye too southward. **1604** SHAKS. *Oth.* v. ii. 288 Wrench his Sword from him. **1697** DRYDEN *Aeneis* xii. 534 Turnus...Wrench'd from his feeble hold the shining sword. **1730** THOMSON *Winter* (ed. 3) 360 When Justice...Wrench'd from their hand Oppression's iron rod. **1748** *Anson's Voy.* ii. vi. 201 Seizing his pistol, [he] wrench'd it out of his hand. **1820** SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* 1. 39 To wrench the rivets from my quivering wounds. **1882** B. D. W. RAMSAY *Recoll. Mil. Serv.* i. i. 25 We wrench'd out of the wall an iron hook.

fig. and in *fig.* context. **1603** SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* ii. iv. 14 How often dost thou...Wrench away from foolies? **1605** — *Lear* i. iv. 290 O most small fault...Which like an Engine, wrench't my frame of Nature From the first place. **1790** BURNS 'What needs this din' 20 Bruce...Wrench'd his dear country from the jaws of ruin. **1820** HAZLITT *Lect. Dram. Lit.* 13 Nor could he [sc. Shakspeare] have been wrench'd from his place in the edifice...without equal injury to himself and it. **1851** HAWTHORNE *Ho. Sev. Gables* xvi, To wrench it [sc. a fixed opinion] out of their minds. **1879** McCARTHY *Owen Times* xlii. III. 283 His gift was that which wrenches success out of the very jaws of failure.

refl. **1834** SIR F. B. HEAD *Bubbles fr. Brunnen* 129 As if the corpse...had wrench'd himself once again into daylight.

b. With advs., as *away*, *off*, *out*, *outward*, *up*; *asunder*, *open*.

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 364 Staying the midst of your toole vpon the horses neather iaw, wrinch the tooth outward. **1608** SHAKS. *Per.* iii. ii. 53 *Sec. Gent.* 'Tis like a coffin...Cerimon. Wrench it open straight. **1639** G. PLATTES *Discov. Infin. Treas.* xii. 84 In a quarter of an hour the whole bush is wrench'd up by the roots. **1726** SWIFT *Gulliver* i. i, I had the fortune to...wrench out the pegs. **1796** BOYS *Agric. Kent* (ed. 2) 120 A hop-dog, to wrench up the poles. **1819** SHELLEY *Peter Bell* 3rd i. x, As he was speaking came a spasm, And wrench'd his gnashing teeth asunder. **1825** J. NEAL *Bro. Jonathan* i. 251 He went up to the door, wrench'd off the fastenings. **1863** GEO. ELIOT *Romola* xxiv, Like a harp of which all the strings had been wrench'd away except one. **1884** *Manch. Exam.* 11 Oct. 5/1 They wrench off cupboard doors to spare themselves the trouble of closing them.

fig. **1821** HAZLITT *Winterslow* x. (1850) 174 The revolutionary wheel which has of late wrench'd men's understandings almost asunder. **1848** MRS. GASKELL *Mary Barton* x, Wrenching up her natural feelings of home. **1868** TENNYSON *Lucretius* 218 It seems some unseen monster lays His...filthy hands upon my will, Wrenching it backward into his.

refl. **1865** DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* i. i, What he had in tow...sometimes seemed to try to wrench itself away.

absol. (for *refl.*) **1912** P. A. TALBOT *In Shadow of Bush* xxv. 277 At sight of us she wrench'd free.

c. Without const. Also *fig.*

1655 VAUGHAN *Silex Scint.* ii. *Starre* v, Desire that never will be quench'd, Nor can be with'd, nor wrench'd. **1697** DRYDEN *Aeneis* x. 1273 To wrench the Darts which in his Buckler light. **1713** [CROXALL] *Orig. Canto Spenser* xx. (1714) 17 Those honest Hounds...Striving...to wranch the Chain, Which did her tender Limbs to th' rock upty. **1879** R. BRIDGES *Shorter Poems* (1912) 248 The lazy cows wrench many a scented flower.

d. To seize or take forcibly; = WREST *v.* 4.

1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* iii. i. 63 They...put a barren Scepter in my Gripe, Thence to be wrench't with an vnlineal Hand. **1796** SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* v. 474 If the iron rod Should one day from Oppression's hand be wrench'd By everlasting Justice! **1810** SCOTT *Lady of Lake* v. vi, Wrenching from ruin'd Lowland swain His herds and harvest. **1832** HT. MARTINEAU *Ireland* vi. 92 Those from whose hands had been wrench'd the means of subsistence. **1851** GALLENGA *Italy*

13 To wrench from the reluctant hands of diplomacy exceptional modifications of those fatal treaties. **1868** E. EDWARDS *Raleigh* I. ix. 143 Spoils had been wrenched from Spain such as hitherto were almost unexampled.

e. To deprive (a person) of something by wrenching or wresting.

1786 BURNS *To Mountain Daisy* viii, Till wrench'd of ev'ry stay but Heav'n, He, ruin'd, sink!

7. To twist, alter, or change from the right or true form, application, or import; to wrest, pervert, distort. Cf. **WREST** *v.* 5.

1549 LATIMER *1st Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 29 Wrenching thys text of scripture..after their owne phantasie. *Ibid.*, Thei wrench these wordes a wrye. **1589** PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* II. iv. (Arb.) 89 Let his ryme and concord be true, . . . and not darke or wrenched by wrong writing. **1593** HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* 100 Should impertinent secrecies be reuealed; . . . euery proposition wrinched to the harshest sense? **1641** MILTON *Reform.* II. Wks. 1851 III. 51 These devout Prelates . . . for these many years have not ceas't in their Pulpits wrinching, and spraining the text. **c 1655** — *Sonn.*, 'Cyriack, whose *Grandisire*' 4 [He] in his volumes taught our Lawes, Which others at their Barr so often wrench. **1863** COWDEN CLARKE *Shaks. Char.* vii. 211 They proceeded to wrench that power to the restraining of all dissentients. **1877** WINCHELL *Reconcl. Sci. & Relig.* xii. 325 It is infinitely better to learn how God really did proceed, than to . . . wrench our Bible to make it fit a misconception of facts.

†b. To derive (a word) by alteration from another. *Obs.*

1623 CAMDEN *Rem.* (ed. 3) 70 Lewis, wrenched from *Lodowick*, which Tilius interpreteth, Refuge of the people.

8. *Coursing*. To divert, turn, or bring round (a hare, etc.) at less than a right angle; to rick.

1622 DRAYTON *Poly-ob.* xxiii. 345 When each man . . . notes Which Dog first turnes the Hare, which first the other coats, They wrench her once or twice, ere she a turne will take. **1839** *Laws of Coursing in Youatt Dog* (1845) 262 When a dog wrenches or ricks a hare twice following, without losing the lead, it is equal to a turn. **1840** *Sportsman* II. 216 Wrenched by the one or the other of her pursuers, she seemed every moment almost in the jaws of one of them. **1865** *Field* 4 Mar. 151/3 Rebe wrenched her hare half a dozen lengths in advance of Master Sweeney.

absol. **1876** *Coursing Calendar* 10 Gardenia shot in front, and . . . turned; she then wrenched and killed. **1886** *Field* 20 Feb. 227/2 Mr. Dent's dog went up for the kill after wrenching once.

†9. To drive, impel, or thrust (a weapon) with a twisting movement. *Obs. rare.*

1594 KYD *Cornelia* IV. i. 23 Scipio hath wrencht a sword into hys brest. *Ibid.* v. 322 He wrencht it to the pommel through his sides.

†b. *refl.* To force (oneself) in among others. *Sc. Obs.* —1

1729 WODROW *Corr.* (1843) III. 454 [Such] persons . . . in a time of party and division, get in where they ought not to be, and when they have wrenched themselves in, talk [etc.].

10. *absol.* To pull or tug (at something) with a turn or twist. Also *fig.* and *transf.*

1697 DRYDEN *Aeneis* XII. 1132 'Th' incumbent Heroe wrench'd and pull'd and strain'd; But still the stubborn Earth the Steel detain'd. **1858** CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* ix. ix. ¶3 France has been wrenching and screwing at this Lorraine, wriggling it off bit by bit. **1865** DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* II. xv, He . . . again grasped the stone . . . and wrenched at it. **1891** Kipling *Life's Handicap* 245 The water snarled and wrenched and worried at the timber.

b. To come out by or as by wrenching. **1903** E. CHILDERS *Riddle of Sands* viii, The lower screw-plate on the stern post had wrenched out.

wrench, obs. or dial. erron. f. **RINSE** *v.*

wrenched (rɛn(t)ʃt, poet. rɛn(t)ʃɪd), *ppl. a.* [f. **WRENCH** *v.* + -ED¹.]

1. Sprained, strained; dislocated.

1556 WITHALS *Dict.* (1562) 77 b/2 Wrenched or hurte in the iointes, *distortus*. **1567** GRESHAM in *Burgon Life* (1839) II. 212, I wolde have waited upon you . . . but that my wrenched legge would not suffer me. **1684** J. S. *Profit & Pleas. United* 73 Foot out of Joynt or wrinched Foot. **1872** TENNYSON *Gareth & Lynette* 87 Who never knewest . . . pang Of wrench'd or broken limb. **1897** ANNE PAGE *Afternoon Ride* 89 Brierly loosed the wrenched wrist.

b. Twisted, wrung. Also with *off.* Occas. *fig.* **1894** A. MORRISON M. *Hewitt Investigator* 245 A trap-door . . . six or eight inches open, the edge resting on the half-wrenched-off bolt. **1908** A. NOYES W. *Morris* 63 There are wrenched hands and writhen lips in it. **1915** A. READE *Poems Love & War* 78 From our tears . . . and wrenched hearts, Let some fair harvest spring.

2. *Pros.* (See *quot.*) **1891** J. C. PARSONS *Engl. Versif.* 144 Wrenched Accent. —This term is used when the metrical stress is thrown upon a syllable which would not ordinarily be accented.

wrencher (rɛn(t)ʃɜ(r)). [f. **WRENCH** *v.* + -ER¹.]

1. A machine or instrument for wrenching or wringing. *rare.*

1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P.R.* XIX. 1. 892 Sourysse thynges . . . bere downe the meete as it were a pressour other a wrencher [MSS. wryngel]. **1832** S. WARREN *Diary Late Physician* I. 380 Before proceeding to use our screws, or wrenchers, we once more looked and listened.

2. One who or that which wrenches or twists. Also *fig.*

1847 in *Home Life Sir D. Brewster* (1869) 190 [Thou wert] The pillar of thine own beloved fane; The wrencher of its chill and crushing chain. **1863** COWDEN CLARKE *Shaks. Char.* xvii. 415 The wrencher of a civil institution to his own individual aggrandisement.

†'wrenchful, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. **WRENCH** *sb.*¹ + -FUL.] Artful, crafty, deceitful.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 268 His wihtful crokes, & his wrenchfule wicheckrefes. **c 1225** *Leg. Kath.* 890 þe wrenchfule feont . . . wið his wiles weorp ham ut sone of paraises selhðen. **c 1230** *Hali Meid.* (1922) 64 þu wrenchfule [Titus MS. wrech-wile] ful wiht! al for nawt þu prokest me to for-gulten.

wrenching (rɛn(t)ʃɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. **WRENCH** *v.* + -ING¹.]

1. The action of the verb in various senses; an instance of this.

1398 *Trevisa Barth. De P.R.* v. xxviii. (Addit. MS.), þe hond is greued . . . by wrastinge and wrenching of ioyntes. **c 1430** *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 5 (Addit. MS.), þe secunde techynge a comyn word off wrenchynges out of ioynte. **1545** ASCHAM *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 145 An other maketh a wrynchinge with hys backe. **1580** BLUNDEVIL *Horsemanship* 51 b, Of the wrinching of the shoulder. **1674** *Barbette's Chirurg.* (ed. 2) 17 Sometimes the Bone is . . . forced out of its place . . . but a little, or half, which is called Sub-luxation, or Wrenching. **1733** TULL *Horse-Hoeing Husb.* xxii. 338 By the Twisting (or Renching) of the Wheels. **1821** BYRON *Two Foscari* I. i. 160 My curdling limbs Quiver with the anticipated wrenching. **1861** DICKENS *All Year Round* 13 July 365 The sudden wrenching of him out of our boat. **1884** E. YATES *Recoll.* I. 159 The charioteers . . . declined to submit them to the unavoidable twists and wrenchings.

fig. **1555** LATIMER in *Foxe A. & M.* (1583) 1724/2 Their racking, writhing, wrinching, and monstrously iniuryng of Gods holy scripture. **1583** MELBANCKE *Philotimus Ccij*, Whose loue hath eased the wrenching of my heart. **1863** COWDEN CLARKE *Shaks. Char.* xvi. 391 No tyranny being equal to the wrenching of law for penal purposes.

b. *spec.* The action of rectifying a deformed foot, esp. by a foot-wrench.

1806 TUBBY *Deformities* 415 Wrenching . . . may be effected more especially in this degree by manual force, and in the severer degrees by special apparatus. *Ibid.*, When wrenching is carried out with the hands.

c. *N.Z.* = *root-pruning* s.v. **ROOT** *sb.*¹ 23.

1950 *N.Z. Jnl. Agric.* July 55/1 Toward the end of August root crops . . . tend to run to seed. This growth can be retarded considerably by wrenching . . . pushing a fork or spade into the soil . . . and . . . levering the roots up slightly. This breaks the extreme end of the taproot.

†2. A gripping pain in the bowels. *Obs.*

1607 WALKINGTON *Opt. Glass* 124 Vexed much with wrinching and griping in the bowels. **1607** TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 442 The wringings and wrinching . . . in the guts or belly of a man or woman.

3. *attrib.* in *wrenching-iron*.

1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* v. iii. 22 Give me that Mattocke, & the wrenching Iron. **1769** *Public Advertiser* 6 June 3/2 The Thieves left behind them a Wrenching Iron, about two Feet long.

'wrenching, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING².] That wrenches or twists; of the nature of a wrench. Also *fig.*

1618 GAINSFORD *Glory Eng.* II. xxv. 315 Yet we haue still gone forward, and could not bee pull'd backe by any wrenching arme whatsoever. **1889** WELCH *Text Bk. Naval Archit.* vii. 99 The stem must be . . . strengthened to resist the wrenching stresses. **1889** GUNTER *That Frenchman* xix. 248 He . . . gives this wrist . . . a wrenching twist. **1894** T. PINKERTON *Blizzard* 105 The thought . . . gave him a wrenching pang.

Hence 'wrenchingly *adv.*

1884 L. MACBEAN tr. *Buchanan's Spir. Songs* 28 He was stripped and wrenchingly stretched out with cruel strain.

†wrench-milk. *Obs. rare.* Also 6 wrynche, urynche. [f. the stem of **WRENCH** *v.* Cf. OE. *wringhwæf* curd.] Curd.

1510 STANBRIDGE *Vocabula* (W. de W.) C v, *Oxigulum*, wrynche mylke. [1525 *Oxigala*, wrynche mylke.] **1530** PALSGR. 285/2 Urynche mylke, *maigre* [read *maigvee*].

†wrene, *a. Obs. rare.* [OE. *wræne* lascivious, libidinous.] Wanton.

c 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 6600, I schal the teche bothe burdoun and mene, Ne be thou neuere so wroth ne wrene.

wrene, ME. var. **WRY** *v.*¹

Wreanean (rɛ'nɪən), *a.* [f. the name of the architect Sir Christopher Wren (1632–1723) + -EAN.] Of or pertaining to, following or consonant with the architectural theories or practices of, Sir C. Wren; built by Wren. See also **WRENIAN** *a.*

1813 *Gentl. Mag.* Feb. 132 The decorations of the Wreanean school of architecture. *Ibid.* 133 Topped with Wreanean pedestals and balls. *Ibid.*, Whether at the Wreanean, or any subsequent period. **1896** *Westm. Gaz.* 11 Sept. 3/1 The exquisite gates which adorn the Wreanean terraces of Chelsea.

Hence *Wre'neanize v. trans.*, to make Wreanean in character.

1813 *Gentl. Mag.* Feb. 133/1 The lantern is wholly Wreaneanised, in two tiers with lights to each.

wreng, obs. var. **WRING** *v.*

†wrength. *Obs. rare* —1. [repr. OE. type **wrengþu*, f. *wrang* **WRONG** *a.* For the formation cf. *length*, *strength*.] Crookedness; distortion.

c 1220 *Bestiary* 85 in *O.E. Misc.* 3 Ðanne goð he to a ston, & he billeð ðer-on, Billeð til his bee biforn hæuð ðe wrengðe furiore.

Wrenian (rɛ'nɪən), *a.* Also **Wrennian**. [f. as **WRENEAN** *a.* + -IAN] Built by, or in the style of, Sir C. Wren.

1853 *Ecclesiologist* XIV. 393 The gallery front of a Wrennian church of two orders, such as S. James's

Piceadilly. **1944** *Burlington Mag.* Oct. 260/1 The complete reinstatement of a destroyed Wrenian interior. **1973** *Country Life* 13 Dec. 2017/3 The style is about half correct Classical or Wrenian and half Victorian Italianate.

†wrenk, *sb. Sc. and north. Obs.* Forms: *a.* 4–5 wrenk(e. β. 5–6 wrink(e, wrynk. [Northern var. of **WRENCH** *sb.*¹ Cf. next.]

1. = **WRENCH** *sb.*¹ 1. Freq. coupled with *wile*.

c 1325 *Metr. Hom. Pro.* 2 Thou filde this gaste sa full of witte. . . That al bestes er red for man, Sa mani wyle and wrenk he can. **c 1340** *HAMPOLE Pr. Consc.* 1360 þe world . . . ledes a man with wrenkes and wyles. **13..** *Cursor M.* 13336 (Gött.), Na wrenkes [other MSS. wrenches] of þe maledight Againes hir sal haue no might. **c 1440** *York Myst.* xxx. 67 With wrynkis and with wiles to wend me my weys. **c 1480** HENRYSON *Fox, Wolf & Cadger* 37 For euerie wrink, forsuith, thou hes ane wyle. **a 1500** in *Ratis Raving*, etc. 3 the deuill wyll cast mony wrenkis of falsait. **1500–20** *DUNBAR Poems* xxx. 42 In me . . . wes mony wrink and wyle. **a 1508** MERSAR in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 808/19 For every wrynk luk that ye haif a wyle.

2. Trickery, deception; = **WRENCH** *sb.*¹ 2.

1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 246 For falsched & for wrenk he forsuore þe land.

†wrenk, *v. Obs. rare.* Also 4 wrenke, wrinck. [Northern var. of **WRENCH** *v.* Cf. prec.]

1. *intr.* To writhe; to turn away.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 17458 Bot iesu crist þat rightwis es, . . . A-wai to wrenk he dos þe wrang. *Ibid.* 19353 þan be-gan þai wrenk [Gött. wrinck, *Fairf.* wrenche] and wrest, And for tene þair tethe to gnast.

2. *trans.* To turn aside, to divert from oneself.

(Cf. **WRENCH** *v.* 4 b.)

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 26385 þis ypocrites . . . wald ai wrenk þair aun wites, For to sem þam-self god and lele.

wrenlet (rɛnɪlt). [f. **WREN**¹ + -LET.] A young wren.

1858 *Chambers's Jnl.* Aug. 82/2 It affords a cradle to near a score of wrenlets. **1927** *Observer* 22 May 23/2 In a knot in the rope was a wren's nest, with two or three wrenlets visible inside.

wrocoen, wreoðien: see **WRY** *v.*, **WRETHER** *v.*²

wrest (rest), *sb.*¹ Forms: *a.* 3–6 wreste, 5–wrest (7–9 rest), 5 wreeste, 6 wrest, *Sc.* wrest, 7 *Sc.* wriest, 8 rist. β. 4–5 wrayst(e, 5 wraist(e. γ. 5 wraaste, wrastt, 5–6 wrast(e. [f. the verb.]

1. 1. The action of twisting, wrenching, or writhing; a twist, wrench; a tug or violent pull; †a turn of a tuning-peg (quot. 1501).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3462 þair strut it was vn-stern stith, Wit wrathli wrestes [Gött. wraystes] aiper writh. **a 1400–50** *Bk. Curtasye* 26 in *Babes Bk.* 300 First to the ryght honde pou shalle go, Sitthen to þo left honde þy neghe pou cast; To hom pou boghe withouten wrast. **c 1500** *Proverbis in Antiq. Rep.* (1809) IV. 406 Stoppe in the freytes they [sc. lute-strings] abyde the pyennes wrest. **1501** DOUGLAS *Pal. Hon.* II. iv, Thair instrumentis all maist war fidillis lang, But with a string quihlk neuer a wraist zeid wrang. **1575** *LANEHAM Let.* (1871) 53 With the wrest of a Cok [he] was sure of a cooler: water spurring vpward. **1611** COTGR., *Torse*, . . . a wrest, wrinch; wrythe, wrying.

1883 A. HERSHEL in *Nature* March 458 The time-rates of each of these momenta . . . are respectively angular moment or twirl (of a force-couple) and tractive moment or wrest (of a motor-couple).

fig. **c 1430** *LYDG. Lyfe of our Lady* (Caxton, ? 1484) I viii b, It causeth hertes no longer to debate That partyd ben with the wreste of hate. **a 1590** *GREENE Orpharion* Wks. (Grosart) XII. 31 Loue, . . . if it be ouerstrained, cracketh at the first wrest. **1838** S. BELLAMY *Betrayal* 126 In the strong wrest of supplication, then, sole travelling.

b. Extent of wrestling; hence, reach of capacity; stretch, strain. *rare* —1.

1593 *NASHE Christ's T. Lijb*, Thou wert chosen to make an Oration . . . in which (hauing toyled thy wits to theyr highest wrest) thou [etc.].

†c. Without articulation. Twist or coil. *Obs.* —1

a 1575 tr. *Pol. Verg. Eng. Hist.* (Camden No. 36) 49 Thei hade for the moste parte long heare, withoute wrest or curle.

†d. *Sc.* A wrenching or spraining of the muscles; a sprain or strain. *Obs.*

1616 *Orkney Witch Trial* in *Dalyell Darker Superstit.* *Scotl.* (1834) 118 [To make] a wrestling thread, and give it in the name of the Father, Sone, and the Holie Gaist, . . . it wald mak ony wrest of man or beast haill. **c 1700** in *Jas. Watson Coll. Sc. Poems* (1706) I. 60 It will be good against the Pine Of any Wriest or Strienzie. **1881** *PAUL Past & Pres. Aberdeen.* 15 Mr. Thomson then [= in 1698] being bed-rid by reason of a wrest in his ankle.

†2. *fig.* An ill or evil turn; a trick. *Obs.*

14.. *Sir Beues* (E.) 1930 A made hire alway to ete ferst, Lest þey deden him ony wrest. **c 1440** *York Myst.* xvii. 187 Than shall we wayte þam with a wrest, And make all wast þat þei haue wrought.

†3. The action of wrestling, forcing, or straining the meaning or purport of words, etc.; an instance of this. *Obs.*

1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 169 b, By what wrest of Logicke doth Osorius gather habilitie of Freewill out of the holy ordinaunces. **1597** J. PAYNE *Royal Esch.* 22 They seke fauls armure by wrest of scripture. **a 1603** T. CARTWRIGHT *Confut. Rhem. N.T.* (1618) 467 Where the witness of the other hath often a wrest and tacke of her corruption. *Ibid.* 716 It is . . . partly falsification, partly a wrest of the Scripture. **1609** [Bp. W. BARLOW] *Answ. Nameless Cath.* 38 To picke quarels at words, by wrests and streines, neither to purpose nor to sense.

II. techn. †4. Surg. A peg for tightening a ligature by twisting. *Obs.*

c 1370 ARDERNE Practica (MS. Ashm. 1434) fol. 4 In quo foramine vnum vertile, anglice *wrayst*, imponatur. *a 1425* tr. *Arderne* 9 By middez of whiche wraiste in pe ouer ende shal be a lite hole.

5. An implement for tuning certain wire-stringed instruments, as the harp or spinet; a tuning-key. Now *arch*.

In ME. sometimes *erron.* used to render L. *plectrum*. *1398* TREVISA Barth. De P.R. v. xxi. (Bodl. MS.), *pe* 30 wne of speking byndep wordes; as wreste [*1495* waste]. . . temperith pe strenges, so pe tonge smytep pe teep. *c 1425* in *Anglia* VIII. 109/31 his newe tymbrer settip. . . hir handys and fyngers for a wrast, pat is an instrument of organ-songe. *c 1440* *Promp. Parv.* 533/2 Wreeste of an harpe or other lyke, *plectrum*. *c 1460* *Liber Plurcardensis* (1877) l. 392 Sal we the menstral wyt? Yha, bot he bent and pruf thaim [sc. the strings] with his wraist. *1504* CORNISH in *Skelton's Wks.* (1568) Zvij, A harper w' his wrest maye tune the harpe wrong. *1575* LANEHAM Let. (1871) 38 Hiz harp in good grace dependant before him: hiz wrest tied to a green laee, and hanging by. *1612* in *Halyburton's Ledger* (1867) 333 Wreests for virginals the groce, vi li. *1663* PEPYS *Diary* 1 April, Calling on the virginal maker, buying a rest for myself to tune my tryangle. *1668* *Ibid.* 20 July, To buy a rest for my espinette at the ironmonger's.

1793 *Minstrel* l. 91 Beside it, suspended by a green lace, he hung the wrest, or key, by which it is tuned. [Cf. quot. *1575*.] *1819* SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xliii, A silver chain, by which hung the wrest, or key, with which he tuned his harp. *1831* H. NEELE *Rom. Hist.* l. 201 Trying his harp strings, and with his wrest or screw tuning them to the proper pitch. *1861* W. F. COLLIER *Hist. Eng. Lit.* 36 The distinctive badge of the [minstrel's] profession was the wrest or tuning-key.

transf. *1398* TREVISA Barth. De P.R. v. xxiii. (Bodl. MS.), Soune is . . . yschape with pe wraeste [*L. plectrum*] of pe tunge.

b. fig. and in fig. context.

a 1548 HALL *Chron.*, Hen. VII, 3 There lacked a wrest to the harpe to set all the strynges in a monacorde and tune, which was the matrimony . . . betwene the kyng and . . . Elizabeth. *1603* J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Microcosmos* Wks. (Grosart) l. 81/1 O let the longest Large be shortest Briefes In this discordant Note, and turne the Wrest. *1613* JAS. I *Edict agst. Private Combats* 45 This small instrument the Tongue . . . being kept in tune by the wrest of awe.

c. Her. The figure of a 'wrest' used as a charge.

1572 BOSSEWELL *Armorie* II. 87b, His crest a wrest in crosse, Sol. *1688* HOLME *Armoury* III. xvi. (Roxb.) 59/2 He beareth Argent, a Virginal Wrest sable.

†6. a. An implement for wresting; a tool for turning bolts, nuts, etc.; a screw-key. Also *fig.*

1589 in *Trans. Shropsh. Archæol. Soc.* (1878) l. 12, iiii vice pynnes with a wrest for a field bedde. *1593* *Rites & Mon. Ch. Durham* (Surtees) 8 Two silver. . . Candlesticks for two tapers. . . to be taken in sunder with wreests. *1598* [see *WRENCH* sb.² 5]. *1603* HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 4 This fellowship in feeding together is. . . a wrest that straineth and stretcheth benevolence to the utmost.

fig. a 1592 GREENE *Alcida* (1617) E4, Faith is the key that shuts the spring of loue, Lightnesse a wrest, that wringeth all awry.

†b. A machine for hoisting or hauling weights. *Obs. rare.*

1584 B. R. tr. *Herodotus* II. 104 They deuised certayne engines or wrestes [Gr. *μηχαναι*] to heaue vp stoness from the grounde, . . . hauyng vpon each stayre a wrest.

†c. (See quot.) *Obs. rare*—⁰.

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 102/1 Wrest, is that by which Saw Teeth are set.

7. Special Combs., as wrest block, = wrest plank; wrest-pin, the peg or pin round which the ends of the wires or strings of certain musical instruments are coiled; a tuning-pin (also *attrib.*); **wrest-plank,** the board in a piano in which the wrest-pins are fixed (also *attrib.* and *Comb.*).

1787 H. WALTON *Specif. of Patent* No. 1607, The 'rest block, . . . the damper, . . . and the rest pin. . . are made the same as they always are made in Grand Piano Fortes. *1783* J. BROADWOOD *Specif. of Patent* No. 1379, 3 The 'rist pins to which the strings are fixt. *1802* T. LOUD *Specif. of Patent* No. 2591, 2 The rest pin block. *1825* P. ERARO *Specif. of Patent* No. 5065, 2 The want of stability in the wrest pin plank. *1880* A. J. HIPKINS in *Grove Dict. Mus.* II. 722/1 The tuning-pin screws . . . into the thick metal wrestpin-piece. *1799* J. SMITH *Specif. of Patent* No. 2345, 2 The Drawing . . . shows the 'rest plank, trussed with wood. *1846* BURKIN- YOUNG in *Repert. Patent Invent.* (1847) IX. 78 The rest plank bridge. *1881* *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 50 Piano Manufacturing: . . . Tuner. Turner. Wire Maker. Wrest Plank Maker.

wrest, sb.² Agric. Now *dial.* Also *g* wreest, wrist. [Incorrect spelling of *rest*, var. REEST sb., by association with *prec.* and WREST v.] A piece of iron (†or wood) fastened beneath the mould-board in certain ploughs. **b.** A mould-board.

1653 BLITHE *Eng. Improv. Impr.* xxviii. 190 The Plough-sheath, Wrest, Beam, Share, and Coulter. . . retain these names clearly in most parts. *1669* WORLIDGE *Syst. Agricult.* 207 Any Plough. . . having its true Pitch, with its true cast on the Shield-board and short Wrest. *1765* A. DICKSON *Treat. Agric.* (ed. 2) 165 The earth of the furrow, in rising up from the fore part of the wrest, is soon resisted by the mold-board, and turned over suddenly. *1778* [W. H. MARSHALL] *Minutes Agriculture* 6 March 1776 note, The wrest is . . . the piece of wood, or iron, . . . which is meant to wrest open and clear effectually the bottom of the plow-furrow. *1796* BOYS *Agric. Keni* (1813) 64 The furrows. . . are opened with an old plough, with a wrest at each side. *1844* H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* l. 408 The wrest or mould-board. *1887* PARISH & SHAW *Kentish Dial.* 191 *Wreest*, . . . that part of a Kentish plough. . . on which it rests against the land ploughed up. *1893* S.E. *Worc. Words* 49 *Wrist* (*Wrest* or *Rest*) of a plough,

a piece of wood below the shield-board, which wrests the earth aside from the plough.

wrest, obs. var. WRIST sb.

wrest (rest), *v.* Forms: *a.* 1 *wraestan*, 3-4 *wresten*, 5 -yn, -on, 4-6 *wreste*, 4- *wrest* (7 rest); 6-7 *wreast*(e, 6 *Sc. wreist* (9 *reist*), 6 *wryst*(e, *Sc. wrist*. *β. north.* 4 *wraiste*(e, 5-6 *wrayste*. *γ.* 4-6 *wrast*, *wraiste*. *Pa. t.* 3-5 *wraiste*; (also *pa. pple.*) 4-5 *wrast*, 5 *wraiste*, *wrest*; 4 *wraisted*, *wrastid* (etc.), 6- *wrested*. [OE. *wraestan*, = ON. **wreista* (ONorw. and Icel. *reista*; MDA. *wreiste*, Da. *wriste*):—**wraistjan*, related to WRIST.

The northern forms with *ai*, *ay*, are directly ad. ON. **wreista*.]

I. 1. trans. To subject (something) to a twisting movement; to turn or twist. Also with *advs.*, as *about*, *away*, *round*.

a. a 1000 *Sal. & Sat.* 95 (Gr.), T. . . hine . . . on ða tungan sticað, wraestð him ðæt woddor, and him ða wongan briceð. *c 1205* LAY. 7532 Julius hit wraste & þat sword stike feste. *c 1330* R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* 3194 Hur fyngres sche wrast, þe blod out brak. Sche tremblede. *1398* TREVISA Barth. De P.R. xviii. ix. (Bodl. MS.) fol. 248/2 þe poette seip þat serpente wraste his owne white heed backward. *a 1425* *Cursor M.* 7510 (Trin.), I shook hem bi þe berdes so þat her chaules I wraste in two. *c 1440* *Promp. Parv.* 533/2 *Wrestyn*, and *wrythyn* a-þen, *reflecto*. *1548* ELYOT, *Intorquere mentum*, to writhen or wreste the chynne. *1599* HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. 1. 272 A small rod of siluer. . . which is wrested, so that the two ends meet. *1603* HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 148 A shoe is wrested and turned according to the fashion of a crooked or splay-foot. *1676* MARVELL *Gen. Councils* Wks. (Grosart) III. 153 The heliotrope flower . . . wrests its neck in turning after the warm sun. *1733* TULL *Horse-Hoeing* Husb. xiv. 193 A Rope. . . which they bring over the Top of all the loaded Sheets, and wrest it at the Tail [of each waggon]. *1893* F. THOMPSON *Poems* 59 He wrested o'er the rhymers' head that garmenting which wrought him wrong.

transf. *1601* HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 105 Notwithstanding all these barres, within which he [sc. a mountain-range] is pent, twined, and wrested.

β, γ. a 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 9 Wraistyn þe skynne atuyx þe tewel & þe fistule. *? a 1500* *Chester Pl.* xvi. 547 This Caytife . . . shall be wronge wrast, or I wend away. *1570* LEVINS *Manip.* 203 To wrayste, *torquere*.

†b. To screw or turn (the pin or pins of a musical instrument) so as to tighten or tune the strings; to tune or tighten (a stringed instrument, its wires, etc.) by means of a wrest. Also with *up*. *Occas. in fig. context.*

a 1000 *Bi Manna Wyrdum* 82 (Gr.), Sum sceal mid hearpan æt his hlaforðes fotum sittan. . . & a snellece snere wraestan, lætan scralletan. *c 1380* WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 340 An harpe hape þre partis. . . þe ouermost in which ben stringis wraisted. *Ibid.* 341 And sorowe of trespasses aþeyns hem ten [sc. strings] shal wrastis þis harpe to a-corde welles. *c 1440* *Promp. Parv.* 533 *Wreston, plecto*. *1504* CORNISH in *Skelton's Wks.* (1568) Zvj, The claricord hath a tunely kynde As the wyre is wrested hye and lowe. *1581* PETTIE *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* II. (1586) 117 Our lyfe is like to instruments of Musicke, which sometime wresting vp the strings and sometime by loosing them, become more melodious. *1587* GREENE *Tritam.* II. Siluestro. . . had almost made Lacena peeuish, fearing if he wrested not the pin to a right key, his melody would be marred. *1615* SWETNAM *Arraignm. Wom.* 19 As filders do their strings, who wrest them so high [etc.].

fig. 13. . . E.E. Allit. P. B. 1166 þat wakned his wrath & wrast hit so hyge, þat [etc.]. *1430-40* LYDG. *Bochas* VI. 423 Of an harpe he herde the suete soun. Which instrument . . . Wrestit hym aþeyn to al gladnesse. *1584* GREENE *Mirr. Modestie* (1866) 19 The Judges. . . by the power of the law thought to wrest hir vpon a higher pin. *1599* NASHE *Lenten Stiffe* Wks. (Grosart) V. 232 Rouze thy spirites. . . and wrest them vp to the most outstretched ayry straine of elocution.

†c. To put or set in with a twisting or tortuous movement; to insert or introduce in this manner. Chiefly *fig. Obs.*

1597 MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 120 He can do nothing else in musik but wrest & wring in hard points vpon a plainsong. *1606* CHAPMAN *Gentl. Usher* III. ii. 450 There's a fine word now; wrest in that if you can by any means. *1690* C. NESSE *O. & N. Test.* I. 109 If the subtle serpent can but see a hole to wrest in his bead.

2. To pull, pluck, drag away, or detach (a person or thing) with a wrench or twist; to twist, tear, or wrench out, etc. Also with *advs.*, as *aside*, *forth*, *off*, *out*, *whence*, or *preps.*, as *off*, *out of*, and *esp. from*.

a. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4309 Binepe þe nekke he him nom, & wraste him adoun of is hors. *1303* R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 6195 þe lyd vp sone þey wraste. *1387* TREVISA *Higden* V. 181 Fyve knyghtes mynte not wreste the rope out of his hond. *14. . . Sir Beues* (M.) 190 Wyth that syr Guy his swerde out wrasted. *c 1450* LOVELICH *Graill* xiv. 670 Hym from his hors anon he wraste. *1590* SPENSER *F.Q.* III. xii. 33 From her. . . The wicked weapon rashly he did wrest. *a 1661* FULLER *Worthies* III. (1662) 197 He also then assisted Henry Bull. . . to wrest. . . out of the hands of the Choristers, the Censer. *1698* T. FROGER *Voy.* 33 Young girls. . . could not be wrested from them [sc. apes] without a great deal of difficulty. *1724* C. L. *St. Taffy's Day* 37 Brass Knockers strongly, from Doors fierce wresting. *1778*, etc. [see *WREST* sb.²]. *1821* SCOTT *Kenilw.* xxii, Foster. . . wrested the flask from her hand. *1871* R. ELLIS tr. *Catullus* lxii. 21 Thou from a mother's arms canst wrest her daughter asunder.

transf. *13. . . E.E. Allit.* P. B. 1802 He was corsed for his vn-clannes. . . & of pyse wordes worchyp wrast out for euer. *1886* FLOR. MARRVAT *Tom Tiddler's G.* 173, I procured a bed, whence I was wrested at an unearthly hour the next morning.

refl. 1686 tr. *Chardin's Trav. Persia* 163 In another Condition, I should . . . have wrested my self out of their Clutches Scottfree.

β, γ. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3466 He þat on þe right side lai þe toþer him wraisted oft away. *13. . . E.E. Allit.* P. C. 80 þay . . . Wrype me in a warlok, wrast out myn ygen. *c 1400* *St. Alexius* (Cotton) 316 He hylde his hand so faste, That owte he myght hit [sc. a leaf] natt wrast. *1596* SPENSER *F.Q.* v. xii. 21 His yron axe. . . by no meanes. . . backe againe he forth could wrast.

b. fig. and in fig. context.

1513 MORE *Rich. III* (1883) 24 Suche euyll oppynyon once fastened in mennes hartes hard it is to waste oute, and maye growe [etc.]. *1526* *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 88b, That our holynes, deuocyon, & good religyon . . . wrast vs not from the fauour of God. *1587* HARRISON *England* II. ii. (1877) 1. 53 Being sore grieved, that she had. . . wrested out such a verdict against him. *1693* PRIOR *To Dr. Sherlock* 44 You wrest the Bolt from Heav'n's avenging Hand. *1769* ROBERTSON *Chas. V.* xi. Wks. 1813 III. 350 Unfortunate Princes from whose hands some strong rival had wrested their sceptre. *1796* WORDSW. *Borderers* 1617, I yielded up those precious hopes, which nought On earth could else have wrested from me. *1825* MACAULAY *Ess.*, *Milton* ¶ 81 He had been wrested by no common deliverer from the grasp of no common foe. *1846* LANOOR *Imag. Conv.* Wks. II. 47 Single states are poor props: but who can wrest out Germany?

†c. To force (a person) out of something. *Obs.*—¹

c 1440 *York Myst.* xxxi. 261 He is wraiste of his witte or will of his wone.

†d. transf. To press or force out (sounds, etc.); to emit or utter, esp. with difficulty. *Obs.*

c 1402 LYDG. *Compl. Bl. Knight* 48 The nyghtyngale. . . ber voys gan oute wrest. *c 1502* *Joseph Arim.* 388 In May, when the nyghtyngale Wrestes out her notes musycall. *1576* WHETSTONE *Rocke of Regard* II. 116 To wrest out this following complaint. *1583* MELBANCKE *Philotimus* Hj, The poore gentlewoman not able to wreste out one worde for weepinge.

†e. With *forth*. To pass or spend (time) in pain or distress. *Obs. rare*—¹.

1577 GRANGE *Golden Aphrod.* D iij, With many a sobbing sighe. . . he wrested forth the tedious night.

†3. To turn or dispose (some one, his heart) to a person or thing; to incline or influence (a person, etc.) to do something. *Obs.*

13. . . Gaw. & *Gr. Knt.* 1482 Wyze þat is so wel wrast alway to god. *c 1374* CHAUCER *Troilus* IV. 1427 Fynally he gan his herte wreste To trusten here. *1426* LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 7739 He brydlede hem, & dyde hem wreste, What-euere they herde, to sey the beste. *c 1440* *York Myst.* xi. 137 If thai with wrang ought walde þe wrayste Owte of all wothis I sall þe were. *1579* HAKE *News out of Powles* (1872) B ij, Ofte tymes by force they wrest and wring him to their handes. *1592* GREENE *Repentance* Wks. (Grosart) XII. 157 A yong man is like a tender plant, apt to be wrested by nurture either to good or euill. *1603* J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Microcosmos* Wks. (Grosart) l. 51/2 A sweete-sowre thing (Which may the Sov'raign wrest, the subiect wring) Call'd Lieges'-loue abus'd. *a 1618* RALEIGH *Prerog. Parli.* (1628) 23 To wrest the King, and to draw the inheritance vpon himselfe, hee perswaded his Majestie to relinquish his entrest.

†b. To move (the mind, attention, etc.) from a settled state or an object; to unsettle, unfix; to divert to something else. *Obs.*

a 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 4622 Quir wild [= will] is many ways wraiste, as þe wedire shifts. *1423* JAS. I *Kings Q.* x, Langer slepe ne rest Ne myght I nat, so were my wittis wrest. *1567* *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 70 We gloir for to speik of Christ. . . Bot fra fra bim our hartis we wreist. *1570* GOOGE *Pop. Kingd.* Pref. B ij b, They. . . carefully wrest their mind hither and thither, to obtaine the forgiveness of their sinnes. *1609* LO. BROOKE *Mustapha* III. i, Who wrests bis princes mind Presents his faith vpon the stage of chance. *1646* J. HALL *Hore Vac.* 188 Whereas Ariosto will. . . wrest his [sc. a reader's] Attention to a new businesse.

c. poet. To draw aside, divert (a look).

1738 J. G. COOPER *Father's Advice* to his Son iii, The father's eyes no object wrested, But on the smiling prattler hung.

4. To usurp, arrogate, or take by force (power, a right, etc.); to assume forcibly (a dignity or office); to seize, capture, or take (lands, dominion, etc.) from another or others:

a. Const. *away, from* (also in early use with *dative*), *out of*, *†into*, *upon*.

In very frequent use (esp. with *from*) since *c 1820*.

1426 AUDELEY *Poems* 23 He sy3 the Trinyte apere within his body clere, then entered in hym envy, When he hade seyne this gloryis sy3t, He wolde wrast hym his my3t. *1576* FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 15, I was very muche grieved. . . that the triumphe which most iustly you did deserue, was so wrongfully wrested from you. *1609* BIBLE (Douay) 2 *Macc.* iv. 24 He. . . wrested the high priesthood upon him self. *1660* T. M. *Hist. Independ.* iv. 13 The English affairs and Government being thus wrested into the hands of a few desperate persons. *1682* BURNET *Rights Princes* iii. 96 The Popes had so strugled to wrest the Investitures out of the hands of the Princes of the West. *1702* ROWE *Tamerl.* iv. 1, Oh! teach my Power To cure those Ills. . . Lest Heav'n should wrest it from my idle Hand. *1769* ROBERTSON *Chas. V.* II. Wks. 1813 V. 261 The emperors, too feeble to wrest them out of their hands, were obliged to grant the clergy fiefs of those ample territories. *1838* PRESCOTT *Ferd. & Is.* (1846) l. vi. 294 The rights, thus wrested from the grasp of Rome. *1879* FROUOE *Cæsar* xxii. 384 They had gradually wrested his authority out of his hands.

fig. and in fig. context. *1549* COVERGALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. Rom.* 32 They. . . through their strength in faith. . . wreste out with strong hande the benediction of God. *1671* MILTON *P.R.* l. 470 Thou hast. . . urg'd me hard with doings, which not will But misery hath rested from me. *1830* HERSCHL *Study Nat. Philosophy* i. i. 3 The spoils of all nature are. . . wrested with reluctance, from the mine, the forest, the ocean, and the air. *1834* L. RITCHIE *Wand.* by Seine 5 To

wrest a territory from the sea. **1890** 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Miner's Right* (1899) 163/2, I had wrested from fortune her favours and smiles.

b. Rarely without const.

1535 COVERDALE *Prol.* ¶24 Lest thou . . wrest the righte of the stranger. **1624** QUARLES *Job Militant* Wks. (Grosart) II. 87/1 He shall returne, what he did wrest. **1642** FULLER *Holy & Prof. St.* III. xxv. 230 The great means of the Clergie in time of Popery was rather wrested then given.

absol. **1582** C. FETHERSTONE *Dial. agst. Dancing* A4, The extorcioner wresteth and wringeth, to the ende he may augment his gaines. **1618** RALEIGH *Prerog. Parl.* (1628) 19 The Lords being to strong for the King, forced his consent. . . They wrested too much beyond the bounds of reason.

c. To obtain or gain (money, information, etc.) by extortion, persistency, or strong persuasion; to wring; = SCREW *v.* 5. Also with advs., as *out*, or preps., as *from*, *out of*.

1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s.v. *Extorqueo*, Thou diddest wreste . . from Ceasar, 50. *talentes. Ibid., Veritatem extorque,* . . to wreste out the truth. **1592** GREENE *Disput.* 12 Boon Companions, that by their wittes can wrest mone from a Churle. **1601** MOUNTJOY in Moryson *Itin.* (1617) III. 149, I should have wrested out of him [*sc.* a prisoner] the certainty of all things. **1624** *Termes de la Ley* 185 b, Exaction is where an Officer or other man demandeth and wresteth a fee . . where no fee . . is due at all. **1655** FULLER *Ch. Hist.* II. 91 At last she wrested leave from her Husband to live a Nun. **1671** MILTON *Samson* 384 Did not she . . reveal The secret wrested from me? **1797** MRS. RADCLIFFE *Italian* xvii, Your obstinacy can neither wrest from us the truth nor pervert it. **1848** DICKENS *Dombey* xlii, She battled with herself . . , but he wrested the answer from her. **1856** EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Truth* ad fin., Tortures . . could never wrest from an Egyptian the confession of a secret.

transf. **1591** SPENSER *Ruines of Time* 486 Deepelie mizing at her doubtfull speech, Whose meaning much I labored forth to wreste.

5. To strain or overstrain the meaning or bearing of (a writing, passage, word, etc.); to deflect or turn from the true or proper signification; to twist, pervert; = WRENCH *v.* 7, SCREW *v.* 3 c.

In very freq. use c1575-c1700. An earlier example is implied under WRESTING *vbl. sb.* 2.

a. **1533** FRITH *Boke* (1548) Ciiijb, Sophisters wolde wrest their sayings, and expounde them after their fantasy. **1581** MULCASTER *Positions* iii. 12 Is it not he which wringeth the writer, and wresteth his meaning? **1626** GOUGE *Serm. Dignity Chivalry* §1 The forenamed point, 'The Dignity of Chivalry', is not violently wrested. **1674** CLARENDON *Surv. Leviath.* (1676) 287 To wrest and torture words to comply with his extravagant Wit. **1708** O. DYKES *Eng. Proverbs* 120 Are not the holy Scriptures good, because they are wrested? **1738** JURIN in *Keill's Anim. Oecon.* 98 See also how that can be done, which my learned Antagonist seems most to have wrested. **1814** SCOTT *Wav.* xxxi, You appear convinced of my guilt, and wrest every reply I have made. **1884** W. C. SMITH *Kildrostan* 52 Nay, do not wrest my words. **1909** T. R. GLOVER *Conf. Relig. in Early Rom. Emp.* x. 309 He can quibble and wrest the obvious meaning of a document to perfection.

absol. **1564** MARTIAL *Treat. Crosse* 84 Lett hereticks wringe and wrest as longe as they list, to wise men they shal neuer be hable to persuade the contrarie. **1592** GREENE *Upst. Courtier* C3, The end of all being, is to knowe God, And not as your worshippe . . wrests to creep into acquaintance.

transf. and fig. **1549** COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. Gal.* 4 This submyssion of myne is by them wrest into a wrong meanyng. **1581** HOWELL *Devises* Gj, For Golde who shunnes to wrest a wrong And make it seeme as right and strong? **1599** SHAKS. *Hen. V.* i. ii. 14 God forbid . . That you should fashion, wrest, or bow your reading. **1617** CAMPION *4th Bk. Ayres* xx, Wrest euery word and looke, Racke euery hidden thought. **1665** HOOKE *Microg.* 28 Nor wrest I any experiment to make it *quadrare* with any preconceiv'd Notion. **1768** WALPOLE *Hist. Doubts* 94, I have thus, without straining or wresting probability, proved all I pretended to prove.

y. **1538** BALE *Thee Lawes* 1126 By wrastyng the text, to the scriptures sore decay. **1561** T. N[ORTON] *Calvin's Inst.* III. 201 Diuines, that . . violently wrested . . many places of Scripture. **1563** *Homilies* II. *Repentance* II. ¶6 The aduersaries go about to wrast this place for to maintaine their auricular confession withall.

b. Const. *against, from, into, to, unto.*

1536 *Acti* 28 *Hen. VIII.* c. 10 ¶1 The Pope . . did obfuscate and wreste Goddis holy worde . . from the spiritual and trew meanyng therof. **1550** LEVER *Serm.* (Arb.) 138 They wrest the saying of Paule vnto a wrong meanyng. **1560** DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 9 What places of scripture the Papistes do deprave and wraste into a wronge sense. **1612** T. TAYLOR *Titus* i. 6 They are glad to snatch here and there a word, to wrest against the Author's meaning. **1665** GLANVILL *Scepsis Sci.* xviii. 116 To wrest names from their known meaning to senses most alien. **1683** KENNETT tr. *Erasm. on Folly* 135 St. Paul himself . . mangles some citations . . and seems to wrest them to a different sense. **1820** Q. *Mus. Mag.* II. 260 *note*, This word has been wrested from its pristine and legitimate signification. **1851** KINGSLEY *Lett.* (1878) I. 272 When you try to wrest Scripture and history to your own use. **1904** S. H. BUTCHER *Harvard Lect.* 184 If their utterances could not be wrested to the desired end.

absol. **1540** COVERDALE *Confut. Standish* (1547) dviijb, Thus make ye of gods holy scripture a shipmans bosc, wresting and wringing to what purpose ye will.

c. To put a wrong construction on the words or purport of (a writer); to misinterpret.

1555 PHILPOT in Foxe *A. & M.* (1563) 1429/2 It is shame for you to wrast and wrieth the doctors as you do. **1579** GOSSON *Sch. Abuse* To Rdr. (Arb.) 18 His schollers were woot, . . howe right soeuer hee wrote, to wrest him. **1604** *Supplic. Masse Priests, Answer* L4 b, They haue no reason to quarrell with any of vs for wresting, or mistaking, or misallegding Fathers. **1656** BRAMHALL *Replie.* vi. 273 A confused companie of Authors . . of little knowledge in our English affairs, tentered and wrested from their genuine

sense. **1687** PRIOR *Hind & P. Transv. Pref.*, Those Authors are wrested from their true Sense.

†d. To derive or deduce (a name, etc.) irregularly *from* something; to change improperly. *Obs.*

1596 SPENSER *State Irel. Wks.* (Globe) 628/1 The Irish thinke to ennoble themselves by wresting theyr auncientrye from the Spaynyarde. **1605** CAMDEN *Rem.* 59 *Geruasius* in Latine . . may signifie . . honourable, as wrested from *Gerousius. Ibid. James, Wrested from Iacob. 1711* Brightland's *Gram. Eng. Tongue* 137 Asparagus, Sparagus, . . which the Vulgar wrest to . . Sparrowgrass.

6. To turn or deflect (a matter, etc.); to divert to (*unto*, *into*) some different (esp. undue or improper) purpose, end, etc.; to distort or pervert.

1524 SIR T. MORE in Ellis *Orig. Lett. Ser.* I. I. 256 To use th'erle of Angwish for an instrument to wryng and wreste the maters in to better trayne. **1535** COVERDALE *Exod.* xxiii. 8 Giftes blinde euen them y' are sharpe of sight & wairst the righteous causes. **1598** ROWLANDS *Betraying Christ* 3 The art of Poesie . . being . . wrested and turned to the fooleries of Loue. **1620** E. BLOUNT *Horæ Subs.* 148 Let not the parties ielousie . . wrest or wry his iudgement in the least degree to preiudice. **1651** HOBBS *Leviath.* III. 225 One casual event that may bee but wrested to their purpose. **1721** BERKELEY *Prev. Ruin* Gt. *Brit. Wks.* III. 208 Cunning men, who bend and wrest the public interest to their own private ends. **1802** MAR. EDGEWORTH *Moral T., Forester* xv, By wresting to the prisoner's disadvantage every circumstance. **1861** LD. BROUGHAM *British Const.* xvi. 247 A Pemberton wresting the rules of evidence, to the sacrifice of innocent persons. **1878** STUBBS *Const. Hist.* III. xviii. 281 The forms of government . . might be overborne and perverted; and the charge of thus wresting and warping them is shared[etc.].

b. To deflect (the law, etc.) from its proper course or interpretation; to turn from the right application; to misapply, pervert.

a. **1530** TINDALE *Deut.* xvi. 19 Wrest not the lawe . . nether take any rewarde. **1575** GASCOIGNE *Glaspe of Govt.* v. ix, Where no mediacions . . may wrest the sentence of the Lawe. **1596** SPENSER *State Irel. Wks.* (Globe) 622/2 The same Statutes are . . very easely wrested to the fraud of the subject. **1611** BIBLE *Exod.* xxiii. 6 Thou shalt not wrest the iudgement of thy poore in his cause. **1683** BURNET tr. *More's Utopia* 149 A sort of People, whose Profession it is . . to wrest Laws. **1761** HUME *Hist. Eng.* (1806) IV. li. 75 The law was generally supposed to be wrested, in order to prolong their imprisonment. **1885** LD. FITZGERALD in *Law Times' Rep.* LIII. 477/2 He would . . have been wresting one of the rules.

β, γ. **1535** COVERDALE *1 Sam.* viii. 3 His sonnes . . toke giftes, & wraysted the lawe. **1549** LATIMER *2nd Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 53 To wrast the wayes of iudgement.

†c. To divert or deflect unjustly *upon* some one. *Obs.*

1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Ps.* liv. 4 They have wrested iniquities upon me. **1632** LITHGOW *Trav.* x. 476 The Gouverneur had wrested the Inquisition vpon mee.

7. a. To overstrain the muscles of (a joint, etc.); to sprain, strain, or rick (the foot, ankle, etc.). Chiefly *Sc.*

1550 LYNDESAY *Play* 742, I haif wrestitt my schank. **1567** J. SANFORD *Epictetus* 29 Take heede . . that thou wreaste not thy foote. **1649** T. WODENOTE *Hermes Theol.* 147 He . . stumbled, and wrested his foot. **1670** SPALDING *Troub. Chas. I* (1850) I. 375 He, vnappellie going throw Abirdein . . , wrestit his cute or leg. **1904** in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* V. 84 s. *Sc.* I have reisted my wrist, by using a bammer.

b. To affect with griping pain; to rack, wring. **1520** SKELTON *Magnyf.* 2302 *Cou. Cou.* Ye shall be clappyd with a coloppe That wyll make you to halt and to hoppe. *Cra. Con.* Som be wredstyd there that they thyne on it forty dayes. **1700** BLACKMORE *Deborah's Song* 202 The earth with dreadful gripes was sore opprest, Which did its twisted bowels wrest.

II. †8. *intr.* To struggle or contend; to strive or wrestle against something. *Obs.*

a. **1225** *Ancr. R.* 374 [Heo] moten wresten a3ean [fondunges] mid stronge wragelunge. **1300** *Cursor M.* 19353 (Edinb. MS.), þan bigan pai [*sc.* the Jews] wrenke and wraiste [v.r. wraist, wrest], And for tene pair teppe to gnaiste. **1400** *Laud Troy Bk.* 3554 Thei holde 3ow so sore agast, That 3e dar not with hem wrast. **1548** P. NICHOLS *Godly New Story* Eijj b, For some wring & wrest to go backe agayn into Egypt. **1585** MONTGOMERIE *Cherrie & Slae* 277 Ane fische . . in the nette, . . Ay wristing and thristing, the faster still is scho. **1590** LODGE *Rosalind* P2 b, He that wrests against the will of Venus. **1594** NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* Ij b, She strugled, she wrested, but all was in vaine.

transf. **1577** FULKE *Confut. Purg.* 447 The blessed state of them that dye in the Lord, in the meaning of which you wrest and wrigle, like a snake.

†9. To force a way, make way with effort, find egress. Also with *through, out.* *Obs.*

1450 *Mirk's Festial* I. 9 þay bonden hym to þe crosse . . so hard . . þat þe blod wrast upon yche a knot. **1475** *Partenay* 1377 The timbre and yre thorough hys body waste. **1590** SPENSER *F.Q.* II. xii. 81 The faire Enchauntresse . . Tryde all her arts . . thence out to wrest.

†10. Of sound: To break forth. *Obs.* -1

13.. *E.E. Allit. P. B.* 1403 Sturmen trumpen strake steuen in halle, Aywhere by þe woves wrasten krakkes.

'wrestable, a. rare-0. [f. WREST *v.* + -ABLE.] Capable of being wrested.

1611 FLORIO, *Torceuole*, wrestable, to be wrested.

wrest-balk, obs. erron. f. REST-BALK *v.*

1807 VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* (1813) 158 Another practice here, is to vell or wrest-balk at Midsummer.

†wrest-beer. *Obs. rare*-1. (See quot.)

Perh. for rest-beer, from the time it was allowed to lie before being used.

1654 SELDEN *Table-T., Parl.* (Arb.) 81 Just as in brewing of Wrest-Beer, there's a great deal of business in

grinding the Mault; . . then it must be mash'd, . . then they keep a huge quarter when they carry it into the Cellar, and a twelve month after 'tis delicate fine Beer.

wrested ('restid), *ppl. a.* [f. WREST *v.* + -ED¹.]

1. That has undergone wresting or wringing; twisted. Also *transf.*

1609 HOLLAND *Ammianus Marcell.* 50 Bolts and darts discharged violently from the writhed and wrested strings of a brake or such like engine. **1616** W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* II. v. 440 A wrested Bryre Onely kept close the gate which led unto it. **1617** BAYNE *On Eph.* (1658) 72 The ache of a wrested joynt. **1656** J. SMITH *Pract. Physick* 320 The Bone may alwaies remain wrested.

2. *fig.* Deflected or turned from the true meaning or natural application; strained, perverted.

1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* (Arb.) 60 The bare wordes of the lawe, or a wrythen and wrested understandinge of the same. **1554** HOOPER in Coverdale *Lett. Mart.* (1564) 160 This iudgement of Paul is more to be followed, then all our own fayned and wrested defences. **1559** T. BRICE *Reg. Martyrs* July 1557 Dij, When wrested law put him to deth. **1589** COOPER *Admon.* 32 So many wrested Scriptures, so many false conclusions. **1615** J. STEPHENS *Satyr. Ess.* 175 For he, wanting the humor of his wrested observance, fallies away into ignorant silence. **1687** ATTERBURY *Answ. Consid. Spirit Luther* 46 Little wrested sentences of authors. **1729** T. INNES *Crit. Essay* I. 330 Wrested texts of the Old Testament. **1743** SAVAGE *To Sir R. Walpole* 133 New courts of censure . . Explain'd, at will, each statute's wrested aim. **1868** J. BRUCE *Digby's Voy. Medit.* Pref. p. xv, Opinions . . raised upon wrested inferences.

3. Drawn out, taken or acquired, by force.

1565 COOPER s.v. *Cado*, *Non sponte cadentes lachrymae*, wrested teares. **1590** SPENSER *F.Q.* III. i. 24 Death me liefer were, then such despiht, So vnto wrong to yield my wrested right. **1595** SHAKS. *John* IV. iii. 154 Vast confusion waites As doth a Rauon on a sicke-falne beast, The imminent decay of wrested pompe.

wrester ('restə(r)). [f. as prec. + -ER¹.]

1. One who wrests or wrenches; a twister; †one who tunes with a wrest.

1504 CORNISHE in *Skelton's Wks.* (1568) Zvj, Any Instrument mystunyd shall hurt a trew song; Yet blame not the claricord y^e wrestler doth wrong. **1552** HULOET s.v., Wryste or wrythe, *extorqueo*. Wryster and wrynger, *idem*. **1611** COTGR., *Retordeur*, . . a wrestler, a retorter, a wrier backe.

†b. An implement for picking locks. *Obs.* -1

1591 GREENE *2nd Pt. Conny-Catch.* Wks. (Grosart) X. 86 The Picklocke is called a Charme. He that watcheth, a Stond. Their engins, Wresters.

2. One who wrests, strains, or deflects the meaning or application of words, etc.; a perverter, distorter.

1533 MORE *Conf. Tindale* Wks. 524/1 A false wryther and wrester of holy scripture. **1560** JEWELL *Answ. to Cole* I vi, A falsarie, a wrestler, a corrupter of the Doctoures. **1598** R. BERNARD tr. *Terence, Phormio* II. ii, A troubler of good men, and a wrestler of lawes. **1629** H. BURTON *Truth's Triumph* 348 All such wrestlers and peruersters of the truth. **1673** HICKERINGILL *Greg. F. Greyb.* 310 Antick foppish jugglers, and wrestlers of Holy Writ. **1711** ATTERBURY *Serm.* (1734) III. 287 In the first of these Senses, . . these Wresters of it Bent and Warped the straight Line and Measure of their Duty. **1891** W. C. WILKINSON *Epic of Saul* I. 21 Those wrestlers of the law must feel the law.

transf. **1589** PUTTENHAM *Eng. Poesie* III. vii. (Arb.) 166 To forbid all manner of figuratiue speeches . . as meere illussions to the minde, and wrestlers of vpright iudgement.

wresting ('restɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. as prec. + -ING¹.]

1. The action of twisting, or turning awry; the fact of being wrested. Also with *off*.

1398 [see WRENCING *vbl. sb.* 1]. **1548** ELYOT, *Torsio*, . . a writhyng, a wrestyng. **1578** LYTE *Dodoens* 367 Branches which will not easily breake with wresting or playing. ? **1600** MONTGOMERIE *Cherrie & Slae* 276 (Laing MS.), Ane fysche fanggit in þe net, . . With wresting and thrysting, The faster stykis scho. **1610** HEALEY *Epictetus* (1636) 79 In thy walkes thou hast a care to avoide . . the wresting of thy feete. **1706** PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Distorsion*, . . a wresting or wringing several Ways. **1730** BAILEY (fol.), *Sprain*, . . a violent Contorsion or Wrestling of the Tendons of the Muscles. **1892** ZANGWILL *Bow Mystery* x. 135 Never dreaming the wrestling off [*sc.* of a staple] had been done beforehand.

transf. **1632** LITHGOW *Trav.* x. 480 The wrestling of the Inquisition vpon me.

†b. Adjustment of the strings of a musical instrument by tightening with a wrest; tuning in this way. Also in *fig. context.* *Obs.*

1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 341 Many men failen in þis wrastyng [of a harp] & in gostly syngyng aftur. **1440** *Promp. Parv.* 533/2 Wrestryng, *plectura*, *plexura*. **1500** *Proverbis in Antiq. Rep.* (1809) IV. 407 A slac stryng in a Virgynall . . dothe abyde no wrestyng, it is so louse and light. **1530** RASTELL *Bk. Purgat.* II. xviii. e 1 b, A harper . . occupied about y^e wrastyng of his harpe strynges. **1579** W. WILKINSON *Confut. Fam. Love* 26 b, When he . . with writhyng and wrestyng had brought his heresie into tune. **1627** HAKEWILL *Apol.* II. i. §4 The wresting of a string too high marres the musick.

c. *fig.* The action of taking away or obtaining by force; exaction; extortion.

1611 COTGR., *Extorsion*, . . a violent wringing, or wresting of things from others. **1694** tr. *Milton's Lett. State* Wks. 1851 VIII. 339 The wresting of the Kingdom of Poland from Papal Subjection. **1721** BAILEY, *Extorsion*, an unlawful and violent wresting of Money, &c. from any Man. **1853** KINGSLEY *Misc.* (1859) I. 289 His wresting from her the secret which had been locked for ages in the ice caves.

†d. With *in*: (see WREST *v.* 1 c). *Obs.*

1597 MORLEY *Intro. Mus.* 124 The vnpleasantnesse of it commeth of the wresting in of the point.

2. Perversion, distortion, or deflection of the meaning, interpretation, or application; misinterpretation; an instance of this.

c 1444 PECOCC *Donet* 140 Prechers ben woned to wrynge oute of a worde alle maters whiche to hem liken, bi wresting of sillablis and of lettris. *Ibid.* 142. **1550** BALE *Eng. Votaries* II. 66 Blasphemouse bablynges and abhominable wrastynge of the scriptures. **1579** FULKE *Heskins' Parl.* 473 He hath nothing that may not bee reasonably construed on our side without any wresting. **1587** GOLDING *De Mornay* xxix. 528 It were an vtter wresting of the Text, to conuey it any other way. **1610** HEALEY *Theophrastus* (1636) 4 A wresting of actions and wordes to the worse or sadder part. **1641** MILTON *Reform.* I. Wks. 1851 III. 19 The ridiculous wresting of Scripture. **1690** LOCKE *Govt.* II. iii. §20 A manifest perverting of Justice, and a barefaced wresting of the Laws. **1711** ATTERBURY *Serm.* (1734) I. 267 Expressions . . . so bright and clear, as should prevent all possible Wrestling and Misconstructions. **a 1774** TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1777) III. II. 61 Aiming to find out such a sense of them [sc. principles of human reason], without violence or wresting, as may coincide or prove reconcilable therewith. **1864** PUSEY *Lect. Daniel* i. (1876) 5 If a prophecy . . . admitted of no wresting.

†3. The action of contending or struggling; an instance of this. *Obs.*

1573 TUSSEY *Husb.* (1878) 180 Be lowly not sullen, if ought go amisse. What wresting may loose thee, that winne with a kisse. **1581** J. BELL *Haddon's Answ.* *Osor.* 355 Their dayly exercise then was a continual wresting agaynst the world, and the Devil. **1613-8** DANIEL *Coll. Hist. Eng.* (1626) 140 Discontentment still goes on, and neither side get any thing but by hard wrestings.

†4. Gripping or wringing pain. *Obs.* -1

1546 PHAER *Regim. Life* 59 In suche a disease, the glystre muste be greate in quantitie, or els ye shulde make wresyngne & roubleyngne in ye bellye.

5. *Comb.*, as †wresting-vice, stick, one suitable for or used in wresting or twisting; wrestling thread, *Shetland dial.*, a thread wound or tied round a sprained or injured limb as a charm to effect a cure.

1568 B. SKINNER tr. *Montanus Inquis.* (1569) 26 b, Hys armes. . . are bound with very stiffe and small cordes. . . which afterwards they straine with certaine stiffe wresting stickes or troncheons. **1609** HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* 9 The hangman prepared both hookes and wrestling-vices. **1616** [see *wrest sb.* 1 c]. **1840** *New Statist. Acc.* (1845) XV. 141 The 'wresting thread' . . . is a thread spun from black wool, on which are cast nine knots, and tied round a sprained leg or arm. **1883** R. M. FERGUSON *Rambling Sk.* 122 When a person received a wrestin Thread was cast.

'wresting, ppl. a. rare. [f. as prec. + -ING².] That wrests or twists; in quot. *fig.*

c 1520 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 1608 Let your Lust and Lykyngne stande for a lawe. Be wrastryngne and wrythyngne, and away drawe.

Hence 'wrestingly adv.

1613 R. YONG in *Zouch Dove* A 3 b, But Love breaks forth, . . . And wrestingly, out of my wonted lynes, It makes me shuffle in these hobling rymes.

wrestle ('res(ə)l), sb. [f. next. Cf. *WARSLE sb.*]

1. Without article. The action of wrestling or struggling; the fact of having wrestled. Also *fig.*

1593 Q. ELIZ. *Boeth.* IV. pr. vii. 99 So ought not a wise man beare with greefe, fortunes wrestell [L. *certamen fortunæ*]. **1796** BURNS *Poem on Life* vii, His pangs, And murther wrestle, As . . . he hangs A gibbet's tassell. **1858** CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* VI. ix. II. 118 War in Italy, universal spasm of wrestle there, being now the expectation of foolish mankind. **1883** *Century Mag.* Oct. 819/1 Their limbs gnarled and twisted as if they had won their places by splendid wrestle. **1915** 'Q' *Nicky-Nan, Reservist* xvii, He paused, seemingly in wrestle with an inward reluctance.

2. A struggle between two persons, each trying to throw the other by grasping his body or limbs; also, a wrestling-bout according to rules; a wrestling-match. Also with *over, up*.

1670 MILTON *Hist. Eng.* I. 13 Corineus, . . . Whom in a Wrestle the Giant catching aloft, with a terrible hugg broke three of his Ribs. **1849** LYTTON *K. Arthur* I. lxxvi, Beyond the tilt-yard spread the larger space, For the strong wrestle and the breathless race. **1854** W. WATERWORTH *Orig. Anglicanism* 196 Fondness for the wrestle and the race prevailed. **1893** ROBINSON & GILPIN *Wrestling* 54 On the following day, the loser in the wrestle up proved victorious. *Ibid.* 85 Owing to some oversight on the part of the umpires, they decided it must be a wrestle over.

b. *fig.* A struggle or contest.

1850 CARLYLE *Latter-d. Pamph.* iii. 4 Both parties in the wrestle professing earnest wishes of peace to us. **1855** MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xi. III. 62 The body politic . . . straining every nerve in a wrestle for life or death. **1893** HORTON *Gospel Entering Europe* 27 [Paul's] long wrestle with spiritual realities in the desert of Arabia.

wrestle ('res(ə)l), v. Forms: a. (1 *wræstlian*), 3 *wræstlen*, *wreastlen*, *wreastlin*, *wrestilen*, 3-4 *wrestlen*, 5-lyn, *wrestelon*, 4-6 *wrestel*, *wrestil*, 5 *wrestele*, *wrestell*, -tyll, 5- *wrestle* (6 *wressell*). β. 3 *wrastlen*, 3, 5 *wrastelen*, 5 *wrastel(l)yn*, -tlyn, 4-6 *wrastel*, 4-5 -tele, -til, 5 -till, -tule, -tyl, 6 -tyll(e, -tell, 4- (latterly *Sc.*, *Eng. dial.*, or *U.S. dial.*) *wrastle* (6 *wrasle*, 8- *rassle*, chiefly *U.S. dial.* *rastle*, *wrasse*, 9 *dial.* *wrostle*, *wros(s)le*); 4 *wrastli*, -tly, 9 *s.w. dial.* *wrastly*, *wrassly*. γ. 4-5 *wristele*, -tle, *wrystille*, -tel, 9 *dial.* *wrustle*, *wrus(s)le*, *russel*. [OE. **wræstlian*, frequentative of *wræstan* to WREST, represented in the cognate

languages by NFr. *wrassele*, *wrastle*, MLG. *worstelen*, *wrostelen*, LG. *wrösseln*, *frösseln*, MDu. *worstelen* (also Du.), *werstelen*, *wrastelen*. Cf. *WARSLE v.*, *WRAXLE v.*]

I. 1. a. *intr.* To strive with strength and skill to throw a person to the ground by grappling with him; to endeavour to overpower and lay down another, esp. in a contest governed by fixed rules, by embracing his body and limbs and tripping or overbalancing him. Also with †*samen*, †*yfere*, *together*.

a. **a 1100** [see *WRESTLING vbl. sb.* 1]. **c 1205** LAY. 1858 Brutus hine lette witen . . . to wreastlene bi-foren Brutus, Geomagog and Corineus. *Ibid.* 24699 Summe heo wrastleden And wiðer-gome makeden. **13...**, **c 1375** [see β, γ]. **c 1440** *Promp. Parv.* 533/2 *Wrestelon, luctor, palestris.* **1480** CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* iv. 14 So to gedre they wrestled longe tyme. **1503** in *Meyrick Ant. Armour* (1824) III. 238 To wrestle all manner of ways, at the pleasure of the commers. **1580** LYLly *Euphues* (Arb.) 447 To wrestle in the games of Olympia. **1603** HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 229 With professors of wrestling, to bestrew his bodie with dust. . . for to wrestle. **1718** A. THOMPSON tr. *Geoffrey of Monm.* iv. viii. 107 Two noble Youths . . . wrestled together, and afterwards had a Dispute about the Victory. **1791** COWPER *Iliad* XXIII. 915 Arising to a third essay, They should have wrestled yet again. **1811** *Sporting Mag.* XXXVIII. 290 A handsome sum of money has been subscribed to be wrestled for. **1889** W. ARMSTRONG *Wrestling* 183 The platforms at rural fairs where local champions wrestled for a fall.

β. **a 1250** *Ancr. R.* 318 (MS. Titus D. xviii), Ich . . . biheold oðe wrastling, oðer me self wrastlede. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 7439 Ache ouercom pe deuel, & adoun him caste, To gadere as hii wrastlede, & bond is honden vaste. **a 1300** *Cursor M.* 3939 Sa lang pai wrasteld *Gött.* *wrestild*, *Fairf.* *wresteled* samer pare pat iacob was pan hurt wel sare. **c 1386** CHAUCER *Reeve's T.* 8 Pipen he koude, . . . and wel wrastle and sheete. **c 1440** *Alph. Tales* 164 þus pai wrasteld togedyr, & þis man fell. **c 1489** CAXTON *Somes of Aymon* xiv. 320 He . . . toke the kyngye wyth both his armes by the waste, & wrastled togyder a longe whyle. **1548** FORREST *Pleas.* *Poesye* xix. 61 b, To shoote, to wrastle, to dooe any mannys feate. **1585** T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* III. x. 86 [They] do wrastle . . . two and two with force of armes. **1606** SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. 11. *Tropheis* 268 Wee wrastle not . . . For painted sheep-hooks, or such pettie Prize. **1671** H. M. tr. *Erasm. Colloq.* 288, I am now a laying in the fourth weale, & I am strong enough even to wrastle. **1758** L. LYON in *Mil. Jyns.* (1855) 33 [They] hopt and rassled together to see which would beat and our men Beat. **1795** MACNEILL *Scotland's Scaith* ii, Wha wi' Will cou'd rin or wrastle, Throw the sledge, or toss the bar? **1876-** in *dialect glossaries* (Sc., Yks., Lanc., Som.). **1896** P. GRAHAM *Red Scaur* vi, Learnin' her son to box . . . and wrastle. **1974** *Black World* Jan. 56/2 He might be stronger'n me and he might wrastle the best, but I got his wangers on, all right.

γ. **a 1300** *Cursor M.* 3933 Sammen handlines wristeld [*Fairf.* *wresteled*] pai Al pe night, til it was dai. **a 1400** *Morte Arth.* 1141 Wrothely pai wrythyne and wrystille togedere. **1535** COVERDALE 2 *Macc.* iv. 14 To lerne to fight, to wristle, . . . & to put at y^e stone. **1869-** in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* (*wuristle*, *wurssle*, *russle*, etc.).

b. *Const.* with or †*mid* (a person, etc.).

a. **c 1250** *Gen. & Ex.* 1804 Iacob . . . bi-lef ðor on ðe nigt, . . . And ðor wrestelede an engel wið. **c 1425** WYNTOUN *Cron.* II. iii. 225 Wipe hym wreslyt pe angel. **1480** CAXTON *Chron. Eng.* iv. 14 That he shold wrestell with Coryn. **1530** PALSGR. 756/1 *Wrestell* nat with me, for I wyll throwe the on thy backe. **1555** EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 171 She wolde oftentimes play and wrestle . . . with the kynges chamberlens. **1712** STEELE *Spect.* No. 502 ¶5 Were there a Scene written, wherein Penkethman should break his Leg by wrestling with Bullock. **1790** BURKE *Fr. Rev.* 246 He that wrestles with us strengthens our nerves. **1856** KINGSLEY *Heroes* 169 He challenges all comers to wrestle with him. **1889** W. ARMSTRONG *Wrestling* 229 Sam Rundle . . . recently wrestled with Carkeek the American.

β. **a 1225** *Ancr. R.* 280 þe 3eape wrastlare nimeð 3eme hwat turn his fere ne cunne nouit, þet he mid wrastleð. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 515 For he ssolde mid corineus wrastli he adde ipost. **c 1330** R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 1798 A place to pleye, ordeyned Brutus, . . . [for Corineus] For to wrastle wpp pat geaunt. **c 1386** CHAUCER *Monk's T.* 276 Sche coupe eke Wrastel. . . Wip any 3onge man, were he neuere so wright. **c 1440** *Gesta Rom.* lvii. 373 Darste thou wrastill with me? **c 1489** CAXTON *Somes of Aymon* xxvi. 565 He . . . toke aymont by the wast for to wrastle wyth hym. **1530** PALSGR. 785/1, I dare nat wrastell with hym, leste he gyve me a fall. **1612** J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Muses Sacr.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 41/2 O thou, whom Iacob wrastled with a space. **1668** H. MORE *Div. Dial.* I. xxiii. 93 Consider . . . how many Speetres have been seen or felt to wrastle, pull or tug with a man. **1940** L. I. WILDER *Long Winter* xvi. 150 I've spent this whole morning rasseling with that dumb horse. **1941** *Harper's* Feb. 329/2 Leaving . . . us to rassle with the bear. **1962** W. FAULKNER *Reivers* v. 101 'What you been doing? wrassling with hogs?' 'We got in a mudhole.'

γ. **1382** WYCLIF *Gen.* xxxii. 24 And loo ! a man wristlide with hym vnto the morwe.

c. To struggle physically (with something) after the manner of wrestling.

1589 GREENE *Menaphon* (Arb.) 56 This infant . . . wrastling with snakes in his swaddling cloutes. **1613** HEYWOOD *Silver Age* III. i. Wks. 1874 III. 129 It fits Ioues sonne Wrastle with Lyons, and to tuggle with Beares. **1623** J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Discov. by Sea* A 6, Against the rugged waues, we tuggle and wrastle. **1643** HOWELL *Twelve Treat.* (1661) 94 She tugs and wrastles with the foaming waves. **1821** JOANNA BAILLIE *Metr. Leg.*, *Lady G.B.* xxxii, With her in mimic war they wrestle; Beneath her twisted robe they nestle. **1844** KINGLAKE *Eothen* ii, Thames, the 'old Eton fellow' that wrestled with us in our boyhood. **1893** ROBINSON & GILPIN *Wrestling* 77 The boat . . . upset, and the strong man went down, unable to wrestle with his remorseless foe. **1936** in P. Oliver *Screaming Blues* (1968) vi. 189 If you keep on rasslin' you gonna make me break my needle off.

fig. and transf. **1398** TREVISA *Barth. De P.R.* XVIII. xv. (1495) v vj, [Mercury] is callyd the god of wrastlyng, . . . for he [= the planet] wrastlyth w^t the sonne as he wold ouercome hym. **1539** BIBLE (Great) *Ecclus.* li. 19 My soule hath wrestled with her [sc. wisdom]. **a 1600** MONTGOMERIE *Misc. Poems* xvi. 4, I wrassill with the wind. **1610** HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* II. 233, I have in this worke wrestled with that envious and ravenous enemy Time. **1611** COTGR., *Luictet contre les ombres*, to wrastle with shadowes; to be angrie without cause. **1844** A. B. WELBY *Poems* (1867) 89 In bondage I must wrestle here with death. **1893** ROBINSON & GILPIN *Wrestling* 41 When lying on his death bed, while wrestling with a foe sure to triumph in the end.

d. With complement.

1893 ROBINSON & GILPIN *Wrestling* p. xlv, If Best did wrestle second, . . . it must have been for some minor prize. *Ibid.* 26 Morton threw Halliwell of Penrith, and . . . Anthony McDonald . . . wrestled up with him.

2. a. To contend or struggle in hostility or opposition (with or against another or others).

a 1200 *St. Marherete* 14 *Wrestlin* ha moten ant wiðerin wið ham seoluen. **a 1225** *Leg. Kath.* 2035 *Wrecche* mon . . . ! hwerto wultu wreastlin wið þe worlde wealdent? **1377** LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* xiv. 224 If wratthe wrastel [v.r. wrystel] with þe pore. **1388-9** in *Wyclif's Sel. Wks.* III. 471 Prelatis, here deme 3ee and wrastulis 3ee who schal be mayster. **1390** GOWER *Conf.* III. 350 Pan, which is the god of kinde, With Love wrastlede and was overcome. **1526** TINDALE *Eph.* vi. 12 We wrestle not agaynst fleshe and blood; but . . . agaynst worldly ruelars. **a 1548** HALL *Chron.*, *Hen. VI.* 167 For Kyng Henry . . . and Richard . . . wresteled for the game, and stroue for the wager. **a 1575** PILKINGTON *Nehemiah* iii. 5 (1585) 41 b, Men . . . that dare and wil wrastle with the rich in correction. **1601** R. JOHNSON *Kindg. & Commu.* (1603) 116 Wrestling with the venetians they had almost bereaued them of their estate and taken their city. **c 1645** HOWELL *Lett.* (1688) III. 396 Venice wrastleth with the Turk.

b. *fig.* To strive or labour (esp. to obtain the mastery, superiority, or advantage) with or against difficulties, circumstances, forces, personal feelings, etc. Also (b) without const.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 80 To wrastlen stalewardliche a3ein þes deoffes swenges. **a 1340** HAMPOLE *Psalter* xiii. 11 All þat wrestitis agayns vices in actif lif. **c 1386** CHAUCER *Pars. T.* ¶655 This vertu is so . . . vigorous that it dar . . . wrastle agayn the assautes of the deuel. **1426** LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 1571 Who that . . . Wyl wrastle ageyn yt [sc. vengeance]. **1489** SKELTON *On Death Erle Northumbld.* 82 They buskt them . . . Againe the kyngs plesure to wrestle or to wring. **c 1534** T. STARKEY *Lett. to Cromwell* in *Collier's Hist. Lett.* (1871) 458 In such tyme as I was wrastelyng wyth my fevur. **1553** WOOD tr. *Gardiner's De Vera Obed.* 5b, Thei . . . haue wrestled against the truth of a long time. **1610** HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 79 Lewes who wrestled in vaine against the decree of God. **1663** BP. PATRICK *Parab. Pilgr.* ix, You must wrastle stoutly with the difficulties. **1742** YOUNG *Nt. Th.* II. 167 We rave, we wrestle with Great Nature's Plan. **a 1770** JORTIN *Serm.* (1771) I. iv. 79 Strive to . . . wrestle against principalities and powers. **1827** KEBLE *Chr. Y., Tuesday bef. Easter*, Rather wouldst Thou wrestle with strong pain, Than overcloud Thy soul. **1865** DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* II. xv, I had to wrestle with my self-respect.

transf. **1592** *Soliman & Pers.* I. v. 52 Were it not thou art my fathers sonne, And striuing kindnes wrestled not with ire.

(b) **a 1340** HAMPOLE *Psalter* cxviii. 170 Of corrupcioun of my body, for it is heuy to wrestil here sa lange. **1449** PECOCC *Repr.* II. xi. 214 His witt schal be dresid and lad forth . . . with myche lasse payne and labour, than forto wrastle withinneforth in his owne ymaginaciouns. **1526** *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 118b, The more that any persone reluketh, wrestleth, or stryues to ouercome these manyfolde temptacyons. **1565** *Satir. Poems Reform.* i. 21 Who dothe wrest his will to wrastle in eche wronge. **1654** E. JOHNSON *Wonder-wrks. Provid.* *104 For the which all the Israel of God fight, wrastle, pray.

c. To strive earnestly (with God) in prayer.

With allusion to *Gen.* xxxii. 24-26.

1612 T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* i. 180 The Lord . . . whom we must wrastle withall by our prayers. **1638** [see 11]. **1652** BENLOWES *Theoph.* viii. lxxiv, By pray'r God's serv'd betimes; remember who The blessing got by wrestling so. **1677** W. HUBBARD *Narrative* II. 57 [They] wrestled with God in their daily Prayers for his Release. **1816** SCOTT *Old Mort.* xxxiii, We have prayed, and wrestled, and petitioned, for an offering. **1849** C. BRONTE *Shirley* xxiv, The mother . . . wrestled with God in earnest prayer.

3. a. To labour, toil, or exert oneself; to strive (for something); to tussle.

1382 WYCLIF *Ecclus.* li. 25 My soule wrastled in it; and in doing it I am conformed. **1549** LATIMER *4th Serm. bef. Eduv.* VI (Arb.) 107 Thus go these prelates aboute to wreastle for honoure. **1558** PHAER *Aeneid.* vii. Sijb, They their ships in marble seas with ores dyd wrastlyng towe. **1603** KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 469 Whilest Hysmaell was thus wrestling for the Persian kingdom. **1620-6** QUARLES *Feast Worms* 1493 They rebell, and wrastle, And neuer cease, till they subdue the Castle. **1831** CARLYLE *Misc.* (1872) IV. 28 How many a poor Hazlitt must . . . believe that he is seeking Truth, yet only wrestle among endless Sophisms. **1873** GOSSE *On Viol & Flute* 55 Two of us swam out to it . . . And as I strove and wrestled in the race, I turned and saw [etc.].

fig. **1633** SHIRLEY *Bird in Cage* i. i, Like errand Knights, our valiant wits must wrastle To free our ladyes from the enchanted Castle.

b. Of natural agencies, etc.: To engage in conflict or strife; to act against each other.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 525 Wrope wynde of þe welkyn wrastelez with þe sunne. **a 1400-50** *Wars Alex.* 784 As þe erth & all þe elementis at anes had wrestild. **1865** S. BOWLES *Across the Continent* xviii. 185 River and rock have striven together, wrestling in close and doubtful embrace.

c. To engage in argument, debate, or controversy; to debate, dispute.

c 1450 CAPGRAVE *St. Augustine* 53 A-geyn all þese pis souereyn maystir . . . stood as a strong geaunt, wrestling with argumentis for þe clenness of þe feith. **1521** FISHER *Serm. agst. Luther* iii. Wks. (1876) 337 Here Martin luther for his

shrewed brayne wyll some thyng wrastell agaynst vs. 1565 CALPHILL *Answ. Martiell* 105 Hosius doth wrestle maruelously about the word. 1626 *DONNE Sermon*. 783 They were loath to wrastle with the people, or force them from dangerous customes.

d. To busy, occupy, or concern oneself closely or earnestly *with* a subject, etc.; to deal *with* something as a task or troublesome duty.

c1454 *PECOCK Fowler* 7 Summe. . wrastlen so long perwith til þei gete competent vndirstondyng þerof. *Ibid.* 15 Eny opir hard wryting with which þei schulen wrastle. 1582 *MULCASTER Elementarie* 1. (1925) 43 The other. . will rather cast awaie their armor, then wrastle with the difficulties of vnknown and vnease passages. 1628 *COKE On Litt.* Pref. . The yong student. . wrastling with. . difficult termes. 1638 R. BAKER tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. III) 14, I am wrestling still with — and preparing you an after-dinner Recreation. 1881 *JOWETT Thucyd.* I. Intro. 13 Wrestling with language and logic. 1905 R. BAGOT *Passport* ix. 80 After wrestling with French history or German poetry.

4. a. To twist or writhe about; to wriggle, move sinusily; to work backwards and forwards.

?a1400 *Morte Arth.* 890 He welters, he wrestles, he wrynges hys handez. c1450 *Merlin* iii. 655 Petrius peyned hym sore to a-rise and turned wrastlinge. 1481 *CAXTON Reynard* viii (Arb.) 15 He wrange, he wrestled, and cryed, . . he wiste not how he myght gete out. 1513 *DOUGLAS Æneid* xiii. iv. 82 The snail. . Fleand the birnand heit. . . A lang tyme gan do wrassill and to wreill. a1618 *SYLVESTER Paradox agst. Libertie* 659 When Eole doth unlock Sterne Auster's stormie gate, making the waters wrastle, And rush . . against the sturdy Castle. a1628 *PRESTON New Court.* (1630) 154 Fire if it be out of its place, water, if it be out of its place, it is still wrastling. . . till it returne to its owne place. c1870 B. HARTE Fr. *Pedro's Ride in Fiddletown*, etc. (1873) 108 He saw the wild oats wrestle on the hill.

b. To move or proceed with effort or toil; to struggle out (of) or through some place or condition. Also fig.

1591 *SAVILLE Tacitus, Hist.* iii. lix. 150 The armie. . could hardly wrestle out of the snowe. 1614 *LITHGOW Trav.* Ljb, Wrestling amongst intricate pathes of rockes: two of our Asses fell out a banke. 1634 *SIR T. HERBERT Trav.* 93 Wee . . lost our way, . . and at length wrastled to Geer. 1648 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* xvii. clxxi, Breath. . forced is to goe about, And through the Noses Sluces wrestle out. 1728 *RAMSAY Robt., Richy & Sandy* 70 A squirrel wi' his bells Ay wrestling up. 1853 W. CADENHEAD *Flights of Fancy* 255 (E.D.D.), When we've wrastled thro' the warl', as wrastle we maun a'. 1879 *JEFFERIES Wild Life* 83 The flames running from thatch to thatch, and, as they express it, 'wrestling' across the intervening spaces. 1899 E. F. HEDDLE *Marget* 151 Once he said he would like to live to hear how Christian 'wrastled through'.

II. 5. *trans.* To engage in (a wrestling-bout or match). Also in fig. context.

a1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 2276 If it 3oure mekill maieste miȝt any thinge plesse, I wald to wacken 3oure welth now wirstall a turne. c1412 *HOCCEVE De Reg. Princ.* 5232 þer-with þis land hath wrastled many a pul. 1588 *DRAKE Let.* 31 July in Barrow Life (1843) 304 We have the army of Spayne before us, and mynd with the Grace of God to wressell a poull with hym. 1639 *FULLER Holy War* iv. xxxiii. 226 Now Ptolemais being to wrestle her last fall, stripped her self of all cumbersome clothes. 1645 [see FALL sb.¹ 13]. 1672 R. WILD *Declar. Lib. Cons.* 13 And for their Seditions and Treasons, let us leave Tyburn and them to wrestle a fair fall about them. 1816 *SCOTT Old Mort.* iv, Hark thee, friend, . . wilt thou wrestle a fall with me? 1825 — *Betrothed* Conclusion, Have we not wrestled a turn before now? 1843 in *ROBINSON & Gilpin Wrestling* (1893) 58 Charles Lowden. . would wrestle a match with any individual of the same age. 1855, 1883 [see FALL sb.¹ 13].

6. a. To contend with (a person) in wrestling; to overcome by, throw in, wrestling. Also with down.

Cf. the earlier *over-wrestle* OVER- 21, and *WARSLE* v. 1. c. 1818 in *ROBINSON & Gilpin Wrestling* (1893) 164 He now challenges his opponent. . to wrestle him for ten guineas. 1843 *Ibid.* 58 The veteran. . will be happy to accept the challenge, and wrestle Mr. Lowden. . for £5 or £10 a side. 1881 *DU CHAILLU Land Midn.* Sun II. 51 A stout girl of twenty, strong enough to wrestle any man. 1903 S. E. WHITE *Forest* xv, [He] is not a mighty man physically. . . I think I could have wrestled Peter down. 1940 *Sat. Even.* Post 22 June 39/2 He could rattle any three men. 1968 *Listener* 30 May 702/3 In this picture he rides horses, climbs mountains and wrassles Indian chiefs. 1976 *Ibid.* 24 June 817/1 Thrown to the ground and wrastled by the brutally handsome Provo.

b. *Western U.S.* To throw (a calf) for branding.

1888 *ROOSEVELT in Century Mag.* April 861/2 A fire is built, the irons heated, and a dozen men dismount to, as it is called, 'wrestle' the calves. 1893 N. K. GRIGGS *Lyrics of Lariat* 46 A Maverick daisy he saw— . . And so He rastled it low And gave it a touch of his brand.

7. To push or thrust into something with a wrestling motion. More widely, to move (something inanimate or inert) with physical force. Const. various preps. and advbs.

1820 *BYRON Juan* v. lxxviii, Wrestling both his arms into a gown, He paused. 1970 J. DICKEY *Deliverance* 186, I. . dropped down on one knee and wrestled him across my shoulders in the fireman's carry from boy scout days. 1973 M. AMIS *Rachel Papers* 38 Eventually he wrestled all the string and paper into an armful-sized bundle and forced it down the Aga. 1973 M. WOODHOUSE *Blue Bone* vii. 63 We wrestled the crates down through the forward hatch. 1975 *Globe & Mail* (Toronto) 11 Sept. 2/7 Agents wrestled a .45 calibre automatic pistol out of her hands. 1976 A. PRICE *War Game* i. viii. 142 The same hand, strong and supple. . . had once wrestled a bomb-laden Lancaster into the air. 1976 *SCOTT & KOSKI Walk-In* x. 53 He wrestled one of the line of overhead doors up. 1981 J. D. MACDONALD *Free Fall in Crimson* xiv. 159 A truck pulled up. . . Two men hopped out and started to wrestle the wicker basket out of the back.

III. With adverbs. 8. *to wrestle down*, to put down by wrestling or striving; to suppress, quell.

c1611 *CHAPMAN Iliad* xx. 31 These his words did such a warre excite, As no mans powre could wrastle downe. 1808 *SCOTT Marm.* II. xxiv, If. . they wrestled down Feelings their nature strove to own. 1816 — *Bl. Dwarf* vi, I will wrestle down my feelings of rebellious humanity.

†9. *to wrestle off*, to set aside by argument; to controvert, rebut. *Obs. rare*—1.

1639 *LAUD Confer. w. Fisher* 241 Where is then the Scriptures Prerogative? I know there is much shifting about this Place [marg. Num. 2], but it cannot be wrastled off.

10. *to wrestle out*; †a. To struggle through (a period of time) in discourse, etc. *Obs.*

a1756 *Pennecuik's Collect. Scots Poems* 120 When Mess John has wrestl'd out the [hour] glass.

b. To go through, to perform or execute, to carry out, with struggle or effort.

1823 *SCOTT Quentin D.* xxii, In a moment the wretch wrestled out his last agonies. 1842 *LOVER Handy Andy* xxxiii, I would rather wrastle out a logical dispute any day. 1842 *MANNING Sermon* (1843) I. 312 They have wrestled out the strife with the unseen powers of the wicked one.

11. To drive or force out of something (as) by wrestling. Also fig.

1638 A. HENDERSON *Sermon* (1867) 279 If so be that we will wrestle with God for a blessing, and prevail with him, then . . we shall wrestle the enemies out of it also. 1858 R. CHAMBERS *Domest. Ann. Scotl.* I. 9 How to wrestle the people out of their love of the May-games.

wrestler ('reslə(r)). Forms: a. 1 wræstlere, 4 wrestlere, 5 -telare, -teler, 5- wrestler, 6 wrestler. β. 3 wrastlare, 4-5 -t(e)lere, 5 -teler, -tyller, 6 -tlear, -tleer, 6-7, Sc. and dial. 9 wrastler, 9 dial. wrossler, 20- U.S. rassler, wrassler. γ. 4-5 wristeler(e, 4 -tilere, 9 dial. russ(e)ler. [OE. *wræstlere*, agent-noun f. **wræstlian* WRESTLE v. + -ER¹. Cf. older Flem. *worstler*, Du. *worstelaar*.]

1. One who wrestles; esp. one who practises or is skilled in the art of wrestling, as an athlete.

c1050 *Voc. in Wr.*—Wülcker 431 *Luctatur* [sic], wræstlere. a1225 [see WRESTLE v. 1 bβ]. 1382 *WYCLIF Bible* Pref. Ep. vii. (1850) 70/1 Abacuc, a strong wristeler [1388 wrastlere] and a sharp, stonidith vpon his waard. 1387 *TREVISA Higden* II. 383 Minotaurus was a grete man and huge, . . and a wiȝt wrastlere. c1450 *Mirk's Festial* i. 94 By Iacob ys vndyrstond a wrasteler. 1497 *BP. ALCOK Mons Perfect.* Cij 14 A wresteler. . intendeth to haue y^e vycory of hym y^e he wrestled w^t. 1542 *UDALL Erasim.* *Apoph.* Table, Diogenes mocked a wrastlear. 1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Fam. Love* Bijb, One listed to see wrestlers bestirre them in their play. 1615-6 *Boys Wks.* (1622) 190 Runners and wrastlers contend for a crown that shall perish. a1680 *BUTLER Rem.* (1759) II. 444 He embraces him and . . lifts him above Ground, as Wrestlers do, to throw him down again. 1711 *BUDGELL Spect.* No. 161 ¶3 She was over-looking a Ring of Wrestlers. 1785 *Lond. Chron.* Mar. 262/3 He was celebrated as a prize fighter, a wrestler, and a cricketer. 1821 *CLARE Vill. Minstr.* I. 44 When wrestlers join to tug each other down. 1876 *GLADSTONE Glean.* (1879) II. 351 As a Cumbrian wrestler struggles. . . to get a good grip of his antagonist. 1900 F. P. DUNNE Mr. Dooley's *Philos.* 207 He was a gr-reast rassler an' whin he had a full Nelson on th' foolish man that wint again him, he used to say, 'Dear me, am I breakin' ye'er neck, I hope so.' 1901 N. LLOYD *Chronicle Loafer* vi, I was the best wrastler in the walley. 1941 J. THURBER in *Sat. Even.* Post 5 Apr. 10/3 'Wrasslers,' says Magrew, cold-like, 'that's what I've got for a ball club, Mr. Du Monville, wrasslers—and not very good wrasslers at that.'

fig. 1681 *FLAVEL Meth. Grace* xvii. 317 The prayers of Mr. Knox. . were mighty wrestlers with God. 1721 *WODROW Corr.* (1843) II. 596 He is. . a great favourite, and mighty wrestler in prayer. 1814 *CARY Dante, Parad.* XII. 52 The hallow'd wrestler [St. Dominic], gentle to his own, And to his enemies terrible.

2. fig. One who strives or contends with difficulties, against adverse conditions, etc.

a1340 *HAMPOLE Psalter* xiii. 11 For iacob is als mykill at say as wrestlere or supplanter of syn. — *Cant.* 514 Iacob, . . pat is, wristlere agayns vicys. c1454 *PECOCK Fowler* 114 In hem þat ben with passions biȝi wrastlers. 1577 *HANMER Eccl. Hist.* To Rdr., The valiant wrastlers, and inuincible champions of Christ Iesu. 1842 *DICKENS Amer. Notes* xv, He shall see in those young things . . little wrestlers with him for his daily bread. 1873 *HAMERTON Intell. Life* ii. iv. 72 Experienced wrestlers with fate and fortune. 1964 N. MAILER in *Esquire* Nov. 170/4 He was just another hog-wrassler of rhetoric.

3. *Western U.S.* One who throws cattle for the purpose of branding.

1888 *ROOSEVELT in Century Mag.* April 861/2 The calf-wrestlers, grimy with blood, dust, and sweat, work like beavers.

4. *Comb.*, as *wrestler-like*; *wrestler frog*, the S. American 'wrestling' frog, *Rana luctator*.

1594 *CAREW Huarte's Exam. Wits* xv. 329 He will prooue faire, fat, ful of bloud, & b[il]lockish, which habit Hippocrates called wrastler-like. 1616 *CHAPMAN tr. Musæus* G 6, Notus and Boreas wrastler like imbrace. 1892 W. H. HUDSON *Naturalist in La Plata* iv. 77 Plate, Wrestler frog. [*Ibid.* 76 The frog, . . catching two of my fingers round with its fore legs, administered a hug.]

wrestless, ? *erron.* f. *RESTLESS* a.

Perh. associated with *WREST* v., and intended to mean 'not admitting of being turned aside'.

1621 *LADY M. WROTH Urania* 368 He with sad thoughts . . and wrestlesse passions spent the time till his returne. 1648 J. QUARLES *Fons Lachrym.* 38 His wrestlesse arm hath bent his yeelding bow.

wrestling ('reslɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. *WRESTLE* v. + -ING¹.]

1. a. The action or exercise of two persons grappling or gripping in a contest of strength and adroitness, the one endeavouring to throw the other by tripping or overbalancing him; the fact of contending or throwing in this manner. Also in fig. context.

a1100 in *Napier O.E. Glosses* 122/1 *Palestram*, wræstlunge. c1205 *LAY.* 1871 þer wes muchel folc at þere wrastlinge. a1250 *Owl & Night.* 795 3if tueie men gop to wrastlinge. a1300 *Cursor M.* 28526 At wrestelyng, at wake, rcngd haf i. c1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 8873 What wiþ wristling, wat wiþ toggging. c1386 *CHAUCER Prol.* 548 Ouer al ther he cam, At wrastlyng he wolde haue alwey the Ram. c1425 *WYNTOUN Cron.* i. vi. 356 To se how þat this Coryne Wald deil wiþ him in wresslyne. c1489 *CAXTON Sonnes of Aymon* xiv. 350 He. . caught the kyng. . by the waast in maner of wrastelyng. 1539 *ELVOT Cast. Helthe* 50b, Wrastlyng also with the armes and legges. . dothe exercise the one and the other. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 152 The weaker hath the worse, in wrestlyng alway. 1613 *DEKKER Strange Horse Race Wks.* (Grosart) III. 325 There could I describe what warlike Races the Winds held with the Waters: their Wrestling, Running, Retiring. 1644 *MILTON Educ.* 7 They must be also practiz'd in all the locks and gripes of wrestling. 1701 *COLLIER M. Aurel.* 125 The right Knack of Living resembles Wrastling more than Dancing. 1789 W. BUCHAN *Dom. Med.* (1790) 41 The fatal effects of carrying great weights, running, wrestling, and the like. 1801 *STRUTT Sports & Past.* II. 64 The wrestling is only practised on the afternoon of St. Bartholomew's day. 1850 *MAURICE Mor. & Met. Philos.* (ed. 2) I. 126 Some say that Plato. . gained a prize for wrestling at the Isthmian games. 1901 W. CHURCHILL *Crisis* II. vi. 162 He an' de Colonel done commence wrastlin' 'bout a man name o' Linkum [sc. Lincoln]. 1930 *Amer. Speech* V. 494 Did any boy of the latter part of the last century ever wrestle? Ozarkers are not peculiar in their rasseling. 1975 *New Yorker* 1 Sept. 21/3 Mr. Hayes betrayed this when he mispronounced 'wrestling'; he called it 'wrestling'. Most self-respecting promoters, like Sid Morse, of Saginaw, Michigan, know that the correct pronunciation is 'rasslin'. 1976 L. DEIGHTON *Twinkle, twinkle, Little Spy* xiii. 133 Crude Yankee wrassling, was it? Not the kind of cricket you play at Lord's?

b. With *the*. The sport of grappling and throwing; a contest in wrestling; a wrestling-match.

a1225 *Ancr. R.* 318 Ich. . biheold hit, & oðe wrastlinge & oðer fol gomenes. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 517 þe wrastlinge bitvene hom was somdel tlost. c1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 1800 On a clyf faste by þe se þe wrastlyng was ordeyned to be. c1400 *Gamelyn* 190 Towardes þe wrasteling þe yong childe rode. c1430 *How the Good Wyf* 81 in *Babees Bk.* 40 Go not to þe wrasteling, ne to schotynge at cok. 1518 in *Leadam Star Chamber Cases* (Selden) II. 154 The wrestlyng at Seynt Jamys tude. 1598 *Stow Surv.* (1603) 524 This yeare was a great fray at the wrastling. 1661 *PEYPS Diary* 28 June, Went to Moorefields. . and saw the wrestling . . between the north and west countrymen. 1725 *POPE Odyssey* VIII. 104 None in the leap spring with so strong a bound, Or firmer, in the wrestling, press the ground. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 588/1 Leaping and running. . generally accompany the wrestling as prize games. 1893 *ROBINSON & GILPIN Wrestling & Wrestlers* 189 He went. . to Newcastle, and won the wrestling there.

c. With *a* and *pl.* A wrestling-bout or match.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 992 3yf þou euer settyst swerde eyper ryng For to gadyr a wrastlyng. *Ibid.* 8987 Karolles, wrastlynges, or somour games. c1400 *Gamelyn* 171 Ther was ther þe siden cried a wrastelyng. c1440 *Jacob's Well* 291 Leuyth 3oure rennyng on holy-dayes to wrastelynges, markettys, & feyris. c1450 *CAPGRAVE St. Gilbert* 65 Thei. . vsed not to renne to wrastlingis, ber-baytingis and swech opir onthrifty occupaciones. 1556 *Chron. Gr. Friars* (Camden) 6 Thys yere was one John Norwelde. . slayne at Blackehethe at a wrestlyng. 1578 H. WOTTON *Courtlye Controv.* 37 Great preparation was made of stage plays, . . wrastlings, and other infinite pastymes. c1611 *CHAPMAN Iliad* xxiii. 610 Pelides then set forth Prize for a wrestling. 1683 in *Verney Mem.* (1904) II. 339 Where the wrestlings are used to be in Lincoln's Inn fields. 1893 *ROBINSON & GILPIN Wrestling* 11 [He] stood unrivalled in all the wrestlings.

2. a. The action of striving or contending, maintenance of resistance, opposition, or strife, on the part of persons.

c890 *WÆRFERTH tr. Gregory's Dial.* 320 Swa wæs þær þa seo wræstlung ymb Stephanum. *Ibid.* 321 He þa. . ut deaðe of lichaman to gewinne & to wræstlunge lifes & deaðes. a1400 *New Test.* (Pauas) Ephes. vi. 12 For 3oure wrastlyng. . is. . ageyn princes. 1523 *LD. BERNERS Froiss.* I. xxxix. 54 So this wrastlyng endured a long space; but fynally the knyght was rescued. 1548 *UDALL, etc. Erasim. Par. Matt.* v. 19b, [To] make ye redy to this wrastling, if ye esteime the blessed rewardes of the gospell. 1632 *LITHGOW Trav.* vi. 294 With sore Wrestling agaynst the parching Sun. 1642 *Declar. Lords & Comm.* 23 Sept. 9 Our wrastling, and striving with that fierce and peremptory opposition. a1844 in *Stanley Arnold* I. ii. 31 His absolute wrestling with evil. 1883 *Knowledge* June 334/1 That heavy and subtle wrestling for position which distinguishes the first-class player [of chess].

transf. 1610 *HOLLAND Camden's Brit.* i. 279 The river having with a great turning compasse after much wrestling, gotten out towards the North. 1654 R. CODRINGTON tr. *Iustine* iv. 74 This concurse and wrastling of the water.

fig. 1534 *MORE Treat. Passion* Wks. 1347/1 Hys catholike faythe. . euer continue shal whyle this worlde last, what wrastlyng soeuer the infideles shall make with it. 1639 S. DU VERGER tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* 227 How unequal is the wrastling between reason and passion in a weak spirit. 1849 *ROBERTSON Sermon* i. iii. (1866) 45 Language which describes the wrestling of the soul. 1872 *MORLEY Voltaire* (1886) 2 Life as a long wrestling with unseen and invisible forces of grace.

b. The action of struggling or labouring.

a1225 Ancr. R. 238 Al þu, iðe wrastlunge [printed winstlunge] of tentaciun, ariseð þe biþeate. *a1225* [see WRAGGLE v. 1]. *c1450 Mirk's Festial* i. 61 And so yn wrastlyng, scho woke of hyr slepe. *1563 PILKINGTON Burnyng of Paules Ch.* Miiij, Saint Williams horse, . . . wyth wrastlyng and sparring vppe, saued himselfe and his master from drowning.

fig. 1599 NASHE Lenten Stuff Wks. (Grosart) V. 252 Which it will be no impeachment for the wisest to turne loose for a truth, without any diffident wrastling with it.

c. The action of striving earnestly in prayer; an instance of this.

1722 WODROW Corr. (1843) II. 664 You have our prayers here, and . . . the Church of Scotland has a share in your wrastlings. *1818 J. PYE SMITH Script. Test. to Messiah* I. 96 The 'wrastlings' of holy prayer. *1902 A. McILROY Druid's Island* vii. After deep conseederation, an' sore wrastlin' wi' the Almichty in prayer.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *wrestling article*, *bout*, *† game*, *-house*, *-master*, *-match*, *ring*; *wrestling place*, a place where wrestling is practised or held; *† wrestling pull*, a bout of wrestling; = *PULL sb.*² 3; *wrestling school* *Gr. Antiq.* = *PALÆSTRA* a.

1714 PARKYNS Inn-Play 62 To make these *Wrestling Articles yet more stronge they may be with a Noverint Universi. *1869 TOZER Highl. Turkey* II. 237 [The ballads] treat . . . of *wrestling bouts with Charon. *1596 SPENSER F.Q.* vi. ix. 43 Coridon. . . Did chalenge Calidore to *wrestling game. *1874 SYMONDS Sk. Italy & Greece* 8 The olives here tell more to us of Olivet . . . than of . . . the wrestling-ground. *1848 B. D. WALSH Aristoph., Clouds* III. iii. This is the talk which daily . . . crowds the Bagnios, and drains the *Wrestling-houses! *1714 PARKYNS Inn-Play* 15 Since the Diluvians . . . have been celebrated *Wrestling Masters. *1820 T. MITCHELL Aristoph. I.* 272 Say further what the wrestling-master Instructed you. *a1700 EVELYN Diary* 19 Feb. 1667, A *wrestling-match for £1000 . . . before his Majestty. *1889 W. ARMSTRONG Wrestling* 233 What a Lancashire wrestling-match is like. *1974 Plain Dealer* (Cleveland, Ohio) 27 Oct. 2-c/1 Even the second Ali-Frazier fight became a financial success for the promoters after Ali put on his rassling match with Frazier during that TV interview. *c1440 Promp. Parv.* 533/2 *Wrestlyng place, *palestra*. *1556 Chron. Gr. Friars* (Camden) 42 At Clarkenwell at the wrestlyng place. *a1592 GREENE Deb. betw. Follie & Love* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 218 Hath not Follie inuented a thousand devices to drawe a man from idlenesse, as . . . Dancing schooles, Fencing houses, wrestling places? *1610 HEALEY Theophrastus* (1636) 23, I pray you whose wrestling place is this? *1602 CAREW Cornwall* 2 This *wrestling pull betwene Corineus and Gogmagog. *1695 LUTTRELL Brief Rel.* (1857) III. 461 The *wrestling ring in Lincolns Inn Feilds. *1893 ROBINSON & GILPIN Wrestling & Wrestlers* 52 [He] would not be quick enough in his movements in the wrestling ring. *1835 THIRLWALL Greece* vii. I. 290 The exercises of the troop in . . . the *wrestling-school. *1623 COCKERAM, Gymnasticke*, a teacher of the *Wrestling Science. *1893 ROBINSON & GILPIN Wrestling & Wrestlers* 9 Old and young regarded wrestling science . . . with keen relish. *1869 BLACKMORE Lorna D.* xxvi, When I be in *wrestling trim.

'wrestling, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING².]

1. That wrestles or contends, in various senses. Also *transf.*

a1547 SURREY Æneid II. 531 As wrastling windes, out of dispersed whirl Befight themselves. *1593 NASHE Christ's T.* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 156 Your paine shalbe . . . wrastling, tearing, and intollerable. *1597 C. MIDDLETON Fam. Hist. Chiron* vi. 38 His Father . . . whome wrestling age had almost now layed along in hys graue. *1605 Z. JONES tr. Loyer's Specters* 12 There was amongst the Grecks, a Diuell . . . named . . . the wrastling Diuell. *c1611 CHAPMAN Iliad* XIX. 361 All their stall flies up in wrastling flame. *1632 LITHGOW Trav.* x. 465 The thundring noyse of my wrestling voyce. *1738 WESLEY Ps.* xxiv. vii, Thou the true wrestling Jacob art. *1847 TENNYSON Princ.* VII. 266 The wrestling thews that throw the world. *1889 W. ARMSTRONG Wrestling* 232 Wrestling men are impulsive beings. *1892 W. H. HUDSON Naturalist in La Plata* 366 How I saw and lost the noble wrestling frog [= wrestler frog].

2. Marked or characterized by strife or contention, or by earnest striving.

a1593 MARLOWE tr. Lucan 299 His graue looke appeard The wrastling tumult. *1620 T. PEYTON Glasse of Time* i. 50 That none by wrong oppression might Be crost, by cunning, wringing, wrestling guile. *1854 H. MILLER Sch. & Schm.* v. (1857) 98 It was impossible to avoid being struck with its wrestling earnestness and fervour. *1859 GEO. ELIOT A. Bede* xlvii, She poured forth her soul with the wrestling intensity of a last pleading.

† *wresty*, obs. *erron.* f. *RESTY a.*¹

1697 VANBRUGH Relapse Prol. i, Wresty Nature's Spight. *1702 — False Friend* v. i, I was at first, a little wresty, and stood off.

wret, obs. or dial. var. *WART sb.*; obs. *Sc. f. WRIT sb.*; obs. *pa. pple.* or *Sc. pa. t.* of *WRITE v.*

wretar, obs. *Sc. f. WRITER.*

wretch (rɛtʃ), *sb.* and *a.* Forms: *a.* 1 wrecca, wræcca, 2-5 wrecche, 2-3 wræcche, 3-4 wreche, 3-5 wrechche, 4-5 wrechhe, wrechch, 5 wrecch, 3-6 wreche (5 *Sc.* werche), 4-5 wrech (5 *Sc.* werch), 4-6 wreche, 5- wrech (6 wreatch); 4 wroche, 8 *dial.* wrotch. *β.* 4-5 wrich, wriche (wirche), wryche, 5 wrycche, 6 wrytche. *γ.* *Sc.* 5-6 wrache (5 warche), 6 wratche, *Sc.* and *dial.* 9 wratch. [OE. *wrecca*, *wræcca*, = OS. *wrekkiō*, -eo (applied to the Magi), OHG. *recheo*, *recho*, etc., exile, adventurer, knight errant (MHG. and G. *recke* warrior, hero):—OTeut.

**wrakja(n)-*, f. the stem *wrak-*, *wrek-*: see *WREAK v.* The contrast in the development of the meaning in Eng. and German is remarkable.]

A. *sb.* †1. One driven out of or away from his native country; a banished person; an exile.

The ME. instances are doubtful; they may be contextual uses of sense 2.

Beowulf 1137 Da wæs winter scacen, fæger foldan bearm; fundode wrecca, gist of gearдум. *c888 ÆLFRED Boeth.* ii, Ða lioð þe ic wrecca geo lustbærlice song ic sceal nu heofende singan. *a1122 O.E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 722, Ealdbriht wrecca gewat on Suðrege & on Suð Seaxe. *c1386 CHAUCER Sec. Nun's Prol.* 58 Now help thow . . . Me flemed wreche in this desert of galle. *c1450 Ludus Coventrie* 26 Goo naked vngry and bare foot . . . as wrech in werlde pou wende. *Ibid.* 27, I wende as wrech in welsom way.

2. One who is sunk in deep distress, sorrow, misfortune, or poverty; a miserable, unhappy, or unfortunate person; a poor or hapless being.

a. c1000 Boeth. Metr. x. 38 Ne mæg mon æfre þy eð æne wræccan his cræftes beniman. *a1023 WULFSTAN Hom.* vi. (1883) 45 Wræccena reallac is on heora hamum. *c1175 Lamb. Hom.* 109 3if þe cristene mon bið sacful, and 3if þe wreche bið modi. *a1225 Ancr. R.* 388 So heih 3eoue nes neuer i3iuen to so louwe wrecces. *c1275 Sinners beware* 103 in *O.E. Misc.* 75 Nv wenep ek þes wreche þat he ne purce recche. *c1330 R. BRUNNE Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 13564 Cowarde halp þer no wreche. *1380 WYCLIF Wks.* (1880) 385 Mercy or almes is a wille of relevynge of a wreche oute of his myse. *c1410 HOCCEVE Mother of God* 15 Modir of mercy, . . . Benigne confort of vs wrecces all! *a1513 Fabyan Chron.* clvi. (1811) 145 He was . . . mylde and gracious to the poore, and marcyfull to wrechis and nedys. *1577 tr. Bullinger's Decades* 125/1 Solomon the . . . happy king of Juda, bycause of his Idolatrie . . . is of a soudeine made a wrech of all other. *1623 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) Discov. by Sea* B3b, Poore wreches, which (were it not for your charity) would perish in your streetes. *1671 T. HUNT Abeced. Scholast.* 140 If money do fail a wrech thou art. *a1721 PRIOR 24 Songs* iii. 8 She scorns to hear, or see, The wrech that lies so low as me. *1754 GRAY Pleasure* 49 The Wretch, that long has tost On the thorny bed of Pain. *1810 SOUTHEY Kehama* IV. v, Even in the grave there is no rest for me, Cut off from that last hope, the wretch's joy. *1855 LD. GRANVILLE in Life* (1905) I. 106 Being a bed-ridden wrech I do not venture to disobey you. *1868 MORRIS Earthly Par.* I. i. 349 O King, whom all the world henceforth shall know As wreched among wreches.

β. a1300 Cursor M. 23104 (Edinb.), þar sal stand on his left side, Wrichis stad in waful wide. *Ibid.* 23236 þe v. [pine of hell] es vndemenes of dint, þat þa wriehes þar sal hint. *1570 LEVINS Manip.* 150 A Wrytche, miser.

γ. c1375 Sc. Leg. Saints xxvii. (*Machar*) 1010 þan was þat wrache wondir wa.

b. Without article. (Freq. in apposition to a personal pronoun.)

c1200 ORMIN 10140 þatt te birrp forr þe lufe off Godd Wipp usell wreche dæleñ. *13. . . Guy Warw. (A.)* 294 Allas, wreche, hou may i duelle? *c1350 in Relig. Lyrics 14th C.* (1924) 63 God & man my spouse is—Wele aght me, wryche, to luf him dere. *c1400 26 Pol. Poems* 112/163, I, wreche, whyder shal y fle. *1509 HAWES Past. Pleas.* xvi. (Percy Soc.) 65 Alas! I wreche and yet unhappy peke Into . . . trouble. *1526 Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 2 Fynally I beseeche all . . . to praye for me wreche. *1653 H. COGAN tr. Pinto's Trav.* i. 2 For myself, poor wrech, I went . . . in my misery to Setuval. *1743 YOUNG Nt. Th.* iv. 14 Imagination's fool, and error's wrech, Man makes a death, which nature never made. *1790 COWPER On Receipt Mother's Picture* 24 Hover'd thy spirit o'er thy sorrowing soul, Wretch even then? *1821 SHELLEY Hellas* 909 Fond wrech! He leans upon his crutch, and talks of years To come. *1886 W. J. TUCKER E. Europe* 36, I, poor wrech, in possession of nothing.

c. Used as a term of address.

c1175 Lamb. Hom. 29 Weilawei wreche, . . . al swa eða þu mihtest . . . smiten of pin asen heauē. *a1225 Leg. Kath.* 2049 Hu wrakeliche, wenestu, wule he, al c wraððe, wrecen on þe, wreche! *c1230 Hali Meid.* 37 Ah, wreche! þe care again þi pinunge prahen binime þe rihtes sleses. *c1400 Desir. Troy* 7178 Al wreches vnwar, woo ys in our hond! *a1550 Image Hypocr.* III. 331 in *Skelton's Wks.* (1843) II. 437 Ye call that poore man wrech, As though ye hadd no reche. *1615 CHAPMAN Odys.* XIV. 503 O wrech of Guests . . . thy Tale hath stirr'd My mynde to much ruth. *1819 SHELLEY Cenci* v. ii. 34 Poor wrech, I pity thee.

d. Applied to animals, birds, or insects.

a1300 Fox & Wolf in *Hazl. E.P.P.* I. 66 The wreche binethe nothing ne vind, Bote cold water. *c1480 HENRYSON Swallow* 1908 Thir hungrie birds wrechis we may call. *1600 SURFLET Countrie Farme* 628 Vpon them shall be fastened manie boordes or hurdles . . . for to pleasure this small wrech [sc. a silkworm] withall. *1602 Ld. Cromwell* IV. i. 47 Who sees the Cob-web intangle the poore Flie, May boldlie say the wreches death is nigh. *1627 DRAYTON Nymphidia* xxvii, Soone away the Waspe doth goe, Poore wrech was neuer frighted so. *1742 FIELDING J. Andrews* III. iv, This was the second time this squire had endeavoured to kill the little wrech [= a favourite dog]. *Ibid.* vi, The hare was no sooner on shore than it . . . listened to the sound of the pursuers. Fanny was wonderfully pleased with the little wrech. *1744 THOMSON Summer* 273 The villain Spider . . . fixing in the Wretch his cruel Fangs, Strikes backward. *1802 G. V. SAMPSON Statist. Surv. Londonderry* 210 As to the rearing of calves, there is a [cruel] superstition. . . As soon as the wrech is produced, . . . two persons . . . pull it most forcibly.

e. A person or little creature. (Used as a term of playful depreciation, or to denote slight commiseration or pity.)

c1450 Merlin xxxiii. 683 He that was full fierce and prowde hadde shame to iuste with so litill a wreche. *1592 SHAKS. Rom. & Jul.* i. iii. 44 The pretty wrech lefte crying, & said I. *1599 BRETON Miseries Maullia* ii, With these last words, Farewell good mistress, the good poore wrech . . . gave up the ghost. — *Scholler & Souldiour* 30 Oh 'tis a heavenly noise to heare the sweete wrech [= the nightingale]. *1604 SHAKS. Oth.* III. iii. 90 Excellent wrech: Perditiō catch my Soule But I do loue thee. *1663 PEPYS*

Diary 25 May, She being a good-natured and painful wrech. *1749 FIELDING Tom Jones* i. vii, Had you exposed the little wrech in the manner of some inhuman mothers. *1784 COWPER Task* IV. 12 He whistles as he goes, light-hearted wrech, Cold and yet cheerful. *1821 SHELLEY Hellas* 227 Swift as the radiant shapes of sleep From one whose dreams are Paradise Fly, when the fond wrech wakes to weep. *1850 KINGSLEY A. Locke* xxviii, Two little boys hailed us . . . two little wreches with blue noses and white cheeks. *1891 'S. MOSTYN' Curatica* 85, I see my wife wants me. The poor wrech is terribly jealous.

3. A vile, sorry, or despicable person; one of opprobrious or reprehensible character; a mean or contemptible creature. Also without article.

In very frequent use from c 1300.

a. a1000 Juliana 351 Hyre se feond oncwæð, wræcca wæleas wordum mælde. *c1230 Hali Meid.* 47 þu prokest me to fulgenten, . . . & waldes warpe me as wreche i þi leirwite. *c1250 Gen. & Ex.* 1074 Ðat folc vn-seli, . . . ðo sori wreches of yuel blod. *1340 Avenb.* 25 þus him ioisseþ and him glorifieþ þe wreche ine his herte. *1362 LANGL. P. Pl.* A. II. 169, I wolde be wrecen on þis wreches þat worchen so ille. *1402 HOCCEVE Let. Cupid* 310 The feythles wrechch how hath he him for-swore. *a1450 Medit. Life & Pass. Christ* 1139 Wip rugged nayles þe wreches wode Nailed him hard to þe rode. *1555 PHILPOT in Coverdale Lett. Martyrs* (1564) 230 Vnto me moste vile, sinnefull, wicked and vnworthy wrech. *1568 GRAFTON Chron.* II. 337 These wreches entred into the Princesse Chamber, and brake her head. *1617 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) Observ. & Trav. fr. London to Hamburgh* C4b, [They] were amazed at the ingratitude of the wrech. *1687 A. LOVELL tr. Thevenot's Trav.* I. 104 The perfidious wrech Theseus abandoned the poor Ariadne. *1715 DE FOE Fam. Instruct.* i. i, Wretch that I am, how have I lived, as without God in the world. *1781 COWPER Table-T.* 30 Let eternal infamy pursue The wrech to nought but his ambition true. *1805 J. TURNBULL Voy.* xvii. (1813) 212 The wickedness of the wrech who would import a cargo of spirituous liquors into the . . . Society Islands. *1855 KINGSLEY Westw. Ho!* xxix, If I be wrech enough to give place to the devil. *1883 D. C. MURRAY Hearts* xi, What wreches men were, to be sure!

β. 1377 LANGL. P. Pl. B. x. 78 þe wreches [Camb. MS. wryches] of þis worlde is none ywar bi other. *c1440 York Myst.* xxxi. 360 If any wight with þis wryche any wryse wate werkis. *c1450 Mirk's Festial* i. 2 He ys not but a wryche and sylme of erth.

γ. 1572 Satir. Poems Reform. xxxii. 118 Consume this wratche with Brinstane. *1866—* in Scottish glossaries, etc.

b. Used as a term of opprobrious address.

13. . . Sir Beues (A.) 1033 Brademond, olde wreche, . . . Erto come Iosiane to feche? *a1400-50 Wars Alex.* 4005 'Al wriches' quod þe wale kyng, . . . 'Eftir þe deth of þour duke quat daynes 3owe to stryue?' *c1430 Chev. Assigne* 71 A, kowarde of kynde, . . . & combed wreche! *1540 PALSGR. Acolastus* IV. v. Vjb, Thou wreched person, . . . thou wreche that thou art. *1605 SHAKS. Lear* III. ii. 53 Tremble thou Wretch. *1719 DE FOE Crusoe* i. (Globe) 93 Wretch! . . . look baek upon a mis-spent life. *1810 CRABBE Borough* xxii. 248 Wretch, dost thou repent? *1819 SHELLEY Cenci* i. iii. 90 Thou wreth! Will none among this noble company Check the abandoned villain?

c. Used without serious imputation of bad qualities.

1688 PRIOR Ode vii, Levelling at God his wand'ring Guess . . . Laws to his Maker the learn'd Wretch can give. *1834 DICKENS Sk. Boz, Boarding-ho.* i, Her 'wretch of a husband', as she inwardly called him. *1847 HELPS Friends in C.* i. viii. 159 A wrech of a pedant who knows all about tetrameters.

†4. A niggardly or parsimonious person; a miser. *Obs.* (In later use chiefly *Sc.*)

1303 R. BRUNNE Handl. Synne 6203 þe wreche saw hys tresoure sperd, And sette hym up yn hys bedde. *1340 Avenb.* 188 Uor to ssette þe porces of þe wrechchen þet hi ne ssolle by open to do elmesse. *c1386 CHAUCER Melib.* ¶634 Vse . . . thy riches . . . that men haue no . . . cause to calle thee neiper wreche ne chynche. *1500-20 DUNBAR Poems* xli. 5 Be nocht a wreche, nor skerche in þour spending. *1513 DOUGLAS Æneid* VIII. Prol. 53 The wreche walis and wringsis *c1230 Hali Meid.* 37 Ah, wreche! þe care again þi pinunge prahen binime þe rihtes sleses. *c1400 Desir. Troy* 7178 Al wreches vnwar, woo ys in our hond! *a1550 Image Hypocr.* III. 331 in *Skelton's Wks.* (1843) II. 437 Ye call that poore man wrech, As though ye hadd no reche. *1615 CHAPMAN Odys.* XIV. 503 O wrech of Guests . . . thy Tale hath stirr'd My mynde to much ruth. *1819 SHELLEY Cenci* v. ii. 34 Poor wrech, I pity thee.

†5. A poor or paltry thing. *Obs. rare*—

? a1300 Prov. Hendyng 202 þis worldes loue ys a wreche.

6. *Comb.*, as *wretch-like*.

1615 CHAPMAN Odys. IV. 961 Th' abiect threshold [she] chose Of her faire chamber, for her loth'd repose; And mournd most wretch-like.

B. adj. †1. Of persons: Poor; miserable; deeply afflicted; = *WRETCHED a.* 1. *Obs.*

a1122 O.E. Chron. an. 1083, þa wreccan munecas lagon onbuton þam weofode. *1154 Ibid.* an. 1137, Wrecee men sturuen of hungær. *c1175 Lamb. Hom.* 125 Alswa baldeliche mei þe wrechesta mon cieþian drihtan him to federe. *c1205 LAY.* 6556 Wha se hæfde richedom, he hine makede wræcche mon. *1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls)* 4187 Alas pou wreche mon, woch mesanture Ap þe ybrogt in to þis stede. *13. . . Guy Warw. (A.)* 4811 Sche was a wriche wiman þat michel sorwe so was an. *1398 TREVISA Barth De P.R.* VI. xiii. (Addit. MS.), No man is more wreche nopir hap more woo . . . þan he þat hath an yuel wif. *1412-20 LYDC. Chron. Troy* III. 4151 Allas! I, woful creature, . . . I, wreche woman. *c1450 Mirk's Festial* i. 47 þenke how febull and how wreche he ys, when he ys bore. *1556 OLDE Antichrist* 158 The wreche people thinks they haue holpen a soule. *1596 SPENSER F.Q.* VI. ix. 30 It is the mynd . . . That maketh wrech or happie.

†2. Of conditions, etc.: = *WRETCHED a.* 2. *Obs.*

1131 O.E. Chron. an. 1131, Crist ræde for þa wrece muneces of Burch & for þæt wrece stede. *a1200 in Fragg. Ælfric's Gram.*, etc. (1838) 5 þonne biþ þæt wreche lif iended. *1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls)* 4094 þat we after hor wreche dep hor londes auonge. *c1375 Cursor M.* 949 (Fairf.), Wende out of þis lousom lande, in-to þe wreche werlde þou gange. *1583 G. BABINGTON Commandm.* (1590) 60 Yet see, ah wrech, and woful plight, . . . Thy goodness to mee farre passeth all masters to their seruants.

†3. Despicable; vile; reprehensible. *Obs.*
a 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 103 Kiel mine wreche herte, þe is iartred of his manifealde fondinges. *c* 1290 *Beket* 1406 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 1. 146 Ich drede for mine wrechche gultes þat worse worth þe ende. 1297 *R. Glouc.* (Rolls) 9913 þe wrechche luper giwes. *c* 1350 in *Relig. Lyrics 14th C.* (1924) 50 To holi chirche . . . pes þou sende, And to vs wreche sinful, lif wyt-outen ende. 1387 *TREvisa Higden* III. 33 Sardanapallus was a man more wrechche þan eny womman.
 †4. Of a paltry character; = WRETCHED *a.* 3 b.
a 1250 *Owl & Night*. 335 Euer crowep þi wrechche crey þat he ne swikeþ nyht ne day.

†wretch, *v.* *Obs.* Also 5 wrechche, *Sc.* 7 wreche, 8-9 wratch. [f. the sb.]

1. *trans.* To render miserable.
a 1513 *FABYAN Chron.* VII. (1811) 302 Ye fore namyd bisschop . . . contynynge his tyrannyes . . . greued y^e bisschop of Wynchester, and wrechtyd nygh all y^e londe.
 2. *intr.* To be or become niggardly or parsimonious. *Sc.*
a 1598 *D. FERGUSSON Sc. Prov.* (S.T.S.) 10 As the carle riches he wretches [Kelly (1721) wratches]. 1633 *W. STRUTHER True Happiness* 139 As the wretch wretcheth, the more he is enriched. 1853 *TRENCH Proverbs* 104 The more the carle riches he wretches.]

†'wretchcock. *Obs.* [Alteration of WRETCHOCK, prob. by misprint in the text of Jonson, and adopted from this by Gifford.] = WRETCHOCK.
 1641 *B. Jonson's Gipsies Metam.* Wks. 50 The famous imye yet grew a wretchcooke [1692 wretchcoek]. 1816 *GIFFORD B. Jonson's Wks., Masque VII.* 371 *note*, In every large breed of domestic fowls, there is usually a miserable little stunted creature. . . . This unfortunate abortive, the good-wives . . . call a wret[c]hcock. 1817 — *Persius* II. 55 *note*, The poor puny wretchcock in whom the good old grand-mother sees the future son-in-law of kings.

†'wretchdom. *Obs.* In 3-4 wrechche-, wrechedom, 3 -dome, 4 -dom, -dam. [f. WRETCH sb. + -DOM.] Misery; distress; baseness.

a 1225 *Ancre. R.* 232 Muchel godnesse hit is uorto icnowen wel his owne wrechedom, & his wocesne. *a* 1275 *Prov. Ælfred* 705 in *O.E. Misc.* 138 þe rede mon he is . . . scolde, of wrechedome he is king. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3113 In wrechedom er now all went. 13.. [see WRETCHEDDOM].

wrechche, var. WRECHE sb. *Obs.*

wretched ('retʃɪd), *a.* Forms: *a.* 3-5 wreched (-ede, 4-5 -id, 4 -ide, 5 -yd, -et), 5 wreched (-id, -yd), 3-5 wreched (3-4 -ede, 3-5 -id, 4 -yde, 5-6 -yd, *Sc.* -it, -yt), 5 wrechid, wreached, 6 wreiched; 5- wreched (5-6 -id, -yd, *Sc.* -it, 6 wreteched). *β.* 3-4 wrichede (4 -ed, 5 -id), 4 wryched, 4-5 wricched, -id, 5 wryched. *γ.* *Sc.* 5-6 wrachit (5 wrochit), 6 wratchet, -eit, -it, ratchit. [Irreg. f. WRETCH *a.* + -ED¹. Cf. WICKED *a.*¹]

1. *a.* Of persons, etc.: Living in a state of misery, poverty, or degradation; sunk in distress or dejection; very miserable or unhappy.

a. *a* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 9 Danne ic wolde ðe wrechede saule sa rewliche acwellan. *a* 1240 *Wohunge* in *O.E. Hom.* I. 277 Ihesu . . . riche ar tu . . . , and tah poure þu bicom for me, westi and wreched. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 24517 Allas! quat es me nu to red, I wrechidest of all! *c* 1340 *HAMPOLE Pr. Consc.* 2426 Wreched saul, . . . what may thou say When þou partes fra þe body away? *c* 1374 *CHAUER Anel. & Arc.* 60 þe wrechid Thebanis bretheren two Were slayne. *c* 1450 *Myrr. our Ladye* 7 So ye vouchsafe of youre tender charyte . . . to praye for our right poure & full wreched soule. 1482 [see WRETCHEDFUL *a.*], 1538 *STARKEY Englynd* II. i. 173 Pepul, wych now lyue in idulnes, wrechyd and pore. *a* 1592 *GREENE Alphonsus* IV. iii. I am . . . the wretchedest man alive. 1622 *FLETCHER Prophetess* III. i, We are no Spinsters; nor, if you look upon us, So wreched as you take us. 1647 *COWLEY Mistr., My Heart Discovered* 37 What should the wretched Widow do? ? 1705 *BERKELEY* in *Fraser Life* (1871) 475 Man without God wrecheder than a stone or tree. 1795 *GROATHE Vis. Maid Orleans* II. 238 A most wreched band Groun'd underneath the bitter tyranny Of a fierce dæmon. 1829 *HOOD Dream Eugene Aram* xix, My wreched, wreched soul . . . Was at the Devil's price. 1858 *CARLYLE Fredk. Gt.* v. i, The poor exasperated Mother, wrechedest and angriest of women. 1882 *J. HAWTHORNE Fort. Fool* I. xxiv, A mountain of it can't make you one hair's breadth the happier or the wrecheder.

β. *a* 1340 *HAMPOLE Psalter* II. 2 þa ere fendis, þat bigiles wriched saules.

γ. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 24 We wratcheit sinnaris pure, Our sin hes vs forlorne.

b. absol., in sing. or plural sense.

1388 *WYCLIF Isaiah* xvi. 4 For whi dust is endid, the wrechid [1382 the wrechce] is wastid; he that defoulide the lond failude. 1576 *WHETSTONE Roche of Regard* I. 41 *marg.*, Others pleasures a griefto the wreched. 1600 *SHAKS. A.Y.L.* III. v. 37 Who might be your mother That you insult, exult, . . . Ouer the wreched? 1730 *THOMSON Autumn* 1192 Let These Insnare the wreched in the toils of law. 1794 *MRS. RADCLIFFE Myst. Udolpho* liv, The delight of having made the wreched happy. *a* 1806 *H. K. WHITE Remains* (1825) 306, I heard the wreched's groan, and mourn'd the wreched's doom. 1844 *KINGLAKE Eothen* II, The wreched look often more picturesque than their betters.

(*b*) *spec.* in phr. *wretched of the earth* [tr. *F. damnés de la terre* (F. Fanon 1961, as book title)].

1965 *C. FARRINGTON* tr. *F. Fanon (title)* The wreched of the earth. 1970 *Guardian* 21 Aug. 11/3 Are the refugees, the most wreched of the earth, fertile ground for revolutionary activity on a mass scale? 1979 *Country Life* 11 Oct. 1236/3 Our own native 'wretched of the earth', the alcoholics, the inadequates, the very poor. 1983 *C. DRIVER British at Table*

viii. 140 Protein alone cannot rescue the wreched of the earth.

2. *a.* Of conditions, etc.: Marked or distinguished by misery or unhappiness; attended by distress, discomfort, or sorrow.

a. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 141 Hwu wunderlich was his hider-cume and hwu wrechede his her-biwist. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 949 3ee most leue þis lufsum land, Vnto þe wreched werld to gang. *c* 1340 *HAMPOLE Pr. Consc.* 557 þe bygynnyng of man . . . Es vile and wreched to behalde. 1377 *LANGL. P. Pl.* B. xv. 138 A wreched hous he helde al his lyf tyme. *c* 1450 *Cursor M.* 9573 (Laud MS.), Here now my prayere Of this wrechedid preson. 1538 *STARKEY Englynd* I. ii. 47 Myserabul penury and wrechyd pouerty. 1581 *A. HALL Iliad* I. 3 You see howe in this wreched warre our people doe decay. 1602 *SHAKS. Ham.* III. iii. 67 Oh wreched state! Oh bosome, blacke as death! 1697 *DRYDEN Virg. Past.* 1. 15 The raging Sword and wastful Fire Destroy the wreched Neighbourhood around. 1719 *DE FOE Crusoe* II. (Globe) 402 The Savages . . . killed them over again in a wreched Manner, breaking their Arms. 1785 *BURNS Winter Night* ix, Think, for a moment, on his wreched fate! 1847 *McCULLOCH Acc. Brit. Empire* (ed. 3) II. 511 The disorderly and wreched state of the population. 1855 *TENNYSON Maud* II. v. ii, Wretchedest age, since Time began, They cannot even bury a man.

β. *c* 1400 *MAUNDEV.* (Roxb.) vi. 21 It es lang sen any durst come nere þat wriched place.

γ. *c* 1480 *HENRYSON Prais of Aige* 25 This wrachit warld may na man trow. 1552 *LYNDESAY Monarchie* Prol. 209 In this wracheit vaill of sorrow. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 57 Quhen fra this wratcheit lyfe we wend.

b. Of weather, etc.: Causing discomfort; very unpleasant or uncomfortable.

1711 *SWIFT Jnl. to Stella* 27 March, A rainy wreched scurvy day from morning till night. 1836 *DICKENS Sk. Boz, Streets—Night*, It was such a wreched night out o' doors. 1888 *Encycl. Dict.* s.v., Wretched weather.

3. *a.* Distinguished by base, vile, or unworthy character or quality; contemptible.

c 1250 *Kent. Sermon* in *O.E. Misc.* 28 þo ilke pinges so bieth bitere to þo wrichede flesce. *c* 1290 *Codicem MS. Digby* 86 (1871) 99 Weilawe, wrechede bali, nou þou shalt to bere. *a* 1333 *W. HERBERT in Relig. Lyrics 14th C.* (1924) 19 Dame, help at þe noede . . . þat uor no wreched gult Ich boe to helle y-pult. *c* 1375 *Lay Folks Mass Bk.* (MS. B.) 80 þat god haue merci . . . of my wreched synfulnes. 1456 *SIR G. HAYE Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 172 Of this wrechit disobeysaunce cummys untreuth. 1495 *Rolls of Parl.* VI. 502/2 Their cursed, myschevous and wreched purpose. 1529 *MORE Dyaloge* III. xi, Wks. 226 We take suche a wreched pleasure in the hearing of their sin. 1568 *GRAFTON Chron.* II. 776 *margin*, Oh depe and wreched dissimulation! 1608 *TOPSELL Serpents* 278 The wreched nature of the young man, and his extream impietie. 1652 *URQUHART Jewel Wks.* (1834) 213 Compatriots infected with the same leprosy of a wreched peevishness whereof those . . . rapacious varlets have given such cannibal-like proofs. 1720 *T. INNES Crit. Essay* (1879) 311 Knox himself . . . led on the furious mob in this wreched expedition. 1754 *SHERLOCK Disc.* (1759) I. iii. 109 The wreched Circumstances which put an end to our Lord's life. 1835 *DICKENS Sk. Boz, Pawn. Shop*, Where the practised smile is a wreched mockery of the misery of the heart. 1868 *FREEMAN Norm. Conq.* (1876) II. ix. 421 The thing was clearly some wreched court intrigue.

b. Of a poor, mean, or paltry character; mean, worthless; sorry, trifling.

1375 *BARBOUR Bruce* IX. 403 Quhen sic a knyght, sa richt vorthy As this is . . . In-to sic perill has hym set To vyn an vrechit hamlet. *c* 1400 *CAPGRAVE St. Augustine* 46 His clopis . . . wer not ouyr costful, ne ouyr wreched. 1450 *Lincoln Diocese Doc.* 45, I gyff . . . my wrechid body to be Beryd in a chitte with-owte any kyste. 1561 *T. NORTON Calvin's Inst.* III. 265 This wreched victory they shall obtaine, where . . . the Lord shal suffer them to ouerspreade the darknes of lyes. 1637 *MILTON Lycidas* 124 Their lean and flashy songs Grate on their scannell Pipes of wreched straw. 1662 *J. DAVIES tr. Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 274 He who play'd upon the Timbrel accompany'd with a wreched inharmonious Voicc. *Ibid.* 406 A wreched coarse Cloth. 1711 *ADDISON Spect.* No. 13 ¶6 The wreched Taste of his Audience. 1726 *SHELVOCKE Voy. round World* (1757) 297 A paper written in such wreched Spanish as we could muster up amongst us. 1778 *E. HARWOOD Eds. Classics* (ed. 2) 5 Editions . . . printed on wreched paper. 1824 *MISS MITFORD Village Ser.* I. 189 That still wrecheder apology for a coat. 1855 *MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* xix. IV. 263 So wreched had his education been. 1801 *FARRAR Darkn. & Dawn* xxx, The wreched little islets of Gyara and Tremerus.

4. Of persons, etc.: Contemptible in character or quality; despicable, reprehensible; hateful.

c 1430 *LYDG. Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 79 There stode a dragon, . . . Wretched and skaled al wyth asure. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 82 [When] he hard þis clauce red, . . . þis wrichid clerk made a skorn perat & sayd þat it was fals. 1460 *CAPGRAVE Chron.* (Rolls) 62 Nero . . . of alle men wrechididhest, reddy to alle maner vices. *c* 1470 *HENRY Wallace* VII. 400 Had he the world, and be wrachit off hart, He is no lord as to the worthines. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 37b, Al though they be wreched lyuers & noughty packes. 1560 *tr. Fisher's Godly Treat. Prayer* Cjb, Euery man, be he neuer so extreme and wreched a synner. *c* 1585 [R. BROWNE] *Ans. Cartwright* 68 To eate the Lordes supper with open vnrepentant & wreched persons is not lawfull. 1710 *BERKELEY Princ. Hum. Knowl.* §92 The absurdities of every wreched sect of Atheists. 1809-10 *COLERIDGE Friend* (1865) 107 The wreched tyrant . . . had exhausted the whole magazine of animal terror. 1855 *TENNYSON Maud* x. ii, At war with myself and a wreched race, Sick, sick to the heart of life, am I.

transf. 1853 *KANE Grinnell Exp.* xxxi. (1856) 266 The icebergs are wreched enemies in the dark.

5. Of persons or animals: Poor in ability, capacity, character, etc.

c 1482 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 85 On spurte with the whiche he was compellid to stere his wrechid hors to renne. 1577 *B. GOOGE Heresbach's Husb.* III. 150 Such as are farrowed in winter are commonly poore and wreched. 1668 *EVELYN tr. Freart's Idea Perf. Paint.* 16 By the hand of some

wretched Dauber. 1860 *SALA Lady Chesterfield* 31 The women who make the wrechedest wives in the world. 1864 *PUSEY Lect. Daniel* (1876) 363 Daniel's omission of the wreched kings between Nebuchadnezzar and Belshazzar.

†6. Niggardly; miserly. (Cf. WRETCH *v.*²) *Obs.*
 1652 *URQUHART Jewel Wks.* (1834) 280 That the minister is the greediest man in the parish, . . . and that the richer they become . . . the more wreched they are.

7. *Comb.*, as †wretched-fated, -witched, and esp. *wretched-looking*.

1591 *SYLVESTER Iury* 425 People . . . Pleas'd with the blaze, do, wreched-witched Elves, For fuell (fooles) cast-in their willing Selves. 1615 *CHAPMAN Odys.* xx. 50 Thou most sowre, and wreched-fated man Of all that breath! 1817 *J. SCOTT Paris Revisit.* (ed. 4) 74 The single wreched-looking horse of each, half drowned in the torrent. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIII. 383/2 The cattle of the district are in general wreched-looking. 1864 *A. MCKAY Hist. Kilmarnock* 295 The wreched-looking farm-houses of former years.

Hence †'wretcheddom, misery. *Obs.*

c 1320 *Cast. Love* 408 He . . . tyed hym . . . To wrecheddam [v.r. wrechedam] and serwe i-nous.

†'wretchedful, *a.* *Obs.* [var. of WRETCHFUL *a.*, after prec.] Full of misery; miserable, wreched.

1382 *WYCLIF Judg.* v. 27 Cisaram . . . was wrappid before the feet of hir, and he lay out of lijf, and wrechidful. *c* 1420 *Prymer* 69 What schal y þanne, most wrechidful, þenke? *c* 1425 in *Anglia X.* 343/1 Wrechedefulle & sorowfulle þou schalt abyde þe grace of þe hye iustyse. 1482 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 36, I herde and sawe . . . the wrechid compaynes of men and women ouer wrechidful bounden to gedyr.

†'wretchedhede. *Obs.* In 3-4 wreched- (4 wrocched-), 4 wrechid-, 3-4 wrechid-, 3-5 wrechedhede (4 -hed, 5 -heed). [f. WRETCHED *a.* + -hede HEDE 2. Cf. WRETCHHEAD.] The state or condition of being a wretch or wreched person; wrechedness, misery.

a 1300 *E.E. Psalter* cvi. 41 [God] helped poure fra wreched-hede. *c* 1325 *Metz. Hom.* 23 Crist . . . us teches For to forsak this werdes winne Ful of wrecheded and sinne. 13.. *Cursor M.* 1141 (Gött), For þi ill wreched-hede [*Trin.* wreched hede] þu sal lede euer þi lijf in nede. *a* 1400 in *Relig. Lyrics 14th C.* (1924) 240 Whan y þenk vp-on my dede . . . , Dede torneþ into wrechidhede.

wretchedly ('retʃɪdli), *adv.* [f. as prec. + -LY².] In a wreched manner.

1. In a miserable or unhappy fashion; with great misery, discomfort, distress, or unhappiness; miserably.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 9459 Quen he sa wrechedli had tint His heritage. *c* 1340 *HAMPOLE Pr. Consc.* 842 þus wrechedly endes þe lyf of man. *c* 1400 *MAUNDEV.* (1839) xxiii. 251 Thei lyven fulle wreched-liche; and thei eten but ones in the day. *c* 1410 *Lanterne of Liht* 51 Art þou not þanne wrechidli diuidid in þi silf? *c* 1450 *Myrr. our Ladye* 5 Adam . . . fel so wrechidly in to synne. 1538 *STARKEY Englynd* 74 For lake therof [sc. food] many . . . lyue vey wrechidly. 1562 *J. HEYWOOD Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 82 Tyll death from this lyfe, did hir wrechedly fetche. 1652 *BENLOWES Theoph.* I. lxxxvi, Crest-fall'n by sin, how wrechedly I stray. *a* 1667 *COWLEY Ess., Liberty* ¶7 Thus wrechedly the precious day is lost. 1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. 403 It is our lots to be so wrechedly situated . . . as to be content with forty shillings per cow per annum, nett profit. 1817 *BYRON Manfred* II. i. 77, I can bear—However wrechedly . . . —In life what others could not brook to dream. 1867 *MORRIS Jason* ix. 76 This body . . . In thy despite here mangled wrechedly. 1868 *FREEMAN Norm. Conq.* (1877) II. viii. 187 Arnulf . . . drove him out to die wrechedly in exile.

b. In a way suggestive of indisposition or bad health.

1728 *YOUNG Love of Fame* VI. 232 Methinks I look so wrechedly to-day! 1797 *JANE AUSTEN Sense & Sens.* xxx, Though looking most wrechedly, she ate more.

2. So as to cause, or involve in, misery, distress, or discomfort.

1297 *R. GLOUC.* (Rolls) 5049 þe wreche . . . þat þus wreched-liche vs driffy out of vre kunde londe. *c* 1450 *Myrr. our Ladye* II. 190 Wrechedly caste oute from the glory of paradise. *a* 1548 *HALL Chron., Edw. IV.* 223 b, The hepyng of synne vpon synne, wrechedly by his auncesters. *a* 1700 *EVELYN Diary* 8 July 1656, A faire towne, but now wrechedly demolished by the late siege. 1828-32 *WEBSTER s.v.*, The prisoners were wrechedly lodged.

†3. *Sc.* In a miserly or niggardly manner. *Obs.*

1500-20 *DUNBAR Poems* xvi. 21 Sum gevis to littill full wrechitly, That his giftis ar not set by.

4. Qualifying adjs. (or advs.): To a distressing, vexing, or unsatisfactory degree; deplorably, very badly; = MISERABLY *adv.* 5.

In the trivial use frequent from *c* 1830.

1546 *BALE Eng. Votaries* I. 76 They are wrechedlye blynde, for want of lyuelye knowlege in the sacred scriptures. *a* 1677 *BARROW Sermon.* xix. Wks. 1686 III. 219 Sloth is a base quality, the argument of a mind wrechedly degenerate and mean. 1696 *STANHOPE Chr. Pattern* I. iii. (1700) 8 Both Error and Vice do . . . so wrechedly abound. *a* 1700 *EVELYN Diary* 23 July 1679, The land all about wrechedly barren. 1810 *LADY GRANVILLE Lett.* (1894) I. 4 Miss Berry . . . looking wrechedly ill. 1830 *GREVILLE Mem.* 5 Feb. (1875) I. 275 They are wrechedly off for speakers. 1858 *DICKENS Lett.* (1880) II. 65 You will find it a wrechedly stupid letter. 1879 *McCARTHY Own Times* xxvii. II. 306 The hospitals were in a wrechedly disorganised condition.

5. In an inexpert, unsatisfactory, or crude manner; inefficiently, unskillfully, very poorly.

1677 *MIEGE Fr. Dict.* II. s.v., To do a thing wrechedly, . . . faire mal quelque chose. *a* 1700 *EVELYN Diary* 8 July 1656, A statue of Coilus in wood, wrechedly carved. 1719 *DE FOE Crusoe* I. (Globe) 136, I made me a Suit of Cloaths wholly of

these Skins;.. they were wretchedly made. 1757 [BURKE] *Europ. Settlement. Amer.* vii. xxvii. II. 269 The capital... was a small place wretchedly fortified. 1778 E. HARWOOD *Eds. Classics* (ed. 2) 59 This Edition wretchedly reprinted, Francof. 1690. 1856 KANE *Arct. Expl.* I. xxvi. 349 We are wretchedly prepared for another winter on board. 1881 MISS BRADDON *Asphodel* II. 16 Lina, dearest, .. you were playing [billiards] almost as wretchedly as I.

wretchedness ('rɛtʃɪdnɪs). [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The state or quality of being wretched.

1. A condition of discomfort or distress caused by privation, poverty, misfortune, adversity, or the like; great misery or unhappiness.

In very frequent use from c 1375.
a. c 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Cons.* 6102 þe day of wrethe and of wrechednes. c 1386 CHAUCER *Manciple's T.* 67 Yet hath this brid... Leuere in a florest that is rude and coold Goon ete worms, and swich wrechednesse. c 1440 *Gesta Rom.* vii. 19 Thenne... comyth aȝen... our lord, whenne þat he hath pyte of our wrechidnesse. 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 448 Yf thou were in the abyssmes of wrechidnes and myseryes. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 37 He cast hym out into this vale of mysery and wrechednes. 1596 SPENSER *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 614/1 When they are weary of warres, and brought downe to extreme wrechednesse. 1605 SHAKS. *Learn* iv. vi. 61 Is wrechednesse depriu'd that benefit To end it selfe by death? 1679 DRYDEN *Pref. to Troil.* & *Cress.* ad fin., Consider the wrechedness of his condition. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* i. 229 Thought, busy thought!... Strays (wretched rover!) o'er the pleasing Past: In quest of wrechedness perversely strays. 1760 D. WEBB *Inq. Beauties Painting* 161 A fine image of hopeless wrechedness, of consuming grief. 1820 SYD. SMITH *Wks.* (1850) 302 The manifold wrechedness to which the poor Irish tenant is liable. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xlv, The great manufacturing town reeking with lean misery and hungry wrechedness. 1887 BRUCE SMITH *Liberty & Liberalism* 615 What we call 'wrechedness, unhappiness, and sin' are the inevitable results of the gap which does... exist between our powers and our aspirations.

β. a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* ii. 11 þe dred of god is noght of wricchidnes bot of ioy. c 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxvi. 124 þai liffe with grete wricchedness and scantness.

γ. c 1480 HENRYSON *Prais of Aige* 12 Wraclitnes his [= has] turnyt al fra weil to vo.

b. A cause or occasion of misery.

1382 WYCLIF *James v.* I. Do now, 3e riche men, wepe 3e, 3oulynge in 3oure wrecchidnes that shulen come to 3ou. c 1410 *Lanterne of Liȝt* 49 þis a sorowful vanite & a greette wrecchidnes. c 1450 MYRR. *our Ladye* II. 242 How grete tormentes & how grete wrechednesses they gather and hepe to theyr owne sowles. 1837 CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* I. i. ii, Call not the Past Time, with all its confused wrechednesses, a lost one. 1893 *Amer. Mission.* (N.Y.) Dec. 436 To these vices... is added now a new wrechedness, .. the vice of drunkenness.

2. The condition or character of being base or vile, odious or contemptible; despicableness, meanness, badness.

13.. *Cursor M.* 10887 (Gött.), Widuten sinne and wrechednes Sal þu be mayden as þu es. *Ibid.* 17288 + 273 Als mikel os scho loued bifore þe de & wricchednes, Als mikel... loued scho crist thoru hir grete godenes. 1389 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 7 3if it so befalle þat any of þe bretherhede falle in pouerte... so it be nat on hymselfe along, thorw3 his owne wrechednesse. c 1450 LOVELICH *Graill* xliii. 413 For more they loven wrechednesse Thanne hevenely thing. c 1475 *Bk. Noblesse* (Roxb.) 51 Therfor ye oughte... conceyve the gret adversite that fallithe to us... only for synne and wrechidnes. 1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* II. 2010 For boudy balades full of wrechednes. 1546 LANGLEY *tr. Pol. Verg. de Invent.* iv. i. 81 b, They... returned to their old wrechednes and sinful abominacions. 1617 WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Pref., Wks. (1639) Cj, Censuring other men in many things, but not perceiving their own wrechedness at all. 1645 MILTON *Colast.* Wks. 1851 IV. 345 The guilt of his own wrechednes. 1649 — *Eikon.* Pref., [Their] Pulpit-stuffe... hath bin the... perpetuall infusion of servility and wrechedness to all thir hearers. 1755 JOHNSON, *Wrechedness*, .. despicableness.

†b. A base or reprehensible action; a vicious trait, deed, etc. *Obs.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 171 þei... tellen lesyngis & wricchidness of synnis. c 1386 CHAUCER *Frankl. T.* 795 [To] doon so heigh a cherlyssh wrechednesse Agayns franchise and alle gentillesse.

†3. *Sc.* The state or condition of being miserly or parsimonious; niggardliness, miserliness. *Obs.*

c 1470 HENRY WALLACE VIII. 526 Thai sawft na Sotheroun for thair gret riches; Off sic koffre he callit bot wrechitnes. c 1500 *Lancelot* 1857 Wrechitnes richt so... Haith Realmys maid ful desolat & barre. 1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxxi. 4 He that hes gold and grit richness, .. And levis in to wrechitnes, He wirkis sorrow to him sell.

4. The state or condition of being mean, sorry, or paltry; inferiority, worthlessness.

1810 *Naval Chron.* XXIII. 39 His seventh assertion... is... a curious specimen of the wrechedness of his information. 1828-32 WEBSTER s.v., The wrechedness of a performance.

5. The fact or character of being uncomfortable or unpleasant; discomfort.

1836 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Streets—Night*, After a little conversation about the wrechedness of the weather. 1888 *Harper's Mag.* Oct. 782 The gray wrechedness of the afternoon was a fit prelude to Barra.

†wretchful, a. *Obs.* Forms: (see quot.). [Irreg. f. WRETCH sb. and a. + -FUL. Cf. WRETCHEDFUL a.] Wretched; miserable; unhappy.

1382 WYCLIF *Eccl.* v. 15 Wreccheful forsothe infirmyte; what maner he cam, so he shal turne aȝeen. — *Rev.* iii. 17 Thou art a wrecche, and wrecchful [1388 wretcheful], and pore, and blynd, and nakid.

†wretchhead. *Obs.* In 2 wrecchehed, 2-4 wrec-, 3-4 wrecc-, wrechhede, 3 wrecchehed, wrecchade, 5 wrechehed. [f. as prec. + -HEAD. Cf. WRETCHEDHEDE.] = WRETCHEDNESS 1.

Frequent in Robert of Gloucester's *Chronicle*.

1154 O.E. *Chron.* an. 1137, Wes næure gæt mare wrecchehed on land. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 79 þas þeues... boð þo þet weren imaked engles in houene, and fallen ut for hore wrechede. a 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 21 We ðankieð gode... ðe ȝew haueð of ðessere michele wrecchade ibroht. *Ibid.* 95 þurh hwam ic am... on manizes kennes wrecchades, sori and sorhfull. a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1219 Hwanne ic iseo þer sum wrecchede Is cumynde neyh inoh ic grede. c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 292/133 þenç noupe, louerd, on mine wrechhedel 13... *Chron. R. Glouc.* (MS. Digby 205) 5053 Nowe we ben... Dryuen oute clene... with sorwe & wrechhede [v.rr. wrechede, wrechhede, wrechehed].

wretchless ('rɛtʃlɪs), a. ? *Obs.* [Erron. form of *wretchless*, obs. var. of RECKLESS a.]

Also 1609 Daniel *Compl. Rosamond* lii, 1617 Hooker *Eccl. Pol.* v. 385, 1662 — *Serm.* vi. §33 (in *Eccl. Pol.* 302), 1669 Heylyn *Cosmogr.* II. 200, 1689 Sanderson *Serm.* 389, 1710 Cowley *Cutter Colman St. Pref.*, 1714 Quarles *Feast for Worms* Med. i, where however the earlier edd. have *rech-, retch(e)lesse, retchless*.

1. Of persons: Heedless, careless, imprudent; = RECKLESS a. 1.

1598 TOFFE *Alba* (1880) 85 Thus (carefull I) doe care for careless thee, Whilst wretches thou, makst no account of mee. 1617 *Greene's Arbusto* v. D3, A fit reuenge for so wretchlesse an enemy. 1643 PRYNNE *Sov. Power Parl.* IV. App. 20 The people fell away from their wretchlesse and lasciuious king. 1666 [see RECKLESS a. 1]. 1681 *Gesta Rom.* v. B3, This young Lord... sought many Realms, and found many wretchless fools. 1853 *TRENCH Prov.* (ed. 2) 136 The motto of some, who... become utterly wretchless, caring not... how much further they advance.

2. Heedless of something; = RECKLESS a. 2.

1661 RUST *Origen's Opin.* 37 Some in their charge, who... are... wretchless and insensible of all wholesome counsels.

3. Marked or characterized by heedlessness or carelessness; = RECKLESS a. 3.

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 473 The vnmercifull regard which wretchlesse and childish mindes beare towards the greatest labors and deserts of the best men. 1633 [see RECKLESS a. 3]. 1656 OSBORNE *Observ. Turks* §15 This... doth often hurry such as have had their hopes deluded... into wretchlesse Infidelity. 1673 ALLESTREE *Lady's Calling* I. v. §26 The comprehensive description of the most wretchless profligated state of sin.

Hence †wretchlessly *adv.* *Obs.*

1615 DOD & CLEAVER *Expos. Prov.* 87 Hee doth vpbraide him with... folly, which would so wretchlesly, and sinfully depart with that. ? 16... in *Styrye's Eccl. Mem.* III. App. 124 Cursed are al they that do the Lord's busines wretchlesly.

wretchlessness ('rɛtʃlɪsnɪs). Now only *arch.* [Erron. form of *wretchlesnes*, obs. var. of RECKLESSNESS. Cf. RECKLESS a.]

Also 1634 Raleigh *Hist. World* iv. iii. §5, 1718 Daniel *Civ. Wars* v. xxi, where however the earlier edd. have *wretchlesnes* (se, etc).

1. The condition or quality of being reckless or heedless; recklessness.

1625 PURCHAS *Pilgrims* II. 1304 [A language] corrupted not so much by the mixture of other Tongues, as through a supine wretchlesnesse. 1647 HAMMOND *Power of Keys* iv. 113 The pride and self-conceit of some, the wretchlesnes of others. 1673 HICKMAN *Quinuart. Hist.* II. 455 For any men to have the Doctor's... sentence of Predestination alway before them, is no way... apt to beget either despair or wretchlessness.

1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* vii, Till lately, from my youth up, I was given over to all wretchlessness and unclean living. 1860 A. L. WINDSOR *Ethica* iv. 209 To the wretchlessness of human nature his mind... must have been peculiarly sensitive.

2. Disregard or neglect of something.

Frequent in echoes of quot. 1630.

1630 *Articles Ch. England* xvii. C2, Whereby the Devil doth thrust them either into desperation, or into wretchlessness [earlier edd. *rech(e)lesnesse*] of most unclean living. [1819 G. S. FABER *Dispensations* (1823) I. 171 To drive man to absolute despair and thence (as our Church expresses it) to complete wretchlessness of unclean living.] 1882 FARRAR *Early Chr.* I. 377 What a rare insolence and wretchlessness of sin must be involved in such expressions. 1892 *Sat. Rev.* 17 Dec. 719/2 His fault-finding is due to wretchlessness of most unclean desperation in him.

†wretchly, a. *Obs. rare.* In 2-3 wrechelich. [f. WRETCH sb. + -LY¹.] Wretched, miserable.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 33 Adam... ferde ut fram þe fulle edinesse of paradis in to pesse wrecheliche hateringe of pisse worlde.

†'wretchly, *adv.* *Obs.* Forms: 3 wræccheliche, wrecccheliȝ, 3-4 -lyche, 4 wrecheli, 5 *Sc.* wrechly. [f. WRETCH a. + -LY².] In a wretched or distressing manner; miserably.

c 1200 ORMIN 3326 And tohh þatt Godd wass... wundenn þær swa wrecccheliȝ Wipp clutess inn an cribbe. c 1205 LAY. 12096 Ne miöte hit na mon telle þet weoren æi wimman Swa wreccchelicchen atoȝene. *Ibid.* 30554 þa wes he wrecccheliche of-lust after deores flæsc. 1340-70 *Alex. & Dind.* 88, I wrouthe wrecheli now & wrapede drihten. 13... *Chron. R. Glouc.* (Hearne) 9157 Ac [pe] kyng... nom hym vaste, And in prison hym huld, & wrechelyche he deyde atte laste. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxiii. (*Seven Sleepers*) 161 Sa þat þai suld... for hungrede be wrechly.

So †wretchlike *adv.* *Obs. rare*⁻¹.

c 1200 ORMIN 3708 To libbenn her onn eorpe Full wreche-like inn uselddom Off metess & off clappess.

†'wretchness. *Obs. rare.* In 4-5 wrechenesse, 5 -nys, wrachenes. [f. WRETCH a. + -NESS.] Wretchedness; misery; a cause or source of distress.

a 1330 W. HEREBERT in *Rel. Ant.* II. 227 What! ich vol of wrechenesse, hou shal ich take opon, When ich no god ne bringe to-vore the domes mon? 1382 WYCLIF *Job* xxx. 12 At the riȝt of the est my wrechenesses anon risen. 14... in *Walter of Henley's Husb.* (1890) 42 The hard change off fortune... discendithe... to myche vnease or wrechenys. 1483 *Act 1 Rich.* III, c. 2 Mony worshipfull men... were compelled... to lyff in grete penurie and wrechenesse.

wretchock ('rɛtʃək). Now *dial.* Also 6 wretchocke, -ecke, 7 -ocke. [f. WRETCH sb. + -OCK. Cf. WRETCHCOCK.] The smallest or weakest of a brood, etc.; a puny fowl; a diminutive person, little wretch.

a 1529 SKELTON *E. Rummyng* 465 The goslanges were un-tyde; Elynour began to chydre, They be wretchockes [v. rr. wrethocke(s)] thou hast brought, They are shyre shakying nought! 1579 G. HARVEY *Letter-bk.* (Camden) 87 Lernerd philosophers... are the dryest, leanist, ill-favoriddist, abiectist, base-mind[ed]ist carrians and wrethockes that ever you sett your eie on. 1621 B. JONSON *Gypsies Metam.* in *Horatius*, etc. (1640) 48 The famous Impe yet grew a wretchocke [*Heber MS.* wrethock], and... for seven years together he was carefully carried at his Mothers back. 1903 R. M. GILCHRIST *Beggar's Manor* 223 She can't have gone of her own account; the poor wretchock dotes on you. 1905 *Eng. Dial. Dict.*, *Wretchock*, .. the smallest pig of a litter. s. Wor[cester].

wrete, obs. var. WART sb.; obs. pa. t. and pa. pple. of WRITE v.

wreten, obs. f. *written*, pa. pple. of WRITE v.

wreth, obs. f. WREATH, WREATHE v.; obs. Sc. f. WROTH a.

†wrethe, sb. *Obs.* Forms: a. 1 wræðo, -u, wræþu, 2 wræþe, 3 wreðe, 3-5 wreth, 4-6 wrethe, 6 *Sc.* wreath. β. *north.* 4-5 wrythe, 5 writh(e, *Sc.* wryth). [OE. *wræðo* (also *wræðo*), *wræþu* (f. *wrāþ* WROTH a.), = MLG. *wrêde*. ON. **wreidi* (Norw. *vreide*; MSw. *wredhe*, *wredhe*, Sw. and Da. *vrede*), *reiði* (Icel. *reiði*, Norw. *reide*). A different OE. formation is represented by WRATH sb.]

1. Violent anger; = WRATH sb. 1. Also in the phr. be (= by), *but, for, of, in, on, through, with wrethe*.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark iii. 21 And miððy ȝeherdon his eodon to haldanne hine, cuodon forðon þætte on wræðo [L. in *furorē*] ȝecerred was. c 1100 O.E. *Chron.* (MS. F.) an. 1051, Forþan hi wæran intinga þære wræðe ðe was betwux him & ðan cinge. c 1250 *Kent. Serm.* in O.E. *Misc.* 33 Yef se deuel us wille a-cumbri þurç senn... oper þurh wreþe. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 482 Lamech wið wreðe is knape nam. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 10049 Mocht in hir noþer be wreth ne het, Hir tholmodenes it was a gret. c 1330 *Amis & Amil.* 830 Lete thi wrethe first ouergon, Y pray the. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xlii. (*Agatha*) 121 In wryth quynceane bad gef hire buffetis. a 1400 *Sir Degrev.* (Thornton MS.) 299 (Halliwell), Thus thay fighte in the frythe, With wa wreke thay thaire wrythe. 1422 YONG tr. *Secreta Secret.* 135 Hatredyn engendryth wronge and wrethe. c 1440 *Eng. Cong. Ireland* 75 But in nothyng the mayght acorde, & begon to de-per, as in wrethe. 1530 PALSGR. 290/2 Wrethe, angre, *courroux, maltalent.* 1587 W. FOWLER *Wks.* (S.T.S.) I. 53 Sometyes through wreath, I forced was... To teare them all in peaces small.

Personif. c 1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 624 Wrethe bestrode a wyldre bore, and next hem gan ryde.

transf. c 1475 *Partenay* 231 An huge bore of meruelous wreth.

2. A fit or display of wrath; = WRATH sb. 2.
a 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 865 (Dubl. MS.), Sir, lat þi wrethes all wende. 1434 MISYNN *Mending Life* 117 Wrethis, hatredis, detraccons mekely suffyr.

3. Of the Deity: = WRATH sb. 4 a.

c 900 *Rituale Eccl. Dunelm.* (Surtees) 11 In alle soðfæst[nis] ðin se ymbwoended [L. *auertatur*]... wræðo ðin. a 1023 WULFSTAN *Hom.* (1883) 174 Hæfþ eal folc... miclele wræpe æt gode þurh his ænne gilt. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 27362 O þat soruful dai o pain... þe dai o wreth, o quak and soru. c 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Cons.* 1552 þærewyth þai wreth God þat sese all; And his wreth at þe last sall with þam mete. 1387 TREVISIA *Higden* I. 191 þat tyme þat Egipt was i-smyte wiþ God all myzties wrethe. c 1420 [see WREAK sb. 1].

4. Injury, hurt, harm. *rare.*

c 1400 *Melayne* 96 Wende thy waye... To Charles... & he sall wreke thy wrethis alle. c 1440 *Bone Florence* 1613 Hys mowthe, hys nose, braste owt on blood, Forthe at the chaumbur dore he yode, For drede of more wrethe.

wrethe: see WREATH, WREATHE v., WRIT sb.

†wrethe, v.¹ *Obs.* Forms: a. 1 *Northumb.* wræðan (wuræðan), 2-3 wreðen (3 werðen), 5 wrethyn; 4 wreþi, 4-5 wreþe, wrethe (e, 5 *Sc.* wreyth. β. 5 *north.* writhe. [OE. *wræðan*, causative verb f. *wrāþ* WROTH a. Cf. WROTH v.]

1. *trans.* Of persons (or things): To make angry; to vex, anger, irritate. = WRATH v. 2.

In frequent use from c 1300 to c 1400.
c 900 *Rituale Eccl. Dunelm.* (Surtees) 107 Se cyng... mið ðy ȝiherde wræðde & sende hergym sinm. c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xviii. 34 And wuræðde [L. *iratus*] hlaferd his gesalde hine ðæm pinerum. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 39 Bute we inwarliche imilicen and forȝeuen þan monne þe us wreðeð and sceandet. c 1230 *Hali Meid.* (1922) 38 For moni þing schal ham wreaden & gremien. a 1240 *Ureusin* in O.E. *Hom.*

197 þæt ich ðe wreðede sume siðe hit me reoweð sore. **13**.. *Seuyn Sages* (W.) 3461 Sir, ye er wretched wrang; That sal ye wit wele or I gang. **1375** BARBOUR *Bruce* xvii. 45 Gif he tuk till his helping, Ane or othir suld wrethit be. **1422** YONGE tr. *Secreta Secret*. 199 God. . no man refusyth, haue he neuer so myche hym wrethyd. **c1475** *Partenay* 2856 More neuer ne was woer. . Then off that he hade wrethed so Raymounde.

b. refl. To wax angry; = WRATH *v.* 3.
c1205 LAY. 9214 þe kaiser hine wrædde, þe wurs him wes on heorte. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 18221 Wit þis can iesus him to wreth. **a1340** HAMPOLE *Psalter* vii. 12 God is rightwis iuge; . he wrethis him noght ilk day. **c1400** *Ywaine & Gaw.* 995 For na thing that thou mai sayn, Wil i me wreth. **c1430** *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* iii. xxxii. (1869) 153 Nature wolde wrethe hire if man [etc.].

c. impers. = ANGER *v.* 2 b.
a1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 4639 Or ellis 3ow writhis with 3our wele, for 3e na welth haue!

2. intr. To become or be angry; = WRATH *v.* 1.
c900 *Rituale Eccl. Dunelm.* (Surtees) 197 Wræððe. . diwl [L. *fremuit diabolus*]. **c950** *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. v. 22 Eghuelc seðe uraedes broðere his. **c1175** *Lamb. Hom.* 33 Tobreoke anes eorðlices monnes heste, he wile wreðe wið þe. **a1225** *Juliana* 13 (Bodl. MS.), Affrican wreðede & swor swiðe deopliche. **c1250** *Gen. & Ex.* 1584 Be ðu ðer. . til esau Eðe moðed be, ðe wreðed nu. **a1340** HAMPOLE *Psalter* ii. 12 Gripes disciplyne, leswhen lord wreth: and 3e perisch fra rightwis way. **1387** *TREvisa Higden* V. 207 þæt he schulde whanne he gan to wrepe seie ofte and by ordre foure and twenty letres of Grewe. **a1400-50** *Wars Alex.* 2593 þen þe berne writhis, Fandis him first on be-fore, & all folozes eftir. **14**.. *Titus & Vesp.* (Roxb.) 1404 (Addit. MS. 10036), Thei wrepd with him for his sawe. **c1475** *Partenay* 4853 It was for his syne That his fader had wrethed heuily so.

3. trans. To be angry with (a person); = WRATH *v.* 4.

c1420 *Chaucer's Troylus* iii. 174 (Harl. MS. 2280), Ny nyl [I] forbere if þat 3e don amys To wreth 3ow. **c1500** *Poems Gray MS.* (S.T.S.) 46 Quhy wrethis pou me? I greif þe nocht.

Hence †'wrethed *ppl. a.*; †'wrething *vbl. sb.*
a1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* vi. 1 He sall be seen til ill men as *wrethid and as wode. **1567** *Satir. Poems Reform.* iv. 136 The crewell work of wrethit womanheid. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 29511 Quen man. . wit *wrething wode, Gis his sentence on ani man. **a1400-50** *Wars Alex.* 5036 Lefe of þi wordis, For writhing of þir wale treis, & willne þaim na mare. **1423** *JAS.* I *Kingis Q.* cxlvi, By quhois effectis grete 3e movit are to wrething.

†**wrethe**, *v.* ² *Obs.* In 1 wrepian, wreðian (wræð-), 3 wreoðien. [OE. *wreðian* (also *a-*, *æ-*, *under-wreðian*), f. *wraðu* support, etc., = OS. *wreðian*, *giwreðian*.]

1. trans. To prop or hold up; to support or sustain. Also in fig. context. (Only OE.)

c888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxi, Heora ælc [sc. creature] winð wið oðer, & peah wræðeð oðer, þæt hie ne moton toslupan. **c890** WÆRFERTH tr. *Gregory's Dial.* 175 Wrepiende [L. *sustentans*] þa tydran limu betwyh his 3ingrena handum. **a1000** *Andreas* 523 (Gr.), Se ðe rodor ahof & gefæstnode folmum sinum, worhte & wreðede.

2. refl. To support (oneself) by leaning upon another; = LEAN *v.* ¹ 2 b. Also fig.

a1225 *Ancr. R.* 252 3if þet heo wergeð, euerichon wreoðeð him bi oðer. **a1225** *Leg. Kath.* 857 Alle þeos writeres writes þet 3e wreoðeð ow on.

3. intr. To rely on, depend upon, a person.
a1225 *Ancr. R.* 142 þet heo owun to beon of so holi liue þet. . al Cristene uoic leonie & wreoðie upon ham. **a1225** *Leg. Kath.* 1327 We ne cunnen. . warpen na word a3ein to weorin ne to wreðden him þet ba wreoðeð on.

wrethen, -in, obs. or Sc. varr. WREATHEN *ppl. a.*

wrether hail, var. WROTHER-HEAL *Obs.*

†'wrethful, *a. Obs.* [Early ME. *wrēðful*, f. *wrēðe* WRETHE *sb.* + -FUL. Cf. WRATHFUL *a.*, WROTHFUL *a.*]

1. Of persons: Angry, irate; = WRATHFUL *a.* 1.
c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 43 Heo wes. . lizere and swikel, and wreðful and onful. **a1225** *Ancr. R.* 118 Pellican is a leane fowel, so weamed & so wreðful þet [etc.]. **c1340** HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 5107 Ihesu Crist, þæt til þam swa wrethful sal seme þan. **1387** *TREvisa Higden* IV. 297 For he was. . wrepful, and prichelie envious and opounliche disceyvable. **1422** YONGE tr. *Secreta Secret*. 233 He that hath a sharpe noose and smale, he is wrethful.

absol. **a1225** *Ancr. R.* 212 þe wreðfule biuoren þe ueonde skirmeð mid kniues. **1340** *Ayenb.* 30 þe pridge werre þet þe wrepuolle hep is to þan þet byep onder him.

2. Marked or characterized by wrath.
c1325 *Metr. Hom.* 141 The bischop sau that Godd wald tak Of this man sin wrethful wrac. **1513** DOUGLAS *Æneid* xi. viii. 163 Quhider this turn to Goddis wrethfull wraik, Or hardymen and honour.

Hence †'wrethfully *adv.*; 'wrethfulness. *Obs.*
c1400 *Apol. Loll.* 58 þe bound of wrethfulness [text wrethfulness; L. *iracundiæ*] grenniþ wiþ his tep. **c1475** *Partenay* 2218 Then thes paynymes wrethfully ther-thens Went.

†**wrethly**, var. of WROTHLY *a.* and *adv. Obs.*
13.. *Cursor M.* 3462 (Gött.), þair strut it was vnsterne stithe, wið wrethly [Cott. wrathli] wraystes oper wreche. **c1480** HENRYSON *Age & Youth* 66 (Bann. MS.), He on his wayis wrethly went but wene.

wreþpe, etc., obs. variants of WRATH, etc.

wreton, -yn, obs. ff. *written*, pa. ppl. of WRITE *v.*

wrett, etc.: see WRIT *sb.*, WRITE *v.*

wrett(e), obs. or dial. varr. WART *sb.*

†**wretthy**, *a. Obs.* -¹ [f. *wretth*, ME. var. of WRATH *sb.*] = WROTHY *a.*

14.. *Latin-Eng. Voc.* (MS. Harl. 2257), *Fervidus*, *id est*, *calidus*, *iracundus*, *Anglice* hot, wretthy.

†**wrewche**, ? error for *wewch* WOUGH *a.*

c1480 HENRYSON *Robene & Makyne* 125 Malkyne went hame blyth annewche. . And so left him, bayth wo & wrewche, In dolour & in cair.

wrey, etc., varr. WRAY *v.* ¹ *Obs.*; obs. f. WRY *v.* ²

wrible, obs. Sc. var. WARBLE *sb.* ¹

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* vii. ii. 18 The birdis. . Wyth wriblis [ed. 1553 werblis] sweit. . Gan meis and glaid the hevynis. *Ibid.* vii. xii. 147. [Cf. WRABLE.]

wricched, -id, etc., obs. varr. WRETCHED *a.*

wrich, obs. var. WORK *v.*

wrich(e), obs. varr. WRETCH *sb.* and *a.*

wricht, Sc. var. WRIGHT *sb.* ¹

wrick (rik), *sb.* Also *dial.* vrick. [f. WRICK *v.* ² Cf. RICK *sb.* ²] A sprain or strain.

1831 YOUATT *Horse* 254 This wrick, or sprain of the coffin-joint. **1886** *W. Somerset Word-bk.* 841 A vrick in my back.

†**wrick**, *v.* ¹ *Obs. rare.* In 4 wricke, wrikke. [ad. MLG. **wricken* (in *vorwricken*, -*wrycken*; LG. *wrikken*) to move here and there, to sprain; or Du. *wrikken* to move jerkily, to scull (whence G. *wricken*, Da. *wrikke*, Sw. *wricka*). Cf. WRIG *v.*] *intr.* To move (jerkily or unsteadily) from side to side.

c1305 *St. Dunstan* 82 in *E.E.P.* (1862) 36 þe deuel he hente bi þe nose. . þe deuel wrickeð her and þer. **1308-30** *Erthe upon Erthe* 2 Erþ gep on erþ wrikkend in weden.

wrick (rik), *v.* ² [Perh. the same as prec., but recorded earlier as RICK *v.* ² Cf. however WRICK *sb.*] *trans.* To sprain or strain.

1886-93 in Somerset, Berkshire, and Wiltshire glossaries. **1904** *County Gentleman* June 1963 [The race-horse] having wricked his back badly.

wride (raid), *sb.* Now *dial.* Also 1 wrid, wryd, 7-ride. [OE. *wrid*, f. *wridan*, *wridian* to put forth shoots, grow. Cf. Yks. *writh*, *rithe*.] A shoot, stalk, or stem; a group or bush of stalks, etc., growing from one root.

c725 *Corpus Gloss.*, *Culmus*, *wyrð* [Erfurt wryd]. **944** in *Birch Cartul.* II. 542 þurh þone lea to þarn miclan hæsl-wride. **c1000** *Sax. Leechd.* I. 216 ðenim æscprote ænne wrid. **c1440** *Pallad.* on *Husb.* Tab. 223 Letuce with other herbis in a wride. *Ibid.* II. 207 Heere is an helful thyng, a wondir wride. **1578** *LYTE Dodoens* 743 The Franke Ozier hath no great stemme, but only a great wride or head neare the ground. **1669**—[see *RISE sb.* ³]. **1790** *Oxford Jnl.* 21 Aug. 3/2 From a single oat.—One hundred, and thirty three wrides, or stalks. **1848** W. BARNES *Dorset Gloss.* 370 A wride of hazel or ash. **1862** *Q. Rev.* Apr. 313 (Dorset), A hazel-bush may contain many wrides.

wride (raid), *v.* *s.w. dial.* [f. prec., or perh. a survival of OE. *wridan*, *wridian*. Cf. WRITHE *v.* ²] *intr.* To put forth shoots; to spread out.

1825 JENNINGS *Obs. Dial. W. Eng.* s.v. **1848** W. BARNES *Dorset Gloss.* s.v., The wheat da wride out well. **1873**—in *s.w. dial.* use (Som., Dorset, Devon).

wrie, etc.: see WRAY *v.* ¹, WRY *v.* and *a.*

wried (raid), *ppl. a.* [f. WRY *v.* ² + -ED¹.]

1. Turned aside; deflected, diverted.
c1586 C'TESS PEMBROKE *Ps.* cxv. iv, A vaine deceiver, Whose wryed footing not aught directed Wandreth in error.
2. That has undergone contortion or twisting; wried, contorted.

1576 A. HALL *Acc. Quarrel*, etc. (1816) I. 100 His colour. . crymson, his eyes fyrr, his visage wryed unnaturally. **1598-9** B. JONSON *Case is Altered* II. iv, Vsing their wryed countenances in stead of a vice, to turn [etc.]. **1638** MAYNE *Lucian* (1664) 342 The Quoiter. . who stands wryed in a Gesture ready to deliver. **1676** HOBBS *Iliad* xxiii. 656 A silver cup That crookt and wryed was about the brim. **1887** MORRIS *Odys.* ix. 372 His thick neck [was] wryed and twisted. **1891** KIPLING *Life's Handicap* 106 His mouth was wried with agony.

transf. **1599** B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* Prol. 178 Vsing his wryed lookes (In nature of a vice) to wrest and turne The good aspect of those that shall sit neere him.

†**wriels**. *Obs.* Forms: 1 wrigels (wyrgels), -ils, wriels, 3 wrieles, wriheles, 4 wrielys, 5 wriels (wryels). [OE. *wrigels*, etc., f. *wrig-*, ppl. stem of *wrion*, *wréon* WRY *v.* ¹ + -ELS.] A covering; a veil. Also fig.

In quots. **a1225** and **c1400** taken as a plural; see -ELS.
c825 *Vesp. Psalter* ci. 27 Swe swe wrigels onwendes hie, & hie bioð onwende. **c1000** in Assmann *Ag. Hom.* (1889) 196 He þa his wrigels 3eopenode. **a1225** *Ancr. R.* 320 Of þeos six wrieles despoile pine sunne. **a1275** *Ibid.* 420 (MS. Cott. Cleopatra), Wimpel ne hefde, nouder ne nemned hali write, ah wriheles of heuet. **1382** WYCLIF *Job* xxiv. 8 Nakid thei leue men, . . whom wederes of hillis moisten, and not hauende wrielys [L. *velamen*] clippe stones. **c1400** *Pilgr. Soule* (Caxton, 1483) iv. xxix. 61 They faren right as done weryels of ymages made of clothe, stopped with strawe.

†**wrien**, *ppl. a. Obs. rare.* In 3 iwrien, 4 wreyen. [pa. pple. of WRY *v.* ¹]

1. Hidden; covered.

a1225 *Ancr. R.* 388 Herto ualleð a tale, and on iwrien [*v.r.* hulet] uorbisne.

2. Accoutred; equipped.

c1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 7555 (Kölbing), He cleped an amirail, . . Wip fifteen þousand wreyen kni3tes, & bad him, þe cuntre sle down ri3tes.

'**wrier**. *rare.* [f. WRY *v.* ²] One who twists.

1611 COTGR., *Retordeur*, a twister, . . a wrier backe.

wrieson(e, -oun(e, -own, obs. Sc. ff. ORISON.

†**wrig**, *sb.* ¹ *Obs.* -¹ [Cf. WERG.] The willow-tree.

1564 *Brasenose Coll. Munim.* 19 (Berks.), [The tenant may take] boowes of the wriggos to make stakes. . for the mentayning of the mowndes.

wrig (rig), *sb.* ² *Sc.* [Cf. WREGLING, WRECKLING.] The smallest or weakest of a litter, brood, or family.

1805 G. MCINDOE *Poems* 67 Tho' [I am] the wrig In a' the nest there's nane sae big, Excepting Jock. **1844** H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 700 The small weak pigs are usually nicknamed *wrigs*, or pock-shakings. **1899** J. COLVILLE *Scot. Vernacular* 15 The wee wrig, or *puis-né* member of the litter [of pigs].

†**wrig**, obs. erron. f. RIG *sb.* ⁴

1638 N. WHITING *Il Insonio Inson.* 139, I have espied a plump-cheek'd bonny lass. She is a wrig, I warrant.

wrig (rig), *v.* Now *dial.* [? ad. LG. *wriggen* to twist or turn, an imitative word of the same type as *wrikken*; see WRICK *v.* ¹]

†**1. trans.** To twist or bend (some flexible object) about; to cause to writhe or wriggle. *Obs.*

a1529 SKELTON *E. Rummyng* 177 The bore his tayle wrygges. . Agaynst the hye benche. **1642** H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. II. ii. 37 Thus worms in sturdie pride Do wrigge and wrest their parts divorc'd by knife.

†**2.** To turn aside; to divert. *Obs.* -¹

1582 STANYHURST *Æneis* III. (Arb.) 88 First thee pilot Palinure thee steerd ship wrigs to the lifthand.

3. intr. To move sinuously or writhingly; to wriggle, writhe. Now *dial.*

1599 T. CUTWODE *Caltha Poet.* xxxi. B6, The Bay tree. . seems to sigh. . And with the wanton wind to wrig & wreath, against the god. **1854** MISS BAKER *Northampton Gloss.* 408 The child's allus wriggling about. **1881** *Leicester Gloss.* s.v.

wriggle ('rig(ə)l), *sb.* Also 8-9 riggle, 9 wreckle. [f. next. Cf. LG. *wriggel* wilfulness.]

†**1.** A piece of sophistry; a shift. *Obs.* -¹

1675 T. TULLY *Let. Baxter* 14 To think such little wriggles and Evasions will pass for rational Discourse.

2. A quick writhing movement or flexion of the body, etc. Also fig.

1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 85 ¶ 5 They have always a peculiar Spring in their Arms, a Riggle in their Bodies. **1768-74** TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 481 Such length as they [sc. animalcules] can throw themselves forward by one wriggle of the tail. **1829** *Loudon's Mag. Nat. Hist.* II. 220 [The water-shrew] swims very rapidly; . . his very nimble wriggle is clearly discernible. **1862** TROLLOPE *N. Amer.* I. 37 Fishes . . assist. . their motion with no dorsal riggle. **1899** J. VINCENT *1st Bp. Bath & Wells* 11 To kill a story that has. . got into print, and to leave it dead, and without a wriggle.

transf. **1899** A. LANG in *Contemp. Rev.* March 493 There the line gives a wriggle, suggesting that the circle was evolved out of a spiral.

b. A sinuous or tortuous formation, marking, etc.; a wriggling or meandering course.

1825 JENNINGS *Obs. Dial. W. Eng.* 84 *Wriggle*, any narrow sinuous hole. **1833** T. HOOK *Parson's Dau.* I. i, The serpentine walks were mere wriggles. **1881** RUSKIN *Bible Amiens* ii. §24 A few careful pen-strokes, or wriggles, of your own off-hand writing. **1899** [see WRIGGLED *ppl. a.*]

c. A turn or sinuosity. *rare* -¹.

1853 HAWTHORNE *Tanglewood T.*, *Minotaur*, At every new zigzag and wriggle of the path.

3. local. The sand-eel or sand-launce.

1816 [see WRECKLE]. **1876** T. HARDY *Ethelberta* xxxiii, We dug wriggles out of the sand. **1885** *Field* 26 Dec. 895/3 Sand-eels are known. . along the Sussex coast as 'riggles or wriggles', from their action of burrowing into the sand.

wriggle ('rig(ə)l), *v.* Also 5 wrygggle, 6-7 wrigle, 7-9 riggle. [a. (M)LG. *wriggeln* (LG. dial. also *friggeln*, *vriggeln*, = Du. *wriggelen*, WFr. *wriggelje*, Norw. *wrigla*, *rigla*), frequentative of *wriggen*: see WRIG *v.*, and cf. WIGGLE *v.*]

1. intr. To twist or turn the body about with short writhing movements; to move sinuously; to writhe, squirm, wiggle: *a.* Of reptiles, etc.

1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P.R.* xviii. ix. 758 The adder Alphibena. . glydeth and wrygggleth [MSS. wigleth, -ep] wyth wrynkles. **1558** PHAER *Æneid* v. Mivb, As whan some serpent. . wrigling wreathes his limmes about. **1591** [see WRENCH *v.* 1]. **1606** MARSTON *Parasit.* II. i. Cjb, How the poore snake wriggles with this suddain warmth. **1665** *Phil. Trans.* I. 43 The Snake. . by turning and wriggling laboured. . to avoid it. **1821** *Q. Rev.* XXIV. 490 As clearly as you may see. . a serpent wriggle in the grass. **1882** BESANT *All Sorts* xx, Eels. . are used to being skinned. Yet they wriggle a bit.

b. Of things.

1567 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* vi. 77 The tip of Philomelaas tongue did wriggle to and fro. **1583** MELBANCKE *Philotimus* Bbj b, Philomelaas tongue, which being cutte of, wrigled vp and downe a longe season. **1639** FULLER *Holy War* iv. xxxiii. 227 The severall parts of Insecta being cut asunder, may wriggle and stirre for a while. **1768-74** TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 471 The pieces of an eel cut asunder continue to wriggle. **1831** JAMES *Phil. Augustus* III. v, His nose at the same time wriggling with most portentous agitation. **1867**

F. FRANCIS *Angling* iii. 65 The float will often bob and wriggle about . . . before the bite is confirmed.

fig. 1611 *TOURNEUR Ath. Trag.* iv. i. [It] makes the spirit of the flesh begin to wriggle in my blood.

c. Of persons (or animals): To twist, turn, or move uneasily. Also with quasi-obj. *to wriggle it*, to move with a wriggling motion.

1573 *TUSSER Husb.* (1878) 111 If sheepe or thy lambe fall a wrigling with taile. 1602 [see WRAGGLE v. 2]. 1610 B. JONSON *Alchemist* v. iv. Here shee is come. Downe o' your knees, and wriggle. 1657 *THORNLEY tr. Longus' Daphnis & Chloe* 125 The Lambs came under the damms, to riggle and nussle at their duggs. 1732 *SWIFT To a Lady* 90 Then apply Alecto's whip Till they [sc. villains] wriggle, howl, and skip. 1735 *SOMERVILLE Chase* iv. 460 On pointed Spears they lift him [sc. an otter] high in Air; Wriggling he hangs. 1856 *MISS YONGE Daisy Chain* i. i. Ethel. . . wriggling fearfully on the wide window-seat. 1895 S. CRANE *Red Badge* vi. He wriggled in his jacket to make a more comfortable fit. 1922 *JOYCE Ulysses* 477 Come on, boys! Wriggle it, girls!

transf. and fig. 1577 [see WREST v. 8]. 1787 *BEST Angling* (ed. 2) 10 Observe that. . . when put together they may not wriggle in the least. 1825 *CARLYLE Love-Lett.* (1909) II. 159 Self is a foundation of sand. . . Fools writhe and wriggle and rebel at this.

2. a. To move, proceed, or go with a writhing or worming movement. Const. with advs., as *along, away, in, out, or preps.*, as *from, into, through, up*.

1602 *MARSTON Antonio's Rev.* iv. ii. These vinegar tart spirits are too pearcing. . . Finde they a chinke, they'll wriggle in and in. 1630 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Jack a Lent* Wks. 117/2 The Eele. . . would wriggle vp and downe in his muddy habitation. 1647 *TRAPP Comm. Mark* ix. 25 Devils run and wriggle into their holes, as worms use to do in time of thunder. 1709 T. ROBINSON *Vind. Mosaick Syst.* 67 Talons fit to hold fast the Live Prey that it wriggle not from them. 1830 W. TAYLOR *Hist. Surv. Germ. Poetry* II. 375 No lizard wriggles through the brake. 1857 *MRS. GATTY Parab. fr. Nat. Ser.* II. (1868) 129 The eels wriggled away in the mud. 1891 C. L. MORGAN *Anim. Sk.* 235 Wriggling and squirming up a dark green vertical wall.

fig. and in fig. context. 1734 *SWIFT Let. to Faulkner* Wks. 1841 II. 726/1 Is it not sufficient to see with what pain and shame he wriggles along. 1762 *WARBURTON Doctr. Grace* Pref. Truth. . . forbids us to riggle into her sacred presence through by-paths. 1840 *HARE Mission Conf.* (1846) 47 That the Understanding is over-ready to . . . riggle along the crooked paths of evil. 1859 *HABITS Gd. Society* vii. 246 His words come cautiously and suspiciously wriggling up to you.

b. To flow or run sinuously; to meander.

1640 [see WRIGGLING ppl. a. 3]. 1682 W. RICHARDS *Wallogr.* 34 A Rivulet which wrigled along with a crooked current. 1760 H. WALPOLE *Let. to G. Montagu* 1 Sept. The Trent wriggles through a lovely meadow. 1861 *READER Cloister & H.* lxxiv. Little paths wriggling among the antiquities. 1894 *EVANS Freeman's Hist. Sicily* IV. 388 The southern Himeras, whose salt waters wriggle to and fro in the broad dale.

3. a. To insinuate oneself *into* favour, place, etc.; to advance, 'creep' or get *in* by wheedling or ingratiating.

(a) 1598 B. JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* i. iv. Now dos he creepe, and wriggle into acquaintance with all the braue gallants. 1633 *SHIRLEY Gaster* i. (1637) 83b. The Courtiers make Us cuckolds; make, we wriggle into their Estates. 1680 *BUTLER Rem.* (1759) I. 235 By low ignoble Offices. . . To wriggle into Trust and Grace. 1745 *YOUNG Nt. Th.* viii. 457 Earth's subtle serpents. . . Which wriggle into wealth, or climb renown. c 1853 *KINGSLEY Misc.* (1859) I. 39 A scheme by which to wriggle into Court favour. 1871 *DIXON Tower* III. iv. 29 Lake had crept and wriggled into place and pay.

(b) 1636 *MASSINGER Gt. Dk. Flor.* II. ii. This courtier. . . perhaps, by his place, Expects to wriggle further: if he does, I shall deceive his hopes. a 1652 *BROME Queenes Exch.* i. i. He's the King's Favourite; . . . we may fear he'll wrigle in Twixt him and us. 1691 *SATYR agst. French* 9 If they but wriggle in his Lordship's Ear. . . they learn to domineer. 1789 *WOLCOT (P. Pindar) Imit. Horace* i. xii. He. . . Who, wriggling to the Hanoverian Guards, Kept the poor Prince of Brunswick out.

b. To make use of shuffling or sinuous means; to get *out of*, escape *from*, a condition or position by evasion, mean artifice or contrivance.

a 1646 *BURROUGHS Exp. Hosea* v. (1652) 240 This affliction that thou doest so riggle to get out of. 1690 T. BURNET *Theory Earth* III. 29 Men will wriggle any way to get from under the force of a text. 1848 W. H. KELLY tr. L. *Blanc's Hist. Ten Y.* II. 223 Certain to. . . wriggle out of its inevitable results by. . . dangerous artifices. 1858 *DORAN Court Fools* 315 He wriggled out of his bargain. 1871 *BLACKIE Four Phases* i. 114 You are wriggling cunningly out of the position.

4. a. *trans.* To cause to writhe, twist, or bend tortuously; to move or turn writhingly or with quick jerks. Also with advs., as *aloft, away, down, out, up, or preps.*, as *from, into*.

1573 *TUSSER Husb.* i. (1878) 109 Sheepe wrigling taile hath mads without faile. 1582 *STANYHURST Aeneis* ii. (Arb.) 50 Their tayls. . . they [sc. two serpents] wrigled. 1648 *GAGE West Ind.* 97 Wrigling his elbows and shoulders scornfully from me. 1684 tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* x. 365 The wretched Patient cannot lie down. . . wrigling his body all manner of ways. 1729 *SWIFT Direct. Serv.* ii. Make room for the sauce-pan by wrigging it on the coals. 1806 *SOUTHEY Lett.* (1856) I. 381 If you can conceive a blue-bottle fly wriggling his tail. 1862 *MISS YONGE C'tess Kate* ii. She wriggled her legs away from that of the chair. 1887 *EGGLESTON Graysons* xv. He tried to pull and wriggle his trousers-legs down to their normal place.

refl. 1665 *Phil. Trans.* I. 35 These [insects] would. . . wrigle themselves up to the top of the water again. 1739 *MRS. DELANY Life & Corr.* (1861) I. 45 With violent squeezing. . . we riggled ourselves into seats. 1837 *CARLYLE Fr. Rev.* i. v.

iv. Besenval is painfully wriggling himself out, to the Champ-de-Mars.

fig. 1712 *Odes of Horace* II. 12/2 Et might easily riggle it self into the place of ut.

b. To bring into a specified state, form, etc., by writhing or twisting. Const. with advs., as *asunder, off, or preps.*, as *into, to*. Occas. *refl.* Also *fig.*

1677 *MOXON Mech. Exerc.* ii. 18 With your Fingers and Thumb. . . wriggle it quite asunder. 1857 W. C. STEWART *Pract. Angler* vii. (ed. 3) 138 The worm. . . being free to wriggle itself into any shape. 1858 [see WRENCH v. 10]. 1878 O. W. HOLMES *Motley* xvii. 115 Slavery is wriggling itself to death.

5. a. To introduce, insert, or bring *in* (something) by wriggling; to insinuate (*into* something).

1599 *NASHE Lenten Stufte* E4b, A snail could not wriggle in her hornes betwixt them. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* i. lv. 55 A Slim, Thin-Gutted Fox made a Hard Shift to Wriggle his Body into a Hen-Roost. 1766 *Museum Rust.* VI. 374 As to the width of the gates. . . the men. . . could. . . easily incline the roller on one side, and. . . wriggle it in. 1828 *LYTTON Pelham* II. 313 Power. . . is a snake that when it once finds a hole into which it can introduce its head, soon manages to wriggle in the rest of its body.

fig. 1702 *VANBRUGH False Friend* i. i. I'm afraid. . . they'll riggle you into some ill-favour'd affair. 1767 A. CAMPBELL *Lexiph.* (1774) 71 When you have wriggled in. . . a new-fashioned long-tailed word.

b. To insinuate or introduce (a person) gradually (*into* favour, office, etc.), esp. by subtle or shifty means. Also with *in*. Chiefly *refl.*

1670 *COTTON Esperton* i. iv. 180 He by the means of the Mistriess. . . wriggles himself into the company of the Duke's Baker. 1677 *GILPIN Demonol.* (1867) 355 By these arts doth Satan, like a cunning serpent, wriggle himself into the affections of men. 1710 *SWIFT Jnl. to Stella* 5 Dec. While he was wriggling himself into my favour. 1754 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Mann* 28 March, She would have wriggled herself into the best clause in the will. 1766 — *Let. to Mann* 18 July, He might have wriggled his brother in [= into office] afterwards. 1847 *ALB. SMITH Chr. Tadpole* xvi. He wriggled himself into the good opinion of the coachman. 1874 L. STEPHEN *Hours in Library* (1892) I. x. 359 [He] wriggled himself into a peerage.

c. To make (one's way) by sinuous motion. Also in *fig. context*.

1863 W. PHILLIPS *Speeches* viii. 214 Cunning statesmen who have wriggled their slimy way to wealth. 1891 *Century Mag.* March 649/1 The Pi-Utes. . . wriggled their way out through the passages in the rocks. 1899 E. CALLOW *Old Lond. Tav.* i. 119 Whitebait seem to have wriggled their way higher up the river.

6. †a. To cut or carve (something) with a wriggly or sinuous pattern; to slash. *Obs.*

1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* iv. iii. 274 A collar of brawne, cut downe Beneath the souse, and wriggled with a knife. 1654 *GAYTON Pleas. Notes* i. i. 4 Many more. . . by prowess of the Capitaine Joneses of our times. . . have been hackt, hew'd, wriggled and utterly confounded.

b. To form in a tortuous or sinuous manner.

1760 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Mann* 20 June, Stanhope. . . bas. . . wriggled a winding-gravel walk through [the groves]. 1896 *Voice* (N.Y.) 8 Oct. 2 Be content to wriggle pretty patterns on the mud of spoils!

†7. To twist, pervert. Cf. *WREST* v. 5. *Obs.*

1593 *HARVEY Pierce's Super. Wks.* (Grosart) II. 52 Sinister construction, that wreasteth and wrigleth every sillable to the worst. 1637 J. WILLIAMS *Holy Table* 2 Which when it is in writing. . . is no more by a disputant indeed to be wrigled and wrested.

Hence wriggled ('rig(ə)ld) ppl. a.; wriggled work = wriggle-work s.v. WRIGGLE-.

1572 *BOSWELL Armorie* II. 100 They haue. . . a wrigled tayle, and croked tette like to a Bore. 1611 *COTGR., Fringotteries*, frets; cranklings, wrigled flourishings, in caruings, &c. a 1643 *CARTWRIGHT Ordinary* II. iii. Your hollow thumb join'd with your wriggled [dice] box. 1899 A. LANG *Contemp. Rev.* March 403 At each side are two-circled and one-circled specimens with the wriggled line, and two cups and circles with no wriggle. 1906 N. H. MOORE *Old Pewter* i. 22 The tool which makes the wriggled work is of the nature of a chisel. 1955 R. F. MICHAELIS *Antique Pewter* ix. 86 English pewter from the best period, i.e. the 17th century, . . . displays remarkably fine applied decoration. . . in the form of 'wriggled-work' engraving.

wriggle- ('rig(ə)l), the verb-stem used attrib. in a few combs., in the sense 'undergoing or characterized by wriggling', as †wriggle-eye, -tail, etc.; wriggle-work (see quot. 1960); cf. *wriggled work*.

In quotes. 1579, 1620, app. from *wriggled tail*.

1579 *SPENSER Sheph. Cal.* Feb. 7 They wont in the wind wagge their wrigle tayles, Perke as Peacock. 1604 T. M. *Black Bk.* E2b, Let no yong rigne-eyde Damosell. . . be left vnassaulted. 1620 *MIDDLETON Chaste Maid* III. ii, Short riggle-tayle-Comfits, not worth mouthing. 1897 *MARY KINGSLEY W. Africa* 473 A dance of women. . . the usual wriggle and stamp affair. 1960 *Connoisseur's Handbk. Antique Collecting* 312/2 *Wrigglework*, a form of engraved decoration on pewter and silver, employing a zig-zag line cut by rocking a gouge from side to side in its progress. Used in conjunction with line engraving at certain periods, principally late in 17th cent. 1975 *Oxf. Compan. Decorative Arts* 616/2 The flat-lid tankard shows the pewterer's craft at its best. The plain drum. . . was sometimes decorated with 'wriggle-work' designs of symbolic or commemorative significance. 1982 'J. GASH' *Firefly Gadron* v. 62 The plate. . . was wriggle-work. . . This was a William III plate, with. . . a rim decorated by engraved williams.

wriggler ('rigl(r)). [f. WRIGGLE v. + -ER¹.]

1. One who or that which wriggles; esp. a wriggling fish, animalcule, etc.

1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* Ep. Ded., The Fryes of Wrigglers. . . peep out of their Graves and Dungeons. 1694 *MOTTEUX Rabelais* v. Progn. v. 237 Drabs, Trulls, Light-skirts, Wrigglers, Misses. a 1825 *FORBY Voc. E. Anglia* II. 381 *Wrigglers*, small fish, of which commoner names are sand-eels or lance-fish. 1896 in *Advance* (Chicago) 18 June 897/2 To make the little wriggler [= a child] sit still. 1914 *Melbourne Argus* 17 March 13 Mosquitoes. . . in the larval state. . . are known as wrigglers.

2. fig. One who makes his way by subtle, ingratiating, or underhand means.

1631 A. WILSON *Swisser* II. i. 163 To obserue the tyme, yee wrigglers. There is an ytching height that all do ayme at, But diuers wayes to come to 't. 1785 *COWPER Tirot.* 432 Providence. . . In spite of all the wrigglers into place, Still keeps a seat or two for worth and grace.

3. (See quot.)

1900 *Daily Mail* 31 Oct., Wrigglers are engravers who devote their working hours to the tracing of those zig-zag lines which are so often a feature of cheap Britannia metal teapots.

'wrigglesome, a. rare⁻¹. [f. WRIGGLE sb. + -SOME.] Wriggling.

1891 G. MACDONALD *There & Back* xxii, The wrigglesome, slimy things [sc. water-snakes].

wriggling ('riglm), vbl. sb. [f. WRIGGLE v. + -ING¹.]

1. The action of the verb in various physical senses; an instance of this.

1580 *TUSSER Husb.* i b, How to cure the wrigling of y^e taile in a sheepe or a lambe. 1601 *HOLLAND Pliny* II. 427 The Lampreis. . . get betwene the very meshes [of a net], which with their much winding and wrigling they will wrest wider and wider. 1665 *Phil. Trans.* I. 67 The wrigling and playing of the Mandril. 1711 *SWIFT Jnl. to Stella* 2 Oct., Lovet, towards the end of dinner, after twenty wriggings, said [etc.]. 1843 *LE FEVRE Life Trav. Phys.* III. iii. viii. 189 Appetite. . . is not sharpened by the wrigling of the locomotives. 1866 *GEO. ELIOT F. Holt* i, The wriggings of a worm.

2. fig. Evasion; equivocation; shuffling.

1866 *DARWIN in Life & Lett.* (1887) III. 56 He is. . . my superior, even in the master art of wrigging. 1895 *Advance* (Chicago) 7 Feb. 652/2 There is a wriggling that is wrong, as when Peter wriggled from the questioning accusations of the servant girl.

3. attrib. in allusive use, as †wriggling disease, mordancancy, trade.

1690 D'URFEY *Collin's Walk Lond.* i. 17 If any of his Flock were seiz'd By heat, with wrigling Disease. a 1693 *URQUHART Rabelais* III. xxxii. 271 Their . . . figging Itch, wrigling Mordancancy. 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* VI. 91, I am a Baker, And. . . have. . . a Wrigling-Pole. 1765 [E. THOMPSON] *Mereviciad* 40 The fam'd itinerant lass. . . by her motions in the wrigging trade, Two sterling thousands. . . made.

'wriggling, ppl. a. [f. as prec. + -ING².]

1. That wriggles or squirms; writhing.

1565 *GOLDING Ovid's Met.* v. 63b, A wrigling taile straight to his limmes was added more heside. 1587 *FLEMING Contn. Holinshed* III. 1292/1 Two wrigling or scalling serpents. 1613 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* i. v. 102 As an Angler. . . A wrigling yealow worme thrust on his hooke. 1690 C. NESSE O. & N. Test. I. 42 He assumes. . . the shape of a wrigling crooked serpent. 1748 *RICHARDSON Clarissa* (1811) III. 363, I must take care. . . the little riggling rogue does not slip through my fingers. 1865 *LIVINGSTONE Zambesi* vii. 167 A native emerges out of the moving mass of dead elephant and wrigging humanity. 1888 J. INGLIS *Tent Life* 296 A great wrigging iguana.

transf. c 1590 J. STEWART *Poems* (S.T.S.) II. 71 Thir wrigling worse than plaine sall pass perfyt.

2. Characterized or distinguished by wriggling or writhing.

1608 *SYLVESTER Du Bartas* II. iv. Decay 387 As a fell Serpent. . . With wrigging pase doth still approach his Foe. 1663 *BOYLE Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* I. ii. 42 A wrigling motion, like that of eels. 1783 *WOLCOT (P. Pindar) Odes to R.A.'s* i. viii. Won with such wry mouths and wrigging pain. 1799 *SOUTHEY Nondescript, Filbert*, Watching two maggots run their wrigging race. 1859 *MURCHISON Siluria* (ed. 3) xii. 303 Wriggling movements of a Salamander quadruped. 1888 *GUNTER Mr. Potter* xxii. 259 [A dog] with tail and ears and body all wrigging ecstasy.

fig. 1688 *MIEGE Gt. Fr. Dict.* II. s.v., He took a wrigging byas in his Letter, which I am not pleased with. c 1869 *SWINBURNE Ess. & Stud.* (1875) 289 The wrigging prurience of such lackey's literature as is handed round.

3. Meandering; tortuous; winding.

1640 J. GOWER *Ovid's Festiv.* III. 48 [Sylvia] came unto the wrigging brook. *Ibid.* 62 His flow'ry green, Which wrigging Tyber laves. 1698 *FRYER Acc. E. India & P.* 5 It is not unlike the crawling of a Snake, it's various Hills and Vallies. . . seem to borrow that rigging Shape.

Hence 'wrigglingly adv.

1601 *DEACON & WALKER Answ. to Darel To Rdr.* 4 They. . . do rather incedere tortuose, goe wriggleing to worke. 1866 *HOWELLS Venet. Life* v. 73 [He spoke] wriggleingly, and with. . . gesticulations towards the pit.

wriggly ('riglh), a. [f. WRIGGLE v. + -Y¹. Cf. LG. dial. *wriggelig* wilful.]

1. Given to wriggling; squirming, writhing.

1866 *EDMONDSTON Gloss. Shetl. Dial.* 92 Rigly [sic], unsteady, rickety. 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 Dec. 2/1 The thrush. . . twice. . . found a wriggly creature, and these he carried off to his family.

2. Winding; sinuous; tortuous.

1901 C. G. HARPER *Gt. North Road* II. 257 One leaves Dunbar by wriggly and exiguous streets.

wright (rait), sb.¹ Forms: a. 1 wyrhta, Northumb. wyrihta, -te, wyrchta, 1-2 Kent. werhta; 2 wirhta, 3 wurhte, wuruhte. β. 1 wryhta,

3 wruhte, wrihhte, 3-4 wriht(e, 5 wrihte, 3-5 wryhte, wryht, (3, 5 wryth, 5 wrythe), 4 wry3t(e, 4-5 wry3t, 4-6 wrighte (4 whright, wrighth, writh), 5-6 wryght(e, 4- wright; 2 wrichte, 5-6 *Sc.* wrycht (6 vrycht), 5-7, 9 *Sc.* wricht (5, 9 vricht, 9 wiricht); 4 wreght, 5 *Sc.* wrecht, 6 *Sc.* wreicht, 7 wreight, 9 *dial.* wreeght. *γ.* 5 wryte, *north.* write, 9 *north. dial.* wreet (whreet), reet. [OE. *wyrhta*, *wryhta*, etc. (also *gewyrhta*), = OFris. *wrichta*, OS. *wurhtio*, -eo, OHG. *wurhto* (MHG. (in combs.) *wurhte*, *würhte*, *worhte*), f. *wurh*:-Oteut. **wurχ*-, variant stem of **wurk*:- see WORK *v.*]

1. An artificer or handicraftsman; *esp.* a constructive workman. Now *arch.* or *dial.*

eye, *glassen*-, *mill*-, *tile-wright*: see those words.
a. ? *a695 Laws of Ine* lix. (Liebermann I. 116) Mon sceal simle to beregafole aʒifan æt anum wyrhtan vi pund-wæʒa. c *950 Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark vi. 3 Ahne ʒis is smið uel wryhte, sunu Maries? c *1000 ÆLFRIC Hom.* 1. 318 God eac forði hi to-stencten, swa þæt he forgeaf ælcum ðæra wyrhtena selctuð gereord. c *1205 LAY.* 21134 On aluisc smið...; he wes ihaten Wygar, þe witeʒe wurhte. a *1225 Ancr. R.* 284 þe caliz þet was imelt iðe fure... wolde he, ʒif he kuðe speken, awarlen... his wurhte honden?

β. *γ* *c950 Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark, Introd. 3 Wundrande þæt lar & mæhto ðæs wrihtes sunu uel smiðes sunu. c *1030 Rule St. Benet* (Logeman) 2 þam he... clypað his wryhtan [L. *operarium*]. a *1200 in Kemble Cod. Dipl.* IV. 204 And ic... beboede ðat paðu mi meodes [sic] wrichte and Wlnoð min huscarl... on ðam minstre hersumian. a *1300 Cursor M.* 325 þis drithin... in his witte... all purueid His werc, als dos þe sotill wright. *1393 LANGL. P. Pl. C. xx.* 137 þe fyngres is ful hand, for failled thei here pome... Sholde no wry3t [Llchester MS. write] worche. *1412-20 LYDG. Chron. Troy* II. 497 He made seke in eury regioun... For eury wry3t and passing carpenter. *1715 CHEYNE Philos. Princ. Relig.* vi. 324 Being rapt into admiration of the infinite Wisdom of the Divine Architect, and condemning the arrogant Pretences of the World and Animal Writings. *1848 BAILEY Festus* (ed. 3) 207 Upon that central shrine... Laid down... The scribe, and the physician, and the wright His several offering. *1876 Whitby Gloss.* 224/1 *Wreeghts*, or *Wrights*,... work-people in general.

†b. Applied to the Deity, = CREATOR I. *Obs.*
c *888 ÆLFRED Boeth.* ad fin. Drihten ælmihtiga God, wyrhta & wealdend ealra gesceafta. a *1000 Phoenix* 9 Wlitig is se wong eall... æpele se wyrhta... se þa moldan gesette. a *1200 St. Marher.* 20 þu wisest wruhte of alle, markedest eorðe. c *1200 ORMIN* 18780 þatt all þatt shaftte þat wass wrohht Wass lif inn bimm þe wrihhte. a *1300 Cursor M.* 331 þis wright þat I spek of here... wroght bath erth and heuen.

†2. One who does or performs something; a doer or worker. *Obs.*

971 Blickl. Hom. 111 Forðon þe nan wyrhta ne mæg god weorc wyrcean for Gode buton lufan & geleafan. a *1000 Genesis* 1004 Him ða se cystleas cwalmes wyrhta ædre æfter þon andswarode. c *1200 Trin. Coll. Hom.* 191 At tese fif gaten fareð in deaðes wrihte, and þerinne doð. a *1300* [see BATTLE *sb.* 14].

3. One who works in wood; a carpenter, a joiner.

From c 1470 to c 1655 chiefly *Sc.* and *north.*; in later use only *Sc.* and *north. dial.* (or *arch.*). The *Sc.* pron. is (w)rixt, *north-eastern* vrixht).

cart-, *house*-, *plough*-, *ship*-, *timber*-, *wagon*-, *wain*-, *wheel-wright*: see those words.

a. c *1205 LAY.* 16969 He lette axien anan... gode wurhten þe mid æxe cuðe wurchen.

β. a *1200 Vices & Virtues* 27 Wið-uten... ðe wrihte his timber to keruen after ðare mone. a *1300 Cursor M.* 1666 A schippe be-houes þe to dight, þi self sal be þe maister wright. *1303 R. BRUNNE Handl. Synne* 9163 He ded come wry3tes [gloss. carpenters] for to make Coueryng ouer hem. c *1380 WYCLIF Sel. Wks.* II. 19 Joseph was a forgere of trees, þat is to seie a wry3te. c *1450 Northern Passion* 161/461 Than wantide the wryghtis a tre. *1464 Nottingham Rec.* (1883) II. 372 To the wright... to make the Pillorye, v.s. *1566 DRANT Horace, Sat. viii.* D 8 The wryghte uncertaine what to make, a stoole or God of me. *1577 HOLINSHED Chron.* I. 41/1 He sawe yet howe the rest [of the ships]... might bee repaired: wherefore he chose forth wrightes among the Legions. a *1619 FOTHERBY Atheom.* II. i. 8 (1622) 193 As we may... see, in Platoes fore-named instances of his Smithes, and his Wrights. *1654 Z. COKE Logick* 64 This Ship-wright... makes the Ship, not as he is a man or good, but as he is a Wright or Artizen. *1725 RAMSAY Gentle Sheph.* v. iii, Masons and wrightes shall soon my house repair. *1782 SIR J. SINCLAIR Observ. Scot. Dial.* 198 *Wright*, at present, is a general name for timber workmen;... but the Scots, by *wright*s, mean *carpenters*. *1829 CARLYLE Misc., German Playwrights* ¶ 1 The millwright, or cartwright, or any other wright whatever. *1858 Times* 6 March 12/3 At Hull... about 500 wrightes are on strike. *1887 MORRIS Odys.* ix. 129 Nor yet among them ever ship-making wrightes there are.

fig. a *1200 Vices & Virtues* 91 Hier is igadered swilch timber ðe næure rotien ne mai, and þis derewurðe mihte is wrihte ðerover.

Sc. Prov. 1670 RAY *Prov.* 227 He is not the best wright that hewes the maniast speals.

γ. c *1440 York Myst.* xxxvii. 230 Thy fadir knewe I wele be sight, He was a write his mette to wyne. c *1460 Promp. Parv.* (Winch. MS.), Wryte, or carpentare, *carpentarius*. *1463 Mann. & Househ. Exp.* (Roxb.) 230 A wryte that mayd my mastyr's stabyle. *1824-* in N. Cy., Nhb., Dur., Yks., and Lanc. glossaries (reet). *1841 HARTSHORNE Salop. Ant.* 618 *Wreet's shop* a carpenter's, or more frequently a Wheelwright's shop. *1877-90* in Yks. glossaries (*wreet*).

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *wright-craft*, †-*house*-, -*smith*; † *wright-garth*, a joiner's yard; *wright-work*, work performed or done by a joiner.

1385-6 Durham Acc. Rolls (Surtees) 391 [Le] Wrihtthous et le Plomberhous. *1474-5 Ibid.* 94 Le Wrightgarth et Swynegarth. a *1619 M. FOTHERBY Atheom.* II. i. 8 (1622) 193 One Arte, of Wright-Craft; and one Arte, of Smiths-Craft. *1630 Ann. Banff* (New Spald. Cl.) I. 64 Ane load of

wricht wark 2s. *1671* in Holmes *Pontefract Bk. Entries* (1882) 103 Item, for wrightworke, [L5]. *1881 Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 56 Wheelwright. Wrightsmith.

Hence †*wrightry*, = WRIGHTING. *Obs.* *rare*-1.

c *1460 Towneley Myst.* iii. (Noah & Ark) 250 Now assay will I how I can of wrightry.

†*wright*, *sb.*² *Obs.* In 2-3 wriht, 3 *Orm.* wrihht. [ME. reduction of **i-wriht*, OE. *gewyrht*: see I-WURHT.] Desert, what one has deserved; hence, blame, fault.

c *1175 Lamb. Hom.* 69 Crist us ʒeue of him mihte; betere penne we habbeð wrihte. c *1200 Trin. Coll. Hom.* 217 Ich triste þat he [sc. God] nele neng [don ?] bi mine wrihte. c *1200 ORMIN* Ded. 202 To polenn dæpp o rodetre Sacclæs wipp-utenn wrihhte. *Ibid.* 8240 He wass flemmd & drifenn ut All æfter hise wrihhte.

Hence †*wrightful a.*, having deserved something; †*wrightlesslike adv.*, undeservedly.

c *1250 Gen. & Ex.* 2076 Ic am stolen of kinde lond, and her wrihtleslike holden in bond. *Ibid.* 2204 Wri3tful we in sorwe ben, for we sinizeden quilum.

wright (rait), *v.* Also 4 wrihte, 9 *n. e. Sc.* vricht. [f. WRIGHT *sb.*¹, or WRIGHTING.]

†1. *trans.* To build, construct. *Obs. rare.*

1338 R. BRUNNE Chron. (1810) 88 At London, a haulc he did vp wright. *Ibid.* 321 A briggc he suld do wrihte.

†2. To repair (a ship); to renovate, mend.

Perh. erron. for *righted*: see RIGHT *v.* 11 c.

a *1656 USSHER Ann.* (1658) 391 Having there new wrighted up such ships of his as had been... bruised in the fight.

3. *intr.* To pursue the occupation of a wright.

Sc.

1886 GREGOR Banffsh. Gloss. 204.

wright(e, obs. varr. WRITE *sb.* and *v.*

wrighting ('raitɪŋ). Now *Sc.* and *dial.* Forms: (see quot.). [f. WRIGHT *sb.*¹ + -ING¹.] The occupation, business, or craft of a wright or carpenter.

a *1500 Hist. K. Boccus & Sydracke* (? 1510) Hiiij, Wryghtyng is also a conyng That myght not be foreborne be my iugyng. *1828 [CARR] Craven Gloss., Whreeting*, carpentry. *1866 GREGOR Banffsh. Gloss.* 204 A've been a' simmer at the vrichtan. *1900 O. AGNUS Jan Oxber* iv. 96, I zhall follow my wrighten agen.

†*wriguldy-wrag. Obs. rare*-1. [Cf. next.] Mischief; harm.

1519 RASTELL Interl. Four Elem. E2, Jak boy, is thy bowe i-broke? Or hath any man done the wryguldy wrage?

†*wrig-wrag. Obs. rare.* [Cf. WRIG *v.*]

1. *Sir Wrig-wrag*, ? a contentious person.

a *1529 SKELTON Agst. Garnesche* iv. 149 The follest slouen ondryr beuen... Wytles, wayward, Syr Wryg wrag. a *1529* — *Sp. Parrot* 91 Let syr Wrig wrag wrastell with syr Delarag.

2. *at wrig-wrag*, at daggers-drawn; at enmity or variance.

1599 NASHE Lenten Stuffe Gjb, Their townes... were stil at wrig wrag, & suckt from their mothers teates serpentine hatred one against each other.

wriht, obs. form of WRIGHT, WRIT *sbs.*

†*wrike nail. Obs. rare.* [Origin obscure: cf. WRICK *v.*¹] ? A screw-nail.

1496 Naval Acc. Hen. VII (1896) 183 Prouision of Stuff for the Cockebote aforesayd:.. ffor c wryke nayles vjd.

wrily, var. WRYLY *adv.*

wrim, obs. var. WORM *sb.*

†*wrimple, sb. Obs.* Also 5 wrympyl. [Cf. RIMPLE *sb.* (also RUMPLE *sb.*²), and WRIMPLED *a.*] A crease or fold; a rimple, wrinkle.

1499 Promp. Parv. (Pynson) s.vb, Wrympyl, or rympyl, *ruga. Ibid.*, Wrympyl, or pleyt of cloth, *plica. 1578 FLORIO 1st Fruits* 88b, The smooth throate maketh foldes with wrimples. *1603 — Montaigne* i. xxii. 51 The hoarie head and frowning wrimples of custome. *1611 COTGR., Gelasin*, a wrimple in the face.

†*wrimple, v. Obs. rare.* [Probably a back-formation from WRIMPLED *a.* Cf. the later RIMPLE *v.*]

1. *trans.* (See quot. and cf. JAG *v.*¹ 2.)

1611 COTGR., Franger, to fringe;... also, to... wrimple, iag, or snip on th' edges. *Ibid., Rider*, to wrinkle, or to wrimple.

2. *intr.* To pucker the face or countenance.

1657 REEVE God's Plea 88 Alas we do but only... wrimple at a Pulpit-launcing... sing a Penitentiall Psalm.

Hence †*wrimpling vbl. sb. Obs.*

1611 COTGR., Ridement, a wrinkling, wrimpling, crumpling. *Ibid., Rugosité*,... a crumpling, wrimpling, furrowing.

†*wrimpled, a. Obs.* Also 5 wrymplyd. [f. MDu. or MLG. **wrimpelen* (older Flem. *wrempele* 'to drawe the mouth awry', Hexham), frequentative of MLG. *wrempen*, *wrimpen* to wrinkle, bend, turn. Cf. the earlier RIMPLED *a.*] Wrinkled, rimples, or puckered; creased.

c *1430 LYDG. Min. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 203, I can not armys blase, Nor to the fulle ryngc hire belle, That is so wrymplyd as a mase. *1553 EDEN Treat. New Ind.* (Arb.) 37

Neyther haue they theyr bellies wrimpled or loose. *1577 WHETSTONE Gascoigne* Bj, I holde a forme, within a wrimpled skin. *1592 R. D[ALLINGTON] Hypnerotomachia* 28b, A Dragon[s]... wrimpled backe. *1611 COTGR., Renfrongué*,... wrimpled, crumpled, puckered. *1642 H. MORE Song of Soul* i. i. xlvii, Wafts of winds centrall That ruffle... Psyche's wrimpled veil. *1657 REEVE God's Plea* 23 The wrimpled skin... of that old man. *1672 tr. Hurtado's Lazarillo* II. O.4, Seeing me so bleak, and wrimpled, like an old Wives belly.

wrinch, erron. f. *rinch*, var. RINSE *v.*

1612 Two Noble K. i. i. 171 We stand before your puissance Wrinching our holy begging in our eyes To make petition cleere.

†*wrinch*, var. of (or error for) *winch* WINCE *v.*¹ I.

1589 ? LYLly Pappe w. Hatchet Ejb, Rub no more, the curtall wrinches.

wrinch, *wrine*, obs. varr. WRENCH, WRY *v.*¹

†*wrine, v. Obs.*-1 [a. ON. **wrina* (ENorw. and Sw. dial. *vrina*, Norw. *rina*). Cf. WHRINE *v.*] *intr.* To squeal, as a pig.

1570 LEVINS Manip. 139 To Wrine, *vociferare, vt porcus.*

wring (rɪŋ), *sb.*¹ Also 1, 5 wringe, 4-6 wrynge, 9 ring. [OE. *wringe*, f. *wringan* WRING *v.* Cf. OE. *win-wringe*.]

1. A cider-press or wine-press.

c *890 WÆRFERTH tr. Gregory's Dial.* 250 Sanctulus... brohte æmtige cyllan hyder to pære wringan. a *1350 in Relig. Lyrics 14th C.* (1924) 28 þy schroud red wyth blod... Ase troddares in wrynge. *Ibid.*, þe wrynge ich babbe y-trodded al mysself on. *1398 TREvisa Barth. De P.R.* xix. xxxviii. (B.M. Add. MS. 27944), Sourisshe pinges... berep down þe mete as it were a pressoure oper a wrynge. c *1440 Pallad. on Husb.* i. 495 (Colchester MS.), Oilmylles, wheeles, wrynges, ... I nyl not speke of nowe. *Ibid.* xi. 107 Erly sette on werkyng hem [sc. olives] the wrynge. *1532-3* in Weaver *Wells Wills* (1890) 155 The dragge, and the wrynge, and the vate. *1664 NEWBURGH in Evelyn Pomona* 42 The Cider, bottled immediately from the wring. *1844 W. BARNES Dorset Gloss.* 370 *Wring*, a press, as a cider-wring. a *1906 in Eng. Dial. Dict.* s.v., Cider from the wring.

2. A cheese-press.

[*1670* in C. Worthy *Devon. Wills* (1896) 27 A cheese wring.] *1891 T. HARDY Tess* I. 226 The measured dripping of the whey from the wrings downstairs.

3. *wring-house*, the house or shed where a cider- or cheese-wring is kept.

1807 VANCOUVER Agric. Devon (1813) 472 *Wring-house* for making cider. *1842 G. PULMAN Rustic Sketches* 52 In th' ringhouse hard to work, Th' mill da grind. *1886 T. HARDY Woodlanders* xiii, His dwelling, cider-cellar, wring-house.

wring (rɪŋ), *sb.*² [f. WRING *v.*]

1. a. The act of wringing, twisting, or writhing; an instance of this. Also *fig.*

c *1460 Towneley Myst.* xxi. 237 Bot he that forsake I shall gyf hym a wryng that his nek shall crak. *1611 COTGR., Garrot*,... a wring, or pinch in the wythers. *1634 BP. HALL Contempl., N.T.* iv. xxiv. ¶ 1 The sighs, and tears, and blubbers, and wrings of a disconsolate mourner. *1697 VANBRUGH Relapse* III. i, My brother has given it a wring by the nose. *1789 T. RAWLINS Fam. Archit.* 17 Arch-Stones, if any Wring or unequal Pressure happen... will naturally settle close to each other. *1889 Century Mag.* May 85/1 She gave the shirt... a vicious wring.

fig. *1602 MARSTON Antonio's Rev.* i. i, Have I not crush't them with a cruell wring? *1628 FELTHAM Resolves* II. xxii. 72 We sinke vnder the wring of sorrow.

b. The action of squeezing, pressing, or clasping; a squeeze or clasp of the hand.

1599 B. JONSON Cynthia's Rev. v. iii, A Wring by the hand, with a Banquet in a corner. *Ibid.* v. iv, The Wring by the hand, and the Banquet is ours. *1605 CHAPMAN All Fools* II. i. D4b, Yet do I vnderstand... your secret iogges and wringes; Your entercourse of glaunces. *1621 BRATHWAIT Time's Curtain drawn* M8, A winke, a nodd,... a wringe, a kisse, Sent by some Childe. *1856 MISS YONGE Daisy Chain* II. xvii, James, with one wring of the hand, retreated. *1894 J. A. STEUART In Day of Battle* xvii, I gave the good soul's hand a hearty Christian wring.

2. A sharp or gripping pain, esp. in the intestines.

c *1500 Roulis Cursing* 61 Ane of thir infirmiteis... The stany wring, the stane and sand blind. *1600 SURFLET Countrie Farme* i. xxviii. 195 Hens dung swallowed by hap, bringeth frets and wrings in the bellie. *1609 HOLLAND Amm. Marcell.* 220 An horse... sore vexed with a suddaine gripe or wring in his belly, fell down. *1611 COTGR., Trenchaison*, a gripe, or a wring, as of the Chollicke, &c.

3. *With down.* That which is obtained by wringing.

1874 T. HARDY Far fr. Madding Crowd lii, To look at the last wring-down of cider.

4. *Comb.*: *wring-world*.

1885 G. M. HOPKINS Poems (1967) 99 But ah, but O thou terrible, why wouldst thou rude on me Thy wring-world right foot rock?

wring (rɪŋ), *v.* Pa. t. and pa. pple. *wrung* (rʌŋ). Forms: *Inf.* 1 wringan, 2-4 wringen, 4 wryngen, 5 -ene, -yn, wringin; 3-7 wringe (5 ringe), 4-6 wrynge, wryng, 4-5 wreng, 4- wring (6 *Sc.* wrink-, 7-8, 9 *dial.* ring). *Pa. t.* 1-9 (now *dial.*) wrang, 4-6 wrange (*pl.* 1 wrungon, 3-4 -en); 3-7 wrong, 3-6 wronge, 6 wroong, wroung (*pl.* 4 wrongen, 5 -on); 4- wrung (6 wrunge). *Pa. pple.* 1, 4 wrungen, 6 wrunge, 6- wrung (8 rung); 5-7 wrong, 5-6 wronge (4-6 ywrong, 4-5 y-

iwronge), wrongen, 5 wrounge, 6 wroung, wroong(e. *Weak pa. t.* 5-8 wringed; *pa. pple.* 6-7 wringed. [OE. *wringan* (*wrang*, *wrunon*; *wrunen*), = OFris. **wringa* (Wfris. *wringe*), OS. **wringan* (in *ûtrwringan*; MLG. *wringen*, LG. *wringen*, *ringen*), MDu. and Du. *wringen*, OHG. *rinkan*, *ringen*, *ringen* (MHG., G. *ringen*). Other grades of the stem *wring-* are represented by *wrang* WRONG *a.* and Goth. *wruggō* snare.]

1. 1. a. *trans.* To press, squeeze, or twist (a moist substance, juicy fruit, etc.), esp. so as to drain or make dry. Also *transf.* and in fig. context. (Cf. 14 b.)

c 890 WÆRFERTH tr. *Gregory's Dial.* 250 Witodlice hit gelamp . . . pa pa Langbeardisce mæn wrunon elebergan on pære treddan. c 1000 ÆLFRED *Gen.* xl. 11 Ic nam pa winberian & wrang on pæt fæt. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2064 De beries ðor-inne [sc. a cup] me ðhuȝte ic wrong. 13. . . K. *Alis* (W.) 333 Herbes he tok . . . And stamped heom in a morter; And wrong hit [*Laud MS.* wronge it out] in a box. c 1386 CHAUCER *Sir Thopas* 65 His faire steede . . . So swatte, pæt men myghte him wrynge, His sydes erl blood. c 1430 *Two Cookery-Bks.* 28 Take Molberys, and wrynge a gode hepe of hem þow a clope. c 1485 *E.E. Misc.* (Warton Cl.) 75 Wrynge hit [sc. turnsole with glair] into a schelle. 1508 DUNBAR *Tua Mariit Wemen* 438, I haif a water sponge for wa. . . Than wring I it full wylely. 1580 *LYLY Euphues* (Arb.) 325 Protagenes portraied Venus with a sponge; . . . if once she wrong it, it would drop blood. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* (1671) 147 God is wringing grapes of red wine for Scotland. 1662 R. VENABLES *Exper. Angler* vi. 65 Wash it [sc. moss] well, . . . wring it very dry. 1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* xvii. 147 Strain them [sc. elderberries] through a coarse Cloth, wringing the Berries. 1799 G. SMITH *Laboratory I.* 263 Pour the rest of the milk to it, . . . then wring it through a cloth. 1865 SWINBURNE *Chastelard* iii. i. 97 That your face Seen through my sleep has wrung mine eyes to tears For pure delight in you.

absol. c 1050 in *Techmer Zeitschrift* (1885) II. 123 Donne þu cyse habban wille, sete þonne pine twa handa togæpere bra[d]linga, swilce þu wringan wille.

b. To strain (juice, moisture, etc.) from a moist or wet substance by squeezing or torsion; to extract (fluid) from or out of something by pressure, etc. *Occas.* in fig. context. Also with *advs.*, as *forth*, *out* (sense 14 a).

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* v. §2 Ne meath þu win wringan on mide winter. c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* I. 72 Senim pære ylcan wyrtleaf, . . . wyl on wætere, & wring pæt wos. 1398 *TREVISIA Barth. De P.R.* xvii. clxxxviii. (Bodl. MS.), Nawe wyne pæt is newe take oute of pe presse and wrong. a 1400 *Leg. Rood* (1871) 138 Cristes Cros 3it spac þis speche: Furst was I presse wyn to wringe. 1535 COVERDALE *Judges* vi. 38 He wrange y^e dew out of the flese. 1576 G. BAKER tr. *Gesner's Jewell of Health* 11 b, We . . . distill the lycour wringed forth. 1631 ANCHORAN *Comenius' Gate Tongues* 69 Oyle is wringed and strained out of oliues. a 1700 *EVELYN Diary* 21 May 1645, A laundress wringing water out of a piece of linen. 1746 HERVEY *Medit.* 42 The intolerable Pressure wrung Blood, instead of Sweat, from every Pore. 1857 *RUSKIN Pol. Econ.* i. 17 You have to . . . wring the honey and oil out of the rock. 1888 F. HUME *Mme. Midas* i. Prol., Wringing the water from his coarse clothing.

transf. 1652 BELL tr. *Luther's Table Talk* xxxv. 381 He wringeth from me a bitter sweat.

c. *transf.* To force (tears) out of the eye, from a person, etc.; to squeeze out.

a 1395 *HYLTON Scala Perf.* i. lix. (W. de W. 1494), He . . . somtyme wryngeth a tere oute of his eye. 1592 *KYD Sp. Trag.* iii. xiii. 135 Art thou come. . . To wring more teares from Isabellas eies? 1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* i. v, The gripe of chaunce is weake to wring a teare From him. 1683 DRYDEN & LEE *Hk. Guise* iii. i, It wrings the Tears from Grillon's Iron Heart. 1766 *GOLDSM. Vicar* xvii, It is not a small distress that can wring tears from these old eyes. 1815 MILMAN *Fazio* i. i, 'Twere sin to charity To wring one drop of brine upon thy corpse. 1819 KEATS *Otho* iii. ii. 221 A foolish dream that from my brow hath wrung A wrathful dew.

2. a. To twist, writhe, or wrest (a person or thing); to force (a limb, etc.) round or about so as to cause a sprain or pain.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 196 Teoh him pa loccas, & wringe pa earan & pone wangbeard twicige. 1362 *LANGL. P. Pl. A.* vii. 162 Hongur . . . hente wator bi þe mawe, And wrong him . . . be þe wombe. c 1435 *Torr. Portugal* 1014 By the nose I schall the wryng, Thow berdes gadlyng. 1481 CAXTON *Reynard* xl. (Arb.) 111 The foxe . . . grepe the wulf fast by the colyons. And he wronge hem so sore that [etc.]. c 1520 *SKELTON Magnyf.* 2196 Iche shall wrynge the . . . on the wryst. 1578 H. WOTTON *Courtlie Controv.* 114 After they had chaffed his temples . . . wrong his little finger [etc.]. 1612 *SHELTON Quix.* i. iv. v. 338 He wrung her throat so straitly betwene both his armes, that [etc.]. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Agonie* ii, There shall he see a man . . . wrung with pains. 1709 *STEELE Tatler* No. 137 ¶ 3 Let me wring your Neck round your Shoulders. 1727-41 [see *twist* v. 9b]. 1815 *BURNEY Dict. Marine, To Wring a Mast*, is to bend or strain it out of its natural position by setting the shrouds up too taught. 1816 *SCOTT Bl. Dwarf* viii, It's but wringing the head o' him about at last. 1839 *LANE Arab. Nrs.* I. 64 The memlook . . . began to wring it [sc. another's ear] by little and little. 1881 'RITA' *My Lady Coquette* xix, I shall wring that Budd's neck if he comes in my way.

refl. a 1548 *HALL Chron., Hen. VIII.* 171 The common people . . . wrong them selves by the berdes.

fig. 1900 J. L. ALLEN *Incr. Purpose* iv. 39 His heart-strings were twisted tight and wrung sore this day.

b. To contract or contort (the features, etc.); to screw, distort, turn awry.

a 1300 *K. Horn* 1062 (Camb.), Horn tok burdon & scrippe, & wrong his lippe. 1576 *WHESTONE Locke of Regard* I. 83 She wrong her mouth awry. 1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* i. v, Would'st have me . . . wring my face with mimic action? 1607 *TOPSELL Four-f. Beasts* 141 When he

fauneth vpon a man he [sc. a dog] wringeth his skinne in the forehead. 1665 J. WILSON *Projectors* i. i. 8 Do you not observe Sir, how hard he wrings his brows? 1808 *SCOTT Marm.* vi. xxx. 5 When pain and anguish wring the brow. 1885 R. L. & F. STEVENSON *Dynamiter* 184 The white face . . . wrung with unspoken thoughts.

c. To twist or force (the features) into or to a smile, etc.

1806 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* (ed. 4) vii. xxxv, The necessity . . . of wringing your features into a smirk, in addressing a poltroon. 1827 *HOOD Mids. Fairies* xciv, To hope my solemn countenance to wring To idiot smiles!

3. a. To twist (a wet garment, cloth, etc.) in the hands, so as to force out water; also in modern use, to pass through a wringer. *Occas.* in fig. context. Also with *away* (quot. 1728).

c 1300 *Havelok* 1233 He sholen hire clopen washen and wringen. 1377 *LANGL. P. Pl. B.* xiv. 18 Dowel shal washen it [sc. a coat] and wryngen it þow a wys confessor. c 1425 *MS. Sloane* 73 fol. 201, [When] þat þou moystist it þus . . . loke þat þou wrynge it clene. 1471 *CAXTON Recuyell* (Sommer) 494 After she toke oute the sherte apterly and wronge hit. 1530 *PALSGR.* 785/2, I wringe . . . a clothe that is wete. 1598 *GRENEWAY Tacitus, Ann.* xi. x. 152 The presses were wrung, the vessels flowed with wine. 1633 *FORD Tis Pity* iii. vii, My whole body is in a sweat, that you may wring my shirt; feel here. 1684 *BOYLE Pourousn. Bod.* iii. 11 To purify Quicksilver by tying it up strictly in a piece of kids . . . leather, and then wringing it hard to force it out. 1728 *RAMSAY Last Sp. Miser* vii, I never . . . wrung away my sarks with washing. 1732 *SWIFT Let. to J. Brandreth* 30 June, Take care of damps; . . . if a stocking happens to fall off a chair, you may wring it next morning. 1812 J. WILSON *Isle of Palms* ii. 283 Weeping, she wrings his dripping hair. 1874 *BLACKIE Self-Cult.* 51 A wet sheet, dipped in water, and well wrung.

absol. c 1425 in *Rel. Ant.* I. 275 A woman ys a worthy thyng: They dothe washe and dothe wrynge. 1573 *TUSSER Husb.* (1878) 173 Maids, wash well and wring well. 1635 *Life & Death Long Meg Westm.* ii. 5 She had been . . . used . . . to hard labour, as to wash, to wring.

b. To clasp and twist (the hands or fingers) together, esp. in token or by reason of distress or pain.

In very frequent use from c 1300.

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 43/303 He weop and criede and wrong is hondene. a 1300 *K. Horn* 980 (Camb. MS.), Hire fingres [Harl. hondes] he gan wringe. 1362 *LANGL. P. Pl. A.* v. 68 Wropliche he wrong his fust. c 1375 *Cursor M.* 23960 (Fairf.), Hir louelic fingris ho did wringe. a 1440 *Sir Eglam.* 815 They weptyn faste and wrang their hande. c 1489 *CAXTON Sonnes of Aymon* i. 37 There had you seen . . . many a hande wrongen. 1523 *LD. BERNERS Froiss.* I. cclxx. 165/1 They wronge their handes and tare their heeles. 1611 *BEAUM. & FL. Knt. Burn. Pestle* iv. i. Song, Come you whose loves are dead, . . . Weep and wring Every hand and every head. 1659 W. CHAMBERLAYNE *Pharon.* iii. ii. 105 Her hands Wringing each other's ivory joints. 1749 *SMOLLETT Regicide* iv. v, Wherefore dost thou wring thy tender hands? 1798 *EDGEWORTH Pract. Educ.* (1811) I. 104 Persons in violent grief wring their hands and convulse their countenances. 1845 *MANGAN German Anthol.* I. 162 She wrang her hands till blood gushed forth. 1884 F. M. CRAWFORD *Rom. Singer* I. 89 He wrung his fingers together and breathed hard.

transf. 1865 *DICKENS Mut. Fr.* i. xii, The wind sawed . . . The shrubs wrung their many hands.

absol. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 23960, I se him hang, I se hir wring. c 1386 *CHAUCER Clerk's T.* 1212 Lat hym care and wepe and wryng and waille. c 1430 *Pol., Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 236, I wringe & wepe asying for-lorn. 1587 *TURBERV. Trag. T.* (1837) 251 She wrong and wept a pace.

4. a. Of a tight shoe or boot: To press painfully upon (the foot, toe, etc.); to hurt (a person) in this way; = *PINCH* v. 1 b.

c 1449 *PECOCK Repr.* iii. xi. 347 The schoon schulden be so narowe, that thei schulden needis wringe his sones feet into greet payne. 1540 *PALSGR. Acolastus* iv. vii. Xij, Doth thy shoe wrynge the? 1580 *NORTH Plutarch, P. Æmylius* (1595) 262 Is not this a goodly shooe? . . . yet . . . neuer a one of you can tell where it wringeth me. 1581 *PETTIE tr. Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* i. 11 Hee bought a paire of Bootes, whereof the one was so strait that it wrong his legge and foote verie sore. 1612 *SHELTON Quix.* ii. (1620) 223, I know where my shoo wrings me. 1678 *OTWAY Friendship in F.* iv, Quit her! as cheerfully, as I would a Shooe that wrings me. 1770 *LANGHORNE Plutarch* (1879) I. 297/2 None knows where it [a shoe] wrings him but he that wears it. 1831 R. LOWER *Tom Cladpole* xxiv, I gun to feel . . . De haboot ring ma toe.

b. In figurative contexts; esp. in the proverbial phrase to know where the shoe wrings one, or variants of this: cf. *PINCH* v. 1 b.

c 1386 *CHAUCER Merch. T.* 341, I woot best wher wryngeth me my sho. — *Wife's Prol.* 492 He sat ful ofte and song When þat his shoo ful bitterly hym wrong. 1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* ii. v. (1867) 57 My selfe can tell best, where my shooe doth wryng mee. 1584 *LODGE Alarm* Eijjb, We shall finde whereas their shooe wringeth them. 1602 *MIDDLETON Blurt, Master-Constable* A 4 b, I have a shooe wrings me to th' heart. 1654 *EARL MONM. tr. Bentivoglio's Wars Flanders* 253 Here it is that the King of Spains shoe wrings him. 1672 *MARVELL Reh. Transp.* i. 314 They see where the shoo wrings him.

c. *absol.*, esp. in fig. or proverbial use.

1580 *LYLY Euphues* (Arb.) 413, I see that others maye gesse where the shooe wringes, besides him that wears it. 1589 *GREENE Menaphon* (Arb.) 54 As he were a Coblers eldest sonne, [he] would by the laste tell where anothers shooe wrings. 1609 *ROWLANDS Crew Kind Gossips* 4 Little do you know where my shooe wrings. 1658 A. Fox tr. *Würtz' Surg.* ii. xxv. 149 He that weareth the shooes knoweth where they wring. 1887 *Brighouse News* 23 July (E.D.D.), Every man knows best where his shoe wrings.

5. a. To cause anguish or distress to (a person, his heart, etc.); to vex, distress, rack.

In freq. use from c 1780, esp. with *heart*.

c 1374 *CHAUCER Troylus* iii. 1531 So hard hym wrong of sharp desir þe payne. 1390 *GOWER Conf.* II. 91 If that thou fiele That love wringe thee to sore, Behold Ovide and take his lore. a 1535 *FISHER Serm.* Wks. (1876) 419 A penitent soule, that is sore prest and wrong with vter rage. 1575 *GASCOIGNE Dan Barth., Reporter* vi, In deede the shame which wrong him there, was rathe. 1614 *WITHER Juvenil., Epigr.* v. 6 Where only thine own guiltinesse doth wring thee. 1648 *Hunting of Fox* 32 Every word hath its weight, and secretly wrings those lay-Levites. 1746 *FRANCIS tr. Horace, Art of Poetry* 158 For Nature . . . Wrings the sad Soul, and bends it down to Earth. 1766 *GOLDSM. Vicar* xxviii, Though he has wrung my heart, . . . that shall never inspire me with vengeance. 1831 *JAMES Phil. Aug.* III. ii, Even the sunbeam . . . seemed but given to wring him [sc. a prisoner] with the memory of sweets he could not taste. 1845 *MANGAN German Anthol.* I. 161 Remorse may wring thy soul too late! 1884 W. C. SMITH *Kildrostan* 79, I must tell you all, Howe'er it wring my heart.

absol. 1553 *ASCHAM Germany* 23 His talke is alwayes so accompanied with discretion . . . as he neither biteth with wordes, nor wringeth with deedes. a 1893 *CHR. G. ROSSETTI Poems* (1904) 215/1 O faces unforgetten! if to part Wrung sore, what will it be to re-embrace?

b. To affect (a person, etc.) with bodily pain, hurt, or damage (sometimes *spec.* by torsion or pressure); to hurt, harm, or injure. Now *dial.* or *arch.* (after Shakespeare).

c 1520 *SKELTON Magnyf.* 2047 Howe the gowte wryngeth me by the too! 1565 *COOPER Thesaurus* s.v. *Constrictus*, The mouthe wrounge with the bytte. 1580 *LYLY Euphues* (Arb.) 249 Wring not a horse on the withers, with a false saddle. 1617 *MORYSON Itin.* i. 55 After they had first wrung their foreheads with twisted ropes. 1623 *St. Papers, Col.* 217 [Stale cider] doth extraordinarily wring the belly. 1698 *FRYER Acc. E. India & P.* 176 Being wrung by her Pain. 1711 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4886/4 Rung with the Fetters on the white Foot, and rung a little on the Shoulders. 1718 *POPE Iliad* xvi. 195 When scalding Thirst their burning Bowels wrings. 1882 *N. & Q.* 29 July 94/1 My clothes wring me. 1887 *Kentish Gloss.* 192, I wrung my shoulder with carrying a twenty-stale ladder.

absol. 1575 *GASCOIGNE Weedes, Compl. Gr. Knt.*, A peece which shot . . . so streight, It neyther bruized with recule, nor wroong with overweight.

fig. or in *fig. context.* 1580 *LYLY Euphues* (Arb.) 387 For deny I wil not that I am wroung on the withers. 1596 *SHAKS. I Hen. IV.* ii. i. 7 The poore Iade is wrung in the withers. [Cf. *UNWRUNG ppl. a.*] 1888 E. GOSSE *Congreve* 3 It wrung the withers of the poets of Collier's day.

c. To distress or afflict (a person) by exaction, severity, etc.; to oppress, keep down.

1550 *BECON Fortr. Faithful ciii*, Thus y^e pore people be so wrounge of these ungentle gentlemen, y^e the selye soules are lyke unto dry haddockes. 1599 in *Fowler Hist. C.C.C.* (O.H.S.) 352 So as you [do not] . . . wring your Tenants in such sort for your private gain. 1613 *P'CESS Eliz.* in *Ellis Orig. Lett.* Ser. ii. III. 232 My Lorde, I have not bin forward to wringe you with requests. 1615 *SYLVESTER Job Triumph.* iii. 537 The meanest Groom I saw, I feared so, I durst not wring, nor wrong, nor wrangle with. 1742 *YOUNG Nt. Th.* ii. 152 Bare existence, man, to live ordain'd, Wrings, and oppresses with enormous weight.

† d. To press or ply (a person) with argument or confutation. *Obs. rare.*

1567 *HARDING in Jewel Def. Apol.* 2 What doo Heretikes when they are vrged and wroonge, when by force of arguments they are straightened. 1646 *TRAPP Comm. John* viii. 7 Thus our Saviour wrings those supercilious and censorious hypocrites.

6. a. To wrench or wrest out of position or relation; to cause to change place by turning or twisting. *Const.* with *advs.*, as *apart*, *asunder*, or *preps.*, as *from*, *off*, *out* of.

c 1320 *Sir Tristrem* 3262 His stirops he made him tine, To grounde he him wrong. 1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P.R.* xi. xiii. (W. de W.) 9 vib, Thonder dystroyeth hie trees and wryngyth [MSS. roteþ] theym out of the grounde. 1535 *COVERDALE Lev.* i. 15 The prest shal . . . wrynge the neck of it a sunder. a 1553 *UDALL Roister D.* i. iv, He wrong a club . . . out of the hande of Belzebub. 1587 *GOLDING De Moray* xxv. (1592) 386, I will . . . wring a sunder the yron barres [= Isaiah xlv. 2]. 1635 *Long Meg Westm.* xx, Meg . . . did wring the stick out of his hands. 1699 T. ALLISON *Voy. Archangel* 18 Our Rudder Head was wrung in peices. a 1784 in *Child Ballads* III. 480/1 His neck in twa I wat they hae wrung. 1857 *BORROW Romany Rye* xli. (1903) 257 My mouth being slightly wrung aside, and my complexion rather swarthy. 1883 *STEVENSON Treas. Isl.* xi, I'll wring his calf's head off his body.

fig. and in *fig. context.* 1548 *UDALL Erasm. Par.* Pref. Bj, Godly Counsaillours, whom . . . this wicked racke found meanes to wryng out of fauour. 1580 *LYLY Euphues* (Arb.) 295 Now you haue my opinion, you must not think to wring me from it. a 1592 [see *wrest* sb. 5b]. 1817 *SHELLEY Rev. Islam* x. xli, Who the life from both their hearts can wring. ? c 1830 *BRYANT The Past* v, My spirit . . . struggles hard to wring Thy bolts apart. 1878 *BROWNING La Saisiaz* 51 Each kindly wrench that wrung From life's tree its inmost virtue.

refl. a 1716 *SOUTH Serm.* (1744) VIII. 127 To wring themselves out of God's hand by annihilation.

b. To bring out (words, etc.) with effort.

a 1350 in *Relig. Lyrics 14th C.* (1924) 34 þou wringest mani wrang word Wip wanges ful wete. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Praise* (No. 3) i, Lord, I will . . . speak thy praise, . . . Then will I wring it with a sigh or grone. 1820 *KEATS Ode to Psyche* 1 Hear these tuneless numbers, wrung By sweet enforcement and remembrance dear.

7. a. To acquire or gain (money, property, a right, etc.) by exaction or extortion; to wrest or wrench from or out of a person, etc.

a 1300 *Sarmun in E.E.P.* (1862) 3 þe wrecchis wringit þe mok so fast; up ham silf hi nul nozt spend. 14. . . Voc. in *Wr.*-Wülcker 583 *Flecto*, to wrynge mony. 1576 *FLEMING Panopl. Epist.* 113 All which priuileges . . . they . . . do what they can to wrest and wring from us. 1594 *WEST 2nd Pt. Symbol.* §215 Those offences . . . are committed when any . . . wringeth money or other things from another man. 1630 R.

Johnson's Kingd. & Commw. 367 That Marquisate of Saluzzes, which Henry the fourth of France wrung from him. 1730 BAILEY (fol.), *Extort*, to wrest, wring or get out of one by force, th eat or authority. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* vi, Hard hands hav' wrung from me my goods, my money, my ships. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xxii. IV. 727 To wring taxes out of the distressed population. 1868 FARRAR *Silence & V.* i. (1875) 15 The fields which the usurer has wrung from the orphan.

absol. 1582 [see WREST v. 4 b].

fig. and transf. 1596 SPENSER *State Irel. Wks.* (Globe) 620 How hardly that Act of Parliament was wrung out of them. 1608-11 BP. HALL *Epist.* 1. Ep. Ded., It were well... if I could wring ought from my selfe not vnworthie of a iudicious Reader. 1828 CARLYLE *Misc., Burns* p. 31 They will wring from Fate another hour of wassail and good cheer. 1842 J. WILSON *Chr. North* (1857) I. 160 To wring from the very soil more than it could produce. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* ix. II. 464 The pressure which had wrung from him the only good acts of his whole reign.

b. To exact, extort, or draw (an admission, consent, etc.) *from or out of* a person, etc.

In frequent use from c. 1830.

c. 1444 [see WRESTING vbl. sb. 2.] 1581 LAMBARDE *Eiren.* II. vii. (1588) 213 At the common Law, *Nemo tenebatur prodere seipsum*, and then his fault was not to be wrung out of himselfe, but [etc.]. 1642 D. ROGERS *Naaman* 41 The Lord doth not so... to wring from him some tearmes of homage. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 1199 [They] constrain'd the bride To wring from me... my secret. 1721 YOUNG *Revenge* II. i, I wrung a promise from him he would try. 1792 ROGERS *Pleas. Mem.* 1. 352 To wring the slow surrender from his tongue. 1833 HT. MARTINEAU *Brooke Farm* vi. 79, I was determined no enemy should wring a complaint out of me. 1864 G. A. LAWRENCE *M. Dering* II. 83 The gay daredevilry of the man wrung from both... admiration. 1892 *Speaker* 3 Sept. 293 These are not admissions wrung by the energy of his opponents from Mr. Huxley.

transf. a. 1813 SHELLEY *Falsehood & Vice* 73 The stifled moan Wrung from a nation's miseries.

fig. 1853 MAURICE *Proph. & Kings* xxv. 441 Wringing out of texts or symbols... the proof of some New Testament revelation.

8. a. To press, clasp, or shake (a person's hand); to press (a person) *by* the hand; to shake hands with.

1534 MORE *Conf. agst. Trib.* II. Wks. 1170/1 The one took the other by the tip of the finger, for hand would there none be wrongen thorow the grate. 1580 LYLly *Euphues* (Aib.) 333 So wringing hir by the hand, he ended. 1601 [? MARSTON] *Pasquil & Kath.* III. (1878) 137 He... wring thy fingers with an ardent gripe. a. 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 18 Aug. 1673, He wrung me by the hand. 1713 ADDISON *Cato* I. iv, The good old King at parting wrung my hand. 1816 SCOTT *Bl. Dwarf* xvii, Langley took his hand, and... wrung it hard. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* I, Mr. Toots... wringing Walter by the hand. 1883 D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* iii, He shook hands with Tom, wringing his hand harder than he knew.

b. To squeeze or compress *together*. *rare*—1.

1603 G. OWEN *Pembrokeshire* i. (1891) 3 He Joynd in on Mappe... the [four] greates sheeres [= shires]... by reason whereof he was forced to wringe them... neere together.

9. a. To subject (something) to a writhing, wresting, or turning movement; to press, drive, or impel in this way. *Occas. fig. or in fig. context.* Also with preps., as *in, into, upon*.

13... K. *Alis.* 2383 (Laud MS.), His spores he gynnep in horse wrynge. a. 1489 CAXTON *Blanchardyn* xlix. 190 He wrang his fystes and brake the cordes al a sonder. 1565 J. HALL *Crt. Vertue* 73 b, Of wexe they make scripture a nose, To turne and wryng it evry waye. 1582 MULCASTER *Elementarie* Peroration (1925) 252 In tormenting the minde, and wringing it to the worst. 1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witcher.* XIII. xxv. (1886) 270 If you wring a testor upon ones forehead, it will seeme to sticke, when it is taken awaie. a. 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. ii, Wringing [folios] wrieng] her waste, and thrusting out her chinne. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* I. ii. 135 It is a hint That wrings mine eyes too 't. 1648 HEXHAM, *Wringh-aersen*, to Wringe or Friggle the taile. 1760-2 GOLDSM. *Cit. W.* lxxix, They must... wring their figures into every shape of distress. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* xxxv, And is it true, then, that the bridegroom's face was wrung round ahint him? 1862 MRS. BROWNING *Little Mattie* iii, Her lips you cannot wring Into saying a word more.

transf. c. 1489 CAXTON *Blanchardyn* vii. 28 [He] wringed his stock atte the pulling out ayen, that he made of his swerde.

b. To wrest or twist (a writing, words, etc.); to strain the purport or meaning of; to deflect, pervert; = WREST v. 5.

[1393] LANGL. P. Pl. C. v. 31 Wily-man and wittiman and waryn wrynge-lawe.] 1546 *Supplic. of Poore Commons* (E.E.T.S.) 77 Wringyng & wresyng the Scriptures. 1581 [see WREST v. 5]. 1606 S. GARDINER *Bk. Angling* 109 By this wringing the Scripture and causing it to bleede. 1641 MILTON *Ch. Govt.* v, By wringing the collective allegory of those seven Angels into seven single Rochets. 1645 — *Tetrarch*. 8 [God's] commands and words... are not to be so truly wrung, as [etc.].

absol. 1540 COVERDALE *Confut. Standish* (1547) dvijb, Thus make ye of gods holy scripture a shipmans hose, wresting and wringing to what purpose ye will. 1564 [see WREST v. 5].

c. To turn or deflect (a matter) *into* or *to* something; to convert. ? *Obs.*

1524 *State Papers Hen. VIII.* I. 152 To wryng and wreste the maters in to better trayne, if they walke a wrye. 1848 L. HUNT *Far Honey* p. xvii. (tr. Bacon), So are those doctrines best and sweetest which... are not wrung into controversies and common-places.

† d. To incline or dispose (a person); to bend or divert *to* something. *Obs.*

1528 MORE *Dyaloge* III. Wks. 210/1 Our harte euer thinketh the iudgement wrong, that wringeth us to the worse. 1553 ASCHAM *Germany* 6 b, Octauio was euermore wrong to the worse by many and sundry spites. 1579 [see WREST v. 3].

e. To wreathe, twist, or coil (something flexible); to wind or dispose in coils.

1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholas's Voy.* II. xvi. 50 b, Another great colunne... in forme of three serpents, wrong one within another. 1597 A. M. tr. *Guillemeau's Fr. Chirurg.* 29 b/1 Cause the patient gently to wring about his neck a table napkinne or a towell. 1623 tr. *Favine's Theat. Hon.* IV. iii. 3 That is to say, a Serpent writhed or wrung together. 1837 A. TENNENT *Vis. Glencoe* 49 Some in coils their forms did wring, As when the deadly serpent's spring Insures its victim's doom. 1896 'M. FIELD' *Attila* IV. 107 She catches hold of her own veil and wrings it round her head.

† 10. *refl.* To wriggle or insinuate (oneself) *into* a place, favour, etc. *Obs.*

a. 1525 *Vergilius* in Thoms *E.E. Prose Rom.* II. 27 The deuyll wrange hym selfe into the lytell hole ayen. 1592 NASHE P. *Penilesse* B 4 b, They wring themselves into his good opinion ere he be aware. 1602 MARSTON *Ant. & Mel.* III, Niggard life Hath but one little, little wicket through. We wring our selves into this wretched world... to curse and raile. 1621 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Superbie Flagellum* D 7 b, These vipers... proudly make humility a screw, To wring themselves into opinions view.

II. With adverbs.

11. wring down: To force, squeeze, or press down; *spec.* to force down the throat.

1633 *Swedish Intelligencer* III. 23 [They] will eate you whole handfulls of raw Onyons... as familiarly as an Italian wrings downe sallets, or we apples. 1874 T. HARDY *Far fr. Mad. Crowd* lii, There were the fellers round her wringing down the cheese [in the press].

12. wring in: To insert, insinuate, or bring in with or as with a twisting movement. Chiefly *fig.*

1579 FULKE *Heskins Parl.* 227 Maister Hesk. wold fain make Euthymius to speak for him, if he could tell how to wring him in. 1597 [see WREST v. 1 c]. 1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* II. iv, Who when they haue got acquainted with a strange word, neuer rest till they haue wroong it in. 1622 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* XXI. 187 Giue me those Lines... In which thyngs naturall be, and not in falsely wroong.

13. wring off: To wrest or force off by twisting or turning round.

c. 1520 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 1909 Of some I wrynge of the necke lyke a wyre. 1611 BIBLE *Lev.* i. 15 The Priest shall bring it vnto the altar, and wring off his head. 1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* II. v, One of our servants... wrung off the bird's neck. 1865 SWINBURNE *Chastelard* IV. i. 167 Let one... Wring my crown off and cast it underfoot.

14. wring out: a. To force out (moisture) by or as by twisting; to squeeze out. Also *fig. and transf.* Cf. OUTWRING v.

1340-70 *Alisaunder* 712 Hee wringes oute pe wet wus. c. 1385 CHAUCER *L.G.W.* 2527 *Philis*, To meche truste wel may I pleyne... on soure teris falsely out i-wronge. 1388 WYCLIF *Isaiah* xvi. 10 He that was wont to wringe out, schal not wrynge out wyn in a pressour. c. 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 50 þen grynde tansy, po iuse owte wrynge. c. 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* (Roxb.) 33 Gedeon wronge out the dewe. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 40 b, He that bloweth his nose ouermuche, shall wringe out bloude. a. 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. xxvii, With that the fellow... wrang out teares. 1612 S. RID *Art of Jugling* E 3 b, So (with a little sponge in your hand) you may wringe out blood or wine. 1624 WOTTON *Archit.* 111 A sturdie woman, washing and winding of linnen clothes... wrings out the water. 1743 BLAIR *Grave* 328 From stubborn shrubs Thou wrung'st their shy retiring virtues out. 1816 J. WILSON *City of Plague* II. i. 196 Such return Wrings out the tears from my old wither'd heart.

transf. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P.R.* v. xxxvi. (Bodl. MS.), Colde aier... is ywronge oute [L. *exprimitur*] and idrawe to pe vter parties.

b. To strain (a wet fabric, etc.) with a twisting motion, so as to press out most of the moisture. Also const. *of* (the liquid in which the thing has been wetted).

13... [see 1]. 1388 WYCLIF *Judges* vi. 38 Whanne the flees was wrongon out, he fillide a pot with dewe. c. 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* II. 417 [After it has been] so staped xix dayes, Wrynge out the mirte [= myrtle berries] & clense hit. 1561 HOLLYBUSH *Hom. Apoth.* 23 Wet a long cloth... wringe it well out. 1576 G. BAKER tr. *Gesner's Jewell of Health* I 1 b, We wring out... the thyngs infused. 1676 WISEMAN *Surg.* II. ix. 191 With a Compress wrung out as is prescribed. 1771 MRS. HAYWOOD *New Present for Maid* 268 Then wring them out of those suds. 1848 MRS. GASKELL *M. Barton* viii, Just help me wring these out, and then I'll take 'em to the mangle. 1896 *Albutt's Syst. Med.* I. 419 A large towel wrung out of cold water.

c. To get or fetch out (something) with a wrenching movement; to wrench or wrest out.

c. 1420 *Wycliffite Bible* 2 Sam. xxiii. 21 (MS. Bodl. 296), He wrong out pe spere fro þe hond.

d. To express or bring out with effort. (Cf. 6 b.)

1402 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 106 Oft, Dawe, in thi wrytting, thou wryngist out contradiccion. 1831 LAMB *Elia* II. *Newspapers* 35 *Years ago*, We were wringing out coy sprightliness for the [Morning] Post.

e. To obtain or draw (something) from another by pressure, application, or art; to extract, elicit, bring out.

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 118 b, Of all these thynges can they [sc. merchants] wryngye out [L. *elicere*] golde and syluer, to the wonderfull losse of people. 1591 LYLly *Endym.* v. iii, Marking... my sighes... by questions [he] wrunge out that, which was readie to burst out. 1598 GRENEWAY *Tacitus, Ann.* xv. v. 228 Let false praise, and wroong out by praies be restrained. 1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* II. v, Present thy guilt, As if twere wrung out with thy conscience gripe. 1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 90 That which claws away world from about them, would, 'tis like, wring out their Planethood from within them. 1833 I. TAYLOR *Fanat.* II. 38 The gratification... is wrung out from the very tortments of the heart. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xix. IV.

287 In order to wring out from them the names of their employers. 1879 BROWNING *Martin Reiph* 121 He wrung their pardon out.

† f. To expel or depose (a person) from position or office; to thrust out. *Obs.*

1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 174 b, After he had wronge oute [L. *eliserat*] Mathew Helde... he... placed [another]... in his rome. 1631 WEEVER *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 232 In which office he continued, vntill hee was wrung out by Wolsey.

15. wring up: a. To pull up with a twist; to wrench up.

c. 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* II. 185 The wedis with an hond most vp be wronge. [Cf. *upwring*, UP- 4 a].

b. To squeeze, press, or compact by torsion; to twist or screw up.

c. 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 14 Take almondes, bray hem, wryng hom up. c. 1440 in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 442 Take parsel, and grinde hit, and wring hit up with egges through a streynour. 1885 C. G. W. LOCK *Workshop Receipts* Ser. IV. 244 Wring the book up tightly in the press. 1891 T. HARDY *Tess* iii, The very white frock... which had been wrung up and ironed by her mother's own hands.

c. *Mining.* In passive. Of a lode: To become diminished or dwindled.

1839 DE LA BECHE *Rep. Geol. Cornwall*, etc. xi. 343 By continuing the workings through the space so wrung-up. 1855 [J. R. LEIFCHILD] *Cornwall* 143 Sometimes the lode... becomes 'wrung up', or impoverished.

III. *intr.* † 16. a. To flow or run out under pressure; to issue. *Obs.*

a. 1225 *Ancr. R.* 322 Al pet fule wrusum scheaweð him, & wringed ut biuoren al þe wide worlde. a. 1240 *Wohunge* in *O.E. Hom.* I. 281 þat te blod wrang ut at tine finger neiles. a. 1300 *Cursor M.* 11700, I wil þat vte þe water wryng. ? c. 1400 *Emare* 881 The teres out of hys yen gan wryng. a. 1450 *Northern Passion* (D) 1880 þe bloode a non began out to springe And þan þe watir after to wringe.

† b. To struggle or force a way out. Also *fig.*

c. 1384 CHAUCER *H. Fame* 2110 Thus oute at holes gunne wringe Euery tydyng streight to Fame. a. 1525 *Vergilius* in Thoms *E.E. Prose Rom.* II. 26 There was a lytell hole, and therat wrange the deuyll out like a yeel. 1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witcher.* III. xvi. 51 Little holes where a flie can scarcely wring out.

c. *Mining.* With out. (See quot. and 15 c.)

1855 [J. R. LEIFCHILD] *Cornwall* 91 Sometimes the schist so abounds in the lode, that the quartzose part disappears altogether, or is only continued in minute strings. In such a case, the lode is said to have dwindled away, or to have wrung out.

† 17. a. To suffer or sustain twisting, wrenching, or turning. *Obs.*

a. 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1368 þe keiser... bed... ba binden ham swa, þe fet & te honden, þet ha wrungen a3cin.

b. To be engaged in, to perform the action of, writhing or twisting; *esp.* of the hands.

1377 LANGL. P. Pl. B. v. 85 His body was to-bolle for wrathe... And wryngyng he jede with þe fiste. c. 1435 *Torr. Portugal* 1690 Fore his men pursued a dere, To his castell... That doth my hondys wring, This Giaunt hym toke. a. 1450 MYRC *Par. Pr.* 780 Koghe pow not penne, þy þonkes, Ny wryngye pou not wyth þy schonkes. ? a. 1480 *Piers of Fulham* 143 in Hazl. E.P.P. II. 7 A gentyll byrd takyn can no defense, Save wrastyll and wryngye with the tale a lyte. 1546 *Supplic. Poore Commons* (E.E.T.S.) 69 When they sawe the worlde som what lyke to wryngye on the other syde, they denyed it. 1604 E. T. *Case is altered* Cijb, His wife with her handes wringing entertaines him with a weeping. 1682 BUNYAN *Holy War* 153 Mr. Weteves went with hands wringing together. 183. J. EDMESTON in *Sacred Poetry* (1868) 243 The hands I love dearly are wringing.

† 18. To fling away; to rush precipitately. *Obs.*

c. 1400 *Sowodne Bab.* 2557 Richard the whiles away he wronge, Thile thai were alle dismayede.

19. a. To twist the body in struggling or striving; to struggle with or strive against something; to contend, labour, or endeavour earnestly.

1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* v. v. 168 Arthur weltred and wrong that he was other whyle vnder and another tyme aboue. 1489 [see WRESTLE v. 2 b]. 1548 P. NICOLS *Godly New Story* Eijb, Some wring & wrest to go backe agayn into Egypt. 1556 J. HEYWOOD *Spider & Fly* I. 59 The more he [sc. a fly] wrange, the faster was he wrapt [in the web]. 1570 DRANT *Two Serm.* K vj, Iannes and Mambres wrong and shouldered at the truth. 1791 [W. BECKFORD] *Pop. Tales of Germans* II. 123 Violent convulsion fits shewed that they were wringing with death. 1837 CARLYLE *Misc.* (1857) IV. 114 With the many-headed coil of Lernean serpents... [Hercules] wrestled and wrang... for life or death.

b. To twist, turn, or struggle in pain or anguish; to writhe.

c. 1485 *Digby Myst.* (1882) III. 1409 Swyche a cramp on me sett is... I ly and wryng. 1596 HARINGTON *Metam. Ajax* (1814) 45 He... looked as if he had been wringing hard on a close-stool. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* III. vi. 79 He wrings at some distresse. 1633 BP. HALL *Occas. Medit.* lxix. 167 How is it [sc. a worm] vexed with the scorching beames, and wrings up and down! 1789 [see WRINGLE v. 2]. 1843 CARLYLE *Past & Pr.* III. i, In hydra-wrestle, giant 'Millocracy'... wrestles and wrings in choking nightmare.

c. To suffer or undergo grief, pain, punishment, etc. (for something).

1565 J. HALL *Crt. Vertue* 134 b, None but the poore Doth wrynte therefore, And suffer the distres. 1586 FERNE *Blaz. Gentrie* 22 The shoemaker... hath so scantid his shoe that his foote wringeth therewith. 1608 CHAPMAN *Byron's Conspiracy* I. i, Such as are impatient of rest; And wring beneath some priuate discontent. 1760-72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 28 My heart wrings with regret. 1831 R. LOWER *Tom Cladpole* cxlvi, My toe did ring full sore. 1882 N. & Q. 17 June 468/2, I took it [sc. a feather bed] away... because he would not wring so [i.e. have such bed-sores].

20. †a. To set *upon* a person with hostile language. *Obs.*

1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 334 Whereunto tendeth all the endeour of those men, whome Osorius here wringeth vpon [L. *oppugnari*] so sharply.

b. To carry *on* wringing or torture. *rare*—1.

1821 BYRON *Two Foscari* i. i. Let them wring on; I am strong yet. *Guard.* Confess, And the rack will be spared you.

†21. To associate, or join hands, *with* another.

Obs. rare.

1580 LUPTON *Sivgila* 109 Which [bribe] belyke you thought that my handes did so tickle to touche, that I would wring with the wrong and flee from the truth.

IV. 22. Comb.: †wring-jaw *U.S. slang*, rough cider.

a 1775 [see 'SIMMONS sb.']. 1845 J. F. COOPER *Chain-bearer* i. iii. 46 'To get a sup of cider for old Jaap.' . . His weakness in favour of wring-jaw being a well-established failing.

Hence †wringed *ppl. a.*, wrung; squeezed (out).

1582 STANYHURST *Aeneis* II. (Arb.) 50 Wee wer al inueigled, with wringd tears nicetye blended. ?a 1600 *Roman Charity* in A. Philips *Coll. Old Ball.* II. 142 With wringed Hands, and bitter Tears, These Words pronounced she. a 1680 CHARNOCK *Attrib. God* (1682) 637 'Tis as if Divine Goodness did kneel down to a Sinner with wringed Hands.

wring, *obs. erron. f. RING v.* 2

†wring-bolt, *obs. erron. f. RING-BOLT.*

1815 BURNAY *Dict. Marine*, *Wring-bolts*, . . in ship-building, are bolts used to bend and secure the planks against the timbers. [Hence in Crabb (1823) and later Dicts. Cf. WRAIN-BOLT.]

†wringe, *obs. variant of wrinch WRENCH sb.* 1

1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* i. 3 A Dame. . . Whose wringes, winks, whose curious smiles and words, And scraping feete, lost blandement affords.

wringer ('rɪŋə(r)). Also 6-7 ringer. [f. prec. + -ER¹. Cf. OHG. *ringari* (MHG., G. *ringer*) wrestler.]

I. 1. An exactor, extortioner; an oppressor.

a 1300 *Sarmun* xxi. in *E.E.P.* (1862) 3 Such a wringer goþ to helle for litiþ gode þat nis nost his. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 206 How lost you your welth? . . Who was your welthes wringer? 1578 T. WILCOCKS *Serm. Pawles* 56 Masters detayning seruauants wages; a roring sinne, whiche shall make the wringers houles for it. a 1618 SYLVESTER *Sec. Sess. Parl.* Wks. (Grosart) II. 141 An Act against all greedy Wringers, Wrongers, Usurers, and Oppressors. 1857 DICKENS *Dorrit* II. xxxii, You're . . a screw by deputy, a wringer, and squeezer, and a shaver by substitute.

2. a. One who presses out juice or moisture. *rare*—1.

1388 WYCLIF *Isaiah* xvi. 10 Y haue take awei the vois of wryngeris out [L. *calcantium*].

b. One who wrings clothes or the like after washing; one whose occupation consists in wringing.

1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* i. ii. 5 There dwels . . his Laundry; his Washer, and his Ringer. 1618 REYCE *Brev. Suffolk* (1902) 22 Wringers, spinners, weavers, burlers. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* i. iii, Old Lieschen, . . who was . . his washer and wringer. 1881 *Instr. Census Clerks* (1885) 59 Gun Cotton Manufacture: Beater. Dipper. Wringer.

transf. 1573 HARVEY *Letter-Bk.* (Camden) 102 Her waste so late; her fingers sutch wringers.

†3. a. One who twists or distorts. *rare*—1.

1552 HULOET, Wringer or wryster of a thinge out of ordre, *elico.*

†b. = WRESTER 2. *Obs. rare*—1.

c 1560 *Godly & Fruitful Treatise*, Wresters and wringers of thy holy scripture.

†4. One who causes pain, suffering, etc.

1602 *Contention betw. Liberality & Prodigality* iv. ii, Thistles, and nettles most horrible stingers, Rauens, grypes, and gryphons, oh vengible wringers.

II. †5. A crow-bar. (Cf. RINGER sb. 1 3.) *Obs.*

1703 [R. NEVE] *City & C. Purchaser* 48 They . . united into one intire Body, so that they are forced to get them out with Wringers (or Iron-bars).

6. a. A wringing-machine.

1799 *Hull Advert.* 15 June 2/4 Mr. Beetham's . . patent wringer. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2822/1 Palmer's Combined Wringer and Mangle. 1891 *Anthony's Photogr. Bull.* IV. 298 Passing it between the rollers of the wringer.

b. Fig. phr. to put through the wringer and varr.: to try or test (a person or, rarely, a thing); esp. to subject to severe questioning. *slang* (orig. *U.S.*).

1942 *Sun* (Baltimore) 20 June 15/1 With its capitalization put through the wringer through reorganization . . the Erie board voted a payment of 550 cents a share. 1950 T. STERLING *House without Door* (1951) xviii. 196 Every one of them was being blackmailed . . except one woman, and she was put through the wringer another way. 1965 J. PHILIPS *Twisted People* iv. 56 We felt . . that there had been sabotage. . . Everybody . . was put through a wringer by the CIA. 1972 L. LAMB *Picture Frame* xv. 133 Do you think we had better pick him up and put him through the wringer? 1977 D. FRANCIS *Risk* xiv. 184 If I hadn't recently been through so many wringers. . . I wouldn't have given it another thought. 1984 *Times* 3 July 12/6 Not since the controversial Bishop of Durham . . has an episcopal appointee been put through the wringer in this fashion.

7. A device for wringing hot fomentations before application.

1884 EVA LÜCKES *Lect. Nursing* vii. 135 You will require new fomentation flannels and wringers. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 435 A good wringer is made by a strip of ticking.

'wringing, *vbl. sb.* [f. WRING v. + -ING¹.]

1. The action of the verb, in various senses; the fact of being wrung.

c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 5452 þer was siking . . weping & wringing for wo at here hertes. 1398 TREvisa *Barth. De P.R.* xvii. cxii. (Bodl. MS.), Oile . . renneþ þe better and þe clenner oute of þe draffe in the wringing and pressing.

1481 [see WRING v. 9a]. 1548 PATTEN *Exped. Scott.* Pref. ciiij, The peynfull wringing of so vnease a yok. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T.* To Rdr., He hath but a slight wringing by the eares. 1606 J. CARPENTER *Solomon's Solace* xiv. 57 The wringing of the shoo being knowne to him only which weareth it. 1611 BIBLE *Prov.* xxx. 33 The wringing of the nose bringeth forth blood. 1656 JEANES *Mixt. Schol. Div.* 156 With . . wringing of hands, knocking of breasts, tearing of haire. 1706 [see WRESTING vbl. sb. 1]. 1718 CHAMBERLAYNE *Relig. Philos.* I. 54 In this great Length of the Tube of the Bowels . . no Body can encrease or diminish the Contractions or Wringings of the same. 1782 V. KNOX *Ess.* clxiv. (1819) III. 224 That wringing of the hands, beating of the breast. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* lv, Her broken words, and her wringing of her hands. 1854 R. S. SURTEES *Handley Cr.* iv, The wringing of turkeys' necks.

b. fig. The action of wresting or taking forcefully; extortion.

1589 *Pasquil's Ret.* Cij, Ready to suffer wrong without wringing of reuenge out of Gods hand. 1607 COWELL *Interpr.*, *Extortion*, . . an vnlawfull . . wringing of mony or mony worth from any man. 1611 [see WRESTING vbl. sb. 1c].

c. With advs., as *out*, *up*.

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 19 The wringing out of grapes to her husband. 1730 BAILEY (fol.), *Extortion*, an unlawful . . wringing out of money . . from any person, 1839 DE LA BECHE *Rep. Geol. Cornwall*, etc. xi. 343 The miner . . terms such points . . of contact a nipping-in or wringing-up of the lode.

2. The action of squeezing or pressing water or moisture out of clothes, etc.; †the personal service of doing such. Also in fig. context.

1560 *Wills & Invent. N.C.* (Surtees, 1835) 191 To find hym fyre and a chamber with all wessyng wry[n]ginge and one to help hym one with his clothes and of. 1587 *Sc. Acts, Jas. VI* (1814) III. 508/1 Meit drink clething bedding wesching and wringing. 1626-7 *Knaresb. Wills* (Surtees) II. 92 My keepinge with . . washinge, wringing and other necessaryes during my life. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Love Unknown* 16 My heart . . in a font . . was dipt and di'd, And washt, and wrung; the very wringing yet Enforceth tears.

1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* ix, Breakfast shall be on the board in the wringing of a disclout. 1845 G. DODD *Brit. Manuf.* IV. 96 The wringing [of wool] . . is . . effected thus. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2822/1 The ordinary wringing injures fine apparel.

†3. A griping or wringing pain, esp. in the intestines. *Obs.*

c 1550 H. LLOYD *Treas. Health* Liv, The rynde of the pyne apple tree . . doth . . take awaye the wryngyng of the bely. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* 235 The grying paynes and wringings of the bellie. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* I. 445 The torments and wringing of the cholique. 1607 [see WRESTING vbl. sb. 2]. 1671 SALMON *Syn. Med.* i. 83 The wringing of the Guts. 1721 BAILEY, To *Verminate*, . . to have a griping or wringing in the Belly.

†b. The action or fact of feeling remorse, apprehension, or mistrust; an instance of this. *Obs.*

1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII.* II. ii. 28 Doubts, wringing of the Conscience, Feares and despaires. 1633 FLETCHER & SHIRLEY *Nt. Walker* i. i, No wringings in your mind now, as you love me. 1760-72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) IV. 36 He beheld her, in the wringings of penitential desolation. *Ibid.* 41 The weight and wringing that was then at his heart.

4. Perversion; = WRESTING vbl. sb. 2. ? *Obs.*

1565 CALPHILL *Answ. Martiell* v. 127 Hys wordes without wringing or wresting at all, be taken . . to importe much lesse. 1581 J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 279 Wordes in the Gospel, which (by wringing and wrestyng) you doe accustom to force to your purpose. a 1614 D. DYKE *Myst. Selfe-Deceiuing* (1630) 222 Diuers such like wringings of Scripture. 1852 MRS. JAMESON *Leg. Madonna* 325 Without any wringing of the text for an especial purpose.

5. *concr.* In *pl.*, that which is wrung out. Also *fig.*

1867 DENISON *Astron. without Math.* 168 That great law . . prevents the whole earth and the sea . . from flying in pieces like the wringings of a mop. 1886 BROWNING in *Maggs' Catal.* March (1897) 48 The 'quality of lying is not strained' in this particular case, but droppeth 'as should the wringings of a felon brain for the sake of a dollar'.

6. *attrib.*, as †wringing point; wringing-machine, a machine for wringing clothes, etc., after washing; a wringer.

1637 WALTON in Wotton *Reliq.* (1651) 166 Then was Stigand, the Metropolitan, . . fairly deposed, being too stiffe for the times: which was indeed the wringing point. 1833 LOUDON *Encycl. Archit.* §698 A washing and wringing machine. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade* 417 Wringing-machine Maker.

'wringing, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING².]

1. †a. Of hands: That undergo wringing, squeezing, or pressing; wrung under distress. *Obs.*

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 2324 Heo . . seh . . wepmen & wummen, mid wringinde honden wepine sare. 1579 HAKE *News out of Powles* (1872) Bvj, Another cries with wringing handes. 1596 *Roman Charity* in *Roxb. Ball.* VIII. 6 With wringing hands and bitter teares, these words pronounced she. 1705 STANHOPE *Paraphr.* I. 73 Wringing Hands and Gnashing Teeth thenceforth and for ever.

b. Quasi-adv. in *wringing-wet*, very wet; so wet that moisture may be wrung out.

a 1500 *Flower & Leaf* 406 To drie here clothes that were wringing wete. 1570 B. GOOGE *Pop. Kingd.* 49b, Maydens . . dabbled all with durt, and wringing wette. a 1614 *Serm.*

Jude i, in *Hooker's Wks.* (1888) III. 665 A poor fisherman . . with his clothes wringing wet. 1686 GOAD *Celest. Bodies* III. i. 377 The wringing-wet Influence (as Houswives call it) of ♂ and ♀. 1847 *Illustr. Lond. News* 21 Aug. 128/2 Their handkerchiefs are 'wringing-wet'. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 387 Then I clutch . . a wringing wet blanket. 1901 ALLDRIDGE *Sherbro* xxiii, Foot-sore, utterly exhausted, and wringing wet with perspiration.

2. That writhes or twists.

1597 DELONEY *Gentle Craft* ii. Wks. (1912) 81 The wrathfull Dragon with his long, wringing taile.

3. Causing pain, distress, or anguish; racking, distressing.

1576 FLEMING tr. *Caius' Dogs* (1880) 27 Nipping neede & wringing want. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* II. 250 The wringing pains in the bellie. 1653 R. SANDERS *Physiogn.* 188 A painfull wringing grief in the body after food. 1831 JAMES *Phil. Augustus* II. viii, One task . . which, however wringing to my heart, must be completed. 1891 H. LYNCH *G. Meredith* 88 The wringing sorrows brought about by his own baseness.

b. Characterized by oppression or extortion.

1620 [see WRESTLING *ppl. a.* 2]. 1814 BYRON *Lara* II. viii, Many a wringing despot. . . Who work'd his wantonness in form of law.

c. Causing straining or stretching (of the fingers).

1676 MACE *Musick's Mon.* 41 Therefore were they constrain'd to extreme hard, cross, and wringing Stops . . upon the Finger-board.

†wriggle, *sb. Sc.* [f. next.] (See quot.)

1808 JAMIESON, *Wriggle*, a writhing motion.

†wriggle ('rɪŋɡ(ə)l), *v. Obs.* Also 7 ringle. [Corresponds in sense 1 to Da. *wringla*, Sw. and Norw. *wringla*, to twist, entwine, and in sense 2 to Flem. *wringelen* to squirm, writhe. The precise source is not clear.]

1. *trans.* To entwine or twist together; to wreath.

1572 BOSSEWELL *Armorie* II. 63b, This Serpente I haue descried as wringled into a wreath.

2. *intr.* To move sinuously; to writhe.

1596 [see next]. 1643 'Powers to be resisted' 12 A poore worme . . will wringle away from the foot, and earth it selfe. 1648 HEXHAM II, *Ringen*, to Ringle, or to Wrestle. 1789 *Shepherd's Wedding* 12 (E.D.D.), She threw and she drew, she wringl'd and wrang.

Hence 'wringling *ppl. a.*

1596 DAVIES *Orchestra* liii, I loue Meanders path; . . In his indented course and wringling play He seemes to daunce a perfect cunning Hay.

wriggle- ('rɪŋɡ(ə)l), the verb-stem used attrib. in wringle-gut, -straw *dial.*, †-tail: (see quots.).

1658 ROWLAND tr. *Moufet's Theat. Ins.* 937 There is another Fly . . which Pennius calls *Curvicaudem* [= curved tail], very well in English a Wriggle-tail, in regard that . . he bends his tail towards him with his sting started. 1691 RAY *N. Co. Words* (ed. 2) 84 *Wriggle-strears*, or *Straws*, . . Windle-Straws. 1777 in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s.v., *Wriggle-gut*, one who frets his guts to fiddle-strings by twisting and turning his body. 1877 *Holderness Gloss.* 160 *Wringlesthreea*, . . a coarse grass.

†wriggleather, *obs. erron. f. RINGLEADER.*

1525 WARHAM in *Ellis Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. i. 366 Some of the chief wriggleathers.

wriggle-wrangle. *rare*—1. [Reduplication of WRANGLE *sb.* with change of vowel as in *jingle-jangle*, *tingle-tangle*, etc.] Controversial argument; wordy disputation.

[Cf. 1832 LYTTON *Eugene A.* II. viii, They be so . . quarrelsome . . ; wringle, wrangle, wrangle, snap, growl, scratch.]

1882 BESANT *All Sorts* xlv, The House was not sitting, and there was no wringle-wrangle of debates to furnish material for the columns.

†'wringly, *adv. Obs.* [Cf. WRINGLE v. 1.] In a wrung or twisted manner; twistedly.

1582 STANYHURST *Aeneis* (Arb.) 137 Three shows wringlye wrythen glimring, and forcebye sowing.

'wring-staff, -stave. *rare*—0. [Cf. WRING-BOLT, WRAIN-STAVE.] A staff for inserting in an eye of a ring-bolt.

1815 BURNAY *Dict. Marine*, *Wring-staves*, . . are strong pieces of wood used with the Wring-Bolts. [Hence in Crabb (1823) and some later Dicts.] 1884 *Imp. Dict.* s.v., *Wring-staff*; . . called also Wrain-staff.

wrink, var. WRENK *sb. Obs.*

wrink (rɪŋk), *v. ? Obs.* [Cf. WRINKLE v. and ME. *forwrynkked* (FOR¹ 8).] = WRINKLE v. 3 b.

1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* II. 11 Grief and age had wrink'd her brow.

wrinkle ('rɪŋk(ə)l), *sb.* 1 Also 5-6 wrynckle, -kle, -kel, -kul, -kyl(le, 6 wrynckle, wrinkel(l, -kyl, -ckel, 6-7 wrinc(k)le (6 rinkle, 7 rinckle, -el). [Of obscure origin; possibly a back-formation from WRINKLED a.]

Somner's OE. '*wrinckle*, ruga, a wrinkle' is not otherwise known. Kilian's '*wrinckel*, ruga' is also uncertified, and is rendered suspicious by his citing the English word.]

I. †1. A sinuous or tortuous movement, formation, etc.; a winding or curving; a sinuosity. *Obs.*

1430-40 LYDG. *Bochas* i. 2683 An hous . . Callid Laboryntus, . . Ful of wrynckles. 1480 CAXTON *Trevisa's*

Higden (1482) 40 b, Laborintus . . is an hous. . wrought with . . windynges so diuersly by wonderful wayes and wrynclis, that [etc.]. **1513** DOUGLAS *Aeneid* v. 62 The eddir. . . Lang wrinklīs makis oft with hir body. *Ibid.* xii. viii. 69 Als feill wrynklis and turnis can scho mak As dois the swallow.

2. a. A crease, fold, or ridge caused by the folding, puckering, or contraction of a fabric, cloth, or other pliant substance. Occas. in fig. context. Also without article.

In quots. 1676, 1869 with allusion to sense 4 b.
a1420 Wycliffite Bible Gen. xxxviii. 14 (MS. Cotton Claudius E 11), She took a roket clop wip many wrynclis. **c1440** *Prompt. Parv.* 534/1 Wrynkyll, or plate yn clothe, . . plica. **1514** BARCLAY *Cyt. & Uplondysman* (Percy Soc.) 1 Nor of his clothynge one wrynycle stode a wrye. **1537** LATIMER *Serm. bef. Convoc.* Aijb, These wordis are so spoken in parabole, and ar so wrapped in wrinkles. **1594** CAREW *Huarte's Exam.* Wits xiii. 212 With their hosen hanging about their heels, ful of wrinkles. *Ibid.* xv. 312 He takes it at heart, to haue a wrinkle in his pumpe. **1617** WOODALL *Surg. Mate* Wks. (1639) 150 That there be no wrinkles in the clouts applied. **1676** W. HUBBARD *Happiness of People* 54 Cause . . for that virgin. . . Church to condemn themselves for some spots or wrinkles in their garment. **1758** JOHNSON *Idler* No. 16 ¶2 His stockings [were] without a wrinkle. **1842** LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 175 The roll of canvass . . winds up and lets down without a single wrinkle. **1869** MRS. STOWE *Oldtown Folks* v, Her Sunday bonnet was without spot, her Sunday gown without wrinkle.

fig. **1624** HEYWOOD *Gunaik.* iv. 191 She so farre insinuated into the King's breast, that the wrinkles of all suggestions were cleared.

b. A slight narrow ridge or depression on a surface; a longitudinal mark; a corrugation.

1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* §100 The wrynclis on the houe. **1601** 2nd Pt. *Return fr. Parnass.* iii. iv. 1409 One that . . admires the good wrinkle of a boote. **1677** N. COX *Gentil. Recreat.* i. 126 The Wild-Goats[s]. . . have Wreaths and Wrinkles on their Horns. **1683** MOXON *Mech. Exerc.*, *Printing* xxii. ¶1 He leaves no wrinkles in the turnings up [of the paper lining]. **1737** BRACKEN *Farriery Impr.* (1740) II. 71 Whether it [sc. the horny part of the hoof] be smooth and even, or . . in Wreaths or Wrinkles. **1742** H. BAKER *Microsc.* (1743) 224 The little Wrinkles, Hollows, or Crevices of the Corn. **1838** T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 850 Wrinkles arising from the desiccation of the tube. **1839** *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jnrl.* II. 154/1 When . . docked she did not show a wrinkle in her copper.

fig. and in fig. context. **1719-20** SWIFT *Stella's Birthday* 54 The Cracks and Wrinkles of your Mind. **1822** HAZLITT *Table-T.* Ser. II. vi. (1869) 127 They cause a wrinkle in the clear and polished surface of their existence.

c. trans. of physiographical features.

1805 WORDSW. *Prelude* viii. 583 Here is shadowed forth From the projections, wrinkles, cavities, A variegated landscape. **1849** CUPPLES *Green Hand* xiv, Every point and wrinkle in the headland. **1900** LE GALLIENNE *Trav.* xv. 234 Northleach, lying in 'a wrinkle' of the still dreary hills.

3. a. A small fold or crease of the skin, esp. due to age, care, displeasure, etc.

In frequent use from c 1590.
c1425 *Cursor M.* 18840 (Trin.), His forhede feir wemles in sijt wipouten wrynkul [earlier MSS. runkel, -il, ronclis] hit was sligt. **1530** PALSGR. 290/2 Wrinkell in ones face, raier. **1586-90** GREENE *Metam.* Wks. (Grosart) IX. 30 Venus frowned on the smith with a rinkle on her forehead. **1617** MORYSON *Itin.* iii. 169 Fier . . causeth wrinkles and spots on their bodies. **1673** [R. LEIGH] *Transp. Reh.* 52 There are many wrinkles and chaps we will not fill up with the paint of art. **c1788** W. BLAKE *Tiriel* 108 To count the wrinkles in thy face. **1837** R. M. BIRD *Nick of the Woods* III. 71 Though the wrinkles of forty winters furrowed deeply in his brows. **1877** BLACK *Green Past.* ii, The calm and thoughtful forehead that had as yet no wrinkle of age or care.

b. trans., fig. and in fig. context. *spec.* a minor difficulty or irregularity; a snag; freq. in phr. *to iron out the wrinkles.*

a1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* I. 1, Their bloud had (as it were) filled the wrinkles of the seas visage. **1643** CARYL *Expos.* Job I. 1519 A perfect soul-state, and a perfect state of body, hath no wrinkle in it. **1692** BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* 22 No wrinkles in the face, no gray hairs on the head of eternity! **1818** BYRON *Ch. Har.* iv. clxxxii, Roll on, thou . . Ocean! . . Time writes no wrinkle on thine azure brow. **1855** WHITBY *Gloss.* 199 *Wreangs*, . . wrinkles of dust or dirt upon the skin. **1865** CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* xx. v, [They] have contributed a wrinkle of human fun to the earnest face of Life. **1966** D. F. JONES *Colossus* i. 15 As a project it's practically finished, we can't find any more wrinkles to iron out; we've checked and checked again. **1975** *Economist* 22 Feb. 92 The way for the east Europeans to reach western markets without accumulating further huge trade deficits is to import skills which can be exported in hardware. This also enables them to iron out wrinkles in their own system without having to embark on risky economic reforms. **1979** *Guardian* 30 Aug. 3/6 The BBC wanted to make certain advances in technical practices . . . Wrinkles still remained. **1984** *New Yorker* 14 May 43 Willa had sold her story to Universal Pictures and was in California ironing out some wrinkles in the deal.

c. A ripple or ruffle on the surface of water; a wavelet. Chiefly poet.

1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* v. xlvii, As when a stone . . Prints in the angry stream a wrinkle round. **1665** SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (1677) 39 The Sea . . was as smooth as Glass, not the least curl or wrinkle discernable. **1821** CLARE *Vill. Minstrel* II. 180 Nor faintest wrinkles o'er the waters creep. **1878** BROWNING *La Saisiaz* 17 Where the blue lake's wrinkle marks the river's inrush pale.

4. fig. A moral stain or blemish.

Freq. coupled (as in next) with *spot*, after Eph. v. 27.
a1400 *Pauline Ep.* (Powell) Eph. v. 27 þe kyrke . . not hafande a spot or a wrynkyll. **1408** Wycliffite Bible Eph. v. 27 (MS. Fairfax 2), [That] þe chirche . . hadde noo wern ne ryueling eþer wrynkele. **1530** R. WHYTFORD *Werke for Householdiers* Aij, Our owne conscience . . shall clerey confesse al our hole lyfe, and euery wrynle & parte therof. **1569** ROEST tr. *J. van der Noot's Theat.* 97 A glorious

Church, without any spot or wrinkle. **1643** CARYL *Expos.* Job I. 1519 Poverty is the wrinkle of riches, and disgrace is the wrinkle of honour. *Ibid.*, In the state of glory . . we shall not have . . one spot or one wrinkle.

b. Without article; chiefly in *without (spot or) wrinkle.*

1526 TINDALE *Eph.* v. 27 A glorious congregacion with oute spot or wrynckle. [Hence in later versions.] **1643** CARYL *Expos.* Job I. 1519 Believers have now a righteouness in Christ without spot or wrinkle. **1651** N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* II. xxvii. 205 Henry . . continued in that condition eighteen years without wrinkle of Fame. **1675** T. BROOKS *Gold. Key* 325 In this Robe of Righteousness . . we are without spot or wrinkle.

5. Anat., Zool., Bot. = RUGA.

1545 RAYNALD *Byrth Mankynde* 11 Though that the matrix . . be full of ryuelles or wrinkles. **1577** B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. (1586) 117 The skinn of their [sc. quadrupeds'] jawes . . if it lie in wrinkles, . . sheweth he is olde. **1639** T. DE GRAY *Expert Farrier* 352 A wrinkle . . in the shoulder or in any other joynt. **1657** TOMLINSON *Renou's Disp.* 275 It is a . . root, which by excisication hath contracted wrinkles and lineations. **1732** MONRO *Anat.* 12 When they [sc. *laminae*] make the first Turn or Wrinkle, he stiles them *Cancelli corrugati*. **1774** GOLDSMITH *Nat. Hist.* (1776) IV. 214 The muzzle [of the mandril] is . . strongly marked with wrinkles. **1775** [see RUGA]. **1842** A. COMBE *Physiol. Digestion* (ed. 4) 176 The numerous folds or wrinkles which line the inner surface of the duodenum. **1849** CUPPLES *Green Hand* xiii, Like the wrinkles on a nutmeg.

6. A section of a calcining furnace.

1884 C. G. W. LOCK *Workshop Receipts* Ser. III. 448 The ore . . is there thrust out of the furnace into the 'wrinkle'.

II. †7. A crooked or tortuous action; a crafty device; a trick or wile. *Obs.*

1402 in *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 45 A! for-writhen serpent, thi wyles ben aspid, with a thousand wrynckels thou vexed many soules. **1547** LATIMER in Foxe *A. & M.* (1563) 1350/2 When you note me to be so muche abused by so ignorante a manne, so simple, so playne, and so farre without all wrinkles. **c1550** Dice-Play Bvb, Euery wrynkel they haue to couer and worke disceit with al. **1579** LYLly *Euphues* (Arb.) 54 Euery wile and . . euery wrinkle of womens disposition.

8. colloq. a. A clever or adroit expedient or trick; a happy device; a 'dodge'. Esp. (U.S.) in phr. *a new wrinkle.*

Freq. from c1840 in phr. *to put one up to a wrinkle (or two).*

Perb. a development from the following, or some similar piece of repartee:

1731-8 SWIFT *Polite Conv.* i. 74 They say, mocking is catehing. *Miss.* I never heard that. *Nev.* Why, then, . . you have a wrinkle more than ever you had before.

1817 LADY GRANVILLE *Lett.* (1894) I. 111 He could put her up to a wrinkle or two. **1848** *Punch* July 19 He . . knows 'a wrinkle' of everything. **1875** 'S. BEAUCHAMP' N. Hamilton II. 155 'You surely don't mean to say you are going to fish with blue-bottles?' 'Yes, I do. . . It's a wrinkle.' **1882** *Cassell's Bk. Sports* 40 Such wrinkles experience alone will teach. **1941** W. C. HANDY *Father of Blues* iv. 35 In addition to twirling their batons, they added the new wrinkle of tossing them back and forth to each other as they marched. **1969** *Wall St. Jnrl.* 12 Aug. 3/3 The idea for the briefings, a new wrinkle in selling Presidential policy, came from White House communications director Herbert Klein. **1978** *New York* 3 Apr. 37/3 In his budget proposals, the president came up with an investment tax credit with a new wrinkle: If passed by Congress, it will apply to structures as well as to capital equipment. **1984** *Gainesville* (Florida) *Sun* 29 Mar. 4A (cartoon) This guy Chernenko should put a new wrinkle in Russian politics.

transf. **1832** COL. HAWKER *Diary* (1893) II. 44, I was . . among the workmen, getting some *ne plus ultra* wrinkles done for the great gun, covers, etc.

b. A piece or item of useful information, knowledge, or advice; a helpful or valuable hint; a 'tip'.

1818 *Sporting Mag.* II. 232 On that most auspicious day, I acquired two additional wrinkles. **1862** LD. W. LENNOX *Recreat. Sportsm.* I. 277 While upon the subject of yachting, we would venture to offer . . a 'wrinkle' as to coppering them. **1894** HALL CAINE *Manxman* vi. xii. 402 [That] news . . hasn't got into the papers yet, but I've had the official wrinkle.

9. Cant. An untruth, fib, lie.

1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict.*, *Wrinkle*, an untruth.

III. 10. attrib. and Comb., as *wrinkle-fill-ing*, †-wizard; *wrinkle-coated*, -faced, -free, †fronted, -furrowed, -proof, -resistant, -scaled adjs.; *wrinkle maker*, *wrinkle ridge* *Astr.*, one of the long, irregular ridges that can be seen on the maria of the moon and Mars.

1784 TWAMLEY *Dairying* 55 Curdly or wrinkle-coated Cheese. **1591** SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* i. iv. 380 Ingenious Saturn, . . bald, hoary, wrinkle-faced. **1907** J. LONDON *Before Adam* xii, A little . . fellow, wrinkle-faced. **1613** DEKKER *Devils Last Will* Wks. (Grosart) III. 35: The Founder and Vpholder of Paintings, . . Wrinkle-fillings, and Botchings vp of old . . Faces. **1963** *New Yorker* 8 June 74 (Advnt.), Stay neat and wrinkle-free all day. **1978** *Detroit Free Press* 16 Apr. 9A (Advnt.), Sheets in wrinkle-free and easy-care cotton/polyester percale. **1567** TURBERV. *Epit.*, etc. 70 Was neuer Bull so fell with wrinkle fronte face. **1744** AKENSIDE *Pleas. Imag.* III. 129 A female old and gray, With . . wrinkle-furrow'd brow. **1836** E. HOWARD R. Reefer lxvii, Thought is a sad wrinkle maker. **1957** *Economist* 31 Aug. 685/2 The steady introduction of new fibres . . new chemicals . . to render cloth . . wrinkle-proof. **1957** M. B. PICKEN *Fashion Dict.* 382/2 Wrinkle-resistant. **1969** *Sears Catal.* Spring/Summer 20 Perma Prest for great no-iron, wrinkle-resistant performance. **1944** J. E. SPURR *Geol. applied to Selenology* I. viii. 60 The wrinkle-ridges are distinct from faults in appearance. . . The ridges on the surface of the mare are not straight; they are curving, branching, imbricating, plaited. **1971** I. G. GASS et al. *Understanding Earth* vii. 106 (caption) The wrinkle ridges on

the surface of Mare Tranquilitatis. **1978** *Sci. Amer.* Mar. 81/r The Viking orbiter photographs show that much of the surface of Mars retains crisp topographic detail: lava flows, wrinkle ridges and crater ejecta stand out in sharp relief. **1829** LOUDON *Encycl. Plants* (1836) 716 *Podolepis rugata*, wrinkle-scaled *Podolepis*. **1594** NASHE *Terrors of Night* Fjb, So Socrates . . was censured by a wrinkle-wyzard.

Hence 'wrinkleful a.', full of wrinkles or creases; 'wrinklet, a small wrinkle.

1608 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. *Decay* 121 With her best complexions, She mends her faces wrinklefull defections. **1848** BAILEY *Festus* (ed. 3) 224 The lake smoothed down Each shining wrinklet.

wrinkle ('rɪŋk(ə)l), *sb.*² Also 7 wrinkle. Now *s.w. dial.* and *local U.S.* [Alteration of WINKLE *sb.*, after prec.] The periwinkle or whelk. Also *transf.*

1589 RIDER *Bibl. Scholast.* 1724 A walke, or wrinkle, *turbo*. **1602** CAREW *Cornwall* 30 b, Wrinkles, . . and Muscles, are gathered by hand upon the rocks. **1616** W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* II. i. 454 Oysters and small Wrinkles. **1750** HEATH *Acc. Isl. Scilly* 46 Of Shell-fish are denominated . . Shrimps, Limpets, Wrinkles. **1795** WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Royal Tour* Proem. 24 She swears I'm . . Rather a wrinkle, limpet, paltry muscle. **a1870** J. COUCH *Polperro* (1871) 153 A journey to the sea-coast . . to pick 'wrinkles'. **1880-2** in *Cornwall glossaries*.

wrinkle ('rɪŋk(ə)l), *v.* Forms: 5-6 wrynkle, 6 wrynkel, wrynckle, 6 wrinkel(l, -kill, wrinkyl, 6-7 wrinkle, 6-8 wrinkle; 6- wrinkle (7 wringkle). [app. a back-formation from WRINKLED *a.* or WRINKLING *vbl. sb.*

Somner's OE. 'wrinclian, rugare, crispare, . . to wrinkle' occurs in no known text, and was prob. inferred from *zewrinclod*. Kilian's *wrinkelen* 'rugare' is also uncertified and rendered suspicious by his citation of the English word.]

1. intr. To suffer or undergo contraction or puckering into wrinkles or small folds; to become corrugated. Also with †together, up.

1528 PAYNELL *Salerne's Regim.* Cijj, This crampe . . wherby the membre is made shorte and great, and wrynkyng to gether as lether. **1530** PALSGR. 785/2, I wrinkell, as a kercher or a garment dothe, *Je plionne*. **1594** PLAT *Jewell-ho.* II. (1596) 47 If y^e kernel do wrinkle or run together. **1719** LONDON & WISE *Compl. Gard.* 90 [This] Apple . . is apt to wrinkle and wither. **1788** G. PARKER & STALKER *Japaning* 30 Suffer [your print] . . not to cockle, wrinkle, or rise up in little bladders. **1825** T. HOOK *Sayings* Ser. II. I. 62 The neckcloth, after four vain attempts, wrinkled round his neck in folds. **1860** TYNDALL *Glac.* I. 147 The ice . . seemed to wrinkle up in obedience to the pressure.

transf. **1653** WALTON *Angler* v. 127 If he sees the water but wrinkle or move in one of these dead holes. **1864** BUCHANAN *Undertones*, *Proteus* iii, A trackless Ocean wrinkling tempest-wing'd.

b. Of persons, the face, etc.: To become creased or puckered; to assume or undergo marking with wrinkles, creases, or lines; to crease.

1530 PALSGR. 785/2 Your face begynneth to wrinkell. **1606** MARSTON *Parasit.* II. C3, What are you fleeing at? ther's some weakenes in your brother you wrinkle at thus. **1684** *Contempl. St. Man* i. iv. (1699) 35 If he reach old age . . his Face wrinkles. **1706** *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4252/4 When he Smiles both corners of his Mouth wrinkle. **1711** ADDISON *Spect.* No. 89 ¶5 The finest Skin wrinkles in a few Years. **1819** KEATS *Fall of Hyperion* I. 225 This old image here, Whose carved features wrinkled as he fell. **1890** *Nature* 20 Feb. 378 Its body began to wrinkle and to plump up.

c. To contract into smiles, etc., by puckering.

1853 J. B. MOZLEY *Lett.* (1885) 221 His face wrinkles into countless smiles. **1854** R. S. SURTEES *Handley Cr.* x, Doleful's face wrinkled into half its usual size with delight.

†2. To move sinuously; to wriggle. *Obs.*

1565 COOPER *Thesaurus*, *Piscis tortilis*, a fish that wiitheth and wrinkleth. **1653** [see WRINKLING *ppl. a.* 3].

3. trans. To form or cause corrugations, wrinkles, or folds in or on (a surface, etc.); to corrugate. Occas. in fig. context. Also with *over*.

1611 COTGR., *Fronser*, to . . wrinkle, crumple, frumple. **1670** MILTON *Hist. Eng.* Wks. 1851 V. 178 Neither do I care to wrinkle the smoothness of History with rugged names of places unknown. **1766** *Compl. Farmer* s.v. *Madder*, Too hasty a drying wrinkles and splits the bark. **1796** COLERIDGE *To Young Friend* 38 A beauteous spring . . scarce wrinkled by the gale! **1818** SHELLEY *Rosal. & Helen* 542 The flood of cloud, Which sunrise from its eastern caves Drives, wrinkling into golden waves. **1820** — *Prometh. Unb.* II. i. 137 A wind swept forth wrinkling the Earth with frost. **a1825** FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Crinkle*, . . to wrinkle, twist, plait, or rumple irregularly. **a1856** T. SEDDON in *Mem. & Lett.* (1858) 205 A wilderness of mountain tops, in some places . . wrinkled over with ravines.

absol. **1543** TRAHERON *Vigo's Chirurg.* II. 75 b, This pouldre . . draweth together the loosed parte, it dryeth, riueth, or wrynkeleth.

b. To contract or draw (the skin, countenance, etc.) into creases or wrinkles; to pucker, crease. Also *refl.*

1566 PAINTER *Pal. Pleas.* (1569) I. Fiv, That the swelling of their body, might not irrigate and wrinkle their faces. **1602** 2nd Pt. *Return Parnass.* III. iii. 1324 My master will . . looke on the title and wrinkle his browe. **a1661** HOLYDAY *Persius* (1673) 298 He . . ne're wrinkled his nose. **1721** BAILEY, *Frown*, to . . wrinkle the Forehead. **1798** SOUTHEY *Surg. Warning* vi, He wrinkled his black eye-brow. **1858** CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* v. vii, As if the face of the Sphynx were to wrinkle itself in laughter. **1865** DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* III. xv, Wrinkling his face into a very map of curves and corners. *fig.* and in fig. context. **1606** SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* II. ii. 79 A Grecian Queen, whose youth & freshnesse Wrinkles Apolloes. **1647** T. CALVERT *Heart Salve* To Rdr. 3 The other carries with it a decor and beautie that no old age . . can

wrinkle or furrow with uncomeliness. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* xi. 839 A keen North-winde. . . Wrinkl'd the face of Deluge, as decaid. 1789 BURNIE *Hist. Mus.* III. 463 What is the secular Music that thirty years have not wrinkled, withered, and rendered superannuated! 1848 BAILEY *Festus* (ed. 3) 242 One. . . Whose heart was wrinkled long before his brow? *absol.* c 1779 CRABBE *Midnight* 438 The Brow of State, On which Distraction. . . helps the Scythe of Time to wrinkle there.

c. With up.

?c 1590 *Sir T. More* III. ii. 205 For know. . . Mirth wrinckls vpp my face. 1700 T. BROWN *Amusem. Ser. & Com.* 3 Wrinkling up his nostrils. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Horace, Epist.* I. v. 33 That no foul Linen wrinkle up the Nose. 1819 SHELLEY *Cenci* i. iii. 38, I fear that wicked laughter round his eye, Which wrinkles up the skin even to the hair. 1865 SWINBURNE *Chastelard* v. ii. 186 Sad at her mouth a little, with drawn cheeks And eyelids wrinkled up.

d. To screw up (the eyes). Also with up.

1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* vi. Quilp, wrinkling up his eyes and luring her towards him with his bent forefinger. 1901 W. R. H. TROWBRIDGE *Lett. to Eliz.* x. 43 Blanche wrinkled her eyes at him in the prettiest way.

4. To manifest (something) in or by facial wrinkles. Also refl.

c 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. xix, Some ill-favoured cheerefulness. . . began to wrinkle it selfe in his face. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* II. xiii, Only crows' feet were wrinkled round them [sc. eyes]—marks of black old Time.

5. intr. Cant. (See quot.)

1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict.*, *Wrinkle*, to lie, or utter a falsehood.

Hence 'wrinkler'. Cant. (See quot.)

1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict.*, *Wrinkler*, a person prone to lying; such a character is called also a *gully*.

wrinkled ('rɪŋk(ə)ld), *a.* [f. WRINKLE *sb.*¹ + -ED², or in early use representing the rare OE. ppl. form *Ʒewrinclod* winding (of a ditch), serrated: cf. WRINKLE *v.*]

†1. Formed or disposed in convolutions, sinuosities, or windings; twisted, curled, coiled. *Obs.*

c 1403 LYDG. *Temple Glas* 84 þe hous, That was forwrynkled [v.r. so wrynkled] bi craft of Dedalus. c 1407—*Reson & Sens.* 3607 The house of Dedalus. . . is so wrynkled to and froo That man not, how he shal goo. 1412-20—*Chron. Troy* II. 2512 þe serpent. . . Whiche wrinkled is, as 3e may beholde, Vp-on þe 3erde [= Mercury's wand]. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* v. x. 79 The hous. . . Hait Laborynthus, with mony went and streit, Had wrinckillit wallis. *Ibid.* vi. i. 60 Laborynthus. . . Full of wrinckillit vnreturnable dissait. 1578 LYTE *Dodoens* 554 The fourth kind of red cole is called. . . in Englishe Wrinkled or ruffed Cole. 1587 MASCALL *Bk. Cattell* III. (1596) 283 The wrinkled taites of hogs.

2. Having, distinguished by, or formed into wrinkles, corrugations, or creases; contracted or puckered into small furrows and ridges; corrugated; also, pleated.

1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* §34 Peeke wheate. . . oft tymes. . . is flyntered, that is to saye, small corne wrynekeled and dried. 1530 PALSGR. 785/2 Where have you ben, your kercher is wrinkled. 1567 MAPLET *Gr. Forest* 31 b, The Apple tree is. . . of wrinckled bark. 1612 *Two Noble K.* I. i. 122 Like wrinckled peobles in a glassie streame. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 160 The wild Irish used to wear 30 or 40 elles [of linen cloth] in a shirt, al gathered and wrinckled. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 129 ¶5 Every Ribbon was wrinkled, and every Part of her Garments in Curl. 1753 CHAMBERS' *Cycl. Suppl.* s.v. *Leaf*, So as to give upon the whole [leaf] a wrinkled surface. 1841 PENNY *Cycl.* XX. 461/2 The smooth and polished enamel. . . [of the tooth] presents a finely wrinkled appearance. 1861 HOLLAND *Less. Life* v. 70 Objects. . . distorted by reaching the eye through wrinkled window-glass. 1890 *Science-Gossip* XXVI. 8/1 A large, wrinkled lump of chalk.

fig. 1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* v. vii, The wrinkled fortunes of this poore spinster. 1643 CARYL *Expos. Job* I. 1519 His wealth and honour were extreemly wrinkled.

b. *poet.* Formed by, due to, swelling or surging.

c 1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* VII. 49 Fresh horror. . . driven through the wrinkled waves By rising Zephyr. 1616 J. LANE *Contn. Sqr.'s T.* 193 Now Titan, in th'oriental, wrinkled wave, had filld his labor.

3. Of persons, the face, etc.: Marked with small folds, wrinkles, or furrows; creased, lined, furrowed.

a 1529 SKELTON *El. Rumminge* 17 Her face. . . Woundersly wrynkled. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* IV. i. 270 To view with. . . wrinkled brow An age of pouerty. 1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle*, etc. (1871) 123, I am. . . crabbled, wringled, olde. 1651 BARKSDALE *Nympha Lib.* II. ix. 32 With wrinkled face, thou cry'st out, Vanitie! a 1683 OLDHAM *Rem.* (1684) 114 An old wrinkled Baboon. 1718 POPE *Iliad* xv. 112 On her wrinkled front. . . Sat steadfast care. 1786 BECKFORD's *Vathek* (1883) 93 A wrinkled old eunuch. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* VI. xi, His large and wrinkled hand. 1860 EMERSON *Cond. Life, Beauty*, Character gives splendour to youth, and awe to wrinkled skin.

transf. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* I. iii. 5 A purpose More graue, and wrinkled, then the aimes. . . Of burning youth. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* II. xxxiii, Old age, with its gray hair, And wrinkled legends of unworthy things. 1817 WORDSW. *Pass of Kirkstone* 17 Wrinkled Egyptian monument; Green moss-grown tower.

b. fig. and in fig. context.

1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III.* I. i. 9 Grim-visag'd Warre, hath smooth'd his wrinkled front. 1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* I. iii. Dj, Or lies he hid Within the wrinkled bosome of the world? 1644 MILTON *Areop.* (Arb.) 71 Casting off the old and wrinck'd skin of corruption to. . . wax young again. 1660 R. COKE *Power & Subj.* Pref. 2 The frowns of perverse and wrinkled fortune. 1670 CLARENDON *Ess.* Tracts (1727) 197 The wrinkled face of

antiquity. 1821 SHELLEY *Hellas* 139 The hoary mountains and the wrinkled ocean Seem younger still than he. 1871 E. F. BURR *Ad Fidem* xvi. 351 The fresh present, and wrinkled antiquity.

c. Marked or characterized by wrinkles.

1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 154, I am entred into my wrinkled and withered age. 1581 A. HALL *Iliad* IV. 69 After our vnbrideled youth coms sage and wrinckled yeares. 1607 A. BREWER *Lingua* IV. ii, These two my lord Comedus and Tragedus. . . This grave. . . That light and quick, with wrinkled laughter painted. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 871 Listen and appear to us. . . By hoary Nereus wrinckled look. 1753 *Adventurer* No. 74, The lectures of wrinkled wisdom. 1792 BURNS 'In Simmer when' i, A dame in wrinkled eild.

4. *Bot., Anat., Zool.* Marked by rugæ or wrinkles; rugose, corrugated.

1563 HYLL *Art Garden.* (1574) 117 Those Nauews be the better, which be long and in a manner wrinckled. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* IV. 167 The heades and the neckes of [peahens]. . . covered with a wrinckled skinne. 1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* (1614) 472 The skinne vpon the vpper part of this beast, is all wrinkled. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 267 Their [sc. horses'] wrinkled and round nostrills. 1727 BAILEY, *Rugosus*, (in *Botan. Writers*,) wrinkled. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) II. 49 Leaves on leaf-stalks, . . wrinkled and shining. 1854 MURCHISON *Siluria* ix. 233 Wrinkled tubes of these [annelids]. 1855 KINGSLEY *Glaucus* 83 The Spoonworm. . . with a strange scalloped and wrinkled proboscis. 1873 DAWSON *Earth & Man* IV. 65 The rugose or wrinkled corals.

b. In specific names (see quots.).

1681 GREW *Musæum* I. 127 The Wrinkled-Snail. *Cochlea rugosa*. 1770 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* (1777) IV. 95 Wrinkled [Venus] with thick shells, marked with rugose concentric striae. 1800 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* I. 33 Wrinkled Baboon. . . with . . . large blood-red wrinkled callosities behind. 1801 PENNANT *Tour* 114 *Salix reticulata*, or Wrinkled Willow. 1802 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* III. 28 Wrinkled Tortoise, *Testudo rugosa*. . . Tortoise with black wrinkled shell. c 1880 CASSALL's *Nat. Hist.* III. 353 A curious envelope. . . thrown by a Wrinkled Hornbill [*Anorrhinus corrugatus*].

5. Comb., as wrinkled-old, -leaved, -visaged.

1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 133 Were I hard-favour'd, foul, or wrinkled-old. 1822 HORTON *Anglicus* II. 195 *G[eranium] Lividum*. Wrinkled-leaved Crane's Bill. 1838 HAWTHORNE *Amer. Note-bks.* (1868) I. 171 A grey. . . wrinkled-visaged figure.

Hence 'wrinkledness'.

1552 HULOET, *Wrinkleness* [sic], or ruggednes of the skynne, *scabredo*. 1611 COTGR. s.v. *Rugosité*. 1727 BAILEY (vol. II), *Tortness*, . . writheness, wrinkledness. 1889 E. W. BENSON in *Life* (1899) II. 262 The Shah has a. . . nearness and wrinkledness of eyes.

'wrinkled, ppl. *a.* [f. WRINKLE *v.*] Subjected to wrinkling. In quot. with *up*.

1859 MEREDITH *R. Feverel* xxiii, Putting the mouth of the pipe to his wrinkled-up temples.

'wrinkleless, *a.* Also 8 wrinkleless. [f. WRINKLE *sb.*¹ + -LESS.] Destitute of or free from wrinkles.

1793 HOLCROFT tr. *Lavater's Physiog.* xlv. 225 The wrinkleless, compressed, yet open forehead. 1880 MARK TWAIN's *Tramp Ab.* xxvii. 245 He wore. . . wrinkleless kids. 1881 C. GIBBON *Heart's Problem* iii, His fallow and almost wrinkleless face.

wrinkling ('rɪŋklɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. the stem of OE. *Ʒewrinclod* (see WRINKLED *a.*) + -ING¹.]

†1. A twisting or coiling; a sinuosity. *Obs.*

1387 TREvisa *Higden* I. 9 As laborintus. . . hap many. . . wyndynges and wrynkylynges, þat wil nougt be vnwarled. 1535 TREvisa's *Barth. De P.R.* xvii. clxxiii, A good smellynge smoke, . . full meuable, and tornynge, and crokyd with many bendynges and wrynkylynges.

2. The action of creasing, puckering, or contracting into wrinkles; the fact of becoming corrugated or ravelled.

1528 PAYNELL *Salerne's Regim.* Cijj, Retraction and wrynkyngete together of the veynes. 1594 T. B. *La Primaud. Fr. Acad.* II. 346 A certaine contraction and wrinckling. . . of the orifice. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 173 The Curtizans make all the forepart of their gownes in like manner open, to avoid wrinckling. 1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2) 111/2 The wrinckling of the lower part of the Vagina. 1698 *Phil. Trans.* XX. 174 If the Fly had been Dead for some while. . . I could have observed none of this Wrinkling. 1859 *Habits of Gd. Society* III. 149 A peculiar wrinkling [of the trousers] from the foot to the knee. 1885 *Riverside Nat. Hist.* (1888) II. 268 [The] degree of wrinkling of the back of the mesothorax. 1888 *Cornh. Mag.* Jan. 40 Wrinklings of the crust. . . gave rise at first to baby mountain ranges.

transf. 1875 BROWNING *Aristoph. Apol.* 120 The olive-leaves curl, violets crisp and close Like a nymph's wrinkling at the bath's first splash.

attrib. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2822 *Wrinkling-machine*, . . one to wrinkle transversely the upper leathers of boots and shoes.

3. *concr.* A series or collection of wrinkles; a puckered surface, formation, etc.

1495 TREvisa's *Barth. De P.R.* v. lxiij. (W. de W.) lviij, Ye fatnes. . . stretchyth oute the wrynkylynge of the skynne. 1579 LANGHAM *Gard. Health* 379 The shrieueld wrincklings y' appear on womens bellies after their deliuerance. 1628 FOLKINGHAM *Panala Med.* 66 It clenches the Ventricle from. . . Crudities sticking to its rugosities and wrincklings. 1857 P. P. CARPENTER *Cat. Mazatlan Shells* 225 The first whirl. . . is characterized by extremely minute wrinkling over the whole surface, only discernible. . . when quite fresh. 1905 H. G. WELLS *Kipps* III. iii. §6 Such wrinkling of brow and mouth as only an experienced actor can produce.

b. spec. (See quot.)

1894 *Amer. Dict. Printing* 588/1 *Wrinkling*, an uneven surface in a book, caused by not being properly backed or pressed, or occasioned by dampness.

'wrinkling, ppl. *a.* [f. as prec. + -ING².]

1. Causing or forming creases or wrinkles.

1601 [? MARSTON] *Pasquil & Kath.* II. 69 The wrinkling print of Time err'd when it seal'd my forehead vp with age. 1756 MASON *Odes* 16 To thee, whose. . . polish'd brow The wrinkling hand of Sorrow spares. 1820 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* I. i. 62 Ye icy Springs, stagnant with wrinkling frost. 1834 AINSWORTH *Rookwood* I. i, A wrinkling smile crossed the sexton's brow. 1851 MRS. BROWNING *Casa Guidi Wind.* II. 49 We. . . took thy wrinkling cares For ruffling hopes, and called thee weak.

2. Undergoing marking with, characterized by, wrinkles or creases.

1791 E. DARWIN *Bot. Gard.* I. 113 Glad Echo. . . Her wrinkling founts with soft vibration shakes. 1820 KEATS *Hyperion* I. 100 This wrinkling brow, Naked and bare of its great diadem. 1839 BAILEY *Festus* 27 The wrinkling stalk of Time. 1881 CABLE *Mme. Delphine* IV. 13 Furniture. . . carved just enough to give the notion of wrinkling pleasantly.

†3. Wriggling, writhing. *Obs. rare*—¹.

1653 LAUSON *Dennys' Secr. Angling* 21 There be divers wayes to catch the wrinkling Eele.

†'wrinklingly, *adv.* *Obs. rare.* [f. as WRINKLING *vbl. sb.* + -ING² + -LY².] In a tortuous or curving manner; sinuously.

1387 TREvisa *Higden* I. xxx. (MS. Tiberius D. vii) fol. 29 Laborintus ys an hous. . . wip turnynges & wyndynges so dyuerslych & so wrynkynglych [Rolls ed. I. 313: wrynkyngliche] ywrojt [etc.]. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* III. 157 In olde women. . . sometimes. . . they [sc. breasts] are knit wrink[li]ngly vpward.

wrinkly ('rɪŋkli), *a.* and *sb.* [f. WRINKLE *sb.* + -Y¹.]

A. adj. Full of, marked with, wrinkles; creased; puckered; crumpled.

1573 TWYNE *Æneid* x. Dd iv b, Him Tryton. . . blew with whelked shell, Whose wrinkly wreathed flue, did fearful shril in seas outyell. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 117 The Fruit being ripe is wrinkly. 1742 SHENSTONE *School-mistr.* xxix, Sour'd by age, . . he. . . furls his wrinkly front. 1793 HOLCROFT tr. *Lavater's Physiog.* vii. 46 Foreheads. . . which are wrinkly, short and shining. 1854 R. S. SURTEES *Handley Cr.* lxxv, The Captain older and more wrinkly than she expected. 1882 SLADEN in *Jrnl. Linn. Soc.* XVI. 197 The whole membrane becomes very thick and wrinkly.

transf. 1872 GEO. ELIOT *Middlem.* xxxii, Mrs. Waule. . . giving occasional dry wrinkly indications of crying.

B. sb. Also wrinkle. An old or middle-aged person. *slang.*

1972 A. BIRCHALL *Living in Landscape* 51 (heading) What do we do with the Wrinklies? 1976 *Times* 31 Aug. 10/8 A Henley reader. . . says that her teenage daughter reserves 'wrinkle' for the 60-year-old generation. The reader and her husband. . . are known as 'oldies'. 1980 *Times* 28 Oct. 12/6 It's pointless to go on a CND march. They're all wrinklies. 1982 BARR & YORK *Official Sloane Ranger Handbook*, 159/3 *Wrinkly n.*, middle-aged Sloane—between 40 and 50. 1983 *Church Times* 11 Mar. 13/2, I am a wrinkly whose monthly cheque from the Church Commissioners is labelled 'Diocesan Dignitary'.

wrinse, *erron. f. RINSE v.*

1584 B. R. tr. *Herodotus* I. 63 b, They wash and wrinse themselves very cleane.

wrisled, *obs. f. WRIZZLED a.*

wrisoun(e, *obs. Sc. ff. ORISON*).

wrist (rist). Forms: *a.* 1- wrist, 5-6 wriste, 4-5 wryste, 5-6 wryst; 4 virste, 5 wirste, 5-6 wyrste, 9 *dial.* wurst. *β.* 4-7 wrest (5 wrosth?), 5-6 wreste, 6 wreast (wrast, 8 *dial.* waste), 9 *Sc.* reist. [OE. *wrist*, = OFris. *wrist*, -wirst (in *hand*-, *fôt-wirst*), -wirst (in *fôt-werst*), -riust (Nfris. *wrast*, *wrest*), MLG. *wrist* (LG. *wrist*, *wirst*, *rüst*), MDu. *wrist*, MHG. *rist m.*, *riste f.* (G. *rist m.*, instep, wrist), ON. *rist f.*, instep (Da., Sw. *wrist*, Norw. *wrist*, *rist*), prob. f. *wrið-*, weak grade of the stem of *wriðan* WRITHE *v.*]

1. *a. Anat.* That part of the human frame between the fore-arm and the metacarpus; the joint by which the hand is united to the fore-arm; the carpus, or radio-carpal joint, of primates.

Cf. *arm-wrist* (ARM *sb.*¹ III), HAND-WRIST.

a. ?a 940 *Lawes Athelstan in Liebermann I.* 386/1 ƿif hit anfeald tyhtle sy, dufe seo hand æfter þam stane oþ þa wriste. c 1325 in *Rel. Ant.* II. 78 The virste, la coude de la mein. 13. . . E.E. Allit. P. B. 1535 Non oþer forme bot a fust faylande þe wryste. 1430-40 LYDG. *Bochas* IX. 2258 He heeld. . . Hand and fyngres aboue the coles briht, Til the ioyntes failyng heer & yonder, From the wirste [v.r. wrest, wrosth, wrists] departid wer assonder. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 534 Wryst, or wryste of an hande, *fragus*. 1530 PALSGR. 290 Wrist of ones hande, *poignet*. 1574 SACKVILLE *Induct. Mirr.* Mag. lxxvii, Cassandra. . . they haled From Pallas house. . . Her wrists fast bound. 1600 HAKLUYT *Voy.* III. 49 An eare as bigge as the wrist of a mans arme. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* ix. 204 The Doctor fairly twisted his wrists. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 515 ¶3 The fan can play without any force. . . but just of the wrist. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) VII. 37 A substance. . . as thick as one's wrist. 1813 J. THOMSON *Lect. Inflam.* 211 The pulse in the wrist was scarcely to be felt. 1868 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* I. i. 433 [Taking] her dear hands. . . about each little wrist. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* I. 828 The wrist of the orang, gibbon, the tailed apes.

β. 13. . . *Sir Beues* (A.) 1769 Beues smot. . . is left hande þe þe wrest. 14. . . [see *a.*] a 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* VII. (1811) 393 The whiche. . . had their ryght handes smyten of by the wrestes. 1548 PATTEN *Exped. Scotl.* K vj, Both his handes cut of by the wrestes. 1622 MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 354 Fastening Cords to the wrests of mine arme. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 184 The axillary artery. . .

passing by the wrist or place of the pulse. 1788 VALLANCEY *Voc. Bargie in Trans. R. Irish Acad.* II. 34 *Wriste*, the wrist.
b. Without article.

1686 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) II. 422, 3 Payres of black Buttons for wrist and neck. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xvi, I'll bracelet him with iron both on wrist and ankle.

c. *transf.* That part of a garment, sleeve, or glove, which covers the wrist.

1803 D. WORDSWORTH *Jrnl.* 10 Jan. (1941) I. 188 Worked all day—petticoats—Mrs. C.'s wrists. 1828 *Lady's Mag.* Aug. 446/1 The cuffs at the wrists of all gowns. 1873 SUSAN COOLIDGE *What Katy did* iii. 44 She...adjusted her veil and the wrists of her three-buttoned gloves.

2. †a. The joint of the thigh or knee. (Cf. OE. *cnéow-wyrst*.) *Obs.*—1

c1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 5850 Men wend his [= thigh] bane had bryst; He had na harme in bane ne wrist.

b. The ankle; the instep. *Usu. wrist of the foot.* Now *dial.*

c1530 *Hickscorner* (c1550) Bij, *Frewyll*. But can they go no more. *Imag.* O no man, the wrist is twyst so sore. 1547 in *Leland Collectanea* (1774) IV. 321 He...tyed himselfe...a little beneath the Wrist of the Foot. 1563 T. GALE *Antidot.* II. 22 Thys vnguent must be applyed vpon...the wreste of the handes, the wreste of the foote [etc.]. 1612 SHELTON *Quix.* (1620) II. 169 About the Wrists of her Legs...she wore two...Bracelets. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* (1631) 1005 *The Tarsus* or wrest of the Foot. 1658 A. FOX *Würts' Surg.* II. xxv. 152 The bone of the Foots wrist. 1825 JAMIESON *Suppl.*, *Reist*, the instep. Upp[er] Clydes[dale]. 1894 *Northumbld. Gloss.* 799 *Wrist-o'-the-foot*, the ankle.

3. *Comp. Anat.* A part or joint analogous or answering to the wrist in man: a. The carpus or carpal joint in birds. b. The kneecap or knee-joint in the fore-legs of animals. c. *Ichth.* (See first quot.)

a. a1843 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VII. 327 The Wrist of Birds consists of but two bones.

b. a1843 *Ibid.* 315 The Wrist [in reptiles], *carpus*, consists of numerous small bones. 1854 OWEN in *Orr's Circ. Sci., Org. Nat.* I. 211 That [carpal bone] on the radial side of the wrist [in *Crocodylia*] is the largest. 1890 MIVART *Dogs, Jackals*, etc. 6 Vertically from the wrist up the front of the [wolf's] leg.

c. 1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 308 [In] some spinous fishes the carpal bones are so elongated as to form a sort of arm or wrist, to the extremity of which the pectoral fin is articulated. *Ibid.*, Fishes with Wrists to the Pectoral Fins. 1854 OWEN in *Orr's Circ. Sci., Org. Nat.* I. 176 The carpal bones of these fins...increasing in length from the ulnar to the radial side of the wrist.

4. a. *Mech.* One of the partitions of the bucket of an overshot water-wheel. ? *Obs.*

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 903/2 We have heard them named the Start or Shoulder, the Arm, and the Wrist (probably for wrist, on account of a resemblance of the whole line to the human arm). 1829 *Nat. Philos., Mechanics* v. 20 (L.U.K.), This bucket is formed of three planes;...BC is called the arm, and CH the wrist.

b. A pin or stud, projecting from the side of a wheel, crank, etc., to which a connecting rod is attached; a wrist-pin.

1864 WEBSTER. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 1720/1 *Pitman-box*, the stirrup and brasses which embrace the wrist of the driving-wheel. 1884 *Ibid.* *Suppl.* 229/2 A wrist on a crank wheel.

c. *Naut.* (See quot.)

1863 A. YOUNG *Naut. Dict.* (ed. 2) 450 *Wrist of an anchor*, the continuation of the arm in a square or rounded form towards the palm or fluke.

5. *attrib.*, as *wrist connection*, *end*, *power*; freq. in sense 'worn about or depending from the wrist', as *wrist-bag*, *-bangle*, *-cord*, †*favour*, *-iron*, *-plaster*, etc.; in the names of devices worn on the wrist, as *wrist compass*, *radio*, etc.

1904 *Daily Chron.* 28 Jan. 6/5 The sums stolen out of the 'wrist-bag' purses. 1922 JOYCE *Ulysses* 432 Fiercely she slaps his haunch, her goldcub *wristbangles angriling. 1983 D. HART-DAVIS *Fire Falcon* xxiii. 272 His only means of steering was his *wrist compass. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2822/2 A pin passing through the axis of a *wrist-connection. 1865 TYLOR *Early Hist. Man* viii. 201 A well-known New Zealand weapon...is an edged club of bone or stone...Through the neck it has a hole for a *wrist-cord. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 521 The *wrist end of the ulna. 1626 MIDDLETON *Anything for Quiet Life* III. i. A fine *wrist-favour of this gold. 1871 *Archaeologia* XLIII. 426 Stone *Wrist-guards...Those [plates] of finely-grained green stone...appear to be intended to be worn on the wrist. 1885 RUNCIMAN *Shippers & Sh.* 83 We divides the sets of *wrist-irons. 1725 *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Eye*, Mix all these together...to a Consistence fit for a *Wrist-plaster. 1897 RANJITSINHJI *Cricket* 165 Every player who has much *wrist-power. 1972 *Times* 3 Nov. 33/3 It is a world first, it enables the memorable 'wrist radio' label of the Dick Tracy strip cartoons to become reality. 1984 *Listener* 17 May 36/3 You have the Snoop-Mobile, a wrist-radio, a list of suspects and information about each of them. 1901 *Scribner's Mag.* April 408/1 Big policemen, swinging their clubs by the *wrist-straps. 1984 *Tampa (Florida) Tribune* 5 Apr. 6B/4 Cellular mobile radio telephone service...could be the forerunner of Dick Tracy-like *wrist telephones. 1972 D. BLOODWORTH *Any Number can Play* x. 81 I'm going to grow up into a millionaire cowboy with a two-way *wrist-television and a formula car.

b. In sense 'of or pertaining to a wrist-band or sleeve-cuff', as *wrist-button*, *-link*, *-stud*.

1856 *Lever Martins of Cro'* M. xxx. 315 His wrist-buttons, his shirt-studs, the camelia in his coat. 1859 *Habits of Good Society* iii. 142 Elaborate studs...and wrist-links, are all abominable. 1865 LE FANU *Guy Dev.* II. 38 Having buttoned his jewelled wrist-studs in. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2822/2 *Wrist-link*, a link with connected buttons for the wristband or cuff.

c. In Cricket, etc., in the sense 'effected or directed by means of wrist-work,' as *wrist hit*, *-play* (hence *wrist-player*, *-playing*), *shot*, *stroke*.

1851 J. PYCROFT *Cricket Field* vii. 141 All that is required is, straight play and a free wrist...Without wrist play there can be no good style of batting. 1862 PYCROFT *Cricket Tutor* 19 Throwing back the bat to the bails...necessitates good wrist-play. 1867 J. Lillywhite's *Cricketer's Comp.* 105 A. G. Lee, capital wrist player. 1888 STEEL & LYTTELTON *Cricket* 42 Players are not equally good both at the forward driving and the wrist-playing games. 1888 R. H. LYTTELTON in *Steel & Lyttelton Cricket* ii. 61 The cut...requires a very strong use of the wrist, and, like all wrist strokes, charms the spectator by accomplishing great results at the expense of apparently little effort. 1895 KIPLING *Day's Work*, *Maltese Cat*, Hughes made some sort of quick wrist-stroke [in polo]. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 16 April 2/1 The cut was not a wrist hit, but a vehement exhibition of energy. 1906 *Ibid.* 21 March 10/1 A wrist shot that was remarkable.

d. Special Combs., as †*wrist-bender*, a muscle which bends or controls the wrist; *wrist-bone*, any one of the small bones of the wrist; a carpal bone; *wrist clonus* *Path.*, spasmodic contraction of the muscles of the hand, produced by sudden backward pressure; *wrist-drop* *Path.*, an affection marked by inability to extend the hand and fingers, resulting from paralysis of the forearm extensor muscles; also *attrib.*; *wrist-fall*, a drooping ruff or band (cf. *FALL sb.* 1 23 c) formerly worn about the wrist; *wrist-guide* (see quots.); *wrist jerk* *Path.*, wrist clonus; *wrist-length a.*, (a) (of a glove) reaching as far as the wrist; (b) (see quot. 1957); *wrist-pin* *Mech.*, = *WRIST* 4 b; also *Comb.*; *wrist-plate* *Mech.*, an oscillating plate bearing one or more crank-pins or wrists on its face (*Cent. Dict.*); *wrist-slap* *slang*, a mild rebuke; so *wrist-slapping*; *wrist-spin* *Cricket*, spin imparted to a ball by the wrist; cf. *finger-spin* s.v. *FINGER* *sb.* 15; so *wrist-spinner*, *wrist-spinning* *vbl. sb.*; *wrist-watch*, a small watch worn in a wristlet or strap around the wrist; *wrist-work*, flexure of the wrist, as in batting; *wrist-wrestling*, a contest of strength between two people, each trying to force the arm of the other person backwards (strictly by interlocking thumbs instead of gripping hands); *arm-wrestling*; so *wrist-wrestler*.

1634 T. JOHNSON *Parey's Chirurg. Wks.* 222 Both the *Carpiflexores*, or *Wrist-benders, arise from the inner processes. 1552 HULOET, *Wrest bone of the hand, or arme, *brachiale*. 1612 PEACHAM *Gentl. Exerc.* ix. 29 The brawne of the arme must appear full, shadowed on one side, then shew the wrist bone therof. 1825 SCOTT *Talism.* ii. The wrist-bones peculiarly large and strong. 1872 COUES *N. Amer. Birds* 42 Two little carpal bones, or wrist-bones. 1889 *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* VIII. 33/2 Odd cases of supernumerary wrist-bones. 1888 *Ibid.* VI. 77/2 A *wrist clonus may be produced by a forcible hyperextension of the wrist. a1841 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VII. 522 One of these consequences [of the use of lead] is...*wrist-drop. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 693 The two commonest varieties—the wrist-drop type and the upper arm type. 1890 MRS. A. E. BARR *Friend Olivia* iii. The lace *wrist-falls and neck-bands. 1861 J. S. ADAMS *5000 Mus. Terms* 108 **Wrist Guide*, that part of Logier's Chiroplast which guides the wrist. 1876 STAINER & BARRETT *Dict. Mus. Terms* 90 The wrist-guide, by which the position of the wrist was preserved [in piano-playing] from inclination outwards. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 700 The *wrist and elbow jerks. *Ibid.* VII. 191. 1935 E. FARJEON *Nursery in Nineties* iv. iii. 172 Long evening gloves and *wrist-length, kid and suede gloves! 1957 M. B. PICKEN *Fashion Dict.* 382/2 *Wrist length*, length of coat or other garment, taken with arms hanging at sides, which reaches to wrist. 1963 *Guardian* 1 Feb. 9/7 Jackets are either straight and short to the hips or straight to wrist-length. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2822 The *wrist-pin is a truncate, conical, tubular piece attached to the crank-wheel by a bolt. *Ibid.*, *Wrist-pin* *Turner*, a machine for turning wrist-pins...or [for] the turning of journals. 1977 M. EDELMAN *Political Lang.* viii. 148 Antitrust laws similarly sanction mergers and pricing agreements, with occasional token *wrist slaps to keep the symbolism pure. 1979 *Time* 13 Aug. 36/3 Critical as the investigators may have been of the utility, the NRC itself got a wrist slap from Congress. 1958 *Times* 24 May 4/2 This unusual example of mass *wrist-slapping has been going on for a week. 1979 N. SLATER *Falcon* viii. 141 There was no sherry decanter in evidence, no coffee... This was turning out to be a right old wrist-slapping session. 1960 E. W. SWANTON *West Indies Revisited* iii. 49 He is reputedly unhappy against *wrist-spin. 1977 *New Society* 3 Feb. 246/2 Raffles was a leg-break bowler: can wrist-spin ever be really kosher? 1957 T. BAILEY *Cricket Bk.* vi. 66/1 Bruce Dooland...clearly showed what destruction a top-class *wrist-spinner can achieve in Championship cricket. 1977 *Listener* 5 May 588/1 Garfield Sobers—finger-spinner, wrist-spinner, seam-bowler. 1963 T. E. BAILEY *Improve your Cricket* i. 31 Slow bowlers [from overseas] are more frequently of the *wrist-spinning variety. 1896 BADEN-POWELL *Matabele Campaign* iv, Field-glasses, *wrist-watch, buckles, and buttons should be dulled. 1898 RANJITSINHJI *With Stoddart's Team* vii. 103 His cutting was hard and full of *wrist work. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 3 June 3/2 There was any amount of wrist-work in his cutting. 1978 *Detroit Free Press* 16 Apr. 1A/1 My uncle Gerald is a pretty good *wrist wrestler. 1973 *N. Y. Times* 20 July x. 4/5 *Wrist wrestling, also known as arm wrestling, has its real roots in Petaluma, Calif., where the world championship matches have been televised on ABC's Wide World of Sports for the past four years. 1978 *Maclean's Mag.* 12 June 62 It seems perfectly

natural for a wristwrestling championship to be held in Timmins.

wrist: see *WREST* *sb.* and *v.*

wristband ('ristbænd, †'ristbænd). [f. *WRIST* + *BAND* *sb.* 1]

1. a. The band or part of a sleeve (esp. of a shirt-sleeve) which covers or fastens about the wrist; a cuff or sleeve-band.

1571 in *Feuillerat Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 146 Skarfes, flawchions, buskins, wrestbandes. 1611 COTGR., *Poignet de la chemise*, the wrist-band, or gathering at the sleeve-hand, of a shirt. a1625 BEAUM. & FL. *Bloody Brother* iv. ii, You'll...dip your wrist-bands, (For Cuffs y' have none) as comely in the sauce As any Courtier. 1697 VANBRUGH *Aesop* II. i, With that the Hands to pocket went, Full Wrist-band deep. 1752 BERKELEY *Th. Tar-water* Wks. 1871 III. 500 Unbuttoning the neck and wristbands of his shirt. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxx, Although his coat was short in the sleeves, it disclosed no vestige of a linen wrist-band. 1886 *Tip Cat* XVI. 208 He was keenly conscious of his old boots and crumpled wristbands.

b. A band worn as a protector on the wrist. *rare.*

1882 *Imp. Dict.*, *Muffettee*,...a wristband of fur or worsted worn by ladies.

2. a. A bracelet or wristlet.

1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 252 *Armilla*,...a bracelet or wrist band. 1607 DAMPIER *Voy.* (1729) I. 365 A Silver Wrist-band, or Hoop to come about their Arms. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Brachiale* (Lat.),...a Bracelet,...a Wrist-band. 1909 *Westm. Gaz.* 28 June 5/2 Wrist-bands, which are a revival of the beaded bracelets worn in early Victorian days, have been introduced.

b. A band for shackling the wrist.

1884 THOMPSON *Tumours of Bladder* 17 The feet and hands [of the patient] are attached by anklets and wristbands. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 870 Strait-jackets are a survival of the dark ages, and leather wrist-bands and bandages abrade the skin.

3. A bandage for fastening round the wrist; also, a wrist-plaster.

1663 BOYLE *Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* I. v. 94 The *ligamentum latum*, or wrist-band, that keeps the tendons... from inconveniently starting up. 1684 — *Porousn. Bodies* iv. 32 Those [plasters] that Physicians call *Pericarpia*, or Wrist-bands.

4. In sport, a strip of material worn round the wrist to absorb perspiration.

1669 *New Yorker* 14 June 68/3 Ashe wipes his forehead with his wristband. 1984 *Oxford Times* 29 Feb. 3/7 (Adv.), Headband and wristband pack—£1.79.

wristed ('ristɪd), *a.* [f. as prec. + -ED².]

1. Having a (specified kind of) wrist.

c1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* xxiv. 61 White-wristed Juno... Being much incensed. 1888 STEEL & LYTTELTON *Cricket* 53 Strong-wristed players play more back [etc.]. 1905 H. G. WELLS *Kipps* II. vii. §4 A thin wristed hand.

2. Carried on the wrist.

1899 *Daily News* 28 Oct. 7/5 A green parrot, 'wristed', like a falcon, but not hooded.

wrister ('ristə(r)). *U.S.* [f. as prec. + -ER¹.] A knitted covering for the wrist; a muffettee.

1879 WEBSTER *Suppl.* 1883 *Century Mag.* Aug. 624 A neighbor, come to tea, was crocheting wristers for her grandson.

†**wristikin**. ? *nonce-wd.* *Obs.* [f. as prec.: see -KIN.] A muffettee.

1826 CARLYLE *Love Lett.* (1909) II. 257 She has manufactured two pairs of wristikins. 1851 MRS. CARLYLE in *Mem.* (1903) II. 35 A pair of woollen wristikins.

wrist-joint ('ristdʒɔɪnt). [f. as prec. + *JOINT* *sb.* 1] The joint of the wrist; the radio-carpal articulation or joint: a. In man.

1634-5 BRERETON *Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) 47 The obstruction, which perhaps occasioned...that swelling in the wrist-joints. 1831 R. KNOX *Cloquet's Anat.* 209 Wrist joint. This articulation...is formed by the junction of the hand and fore-arm. 1852 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 1507 The wrist-joint enjoys every [such] variety of motion. 1873 T. H. GREEN *Introd. Pathol.* (ed. 2) 54 The extensors of the wrist-joint.

b. In birds.

a1843 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VII. 327/1 The Radio-carpal bone...forms...a cap to the front of the Wrist-joint. 1872 COUES *N. Amer. Birds* 31 Extension of the hand upon the wrist-joint increases and completes the unfolding of the wing.

wristle, etc., *obs.* *varr.* *WRESTLE* *v.*

wristled, *obs.* *f.* *WRIZZLED* *a.*

wristlet ('ristlɪt). [f. as prec. + -LET.]

1. a. (See quot.)

1847 WEBSTER, *Wristlet*, an elastic band worn by ladies around the wrist, to confine the upper part of a glove. [Hence in some later Dicts.]

b. A bracelet; = *WRISTBAND* 2.

1851 *Catal. Gt. Exhib.* 862 Articles for the Modca, Djedda, and Mecca Markets:...Armbands and wristlets. 1863 SPEKE *Discov. Nile* viii. 203 The king...wore, for ornament, neatly-worked wristlets of copper. 1889 *Daily News* 8 June 5/4 The poor little creature...had been decorated with a pair of silver wristlets.

c. A handcuff, a wrist-iron.

1881 *Daily Tel.* 31 Dec. 6/1 Wearing black dresses instead of grey, with leg irons as well as wristlets, to show that they were bad-conduct men. 1901 *Daily News* 1 Feb. 7/5 The illegal use...of belts, anklets, and wristlets, in restraining violent lunatics.

d. A small strap for wearing on the wrist. Also *attrib.*

1891 *Times* 16 Oct. 4/6 Blue gauntlet gloves, and watch in wristlet. **1914** *Ibid.* 24 Aug. 9/4 Stealing a wristlet watch... from a dressing-box at the baths.

2. An ornamental band or covering for the wrist.

1851 *Illustr. Lond. News* 19 July 86/1 Wrought muslin wristlets about two inches in width. **1861** T. B. ALDRICH *Pampina* Poems (1875) 90 A siren lithe... With wristlets woven of scarlet weeds.

b. A muffedee. Cf. WRISTBAND 1 b, WRISTER.

1869 *Eng. Mechanic* 26 Nov. 264/1 Wristlets, muffs, collarettes, ... in different patterns, ... are knitted on the LK knitter. **1888** *Century Mag.* XXXVI. 771/1 Knitted gloves, suspenders, comforters, wristlets.

† **wristling**, *vbl. sb. Obs.* -1 [Of obscure origin.] The action of, or fact of undergoing, curling, coiling, or twisting.

1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. 151 The wrystling and turning vp of the tayle [L. *cauda contorta*], is a signe of a sound Hogge.

wristy ('risti), *a.* [f. WRIST + -y¹.] Performed by flexure of the wrist; marked by or clever in wrist-work.

1867 *Australasian* 9 Mar. 300/2 Fowler, pretty wristy style, but not a very safe one. **1888** *Longm. Mag.* May 47 He was a good bat, noted for his 'wristy' play, as some critic termed it. **1893** W. L. MURDOCH *Cricket* 54 A quick, wristy throw. **1936** WODEHOUSE *Laughing Gas* xxii. 242, I remember... wondering how the dickens a female of her slight build and apparently fragile physique could possibly get that wristy follow-through into her shots. **1955** *Times* 18 July 12/3 With the deffest turn to leg and wristy punches through the covers he seemed set for an imposing score. **1959** *Times* 26 June 4/2 Krishnan's forte lay in his lovely wristy stop volleys. **1977** *World of Cricket Monthly* June 41/2 There was no prodding or pushing but a free swing on wristy cut. **1980** R. HILL *Spy's Wife* xix. 148 He downed his pale spirit in one quick wristy movement.

Hence 'wristily *adv.*

1963 A. ROSS *Australia* 63 iii. 82 Barrington cut wristily to beat third man. **1972** P. BRENT *Godmen of India* ii. 33 Women polish the earthen floors, bending straight-legged as they work wristily away with a flat stone.

writ (rit), *sb.* Forms: 1- writ (1 *north.* u(u)rit, *pl.* writto, wriot(t)o, 3-4 wriht, 5 wrethe, *Sc.* wirt, 6 wret), 3-8 writt (4 weritt), 3-7 writte; 3-7 wryt (5 *Sc.* wryte, wyrt), 4-6 wrytt (6 whrytt), 3-7 wrytte. [OE. *writ* (also *gewrit* 1-WRIT), = ON. and Icel. *rit* writing (Norw. *rit* drawing), Goth. *writs* pen-stroke, OHG. *riz* m., stroke, character (MHG. *riz*, G. *ritz* m., *ritze* f.), f. the weak grade of *writan* to WRITE. Cf. HANDWRIT, and WRITE *sb.*']

1. Something written, penned, or recorded in writing; a writing. Now *rare*.

a900, **c950** [implied in sense 1 c]. **a1122** *O.E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 963, [He] fand þa hidde in þa ealde wealle writes pet Headda abb[od] heafde ær gewriton. **a1200** *Moral Ode* 100 Al ho habbeð in hore write pet we mis-duden here. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 8495 þis writte wit fele was red and sene, Bot fa it wist quat it wald mene. **c1300** *Havelok* 2486 þis writ shal henge bi him þare. **1338** R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 154 Sir haf here þis writ, & schewe him alle newe. **1412-20** *LYDG. Chron.* Troy i. 3290 Ful oft sythe þe writ he dide rede. **1488-92** *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 87 There was a writ fund... sayand: In hac boxa [etc.]. **1560** DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 151 b, He couered his mynde craftely, that his writte myght haue some shewe. **1586** WHITNEY *Emblems* 143 Th' Emperor... took his penne, for to confirme the cause. But all in wayne: he rente the writte in twaine. **1762** LD. TALBOT in *Wilkes' Lett.* (1769) I. 10 A person who hath been the object of the writ of any paper. **1891** WALSHAM *How in Life* (1898) 323 You have a writ given you, which is like a small cake. **1905** *Westm. Gaz.* 7 Oct. 4/2 The writs of the insane are generally distinguished by great length.

transf. c1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1974 Ðo iacob sa3 dat sori writ [sc. the bloody coat], He gret.

† **b.** A written work, a book; also *pl.*, the writings or works of an author or authors. *Obs.*

a1000 *Phænix* 425 þæs þe us leorneras wordum secgap, & writu cypað. **a1200** *Vices & Virtues* 35 He wissed ðes mannes idangc... ðurh halige writes. **c1230** *Hali Meid.* 9 And tat schal forðre i þis writ beon openliche ischeawet. *Ibid.* 39 Hercene his read, þat he i þe frumðe of þis writ readde. **c1330** *Arth. & Merl.* 9655 Her after sone in þis write, Whi he it dede, 3e schul it wite. **a1400-50** *Wars Alex.* 608 He wald-ejed was, as þe writt schewys. **c1400** *Apol. Loll.* 63 Woo to hem þat... writun writtis of vnritfulness. **1456** HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 15 Sanct Paule in his wryttis, sayand [etc.]. **1508** KENNEDY *Flying w. Dunbar* 258 How thy for-bearis come... the writ makis me war. **1590** GREENE *Mourn. Garment* (1616) C3 b, The Authors... in their writes plaine discusse, Fairer was not Tytirvs. **1646** R. BAILLIE *Anabaptism* (1647) Epist., In the following writ I point at the danger. **1681** DRYDEN *Ab. & Achit.* i. 665 Let Israels foes... rashly judge his Writ Apocryphal. **1687** — *Hind & P.* III. 2 Much malice... Perhaps may censure this mysterious writ.

c. spec. Sacred writings collectively, the Bible or holy Scriptures, = SCRIPTURE *sb.* 1; † a single passage in these. Freq. without article (cf. 2), in *Holy* or *Sacred Writ*. † Also *pl.*

a900 *Rituale Eccl. Dunelm.* (Surtees) 79 Cwoeð forðon ðio writ, eghwoelc se ðe 3ilefeð on hine ne bið sceomiende. **c900** — [see HOLY WRIT]. **c950** *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xxvi. 54 Ah huu forðon biðð gefyllt wuriot? *Ibid.* Mark xii. 10 Ne writ ðius leornada gie. **a1200** *Vices & Virtues* 67 þenc ðat ðe writt seið þat æure bie ðe mildce ouer ðe rihte dome. **c1410** *Lantern of Light* 132 Alle þoo þat trowen þat helpe may cum of vsing Goddis word þat we clepen writtes. ? **c1490** in

Asloan MS. (S.T.S.) I. 57 He vsit euer mercy and euer will for the writ sayis In eternum [etc.]. **1593** SHAKS 2 *Hen. VI.* i. iii. 61 His Weapons [are] holy Sawes of sacred Writ. **1685** WALLER *Div. Love* i. 44 Sacred Writ our reason does exceed. **1745** POCOCKE *Descr. East* II. i. 60 Cæsarea... is remarkable in sacred writ upon several accounts. **transf. 1608** SHAKS. *Per.* II. Prol. 12 At Tarsus, where each man Thinks all is writ he spoken can.

† **d.** A written communication; a missive, letter.

c1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 7 Sainte powel... wrot þo a writ and sende hit synfulle men. **c1225** *Leg. Kath.* 407 He... sende iseelede writes... to alle þe icudde clerkes. **a1300** *K. Horn* 930 (Camb. MS.), A writ he dude deuise; Alpulf hit dude write. **13...** *K. Alis.* 4502 (Laud MS.), He... sent to Alisaunder a wrytt. **c1380** *Sir Ferumb.* 1774 Delyuerieþ me þe wryt, þat Charles sente to sir Balanne. **c1470** HENRY WALLACE III. 425 The knycht Schew him the wryt lord Persie had him sent. **1588** SHAKS. *Titus A.* II. iii. 264 All too late I bring this fatal writ. **1592** KYD *Sp. Trag.* III. ii. 26 A letter written to Hieronimo... 'For want of incke receiue this bloudie writ'.

2. a. Without article (cf. 1 c). That which is written; written record.

c1205 LAY. 25005 Nu 3e habbeoð iherd... wulc word heo sendeð us here into vre londe mid write [c1275 writ] & mid worde. **13...** *K. Alis.* 7137 (Laud MS.), þe kynge... tolde hem by wrytt his damage. **c1375** in *Anglia* I. 315/507 3ut after he [= Adam] gat pretty sones mo, ... þus in writ fynde y. **a1400-50** *Wars Alex.* 24 As I in writt fynd. **1622** J. MAYER *Treas. Eccles. Expos.* 266 Barnabas cured the sick with the touch of euangelical writ. **1671** MILTON *P.R.* III. 184 If of my raign Prophetic Writ hath told That it shall never end. **1704** POPE *Windsor For.* 247 He... Of ancient writ unlocks the learned store. **a1732** T. BOSTON *View Court. Grace* (1734) 266 A Will declared, testified, and signified by Word or Writ. **1844** KINGLAKE *Eothen* iv, The mere human surmises and doubts which clash with Homeric writ!

† **b.** = WRITING *vbl. sb.* 9. Also *fig. Obs.*

a1300 *Cursor M.* 8495 þis writte [on a marble stone] wit fele was red and sene. **1340-70** *Alex. & Dind.* 1136 He bad bulden of marbre A piler... & þat þei wrouhten a wrytte. **c1440** *Promp. Parv.* 534/1 Wrytte, vpon a grave stone, ... epitaphium. **c1450** HOLLAND *Houlate* 395 Reid the writ of that werk, to 3our witness. **1600** FAIRFAX *Tasso* XII. xxxix, This found he grauen in the tender rinde... he mused on this vncouth writ. **1645** RUTHERFORD *Tryal & Tri. Faith* 203 There is writ remaining after sin is acted... Writ written with a pen of iron, and diamond.

c. Written command, order, or authority.

In later use generalized from the senses under 3. **a1400** in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 360 3if hit ne be pley of lond by wryt. **c1480** HENRYSON *Fox, Wolf, & Husb.* 48 Haif 3e writ or wittnes for to schaw? **c1520** *Vox populi* 328 in *Hazl. E.P.P.* III. 279 Lysens to compownde... By fyne or wrytte of post. **1538** STARKEY *England* i. iv. 117 Touchyng appellatyonys in causys and remouyng by wrytt. **1705** *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4103/3 Her Majesty hath been... pleased, by Writ, to Call [him] to the House of Lords. **1765** BLACKSTONE *Comm.* I. 148 The convention in 1688... did not assemble without writ. **1808** W. SELWYN *Law Nisi Prius* II. 1020 [When] the proceedings... have been instituted in the county court by plaint, and not by writ.

3. A formal writing or paper of any kind; a legal document or instrument. (Passing into next.)

a1122 *O.E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 963, Hu se papa Agatho hit feostnode mid his write. **a1200** in *Kemble Cod. Dipl.* IV. 203 Ich mid ðusen write gelde and geue... ðen broðren on Chertseye ðo... x. hyden lond. **1258** HEN. III *Proclamation*, We senden 3ew þis writ open, iseiend wip vre seel. **c1300** *Havelok* 136 He sende writes sone on-on After his erles. **1362** LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. II. 49 Alle to wittnesse wel what þe writ wolde, In what manere that Meede in mariage was i-feffed. **1454** *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 257/1 Writtes executories under the Kynge's grete Seale. **1467** Mann. & *Househ. Exp.* (Roxb.) 402 [Paid] for a nother wrytte upon the patent of lyvelode, ijs. iiij. d. **1538** WRIOTHESLEY *Chron.* (Camden) I. 91 [He] was made a baron by the Kinges wryt. **1562-3** *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 231 That he may haif inspeccioun of the saidis writtis product. **1601** VEEVER *Mirr. Mart.* Dvj, The Bishop... Caus'd writs be set on Rochester's great Church... commaunding me remember To appeare. **1672** *Sc. Acts* (1820) VIII. 87 The Writers to the signet... are heirby discharged, to forme or write writtis of any kind... unless [etc.]. **1729** T. INNES *Crit. Ess.* Pref. (1879) 12 A writ under his great seal. **1809** BAWDWEN *Domesday Bk.* 239 Witnessing the King's writ for that purpose. **1892** TENNYSON *Foresters* IV. 48 Lawful King, Whose writ will run thro' all the range of life.

b. Law. A written command, precept, or formal order issued by a court in the name of the sovereign, state, or other competent legal authority, directing or enjoining the person or persons to whom it is addressed to do or refrain from doing some act specified therein.

a1400 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 361 þe wryt þat me pledeth in þe Citee, by-fore Justyces. **c1450** *Godstow Reg.* 206 [To] come fully to the strengthe of the court for the kyngis breif or writte. **a1513** FABYAN *Chron.* vii. (1516) 33/1 A wryt was directed vnto the Mayre and Aldermen, chargyng theym that [etc.]. **a1596** *Sir T. More* III. i. 29 Bring them away to execution: The writt is come aboue two houres since. **1602** and *Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* v. iii. 2104 To be brieve Academicke, writts are out for me, to apprehend me. **1659** HAMMOND *On Ps.* lxxiii. 4 There are no writts signed for their execution. **1717** PRIOR *Dove* xviii, This cruel Writ, wherein you stand Indicted. **1810** W. SELWYN *Law Nisi Prius* (ed. 2) II. 779 After possession has been given under the writ. **1874** LD. W. P. LENOX *Recoll.* I. 281 A brother of an M.P., finding sundry writs out against him.

c. With of (the specific designation).

writ of aiel, certiorari, cessavit, distringas, ease, elegit, entry, error, execution, formedon, habeas corpus, injunction, inquiry, manumission, mesne, mort d'ancestor, non est inventus, privilege, prohibition, ravishment, rebellion, right, summons, venire facias, waste, etc.: see these words.

a1400 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 360 3if he is y-pleted by wryt of plee of londe. **1481** *Stonor Papers* (Camden) II. 134 My wrethe of subpena. **1568-9** in *Bolton Stat. Irel.* (1621) 325 Any writt of dower. **1643** CARYL *Expos. Job* I. 967 A writ or patent of protection. **1706** PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey) s.v., Writ of Assistance, ... of Privilege, ... of Rebellion. **1833** *Act 3-4 Will. IV.*, c. 27 §36 [lists many writs thereby abolished]. **1865** *Act 28 & 29 Vict.* c. 104 §47 A Writ of Diem clausit extremum may be issued.

d. spec. A document issued by the crown conveying a summons to a spiritual or temporal lord to attend Parliament, or directing a sheriff to hold an election of a member or members of Parliament.

c1400 *Contin. Brut* 324 To þe parlement was sompned by wryt... iiij bisshopes & iiij abbotes. **1455** *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 335 He was elect Abbot... after the seid Parlement somond, and hadde never Writte of Parlement. **1573** *Nottingham Rec.* IV. 147 The whrytt for reioynyng ye Parliament. **1610** HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* (1637) 636 Then was Edward Nevill by the King's Writ called unto the Parliament. **1659** PEYNE (title), A Brief Register, Kalendar, and Survey of the several Kinds and Forms of Parliamentary Writs. **a1700** EVELYN *Diary* 18 Sept. 1688, Writs were issued in order to a Parliament. **1729** JACOB *Law Dict.* s.v. *Parliament*, Among the Parliament Writs 14 Eliz. **1761** HUME *Hist. Eng.* III. ix. 292 They issued some writs for new elections. **1861** BUCKLE *Civiliz.* (1869) II. 117 In 1264 [the Earl of Leicester] set the first example of issuing writs to cities and boroughs. **1888** J. WILLIAMS in *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 697/1 The writ is to be returned by the returning officer... with the name of the member elected endorsed on the writ.

† **4.** = WRITING *vbl. sb.* 5. Freq. in *writ. Obs.* (latterly *Sc.*).

c1160 *Ælfric's Hom.* (MS. Bodl. 343) fol. 63 b, Felæ wundra... þe we her nylleð on write setten. **c1175** *Lamb. Hom.* 75 þet rihte ileue setten þe twelue apostles on write. **c1200** ÖRMIN 3282 He badd setten upp o writt All mann-kinn, forr to lokenn [etc.]. **a1300** in *E.E.P.* (1862) 154 Sleig he was... þat þis lore put in writte. **1375** BARBOUR *Bruce* i. 13 To put in wryt a suthfast story. **c1460** *Towneley Myst.* VII. 106 Loke ye do it well in wrytt. **1585** JAS. I *Ess. Poesie* (Arb.) 14 When in writ I do theifor reherse. **1651** CALDERWOOD *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) II. 446 The Bishop of Rosse his memorialls, left in writ. **1684** SIR G. MACKENZIE *Inst. Law Scot.* (1694) 212 A Testament... does require to be in Writ.

5. attrib. and Comb., as *writ-charter*, *writ-proof* *adj.*, *-reader*, *-reading*; † *writ-rune*, a written character; hence in *pl.*, a document or letter.

c1205 LAY. 5750 þa com þer a mon irnen... þe brohte writ-runen. **1781** *Reading not preaching* II. 5 To apply this to our writ-reading clergy. *Ibid.* 7 All that writ-readers can read. **1841** LEVER C. O'Malley *lxxxviii*, Our family have been writ-proof for centuries. **1906** *Eng. Hist. Rev.* July 506 The writ-charter addressed to the shire-moot.

writ, dial. variant of WART *sb.*

writ (rit), *v. Anglo-Irish.* [f. prec.] *trans.* To serve (a person) with a writ or summons. Also *refl.*

1888 *Pall Mall G.* 14 Nov. 8/1 Pat Horty [interjected]... 'I was writted myself, and sold out'. **1894** SOMERVILLE & ROSS *Real Charlotte* xxviii, Why don't ye writ her for the money?

writa'bility, *rare.* [Cf. next and ABILITY.] Capability, readiness, or disposition to write.

1770 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Lady Ossory* 15 Sept., Having recovered my write-ability enough to thank your ladyship... for your kind intentions. **1788** — *Let. to Mrs. H. More* 22 Sept., My writability in pressing my letters on you.

writable ('raitəb(ə)l), *a.* Also writeable. [f. WRITE *v.* + -ABLE.]

1. That may be written; capable of being reduced to or set down in writing.

1782 MME. D'ARBLAY *Diary* 30 Oct., The talk was by no means writable; but very pleasant. **1799** COLERIDGE in *Sandford T. Poole* (1888) I. 300, I go to the famous Harz Mountains... to see the mines... On my return I will write you all that is writable. **1853** RUSKIN *Stones Ven.* III. ii. 97 All written or writable law respecting the arts is for the childish and ignorant. **1913** G. B. SHAW *Let.* 26 Mar. (1952) 104, I have written everything that is writeable: The rest must be viva voce. **1926** B. KARLGREN *Philol. & Anc. China* vii. 159 If the literary language is based on the modern colloquial language, it should... also be writable phonetically. **1970** *IEEE Trans. Computers* XIX. 710/2 The control memory of LX-1 is read-only with respect to the microprogram, but is externally writable. **1983** *Sci. Amer.* Mar. 43/2 Endowing a computer with a writable control store is a way of removing the hardware barrier from user microprogramming.

2. Suitable for writing with.

1844 MRS. BROWNING *Let. Horne* (1877) I. 267, I am turning this pen round and round to find a writable side to it.

† **writ'ation**, *Obs. rare.* [Irreg. f. as prec. + -ATION.] Poor or insipid writing.

1778 MISS CARTER *Let. to Mrs. Montagu* (1817) III. 95 What writing, as somebody used to say, what writation it all is! **1787** BENTHAM *Wks.* (1843) X. 174 Nine-tenths of it is bad writation about the origin of society.

writative ('raitətiv), *a.* [f. as prec. + -ATIVE.]

1. Disposed to write; given or addicted to writing. Now *rare*.

1736 POPE *Let. to Swift* 17 Aug., Increase of years makes men more talkative but less writative. **1755** CHESTERF. *Let.* 19 Dec., Deaf people are commonly as frivolously writative. **1920** *Sat. Rev.* 17 Jan. 55 Our 'writative' contemporaries.

2. Marked by inclination or addiction to writing.

1746 BURKE in *Leadbeater Papers* (1862) II. 72, I always distinguish between a man's talkative and writative character. **1768** *Woman of Honor* III. 102, I was in a fine writative vein.

write (rait), *sb.* Chiefly *Sc.* Also 5-7 wryte (5 vryte, 6 *Sc.* vryit, wryt), 4 wri3t, 5 wry3t, 6 *north.* wrighte; *Sc.* 6-7 wreit (6 vr-, ur-), 7 wrette, 6-9 wreat, 7 wreatt, wrait, 9 wraet, vreet. [*var.* of *WRIT sb.* after *WRITE v.*, or directly f. the latter.

Examples earlier than the 16th century are prob. mere graphic variants of *writ* (as sometimes shown by the rime), but may have helped to introduce the new form.]

†1. That which is written; a written record or work; a writ, writing, letter, document, etc. *Obs.* Latterly, and from c 1465 to c 1630 chiefly, *Sc.*

c 1375 *Cursor M.* 8495 (Fairf.), þis write wip manys rede and sene. **14..** *Sir Beues* (C.) 1260 Forþe he goth with þat wryte. **1466** *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 214/2 Made the day of this present write be us and our counsaile. **1500** *Caldwell Papers* (Maitl. Cl.) I. 52 We haiff subscriwit þis wryte wyth our handes. **1566** *STAPLETON Ret. Untr. Jewel* iv. 32 The.. Legat brought forth a write from Zosimus. **1568** T. HOWELL *Newe Sonets* (1879) 114 Thes my triflyng toyes, and far vnconning writes. **1633** *Costlie Whore* iv. ii, Let's read these writes. What's here? complaints against my worthy brothers. **1678** SIR G. MACKENZIE *Crim. Laws Scot.* (1699) 261 A Write that is null. **1705** *DALRYMPLE Coll. Sc. Hist.* 267, I have neither seen Writes nor Chartularies, only a Copy of the Charter. **1762** in *Nairne Peerage Evidence* (1874) 98 His own proper writes and evidents.

†2. a. *Holy* (or *the*) *Write*, = *WRIT sb.* I c.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 4845 Holy wryte swyche men holdes As wyld wulwes brekyng foldes. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints v.* (John) 184 þe fyrste skil.. he tuk vt of haly wryte [*rime* it]. **14..** *Arth. & Merl.* 686 (Douce MS.), þus holy wry3t wetnessyþ hyt. **1551** CROWLEY *Pleas. & Pain* 537 Holy wryte teacheth you so. **1567** *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 113 Thow.. hes promittit in the write.. Of all thair Sin to mak thame quyte.

†b. Written record; writing; = *WRIT sb.* 2. Chiefly *Sc. Obs.*

1483 in *Acts Lords of Council* (1918) II. p. cxxvii, Ane act of the Lordis..gevin thairupon be..actentik write and document. **1552** *LYNDESEY Monarchie* 5319 He hes red, in Hebrew wryte, Off fyftene signis. **1553** UDALL *Royster D.* II. iii. (Arb.) 36 No man for despite, By worde or by write His felowe to twite. **1578** *LINDESEY* (Pitcottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 366 Of the quhilk.. the nobillis..hard tell alsweil be wreit as be tounge. **1657** SIR W. MURE *Wks.* (S.T.S.) II. 238 The monuments of wryte of the greatest antiquite. **1681** *STAIR Instit.* I. 345 Private Ways are Constitute.. by going and coming that way uninterrupted.. forty years without Write, or any other Right. **1825** *JAMIESON Suppl.*, *Write*,.. writing, as contrasted with verbal communication.

†3. *Law*. = *WRIT sb.* 3 b, c. *Obs.*

1400 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 361 Wrytes of newe disseysyne.. And wri3t of ry3t of dowarye. **1477** *Paston Lett.* III. 212 Ye must have a meen be sum wryte of trespas for them. **1489-90** *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 92 Afore Easter, send up your pardons, wrytes of dedimus. **1516** in *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 2 By wright of entre. **1538** *STARKEY England* I. iv. 117 He wyl by wryte remoue hys cause to the court at Westmynstur. **1550** CROWLEY *Epigr.* 249 A Baylife..serued with one wryte an whole score or tweyne.

4. *Sc.* = *WRIT sb.* 4. Only in phr. *in write*.

1535 *STEWART Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) III. 127 The king.. All his desyr in wryte syne to him send. **1609** *SKENE Reg. Maj.*, *Stat. David* II. 47 The summonds..sall be put in write. **1645** LD. NAPIER *Mem.* (1793) 49 To set downe there.. informations in wreat under there hand. **1717** *WODROW Corr.* (1843) II. 270 They behoved to set them [*sc.* answers] down in write.

5. a. *Sc.* Handwriting; manner or style of calligraphy.

hand of write; see *HAND sb.* 16 b.

1614 J. MELVILL *Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 185 He causit wryt a copie in guid wrait. **1678** SIR G. MACKENZIE *Laws Scot.* II. 525 One mans write will differ from it self at several occasions. **1814** *Galt's New Brit. Theatre* I. 351 Whose write is it? not Henry's, sure, no—yes! **1825** *JAMIESON Suppl.* s.v., *Sma' write*, small text; *Grit, Big, or Muckle write*, round text. **1887** *SERVICE Life Dr. Duguid* 190 My write being noo very crabbit.

b. *write-of-hand*, the art or method of writing.

1863 MRS. GASKELL *Sylvia's L.* xliii, A could wish as a'd learned write-of-hand, for a've that for to tell Christopher as might set his mind at ease.

write, *obs.* var. *WRIGHT sb.* 1

write (rait), *v.* Forms: (see below). [OE. *writan*, = OFris. *writa* to score, write (Fris. *write* to wear by rubbing, etc.), OS. *writan* to cut, write (MLG. *writen*), OHG. *rizan* to tear, draw (MHG. *ri3en*, G. *reissen*), ON. *rita* to score, write (Norw. *rita*, *writa*, Sw. *rita* to draw); cf. ON. and Icel. *rita* (wk. v.), to write. The relationship of the stem *writ-* to Du. and LG. forms without *w* (MDu. and MLG. *riten*, etc.) is doubtful.]

A. Illustration of Forms.

1. a. *Inf.* (and *Pres. stem*). a. 1-2 *writan*, 2-4 (6 *arch.*) *writen* (3 *Orm.* *writenn*, *writennn*), 4 *wryten*, 5 -yn, *writon*; 4- write (5 *wrijte*, 9 *dial.* *wroite*), 4-6 *wryte* (5 *wreyte*, *whryte*, *wryth*(e, 9 *north.* *dial.* *wreyt*), 5 *wrytt*(e, 5-7 *wryt*, 6 *vryt*; 5 *wrighte*, 6-7 *wright*, 6 *Sc.* *vriht*, 5 *wrygh*, *wry3t*(e, 5-6 *wryght*, 6 *wryghte*. β. 4-5, *Sc.* 6 *writte*, 5-6 *Sc.*, 8 *writt*, 4, *Sc.* 5-7 *writ*, *Sc.* 5-7 *writ*. γ. 5-7, 9 *Sc.* *wret* (7 *Sc.* *vret*), 6 *wrett*, *wrete*,

Sc. *wreit*, *ureit*, 7-9 *wreat* (9 *vreet*, *wireete*). δ. *Sc.* 6 *wraite*, 9 *vrait*.

α. **831** in *O.E. Texts* 445 þis mid episcopus rodetaene [*ic*] festnie & write. **835** *Ibid.* 447 Ic abba geroefa cyðe & writan hate hu min willa is. c 1100 *O.E. Chron.* (MS. F.) an. 40, Matheus..agan his godspell to writen. **13..** *Cursor M.* 648 [None] mai write..þe mikel ioy. **14..** *Chaucer's Anel. & Arc.* 209 (Harl. MS.), Sheo gane hit wreyte. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 534 Wrytyn, scribo. **1449** *Paston Lett.* I. 87 [He prayeth] me to wrythe to 3ow. ?a 1450 tr. *Higden V.* 359 Orator..did wryzte the Actes of thaostles. **1480** in *Cely Papers* (Camden) 52 As of any tydynges her y con none wrytt yow as yett. **1503** *DUNBAR Thistle & Rose* 23 In my honour sum thing thow go wryt [*rime* delyt]. **1589** PEELE *Eglogue* Bjb, To writen sike praise. ?1616 SIR W. MURE *Misc. Poems* xvi. 3 My barren muse..to wryt forbears. **1673** in *Jrnl. Friends' Hist. Soc.* July (1914) 98 Thou should wright to her. **1864** TENNYSON *North. Farmer* xv, Summun I reckons 'ull 'a to wroite.

β. **13..** *Cursor M.* 5323 þe king þan did his lettres writte [*rime* lite]. *Ibid.* 9898 Fairer..þan..an clerik mai writ wit inc. **1423** JAS. I *Kingis Q.* clxxxii, Quhat nedis me..To writt all this? **1533** GAU *Richt Vay* 25 Al the buikis..quhilk..orders cane writ. a 1700 in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* IX. 365 To writt her life. **1704** ATHOLL in *Seafield's Lett.* (1915) 137, I did myself the honour to write..last week.

γ. **1477** in *Makculloch MS.* (S.T.S.) 28 *Sarffo*,..to wret. **1536** *BOORDE in Introd.*, etc. (1870) 52 To wrett att theyr request. a 1547 in *Anglia XII.* 260 Off hur goodness then wolde I wrete. **1573** TYRIE in *Cath. Tractates* (S.T.S.) 11, I haif thoctt..to wreit this writting amanges the rest. **1603** in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 31 The man that teichis me to vret. **1640** SIR W. MURE *Counter-Buff* 52 A schollar..A pasquill did against his Countrey wreat. **1699** *Seafield's Lett.* (1912) 256, I have..litell to wret. **1705** *Ibid.* (1915) 46 He layes it on me to wreat. **1859** E. B. RAMSAY *Remin.* v. (ed. 5) 99 To write.., in old-fashioned Scotch pronunciation..[is] to wireete. **1871** W. ALEXANDER *Johnny Gibb* xlix, Ye'll jist vreet aff at ance. **1914** ANGUS *Shetland Gloss.* 158 *Wret*,..to write; *p.t.* and *p.p.* *wret*.

δ. **1564** Q. MARY in *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* XIV. 201 We ar movit..to writt this present unto you. **1580** HAY in *Cath. Tractates* (S.T.S.) 68 That quhilk Ihone Caluin wraites in the fourt buik. **1866** GREGOR *Banffsh. Gloss.* 204 *Vrait*,..to write.

b. *3rd pers. sing.* 1-4 *writ*, 3 *wryt*.

c 1000 *ÆLFERIC Hom.* II. 2 Mycel yfel deð se ðe leas writ. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 21 þe deofel..writ heo [*sc.* a sin] in his tables. **1390** GOWER *Conf.* III. 245 The Philosophere..Writ and conseileth to a king.

2. *Pa. t. a. Sing.* (latterly also *pl.*). a. 1-6, 9 *north.* *dial.* *wrat* (3 *pl.* *wratenn*, 5 *whrat*, *Sc.* *wrat*, *wart*), 4, 6 *wratte*; 2, 4- *wrate*, 5 *wraite*, *Sc.* 5-7 *wrait*, 5 *wrayt*(e, 6 *wraitt*, *vrait*, 9 *dial.* *wraat*, *wreat*.

Since c 1300 chiefly *north.* and *Sc.*, but also in southern use c 1540-c 1620.

743-5 in *Earle Land Charters* (1888) 42 Wilfrid biseop he hit wrat. c 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 235 God pas laze..wrate his him self. c 1200 [see B. 4 b]. **13..** *Cursor M.* 21243 þe godspel in itali he wratte [*Fairf.* *wrate*, *rime* smate]. c 1375 *Ibid.* 1470 (Fairf.), Ennoc..wrate [*Gött.* *wrat*] sum bokis wip his hande. c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* vii. 1854 þis Alexander..Wart [*v.r.* *wrait*] til Schir Mathow. **1481** *Cely Papers* (Camden) 76 The clawys that 3e whrat of Laysetter. **1585** *WHITNEY Choice Embl.* (1586) *4b, Seneca..wratte lamentable Tragedies. a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. (1922) 25 Upon a roote of the tree..she wrat this couplet. **1620** T. PEYTON *Glasse Time* 1. 51 That sweete Disciple which the Gospell wrate. **1708** FALCONER in *Hearne Collect.* (O.H.S.) II. 130, I wrate once and again. **1824** [CARR] *Craven Gloss.* 124 *Wraat*,..wrote. **1828- in *Yorks.* and *Linc.* glossaries (*wrate*). **1894** HESLOP *Northumbld. Gloss.* 799 He wrat him a letter.**

β. 3-8 *wrot*, 5-6 *wrotte*, *wrott*; 4 *wrote*, 5 *pl.* *wroten*, 6 *wroate* (*wroght*); 4-5 *wroot*, 6 *wroott*, *wrou(e)*.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 17 Elch of hem wrot [= *Lamb. Hom.* 75 *wrat*] his uers. **1303** R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 9281 A fende..wrote alle þat euer þey spake. **13..** K. *Alis.* 4778 (Laud MS.), He..wroot Alle þise wondres. **1377** *LANGL. P.* Pl. B. xix. 478, I..wrote [*v.r.* *wroot*, *wrou3te*, *wro3t*] as me mette. c 1420 *Wycliffite Bible* Acts xv. 23 The apostlis..wroten..greeting. ?1481 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 202 A letter from you wherin 3e wrotte for your mone. **1513** in *Ellis Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. I. 212 A letter the Swysers wroott unto me. a 1529 SKELTON *Ware Hauke* 223, I wroute a verse. ?c 1530 in *Ellis Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. III. 189 Sythe I last wroght to you. **1557** in *Foxe A. & M.* (1576) 1891/1 Whether thou wrotest it not. **1590** TARTLTON *New Purgat.* A 2 Virgill after he wrot his *Aeneidos*, wrote his *Culex*. **1709** STRYVE *Ann. Ref.* I. 246 He wrot to..Cecil to release him. **1748** RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) VI. 299 A Letter..which thou wrotest.

γ. 5-9 (now *dial.*) *wryt* (6 *Sc.* *writ*), 5-7 *writt*, (7 *ritt*), 6-7 *writte*; 5 *wryt*, 6 *wrytte*.

c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 6585 There as he writ of these worchynge. **1479** *Cely Papers* (Camden) 15 3e wryt to me a clawys in your letter. **1539** in *Ellis Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. II. 152 Yowr Kyng wrytte agaynst Lwthther. **1561** T. Hoby tr. *Castiglione* II. (1900) 144 A agaynt which [she] writt unto her lover. **1600** W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 226 They writ to all their brethern. **1648-63** [see B. 23 b]. **1666** in *11th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. V. 14, I ritt wonce to you. a 1699 *LADY HALKETT Autobiog.* (Camden) 9 My Lord H. writt to my mother. a 1774 *GOLDSM. tr. Scarron's Com. Romance* (1775) I. 313, I writ to her, she received my letter. **1788** *Trifler* No. 12. 156 Authors (who writ in the Latin tongue). **1852** THACKERAY *Esmond* II. i, He writt back a letter.

δ. 5-7 *write*.

c 1454 *PECOCK Fowler* 7 þe book which y write in english. **1582** R. ROBINSON tr. *Leland's Assertion* iii. 5 That Iohn which concerning Arthure write the golden historie. a 1700 [see B. 17].

ε. *Sc.* 6-7 *wreit* (*vreit*), 7 *wreitt*, *wreat*, 6 *wrett*, 6, 9 *wret*.

1549 *Compl. Scot.* 116 Also he vreit ane lettir. c 1560 [see B. 7 b]. a 1568 *Henryson's Sum Practys* 9 (Bann. MS.), The

quhilk..3e nocht vnderstude, Bot wrett on as 3e culd. a 1585 *MONTGOMERIE Flyting* (T.) 645 Witness sum vers he wreit [*Harl. MS.* *wreat*]. a 1600 — *Poems* (1910) 240 Sant peter wrett ane vpair quhair. **1652** in *Spalding Club Misc.* I. 45, I wreit lykeways to my sone in law to assist him. **1914** [see A. 1 γ].

b. *Pl. a.* 1 *writon*, 3-5 *writen* (3 *Orm.* -enn), 4-5 *wryten*, 5 *writun*, *wrytyn* (9 *dial.* *rit'n*); 4 *write*, 5 *whryte*, *Sc.* *wryt*.

c 888 *ÆLFRED Boeth.* xviii. §3 Eac þa ðe hi ymb writon. a 1200 *Vices & V.* 27 Ðat ðe ure hali faderes..writen. **1390** *GOWER Conf.* III. 85 Yit of that Calistre And Aristotle whyloun write To Alisandre, thou schalt wite. c 1450 *CAPGRAVE St. Gilbert* 95 þei..mor-ouyr wrytyn and sent on-to þe Pope, compleynnyng. **14..** *Wycliffite Bible* Acts xv. 23 The apostlis..wroten [*v.r.* *wryten*, *writun*],..to hem..greeting. **1480** *Cely Papers* (Camden) 55 3e whryte to howr father that [etc.]. **1887** *S. Chesh. Gloss.* 86 Wey ritn, ..Yai ritn, ..Dhai ritn.

β. 1 *wreotan*, -on, 4-5 *wreten*, *wrete*.

852 in *Birch Cartul.* II. 58 Her sindan ða naman ðere monna þe þis wreotan & festnedan. c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* (1890) 346 þætte seolfan þa his lareowas æt his muðe wreotan. **1340-70** *Alex. & Dind.* 24 þe gentil genosophistiens..To þe emperour alixandre here answerus wreten. **1387** *TREVISIA Higden V.* 147 Athanasius..and oper bisshoppes..wrote for seventy chapitres. c 1440 *Wycliffite Bible* Acts xv. 23 (MS. Bodl. 277), þe apostlis..wreten bi þe hondis of hem..greeting. **1449** *Paston Lett.* I. 76 Your eronds that ye wrete to me fore.

c. *Weak forms.* 5 *wrytted*, *pl.* *writide*(n).

c 1420 *Wycliffite Bible* I Esdr. iv. 6 Thei writiden accusyng agens the dwellers. *Ibid.* 8 [They] writen [*v.r.* *writede*]..oon epistol. **1449** *Paston Lett.* I. 88 My cosyn Cler wrytted to me that sche spake with Schrowpe.

3. *Pa. pple. a. a.* (a) 1 *zewriten*, 2-3 *zewriten*, 3-5 *i-*, 4-5 *ywriten*, 4 *ywriton*, -ein, 3-4 *i-*, 5 *ywryten*, 5-6 -yn. (b) 1-7 *writen* (1 *uuriten*, 3 *Orm.* *writenn*, 5-6 *wirten*, 5 -in), 4-5 *writene*, 4-5, *Sc.* 6 -in, 5 -yn, -on, -un, 6 *Sc.* *writyn*(e; 4-6 *wryten*, 4-5 -yn (wrytyn, 5 *Sc.* *wrytyn*), 5 -un, -on, -ine, *Sc.* *wrytin*; 6 *wryghten*, 6-7 *wrighten*.

(a) c 880 in *O.E. Texts* 452 Ond sio ðis lond gewriten & unbefliten [etc.]. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 11 [It] wes iwriten inne þa table. *Ibid.*, Nu weren þas preo laze 3e-writen. **13..** K. *Alis.* 4042 Hit is y-writen. **1362** *LANGL. P. Pl. A.* I. 174 Wordes i-written in þe Ewangelye. ?c 1530 in *Ellis Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. II. 221 Y wrytyn at Godolphyn.

(b) *Beowulf* 1688 On ðæm was or writen fyrrn-gewinnes. a 1200 *Moral Ode* 224 A boken hit [is] writen þe me hit reden. a 1400 in *Relig. Lyrics* 14th C. (1924) 157 Tyl a lettre of loue me lede, þat was wrytyn on a wall. a 1447 in *Ellis Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. 8 Wrytyn..the xij. day of Marche. **1517** *Lincoln Wills* (Linc. Rec. Soc.) V. 75 The last will..writen the day a bovesaid. **1552** *Office of Augm.*, *Misc. Bk.* XLV. No. 147 The daye..aboute wryghten. **1693** *Seafield's Lett.* (1912) 127 This is wryten in my bed. **1703** *Ibid.* (1915) 8, I have writen to the Earle.

β. 4-5 *iwriten*, 5 *ywrytten*, 6 *ywritten*; 4- *written* (5-6 *writtyn*, 5-6, *Sc.* 7 -in, 7 *writt'n*), 4-6 *wrytten*, 5 *wrytyn* (*whrytyn*), 5-6 -yne, 9 *Sc.* *wrutten*.

13.. *Cursor M.* 6995 In his time war þe fabu[lls] written. **1387** *TREVISIA Higden VIII.* 41 As it is i-written in his lyf. c 1425 WYNTOUN *Chron.* II. 225 As in þe Bibil wrytyn [*v.r.* *writyn*] is. **1481** *Cely Papers* (Camden) 78, I have whrytyn to yow dyvarys lettys. **1562** A. BROOKE *Romeus & Jul.* 711 Ywriten haue I red..There is no better way to fishe. **1644** *MILTON Areop.* (Arb.) 71 Things not before discourst or writt'n of. **1871** W. ALEXANDER *Johnny Gibb* xlviii, [How] hisna he wrutten to you?

γ. 4-5 *iwreten*, 5 -yn, *ywreten*; 4-7 *wreten*, 4-6 -yn, 5-6 -in, 5 -yne, -on, *Sc.* 6-7 *wreitinn* (6 *wreitinn*), 7 *wreaten*, 6 *wraitten*.

1387 *TREVISIA Higden VII.* 79 As pere is wreten in lettres. *Ibid.* 441 Emerus..had i-wreten and descryved Anselms lyf. **14..** *Chaucer's Sec. Nun's T.* 91 (Lansd. MS.), Euery where þis wordes al wip golde wreten [*Camb. MS.* i-wretyn] were. **1476** in *Cely Papers* (Camden) 4 That Thomas Kesten hat ywreten unto me. **1534** CROMWELL in *Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 385 Wretyn at my house. **1581** *Excheq. Rolls Scot.* XXI. 421 The landis aboune wreittin. **1664** J. CARSTAIR *Lett.* (1846) 109, I have wreaten ane other lyne to the Lord Chancellor. **1685** *Seafield's Lett.* (1912) 10, I would have wreten to you. **1693** *Ibid.* 109 [A letter] wreitten to him.

δ. 5, *Sc.* 6 *wrettyn*, 6 *wretten* (-on, *Sc.* -in).

1445 *Paston Lett.* I. 59 Wrettyn in haste, at Norwich. a 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* cxvi. 407 Letters..wretten on the pament. a 1578 *LINDESEY* (Pitcottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 50 This letter..[was] wreitten be thir thrie foirsaid personis in all heist.

ε. 7 *Sc.* *wraitten*.

a 1614 J. MELVILL *Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 367, I have wraitten a special treatise thair of.

b. a. 3-5 *i-*, *ywryte*, *ywryte*, 3-7, *Sc.* 8 *write* (7 *wright*), 4-6 *wryte*.

c 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 241 Hit is iwrite Nemo [etc.]. c 1200, etc. [see *YWRIT pa. pple.*]. c 1200 *Moral Ode* 228 (

writt truth. 1859 TENNYSON *Elaine* 1103 The letter . . being writ And folded.

γ. 3-5 iwrete, 4-5 ywrete; 4-6 wrete, 7 *Sc.* wreat(e, wreitt).

c1275 LAY. 22981 þat soþe his iwrete. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 2179 Hyt ys seyde purgh lawe wrete, þat [etc.]. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 10008 The word ywrete in sapyence. a1529 SKELTON *Bouge of Court* 438 On that sleue these wordes were wrete. 1662 J. CARSTAIRS *Lett.* (1846) 97, I have wreate a lyne to the Provost in that matter. 1694 *Seafeld's Lett.* (1912) 144 The Secretaries are wreitt to anent it.

δ. 5 ywret; 5 wrette, 5, *Sc.* 9 wret, 5, 7 wreitt. 1423 in *Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* Var. Coll. IV. 83 Y wret at Exeter the day . . a bove y sayd. ? 1460 *Paston Lett.* I. 539 Wret the v. day of Decembre. 1646 *Hamilton Papers* (Camden) 126 The other was wrett yesternight. 1914 [see A. 17].

ε. 6-8, 9 dial. or illit. wrote (6 roten), 7 wroate; 6 wrotte, 7 wrott, 7-8 wrot.

1565 STAPLETON tr. *Bede* 12 Such thinges as I haue wrote of the most holy fater. c1572 GASCOIGNE *Fruites* xcii. When workes of warre are wrote by such as I. 1637 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Drinke* Djb, So I. Have wroate a hotchpotch. 1693 PEPSY in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 212 As had they been wrott on purpose. 1710 PRIDEAUX *Orig. Tithes* iii. 154 An exhortatory Epistle wrot to him. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl. s.v. Verse*, The Books themselves were wrote [1738 written] all running. 1848 DICKENS *Domby* xxxiv, Has she wrote to me? 1879- in dial. glossaries (Shropsh., Warw., etc.).

B. Signification.

I. trans. 1. †a. To score, outline, or draw the figure of (something); to incise. *Obs.*

Beowulf 1688 Hroðgar . . hylt sceawode, ealde lafe, on ðæm was or witen fyrrn-gewinnes. c897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past.* C. xxi. 160 Nim sume tiglan . . & writ on hiere ða burg Hierusalem. c1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 290 Writ þonne þam horse on þam heafde foran cristes mæl. c1225 *Leg. Kath.* 190 [She] wrat on hire breoste . . þe hali rode taken. c1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 413 Another thing was don there write That semede lyk an Ipocrite. a1450 *Medit. Life & Passion of Christ* 1350 Loue pat ar to so mykel of myrt, Writ in myn herte pat reful syzt. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Dec. 136 By myne eie the Crow his clawe dooth wright. 1590 — *F.Q.* II. viii. 43 Guyons shield . . Whereon the Faery Queenes pourtract was writ.

b. To form (letters, symbols, words, etc.) by carving, engraving, or incision; to trace in or on a hard or plastic surface, esp. with a sharp instrument; to record in this way.

In later use not clearly distinguished from sense 2.

a1000 *Gnomic Verses* 139 Ræd secal mon secan, rune writan. c1000 ÆLFRED *Deut.* x. 2 Ic write on ðam bredum ða word ðe wæron on ðam ðe ðu ær bræce. c1175, c1250 [see TABLE sb. 2 a]. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xii. 80 þorw carectus pat cryst wrot þe iewes knewe hemselfen Gultier . . þan þe woman. c1400 MAUNDEV. (1839) iii. 17 In the Dust and in the Powder . . thei wroote Lettres and Figures with hire Fingres. c1450 CAPGRAVE *St. Augustine* 25 He took a peyre tables, and wroot in þe wax al his desir. 1535 COVERDALE *Deut.* xxvii. 3 Thou shalt set vp grete stones . . and wyte vpon them all the wordes of this lawe. 1599 HAKLUYT *Voy.* II. 1. 117 Men being first inforced to write their acties . . in barkes of trees. 1649 OGILBY tr. *Virg., Bucolics* v. 13 I'll try that Song on the green Beech I writ. 1697 J. LEWIS *Mem. Dk. Gloucester* (1789) 77 He made an Epitaph . . to be wrote on a stone. 1728 POPE *Dunc.* iii. 325 On Poets' Tombs see Benson's titles writ. 1781 COWPER *Hope* 588 Blush, calumny! and write upon his tomb . . Thy deep repentance of thy thousand lies. 1831 SIR F. PALGRAVE *Hist. Anglo-Sax.* vii. 153 The slips of bamboo upon which the inhabitants . . write or scratch their compositions with a bodkin. 1857 LOCKER *Lond. Lyrics* 51 It was I wrote her name on the sand.

fig. and in fig. context. c1175 *Cott. Hom.* 235 [Jesus Christ] þe sceolde his aien wille . . in ure heorte write. a1300 *Cursor M.* 25586 Sute iasen illu . . pi pines in vr hertes write. c1400 26 *Pol. Poems* 102 þy countretayle þey wil shewe, þe skore, In helle or in heuene, wreten trewe. 1599, 1622 [see TABLE sb. 2 c]. a1628 PRESTON *Effectual Faith* (1631) 49 It is the Holy Ghost that must write them in your hearts; wee can but write them in your heads. 1653 H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* i. ix. 27 When we see writ in our Souls . . the Name or rather the Nature and Idea of God. 1877 MRS. OLIPHANT *Makers Flor.* i. 2 The names of the older generations are writ in brass on the glowing walls of the Inferno.

transf. 1588 SHAKS. *Titus A.* iii. i. 170 Which of your hands hath not . . rear'd aloft the bloody Battleaxe, Writing destruction on the enemies Castle? a1623 FLETCHER *Love's Cure* i. i. Useless are all words Till you have writ performance with your swords. 1818 BYRON *Ch. Har.* iv. clxxxii, Roll on, thou . . dark blue Ocean! . . Time writes no wrinkle on thy azure brow.

c. fig. to write in the dust, in or on sand, water, the wind, etc., with reference to absence of abiding record. (See WATER sb. 1 f, and cf. SAND sb. 2 c.)

1513 MORE *Edw. V* (1641) 130 For men use to write an evill turne in marble stone, but a good turne in the dust. 1611-3 [see WATER sb. 1 f]. a1634 CHAPMAN *Revenge for Honour* v. ii. Words writ in waters, have more lasting Essence, then our determinations. a1658 LOVELACE *Poems* (1904) 203 But what women say to kind Lovers, we write in rapid streams and wind. 1795 J. NOTT tr. *Catullus* lxvii. II. 113 What . . are woman's vows? Fit to be written but on air, Or on the stream! 1821 KEATS in *Poet. Wks.* (1876) p. xxx, Here lies one whose name was writ in water. 1846 MRS. BROWNING *Lett.* (1899) I. 433, I may say of Henrietta that her only fault is, her virtues being written in water. 1847 MANGAN *Poems* (1903) 99 Oh! let not your vow Have been written in sand!

d. transf. To impress or stamp marks indicating (some condition or quality) on, in, or over a person, etc. Freq. in phr. to be (or have) written all over a person.

1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* iv. ii. 162 There is written in your brow Prouost, honesty and constancie. a1653 H.

BINNING *Sermon Wks.* (1845) 648 Insobriety is written upon many passages of your behaviour. 1682 DRYDEN *Mac Flecknoe* 105 A Tun of Man in thy large Bulk is writ. 1854 THACKERAY *Newcomes* xxv, Cook and housekeeper is written on her round face. 1866 LEVER *Sir B. Fossbrooke* I. 78 One on whom Nature had written gentleman. a1899 in *Westm. Gaz.* 30 Dec. 1/2 Duty is written all over him. 1914 'I. HAY' *Knight on Wheels* (ed. 2) xxix. 292 It must be written all over me if you can spot it . . Yes, you are right . . I'm in love. 1967 G. F. FIENNES *I tried to run Railway* iii. 28 He had horse written all over him. 1979 J. GARDNER *Nostradamus Traitor* vi. 20 One was with her . . Had DDR written all over him.

2. a. To form or delineate (a letter, symbol, ideogram, etc.) on paper or the like with a pen, pencil, etc.; to trace (significant characters) in this manner.

743-5 [see A. 2 a]. c1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Luke xvi. 6 Nim pine febere . . & writ fiftig. c1200 ORMIN *Ded.* 104 þatt he An boestaff write twi33ess. c1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2527 And he ðat ðise lettres wrot, God him helpe weli mot. c1300 *Havelok* 2481 We deme, þat . . þare be written pi3e leteres: 'þis is þe swike' [etc.]. 1387 TREvisa *Higden* VI. 221 He fonde pre R and pre F i-write. c1425 *Crafte Nombrynge* 16 þat digit þat pou hast y-write. 1521 BARCLAY *Introductory* Bj, Whan . P. is wyrtyn in the ende of a worde in frenche. 1590 SPENSER *F.Q.* III. xii. 31 And her before the vile Enchaunter sate, Figuring strange characters of his art, With liuing bloud he those characters wrate. 1614 RALEIGH *Hist. World* iii. 12 It was as easie . . to erre in writing two for sixe and twentie, as for three and twentie. 1647 T. HILL *Paul* (1648) 15 Some tell us Jeremiah and Zachary written contractively in the Hebrew are the same. 1735 JOHNSON *Lobo's Abyssinia, Voy.* i. 4 Unhappily, the Secretary wrote Zeila for Dancalia. 1845 *Kitto's Cycl. Bibl. Lit.* (1849) I. 601 At other times they [sc. hieroglyphics] are phonetic, and written by an alphabet of about 140 letters. 1887 A. J. ELLIS in *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 381 Some system of writing speech-sounds.

b. To enter or record (a name) with a pen, etc.; to mention (a person) in this way. Also in fig. context.

c1200 ORMIN 3554 He shall writenn alle þa þatt cwemmdenn himm o life Onn eche lifess bokess writt. a1300 *Cursor M.* 6889 He . . wrat þe nam, and sett to sele. 1387 TREvisa *Higden* VII. 31 Otho . . heet take hym þe names i-wrete of hem þat were gilti. a1400 in *Heath Grocer's Comp.* (1869) 41 Plate, Alle these xxij personis before wretyn. a1450 *Medit. Life & Passion of Christ* 884 To writon vs in bok þat neuere failles. 1472 in *Surtees Misc.* (1890) 25 We ordeyn that all vacabondes, bifore writen, kepe gode reule. 1535 COVERDALE *Isaiah* iv. 3 Al soch as are writen amonge the lyuynge at Ierusalem. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus s.v. Inscribe*, They write their owne names in the titles of their bookes. 1623 COKERAM II. s.v., To Write his name to a Band. 1714 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 568 ¶ 3 [He] had written the Names of several Persons . . at the Side of every Sin . . mentioned by that excellent Author. 1772 R. FERGUSSON *Braid Claith* i, To hae your name Wrote in the bonny book of fame. 1827 KEBLE *Chr. Y., St. Barnabas* v, Never so blest, as when in Jesus' roll They write some hero-soul. 1885 'MRS. ALEXANDER' *At Bay* v, Glynn took her programme and wrote his own name for several waltzes. fig. 1594 SPENSER *Amoretti* lxxv, My verse . . shall . . in the heuens wyrtie your glorious name. 1860 *Slang Dict.* (ed. 2) 248 To write one's name on a joint, to have the first cut at anything, . . leaving sensible traces of one's presence on it.

3. a. (a) To set down in writing; to express or present (words, etc.) in written form; to pen. Also (b) said of the pen, etc. Occas. in fig. context.

In frequent use from c1380.

832 in *O.E. Texts* 446 Ic . . mid cristes rodetacne ðis festnie & write. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 133 Se Halga Gast dihtode ealle þa ping þe halige men writon. c1000 ÆLFRED *Deut.* xxxi. 24 Æfter ðam ðe Moyses wrat ðisse æ beboða. a1200 *St. Marher.* 23 Hire bone was petch hit writ on bocfelle. c1275 *Passion of our Lord* 467 in *O.E. Misc.* 50 Pilates wrot him seolf a writ al on hying. c1290 *Beket* 222 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 113 þis child . . Seruede A borgeys of þe toun, and his a-countes wrot. 1303 [see A. 2 b]. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. 1. 174 þeos bep wordes i-written in þe Ewangelie. c1400 *Pety Job* 566 in 26 *Pol. Poems* 139 Who may graunte me thys boone, That my wordes wreten were. 1473 WARKW. *Chron.* (Camden) 11 He . . wrott in alle his lettres . . the yere of his regne. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 2 These instructyons y' I haue gathered & wyrtyn for you. 1595 SHAKS. *John* iv. i. 37 Can you not reade it? Is it not faire writ? 1667 MILTON *P.L.* xii. 489 A Comforter . . the Law of Faith . . upon their hearts shall write. 1681 in *Jrnl. Friends' Hist. Soc.* July (1912) 136 At leisure it may be written faire in the Booke. 1751 LAVINGTON *Enthus. Meth. & Papists* III. (1754) 163 His Hand had wrote what was directly contrary to the Dictates of his malicious Mind. 1788 CLARA REEVE *Exiles* III. 191, I will get these instructions wrote in a proper form. 1825 J. F. COOPER *L. Lincoln* III. 258 At the close of his long life, he wrote Gen., Bart., and M.P. after his name.

(b) 1883 J. G. PETRIE *Man. for Type-Writer* 4 Machines . . which write capitals and small letters. 1897 *Strand Mag.* May 593/2 No pen can write, no song sing, and no story tell of half their happiness.

fig. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* v. iii. 35 About it, and write happy when th'ast done. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Lett.* (1671) 134, I painted a providence of my own, and wrote ease for my self and a peaceable ministry. 1888 RUSKIN *Præterita* III. iv. 159 Mozart's birth wrote the laws of melody for all the world . . irrevocably.

b. To form by painting or the like; to paint.

a1400 [see A. 3 a a]. 1556 *Chron. Gr. Friars* (Camden) 54 Alle churches new whytte-lymed, with the commandmentes wrytten on the walles. 1561 in *Archæol.* (1770) I. 16 To the peynter for wrighting the scripture. 1714 SWIFT tr. *Hor., Sat.* ii. 92 The lines Writ underneath the Country Signs. 1837 WHITLOCK *Bk. Trades* (1842) 358 Most mere house-painters undertake to paint sign boards . . and . . write them tolerably well. 1889 SUTHERLAND *Sign-Writing* i. 1 A man might set out and write a sign in the time.

†c. To translate into another language. *Obs.*

c1475 *Babees Bk.* 1 This tretys the whiche I thenke to wyrtie Out of latyn in-to my comvne langage.

d. writ (written) large, penned, recorded, or exhibited in large or prominent characters. Chiefly in fig. use. Also in analogous fig. phrases, as writ double, small, etc.

c1645 MILTON *Sonn., On new Forcers of Conscience* 20 *New Presbyter* is but *Old Priest* writ Large. 1866 'GEO. ELIOT' *F. Holt* viii, The man was no more than the boy writ large, with an extensive commentary. 1868 FARRAR *Silence & V.* iii. (1875) 56 Let us look beyond them, and see it writ large upon the history of nations. 1877 L. MORRIS *Epic Hades* II. 117 That my life . . Was but a tale Writ large by Zeus. 1951 E. BARKER *Princ. Social & Political Theory* 1, 39 Corporativism may be defined as syndicalism writ double. 1959 *Times* 25 Feb. 11/2 This year's Defence White Paper . . is last year's writ quietly. 1961 *Observer* 23 Apr. 5/2 In a curious way he's [sc. Sir Isaac Hayward's] an amalgam, writ small, of Attlee, Morrison and Bevin. 1967 *Listener* 8 June 762/1 J. P. Donleavy's *The Saddest Summer of Samuel S.* is just *The Ginger Man* writ smaller and smaller.

e. Of a manuscript, etc.: To bear or exhibit in writing.

1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* v. iii. 145 Whose Chronicle thus writ, The man was Noble. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 470 ¶ 1, I have . . been informed, that such or such Ancient Manuscripts for an et write an ac.

†f. To employ in dating. *Obs.*

1651 MARIUS *Adv. Bills of Exchange* (1700) 13 At Hamborough and Strasburg . . they do write the same stile with us here in England, namely old stile; but in all other parts beyond the Seas . . they do generally write new stile.

g. To print by means of a typewriter; to typewrite; = TYPE v. 4.

1883 J. G. PETRIE *Man. for Type-Writer* 3 Writing and re-writing familiar words until the fingers run easily.

h. Computers. To enter (an item of data) in, into, on, or to a storage medium (esp. a disc or tape) or a location in store; to enter data in or on (a storage medium). Also *absol.* Cf. to read in s.v. READ v. 6 f.

1946 GOLDSTINE & VON NEUMANN in J. von Neumann *Coll. Wks.* (1963) V. 28 In 'writing' a word into the memory, it is similarly not only the time effectively consumed in 'writing' which matters, but also the time needed to 'find' the specified location in the memory. *Ibid.*, A number that is to be written, i.e. stored, has to be placed at a definite, possibly inconvenient place in the memory. 1948 *Math. Tables & Other Aids to Computation* III. 123 The machines will be able to read from, or write on, the tapes. 1953 B. V. BOWDEN *Faster than Thought* iv. 95 He proposed to make it impossible to write into a store unless it contained zero. 1966 *McGraw-Hill Encycl. Sci. & Technol.* IV. 188/1 The store instruction selects an address through the selection circuit for writing the contents of the accumulator in the memory location specified. 1970 [see READ v. 5 h]. 1973 C. W. GEAR *Introd. Computer Sci.* iv. 161 A typical large computer system has many readers and printers . . Usually several different jobs are being read and several different outputs are being written at the same time. 1980 *Sci. Amer.* Aug. 114/1 The head that writes the data can also be used to read it. 1980 S. HOCKEY *Guide Computer Applications in Humanities* ii. 28 Information can only be written to the tape when this ring is in place.

i. Of a recording device: to produce (a graphical record).

1949 [see MAREOGRAM]. 1975 *Nature* 6 Feb. 423/1 Our predicted signals do not resemble those of typical creep events as written by creepmeters.

j. To sit or take (a written examination). Chiefly *S. Afr.*

1958 *Cape Argus* 7 Nov. 3/3 Several women attended the course but Miss — was the only one to write the course examinations. 1971 *Sunday Express* (Johannesburg) 28 Mar. (Home Jnl.) 14/2 My daughter is writing Matric this year. 1974 *Advocate-News* (Barbados) 19 Feb. 1/1 Students from Government primary schools will now write the Common Entrance Examination at their respective schools.

4. a. To state or relate in writing; to draw up or frame a written statement of (circumstances, events, etc.); to chronicle or make a record of. Also with to, unto (a person), or indirect personal object.

In very frequent use from c1300.

c900 *Bæda's Hist.* Pref. (1890) 4 þæt ic be ðam halgan fæder Cuðbyrhte wrat oððe on þysse bec oððe on oðre. a1122 *O.E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1086, Fela pinga we maȝon writan þe on ðam ilcan gear gewordene wæron. c1175 [see A. 1 b]. c1220 *Bestiary* 695 In boke is ðe turtres lif writen o rime. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6793 As it is of hire iwrite, & of ire holi fame. a1300 *Cursor M.* 17843 We sal yow write . . All pat we herd and sagh. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 8970 þere . . þey dede to wyrtie yn boke pys chance. 1387, 1423 [see A. 3 a, γ, 1 b]. 1448 *Paston Lett.* I. 71, I wrythe to ȝow the very cause why. 1497 BP. ALCOK *Mons Perfect.* Cjb/2 Cryst cam into y^e worlde, as it is wryte. 1559 in T. Wright *Q. Eliz.* (1838) I. 17 We woll not writ it for gospell that their power is so greate. 1568 HACKET tr. *Thevet's New found World* xxvii. 42 b, There resteth nowe to wright that, the which we haue learned. 1643 DIGBY *Observ. Relig. Med.* (1644) 44 To peruse what I have written at full upon this point. 1671 J. WEBSTER *Metallogr.* i. 12 The *Collegium Conimbricense* are perswaded that he writ the truth. a1715 BURNET *Oun Time* (1766) I. 18 Whose life is so curiously writ by Thomas Hubert. 1794 J. H. MOORE's *Pract. Navig.* (ed. 10) 169 Occurrences which are written on the log-board. 1833 TENNYSON *Dream Fair Wom.* lx, It is written that my race Hew'd Ammon, hip and thigh. 1865 SWINBURNE *Chastelard* II. i. 55 Which alms (Remembering what was writ of Magdalen) I gave not grudging.

fig. and transf. a1225 *Ancl. R.* 388 He . . wrote mid his owne blode saluz to his leofmon. c1400 26 *Pol. Poems* xvii. 181 His herte blod wrot oure hele, And Ihesus body, þe parchemyn is. a1586 SIDNEY *De Mornay* v. ¶ 9 We haue read in nature that there is but one God, as a thing which we finde written euen in the least creatures. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* v. i. 22 That selfe-hand Which writ his Honor in the Acts it did. a1680 CHARNOCK *Attrib. God* (1682) 814 Those

Testimonies of it [*sc.* God's patience], which were written in showers, and fruitful seasons. **1781** COWPER *Expost.* 311 Is adverse providence, when ponder'd well, So dimly writ, or difficult to spell. **1869** FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* III. xiv. 355 The great tale of which it became the theatre is legibly written on its natural features.

b. With clause as object, either introduced by *that*, etc., or directly quoted.

(a) **835** [see A. 1a]. **c900** tr. *Bæda's Hist.* (1890) 42 Writed Eutropius pæt Constantinus se casere were on Breotone acenned. *Ibid.* 460 Hi on heora sinoðgewrit ongepeoddon, & þus writon betwih him: Wilfrid [etc.]. **c1200** ORMIN (1878) II. 354 Acc hallþhe weress wraten uss, . . . þatt [etc.]. **a1225** *Ancr. R.* 42 Leted writen on one scrowe hwat se 3e ne kunneð nout. **1390** GOWER *Conf.* I. 4 If noman write hou that it stode. **1455** *Paston Lett.* I. 348 As ye wrygh they sey now. **1471** CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 397 A table wherein was wretoun wyth letters of gold Passe no further [etc.]. **1542** UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 230 Of Pompeius it is written, that [etc.]. **1596** DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 99 Sum wrytes scottis to eit menis flesche. **1686** *Seafield Lett.* (1912) 25 They write that . . . their fleet sailed from the Texel. **1761** L. MORRIS in *Cambrian Reg.* (1796) I. 368 The bad sign-painter . . . was obliged to write over his drawings, this is a horse, this is a cock, &c. **1848** THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxiv, 'I shall expect you at half-past five,' Captain Dobbin wrote. **1850** TENNYSON *In Mem.* vi. 1 One writes, that 'Other friends remain'.

transf. **c1386** CHAUCER *Man of Law's T.* 191 Parauentre in tilke large book Which þat men clipe the heuene ywriten was With sterres. . . That he for loue sholde han his deeth allas! **1616** T. SCOT *Philomythie* K8, The stifte-vdder'd Cow [missing] . . . the merry milke-maide . . . by chance, wrot on the ground With milk-white letters where shee would be found.

c. To convey (tidings, information, etc.) by letter; to send (a message) in writing. Freq. with *to* or *unto*, or with dative of person; also with *how*, *that*, etc., and clause.

(a) ? **a1400** *Morte Arth.* 3904 He . . . wraite vn-to Waynor how the werlde chaungeð. **1449** [see A. 2c]. **1561** T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtier* II. (1900) 164 He wrott unto the Duke, . . . he would [etc.]. **1596** SHAKS. *1 Hen. IV.* iv. i. 31 He writes me here, that [etc.]. **1616** R. COCKS *Diary* (Halk. Soc.) I. 150 They wrot me how the Portingals had 4 gallions. **1685** EVELYN Mrs. *Godolphin* (1847) 92 She writes me . . . what conflicts she had endur'd. **1763** SCROFTON *Indostan* (1770) 77 The Colonel . . . wrote the Soubah, 'That . . . their enemies' [etc.]. **1833** J. H. NEWMAN *Lett.* (1891) I. 434, I had . . . written to Rose how we had best start agitating. **1875** B. MEADOWS *Clin. Observ.* 69 [She] writes me that she is very much better.

(b) **1607** SHAKS. *Cor.* v. vi. 63 Haue you with heede perused What I haue written to you? **1662** STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacr.* i. iv. §11 Alexander . . . writ word to his Mother he bad found out [etc.]. **1676** ESSEX in *E. Papers* (Camden, 1913) 59 What you say . . . hath bin writt over hither by divers. **1678** [see A. 3ba]. **1757** MRS. GRIFFITH *Lett. Henry & Frances* (1767) I. 179, I beg you will write me word . . . whether [etc.]. **1760-72** H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1792) III. 159 Your brother writ me an account of your fatal falling away. **1843** LOWE *Fishes Madeira* I. 101 Mr. Yarrell writes me word that [etc.]. **1850** MISS MULOCK *Olive* xxv, You will . . . write me word how it looks.

d. To decree, ordain, or enjoin in writing. Chiefly *fig.* (of fate).

1560 BIBLE (Genev.) *1 Esdr.* vi. 17 King Cyrus wrote that this House shulde be buylt vp. **1675** DRYDEN *Aurengz.* I. (1676) 14 'Tis writ in Fate, I can be onely yours. **1842** BORROW *Bible in Spain* xxxv, 'It was not so written,' said Antonio, who . . . was a fatalist. **1902** 'ROMA WHITE' *Backsheesh* xvii. 280 That which is written is written. It is stronger than I. So let it be.

5. a. To give a written account or enumeration of; to describe or depict in writing.

c1000 *Three O.E. Prose Texts* 2 Ac þa ðing þe me nu in gemynd cumað ærest þa ic þe write. **c1200** *Vices & Virtues* 19 Ne mai ic penchen, . . . ne on boke write, alle ðo pinen of helle. **a1225** *Ancr. R.* 240 Efter þe urouren þet beoð her iwritene. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 648 Ne wriþer nan mai write wit inc þe mikel ioy þat þam es lent. **13.** [see A. 2b]. **1382** WYCLIF *Ecclus.* xlii. 7 The 3yuen thing . . . and the taken, al diskryue, or wryte. **c1449** PECOCK *Repr.* i. xi. 55 [= Rev. xxii. 18] Putte God upon him the veniauncis writun in this book. **c1600** SHAKS. *Sonn.* xvii, If I could write the beauty of your eyes. **1608** TOPSELL *Serpents* 131 When the Egyptians will write a man eating or at dinner, they paynt a Crocodile gaping. **1636** E. DACRES *Machiavel's Disc.* Livy II. 545 Things which they have done, that lived in the manner above written.

b. To treat of (a subject, theme, etc.) in writing.

c1000 *Ag. Gosp.* John i. 45 We gemitton ðone hælend . . . þone wrat moyses & þa witegan on ðære æ. **1597** MORLEY *Introd. Mus.* 152 Those who haue of late daies written the art of musick. **1711** FELTON *Dissert. Classics* (1718) a 4b, The Difficulties of writing History. **1737** POPE tr. *Hor.*, Ep. II. i. 146 Ev'ry flow'ry Courtier writ Romance. **1821** BYRON *Diary* 29 Jan., They talk Dante—write Dante.

c. To give expression to (one's feelings, thoughts, etc.) by means of writing; to express in written form.

a1250 *Owl & Night.* 1756 þar he demey mony riht dom & diht & wryt [*v.r.* writ] mony wisdom. **1382** WYCLIF *Joh* xiii. 26 Thou writist agen me bitterness. **c1400** 26 *Pol. Poems* xxiv. 146 Lord, . . . agens me þou doest wryte Bitternesse, bote swete is past. **1524** Q. MARGARET in *Green Lett.* (1846) I. 319, I did write my mind plainly to you. **1653** WALTON *Angler* i. 29 God . . . [allowed] those . . . to write his holy will in holy writ. **1705** SEAFIELD *Lett.* (1915) 34, I shall write my thoughts with all freedom. **1748** RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) VII. 76 My heart is full, and I can't help writing my mind. **1798** NELSON in A. Duncan *Life* (1806) 96 Buonaparte writes his distress for stores.

6. a. To compose and set down on paper (a literary composition, narrative, verse, etc.); to

put into or produce in literary form, to bring out (a book or literary work) as an author; to indite.

In very frequent use from *c* 1570. ? **a900** *O.E. Chron.* (Parker MS.) an. 84, Her Iohannes . . . wrat þa boc Apocalipsis. **c1175** *Lamb. Hom.* 55 For alswa god hit bit, and inne þe godspelle þe he writ. **c1200** *Vices & Virtues* 85 Dis ic habbe iwrten for ðe te frieurien ðanne ðu niede hafst. **c1250** *Gen. & Ex.* 4124 He [*sc.* Moses] . . . wrot an canticle on ðat booc. **a1272** *Luue Ron* 210 in *O.E. Misc.* 99 And yeue him god endyng þat haueþ iwryten þis ilke wryt. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 14399 Vr for-eldres þe bible wrat. **c1330**, **c1386** [see STYLE *sb.* 13]. **1390** GOWER *Conf. Prol.* 6 Good is that we also . . . Do wryte of newe som matiere. **c1450** *Myrr. our Ladye* i. v. 18 To him that writeth my songe & my prayssynge. **1533** GAU *Richt Vay* 25 Al the buikis . . . qvhillk . . . orders cane writ. **1585** [see A. 2a]. **a1586** SIDNEY *Astr. & Stella* Sonn. lviii, In pearcing phrases late The Anatomie of all my woes I wrate. **1608** WILLET *Hexapla Exod.* 257 When Moses writeth that storie. **1652** *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) 311 Pamphlets which . . . he wrote to persuade those [etc.]. **1702** ADDISON *Dial. Medals* (1727) 50 They writ the whole Poem on purpose to abuse some one. **1781** COWPER *Lett.* 12 July, I have writ Charity . . . as well as I could. **1819** SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xxxiii, [If] the monks . . . take not to writing chronicles. **1895** *Bookman* Oct. 11/2 He is . . . busy writing the new novel.

fig. and transf. **c1600** SHAKS. *Sonn.* xciii, The falce hearts history Is writ in moods and frounes and wrinkles strange. **1853** BAGEHOT *Lit. Stud.* (1879) I. 142 Marmion was 'written' while he [*sc.* Scott] was galloping on horseback.

b. With various preps., as *against*, *for* or *to* (or with indirect personal object), *of*, *on*, or *upon* (a subject, person, etc.).

c1200 ORMIN 5810 [They] writenn off þe Laferd Crist Goddspell o fowwre bokess. **1377** LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. x. 169, I wrote hir many bokes. **1481** in W. Blades *Caxton* (1882) 231 The polytque book . . . whiche that Tullius wrote vpon the disputacons. **c1520** M. NISBET *N.T.* (S.T.S.) I. 17 It was niedful that it [*ante* the euangel] war writin alsa aganis heretikis. **1585** WHITNEY *Choice Emblems* (1586) Ep. Ded. *4 His priuate bookes he wratte to Traian, of counsell and gouernement. **1685** WALLER *Div. Poesy* i. 17 Verse so designed, on that high subject wrote. **1714** ADDISON *Spect.* No. 568 ¶3 Some-body had written a Book against the 'Squire. **1794** MRS. A. M. BENNETT *Ellen* II. 47 Volumes wrote on the subject could not do it away. **1820** Q. *Mus. Mag.* II. 68 The character of the Count [in the opera] has been obviously written for Signor Garcia. **1888** BARRIE *When a Man's Single* xi. 180 Mary Abinger . . . read them [*sc.* books] proudly, knowing that they were all written for her.

c. To compose and set down (music, a melody, etc.) in notes.

1672 T. SALMON *Ess. Adv. Music* Contents, Chap. iv, One who can Sing a Treble part, can immediately Sing that which is written for the Base. **1782** BURNEY *Hist. Mus.* II. 566 Such keys as these pieces are written in. **1837** PENNY *Cycl.* VIII. 108/1 Airs . . . written in two parts. **1885** *Dict. Nat. Biog.* II. 105 [Arne] wrote new music for Addison's opera 'Rosamond'.

7. a. To pen (a document, writing, etc.); to put into proper written form; to draft or draw up. Also, to insert (provisions, etc.) *into* a law, agreement, etc. Also in *fig.* context.

831 [see A. 1a]. **c1000** *Ag. Gosp.* John xix. 19 Witodlice pilatus wrat ofer-gewrit. **c1200**, etc. [see WRIT *sb.* 1b, 1c]. **a1333** W. HERBERT in *Relig. Lyrics* 14th C. (1924) 19 And helpe he wole ich wot, Vor loue þe chartre wrot, þe enke orn of hys wounde. **c1400** *Ploughman's Tale* III. 1367 This writing writeth the pellican. **1455** *Rolls of Parl.* V. 324/1 The said Officers woll write newe distressez ayenst your Commissioners. **1476** *Acta Auditorum* (1839) 42/1 þe hande þat wrate þe said write. **1573** [see A. 1y]. **1659** W. CHAMBERLAYNE *Pharon.* III. 1. 252 Where Loves fair hand hath Valours passport wright. **a1703** BURKITT *On N.T.* Mark xv. 37 The inscription wrote by Pilate over our suffering Saviour. **1751** SMOLLETT *Per. Pic.* vii, A lawyer . . . to write her last will. **1876** SWINBURNE *Erechtheus* 517, I had made no question of thine eyes or heart, Nor spared to read the scriptures in them writ, Wert thou my son. **1962** *Listener* 25 Jan. 155/1 All sorts of safeguards have been written into the agreements. **1962** *Rep. Comm. Broadcasting* 1960 138 in *Parl. Papers* 1961-2 (Cmd. 1753) IX. 259 A suitable form of words to this effect should be written into the new Charter. **1967** N.Y. *Herald Tribune* (International ed.) 11-12 Feb. 3 The 25th Amendment to the Constitution, spelling out procedure for the vice-president to serve as acting president when the president is disabled, was written into law to-day.

b. To pen (a letter, missive, note, etc.); to communicate with a person by (letter, etc.). Freq. const. *to*, *unto*, or *till* (now *Sc.* and *north. dial.*), or with indirect personal object (cf. 23 b).

Freq. from *c* 1450. See also BILLET-DOUX, CHIT *sb.* 6, LETTER *sb.* 1 4, LOVE-LETTER, NOTE *sb.* 1 6, PISTLE *sb.* 1.

c1000 *Three O.E. Prose Texts* 1 Alexandres epistoles . . . þone he wrat & sende to aristotile. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 5323 þe king þan did his letters writte To somond al. **c1374** CHAUCER *Troilus* v. 1293 My rede is þis . . . þat hastily a tilthow hire wryte. **c1380** *Sir Ferumb.* 1782 þe lettre þat ys tilthow wryte. **c1420** *Prose Life Alex.* 66 He garte write anoper lettre, and sent it to Talyfride. **1513** [see A. 2aß]. **c1560** A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) ix. 17 It is þe hairt to quhome 3e wret The misseif. **1613** J. SARIS *Voy. Japan* (Hakl. Soc.) 94 This daye Mr. Cocks writt me a letter. **1662** [see A. 3b7]. **1710** STEELE *Tatler* No. 4 ¶2 Another hath just now writ three Lines to Clarissa. **1802** MARIAN MOORE *Lascelles* II. 126 The young man . . . writt her a polite note. **1848** THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xlix, I want you . . . to write a card for Colonel and Mrs. Crawley. **1891** 'J. S. WINTER' *Lumley* iv, I've got . . . a dozen letters to write for you.

fig. **1382** WYCLIF *2 Cor.* iii. 2 3e ben oure pistle, writun in oure hertis.

c. To fill in (a cheque, etc.) with writing. **1837** DICKENS *Pickw.* liii, Perker wrote a cheque for the whole amount.

8. a. To describe or designate (a person) by writing to be something; to style, call, or term in

writing; to set down in a particular class. Also *transf.*

1382 WYCLIF *Jer.* xxii. 30 Writ this man a bareyn man. — *1 Macc.* viii. 20 For togidre write vs 3oure felawis and freendis. **1535** COVERDALE *1 Macc.* x. 65 The kyng . . . wrote him amonge his chefe frendes. **1565** COOPER s.v. *Ascribo*, Write or adde me also to be of my brothers opinion. **a1577** SIR T. SMITH *Commw. Eng.* (1640) 61 If one were a Knight, they would write him . . . Sir John Finch, Knight. **1605** SHAKS. *Macb.* III. i. 101 Whereby he does receiue Particular addition, from the Bill, That writes them all alike. **1605** B. JONSON *Volpone* i. i, [That] you will vouchsafe To write me, i' your family. **1611** BIBLE *Jer.* xxii. 30 Thus saith the Lord, Write ye this man childlesse. **1633** G. HERBERT *Temple, Church, Vanitie* 6 Hearn and beware, lest what you now do measure And write for sweet, prove a most sowre displeasure. **1687** R. L'ESTRANGE *Answ. to Dissenter* 47 The Author Writes himself a Church-of-England-Man.

fig. **1654** WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 186 The Invention or Advance of most Arts write [*sic*] the despised Scholler Creditor. **1667** MILTON *P.L.* IV. 758 Haile wedded Love. . . Farr be it, that I should write thee sin or blame. **1820** SCOTT *Abbot* i, One whom Heaven had written childless. **1856-9** DICKENS *Novels & Tales* VI. 59 (Fl.), Nature had writ him villain on his face.

b. *refl.* To designate (oneself) by a particular title in documents, letters, etc. Also *fig.*

1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* (S.T.S.) II. 81 He . . . wrate himself consul. **a1548** HALL *Chron.*, *Edw. IV.* 193 Duke Reiner . . . wryting hymself kyng of Naples, Scicile, and Jerusalem. **1570** GOOGE *Pop. Kingd.* i. (1880) 4 Therefore doth he wright Himselfe as heyre apparent to the Empire. **1648** MILTON *Observ. Art. Peace* Wks. 1851 IV. 567 These write themselves the Presbytery of Belfast. **1678** *Black Prince in Harl. Misc.* (1809) III. 151 John, duke of Lancaster . . . wrote himself king of Castile and Leon. **1771** LUCKOMBE *Hist. Print.* 94 St. Giles's, Cripplegate, . . . of which church he wrote himself vicar in 1566. **1818** SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* viii, A man of law, Nichil Novit, writing himself procurator before the Sheriff-court. **1857** TROLLOPE *Barchester T.* xx, In due process of time he took his degree, and wrote himself B.A. **1880** RUSKIN *Bible Amiens* i. (1884) 3 Why should . . . a little Frankish maid [*sc.* Amiens] write herself the sister of Venice?

ellipt. **1678** GODOLPHIN *Repert. Canon.* (1681) 13 The Arch-bishop of Canterbury . . . writes himself *Divina Providentia*.

c. *to write oneself man*, etc.: To arrive at man's (or woman's) estate; to attain manhood, or a specified age. (Cf. 11 b.)

1660 FELL *Hammond* (1661) 3 He grew the Tutor of those who begun to write themselves men. **1663** HEAD *Hic & Ubique* iv. ii. 45 Now since I write my self Man, go thy way. **1823** SCOTT *Quentin D.* xxiv, Thou wilt be mad with vanity ere thou writest thyself man. **1831** — *Cast. Dang.* v, The governor had attained his thirtieth year. . . and his lieutenant did not yet write himself one-and-twenty.

d. *refl.* To name (oneself) in writing; to sign. **1821** SCOTT *Kenilw.* ix, This same Demetrius, for so he wrote himself when in foreign parts. **1911** BARRIE *Peter & Wendy* v. 80 James Hook, or as he wrote himself, Jas. Hook.

e. To bring or reduce (a person, etc.) to a specified state by writing. Chiefly *refl.*

1735 POPE *Prol. Sat.* 32 A dire dilemma! either way I'm sped, If foes, they write, if friends, they read me dead. **1736** *Gentil. Mag.* VI. 662 The Craftsman hath seen better Days; but he has wrote himself into Contempt. **1751** WARBURTON in *Porson's Tracts* (1815) 345 *note*, That no man was ever written out of reputation, but by himself. **1768** STERNE *Sent. Journ.*, Calais, I had wrote myself pretty well out of conceit with the *Desobligeant*. **1841** THACKERAY *Gt. Hoggarty Diam.* xi, You have . . . written yourself out of five hundred a-year. **1852** THORPE *Northern Mythol.* III. 15 Another, whose cabbages were constantly stolen from his garden, wrote the thief fast from Saturday night till Sunday. **1871** LYTTON *Coming Race* xvii, If we wrote our fingers to the bone, we could not throw any light [etc.].

f. To make (one's way) by literary work.

1890 T. F. TOUT *Hist. Eng.* 111 Addison wrote his way with his Whig pamphlets to a secretaryship of state.

9. To spell (a word, name, etc.) in a specified or particular manner in writing.

c1200 ORMIN Ded. 109 Forr he ne ma33 nohht elless Onn Ennglissch writenn rihht te word. **c1205** LAY. 28869 On feole boken his nome me swa writeð. **1375** BARBOUR *Bruce* x. 748 And for this word schaw gert vrit swa, Men wend the Franch-men suld it ta. **c1620** A. HUME *Brit. Tongue* (1865) 9 And Varro . . . wrytes domineis and serveis, for dominis and servis. **1659** PHILIPOTT *Kent* 395/2 Blackmanstone, written Bleachmanstone, that is, Man's bleak Town. **1747** JOHNSON *Plan Eng. Dict.*, Many words written alike are differently pronounced. **1828** DUPPA *Trav. Italy*, etc. 8 In this MS. . . Virgil is uniformly written Vergil. **1865** WAY *Prompt. Parv.* p. lxxiii, The word written according to the orthography of the period.

10. a. To carve, grave, or trace letters or words on (a hard or plastic surface). Also *fig.*

c1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3613 Oðere tables he bro3te eft writen. **c1320** *Sir Tristr.* 2040 Bi wate be sent adoun Li3t liden spon. He wrot hem al wiþ roun. **1382** WYCLIF *Exod.* xxxi. 18 The Lord 3af to Moyses . . . two stonen tablis of witnessynge, writun with the fyngre of God. **a1450** *Medit. Life & Passion of Christ* 883 He wrot his body wiþ harde nailles. *Ibid.* 1190 Strong was þy pyne þe wryte His fayre forhed with pomes wryte. **c1822** BEDDOES *Poems, Pygmalion* 157 Writing the sand Idly, he paused.

b. To cover, fill, or mark (a paper, etc.) with writing; to trace significant characters on (a surface, etc.).

a1240 in *O.E. Hom.* I. 249 Euch an [*sc.* devil] bereð a gret boc al of sunnen iwruten wiþ 3warte smeale leattres. **1382** WYCLIF *Ezek.* ii. 9 A boke . . . the which was written withinforth and withoutforth. **c1394** *P. Pl. Crede* 175 Wyde wyndowes y-wrou3t y-written full pikke, Schynen wiþ schapen scheldes to schewen aboute. **1448** *Anc. Deed C.* 5103 in *Catal.* VI. 173 A large roll of parchemyn wretyn and lymned with certeyn maters. **1471** CAXTON *Recuyell*

(Sommer) 5 Aftyr that y had made and wretyn a fyve or six quayers. **1530** PALSGR. 499/1 Correcte this boke, it is falce written. **1599** SHAKS. *Much Ado* II. iii. 138 Till she haue writ a sheet of paper. **1739** Wks. *Learned* I. 103 That the Leaves of these two great Poets were wrote at Random. **1833** MRS. STOWE in *Life* (1889) 70 The envelope was written in a scrawny, scrawly, gentleman's hand. **1853** ROCK *Ch. of Fathers* (1903) IV. 87 A small strip of vellum written with the following translation.

11. a. To employ, or be able to employ, (a particular language) in writing.

c 1320 Cast. *Love* 24 Ne mowe we alle Latin wite, Ne Ebreu ne Gru pat bep i-write. **1521** A. BARCLAY (*title*), The Introductory to wryte, and to pronounce Frenche. **1582** MULCASTER *Elementarie* (1925) 59 Such people, as teach children to read and write English. **1664** DRYDEN *Rival Ladies* Ep. Ded. ¶4, I have endeavoured to write English, as near [etc.]. **1757** tr. *Keyser's Trav.* (ed. 2) IV. 28 Charles VI . . speaks and writes Latin, Italian, Spanish, and French. **1845** M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 13 The Latin which Gregory writes is . . his native tongue.

b. To employ (a name, word, etc.) in designating oneself; esp. † to write *man*, = 8 c.

(a) **1591** SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI*, IV. vii. 74 The Turke, that two and fifty kingdomes hath, Writes not so tedious a Stile as this. **1599** — *Much Ado* v. i. 37 How euer they haue writ the stile of gods.

(b) **1597** SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV*, I. ii. 30 As if he had writ man euer since his Father was a Batchellour. **1601** *etc.* [see MAN sb.¹ 4 c]. **1616** B. JONSON *Underw.*, *Celebr. Charis* I. 3 Though I now write fifty years, I have had, and have my peers. **1672** M. LOCKE *Obs. on Ess. Adv. Mus.* 2 When I began to write Man, and had convers'd in the world. **a 1766** in Fordyce *Serm. Yng. Wom.* (ed. 3) I. 38 All mankind is the pupil . . of female institution: the daughters that they write women. **1781** C. JOHNSTON *Hist. J. Juniper* II. 219 Just as I had written man; or . . was of age. **1829** SCOTT *Anne of G.* xiv, The elder, well-sized, and dark-visaged, may write fifty and five years.

c. To employ (a particular literary style) in written compositions.

1772 R. FERGUSSON *To Mr. R. Fergusson* ii, You write sic easy stile and plain, . . Nae suth'ron lown dare you disdaine.

12. To execute (a particular style of handwriting).

1390—[see HAND sb. 16]. **1593** SHAKS. *2 Hen. VI*, IV. ii. 100 Nay, he can . . write Court hand. **1631** LENTON *Charac.* C9, Hee writes a faire hand. **1702** Lond. *Gaz.* No. 3865/4 Writing a tolerable Clerk's-Hand. **1716** [see ROMAN a.¹ 5 b]. **1738** SWIFT *Pol. Conversation* 28 Whoe'er writ it, writes a Hand like a Foot. **1766** [see ROUND HAND 1]. **1851** H. MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 313/1 He writes a good hand. **1865** LE FANU *Guy Dev.* II. 73 What a hand he writes!

13. = UNDERWRITE v.¹ 2 b.

1882 'F. ANSTAY' *Vice Versa* xvi. 298 They talked of 'risks', of someone who had only been 'writing' a year and was doing seven thousand a week, . . and of the uselessness of 'writing five hundred on everything'. **1931** *Times* 14 Mar. 12/6 Not all insurance companies have felt justified in writing the risks. **1967** *Listener* 6 July 14/3 The company was still writing insurance in eleven American states. **1976** *Daily Tel.* 1 Nov. 16/2 Settlement of any claims will cost up to 50 p.c. more than had been expected when the risk was written.

II. With advs. 14. write down. a. To put or set down in writing; to commit to, describe or record in, written form; to note or jot down.

1588 SHAKS. *Titus A.* II. iv. 3 Write downe thy mind, bewray thy meaning so. **1611** — *Wint. T.* IV. iv. 571 Things knowne betwixt vs three, Ile write you downe. **1682** Rec. *Scott. Cloth Manuf. New Mills* (S.H.S.) 40 He gives out wool to scrubbling and writes itt down. **1711** STEELE *Spect.* No. 155 ¶2, I will . . write down all they say to me. **1751** R. PALTOCK *P. Wilkins* I. p. xi, For the Purpose of writing down his Life from his own Mouth. **1853** DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* xvii, I write down these opinions, not because I believe that [etc.]. **1891** W. BRIGGS & BRYAN *Geometry* 143 This enables us to write down at once the equation.

b. With complement. Also fig., and refl.

1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* IV. ii. 78 O that hee were heere to write mee downe an assel! **1602** — *Ham.* I. ii. 222 We did thinke it writ downe in our duty To let you know of it. **1854** LEVER *Dodd Family Abroad* xvi. 138 It's like writing yourself down Goth at once to oppose these. **1856** MRS. GORE *Life's Lessons* III. 70 Why does not E. H. write himself down M.P. in the new House?

c. To overcome or suppress, to disparage or depreciate, by writing; to condemn or decry in writing; to write in disparagement of.

1726 SWIFT *Let. to Mrs. Howard* 17 Nov., However, one thing I was pleased with, that after you had writ [me] down you repented, and writ me up again. **1773** JOHNSON in Boswell *Hebriides* 1st Oct., It was said to old Bentley, upon the attacks against him, 'Why, they'll write you down.' 'No, sir, . . no man was ever written down but by himself.' **1798** *Monthly Mag.* Jan. 49 [Wilkes] actually wrote down at least one administration. **1850** H. WALTER *Tindale's Answ.* More Intro. Notice 2 This effort to write down Tyndale and his labours. **1851** [see 18 e]. **1902** A. MACHEN in *Among my Books* 103 That his only object is to write down those tedious romances of chivalry.

absol. **1877** STUBBS *Med. & Mod. Hist.* v. (1886) 110 It seems . . that no man's zeal is roused to write unless it is moved by the desire to write down.

d. refl. To diminish or destroy one's literary reputation by inferior writing.

1716 ADDISON *Free-holder* No. 40 ¶3 There is not a more melancholy object in the learned world, than a man who has written himself down. **1773** [see prec.]. **1809** MALKIN *Gil Blas* II. vii. ¶4 He has written himself down at a terrible rate by his last publication.

e. To reduce (an account, total, assets, etc.) to a lower amount in writing.

1894 *Westm. Gaz.* 27 June 6/1 That this, as well as all other similar accounts, should be steadily written down, and finally out of the balance-sheet. **1897** *Ibid.* 8 Sept. 6/1 The assets have been written down in a drastic manner.

f. To write (a literary work) in a style adapted to the level of readers of supposedly inferior intelligence or taste. Cf. sense 22 c below.

1876 C. M. YONGE *Womankind* xxviii. 243 Books . . which do not dwarf the mind as a series of books written down are apt to do.

15. write in. To insert (a fact, statement, etc.) in writing; † to inscribe.

1382 WYCLIF *Rev.* xxi. 12 It hadde a wal . . and in the jatis of it twelve aungels, and names writun in. **c 1425** WYNTOUN *Cron.* II. xi. 1060 Opir fenjzheide fabillis sere I wil forber to wryt in heyre. **1463** *Bury Wills* (Camden) 42 A book of papyr to wryte in expensis. **1863** MISS BRADDON *Eleanor's Vict.* I. 108 All the great scenes have been written in by him. **1895** CROCKETT *Men of Moss-hags* liv. 390 It was a moment's work to write in the other name [on a pardon]. **1903** *Athenæum* 3 Jan. 10/2 The date is written in by the rubricator.

b. To send (suggestions, etc.) in written form to an organization. Cf. sense 23 c below.

1928 *Publishers' Weekly* 14 July 183 The customers . . were not slow about writing in their suggestions. **a 1961** J. BRITTON in WEBSTER, Teachers are encouraged to write in their requests.

c. To insert (the name of an unlisted person) on a ballot-paper or the like, as the candidate of one's choice. U.S.

1932 *Sun* (Baltimore) 23 Aug. 2/2 He knew nothing of the circulation of cards in the Middle West urging voters to write in Smith's name on the Presidential ballot. **1944** Greeley (Colorado) *Daily Tribune* 16 Sept. 2/2, I greatly appreciate the good will expressed and effort expended by the friends who wrote in my name as candidate for County Judge on the Republican primary ballot. **1957** *Ann. Reg.* 1956 174 Democratic voters 'wrote in' their preference for Mr. Stevenson over Senator Kefauver in the proportions of 8 to 5. **1968** *New Yorker* 9 Mar. 32 You know who I wrote in? You, Earl.

16. write off. a. To note the deduction of (money) in an account or financial statement; now spec. to record the cancelling of (a sum, as a bad debt, depreciated stock, etc.). Freq. fig., to dismiss from consideration as insignificant or irrelevant.

1682 SCARLETT *Exchanges* 107 To send the . . Bill to the House of the Acceptant, and desire him to order that the Value be write of in Bank. **1752** BEAWES *Lex Merc. Rediv.* 363 Write off from my Bank Book, one hundred and fifty-seven Pounds. **1819** *Mortimer's Commerc. Dict.* (ed. 2) 87 One of the clerks . . writes off the sum required. **1891** *Law Times* XC. 283/2 The company wrote off the loss as a bad debt.

fig. **1889** *Spectator* 21 Sept., China and India being written-off as full of people. **1957** P. LAFITTE *Person in Psychol.* 44 The psychologist . . can write off the difficulty as not falling within the scope of scientific method. **1963** L. MACNEICE *Var Parable* (1965) i. 21 A suspension of antipathy towards its author's attitude will give weight to what otherwise might be written off as whimsical. **1973** *Times* 20 Oct. 18/6 He is part of me and I of him. I find that painful. Perhaps he does too. But we cannot write each other off. **1984** A. SMITH *Mind* v. xv. 297 To cover all possibilities so that the seemingly dead are not written off medically and therefore legally, before their time. **1985** *Times* 11 Jan. 12/6 All this is part of an exercise . . to help girls be more assertive and self-confident about their educational potential: to stop writing themselves off as mere future wives and mothers.

b. To compose (a letter, etc.) with facility or expedition.

1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lxvii, She wrote off a letter to a friend. **1862** — *Philip* xxviii, Philip was writing off . . one of his grand tirades. **1871** [see A. 1 y].

c. slang (orig. Air Force). To damage beyond repair, wreck (an aeroplane, motor vehicle, etc.).

[**1922** *Flight* 27 July 423/1 In another way, it may be stated that, should the work of the Committee lead to a reduction by one of the aeroplanes written off per year as a result of crashes, [etc.].] **1931** *Ibid.* 23 Jan. 80/1 The D.H.37 . . got down without much damage. The D.H.9.C. . . was less fortunate, and was written off in a forced landing. **1942** N. BALCHIN *Darkness falls from Air* ii. 44 They seemed to be dropping a hell of a lot of stuff. . . I saw next morning that they'd written off a pub in Notting Hill. **1973** C. BONINGTON *Next Horizon* xi. 166 She had crashed the car twice, writing it off completely on the second occasion. **1982** *Daily Tel.* 27 Oct. 3/6 He . . wrecked his lorry and two cars; pulled out in front of a van and wrote that off too.

17. write out. a. To make a (fair or perfect) transcription or written copy of (something, a rough draft, etc.); to copy out; also, to transcribe in full or detail, as from brief notes or shorthand.

to write out fair, to make a fair copy of.

1548 ELYOT s.v. *Describe*, To write out a boke by an other mans copie. **1565** COOPER, *Exscribere alicui*, to write out the copie of a thyng to one. **1611** COTGR. s.vv. *Copier, Transcrit.* **a 1700** in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* IX. 336 His Bookes, w[hil]ch she write out and faithfully practised. **1776** *Trial Nundocomar* 41/1 The writer wrote out a Persian bond. **1809** MALKIN *Gil Blas* VII. xii. ¶5, I . . offered to write his memorials out fair. **1877** Smith & Wace's *Dict. Chr. Biog.* I. 208 Atticus . . wrote out his sermons and learnt them by heart.

b. refl. To exhaust one's resources or stock of ideas by excessive writing; = OUTWRITE v. 3.

1817 *Blackw. Mag.* L. 519/2 We have heard fears expressed, that Miss Edgeworth might have written herself out. **1832** SCOTT *St. Roman's* Intro., The Author had exhausted himself, or, as the technical phrase expresses it, written himself out. **1905** *Author* 1 Feb. 152 He has written himself out.

c. To eliminate or contrive the temporary absence of (a character, etc.), in a long-running

radio or television serial), with the story-line written so as to account for it.

1967 *Listener* 13 Apr. 503/2 That [sc. the Forsythe] *Saga* is now more than half way through (Saturdays, BBC-2). . . Some of the old characters have been written out. **1969** *Photoplay* Jan. 64/2 Being 'written out' of 'Peyton Place' is no disgrace. It has happened to other fine players. **1971** O. NORTON *Corpse-Bird Cries* i. 2 You got them to write you out for a bit. **1982** A. ROAD *Dr. Who: Making of TV Series* 16/1 Eric Saward was asked . . in the course of his story . . to 'write out' the Doctor's sonic screwdriver. **1984** 'M. INNES' *Carson's Conspiracy* xiv. 149 Appleby took a searching look at her and—as it might be expressed—wrote her out of the story.

18. write over. a. To write (something) anew or again; to rewrite; = OVERWRITE v. 3, RESCRIBE v. 2.

1588 SHAKS. *L.L.L.* I. ii. 120, I will haue that subiect newly writ ore. **1594** — *Rich. III.* III. vi. 5 Here is the Indictment. . . ; Eleuen houres I haue spent to write it ouer. **a 1645** LD. NAPIER *Mem.* (1793) 51 They might gaine some tyme in wreatng them [sc. articles of accusation] over to consult vpon the mater. **1711** R. MARTIN in Burton *Life Challoner* (1909) I. 32 They spent . . two dayes in . . writing over fair all ye answers. **1751** CHATHAM *Lett. Nephew* i. 1, I am extremely pleased with your translation now it is writ over fair.

b. To cover the whole or remaining surface of (a book, etc.) with writing; = OVERWRITE v. 1 b.

1828 DUPPA *Trav. Italy*, etc. 9, I saw MSS. of some of the Codes. . written over with monkish commentaries.

19. write up. a. To put in writing a full account, statement, or record of (something); to give an elaborate description of, describe fully; to pen or write in full or detail.

c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* IX. ix. 117 (Royal MS.), I wyll nouch wryt wp all That I haue sene in my tyme fall. **1535** COVERDALE *Esther* xii. 4 Mardocheus wrote vp the same matter. **1592** TIMME *Ten Eng. Lepers* G 3 b, The Divell that playeth host in this worlde . . writeth up all in his booke. **1860** *Cornh. Mag.* II. 750 You will be waited for . . by a few of the discontented, and asked to 'write up' certain parts, without any reference to your story. **1887** J. HAWTHORNE *Tragic Myst.* ii, After interviewing the sentry . . they departed to write up the tragedy.

† b. To enter (a person, his name) in a roll, list, etc.; to enroll; = INSCRIBE v. 1 b. *Obs.*

c 1500 *Priests of Peebles* 277 Thai wryt wp leile and fals, . . And dytis päim vnder a perdon. **1535** COVERDALE *1 Macc.* x. 36 There shall xxx. M. also of the Iewes be written vp in the kynges hoost. **1539** BIBLE (Great) *Ps.* lxxxvii. 6 The Lorde shall rehearse it, whan he wryteth vp the people. **1666** P. GORDON *Diary* (Spald. Club) 72 Having told where wee were to lodge, they . . sent a writer to write up our names.

c. To form, trace, or place (something) in writing in an elevated position.

1535 COVERDALE *Dan.* v. 25 This is the scripture, that is written vp. **1593** SHAKS. *3 Hen. VI*, I. i. 169, I will . . ouer the Chayre of State, . . Write vp his Title. **1837** DICKENS *Pickw.* xxxv, Not content with writin' up 'Pickwick' [on the coach-door]. *Ibid.* lii, I call it a dispensary, and it's always writ up so.

d. To raise or elevate by writing.

1751 WARBURTON *Pope's Wks.* III. 68 Writers . . writing themselves up into the same delusion with their Readers.

e. To commend (something) to notice or favour by appreciative writing; to laud by way of advertisement.

1726 [see sense 14 c]. **1824** *Blackw. Mag.* XVI. 165 She was never written up, to use the modern technical expression, in the Reviews. **1851** DE QUINCEY *Wks.* (1863) XII. 21 Byron . . wished to write up Pope by way of writing down others. **1893** 'Q.' [QUILLER COUCH] *Delect. Duchy* 7 I'll go in presently and write up this place.

f. To bring (a journal, report, etc.) up to date, or to the latest event, fact, or transaction; to complete (some record) in writing.

1839 LONGE *Hyperion* III. v, He . . writes up the journal neglected for a week or two. **1848** HANNAY *Biscuits & Grog* 19 Now that we . . have little to do, suppose we write up our logs? **1900**—*1 Proc. Univ. Durh. Phil. Soc.* II. 3 Even the minutes of the Curators cease to be written up.

III. intr. 20. To inscribe letters in, on, or upon a hard or plastic surface by scoring, tracing, engraving, etc. Also transf. and in fig. context.

Differing from next chiefly in the specification of the material written on.

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John viii. 6 Se hælend abeah nyper & wrat mid his fingre on pære eorpan. **c 1000** ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 434 Swilce anes mannes hand writende on ðære healle wage. **a 1300** *Cursor M.* 13729 He stuped dun, and wit his hand He wrat a quill in to þe sand. **1362** LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. III. 62, I lere 3ou, . . such wrytynge 3e leue, To writen in Wyndouwes of 3oure wel dedes. **1382**, **1387** [see TABLE sb. 2 b]. **a 1450** *Medit. Life & Passion of Christ* 842 On þi forhed so whit so snou Thow writest with a thorny bow. **c 1450** HOLLAND *Houlate* 206 He couth wryte. . . With his neþ for mistar, Apon the se sand. **1513** DOUGLAS *Æneid* I. vii. 111 The speir outturnit in the dust did write. **1535** COVERDALE *Ezek.* xxxvii. 16 Take a sticke and wryte vpon it. **1585**, **1621** [see STYLE sb. 1]. **1674** C. F. Wit at *Venture* 85 They write in sand when they make oaths. **1706** STEVENS *Sp. Dict.* I. s.v. *Escrivir*, To write on the Sand, or Water, is to do things to no purpose, as that Writing is immediatly effac'd. **1797** *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 917/2 The Chinese . . wrote or engraved with an iron tool upon thin boards or on bamboo. **1818** [S. WESTON] *La Scava* 31 A great quantity of styles to write with on wax-tablets. **1878** [see STYLE sb. 5].

fig. **a 1400** *Relig. Lyrics* 14th C. (1924) 114 bogh my hert be hard as stone, 3it maist pou gostly write per-on. **a 1653** [see WRITING vbl. sb. 7 b].

21. a. To engage in, perform the action of, writing (esp. with pen and ink); to produce (a specified kind of) writing.

to write and read: see REAO v. 15 b.
c825 *Vesp. Psalter* xlv. 2 Hreod writ[er]es hreðlice writendes. a1225 *Juliana* 79 He pat her least on wrat swa as he cuðe. a1300 *E.E. Psalter* xlv. 2 Mi tunge rede-pipe maister-writer, Of swiftlike writande be per. 1382 *Wyclif Isaiah* viii. 1 Tac to thee a gret boc, and writ it with the poyntel of a man. ? a1400 *R. Gloucester's Chron.* (Rolls) II. 828 He bad & wrot & radde & huld godes seruise. 1500-20 *DUNBAR Poems* xxxiii. 12 He couth wryte and reid. c1524 *R. CROKE* in *Ellis Orig. Lett.* Ser. III. I. 336 Provided that no man may force hym [sc. a pupil] to wryte oonles I be there presente, to dyrecte. . his said hande and stile. 1590 *P. BALES Writing Schoolemaster* (title-p.), The Arte of Brachygraphie: that is, to write as fast as a man speaketh treatably. 1623 *COCKERAM* II. To Write after a strange manner, in so much as no man can read it, *decipher*. 1661 *BOYLE Style of Script.* (1675) 159 We think they write backwards, and they, that we do. 1738 *POPE Epil. Sat.* ii. 186 Chartres scarce could write or read. 1775 *C. JOHNSTON Pilgrim* 73 Any one . . . may write away, without restraint, . . . whether they can even so much as spell. 1828 *SCOTT F.M. Perth* xxx. 'Do thou write.' 'Your Royal Highness forgets,' said Ramorny, pointing to his mutilated arm. 1864 *BURTON Scot Abr.* i. iii. 148 A fat philosopher sitting writing . . . with a goose quill. 1874 *SYMONDS Sk. Italy & Greece* 18 Then would they [i.e. the monks] read or write, what long melodious hours!
transf. 1882 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 54 The crystyn pepulle wolde wryte dayly . . . aboute the placys of her herte wyth her fyngur. 1859 *FITZGERALD Omar* li The Moving Finger writes; and, having writ, Moves on.

b. Said of the writing-pen.

1588 *SHAKS. L.L.L.* i. ii. 191 Deuse Wit, write Pen, for I am for whole volumes in folio. 1733 *POPE Hor. Sat.* II. i. 98 Whether the . . . whiten'd wall provoke the skew'r to write. 1742 *GRAY Lett.* (1900) I. 112 My having at last found a Pen that writes. 1786 *S. TAYLOR Shorthand Writing* 98 A steel or a silver one [sc. pen] that will write fine.

c. To depict on glass, etc.; to paint.

1854 *SUTHERLAND Sign Writer's Assistant* 24 To write, gild and ornament on glass. 1889 — *Sign Writing* viii. 10/1 Writing upon the glass.

d. To print by means of a typewriting machine or the like; to typewrite.

1875 *KNIGHT Dict. Mech.* 2677/1 Johnston's apparatus for the blind is to enable them to write by pressure upon letters in the required order. 1883 *J. G. PETRIE Man. for Type-Writer* 3 The learner must be content to write slowly and deliberately at the commencement.

22. a. To perform the action of composing and putting on paper; to practise literary composition; to engage in authorship or literary work.

In very frequent use from c 1600.
a1122 *O.E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 963, Ic write & feostnige mid Cristes rodetacne. c1205 *LAV.* 41 þa makede a Frenchis clerc Wace wes ihoten, þe wel coupe writen. a1300 *Cursor M.* 17846 Sundri þai þam fra oper saite, And aþer be himseluen wrate. 1387 [see A. 2 bß]. 14. . . *Wheatley MS.* (1921) i. 59 If I write all my lyue I schuld neuer here woo dyscryue. c1445 *PECOCK Donet* 6 It is honest ynouȝ a man to speke and write aftir oon of þo opyniouns. 1526 *Pilgr. Perif.* (W. de W. 1531) 1 b, Therupon I begon after my poore maner to wryte in latyn. 1575 *GAUSCOIGNE Glasse Govt.* III. ii. To conceive that he spake or wrot like olde Duns or Scotus. 1609 *BIBLE* (Douay) *Ecclus.* xxxviii. comm., S. Paul not only preached, but also wrote. 1689 *PRIOR Ep. Fleetw. Shephard* 38 He writes well, who writes with Ease. 1749 *SMOLLETT Regicide* Pref., A gentleman who had wrote for the stage. 1849 *MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 332 Halifax . . . from whom Dryden was not ashamed to own that he had learned to write. 1890 *Science-Gossip* XXVI. 177/1, I am not writing in the dark.

fig. 1649 *LOVELACE Poems* (1904) 62 He fights now with her Penne, And she writes with his Sword.

b. With preps., as *about*, *þbe*, *þo*, *of* (= on), *on*, *upon*, *þymb* (a matter, subject, etc.); or *against*, *þcontrary*, to (a person, etc.).

In very frequent use from c 1390.
c888 *ÆLFRED Boeth.* xviii. §3, Swa some swa þa writeras dydon, & eac þa ðe hi ymb writon. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 161 Se halga godspellere swa be him wrat. a1225 *Ansr. R.* 410 3e habbeð of peos blissen i-written on oðer stude. a1300 *Cursor M.* 21324 Matheu . . . o crist manhedes wratte. 1390 *GOWER Conf.* II. 90 Thilke time at Rome also Was Tullius with Cithero, That writen upon Rethorike. *Ibid.* 91 Among the whiche in Poesie To the lovers Ovide wrot. 1448-9 *METHAM Amoryus & Cl.* 524 Qwere he off constellacionnys doth wryght. 1500-20 *DUNBAR Poems* lxxxiv. 22 Sen thi clarkis hes writin in thair stylis To 3oungar folk. 1565 *COOPER S.v. Rescribo*, To write contrarie or agaynst olde orations. 1644 [see A. 3 aß]. 1698 *FLOYER Asthma* (1717) p. i, All the Moderns that have Writ on that Subject. 1737 *Gentl. Mag.* VII. 499/2 Had they wrote against the Ministry, we could have borne it. 1742 *POPE Dunc.* IV. 252 For thee we . . . explain a thing till all men doubt it, And write about it, Goddess, and about it. 1819 *S. ROGERS Human Life* Poems (1856) 138 Once in thy mirth thou bad'st me write on thee. 1883 *TYLOR in Encycl. Brit.* XV. 199/1 Cicero writes of them as wise men, augurs, and diviners.

c. With various qualifications. Esp. as *to write down*, to adapt one's literary style to the level of readers of supposedly inferior intelligence or taste; freq. const. to. Cf. sense 14 f above.

c1600 *SHAKS. Sonn.* lxxxvi, By spirits taught to write, About a mortal pitch. 1672 *MARVELL Reh. Transp.* I. 114 The fault is most his own who should have writ to the capacity of vulgar Readers. 1692 *DRYDEN St. Euremon's Ess.* Pref. iii, His subjects are often great and noble, and then he never fails to write up to them. 1711 *FELTON Dissert. Classics* (1718) 91 It must be our Care to think and write up to the Dignity . . . of the Things we presume to treat of. 1809 *MALKIN Gil Blas* XI. vii. ¶5, I should be sorry to write down to their comprehension. 1851 *Househ. Words* 11 Jan. 372/2 Mr. Blackbrook and his disciples are hapless materialists,

verse-makers without a sense of the beautiful. They are patronised by those to whom they write down. 1861 *J. PYCROFT Ways & Words* 33 Authors will learn to write down to the lowest standard. 1903 *A. BENNETT Truth about Author* xii. 150, I had entered into a compact with myself that I would never 'write down' to the public in a long fiction. 1921 *Sci. Amer.* Nov. 20/1 The Editor both 'writes down' and 'writes up' . . . He may translate the Einstein theories into the nontechnical phrases of everyday life. 1944 *L. MACNEICE Christopher Columbus* 9 The inference that to hold the attention . . . a writer has got to 'write down'. (By writing down I mean pandering—writing by standards which the writer considers low.) 1960 *Guardian* 25 Feb. 6/4 English writers seem to write down to their readers and American writers write as if addressing their equals.

d. To compose music, a melody, etc.

1672 *M. LOCKE Obs. Ess. Adv. Mus.* 14 Our certain Method of the Scale; which never gives . . . occasion for . . . writing in improper Keys. 1782 *BURNEY Hist. Mus.* II. 556 The custom . . . of writing upon a Plain-Song. 1789 *Ibid.* III. 109 Tallis and Bird had . . . long accustomed themselves to write for voices.

23. a. To compose a letter, note, etc.; to communicate information, etc., send word, by writing; to conduct epistolary correspondence. Also with *for* (a person or thing) or *to* (do something).

1340-70 *Alex. & Dind.* 244 Whan dereworpe dindimus þe enditinge hurde Of alexandre askinge as he write hadde. c1374 *CHAUCER Troylus* v. 1298, I kan not trowen pat she wol write a-yen. a1400-50 *Wars Alexander* 2431, I wrate to 3ow at me to wayue [v.r. wafe] be ten wyse clerkis. ? 1481 [see A. 2 aß]. 1552 in *Feuillerat Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 89 Sir wheras you required me to write, for that [etc.]. 1586 *RALEIGH Let.* 29 May, The sider which I wrate to you for. 1626 *BP. MOUNTAGU in Corr. J. Cosin* (Surtees) i. 104, I haue no[t] much newes, nor occasion to write. 1692 *PRIOEUX Lett.* (Camden) 158, I have expressly wrot to be informed of it. 1719 *DE FOE Crusoe* 1. (Globe) 36 Goods, such as the Captain had writ for. 1751 *JOHNSON Rambler* No. 171 ¶6, I applied to him by letter, but had no answer. I writ in terms more pressing. a1842 in *Bischoff Woollen Manuf.* II. 318 He wrote to request my aid. 1890 *R. C. LEHMANN H. Fludyer* 31 Tell Mary she hasn't written for an age.

b. With preps., as *to* (also *unto*, *till*), or indirect personal object (cf. 7b). Also const. *of*.

In group (a), freq. from c 1560. In group (b), rare until c 1770; freq. from c 1790; often regarded as commercial or colloquial in U.K.; standard in U.S.

(a) c 1000 *Three O.E. Prose Texts* 1 þa gepohte ic for þon to þe to writanne. 1382 *WYCLIF Jude* i. 3 Makinge al bisynesse of writinge to 3ou of 3oure comoun helthe. 1434 *Acts Privy Counc.* IV. 351 The King hath writen to þerle of Northumber[land]. c1470 *HENRY Wallace* XI. 945 Than Eduard wrayt till Menteth prewale. 1534 *CROMWELL in Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 394 Wherefore . . . I am bold to wryght vnto you. 1648 *GAGE West Ind.* 163, I writ unto my friends. 1663 *CHAS. II* in *Cartwright Madame* (1894) 136, I writ to you yesterday. 1751 *ELIZA HEYWOOD Betsy Thoughtless* IV. 191 The abbess was wrote to concerning me. 1814 *WELLINGTON in Gurw. Desp.* (1838) XII. 7 Write to me to General Colville's quarters. 1888 *J. S. WINTER Bootle's Childr.* viii, Ferrers wrote to a friend of his at Chertsey.

(b) c1374 *CHAUCER Troylus* v. 1303 Thow hast not wreten here syn þat she wente . . . Now write here þanne [MS. Gg. to hire]. 1611 *USSHER Lett.* (1686) 15 Together with . . . Mr. Cook's Books you wrote me of. 1672 in *Camden Soc. Misc.* (1881) 13 Being in hast, have not tyme to wright any body else. 1763 *ELIZ. CARTER in Mem.* (1808) I. 356, I writ you from Amsterdam. 1795 *NELSON in Nicolas Disp.* (1845) II. 32 As I write you, . . . I shall not write Mrs. Nelson this day. a1800 *PEGGE Anecd.* (1814) 246 Wrote me, and write you, (merchant's language). 1854 *THACKERAY Newcomes* xxxi, Clive . . . wrote me about the transmigration of our school-fellow. 1864 *NEWMAN Apologia* vi. 346 When friends wrote me on the subject, I either did not deny or I confessed it. 1891 *Harper's Mag.* Nov. 840/1 Mr. Adams was another character of whom my host had written me. 1892 *G. & W. GROSSMITH Diary of Nobody* iii. 41, I wrote Merton to that effect. 1900 [see PHONE sb.² and v.]. 1905 *HAVELOCK ELLIS Stud. Psychol.* Sex IV. 239 She wrote me saying that she could not see me any more. 1922 *C. MACKENZIE Altar Steps* xxiii. 263, I will write you again when I have seen Father Burrowes. 1924 — *Old Men of Sea* xi. 175, I shall write Mr. Hibben about that little joke. 1928 *D. L. SAYERS Ld. Peter views Body* iv. 74 He wrote me yesterday and said he'd accidentally left a bag in the cloakroom. 1953 *WOODHOUSE Performing Flea* 69 She is going to find out about quarantine and then write me. 1955 *J. P. DONLEAVY Ginger Man* xi. 104, I haven't. You can't blame me. I'm sorry I wrote your father. I'm sorry for it. 1968 *Globe & Mail* (Toronto) 17 Feb. B3 (Advt.), For free literature describing the . . . accommodation . . . write [address given]. 1973 *Black Panther* 17 Nov 10/2 It is circulating an impeachment petition nation-wide while encouraging all citizens to write their congressmen. 1974 *I. MURDOCH Sacred & Profane Love Machine* 35, I wrote you all about California—quite long letters—about the animals and so on. 1977 *I. SHAW Beggarman, Thief* i. 1. 2 He lives in Chicago now and writes me often.

c. With advs., as *off*, *over*. Also, *to write in*: (a) *Theatr.*, to send in notice in writing; (b) in gen. use, to send a written comment, request, etc., to an organization. Cf. sense 15 b above.

1577 *HARRISON England* III. i. (1878) II. 10 He wrote ouer for more of the same fish. 1849 *Theatrical Programme & Entr' Act* 23 July 59/2 The time that elapsed between his last application to Drury-lane and his appearance was many months, for he 'wrote in', as it is termed from Exeter about the early part of the summer of 1813, acted first in London, January 26th 1814. 1855 *KINGSLEY Westw. Hol* xv, He wrote off to Frank at Whitehall. 1866 *LEVER Sir B. Fossbrooke* II. 283, I . . . have written off to Tom Lendrick to come over here with his sister. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 22 Nov. 9/2 The plaintiffs did not 'write in' or give notice that they were coming. 1931 *Publishers' Weekly* 5 Dec. 2471/2 The 'Brooklyn Eagle', however, complains bitterly about

distribution: 'About seven hundred readers have written in—ever since that squib of ours appeared . . . asking where they can put their hands on one.' 1949 *N. MARSH Swing, Brother, Swing* ix. 209 It's a mystery, that paper . . . The types that write in are amazing. 1957 *M. MCCARTHY in New Yorker* 23 Mar. 76/2, I wrote in for a Vogue pattern to make a tennis dress. 1972 *Listener* 28 Dec. 904/3 If anyone else doesn't know . . . write in and I'll explain. 1977 *Broadcast* 13 June 10/1 The chap who writes in about a programme.

d. *to write home about*: see HOME adv. 7 d.

24. In clauses introduced by *as*, or with advs., as *so*, *thus*.

11. . . in *Eng. Misc.* to *Furnivall* (1901) 91 Swa swa Lycas wrat on his godspelle. a1300 *Cursor M.* 11467 For þe prophet had writen swa, And said [etc.]. 1375 *BARBOUR Bruce* 1. 525 Then slayn was mone thowghts . . . As Dares in his buk he wrate. c1380 *WYCLIF Sel. Wks.* II. 356 þis Poul . . . when he wroot þus in prison to folk to turne hem to Crist. c1450 *CAPGRAVE St. Augustine* 60 Rith þus he wrot in Latin. 1483 *CAXTON G. de la Tour* G iv, It was done as the kynge had wreton. 1538 *STARKEY England* i. iii. 83 Thys hath destroyd more then any pestylens, as Lyuius wrytyth. 1594 *H. WILLOBIE Avisa* 57 b, He wrate agayne so as followeth. 1605 *CAMDEN Rem.* (Epigr.) 11 To one . . . he wrighteth thus: Discendi [etc.]. 1696 *Seafield's Corr.* (1912) 176 For newes, as Sr. James wrights to your Lo[rds]hip, ther is non. 1730 *A. GORDON Maffei's Amphith.* 95 Thus has one of those foul-mouth'd Poets wrote. 1770 [DALRYMPLE] *Anc. Sc. Poems* 310 The Cardinal . . . writes thus to Cardinal Borromeo, 24th November 1561. 1874 *SYMONDS Sk. Italy & Greece* 121 While I am writing thus about the production . . . of these love-songs.

25. To follow or practise writing as a profession or occupation; to work as a clerk, amanuensis, or journalist; †*Sc.* to act as a 'writer'.

c1380 *Antecrist* in *Todd Three Treat. Wyclif* (1851) 138 To write to þe kynges seel and hold seculer courtes to byze & to selle. 1650 *J. NICOLL Diary* (Bann. Cl.) 2 Thomas Hunter, wryter, . . . wes fund giltye of perjurie; and thairfor wes declaired incapable of wryting or agienting any bussines. 1853 *DICKENS Bleak Ho.* xx, You might live through it on much worse terms than by writing for Snagsby. 1895 *ESCOTT Platform, Press*, etc. 281 The *Daily News*, on which Pigott once wrote.

26. To spell words in writing; to represent words, etc., orthographically.

c1620 *A. HUME Brit. Tongue* (1865) 7 To wryte orthographically ther are to be considered the symbol, the thing symbolized, and their congruence. *Ibid.* 21, I wald understand quhy they wryte not as they speak. 1704 *J. PITTS Acc. Moham.* A 4 b, I . . . writ as near, as I could, to their way of speaking it.

IV. *intr.* for *passive*.

27. a. To be described in writing. *rare*—1.

1827 *LAOY MORGAN Mem.* (1862) II. 247 The comfortless, unaccommodating reality of those times which paint and write so well.

b. To be penned or written. *rare*—1.

1862 *O. COCKAYNE St. Marher.* (1866) p. v, The manuscripts . . . write straight away from end to end of the ruled lines.

V. 28. *Computers*. The infin. used *attrib.* and in *Comb.* with the sense 'writing': *write-permit ring* ('p3:mit), a ring which has to be inserted in the hub of a tape reel before the tape can be written to or erased; *write-protect v. trans.*, to protect (a disc) from accidental writing or erasure, as by removing the cover from a notch in its envelope; also as *sb. attrib.*, designating such a notch, etc.

1951 *Proc. Inst. Electr. Engineers* XCVIII. II. 15/2 A number can be . . . written in via the 'write' terminal. 1958 *Communications Assoc. Computing Machinery* Feb. 30 In each track, and separated by '005' from the associated read head, is the 'write head'. 1961 *L. W. HEIN Electronic Data Processing for Business* v. 77 The reflective spot activates the switch only if the tape unit is in write status, that is, information is being written on the tape. 1964 *F. L. WESTWATER Electronic Computers* iv. 78 In the early applications valves were used to supply the relatively large read and write currents. 1965, etc. [see REAO v. 22]. 1970 *A. CHANOR Dict. Computers* 402 Write permit ring. 1980 *C. S. FRENCH Computer Sci.* xii. 62 Each record is written onto tape in response to a 'write instruction'. 1980 *S. HOCKEY Guide Computer Applications in Humanities* ii. 27 One way of ensuring that this does not happen is to use . . . a write permit ring, a plastic ring which can be inserted in the back of a tape reel. 1981 *Your Computer* May-June 100/3 *Write protect*, to remove the cover from the notch in a floppy disk so that it cannot be written on. 1983 *Austral. Personal Computer* Aug. 104/2 The only other hole in the disk envelope of importance to the user is the write protect notch . . . This notch must be covered up by an opaque material to write protect the disk.

writeable, var. **WRITABLE** a.

'**write-back**. [f. the vbl. phr. *to write back*.] The process of restoring to profit a provision for bad or doubtful debts previously made against profits and no longer required.

1979 *Financial Times* 24 Jan. 21/5 In future the clearers . . . will only make provision for the taxes actually expected to become payable in the foreseeable future. This will result in the write-back into shareholders' funds of substantial amounts. 1980 *Times* 5 Aug. 17/7 Only then will it emerge whether there are any writebacks to profits arising from the results of the first six months of this year. 1983 *Times* 14 Mar. 14/6 Large write-backs of provisions made in earlier years and no longer needed kept the total [of provisions for bad and doubtful debts] to only £42m in 1981.

'write-down. [f. the vbl. phr. *to write down*: see WRITE *v.* 14e.] A reduction in the estimated or book value of assets.

1932 *Daily Express* 28 Jan. 10/7 This has involved a write-down of securities. **1955** *Times* 10 May 19/2 Consequent write-downs which, with the higher prices now ruling for footwear, are necessarily more severe than in the past. **1972** *Accountant* 23 Mar. 383/2 A large part of AEI's profit shortfall was attributable to stock and work-in-progress write-downs. **1978** S. BRILL *Teamsters* vi. 253 Executive Director Shannon, while only conceding 'possible write-downs', said it would take \$10,000,000 just to appraise all the properties involved in the loans. **1979** *N.Y. Times* 13 Sept. D12 The Polaroid Corporation... would take a \$68 million write-down in the third quarter.

writee (rai'ti:). *rare*. [f. WRITE *v.* + -EE.] One to or for whom something is written; a reader.

c1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* xiv. Comm., Where a man is understood, there is euer a proportion betwixt the writers wit and the writees. **1885** *Punch* May 243 The 'Writer' and the 'Writee', the 'Joker' and the 'Jokee'.

'write-in. [f. the vbl. phr. *to write in*: see WRITE *v.* 15c, 23c. For sense 2 (first part of def.), cf. also -IN³.]

1. The name of an unlisted candidate inserted by a voter on a ballot-paper, etc., as the candidate of his choice; a vote cast for such a candidate, or the act of voting in this way. *Freq. attrib. orig. and chiefly U.S.*

1932 *Sun* (Baltimore) 23 Aug. 2/2 (*heading*) Smith's office denies all knowledge of write-in cards being circulated. **1933** *Ibid.* 4 May 2/2 In that election McKee, although not even a candidate, received a 'write-in' vote of nearly a quarter of a million. **1937** *Ibid.* 18 Sept. 10/3 The really significant item in the returns from New York... is the extraordinary number of 'write-ins' for Mayor La Guardia on Democratic ballots. **1950** *Chicago Tribune* 2 Apr. 40/1 Such an attempted write-in for any candidate might result in many spoiled ballots. **1959** *Listener* 10 Dec. 1022/1 Stevenson got a tremendous write-in vote in one famous primary. **1964** MRS. L. B. JOHNSON *White House Diary* 10 Mar. (1970) 84 There was a creditable number of write-in votes for Attorney General Kennedy for Vice President. **1971** *Daily Colonist* (Victoria, B.C.) 2 Nov. 1/8 Another man who was out of town when filing closed says he'll gladly be a write-in candidate for councilman. **1982** *Daily Tel.* 13 Aug. 2/1 Three other spaces will be left for 'write-ins'.

2. A protest in the form of mass letters of complaint; also, an invitation from a radio broadcast to its listeners to write in and express their views. Cf. PHONE-IN.

1972 *Listener* 15 June 780/3 I'm proposing a mass write-in to request reassessment of most of the rates. **1981** MARSH & CHAMBERS *Abortion Politics* i. 27 Both organizations lobbied in Parliament and both organized meetings and write-in campaigns in the constituencies. **1981** *Church Times* 7 Aug. 16/5 In 1978, when the BBC's *Sunday* programme ran a write-in on the subject of a Graham mission, 15,000 listeners replied. **1984** *Times* 10 Nov. 1/4 There has been a 'strong response' to a direct-mail campaign asking pitmen to complete a write-in slip.

† **'writeling**, *vbl. sb. Obs. rare*. [Cf. OE. *writian*, to chirp, chatter, etc., and -LE 3.] Trilling or warbling (of the nightingale).

a1250 *Owl & Night*. 48 West þu þat ich ne cunne singe, þe3 ich ne cunne of writeling? *Ibid.* 914 Wi nultu þare preoste singe, An teche of thire writeling?

'write-off. [f. the vbl. phr. *to write off*: see WRITE *v.* 16.]

† 1. A printed form with blanks for filling in with writing. *Obs.*

1752 BEAWES *Lex Merc. Rediv.* 363 No Money will be paid... without such a Draught, or what is called, a Write off. **1826** in P. AUBER *Analysis, Suppl.* (1828) 56 For every sum drawn out of the Bank of England, a write-off, or draft, shall be signed.

2. The cancellation from an account of a bad debt, worthless asset, etc.; an asset so treated; an amount cancelled or lost.

1905 *Daily Chron.* 22 July 2/6 The write-off in respect of the short weight was inevitable. **1957** *Times Lit. Suppl.* 20 Dec. 766/5 It is the point made earlier about the need for resources wherewith to make and replace the automation machines, the need for more rapid write-offs of those machines once installed, and the parallel need to 'pay' the machines more than normal machines have hitherto been 'paid'. **1970** K. PLATT *Pushbutton Butterfly* vii. 72, I understand you are behind a movement called World Peace... A foundation... Good tax write-off. **1971** *Daily Tel.* 26 Apr. 15/4 Above all, can share-holders... be given an analysis of write-offs and a pre-tax comparison for the two halves? **1978** S. SHELTON *Bloodline* xxi. 243 The write-offs in our experimental laboratory. **1982** S. BELLOW *Dean's* December iv. 96 'Have you ever gotten a penny out of it?' 'I got tax write-offs.' **1984** *Times* 23 May 20/8 In competitor countries the comparison varies between one sort of asset and another but, in general, our write-off periods will be comparable with those overseas.

3. A. An aeroplane, motor vehicle, etc., so badly damaged as to be not worth repair; a wreck; an act of irreparably damaging. *orig. Air Force.*

1918 J. M. GRIDER *War Birds* (1927) 89 He wasn't hurt but the Spad [sc. an aeroplane] was a write-off. **1927** E. W. SPRINGS *Nocturne Militaire* 250 Both machines were complete write-offs and the only things they salvaged were the magnetos. **1944** [see OVERSHOOT sb.]. **1953** J. TRENCH *Docken Dead* xiii. 199 'What have you done to my car?' 'I'm afraid it's rather a write-off, sir, as far as immediate use goes, anyway.' **1963** N. MARSH *Dead Water* (1964) ix. 249 The hotel launch was still jammed... A complete write-off, it

was thought. **1971** *E. Afr. Standard* (Nairobi) 10 Apr. 8/3 The car I tried was well run in and had in fact been rebuilt from a write-off condition. **1977** *Offshore Engineer* June 13/1 The Ekofisk incident has served to sharpen the risk potential of something more serious—like a major explosion, causing a platform write-off, and pollution seepage.

b. Something or someone dismissed as worthless or ineffectual; a failure.

1960 *Guardian* 26 Sept. 7/5 On English television this [film] would have been a write-off. **1966** *Listener* 17 Feb. 257/3, I find the new record of Rossini's *Stabat Mater*... an almost complete write-off, because this New York performance... is... vulgarly and insensitively sung. **1974** J. COOPER *Women & Super Women* 20 In fact she's [sc. the pregnant woman's] a write-off from the sex appeal point of view after the fourth month. **1982** M. RUSSELL *All Part of Service* ii. 15 If it involves such an effort, I think it might well prove to be a write-off from the start. **1984** A. BROOKNER *Hotel du Lac* v. 65 The day would be a write-off.

writer ('raitə(r)). *Forms: 1-5 writere, 3- writer, 6-7 wrighter, Sc. writer (6 writare, -air, 6-7 writtar, -are); 4-7 wryter, 5-ere, -are, 5, Sc. 6-ar, Sc. 6 wrytear, wryter, wryttar; Sc. 6 wreter, -ar, wrettar. [OE. writere, f. writan WRITE *v.* + -ER¹. Cf. ON. ritari writer, Sw. ritare, OHG. rizari, etc., painter (G. reisser tracer).]*

I. 1. a. A person who can write; one who practises or performs writing; occas., one who writes in a specified manner; = PENMAN 2. Also with advs., as *down*, *out*, *up*.

c897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past.* c. liv. 423 Swa se writere, gif he ne dilegað ðæt he ær wrat [etc.]. **c1000** ÆLFRED *Hom.* i. 186 Oft gehwa gesihð fægre stafas awritene, þonne herað he ðone writere. **a1250** *Ancre R.* in *Mod. Lang. Rev.* (1914) 331 I þençh o þi writere i pine beoden sumcheare. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 24075 Es na... writere [mail] write wit pens ord, Hu þat vr stur was strang. **c1450** *Mirk's Festial* i. 301 þys monke was þe feyrest wryter þat was known in all þe world. **c1450** *Lay Folks Mass Bk.* (F.) 354 Whoso wol vse this deuocion, I pray him... Sey a pater-noster for the writere. **1529** MORE *Dyalogue* xl. Bj, Some fawte eyther in the translatur, or in the wryter, or nowe a dayes in the prynter. **1585** HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 501 *Eclogarius*,... a gatherer or writer down of such things in a summarie. **1639** S. DU VERGER tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* 145 This disease, much resembling that of writers, to wit, the itch of the fingers ends. **1727** BAILEY (vol. II), *Transcriber*,... a Writer out, or Copier. **1850** GROTE *Greece* ii. lxvi. (1862) VI. 15 His duty of Anagrapheus or 'Writer-up' of all the old laws of Athens. **1888** F. HUME *Mme. Midas* i. ii, Wishing his long fingers were round the writer's throat.

b. One who paints words, etc.; a sign-writer.

1837 WHITTOCK *Bk. Trades* (1842) 360 The Sign Painter, however, or writer, is a journeyman or master solus. **1861** *Internat. Exhib., Lists Trades U.K.* 80 Writers and Gilders on Glass. **1871** CALLINGHAM *Sign Writing* 98 In order to imitate raised letters... the young writer should have some idea of... the elements of linear perspective.

c. **writer's cramp** (*palsy, paralysis*), a form of cramp or spasm affecting certain muscles of the hand and fingers essential to writing, and resulting from excessive use of these.

1853 SIEVEKING tr. *Romberg's Nerv. Diseases* i. 320 A peculiar form of local spasm in these parts has... recently been made known under the name of the Writer's Cramp. **1885** H. A. REEVES *Bodily Deformities* 351 Writer's or Scrivener's Palsy. **1888** Cassell's *Encycl. Dict.*, *Scrivener's palsy*,... a spasm or cramp... called also Writer's Paralysis.

2. a. One whose business or occupation consists in writing; a functionary, officer, etc., who performs clerical or secretarial duties; a scribe, clerk, or law-writer.

ship's writer: see SHIP sb.¹ 9c.

c890 WÆFERTH tr. *Gregory's Dial.* 52 [He] was writere [L. *notarius*] in pissere halgan Romane cyrican. **c897** ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past.* c. Pref., Siððan min on Englice Ælfred kyning awende worda gehwelc, & me his writenum sende suð & norð. **1382** WYCLIF *Ezek.* ix. 2 O man... with... an ynkhn of a wryter [L. *scriptor*] in his reynes. **c1450** *Godstow Register* 141 Walter scriptor owerwise writere of þe abbei of Gloucetur. *Ibid.*, Scriptor or wryter. **1463** *Bury Wills* (Camden) 42, I beqwethe to... John Elys, wrytere... a gowne of blak. **1526** *Reg. Privy Seal Scotl.* i. 512 Mak-and him directour of the chancellary... with power... to make deputis, clerks, wrytaris. **1607** COWELL s.v., Writer of the talies... is an officer in the Exchequer. **1660** BOYLE *New Exp. Phys. Mech.* p. vii, A very unskillful Writer (whom I was often times by haste reduc'd... to employ). **1708** J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* 586 Writer and Embellisher of the Queen's Letters to the Eastern Princes. *Ibid.* 734 William Douglass... Writer to the Privy Seal. **1755** MAGENS *Insurances* ii. 239 The Writer, or the Person who officiates in his Place, is carefully to note the Circumstances of the Danger. **1853** DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* x, This [affidavit] was given out, sir, to a Writer. **1873** W. STOKES *Rapid Writing* 104 Ready Writers, or persons prepared to write at a moment's notice.

† b. *Jewish Hist.* = SCRIBE sb.¹ 1. *Obs.*

c1000 ÆLFRED *Hept.* (1922) 46/1 Esdras se writere awrat ane boc. **c1000** *Agos. Gosp.* Matt. ii. 4 þa gegaderode herodes ealle... folces writeras. **1387** TREvisa *Higden* iii. 247 Esdras, the writere, come down wiþ þe kynges lettres. **1388** WYCLIF *Jer.* xxxvi. 32 Jeremie... 3af it to Baruc, the writer.

c. **Sc. Writer** to (þof) *the Signet* (abbrev. *W.S.*), originally, a clerk in the Secretary of State's office, who prepared writs to pass the royal signet; in later use, one of an ancient society of law-agents who conduct cases before the Court of Session, and have the exclusive privilege of preparing crown writs, charters, precepts, etc.

1488 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scotl.* i. 89 Item, to the writaris of the singnet, at the Kingis commande, ij vnicornis, xxxvj s.

1585 *Sc. Acts* (1814) III. 377 That the secretair admonishe all his deputis and writtaris to the signet That [etc.]. **1672** [see WRIT sb. 3]. **1708** J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* 501 There is at present about One hundred ordinary Writers to the Signet. *Ibid.* 734 Writers to the Queen's Signet. **1789** BURNS *Let. to Ainslie* 6 Jan., I do not know if passing a 'writer to the signet' be a trial of scientific merit. **1855** MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xiii. III. 252 The College of Justice, a... society composed of judges, advocates, writers to the signet, and solicitors. **1881** *Daily News* 29 Dec. 2/1 A writer to the signet... is the highest grade and finest flower of the profession of solicitor, as practised in Scotland.

ellipt. **1594** in *Hist. Writers to Signet* (1890) 230 Quhatsumevir writtare obeyis nocht his lordschipis depute keipare of the signet. **1695** *Ibid.* p. xlv, Ane convenient house, where... the wryters may meet upon all occasions. **1837** LOCKHART *Scott v.* (1845) 36/2 In the discharge of his functions as a Writer's Apprentice.

d. **Sc.** An attorney or law-agent; an ordinary legal practitioner in country towns; a law-clerk.

1540 *Sc. Acts* (1814) II. 359 Except pame þat ar writtaris notaris and scribes in our souerane lordis courtis of Justice. **1565-6** *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* i. 417 We haif subscrivit thir presentis... befor thir witnessis, Alexander Hay, writtar, [and] Williame Dowglas. **c1610** SIR J. MELVIL *Mem.* (Bann. Cl.) 324 He maid the haill subiectis to trimble vnder him... vexing the haill wryters and lawers to mak sur his gifteis and konkissis. **1658** J. NICOLL *Diary* (Bann. Cl.) 210 A long call... maid be the Judges of the Court of Session, and of the laweiris, clerks, and wryters. **1773** R. FERGUSSON *Rising of the Session* i, Tir'd o' the law... The wylie wryters... Hurl frae the town in hackney chaises. **1826** GALT *Last of Lairds* xxv. 216 The fees both of advocate and writer. **1888** D. GRANT *Sc. Stories* 153 He had put him into the office of a 'writer' in the county town.

e. A clerk in the service of the former East India Company. *Now Hist.*

1676 in *Wheeler Madras* (1861) 64 Some of the Writers... by their lives are not a little scandalous. **1747** in Yule & Burnell *Anglo-Ind. Gloss.* (1886) 742/2 Mr. Robert Clive, Writer in the Service, being of a Martial Disposition. **1775** CARACCIOLI *Life Clive* i. 14 Mr. Clive... had served the East India company seven years, as a writer. **1809** COBBETT's *Pol. Reg.* 22 Apr. 578 These Writers are clerks, sent out to India, where they collect taxes from the people. **1891** KIPLING *Life's Handicap* 345 Writer to the Most Honourable the East India Company.

3. a. One who writes, compiles, or produces a literary composition; the composer of a book or treatise; a literary man or author; = PENMAN 3, 3 b. Also with *on* (þof) or *upon* (a subject).

In very frequent use from c1560. Also *book*, *comedy*, *essay*, *history*, *letter*, *news*, *pamphlet*, *play*, *prose*, *story*, *tragedy-writer*, etc.: see these words.

c888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xviii. §3 Hu ne forealdodon þa gewritu peah & losodon þonecan þe hit wære, swa some swa þa writaras dydon. **c1055** *Byrhtferth's Handboc in Anglia* VIII. 327 Nu togeare þa Brihtferð writere þis awrat synd feowertyne epactas. **a1200** *St. Marher.* 2 Ant ich biȝet hit iwrten of þe writere þa, al hire passiu. **c1225** *Leg. Kath.* 856 Philistiones flites, & Platonis bokes; & alle þeos writeres writes þet 3e wreoðeð ow on. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 21196 Lucas was... O þe apostols dedis writere. **1390** GOWER *Conf.* II. 90 Many an other writere... the bokes wise Translateden. **c1410** LOVE *Bonavent. Mirr.* (1908) 8 As it semeth to the writere here of most spedeful and edifieng to hem. **1538** STARKEY *England* 137 Prouysyon to stoppe folyshc wrytaris and lyght bokys of the gospel. **a1586** SIDNEY *Apol. Poetry* (Arb.) 27 Such were... Moses and Debora in theyr Hymnes, and the writer of *Iob*. **c1611** [see WRITEE]. **1660** STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* XIII. (1687) 841/2 A great Writer... and exceeding for multitude of Books. **1728** CHAMBERS *Cycl.* (1738) s.v. *Music*, The most ancient writer of [= on] musick... was Lasus Hermionensis. **1752** A. MURPHY *Gray's Inn Jnl.* No. 5, A cold, trifling, frothy Writer. **1834** DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Hor. Sparkins*, A writer of fashionable novels. **1861** LD. BROUGHAM *Brit. Const.* xv. 219 It has been remarked by writers on our Constitutional History. **1886** C. E. PASCOE *Lond. of To-day* xl. (ed. 3) 334 Women dress for each other, says one writer.

b. One who is writing. *the (present) writer*, the writer hereof.

a1578 LINDESAY (Pittscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) i. 4, I the wrettar that dois considde weill The sindrie myndis of men. **1623** JOHNSON *Golden Trade* 8 It pleased them to employ mee the present wrighter. **1784** COWPER *Table-t.* iv. 18 Tears... trickled down the writer's cheeks Fast as the periods from his fluent quill. **1857** W. C. STEWART *Pract. Angler* vii. (ed. 3) 139 A brother of the writer made the same trial with the same result. **1895** ARBER *Sk. Marprel. Controv.* 193 The present Writer's belief on this subject.

c. A composer of music.

1688 T. SALMON *Prop. Perform Music* 19 That the Writers of Musick may more certainly know where to fix their Flats and Sharps. **1782** BURNEY *Hist. Mus.* II. 567 Written Discant, which is... practised in Italy, by all writers for the Church. **1889** RUSKIN *Præterita* III. iv. 161 [Corelli] the simplest and purest writer of Italian melody.

d. **writer-up**: see WRITE *v.* 19.

1841 *Tail's Mag.* VIII. 80, I had been misled by those writers-up of this country. **1904** *Times* 1 June 14 He carried on business as a writer-up of advertisements.

e. **writer's block** [BLOCK sb. 19e], a periodic lack of inspiration afflicting creative writers; **writer's writer**: a writer whose appeal is primarily to his fellow writers (cf. *poet's poet* s.v. POET 1c).

1950 E. BERGLER *Writer & Psychoanal.* vi. 113 Writer's block sets in the moment the inner conscience rejects the alibi and substitute alibi. **1966** G. BAXT *Queer Kind of Death* xi. 150 Seth has had a serious writer's block for almost two years now. **1975** M. BRADBURY *History Man* x. 169 This book... has decidedly not gone well. I've had what they call writer's block. The words won't come. **1983** *Listener* 13 Jan. 12/3 Graham Greene relies heavily on the unconscious to get round 'writer's block' as he revealed in an interview with Nigel Lewis.

1941 'G. ORWELL' in *Listener* 12 June 841/1 Hopkins is what people call a writer's writer. He...appeals to people who are professionally interested in points of technique. 1951 *Sunday Times* 15 Apr. 3/2 She [sc. Ivy Compton-Burnett] is in the first place 'a writers' writer', because she is fascinated by words and phrases as such. 1980 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 12 Sept. 992/1 Nigel Williams is a writer's writer.

f. **writer-in-residence**: a writer given a residential post in a university, etc., in order to share his professional insights. Cf. **poet-in-residence** s.v. POET 1 c; RESIDENCE sb.¹ 2 b.

1957 J. D. SALINGER *Zooey* in *New Yorker* 4 May 33/3 The second-eldest child, Buddy, was what is known in campus-catalog parlance as 'writer-in-residence' at a girls' junior college in upper New York State. 1972 [see RESIDENCE 2 b]. 1980 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 2 May 496/3 The initiative to hold a poetry festival to celebrate...his [sc. Basil Bunting's] birthday came from Tom Pickard, writer-in-residence for this year at the University of Warwick.

4. **ellipt.** The writings of an author.

1605 CAMDEN *Rem.* 2 Let therefore these few lines... suffice, out of an ancient writer. 1676 RAY *Corr.* (1848) 122 [This] history makes me suspect he transcribed what he bath out of some writer. 1768-74 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 465 In some of the classic writers it is said [etc.]. 1820 HAZLITT *Lect. Dram. Lit.* 11 A whole host of able writers... are suffered to moulder in obscurity on the shelves of our libraries. 1859 HELPS *Friends in C.* Ser. II. II. 96, I saw the other day in an American writer a humorous account.

5. **writer's sand** (see quot. and SAND sb.² 8).

1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 479 Such granulations vary in size from the finest 'writer's sand' ('tuberculous dust') to [etc.].

6. One who typewrites; a typist.

1883 J. G. PETRIE *Man. for Type-Writer* 15 Unless the printers are accustomed to the writer's style of shortening words.

II. 7. A make of paint-brush.

1884 R. LESLIE in Ruskin *Dilecta* (1900) 6 Turner... used short brushes, some of them like the writers used by house decorators. 1889 SUTHERLAND *Sign Writing* iv. 4/4 A few sable and camels-hair pencils... There are what are called 'writers'.

8. A pen, etc., that writes in a specified manner.

1907 *Westm. Gaz.* 10 Dec. 12/2 These pens... are certainly excellent writers.

III. 9. **attrib.** (chiefly appositive), as **writer body**, **chiel**, **-lad**; **writer-type**, **word**.

1686 SIR J. LAUDER *Decis.* (1759) I. 401 Some Writer lads were also accessory. 1717 RAMSAY *Elegy on Lucky Wood* ix. The writer lads fu' well may mind her. 1785 BURNS *To W. Simpson* iii, Ferguson, the writer-chiel. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xviii, I have just arrested her *jurisdicciones fandandy causey*. Thae are bonny writer words. 1869 A. MACDONALD *Clerical Intrigue* 108 A miserable writer body frae Glasgow. 1891 KIPLING *Light that Failed* (1900) 169 That's the writer-type. He has the same modelling of the forehead as Torp.

Hence 'writeress, a female writer or author; an authoress; 'writerling, a petty writer; a sorry or indifferent author.

1822 *Blackw. Mag.* XII. 656 Our rhyming *writeresses are frequently single gentewomen. 1855 THACKERAY *Char. Sk. Wks.* 1898 III. 517 Remember it henceforth, ye writeresses—there is no such word as authoress. 1802 W. TAYLOR in Robberds *Mem.* (1843) I. 420 Every writer and *writerling of name has a salary from the government.

writerly ('raɪtəli), *a.* [f. WRITER + -LY¹, after *painterly*.] Appropriate to, characteristic or worthy of a professional writer or literary man; consciously literary.

1957 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 16 Aug. p. xxxvii/2 Serious Canadian writers at present are firmly resolved to concentrate upon the writerly virtues. 1958 *Spectator* 24 Jan. 114/1 A clever and writerly book. 1977 M. COHEN *Sensible Words* i. 25 Dryden... sees his writerly obligations in new terms. 1982 *Listener* 23/30 Dec. 56/3 James Saunders dissecting writerly old age and the onset of what appears to be terminal cynicism.

writership ('raɪtəʃɪp). [f. WRITER + -SHIP 3.]

1. The office or position of a writer in the service of the former East India Company. Now *Hist.*

1763 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 358 The surprising applications made by the top families for writerships... confounded him. 1800 *Asiat. Ann. Reg., Proc.* 98 The motives that influenced... their nominations to writerships. 1854 THACKERAY *Newcomes* I. 21 Being offered a writership, he scouted the idea of a civil appointment.

2. The office or employment of a clerk; a clerkship.

1884 *Public Opinion* 5 Sept. 304 Officers... who are thoroughly competent for writerships in dockyard[s] and victualling yards at home.

'**write-up**. [f. the vbl. phr. *to write up*; see WRITE v. 19.]

A written account or description commending or praising a person or thing. Now often more loosely, any journalistic account or review, whether favourable or not. *Orig. U.S.*

1885 *Weekly New Mexican Rev.* 19 Feb. 4/1, I have prepared quite an extensive 'write-up' of the resources of this country. 1887 *Aberdeen (Dakota) Republican* 31 Dec. 2/2 The LaMoure Progress... has an elaborate write-up of its city and county. 1902 ELIZ. BANKS *Newspaper Girl* 22 What 'write-ups' they gave me, to be sure! 1910 *Chambers's Jnl.* July 431/1 The 'write-up' and the interviews are prominent features. 1919 WODEHOUSE *Damsel in Distress* ii. 28 My missus says she ain't seen a livelier show for a long time... The *Morning Leader* gave it a fine write-up. 1933 P. GODFREY *Back-Stage* viii. 102 In so far as a play is

sensitively conceived... the newspaper write-ups of its story may be... extremely misleading. 1948 *Penguin Music Mag.* Oct. 29 He (or rather she) studies music with an eye sooner or later to engagement, a photograph in the 'press', and a 'write-up', as they call all criticism appearing in print. 1951 *Sport* 30 Mar.-5 Apr. 15/1 The critics... dismissed him in pre-fight write-ups as 'another Phil Scott'. 1965 *New Statesman* 14 May 753/2 The *Stern* reporter... gave [Prince] Philip one of the worst write-ups of his career. 1973 P. EVANS *Bodyguard Man* xviii. 117 He... never gives me a good write-up unless I've played really well. 1985 *Contact* (Pre-School Playgroups Assoc.) Feb. 14/2 They prepared a paper summarising their findings... This was circulated to the press, who gave a good write-up.

writh (rɪθ). Now *dial.* [Cf. Da. *wrid*, Norw. (*v*)*rid*, turning, evasion, etc.; ON. *rið* winding staircase.] = WRITHE sb. 1, 1 b.

14... *Latin-Eng. Voc.* (MS. Harl. 2257), *Grani*, a writh. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 150 A Writh, *cesticillus*. 1844 W. BARNES *Dorset Gloss.* 370 *Writh*, the bond of a faggot.

writh, southern dial. var. FRITH sb.² 3.

writhable ('raɪðəb(ə)l), *a. rare*—1. [f. WRITHE *v.* + -ABLE.] Capable of being writhed.

c 1425 *St. Christina in Anglia* VIII. 126 She... crooked her armes & fyngers as if þey were wrypabil for softnesse.

writhe (raɪð), *sb.* Also 6-7 **wrythe**. [f. next. Cf. WREATH sb., and OHG. *rida* 'tensio'.]

†1. Something twisted, wreathed, or formed into a circular shape; a twisted band; a wreath. *Obs.*

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* v. x. 25 The writhe of gold, or chane lowpit in ringis. 1548 UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Luke* vii. 74 To brede [her hair] with wrythes of golde entrelaced among it. 1569 UNDERDOWNE *Heliodorus* ix. 127 [Each] hathe a round Wrythe vpon his head, in which their Arrows are set in order.

†b. (See quot. and cf. WRITHE.) *Obs.*—0

1552 HULOET, Wrythes, or any thing that may be wrythed about like a willow or osier, *utilitia, ium*.

c. A curled or twisted formation; a wreath or twist.

1857 RUSKIN *Arrows of Chace* (1880) I. 219 The castle sate its rock as a strong rider sits his horse,—fitting its limbs to every writhe of the flint beneath it. 1874 R. TYRWHITT *Sketching Club* 164 The writhe in his mustache.

2. An act of writhing; a twisting or writhing movement of the body, countenance, etc.; a contortion.

1611 COTGR., *Torse*,... a wrest, wrinch; wrythe. 1767 S. PATERSON *Another Trav.* I. 185 Men who... could watch the excruciating writhes... of others. 1796 *Instr. & Reg. Cavalry* (1813) 29 The head or leading flank... whose writhes and turnings are followed by every other part of the body [of troops]. 1812 CHALMERS *Biogr. Dict.* V. 312 He... expired... without a writhe in his countenance. 1890 MISS BROUGHTON *Alas!* xvi, The silent writhe with which Jim receives this piece of information.

†b. A twinge of pain, etc. *Obs.*—1

1792 A. YOUNG *Trav. France* 133, I had some writhes of it [sc. rheumatism] before I entered Champagne.

3. Degree of tautness; tension. *rare*—1.

1879 *Groove's Dict. Mus.* I. 135 A body... of parchment, strained upon a hoop to the required writhe or degree of stiffness for resonance.

writhe (raɪð), *v.*¹ Forms: 1 **wriðan**, 3 **wriðen**, 4 **wrypen**, 4-5 **wrythen**, 5 **wrythyn**, **wrythyn**; 4-5 **wripe**, 4- **writhe** (6 **wriethe**), 4-7 **writh** (6 **wrieth**); 4-5 **wrype**, 4-7 **wrythe**, **wryth**. *Pa. t.* 1 **wrap**, 3 **wræð**, 5 **wraythe**, **wrathe**; 3 **wreoð**, 4-5 **wrop**, **wroth**, 5 **wrothe**, **wrooth**. *Pl.* 1 **wripon**, 2 **uurythen**, 3 **wrypen**, 4 **writhen** (7 **writhe**), 5-6 **wrythen** (6 **wrethen**). *Pa. pple.* 1 **gewriðen**, 3 **ywriðen**, 4-5 **iwripen**, **ywrithen**, **ywrype**, **y-**, **iwrith**; 1, 4 **wripen**, 4- **writhen** (4- **un**, 5- **yn**, 6- **in**), 5-7 **wrythen** (5- **yn**); 4 **writhe**, 5 **wrythe**; 4 **wrepen**, 4-6 **wrethen** (5- **yn**), 5 **ywrethe**; 6 **wrothonne**. *Weak pa. t.* and *pa. pple.* 5- **wriethed**, 4-6 **wrythed**. [OE. *wriðan* str. v. (pa. t. *wrāp*, pl. *wriðon*; pa. pple. *gewriðen*), also *gewriðan*, = OFris. **wriða* (Nfris. *wriir*, *wrial*), OHG. *ridan* (in *ga-*, *kiridan*; MHG. *riden*), ON. *riða*, MSw. *vrīpa* (Sw. *vrīda*), MDa. and Da. *wride*, related to *wriða* WREATH. Cf. WREATH *v.*

The northern ME. pa. t. *wraythe* may represent ON. **wreid* pa. t. of **wriða* (later *riða*).]

I. *trans.* 1. To twist or coil (something); to fashion into coils or folds; to dispose or arrange in a coiled or sinuous form; to bend or distort by twisting. Freq. with *about*, *over*, *round* preps., *up* adv. Also *refl.*

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* xxvi. (Z.) 155 *Torqueo*, ic *wriðe*. 1154 O.E. *Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1137, Me dide cnihte stranges abuton here hæued & uurythen to ðæt it gæde to þe hæernes. 1362 LANGLEY *P. Pl.* A. vi. 9 He bar a bordun i-bounde wiþ a broð lyste, In a wepe-bondes wyse i-wripen aboute. c 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 278 A jerde mai growe so greet... þat men shal not wripe it. c 1440 *Pallad.* on *Husb.* III. 118 Writhe not the hed of thy sarment. a 1450 *Knt. de La Tour* (1868) 21 He writhed a littel wipse of strawe. c 1460 [see WRAPPER sb. 1]. a 1500 *Hist. K. Boccus & Sydracke* (? 1510) A ij b, A grene wand... may be wrethen whyle it is grene. 1568 TURNER *Herbal* II. 128 The floures grew very thyck together as they were writhen about the stalcke. 1614 D. DYKE *Myst. Selfe-Deceiuing* (1630) 279 Correcting the crookedness of a twig hee writhes it too much the other way. 1635 J. HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Banish'd Virg.*

149 Never was there... serpent wrythen up so suddenly. 1643 in Sir J. Temple *Irish Rebell.* (1646) 117 They would take and writh wyths about their heads. 1658 tr. *Porta's Nat. Magic* i. viii. 12 The pulse called Lupines, still looks after the Sun, that it may not writh his stalk. 1745 tr. *Columella's Husb.* III. xviii, Twisting and writhing the head of a shoot. ? c 1745 SHENSTONE *Elegies* xx. 39 Here the dry dipsa writhes his sinuous mail. 1827 POLLOCK *Course T.* v. 597 The Worm... writhing its folds In hideous sort. 1832 MOTHERWELL *Poems* 45 This leafless tree, That's writhen o'er the linn. 1866 CHR. ROSSETTI *Prince's Progr.* 6 Who twisted her hair... And writhed it shining in serpent-coils. 1901 WEYMAN *Ct. Hannibal* vi, The tiring-maid... flung herself... at Mademoiselle's knees, ... writhing herself about them.

†b. To force in wreaths. *Obs.*

c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* i. met. iv. 7 (Camb. MS.), Vescuus... writ[h]lith [L. *torquet*] owtthorw his brokene chymynees smokyngye fyres.

c. To change or fashion into (†to) some form, etc., by wreathing or twisting.

1582 MULCASTER *Elementarie* i. (1925) 25 If the pliable mind be vnwiselye writhen to a disfigured shape. 1828 SCOTT *F.M. Perth* xxxiv, Their countenances seemed fiercely writhen into the wildest expression of pride. 1851 RUSKIN *Stones Ven.* I. i. §26 The Arab... points the arch and writhes it into extravagant foliations. 1879 SYMONDS *Sk. Italy & Greece* (ed. 2) 291 Snow lies... writhed into loveliest wreaths.

†2. To unite, combine, or make compact, by twisting, entwining, or interweaving; to join with something, twine together; to intertwine. Freq. with *together*. *Obs.*

c 1205 LAY. 25974 þat weore twælf swine... mid wiðen... y-wriðen al to-gadere. 1388 WYCLIF *Judges* xvi. 9 As if a man brekith a threed of herdis, writhun with spotle. 1398 TREvisa *Barth. De P.R.* xvii. cl. (Bodl. MS.), Al schrubbes and treen wiþ prickes... beþ ywounde and ywrethe togedres, and biclippip... euriche oper. a 1400-50 *Bk. Curtasye* 440 in *Babees Bk.* 313 Litere... Wele watered, i-wrythen, be craft y-trode. *Ibid.* 442 Wyspes... Wele wrethyn and turnyd a-3ayne pat tyde. c 1425 *Seven Sag.* (P.) 1792 The wyf fast hyre keyes wrothe In the end of the borde clothe. a 1500 *Flower & Leaf* viii, The hegge also... With sicamour was set and eglantere, Writhen in-fere so wel. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus*, *Nerui tortiles*,... strings writhed together. 1600 SURFLET *Countrie Farme* i. xiii. 86 Let them rub them... with a wipse of strawe harde writhen together. 1654 WHITELOCKE *Jrnl. Swed. Emb.* (1772) I. 179 Their stirrup [is] a withe writhed together. 1671 J. WEBSTER *Metallogr.* xiii. 209 Thick truncks, which were writhen variously amongst themselves.

†3. To form or fashion (a wreath, etc.) by plaiting, entwining, or twisting; to plait. Also with *together*. *Obs.*

c 1275 [see WRASE 1]. 1388 WYCLIF *John* xix. 2 Kniztis writhen a coroun of tbornes. c 1450 *Mirk's Festial* i. 121 þay wrythen a crowne of pornys and setten on his hed. 1520 *Treat. Galaunt* 191 Theyr typettes be wrythen lyke to a chayne. c 1550 CHEKE *Matt.* xxvii. 29 Writhing together a crown of thistels. 1563 SHUTE *Archit.* D iv b, The other Astragalus... shalbe wrothonne like a wreath.

†4. To turn or wrench round or to a side; to twist about; to wring. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3462 þair strut it was vn-stern stith, Wit wrahtli wrestes aiper writh. 1388 WYCLIF *Leu.* i. 15 Whanne the heed is writhun to the necke. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* i. iii. 19 Ane blusterand bub... The schippis steywn frawart hir went can writhe. 1584 BEDINGFIELD tr. *Corte's Art Riding* 101 An angrie horse... that dooth wryth his head from one side to the other. 1607 MARKHAM *Cavel.* II. (1617) 80 To carrie your cudgell in his eye of that side which he most writbeth. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* x. 448 Æneas writh'd his Dart, and stopp'd his bawling Breath. 1713 STEELE *Englism.* No. 1. 5 There may be a Way of appearing Wise by writhing the Head.

fig. and in *fig. context.* 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* iv. xi. 95 Hir faynt spreit in all partis writhis [L. *versabat*] sche. a 1547 SURREY *Æneid* iv. 282 [He] writhed his loke toward the royal walls. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 141 A yong wench hath him sure enough by the necke, and doth writhe him which way she list! 1684 H. MORE *Answer* Pref. b j b, The Remarker... has writhen and forced his Wit and Invention to personate [etc.].

†b. *fig.* To divert or deflect from or to a person, course, etc.; to cause to turn away, bend, or incline towards another. Cf. WRENCH *v.* 4 b.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 15569 For þai wald writ [vrr. writh, wripe] on me... al þair aun wijt. *Ibid.* 28101. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxxi. (*Eugenia*) 361 þar-for scho thoct wele to wricht [read writhe] in hyme hir wikithes alsuyth. *Ibid.* xlii. (*Agatha*) 97 For to wryth agathis wil fra cryst. 1412-20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* II. 2011 Wban pat he his aspectis glade Fro a man listeth for to writhe. 1534 WHITINTON *Tullyes Offices* II. (1540) 87 Pleasures fayre... ofte tymes wrythe the bygger partes of the soule fro vertue. 1561 NORTON & SACKV. *Gorboduc* i. ii, Lest the fraude... Of flattering tongues... wrythe them to the wayes of youthfull lust. 1642 CHAS. I *Let. to Mayor of Bristol* 2 The rebellious instigation... to writhe and bend your inclinations to oppose Me. 1655 [see WRENCH *v.* 6 c].

†c. With advs., as *about*, *aside*, *away*, *back*. *Occas. fig.* and in *fig. context.* *Obs.*

c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 4359 Fortune... can writhe hir heed away. c 1480 HENRYSON *Bludy Serk* 107 Sasuld we wryth al syn away. c 1550 H. LLOYD *Treas. Health* A j, If the eyes be wrythen asyde. a 1564 BECON *Treat. Fasting* iv, To wryth his head about lyke an hope. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Leu.* v. 8 He... shal wryth backe the heade therof.

5. To subject (the body, limbs, etc.) to a contorting or twisting movement; to twist, contort; to wring or wreath. Also with advs., as *around*, *round*, *together*, *up*, and *absol.*

1393 LANGLEY *P. Pl.* C. vii. 66 He wroth hys fust vp-on wrahthe. c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* vi. xviii. 1975 þan spak Makbeth dyspyrtusly... Lyk al wrethyn [v.r. wrythin] in his skyn. c 1450 *Lydus Coventria* 28 Wrythe on y my necke bon with hardnesse of þin honde. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s.v.

Torqueo, To writhe one's necke. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Constancie* vii, He. . . Whom nothing can procure. . . To writhe his limbs. 1691 BAXTER *Certainty Worlds Spirits* 166 Some Reapers. . . were hurt, writhen, and one killed with a Whirlwind. 1711 BUDGELL *Spect.* No. 161 ¶3 A Country Girl. . . writhing and distorting her whole Body. 1791 E. DARWIN *Bot. Gard.* i. 75 The alarmed Goddess. . . Writhes her fair limbs. 1814 W. BROWN *Hist. Propag. Chr.* II. 434 In the fall, his hip was writhed. 1865 B. BRIERLEY *Irkdale* I. 143 Aw'll wrythe thy neck reawnd. 1884 *Pall Mall G.* 14 March 1/1 The Arabs. . . writhed their bodies under guns, Gatlings, and muskets.

reft. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* vi. 328 Then Satan first knew pain, And writh'd him to and fro convolv'd. 1814 SCOTT *Lord of Isles* vi. xxxii, The mountaineer Yet writhed him up against the spear. 1895 CROCKETT *Men of Moss-hags* xxiii. 169 The creature writhed himself in glee.

b. To distort (the face, etc.); to draw awry; = WRING v. 2 b.

c. 1480 HENRYSON *Test. Cres.* 189 The God of Ire. . . Wrything his face with mony angrie word. 1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 145 Some make a face with writhing their mouths. 1548 ELYOT, *Intorquere mentum*, to writhe or wrestle the chynne. 1609 BIBLE (Douay) *Prov.* xix. 1 Better is a poore man. . . then a rich writhing his lippes. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* x. 569 They. . . writh'd thir jaws. 1755 JOHNSON, *Distortion*, . . . irregular motion by which the face is writhed. 1864 TENNYSON *Boadicea* 74 [They] Madly dash'd the darts together, writhing barbarous lineaments.

c. To utter, speak out, with a writhe. 1889 GUNTER *That Frenchman* xxi. 290, As they drag her back. . . she writhes out to Ora. . . 'They'll do the same to you'. 1902 SNAITH *Wayfarers* xii, Sir Thomas would grunt and wriggle and writhe his tipsy protests.

d. To make or pursue (its way) by writhing. 1867 J. G. WOOD *Illustr. Nat. Hist.* 326 The snake which has writhed its way to the Mocking Bird's nest.

6. To twist or wrench (something) out of place, position, or relation; = WRING v. 6. Const. with advs., as *asunder*, *†atwo*, *off*, *out*, or *preps.*, as *from*, *off*, *out of*. Also *reft.* Occas. *fig.*

1388 WYCLIF 2 *Sam.* xxiii. 21 Bi migt he wrooth out the spere fro the hond of the man. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 271 He his necke hath writhe atuo. c. 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 48 Sethe py capone. . . brisse hom in hast And wrythe itwen. 1490 CAXTON *Eneydos* x. 39 There myghte ye see. . . crampons of yron wrythen a sondre. 1554-9 *Songs & Ball. Phil. & Mary* (Roxb.) 12, I wolde God in sondre I myght wrythe his necke bounne. ?a 1600 in *Child Ballads* III. 413/34 Then he writhe the gold ring of his ffigar. 1606 MARSTON *Parasit.* v. H 4 b, Cupid. . . Whose force writ'h lightning from Ioues shaking hand. 1684 H. MORE *Answer* 224 Before their heads be writhen off. 1859 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* ix, She writhed herself free. 1887 D. C. MURRAY *One Trav. Returns* xvii, Writhing the water from their auburn hair.

fig. c. 1400 *Destr. Troy* 11616 But god. . . wrangis in his wrathe writhis to ground. 1570 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 2) I. 5/2 Here the Bishops began first to writhe out theyr elections and theyr neckes a litle from the Emperours subiection.

† b. To insert (something) *in* or *into* a space by insinuation or twisting. Also *transf.* and *reft.* *Obs.*

1590 BARROUGH *Meth. Physick* i. xlv. (1596) 67 You may writhe a linnen cloth. . . in the nostrils. 1593 NASHE *Christ's T. G* 2 b, This desolative-Trumpet of Ierusalem; a weak breath or two I will writhe into it. 1598 B. JONSON *Every Man in Humour* III. v, He had so writhen himselfe, into the habit of one of your poore *Infanterie*.

† 7. To wrest, strain, or pervert the meaning of (a writing, passage, word, etc.); to deflect, misapply; = WRENCH v. 7, WREST v. 5, 6, WRING v. 9 b. *Obs.*

In frequent use from c. 1555 to c. 1600. a 1533 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* (1546) Hhiv, They haue. . . writhen and enlarged the discipline of Justyce. 1546 GARDINER *Declar. Joye* 43 The pelagians. . . searched out places of scripture, and writhed them violently. . . to their purpose. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus* s.v. *Torqueo*, To wreste & writhe the law. 1624 BEDELL *Lett.* vi. 106 The *Ladies Psalter*, wherein that which is spoken of God by the Spirit of God is writhed to her. 1662 HIBBERT *Body Divinity* i. 199 Wrestling and writhing mens writings to another meaning.

† b. To misinterpret (a writer); = WREST v. 5 c. 1555 [see WREST v. 5 c]. 1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* i. xiv. 47 Stephen and Paule. . . howe soeuer they be writhed, yet must. . . so be vnderstanded.

II. † 8. To envelop, enfold, or swathe (something) by winding or folding. *Obs.*

a 1000 *Egbert's Penit.* III. xvi. in Thorpe *Laws* II. 202 þa ðe forbrocene wæron, þa ge ne wriþon [L. *ligavistis*]. c. 1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Luke x. 34 þa genealehte he, & wrað his wunda. c. 1205 LAY. 17762 Wreod nu wel pene king þæt he ligge a swæting. c. 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 160 Hir heed writhen was. . . with a greet towayle. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P.R.* XII. v. (Bodl. MS.), Been. . . makeþ honye combesse ywounde and ywrithe wiþ waxe. a 1400-50 *Bk. Curtasye* 685 in *Babes Bk.*, þen brede he byrnynges, in towelle wrythyn. c. 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 534/1 Wrythyn, *idem quod* hyllyn.

† b. To confine or fasten with a cord, bond, etc.; to bind, fetter. *Obs.*

Beowulf 964 Ic hine hræddice heardan clammum on wælbædde wriþan pohte. [c. 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 123 Crist. . . ferde to helle and iwræð pene alde deouel.] c. 1205 LAY. 17394 3e mote uaste heom wriðen mid strongen sæil-rapen. 13. . . E.E. *Allit. P. C.* 80 þay. . . Wrype me in a warlok, wrast out myn yzen. a 1400 *Prymer* (1891) 98 Coordes of synful men ha a bouten writhe me.

fig. c. 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 9088 In hir loue was he so writhen, That he myght not his wille refrayn.

† c. To secure or fix (something) *with* a pin, etc. *Obs.* -1

1683 PETTUS *Fleta Min.* i. 12 Assay Ovens made. . . of strong Armor-plate, and writhen with Ironpins.

† 9. To surround or invest *with* something; to wreathe, enwreathe. Also with *about*. *Obs.*

1513 DOUGLAS *Aeneid* v. v. 12 Ane mantill brusit with gold, With purpoure seluage writhin mony fold. a 1727 NEWTON *Chronol. Amended* ii. (1728) 227 A Caduceus writhen about with two serpents.

III. *intr.* 10. To move or stir in a turning or sinuous manner; to change posture by twisting; to twist about.

a 1300 in *Maps' Poems* (Camden) 336 Thi wretche with [= wit] so thunne, That ay was writhinde as a wond. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 5471 þey. . . sawe hys colour ofte ouer caste; And wroth a-boute, to and fro. 13. . . *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1200 þen he wakenede, & wroth, & to hir warde torned. 13. . . E.E. *Allit. P. A.* 510 For a pene on a day. . . forth pay gos, Wrypen & worchen & don gret pyne. ?a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1141 Wrothely thai wrythyne and wrystille to-gederz. 1545 ASCHAM *Toxoph.* (Arb.) 111 Elles the one ende [of a bow-string] shall wriethe contrary to the other. 1588 GREENE *Pandosto* (1843) 26 The babe. . . wrythed with the head to seeke for the pap. 1611 COTGR., *Serpeger*, to. . . wrigle, writhe, or goe wauing, &c., like a serpent. 1809-14 WORDSW. *Excurs.* vi. 291 The Indian bird That writhes and chatters in her wiry cage. 1820 SOUTHEY *Lodore* 61 Flying and flinging, Writhing and ringing, . . . this way the Water comes down at Lodore. 1893 MARY CHOLMONDELEY *Diana Tempest* xvi, [He] lit the paper, and. . . watched it writhe under the little chuckling flame.

fig. c. 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xiii. 126 This warld fowre neuer so. . . Now in weyll, now in wo, And all thyng wrythys.

b. To contort the body, limbs, etc., as from agony, emotion, or stimulation; to twist *under* or *with* pain, distress, etc.; to wring, turn. Also with *about*.

In frequent use from c. 1800.

?a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1920 Thane the worthy kyng [Arthur] wrythes, and wepede with his eghne. a 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 1189 (Ashm. MS.), þe wale kyng. . . writhis him vnfaire [Dubl. MS. *wex wode wroth*]. *Ibid.* 1409. c. 1425 WYNTOUN *Chron.* VIII. xi. 1776 Al brym he belyt in to brethe, And wrythit al in wedand wrethe. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* i. cxxxvi. 242 Beaumays. . . wallowed and wrythed for the loue of the lady. 1713 ADDISON *Cato* III. v, Let them. . . be. . . empal'd, and left To writhe at leisure round the bloody stake. 1798 S. & H. T. LEE *Canterb.* T. II. 431 [She was] writhing under the wound. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xiii, Mr. Brass, after writhing about. . . was by this time awake also. 1848 EDMESTON *Sacred Poetry* 171 Though the nerves may writhe with pain. 1890 W. BOOTH *In Darkest Eng.* 280 That dark ocean, full of human wrecks, writhing in anguish.

fig. 1846 MRS. A. MARSH *Father Darcy* II. iii. 74 His heart writhing with hatred. 1893 MARY CHOLMONDELEY *Diana Tempest* xxxiv, Passion, writhing in torment, . . . seized him in a Titan grip.

c. *poet.* To twine or coil (*round* something). 1795 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* III. (1853) 33, I saw The pictured flames writhe round a penanced soul.

11. To change place or position, to turn, move, or go, with a writhing or twisting motion. *Usu.* with *preps.*, as *about*, *down*, *from*, *†of*, *to*, *up*, or *advs.*, as *apart*, *away*, *back*, *out*.

c. 1205 LAY. 6729 þe king. . . him wræð [c. 1275 *leop*] to, ase he hine wolde anho. 13. . . E.E. *Allit. P. A.* 350 Of þe way a fote ne wyl he wrype. *Ibid.* B. 533 Wyldde wormez to her won wrypez in þe erpe. ?a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 1093 Ilke wrethe as a wolfe-heuede, it wryathe owtt at ones! 14. . . *Chaucer's Miller's T.* 97 (Camb. MS.), With here hed sche wrythed faste a-wey. c. 1440 *Ipomydon* 1835 Thus he wrawled & wroth a-way. 1540 HYRDE tr. *Vines Introd. Chr. Wom.* II. xii. 122 Whan thou wrythest awaye from thy steppe chyl dren, callynge the mother. 1565 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* i. (1593) 18 He proffered kisses to the tree, the tree did from him wryth. 1849 LYTTON *K. Arthur* XI. clii, Struggling for speech, the pale lips writhed apart. 1859 TENNYSON *Merlin & V.* 237 Vivien. . . Writhed toward him, slid up his knee [etc.]. 1891 F. TENNYSON *Poems* 369 Snakes writhed to their holes.

b. *fig.* and in *fig.* context.

c. 1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* iv. 986 If ther myght ben a variaunce, To wrythen out fro goddes purueyng. 1402 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 90 Thei ben bastard branches that. . . writhyn wrongli away from holy chirche techinge. a 1425 *Cursor M.* 4276 (Trin.), At pe ende wel priue loue out wripe. c. 1425 WYNTOUN *Chron.* I. ix. 621 Fra his will quhen þat we writhe. 1560 BECON *New Catech.* III. Wks. 1564 I. 337 b, He writhed with his hande from doyinge wrong. 1601 [see WREATH v. 8].

† c. To turn, be converted, to something. *Obs.*

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 130 To many maner synnes hyt [sc. handling] wryppys. 13. . . *St. Alexius* 571 in Horstm. *Allengl. Leg.* (1881) 187 His wife kome þan. . . wiþ rewfull grate Als scho wald all to watir writhe.

† *writhe*, v. 2 *Obs.* [OE. *wriðan*, *wriðian*, var. of *wridan*, *wridian*; see *WRITE sb.* and *v.*] *intr.* To sprout, to flourish.

?a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 4322 Latt no wykkyde wede waxe, ne wrythe one this erthe.

writh(e), *varr.* WRETHER *sb.* and *v.* *Obs.*

writhed (ræðd), *ppl. a.* [f. WRITHE v. 1 + -ED¹. Cf. WREATHED *ppl. a.*]

1. That has undergone writhing, contortion, or twisting; twisted.

1578 LYTE *Dodoens* vi. lxxxiii. 764 The stem [of the smaller cedar] is croked or writhed. 1581 T. HOWELL *Deuses* Hij, Wrythed wrinckles [shall] peere on blemisht browe. 1590 BARROUGH *Meth. Physick* i. xlv. (1596) 67 A writhed linnen cloth. 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* 50 The writhed and wrested strings of a brake. 1756 P. BROWNE *Jamaica* (1789) 396 The angular and variously writhed Worm-tube.

transf. 1562 COOPER *Answ. Defence Truth* 84 All, that here you haue vttered, be nothings but wrythed coniectures.

b. Of the features, etc.: Subjected to contortion or writhing; contorted, wry.

1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Laide grimace*, a writhed mouth. 1605 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iii. *Law* 96 Snuffing with a wrythed nose the Amber. 1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* 150 They have a black and wrythed Face. 1802 JOANNA BAILLIE 2nd Pt. *Ethwald* II. ii, There be some Whose writhed features. . . do stare upon you. 1830 TENNYSON '*Clear-headed friend*' iii, Those writhed limbs of lightning speed. 1868 KINGLAKE *Crimea* IV. 292 A breed of the human race whose numberless cages of teeth stared out. . . from between the writhed lips.

2. Fashioned by or as by twisting or convolution.

1552 HULOET, Writhed, or wynded one in another as a cord or rope is lincke to lincke, *versatilis*. 1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Funes intorti*, writhed cordes. 1802 LEYDEN *Mermaid* i, How softly mourns the writhed shell Of Jura's shore, its parent seal! 1858 SKYRING *Builders' Prices* 55 Every inch opening in the writhed rails.

b. Of pillars, etc.: = WREATHED *ppl. a.* 3 a.

1825 SCOTT *Talism.* xxvii, The fantastic forms of writhed pillars. 1849 RUSKIN *Sev. Lamps* iii. 92 The dark. . . porches and writhed pillars of Verona.

Hence '*writhedly adv.*, -ness. *rare.*

1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Contorte*, . . frowardly; obscurely; intricately: writhedly. 1755 SCOTT, *Contortuousness*, writhedness.

† *wriðel*. *Obs.* [Of obscure origin.] ? Wild lettuce.

c. 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3153 Ilc man after his owen fond, Heued and fet, and in-rew meten, Lesen for ðe bones and eten, Wið wriðel and vn-lif bread. [Cf. Exodus xii. 8 'Et edent carnes. . . et azymos panes cum lactucis agrestibus'.]

writhen (rīð(ə)n), *ppl. a.* Also 4 writhun, 6 -yne, 4- wrythen. [pa. pple. of WRITHE v.] Cf. WREATHEN *ppl. a.*]

1. Subjected to writhing, twisting, or turning; twisted out of regular shape or form; contorted; †also, closed, clenched (quot. 1377).

a. Of things.

13. . . *K. Alis.* 5723 (Laud MS.), A griselich best. . . ; Teep he had so wrepren wripen. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xvii. 174 þe wrythen fuste, or the werkmanchip of fyngres. 1483 in *Arnold's Chron.* (1811) 116 Item a peir of coral beedis, the gadwies gilt wrythen. 1520 in *Archaeologia* LIII. 14 One playn paten chased yn the foote w't a wrythen knope. 1564 BULLEIN *Dial. agst.* Sect. 44 b, A writhen arme of the tree. 1597 BP. HALL *Sat.* iv. iv. 33 Some smoked beeve, Hang'd on a writhen wythe. 1611 COTGR., *Grugeons*, the. . . most writhen fruit on a tree. 1668 CULPEPPER & COLE *Barthol. Anat.* i. xx. 53 In Men this Neck is more long-round, narrow, and a little writhen. 1689 MOYLE *Sea Chyrurg.* II. xiii. 61 The Muscles bruised and writhen. 1725 POPE *Odys.* VIII. 506 Dread Jove (whose arm in vengeance forms The writhen bolt). 1747 HOOSON *Miner's Dict.* Ujb, Cur'd Stone. . . has. . . writhen Lumps in it. 1850 ALLINGHAM *Poems, Music-master* II. xv, The writhen elder spreads its creamy bloom. 1865 SWINBURNE *Poems & Ball.* At *Eleusis* 72 That lame wisdom that has writhen feet.

fig. 1804 STEVENSON & L. OSBOURNE *Ebb Tide* ii, 'I'll give my father up,' returned Herrick, with a writhen smile.

b. Of persons, their features, etc.

1579-80 NORTH *Plutarch* (1595) 1111 A bauld writhen man. 1598 HAKLUYT *Voy.* I. 21 Their countenances [were] writhen and terrible. 1635 R. JOHNSON *Hist. Tom a Lincolne* II. iii. (1682) G 3 b, Her cheeks. . . now appeared old and writhen. 1708 J. PHILIPS *Cyder* i. 447 'Till, with a writhen Mouth, . . He tastes the bitter Morsel. 1825 SCOTT *Talism.* xiv, My choice were rather. . . that my writhen features should blacken. . . in this evening's setting sun. 1888 HENLEY *Bk. Verses* 23 Her lip was gray and writhen.

c. *spec.* Of antique glass or silver: having spirally twisted ornamentation.

1919 M. PERCIVAL *Glass Collector* viii. 115 The. . . writhen glasses of funnel shapes are survivors of the old Venetian tradition. 1935 *Burlington Mag.* Oct. 150/1 Light vertical flutings, matching the bowl and wrythen in delivery. 1960 *Times* 9 Feb. 20/7 A Henry VIII spoon with writhen finial. 1970 *Canad. Antiques Collector* Oct. 17 The jugs and bowls are decorated with writhen ornament. 1981 *Times* 31 Oct. 8/6 An Edward IV wrythen-knop spoon made in London about 1463.

2. Combined or made by, subjected to, twining or plaiting; intertwined, entwined, or plaited. Cf. WREATHEN *ppl. a.* 2.

a 900 CYNEWULF *Elene* 24 Garas lixtan, wriðene wæhlencan; wordum & bordum hofon herecombol. 1382 WYCLIF 1 *Tim.* ii. 9 Wymmen. . . ournynghe hem silf, not in writhen heeris, ethir in gold, . . but [etc.]. 1388 — *Ecclus.* xlv. 12 Wriþun reed threed. c. 1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* i. v. (1869) 3 A corde wel wrythen, þat bi places was knet. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* §31 Pees and beanes. . . set. . . thre sheues together, the toppes vpwarde, and wrythen together. 1535 COVERDALE *Exod.* xxxix. 15 Wrythen cheynes of pure golde. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 113/2 *Corona pactilis*, . . a writhen garland. 1609 HOLLAND *Amm. Marcell.* 221 Many cords of wrythen and twisted sinewes. 1671 J. WEBSTER *Metallogr.* xiii. 212 A capillary or hairy piece. . . crisped and writhen together. 1733 T. GENT *Hist. Rippon* 57 They built an House. . . with Wrythen Wands or Boughs. 1876 *Whitby Gloss.* 224 Wrythen, pp. . . ; intertwined.

3. Disposed or arranged in coils, folds, or windings; formed or fashioned by or as by coiling, convolution, etc.

Cf. the earlier *forwrithen* *ppl. a.* (FOR- *pref.* 1 8).

c. 1542 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 172 A writhyne rynge of golde. 1559 MORWYNG *Evonym.* 77 Distilled in serpentins, or writhen, or crooked vessels. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 263/2 *Linamentum tortile*, . . a rolled or writhen tent. a 1608 DEE *Relat. Spir.* i. (1659) 115 A Serpent. . . leaned upon her twice writhen tail. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 961 The wrythen rolls of the turbant. 1693 DRYDEN *Ovid's Met.* i. 454 His writhen Shell he takes. 1868 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* I. 258 [Full] of intertwining writhen snakes.

†4. *fig.* Wrested; perverted; deflected. *Obs.*
 1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* 1. (1895) 91 A wrythen and wrested understandinge of the same. 1561 T. NORTON *Calvin's Inst.* i. xiii. 31 b. To fense themselves againste the crooked writhen subtleties with plaine and simple truthe.
 5. *Comb.*, as *writhen-faced*, -*formed*.
 1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* L4 b. A wearish dwarfish writhen facde cobbler. c1861 J. T. STATON *Rays fro' Loominary* 115 A thing that's writhen-formt.
 Hence 'writheness rare'⁰; 'wrythening *vbl.* sb. (see quot. 1960.)
 1727 BAILEY, *Tortness*, . . writheness, wrinkledness. 1960 H. HAYWARD *Antique Coll.* 313/2 Wrythening, diagonally twisted or swirled ribbing or fluting on the bowl or stem of a glass vessel. 1967 S. CROMPTON *Eng. Glass* 11, 209 (*caption*) Jug in bottle-green glass with white wrythening.

'writheneck. [f. WRITHE *v.*¹] = WRYNECK 1.
 1885 SWAINSON *Prov. Names Birds* 103 Wryneck (*Gynx torquilla*). So called from the extraordinary pliancy of its neck; whence also Writhe neck.

writher ('raɪðə(r)). Also 5-6 wryther. [f. WRITHE *v.*¹ + -ER¹.] One who writhes or twists; †one who perverts.

c1420 LYDG. *Assembly of Gods* 674 Ther were bosters, . . Praters, fasers, stretchers, & wrythers. 1533 [see WRESTER 2]. 1545 BRINKLOW *Lament*. 25 Ye wresters and wrythers of Goddes holy worde.

writhing ('raɪðɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. as prec. + -ING¹.]
 1. The action of the verb in various senses; an instance of this. Also with *away*. *Occas. fig.*

c1386 CHAUCER *Sqr.'s T.* 119 With writhing of a pyn. c1420 LYDG. *Ballad Commend.* Our Lady 96 3if ony offence or writhing in hem be, þu art ay redy up-on her woo for to rewe. c1520 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 136 Yf Lyberte lacked a reyne Where with to rule hym with the wrythynge of a rest. 1577 tr. *Bullinger's Decades* (1592) 241 Let . . thy laughter [be] without vnseemly writhing of thy mouth and visage. 1603 HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 60 A writhing away or turning about of the bodie. 1634 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 189 Ill-faoured gestures, and writhing of their mouth and eyes. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* 11. 84 The Writhing [of a tree] is the turning of branches. 1743 FRANCIS tr. *Hor., Odes* 1. xxxvii. 34 The Writhings of the wrathful Asp. 1827 KEBLE *Chr. Year, Wedn. before Easter*, The writhings of a wounded heart. 1835 R. M. BIRD *Hawks* (1856) 134 Sterling . . could not trace a single writhing or quivering of limb. 1889 CLARK RUSSELL *Marooned* xii. A slow writhing . . of the shadowy substance of the brig's sails, masts, and hull, into determinable forms.

b. *spec.* in old glass: cf. WRITHE *ppl. a.* 1 c. 1926 G. R. FRANCIS *Old Eng. Drinking Glasses* p. xxxi. Wrythen, external decoration of the bowl by twisting or writhing while still hot. 1929 W. A. THORPE *Hist. Eng. & Irish Glass* v. 166 The wrything was done by twisting the paraison while it was being blown.

†2. = WRESTING *vbl. sb.* 2, WRINGING *vbl. sb.* 4.
 1555 TRAVERS in *Strype Eccl. Mem.* (1721) III. App. 87 Without wrythynge, wrastyng, or doubtyng of his promys. 1562 COOPER *Answ. Defence Truth* 78 All the argumetes that you have brought are nothing but writhinges of extraordinary cases. 1662 HIBBERT *Body Divinity* 1. 189 What wrything and wringing the Protestants make to shift off this place.

'writhing, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING².]
 †1. That wrings or extorts; practising extortion.

c1520 [see WRESTING *ppl. a.*].
 2. That writhes; twisting or turning to and fro.
 1798 R. BLOOMFIELD *Farmer's Boy* 76 Where writhing earth-worms meet th' unwelcome day. 1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* 11. xcvi. Smiles . . raise the writhing lip with ill-dissembled sneer. 1865 BARING-GOULD *Werewolves* x. 170 The forked and writhing lightning. 1882 T. S. HUDSON *Scamper through Amer.* 171 Our driver adroitly left one [rattlesnake] a writhing corpse.
transf. 1897 HOWELLS *Landlord at Lion's Head* 3 The children whose faces watched them through the writhing window panes.

3. Marked or characterized by sinuous or tortuous movement.

1808 JAMIESON, *Wrangle*, a writhing motion. 1818 HAZLITT *Lect. Poets* iii. 128 The writhing agonies within. 1848 LYTTON *Harold* v. A writhing attempt to smile.

Hence 'writhingly *adv.*', in a writhing manner.
 1611 COTGR., *Tortuement*, . . wryingly, writhingly. 1822 *New Monthly Mag.* IV. 524 The monster . . turned writhingly. 1883 MISS BROUGHTON *Belinda* 111. vii. Turning over writhingly in her chair.

writhled ('rɪðəld), *a.* [app. f. the stem of WRITHE *v.*¹ (see -LE 3); but perh. an alteration of RIVELLED *a.*]

1. Of persons, the skin, etc.: Wrinkled; shrivelled, withered. Now *Obs. exc. arch.*

1565 COOPER *Theatrus* s.v. *Vultus*, To make the face writhled and wrinkled. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI.* 11. iii. 23 This weake and writhled shrimpe. 1599 MARSTON *Sco. Villanie* i. iii. 187 Cold, writhled Eld. 1649 LOVELACE *Poems* (1904) 100 Cynthia spotted, she impure; Her body writhled. 1693 J. H. tr. *Juv. Sat.* x. 11 A writhled and discolour'd skin. 1865 SWINBURNE *Poems & Ball.*, *St. Dorothy* 445 This makes him sad and writhled in his face.

Comb. a1656 R. COX *Actæon & Diana* 4 A writhled fac'd companion.

†2. Rough; shaggy. *Obs. rare*⁻¹.
 c1600 TIMON v. iv. (1842) 86 An vnshorne heade, a writhled beard, beetle browed.

writhy ('raɪði), *a.* [f. WRITHE *v.*¹ + -Y¹. Cf. *Da. vividig* flexible.] Moving sinuously; writhing.

1742 BLAIR *Grave* 330 Nor Fly, nor Insect, Nor writhy Snake, escap'd thy deep Research.

writing ('raɪtɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. WRITE *v.* + -ING¹.]

I. 1. a. The action of one who writes, in various senses; the penning or forming of letters or words; the using of written characters for purposes of record, transmission of ideas, etc. Also with *out*.

a1225 *Ancr. R.* 80 Of silence & of speche nis bute a lore; & forði, ine writunge, heo eorneð boðe togederes. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* 111. 61 For-þi I lere 3ou, lordynges such writynge 3e leue, To writen in Wyndouwes of 3oure wel dedes. 1377 *Ibid.* B. xii. 84 þe clergye . . comforted þe womman. Holykirke knoweth þis þat crystes writynge sauð. 1487-8 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 132 For the wrytyng of the names of the ffounderdes. 1513 MORE *Rich. III.* Wks. 56 For al y^e time . . could scant haue suffised vnto y^e bare wryting alone. 1549 in *Feuillerat Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 42 To waplett the payntour . . for the wrytyng of ix peces of Canvas. 1631 T. POWELL *Tom All Trades* (1876) 141 The Scriveners . . had no imployment, but writing of blanke Bonds. 1671 *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 508 This way that I propose of the King's writing himself, is the only way to effect it. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* 1. (Globe) 288 He directed me to send it with a Letter of his Writing. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 917/2 The bark of trees was also used for writing by the ancients. 1827 FARADAY *Chem. Manip.* xvi. 423 The diamond should be held in a vertical position during the writing. 1849 MRS. MERRIFIELD *Orig. Treat.* I. p. xxix. The two branches were frequently practised by the same person, whence the term 'writing' . . was applied to painting on glass, which was also called 'writing on glass'. 1882 N. & Q. 30 Dec. 542/2, I believe Lancaster first suggested writing on sand with the finger. 1898 J. TAYLOR tr. *Kautsch's Hist. Lit. O. T.* 10 The writing out of the products of those earlier days.

fig. 1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale* 413 He that hath yt [sc. faith] in his herte of goddes own wrytynge.

b. at this (present) writing, at the time of writing this. Also up to this (. .) writing.

1718 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to Mrs. Thistlethwayte* 4 Jan., I am, at this present writing, not very much turned for the recollection of what is diverting. 1832 J. P. KENNEDY *Swallow B.* (1860) 13 An account of all my doings up to this present writing. 1846 C. MITCHELL *Newsp. Press Direct.* 77 The critical (musical) department . . is at 'this present writing', to use an Irishism, nothing if not meagre. 1884 *Cent. Mag.* Jan. 433/2 It is at this writing given out that [etc.].

c. = TYPEWRITING *vbl. sb.*

1883 J. G. PETRIE *Man. for Type-Writer* 5 While the writing is being done by the fingers of the right hand. 1899 WARDLE *Univ. Typewriter Man.* 10 It also keeps the paper in position for writing.

d. Computers. The process of causing an item of data to be entered into a store or recorded in or on a storage medium.

1946 [see WRITE *v.* 3 h]. 1970 O. DOPPING *Computers & Data Processing* xv. 244 Most writing errors on tape, like most reading errors, are caused by small particles of dust between tape and magnetic head, and in most cases the dust particle is removed . . if the writing is repeated. 1973 C. W. GEAR *Introd. Computer Sci.* iv. 164 A computer input/output controller . . sequences the reading and writing of characters.

2. a. The art or practice of penmanship or handwriting.

c1440 LYDG. *Hers, Shepe & G.* 187 Yiff pennys & wrytyng were a-way, Off remembrance we had lost the kay. c1440 *Jacob's Well* 278 Johun enformyd hym in wrytyng, & in endystyng. 1604 E. G. [RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* 1. xxv. 80 They having no vse of bookes, or writing. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 126 Before the invention of letters and writing. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* (1738) s.v. Writing is now chiefly practised among us by means of pen, ink, and paper. 1742 FIELDING *J. Andrews* 11. xvii. The poor people . . bred their son to writing and accounts, and other learning. 1784 T. ASTLE (*title*), The Origin and Progress of Writing, as well hieroglyphic as elementary. 1828 *Mirror V.* 75/1 The three R's—Reading, Writing, and Rithmetic. 1892 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* XLII. 244 Writing . . is the art of fixing speech by conventional signs.

b. Style, form, or method of fashioning letters or other conventional signs (esp. in handwriting or penmanship); the 'hand' of a particular person.

c1440 *Jacob's Well* 278 þat his voys, his wrytynge, . . was lych þe voys, lych þe hand, . . of Johun his mayster. c1440 *Pomp. Parv.* 148/2 False wrytynge, plastographia. 1476 *Acta Auditorum* (1839) 42/1 It wes his awne propir hand and writing. 1560 BIBLE *Ezra* (Genev.) iv. 7 The writing of the letter was the Aramites writing. 1590 P. BALES *Writing Schoole*. Q2 The Arte and knowledge of faire writing. 1602 [J. WILLIS] *Art Stenogr.* (title-p.), A very easie direction for Steganographie, or Secret Writing. 1620, etc. [see SHORT-WRITING, SHORTHAND c]. 1658 PHILLIPS, *Calligraphy*, fair, or handsome writing. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* (1738) s.v. *Gothic*, Gothic character, or writing, is a character, or manner of writing, which [etc.]. 1748 [see HIEROGLYPHICAL a. 1]. 1784 T. ASTLE *Orig. & Progr. Writing* 7 This . . produced a further change in writing. 1819 SHELLEY *Cenci* iv. 95 *Savella*. Knowest thou this writing, Lady? . . *Lucretia*. It should be Orsino's hand! 1883 *Stationer & Bookseller* 8 May 10/1 Best finished round-hand writing. 1892 ZANGWILL *Bow Mystery* 80 The landlady knew his writing.

c. The occupation of a (professional) writer.

1594 *Hist. Writers to Signet* (1890) 230 To be suspensid fra all writynge quhill the payment of the foirsaid pane. 1681 *Sc. Acts* (1820) VIII. 244/1 All writers to the Signet, All publick Notars and other persons employed in writeing or Agenting.

3. a. The action of composing and committing to manuscript; expression of thoughts or ideas in written words; literary composition or production.

c1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 326 Ther-to he koude endite and make a thyng, Ther koude no wight pynchen at his wrytyng. 1430-40 LYDG. *Bochas* 1. 2677 As the poete bi wrytyng

techith vs. 1485 CAXTON *Chas. Gt.* 1 Al thynges that ben reduced by wrytyng ben wryton to our doctryne. 15 . . in *Dunbar's Poems* (S.T.S.) II. 311 Gif lytil rewarde be in wrytyng, Bettir was leif my paper quhyte. 1597-8 BACON *Ess.*, *Studies* (Arb.) 10 Reading maketh a full man . . and writing an exacte man. 1639 *Hamilton Papers* (Camden) 89 After the wrytyng of this other the Lord Oboyne . . delyuered me your Majties of the 13. 1664 *Extr. St. Papers Friends* Ser. 111. (1912) 213 Hee . . is . . not of parts for the writeing of such a Letter. 1759 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* 11. xi. Writing . . is but a different name for conversation. 1835 MARRYAT *Olla Podr.* xxx. Magazine writing . . is the most difficult of all writing. 1885 'MRS. ALEXANDER' *Valerie's Fate* iii. Though all three . . could talk French fast enough, the writing of it was another matter.

b. Style or manner of composition or literary expression.

1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* xx. (Perey Soe.) 98 Besechyng you . . to pardon me of my rude wrytyng, For with woful herte was myne endyting. c1530 L. COX *Rhet.* (1899) 84 Doubtful wrytyng . . is whan the wordes may be expounded dyuers wayes. a1626 BACON *Ch. Controv.* Wks. 1879 I. 344 Bitter and earnest writing must not hastily be condemned. 1664 DRYDEN *Rival Ladies* Ep. Ded., Supposing our countrymen had not received this writing [of scenes in verse] till of late. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 409 ¶ 10 A finished Taste of good Writing. 1760 D. WEBB *Inq. Beauties Painting* vii. 199 It is the character of fine writing . . that the thoughts should be natural. 1819 KEATS in *Forman Wks.* (1883) III. 320 Fine writing is, next to fine doing, the top thing in the world. 1884 CHURCH *Bacon* ix. 220 Easy and unstudied as his writing seems.

c. The composition of music.

1782 BURNBY *Hist. Music* 490 The most subtle and elaborate productions [sc. masses] that I have ever seen in this kind of writing. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* VIII. 109/1 The art of writing in parts. 1880 PROUT *Harmony* (ed. 3) 245 Four-part writing is justly considered the foundation of harmony.

d. With *advs.*, as *down* (WRITE *v.* 22 c), *in*, *off*, *up*. (Cf. 12 g.)

1897 *Westm. Gaz.* 28 Dec. 6/3 Some scheme for the writing down of capital. 1900 *Ibid.* 22 Nov. 9/2 [The] music-hall agents . . said that due notice of 'writing in' was given. 1912 *Times* 19 Dec. 18/5 The scheme provided for the writing off of capital liabilities. 1951 E. E. EVANS-PRITCHARD *Social Anthropol.* v. 88 In this writing-up side of his work the social anthropologist faces a serious difficulty. 1960 *Guardian* 24 June 10/7 Simplification without 'writing down' can serve a good purpose. 1972 *Listener* 9 Nov. 644 The slick writing-down that many professional children's writers indulge in.

†4. Manner of setting down in written form; spelling, orthography. *Obs.*

1521 A. BARCLAY *Introd.* A v b, Whiche is contrary bothe in the true wrytyng, & also to the true pronounciation of perfyte frenche. 1582 [see WRITING-MASTER]. c1620 A. HUME *Brit. Tongue* (1865) 1, 1. . . seeing sik uncertentie in our men's wryting, as if a man wald indyte one letter to tuintie of our best wryters, nae tuae . . wald agree. 1636 B. JONSON *Eng. Gram.* iii. The unsteadfastness of our tongue, or uncertainty of our writing. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* (1738) s.v. *Orthography*, Attempts have been since made to reduce the writing to the pronunciation.

5. The state or condition of having been written or penned; written form. Freq. *in writing*.

See COMMIT *v.* 1 e, PUT *v.* 1 16 b, REDUCE *v.* 15 b.

1425 *Rolls of Parli.* IV. 268/2 Yeving in a Peedegree in wrytyng. 1462 *Paston Lett.* II. 122 Let them . . send their excuse to me in wrytyng. 1560 DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* Pref. 2 Thei . . commit to wrytyng, stories. 1611 COTGR., *Mettre par escrit*, to . . set downe in, commit vnto, writing. 1657 tr. *Perkins' Profit. Bk.* vii. 179 Another will . . by him put in writing. 1753 *Act 26 Geo. II.* c. 19 §15 Which Examination the said Justices are hereby required to take down in Writing. 1831 PALGRAVE *Hist. Anglo-Saxons* vii. 151 Many matters now consigned to writing. *Ibid.* 152 Some little was reduced into writing. 1887 BIRRELL *Obiter Dicta* Ser. 11. 42 The author's agreement . . is in writing.

II. 6. That which is in a written (now also typewritten) state or form; something penned or recorded; written information, composition, or production; literary work or compilation.
 †the or Sacred Writing (quots. 1340, 1797), Scripture. Phr. the writing on the wall (with allusion to *Daniel v.* 5 and 25-28): warning signs of impending disaster, misfortune, etc.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 4671 Seynt Ysodre seyy þn his wrytyng, 'Alle þo' [etc.]. 1340 *Ayemb.* 71 Zuyche byep þn 3onges of helle ase þe wrytinge ous telp. 1382 WYCLIF *Dan.* v. 7 Who euer shal reede this wrytyng. c1444 PECCOCK *Donet* 156 Alle suche men . . I remitte into þe writing and witnessing of seynt Austyn. 1451 *Paston Lett.* I. 208 The Shereffe . . hath wrytyng from the Kyng that he shall make such a panell. a1513 FAYAN *Chron.* lxvi. (1811) 45 That sayinge disagreeth to the wrytyng of Eutropius. 1537 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 726 Which was latelie surrendered & given vpp by wrytyng to theme. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch.* V. 11. vii. 64 A carrion death, Within whose emptie eye there is a written scroule; Ile reade the writing. 1611 BIBLE 1 *Esdras* ii. 2 He made proclamation . . by writing. 1797 *Monthly Mag.* III. 529/1 A passage in sacred writing, where the Philistines . . sent back the ark of God. 1808 W. SELWYN *Law Nisi Prius* II. 755 Neither the 4th nor 17th sections of this statute require, that the agent should be authorized by writing. 1837 LOCKHART *Scott* xxvii. (1845) 256/1 He pointed out to me this hand which, like the writing on Belshazzar's wall, disturbed his hour of hilarity. 1887 *Cornh. Mag.* Jan. 65 The laundress . . denied all knowledge of the type-writer or the writing.

allusively. ?1720 SWIFT *Poet. Wks.* (1736) 93 A baited Banker thus desponds, From his own Hand foresees his Fall; They have his Soul who have his Bonds; 'Tis like the Writing on the Wall. 1884 RIDER HAGGARD *Dawn* xxii, Cut it down, and you will have no more writing upon your wall. 1906 (*title*) The writing on the wall. 1949 E. COXHEAD *Wind in West* viii. 211 Just try to see the thing with . . your famous detachment, and you'll soon recognise the writing on the

wall. You've had your fling. 1965 *Listener* 2 Dec. 925/3 The 'eighties and 'nineties were the Golden Age [of music hall]; and in 1905 the writing was on the wall. . . Musical comedy, the cinema, television all hastened the decline. 1978 *Lancashire Life* Mar. 50/1, I was a fool not to see the writing on the wall when textile machinery manufacturers were rushing all over the world erecting spinning and weaving machinery.

transf. 1894 H. DRUMMOND *Ascent Man* 427 Nature is God's writing, and can only tell the truth.

7. a. A written composition; freq. *pl.*, the work or works of an author or group of authors; literary productions.

In frequent use from c 1560.

1340 *Ayenb.* 46 his boc is more ymad uor pe leawede, panne uor pe clerkes pet connee pe writings. 1382 WYCLIF 2 *Macc.* ii. 1 It is founden in dyscryuynge, or wrytyngis, of Jeremie, the prophete. c 1449 PECOCC *Repr.* i. xv. 81 Holi Writt in this wise takun, is not holier neither better than any other writing is. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 38 That suche wrytynges be approved by. . . discrete goostly fathers. 1638 JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 105 Famous men have studied to illustrate these Arts. . . by their writings and disputations. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 4 ¶ 8 The present Writing is only to admonish the World. a 1720 SEWEL *Hist. Quakers* (1722) Pref., The said Bishop. . . hath obtained such an high Esteem by his Writings. 1818 SHELLEY *Julian & M.* 340 If this sad writing thou shouldst ever see. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 108 The writings of the fathers. 1859 JEPHSON *Brittany* xiv. 233 A writing to the effect that. . . it [sc. a museum] was closed altogether.

b. the (sacred or holy) writings, the Scriptures. Also *spec.* = HAGIOGRAPHIA *sb. pl.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 13 panne pridde day. . . uor to uoluelle pe writings, he aros uram dyape to liue. a 1653 BINNING *Wks.* (1735) 20/2 The Hand of God must first write on their Heart, ere they understand the Writings of the Scriptures. 1663 BP. PATRICK *Parab. Pilgr.* (1687) 327 The truth of the holy Writings. 1711 FELTON *Dissert. Classics* (1718) 94 Tbe Sacred Writings, even in our Translation, preserve their Majesty. 1837 *Penny Cycl.* IX. 438/1 Mention is made of the use of signets in the sacred writings. a 1909 [N.E.D.], in note s.v. Prophet *sb.* 3]. 1941 R. H. PFEIFFER *Intro. to O.T.* (ed. 5) iv. 61 The third division of the Hebrew Bible, following the Law and the Prophets, is simply called the 'Writings' (Hebrew, *Ketubim*) or 'Hagiographa' (sacred writings), because it consists of a miscellany of independent books. 1976 *Church Times* 30 Jan. 6/1 He begins with Ecclesiastes and some of the other books from the Writings—namely, Proverbs, Job and the Psalms.

c. A musical composition.

1789 BURNAY *Hist. Mus.* III. 197 It appears from the writings of this. . . exquisite harmonist, that he had. . . studied the greatest masters of his own time.

8. a. A written document, note, etc.; a letter or missive.

1456 *Paston Lett. Suppl.* (1901) 58 All though my wrytynges put yow many tymes to gret labour. 1513 Q. CATH. in *Ellis Orig. Lett.* Ser. i. I. 90 Came a Post from my lord Howard with a writing at length of every thing as it was. 1555 *Instit. Gentl.* Lv. V. childe brought the same wryghting to the handes of Mertia. 1629 HOBBS *Thucyd.* (1822) 256 These were the contents of the writing. 1653 MILTON *Hirelings* Wks. 1851 V. 353 Without another clear and express Donation, wherof they shew no Evidence or Writing. 1890 GIRDLESTONE *Found. Bible* 21 There are frequent references in the Book of Ezra to writings, such as proclamations, genealogies, decrees, letters, copies.

b. A written paper or instrument, having force in law; a deed, bond agreement, or the like; a document relative to a marriage contract or settlement.

In very frequent use from c 1500.

1448 SHILLINGFORD *Lett.* (Camden) 66 If any suche wrytynge were knowe and proved by my seide Lorde and the other arbitrous. c 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 530 Into witness they put to their seales, euerych to others wrytynge. 1520 in Glass-cock *Rec. St. Michael's, Bp's Stortford* (1882) 37 [Plaid] for makynge the wrytynge bytwene the parissh and the bel-founder. 1592-3 in Barfield *Thatcham* (1901) II. 103 Pd. for two locks for the chest where the wrightings are kept. 1631 HEYWOOD *Fair Maid of West* III. i. 40 These writings are the evidence of Lands. 1668 SEDLEY *Mulberry Gard.* II. ii. 27 You do not lay the necessity of marrying Home enough to her. . . our Counsel [might] Have been drawing the Writings. 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 231 ¶ 2 The Lawyers finished the Writings (in which. . . there was no Pin-Money) and they were married. 1754 J. SHEBBEARE *Matrimony* (1766) I. 71 Perhaps your Lordship's Writings [= property-deeds] are in the Hands of those two Fellows. 1818 CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) I. 235 The Court ordered all deeds and writings. . . to be delivered up. 1840 THACKERAY *Shabby-genteel Story* ix. No writings at all were made, and the ceremony merely read through. 1893 SIR J. W. CHITTY in *Law Times Rep.* LXVIII. 430/1 The statute. . . requires a deed in cases where formerly a mere writing would have sufficed.

† c. A writ of divorce, etc. *Obs. rare.*

1382 WYCLIF *Col.* ii. 14 Doyng away that wrytyng of decree, or dom, that was a3ens zou. 1568 BIBLE (Bishop's) *Matt.* v. 31 Whosoever putteth away his wyfe, let hym geue her a wrytyng of diuorcement.

9. Wording or lettering scored, engraved, or impressed on a surface; an inscription.

1382 WYCLIF *Exod.* xxxii. 16 The wrytyng forsothe of God was grauen in the tables. 1387 TREvisa *Higden* VII. 149 His epithaphy—pat is, wrytyng on his grave. 1388 WYCLIF *Mark* xii. 16 Brynge 3e to me a peny. . . Whos is this ymage, and the wrytyng? 1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 397 He shewid the wrytyng that that other ymage helde. 1530 PALSGR. 675/1 There was a wrytyng upon his grave, but the weather hath put it out. 1560 BIBLE (Genev.) *Eclous.* xlv. 11 Precious stones. . . set in golde. . . with a writing grauen after the number of the tribes of Israel. 1611 BIBLE *Exod.* xxxix. 30 They made the plate. . . of pure gold, and wrote upon it a writing, like to the engravings of a signet. 1623 COCKERAM II, Writings on Tombes, epitaphes. 1706 [see WRITE v. 20]. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 917/1

The most ancient remains of writing. . . are upon hard substances, such as stones and metals.

10. Words, letters, etc., embodied in written (or typewritten) form; written lettering.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 9294 He so moche sorow hadde, As hys wrytyng was alle to-fade. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* (1738) s.v., J. Ravenau. . . shews how to revive, and restore old writings almost effaced. 1787 *Phil. Trans.* LXXVII. 451 A new Method of recovering the Legibility of decayed Writings. 1834 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Boarding-ho.* ii. The writing looked like a skein of thread in a tangle. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech. Suppl.* 957 For restoring faded writing. Brush it over with a solution of ammonium sulphide. 1899 WARDLE *Univ. Typewriter Man.* 14 Regulating the width between the lines of writing.

11. Printing. (See NEWS *sb.* 5 b.)

III. attrib. and Comb. 12. a. Simple attrib., as *writing chair, course, day, exercise, †glove, hand, lesson, night, -speed, -system, terms, -time.*

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 425/2 A wrytyng chare. 1582 MULCASTER *Elementarie* (1925) 255 The plating of this my writing course. 1663 WOOD *Life* (O.H.S.) I. 501 A pair of writing gloves, is. 1675 MARVELL *Corr. Wks.* (Grosart) II. 450 Having been always on writing nights in an hurry. 1768 GOLDSM. *Good-n. Man* Epilogue, My writing days are over. 1788 COWPER *Wks.* (1837) XV. 205 My writing-time is expended. 1805 SCOTT *Let. in Lockhart* (1837) II. ii. 44, I shall hold myself well paid on the writing hand. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* iii, Preparations for giving Kit a writing lesson. 1857 W. COLLINS *Dead Secret* iv, The two were not. . . on speaking, or even on writing terms. 1875 DAVIDSON *House Painting* 206 What is called the Script or writing character, the most elegant of all. 1906 P. MACQUOID *Hist. Eng. Furnit.* III. iv. 139 (caption) Mahogany writing-chair. 1946 H. P. MAYNARD in W. S. Knickerbocker 20th-Cent. *Eng.* 188 One of the most important skills is that of writing-speed. 1953 C. F. HOCKETT in Saporta & Bastian *Psycholinguistics* (1961) 58/1 In devising a writing-system one can. . . eliminate a symbol needed earlier. 1979 *Country Life* 14 June 1910/3 Corner chair appears to be the usual description nowadays: they used to be known as writing chairs. 1980 *English World-Wide* I. 1. 20 Almost all Native American writing systems developed. . . for bilingual education purposes utilize writing systems similar to English.

b. In sense 'used for writing with', as *writing apparatus, -brush, cane, fluid, implemēt, tool, wire*, etc. Also WRITING-INK, -PEN.

Cf. OE. *writing-feher* 'a pen'.

1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 7/2 Graphium, a writing wyer. 1606 HOLLAND *Sueton.* 261 The sharp point of a bodkin or writing steele. 1800 M. KOOPS *Hist. Acc. Inv. Paper* 37 *Charta Augusta*. . . being too thin for the writing-cane. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* viii. vi. ¶ 1 That minister. . . made me take my writing apparatus. 1825 SCOTT *Talism.* xxi, Give him writing-tools. 1840 *Patents* (1869) 56 Ink or writing fluids. 1854 DICKENS *Hard Times* II. i. 134 Mrs. Sparsit was conscious that by coming in the evening-tide among the desks and writing implements, she shed a feminine. . . grace. 1866 *Patents* (1869) 388 Articles commonly called 'writing' or 'library' sets. 1873 W. STOKES *Rapid Writing* 78 The formidable iron Writing implement bearing the name of Style. 1921 H. E. PALMER *Princ. Language-Study* vii. 85 Suppose we wish to make Chinese characters with a native writing-brush. 1978 *China Now* Mar./Apr. 34/3 The following suggested items can be obtained from shops which cater for local Chinese communities: wok (a deep frying pan), abacus, Chinese writing brush.

c. In names of devices for performing or executing writing, as *writing automaton, -ball, †engine, machine, telegraph.*

1695 *Athenian Merc.* 9 April, The Writing Engine, for taking several Copies of the same thing at once. 1705 J. DUNTON *Life & Errors* 239 [Ridpath] invented The Polygraphy, or Writing Engine. 1799 *Patents* (1869) 8 A certain. . . writing and drawing machine. 1819 *Ibid.* 21 A machine. . . which I denominate the penographic or writing instrument. 1868 *Chambers's Jnl.* 136/2 [A] Writing-machine for the Blind. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2823/2 *Writing-telegraph*, one which sends autographic messages. 1888 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.*, *Writing-ball*, an electric printing apparatus. 1904 STANDEN & TAYLOR *Typing* i, Manipulating the writing machine [= typewriter].

d. In sense 'used or designed for writing upon', as *writing cloth, material, slate, surface*. Also WRITING-BOOK, -PAPER.

1800 M. KOOPS *Hist. Acc. Inv. Paper* 33 These writing-materials were not in general use. 1809 R. LANGFORD *Intro. Trade* 63, 2 [Reams] Writing Royal. 1851 *Catal. Gt. Exhib.* 540 Dowse's patent tracing and writing cloth. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2477/2 *Table*, a tablet. . . [or] writing-surface. 1888 BURGON *12 Good Men* II. v. 36 To get out his writing materials, and to scribble.

e. In sense 'forming a support or surface for writing on', as *writing ledge, slope*. Also WRITING-BOARD, -DESK, -TABLE 3.

1855 *Patents* (1869) 179 [The cover] which forms the continuation of the writing slope. 1902 *How to Make Things* 53/1 The construction of the writing ledge.

f. In sense 'engaged for or employed in writing', as *writing class, clerk, hand*.

1772 J. WEDGWOOD *Let.* 28 Sept. (1965) 136 What were all the rest of the Writing Clerks doing not to observe this. 1815 SCOTT *Antiq.* vi, My lawyer[s]. . . writing-clerk (habited as a sharp-shooter) walked to and fro before his door. 1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib., Brit.* II. No. 2867, Saving the cost of a writing clerk. 1896 *Harper's Mag.* XCIII. 17 If he ever puts me into one of his books I'll. . . amputate his writing-hand. 1899 CROCKETT *Kit Kennedy* 79 The writing-classes joggled each others' arms and elbows.

g. With advs., as *writing-off, -out*. (Cf. 3 d.) 1901 *Westm. Gaz.* 28 June 11/1 Its sister in misfortune. . . dare not face the writing-off stage yet. 1904 *Ibid.* 9 Feb. 4/2

The 'writing-out' process from which most popular authors suffer.

13. Special Combs.: *writing bed*, a board or level surface for writing on; *writing block*, (a) [BLOCK *sb.* 10 c], a pad of writing-paper; (b) [BLOCK *sb.* 19 e] = *writer's block* s.v. WRITER 3; *writing booth*, †(a) *Sc.* a writing-chamber; (b) a booth or stall where writing is transacted; *writing cabinet*, an article of furniture in which a writing-desk is combined with drawers, shelves, and other facilities for writing; *writing-case*, a portable case for holding writing requisites, and providing a desk or surface to write upon; also *Comb.*; *writing centre*, a physical centre which controls the action of writing; *writing-chamber*, a room or chamber where writing is transacted; freq. *pl.*, a lawyer's offices; *writing diamond*, = DIAMOND *sb.* 4; † *writing dust*, = *writing sand*; *writing-frame*, a frame with guides designed to help the blind in writing; *writing hand*, the peculiar position assumed by the hand in shaking palsy (*Syd. Soc. Lex.*); † *writing house*, a writing-chamber; *writing-pad*, (a) a blotter serving as a surface for writing on, sometimes (quot. 1895) furnished with writing materials, etc.; (b) a pad (PAD *sb.* 3 4) of notepaper; *writing-room*, a writing-chamber; † *writing-sand*, a kind of sand used to dry wet ink after writing; *writing slider* (see quot. 1969); *writing speed*, (a) *Electronics*, the maximum speed at which the electron beam can scan the screen of a cathode-ray tube and its path still be recorded by the excitation of phosphors or on photographic film; (b) the effective speed of videotape past a head when the rotation of the head is taken into account; † *writing-standish* = STANDISH; † *writing type*, script type.

1911 *Daily Colonist* (Victoria, B.C.) 14 Apr. 3/5 (Adv.), Writing Desks. Just the thing for the home, nicely finished in Imperial Golden Oak, large *writing bed with enclosed pigeon holes for papers. 1971 *New Yorker* 8 May 3 Open, it's a sewing table. Closed, it's a writing bed. . . a fine mahogany Sheraton. 1913 'S. ROHMER' *Mystery of Dr Fu-Manchu* xxix. 294 For this dreary vigil I had come prepared with a bunch of rough notes, a *writing-block, and a fountain pen. 1950 E. BERGLER *Writer & Psychoanal.* p. ix, They came with only one purpose in mind—to be cured of their 'writing block' (a euphemism for sterility of productivity). 1977 *N.Y. Rev. Bks.* 15 Sept. 36/3 This connection would also help to explain Darwin's long delay in publishing his theory (certainly he had no 'writing block'). 1983 T. ALLBURY *Pay Any Price* xvii. 179 As Randall sat down the consultant took out a pen and reached for a writing block. 1597 *Extr. Aberdeen Reg.* (1848) II. 121 Ane hous. . . to be ane *vretting buyth to. . . thair servitour and clerk. 1609 in *Hist. Writers to Signet* (1890) p. xlviii, All wrytters to the signet are. . . bothe. . . in the streitis and in thair wrytting boathe, to wear. . . a gowne. 1898 *Wide World Mag.* July 448 Public writing booths in Barcelona. 1851 *Catal. Gt. Exhib.* 758 Monoeloid *writing cabinet. . . The whole of the drawers, closets, and partitions may be opened by one lock. 1813 M. EDGEWORTH *Let.* 19 Apr. (1971) 25 Mrs. Sneyd and Emma have given me a most convenient red morocco *writing case. 1853 *Arab. Nts.* (Rtldg.) 253 He drew from a little writing-ease. . . some paper, a cut cane, and an ink-horn. 1858 CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* vii. iv. ad fin., Crown-Prince has given him in keeping a writing-case with private letters. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 655 If the tumour should happen to produce complete destruction of the auditory nerve-centre. . . or the *writing centre. 1618 in *Hist. Writers to Signet* (1890) p. xliii, The *wrytting chalmere of Adame Lawtie. 1708 J. SPOTTISWOODE *Intro. Stile* Pref., I did draw out of my Collections I had made, while in a Writing-Chamber, . . . such [etc.]. 1875 SCRIVENER *Lect. Text N. Test.* 4 In the scriptorium or writing-chamber of their convents. 1827 FARADAY *Chem. Manip.* iii. 71 Fragments of diamond. . . set in handles. . . are called scratching or *writing diamonds. 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* 69 The shining or glassie powder. . . usually implied in *writing dust. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2823 *Writing-frames for the blind. 1597 *Extr. Aberdeen Reg.* (1848) II. 153 The *wrytting hous for the clerk of this burgh. 1598 FLORIO, *Scrittioito*, . . a counting house or writing house. 1865 *Writing-pad [s.v. PAD *sb.* 3 4]. 1895 *Army & Navy Co-op Soc. Price List* 598 The 'York' Knee Writing pad. Contains Safety Ink, Scissors, Paper Knife, . . . pockets filled with Note Paper and Envelopes [etc.]. 1906 E. JOHNSTON *Writing & Illuminating* ii. 50 Under the writing-paper there should be a *writing-pad, consisting of one or two sheets of blotting-paper. 1917 *Harrods General Catal.* 297/2 Harrods Writing Pads. 100 Sheets. No. 1. Large 8vo., Thick Cream Wove, Plain, 8 x 5. O/6. 1972 'W. HAGGARD' *Protectors* i. 3 Scobell had risen behind his desk. There was a writing-pad on it, a pen—nothing more. 1825 FOSBROKE *Encycl. Antiq.* 108 Monasteries had. . . Museums, Scriptoria, or *writing-rooms. 1850 THACKERAY *Pendennis* i, The adjoining writing-room. 1750 HEATH *Acc. Scilly* 57 [A bay] where the Beach. . . is covered with an exceeding fine *Writing Sand. 1803 HATCHETT in *Phil. Trans.* XCIII. 174 Fine white writing-sand. 1803 T. SHERATON *Cabinet Dict.* 261 The top drawer [of a lobby chest] is usually divided into two; and sometimes there is a *writing slider which draws out under the top. 1969 J. GLOAG *Short Dict. Furnit.* (rev. ed.) 731 *Writing slider*, a sliding shelf, made to draw out beneath the top of a chest of drawers. 1933 R. A. W. WATT et al. *Appl. Cathode Ray Oscillograph* ii. 37 This statement should not. . . be read as indicating the limiting *writing speed' of the oscillograph used. 1954 LEWIS & WELLS *Millimicrosecond Pulse Techniques* vi. 196 A small spot size is required in order that the deflection sensitivity [of the cathode ray tube] may be high, but if the size is reduced too much there will not be

sufficient brightness to give the necessary writing speed. **1981** I. HICKMAN *Oscilloscopes* vii. 95 Writing speed is defined as the maximum speed at which a spot, passing once across the tube face, can be photographed under specified conditions. **1983** E. TRUNDLE *Beginner's Guide Videocassette Recorders* i. 3 This was simply the idea of moving the record or replay heads rapidly over the surface of a slowly-moving tape to achieve the necessary high 'writing' speed. **1984** *What Video?* Aug. 24/1 The soundtrack was being recorded at a writing speed of 580 cm per second—that's over 15 times the speed of professional studio recordings. **1773** BOSWELL *Let. to Johnson* 2 Dec. in *Life*, You may...have a little *writing-standish made of it. **1815** J. SCOTT *Vis. Paris* 313 *Writing types, ... a kind of letter ... much used in France.

writing ('raɪtɪŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING².] That writes; engaged in, addicted to, writing. **1592** SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* i. ii. 44 What names the writing person hath here writ. **1711** SHAFESB. *Charac.* III. 246 A Rank superiour to the Writing Worthys. **1728** RAMSAY *General Mistake* 181 To be a wirrykow to writing fools. **1848** DICKENS *Domby* xxiv, Do you take any interest in writing people? **1893** *Athenæum* 24 June 802/3 A great mistake, ... to which one writing architect at least is liable.

'writing-board. [WRITING *vbl. sb.* 12e + BOARD *sb.*] A board on which to rest the paper while writing.

c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 534 Wrytynge borde, pluteum. **1648** HEXHAM II, *Een Schrijf-berdt*, a Writing board. **1773** J. NOORTHOUCK *Hist. London* 619 The writing school... contains long writing boards... to sit and write upon. **1833** LOUDON *Encycl. Archit.* §630 Underneath this writing-board is a space for papers.

'writing-book. [WRITING *vbl. sb.* 12d + BOOK *sb.*]

1. A blank book in which to write for purposes of record, etc.; a book containing or consisting of writing-paper.

1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Cayer*, a quier of any written paper, when a whole writing booke is deuided into equal parts. **1645** *Papers rel. Scots Army* (S.H.S.) 506 Paid for 3 wreatting books, £0 14. 6. **1701** *Maryland Laws* v. (1723) 16 Substantial Writing Books... for registering such Proceedings in. **1848** THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxv, Poor Briggs went and placed herself obediently at the writing-book. **1865** *Enquire Within* (ed. 27) 93 Buy coarse white paper, ... ready to be made into writing-books.

2. An exercise book in which to practise penmanship or handwriting; a copy-book.

1612 BRINSLEY *Lud. Lit.* iv. (1627) 30 A little copie booke fastened to the top of his writing booke. **1775** ASH. **1850** C'TESS OSSOLI *Woman in 19th Cent.* (1862) 333 Having the youngest daughter set... copies in the writing book. **1878** B. HARTE *Man on Beach* 64 Guiding her hand over the writing book.

'writing-box. [WRITING *vbl. sb.* 13 + BOX *sb.*²] A small box for containing paper and other writing requisites. Also, a small portable writing-desk; cf. WRITING-DESK 2.

1474 *Paston Lett.* III. 110 My wryghtyng box of syprese. **1757** R. BENTLEY tr. *Hentzner's Trav.* 31 Two little silver cabinets... which she uses for writing boxes. **1779** JOHNSON *L.P., Pope* (1868) 416 That his writing-box should be set upon his bed before he rose. **1817** J. EVANS *Excurs. Windsor*, etc. 164 A writing-box of sandal wood, inlaid with ivory. **1837** LOCKHART *Scott* II. ii. 63 The... business which must be despatched before he had a right to close his writing-box. **1960** H. HAYWARD *Antique Coll.* 312/2 *Writing-box stands*: the post-Restoration writing-box might be placed on a stand instead of a table. This had gate-legs and the fall-down flap of the box opened on to them for writing. **1971** *Country Life* 1 July 22/1 Portable table-desks or writing-boxes were recorded in the 15th century.

'writing-desk. [WRITING *vbl. sb.* 12e + DESK *sb.*]

1. A desk used or designed for writing on; such a desk fitted with conveniences for holding writing materials, papers, etc. Also *transf.*

1611 FLORIO, *Scrittoio*, ... a writing deske. **1688** HOLME *Armoury* iii. 370/2 He beareth Argent, a Writing Desk, proper. **c 1732** SAVAGE *Wks.* (1775) II. 263 The advertisement of the Lady's writing-desk. **1829** SCOTT *Wav. Gen. Pref.* ¶11 The drawers of an old writing desk. **1840** THACKERAY *Shabby-genteel Story* i, A number of... bills, neatly docketed in his writing desk.

attrib. **1807** JANE AUSTEN *Let.* 8 Feb. (1952) 178 She is now talking away... & examining the Treasures of my Writing-desk drawer. **1891** C. NISBET & D. LEMON (*title*), Everybody's Writing-Desk Book.

2. A make of portable writing-case or box which on being opened forms or provides a desk or surface for writing on.

1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib., Brit.* II. No. 6939, Despatch boxes, writing desks, and dressing cases. **1865** *Patents* (1869) 370 Improvements in portfolios, writing desks, writing cases.

'writinger. *nonce-word.* [f. WRITING *vbl. sb.* + -ER¹.] An expert in handwriting.

1868 FURNIVALL in *Percy's Folio MS.* I. p. xiii, The change of the shape of the c... may help some future and more learned writinger to settle the date.

'writing ink. Also writing-ink. [WRITING *vbl. sb.* 12b + INK *sb.*¹ 1.] A make of ink or writing-fluid prepared or suitable for writing with the pen.

1548 ELYOT, *Atramentum scriptorium*, wrytyng ynke. **1663** BOYLE *Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* II. 127, I have presently made a Mixture... to serve for Writing Ink. **1688** *Patents* (1869) 2 A certaine powder... doth immediately turne the same [water] into very good black writing ink. **1728** CHAMBERS *Cycl.* (1738) s.v. *Ink*, Chinese Ink is... not fluid, like our writing

Inks. **1838** *Penny Cycl.* XII. 478/2 A blue writing ink has been lately introduced. **1887** D. A. Low *Machine Draw.* (1892) 2 For inking in drawings the best Indian ink should be used, and not common writing ink.

Comb. **1858** SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade* 417 *Writing-ink Maker*, a manufacturer of fluid inks for writing with.

'writing-master. [WRITING *vbl. sb.* 13 + MASTER *sb.*¹ 11.]

1. A teacher of or instructor in writing, penmanship, or calligraphy. Also *transf.*

1582 MULCASTER *Elementarie* I. (1925) 62 The hole ortografie, which concerneth the right writing of our tung, will... help the writing master. **1646** in Roberts *Soc. Hist. Eng.* (1856) 407 Given to the writing mr., 2s 6d. **1678** DANSON in Marvell *Def. John Howe* 126 With a Writing-Master's directing his Scholars hand. **1710** SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 12 Nov., That is a common caution that writing-masters give their scholars. **1754** G. BICKHAM (*title*), The English Monarchical Writing-Master. A new county copy-book. **1812** MISS MITFORD in *L'Estrange Life* (1870) I. vi. 182 'Patience is a virtue,' was my writing-master's favourite copy. **1862** MRS. H. WOOD *Mrs. Hallib. Troub.* II. xi, In the college school. There certainly was a writing-master.

2. The yellow-hammer, *Emberiza citrinella*.

1875 G. C. DAVIES *Rambles xxxii.* 231 Yellowhammers or 'writing masters', as the country lads sometimes call them, from the scribbings on the egg shells.

'writing-paper. [WRITING *vbl. sb.* 12d + PAPER *sb.*]

1. A special make of paper, usu. with a smooth surface and sized, for writing upon; now *esp.*, notepaper.

1548 ELYOT, *Epistolaris charta*, wrytyng paper. **1596** *Edward III.* II. ii, Go, breake the thundring parchment bottom out... I will vse it as my writing paper. **1600** J. LANE *Tom Tel-troth* (1876) 113 If all the earth were writing paper made. **1686** *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2179/4 All sorts of Writing and Printing Paper. **1770** *Phil. Trans.* LX. 391 The film was not thicker than common writing-paper. **1809** MALKIN *Gil Blas* VI. i. ¶4 Writing paper such as a secretary of state need not be ashamed of. **1879** *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* III. 110/2 Strong and tough writing-papers for account-books.

attrib. **1827** FARADAY *Chem. Manip.* i. 23 A blank writing paper book... with pen and ink.

2. A sheet of this. *rare*—1.

c 1777 in Evans *Old Ball.* I. 255 A writing-paper... Upon his head he had to wear, which did his treason show.

'writing-pen. [WRITING *vbl. sb.* 12b + PEN *sb.*² 4.] A pen suitable or adapted for writing.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P.R.* xvii. xxxi. (Addit. MS.), A wrytyng penne hatte *Calamus scripturalis*. **1535** COVERDALE *Judges* v. 14 Out of Zabulon are there become gouernours thorow the wrytyng penne [Luther *Schreibfeder*]. **1656** EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini, Pol. Touchstone* 410 He bore in his chief Standard... a writing Pen. **1688** HOLME *Armoury* (Roxb.) III. xv. 20/1 The Pen Knife is that with which we make the Pen, or writing Pen. **1831** *Patents* (1869) 30 Certain improvements in the construction of writing pens. **1866** *Ibid.* 390 To utilize writing pens which are... worn out.

'writing-school. [WRITING *vbl. sb.* 13 + SCHOOL *sb.*¹ 1, 9.]

†1. A school in which writing or calligraphy is taught. *Obs.*

1530 PALSGR. 433/1 He goeth to the wrytyng scole. **1607** *Extr. Aberd. Reg.* (1848) II. 294 A wrytting schoole... for instructing of the youth in writing and arithmetik allanerlie. **1691** *Athenian Mercury* 30 May, Advert., Young Gentlemen... may be faithfully Taught by the Author... at his Writing-School. **1721** W. WEBSTER *Attempt* (title-p.), The Education of Youth... especially with Regard to their Studies at the Writing-School. **1773** [see WRITING-BOARD]. **1780** *Mirror* No. 81, Going along with a set of other girls... to... a public writing-school.

2. At Oxford University: A room used or set apart for written examinations.

1876 T. G. JACKSON *New Exam. Schools Univ. Oxf.* 3 The three Writing Schools... occupy... the first floor. *Ibid.*, The large crowded Writing Schools. *Ibid.* 6 For occasional use as a Writing School... I have arranged two of the Vivâ Voce Schools.

So †writing-schoolmaster. *Obs.*

1590 P. BALES (*title*), The Writing Schoolemaster: Containing three Bookes in one;... teaching Swift... True... Faire writing. **1631** J. DAVIES (Heref.) *Lively Portraiture* (title-p.), The Writing Schoolemaster: The Anatomy of Faire Writing.

'writing-table. [WRITING *vbl. sb.* 12e + TABLE *sb.*]

†1. A small thin tablet, sheet, or plate of wood, ivory, or other material for writing (esp. notes or memoranda) upon; a writing-tablet; = TABLE *sb.* 2b. Cf. TABLE *sb.* 1c. *Usu. pl. Obs.*

1526 TINDALE *Luke* i. 63 Zacari... axed for wrytyng tables and wroote. **1589** NASHE *Pasquill's Counter-C.* A ij b, A newe paire of Writing-tables with profitable Notes for that quarter. **1625** K. LONG tr. *Barclay's Argenis* IV. iii. 242 She taketh up her Writing-Tables, in which she writeth these lynes. **1696** in *Harl. Misc.* (1744) I. 512 Writing-tables Paper's Place supply'd. **1829** J. MURRAY *Pract. Rem. Mod. Paper* 15 The use of lead as the material of the writing table. †2. = ESCRITOIRE. *Obs.*

1712 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 30 Oct., Lady Orkney is making me a writing-table. **1722** *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6119/3 [He] took with him a Writing Table, containing 15 Drawers.

3. A table used, suitable, or adapted for writing on, having usu. drawers and other accessories or conveniences.

1833 LOUDON *Encycl. Archit.* §2096 A handsome writing-table, with numerous drawers and divisions for containing

papers, money, &c. **1862**— [see KNEE-HOLE]. **1891** KIPLING *Light that Failed* (1900) 227 Torpenhow brought him the money... and carefully put it away in the writing-table.

attrib. **1893** MARY CHOLMONDELEY *Diana Tempest* xi, The little pile... that you wound up, and put in your writing-table drawer.

b. = WRITING-BOARD.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2823 The writing table lets down, exposing a number of drawers, shelves, and pigeon-holes.

So writing-tablet, = sense 1 above; also, a pad (PAD *sb.*³ 4) of paper for making notes, etc.; = TABLET *sb.* 1 e.

1829 J. MURRAY *Pract. Rem. Mod. Paper* 17 There are writing tablets of ivory, and of wax. **1831** *Patents* (1869) 31 A durable copy book or writing tablet. **1891** Smith's *Dict. Antig.* II. 753 Ordinary Greek writing tablets. **1895** *Army & Navy Co-op. Soc. Price List* 619 Writing Tablets. 'The Remember.' Bound in long-grained, polished French Morocco. The Refills are made to slip in and out of case. **1917** *Harrods General Catal.* 296/2 Writing tablets. For Scribbling Memoranda and for School Purposes.

†writling, early f. RITLING (var. RECKLING).

1611 COTGR., *Coât*, the vnderling, starueling, or writhing of a beast. *Ibid.*, *Grugeons*, the smallest, or most writhen fruit on a tree, writhings. *Ibid.* s.vv. *Couât*, *Regrouvi*.

†writrix. *nonce-word.* [f. WRITER, after L. fem. agent-nouns in -trix.] A female writer; an authoress.

1772 NUGENT *Hist. Fr. Gerund* I. 145 Why should it not be said, she was not a common woman, but a geniuseess, and an elegant writrix?

written ('rit(ə)n), *ppl. a.* Forms: 4–6 writen (5 *Sc.* -in, 5 ywriton), 4 wreten (5 -on, 6 -yn, *Sc.* -in); 5 writtin, wryttin, -yn, 6– written (6 whrythyn), 7 writt'n. [pa. pple. of WRITE v.]

1. a. That is composed, recorded, preserved, or mentioned in writing; committed to writing; also, that is in writing (as opposed to oral or printed); manuscript.

In very frequent use from *c* 1570. *a 1300*, etc. [see 1 b]. **1485** in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. V. 385 The above wrytten Perse Lynche, Mayor. *c 1511* *First Eng. Bk. Amer.* Introd. (Arb.) p. xxxi, In the lande of Armeneten... is whrythyn seruyce of the masses. **1565** HARDING *Answ. Ivelles Challenge* 30b, Things... either declared by written scriptures, or taught by the holy ghost. **1589** HAKLUYT *Voy. Ep. Ded.* ¶2 Printed or wrytten discoueries and voyages. **1617**–20 MORYSON *Itin.* (1903) 139 The written Relations of this tyme testify that... they mantayned... 600th men at Armes. **1669** HOLDER *Elem. Speech* 9 Written Language... is permanent. **1738** C'TESS POMFRET in *C'tess Hartford's Corr.* (1805) I. 24, I make the tour of the world in Gemelli's written one. **1782** [see WRITER 3. c] **1837** DICKENS *Pickw.* II, He will consent to accept a written apology. **1865** *Patents* (1869) 365 Letters and other written documents. **1899** WARDLE *Univ. Typewriter Man.* 6 The Bell gives the operator warning when the written line is about to be completed.

fig. **1605** SHAKS. *Macb.* v. iii. 42 Can'st thou not... Raze out the written troubles of the Braine? *a 1658* LOVELACE *Poems* (1904) 168 O saered Peincture!... Thou... art a written and a body'd mind. **1801** SOUTHEY *Thalaba* XII. vii, Bitter penitence, That gives no respite night nor day from grief, To abide the written hour. **1821** SHELLEY *Hellas* 809 Thou wouldst ask that giant spirit The written fortunes of thy house.

transf. **1889** SUTHERLAND *Sign-Writing* II. 2/1 The consideration of what a written sign ought to be. **1902** C. R. CONDER *First Bible* 62 To assign dates to the written monuments on stone.

b. Of laws: Reduced to, established by, writing; formulated in documents, codes, or printed works. (Cf. UNWRITTEN *ppl. a.* 1 b.)

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 14843 We sari men, quat mai wee sai, Ne knau we noight be written lai. *c 1425* WYNTOUN *Cron.* III. Prol. 2 Moysses... Brought to be lowis par wrytтын lawys. **1471** CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 146 Alle lawe posityf and alle lawe wretoun condempne the vnto the deth. **1684** SIR G. MACKENZIE *Inst. Law Scot.* (1694) 4 Our written Law comprehends, First, our Statutory Law [etc.]. **1728** CHAMBERS *Cycl.* (1738) s.v. *Writing*, We also say, *written law*, *lex scripta*, in opposition to common law. **1853** [see WRITABLE a. 1]. **1882** *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 365 The question whether a written law comes relatively early or late in the history of a nation.

c. Expressed in due literary form.

1909 J. R. WARE *Passing Eng.* 183/2 *Not enough written* (Authors', 1870), not sufficiently corrected for style. **1922** F. M. FORD *Let.* 14 Aug. (1965) 141 *Felicity Chimney* is a much more ambitious matter. The only thing that is wrong with it is that it is too written. **1963** *Times Lit. Suppl.* 1 Mar. 154/1 The writing is slipshod and frequently repetitive; in fact, as Henry James would say, it is not 'written' at all.

2. a. That is inscribed or carved upon; bearing engraving or inscription.

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* XII. 114 Grekis sayn that pechis we may make Ywriton [L. *scripta*] growe. *c 1793* *Encycl. Brit.* XII. 433 Written Mountain, Mountain of Inscriptions, ... a supposed mountain... in the wilderness of Sinai. **1794** W. HUTCHINSON *Hist. Cumbld.* I. 138 Written Rocks on Gelt. **1861** READE *Cloister & H. lv.* Presently we did pass a narrow lane, and... espied a written stone.

b. Bearing, inscribed or covered with, writing. Also with *on*.

1580 [see WRITING-BOOK 1]. **1596** SHAKS. *Merch.* V. II. vii. 64 A carrion death, Within whose emptie eye there is a written scroule. **1656** T. VIOLET *Proposals* 19 A written parchment, and a written sheet of paper annexed thereunto. **1692** *Athenian Merc.* 24 Dec., A flat bundle of written Papers. **1831** JAMES *Phil. Augustus* II. ii, Treaties which in all ages have been but written parchments. **1869** *Patents* 6 The written paper and the copying paper are laid on a board.

1948 A. N. KEITH *Three came Home* vii. 124 They were constantly looking for my papers, written-on or otherwise.

1955 E. BOWEN *World of Love* iv. 77 The written-on blue envelope.

fig. 1820 SHELLEY *Prometh. Unb.* II. i. 110 Oh, lift Thine eyes, that I may read his written soul!

†3. **written hand**, cursive form of writing; a form of running hand. *Obs.*

1531 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 45 A prymer lymmed with gold and with Imagery, wretyn hond. 1582 T. WATSON *Centurie of Love* Ep. Ded., This worke... being as yet but in written hand. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* I. 86 An old breviary of written hand and much esteemed. a 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 27 Jan. 1658, He had... skill to reade most written hands. 1764 FOOTE *Mayor of G.* II. i. We appoint him our Secretary for he can read written hand. 1849 *Chambers's Jnl.* 13 Oct. 239/1 Here, Theresa, see what it [sc. a paper] says: you can read written hand better than I.

4. Of letters, etc.: Traced or formed with the pen.

1582 MULCASTER *Elementarie* (1925) 60 Som written figure of accent. c 1620 A. HUME *Brit. Tongue* (1865) 7 The symbol, then, I cal the written letter. 1861 PALEY *Æschylus* (ed. 2), *Persians* 351 The vestiges of the written digamma. 1877 N. & Q. 31 March 246 Origin of written characters. 1881 *Lancet* 26 Nov. 904/2 As he wrote each letter he named one aloud, but the written and spoken letter never corresponded with one another.

5. a. That has been written to. Also with *to*. In quotes. *absol.*

1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) I. 206, I command thee to be pleased: If not for the writer's, or written's sake, for thy word's sake. *Ibid.* II. 121 [The letter] was written... on one knee, kneeling with the other. Not from reverence to the written to, however.

b. With *advs.* That has been written *about*, *down*, *off*, *out*, or *up*.

1754 RICHARDSON *Corr.* (1804) II. 198 Your capital men... with their short written-down speeches. 1890 G. B. SHAW in *Star* 7 Mar. 2/3 The imagination of the public has undoubtedly been strongly seized by the spectacle of the much-written-up Tosca at the height of its prosperity. 1893 *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 59/1 Not that I'd b'lieve any written-out foolishness. 1897 P. WARUNG *Tales Old Regime* 149 Negligently-written-up records. 1897 MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 205 Using the native languages in his phonetically written-down form. 1899 *Daily News* 22 June 8/1 The best written about poet of modern times. 1961 *Sunday Express* 12 Feb. 9/2 He accuses them of... selling 'written off' car wrecks. 1964 *Times Rev. Industry & Technol.* Feb. 9/1 The old British Lion Corporation... was... wound up in 1954 with a written-off loss of £2,969,000. 1972 *Listener* 6 July 3/2 *Catch 44*... is becoming one of the most written-up television projects in America.

c. **written out**: *spec.* of a writer, that has exhausted his creative capacity. Cf. *WRITE* v. 17 b.

a 1911 D. G. PHILLIPS *Susan Lenox* (1917) II. xii. 355 He's had several failures... They say he's written out. 1959 C. WILLIAMS *Man in Motion* ii. 21 Suzy Patton, the has-been. The written-out writer. 1978 A. POWELL *Messengers of Day* vii. 108 After a lifetime of work a novelist can possibly be 'written out'.

writter ('ritə(r)). [f. *WRIT* sb. + -ER¹.] One who serves a writ or process.

1882 *Punch* 4 Nov. 215/2 There was a regular army of writters to meet me. 1887 BLACK *Sabina Zembra* xxxi, 'The writters would be after him like a pack of wolves.

†**wrive**, v. *Obs.* In 5 wryve. [ad. MDu. *wriwen* (Du. and Flem. *wrijven*; MLG. and LG. *wriwen*, *wrifēn*; WFrīs. *wriuwie*, NFrīs. *wriwe*), = OHG. *riban* (MHG. *riben*, G. *reiben*).] *trans.* To rub. 1481 CAXTON *Reynard* xliii. (Arb.) 116 They rubbed and wryued hym vnder his temples and eyen. [Hence 1894 F. T. ELLIS *Reynard the Fox* 328 They... wryved his eye.]

†**wrixle**, v. *Obs.* Also wrixel, wryxle. [OE. *wrixlian*, -an to alter, change, exchange, etc., also *gewrixlian*, altered form of *zewixlian*, = OFrīs. *wixlia*, OS. *wehsalon*, OHG. *wehsalon* (G. *wechseln*), etc.]

1. *trans.* To alter, change, confound.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 9327 What whylenes, or wanspede, wryxles our mynd? *Ibid.* 10328 Wodenes þe wrixlet, & þi wit failt.

2. To exchange.

c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3120 þai hade laisure... þere likyng to say, And wrixle þere wit & þere wille shewe.

†**wrixling**, vbl. sb. *Obs.* -¹ [OE. *wrixlung* 'mutuum', f. *wrixlian*: see prec.] The action of changing, or the fact of being changed.

a 1240 *Lofsong* in *O.E. Hom.* I. 207 Ich bide þe... bi his cloðes wrixlunge, Nu red nu hwit, him on hokerunge.

wrizzled ('riz(ə)ld), a. Now *dial.* Also wrizled (7 wristled, 8 wrisled). [? var. of *WRITHLED* a.] Marked with creases, wrinkles, or corrugations; wrinkled, shrivelled.

The reading *wrizled* in Shaks. 1 *Hen. VI.* II. iii. 23 (where the authoritative texts have *writhled*) is due to Hammer, 1744.

1590 SPENSER *F.Q.* I. viii. 47 Her wrizled skin as rough, as maple rind, So scabby was, that [etc.]. c 1656 SIR H. CHOLMLEY *Mem.* (1870) 32 A wristled [finger] nail, as if it had been crushed. 1705 tr. *Bosman's Guinea* 49 They look as awkward and wrisled as an old Company of Spaniards. 1708 GAY *Wine* 9 Youthful fires... paint with ruddy hue His wrizzled Visage. 1777 in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s.v., A wrizled apple, a wrizled old woman. 1873-1898 in Somerset and n. Yorks. glossaries.

wro. Now *north. dial.* Forms: a. *north.* and *Sc.* 3-6 wra, 5 wraa, 5, 9 wray (9 ray), 9 wrae (rae), wraie. β. 4-5 wro, 5 rowe. [a. ON. **wrá*, later *rá*, *rô* nook, cabin (whence MSw. *vraa*, *vra*, Sw. *vrå*, Da. *vraa*, Norw. *raa*, ro).]

1. A nook or corner; a retired or sheltered spot. a. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 18155 þaa waful wra sa dedli dim, All lighted þe lem þat come wit him. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xliii. (*Cecilia*) 495, I... giffis bot a lytil wra, a vyd merkat þare-for I ta. a 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 4190 Quare þre wees in a wraa welk þaim allane. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* vi. Prol. 158 Sum blind Ciclopes of thi laithlie wra. 1840 DE QUINCEY *Wks.* (1889) II. 365 The Dalesman... selects a sheltered spot (a wray, for instance), which protects him from the wind altogether. 1891 in *Eng. Dial. Dict.* s.v. *Ray* sb.²

β. a 1300 *Havelok* 68 He made hem lurken, and crepen in wros. c 1395 *Plowman's Tale* I. 81 As I wandered in a wro, In a wode besyde a wall. a 1400 *Stac. Rome* 181 A lutel beynde... þer stont a Chapel in a wro. c 1425 Thomas of Erceild. (1875) 43 Nere þat wro is a well.

transf. 13... E.E. Allit. P. A. 866 In apocalyppe is wryten in wro, I seghe, says lohan, þe lomme.

2. *Sc.* An enclosure or shelter for cattle. ? *Obs.* 1808 JAMIESON s.v. *Rae*.

wroath, obs. var. RUTH sb.¹ 4 b.

1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* II. ix. 78 Ile keepe my oath, Patiently to bear my wroath.

†**wrob**, v. *Obs.* -¹ In 5 wrobbe, wrabbe. [Of obscure origin.] *intr.* To speak of a matter; to give information.

c 1425 Thomas of Erceild. (1875) 2/1 If j solde sytt to dornesdaye, With my tonge to wrobbe [v.r. wrabbe] and wrye, Certanely þat lady gaye, Neuer bese scho askryede for mee.

†'wrobber. *Obs.* -¹ [f. prec.] An informer.

c 1300 *Havelok* 39 Wreieres and wrobberes made he falle.

wroche, etc., obs. forms of WRETCH sb., etc.

wrocht(in, **wrocte**, **wrought**(e), etc.: see *WORK* v.

wrog, southern ME. var. FROG¹.

wrought, obs. var. WROTH a.

wrohte, var. WROUGHT sb. *Obs.*

wroie, obs. var. WRAY v.¹

wroith, obs. *Sc.* f. WROTH a.

†**wroke**, sb. *Sc. Obs. rare.* Also wroik. [a. MLG. *wrok*, *wruk* (LG., Du. *wrok*) enmity, hatred, spite.] Active ill-will or hatred; spite, malice.

a 1500 Bernard. *de cura rei fam.* (E.E.T.S.) 23 All þar wroke sall ende wyght þam selwne. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* v. xi. 11 Juno... Not satyfyt of hir auld fury nor wroik.

wroke, **wroken**, etc.: see WREAK v.

wrong, sb.¹ Now *dial.* Also 2 wranga, 3-4 wrange, 3-5, 6 *Sc.* wrang, 6 *Sc.* wraing, wraing; 4-5 wronge. [a. ON. **wrong*, *rong* (gen. *rangar*), rib of a ship (Norw. *wrang*, *raang*, *wrong*, *vraang*, Sw. *dial. vrang*), f. **wrangr* curved, bent: see *WRONG* a. Hence also MLG. *wrange*, Du. *wrang*, F. *varengue* (14th c.), *varangue*, Sp. *varanga*, floor-timber of a ship.]

†1. A rib of a ship or other vessel; also, a floor-timber of a ship. (Cf. *RUNG* sb. 4.) *Obs.*

(The sense of the OE. instances is not clear.) c 1000 *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 201 *Cauernamen*, wrong. c 1100 *Ibid.* 182 *Nomina nauium, et instrumenta earum*:... *cauernamen*, wranga.

1295 *Acc. Excheq. K.R.* 5/8 m. 3, Et xv.d. in j. Wrange empt'.... Et v.s. j.d. in v. Wranges emptis. 1296 *Ibid.* 5/20 m. 1 *dorso*, In .lx. arboribus emptis de Priore de Tynemue... ad Wrangas faciendas in Galea, xxv.s. 1336 *Ibid.* 19/31 m. 6 In xl. lignis emptis in grosso pro Wranges faciendis, xv.s. 1352 *Excheq. Acc. Q.R.* 20/27 (P.R.O.), Pro fotynges et wrongs inde confectis in nave predicta. 1407 *Acc. Excheq. K.R.* 44/11 (1) m. 6 In xxiiij. Wrones... infra paruam batellam expenditis. c 1435 *Ibid.* 53/3 m. 9 Pro lx peciis maeremii... pro Wrangys... dicte balingere Regis inde faciendis. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneid* v. xii. 164 Thai... gan to forge newlie wrayngis and airis. *Ibid.* ix. ii. 98 Vpbleis ourloft, hechis, wrangis, and how.

2. A large crooked branch or bough of a tree, esp. one cut off and lopped for timber. Latterly *dial.*

1764 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 88 An oak... which... contained 13 loads 35 feet of timber, 5 loads of wrongs (pieces not less than six inches girt) [etc.]. 1787 W. H. MARSHALL *Norfolk* II. 392 *Wrongs*, crooked arms... of trees. 1823 E. MOORE *Suffolk Words* 498 The wrongs of oaks... are as valuable nearly as the body or right up timber. a 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Wrong*, a crooked bough.

3. *attrib.* (in sense 1), as †*wrong-nail*, †*rope*; †*wrong-head*, = *RUNG-HEAD* (cf. *wrung-head*).

1296 *Acc. Excheq. K.R.* 5/20 m. 3 *dorso*, M. C. clausis s[c]ilicet Wrangnayl emptis, iij.d. c 1340 in Nicolas *Hist. Navy* (1847) II. 477 [Two ropes called] wrangropes, ijs. 1352 *Acc. Excheq. K.R.* 20/27 (P.R.O.), Pro mmccc. wrong-nail' emptis pro repARATIONE navis. 1356 in *Pipe Roll* 32 *Edw. III.* m. 33/1, ij. wrangeropes... et .xxj. basteropes. 1633 *Admiralty Crt. Exam.* 50, 6 Nov. (MS.), She was sheathed from her bende to the wrong head.

wrong (rdŋ), sb.² Forms: a. 1-5, *Sc.* and *north. dial.* 6- wrang (4 vrang, 9 *north. dial.* wrank), 4-5, *Sc.* 6 wrange. β. 3- wrong (5 worng), 4-6 wronge (5 wronke, 6 wrongue, 7 ronge), 5 wrunge. [Substantival use of *WRONG* a.]

I. 1. That which is morally unjust, unfair, amiss, or improper; the opposite of right or justice; the negation of equity, goodness, or rectitude. (Freq. contrasted with *right*.)

a 1100 *Wulfstan's Hom.* xlii. 203 þa unrihtdeman, ðe... wendaþ wrang to rihte and riht to wrange. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 193 Talewise men þe... maken wrong to rihte, and riht to wronge. a 1250 *Owl & Night* 877 If riht gop forþ & a back wrong. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Symne* 4381 For wrong ne lefte he nyzt ne day. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 177 Degradyt syne wes he Off honour... Quethir it wes throuch wrang or rycht, God wat it. c 1430 *Chev. Assigne* 245, I wolle... fyzte for þe qwene with whome þat wronge seythe. c 1480 HENRYSON *Wolf & Lamb* 79 Quhar wrang and reif suld dwell in propertie. a 1578 LINDESAY (Pittscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 65 They put no difference betuix wrang and right. 1596 SPENSER *F.Q.* v. iv. 1 For to maister wrong and puissant pride. 1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* I. iii. 116 Right and wrong, (Betweene whose endlesse iarre, Iustice recides). 1667 MILTON *P.L.* xi. 662 One, eminent In wise deport, spake much of Right and Wrong. 1737 [see *RIGHT* sb.¹ 3]. 1781 COWPER *Conversat.* 149 Without the means of knowing right from wrong. 1809-10 COLERIDGE *Friend* (1865) 72 The abandonment of all principle of right enables the soul to choose and act upon a principle of wrong. 1878 BROWNING *La Saisiaz* 35 Why are right and wrong at strife?

Personif. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. I. 61 A wiht þat wrong is i-hote, Fader of Falsness. c 1460 *Wisdom* 728 in *Macro Plays* 59 Let se fyrst, Wronge & Sleyght! Dobullnes & Falsnes, schew yowur myght! 1581 A. HALL *Iliad* ix. 166 But Wrong a mightie monster is. a 1586 SIDNEY *Sonn.* Wks. 1922 II. 321 For Love is dead: Sir wrong his tombe ordaineth. 1847 MANGAN *Poems* (1903) 84 It foretold fair Freedom's triumph, and the doom of Wrong.

†b. The fact or position of being in the wrong (cf. 8a). Chiefly in the phr. *to have wrong* (cf. *Fr. avoir tort*). *Obs.*

a 1300 in *Map's Poems* (Camden) 335 Ic sey3e, gas[t], thou3 hast wrong... Al þe wyt on me to leye. c 1369 CHAUCER *De the Blanche* 1282 When I had wrong and she ryght She wolde... For-yeve me. 1420-2 LYDG. *Thebes* II. 1811 But he hadde wronge, Which thought... the 3eer was wonder long Of his Exil. 1484 CAXTON *Fables of Alfonse* xii. I... thanke yow gretely. For ryght ye haue and I grete wronge. 1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* xv. (1592) 241 But let Aristotle alone (for he hath wrong). 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 121 Sche wil be in wrang to her housband, gif that he knaweng, sche offend. 1604 T. WRIGHT *Passions* (1620) 117 Whether you have right or wrong, I knowe you must have the last word.

c. Deviation from fact, accuracy, or correct standard; incorrectness, error.

c 1620 A. HUME *Brit. Tongue* 2 To command... the schooles to teach the future age right and wrang. 1796 BURKE *Regic. Peace* II. (1892) 126 Whether... there was some mixture of right and wrong in their reasoning.

2. Unjust action or conduct; evil or damage inflicted on or received; unfair or inequitable treatment of another or others; injustice, unfairness.

a. 12... [see β]. c 1460 Towneley *Myst.* xxv. 279 *Ihesu*. I wyrk no wrang, that shall thou wytt. c 1470 HENRY Wallace VI. 224 It slakis ire off wrang thou thai suld radres. c 1520 M. NISBET *N. Test.* (S.T.S.) II. 71 Christ heir, in reprefing wrange, did nocht resist it with wyolence. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xiii. 71 Wickit men delytis ay in to wrang. a 1598 FERGUSSON *Sc. Prov.* (S.T.S.) 108 Wrang hes nea warrand. 17... RAMSAY *Address to Town Council* i, I've suffer'd muckle wrang.

β. a 1200 *Moral Ode* 168 (Lamb. MS.), Ne scal him [sc. God] na mon mene þer of strengþe ne of wronge [Egerton MS. wrangle]. c 1300 *Havelok* 72 To wronge micht him to mar, bringe, Ne for siluer, ne for gold. c 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xxv. 68 *Ihesu*, for love thou tholest wrong. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. I. 117 Alle þat wrong worchen, wende þei schulen After heore dep-day [etc.]. a 1425 *Cursor M.* 15922 (Trin.), 3e bere me wrong on honde. c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 534 Wronge, a-3en truthe and ryghtewysnesse, *injurya*. a 1500 *Gest Robin Hood* xciv. in Child *Ball.* III. 61 The hye iustyce and many mo Had take in to theyr honde Holy all the knyghtes det, To put that knyght to wronge. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 301 The false accusacyon & testimoyes of y^e iewes was so euident & playne wronge. 1590 SPENSER *F.Q.* II. ii. 18 Ne ought he car'd, whom he endamaged By tortious wrong. 1611 BIBLE *Job* xix. 7 Behold, I cry out of wrong [marg. or, violence], but I am not heard. 1624 WOTTON *Archit.* 111 Which mention... I haue willingly made of his Name, with much wrong to his other vertues. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 76 Expos'd To daily fraud, contempt, abuse and wrong. 1740 MELMOTH *Fitzosb. Lett.* lxxii, Ye plaintive crew, that suffer wrong. 1793 R. GRAY *Poems* 126 He doth conceive... of high affront And mighty wrong committed. 1846 MRS. A. MARSH *Father Dargy* II. vii. 131 One who never sees wrong, without the noble resolution to revenge it. 1874 J. SULLY *Sensation & Intuition* 154 A man who never knows the deep anguish of conscious wrong until [etc.].

b. *Law.* Violation, transgression, or infringement of law; invasion of right to the damage or prejudice of another or others; injury, harm, mischief. In early use *Sc.*

12... [see THWENT-NAY]. 1318 in *Acts Parl. Scott.* I. (1844) 471/1 Torth & noun Raysonum quod dicitur wrang & unlaw. a 1400 *Ibid.* 647/1 Quoniam attachamenta sunt principia et origo placitorum de wrang et unlaw. 1538 STARKEY *England* I. iv. 117 So iustyce ys oppressy... and wrong takyth place. 1609 SKENE *Reg. Maj.*, etc. I. 95 b, Vnjustlie, and against the law, with wouch, wrang, and vnlaw. 1670 BLOUNT *Law Dict.*, *Tort-feasor*, a Doer of wrong, a Trespasser. 1875 MAINE *Hist. Inst.* II. 45 The ancient Irish Law of Civil Wrong.

c. to do (. . .) *wrong*, to act unjustly or unfairly (to a person or thing, or with dative).

c 1220 *Bestiary* 798 Bimene we us, we hauen don wrong. **c 1250** *Gen. & Ex.* 2683 He . . brozte vn-warnede on hem f3t; He hadden don egipte wrong. **a 1300** *Cursor M.* 29084 Man dos to fasting mikel wrang. **c 1330** *Spec. Gy Warw.* 222 If man wole chese to don wrong. **1372** in *Relig. Lyrics 14th C.* (1924) 71 þe child pouhtte sche dide him wrong. **c 1440** *Promp. Parv.* 126/2 Do wronge a-3ene resone (P. ayeinst reason or lawe), *injurior, prejudicio*. **1481** CAXTON *Reynard* xxviii. (Arb.) 71 The lawe and right doth noman wrong. **1540-1** ELYOT *Image Gov.* 28 That he whiche hath done wrong, be compelled to make restitution. **1573** TUSSEER *Husb.* (1878) 87 Place doong heape a low . . Where water all winter time did it such wrong. **1610** SHAKS. *Temp.* I. ii. 440, I feare you haue done your selfe some wrong. **1649** MILTON *Eikon.* 102 As the King of England can doe no wrong, so neither can he doe right but . . by his Courts. **1737** POPE *Hor.*, Ep. II. ii. 12 To say too much, might do my honour wrong. **1831** SCOTT *Cast. Dang.* xiii. By which she has done me great wrong. **1850** TENNYSON *In Mem.* LII. ii, Thou canst not move me from thy side, Nor human frailty do me wrong.

† **d. to have** (. . .) *wrong*, to suffer injustice, prejudice, or harm; to receive injury. *Obs.*

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3077 'Hul haue 3e wrong,' quad pharaon, '3u wapmen giue Ic leue to gon'. **1303** R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 9582 Quyte þe weyl oute of borghgang, þat þou ne haue for hyt no wrang. **c 1410** *Lantern of Light* 45 Glotenyce . . drowneþ þe wittis of þe peple, til þat þei be vnresonable & kunnen not knowe whanne þei han wrong. **c 1450** *Mirk's Festial* I. 5 þogh þay haue moche wrong, þay may not gete amendes. **1509** *Coventry Leet Bk.* 626 He had grete wrong in certeyn ffydes . . by the comens of Couentre. **1560** DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 10 Suche as thinke they haue wronge at his hande. **1617** MORYSON *Itin.* II. 12 In their opinion he had wrong to be so charged. **[1821** SCOTT *Kenilw.* v. He thinks he hath wrong, and is not the mean hind that will sit down with it. **1828** — *F.M. Perth* x, I own you haue had some wrong.]

3. In various prepositional phrases: † **a. with** or **mid** (. . .) *wrong*, wrongly, wrongfully, unjustly. (Cf. 4.) *Obs.* [Cf. *ON. með røngu* wrongly.]

1124 O.E. *Chron.* an. 1124, [They] sæidon þet se king heold his broðer Rotbert mid wrange on heftnunge. **a 1200** *Moral Ode* 209 (Lamb. MS.), þa þe ledden hore lif mid unriht and mid wrange. **c 1290** *Beket* 839 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 130 Me pinchez with gret wrong þe chalangeþ þe king. **1338** R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 110 Steuen . . suore, þat . . þe kyng, no non of his, suld chalange þat of fe, With wrong no with right. **c 1400** *Brut* 257 þe Kyngus person bare . . þe blame, wiþ wrong. **1481** CAXTON *Reynard* xlii. (Arb.) 115 Suche false extorcionners . . oppresse the poure peple wyth grete wronge. **a 1500** *Gest Robin Hood* cclxviii. in *Child Ball.* III. 69 There I holpe a pore yeman, With wronge was þat behynde. **1598** YONG *Diana* 27 Rather then blame discredit me, . . Let me with wrong forgotten be.

b. in or **by** *wrong*. (Cf. 4 b.)

a 1400 *Sir Degrev.* 542 That y shalle faythly fyeght, Both in wrong and in ryght. **1548** UDALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Matt.* v. 18 For mekenesse obteyneth more . . than violence . . can purchase or obtayne by right or wronge. **1590** SPENSER *F.Q.* II. iv. 42 His am I Atin, his in wrong and right. *Ibid.* vii. 30 None could weene Them to efforce by violence or wrong. **1611** BIBLE *Jer.* xxii. 13 Woe vnto him that buildeth . . his chambers by wrong. **1855** TENNYSON *The Letters* II Then we met in wrath and wrong.

† **4.** Claim, possession, or seizure that is unjustifiable or unwarranted on legal or moral grounds. Esp. in phr. *with* or † *mid* (. . .) *wrong*. *Obs.*

c 1205 LAY. 27300 For heo al mid wronge wilneden of ure londe. **c 1300** *Havelok* 2806 þat þe swike Haues it [sc. the kingdom] halden with mikel wronge. **a 1325** *MS. Rawl. B.* 520 fol. 56b, 3if þe Eir mid wronge vsurped þe seisine of Eldere þoru deseiune. **1375** BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 209 And gyff that any man thaim by Had any thing that wes worthy, . . With ryght or wrang it haue wald thai. **c 1410** *Lantern of Light* 45 Couetise of hem þat purchasen wiþ wrong her neiþ boris ground & her catel. **c 1450** *Godstow Reg.* II. 540 That . . none other for hym or in his right, myght neuer clayme . . any thyng of right, or of clayme, or of wronge, in the forsaid acre of lond. **1590** SPENSER *F.Q.* I. iv. 12 Proud Lucifera . . did vsurpe with wrong and tyrannye Vpon the scepter.

b. In the phr. *by*, *in*, *to*, or *to* of (. . .) *wrong*. **a 1300** *Cursor M.* 28795 Vr lauerd . . receues . . nan Almus þat o [v.r. of] wrang es tan. **1528** in *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden) II. 23 [He] hathe of his owne auctoryte and wronge enterdy into the premissis. **1548** ELYOT, *Iure uel iniuria*, by right or wronge. **1588** KYD *Househ. Philos.* Wks. (1901) 278 Riches, either miserably gotten or encreased by wrong. **1594** — *Cornelia* v. 439 Must I liue to see great Pompeys house . . Vsurt in wrong by lawlesse Anthony? **1628** COKE *On Litt.* 181 Therefore no relation of an estate by wrong can helpe him. **1729** JACOB *Law Dict.* s.v. *Right*, An Estate gain'd by Wrong. **1818** CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) V. 141 The defendants had done nothing to vest the freehold in them, either by right or by wrong.

5. With possessive pron. or genitive:

† **a.** Injustice, harm, or evil inflicted upon another or others; wrong-doing. *Obs.*

c 1275 *Duty of Christians* 59 in O.E. *Misc.* 143 We schule to cristie grede, And bidde mylce of vre wrong. **1303** R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 6430 Now we þe executore haue mysseyd, And of hys wrong he hap vpbreyd. **13..** E.E. *Allit. P. B.* 76 More to wyte is her wrange, þen any wylle gentyl. **14..** in *Acts Parlt. Scot.* I. (1844) 352/2 Of a man grantand his awne wrang. **c 1440** *Pallad. on Husb.* XIII. 84 Gramerci, Lord, that list eek mortifie My wronge. **1513** DOUGLAS *Aeneid* I. i. 63 Sen Pallas mocht on Grekis tak sic wraik . . for Aiax Oilus wrong? **c 1600** SHAKS. *Sonn.* xl, Loue knows it is a greater grieve To beare loues wrong, then hates knowne iniury. **1631-2** *Star Chamb. Cases* (Camden) 168 He shall therefore pay 500*li*. . . and make recognition of his fault and wrong. **1642** J. M[ARSH] *Argt. conc. Militia* 17 It is against the rule of Law, that any man should take advantage of his owne wrong.

b. Injury, hurt, harm, or prejudice received or sustained by a person or persons. Also in phr. *to* or † *in one's (own) wrong*.

13.. E.E. *Allit. P. A.* 15 Ofte haf I wayted wyschande þat wele, þat wout was whyle deuoyde my wrange. **1399** LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* Prol. 13 Whom all þe londe loued, . . And ros with him rapely to riȝtyn his wronge. **a 1400-50** *Wars Alex.* 2812 As me is wa for þi woȝe, & þi wrange bathe. **1560** DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 57 b, It is not lawfull for anye Christian to reuenge his owne wronge. **1596** SPENSER *F.Q.* v. viii. 11 What meane ye thus vnwise Vpon your selues anothers wrong to wreake? **1612** DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* II. 229 That she, to her own wrong, and every other's grief, Would needs be telling things exceeding all belief. **1656** H. PHILLIPS *Purch. Patt.* (1676) 93 He will rebate in his own wrong. **1660** WALLER *To King on his Return* 62 Armies and fleets . . redressed his wrong. **a 1740** SPOTSWOOD in W. S. PERRY *Hist. Coll. Amer. Col. Ch.* I. 204 Be cautious how you dispose of the profits of your parish; least you pay it in your own wrong. **a 1768** SECKER *Serm.* (1770) II. 364 The Abilities of the Man, that uses them to his Neighbour's Wrong. **1822** SHELLEY *Dirge* 8 Wail, for the world's wrong! — *Calderon's Mag. Prodig.* II. 139 My words . . shook Heaven, Proclaiming vengeance, public as my wrong.

fig. 1633 G. HERBERT *Temple, Storm* iii, There it stands knocking, to thy musicks wrong, And drowns the song.

6. Physical hurt or harm caused to or sustained by some thing or person; treatment causing material injury or damage. (Cf. 11.) Now *rare*.

1382 WYCLIF *Acts* xxvii. 10 With wrong and harm . . of charge and schipp . . bygynnoth seiling for to be. **1398** TREvisa *Barth. De P.R.* v. xxxii. (Bodl. MS.), For þe more ese withstanding and puting of wronge and of hurting [of the marrow]. **c 1440** *Pallad. on Husb.* x. 12 In wanyng of Phebes be they toflonge, So may hit meest auayle and do leest wronge. **1573** TUSSEER *Husb.* (1878) 32 Light ladder and long doth tree least wrong. **1577** B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* 39 Flaxe . . the more wrong it suffereth, the better doth it prooue. **1596** SPENSER *F.Q.* v. iv. 5 There before them stood a Coffer strong, . . But seeming to haue suffered mickle wrong. **1602** CHETTLIE *Hoffman* IV. (1631) H 2 b, A powder . . Being set on fire to suffocate each sence Without the sight of wound, or shew of wrong. **c 1660** in *Verney Mem.* (1907) II. 262 Small forts . . to defend the merchants and their goods from wrong. **1726** POPE *Odyss.* XXI. 429 Lest time or worms had done the weapon [sc. a bow] wrong. **1873** A. G. MURDOCH *Litts* 44 Dinna dae the door-boards wrang, An absent tenant canna see ye.

7. the wrong, that which is wrong; the opposite of justice or equity; absence of right or fairness; unjust or wrongful action.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 17458 þof it neuer haf lasted sua lang, A-wai to wrenk he dos þe wrang. **c 1330** *Spec. Gy de Warw.* 749 Here 3e muwen se þe wrong. **1388** WYCLIF *Acts* vii. 24 Moises . . dide veniaunce for hym that suffride the wronge. **1411** 26 *Pol. Poems* 44 My swerd . . Shal shede þe riȝt fro þe wrong. **1513** DOUGLAS *Aeneid* VI. xiv. 25 Brutus . . can revenge the wrang in his cuntre. **1556** LAUDER *Tractate* 131 And ȝour fals glosing of the wrang, Sall nocht mak ȝow to rax heir lang. **1671** MILTON *Samson* 1030 Capacity not rais'd to apprehend Or value what is best In choice, but oft to affect the wrong. **1831** SCOTT *Cast. Dang.* iv, If the Scottish have not had the right upon their side, they have . . defended the wrong with the efforts of brave men. **1861** PALEY *Aescylus* (ed. 2) *Supplices* 337 note, If the wrong has been wholly on one side.

8. The fact or position of acting unjustly or indefensibly; the state of being wrong in respect of attitude, procedure, or belief. (Cf. 1 b.)

† **a.** In the phr. *to have the wrong*. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 6029, I haue þe wrang, And al þis wrak on me es lang. **c 1330** *Amis & Amil.* 908 The steward was so strong, And hadde the right and he [= Amis] the wrong. **13..** *Seiyn Sages* (W.) 2900 Than sal thou thiseluen se Wha haue the wrang, the wife or he. **c 1430, 1828** [see *RIGHT sb.* 6b].

b. In the phr. *to be* or *put in the wrong*.

a 1400 *Chron. R. Glouc.* (Rolls) II. 795 þou wolt . . þi soule to helle bringe, Vor þou ert in þe wonke [v.r. wronge]. **1489** CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xvii. 390 Ye knowe ye were in the wronge. **1513** WEST in *Ellis Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. I. 74 Your Grace was in the right and he in the wronge. **1561** T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtier* II. (1900) 186 Thinking that he himselfe had bine in the wronge. **1603** SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* v. i. 86 You are i' the wrong To speake before your time. **1700** T. BROWN *Amusem. Ser. & Com. Wks.* 1720 III. 91, I am in the wrong, I own it. **1795** HUTTON *Hist. Birmingham* (ed. 3) 223 The authors I have seen are all in the wrong. **1849** MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* vii. II. 266 He had now put himself in the wrong. **1859** H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* xi, I quarrelled with her last night. I was quite in the wrong. **1895** *Cornh. Mag.* Oct. 380 It puts Lord Tennyson so brutally in the wrong.

† **c. to give the wrong to**, to regard as being in the wrong. *Obs.* — 1

1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (Sommer) 558 They shall gyue the wronge and blame to the Troians, And to vs the loose.

II. 9. A wrongful, unjust, or unfair action; a violation or infringement of one's rights; an injury received or inflicted; a mischief. **a.** With *any*, *no*, *that*, *this*, etc.

1067-77 *Ags. Laws* (Liebermann) I. 486/1 Ic nelle ȝepolian, þæt ænig man eow ænig wrang beode. **c 1290** *Beket* 230 in *S. Eng. Leg.* I. 113 þar-of nolde he polien no wrong. **c 1330** *Arth. & Merl.* 1363 (Kölbing), 3if y may atake þis wrong, He wotþ to drawe & to hong. **c 1374** CHAUCER *Troilus* III. 1008 þer-with mene I fynally þe payne . . Fully to slen and euery wrong redresse. **c 1470** *Gologros & Gaw.* 90 That sege wald sit with none wrang, Of þerne that was borne. **1481** CAXTON *Reynard* ix. (Arb.) 19 That he myght auenge this ouer grete wronge. **1502** ATKYNSON tr. *De Imitatione* III. li. (1893) 239 If any wronge be layde vnto hym. **a 1586** SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. xxii, She resolved to spende all her yeares . . in bewaying the wrong, and yet praying for the wrong-doer. **1611** BIBLE *Eccl.* x. 6 Beare not hatred to thy neighbour for euery wrong. **1667** MILTON *P.L.* IX. 300 Thou thy self with scorne . . wouldst resent the offer'd

wrong. **1715** POPE *Ihad* II. 300 Durst he, as he ought, resent that wrong, This mighty tyrant were no tyrant long. **1781** COWPER *Conversat.* 25 All shall give account of ev'ry wrong, Who dare dishonour or defile the tongue! **1795-6** [see *WRONG-DOER* 1]. **1859** TENNYSON *Geraint & Enid* 36 That each had suffer'd some exceeding wrong. **1862** SHIRLEY (J. Skelton) *Nugæ Crit.* x. 444 The wrong indeed was redressed, as far as redress was possible.

b. With *a* and *pl*.

a. **a 1300** *Cursor M.* 6447 Quar thoru in right þai suld be gett, In smale wranges þat þar war. **c 1340** HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 5541 Alle þas þat has tholed here Falshedes and wrangs. **c 1400** *Destr. Troy* 11616 God, þat . . wrangis in his wrathe writhis to ground. **1500-20** *DUNBAR Poems* xc. 70 Quhen thow art ald, and ma na wrangis wyrke. **1596** DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* II. 302 Quha war woundet or had gottin vtheris wrangis. **1786** BURNS *Author's Cry & Prayer* xii, Then echo thro' Saint Stephen's wa's Auld Scotland's wrangs. **1818** SCOTT. *Hrt. Midl.* xxxvii, We are for righting our ain wrangs.

β. **1303** R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* III 154 God . . late hem neuer here soules lese For no wronges þat þey cheseth! **1362** LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. XI. 19 As clopers . . þat Conterfeteþ disseites and Conspiret wronges. **1422** — [see *REDRESS v.* 11]. **c 1450** *Myrr.* our *Ladye* II. 145 My sowlle suffereth pacyently wronges and contraryous thinges. **a 1547** SURREY *Aeneid* II. 867 May such a wrong passe from a father's mouth? **1612**, etc. [see *REDRESSER*]. **1697** DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 740 Trees bent their Heads to hear him sing his Wrongs. **1794-6** COLERIDGE *Relig. Musings* 306 The innumerable multitude of wrongs By man on man inflicted. **1811** W. R. SPENCER *Poems* 11 Thy wrongs his guilty soul shall sting. **1874** GREEN *Short Hist.* IV. § 4. 191 A wrong of brother against brother was also a wrong against the general body of the gild.

c. Law. An invasion of right, to the damage, harm, or prejudice of another or others; a violation of law or statute; a tort or trespass.

1386 *Rolls of Parlt.* III. 225/1 The folk of the Mercerye of London [compleynen] . . of many wronges subtiles, and also open oppressions. **a 1400** *Brut* I. 265 He was at þe parlement at Wynchestre forto haue amendede þe wronges and trespasses þat were done amongus þe peple. **14..** in *Acts Parlt. Scotl.* I. (1844) 337/2 þe quihik wrang was amuffyt betuen þaim in þe lande. **1518** in *Leadam Star Chamber Cases* (Selden) II. 128 They came to make their humble petition . . and sewed their grevys and wronges afforseid. **1588** JAS. VI in *3rd Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* 419/2 A puir man that dar nocht seik redres of this wrang be the ordinar course of iustice. **1617** — in Halliwell *Lett. Kings Eng.* (1846) II. 143 Every wrong must be judged by the first violent and wrongous ground whereupon it proceeds. **1671** F. PHILLIPS *Reg. Necess.* 259 The parties . . endeavouring such breaches of Privilege, should not take advantage . . of their own wrongs or tortious doings. **1768** BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. 2 Wrongs are divisible into two sorts or species; private wrongs, and public wrongs. **1770** *Cases temp. Hardwicke* 35 The declarations must fall likewise as grafted on a wrong. **1838** W. BELL *Dict. Law Scot.* 498 Where there is reparation due on account of wrongs suffered through gross carelessness. **1888** POLLOCK in *Encycl. Brit.* XXIII. 454 Civil wrongs . . for which there is a remedy by action in courts of common law jurisdiction. *Ibid.* 454/2 An actionable wrong.

d. In the phr. *to do the* (. . .) *wrong* (to or unto a person, or with dative).

c 1330 *Spec. Gy de Warw.* 602 þenk . . Off þe wrong and þe vilte, þat men to Iesu Crist dede. **c 1375** *Sc. Leg. Saints vs.* (Thomas) 666 þe wrange þat to myn god is done. **a 1400** *Pauline Ep.* (Powell) 2 *Cor.* vii. 12 Not for hym þat has don þe wrong, nor for hym þat is suffryd. **1556** J. HEYWOOD *Spider & Fly* 4 The wrong that I haue done the flies here among. **1585** T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* I. vii, The great wrong & iniurie that was done vnto him. **1643** CARYL *Expos. Job* I. 663 Only the ereditor can remit the debt, and he the offence to whom we haue done the wrong. **1671** *Acts Privy Council Scotl.* III. 345 She was the person who did the wrong. **1828** SCOTT *F.M. Perth* ix, The Earl deeply resented the wrong done to himself. **1883** D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* xxviii, In spite of the wrong he had done and the wrong he meant to do him.

e. Similarly with *a*, *any*, etc., or *pl*.

1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* xx. 13 Frend, I do thee no wronge [1388 noon wrong]. **c 1386** CHAUCER *Melib.* ¶ 845 That ye causeless . . han doon grete Iniuries and wronges to me. **c 1400** *Rule St. Benet* (Prose) vii. 13 Yef man dos yu ani wrang. **1479** *Paston Lett.* III. 267 Th' enjuries and wrongys done . . to John Paston. **1560** BIBLE (Genev.) 2 *Macc.* iii. 12 That it were altogether vnpossible to do this wrong to them. **1591** SHAKS. *Two Gent.* II. vii. 80 As thou lou'st me, do him not that wrong. **1638** R. BAKER tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. III) 28, I do not think I shall do you any wrong to send you a better companion. **1676** in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. V. 30 The wrongs Lord Marshall doth him, and all the younger children. **1813** *Nat. Intelligencer* (Washington, D.C.) 29 July 1/3 The wrongs done us by the British government. **1855** TENNYSON *Maud* I. x. iv, I might persuade myself then She would not do herself this great wrong. **1861** MILL *Utilit.* (1863) 73 In each case the supposition implies two things—a wrong done, and some assignable person who is wronged.

† **10.** An incorrect or improper procedure. *Obs.*

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* VIII. 53 The figtre now teneye [L. inoculare] hit is no wronge In weat lond. *Ibid.* x. 3 The same ek is no wronge Rather to do.

† **11.** A physical or material injury, hurt, or damage. (Cf. 6.) *Obs.*

1398 TREvisa *Barth. De P.R.* xvii. cxvii. (Tollem. MS.), By þe leues þe spray is defendid . . aȝens colde and hete, and aȝens all wronges of frostes and snowe. **c 1440** *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 339 Yf me ferne hit wel . . That in the tre the morter do no wronge.

† **12.** Something obtained or held wrongfully. *rare.*

c 1440 *Jacob's Well* 133 þerfore, restoryth ȝoure wrongys, & caste out þe wose of false couetyse! *Ibid.* 136 ȝoure nede þanne excusyth ȝou nouȝt fro dedly synne, but ȝe ȝerne jelde to hem ȝoure dette & ȝoure wrong!

III. 13. *Comb.* (chiefly objective), as *wrong-repressing*, *righting*; *wrong-redresser*, *-righter*; also *wrong-caused*, *incensed*, *-vexed*; *wrong-proof* adj.

a1586 SIDNEY *Ps.* xxxv. i. Speake thou for me against wrong speaking foes. a1586 — *Arcadia* i. ii. Striving... which coude... recount their wrong-caused sorow. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III.* ii. i. 51 These swelling wrong incensed Peeres. 1595 DANIEL *Civ. Wars* i. lxxxii. Wrong-worker Riot. 1608 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* 210 Long wrong-vext, in a not-Need-less Cause. a1816 BENTHAM *Offic. Apt. Maximized, Introd. View* (1830) 17 A penal, or say a wrong-repressing code. 1831 WORDSW. *Highland Hut* 12 Some gentle heart wrong-proof, Meek, patient, kind. 1849 LYTTON K. *Arthur v. lxxxiii*. The great Wrong-Redresser. 1869 KINGSLEY in *Life & Lett.* (1877) II. 296 The most unexpected forms of actual wrong-saying and doing. 1889 J. K. STEPHEN *Lapsus Calami* (1891) 51 A nursery of wrong-righters.

† *wrong*, sb.³ *Obs.* *rare.* = LEAF sb.¹ 13.

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 374/1 All the Nicks or Notches in the [watch] Wheels are termed Teeth, and those in the Pinions are called Wrongs.

† *wrong*, obs. variant of WRING sb.¹ 1.

c1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* i. 495 Oilmilles, whelis, wrongis [L. *prelum*], not bigonne Of new.

wrong (ron), *a.* and *adv.* Forms: *a.* 1-5, 6- *Sc.* and *north. dial.* wrang (6, 9 vrang, 9 *north. dial.* wrank), 4-5 wrange. *β.* 3- wrong (3 wronk, 5 rong), 3- 6 wrange; 9 *north. dial.* wrung, wrunk. [Late OE. *wrang*, *a.* ON. **wrangr*, *rangr* awry, unjust (Norw. *vrang*, *rang*, MSw. *vranger* (Sw. *vrång*), (MDa. *vrang*), = MLG. *wrange*, *wrangh* sour, bitter, MDu. *wrangh*, *wranc* bitter, unpleasant, hostile (Du. *wrang* acid, tart; whence WFr. *wrang*); related to WRING *v.*

The adoption of the word in the OE. period is shown by its use as a sb. (see WRONG sb.²), but examples of the adj. are lacking, unless on *wrangan hylle* in a Berkshire document of 944, preserved only in a 13th century copy (Birch *Cartul.* II. 557), is accepted as original, and as representing this word. Early ME. instances may occur in the following place-names:—

a1153 in *Coucher Bk. Kirkstall Abbey* (1904) 52 Confirmito donacionem terre quam eis fecerunt Rogerus de Wrangbroc et Henricus Walensis. 1167-8 *Pipe Rolls Hen. II.* 56 Pro murdro in Wrongedichundred [in Rutland]. 1198 *Pipe Rolls Rich. I.* 23 Terra in eadem uilla [in Suffolk] s. ad Wrangaker i acrl. et i rodum.]

A. adj. I. † 1. *a.* Having a crooked or curved course, form, or direction; twisted or bent in shape or contour; wry.

c1200 ORMIN 9207 All patt ohht iss wrang & crumb Shall effnedd beon & rihhtedd. *Ibid.* 9653. c1220 *Bestiary* 78 His [sc. the eagle's] bec is 3et biforn wrong. [a1252 in *Cartul. Mon. Rameseia* (Rolls) I. 353 Fulbrocufurlange; Wrangelande; Wylokescroft.] 1388 WYCLIF *Lev.* xxi. 19 A man... [that] is either of litil, ether of greet, and wrong [L. *tortus*] nose. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 19656 The crookyndnesse... off my crok, Wrong at the ende, as ys an hook. a1470 H. PARKER *Dives & Pauper* VIII. xv. (1493) Fii, The bowe is made of ii. thynges, Of a wronge tree, and a right stryng. a1500 *Hist. K. Boccus & Sydracke* (? 1510) Pj. A cocatryce... hath... many teth crokyd and wronge. 1611 COTGR., *Gauche*, left, left-handed;... wrong, sinister, awry. 1613 in *North Riding Records* IV. 143 Thone acre a brode wrangland, stinting att the strete, lying between six narrow wranglandes, towards the north, and one narrow wrangland... towards the south.

fig. 1340 *Ayenb.* 159 Yef pe onderstondingge is wrong, oper yef he tuystep oper wyppwent... al pe inwytt sel by piestre and pe heap of uirtues.

† *b.* Marked by deviation; deflected. *Obs.*

c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 197/1 Glacynge, or wronge glydyngde of boltys or arowys, .. *devolutus*.

† *c.* Of an oblong shape. *Obs.*

c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 517/1 Warpyen, or wex wronge or avelonge, as vesselle, *oblongo*. *Ibid.* 534/1 Wronge, or avelonge... *oblongus*.

2. Of persons: Mis-shapen; deformed. Latterly *dial.*

c1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* III. xxx. (1869) 152 Boistows j am, and haltinge, and wronge. To the virly j go hippinge. 1787 GROSE *Prov. Gloss.*, *Wrong*, crooked. A wrong man or woman. *Norf.* a1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Wrong*,... deformed; mishapen in person.

II. 3. *a.* Of actions, etc.: Deviating from equity, justice, or goodness; not morally right or equitable; unjust, perverse. Also *absol.*

a. a1300 *Cursor M.* 16498, I sal me-seluen on me wreck For pis marchandis wrang. 13... *E.E. Allit. P. C.* 384 Wepande ful wonderly alle his wrange dedes. c1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 5994 Alle wrang haldyngs of gudes sere. c1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Verse) 2248 For wit pai wele pat pai sal cum To reknyng on pe day of dome... Als sche sal for hir warkes wrang. c1420 *Anturs of Arth.* 421 (Douce MS.), pou has wonene hem in werre, with a wrange wille. 1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* ix. 11 The wrang spending of my wittis fyve. 1786 *Har't Rig* cix, The beding time does now begin... Now, tho' they're a' together mixt, There's naething wrang. 1822 SCOTT *Nigel* ii, I hope there was naething wrang in standing up for ane's ain country's credit.

β. a1275 *Prov. Ælfred B.* 596 be woke ginne pu coueren, pe wronke ginne pu rihten mid alle pine mihten. c1350 *Will. Palerne* 4582 Alle pe werre & pis wo is our wroonge dedes. 1382 WYCLIF *Lev.* xix. 13 Thow shalt not doo wronge chalenge to thi neizbore. c1425 *Cursor M.* 22276 (Trin.), Anticrist... shal him shewe in po d[alyes]... his werkes wronge to fulfille. c1440 *York Myst.* xxv. 26 So pat oure wirkyng be noght wronge. 1535 COVERDALE *Hab.* i. 4 This is the cause, y^t wronge iudgment procedeth. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Kal.* May 102 So often times, when as good is meant, Euil ensueth of wrong entent. 1620 T. PEYTON *Glasse of*

Time i. 50 That none by wrong oppression might Be crost, by... wrestling guile. 1651 HOBBS *Leviath.* II. xxvi. 144 A wrong Sentence given by authority of the Sovereign. 1704 SWIFT *T. Tub* Auth. Apol. ¶13 One of the wrongest attempts in nature to turn into ridicule... a work which had cost so much time. 1728 VANBRUGH & CIB. *Prov. Husb.* III, When a sad wrong word is rising just to one's tongue's end, I... swallow it. 1763 TUCKER *Li. Nat.* (1834) I. 211 If the finger rest against the trigger of a loaded musket, and a man stand just before, you cannot do a wronger thing. 1853 MISS YONGE *Heir of Redclyffe* ix, She did not awaken her mind to consider that anything could be wrong that Philip desired. 1861 MILL *Utilit.* (1863) 9 [That] creed holds that actions are wrong... [in proportion] as they tend to produce the reverse of happiness. 1878 JEVONS *Pol. Econ.* 65 There is nothing... morally wrong in a strike... when properly conducted.

b. In the phrase *it is (would be, etc.) wrong to* (do some thing).

1596 SPENSER *Hymn Heav. Love* 180 Had he required life of vs againe, Had it beene wrong to aske his owne with gaine? 1781 COWPER *Conv.* 291 'Tis wrong to bring into a mixt resort What makes some sick. 1857 BORROW *Romany Rye* xlii, I confess it was wrong in me to interrupt you. 1879 McCARTHY *Donna Q.* I. iv. 87 It was very wrong of him to make such a request. 1881 W. H. MALLOCK *Rom.* 19th C. II. 93 It would be indeed wrong... to say he was making love at all.

4. *a.* Of persons: Deviating from integrity, rectitude, or probity; doing or prone to do that which is evil, noxious, or unjust; opprobrious, vicious.

a1300 *Cursor M.* 29 be wrang to here o right is lath. 13... *Ibid.* 2204 (Gött.), bis nembrot... was wrang werour, Reuer and manqueller grett. 1382 WYCLIF *Isaiah* iii. 12 My puple his pleteres, or wrong axers [L. *exactores*], spoiled. a1470 H. PARKER *Dives & Pauper* VIII. xv. (1493) Fii, Of them y^t ben wronge throughe synne. *Ibid.* Fii b, So Crist at the doome shal sett the wrong lyuers on his left honde. 1715 DE FOE *Fam. Instruct.* i. iv. (1841) I. 78 For I think... we have all been wrong, and... it is my part to submit. 1784 COWPER *Tiroc.* 780 Th' incorrigibly wrong, the deaf, the dead! a1845 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. III. *Truants* 53 Queer little devils were they! Cob was the strongest, Mob was the wrongest.

b. Actively opposed (†to another); antagonistic.

1340 *Ayenb.* 204 Ssarpsnesse of liue to do his uless onderuot pet is wrang to be goste. 1780 COWPER *Rep. Adjudged Case* 2 Between Nose and Eyes a strange contest arose... The spectacles set them unhappily wrong.

c. *Criminals' slang.* Untrustworthy, unreliable; not sympathetic to or co-operative with criminals. Cf. RIGHT *a.* 8 *e.*

1908 J. M. SULLIVAN *Criminal Slang* 27 *Wrong*, man too familiar with police; not to be trusted. 1928 E. BOOTH in *Amer. Mercury* May 81/2 Aw, don't rap [i.e. speak indiscreetly] to that guy; he's wrong. 1953 W. BURROUGHS *Junkie* (1972) vi. 58 By and large, the reason a man can't score is because he is known to be 'wrong'. 1955 D. SCOTT. MAURER *Whiz Mob* ix. 130 He [sc. a pickpocket] tries to avoid those cities or those distriets which are known to be *wrong*, or where the police will not have any part of protecting him. *Ibid.* 140 He was what thieves call a *wrong copper*; that is, he did not take the fix.

5. *a.* Not in conformity with some standard, rule, or principle; deviating from that which is correct or proper; contrary to, at variance with, what one approves or regards as right.

a1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* viii. 31 Y-wis hit is al wrong. Al wrong y wrohte for a wyf, that made us wo in world ful wyde. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. xi. 67 Whi wolde God... suffre such a worm In such a wrong wyse pe wommon to bi-gyle? 1390 GOWER *Conf. I.* 169 Of here wrong condieion To do justificacion. c1459 in *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) p. xxxix, Her hosband cometh... and seyth the feyrest language that ever ye hard. But all is rong; he is ever in trouble. 1550 CROWLEY *Epigrams* 916 Ye must saye as they saye, Be it wronge or ryght. 1591 SPENSER *Daphn.* 243 She fell away in her first ages spring... For age to dye is right, but youth is wrong. 1676 HALE *Medit. Lord's Pr.* 183 When I look into my Conscience, I find her easily bribed, and brought over to the wrong party. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* iv. xxi. §16 The foundation of vice in wrong measures of good. 1709 POPE *Ess. Crit.* 338 But most by Numbers judge a Poet's song; And smooth or rough, with them is right or wrong. 1732 BERKELEY *Alciph.* II. §19 Revenues that in ignorant times were applied to a wrong use. 1753-4 RICHARDSON *Grandison* (1781) III. xxviii. 333 Permitting the interview, which they suppose the wrongest step that could have been taken.

b. Not in consonance with facts or truth; incorrect, false, mistaken.

c1420 *Prose Life Alex.* 34 And 3e haffand in vs a wrange consayte, blamez vs. 1528 MORE *Dyaloge* III. Wks. 210/1 Our hart euer thinketh the iudgement wrong, that wringeth us to the worse. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III.* ii. i. 54 If any here By false intelligence, or wrong surmise Hold me a Foe. 1611 BIBLE *Deut.* xix. 16 If a false witness... testifie against him that which is wrong. 1670 in *Bucleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) I. 475, I do not use to be found in a wrong story. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* II. xi. §13 Mad Men put wrong Ideas together, and so make wrong Propositions. *Ibid.* §69 Fashion and the common Opinion having settled wrong Notions. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.* (1751) s.v. *Error*, Some philosophers define error [as]... a wrong judgment, disagreeing with the things whereon it is passed. 1730 BAILEY (fol.), *Misacceptation*, a wrong understanding or apprehending of any thing. 1865 WILLIAMS *Mem. M. Henry* 304 A wrong date is assigned to the delivery of this Sermon. 1871 LE FANU *Rose & Key* II. 27 Her watch... being seldom more than twenty minutes wrong, either way. 1884 tr. Lotze's *Logic* 370 An allegation... if wrong... deviates more or less from the truth. 1891 C. ROBERTS *Adrift Amer.* 111 There is something wrong in this, deer do not stand up... to be shot down that way.

c. Of belief, etc.: Partaking of or based on error; erroneous.

c1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Prose) 42 bat pai ne faille in wrang trouz. 1591 SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI.* II. iii. 31 Marry, for that shee's in a wrong beleefe, I goe to certifie her Talbot's here. 1566 COWLEY *On Death of Crashaw* 56 His Faith perhaps in some nice Tenents might Be wrong; his Life... was in the right. 1733 POPE *Ess. Man* III. 306 For Modes of Faith let graceless zealots fight; His can't be wrong whose life is in the right. 1755 JOHNSON, *Misbelief*,... false religion; a wrong belief.

d. Of a painting: having an erroneous attribution.

1969 C. IRVING *Fake!* (1970) xiv. 173 It's an ugly thing... when you have to tell a client he's bought a fake. Of all things in this business... the thing I dislike most is being called in to tell if a painting is right or wrong... Fernand... brazenly offered Juviler a genuine Roualt in exchange for the 'wrong' Duffy. 1979 *Daily Tel.* 28 Feb. 10/2 There are huge numbers of 'wrong' paintings and other works on the market, not strictly fakes, although they often become fakes when resold with the intention to deceive. 'Forty per cent. of the pictures we see are wrong,' said Mr Peter Nahum, the Victorian paintings expert at Sotheby's Belgravia. 'They are wrongly attributed, have a false signature or are genuine contemporary copies.' 1983 *Sunday Times* 10 July 2/3 They invited Ronald Alley, deputy director of the Tate to inspect the pictures. He pronounced them 'wrong'—in art world parlance, fakes.

6. Not right or satisfactory in state or order; in unsatisfactory or bad condition; amiss.

what's wrong with (mod. colloq.), what is the matter with (see MATTER sb.¹ 25 b), what objection is there to, why not have (etc.)?

a1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 58 Also flowyng emoroydez somtyme ar hidde... bat of som pai ar demed to be dissenterikez and yuelz wrong. a1450 *Knt. de la Tour* (1868) 80 What aylithe you? y throw there be sum thinge wronge with you. c1460 *Towneley Myst.* iii. 188 If any thyng wrang be, Soyne is she wroth. 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* vi. 131 In thy default se that na thing be wrang. a1568 *Wyse of Auchtermuchty* 103 (Bann. MS.), Scho fand all wrang that sould bene richt. 1781 COWPER *Expost.* 301 Policy is busied all night long In setting right what faction has set wrong. 1793 [EARL DUNDONALD] *Descr. Estate of Culross* 56 We shall never get right till we get as far wrong as we can. 1824 SCOTT *St. Ronan's* xv, 'Something wrong here,'... said the traveller, pointing to his own forehead significantly. 1835- [see PUT *v.* 25 b]. 1857 DICKENS *Dorrit* II. ix, You see, ... it might put us wrong with our son-in-law. 1860 A. LEIGHTON *Trad. Sc. Life* 52 Nothing wrong with Mrs. Grame, I hope? 1925 R. A. KNOX *Viaduct Murder* ix. 90, I want to know what's wrong with a game of bridge?

7. *a.* Not adapted, according, or answering to intention, requirement, or purpose; not proper, fitting, or appropriate; unsuitable. †Also const. to.

a1400 *Bk. Curtasye* 99 in *Babes Bk.* 302 Yf hit go py wrang throte into, And stoppe py wynde. c1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* XII. 109 Kytte of euey roten thyng or drie, For grene yf that me kytte of, that is wronge. 1514 BARCLAY *Cit. & Uplondysman* (Percy Soc.) 11 Than was no cocko... To laye wronge egges within a strange nest! 1549 *Compl. Sc.* 83 The iueis interpret it to the vrang sens. 1550, 1560 [see WREST *v.* 5 b]. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* III. i. 110, I have directed you to wrong places. 1598 B. JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* II. i, He... claps his dish at the wrong mans dore. 1673 *Essex Papers* (Camden) I. 63 Of which if he thinks to make me y^e first example he will find he has fixed upon a wrong man. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India & P.* 126 They brought me to the wrong side of a pretty Square Tank, or Well. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), To *Misrepresent*, not to represent fairly, to give a wrong or false Character of. 1727 BAILEY (vol. II), *Misplace*, to put in a wrong Place. 1736 [see WRONGNESS 2]. a1778 TOP-LADY *Anecd.* Wks. 1794 IV. 152 To put your hand into the wrong pocket. 1793 W. ROBERTS *Looker-on* No. 38 (1794) II. 60 This was the wrongest time that could be chosen. 1821 LAMB *Elia* i. *Mrs. Battle*, An adversary, who has slipt a wrong [playing] card. 1836-7 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Scenes* xvii, Shoving the old and helpless, into the wrong buss. 1871 GEO. ELIOT *Middlemarch* xl, The fatal step of choosing the wrong profession. 1884 E. YATES *Recoll.* II. 67 Never did a man so persistently... do the wrong thing in the wrong place.

b. In various allusive phrases: (see quotes. and BARK *v.* 1 2, BOX sb.² 21, SHOP sb. 8 b, SOW sb.¹ 3). to catch (a person) on the wrong foot, to get off, etc., on the wrong foot: see FOOT sb. 29.

1554 RIDLEY in Foxe *A. & M.* (1563) 931/1 If you will heare how Saint Augustine expoundeth that place, ye shal perceauce that ye are in a wronge booke. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* II. ix. (1867) 75 Ye tooke... the wrong sow by theare. 1616 *Withals' Dict.* 584 *Vlulas Athenas*, you bring your Corne to a wrong market. 1639 J. CLARKE *Param.* 7 You bring your hogs to a wrong market. 1761 *Brit. Mag.* II. 440 You'd have sworn he had got the wrong pig by the ear. 1833 JAS. HALL *Leg. West* 46 You are barking up the wrong tree, Johnson. 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Tales* xii, Does he want... money? meat? drink? He's come to the wrong shop for that, if he does. 1877 'SAXON' (Mrs. Trotter) *Gall. Gossip* 190 Ye've got the wrang soo by the lug this time. 1897 *Daily News* 4 March 6/1 The now well-quoted phrase of Lord Salisbury's, 'we put all our money upon the wrong horse'. 1907 N. & Q. 19 Jan. 46/2 'You will find yourself in the wrong shop!' is a vague threat.

c. the wrong end, the end, extremity, or limit less adapted, suitable, or proper for a required or particular purpose. Occas. fig. Also quasi-*adv.* (quot. 1897).

1587 UNDERDOWNE tr. *Heliodorus* VI. (1895) 166 Calasiris carried Caricias quiver... the wrong ende downward on his shoulders. 1602 2nd Pt. *Return Parnass.* III. iii. 1323 My master... then turning... the wrong end of the booke upward. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* III. xi. §24 They... begin at the wrong end, learning Words first. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* clxxv. 147 Till a Vain Repentance Minds us of it at the Wrong End on't. 1737 [see GO *v.* 1 c]. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* VI. iii. ¶5 This was setting up the trade of a steward, but beginning at the wrong end. 1836 [HOOTON] *Bilberry Thurland* III. 252 He looked prodigiously cruel, having, as

our country folks term it, got out of bed the wrong end first. 1878 [see *END sb.* 24]. 1886 KINGTON OLIPHANT *New English* I. 491 We talk of the wrong end of the stick. 1890- [see *STICK sb.* 15 e]. 1897 KIPLING *Capt. Cour.* 125 Patent rockets that went off wrong-end-first. 1902 S. E. WHITE *Blazed Trail* xxxii, Daly knew men. He was at the wrong end of the whip.

d. *Typog.* Not of the proper size, character, or face. Freq. in *wrong fount* (abbrev. *w.f.*); also *attrib.*

1771 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Printing* 444 Letters that... are of a wrong fount. 1808 STOWER *Printer's Gram.* 216 Plate, The Exemplification of Typographical Marks... Stet. Ital... w.f. 1896 MOXON'S *Mech. Exerc.*, *Printing* p. xviii, Wrong-fount characters, broken space-lines, and bent rules.

e. Not of requisite social standing.

1859 LEVER *D. Dunn* xxxii, She is 'tres grande dame',... and never knows wrong people, ... such as are to be met with in society; not by claim of birth and standing, but because they are very rich, or very clever, in some way or other.

f. Mus. *wrong note*: a note such as one would not expect in a given key, a discordant note. Freq. *attrib.*

1934 C. LAMBERT *Music Ho!* II. 127 The spicing up of a simple harmonic basis by the addition of what are popularly—and rightly—known as 'wrong notes', such as we find in Auric. 1946 C. MASON in A. L. Bacharach *Brit. Music* x. 139 The 'wrong-note lyricism' of Prokofiev's Third Piano Concerto is as vulgar as the street tunes it distorts. 1958 *Listener* 16 Oct. 623/3 The fierce new musical idioms that had been developed by those whom he [sc. Vaughan Williams] called 'wrong-note' composers. 1979 *Oxf. Jm. Compan. Mus.* (ed. 2) 269/2 His [sc. Poulenc's] style was neo-classical, full of unexpected twists and delightful 'wrong-note' harmonies.

8. a. Of a way, course, etc.: Leading in, having a trend or aspect to, a direction other than one intends, desires, or expects.

to go the *wrong way*, of food, etc.: see *WAY sb.* 4 e.

c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 527/2 Wylgate, or wronge gate, deviacio. 1558 GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 765 Some brekyng downe the walles to bring in the next way, and some yet drew to them that holpe to carye a wrong way. 1572 GASCOIGNE *Hearbes Wks.* 1907 I. 349 He much mistooke and shot the wronger way. 1601 R. JOHNSON *Kingd. & Commw.* (1603) 158 The Russe Emperor... leading foorth his armie to encounter him marched a wrong way. 1632 HOLLAND *Cyrypædia* 94 They chaunced upon a wrong by-lane. 1778 MISS BURNAY *Evelina* xxi, That he had himself ordered the man to go a wrong way. 1787 'G. GAMBADO' *Acad. Horsem.* 39 Only take care to point his head the wrong way. 1833 REDDING *Shipwrecks* I. 71 They were steering a wrong course. 1835 MACAULAY *Mackintosh* Ess. (1897) 324 Were their faces set in the right or in the wrong direction? 1856 SARA ROBINSON *Kansas* (ed. 3) 40 We... took the wrong road when nearly there. 1883 STEVENSON *Treas. Isl.* xxxii, This here crew is on a wrong tack, I do believe.

b. *fig.* and in *fig.* context.

1412-20 *LYDG. Chron. Troy* II. 1818 þoruþ myst of errouf falsely to forveye By þathis wrong from þe riȝte weye. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 18 Takynge the wronge weye, they liue here a while in worldly pleasure. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* II. ix. (1867) 75 Ye may see, ye tooke The wrong way to wood. a1613 OVERBURY *Countrieyewes Wks.* (1890) 174 That the allegory of justice drawne blind, is turned the wrong way. 1698 COLLIER *Short View* 210, I observe the Moral is vitious: It points the wrong way. 1781 COWPER *Truth* 17 Grace leads the right way: if you choose the wrong, Take it, and perish. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* VII. i. ¶6, I... muttered blessings on them the wrong way, and swore outright. 1856 OLMSTED *Mech. Heavens* 133 Because all the inquirers into Nature were upon a wrong road, groping their way through the labyrinth of error. 1901 *Scotsman* 8 March 6/5 The bill... seemed to proceed upon the wrong tack.

9. a. *the* (or *a*) *wrong way*, the way or method least conducive to a desired end or purpose; the (or an) incorrect manner.

c1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xxvi. 546 Rohars... sayd, 'Sire, here is my gage'. 'Rohars,' sayd Charlemagne, 'here ye take a wronge waye'. 1639 J. CLARKE *Paræm.* 8 You go the wrong way to worke. 1651 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) I. 518 Hee tooke the wrong way to riȝht himself. 1727 [see *GO v.* 4]. 1884 *Times* (weekly ed.) 31 Oct. 14/3 They went the wrong way to work to gain the ear of the House.

b. *(the) wrong way* († *wrong-way*, Sc. *wrang-gates*), in adverbial use, = in a contrary or opposite direction or position to the proper or usual one.

1693 CONGREVE *Old Bach.* IV. viii, You wou'd have taken 'em from Friezland Hens, with their Feathers growing the wrong way. 1697 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3325/4 The S stands the wrong way. 1700 T. BROWN *Amusem. Ser. & Com.* 157 A Band, or a Cravat put the wrong way. 1733 TULL *Horse-Hoeing* *Husb.* xxiii. 360 Being wrong-way upwards, the Seed is apt to arch in them. 1750 BLANCKLEY *Nav. Expos.* 103 *Marking-Yarn*,... is white Yarn spun the wrong Way. 1806 R. JAMIESON *Pop. Ballads* I. 210 Synne wrang-gaites round the kirk gaed he. 1840 HOOD *Kilmansegg, Dream* xiv, At night... He lies like a hedgehog rolled up the wrong way, Tormenting himself with his prickles. 1862- [see *RUB v.* 3 a, 13 e]. 1886 BESANT *Childr. Gibbon* II. ix, All three [had] got out of bed the wrong way that morning.

10. *wrong side* († *wrong-side*, *wrongside*).

Cf. Da. *vrangside*, Norw. *rangsidea*.

a. That side of some thing, a fabric, etc., which lies or is normally turned inward, downward, or away from one; the side opposite to the usual, or principal; the lower or under, the back or reverse, or the two surfaces.

1511-2 *Act 3 Hen. VIII.* c. 6 §1 The Walker... shall not rowe... Clothe... on the riȝht side nor of the wrong side. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 137 He hath turnd his tippet twyse... Fyrst on the wronge syde and last on the riȝht. 1596 SPENSER *State Irel. Wks.* (Globe) 635/2 The manner of their womens riding on the wrong side of their horse, I meane with theyr faces towards the riȝht side. 1601

SHAKS. *Twel. N.* III. i. 14 How quickly the wrong side [of a glove] may be turn'd outward. 1631 T. HEYWOOD *1st Pt. Fair Maid of West* IV. i. 42 The three sheep-skins with the wrong side outward. 1715 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5353/12 A jet black Mare, ... a thick Mane lying on the wrong side. 1771 MRS. HAYWOOD *New Present* 98 Slit the leg of lamb down on the wrong-side. 1890 L. C. D'OYLE *Notches* 92 He jumped hastily on to his pony (from the wrong side, after the Indian fashion).

fig. and in *fig.* context. 1553 ASCHAM *Germany Wks.* (1904) 147 Homer... whose saying in Greeke is excellent, but beyng turned in the wrong side into English, it shall lesse delight you. 1605 SHAKS. *Lear* IV. ii. 9 Of Glosters Treachery... When I inform'd him, then he call'd me Sot, And told me I had turn'd the wrong side up. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Let. to J. Meine* 7 Sept., Christ's... winds turn not when he seemeth to change, it is but we who turn our wrong side to him. 1687 DRYDEN *Hind & P.* III. 438 Till frowning skys began to change their cheer, And time turn'd up the wrong side of the year. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* I. x, In looking at the fair tapestry of human Life, ... he dwells... chiefly on the reverse; and indeed turns out the rough seams, tatters, and manifold thrums of that unsightly wrong-side, with... indifference.

b. In the advb. phr. *(the) wrong side out* († *outwards*), *before*. In later use freq. without article.

1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* III. i. 68 So turnes she euery man the wrong side out. 1604 — *Oth.* II. iii. 54 My sicke Foole Rodrigo, Whom Loue hath turn'd almost the wrong side out. 1663 SOUTH *Serm.* (1717) V. 100 He will find, that if ever another Turn befals the Nation, it will be the Wrongside outwards, the Lowest Uppermost. 1859 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* xxxiv, His hat was on wrong-side before. 1883 'MARK TWAIN' *Life on Mississippi* liv. 481 We all struggled frantically into our clothes, ... getting them wrong-side-out and upside-down, as a rule. 1888 'J. S. WINTER' *Bootle's Childr.* ix, Trying hard to twist into its proper place a finger of the glove which would go on wrong side out.

c. Phrases: *to laugh on the wrong side of one's mouth* (see *LAUGH v.* 1 b); *on the wrong side of the blanket* Sc. (see *BLANKET sb.* 3).

1714 LUCAS *Gamsters* 65 But tho' he laugh'd, 'twas on the wrong side of his Mouth. 1771, etc. [see *BLANKET sb.* 3]. 1809 MALKIN *Gil Blas* I. vii. §1, I... began to laugh and sing, though it was sometimes on the wrong side of my mouth. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* xxxvii, Shafton... men say, was a-kin to the Piercie on the wrong side of the blanket. 1837 CARLYLE *Diamond Necklace* iii, By and by thou wilt laugh on the wrong side of thy face mainly. 1889 [see *LAUGH v.* 1 b].

d. The side, party, or principle of which one disapproves.

1649 [see *RIGHT a.* 10 b]. 1784 COWPER *Tiroc.* 740 Because forsooth thy courage has been tried And stood the test, perhaps on the wrong side. 1857 W. COLLINS *Dead Secret* III. i, He could argue on the wrong side of any question with an acuteness [etc.].

e. *on the wrong side of*, older than (a specified age); upwards of. (Cf. *SHADY a.* 2 b.)

a1663 KILLIGREW *Parson's Wedd.* v. ii. (1664) 140 She is smitten in years o'th wrong side of forty. 1692 L'ESTRANGE *Fables* ccel. 306 An Old Man on the Wrong-side of Four-score. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 282 ¶3 They had... passed their Prime, and got on the wrongside of Thirty. 1773 MME. D'ARBLAY *Early Diary* (1889) I. 220 He is on the wrong side of an elderly man, but seems to have good health. 1828 LYTTON *Pelham* III. xx, Am I... to look like a methodist parson on the wrong side of forty! 1895 *Pall Mall Mag.* Nov. 394 A good-looking woman, a little on the wrong side of thirty, perhaps.

f. The disadvantageous, undesirable, or unsafe side of some place, object, etc.

1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 521 We were on the wrong side of the Straits of Malacca. 1728 VANBRUGH & CIB. *Prov. Husb.* IV. i, He... takes me... into the lobby [to vote]!... but... I was got o' the wrong side the post. 1791- [see *POST sb.* 1 8 i]. 1791 'G. GAMBADO' *Ann. Horsem.* (1809) VI. 91 [The horse] has got an awkward trick... of leaving the other two on the wrong side of the fence. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* x, His grandsire was from the wrong side of the Border. 1893 MISS CHOLMONDELEY *Diana Tempest* i, The poor meagre home in a dingy street; the wrong side of Oxford Street.

fig. 1728 VANBRUGH & CIB. *Prov. Husb.* I. 10 We are got a little on the wrong side of the Question. 1783 COWPER *Ode to Apollo* 2 Patron of all those luckless brains, That, to the wrong side leaning, Indite much metre. 1861 A. LEIGHTON *Trad. Scot. Life* Ser. II. 65 That he would not speak to his wife on this the wrong side of eternity. 1865 SWINBURNE *Chastelard* I. ii. 38 For love, I think of that as dead men of good days Ere the wrong side of death was theirs.

g. *to get up or out of bed (on) the wrong side*, with allusion to the supposed disturbing effect on one's temper. (Cf. *RIGHT a.* 20 c.) *colloq.*

1801 *Marvellous Love-Story* I. 167 You have got up on the wrong side, this morning, George. 1867 H. KINGSLEY *Silcote of S. xi*, Miss had got out of bed the wrong side. 1887 [see *GET v.* 73 a].

h. The side (of a highway) reserved for oncoming traffic (in Great Britain the right-hand side, in most other countries the left). Also *joc.* with reference to roads in countries having the opposite system to one's own.

1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* xxi, Keeping on the wrong side of the road. 1914 M. BEERBOHM in *Eng. Rev.* Dec. 19 Our car... was, for an instant, full on the wrong side of the road. 1933 A. G. MACDONNELL *England, their England* xv. 264 A motor-bicycle... had been taking the natural advantage of its speed... to pass the limousine at fifty-five miles an hour on the wrong side at a blind corner. 1965 L. SANDS *Something to Hide* ii. 31 'We... usually winter abroad.' 'Very nice too! If you can get used to driving on the wrong side.' 1972 *Guardian* 27 Nov. 12/7, 750,000 British drivers took their cars abroad last year... Many... accidents... [were] possibly caused by confusion over driving on the 'wrong' side of the road.

11. Of persons, etc.: a. Judging, believing, or acting contrary to the facts of the case; incorrect in judgement, assertion, or action; mistaken, in error.

1693 LOCKE *Educ. Wks.* 1714 III. 35 His Practice must by no means cross his Precepts, unless he intend to set him wrong. 1735 POPE *Prol. to Sat.* 158 Did some more sober Critic come abroad; If wrong, I smil'd; if right, I kiss'd the rod. 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) III. 270, And I own I am wrong. 1797 S. & H. T. LEE *Canterb. T.* (1799) I. 93 Though my head was wrong, my heart was right. 1806-7 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* (1826) v. Concl., If I am wrong in this. 1836 LYTTON *Duchess de La Vallière* III. iii, I was not wrong to feel remorse, But wrong to give it utterance! 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 37, I should be very wrong not to obey you.

b. Not normal or sound in the senses, etc.; not sane.

1765 SIR J. PORTER in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. I. 381 Any suspicion that he was wrong in his senses. 1835 D. WEBSTER *Orig. Sc. Rhymes* 13 (E.D.D.), This maid that was wrang in the mind. 1881 D. THOMSON *Musings* 44 Lasses will laugh at yer havers, An' think ye are wrang in the head.

III. † 12. a. That has no legal right, title, or claim; not legitimate; unlawful; = *WRONGFUL a.* 3 b. *Obs.*

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 2026 3yf a womman yn hordam do swyche outrage þat a wrong eyre bere herytage. c1420 *LYDG. Assembly of Gods* 682 There were... Wrong vsurpers, with gret extorcioners. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 23 In the quhilk tyme the traytrous Romayns maid thre wrang papis. 1460 CAPGRAVE *Chron.* (Rolls) 225 Merry the wrong Kyng of Spayn. a1586 MAITLAND in *M. Folio MS.* (S.T.S.) 428 Fray god degressouris and vrang possessouris, repent sall ye.

† b. *wrong-heir*, the hermit-crab. *Obs.*

1730 S. DALE *Taylor's Hist. Harwich* 436 The Wrong-heire or Bernard the Hermit. 1854 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 155 The hermit crab... takes up its abode in univalve shells which it finds empty; hence has been named *Wrong heir*.

13. a. Marked or characterized by illegality; not legally valid.

1480 *Coventry Leet Bk.* 459 þe chircwardens kepen hit still be wronge possession and sett hit to ferme yerely. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI.* I. i. 159 Be thy Title right or wrong, Lord Clifford vowes to fight in thy defence.

† b. Obtained unjustly; held unlawfully. *Obs.*

1563 *Homilies* II. *Rogation Week* 524 God neuer suffereth the thirde heyre to enioye his fathers wrong possessions. † 14. False; fictitious; unreal. *Obs. rare*—1.

c1350 *Will. Palerne* 706 For soþe, ich am a mad man now, welich may knowe, Forto wene in þis wise þis wrong metyng soþe.

† 15. Belonging to, situated on, the left side. *Obs. rare.*

? a1400 *Morte Arth.* 1480 Wrothely one the wrange hande sir Gawayne he strykes. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* (S.T.S.) I. 38 Becaus the Ryvere of tyber sellenit þame fra þe romane landis on þare riȝht handis, þai turnit þame on þare wrang handis.

IV. *Comb.* 16. Parasynthetic, as *wrong-ended* (see 7 c; hence *wrong-endedness*), *-hearted* (hence *wrong-heartedness*), *-heired*, *-jawed*, *-minded*, *-principled*.

a1400 *Octavian* (Camb. MS.) 107 Moche sorowe deryth mee, That Rome schalle wronge heryed [v.r. wrange-ayerde] bee In vnkynde honde. 1552 HULOET s.v., Wronge lawed, or hauinge the neither longer then the vpper law, *bronchus*. 1805 JAMES *Milit. Dict.* (ed. 2) s.v., The inhabitants of England and Ireland are seldom wrong-hearted. 1835 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Exerc.* (1842) III. 275 Evidences of the wrong-endedness of a property-qualification, with which the British people are unhappily familiar. a1849 H. COLERIDGE *Ess.* (1851) II. 88 His judgment of books is not so much superficial... as it is wrong-principled. 1883 *Imp. Dict.* IV. 669 *Wrongminded*, having a mind wrongly inclined; entertaining erroneous or distorted views. 1885 *Century Mag.* XXIX. 910 Wrong-headedness may be as fatal now as wrong-heartedness.

B. *adv.* 1. a. In a direction differing from the right or true one; by an erroneous course or way; astray.

13... *Cursor M.* 5760 (Gött.), Mi folk of ysrael es in wa; þai haue ben led wrang alsua. c1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 15720 He sailed al day, & on þe nyȝt, Vmwhile bope wrong & ryȝht, Til he com in-til an ilde. c1386 CHAUCER *Reeve's T.* 332 By God, thoughte he, al wrang I haue mysȝon. 1572 GASCOIGNE *Gascoigne's Woodmanship* 31 He winked wrong, and so let slippe the [bow]-string, Which cast him wide. 1614 SYLVESTER *Parl. Vertues* *Royall* 706 A fair Ship... wants... A skilfull Pilot... That never wary shee sail, nor wrong shee row. 1715 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5295/11 Lost or carried wrong..., several Parcels of Goods. 1773 GOLDSM. *Stoops to Conq.* I. ii, Lock-a-daisy, my masters, you're come a deadly dead wrong! 1824 MACTAGGART *Galloo. Encycl.* (1876) 293 We may wander even on kend grun; so I may run myself wrong in Gallowa, a land I weel ken. 1869 W. S. GILBERT *'Bab' Ballads, Peter the Wag* 15 He loved to send old ladies wrong, And teach their feet to stray. 1875 MISS BIRD *Hawaiian Archip.* 403 Our guide took us a little wrong once... 'Wrong' on Mauna Loa means being arrested by an impassable a-a stream.

fig. 1399 LANGL. *R. Redeles* III. 80 Thus lafte þey [sc. the young eagles] þe leder þat hem wrong ladde. 1729 BUTLER *Serm.* Wks. 1874 II. 167 How liable we are to be led wrong by passion and private interest. 1755 *Man* xxxvii. 4 When the powers of the soul are wrong directed. 1786 BURNS *Prayer in Prospect of Death* iii, List'ning to their [sc. passions'] witching voice Has often led me wrong. 1859 RUSKIN *Two Paths* App. i. (1891) 251 Tintoret... may lead you wrong if you don't understand him.

† b. In an oblique or deflected line or position; obliquely, askew. *Obs.*

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* iv. 312 Sette hit [sc. a bough] in the delf so lenyng wronge [L. oblique]. c 1440 *York Myst.* xxxv. 182 We twoo schall see tille aythir side, For ellis pis werke wille wrie all wrang. ? a 1500 *Chester Pl.* xvi. 547 This Caytfe I have cast, shall be wronge wrast, or I wend away.

2. to go wrong. a. To take a wrong way, road, or course; to go astray. Also in fig. context; and fig., to make a mistake; to fall into error; to err.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 15448 A taken pan i sal youu giue, pat yee sal nocht ga wrang. 13.. *Ibid.* 25681 (Gött.), All pat singes pis sang... pu lede paim right par pai ga wrang. c 1340 *HAMPOLE Pr. Consc.* 193 Na wonder es, yf pai ga wrang, For in myrknes of unknowyng pai gang. c 1400 26 *Pol. Poems* 120 Whenne he wolde nojt folwe hym [sc. the angel],... Out of the waye he wente wronge. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 202 Goo wronge, devio, deliro. 1513 *DOUGLAS Æneid* vi. Prol. 8 To follow Virgile in this dirk poese, Convey me, Sibill, that I ga nocht wrang. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 71 b, Whan this sterre was hvd., they went wronge to theyr great peryll. 1606 *SHAKS. Tr. & Cr.* v. i. 74 *Agamemnon*. We go wrong, we go wrong. *Ajax*. No yonder 'tis. 1709 *POPE Ess. Crit.* 427 The Learn'd... So much... scorn the crowd, that if the throng By chauce go right, they purposely go wrong. 1712 J. JAMES tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* i It being easy to go wrong where no-body has beaten the Way. 1793 R. GRAY *Poems* 10 There's mony a one... That far frae gude's way hath gane wrang. 1849 *Tait's Mag.* XVI. 1881 We went wrong in making any active intervention. 1873 H. SPENCER *Stud. Sociol.* xiv. 337 There are more ways of going wrong than of going right.

b. To deviate or depart from moral rectitude or integrity; to take to evil courses; also, to fall from virtue.

1500-20 *DUNBAR Poems* v. 33 Sanet Petir hat hir with a club, because the wif seid wrang. 1535 *COVERDALE Ecclus.* iv. 19 But yf he go wronge, she shall forsake him. 1780 *COWPER Progr. Err.* 556 Thus men go wrong... Bend the straight rule to their own crooked will. 1848 *DICKENS Dombey* lviii, That when ladies had bad homes and mothers, they went wrong in their way too. 1888 H. S. MERRIMAN *Phantom Future* viii, I tried... to show you that I was not quite a blackguard. But it was useless; I went wrong again.

(b) 1837 *LYTTON E. Maltrav.* 21 She had a vague idea about girls going wrong. 1888 *McCarthy & PRAED Ladies' Gallery* III. viii. 169 A home... for poor girls who had gone wrong.

c. Of events, etc.: To happen amiss or unfortunately; to issue or result unsuccessfully or unprosperously.

1592 *Arden of Feversham* II. ii, Should you deceiue vs, twould go wrong with you. 1595 *SHAKS. John* i. i. 41 Your strong possession much more then your right, Or else it must go wrong with you and me. 1711 *SWIFT Jynl. to Stella* 9 Oct., This day has gone all wrong, by sitting up so late last night. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch-Bk., Rip van Winkle*, Everything about it went wrong, and would go wrong, in spite of him. 1857 *BORROW Romany Rye* xlii, Everything seemed to go wrong with me—horses became sick [etc.]. 1885 G. R. SIMS in *Pall Mall G.* 7 April 19/2 A thick slime of what looks like toffee gone wrong. 1891 E. KINGLAKE *Australian at Home* 114 A pal or two... ready to help a chap if things go wrong.

d. Of things: To get out of gear or working order; to fail to work, run, etc., by reason of friction, trouble, or break-down. Of a clock or watch: To fail to keep correct time.

1809 W. IRVING *Knickerb.* v. i, While others [sc. clocks] may keep going continually, and continually be going wrong. 1861 *DICKENS Gt. Expect.* v, We have had an accident with these [handcuffs], and I find the lock of one of 'em goes wrong. 1871 *LYTTON Coming Race* xxii, That watch... has never gone wrong since I had it. 1885 *Law Reports* 10 P.D. 100 The machinery had gone wrong. 1898 *Tit-Bits* 29 Jan. 342/2 The water supply has gone wrong.

e. Of persons: To fail in some undertaking or enterprise, or in the general conduct of life.

1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 203 Seein' Papists' side gae wrang, Out at the Chanc'lor's-door he flang. 1848 *THACKERAY Van. Fair* xvii, He was a very kind old man... I'm really sorry he's gone wrong.

f. Of food, etc.: To get into bad or unsound condition; to become unwholesome.

1882 *Imp. Dict.* II. 403 To go wrong, to become unsound, as meat, fruit.

3. Not in accordance with good morals or a just standard of actions; in a manner contrary to equity or uprightness; unjustly, unfairly; = *WRONGFULLY adv.* 1, *WRONGLY adv.* 2.

a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1362 Heo may do bi myne songe, hweper heo wile wel pe wronge. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 12180 þys erymyte... beheld... whyche come with gode deuocyoum, And whyche for ouper enchesoun: Alle sagh þys erymyte euerydeyl, Who come wrong, and who come weyl. c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1176 þer-for pe wronger he wirches, al þe world may know. c 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Verse) 1608 Wyne pat es myghty & strang Mase witty men forto wirk wrang. c 1430 *Chev. Assigne* 170 Hit is porowe pe werke of god or þey [sc. gold chains] be wronge wonnen. 15.. in *Dunbar's Poems* (S.T.S.) 322 The regeand tyrant... is exilit and his ofspring The land of Juda, that josit wrang. 1606 *SHAKS. Ant. & Cl.* III. vi. 80 We perceiu'd both how you were wrang led, And we in negligent danger. 1728 *POPE Dunc.* iv. 188 The Right Divine of Kings to govern wrong. 1801 *Farmer's Mag.* Apr. 191 The tithes... were gifted away to others (right or wrong, I do not presume to enquire). 1848 *DICKENS Dombey* lxi, I do conjure my relative... to set right... whatever she has done wrong, because it is wrong, and not right. 1865 *GROTE Plato* I. vii. 299 We ought not... to act wrong or unjustly.

4. a. Out of accordance or consistence with facts or the truth of the case; mistakenly, erroneously; incorrectly; = *WRONGFULLY adv.* 2 b.

c 1200 *ORMIN* 10020 Swilke sinnenn alle þa patt spellenn wrang & lezhenn. *Ibid.* 18312 Acc patt niss nohht;

3e wenenn wrang Off me. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 13906 Qua will pe sla? qui sais pou wrang? 13.. *Gosp. Nicodemus* 110 Me think in thoght þe bedell wrang 3e blame. c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 4118 3if i wrong seie any word, wo worp me euer. c 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Prose) 14 Ofte speke pai wrang. c 1470 *HENRY Wallace* ix. 780 To Fyfe he past, to wesay that cuntre, Bot wrang warnyt off Inglismen was he. 1548 *TURNER Names Herbes* (E.D.S.) 13 Anethum is wronge englished, of some anise. 1593 G. FLETCHER *Licia* B3 b, Wrong they doe esteeme She hath no heat. 1681 W. ROBERTSON *Phraseol. Gen.* 1355 You took my meaning wrong. 1690 *LOCKE Hum. Und.* iv. xvi. §11 A thousand odd Reasons... may make one Man quote another Man's Words or Meaning wrong. 1703 N. ROWE *Ulysses* iv. i, Whoe'er Brought you the Message... Mistook the Queen, and has inform'd you wrong. 1711 *SHAFTESB. Charac.* III. 204 Thus at last a Mind... sees its Hindrances and Obstructions, and finds they are wholly from it-self, and from Opinions wrong-conceiv'd. 1791 *COWPER Judgm. Poets* 19 To poets... The nymphs refer'd the cause, Who... all judg'd it wrong. 1847 *TENNYSON Princ.* v. 278, I take her for the flower of womankind, And so I often told her, right or wrong. 1848 *THACKERAY Van. Fair* lxiii, In spite of her care and assiduity she guessed wrong. 1864 *LATTO Tam. Bodkin* xxiii, Ye maun hae been wrang informed.

b. to get (someone) wrong: to misunderstand a person's meaning or intentions, to misinterpret someone. *slang* (orig. U.S.).

1927 *DUNNING & ABBOTT Broadway* (1928) xix. 196 'Ever been accused of murder?'... 'Don't get me wrong—that stuff ain't in my line.' 1934 T. WILDER *Heaven's my Destination* ii. 39 Don't get her wrong. 1942 *WODEHOUSE Money in Bank* (1946) xii. 91 We got Soapy all wrong, Chimp. He's explained everything. 1966 *Listener* 20 Oct. 561/1 Old L. B. J. is riddled with anxiety over the thought that we shall go to our graves having got him all wrong. 1968 *Ibid.* 5 Sept. 308/2 Stuart Hood's review of Harold Nicolson's last volume of *Diaries*... ends sympathetically, but begins with a devastating attack on my father's 'snobbishness'... I think, not merely as his son and editor, that they have got him wrong, and are a little uncertain what snobbishness really means. 1974 N. FREELING *Dressing of Diamond* 200 Don't get me wrong; there's no offence meant.

5. a. Not in the right or proper way; in an improper or unfitting manner; improperly, unduly, amiss.

c 1200 *ORMIN* 10030 Whatt te33 don pe læwedd folle O Drihhtin wrang to trowwenn, & wrang to ledenn pe33re lif, & Drihhtin wrang to þeowwenn. a 1250 *Owl & Night* 196 He wot ineyht in eueche songe, huo singep wel huo singep wronge. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 12480 Quen þat þai wrang wit iesu delt. c 1340 *HAMPOLE Pr. Consc.* 2487 Our gude dedes er ofte done wrang. c 1400 26 *Pol. Poems* 107 My wittes on nyctes wrong y ware. c 1440 *York Myst.* xxviii. 264 Here workis þou all wrang. 1504 *CORNISHE in Skelton's Wks.* (1568) 2 v b, If he [sc. the harper] play wrong. 1531 *TINDALE Expos. 1st Ep. John* Prol. (1538) 7 b, Because we be wronge taught. c 1620 A. HUME *Brit. Tongue* (1865) 11 The south... pronounces eu, we ou, both, in my simple judgement, wrang. 1755 *Man* xlv. 5 Methods... extremely wrong calculated for promoting the real perfection... of individuals. 1787 *JEFFERSON Writ.* (1859) II. 332 They will amend it whenever they find it works wrong. 1828 *Life Planter Jamaica* 96 The estate was wrong managed. 1881 *MISS BRADDOE Asphodel* I. x. 298, I asked him to come on with me... I hope I did not do very wrong. 1897 O. WISTER *Lin McLean* 164 Every guest's uneasiness lest he drink his coffee wrong.

b. Out of proper order or due place.

1573 *BARET Alv.* s.v., To put on his shoes Wrong, *inducere calceos alicui præpostere*. 1732 *POPE Ess. Man* i. 50 All the question... Is only this, if God has plaed him wrong?

c. Clumsily; inelegantly; badly. *rare*—1.

1727 *BAILEY* (vol. II), *Misfashioned*, shapen wrong or illy. 6. Comb. a. With pa. pples., as *wrong-directed*, †-feigned, -grounded, -ordered, -screwed, -timed.

1768-74 *TUCKER Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 371 A dull, or careless, or *wrong-directed application. 1513 *BRADSHAW St. Werburg* II. 1852 Subtell policy and *wrong-feyned evidens. 1768-74 *TUCKER Lt. Nat.* (1834) II. 80 *Wrong-grounded piety and obstinacy. a 1586 *Sidney's Arcadia* Wks. 1922 II. 214 To heare The poore-elad truth of loves *wrong-ordred lot. 1849 *CUPPLES Green Hand* xiii. (1856) 122 As if one saw through a *wrong-screwed glass. 1740 *RICHARDSON Pamela* II. 111 Don't let a little *wrong-timed Bashfulness take place.

b. With strong pa. pples., as †*wrong-take(n)*, †*wrong-gotten* a., unjustly obtained; ill-gotten.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 27867 Til wrang takin [þ]lyng [v.r.r. wrang(e) þing] be quite again. 1388 *Wyckliff's Sel. Wks.* III. 472 If he... make restitutione of wrong-goten godis. c 1400 26 *Pol. Poems* 97 He þat ful is fylde Wiþ wrong take pore mennys thrit. c 1425 in *Anglia* VIII. 156/10 Summe men... þat hadde mykel spendid... of wrange-goten goodes. c 1440 *Alph. Tales* 202 It was all of robbery & of wrong-gotten gudis.

c. With vbl. sbs. and pres. pples., as *wrong-believing*, -going, -thinking, -voting; also †*wrong-wresting*, = turning aside; *wrong-reading* a., such as can only be read after being first reversed by a mirror.

a 1560 *PHAER Æneid* IX. Cciv, The winds vpcaught that stroke, and Iuno Queene the danger brake Wrongwresting as it went. 1652 H. BELL *Luther's Colloq.* iv. 90 Superstitions and wrong-believings. 1850 J. BROWN *Disc. our Lord* I. 367 Our short-comings and wrong-goings. 1857 *GEN. P. THOMPSON Audi Alt.* I. xlvii. 184 Depriving wrong-voting officers of their commissions. 1877 *HUXLEY Techn. Educ., Sci. & Cult.* (1881) 66 Clear and consecutive wrong-thinking is the next best thing to right-thinking. 1955, 1967 [see *right-reading* s.v. *RIGHT adv.* 16 b].

wrong (rɒŋ), *v.* Also a. 5 *wronge*, 6 *arch. wrongen*; β. 4- (latterly *Sc.* and *north. dial.*) *wrang*, 9 *n.e. Sc. vrang*. [f. *WRONG a.*]

1. *trans.* 1. To do wrong or injury to (a person); to treat with injustice, prejudice, or harshness; to deal unfairly with, withhold some act of justice from (some one).

In frequent use from c 1600.

a. c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 11868 þen schul we ryghte, þat now vs wranges. c 1400 *Apol. Lollards* 64 Now are iust men oft wrongid, and schrewis vnpunischid. 1479 *Paston Lett.* III. 266 He wyll be with me ayenst myn oncle in iche mater... that he entendyth to wrong me in. 1496-7 *Act 12 Hen. VII.* c. 12 §4 At the complaynte of the Constable... in the name of any party so hurted or wronged. 1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 38 Shewynge hymselfe to be rather glad to be so despyed & wronged. 1596 *SPENSER State Irel. Wks.* (Globe) 623 By this Statute the sayd Irish Lord is wronged, for that he is cutt off from his customarye services. 1611 *BIBLE Prov.* viii. 36 Hee that sinneth against me, wrongeth his owne soule. 1654 *BRAMHALL Just Vind.* iv. (1661) 73 Why should it be in the power of a subject... to wrong his Prince and his Country? 1697 *DRYDEN Æneis* VII. 515 To this false Foreigner you give your Throne, And wrong a Friend, a Kinsman, and a Son. 1720, etc. [see *RIGHT v.* 7]. 1748 *RICHARDSON Clarissa* (1768) I. 172 Vilely suspicious of... [his servants] wronging him... he is always changing. 1792 *Anecd. W. Pitt* II. xxix. 141 The Americans have been wronged. They have been driven to madness by injustice. 1839 *DICKENS Nickleby* xx, [That] day of reckoning... will be a heavy one for you if they are wronged. 1881 *Act 44-45 Vict.* c. 58 §180 (2 d), An officer... who thinks himself wronged by his commanding officer.

refl. 1598 *SHAKS. Merry W.* III. iii. 178 Good master Ford, be contented: You wrong your selfe too much. 1683 D. A. *Art Converse* 88 We wrong ourselves if we oppose their Sentiments. 1860 *TENNYSON Sea Dreams* 168 His gain is loss; for he that wrongs his friend Wrongs himself more.

β. 1423 *JAS. I Kingis O.* xcii, Thus were thai wrangit that did no forfeit. c 1459 *Reg. Aberbrothoc* (Bann. Cl.) II. 105 Ewyl myndit personis... wrangis and tribulis ws. c 1540 *Dr. Double Ale* a iv b, Some wolde he shuld be hanged Or els he shulde be wranged. 1596 *DALRYMPLE tr. Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 182 J suffirit him nocht in ane iot to be wrangte. 1784 *COWPER Task* III. 101 Hypocrisy, detest her as we may, (And no man's hatred ever wrong'd her yet) May claim this merit. 1792 *BURNS Bonnie Lesley* iv, He'd look into thy bonie face, And say, 'I canna wrang thee'. 1793 R. GRAY *Poems* 27 Some silent sang, And glow'r't as they were wranged. 1825 *JAMIESON Suppl.* s.v.

b. To violate or do violence to; to treat unfairly or without due respect.

c 1449 *PECOCK Repr.* I. xiii. 70 So that he not wrongee [sic] the lawe of kinde... neither therbi wrongee Holi Scripture. 1592 *Soliman & Pers.* III. i, Spare me not, for then thou wrongst my honour. 1602 *SHAKS. Ham.* v. ii. 263, I do receiue your offer'd loue like loue And wil not wrong it. 1670 *DRYDEN Conq. Granada* III. i, You wrong our Friendship when your Right you name. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World* Diss. (1708) 45 Without wronging the Rule of the Gospel. 1775 *SHERIDAN Duenna* III. vi, I would return it, but that I must touch it that way, and so wrong my oath. 1784 *BURNS 1st Epist. to Davie* viii, To say aught less wad wrang the cartes, And flatt'ry I detest. 1808 *SCOTT Marm.* III. Introd. 111 The friendship thus thy judgment wronging With praises not to me belonging. 1847 *TENNYSON Princ.* VII. 221 She pray'd me not to judge their cause from her That wrong'd it. 1848 *DICKENS Dombey* xix, Rely on my not wronging your forbearance and consideration. 1855 *TENNYSON Maud* IV. iii, You wrong your beauty... in being so proud. 1861 *READE Cloister & H.* xlvii, Well then, mother, she is comely, and wrongs her picture but little.

2. To deprive or dispossess (a person) wrongfully of something; to cheat, defraud.

c 1484 *Plumpton Corr.* (Camden) 64 [He] is injured & wronged of his tennor in Arkeniden, contrarie to right and concience. 1594 *Kyd Cornelia* IV. 208 A Cittizen so wrong'd Of the honor him belong'd. 1660 *Myst. Good old Cause* 13 He hath wrong'd him of a great estate. 1730 *SWIFT Lett. to Esquire* 3 Jan., You wronged me of half my due. 1773 R. FERGUSON *Ghaists* 98 The succeeding generations [to] wrang O' braw bien maintenance. 1839 *THACKERAY Fatal Boots* Jan., I never wronged any man of a shilling. 1840 *DICKENS Old C. Shop* lx, Ask anybody... whether I have ever wronged them of a farthing. 1871 W. ALEXANDER *Johnny Gibb* xlv, [He wants] to wrang no man o' s' money.

ellipt. 1607 *ROWLANDS Diog. Lanth.* (Hunter. Cl.) 34 Haue I wrong'd thee in all my life, Mouthfull of Hay or Grasse?

3. To do injustice to (a person) by statement, imputation, opinion, etc.; to impute evil to, asperse or calumniate undeservedly; to discredit or dishonour by word or thought.

1594 *SHAKS. Rich.* III. iv. 421 *Queene.* Shall I forget my selfe, to be my selfe? *Rich.* I, if your selves remembrance wrong your selfe. 1599 *PEELE David & Bethsabe* B ijb, Woman thou wrongst the King, & doubtst his honour. 1620 *Jynls. Ho. Comm.* I. 535 His first Speech should be, to clear himself from Suspicion of wronging this House. 1634 W. TIRWHYTT tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. I) 120 Nor will I believe he was made after the image of God, lest therein I should wrong so excellent a nature. 1667 *PEPYS Diary* 27 July, He says that the Duke of York is suspected...; but that he do know that he is wronged therein. 1713 *ADDISON Cato* III. i, Thou wrong'st me, if thou think'st Ever was love... like mine. 1782 *COWPER tr. Mme. Guion, Happy Solitude* 9 Thy creatures wrong thee, O thou sov'reign Good! Thou art not lov'd, because not understood. 1795-6 *WORDSW. Borderers* 1. 167, I wot not what ill tongue has wronged him with you. 1823 *SCOTT Quentin D.* vi, He wronged his uncle, however, in supposing [etc.]. 1836 *LYTTON Duchess de La Vallière* III. v, My foolish fancies wronged him! 1861 *TENNYSON In Mem.* 1, I wrong the grave with fears untrue.

4. To cause undeserved physical harm or injury to (a person, etc.); to affect harmfully or injuriously; to hurt or damage. Now *Sc.*

1595 *SPENSER Epithal.* 49 For feare the stoness her tender foot should wrong. 1617 *MORYSON Itin.* 1. 37 The people

after dinner, warmed with drinke, are apt to wrong any stranger. **1634** SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 211 One [fruit] out of curiositie I tasted of, which . . . malignantly bit and wronged my mouth and lips. **1683** MOXON *Mech. Exerc.*, *Printing* xiii. ¶5 The edges of his Graver . . . may, in a slip, touch upon the Side and Face of the next Stroak, and wrong that more or less. **1712** J. JAMES tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 151 Without breaking or wronging the greater Roots. **a 1722** LISLE *Husb.* (1757) 376 Those boughs also . . . draw all the sap to them and wrong the rest that are weaker. **1793** R. GRAY *Poems* 54 A gude man loves his beast, And will not wrangle him. **1826** R. HETRICK *Poems* 92 Is't 'cause some farmer's wrangled his pechan At some drunk frolic.

refl. **1620** VENNOR *Via Recta* viii. 190 They . . . greatly erre and wrong themselves, that . . . surcharge their bodies with ouer-much meat. **1899** J. B. SALMOND *Man Sandy* xiii. 93 Blair leuch till I thoct he wudda wrangled himsel'.

†b. To impair or injure the quality or substance of (something); to affect detrimentally or harmfully; to mar, spoil. *Obs.*

1592 KYD *Sp. Trag.* II. iii. 46 If she . . . forgoe his loue, She both will wrong her owne estate and ours. **1630** in *Smith's Wks.* (Arb.) II. 898 All authoritie being dissolved, want of government did more wrong their proceedings, than [etc.]. **1638** W. M. GARCIA's *Sonne Rogue* 149, I was constrained . . . with the force of my sneezing to wrong my breeches. **1639** S. DU VERGER tr. *Camus' Admir. Events* Pref., Do not scoffe at the Histories, being good in themselves, though wronged by my want of language. **1661** PEPYS *Diary* 8 Jan., 'The Widdow', an indifferent good play, but wronged by the women being to seek in their parts. **a 1700** EVELYN *Diary* 30 May 1662, Her teeth wronging her mouth by sticking a little too far out. **1784** COWPER *Task* VI. 748 Sweet is the harp of prophecy; too sweet Not to be wrong'd by a mere mortal touch.

5. *Naut.* To outsail (another vessel); to outdo or surpass in sailing; also = BLANKET *v.* 2. ? *Obs.*

1685 T. PHELPS *Captiv.* 2 We had try'd his sailing all ways, but found we could not wrong him any way. **1691** T. H[ALE] *Acc. New Invent.* p. vi, One Ship is said to wrong another, that exceeds it in swiftness of sailing. **1727** S. BRUNT *Voy. to Cacklogallinia* 21 Our Sloop wrong'd 'em so much, that we soon came up with, and took them. **1748** SMOLLETT *R. Random* lxxv, We were very much wronged by the ship that had us in chase. **1760** C. JOHNSTON *Chrysal* I. i. x. 73 The officers [of an English man-of-war] . . . observed they wronged her so much, they could go round her if they pleased. **1867** SMYTH *Sailors' Word-bk.* 739 To outsail a vessel by becalming her sails is said to wrong her.

II. *intr.* †6. To act wrongly, harmfully, or injuriously; to do wrong (to a person, etc.). *Obs.*

1390 GOWER *Conf.* I. 262 For whan that holi cherche wrongeth, I not what other thing schal rihte. *Ibid.* II. 389 God and . . . the world . . . Largesse awiteth as belongeth, To neither part that he ne wrongeth. **a 1460** Oseney *Reg.* 61 Our beloued sonnys Abbot and Couent. . . shewed pat Richard Clerke and summe oper. . . vpon tithis possessions and oper thynges . . . wronge to be same. **1540** REC. ELGIN (New Spald. Cl.) I. 49 The assise deliuerit that Agnes Baldon wrangit in the . . . breking of Katerine Falconer's heid. **1613** W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* I. i. 119, I wrong to say so. **a 1676** HALE (J. s.v. *Higgle*), It argues an ignoble mind, where we have wronged, to higgle and dodge in the amends.

7. To heel over. (Cf. RIGHT *v.* 6 c.) *nonce-use*. **1842** DICKENS *Amer. Notes* ii, The ship rights. Before one can say 'Thank Heaven!' she wrongs again.

Hence 'wronging' *ppl.* *a.*

1845 J. C. MANGAN *German Anthol.* II. 60 That strong . . . devotion which . . . saved from wronging stain the sacred garland of Homage.

wrong-doer ('rɒŋ,dʊə(r)). Also wrongdoer. [f. WRONG *sb.* + DOER.] One who does wrong.

1. One who commits wrongful, unjust, or blameworthy acts; one who transgresses or offends against the moral law.

1387-8 T. USK *Test. Love* II. xiii. (Skeat) l. 18 Suche maner badnesse, whiche is used to purifye wrong-doers, is som-what. **c 1450** tr. *De Imitatione* III. li. 123, I knowe hov all pinge is doon, I knowe þe wronge doer & sufferer. **c 1460** FORTESCUE *Abs. & Lim.* Mon. iv. (1885) 116 That he defende his peple ayenst wronge doers inwarde bi justice. *Ibid.*, All the wronge doers of þe reame. **a 1513** FABYAN *Chron.* (1811) 307 Wylliam, which was . . . a defender of y^e pore people agayne extorcioners & wronge doers, was by them put wrongfully to deth. **a 1586** SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. xxii, She resolved to spende all her yeares . . . in . . . praying for the wrong-doer. **1612** BP. HALL *Contempl.*, O.T. iv. ii. ¶11 Who is so ready to except and exclaim as the wrong doer? **1660** R. COKE *Power & Subj.* 183 [That] the King . . . may both govern and rule . . . the Holy Church, and that he defend the same from wrong-doers. **1703** ROWE *Ulysses* III. i, Vindictive Jove prepares his Thunder. Let the Wrong-doer and the Tyrant tremble. **1795-6** WORDSW. *Borderers* v. 2071 He forgave The wrong and the wrong-doer. **1849** MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 646 They were . . . men of blameless life, and . . . were regarded . . . not as wrongdoers, but as martyrs. **1880** W. H. D. ADAMS *Wrecked Lives* Ser. I. p. iv, The unerring Nemesis of Failure dogs the footsteps of the wrongdoers.

2. *Law.* One who is guilty of a wrong, tort, or trespass; a trespasser, tort-feasor; a law-breaker.

1501 Nottingham *Rec.* (1885) III. 306 The seid Mayrez and brethern . . . shall . . . punyssh the wrongdoers therein in such maner as they may lawfully do. **1628** COKE *On Litt.* 181 For that [action] maketh him a wrong doer. **1642** — *Inst.* II. 168 If the goods or merchandises . . . be . . . taken away by certayne wrong doers not knowne. **1726** AYLIFFE *Parergon* 171 If any Seat . . . be taken away by a Stranger, the Church-warden . . . may have their Action against the Wrong-doer. **1768** BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. 182 A writ of entry in the post . . . only alleges the injury of the wrong-doer. **1818** CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) V. 142 For the same acts that are good, when done by the person who has right, are not sufficient in the case of a wrong-doer. **1856** N. *Brit. Rev.* XXVI. 271 Shall the master . . . be answerable pecuniarily to the dead man's widow, or shall it be the wrong-doer? **1911**

Times 17 May 3/4 He . . . denied that the mere fact . . . relieved a wrongdoer from paying damages.

wrong-doing ('rɒŋ,dʊɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* Also wrongdoing. [f. as prec. + DOING *vbl. sb.*] The action of doing wrong or amiss, or the fact of wrong being done.

1. Transgression or of offence against the moral or established law; reprehensible action or behaviour; evil-doing, misdoing; misconduct.

Rare before 19th c. In frequent use from c 1860. **1480** Coventry *Leet Bk.* 444 The Priour & Couent . . . desiren restitution of such wrongedoyng. **1547** LATIMER in Foxe *A. & M.* (1563) 1352 He that is so obstacle and vntractable in wickednes and wronge doing. **1681** ROBERTSON *Phrasel.* Gen. 1355 To withstand the doing of wrong; to be against wrong doing, *obsistere injuriæ*. **1828-32** WEBSTER. **1837** HT. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 10 The idea of honour is such as to exclude all fear, except of wrong-doing. **1858** GEN. P. THOMPSON *Audi Alt.* lxxv. II. 25 It is the rule of heaven, that wrong-doing shall bring sorrow. **1891** FARRAR *Darkn. & Dawn* xxii, To act [thus] . . . would have been to betray uneasiness and confess wrongdoing.

2. A wrongful or blameworthy action. **1874** M. CREIGHTON *Hist. Ess.* i. (1902) 21 A wrong-doing of which it felt no guilt. **1899** CROCKETT *Kit Kennedy* 245 [She] seemed to have suffered for every body else's wrong-doings.

wrong-doing, *ppl. a. rare*. [f. as prec. + doing, pr. pple. of DO *v.*] That does wrong, harm, or ill; prone to or committing wrongful actions.

c 1400 Rule St. Benet (Prose) xxxi. 23 þat te celereesse sal . . . be meke, and sobur, and noht . . . noiuis, ne wrangdoande [L. *injuriōsus*]. **1718** PRIOR *Solomon* III. 205 The . . . violent Will of the wrong-doing Great. **1901** *Daily News* 3 Jan. 6/1 The populations of wrong-doing cities must pay.

wronge, etc., *obs. pa. t. and pple. of WRING v.*

wronged ('rɒŋd), *ppl. a.* [f. WRONG *v.* + -ED¹.]

1. Of persons, etc.: Wrongfully, unfairly, or unjustly treated; affected harmfully or prejudicially; injured.

a 1547 SURREY *Aeneid* iv. 462 The wronged hed by me of my deare sonne, Whom I defraud of the Hispanian crown. **1561** NORTON & SACKV. *Gorboduc* I. ii, The smaller compasse that the realme doth holde, . . . The nearer [is] justice to the wronged poore. **1593** SHAKS. *Rich. III.* v. iii. 121 The wronged Soules Of butcher'd Princes. **1622** MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* II. 178 A wronged womans reuenge. **1681** OTWAY *Soldier's Fort.* v. (1735) 111 Take this wrong'd Lady home and use her handsomely. **1709** ATTERBURY *Serm.* (1726) II. 221 He resolves to make Personal Restitution, where the Wrong can be discover'd and the wrong'd Person reach'd. **1806** SURR *Winter in Lond.* II. 104 Some wronged female orphan of this old Abbey. **1848** DICKENS *Dombey* xxiii, Two dragon sentries . . . on duty over the wronged innocence imprisoned. **1891** FARRAR *Darkn. & Dawn* viii, The knight . . . was charged with favour towards the wronged Britannicus.

absol. **1582** MULCASTER *Elementarie* (1925) 264 The name of Christians, which verie tite enioyneth a serch to avoyd contention, euen by submission of the wronged. **1691** MAYDMAN *Nau. Spec.* 187 That the strong Man be . . . made to restore the Wronged to his Right. **1864** [see WRONGER]. **1891** J. K. STEPHEN *Quo Musa Tendis?* 35 When the wronger falls and the wronged wins bays.

2. Of things: Subjected to detriment, prejudice, or unfavourable bias.

1632 J. HAYWARD tr. *Biondi's Eromena* 25 The vengeance of my wronged honour. **1644** MILTON *Divorce* (ed. 2) 4 He therefore . . . shall restore the much wrong'd and over-sorrow'd state of matrimony. **1652** BENLOWES *Theoph.* II. lxi, She sees defamed Glory, wronged Right. **1849** LYTTON *K. Arthur* v. viii, On thy wronged grave one hand appeasing lays The humble flower. **1875** BROWNING *Aristoph. Apol.* 125 Strain a point the other way, And handsomely exaggerate wronged truth!

†b. Perverted. *Obs. rare*—1.

1619 A. NEWMAN *Pleas. Vis.* C 3 b, Besides, preferments would attend On me that I might be the end, Whereat Mens wronged thoughts might aime.

3. Diseased; having the normal functions disordered.

1634 T. JOHNSON *Parey's Chirurg.* Wks. xv. ii. 562 Great paine in the interim torments the patient by reason of the wronged peristomium. *Mod. Sc.* A wrangled stomach.

†**wrongeld**. *Obs. rare*. Also wrongeyeld. [? f. WRONG *sb.* + yeld YIELD *sb.*] A form of tallage.

1340 in *Cal. Rotulorum Patent.* (1802) 137/2 Rex confirmavit relaxacionem Thomæ Comitiss Norff[olk] . . . concessam tenentibus suis . . . manerij de Lopham . . . de quodam tallagio vocato Wrongelde. [Cf. *Ibid.* (1898) 545 Le Wrongeyeld.]

wrongen, *obs. var.* WRUNG *ppl. a.*

wronger ('rɒŋə(r)). Also 4 wrongar. [f. WRONG *v.* + -ER¹. Cf. L.G. *wranger* distorter.]

1. One who wrongs another; a person who does wrong or amiss; an inflicter of wrong, harm, or injury; a wrong-doer.

Freq. from c 1840 (often contrasted with *wronged*). **c 1449** PECOCC *Repr. v.* xiii. 549 Defenders agens wrongers and diffamers of the . . . wicked world. **1591** SPENSER *M. Hubberd* 1098 That he should warne the wronger to appeare . . . at Court, to defend. **1594** BARNFIELD *Sheph. Content* xxv, If any by his fellows be opprest, The wronger . . . Shall be well bangd. **a 1618** [see WRINGER]. **1667** Phil. *Trans.* II. 457 A great Wronger of our Nation. **182** E. ELLIOT *Corn Law Rhymes* (1904) 23 In our prayers, If we forget our wrongers, may we be Vile as their virtues. **1864** TREVELYAN *Compet. Wallah* (1866) 228 Utterly unable to make out

whether his client was the wronged or the wronger, guilty or not guilty. **1895** W. WATSON *Purple East* (1896) 16 A charge from Him Who watches . . . To smite the wronger with thy destined rod.

2. An injurer or misuser of something. **1591** Troub. Raigne K. John ii. 152 Arme thee, traytor, wronger of renowne. **1610** BEAUM. & FL. *Faithf. Sheph.* IV. i, Learn not to be a wronger Of your word; was not your promise laid. **a 1625** — *Noble Gent.* I. i, Do not give thy self . . . so open vile, So great a wronger of thy worth, so low. **1727** BAILEY (vol. II), *Wranglands* (old Records), misgrown Trees that will never prove Timber, q.d. Wrangers of Land.

wrong-foot (stress variable), *v. trans.* [f. WRONG *a.* + FOOT *sb.*] 1. In tennis, football, etc.: (by deceptive play) to cause (an opponent) to have his balance on the wrong foot.

1928 [implied at the *vbl. sb.* below]. **1959** *Times* 7 Sept. 15/5 Viney and Hasty caught the defence wrong-footed. **1960** E. S. & W. J. HIGHAM *High Speed Rugby* xi. 136 You could pick up the ball as though to go one side, and then, having picked up the ball, swing to the other side. . . It will wrong-foot the attackers, thereby giving you more time for your kick. **1960** *Times* 29 Nov. 17/4 Truman found himself being wrong-footed by masked drop-shots [in squash rackets]. **1967** J. POTTER *Foul Play* (1968) ii. 28 The younger Fitch was holding forth about his patent method of wrong-footing full backs. **1976** DEXTER & MAKINS *Testkill* 21 Abbott, playing back instinctively, was wrong-footed, bat adrift in his hands.

2. *fig.* To disconcert by an unexpected move; to catch unprepared.

1957 F. HOYLE *Black Cloud* iv. 79 'Let me tell you . . . that the Government has made enquiries and we are not at all satisfied with the accuracy of your report.' Kingsley was wrong-footed. **1963** 'W. HAGGARD' *High Wire* xii. 130 The tall man's technique was precisely calculated to put him at a disadvantage. . . Somehow they could always wrong-foot you. **1971** A. HUNTER *Gently at Gallop* xii. 128 They sensed he was close, and they were trying to wrong-foot him. **1983** *Listener* 6 Jan. 5/1 What happens in Washington, Moscow and Geneva will leave British political leaders moving quickly in order not to be wrong-footed. **1984** *Daily Tel.* 5 July 1/2 A walk-out would wrong-foot the union in its endeavour to appear ready for negotiations at all times.

Hence wrong-footing *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1928 *Daily Tel.* 7 Aug. 12/3 His ground strokes had not the same speed and polish as Austin's, nor could he steer all his volleys into the same wrong-footing area. **1971** LAVER & COLLINS *Educ. of Tennis Player* xvi. 216 Wrong-footing is hitting to the place your opponent has just vacated. **1980** *Sunday Times* 17 Apr. 42/5 They emerge as wry, reflective, deliberately wrong-footing to outsiders.

wrongful ('rɒŋfʊl), *a.* Also 5 wrangful. [f. WRONG *sb.* + -FUL.]

1. Full of wrong, injustice, or injury; marked or characterized by wrong, unfairness, or violation of equity; unfair.

c 1311 [see WRACKFUL *a.*]. **1338** R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 211 Pandolf proued þe kyng, in his disputeson, He mayntend wrongfull þing, & wild to no reson. **1390** GOWER *Conf.* I. 358 Of his wrongful herte he demeth That al is wel. **c 1445** PECOCC *Donet* 94 þou3t al þis lijf be foule, peynful, . . . vnkynde, wrongful. ? **1520** LD. J. BUTLER in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. II. 51 There is noo thinge so unjustice or so wrongfull but our Deputie here . . . wolde . . . suffer . . . the same. **1553** ASCHAM *Germany* 10 This fact was very wrongfull of the Pope for the dede. **1608** Yorksh. *Trag.* I. ii, Heape not wrongfull shame On her. **1697** DRYDEN *Aeneis* VI. 581 Nor want they lots, nor judges to review The wrongful sentence. **1810** SOUTHEY *Kehama* II. iv, In that wrongful and upbraiding tone Kehama found relief. **1859** I. TAYLOR *Logic in Theol.* 261 A wrongful policy may be maintained. **1879** TOURGEE *Fool's Err.* xl. 301 He regarded slavery simply as an unnatural and wrongful accident.

b. Of actions: Performed, executed, or done unjustly, unfairly, or harmfully; injurious, harmful; unjust.

c 1325 Spec. Gy Warw. 618 þe kinde of þi manhede Wolde haue wreche of wrongful dede. **1390** GOWER *Conf.* I. 358 Thei wrongfull werres usen. **c 1400** LOVE *Bonavent.* *Mirr.* (1908) 186 3euyngne occasion of offence . . . by envie, false couetise, and wrongful demynge. **1502** Ord. Crysten Men (W. de W. 1506) IV. viii. Qivb, In suche maner that the stroke or the beteyng after y^e ryght may be sayd cruell & wrongfull. **a 1586** SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. vi, Where daunger would offer to make any wrongfull threatening upon him. **a 1667** JER. TAYLOR (J.), He . . . must redeem his fault by alms, according to the value of his wrongful dealing. **1727** BAILEY (vol. II), *Usurping*, a wrongful taking that which is another's Right. **1839-40** WORDSW. *Sonn.*, 'Fit retribution' 5 She plants well-measured terrors in the road Of wrongfull acts. **1877** E. R. CONDER *Basis of Faith* v. 203 Passion, prejudice, and corrupt self-interest make wrongfull entrance.

†2. Of persons: That commits wrong; that does wrong or injustice to (or against) another. Cf. WRONG *a.* 4. *Obs.*

1382 WYCLIF *Luke* xii. 58 Lest perauenture . . . the domesman bitake thee to the wrongful axere, and the wrongful axere sende thee in to prisoun. **a 1425** Cursor *M.* 2204 (Trin.), þis nembro [was] . . . wrongful emperour, Robber & monqueller greet. *Ibid.* 11539 Wroop wex þat wrongful [v.r. wrangwis] kyng [= Herod]. **1549** COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. Rom.* 25 It foloweth not that God is to any man wrongfull. *Ibid.* 1 Cor. 40 Yf we ryse not, . . . bothe you and I . . . are also founde wrongfull agaynst god. **a 1586** SIDNEY *Ps.* xxxviii. x, Mighty wrongfull foes, Who do evill for good. **1614** R. HARRIS *Samuels Funerall* (1618) 22, I shall be wrongfull to conceale the other.

3. a. That is contrary to law, statute, or established rule; unlawful, illegal, tortious.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* ¶567 To yeuen conseil to areysen wrongfull custumes and tallages. **1459** Paston *Lett.* I. 454 The wrongfull entre . . . made upon scerteyn personys feffyd to myn use. **1483** Nottingham *Rec.* (1883) II. 395 þe

seid forcible & wrongfull entree punyeshable greuously by your lawes. **1596** SPENSER *State Irel. Wks.* (Globe) 622/2 The wrongfull distrayning of any mans goodes. **1628** COKE *On Litt.* 277b. When an estranger that no right hath presenteth to a Church, . . . the wrongfull act. . . is called an Usurpation. **1729** JACOB *Law Dict.* s.v. *Trespass*. They were the Goods of the Plaintiff, when the Taking will be wrongfull. **1766** BLACKSTONE *Comm.* II. ix. 150 Unless the owner . . . will declare his continuance to be tortious, or, in common language, wrongfull. **1844** MACAULAY *Sp.* 6 June (1854) 327 All the statutes of limitation. . . sanction possession which was originally wrongfull. **1862** CHAMBERS' *Encycl.* III. 462/1 It was regarded as treason to the king, inasmuch as it was a wrongfull detaining of his free liegeman. **1871** FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* (1876) IV. xvii. 36 To charge Godric with wrongfull occupation of the King's land.

b. Of persons: That is such without legitimacy or right; holding office, possession, etc., unlawfully or illegally; having no legal right or claim; = **WRONG** *a.* 12.

1567 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* v. 60 In reuengement of the right against the wrongfull heyre. **1597** HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* v. lxii. § 19 Charge them we cannot as . . . wrongfull possessors of that whereunto they have right. **1612** DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xii. 359 His . . . son. . . to death was lastly done, To set his rightful Crown upon a wrongfull head. **1768** BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. 263 Seizing the franchise, or ousting the wrongfull possessor. **1835** DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Greenwich Fair*, There is a rightful heir. . . and a wrongfull heir, who loves her too.

† c. Unjustly detained. *Obs. rare* -1.

1596 SPENSER *F.Q.* v. viii. 27 The Prince. . . did of him requere That Damzell, whom he heid as wrongfull prisoneere.

† 4. Of the nature of error; mistaken, incorrect, erroneous. *Obs. rare.*

c **1470** *Cath. Angl.* 424/2 (A.), Wrongfull, *erroneus*. **1562** COOPER *Anst.* *Priv. Masse* 113 To depende vpon your wrongfull interpretacion of Christes wordes.

wrongfully ('rɒŋfʊli), *adv.* [f. **prec.** + **-LY**.] In a wrong or wrongfull manner; wrongly.

1. In a manner contrary to the principles of justice or equity; unjustly, unfairly.

In very frequent use from c 1400 to c 1600. **c 1374** CHAUCER *Troilus* I. 414 If þat I consente, I wrongfully Compleyne i-wys. **1382** WYCLIF *Luke* iii. 14 He seith to hem, Smyte 3e wrongfulli no man. c **1440** *Jacob's Well* 275 þou seest gode lyuerys suffere wrongfully. **1474** CAXTON *Chesse* I. ii. (1883) 12 He was dampned to deth wrongfully. **a 1513** [see **WRONG-DOER** 1]. **a 1586** SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. xiv. Not to suffer such treasures to be wrongfully hidden. **1634** W. TIRWHYTT tr. *Balzac's Lett.* (vol. I) 121 Justice so exact . . . that they will not condemn the Devil himself wrongfully. **1697** DRYDEN *Aeneis* v. 447 Salus. . . pleads the prize is wrongfully conferred. **1759** STERNE *Tr. Shandy* I. xix. When once a vile name was wrongfully or injudiciously given. **1823** SCOTT *Quentin D.* xxvi. If he acted wrongfully, it was in no shape by any precept or example. **1893** MISS CHOLMONDELEY *Diana Tempest* iv. When a man was wrongfully keeping possession of many thousands.

b. In an illegal or unlawful manner; contrary to the law; unlawfully, illegally, tortiously.

1439 E.E. *Wills* (1882) 119 All maner land that is holden by me or yn my name wrongfully. **1480** COVENTRY *Leet Bk.* 446 Also the people. . . hurten the flysshe in Swanneswel-pole be þeir wasshyng ther, which they don wrongfully. **1554** tr. *Littleton's Tenures* III. 115 b. Yf a man wrongfully take my goodes. **a 1548** HALL *Chron.* *Edw. IV.* 231 b. Possessions, which wer from you bothe torciously and wrongfully with holden. **1583** STUBBS *Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 30 If they possess them [sc. their lands] wrongfully, then ought they to surrender their tytle. **1651** HOBBS *Leviath.* II. xxi. 113 A man might enter in to his own Land, (and dispossesse such as wrongfully possessed it,) by force. **1752-3** *Act 26 Geo. II.* c. 19 § 5 Where any such Goods. . . are wrongfully bought, sold, or concealed. **1768** BLACKSTONE *Comm.* III. 4 When [another] . . . wrongfully detains one's wife, child, or servant. **1810** W. SELWYN *Law Nisi Prius* (ed. 2) II. 1249 Plea, that. . . because the gate was wrongfully ejected across the same, the defendant pulled it down. **1885** SIR N. LINDLEY in *Law Rep.* 14 Q.B.D. 816 The sons' goods were in this case wrongfully seized.

† 2. In an improper fashion; incorrectly. *Obs.* **1549-50** in Pettus *Fodinae Reg.* (1670) 91 Where they find any Ground wrought wrongfully by any man, contrary to the right and custom of the Mine. **1551** T. WILSON *Logike* Bijb, Knotty Subtiltees that are bothe false, and wrongfully framed together.

b. Mistakenly; erroneously; falsely.

1743 BULKELEY & CUMMINS *Voy. S. Seas* 180 The Governor was right in his Conjecture, and did not suspect them wrongfully. **1896** *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 123, I am forced to assume, perhaps wrongfully, that [etc.].

wrongfulness ('rɒŋfʊlnɪs). [f. as **prec.** + **-NESS**.] The state, quality, or character of being wrong or wrongfull; absence of right, equity, or justice; wrongness.

a **1425** CURSOR *M.* 7546 (Trin.), Noupper may iren nor stele were monnes wrongfulness wele. **1583** GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* xxxvii. 222/2 To abstaine from anyoyance, wrongfulness, and violence. **1587** — *De Mornay* xvi. (1592) 264 Wit is maimed with ignorance, Will with wrongfulness. **1647** SPRIGGE *Anglia Rediviva* II. iv. 98 The right or wrongfulness of this that hath been said. **1856** R. A. VAUGHAN *Mystics* (1860) I. 1. ii. 13 The summary expulsion of all superstition, wrongfulness, and ill-will. **1866** *Sat. Rev.* 28 Apr. 488/2 [To] allege the wrongfulness of his own acquisition. **1880** MATTHEW *Wyclif's Wks.* 393 On the Wrongfulness of the Clergy holding Secular Office.

† **wrong-half**, *v.* *Obs. rare.* Also 4 wrang-halue, 5-half. [f. **WRONG** *a.* 10 + **HALF** *sb.* 1.] *trans.* In

fulling: To dress the reverse side of (cloth) in some manner.

a **1400** *Little Red Bk. Bristol* (1900) II. 8 Qe nul folour face amesner. . . nul drap al molyn auant qil soit lauee et appareillee en manere qe home appele *Wranghalued*. **1514** COVENTRY *Leet Bk.* 640 þat non of the occupacion. . . wrong-half no cloth but only vse dobyns or smoth tesyls. **1518** *Ibid.* 659 That no man. . . put no cloth to any walker to full but if he will burle it & wranghalf it within the Cite. *Ibid.*, That hytt be well byrled & . . . truly wranghalf.

'**wronghead**, *sb.* and *a.* Also wrong-head. [f. **WRONG** *a.* + **HEAD** *sb.* 1.]

A. sb. A perverse or wrong-headed person; one who displays perversity of judgement.

1729 MANDEVILLE *Fab. Bees* II. p. v. There really are such Wrongheads in the World, as will fancy Vices to be encouraged, when they see them expos'd. **1737** BRACKEN *Farriery Impr.* (1756) I. 168 The Family of the Wrong-Heads is. . . a very numerous one. **1753** tr. *Genard's School of Man* 189 The part of. . . a wronghead acted to perfection. **1822** *Blackw. Mag.* XII. 630 There is another point on which 'the Wrongheads' are equally mistaken. **1853** TRENCH *Proverbs* 57 Obstinate wrongheads, who will take no counsel except from calamities.

B. adj. = **WRONG-HEADED** *a.*

1732 POPE *Hor. Sat.* II. ii. 148 This jealous, waspish, wrong-head, rhyming race. **1850** LEVER *R. Cashel* liii, Tiernay is in one of his wrong-head humours.

wrong head: see **WRONG** *sb.* 1 4.

wrong-headed, *a.* (stress variable). Also wrongheaded. [f. **WRONG** *a.*: cf. **WRONGHEAD** *sb.* and *a.*]

1. Having a perverse judgement or intellect; persistent or obstinate in erroneous opinion; perversely or obstinately wrong.

In frequent use from c 1750.

1732 BERKELEY *Alciph.* VI. § 26 The pious fraud of some wrong-headed Christian. **1751** SMOLLETT *Per. Pic.* xxi, The characters of these wrong-headed enthusiasts. **1809** MALKIN *Gil Blas* VI. i. § 5 The most wrong-headed retail dealer in the town. **1848** THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xx, There's no reason she should die or live miserably because you are wrong-headed. **1883** *Daily Tel.* 10 Nov. 5/1 The furious zeal of wrong-headed bigots.

2. Marked or characterized by perversity of judgement.

1735 BERKELEY *Querist* § 436 So long as we entertain a wrongheaded distrust of England. **1753** MISS COLLIER *Art Torment.* I. iv, The wrong-headed anger of her master. **1809** W. IRVING *Knickerb.* IV. i. (1861) 116 Carts that went before the horses; weather-cocks that turned against the wind; and other wrong-headed contrivances. **1838** DICKENS *O. Twist* xviii, Wrong-headed and treacherous behaviour. **1912** *Times* 19 Oct. 5/3 Had her Southern Slav policy been less persistently wrong-headed.

Hence **wrong-headedly** *adv.*

1737 *Hervey's Mem.* (1848) II. 398 [He] insisted, very wrongheadedly, that he would have his directions in writing. a **1776** JOHNSON in Boswell *Life* (1904) I. 30 [The headmaster] was very severe, and wrongheadedly severe. **1866** *Athenaeum* 31 Mar. 427/3 The man. . . would act very wrongheadedly. **1906** *Daily Chron.* 23 Aug. 3/1 This was to make, wrong-headedly, a toil of pleasure.

wrong-headedness. Also wrongheadedness. [f. **prec.** + **-NESS**.]

1. The quality or character of being wrong-headed; perversity of judgement or intellect.

In frequent use from c 1850.

1740 CHEYNE *Regimen* p. xii, The Limits that separat Wisdom from Folly, Wrong-headedness from intellectual Sanity. **1752** H. WALPOLE *Lett. to Mann* (1834) III. 5 There is no end of his misfortunes and wrong-headedness. **1792** *Ann. Reg.*, *Hist.* 8 The wrongheadedness and insanity of Mr. Godwin's publication must be admitted. **1834** H. MILLER *Scenes & Leg.* xxiv. (1857) 341 The wrongheadedness of a jury. **1860** GOSSE *Rom. Nat. Hist.* 299 [It] is enough with many to convict the inquirer of wrong-headedness and credulity. **1889** BARING-GOULD *Arminell* xli, Through youthful impetuosity and wrongheadedness I have jumped out of my social world.

2. With *pl.* A perverse or untoward act.

1748 CHESTERF. *Lett.* 18 Nov., He was enabled. . . to carry them [sc. the Powers] on to the main object of the war, notwithstanding their. . . separate views, jealousies, and wrongheadednesses.

wronging ('rɒŋŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. **WRONG** *v.* + **-ING**.] The action of doing wrong or acting wrongfully; an instance of this.

c **1449** PECOCK *Repr.* III. xvii. 395 If remedie of this wronging schulde be do in this wey. c **1450** Godstow *Reg.* 416 Without any wrongyng of the heires. . . of the forsaied Thomas. **1549** COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm.* *Par. 1 John* iv. 51 The man of a worldlyly spirite prouideth for his owne commoditie at al handes, yea euen with wronging of his brother. **1604** Ho. *Comm. Jynl.* I. 218/2 [They] were Instruments of. . . much wronging and oppressing the People. **1624** *Admiralty Crt. Exam.* 28 April (MS.), That their shippe might. . . not be overpressed with saile to the wronginge of her. **1659** *Gentl. Call.* (1696) 7 A wronging, a calumniating even of the very Devil. **1720** A. PETRIE *Rules Good Deportm.* (1877) 116 This not only is a wronging of the Magistrate of his Right, but it wrongs all fair Traders. **1867** A. L. GORDON *Ashtaroth Wks.* (1912) 253 Yet I forgive your wronging. . . I call your bitters sweet.

wrongish ('rɒŋɪʃ), *a.* [f. **WRONG** *a.* + **-ISH**.] Somewhat wrong.

1849 CARLYLE in Froude *Life in Lond.* (1884) II. 22 All these paper bundles were written last summer, and are wrongish, every word of them.

wrongless ('rɒŋlis). *rare* -0. [f. **WRONG** *sb.* 2 + **-LESS**.] Devoid of, free from, wrong.

1755 JOHNSON, *Wronglessly*, *adv.* (from *wrongless*). [Hence in Ash (1775) and later Dicts.]

wronglessly ('rɒŋlish), *adv. rare.* [Cf. **prec.** and **-LY**.] Without doing wrong or inflicting injury; harmlessly.

a **1586** SIDNEY *Arcadia* I. xv, He was. . . deerly esteemed of her for his exceeding good parts, being honorable courteous, and wronglessly valiaunt. **1868** G. MACDONALD *R. Falconer* II. 95 Some woman. . . may have darkened his story — darkened it wronglessly, it may be with coldness, or only with death.

wrongly ('rɒŋli), *adv.* Also 4 wrongli, -liche; 5 north. wrangeli, 9 Sc. and north. dial. wrangly. [f. **WRONG** *a.* + **-LY**. Cf. ON. *rangliga*, Norw. *ranglege*; MSw. *vranglika*, Da. *vrangelig*.]

1. In a wrong, undue, or inappropriate fashion; unfittingly, improperly. Also *Comb.*

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 11069 A3ens God, he ys nat quyte þat suffrep for hys owne profyte Holy cherche wrongly be 3yue To þo men þat wykkedly lyue. **a 1586** SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. vii, So wrongly-consorted a power could not resist the ready minded force of Amphialus. a **1830** SIR T. LAWRENCE in Williams *Life & Corr.* (1831) I. 131, I began life wrongly, I spent more money than I earned, and accumulated debts. **1848** MRS. GASKELL *Mary Barton* ix, She. . . was so afraid of speaking wrongly, that she was silent. **1904** *Daily Chron.* 2 May 5/6 A wrongly-set switch.

b. Inaccurately; incorrectly. Cf. **WRONGFULLY** *adv.* 2.

1633 [? WARE] *Spenser's State Irel.* Pref. ¶ 3b, He deceased at Westminster in the year 1599. (others have it wrongly 1598.) **1690** LOCKE *Hum. Und.* II. xi. § 13. 71 Mad Men, . . . having joined together some Ideas very wrongly, . . . mistake them for Truths. **1818** CRUISE *Digest* (ed. 2) III. 414 The judgement is evidently misstated, or wrongly printed. **1858** [see URINOMETER]. **1892** *Photogr. Ann.* II. 735 If any houses have been omitted, or wrongly included under any heading.

c. In an erroneous manner; by mistake or misapprehension; erroneously, mistakenly; = **WRONGFULLY** *adv.* 2 b,

1755 JOHNSON, *Misbeliever*, . . one who holds a false religion, or believes wrongly. **1809-14** WORDSW. *Excurs.* v. 508 What sees he but a creature. . . that yearns, Regrets or trembles, wrongly, or too much; Hopes rashly. **1838** JAMES ROBBER iv, You construe what I have said very wrongly. **1884** tr. *Lotze's Logic* 407 To us, rightly or wrongly, general principles appear rather as [etc.]. **1918** *Times Lit. Suppl.* 28 Mar. 147/1 The methods. . . have, rightly or wrongly, largely fallen into discredit.

2. In an unfair, unjust, or inequitable manner; unjustly, unfairly; = **WRONGFULLY** *adv.* 1.

1340 *Ayenb.* 8 And yet zenejeþ he more þet dep oper porchaceþ ssame oper harm to open wrongliche. **1393** LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* IV. 92 False puple, That by-gylen good men and greueþ hem wrongliche. c **1400** Cato's *Morals* in *Cursor M.* App. 1672 A-gaine man riȝtwise striue þou in na wise, ne wrangeli him gieue. **1419** 26 *Pol. Poems* 69 To wyne wrongly wele, wod pey gan wede. c **1450** Myrr. *our Ladye* II. 249 Many of them wrongly wandrynge from the ryghtnes of faythe. c **1586** C'tESS PEMBROKE *P.* LXIX. ii, Wrongly sett to worke my woe. **1605** SHAKS. *Mach.* I. v. 23 Thou. . . would'st not play false, And yet would'st wrongly winne. **1609** DANIEL *Civ. Wars* v. ci, There he had his rightful punishment, Though wrongly done; and there he lost his head. **1839-40** WORDSW. 'The Roman Consul' 10 When they by wilful act A single human life have wrongly taken. **1847** C. BRONTE *J. Eyre* viii, I have been wrongly accused.

wrongness ('rɒŋnis). [f. as **prec.** + **-NESS**.]

† 1. The state or condition of being curved or crooked; crookedness, wryness. *Obs. rare.*

c **1440** *Prompt. Parv.* 534/2 Wrongnesse, of werke, . . curvitas. c **1475** *Ibid.* 433/2 (K.), Ryth, with owtyrn wrongnesse, *rectus*.

2. Want of correctness or exactness; unsuitability or inappropriateness to a desired purpose or end; faultiness, error.

1726 BUTLER *Serm.* 306 There was a Probability, if he could see the whole Reference of the Parts appearing wrong to the general Design, that this would destroy the Appearance of Wrongness and Disproportion. **1796** COLERIDGE *Biog. Lit.* (1847) II. 365 Though not right in itself, it may become right by the greater wrongness of the only alternative — the remaining in neediness and uncertainty. **1831** CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* II. iii, This is indeed a time when right Education is, as nearly as may be, impossible: however, in degrees of wrongness there is no limit. **1871** RUSKIN *Fors. Clav.* v. 10 The Botanical lecturer was, to the extremity of wrongness, wrong. **1897** *Westm. Gaz.* 4 Sept. 2/1 Her gown, even her gloves — everything that could be wrong was wrong, with the worst of all wrongness.

3. The character or quality of being morally wrong or wrongfull; injustice, wrongfulness.

In frequent use from c 1870.

1833 CHALMERS *Const. Man* (1834) I. ii. 100 Malice, envy, falsehood, injustice, irrespective of their wrongness [etc.]. **1843** MIALl in *Nonconf.* III. 1 As if a man's sense of rightness and wrongness were nothing. **1851** H. SPENCER *Soc. Statics* x. § 1. 128 To determine the rightness or wrongness of certain actions. **1881** *Gentl. Mag.* CCL. 164 When nature. . . is. . . chastising us right and left for our wrongness, it is no time to sit at ease.

4. a. A wrong bent, tendency, or inclination. *rare.*

1736 BUTLER *Anal.* II. v. 203 The Wrongnesses within themselves which the best complain of, and endeavour to amend. **1799** W. GILPIN *Serm.* x. 119 What wrongnesses do such thoughts produce. . . in our tempers, in our behaviour!

b. A wrongful, unfair, or faulty act or action; a wrong, injustice.

1856 FABER *Creator & Creature* III. iv. (1858) 457 All our wants...and all our wrongnesses carry their manifold burdens to God's fidelity.

wrongo ('rɒŋəʊ, 'rɒŋəʊ). *slang* (chiefly U.S.). Also **wronggo**. [f. WRONG *a.* + -o².] A bad, dishonest, or untrustworthy person; a 'wrong 'un'. Also, a counterfeit coin.

1937 'J. CURTIS' *You're in Racket Too* xxvi. 264 'Sure it ain't duff?' 'Never brought you nothing that was a wrongo yet, did I?' 1938 J. H. O'HARA *Hope of Heaven* x. 139 If I ever saw a wronggo, that Henderson is it. 1953 T. RUNYON *In for Life* v. 87 Tailoring skill was never called on more than in the case of wrongos. A well-known and disliked phony was likely to get a specially made suit not designed to please. 1968 L. W. ROBINSON *Assassin* vii. 78 Phyllis Carr was a wrongo from the beginning. 1985 'D. RAYMOND' *Devil's Home* xxiv. 163 I've had my eye on both of you...and you look like a couple of wrongos to me.

wrongous ('rɒŋəs), *a.* Latterly *Sc.* (and *north.*). Forms: *a.* 2-6 **wrangwis** (5 -wiss(e, -uiss, 6 -uis), 2-5 **wrangwise** (3 **wranc-**), 5 -uise, 4-5 -wys(e, 4 **wrangewis**, -wys, 5 **wrangwis** (-ways, **wranwos**), 6 **wrangwus**; 3 **wrongwise**, 4-5 -wis, -wys (5 -wes, -wos). *β.* 5- **wrangous** (6 -eous), 5-7 **wrangush** (5 -ws, **werangus**, 5-6 **vrangus**, 9 *dial.* **wrangush**), 5 **wrangis**; 5- **wrongous** (5-6, 9 -eus, 6, 9 -eous, 5 -ys, -os, 5-6 -us). [Early ME. *wrangwis*, f. *wrang* WRONG *a.* + -wis, after *rihtwīs* RIGHTEOUS *a.* Cf. MSw. and older Da. *vrangvis*, Sw. *vrångvis* iniquitous, Da. *vrangvis*, Norw. *rangvis*, self-conceited.

The orig. spelling *wrangwis*, -wise, survived until the 16th c.; the obscured endings -wes, -wos, -wus, -os, etc., appear in the 15-16th c., and *wrangous*, *wrongous*, about the end of the 15th c. Cf. RIGHTEOUS *a.*]

The exact sense is doubtful in the following early example:—? *a* 1200 in Napier O.E. *Glosses* 47/2 *Salebrosos .i. asperos*,...wiperwyrd, *wrangwise*, *woje*.

†1. Of persons: Acting wrongfully, inequitably, or unjustly; rascally, iniquitous, unjust. *Obs.*

a 1200 *Moral Ode* 256 *per inne boð*...Med-ierne domes men, and wrongwise [Egerton MS. *wrancwise*] reuen. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 11539 Ful wrath he wex, þat wrangwis king. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* lxxii. 12 Wrongwis men & couatous. *c* 1400 tr. *Secreta Secret.*, Gov. Lordsh. 116 He þat hauys right a longe vysage, ys wrongwys. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Wolf & Lamb* 157 Wrangous men of fals Intent. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* lxxi. 4 He shal...punysh the wrongeous doer. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 99 For wrangus men sall end mischeuouslie. *a* 1599 ROLLOCK *On 2 Thess.* (1606) 19 (Jam.) So man by nature is a wrangous and vnjust judge. *c* 1625 BISSET *Rolment* (S.T.S.) II. 162 Princes of Scotland, that war...wrangous usurperis of the crown.

absol. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 837 þe wrangwis wit þar waful wrak þar pai beginning gan to tak.

2. Marked or characterized by wrong, injustice, or unfairness; = WRONGFUL *a.* 1.

a 1200 *Moral Ode* 48 *per ne scal me*...saut binimen mid wrangwise dome. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 7548 Godd es euer on rightwis side, Werraiand again wrangwis pride. *c* 1400 *Rule St. Benet* lxx. 43 Thoro þat er raysid...dissensiones, and werangus ordinansis. *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* (Roxb.) 149 Thi sharpest byndyngs and wrongwys Captivitee. *c* 1470 HENRY WALLACE ix. 919 Off crystyn blud to se it was gret syn, For wrangwis caus. 1535 COVERDALE *Ecclus.* xxxv. 12 Bewarre of wrongeous offeringes, for ye Lorde...regardeth no mans personne. *c* 1550 ROLLAND *Crt. Venus* i. 583 Lufe is wrangous, and lufe is variable. *a* 1578 LINDSAY (Pittscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 74 It is nocht for no wrangous quarrell that we haue assemblit our selfis. 1617 JAS. I in Halliwell *Lett. Kings Eng.* (1846) II. 143 Every wrong must be judged by the first violent and wrongous ground whereupon it proceeds. *a* 1639 SPOTTISWOOD *Hist. Ch. Scot.* II. (1655) 51 The wrongous judgement and sentence given against them. 1826 GALT *Last of Lairds* xxvi. The wrongeous mischief ye would noo do to the sweet girl. 1830 — *Lawrie T.* IV. vi. The issues of his wrongous suspicions.

b. Of actions, etc.; = WRONGFUL *a.* 1 b.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 22276 þan sal...sone þe anticrist come, his werkes wrangwis to fulfill. 1357 *Lay Folks Catech.* (T.) 222 Wrangwise takyng...of othir men godes. *a* 1400 *Relig. Pieces fr. Thornton MS.* 12 *a* wrangwise wynlynge or jernynge to haue any maner of gude that vs awe noghte. *c* 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* i. ix. 626 Na war his mercy grete excede Our gilt and our wrangwise deid. 1483 in *Acta Dom. Conc.* II. Intro. 102 The actioun...anent the wrangwise occupacioun of the landis. 1517 *Reg. Privy Seal Scot.* I. 448/1 The wrangwis taking or steling of certane money. 1523 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 31 In wrongus withholding of her Dowre. 1568 in Calderwood *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) II. 444 The alledged investing, and wrongous electioun of the said regent. *c* 1625 BISSET *Rolment* (S.T.S.) I. 8 Pilate beand...vexit in his spreit for...his wrangus doingis. 1907 *Times* 17 April 10/5 A Court of Session action for damages for alleged wrongous certification of lunacy.

3. Not right or justifiable in nature or application; not applicable or proper; unfitting, unsuitable.

a 1350 in Horstman *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 29 3e suld haue schame On me to put swilk wrangwys blame. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* xxiii. 551 Yonder is a fals tabyll...It is falsly writen, Iwys, This is a wrangwis thyng. *c* 1470 HENRY WALLACE viii. 649 Othir sum said, it was the wrangwis place. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* (S.T.S.) II. 81 He tuke litil fere how be the war honorit with wrangwis stile. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 174 Allace! this is ane wrangous way. ? *a* 1800 *Lord Ingram* xxv. in Child *Ballads* II. 129/2, I will not father my bairn on you, Nor on no wrongous man. 1821 *Joseph the*

Book-Man 52 Perchance I've play'd some very wrongous prance.

b. Wrongly directed or constituted.

1768 Ross *Helenore* 17 If Lindy chanc'd...To play a feckless or a wrangous shot. 1845 R. W. HAMILTON *Pop. Educ.* iv. 77 In their improvement, if the State be wrongous and defective, you must raise the State to the people.

4. †a. Obtained by illegal, wrongful, or unfair means; ill-gotten. *Obs.*

c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* vi. xiii. 1130 Be thyft, Oppyn refe, or wrangwys gyft...all I wan The gud. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Trial Fox* 11 (Bann. MS.), Off wrangus get [v.r. geir] cummys wrang successioun. 1533 GAU *Richt Vay* (S.T.S.) 16 Thay that haldis wrangus guidis of thair nichtburs or takis wp wrangus rentis. 1600 HAMILTON in *Cath. Tractates* (S.T.S.) 234 The Ministers dar not teache this restitution of wrangous geir. *a* 1750 in Walker *Bards Bon-Accord* (1887) 180 Wrangous gear can never thrive.

b. *Scots Law.* Contrary to law; unlawful, illegal.

1671 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* III. 275 Manifest oppression and wrongous imprisonment committed upon the said compleaner. 1700 *Sc. Acts Parl.* (1823) XI. 213/1 The draught of the Act...for preventing wrongous imprisonments and against undue delays in tryalls. 1701 *Ibid.* 272-275. 1753 *Scots Mag.* Aug. 420/2 Under the pain of wrongous imprisonment. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxx, Dougal will have a good action of wrongous imprisonment and damages agane him. 1854 H. MILLER *Sch. & Schm.* xxii. 473 The pedlar...raised an action for wrongous imprisonment. 1901 *Scotsman* 29 March 6/8 Pursuer claimed...damages for wrongous dismissal.

wrongously ('rɒŋəʃl), *adv.* In later use chiefly *Sc.* Forms: 4-6 **wrangwis-**, 4-5 -wys-, 5- **wrongously**, etc. (see WRONGOUS *a.*); also 4-7 -lie, 4 -li; 5-6 -le. [f. prec. + -LY².]

1. In a wrongful, unjust, or evil manner; wrongfully, unfairly, inequitably.

In very freq. (esp. *Sc.*) use from *c* 1425 to *c* 1650.

c 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 32 It schawed...That I led mi lif wrangwislie. *a* 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* ix. 12 [People] wrangwisly slane or harmed. *c* 1400 *Relig. Pieces fr. Thornton MS.* 13 Noghte anely he þat wrangwisly getes, bot he þat wrangwisly haldes. 14... *Guy Warw.* 6500 (Camb. MS.), þou doyst vncurtleslye For to smyte me wrangwislye. *c* 1440 *Alph. Tales* 48 To pray for me, at I be nott wrongoslie putt to dead. *c* 1460 Towneley *Myst.* vii. 58 If thou swere wrongwisly, Thou art worthi grete blame. 1468 in *Surtees Misc.* (1890) 19 Ye tennautes...have wrangwisly halden & occupis xviii poules feet of ye grounde. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* IV. xx. (S.T.S.) II. 123 For þe said law put þe faderis fra þe public landis quhilkis pai wrangwislie possedit. 1535 COVERDALE *Job* xxxiv. 12 God condemneth no man wrongously. *a* 1615 Brieue *Cron. Erlis Ross* (1850) 17 He was sinistrusly and wrongously put out of the Abbay. 1680 ALISON in Thomson *Cloud of Witnesses* (1871) 62 They have...assized and sentenced me wrongously. 1756 BYNG in Beatson *Nav. & Mil. Mem.* (1790) II. 81 The injury done to our characters...which...[have] been most injuriously and wrongously ataecked. 1833 CHALMERS *Const. Man* (1834) I. vi. 242 If one [child]...on returning...shall find the chair in the possession of another occupier...it has the sense of being wrongously dispossessed. 1862 *Chambers's Encycl.* III. 462 Where a free man is wrongously captured or detained. 1894 HALL CAINE *Manxman* 340 She...slapped the schoolmaster for bating me wrongously.

2. Without good ground or justification; for no sufficient cause or reason; undeservedly.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 27695 If þou...ever thoro envie Has ani man weid wrangwisly. *c* 1350 *Relig. Lyrics* 14th C. (1924) 94 My well of my wele sa wrangwisly wryed. *a* 1400 *Gosp. Nicodemus* (G.) 204 3e wrigh [v.r. blame] him wrangwisly. 1483 in *Acta Dom. Conc.* II. Intro. 103 The malis of the landis...excepcand xli...quhilk it is allegit...that he is wrangwisly chagit with. 1563 WINSET *Wks.* (S.T.S.) I. 53 Paull at that tyme wes...maist wranguslie persuadit, that all that he did wes...pleasand to God. 1574 in *Mail. Club Misc.* I. 102 David...declarit that...the kirk wes wranguslie and sinsterlye informit of him. 1639 *Large Declar. Late Tumults Scot.* 377 Wherein...wee are heavily and wrongously blamed and taxed of many great offences. 1828 E. IRVING *Last Days* 323 To endure reproof wrongously, for Christ's sake. 1885 BURTON *Arab. Nts.* (abr. ed.) III. 115 Let these folk go, for they are wrongously accused.

†b. Without due title, claim, or warrant.

14... in *Anglia* VIII. 164 Hee wrangusly toke to hym þe name of an hirde-man. 1456 SIR G. HAVE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 23 Ane othir callit Damas was put in the serge wrangwisly.

†3. Incorrectly; = WRONGLY *adv.* 1 b. *Obs.*

1597 SKENE *De Verb. Sign.*, *Bovata Terræ*...quhilk in sum buikes, is wrangouslie writtin, *Davata terræ*. 1732 MONRO *Anat. Bones* (ed. 2) 191 A small Cavity...where the *Recti interni minores*, commonly (tho' wrongously) ascribed to Cowper, take their Rise. 1740 in Heslop *Northumbld. Wds.* (1894) 799 Pay'd by...one of ye late stewards, his fourth part of ye money—wrongously given to Ralph Smith.

'wrongousness. *Obs.* exc. as *nonce-wd.* In 4 wrangwisnes; in 20 wrongeousness (after *righteousness*). [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The state or condition of being wrong; wrongfulness.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7543 Qua-sa fightes in wrangwisnes, Him helpes noght his Irinnes. *c* 1325 *Metr. Hom.* 136 Sua stroies mare men the lesse, Wit wa and werlides wrangwisnes. 1923 D. H. LAWRENCE *Kangaroo* xvi. 333 The heroic effort to carry out the old righteousness becomes at last sheer wrongousness.

wrong-slot (stress variable), *v.* [WRONG *adv.* + SLOT *v.*²] In rally driving: to take the wrong road.

1961 *Motoring News* 23 Nov. 10/3 This was a special stage and...Walter had, in effect, only wrong-slotted. 1963 P.

DRACKET *Motor Rallying* iii. 36 We wrong-slotted just before the Gavia and dropped three. 1968 [see ROLL *v.*² 19 a].

Hence **wrong-slotting** *vbl. sb.*

1963 P. DRACKET *Motor Rallying* iii. 45 Amazing the number of competitors who lose marks because they fail to take into account the extra miles they accrued after wrong-slotting.

wrong 'un ('rɒŋ(ə)n). *slang.* Also occas. in standard form **wrong one**. [f. WRONG *a.* + UN, 'UN².] 1. *Horseracing.* Of a horse: Held in check so as to cause him to lose the race. Also *fig.*

1889 *Sporting Times* 29 June (Farmer), Isabel and Maudie knew the Turf and all its arts—They had often blewed a dollar on a wrong 'un. 1895 BREWER *Dict. Phrase & Fable* 1315 *A Wrong 'un*, a horse which has run at any flat-race meeting not recognised by the Jockey Club. 1935 H. SPRING *Rachel Rosing* xxv. 301 Hansford had never been known to tip a wrong 'un.

2. A bad, dishonest, or untrustworthy person, a rogue or crook; one who has gone wrong (see WRONG *adv.* 2 b).

1892 I. ZANGWILL *Childr. Ghetto* I. xi. 243 'What! aren't you froom?' she said... 'No, I'm a regular wrong 'un', he replied. 'As for phylacteries, I almost forget how to lay them.' 1896 B. L. FARJEON *Betrayal* 7. *Fordham* iv. 299 It don't make black white, 'cause I'm a wrong 'un. 1902 *Daily Tel.* 11 Feb. 10/7 *A welsher* can be had up for fraud, and anyone who is known as a wrong one is excluded from the racecourse. 1908 A. BENNETT *Old Wives' Tale* III. ii. 295 She was a tremendous—er—wrong 'un here in the forties. Made a lot of money. 1920 D. H. LAWRENCE *Lost Girl* vi. 107 The policeman was now convinced the man was a wrong 'un. 1925 E. WALLACE *King by Night* xiii. 63, I don't suppose there's a 'wrong one' in London that you don't know. 1951 L. P. HARTLEY *My Fellow Devils* 194 She could not...expect him to confess in so many words that he was a wrong 'un. 1978 J. B. HILTON *Some run Crooked* ii. 15 It seemed quite a hobby with her—Teds, and drop-outs and wrong 'uns.

3. *Cricket.* a. A ball that calls for defensive play on the part of the batsman. b. *spec.* = GOOGLY *sb.*

1897 K. S. RANJITSINHJI *Jubilee Bk. Cricket* iii. 118 Stockwell steadies himself after this, and will not pick another 'wrong 'un'. 1911 E. W. BALLANTINE in *Even. News* 18 Dec. 1/3, I see Hordern got Woolley with a 'wrong 'un'. For the benefit of those who may not grasp what a 'wrong 'un' is, it may here be stated that the 'wrong 'un' is the ball which breaks the opposite way to that indicated by the bowler's action. 1931 *Daily Tel.* 31 July 17/2 Weir deserved better of fate than to be bowled by Peebles' wrong 'un in the last over of the day. 1956 N. CARDUS *Close of Play* 142 These devices were of no use against the mysterious and seemingly illogical spin of the 'wrong 'un'. 1977 *World of Cricket Monthly* June 42/2 Neil showed who was the boss by repeatedly stepping out and driving Gupte's wrong 'uns to the fence.

4. A counterfeit coin.

1899 C. ROOK *Hooligan Nights* iv. 58 Billy the Snide produced a wrong 'un, and bade young Alf plant it at a big house near the Walk.

wrongways ('rɒŋweɪz), *adv.* *nonce-wd.* [f. WRONG *sb.*² + -WAYS.] In the direction of wrong-doing.

1922 JOYCE *Ulysses* 389 She beguiled him wrongways from the true path by her flatteries.

†**wrongwende**, *a.* *Obs.* -¹ [f. WRONG *a.* + -wende, as in *hålwende*, etc. Cf. Norw. *rangvend.*] Distorted, turned aside.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 254 þeo...habbeð þe nebbes wrongwende euerichon frommard oðer, hwon non ne lueað oðer.

wrong-wise, *adv.* [f. WRONG *a.* + WISE *sb.*¹ II.]

In a wrong or reverse manner.

1849 ROCK *Ch. of Fathers* IV. xi. 99 The illuminations, that they might be seen in their true position by the people, had to be limned wrong-wise up with regard to the writing. 1903 A. H. LEWIS *Boss* i. 6, I found such stimulus [sc. beatings with hickory] to go much against the grain and to grievously rub wrong-wise the fur of my fancy.

†**wroot**, *sb.* *Obs.* In 1 wrot, urot, uurot, 4-5 wrot, 5 wrotte, wroughte. [OE. *wrót*, = MLG. *wrote* (a mole), LG. *wrote*, *wröte*, WFlem. *wroete* (snout). Cf. next and WORT *sb.*³] The snout of a swine, etc.; a proboscis.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) B 188 *Bruncus*, wrot. *a* 1100 *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülfker 118 *Promuscida*, ylpes bile, uel wrot. *a* 1325 *Old Age* ii. in E.E.P. (1862) 149 Moch me anuep þat mi dribil druip and mi wrot wet. *c* 1375 in Horstman *Altengl. Leg.* (1875) 43 þis bestes heore wrot to him gonne beode. 1398 TREVISIA *Barth. De P.R.* XIII. xxix. (Tollem. MS.), The sea swyne...picchep þe wrot [1535 snowte] in grauel. *Ibid.* xviii. xlii. (Bodl. MS.), With his wrotte and snowte he wrotep vp treen. 14... *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülfker 587 *Grunnus*,...a gruyon, or a wrot.

†**wroot**, *v.* *Obs.* Forms: 1 wrotan, 2-4 wroten (5 -yn), 4-7 wrote (5 wroth-), 4-6 wroote, 6-7 wroot (5 *Sc.* wrotte, 6 wrutt). [OE. *wrótan*, = OFris. **wrōta* (WFr. *wrotte*, NFr. *wrote*, *wrōte*, *wrāt*), MLG. *wroten* (LG. *wrōten*), MDu. and Du. *wroeten* (Antwerp *dial.* *wruuten*), OHG. **wrōzian*, *ruozian* to plough up, ON. and Icel. *rōta*, (M)Sw. and Norw. *rota*, Da. *rode*), f. *wrót* WROOT *sb.* Cf. ROOT *v.*², WORT *v.*, WROUT *v.*]

1. *intr.* To turn up soil with the snout, as swine in search of food; to dig up the earth by grubbing; = ROOT *v.*² 1. Also in *fig.* context.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) S 689 *Subigo*, wrotu. *a* 1000 *Riddles* XL[i]. 107 Swin, bearg bellende on boewuda won

wrotende wyntum lifde. *c1200 Trin. Coll. Hom.* 37 Also swin, pe uulieð and wrotheð and sneueð aure fuile. *c1205 LAY.* 469 Wilde swin þat wrotheð 3eond þan grouen. *c1386 CHAUCER Pars. T.* ¶83 (Ellesm.), Right as a soughe wroteth in euerich ordure: so wroteth [other MSS. add sche, she] hire beautee in stynkyng ordure of synne. *c1410 Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) v. [Wild boars] wrote in þe grounde with þe rowell of hir snowte. *c1420 Avow. Arth.* xii. The bore. . be-gynnus to wrote. He ruskes vppe mony a rote. *1526 Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 20 In the wylderness of this worlde where they labour & wroote in the erth. *a1586 SIDNEY De Mornay Pref.* ¶2 We . . preach the kingdome of heauen, and haue our groynes euer wrooting in the ground. *1587 HARRISON England* iii. viii. (1878) ii. 52 Some [sheep] also will wroot for them [sc. saffron-bulbs] in verie eger maner. *1612 DRAYTON Poly-olb.* ii. 320 That cruell Boare, whose tusks turn'd up whole fields of graine, And wrooting, raised hills upon the leuell Plaine. *1641 BEST Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 144 To lye it wheare it may bee well wroten amongst with swine and beasts. *Ibid.* 148 Rye-strawe, well wrote amongst.

b. transf. Of worms.

c1308 Erthe upon Erthe 2 þan schullen an hundred wormes wroten on þe skin. *13.. E.E. Allit. P. C.* 467 God wayned a worpe þat wrot vpe þe rote. *a1425 Cursor M.* 23281 (Trin.), þo wormes euer shul on hem wrote. *1430-40 LYDG. Bochas* i. 6435 Lik a worm that wrotith on a tre.

c. Of persons: To turn up the ground. *rare*—1. *c1325 Orfeo* 239 Now he most bothe digge and wrote, Er he have his fille of rote.

2. trans. To turn over, dig or tear up, with the snout, as in grubbing or burrowing; = ROOT *v.* 2. Occas. with *up*. Also in fig. context.

c1000 Ags. Ps. (Thorpe) lxxix. 13 Hine utan of wuda eoferas wrotað. *a1352 MINOT Poems* vi. 32-33 A were es wrought, . . . 3owre walles with to wrote. Wrote þai sal þowre dene. *c1380 WYCLIF Sel. Wks.* i. 406 Molde-worþis þat wroten þe erpe. *1398* [see WROOT *sb.*] *c1410 Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xxiv, Rootes þat þei [sc. boars] wrote oute of þe erthe. *c1440 Gesta Rom.* 148 (Addit. MS.), There entred a swyne, and the new plantes. . he wroto. *1567 MAPLET Gr. Forest* 102 The Sow. . wrooting vp the clots of the yearth. *1581 J. BELL Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 29 Cursed be those Swynishe senses, whiche can wroote together all rootes of wickednesse. [*1601 2nd Pt. Return fr. Parnass.* iii. iv. 1390 If his earth wroting snout shall gin to scorne.]

transf. *1535 COVERDALE Prov.* xv. 27 The couetous man wrutteth vp his owne house.

b. To draw or cast (earth, etc.) by grubbing.

c1440 Pallad. on Husb. i. 802 Light molde aboute and on, anon let wroote. *Ibid.* iii. 445 More [mould] a litel herre vpon hit wrote. *Ibid.* xii. 469 But wete hym ofte, and donge aboute hym wrote.

Hence †wrooting *ppl. a. Obs.*

c1400 Lanfranc's Cirurg. 79 A wroting vlcus [L. *vlcus corosium*] is pat of his malice fretip [B.M. Addit. MS. wrote]. *1562 J.* HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 132 The wrotyng hogge. *1600 THYNNE Emblems* (1876) xxiii. 5 With wrotinge groyne. [the] warlike bore Turnes vp and betters that bad lande.

wroot, obs. erron. form of ROOT *v.* 1

†**wrooter**. *Obs.* —0 [f. WROOT *v.* + -ER¹. Cf. Du. and older Flem. *wroeter*; WFlem. *wroeter* (snout), also WFrisk. *wrotter* field-worker.] An animal that roots.

c1440 Promp. Parv. 534 Wrotare, *versor* (K. *verror*).

†**wrooter**, obs. erron. f. ROOTER¹ 1.

1599 NASHE Lenten Stuffe Wks. (Grosart) V. 229 Mollyfying the . . . homely crucifier of Iesus Christ crucifyde & wrooter vp of Palestine.

wroothe, obs. form of WROTH *a.*

†**wrooting**, *vbl. sb. Obs.* [f. WROOT *v.* + -ING¹.] The action of grubbing or rooting; the result of this, the furrow made by a pig rooting.

c1380 WYCLIF Wks. (1880) 147 Curatis. . . resten as mold-warþis in wrotyng of worldly worshippe & erpely goodis. *1379 Glouc. Cath. MS.* 19 No. i. iii. fol. 6b, Serophula ys a sore that is lyke a swynes wrotyng. *c1440 Promp. Parv.* 534/2 Wrotyng, of beestys, *versio*. Wrotyng, of a swyne, *scrobs*. *1491 Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) 333 Whate with wrotyng and tredyng of the saide bestes [sc. swine]. *1532 MORE Confut. Tindale* Wks. 586/1 We must yoke them for breking hedges, and ringe them for wrotyng.

wropper, dial. f. WRAPPER *sb.*

wros(se), obs. varr. WORSE *a.*

wrot, obs. metathetic var. WART *sb.*

wrotch, etc.: see WRETCH, etc.

wrote, pa. t. and pa. pple. (now *illit.*) of WRITE *v.*

†**wroth**, *sb.* 1 *Obs.* Also 5 wroop, wrooth, 5, *Sc.* 6 wrothe, 6 wroath. [f. WROTH *a.*, replacing WRATH *sb.* or WRETHER *sb.*] Deep anger or resentment; wrath, rage, or fury; ire.

The earlier examples are doubtful. The first may be a miswriting for *wrethe* or *worthe*, and the second may be adjectival, as in Gower *Conf.* vi. 1696 (see FOR¹ *pref.* 10).

a1400-50 Wars Alex. 2077 All þe werd [v.r. werld] war to waikie his wrothe to with-stand. *a1425 Cursor M.* 12183 (Trin.), Leuy for wroop. . smot him on þe heed a dint. *1513 DOUGLAS Æneid* ii. x. 24 Sair pwnition of Greikis dred scho, als Hir husbandis wroth. *1581 A. HALL Iliad* vi. 109 Thus sets the trayterous iade the king with griefe and wroth a fire. *1606 SHAKS. Tr. & Cr.* ii. iii. 182 Imagin'd wroth Holds in hir blood. . swolne and hot discourse. *1663 BUTLER Hud.* i. i. 892 The objects of our Wroth. *Ibid.* ii. 737 At this the Knight grew high in wroth.

wroth (rəʊθ), *sb.* 2 *Cornish dial.* [Cf. WRASSE.] One or other species of wrasse.

1750 HEATH Acc. Isl. Scilly 317 The Coast is plentifully stored. . with Sea Round Fish; as. . . Cunner, Rockling, Cod, Wroth, Becket. *1882 JAGO Anc. Lang. Cornwall* 314 Wroth, a fish known as Conner, or sea Carp.

wroth (rəʊθ, rθθ), *a.* Forms: *a.* 1 wrað (Northumb. urað, wurað), 2-3 wrað (5 wrad), 3-4 wrap, 4 wrape, 4-5, *Sc.* 6 wrathe (4 wrahte), 4-5 wrath (4 wragh, 5 *Sc.* vrath, 6 wraath, wraathe), *Sc.* 5-6, 8 wraith (6 wreith); 3 wræð (wærð), 6 *Sc.* wreth. *β.* 3 wroð, 3-5 wroþ (3-4 wroþ), 3-5 wrope, 4-6 wrothe, 4- wroth (4 wrogh, wroght, wropt, 4-5 wroht, worth, 5 wrought, wroghth, wourthe); 4-5 wroop, wrooth, 5 wroope, 5 rowthe, 6 wrouthe. [OE. *wrāp*, = OFris. *wrêth* evil, OS. *wrêd* (MLG. *wrede*, *wrêt*, LG. *wrêd*), MDu. *wrêt*, *wreet* (Du. and Flem. *wreed* cruel), OHG. *reid*, *reidi* (MHG. *reit*, *reide* curled, twisted), ON. **wreiðr*, *reiðr* (Norw. *vreid*, *reid*, Da. and Sw. *vreð*) angry, offended, f. the pa. t. of *wriðan* to WRITHE. Cf. WRATH *a.*]

In very freq. use *c1250-c1450*. Rare (exc. in or after Biblical usage), *c1530-c1850*, being regarded as 'out of use' by Johnson, 'nearly obsolete' by Ash, but as 'an excellent word and not obsolete' by Webster (1828-32). Revived in sense 1, esp. in formal or dignified style, *c1800*.

1. Stirred to wrath; moved or exasperated to ire or indignation; very angry or indignant; wrathful, incensed, irate.

Rarely attrib., as in quotes. *a1225, 1375, c1400*.

a. c950 Lindisf. Gosp. Matt. xxii. 7 Ðe cynig uutedlice mið ðy geherde wurað wæs. *a1000 Genesis* 2260 Ða wearð unbliðe Abrahames cwen, hire worepeowe wrað on mode. *a1122 O.E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1066, þa þe cyng Willelm geherde þæt seegen þa wearð he swiðe wrað. *c1175 Lamb. Hom.* 15 Ne beo þu nefre ene wrað þer fore. *c1200 ORMIN* 19603 And ta warp wraþ Herode. *c1205 LAY.* 8268 þa wes he wrað ful iwis. *Ibid.* 27823 þus þe king wordede, wrað on his ponke. *a1300 Cursor M.* 1599 þof he was wraht it was na wrang. *1375 BARBOUR Bruce* xvi. 245 Nicht no man se ane vrathar man. *c1400 Rule St. Benet* (Prose) i He, as a wrath fader, . . . deseret vs os not hys sons. *c1450 Merlin* 18 Tho gan he luge to be right wraht. *c1475 Rous Coisear* 100 The Carll . . . wox wonder wraith. *c1520 M. NISBET Ephes.* v. 26 Be ye wrathe, and will ye nocht do synn. *c1560 A. SCOTT Poems* (S.T.S.) vi. 38 For þe scho wreth I will not woe it. *1590 BUREL in Watson Coll.* ii. (1709) 2 Anna, wondrous wraith, Deplors hir sister Didos daith. *a1776 Lord Ingram in Child Ballads* II. 131/2 A' was blyth at Auld Ingram's cuming, But Lady Maisdrey was wraith.

β. c1200 Trin. Coll. Hom. 183 Ai þat me was leof, hit was þe loð; þu ware a sele ziefich ius was wroð. *a1225 Ancr. R.* 120 Wroð mon is he wod? *c1290 Becket* 413 þo was þe king wel of i-nouz, worepre pane he was er. *13.. Cursor M.* 4889 (Gött.), If he it wit he wil be wrought [Trin. wroop]. *1398 TREvisa Barth. De P.R.* v. xli. (BM. Addit. MS.), By þe galle we ben wroop, by þe herte we ben wys. *c1450 Knt. de la Tour* (1906) 22 Thanne she was wrother thanne afore. *c1489 CAXTON Sonnes of Aymon* iii. 113 Sire, . . . ye be wroth of som other thyng. *1526 TINDALE Matt.* xxii. 7 When the kyng hearde that, he was wroth. *1548 UDALL, etc. Erasm. Par. Mark* x. 65 For he was nether wroth, nor murmured against Christ. *a1599 SPENSER F.Q.* vii. vi. 35 There-at Ioue waxed wroth. *1611 BIBLE I Sam.* xx. 7 If he be very wroth, . . . euill is determined by him. *1656 BLOUNT Glossogr.* 1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* iii. 25 Our modern Dissenters seem wroth, when they are deem'd a vulgar. . . kind of People. *1749 FIELDING Tom Jones* vi. ix, The parson. . . saying, 'You behold, Sir, how he waxeth wroth at your abode here'. *1820 WORDSW. 'A Book came forth'* 7 But some. . . Waxed wroth, and with foul claws. . . On Bard and Hero clamorously fell. *1842 TENNYSON Dora* 23 Then the old man was wroth, and doubled up his hands. *1852 DICKENS Bleak Ho.* xl, Sir Leicester is majestically wroth. *1880 BLACKMORE Mary Anerley* xxxiii, 'I know it,' said Carroway, too wroth to swear.

absol. a1250 Owl & Night. 944 Selde endep wel þe lope & selde playdeþ wel þe wrope.

transf. *c1386 CHAUCER Cook's T.* 34 Reul and trouthe. . . been ful wrothe al day as men may see.

b. Said of the Deity.

a1100 in Earle Land-Chartes (1888) 253 Crist. . . him wurðe wrað þe hi hæfre gepwyie. *a1300 Cursor M.* 959 Wa es mel lauerd, . . . þat euer i mad þe wraht. *c1340 HAMPOLE Pr. Consc.* 5479 When he es wrathe þat es maker of alle. *c1386 CHAUCER Pars. T.* ¶96 Ther shal the. . . wrothe Iuge sitte aboute. *1393 LANGL. P. Pl.* C. i. 117 God was wel þe wroper. *a1450 Mirk's Festial* i. 4 Aboute hym schall be Crist his domes-man so wrope, þat [etc.]. *1533 BELLENDEN Livy* (S.T.S.) i. 106 The goddis war sa commovit and wraith, þat [etc.]. *1611 BIBLE Isaiah* lxiv. 9 Be not wroth very sore, O Lord. *1697 DRYDEN Æneis* v. 1110 The God was wroth. *1820 KEATS Hyperion* ii. 351 He saw full many a God Wroth as himself. *1877 TENNYSON Harold* i. i. 28 Why should not Heaven be wroth?

c. With dative, or const. with preps., as against, at, on, †to, †toward, †upon, or esp. with.

(a) *a1000 Genesis* 405 þonne wearð he him wrað on mode. *c1000 Ags. Ps.* (Thorpe) lxxiv. 4 þæt ðu us ne weorðe wrað on mode. *c1200 ORMIN* 4814 Forr whatt iss Drihhtin me puss wraþ? *c1230 Hali Meid.* 31 Beo hit nu, þat. . . ti were beo þe wrað.

(b) *c1175 Lamb. Hom.* 117 þi les ðe god iwurðe wrað wið eou. *c1205 LAY.* 6369 A-nan se he wes wrað wið ene. *1297 R. GLOUC.* (Rolls) 570 Corineus. . . wroþ inou was Toward þe king lotrin. *1303 R. BRUNNE Handl. Synne* 12293 Al tymes ys God more wroper with pys þan [etc.]. *a1352 MINOT Poems* iii. 5 For mani men to him er wroth. *1375 BARBOUR Bruce* i. 201 Gyff ony thar-at war wraht. *1388 WYCLIF Num.* xxiv. 10 Balaach was wrooth 3gens Balaam. *1412 26 Pol. Poems* 47 First whan god wiþ man was wroþ. *1471 CAXTON Recuyll* (Sommer) 535 Dyane. . . was wrothe and angry vpon them. *c1489 — Sonnes of Aymon* i. 50 Charlemayne. . . was wrothe to theym. *1535 COVERDALE 2 Chron.* xxviii. 9 The

Lorde God. . . is wroth at Iuda. *1590 SPENSER F.Q.* iii. vi. 19 She. . . woxe halfe wroth against her damzels slacke. *Ibid.* vii. 8 Be not wroth With silly Virgin. *1611 BIBLE Ps.* lxxxix. 38 Thou hast bene wroth with thine anointed. *1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE Myst. Udolpho* xxv, The signor, it seems, had lately been very wroth against her. *1859 TENNYSON Elaine* 160 Then got Sir Lancelot suddenly to horse, Wroth at himself. *1873 'OUIDA' Pascarel* i. 39 She, dear soul, was very wroth against him always. *1883 WHITELAW Sophocles, Antigone* 1177 Wroth with his pitiless sire, he slew himself. *fig. a1300 Cursor M.* 30 þe wrang to here o right is lath, And pride wyt buxumnes is wrath.

†2. Marked or characterized by anger or wrath; indicative of ire or indignation. *Obs.*

c1000 Ags. Ps. (Thorpe) lxiii. 4 Hi. . . hi mid wraðum wordum trymmað. *a1300 E.E. Psalter* lxxiii. 1 Wrathe es þi breth, ouer schepe of þi fode. *a1325 Prose Psalter* cxxiii. 3 Her wodeship was wrope 3ains us. *13.. Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1706 þay sued hym [sc. a fox] fast, Wrejanð hym ful weterly with a wroth noyse. *c1375 Cursor M.* 828 (Fairf.), Sone bigan veniaunce to kithe, al was wrap þat er was blithe. *1582 STANYHURST Æneis* i. (Arb.) 22 Wroth words stateley thus [he] vsed. *1648 J. BEAUMONT Psyche* xli. xxxiii, Wroth fiery Knots are marshalled upon Her Forehead.

†3. Of a fierce, savage, or violent disposition or character; stern, truculent. *Obs.*

Beowulf 319 Ic to sæ wille wið wrað werod wearde healdan. *c893 ÆLFRED Oros.* vi. ii. 254 þa wearð Tiberius Romanum swa wrað & swa heard swa he him ær wæs milde & iæpe. *c1000 Ags. Ps.* (Thorpe) lxvii. 5 þa þe wydeдум syn wraðe æt dome. *c1205 LAY.* 18583 þis iherde Gorlois. . . & he andware 3af, eorlene wraðest. *Ibid.* 28503 Arður þat iherde, wraðest kinge. *c1275 Ibid.* 6402 þar was mani bold Brut, and mani cnihtes wrope [c1205 bisi kempen].

†b. In the phrase as wroth as (the) wind. *Obs.*

13.. Gaw. & Gr. Knt. 319 He wex as wroth as wynde. *1377 LANGL. P. Pl.* B. iii. 328 Also wroth as þe wynde Wex Mede in a while. *c1400 Destr. Troy* 13091 And he [was] wrothe as the wynde to his wale eme. *14.. Erthe upon Erthe* 33/48 Erthe is as sone wroth as is the wynde. *c1470 Gol. & Gaw.* 770 Golograse. . . Wod wraith as the wynd, his handis can wryng.

†4. Of animals: Of a violent or fierce nature; irritated, enraged. *Obs.*

a900 CYNEWULF Crist 1548 Se deopa seað. . . æleð hy mid þy ealdan lige. . . wrapum wyrwm. *a1250 Owl & Night.* 1043 þe vie wes wroþ, to cheste rad, Mid þisse worde hire eyen abraid. *13.. E.E. Allit. P. B.* 1676 þou. . . on mor most abide. . . With wrope wolves to won. *c1375 Sc. Leg. Saints* i. (Peter) 523 þan wes þe hound na thing wraht, Na schup to do na man schath. *a1400-50 Wars Alex.* 738 As wrath as a waspe. *1526 TINDALE Rev.* xii. 17 The dragon was wroth with the woman.

b. transf. Of the wind, sea, etc.: Moved to a state of turmoil or commotion; violent, stormy.

13.. E.E. Allit. P. C. 162 Euer was ilyche loud þe lot of þe wyndes, & euer wroper þe water, & wodder þe stremes. *13.. Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 525 Wrope wynde of þe welkyn wrastelez with þe sunne. *13.. etc.* [see 3 b]. *1426 AUDELEY Poems* 47 Wry not for Godis word as the wroth wynd. *1590 SPENSER F.Q.* ii. xi. 19 When the wroth Western wind does reauie their locks. *1835 BROWNING Paracelsus* v. 661 The wroth sea's waves are edged With foam. *1852 C. B. MANSFIELD Paraguay*, etc. (1856) 123 It rained heavily. . . So I was wroth, and the weather too. *1876 SWINBURNE Erechtheus* 1649 The most holy heart of the deep sea, Late wroth, now full of quiet.

†5. Bad, evil; grievous, perverse. *Obs.*

In later use in *to wrothe hele*, -haile (see WROTHER-HEAL). *c1000 Ags. Ps.* (Thorpe) cxviii. 101 Ic minum fotum fæcne siðas, þa wraþan wegas, werede georne. *a1023 WULFSTAN Hom.* i. (1883) 273 Hu læne and hu lyðre pis lif is. . . hu tealt and hu wrað. *a1225 Juliana* 57 Weila as þu were iboren wrecche o wraðe [v.r. wraðer] time. *a1225 Leg. Kath.* 171 þe wrecches þet ha seh. . . wraðe werkes wurchen. *a1250 Prov. Alfred* 115 þenne beop his wene ful wrope isene. *1297 R. GLOUC.* (Rolls) 3019 To wrope hele al þis lond was he so milde þo. *c1330 King of Tars* 131 To wrothe hele that he was bore. *c1400 Laud Troy Bk.* 7872 That was him to wrothe-haile: For theif of Grece on him throng.

†6. Displeased, grieved; sorrowful, sad. *Obs.*

13.. K. Alis. 4528 (Laud MS.), Alisaunder hap vnderstonde þe lettre þat com from daries sonde. Wroþ he was, & hadde pyte. *13.. Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 70 Ladies lazed ful loude, þoþ þay lost haden, And he þat wan was not wrothe. *c1450 Ludus Coventriae* 329 Lombe of love with-owt loth, I flynde þe not, myn hert is wroth.

†b. Fearful, apprehensive, afraid. *Obs. rare*—1.

13.. K. Alis. 544 (Laud MS.), Vche of hem so bycom wroop: For a dragon þer com in fleen.

†**wroth**, *v. Obs.* Also 1 wraðian, 5 wrothyn, wrothe. [OE. *wrāðian* (= OS. *wrēðian*, ON. **wreiða*, *reiða*, refl. *reiðask* (Norw. *vreidast*, MSw. *vrepas*, Sw. *vredgas*, Da. *vredes*) to get angry, f. *wrāð* WROTH *a.* Cf. *awroth* (s.v. AWRATH), WRATH, WRETHER *vbs.*]

1. *intr.* To become wrathful or angry; to manifest anger.

c975 Rushw. Gosp. Mark x. 41 Ða tenu ongunnun wraðiga of iacobe & iohanne. *14.. Wars Alex.* 2593 (Dubl. MS.), 3itt wer hys baratours abaist & pen þe bern wrothed. *c1435 Torr. Portugal* 1196 Lo, sir kyng, hold this, . . . or ellis wroth we anon. *c1475 Partenay* 1254 Again melusine wrothed he ful sore.

2. *trans.* To make wroth or angry; to enrage. *c1450 Mirk's Festial* i. 66 Adam loued hyr and wold not wroth hur. *1499 Promp. Parv.* (Pynson), Wrothyn or maken wrothe, *irrito*. *1611 FLORIO, Adirare*, to anger, to wroth.

b. refl. To become wrathful or angry. *c1425 Seven Sages* (P.) 1780 Bot thau he wrothe hym never so sore, For sothe I nylle prove hym no more.

wroth, obs. var. wrought, pa. pple. of WORK *v.*

wrothe, obs. metathetic var. wort, WART *sb.*

† **wrothe**, *adv.* *Obs.* Forms: *a.* 1 *wraðe*, 3 *wraþe*, 5 *wrath*. *β.* 3 *wroðe*, 3-4 *wroþe*, 5 *wrothe*, *wroth*. [OE. *wraðe*, *f.* *wrað* WROTH *a.*]

1. Wrathfully, angrily, severely; = WROTHLY *adv.* 1.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke xiii. 14 Ondsuarade ða ðæs folces aldormon wraðde [*Rushw.* wraðe]. *a* 1000 *Guthlac* 638 Eow se waldend wraðe bisentce. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night*. (C.) 972 þu canst zolle wrope & stronge. *c* 1275 in *O.E. Misc.* 144/109 þat folk worp eft wrope i-spild, þe nule to hire [*sc.* true love] turne. 1338 *R. Brunne Chron.* (1810) 265 Was neuer in pam both [*sc.* Wales and Scotland] terme set ne stounde, þat þei [ne] discorded wroth. *c* 1400 *Arth. & Merl.* 824 Heo... beot hire bope euele and wrop. *c* 1430 *Syr. Gener.* (Roxb.) 2917 The Sowdon wrothe answard ageyn. *Ibid.* 9229 The lord he smote than so wrothe That shelde to-rofe.

2. Evilly; badly; ill; = WROTHLY *adv.* 2.

c 888 *ÆLFRED Boeth.* i. He þa gehat swiðe yfele gelaeste, & swiðe wraðe geendode mid manegum mane. *a* 1000 *Ag. Ps.* (Thorpe) lvii. 2 Eft ge on heortan hogedon inwit, worhton wrothe. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 193 þese þreo þing noteð ech man on two wise, wel, and wrope. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night*. 1360 Wymmon may pleye vnder clothe hweper heo wile wel þe wrope. 1297 *R. GLOUC.* (Rolls) 729 Vor þou art mi dohter... I loued þe one; þou zelst nou my loue wrope. 1340 *Ayenb.* 20 þet þou hest oft zipes euele and wrope y-loked hire festes. *c* 1400 *Gamelyn* 73 He clothed him and fedde hym yuel and eke wrothe.

3. Sorrowfully; sadly; = WROTHLY *adv.* 3.

a 1250 *Owl & Night*. (J.) 415 A wintre þu singest wrope & yomere. *c* 1275 *Sinners Beware* 96 in *O.E. Misc.* 75 þer-fore heo schule sicche And in helle smyche Acoryen hit ful wraþe.

† **wrother-heal**, *sb.* and *adv.* *Obs.* Forms: 3 *wraðer-*, 3-4 *wraþer-* (4 *wreþer-*), 3 *wroðer-*, 3-5 *wrother-hele* (5 *wrothir-*, *wrothher-*); also 3 *-heale*, 4 *-hale*, *-haylle*, 4-5 *-hail(e)*, *-hayl*. [= OE. **(tō) wrápre hæle* (*hælu*, -o): see WROTH *a.* and HEAL *sb.* 2 b (HELE, HAIL *sb.* 2, HALE *sb.* 1). Cf. *GODER-HEAL*.]

A. sb. *a.* to *wrother heal* (*hele*, also *hail*, *hale*), with evil fate or fortune; with or to misfortune, injury, calamity, or destruction.

c 1205 *LAY.* 29556 þer heo iwarden to, to wraðere hele. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 102 Go ut ase dude Dina, to wrother hele. *c* 1275 *xi Pains of Hell* 27 in *O.E. Misc.* 148 To wroþere hele he was ibore. *c* 1305 *Pilate* 187 in *E.E.P.* (1862) 116 He swor his more op anon þat he to wroþere hele þer com. 1377 *LANGL. P. Pl.* B. xiv. 120 For to wrotherhele was he wrougte þat neure was ioye shaped. *a* 1400 *Sqr. lowe Degre* 299 Alas! it tourned to wroth-her-heyle. *a* 1425 *Cursor M.* 21923 (Trin.), To wroþerhele he saf vs wit.

b. With dative (noun or pronoun) of person, etc.

a 1200 *St. Marher.* 10 Ah crist to wurðmunt, ant him to wraðerheale, þe rode taken arudde hire readliche. *a* 1225 *Juliana* 43 þe ich font & habbe ifolhet me to wraðer heale. 1297 *R. GLOUC.* (Rolls) 7282 So þat harald was king to wroþerhele þe kinedom. 13... *Gosp. Nicod.* 695 What raue þe wayle, þat in yhour temple hang? vs all to wrotherhail. 1362 *LANGL. P. Pl.* A. ii. 20 Out of wrong heo wox to wroþerhele monye. *c* 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 4260 He sayled in with a feble sayl And þat was him to wrotherhail.

c. With genitive pronoun. *rare* -1.

c 1205 *LAY.* 490 Mid þræte he spiled: To wroþer heore hele habbeð heo such werc idon.

B. adv. Unfortunately; disastrously.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 16477 Ful wraþer-hail to min bihoue haf i tan þis mone. *c* 1325 *Spec. Gy Warw.* 129 Wroþer hele was ludas born. For þurw þat sinne he was lorn. *a* 1330 *Ouel* 208 Wroþer hele come þou her, I rede þou zeld op þi brond. *a* 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 1759 þou sekis fraward Sichim þi-selfe wrothir-haile.

'**wrothful**, *a.* *Obs.* or *arch.* [var. of WRATHFUL *a.*, after WROTH *sb.* or *a.*]

An app. early example in *R. Brunne Chron.* (1810) 37 is prob. an error for *wrathful* or *wrathful*.

1. Of persons: Full of wrath; angry; = WRATHFUL *a.* 1.

c 1500 *Communycacyon* (W. de W.) Cj, Alas why haue I wrothfull ben? 1535 *COVERDALE Nahum* i. 2 A taker of vengeance, is y^e Lorde, and wrothfull. 1546 *Gasser's Prognost.* dijb, The warrior & wrothful Mars, Lord of this yere. 1590 *SPENSER F.Q.* ii. xi. 34 The knight yet wrothfull for his late disgrace, him... sore smote. 1810 *SCOTT Lady of L.* v. vi. Wrothful at such arraignment foul, Dark lower'd the clansman's sable scowl.

b. Prone to wrath.

1535 *COVERDALE 2 Sam.* vii. 8 His men... are stronge and of a wrothfull stomack.

2. Proceeding or arising from wrath; characterized by or expressive of anger.

1535 *COVERDALE Ps.* lxxviii. 24 Let thy wrothfull displeasure take holde of them. 1562 *LEGH Armory* 165 b, His irefull hart straight braided out wrothful wordes of wreke and reuenge.

Hence 'wrothfully *adv.*, 'wrothfulness.

a 1500 *Hist. K. Boccus & Sydrache* (? 1510) Pij, He styreth and quakyth 'wrothfully. 1535 *COVERDALE Ps.* cxxiii. 3 When they were so wrothfully displeased at vs. 1596 *SPENSER F.Q.* vi. vii. 16 But... (quothe he halfe wrothfully) Where is the bootie? 1855 *THORPE tr. Beowulf* 6116 Then was the quarrel wrothfully avenged. 1535 *COVERDALE Eccles.* x. 22 Pryde was not made for man, nether *wrothfulness for mens children.

† **wrothly**, *a.* *Obs.* In 4 *wrathli*. [repr. OE. *wraðlic*, *f.* *wraþ* WROTH *a.*] Angry, violent.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3462 Wit wrathli [*Gött.* wrethly] wrestes aiper writh.

† **wrothly**, *adv.* *Obs.* Forms: *a.* 1 *wraðlice*, 3 *wraðliche*, *Orm.* *wraþeliþ*, 4 *wrathli*, -ly, 5 *Sc.*

wraithly. *β.* 3 *wroð-*, *wroðeliche*, 4 *wropeliche*, -lich, *wroþlich*, *wroþli*, -ly, 4-5 *wroþely*, *wrothely*, 5 *wroothly*. [OE. *wraðlice* (= MLG. *wretliken*, MDu. *wreedelick*, Du. *-lijk*), *f.* *wrað* WROTH *a.* + -LY².]

1. In a wrathful, bitter, or cruel manner; wrathfully, angrily, furiously.

a. *Beowulf* 3062 þa sio fæhð gewearð gewrecen wraðlice. *c* 1200 *ORMIN* 15832 3iff þatt Crist swa wraþeliþ Draf menn... Ut off þatt temmple. *c* 1205 *LAY.* 7379 Cezar iseh þis writ, and he hit wraðliche bi-heold. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 3958 Quen he of his cuming herd Ful wrathli gains him he ferd. *a* 1340 *HAMPOLE Psalter* i. 3 It is wip swa mykil delaiynge & swa wrathly, þat it is noht worth þat þai doe. *c* 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxix. (*Placidas*) 303 Forton... turnyt hyr bak one hym wrathly. *c* 1470 *HENRY Wallace* iv. 237 Wallace... Sumpart amowet, wraithly till it... went. *c* 1470 *Golagros & Gaw.* 162 Wondirly wraithly he wroght, and all as of were.

β. *c* 1205 *LAY.* 485 þe king nom þat writ on hond & he hit wroðliche bi-heold. *c* 1330 *Amis & Amil.* 1166 The leuedi loked upon him tho wrothlich. 13... *E.E. Allit. P.* C. 132 þay wakened wel þe wroþeloke, for wroþely he cleped. 1362 *LANGL. P. Pl.* A. v. 68 Wroþliche he wrong his fust. 1421 *HOCCEVE Min. Poems* 151 He wroothly wente out of hir compaignie. *c* 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* (Roxb.) 9 Oure Lord... shoke thre speres wrothly.

2. Badly; ill. *rare*.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 193 Man hit noteð wroðeliche, þe mid þeþshepe bicherð his emcristen. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 33 (Cott. MS.), 3if þu art unwurðliche & wraðeliche ilatet.

3. Sadly; sorrowfully. *rare* -1.

c 1374 *CHAUCER Boeth.* i. prose i. (1868) 7 þus þis compaygnie of muses i-blamed casten wroþely [*L. mæstior*] þe chere adounward to þe erpe.

wroth money, *local*. [variant of WRATH MONEY.] (See quotes.)

1730 *THOMAS Dugdale's Warwick.* i. 4/2 A certain rent due unto the Lord of this Hundred [of Knightlow], called Wroth money, or Warth money, probably the same with Ward penny. 1864 *CHAMBERS Bk. of Days* II. 571/2 The payment... of Wroth or Ward money for protection, and probably also in lieu of military service. 1892 *Pall Mall G.* 12 Nov. 5/3 The [annual] custom of paying 'wroth money'... at Knightlow Cross.

So **wroth silver** (also **wroth penny**). *local*.

1864 *CHAMBERS Bk. of Days* II. 571/2 The payment of this Wroth Silver. 1893 in *N. & Q.* 8th Ser. IV. 497 The Duke of Buccleuch... observed... the curious custom of collecting... 'Wroth Silver', or 'Wroth Penny', from various parishes. 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 11 Nov. 10/1 The Duke... demands 'wroth silver'... from some thirty parishes, and the nominal amounts are... placed in a stone trough on Knightlow Hill. 1900 *Ibid.* 12 Nov. 10/1 The Duke[s]... annual collection of 'Wroth silver'... is a curious old custom, carried on for centuries, and observed each year, on November 11.

† **'wrothsome**, *a.* *Obs.* *rare* -1. [f. WROTH *a.* + -SOME.] = WROTHFUL *a.* 1.

c 1518 *SKELTON Magnyf.* 2293 Thou hast bene so waywarde, so wranglyng, and so wrothsome.

wrothy ('rəʊθi, 'rðθi), *a.* [f. WROTH *a.* + -Y¹. Cf. MDu. *wrêdich* (Du. *wreedig*) cruel.] Wrathful, angry.

In 19th c., revived under the influence of WRATHY *a.*

1422 *YONGE tr. Secreta Secret.* 157 Mowmyng and wrothi thou shalt reue. *Ibid.* 229 Tho men... bene wrothy and hugely angry. 14... *Wheatley MS.* (1921) 28 In my flesche there is no hele In presence of thi worthi [? read wrothi] face [*L. a facie ire tue*]. 1839 *LEVER H. Lorrequer* v. A more wrothy gentleman... it having rarely been my evil fortune to forgoth her. 1869 *TROLLOPE Vicar Bulhampton* xvii, Gilmore... was waxing wrothy. 1902 *ROBINSON Talmud* VIII. p. xiii, Ezra was wrothy that the Torah should be given through him.

Hence 'wrothily *adv.*; 'wrothiness.

1422 *YONGE tr. Secreta Secret.* 227 A grete fleshy shorte neke tokenyth wrothynesse like as a bull is. 1898 *N. MUNRO J. Splendid* xxv. 257 [He] would ruffle up wrothily with blame for my harping on that incident.

wrotte, *obs.* var. *WART sb.*

wrough, *int.* *rare* -1. [Imitative.] Used to represent the snort or grunt of a hog or pig.

1589 [? NASHE] *Almond for Parrat* Fjb, A hogge... lifts vp his snoute into the ayre, and cryes wrough, wrough.

† **wrought**, *sb.* *Obs.* *rare*. In 3 *wrohte*, 4 *w(h)rouhte*. [Early ME. var. of *wruhte* (OE. *wryhta*), *WRIGHT sb.* 1] = *WRIGHT sb.* 1, i, b.

c 1275 *LAY.* 16969 Wrohtes, þat mid axe coupon weorche. *Ibid.* 21134 Wigar þe wittye wrohte. *a* 1333 *W. HERBERT in Relig. Lyrics* 14th C. (1924) 22 Holy wrouhte of sterres bryht. *Ibid.* 27 Louerd god almyhti, Whrouhte of alle pinges.

wrought (rɔ:t), *ppl. a.* Forms: 3-4 *wrozt*, 5-6 *wroght*, 5- wrought (6 *arch.* wroughten), 5 *wrou*, 7 *wrote*. [ME. *wrozt*, var. *worht*, pa. pple. of *wirchen*, *wurchen*: see *WORK v.*] Worked into shape (or condition).

Freq. as the second element of combs., as *fine-*, *finely-*, *gold-*, *hammer-*, *hand-*, *hard-*, *high-*, *highly-*, *machine-*, *thick-*, *thin-*, *well-wrought*: see these words, and cf. *IN-*, *FOR-*, *OVER-*, *UNWROUGHT ppl. adjs.*

1. † *a.* Created; shaped; moulded. *Obs.*

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2606 Teremuth... bad it ben to hire brozt, And sa3 ðis child wol faire wrozt. *c* 1400 [see *WELL-WROUGHT ppl. a.* 1]. 1434 *MISYN Mending Life* 126 God truly is infinit of gretnes, of all wroght kyndes vnconsumed.

b. That is made or constructed by means of labour or art; fashioned, formed.

Cf. OE. *hand-worht*, = mod. E. 'hand-wrought'.

13... *E.E. Allit. P.* B. 1381 With a wonder wrozt walle wruxeled ful hije. 1338, *c* 1400, etc. [see *WELL-WROUGHT ppl. a.* 1]. 1624 in *Archaeol.* (1806) XV. 161, 3 pare of wrote boote hose. 1660 *R. READ Wecker's Secr. Art* 220 Lay with every bed of your wrought and drawn Glass one of the said pieces of Glass. 1676 *LADY FANSHAWE Mem.* (1830) 189 A rich curious-wrought gold chain. 1696 *DERHAM Clock-maker* 4 The wrought piece which covers the Balance... is the Cock. 1700-1 *Act 12-13 William* c. 4 §1 For want of Assayers... to assay and touch their wrought Plate. 1739 *Act 12 Geo. II.* c. 26 §6 Any wrought Seal or Seals with Cornelian or other Stones set therein. 1818 *KEATS Endym.* i. 165 After them appear'd... a fair wrought car. 1850 *ROSSETTI Blessed Damozel* ii, Her robe... No wrought flowers did adorn. 1875 *FORTNUM Maiolica* 107 Most elegantly wrought earthen vases. 1890 *YOUNG Ann. Barber-Surg. Lond.* 506 Handsomely chased and wrought silver garlands.

c. Shaped, fashioned, or finished from the rough or crude material; cut.

1560 *BIBLE* (Bishops') *Numb.* xxxi. 51 Moses & Eleazar... took the golde of them, and all wrought iewels. 1579 *SPENSER Sheph. Cal.* Aug. 134 To him be the wroughten mazer alone. 1611 *BIBLE 1 Chron.* xxii. 2 Hee set masons to hew wrought stones. 1652 *BENLOWES Theoph.* iii. xxvi, Her lips rock-rubies, and her veins wrought sapphires show. 1818 *KEATS Endym.* ii. 623 The water... mimick'd the wrought oaken beams. 1841 *SPALDING Italy & It. Isl.* iii. 355 The country exports... the marble of Carrara, both wrought and unwrought. 1854 *S. G. MORTON Types Mankind* 357 Large quantities of wrought bones, human and animal.

† 2. Artificial; specially prepared. *Obs.*

c 1400 *tr. Secreta Secret., Govt. Lordsh.* 83 He sholde... caste vp-on his heued wrought waters attempted. *Ibid.* 85 Thre Rotes of wrought hony. [tr. *L. artificialis*.]

3. *a.* Of textile materials, esp. silk: Manu-factured; spun. (Cf. *RAW a.* 2 *a.*)

1463-4 *Rolls of Parl.* v. 506/1 Wrought Silke, throwen Rybans and Laces, falsely... wrought. 1503-4 *Act 19 Hen. VII.* c. 21, All other maner of Sylkes, aswell wrought as rawe or unwrought. 1630 *R. Johnson's Kingd. & Commw.* 336 The riches of the Kingdome are especially silkes, wrought and unwrought. 1694 *E. CHAMBERLAYNE Pres. St. Eng.* (ed. 18) i. 37 Merionethshire... abounds with Sheep, Fish, Fowl, and wrought Cottons. 1728 *CHAMBERS Cycl.* (1738) s.v. *Silk*, The silks brought from Italy are partly wrought, and partly raw, and unwrought. 1841 *HAYDN Dict. Dates* 472 Wrought silk was brought from Persia to Greece 325 B.C.

b. Decorated or ornamented, as with needlework; elaborated, embellished, embroidered.

1455 *Lincoln Diocese Doc.* 67 [A] Wrought bordcloth cum j. pari towalles de eadem. 1475 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 155 Item... j. large wrought Bordcloth. 1552-3 in *Feuillerat Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 104 Purple wrought vellet. *a* 1586 *SIDNEY Arcadia* i. xiii, A light taffeta garment, so cut, as the wrought smocke came through it in many places. 1598 *B. JONSON Ev. Man in Hum.* i. iii, As a Millaners wife [conceals] her wrought stomacher with a smokie lawne. 1599 — *Ev. Man out of Hum.* iv. iv, A piece of my wrought shirt. 1614 *BOYLE in Lismore Papers* (1886) I. 50 A veary fair wrought purse. *a* 1680 *CHARNOCK Attrib. God* (1682) 609 A curious wrought Tapestry. 1686 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2152/4 A green wrought Satin Ribon. 1709 *STEELE Tatler* No. 91 ¶ 5 My Mistress presented me with a Wrought Nightcap. 1711 *Hermit* 25 Aug. 2/1 The old Tapestry Hangings and Wrought Bed [must be] pulled down. 1805 *SCOTT Last Minstrel* ii. xix, A wrought Spanish baldrick. *c* 1816 *Mrs. SHERWOOD Stories Ch. Catech.* vii. 45 [She] had on a wrought muslin frock. 1847 *C. BRONTE J. Eyre* xi, Beds... with wrought old English hangings crusted with thick work. 1851 [see *WRISTLET* 2].

transf. 1662 *J. DAVIES tr. Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 310 A third sort of Melons... are wrought or embroidered, having amidst the embroidery red, yellow, and green spots.

c. Of leather, etc.: Prepared by dressing; dressed.

1541 *Extr. Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 454 Quhat craftsman that braks the samyn [act], the rest of his wrought ledder to be escheitt. 1585 *HIGINS Junius' Nomencl.* 130/1 *Linum factum*,... wrought or hitchild flax.

d. Of articles: Made, manufactured, or prepared for use or commerce.

c 1580 in *Eng. Hist. Rev.* July (1914) 518 Pilchars and Red herringe, wrought Lime. 1584-5 *Act 27 Eliz.* c. 16 §1 Any Artificer using to work Leather into wrought Wares. *a* 1700 *EVELYN Diary* 17 Sept. 1657, Some habits of curiously-colour'd and wrought feathers. 1757 *Refl. Importation Bar Iron* 19 The Americans... would... take more wrought Goods from the British Manufacturers. 1803 *MALTHUS Popul.* iii. x. 459 The whole value of the wrought commodity. 1807 *T. THOMSON Chem.* (ed. 3) II. 444 Wrought rosin, or shoe-maker's rosin. 1851 *Catal. Gt. Exhib.* 865 The traders... purchase the wrought articles from the heads of the lapidary workmen.

4. *a.* Of metals: Beaten out or shaped with the hammer or other tools.

1535 *COVERDALE Ps.* xlv. 13 Hir clothinge is of wrought golde. 1585 *HIGINS Junius' Nomencl.* 403/1 *Argentum factum*,... wrought siluer, as plate, coyne, &c. 1687 *Miège Gt. Fr. Dict.* ii. s.v. *Ouvré*, Wrought Silver, wrought Brass. 1696-7 *Act 8-9 William III.* c. 34 §1 Evrey Hundred weight of Tin wrought commonly called Pewter. 1717 *BERKELEY Jnrl. Tour Italy* Wks. 1871 IV. 555 Gold and silver, wrought and unwrought, found along the side of the little sea. 1819 *SHELLEY Fragm., Tale Untold* 3 Empty cups of wrought and daedal gold. 1885 *Mag. Art* Sept. 459/1 A circular plate of thin wrought bronze.

Comb. 1893 *Outing* XXII. 111/1 A wrought-gold bracelet.

b. wrought iron, slag-bearing malleable iron (see *IRON sb.* 1 and *MALEABLE a.* 1).

1703 *Act 2-3 Anne* c. 18 §12 Wares made of Wrought Iron. 1747 *Phil. Trans.* XLIV. ii. 371 Cannon... cast so soft as to bear Turning like wrought Iron. 1837 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jnrl.* i. 1/1 The rails are of wrought-iron, fixed in cast-iron chairs. 1876 *VOYLE & STEVENSON Milit. Dict.* 473/2 Wrought iron is valuable as a gun material. 1881 [see *IRON sb.* 1 2 a].

Comb. 1829 W. ELLIS *Polyn. Res.* II. 298 A wrought-iron nail. . four inches long. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2823/2 *Wrought-iron Furnace*. . . [a] puddling-furnace. 1885 'MRS. ALEXANDER' *At Bay* xi, Great old wrought-iron gates.

c. Of metal-work: Made by hammering or hand-work (in contrast to *cast*).

1807 W. IRVING *Salmag.* xii, His learned distinctions between wrought scissors and those of cast-steel. 1810 in *Ure Dict. Arts* (1839) 875 Cut nails are full as good as wrought nails. 1849 RUSKIN *Sev. Lamps* ii. §20 Ornaments . . of cast-iron . . are always distinguishable, at a glance, from wrought and hammered work. 1883 W. D. CURZON *Manuf. Worcs.* 2 The wrought work of ploughs and . . blacksmiths' work of all kinds.

†5. *transf.* Worked up; rough; agitated. *Obs.* 1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholas's Voy.* II. iii. 33 The wind still continuing . . and the seas sore wrought. 1603 KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 368 The billows of a wrought sea. 1604, 1702 [see HIGH-WROUGHT a. 1].

6. a. Of coal: Hewn from the bed or seam; won. 1708 J. C. *Compl. Collier* (1845) 28 The Horse Engin . . serves . . to draw up the Wrought Coals. 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-mining* 295 *Wrought coal*, etc., worked or gotten. b. Dug; moved by digging, etc.

1903 *Blackw. Mag.* Feb. 222/1 As the shelving banks close in there is a smell of the wrought earth.

7. Of animals: Employed in labour; worked. 1725 *Fam. Dict.* s.v. Ox, Wrought Oxen in the Seasons they are put to labour, ought to be fed with Care.

II. With adverbs. 8. *wrought-off*, worked off; printed.

1683 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.*, *Printing* xxii. ¶7 He uses one of the Wrought-off Forms. 1771 LUCKOMBE *Hist. Print.* 409 Then we impose from wrought-off Forms. 1838 TIMPERLEY *Printers' Man.* 114 Wrought-off heaps [of paper].

9. *wrought-up*, stirred up; excited or stimulated; enlivened.

1810 CRABBE *Borough* xv. 67 He knew . . How to make all the passions his allies, And . . To watch the wrought-up heart, and conquer by surprise. 1823 MRS. HEMANS *Siege of Valencia* i, The deep . . feelings wakening at their voice, Claim all the wrought-up spirit to themselves. 1828 LYTTON *Pelham* III. xi, Excited as I had been by my painful and wrought-up interest in his recital. 1962 AUDEN *Dyer's Hand* (1963) 508 Whereupon we are shown Antony talking to his friends in a wrought-up state of self-dramatization and self-pity.

wrought, pa. t. and pa. pple. of WORK v.

wrought(e, erron. ff. *rougt*, obs. pa. t. of REACH v.¹

wroughte, var. WROOT sb. *Obs.*

wrou3t(e), wrouht(e), wrout, etc.: see WORK v.

'wroughtier. *Cant.* (See quot.)

1870 B. HEMYNG *Out of the Ring* 31 The Welshers' Vocabulary. . . *Broad pitcher*, a man playing the three cards. *Wroughtier*, the man who plays them. *Ibid.* 33, 35.

wrout, v. Now *dial.* [var. of WROOT v.: cf. ROUT v.⁸] *intr.* = WROOT v. I.

1530 in *Ancestor* XI. (1904) 183 Crest a boore silver wrouting in a bushe of nettelles vert. 1530 PALSGR. 786/1, I wroote, or wroute, as a swyne dothe, *je fouille du museau*. 1565 *Satir. Poems Reform.* i. 355 Ledd with th' affection, th' onlie Springe and Roote, that all godlie Government clerelie wroutethe owte. 1624 SANDERSON *Two Serms.* (1628) 46 Like Swine . . we grouze vp the ake-cornes, and . . lie wrouting & thrusting our noses in the earth for more. 1825-63 in *dial. glossaries* (N. Cy., Nhp., Dorset) s.v.

wrow(e, obs. varr. WRAW a.

wrox (rdks), v. Now *dial.* Also 7 wroxse, 9 *dial.* rox. [Of obscure origin.]

1. *trans.* To cause to decay or rot.

1649 BLITHE *Eng. Improver* vi. 34 So cut the Turfe, that the Soard may have all the Winters frost to wroxse, and moulder it. *Ibid.* xx. 119 For your Horse Dung . . let it be but well Wroxed or Roten.

2. *intr.* To decay, rot. *dial.*

1847 HALLIWELL, *Wrox*, to begin to decay. *Warw.* 1854-1890 in *dial. glossaries* (Nhp., Leics., Warw., Gloucs.) s.v. *Rox*.

wroye(r, varr. WRAY v.¹, WRAYER *Obs.*

†wru^{ck}, v. *Obs. rare*—1. [Of obscure relationship. Cf. RUCK v.³] *trans.* To throw up on shore; to cast ashore.

? a 1600 *Arthur & King of Cornwall* 187 (Percy Fol. MS.), One little booke He found . . at the sea-side, Wru^{ck}ed upp in a floode.

wru3en, wruhen, obs. pa. t. pl. of WRY v.¹

wruhte, obs. f. WRIGHT sb.¹

†w^{ru}ng, sb. *Obs.*—1 [f. *w^{ru}ng*, pa. pple. of WRING v.] An affection in horses caused by straining of the withers.

1627 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Navy Land Ships* C6b, The Blood-shot, the W^{ru}ng in the Withers, the straine.

w^{ru}ng: see RUNG sb., WRING v., WRONG.

w^{ru}ng (rʌŋ), ppl. a. Also 4-5 wrongun, -en, 5 wronge, 6 wrong. [pa. pple. of WRING v.]

1. a. Subjected to wringing, twisting, or squeezing; pressed, squeezed.

1382 WYCLIF *Num.* xxiv. 10 Balac wrooth a3en Balaam, with wrongun hoondis seith [etc.]. a 1548 HALL *Chron.*, *Hen. VIII*, 51 The handes of the sayd Hun were wrong in the wristes, wherby we perceyved that his handes had been bounde. 1611 FLORIO, *Torrefeciole*, the dregges of wrung

Grapes. 1678 RYMER *Trag. Last Age* 82 The Nurse with wrung hands lies at Phedra's feet.

(b) With out.

1976 *Times* 26 Jan. 12/4 Feeling like 60 wrung-out dishrags we stumbled out. 1979 P. WALLAGE *Restoration Post-War Cars* ii. 26/2 Wiping it off with a wrung-out cloth.

b. *transf.* Of fabrics: (see quot. 1904).

1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 12 March 2/2 An overdress of green wrung chiffon. 1904 *County Gentleman* 25 June 1966/3 Wrung muslin is the smartest fabric for tea-gowns. . . [It] looks as if it had been washed and had been wrung through the hands.

†2. Of a towel. *Obs.*—1

Meaning not clear; app. opposed to *plain*.

1475 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 155, ij schorte Wronge Towellys. It[em], ij longe Playne Towellys.

3. a. That has suffered or undergone distress, grief, or pain; racked, distressed.

1730 THOMSON *Winter* (ed. 2) 289 The tender anguish nature shoots Thro' the wrung bosom of the dying man. 1817 MOORE *Lalla R.* III. 365 Death had . . taken thy wrung spirit home. 1841 JAMES *Brigand* xxv, The refuge of many a wrung and broken heart.

b. Marked by distress, worry, or pain.

1862 MRS. H. WOOD *Mrs. Hallib. Troub.* III. xix, His face . . wore a wrung expression. 1882 MRS. RAVEN'S *Temptation* II. 188 Her nervous and wrung appearance.

c. *w^{ru}ng out*: completely exhausted.

1962 A. LURIE *Love & Friendship* iv. 68 Say, you do look kinda peaked. . . Not real bad, just kinda wrung out. 1975 *New Yorker* 29 Dec. 15/2 Although she caromed around her office there at enormous speed, she claimed to be 'wrung out'.

Hence 'w^{ru}ngness.

a 1875 J. HINTON in *Hopkins Life & Lett.* (1878) 273 There are two things awry; . . the acting for self (a distinct tension and w^{ru}ngness); and [etc.].

†w^{ru}ng-head, erron. f. RUNG-HEAD. *Obs.*

1711 W. SUTHERLAND *Shipbuild. Assist.* 165 *W^{ru}ng-heads*, that part between the Floor-timber Head and second Foot-hook Heel, which, if a Ship lies on the Ground, bears the greatest Strain. [Hence in *Rees' Cycl.*, *Smyth Sailor's Word-bk.*, etc.]

†w^{ru}ng-staff, obs. var. WRING-STAFF.

1846 YOUNG *Naut. Dict.* 372 *W^{ru}ng-Staff*, *W^{ru}ng-Staff*.

w^{ru}sum, w^{ru}tt, obs. varr. WORSUM, WROOT v.

†w^{ru}xled, pa. pple. *Obs. rare*. [Obscure: relationship to WRIXLE v. is not clear.]

13.. *E.E. Allit.* P. B. 1381 A wonder wro3t walle w^{ru}xled ful hize. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 2191 Wel biseme3 pe wy3e w^{ru}xled in grene Dele here his deuocioun.

wry (rai), sb. Also 5-6 wrye. [f. WRY v.² or a.]

†1. *on* or *upon* wry, = AWRY *adv.* *Sc. Obs.*

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* IV. 705 Thair bemys strekit air, Owthir all evin, or on wry. 1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* lxxiii, To the colde stone my hede on wrye I laid. 1508 DUNBAR *Flyting* 175 (Maitland Fol. MS.), With hingit luik ay wallowand vpone wry. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) III. 482 Scho. . . turnis hir face and luikis vpone wry.

2. A twisting or tortuous movement.

1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Country Farme* VII. xxii. 674 The bitch being much less than the dogge. . . may haue some aduantage . . and so in turnes, slips, and wries, may get much ground. 1654 VILVAIN *Epit. Ess.* v. xliii, The Sea flows and ebbs with crooked wry.

3. Distortion caused by refraction. *rare*—1.

1869 BLACKMORE *Lorna D.* vii, You make full sure to prog him [sc. a loach] well, in spite of the wry of the water.

wry (rai), a. and *adv.* Also 6 wrye, 6-7 wrie, 6 wrey. [f. WRY v.² Cf. *prec.* and AWRY *adv.* and a.]

A. *adj.* 1. a. Of the features, neck, etc.: Abnormally deflected, bent, or turned to one side; in a contorted state or form; distorted.

1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. xi. 4b/2 Henry Erle of Lancastre with the wrye necke, called Torte colle. c 1530 *Crt. of Love* 1162 For they their members lakked, fote and hand, With visage wry and blind. 1542 ELYOT, *Mirionis*, men hauynge wry mouthes. a 1613 OVERBURY *Characters, Flatterer*, Hee will halt or weare a wrie necke. a 1637 B. JONSON *Horace, Art Poet.* 52 With faire black eyes and haire, and a wry nose. 1663 *Unfort. Usurper* I. iii. 6 In wry-neck'd Nero's Court, a wry-neck was the mode. 1705 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4097/4 He likewise cures Hair Lips and Wry Necks. 1798 FERRIAR *Illustr. Sterne*, etc. 138 Some of the disqualifications for priest's orders were . . wry-noses [etc.]. 1819 *Rees' Cycl.* XXXVIII. s.v., A remedy for wry-necks. 1860 A. LEIGHTON *Trad. Scot. Life* 224 The round cheek and wry lip, betokening his love of fun. 1861 GEO. ELIOT *Silas M.* i, Their dreadful stare could dart cramp, or rickets, or a wry mouth at any boy.

b. Temporarily twisted, contorted, or writhed by reason or in manifestation of disrelish, disgust, or the like. Freq. in the phr. *to make (draw, pull) a wry face* or *mouth* (*wry faces* or *mouths*).

1598 R. BERNARD tr. *Terence, Eunuch* IV. iv, Howe the hangman makes a wric mouth. 1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* v. ii, The bitter bob in wit; the Reuerse in face or wry-mouth. 1611 [see WRY-FACED a.]. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Olearius' Voy. Ambass.* 208 Causing . . a certain Buffoon . . to make wry-faces and shew a thousand postures. 1697 VANBRUGH *Relapse* (1708) Pref., Saints . . with screw'd Faces and wry Mouths. 1712 SWIFT *Jrnl. to Stella* 17 June, Flap your hand, and make wry mouths yourself. 1760 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* III. x, With a wry face . . [he] read aloud, as follows. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* v. i, [He] made a wry face, and returned it. 1783 [see WRIGGLING ppl. a. 2]. 1802 BEDDOES *Hygieia* III. 55 Hardly daring to draw a wry face at any thing offered them. 1839 DICKENS *Nickleby* viii, Making a variety of wry mouths indicative of anything but satisfaction. 1876 MISS

BROUGHTON *Joan* I. i, Physic to be quickly swallowed with wry face. 1884 MRS. C. PRAED *Zéro* xiii, Each guest drank, made a wry face.

c. Of a smile, etc.: Made with a twisting of the features expressing dislike or distaste; 'twisted'.

1883 D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* xxvi, He only shook his head with a wry smile and declined a verbal answer. 1899 E. W. HORNING *Dead Men* xviii, He turned to me with a wry smile.

2. a. That has undergone twisting, contortion, or deflexion; wrung out of shape; twisted, crooked, bent.

1552 HULOET, Wrye, or disfourmed, or out of fashion, *distortus*. 1561 HOLLYBUSH *Hom. Apoth.* 6b, The membre becommeth lame and wrye. 1594 CAREW *Huarte's Exam. Wits* viii. (1596) 113 Such . . men . . take dislike at any one wry plait of their garment. a 1613 OVERBURY *Characters* Wks. (1890) 50 Her wrie little finger bewraies carving. 1622 R. PRESTON *Godly Man's Inquis.* 47 Peter was shent for walking with a wry foote to the Gospell. 1751 F. COVENTRY *Pompey the Little* II. xiii. 241 A wry Plait in the Sleeve of his Shirt. 1851 *Lond. Phil. Mag.* Feb. 133 The two pairs of planes, into which the wry quadrilateral was divisible. 1880 MEREDITH *Tragic Com.* (1881) 79 The timbers of their huts lean to an upright in wry splinters.

transf. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Feb. 28 For Age and Winter accord full nie, This chill, that cold; this crooked that wrye. 1776 DA COSTA *Elem. Conchol.* 211 The gutter or beak . . bends or falls on the back, in a wry manner. 1895 *Pall Mall G.* 25 Oct. 5/1 Their chanting in church is so wry that it makes you start.

b. Deflected from a straight course; inclined or turned to one side. Also in fig. context. *wry look*, one expressive of displeasure or dislike. So *wry twist* (of the features).

1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* xviii. 330, I take to witness the happiest Courtiers that are, whether one wrye looke of their Prince do not sting them more at the heart, than [etc.]. 1613 W. BROWNE *Brit. Past.* I. ii. 712 As Tavy . . among the woods doth wander, Losing himself in many a wry meander. 1615-6 BOYS *Wks.* (1630) 183 If he run in wrie-wayes and bye-wayes, the more his labour. 1719 ATTERBURY *Serm.* (1734) II. 77 Every wry Step, by which he imagines himself to have declined from the Path of Duty. 1748 COWPER *Verses written at Bath* 28 Flat'ning the stubborn clod, till cruel time, . . on a wry step, Sever'd the strict cohesion. 1755 JOHNSON, *Contortion*, . . twist; wry motion; flexure. 1857 DICKENS *Dorrit* I. xxx, Here he . . said to the stranger with his wryest twist upon him, 'Your commands'. 1864 C. GEIKIE *Life in Woods* v. 75 My eldest brother . . had cast many wry looks at the thick logs. 1872 GIBBON *For the King* xxii, His features gave a wry twist.

fig. a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* Wks. 1922 II. 226 Sometimes for her newes of my selfe to tell I go about, but then is all my best Wry words, and stam'ring, or els doltishe dombe.

3. a. Of words, thoughts, etc.: Contrary to that which is right, fitting, or just; aberrant, wrong; cross, ill-natured.

1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* II. iii, He's one, I would not haue a wry thought darted against. 1643-5 MILTON *Divorce* II. iii, Thus were [they] . . wont to thinke, without any wry thoughts cast upon divine governance. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Josephus, Antiq.* VIII. v. (1733) 220 All this together, might have aton'd for a wry word or two. 1759 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* I. iv, Which strange combination of ideas . . produced more wry actions than all other sources of prejudice. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xv, Art thou not a hasty coxcomb, to pick up a wry word so wrathfully? 1856 G. H. BOKER *Betrothal* I. i, Why this argument? I have heard ten thousand . . yet never Knew one wry notion straightened by them all. 1886 SPURGEON *Treas. Dav.* Ps. cxxxiii. *Introd.*, In this psalm there is no wry word.

†b. Of persons: Perverse, cross. *Obs.*—1

1649 ROBERTS *Clavis Bibl.* 190 With pure, thy self-thou-pure-wilt-show; And with the froward, wilt-be-wry.

c. Wrested; perverted; distorted.

1663 BUTLER *Hud.* I. ii. 431 He was . . Next Rectifier of wry Law. a 1732 ATTERBURY (J.), He mangles and puts a wry sense upon protestant writers. 1896 MRS. CAFFYN *Quaker Grandmother* 290 Poor boy, he meant, what seemed to his wry mind, honestly towards you!

4. Marked or characterized by perversion, unfairness, or injustice.

1561 NORTON & SACKV. *Gorboduc* I. i, My lordes, be playne, without all wry respect Or poysonous craft to speake in pleasyng wise. 1593 Q. ELIZ. *Boeth.* IV. pr. v. 89 When cheefely geayle, lawe & oother tormentes . . be turnd in wry sorte, & wickedest payne doo presse good men. 1851 GLADSTONE *Glean.* (1879) VI. xlii. 29 By influence individuals of a class will be powerful here and there, under any system, however cross and wry.

B. *adv.* In an oblique manner, course, or direction; awry.

1575 A. FLEMING *Virg. Bucol.* IV. 12 Vnto thee, O childe, y^e ground . . First offerings yuie wandring wrye [L. *errantes hederas*], in euerye place shall yead. 1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. ii. 1070 In these doubts much rather rest had I, Then with mine error draw my Reader 'wry. 1614 — *Parl. Vertues Royall* 706 A fair Ship . . wants . . A skillfull Pilot, . . That never wry shee sail. 1721 BAILEY, *Wry*, . . on one side, not straight. 1886 S.W. *Linc. Gloss.* 169 It's not very pleasant, when things all go wry.

C. *Comb.*, as *wry-angled*, -eyed, -guided, -legged, -looked, -toothed; *wry-blown*; *wry-formed*, -set.

1593 in Tytler *Hist. Scot.* (1864) IV. 212 A seduced king, . . and wry-guided kingdom. 1602 *Withals' Dict.* 286/2 That is crooke-footed, or wry-legged. 1604 F. T. *Case is Altered* Cij b, There was an old man . . stumpe-footed, wry-bodied, gagge-toothed, slandering-tongue. 1648 J. QUARLES *Fons Lachrym.* 34 There is no . . wry-look'd enemy T'upbraid thy actions. 1845 YOUATT *Dog* IV. 103 A small breed of wry-legged terriers. 1883 *Longm. Mag.* Aug. 381 The wry-eyed, spectacled schoolmaster. 1883 STALLYBRASS tr. *Grimm's*

Teutonic Myth. III. 1075 Wry-toothed . . beldams. 1897 H. N. HOWARD *Footsteps Prosperpine* 16 The sea-brine beats on the wry-blown toft. 1905 A. T. SHEPPARD *Red Cravat* II. vii. 120 Their outlines . . of twisted chimneys, wry-set doors. 1906 HARDY *Dynasts* II. v. vi. 781 What lewdness lip those wry-formed phantoms there? 1937 Wry-angled [see *mountain-roofed* a. s.v. MOUNTAIN 7e].

b. Special combs.: wry-bill, the wry-billed plover (*Anarhynchus frontalis*), native to New Zealand; wry-billed a., having a bill deflected to one side (see prec.); † wry-neb, a curvirostral fossil animal; † wry-stroke fig. (see quot.); wry-tail, a deformity in poultry, characterized by deflexion of the tail to one side.

1896 NEWTON *Dict. Birds* 1053 *Wrybill, *Anarhynchus frontalis*, [is] one of the most singular birds known, peculiar to New Zealand. 1873 SIR W. L. BULLER *Birds N.Z.* 216 *Anarhynchus frontalis*, *Wry-billed Plover. 1889 PARKER *Catal. N.Z. Exhib.* 116 (Morris), The curious wry-billed plover. . . [is] the only bird . . in which the bill is turned . . to one side—the right. 1708 *Phil. Trans.* XXVI. 78 *Curvirostra*, the *Wry-neb. 1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* VI. vi. §4 A Prior without a Posterior having none . . after him to succeed in his place. We behold him only as the *wry-stroak given in by us out of courtesie, when the game was up before. 1886 L. WRIGHT *Illustr. Bk. Poultry* 201 *Wry-tail . . is in many cases owing to spinal causes, and in all such should be ruthlessly stamped out.

wry (rai), *v.*¹ *Obs. exc. dial.* Forms: *Inf.* (and *Pres. stem*). 1 wreon, 3 wreoen, 5 wrene, wre; 1 wryon, 3 wri(h)en, 4 wryen, 5 wrine, wryne, wryyn; 3 wreie, wrihe, 4 wrig-, 4-5 wrye, wrie, wri, 4-9 wry. *Pa. t.* 1 wrah, wreah, 3 wreje, 3-4 wreih, 4 wreyh, wreighe, wreygh, wrei, wrey, wray; *pl.* 1 wrigon, wrugon, 2-3 wrujen, 3 wruhen, 3 wrizen, wrien, 4 wrejen, wreghen. *Pa. pple.* 1 wrigen, wrogen, 4 wrien, wryen, wrin; 3 wrizen, 3-4 i-, 4 ywrien, ywryen; 3-5 i-, 4-5 ywrie, ywry(e, 3 iwröje, 4 ywryje, 4-5 ywrije; 4 wrize, 4-5 wrye, 5 wrie; 3-4 wreon, 4 wreizen, 3 wreje, 4 y-, iwröje; 4-5 wreygh, wreighe, wrye. *Weak pa. t.* and *pple.* 4-5 wryed, wried, 4 wryde, 6 wride. [OE. *wreón* (pa. t. *wráh*, *wréah*, *pl.* *wrigon*, *wrujon*, pa. pple. *wrigen*, *wrogen*), *wrion*, **wrihan* (ONorthumb. *wriða*), = NFris. *wreye*, OHG. **rihan* (in *intrihan*, *inrihan*, 'revelare'). Cf. BEWRY *v.*¹, OVERWRY *v.*, UNWRY *v.*]

† 1. *trans.* To lay, place, or spread a cover over (something); to overlay with some covering; to cover up or over. *Obs.*

c950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark xiv. 65 Ongunnun summe efnegeaspitta. . . hine & . . wriga onsiour his. c1205 *LAY.* 27859 þe while he wurchen lette . . . ane cheste longe And wreon heo al mid golde. a1225 *Ancr. R.* 58 Uorpi was ihoten a Godes half . . þet put were euer iwrien. c1275 *LAY.* 7781 þe toppe [of a tower] mihte wreie on cniht mid his cope. c1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 56 Ther is neither busk nor hay In May that it nyl shrouded bene And it with newe leues wrene. c1386 — *Knt.'s T.* 2046 The maister strete That sprad was al with black and wonder hie Right of the same is the strete ywrye. c1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 348 With marbil or with tile thy floryng wrie. *Ibid.* XIII. 47 The vessel fild be closid clene or wrie. 1499 *Promp. Parv.* (Pynson) ti b/2, Wryyn or hyllyn, *tego.* a1825 *FORBY Voc. E. Anglia*, Wry, to cover close.

fig. c1412 *HOCCEVE De Reg. Princ.* 1686 þe feend, . . with many a circumstance Ful sly, him castip þe wrappe in & wrye.

b. To cover or rake up (a fire) so as to keep it alive. (Cf. *RAKE v.*¹ 5.) Now *dial.*

Cf. Ovid *Met.* IV. 64 'Quoque magis tegitur, tanto magis aestuat ignis'; also Fr. 'Le feu plus couvert est le plus ardent' (Cotgr. s.v. *Feu*).

c1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* II. 539 Wel þe hottere ben þe gledes rede, That men hym wrien with asshe pale and dede. c1385 — *L.G.W.* 735 *Thisbe*, As wry the glede & hettere is the fyr; Forbede a loue and it is ten so wod. a1895 in *Rye E. Angl. Gloss.* 251.

† 2. To cover (a person) with a garment (or armour); to clothe, attire. Also *refl.* Occas. in fig. context. *Obs.*

a901 ÆLFRED in *Thorpe Laws* I. 52 ðif mon næbbe buton anfeald hrægl hine mid to wreonne oþpe to werianne. c950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xxv. 36 Ic wæs . . . nacod & gie clæddon uel gie wrigon meh. a1000 *Genesis* 1572 þæt he ne mihte . . hine handum self mid hrægle wryon. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2246 Two hundred knyghts al so, Wel ywrie wip þe atyl. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 1148 Wrye me with sum cloþe. c1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* II. 380 Swych loue of frendes regneth al pis town, And wre yow in pat mantel euere mo. c1385 — *L.G.W.* 1201 *Dido*, Dido al in gold & perre wrye. c1400 *Rom. Rose* 6684 Of his hondwerk wolde he gete Clothes to wryne hym.

† b. To put harness on (a horse); to caparison, trap, harness. *Obs.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1281 Mid vif hundred hors iwrie . . þe erl of kent was in a wode him vor to awreke. *Ibid.* 2052, 4076, 4096, etc. 13.. *Sir Beues* (A.) 3761 Beues . . se3 þe strete ful aboute Of stedes wrien [v.r. ytrapped] and armes bri3t. 13.. *K. Alis.* 1606 (Laud MS.), þer men mi3ten quyk yseen Many hors wip trappen wryen. 14.. *Sir Beues* (C.) 4145 + 13 þau3e pat hors were with yren wrye Syr Befyse smote clene a way.

† 3. To cover (a thing, or person) so as to protect, keep warm, or conceal. *Obs.*

a1000 *Genesis* 2170 Ic þe . . wið weana gehwam wreo & scylde folmum minum. a1000 *Riddles* xxvi[i]. 12 Mec [= a book] sippan wrah hæleð hleobordum. a1225 *Ancr. R.* 84 þes fikelares mester is to wrien, & te helien þet gong purl. a1240 *Wohunge* in *O.E. Hom.* I. 279 Alle gate þu hafdes hwer þu mihtes wrihe pine banes. 1340 *Ayenb.* 66 þe þorn-

hog þet ys al wyry3e myd prikynde eles. c1369 CHAUCER *Dethe Blaunche* 627 She is the monstres heed wyryen, As filth over ystrowed with floures. c1386 — *Sompn. T.* 119 Though I him wrye a-nyght and make hym warm. c1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* XIII. 34 From the wynd hem wrie With donge.

refl. c1230 *Hali Meid.* (1922) 66 3ef þu wel wrist te under godes wengen. 13.. *K. Alis.* 2786 With targes, and hurdices, Theo Gregeis heom wryed als the wise. c1330 *Amis & Amil.* 2333 He . . in a bed him dight, And wreighe him wel warm aflight, With clothes. c1400 *Rom. Rose* 6795, I haue . . wel leuer . . wrie me in my foxerie Vnder a cope of paperlardie. c1440 *Jacob's Well* 265 He leyð hym in his bed, . . he wryed hym. 1447 *BOKENHAM Seyntys* (Roxb.) 175 Wyth hir mantyl he [sc. a child] dede hym wrye.

absol. c1440 *Jacob's Well* 140 þe cbylderyn of mannys gettyng vnder þi weengys, god, wrying, In hope schul be gyed.

† b. To conceal or hide (a matter, etc.); to keep secret or unrevealed. *Obs.*

a1000 *Genesis* 876 For hwon wast þu wean & wriht sceome. a1200 *Moral Ode* 160 in *O.E. Hom.* I. 169 Al scal þer bon þanne unwron, þet men wru3en her and helen. a1225 *Ancr. R.* 84 Mid his preisunge [he] heleð & wrihð mon his sunne. a1275 *Ibid.* 420 (MS. Cott. Cleop.), Wrihen ha schal hire scheome, as sunful Eue dohter. c1320 *Cast. Love* 918 God . . nom of hire his monbede þowr whom he wrey his Godhede. 1340 *Ayenb.* 61 Huanne þe blondere . . excuseþ and wryeþ þe kueades and þe zennes of bam. c1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* IV. 1654 God, to whom þer nys no cause ywrye. 1387-8 *T. Usk Test. Love* II. v. (Skeat) 1. 102 He wryeth moche venim with moche welth. 1412-20 *LYDG. Chron. Troy* I. 1813 For al þe foule schal couertly be wried, bat no defeaute outward be espied. c1460 *Wisdom* 862 in *Macro Plays* 63 With þe crose & þe pyll I xall wrye yt. a1500 *Ragman Roll* 157 (MS. Bodl. 638, fol. 217 b), Though they her malice inwarde keuyr & wrye.

refl. c1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* I. 329 And ay of louses seruantz euery while, Hym-self to wre, at hem he gan to smyle.

† c. To disguise (a person). *Obs. rare*—1.

1567 *GOLDING Ovid's Met.* v. 61 b, The Gods . . were faine themluses to hide In forged shapes. . . loue the Prince of Gods was wried In shape of Ram.

† 4. Of things: To serve as a covering to (a person or thing); to be spread or extended over.

a1000 *Genesis* 1386 Flod ealle wreah . . hea beorgas. c1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 242 Sio filmen þi peccende & wreonde þa wambe & þa innoferan. a1200 *Vices & Virtues* 95 De faste hope hafð hire stede up an heih, for ði hie is rof and wrið alle ðe hire bieð beneðen. a1225 *Ancr. R.* 150 þe rinde, þet wrih [v.r. wrið] hit, þet is þe treouwes warde. *Ibid.* 390 þis scbed þet wreih his Godhed was his leoue licome. 1340 *Ayenb.* 167 Vor þet is þe sseld of gold . . þet him wri3p of eche half ase zayp þe sauter. 1447 *BOKENHAM Seyntys* (Roxb.) 143 In . . Februarye . . Whan frost & cold þe erthe doth wrye. 1642 D. ROGERS *Naaman* 581 Even as the bed . . that is so narrow, that it will not wry them warme.

† b. To cover or stretch over (an expanse of ground). *Obs.*

c1205 *LAY.* 5192 Weoren þa hulles and þa dæles iwri3en mid þan dæden. *Ibid.* 17349 þa Irisce fullen & wri3en al þa felde. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 4049 Of Sarrazins . . was wrin al þe feld. c1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 1764 (Kölbung), To Winchester þai gun spede Wip so michel pople of men, þat þai wre3en don & den. 13.. *K. Alis.* 1992 (Laud MS.), Alisaunder þi foo . . Liggeþ now, wip swiche preye, þat he wri3eþ [v.r. wrieth] al þe contreye.

wry (rai), *v.*² Forms: 1 wrigian, 3-5 wrien, 4-5 wryen (5 wryn), 4-7 wrie, 4-6 wrye, 5- wry; 5 wrey(e, *Sc.* 6 vrey (8 wray), 9 wree. [OE. *wrigian*

to strive, move or go forward, tend, wend (= OFris. *wrigia* to bend, stoop), perh. related to LG. *wriggen* (see WRIG *v.*, and cf. BEWRY *v.*²).]

I. *intr.* † 1. a. To move, proceed, or go; to turn, wend. (Only OE.) *Obs.*

c888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxv. §1 þeah þu teo hwelcne boh ofdune to þære orþan . . swa þu hine alæst, swa sprincð be up & wri3að wið his gecyndes. a1000 *Riddles* xxi[i]. 5 Hlafor min [= master of the plough] on woh færeð, weard æt steorte, wri3að on wonge.

† b. To have a particular or specified tendency, disposition, or inclination; to incline. *Obs.*

c888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxv. §1 Swa deð ælc gesceaft; wri3að wið his gecyndes. c1250 *Will & Wit* 7 in *O.E. Misc.* 192 Hwenne so wil to wene wrieð. 13.. *Erthe upon Erthe* 42 Wanne . . eorpe toward eorpe þow coueetise wryeþ. c1400 *Pilgr. Soule* (Caxton, 1483) IV. xxx. 78 He wylle cheuysse hym suche counceyll as he troweth wylle wryen to his purpoos. c1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* II. (1869) 114 Forj wole þat þe tale be turned ooper weys, . . pat it turne . . wryinge to my wurshipes. 1549 *COVERDALE Eras. Par. James* v. 39 b, The fore tokens of a mynde that wryeth downe vnto desperacyon. 1581 *PETTIE tr. Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* I. (1586) 23, I mean those, who though sprinkled with some imperfections, yet wrie rather to the good, then the euill.

† 2. Of persons: To move or go, to swerve or turn, *aside*, *away*, or *awayward*. Also in fig. context.

c1310 in *Wright Lyr. P.* xv. 48 þat feyre . . wriep awey as hue were wroht. c1386 CHAUCER *Miller's T.* 97 With hir heed sche wryed fast away. 1426 *AUDELAY Poems* 18 To the worship of this world thai wryn fro me away. c1450 *Mirk's Festial* I. 112 3et 3e wryeth away and gruced to come to me. 1523 *Ld. BERNERS Froiss.* I. cxlvi. 176 Tban the kyng wryed away fro hym, and commaunded to sende for y hangman. 1534 *MORE Conf. agst. Trib.* I. Wks. 1162/1 Of wickednes they wrie awaye and . . turne to theyr fleshe for helpe.

† b. In similar use without adverb. *Obs.*

c1400 26 *Pol. Poems* 26 3if she grucche wip þe to rage, And away fro the wole wrye. c1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 1352 The steward saw that, and did wry, And drew him som dele aside. c1440 *York Myst.* xxx. 7 That wrecche may not wrye fro my wrekis. a1500 *Hist. K. Boecus & Sydracke* (? 1510) Sij, He that clymeth ouer hie May happe somtyme to wrye.

1581 A. HALL *Iliad* III. 56 Paris wried at last, and so the blowe did shunne. 1596 *DAVIES Orchestra* lxiii, As when a Nymph . . Leadeth a daunce . . she wries to euery hand And euery way doth course the fertile plaine. 1621 SANDERSON *Serm. ad Pop.* IV. ¶ 3 Like a young unbroken bing that hath metal, and is free, but is ever wrying the wrong way.

fig. 1581 T. HOWELL *Deuises* G ij b, How fayned friends do fayle, if fate doe wrye. 1593 Q. ELIZ. *Beeth.* I. met. i. 2 O with how defe eare she from wretched wries.

† c. fig. To deviate or swerve from the right or proper course; to go wrong, to err. Also with advs., as *amiss*, *aside*. *Obs.*

c1369 CHAUCER *Dethe Blaunche* 627 An ydole of false purtraiture Is she, for she woll sone wrien [v.r. varien]. 1399 *LANGL. Rich. Redeles* II. 84 þat no manere mede shulde make him wrye, For to trien a trouthe be-twynne two sidis. 1426 *AUDELAY Poems* 47 He . . wrys away fro Godys word to his wykydnes. *Ibid.* 50 Wry not fro Godis word. 1548 *PATTEN Exped. Scotl.* Pref. c v, If ye . . wilfully wrye so far from hys truth. a1557 *MRS. M. BASSET tr. More's Treat. Passion* M.'s Wks. 1365/2 Yf we of oure owne frowardnes wrye not a contrary way, but be readye . . to folowe hys most blessed will. 1568 T. HOWELL *Arb. Amitie* (1879) 40 How much a man the greater is, By his Offence that wries amisse. 1611 *SHAKS. Cymb.* v. i. 5 How many Must murder Wives much better then themselves For wrying but a little? 1632 *SANDERSON Serm.* II. 27 By wrying aside in some one or a few particulars, he may . . offend the Lord. 1634 *Ibid.* I. 63 These wry too much on the right hand, ascribing to the holy scripture such a kind of perfection as it cannot have.

† 3. Of things: To turn aside or obliquely; to undergo deflexion, twisting, or bending; to bend, wind; to turn from side to side.

c1374 CHAUCER *Troylus* II. 906 þe sonne Gan . . downward for to wrye. c1400 *Beryn* 2791 Then shalt powe se an entre, . . Thouze it be streyt to fore, . . It growth more & more, & as a dentour wryithe. c1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 347 Thi somer hous northest & west let wrie. c1450 *Ludus Coventrie* 229 þe patthe be-twyn bothyn þat may not wry Schal be hope and drede to walke in perfectly. 1553 M. Wood tr. *Gardiner's True Obedience* 49 b, The decayed partes of their power (whose building . . hath wried on the one side long ago). 1565 B. GOOGE tr. *Palingenius' Zodiac* VII. Y v b, Perchaunce . . The liuely spirite enclose . . doth wrye as best it may, And striuing long through passage smal doth get at length away. 1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* v. xii, The first [part of the brain] with divers crooks and turnings wries.

† b. Of a horse: To hold the head or neck to one side. *Obs.*—1

1610 *MARKHAM Masterp.* I. xxxvi. 70 Holding his necke awry; . . The cure is to let him bloud . . on the contrary side to that way he wryeth.

4. To contort the limbs, features, etc., as from pain or agony; to wriggle; to undergo twisting or turning; = WRITHE *v.*¹ 10 b.

1340-70 *Alex. & Dind.* 660 He was wrap ful i-wrouht & wried in angur. a1400 *Minor Poems* fr. *Vernon MS.* 338/381 On þe hed punne [him] bard, þat he go wryying penneward. *Ibid.* 477/46 þe fisch . . wroþly wriep on þe Crok. 1493 *Festiyvall, Four Sermons* 21/2 As a galled horse that is touched on the sore wyncheth & wryeth. 1580 *BLUNDEVIL Art of Riding* III. xxii. 50 b, How to correct that Horse, which will mowe or wrie with his mouth. c1590 J. STEWART *Roland Furious* VI, *Poems* (S.T.S.) II. 54 Scho schrinkis, Scho vreyis, Scho vips for vo. a1625 *FLETCHER Woman's Prize* III. i, She . . wryes, and wriggles, As though she had the Itch. 1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 34 He saw the wretchit men Wreein' and wreethin' wi' the pain. 1893 *National Observer* 30 Dec. 165/2 His mouth kept wrying from side to side.

II. *trans.* † 5. To deflect or divert (a person or thing) from some course or in some direction; to cause to turn aside, away, or back. Also *refl.* *Obs.*

a1400 *Partonope* 6865 Of hym they had the victory [in the lists], So sore hir aduersaries dyd they wrye. 1513 *DOUGLAS Æneid* v. xiv. 9 Baith to and fra al did thar nokkis wry [L. *torquent*]. *Ibid.* xi. xiv. 50 Latynis al thar ene about did wry [L. *convertere*]. 1555 *PHAER Arcadia* I. xviii, Our mindes . . from the right line of vertue, are wryed to these crooked shifts. 1620 [G. BRYDGES] *Horæ Subs.* 148 Let not the parties ielousie . . wrest or wry his iudgement in the least degree to preiudice. 1635 *PEMBLE Wks.* 6 Ambition and tyrannie in Churchmen wryed their thoughts . . to the advancement of their owne greatnesse. 1650 *TRAPP Comm. Deut.* xxxiii. 9 Not to be wryed or biased by respect to carnal friends, is a high . . point of self-denial.

† b. To avert (the head, face, etc.); to turn aside or away. *Obs.*

c1400 *Pilgr. Soule* (Caxton, 1483) I. xv. 11 Hit syttheth the nought to wrye away thy face. c1407 *LYDG. Reson & Sens.* 1413 She gan ay hir hede to wrye. a1450 *MYRC Par. Pr.* 776 Sum-what þy face from hyre þou wry. 1513 *MORE Rich. III.* Wks. 70/1 The duke . . wried hys hed an other way. 1560 *ROLLAND Seven Sages* 35 He wryth his face away and his visage. 1581 A. HALL *Iliad* III. 55 Hector from his helmet then his countenance hauing wried, . . the lots did turne. 1611 *SPEED Hist. Gt. Brit.* ix. xix. §22 Buckingham . . wried his face another way. 1655 J. COTGRAVE *Wits Interpr.* (1662) 276 When [he was] pressing for a kiss her head she wried.

† c. To change or alter (one's course). *Obs.*—1

1598 Q. ELIZ. *Plutarch* i. 13 His course . . wryed was to east, the sons arising place.

† 6. To curve, inflect, bend. *Obs.*—1

c1450 *Hymns Virg.* (1867) 122 The rayn bowe iwryyd schalle be.

7. To twist or turn (the body, neck, etc.) round or about; to contort, wring, wrench; to writhe. Also with advs., as † a-doyle.

c1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 285 Wrye not youre nek a doyle as hit were a daw. **1593** [see WRING v. 2, quot. a 1586]. **1598** Q. ELIZ. *Plutarch* xii. 14 Diogines. bak wrying and turning nek in casting on her Looke. **1607** MARKHAM *Cavel*. 1. (1617) 39 If you see her wrie her taile. **1656** EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Advs. fr. Parnass*. 1. (1674) 132 Wrying his Body twise several waies. **1676** HOBBS *Iliad* xvi. 248 Jove . . granted him to save the ships from fire; But at returning safe his neck he wri'd. **1725** *Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Palsey*, Let him be blooded in his Neck-Vein . . on the contrary Side to the Way he wryes his Neck. **1800** LAMB *Let. in Final Mem.* vi. 51 Without much wrying my neck I can see the white sails.

b. To twist out of shape, form, or relationship; to give a twist to; to pull, contort, make wry. Also *fig.* and in *fig.* context.

a1586 SIDNEY *Ps.* xxii. viii, [My] loosed bones quite out of joynt be wried. **1594** DANIEL *Cleopatra* v. ii, In her sinking downe shee wryes The Diadem which . . shee wore. **1594** CAREW *Huarte's Exam. Wits* 281 The heat . . wrieth the proportion of the face. **1665** J. SPENCER *Prodigies* 254 They are a Nose of Wax which may be wry'd to what figure . . Fancy shall impose upon them. **1679** HOBBS *Behemoth* (1840) 217 They are, for the most part, Latin and Greek words, wryed a little at the point, towards the native language. **1686** G. STUART *Joco-ser. Disc.* 41 The Todd will . . wry about the Neck o' th' Cock. **1727** SWIFT *God's Revenge agst. Punning*, The Lord mercifully spared his neck, but as a mark of reprobation wryed his nose. **1842** BROWNING *In a Gondola* 47 Guests by hundreds—not one caring If the dear host's neck were wried. **1855** BAILEY *Mystic*, etc. 69 Some Titianian arm, Whose elbow, jogged by earthquakes, wryed the pole. **1861** SWINBURNE *Queen-Mother* 1. i, I know him by the setting of his neck, The mask is wried there. **1883** R. W. DIXON *Mano* II. iv. 78, I put on those arms which he . . From the dead body had begun to wry.

† **c. fig.** To wrest the meaning of; = WRITHE v. 1 7. *Obs.*

1521 FISHER *Sermon agst. Luther* iv. Dv, Men of fell wyttes . . [who] had the propre fayth to wrye & to torcasse the scriptures. **1548** UOALL, etc. *Erasm. Par. Matt.* xiii. 59b, False Apostles . . whyche wresteth and wryeth by subtyll interpretation, the heavenly doctrine after their lusts. **1564** *Brief Exam.* ***ij, You do wrye this place from his naturall sense. **1631** R. BYFIELD *Doctr. Sabb.* 156 This Alleager . . wryeth the sense. **1649** BP. REYNOLDS *Hosea* vii. 13 Take heed of wresting and wrying that to the corrupt fancies of our owne evill hearts.

† **d.** To pervert. *Obs.*

1563 *Mirr. Mag.*, *Hastings* xlviii, Alas, are counsels wryed to catch the goode. **a1585** MONTGOMERIE *Flying* 754 The thingis I said, gif þow wald now deny, Weining to wry þe veritie with wylis. **a1586** SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. vi, Publique defences neglected; and in summe . . all awrie, and (which wried it to the most wrie course of all) wite abused. **1620** E. BLOUNT *Horæ Subs.* 148 Let not the parties ielousie . . wrest or wry his judgement in the least degree to prejudice.

e. poet. To distort the judgement of; to warp.

1861 SWINBURNE *Queen-Mother* 1. ii, *Hen*. This fool is wried with wine. *Mar.* French air hath nipped his brains.

f. poet. To turn, change, or alter (a colour).

1865 SWINBURNE *Poems & Ball.*, *At Eleusis* 181 Ill slant eyes interpret the straight sun, But in their scope its white is wried to black.

† **8. absol.** = WRING v. 4 c. *Obs. rare*—1.

14. . . *Chaucer's Merch. T.* 341 (Petw. MS.), But I woote best wher wryep my sbow.

9. To twist or distort (the face or mouth), esp. so as to manifest disgust or distaste; = WRITHE v. 5 b. Also *refl.*

a1510 DOUGLAS *K. Hart* II. 96 Her face scho wryit about for propir teyne. **1552** HULOET, Wryinge the mouth in waye of derision, *valgulation*. ? **1554** COVERDALE *Hope of Faithful* (1574) 150 Though ye wry your mouthes at it. **1633** BP. HALL *Hard Texts* 173 Winking with their eyes and wrying their faces at me. **1681** COLVIL *Whigs Supplic.* (1751) 81 He wry'd his mouth, and knit his brows. **1691** MRS. D'ANVERS *Academia* 56 He dare not wry his Mouth to laugh. **a1779** D. GRAHAM *Writ.* (1883) II. 92, I made my eyes to roll, and wryed my face in a frightful manner. **1857** HEAVYSEGE *Saul* (1869) 291 Bitter is bitter, though the lips be not Allowed to wry themselves thereat. **1888** *Sat. Rev.* 1 Dec. 650/1 The tonics . . were bitter enough to wry the palate. **1898** M. HEWLETT *Forest Lovers* xv, She wried her mouth to a smile.

† **10.** To roll, wrap, or wind up. *Obs.*—1

1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 128, I take the seed . . to be a cluster of bubbles wryed up snug.

wry, etc., varr. WRAY v. 1 *Obs.*

wrycche(d, wryche, etc., obs. ff. WRETCH(ED.

wryed, var. WRIED *ppl.* a.

wryer, var. WRAYER *Obs.*

wry-faced, a. (stress variable). [f. WRY a. 2.] Having the face out of line with the neck and chest; also, that has or makes a wry face.

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 14 Antipilus made a very noble one [i.e. picture of a satyr] in a Panthers skin, calling it *Aposcopon*, that is, Wri-faced. **1611** COTGR., *Caravirée*, a wry-mouthed, or wry-faced wench; or one that often makes wry mouthes, or ill fauoured wry faces. **1684** *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1990/4 One of the Robbers was . . Wri-faced and Pock-broken. **1803** FESSENDEN *Poet. Petit.* 87 Each wry-fac'd rogue, and dirty trollop. **1837** DICKENS *Pickw.* xvii, You snivelling, wry-faced, puny villain. **1898** *Westm. Gaz.* 17 Feb. 9/3 A slim, wry-faced man.

transf. **1687** SETTLE *Refl. Dryden* 83 What a wry faced contradiction is here?

wryghe, obs. variant of WRAY v. 1

wryght(e), obs. forms of WRIGHT sb., WRITE v.

'wrying, vbl. sb. 1 *dial.* [f. WRY v. 1 + -ING¹.] (See quot.)

a1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia*, Wrying, covering, of bed-clothes, &c., not of apparel.

wrying ('ram), vbl. sb. 2 [f. WRY v. 2 + -ING¹.] 1. The action of twisting, wringing, or writhing; an instance of this.

1580 BLUNOEVL *Horsemanship, Diseases* clix. 68 b, The taint being made somewhat full, with continuall turning and wrieng of it. **a1586** SIONEY *Arcadia* II. xiv, A certaine wrying I had of my necke. **c1595** CAPT. WYATT *Dudley's Voy.* (Hakl. Soc.) 42 The motion and wryinge of his mouth. **1611** COTGR., *Tortuement*, a crooking, . . wrying, writhing. **1888** G. GISSING *Life's Morning* III. xx. 161 Wilfrid [spoke] with a little wrying of the lips.

† 2. The action of wresting or perverting. *Obs.* **1562** WINJET *Wks.* (S.T.S.) I. 20 We allegeit na thing . . bot sinceirle the expres Word of God, but wrysting, wrying, gloissing, or cloking. **a1598** ROLLOCK *Passion* xxv. (1616) 237 We must not thinke, Brethren, that this is any wrying and wresting of the old Scripture.

† 3. The action of deviating or turning from a course, etc.; straying. *Obs.*

1592 BABINGTON *Notes on Gen.* iii. 10 Wryings and turnings from the matter will not serue, minisings and shiftings before hym were neuer currant. **1604** — *Notes on Exod.* iii. 18 How hard it is to leaue a wonted wrying from the right way. **1879** G. M. HOPKINS *Let.* 9 Apr. (1935) 78 It seems to me to hit the mark it aims at without any wrying.

'wryingly, adv. *rare.* [f. wrying, pres. pple. of WRY v. 2.] In a twisting or writhing manner.

1611 COTGR., *Tortuement*, wryly, . . crookingly, wryingly. *Ibid.*, *Tortueusement*, . . wryingly.

wryly ('raih), adv. Also 6–7 wryly. [f. WRY a. + -LY².] In a wry, oblique, or distorted manner. Frequent in recent use.

1580 HOLLYBANO *Treas. Fr. Tong.*, *Tortuement*, . . wryly, crookedly. **1611** COTGR., *Obliquement*, obliquely, wryly. **1736** AINSWORTH *Lat. Dict.* s.v. *Contorte*. **1848** LANDOR *Imag. Conv.* Wks. I. 16/2 Most of these . . have chewed upon it harshly and wryly. **1893** *Chambers's Jnl.* 18 March 164/2 Mr. Jones smiled wryly.

wry-mouth ('raimaʊθ). [f. WRY a. 1, 1 b + MOUTH sb.]

† 1. (See quot. 1859.) *Obs.*

1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 29 The gall of a wild Cat is very good against the wry mouth. **1859** MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 1283 *Tortura*, . . formerly used for *Spasmus*, chiefly of a part, as of the face or the mouth; wry-mouth.

2. a. *attrib.* = WRY-MOUTHED a. 1. Also *ellipt.*

1652 BENLOWES *Theoph.* VIII. lxxxiv, No wry-mouth squint-ey'd scoff can stay their swift progression. **1655** GAYTON *Bagnal's Ghost* 3 Thick Ling and wry mouth Plaise. **1881** E. P. HOOD *Christmas Evans* iv. 120 Of wry-mouth fiends a wrathful brood.

b. One who has a distorted mouth. **1840** *Penny Cycl.* XVIII. 316/1 [It] had fallen into disuse since the death of Boleslav the Wry-mouth.

3. *U.S. a.* One or other fish belonging to the genus *Cryptacanthodes* of blennioid fishes, and native to the north-western Atlantic. **b.** The electric ray or torpedo (*Cent. Dict.* 1891).

1844 *Amer. Jnl. Sci.* XLVII. 60 *Cryptacanthodes maculatus*, Storer, Spotted Wry-mouth. **1890** *Science* April 212/1 The sea-raven, the rock-eel, and the wry-mouth, which inhabit these brilliant groves, are all colored to match their surroundings.

wry-mouthed, a. (stress variable). [f. WRY a. 1. Cf. prec.]

1. Having a wry mouth.

1552 HULOET, Wrye mouthed men, *miriones*. **1604** F. T. *Case is Altered* Cijb, There was an old man . . bleer-eyed, wry-mouthed, botle nosed, lame-legged. **1616** T. SCOT *Philomylie* A 6 b, They . . wrie-mouth'd Plaise . . did eate. **1618** FLETCHER *Women Pleased* III. ii, A pack of wry-mouth'd mackrel Ladies. **1653** R. SANDERS *Physiogn.* 152 Looking asquint, wry-mouth'd, wry-neck'd. **1776** DA COSTA *Elem. Conchol.* 210 *Buccina Recurvirostra*, . . Wry-mouthed Whelks. **1870** ROSSETTI *Poems*, *Guido Cavalcanti* xxii, That wry-mouthed minx.

fig. **1614** J. TAYLOR (Water-P.) *Nipping Abuses* L4, The wri-mouth'd Crittick. **1620** QUARLES *Jonah* 1487 Daring Presumption, wry-mouth'd Derision, Damned Apostacie.

2. Marked or characterized by contortion of the mouth. Also *transf.*

1624 QUARLES *Sion's Elegies* iii. 21 What flout, what wry-mouth'd scoffe, . . Hath scap'd the furie of my Foemans tongue To doe my simple Innocencie wrong? **1635** — *Embl.* v. v. 34 What soul would not be proud Of wry-mouth'd scorn? **a1699** J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* XIII. ccxxviii, What wry-mouth'd play They us'd, their gentle Savior to flout. **1728** POPE *Dunc.* II. 145 A shaggy Tap'stry, . . Instructive work! whose wry-mouth'd portraiture Display'd the fates her confessors endure. **1748** RICHARDSON *Clarissa* (1768) VIII. 59 Lifting up her rolling eyes, . . with a wry-mouthed earnestness.

wryneck ('raɪnɛk). Also wry-neck. [f. WRY a. 1 + NECK sb.]

1. One or other species of the genus *Lynx* of small migratory scansorial picoid birds; esp. the common species, *Lynx torquilla*, distinguished by its habit of writhing the neck and head.

1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 59/2 *Lynx torquilla*, . . a wrynecke. **1611** COTGR., *Turcot*, . . the little ash-coloured and long-tongued bird, called a Wrynecke. **1676** GREW *Museum, Anat. Stomach* viii. 38 A Young Wryneck . . hath no Crop, and but a small Gullet. **1752** J. HILL *Hist. Anim.* 402 *Jynx*, the wry-neck, . . has a very singular way of twisting it's head about, and bending it's neck; it thence obtained . .

the name . . of the Wry-neck. **1768** PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* I. 181 The Wryneck we believe to be a bird of passage . . It takes its name from a manner it has of turning its head back to the shoulders. **1815** KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* ix. (1816) I. 288 The wryneck and the woodpeckers . . live entirely upon insects. **1839–43** YARRELL *Brit. Birds* II. 152 As the Wryneck makes its appearance here about the same time as the Cuckoo, it has . . acquired the names of Cuckoo's Mate, and Cuckoo's Maid. **1888** NEWTON in *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 652/2 The *Picidæ* [include] . . at least three Sub-families . . The Woodpeckers proper, . . the Piculets, . . and the Wrynecks.

† **b.** An infusorian (see quot.). *Obs.*—1

1769 *Phil. Trans.* LIX. 149 The *Volvox torquilla*, or wry-neck.

2. a. One who has a wry neck.

Earlier versions of quot. 1879 have the form *wrynot*. **1607** R. [CAREW] tr. *Estienne's World Wond.* 300 They learne . . to looke downe to the ground, to counterfeyt wry-necks. **1653** R. SANOERS *Physiogn.* 172 Of them is the Proverb, Never trust a wry Neck. **1656** FLECKNOE *Diarium* 2 And wry-neck they would ask with laughter, What newes 'twas he was hearkning after? **1879** W. HENOERSON *Folk-Lore N.C.* vii. 254 He caps Wryneck, and Wryneck caps the Dule [= Devil].

b. attrib. = WRY-NECKED a. 2.

1586 FERNE *Blaz. Gentry* 129 The wrynecke Earle of Lancaster. **1615** BRATHWAIT *Strappado* (1878) To Rdr., Th' art no wri-neck critick. **1882** *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 255/2 A son . . known as Henry Tort-Col or Wryneck . . This Henry Wryneck died in 1361.

† **c. Cant.** (See quot.) *Obs. rare*—0.

1796 GROSE *Dict. Vulg. T.*, *Wry Neck Day*, hanging day.

3. *Path.* A deformity characterized by contortion of the neck and face, and lateral inclination of the head; stiff-neck; = TORTICOLLIS.

1753 *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl. s.v. *Wry-Necked*, If the Wry-neck proceeds from a contraction of one of the mastoide muscles. **1822–7** *Gooch Study Med.* (1829) IV. 334 This species, therefore, offers us the three following varieties: . . Natural wry-neck . . Spastic wry-neck . . Atonic wry-neck. **1872** T. BRYANT *Pract. Surg.* (1884) II. 345 Wry-neck is an example of this affection [sc. rigid atrophy] due to a contracted sterno-mastoid muscle. **1881** W. RIVINGTON in *Brain* IV. 257 The ordinary form of spasmodic wry-neck.

b. (See quot.) *rare*—0.

1819 REES *Cycl.*, *Wry-neck*, a disease of the spasmodic kind in sheep, in which the head is drawn forcibly to one side. [Hence in WEBSTER (1828–32), and later Dicts.]

wry-necked, a. (stress variable). [f. WRY a. 1. Cf. prec.]

1. Having a wry or crooked neck.

1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* II. v. 30 The vile squealing of the wry-neckt Fife. **1842** BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. II. *Netley Abbey*, A squeaking fiddle and 'wry-neck'd fife'. **1870** ENGEL *Catal. Mus. Instr.* 62 The wry-necked Fife . . The Italians call it *cornetto curvo*.

2. Of persons or animals: Affected with distortion of the neck; having wryneck.

1608 DEKKER *Dead Term* Wks. (Grosart) IV. 39 That aged and reuerend (but wry-necked) sonne of thine. **1653** [see WRY-MOUTHED a. 1]. **a1679** J. WARO *Diary* (1839) 273 Some are wry neckt from the womb. **1705** HICKERINGILL *Priest-cr.* II. Pref. A4 Great Alexander . . (being blind) did love that Wry-neck'd Fool. **1753** *Chambers' Cycl.* Suppl., *Wry-Necked*, a term applied to persons affected with a distortion of the neck. **1844** H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 608 It is almost impossible to bring the head of a wry-necked lamb into the passage of the womb. **1860** GEO. ELIOT *Mill on Fl.* II. v, She preferred the wry-necked lambs.

fig. **1624** HEYWOOD *Captives* III. iii. in *Bullen O. Pl.* IV, This same wryneckt death . . still spoyles all drinkinge, 'tis a thinge I never coold indure. **1647** N. WARD *Simple Cobler* 20 All the squint-ey'd, wry-necked, and brasen-faced Errors that are or ever were of that litter.

Hence wry-'neckedness. *rare*—1.

1881 TAIT in *Nature* XXV. 90 The wry-neckedness of the protecting shell.

wryness ('raɪnɪs). Also 6 wrines, 7 -ness(e, wrynesse. [f. WRY a. + -NESS.]

1. The fact or condition of being wry or distorted; distortion, twisting.

1591 PERCIVALL *Sp. Dict.*, *Tortaded*, crookednes, wrines, *obliquitas*. **1607** TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 107 The waight of a groate thereof . . helpeth the conuulsion and wrynesse of the mouth. **1616** DONNE *Serm.* Wks. 1839 V. 463 This is (*tortuositas serpentis*) the Wryness, the Knottiness, the Entangling of the Serpent. **a1693** *Urquhart's Rabelais* III. xxxi. 256 A perverse Wryness and Convulsion of the Muscles. **1693** EVELYN *De la Quint. Compl. Gard.* I. 35 A large Garden would . . be less pleasing . . if it had . . some visible wryness to disfigure it. **1855** BAIN *Senses & Int.* II. iv. §4 A bitter taste produces wryness and contortion of the mouth. **1857** DICKENS *Dorrit* II. xxvi, The wryness of his face and the uneasiness of his limbs. **1898** MEREIOITH *Later Alexandrian* Poems I. 200 An inspiration caught from dubious hues, Filled him, and mystic wrynesses he chased.

2. *fig.* Deviation from what is regular or normal; obliquity, wrongness.

1633 AMES *Agst. Cerem.* II. 498 Notwithstanding all this weaknesse, and wrynesse of these instances, the Rej. doth so triumph in them. **1648** W. MOUNTAGUE *Devout Ess.* 1. xii. 143 An exploring the rectitude or wrynesse of their behaviours in this particular. **1906** HAROY *Dynasts* II. IV. v, The wryness of the times.

wrypick, erron. f. RYEPECK.

1881 G. D. LESLIE *Our River* 112 The boat is moored by short stout wrypicks. [*Ibid.* 230 A couple of ripicks.]

wrytche, obs. var. WRETCH sb.

wrythe, var. WRETHE sb. *Obs.*; obs. f. WRITHE v.

Wu (wu:). [Chinese *wú*.] Used *attrib.* of a group of Chinese dialects spoken in Shanghai, the south of Jiangsu province, and most parts of Zhejiang province, China. Also *absol.*

1908 M. KENNELLY tr. *Richard's Comprehensive Geogr. Chinese Empire* v. 348 The Ngeu... or Wu Dialects, comprising: 1—The Wenchow dialect. 2—The Ningpo dialect. 3—The Sungkiang or Shanghai dialect. 1943 *China Handbk.* i. 30 The Wu group is spoken south of the Yangtze in Kiangsu... It is characterized by the preservation of the ancient voiced stops as aspirated voiced consonants. 1948 R. A. D. FORREST *Chinese Lang.* xi. 224 The Wu language has in modern times a greater than average hostility to final consonants... Where palatalisation occurs in Wu before a... we regularly find the occlusive beside the fricative. 1964 [see MIN *a.* and *sb.*]. 1977 'S. LEYS' *Chinese Shadows* (1978) ii. 95 The gracious Wu dialect used in south Kiangsu and north Chekiang. 1978 *Whitaker's Almanack* 1979 838/1 The Chinese language has many dialects, Cantonese, Hakka... Wu (Shanghai) and the northern dialect.

wu, wuas, obs. varr. HOW *adv.*, WHOSE.

wucche, var. WHITCH *Obs.*

wuch(e), obs. varr. WHICH.

wud, obs. or dial. f. *would*, pa. t. of WILL *v.*¹

wud(d, wude), obs. or Sc. and dial. ff. WOOD *sb.*¹ and *a.*

wuddie, -y, wuddle, var. WIDDY, WIDDLE.

wudz, obs. f. WOOTZ.

wueke, ME. var. WICK *sb.*¹

|| **Wufan** ('wufan). Also *wu-fan*. [Chinese *wúfān*, f. *wǔ* five + *fān* anti-, against.] Used *attrib.* to designate an official campaign launched in China in 1952 against bribery, tax evasion, theft of state property, skimping on work and cheating on materials, and theft of state economic information.

1956 *Contemporary China* 1955 I. 63 The *wu-fan* movement against the 'five vices' in the private sector: bribing, tax evasion, theft of government property, cheating on government contracts, and stealing economic information from government sources for private speculation. 1966 D. WILSON *Quarter of Mankind* iii. 35 Within a few months the second campaign followed, this time the *wufan* or 'five-antis' movement to root out bribery, tax evasion, theft of state property, theft of state economic secrets and embezzlement in carrying out state contracts. 1966, 1971 [see SANFAN].

wuff (waf), *sb.* [Echoic. Cf. WOOF *sb.*², WOUGH *sb.*, and next.] A low, suppressed bark of a dog. 1824 [CARR] *Craven Gloss* s.v. 1888 'J. S. WINTER' *Boote's Childr.* ii. The 'wuff-wuff' of one or other of the dogs breaking the silence.

wuff (waf), *v.* [Echoic. Cf. WAFF *v.*, WOOF *v.*] *intr.* To bark in a low, suppressed manner.

1851 G. H. KINGSLEY *Sp. & Trav.* v. (1900) 143 That dog, now growling and 'wuffing' in his dreams. 1928 D. H. LAWRENCE *Lady Chatterley's Lover* xii. 197 The dog wuffed softly, slowly wagging her tail. 1932 E. M. BRENT-DYER *Chalet Girls in Camp* vi. 84 'That dog just worships you, Jo.' ... Rufus 'wuffed' joyfully.

wuffer ('wafə(r)). *rare*—¹. [f. WUFF *v.* + -ER¹.] A dog with a loud, deep bark.

1923 D. H. LAWRENCE *Ladybird* 245 The white cool monster was a Siberian steppe-dog. Alexander wondered what the steppes made of such a wuffer.

wugg (wag), *v.* *south. dial.* [dial. *wug, wugg, wo(a)g*, etc., a call to a horse.] *intr.* Of a horse: To move forward; to go on.

1876 BLACKMORE *Cripps* iv. Wugg then, Dobbin! Wun't not go home to-night? 1881 — *Christowell* iii. No man as ever I see yet...hath received the power to make Teddy wugg, when a' hath his nosebag on.

wuke, wulc(h), obs. ff. WEEK *sb.*, WHICH.

wulde, obs. Sc. form of WILD *a.*

† **wulder**. *Obs.* Also 1 *wuldor*, -ur, -er, 3 *Orm*. *wullderr*. [OE. *wuldor*, -ur, -er, a derivative (with *r* suffix) from the stem of Goth. *wulpus*.] Glory; honour.

c825 *Vesp. Psalter* xx. 6 Micel is wuldur his in haelu ðinre. c888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxx. §1 Is pæt ungerisenlic wuldor þisse worulde & swiðe leas. a1200 *Fragm. Ælfric's Gram.*, etc. (1838) 7 þin wombe was pin God, & þin wulder. c1200 *ORMIN* 3379 Si Drihhtin upp inn heoffness ærd Wurrþminnt & loff & wullderr. *Ibid.* 7630 Crist... þarrkeðd iss... till þiss Judewisshe folc Wurrþshipe & eche wullderr.

wulderne, var. WILDERN *Obs.*

wule, obs. f. WHILE, WILL.

wulf, obs. f. WOLF.

wulfenite ('wulfənait). *Min.* [a. G. *wulfenit* (1845), f. the name F. X. von *Wulfen* (1728–1805), Austrian scientist, + -ITE¹ 2b.] 'Molybdate of lead, found in brilliant crystals' (Chester).

1849 J. NICOL *Man. Min.* 385 Wulfenite, *Haidinger*; Molybdate of Lead, *Phillips* [etc.]. 1858 GREG & LETTSOM

Man. Min. 411 Wulfenite... decrepitates when heated. 1883 *Science* I. 609/1 The red varieties of wulfenite.

Wulfilian (wul'filən), *a.* [f. Gothic *Wulfila* Ulfilas (see below) + -IAN.] Of or pertaining to Ulfilas (311–382), missionary, translator of the Bible into Gothic, and inventor of the Gothic alphabet.

1926 G. W. S. FRIEDRICHSEN *Gothic Version Gospels* 144 It is quite clear, however, that this is no Wulfilian text. 1968 *Language* XLIV. 731 Thus there was no confusion between the two graphemes in Wulfilian orthography.

Wulfrunian (wul'frunən). [f. the name of *Wulfrun*, the 10th-century lady of the manor from whose name *Wolverhampton* is derived + -IAN.] An inhabitant of Wolverhampton (see also quot. 1959).

1959 J. W. GODSELL *I was no Lady* iii. 50 My English husband had attended the ancient and exclusive Gothic-arched Wolverhampton Grammar School, thereby becoming a Wulfrunian. 1974 *Times* 12 Nov. 15/7 There are 'self-made' Wulfrunians of many centuries on our roll. 1979 *Times* 26 Nov. 4/6 'Are you proud to live in Wolverhampton? Or do you, when asked where you come from... try to change the subject?' Those are the searching questions that Wulfrunians are being asked by their borough council.

wull, obs. f. WOOL *sb.*; Sc. var. WILL *sb.* and *v.*

wulldcat, Sc. var. WILD CAT.

wullee, var. WELI.

wullen, obs. f. WOOLLEN *a.*

wulpere, var. VOLUPER *Obs.*

wult, Sc. var. VULT *Obs.*

wultre, obs. f. VULTURE.

† **wumme**, *int.* *Obs.* Also 2 *wumē* (3 *wummen*). [App. repr. OE. *wá mē*, f. *wá* WOE *int.* 5 + *mē* ME *pers. pron.* For the vowel cf. *nummor* s.v. NO MORE.] Woe is me!

c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 157 Wume [L. *heu michi*] nu þet min utbiwiste is her swa longe ituped. a1200 *St. Marher.* 13 Wumme lefdi qð he þa: wa is me mine liues. a1225 *Ancr. R.* 158 Wummen [*v.r.* wumme] wo is mc, he seið, þe holi prophete.

wummera, var. WOOMERA.

wummle, dial. f. WIMBLE *sb.*

wummon, obs. f. WOMAN *sb.*

wump (wamp). *slang* (somewhat *rare*). [Origin unknown.] A foolish or feeble person.

1908 [see *motor-bicyclist* s.v. MOTOR *A. sb.* 6]. 1934 R. NICHOLS *Fisbo* 31 Hail to thee, thou much sniffed at by superior Persons and all wowsers, wumps and knock-knees.

wump, var. WHUMP *v.*, WHUMP *sb.* (and *int.*).

wumph (wamf, wumf). [Echoic; cf. WOOMPH *int.* and WHUMP *sb.* (and *int.*)] A sudden deep sound, as of the impact of a soft, heavy object.

1913 *Daily News & Leader* 15 Aug. 5, I was ashamed of the heavy 'wumph' with which I landed on the other side amid the nettles. 1924 *Glasgow Herald* 20 Dec. 4/2 The female [bittern]... sometimes answers back with a subdued but exciting 'wumph'. 1967 *Punch* 3 May 640/1 The whiplash crack from the shock wave of the small fighters we were flying is no guide to the wumph of an airliner weighing up to 300 tons. 1971 'A. DIMENT' *Think Inc.* viii. 141 A deep wumph as the fuel oil... caught fire.

wun, wun', wund, Sc. varr. WIN *v.*, WIND *sb.*

wun, var. WOON

wunde, obs. f. WOUND *sb.*

wunder, obs. f. WONDER *sb.* and *v.*

wunderelle, var. WONDEREL *Obs.*

|| **Wunderkind** ('vundərki:nt). Also *wunder-kind*. Pl. *Wunderkinder*, *wunderkinds*. [Ger., lit. = wonder child.] *a.* A highly talented child, a child prodigy, esp. in music.

1891 G. B. SHAW in *World* 23 Dec. 15/2 Every generation produces its infant Raphaels and infant Rosciuses, and *Wunderkinder* who can perform all the childish feats of Mozart. 1913 W. J. LOCKE *Stella Maris* iii. 28 You call her Ariel, or Syrinx, or a Sprite of the Sea, or a Wunder-kind whose original trail of glory-cloud has not faded into the light of common day. 1923 D. H. LAWRENCE *Stud. Classic Amer. Lit.* (1924) 102 The absolute duplicity of that blue-eyed *Wunderkind* of a Nathaniel. 1931 N. & Q. 3 Jan. 16/1 A great many instances of *Wunderkinder* were brought together by the late Dr. Leonard George Guthrie, in his Fitzpatrick Lectures to the Royal College of Physicians (1907), entitled 'Contributions to the study of Precocity in Children', privately printed, 1921. 1947 A. EINSTEIN *Music in Romantic Era* xv. 213 Chopin was a *wunderkind*, both as virtuoso and composer. 1973 L. HEREN *Growing up Poor* in *London* iii. 65 Again I suppose that the [school] orchestra was better than most of its kind because of the Jews. Some took private lessons, and were regarded as *Wunderkinder* by their parents. 1984 P. ROSE *Parallel Lives* (1985) 81 His career at the Royal Academy school was impressive; indeed he was something of a *wunderkind* in the art world.

b. A talented or successful young man, a 'whizz-kid'. Also *transf.*

1930 E. CULBERTSON *Contract Bridge Blue Bk.* xvii. 227 He [sc. a bridge player] may belong to a proud class of *wunderkinder* who 'never need a book' or who 'have no system'. 1940 H. G. WELLS *Babes in Darkling Wood* i. i. 31 He was in the habit of calling his host and hostess 'The ultimate generation, the last and so far the best'. They were, he said, his 'Wunderkinds'. 1972 [see KAPUT *a.*]. 1975 *New Yorker* 25 Aug. 50/3 Zen, the colt by Damacus that horsemen say will be the *Wunderkind* of the season, ran a temperature before the Sanford Stakes and was scratched. 1982 R. LUDLUM *Parsifal Mosaic* xx. 320 He's received a fair amount of media exposure—the thirty-year old *wunderkind*.

wundi, var. WINDI *a.* *Obs.*

Wundtian ('vuntən), *a.* and *sb.* *Psychol.* [f. the name of the German psychologist Wilhelm Wundt (1832–1920), + -IAN.] *A. adj.* Of or pertaining to the school of experimental and physiological psychology founded in Leipzig by Wundt or to his ideas or methods. *B. sb.* A follower of Wundt, one who adopts his ideas or methods.

1890 W. JAMES *Princ. Psychol.* I. iii. 93 The facts, however, do not seem to me to warrant even this amount of fidelity to the original Wundtian position. 1932, etc. [see HERBARTIAN *a.* and *sb.*]. 1945 *Mind* LIV. 215 The later Wundtians, particularly and most ingeniously E. B. Titchener, tried to save sensationism. 1972 H. J. EYSENCK *Encycl. Psychol.* II. 61/1 Külpe... and his students... used a more molar type of introspection, believing that the Wundtian approach was too atomistic.

wune: see WONE *sb.*¹ and *v.*¹

wunna, Sc. = 'will not': see WILL *v.*¹ A. 6 b β.

wunner, obs. f. ONER *sb.* 1; Sc. f. WONDER.

wunnerful ('wanəfʊl). Also *wonnerful*, *wunnaful*. Repr. *dial.* or U.S. pronunc. of WONDERFUL *a.*, (*sb.*), and *adv.*

1924 H. DE SELINCOURT *Cricket Match* vi. 190 Wonneiful wholesome stuff celery, they say. 1930 M. ALLINGHAM *Mystery Mile* xiii. 122, I be a wunnerful smart old man. 1945 A. KOBER *Parm Me* 16 Certainly sounds like a wunnaful pickcha. Jen. 1977 *Sounds* 9 July 8/1 Mink's main claim for the credibility stakes is that he's been produced by Jack Nitzche, who scores pretty high in the living legend section of this wunnerful business.

† **'wunsele**. *Obs.* [f. *wune*, WON *v.* + SELE.] A dwelling-place.

c1205 LAY 15703 þa wunede ich on bure, on wunsele mine. *Ibid.* 17602 Her wit scullen... biwinnen his wunseles.

wunsome, -sum, obs. or north. dial. forms of WINSOME *a.*

wunst: see ONCE *adv.* A. δ.

wunt, dial. f. WANT *sb.*¹ (mole).

wunt(e), etc.: see WONT.

wun tun, var. WON TON.

wuo, ME. var. WOE.

wuord, obs. form of WORD *sb.*

wup (wap), *v.* *Sc.* Forms: 6 *woup*, *wowp* (*wolp*, *wewp*); 9 *wop*, *wup* (*oup*, *oop*). [Of obscure origin. Cf. WOOP *sb.* and WHIP *v.* 19.]

1. *trans.* To bind (something) round with cord, thread, etc.

1512–3 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* IV. 464 Smaile towis to woup the Margrettis mast with. 1567 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 360 Two barrell cordis... to woup brokin stokis and quheilis. a1586 *Dunbar's Goldin Targe* 62 (Maitland Fol. MS.), Tressis cleir woupit [v.r. wypit] with goldin threidis. 1802 *SIBBALD Chron. S.P. Gloss.*, *Oop*, *Oup*, to join by hooping. 1808 JAMIESON s.v. *Oop*, *Wup*,... to bind with a thread or cord; to splice.

2. *a.* To unite or join (thread, yarn, etc.). *b.* To secure or fasten by tying.

1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* iv. A hank [of yarn], but not a hail ane—the full years o' three score and ten, but thrice broken, and thrice to oop. 1871 W. ALEXANDER *Johnny Gibb* i. Tak the aul' pleuch ryn [= rein] there, and wup it ticht atween the stays.

wur-, var. (esp. ME.) spelling of WOR-.

wurble, dial. var. WARBLE *sb.*²

wurch(en), obs. ff. WORK *v.*

wurd, obs. form of WORD.

wurdle, obs. f. *wordle*, WORTLE.

wurhte, obs. var. WRIGHT *sb.*¹

wurley ('wɜ:li). *Austr.* Also 9 *worley*, *worlie*, 20 *whirlie*; in *pl.* *wurlies*. [Native word 'from the language of the Adelaide tribe' (G. Taplin *Native Tribes S. Australia* 12).] An aboriginal's hut. Also *attrib.*

1847 G. F. ANGAS *Savage Life* I. 105 Two men... approached one of the *wurlies*. 1848 G. B. WILKINSON *S. Australia* 323 The men break down branches of trees and strip bark to make themselves a *worley* or shelter. 1887 MRS. DALY *Digging* etc. *S. Australia* 31 The body of an

unfortunate Chinaman was found half-roasted on a wurley fire. *Ibid.* 67 They lived in wurleys... These miserable substitutes for houses are 'lean-to's', made of sheets of bark propped up by saplings. 1934 A. RUSSELL *Tramp Royal in Wild Austral.* x. 78 The camp was made up of a cluster of spinifex-covered wurlies. 1936 I. L. IDRIESS *Cattle King* vi. 51 A hundred warriors were lazing about their wurlies, sleeping the midday peace away. 1954 B. MILES *Stars my Blanket* xi. 76 A huddle of wurlies and a yapping throng of lean kangaroo dogs... told us the blacks were camped. 1959 A. UPFIELD *Bony & Black Virgin* x. 80 Several whirlies of bark and odd sheets of corrugated iron and hessian bags, inhabited by aborigines. 1961 *Times* 19 July 12/6 We found them [sc. aborigines]... sitting outside their whirlies.

Wurlitzer ('w3:litʃə(r)). The proprietary name of various musical instruments made by the Rudolf Wurlitzer Company, *spec.* a type of large electric organ, or a player-piano. *Freq. attrib.* 1925 T. DREISER *Amer. Trag.* I. i. xvii. 124 A Victrola and Wurlitzer player-piano furnished the necessary music. 1926 *Official Gaz.* (U.S. Patent Office) 23 Mar. 840/2 *Wurlitzer*. Particular description of goods.—pianos, player pianos,... organs,... banjos,... bassoons... and parts of such musical instruments. Claims use since Jan. 1, 1857. 1926 *Trade Marks Jrnal.* 12 May 1108 *Wurlitzer*... Musical instruments. The Rudolf Wurlitzer Company..., Cincinnati, State of Ohio, United States of America; manufacturers. 1930 C. BEATON *Diary* Dec. in *Wandering Years* (1961) ix. 200 Religious jazz played through a Wurlitzer. 1956 A. HUXLEY *Adonis & Alphabet* 231 The tail-coated organist at the console of his Wurlitzer. 1975 *Guardian* 20 Jan. 9/6 They play Wurlitzer music not inspiring to skate to. 1980 *Times* 1 Oct. 12/6 The daily organ recital on what must be the world's best known Mighty Wurlitzer.

wurlyon, obs. Sc. form of WIRLING.

Wurm (vʊərm). *Geol.* The former name of a lake (the Starnberger See) in Bavaria, adopted by A. Penck (in Penck & Brückner *Die Alpen im Eiszeitalter* (1909) I. i. 110) and used *attrib.* to designate the fourth and final Pleistocene glaciation in the Alps; also *absol.* Cf. RISS.

1910, etc. [see RISS]. 1968 [see WEICHSEL]. 1972 *Sci. Amer.* Mar. 60/2 The very numerous remains found in the Dragon's Lair were evidently deposited there during the final Pleistocene ice advance, the 60,000-year Würm glaciation that ended some 12,000 years ago. 1977 G. CLARK *World Prehistory* (ed. 3) xi. 455 Access was easier during the last glaciation, but only noticeably so during its colder phases, that is during the Early and Main Würm, to use designations taken from the Swiss Alpine sequence.

Hence 'Würmian a. (also *absol.*). 1927 PEAKE & FLEURE *Hunters & Artists* iv. 40 It is... possible that the Caspian industry had passed from Tunis through Sicily to Italy during, or even before, the Würmian glaciation. 1967 *Oceanogr. & Marine Biol.* V. 453 One may conclude that the cooling of the water during the Würmian was very slight in the Eastern Basin [of the Mediterranean]. *Ibid.*, The shallow-water Würmian beds.

wurne, var. WARN *v.*² *Obs.*

† **wurp**. *Obs. rare.* In 1 *wyrp*, *werp*, 3 *wrp*. [OE. *wyrp* (= LG. *wurp*, MLG. and (M)Du. *worp*, a cast, throw, OHG. *wurf*, *wurph*, MHG., G. *wurf*), f. the weak grade of *werp*- WARP *v.*] A (stone's) throw. Also *fig.* in *eie wurp*, a glance of the eye.

c950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke xxii. 41 He gefearrad wæs from him sua micle woerp *vel* wyrp is stanes [*Rushw.* *wyrp* stanes is; *Ags. Gosp.* anes stanes *wyrp*; *Hatton Gosp.* *werp*]. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 56 David... *purh* on eie wurp to one wummon... lette vt his heorte. c 1275 *Passion of our Lord* 155 in *O.E. Misc.* 41 Iesus from heom iwende *pe wrp* of o ston.

wurra ('wʌrə), *int.* *Anglo-Ir.* [Ir. (a) *Mhuire* (O) Mary.] An exclamation of grief or despair.

1898 J. D. BRAYSHAW *Slum Silhouettes* 21 Oh! wurra, wurra, that I should live to see him stiff and cowl. 1936 M. MITCHELL *Gone with Wind* x. 206 He groaned. 'Wurra the day!' 1952 E. O'NEILL *Moon for Misbegotten* II. 91 I'm not like you, owning up I'm beaten and crying wurra wurra like a coward.

wurrow, wurry, obs. varr. WORRY *v.*

wurset, -it, Sc. ff. WORSTED *sb.*

wurst (w3:st, v-). Also *worsht*, *wourst*. [a. Ger.] Sausage, esp. of the German type; a German sausage. Also *transf.*

1855 [see KRAUT 1]. 1868 *Amer. Odd Fellow* VII. 403/1 Sausages, or 'wurst', as they call them, are made in links. 1892 I. ZANGWILL *Childr. Ghetto* I. xvii. 59 Mrs. Hyams fried a piece of *Worsht* for Miriam's supper and put it into the oven to keep hot. 1939 C. ISHERWOOD *Goodbye to Berlin* 221 There were plates of ham and cold cut wurst. 1955 T. H. PEAR *Eng. Social Differences* 181 Liver-sausage and similar 'wursts'. 1966 L. DAVIDSON *Long Way to Shiloh* x. 142 We finished the *wurst* sandwiches. 1967 *New Scientist* 10 Aug. 281/2 The name given to the dam was apparently chosen because of the obliging way in which this huge water-filled wurst... returns to its original unostentatious shape when deflated. 1977 *Drive* May-June 124/2 In the South, one shop had invented its own delicacy: Satan's Sizzlers, 'the great curry wurst'.

wurst, obs. f. VERST, WORST *a.*; dial. f. WRIST.

wursum, var. WORSUM *Obs.*

Württemberg siphon. (See *quots.*)

1829 *Nat. Philos., Pneumatics* vi. 27 (L.U.K.), A syphon, in which the extremities were lazing about their wurlies,

called the Wirtemberg syphon. 1850 OGILVIE s.v. *Siphon, Würtemberg siphon*,... a siphon with both legs equal [etc.].

wurtewale, obs. var. WARTWALE.

c 1450 METHAM *Wks.* 138 Nalyths the qwyche... that... hath no wurtewalys... be most reпреuabyll.

† **wurthe**, *a.* *Obs.* Forms: 1 *wierðe*, *wyrðe*, *wyrpe*, *wirðe*, 1-4 *wurðe*, *wurpe* (3 *wrpe*), 3-4 *worpe*. [OE. *wierðe*, *wyrðe*, etc., a derivative from *weorþ* WORTH *sb.*¹ or *a.* In OE. and early southern ME. texts distinguishable from WORTH *a.*, but subsequently merged with it.]

1. Worthy. (*Freq. const. with inf.*) c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past.* C. xxxiii. 227 He... bit ðære tide hwonne he ðæs wierðe sie ðæt he hine besuican mote. 971 *Blisch. Hom.* 47 þa lareawas beoþ syþþan domes wyrpe. c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. iii. 11 He ys strengra þonne ic, ðæs gescy ne eom ic wyrpe to beranne. a 1122 *O.E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1046, Behet man him þæt he moste wurðe beon ælc ðæra þinga þe he ær ahte. a 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 59 Ic am wel wurðe ðat and more to polien. c 1205 LAY. 13445 Swa þat heo al speken... þat Uortiger weoren wurðe to walden þas peode. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 38 3if ich nam wurðe for to beon iblesced. c 1275 *Passion of our Lord* 320 in *O.E. Misc.* 46 Alle hi onswerde, he is wrpe to beo ded. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 890 þe stude... me clupep... after him, vor he was so worpe man. *Ibid.* 3466 Wel a3te þat be a wurpe stude wanne þer such seculure ys. c 1325 *Chron. Eng.* 741 in *Ritson Metr. Rom.* II. 301 Afterward, ase he was wurthe, ... An abbot him remue wolde.

2. Deserved, merited. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 138 We moten þauh don him wo, ase hit is ofte wel wurðe.

wurðscipe, etc., obs. ff. WORSHIP.

Württemberg ('v3:təmb3:ɜ:(r)). Also **Württemberg**, -burger, Wur-. [a. Ger., f. *Württemberg*, the name of a former state in S.W. Germany (now part of the *Land* of Baden-Württemberg) + -ER¹.] A native or inhabitant of Württemberg.

1896 G. A. HENTY *Through Russian Snows* x. 190 The seven battalions of Spaniards, Wurtembergers, and men from the Duchy of Baden. 1926 F. M. FORD *Man could stand Up* II. i. 78 Those blessed Wurtembergers would never that day get out of their trenches. 1934 W. S. CHURCHILL *Marlborough* II. xxiv. 539 The Würtembergers and Westphalians were only now approaching. 1938 C. V. WEDGWOOD *Thirty Years War* viii. 384 Of two thousand Würtembergers who joined Horn in 1632 at least half deserted in less than a month. a 1974 J. POPE-HENNESSY in *Lonely Business* (1981) III. 267 To meet young Würtembergers. 1977 N. FREELING *Gadget* IV. 182 'You're a Wurtemburger aren't you?' 'Badener, from Karlsruhe.' 1978 L. DEIGHTON *SS-GB* xxxviii. 333 We should have polished off all you bloody Würtembergers in 1918.

wurtzilite ('v3:tsilait). *Min.* [f. the name of Henry Wurtz (1828-1910), U.S. mineralogist + -i- + -LITE.] A black, massive, sectile, asphaltic pyrobitumen produced by the metamorphism of petroleum.

1889 W. P. BLAKE in *Engin. & Mining Jrnal.* XLVIII. 542/2 In now proposing for it the name *Wurtzilite* I desire to compliment my friend, Dr. Henry Wurtz, of New York who in 1865 described the mineral to which he gave the name grahamite. 1918 [see *pyrobituminous* adj. s.v. PYRO-2]. 1965 [see IMPONITE]. 1979 J. M. HUNT *Petroleum Geochem. & Geol.* viii. 403 Wurtzilite appears to be a more indurated polymer with an origin similar to elaterite.

wurtzite ('wʊ3-, 'w3:tsait). *Min.* [f. the name Prof. C. A. Wurtz, a French chemist (1817-84), + -ITE¹ 2 b.] 'Zinc sulphide, crystallizing in the hexagonal system' (Chester).

1868 DANA *Min.* (ed. 5) 60 Wurtzite and sphalerite are the same compound under distinct crystalline forms. 1897 L. FLETCHER *Introd. Study Min.* 81 Wurtzite is interesting as crystallising in the Rhombohedral system.

wuruhte, obs. var. WRIGHT *sb.*¹

wurzel, short for MANGEL-WURZEL.

1888 *Encycl. Dict.* 1898 JEROME *Second Thoughts* 305 An atmosphere of wurzels was the thing that somehow he [sc. a farmer] suggested.

wus, obs. var. OOZE *sb.*¹

wusbard, dial. f. *whore's bird* WHORE *sb.* 3.

wusche, wuss, wuss(c)he: see WISH.

|| **wushu** ('wu:'ju:). Also *wu shu* and with capital initial. [Chinese *wǔshù*, f. *wǔ* military + *shù* technique, art.] The Chinese martial arts.

1973 P. J. SEYBOLT *Revolutionary Educ. in China* xxii. 252 In the gymnasium, ... others, wielding swords and spears, were practicing the traditional Chinese *wushu*. 1975 *Times* 27 June 5/5 Some energetic youngsters are practising *wushu* (military art). 1977 O. SCHELL *China* (1978) III. 241 He has just come from *wu shu* practice (martial arts). 1978 CHOW & SPANGLER *Kung Fu* p. xii, Today *Wu Shu* remains the official term for martial arts in the People's Republic of China, although the emphasis is on its use as a national sport 'to serve the people' in the promotion of health. 1979 *Tel.* (Brisbane) 31 May 2/3 A few lessons in *Wushu*.

wuss (was). Repr. *colloq.* or *dial.* pronunc. of WORSE *a.* and *sb.*, or *adv.*

1862 A. J. MUNBY *Diary* 22 Mar. in D. Hudson *Munby* (1972) 117 That's wuss than a day's work, that is. 1869 J. GREENWOOD *Seven Curses of London* vi. 91 She'll tell you that, wuss luck, I've got in co. with some bad uns. 1894 [see

STRAIGHT *adv.* 6]. 1896 A. MORRISON *Child of Jago* vi. 61 Nobody's none the wuss for me knowin' about 'em. 1936 M. MITCHELL *Gone with Wind* lix. 994 It been awful! An' it's gwine be wuss. 1945 J. RHYS-WILLIAMS *Stern Daughter* xv. 97 Lucky if it aint no wuss, Sister.

wusse, var. WIS *adv.* *Obs.*

wust(e, obs. pa. t. of WIT v.¹

wüstite ('vustait). *Chem.* Also *wustite*. [ad. G. *wüstit* (R. Schenck et al. 1927, in *Zeitschr. f. anorg. Chemie* CLXVI. 141), f. the name of F. Wüst, German metallurgist: see -ITE¹.] An isometric solid solution of magnetite (Fe₃O₄) in iron oxide (FeO).

1928 *Chem. Abstr.* XXII. 566 The existence of 2 solid solns. is shown: (1) a soln. of small quantities of Fe₃O₄ in FeO for which the name 'Wüstite' is coined, [etc.]. 1957 *Jrnl. Iron & Steel Inst.* CLXXXVII. 78/1 The gradient of the iron content of these layers was determined, and the wüstite composition at the iron-wüstite and wüstite-magnetite phase boundaries was used to define the wüstite area. 1977 *Nature* 6 Oct. 500/1 There are few reports on the direct reduction of wüstite by carbon according to an autocatalytic mechanism. 1980 *Ibid.* 30 Oct. 778/1 The extraterrestrial nature of a specific spherule can be confirmed if it contains wüstite—a metastable iron oxide formed at high temperatures and low oxygen partial pressures. Wüstite slowly decomposes into α-iron and magnetite... and is thus almost unknown in nature.

wut, dial. variant of OAT.

1818 WILBRAHAM *Chesh. Gloss.* 31 *Wuts*,... oats. 1865- in various dial. glossaries, etc. (Yks. to Devon). 1880 JEFFERIES *Gt. Estate* i. 8, I met Hilary... and listened to a long tirade which he delivered against 'wuts'.

wute(p, etc.: see WIT *v.*¹

wuther, var. WHITHER *sb.* and *v. dial.*

|| **wu ts'ai** (wu tsai). Also *wucaï*, *Wu ts'ai*. [Chinese *wǔcǎi*, f. *wǔ* five + *cǎi* colour.] Polychrome; polychrome decoration in enamels applied to porcelain; porcelain with polychrome decoration esp. of the Ming and Qing dynasties.

1904 E. DILLON *Porcelain* vii. 101 We come again to a pentad of colour—not, however, quite the same as the *wu-tsai* of Wan-li times. 1906 S. W. BUSHELL *Chinese Art* II. viii. 32 The ordinary class of polychrome (*wu ts'ai*) decoration of the Ming period. 1915 R. L. HOBSON *Chinese Pott. & Porc.* II. ii. 8 There are the beautiful barrel-shaped seats, some with openwork ground, the designs filled in with colours (*wu ts'ai*). 1964 M. MEDLEY *Handbk. Chinese Art* 88/1 *Wu-ts'ai*..., a term applied to porcelains of the Ming and Ch'ing Dynasties decorated in overglaze enamel colours, and often with coarsely-handled under-glaze blue. 1971 L. A. BOGER *Dict. World Pott. & Porc.* 115/1 *Wu ts'ai*, which is practically a Chinese way of saying polychrome, is most commonly applied to a decoration comprising designs painted in enamel colors. 1980 *Catal. Fine Chinese Ceramics* (Sotheby, Hong Kong) 62 A fine pair of *wucaï* (*wu ts'ai*) square Dishes of shallow flared form with brown-edged rims.

wutter, var. WITTER *sb.*¹, *sb.*²

|| **wu-wei** ('wu:'wei). Also *Woo-wei*, *wu wei*. [Chinese *wúwéi*, f. *wú* no, without + *wei* doing, action.] a. The Taoist doctrine of letting things follow their own course. b. *Hist.* In China, the name of a minor sect.

1859 J. EDKINS *Relig. Condition of Chinese* xiv. 260 One of the most interesting among the minor sects in China is that called the Woo-wei-keon. It is an off-shoot from Buddhism. The words Woo-wei, mean non-action. These words are, in China, a favourite philosophical phrase, used by all schools of a contemplative or mystic tendency. The Taoists, who spoke of the Eternal Reason which underlies all existences, held that it could be understood, and the perfection of our nature reached only by rest, by stillness physical and mental, by abstaining from external methods of improvement, and by disbelief in their efficacy. This they called Woo-wei, 'to do nothing'. 1917 *Encycl. Sinica* 545/1 Confucius believed in the power of human nature to remain upright if properly taught; Lao Tzû believed it would keep straight if left to itself. This is his famous doctrine of *Wu-wei*, (Inaction or Nonassertion). *Ibid.* 609/2 *Wu Wei* or Non-Action Society. A secret sect, variously stated as having been founded by disciples of Lao Tzû towards the end of the Chou dynasty, by Lo Huai, the originator of the Lung Hua and Hsien T'ien sects, who lived in the 15th and 16th centuries, and to have been begun three hundred years ago... Its members are described by Edkins as 'a kind of reformed Buddhists'. 1934 A. D. WALEY *Way & its Power* iii. 145 He slips in... *wu-wei*, 'non-activity', i.e. rule through *tê* ('virtue', 'power') acquired in trance. 1965 C. & W. CHAI *Huanist Way in Ancient China* 56 To govern by *Wu-wei* (inaction or noninterference), Shun was the one! 1970 H. G. CREEL *What is Taoism?* i. 9 The mere idea of all this toiling for immortality is repugnant to that of *wu wei*, not striving. 1975 C.-Y. CHANG *Tao* lxixii. 194 *Wu-wei* does not mean that one does not act. It means that one acts but is free from ulterior motives.

wuz (waz). Also *wus*. Repr. *colloq.*, *dial.*, or *vulg.* pronunc. of *was*.

1886 F. H. BURNETT *Little Lord Fauntleroy* xi. 222 The rooms wuz locked up 'n' empty. 1901 M. FRANKLIN *My Brilliant Career* iii. 16 Some of us wuz always good for a toon on the concertina. 1945 J. RHYS-WILLIAMS *Stern Daughter* xv. 97 Sister wuz wunnerful good to me back at Wipers in 1917. 1966 *Listener* 15 Sept. 397/2 We were promised a discussion about the programme on BBC-2's *Late Night Line-Up*; we wuz robbed, the discussion hardly mentioned the programme at all. 1973 C. HIMES *Black on Black* 168

Mah belly feels lak mah throat wus cut. 1976 *Observer* 22 Aug. 5 (Adv.), Wor lad wuz in a reet steet.

wuzeer(at, varr. WAZIR(ATE).

Wuzeerá, var. WAZIR².

wuzzent, Sc. var. WIZENED *a*.

wuzzy ('wazi), *a. colloq.* Confused, fuddled, vague. Cf. WOZZY, MUZZY, *adjs.*

1896 *Dialect Notes* I. 427 Wuzzy, ... confused. 1921 E. A. J. B. LYTTON *Let.* 10 Mar. in Ld. Lytton *Antony* (1935) iii. 74, I am very nearly mad, I am quite slowly turning wuzzy. 1937 J. B. PRIESTLEY *Two Time Plays* 79, I can't remember. ... I'm—a bit—wuzzy.

wy, northern var. QUEY; obs. f. WEIGH, WHY.

wy-, freq. ME. variant of WI-.

wyage, **wyayge**, obs. varr. VOYAGE *sb.*

Wyandot ('waɪəndɒt). Also †Wayandott, Wyandot(t)e. [ad. F. *Ouendat*, ad. Huron *Wendat*.]

1. (A member of) a North American Indian people belonging to the Huron nation and originally living in Ontario; the language of this people. Also *attrib.* or as *adj.*

1749 J. HAMILTON *Let.* 2 Oct. in *Documents Colonial Hist. New-York* (1855) VI. 531 The Twitchwees & Wayandotts ... for two or three years past have dealt largely with our Traders. 1785 T. JEFFERSON *Notes Virginia* xi. 187 Tribes ... Wyandots. ... Near Fort St. Joseph's and Detroit. 1786 [see HURON]. 1789 [see SAUK]. 1804 *Maryland Hist. Mag.* IV. 6 The Indian chief, Tarhie, a Wyandote. [was] hunting bears. 1826 J. F. COOPER *Last of Mohicans* III. ii. 46 What will our fathers think the tribes of the Wyandots have become? 1837 [see SHAWNEE *sb.* 1]. 1913 A. S. PALMER *Samson-Saga* xiv. 167 The Wyandot Indians have a like myth. 1965 *Canad. J. rnl. Linguistics* Spring 105 He [sc. Sapir] knew something about Wyandotte. 1979 B. A. LEITCH *Conc. Dict. Indian Tribes N. Amer.* 189 By the 1970s Wyandot were among the leading citizens of Ottawa County, Oklahoma, numbering about 1,000.

2. (Usu. with spelling Wyandotte.) One of a breed of medium-sized domestic fowls, of American origin.

1884 *Bazaar* 12 Sept. 866/1 Wyandottes. Wanted a few early pullets, pure bred. 1897 K. DE LA BERE *Poultry Guide* 1. 21 He has ... reared 1,000 head of Black Minorcas, ... and Wyandottes. 1906 *Westm. Gaz.* 24 Dec. 2/2 Time was when the world knew no Wyandotte fowl at all; but the ingenuity of the fancier has now given it White, Silver, ... Partridge, Silver-pencilled, and Blue-laced Wyandottes.

wyandoure, Sc. var. VIANDER¹ *Obs.*

Wyatt ('waɪət). The name of the architect and designer James Wyatt (1746–1813), used *attrib.* to designate buildings or architectural features designed by him or characteristic of his Gothic Revival style.

1819 M. EDGEWORTH *Let.* 4 May (1971) 206 A most comfortable sitting room (scarlet cloth and black furniture—Large Wyatt window plate glass—tables most comfortable). 1936 A. DALE *James Wyatt* vi. 32 The Wyatt window, a tripartite aperture similar to the Venetian window. 1962 *House & Garden* Dec. 63/2 Sienna marble columns (... from a Wyatt house in Somerset). 1973 *Country Life* 18 Jan. 152/3 It is unusual for a Philadelphia house. ... There is a vaguely Wyatt feeling about the whole concept.

Hence *Wyattesque*, 'Wyattish *adjs.*

1942 J. LEES-MILNE *Jrnl.* 18 Jan. in *Ancestral Voices* (1975) 10 A terrible house. ... with only a vestige of the eighteenth century in the central stairwell, where there is a trace of Wyattesque or Adamesque treatment, a frieze with ram's skulls. 1946 — *Diary* 23 Nov. (1983) 108, I found the stairwell actually more Wyattish than Adamatic. 1973 *Country Life* 20 Sept. 776/3 Wyattesque decoration.

wych(e: see WHICH, WHITCH, WICH, WITCH *sb.*

wych elm, **witch elm** (witʃ ɛlm). Forms: *a.* 7 weech, 7–8 wich, 7–9 witch elm. *β.* 8– wych elm. (Also hyphenated.) [f. WITCH *sb.*³ + ELM. Cf. the slightly earlier *witchen elm*.] A species of elm, *Ulmus montana*, having broader leaves and more spreading branches than the Common elm; the witch hazel or Scots elm; also, the wood of this.

a. 1626 BACON *Sylva* §475 A Cions of a Weech-Elme, grafted vpon the Stocke of an Ordinary Elme, will put forth Leaues, almost as broad as the Brimme of ones Hat. 1633 T. JOHNSON *Gerarde's Herbal* 1482 *Ulmus folio glabro*, Witch Elme, or smooth leaved Elme. *a* 1691 AUBREY *Nat. Hist. Wilts.* (1847) 54 Wich-hazells, as we call them in Wilts (in some counties witch-elm). 1715 ADDISON *Drummer* II. i. There's a good deal of Virtue in that [Conjuror's] Wand—I fancy 'tis made out of Witch-Elm. 1733 W. ELLIS *Chiltern & Vale Farm*. 115, I here write of ... the common Elm, and the witch Elm. 1810 SCOTT *Lady of L. I.* Introd. 2 The witch-elm that shades Saint Fillan's spring. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* lxxxvii, Witch-elms that counterchange the floor of this flat lawn with dusk and bright.

β. 1769 BARRINGTON in *Phil. Trans.* LIX. 34 The Wych (or broad-leaved) elm. 1778 LIGHTFOOT *Flora Scot.* I. 152 The variety with a smooth bark and leaf, commonly called the Wych-Elm. 1845 FABER *Rosary*, etc. 86 Many a bay, By

... a drooping wychelm fanned. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 1189 Forked branches of Wych Elm, ... were used as divining-rods. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 317 The Wych elm is a hardy tree, of rapid growth.

b. attrib., as *wych-elm faggot*, *foliage*, *tree*.

1763 *Museum Rust.* I. 28 To fill up the drains with witch-elm faggots. 1862 LYTTON *Str. Story* II. 11 In this yard there stood an old wych-elm tree. 1897 *Daily News* 12 Nov. 8/3 Bunches of wych-elm foliage.

wych(e)safe, obs. varr. VOUCHSAFE.

wycht, obs. Sc. f. WIGHT *a*.

wycke, obs. var. WEEK *sb.*

†**Wyclifan**. *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. as next + -AN.] A Wycliffite.

1402 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 92 He is callid an heretike that heresies sowith, as Arrians, Wyclifanes, Sabellyanes, and other.

Wycliffian, **-ifian** (wɪˈklɪfɪən), *sb.* and *a. Church Hist.* Forms: (see quotes.). [ad. med.L. *Wyclivian-us*, or directly f. Wycliffe, *-clif*, etc.: see WYCLIFFITE.]

†*A. sb.* = WYCLIFFITE *sb.* *Obs.*

[c 1400 *Knights' Chron.* (Rolls) II. 184 Sicque a vulgo Wycliff discipuli et Wycliviani sive Lollardi vocati sunt. *Ibid.* 312 Idem archiepiscopus firmavit sententiam excommunicationis super Lollardos sive Wyclivianos.] 1570 FOXE *A. & M.* (ed. 2) II. 965/2 Chaucer ... semeth to bee a right Wicleuian. 1621 BP. MOUNTAGU *Diatribæ* 100 It had been easily answered, in that poynt, by the Wickleuians. 1654 H. TURBERVILL *Man. Controv.* 47 Let him not cite the Wicklefians, for they held, That [etc.]. 1717 EARBERRY *Pref. Varillas' Pretended Reformers* p. vi, Our new Allies the Lutherans, Calvinists, and Wycliffians.

B. adj. Of or pertaining to, characterizing the teaching of, Wycliffe or his followers.

1720 LEWIS *Life Wyclif* 114 The Wycliffian Superstition which obliges the Ministers of the Church to be Beggars. 1889 *Q. Rev.* April 510 Some of the sentiments are exclusively Wycliffian.

Hence †**Wycliffianism**, = next. *Obs.*⁻¹

1668 H. MORE *Div. Dial.* II. 90 That Principle of Wickleffianism, ... which the Jesuites themselves so loudly hoot at.

Wycliffism, **-ifism** ('wɪklɪfɪz(ə)m). *Church Hist.* Forms: (see quotes.). [f. as next + -ISM.] The religious doctrines or tenets advocated or propagated by Wycliffe, or held by his followers.

1675 in S. Knight *Life J. Colet* (1724) 267 To prevent the Growth of Wicklivism. 1732 NEAL *Hist. Purit.* I. 4 Urban ... writ to young King Richard II, ... to put a stop to the progress of Wycliffism. 1796 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* II. 145 Wycliffism took shelter in Wales, when it was persecuted in England. 1814 W. WILSON *Hist. Dissent. Churches* IV. 487 He passed a law, making the profession of Wycliffism a capital offence. 1861 GOLDW. SMITH *Inaugural Lect.* 37 England ... has not been the parent of great religious movements, excepting Wycliffism. 1884 *Brit. & For. Evang. Rev.* Oct. 620 John Stokes pronounced Hus's doctrines to be pure Wycliffism.

Wycliffist, **-ifist** ('wɪklɪfɪst), *sb.* and *a. Church Hist.* Forms: (see quotes.). [f. as next + -IST. Cf. med.L. *Wiclefistæ* (Du Cange).]

A. sb. = WYCLIFFITE *sb.* ? *Obs.*

c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* v. iii. 501 The sect of Wycliffists, whiche aens the vij. principal gouernauncis ... rehercid bi the proces of this present book holden [etc.]. 1460 CAPGRAVE *Chron.* (Rolls) 244 A Frere Augustyn ... felle in the secte of Wiclefists. 1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale Wks.* 352/2 In Boheme the Hussites, in England the wycliffistes. 1565 SHACKLOCK tr. *Hosius* 14 Whiche couct rather to be counted Carolstadians then Lutherans & other new Wiclefistes. 1631 WEEVER *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 807 Frater Robertus Rose ... writ much, yet neuer offended the VViclewists. 1655 FULLER *Hist. Cambr.* 57 Iohn Bromiard ... came to Cambridge, ... sent thither ... to ferret out the Wycliffists. 1673 HICKMAN *Hist. Quinquart.* 443 Wycliffists did maugre all the malice of their Adversaries increase. 1716 in M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* III. 27 The Wiclefists and Waldensians were against Episcopacy as being against the Pope. 1758 LOWTH *Life William of Wykeham* 207 The Wycliffists were persecuted and dispersed. 1819 REES' *Cycl.* s.v. *Wyclif*, An account of his distinguishing tenets, and those of his followers, ... Wycliffists and Lollards.

transf. 1679 OLDHAM *Sat. Jesuits* III. (1681) 65 The dangerous Works of that old Lollard, Paul; That arrant Wycliffist.

B. adj. = WYCLIFFITE *a*.

1725 LEWIS *Life Pecock* (1744) 320 In much the same manner does the bishop recommend these books to the Wycliffist laity.

Wycliffite, **-ifite** ('wɪklɪfɪt), *sb.* and *a. Church Hist.* Forms: 6 *Sc.* Wiclefít, 7 Wickliv- (7–8 -lev-), 8 Wicliv-, 8–9 Wicliff- (9 Wiclif-, Wiclif-), Wicliff-, 9 Wycliff-, Wyclifite. [ad. med. or early mod.L. *Wiclefita*, etc., f. the name of John Wycliffe or Wyclif (c 1320–1384; also spelt *Wiclif*, etc.), English theologian, writer, and religious reformer, + -ITE¹ *b.*]

A. sb. One who held or propagated the religious tenets or doctrines of Wycliffe; a follower of Wycliffe; = WYCLIFFIAN, WYCLIFFIST *sbs.*

1580 J. HAY in *Cath. Tract.* (S.T.S.) 54 Heresies, of the Albigenes, Waldenses, Wiclefists, Hussits. 1661 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 2), *Wickliffites*, the followers of Wicliff. 1684

S. G. *Anglorum Spec.* 796 Eleanor Cobham was persecuted for being a Wiclefite. 1720 LEWIS *Life Wyclif* 108 A most effectual Way to ruine the poor Wiclefites. 1778 WARTON *Hist. Eng. Poetry* II. 390 The Wycliffites entirely grounded their ideas ... on scriptural proofs. 1813 T. D. WHITAKER *Visio P. Pl.* p. xviii, That he ... taught almost all the fundamental doctrines of Christianity has no tendency to prove him a Wiclefite or Lollard. 1850 FORSHALL & MADDEN *Holy Bible* I. p. xxxiii. *note*, The Wycliffites ... were not backward to defend their right to have the Scriptures in their own language. 1870 ROGERS *Hist. Glean.* Ser. II. 57 [Bishop] Richard Fleming had also been a Wikliffe.

B. adj. 1. Of or pertaining to, written or made by, Wycliffe or his followers.

1843 WAY *Prompt. Parv.* 316 *note*, In the earlier Wycliffite version. 1880 F. D. MATTHEW *Wyclif's Wks.* p. xxviii, That he really held Wycliffite opinions. 1884 J. R. THOMSON *Life Wyclif* 86/1 The Wycliffite tenets spread most rapidly. 1896 SKEAT in *Trans. Philol. Soc.* 219 A diligent student of Wycliffite literature.

2. Of persons: That is a follower of Wycliffe; holding, advocating, or propagating the religious views of Wycliffe and his school.

1875 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* II. xvi. 450 The Wycliffite or Lollard preachers had raised a cry against the clergy. 1880 F. D. MATTHEW *Wyclif's Wks.* p. xxix. (*heading*), Wycliffite Party crushed.

†**Wycliffize**, *v. Obs. rare*⁻¹. In 7 Wicliffize. [f. as prec. + -IZE.] *intr.* To espouse or advocate the views of Wycliffe (esp. as to Church property).

1655 FULLER *Ch. Hist.* VI. 302 The Lay Parliament, ... which did wholly Wicliffize, kept in the twelfth year of King Henry the fourth.

'Wycliffry, -fry. [f. as prec. + -RY. Cf. LOLLARDRY.] = WYCLIFFISM.

1896 J. H. WYLIE *Hist. Eng. Hen. IV*, III. 457 The very treatise on the Church ... [by] Hus, is nothing but Wicliffry transplanted word for word into Bohemia. 1900 — *Council Constance* 147 Wenzel gave no support to Wycliffry.

wycre, obs. f. WICKER.

wyd(e), obs. ff. WIDE *adv.*

wydder(e), obs. ff. *wider* (see WIDE), WHITHER *adv.*

wyddie, obs. f. WIDDY.

wyddo, **-ow(e)**, **wydw**, etc., obs. ff. WIDOW, etc.

†**wyde**. *Obs.*⁻¹ A variety of apple-tree.

1525 FITZHERBERT *Husb.* 42 Dyuers apple trees that haue knottes in the bowes, as casses or wydes, and suche other that wyll growe on slauynges.

wyder, obs. f. WHITHER *adv.*

wydraught, etc., obs. ff. WITHDRAUGHT.

wydue, etc., obs. ff. WIDOW *sb.*¹

wydur, **-yr**, obs. ff. WHITHER *adv.*

†**wye**¹. Latterly *Sc.* and *north. Obs.* Forms: *a.* 1 wiga, 4 wize, wihe (whi, whie, whiz) wyze, wyz (wizh), wiez, 5 wiz, 4–5 wyghe, 4–6 wye, 4–5, 6 *Sc.* wy, 4, 6 wie. *β.* 4 weiz, weizh, weih (wehy), 4–5 weize, wie (4 waie), weye, 5 wey, wegh (whgeh, whe), we, 5–6 wee. [OE. *wiga*, f. the weak grade of the stem repr. by *wiz* *WI sb.* Cf. OHG. *widerwigo* 'rebellis', and *Wigo* as a proper name.]

In OE. chiefly, and in later use only, in poetic use.

1. One who fights; a fighting man; a warrior or soldier.

a. *Beowulf* 629 He þæt ful geþeab, wælcrow wiga, æt Wealhþeon. c 900 tr. *Baeda's Hist.* I. xv. (1890) 50 And hi þa sona hider sendon maran sciphre strengran wighena. 993 *Battle of Maldon* 210 Swa hi bydle forð bearn Ælfrices, wiza wintrum geong. 13. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 581 Syþen þe brawdren bryne of bryzt stel ryngze Vmbeweuzed þat wyz vpon wlonk stuffe. c 1350 Will. *Palerne* 3787 William & his wizes were armed wel sone. ? a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 56 [He] wente in-to Wales with his wyes alle. c 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 499 The wyis quhar the wicht went war in wa wellit. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) II. 505 With mony wy that worthie war and wycht, [he] Appeirit thair richt sone. 15... [see *β.*]

β. a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 1030 (Ashm. MS.), Bot wees wizly with-in þe wallis ascendid, Freschely fendid of. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1212 Mony woundit we from his weppont paste. c 1420 *Anturs of Arth.* liv. (Douce MS.), þe wees, þat werene wounded so wopely ... , Surgeons sone saued. 1515 *Scottish Field* 493 in *Chetham Misc.* (1856), A yong knight, ... Sir William Warkehopp. ... was the wees [Percy MS. wyes] name. *Ibid.* 637 Now is this fuirre feilde foughten to an ende; Many a wee wanted his horse, and wandered home on fote.

2. A noble, vigorous man; hence *gen.*, a man, a person.

In very freq. use from c 1340 to c 1420, esp. in a-form. *a.* a 900 *Andreas* 1711 (Gr.), Hie ða gebrohton æt brimes næsse on wægpele wigan unslawne. a 1000 *Menologium* 160 Se þe fægere in mid wætere oferwearp wuldres cynebeorn, wiza weorðlice. 13... *E.E. Allit. P. A.* 579 þen alle þe wygez in þe worlde myzt wyne By þe way of ryzt to aske gode. 1340–70 *Alex. & Dind.* 571 Wis holde 3e no whi but 3if he wel conne Faire tempren his tounge. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* xvii. 98 Went neuere wy in this worlde thorw that wilderness, That he ne was robbed. a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 1628 In þe same wedes, For all þis werld as þis wy wendes

now attyred. *c1420 Anturs of Arth.* xxix, Scho was the worthilieste wyghte, þat any wy myghte weide. *c1480 HENRYSON Lion & Mouse* xxxii, Thair is na wy that will my harmis wreik. *1500-20 DUNBAR Poems* xxx. 50, I awoik as wy that wes in weir. *1513 DOUGLAS Æneid* v. xi. 19 Sone slaid scho down wnsene of ony wy. *a1568* in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 739 Sen ye ar pleisit to pleiss ane vthir wy.

β. *1340-70 Alex. & Dind.* 17 þanne weies of worschipe, wittie & quainte, Wip his lettres he let to þe lud sende. *c1350 Will. Palerne* 281 'Sertes,' þan seide þemperour, . . 'y am þat ilk weigh'. *1377 LANGL. P. Pl. B.* xi. 374 'Holy writt,' quod that weye, 'wisseth men to suffre'. *a1400-50 Wars Alex.* 134 He passis his way, Vn-wetandly to any wee. *Ibid.* 383 His liknes he changis, Worthis agayn to a wee, fra a worme turnys.

b. Used as a form of address.

13.. Gaw. & Gr. Knt. 1508, 'I woled wyt at yow, wyȝe, þat worpy per sayde. *1340-70 Alex. & Dind.* 69 Wordlich weȝ, we wische of þi ȝifte Ai-lastinge lif. *a1400-50 Wars Alex.* 2302 Welcom we [*Dubl.* wyȝ], at all þe werd sall wyn with þi handis. *c1470 Golagros & Gaw.* 57 Sen thy will is to wend, wy, now in weir, Luke that wisly thow wirk. *1515 Scottish Field* 257 in *Chetham Misc.* (1856), I will wynde you to wreke, wees, I you heete.

c. Without article. (Cf. MAN *sb.*¹ 2.)

13.. Gaw. & Gr. Knt. 1039, I am wyȝe at your wyll to worch youre hest. *1377 LANGL. P. Pl. B.* xi. 337 Hadde neuere wye witte to worche þe leest. *1399* — *Rich. Redeles* iii. 288 þis warmnesse in welth with wy vpon erthe Myȝte not longe dure. *c1560 A. SCOTT Poems* (S.T.S.) x. 51 Thair is nocht wie Can estemie My sorrow.

d. Applied to the Deity. *rare.*

13.. Gaw. & Gr. Knt. 2441 þe wyȝe hit yow ȝelde þat vp-haldeȝ þe heuen and on hyȝ sitteȝ. *c1560 A. SCOTT Poems* iii. 39 þe wy that all the world wrocht.

3. *transf.* A woman; a lady. *rare.*

c1400 Destr. Troy 3356 Thou shalt haue riches more Rife . . þan any lady in þi land, . . And more likandly lyf. . . as a wee noble. *c1560 A. SCOTT Poems* xxxi. 34, I lufe þe wy Will nocht apply, Nor grant to Gife me grace agane.

wye² (wai). *techn.* [The name of the letter Y.]

a. (See *quots.* and cf. Y 3.)

1857 DAVIES & PECK Math. Dict., *Wyes*, the supports of the telescope in the theodolite and level. *1875 KNIGHT Dict. Mech.* 2823/2 *Wye*, a Y or crotch. Used in many ways as a temporary shore or brace. *1883 GRESLEY Gloss. Coal-mining* 295 *Wye* (C[umb.]), the beam-end connection above the pump-rods of a winding and pumping engine.

b. *spec. (a) Plumbing.* A short pipe with a branch joining it at an acute angle. (b) *Electr. Engin.* = STAR *sb.*¹ 12 i.

a1877 KNIGHT Dict. Mech. III. 2823 *Wye*. . . A name applied to a stem or pipe with branches. *1916 C. E. MAGNUSSEN Alternating Currents* ix. 97 If the three circuits be connected as shown. . . it is called a Star or Wye connection. *1964 R. F. FICCHI Electr. Interference* x. 200 With a source that is wye-connected, the system neutral is readily available. *1978 K. W. SESSIONS Homeowner's Handbk. Plumbing & Repair* iv. 145 (*caption*) Some cast-iron soil-pipe 90° wye branches. *1980 SLEMON & STRAUGHEN Electric Machines* ii. 143 Three similar single-phase transformers may be connected to give 3-phase transformation, and since the primary and secondary windings may be connected either in delta or in wye, there are four possible combinations of connections.

wye, north. dial. var. QUEY; obs. var. WEIGH *sb.*¹ and *v.*¹

wye byt, var. WAY-BIT *Obs.*

wyefde, var. WEVED *Obs.*

wyefe, obs. f. WIFE.

wyel, **wyelde**, **wyeldeware**, **wyele**, **wyelfoyle**, **wyell**, obs. ff. WHILE, WIELD, WILD-FOWL, WILDWARE, WEEL², WILE.

wyer, obs. f. WEIR, WIRE *sb.* and *v.*

wyes, **wyese**, etc., obs. forms of WISE *sb.* and *a.*

wyet, **wyete**, **wyueed**, **wyewe**, **wyeygt**, obs. ff. WHITE *a.*, WIT *v.*¹, WEVED, WEAVE *v.*, WEIGHT *sb.*²

wyf, **wyfe**, **wyff(e)**, obs. ff. WIFE *sb.*

wyfyne, Sc. var. WIVEN *a.* *Obs.*

wygeon, **wyghe**, obs. ff. WIDGEON, WITH *prep.*, WYE¹.

wyghte, obs. f. WEIGHT *sb.*¹, WHITE *a.*

wyȝtsave, obs. var. VOUCHSAFE *v.*

wygorusly, obs. Sc. f. VIGOROUSLY *adv.*

wyhee, var. WEHEE *v.*

wyhylle, obs. f. WILE *sb.*

wyice, obs. Sc. f. WISE *a.*

wyif, obs. f. WIFE.

wyill, obs. Sc. f. WILE.

wyir, Sc. var. VIRE *sb.*¹ *Obs.*

wyis, etc., obs. Sc. ff. WISE.

wyk(e): see WEEK *sb.*, WICK, and WIKE *Obs.*

† **wyke**, *v.*¹ *Obs.* (Of obscure origin and meaning: not obviously connected with OE. *wican*.)

a1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xxix. 87 Ofte when y syke, with care y am thourh-soht, When y wake y wyke, of serewe is al mi thoht.

† **wyke**, *v.*² *Obs. rare.* [ad. MDu. *wijken* (Du. *wijken*) to give way, depart, etc.] *intr.* To give way, to withdraw.

1481 CAXTON Reynard xxviii. (Arb.) 67 In nede alwey [I] haue byden by yow where other beestis haue wyked and goon their way [Du. *ontweecken*]. *Ibid.* 71 It is better that we wyke [Du. *wijken*] and departe, than we sholde . . fyghte with hym.

wyked, obs. form of WICKED *a.*

† **Wykehamick** ('-kæm-), *a.* *Obs.* —¹ In 8 Wickhamick. [See WYKEHAMIST and -IC.] = WYKEHAMICAL *a.* 1.

a1711 KEN Edmund Poet. Wks. 1721 II. 69 Thus from the two Wickhamick Springs shall rise Diffusive streams the Church to fertilise.

Wykehamical (wɪ'kæmɪkəl), *a.* Also 8-9 Wiccam-, 9 Wycchamical. [f. as *prcc.* + -AL¹. The form *Wiccamical* is ad. mod.L. *Wiccamica-us*.]

1. Of or pertaining to Winchester College, or the pupils or staff of this; = WYKEHAMIST *a.*

1758 C. GOLDING Def. Cond. Warden Winchester Coll. 38 He hath given the Electors Liberty to take a Person . . from within the Wykehamical Societies. *1791 HUDDSFORD Salmag.* 101 William of Wickham, a Song for the Wiccamical Anniversary. *1830 W. L. BOWLES Life Ken* I. 18 Dulce Domum, the old Wykehamical song. *Ibid.* 23 The great object of Wykehamical hopes, New College. *1878 H. C. ADAMS Wykehamica* xxii. 397 In Wykehamical phrase, the Præfect . . would . . have 'broken their necks'. *1901 Athenæum* 26 Jan. 105/3 If we were asked to select the typical Wykehamical epitaph.

2. That is or has been a pupil of, or connected with, Winchester College.

1844 R. PALMER in Mem. (1896) I. 364, I printed them for private and anonymous circulation among my Wykehamical friends. *1878 H. C. ADAMS Wykehamica* xvii. 320 This oath is one of the things which the Wykehamical body ought to have abolished long ago. *1903 FEARON* in C. E. Osborne *Fr. Dolling* ix, He was rapidly adopted within the Wykehamical family, and was what the school would have called 'a most patriotic Wykehamist'.

Hence **Wykehamically** *adv.*

1878 H. C. ADAMS Wykehamica xxiii. 418 *Chouse*, 'a shame'. . . Here the word has been Wykehamically diverted from its original meaning, viz. 'to cheat'.

Wykehamist ('wikəmɪst), *sb.* and *a.* Also 8 Wykhamist, Wiccamist. [ad. mod.L. *Wykehamista* (16th c.), f. the name William of Wykeham (1324-1404), Bishop of Winchester, and founder of Winchester College (1382) and New College, Oxford (1379).]

A. sb. One who is or has been a pupil at Winchester College.

1758 C. GOLDING Def. Cond. 51 Lest any Wykhamist should be offended. *1773 Hist. & Antiq. Winchester* I. 147 Andrew Phillips . . shared the piety and doctrine of the Wiccamists. *1782 J. NICHOLS Sel. Collect. Poems* VIII. 75 Young Cibber, being likewise a Wykehamist, called on Dr. Ridley. *1860 WALCOTT Cathedrals* 251 That most characteristic gathering of Wykehamists old and young. *1885 Athenæum* 4 July 14/3 The governors of Harrow have successively appointed the most learned and single-minded of Wykehamists. *1903* [see WYKEHAMICAL *a.* 2].

B. adj. = WYKEHAMICAL *a.* 1.

1865 (tile), Wykehamist Meeting. The anniversary festival will be holden . . May 17, 1865. *1867 AUG. G. DRANE Chr. Schools* II. vii. 260 The Wykehamist Colleges . . opened the way to other foundations of a similar description. *1891 Athenæum* 14 Feb. 212/1 It may reasonably be hoped that this is not Wykehamist Greek.

wyker, **-ir**, **wykker**, **wykur**, etc., obs. ff. WICKER.

wyket(t), **wykket(t)**, obs. ff. WICKET.

Wykhamite ('wikəmaɪt). [f. the name William of Wykeham (see WYKEHAMIST *sb.* and *a.*) = WYKEHAMIST *sb.*

1828 M. R. MITFORD Our Village III. 203 Two or three more of our young Etonians and Wykhamites. *1972 Daily Tel.* 1 June 21/3 He is a Wykhamite and Balliol man who was originally destined for the Civil Service.

wykit, **wykked**, **-id**, etc., obs. ff. WICKED *a.*

wykke, obs. f. WICK *a.*

wyl, obs. f. VILE *a.*, WHILE *sb.*, WILE, WILL *sb.*

wylage, obs. f. VILLAGE *sb.*

wylanlyche, obs. f. VILLAINLY *adv.*

wyld(e), obs. ff. WEALD, WILD.

wylde, obs. f. WIELD.

wyldren, var. WILDERN.

wyldrenes(se), obs. ff. WILDERNESS.

wyldyng, obs. var. WIELDING *ppl. a.*

wyle, obs. Sc. f. VILE; var. WALE *v.*¹; obs. f. WEEL², WHEEL, WHILE, WILE.

wyled, **wylem**, obs. ff. WILD, WHILOM.

wyliecoat ('weɪlɪkɒt, -kɒt). *Sc.* (and *north.*). Forms: 5-6, 9 wyle-, 6 vyle-, vile-, wile-, wele-, 5-7 wylly-, 6 vily-, veli-, 6-7 weyli- (8 weily-), 6-wylie-, 8- wylicoat (9 wili-, wylie-); 7 wylli(e)-, 9 willy-, willey-, welli-; 7 waly-, vali-, 7, 9 walli-, 9 walacoat; also 5 -coyt, 5-8 -cot, 5-7 -cott, -cote, -coit, 5, 7- -coat. (Occas. as two words, or with hyphen.) [Of obscure origin: the forms of the second element agree throughout with those of COAT *sb.*, but the first has not been identified, and may be an alteration of some foreign term.]

1. An under-waistcoat, in earlier use esp. one worn under a doublet; an under-vest, woollen or flannel under-garment. ? *Obs.*

In latest *quots.* applied to some kind of outer garment. *1478 Acta Auditorum* (1839) 83/1 A doublat of Bukkessy with a wyle cot of quhit in It. *1494 Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 225, v quarters of Inglis quhit, to be the King ane wyle coit. *1505 Ibid.* III. 109 For ane wyle cote undir his cote, . . v.s. vjd. *1513 DOUGLAS Æneid* VII. Prol. 90 In double garment cled and wyle coyt. *1561 in Inv. de la Roynne Descosse* (Bann. Cl.) 23 Foure wylie coittis of quhite lambskynnis. *1645 Rec. Elgin* (New Spald. Cl.) I. 179 To delywer to James Walker ane wyllicote worthe thrie poundis four shillingis. *1786 BURNS To a Louse* vi, I wad na been surpris'd to spy You on . . some bit duddie boy On 's wyliecoat. *1820 SCOTT Abbot* i, A hardy little boy . . did not hesitate a moment to strip off his wylie-coat, [and] plunge into the water. *1823 Mirror* I. 285/2 A wallicoat of white druggut, deep blue inexpressibles.

Prov. 1737 RAMSAY Sc. Prov. (1750) 107 We can shape their wylie-coat, but no their wierd.

2. An under-petticoat.

1544 Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot. VIII. 326 Tua elnis and ane half scarlot to be hir ane wyle cote. *1551 Ibid.* X. 33 Arche Clerk, send . . with ane furrit vylcoit to my Lady Gordoun. *a1586 SIR R. MAITLAND in M. Quarto MS.* (S.T.S.) 2 Sumtyme thay will beir vp their gown, to schaw thair wyllicot hingand doun. *1604 Compt Bk. D. Wedderburne* (S.H.S.) 45 Ane narrow pece quhyt clayth . . to be my lassis weylecottis. *1686 G. STUART Joco-ser. Disc.* 31 The Sisters skewed their Wyllycoats. *1715 RAMSAY Christ's Kirk Gr.* II. xxii, The bride she made a fen, To sit in wyliecoat sae brow. *a1725 Cock-laird in Orpheus Caled.* 26, I man' ha'e a Silk Hood, . . wylie coat, And a Silk snood. *1797 PINKERTON Hist. Scot.* I. 154 The kirtle, or close gown, was rarely accompanied . . with the wyllicot or under petticoat. *1895 CROCKETT Men of Moss-Hags* xxxii. 235 We are a pack o' silly craitors. A' thing that wears willy-coats; no yin muckle to better anither! *1895* — *Grey Man* iii. 23 Nell Kennedy with her wyllycoats kilted.

Prov. 1721 KELLY Scot. Prov. 54 A Wife knows enough, who knows the good Man's Breeks from Weillycoat.

b. A feminine (or esp. in later use, a child's) night-dress.

c1634 in C. K. Sharpe *Pref. to Law's Mem.* (1818) p. lviii, She was seen . . standing bare-legged and in hir sark valicot . . conferring with the devill. *a1670 SPALDING Troub. Chas. I* (1851) II. 233 Scho gettis wp out of hir naiked bed in hir night walycot, bairfut and bairleg. *1894-9* in Northumb. and Cumb. glossaries.

wylk(e), **wyll**, obs. ff. WHICH, WEEL².

wyll, **wylle**, obs. ff. WHILE, WILE.

wyllanye, **wyllly**, **wylst**, obs. ff. VILLAINY, WILY, WHILST.

wylt, obs. f. QUILT *sb.*

wyly(e), **wyllys**, obs. ff. WILY, WHILES.

† **wymalve**. *Obs. rare.* Also 3 ymalue. [a. AF. *wimave*, *widmalve* (12th c.), = OF. *vi-*, *vismauve*, *vismalve*, etc. (F. *guimauve*):—pop.L. **viscomalva*, for **hibiscomalva*: see HIBISCUS and MALLOW.] = WYMOTE. (Cf. VIMAUE.)

c1265 Voc. Names Plants in Wr.-Wülcker 556 *Althea*, i. ymalue, i. holihoc. *c1450 Alphita* (Anecd. Oxon.) 22/2 *Bismalua*, *alta malua*, *altea idem*, . . a[nghl]ce, wymalue uel marshmalue.

wyme, obs. form of WAME.

wymmen, obs. pl. form of WOMAN.

wymote ('waɪməʊt). Now *local*. Also 9 wymote, wimot(e). [Unexplained var. of WYMALVE.] The marsh-mallow, *Althea officinalis*.

1597 GERARDE Herbal Suppl., Wymot is *ibiscus*. *1665 Lovell Herbal* (ed. 2) 479 Wymot, see Marsh mallow. *1796 WITHERING Brit. Pl.* (ed. 3) III. 612 Marsh Mallow. Wymote. [Found in] salt marshes and banks of rivers. *1821 S. F. GRAY Brit. Plants* II. 639 *Althea officinalis*. Shop marsh-mallow. . . Wymote. *1879 MISS JACKSON Shropsh. Word-bk.* 482 *Wimote*, . . common Marsh Mallow.

wyn, **wynn** (win). Formerly also wen (wɛn). [a. OE. *wyn* (also *wen*) WIN *sb.*²] The name of the Old English runic letter ƿ (= w) and of the manuscript form of this (ƿ p) in Old and early Middle English.

a. *c1300 M^cClean MS.* in *Mod. Lang. Rev.* (1911) VI. 442 Wen . . ƿ. Pimman . . Pepman . . Ponie. *1705 WANLEY Antiq. Lit. Septentr.* Pref. 1b2, Quod a Runicis Thorn and Wen clauditur. *1758 WISE Some Enq. Europe* 145 Ð ƿ, Th or Thorn, and ƿ p, W or Wen, are of Northern growth. *1884 EINKENEL Life St. Kath.* 125 The scribe took the *wén* of his

original for a *porn*. 1907 J. E. WELLS *Owl & Nightingale* 3 In a number of places *thorn* is dotted, and so is like *wen*.

β. [1892 S. A. BROOKE *Hist. Early Eng. Lit.* II. xxiii. 201 W. was sometimes taken to mean *Wyn*, joy, and sometimes *Wen*, hope. 1910 F. TUPPER *Riddles of Exeter Bk.* 234 W always demands the interpretation *Wyn*, a rendering of the rune sustained by the Anglo Saxon alphabet in the Salzburg MS.] 1912 A. J. WYATT *Old Eng. Riddles* p. xxxix, The commoner Anglian runes. . . p w *wynn* (joy). 1955 *Jrnl. Eng. & Gmc. Philol.* LIV. 6 In later Old English *fuporcs*, *wyn* and *wen* are generally confused, owing to some extent. . . to the semantic link existing between the two words, although the name of the W-rune was unquestionably *wyn*. 1965 C. BARBER *Flux of Lang.* vii. 129 The runic symbol 'wynn' was used for the Old English *w* sound. 1978 *Norfolk Archaeol.* XXXVII. 56, G offers one or two forms hardly explicable except as corruptions of original spellings with *wynn* for *w*.

wyn, obs. f. WEEN *v.*, WIN *v.*

wynakar, -ir, obs. Sc. f. VINEGAR.

wynbeme, obs. f. WINDBEAM.

wyncouth, **wyncus**, obs. Sc. ff. UNCOUTH, VANQUISH.

wynd, obs. f. WIND.

wynd (weind). Chiefly *Sc.* (and *north. dial.*). Also 5, 8 *wynde* (6 *wynd*, *wyne*, 9 *north. dial. wyndd*), 5 *winde*, 8-9 *wind* (9 *weind*). [App. f. the stem of WIND *v.*¹ (cf. OE. *gewind* winding ascent, spiral, etc.); the long vowel indicates an OE. disyllabic form **winde* or **wynde*.]

1. A narrow street or passage turning off from a main thoroughfare; a narrow cross-street; a lane or alley: a. In Scotland (and northern England).

c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* viii. xxvii. 4490 þai til Edynburgh helde þe way, And at þe Freyr Wynde enteryt þai. 1439 *Charters*, etc. of *Edinb.* (1871) 64 The comon venale callit Sanct Leonardis wynde. 1506 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 617/1 Le Nudryis Wynd infra burgum de Edinburg. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 174 Seing a possesit persone with the deuil . . rinn throug gaites, houses, close, wyne, straits and streits frilie. 1612 in *Halyburton's Ledger* (1867) 336 Bonnetts maid in Leith wynd. 1695 SIBBALD *Autobiog.* (1834) 127 A house neer to the head of Blackfriars Wynd. 1727 DE FOE *Tour Gt. Brit.* III. 30 Those Side Lanes which they call Wynds. c 1730 BURT *Lett. N. Scotl.* (1818) I. 18 Being in my retreat to pass through a long narrow wynde or alley, . . a guide was assigned me. 1782 SIR J. SINCLAIR *Observ. Scot. Dial.* 165 Many narrow lanes, leading . . down the sides of the hills; which lanes, from their being generally winding, . . are called *winds*. 1822 SCOTT *Nigel* ii, A sma' house at the fit of ane of the wynds. 1860 SIR J. B. BURKE *Viciss. Families* Ser. II. 153 The site of Appleby is exceedingly beautiful. . . From this main street are narrow lanes, called *winds*, jutting out towards the river Eden. 1886 MASSON *Edinb. Sketches* (1892) 11 A multiplicity of narrow foot-passages called closes, with a few wider and more street-like cuttings called wynds.

b. Applied to similar lanes, etc., in other parts. 1863 SIR R. ALCOCK *Capital of Tycoon* I. 255 Black-teethed women . . rush down the wynds and passages [in Yeddo] which lead to the great thoroughfare. 1871 KINGSLEY *At Last* ii, Fresh from the cities of the Old World, and the short and stunted figures . . which crowd our alleys and back wynds. 1894 WEYMAN *Man in Black* viii. 168 The priest passed unharmed through the lowest wynds of Paris.

c. Without article. 1812 W. TENNANT *Anster F.* VI. xxi, From lane and wynd the sounds of gladness peal. 1856 W. E. AYTOUN *Bothwell* 145 That cry . . rung through street, and pealed through wynd.

d. *transf.* 1952 DYLAN THOMAS *Coll. Poems* 170 Small fishes glide Through wynds and shells of drowned Ship towns to pastures of otters.

2. *attrib.*, as *wynd house*; *wynd head*, the higher end of a narrow street.

1530 *Abstr. Protocols Town Clerks Glasgow* (1897) IV. 34 Fra the Wyndheid of Glasgw to the Grayferis. 1665 J. NICOLL *Diary* (Bann. Cl.) 443 [He] erectit ane staige betwixt Niddries and Black Friers wynd head. 1888 BARRIE *When a Man's Single* i, The windows of the wynd houses.

wyndak, -ok, obs. ff. WINNOCK *Sc.*

wynde, **wyndel**, -ille, etc., obs. ff. WIND, WINDLE *sb.*¹

wyndi, var. OUNDY *Obs.* (Cf. UNDY.)

1486 *Bk. St. Albans, Coat-arm.* b.v, The secunde [coat-armour] is calde wyndi, that is to say whan the felde is made like wawis of oon coloure or of diuerse colouris.

wyndlas(e, -lasse, etc., obs. ff. WINDLASS.

† **wyndre**, *v.* *Obs. rare.* [ad. OF. *guingnier*, *guignier*, etc., to deck, trick out.] *trans.* To trim, deck, or embellish (oneself, the brows, etc.).

? a 1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 1018-1020 Fetys she was . . ; No wyntred [sic] browis had she [F. *ne fu fardee ne guignie*] Ne popped hir for it needed nought To wyndre hir [F. *de soi tifer*] or to peynte hir ought.

wyndyrtak, **wyne-3arde**, -yaird, obs. Sc. ff. UNDERTAKE *v.*, VINEYARD.

wynfall, obs. f. WINDFALL.

† **wynning**. *Obs.* Also 3 *wynnyng*; 4 *pl. wyn(e)wes*, *wynwys*. [repr. OE. *wining* 'leg-band', of obscure formation.

For the later plural forms cf. *penewes*, for the earlier *penegas*, var. of *peningas*, pl. of *pening* PENNY.]

A small strong rope for tying a sail; = GASKET I.

1295 *Acc. Exch. K.R.* 5/8 m. 13 Et iiii. s. in xij. duodenis de Wynnyngs emptis . . ad velum. 1296 *Ibid.* 5/20 m. 5 In filo empto ad velum et vna pecia de Wynnyng emptis de eodem. 1304 *Acc. Exch. K.R.* 12/6 m. 3 In .ij. velis, et Wynwes, et minutis cordellis. 1336 *Ibid.* 19/31 m. 5 Computat. . in CC. xx. vlnis de Beluere emptis pro Wynwes inde faciendis ad dictum velum cum eisdem ligandum. 1420 in *For. Acc.* 3 *Hen. VI.* G/2 In . . sepo Towe Wynwys et aliis diuersis ferramentis.

wynk(e, obs. ff. WING, WINK.

wynland, obs. Sc. pr. pple. of WINDLE *v.*¹

wynlas, -ase, -asse, obs. ff. WINDLASS.

wynn¹. (See quot.)

1863 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade Suppl.*, *Wynn*, a kind of timber truck or carriage. [1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.* 2823/2 *Wynd*, a truck or low carriage.]

wynn²: see WYN.

wynscott, obs. Sc. f. WAINSCOT.

wyntermyte: see VITREMYTE.

wynwes, pl.: see WYNING.

wyolence, -ent, obs. Sc. ff. VIOLENCE, VIOLENT.

wyolet, obs. f. VIOLET.

wype (warp). Now *dial.* Also 7, 9 *wipe*. [Of doubtful etymology; perh. echoic, from its call. Cf. (M)Sw. and Norw. *vipa*, Sw. *tofsvipa*, Da. *vibe*, also PEESWEEP, PEEWEEP.] The lapwing.

c 1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 165 [La vanele ele pounzot; gloss] a wype and waschere. c 1425 *Voc.* in Wr. Wülcker 640 *Hec vpipe*, wype. 1512 in *Earl Northumb. Househ. Bk.* (1770) 104 It is thought goode that Wypes be made for my Lordes own Mees onely. 15 . . *Parlt. Byrdes* 305 Though thou be hasty, as the wype, And thy feders, flyght rype. 1579 HAKE *Newses out of Powles* Dijb, Right Plouer, Snype, and Woodcock fine with Curlew, Wype and Rayle. 1825 J. MACKINNON *Messingham* (1881) 18 Plover are here called Wipes, or Pywipes. 1895 *E. Angl. Gloss.* 251 *Wypes*, . . the lapwing or plover.

wyp(p)e, obs. ff. WHIP.

wyppit, **wypt**, obs. pa. t. and pple. of WIPE *v.*

wyr, Sc. var. VIRE *sb.*¹ *Obs.*

wyrall, obs. f. VIRL.

wyrch, obs. var. WORK *v.*

wyrckyn, **wyrkyn**, obs. ff. FIRKIN.

1480 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 54 Yowr ij wyrkyns whon of samon and the tothyr of tony. *Ibid.* 177 A wyrckyn with gonstonys.

wyrd(e, obs. variant of WEIRD *sb.*

wyre, Sc. var. VIRE *v.*¹ *Obs.*

wyrfolk, obs. variant of WORKFOLK.

wyrgyne, obs. Sc. f. VIRGIN.

wyrie, **wyry**(e, etc., obs. var. WORRY *v.*

wyris land: see URE *sb.*⁴

wyrk, **wyrle**, **wyrne**, **wyroa(u)nce**, etc., obs. ff. WORK *v.*, WHIRL *v.*, QUERN, WEROWANCE.

wyrok, Sc. var. WIRROCK.

wyrstyle, obs. f. WARSLE *v.*

wyrt, obs. Sc. f. WRIT *sb.*

wys: see BE *v.* A. 6, VICE *sb.*, VISE *v.*¹, WIS, WISE.

wysage, obs. Sc. f. VISAGE.

wysar, etc., obs. ff. VISOR, WIZARD *sb.*

wyse, var. VISE *v.*¹ *Obs.*; obs. f. WISE.

wysh, var. WIS *v.*¹ *Obs.*

wysiwyg ('wiziwig). Also WYSIWYG. [Acronym (see quotes. 1984).] (See quotes.)

1982 *Byte* Apr. 264/2 'What you see is what you get' (or WYSIWYG) refers to the situation in which the display screen portrays an accurate rendition of the printed page. 1982 *Economist* 1 May 8 If he wishes to converse with computer buffs, he will have to cope with neologisms such as 'wysiwyg' (what you see is what you get), pronounced 'whizziwig'. 1984 *Sci. Amer.* Sept. 54/3 Perhaps the most important principle is WYSIWYG ('What you see is what you get'): the image on the screen is always a faithful representation of the user's illusion. *Ibid.* 135/1 The resulting interface between the computer and the user would then fall into the class of interfaces known as WYSIWYG, which stands for 'What you see is what you get'.

wysk, obs. Sc. var. WHISK *sb.*

wysle, var. WIZLE *dial.*

wysment, Sc. var. VISEMENT *Obs.*

wysnit, -yt, obs. Sc. ff. WIZENED *a.*

wyson, Sc. or north. f. WEASAND.

wyss(e, etc., varr. WIS *adv.* and *v.*¹ *Obs.*; obs. ff. WISE.

wyssel, obs. f. WHISTLE *v.*

wysshe, etc., obs. pa. t. of WASH *v.*

wyssshene, obs. f. CUSHION *sb.*

wyst(e, obs. pa. t. and pple. of WIT *v.*¹

wyste, southern ME. var. FIST *sb.*¹

1422 YONGE tr. *Secreta Secret.* 156 The honde . . that nowe in leynthe othyr in Palme hym streythth, agayn into a wyste hym cloyth.

wystel, **wystyll**: see WHISTLE, WISSEL.

wyt, obs. f. WHIT, WHITE, WIGHT, WIT.

wytale, **wytch**(e, obs. ff. VICTUAL, WITCH.

wytch(e, obs. ff. WHITCH (a chest).

1558-9 *Will A. Cole* (Somerset Ho.), A wytche in the universitie of Oxorde called Cista Antiqua universitatis.

wyte, obs. f. WHITE, WIGHT, WIT; var. WITE.

wyte-, **wythsave**, obs. varr. VOUCHSAFE *v.*

wytel(e, obs. ff. WHITTLE *sb.*¹

wytenge, obs. f. WHITING *sb.*

wytenonfa, var. WEDENONFA' *Sc. Obs.*

wyth(e, obs. ff. WHITE, WIGHT, WITH, WITHE.

wythen(n)e, varr. WHETHEN *Obs.*

wyther, -yr(e, obs. Sc. ff. OTHER.

Wyth-sunday, obs. form of WHIT SUNDAY.

wytht(e, obs. ff. WHITE, WIGHT.

wypy, contr. f. *with thi*: see WITH *prep.* 6.

wytsaffe, -saue, etc., obs. varr. VOUCHSAFE *v.*

Wytson(e, obs. ff. WHITSUN.

wytstare, obs. f. WHITSTER.

wytt(e, obs. ff. WEIGHT *sb.*, WHITE, WIT *sb.* and *v.*

wyttail(e, obs. varr. VICTUAL.

wytyng, obs. f. WHITING *vbl. sb.*

wyue, **wyve**, obs. ff. WIFE *sb.*, WIVE *v.*

wyvel, etc., obs. ff. WEEVIL.

wyver, obs. Sc. var. WEAVER¹.

† **wyver**. *Obs.* Forms: 4 *guiure*, 5 *gwyuer* (gwuer), 4-5 *wiuere*, 5 *wiver*, 6-7 *wiuer*; 4-5 *wyuere*, 5-7 *wyuer*, 7 *wyver*. [a. OF. *wyvere*, *wivre*, *guivre* (F. *guivre*, *givre*), etc., varr. *vivre* serpent: see VIVER².]

1. A viper. Also *fig.* and in *fig.* context.

13 . . *K. Alis.* 5609 (Laud MS.), Addres, guiures, & dragouns, Wolden pis folk . . Envenymen & abite. c 1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* III. 1010 Ialousey . . pat wikkede wyuere. 1387-8 T. USK *Test. Love* III. v. (Skeat) l. 34 Wherefore . . ye ne ought . . accompte thilke thing [sc. jealousy] among these other welked wivers and venomous serpentes, as envy, mistrust, and yvel speche. c 1400 *Partonope* 7079 Now is he allone in þe wilderness Amonge wyuerse and serpentes. *Ibid.* 7254 Maruk shewed hir grete lyons, . . Dragons, Wyuers, and eke serpentes.

2. *Her.* = WYVERN I.

1599 THYNN *Animadv.* (1875) 41 A Wyuer is a kynde of serpent of good Bulke, not vnlyke vnto a dragon, of whose kinde he is, a thinge well knowen vnto the Heroldes, vsinge the same for armes, and crestes, & supporters. *Ibid.* 42 The erle of Kent beareth a wiuer for his Creste and supporters; the erle of Penbroke, a wiuer vert for his Creste. 1631 WEEVER *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 293 A wiuer volant. *Ibid.* 294 A Wyuer being the Armes of Hugh Brent Esquire. 1678 PHILLIPS (ed. 4), *Wyver*, the name of an Animal, little known otherwise than as it is depicted in Blazonry. 3. *wyver-fish*, some chimerical fish. *nonce-use.* 1857 MEREDITH *Farina* ix. 153 Upon that he [sc. the Demon] shot out his wings, that were like the fins of the wyver-fish, sharpened in venomous points.

wyvern ('waɪvən). Also 7 *wiu*-, *wiverne*, 8-9 *wivern* (8 *wefforne*). [f. prec., with excrescent -n (see note on BITTERN¹).]

1. *Her.* A representation of a chimerical animal imagined as a winged dragon with two feet like those of an eagle, and a serpent-like, barbed tail.

1610 GUILLIM *Heraldry* III. xxvi. 182 So doth the Wiuerne partake of a Fowle in the Wings and Legs, . . and doth resemble a Serpent in the Taile. 1682 J. GIBBON *Introd. ad Lat. Blazoniam* 123 This Dragon hath but two Legs, and so is the same with our Wiverne. 1716 S. KENT

Gramm. Her. s.v. *Drake*, He beareth Argent, a Wivern, his Wings displaid and Tail nowed Gules. **1780** *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 2) V. 3605/2 A Wivern volant Bendways Sable. *Ibid.*, A Wyvern with a human Face. **1822** GAGE *Hengrave* 38 A squirrel...impaling a coat argent, on a chevron, between three wyvern's heads. **1864** BOUTELL *Her. Hist. & Pop.* x. 68 Two Wyverns also support the shield of the Duke of Rutland. **1882** CUSSANS *Her.* (1893) 100 The wings of the Dragon...and Wyvern are always represented as addorsed. *attrib.* **1688** HOLME *Armoury* II. 214/1 He beareth Vert, ... a Wivern-Wolf. *Ibid.*, He beareth Azure, a Wivern-Serpent, Or.

b. An image or figure of this monster.

1863 *Chr. Remembrancer* Oct. 436 The name of S. Romanus...is still dear to the boys and girls of Norman villages by sundry processions of dragons, wyverns,...made

of combustibles. **1864** TENNYSON *Aylmer's F.* 17 Sir Aylmer Aylmer, that almighty man...Whose blazing wyvern weathercock'd the spire. *Ibid.* 516 The manorial lord...Burst his own wyvern on the seal, and read...a letter from his child.

2. Such a monster conceived as having a real existence.

? a **1700** in Surtees *Hist. Durham* (1823) III. 243 Sir John Conyers, Knt., slew y^t monstrous, and poysonous vermine or wyverne, an aske or werme, wh[ich] overthrew and devoured many people in fight. **1820** SURTEES *Ibid.* II. 172 [He] goes forth to slay wolf, bear, or wivern. **1835** BROWNING *Paracelsus* II. 454 Lakes which...Blaze like a wyvern flying round the sun. **1869** *Tales fr. Blackwood* XV. 74 As if she had been a Wyvern or a Gorgon.

wyvoll, wyvyl, obs. ff. WEEVIL.

wywe, obs. f. WEAVE *v.*

wywere, obs. var. VIVER¹.

wyyfe, wy3ffe, obs. ff. WIFE.

wyys, obs. f. WISE *a.*

wyzen, Sc. or north. f. WEASAND.

X

X (eks), pl. X's, Xs ('eksɪz), the twenty-fourth letter of the modern and the twenty-first of the ancient Roman alphabet, corresponding in form and position to the Greek *Χ*. The early Greek forms + *X* represented the aspirated voiceless velar (kh) in the Ionian alphabet, and (ks) in the Chalcidian alphabet. (In the former, (ks) was denoted by Ξ, in the latter, (kh) was denoted by ψ.) *X* was adopted by the Latins with the value (ks) from the Greek alphabet introduced into Italy. The ancient Roman name of the letter was *ix*, which is that given by Ælfric in his Grammar (c 1000).

Words having initial *x* (pronounced as *z*) in English are nearly all of Greek origin; a few, as *xebec*, *Xerez*, have *x* representing early Sp. *x* (now *j*). In OE. *x* was used medially and finally as a variant spelling of *cs* (whether original or standing for *sc*), e.g. *æx*, *eax* = *æcus*, *acus*, *æsc* AXE, *āxian* = *ācsian*, *ācsian* to ASK, *fixas*, pl. of *fisc* FISH, *fixian* = *fiscian* to FISH, *waxan* = *wascan* to WASH. Other variants are *cx*, *hx*, *xs*, *cx*s, *hxs*, as *meohx*, *micxen* MIXEN, *axsan* ASHES. Similar spellings occur in the Cotton MS. of Cursor Mundi, e.g. *flexs* (s) flesh, *wexs* wash, *fixses* fishes; the same MS. has the unexplained spellings *fu(x)ol*, *foux(u)l*, etc. of FOWL sb. In East Anglian texts of the 14th to the 16th century *x* is frequently written for initial *sc*, *sch* in *xal* shall, *xuld* should; *xsal* also is found in the Paston Letters; instances of other words so written are only occasional, e.g. *xad* shed (pa. pple.), *xowyn* shove, *xuldrys* shoulders. Initial *x* stands for *sh* (or *s*) in early forms of some oriental words, as *xerif* SHERIFF (after early Sp. *xerife*), *xaraffe*, -aff SARAF, and *Xinto* SHINTO. Other temporary uses of *x*, but with its normal value (ks), are found in the once general *axes*, *axis* ACCESS, *hunx* HUNKS, and the less common *exelent* EXCELLENT, *exite* EXCITE; on the other hand *po(x)* = *pocks* has become permanent, and *so(x)* has been adopted, orig. in the hosiery trade, as a convenient shortening of *socks*.

The phonetic values of *x* in English are three, of which the commonest is (ks), as in *axis* ('æksɪs), *buxom* ('bʌksəm), *doxology* (dɒk'sɒlədʒɪ), *excuse* (ɪk'skju:s), *expense* (ɪk'spens), *oxen* ('ɒks(ə)n), *proximity* (prɒk'sɪmɪtɪ), *tax* (tæks). The pronunciation of the prefix *ex-* followed by a vowel or *h* varies according as it bears the stress or not, the general rule being that *ex-* = (eks) and *ex-* = (ɪgz), as *exile* ('eksəl), *exact* (ɪg'zækt), *exhort* (ɪg'zɔ:t); but there is considerable variety in individual words and individual usage: see *EX-* prefix¹ i note. The same general principle governs the pronunciation of *anxious* ('æŋkʃəs), *anxiety* ('æŋg'zæntɪ), *luxury* ('lʌksjʊəri, 'lʌkʃəri), *luxurious* ('lʌg'zjʊəriəs, 'lʌg'zʊəriəs) *Alexander* ('ælɪg'zɑ:n dər), -æ-), *Alexandrine* ('ælɪg'zɑ:ndrɪn, -æ-); but here also individual usage varies. The third value (z), arising from a reduction of (gz), is given in all cases to initial *x*, as *Xerxes* ('zɜ:ksɪz); this value is shown in many instances in the 17th and 18th centuries by the spelling with *z*, as *Zanthian*, *zebeck*, *Zerez*, and instances are not uncommon in the 19th century of *zantho-* and *zylo-* for *xantho-* and *xylo-*; early examples are *Zanctus Xanthus* (Lydg. *Troy Bk.* II. 731 rubric, 15th cent.), *zyph* XIPII (1572). Cf. *Santippa* Xanthop (Chaucer), *Ceres* Xerxes (Wyntoun *Chron.*, S.T.S., III. 54). A similar reduction of *x* took place in French:

x, if he be the fyrste letter of a worde, as *xenotrophe*, *xylobalsome*, whiche they sounde but s, sayenge *senotrophe*, *sylobalsome*, for they can nat gyve *x*, whiche is also a greke letter, is true souwnde. (1530 PALSGR. *Esclarc.* I. xxv.)

1. 1. The letter or its sound. *x* (rarely *X*)-height (Typogr.), the height of a printed lower-case *x*, esp. as representative of the size of the fount to which it belongs.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* (Z.) 6, *x* ana ongynd of þam stæfe i æfter uðwitena tæcinge. 1530 PALSGR. 38 Note that *x* shall never be sounded in frenche lyke as he is in latyn, or as we wolde do in our tonge, in no wyse, but lyke an *z*. c 1620 A. HUME *Brit. Tongue* (1865) 12 The top of the tongue stryking on the inward teeth formes d, l, n, r, s, t, and z. The middle tongue stryking on the rouf of the mouth formes the rest, c,

g, k, j, q, and x. 1636 B. JONSON *Engl. Gram.* I. iv, *X* is rather an abbreviation, or way of writing with us, then a Letter;... It begins no word with us, that I know, but ends many. 1735 MIDDLETON *Diss. Orig. Printing Eng.* 7, I take the Date in question to have been falsified originally by the Printer, ... and an *x* to have been dropt, ... in the Age of its Impression. 1845 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg. Ser.* III. *Lord of Thoulouse* xxi, His cap, and his queer cloak all *X*'s and Izzards. a 1849 POE *Tales, X-ing a Paragrab*, When the exigency does occur, it almost always happens that *x* is adopted as a substitute for the letter deficient. 1864 BOUTELL *Her. Hist. & Pop.* xxi. (ed. 3) 360 Az., on a cross arg., the letter *X* sa. 1878 W. J. CRIPPS *Old Engl. Plate* 110 Much of the old... plate of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries that is still to be found in the counties of Devon and Cornwall bears the old Exeter mark, which was a large Roman capital letter *X* crowned. 1945 J. C. TARR *Printing To-day* 177 *x*-height, the height of lower-case letters (excluding descenders and ascenders), i.e. the height of a lower-case *x*. 1959 T. HARROD *Librar. Gloss.* (ed. 2), 99 *Descender*, ... that part which extends below the 'X' height. 1964 P. A. D. MACCARTHY in D. Abercrombie et al. *Daniel Jones* 160 Any attempt to preserve traditional usage by having only *x*-height letters for vowels. 1978 J. LEWIS *Typography* ii. 79 Typefaces with a large *x*-height are more suitable for an age accustomed to reading sans serif signs... VIP Palatino is another large *x*-height typeface.

b. The letter considered with regard to its shape: chiefly *attrib.* and *Comb.* Hence identified with a cross. *X's and O's*: the game of noughts and crosses. *X chair*, a chair in which the underframe resembles the letter *X* in shape; so *X-frame* (usu. *attrib.*).

1545 ELYOT, *Decussis*... is also a fourme in any thyng representynge the letter *X*, whiche parted in the myddell maketh an other figure called *Quincunx*, V. 1769 in C. Welsh *Bookseller of Last Cent.* 354 Those [books] with an *X*. 1798 *Hull Advertiser* 28 July 2/1 Chairs in sets... with W tableau and X backs. 1837 HEBERT *Engin. & Mech. Encycl.* II. 876 The said pin traverses the *X* groove from side to side. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XV. 176/1 Suppose a cross like an *X* or *V* to be cut out of brass-plate. 1861 HAGEN *Synopsis Neuroptera N. Amer.* 213 An *x*-shaped spot. 1866 BLACKMORE *Cradock Nowell* xii, The boy leaped the new *X* fence very cleverly. 1893 SELOUS *Trav. S.E. Africa* 402, I will write your name... on the paper... and you must make an 'x' behind your name. 1894 CROCKETT *Raiders* 92 It wasna playing at *x*'s and *o*'s to be steering for that crossbones of a Dutchman. 1899 JESSE L. WILLIAMS *Stolen Story*, etc. 54 Billy, reaching the end of the page, made a double *X* mark to show that it was the end of the story. 1904 P. MACQUOID *Hist. Eng. Furnit.* iii. 52 It is a very common error to assign all these 'X' chairs to foreign importation. 1911 P. BRIDGES *Green Wave of Destiny* xiv. 211 There was just room between the humps for two narrow sacks placed *X*-wise. 1918 [see SAVONAROLA 2]. 1945 *Burlington Mag.* May 110/2 These *X* chairs throughout the sixteenth century, when made for the homes of the wealthy, were covered with rich cloths of gold, velvets, and silks. 1955 R. FASTNEDGE *Eng. Furnit. Styles* i. 33 (caption) Arm chair of *X*-frame construction... Early seventeenth century. 1961 L. G. G. RAMSEY *Connoisseur New Guide to Antique Eng. Furnit.* 20 Another form of chair, of different origin from the boxchair, was the *X* chair... Both chairs are assigned to about the same period—that is the middle of the sixteenth century. 1976 *X-frame* [see SADDLE SEAT 3b].

c. Used like other letters of the alphabet to denote serial order, as in the signatures of the sheets of a book, the batteries of the Royal Horse Artillery, etc.

d. Used to mark a location on a map or the like; esp. in phr. *X marks the spot* and varr.

1813 M. EDGEWORTH *Let.* 16 May (1971) 59 The three crosses *X* mark the three places where we were let in. 1918 J. M. BARRIE *Echoes of War* 5 In the rough sketch drawn for to-morrow's press, 'Street in which the criminal resided'... you will find Mrs. Dowey's home therein marked with a *X*. 1928 R. KNOX *Footsteps at Lock* iv. 36, I wish I could be there, to see you diving in the mud on the spot marked with an *X*. 1968 B. NORMAN *Hounds of Sparta* ix. 64 A message from our alcoholic friend. *X* seems to mark the spot where he lives.

II. Symbolic uses.

2. The Roman numeral symbol for ten (or twentieth); so *xx* = twenty (in early use also for 'score', as *iiij^{xx}* = 'three score', 60; also occas. *xxx^{ti}* = *L. viginti*), *xxx*, occas. *xxx^v* = thirty, etc.

c 1000 O.E. *Chron.* an. 409 (Parker MS.) þæt wæs embe .xi. hund wintra & x. wintra þes þe heo getimbrod was. a 1400 Wyclif's *Bible* Prol. (1850) I. 17 There weren not left... no but v. hundred horsmen, and x. charis, and x. thousand of footmen. 1426 AUDELEY *Poems* (Percy Soc.) 71 3our x. comawndmentis 3e most con. c 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* (Roxb.) 146 The feest of kyng Aswere was ix^{xx} dayes duryng. 1478 W. PASTON in P. Lett. III. 237 He seythe ye be xx^{ys}. in hys dette. 1481 *Howard Househ. Bks.* (Roxb.) 9 For j.m. j^c iiij^{xx} maryners. 1481-90 *Ibid.* 451 The nombir of the horse ys vij^{xx} iij. 1488 *Henry's Wallace* v. 909 *Xxx^v* with him off nobill men at wage. 1489 MARG. PASTON in P. Lett. III. 350 Wretyn at London, the x. day of Februar. 1535 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 126 To my valentyne Agnes Illyon xs. 1537 CROMWELL in *Merriman Life & Lett.* (1902) II. 53 Frome London the xth daye of Apryll. 1638 FORD *Fancies* III. ii, If my watch keep faire decorum, Three quarters have neere past the figure *X*. 1686 BURNET *Trav.* 241 Pope Leo the *Xs* time.

† b. *x*: abbreviation of *December*. *Obs.*

1624 SIR W. ASTON in Goodman *Court Jas.* I (1839) II. 369 Madrid, 24 of *X^r* 1624.

c. *x*: a ten-dollar note. *XX*: a twenty-dollar note. *U.S. colloq.*

1837 *Knickerbocker Mag.* IX. 96 My wallet... distended with *V*'s and *X*'s to its utmost capacity. 1883 F. M. CRAWFORD *Dr. Claudius* xx, The Custom-House officials... who know the green side of a *XX*.

3. In *Algebra* and *Higher Mathematics* used as the symbol for an unknown or variable quantity (or for the first of such quantities, the others being denoted by *y*, *z*, etc.); *spec.* in analytical geometry, the sign for an abscissa, or quantity measured along the principal axis of co-ordinates (hence called the *axis of x*; now always *x-axis*; also *transf.*). *X-cut* adj. (Electronics), of, pertaining to, or designating a quartz crystal cut in a plane normal to its *X*-axis; *X-plate* (Electronics), each of a pair of electrodes in an oscilloscope that control the horizontal movement of the spot across the screen. Hence allusively for something unknown or undetermined (also *attrib.* and in *Comb.*). See also *X-RAY*.

The introduction of *x*, *y*, *z* as symbols of unknown quantities is due to Descartes (*Géométrie*, 1637), who, in order to provide symbols of unknowns corresponding to the symbols *a*, *b*, *c* of knowns, took the last letter of the alphabet, *z*, for the first unknown and proceeded backwards to *y* and *x* for the second and third respectively. There is no evidence in support of the hypothesis that *x* is derived ultimately from the mediæval transliteration *xei* of ش *shei* 'thing', used by the Arabs to denote the unknown quantity, or from the compendium for *L. res* 'thing' or *radix* 'root' (resembling a loosely-written *x*), used by mediæval mathematicians.

1660 J. MOORE *Arith.* II. i. § 19. 16 (*Algebra*) Note always the given quantities or numbers with Consonants, and those which are sought with Vowels, or else the given quantities with the former letters in the Alphabet, and the sought with the last sort of letters, as *x y z*, &c. lest you make a confusion in your work. 1709 J. WARD *Yng. Math. Guide* iv. iii. (1713) 380 Let *y* = *As* the Abscissa, and *z* = *SP*, put *x* = *Aa* the Distance between the two Semi-ordinates; which we suppose to be infinitely near each other. 1726 E. STONE *New Math. Dict.* s.v. *Conoid*, If *a* be equal to the Transverse Axis of the Hyperbola, generating a Conoid, and *x* be the Height of the Conoid, or the Absciss of the Hyperbola. 1771 *Encycl. Brit.* II. 269 The equation of any curve, is an algebraic expression, which denotes the relation betwixt the ordinate and abscissa; the abscissa being equal to *x*, and the ordinate equal to *y*. 1839 *Penny Cycl.* XIII. 175/2 (*Kant*) What is that unknown principle (= *X*) on which the understanding relies, when of the subject *A* it finds a foreign predicate *B*, and believes itself justified in asserting their necessary connexion? 1885 J. CASEY *Treat. Analytical Geom.* ii. 22 If the equation of the line contains no *x*, it is parallel to the axis of *x*; and if it contains no *y*, it is parallel to the axis of *y*. 1886 W. B. SMITH *Elem. Co-Ordinate Geom.* I. i. 10 *OX*, *OY*, are called Co-ordinate Axes, or axes of *X* and *Y*, or *X*- and *Y*-axes. 1893 F. ADAMS *New Egypt* 29 The *x* of the Egyptian equation being pretty obviously the Egyptian people. 1898 W. T. STEAD in *Daily News* 8 Nov. 5/4 What manner of man is its author? He is the *X* in the equation. 1898 A. LANG *Making Relig.* ii. 15 Research in the *X*-region is not a new thing under the sun. 1903 GREENOUGH & KITTREDGE *Words* v. 53 To make fun of the *x*'s and *y*'s of the algebraist. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 12 May 4/3 There is 'a wholesome distrust,' says Professor Ewing, 'of what may be called *x*-chasing.' 1929 *Internat. Critical Tables* (U.S. Nat. Res. Council) VI. 211/1 The *x*-axis coincides with the crystallographic *c*-axis of 3-fold symmetry, the *y*-axis is ⊥ to a face of the hexagonal first order prism, and, in dextro crystals, the + direction of the *x*-axis is outward toward one of the faces... of the trigonal pyramid. 1930 W. G. CADY in *Proc. IRE* XVIII. 2139 We consider first the manner of indicating the orientation of the more common 'cuts' [in quartz crystals]. ... In the first case, we have the cut variously referred to in the literature as 'Curie cut'... or 'normal cut'... However, a still more concise term would be the '*X*-cut', denoting a plate the normal to whose face, and hence for which the applied electric field, is parallel to an *X*-axis. Similarly, the term '*Y*-cut' would apply to the second type of quartz plate, which has hitherto been referred to as the '30-deg. cut' or 'parallel cut'. 1933 J. H. MORECROFT *Electron Tubes* xii. 337 The velocity of [compression] wave travel is different in the *Y* axis direction from that along the *X* axis. *Ibid.* 338 An *X*-cut plate has a negative temperature coefficient, i.e. the frequency of oscillation decreases as the temperature rises. ... The *Y*-cut plates have a positive coefficient. 1934 J. H. REYNER *Television* vii. 71 We then apply a suitable periodic voltage across the *X* plates which spreads the trace-out at right angles and produces a pattern on the screen. 1945 *Electronic Engin.* XVII. 723 These two equations define the components of the velocity of the spot along the *X* and *Y* axes. 1946 *Ibid.* XVIII. 23/1 A D.C. connexion must be made between the output of the time base and the *X* plates of the tube. 1969 *Funk & Wagnalls Dict. Electronics* 170/1 *X*-axis, in a quartz crystal, a reference axis chosen so as to connect two opposite vertices of its hexagonal cross section; one of the axes showing the greatest electrical activity. 1973 S. K. STEIN *Calculus & Analytical Geom.* ii. 26 Far to the right and to the left the graph gets closer and closer to the *x* axis without ever touching it. 1978 D. T. REES *Cathode Ray Oscilloscope* 9 A voltage applied to the *X*-plates will deflect the beam sideways. 1982 *IEEE Trans. Industr. Electronics* XXIX. 158/1 The rotated *X*-cut orientation has been found

to be optimum from the viewpoint of its frequency versus temperature and pressure characteristics. 1983 V. M. RISTIC *Princ. Acoustic Devices* vi. 180 The relationship between the natural axes a, b, c and the crystallographic axes X, Y, Z must be known in order to use the proper constants. These relationships, for each crystal system, have been adopted by convention. Various piezoelectric, elastic, and other constants of a particular crystal specimen are evaluated in terms of X, Y, Z axes.

b. Hence used *attrib.* as an indeterminate numeral adj. = 'an unknown number of..'. Chiefly *humorous*.

1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xi. The black porker's killed —weighed x stone. 1904 *Brit. Med. Jnl.* 15 Oct. 965 In the union of egg and sperm we witness the joining together of but two sets of characters and not that of ' x ' sets derived from as many ancestors.

c. Put for a person's name when unknown or left undetermined. Also $X. Y.$ (See also 5.)

1797 in *Corr. Pinckney, Marshall & Gerry* (1798) 36 We have promised Messrs. $X.$ and $Y.$ that their names shall in no event be made public. 1798 *Ibid.* 23 The names designated by the letters $W. X. Y. Z.$ in the following copies of letters from the Envoys of the United States to the French Republic. 1810 BENTHAM *Packing* (1821) 125 As to Mr. x , I borrow, on this occasion for his use, one of the names employed by mathematicians for the designation of their unknown quantities. 1848 THACKERAY *Ballads of Policeman X, Bow Street* ad fin., Pleaceman X 54. *Ibid.* *Three Christmas Waits* I My name is Pleaceman X . 1853 LYTTON *My Novel* xii. iv. The house-steward... was in fact the veritable XY of the *Times* [newspaper], for whom Dick Avenel had been mistaken. 1857 DICKENS *Dorrit* ii. xii. The son of P. Q... whom we would call $X. Y.$ 1873 H. DRUMMOND *New Evangelism* etc. (1899) 199 X won't be preached to along with Y and Z and Q ; that won't do X any good, for he thinks it is all meant for $Y, Z,$ and Q . 1899 O. SEAMAN *In Cap & Bells* (1900) 47 For terror of the Law and him that waits Outside, the unknown X , to hale us hence. 1901 ELINOR GLYN *Visits Elizabeth* (1906) 70 You feel obliged to ask the X 's, the Y 's, and the Z 's from duty, and so you do... This is the kind of assortment that arrives: Papa X , Mamma X , and two girl X 'es; Papa Y , Mamma Y , and Master and Miss Y ; Papa Z , Mamma Z , Aunt Z , and Middle Z —such a party!

d. In wireless telegraphy (also in comb. *x-stopper*): see quot.

1906 J. A. FLEMING *Princ. Electric Wave Electr.* ix. 611 The electric discharges due to atmospheric electricity create electromagnetic waves of an irregular type, which interfere with wireless telegraphy by causing irregular signals. These are technically termed X 's... Means have been devised for sifting out the waves due to these irregular atmospheric disturbances... One of these devices, due to Mr. Marconi, has received the name of an X -stopper.

e. *Genetics*. (Now always as a capital.) [First used in German by H. Henking 1891, in *Zeitschr. f. wissensch. Zool.* LI. 706.] The symbol of the X CHROMOSOME. So X -linked (stress variable) $a.$, being or determined by a gene that is carried on the X chromosome.

1902 T. H. MONTGOMERY in *Trans. Amer. Philos. Soc.* XX. 177 One of these three [chromosomes of *Protenor belfragei*], that designated x in Figs. 119–123, imposes by its relatively very large volume... We shall call this the 'chromosome x '. 1902 *Biol. Bull.* Dec. 29 (caption) All the chromosomes including the accessory (x), show indications of a longitudinal split. 1909 E. B. WILSON in *Science* 8 Jan. 57/1 In all the species half the spermatozoa are characterized by the presence of a special nuclear element which I shall call the ' X -element', while the other half fail to receive this element. 1910 [see HETEROGAMETIC $a.$]. 1911 *Biol. Bull.* Jan. 118 The case of the aphids and phyloxerans has been the strongest argument for the hypothesis that two X chromosomes (in mosquitoes) give a female and... XY a male. 1949 DARLINGTON & MATHER *Elem. Genetics* ii. 49 The tortoiseshell cat is heterozygous for the X -linked gene, one allelomorph of which gives black, the other yellow, when homozygous. 1968 M. W. STRICKBERGER *Genetics* xii. 216 In some instances, both compound X 's and compound Y 's may be found together in the same species. An extreme example of compound sex chromosomes occurs in the beetle *Blaps polychresta*, where the male has 12 X 's and 6 Y 's in addition to 18 autosomes. 1977 N. V. ROTHWELL *Human Genetics* iv. 83 One important point to note is that a male never passes an X -linked gene to his sons. 1983 *Oxf. Textbk. Med.* i. iv. 16/2 The triple X female with 47 chromosomes shows very little physical abnormality... It is possible that only one X is working in any cell at a given time. 1983 [see Y CHROMOSOME].

f. *x-chaser*, etc.: a naval officer proficient in examinations or good at his work (see also quot. 1946, 1962). *slang*.

1904 'VANDERDECKEN' *Mod. Officer of Watch* vi. 64 To get on at sea it is not necessary to be an X hunter, a man may be a smart officer without ever having been near enough to an X to drop salt on its tail. 1912 'AURORA' *Jock Scott, Midshipman* i. 4 He was what we called an x catcher; in fact, he passed out of the *Britannia* a midshipman and was wearing his patches the day he left. 1916 'TAFFRAIL' *Pincher Martin* v. 71 He was an x -chaser, in that he had done remarkably well in all his different examinations. 1946 J. IRVING *Royal Navalese* 190 X chaser, a mathematically minded man; a theoretician. Also, a navigating officer who has qualified... as the navigator of a First Class ship. 1962 A. G. COURSE *Dict. Naut. Terms* 215 X chaser, a meticulous navigator in the Royal Navy.

g. In the analysis of games of Bridge x represents a card between 2 and 9, inclusive.

1920 A. G. L. OWEN *Mod. Bridge* ii. 56 A similar position is this:— Z xxx A King xx BJ 10 xx YAQ. If A leads his King, Y makes Ace and Queen. 1933 C. VANDYCK *Contract Contracted* i. 10 x = any small card... An easy way of remembering the Kx and Qx in different suits is to think of it as the *Grand Marriage*. 1959 REESE & DORMER *Bridge Player's Dict.* 14 East holds... Kxxx. 1972 *Country Life* 4

May 11/193 The trump finesse could not gain, even if East held Q xx.

h. *x-question* (Linguistics) (see quot.)

1924 JESPERSEN *Philos. Gram.* xxii. 303 In the other kind of questions we have an unknown 'quantity'... We may therefore use the well-known symbol x for the unknown and the term *x-question* for a question aiming at finding out what x stands for. 1957 S. POTTER *Mod. Linguistics* iii. 71 Tune 1 falls after the turn. It is used in completed statements, in direct commands, and in special or x -questions which cannot be answered by 'yes' or 'no' and which are generally introduced by an interrogative pronoun or adverb. 1964 M. CHAPALLAZ in D. Abercrombie et al. *Daniel Jones* 306 X -questions, that is, questions beginning with a specific interrogative word.

i. *Genetics*. (Now written as lower case.) A symbol representing the lowest number of chromosomes which make up a genome; freq. with preceding number, designating the number of sets of these in a cell, or in each cell of an organism.

1924 *Hereditas* V. 144 Summarizing our results on the chromosome set in *C[arex] pilulifera*, we may now state that this species has 9 chromosomes (X) of which there are 3 long, 4 medium and 2 short ones. *Ibid.* 161 In *Triticum Sakamura*... and *Sax.* found one species with 14 chromosomes ($2X$), four species with 28 and three with 42 chromosomes. 1932 C. D. DARLINGTON *Recent Adv. Cytol.* iii. 61 Since a zygote usually receives two similar sets of chromosomes from its two parental gametes, their number is conventionally referred to as $2n$; where the chromosomes pair regularly at meiosis they therefore form n pairs. Now in a particular individual these $2n$ chromosomes may consist of three sets or four sets of chromosomes relative to its own parents or ancestors. In the present work, therefore, the 'basic number' of this ancestral set is distinguished by the sign x . Thus in *Triticum vulgare* $2n = 42$ and $x = 7$, the somatic chromosome number is therefore hexaploid ($6x$). 1979 A. F. DYER *Investigating Chromosomes* ii. 47/2 *Rosa canina* ($2n = 5x = 35 = AABCD$). 1980 J. SCHULZ-SCHAEFFER *Cytogenetics* vii. 122 Very often, ploidy levels are erroneously reported for n -numbers. But the number reserved for ploidy levels is the x -number or basic genome number ($x, 2x, 4x, 6x$, etc.).

j. *X factor* (Mil. colloq.), the aspects of a serviceman's life that have no civilian equivalent; pay made in recognition of these.

1969 *Second Rep. Pay Armed Forces* (Nat. Board for Prices & Incomes) vi. 21 in *Parl. Papers* (Cmd. 4079) 517 There are special conditions of employment... common to all servicemen and which... make it more uncertain and on occasions more hazardous than the normal... employment in civilian life... The elements... constitute, what we have termed the X factor. 1979 *Navy News* May 48/3 The Ministry of Defence have proposed a substantial increase in the X factor across the board on the grounds that the elements that make up the justification for it have shifted to the disadvantage of the Services.

4. In designations of brands of ale, stout, or porter, XX or double X denotes a medium quality, XXX or treble X the strongest quality. Also in the marking of qualities of tin-plate.

1827 HONE *Every-day Bk.* II. 11 A lover of the best London porter and double XX . 1828 MISS MITFORD *Village Ser.* III. (1863) 47 His best double X . 1839 BARHAM *Ingl. Leg. Ser.* i. *St. Dunstan*, Keep clear of Broomsticks, Old Nick, and three XXX 's. 1839 *URE Dict. Arts*, etc. 1254 The following Table shows the several sizes of tin plates [and] the marks by which they are distinguished... Common, No. 1... c. 1... Two crosses, 1... xx. 1. Three crosses, 1... xxx. 1. Four crosses, 1... xxxx. 1. 1854 R. S. SURTEES *Handley Cr.* ix. (1901) 75 'And you musicians', turning to the promenade band, who were hard at work with some XX , 'be getting your instruments ready.' 1856 GEO. ELIOT *Ess.* (1884) 87 Barclay's treble X . 1886 A. G. MURDOCH *Sc. Readings* Ser. 1. 98 The XXX stout was brought in.

5. XYZ : used to denote some thing or person unknown or undetermined (cf. 3).

1808 COLERIDGE *Lett. to J. P. Estlin* (1884) 105, I use it rather as an $X Y Z$, an unknown quantity. 1813 BYRON *Let.* 23 Nov., Wks. 1832 II. 269 Junius was $X. Y. Z.$, Esq. a 1834 COLERIDGE *Ess. Faith in Lit. Rem.* (1839) IV. 426 [This] determines whether $X Y Z$ be a thing or a person. 1885 J. K. JEROME *On the Stage* ii. Among the sham agents must be classed the 'Professors,' or ' $X. Y. Z.$'s.'

6. Used to represent a kiss, esp. in the subscription to a letter.

1763 G. WHITE *Lett.* (1901) I. vii. 132, I am with many a xxxxxxx and many a Pater noster and Ave Maria, Gil. White. 1894 W. S. CHURCHILL *Let.* 14 Mar. in R. S. Churchill *Winston S. Churchill* I. Compan. 1. (1967) vii. 456 Please excuse bad writing as I am in an awful hurry. (Many kisses.) xxx WSC. 1951 S. PLATH *Let.* 7 July (1975) 1. 72 Some gal by the name of Sylvia Plath sure has something—but who is she anyhow?... x x x Sivvy. 1953 DYLAN THOMAS *Under Milk Wood* (1954) 41 Yours for ever. Then twenty-one X 's. 1982 C. FREMLIN *Parasite Person* vi. 40 A row of ' X 's', hurried kisses, all he had time to scribble.

7. *X-band*: the range of microwave frequencies around 10,000 megahertz, used in radar transmission.

1946 *Radar: Summary Rep. & Harp Project* (U.S. Nat. Defense Res. Comm., Div. 14) 144/2 *X-band*, refers to wavelengths around 3 cm. 1952 [see *S-band* s.v. S. 12]. 1976 *Sci. Amer.* June 72/1 Most spacecraft now transmit to the earth a second radio signal at an X -band frequency (8.5 gigahertz).

8. *Cinemat.* X is used to denote films classified as suitable for adults only, or to which only those older than a certain age are to be admitted; so *X-rated* adj. (hence *X-rate* vb. trans.), *X-rating* vbl. sb. Also *fig.*

In Britain replaced by 15 and 18 in 1983. 1950 *Rep. Departm. Comm. on Children & Cinema* 64 in *Parl. Papers* (Cmd. 7945) VII. 238 We recommend that a

new category of films be established (which might be called ' X ') from which children under 16 should be entirely excluded. 1950 *Times* 14 July 8/4 The X certificates... will cover films other than those of a 'horrific' character, which are 'wholly adult in conception and treatment'. 1956 'M. INNES' *Appleby plays Chicken* i. xvii. 139 'I'm going up.' 'You're doing nothing of the sort. It's X Certificate stuff, my boy, and not for general exhibition. There's a high-up copper who says so.' 1958 *Times* 9 July 6/3 Mr. Davie... has his ' X ' certificate pictures... in which his obsessional imagery has taken on an existence, outside the vague allusiveness of the paint, which is too specific for comfort. 1970 *N. Y. Times Index* 1248/2 Panel of 3 Fed judges rules Penna's new law forbidding showing of previews of x -rated movies. 1972 *Daily Colonist* (Victoria, B.C.) 6 Feb. 2/3 There was only one explicit scene—the incest sequence—which caused the film to get an X (no one under 17 admitted). 1973 M. AMIS *Rachel Papers* 136 Sebastian had gone into Oxford to see an X film ('any X film' he said) and to moon around looking for girls with his spotty mates. 1974 *Florida FL Reporter* XIII. 35/3 'Community standards' should determine whether X -rated movies should be allowed to be shown or not. 1974 *Newsweek* 20 May 23 His communicators... kept insisting that the transcripts actually clear the President of any crime more grievous than using X -rated language and thinking unsavory thoughts. 1976 *Publishers Weekly* 24 May 54/3 Most readers will surely X -rate the author's dicta; only the far-out minority will accept them. 1981 *TV Picture Life* Mar. 6/1 For it was daytime TV shows, or 'soaps' as they are affectionately called, that first explored the ' X '-rated areas of life. 1983 *Guardian* 15 Oct. 10/7 In America... X -rating is used only for out-and-out porn.

9. *X-C* (or *XC*) *skiing* (N. Amer.) with pronounc. (krps), cross-country skiing.

1972 [see *ski-touring* s.v. *SKI* sb. 2b]. 1976 *National Observer* (U.S.) 13 Mar. 11/1 Alpine and XC skiing. 1977 *N. Y. Rev. Books* 14 Apr. 42/4 (Advt.), Midwest Photographer, 33, likes bike rides, hikes, x -c skiing, concerts, theater... seeks woman friend.

III. Abbreviations.

10. In writing the name CHRIST, esp. in abbreviated form, X or x represents the first letter (kai) of Gr. *XPICTOC khristos*, and XP or xp the first two letters (kairou). Hence in early times Xp , in modern times Xt , X' , and X , are used as abbreviations of the syllable *Christ*, alone or in derivatives; thus $\dagger Xpen$, Xpn = CHRISTEN, $\dagger Xpenned$ = CHRISTENED; $\dagger Xpian$, *Xtian(ity)* = CHRISTIAN(ITY); $XMAS$ (*Xstmas*, *Xtmas*) = CHRISTMAS.

$\dagger Xpc$ stands for *XPC* contracted form of *XPICTOC*; cf. *IHS*.

a 1100 *O.E. Chron.* an. 1021 On $Xpes$ mæsse uhtan. c 1380 WYCLIF *Serm.* Sel. Wks. I. 337 In þis word Vix ben but pree lettris, V, and I, and X. And V bitokenep fyve; I bitokenep Jesus; and X bitokenep Crist. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 19951 Xpc þi sone, pat in þis world alighte, Vp on þe cros to suffre his passioun. 1485 *Pols of Parlt.* VI. 280/1 The most famous, blessed and $Xpen$ Prince. *Ibid.* 336/1 Any Kyng or Prynce in England $Xpenned$. 1573 BARET *Alv.* s.v. Y , The long mistaking of this worde Xps , standing for Chrs by abbreviation which for lacke of knowledge in the greeke they tooke for x , p, and s, and so like-wise $Xpofer$. 1598 ROWLANDS *Betraying of Christ* (Hunter, Cl.) 25 $Xpian$ the outward, inward, not at all. 1634 *Documents, agst. Pryne* (Camden) 33 Such right... as your Xianity, place, and function jointly require. 1685–6 MS. in *Bk. Com. Pr.* 1662 (Bodl.), My first child... $Xstened$ on thursday the 28 of the same month. a 1697 AUBREY *Lives, Milton* (MS. Aubrey 8. lf. 63), He was so faire, that they called him the lady of X^{th} coll. 1711 HEARNE *Collect* (O.H.S.) III. 155 This Note I took out of a Book of M^r. Urry of X^{th} Church. 1811 Xianity [see INERASABLE $a.$]. 1842 FRANCIS *Dict. Arts*, etc. s.v., $Xmas$ for Christmas, $Xpher$ for Christopher, &c. 1845 M. ARNOLD *Let.* Mar. (1932) 55 When Tait had well observed that strict Calvinism devoted roods of mankind to be eternally,—and paused— I , with, I trust the true $Xtian$ Simplicity suggested '—'. 1915 A. HUXLEY *Let.* Oct. (1969) 79 The ethics are identical with $Xtian$ ethics. 1940 E. POUND *Cantos* lviii. 74 They drove the $Xtians$ out of Japan. 1966 D. JONES *Let.* 8–16 June in R. Hague *Dai Greatcoat* (1980) iv. 223 All chaps should be awfully good... is... more or less what the present notion of $Xtianity$ boils down to.

11. Put for the initial syllable *ex-* of a word, or as an abbreviation for a word beginning with *ex-*. x 's (slang): expenses. Also, in Stock Exchange quotations, xd = *ex dividend*, etc.

1838 MANNING *Let.* in Purcell *Life* (1896) I. xi. 230 All the ' X 's, I fear... would go out. [Note: ' X 's and Peculiars' were the nicknames given by the Tractarians to the Evangelicals... who called themselves Christians *par excellence*.] *Ibid.*, He writes as tenderly as if he thought you a serious ' X '. a 1849 POE *Tales, X-ing a Paragrab*, One gentleman thought the whole an X -ellent joke. 1885 *Daily News* 13 Mar. 2/1 New York Central Railway 92½ 92½ xd . 1894 LOUISE J. MILN *Strolling Players East* xv. 132, I think we might clear our X 's... Perhaps I should explain that ' X 's' means expenses. 1910 *Encycl. Brit.* V. 197/2 Canonists have continued to refer to the decretals of Gregory IX by the abbreviation X (*Extra*, i.e. *extra Decretum*).

b. In commercial and informal (esp. U.S.) use put for the final *-cks* (or *-cs*) of (esp. monosyllabic) words, as CLOX, PIX², SNAX, SOX.

12. *Chem.* = XENON.

x (eks), v . Pa. t. x -ed, x 'd.

1. *trans.* To supply with x 's in place of types that are wanting. *rare*—1.

a 1849 POE *Tales, X-ing a Paragrab*, 'I shell have to x this ere paragrab', said he to himself, as he read it over... So x it he did, unflinchingly, and to press it went x -ed.

2. *trans.* To obliterate (a typewritten character) by typing ' x ' over it; to cross out in this way; = *EX* *v*. Also *fig.*

1942 W. STEVENS *Let.* 28 Jan. (1967) 400, I felt that... you had x-ed me out. c1945 U. THROUBRIDGE *Life & Death Radclyffe Hall* (1961) 71 As she dictated she continued to polish and the typist had always to be prepared to 'X' out at demand any word or sentence. 1958 C. BAKER *Friend in Power* vi. 163 He set the capital key and X'd the sentence through. 1969 J. N. CHANCE *Abel Coincidence* iii. 54 You should x it off your card. 1977 J. AIKEN *Last Movement* ii. 39 She crossed out that line, x-ing it vigorously to ensure its illegibility. 1978 H. KEMELMAN *Thursday the Rabbi Walked Out* xxi. 89 You want me to make the correction on my typewriter? I can x it out.

Hence **x-ed** (*out*) *ppl. a.*, '**x-ing** (*out*) *vbl. sb.* 1966 *Punch* 31 Aug. 310/1 There shall be no 'X-ing out' of rival goods with black crosses. 1969 M. LAND *Quicksand* 59 He knew the uneven lines of his portable and the X'd-out words would annoy Dave Winters. 1982 M. McMULLEN *Until Death do us Part* (1983) v. 29 A sheet of manila paper. . . A good deal of X-ing out to be seen.

xa, xabandar, obs. ff. SHAH, SHAHBANDAR.

xal, xall(e), obs. ff. SHALL.

Xanadu ('zænədʊr). [Poetic ad. *Xandu*, i.e. Shang-tu, the Mongol city founded by Kublai Khan.] A place suggestive of the Xanadu portrayed in Coleridge's poem *Kubla Khan*, with its dream-like magnificence and luxury.

[1625 *Purchas his Pilgrimages* III. 1. iv. 80 Xandu, which the great Chan Cublay... built; erecting... a marvellous... palace of marble. 1816 S. T. COLERIDGE *Kubla Khan* 55 In Xanadu did Kubla Khan A stately pleasure-dome decree.] 1948 'J. TEY' *Franchise Affair* i. 7 To that douce country lawyer... Scotland Yard was as exotic as Xanadu, Hollywood, or parachuting. 1958 M. KENNEDY *Outlaws on Parnassus* xi. 165 Desirable readers... do not expect Xanadu to put them in mind of Yarmouth. 1962 *Holiday* Aug. 70/1 It was only about half an hour's drive to the Xanadu of *le facteur* Cheval. 1969 *Guardian* 12 Nov. 5/7 Bob's double-tiered hideaway... overlooking the fairy-lit battlements of his Xanadu in Mayfair. 1972 K. BONFIGLIOLI *Don't point that Thing at Me* viii. 76 The Ambassador was at some Xanadu-like golf-links far away. 1977 *Time* 25 July 2/1 We have lived in Southern California for twelve years and watched nearly everything encapsulate itself within a plastic bubble; not only giant 'pop Xanadus' like Sea World and Universal Studios, but also miniature golf courses, shopping centers and finally the American home.

Xanga, var. SHANG.

xanthæmatin to **xanthamide**: see XANTHO-.

xanthan ('zænθæn). *Chem.* Also **xantham**. [f. XANTH(O- + -AN; -am is unexplained.) A powdery polysaccharide composed of glucose, mannose, and glucuronic acid, produced by the bacterium *Xanthomonas campestris* and used in drilling muds and the food industry. *Usu.* as *xanthan gum*.

1964 *Australasian Jnl. Pharmacy* XLV. Suppl. No. 19. S80/1 The material is known variously as Polysaccharide B-1459, Xantham Gum, Corn Sugar Gum [etc.]. 1970 *Biotechnol. & Bioengin.* XII. 75 Previous publications from this Laboratory have reported batch fermentations to produce a biopolymer, xanthan, using *Xanthomonas campestris*. 1972 *Materials & Technol.* V. 44 Xanthan gum is used in oil well drilling muds, because of its heat stability and tolerance of salts. 1982 *S. Afr. Food Rev.* IX. 515/1 Since Xanthan gum solutions have a high viscosity at rest... xanthan gum is widely used in food systems as a stabiliser for emulsions.

xanthane to **xantharsenite**: see XANTHO-.

xanthate ('zænθeit). *Chem.* [f. XANTHIC + -ATE⁴.] a. A salt of xanthic (sulphocarbethylic) acid. Hence more widely, a salt or ester of any acid of the form RO·CS·SH, where R is an alkyl or similar radical. b. A compound of xanthic oxide (xanthine) with an alkali.

1831 [see XANTHIC 1 b]. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 498 Xanthate of sodium forms yellow needles. *Ibid.* 499 Xanthate of Antimony... forms large, lemon-yellow, triclinic crystals... Xanthate of Bismuth... crystallises in shining golden-yellow laminae. 1887 A. M. BROWN *Anim. Alkaloids* 79 [Xanthine] combines with the alkalies... forming xanthates. 1895 CROSS & BEVAN *Cellulose* iii. 248 The precipitated xanthate may be treated with solutions of suitable salts of the heavy metals, and the cellulose xanthate of the metals prepared. 1945 *Jnl. Chem. Soc.* 666 Debus... showed that O-ethyl S-ethyl xanthate, EtO·CS·SEt, could be readily prepared by the interaction of potassium xanthate and ethyl iodide. 1951 C. R. NOLLER *Chem. Org. Compounds* xvi. 311 The sodium alkyl xanthates are used as collecting agents in the flotation process for the concentration of ores. 1974 *Encycl. Brit. Micropædia* X. 777/1 The most important group of xanthates are the sodium salts produced from cellulose.

xanthation (zæn'θeɪʃən). *Chem.* [f. XANTHATE + -TION.] A stage in the viscose process for making rayon, in which alkali-cellulose is treated with carbon disulphide to form cellulose xanthate.

1927 T. WOODHOUSE *Artificial Silk* iv. 30 The larger quantity of Viscose silk is made from wood-pulp... This process is termed Xanthation. 1962 J. T. MARSH *Self-Smoothing Fabrics* iv. 30 When xanthation is complete, the solid is dissolved in dilute caustic soda. 1978 *Nature* 12 Oct. 530/1 Mechanically pulped wood or papers are not generally useful, as the structure resists solution after xanthation.

So 'xanthate *v. trans.*, to cause to undergo xanthation; also *absol.*; xan'thated *ppl. a.*, xan'thating *vbl. sb.*

1938 *Thorpe's Dict. Appl. Chem.* (ed. 4) II. 465/2 Surplus carbon disulphide is removed... and the xanthated crumbs are then dispersed by churning with NaOH solution. 1952 *U.S. Patent* 2,592,355 1 In manufacturing viscose-rayon fiber, a low cellulose, high alkali and low viscosity is prepared... by xanthating and dissolving same in usual way. *Ibid.* 4 Without subjecting to aging, it is xanthated in a xanthating apparatus. 1962 J. T. MARSH *Self-Smoothing Fabrics* iv. 30 The crumbs of alkali-cellulose are then xanthated by treatment with carbon disulphide in a rotating churn for about 3 to 4 hr. 1964 V. E. YARLESLEY et al. *Cellulosic Plastics* x. 149 The xanthated cellulose. *Ibid.*, The aged alkali-cellulose is charged to the xanthating churns, which rotate slowly. 1978 *Jnl. Appl. Polymer Sci.* XXII. 897 Starch polyampholytes (xanthated starch amines)... were prepared, characterized, and evaluated as wet- and dry-strength agents in paper hand sheets. 1983 *Jnl. Macromolecular Sci.: Chem.* A. XX. 218 Partially xanthated cellulose.

xanthein ('zænθi:n). *Chem.* Also -ine. [ad. F. *xanthéine* (Frémy & Cloez, 1854), arbitrarily f. Gr. ξανθός yellow, to distinguish it from *xanthine* XANTHIN (1b).] That part of the yellow colouring-matter of flowers which is soluble in water: cf. XANTHIN 1 b.

1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.*, Org. 546 The yellow substance which is soluble in water is termed xantheine: it... may be obtained from the yellow dahlia. 1864 WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Hand-bk. Chem.* XVI. 513 Yellow of Flowers... the insoluble substance, called Xanthin by Frémy & Cloez, appears to correspond with Marquart's anthoxanthin; their Xanthein, soluble in water, with Marquart's colourless extractive matter.

|| **xanthelasma** (zænθɪ'læzmə). *Path.* [mod.L., f. Gr. ξανθός yellow + ελασμα metal plate.] = XANTHOMA. Also *attrib.* Hence **xanthe'lastic** a. = XANTHOMATOUS; || **xanthelasmoidea** [see -OID], a disease resembling xanthelasma, which leaves yellowish or brownish patches on the skin; also called **vitiligoidea**.

1867 W. J. E. WILSON *Diseases of Skin* (ed. 6) xxiv. 773 Epithelial hypertrophy... to which from its colour and laminated appearance we have given the name of xanthelasma. 1900 J. HUTCHINSON in *Archives Surg.* XI. No. 41. 10 There is none of the characteristic xanthelasma leather. *Ibid.* 18 She... had xanthelasma spots on the eyelids. *Ibid.* 2 The xanthelasmic [form of jaundice]. 1899 *Syd. Soc. Lex.*, Xanthelasmoidea. 1903 *Lancet* 30 May 1521/2 If further investigation should prove that in xanthelasmoidea the coagulability is high it will thus be more decisively separated from the urticarias.

xanthelene: see XANTHO-.

xanthene ('zænθi:n). *Chem.* Also -en. [f. XANTHO- + -ENE.] A tricyclic crystalline compound, O(C₆H₄)₂CH₂, derivatives of which are used as brilliant, often fluorescent, dyes. *Usu. attrib.*

1898 *Jnl. Chem. Soc.* LXXIV. 1. 643 Xanthen gives a dichloro-derivative, C₁₃H₈Cl₂O. 1902 *Chem. News* 17 Jan. 36/1 The mono-halogenated derivatives of the xanthene series possess basic properties. 1947 L. S. PRATT *Chem. & Physics Org. Pigments* viii. 189 The rhodamines are representative of the basic-type xanthene colors, and the fluoresceins, eosins, phloxins, erythrosins, and rose bengals are representative of the acid type. 1959 [see EUXANTHIC a.]. 1971 R. L. M. ALLEN *Colour Chem.* viii. 120 Xanthene dyes containing salicylic acid or other metallisable structures are manufactured as mordant dyes.

Xanthian ('zænθi:ən), *a.* and *sb.* Also 7 **Zanthian**. [f. *Xanthus* (see def.) + -IAN.] Of or pertaining to (or an inhabitant of) Xanthus, an ancient town in Asia Minor; *spec.* of a collection of marbles discovered near it.

1685 COTTON *Montaigne* i. xl. (1711) I. 363 The Zanthians, who being besieged... precipitated themselves... into such a furious Appetite of dying... that Brutus had much ado to save but a very small number. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneid* i. 662 Ere yet the Food Of Troy they taste, or drink the Xanthian Flood. 1770 LANGHORNE *Plutarch* IV. 244 (*Alexander*) A spring in Lycia near the city of the Xanthians. 1842 SIR C. FELLOWS (*title*) The Xanthian Marbles, their acquisition and transmission to England.

xanthic ('zænθik), *a.* [ad. F. *xanthique*, f. Gr. ξανθός yellow: see -IC.]

1. *Chem.* Epithet of certain compounds which produce substances of a yellow colour, or of bodies connected with these. a. **xanthic oxide**, the original name of XANTHINE; so **xanthic calculus**, a urinary calculus containing xanthine.

1817 MARCET *Ess. Chem. Hist. Calculous Disorders* iv. 99 If the potash be added to the pure xanthic substance... no change of colour takes place. The residue of the solution of xanthic oxyd in water produces the yellow substance, when treated with nitric acid. *Ibid.* 101 Xanthic oxyd. *Ibid.* 102 In burning, it emitted an animal smell, which did not at all resemble that of the lithic, cystic, or xanthic calculus. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.*, Org. 642 Xanthic or Uric Oxide (C₁₀H₄N₄O₄) was discovered by Dr. Marcet as the principal constituent of a very rare variety of urinary calculus. 1872 T. BRYANT *Pract. Surg.* (1879) II. 84 Calculi of uric acid and the urates, with their modifications the oxalates, xanthic and cystic oxide.

b. **xanthic acid**, a complex acid containing sulphur and carbon, also called sulphocarbethylic or ethyldisulphocarbonic acid (C₃H₆OS₂), many of whose salts (*xanthates*) are yellow. Hence more widely, any acid of the general formula RO·CS·SH or RO·CS·SR'. So **xanthic ether**, etc.

1831 T. THOMSON *Syst. Chem.* (ed. 7) II. 176 Xanthic acid is characterized by precipitating the salts of copper yellow. *Ibid.*, During the distillation of xanthate of potash, a substance comes over which Zeise has distinguished by the name of xanthic oil. 1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.*, Org. 146 Xanthic or Sulphocarbethylic Acid. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 498 Ethyldisulphocarbonic or Xanthic Acid... is a colourless oil, heavier than water... its taste is acid, astringent, and bitter. *Ibid.* 500 Ethylic Disulphocarbonate or Xanthate, Xanthic Ether, C⁵H¹⁰OS²... has a pale-yellow colour, a sweetish taste. 1945 *Jnl. Chem. Soc.* 666 To interpret results obtained in other aspects of the chemistry of xanthic acid derivatives... we found it necessary... to systematise current knowledge concerning the isomeric compounds RO·CS·SR', R'O·CS·SR, RS·CO·SR', the first two being esters of xanthic acids and the last an ester of sym. dithiocarbonic acid. 1956 KIRK & OTHMER *Encycl. Chem. Technol.* XV. 150 The relatively unimportant xanthic acids are unstable, colorless or yellow oils, and have been known, on occasion, to decompose with explosive violence.

2. *Bot.* De Candolle's name for a series or class of colours in flowers, of which the type is yellow: opp. to *cyanic*.

1843 *Florist's Jnl.* (1846) IV. 34 A most uncommon combination of colours—cyanic and xanthic tints in one and the same flower. 1885 GOODALE *Physiol. Bot.* (1892) 454.

xanthide ('zænθaid). *Chem.* [f. Gr. ξανθός yellow + -IDE.] a. A compound of xanthogen (XANTHOGEN 1). b. A salt of xanthydric (persulphocyanic) acid.

1823 HENRY *Elem. Chem.* (ed. 9) II. 667 The oxides of common metals (copper, lead, mercury, &c.) decompose it [*sc.* hydroxanthic acid] by giving up their oxygen to the hydrogen of the acid, and the xanthogene unites with the metal, forming xanthides. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1050 *Xanthides*, syn. with *Persulphocyanates*.

xanthin ('zænθin). *Chem.* Also **xanthine**, (*zanthin*). [ad. F. *xanthine* or G. *xanthin*, f. Gr. ξανθός yellow: see -IN¹.]

1. a. A yellow colouring-matter obtained from madder.

1838 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 387 Madder, according to Kuhlmann, contains two colouring matters, one, which is yellow, is soluble in cold water. Kuhlmann, who first obtained it, has given it the name of *xanthin*. 1839 *URE Dict. Arts*, etc. 1329 *Xanthine*, is the name given by Kuhlmann to the yellow dyeing-matter contained in madder. c1865 J. WYLDE in *Circ. Sc. I.* 421/1 Other principles may be extracted from madder, such as purpurine, alizarine, xanthine.

b. That part of the yellow colouring-matter of flowers which is insoluble in water: cf. XANTHEIN.

1857 MILLER *Elem. Chem.*, Org. 546. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1050.

2. (See quot.)

1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1050 *Xanthin*,... applied... 3. By Couerbe to a gaseous product of the decomposition of xanthates, to which he assigned the formula C²H²S²O².

3. *attrib.* **xanthin-spar**, yellow lead-spar or WULFENITE.

1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1052.

xanthine ('zænθain). *Chem.* Also -in. [ad. F. *xanthine*, f. Gr. ξανθός yellow: see -INE⁸.]

1. a. A substance (C₅H₄N₄O₂) allied to uric acid, found in various organs and secretions of the animal body; originally called **xanthic oxide** (see XANTHIC 1 a), from its forming a lemon-yellow compound with nitric acid.

1857 G. BIRD *Urin. Deposits* (ed. 5) 46 This interesting body... bears so close a resemblance to xanthine or uric oxide, that Scherer has named it hypoxanthine. 1862 H. BENCE JONES in *Jnl. Chem. Soc.* XV. 78 (*heading*) On a Deposit of Crystallized Xanthin in Human Urine. 1880 J. W. LEGG *Bile* 582 The liver contained... leucin, tyrosin, and xanthin. 1887 A. M. BROWN *Anim. Alkaloids* 78 Xanthine may be extracted from muscular tissue in the same way as the sarkine.

attrib. and *Comb.* 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1050 *Xanthine*... was discovered by Marcet in a urinary calculus weighing only 8 grains. Liebig and Wöhler afterwards found it in a larger calculus weighing between 18 and 20 grammes; these are the only known examples of xanthine calculi. 1873 RALFE *Phys. Chem.* 93 Dr. Bence Jones has recorded an interesting case of xanthin gravel occurring in a lad aged nine and a half years. 1883 *Science* 23 Feb. 75/1 By heating xanthine-silver [= the silver-compound of xanthine] with methyl iodide, a methyl group was introduced. 1897 *Trans. Amer. Pediatric Soc.* IX. 123 Convulsive seizures... produced by the action of the poisonous xanthin bodies on the nerve centres. 1907 *Sat. Rev.* 16 Mar. 338/1 So called food reformers... bandy about their catchwords—flesh-forming... xanthin-forming and the like.

b. Any of several substituted derivatives of xanthine.

1956 I. FINAR *Org. Chem.* II. xvi. 613 Three important methylated xanthines that occur naturally are caffeine, theobromine and theophylline. 1974 M. C. GERALD *Pharmacol.* xv. 280 The xanthines... have proved to be valuable drugs for the treatment of such respiratory diseases as asthma, bronchitis, and emphysema.

2. xanthine oxidase, an enzyme catalysing the oxidation of hypoxanthine to xanthine and of xanthine to uric acid.

1905 *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* LXXXVIII. II. 271 The presence of oxygen is necessary to obtain in liver extract uric acid from the purine bases it contains, or that are added to it. The uric acid found comes almost exclusively from xanthine, and is due to a ferment, xanthine-oxidase. **1983** *Oxf. Textbk. Med.* I. ix. 79/1 Not all patients with xanthine stones have xanthine oxidase deficiency.

Hence **'xanthinine**, || **'xanthi'nuria** (see quots.). **1868** WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1051 *Xanthinine*. C⁴H³N³O². . . A base produced... by heating thionurate of ammonium to 200°... On boiling the resulting mass with water, the xanthine remains as a yellow powder. **1890** BILLINGS *Nat. Med. Dict.*, *Xanthinuria*, passage of xanthin in the urine.

Xanthippe: see XANTIPPE.

xanthitane ('zænθitein). *Min.* [f. next + -ANE.] A mineral produced by alteration or decomposition of sphene or titanite: see quot.

1856 C. U. SHEPARD in *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* Ser. II. XXII. 96 *Xanthitane*. In hollow crystals with the form of sphene, and pulverulent. Color pale yellowish white. . . It is found in a decomposing feldspar, . . . and probably proceeds from the decomposition of sphene.

xanthite ('zænθait). *Min.* [f. Gr. ξανθός yellow + -ITE¹.] A variety of vesuvianite or idocrase, occurring in yellowish crystals.

1828 THOMSON *Ann. Lyc. N. Hist. N. Y.* III. 44 (Dana). **1843** PENNY *Cycl.* XXVII. 615/1 *Xanthite* consists of a congeries of small rounded grains, . . . not larger than small grains of sand. **1851** MANTELL *Petrifactions* IV. §1. 364.

xantho- (zænθau), before a vowel xanth-, repr. Gr. ξανθο-, combining form of ξανθός yellow; occurring as the first element in various compounds and derivatives, chiefly terms of chemistry, mineralogy, and pathology; the more important of these are given in their alphabetical places.

(Sometimes also erroneously *xantho-*: see X.)

1. Chem. In names of, or adjectives relating to, various compounds: (a) of a yellow colour, as *xanthæmatin*, *'xanthaline*, *'xantho'cobalt*, -cobaltic, *'xantho'creatine* (-cre²atinine), *'xanthophane* [Gr. φαν-, stem of φαίνω to cause to appear], *'xantho'picrin* (-'picrite) [Gr. πικρός bitter], *'xantho'protein*, *'xanthopsin* [Gr. ὄψις sight], *'xantho'puccine* [PUCCON], *'xantho'purpurin*, *'xantho'rhamnin*; *'xantho'phenic*, *'xanthopro'teic*, *'xantho'tannic*, *'xanthydric* [Gr. ὕδωρ water] adjs.; (b) derived from or related to xanthic acid (XANTHIC 1b), as *'xanthamide*, *'xantharin*, *'xanthelene*; *'xanth'eic*, *'xanthome'thylie* adjs.; (c) derived from or related to xanthydric acid, as *'xanthane* (-an): see quots.

1860 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *'Xanthæmatin*. . . Term by Brett and Bird for a yellow, bitter substance found by dissolving hematin in weak nitric acid. **1893** *Pharmaceut. Jrnl.* 25 Mar. 793/2 *Xanthaline*—A New Opium Alkaloid (C₃₇H₃₆N₂O₉). **1855** WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Chem.* IX. 276 *Xanthamide*. C⁸H¹⁰N²O². *Ibid.* 277 *Xanthamide* exposed in a distillatory apparatus to a gradually increasing temperature is resolved into mercaptan and cyanuric acid. **1868** — *Dict. Chem.* V. 1049 *Xanthan*, Berzelius's name for the group Cy²Si³, regarded as the radicle of persulphocyanic or xanthydric acid. *Ibid.*, *'Xantharin*, or *Xanthil*, an oily fetid compound, C⁸H¹⁰O³, supposed by Couerbe . . . to be produced by the dry distillation of xanthic ether. **1843** PENNY *Cycl.* XXVII. 614/2 When xanthate of potash is subjected to distillation a limpid yellow coloured fluid comes over, which Zeise has called *'xanthic oil*. **1868** WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1049 *Xanthelene*. Zeise gave this name to an oil . . . produced . . . by precipitating potassic ethylsulphocarbonate with a cupric salt. **1856** GIBBS & GENTH *Res. Ammonia-cobalt Bases in Smithsonian Contrib. Knowl.* (1857) IX. v. 48 The salts of *'Xanthocobalt*. **1863** WATTS *Dict. Chem.* I. 1054 *Xanthocobaltic Salts*. **1891** *Cent. Dict.*, *'Xanthocreatine*. **1913** DORLAND *Med. Dict.* (ed. 7), *Xanthocreatin*, xanthocreatinin. **1887** A. M. BROWN *Anim. Alkaloids* 85 *'Xanthocreatinine* C⁵H¹⁰N⁴O . . . closely resembles kreatinine. . . It shows in pellets of sulphur yellow, or slightly cadaveric odour. **1868** WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1052 *'Xanthoglobulin*. This name was given by Scherer . . . to a substance which he obtained in yellow globules. **1880** J. W. LEGG *Bile* 515 Hypoxanthin and xanthoglobulin were also found. **1868** WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 501 Methyl-disulphocarbonic Acid (CH³)HCO²S². *'Xanthomethylic Acid*. . . Methylic Disulphocarbonate, C³H⁶OS². . . *Xanthomethylic Ether*. **1890** BILLINGS *Nat. Med. Dict.*, *'Xanthophane*, an orange-yellow pigment obtained from the retina. **1868** WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1052 *'Xanthophenic acid*. A yellow colouring-matter, . . . produced . . . by heating phenol or cresol with arsenic acid. . . The *'xanthophenates* dye silk and wool red, of various shades. **1852** W. GREGORY *Handbk. Org. Chem.* 301 *'Xanthopicroine* is a bitter crystalline substance from the bark of *Xanthoxylum Clava Herculis*. **1868** WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1053 *Xanthopicroin*, *Xanthopicroite*. These names were given . . . to a yellow colouring-matter from the bark of *Xanthoxylon caribæum*, since shown . . . to be identical with berberine. **1838** T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 710 *'Xanthopicroite* . . . was detected by Chevalier and Pelletan [1826], in the bark of the *Xanthoxylon carybæum*. . . It has . . . a very bitter and astringent taste. **1847-9** Todd's *Cycl. Anat.* IV. 164/1 The alkaline *'xanthoproteates*. **1843** T. THOMSON *Chem. Anim. Bodies* 178 *'Xantho-proteic Acid*. This name [*Xantho-proteinsäure*] has been given by Mulder [1838] to a yellow coloured acid, obtained first by Fourcroy, by treating fibrin, or albumen with nitric acid. **1873** RALFE *Phys. Chem.* 130

Heated with strong nitric acid pepsin does not give the xantho-proteic reaction; hence it would appear that pepsin is not an albuminoid substance. **1904** *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 10 Sept. 601 The normal gland extract gave a positive result with the xanthoproteic test. **1883** OGILVIE (Annandale), *'Xanthoprotein*, a yellow acid substance formed by the action of nitric acid upon fibrine. **1890** BILLINGS *Nat. Med. Dict.*, *'Xanthopsin*, yellow pigment of the retina. **1901** DORLAND *Med. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Xanthopsin*, visual purple partially discolored or bleached by light; visual yellow. **1890** BILLINGS *Nat. Med. Dict.*, *'Xanthopuccine*, name proposed by Lerchen (1878) for an alkaloid found in hydrastis. **1877** WATTS *Fownes' Chem.* II. 588 *Purpuroxanthin* (or *'Xanthopurpurin*) . . . is formed from purpurin by reduction with stannous chloride in alkaline solution. **1843** KANE in *Lond., Edinb., & Dubl. Philos. Mag.* July 3 The dark-coloured [Persian] berries . . . give out to boiling water an olive-yellow material, to which . . . I give the name of *'xanthorhamnin*. **1862** WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Hand-bk. Chem.* XV. 533 *'Xanthotannic Acid*. Obtained from elm-leaves reddened in the autumn. **1868** WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1054 *'Xanthydric acid*. Syn. with *Persulphocyanic Acid* [obtained as 'a pale yellow crystalline powder', *ibid.* IV. 378].

2. In various compounds. **xantharsenite** *Min.*, a mineral allied to chondrarsenite, occurring in sulphur-yellow masses. **xantho'carpous** *a. Bot.* [Gr. καρπός fruit], having yellow fruit. **xantho'chromia** *Med.* [Gr. χρώμα colour], (a) (see quot. 1894); = XANTHOCROIA; (b) a yellowish discoloration of the cerebrospinal fluid as a result of haemorrhage in the spinal cord or brain; hence **xanthochro'matic**, -'chromic adjs. **xanthocomic** (-'komik) *a. (nonce-wd.)* [Gr. κόμη hair], yellow-haired. **'xanthocone** (-con), **xanthoconite** *Min.* [G. *xanthokon* (Breithaupt, 1840), f. Gr. κόνις dust], an arseniosulphide of silver, of a dull red or brown colour, yellow when pulverized. **xantho'cyanopsy**, **xanthocy'anopy** (-kyan-) *Path.* [Gr. κύανος blue + ὄψις, ὥπῃ sight], a form of colour-blindness in which yellow and blue are the only colours discerned. **'xanthoderm** (also *'Xantho-*) [Gr. δέρμα-a skin], a person of a yellow-skinned (mongoloid) race. || **xantho'derma**, -'dermia *Path.* [mod.L., f. Gr. δέρμα skin], yellowness of the skin. **'xanthodont**, **xantho'dontous** adjs. *Zool.* [Gr. ὀδούς, ὀδοντ- tooth], having yellow teeth, as certain rodents. **xan'thometer** [-METER], an instrument for determining the colour of sea or lake water by comparison with a scale of different-coloured solutions. || **xantho'pathia**, **xan'thopathy** *Path.* [Gr. πάθεια -PATHY] = *xanthoderma*. **'xanthophore** *Zool.* [a. G. *xanthophor* (R. Keller 1895, in *Arch. f. Physiol.* LXI. 148): see -PHORE], a cell (as in an animal's skin) containing a yellow pigment. || **xan'thopsia**, **'xanthopsy** *Path.* [Gr. ὄψις appearance, sight], an affection of the eyes in which objects appear yellow; yellow vision. **xan'thopterin** *Chem.* [a. G. *xanthopterin* (Wieland & Schopf 1925, in *Ber. d. Deut. Chem. Ges.* LVIII. 2179): see PTERIN], a yellow pterin present in the wings of some butterflies and moths and in the urine of mammals and forming leucopterin upon oxidation; 2-amino-4,6-dihydroxypterine, H₂NC₆H₄(OH)₂. **xan'thor'thite** *Min.*, a yellow variety of orthite. **xantho'siderite** *Min.* [Gr. σίδηρος iron], a native hydrated oxide of iron, occurring in needle-shaped or fibrous crystals, or as an ochre, of a yellow, brown, or reddish colour. **xantho'spermous** *a. Bot.* [Gr. σπέρμα seed], having yellow seeds.

1892 DANA *Syst. Min.* 796 *'Xantharsenite*. . . Occurs with hausmannite, . . . in crystalline limestone. **1862** MAYNE *Med. Vocab.* (ed. 2) 436/1 *'Xanthocarpous*. **1922** *Arch. Neurol. & Psychiatry* VIII. 24 Elsberg and Rochfort in a study of ninety-two cases of chronic diseases of the spinal cord found *'xanthochromatic cerebrospinal fluid* in fourteen instances. **1969** EDINGTON & GILES *Path. in Tropics* II. 79 [In congenital toxoplasmosis] the protein in the cerebrospinal fluid is increased and may be xanthochromatic. **1894** G. M. GOULD *Dict. Med.* 1622/2 *'Xanthochromia*, a persistent condition of yellow skin, resembling but not identical with jaundice. **1905** — *Dict. of New Med. Terms* 568/1 *Xanthochromia*, Tuffier and Miliau's [read Milian's] name (1902) for the yellow hemorrhagic discoloration of the cephalorachidian fluid, diagnostic of hemorrhage of the neuraxis. **1912** *Lancet* 7 Sept. 685/2 On the value of a quantitative albumin estimation of the cerebro-spinal fluid (with special reference to the syndrome of massive coagulation and xanthochromia). **1977** *Ibid.* 24-31 Dec. 1352/1 There were no cells in the C.S.F. and no xanthochromia. **1952** F. A. ELLIOTT et al. *Clin. Neurol.* ix. 184 *'Xanthochromic fluid* bleaches on exposure to daylight. **1979** *Jrnl. Neurosurg.* LI. 352/1 The presence of subarachnoid hemorrhage (SAH) is diagnostically confirmed by the detection of bloody and/or xanthochromic cerebrospinal fluid. **1861** WYNTER *Soc. Bees* 497 Europe is the chief seat of the *'xantho-comic* or light-haired races. **1846** WORCESTER, *'Xanthocon* (citing DANA). **1868** WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1052 *Xanthocone*. . . A silver-ore from the Himmelfürst mine, near Freiberg in Saxony. **1868** DANA *Min.* (ed. 5) 108 *'Xanthoconite*. . . Color dull-red to clove-brown; crystals orange-yellow on the edges by transmitted light. **1891** *Cent. Dict.*, *'Xanthocyanopsy*. **1890** BILLINGS *Nat. Med. Dict.*, *'Xanthokyanopsy*. **1924**, **1935**

'Xanthoderm [see *melanoderm* sb. and adj. s.v. MELANO-]. **1935** [see *leucoderm* s.v. LEUCO-]. **1977** *Scripta Medica* L. 35 By and large, Melanoderms and Xanthoderms have either black or brown hair and there is not enough variation to be of practical interest. **1867** W. J. E. WILSON *Diseases of Skin* (ed. 6) 695 *'Xanthoderma* represents the yellow complexion of certain of the races of mankind. **1900** *Lancet* 11 Aug. 414/1 The mucous membranes were not coloured and the urine . . . never showed a trace of bile pigment. This was in favour of the diagnosis of *'xanthodermia*. **1891** *Cent. Dict.*, *'Xanthodont*. **1862** MAYNE *Med. Vocab.* (ed. 2) 436 *'Xanthodontous*. **1902** *Westm. Gaz.* 8 April 8/3 When the Queen visited the Antarctic exploration ship *Discovery* she was particularly interested in Forel's *'xanthometer*. **1867** W. J. E. WILSON *Diseases of Skin* (ed. 6) 695 *'Xanthopathia*, or yellow discoloration of the skin, consists in the deposit in the cells of the rete mucosum of a yellow colouring principle. **1903** *Proc. Amer. Acad. Arts & Sci.* XXXIX. 261 The two remaining types of pigment bodies in the chameleon, erythrophores and *'xanthophores*, were not identified in Anolis. **1948** [see NEUROHUMOUR]. **1965** LEE & KNOWLES *Animal Hormones* x. 127 The hormone MSH [sc. melanocyte stimulating hormone] not only acts on the melanophores, but also on the xanthophores and erythrophores. **1974** D. & M. WEBSTER *Compar. Vertebr. Morphol.* viii. 173 Other chromatophores, called xanthophores, contain carotenoid and pteridine pigments and cause much of the yellow-to-red coloration. **1848** DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.* (ed. 7), *'Xanthopsia*, yellow vision, —as sometimes occurs in jaundice. **1875** H. C. WOOD *Therap.* (1879) 603 A very curious symptom caused by zantonin . . . is xanthopsia. **1926** *Chem. Abstr.* XX. 902 The residue was rubbed up 4 times with H₂O and centrifuged and the crude dirty yellow pasty pigment (*'xanthopterin* (I)) extd. with 20% HCl and pptd. with NaOAc. **1974** *Encycl. Brit. Macropædia* IV. 922/2 Xanthopterin occurs in human urine. **1868** DANA *Min.* (ed. 5) 287 *'Xanthorthite*, of Hermann, . . . is apparently an altered variety [of orthite]. **1868** WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1054 *'Xanthosiderite*. A hydrated ferric oxide. **1862** MAYNE *Med. Vocab.* (ed. 2) 436/2 *'Xanthospermous*.

|| **Xanthochroi** (zæn'θɔkrɔɪ, -'θɔkrɔɪ), *sb. pl. Anthrology*. [mod.L. (Huxley), app. meant as a transliteration of an assumed Gr. ξανθόχρῳποι, f. ξανθός yellow + ὥχρος pale (the regular L. form of which would be *'xanthochrōi*); by later writers and in Dicts. taken as *xanthōchroī* (sing. -chrous), ad. Gr. ξανθόχροος, f. ξανθός yellow + χρός skin: cf. MELANOCROIA.] In Huxley's classification of the varieties of mankind: A subdivision of the *Leiotrichi* or smooth-haired class, having yellow or light-coloured hair and pale complexion.

1866 [see XANTHOMELANOI]. **1875** TYLOR in *Encycl. Brit.* II. 113/2 The Xanthochroi, or fair whites . . . are the prevalent inhabitants of Northern Europe.

Hence **xanthochroic** (-'krɔɪk), **xanthochroid** (-'θɔkrɔɪd), **xanthochrooid** (-'θɔkrɔɪd), **xanthochroous** (-'θɔkrɔɪs), **xanthochrous** (-'θɔkrɔs) adjs., of, pertaining to, or having the characters of the *Xanthochroi*. So || **xanthochroia** (-'krɔɪə) [mod.L. f. Gr. χροιά = χρός skin], yellow discoloration of the skin from change in the pigment; **xanthochroism** (-'θɔkrɔɪz(ə)m), *Ornith.*, abnormal replacement of another colour by yellow in the plumage of certain birds.

1867 W. J. E. WILSON *Diseases of Skin* (ed. 6) 695 *Xanthopathia*. Syn. *Xanthoderma*; *'xanthochroia*. **1870** HUXLEY in *Contemp. Rev.* July 515 The *'Xanthochroic* area. **1878** BARTLEY tr. *Topinard's Anthropol.* II. i. 202 The xanthochroic group: pale skin, blue eyes, and abundant fair hair. **1865** LUBBOCK *Preh. Times* xii. (1869) 378 [The] *'Xanthochroid* [group]. **1893** NEWTON *Dict. Birds* 421 There seems to be a certain correlation of colours in most cases of Heterochrosis: . . . green feathers exhibit *'xanthochroism*. **1909** *Cent. Dict. Suppl.*, *'Xanthochroïd*, same as *Xanthochroic*. **1891** *Cent. Dict.*, *'Xanthochroōus*. **1865** *'Xanthochrous* [see MELANOCROIOUS]. **1901** *Q. Rev.* July 230 Great stature and a xanthochrous complexion were . . . the characteristics of the Celt or German.

xanthogen ('zænθədʒen). *Chem.* [f. XANTHO- + -GEN, after G. *xanthogensäure* (Zeise, 1822).]

1. The hypothetical radical of xanthic acid. Also attrib.

1823 HENRY *Elem. Chem.* (ed. 9) II. 665 This new acid contains sulphur, carbon, and hydrogen, the two first of which probably form a compound base, analogous to cyanogen. . . To the base, Mr. Zeise . . . has given the name of *xanthogene*. . . on account of the yellow colour of its compounds. **1868** WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1052 *Xanthogen-oil*. Zeise's name for an oily product formed by the dry distillation of potassic xanthate.

2. A substance supposed to be contained in flowers: see quot.

1864 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* II. 668 According to Filhol, nearly all flowers contain a substance which forms colourless solutions with acids, and acquires a fine yellow colour when treated with alkalis: this substance was designated by Marquart as resin of flowers, and by Hope . . . as xanthogen, which name is also retained by Filhol. He describes it as solid, of a light yellow colour, . . . soluble in water, alcohol, and ether.

xantholiniform (zænθə'linɪfɔ:m), *a. Entom.* [f. mod.L. *Xantholinus* (f. Gr. ξανθός yellow, with ending of *Staphylinus*, an allied genus) +

-(1)FORM.] Resembling in form the beetles of the genus *Xantholinus*.

1847 HARDY in *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* II. No. 5. 250 *Ph[ilonthus] procerulus*.. Narrow, elongate, sub-parallel, xantholiniform.

|| **xanthoma** (zæn'thómə). *Path.* Pl. xanthomas, xanthomata. [f. Gr. ξανθός yellow + -ωμα (cf. *sarcoma*).] An affection of the skin, characterized by the growth of yellowish patches or tubercles. Also, esp. in mod. use, such a patch or tubercle. Freq. with mod.L. adjs. Also *attrib.*

1869 *Jrnl. Cutaneous Med.* III. 241 (heading) On xanthoma, or vitiligoidea. *Ibid.* 317 After entry into hospital, patches of xanthoma developed in both eyelids. 1874 W. TAY tr. *Hebra & Kaposi's Dis. Skin* III. 345 There are two forms of the disease—1st, it occurs in the form of yellow patches—Xanthoma planum...; 2nd, in the form of tubercles—Xanthoma tuberosum. 1876 DUHRING *Dis. Skin* 410 Xanthoma is a connective-tissue new growth, characterized by the formation of yellowish, circumscribed, irregularly shaped, non-indurated patches or tubercles. 1896 N. WALKER tr. *Unna's Histopath. Dis. Skin* 945 The xanthoma of the eyelid may gradually develop protuberances, without giving up its own peculiar histological character. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 484 The chamois-leather-like patches may simulate xanthoma. *Ibid.* 896 The so-called 'xanthoma cell' is... a fragmented muscle fibre in a state of granulo-fatty degeneration. 1949 R. L. & R. L. SUTTON *Handbk. Dis. Skin* 385 Tuberculous xanthomas are occasionally solitary. 1961 *Lancet* 12 Aug. 341/2 All her plasma-lipids tended to return to normal values... and her xanthomata completely disappeared. 1968 A. ROOK et al. *Textbk. Dermatol.* II. xxxviii. 1229/1 Xanthoma disseminatum is a rare bistiocytic proliferative disorder characterized by widespread cutaneous xanthomata... but usually without evidence of systemic disturbance of lipid metabolism. 1974 S. L. ROBBINS *Pathologic Basis Dis.* xxx. 1410/1 These xanthomas may be widespread and occur in varied forms, such as xanthoma tuberosum.

Hence **xanthoma'tosis**, a metabolic disorder marked by the accumulation of excess lipid and by the presence of multiple and wide-spread xanthoma. **xanthomatous** (-'θumätəs) *a.*, pertaining to or of the nature of xanthoma.

1900 DORLAND *Med. Dict.* 764/1 Xanthomatosis. 1914 *Lancet* 13 June 1697/1 Xanthomatous nodules in the liver. 1923 *Brit. J. Dermatol.* XXXV. 90 Xanthomatosis is probably a process of infiltration dependent primarily upon hypercholesterolaemia. 1961 [see *hypercholesterolaemic* adj. s.v. *HYPER-IV*]. 1983 *Oxf. Textbk. Med.* I. ix. 113/1 The relationship between cerebrotendinous xanthomatosis and spinal cholesterosis... is uncertain.

|| **Xanthomelanoi** (zæn'thəu'melənəi), *sb. pl. Anthropology.* [mod.L. (Huxley), transliteration (instead of the regular L. form **xanthomelani*) of an assumed Gr. *ξανθομέλανοι, f. ξανθός yellow + μέλαν, μέλαν- black; cf. MELANOI and XANTHOCHROI. (On the analogy of the other terms, the word should have been *Melanoxanthoi*, the first element referring to the hair, the second to the skin.)] In Huxley's classification of the varieties of mankind: A subdivision of the *Leiotrichi* or smooth-haired class, having black hair and yellow, brown, or olive complexion. Hence **xantho'melanous** (-əs) *a.*, belonging to or having the characters of the *Xanthomelanoi*.

1865 HUXLEY *Crit. & Addr.* (1873) 153 The 'xanthomelanos,' with black hair and yellow, brown, or olive skins. 1866—*Laing's Preh. Rem. Caithn.* 132 The *Leiotrichi* may be best subdivided, according to their complexion, into *Xanthochroi*, *Melanochroi*, *Xanthomelanoi*, and *Melanoi*.

xanthone ('zænθəun). *Chem.* [f. Gr. ξανθός yellow + -ONE.] A compound which forms the basis of various natural colouring matters.

1894 MUIR & MORLEY *Watts' Dict. Chem.* IV. 867 *Xanthone* is Diphenylene ketone oxide.

xanthophyll ('zænθəufil). *Chem.* [ad. F. *xanthophylle* (Berzelius), f. Gr. ξανθός yellow + φύλλον leaf.] *a.* The yellow colouring-matter of leaves in autumn, a constituent or derivative of chlorophyll; also called *phyloxanthin*. (Now recognized as an oxygenated carotenoid identical with LUTEIN.)

1838 R. D. THOMSON in *Brit. Ann.* 334. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1052 *Xanthophyll*... Nothing certain is known respecting its composition, or of the manner in which it is formed from chlorophyll. 1891 *Science-Gossip* XXVII. 46/2 When the life of the leaf is destroyed by frost or drought, the chlorophyll is rapid changed to xanthophyll. 1934 *Science* 25 May 488/2 Xanthophyll (lutein) appears to be structurally related to α-carotene and zeaxanthin to β-carotene. 1945 *Biol. Rev.* XX. 115/1 Following a convention which is being more widely adopted the specific pigment which has been termed 'xanthophyll' is here called 'lutein'. 1964 E. J. H. CORNER *Life of Plants* i. 5 The orange-yellow carotin and the yellow xanthophyll... cause the yellow colour of those parts of variegated leaves unable through some deficiency to make chlorophyll.

b. [After R. Kuhn et al. 1931, in *Zeitschr. f. physiol. Chem.* CXC VII. 141.] Any of a group of yellow pigments (as lutein and violaxanthin) that are oxygenated carotenoids.

1931 *Chem. Abstr.* XXV. 3659 The term xanthophyll should be used to designate the entire group of OH-contg. carotenoids with 40 C atoms. The individuals thus far known are: lutein and zeaxanthin..., violaxanthin..., and fucoxanthin. 1952 *Chem. & Engin. News* 7 Jan. 104/2 Two of the rules on carotenoids adopted at the London Conference of 1947 were revised to give the following text:.. The name 'xanthophyll' is a group name... for carotene derivatives of natural origin which are soluble in alcohol and are not saponifiable. 1955 G. M. SMITH *Cryptogamic Bot.* (ed. 2) I. ii. 12 There are several xanthophylls [in the Chlorophyta] not found in other algae, and of these lutein is the most abundant. 1976 *Monitor* (McAllen, Texas) 27 Sept. 4A/2 Brown tannin pigments blend with xanthophylls to produce yellow-gold and gold-brown leaves.

Hence **xantho'phyllic** *a.*, of or containing xanthophyll.

1941 *Biol. Bull.* LXXX. 451 In the herbivores, the echinoids too contained some xanthophyllic pigments without exception. 1982 *Monitor* (McAllen, Texas) 2 Apr. 6-c/2 Miss Arden claims she now has a substance, extracted from a xanthophyllic-carotin mixture, which will drain the last vestige of visibility from succeeding generations of frogs but she feels it would serve no useful purpose.

xanthophyllite (zænθəu'filait). *Min.* [ad. G. *xanthophyllit* (G. Rose, 1840), f. Gr. ξανθός yellow + φύλλον leaf + -ITE¹ 2b.] A micaceous mineral, a species of sebertite, occurring in yellowish crusts or implanted globules in talcose schist.

1844 DANA *Min.* (1862) 149.

|| **xanthorrhæa** (zænθəu'ri:ə). [mod.L., f. Gr. ξανθός yellow + ροία flowing, flow.]

1. *Bot.* A genus of Australian liliaceous plants, some species of which (called grass-trees or grass gum-trees) yield a yellow resin.

1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1054 Xanthorrhæa resin.

2. *Path.* A morbid affection resembling leucorrhæa (see quot.).

1891 *Lancet* 7 Nov. 1037/1 There is... more or less leucorrhæa, or xanthorrhæa, as it should rather be called, because the discharge is yellow, not white.

|| **xanthosis** (zæn'thəusis). *Path.* [mod.L., f. Gr. ξανθός yellow; see -OSIS.] (See quotes.)

1857 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.*, *Xanthosis*, a term applied to the yellow discoloration often observed in cancerous tumours. 1890 BILLINGS *Nat. Med. Dict.*, *Xanthosis*, formation of a yellow skin or pigment.

xanthous ('zænθəs), *a. Ethnology.* [f. Gr. ξανθός yellow + -OUS.] Applied to those races, or that type, of mankind characterized by yellow or yellowish hair and light complexion; fair, blond. Also said of the hair, complexion, etc. Opp. to MELANIC 1, MELANOUS.

1829 T. PRICE *Ess. Physiogn. & Physiol. Inhab. Brit.* 3 It is true that the Greek and Roman writers do describe the various barbarous tribes of Europe... representing some to be of the fair, or, as it has been styled, Xanthous complexion; others of the dark, or Melanic. 1834 *Nat. Philos., Phys. Geog.* 64/1 (U.K.S.) Men of the xanthous variety of colour are known to spring up among the negroes in Africa. 1876 W. F. SKENE *Celtic Scot.* I. i. ii. 126 The Caledonii... were larger in body... and less xanthous. 1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 35 The xanthous type with chestnut, red, or fair hair.

xanthoxenite (zænθəu'zi:nait). *Min.* [ad. G. *xanthoxen* (Laubmann & Steinmetz 1920, in *Zeitschr. f. Krist.* LV. 580), f. Gr. ξανθο- XANTHO-, after G. *cacoxen* CACOXENITE: see -ITE¹.] A hydrated basic phosphate of calcium and ferric iron, Ca₂Fe³⁺₂(PO₄)₄(OH)₂.3H₂O, occurring as yellow translucent triclinic crystals that are soft and have a waxy appearance.

1920 *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* CXVIII. II. 698 Xanthoxenite, a new species from Rabenstein, occurring as small, wax-yellow, monoclinic crystals... intimately associated with dufrenite and cacoxenite. 1949 *Amer. Mineralogist* XXXIV. 698 Xanthoxenite occurs abundantly although inconspicuously at the Palermo mine as one of the last formed of the hydrothermal reworked products of triphylite. 1978 *Mineral. Mag.* XLII. 309/1 Xanthoxenite of Laubmann and Steinmetz (1920) is probably stewartite (in part)... The xanthoxenite of Frondel (1949) is proposed as the species type. It is triclinic.

xanthoxin (zæn'thɒksin). *Biochem.* [f. VIOLA)XANTH(IN + OX- + -IN¹.] A photo-oxidation product, C₁₅H₂₂O₃, of violaxanthin that occurs in certain plant tissues as a growth inhibitor.

1970 TAYLOR & BURDEN in *Nature* 18 July 302/2 We have extracted a neutral growth inhibitor from the seedlings of dwarf bean... and wheat... The name xanthoxin is now proposed for the inhibitor, the activity of which in the *cis,trans* configuration is comparable with the known naturally occurring inhibitor abscisic acid (ABA). 1980 *Physiologia Plantarum* XLIX. 309/1 The inhibitory effect of both ABA and xanthoxin on total lateral root length was mainly due to their suppression of primordia emergence and their strong inhibition of elongation.

|| **xanthoxylon** (zæn'thɒksilɒn). *Bot.* Also 8 xanthoxylon, -um. [mod.L. *Xanthoxylon*, -um (by Linnæus spelt *Zanthoxylum*), f. Gr. ξανθός yellow + ξύλον wood.] A large and widely distributed genus of trees and shrubs of the N.O. *Rutaceæ* (type of the suborder

Xanthoxyleæ, sometimes reckoned as an order *Xanthoxylaceæ*), yielding various products, esp. pungent and aromatic drugs and condiments; it includes the N. American Prickly Ash or Toothache-tree (*X. americanum* and *fraxineum*), the Chinese or Japanese Pepper (*X. piperitum*), the Prickly or W. Indian Yellow-wood (*X. Clava-Herculis*), etc. Hence **xan'thoxyl**, a plant of this genus, or of the order or suborder of which it is the type; **xanthoxylaceous** (-'eɪʃəs), **xanthoxyleous** (-'iləs) *adjs.*, belonging to the *Xanthoxylaceæ* or *Xanthoxyleæ* (see above); **xan'thoxylene** (-i:n) *Chem.*, an aromatic volatile oil obtained from the fruit of *Xanthoxylon piperitum*; **xan'thoxylin** (-in) *Chem.*, (a) a crystalline resin or camphor obtained from an oil distilled from the seeds of *X. piperitum*; (b) a crystallizable bitter principle contained in the bark of *X. Clava-Herculis* and other species; **xantho'xylōin**, a neutral principle obtained from the bark of *X. americanum*.

1846 LINDLEY *Veg. Kingd.* 473 Several *Xanthoxyls have in their habit, and especially in their foliage, a marked resemblance to the Ash. 1876 HARLEY *Mat. Med.* (ed. 6) 679 The Xanthoxyl Family of the Rural alliance. 1852 TH. ROSS tr. *Humboldt's Trav.* I. vi. 213 note, Among *xanthoxylaceous plants, the Cuspare of Angostura, known in America under the name of Orinoco bark. 1857 STENHOUSE in *Pharmaceut. Jrnl.* July 20 The pure hydrocarbon, to which I propose to give the name of *Xanthoxylene, is colourless, [etc.]. Note, The pleasant aromatic odour of Japanese pepper is due to Xanthoxylene. 1830 LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 131 Several *Xanthoxyleous plants have... a marked resemblance to the Ash. 1854 STENHOUSE in *London, Edin., & Dublin Philos. Mag.* Jan. 28 The crystals of *xanthoxylene belong to the oblique system. 1765 J. BARTRAM *Jrnl.* 21 Dec. in *Stork Acc. E. Florida* (1766) 3 Some curious shrubs... we had never seen before... large *xanthoxylum, and purple-berried bay. 1799 *Med. Jrnl.* II. 32 A Negro woman, who had been affected for many years with several large phagædenic ulcers... was put under my care. I commenced the use of the Zanthoxylon, by bathing the sores with the decoction. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1054 *Xanthoxylon*. The bark of *X. caribæum*... or *X. Clava Herculis*... used in the Antilles as a febrifuge.

|| **Xantippe** (zæn'tipi:). Also 7 Zentippe, Zantippe. [Properly *Xanthippe*, Gr. ξανθίππη.] The name of the wife of Socrates; hence *allusively*, an ill-tempered woman or wife, a shrew, a scold (with pl. *Xantippes*).

1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* I. ii. 71 As curst and shrow'd As Socrates Zentippe [1st Fol., Qo; 2nd-4th Fol. Zantippe, mod. edd. Xanthippe]. 1691 WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* I. 262 Richard Hooker... married a clownish silly Woman and withal a meer Xantippe. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* VIII. xi. An errant Vixen of a Wife... By this Xantippe he had two Sons. 1859 *Habits of Gd. Society* xiii. 339 For the time being the worst of Xantippes must turn into an angel of amiability if she gives a ball.

xaraf, -affe, -off, obs. ff. SARAF.

1628 in Foster *Eng. Factories India* (1909) III. 296 We lye at the mercy of the xaroffs or exchangers of monie. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Mandelslo's Trav.* 93 In the presence of the Xaraf, or Money-changers.

Xavante (ʃə'vænti:). Also Chavante, Shavante. [a. Port., of uncertain origin.] *a.* (A member of) any of several groups of semi-nomadic Indians of the interior savanna of central and east-central Brazil, esp. the Akwẽ-Xavante. *b.* The Ge language of the Akwẽ-Xavante, or the language of any group called Xavante. Also *attrib.* as *adj.*

1904 H. VON IHERING *Anthropol. State S. Paulo, Brazil* 10 Of all the Indians of S. Paulo, the Chavantes are the darkest, and the most backward. 1927 K. G. GRUBB *Lowland Indians Amazonia* vii. 121 The Chavante, irreconcilably hostile, occupy the River Manso or das Mortes. 1950 J. B. D'AVILA in J. H. Steward *Handbk. S. Amer. Indians* VI. 76 To the same [sc. Ge] group belong the Shavante, between the Araguaya and Tocantins Rivers;... the Sherente and Craho. 1950 J. A. MASON in *Ibid.* 299 Four groups of Southern Brazil of very different linguistic affinities are known to the Brazilian natives by the name *Chavanté*... Three of them... form small independent (provisionally) families; the fourth is a Ge language. 1971 J. S. WEINER *Man's Natural Hist.* v. 221 'Micro-evolution' comparable to that found in the Xavante villages obtains in other South American aboriginal tribes. *Ibid.* 222 The extraordinary contrast between the high standard of physical fitness and stamina of the young Xavante and his later health and life expectation. 1978 *Sunday Times* (Colour Suppl.) 18 June 33 (caption) Xavante Indians in their village close to the River of the Dead... held the white off until recently. 1983 *Word* XXXIV. 61 A number of Brazilian Amazon languages (e.g., Apuriña, Urubú, Xavante, and Nadeb) also rely on both pragmatic and syntactic considerations in determining linear order.

Xaverian (zei'væriən), *a.* and *sb.* [f. the name *Xav(i)er* + -IAN.] *A. adj.* *a.* Of, pertaining to, or designating a teaching order of Roman Catholic monks founded in 1839 and named in honour of St. Francis Xavier. *b.* Of or pertaining to St. Francis Xavier (1506-56), Spanish missionary. *B. sb.* A Brother of the Xaverian order.

1882 PABISCH & BYRNE tr. *Alzog's Man. Univ. Church Hist.* IV. 333 The Xaverian Brothers, founded at Bruges... in 1839, and introduced into the United States... in 1854, have under their charge, Mt. St. Joseph's College,

Carrollton, Md. 1912 *Catholic Encycl.* XIII. 284/2 After holding the office of Superior General of the Xaverians for twenty-seven years. 1915 C. C. MARTINDALE *In God's Army* I. 118 The whole Xaverian history had been one of deliberate ambition. 1931 M. YEO *St. Francis Xavier* vi. 69 One sentence seems to have the true Xaverian ring. 1967 *New Catholic Encycl.* XIV. 1058/1 The Xaverian Brothers played an important role in the development of Catholic education. *Ibid.* 1058/2 In the U.S. the Xaverians staffed most of the parish schools of Louisville.

X chromosome. *Genetics.* Also †x chromosome. [X 3e.] A chromosome with different morphology and properties from others in the complement, now recognized as a sex chromosome occurring in both sexes of a species, man and other mammals having one in the somatic cells of the male and two in those of the female.

[1902], 1911 [see X 3e]. 1933 R. H. WOLCOTT *Animal Biol.* lxxiii. 537 In fowls and in moths females have either one x-chromosome or both an x-chromosome and a y-chromosome, while the males have the two x-chromosomes. 1961 P. GRAY *Encycl. Biol. Sci.* 232/1 In most species of Spiders there are two different kinds of X-chromosomes but no Y, so that the males have X₁X₂ and the female X₁X₁X₂X₂. 1966 *Lancet* 24 Dec. 1397/1 The small size of the Y chromosome relative to the X chromosome has been attributed to the gradual loss of genetic material not concerned with sex determination. 1983 M. B. ZALESKI et al. *Immunogenetics* ii. 36 The X chromosome carries a set of genes that determines a wide variety of traits that do not necessarily affect the sex of the organism.

X disease. [X 3.] 1. *Path.* (chiefly *Austral.*) A disease now identified as Murray Valley encephalitis (see MURRAY VALLEY).

1918 *Med. Jnl. Australia* 6 Apr. 278/2 On 25th August, 1917, I published in the *Journal* an account of an epidemic at Broken Hill of what is now called the 'X' disease. 1951 *Ibid.* 2 June 800/1 Our case differs from the classical picture of X disease... in the lack of cellular infiltration in the brain. 1964 [see Q FEVER]. 1983 *Oxf. Textbk. Med.* I. v. 101/1 Murray Valley (formerly) Australia encephalitis. This disease was originally called Australian X disease.

2. *Vet. Sci.* = blue comb (disease) s.v. BLUE a. 13. (Now known to be caused by a mycotoxin.)

1950 [see blue comb (disease) s.v. BLUE a. 13]. 1961 *New Scientist* 17 Aug. 403/3 A consignment of groundnut meal from Brazil contained an agent toxic to young turkeys, which proved responsible for the death of some 100,000 birds from the hitherto mysterious X disease... The exact nature of the toxic principle has still not been found.

xebec ('zi:bek; also zi'bək). Also 8-9 -eck, -eque, -ecque; β. 8-9 zebec(k, 9 zebecque. See also CHEBEC. [Altered form of CHEBEC (F. *chebec*) after Sp. *xabeque*, now *jabeque*.] A small three-masted (originally two-masted) vessel, commonly lateen-rigged but with some square sails, used in the Mediterranean, formerly as a ship of war, now as a merchant-ship.

1756 *Genl. Mag.* Aug. 409/2 Capt. Fortunatus Wright, of Liverpool, in the King George privateer off Leghorn, engaged a xebec which had 280 men on board. 1760 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 148/2 An Algerine xebec of 20 guns... was driven on shore near Penzance. 1762 MORE in *Phil. Trans.* LII. 450 There came a Spanish xebec from the West... and... was becalmed. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780) s.v., The sails of the xebec are in general similar to those of the polacre, but the hull is extremely different... The extremity of the stern... projects further behind the counter and buttock than that of any European ship. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 237 *Xebec*. A small vessel with three masts, navigated in the mediterranean. The fore and main-masts are called block-masts, being short... The mizen-mast is fitted with a topmast, &c... has been lately added, to keep them better to the wind... The fore-mast rakes much forward. 1816 *Ann. Reg., Gen. Hist.* 133/2 A large Tunisian xebec... putting out two boats, gave a general chase. a 1829 I. TAYLOR *Ship* v. (1846) 118 The xebec very much resembles the galley in shape... in its triangular sails and low masts. It is the corsair of the Algerines... and mounts from sixteen to twenty-four guns. 1851 KIPPING *Sailmaking* (ed. 2) 158 The Spanish xebec has in general a lateen fore, with a square main-sail and mizen. 1884 MISS C. F. WOOLSON in *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 368/2 The coasting xebecs. β. 1769 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 164/1 A large Algerine xebec, of 30 guns and 300 men. 1839 MARRYAT *Phant. Ship* xix, A three-masted zebecque. 1844 HOOD *The Key* iv, The last Zebec that came And moor'd within the Mole.

attrib. and Comb. 1780 CAPT. KNOWLES in *Naval Chron.* II. 518 Two Spanish Xebec Ships, polacre rigged. 1801 LD. COCHRANE *ibid.* VI. 151 A Spanish xebec frigate, of 32 guns. 1812 *Examiner* 4 May 280/2 A French xebec-rigged privateer, of two guns.

xel, obs. form of SHALL v.

1429 in *Calr. Pat. Rolls* 8 Hen. VI. 30 A comon assemble which xel ben ordeyned be the mair.

xeme (zi:m). *Ornith.* [ad. mod.L. *Xema* (Leach, 1819), an arbitrarily formed word.] A bird of the genus *Xema*; a fork-tailed gull.

1836 EYTON *Rarer Brit. Birds* 64 Sabine's Xeme... was first observed by Captain Sabine in Greenland.

xenacanthine, xenarthral: see XENO-.

†**xenagogue** ('zenəgɒg). *Obs.* In 7 zen-. [ad. Gr. *ξενάγωγός*, f. *ξένος* stranger + *-αγωγός* leading.] One who conducts strangers; a guide. So †**xenagogy**, conduction of strangers: used as the title of a guide-book.

1570-6 LAMBARDE *Peramb. Kent* 386 The places, whereof I ment to make note in this my Xenagogy and

perambulation of Kent. 1583 in Thynne *Animadv.* (1875) p. lxii, The Xenogogy of Bedfordshire. 1674 JOSSELYN *Voy. New Eng.* 136 They are generally excellent Zenagogues or guides through their Countrie.

xenelasy (ze'ni:ləsi). *Gr. Hist.* [ad. Gr. *ξενηλασία*, f. *ξενηλατέιν*, f. *ξένος* foreigner + *ἐλα-* (ἐλαύνειν) to drive away.] A measure at Sparta for expulsion of foreigners.

1846 GROTE *Greece* II. vi. II. 515 Nor were strangers permitted to stay at Sparta; they came thither it seems, by a sort of sufferance, but the uncourteous process called xenelasy was always available to remove them.

||**xenia** ('zi:nɪə). *Bot.* [mod.L., ad. Gr. *ξενία* state or relation of a guest, f. *ξένος* guest: see -1A¹.] A supposed direct action or influence of foreign pollen upon the seed or fruit which is pollinated.

1899 *Nat. Sci.* May 393 *Xenia*... the direct action of the male element on the mother-plant, is an extremely hypothetical theory. 1901 *Nature* 12 Dec. 126/2 *Xenia* is the name given to the results of the crossing of the plant by a foreign pollen, exhibited in some peculiarity which appears in the seed itself.

xenia, pl. of XENIUM.

xenial ('zi:nɪəl), *a. Gr. Antiq.* [f. Gr. *ξενία* XENIA + -AL¹.] Of the nature of, or pertaining to, the relation between host and guest: applied to a friendly relation between two persons of different countries, or between a person and a foreign country. So 'xenian *a.* (in quot. 1834 rendering Gr. *ξένιος*, a title of Zeus as protector of the rights of hospitality).

1834 *Fraser's Mag.* X. 533 The holy customs of the Xenian Jove. 1858 GLADSTONE *Homer* I. 220 The Taphians, ... from the xenial relation of their Lord Mentos to Ulysses, must in all likelihood have lived in the neighbourhood of Ithaca. 1869 — *Juv. Mundi* iii. 87 Demeter Tasides... is represented... as being in xenial relations with Egypt.

||**xenium** ('zi:nɪəm). Usually in pl. *xenia*. [L., ad. Gr. *ξένιον*, prop. neut. of *ξένιος* adj. pertaining to a guest, f. *ξένος* guest, stranger.] *a.* In Gr. and *Rom. Antiq.*, a present (esp. of table delicacies) given to a guest or stranger; *transf.*, in mediæval usage, an offering made (sometimes compulsorily) by subjects to their prince on the occasion of his passing through their estates; also extended to other kinds of offerings (see *quots.*).

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Xenia*, Presents bestowed by the Greeks to their Friends, Guests, or Strangers... In our old Records, it is taken for such Presents or Gifts as us'd to be made to Princes, or to the Governours of Provinces. 1772 [S. DENNE] *Hist. Rochester* 106 That there be reserved to me... out of the estates which I have assigned for the maintenance of the monks, such a xenium [orig. *xenium*] as is here specified. 1865 STUBBS *Chron. & Mem. Rich. I* (Rolls) II. Introd. p. xxx, The *xenia*, or Easter and Christmas offerings from [the monks'] manors, which were settled on the cellarer for the use of the sick and strangers.

b. (See *quots.*)

1791 NEWTON tr. *Vitruvius' Archit.* vi. x. 145 The pictures representing the sending of gifts to strangers are by the painters called *xenia*. 1854 FAIRHOLT *Dict. Terms Art, Xenia*... Pictures of still-life, fruit, fish, &c., many of which have been found as decorations on the walls of houses in Pompeii.

xenization (zena'zeiʃən). *rare*⁻¹. [f. Gr. *ξενίζεω*, trans. to entertain strangers, intr. to be a stranger, f. *ξένος* stranger: see -IZE and -ATION.] The fact of sojourning as a stranger.

1818 G. S. FABER *Horæ Mosaicæ* I. 231 The xenization of Abraham's seed in a foreign land.

xeno- (zenəʊ), before a vowel *xen-*, repr. Gr. *ξένος*, combining form of *ξένος* a guest, stranger, foreigner, adj. foreign, strange; used in various scientific and other terms; for those not found here, see their alphabetical places.

xenacanthine (-əkənθaɪn) *Zool.* [ad. mod.L. *Xenacanthini* pl., f. Gr. *ἄκανθα* spine], *a.* belonging to the extinct order *Xenacanthini* of selachian fishes, with long slender spines; *sb.* a fish of this order. **xenarthral** *a. Zool.* [Gr. *ἄρθρον* joint], having peculiar accessory articulations in the vertebræ, as the American edentates. **xeno'antibody** *Immunol.*, an antibody produced in response to a xenoantigen. **xeno'antigen** *Immunol.*, a xeno-geneic antigen; so **xenoanti'genic** *a.* **xeno-antiserum** *Immunol.*, an antiserum rich in xenoantibodies. **xenobiosis** (-bə'ɒiəʊsɪs) *Zool.* [Gr. *βίωσις* manner of life], a form of symbiosis among ants in which two colonies of different species live together on friendly terms without rearing their broods in common. **xenobi'otic** *sb.* and *a.* [BIOTIC *a.*], (designating) a substance foreign to the body. **xenoblast** *Geol.* [*a. G.* *xenoblast* (F. Becke 1903, in *Compt. Rend. IX. Congr. Géol. Internat.* (1904) II. 564): see -BLAST] (see *quot.* 1920); hence **xeno'blastic** *a.* **xenocracy** [-CRACY], a ruling body of foreigners. **xenocryst** *Geol.*, a crystal not

derived from the magma that gave rise to the igneous rock containing it; hence **xeno'crystal**, -'crystic *adjs.* **'xenoderm** *Zool.* [mod.L. *Xenoderma*, f. Gr. *δέρμα* skin], a snake of the genus *Xenoderma* or sub-family *Xenodermatinae* (mod. Dicts.). **xenodiag'nosis** *Med.* [ad. F. *xénodiagnostic* (E. Brumpt 1914, in *Bull. de la Soc. de Path. Exotique* VII. 706)], a diagnostic procedure in which clean, laboratory-bred vectors of a disease are allowed to feed on the individual or material that may be infected and are then examined for the pathogen; hence **'xenodiag'nostic** *a.* **xenogamy** *Bot.* [Gr. *γάμος* marriage], fertilization by pollen from another plant of the same species; cross-fertilization. **xenogenesis** (-'dʒenɪsɪs) *Biol.* [GENESIS], (supposed) production of offspring permanently unlike the parent (cf. HETEROGENESIS 3); so **xenoge'netic**, **xeno'genic** *adjs.*, pertaining to or of the nature of xenogenesis; **xenogeny** (ze'nɒdʒɪni), *xenogenesis*. **xenogenous** *a.* *Path.* (see *quot.*). **xeno'glossia**, **'xenoglossy** [Gr. *γλῶσσα* tongue], the practice or faculty of using intelligibly a language one has not learnt. **'xenograft** *Med.*, a graft of tissue between individuals of different species; = HETEROGRAFT. **xeno'lalia** [Gr. *-λαλία* speaking, after GLOSSOLALIA] = *xenoglossia* above. **xenolite** *Min.* [-LITE], a silicate of aluminium, allied to fibrolite. **'xenolith** *Geol.* [-LITH], a piece of rock in an igneous mass which differs from its surroundings and is considered to have been picked up by and incorporated into the mass when the latter was in the form of magma; hence **xeno'lithic** *a.*, containing xenoliths; also, occurring as a xenolith. **xenomania** (-'meɪniə), a mania or insane fancy for foreigners, or for something foreign; hence **xeno'maniac**, a person affected with 'xenomania'. **xenomorph** (-'mɒ:fɪk) *a. Geol.* [Gr. *μορφή* form], applied to mineral constituents of a rock having a form different from the normal in consequence of the pressure of other constituents. **xeno'parasite**, **xeno'parasitism** *Biol.* (see *quot.*). **'xenophil** (*e a.* [-PHIL, -PHILE], fond of or attracted by foreign things or people; also as *sb.*, such a person; hence **xeno'philia**, the state of being xenophile; **xeno'philiac** *a.* [-AC] = *xenophil* (*e* adj. above; **xeno'philic**, **xenophilous** *adjs.* = *xenophil* (*e* adj.; **xenophilism** (-'fɪlɪz(ə)m) *nonce-wd.* [Gr. *φίλος* loving, friendly], love of foreigners or of something foreign. **xenophoran** (-'bʃərən) *a. Zool.* [f. mod.L. *Xenophora*, f. Gr. *-φορος* carrying], belonging or allied to the genus *Xenophora* (carrier-shells) of gastropod molluscs, distinguished by the habit of cementing stones and other foreign bodies to their shells. **xenopterygian** (-ptə'ndʒɪən), *Zool.* [Gr. *πτερόν* wing, fin], *a.* belonging to the suborder *Xenopterygii* of fishes, with spineless fins, scaleless skin, and a complex sucking-disk between the ventral fins; *sb.* a fish of this suborder. **xeno'thermal** *a. Petrol.*, applied to mineral deposits formed by hydrothermal action at high temperatures but at a shallow depth. **xeno'tropic** *a. Microbiology* [-TROPIC], (of a virus) present in a host species in an inactive form and only able to infect and replicate in organisms of other species; hence **xeno'tropism**. **xenurine** ('zenjʊraɪn), *Zool.* [f. mod.L. *Xenurus*, f. Gr. *οὐρά* tail], *a.* belonging to the genus *Xenurus* of armadillos, having the tail nearly naked; *sb.* an armadillo of this genus, a kabassou.

1974 *Brit. Jnl. Cancer* XXX. 304/1 Gel filtration was used to show that the tumour specific *xenoantibody responsible for protection was not IgM but was in the IgG fraction. 1984 *Human Immunol.* X. 57 Xenoantibodies to idiotypes of the anti-HLA-A2, A28 MoAb CR11-351 were isolated from an antiserum raised in rabbit #81. 1975 *Nature* 24 Apr. 716/2 An important characteristic of the immune system is the ability to discriminate between antigens expressed on normal tissues within the individual and the many foreign antigens expressed on normal tissues of other species (*xenoantigens) and even on normal tissues of members of the same species (alloantigens). 1984 *Jnl. Immunol.* CXXXII. 2522/1 An increase in specific antigenic activity for the *Rana*-specific xenoantigen. 1973 *Tissue Antigens* III. 5/1 Some of the eluted fractions possessed both alloantigenic and *xenoantigenic activity. *Ibid.* 18/2 Strain-discriminating effects of *xenoantisera were reported... over thirty years ago. 1978 *Nature* 26 Oct. 711/1 Experiments with xenoantiserum to murine tissues provided the first, fortuitous indication that Thy-1 included an hitherto unrecognised specificity. 1885 *Stand. Nat. Hist.* (1888) V. 66 The geographical distribution of the Edentates... To America belong the *xenarthral or many-jointed forms. 1901 W. M. WHEELER in *Amer. Naturalist* July 535 *Xenobiosis... The best-known guest ant is the European *Formicoxenus nitidulus*. 1965 H. S. MASON et al. in

Federation Proc. XXIV. 1172 (*heading*) Microsomal mixed-function oxidations: the metabolism of *xenobiotics. *Ibid.*, We would like to call the components of this chemical environment which are foreign to the metabolic network of an organism 'xenobiotic' compounds. 1975 WILLIAMS & WILSON *Biologist's Guide to Princ. & Techniques Pract. Biochem.* i. 13 In order to study the metabolism of a xenobiotic, it is advantageous to administer it in an isotopically-labelled form. 1981 *Internat. J. Environ. Stud.* XVII. 11/2 Many xenobiotic substances reduce blood concentrations of one or more vitamins. 1920 A. HOLMES *Nomencl. Petrol.* 241 **xenoblast*, a term applied to crystals which have grown during metamorphism without the development of their characteristic faces. 1962 *Xenoblast* [see IDIOBLAST 3]. 1931 A. JOHANNSEN *Descr. Petrogr. Igneous Rocks* I. 232 **Xenoblastic*, a texture in metamorphic rocks corresponding to the xenomorphic in igneous rocks. The crystals lack proper crystal faces. 1980 *Mineral. Mag.* XLIII. 781/1 In thin-section all the felsic grains are seen to be xenoblastic. 1965 E. WEBER in Rogger & Weber *European Right* 507 Everywhere Eminescu looked... he saw foreigners and cryptoforeigners; the intelligentsia, recruited from men who had inherited their character and ideas from Greek or Bulgarian fore-bears; the ruling Liberals, who drew their manners and policies from the Seine, the Spree, and the Bosphorus... Altogether one vast *xenocracy. 1975 H. LUKE in K. M. Setton *Hist. Crusades* III. xi. 394 While it is unlikely that the Cypriot peasantry under the Lusignan kingdom were politically worse off... than the peasantry of other Near Eastern countries... it is not surprising that by the end of the Venetian occupation they had come to conceive... a profound hatred of the Latin xenocracy. 1894 W. J. SOLLAS in *Trans. R. Irish Acad.* XXX. 493 As a distinctive appellation appropriate to the crystals, both of pyroxene and of plagioclase feldspar, which have found their way from the gabbro into the granophyre, the term *xenocrysts may be employed. Correspondingly included fragments of the whole rock may be called 'xenoliths'. 1964 G. A. JOPLIN *Petrogr. Austral. Igneous Rocks* ii. 26 Xenocrysts commonly show some resorption or corona indicating that they have reacted with the magma. 1983 *J. Geol.* XCI. 277 Xenocrysts and xenoliths from three Ithaca kimberlite localities are consistent with derivation from mantle depths of less than 150 km. 1963 *Amer. Mineralogist* XLVIII. 172 Classification of Kerguelen rocks is to a large extent dependent on the amount of *xenocrystic material present. 1981 *J. Geophys. Res.* LXXXVI. 10515 This particular granite cannot be a primary magma... It is a possible product of partial fusion of pelitic rocks between about 20 km and 40 km depth... and xenocrystic muscovite or sillimanite from the source rocks. 1978 *Nature* 19 Oct. 640/1 The phlogopite is derived from the parental magma or its derivatives and is not a *xenocrystic phase. 1947 *Anales del Instituto de Medicina Regional* (Tucuman) II. 60 The authors describe... artificial *xenodiagnosis for cases in which it is not possible to perform it directly upon patients. 1976 *Nature* 15 July 215/2 Using only male bugs of a susceptible stock for xenodiagnosis should enhance the sensitivity of this diagnostic test. 1955 *O Hospital* (Rio de Janeiro) XLVII/187 The authors make a comparison between the positivity of *xeno-diagnostic tests performed in two ways. 1974 R. ZELEDÓN in K. Elliott et al. *Trypanosomiasis & Leishmaniasis* 58 New xenodiagnostic tests in an endemic area of Chagas' disease in Costa Rica. 1877 *DARWIN Lett.* (1903) II. 413 Some such terms as autogamy, *xenogamy, etc. 1870 HUXLEY *Pres. Addr. Brit. Assoc.*, Rep. p. lxxvii. The term Heterogenesis... has... been used in a different sense, and M. Milne-Edwards has therefore substituted for it **Xenogenesis*. *Ibid.* p. lxxxv. The analogy of pathological modification... is in favour of the *xenogenetic origin of microzymes. 1901 DORLAND *Med. Dict.* (ed. 2), **Xenogenous*, caused by a foreign body, or originating outside the organism. 1913 *Ibid.* (ed. 7) adds 2. Formed or developed in the host: a term applied to toxins formed by the action of stimuli on the cells of the host. 1978 *Amer. Speech* LIII. 67 Samarín would call the event of persons speaking in a language unknown to them *xenoglossia, something different from glossolalia. 1981 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 3 July 765/3 The traditional view was that, while at Corinth glossolalia had occurred, meaning that there were lexically non-communicative utterances, at Pentecost what occurred was xenoglossia, utterance in an actual foreign language. 1914 A. TEIXEIRA DE MATTOS tr. *Maeterlinck's Unknown Guest* III. 101 *Xenoglossy is well known not to be unusual in automatic writing; sometimes even the 'automatist' speaks or writes languages of which he is completely ignorant. 1932 I. EMERSON tr. E. Bozzano (title) Polyglot mediumship (xenoglossy). 1980 *Brit. Med. J.* 9 Aug. 432/2 The investigators are reported to regard her xeno-glossy (ability to speak a foreign language without having learnt it) as a truly paranormal experience. 1961 *Nature* 25 Mar. 1024/2 Grafts between species... of less general interest... have been called *xenografts or heterografts. 1974 R. M. KIRK et al. *Surgery* ii. 35 A xenograft... is poorly tolerated by the recipient. 1977 *Proc. R. Soc. Med.* LXX. 480/2 A xenograft in one patient was unsuccessful. 1984 *Times* 21 Aug. 4/1 Surgeons have a choice of artificial valves, or those made from human or animal tissue. The latter, xenografts, are silent and rendered rejection-proof. 1978 D. CHRISTIE-MURRAY *Voices from Gods* xii. 167 There appears to be no evidence of genuine, responsive *xenolalia (that is, intelligent conversation carried on in a recognized language completely unknown to the speaker) in any native culture studied by anthropologists. 1981 *Times* 8 Oct. 15/5 There is a distinction between glossolalia (paranormal speaking in tongues) and xenolalia (paranormal speaking in allegedly foreign languages). 1844 DANA *Min.* (1868) 374 *Xenolite... resembles fibrolite... excepting in the high specific gravity. 1894 *Xenolith [see *xenocryst* above]. 1942 [see METASOMATIZE v.]. 1956 'H. MACDIARMID' *Stony Limits & Scots Unbound* 41 Ultra-basic xenoliths that make men look midges. 1975 *Nature* 10 Apr. 480/1 Xenoliths thought to represent material from the deeper parts of the upper mantle are brought to the surface in kimberlite magmas. 1900 *Q. J. Geol. Soc.* LVI. 665 The whole of the cliffs around Annestown Bay are composed of the widespread pink and greenish *xenolithic felsites. 1930 PEACH & HORNE *Geol. Scotl.* ii. 67 Grey igneous gneiss is interposed... and is xenolithic. One of the pale xenoliths was found to consist of malacolite... and green hornblende. 1980 *Sci. Amer.* May 97/1 With the exception of xenolithic... fragments of mantle that are occasionally brought to the surface by kimberlite

pipes and some basalt formations, direct sampling of the upper mantle is impossible. 1879 K. HILLEBRAND in *19th Cent.* Oct. 626 Germany received the first carcases of this strange *xenomania from the hands of youthful Carlyle and old Coleridge. 1887 SAINTSBURY *Hist. Elizab. Lit.* iv. 136 No writer of the period had such a command of pure English, unadulterated by xenomania and unweakened by purism, as Daniel. 1879 *Daily News* 30 Sept. 5/1 Are we all *Xenomaniacs? 1891 *Illustr. Lond. News* 7 Feb. 168/2 Sir Arthur Sullivan was never the least bit of a *xenomaniac*. 1888 HATCH in Teall *Brit. Petrography* Gloss. 423 *Allotriomorphic*, a term applied by Rosenbusch... in contradistinction to idiomorphic. It is synonymous with *xenomorphic. 1905 E. S. SALMON in *Ann. Bot.* Jan. 127 To describe cases where a form of a Fungus which is specialized to certain host-plants... proves able to infect injured parts of a strange host, I propose the terms *xenoparasite and *xenoparasitism. 1934 WEBSTER, *Xenophile, -phil *adjs.* 1945 W. PLOMER *Dorking Thigh* 10 And in fancy dress she lingers With a locket in her fingers Containing a curl from That xenophil Greek. 1948 *Penguin New Writing* XXXIV. 128 New York and Los Angeles seem to be replacing Paris as the goal of Colombian xenophiles. 1968 P. B. AUSTIN *On being Swedish* xx. 149 Almost in spite of herself, she becomes a xenophile. 1959 *Times* 3 Dec. 15/7 Among the subjects covered by books in our stock are X-rays, *xenophilia, [etc.]. 1964 *New Statesman* 1 May 694/1 The uniters are... more prone to xenophilia. Literature being the least international of the arts, those who wish to infuse it with music and colour tend to be internationalists. 1982 *Times* 7 Aug. 8/5 When will Americans realise how *xenophilic their short order cuisine is—hamburgers... which Hamburg would not understand, French fries incomprehensible to the French. 1974 *Encycl. Brit. Macropædia* X. 309/2 Tension between the xenophobic (fear of strangers) and *xenophilic (love of strangers) in postexilic Judaism was finally resolved some two centuries later. 1912 W. SICKERT in *English Review* Apr. 147 Lest the writer be accused of *Xenophilism. 1984 *New Yorker* 16 Jan. 32/2 Even the most *xenophilous among us may feel a twinge of alarm. 1898 *Q. J. Microsc. Sci.* June 308 No Stromboid, Naticoid, or *Xenophoran molluscs have been found hitherto in any fresh water that is known. 1935 A. F. BUDDINGTON in *Econ. Geol.* XXX. 209 The writer therefore proposes the term **xenothermal* for these deposits... suggestive of the peculiar textures for the normal high-temperature mineral assemblages involved, of the abnormal association of high temperature with shallow depth, and of the 'telescoped' character of many of the deposits. 1976 *Nature* 10 June 482/2 The tin mineralisation of Missouri bears a resemblance to the subvolcanic (xenothermal) deposits of Japan. 1973 J. A. LEVY in *Science* 14 Dec. 1151/2 The results show that this NZB type virus is endogenous in other strains of mice and is *xenotropic; that is, it grows only in cells foreign to the host. 1978 *Nature* 30 Mar. 456/2 Defective type C RNA tumour viruses which are genetic recombinants between eotopic and xenotropic viruses have been described and suggested to be the real transforming agents during the course of viral-induced lymphatic leukaemia. 1974 *Ibid.* 22 Mar. 279/3 Another example of *xenotropism is the endogenous feline virus which when activated replicates in human cells. 1982 *J. Virol.* XLIII. 472 (*heading*) Monoclonal antibody to spleen focus-forming virus-encoded gp52 provides a probe for the amino-terminal region of retroviral envelope proteins that confers dual tropism and xenotropism. 1885 *Stand. Nat. Hist.* (1888) V. 50 The Kabassous, or *Xenurines, have the third as well as the fourth and fifth metacarpals abbreviated and broad.

† *xeno'dochial*, *a. Obs. rare*—1. [f. Gr. *ξενδοχία* (XENODOCHY) + -AL¹.] Given to receiving strangers; hospitable.

1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* II. 402 The Insuperable Aversion, that those three Xenodochial Prelates seem'd always to exert against the French Nation. *Ibid.* 404.

|| *xenodochium* (ZENADOKIUM). Also -ion, -eum. Pl. -a. [Late L. *xenodochium*, -eum, ad. late Gr. *ξενδοχείον*, f. *ξένος* stranger + *δέχεσθαι* to receive.] A house of reception for strangers and pilgrims; a hostel, guest-house, esp. in a monastery. 1612 CORYAT in *Purchas Pilgrims* (1625) II. 1820 In Constantinople, Peru, and Galata, there are... Karabassaries or *Xenodochia* four hundred and eighteen. 1736 DRAKE *Eboracum* i. vii. 246 [A] spital... was an house of entertainment for poor travellers or pilgrims... this [sc. spital of St. Catherine] was a *Xenodochium* of that kind. 1832 GELL *Pompeiana* II. xiii. 18 Many have supposed that the xenodochium, or hospitium, for the reception of strangers was placed in this division of the mansion. 1844 LINGARD *Anglo-Saxon Ch.* (1858) I. vi. 246 Within the precincts of the monastery stood an edifice, distinguished by the Greek name of *Xenodochium*, in which a certain number of paupers received their daily support, and which was gratuitously opened to every traveller who solicited relief. 1865 LECKY *Ration.* II. vi. 263 Long before the era of persecution had closed, the hospital and the Xenodochion, or refuge for strangers, was known among the Christians.

† *xenodochy*¹. *Obs. rare*—1. [Anglicized form of prec.] = prec.

c 1540 tr. *Pol. Verg. Eng. Hist.* (Camden No. 29) 121 Ther was at York an auncyent and welthy xenodochye that ys to say, an hospytall.. wher powre and nedye people wer enterteynynd.

† *xenodochy*². *Obs. rare*—1. In 7 xenodechie, zenodochie. [ad. Gr. *ξενδοχία*: cf. XENODOCHIUM.] Entertainment of strangers; hospitality.

1623 COCKERAM, *Xenodechie*, hospitality. 1674 JOSSELYN *Voy. New Eng.* 181 Sincere and religious people... deserv'd by their charity and humility... by their Zenodochie or hospitality.

xenogeneic (ZENADODJ'ni:k, -'eik), *a. Immunol.* [f. XENO- + Gr. *γενε-á* race, stock + -IC.]

Derived from an individual of a different species.

1961 P. A. GORET et al. in *Nature* 25 Mar. 1025/1 'Hetero-specific' has been used before and cannot be said to be illogical; but it is a Greco-Latin hybrid and we feel that 'xenogeneic' goes well with the other two terms we have suggested and is perhaps preferable. 1969 *Ibid.* 27 Sept. 1376/1 Until recently all procedures that were effective in prolonging the lives of allografts... were usually ineffective for sustaining xenogeneic grafts. 1977 *Lancet* 21 May 1105/2 Patients with widespread metastatic melanoma were treated with... xenogeneic anti-melanoma immunoglobulin. 1981 *J. Immunol.* CXXVI. 2397/1 Xenogeneic anti-Id antibodies.

xenon ('zenon). *Chem.* [ad. Gr. *ξένον*, neut. of *ξένος* strange.] A heavy inert gaseous element present in minute quantity in the atmosphere, discovered by Sir William Ramsay in 1898. Symbol Xe or X. Also *attrib.* and *Comb.*

1898 RAMSAY & TRAVERS in *Rep. Brit. Assoc. Bristol* 830 The last fractions of liquefied argon show the presence of three new gases. These are krypton... metargon... and a still heavier gas... which we propose to name 'xenon'. 1938 *Ann. Reg.* 1937 358 Laporte... showed that white light could be obtained from a xenon tube through which brief but very intense currents were passed. 1957 T. L. J. BENTLEY *Man. Miniat. Camera* (ed. 5) v. 74 The practical uses of electronic flash sets are governed by the characteristics of the modern xenon-filled flash tube. 1959 *New Scientist* 1 Jan. 12/1 The main lighting was provided by a pulsed xenon compact source lamp, and its intensity was of the order of 50,000 foot candles. 1962 *Newnes Conc. Encycl. Nucl. Energy* 877/1 Xenon is of importance in nuclear technology because several radioactive isotopes of the element are found among the fission products. One of these, Xe¹³⁵... gives rise to fission-product poisoning of the reactor. 1963 [see REACT v. 1 c]. 1971 Xenon arc [see SPECTRALLY adv. 2]. 1971 *Sci. Amer.* Oct. 92/3 The compounds they studied were two chlorides of xenon, XeCl₂ and XeCl₄, which they produced indirectly by synthesizing analogous compounds where radioactive iodine 129 took the place of xenon... It will be recalled that xenon used to be called an inert, or 'noble', gas because it was thought to be chemically completely unreactive. 1976 *Daily Times* (Lagos) 8 July 17/1 Most film theatres in this country operating in 35mm have such poor and antiquated projection equipment that a good 16mm heavy duty projector equipped with a xenon lamp will certainly achieve better picture and sound quality.

xenophobia (ZENAF'ubia). Also 'xenophoby, zenophobia (both *rare*). [f. XENO- + Gr. *φόβος* fear + -IA¹, -Y³.] A deep antipathy to foreigners.

1909 *Athenæum* 13 Mar. 325/3 Those whose sense of justice... is not impaired by prejudice or 'xenophoby'. 1919 *Nation* 20 Dec. 800/1 We are often told in criticism of the Nationalist movements in Egypt, Turkey, Persia, and China that legitimate agitation for self-government and democratic institutions is marred by xenophobia. 1934 R. MACAULAY *Going Abroad* xxix. 249 Violent and inhospitable outbursts of xenophoby have... characterised them [sc. the Basques] from their first appearance in history. 1936 E. WAUGH *Waugh in Abyssinia* i. 34 The xenophobia of the people was an insuperable barrier to all free co-operation. 1940 E. POUND *Cantos* lvi. 67 Showed no xenophobia. 1963 *Economist* 1 June 908/1 The mild xenophobia... which informed such *Punch* lines as 'e's a stranger: 'eave 'arf a brick at 'im'. 1971 H. MACMILLAN *Riding Storm* ii. 49 This kind of isolationism or economic nationalism, amounting to xenophobia, seized all nations, great and small, from time to time. 1976 N. ROBERTS *Face of France* iv. 49 Eight per cent of France's total working population is immigrant... Here were all the conditions needed for the release of latent xenophobia.

Hence *xeno'phobic a.*, pertaining to or exhibiting xenophobia; *xeno'phobically adv.*; also 'xenophobe, a xenophobic person; also as *adj.*

1912 *Nation* 11 May 214/1 The popular attitude with regard to external politics is one of crude and xenophobic Imperialism. 1922 *Mail* 24 May 327/1 The Afghans are said to be suspicious of foreigners, even to be xenophobes. 1937 D. B. WYNNDHAM-LEWIS in L. Russell *Press Gang!* 245 Grey, scrawny, xenophobe, oinophil NY chilled-steel tycoon. 1951 H. ARENDT *Burden of our Time* i. i. 3 The identification of antisemitism with rampant nationalism and its xenophobic outbursts. 1956 P. JENNINGS *Model Oddies* 34 The kind of London pub which... has a more closely-knit, xenophobe clientèle than the remotest village hostelry. 1977 T. HEALD *Just Desserts* vii. 146 It wasn't that he was... a xenophobe... but the foreignness was obtrusive. 1978 *Listener* 8 June 724/2 Xenophobically named after the old Roman province, the Dacia is, in fact, a licensee-built French Renault. 1980 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 22 Aug. 937/5 At that moment [sc. the start of a major war], for discredited xenophobic reasons, Haldane's reputation as a War Minister sank to its nadir, but from 1918 onwards it has always been high. 1983 P. LIVELY *Perfect Happiness* vi. 72 A stubborn and unfashionably xenophobic refusal to attempt foreign languages. 1983 N. FREELING *Back of North Wind* 77 'Another bloody foreigner! I hate a lot of foreigners,' said Castang xenophobically.

Xenophontean, -ian (ZENAF'ontæn), *a.* [f. Gr. *Ξενοφών*, -ώντος Xenophon, name of an ancient Greek historian and biographer (c 444–354 B.C.) + -EAN, -IAN.] Pertaining to, characteristic of, described by, or resembling (that of) Xenophon.

1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super. Wks.* (Grosart) II. 99 M. Thomas Blundeil, whose painfull, and skillfull bookes of Horsemanship, deserue also to be registered in the Catalogue of Xenophontian woorkes. 1834 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Exerc.* (1842) III. 127 In all European services there is a class of officers who might not unaptly be termed Xenophontean; men... zealous to know the most that is possible, for the sake of acting under its guidance. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 338 The Apology appears to combine

the common characteristics both of the Xenophontean and Platonic Socrates.

So Xeno'phontic a.

1822 T. MITCHELL *Aristoph.* II. 27 What... authority the poet had for engaging his Socrates in these ridiculous speculations, it is now impossible to ascertain; but... the Platonic, and even the Xenophontic, Socrates is sometimes almost as absurd. 1864 SALA in *Daily Tel.* 15 Aug., Colonel Fremantle, in one of the most Xenophontic little books that has seen the light within these latter days, tells us [etc.]. 1882 A. S. WALPOLE *Xenophon's Anab.* I. (1900) p. x, A Greek of Xenophontic age. 1904 *Times* 27 Aug. 10/1 A mere Xenophontic record of the length of stages in a journey.

Xenopus ('zenəpəs). [mod.L. (coined in Ger. by J. G. Wagler 1827, in *Isis von Oken* XX. 726/2), f. XENO- + Gr. πούς, πόδ- foot.] A toad of the African genus *Xenopus*, which has claws on its digits and which was formerly used in pregnancy testing, as it produces eggs when injected with the urine of a pregnant woman; a clawed toad.

1890 *Proc. Sci. Meetings Zool. Soc.* 70 *Xenopus* is a most admirable swimmer, and remarkable for the manner in which it remains poised for a long time immediately under the surface of the water. 1955 [see OSTRADIOL]. 1974 *Encycl. Brit. Macropædia* XI. 803/2 In the toad *Xenopus*, each group of hair cells in a neuromast connects to its own nerve fibre.

xenotime ('zenəutaim). *Min.* [Named (in Fr.) by Beudant, 1832, as if f. Gr. ξένος strange + τιμή honour, but app. in error for *kenotime, f. Gr. κενός empty, vain: see quot. below.] A native phosphate of yttrium.

1844 DANA *Min.* (1868) 528 *Xenotime*. . . Lustre resinous Color yellowish-brown, reddish-brown, hair-brown, flesh-red, grayish-white [etc.]. . . Beudant named the species *xenotime* (apparently from ξένος, stranger to, and τιμή, honor), but in the next line gives the derivation 'κενός, vain, et τιμή, honneur', as if the word were *kenotime*, and adds . . . that this name is intended to recall the fact that the mineral was erroneously supposed by Berzelius . . . to contain a new metal. 1907 *Athenæum* 20 Apr. 479/1 M. Jean Becquerel . . . has been engaged in magneto-optical researches . . . Most of his experiments have been made with crystals of xenotime (a magnetic phosphate of yttrium).

xequé, var. (Pg. spelling) of SHEIKH.

xerafeen, -in, var. SERAPHIN *Obs.*

|| **xeranthemum** (ziə'rænθiməm). *Bot.* [mod.L. (Tournefort, 1700), f. Gr. ξηρός dry + άνθεμον blossom.] A plant of a genus of composites of the Mediterranean region, having flower-heads with dry chaffy bracts of a purplish or whitish colour; the genus itself; one kind of the plants commonly called *everlasting* or *immortelle*.

1741 *Compl. Fam.-Piece* II. iii. 385 Seeds of Jacea's, . . . Xeranthemums, . . . and sweet Sultan. 1751 HILL *Hist. Plants* 574 The long-leaved xeranthemum with paleaceous receptacles. It is a native of Germany and France; the flowers retain their beauty many years. 1786 ABERCROMBIE *Gard. Assist.* 116 Virginia and English tobacco, Indian corn, xeranthemum, ten-week's stocks.

xerapheen, -phin, var. SERAPHIN *Obs.*

xerarch ('zera:k), *a. Ecol.* [f. XER(O- + Gr. αρχ-ή beginning.)] Of a plant succession: having its origin in a dry habitat.

1913, 1960 [see HYDRARCH *a.*]. 1973 P. A. COLINVAUX *Introd. Ecol.* vi. 75 Later American work . . . sought to explain the existence of beech-maple forests on old sand dunes near the southern shore of Lake Michigan as resulting from a particularly dramatic xerarch succession.

|| **xerasia** (ziə'reisɪə). *Path.* [mod.L., a. Gr. ξηρασία dryness, also in sense below (Galen).] A disease of the hair characterized by excessive dryness.

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Xerasia*, a fault in the Hairs when they appear like Down, as it were sprinkled with Dust. 1896 tr. Balzac's *César Birotteau* 152 To prevent xerasia and baldness.

Xeres ('zeɪs, 'ziəri:z). Also 7 Zerez. Name of a town in Andalusia, famous for its wine; in full, *Xeres sack*, *wine* = SHERRIS (*sack*), SHERRY *sb.*¹ 1.

a1661 FULLER *Worthies, Bristol* (1662) III. 34 *Bristol Milk*. . . This Metaphorical Milk, whereby Xeres or Sherry-Sack is intended. 1662 MERRET in Charleton *Myst. Vintners* (1675) 233 Most of the Canary is made with Malago and Zerez Sack. 1841 *Fraser's Mag.* XXIV. 26 The xeres and port are of the right sort. 1869 BLACKMORE *Lorna D.* I. Do you like the wine of the Oporto, or the wine of Xeres? 1872 RUSKIN *Fors Clav.* II. xvi. 13 So many skins of Xeres wine.

xeric ('ziəri:k), *a. Ecol.* [f. XER(O- + -IC.)] Having or characterized by a scanty amount of moisture.

1926, etc. [see HYDRIC *a.*]. 1932 FULLER & CONARD tr. *Braun-Blanquet's Plant Sociol.* v. 115 In spite of this temporary excess of precipitation, the vegetation of the southern Cévennes has many xeric features. 1967 M. E. HALE *Biol. Lichens* vii. 94 Xeric savannas and mesic maple woods. 1979 *Jrnl. Arid Environments* II. 255 This soil represents an edaphically xeric condition.

xeriff, var. of SHERIFI.

xeriff, obs. form of SHEREEF.

xero- ('ziəru), before a vowel xer-, repr. Gr. ξηρο-, ξηρ-, combining form of ξηρός dry, occurring in several scientific and technical terms. || **xero'derma**, -dermia, *Path.* [mod.L., f. Gr. δέρμα skin], one of several diseases characterized by excessive dryness of the skin; hence **xeroder'matic**, -'dermatous, -'dermic *adjs.*, pertaining to or characteristic of xeroderma. **xeroderma pigmentosum** *Path.* [L. pigmentōsus pigmented], a rare, hereditary disorder in which skin exposed to the ultraviolet light of the sun becomes discoloured and swollen, chronic injury leading in childhood to cancer and often death. **'xeroform** *Med.* [after *chloroform*]: see quot. **'xeromorphy** *Bot.* [Gr. μορφή shape, form], the possession by a plant of features characteristic of a xerophilous plant; hence **xero'morphic a.**; also **'xeromorph**, a xeromorphic plant. **xero'philic a.** = *xerophilous* *adj.* **xerophilous** (-'fɪləs) *a. Bot. and Zool.* [Gr. -φίλος -loving], adapted to a dry climate or habitat, or to conditions of scanty available moisture; so **xerophil(e** ('ziəri:fɪl), *sb.* [ad. F. *xérophile* *sb.* (J. Thurmann in *Essai de phytostatique* (1849) I. xiii. 268)], a xerophilous plant; also as *adj.*; **xe'rophily**, the condition or character of being xerophilous. **'xerophyte** (-fart), *Bot.* [Gr. φυτόν plant], a xerophilous plant (see above); so **xerophytic** (-'fɪtɪk) *a.*, pertaining to or having the character of a xerophyte, xerophilous; **xe'rophytism**, xerophytic character, xerophily. **'xerosere** *Ecol.* [SERE *sb.*²], a plant succession having its origin in a dry habitat. || **xerostomia** (-'stəʊmiə), *Path.* [mod.L., f. Gr. στόμα mouth], dryness of the mouth from insufficient secretion of saliva. **xero'thermic a.** [Gr. θερμός hot], dry and hot.

1848 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.* (ed. 7), ***Xeroderma**, diminution of secretion of the sebaceous glands. 1864 W. T. Fox *Skin Dis.* viii. 222 True xeroderma is in reality the early stage of ichthyosis, a true epithelial disease. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 786 [*Lichen pilaris*] is only a part of a general xeroderma. 1884 *Medico-Chir. Trans.* LXVII. 169 (*heading*) Three cases of *xeroderma pigmentosum, Kaposi or atrophoderma pigmentosum. 1952 C. P. BLACKER *Eugenics* 248 Among these genes are those believed to determine retinitis pigmentosa, a severe disease of the eye leading to blindness; epidermolysis bullosa and xeroderma pigmentosum, both diseases of the skin. 1975 *Sci. Amer.* Nov. 68/2 An inherited defect in the enzymes that repair DNA damaged by ultraviolet light, called *xeroderma pigmentosum*, leads to multiple skin cancers. 1913 DORLAND *Med. Dict.* (ed. 7), ***Xerodermatic**. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 851 The skin is dry and thin but not *xerodermatous. 1891 *Cent. Dict.*, ***Xerodermia**, same as Xeroderma. 1899 [see XEROSIS]. 1890 *Retrospect Med.* CII. 92 Minute white, gray, or red scaly xerodermic prominences, having a hair in the centre. 1901 DORLAND *Med. Dict.* (ed. 2), ***Xeroform**, a yellow neutral powder derived from tribromphenol and bismuth, (C₆H₂Br₃)₂ BiOH + Bi₂O₃; useful in the treatment of wounds, abscesses, etc., and as an intestinal antiseptic. 1934 WEBSTER, ***Xeromorph**. 1953 *Sci. News* XXVII. 10 The term 'xerophyte' is now limited to those plants able to endure conditions of drought, while salt-marsh plants are known as 'xeromorphs'. 1981 *Austral. Jrnl. Bot.* XXIX. 518 *G[revillea] annulifera* has the nutritional characteristics common to xeromorphs plus strategies to channel nutrients very efficiently to its seeds. 1909 E. WARMING *Ecol. of Plants* xlvii. 194 There must be a causal connexion between the soil and the *xeromorphic structure which has been described. 1938 WEAVER & CLEMENTS *Plant Ecol.* (ed. 2) xvi. 445 Xeromorphic structures such as thick cuticle, waxy covering, or abundant development of hairs have little value in directly reducing the rate of transpiration of xerophytes so long as the stomata are open. 1974 *Nature* 26 Apr. 807/2 The *Hybanthus* shrubs conspicuous by their apparent lack of xeromorphic adaptation to a climate which becomes increasingly arid towards the continental interior. 1909 E. WARMING *Ecol. of Plants* xlvii. 194 This *xeromorphy of plants growing on wet moor-soil occurs all the world over. 1963 *Nature* 30 Nov. 909/2 It is well known that xeromorphy is of physiological importance to the aquatic plants which exhibit it and certain tissues become altered in relation to environment. 1980 *Bot. Jrnl. Linnean Soc.* LXXX. 319 Most of the variable characters are related to xeromorphy and are taxonomically useful within the framework of the present classification. 1878 ***Xerophile** [see HYGROPHILOUS *a.*]. 1884 *Trans. Victoria Inst.* 38 Xerophiles—plants such as pertain to very dry climates. 1921 H. PRINZ *Vegetation of Siberian-Mongolian Frontiers* 14 At a short distance from the river . . . the xerophile typical steppes vegetation predominates. 1936 *Hereditas* XXI. 290 *Viola crassa* is xerophile and alpine. 1985 *Times* 4 Jan. 12/2 The site was then abandoned, a conclusion that Dr Evans bases on the high diversity of snail species and the general paucity of xerophile species. 1961 WEBSTER, ***Xerophilic**. 1965 B. E. FREEMAN tr. *Vandel's Biospeleology* xiii. 213 The Tenebrionidae are mainly xerophilic insects. 1972 *Science* 19 May 788/1 He is equally good when describing various kinds of vegetation, from the aquatic to the xerophilic. 1863 J. G. BAKER N. *Yorksh.* xxii. 316 The *Xerophilous and Maritime species [of mosses] are very few in number. 1893 *Athenæum* 2 Dec. 774/3 A paper . . . by the Rev. G. Henslow 'On the Origin of Plant Structures by Self-adaptation to the Environment, exemplified by Desert and Xerophilous Plants.' 1968 *Jrnl. Zool.* CLV. 365 Many xerophilous species occupying desert or semi-arid areas have adapted their breeding physiology to take advantage of the unpredictable and sporadic rainfall that may occur at any time. 1904 *Science* 3 June 866/2 The causes of *xerophily in bog plants. 1897 WILLIS *Flower. Pl. & Ferns* I. 178 In countries with long dry seasons [etc.], . . . the plants . . . agree

in having a lower rate of transpiration than plants living where there is plenty of available water. Plants of this kind are termed ***xerophytes**. 1906 G. HENSLOW in 19th *Cent.* Nov. 801 *E[uphorbia] Paralias* is a xerophyte with coriaceous leaves, because it has adapted itself to a maritime situation in England. 1897 WILLIS *Flower. Pl. & Ferns* I. 185 No plants . . . can be regular epiphytes unless they possess well-marked *xerophytic characters, including as a rule the capacity for water-storage. 1900 *Nature* 13 Dec. 150/1 Every one is aware how extremely intolerant of moisture are the cacti and some other xerophytic plants. *Ibid.* 15 Nov. 53/2 The stomatal grooves on the lower surface of the leaf [of *Lepidodendron*] suggest a xerophytic adaptation. Indications of *xerophytism are afforded by other anatomical characters in certain Palæozoic types. 1926 ***Xerosere** [see *hydrosere* s.v. HYDRO-]. 1952 P. W. RICHARDS *Tropical Rain Forest* xii. 287 Opportunities for observing xeroseres in the tropics are . . . not infrequent, particularly in regions of volcanic activity. 1890 BILLINGS *Nat. Med. Dict.*, ***Xerostomia**, dryness of the mouth. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 310 The salivary and buccal secretions may be totally arrested as in cases of xerostomia. 1904 *Bot. Gaz.* Apr. 312 (Cent. D. Suppl.) Jerosch holds that an interglacial *xerothermic or steppe period has been proved by the facts of plant geography, paleontology, and geology.

xerocopy ('ziəriu-, 'zeɪrəʊkəpi). [f. next + COPY *sb.* (a.)] A xerographic copy; a photocopy. Hence **'xerocopying** *vbl. sb.*

1963 *Fortune* Sept. 225/2 (Adv.), Which is the 5 c xerocopy? 1964 *Economist* 22 Aug. 695/1 (Adv.), Xerocopying is an essential part of modern business communication. 1966 *English Studies* XLVII. 152 Most of the items are also available as paperbound xerocopies. 1971 *Fremdsprachen* XV. 278 Dry permanent xerocopies at a ratio of 14:5 × are automatically reproduced on single cut sheets of ordinary unsensitized paper.

xerography (ziə-, zə'rɒgrəfi). [f. XERO- + -GRAPHY, after *photography*.] A dry copying process in which an electrically charged surface retains both the charge and a pigmented powder on areas not illuminated by light from bright parts of the document, so that a permanent copy may be immediately obtained by placing paper on the surface and applying heat to fuse the powder to it; photocopying.

1948 *N. Y. Times* 23 Oct. 17/8 A revolutionary process of inkless printing . . . was announced yesterday. . . Invented by Chester F. Carlson, a New York lawyer, and known as 'Xerography', this basic addition to the graphic arts reproduces pictures and text at a speed of 1,200 a minute. 1957 *Technology* July 164/2 A new copying process, Xerography, attracted constant attention. 1962 *Daily Tel.* 30 Oct. 20 (Adv.), Xerography is capturing a growing share of a market in office copying. 1967 McLuhan & Fiore *Medium is Message* 123 Xerography . . . heralds the times of instant publishing. 1970 A. TOFFLER *Future Shock* (1971) xii. 280 Advances in offset printing and xerography have radically lowered the costs of short-run publishing. 1976 *Globe & Mail* (Toronto) 1 Nov. 17/4 Asked whether xerography might become the next big movement in art, Bidner insisted on caution.

Hence **xero'graphic a.**, **xero'graphically adv.**

1948 *N. Y. Times* 23 Oct. 17/8 Even an unskilled person can make good Xerographic prints easily. 1958 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 5 Dec. 712/3 The enormous possibilities of applying the xerographic process to microfilms of books. 1968 *U.S. Patent* 3,413,716 1 A xerographically formed pattern of chemical resist is placed on the conductive material. 1976 *Nature* 22 Jan. 204/2 We sampled the air in an unventilated room . . . housing a xerographic machine. 1979 *Lore & Lang.* Jan. 14 This recitation has been printed many times and is common in the xerographically transmitted broadsheets. 1982 *Trans. Yorks. Dialect Soc.* LXXXII. 49 (Adv.), Available in microform and xerographic form.

|| **xeroma** (ziə'rəʊmə). *Path.* [mod.L., f. Gr. ξηρός dry, after *sarcoma*, etc.] Abnormal dryness of some part from lack of fluid secretion; *spec.* = XEROPHTHALMIA. Hence **xe'romatous a.**, of the nature of or affected with xeroma.

1848 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.* (ed. 7), *Xeroma*, xerophthalmia. . . *Xeroma*, lachrymal, suppression of the lachrymal secretion. 1860 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, Xeromatous. 1875 H. WALTON *Dis. Eye* (ed. 3) 876 The cornea passes into complete pannus or xeroma.

xerophagy (ziə'rɒfədʒɪ). Also 7 -fag-. [ad. Gr. ξηροφαγία: see XERO- and -PHAGY.] The eating of dry food, esp. as form of fasting practised in the early church.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Xerophagy*. . . the eating dry meats. 1671 F. S. tr. *Daille's Serm. Colossians* ii. 2 The stations, the xerofagies, and other disciplines of the Montanists. 1725 tr. *Dupin's Eccl. Hist.* 17th C. I. v. 157 In the Week which precedes the Feast of Easter, the Fast was more rigorous, and in some Places they eat nothing but dry'd things; which they call'd Xerophagy. 1884 *Catholic Dict.* (1897) 558/2 (*Lent*) Some kept the fast of extraordinary strictness known as xerophagy for one day. 1889 FARRAR *Lives Fathers* I. v. 190 *note*, As for xerophagies, says Tertullian, they charge them with being a novel title for a pretended duty.

|| **xerophthalmia** (ziə'rɒfθælmɪə). *Path.* Also formerly anglicized as *xerophthalm*, -ie. [L., ad. Gr. ξηροφθαλμία, f. ξηρός dry + ὀφθαλμία OPHTHALMIA.] An ophthalmia without discharge; inflammation of the conjunctiva of the eye with abnormal dryness and corrugation.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Xerophthalm*. . . soariness or blearedness of the Eyes, when they neither swell, nor run. 1658 PHILLIPS, *Xerophthalmie*. [1684 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (1693), *Xerophthalmia*, a dry Blearedness or Blood-shot of the Eyes.] 1875 H. WALTON *Dis. Eye* (ed. 3) 885 (*heading*) Cuticular conjunctivitis or xerophthalmia.

xeroradiography (zɪəʀəʊ-, zɪəʀəʊreɪd'ɪɒgrəfi). [f. XEROGRAPHY + RADIOGRAPHY.] A xerographic process for obtaining an X-ray picture, the X-rays impinging on an electrically charged surface like light in conventional xerography. Hence xero'radiograph; xero-radiographic a.

1950 *Non-Destructive Testing* IX. 1. 11/1 Xeroradiography is a rapid, low-cost, all-electric method of obtaining permanent X-Ray images. *Ibid.*, The xeroradiographic plate... may be made flexible, and placed in intimate contact with the curved surface of the test object. 1955 *Amer. J. Roentgenol.* LXXXIII. 7/1 The xeroradiographic plate consists of a sheet of metal... on which has been deposited... a thin layer of selenium. *Ibid.* 8/1 (caption) Aluminum step-wedge xeroradiographs. 1960 *Aeroplane* XCIX. 722/2 The inspection of light-alloy castings, hidden structures and assemblies, is stated to be among the applications of xeroradiographic equipment. 1972 *Lancet* 2 Dec. 1186/1 A feature of the xeroradiograph is the remarkably sharp, clearcut 'edge effect' of the powder pattern. 1975 *Nature* 25 Sept. 276/2 The discharging of a selenium plate by X rays was embodied in the original Xerox patents but, despite some investigation in the 1950s, 'xeroradiography' has not been widely used.

|| **xerosis** (zɪə'ʀəʊsɪs). *Path.* [mod.L., a. Gr. ξήρωσις, f. ξηρός dry: see -OSIS.] = XEROMA; spec. = *xeroderma* (see XERO-). Also *attrib.*

1890 *BILLINGS Nat. Med. Dict.*, Xerosis, a drying, dryness. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 661 To the milder forms [of ichthyosis] the names *xeroderma* and *xerosis* are frequently... applied. 1900 *Brit. Med. J. nrl.* 17 Mar. 622/2 Xerosis bacilli were present.

So **xerotic** (zɪə'ʀəʊtɪk) a. [see -OTIC], affected with xerosis; **xerotine** ('zɪə'reɪn) a., in *xerotine siccative*, trade-name of a substance used for drying ships' bottoms.

1882 *Standard* 14 Jan. 5/8 We have had a terrible explosion of xerotine siccative on board here. 1890 *BILLINGS Nat. Med. Dict.*, Xerotic, dry. 1893 *Westm. Gaz.* 5 Oct. 3/1 The sad loss of H.M.S. *Dotterel*... presumably from the effects of an explosion... of Xerotine Siccative, supplied as patent driers. 1901 *DORLAND Med. Dict.* (ed. 2), Xerotic, characterized by xerosis, or dryness.

Xerox ('zɪəʀks, 'zɛʀks), *sb.* Also *xerox*. [Invented word f. XERO(GRAPHY).] A proprietary name for photocopiers (see QUOTS. 1952, 1953); also used *loosely* (*attrib.* and *absol.*) to denote any photocopy.

1952 *Trade Marks J. nrl.* 19 Aug. 748/2 Xerox... Electro-photographic copying machines and apparatus for fusing powder images onto paper in connection with electro-photographic copying machines. The Haloid Company. 1953 *Official Gaz.* (U.S. Patent Office) 12 May 327/2 The Haloid Company, Rochester, N.Y.... Xerox for electro-photographic copying machines, cameras, plates... Claims, use since June 22, 1949. 1966 *Economist* 15 Oct. 299/3 In most American offices executives instruct subordinates to 'make me a Xerox of this report' rather than 'make me a copy of it'. 1972 M. WILLIAMS *Inside Number 10* xi. 289 The Rank Organization in Brighton installed a xerox copying machine in the office and we also had an electric duplicating machine. 1975 D. LODGE *Changing Places* iii. 128, I enclose a Xerox of the anonymous letter. 1976 M. MACHLIN *Pipeline* xxvii. 317 It had appeared in Xerox form on bulletin boards in most of the administrative offices of Denali. 1977 M. FRENCH *Women's Room* (1978) iii. 272 They had a terrible fight one evening in the Xerox room of the library. 1979 *Author* XC. 157 Repography...-xerox photocopying. 1980 *London Rev. Bks.* 15 May 8/3 How will the industry cope with new technologies, like tele-ordering, new EEC copyright complications and piracy both in the Middle East and (as we all guiltily know) in every xerox room in the British Isles? 1981 P. ROTH *Zuckerman Unbound* 52 Virtually all they had left in common was the rented Xerox machine.

fig. 1979 *Nature* 15 Mar. 209/3 The set is often referred to as 'the first generation of elementary particles'... Nature seems to have made xerox copies: a second generation (μ^- and e^-) and possibly a third.

xerox ('zɪəʀks, 'zɛʀks), *v.* Also *Xerox*. [f. *prec.*] *trans.* To reproduce by xerography; to photocopy.

1966 'E. V. CUNNINGHAM' *Helen* iv. 40 Anything you want copies of, why we'll Xerox it out. 1967 McLUHAN & FIORE *Medium is Massage* 123 Custom-make your own book by simply Xeroxing a chapter from this one, a chapter from that one—instant steal! 1978 *Globe & Mail* (Toronto) *Weekend Mag.* 21 Oct. 14/3 He xeroxes the menu himself and stamps out to post it on the notice-board. 1979 N. MAILER *Executioner's Song* ii. iv. 555 Tamara had gone to work at 5 A.M. and spent six hours Xeroxing Gary's letters. 1982 P. M. MARGOLIN *Last Innocent Man* ii. iii. 115 He had Xeroxed the clippings for David.

Hence 'xeroxed *ppl.* a., 'xeroxing *vbl.* sb. (both also with capital initial).

1965 *New Society* 14 Oct. 28/2 Inadequate library provision... has forced university teachers to... prepare... roneoed or xeroxed material. 1973 *J. nrl. Social Psychol.* LX. 32 The Xeroxing, which made each sheet look less as though it had been individually prepared, was done to prevent distortion of the ratings. 1976 S. LLOYD *Mr Speaker*, Sir vii. 154 During July 1974, we frequently had to rely on Xeroxed copies of the order paper, amendments, and the Official Report. 1978 K. AMIS *Jake's Thing* xiv. 139 He... reached for the xeroxed sheet on the bedside table. 1978 *Early Music* Oct. 605/3, I wonder how publishers who want to remain in business will react to Mr Rooley's complaint about xeroxing rules. 1980 E. BEHR *Getting Even* ii. 21 The xeroxing propensities of... one of the top confidential secretaries. 1982 *Amer. Speech* LVII. 268 The dry duplicating process known as Xeroxing has gained great popularity. 1984 *Monitor* (McAllen, Texas) 15 Jan. 16A/6 Conference participants are also urged to bring xeroxed copies of their

utility bills. 1985 A. S. BYATT *Still Life* 4 Schoolgirls were dutifully filling in xeroxed, hand-written, one-word-answerable questionnaires.

† **xesturgy**. *Obs. rare*—1. [ad. Gr. ξεστουρία, f. ξεστός, *vbl.* adj. f. ξέν to polish: see -URGY.] The process of polishing.

1592 R. D. *Hypnerotomachia* 48 Diuers coulered stones... so glistering and seuerly set of a diligent Xesturgie [orig. *xesturgia*].

Xhosa ('kəʊzə, 'kɔːzə, -sə), *sb.* and *a.* Also *9* **Koossa**, etc.: *9*—Xosa. [Their own name for themselves.] *A. sb.* *a.* A member of any of several related peoples in Cape Province, South Africa, that form part of the Nguni branch of the Bantu; such people collectively.

1801 J. BARROW *Trav. Interior S. Afr.* I. iii. 219 The Kaffers call themselves *Koussie*, which word is pronounced by the Hottentots with a strong palatal stroke of the tongue on the first syllable. 1812 A. PLUMPTRE tr. *Lichtenstein's Trav. Southern Afr.* I. xviii. 250 The tribe of which I mean more particularly to speak call themselves *Koossas*, or *Kaassas*. 1827 G. THOMPSON *Trav. Southern Afr.* App. No. 1. 439 The national appellation of the Southern Kaffers is *Amakosa*, the singular of which is *Kosa*. 1881 *Encycl. Brit.* XIII. 818/2 The Ama-Fengus are regarded both by the Ama-Zulus and Ama-Xosas as slaves or out-castes, without any right to the freedom and privilege of true-born Kaffers. 1948 B. G. M. SUNDKLER *Bantu Prophets in S. Afr.* iv. 96 The Zionist prophets, operating in Zululand, are in many cases not Zulus, but Sotho, Xhosa, or sometimes men from... Nyasaland. 1981 A. PATON *Towards Mountain* xxii. 189 The suggestion was made at a white staff meeting that we should try allotting separate dormitories to Xhosas, Zulu, Basotho, and so on.

b. The Nguni language of the Xhosas, a tonal language of the Bantu family very similar to Zulu.

1872 W. J. DAVIS *Dict. Kaffir Lang.* p. vi, The author of this, the first Dictionary of Xosa Kaffir. 1928 *Africa* I. 479 Xosa is established as the literary language of Kaffraria and the Transkei. 1970 *Cape Times* 28 Oct. 2/6 Four hundred people of all races attended prayers for racial harmony, held at St. George's Cathedral, Cape Town last night. The service—conducted alternately in English, Afrikaans and Xhosa—formed part of 24 hours of continuous prayer. 1977 *N. Y. Rev. Bks.* 4 Aug. 41/2 After testifying for four days in his native Xhosa, he asked if he could address the court in English. 1983 M. KENYON *Free-Range Wife* i. 17 His English was so weird... he might well, as compensation, have flawless French, German, Finnish, Xhosa too.

B. adj. Pertaining to or designating the Xhosas or their language.

1812 A. PLUMPTRE tr. *Lichtenstein's Trav. Southern Afr.* I. App. sig. a2f In the Koossa dialect *u* is the vowel that occurs the most frequently. 1872 W. J. DAVIS *Dict. Kaffir Lang.* p. v, When a word is both Xosa and Zulu in form and signification, both these letters are prefixed to its meaning. 1935 *Critic* (Cape Town) Oct. 1 From the Xhosa verb *bonga* is derived the noun *isibongo*. 1948 B. G. SUNDKLER *Bantu Prophets S. Afr.* ii. 42 The Order of Ethiopia can hardly be said to have succeeded in attracting the broad masses of Ethiopians... It has remained exclusively Xhosa. 1963 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 17 May 354 A successful Xhosa cattle breeder. 1975 *Cricketer* May 15/2 A running commentary in the Xhosa language kept Bantu spectators in the picture.

xi (saɪ, zaɪ, ksai, gzaɪ). *Particle Physics*. [Gr. ξί, ξι, name of the fourteenth letter (Ξ, ξ) of the Greek alphabet.] Either of a pair of hyperons (and their antiparticles) having a mass of approximately 1320 MeV, spin of $\frac{1}{2}$, hypercharge -1 , isospin $\frac{1}{2}$, and even parity, which on decaying usually produce a lambda particle and a pion. Freq. represented by Ξ . *Usu. attrib.*

1954 GELL-MANN & PAIS in *Proc. Glasgow Conf. Nucl. & Meson Phys.* (1955) 344 It is interesting to consider the 'cascade particle', which we shall call Ξ^- and which has the decay scheme $\Xi^- \rightarrow \Lambda^0 + \pi^- + (\sim 65 \text{ MeV})$. 1964 *New Scientist* 20 Feb. 460/3 According to the conservation of baryons and hypercharge, the omega-minus should be produced in collisions between K-minus mesons and protons and should decay (weakly, with a change of hypercharge) to a xi-particle and pion, or to a lambda-particle and K-minus. 1974 *Nature* 13 Dec. 524/1 The elementary particles nearly obey a number of simple and elegant symmetry rules. Many useful approximate calculations can be made assuming that the symmetries are perfect—for instance... by assuming that the proton and neutron have the same interactions as the lambda, sigma and xi hyperons. 1980 J. S. TREFIL *From Atoms to Quarks* vii. 109 There are two xi particles, one neutral and one with a negative charge.

xil-: see XYL-.

† **xilinous**, *a.* *Obs. rare*—0. [f. L. *xilinus*, *xylinus* (Pliny), a. Gr. ξύλινος, f. ξύλον cotton-tree: see -OUS.] Of cotton.

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, Xilinous.

Xinto, etc., *obs. ff.* SHINTO, etc.

1776 JUSTAMOND tr. *Raynal's Hist. Indies* I. 108 The sect of Xinto... The Xinto sect... The deity of the Xintoists [orig. *Sintos*, *Sintoistes*].

† **xiph**. *Obs. rare*. In 6 *zyphe*. [ad. L. *xiphias*: see next.] The swordfish, *Xiphias gladius*.

1572 BOSSEWELL *Armorie* ii. 66 The feldie is of the Jacinthe, a pyle in pointe d'Ermyne, betwene two Zyphe hariante, Lunæ. This is a fische whiche is named a sworde fishe.

xiphias ('zɪfiæs). Also *9* *erron.* *xy-*. [L., a. Gr. ξίφιας, f. ξίφος sword.]

1. A swordfish, esp. *X. gladius*; in mod. *Zool.*, the genus of fishes of which this is the common species, characterized by having the upper jaw prolonged into a sword-like weapon.

1667 *Phil. Trans.* II 492 Having... dissected the head of a *Xiphias* or Sword-fish. 1763 C. SMART *Song to David* lxxv, Strong through the turbulent profound Shoots xiphias to his aim. 1860 WRAXALL *Life in Sea* v. 108 The heel of an East Indian was once bored by a twenty-foot Xyphias so violently, that the sword went in up to the root, and the fish was killed by the force of the blow.

2. *Astron.* A southern constellation, also called Dorado or the Sword-fish.

1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl. s.v. Constellation*. 1771 [see SWORDFISH 2].

Hence **xiphiad** ('zɪfiæd), a fish of the family *Xiphiidae*.

1859-62 SIR J. RICHARDSON, etc. *Mus. Nat. Hist.* (1868) II. 137 Xiphiads or Sword-fishes.

xiphioid ('zɪfiɔɪd), *a.* and *sb.* *Zool.* [f. *prec.* + -OID.] *a. adj.* Resembling or allied to the genus *Xiphias*; belonging to or having the characters of the family *Xiphiidae*. *b. sb.* A xiphioid fish.

1851 MANTELL *Petrifactions* v. §1. 416 Cycloid Order... Xiphioids. 1891 *Cent. Dict.*, Xiphioid, *a.* and *n.*

|| **xiphiplastron** ('zɪfiplæstrən). *Anat.* and *Zool.* Pl. -a. Also (more correctly) xipho-. [mod.L., properly *xiphoplastron*, f. Gr. ξίφος sword + PLASTRON.] Each of the fourth or hindmost pair of lateral plates in the plastron of a turtle. Hence **xiphiplastral** *a.*, pertaining to or constituting a xiphiplastron; *sb.* a xiphiplastral plate, a xiphiplastron.

1871 HUXLEY *Anat. Vert.* v. 202 In the Turtle the plastron consists of nine pieces... the fourth [lateral], xiphiplastron. 1889 NICHOLSON & LYDEKKER *Palæont.* liii. II. 1084 [The pubis and the ischium] may be ankylosed to the xiphiplastral. 1889 LYDEKKER in *Q. J. nrl. Geol. Soc.* 1 Aug. 511 The imperfect left xiphiplastral [of a Chelonian].

xiphisternal ('zɪfɪstɜːnəl), *a.* and *sb.* *Anat.* and *Zool.* Also (more correctly) xipho-. [f. *xiphi-* for *xipho-*, Gr. ξίφος sword + STERNUM + -AL¹.]

a. adj. Belonging to or constituting the xiphisternum (see below). *b. sb.* A xiphisternal part or appendage. So || **xiphi'sternum** (xipho-), the posterior division of the sternum, in some animals osseous and in others cartilaginous, in man constituting the xiphoid or ensiform cartilage; also sometimes applied to the XIPHIPLASTRON of a turtle.

1835-6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 284/1 The posterior cartilaginous appendages [of the sternum in birds] he [sc. Geoffrey St. Hilaire] terms xiphi-sternals. 1839-47 *Ibid.* III. 838/1 The posterior [of the two pairs of elements of the 'sternum', i.e. plastron, of *Chelonia*] are fitly denominated the xiphosternal pieces. 1870 ROLLESTON *Amm. Life* 15 The posterior or xiphisternal end of the sternum. 1872 H. A. NICHOLSON *Palæont.* 399 The xiphisternum is the 'xiphoid cartilage' of human anatomy. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 362 The sternum [in *Mammalia*]... is divisible into three regions—a praesternum or manubrium sterni...; a mesosternum...; and a xiphisternum, sometimes cartilaginous, sometimes ossified. *Ibid.* 384 [The] bilateral origin [of the sternum in some *Lacertilia*] is evidenced... by the prolongation backwards... of two xiphisternal horns.

xiphocostal ('zɪfəʊkɒstəl), *a.* *Anat.* [f. Gr. ξίφος sword + COSTAL.] Pertaining to or connected with the xiphoid cartilage and the ribs.

1899 in *Syd. Soc. Lex.*

xiphodyme ('zɪfəʊdaɪm). [ad. mod.L. *xiphodymus*, contr. f. *xiphodidymus*, f. Gr. ξίφος sword + διδυμος twin.] = XIPHOPAGUS.

1861 *N. Syd. Soc. Year-bk. Med.* 404 A Monstrosity of the Genus *Xiphodyme*.

xiphoid ('zɪfɔɪd), *a.* (*sb.*) *Anat.* Also *erron.* 8-9 *xyphoid*, 9 *ziphoide*. [ad. mod.L. *xiphoidēs*, a. Gr. ξιφοειδής, f. ξίφος sword + εἶδος form: see -OID.] Sword-shaped, ensiform; a descriptive epithet of the cartilaginous or bony process at the lower or posterior end of the sternum in man and other animals (also called XIPHISTERNUM), and of a projecting bone at the back of the head in the cormorants and related birds (also called *occipital style*).

1746 GLASS *Dropsy* in *Phil. Trans.* XLIV. 338 We found the Circumference of her Abdomen to be just six Feet four Inches, and from the Xyphoid Cartilage to the Os Pubis it measur'd four Feet and half an Inch. 1782 A. MONRO *Anat.* 172 The outer surface of the xiphoid bone. 1802 HOME in *Phil. Trans.* XCII. 351 In the Hystrix, there is a xiphoid cartilage. 1847-9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 202/1 [The sternum] is connected... with a xyphoid appendix. 1848 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.* (ed. 7), *Xiphoid ligament*... is a small, very thin, ligamentous fasciculus, which passes from the cartilage... of the 7th rib to the anterior surface of the xiphoid cartilage. 1873 MIVART *Elem. Anat.* 35 The narrow lower end [of the sternum], which projects freely and remains cartilaginous till late in life, is called the xiphoid process. *Ibid.* 65 In Frogs and Toads we have a middle and xiphoid sternum.

So **xiphoidal**, **xiphoidan**, **xiphoidian** *adjs.*

1653 R. SANDERS *Physiogn.* 276 The brest... extended from the throat to the Diaphragma or Cartilagian Xiphoidan muscle or Midriff, which is round, lying overthwart the lower part of the brest, separating the heart and lights from the stomach. **1860** MAYNE *Expos. Lex.* 1345/2 Xiphoidian. **1904** *Amer. Nat.* Jan. 20 (Osteology of Pygopodes) A pair of flaring external xiphoid processes, which curve outwards, then inwards.

xiphonite ('zifənait). *Min.* [Named from *Xiphonia*, an ancient city in Sicily, where found: see -ITE¹.] A variety of amphibole, occurring in minute light yellow crystals in cavities of a volcanic rock.

1899 DANA *Syst. Min.* App. 1. 3 Xiphonite is a name given by G. Platania... to a variety occurring in minute crystals with hematite in cavities of a slag-like rock.

|| **xiphopagus** (zɪ'fɒpəɡəs). *Pl.* -gi (-dʒaɪ). [mod.L., f. Gr. *ξίφος* sword (here referring to the xiphoid cartilage) + *πάγος* something firmly fixed or set (: *πηγύναι* to fix).] A twin monster united by a band extending downwards from the xiphoid cartilage, as in the case of the Siamese twins. Hence **xiphopagic** (zɪfəu 'pædʒɪk), **xiphopagous** (zɪ'fɒpəɡəs) *adjs.*, constituting a xiphopagus.

1848 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.* (ed. 7), *Xiphopages* [sic]. **1890** BILLINGS *Nat. Med. Dict.*, Xiphopagus. **1894** BATESON *Variation* 560 note, The relative position of xiphopagous twins may result simply from the way in which they happen to be laid by the mother or the midwife. **1901** *Brit. Med. Jnl.* 6 Apr. 874/2 A new case of xiphopagous twins in two Chinese boys... who are united by a bridge running from the xiphoid cartilage to the umbilicus. **1901** *Lancet* 13 July 108/1 A Case of Xiphopagus or Double Monster. **190.** *Buck's Handbk. Med. Sci.* VII. 685 (Cent. D., Suppl.) Xiphopagic.

xiphosuran (zɪfəu'sjuərən), *a.* and *sb.* *Zool.* [f. mod.L. *Xiphosūra* pl. (irreg. f. Gr. *ξίφος* sword + *οὐρά* tail, instead of the correct form *Xiphūra*) + -AN.] *a. adj.* Belonging to the order *Xiphosura* of *Arachnida*, including the king-crab (*Limulus*) with a long sharp telson, and the extinct genus *Belinurus*. *b. sb.* An arachnid of this order. So **'xiphosure** (= *b*); **xipho'surous**, **xip'hurous** *adjs.* (= *a*).

1837 *Penny Cycl.* IX. 460/1 Latreille... admitted into the class *Crustacea* 12 orders, viz., the Decapods... the Xyphosures [sic], and the Siphonostomes. **1879** H. A. NICHOLSON *Palaeont.* (ed. 2) I. xviii. 385 In the Devonian no certain traces of Xiphosurans have yet been detected, but several types occur in the Carboniferous. **1888** ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 528 A Xiphosuran is found in the upper Silurian.

X-irradiation. [f. X (RAYS + IRRADIATION.)]

a. Irradiation with X-rays. *b.* X-rays, X-radiation.

1956 *Nature* 11 Feb. 287/1 A visible coloration is produced upon X-irradiation of the above silver-free base glass. **1962** O. HOCKWIN in A. Pirie *Lens Metabolism Rel. Cataract* 422 The application of a high dose of X-irradiation causes changes of lens metabolism immediately after the end of irradiation. **1964** G. H. HAGGIS et al. *Introd. Molecular Biol.* vii. 196 Chromosome breaks induced during leptotene by X-irradiation should... show up later as injuries to both daughter chromatids. **1976** *Internat. Jnl. Radiation Biol.* XXIX. 367 X-irradiation... was delivered on four abdominal fields over 15 days.

Hence **X-i-rradiate** *v. trans.*, to irradiate with X-rays; **X-i-rradiated** *ppl. a.*

1958 *Jnl. Compar. & Physiol. Psychol.* LI. 178 (heading) Maze learning in pre- and neonatally X-irradiated rats. **1971** *Nature* 9 Apr. 367/1 The solution was to X-irradiate the haploid sperms of one species. **1978** *Jnl. Exper. Med.* CXLVIII. 15 Labeling studies in animals X-irradiated with hind-limb shielding gave a Kupffer cell labeling index of 5-10% of the normal values. **1980** *Photochem. & Photobiol.* XXXII. 183 With both treatment regimens, tumor susceptibility could be transferred to X-irradiated recipients with lymphoid cells.

Xmas, common abbreviation in writing of CHRISTMAS: see X 6. Also **Xmassing**.

1551 in E. Lodge *Illustr. Brit. Hist.* (1791) I. 145 From X'tennas next following. **c1755** in B. Ward *Hist. St. Edmund's Coll.* (1893) 303 In ye Xmas and Whitsuntide Vacations. **1799** COLERIDGE *Let. to Southey* 24 Dec., My Xstmas Carol is a quaint performance. **1801** — *Let. to Southey* 31 Dec., On Xmas Day I breakfasted with Davy. **1875** S. G. THOMAS in R. W. Burnie *Mem. & Lett.* (1891) 55 We are not going to have any Xmas festivities or visitors of any kind. **1884** *Punch* 6 Dec. 268/1 He's beginning Xmassing already.

|| **xoanon** ('zəʊnɒn). *Pl.* xoana (-ə). *Gr. Antiq.* [Gr. *ξύανον*, related to *ξύειν* to scrape, carve.] A primitive rudely carved image or statue (originally wooden), esp. of a deity.

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Xoana*, graven Images, Statues carv'd out of Wood or Stone. **1883** *Daily News* 10 May 5/2 This particular xoanon, if we may use that expression in lieu of 'idol'. **1893** W. M. RAMSAY *Church in Roman Empire* vii. 125 The primitive xoana of the nursing-mother (Artemis at Ephesus).

xography ('zɒɡrəfi). [f. X (of unknown significance) + -OGRAPHY.] A photographic process producing images with a three-

dimensional effect (see quotes.). So **'xograph**, an image of this kind.

1965 R. R. KARCH *Graphic Arts Procedures* (ed. 3) xiii. 336 Xography provides three-dimensional printing which can be seen without benefit of special reading glasses. **1974** *Encycl. Brit. Macropædia* XIV. 1059/1 In the 1960s a three-dimensional print was developed, essentially an illustration bearing two views, superimposed, of the same image taken from slightly different angles, on a transparent mount striped with a multitude of imperceptible parallel strips (Xograph process). **1977** J. HEDGECOE *Photographer's Handbk.* 301 The basis of the xography process is a cylindrical 'lenticular' screen... which is built into the back of the camera just in front of the film plane.

xonotlite (zəu'notlaɪt). *Min.* Also xonaltite. [First in erron. form *xonaltite*; named (in Ger., *xonaltit*, afterwards *xonotlit*) by Rammelsberg, 1866, 1875, from *Xonotla*, a village in Puebla, Mexico, where found: see -ITE¹.] A hard massive hydrated silicate of calcium.

1868 DANA *Min.* (ed. 5) 397 Xonaltite... Color white to bluish-gray... Occurs at Tetela de Xonalta, Mexico, in concentric layers, with apophyllite and bustamite. **1879** WATTS *Dict. Chem.* VI. 1128 *Xonaltite*. A hydrated calcium silicate, found at Tetela de Xonalta in Mexico. **1883** *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 420/2 Xonotlite.

X organ. *Zool.* Also *x organ* and with hyphen. [After G. organ *X. u. organ* (B. Hanström 1931, in *Zeitschr. f. Morphol. u. Ökol. d. Tiere* XXIII. 200, 202), so called because indicated by the letter X in a diagram published by G. Bellonci 1882, in *Mem. dell' Accad. Sci. dell' Ist. di Bologna* III. 419 ff.] A group of neurosecretory cells in the eye-stalk of some crustaceans, one of the secretions of which inhibits the production of moulting hormone by the Y organ.

1938 [see *sinus gland* s.v. SINUS 6]. **1959** W. ANDREW *Textbk. Compar. Histol.* xiii. 513 There is a definite pathway... by which the axons of the nerve cells of the x-organ travel to the sinus gland. **1975** *Sci. Amer.* Feb. 74/1 The eyes of crabs are mounted on movable stalks. The stalks also house a neuroendocrine unit called the X-organ sinus-gland complex, which secretes a hormone that causes the pigments to disperse within the chromatophores.

Xosa, var. *XHOSA sb.* and *a.*

xowyn, obs. form of SHOVE *v.*¹

X-radiograph. [After X-RAY.] A radiograph made using X-rays. So **X-ray'di'ography**.

1899 G. B. SHAW *Let.* 12 Apr. in B. Shaw & Mrs. Campbell (1952) 11, I have just had an Xradiograph [sic] taken; and lo! perfectly mended solid bone. **1948** *Endeavour* VII. 110/2 An X-radiograph [of the picture] made after cleaning revealed the density in the region near the proper right hand. **1961** M. LEVY *Studio Dict. Art Terms* 121 X-radiography. **1963** B. FOZARD *Instrumentation Nucl. Reactors* i. 7 The effect of radiation upon the crystals of silver bromide in a photographic emulsion is well known and the process is used in X- and gamma-radiography. **1975** *Nature* 26 June 697/1 Skeletal X radiography is a powerful tool for studying both modern and fossil corals. **1983** *National Gallery News* Oct. 4/1 This is a long and delicate process which involves... taking X-radiographs of the painting to ascertain its original state.

X-ray ('eks rei, eks 'rei). (Also without hyphen.) Also *x-ray*. [Orig. in pl., tr. Ger. *x-strahlen*, the name given by Röntgen to the rays in question, expressing the fact that their essential nature was unknown: cf. X 3.]

I. The pl. form *X-rays*. 1. A form of radiation discovered by Prof. W. C. Röntgen of Würzburg in 1895, capable of passing in various degrees through many substances impervious to light, and of affecting a sensitized plate and thus producing shadow-photographs of objects inclosed within opaque receptacles or bodies, e.g. of the bones, or a bullet or other foreign body, within the flesh of a living person or animal; they also produce fluorescence, phosphorescence, and electrical effects, and have a curative operation in certain skin diseases; much used in modern surgical and medical practice. Now known to be a form of electromagnetic radiation of wavelength less than that of short-wave ultraviolet light (i.e. less than about 4 to 40 nm). Also called *Roentgen rays* (see ROENTGEN *sb.*¹ 1).

X-rays are often defined as being produced by deceleration of charged particles (esp. electrons) or by electron transitions in atoms, in contrast to the otherwise similar *gamma rays* which arise from radioactive decay of nuclei. Since gamma rays tend to be of shorter wavelength than most X-rays, they have been classified variously either as very short X-rays, or as constituting a separate class of very short wavelengths beyond X-rays. Cf. *gamma rays* s.v. GAMMA 1 c (ii).

1896 *Nature* 23 Jan. 274/1 (Röntgen in *Sitzungsberichte der Würzburger Phys.-Med. Gesellschaft* 1896, 133 tr. by A. Stanton) A piece of sheet aluminium, 15 mm. thick... allowed the X-rays (as I will call the rays for the sake of brevity) to pass, but greatly reduced the fluorescence. **1897** *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 362 Skiagraphs taken by means of the X Röntgen rays. **1899** *Ibid.* VI. 408 The application of the X rays to the diagnosis of internal aneurisms. *Ibid.* VIII. 717 The injury produced by the X rays of Röntgen. **1930** [see *gamma rays* s.v. GAMMA 1 c (ii)]. **1948** *Sci. News* VII. 35 Procedure for the generation of x-rays... is to accelerate a

beam of electrons to the required energy, and then stop it by allowing the electrons to hit a metal target. **1958** CONDON & ODISHAW *Handbk. Physics* VII. viii. 118/2 Although there is no precise definition of the high-energy limit of the energy of quanta called X rays, this term is usually restricted to radiations of fewer than several million electron volts of energy, above which the radiation is referred to as γ radiation. **1971** D. W. SCIAMA *Mod. Cosmol.* ii. 31 The distinction between X- and γ -rays is a somewhat arbitrary one, but... we may take the dividing line to be an energy of 100 keV. **1983** *Oxf. Textbk. Med.* I. vi. 86/1 Gamma-rays. These are identical in properties to X-rays but are produced by the spontaneous disintegration of radioactive atoms.

II. The sing. form *X-ray*.

2. (An) examination of a person in which an X-ray picture is taken.

1933 V. BRITAIN *Testament of Youth* viii. 409 Ten patients... were for immediate operation; a dozen more were for X-ray; several were likely to hæmorrhage at any moment. **1960** 'R. GORDON' *Doctor in Clover* vi. 47, I popped her in a taxi and drove her round to the casualty entrance at St Swithin's, where Miles organised X-rays. **1983** *Daily Tel.* 13 Oct. 18, I injured my back... and after a great deal of pain and misery I had an X-ray.

3. = X-RADIOGRAPH.

1934 in WEBSTER. **1942** M. DICKENS *One Pair of Feet* viii. 164 Siddons was subjected to all the indignities and discomforts of gastric investigation... X-ray after X-ray was taken and various different diets tried. **1957** 'R. GORDON' *Doctor in Love* xii. 107, I had a difficult x-ray which I thought she could help me interpret. **1969** *Ithaca Jnl.* 27 Nov. 30 Some doctors try to head off possible litigation by ordering unnecessary and expensive x-rays. **1977** *Daily Tel.* 2 Mar. 19/5 It was not known when Miss Doris Hunt... swallowed the spoon, first seen on an X-ray last year.

4. (Without article.) An X-ray department in a hospital.

1955 'R. GORDON' *Doctor at Large* xiv. 143 Apart from the nurses, there were the buxom dieticians, the cheerful girls in X-ray, the neat secretaries, [etc.]. **1974** 'H. CARMICHAEL' *Motive* x. 116 Dr Egan had gone to X-ray but would be back soon. **1978** J. IRVING *World according to Garp* ii. 28 Her books... outgrew the shelf space and slid into the main infirmary... and into X-ray.

III. *attrib.* and *Comb.* (in sing. form 'X-ray').

5. *a. gen.*

1896 *Boston Med. & Surg. Jnl.* CXXXV. 610/2, I am... nursing an X-ray finger. **1897** *Westm. Gaz.* 2 July 2/3 Radiations which have the X-ray-like property of passing through so-called opaque substances. **1899** *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VI. 408 Aneurysms of the thoracic aorta can sometimes be detected earlier by X ray examination. **1907** *Westm. Gaz.* 21 Sept. 8/3 Another X-ray photograph... of a girl's wrist and hand, showing the thickening of the bone brought on by rheumatism. **1908** *Daily Chron.* 29 June 1/5 Dr. Hall Edwards, whose heroic fight against the inroads of X ray dermatitis has been compassionately followed by the King and public.

b. Applied to instruments and techniques using or producing X-rays, as *X-ray analysis*, *microscope*, *microscopy*, *spectrograph*, *spectrometer*, *spectroscopy* (hence *X-ray spectroscopic*), *telescope*; *X-ray astronomy*, the branch of astronomy concerned with the X-ray emissions of heavenly bodies; so *X-ray astronomer*.

1924 *Econ. Geol.* XIX. 1 Physicists have developed X-ray analysis in recent years to such a point that the internal structure of any opaque crystalline substance can be determined. **1980** P. LUGER *Mod. X-Ray Analysis* vi. 288 The method which has been used from the earliest days of X-ray analysis is the drawing of contours obtained from the electron density map. **1969** *Times* 13 May 14/1 X-ray astronomers have to use rockets or balloons to carry their instruments above as much of the atmosphere as possible. **1982** *Jnl. Brit. Interplanetary Soc.* XXXV. 291 Coded aperture techniques have been employed to great advantage by X-ray astronomers. **1963** *Daily Tel.* 6 June 21 The first news was given today by the United States at the International Space Research meeting in Warsaw of a new kind of astronomy, X-ray astronomy. **1964** *Space Res.* IV. 966 (heading) X-ray astronomy. **1970** *Sci. Jnl.* May 17/4 It is some years since the accidental discovery of the X-ray source Sco X-1 ushered in the new field of X-ray astronomy. **1979** *Jnl. R. Soc. Arts* CXXVII. 580/2 X-ray astronomy took its first real spurt forward in 1970 with the launch of NASA's small 'Uhuru' X-ray satellite. **1948** *Jnl. Optical Soc. Amer.* XXXVIII. 774/1 It is clear that an x-ray microscope is now a definite possibility. *Ibid.* 766/1 A satisfactory x-ray microscope would open up fields of investigation closed to the optical microscope because of its limited resolution. **1966** *McGraw-Hill Encycl. Sci. & Technol.* VIII. 368b/1 The x-ray microscopes used in microradiography utilize x-radiation to form images of resolution in the 0.2-2.0 micron... range. *Ibid.*, With this method, x-ray microscopy has not only become competitive with direct light microscopy in resolving power but has gained important advantages. **1981** *Rev. Sci. Instruments* LII. 211/2 The construction of a photoelectron x-ray microscope appears to be feasible and, moreover, this instrument should fairly fulfill the requirements demanded for the extension of x-ray microscopy. **1925** G. A. LINDSAY tr. *M. Siegbahn's Spectrosc. X-Rays* iv. 92 The evidence essential for a better answer to these questions was afforded by X-ray spectrographs and Röntgen tubes with hot cathodes. **1983** *IEEE Trans. Nucl. Sci.* XXX. 491 (heading) High throughput non-dispersive hard X-ray spectrograph. [Note] 'Spectrograph' and 'spectrometer' are used interchangeably in this paper. **1915** W. H. & W. L. BRAGG *X Rays & Crystal Structure* iii. 22 The X-ray spectrometer has already determined both the absolute wave lengths of various types of X-radiation and the arrangement of the atoms in several crystals. **1955** *Sci. News Let.* 23 July 1 The electronic assayer is known as an X-ray spectrometer, and the technique, which can be applied to most minerals, is called fluorescent X-ray analysis. **1977** A. HALLAM *Planet*

Earth 18/1 The X-ray spectrometer mapped aluminium:silicon ratios and delineated the extent of the aluminous highlands. 1925 G. A. LINDSAY tr. *M. Siegbahn's Spectrosc. X-Rays* iii. 33 In order to meet such demands of X-ray spectroscopic work, the firm of Emil Gundelach... has constructed tubes embodying a slight modification. *Ibid.* 52 This rotating crystal method was first employed in X-ray spectroscopy by de Broglie. 1966 J. G. BROWN *X-Rays & their Applic.* vii. 124 The methods of X-ray spectroscopy which depend on crystal diffraction are essentially methods of measuring the Bragg angle. 1983 *Jrnl. Physics B* XVI. L77 (heading) The determination of parameters of recombining laser-producing plasmas by means of x-ray spectroscopy. *Ibid.*, Among the various methods of plasma diagnostics the most preferable in this case are the x-ray spectroscopic methods. 1963 *Daily Tel.* 6 June 21/4 The X-ray telescope has to be raised above the earth's atmosphere and a technique found for focusing X-rays. 1978 PASACHOFF & KUTNER *University Astron.* xii. 333 It still looks as though Cygnus X-1 represents the first observational detection of a black hole. The new generation of x-ray telescopes should tell us more.

c. Applied to astronomical bodies that emit X-rays in detectable or significant quantities, as *X-ray nova*, *pulsar*, *star*, *X-ray burster*, a cosmic source of intermittent, short-lived, powerful bursts of X-rays, typically lasting about a second.

1976 *Nature* 17 June 542/1 This object... is perhaps the most enigmatic 'X-ray burster' found to date. 1978 PASACHOFF & KUTNER *University Astron.* xxv. 632 (caption) Half a dozen of the strong x-ray sources in the galactic bulge region have been possibly identified with x-ray bursters. 1970 *Sci. Jnl.* Apr. 64 The second example of an 'X-ray nova' was reported during the summer of 1969, based on observations from two US Vela satellites built to monitor man-made nuclear explosions in space. 1977 *Dædalus* Fall 53 One particular kind of variable X-ray stars are the *transient sources*, sometimes called X-ray novae. 1969 G. FRITZ et al. in *Science* 9 May 709/1 We wish to report the discovery of an x-ray pulsar in the general direction of the Crab Nebula. The data were obtained during an Aerobee rocket flight on 13 March 1969. 1978 PASACHOFF & KUTNER *University Astron.* xi. 315 (caption) The x-ray pulsar SMC X-1 in the Small Magellanic Cloud has a period of 0.716 sec. 1964 *Daily Tel.* 31 Mar. 17/1 Evidence of the existence of a previously unknown kind of star has been collected by American astronomers. Using an Aerobee rocket... they found two distinct 'X-ray stars'. 1977 *Sci. Amer.* Oct. 42/2 One can say with considerable certainty that X-ray stars are dense remnants of stars that have exhausted their supply of nuclear energy and have collapsed under the attractive force of their own gravity.

d. Used *attrib.* with reference to primitive pictures in which some representation is given of the insides of people and animals.

1940 L. ADAM *Primitive Art* xiv. 119 Characteristic of the northern territory are the so-called 'X-ray' drawings—a special variety of naturalistic art... whereby the artist, when drawing human beings and animals, represents the inner parts of the body. 1956 C. P. MOUNTFORD *Rec. Amer.-Austral. Scientific Exped. Arnhem Land* i. iii. 112 Nor do the subjects of the X-ray artists show any movement. It is essentially a static art. 1959 E. A. FISHER *Anglo-Saxon Archit. & Sculpture* 88 Still earlier in really primitive art, and among some primitive races today, the same idea of showing the inside, the backbone, ribs and internal organs... is found, e.g. in the so-called X-ray drawings of some of the natives of the Melanesian area of the Pacific. 1977 G. CLARK *World Prehist.* (ed. 3) xi. 479 The X-ray figures of Arnhem Land... may well reflect exotic influences.

6. Special Combs.: X-ray crystallography, the study of crystals and their structure by means of X-ray diffraction techniques; hence X-ray crystallographer; X-ray dermatitis, dermatitis caused by X-rays; X-ray diffraction, the diffraction of X-rays by the regularly spaced atoms of a crystalline material, esp. as a technique of X-ray crystallography; X-ray eyes, the apparent ability to see beyond an outward form or through opaque material; very acute discernment; also, *X-ray scrutiny*; X-ray spectrum, a graph of intensity against wavelength or frequency for the X-rays absorbed or emitted by a material; X-ray tube, an electron tube for generating X-rays by accelerating the electrons to high energies and causing them to strike a target that is also the anode, producing the X-rays.

1962 *Listener* 10 May 809/1 Botanists or X-ray crystallographers. 1971 J. W. JEFFERY *Methods X-Ray Crystallogr.* p. v. When one is generation 3... of X-ray crystallographers, one cannot expect to do much direct quarrying in that famous paper whose product, the Bernal chart, is known to every crystallographer. 1930 R. W. JAMES *X-Ray Crystallogr.* i. 2 X-ray crystallography is descended from, and constantly uses, the results of the older crystallography. 1968 M. PYKE *Food & Society* vii. 101 A few milligrams of vitamin B₁₂ had been isolated and the nature of its complex molecule established by a combination of advanced organic chemistry and X-ray crystallography. 1977 R. S. DRAGO *Physical Methods in Chem.* xvii. 589 Using X-ray crystallography, one can generally determine the precise composition and atomic arrangement of almost any molecule. 1900 *Philadelphia Med. Jnl.* V. 187 The believers in the electrical cause of x-ray dermatitis are found to be exclusively physicians. 1908 [sense 5a]. 1959 *Med. Jnl. Australia* i. 200/1 In November, 1897, Sylvanus Thompson described X-ray dermatitis, and in the following year the Röntgen Society set up a committee to investigate possible hazards. 1977 *Acta Dermatovenereologica* LVII. 487/1 The fluid from spontaneous blisters in 15 patients with various bullous dermatoses, such as... X-ray dermatitis, all contained measurable amounts of activity. 1924 *Econ. Geol.* XIX. 15 A complete description of X-ray

diffraction has been given by the Braggs. 1950 *Sci. News* XV. 139 The techniques of X-ray diffraction, which have contributed so much to the understanding of the inner structure of metals and alloys. 1969 *Times* 28 Jan. 6/6 X-ray diffraction techniques... show that the orientation of the graphite crystals in the fibre depends on the degree to which it is stretched during the heat treatment. 1982 R. M. SCHULTZ in T. M. Devlin *Textbk. Biochem.* ii. 73 The most important of the techniques for the study of a protein's secondary, tertiary, and quaternary structure is x-ray diffraction. 1939 M. ALLINGHAM *Mr. Campion & Others* ii. 36 The conviction that he had actually encountered a man with X-ray eyes at last. 1971 'R. MACDONALD' *Underground Man* xxvi. 186 I've been feeling watched, tonight. Drawing the curtains doesn't really help. Whatever it is out there has X-ray eyes. Call it God, or call it the Devil, it hardly matters. 1976 J. WAINWRIGHT *Who goes Next?* 205 He didn't have X-ray eyes. He couldn't see through the sides of a parked van. 1982 M. MILLAR *Mermaid* vi. 68, I got X-ray eyes when it comes to people's weaknesses. 1899 G. ALLEN *Miss Cayley's Adventures* ii. 45 She looked me through and through again with her X-ray scrutiny. 1925 G. A. LINDSAY tr. *M. Siegbahn's Spectrosc. X-Rays* vi. 150 The X-ray spectrum is an atomic property... The frequencies involved in X-ray spectra are very great. 1983 *Jrnl. Physics B* XVI. L79 The large dimension of the spectrograph slit... allowed us to observe the x-ray spectra of H- and He-like F VIII and F IX ions. 1896 *Nature* 12 Nov. 31/2 Unexplained variations in the behaviour of the X-ray tubes. 1974 *Encycl. Brit. Macropædia* XIV. 345/1 Small gamma-ray sources are placed in areas inaccessible to X-ray tubes such as inside pipelines.

Hence X-ray ('eks rei, older eks rei) *v.*, *trans.* to examine or treat with X-rays; also *fig.*; hence X-rayed ('eks-) *ppl. a.*, X-raying ('eks-) *vbl. sb.* So X-radiation.

1896 *Strand* July 108/1 If a solid object is placed in the path of this stream... it may become the seat of the production of that which is... variously known as Röntgen radiation or X-radiation. 1899 *Bristol Med.-Chir. Jnl.* XVII. 234 Cases that have to be X-rayed in their bedrooms. 1900 *Lancet* 17 Feb. 488/2 The patient's chest had been x-rayed, but the position of the bullet could not be localised. 1902 *Brit. Med. Jnl.* 12 Apr. 894/2 The child was x rayed, and a large nail was seen. 1915 E. RUTHERFORD in *Nature* 9 Sept. 33/2 To examine the quantity and quality of the X-radiation scattered from crystals at different angles. 1920 *Glasgow Herald* 5 Oct. 7/2 Advantage is claimed for 'X-raying' over sterilization. 1941 *Cold Spring Harbor Symp. Quantitative Biol.* IX. 156/1 X-rayed Bar-M2 males (4000r) were crossed to females with the genes scute vermilion forked and carnation. 1973 *Sci. Amer.* Apr. 30/3 The only way to 'X ray' the earth for such fine structure is to use short-period seismic waves that interact with the boundary of the core. 1974 *Physics Bull.* Dec. 581/2 The developing use of synchrotrons as an intense source of x radiation. 1977 W. MARSHALL *Thin Air* i. 6 It took two hours for the poor old Japs to even clear body search... Let alone the X-raying of freight and luggage. 1977 *Time* 22 Aug. 30/3 The treaty will have to be X-rayed by the university. 1977 *New Yorker* 26 Sept. 43/3 She... could feel the plaster armor her X-rayed ribs. 1980 J. O'FAOLAIN *No Country for Young Men* v. 102 The men were terrifying. She remembered their eyes X-raying her clothes.

X(s)tmas: see XMAS.

Xtal, xtal ('kristəl). [Cf. X ro.] Abbrev. of CRYSTAL *sb.* and *a.*

1957 *Practical Wireless* XXXIII. 454/1 Remove Xtal unit by cutting off all leads at the source. 1971 *Gramophone* July 257/2 The crystal pickup button is labelled 'xtal' which is engineer's shorthand.

xul, xuld(e, xwld: see SHALL *v.*

† xylaloe(s), xyloaloe(s). *Obs.* Forms: 6 xilaloës, 6 (8) xyloaloe, 7 xylaloës, 7-8 (in Dicts.) xyloaloes. [a. late Gr. ξυλαλόη, f. ξύλον wood + ἀλόη ALOE. Cf. obs. F. *xilaloë* (Cotgr.).] = LIGN-ALOES, ALOE *f.* Also *attrib.*

1545 RAYNOLD *Byrth Mankynde* 114 Wasshe them... with wyne, in the wichie is... soden myntes, roses, violettas, and xilaloës. 1599 A. M. tr. *Gabelhouer's Bk. Physique* 7/2 Take Xyloaloe woode j. G. *Ibid.* 11/2 Sugar of Candy, xyloaloe, Cloves, Ginger. 1683 MORRISON tr. *Struys' Voy.* i. vi. 38 An Oyntment made of Xylaloës, or, wood of Aloës.

xylan ('zailæn). *Chem.* [f. Gr. ξύλον wood + -AN.] A gelatinous compound contained in wood, also called *tree-gum*, *wood-gum*.

1894 MUIR & MORLEY *Watts' Dict. Chem.* IV. 868/1.

xylyary ('zailəri), *a. Bot.* [f. XYL(EM) + -ARY².] Of, pertaining to, or constituting xylem.

1953 K. ESAU *Plant Anat.* xv. 367 The terms phloic procambium and xylary procambium... may be used to stress the early differentiation of the meristem into the two parts. 1973 *Nature* 13 Apr. 479/2 Between 2000 h and 2400 h the developing xylary tissues will rapidly withdraw water from the immediately adjacent developing phloem tissues.

xylate ('zailert). *Chem.* [f. XYL-IC + -ATE⁴.] A salt of xylic acid.

1873 WATTS *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 11) 818. 1879 — *Dict. Chem.* VI. 1130 Calcium salts, which may be separated by their different solubility in water, the xylate being more soluble than the paraxylate.

xylem ('zailəm). *Bot.* [mod. (Nägeli in Ger.) f. Gr. ξύλον wood: cf. PHLOEM.] Collective name for the cells, vessels, and fibres forming the harder portion of the fibrovascular tissue; the wood, as a tissue of the plant-body. Also *attrib.*

1875 BENNETT & DYER tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 94 The different forms of tissue of a differentiated fibro-vascular bundle may be classified into two groups, which Nägeli calls the *Phloëm* (Bast) and *Xylem* (Wood) portion of the bundle... The

xylem-portion of the fibro-vascular bundle has mostly a strong tendency to thicken its cell-forms. *Ibid.* 95 These horizontal elements... may be... designated as rays; within the xylem they are called xylem-rays, within the phloëm, phloëm-rays. 1894 D. H. SCOTT *Struct. Bot.* i. *Flowering Pl.* 56 The woody character of the cell-walls of the xylem is due to the presence of a substance called lignine.

xylene ('zailin). *Chem.* [f. Gr. ξύλον wood + -ENE.] A mixture of three isomeric hydrocarbons having the formula C₈H₁₀ = C₆H₄(CH₃)₂, obtained as a volatile colourless liquid from wood-spirit or coal-naphtha; any one of these three hydrocarbons: systematically named *dimethylbenzene*. Also *attrib.* (Also called XYLOL, *q.v.*)

1851 *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* III. 184 Xylol or Xylene. 1859 WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Hand-bk. Chem.* XIII. 116 Xylene series... Primary Nucleus C¹⁶H¹⁰. Xylol C¹⁶H¹⁰. 1885 REMSEN *Org. Chem.* (1888) 241 Coal-tar xylene consists of three isomeric hydrocarbons... known as *ortho-xylene*, *meta-xylene*, and *para-xylene*.

Hence xylenic *a.*, xyleneol ('zailnol), 'xylenyl, xylenylamine: see *quots.*

1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1059 Xylenyl. Syn. with Xylol. *Ibid.*, Xylenylamine. Syn. with Xylidine. 1872 *Jrnl. Chem. Soc. New Ser.* X. 482 Liquid Xylenol is a colourless, highly refracting fluid, smelling strongly of phenol. 1873 WATTS *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 11) 798 Xylenol is produced by fusing the potassium salt of xylol sulphurous acid with potassium hydrate. 1879 — *Dict. Chem.* VI. 1128 Xylenol. C⁸H¹⁰O = C⁶H³(CH₃)₂OH. Dimethyl-phenol, Xenol, Xylylic phenol. *Ibid.* 1129 Solid xylenol dissolves abundantly in alcohol and ether... Liquid xylenol is colourless and strongly refractive. 1894 MUIR & MORLEY *Watts' Dict. Chem.* IV. 871/2 Xylenic alcohol is tolyl-carbinol.

xylic ('zailik), *a. Chem.* [f. XYL-ENE + -IC.] xylic acid: dimethylbenzoic acid, C₉H₁₀O₂, also called XYLILIC acid (see *quots.*).

1872 [see XYLIDIC]. 1873 WATTS *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 11) 817 Xylic and Paraxylic... acid. 1879 — *Dict. Chem.* VI. 1129 Xylic or xylylic acid. C⁹H¹⁰O₂ = C⁶H³(CH₃)₂CO₂H. Two modifications of this acid, distinguished as *xylic* and *paraxylic*, are formed, together with xylydic acid... by oxidising pseudocumene... with dilute nitric acid... at the boiling heat.

xylydic ('zailidik), *a. Chem.* [f. XYL-IC + -ID⁴ + -IC.] xylydic acid: either of two isomeric substances obtained by the oxidation of xylic and paraxylic acids: see *quot.* Hence xylydite ('zailidit) [-ATE⁴], a salt of xylydic acid.

1872 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* Suppl. 1130 Xylydic acid. C⁹H⁸O⁴... This bibasic acid... is formed... by the oxidation of xylic or paraxylic acid. *Ibid.*, Calcium xylydite, C⁹H⁶O⁴Ca, forms indistinct white scales, very soluble in water.

xylydine ('zailidam). *Chem.* [f. XYL-ENE or XYL-IC + -ID⁴ + -INE⁵.] *a.* An amine-derivative of xylene, homologous with aniline, occurring in several isomeric modifications having the formula C₆H₃(CH₃)₂NH₂; used in the preparation of artificial dyes. Called also xylydamine. *b.* = XYLOIDIN.

1850 *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* III. 184 Mononitroxylol, when dissolved in alcohol, and treated with hydrosulphate of ammonia, yields a base analogous to toluidine; it may be called Xylidine. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1059 Xylidine is a colourless liquid, heavier than water.

xylite ('zailart). [ad. G. *xylit*, f. Gr. ξύλον wood: see -ITE¹.]

1. *Chem.* A volatile liquid obtained from wood-spirit, also called LIGNONE. Also *attrib.*

1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 634/2 With acids xylite... gives rise to xylitic acid, xylite naphtha, xylite resin, and xylite oil. 1855 WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Hand-bk. Chem.* IX. 48 Xylite-oil. C¹²H⁸O. Produced by the action of oil of vitriol, hydrate of potash, or potassium on lignone.

2. *Min.* An impure silicate of iron, occurring in brown fibrous masses resembling asbestos or 'mountain wood'.

1850 ANSTED *Elem. Geol.*, *Min.* etc. §460 Hisingerite is another silicate of iron, and with it are associated... Stilpnomelane, Chloropal... Xylite. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1059 Xylite. This name is given by Hermann... to a mineral... forming finely fibrous masses resembling mountain-wood.

Hence xylitic ('zailitik) *a. Chem.*, applied to compounds derived from xylite (sense 1): see *quots.*

1843 [see sense 1 above]. 1852 W. GREGORY *Handbk. Org. Chem.* 393 An excess of potash causes the formation of three products: xylitic naphtha, C₁₂H₁₂O₃; xylitic oil, C₁₂H₈O; and xylitic resin, C₈H₆O.

xylytol ('zailtol). *Chem.* [ad. G. *xylit* (Fischer & Stahel 1891, in *Ber. d. Deut. Chem. Ges.* XXIV. 538), f. *xyl-ose* XYLOSE + -it, -ITE¹: see -OL.] A sweet, crystalline, pentahydric alcohol, CH₂OH(CHOH)₃CH₂OH, derived from xylose and present in some plant tissues.

1891 *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* LX. i. 668 Xylose yields a new compound, xylytol, which forms a non-crystallisable syrup. 1962 R. VAN HEYNINGEN in A. Pirie *Lens Metabolism Rel. Cataract* 402 The lens is the only mammalian tissue in which xylytol has been found. 1977 *Daily Colonist* (Victoria, B.C.) 1 Dec. 11/1 A storm of adverse publicity over the natural sweetener xylytol isn't going to deter major chewing

gum manufacturers from marketing products containing the substance.

xylo ('zailəu). Colloq. abbrev. of **XYLONITE**.

1926 *Ironmonger* 16 Jan. (Suppl.) 50 (Advt.). This knife is made of stainless steel in four qualities with wood, xylo and ebonite handles. 1962 L. S. SASIENI *Optical Dispensing* ix. 218 Run the thumb-nail round between the xylo and the metal.

xylo- ('zailəu), before a vowel **xyl-**, repr. Gr. ξυλο-, ξυλ-, comb. form of ξύλον wood: the first element of various scientific and technical words, the more important of which see in their alphabetical places. **'xylochlor** (-klə(r)) *Min.* [ad. G. *xylochlor* (von Waltershausen, 1853), f. Gr. χλωρός green], an altered form of apophyllite, found in olive-green crystals in a fossil tree-stem in a volcanic rock in Iceland. **xylo'chloric** (-'chloeric) *a. Chem.* [ad. F. *xylochlorique*, -*chloérique*, f. Gr. χλωρός = χλωρός green], in *x. acid*: see *quots.* **'xylochrome** (-krəum) *Chem.* [Gr. χρώμα colour], a colouring matter produced by chemical alteration of decayed wood. **xylocopid** (zailə'kəpɪd), *a. Entom.* [mod.L. *Xylocopa*; Gr. -κοπος cutting, -ID³], belonging or related to the genus *Xylocopa*, comprising the carpenter-bees. **xylocryptite** (-'kriptait) *Min.* [Gr. κρυπτός hidden: see -ITE¹]: see *quots.* **'xylolite**, *Min.* [-LITE]: see *quot.* **xylophilan** (-'bfilən) *Entom.* [Gr. φίλος loving: cf. -PHIL], *a.* belonging to the group *Xylophil* of beetles, which live in decayed wood; *sb.* a beetle of this group; so **xy'lophilous** *a.*, living or growing in or on wood, as an insect or a fungus. **xy'lopolist** rare⁰ [Gr. ξυλοπώλης], a timber-merchant. **xylopyrography** (-paɪ'rə grəfi) [Gr. πῦρ fire, -GRAPHY] = **POKERWORK**. **xyloretin** (-'ritɪn), -**retinite** (-'retɪnaɪt) *Chem.* [G. *xyloretin* (Forchhammer, 1840), Gr. ῥήτιν resin], a white crystalline resin obtained from fossil pinewood. **xylo'stroma** *Bot.* [mod.L., f. Gr. στῆμα something spread out, a bed, coverlet], the mycelium of certain polyporoid fungi (originally supposed a distinct genus) which forms a dense leathery sheet on the surface of wood; hence **xylo'stroatoid** *a.* [-OID], resembling a xylostroma. **xylotherapy** (-'θerəpi) *Med.* [Gr. θεραπεία healing], the use of certain kinds of wood in the cure of disease (see *quot.*). **'xylotile** (-tail), -**til** (-til) *Min.* [G. *xylotil*; Gr. τῖλος down, fine hair], a mineral allied to (or a variety of) asbestos, also called *mountain-wood*. **xylotomous** (-'təməs) *a.* [Gr. -τομος cutting], that cuts or pierces wood, as an insect. **xylotypographic** (-taɪpə'græfɪk) *a.* [TYPOGRAPHIC], printed from wooden blocks or types. **'xylulose** *Chem.* [-ULOSE²], a keto pentose that corresponds to the aldo pentose xylose and occurs in the urine of pentosurics.

1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1060 **Xylochlor*. . . Kennigott . . . has shown that it is an altered form of apophyllite. 1862 — tr. *Gmelin's Hand-bk. Chem.* XV. 534 **Xylochloric acid*. C³⁰H²⁶O³⁴? . . A green colouring matter, which sometimes forms on decayed pieces of wood. 1868 — *Dict. Chem.* V. 1060 *Xylochloric acid*, a term applied by Fordos . . . to the green colouring-matter of decayed wood, which may be extracted by chloroform. 1898 H. C. PORTER tr. *Strasburger's Text.-Bk. Bot.* 124 The tannins impart to the dead wood a distinct colour, often very characteristic, especially when it has been transformed into wood dyes, or so-called 'xylochrome'. 1904 *Athenæum* 24 Dec. 881/1 A photograph . . . showing the 'Xylocopid model and its Asilid mimic. 1820 Q. *Jrnl. Sci. Lit. & Arts* VIII. 352 It may be named provisionally *Xylocryptite, expressive of its being hidden in fossil wood. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1060 *Xylocryptite*, a mineral apparently related to Scheererite, occurring in yellow waxy crystalline particles on lignite. (Beccquerel.) *Ibid.* 1061 **Xylolite*. Syn. with *mountain-wood*, or ligniform asbestos. 1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sci.*, etc., **Xylophilans*, . . . the name of a tribe of beetles, consisting of those which live on decayed wood. 1862 MAYNE *Med. Vocab.* (ed. 2), *Xylophilus* . . . growing upon, or living in decayed wood; **xylophilous*. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, **Xylopolist* . . . a Woodmonger. 1850 OGILVIE, **Xylopyrography*. 1901 *Daily Chron.* 27 May 6/1 [Baron Auer's] father was . . . an inventor in typography and xylopyrography. 1852 W. GREGORY *Handbk. Org. Chem.* 417 *Tekoretine*, *Phylloretine*, **Xyloretine*, and *Boloretine*, are the names of four resinous compounds, found in the peat of Denmark, on the remains of pine-trees. 1868 DANA *Min.* (ed. 5) 743 **Xyloretinite* was derived by Forchhammer through the action of alcohol on fossil pine-wood from the marshes of Holtegaard in Denmark. 1871 COOKE *Handbk. Brit. Fungi* I. 282 *Polyporus vitreus*. . . 'Glassy *Polyporus*. . . Distinguished by its distinct *xylostomatoid substratum, which separates easily from the matrix. 1880 *Boston Jrnl. Chem.* Dec. 144 At a recent meeting of the Société de Thérapeutique M. Dujardin-Beaumetz read for M. Jourdanis a note on the æsthesiogenic properties of certain woods applied to the skin, which he calls **xylotherapy*. M. Jourdanis has applied plates of wood to the insensible skin, and as with plates of metal, magnets, . . . and blisters has obtained a return of sensibility. 1864 WEBSTER, **Xylotile*. 1868 DANA *Min.* (ed. 5) 406 *Xylotile* . . . is probably only an altered asbestos. It occurs delicately fibrous; . . . wood-brown, light or dark, and also green in color. 1872 W. SKEEN *Early Typogr.* 417 The

*xylotypographic text. 1936 LEVENE & TIPSON in *Jrnl. Biol. Chem.* CXV. 731 For simplicity it would seem desirable to term the ketose 'd'-xylulose', in conformity with the nomenclature accepted for other keto sugars. 1964, 1968 [see PENTOSURIC *a.* and *sb.*]. 1974 B. S. HARTLEY in Carille & Skehel *Evolution in Microbial World* 170 A mutant of this organism constitutive for ribitol dehydrogenase grows on xylitol by utilising a side specificity of this enzyme to produce xylulose.

xylobalsamum (zailəu'bælsəməm). Also 7 in anglicized form **xylobalsame**. [L. (Pliny), ad. Gr. ξυλοβάλαμον: see **XYLO-** and **BALSAM**, **BALM**. Cf. F. *xylobalsame*, *†xilo-* (Cotgr.).] The fragrant wood of the tree *Balsamodendron gileadense*, which yields the resin called **OPOBALSAMUM** or **Balm of Gilead**.

[1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P.R.* xviii. (Bodl. MS.) lf. 194 b/1 Balsamum is a tree . . . liche to a vyne . . . pe tre hatte Balsamum and pe stokke Xilobalsamum and the frute and pe sede Carpopalsamum and iuse Opopalsamum.] 1616 BULLOKAR *Eng. Expos.*, *Xylobalsamum*, a sweet wood out of which balme droppeth. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Xylo-Balsamum*, a Name which Naturalists, &c. give to the Wood of the Tree which yields that precious Gum known to the Latins by the Name of *Opo-Balsamum*, and among us by the Name of *Balm of Gilead*. . . The *Xylo-balsamum* is reputed good to strengthen the Brain, and Stomach. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1060 *Xylobalsamum*, the commercial name of the odoriferous wood of *Amyris gileadensis*, which yields Mecca balsam.

xylocaine ('zailəukeɪn). *Pharm.* [f. **XYLO-** + **-caine**, after **COCAINE**.] = **LIGNOCAINE**.

1946 LÖFGREN & LUNDQVIST in *Svensk Kemisk. Tidskrift* LVIII. 208 The compound ω-diethylamino-2, 6-dimethylacetanilide is called xylocaine (LL 30) and is an ideal local anaesthetic, which seems to be superior to procaine in every respect. 1954 [see **LIGNOCAINE**]. 1961 *Times* 4 Feb. 12/2, I injected a total of 30 c.c. of xylocaine. 1978 *Jrnl. R. Soc. Med.* LXXI. 320/1 Shortening the duration of the convulsive activity in the brain by administering xylocaine before the inducing shock does reduce the therapeutic effects.

†xylo'cassia. *Obs.* Also 6 xilo-. [late L., ad. Gr. ξυλοκασσία (Dioscorides): see **XYLO-** and **CASSIA**.] = **CASSIA**¹ I (cf. I b).

1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 284 Precious marchandises were brought from the redde sea and India, . . . Cinamomes. Longe pepper. Whyte pepper. Cloues. . . Cassia. . . Xilocassia. . . Xilocinamome, [etc.]. 1698 FRYER *Acc. E. India* & P. 178 In the Groves about Carwar grows *Cassia Lignum*, *Xylo-Cassia*, or *Bastard Cinamon*.

†xylo'cinnamon. *Obs.* In 6 xilocinamome. [ad. Gr. ξυλοκιννάμωμον (Dioscorides), L. *xylocinnamōmum* (Pliny): see **XYLO-** and **CINNAMON**.] **Cinnamon-wood**.

1555 *Xilocinamome* [see **XYLOCASSIA**]. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Xylocinnamon*, or *Xylocinnamomon*, the Wood of the Cinnamon-Tree.

xylograph ('zailəugrɑ:f, -æ-), *sb.* Also **zylo-**. [The earliest words of the group are *xylography*, *xylographic*, -*ical*, ad. F. *xylographie* (18th cent.), *xylographique*: see **XYLO-** and -**GRAPHY**, -**GRAPHIC**.] A wood-engraving (i.e. either an engraving on wood, or an impression from one), esp. one of the early period. Hence **'xylograph** *v. trans.*, to execute from a wood-engraving. So **xylographer** (-'bgrəfə(r)), **xy'lographist**, a wood-engraver, esp. of the early period; **xylographic** (-'græfɪk), -**ical** *adjs.*, of, pertaining to, or executed by wood-engraving; **xylo'graphically** *adv.*, by the method of wood-engraving; **xylography** (-'bgrəfi), wood-engraving, esp. of the early period or of a primitive kind; also, more widely, printing from wood blocks as distinct from type.

1816 SINGER *Hist. Cards* Pref. p. xiii. The account which gives the honor of the invention of Xylography to the Cardmakers. *Ibid.* 176 The covers of books have of late been a fertile source of typographical and xylographical discoveries. *Ibid.* 205 Whether the xylographic art took its rise in Italy or Germany, cannot so clearly . . . be proved. 1824 DIBDIN *Libr. Comp.* 264 Many past and present 'Xylographers' (or wood-cutters) could do infinitely better. 1854 *Blackw. Mag.* LXXV. 60 Printing, or rather xylography, is said to have been invented about the beginning of the tenth century. 1855 tr. *Wedd's Rudim. Pathol. Histol.* (Sydenham Soc.) Auth. Pref. p. vi. The xylography was executed by A. Rosenzweig. 1859 J. P. BERJEAU *Biblia Pauperum* 15 Six editions of the *Biblia pauperum* due to the Netherlandish xylographers. 1863 *Sat. Rev.* 5 Dec. 738/1, The forthcoming edition of the New Testament, illustrated with all the powers of modern xylography. 1864 *Ibid.* 17 Dec. 758 The Brothers Dalziel are the xylographists, if there is such a word. 1864 WEBSTER, *Xylograph*, an engraving on wood, or the impression from such an engraving. 1878 *Print. Trades Jrnl.* xxiii. 6 Worked in red, blue and yellow, just as if they were the three colors of a xylograph. 1881 *Athenæum* 3 Sept. 310/2 The woodcuts, if . . . coarse from a xylographic point of view, are admirably characteristic. 1883 I. TAYLOR *Alphabet* viii. II. 221 The runes were essentially a xylographic script. 1887 HESSELS *Haarlem* xv. 53 Xylographic Donatuses. *Ibid.* xviii. 77 The *Doctrinales* . . . were not printed typographically but from wooden blocks (xylographically). 1892 *Nation* (N.Y.) 31 Mar. 249/2 We have received from Tokio, Japan, a copy of a handsome xylographed life-sized picture of Commodore Matthew C. Perry. *Ibid.*, The xylographic picture is a good specimen of popular art. 1905 E. CANDLER

Unveiling of Lhasa iv. 67 Xylograph editions of the Lamaist scriptures and lives of the saints.

xylographica (zailəu'græfɪkə), *sb. pl.* [mod.L., f. **XYLOGRAPHIC** *a.* after **TYPOGRAPHICA** *sb. pl.*] Block-books, woodcuts, and the like; xylographic matter.

1931 M. B. STILLWELL *Incunabula & Americana* III. i. 177 Blockbooks, although produced during the same period [as incunabula], are those printed a full page at a time, each page being printed from a wooden block. . . Such books are sometimes called 'xylographic books', or 'xylographica', meaning that they are wood-engraved throughout. 1952 J. CARTER *ABC for Bk.-Collectors* 37 Block books, or xylographica, as produced in Europe are presumed . . . to have preceded the invention of printing from movable metal types. 1982 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 6 Aug. 866/1 Volume I will carry descriptions of block-books and other xylographica.

xyloidin (zailə'idɪn, formerly zailə'idɪn). *Chem.* Also -*ine*. [ad. F. *xyloïdine* (Braconnot), f. Gr. ξυλοειδής, f. ξύλον wood: see -OID and -IN¹.] An explosive substance, C₆H₉(NO₂)O₅, allied to pyroxylin, obtained by treating starch or vegetable fibre with nitric acid.

1838 T. THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 664 note, M. Braconnot, by digesting saw-dust of wood, or potatoe starch, in concentrated nitric acid, obtained a mucilaginous solution. . . Water coagulated it, and separated a white caseous substance, to which he has given the name of *xyloidin*. 1850 FOWNES' *Chem.* (ed. 3) 388 Both *xyloïdine* and *pyroxyline* appear to be substitution-compounds, in which the elements of nitrous acid replace, to a certain extent, those of water in starch and lignine. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1060 *Xyloidin* is a white, inodorous, and tasteless powder. . . *Xyloidin* when struck decomposes with detonation, but not so violently as gun-cotton.

xylol ('zailəl). *Chem.* Also -ole. [f. Gr. ξύλον wood + -OL.] = **XYLENE**. Also *attrib.*

1851 [see **XYLENE**]. 1856 WARREN DE LA RUE & H. MILLER in *Proc. Roy. Soc.* VIII. 225 The Burmese naphtha products contain the corresponding hydrocarbons, namely, — Benzol . . . C₁₂H₆. Toluol . . . C₁₄H₈. Xylol . . . C₁₆H₁₀. Cumol . . . C₁₈H₁₂. 1894 *Brit. Jrnl. Photogr.* XLI. 5 Xylol is the best solvent of Canada balsam for such hermetical sealing. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 4 The section is to be dried with fine filter paper, . . . clarified with xylol, and mounted in xylol balsam.

xylonite ('zailənait). Also **zylo-** (see X). [Early form *xyloinite*, irreg. f. **XYLOIDIN** + -ITE¹, afterwards assimilated to Gr. ξύλον wood.] Another name for **CELLULOID**.

The invention originated with Alexander Sparkes, and was afterwards worked out by Daniel Spill (*Engl. Mechanic* XXIX. 93/1), who patented it 1867-75. An American company formed in 1881-2 adopted the form *zylonite*. 1869 The Xylonite Company Limited [incorporated 19 May]. 1870 *Provis. Specif. Patent* No. 787 In the production of those products which are similar to or such as are known as *xyloinite* or such compounds as contain *xyloïdine* or soluble gun cotton. 1885 *Reader* 7 Mar. 455 *Zylonite* is the trade name of a substance that imitates amber, shell or ivory. 1888 *Pall Mall G.* 6 Dec. 3/2 The imitation ivory produced by the Xylonite Company, at their manufactory at Manningtree, in Suffolk. 1892 ELEANOR ROWE *Chip Carving* (1895) 52 Paper-knives, hairpin boxes, and various other small articles . . . made in Xylonite look remarkably well when carved.

xylophagous (zailə'fægəs), *a. Zool.* Also 9 *error*. **zylo-**, **xilo-**. [f. mod.L. *xylophagus*, f. Gr. ξύλον wood + -φάγος eating: see -OUS. Cf. F. *xylophage*.] Feeding upon wood, as an insect larva, or boring into and destroying wood, as a mollusc or crustacean. So **xy'lophagan**, *a.* belonging to the *Xylophaga* or *Xylophagi*, names in different classifications for various groups of insects whose larvæ devour wood; *sb.* an insect belonging to one of these groups; **xylophage** ('zailəufeidʒ), a wood-eating insect.

1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sci.*, etc., **Xylophagans*, *Xylophaga* . . . a tribe of Coleopterous insects, . . . also . . . a family of Dipterous insects. 1877 KURZ *Flora Brit. Burmah* I. 339 Wood . . . of a coarse fibre, soon attacked by *xylophages. 1739 *Phil. Trans.* XLI. 279 This *Xylophagous Worm. 1835-6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 704/1 The . . . xylophagous Conchifera. 1836-9 *Ibid.* II. 862/1 The . . . Xylophagous insects of this tribe . . . are exceedingly destructive. 1864 OWEN *Power of God* 16 Tree-destroying Xylophagous larvæ.

xylophone ('zailəfəʊn). Also **zylo-** (see X). [f. Gr. ξύλον (see **XYLO-**) + φωνή voice, sound.] A musical instrument consisting of a graduated series of flat wooden bars, played by striking with a small hammer or by rubbing with rosined gloves.

1866 *Athenæum* 7 Apr. 470/3 A prodigy . . . who does wonderful things with little drumsticks on a machine of wooden keys, called the 'xylophone', almost five octaves in compass. 1890 HALLETT *1,000 Miles in Shan States* 322 A native zylophone made of eighteen sonorous strips of hard wood fastened side by side by strings and suspended over a boat-shaped sounding board. 1892 R. L. GARNER *Speech Monkeys* xiii. 135 Drawing a mallet rapidly across the keyboard of a xylophone.

Hence **xylophonic** (-'fəʊnɪk) *a.*, of, pertaining to, or resembling a xylophone.

1899 MARY KINGSLEY *W. African Stud.* iii. 65 Many African instruments are . . . sweet . . . notably the xylophonic family. 1902 *Westm. Gaz.* 28 Aug. 10/2 Two swarthy bare-

armed blacksmiths who extract xylophonic music from a couple of cart-wheels.

xylophonist (zai'lofənist). [f. XYLOPHONE + -IST.] One who plays a xylophone.

1927 *Daily Tel.* 10 May 12/1 Teddy Brown the xylophonist. **1952** B. ULANOV *Hist. Jazz in Amer.* (1958) xvii. 207 He became a xylophonist. **1976** *Gramophone* Aug. 345/1 There is a really brilliant xylophonist in 'Fossils'.

xylophory (zai'lofəri). *rare*⁻¹. [ad. Gr. ξυλοφορία wood-carrying, f. ξύλον wood + -φορος carrying (:φέρειν to carry).] Wood-carrying. *festival of xylophory* (Gr. ξυλοφόριος έορτή, Josephus), applied to the Feast of Tabernacles.

1737 WHISTON *Josephus, Jewish War* II. xvii. §6 The next day was the festival of Xylophory, upon which the custom was for every one to bring wood for the altar.

xylorimba ('zailərɪmbə). [f. XYLO(PHONE + MA)RIMBA.] (See quotes. 1938, 1980.)

1938 *Oxf. Compan. Mus.* 1026/2 *Xylorimba*, an American form of lightweight marimba. **1961** *Times* 10 Nov. 18/7 The icy, scientific precision of xylorimba. **1978** P. GRIFFITHS *Conc. Hist. Mod. Music* ix. 137 Xylorimba and percussion suggest the influence of black African music. **1980** *New Grove Dict. Music* XX. 564/2 *Xylorimba*... An instrument of the xylophone family with a compass sufficiently large to embrace the low-sounding bars of the Marimba and the highest-sounding bars of the xylophone.

xylose ('zailəʊs). *Chem.* [f. Gr. ξύλον wood + -OSE².] A colourless carbohydrate, C₅H₁₀O₅, obtained by the action of sulphuric acid on xylan; also called *wood-sugar*.

1894 MUIR & MORLEY *Watts' Dict. Chem.* IV. 538/2. **1899** CAGNEY tr. *von Jaksch's Clin. Diagn.* vii. (ed. 4) 334 [Pentose], in the form of arabinose, rhamnose and xylose, has been identified in the urine.

xylostein (zai'loʊstɪn). *Chem.* [f. mod.L. *Xylosteum* (f. Gr. ξύλον wood + ὀστέον bone) + -IN¹.] A poisonous bitter substance found in the berries of the fly-honeysuckle, *Lonicera Xylosteum*.

1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1061. **1871** — tr. *Gmelin's Hand-bk. Chem.* XVI. 102.

xylyl ('zailɪl). *Chem.* [f. XYL-ENE + -YL.] The hypothetical radical (C₈H₉) of xylene and its

derivatives. Hence **xylylamine**, 'xylylene', †**xylylea** (= *xylylamine*), **xy'lylic** *a.*, etc.: see quotes.

1862 MILLER *Elem. Chem., Org.* vi. §2. (ed. 2) 453 Xylol, C₁₆H₁₀. Nitroxylol, C₁₆H₉NO₄. Xylylia, C₁₆H₁₁N. **1863** *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 9) 694 The hydrate of oxide of xylyl... has been observed by Mr. H. Müller. **1868** WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1061 *Xylyl*. C⁸H⁹. A monatomic radicle, homologous with phenyl and tolyl, which may be supposed to exist in xylene... and its derivatives. *Ibid.*, *Xylylamine*... a base... (not yet obtained), related to benzylamine... as xylidine... to toluidine. *Ibid.*, *Xylylene*. C⁸H⁸. A diatomic radicle related to xylyl, C⁸H⁹, in the same way as ethylene to ethyl. *Ibid.* 1062 *Xylylic acid*. C⁹H¹⁰O² = C⁶H³(CH³)². CO²H... homologous with benzoic and toluic acids. *Ibid.*, *Xylylic acetate, chloride, &c.* Syn. with *Toluylic Acetate, Chloride, &c.*

xyrid ('zairɪd). *Bot.* [f. mod.L. *Xyrid-*, *Xyris*, ad. Gr. ξυρίς a species of iris, f. ξυρόν razor, so called from the sharp-edged leaves.] A plant belonging to the *Xyridaceæ*, an order of monocotyledons typified by the genus *Xyris*, comprising sedge-like herbs having flowers with three coloured petals like those of Spiderworts; chiefly tropical and North American. So **xyridal** ('zairɪdəl) *a.*, belonging to the alliance *Xyridales* in Lindley's classification, comprising the *Xyridaceæ* and allied orders; *sb.* a plant belonging to this alliance; **xyridaceous** (zairɪ'deɪʃəs) *a.*, belonging to the *Xyridaceæ*.

1846 LINDLEY *Veg. Kingd.* 186 [The] nearest relationship [of *Philydraceæ*]... is plainly with Xyrids and Spiderworts. *Ibid.* 185 Alliance XIV. *Xyridales*.—The Xyridal Alliance... Natural Orders of Xyridals. *Philydraceæ. Xyridaceæ. Commelynaceæ. Mayaceæ. Ibid.* 187 *Xyridaceæ*.—Xyrids.

xyst: see XYSTUS.

xystarch ('zɪstɑ:k). *Gr. Antiq. rare*⁻⁰. [ad. Gr. ξυστάρχης, f. ξυστός XYSTUS + ἄρχειν to rule.] (See quot.)

1823 CRABB *Technol. Dict.*, *Xystarch*... an Athenian officer who presided over the gymnastic exercises of the Xystus.

|| **xyster** ('zɪstə(r)). *Surg.* [mod.L., a. Gr. ξυστήρ, f. ξύειν to scrape.] An instrument for scraping bones.

[**1684** tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.*] **1688** HOLME *Armoury* III. 429/1 Raspatorium, Rasping hookes;.. Scraping Instruments to shave and scrape filthy and scaly bones. Its called also Xyster.

|| **xyston** ('zɪstən). *Gr. Antiq.* [a. Gr. ξυστόν the polished shaft of a spear, hence a spear, neut. of ξυστός scraped, polished, f. ξύειν to scrape, polish.] (See quot., and cf. SARISSA.)

1856 GROTE *Greece* II. xcii. XII. 77 The regiments of cavalry called Sarissophori or Lancers... carrying a long lance, and distinguished from the heavier cavalry... who carried the xyston or short pike.

|| **xystus** ('zɪstəs). Pl. xysti (-ai). Also 7 zystus, pl. xisti; 8–9 xystos, 9 zystos; 8–9 xystum, pl. xysta (7 *erron.* xystas). Also in anglicized form xyst. [L. *xystus* masc., also *xystum* neut., ad. Gr. ξυστός, prop. sb. use of the masc. of ξυστός adj.: see prec.] Among the ancient Greeks, a long covered portico or court used for athletic exercises; among the ancient Romans, an open colonnade, or walk planted with trees, used for recreation and conversation; hence occas. allusively.

1664 EVELYN tr. *Freari's Archit.* 132 Those large Xystas, Porticos, Atrias and Vestibula of the Greeks and Romans. **1696** — *Let. to Wotton* 28 Oct., Spacious plots of ground... built about with porticos, xisti, & noble ranges of pillars. **1696** PHILLIPS (ed. 5), *Zystus*, was a Place where the Wrestlers exercis'd. **1706** *Ibid.* (ed. Kersey), *Xystos*, a large Portico or Gallery, where the Greek Wrestlers us'd to practise in Winter-time. *Ibid.*, *Xystus* or *Xystum* (among the Romans) an open Walking-Place...; also a Knot-Garden. **1721** (*title*) The Architecture of A. Palladio... containing A short Treatise of the Five Orders... also The different Construction of Private and Publick Houses, High-ways, Bridges, Market-places, Xystes, and Temples... Revised... By Giacomo Leoni. **1763** SMOLLETT *Trav.* xxx. (1766) II. 102 The *Xysta*, which were shady walks between two porticos. **1823** P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Builder* 596 Zystos; among the antients, a portico or aile of unusual length, commonly appropriated to gymnastic exercises. **1856** MACAULAY in *Trevelyan Life & Lett.* xiv. (1913) II. 405 [I] directed the workmen to set creepers in my xystus. **1871** FARRAR *Witn. Hist.* vi. 98 Philosophers who aired their elegant doubts in the shady xystus.

Y

Y (wai), pl. **Y's**, **Ys** (waiz), the twenty-fifth letter of the modern and twenty-third of the ancient Roman alphabet, representing ultimately **Y**, **Y** (u psilon) of the Greek alphabet, a differentiated form of the primitive **V** which has given also **U** and **V**. It was adopted first in the Latin alphabet in the form **V** to express (u) and (w), and was later (after B.C. 100) readopted in the form **Y** to represent the **Y** of borrowed Greek words.

The name of the letter in the Romanic languages, 'Greek i' (e.g. *F. i grec*, *Sp. i griega*), and the Ger. name *ipsilon*, It. *ipsilon*, -*onne* (*†yssilonne*), and Pg. *ypsilon*, preserve the fact of its Greek origin. The English name *wy* (wai) is of obscure origin.

The earliest available English evidence is in the MS. of the Ormulum, col. 109 (l. 4320), where *pi* is written, app. in the first hand (c. 1200), over *y*, the fifth letter of the name *IESOVS*. Nothing certain is known about the historical relationship of the English name to the name *vi* or *ui* attributed to 'the Greek y' in the grammatical treatise (a. 1150) contained in the Edda, or to the *ui* or *gui* of some OF. systems. Gawin Douglas rhymes **Y** with *sky* (see quot. 1513 in sense 2 below); other early references to the name are:—

1573 BARET *Alv.*, **Y** hath bene taken for a greeke vowel among our latin Grammarians a great while, which me thinke if we marke well we shall finde to be rather a diphthong: for it appeareth to be compounded of u and i, which both spelled together soundeth as we write Wy. 1580 BULLOKAR *Amendm. Orthogr.* 8 The olde name of *y*: (which is wy).

(1) The letter of which our **y** is the direct representative occurs from the earliest times in OE. script to express the *i*-mutation of *u*. It had various forms ranging from those resembling the Greek *u psilon*, in which the tops of the limbs turn outwards in opposite directions, to those in which both limbs turn in the same direction, whether to the right (forming an *f*-like character) or to the left. This last type with the right shank continued leftwards below the line was the form that prevailed in ME. script, and which, with the top closed (*þ*), became identical with the debased forms of *p*: see (3) below. Most forms of the OE. **y** in the earliest manuscripts are written with a superposed dot, which is also a feature of the **y** in contemporary manuscripts of Latin texts. The dot fell out of use towards the end of the eighth century, but was revived towards the end of the tenth. The dotted **y** continued throughout the ME. period, and was carried into some of the early founts of type (e.g. in *The Book of St. Albans* of 1486 the dotted **y** is employed in the larger, but not in the smaller type).

In later (West-Saxon) OE., **y** was written alternatively for *i*, e.g. as representing older *ie*, as in *cyle*, *ongytan*, *yld*, for *ciele*, *ongietan*, *ield*; and, as its function of expressing rounded *i* (**Y**, **y**) was usurped by *u* in imitation of French usage, it became ultimately a possible substitute for vocalic *i* in any position. This use had become established by the middle of the 13th century, and, thenceforward, with the deterioration of script, **y** came to serve as a convenient means of breaking up an ambiguous series of minims produced by a succession of *i*, *u*, *n*, *m*, as *nym*, *myn*, *ynumen*, *unymete*, for *nim*, *min*, *inumen*, *unimete*. This free use of **y** was continued through the ME. period, and the tradition lasted for a long period after the introduction of printing; but *i* was gradually restored to its place, the resulting orthographic convention being that **y** is retained: (i) for final *i*-sounds, as in *fly*, *family*, *daily*, *destroy* (formerly spelt also *flie* and *flye*, *familie* and *famylie*, etc.), only alien words being spelt with final *i*; (ii) in Greek words, representing *υ*, as in *hymn*; (iii) before *i*, in inflexional forms of verbs ending in *y* or *ie*, as *flying*, *lying*, *tying*, not *fliing*, etc.; (iv) in the plural of nouns ending in **y** preceded by another written vowel, as *boy boys*, *ray rays*, *alley alleys*, *money moneys* (but *monies* is still common, and *vallies*, *monkies*, etc. were equally so until recently). Particular usages, not falling under these categories, are the use of **y** to distinguish *dye* from *die*, and the fluctuation between *flyer* and *flier*, *tyre* and *tire*, *gipsy* and

gypsy, *tiro* and *tyro*, *siphon* and *syphon*, *cipher* and *cypher*, *silva* and *sylva* (see each word for the special circumstances).

In some texts **y** is found substituted for *i* = French *j* (d3); e.g. in Shoreham's Poems *manyour* is written for *manjour* = *manger*, in Ayenbite *yyoyned* for *yioyned* joined, in the Camb. MS. of the 15th century version of Guy of Warwick occur *yoye*, *yolye*, *yelowse*, *harbenyoure*, *soyourned* = *joy*, *jolly*, *jealous*, *harbinger*, *sojourned*.

(2) About the middle of the 13th century **y** began to be used to represent the voiced palatal spirant (*j*), taking the place of the character *ȝ* (called *YOGH*, q.v.) in one of its values. *ȝ* is a loosely written form of OE. *ȝ*, which had become appropriated in early ME. script to the guttural and palatal spirants, while the continental *g* was appropriated to the voiced guttural and palatal stops (though in some MSS. *g* stands for all these sounds: cf. *G*). The practice of contemporary scribes varied considerably, some restricting **y** to its vocalic use, others using it freely for both consonant and vowel. Northern scribes of the 14th and 15th centuries often write *yh* for **y** initially, as *yhit*, *yheyt*, yet, *yher* year, *yhoung* young.

In many late ME. scripts *ȝ* became identical in form with *z*, and it was retained by Scottish printers in this form; e.g. printed *zer*, *fenzeit*, *Dalziel*, represent *yer* year, *fenyeit* feigned, *Dalyiel*: see further s.v. *Z*.

(3) Another value of **y** arises from the assimilation of **y** and *þ*, the runic *thorn* (see *TH*), which had become indistinguishable from each other in some MSS. of the early 14th century (e.g. the Cotton MS. of Cursor Mundi). After 1400 *þ* fell more and more out of use, and in some scripts was represented only by the **y**-form in the compendia *y^e*, *yⁱ* or *y^a*, *y^e*, *y^m*, *y^u* = *the*, *that*, *they*, *them*, *thou*, and the like, many of which continued to be extensively employed in manuscript in the 17th and 18th centuries. Two of these, *y^e* or *ȝ^e*, *yⁱ* or *ȝⁱ*, were retained in printers' types during the 15th and 16th centuries, but often with a form of **y** somewhat different from that used in other positions. (In Sir John Cheke's translation of the New Testament, a dotted **y** stands for *th*.) In manuscript (e.g. in letter-writing) *y^e* lasted well into the 19th century. It is still often used pseudo-archaically, jocularly, or vulgarly (pronounced as *ye*), e.g. in Lewis Carroll's 'Ye Carpette Knyghte', and in shop-signs like 'Y^e Olde Booke Shoppe'.

c. 1340 Cursor M. 17033-4 (MS. Cott. Vesp. A III, lf. 94 b) And es naman y^e es in skil yat agh sai her again. 14.. Agincourt Song (Pepys MS.), bat tounn he wan and mad a fray Yat fraunce xal rewe tyl domysday. c. 1500 Promp. Parv. (Middle Hill MS.) 535 note¹, Yanne or thann, .. Yowtyng or thowtyng. Ibid. (MS. note in Brit. Mus. Copy of Pynson's ed.), All these Y. stande for Th. accordinge as the Saxon caracte was in this sorte p. 1508 Chapman & Myllar Prints (S.T.S. 1918) 171 Thou ryall king all yis suld reull yi realme. 1551 Sir W. PICKERING Let. to Sir W. Cecil in Nat. MSS. II. 1, At pares y^e 27 of octobree. 1665 Caldwell Papers (Maitland Club) I. 62 Without any interruption yrupon. Ibid. 63 It may be clearlie answered yrtto. 1680 P. HENRY Diaries & Lett. (1882) 292 Bo[reathon] where l^d Paget y^e was. 1705 J. ROGERS in Mrs. E. Montagu's Corr. (1906) I. 145, I had notice by my Mother yt you had ordered me £40. 1741 DK. PORTLAND *ibid.* 76, j am to inform you yt ye Duchess continues as well as can be, and ye Babe too. 1745 MRS. ROBINSON *ibid.* 225 [He] told y^m yt ye French was landing in the Marsh.

Pronunciation. The vocalic sounds now normally expressed by **y** are:—

- (1), as in hymn (him), synonymy (si'nɒnɪmɪ), silly ('sɪli); in unstressed syllables there is more or less reduction or obscuration.
- (aɪ), as in my (maɪ), deny (di'naɪ).
- (aɪə), as in lyre (laɪə(r)).
- (ɜː), as in myrtle ('mɜːt(ə)l).
- (ə), as in satyr ('sætrə(r)).

With *a*, *e*, *o*, *u*, it forms combinations having special values:—*ay* (final) = (eɪ), as in *lay* (leɪ), essay ('esɛɪ), = (aɪ) in *aye* (aɪ); = (iː) in *quay* (kiː), = (eɪ) in *says* (seɪz); *ey* = (eɪ), as in *obey* (əu'beɪ), convey (kən'veɪ), = (ɪ), as in *alley* ('æli), honey ('hʌni), = (aɪ) in *eye* (aɪ) and its derivatives, = (eə) in *eyre* (eə(r)); *oy* = (ɔɪ), as in *boy* (bɔɪ), annoy (ə'nɔɪ); *uy* (rare) = (aɪ) in *buy* (baɪ).

The consonantal sound expressed by **y** is denoted in this Dictionary by (j), as *yew*, *you* (juː).

II. 1. a. The letter or its sound.

c. 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* ii. (Z.) 5 To ðisum [*a*, *e*, *i*, *o*, *u*] is genumen se grecisca *y* for intingan grecisca namena, and se ylca *y* is on englisum gewritum swiðe gewunelic. c. 1440 Promp. Parv. 79/1 Quere plura vocabula similem sonum istis habencia in S litera, ubi I vel Y sequitur hanc literam S immediate. [c. 1465 Pol. Rel. & L. Poems (1903) 2 A. 3. for yorke.] 1521 BARCLAY *Introd. Fr.* Bijb, But specyally *y*: muste be wryten for I, in y^e ende of englysshe wordes, and whan n: m, or u, is wryten before, or behynde it. 1530 PALSGR. 16 The wryttinge of *i* and *y* in any frenche worde, eyther alone or as part of a diphthong, causeth no difference in sounde. 1599 in Promp. Parv. (Camden) 536 note, All these wordes of *ȝ* we pronounce with **Y** at this daye, and some of these *ȝ* here used haue that place of *G* in oure spekinge and wrytinge at this daye. 1636 B. JONSON *Eng. Gram.* i. iii, **Y** is also mere vowelish in our tongue, and hath only the power of an *i*, even where it obtains the seat of a consonant. 1693 DRYDEN *Disc. Satire* Ess. (1900) II. 67 [Satire] ought to be with *i*, and not with *y*, to distinguish its true derivation from *satura*, not from *satyrus*. 1755 JOHNSON *Dict.*, *Gram.* a 2 b, It may be observed of *y* as of *w*, that it follows a vowel without any hiatus, as *rosy youth*. 1785 PINKERTON *Lett. Lit.* xxxiv. 243 [Ending] in *y* we have no less than 4900 words, about an eighth of our language; our words amounting to about 35,000. 1848 MRS. GASKELL *Mary Barton* xxii, Tails of *ys* and *gs*. 1874 'MAX ADELER' *Out of Hurly-burly* ix. (Rtdg.) 121 The Smith that spells without a *y* is not the Smith for me!

b. Used for the Greek letter **Y** (*u psilon*), esp. as a Pythagorean symbol: see quot.

1430-40 LYDG. *Bochas* ii. xv. (MS. Bodl. 263) lf. 117/2 Pithagorus. . . Fond first out y a figur to discerne The liff heer short and liff that is eterne. 1587 GREENE *Tritam. Love* Wks. (Grosart) III. 96 Did not Pythagoras compare vertue to the letter **Y**, which is small at the foot but broad at the top: meaning that to obtaine vertue is verie painefull, but the possession thereof passing pleasant? 1616 HOLYDAY *Persius* III. 119 The Samian letter **Y** Whose spreading branches teach Philosophie, Hath marked out. . . The high-rear'd right-hand path, wherein to walke. 1693 DRYDEN *Persius* iii. (1697) 443 Where the Samian **Y** directs thy Steps to run, To Virtue's narrow Steep, and Broad-way Vice to shun. 1771 *Encycl. Brit.* I. 272/1 The other two divaricate, like the branches of the greek **Y**.

2. The letter considered with regard to its shape; a figure or marking of this shape. Also Comb. *y-shaped* adj.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* vii. Prol. 120 Palamedes byrdis crouping in the sky, Fland on randoune schapin lik ane **Y**. 1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* i. v. 871, I hear the Crane (if I mistake not) cry: Who in the Clouds forming the forked **Y**, . . . Instructeth Souldiers in the Art of War. a. 1817 T. DWIGHT *Trav. New Eng.*, etc. (1821) II. 265 The centre of the town is a pretty expansion, in the form of the Roman **Y**. 1849 ROCK *Ch. Fathers* I. v. 324 note, A rich orphrey . . . dividing itself a little way below the neck, takes the shape of the letter **Y**, and passes, in that form, over the shoulders. 1861 HAGEN *Syn. Neuroptera N. Amer.* 214 Between the antennæ is a black **Y**. 1874 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 511 The bucket is then lowered into the **Y**-shaped rests. 1907 C. C. BROWN *China* xvi. 233 A **Y**-shaped divining rod.

3. a. A contrivance or piece of apparatus in the form of the letter **Y**; esp. a forked support for a telescope, theodolite, or piece of mechanism. Also *attrib.*, as *Y-axis*, *bearing*, *piece*; **Y branch**, a piece of piping with a branch at an acute angle to the main (cf. *T branch*, *T ȝ b*); **Y cross**, (a) a cross in the form of the letter **Y**, often used as an ornamental device on ecclesiastical vestments; (b) a piece of piping consisting of three branches diverging at acute angles; hence **Y-crossed ppl.** a.; **Y-front**, a proprietary term for men's underwear, used esp. to denote close-fitting briefs with **Y**-shaped seaming at the front; freq. as *sb. pl.*, briefs of this kind; **Y-gun U.S.**, an anti-submarine gun with two firing arms for discharging depth charges; **Y junction**, a junction at which a road forks into two branches, or one road joins another at an angle different from 90 degrees; **Y level**, the common spirit-level, used with a telescope or theodolite resting on **Y**'s (also written *wye-level*, q.v.); **Y track**, a short track on a railway at right angles to the main track and connected with it by two switches in opposite directions, used for reversing an engine or car. Also in names of natural structures, as *Y cartilage*, *ligament*: see quot. 1890.

1793 WOLLASTON in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXIII. 137 The four pillars . . . carry the **Y**s for the pivots of the transit. 1803 MUDGE *ibid.* XCIII. 407 The telescope was then quickly taken out of the **Ys**. 1864 WEBSTER, *Y*, . . . 2. (Railways.) A portion of track consisting of two converging tracks connected by a cross-track. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Journal*, . . . the bearing part of a shaft, upon which it rests on

its Y's or bearings. 1875 *Encycl. Brit.* III. 266/1 A wire, the axis of which coincides with the Y-axis. 1878 LOCKYER *Star-gazing* 314 The Y bearings of a theodolite. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech. Suppl.*, Y Branch, a branch with a divergent stem. 1890 BILLINGS *Nat. Med. Dict.*, Y cartilage, the triradiate piece of true cartilage which, before puberty, unites the three portions of the hip-bone at the bottom of the acetabulum. 1881 G. G. SCOTT *Ess. Hist. Eng. Church Archit.* 114 St. Regnbert's chasuble at Bayeux, and St. Thomas's at Sens, are examples of the use of the Y cross in France. 1884 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech. Suppl.*, Y Cross, a pipe with two divergent stems. 1881 G. G. SCOTT *Ess. Hist. Eng. Church Archit.* 114 The Y-crossed vestment of Ruben's picture. 1953 *Trade Marks Jnl.* 17 June 526/1 Y-front... Pants and vests, all for men. Lyle and Scott Limited, Hawick, Scotland; manufacturers. 1959 H. HOBSON *Mission House Murder* xxix. 188 Here I was, in my athlete's vest and Y-front briefs. 1961 *Harper's Bazaar* May 103/1 The demand for a T-shirt and a Y-front in Act II. 1976 T. STOPPARD *Dirty Linen* 23 He produces... a large pair of Y-front pants. 1978 M. PAGE *Pilate Plot* (1979) xii. 183 He stripped to his Y-fronts and plunged into the pool. 1918 *Ann. Rep. Secretary U.S. Navy Dept.* 56 A new gun known as the 'Y' gun has been designed and built especially for firing depth charges. 1937 *Jane's Fighting Ships* 471 Y-gun or Depth Charge Projector. 1961 *Guardian* 18 Sept. 3/4 Local Y junctions where drivers... expect others prophetically to divine the route they are about to take. 1982 M. DUKE *Flashpoint* xxv. 182 When he came to a Y-junction he made a sharp turn right. 1838 P. BARLOW in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) XXV. 304 There are two constructions [of levels] that are commonly adopted, viz. the Y level and Troughton's level. 1890 BILLINGS *Nat. Med. Dict.*, Y ligament, ilio-femoral ligament. 1842 FRANCIS *Dict. Arts s.v. Beighton's Hand Gear*, The Y piece, as it is called, G, bearing the moveable weight F. 1886 CUMMING *Electricity* (1887) 40 A mounted telescope... swinging on two Y pieces.

b. Collectors' name for various moths of the genus *Plusia*, having markings more or less resembling the letter Y.

1775 M. HARRIS *Engl. Lepid.* 59 Y moth... Brown, having a mark in the middle of the wing like the letter Y. 1832 J. RENNIE *Butterfl. & Moths* 93 The Golden Y (*P. Iota*)... frequents woody places. *Ibid.*, The Yorkshire Y (*P. interrogationis*). *Ibid.* 94 The Essex Y (*P. circumflexa*). 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm III.* 778 The Gamma or Y-moth, *Plusia gamma*. 1845 JAS. HAMILTON in W. Arnot *Life* vi. (1870) 289 The first capture was her favourite Golden Y-moth. 1903 *Blackw. Mag.* Apr. 490/1 Young missel-thrushes... searching for the larvæ of the silver Y.

4. a. *Math.* Used to denote the second of a set of unknown or variable quantities (the first being denoted by *x*); *spec.* in Analytical Geometry, the symbol for an ordinate, or quantity measured in the direction of the second axis of co-ordinates (hence called † *the axis of y*, now always *y-axis*; also *transf.*); *Y-cut* adj. (Electronics), of, pertaining to, or designating a quartz crystal cut in a plane normal to its Y-axis; *Y-plate* (Electronics), each of a pair of electrodes in an oscilloscope that control the vertical movement of the spot on the screen.

1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl. s.v. Conic Sections*, If the *Latus Rectum* of any Diameter, as DK, be *y*; then, as the Diameter DK is to its conjugate *by*, or its equal *ow*; so that Conjugate *by*, or that Tangent *ow* is to *y*. 1885, etc. [see X 3 a]. 1903 [see X 3]. 1930, etc. *Y-cut* [see *X-cut* adj. s.v. X 3 a]. 1934 J. H. REYNOLDS *Television* vii. 71 In the ordinary applications of the tube we apply the voltage to be examined across one pair of plates (usually termed the Y plates) which causes the spot to be elongated into a line. 1945 *Electronic Engin.* XVII. 723 These two equations define the components of the velocity of the spot along the X and Y axes. 1946 *Ibid.* XVIII. 23/2 The signal [may be] fed to one Y plate and a pulse derived from the anode of *V₄* fed to the other Y plate. 1965 J. R. FREDERICK *Ultrasonic Engin.* iv. 65 If the second digit is 4, 5, or 6 this refers to a shear strain around the *x*, *y*, or *z* axes, respectively. 1969 MADDOX & DAVIES *Elem. Functions* i. 12 The graph is a straight line parallel to the *y*-axis and situated 2 units to the right of the *y*-axis. 1976 *Appl. Physics Lett.* XXIX. 76/1 Our measurements were made on a polished Y-cut single-crystal quartz substrate with a pair of aluminum thin-film interdigital transducers... with orientation for wave propagation along the X axis. 1978 D. T. REES *Cathode Ray Oscilloscope* 9 A voltage applied to the Y-plates will move the beam and the spot in a vertical direction. 1979 FAUX & PRATT *Computational Geom.* i. 18 The most familiar equation of a straight line is *y = mx + c*, in which *m* is the slope, and *c* the intercept on the *y*-axis.

b. *Genetics.* (Now always as a capital.) [After X 3 e.] The symbol of the Y CHROMOSOME. So Y-linked (stress variable) *a.*, being or determined by a gene that is carried on the Y chromosome.

1909 E. B. WILSON in *Science* 8 Jan. 57/2 The X-element... appears as a 'large idiochromosome' which has a synaptic mate... The latter chromosome, or its homologue, I shall designate as the 'Y-element'. 1910 *Amer. Naturalist* XLIV. 491 We should... imagine that when a sperm bearing a Y enters an egg a male results. 1911, etc. [see X 3 e]. 1917 *Amer. Naturalist* LI. 534 Y or W linked or plastid inheritance. 1949 DARLINGTON & MATHER *Elem. Genetics* ii. 51 In *Drosophila* and in man, there are completely Y-linked genes without any allelomorph in the X. 1981 *Heredity* XLVII. 238 A majority of male secondary sexual colour patterns are Y-linked [in the guppy]. 1983 M. B. ZALESKI et al. *Immunogenetics* ii. 36 For essentially all mammalian species discussed in this book, females are X/X and males are X/Y... Other types of sex determination are also known to exist in various species and are called *Protenor* (females are X/X and males are X/O), *Abraxas* (females are X/Y and males are X/X) and haploidy-diploidy (males are haploid and sterile, whereas females are diploid and fertile).

5. Used in abstract reasoning for the name of a person or thing (usually in connexion with X).

Also Y.Z., used as the initials of a person remaining anonymous.

1765 *Museum Rust.* IV. 23, I am, Gentlemen, Yours, &c. Y.Z. 1867 SIR S. NORTHCOTE in A. Lang *Life, Lett.*, etc. (1890) I. ix. 293 The success of A. and B. will tempt Y. and Q. to enter upon the same field. 1873 [see X 3 c].

6. Used to denote position in a series, as of the batteries of the Royal Horse Artillery.

7. Abbreviations. (Abbreviations cited here with full stops are frequently used without them.) *y.* = year(s); *Y* = yttrium (*Chem.*); *Y* (*colloq.*, chiefly U.S.), short for YMCA or YWCA; *Y*, yuan; *YA* (U.S.), young adult; *YAG*: see *YAG*; *Y.C.* (see quot. 1883); *Y.E.*, Your Excellency; *Y.F.C.*, Young Farmers Club (formerly Clubs); *YHA*, Youth Hostels Association; *YIG*, yttrium iron garnet; *Y.M.* (*colloq.*), short for YMCA; also, a YMCA hostel; *YMCA*, Young Men's Christian Association; also, a hostel run by the YMCA; *YOP*, Youth Opportunities Programme; also, a young person taking part in this scheme; *Y.P.*, young prisoner; *yr*, year; *yr.*, yr, your; *yrs*, yours; *YTS*, Youth Training Scheme; *Y.W.* (*colloq.*), short for YWCA; also, a YWCA hostel; *YWCA*, Young Women's Christian Association; also, a hostel run by the YWCA.

1860 P. HENRY *Diaries & Lett.* (1882) 293 Hee is now 23. **y.* old. 1915 *Dialect Notes* IV. 236 [College slang.] **Y*, abbreviation for the college Y.M.C.A. 1945 N. L. MCLUNG *Stream runs Fast* xxvii. 259 Mary would have to have her bath at the 'Y'. 1956 H. KURNITZ *Invasion of Privacy* ii. 22 She's married to this English G.I. she met at the Y, where they have the service dances. 1977 *New Yorker* 27 June 35/3 Rose... did not yet have a place to live; she was staying at the Y. 1962 in E. Snow *Other Side of River* (1963) lxv. 495 The State invested **Y*. 37,000,000 in the livelihood needs and productive capital construction. 1973 *Times* 21 Mar. (China Trade Suppl.) p. iii/6 The basic unit of renminbi... is the yuan, represented by the symbol Y. 1974 *Publishers Weekly* 7 Oct. 63/1 A powerful and tragic book, 'Betrayed' is as much for adults as **Y*As. 1883 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade Suppl.*, **Y.C.*, an abbreviation for yellow candle tallow. 1870 *Weekly Standard* (Buenos Aires) 9 Mar. 14/2, I beg to communicate to **Y.E.* the following despatch of Gen. Camara. 1945 G. CUNNINGHAM *Let.* 27 Nov. in N. Mitchell *Sir George Cunningham* (1968) v. 117, I feel terribly for Y.E. and for Claude A. in this. 1931 *Young Farmer* Mar. 77/1 The speakers... had motored many miles to come to this... third **Y.F.C.* meeting. 1960 *Farmer & Stockbreeder* 8 Mar. 65/1 This competition... is also of special interest to Y.F.C.s. 1982 *Financial Times* 30 Apr. 25/6 The YFC movement. 1931 *Ruc-Sac* July 18/1 The **Y.H.A.* (the Youth Hostels Association of Great Britain) have sent us an advance copy of their handbook. 1982 R. HILL *Who guards Prince* iv. vi. 228 The best British equivalent [hotel] in terms of remoteness and height would be a YHA hut. 1959 *Physical Rev. Lett.* II. 499/1 (*caption*) The specific heat per unit volume of polycrystalline **YIG* analyzed into its two components. 1975 D. G. FINK *Electronics Engineers' Handbk.* XIII. 113 In addition to mechanical tuning, both YIG and varactor tuning techniques are applicable. 1913 **Y.M.* [see LOWBROW, LOW-BROW *a.*]. 1916 W. OWEN *Let.* i Feb. (1967) 377 We are refused admission to the Y.M. or Canteen. 1931 R. CAMPBELL *Georgiad* i. 25 Androgynous... Well on the road... Half way to Georgiana's Y.M. hostel. 1881 *Y.M.C.A. Monthly Notes* Sept. 138/1 Pasteur Cook (Paris) said the **Y.M.C.A.s* were differently conducted in England to what they were in France. 1901 *Oxf. Times* 16 Mar. 12/1 A squad of eight Y.M.C.A. men... gave a gymnastic display. 1920 S. LEWIS *Main St.* xxi. 257, I wish there were a Y.M.C.A. here, so I could take up regular exercise. 1931 R. CAMPBELL *Georgiad* i. 17 Like some Y.M. or W.C.A. It welcomes waifs whom love has cast away. 1956 R. MACAULAY *Towers of Trebizond* xiv. 157 There would be a Y.M.C.A. and a Y.W.C.A., where billiards and boxing would be played. 1978 *Times Higher Educ. Suppl.* 5 May 28/5 Young people... eligible for the **YOP* in Cardiff... will be asked for their views. 1983 *Financial Times* 12 Apr. 19/3 One can employ a school leaver on the Youth Opportunities Scheme (YOP), the cost of whom is reimbursed by the MSC. All I had to do was take on a YOP as a personal assistant. 1952 *Chambers's Jnl.* 1 June 356 They go all sentimental over the **Y.P.s*. 1976 H. FERGUSON *Confessions of Long Distance Acid Head* 56 Ashford... is also used as a place where young offenders who have done Borstal, and a Borstal [sic] re-call, serve their sentence. These are known as Y.P.'s (young prisoners). 1880 W. WHITMAN *Daybks. & Notebks.* (1978) I. 172 Robert Norris... 28 *yrs old. 1942 W. FAULKNER *Go down, Moses* 264 Percavil Brownly 26 yr Old. clark. 1968 E. KNIGHT in S. Henderson *Understanding New Black Poetry* (1973) iii. 326 Last yr Like a salmon quitting The cold ocean... I hitchhiked. 1772 J. KNYVETON *Jnl.* 12 June in E. Gray *Man Midwife* (1946) i. 59 The two rooms and the closet will furnish *yr. obdt. with lecture rooms and office. 1811 SHELLEY *Let.* 3 Jan. (1964) I. 35 Not that I like yr. heroine. 1876 LD. BEACONSFIELD *Let.* 13 Sept. in R. S. Churchill *Winston S. Churchill* (1967) I. Compan. i. 54, I earnestly hope that these arrangements may be consistent with Yr Grace's decision to accept the high office of the Queen's Representative in Ireland. 1973 *Black World* Sept. 84 Ever get tired of people playing with yr life? 1811 SHELLEY *Let.* 11 Jan. (1964) I. 38 *Yr's with affection. PBS. 1922 JOYCE *Ulysses* 740 Yrs affly xxxxx. 1932 W. FAULKNER *Light in August* xviii. 412 Given it toe barer yrs truly. 1984 *Times* 17 Nov. 2/7 The **YTS* is not available for many 17-year-olds. 1985 *Times Educ. Suppl.* 9 Aug. 4/1 Thus, all one's instincts and reflexes impel one to support YTS. 1937 PARTRIDGE *Dict. Slang* 968/1 **Y.W.*... The Young Women's Christian Association. 1979 M. SOAMES *Clementine Churchill* xxvi. 424 Clementine never severed her links with the 'Y.W.'. 1887 (*title*) **Y.W.C.A.* Monthly Journal. 1931, 1956 Y.W.C.A. [see Y.M.C.A. above]. 1961 *Times* 10 Oct. 16/1 A jollie-laide innocent looking for the Y.W.C.A.

8. In *Particle Physics*, *Y* denotes the hypercharge quantum number of sub-atomic particles.

1956 [see HYPERCHARGE]. 1974 S. GASIOROWICZ *Quantum Physics* xxvi. 443 The missing *I* = 0, *Y* = 0 pseudoscalar meson was found in the examination of $\pi^+ \pi^- \pi^0$ masses in bubble-chamber pictures.

y, obs. form of *EYE*, *I pron.*, IN *prep.*

y' (j). a. Abbrev. of *YE pers. pron.*, q.v., sense A. b.

b. Repr. a spoken abbrev. of *YOU pers. pron.* as subject, esp. in phrases of the type *you know, you see*.

1859 GEO. ELIOT *Adam Bede* I. i. 7 Ye might get religion, and that 'ud be the best day's earnings y'ever made. 1889 KIPLING *From Sea to Sea* (1899) I. 341 As a bell, y' know, it's rather a failure... They don't ring it properly. 1932 J. B. PRIESTLEY *Faraway* i. 49 Y'see, you know about the island. 1953 E. COXHEAD *Midlanders* vii. 168 Y'know... I just wanted a spot of land to farm. 1981 J. WAINWRIGHT *All on Summer's Day* 14 But y'know... Sopworth money also meant Sopworth bobbying.

y- prefix (1 *gi-*, *ge-*, *gæ-*, *gie-*, *gy-*, 1-2 *ie-*, 2-3 *je-*, 2-5 *i-*, *hi-*, 4-7 *dial. e-*, 3- now *dial. a-*, now *arch. y-*) represents OE. *ge-*, earlier (and Northumb.) *gi-*, = OFris. *gi-*, *ge-*, *ie-*, *e-*, *a-*, OS. *gi-*, *ge-*, *i-*, MLG., MDu. *ge-*, *ghe-*, locally *i-*, *y-*, *e-*, (LG., Du. *ge-*), OHG. *ga-*, *ka-*, *gi-*, *ki-*, *ge-*, (MHG., G. *ge-*, *dial. je-*, also *gi-*, *ga-*), Goth. *ga-*:—OTeut. **ga-*. The parallelism of formation and meaning exemplified by such forms as L. *communis* and Goth. *gamains*, OE. *gemæne* common, 1-MENE, L. *convenire* and Goth. *gagiman* to assemble, L. *conticere* and Goth. *gapanan* to be silent, L. *commemini* and Goth. *gamunan*, OE. *gemunan* to remember, L. *conferre* and Goth. *gabairan* to compare, has suggested the probability of the etymological identity of Teut. *ga-* with L. *co-*, *com-*, and some scholars have accepted this on the assumption that Verner's law operated in some instances of initial consonants. (L. *com-* is normally represented by *ham-* in OFrank. *hamēdū*, synonymous with OHG. *geido*, MHG. *geide* conspirator.)

The original form *ga-* is the only one found in Gothic (e.g. *galeiks* YLIKE); it was preserved also in OHG. (e.g. *galih*), continued in MHG., and survives in a few words in some German dialects. The weakened (unstressed) form *gi-* was the prevailing one in OHG. and OS. and is the earliest form recorded in OFris. and OE., but it was early reduced to *ge-* in the whole of the Low German and High German area. In Scandinavian the prefix had disappeared entirely in prehistoric times as a living element, but relics of it remained in ON. *glíkr* YLIKE, *gnógr* ENOUGH, *greiðr* GRAITH *a.* (cf. READY).

The phonetic changes of OE. *ge-*, resulting in its complete disappearance in modern English as a living formative except in certain dialects, are in general paralleled in most of the LG. (as opposed to the HG.) dialects. While in HG. the vowel of the prefix not uncommonly underwent syncope, which has become permanent (to the obscuration of the origin) in certain words, as G. *gleich* (OHG. *ga-*, *gi-*, *gelik*) like (YLIKE), *gnade* (OHG. *gināda*, OS. *ginātha*, *nātha*, Du. *genade*, ON. *nāð*), in LG. dialects, on the other hand, there was a tendency for the consonant to fall, leaving *i-* or *e-*, in some dialects *a-*; e.g. OS. *unimetes* 'aliquid incommodum', MLG. *ilētene*, pa. pple. of *lēten* to permit, *medeselle* (cf. G. *mitgesell*) companion, *enough* enough, *eschein* (cf. G. *geschehen*) happened, MDu. *idaen* done, *idragen* drawn, *yslagen* slain, Du. *dial. ivallig* weak, OFris. *idein* done, *islein* slain, *onebunden* unbound, *enôch*, *anôch* enough, *unaborn* unborn, *ofeslain*, *ofaslain* killed off, Efris. *unikaimed* unkempt, Nfris. *-enogh* (in comp.) enough. Complete suppression of the prefix takes place in certain cases, as in MLG. *to like* (cf. G. *zugleich*) immediately, LG. *lik* like, *naug* enough, *schein* happened, OFris. *bedda*, *sith* companion, *fadera* godfather, *selscip* society, Wfris. *nôch* adv. (beside *genôch* adj.-pron.), Nfris. *nogh* enough; the suppression of the prefix is normal in pa. pples.; in words of other classes, it survives sporadically or has been revived through Du. or HG. influence.

The like developments of OE. *ge-* are traceable in the history of several words in which its identity and force have long ceased to be recognized, or from which all traces of the prefix have been obliterated: e.g. OE. *gefōrdian*, ME. *iforð(i)e*, *aforth*, AFFORD *v.*, OE. *gewær*, ME.

iwar(e), *awar(e)*, AWARE *a.*, OE. *ȝelic(e)*, ME. *YLIKE*, ALIKE, LIKE *a.* and *adv.*, OE. *ȝemang*, *onȝemang*, ME. *YMONG*, AMONG, MONG, OE. *ȝenoh*, ME. *inoȝ*, *anoȝ*, ENOUGH, 'nuff, OE. *handȝeweorc* HANDIWORK (whence, by analogy, HANDICRAFT), OE. *ǣghwæðer* EITHER. For further examples of the complete disappearance of the prefix see below.

The general facts of the history and survival of OE. *ȝe-*, of which some details are given below, are:—In positions where it was still recognizable as a prefix, it had left few traces in northern English by 1200; its disappearance in the north was assisted by the absence of the prefix in ON. Substantival, adjectival, and verbal forms (other than pa. pples.) continued, not later than the end of the 14th century, only in southern and west-midland dialects. The pa. pple. was regularly formed with the prefix in southern ME. till about the middle of the 15th century, and its use in the form *a-* survives in south-western dialects to the present day. Pa. pples. so formed were a prominent feature of the archaistic language of Spenser and his imitators, and a few of them, the most notable of which is *YCLEPT*, persist as conventional archaisms of poetry.

In OE. and ME. the prefix was written either continuously with the body of the word of which it formed a part, or disjoined from it by a full or a half space; in the archaistic usage of the 16th and 17th centuries the general practice was to print the compound as one word, without hyphen. In this Dictionary established and well-known forms such as *yclad*, *yclept*, are printed without hyphen, but in other instances the convenience of the reader has been consulted, where occasion arises, in the avoidance of unhyphenated forms where these would not suggest the nature of the word-formation.

Compounds of the prefix spelt with *y-* are entered in their alphabetical place, whether as full articles or as cross-references. Compounds which did not come down late enough for the spelling *y-* to have become established with them have been entered in their place in the letter I: see 1-1. The choice of *y-* (and not *i-*) by Spenser and other archaists was determined by the prevalence of that form in the texts upon which he modelled his language. There are a few instances of the general survival of the *i-* form till a late date, e.g. I-THREE *v.*; the retention of *i-* in *IWIS* is due to the false etymologizing of it as *I wis*.

The original (physical) signification of the prefix, 'with', 'together', without admixture of transferred meaning, persists in some OE. words, such as *ȝedræȝ* lit. that which is drawn together, band, multitude (cf. Goth. *gadragan* to heap up or together), *ȝelapian* to summon together, invite (cf. Goth. *galapōn* συγκαλεῖν), *ȝerunnen* 'run together', coagulated (cf. Goth. *garinnan* to come together), *ȝepēodan* 'conjungere', to join together, connect; but for the most part its meaning in OE. compounds falls under one or other of the following categories, which are arranged in the probable order of their development in primitive Germanic: the notion of physical accompaniment or conjunction passing into that of (1) association in life, occupation, etc., and hence, of suitability or appropriateness, and (2) collectivity, the final stage being (3) a perfective or intensive notion evolved in some measure from each of the others.

1. The associative meaning is exemplified by two classes of words in OE.:

a. Designations of persons associated or related by birth, family, or status, such as *ȝebedda* (I-BEDDE) 'one who shares a bed with another', bedfellow, consort, f. *bedd* bed, *ȝefēra* (YFERE, FERE *sb.*) 'one who goes with another' (*faran* to go), companion, *ȝehāda* 'one of the same order as another', fellow-minister, f. *hād* condition, order, *ȝesip* (cf. Goth. *gasinhja*, OS. *gisīð*, OHG. *gisind*) 'one who shares a voyage with another', companion, f. *sip* journey.

b. Adjectives and allied substantives denoting quality or condition, in which the purely associative sense readily passes into that of appropriateness, convenience, or similarity, such as *ȝecynde* (I-CUNDE *sb.*) nature, *ȝecynde* (I-CUNDE *a.*) natural, *ȝedēfe* (cf. Goth. *gaddōbs*) becoming, fit, *ȝemæc* well-matched, *ȝemæcca*

companion, mate, MATCH *sb.*¹, *ȝemaca* mate, MAKE *sb.*¹, *ȝelic* lit. related in form to, of the same form as, LIKE *a.*, *YLIKE*, *ȝelica* an equal, *ȝemet* *sb.*, measure, proper measure, proportion, moderation, *ȝemet* *adj.*, *ȝemæte* lit. of suitable measure, fit, proper, MEET *a.*, *ȝeræde* lit. suitably prepared (see I-REDE, I-REDY and READY *a.*), *ȝesibb* related, I-SIB(BE), *ȝeswēȝe* harmonious, *ȝetriewe* holding faith with, TRUE.

2. Compounds in which mutual relation is implied form a link between the associative and the collective uses, e.g. OE. *ȝefān*, *ȝefiend* (I-FEOND) enemies, *ȝefriend* (I-FREOND) friends, *ȝebrōðor* (I-BROTHEREN) brothers, *ȝesweostor* sisters, *ȝemāȝas* kinsmen, *ȝescý* pair of shoes. The number of OE. words of purely collective meaning is not large; examples are *ȝebæcu* back parts, *ȝefylce* army, troop, *ȝemære*, pl. *ȝemæru* limits, boundary, *ȝetimbru* pl. building, edifice, *ȝewæde* clothing, I-WEDE, *ȝewider*, pl. *ȝewidru* weather (esp. as good or bad), storm cf. (G. *gewitter*).

b. What is probably to be regarded as a particular development of the collective sense appears in the OE. generalizing pronouns and corresponding adverbs, *ȝehwā* every or each one (cf. I-HWAT), *ȝehwīlc* each or every one, ME. *i(l)ch*, ILK, *ȝehú* somehow or other, *ȝehwær* everywhere, YWHERE, *ȝehwider* in any or every direction. Some of them were reinforced by the prefixing of *ā* ever, e.g. *ǣȝhwā* each or every one, *ǣȝhwæper* each of two, both, EITHER, *ǣȝhwelc*, ME. *euch* (see EACH).

3. The perfective or intensive sense is found in the following classes of words:

a. Substantives denoting the result of an action, a stage in a process, or a particular state, as OE. *ȝemōt* meeting, MOOT *sb.*¹, *ȝemynd* (cf. L. *commemini*) memory, remembrance, MIND *sb.*¹, *ȝesibb* relationship, *ȝesihp* I-SIGHT, SIGHT, *ȝeswell* swelling, SWELL *sb.*, *ȝeweorc* working, what is done or built, fortification, WORK *sb.*, *ȝewitnes* testimony, I-WITNESS, WITNESS *sb.*, *ȝewrit* what is written, writing, I-WRIT, WRIT.

b. Adjectives denoting a state, as *ȝeclāne* pure, *ȝehāl* WHOLE, *ȝesund* uninjured, SOUND *a.*

c. Verbs which denote achievement of a result, the attainment of a stage in a process, or a special limitation of the general sense of the simple verb. The force of the prefix is clearly recognizable in examples like OE. *ȝeetan* to eat up, consume, 'comedere', *ȝestigan* to mount up, 'conscendere', and esp. in such pairs as *ærnan* to run, *ȝeærnan* to gain by running, *āscian*, *frignan* to ask, *ȝeāscian*, *ȝefrignan* to learn, *beran* to carry, *ȝeberan* to bring forth, *faran* to go, *ȝefaran* to depart this life, die, to get by going, occupy, *ræcan* to stretch forth, offer, *ȝeræcan* to reach, obtain, *ridan* to ride, *ȝeridan* to reach as by riding, get into one's power, *weorpan* to become, be, *ȝeweorpan* impers. to be agreed, *gán* to go, *ȝegán* to attain to, get, occupy, *winnan* to fight, strive, *ȝewinnan* to win. But in many instances no difference of meaning is discernible between the simplex and the compound, e.g. *beorgan*, *ȝebeorgan* to protect, *hátan*, *ȝehátan* to call, name, command, promise, *limpan*, *ȝelimpan* to happen, *secgan*, *ȝesecgan* to say, tell. There are also some causative compounds, as *ȝebétan* to make good, improve, BEET *v.*, *ȝeforðian* to further (see AFFORD), *ȝehesfigian* to make heavy. Of such verbs many did not survive except in their pa. pples. into the ME. period; others survived only till about 1300, and that in southern areas; a certain number, such as *ȝehieran* YHERE, *ȝeséon* YSEE, continued in use in present and past tenses till 1400 or later; very few lasted till 1500 or beyond. But from the middle of the 15th century onwards archaizing poets created (orig. after pa. ppl. forms) new formations in which the prefix was meaningless. Such are *ybete* (Kingis Quair), *ydrawe*, *yryve* (Lydgate), *yclepe* (after *yclept*), *yglauunst*, and *yshrilled* (Spenser), *ycharm'd*, *y sprout* (Robinson's *Mary Magdalene*), *ysteer* (Gosson), *ydrop* (Henry More), *ylipe*, *yminne*, *ypass*; there are also pres. pples. like Sackville's *ycausing* and Milton's *star-ypointing*.

4. The use of perfective or completive *ȝe-* had its most extensive development in the formation of pa. pples., a function common to the Low German and High German groups but not found in Gothic and Scandinavian. The prefix could be employed with any uncompounded verb, but the verbs corresp. to OE. *bringan* to

bring, *cuman* to come, *findan* to find, *weorpan* to become, did not normally take it.

In OE. and in ME. (where the prefix continued in full use) it is often impossible to determine whether a particular pa. pple. with *ȝe-* (*i-*, *y-*) belongs to a simple verb or to its compound with *ȝe-*.

In OE. the prefix was employed in forms derived from Latin, as *ȝeplantod* = *plantatus*. Similarly in ME. it was freely employed with verbs of French origin, as *ybaptised*, *yblamed*, *ycircumcysed*, *iclosed*, *igranted*, *ikupled*, *ymartred*, *yoccupied*, *ipaied*, *ipassed*, *irobbet*, *isturbed*, *issued*, *isustened*, *iwarised*. Early loanwords from Scandinavian also took it, as *itaken* (12th cent.).

It came down into ME. as a peculiar characteristic of the language of the south and west-midland regions, and examples are consequently abundant in such texts as (in the 13th cent.) Layamon's Brut, the texts of 'the Katherine group', Owl and Nightingale, Robert of Gloucester, (in the 14th cent.) Ayenbite, Shoreham's poems, Piers Plowman, Trevisa's works, Sir Ferumbras, (in the 15th cent.) Yonge's translation (Anglo-Irish) of Secreta Secretorum and the anonymous Two Cookery Books (E.E.T.S.); its frequency in Lydgate is presumably due to metrical exigencies and to imitation of Chaucer, in whom it is fairly common, whereas it is almost entirely absent from the works of Gower. In the 16th century it was adopted as an archaistic feature from Chaucer and Lydgate by many poetical writers, among whom are Phaer, Sylvester, Arthur Hall, and, above all, Spenser. In the 17th cent. Henry More is a prominent user of these pa. pples., and in the 18th cent. Thomson and other Spenserians have many examples. Some of the most commonly occurring words are *ybent*, *ybound*, *ybrought*, *yclad*, *yclept*, *ydyght*, *ydrad*, *ypent*, *ypight*, *ywrought*.

In modern dialects its use in the form *a* (a) extends over a triangular area of which the angles lie in Worcestershire, Surrey, and Cornwall; it is found also in Pembrokeshire and Wexford. Modern examples of dialectal usage are:—

1568 HOWELL *Arbor of Amities* 36 b, In husbandry, icham truly, ycounted to excell. 1605 London *Prodigal* iv. i. E 3 b, Such a lerripoope as thick ych was nere a sarued. c 1640 JOHN SMYTH *Descr. Hundr. Berkeley* (1885) 23 A native hundreder, beinge asked where hee was borne, answereth, where shu'd y bee y bore, but at Berkeley hurns, And there, begis, each was y bore. Or thus, Each was 'geboien at Berkeley hurns. 1746 *Exmoor Courtship* (E.D.S.) 326 Tha hast a cream'd ma Yearms, and a most a bost ma Neck. 1863 BARNES *Dorset Dial.* 27, I shall've a-meäde. *Ibid.* Gloss., *A-zet*, set, or planted. 1886 W. Som. *Word-bk.*, *Adood*, done.

5. In OE. *ȝe-* was used in the formation of adjs. from substantival stems to express the possession of, or being provided with, something, as *ȝefeax* having hair (of a certain colour), *ȝeheart* courageous, *ȝestence* odorous, *ȝewurms* purulent (f. *wurms* corruption; cf. Goth. *gascōhs* shod), but esp. with the ppl. ending -od, -ed, as *ȝefeaxod* (beside *ȝefeaxen*) having hair, *ȝehelmod*, *ȝehilmed* helmeted, *ȝehyrnd* horned, *ȝesperod* armed with a spear. The number of the latter was added to in ME., e.g. *ybonchyd* humped, (*wel*) *ycheryd* well-favoured, *ifeðered* (cf. OE. *ȝefeðerian*), *ileaded*, *ileðered*, *ypanylyound*, *iteiled*, (old) *i-yeerid*; in some instances the forms with the prefix are the more original forms of such adjs.: see e.g. FEATHERED, LEADED, LEATHERED, TAILED, YEARED. A few compounds of this class were coined by archaists of the 16th century; e.g. *ycrested* (A. Hall, 1581).

-y suffix¹ (Forms: 1-ig, 2-5-i, 4-6-ye, 4-7-ie, 4-y, 6- now only in certain cases -ey), descending from the OE. adj. suffix -ig, which represents under a common form two OTeut. suffixes *-iga-, -aga-, still distinguishable in OE. by the presence or absence respectively of mutation of the stem vowel of the sb. to which it is added, e.g. *mōdiȝ* MOODY:—*mōdaȝa-, f. *mōda-mOOD *sb.*¹, *mīhtȝ* MIGHTY:—*mahtȝa-, f. *mahtȝ MIGHT, *stāniȝ* STONY beside *stāniȝ*, *purstȝ* beside *purstȝ* THIRSTY.

OTeut. *-iga-, -aga- are differentiated forms of Indo-eur. -go- (Skr. -ka-, Gr. -κο-, L. -cu-) arising from application of the suffix to *i-* and *a-* stems respectively. In other Teut. languages the following forms are found: OFris. -ig, OS. *ig*, (MDu. -ig, -ich, Du. -ig), OHG. -ig (MHG. -ig, -eg, -ec, G. -ig), ON. -igr, Goth. -eigs, -igs; OS.

-ag, OHG. -ag, -ah, ON. -agr, Goth. -ags, -ahs; also OHG. -uh, ON. -ugr, Goth. -ugs.

When the suffix is appended to a sb. ending in y, the convention of modern spelling requires it to be spelt -ey, as in *clayey*, *skyey*, *whyeey*. When the sb. ends in -e preceded by a vowel, the e is retained, as *bluey*, *gluey*; in other cases there may be variation, as *homey*, *homy*, *liney*, *liny*, *nosey*, *nosy*.

1. The general sense of this suffix is 'having the qualities of' or 'full of' that which is denoted by the sb. to which it is added, as *icy* = (1) of the nature of, having the appearance, hardness, coldness, slipperiness, transparency, etc. of ice; (2) full of or covered with ice. In OE. there was a very large number of such adjs., many of which have a continuous history from the earliest times to the present day; in the case of some, however, e.g. *clayey*, *icy*, *rainy*, *wintry*, there is a significant gap in the evidence, which suggests that they may have dropped out of use and have been formed afresh later. There are some noteworthy instances of new formations in late OE., e.g. *dohtig* DOUGHTY replacing *dyhtig*, *dústig* DUSTY, *snáwig* SNOWY replacing *snáwlic*. To several OE. adjs. in -ig there were parallel formations in -iht, as *isig*, *isiht* icy, *sandig*, *sandih* sandy, *pornig*, *pornih* and *pyrniht* thorny; the disappearance of this latter suffix left freer scope of development for the forms in -ig.

In ME. the number of these derivatives does not seem to have been at first greatly increased; the following fresh coinages are exemplified first from texts before 1300, *dready*, *fiery*, *frighty*, *hairy* (cf. OE. *hæriht*), *happy*, *needy*, *sleepy* (but cf. OE. *unslæpiȝ*), *tidy* (c 1250 = in good condition); there are occasional parasynthetic compounds, as *sort-leui* short-lived. The addition of the suffix to non-native sbs. is at least as early as the 13th cent., e.g. *savoury* in the Ancrén Riwele. The fourteenth cent., esp. the later half, was prolific in new formations; to this period belong *angry*, *bushy*, *earthy*, *fatty*, *flowery*, *heady*, *heartly*, *milky*, *miry*, *mouldy*, *mucky*, *naughty*, *smoky*, *sweaty*, and many more. The sixteenth cent. was also a prolific period; to it belong, e.g., *cottony*, *frothy*, *dirty*, *healthy*, *leafy* (but *leavy* is 15th cent.), *mealy*, *saucy*, *sugary*, *viny*, *woolly*, *yeasty*. Others, such as *bulky*, *measly*, *noisy* (Dryden), *peppery*, *racy*, *skyey* are recorded first from the 17th cent.

Later new derivatives tend in a large measure to be colloquial, undignified, or trivial, as *bumpy*, *dummy*, *flighty*, *hammy*, *liney*, *loopy*, *lumpy*, *lungy*, *messy*, *oniony*, *treey*, *verminy*, *vipery*; some are from verbs, as *dangly*. Contextually, the application of the adj. may be narrowed in any direction, as *mousy* = (1) resembling a mouse, (2) quiet as a mouse, or (3) infested with mice. A sense 'addicted to' (cf. 3), as in *booky*, *doggy*, *horsy*, is of modern growth.

1850 THACKERAY *Contrib. to Punch* Wks. 1900 VI. 163 Grizzel had brought me an oniony knife to cut the bread. 1869 MRS. WHITNEY *We Girls* II, Bedsteads and washstands and bureaux—the very things that made up-stairs look so very bedroommy. 1891 M. MURIEL DOWIE *Girl in Karp*. xi. 144 Fretwork brackets and crystal dangly things.

2. In the 15th cent., if not earlier, certain monosyllabic adjs. were extended by means of this suffix, app. with the design of giving them a more adjectival appearance, e.g. *hugy* f. *huge*, *leany* f. *lean*. The majority of such words arose in the 16th and 17th cent.; examples are: *bleaky*, *chilly*, *cooly*, *dusky*, *fainty*, *haughty*, *hoary*, *lanky*, *paly* adj.¹, *plumpy*, *slightly*, *slippery*, *stouty*, *swarty*, *thicky*, *vasty*. In this application the suffix has not infrequently come to express much the same notion as -ish; this is particularly so with colour-epithets, as *blacky*, *yellowy*, and esp. when these are used quasi-advb., as *greeny-blue*, *bluey-green*, *reddy-brown*.

3. As early as the 13th c. this suffix began to be used with verb-stems to express the meaning 'inclined or apt to' do something, or 'giving occasion to' a certain action; in the Ancrén Riwele alone we have *slibbri*, *sliddri*, *sluggi*, *slummi*. Chaucer has *sleepy* = soporific. In the 16th cent. arose *choky*, *drowsy*, *slippy*, *sticky*; later we find *blowy*, *clingly*, *floaty*, *quavery*, *rollicky*. The immediate etymon of such adjs. cannot always be ascertained.

4. From the early years of the 19th cent. the suffix has been used still more freely in nonce-words designed to connote such characteristics of a person or thing as call for condemnation,

ridicule, or contempt; hence such adjs. as *beery*, *catty*, *churchy*, *jumpy*, *newspapery*, *piggry*, *tinny*.

-y suffix² (1-3 -ian, -igan, -ia, 2-4 -ien, -ie, 3 -izen, -ezen, -ye(n), -in, 3-4 -i, 4-5 -ey, 8 -ee, 3- -y) represents OE. infin. ending -ian of the 2nd class of weak verbs (having pa. t. in -ode and pa. pple. in -od), corresp. to OFris. -ia, OS. -ôian, -ôn, (MLG., MDu. -en), OHG. -ôn (MHG., G. -en), Goth. -ôn:—OTeut. *-ôjan. This class of verbs is denominative; e.g. OE. *sealfian* to anoint:—*salbôjan, f. *salbô ointment, salve, *hearpian* to harp, f. *hearp* harp, and contains many intrans. verbs derived from adjs., e.g. *côlian* to be cool (= OS. *côlôn*):—*kôlôjan, f. *kôluz cool, *nearwian* to be narrow, f. *nearu* narrow; it was swelled in prehistoric OE. by the passing over to it of many verbs that orig. belonged to the -æjan class, as *hatian*:—*hatôjan, -æjan to hate (cf. OHG. *hazzôn* beside *hazzên*). Adoptions of foreign verbs were regularly taken into this class, e.g. OE. *fersian* to versify, (ȝe)temprian to moderate, *offrian* to sacrifice.

By the 13th century this suffix had become restricted to the southern and western districts of England, and in the course of the century became generalized in those parts as the infin. ending of all verbs of whatever origin. The following are some examples of the extension of its use: in verbs orig. belonging to other conjugations, *brukien* (OE. *brúcan*) to enjoy, *nemni* (OE. *nemnan*) to name (Layamon); in new derivatives on native stems, *chapsari* to chaffer (Ayenbite), *grundien* to sink (Layamon), *kniȝti* to knight (King Horn); in verbs from Scandinavian, *lastin* (ON. *lasta*) to blame, *trosti* (Ayenbite); in verbs from French, not only those in -ier, -ir, -ire (the similarity of which to the ME. suffix would naturally suggest adoption into the -ien conjugation), *boili* (OF. *boillir*) to boil, *consenti* (OF. *consentir*), *herberzi* (OF. *herbergier*) to harbour, *saisi* (OF. *saisir*) to seize, *trety* (OF. *traitier*) to treat—including those of the -iss- conjugation, *norisi*, *norischei* (OF. *noriss-*) to nourish, *perissy* (OF. *periss-*) to perish—but many also of other classes, *anuri* (OF. *anourer*) to worship, *fausie* (OF. *fauser*) to fail, *granti* (AF. *graunter*) to grant, *ioyni* (OF. *ioign-*) to join, *tempti* (OF. *tempter*) to tempt (these forms occur in various texts from Layamon to Ayenbite).

This suffix has been in continuous use in the south-west until the present day, when it is the regular infin. ending of verbs when used intrans. in the counties of Somerset, Devon, and Dorset. Examples and illustrations since 1400 are:—

c1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 7 Gadere alle þe kreme in þe clothe, an let hongy on a pyn. *Ibid.* 31 Take Porke or Beef, weþer þe lyke. 1484 *Yatton Churchw.* Acc. (Som. Rec. Soc.) 115 To costs to rydy for the Chals that waste ystole xij^d. 1746 *Exmoor Scolding* (E.D.S.) 143 Thee wut ruckee, and squattee, and doattee in the Chimley Coander lick an Axwaddle. 1825 JENNINGS *Observ. Dial. W. Eng.* 7 Another peculiarity is that of attaching to many of the common verbs in the infinitive mode, as well as to some other parts of different conjugations, the letter y. Thus it is very common to say *I can't sewy*, *I can't nursy*, *he can't reapy*, *he can't sawy*; as well as *to sewy*, *to nursy*, *to reapy*, *to sawy*, &c. but never, I think, without an auxiliary verb, or the sign of the infinitive to. 1863 BARNES *Dorset Dial.* 28 The truth is, that in the Dorset verb takes y only when it is absolute, and never with an accusative case. We may say, 'Can ye zewy?' but never 'Wull ye zewy up theäse zëam?' 'Wull ye zew up theäse zëam?' would be good Dorset. Belonging to this use of the free infinitive y-ended verbs, is another kindred one, the showing of a repetition or habit of the action, as 'How the dog do jumpy,' i.e. keep jumping. 'The child do like to whippy,' amuse himself with whipping. 'Idle chap, He'll do nothen but vishy, (spend his time in fishing,) if you do leave en alwone.' 'He do markety,' He attends market.

-y suffix³ (also 3-7 -ie, 4-6 -ye) represents ultimately, through F. -ie, Com. Romanic -ia = L. -ia, which comprised under one graphic form the Greek suffixes -ia and -eia, as in L. *mania* = Gr. *μανία*, whence F. *manie*, ME. *MANIE*, L. *sympathia* = Gr. *συμπάθεια*, whence F. *sympathie*, Eng. SYMPATHY. Romanic -ia displaced L. -ia and became a living formative for abstract nouns of quality or condition; e.g. in OF. from *corteis* (COURTEOUS) was formed *corteisie* COURTESY, from *fol* (FOOL), *folie* FOLLY, from *gelos* (JEALOUS), *gelosie* JEALOUSY, and the like. When learned adoptions were made of L. nouns in -ia, this suffix was also represented by -ie, and so assimilated to -ia; e.g. F. *furie* FURY, ad. L. *furia* (whence also organic OF. *fuire*). In AF. preference was given to such forms as these over popular or semi-popular forms, e.g. AF. *accidie*, *glorie*, *estorie*, *victorie* = central F.

accide, *gloire*, *estoire*, *victoire*, L. or med.L. *accidia*, *glōria*, *historia* (Gr. *ιστορία*), *victōria*; it is the AF. forms of such words that were adopted into English (see ACCIDIE, GLORY, STORY, VICTORY).

There were various new formations in late or med.L., in Romanic, or in individual Romance languages; examples are Romanic **libraria* LIBRARY, **poesia* (for *poesis*) POESY, OF. *navie* NAVY.

This suffix has never been in English a prolific formative, but from time to time new coinages have been made, e.g. in the 14th cent. *beggerie* BEGGARY and in the 16th COOPERY (= cooper's work or ware), f. *beggar* and *cooper*, both doubtless furthered by the prevalence of the suffix -ERY. Nonce-words like *orphanry* and *tenantry* are of doubtful status, but the correspondence of adjs. in -ic and -ous to sbs. in -y has made possible in modern times the formation after Gr. types of such words as *brachycephaly*, *gymnospermy*, *synchrony*, *syntony* from *brachycephalic*, *gymnospermous*, *synchronous*, *syntonic*. The domain of the suffix is much enlarged by its constituting the final element of many compound suffixes, which receive separate treatment in this Dictionary in their alphabetical places; e.g. -ACY, -CY, -ERY, -GRAPHY, -LATRY, -LOGY, -MACHY, -PATHY, -PHAGY, -PHILY, -RY, -TOMY, -TONY.

Many important sbs. having this suffix appear as English adoptions of French words in the 13th century, as *barony*, *blasphemy*, *company*, *courtesy*, *felony*, *folly*, *jealousy*, *litany*, *story*, *villainy*; others, such as *comedy* and *tragedy*, *fury*, *glory*, *harmony*, *honesty*, *library*, *melancholy*, *memory*, *misery*, *navy*, *victory* date from the 14th century; in the 15th and 16th centuries another series of borrowings from French or from Latin appears, such as *family*, *industry*, *irony*, *liturgy*, *modesty*.

The majority denote a state, condition, or quality; others denote an activity or a result of it, as *blasphemy*, *felony*, *fury*, *harmony*, *history*, *liturgy*, *memory*, *phantasy*, *poesy*, *victory*. From either signification a definitely concrete meaning may be readily developed, which is found in *barony* (= baronial domain, body of barons), *company*, *family*, *library*, *navy*, *sacristy*, etc. The concrete application is abundantly illustrated also by names of countries, as †*Armony* (Armenia), *Italy*, †*Syrie* (Syria), *Brittany*; cf. -IA suffix¹.

-y suffix⁴, representing, first through AF. forms in -ie, later by direct adaptation, L. -ium, which was added to verbal roots (primarily i- and e-stems) to denote an act, as in *beneficium* well-doing, good action, f. *beneficere* to do good, *colloquium* conference, conversation, f. *colloqui* to speak with, *gaudium* joy, f. *gaudere* to rejoice, *susprium* sigh, f. *susprire* to sigh. The earliest derivatives of this formation that were introduced into English are *remedy* (Ancren Riwele), through AF. *remedie*, from L. *remedium*, and †*sacrilegy* (early 14th c.), from AF. **sacrilegie* or L. *sacrilegium*. To both of these there are parallel forms, †*remede* and *sacrilege*, derived from continental Fr. forms *remede* and *sacrilege*; there are several similar pairs, of which the shorter form represents a continental Fr. form, the longer the corresponding AF. form or the orig. Latin, viz. †*augure*¹ and *augury*, *benefice* and †*beneficie* (rare), †*colloque* and *colloquy*, *empire* (F. *empire*) and †*tempery* (AF. *emperie*, L. *imperium*), *homicide* sb.² and †*homicidie* (rare), †*perjure* sb.² (rare) and *perjury*, †*subside* (c1450-1553) and *subsidy*; †*ingeny* 'mind', 'intellect' has its etymological doubt in *engine* 'native talent', genius, ingenuity, mechanical contrivance'. Most of these words, together with *obloquy*, came into the language before 1500. †*Relevy* sb.¹ (med.L. *relevium*) and *suspury* (L. *susprium*) are rarities; *gaudy*, though partly from L. *gaudium*, is prob. of mixed origin; the derivation of *larceny* is somewhat obscure. *Horology*¹ (beside *horologe*) and *mystery*¹ are derived, through the medium of L. -ium, from Greek forms having the cognate termination -ιον.

This cannot be said to have been at any time a living suffix in Eng., but there appears to have been reminiscence of its function, combined with the false analogy of words in -RY, in the coining of a few nouns from verbs ending in an

r-sound, viz. *enquery* (c 1440), *inquery*, *inquiry* (16th c.), *f. enquire, inquire, expiry* (from 1752) *f. expire*, and a rare *transpiry f. transpire. Entreaty* (16th c.) is *f. entreat vb.* on the analogy of *treat, treaty*.

-y suffix⁵, representing AF., OF. *-e, -ee*, mod.F. *-é, -ée*:—L. *-ātu-, -ātā-* (see *-ATE*¹, *-ATE*²).

a. In sbs. = *-ATE*¹, as in (i) *COUNTY*¹, OF. *counte*, F. *comté*, L. *comitatus*, *f. comit-, comes* count, DUCHY, F. *duché*, L. *ducatus*, *f. duc-, dux* duke, TREATY, F. *traité*, L. *tractatus*, *f. tractare* to treat, (ii) ARMY, F. *armée*, Romanic **armāta* armed force, *f. armāre* to arm, DELIVERY, AF. *delivree*, ppl. sb. *f. deliver* to deliver, ENTRY, F. *entrée*, Romanic **intrāta*, *f. intrāre* to enter.

This suffix is represented under other forms in certain words, e.g. *assignee, committee, refugee* (F. *assigné, comité, réfugié*), attorney (OF. *atorné*), alley, journey, valley (F. *allée, journée, vallée*).

b. In adjs. = *-ATE*², as in *easy*, OF. *aisié* (F. *aisé*), *f. aisier* to ease. There are few general adjs. of this kind, but there is a considerable number of heraldic descriptive terms having this termination, the earliest example of which is *jerownde* (14th cent.), *gerundi* (1486), GYRONNY, a. OF. *geroné, gironné*, *f. giron* GYRON. Early adoptions of this class have the ending *-e*, later *-ee*, and (as early as the Book of St. Albans, 1486) often *-i*, later *-y*. With some, *-y* has become the regular form, as *barry, bendy, fretty, fusilly, gyronny, lozengy, nowy, paly* adj.², *sarcelly*; others are found commonly with either *-é, -ée, -ee*, or *-y*, as *botoné(e, -y, checky, chequee, nébulé, -y, tenné, -y, undé(e, undy)*; others, of more modern introduction, usually retain the French spelling, as *coupé, dancetté(e* (cf. *†dancy*), *écartelé, renversé, semée*; some have been anglicized with the native ppl. suffix, either temporarily or permanently, as *†besantid* (= *bezanty*), *escarteled, paled* ppl. adj.¹, *resarcelled, sarcelled*. In *wavy* (after *undy*) we have a rare instance of an analogical use of the suffix with a sb. of native origin.

-y suffix⁶, **-ie** (also 7-8 *-ee, -ey*), used to form pet names and familiar diminutives. The forms *-y* and *-ie* are now almost equally common in proper names as such, but in a few instances one or other spelling is preferred, as *Annie, Betty, Sally* (rather than *Anny, Bettie, Sallie*); in the transferred applications of these, as *jemmy, tommy, dicky*, and the like, *-y* prevails; in general hypocoristic forms *-ie* is the favourite spelling after Scottish usage, as *dearie, mousie*. The use of *-ey* is subject to the same rules as for *-y suffix*¹.

The use of this suffix in pet forms of proper names is found in Sc. as early as 1400; and in the 15th and 16th centuries instances become frequent; examples are *Cryste, Cristi* (f. *Cristin, Cristian*), *Pery* (f. *Pere Peter*), *Sandy* (f. *Sandre* for *Alisandre* Alexander), *Jamy* (f. *James*), *Michy* (f. *Michel*), *Richy* (f. *Richard*), *Roby* (f. *Robert*), *Edi* (f. *Ede, Ade Adam*), *Anny* (f. *Anne*), *Bessy* (f. *Elizabeth*). Such names were prob. modelled orig. upon forms like *Davy, Mathy* (= OF. *Davi, Mathé*), which have the appearance of being pet forms of *David, Mathou*. (Many have survived in Sc. surnames, as *Christie, Eadie, Pirrie, Ritchie, Christison, Mathieson, Robison*; *Davy* occurs as a surname in English use in the early 14th cent.)

The formation was greatly extended in Scottish and English use; whence *Annie, Billy, Carrie* (f. *Caroline*), *CHARLIE* or *CHARLEY*, *Fanny* (f. *Frances*), *JACKY, JENNY, JIMMY, JOHNNY, NANNY, Nellie* (f. *Ellen*), *PATTY, Reggie* (f. *Reginald*), *TOMMY, Willie*. Many female names have corresponding forms in Du. names with the suffix *-je*, as in *huisje* little house, *f. huis* HOUSE sb.¹; e.g. *Betty, Elsie, Hetty, Katy, Lottie, Matty, Sally* correspond to Du. *Betje, Elsie, Jetje, Kaatje, Lotje, Matje, Sellie*; but there is no evidence of historical contact.

Recently appended to surnames to form a familiar name. 1941 J. HILTON *Random Harvest* v. 352 She ran into his arms calling out: 'Oh, Smithy—Smithy—it may not be too late.' 1958 A. HACKNEY *Private Life* ix. 84 'Who's Old Kitey?' 'A Mr. Kite. He's our shop steward.' *Ibid.* xvii. 171 'Mr. Cox arranged it.'... 'You've got to be careful with old Coxy.'

The earliest recorded instances of the use of such proper names as appellatives are Scottish and belong to the beginning of the 16th century: viz. *Lowrie* (f. *Lowrens* Laurence) used for 'fox'; *Katy* and *Kitty* (f. *Katherine*), with the meaning 'lass, wench', tending to a specifically depreciatory sense, 'wanton, loose woman',

which senses belong also to the 18th century *Molly* and *Nanny* (as in *nanny-house* brothel); a few female names, viz. *Molly* and (dialectally) *Peggy*, have been used to designate an effeminate type of man.

The application of the female names to birds dates, according to our evidence, from the close of the 16th century; the wren is designated by *Kitty* and (more commonly) *Jenny*; in 1616 Ben Jonson calls a parrot *Polly*; in modern dialects *Peggy* is applied to various warblers and the pied wagtail, and *Betty* to the hedge-sparrow. Then, in the course of the 17th century, these names came to be applied to various mechanical contrivances, among which machines for spinning processes and the burglar's jemmy are prominent. This transference of application is illustrated by *Betty* (a burglar's jemmy, 1700), *Jenny* (in SPINNING-JENNY, 1783), *Jinny* (a stationary engine at a mine), *Peggy* (a washing-tub dolly, in various dialects).

Among male names the following are typical: *Johnny* is used for fellow, chap, *Jemmy* for the burglar's weapon, *Billy* for a roving machine; *Bobby, Charley, Dicky, Geordie, Jacky, Jockey, Tommy* exhibit a great variety of modes of application.

The first known instance of the application of the suffix to a common noun is LADDIE which appears in 1546 in the form *laddy*, used by John Bale; but there is no evidence until the 18th century of the generalization of *-y* for pet diminutives. Early instances are *dummie* (1595), *grannie* (1663), *dearie* (1681), *mousie* (1693, Sc.); *laddie, lassie*, and *sweetie* were used by Allan Ramsay, and these, with Burn's *birdie* and *mousie*, helped to popularize such formations in English generally; hence the appearance in the late 18th and early 19th century of *cookky, doggie, froggy, mannie, slavey*. In *blacky* and *darky* there remained something of the status of a proper name; cf. *Fatty* as a nickname. *Bookie* for *bookmaker* is a formation of a rare type; cf. *nighty* for *nightdress*.

There are two words that are generally held to contain this suffix, viz. *baby* (late 14th c.) and *puppy* (late 15th c.). With *baby* may perhaps be coupled *daddy* and *mammy*, although the evidence for these is not earlier than the 16th century; the pairs *babe* and *baby, dad* and *daddy, mam* and *mammy*, may have resulted from different phonetic reductions of original reduplicated forms **baba* (cf. BABAN), **dada, *mama*. The source of *puppy* (spelt *popi* in the Bk. St. Albans) is doubtful; *pup* is a back-formation from it.

ya (ja; jə), repr. U.S. and dial. pronunc. of (a) YOU pers. pron.; (b) YOUR poss. adj.

(a) 1941 B. SCHULBERG *What makes Sammy Run?* xi. 193 Sunset Club... They've got a new dinge band there that'll kill ya. 1959 N. MAILER *Advs. for Myself* (1961) 46 Stay off the railroads, they bleed ya dry. 1973 E. BULLINS *Theme is Blackness* 64 Won't ya please move out of the way, honey? 1980 *Dirt Bike* Oct. 8/1 All of you mini riders can start drooling now, because as soon as we can get our gloves on one, we'll test it for ya.

(b) 1946 K. TENNANT *Lost Haven* (1947) iii. 50 What ya done with ya collar? 1970 K. PLATT *Pushbutton Butterfly* xi. 138 He waved the Luger. 'On ya feet.' I got up. 1973 *Black World* Oct. 56/2 Put ya hands on 'a table.

ya: see ONE, YAH, YE, YEA.

yaa-boo, var. YAH BOO int. (and sb.)

yaas (jæs, ja:s), repr. a drawled pronunc. of YES adv., esp. in U.S. speech.

1893 H. A. SHANDS *Some Peculiarities of Speech in Mississippi* 68 Yaas, the almost universal pronunciation of yes. 1895 A. W. PINERO *Second Mrs. Tanqueray* iii. 104 Paula. Your wife? Sir George. Yaas—Birdie. 1913 KIPLING *Diversity of Creatures* (1917) 285 I've become an Episcopalian since I married. Ya-as. 1931 W. FAULKNER in *Harper's Mag.* Sept. 401/2 'Yaas,' the man in overalls said in a dry, drawling tone. 'Yaas. It got caught.'

ya bass (jæ bæs), repr. Sc. rendering of 'You bastard.'

1968 *Daily Tel.* (Colour Suppl.) 4 Oct. 21/2 We saw a film, *The Terror of the Tongs*... When we came out, we just started shouting: 'Tongs! Tongs, ya bass!' 1973 BOYD & PARKES *Dark Number* vii. 72 There was a crate of dead wine bottles... *Vino Fino* from Argentina, ya bass. 1974 *Punch* 6 Mar. p. v/1 That archetypal graffito, the Glaswegian *Ya bass*.

yabba ('jæbə). *Jamaica*. Also *yabah*. [Jamaican.] A large wooden or earthenware vessel used for cookery or storage.

1889 *Victoria Q.* (Kingston, Jamaica) May 50 The familiar 'Yabba' or earthen vessel. 1929 M. W. BECKWITH *Black Roadways* 27 Earthen bowls, hand turned and covered with a rude glaze, are always to be had in the Kingston market, but they are more rare in the hills where the old-time 'yabba' is being supplanted by tinware. 1953 *Caribbean*

Anthol. Short Stories 103 She took a handful of cornmeal out of the wooden yabba. 1953 R. MAIS *Hills were Joyful Together* 1. i. 11 Ras... spat in an earthenware yabba set beside him for the purpose. 1959 A. SALKEY *Quality of Violence* iv. 56 He picked up an empty yabah which was resting on a Bible... He... let it slip from his hands. It... splintered in jagged pieces.

yabber ('jæbə(r)), sb. *Australia*. ['It is pronounced by the aborigines *yabba*, without a final *r*. *Ya* is an aboriginal stem, meaning to speak' (Morris *Austral Eng.*.)] Speech, language, talk: applied to the speech of the Australian aborigines. So *yabber v.* (*intr.* and *trans.*), to talk, esp. in an aboriginal Australian language.

1855 R. CARBONI *Eureka Stockade* iv. 5 There was further a great waste of yabber-yabber about the diggers not being represented in the Legislative Council. 1874 BEVERIDGE *Lost Life* iii. 37, I marked Much yabber that I did not know. 1885 MRS. C. PRAED *Austral. Life* 19 They yabbered unsuspiciously to each other. *Ibid.* 28 Longing to fire a volley of Black's yabber across a London dinner-table. 1887 FARRELL *How He Died* 126 He's yabbering some sort of stuff in his sleep. 1888 'R. BOLDEWOOD' *Robbery under Arms* xxvii. They could speak a little Spanish and French, and got on with them. But Jim and I could only stare and stand open-mouthed... while they'd yabber away quite comfortable.

yabble, Sc. var. GABBLE sb. and v.; hence **yabblor** = GABBLER. (Cf. *yab, yabber* = GAB, GABBER.)

1808 JAMIESON, To *yabble, v.n.*, to gabble, Fife. 1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 204 And than sic skellochin' and shout... Was never sic a yabble! 1871 W. ALEXANDER *Johnny Gibb* xi. There was a general... clustering about him... as Samie 'yabbled' out the particulars. 1901 LAWSON *Remin. Dollar Acad.* 48 An outpost of these cacklers and yabblers sounded the alarm.

yabby ('jæbi), sb. *Austral.* Also *yabbie, yappy*. [Aboriginal.] a. A small, edible freshwater crayfish found in the eastern part of Australia, esp. one of the genus *Charax*. b. A burrowing, prawn-like, littoral crustacean of the order Thalassinidea.

1886 F. A. HAGENAUER in E. M. CURR *Austral. Race* III. 554/1 Crayfish—yappy. 1894 *Argus* (Melbourne) 6 Oct. 11/2 Small crayfish, called 'yabbies'... may be found all over Australia, both in large and small lagoons. 1897 *Australasian* 30 Jan. 224/4 The bait used is 'yabby', a small crayfish found in the sand on the beach at low tide. 1930 V. PALMER *Men are Human* vi. 49 The yabbies they had cooked in a treacle-tin down by the lagoon. 1944 *Living off Land* iii. 49 Digging out these burrows will secure yabbies... The yabbie can be toasted. 1963 A. UPFIELD *Madman's Bend* xvi. 130 Been in the water days, by the look of him. Yabbies been at him too. No blood, but hole's here. 1966 *Courier-Mail* (Brisbane) 1 Oct. 2/6 This tasty fresh water crustacean is more frequently called the Yabby, which immediately brings about a confusion with the much-used marine Yabby. 1973 P. WHITE *Eye of Storm* x. 490 Used to come here after yabbies. I'd like to poke around a bit. 1977 *Caravan World* (Austral.) Jan. 105/1 A restaurant serving fresh, succulent yabbies has opened near the Murray Mouth.

'yabby, v. *Austral.* [f. prec. sb.] *intr.* To hunt for yabbies. So *'yabbing vbl. sb.*

1934 *Bulletin* (Sydney) 24 Oct. 21/2 Here's a sport for those who... forget their bait when yabbing. 1941 K. TENNANT *Battlers* v. 53 He... asked about the boys. 'They've gone yabbing.' 1964 *Sunday Mail* (Brisbane) 5 Apr., He participated personally in yabbing forays.

yaboo (ja'bu:). Also 8 *yabou, 9 yabu*. [Hindustani = Persian *yābū*.] One of a breed of large ponies or small stout horses in Afghanistan, Persia, and adjacent countries.

1753 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) II. xiv. vii. 367 note, There are in the highland country of Kandahar and Cabul a small kind of horses called yabous, which are very serviceable. 1831 *Lit. Souvenir* 153 What in England would have been termed a capital punch pony,—in Persia, a good stout yaboo. 1880 in Ld. Roberts *41 Years in India* lxi. (1897) II. 353 Yabus 1,592, mules and ponies 5,926.

ya boo, var. YAH BOO int. (and sb.)

yacca ('jækə). [Native name.] A West Indian evergreen tree, of either of two species of *Podocarpus* (*P. coriacea* and *P. purdieana*, N. O. *Taxaceae*), or its wood, used in cabinet-work, etc. Also attrib.

1843 HOLTZAPFEL *Turning* I. 109 Yacca Wood, or Yacher, from Jamaica, is sent in short crooked pieces like roots. 1864 GRISERACH *Flora W. Ind. Isl.* 789 Yacca tree, *Podocarpus coriacea*. 1890 H. THOMAS *Untrodden Jamaica* 10 A gate composed of closely set pales of Yacca.

yacca, var. YAKKA.

yacht (jɒt), sb. Forms: 6 *yeagh, 7 yoath, yolke*?, *yaugh, yuaght, yought, y(e)ught*, (Sc. *z(e)ught*, with *z* for *y*), *yaucht, jacht, yach, (yacht), yat, yott, 7-9 yatcht, yatch* (pl. 7-8 *yatches, 8 yatches*), 7- *yacht*. [ad. early mod. Du. *jaght(e* (now *jacht*) = *jaghtschip* (lit. ship for chasing), light sailing vessels, fast piratical ship, *f. jag(h)t* hunting, chase (= G. *jagd*), *f. jagen* to hunt, chase (see -T suffix³ a).] Owing to the presence in the Du. word of the unfamiliar guttural spirant denoted by *g(h)*, the English spellings have been various and

erratic; how far they represent varieties of pronunciation it is difficult to say. That a pronunciation (jɒtʃ) or (jætʃ), denoted by *yatch*, once existed seems to be indicated by the plural *yatches*; it may have been suggested by *catch*, *ketch*.

The word has been adopted in many European languages: F. *yacht* (jak), G. *yacht-*, *yacht(schiff)*, Da. *jagt*, MSw. *jacht* (15th c.), Icel., Sw. *jakt*, Sp. *yacte*, *yate*, *yac*, Pg. *hiate*, Russ. *yakta*.]

a. A light fast-sailing ship, in early use esp. for the conveyance of royal or other important persons; later, a vessel, usually light and comparatively small, propelled by motive power other than oars, and used for pleasure excursions, cruising, etc., and now esp. one built and rigged for racing.

1557 *Voy. Stephan Burrough* in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1598) I. 294 A barke which was of Dronton, and three or foure Norway yeaghes, belonging to Northberne. 1613 PHINEAS PETT *Autobiogr.* (Navy Rec. Soc. 1918) 109 [We anchored thwart of Sluis, where came on board us with his] yoathes [the Prince of Orange]. 1616 R. COCKS *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 118, I esteemed he came to spie... whether our shipp and the Dutch yaught staid for to take the Amacon shipp. 1621 in Foster *Eng. Factories Ind.* (1906) 303 This smalle shippe or yolke is mostly ladne with pepper. 1630 R. JOHNSON'S *Kingd. & Commw.* 40 The Emperour (who yet had never greater vessell than a Punt or Yaugh upon the Danuby). 1645 in *Sussex Archaeol. Coll.* XLVIII. 129 Paid for tow and nails used aboute my Lords Yought at Pemsie. *Ibid.*, To unrig my Lord's Yaught. 1660 SIR W. LOWER *Voy. Chas. II.* 12 Jachts or pinnaces. 1664 in *Maitl. Club Misc.* (1840) II. 518 To the sailors whair his Lordship breakfast in the Zeaught 001 10 00. To the saileris of the Zaught at Owlage 003 12 00. 1666 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 10 Gunner of his Majestie's vessell the Mary yaught. 1673 H. STUBBE *Further Justif. War Neth.* 5 They who had struck their Flags... unto a Ketch of two Guns in the time of Cromwel, refuse to do it unto a Yacht of his Majesties. 1678 R. FERRIER *Jrnl.* 25 in *Camden Misc.* (1895) IX, A fair small River which ye King has there cut to take his pleasure on, there being severall yotts. 1680 ALSEP *Mischief Impos.* vi. 36 A... Man of War as big as 2 or 3 Yatches. 1688 in *Boys Sandwich* (1792) 759 About 20 small smacks and yats in the Downs. 1700 EVELYN *Diary* 1 Oct. 1661, I sailed this morning with his Majesty in one of his Yachts (or pleasure boats), vessels not known among us till the Dutch East India Company presented that curious piece to the King. 1710 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* II, *Yatches*, are Vessels with one Deck carrying from 4 to 12 Guns, with from 20 to 40 Men; and are of Burden from 30 to 160 Tun. 1766 *Ann. Reg.*, Chron. 137/1 Admiral Keppel set out for Harwich, to take the command of the yatches intended to carry over her R. Highness the Princess Carolina Matilda to Holland. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780) s.v., The royal yachts are commonly rigged as ketches, except the principal one reserved for the sovereign, which is equipped with three masts like a ship. 1790 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Miss Mary Berry* 10 July, The river was covered with little yatches and boats. 1811 *Self Instructor* 587 The Dutch yachts are chiefly used on their rivers and canals. 1839 DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* xxiii. 602 A yacht now with every luxury of life can circumnavigate the globe.

b. *attrib. and Comb.*, as *yacht-berth*, *-builder*, *-building*, *-club*, *marina*, *-race*, *-racing*, *-sailing*, *-sailor*, *-squadron*; yacht basin, a dock constructed for the mooring of yachts; a marina; yacht broker, a dealer in yachts; so yacht brokerage; yacht-yard, a yard where yachts are built or repaired.

1929 *Motorboat* 10 Mar. 20/1 For many years there has been much talk of public *yacht basins. 1952 P. ATKEY *Juniper Rock* i. 2 An engine breakdown... had compelled Roy to take the *Marsouin* limping into the yacht basin at Marseilles. 1981 L. DEIGHTON *XPD* xii. 102 One of the parking places near the yacht basin. 1846 MRS. GORE *Engl. Char.* (1852) 46 Insensible to the perils of any uneasy *yacht-berth. 1882 *Yachting Q.* July (Adv.), Cox and King, *Yacht brokers & Yachting auctioneers. 1982 N. J. CRISP *Brink* ix. 187 The yacht brokers were still in business... The pubs were still full of yachting types. 1974 J. DIMONA *Last Man at Arlington* 1. 51 In Nassau... he had managed to set up a profitable *yacht brokerage. 1868 TROLLOPE'S *Brit. Sports* 195 The Swedes are skilful *yacht-builders. *Ibid.* 217 The progressive improvement in *yacht-building during the last twenty years. 1834 G. CRABBE JR. in *Poet. Wks. G. Crabbe* I. 13 A party of amateur sailors was formed—the *yacht club of Aldborough. 1837 in *Yachting* (Badm. Libr.) II. 12 That the Commodore be requested to seek an... audience with Her Majesty, with a view to the continuance of the Royal Cup to be presented to the Yacht Club at Cowes. 1981 L. DEIGHTON *XPD* xii. 101 The Marina del Rey... has the swanky yacht club as a centre-piece. 1973 'A. YORK' *Captivator* ii. 32 The ah, sloop put into Cuxhaven... It entered the *yacht marina there, secured a berth. 1983 P. FERRIS *Distant Country* ii. 15 The yacht marina... would reopen with brand-new quays and pontoons. 1867 DICKENS *Let.* (1880) II. 271 The American *yacht race is the last sensation. 1868 TROLLOPE'S *Brit. Sports* 196 We do not mean to say that *yacht-racing has wholly escaped those sharp practices. 1833 W. H. MAXWELL *Field Bk.* Introd., *Yacht-sailing has been slightly noticed. 1856 MARETT *Yachts and Yacht Bldg.* Introd. p. ix, The designer [of a yacht] should... be... an experienced *yacht sailor. *Ibid.* 74 For many years after the establishment of the Royal *Yacht Squadron. 1933 'L. LUARD' *All Hands* 236 The proprietor of a *yacht-yard. 1980 P. MOYES *Angel Death* xx. 248 We have to get down there... to the yacht yard. There's something wrong.

Hence (*nonce-wds.*) 'yachtdom', 'yachtery', 'yachts collectively'; 'yachtian', 'yachtist', a 'yachtsman'; 'yachtling', a little yacht; 'yachty', a., pertaining to or characteristic of a yacht.

1901 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 12 Jan. 1/3 A yacht for her Majesty that would eclipse all examples in modern *yachtdom for luxurious comfort and sea-going qualities. 1861 J. G. FRANCIS *Beach Rambles* 60 The flower of the *yachtery of

England. 1842 *Blackw. Mag.* LI. 419 The assembled Thames *yachtians. 1895 *Nat. Observer* 21 Sept. 542 They went the way all *yachtists go. 1872 *Daily News* 21 Aug., The tiny *yachtlings (the largest of them measures but 10 tons, the smallest but four or five). 1892 *Field* 27 Feb. 279/2 The latest craft on the stocks—though of size that might be called '*yachty'—is... thoroughly of the canoe family.

yacht (jɒt), *v.* [f. prec. sb., or back-formation from YACHTING sb.] *intr.* To make a trip in a yacht. (Chiefly in gerund or pres. pple.)

1836 MARRYAT *Midsh. Easy* xix, We must swear that it is a party of pleasure, and that we are gentlemen yachting. 1858 S. WILBERFORCE *Sp. Missions* (1874) 243 Sir James Brooke... not content with yachting it about amongst orange flowering groves... conceived a great work amongst the Malay race. 1863 SPEKE *Jrnl.* 260 Sometimes the king spends a fortnight yachting. 1867 *Nation* (N.Y.) 3 Jan. 1/2 The only one of the owners who yachted as well as raced, by being on board his own craft.

yachter (ˈjɒtə(r)). [f. YACHT sb. or *v.* + -ER¹.] One who makes a trip in a yacht; a yachtsman.

1828 *Sporting Mag.* XXI. 341 Several East India ships... with such saucy rigging that would have made the Yachters raving in envy. 1892 *Daily News* 22 Mar. 5/4 When in Bombay he was an enthusiastic yachter.

yachtie (ˈjɒti), *sb. colloq.* (chiefly *Austral.* and *N.Z.*). Also **yachty**. [f. YACHT sb. + -IE.] A yachtsman.

1943 *Amer. Speech* XVIII. 88 [New Zealand English.] Yachty. 1965 G. MCINNES *Road to Gundagai* x. 184 One should never... leave them [sc. bottles] bobbing about the bay the way the careless 'yachties' did. 1972 *Sat. Rev.* 21 Oct. 62 Dinnie's a yachtie, he lives up on the cliff, and he's a rieh guy. 1976-7 *Sea Spray* (N.Z.) Dec./Jan. 35/2 (Adv.), Laid polyester rope. The yachties' workhorse. 1977 *Herald* (Melbourne) 17 Jan. 19/2 They are really to cater for the spillover from Port Phillip Bay as more and more yachties realise that they can be much nearer to the blue water both inside and outside. 1977 *Pacific Islands Monthly* Feb. 25 (heading) Slugged yachtie.

yachting (ˈjɒtɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. YACHT sb. or *v.* + -ING¹.] The action, practice, or amusement of cruising in a yacht; the art of navigating a yacht. *Freq. attrib.*, esp. applied to garments designed for use on yachts.

1836 MARRYAT *Three Cutters* i, Of all amusements, give me yachting. 1874 BURNAND *My Time* xxix. 279 He... never missed a season's yachting with them.

attrib. 1850 OGILVIE s.v., A yachting voyage. 1868 A. K. H. BOYD *Less. Mid. Age* 327 We had a pleasant yachting excursion. 1873 *Young Englishwoman* June 280/2, I always wear yachting shoes without heels, made of the white canvas, and with leather toes and straps, as now worn by boating and yachting gentlemen. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* Aug. 465/2 Invited to a yachting party. 1887 *Times* 27 Aug. 9 A sad yachting disaster occurred at Ilfracombe. 1894 *Country Gentlemen's Catal.* 155/1 Blue cloth yachting caps, from 8/6. 1931 E. F. BENSON *Mapp & Lucia* vii. 200 Contempt for Georgie... had been intensified by the sight of his yachting cap. 1976 'A. GARVE' *Home to Roost* iii. 37 He was wearing... a battered old yachting cap. 1983 G. THOMPSON *Nobody cared for Kate* iv. 26 Maggie... had dressed for the barge trip... She wore a yachting suit.

So 'yachting *ppl. a.*, that sails in a yacht; addicted to yachting.

1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxxix, Yachting men from Southampton. 1862 *Lond. Rev.* 16 Aug. 138 The yachting world is very variously composed.

yachtsman (ˈjɒtmən). Now *rare*. Pl. -men. [f. YACHT sb. + MAN sb.¹] = YACHTSMAN.

1820 *Examiner* No. 662. 807/1 The Royal Yachtsman. 1856 'STONEHENGE' *Brit. Rur. Sports* 460/2 A variety of sails called flying-jibs, &c., which vary with every yachtsman's fancy. 1868 TROLLOPE'S *Brit. Sports* 205 First-class yachtsmen from Harwich.

yachtsman (ˈjɒtsmən). Pl. -men. [f. gen. of YACHT sb. + MAN sb.¹] A man who owns, manages, or sails in a yacht; a man addicted to yachting.

1862 *Lond. Rev.* 16 Aug. 138 It... requires a combination of those attributes which distinguish the modern Briton to make a great racing-man or a genuine yachtsman. 1868 TROLLOPE'S *Brit. Sports* 219 Nine out of ten yachtsmen build or buy their vessels in the dark.

Hence 'yachtsmanship, the practice or skill of a yachtsman.

1862 VANDERDECKEN (*title*) The Yacht Sailor; a treatise on Practical Yachtsmanship. 1886 *St. James's Gaz.* 8 Sept. 4/2 The partisans of English yachtsmanship.

So **yachtswoman** (ˈjɒtswoman).

1888 *Athenæum* 1 Sept. 294/1 The Sea-Eagle... is much exposed to the attacks of marauding yachtsmen and yachtswomen. 1906 *Daily Tel.* 29 Jan. 9/6 A well-known American yachtswoman.

yachty (ˈjɒti), *a. colloq.* [f. YACHT sb. + -Y¹.] Of or pertaining to yachts.

1950 E. ALLCARD *Single-Handed Passage* 177 Don't use 'yachty' fittings. They are only good for the Solent. 1983 *Times* 19 Aug. 24/1 The yachts displace a lot of money which slops into the town to support... galleries selling yachty prints.

yack (jæk), *sb.*

1. A syllable imitative of a snapping sound.

1861 MEREDITH *Evan Harrington* xli, Tom... with a sound translated by 'yack', sent his leg out a long way.

2. *slang.* Also **yak**. Incessant talk of a trivial or boring nature. *Freq. reduplicated* and as *int.*

1958 J. CANNAN *And be Villain* i. 5 That blasted Primrose will have arrived by now—yak yak yak, talking Eve into God

knows what. 1965 W. KING in *Black Short Story Anthol.* (1972) 306 Then, through the yak-yak, Mac began to tell us the 'unusual something' that he had just recently done. 1972 C. WESTON *Poor, Poor Ophelia* (1973) xxxii. 205 A lot of yak in the news about the missing boot. 1983 N. FREELING *Back of North Wind* 99 The sudden head-down butt jabbed into someone's face, is a highly effective way of putting a stop to his yak.

b. An accent or tone of voice.

1957 M. SPARK *Comforters* vi. 138 He fiddled with the tape machine... The voice came with an exaggerated soppy yak: 'Caroline, darling.' 1975 *Camping & Trailing Guide* Oct. 33/1 You will hear French Canadian patois mixed with Ontario English, down-Maine tones and New York yak.

yack (jæk), *v. slang.* Also **yak**. [Echoic, or f. YACK sb.] *intr.* a. *rare.* To make a snapping sound (cf. YACK sb. 1).

1873 W. CORY *Let. & Jrnl.* (1897) 318 He opens his beak, and yacks like the young jackdaw.

b. To engage in trivial or unduly persistent conversation; to chatter.

1950 'P. QUENTIN' *Follower* v. 38 Yacked a lot. Know how she is. Talk your ear off... She yacked on about you being in South America. 1955 'H. ROBBINS' *Stone for Danny Fisher* i. ix. 65, I was busy yacking with a broad. 1956 W. H. WHYTE *Organization Man* (1957) xxvii. 359 Four or five of the girls and their kids will be yacking away. 1958 T. ROETHKE *Let.* 16 Aug. (1970) 220 I've spent nearly the whole of three sessions with my doctor yacking about you. 1958 L. WHISHAW *As far as You'll take Me* iv. 47 Didn't have any breakfast, too busy yacking about women. 1977 J. PORTER *Who the Heck is Sylvia?* vi. 57 She should have acted first and yacked about it afterwards. 1981 J. TRENHAILE *Kyril* xix. 142 Those two will yak all day.

Hence 'yacking, yacking *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1959 'S. RANSOME' *I'll die for You* ii. 29 She could sit at any bar... with an ear out for all the yacking that goes on, and pick up any amount of gossip. 1971 *Time* 7 June 31/1 [The ability] to switch away from yacking actresses and the necessity of having yacking starlets for the ratings. 1976 N. FREELING *Lake Isle* xxvii. 192 Shop-keepers... yelling in the street at yacking housewives. 1977 *N.Y. Rev. Bks.* 12 May 6/4 The sound which emerges from the pages is that of the yacking of debutantes.

yack, *var.* YERK, to beat; dial. f. OAK.

yacker (ˈjækə(r)), *sb. slang.* Also **yakker**.

1. [Echoic.] Talk, conversation, chatter. *Austral.*

1882 *Sydney Slang Dict.* 9/1 *Yacker*, talk. 1973 P. WHITE *Eye of Storm* vii. 306 She wished it had been a hospital, when she could have produced a chart, handed over... and swept off without further yakker. *Ibid.* ix. 441 Couldn't get on with me work—not with all the yakker that was goin' on in 'ere.

2. [f. YACK *v.* + -ER¹.] a. A chatterbox or gossip. b. = YACK sb. 2 b.

1959 G. MITCHELL *Man who grew Tomatoes* vi. 87 Now that will be enough ammunition for the yackers, if there are any present. 1960 'R. SIMONS' *Frame for Murder* viii. 99 'What sort of a bloke?' 'Tall. Flashy dressed. Got a slight American yakker.' 1973 *Tel.* (Brisbane) 13 Sept. 30/1 Last, but hardly least, is the yakker, who talks continually to his passengers. 1984 *N.Y. Times* 28 Aug. B-2/5 She just brought the parrot along for the ride... He was quite a yakker.

yacker (ˈjækə(r)), *v. slang.* [f. YACK *v.* + -ER⁵.] = YACK *v.*

1961 S. PRICE *Just for Record* x. 109 They're yackering away in the kitchen. 1982 *Financial Times* 20 Aug. 11/4 'Yellow Polka-Dot Bikini'—one of the scratchy 78s... —yackers melodiously while the characters gallivanted through daytime Calcutta.

yacket (ˈjækɪt), *v. slang.* [f. YACKET (Y int.) *intr.* = YACK *v.* So 'yacketing *ppl. a.*

[1953: see YACKETY-YACK(ET)ING *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*] 1958 P. DE VRIES *Mackerel Plaza* 153 All this yacketing oratory. 1969 *New Yorker* 29 Nov. 51/3 We warn them, we yacket away night and day... but they never learn.

yackety (ˈjækɪti), *int. slang.* Also **yackity**, **yaketty**, **yakkety**, **yakkity**. [Echoic.] Expressing the sound of incessant chatter. *Usu. reduplicated* or with *ya(c)k*.

1953 BERREY & VAN DEN BARK *Amer. Thes. Slang* (1954) §189/2 Idle talk; chatter... Yackety-yack... yackety-yackety. 1955 M. MILLAR *Beast in View* vi. 93 She... parks herself in the phone booth, and there she sits, yackity, yackity, yackity. 1959 S. GIBBONS *Pink Front Door* iii. 36 She went yackety-yak to Katy. 1959 L. SMITH *One Hour* (1960) xviii. 231 The TV going yackety yak. 1959 'J. WELCOME' *Stop at Nothing* vii. 113 Mildred... has been going yackety yak-yak about you to some purpose. 1976 *Billings* (Montana) *Gaz.* 26 June 5-B/5 I'm talking away, yakkity yak, and he started gasping for breath. 1982 D. BAGLEY *Windfall* xxix. 288 The Sergeant... only talks when he has something to say. Everybody else goes yackety-yack all the time.

Also **yackety-yack** (ety sb. = YACK sb. 2 a; *v. intr.* = YACK *v.*; **yackety-yack** (et)ing *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1953 M. DICKENS *No More Meadows* iv. 185 Our laundry's full of yackety-yacketing women this morning. 1958 *Observer* 15 June 15/7 A muddle-headed momma... who knows no better than to drive away her husband... by constant yackety-yack and pleas to stay at home. 1959 *Woman* 6 June 10/1 For once the place will be free of giggles and girlish yakitty-yak. 1960 *N.Y. Times Bk. Rev.* 3 July 1 (heading) How to dig the hips' yackety-yak. 1976 *Billings* (Montana) *Gaz.* 26 June B-14/8 A man working alone could never have enjoyed 'chewing the fat and the yackety yacking and drinking coffee'.

yad. obs. pa. t. of GO.

1424 in Picton *L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1883) I. 23 The Sheriffs...yadden up to the West Derby fen. **c1435** *Torr. Portugal* 1193 His squiers habite he had, Whan he to the deyse yad.

yad, var. **YAUD** *Sc.* and *north. dial.*, mare.

yadder, var. **EDDER**: see **YEDDER** *sb.* and *v.*

yae, *Sc. dial.* var. **AE** *a.*, one, only. Hence **yaefauldness**, 'onefoldness', simplicity.

a1771 *Bonny Hind* viii. in Child *Ballads* (1884) I. 446/2 I'm Lord Randal's yae daughter, He has nae mair nor me. **1864** J. BROWN *Jeems* 8 His absolute downrightness and yaefauldness.

yaf, yafe, obs. pa. t. of **GIVE** *v.*

yaff (jæf), *v.* *Sc.* and *north. dial.* [Echoic: cf. **YAFFLE** *v.*¹ and **WAFF**.] *intr.* To bark, yelp; also, to prate, nag. Hence **'yaffing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*; also **yaff** *sb.*, a bark or yelp.

1609 *Ravenscroft's Deuteromelia* 21 With all the hounds at her tail! With 'yaeffe a yaffel! yaeffe a yaffel!' **1808** JAMIESON, To *Yaff*, ... 1. To bark, ... to yelp, ... 2. To prate, to talk pertly. **1815** SCOTT *Guy M.* i, Will ye no let me hear what the man wants, wi' your yaffing? **1844** G. J. PENNINGTON *Pronounc. Gk.* 22 A yaffing eur. **1910** G. J. LAURIE in *Poets of Ayrshire* 205 He'll row for fun amang the snaw And syne yaff at the moon.

yaffe, obs. pa. t. of **GIVE**.

yaffingale (ˈjæfɪŋeɪl). *s.* and *s.w. dial.* Also 7 yippingale, 9 yelpingale, yappingal(e). [f. various echoic syllables with termination modelled on *nightingale*.] The green woodpecker; = **YAFFLE** *sb.*¹

1609 C. BUTLER *Fem. Mon.* vii. §5, H 5b, The woodpecker or yippingale. **1802** [see **YAFFLE** *sb.*¹]. **1865** *Cornh. Mag.* July 35 Mr. Matthew Arnold has very justly praised Maurice de Guérin for speaking of the woodpecker's laugh. But the West-country peasant ages ago called it the 'yaffingale', that is, the laugh-singer. **1866** BLACKMORE *Cradock Nowell* i, The tap of the yaffingale. **1871** TENNYSON *Last Tourn.* 696 The garnet-headed yaffingale. **1888** *Berksh. Gloss.*, Yelpingale, the woodpecker. **1906** G. A. B. DEWAR *Faery Year* 198 The statement of the gamekeeper that he had seen a 'black yappingal'.

yaffle (ˈjæf(ə)l), *sb.*¹ *dial.* Also -el, -il. [Echoic of the laughing cry of the bird: cf. **YAFFLE** *v.*¹ (See also **HICKWALL**.)] The green woodpecker.

1792 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Desmond* I. 173, I remember the cry of the wood-peckers, or yaffils, as we call them in that country [sc. Kent]. **1802** MONTAGU *Ornish. Dict.* (1831) 385 Green Woodpecker... Yappingale. Yaffle or Yaffler. **1856** KINGSLEY *South Wind* ii. Poems (1889) 292 O blessed yaffil, laughing loud! **1893** D. JORDAN & JEAN A. OWEN *Forest Tithes* 126 On their grey trunks the yaffle sbins about, yells, laughs, and yikes to his heart's content.

yaffle, sb.² *dial.* [f. **YAFFLE** *v.*¹]

1. A bark, a yelp.
1836 *Fraser's Mag.* XIII. 662 My faithful dog... sent up a loud 'yaffle'. **1856** AIRD *Winter Day* Poet. Wks. 192 The petulant yaffle of the eottage cur.
2. The call of the green woodpecker.
1955 D. A. BANNERMAN *Birds Brit. Isles* IV. 77 It [sc. the green woodpecker] is a bird which attracts attention by its loud cry or 'yaffle'. **1976** *Southern Even. Echo* (Southampton) 12 Nov. 18/4 The yaffle of a green woodpecker and needle-like sounds from the tits and goldcrests.

yaffle, v.¹ *dial.* [Echoic.] *intr.* a. To bark sharply, as a dog; to yelp. (Cf. **YAFF** *v.*) b. To talk indistinctly, to mumble. c. Of a woodpecker: To utter its characteristic cry. (Cf. **YAFFLE** *sb.*¹, **YAFFLER**.) Hence **'yaffling** *ppl. a.*

1847 HALLIWELL, *Yaffle*, ... to bark. Same as *Yaff*. **1848** A. B. EVANS *Leicestersh. Words*, *Yaffle*, to yelp, or bark like a little dog... A yaffling little cur. **1875** *Ånderida* xvi. II. 26 Then came three or four sounding taps from a woodpecker's beak, and a yaffling laugh as he flew away. **1887** *L'pool Daily Post* 12 Aug. 4/5 Yaffling little pet dogs.

yaffle (ˈjæf(ə)l, ˈjɒf(ə)l), *v.*² *dial.* Also **yoffle**. [Echoic.] *intr.* To eat or drink, esp. noisily or greedily.

1788 GROSE *Dict. Vulgar T.*, *Yaffling*, eating. **a1821** J. W. MASTERS *Dick & Sal at Canterbury Fair* in Parish & Shaw *Dict. Kentish Dialect*. (1887) p. xx, Sa when we lickt de platters out, An yoffled down de beer. **a1935** T. E. LAWRENCE *Mint* (1955) viii. 30 You bloody swaddies can't half yaffle.

yaffler (ˈjæflə(r)). *dial.* [f. **YAFFLE** *v.*¹ + -ER¹.] The green woodpecker: = **YAFFLE** *sb.*¹

1802 [see **YAFFLE** *sb.*¹]. **1840** MACGILLIVRAY *Brit. Birds* III. 91 *Picus viridis*. The Green Woodpecker... Yaffler. Yappingale. **1863** J. C. ATKINSON *Stanton Grange* 70 Ta'n't a yaffler's [nest]; it's a black and white woodpecker's. **1906** *Sat. Rev.* 10 Feb. 169/1, I thought that would touch you, woodpecker! Ha, ha, ha— who's the yaffler now?

† **y-aforsayde** [Y- 4], aforesaid.

1422 YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* 147 And as y-aforsayde thes bene the four cardynall vertues.

yag (jæg). Also **YAG**. [f. the initial letters of yttrium aluminium garnet.] A synthetic crystal of yttrium aluminium garnet, used in certain lasers and as a simulated diamond in jewellery.

1964 *Q. Rep. Bell Telephone Lab.* No. 2 (AD 439-628). 3 The splitting of the F_j...manifolds of the trivalent Europium and Terbium ions...has been used to calculate

crystal field parameters for Eu and Tb in YAG. **1964** *Appl. Physics Lett.* V. 201/2 Predictions of the laser behavior were tested on singly and doubly doped YAG crystals. **1971** *Daily Tel.* 22 Nov. 13 Have you got a yag yet? They are the latest form of simulated diamonds. Almost as hard as a sapphire, which is almost as hard as a diamond, they are 'grown' in America, brought over here to be faceted, set in 18-carat gold in Hatton Garden and sold as Diamonairs. **1977** *Jrnl. R. Soc. Arts CXXV.* 779/2 The YAG laser... is used routinely... for trimming resistors. **1979** [see **SIMULANT** *sb.*]. **1984** *National Geographic* Mar. 341/2 A flash lamp can excite atoms of neodymium, a rare earth, in a rod of YAG.

|| **yagé** (ˈjɑːʒeɪ, ˈjɑːxe). Also **yage**, **yajé**. [Amer. Sp.] a. A South American liana of the genus *Banisteriopsis* used by the Indians to make a hallucinogenic infusion. b. The drink made from this.

1924 C. W. DOMVILLE-FIFE *Among Wild Tribes of Amazons* xvi. 229 A curious potion is made from a plant called *yagé*. **1931** *Jrnl. Washington Acad. Sci.* XXI. 487 One of the most interesting plants found in the region of the upper courses of the Putumayo and Caquetá Rivers [in Colombia] is the *yagé*. The Indians make a beverage from either the wild or cultivated *yagé*, boiling it in a large earthenware vessel an entire day... They add to the *yagé* the leaves and the young shoots of the *oco yagé* or *chagro panga*... and it is the addition of this plant which produces the 'bluish aureole' of their visions. **1945** F. R. FOSBERG in F. Verdoorn *Plants & Plant Sci. Lat. Amer.* 28/1 Two other plants... are used by the Amazonian Indians for their narcotic effect. *Maikoa* (*Brugmansia arborea*) and *yagé* or *caapi* (*Banisteriopsis caapi*) both produce hallucinations. **1953** W. BURROUGHS *Junkie* xv. 149 Maybe I will find in yage what I was looking for in junk and weed and coke. **1960** *Spectator* 29 July 176 Yage, a vine-bark stew... supposedly invests the user with telepathic powers. **1969** *Science* 17 Jan. 253/2 The Siona of today frequently mix *Datura* leaves with *Banisteriopsis* in preparing *yajé*. **1975** *High Times* Dec. 80/1 You trek 900 miles overland into the Amazon jungle to sample *yagé* in its natural habitat. **1977** LEWIS & ELVIN-Lewis *Med. Bot.* xviii. 413/1 No more interesting or complex narcotic drink can be found than ayahuasca, caapi, or yaje.

yager (ˈjeɪgə(r)). Anglicized spelling of G. *jäger*, *jaeger*: see **JÄGER** 1, 2.

1804 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 424/2 The light companies and yagers were sent out and skirmished. **1809** BYRON *Bards & Rev.* xv, All hail, M.P... At whose command 'grim women' throng in erowds... With 'small gray men', 'wild yagers', and what not. **1809** CAMPBELL *Gert. Wyom.* iii. xxi, And first the wild Moravian yagers pass. **1812** *Examiner* 7 Sept. 562/1 The 8th Uhlans, and the 10th regiments of foot Yagers; both Poles, are nearly cut up. **1876** BANCROFT *Hist. U.S.* V. lviii. 176 He [sc. the landgrave] bargained to supply four hundred Hessian yagers, armed with rifled guns.

b. An obsolete kind of rifle. Also **yager rifle**. **U.S.**

1817 E. P. FORDHAM *Narr. Trav.* (1906) 141 Sent the two P...s... for the yager rifle, and the Wallet. **1826** T. FLINT *Francis Berrian* I. 60 Their trade with the Americans supplied them with rifles and yagers. **1840** C. F. HOFFMAN *Greyslaer* i. i, He instantly brought his yager to his shoulder. **1848** H. W. HERBERT *Field Sports U.S.* II. 254 Throughout the South and South-West... the yager, as it is called, or short-barrelled, large-bored piece, is universally preferred. **a1918** G. STUART *40 Yrs. on Frontier* (1925) I. 187 Nine Pipes... came to get a nipple to put on his Yager rifle.

yager, yagger, var. **JAGGER**³.

yagger, var. **JAGGER**² *dial.*, pedlar.

1821 SCOTT *Pirate* v, I would take the lad for a yagger, but he has rather ower good havings, and has no pack.

Yaghan, var. **YAHGAN**.

Yaghnobi (jɑːɡ'nəʊbi). Also **Yagnobi**. A modern Iranian language spoken by the Yaghnobs in parts of Tadzhikistan.

1932 W. L. GRAFF *Lang. & Languages* x. 372 Many... Iranian dialects... are spoken over large areas of Asia. The chief among them are the Caspian, the Kurdish... the Yagnobi, and the Ossetic dialect. **1960** *Language* XLIV. 281 The alternative is to assume the more traditional view that Sogdian is a descendant of Avestan, and Yaghnobi of Sogdian. **1974** *Encycl. Brit. Macropædia* IX. 451/2 Yaghnobi is still spoken by a small number of people southeast of Samarkand. It has two main dialects.

Yagi (ˈjɑːgi). *Broadcasting*. The name of Hidetsugu Yagi (b. 1886), Japanese scholar and electrical engineer, used *attrib.* and *absol.* to designate a highly directional aerial that he invented (*Proc. IRE* (1928) XVI. 715) for receiving or transmitting VHF or UHF waves within a narrow frequency band, consisting of a number of short rods mounted transversely on an insulating support that points towards the signal source.

1943 *Gloss. Terms Telecomm. (B.S.I.)* 66 The term *Yagi aerial*, which relates to a particular form of end-fire array, should not be used as a generic term for all end-fire arrays. **1950** *Austral. Jrnl. Sci. Res. A.* III. 20 The array of nine Yagis in three groups of three, one wavelength apart, is fixed on an equatorial mounting. **1951** A. C. CLARKE *Sands of Mars* iv. 42 He produced a rough sketch of a simple Yagi aerial. **1960** *Practical Wireless* XXXVI. 362/2 (Adv.), 2 Metre beam 5 element W.S. Yagi. **1975** L. DEIGHTON *Yesterday's Spy* xi. 88 Did he think we needed the eight Yagi aeriels for TV?

Yagnobi, var. **YAGHNOBI**.

yagona: see **YANGGONA**.

yaguarondi, -undi, var. **JAGUARONDI**.

yah (jaɪ), *int.*¹ (and *sb.*) Also **ya**, **yar**. [Echoic.] An exclamation of disgust, aversion, or malicious defiance. Also used loosely as a vague or meaningless exclamation.

1812 H. & J. SMITH *Rej. Addr., Rebuilding* v, While shout and scoff, Ya! ya! off! off! Like thunderbolt on Surya's eardrum fell. **1840** DICKENS *Old C. Shop* lxii, 'A very excellent lodger, sir. I hope we may not lose him.' 'Yah!' cried the dwarf. 'Never thinking of anybody but yourself.' **1863** KINGSLEY *Water-Bab.* iv, He turned to bay... and bit the professor's finger till it bled. 'Oh! ah! yah!' cried he. *Ibid.* v, 'Yah!'... 'you little meddlesome wretch.' **1863** READE *Hard Cash* xi, 'What him mean? what him mean? Yah! yah!' **1868** HOLME LEE *B. Godfrey* xxxvi, Gerrard, with a 'yah!' of repulsion, dropped the thing. **1890** HENTY *With Lee in Virg.* 299 'Yah!' the old man shouted. 'Do you suppose we are going to give in to five men?' Hence **yah** *v. intr.*, to shout 'yah!' *nonce-wd.*

1904 *Sat. Rev.* 23 Jan. 101 Yahing at Russia and cheering the 'brave little Japs'.

yah, int.² Repeated, **yah! yah!**, denoting a perverted or affected pronunciation of 'hear! hear!'

1886 H. W. LUCY *Diary Gladstone Parl.* 349 There are cheers of various kinds. There is Mr. Alderman Fowler's deep-chested 'Yah, yah, yah!' **1887** *Punch* 21 Mar. 132/1, I used to call out Yah! yah! as I do in House of Commons.

yah (jaɪ, ja), *adv.* Dialectal for 'yea' or 'yes'; or in representations of Ger. or Du. speech. Cf. the earlier **YAW** *adv.*

1863 A. J. MUNBY *Diary* 20 Aug. in D. Hudson Munby (1972) 170 'Dus Jaan Brahn work here?' 'Yah!' said some of the maidens: 'Aye!' said others. **1889** RIDER HAGGARD *Allan's Wife* iv, 'Yah! yah! hold a light', put in one of the Boers. **1899** *Daily News* 5 Apr. 5/1 'Yah,' which the rustics of the Peak frequently use for 'Yes,' and which they employed exclusively thirty years ago. **1905** *Ibid.* 23 May 4/7 America... has two substitutes for 'yes.' One of them is 'yep' and the other is 'yah.'

yah boo (jaɪ buː), *int.* (and *sb.*) *slang* (orig. *children's*). Also **ya(a)** boo and with hyphen. [f. **YAH** *int.*¹ + **BOO** *int.*] An exclamation of scorn or derision. Also *attrib.* and *transf.*

1921 H. WILLIAMSON *Beautiful Years* 83 Willie and Jack, scornng to reply to the yaa-boos of the retreating urchins, were licking their hurts. **1926** 'R. CROMPTON' *William the Conqueror* i. 16 'Yah—boo, sofiel!' he called over the wall. **1961** *Times* 7 Apr. 20/7 It [sc. a boo] is far from a pretty sound—rather moronic, in fact—and smacks too much of the 'yah boo' which used to be the height of brilliant preparatory school repartee. **1968** [see **SUCK** *sb.*¹ 11]. **1973** *Times* 28 Dec. 8/6 People... who are tired of the 'Yah-boo' school of debate. **a1976** A. CHRISTIE *Autobiogr.* (1977) ii. ii. 76 Two small boys arrived... preparing as usual to say, 'Yah. Boo. Shan't go.' **1981** *London Rev. Bks.* 19 Nov.—2 Dec. 12/2 The impatient rejection of 'Yah Boo!' politics.

Hence **yah boo sucks** [**SUCK** *sb.*¹ 11], used similarly.

1980 'A. SKINNER' *Mind's Eye* xiii. 181 Ya boo sucks to anyone who was interested. **1983** *Listener* 22 Dec. 62/2 This is neither a tranche of free advertising, nor a yah-boo-sucks to temperance advocates.

Yahgan (ˈjɑːgən). Also **Yaghan**, -ane. [App. a native name.] (A member of) one of the three indigenous peoples of Tierra del Fuego, found in the most southerly part of the islands. Also *attrib.* or as *adj.*

1884 *Proc. R. Geogr. Soc.* VI. 348 The natives, who inhabit Tierra del Fuego and this archipelago of Cape Horn, belong to three principal tribes:...(iii.) the Yaghnes, inhabiting both banks of the Beagle Passage and all the islands in the south of the archipelago. *Ibid.* 349 The Yaghane... passes his time squatting in his hut. **1961** G. CLARK *World Prehistory* ix. 238 (*heading*) Yaghan, Ona and Alacu peoples of Tierra del Fuego. *Ibid.*, The Yaghan and their neighbours the Ona and Alacu maintained down to modern times the most southerly settlements of mankind. **1972** *Bk. of Thousand Tongues* (rev. ed.) 459/1 The Yaghan language, which once comprised five mutually intelligible dialects, is related to no other known tongue. **1974** *Encycl. Brit. Macropædia* VIII. 1159/2 The Yaghan are canoe-using fishermen and shellfish gatherers. **1983** *Times* 9 July (Saturday Suppl.) 2/8 Of the poor, ill-clad and wretched Yaghnes there is only one left.

yahoo (jaɪˈhuː), *sb.*

1. A name invented by Swift in *Gulliver's Travels* for an imaginary race of brutes having the form of men; hence *transf.* and *allusively*, a human being of a degraded or bestial type. (Cf. **HOUYHNHM**.) Freq. in mod. use, a person lacking cultivation or sensibility, a philistine; a lout, a hooligan.

1726 SWIFT *Gulliver* iv. ii, The Fore-feet of the Yahoo differed from my Hands in nothing else, but the Length of the Nails, the Coarseness and Brownness of the Palms, and the Hairiness on the Backs. **1764** REID *Inquiry* i. §5. 28 At the expence of disgracing reason and human nature, and making mankind yahoos. **1772** GRAVES *Spir. Quix.* iv. x, To see a noble creature start... at the passionate exclamation of a mere Yahoo of a stable-boy. **1829** MACAULAY *Mill on Govt.* Misc. Writ. (1868) 143/1 Because civilised men, pursuing their own happiness in a social state, are not Yahoos fighting for carrion. **1861** H. KINGSLEY *Ravenshoe* lv, 'And what sort of fellow is he?... a Yahoo, I suppose?' 'Not at all; he is... a perfect gentleman.' **1904** ASHBEE *Last Rec. Cotswold Community* p. xxiii, To have... the pleasant valleys of Saintbury and Weston tramped by armed bands of Birmingham yahoos. **1912** J. SANDILANDS *Western Canad. Dict. & Phrase-Bk.*, *Yahoo*, a lout from the back-country, an ignoramus, a know-nothing. **1914** 'I. HAY' *Lighter Side*

School Life iii. 83 You must not behave like a yahoo in my mathematical set. **1943** J. LEES-MILNE *Ancestral Voices* (1975) 200, I took the young yahoo... to the station. **1968** *Courier-Mail* (Brisbane) 21 May 6/4 A Brisbane boat owner has complained that 'young yahoos' are stripping cars left at bayside boat ramps. **1977** *New Yorker* 20 June 56/2 Sarge Waller—who is, among other things, a professional riverman—later commented on Cook and Ulvi's journey and described them as 'yahoos'.

attrib. **1726** SWIFT *Gulliver* IV. iv, I told him, we had great Numbers [of Houyhnhnms]. [that] Yahoo-Servants were employed to rub their Skins smooth [etc.]. **1735** *Ibid.*, *Let. to Sympson*, I must... confess, that... some Corruptions of my Yahoo Nature have revived in me. **1751** WARTON *Newmarket* 192 That hated animal, a Yahoo-Squire. **1888** F. HARRISON in *Fortn. Rev.* Nov. 681 Pessimist pictures of human destiny and Ya-hoo theories of human life.

2. = WILD MAN 2.

c **1810-20** *Handbill*, During the Fair... Two surprising large Yohoes; or, Wild Men of the Woods, being the most Wonderful of the kind ever Exhibited. **1814** *Lincoln, Rutland & Stamford Mercury* 22 Apr. 3/5 Just arrived, and to be seen in a commodious booth, in the Crown and Anchor Yard, Lincoln... The Great Yahoo, or Wild Man of the Woods.

3. *Austral.* [Perh. a different word.] A probably mythical creature resembling a big hairy man, said to haunt eastern Australia. Cf. YOWIE².

1842 in G. C. JOYNER *Hairy Man South Eastern Austral.* (1977) 5 A contested point has long existed among Australian naturalists whether or not such an animal as the Yahoo existed. **1844** L. A. MEREDITH *Notes & Sketches N.S.W.* x. 95 They have an evil spirit, which causes them great terror, whom they call 'Yahoo', or 'Devil-devil.' **1876** *Austral. Town & Country Jnl.* 4 Nov. 729 For many years past it had been believed by the settlers of that wild part of the country, that the Walla Walla scrub was inhabited by a monster called 'the hairy man of the wood', or what all the blacks stand so much in dread of—the Yahoo. **1937** *Mankind* II. iv. 91 [J.N., a Kuntangerai, told me that big hairy men lived in the scrub at Nana Glen (North Coast, N.S.W.), and were called by the native Jarrā-wahu.] *Ibid.*, In the Mudgee district... a scrubby place was reputed to be the abode of a 'Yahu', and a resident in the Maitland district told me a 'Yahu' was reputed to live in thick scrub there. Each said he was a big hairy man.

Hence (*nonce-wds.*) *yahoo v. intr.*, to behave like a yahoo; *ya'hoodom*, the realm of yahoos, yahoos collectively; also, behaviour characteristic of a yahoo; *ya'hooish a.*, resembling or characteristic of a yahoo; *ya'hooism*, style or quality characteristic or suggestive of a yahoo.

1868 YATES *Rock Ahead* III. v, A dam low-bred lot, 'yahoin' all over the place. **1890** KIPLING *Let. in C. Carrington Rudyard Kipling* (1955) vii. 162 The grotesque 'Ya'hoodom of nipping pieces off a half-presented foetus and slamming it into the market. **1906** *Sun* (N.Y.) 17 Aug. 4/1 One dictum in a Judge's mouth can... unleash all Ya'hoodom. **1885** MASSON *Carlyle* i. 37 The infrahuman, the 'Ya'hoish, the diabolic. **1862** ROSSETTI in *Fraser's Mag.* July 70 Those 'ya'hoisms' are degrading in art. **1901** *Speaker* 5 Jan. 374/1 In the 'Scotsman' we have Ya'hoism militant.

yahrzeit ('jartsant). Also *jahr-*; *yore-*, *yort-* ('jɔ:-); and with capital initial. [Yiddish, f. MHG. *jarzît* anniversary, f. OHG. *jár* YEAR + *zît* time.] Among Jews, the anniversary of the death of someone, esp. a parent.

1852 *Asmonean* 10 Dec. 91/1 Men, who... when they have Yahrzeit, will go to congregational meetings, and oppose most violently every reform measure. **1876** GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Deronda* II. iv. xxxiv. 359 'Your mother has been a widow a long while, perhaps...' 'Ay, ay, it's a good many *yore-zeit* since I had to manage for her and myself,' said Cohen. **1881** *Fraser's Mag.* Apr. 496 On the *yahrzeit* Maier takes the boy to the synagogue. **1917** E. FERBER *Fanny Herself* 200 There would be no *Yahrzeit* light burning for twenty-four hours. **1964** W. MARKFIELD *To an Early Grave* (1965) x. 177 They buried my brother-in-law... In two and a half weeks, God spare us, he'll have his *yahrzeit*. **1971** I. B. SINGER *Isaac Bashevis Singer Reader* 303 Their 'questions' inevitably concerned the observance of a *yortzeit*.

Yahtzee ('jartsɪ). Chiefly U.S. [f. YACHT *sb.*] The proprietary name of a game (orig. 'the yacht game') played with dice and a score sheet.

1957 *Official Gaz.* (U.S. Patent Office) 1 Jan. TM 12/2 E. S. Lowe Company, Inc., New York... *Yahtzee*. For poker dice games. **1970** *Trade Marks Jnl.* 8 Apr. 563/1 *Yahtzee*. ... Boxed games; dice, boards, counters and cards (other than ordinary playing cards), all for games. E. S. Lowe Company, Inc., New York. **1973** M. KAYE *Toy is Born* 56 Initially popular as a men's game—probably because of the gambling mystique of dice—Yahtzee went on to fascinate women's clubs. **1974** *N. Y. Times* 10 Nov. 11. 37 We sat with a few friends and played Yahtzee all night long. **1977** *Monitor* (McAllen, Texas) 19 June 5c/1 Following the dinner, members met... and spent the evening listening to music and playing Yahtzee.

Yahudi (jə'hʊ:di). Also 9 Yahooda, -ee, Yehoodi; Yehudi. [Arab. *yahūdī*, Heb. *yehudi* JEW *sb.*] In Arabic-speaking or Muslim countries (in form *Yahudi*), and in some Jewish use, and hence in (chiefly U.S.) *slang* (in form *Yehudi*): a. A Jew; Jews. b. *attrib.* as *adj.* Jewish.

1823 C. M. DOUGHTY *Trav. Arabia Deserta* II. 382 When I was trafficking in Irāk, I had dealings with a certain Yahūdi. **1858** *Asmonean* 19 Mar. 180/3 We are credibly informed that not less than eight hundred families of Yehoodim... are utterly destitute. **1862** J. A. GRANT *Jnl.* 14 Aug. in *Walk across Africa* (1864) xi. 264 Frij and all Seedees

believe that the Jews, or Yahooodee, living in Calcutta, seize people, and tie them up by the heels till blood falls from them into a dish. **1900** G. ADE *More Fables* 117 The flip Yahooda, with the City Education and Thirty Centuries of Commercial Training... saw that here was a Chance to work off some Old Stock. **1930** R. L. STRAUSS *Amer. Remnant* 117 Dot *mensch* certainly knew his bisness... and look at all the *Yehudim* here too! **1932** [see HUBSHEE *sb.* and a.]. **1959** I. JEFFERIES *Thirteen Days* i. 16 As far as the Yehudis were concerned I knew the dirt that was being done. *Ibid.* vi. 83 We ate well, and drank a good Yehudi wine. **1977** *Washington Post* 17 June c-5/3, I see the hate in your eyes, you Yahudi (Jewish) whore, and when we go to work on you, you'll be sorry.

Yahvism, -vist, etc.: see JAHVISM.

Yahweh (jə:wei). Formerly also Jahveh, Yahveh, Yahwe. The usual form, among scholars, of the personal name of God in the Old Testament, representing the most likely vocalization of the 'sacred tetragrammaton' YHWH (see JEHOVAH).

1869 J. E. CARPENTER tr. *Ewald's Hist. Israel* II. 130 Jahveh alone was the true defence. **1885** *Studia Biblica* I. 3 Delitzsch... propounds the following theory. The forms *Yahu*, *Yah*,... are of foreign origin. The form *Yahweh*, on the other hand, is distinctively Hebrew. **1892** MONTEFIORE *Hibbert Lect.* 45 Yahveh, to the Israelite, was emphatically the God of Right. **1899** R. H. CHARLES *Eschatol., Heb., Jew. & Chr.* 8 As the natural God, Yahwè was the invisible Head of the nation. **1913** H. W. ROBINSON *Relig. Ideas of Old Test.* iii. 53 No certain evidence for the pre-Mosaic use of the form *Yahweh*... seems yet to have been brought forward. **1936** W. L. WARDLE *Hist. & Relig. Israel* viii. 147 God reveals to Moses as something previously unknown that his name is *Yahweh*. **1958** S. GODMAN tr. *Noth's Hist. Israel* i. ii. 99 In Jos. xxiv, there is no mention at all of sacrifices, but rather of a profession of faith in *Yahweh*. **1973** D. J. WISEMAN *Peoples Old Testament Times* p. xxi, The Sinai covenant was the seal of *Yahweh's* choice of the people. **1984** *Church Times* 23 Nov. 7/2 He is a New Testament scholar concerned to expound... the growth of the biblical idea of *Yahweh* as the God who cares for the poor.

yai, graphic variant of *pai*, obs. f. THEY: see TH and Y.

yaid, **zaid**, var. YAUD.

yaik, **zaik**, obs. Sc. ff. ACHE *v.*

yailing, variant of YILING.

† **yain**, *v.* Obs. Forms: 1 *gizegnian*, 3 *azeine*, *zene*, 4 *zeyne*, *zayne*. [OE. (Northumb.) *gizegnian*, **onzeagnian*, corresp. to OHG. *gaganan*, *gagenan*, ON. *gegna* (whence GAIN *v.*), f. *zegn-*, *onzezn* against (see AGAIN *adv.*)]

1. *trans.* To meet, encounter, oppose.

a **1000** *Rit. Dunelm.* (Surtees) 45/23 [*justitia*] *obviabit illi quasi mater honorificata*, [soðfæstnis] *gizegnæð him sovelce moder arwyðe*. c **1205** *Lay.* 17854 He... azeineden pere uerde þe icumen wes to ærde. a **1250** *Owl & Night*. 845 Abid abid me shal þe zene [v.r. yene]. **13**... *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1724 Loude he was zayned, with garande speche.

2. *intr.* To avail: = GAIN *v.*¹ 1.

c **1325** *Minor Poems* fr. *Vernon MS.* 661 For heer but gif we make vs euene, þer may no miht ne ziftes zeyne.

yair, **yare** (jæ(r)), *sb.* Sc. and north. *dial.* Forms: 2-3 *ihar*, *yhar*, 3 *yhare*, (*yere*), 3-9 *yare*, 4 *yar*, 4-6 *yaire*, 5 *zar*, 6-9 *yair*, 9 *yaar*. [OE. *ȝear*, *ȝer*, recorded in comb. *mylengear*, -*ȝer* 'mill-yair'.]

a. An inclosure extending into a tide-way in a river or on the sea-shore, for catching fish; a fishgarth.

1178-1219 *Chartulary of Abbey of Lindores* (S.H.S.) 11 Omnes piscarias in they... preter vnam piscariam meam, scilicet, vnam iharam ad colerike. c **1200** *Newminster Cartul.* (Surtees) 15 Piscarias meas de Benton in Tyna, &c. Hames yhare et Burnemuth yare. **1369** *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* (1814) 66/1 Cum piscariis infra aquas de Northesk, et Suthesk, in crois, yaris, et Rethibus. **1408** *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 53 In cccc sperlynges de nostro ȝar, ijs. **1511** *Exch. Rolls Scot.* XIII. 443 *note*, With all woddis, forestis, wateris, lowis, yairis and fischingis thaireof bath in fresch water and in salt. **1580** *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1882) IV. 553 The demolescheing and doun casting of the cruvis and yairis on the watter of Forth. c **1680** *Macfarlane's Geogr. Collect.* (S.H.S.) III. 211 Some of them [sc. herrings]... are taken in the Yairs. **1791** *Statist. Acc. Scot.* I. 282 There are a good number of salmon caught on the sea coast [Kiltearn]... by means of yaires, or small inclosures, built in a curve or semicircular form near the shore. At high water the salmon comes within these yaires, and at low water is easily taken. **1793** *Ibid.* VIII. 597 They erect what are called *yares*, a sort of scaffold projecting into the water; upon which they build little huts...; from these scaffolds they let down... their nets. **1883** *Standard* 10 May 3/6 He... destroyed a yare in which they often caught a number of herrings.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*: *yair-fishing*, fishing by means of yairs; *yair-net*, a long net fixed by poles and extending into a river so as to form a yair.

1796 *Statist. Acc. Scot.* XVII. 217 The Zair or Yair Fishings, so productive in this parish [sc. Cardross]. **1805** *State v. Leslie of Powis* 109 (Jam.) The yare-net is about thirty-six fathoms in length, and about two and one-half fathoms in depth. *Ibid.* 356 The... yare nets extend at least three fourths across the channel of the river.

yair (jæ(r)), *adv.* Austral. var. of YEAH *adv.*

1953 A. UPFIELD *Venom House* i. 3 'You manage all right without brakes?' 'Yair. Nothing wrong with the ruddy

engine to ease her up.' **1959** S. H. COURTIER *Death in Dream Time* xii. 164 'My coat still there?' 'Yair.' **1964** R. BRADDON *Year Angry Rabbit* (1967) i. 8 'You can virtually rig the ballot in two of our most important rural divisions?' 'Yair,' said Alfili. **1977** C. McCULLOUGH *Thorn Birds* xv. 344 Yair, but in the glasshouse youse don't keep getting shot at. **1980** *Herald* (Melbourne) (City ed.) 14 Apr. 2/2 Yair, but it was only in Melbourne.

yair, graphic variant of *pair*, obs. f. THEIR, THERE: so *yairfor*, *yairof*, etc., obs. Sc. ff. THEREFORE, THEREOF, etc.

yait(t): see GATE *sb.*¹

yajé, var. YAGÉ.

yak (jæk, jæk). [Tibetan *gyag* (Jäschke).]

a. A bovine animal (*Bos grunniens*), found wild and domesticated in Tibet and other high regions of central Asia, having the body and tail covered with long silky hair, which is made into various fabrics; the tails are used for decoration, and in India as fly-flappers (see CHOWRY).

1795 *Asiatick Res.* IV. 351 The Yak of Tartary... is about the height of an English bull. **1799** S. TURNER *Embassy Tibet* (1800) 186 The black chowry-tailed cattle... the Yak of Tartary. **1862** TORRENS *Trav. Tartary* etc. 125 The oxen mostly used in Ladak are hybrids between the yak and the common cow. **1893** DUNMORE *Pamirs* I. 246, I remounted my yak. **1903** *Athenæum* 1 Aug. 163/1 Only in the valleys does scanty scrub give sustenance to the yaks, on whose services the travellers depended.

b. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *yak corps*, -*hair*, -*herd*, -*tail*; *yak butter*, butter made from the milk of the yak; *yak lace*, a heavy kind of lace made from the hair of the yak.

1962 L. DAVIDSON *Rose of Tibet* v. 87 He had bought tea bricks... and a large cake of *yak butter. **1980** *Times* 12 Aug. 10/1 Crowds file through the little shrine rooms lit by flickering lamps of yak butter. **1904** *Times* 18 Jan. 5/6 The transport difficulties are still enormous, though the *Yak Corps is working well. **1905** E. CANDLER *Unveiling of Lhasa* xiv. 268 A heavy curtain of *yak-hair hangs above the entrance-gate. **1958** *Illustr. London News* 13 Dec. 1041/1 Greatest of all the village-festivals was the *Dumje*, celebrated in early July, before the villagers dispersed with their *yak-herds to the high pastures. **1872** *Young Englishwoman* Nov. 606/1 The trimming consists of a narrow passementerie border and black *yak lace. **1882** CAULFIELD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework* 525 *Yak Lace*... is a coarse Pillow Lace, made in Buckinghamshire and Northampton... The material used is from the fine wool of the Yak. **1902** *Q. Rev.* July 42 Strange gifts from the East... *yak-tails and peacock feathers.

yak, obs. Sc. f. ACHE *v.*; dial. f. OAK.

yak, var. YACK *sb.*, *v.*

|| **yakamik** (jækəmik). Native name of a South American bird allied to the cranes, *Psophia crepitans*, also called Trumpeter, domesticated by the Indians.

In recent Dicts.

|| **yakdan** (jakda:n). Also 9 yakhdan. [Pers. *yakhdān* ice-house, (also) portmanteau, f. *yakh* ice + *dān*, (affix denoting) what holds or contains anything.] In Iran, a trunk or portmanteau.

1824 J. J. MORIER *Adv. Hajji Baba* II. vii. 112, I was in want of a pair of *yakhdans*, or trunks. **1922** *Blackw. Mag.* June 761/1 The bachelor's rule should be never to possess anything which he cannot squeeze into a yakdan. **1954** J. MASTERS *Bhowani Junction* xxxvii. 320 Then he delved in a yakdan and brought out some food I'd had cooked. **1978** 'M. M. KAYE' *Far Pavilions* i. 13 Four locked *yakdans* containing botanical specimens.

yaketty, var. YACKETY *int.*

yakhdan, var. YAKDAN.

Yakima (jækimə), *sb.* and *a.* Also 9 Yacama; Iakima. [Native name.] A. *sb.* a. (A member of) a group of American Indians who lived in the area of the Columbia and Yakima Rivers in south central Washington before their confinement, with other tribes, on the Yakima Reservation in 1858; since then, (a member of) the Indians of this reservation. b. The language of the Yakima, a member of the Sahaptin group. B. *adj.* Pertaining to or designating the Yakima.

1852 S. EASTMAN in H. R. Schoolcraft *Indian Tribes U.S.* (1853) III. *facing* p. 96 Yackimas. **1855** *N. Y. Herald* 15 Nov. 2/3 All the Yacama Indians are in the field, and the war has fairly begun. **1857** *Spirit of Times* 4 July 277/3, I have... become a sub in one of Uncle Sam's regular regiments engaged in the late campaigns against the Yakima. **1940** M. W. SMITH *Puyallup-Nisqually* 20 The two Sahaptin dialects, Kittitas and Iakima. **1946** J. T. ADAMS *Album Amer. Hist.* III. 84 In 1855 the Yakimas attacked parties of prospectors. **1973** A. H. WHITEFORD *N. Amer. Indian Arts* 39 The... Yakima... make baskets with thick, hard coils of cedar root strips. **1976** *Billings* (Montana) *Gaz.* 1 July 3-B/2 Indians... led by Sid Mills, a Yakima Indian from Washington. **1978** [see RANKLE *v.* 5 b].

|| **yakitori** (jækɪ'tɔəri). Also *yaki-tori*. [Jap., f. *yaki* toasting, grilling + *tori* bird.] A Japanese

dish consisting of pieces of chicken grilled on a skewer.

1962 M. DOI *Art of Jap. Cookery* 69 Yaki-tori. . . Chicken Meat . . . cut into mouthfuls . . . and soak ten minutes in *tare*. . . . Pick skewered chicken directly over fire and broil. **1970** J. KIRKUP *Japan behind Fan 4 Yakitori* stands selling bamboo skewers of roasted bits of chicken and liver. **1983** *Daily Tel.* 10 Nov. 17/2 We have planned a modest meal . . . making the main course one of two Japanese skewered specialties: one called Yakitori.

yakka ('jækə). *Austral. slang.* Also **yacca**, **yacka**, **yacker**, **yakker**. [Aboriginal.] Work, toil; esp. in phr. *hard yakka*.

1888 *Boomerang* 14 Jan. 13 The Brisbane wharf labourers . . . are so accustomed to hard yacker that they can't be happy for a single day without it. **1898** *Bulletin* (Sydney) 8 Oct. 31/2 Some [swagmen] ask for 'yacker', some's lookin' for 'graft', and some's 'after a job'. **1906** [see AFTER colloq. abbrev.]. **1909** H. THOMPSON *Ballads about Business* 91 You'll be sure to get some yacker and more country you will see. **1939** X. HERBERT in E. M. Fry *Tales by Australians* 133 It'd be a richer country if everyone . . . did real hard honest yacker. **1944** *Coast to Coast* 1943 121 They'd been shoved in the background, told they weren't wanted, all the hard yacca put upon them in the home. **1946** K. TENNANT *Lost Haven* (1947) 139, I vote we leave the Methodist part alone, and go and clear up where somebody's going to get some *benefit* out of our yacka. **1948** V. PALMER *Golconda* iv. 28 If there's a cove on this field making money at anything but hard yakker it isn't Macy Donovan. **1968** *Courier-Mail* (Brisbane) 13 Nov. 6/7 Australian scholarships have always been hard yakka. **1981** *National Times* (Austral.) 2 Aug. 29/1 He imposes some hard yakka on his readers.

yakker, var. **YACKER** *sb.*, **YAKKA**.

yakkety, var. **YACKETY** *int.*

yakking, var. **YACKING** *vbl. sb.*

yakkity, var. **YACKETY** *int.*

yakmak, *erron. form of YASHMAK*.

|| yaksha ('jakʃa). *Indian Mythol.* Also **yaksa**, and with capital initial. Fem. **yakshī**, **yak'shiñī**. [Skr. *yakṣa*, fem. *yakṣī*, *yakṣiṇī*.]

a. Any of a class of demi-gods or nature spirits, often inoffensive tutelary guardians of a place; esp. one attendant upon Kubera, the god of wealth. b. A statue or carving representing one of these.

1785 C. WILKINS tr. *Bhāgavat-Gītā* xi. 92 The *Gāndhārvs* and the *Yakshās*, with the holy tribes of *Soors*, all stand gazing on thee, and all alike amazed! **1810** E. MOOR *Hindu Pantheon* 276 His servants and companions are the *Yakshas* and *Guhyakas*, into whose forms transmigrate the souls of those men who in this life are addicted to sordid and base passions, or absorbed in worldly prosperity. **1882** A. BARTH *Religions of India* v. 164 Civa. . . sits enthroned on Kailāsa, the fabulous mountain of the North. . . surrounded and waited on by the *Yakshas*. **1928** A. K. COOMARASWAMY *Yakṣas* I. 17 The essential element of a *Yakṣa* holystead is a stone table or altar. . . placed beneath the tree sacred to the *Yakṣa*. **1931** *Times Lit. Suppl.* 24 Dec. 1042/1 The important part played by *yakshas* in Buddhist religion and art is incontestable. **1963** *Times* 12 Feb. 12/4 The highest price of the afternoon was. . . paid. . . for a fifth century. . . carving of a *Yakshi* or tree nymph, probably part of a pillar. **1971** *Illustr. Weekly India* 11 Apr. 9/1 (caption) Each *Tirthankara* is identified by the tree under which the vows of asceticism were taken and the attendant *yakshas* and *yakshinis*. **1977** *Jrnl. R. Soc. Arts* CXXV. 570/2 This seated *yakṣa*, perhaps *Kubera*, from Nagpur District. . . has only recently come to light.

Yakut (jæ'kut), *sb.* and *a.* Also 8 **Yakouti**, **Yakuty**, 9 **Yakute**. [Russ.] *A. sb. a.* (A member of) a Mongoloid people of north-eastern Siberia which now constitutes the majority of the population of the Yakutsk Republic of the Soviet Union.

1763 J. BELL *Travels* I. 240 The *Yakuty* differ little from the *Tongusians*. **1797** *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 570/2 Besides these, there are in the Russian dominions the *Nagay Tartars*; . . the *Yakouti*; and the white *Kalmuks*. **1890** J. G. FRAZER *Golden Bough* I. i. 26 When the day is hot and a *Yakut* has a long way to go. **1974** T. P. WHITNEY tr. *Solzhenitsyn's Gulag Archipelago* I. i. ii. 51 The *Yakuts* were imprisoned after the revolt of 1928. **1981** M. C. SMITH *Gorky Park* i. viii. 107 Some twenty-odd Russians and *Yakuts* surrounding a small group of Westerners and Japanese.

b. The language of the *Yakuts*, an Altaic one usually placed in the Turkic group.

1908 T. G. TUCKER *Introd. Nat. Hist. of Lang.* viii. 134 The linguistic connection within this group is very close, the languages of the extremes, Turkish and *Yakut*, for instance, being at least as distinctly related as English and German. **1951** W. K. MATTHEWS *Languages U.S.S.R.* ii. 8 Before the Revolution *Yukagir* was proscribed in favour of *Yakut* and Russian. **1976** 'S. HARVESTER' *Siberian Road* xiv. 165 The middle-aged woman translated what he said into a language he took to be *Yakut*.

B. adj. Pertaining to or designating the *Yakuts*.

1854 MAX MÜLLER in C. Bunsen *Outl. Philos. Universal Hist.* I. 279 The *Yakute* dialect became separated at a very early time from the still undivided *Turko-Tataric* speech. **1887** *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 9/1 The *Tunguses*. . . occupy as their hunting-grounds an immense region on the high plateau and its slopes to the *Amur*, but their limits are yearly becoming more and more circumscribed both by Russian gold-diggers and by *Yakut* settlers. **1963** V. NABOKOV *Gift* iv. 267 Making clumsy paper boats for *Yakut* children. **1981**

I. BOLAND tr. *Ginzburg's Within Whirlwind* II. iv. 218 He was a *Yakut* boy—or at least his mother was *Yakut*.

|| yakuza (jə'ku:zə). Also **yakusa**. [Jap., f. *ya* eight + *ku* nine + *za*, *sa* three (see below).] A Japanese gangster or racketeer; usu. in *pl.* sense, such people collectively.

8-9-3 is the worst set of cards in a player's hand at a gambling game; hence, the worst sort (K. Koike).

1964 *Newsweek* 14 Sept. 42/2 The youngsters had to listen to boss Sakamoto expound on the noble traditions of the *yakuza*, as gangsters are called in Japan. **1971** *Ibid.* 22 Mar. 42/1 The *yakuza*, or gangster, is an enduring feature of Japanese life. **1975** *New Yorker* 24 Mar. 98/2 The *yakuza* are the Japanese gangsters who in recent years have moved from gambling, drugs and prostitution into shakedown rackets. **1977** J. VAN DE WETERING *Japanese Corpse* v. 53 Amsterdam is full of Japanese. . . Even their gangsters seem to be here, the *yakusa*. **1979** *Honolulu Advertiser* 8 Jan. A-6/1 *Yakuza*—the Japanese Mafia—are thriving in Hawaii as members of a crime syndicate.

yald, obs. f. **OLD a.**, **YAUD**; var. **YAULD a.**; **Sc. pa. t.** of **YIELD v.**

yaldran, **-drin**, var. **YOLDRING**.

yale¹ (jeɪl). Also 5 **gail**, **gale**, 6 **jall**, 7 **yeale**. [ad. L. *ealē* (Pliny *Nat. Hist.*.)] A fabulous beast with horns and tusks, perhaps the two-horned rhinoceros; used *Her.* (see quot. 1910).

c **1425** WYNTOUN *Cron.* i. ix. 754 In to pat lande [sc. India] pai say sulde be Ane oper best, callyt Eale [v.r. Ane opir beist is callit Gail Into pat land forouttin fail], bat is lik al til a hors. . . And has a gret tusk as a bare. . . And in his hewide ar hornys twa. **1536** in *Archaeologia* (1910) LXII. 311 Paid to Ric. Rydge. . . for lyke cuttyng carvyng. . . and makying of. . . and jall and luncorne a dragon, a lyan a greyhonde [etc.] **1601** HOLLAND *Pliny* VIII. xxi. I. 206.] a **1660** *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archaeol. Soc.) I. 264 The Ethiopian yeale hath two hornes of a cubit longe. **1910** *Archaeologia* 313 The jall or yale. . . is a rare and strange animal partaking of the nature of the heraldic antelope, that is to say, wearing horns and a large pair of projecting tusks: . . . and he is silver bezanty, that is, white with yellow spots. He is one of the supporters of the Dukes of Somerset. *Ibid.* 314 note, The yale occurs as one of the supporters of the arms of the Lady Margaret Beaufort, mother of King Henry VII.

Yale² (jeɪl). [f. the name of the company founded by Yale (see def.).] A proprietary name for locks and keys, used esp. to denote a lock with a cylindrical barrel that can be turned only when a key with a specially serrated edge is inserted so as to displace a number of pins by the correct distances (invented by Linus Yale, Jr. (1821-68), U.S. locksmith).

1869 *Price List of Yale Lock Manfg. Co.* 3 The manufacturers of the Yale Locks desire to say a few words in relation to the recent changes in their organization, location and prices. **1875** *Iron Age* 1 July 10/1 (Advt.), Yale locks for all uses. **1885** *Trade Marks Jrnl.* 15 Apr. 346 *Yale*. The Yale and Towne Manufacturing Company (Incorporated), Stamford, Connecticut. . . Locks. Bronze hardware. **1895** *Montgomery Ward Catal.* Spring & Summer 375/2 Yale pattern night lock. *Ibid.* 382/1 Yale padlocks. **1907** *Official Gaz.* (U.S. Patent Office) 7 May 437/1 The Yale & Towne Mfg. Co., Stamford, Conn. . . *Yale*. . . Locks and keys. **1920** W. J. LOCKE *House of Baltazar* xxv. 306 The little brass Yale latchkey. **1930** W. DE LA MARE *On the Edge* 11 The Yale gear-key which usually lay in the little recess to the left of the dash-board was missing. **1949** M. MEAD *Male & Female* v. 114 Each small family is so isolated from others that no one knows how peculiar or how usual are. . . the behaviours that are shut behind each Yale lock. **1974** *Encycl. Brit.* *Macropædia* XI. 12/1 Magnetic forces can be used in locks working on the Yale principle. **1974** S. B. HOUGH *Fear Fortune, Father* vi. 45 It was a Yale key and the back door had a Yale lock. **1976** C. G. SMITH *Let. in Daily Mail* 28 May 35/2 Yale is a registered trade-mark and in no way refers to one particular lock. Since 1949 we have specialised in marketing automatic, semi-automatic and double-locking night-latches, engineered to foil the glass-breaking and bolt-forcing intruder.

b. *ellipt.*

1918 G. FRANKAU *One of Them* xxx. 235 Where each man's latchkey fits his neighbours' Yales. **1954** R. MACAULAY *Let.* 14 Mar. in *Last Lett. to Friend* (1962) 148, I have changed my lock, but they can pick 'Yales'. **1983** *Oxford Consumer Autumn* 11/2 Your cylinder-lock (what people are apt to call a 'Yale', whether it is actually made by the Yale Co. Ltd. or not).

yale, **yall**, obs. forms of **ALE**, **YAWL**.

|| yali (jə'li:). [ad. Turk. *yali* shore, waterside residence, f. Gk. αἰγιαλός sea-shore.] A house of a type found on the shore of the Bosphorus.

1962 J. FLEMING *When I grow Rich* i. 9 Most large wooden houses on the Bosphorus are called either *yalis* or palaces. **1976** *Times* 28 Feb. (Turkish Suppl.) p. i/3 Ahead. . . flows the deep blue Bosphorus. From its either shore rise green hills. . . dotted with. . . those lovely old wooden houses called *yalis*. **1978** S. SHELTON *Bloodline* i. 15 Not the tourist Istanbul. . . but the out-of-the-way places. . . the *yalis*, and the small markets beyond the *souks*.

Yalie ('jeɪli). *U.S. colloq.* [f. *Yale* + -IE.] *A student or graduate of Yale University.*

1969 *Newsweek* 12 May 71/1 One new *Yalie*. . . attended Harvard summer school and found time to visit New Haven to look Yale over. **1970** E. SEGAL *Love Story* xviii. 114 He's a *Yalie*, Ol. . . A total *Yalie*. College and Med School. **1972** *Nature* 4 Feb. 290/2 The availability of feminine companionship during the Monday-to-Friday period during which *Yalies* have traditionally gone without. **1983** *Washington Post* 21 Nov. B15/3 FDR, as editor of the

Crimson, is said to have once gotten out a special post-victory edition, sticking it to the *Yalies* just as the fans were leaving the stadium.

y'all (jɔ:l). *U.S. dial.* Also **yall**. Abbrev. **YOU-ALL pers. pron.**

1909 *Dialect Notes* III. 390 Where are yall goin'? **1928** *Amer. Speech* IV. 103, I heard a young lady, in greeting a group of her friends, say, 'How're y'all this morning?' **1935** *Scribner's Mag.* Feb. 120/2 Ah ain' gwi' be wid yall long. **1944** C. HIMES *Black on Black* (1973) 199 'Bout how much ken y'all pick, shawty? **1968** E. J. GAINES *Bloodline* 134 Unc' Toby won't feel right if y'all don't eat his lovely food. **1971** *Black World* Apr. 55 Yall woulda held a stop watch on God-all-mighty. **1982** J. S. BORTHWICK *Case of Hook-Billed Kites* xxxiv. 114 Yes, Doctor. You'll be in the breakfast room. Y'all have a nice day.

yaller, var. **YELLOW a.** and *sb.*

yalloch, **yal(l)ow**, **yalp**: see **YELLOCH**, **YELLOW**, **YAWP**.

yalt, obs. *pa. t.* of **YIELD v.**

yam (jæm), *sb.*¹ Forms: [6 *nname*, *inany*, *ignane*, *iniamo*, 6-7 *inamia*, 6-8 *igname*, 7 *ignaman*, *ighname*, *iniamu*, 7-8 *inhame*], 7 *yeam*(e, *yawm*, *yaum*, *jamoo*, 7-8 *yame*, 8 *jamme*, *jamb*, *guam* (?), *yamm*, 7- *yam*. [a. Pg. *inhame* (Clusius 1567) or Sp. *igname* (Scaliger 1557), *iñame*, *†name*, whence F. *igname* (Thevet 1575); the ultimate origin is uncertain.

The foll. quotes. contain unanglicized forms:—

1588 HICKOCK tr. *Frederick's Voy. E. Indies* 18 A fruite called *Inany* [It. *Ignami*]: . . lyke to our Turnops, but is verye sweete and good to eate. **1588** PARKE tr. *Mendoza's Hist. China* Comm. xi. 342 These people [sc. of the Philippine Islands] do more esteeme yron than siluer or golde, and gawe for it fruites *nnames* [Sp. *ñames*] *patatas*, fish. **1588** in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1599) II. II. 129 Their bread is a kind of roots, they call it *Inamia*, and when it is well sodden I would leaue our bread to eat of it. **1598** W. PHILLIP tr. *Linschoten's Voy.* i. lv. 99/2 *Iniamos* were this year brought hether out of Guinea, as bigge as a mans legge. **1600** J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* Descr. Places 52 They have good sustenance also by means of a root, called there *Igname*, but in the west Indies *Batata*. **1640** PARKINSON *Theat. Bot.* xv. xxix. 1583 This manner of planting this *Inhame* savoureth something of that of the *Manihot* or *Iucca*, wherof the *Cassavi* is made. **1665** *Golden Coast* 65 The *Battatas* are. . . in form almost like *Iniamus*. **1703** PETIVER in *Phil. Trans.* XXIII. 1460 A sort of *Inhame* *vulgo* *Yam* or *Potatoe*. **1759** tr. *Adanson's Voy. Senegal* 165 The roots or manioc, *igname* [Fr.], and *batatee* multiply greatly in open places.]

1. The starchy tuberous root of various species of *Dioscorea*, largely cultivated for food in tropical and subtropical countries, where it takes the place of the potato; also, any plant of the genus *Dioscorea* (or, by extension, of the N.O. *Dioscoreaceæ*), comprising twining herbs or shrubs with spikes of small inconspicuous flowers.

With defining words, applied to various species of *Dioscorea*, and to plants of other genera in some way resembling these. Chinese or Japanese *yam*, *D. Batatas*. *coco* or *koko yam* = *cocco*, *koko*! *common yam*, *D. sativa*, *Granada* or *Guinea yam*, *D. bulbifera*. *Indian yam*, *D. trifida*. *long yam*, of Australia, *D. transversa*. *native yam*, a name for Australian species of *Ipomœa* (N.O. *Convolvulaceæ*) with edible tubers. *red*, *white*, *Negro Country*, or *winged yam*, *Dioscorea alata*. *round yam*, (a) a species of *yam* with a round tuber; (b) the Burdekin Vine of Australia, *Vitis* (*Cissus*) *opaca*, with an edible tuberous root. *wild yam*, *Dioscorea villosa* of N. America, the root of which is used medicinally, also called *colic-root*; also applied to two W. Indian climbing shrubs, *Rajania pleioneura* (N.O. *Dioscoreaceæ*) and *Cissus sicyoides* (N.O. *Vitaceæ*); also to an Australian parasitic orchid (*Gastrodia sesamoides*) with edible roots, called *native potato* in Tasmania.

1657 R. LIGON *Barbadoes* (1673) 94 Planting provisions of Corn, Yeams, Bonavista, Cassavia. **1659** in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* (1919) July 285 To procure. . . planton rootes, cassada-sticks, large jamooes, potatoes and bonavist [in Cape Verde Is.]. **1661** HICKERINGILL *Jamaica* 16 Plentiful produce of Sugar-Canes, Tobacco, Cotton, Maiz. . . Potato's, Yames [printed Yarnes]. **1697** DAMPIER *Voy.* (1699) 12 Yams, Potatoes and Plantains served us for Bread. **1699** WAFER *Voy.* 101 Yams, of which they have two sorts, a White and a Purple. **1705** tr. *Bosman's Guinea* i. 7 Jammes [orig. F. *jammes*]. *Ibid.* ii. 16 Jambs, Potatoes, and other Fruits. **1720** DE FOE *Capt. Singleton* xiv. (1840) 236 Guams, potatoes. **1729** *Dampier's Voy.* III. 460 *Round Yam*. From the Root which is white raw, but when boyl'd red. . . *White Yam*. Its Root being of that Colour, the Leaves single and cordated. **1756** P. BROWNE *Jamaica* (1789) 360 The Wild Yam. This plant grows wild in the inland woods of Jamaica. *Ibid.* 359 The Negro Yam. **1830** LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 278 The yams, so important a food in all tropical countries, because of their large, fleshy, mucilaginous, sweetish tubers. **1858** HOGG *Kingd.* 718 The Chinese Yam (*D. Batatas*), recently introduced to this country as a substitute for the potatoe. **1864** GRISEBACH *Flora W. Ind. Isl.* 789 Yams, Indian, *Dioscorea trifida*. . . Yams, white, *Dioscorea alata*. Yams, wild, *Cissus sicyoides* and *Rajania pleioneura*. **1866** *Treas. Bot.* 411 Yams vary greatly in size and colour. . . many attain a length of two or three feet, and weigh from 30 to 40 lbs.; some are white, others purplish throughout, while some have a purple skin with whitish flesh, and others are pink, or even black. **1887** MOLONEY *Forestry W. Afr.* 433 White Bockra or Winged Yam (*Dioscorea alata*, L.).—Square-stemmed climbing plant. The roots of this species afford a much more delicate. . . food than those of *D. sativa*. **1889** MAIDEN *Useful Native Pl. Austral.* 67 *Vistis opaca*, . . Round Yam.

2. Applied to †(a) the mangrove, of which some species have an edible fruit; (b) varieties of

the common potato (*Solanum tuberosum*), cultivated in Scotland; (c) *U.S.*, a variety of the sweet potato (*Batatas edulis*).

1753 *Chambers' Cycl. Suppl. App.*, *Yams*,... a name sometimes used for the *rhizophora* of Linnæus. **c1775** T. L. *Yankee Doodle* (song) ii. in *N. & Q.* 1st Ser. V. 87 Farewell all de yams, and farewell de salt fish. **1805** FORSYTH *Beauties Scot.* II. 84 To give them [sc. horses]... a considerable quantity daily of potatoes, especially of the coarse sort, called yams. **1815** *Pennecuik's Wks.* 78 note, There is a demand for the large coarse varieties of potatoe, improperly called yams. **1844** H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 30 The varieties raised exclusively for cattle are the common yam, red yam, and ox-noble. **1862** WHITTIER *At Port Royal, Song of the Negro Boatmen*, De yam will grow, de cotton blow, We'll hab de rice an' corn. **1892** *Kilmarnock Standard* 30 July 5/2 The Negro likes his yam.

3. attrib. and Comb., as *yam-hill*, *-root*; *yam-bean*, either of two species of leguminous plants, *Pachyrhizus* (*Dolichos*) *tuberosus* and *angulatus*, cultivated in the tropics for their pods and tubers, both of which are edible; *yam house*, a building in which to store yams; *yam potato* = sense 2 (b); *yam-stick*, a long stick sharpened at the end, used by Australian natives for digging and as a weapon; *yam-stock*, a nickname for an inhabitant of St. Helena; *yam-vine*, (a) a species of yam (*Dioscorea bulbifera*); (b) the 'vine' or climbing stem of the yam-plant.

1864 GRISEBACH *Flora W. Ind. Isl.* 789 *Yam-bean, *Dolichos tuberosus*. **1887** MOLONEY *Forestry W. Afr.* 321 Yam Bean (*Pachyrhizus angulatus*), its tubers are like turnips. **1867** EMERSON *Lett. & Soc. Aims, Progr. Cult. Wks.* (Bohn) III. 228 Even the races that we still call savage... vindicate their faculty by the skill with which they make their *yam-cloths. **1864-5** WOOD *Homes without H.* iii. 85 A *Yam-hill—i.e. a bank of mould prepared for the purpose of growing yams. **1910** C. G. SELIGMANN *Melanesians Brit. New Guinea* xlix. 672 The number of *yam houses makes each hamlet look larger than it really is. **1949** M. MEAD *Male & Female* ix. 190 Among the Trobriand Islanders, each man fills the yam-house of his sister, not that of his wife. **1801** *Farmer's Mag.* Aug. 324 The *yam potatoe. **1829** LOUDON *Encycl. Plants* (1836) §2085 The juice of *yam-roots fresh is acrid. **1861** BP. MACKENZIE in H. Goodwin *Mem.* (1864) 349 Huge yam-roots, some weighing fifty pounds. **1863** M. K. BEVERIDGE *Gatherings* 27 One leg's thin as Lierah's *yam-stick. **1833** T. HOOK *Parson's Dau.* i. ii, The blonds of the Baltic, the brunettes of the Mediterranean,... and the fair *yam-stocks of St. Helena. **1792** MAR. RIDDELL *Voy. Madeira* 89 The *dioscorea bulbifera*, or *yam vine. **1894** B. THOMSON *S. Sea Yarns* 186, I should soon... see the green yam-vines.

†**yam**, *sb.*² *Obs. rare.* [a. Russ. *yam* posting stage or house, Pers. *yām* post-horse.] A posting house.

1569 TURBERV. *Trag. Tales*, etc. (1587) 147b, If riding poast vpon a trotting Nagge. If homely yammes, in stead of Innes at night [etc.].

1800 *Asiat. Ann. Reg.*, *Misc. Tracts* 236/2 Each night they reached a yam, and each week a city.

yam (jæm), *v. dial.* Also *nyam*. [Derived through W. Indian from W. African words such as Hausa *nama* flesh, meat, Swahili *nyama* meat, Fulah *nyama* to eat; ult. the same word as YAM *sb.*¹] *trans.* To eat, esp. with relish.

1725 *New Canting Dict.*, *Yam*, to eat heartily, to stuff lustily. **1801** T. DANCER *Medical Assistant* 174 [Dirt-eaters] display as much curiosity and nicety in their choice of the earth they yam, as snuff-takers or smokers in the kind of tobacco they make use of. **1816** M. G. LEWIS *Jrnl.* (1834) 256 There's rice in the pot, take it, and yam-yamme. **1841** JAMIESON *Scottish Dict.*, *Nyam*, to chew. **1846** *Swell's Night Guide* 136/1 *Yam*, to eat hearty. **1826** W. G. HAMLEY *Captain Clutterbuck's Champagne* iv. 68 They purchased the congenial [sugar-cane] plant, and *nyaming* greedily its fibre, were entranced. **1864** HOTTEN *Slang Dict.* 273 *Yam*, to eat. This word is used by the lowest class all over the world; by the Wapping sailor, West India negro, or Chinese coolie. **1905** *Eng. Dialect Dict.* VI. 563/2 *Yam*, to eat greedily and with noise; to chew. **1970** C. MAJOR *Dict. Afro-Amer. Slang* 125 *Yam*, to eat.

Also as *sb.*³, food.

1788 P. MARSDEN *Acct. Island Jamaica* 49 The negroes say, the black parroquets are good for *yam*, i.e. good to eat. **1828** *Marly; or Life of Planter in Jamaica* (ed. 2) 13 Ehl Mosquitoes hab grandy nyam on dat new buckral. **1835** R. R. MADDEN *Twelvemonths Residence W. Indies* I. 188 Him want no nyam, no clothes, no sleep. **1903** FARMER & HENLEY *Slang VII.* 368/2 *Yam* (nautical), food. **1953** *Caribbean Q.* III. iii. 176 That was a wicked Jamaican lizard 'mash up him common-law wife for mout'ful of nyam'.

yam(e), graphic var. *jam(e)*, THEM: see Y 3.

|| **Yamato** (ja'mato). [Jap., = 'Japan'.]

1. The style or school of art in Japan which culminated in the 12th and 13th centuries and dealt with Japanese subjects in a distinctively Japanese (rather than Chinese) way. *Usu.* as *Yamato-e* (†-we) [*e* picture]; also -ryū [-ryū style, orig. stream, school].

1879 *Trans. Asiatic Soc. Japan VII.* 345 Motomitsu is spoken of as the originator of the *Yamato-we*. *Ibid.* 346 Takanobu was a pupil of the Yamato riu. **1880** T. W. CUTLER *Gram. Jap. Ornament* 5 In the thirteenth [century] was founded the Yamato, or Japanese school. **1911** *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 174/1 It did not take shape as a school until the beginning of the 11th century...; it then became known as *Yamato-ryū*, a title which two centuries later was changed to that of *Tosa*, on the occasion of one of its masters... assuming that appellation as a family name. **1935** K. TODA *Jap. Scroll*

Painting ii. 19 Another important example of early *Yamato-e* is a series of wall paintings at Hōryūji. **1970** *Oxf. Compan.* Art 607/2 The demand for a more refined art from the aristocratic society of Kyoto, combined with the decline of the T'ang dynasty in China, encouraged the Japanese to incorporate more native elements in their art, especially in the picture scrolls... of the *yamato-e* style. **1980** R. ILLING *Art Jap. Prints* vi. 87 In the 1720s Okumura Masanobu and Shigenaga produced prints of landscape views, rather in the style of the older *yamato-e* album paintings, showing the *Omi hakkei*.

2. *Yamato-damashii*: the Japanese spirit.

1942 *R.A.F. Jrnl.* 13 June 6/2 He will be filled with what is called *yamato damashi* [sic] or the pure spirit of Japan. **1957** *Encycl. Brit.* XII. 954O/1 The Japanese... have been profoundly influenced by a specific type of ideology—sometimes known as *Yamato Damashii* (the soul of Japan), which was partly embodied in... the code of the warrior knight. **1974** in A. Murakami *Romanized Japanese* (1979) 23 And there was no doubt then that the warrior code... *Bushido*... and the Japanese spirit... *Yamato-damashii*... steeled the Japanese soldier.

yamboo, var. of (or error for) *jamboo*, JAMBO.

1777 G. FORSTER *Voy. round World II.* 302 The yamboos, (*eugenia*), a cooling watery fruit, of the size of pears.

yamen, **yamf**: see YAMUN, YAMPH.

yammer (ˈjæmə(r)), *sb.* orig. *Sc.* and *dial.* Forms: 6 *zawmer*, *zamer*, 8 *yaumour*, *yaummer*, 8- *yammer*. [f. next. Cf. MDu., MLG. *jammer*.] An act, or the action, of 'yammering'; a cry of lamentation, a wail; a loud outcry, shout, yell; lamentation, complaint, querulous utterance.

In Standard English only in the general sense 'a loud noise, a din' (cf. YAMMER *v.* 2).

1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxxiii. 122 The air was dirkit with the fowlis, That come with *zawmeris* and with *zowlis*. **1552** LYNDESAY *Monarchie* 6002 Than sall those Creaturis forlorne Warie the hour that thay wer borne, With mony *zamer*, *zawt*, and *zell*. **1792** A. WILSON *Watty & Meg* xxxix, While the weans, wi' mornfu' *yaummer*, Round their sabbin mother flew. **1894** CROCKETT *Lilac Sunbonnet* ix, Gin ye dinna tak' tent to yersel'... wi' yer eternal *yammer* o' 'Peats, Jock Gordon', an' 'Water, Jock Gordon', ye'll maybes find yersel' whaur Jock Gordon 'll no be there to serve ye. **1932** 'L. G. GIBBON' *Sunset Song* 16 There the din of the gulls is a *yammer* night and day. **1978** *Poetry Mar.* 328 They huddle, and their tabled ground rejoices To the flat *yammer* of their American voices. **1984** *Washington Post* 11 June B4/3 Diamanda Gala's score, consisting of shrieks, *yammers*, gasps and vocal but incoherent hysterics.

yammer (ˈjæmə(r)), *v.* Forms: 5, 8 *yamer*, 6 *zammer*, -ar, *zalmer*, 7 *yalmer*, -ur, 8 *yommer*, 8-9 *yaumer*, 9 *yaummer*, *yawmer*, *yammar*, 6, 9 *yammer*. [Alteration of ME. *zomer*, YOMER, after MDu., MLG. *jammeren*.]

1. a. *intr.* To lament, mourn; to utter cries of lamentation or distress, to wail; to whine, whimper. *Obs. exc. Sc.* and *dial.*

[c1400 *Anturs Arth.* ix, Hit *zaulut*, hit *zamer*, lyke a woman.] **1481** CAXTON *Reynard* xix. (Arb.) 47 He... fayned as he had wepte, right as he hadde *yamerde* in his herte. **1603** *Proph. of Walldhaue* (Bannatyne) 29 Thou shalt *yalmur* and yell: that al York shal it heare. **1818** MISS FERRIER *Marriage* xviii, It [sc. the child] does *yammer* constantly. **1820** SCOTT *Monast.* iv, The White Maiden of Avenel... is aye seen to *yammer* and wail before ony o' that family dies. **1861** WAUGH *Birtle Carter's Tale* 27 To see poor wortchin folk's little bits o' childher *yammerin'* for a bite o' meight—when there's noan for 'em.

b. To murmur, complain, grumble; also *trans.* to say in a complaining or querulous tone.

1786 *Har'st Rig* cii, They ever and anon stand still, And *yamour* sair; 'We're sure we do our day fulfil, And meikle mair.' c **1826** HOGG in *J. Wilson's Noctes Ambr.* (1855) I. 224 There's some souls 'll *yammer* and cheep If a win'le-strae lie in their way. **1892** KIPLING *Barrack-room Ballads*, Tomlinson 77 Then Tomlinson he gripped the bars and *yammered*, 'Let me in —'. **1894** CROCKETT *Mad Sir Uchtreid* ix, 'They chase us, Belus,' he *yammered*.

2. To make a loud unpleasant noise or outcry; to howl, yell; to roar, shout.

1513 DOUGLAS *Eneis* vii. i. 38 Greit figuris of wolvis... *zouland* and *zammerand* grislie for to heyr. c **1550** *Clariodus* I. 738 (Maitland) 24 The cairfull echo *zammering* to the sky. a **1585** MONTGOMERIE *Flying* 123 Hoy, hurson, to hell,... Where deuils in their den dois *zammer* and *zell*. **1603** *Proph. of Walldhaue* (Bannatyne) 27 He yelped, he *yalmured*, and *youlded* loude. **1828** *Craven Gloss*. **1894** CROCKETT *Raiders* xx, Like fiends *yammering* and girning when Hell wins a soul. **1932** 'L. G. GIBBON' *Sunset Song* 38 Her five bairns were all *yammering* blue murder at the same minute. **1952** W. R. BURNETT *Vanity Row* viii. 73 Joe Sert *yammering* and getting purple in the face. **1958** 'W. HENRY' *Seven Men at Mimbres Springs* xi. 125 Somewhere off in the eastern hills a coyote *yammered* with the crazed wildness which never fails to startle the oldest listener. **1959** W. H. CANAWAY *Seal* i. 16 His guts clanked and *yammered* like air-locked water-pipes. **1970** C. SANDBURG *Compl. Poems* 372 They banged their spoons and bowls on the table And went on *yammering* for more to eat. **1980** F. WELDON *Puffball* 202 In the kitchen... Mabs' children *yammered* and cowered and snivelled and were slapped and shouted at. **1984** *Times* 5 Nov. 13/6 Just when women are *yammering* to be the hand that holds the briefcase... here's this little upstart letting the side down.

3. To long, yearn, crave. *Obs. exc. Sc.* and *dial.* **1705** [see below]. c **1746** J. COLLIER (Tim Bobbin) *View Lanc. Dial. Wks.* (1775) 51 Boh I *yammer* t'hear heaw things turn's cawt. **1895** CROCKETT *Men of Moss-Hags* xxiii, When a' thae things are *yammerin'* to get haud o' ye.

Hence '*yammering vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* (1821) I. 240 Terribil sprachis of *yammering* pepill in the deidthraw. **1705** J.

DUNTON *Life & Errors* 247 Mr. Ames... had always some *Yammerings* upon him after Learning and the Muses. **1722** RAMSAY *Three Bonnets* iv. 191 A sucking weanie... to its *yammering* fa's again. **1807** STAGG *Poems* 21 Our wee yen's *yammerin'* noise. **1822** *Blackw. Mag.* XI. 486 Suppressed, discontented, *yawmering*... whiggism. **1870** MISS BROUGHTON *Red as Rose* viii, The *yammering* of the baby. **1895** CROCKETT *Men of Moss-Hags* xxiii, 'Na, na', he cried, in the strange *yammering* speech of the creature. **1937** [see SKRIKING *vbl. sb.*]. **1940** L. MACNEICE *Poems 1925-40* 249 The city's *Yammering* fire alarms. **1969** M. BRAITHWAITE *Never sleep Three in Bed* ix. 105 There was always so much *yammering* from us kids that no adult had a chance to say anything. **1977** *Time* 31 Jan. 43/3 Visitors... shepherded round the Acropolis by *yammering* guides.

yampee. = YAM *sb.*

1796 NEMNICH *Polygl.-Lex.*

yamph (jamf), *v. Sc.* and *north. dial.* Also *yamf*. [Echoic.] *intr.* To bark, as a dog, esp. a small dog; to yelp. Hence '*yamphing ppl. a.*

1718 RAMSAY *Christ's Kirk Gr.* iii. xix, The hale town tykes *yamph* loud. **1728** — *Hackney Scribblers* xii, Nae massive minds a *yamphing* cur. **1818** W. MUIR *Poems* 33 Has wylie Reynard come thy way, Or peace-disturbing *yamphing* Tray. **1844** M. A. RICHARDSON *Local Hist. Table-bk., Legend* II. 136 The *yamph*in thing [sc. a dog] dee't the neist day.

Hence *yamph sb.*, a bark, a yelp.

1832-53 *Whistle-Binkie* (Scotch Songs) Ser. iii. 69 She kend wha it was by the *yamph* o' his tyke.

|| **yamstchik** (ˈjæmstʃɪk). Also 8 *yamsheek*, 9 *yems(t)chick*, -schik, *yamshik*. [Russ. *yamshchik*, f. *yam* YAM *sb.*²] The driver of a post-horse.

1753 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) I. ii. xii. 56 It was so worded as to signify either post-horses or *yamsheeks*. [1833 R. PINKERTON *Russia* 21 The peasantry... furnish the horses, and each drives his own. They are called *yamstchiki*.] **1855** *Englshw. in Russia* 40 The yell of the *yemstchick* inciting his team to greater speed. **1896** 'H. S. MERRIMAN' *Sowers* xxiv, Paul... driving with both hands and extended arms, after the manner of Russian *yemshiks*. **1911** *Encycl. Brit.* XXV. 15/1 Parties... of *yamshiks*—a special organization of Old Russia entrusted with the maintenance of horses for postal communication.

|| **yamun**, **yamen** (ˈjɑːmən). Also -oun, -ên. [Chinese *ya* tent or pavilion of a general, official residence, office + *mun* gate.] The office or official residence of a Chinese mandarin; hence, any department of the Chinese public service, as the *tsung li yamun* or Chinese 'foreign office', established in 1860.

1747 *Astley's New Gen. Coll. Voy.* IV. 1. vi. 275 Each Magistrate, great or small, has his Tribunal, or *Ya-men*. **1827** H. E. LLOYD *Timkowski's Trav.* iii. I. 111 The tribunal (called the *yamoun*) is the supreme court of the country of the Kalkas: it has the civil and military jurisdiction, and administers justice: sentence is past according to the printed code of laws. **1858** *Merc. Marine Mag.* V. 45 He saw pagodas, and *yamuns*. **1883** *Sunday Mag.* 632 The *yamun* or official residence of the country magistrate. **1891** *Daily News* 28 July 5/1 He... made a run for the official *yamen*, but was overtaken... and murdered. **1907** *Times* 30 May 5/2 The intention is to attack every *yamên* and to exterminate all the officials.

yan, **yance**, *north. dial.* ff. ONE, ONCE.

Yana (ˈjɑːnə). [a. Central and Northern Yana (men's speech) *ya-na* person, people.]

a. The language of the Yana Indians (see below), a member of the Hokan group.

[1888 6th Ann. Rep. Bur. Amer. Ethnol. p. xxxvii, Work was begun on the Nosa language (Yanan family) at Redding, Cal.] **1891** J. W. POWELL in 7th Ann. Rep. Bureau Amer. Ethnol. 135 Yanan Family. Derivation: Yana means 'people' in the Yanan language. **1903** *Amer. Anthropologist* V. 18 Yana shows so few similarities to other languages that it cannot be included in any group. **1913** [see HOKAN]. **1933** BLOOMFIELD *Language* iii. 46 The differences between the two sets of Yana forms can be stated by means of a fairly complex set of rules. **1956** J. LOTZ in Saporta & Bastian *Psycholinguistics* (1961) 12/1 In Yana, an Indian language of California, men and women use an entirely different vocabulary. **1971** *Language* XLVII. 831 Although most shifts move only one degree up the scale, Yana and Luiseño advance two degrees in shifting *l > n* and *r > ɖ* respectively.

b. (A member of) an American Indian people formerly living in northern California. Also *attrib.*

1910 Univ. Calif. Publ. Amer. Archeol. & Ethnol. IX. 3 These boundaries are somewhat uncertain, it remaining doubtful whether the Yanas reached the Sacramento. **1933** BLOOMFIELD *Language* iii. 46 The classical instance is that of the Carib Indians; a recently authenticated one is the language of the Yana Indians in northern California. **1962** *Guardian* 23 Feb. 7/3 In 1911... in California... a man... was identified as a survivor of a subtribe of Yana Indians thought to be extinct. **1974** *Encycl. Brit. Micropædia* X. 796/1 The last known Yahi survivor... died in 1916. Other Yana, if they survive, are intermixed with other northern Californian Indians.

yande, *obs. form* of YOND.

yandy (ˈjændɪ), *v. Austral.* [Aboriginal.] *trans.* To separate (grass seed) from refuse by shaking the mixture in a special way; to separate (ore) similarly or by winnowing. Hence '*yandying vbl. sb.*

1933 C. FENNER *Bunyips & Billabongs* vi. 158 When a gin has collected a coolamon... full of seed she has also a good deal of sand, dust, grass and leaves. But by shaking and

twisting the coolamon in a particularly skilful way an almost perfect separation is made. This art of separation is called 'yandying'. 1937 E. HILL *Great Austral. Loneliness* vi. 50 The black woman... can yandy infinitesimal grass-seeds from their husks for the camp breakfast. 1944 M. J. O'REILLY *Bowyangs & Boomerangs* 48 Yandying, in blackfellow language, means shake-about. It is the natives' method of separating the grass seeds from the husks. 1962 D. STUART *Yaralie* i. 9 While her mother had sat resting from her work of yandying and specking... she had wandered about. 1975 *National Geographic* Feb. 166 [Native Australian] women often earn money by 'yandying'—winnowing by tossing panfuls of ore into the wind to separate dirt from tin or gold. 1978 O. WHITE *Silent Reach* xi. 113 The only tin that comes out of that country is what the gins yandi—dry blow by hand out of a coolamon.

yandy ('jændi), *sb.* *Austral.* [from prec.] (See quot. 1959.)

1959 D. STUART *Yandy* 158 *Yandy*, *tjardoo*: long shallow oval dish, of wood sometimes, but now almost always of sheet-iron, in which mineral is separated from the alluvial rubbish by means of a complicated racking action. 1962 — *Yaralie* i. 12 Her mother and father had worked mightily, with the pick and shovel, and the yandy, and the looming dish for days.

yane, north. dial. f. ONE; obs. f. YAWN.

||**yang** (jæn). Also **Yang**. [Chinese *yáng* yang, sun, positive, male genitals.] In Chinese philosophy, the masculine or positive principle (characterized by light, warmth, dryness, activity, etc.) of the two opposing cosmic forces into which creative energy divides and whose fusion in physical matter brings the phenomenal world into being. Also *attrib.* or as *adj.* Cf. YIN.

1671 J. OGILBY tr. *Montanus' Atlas Chinensis* II. 549 The Chinese by these Strokes... declare... how much each Form or Sign receives from the two fore-mention'd Beginnings of Yn or Yang. 1736 R. BROOKES tr. *Du Halde's Gen. Hist. China* III. 357 The Chinese lay down two natural Principles of Life, vital Heat and radical Moisture... They give the Name of Yang to the vital Heat, and that of Yn to the radical moisture. 1836 J. F. DAVIS *Chinese* II. xii. 65 The *Tae-keih* is said to have produced the *Yang* and *Yin*, the active and passive, or male and female principle, and these last to have produced all things. 1845, etc. [see T'AI CHI I]. 1871 A. B. MITFORD *Tales of Old Japan* I. 150 The Chinese doctrine of the Yang and Yin, the male and female influences pervading all creation. 1934 R. FRY *Let.* 12 Apr. (1972) II. 690 Later on they discovered that the god of the furnace being male... to throw the wife in... alone sufficed to provide the Yang and the Yin. 1958 W. WILLETTS *Chinese Art* I. iv. 271 Light is the essence of yang. 1963 'R. ERSKINE' *Passion Flowers in Italy* ix. 125 Giorgio looked even taller than usual... and (to all seeming) quite adequately Yang, whatever Consolata might say. 1969 *New Scientist* 10 July 53/1 For balance, the rational needs the irrational, the intellect must mesh with the emotions, the yang needs the yin. 1971 F. MANN *Acupuncture* (ed. 2) v. 63 In the treatment of disease, if Yang is hot and over-abundant, thus injuring the Yin fluid... the surplus Yang can be decreased by a method called 'cooling what is hot'. 1971 *Guardian* 18 Dec. 9/2 A macrobiotic diet... was the way Zen monks cooked... Foods were divided into Yin things and Yang things... Yang is meat for instance. 1980 *Holistic Health News* (Berkeley, Calif., Holistic Health Center) Sept./Oct. 1/3 In the past 300 years with the rise of empirical science, modern technology, property orientation, and the decline of the sacred, we have seen the creation of an extremely yang, overmasculine world-view.

b. Comb.: **yang-yin** = *yin-yang* s.v. YIN b. 1959 R. F. C. HULL tr. *Jung's Aion in Coll. Wks.* IX. II. v. 58 This vision... might easily be a description of a genuine yang-yin relationship. 1968 E. B. IRVING *Reading of Beowulf* iv. 179 The poem does seem to have something of a Yang-Yin structure to it... as the kind of heroic achievement that Beowulf represents nears its end... self-destructiveness... —the negative side of the heroic ideal—comes into clearer and clearer focus. 1975 *New Yorker* 26 May 32/3 When I was a kid, the Technocrats used to drive these gray cars with the yang/yin symbol on the door.

||**yangban** ('jænbæn). Also **yang-ban**, **yang ban**; **yangpan**; and with capital initial. [ad. Korean *yangpan*, f. *yang* both, a pair + *pan* social class.] a. The former ruling class in Korea. b. A member of this; an aristocrat or gentleman; (see also quot. 1972).

1898 I. L. BIRD *Korea & her Neighbours* I. iv. 60 The youths who swing and lounge on sunny afternoons along the broad streets, aping the gait of *yang-bans*, are aspirants for official position. 1904 W. E. GRIFFIS *Corea* (ed. 7) xlix. 443 In the Land of Morning Radiance there is a governing minority consisting of about one-tenth of the whole population. These, the Yangban... living on ancient privilege and prerogative and virtually paying no taxes or tolls, prey upon the common people. 1906 H. B. HULBERT *Passing of Korea* ii. 47 The common people constantly went down in the scale and the so-called *yangban* went up, until a condition of things was reached which formed the limit of the people's endurance. 1908 G. T. LADD *In Korea with Marquis Ito* xii. 202 As for the Yang-ban, on no account will he do manual work. 1952 C. OSGOOD *Koreans* viii. 147 The taking of concubines by rich husbands was a commonplace and, in the event that a son was not born to the legal wife... it became an almost inevitable procedure on the part of a Yangpan of distinguished family. 1972 P. M. BARTZ *South Korea* iv. 46/2 The civil service was known as *Tongban* (eastern class) and the military as *Soban* (western class), and the two together as *Yangban*, a word later used generally to refer to the nobility, and today used by women of the middle class in polite reference to their husbands or other men. 1977 *Korea Jnl.* Dec. 21/2 All the citizens had to read the intentions of the ruling *yangban* class and Confucian scholars.

||**yang ch'in** (jæn tʃɪn). Also **yang ching**, **jin**, **kin**, and as one word. [Chinese *yángqín*, f. *yáng* high-sounding or *yáng* foreign + *qín* musical instrument, zither.] A Chinese musical instrument similar to the dulcimer.

1876 STAINER & BARRETT *Dict. Mus. Terms* 455/1 *Yang Kin*, a Chinese instrument furnished with brass strings, which are struck with two small hammers, like a dulcimer. 1934 *Jrnl. R. Asiatic Soc.* Apr. 334 This would appear to have been similar to the dulcimer which is known to-day in China as the *yang-ch'in*. 1962 E. SNOW *Other Side of River* (1963) lxxiii. 566 They may specialize in piano, violin, cello, flute, or one of the standard Chinese strings: *p'i-p'a*, *yang-ch'in*, *yueh-ch'in*, and others. 1970 R. D. TARING *Daughter of Tibet* i. 2 His favourite instrument was the Chinese *yangjin*, which has strings like a harp and is beaten with two bamboo sticks. 1974 *Early Music* Oct. 250/2 One recent Chinese recording has the Yang Ching as an obligato instrument backed by the classical orchestra. 1980 *New Grove Dict. Music* IV. 275/2 The *yan-ch'in* is used in many types of popular music, including various styles of regional opera, sung narratives and solos.

||**Yang Dipertuan** (jæn di:pɜ:tu:ən). Also 9 **lang de Pertuan**; **Yang di-Pertuan**, etc. [Malay, lit. 'he who is tuan': see TUAN.] In Malaysia, a king, an acknowledged ruler. Also with adjs., as *Yang Dipertuan Agung* [Malay *agung* principal], *Besar* [Malay *besar* important].

1834 P. J. BEGBIE *Malayan Peninsula* iv. 140 Rajah Alli... could not view the appointment of Rajah Laboo to the office of the lang de Pertuan *Besar*, with any other feelings than those of great distrust. 1907 F. SWETTENHAM *Brit. Malaya* vi. 131 These places... were placed under the general control of a Raja from Mēnangkābau, in Sumatra, with the title Yang di Pertuan. 1947 R. WINSTEDT *Malays* 51 In Negri Sembilan, custom prescribed that only the Yang di-pertuan (or Ruler) could have four wives. 1972 *Straits Times* 23 Nov. 13/3 The hotel doormen should stop using the doormen's costume... The head-dress... is like the one worn by the Yang Dipertuan Agung.

||**yanggona** (jæn'gəʊnə). Also (in Fiji) **yaqona** (with the same pronunc.). (Other spellings recorded below are 'South Sea solecisms' (G. B. Milner).) [Fijian.] The Fijian name for KAVA.

1858 T. WILLIAMS *Fiji* I. ii. 24 The leading men drink *yaqona* with the king elect. 1879 *Encycl. Brit.* IX. 156/2 The use of the kava root, here called *yanggona*... was introduced, it is said, from Tonga. 1913 R. BROOKE *Let.* 15 Dec. (1968) 545 *Yagona* (pron. Yanggona) is the drink: same as Samoan Kava. It is made by pounding up a root, and is non-intoxicant, though slightly narcotic. 1922 A. B. BREWSTER *Hill Tribes of Fiji* xviii. 179 Christening now takes the place of the old custom of sprinkling the children with water from the *yanggona* bowls. 1953 G. K. ROTH *Fijian Way of Life* iii. 114 The vessel from which *yanggona* is regularly drunk nowadays is a cup made from the distal half of a coconut shell cut laterally. 1977 *Times* 17 Feb. 16/5 The Queen was... presented with... the potent locally-brewed drink called *Yaqona*. 1983 *Guardian Weekly* 25 Sept. 12/4 The great council of chiefs—the supreme body for Fijian affairs—met over a bowl of *yakona*.

yang jin, **yang kin**, varr. YANG CH'IN.

||**yang-ko** (jæn'kəʊ, ||yɑŋgə). Also **yangko** and as two words. [Chinese *yānggē*, f. *yāng* seedling, sprout + *gē* song.] A type of folk-dance popular in northern China.

1954 *Folk Arts of New China* 30 Well-known forms of folk art like the *yangko* dances of the Shansi peasants or the Yangtse River boatmen's songs. 1967 J. R. LEVENSON in A. Feuerwerker et al. *Approaches to Mod. Chinese Hist.* 278 Communists might trip the Shensi light fantastic, the *yangko*, partly to get themselves into Shensi—and partly to get Shensi into China. 1973 R. F. S. YANG in Yuan-li Wu *China* 750 Since its Yenan days, the Communist party has utilized the *yangko* (songs in sprouting time), an improvised version of folksinging and folkdancing, as a very useful propaganda weapon. 1975 C. P. MACKERRAS *Chinese Theatre in Mod. Times* x. 165 The first [phase]... was characterized by an emphasis on the local peasant drama of the Communist base area in northern Shensi (in particular, the small-scale song-and-dance form called *yang-ko*).

yanglour, obs. form of JAngLER.

Yang-Mills (jænmɪlz). *Physics.* The names of C. N. Yang (b. 1922), Chinese-born physicist, and R. L. Mills (b. 1927), U.S. physicist, used *attrib.* with reference to a class of gauge theories with non-Abelian gauge invariance.

1961 *Bull. Amer. Physical Soc.* VI. 59/1 The Yang-Mills field has been quantized in the gauge $b_3 = 0$ (a similar analysis also holding in the gauges $b_1 = 0$ and $b_2 = 0$). 1977 *Nature* 21 July 207/2 There is wide agreement as to the ingredients in a prospective theory of hadrons: quarks, colour, gluons and the Yang-Mills interaction, to name the most obvious. 1979 *Sci. Amer.* Feb. 88/3 A Yang-Mills field is the essential element in a theory that seems to unify two of the four fundamental forces of nature, the weak force and the electromagnetic one. 1981 M. GELL-MANN in J. H. Mulvey *Nature of Matter* viii. 180 The theory of QCD and the theory of QFD... belong to the same class of theories. They are called Yang-Mills theories.

yangona: see YANGGONA.

yangpan, var. YANGBAN.

Yang-shao (jæŋ ʃau). *Archæol.* Also **Yang Shao**, **Yang shao**. The name of a village in the Henan province of China, used *attrib.* and *absol.* to designate a Neolithic Chinese culture

(c 5000–3000 B.C.), and its artefacts, evidence of which was first discovered there in 1921.

1923 J. G. ANDERSSON *Early Chinese Culture* 31, I propose that we coin a local term and name it from the type locality *The Yang Shao culture*. 1948 A. L. KROEBER *Anthropol.* (rev. ed.) xvii. 735 Various early polychrome wares of the West have been spoken of as 'similar' to Yang-shao. 1965 T. R. TREGAR *Geogr. of China* ii. 47 Yang Shao pottery has several unique shapes. *Ibid.*, Yang Shao Man lived on the loess plateau at a time when the water-table must have been much higher than it is today. 1973 *Genius of China* 48/2 The pigment used in decorating Yang-shao bowls... was generally applied directly on the burnished clay surface. 1978 *Nagel's Encycl.-Guide: China* 106 Proof of cultivation of cereals... exists from the Yang shao period onwards.

yanizari: see JANIZARY.

yank (jæŋk), *sb.*¹ *colloq.* (orig. *dial.* and *U.S.*) [f. YANK v.] a. *Sc.* A sudden sharp blow or stroke. b. orig. *U.S.* A sudden vigorous pull, a jerk. Also *fig.*

1818 HOGG *Brownie of Bodsbeck* xiv. II. 18, I took up my neve an' gae him a yank on the haffat. 1888 GUNTER *Mr. Potter* viii. 100 Her brother giving her a masculine yank [from the gondola], and jumping her upon the steps. 1906 *N.Y. Globe* 20 Aug. 6 Here is a fantastic proposition from Germany, which takes one back with an unpleasant yank into the middle ages. 1913 M. ROBERTS *Salt of the Sea* xviii. 447 He gave the twine a yank.

Yank, *sb.*² (a.)

1. Colloq. abbreviation of YANKEE.

1778 *Conquerors* 14 Give me five hundred brave and chosen men, I'll drive the Yanks from north to south again. 1834 R. H. FROUDE in *Newman's Lett.* (1891) II. 77 The Yank edition of the 'Christian Year'. 1872 SCHELE DE VERE *Amer.* 23 During the war the Yanks became the universal designation of Federal soldiers in the Confederacy, even as they were called *Rebs*—not *Rebels*—by Northern men. 1886 *All Year Round* 14 Aug. 35 As clever at a trick as a Yank.

2. An American car.

1959 *Listener* 4 June 982/1 The young labourer... will invest his cash in buying a car 'on the 'ire'—not a modest second-hand British product but a 'big Yank'. 1977 *Hot Car* Oct. 11/3 It's not raunchy like a yank but it sure is clean and ripe for customising.

3. Comb. 'Yankland *nonce-wd.*, the land of the Yankees, America.

1834 R. H. FROUDE in *Newman's Lett.* (1891) II. 37 When I shall go to Yankland I do not know.

yank (jæŋk), *v. colloq.* (orig. *dial.* and *U.S.*). [Origin unknown.]

1. a. *trans.* To pull with a sudden vigorous movement; to jerk or twitch vigorously.

1848 BARTLETT *Dict. Amer.*, To *Yank*, to twitch or jerk powerfully; a term used in New England. 1854 *Spirit of the Times* (N.Y.) (Thornton *Amer. Gloss.*), Afore you could say Sam Patch, them hogs were yanked aout of the lot, kilt and scraped. 1874 J. W. LONG *Amer. Wild-fowl* viii. 143 How angry it has made me to have a nervous know-nothing catch me by the arm and yank me down, for fear a duck that he happened to catch sight of half a mile off would see me and take alarm. 1902 *Sat. Rev.* 11 Jan. 39 Yanking up fence-posts that were wanted in a hurry. 1950 R. MACAULAY *World My Wilderness* xii. 102 His companion, a younger man with less of the Gael in his aspect and speech, jumped down into the copse... and yanked her to her feet. 1964 F. CHICHESTER *Lonely Sea & Sky* xii. 129, I kept the seaplane on the surface, planing until I thought it was going as fast as it could, when I yanked the stick back hard, to pull her off suddenly. 1966 *Listener* 14 Apr. 534/1 Any incident, from three youths yanking a cigarette machine off a wall to the mods' and rockers' riots, qualifies as 'gang delinquency'. 1968 B. HINES *Kestrel for Knave* 57 Crossley grabbed a boy by the arm and began to yank him into the open. 1977 C. McCULLOUGH *Thorn Birds* i. ii. 35 Fee's muscular arm yanked the brush ruthlessly through knots and tangles until Meggie's eyes watered. 1983 *Austral. Personal Computer* Aug. 62/1 If you want the disks back... you cannot just yank them out.

absol. 1867 *Visit to Nantucket* (Schele de Vere 649) He yanked and yanked, but the sapling wouldn't come, and thar he was caught in his own trap. 1884 *Bath Herald* 11 Oct. 6/2 When a woman has a new pair of shoes sent home she... never shoves her toes into them, and yanks and hauls until she is red in the face.

b. *transf.*

1876 BESANT & RICE *Gold. Butterfly* xxvi, Yank them both to bed. 1896 G. B. SHAW *Let.* 7 Dec. in *Ellen Terry & Shaw* (1931) 139 Hearing that Janet... had no refuge but the Solferino, she promptly went to that haunt, yanked Janet... out of it... and delivered her punctually... for the performance. 1901 F. HUME *Golden Wang-ho* xiii, I'd have yanked Jinfou to the police-station straight away. 1922 JOYCE *Ulysses* 421 Alexander J. Christ Dowie, that's yanked to glory most half this planet from 'Frisco Beach to Vladivostok. 1948 *Sunday Pictorial* 18 July 16/6 In the end attendants had to dive in and yank them out. 1977 J. I. M. STEWART *Madonna of Astrolabe* xiv. 197, I had to yank him out of Oxford—a shocking place, if Cambridge is anything to go by.

c. To withdraw (a theatrical show, an advertisement, etc.); to cancel. *U.S.*

1940 *Amer. Speech* XV. 205/1 *Yank*, to withdraw, usually because of poor attendance. 1976 *Time* 27 Sept. 65/1 The paper... ticked off 24 local real estate advertisers with a dispiriting account of development along a local lake; they have since yanked their ads. 1978 *Chicago* June 12/1 The *Tribune* flung up more flak for Greene in ads on TV and at the top of page one (it yanked an Arts & Fun ad that repeated the 'prostitute' column).

2. *intr.* To pull or jerk vigorously; *fig.* to be vigorously active. *Usu. const. at.*

1822 AINSLIE *Land of Burns* 1 They went not forth like gaugers, A yanking on their cloots. 1888 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.* s.v., She yanked on at the work. 1906 'O. HENRY' in

Munsey's Mag. Aug. 556/2 (1961) ix. 131 The drawer stuck, and he yanked at it savagely. 1912 MASEFIELD *Dauber* III. ii. The staysails flogged, the tackle yanked and shook. 1957 J. KEROUAC *On Road* I. ix. 55, I yanked at the window; it was nailed. 1977 C. McCULLOUGH *Thorn Birds* i. 8 She... began to comb Agnes's hair... She was yanking inexpertly at a large knot. 1981 *Sunday Express* (Colour Suppl.) 19 July/2 Suddenly Sally/Julie yanks at the neck-line of her dress. Hence **yanking ppl. a.**, (a) active, 'pushing' (Sc.); (b) jerking, twitching.

1824 SCOTT *St. Ronan's* ii. I canna bide their yanking way of knapping English at every word. 1876 MRS. WHITNEY *Sights & Insights* xxix, Poor Emery Ann had had a yanking old horse, and a wretchedly uncomfortable saddle.

Yankee (ˈjæŋki), *sb.* and *a.* Also 8-9 **Yankey**, **Yanky**, *pl.* **Yankies**. [Source unascertained.]

The two earliest statements as to its origin were published in 1789: Thomas Anburey, a British officer who served under Burgoyne in the War of Independence, in his *Travels* II. 50 derives *Yankee* from Cherokee *eanke* slave, coward, which he says was applied to the inhabitants of New England by the Virginians for not assisting them in a war with the Cherokees; William Gordon in *Hist. Amer. War* states that it was a favourite word with farmer Jonathan Hastings of Cambridge, Mass., c. 1713, who used it in the sense of 'excellent'. Appearing next in order of date (1822) is the statement which has been most widely accepted, viz. that the word has been evolved from North American Indian corruptions of the word *English* through *Yengees* to *Yankees* (Heckewelder, *Indian Nations* iii. ed. 1876, p. 77); cf. YENGEES.

Perhaps the most plausible conjecture is that it comes from Du. *janke*, dim. of *jan* John, applied as a derisive nickname by either Dutch or English in the New England states (J. N. A. Thierry, 1838, in *Life of Ticknor*, 1876, II. vii. 124). The existence of *Yank(e)y*, *Yankee*, as a surname or nickname (often with Dutch associations) is vouched for by the following references:

1683 *Cal. St. Papers, Colon. Ser.* (1898) 457 They [sc. pirates] sailed from Bonaco...; chief commanders, Vanhorn, Laurens, and Yankey Duch. 1684 *Ibid.* 733 A sloop... unlawfully seized by Captain Yankey. 1687 *Ibid.* (1899) 456 Captains John Williams (Yankey) and Jacob Everson (Jacob). 1687-8 MSS. *Earl of Dartmouth in 11th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 136 The pirates Yankey and Jacobs. 1697 DAMPIER *Voy.* I. iii. 38. 1725 *Inventory of W. Marr of Carolina in N. & Q.* 5th Ser. X. 467 Item one negroe man named Yankee to be sold.

Cf. also 'Dutch yanky' s.v. YANKY.]

A. sb.

1. **a. U.S.** A nickname for a native or inhabitant of New England, or, more widely, of the northern States generally; during the War of Secession applied by the Confederates to the soldiers of the Federal army.

1765 *Oppression, a Poem by an American* (with notes by a North Briton) 17 From meanness first this Portsmouth Yankey rose. Note, 'Portsmouth Yankey', It seems, our hero being a New-Englander by birth, has a right to the epithet of Yankey; a name of derision, I have been informed, given by the Southern people on the Continent, to those of New-England: what meaning there is in the word, I never could learn. 1775 J. TRUMBULL *McFingal* I. 1 When Yankies, skill'd in martial rule, First put the British troops to school. *Editor's note*, Yankies—a term formerly of derision, but now merely of distinction, given to the people of the four eastern States. 1775 *Penna Gazette* 10 May in *N. & Q.* 1st Ser. VI. 571 They [sc. the British troops] were roughly handled by the Yankees, a term of reproach for the New Englanders, when applied by the regulars. 1778 *Muse's Mirror* I. 220 O My Yankee, my Yankee, And O my Yankee, my sweet-ee, And was its nurse North asham'd Because such a bantling hath beat-ee? 1817 M. BIRKBECK *Notes Journ. Amer.* (1818) 19 The enterprising people [at Richmond, Virginia] are mostly strangers; Scotch, Irish, and especially New England men, or Yankees, as they are called. 1825 J. NEAL *Bro. Jonathan* i. I. 13 He was a Yankee, the very character of whom is, that he can 'turn his hand', as he says, 'to any thing'. 1891 DUNCAN *Amer. Girl in London* 23 The Yankees are the New Englanders, the name would once have been taken as an insult by a Southerner.

b. By English writers and speakers commonly applied to a native or inhabitant of the United States generally; an American.

Applied occas. to a ship (cf. *Frenchman*, etc.).

c1784 NELSON *Let. to Locker* in A. Duncan *Life* (1806) 321, I... am determined not to suffer the Yankees to come where the ship is. 1796 T. TWINING *Trav. Amer.* (1894) 68 Their wit was particularly directed against a 'Yankee' who was one of the company. We apply this designation as a term of ridicule or reproach to the inhabitants of all parts of the United States indiscriminately; but the Americans confine its application to their countrymen of the Northern or New England States. 1798 CHARLOTTE SMITH *Yng. Philos.* III. 11 If thou marriedst the heiress, thou must give up thy little American, thy fascinating yankey. 1836 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* Ser. I. ix, I'll be d—d, said he, if ever I saw a Yankey that didn't bolt his food whole like a Boa Constrictor. 1851 *Blackw. Mag.* LXIX. 409/2 When we next saw the Yankey [sc. a frigate], there we were coming right down upon him over the breast of the sea. 1887 'EDNA LYALL' *Knight-Errant* xvii, I really am Italian, though Signor Sardonì will call me a little Yankey.

2. [ellipt. use of the adj.] The Yankee language, the dialect of New England; *loosely*, American English generally.

1824 J. GILCHRIST *Etymol. Interpr.* 8 The naked savages of Indiana already speak a corrupt English (or Yankey). 1836 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* Ser. I. i, You did not come from Halifax, I presume, sir, did you? in a dialect too rich to be mistaken as genuine Yankey. 1840 — *Letter Bag* iii. 34 Coarse jokes in English, German, French, and Yankey.

3. Whisky sweetened with molasses. *local U.S. colloq.*

1804 FESSENDEN *Orig. Poems* 97 Call on me when you come this way, And take a dram of Yankey.

4. *pl. Stock Exchange slang.* American stocks or securities.

1887 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 6 Sept. 12/1 There was great excitement in the American market yesterday, and the bulls are cherishing the hope that there is to be a sustained boom in 'Yankees'. 1908 *Daily Chron.* 13 Mar. 1/7 Yankees finished higher on the lead from Wall Street.

5. A name for various special tools of American origin, or of ingenious design. (Cf. *Yankee notions* in C.)

1909 *Cent. Dict.* Supp.

6. = *Yankee jib* in sense C. b. below.

1912 HECKSTALL-SMITH & DU BOULAY *Compl. Yachtsman* vi. 152 The 'Yankee' is a strong pulling sail. 1953 *Yachting* June 48 We handed the yankee in favor of the working jib and forestops'l. 1967 J. ANDERSON *Vinland Voyage* 211 Peter decided to use the No. 2 yankee, leaving the big No. 1 to its proper job of pulling forward. 1974 *Islander* (Victoria, B.C.) 11 Aug. 11/1 We were lost without the mizzen. With motor and yankee we inched our way... forward.

7. *Horse-racing.* A composite bet on four or more horses, composed of doubles, trebles, and one or more accumulators.

1967 C. COCKBURN I, *Claid* xxxiii. 404, I stepped into the betting-shop and placed the type of bet known as a 'Yankee' on four of the races... I was able to collect... over £72 for the twenty-two shillings I had bet. 1970 *Guardian* 17 Apr. 12/3, I have... won in 4-, 5- and 6-horse yankees sums of up to £200. 1981 B. HINES *Looks & Smiles* 184, I won it on the horses. Me and Phil had a Yankee up.

B. adj. a. That is a Yankee; pertaining to or characteristic of Yankees (often with the connotation of cleverness, cunning, or cold calculation); *loosely*, belonging to the United States, American.

1781 A. BELL in *Southey Life* (1844) I. 37 The whole coast infested with Yanky privateers. 1784 ABIGAIL ADAMS *Let.* (1848) 161 We have curtains, it is true, and we only in part undress, about as much as the Yankee bundlers. 1822 COBBETT *Weekly Reg.* 9 Mar. 633, I was on board a little Yankee sloop in the Bay of Funday. 1828 (title) The Yankey and Boston Literary Gazette. 1829 MARRYAT *Frank Mildmay* xx, I will show you a Yankee trick. 1886 FROUDE *Oceana* 357 California with its gold and its cornfields, its 'heaven Chinese' and its Yankee millionaires, was a land of romance.

b. Used of or in reference to the language or dialect: cf. A. 2.

a1854 WHITTIER *Charms & Fairy Faith* Pr. Wks. 1880 II. 239 A sort of Yankee-Irish dialect. 1866 LOWELL *Biglow P.* Intro., Wks. 1890 II. 170 Of Yankee preterites I find *risse* and *rize* for *rose* in Beaumont and Fletcher, Middleton and Dryden.

C. Comb., etc. a. *gen.*, as *Yankee-like*, *-looking*.

1799 *Aurora* (Phila.) 30 Sept. (Thornton *Amer. Gloss.*) Faith, 'twill be Yankey like, and plagued funny. 1836 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* Ser. I. xvii, I heard him ax the groom who that are Yankey lookin feller was.

b. Special combinations and collocations. **Yankee bet** *Horse-racing* = sense A. 7 above; **Yankee gang**, name in Canada for a special arrangement of gang-saws (see quot.); **Yankee jib** (topsail), a large jib topsail used in light winds, set on the topmast stay; **Yankee-land**, the land of Yankees, New England; *loosely*, the United States; **Yankee notions** [NOTION 9b], small wares or useful articles made in New England or the northern States; **Yankee State**, a nickname for Ohio.

1964 A. WYKES *Gambling* viii. 194 (caption) The 'Yankee bet' (a permutation bet covering four horses) that can be made with off-course bookmakers in Britain. 1976 *Daily Record* (Glasgow) 29 Nov. 23/5 Yankey bet: Six doubles, four trebles and an accumulator—Pikey (12.0 Windsor), Escapologist (1.45 Wolverhampton), Corriehoil (2.15 Wolverhampton), Heidelberg (3.0 Windsor). 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Yankee Gang, an arrangement in a saw-mill (Canada)... It consists of two sets of gang-saws, having parallel ways... One is the *slabbing-gang*, and reduces the log to a balk and slab-boards. The balk is then shifted to the *stock-gang*, which rips it into lumber. 1904 B. HECKSTALL-SMITH *Dixon Kemp's Man. of Yacht & Boat Sailing* (ed. 10) v. 94 The sheeting of a modern large jackyard topsail requires a master hand's attention, especially when it is fitted 'Yankee fashion', having three sheets, as very many now are—namely, the main topsail sheet, the outer and inner sheets on the ends of the jackyard. 1912 HECKSTALL-SMITH & DU BOULAY *Compl. Yachtsman* vi. 152 A useful sail is the *Yankee jib-topsail. This is the largest or balloon jib-topsail, and the modern and most efficient form of balloon jib-topsail is cut, like all modern head-sails should be, very high in the clew. 1928 *Daily Mail* 9 Aug. 19/6 There is a Yankee jib which, as one sail, covers more than the combined area of jib and foresail. 1939 U. FOX *Crest of Wave* 145 We had settled down with the large Yankey jib topsail set in the place of the double clewed jib. 1976 *Yachts & Yachting* 20 Aug. 339/3 At 30 knots across the deck she dropped her yankey jib and kept going under staysail and heavily reefed main. 1803 in *Spirit Publ. Jnls.* VI. 350 More wit from *Yankee-land. 1837 HAWTHORNE *Amer. Note-bks.* 13 July (1883) 57 It sounds strangely to hear children bargaining in French on the borders of Yankee-land. 1819 *Mass. Spy* 8 Sept. (Thornton), I come here to retail My *Yankee notions,—cheese, wit, verse, codfishes, Cider, et cetera. 1825 J. NEAL *Bro. Jonathan* xxii. II. 298 The tallow, corn, cotton, hams, hides, and so forth, which we had got, in exchange for a load of Yankee notions. 1889 *Century Mag.* May 82/1, I saw the American tin-ware, lanterns, and 'Yankee notions'. 1884 *Harper's Mag.* June 125/1 Ohio was called the *Yankee State.

Hence **Yankee v.** (*rare*-1), *trans.* to deal cunningly with like a Yankee, to cheat; **Yankeedom**, the realm or country of Yankees,

the United States of America; Yankees as a body; **Yankeyess**, a depreciatory term for an American woman; **Yankeefied** (-faid) *ppl. a.*, made or become like a Yankee; characteristic of a Yankee; **Yankeeish a.**, resembling a Yankee (whence **Yankeeshly adv.**, like a Yankee); **Yankeeism**, Yankee character or style; a Yankee characteristic or idiom; **Yankeelize v.**, *trans.* to make Yankeeish, give a Yankee character to; **Yankeeness**, Yankee character.

1837 *Fraser's Mag.* XVI. 683 [They] are considered capable of 'Yankeeing' the more simple-minded Canadians. 1851 *Blackw. Mag.* Apr. 417/1 He ought to take steamer direct for *Yankeedom;... they'd make him President at once! 1890 MISS BROUGHTON *Alas* I. viii, Yankeedom and Cockneydom, rushing hand in hand through all earth's sacredness. 1852 *Q. Rev.* Mar. 297 The *Yankeyesses who urge the convenience of a manly garb. 1846 JAS. TAYLOR *Upper Canada* 47 Some of the Canadians indulge in the *Yankeefied habit of bolting down their victuals. 1897 *Voice* (N.Y.) 14 Jan. 8 Japan is getting Yankeefied in more ways than one. 1818 H. C. ROBINSON *Diary* 30 Apr. (1967) 58 Allston has a mild manner, a soft voice, and a sentimental air with him, not at all *Yankyish. 1830 *Collegian* (Cambridge, Mass.) Apr. 117 Comparisons are generally 'odorously', particularly Yankeesh, and decidedly condemned by Captain Basil Hall. 1855 DE QUINCEY in 'H. A. Page' *Life* (1877) II. xviii. 112 Waal, now, to speak *yankeeshly, I calculate your dander is rising. 1820 *Eclectic Rev.* Apr. 359 The term *unwell*, when first brought up, was ridiculed as a *Yankee-ism. 1836 *Fraser's Mag.* XIII. 653 Guilty of all those Yankeisms which distinguish the lout from the gentleman. 1865 VISCT. MILTON & W. B. CHEADLE *N.-W. Pass. by Land* ii. (1867) 18 Irish or German Yankees;... out-Heroding Herod in Yankeism. 1864 *Guardian* 20 Apr. 386 We begin to fear that England is becoming *Yankeised. 1877 SIR F. ELLIOT in Dowden *Corr. Sir H. Taylor* 377 The most certain of political tendencies in England is what... I will call the Yankeising tendency. 1882 H. E. SCUDDER *Noah Webster* viii. 289 Hawthorne, Yankeizing the Greek myths, and finding all Rome but the background for his Puritan maiden, was asserting that new discovery of Europe by America. 1909 'O. HENRY' *Roads of Destiny* xxi. 352 Any *Yankeeness I may have is geographical.

Yankee Doodle (ˈjæŋki ˈduːd(ə)l). [Origin uncertain.]

The tune is said to have been composed in 1755 by Dr. Shuckburgh, a surgeon in Lord Amherst's army, in derision of the provincial troops (*Hist. & Misc. Coll. New Hampsh.* 1824, III. 217-18).]

1. The title of a popular air of the United States of America, considered to be characteristically national.

1768 *Jrnl. of the Times* (Boston) 29 Sept. in *Lossing Pict. Field-Bk. Revol.* (1851) I. 480 Those passing in boats observed great rejoicings, and that the Yankee Doodle Song was the capital piece in the band of music. 1775 *Pennsylvania Even. Post* 22 July 317/2 General Gage's troops are much dispirited;... and... disposed to leave off dancing any more to the tune of Yankey Doodle. c1775 T. L. *Yankee Doodle; or the Negroe's farewell to America* (song) in *N. & Q.* 1st Ser. V. 87 Yankey doodle, yankey doodle dandy, I vow, Yankey doodle, yankey doodle, bow wow wow. 1836 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* Ser. I. xvii, He... walked off, a whistlin Yankey Doodle to himself.

2. **A Yankee.** Also *attrib.*

1787 J. F. BRYANT *Verses* 15 And we'll give the Yankey-doodles a dowse in the jaws. a1807 J. SKINNER *Amusem. Leis. Hours* (1809) 78 Syne after him cam Yankey Doodle, Frae hyne ayont the muckle water. 1814 MOORE *Parody of Letter* 48, I might have withheld these political noodles From knocking their heads against hot Yankey Doodles. 1825 J. NEAL *Bro. Jonathan* xxiii. II. 319 One of your yankey doodle invitations, that,—happy to see you *another* time. 1830 SCOTT *Jrnl.* 5 Sept. (1890) II. 351 We have had... Yankees male and female, and a Yankey-Doodle-Dandy into the bargain, a smart young Virginia man.

Hence **Yankeedoodle'dodom nonce-wd.** = **YANKEEDOM**; **yankee'doodledom**, **Yankee-'doodleism**, = **YANKEEDOM**, **YANKEEISM** (above).

1843 T. CARLYLE *Let.* 3 July in *Let. Charles Dickens* (1974) III. 542/1 The last Chuzzlewit on *Yankeedoodledodom is capital. We read it with loud assent. 1845 P. HONE *Diary* 20 May (1889) II. 248 The ladies of this family (natives though they be of *Yankee-doodle-dom) seem to possess, in a high degree, the power of capturing the aristocracy of England. 1861 *Death of Lincoln Despotism* (Bartlett), And hold them Abe Lincoln, and all his Northern scum, Shall own our independence of Yankey Doodledom. 1836 *Fraser's Mag.* XIII. 468 The man's whole life... was a long series of Frenchified *Yankeedoodleisms.

Yankeeese (ˈjæŋkiːz), *nonce-wd.* [f. YANKEE + -ESE.] American English.

1883 'OUIDA' *Frescoes, At Camaldoli* 119 They... feel like two tame 'possums sitting on a gumtree. Now don't say I can't talk Yankeeese!

yanker (ˈjæŋkə(r)). ? *Obs.* [f. YANK v. + -ER¹.] 1. *Sc.* = YANK *sb.*¹ a; *fig.* a big or 'thumping' lie.

1822 HOGG *Perils of Man* xii. I. 330 'Ay, billy, that is a yanker!' said Tam aside. 'When an is gaun to tell a lie, there's naething like telling a plumper at aince.'

2. (See quot., but perh. an error for JANKER.)

1833 *Act 3 & 4 Will. IV.* c. 46 §89 If... any person... shall drive any four-wheeled cart, commonly called a wood yanker without a person in charge of each pair of wheels.

† **yanky.** *Obs. rare.* [Of doubtful status, origin, and meaning. Perh. Du. *janke*, applied orig. to

a particular ship, and so identical with YANKEE (q.v.). The following examples of *Yankee* in the proper names of ships may be compared:—

1776 M. CUTLER in *Life*, etc. (1888) I. 55 They were in the Yankee Hero. 1813 *Examiner* 11 Jan. 22/1 The Yankee, American schooner privateer.]

1760-1 SMOLLETT *Launcelot Greaves* iii, Proceed with thy story in a direct course, without yawing like a Dutch yanky. 1904 P. FOUNTAIN *Great North-West* xvii. 195 A yanki is a small kind of galiot, and the Dutch fur-traders used craft of this kind to ascend the rivers in search of their Indian customers.

yanolite (ˈjænəʊlɪt). *Min.* [a. F. *yanolithe*, ? f. Gr. *ἰανθος* violet; see -LITE.] = AXINITE.

1850 ANSTED *Elem. Geol., Min.* etc. §438 *Axinite*, Thumite, Yanolite. In violet crystals, remarkable as one of the few representative forms of the unsymmetrical oblique prism. 1868 DANA *Min.* (ed. 5) 299.

Yanqui (ˈjæŋkɪ), *a.* and *sb.* [a. Sp. *Yanqui* YANKEE *sb.* and *a.*] = YANKEE *sb.* and *a.*: used esp. in Latin American contexts.

1929 [see PARROT-HOUSE]. 1937 [see PANAMAN *sb.* and *a.*]. 1952 *Caribbean Q.* II. iv. 9 Latin America replied with denunciations of what is called 'Yanqui Imperialism'. 1969 *Guardian* 6 Oct. 11/2 The Mexicans... naturally were loath to prosecute their own kind... on evidence collected by the Yanquis. 1975 *New Yorker* 30 June 23/3 Pelé, the King of Soccer, the Black Pearl, lured from Brazil by four million seventeen hundred thousand Yanqui dollars and his own sense of duty, was here to play his first game for Warner Communications' New York Cosmos. 1976 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 6 Aug. 989/4 Roosevelt's seizure of Panama led him to publish his archetypal anti-Yanqui diatribe. 1982 J. D. MACDONALD *Cinnamon Skin* xxiv. 257 It was a childish game with them, to effortlessly outdistance the heaving sweating Yanquis.

yantra (ˈjæntɹə). [a. Skr. *yantra* device or mechanism for holding or fastening, f. *yam* to hold, support.] A geometrical diagram used as an aid to meditation in tantric worship; any object used similarly.

1877 M. WILLIAMS *Hinduism* ix. 129 As to the *Yantras* these are mystical diagrams—generally combinations of triangular figures. 1928 E. B. HAVELL *Indian Sculptures & Painting* (ed. 2) ii. 16 To this day *yantras*, or geometric symbols, are used in higher Brahmanical ritual in preference to images of the Hindu pantheon. 1946 H. ZIMMER in J. Campbell *Myths & Symbols in Indian Art* iv. 141 In Hindu devotional tradition, 'yantra' is the general term for instruments of worship, namely, idols, pictures, or geometrical diagrams. 1980 *Dædalus* Spring 123 The mouse child uses the image as a yantra to meditate on nothing and infinity. 1982 *N.Y. Times* 7 Nov. XXI. 35/2 An ecstatic state... would be achieved... by contemplation of the mandalas and yantras, abstract diagrams of cosmic forces.

Yao (jau), *a.*¹ and *sb.*¹ Also 9 Yaou. [Native name.] *A. adj.* Of, pertaining to, or designating a mountain-dwelling people of the Guangxi, Hunan, Yunnan, Guangdong, and Guizhou provinces of China and northern parts of Vietnam.

1834 C. GUTZLAFF *Sketch of Chinese Hist.* I. i. 30 In the mountains of Kwang-tung and Kwang-se live great numbers of the Meaou and Yaou tribes, who appear to be the aborigines of the country. 1897 *Fortn. Rev.* July 104, I will now close the subject by saying a few words touching the language of the Kakhyens. Like the Chinese, Annamese, Shan, Miao-tsze, Yao, and Burmese languages, it is monosyllabic and tonal. 1976 R. CONDON *Whisper of Axe* i. xv. 90 The KMT troops... took Shan or Yao or Lahu wives. 1977 YIN MING *United & Equal* 3 In the 1930s the reactionary warlords perpetrated massacres of the Hui people in Kansu and the Miao and Yao peoples in Kwangsi.

B. sb. a. The Yao people. *b.* The language of the Yao.

1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 224/1 The Yaou-jin, or Goblin clan, are said to have books, which though they are now unable to read, they still regard with reverent awe. 1901 E. H. PARKER *China* i. 7 In the southern portion of the eastern half there are still a few independent... tribes, known as Yao or Miao. 1939 [see MIAO *sb.* and *a.*]. 1948 R. A. D. FORREST *Chinese Lang.* v. 89 In Indo-China the Yao (akin to the Miao) are also known as Man. *Ibid.* 91 Miao and Yao were assigned by... Schmidt, along with Khamti, Shan, and Ahom, to the northern group of T'ai languages. 1982 B. HOOK *Cambridge Encycl. China* 102/1 Because of culture-contact they were... familiar with the notion of writing, and consequently came to employ a neighbouring language, using its script as their own written language. This happened with the Yao, who wrote their poems and hymns in a... modified form of Han Chinese.

Yao (jau), *sb.*² and *a.*² [Native name.]

A. sb. a. (A member of) a Bantu people found east and south of Lake Nyasa in East Africa. *b.* The language of the Yao.

1894 *Rep. Admin. Brit. Central Africa* 23 in *Parl. Papers* (C 7504) LVII. 771 As the coast people and Arabs began to penetrate East Central Africa they came in contact with the Yao, who, from his predatory nature, took to the idea of slave-raiding with real appreciation. 1916 *Blackw. Mag.* Apr. 551/1 The Africans were Yaos, little men, affectionately termed 'Golliwogs' by their British officers. 1924 [see NYANJA *sb.* and *a.*]. 1957 LD. HAILEY *African Survey* 1956 iii. 97 Nyanja is the lingua franca throughout Nyasaland... though Tumbuka has also been recently recognized as the medium in the Northern Province, and Yao in the Yao-speaking areas. 1974 *Encycl. Brit. Micropædia* X. 799/3 Through Arab contact most Yao are Muslims.

B. adj. Pertaining to or designating a Yao or the Yao.

1910 *Encycl. Brit.* III. 360/1 The extensive *Yao* genus of languages stretches from just behind the coast of the Lindi settlements... to the north-east shores of Lake Nyasa. 1955 M. GLUCKMAN *Custom & Conflict in Afr.* iv. 96 When a Yao headman in Nyasaland is installed his taste for human meat is tested in the installation ceremony: because Yao witches eat the corpses of those they kill. 1974 *Encycl. Brit. Micropædia* X. 799/3 Yao social life features annual initiation ceremonies involving circumcisions for boys.

yaoor, var. GIAOUR.

||yaourt (ˈjaurt). Also yao(o)rt, you(a)rt. [Turkish *yoghurt* (with quiescent *gh*) YOGURT.] A fermented liquor made by the Turks from milk.

1819 T. HOPE *Anastasius* (1820) I. vii. 137 Once on a fast-day eating some nice Yaoort. 1844 KINGLAKE *Eothen* xvii. 250 The 'youart', or curds and whey, which is the principal delicacy to be found amongst the wandering tribes. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Yaoort*, a fermented liquor or milk-beer, similar to koumis. 1887 T. STEVENS *Around World on Bicycle* xviii. 427 The *yaort* bowl contains one solitary wooden spoon.

yap (jæp), *sb.*¹ [Echoic. Cf. YAWP.]

1. *a.* A dog that yaps; a yelping cur. Now *dial.* 1603 SIR C. HEYDON *Jud. Astrol.* i. 4 Those bawling yappes, that barke rather of fashion, then fiercesnes. 1692 R. L'ESTRANGE *Fables* cclxxxiv. 248 'Tis a Common Thing upon the Passing of a Strange Dog through a Town, to have a Hundred Curs Bawling at his Breech, and Every Yap gets a Snap at him. a 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia.*

b. A fool, someone easily taken in; also, an uncultured or unsophisticated person. *dial.* and *U.S. slang.*

c 1894 C. H. HOYT *Texas Steer* (1899) III. 6 Instead of his being the only 'yap', as he calls it, in Congress there were about two hundred other members. 1895 W. STEVENS *Let.* 4 Aug. (1967) 6 Paul and Several other Yaps are up with them. 1898 B. KIRKBY *Lakeland Words* 157 *Yap*, a chap 'at's a bit ov o gomeril. 1901 'FLYNT' & 'WALTON' *Powers that Prey* i. iii. 21 This yap from the country. *Ibid.* III. i. 60 I've seen those yaps come to town an' throw up their hands at sights that a Bowery kid wouldn't drop a cigarette snipe to see. 1915 W. CHURCHILL *Far Country* xxiv. 452 The yaps that listen to him don't understand him, but somehow he gets under their skins. 1926 J. BLACK *You can't Win* iv. 36 You are just the kind of a yap that gets up in the middle of the night and hides his money so carefully that he has to have a policeman find it for him in the morning. 1977 *New Musical Express* 12 Feb. 12/2 Then this yap starts yowling about anarchy... and eventually the record seems to end in the middle.

2. *a.* A sound expressible by the syllable 'yap'; a short sharp bark or cry.

1826 LAMB *Ess., Pop. Follacies* xiii, But yap, yap, yap!—what is the unfounded cur? 1864 *Daily Tel.* 8 Oct., A small dog, giving a quick series of sharp low barks, or yaps. 1879 JEFFERIES *Wild Life in S. Co.* 258 A weasel rushes past... He utters a strange startled 'yap'. 1901 *Pall Mall Mag.* July 328 The sub. gave a little yap of joy.

b. The mouth. *U.S. slang.*

1900 *Dialect Notes* II. 70 *Yap*, the mouth. 1937 J. WEIDMAN *I can get it for you Wholesale* i. 8 Every time you open your yap to say something. 1959 N. MAILER *Adots. for Myself* (1961) 43 There was a guy screaming his yap off next to him... holding his face. 1977 H. FAST *Immigrants* iv. 243 They know that if they open their yaps, we'll close them down.

c. Idle or loquacious talk; chatter; = YAWP, YAWP *sb.* *b. slang.*

1907 *Dialect Notes* III. 204 *Yap*, offensive or superfluous talk. 'Shut up your yap'. 1926 KIPLING *Debts & Credits* 314 He'd preserved it in his head through all those weeks... o' Bert's yap. 1928 A. P. HERBERT *Trials of Topsy* 133 All this pragmatical yap about tea being a necessity and beer being a vice. 1945 *Coast to Coast* 1944 1 It wasn't much fun listening to all that yap when it really didn't mean a thing. 1968 K. WEATHERLY *Roo Shooter* 21 Never mind that yap. Where's the tucker?

d. A chat. *slang.*

1930 SAYERS & 'EUSTACE' *Documents in Case* 145 I'd like to have a yap with somebody who talks my language. 1957 R. LAWLER *Summer of Seventeenth Doll* II. i. 66 Real ear-basher he is, always on for a yap.

Yap (jæp), *sb.*² (See quotes.)

1984 *Chicago Sun-Times* 25 Mar. (Views) 7/1 Yuppies, young upwardly mobile professionals, a.k.a. Yaps (young aspiring professionals). 1984 *Sunday Times* (Colour Suppl.) 28 Oct. 12/3 Phillips' Yaps believe in vigorous self-advancement, jogging and BMWs. 1985 *Times* 9 Feb. 11/1 (heading) Yaps, or Young Aspiring Professionals are brash, bright and bound for the top.

yap, yaup (jap, jap), *a.* Chiefly *Sc.* and *north.* Forms: 4-6 *zape*, 5 *zop(e)*, 5-6 *zaip(e)*, 6 *yaip*, 8-9 *yap*, 9 *yaup*. [Northern ME. *zape*, with rare southern var. *zop*, representing *geap*, alteration of OE. *geap* YEPE by conversion of the falling into a rising diphthong.]

1. Clever, cunning; shrewd, astute; nimble, active; = YEPE 1.

13.. *Northern Passion* (H.) 1944 3e haue zape men him forto zeme. c 1375 *Cursor M.* 9019 (Fairf.) Haue he bene before neuer sa zape [Colton yepe] Fra pen I telle him for a nape. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints v. (Johannes)* 318 Of þar ydolis þe bischope, Aristodemus, þat wes zape, Raisit a gret sedicione In þe puple of þat towne. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 6642 A 3op knyght & a 3onge. a 1450 MYRC *Par. Pr.* 1651 Bvt, confessour, be wys and 3op, And sende forth pese to þe byschop. c 1475 *Rauf Coilyear* 628 The 3aip zeman to the 3et is gane. a 1508 DUNBAR *Tua Mariit Wemen* 79 Ane grume, . . . 3aip, and 3ing. 15.. *Christ's Kirk* 100 (Bann. MS.) A yaip yung man, . . . Lowd of a schot. 1825 BROCKETT *N.C. Gloss.*,

Yap, apt, quick. 1891 'H. HALIBURTON' *Ochil Idylls* 40 I'm juist as yap an' yauld As e'er was youth.

†2. Eager or ready, esp. to do something. *Obs.*

c 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 602 3aipe, thocht he 3ong was, to faynd his offens. c 1500 Rowll's *Cursing* 205 (Bann. MS.) With gaipand mowth richt yaip to swelly. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XII. ii. 88 The byssy knaipsis and verlettis of his stabill About thame stud, full 3aip and seruyabill. 1728 RAMSAY *Daft Bargain* 11 [He] seem'd richt yap His mealtith quickly up to gawp.

3. Eager or ready to eat, hungry.

1768 ROSS *Helenore* i. 20 Right yape she yoked to the pleasing feast. a 1774 FERGUSSON *Rising of Session* Poems (1845) 29 The farmers' sons, as yap as sparrows. 1832 CARRICK in *Whistle-Binkie* (Scotch Songs) Ser. i. (1839) 74 Like leeches when yaup. 1871 W. ALEXANDER *Johmy Gibb* ii, Gi'e the bairns a bit piece, . . . the like o' them's aye yap.

yap, v. Also yap-yap. [Echoic. Cf. YAWP.]

1. *intr.* To bark sharply, as a small dog; to yelp.

1668 [see yapping vbl. sb.]. a 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia.* 1854 R. S. SURTEES *Handley Cr.* i, Up come the hounds... yelping, yapping, puffing, and blowing. 1865 ANNE MANNING *Belforest* II. 100 A little dog that... yap-yapped at every visitor. 1901 MEREDITH *Poems, Forest Hist.* xvii, Where long forlorn the lone dog whines and yaps.

2. *transf.* To speak snappishly.

1864 'ANNIE THOMAS' *D. Donne* III. 204 Dora was not one of the women who yap and scream in wrath or excitement. 1893 KIPLING *Many Invert.* 130 Ortheris yapped indignantly.

b. To talk idly or loquaciously; to chatter. Also *trans.*, with quoted words as obj. *slang* (orig. *dial.*).

1886 F. T. ELWORTHY *W. Somerset Word-Bk.* 844 *Yappy*, . . . to chatter. The use of the word is distinctly depreciatory. Mind yer work, and neet bide there yappin. 1893 DARTNELL & GODDARD *Gloss. Words Wilts.* 185 *Yap, Yop*, to talk noisily. 'What be a yopping there for?' 1898 R. BLAKEBOROUGH *Wit, Character, Folklore, & Customs N. Riding Yorks.* 473 *Yap*, to talk foolishly. 1899 S. CRANE *Monster* xviii. 76, I told him to keep his trap shut. But then you know how he'll go all over town yapping about the thing. 1922 S. LEWIS *Babbitt* x. 141 He hands me the cold-boiled stare and yaps, 'I dunno, friend, I'll see.' 1937 J. WEIDMAN *I can get it for you Wholesale* iii. 28 You've been yapping away. 1946 K. TENNANT *Lost Haven* (1947) xix. 315 Len wished Alec wouldn't yap so much. 1963 *Australasian Post* 14 Mar. 51/2 If you want to yap on like a drongo in the DTs... go ahead: be a gig! 1975 *Daily Tel.* 30 June 13/7 A lot of women who are happy to yap away normally, became tongue-tied when they had to talk and drive. 1985 A. T. ELLIS *Unexplained Laughter* 49 They end up writing books about it and yapping away on the television.

Hence 'yapping vbl. sb. and ppl. a.'; 'yappingly *adv.*; also 'yapper, a dog or person that yaps.

1823 *New Monthly Mag.* VIII. 499 Some dozen *yappers and yellers of all shapes and breeds. 1901 *Longm. Mag.* May 46 His enemies said 'Job wer' a proper yapper'. 1668 R. L'ESTRANGE *Vis. Quev.* (1708) 243 A Voice not unlike the *yapping of a foysting cur. 1891 CONAN DOYLE *White Company* ix, The shrill yapping of the hounds. 1894 *Sat. Rev.* 3 Mar. 214 There was some rather feeble yap yapping at the Peers. 1865 ANNE MANNING *Belforest* I. 265 Every little *yap-yapping dog. 1868 MISS BRADDON *Dead-sea Fruit* xxv, Half a dozen little yapping dogs... assailed me. 1924 *Chambers's Jnl.* Feb. 128/1 Bob danced *yappingly around him.

'yaply, *adv.* Chiefly *Sc.* and *north.* Forms: 4-5 *3ap(e)ly*, 5 *yappely*, 3opely, 8-9 *yaply*. [f. YAP *a.* + -LY².] Actively, nimbly; readily, eagerly; in mod.Sc. hungrily. So 'yapness, hunger.

a 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 228 To the 3ate 3aply þei zeoden wel 3are. c 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 1674 A souerayn aw forto be-hald 3apli vnto 3ong & ald. a 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 1393 (Dubl. MS.), And þai 3opely ayayn zeldyn þaim swythe. c 1440 *York Myst.* xxx. 231 We muste yappely wende in at þis yate. 1768 ROSS *Helenore* II. 68 Unto their supper they right yaply fa'. 1828 MOIR *Mansie Wauch* iv, My yapness and stiff appetite.

yapock (ˈjæpɒk). Also yapok, yapach. [f. *Oyapok*, name of a river between French Guyana and Brazil, spelt earlier *Wiapoco* (Harcourt *Voy. Guyana*, 1613).] The South American water-opossum, *Chironectes variegatus*, having webbed toes.

1827 GRIFFITH tr. *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* III. 35 There are... Yapocks of a smaller size... Found on the banks of the Yapoch river of Guyana. 1840 *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 103 The Yapach... frequents the rivers of Guiana. 1802 J. A. THOMSON *Outl. Zool.* 569 The aquatic Yapock (*Chironectes*)... feeds on fish and smaller water animals.

yapon, yaupon (ˈjɔ:pɒn). Also 8 yaupan, yopon, yapon, 9 yupon. [North Carolina.] An evergreen shrub or small tree (*Ilex Cassine* or *vomitorea*), allied to the holly, growing in Texas and Southern U.S.; a decoction of the leaves (*yapon tea*) is used as an emetic and purgative. Also called *Appalachian* or *Carolina tea*.

a 1712 LAWSON *Hist. Carolina* (1714) 91 *Yaupon*, call'd by the South Carolina Indians *cassena*, is a bush that grows chiefly on the sand banks and islands. 1723 J. BRICKELL *Nat. Hist. Carolina* (1737) 319 They drink great quantities of yaupan tea. 1775 ADAIR *Amer. Ind.* 361 The Yopon, or Cussena. 1786 ABERCROMBIE *Arr. in Gard. Assist.* 42 Yapon tree. 1884 G. P. LATHROP *True* ii. 13 That kind of holly known in the region [N. Carolina coast] as yaupon. 1895 *Advance* (Chicago) 19 Dec. 909/1 That horrid yupon and sassafras tea.

yapp (jæp). [Name of a London bookseller to whose order this style of binding was first made,

about 1860 (*N. & Q.* 9th Ser., 1890, IV. 256).] Name for a style of bookbinding in limp leather with overlapping edges or flaps. Hence **yapped** (jæpt) *a.*, made in this style.

1882 *Publishers' Circular* 15 Feb. 163 Bagster's Bibles. In Sheep Yapped, with Elastic Band. **1883** *N. & Q.* 6th Ser. VII. 313 *Yapp*, as applied to binding, is the name of the binder [*sic*] who originally employed the style now so known. **1889** *Rep. Artisans Paris Univ. Exhib.* 31 Bagster & Co. have a good variety of work in the Bible line, especially their india-rubber kid-lined Yapps. **1894** *Guardian* 31 Oct. 1712 An ingenious method of appending markers to Bibles with yapped or overlapping bindings. **1910** *Athenæum* 26 Feb. 239/1 In velvet persian, yapp edges, boxed.

yappet (jæpit), *v.* [frequent. f. YAP *v.*: see -ET¹.] *intr.* = YAP *v.* 1. Hence 'yappeting *ppl. a.*

1681 T. FLATMAN *Heraclitus Riders* No. 39 (1713) I. 255 It is a little Tutty-nos'd yappeting Sprite; the Good Old Cause's Lap-Dog. **1868** HELPS *Realmah* xix. I. 290 The likeness he was pleased to discover between my poor self and a yappeting suburban poodle.

yappy (jæpi), *a.* [f. YAP *sb.* or *v.* + -Y¹.]

a. Given to yapping. **b.** Suggestive of a dog's yap.

1909 in *Cent. Dict. Suppl.* **1937** H. T. MILLER *Let me die Tuesday* i. 12 You're a yappy kid with no bringing up whatever. **1977** P. CARTER *Under Goliath* vi. 31 He had a wee tight face like one of those little dogs that snap at your heels, and he had a voice like one, thin and yappy. **1977** R. PERRY *Dead End* ii. 21 One yappy white poodle.

Hence 'yappiness'.

1928 *Daily Express* 28 Aug. 4/4 Pekingese...are not addicted to 'yappiness', and thus differ from many toys.

yaqona, var. YANGGONA.

Yaqui (jæki), *sb.* and *a.* [a. Sp., earlier *Hiaquis* pl., ad. Yaqui *hiaki*.]

A. sb. a. (A member of) an Indian people of north-western Mexico.

1861 *Hist. Mag.* V. 164/2 The Indian population is large, and, properly regulated, would be exceedingly useful... The most numerous tribe is that of the Yaquis. **1875** H. H. BANCROFT *Native Races of Pacific States* I. v. 575 The Chinipas, Yaquis, Opatas and Conchos build...more substantial dwellings of timber and adobes. **1946** *Nature* 13 July 69/2 The Cáhita Indians of western Mexico consist of two surviving groups, the Yaqui and the Mayo. **1953** E. HAUGEN *Norwegian Lang. in Amer.* II. xiv. 367 An interesting description is available of conditions among the Yaqui, a tribe in Arizona, whose villages were hispanized by missionaries and political functionaries by the end of the 17th century. **1977** C. SCHAEFFER tr. *Simenon's Bottom of Bottle* vi. 95 He was a Yaqui, bigger and stronger than I am.

b. The Uto-Aztecan language of the Yaqui.

1911 *Bull. U.S. Bureau Amer. Ethnol.* No. 44. 12 Three dialects—Yaqui, Mayo, and Tehueco—are usually mentioned. **1943** *Amer. Anthropologist* XLV. 428 Yaqui and Mayo stand in the relation of mutually intelligible dialects. **1957** *Publ. Amer. Dial. Soc.* 1956 xxvi. 55 In Yaqui the Spanish word *dios* 'God' appears both as *dios* and *lios*.

B. adj. Of, pertaining to, or designating the Yaqui.

1861 *Hist. Mag.* V. 165/1 From that day [*sic*, 1609] to this, the Yaqui Indians have retained their pueblos, or towns, along their river, governed by chiefs of their own tribe, appointed by the Spanish and Mexican governments. **1884** H. H. BANCROFT *Hist. N. Amer. States* ix. 216 A party of Tehuecos were...sent with two converted Yaqui women. **1943** *Amer. Anthropologist* XLV. 428 A fuller consideration...of Yaqui history. **1964** F. O'Rourke *Mule for Marquesa* (1967) ii. 24 From Nogales he peddled arms and ammunition..., his most valued customers the Yaqui Indians. **1978** *Tucson Mag.* Dec. 104/3 They perform a Yaqui Deer Dance in addition to Aztec dances and a variety of regional folk dances.

yar(r, v. Obs. exc. dial. Also 4 **3ar(r)en**, 7 **yarre**. [Imitative. Cf. ARR *v.*², GARRE *v.*, YIRR.] *intr.* To snarl or growl, as or like a dog. Hence 'yarrer'; 'yarring *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1595, & he 3arrande hym 3elde. *Ibid.* 1724 Loude he was 3ayned, with 3arande speche. **1611** COTGR., *S'entreggrater*, to whurre, yarre, grumble, one at another. *Ibid.*, *Gronderie*,...whurling, yarring. *Ibid.*, *Grondeur*,...a whurrer, or yarrer. **1653** URQUHART *Rabelais* ii. xxii. 153 When he saw that all the dogs were flocking about her, yarring at the retardment of their access to her. **1768** BEATTIE *To Mr. A. Ross in Helenore* (1812) 132 In little times, when faes are yarring. **1866** J. E. BROGDEN *Provincial Words & Expressions* Lincs. 227 *Yar*, to snarl. **1953** G. M. DURRELL *Overloaded Ark* x. 181 A young and foolish bitch...had yapped and yarred herself into a fit of hysterical bravery.

yar, obs. or dial. f. EARTH, ERE, THEIR, YAIR *sb.*, YOUR; var. YAH *int.*¹

†**'yarage**. *Naut. Obs.* [? f. YARE *a.* or *v.* + -AGE.] The power of moving or being managed at sea.

1579-80 NORTH *Plutarch* (1595) 997 They were light of yarage: armed and furnished with water-men as many as they needed. *Ibid.* 999 The galleys of the enemies, the which were heauie of yarage, both for their bignes, as also for lacke of watermen to row them.

yarak (jæræk). *Falconry.* [? Pers. *yārakī* power, strength, ability.] *in yarak*: (of a hawk) in proper condition for hunting.

1855 SALVIN & BRODRICK *Falc. Brit. Isles* 105 The Goshawk...will not work at all unless in good temper and proper flying order, termed in the East '*yarak*'. *Ibid.* 108 It requires about ten days to get this Hawk into '*yarak*'. **1900** MICHELL *Hawking* xii. 162 Unless the hawk was in first-rate

condition,—in what is called 'screaming yarak'. **1901** KIPLING *Kim* x, He's in yarak Plumed to the very point.

yarb, dial. form of HERB.

1845 S. JUDD *Margaret* v. (1871) 23 Stultiloquent yarbmonger. **1847** THOREAU *Let. in Atlantic Monthly* (1892) June 736, I hope he got 'yarbs' enough to satisfy him. **1855** KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* iv, Some skill in 'yarbs', as she called her simples.

yarborough (jɑ:bərə). *Cards.* [Said to be so called because a certain Earl of Yarborough used to bet 1,000 to 1 against the occurrence of such a hand.] In whist and bridge, a hand which contains no card above a nine.

1900 J. DOE *Bridge Man*. 35 If he has a Yarborough, you will lose the game. **1910** *Blackw. Mag.* Dec. 809/2, I have held yarboroughs and been doubled and roughed all the evening.

yard (jɑ:d), *sb.*¹ Forms: 1 **geard**, 4-5 **3erd**(e, 4-6 **3ard**(e, yerde, 4-8 **yerd**, 4-9 **yaird**, (4 **3herd**, 5 **3eard**, 3ord, yorde, 6 **3harde**, 7 **yearde**, 8 *Sc.* **yeard**), 5-6 **3aird**, 6-7 **yarde**, 3- **yard**. [OE. *geard* str. masc. fence, dwelling, house, region = OS. *gard* enclosure, field, dwelling, MDu., Du. *gaard* garden, OHG. *gart* circle, ring, ON. *gārð* GARTH, (Sw. *gård* yard, Da. *gard* yard, farm), Goth. *gards* house, with corresp. wk. forms OFris. *garda* garden, OS. *gardo*, OHG. *garto* (MHG. *garte*, G. *garten*) garden, Goth. *garda* enclosure, stall. (OE. *geard* is the second element of *middangeard* MIDDENERD, *ortgeard* ORCHARD, *wingearð* WINYARD.)

The ulterior relations of these words are uncertain. Close affinity of sense is exhibited by the words derived from the Teut. root *gerd-*: *gard-*: *gurd-*, represented by GIRD *v.*¹ (OE. *gyrdan*, OHG. *gurtan*, ON. *gyrða*) and GIRTH *sb.*¹ (ON. *gyrð*, Goth. *gairda*), and those derived from an Indo-European root *ghort-*, viz. Gr. *xópros* farm-yard, feeding-place, food, fodder, L. *hortus* garden, *co-hors* enclosure, yard, pen for cattle and poultry, COHORT, COURT, OIR. *gori* cornfield; but there are phonological difficulties in the way of equating both groups of words. (OSl. *gradū* enclosure, town, Russ. *grad*, *gorod* town, as in *Petrograd*, *Novgorod*, Lith. *gàrda* hurdle, fold, are prob. borrowed from Teutonic.)

The general signification of the word is 'enclosure', the particular character of which is usually to be inferred from the context; the simple word is thus often felt to be short for a specific compound of it (see references in the various senses).]

1. a. A comparatively small uncultivated area attached to a house or other building or enclosed by it; *esp.* such an area surrounded by walls or buildings within the precincts of a house, castle, inn, etc. Cf. *back-yard*, *castle yard*, *chapel yard*, *COURTYARD*, *inn-yard*, *palace yard*, *stable-yard*.

In OE. used in sing. and pl. = dwelling, house, home, the 'courts of heaven'; also, region, tract (cf. *middangeard* MIDDENERD).

Beowulf 2459 Nis þær hearpan sweg, gomen in gearðum. *a1000* *Cædmon's Gen.* 740 (Gr.) Wit...forleton on heofonrice heahgetimbro, godlice gearðas. *a1000* *Guthlac* 763 (Gr.) Swa soðfæstra sawla motun in ecne gearð up gestigan rodera rice. *c1375* *Sc. Leg. Saints* xviii. (*Egipciane*) 571 To þe tempil men cane draw; & of It til in þe garde I wes cummyne, I ne spard. *c1400* *St. Alexius* (Laud 108) 302 Alex...Is dweld in his fader 3erd As a pore man. **1524** *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 10 A litile howse with a yerde. **1562** J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 100, I kepe doggis...in my yarde. **1565** in Hay Fleming *Reform. Scotl.* (1910) 613 Part of ane yard within the abbay place of Sanctandros. **a1657** SIR J. BALFOUR *Ann. Scot. Hist. Wks.* 1825 II. 71 He was brought vpon a scaffold in the parliament yarid. **1711** ADDISON *Spect.* No. 121 ¶1 As I was walking...in the great Yard that belongs to my Friend's Country-House. **a1720** SEWEL *Hist. Quakers* (1795) I. ii. 96 The steeple-house yard. **1818** SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxv, I wandered from one quadrangle of old-fashioned buildings to another, and from thence to the College-yards, or walking ground. **1838** LYTTON *Alice* v. iv, Four horses, that had been only fourteen miles, had just re-entered the yard. **1842** DICKENS *Amer. Notes* v, An old cathedral yard. *Ibid.* viii, A long row of small houses fronting on the street, and opening at the back upon a common yard. **1908** [MISS FOWLER] *Betu. Trent & Ancholme* 20 The small yard between the stables.

b. spec. †(a) The 'ground' of a playhouse, orig. an inn-yard; (**b**) *Sc. pl.* a school playground; (**c**) = COURT *sb.*¹ 3 (esp. in proper names, as *Carter's Yard*, *Thompson's Yard* in Oxford).

1609 DEKKER *Gull's Horn-bk.* vi. 29 Neither are you to be hunted from thence though the Scar-crowes in the yard, hoot at you. **1808** SCOTT *Autobiogr.* in *Lockhart* (1839) I. 41, I made a brighter figure in the yards than in the class. **1815** — *Guy M.* ii, Half the youthful mob of 'the yards' used to assemble...to see Dominic Sampson...descend the stairs from the Greek class. **1851** in Mayhew *London. Labour* (1861) II. 211/1 Every Street, Lane, Square, Yard, Court, Alley, Passage, and Place...are to be thus cleansed.

c. Contextually = CHURCHYARD, GRAVE-YARD.

1617 MORYSON *Itin.* 1. 145 Not farre thence is a yard vsed for common buriall, called the holy field, vulgarly *Campo Santo*. **1791** BURNS *There'll never be peace* ii, And now I greet round their green beds in the yerd. **1836** [HOOTON] *Bilberry Thurland* I. xi. 217 The road he had taken brought him at length to the church, through the yard of which it led. **1856** MISS YONGE *Daisy Chain* i. xxii, The little...church, its yard shaded with trees.

d. An inclosure attached to a prison, in which the prisoners take exercise. *liberty of the yard* (U.S.): see quot. 1828-32.

1777 HOWARD *Prisons Eng.* iii. 74 Why were not the walls of the yards repaired in time, that prisoners might with

safety be allowed the proper use of them? **1828-32** WEBSTER s.v. *Yard*, *Liberty of the yard*, is a liberty granted to persons imprisoned for debt, of walking in the yard, or within any other limits prescribed by law. **1851** MAYHEW *London. Labour* (1861) III. 438/1 This person...took me into the yard and stripped me.

e. the Yard, short for 'Scotland Yard', the chief London police office.

1888 GUNTER *Mr. Potter* xviii. 221 They're tired of paying your old master's salary up at the Yard. **1904** SWEENEY *At Scotland Yard* ii, W. E. Monro...was one of the greatest public servants who ever worked at the Yard.

f. U.S. A college campus or the area enclosed by its main buildings; *spec.* at Harvard: *the Yard*, the quadrangle formed by the original college buildings.

1637-9 *Harvard Coll. Rec. in Publ. Colonial Soc. Mass.* (1925) I. 172 Mr Nathaniel Eatons Account... The frame in the College Yard & digging the cellar. **1841** *Harvard Faculty Orders & Regul.* 6 Collecting in groups round the doors of the College buildings or in the yard [shall be considered a violation of decorum]. **1871** L. H. BAGG *Four Years at Yale* 27 Besides the fourteen buildings already described, the only others within the yard...were the two wooden dwelling-houses. **1902** *Boston Even. Record* 18 Mar. 8/4 (*heading*) Out of the 'Yard'—how the Harvard students have gone to the 'Gold Coast'. **1942** BERRY & VAN DEN BARK *Amer. Thes. Slang* §829.12 *Campus*, camp, orchard,... yard. **1947** *Harvard Alumni Bull.* 12 Apr. 586/2 Few people have likely ever thought of the Yard as a bird sanctuary... What of the Yard? There must be bird records. **1970** 'E. QUEEN' *Last Women in his Life* III. 163, I found out the truth about myself in my freshman year at Harvard... There was an episode in a bar, well away from the Yard. **1981** 'D. JORDAN' *Double Red* xv. 71 Stumbling across the Yard... after too much Harvard Provision Co. gin.

2. An inclosure forming a pen for cattle or poultry, a storing place for hay, or the like, belonging to a farm-house or surrounded by farm-buildings, or one in which a barn or similar building stands. (Cf. *barn-yard*, *FARM-YARD*, *poultry-yard*.)

c1300 *Havelok* 702 þe hennes of þe yerde. *c1386* CHAUCER *Nun's Pr. T.* 27 A yeerd she hadde enclosed al aboute With stikkes and a drye dych with-oute In which she hadde a Cok. *Ibid.* 177 Oon of hem was logged in a stalle Fer in a yeerd with Oxen of the plough. **1481** CAXTON *Reynard* v. (Arb.) 10, I [*sic* chantecler] had viij fayr sones and seuen fayr daughters whiche...wente in a verde whiche was walked round a boutte. **1551** N. *Country Wills* (Surtees 1908) 218 To Jhon Collin,...one lode of heyde in my yarde. **1573-80** TUSSEUR *Husb.* (1878) 58 All maner of strawe that is scattered in yard. **1646** SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* III. xxv. 175 One of the Lyons leaped downe into a neighbours yard, where nothing regarding the crowing or noise of the Cocks, hee eat them up. **1697** DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* II. 766 His wanton Kids...Fight harmless Battels in his homely Yard. **1749** FIELDING *Tom Jones* iv. viii, A vast herd of cows in a rich farmer's yard. **1840** DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xv, A thriving farm with sleepy cows lying about the yard.

3. A piece of inclosed ground of moderate size, often adjoining a house and covered with grass or planted with trees; a garden. Now chiefly N. *Amer.* and *dial.*, a kitchen or cottage-garden (cf. DOOR-YARD, KAIL-YARD).

See also *grass-yard*, *GREEN-YARD*.

a1300 *Cursor M.* 1027 Paradis...es a yard cald o delites Wit all maner of suet spices. *Ibid.* 12522 He sent him to þe yerd...For to gedir þam sum cale. **1390** GOWER *Conf.* II. 30 And after Phillis Philliberd This tre was cleped in the yerd. *c1400* *Sc. Trojan War* (Horstm.) i. 255 3ardes for herbys ande for virgerys. *c1440* *Gesta Rom.* xxvii. 111 (Add. MS.), He had a faire yerde [*Harl. MS.* garden], that he mekell loved. *c1440* *Prompt. Parv.* 537/2 3erd, or 3orde..., *ortus*. **1477** in *Exch. Rolls Scot.* IX. 101 note, Oure landis of Auld Lendoris with the brewlandis cotagiis and yairdis therof. **1536** BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* (1821) I. p. lvi, Aqua vite...maid...of sic natural herbis as grew in thair awin yairdis. **1589** R. BRUCE *Serm.* v. (1590) T 2 b, Quhat Christ suffered for thame in the zarde [*sic* Gethsemane], and on the crosse. **1718** in *Nairne Peirage Evid.* (1874) 33 Houses peirage yairdis orchayrdis. **1792** BURNS *Auld Rob Morris* iii, My daddie has nought but a cot-house and yard. **1818** SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* ix, Any of her apple-trees or cabbages which she had left rooted in the 'yard' at Woodend. *a1825* FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Yard*, the garden belonging to a cottage or ordinary messuage. **1835** J. H. INGRAHAM *South-West* II. 88 Striped grass, cultivated in yards at the north. **1877** H. G. MURRAY *Tom Kittle's Wake* 21 My daughter, Molly tief pass, maam, den go da him yard. **1889** MARY E. WILKINS *Far Away Melody* etc. (1891) 11 Four...old apple-trees, which stood promiscuously about the yard back of the Cottage. **1907** W. JEKYLL *Jamaican Song & Story* 163 The immediate surroundings of the house are called the yard. They seldom speak of going to a friend's house. They say they are going to his yard. **1932** 'L. G. GIBBON' *Sunset Song* 97 The berries hung ripe in the yard of the gardener Galt. **1947** J. A. LOMAX *Adventures Ballad Hunter* vii. 185 She says, 'Can you cut yards?' an' I says, 'Yes ma'am.' She says, 'Go roun,...to de back...you'll find a lawn-mower there, and then begin cuttin'.' **1956** G. E. EVANS *Ask Fellows who cut Hay* iv. 55 The village was almost entirely self-supporting, most families living on what they grew or reared on their yards or allotments. **1980** W. MAXWELL *So Long, see you Tomorrow* (1981) ii. 22 The rented house had no yard to speak of.

4. a. An inclosure set apart for the growing, rearing, breeding, or storing of something or the carrying on of some work or business. Cf. *brickyard*, *DOCKYARD*, *dung-yard*, *hemp-yard*, *ORCHARD* (OE. *ortgeard*), *SHIPYARD*, *tan-yard*, *VINEYARD*, †*winyard* (OE. *wingearð*).

1378 [see *hemp-yard*, *HEMP sb.* 6b]. **1520** *Perth Hammermen Bk.* (1889) 15 Ressavit fra John Kynloch of this yeris excestres of the yairds. **1523** LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. xvi. 7/2 Great leuers...the whiche they founde in a

carpenters yarde. 1555 *Act 2 & 3 Phil. & Mary c. 16* §7 Before the said Boate... bee lanced out of the Yarde or Grounde wherin the same Boate... shall fortune to bee made. a 1610 HEALEY *Theophrastus* (1636) 23 He hath a little yard, gravelled fit for wrestling. 1696 *Cal. St. Pap., Dom.* 282 The porter, master-caulker and 'teamer' of Deptford Yard. 1748 *Anson's Voy.* 11. vi. 200 A ship-carpenter in the yard at Portsmouth. 1803 PERING in *Naval Chron.* XV. 61 The yard is paid quarterly. 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, River*, What can be more amusing than Searle's yard on a fine Sunday morning? 1837 *Pickw.* ii. 'What's Mr. Smithie?' inquired Mr. Tracy Tupman. 'Something in the yard [= the Dockyard]', replied the stranger. 1855 *Poultry Chron.* 111. 191 Eggs from the Yards of Mr. Punchard. 1873 G. S. BADEN-POWELL *New Homes* 194 The 'yards'... are usually situated near the head station. 1891 W. K. BROOKS *Oyster* 131 Around each clare is built a levee or dirt wall called a yard... This yard retains the water filling the basin.

b. The piece of ground adjacent to a railway station or terminus, used for making up trains, storing rolling-stock, etc.; also an inclosure in which cabs, trams, etc. are kept when not in use.

1827 *see wagon-yard, WAGON sb.* 13]. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* ii. A... young man... emerging suddenly from the coach yard. 1894 *Daily News* 18 May 5/4 Yesterday his cabs were still in the yard. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 8 Jan. 7/3 The yard foreman knows the capacity of each of the engines he sends out from his yard.

c. the Yards, the stockyards where cattle are collected for slaughter, esp. in Chicago. *U.S.*

1865 *Atlantic Monthly* Jan. 83/2 The average weekly expenditure by butchers at the New York yards during the year 1863 was \$328,865. 1906 U. SINCLAIR *Jungle* xv. 170 Already the yards were full of activity. 1935 A. G. MACDONELL *Visit to America* vii. 114 As in Chicago, the pride of Omaha is the Stock-yards... I was looking straight down into the Yards. 1974 'M. ALLEN' *Super Tour* ii. 57 I've been called all kinds of things ever since I was a kid back of the Yards.

5. U.S. and Canada. An area in which moose and deer congregate, esp. during the winter months.

1829 HALIBURTON *Nova-Scotia* II. ix. 392 In winter they [sc. moose] form herds, and when the snow is deep, they describe a circle, and press the snow with their feet, until it becomes hard, which is called by hunters a yard, or pen. 1864-5 WOOD *Homes without H.* 614 So confident is the Elk in the security of the 'yard', that it can scarcely ever be induced to leave its snowy fortification. 1884 *Science* 28 Mar. 394/1 Immense yards, containing hundreds of deer, existed along the various tributaries [of the Ottawa]. 1903 *Longman's Mag.* July 248 [They] never failed to destroy a 'yard' to the last fawn.

6. attrib. and Comb. (a) in sense 1, as *yard-broom, door, gate, wall*; *yard-dog*, a watchdog kept in the yard of a house or dwelling; (b) in sense 2, as *yard-bar, -dung, -liquor, -pond, -room*; †(c) in sense 3, (*Sc.* and *U.S.*), as *yard door, end, house, tack*; *yard-boy*, a general labourer; a gardener or gardener's boy (*obs. exc. Caribbean*); †*yard-dike*, a garden wall; *yard-grass*, a low annual grass, *Eleusine indica*, common in 'yards' about houses in parts of U.S.A.; also *Cynodon Dactylon*; *yard sale U.S.*, a sale of miscellaneous second-hand items held in the garden of a private house; (d) in sense 4, 4b, esp. relating to dockyards, ship-yards, cab yards, or railway yards, as *yard clerk, craft, -keeper, -lighter, -master, yard-money*, fees payable by hirers of cabs from cab-owners to stablemen, etc. on returning them to the yard.

(a) 1580 in *Archaeologia* LXIV. 358 To mak and hang a yard dor at the nether end of the turrit at the bridg. 1795 HAIGHTON in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXV. 197, I kept this animal nineteen months, during the greatest part of which he performed the office of a yard dog. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* Intro. (*init.*), Trusty, the yard-dog. 1857 KINGSLEY *Two Yrs.* Ago iii. Lofty garden and yard walls of grey stone. 1865 *Herew.* xix. Let me and my serving-man go free out of thy yard gate. 1905 A. C. BENSON *Thread of Gold* ii. A big black yard-dog. 1908 [MISS FOWLER] *Betw. Trent & Ancholme* 29 Near the yard doors. 1921 *Blackw. Mag.* Feb. 195/1 Dip an old yard-broom in a bucket of water. 1982 J. SCOTT *Local Lads* iii. 32 Billy took up an aged, patchily moulted yardbroom.

(b) 1573-80 TUSSEY *Husb.* (1878) 119 Some barnroome haue little, and yardeome as much. 1744 W. ELLIS *Mod. Husb.* Jan. xi. 73 He may now carry out his Stable or Yard Dung. 1764 *Museum Rusticum* II. 1. 3 When I make use of yard dung, I take care it is very rotten. 1778 [W. MARSHALL] *Minutes Agric.*, Digest 23 It is better management to prevent, than either to waste or cart-out a superfluity of Yard-liquor. 1827 CLARE *Sheph. Cal.* 20 While ducks and geese... Plunge in the yard-pond brimming o'er. 1869 MRS. WHITNEY *Hitherto* xi. The lowing of cattle at their yard-bars.

(c) 1473 *Rental Bk. Cupar-Angus* (1879) I. 189 He sal put bath husband tak and 3ard tak til al possibill polyci. 1505 *Ibid.* 260 Biggind of gud 3erd hous, sufficiand chawmeris and stabulis to resau and herbry... xij or xvj hors. 1532 *Abst. Protocols Town Clerks Glasgow* (1897) IV. 57 The rademyng and lowsing of twa riggis of land, lyand at his yard end. 1595 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 132/2 Up the saidis Alesteris eist yaird-dyk to the maich of Galdwalmoir. 1691 *Jedburgh Counc. Rec.* 19 Mar. (MS.), For his wrongous... awaytakeing of certain stones out of the minister's yard dyke at his awn hand. 1788 J. WOODFORD *Diary* 7 Jan. (1927) III. 2 To my Yard Boy, Charles Crossley, for 3 Quarters of a Years Wages pd o. 15. 9. 1809 A. HENRY *Trav.* 79 Behind the yard-door of my own house... there was a low fence. 1822 J. WOODS *Two Yrs.* Resid. *Illinois* 199 Yard-grass comes on land that has been much trodden; it is something like cock's-foot-grass, except the seed. 1831 C. FARQUHARSON *Jrnl.* 2 Dec. in *Relic of Slavery* (1957) 47 Employed all hands weeding... along with the yard boys. 1848 SCHOMBURGK *Hist. Barbados*

586 *Cynodon dactylon*. Devil's Grass. Bahama, or Yard Grass. 1907 A. LANG *Hist. Scot.* IV. xvi. 392 A minister's yard dyke, or garden wall, was overthrown. 1958 S. SELVON *Turn again Tiger* viii. 185, I take the worst job that was going — as a kind of yard-boy by the white people house. 1975 *New Rev.* May 10/2 In and around Port of Spain cooks, ironers and yardboys in attendance. 1976 *Flint* (Michigan) *Jrnl.* 12 July c-5 *Yard sale*—1508 Webber canning jars, screen tent, patterns, books, [etc.]. 1982 M. McMULLEN *Until Death do us Part* (1983) vii. 46 There was a yard sale down our street.

(d) a 1647 PETTE in *Archaeologia* (1796) XII. 266 Those businesses, which were put out by the great to divers yard-keepers. 1737 J. Chamberlayne's *St. Gt. Brit.* (ed. 33) 11. 87 Yard-keeper and Fire-maker. 1804 *Naval Chron.* XII. 504 Six Gun-vessels and Yard-lighters. 1861 (16 Apr.) in *Orders of Council Naval Service* (1904) II. 29 Pensions... granted to the Riggers employed in Your Majesty's Dock-yards, and the Seamen belonging to the Yard Craft. 1864 *Rep. Children's Employment Comm.* 139/1 in *Parl. Papers* XXII. 487/1 Mr Thomas Wheat, yard-master... My duty is to give orders... and manage the work. 1883 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade Suppl.*, *Yard Clerk*, one who has the overlooking of the yard of a brewery, builder, etc. 1884 *Bath Jrnl.* 26 July 7/3 On returning to the yard at night he has to stump up ten shillings more, plus a mysterious fee of two shillings called 'yard money'. 1889 *Boston* (Mass.) *Jrnl.* 9 Apr. 3/4 [A] yardmaster at Brattleboro' had one leg cut off by a switching train. 1891 C. ROBERTS *Adrift Amer.* 93 The brakeman was standing by to couple the cars that the yard engine was backing down on to the rest of the train. 1898 *Engineering Mag.* XVI. 67 The ordinary yard-handling of, say, an army corps.

yard (jɑ:d), *sb.*² **Forms:** 1 *gyrd, 3erd, (ierd)*, 1-2 *3ird, 3-6 3erd(e, yerd(e, 4-5 3arde, 4-7 yarde, (3 3ernde, 3eord, yeorde, yherde, 4 3ierd(e, 3eird, yeird, 3eerde, 3urde, 5 3earde, 3herde, yeerde, yerede, 6 yerdde), 5-7 yearde(e, (9 Sc. yaird), 5-yard. [OE. **gierd*, *gyrd*, *gird*, Angl. *3erd* = OFris. *ierde* (Efris. *jæd*), OS. -*gerda* (in *segalgerda* SAILYARD), MLG. *gerde*, MDu. *gherde*, *garde*, Du. *garde*, *gard*, OHG. **gartja*, *gardea*, *gerta*, MHG., G. *gerte*, generally taken to represent OTeut. **gadzjō*, deriv. of **gadzaz* (whence OE. *3eard*; MLG. *gaert*, OHG. *gart*, ON. *gaddr* GAD *sb.*¹, Goth. *gadz* prick), prob. related to L. *hasta* (:—**ghazdhā*) spear, OIr. *gat* rod.*

Some, however, regard the *r* in this word as original and connect it with OSl. *žrūd*, Russ. *žerd* 'thin pole.'

†1. a. A straight slender shoot or branch of a tree; a twig, stick. *Obs.*

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp. Matt.* xi. 7 3erd. . from uinde styrende [*arundinem uento agitatam*]. c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 8 Seo drige gyrd, þe næs on eorðan aplantod... and swa-beah groew. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 510 A gret ok he wolde braide adoun as it a smal 3erd were. c 1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* III. met. ii. (1868) 68 þe 3erde of a tree þat is haled adoun by mysty strengþe bowip redely þe croupe adoun. a 1425 *Cursor M.* 5614 (Trin.) A cofur of 3erdes dud she be wroust. c 1425 *Engl. Conq. Irel.* 30 They arered a dyche, & a feble castel vpon, of yardes and turues. c 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 221 A branche of palme of paradyse of þe wheche þe 3earde was grene as gresse.

†b. *fig.* in reference to Isaiah xi. 1: cf. ROD *sb.*¹ 1 b. *Obs.*

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 217 An 3erd sal spruten of iesse more. a 1400 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 57/169 Heil þou 3erde of Iesse. a 1400 *Leg. Rood* (1871) 212 þou seydest a 3erd schulde spryng Oute of þe rote of Lentill Iesse. 1450-1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* 11. 172.

†c. In reference to taking or surrendering land, esp. in phr. *by the yard* (law-Fr. *per le virge*): see *quots.* and cf. ROD *sb.*¹ 1 c. *Obs.*

1523 FITZHERB. *Surv.* 13 b. There be other tenantes by copy of court role, and is called tenantes per le virge .s. by the yerde. And they be called so bycause whan they wolde surrendre their tenementes in to the lordes handes to the vse of another, they shall haue a lytell yerde in his hande by custome of the courte, and that he shall deluyer vnto the steward. 1559 *Bk. Presidentes* 48 b. How the copy should be made of landes holden by the yarde.

†d. Used typically of a thing of no value.

c 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 9660 He 3eues of hem not a 3erd.

†2. a. A staff or stick carried in the hand as a walking stick, or by a shepherd or herdsman. *Obs.*

c 1000 *Ag. Gosp. Matt.* x. 10 Næbbe ge gold... ne codd on wege ne twa tunecan ne ge-scy ne gyrd [Lindisf. *gyrd*; *Rushw.* *ierde*]. c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Num.* xvii. 10 Ber Aarones girde in to þam getelde. c 1250 *Gen. & Exod.* 2987 He smot wið ðat 3erde on ðe lond. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 5894 þan tok aaron þis ilk yeird, And on þe flore he kest it don. a 1400 *Leg. Rood* (1871) 141 þe heerdes 3erde. a 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* lxxv. The yerde wherewith Moyses departed the see. 1538 *Bale Thre Lawes* (facs.) Bv. For horse take Moyses yearde, There is no better charme.

†b. (Also *golden yard*; cf. *yard-band* in sense 13, and *ell-wand*.) The Belt of Orion. *Obs.*

1551 [see GOLDEN a. 10]. 1651 *Loves of Hero & Leander* (1653) 23 The Yard, Orion, and Charles Wain.

†3. a. A stick or rod used as an instrument for administering strokes by way of punishment or otherwise. *Obs.*

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 290 3enim ane girde, sleah on þæt bæc þonne biþ þæt hors hal. a 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 243 þu aht to habben... Stede and twei spores and ane smearte 3erd. c 1205 *LAY.* 20318 Ofte me hine smæt mid smærte 3erden [c 1275 *3erdes*]. a 1250 *Prov. Ælfred* 451 in O.E. *Misc.* 130 þe mon þe spærþ yeorde and yonge childe. a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 777 Hit [sc. a horse]... poleþ bope 3erd & spure. c 1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* II. 1427 Tristith wele that I Wole be her champion with spore and yerd. a 1400 *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 537 3if þi child be not a-fert, 3if him i-nouh of

þe 3erd. 1430-40 *LYDG. Bochas* (1554) Prol. xxviii, His yard of castigation. c 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 40 He made hys confessor bete hym wyth a 3arde apone þe backe al bare, as a chylde ys beten yn scole. c 1450 *Mirour Saluacioun* (1888) 5 The payens bett him with scourgis & with scharp 3erdes eke.

†b. *fig.* A means or instrument of punishment; hence, punishment, chastisement. *Obs.*

a 1225 *Anec.* R. 184 þenþ 3et þet hwose euer hermeð þe, . . þenþ þet he is Godes 3erd, & tet God bet þe mide him. *Ibid.* 324 Ase ofte ase þe hund of helle kecheð ei god from þe, smit him anonriht mid te 3erde of tunge schrift. 1389 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 95 Qwo-so make any noyse... and þe den comaunde him to ben stille, and he ne wil nouth, scal taken him þe 3erde. c 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* 1. xxii. (1859) 24 Tretynng with yerd of loue, and discipline. c 1449 *Pecock Repr.* iv. ii. 424 He thretened hem that he wolde come to hem in 3erde, that is to seie, in peyne. c 1530 *Crt. Love* 363, I shall... mekly take her chastisement and yerd.

†4. A wand, rod, or staff carried as a symbol of office, authority, etc.; hence in *fig. phr.* *under the yard*, under (the) rule or discipline (of). *Obs.*

c 1205 *LAY.* 22480 He bar on his honde ænne mucle 3eord of golde. c 1275 *Passion our Lord* 382 in O.E. *Misc.* 48 Seppe hi nomen a red cloþ and duden him a-bute And one yerd on his hond. 13... *Seuyn Sag.* (W.) 142 Dioclician the maistres herde, He strok his berd, and schok his yerde. c 1386 CHAUCER *Clerk's Prolog.* 22 Hoost quod he I am vnder yore yerde Ye han of vs as now the gouernance. a 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 813 þen was him geuyn vp þe 3erde & zolden þe rewme. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 537/2 3erde, borne a-forne a worthyman. c 1470 *HARDING Chron.* CCXXI. iv. Complentyes... Reformured were well vnder his yerd egall.

5. Naut. A wooden (or steel) spar, comparatively long and slender, slung at its centre from, and forward of, a mast and serving to support and extend a square sail which is bent to it.

(See also JACKYARD, MIZEN-YARD, SAILYARD, TOPGALLANT-yard.)

c 725-c 1440 [see SAILYARD 1]. 1336-7 [see YARD-ROPE]. 1465 *Mamm. & Househ. Exp.* (Roxb.) 199 My mastyr paid for the yerde [of the said ship]. 1591 *HARINGTON Orl. Fur.* xli. xvii. At last with striuing, yard and all was torne, And þat therof into the sea was borne. 1624 *CAPT. J. SMITH Virginia* III. xii. 90 Some [ships] lost their Masts, some their Sayles blowne from their Yards. 1633 T. JAMES *Voy.* 19 We put abroad all the sayle that was at yards. 1745 P. THOMAS *Jrnl. Anson's Voy.* 21 The Sails were almost always splitting and blowing from the Yards. 1814 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* III. xii. Fain to strike the galley's yard, And take them to the oar. 1853 DICKENS *Bleak Ho.* i. Fog lying out on the yards, and hovering in the rigging of great ships. 1868 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* Prol. (1870) I. 26 We saw the yards swing creaking round the mast.

†6. A straight rod or bar used in various connexions (see *quots.*). *Obs.*

a 1490 *BOTONER Itin.* (1778) 260 The yerdys called sparres of the halle ryalle. 1538 *ELYOT, Radius*, . . a rodde or yerde, that Geometicians haue to describe lynes. 1594 *BLUNDEVIL Exerc., Navig.* xii. (1597) 322 b, In vsing M. Hoods staffe they shall... need... onely to marke vpon what degree of the yarde the shadow of the Vane strecketh.

†7. A measuring-rod; *spec.* a measuring-rod or -stick of the length of three feet; a yard-measure.

See also CLOTH-YARD, *ell-yard* (ELL¹ 5), METEYARD (OE. *meteyard*), *tailor's yard* (TAILOR *sb.* 6b).

c 1000-1050 *Instit. Pol.* xii. [vii.] (Liebermann 478) And riht is, þæt ne beo ænig mete-gyrd [*Quadrupartitus mensuralis uirga*] lengre þonne oðer. c 1430 *Met yerde* [see METEYARD]. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 537/2 3erde, metwande, ulna. 1557 *NORTH Guevara's Diall Princes Gen. Prol.* Aij. By the yarde the marchaunte measureth al his war. 1656 *EARL MONM. tr. Boccacini's Advts. fr. Parnass.* I. x. (1674) 13 He had a very just yard at home. a 1658 *CLEVELAND London Lady* 81 The Heroes of the Yard haue shut Their Shops. 1712 *ARBUTHNOT John Bull* III. v. If they offered to come into the warehouse, then strait went the yard slap over their noddle. 1751 *JOHNSON Rambler* No. 116 ¶7, I was... bound to a haberdasher... I learned in a few weeks to handle a yard with great dexterity.

8. A unit of linear measure equal to 16½ feet or 5½ yards (but varying locally); a rod, pole, or perch. Now *local*.

Sometimes *spec.* distinguished as *land-yard*.

900 in *Earle Land-Chartes* (1888) 351, xvi. gyrdga gauoltininga. 901-9 in *Thorpe Dipl. Angl. Ævi Sax.* (1865) 156 Dæs landes be suðan ðære cirican... xxiij. gerda on lange & on bræde ðar hit bradest is fif geurda, & ðær hit unbradost is anne geurde. 11... *Textus Roffensis* in *Birch Cart. Sax.* 111. 659 To werene þa land peran & preo gyrdra to pillianæ [L. *tres virgatas plancas ponere*]. c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 1449 Her vnder is a 3erde depe A water. 1828 [see *land-yard*, *LAND sb.*¹ 12]. 1858 *SIMMONDS Dict. Trade s.v.*, As a linear measure, the yard varies considerably in different parts of the kingdom; at Hertford the land-yard is 3 feet; at Saltash, 16½ feet; at Falmouth and Bridgend 18 feet; and at Downpatrick, 21 feet. 1886 *ELWORTHY W. Som. Word-bk.*, Yard, a measure of five and a half yards (16½ feet) both long and square, i.e. the same as a rod, pole, or perch.

9. a. A measure of length (traditionally the standard unit of English long measure) equal to three feet or thirty-six inches. (See *quot.* 1867.) Also the corresponding measure of area (*square yard* = 9 square feet) or of solidity (*cubic yard* = 27 cubic feet).

The earlier standard was the ell = 45 inches (*ulna* in Stat. de Pistoribus, 13th cent.); this was succeeded by the *verge* (1353) Act 27 Edw. III, stat. 2, c. 10), of which *yard* is the English equivalent.

1377 *LANGL. P. Pl.* B. v. 214 Thanne drowe I me amonges draperes my donet to lerne... Amonge þe riche rayes I rendred a lessoun, To broche hem with a pak-nedle... And put hem in a presse and pynned hem þerinne, Tyl ten 3erdes or twelue hadde tolled out threttene. 1426-7 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* 64 For v 3erdis and a half of grene bokeram iij s. iij d.

1496-7 *Ibid.* 32 An Awlter cloth. . conteynyng in lengthe iij yardis di. **1518** *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden Soc.) II. 152 A gowne of vi brode yardis at vijth the yard xxxvjth. **1598** SHAKS. *Merry W.* I. iii. 46. I am in the waste two yards about. **1617** J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Three Weekes Observ.* E 4 b, I bought . . a yard and halfe of pudding for five pence. **1663** GERBIER *Counsel* 78 One hundred of Lathes will cover six yards of seeling, and lathing is worth six pence the yard. **1762-71** H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Painting* (1786) IV. 43 Sir James could obtain but 40s. a yard square for the cupola of St. Paul's. **1825** SCOTT *Betrothed* vii, Sir Cook, let me have half a yard or so of broiled beef. **1835** DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Seven-Dials*, When penny magazines shall have superseded penny yards of song. **1848** — *Dombey* xxxv, Mrs. Perch. . has made the tour of the establishment, and priced the silks and damasks by the yard. **1867** THOMSON & TAIT *Nat. Phil.* I. 1. §407 The British standard of length is the Imperial Yard, defined as the distance between two marks on a certain metallic bar, preserved in the Tower of London, when the whole has a temperature of 60° Fahrenheit. **1896** *Law Times Rep.* LXXIII. 615/1 The railway line. . was perfectly straight for a distance of over 700 yards.

fig. **1583** GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* iv. 27-31 We imagine God to be like our selues, & we measure him by our owne yard. a **1626** BACON (J.), A peer, a counsellor, and a judge are not to be measured by the common yard.

b. Vaguely, hyperbolically, or fig.; phr. *by the yard*, at great length, without end; also, of books or paintings: bought by quantity or size rather than for quality.

c **1386** CHAUCEER *Knt.'s T.* 192 Hir yellow heer was broyded in a tresse Bihynde hir bak a yerde long. **1842** TENNYSON *Godiva* 19 His beard a foot before him, and his hair A yard behind. a **1843** SOUTHEY *Comm.-pl. Bk.* Ser. II. (1849) 209 Latinisms, — yard-and-half-long words. **1845** J. W. TURNER *Razor Strop Man* 3 He was spinning poetical rhyme by the yard; Had Shakespear been living 'twould astonish'd the bard. **1853** 'C. BEDE' *Verdant Green*, i. viii, Spit us out a yard or two more, Gig-lamps. **1869** 'WAT BRADWOOD' *The O.V.H.* v, He. . could talk by the yard of what little he did know. **1881** H. JAMES Jun. *Portrait of Lady xlii*, He had a face a yard long; I wondered what ailed him. **1900** ELINOR GLYN *Visits Elizabeth* (1906) 117, I danced it with some idiot who almost at once let yards and yards of my gauze frills get torn. **1933** J. BETJEMAN *Ghastly Good Taste* i. 12 The old books. . can be sold. . by the yard to America as wall decoration. **1976** 'O. BLEECK' *No Questions Asked* ii. 29 He bought fine paintings by the yard and rare books by the case.

c. Phr. *yard of ale*, etc., a deep slender glass for liquor, or the amount of liquor contained in it. *yard of clay* (*clay yard*), a long clay tobacco-pipe. *yard of satin* (slang), a glass of gin (see SATIN sb. 4). *yard of tin*, a coachman's horn.

[**1828** W. T. MONCRIEFF *Tom & Jerry* III. vi, *Log*. The haberdasher is. . the spirit-merchant. . and tape the commodity he deals in. . white is Max, and red is Cognac. *Jerry*. Then give me a yard and a half of red.] **1842** *Punch* II. 23 His Highness condescendingly indulged in a pot of half-and-half and a yard of clay. **1866** *Lond. Misc.* 19 May 235/2 The stolidity of a mynheer smoking his clay yard. **1872** *N. & Q.* 4th Ser. X. 49 At the annual Vinis, or feast, of the mock corporation of Hanley (Staffordshire), the initiation of each member, in 1783, consisted in his swearing fealty to the body, and drinking a yard of wine—i.e., a pint of port or sherry out of a glass one yard in length. **1899** *Ibid.* 9th Ser. III. 97/1 The (disused and probably illegal) 'yard' of ale. This is a measure a yard long, holding, I should fancy, more than a pint. **1902** *Tatler* 8 Jan. 52 A 'Yard of Ale' Glass. It is 38 in. high and contains two pints of ale. **1903** C. G. HARPER *Stage-Coach & Mail* I. xii. 279 That instrument [sc. the key-bugle] came over from Germany in 1818, and for a time pretty thoroughly displaced the old 'yard of tin' the earlier guards had blown so lustily.

d. In Building: *yard of lime, mortar, stone*, etc.: see QUOTS.

1851 LAXTON *Builder's Price Bk.* 9, 27 cubic feet, or 1 cubic yard, contains 21 struck bushels, which is considered a single load. *Ibid.* 12 A rod of brickwork requires 1½ cubic yard of chalk lime, and 3 single loads or yards of drift. **1881** *Dict. Archit.* VI. 84/2 A standard perch being taken as 21 ft. (or 16½ ft.) long, 18 ins. high, and 12 ins. thick. This is about 'a yard of stone', or a ton, or a horse-load. **1892** *Ibid.* VIII, *Yard of Lime*, or load. In 1750 it was equal to 30 or 32 bushels.

10. a. In full *yard of land* (OE. *gyrd landes* = *L. virgata terræ*): An area of land of varying extent according to the locality, but most freq. 30 acres: commonly taken as = a fourth of a hide. See also YARDLAND.

688-95 *Laus Ine* cxi. (Liebermann), ðif mon gepingað gyrdle landes [Quadrupartitus uirgata terre] oppe mare to rædegafole & geereð, gif se hlaford him wile þæt land aræran to weorce & to gafole, ne þearf he him onfon, gif he him nan botl ne selð, & polie þara æcra. **937** in Earle *Land Charters* (1888) 322 þis synd þære anre gyrdle landgemæro æt æschyrste þe gebyrað into þære hyde æt toppeshamme. **978-992** *Charter of Oswald* in Kemble *Cod. Dipl.* III. 263 Landes sumne dæl ðæt syndon .i. hida æt Bradlingcotan and an gyrd æt Genenofre. a **1122** O.E. *Chron.* an. 1085 (Laud MS.) Swa swyðe nearwelice he hit lett ut aspyrian, þæt næs an ælþig hilde ne an gyrdle landes. . þæt næs gesæt on his gewrite. **14.** — *Tretye in W. of Henley's Husb.* (1890) 44. iiii acres makithe a yerde of londe and v yerdis makithe a hyde of lande. c **1450** *Godstow Reg.* 559 A Charter. . confirming to ser John Trillawe. . and to Edmond Mabaunke, v. mesis, viij. yerdis of lond, **1534** *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden Soc.) II. 307 Seased. . of and in a messe half a yard of land a closse called Grymes closse. . in thyngden. **1567** in F. J. Baigent *Rec. Crondal* (1891) 163 One yarde of customary land, . . graunted to and with the said message or messuages. **1618** *Crt.-roll Gt. Waltham Manor*, Ad tres rodas prati, parcellam de Alizaunder's yardland, . . et ad unam croftam terre. . parcell. unius virgate terre vocat. Alisaunder's yarde.

b. An area of land of the extent of a quarter of an acre, being, theoretically, a strip of land

bounded by a 'yard' (sense 8) and a furlong, i.e. 5½ × 220 yards; a rood.

c **1450** *Godstow Reg.* 290, v acris and a yerd of his arabie lond. **1613** *MS. Acc. St. John's Hosp., Canterb.*, One acer of land and iij yeades & viij pearches. **1726** in W. Wing *Ann. Steeple Aston* (1875) 54 Fourth part of an acre of meadow ground, called a yerd. **1893** MRS. B. STAPLETON *Three Oxf. Parishes* 309 A yard is a fourth part of a lot. . An acre is a lot.

† 11. a. The virile member, penis; also = PHALLUS 1. (So *L. virga.*) *Obs.*

1379 *Glouc. Cath. MS.* 19 No. I, lib. 1, ca. 3, fo. 5 [The urine] passith out by the 3erde. **1382** WYCLIF *Gen.* xvii. 11 3e shulen circumside the flehs of the ferthermore parti of 3oure 3eerde. a **1425** tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 92, I haue oft tyme sene puluis grecus for to auale in þe cancre of a mannez 3erde. **1588** SHAKS. *L.L.L.* v. ii. 676. **1607** MARKHAM *Caval.* 1. (1617) 23 You must haue care that your Stallions yarde be all of one colour. **1613** PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* vi. iv. 479 This yard, which they called Phallus, was usually made of Figge-tree. **1693** WOOD *Life* (O.H.S.) III. 420 A monstrous child. . It hath three yards and he makes use of them all at once. **1748** tr. *Vegetus Renatus' Distemp.* *Horses* 87 His Yard drops Matter. **1884** J. PAYNE *Tales fr. Arabic* I. 30 Aboulhusn. . abode naked, with his yard and his arse exposed.

transf. **1683** SNAPE *Anat. Horse* III. v. (1686) 114 It [sc. the pineal gland] is also called the Yard or Prick of the Brain. . because it resemblth a Man's Yard.

† b. = *pintle-fish* (see PINTLE 3). *Obs.*

1655 MOUFET & BENNET *Health's Improv.* xviii. 174 *Colyddæna*, Yards or shamefishes. . Gesner. . saith that the French men call this fish the Asses-prick, and Dr Wotton termeth it grosly the Pintle fish. **1661** LOVELL *Hist. Anim.* 232.

12. U.S. slang. One hundred dollars; one thousand dollars; a bill for this amount.

1926 *Amer. Mercury* Dec. 465/2 One hundred dollars is a century or a yard. **1929** C. F. COE *Hooch* vi. 130 He slips him \$300 an' promises him \$700 more if they'll spring him. . Baldy. . promises to come right to me for the seven yards that make the grand. **1932** *Amer. Speech* VII. 118 Yard. . . a thousand-dollar bill. **1942** BERRREY & VAN DEN BARK *Amer. Thes. Slang* §18.5 (One) G, -gee or grand, thou, (one) yard, one thousand. *Ibid.* §467.2 One C, yard, a hundred dollars. **1979** V. PATRICK *Pope of Greenwich Village* vii. 70 You throw a hundred to the guy who makes the loan. . He writes the loan for thirteen hundred, you take twelve, and a yard goes south to him.

13. attrib. and Comb. as (sense 5) *yard-mast, -tackle*; (sense 9) *yard-band, -glass, -length, -rule, yard-broad, -deep, -long, -square, -thick, -wide* adjs.; (sense 11) *yard-ball, -mattering, -syringe, yard-fallen* adj.; *yard-coal, yard-seam*, a seam of coal a yard thick; † *yard-fell*, the foreskin; *yard goods*, fabric sold by the yard; *yard-stick*, a rigid yard-measure; also fig., a standard of comparison; *yard-work* = YARDAGE² 1. Also YARDARM, -MEASURE, -ROPE, -WAND.

1650 BULWER *Anthropomet.* Descr. *j, *Yard-bals or Bels hung 'twixt the flesh and skin. **1828** *Craven Gloss.*, *Yerd-band, a rod of a yard in length. 'The Ladies yerd-band', the belt of Orion. **1711** *Act 10 Anne c.* 18 §104 All such Callicoës. . which shall be within One Eighth Part of a Yard of *Yard broad. . shall pay as Yard broad. **1855** J. PHILLIPS *Man. Geol.* 188 *Yard coal. 3 feet. **1753** *Chambers' Cycl. Suppl.* s.v., *Yard-fallen, a term. . to express a malady to which horses are sometimes subject, which is the hanging down of the penis from its sheath. . the creature not being able to draw it up again. **1382** WYCLIF *Jer.* iv. 4 *3erde felles. **1882** *N. & Q.* 6th Ser. V. 456/1 The expense of 7s. 6d. was not his main reason for the non-replacement of the absent *yard-glass. **1941** L. I. WILDER *Little Town on Prairie* v. 33 He'll get most of the trade in *yard goods, with somebody there in the store making them up into shirts. **1964** M. LAURENCE *Stone Angel* iv. 113 At the back was the section where yard-goods were sold, and ladies' and children's ready-to-wear garments hanging dejectedly on racks. **1982** S. T. HAYMON *Ritual Murder* xix. 134 Patter of the travelling men who sold crockery and yard goods. **1843** J. WARD *Borough Stoke-upon-Trent* 367 The drinking off a *yard-length-glass of ale at a single draught. a **1711** KEN *Edmund Poet.* Wks. II. 52 In Ewen Bows they *Yard long Arrows shot. **1798** in *Spirit Publ. Jnrls.* (1799) II. 276 A rope of yard-long words. **1822** SCOTT *Nigel* i, A nod of his yard-long visage. **1890** 'R. BOLDEWOOD' *Col. Reformer* (1891) 171 A yard-long dog-fish was dropped into. . the boat. **1579-80** NORTH *Plutarch* (1595) 1000 They sawe the threescore shippes of Cleopatra busie about their *yard-masts, and hoysing saile to flie. **1708** KERSEY, *Yard-mattering, a Distemper in Horses. **1862** *Times* 21 Jan., Strong active relays of pitmen and miners can soon clear the shaft from the *yard-seam. **1799** in *Spirit Publ. Jnrls.* III. 388 Their *yard-square towels. **1822** in W. R. Alger *Life Edwin Forrest* (1877) I. 100 Furnish me with every particular, especially how our Tid is, and whether she reads with the *yard-stick. **1828-32** WEBSTER, *Yard-stick*. **1844** EMERSON *Lect., Yng. American Wks.* (Bohn) II. 293 It has great value as a sort of yard-stick, and surveyor's line. **1878** *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVI. 507 Senator Huernan was content to measure the Bland Bill with the yard-stick of the constitutional lawyer. **1883** GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-mining*, *Yard-stick*, an ash walking-stick, 3 feet in length. . which a manager or underviewer carries with him in the pit, with which he roughly measures any lengths or work done. . and with which he chastises unruly lads. **1929** *Morning Post* 4 June 15/6 This is considered more effective than a rough comparison by means of tonnage or range. . It is hoped that this new American 'yardstick' will be ready for General Dawes when he leaves for London. **1949** *Here & Now* (N.Z.) Oct. 33/2 What yardstick should we use in assessing success or failure in farming? **1960** A. S. NEILL *Summerhill* (1962) vi. 334 We all have our standards of values and we measure others by our personal yardstick. **1984** A. SMITH *Mind* iv. xiv. 262 Whatever yardstick is used, it is probable that at least a million people on this planet kill themselves each year. **1694** SALMON *Bate's Dispens.* (1715) 455/1 Make an Injection into the Yard, with a proper *Yard-Syringe.

1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Yard-tackles, tackles attached to the fore and main yards. . whereby. . the boats. . are hoisted in and out. **1901** K. STEWART *By Allan Water* i. 1 *Yard-thick walls bear testimony to its own great age. **1766** W. GORDON *Econ. Counting-ho.* 427, 1 piece *yard-wide quilt. **1832** BABBAGE *Econ. Manuf.* xv. (ed. 3) 139 The practice, in retail linen-draper's shops, of calling certain articles *yard-wide*, when the real width is, perhaps, only seven-eighths or three-quarters. **1865** BRIERLEY *Irkdale* I. 9 Newspapers in his 'yardwide days', as he would term the period of his earliest acquaintance with manhood. **1893** *Lady* 17 Aug. 173/2 The yard-wide tweed usually sold for trousers. **1883** GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal-mining*, *Yard Work, . . synonymous with yardage.

yard, v. ¹ Chiefly *N. Amer.* [f. YARD sb.¹]

1. a. *trans.* To inclose (cattle, etc.) in a yard. Also with up.

1758 in *Essex Inst. Hist. Coll.* (1874) XII. 140 The Dutch here have a nasty practice of yarding their cows in ye Street before their doors. **1826** J. ATKINSON *Agric. & Grazing N.S.W.* 66 When they seem pretty well reconciled to the place, they are bedded out one night, and yarded the next. **1828-32** WEBSTER, *Yard, v.t.*, to confine cattle to the yard; as, to yard cows. (A farmer's word.) **1840** BUEL *Farmer's Comp.* 68 The cattle should be kept constantly yarded in winter. **1855** *Poultry Chron.* III. 201 An old Creeper hen that had been yarded with the Chittagong rooster. **1859** H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* xxxi, Well, lad, suppose we yard these rams? **1865** [see round v.¹ 5]. **1885** FINCH-HATTON *Advance Australia!* 83 Seven or eight men were yarding up a mob of cattle.

b. To store up (wood) in a yard.

1878 *Lumberman's Gaz.* Jan. 12 The logs which have been yarded or piled up in the woods. **1903** *Windsor Mag.* Sept. 405/2 They [sc. beavers] commence to build their houses and yard-up wood for the winter in September.

c. To shoot deer in their yards.

a **1891** *Tribune Bk. Sports* 432 (Cent. D.) 'Pot-hunters' have other methods of shooting the Adirondack deer, such as yarding and establishing salt licks.

2. *intr.* Of moose, etc.: To resort to winter quarters (see YARD sb.¹ 5). Also with up.

1852 H. W. HERBERT *Field Sports* (ed. 4) II. 199 Here it [sc. the moose] still breeds, and yards in winter. **1874** W. STAMER *Gentl. Emigrant* I. 293 The caribou do not yard. They winter it out on the bogs. **1894** *Century Mag.* Jan. 354 They do not. . yard up until the deep snow comes.

yard, v. ² [f. YARD sb.² In sense 1 used to render Manx *slattys*, f. *slat* rod, wand of authority.]

1. *trans.* In the Isle of Man, to summon for hiring: used of the hiring of servants by the coroner of a shcading on behalf of those entitled to a prior claim for their services at a low wage.

1662 in M. A. Mills *Stat. Laws I. of Man* (1821) 116 That the Coroners of this Isle, who. . by Statute have had the Benefit of yarding of three Servants within their Shcading, . . shall for the future have but the Benefit of one yarded Servant. **1667** *Ibid.* 138 The Wages mentioned in the said Statute was only intended for such Servants as were made by Jurys and Yarding. **1726-31** WALDRON *Descr. Isle of Man* (1865) 39 If any man or maid-servant be esteemed extraordinary in their way, either be [sc. the lord's steward], the Governour, or the two Deempsters have the power to oblige such a servant to live with them for the space of a year, and receive no more than six shillings for their service during the said time. This they call yarding. *Ibid.*, All servants who have any apprehensions of being yarded. **1892** *Denham Tracts* I. 199 The old privilege of yarding, given by ancient customary law to the Lords, Deemsters, and Chief Officers in the island.

2. To furnish with sailyards.

1676 T. MILLER *Modellist Index*, In the second Page is shewed a Rule for Masting and Yarding. **1705** *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4117/4 Easy Directions to Build, Rigg, Yard, and Mast any Ship.

yardage¹ (ˈjɑːdɪdʒ). [f. YARD sb.¹ + -AGE.] The use of or charge for a yard in which commodities are stored, cattle inclosed, or the like.

1867 *Trans. Illinois Agric. Soc.* VI. 322 Net cash receipt for yardage, and profit on feed. **1889** *Baltimore Sun in Public Opinion* 16 Feb., The object of the company. . is to regulate the price of pig-iron by holding it in stock in yards leased by the company at the furnaces. . Each furnace is to turn over all its product to the company. . the furnace-master paying the company yardage at the rate of 25 cents per ton.

'yardage'². [f. YARD sb.² + -AGE.]

1. The cutting of coal at a fixed rate per yard.

1877 RAYMOND *Statist. Mines & Mining* 8 The amount for yardage. . includes powder, fuse, and candles furnished by contractors and paid for as labor. **1887** *Manch. Exam.* 8 Dec. 5/2 The men employed at the. . Colliery. . have struck for an advance of wages of 10 per cent. They also demand an extra 25 per cent. on yardage.

2. The aggregate number of yards; amount estimated in yards.

1900 *Referee* 23 Sept. 1 (Cass. Suppl.) That the courses as measured from end were as represented in yardage. **1906** *Daily News* 3 Feb. 8 The yardage of linen goods exported in 1905 was the largest in any year during the last twenty.

yardang (ˈjɑːdæŋ). *Physical Geogr.* Also *jardang*. [a. Turk., abl. of *yar* steep bank, precipice.] A sharp, irregular ridge of sand or the like, lying in the direction of the prevailing wind in exposed desert regions and formed by erosion by the wind of adjacent less resistant material.

1904 S. HEDIN *Sci. Results Journey in Central Asia* I. xxvii. 439 At intervals furrows or trenches in the clay sub-soil, called *jardangs*, traced between long elevations or ridges, crop up amongst the dunes. **1934** *Bull. Geol. Soc. Amer.* XLV. (caption facing p. 160) Looking down one of the

narrower wind-seoured troughs, with a sharp yardang (seven feet high) on the left and a higher one on the right. **1970** R. J. SMALL *Study of Landforms* ix. 301 Probably the only landforms of deserts that can be confidently ascribed to wind abrasion alone are the comparatively unimportant 'yardangs' and allied 'ridge-and-furrow' features. **1979** *Nature* 5 Apr. 535/1 In other regions [of Mars], the surface has been stripped, yardangs have formed, and in general the topography seems to have been largely configured by aeolian activity.

'yard-arm, sb. *Naut.* Also 6 yardes-, 7 yards-, 7-8 yard's-. [f. YARD *sb.*² 5 + ARM *sb.*¹ 8a.]

a. Either of the two ends of a yard; *esp.* that part of either end which is outside the sheave-hole. Often used for the yard as a whole.

1553, etc. [see b]. **1665** PEPYS *Diary* 18 Sept., It being a place just wide enough, and not so much hardly, for ships to go through to it, the yard-arms sticking in the very rocks. **1756** *Gentl. Mag.* Nov. 506/2 So near as to be almost on board each other, our yard-arms very near touching hers. **1833** M. SCOTT *Tom Cringle* vi, Aloft there! lie out, you Perkins, and reeve a whip on the starboard yard-arm. **1855** MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xv. III. 609 The vast wood of masts and yardarms below London Bridge.

b. in reference to hanging or ducking a person from the extremity of a yard as a punishment.

1553 in Hakluyt *Voy.* (1589) 266 For pickerie ducked at the yardes arme, and so discharged. **1585** T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholas's Voy.* II. x. 44 b, [He had] three stropados at the yardes arme of the gally. **1627** J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Armado* B7, They are duck'd from the yeard arme of State, into the deep sea of disgrace. **1746** *Brit. Mag.* 48, I. . shall go near to complement you with the Ceremony of the Yard-arm. **1755** SMOLLETT *Quix.* iv. xi. (1803) IV. 235 He ordered the two Turks. . to be hanged at the yard's arm. **1870** THORNBURY *Tour rd. Eng.* I. ix. 188 It was the time of hard fighting, . . and frequent stringing up at the yard-arm. **1887** *Times* 11 Aug. 13/2 The improbability of seeing them . . in their proper place at the yard-arm of one of Her Majesty's ships.

c. advb. phr. *yard-arm and* (or *to*) *yard-arm*, said of two ships so near to one another that their yard-arms touch or cross. Also *yard-arm to or with* (another ship).

1666 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 60/1 The Saphire and Success. . bore in among them, laying yard-arm to yard-arm with the Admiral and Vice-Admiral. **1697** *Ibid.* 3288/2 They lay Yards-Arm and Yards-Arm for 5 Glasses. **1759** *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 62/1 The second lieutenant then came upon deck, and fought the ship bravely, yard-arm and yard-arm. **1781** *Log of Albemarle* 30 Oct. in Nicolas *Disp. Nelson* (1846) VII. p. iii, Finding the Albemarle yard-arm with them they submitted. **1867** H. KINGSLEY *Silcote* of S. xvii, The old English (and French) method of laying himself yardarm to the enemy, and boarding him suddenly. **1887** BESANT *The World went* etc. vi, An engagement, yard-arm to yard-arm, with a Frenchman.

transf. **1862** THORNBURY *Turner* I. xvi. 299 To leave it [sc. a picture by Turner] to the nation on condition of its being hung yard-arm and yard-arm with Claude.

d. *attrib.*

c **1860** H. STUART *Seaman's Catech.* 18 The goose neck or yard arm iron. **1867** SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Yard-arm cleats*, wooden wedges fixed on the yards at those points where they support the lifts and braces. *Ibid.*, *Yard-arm piece*, an octagonal piece of timber supplied to replace a yard-arm if shot away. **1883** *Man. Seamanship for Boys* 68 The yard-arm men get hold of the head-earrings.

e. Phr. *when the sun is over the yard-arm* and *varr.*, the time of day when it is permissible to begin drinking. Cf. SUN *sb.* 1 e (i).

1899 KIPLING *From Sea to Sea* I. xxiv. 454 The American does not drink at meals as a sensible man should. . . Also he has no decent notions about the sun being over the yard-arm or below the horizon. **1945** J. C. COLCORD *Sea Lang. comes Ashore* 211 An officers' quip. . is 'When the sun is over the yardarm. . it's time to take a drink'. **1964** *Amer. N. & O.* III. 23/2 Frequent reference is made to the undesirability of drinking before 'the sun has crossed the yardarm'. **1968** 'J. LE CARRÉ' *Small Town in Germany* ii. 20 Just one hour till the sun was over the yardarm. . . He'd have a beer first. **1979** A. MORICE *Murder in Outline* iii. 26, I had promised to take a jugful of dry martini with him and Vera. . as soon as the sun went over the yardarm.

Hence *yard-arm v. nonce-wd.* (a) *yard-arm and yard-arm (intr.)*, to be yard-arm and yard-arm; also *to yard-arm it: transf.* of persons, to fight at close quarters; (b) *trans.* to hang (a person) from the yard-arm.

1829 P. EGAN *Boxiana* 2nd Ser. II. 358 'Long bowls,' said Curtis to Savage, 'will not answer: you must yard-arm it with your adversary.' **1840** THACKERAY *George Cruikshank* Wks. 1900 XLIII. 312 They are yard-arm and yard-arming, athwart-hawsing, marlinspiking, . . as honest seamen invariably do, in novels. **1902** *Munsey's Mag.* (U.S.) XXVI. 499/2, I wish to God you'd been yard armed ten years back!

'yardbird. *U.S. slang.* Also yard bird. [f. YARD *sb.*¹ + BIRD *sb.* (see sense 1 e), perh. after *jail-bird*.] a. *Mil.* A recruit, a newly-enlisted serviceman; also, a serviceman under discipline for a misdemeanour; one assigned to menial tasks. Also *transf.*

1941 *Amer. Speech* XVI. 169/2 *Yard bird*, a raw recruit. **1942** [see RED-LINE v.]. **1943** J. GOODALL *They sent me to Iceland* 102 With this wealth of jargon we were able to produce a quiz on army slang. . for the benefit of the newly arrived men—better known as 'yardbirds'. **1943** *American Mercury* Nov. 552/1 If he's in the Army he's referred to as a *yardbird*. . an old Army term for camp-confined newcomers. **1947** *Amer. Speech* XXII. 111 A soldier, sailor, or marine who frequently receives punishments for offenses against the regulations is designated as a Y.B. or 'yard bird'. **1965** C. BROWN *Manchild in Promised Land* iii. 80 For the next two weeks, K. B. was Claiborne's yardbird. He had to

go everywhere Claiborne went from morning till night. He even had to ask Claiborne when he wanted to go to the bathroom.

b. A convict.

1956 S. LONGSTREET *Real Jazz, Old & New* 148 A yard-bird is a low mug. **1980** A. PEARL *Dict. Popular Slang* 189/1 *Yardbird*, a convict. . an ex-convict.

c. A worker in a yard (YARD *sb.*¹ 4) (see quotes.). **1963** T. PYNCHON *V.* xvi. 427 'Yardbirds are the same all over,' Pappy said. . . The dock workers fled by, jostling them. **1968** *Amer. Speech* XLIII. 290 *Yard bird*, a disabled engineer, fireman, or switchman who may work only within the yard limits. **1971** M. TAK *Truck Talk* 190 *Yard bird*, a driver who spots trailers and moves vehicles around a terminal yard.

'yarded, ppl. a. [f. YARD *sb.*² or *v.*² + -ED.]

1. Furnished with a yard or yards.

1654 T. W[EAVER] *Songs & Poems of Love & Drollery* 42 How you are yarded both in flesh and Land Is all on which they stand.

2. (See YARD *v.*² 1.)

† **'yardel.** *Obs. rare.* A yard-measure.

1804 W. TAYLOR in Robberds *Mem.* (1843) I. 493, I am glad you . . disdain measuring lines like linen by a yardel.

yarder ('jɑ:də(r)). *N. Amer.* [f. YARD *v.*¹ + -ER.] A kind of donkey-engine used in logging.

1911 *Pacific Monthly* Apr. 376/2 The hook-tender gives the signal to the engineer of the 'yarder' as the donkey-engine is termed. **1919** *Camp Worker* 2 June 3/3 [There were] two Ledgerwood skidders, one yarder, one swing and one roader. **1942** BERREY & VAN DEN BARK *Amer. Thes. Slang* §512.10 *Yarder*, a donkey engine which hauls logs from where they are felled to the landing or skid road. **1955** *Bush News* (Port Arthur, Ont.) Feb. 7/1 About 1,100 men are involved on the haul plus 450 horses, 125 trucks, . . and 4 yarders. **1979** *Beautiful Brit. Columbia* Fall 37 In some logging areas, mechanical grapple yarders, machines that resemble construction cranes, settle into the forest floor.

'yardful. [f. YARD *sb.*¹ + -FUL 2.] As much or as many as a yard will hold. Also *fig.*

1860 in WEBSTER. **1960** *Farmer & Stockbreeder* 15 Mar. 95 A yardful of well-finished Hereford-cross beef. **1978** J. L. HENSLEY *Killing in Gold* xii. 165 I'm surprised you haven't a yardful of law around here.

† **'yardhove.** *Obs.* In 5 yerdhoue. [f. YARD *sb.*¹ + HOVE *sb.*¹ Cf. TUNHOOF.] prob. Ground Ivy (*Nepeta Glechoma*).

c **1430** M.E. *Med. Bk.* (Heinrich) 221 *Herbe pro balneis.* Tak yerdhoue [etc.]. c **1460** J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 991 The makying of a bathe medicinable. Holy hokke & yardehof [*? error for yardehof*].

'yarding, vbl. sb.¹ [f. YARD *v.*¹ + -ING¹.]

1. *concr.* (See quot.) *U.S.*

1840 BUEL *Farmer's Comp.* 315 *Summer yarding*, stuff carted into the yard, and trodden by the cattle, for manure.

2. Storage in a yard.

1865 GRANDY *Timber Importer's Guide* 129 Market value of bricks, . . allowing for . . expenses of yarding, &c. **1886** *Law Times* LXXX. 149/2 The freight and yarding charges.

3. (See YARD *v.*¹ 1.)

1898 'R. BOLDFEWOOD' *Rom. Canvas Town* 97 The same process of yarding-up, catching, and cropping proceeds.

yarding, vbl. sb.²: see YARD *v.*²

yardland ('jɑ:dlənd). Forms: see YARD *sb.*² and LAND *sb.*¹; also 5 *Sc.* yertland. [= *yard of land*, OE. *gyrd landes*: see YARD *sb.*² 10a.]

1. = YARD *sb.*² 10a.

c **1450** *Godstow Reg.* 205 [She] 3af & confermyd þe same 3erdelonde þat reynolde of halso 3af to mynchons of Godestow. **14..** *Voc.* in Wr.-Wüleker 619 *Virgata*, a yerdland. **1464** *Rolls of Parl.* V. 516/2 A Mese, a Yerdland, 111 Acres of Medowe. **1496** *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 492/1 Aliam peciam terre prope australem partem dicti tenementi inter le yertland ejusdem et terram quond. dicti Nich. **1517** *Lincoln Dioc. Doc.* (1914) 265, I bequeth to Robert my sone floethers hous with the yarde londe. **1527** in Leadam *Sel. Cases Star Chamber* (Selden Soc.) II. 17 John Selby. . was seased of a Mese a close and di. yeerd land with thappourtenaunces. **1551** in Philipps *Wills* (c 1830) 199 A hous with on yerdland, lyng in Blokkley. **1581** *Stanford Churchw. Acc.* in *Antiquary* Apr. (1888) 172 Rec. of parisheoners by the yard lands towards the bell. **1592-3** *Act 35 Eliz.* c. 7 §8 Everie person havinge One Yarde Lande or more in his Possession lying within the sayde Fyve Miles [of Oxford]. **1607** NORDEN *Surv. Dial.* iii. 97 How are the tenants stinted, whether by the yard-land, plow-land, oxe-gang, acres or rent. **1684** E. CHAMBERLAYNE *Pres. St. Eng.* (ed. 15) 1. 17, 30 acres ordinarily make a yard-land. **1716** *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5487/4 A Message, Close, and half a Yard Land. **1720** KENNETT *Monitions & Advices* II. 55 The same worthy Benefactor gave another half yard Land unto the poor People of the Parish of Blaxley. **1740** in *N. & O.* 7th Ser. I. 244/2 The said Mr. Cooper hath lett to the said John Weston. . part of an Estate in Hugglescote, in the name of one Yard Land with Common for the said Yard Land. **1794** T. DAVIS *Agric. Wills* 14 The tenantry yard-lands (or customary tenements) which are still subject to rights of common. *Ibid.* 15 There are many instances where a yardland of about £20 per annum, contains about two acres of meadow land, eighteen acres of arable. . . and a right on the common fields. . for perhaps forty sheep. **1883** SEEBOHM *Engl. Vill. Comm.* v. 164 The yard-land was the normal holding of the gebur or villanus.

2. Incorrectly used for YARD *sb.*² 10 b.

1542 RECORDE *Gr. Artes* K vij, A rodde of lande, whiche some call a roode, some a yarde londe. **1674** JEAKE *Arith.* (1696) 67 A Rood is somtime called. . a Yardland, but. . very corruptly, for a Yardland containeth much more than an Acre.

3. *Comb.*, as *yardland-holder*.

1890 E. W. WATSON *Ashmore* 31 The two plough-oxen, the universal outfit of the English yardland-holder.

Hence **'yardlander**, a yardland-holder.

1891 *Athenæum* 16 May 632/3 The notes he gives as to the families of the yardlanders are most interesting. **1906** N. J. HONE *Manor* 1. i. 11 In 1279 a yard-lander at Newington, Oxon, was bound to plough an acre of winter tillage. **1964** H. P. R. FINBERG *Lucerna* ii. 32 It would obviously make for convenience to group the strips of each yardlander.

yardman¹ ('jɑ:dmən). [YARD *sb.*¹] A man who has charge of, or is employed in, a yard, e.g. a farm-yard, builder's yard, stable-yard, railway-yard, etc.

a **1825** FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia, Yard-man*, the hind who has the particular care of the farm-yard, and of the cattle fed there. **1858** SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Yard-man*, a manager or overlooker in a builder's yard. **1864** *Social Sci. Rev.* 406 The payment of washers, ostlers, and harness cleaners who are all classed together as yard-men is ordinarily divided between the cab-owners and the drivers. **1876** *Belfast Newsletter* 22 Nov. 3/3 Yardman wanted. in the neighbourhood of Belfast; would be required to clean boots, &c., and make himself generally useful. **1903** *Hull & East Yorksh. Times* 28 Feb. 1/1 Yardman Wanted, . . must be good milker.

'yardman². *Naut.* [YARD *sb.*²] In *royal yardman*, *upper yardman*, etc., a sailor occupied on the royal yards, the upper yards, etc.

1886 ALBERT VICTOR & GEORGE *Cruise H.M.S. Bacchante* I. 551 He was a smart royal yardman. **1903** *Sat. Rev.* 27 June 815/1 An unfortunate upper yardman made some blunder aloft.

'yard-measure. [f. YARD *sb.*² + MEASURE *sb.*] A rod, bar, or tape for measuring by the yard (but not necessarily restricted to that length).

1831-4 R. S. SURTEES *Jorrocks's Jaunts* (1838) 192 A silk yard-measure in a walnut-shell. **1850** DICKENS *Dav. Copp.* ii, I. . looked. . at the little bit of wax-candle she kept for her thread— . . at the little house with a thatched roof, where the yard-measure lived; at her work-box with a sliding lid.

'yard-rope. *Naut.* [f. YARD *sb.*² + ROPE *sb.*¹]

† a. (*pl.*) The permanent rigging of a yard.

1336-7 *Acc. Exch. K.R.* 19/31 m. 4 (P.R.O.) In viij. petris cord' de canabo. . pro duobus yerderopes inde faciendis. **1356** in *Pipe Roll 32 Edw. III*, m. 34/2, xlvij. trusseropes, xxv. 3erderopes, xliij. Wyndyngropes, ij. Cranelynes. **1420** in *For. Acc.* 3 *Hen. VI*, I, De. . ij. Trippetropes ij. Trusses pro 3erdrope. **1487** *Naval Accts. Hen. VII* (1896) 68 Yerd ropes for the top.

b. (See quot. 1867.)

1850 J. S. CARDEN *Curtail'd Mem.* iii. (1912) 89 The intended Victim was on the Forecastle, the Yard Rope from the Fore Yard rove round his neck, The Yard Rope Man'd. **1867** SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Yard-rope*, . . that by which a yard is hoisted for crossing, or sent down. Also, rove for execution.

yardsman ('jɑ:dzmən). [f. gen. of YARD *sb.*¹ + MAN *sb.*¹] = YARDMAN¹.

1872 *Daily News* 1 Aug., The Guardians of Mile-End Old Town require, for their industrial schools, . . a . . man. . as Yardsman. **1885** *Law Times* LXXX. 79/2 The servant was *bonâ fide* employed by the defendant as yardsman and labourer. **1888** *Daily News* 12 Dec. 5/4 A yardsman who saw the approaching train shouted to the guard.

So **'yardswoman**.

1817 in A. J. C. HARE *The Gurneys of Earldham* (1895) I. 282, I was conducted by. . the newly appointed yardswoman, to the door of a ward. **1905** *Daily Chron.* 1 Sept. 1/6 Holborn Union. . The Guardians of the above Union require a Girls' Yardswoman at the Schools, Mitcham, Surrey.

'yard-wand. [f. YARD *sb.*² + WAND *sb.*] A three-foot rod for measuring. Also *fig.*

14.. *Customs of Malton in Surtees Misc.* (1890) 61, j 3erde wande, and weighttes. **1586** *Durham Depos.* (Surtees) 321 The yerdwand was not a lawfull yerdwand. **1614** CORNWALLIS in *Gutch Coll. Cur.* I. 165 Whom [sc. his daughter] had he measured by the yard-wand of the world he might perhaps have bestowed upon one of the greatest Monarchs in Christendom. **1651** CLEVELAND *Poems* 26 And were 't not pity But both should serve the yardwand of the city? **1774** *Westm. Mag.* II. 453 He is sure to be. . a mere yard-wand of Nature, and marked with as much brass as the implement he uses to measure frippery with. **1850** DENISON *Clock & Watch-m.* 7 If all our yard-wands and other measures were burnt. **1855** TENNYSON *Maud* 1. i. xlii, That the smooth-faced snubnosed rogue would leap from his counter and till, And strike, if he could, were it but with his cheating yardwand, home.

yare (jæ(r)), a. *arch.* and *dial.* Forms: 1 *gearo*, *gearu*, *gearw-*, *-ow-*, *-uw-*, 2-3 *3aru*, 3 *zareou*, *-ew*, *-ue*, *-ow*, *3ærwæ*, *3æru*, *-ew*, *3eruh*, *pl.* *3arre*, 3-4 *3ar*, 3-5 *3are*, 4 *yarwe*, *3eare*, *Sc.* *3air*, *yhar*, (4-5 *yore*, *3ere*, *yere*), 5 *yar*, *youre*, 6 *Sc.* *3or(e)*, *3oir*, *yoir*, 3- *yare*. [OE. *gearu*, -o, = OS. *garu*, MDu. **gare* (Du. *gaar* done, dressed), OHG. *garo*, *garaw-* ready, prepared, complete (MHG. *gara*, *gar*, *gar(e)w-*), ON. *gørr* ready made, prompt, skilled (see GARE a.); prob. a compound of OTeut. **ga-* *Y-prefix* and **arw-*, represented by OE. *earu* ready (? in Exodus 339 for MS. *3earu*), OS. *aru* (MS. *pl. aroa*) ready (for reaping), ON. *ørr* ready, liberal-handed, in neut. *ørt* advb. quite, OE. *earwunga*, (late

Northumb.) *arwunge* gratis, freely, and perhaps Goth. *arwōð*, OHG. *arawūn* in vain.]

1. Ready, prepared. a. of persons: const. to with sb. or inf.

Beowulf 211 (Gr.) Beornas gearwe on stefn stigon. c.888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxvi. §6 Ic hæbbe nu ongiten þæt ðu eart gearo to ongitanne minna lara. a.1000 *Andreas* 234 (Gr.) He wæs . . . gearo gude. c.1205 LAY. 9457 Weoren alle þa cnihtes 3ærewa [c.1275 jar] to þon fihte. *Ibid.* 22278 We beoð alle 3ærewa [c.1275 3arue] To ganne & to ride. a.1225 *Leg. Kath.* 2334 Ich am 3arow to al þe wa þet tu const me 3arkin. a.1240 *Ureisin* 132 in O.E. *Hom.* I. 197 3if he is to bote 3eruh and bit þe uorziuenesse. 13. . . *Coer de L.* 343 Styлле he hovyð and bode yore; To them he thought to ryde more. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* II. 346 On athir syd thus war thai yhar, And till assemble all redy war. c.1440 *York Myst.* vii. 30 To offryr loke þat ye be yore [*rime* nomore]. c.1460 *Towneley Myst.* xiii. 704, I am redy and yare, go we in fere To that bright. 1603 HARSNET *Pop. Impost.* 143 And so the second may be yare and ready, to take his cue and turne of the former. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* IV. ii. 61, I hope, if you have occasion to vse me for your owne turne, you shall finde me yare.

b. of things; in later use, (of implements) ready for use.

a.900 CYNEWULF *Crist* 1270 þæt hy him ymþa to fela grim hellefyr gearo to wite and weard seoð. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 39 3eðop þæt eow sy mete gearo on minum huse. c.1205 LAY. 7783 þe tur wes al 3aru. a.1225 *Ancr. R.* 394 His merci is hire euer 3eruh. a.1250 *Owl & Night.* 378 3if hundes urnep to him ward He . . . hokeþ papes swipe narewe & haueþ mid him his blenches 3arewe. c.1350 *Will. Palerne* 805 Mi dere gode damisele my dep is al 3are. *Ibid.* 2729 þe werwolf waitet wigtly which schip was 3arest, to fare forþ at þat flod. c.1400 *Gamelyn* 90 Afterward came his brother. . . And seide to gamelyn is oure mete 3are? c.1595 CAPT. WYATT R. *Dudley's Voy. W. Ind.* (Hakl. Soc.) 59 To see that . . . everie souldier [should have] his furniture as yare and fine as might be. 1627 CAPT. J. SMITH *Sea Gram.* viii. 35 The Corporall is to . . . see . . . the souldiers . . . keepe their armes cleane, neat, and yare. 1631 MARKHAM *Country Contentm.* (ed. 4) I. xi. 78 You shall obserue that all your Tooless, Lines, or Implements be (as the Sea-man sayth) yare, fit, and ready. 1799 SCOTT *Covenanter's Fate* xxxiii, At each pomel there, for battle yare, A Jedwood axe was slung. 1808 — *Marmion* I. ix, The gunner held his linstock yare.

c. to make yare: to make ready, get ready, prepare (also *refl.*).

c.1290 *Beke* 821 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 130 þare-fore make þe 3are i-nov þine a-countes to 3elde. 13. . . *Coer de L.* 1185 The knyght it takes withouten let, Dyghtes hym, and made hym yare. c.1385 CHAUCER *L.G.W.* 2270 *Philomela*, This Therius let make his shep 3are And In-to grece hymself is forth I-fare. c.1460 *Towneley Myst.* iv. 121, I shall found to make me yare. 1865 TOM TAYLOR *Ball. of Brittany, Bran* II, 'To-night make me a good ship yare.

2. Alert, nimble, active, brisk, quick.

13. . . *Coer de L.* 6751 The Sarezyne fledde . . . In there herte they were soo yarwe, Alle here yates they thought too narwe. c.1425 *Engl. Cong. Irel.* 114 Thys legat was youre aboute, pees to make betwene the kyng & Iohn. c.1425 *Cast. Persev.* 18 in *Macro Plays* 77 God hym 3euyth to angelis ful 3ep & ful 3are. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* III. xiii. 131 A halter'd necke, which do's the Hangman thanke, For being yare about him. 1626 CAPT. J. SMITH *Accid. Yng. Seamen* 18 Be yare at the helme. 1698 VANBRUGH *Short Vind* 27, I believe, had the Obscenity he has routed up here, been buried as deep in his Church-yard, the Yarest Boar in his Parish wou'd hardly have tost up his Snout at it. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) II It's the Trick of a Hound to be yare at Hares only. 1831 CARLYLE *Misc.* (1857) II. 253 Like a right yare steersman. 1869 *Athenæum* 28 Aug. 284/2 *Yare*, which is still current in Norfolk, and is pronounced yar, = brisk, active, lively.

b. Of a ship: Moving lightly and easily; answering readily to the helm; easily manageable.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 237 The wynd was good, the Schip was yare. 1579-80 NORTH *Plutarch* (1595) 131 The Persian gallies, being high cargged, heauy, and not yare of steredge. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* III. vii. 39 Their shippes are yare, yours heauy. 1610 — *Temp.* v. i. 224 Our Ship . . . Is tyte, and yare. a.1642 SIR W. MONSON *Naval Tracts* III. (1704) 357/1 She is Roomsom for her Men, and yare to run too and again in. a.1656 USSHER *Ann.* VI. (1658) 749 Caesars ships being more yare, and ready for any needs of service. 1658 EARL MONM. tr. *Paruta's Wars Cyprus* 177 Vluzzali . . . commanded 25 of his yarer gallies . . . to assault our right Wing.

3. Comb., as *yare-handed*; †*yare-witel*, quick-witted.

[c.900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* v. ii, Se geonga wæs geworden hale lichaman . . . & gearowyrd on gespræce.] c.1205 LAY. 3028 Heo was alre jungest Of soðe 3ær witelest. *Ibid.* 5639 þa cnihtes weoren wise & ful 3ære witele. 1728 W. BETAGH *Voy. rd. World* 26 Don Pedro . . . took care however to be very officious or yare handed (as we say) with his present.

yare, adv. *Obs.* or *arch.* Forms: 1 *geara*, *geare*, *gearo*, *gere*, 2-4 *zeare*, 3 *zare*, 3-5 *zare*, 4 *zaire*, *3hare*, *3are*, *yaar*(e), *yarre*, 4-5 *yhare*, 4-6 *zore*, 5 *yore*, *yere*, 5-6 *Sc.* *3air*, (6 *3oir*, *3or*), 4-7 (9 *arch.*) *yare*. [OE. *geara*, -o, -e, also *gear(e)we*, -uwe, corresp. to OS. *garo* (Du. *gaar*), OHG. *garo*, also *garawo* (MHG. *gare*, *gar*, also *garwe*, G. *gar*) completely, quite, ON. *g(j)orva*, *gerva* quite, clearly, plainly; adv. of *gearu*, etc.: see YARE a.]

†1. Quickly, without delay, promptly, immediately, soon. (Often used vaguely, esp. in full *yare*, as a riming tag.) *Obs.*

Beowulf 2748 (Gr.) þæt ic . . . gearo sceawige swegle searogimmas. c.1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2866 Ðat, bi ði leue, hise folc vt-fare, Ðre daiȝes gon and ben ðor 3are, In ðe deserð. a.1300 K. *Horn* 497 (Cambr. MS.) Apelbrus . . . tolde him ful 3are Hu he hadde ifare. a.1300 *Cursor M.* 2837 'Haste', he

said, 'þan peder yare, For i do nocht til þou come þar'. *Ibid.* 5225 þan was iacob busked yare, Wit al þe gynge þat wit him ware. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* III. 696 And by the mole thai passyt 3ar, And entryt sone in-to the rase. c.1435 *Torr. Portugal* 1320 The emperoure of Rome was there, The kynges of Pervens and of Calabere yare, And other two or thre. a.1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 3536 The ermyte Answeryd swythe yare. 14. . . *Guy Warw.* (C.) 5944 And wyth hys fyste he smote me sore: Sythen he flewe away full 3ore. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* I. v. 37 Ane duelling place for Troianis biggit he hes, . . . and full 3or, The armes of Troy has set wp in memor. *Ibid.* II. xi. 21 Send ws thi help als 3oir, And conferme all thir takinnis sene befor.

†b. Nimbly, briskly. *Obs. rare.*

1622 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Merrie Wherrie-Ferry-Voy.* Wks. 1630 II. 8/1 Though it [sc. a tongue] continuall toyl'd, And went as yare, as if it had bin Oyl'd.

c. As exclamation: = Quick! esp. in nautical use. *arch.*

1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* v. ii. 286 Yare, yare, good Iras; quicker! Me thinks I heare Anthony call. 1610 — *Temp.* I. i. 7 Cheerly, cheerly my harts: yare, yare: Take in the toppe-saul! 1822 HOGG *Perils of Man* III. vii. 204 Yare, yare! Lord sauff us! Here they come! What's to be our fate? Keep close for a wee while. 1867 MORRIS *Jason* IX. 241 Yare!—for the ebb runs strongly towards the sea.

†2. Well, thoroughly; (often with *know*, etc.) certainly, plainly, without doubt. (Often used vaguely as in 1.) *Obs.*

Beowulf 2656 (Gr.) Ic wat geara þæt næron ealdgewyrht þæt [etc.]. a.900 CYNEWULF *Crist* 199 God of gode gearo accenned sunu soþan fæder. a.1000 *Boeth. Metr.* ix. 9 He het him to gamene geara forbernarn Romana burig. c.1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke xx. 6 Hi wiston gere þæt iohannes wes witega. c.1205 LAY. 18816 Ah ful 3are ich hit wiste. 13. . . *E.E. Allit.* P. A. 834 þe þryde tyme is per-to ful mete In apokalypen wryten ful 3are. a.1425 *Cursor M.* 4866 (Trin.) Gode men, he seide, 3e shal fare, But of oure kyng I warn 3ou 3are. c.1475 *Rauf Coilyear* 641 Se that thow leis thame not, bot 3eme thame full 3air. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* v. iv. 97 Now quha was blyth bot Menestheus, full 3ore?

†**yare, v.** *Obs.* Forms: 1 *gearwian*, 3 *3(e)arwen*, 3(e)arwren, 3arewen, 3-5 *zare*, 4 *3hare*, *yare*. [OE. *gearwian*, f. *gearu* YARE a.]

Cf. OE. *gierwan*, OS. *garuwian*, *gerwean*, MDu. *gherwen*, *garwen*, *gerwen*, OHG. *garawen* (MHG. G. *gerben*, *gärben*), ON. *gor(v)a*, *gior(v)a*, *gera* (see GAR v.).]

trans. To make or get ready, to prepare.

c.888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxix. §13 Se hata sumor drygð & gearwað sæd & bleða. c.1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke i. 76 þu gæst beforan drihtnes ansyne his wegas gearwian. c.1205 LAY. 220 He makede ane hege burh . . . þa burh wes wel 3arwed [c.1275 i3arket]. *Ibid.* 29834 Bruchinal . . . 3arewede his ferde. a.1300 *St. Gregory* 1178 in Herrig's *Archiv* LVII. 71 Whan þe ny3t was al a gone a bote þe fischere he gan 3are. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 58 þe kyng 3ared his folk, on haste alle þat he myght.

refl. c.975 *Rushw. Gosp.* Matt. vi. 25 Hu 3e eowic gearwige. c.1205 LAY. 7473 3arewief eow to fhte. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1810) 90 He 3ared him to bataille. a.1400-50 *Alexander* 4866 þan 3aris he him 3apely & a-3ayne turnes.

yare, var. YAIR *sb.*; *obs.* f. YORE.

yare, y'are, abbreviation of *ye are*.

1607 HEYWOOD *Fayre Mayde Exch.* I 3b, Welcome M. Golding yare very welcome sir.

yarely ('jæli), *adv.* *arch.* Forms: 5 *zarely*, *zarle*, -ly, 6 *yeerlie*, 7-9 *yarely*. [OE. *gearolice*: see YARE a. and -LY², and cf. OS. *garoliko*, OHG. *garalihho* (MHG. *garliche*.)] Quickly, promptly; nimbly, briskly; †diligently; = YARE *adv.* in various senses.

a.900 CYNEWULF *Elene* 288 Ic þæt gearolice ongiten hæbbe. a.1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 1035 Outhire maches 3ow maynly perto. . . Or 3efes 3arely vp þe 3erde & 3eld me þe eite. 1573-80 TUSSEY *Husb.* (1878) 144 Actes lawles to doo without feare, how yeerlie together they band. 1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* II. ii. 216 The Silken Tackle, Swell with the touches of those Flower-soft hands, That yarely frame the office. 1610 — *Temp.* I. i. 4 Fall too 't, yarely, or we run our selues a ground. 1627 J. SMITH in J. Taylor (Water P.) *Armado* A8, This new Fleete runnes ouer Seas and Lands, And's now so victua'l'd, rigd and yarely plyes. 1668 DRYDEN *Even. Love* v. i. (1671) 77 Come yarely my mates, every man to his share of the burthen. a.1681 T. RAYMOND *Autobiog.* (Camden 1917) 29 In London great out-cries about this tyme [c.1631] against shom [sic] whoe they called Armynyans as if shom of that opinion intended yarely to introduce Poperie. 1812 W. TENNANT *Auster F.* IV. ix, Till. . . The younker Curtius . . . Down headlong yarely gallop'd, horse and all. 1827 CARLYLE *Germ. Rom.* I. 186 The Count . . . kept plunging, yarely, through the ranks. [1897 LD. TENNYSON *Tennyson* II. 133 *note*, He revived many fine old words which had fallen into disuse; and I heard him regret that he had never employed the word 'yarely'.]

||**yari-yari** ('jari:'jari:). [Native name.] Name in Guyana for the wood of *Duguetia quitarensis*, also called *lance-wood*.

1858 HOGG *Veg. Kingd.* 27. 1862 *List* in Veness *El Dorado* (1866) App. 144 A piece of tough wood from the Yari-yari tree.

†**yark, v.** *Obs.* Forms: 1 *gearcian*, 2 *3earceon*, *3eirke*, 2-5 *zarke*, 3 *3arrkenn* (*Orm.*), *3earkien*, *3arki*, -i(e)n, *3æreke*, *3arekien*, *3erke*, 4 *yark*. [OE. *gearcian*, f. *gearu* YARE a. with factitive suffix as in *ieldcian* to delay, f. *eald* old.] *trans.* (and *refl.*) To make ready, prepare.

c.1000 ÆLFRED *Gen.* xix. 3 He þa gearcode him gereord and hig æton. a.1122 O.E. *Chron.* an. 1091 (Laud MS.) þa gearcode he his fare & to Englelande com. c.1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 19 He hæued us i3arket þa ecche blisse 3if we wulleð hit

iernien in heuene riche. c.1200 ORMIN 9151 Forr þatt he wolld 3arrkenn hemm Onn3æness Cristess come. c.1205 LAY. 23275 3arkieð bi þan flode Mine scipen gode. a.1225 [see YARE a. 1]. a.1300 *Cursor M.* 8856 Was neuer man born þat cuth wirc Ne yark suilk a-noper kirc. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. VII. 80 He þat 3iueth, 3eldeth and 3arketh hym to reste. c.1400 *Destr.* *Troy* 882 He forȝet not, but ȝepely 3arkit hym perfore. c.1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 6070 His men he 3arked Euerychon vnto that fyght. 1708 KERSEY, To *Yark*, (N[orth] C[ountry]) to prepare.

b. To put in a position; to set, place. *yark to*, to shut; *yark up*, to open. Also *fig.*, *pass.* and *intr.*, to pass into a state.

13. . . *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 820 þay 3olden hym þe brode 3ate, 3arked vp wyde. c.1400 *Destr.* *Troy* 414 Yong men ȝepely yarked into Elde. *Ibid.* 5595 Now is ȝepely a yere yarked to end. *Ibid.* 6081 For to 3arpe [sic] vp the 3ate he ȝepely comound. *Ibid.* 10738 þai 3arkit to þe yatis ȝepely onon. *Ibid.* 11265 þai kepyn the cloyse of this clene burgh, With ȝep men at þe yatis 3arkit ful pik.

c. To ordain, decree, appoint; to grant, bestow.

a.1300 *Cursor M.* 8982 Hard it es, þe wurd o sin þat yarked was til adam kin! 13. . . *E.E. Allit.* P. B. 758 3if þou ȝerne3 hit, ȝet 3ark I hem grace. a.1400 *Emare* 329 Such sorow was here 3arked 3ore.

Hence †**yarking vbl. sb.**, preparation.

c.1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Spelman) second ix. 20 [x. 17] ȝearcunge heortan [Vulg. *præparationem cordis*]. c.1200 ORMIN 10800 Itt [sc. John's baptism] wass 3arrkinng 3æn fulluhht þatt Crist self sholld ȝettenn.

yark, var. YERK, YORK *sb.*²

Yarkand ('jarkænd, jɑ:'kænd). [The name of a river, district, and city in Sinkiang Uighur (formerly Chinese Turkestan), an autonomous region of western China.] 1. A language or dialect of the central Turkic or Turco-Tatar group of Altaic languages, spoken in the district of Yarkand. Also *attrib.*

1875 [see KASHGAR I]. 1954 M. A. PEI *Dict. Linguistics* 236 *Yarkand*, an Asiatic language, member of the Central Turkish group of the Altaic sub-family of the Ural-Altaic family of languages.

2. Used *attrib.* and *absol.* to designate a type of Turkoman carpet.

1880 G. C. M. BIRDWOOD *Industrial Arts of India* II. 168 The tree of life represented on modern Yarkand rugs is always a pomegranate tree. 1913 W. A. HAWLEY *Oriental Rugs* xii. 251 In Plate L . . . are two of the most typical and interesting stripes of Samarkands and Yarkands. . . A stripe with simple archaic pattern peculiar to Yarkands is seen in Plate L. 1931 [see KASHGAR 2]. 1967 U. SCHÜRMANN *Oriental Carpets* 72 The eastern Turkestan rugs commonly known . . . as 'Samarkand' come . . . from the three oasis-cities of Kashgar, Yarkand and Khotan. . . A small number of silk Yarkands also exist. 1970 J. FRANCES *European & Oriental Rugs* 146 (caption) Eastern Turkestan Yarkand runner in the form of a saph. Circa 1800.

3. *Zool.* Used *attrib.* to designate a heavily built kind of red deer with short antlers that is found in Sinkiang Uighur.

1892 *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 116 Mr. W. T. Blanford exhibited two heads . . . and a skin of the Yarkand Stag. *Ibid.* 117 The name C[ervus] *yarkandensis* may be applied to the Yarkand and Tarim Deer. 1918 R. LYDEKKER *Wild Life of World* II. 231 Very distinct from the wapiti type is the Yarkand deer . . . of the forests of the Tarim Valley. 1982 G. K. WHITEHEAD *Hunting & stalking Deer* iv. 111 Among the most endangered are the Yarkand deer . . . of Chinese Turkestan.

Yarkandi ('jarkændi), *sb.* and *a.* Also 9-Yarkundi. [f. prec.] A *sb.* A native or inhabitant of the city or district of Yarkand.

1841 H. H. WILSON *Trav. Moorcraft & Trebeck* I. II. iii. 351 A Yarkandi asserted that an infusion of poppy-heads was employed to render the leaves of the tea adhesive. 1875 in T. D. Forsyth *Report Mission to Yarkund* iii. (facing page) 118 (caption) Yarkundis. 1901 P. W. CHURCH *Chinese Turkestan* iii. 33 The guileless Yarkandis. 1926 C. P. SKRINE *Chinese Central Asia* viii. 106 A charming . . . and well educated Yarkandi called Murad Qari . . . partook of tea. 1981 A. ALI in *Himalayan Jnl.* XXXVII. 115 The Yarkandis used this route [sc. Saser La in the Karakorams] for trade and for going on haj to Mecca.

B. *adj.* Of or pertaining to Yarkand or its people.

1854 A. CUNNINGHAM *Laddk* iii. 49 My informants, who were also Yarkandi merchants, stated exactly the reverse. 1893 H. LANSDALL *Chinese Central Asia* II. xxxiv. 108 Turdi Akhoon, a Yarkandi merchant . . . had arrived from India. 1928 'GANPAT' *Magic Ladakh* xiv. 255 It is a hard life on the Central Asian trade route if you happen to be a hired ponyman travelling with a callous Yarkandi merchant. 1973 M. BENCE-JONES *Palaces of Raj* viii. 144 A portly General endeavoured to stop his Yarkundi pony from jumping over the railings.

||**yarke, -kee** ('jarki). [Native name.] A South American monkey of the genus *Pithecia*, esp. the white-headed saki, *P. leucocephala*.

1834 MCMURTRIE *Cuvier's Anim. Kingd.* 48 *Simia pithecia*, L. (The Yarke.) Blackish; circumference of the face whitish. 1855 DALTON *Brit. Guiana* II. 449 The yarkee is the name given by some to the white-faced Saki.

†**'yarken, v.** *Obs.* [f. YARK v. + -EN⁵.] *trans.* To prepare.

c.1205 LAY. 7384 Leteð 3arkni [c.1275 3arki] mine scipen. c.1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3240 Hold up ðin 3erde to ðe se And del it so on sundri del, Ðat 3u ben 3arkedne weiges wel. 14. . . *Chaucer's Rom. Rose* (MS.) 716 Layes of loue ful wel sownyng They songen in their yarkonyng [ed. *Thynne* 1532 iargonyng; Fr. *en lor serventois*, v.r. *en son patois*].

yarl: see JARL.

yarling (ˈjɑːlɪŋ), *ppl. a. Midl. (and north.) dial.* [f. dial. *yarl* vb. to utter a loud discordant sound: see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*] Howling, wailing.

1911 D. H. LAWRENCE *White Peacock* i. vii. 119, I heard more plainly... the peevish, wailing, yarling cry of some beast in the wood. 1972 LD. ROBENS *Ten Year Stint* ii. 32 They were a 'yarling mob'—crude, vulgar and unfit to lead the decent men I know in the pits.

yarly, obs. Sc. form of EARLY *adv.*

yarm (jɑːm), *sb.* Now *dial.* [Goes with next.] A discordant outcry; a scream, yell.

13... E.E. ALLIT. P. B. 971 Such a 3omerly 3arm of 3ellyng per rysed. 1898 *Shetl. News* 26 Mar. (E.D.D.) Da yarms an' spittin' o' da cat.

yarm (jɑːm), *v.* Now *dial.* Also 4 3erne, 9 yerm, yirm. [OE. **gierman*, *gyrman*.] *intr.* To utter a discordant or mournful cry; to scream, yell, howl; to wail.

c 1000 *Lambeth Ps.* xxxvii. 9 Ic 3yrmde for 3eomrunge heortan minre. 13... S. CRISTOFER 119 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 456 þe fende bygane to crye & 3arme. ? a 1400 *Morte Arth.* 391 I Than cho 3ermys and 3ee[s] at 3orke in hir chambire. a 1400-50 *Alexander* 4745 Vmquile he noys as a nowte as a nox quen he lawes, 3armand & 3erand.

1615 BRATHWAIT *Strappado* (1878) 178 In hels abisse: Where they may yuale and yarme til that they burst. 1680 HICKERINGILL *Curse ye Meroz* 26 A Holder-forth may Yawle and Yarne [sic]. 'till his Lungs..ake. 1808 JAMIESON, *To yirm*, to whine, to complain; also, to ask in a querulous tone; implying the idea of continuation. a 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Yarm*, *Yawm*, to shriek or yell. a 1835 HOGG *Miser's Warning* xxii, They yermit and flaitte a summer's day.

†**y-armed**, *pa. pple.* [Y- 4, ARM *v.*] Armed.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4522 Eijte hundred ssipes... Vol of saracens yarmed. 1340 *Ayenb.* 83 Godes kny3tes, þet þe holy gost heþ y-dobbed and y-armed. c 1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 6976 He nas yarmed nother lym ne lyth. 1426 *LYDG. De Guil. Pilgr.* 7810 Hys handys wern yarmyd wel.

Yarmouth (ˈjɑːməθ). Name of a fishing town on the coast of Norfolk: used *attrib.* in *Yarmouth bloater* (also *transf.* a native of Yarmouth), †*capon*, †*coach* (see *quots.*), *herring*. Hence **Yarmouthian** (jɑːməθiən), *a.* belonging to Yarmouth; *sb.* an inhabitant of Yarmouth.

1614 T. GENTLEMAN *England's Way* 15 The Hollanders be very welcome guests vnto the Yermothian Herring-buyers. *Ibid.* 26 These Hollanders be Hosted with the Layestof men, as they be with the Yermothians. a 1661 FULLER *Worthies, Norfolk* (1662) ii. 248 A Yarmouth Capon. That is a red-herring. a 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew*, *Yarmouth-Coach*, a sorry low Cart to ride on, drawn by one Horse. *Yarmouth Pie*, made of Herrings, highly Spic'd, and Presented by the City of Norwich (upon the forfeiture of their Charter) annually to the King. 1732 *MSS. Dk. Portland* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) vi. 153 These machines, which now in merriment are called Yarmouth coaches... They are something of the nature of a sledge, as at Bristol, with one horse. 1832 *Yarmouth bloaters* [see BLOATER]. 1850 DICKENS *Dav. Copp.* iii, Peggotty said... that... she was proud to call herself a Yarmouth BLOATER. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Yarmouth herring-boat*, a clincher-built vessel with lug-sails, similar to the drift or mackerel boats.

yarmulke (jɑːmɒlkə). Also *yarmulka*; (more rarely) *jarmulka*, *yarmolka*, etc. [ad. Yiddish *yarmolke*, ad. Polish *jarmulka* cap.] A skull-cap worn by male Orthodox Jews at all times, and by other male Jews on religious occasions: = KOPPEL.

1903 *Jewish Encycl.* IV. 301/2 The so-called Jewish garb of Poland, including even the 'jarmulka' (under-cap), is simply the old Polish costume which the Jews retained. 1929 *Menorah Jnl.* XVI. 37 Jacob... saw and did not revere the squat figure clumsy in its... *yarmelke*. 1930 M. GOLD *Jews without Money* 95 My father took me to the tailor and had made a handsome velvet *yamalka*. 1941 B. SCHULBERG *What makes Sammy Run?* ix. 232 There in the synagogue, ... with his impressive shawl, his *yarmolka* and his great beard, there life was rich. 1957 L. STERN *Midas Touch* i. v. 45 He wore his *yamulka* (skull cap) when it was ritually required. 1962 'E. McBAIN' *Empty Hours* 111, I was collecting the prayers shawls and the *yarmelkas*. 1963 T. PYNCHON *V.* iv. 97 He went out of his way to cultivate the Tagliacozzi look: ... wearing a bushy mustache, pointed beard, sometimes even a skull-cap, his old schoolboy *yarmulke*. 1966 L. DAVIDSON *Long Way to Shiloh* xv. 221 You have the *yarmulkah*? Remember to put it on. 1966 H. KEMELMAN *Saturday Rabbi went Hungry* (1969) i. 14 He wondered if the cantor had put on his robes and tall white *yarmulka*. 1971 B. MALAMUD *Tenants* 90 Sam Clemence, a Mephistophelean type in *yarmulke* and yellow dashiki. 1975 *Church Times* 7 Nov. 5/1 A lively man in a business suit and embroidered *yarmulka*—the little skull-cap worn by orthodox Jews. 1979 'A. HAILEY' *Overload* iii. xi. 244 Hardly any of us took a *yarmulke*. I didn't. Had to borrow one when I went to the Wall in Jerusalem. 1984 *Times* 24 Sept. 4/6 The captain, who wore Israeli army uniform with a red *yarmulka* fringed with gold on his head.

yarn (jɑːn), *sb.* Forms: 1 ȝearn, 4 3ern, iern, yaarn, 4-6 yern(e, 5 3arn(e, 3ieren, yeern, 5-7 yarne, 6 yaren, yarone, yeryn, yorne, 6-7 yearne, 7 yearn, 5- yarn. [OE. *ȝearn* str. n. = WFRis. *jern*, NFRis. *jaarn*, *juarn*, MDu. *gaern*, *gar(e)n* (Du. *garen*), OHG., MHG., G. *garn* yarn, †net, ON. (Sw., Da.) *garn* (whence GARN *sb.*); app. f. the root represented also by **garnô* in ON. *gorn*,

pl. *garnar* guts, and **garnjo-* in OE. *micgern*, OS. *midgarni*, OHG. *mittigarni* MIDGERN (= entrail-fat, suet), and related (outside Teutonic) to Lith. *žarna* intestine, L. *hariolus* soothsayer, *haruspex* one who divined the future from an inspection of the entrails of victims, Gr. *χορδή* intestine (CHORD). (Cf., moreover, Skr. *hirā* vein, L. *hīra* empty gut, *hillæ*:—**hirl*-smaller intestines.]]

1. a. Originally, spun fibre, as of cotton, silk, wool, flax; now, usually, fibre spun and prepared for use in weaving, knitting, the manufacture of sewing-thread, etc.

Also with qualification, as *cotton*, *linen*, *woollen yarn*. c 1000 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 238/27 *Filatum*, ȝearn. c 1050 *Suppl. Ælfric's Gloss.* *ibid.* 187/30 *Glomus*, unwunden ȝearn. c 1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbest.* in Wright *Voc.* 157 A klewe of yarn. *Ibid.*, Do my yaarn on the reel. 1376 *Rolls of Parlt.* II. 353/1 Tout maner de 3ern. 1391 in W. Hudson *Leet Jurisd. Norwich* (1892) 75, x hespys de Irondyern pretii iiii. d. 1420 E.E. Wills (1882) 46 Item dimidium ȝe 3ieren and wolle that is in this house. 1511-12 *Act 3 Hen. VIII.* c. 6 §1 The carder and Spynner to delyver agayn to the same Clothier yerne of the same Woll. a 1552 LELAND *Itin.* (1769) VII. 47 Good Marchandis at Lyrpole, and moch Yrisc Yarn that Manchester Men do by ther. 1552-3 *Inv. Ch. Goods, Stafford in Ann. Lichfield* (1863) IV. 6 On cope of whitte & blewe yorne. 1607 SHAKS. *Cor.* i. iii. 93 You would be another Penelope: yet they say, all the yearne she spun in Vlisses absence, did but fill Athica full of Mothes. 1748 in *Jrnl. Friends Hist. Soc.* (1918) 28 We had about eighty Score of Yarn stole out of garth. 1784 COWPER *Task* i. 53 Well-tann'd hides, ... With here and there a tuft of crimson yarn... in the cushion fixt. 1846 McCULLOCH *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) I. 707 The manufacturers obtain the finer sorts of yarn chiefly from Yorkshire and Ireland. 1852 Mrs. Stowe *Uncle Tom's C.* xiii. A long stocking of mixed blue and white yarn.

fig. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* iv. iii. 84 The webbe of our life, is of a mingled yarne, good and ill together. 1832-4 DE QUINCEY *Cæsars Wks.* 1862 IX. 32 In the mingled yarn of human life.

transf. 1862 JOHNS *Brit. Birds* 56 Eggs, from which emerge... bodies enveloped in a soft plush of grey yarn.

b. collect. sing. put for fishermen's nets. *dial.*

1535 COVERDALE *Ezek.* xvii. 20, I wil cast my net aboute him, and catch him in my yarne. — *Hab.* i. 15 They take yp all with their angle, they catch it in their net, & gather it in their yarne [Luther *Garn*]. 1880 *Antrim & Down Gloss.*, *Yarn*, 'Take the yarn', said of herrings when they strike the net.

c. In *Rope-making*, one of the threads of which a strand of rope is composed (= ROPE-YARN 1), or these threads collectively.

1627 [see SPUN-YARN 2]. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 59 *Yarn*, called twenty-five, twenty, and eighteen thread yarn, differs only in the fineness; the twenty-five being finer than the twenty. 1831-3 P. BARLOW in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 753 The first part of the process of rope-making is that of spinning the yarn or threads. c 1860 H. STUART *Seaman's Catech.* 28, 18-yarn spunyarn. *Ibid.* 51 If it is for boltrope 3 inches in circumference, each strand will have 30 yarns.

2. a. to *spin a yarn* (*fig.*, orig. *Naut. slang*), to tell a story (usually a long one); also, 'to pitch a tale'. Hence *yarn* = a (long) story or tale: sometimes implying one of a marvellous or incredible kind; also, a mere tale. *colloq.*

1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict.* s.v., *Yarning or spinning a yarn*, signifying to relate their various adventures, exploits, and escapes to each other. 1835 MARRYAT *Jacob Faithful* ix, Come, spin us a good yarn, father. 1835 — *Pacha of Many T.* xvii, 'You must tell lies, and you will have gold.' 'Tell lies! that is, spin a yarn; well, I can do that.' 1837-42 HAWTHORNE *Twice-told T.* (1851) II. vi. 97 Like uncle Parker, ... I am a spinner of long yarns. 1888 *Poor Nellie* 162 Catch them spinning any of their yarns to me. 1897 HALL CAINE in *Humanitarian* XI. 234 What I mean is that without motive a story in not a novel, but only a yarn. 1903 *Dublin Rev.* July 131 All further developments of these traditions were mere 'yarns'.

b. A chat, a talk. *colloq.* (chiefly *Austral.* and *N.Z.*).

1857 H. W. HARPER *Lett. from N.Z.* (1914) iii. 49 This has been a long yarn. 1883 STEVENSON *Treasure I.* x. 80 'Come away, Hawkins,' he would say; 'come and have a yarn with John.' 1888 'R. BOLDEWOOD' *Robbery under Arms* i. xii. 156 After tea father and I and Jim had a long yarn. 1929 K. S. PRICHARD *Coonardoo* xv. 147 Meenie and Bandogera had taken advantage of her absence to have a smoke and a yarn together at the wood-heap. 1937 D. COWIE *N.Z. from Within* vii. 109 The word is used in its oldest sense. The New Zealander's 'yarn' is the Scotsman's 'news'. 1966 G. W. TURNER *Eng. Lang. Austral.* & *N.Z.* vi. 124 Other counts have been based on written material and the Australian one on spoken. This accounts for the inclusion of *kid* ('child')... *yarn* ('talk')... [etc.]. 1979 B. MOORE *Mangan Inheritance* ii. 295 We can take it easy for a while and have a real yarn together. 1984 *Times* 11 Sept. 32/8, I still see some of the Roman Catholics in the street... and we have a yarn.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as (sense 1) *yarn ball*, *-carrier*, *hose*, *-man*, *rope*, *scales*, *spindle*, *stockings*, *thread*, *twine*, *yarn-buyer*, *-factoring*, *-jobber*, *manufacture*, *-manufacturer*, *-seller*; (sense 2) *yarn-slinger*, *-teller*; *yarn-clue*, a ball of yarn; *yarn count* = COUNT *sb.* 1 2b; *yarn-croft* *Obs. exc. dial.*, a rope-yard; *yarn-dyed a.*, dyed while in the state of yarn or thread; *yarn-frame*, *-guide* (see *quots.*); *yarn-house*, a building in which yarns are stored; *yarn-reel* (see *quot.*); *yarn-roll* = YARN-BEAM.

For other names of apparatus used in yarn manufacture see Knight's *Dict. Mech.*

1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 295/2 *Pila paganica*,... a ball stuff with soft wooll or haire, and vsed to be tossed from hand to hand: a tossing ball: a *yarne ball. 1763 *Museum Rust.* I. 11 The eagle-sighted *yarn-buyer. 1927 T. WOODHOUSE *Artificial Silk* 100 The yarns now pass to their respective *yarn carriers, the function of which is to place the yarn in the path of the single set of sinkers. 1957 *Textile Terms & Definitions* (Textile Inst.) (ed. 3) 109 *Yarn carrier*,... the final element which guides the yarn to the knitting instruments. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* xxxiii. (*Old Play*), Like to the *yarn-clew of the drowsy knitter, Dragg'd by the frolic kitten through the cabin. 1923 *Yarn count [see NUMBER *sb.* 6g]. 1963 JERRARD & McNEILL *Dict. Sci. Units* 154 In the textile industry the yarn count or yarn number gives either the mass per unit length or the length per unit mass of a yarn fibre. 1634-5 BRERETON *Trav.* (Chetham Soc.) 11 A dainty quay here is, and many *yarne-crofts here about. 1885 HUMMEL *Dyeing Textile Fabrics* 289 If in any dyed woollen fabric... the dyeing took place while it was in the state of thread or yarn, it is said to be *yarn-dyed. 1841 LEVER *O'Malley* xxviii, A race of linen-weaving, Presbyterian-*yarn factoring fellows. 1831-3 P. BARLOW in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 755/1 The yarn reels were placed individually in a stationary frame at the head of the rope-ground; and it appears that the register was to be conveyed onwards towards the *yarn frame, as the strand was twisted by the hook of a sledge, at the end where the process commenced, until the whole strand was made. *Ibid.* 756/2 The *yarn guide, or perforated plate, through which the rope yarns pass individually to concentrate at the press block. 1578 in Nichols *Progr. Q. Eliz.* (1823) II. 144 Eyght small women chyl dren spinnyn worsted yarne, and... as many knittyn of worsted *yarne hose. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 60 After yarn is tarred, it is laid in the *yarn-house... to harden. 1720 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5878/8 William Hill,... *Yarne-jobber. 1637 *Bury Wills* (Camden) 168 Goodman Howes, of Bury, *yarneman. 1882 *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 664/2 The whole operations in *yarn manufacture comprise (1) heckling, (2) preparing, and (3) spinning. 1783 *Specif. Patent* No. 1365. 1 Thomas Baker, of Derby... *Yarn Manufacturer. 1794 *Rigging & Seamanship* I. 88 A *Yarn-reel is a circular board, nailed in the middle to a piece of oak, ... 16 inches long, and is used to wind spun-yarn on. 1831 G. R. PORTER *Silk Manuf.* iii. iii. 215 A weight... suspended over the *yarn-roll to produce... the requisite tension of the threads of the warp. 1534 in F. W. Weaver *Wells Wills* (1890) 49 A *yerynrope. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxxi, The *yarn scales in the weigh-house. 1705 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4188/4 Richard Corbett, of Spittle-fields, *Yarn-seller. 1897 BARRERE & LELAND *Dict. Slang*, *Yarn-slinger, one who writes tales in newspapers. 1820 W. TOOKE tr. *Lucian* I. 736 She draws the *yarn-spindle from her bosom. 1704 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4056/8 Blue *Yarn Stockings. 1863 HAWTHORNE *Our Old Home* II. 219 Knitting coarse yarn stockings. 1891 *Tablet* 7 Nov. 742 The most confirmed American *yarn-teller. 1833 J. RENNIE *Alph. Angling Pref.* p. xiii, My *yarn thread' was strong enough to twitch out the trout to the green bank where I stood. c 1600 J. KEYMER *Dutch Fishing* (1664) 7 To make Cables and Cordage, likewise *Yarn Twine, and Thred for the making of Nets and Lines.

yarn (jɑːn), *v. colloq.* [f. *prec.* (sense 2).]

a. *intr.* To 'spin a yarn', tell a story; also, to chat or talk. Hence *'yarning vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1812 [see YARN *sb.* 2a]. 1849 CUPPLES *Green Hand* i, Somehow or another I was al'ays a yarning sort of a customer. 1857 *St Leonard's Station Diary* 14 May, in L. R. C. MacFarlane *Amuri* (1946) iii. 125 Hanging round the station, yarning and sleeping. 1859 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* xxxi, The head man of that there gang is... a-sitting yarning with your boss. 1880 *19th Cent.* No. 38. 655 So we talked and yarned till I grew sleepy and dozed off. 1888 W. CLARK RUSSELL *Death Ship* vii, We speedily fell to yarning. 1901 M. FRANKLIN *My Brilliant Career* (1966) iii. 3 Too friendly to pay a short call, they came and sat for hours yarning about nothing in particular. 1939 A. POWELL *What's become of Waring* vii. 206 If I... start yarning with him... we shall be late for dinner. 1941 I. L. IDRIESS *Great Boomerang* xvii. 122 In the whitewashed Birdsville Hotel, low-roofed but with dim, cool rooms, the blokes yarn the time away. 1944 *R.A.F. Jnl.* Aug. 256 There is practically nothing to do but... yarn with your friends. 1958 L. DURRELL *Balthazar* ii. 37 We were sitting at a café yarning. a 1966 'M. NA GOPALEEN' *Best of Myles* (1977) 55 He does be yarnin with the brother above in the digs of a Sunday. 1972 M. SHADBOLT *Strangers & Journeys* xi. 195 In the town, where men gathered to yarn on street corners. 1977 C. McCULLOUGH *Thorn Birds* vi. 120 Their parents yarned over cups of tea, swapped tall stories and books.

†*b. trans.* To recount or narrate. *Obs. rare.*

1840 A. RUSSELL *Tour Austral.* *Colonies* 40 One who can yarn the dangers of the deep so well.

yarn: see EARN *v.* 1, YEARN *v.*, YERN.

'yarn-beam. *Weaving.* [Cf. G. *garnbaum*.] The roller on which the yarn is wound.

1598 FLORIO, *Subbio*,... the roule whereon the weauer rouleth vp his web or worke, called a yarne-beame. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XVIII. 835/2 The cane-roll or yarn-beam, on which the warp is rolled when put into the loom. 1844 G. DODD *Textile Manuf.* i. 40 The yarn-beam is capable of revolving on its axis.

Hence *yarn-beaming a.*

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Yarn-beaming Machine*, a machine for winding the warp-yarn on to the beam.

†**yarn-chopper.** *Obs.* [f. YARN *sb.* + CHOPPER².] A dealer in yarn.

Also in various corrupt forms in Law Dicts., etc.: see JOURN-CHOPPER.

1429 *Act 8 Hen. VI.* c. 5 Les regratours du file appelle Yernchoppers.

†**yarndle**. *dial. Obs.* Shortened form of YARNWINDLE.

1682 MARTINDALE *Country-Surv.-Bk.* x. 69 Those things which here in Cheshire we call Yarndles, being used by Country Housewives in winding of their Yarn.

yarned (jɑːnd), *a.* [f. YARN *sb.* + -ED².] Furnished with yarn.

1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* i. ii. 16 Five spindles yarnd.

†**yarnen**, *a. Obs.* [f. YARN *sb.* + -EN⁴.] Made of yarn.

1568 TURBERV. *Trag. T., Epit.* etc. (1587) 190 b, A paire of yornen [*v.r.* yarnen] stockes to keepe the cold away.

'**yarnets, -its**. *Sc.* [Of obscure formation.] = YARNWINDLE.

1808 JAMIESON, *Yarnets*, an instrument for winding yarn. **1842** *Whistle-Binkie* Ser. iv. 94 The afauld yarn was ta'en awa', To the yarnits niest, to lay an' twist.

'**yarn-spinner**. [f. YARN *sb.* + SPINNER.]

1. A workman who spins yarn.

1813 *Examiner* 1 Mar. 137/2 T. Kemp, Knaresborough, yarn-spinner. **1895** *Daily News* 10 May 9/3 Yarn spinners are... very busy on old orders.

2. One who 'spins a yarn'; a story-teller. *colloq.*

1865 MRS. WHITNEY *Gayworthys* xxvi, 'Captain Vorse, we want a yarn—a real sailor's yarn!' 'Oh, I'm no yarn-spinner', said the young captain, evasively. **1883** *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 323/2 The story was 'improved' by the marine yarn-spinners of that port.

So 'yarn-spinning'.

1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Yarn-spinning*, a figurative expression for telling a story. **1888** *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 731/1 These inventions are at the foundation of all modern systems of yarn-spinning.

yarn-nut, north. *dial.* var. *ernut*, EARTH-NUT. (Cf. GERNUT, JURNUT.)

1828 *Craven Gloss.*, *Yarn-nut*, earth nut, or pig-nut. **1908** [MISS FOWLER] *Betw. Trent & Ancholme* 230 The earth-nut, or 'Yarn-nut'.

'**yarnwind**. *Obs. exc. dial.* Also 9 *yarewind*. [OE. *gearwinde* (= W.Fris. *jernwine*, N.Fris. *juarwinj*, Flem. *garenwinde*, MHG., G. *garwinde*, Icel. *garvinda* skein of yarn), f. *gearn* YARN *sb.* + **winde* = OHG. *winta* (G. *winde*) *winder*. Cf. GARNWIN.] = YARNWINDLE.

c725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) R 168 *Reponile*, *gearnuinde*. **c1000** *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 213/11 *Conductum*, *gearwinde*. **1879** MISS JACKSON *Shroph. Word-bk.*, *Yarewinds* (yaa-r'winz)... a machine for holding yarn intended to be made into skeins or wound into balls... The yarewinds consisted of a reel and stand. **1903** *Eng. Dial. Dict.*, *Yarnwinds* [Shetland, Caithness].

yarn-winder. Also 5 *yernwynder*. [In ME. an alteration of OE. *gearwinde* or of YARNWINDLE by association with *winder* (cf. Du. *garenwinder*); in mod.E. f. YARN *sb.* + WINDER.] An apparatus for winding yarn, as a yarn-reel or a yarn-spooler.

14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 564/31 *Appendium*,... a yernwynder, or a reel. **1875** KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, Yarn-winder.

yarnwindle (jɑːn,wind(ə)l). *Obs. exc. dial.* Forms: 4 *yar-*, *zarewyndel*, 5 *zar(e) wyndel*, *zarwyndyl*(l), *yerwyndylle*, 6 *yarne wyndell*, 9 *yarwindle*, *Sc.* *yarn-windle*. Also YARNDLE, YARRINGLE. [f. YARN *sb.* + -windle, instrumental formation on WIND *v.*¹ (see -LE 1); cf. YARNWIND.] An appliance for winding a skein of yarn into a ball: = GARNWINDLE.

c1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 157 A *yarwyndel*. **c1340** *Nominale* (Skeat) 547 *Serence lussel et voydere*, hechele clewen *zarewyndul*. **c1440** *Promp. Parv.* 536/2 *3arne wyndel*, or *ga(r)wyndel* (S. or *zarwyndyl*), *girgillus*. **c1475** *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 794/33 *Hic virgillus*, a *yerwyndylleblad*. **1530** PALSGR. 291/1 *Yarne wyndell, tornette*. **1611** COTGR., *Desvoidoir*, a pair of blades, or *yarnwindles*. **1818** SCOTT *Rob. Roy* xxxii, Nae man willingly wad cut short his thread of life before the end o' his pinn was fairly measured off on the yarn-windles. **1821** — *Pirate* v, Speak her fair and canny, or we will have a ravelled hasp on the yarn-windles!

yaroooh (ja'ruː), *int.* Also *yaroo*. A humorous stylized representation of a cry of pain. (One of Billy Bunter's characteristic exclamations: see *quots.*)

1909 *Magnet* 20 Nov. 4/2 'Oh!' roared Bunter, as Bulstrode's heavy boot biffed on him. 'Ow! Yah! Yaroooh!' **1918** *Ibid.* 8 June 12/2 'Don't keep me waiting, or I shall help you on—like that!' 'Yaroooh!' **1940** 'G. ORWELL' in *Horizon* Mar. 178 'Oooogh!', 'Groooh!' and 'Yaroo!' (stylized cries of pain). **1953** *Manch. Guardian Weekly* 23 July 11/2 With a 'Yaroooh!' on nearly every page William G. Bunter is on the war-path again. **1972** *Guardian* 21 Jan. 1/5 'Yaroooh!' they yelled... 'Get out, you cad!' **1977** M. AMIS in A. Thwaite *My Oxford* 205 A sign reading 'Yaroo—College Squit!' suspended from my neck.

yarpha (ja'fa). *Sc. dial.* Also *yarff* (see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*). [ON. *jorfi* (*jorva-*) gravel.] A peat-bog; peat combined with clay or sand.

1805 G. BARRY *Orkney* i. i. 10 *Yarpha*, or bog soil, whose characteristic is a black colour connected with the power of retaining moisture. *Ibid.*, In those places that are most elevated, the *yarpha* soil is most frequent. **1808** JAMIESON, *Yarpha*, 1. Peat full of fibres and roots, *Orkney*. **1821** SCOTT

Pirate xxxv, The poor *yarpha*, as the benighted creatures here call their peat-bogs.

yarr (jar), *sb. Sc. and north. dial.* [Cf. N.Fris. (Föhr) *jūr* spurrey.] The corn-spurrey, *Spergula arvensis*.

1775 *Essays Agric.* 435 Farmers in Scotland will take notice that this [*sc.* yarrow] is not the plant known among them by the name of *Yarr*, spurrey, *Spergula*. **1812** SOUTER *Agric. Banff* App. 46 Those lesser weeds that go under the common appellation of skellach, gule, yarr, &c. **1829** LOUDON *Encycl. Plants* 390 [*Spergula*] *arvensis* is a common weed in sandy soils, in Scotland called yarr.

yarr, *v.*: see YAR.

†**yarraman** (jærəman). *Obs.* Pl. *yarramen*, -mans. An Australian Aboriginal word for a horse.

1848 H. W. HAYGARTH *Bush Life in Austral.* x. 108 A stockman... meets some of the blacks, to whom his first question is 'You make a light yarraman belonging to me' (i.e. Have you seen my horses?). **1882** A. J. BOYD *Old Colonials* 69 There's seventeen yarramen—call 'em thirty pounds a head. **1905-6** 'T. COLLINS' *Rigby's Romance* (1971) v. 21 He needn't be frightened o' these yarramans. I got them like lambs. **1930** A. W. GROOM *Merry Christmas* xx. 156 'We tie yarraman here,' he suggested. They fastened their horses to low snags on the dead tree. **1959** BAKER *Drum* 158 *Yarraman*, an outlaw horse or wildly behaved station hack. **1964** W. S. RAMSON in *Southerly* i. 58 Other aboriginal words, *bora*, *coolamon*, *goondie*, *humpy*, and *yarraman*, came from tribes in the Sydney and Moreton Bay districts.

||**yarran** (jærən). *Australia.* [Native name.] Name for several Australian species of *Acacia*.

1888 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Robbery under Arms* xlvii, We stopped inside a yarran scrub.

†**yarringle**. *Obs.* Also 7 *yarwingle*. Corrupt form of *yarwindle*, YARNWINDLE.

Cf. *garwyngyll* in ed. 1499 of *Promp. Parv.* (Camd. 188/1). **1611** COTGR., *Tournette*, a Rice, or Yarwingle to wind yarne on. **1687** *Mother Shipton* 7 A pair of Yarwingles, made in the form of a Cross. **1688** HOLME *Armoury* iii. 287/2 A Pair of Yarringles with its Pins, set upon its Stock... This Instrument is also of great use with Housewives, by the help whereof Yarn Slippings or Hanks is wound... Some term these a Pair of Yarringles or Yarringle Blades. *Ibid.* 288/1 The Yarringle foot. **1879** MISS JACKSON *Shroph. Word-bk.*, *Yarringles*, same as *Yarnacles* [= *Yarewinds*].

yarrow (jærəu), *sb.* Forms: 1 *gear(e)we*, 5 *zarwe*, *zarow(e)*, 5-6 *yarow*, 6 *yarowe*, *yarowe*, 6-*yarow*. [OE. *gearwe* = Du. *gerw* (:-**garwe*), OHG. *gar(a)wa* (G. *garbe*), of uncertain etym.] The common name of the herb *Achillea Millefolium* (N.O. *Compositæ*), also called MILFOIL and NOSE-BLEED, frequent on roadsides, dry meadows, and waste ground, with tough greyish stem, finely-divided bipinnate leaves, and close flat clusters of flower-heads of a somewhat dull white, often varying to pink or crimson; sometimes used medicinally as a tonic. Also extended to other species of *Achillea*. **b.** Applied with defining words to plants of other genera. *soldier's yarrow*, *Stratiotes aloides*. *water yarrow*, a name for various water plants with finely divided leaves, as *Ranunculus aquatilis*, *Hottonia palustris*, and the genus *Myriophyllum*. (Cf. MILFOIL 2.)

c725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) M204 *Mirifillo*, *gearwe*. **c1000** *Sax. Leechd.* II. 354 *Wyl on meolcum pa readan gearwan*. **c1050** *Ags. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 297/31 *Millefolium*, *gearewe*. **a1400-50** *Stockholm Med. MS.* 202 *Millefolij* or *neseblod* or *zarwe*. **14..** *Nom.* in Wr.-Wülcker 711/26 *Hoc millefolium*, *zarow*. **c1440** *Promp. Parv.* 536/2 *3arowe*, *mylefoyle*, herbe for nese blederys. **1503** DUNBAR *Thistle & Rose* 83 Full craftely conjurit scho the Yarrow. **1546** LANGLEY tr. *Pol. Verg. De Invent.* i. xvii. 32b, Mercurie founde the vse of Moly, Achilles Yarrowe, Esculapius, Panace. **1578** LYTE *Dodoens* i. ci. 142 *Water Milfoyle* or *Yarrow*. *Ibid.* 143 *Knights Milfoyle*: souldiers Yarrow. **1597** GERARDE *Herbal* ii. cclxxxvi. 678 *Water Milfoile*, or *water Yarrow*, hath long and large leaues. **1612** DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xiii. 203 *The Yarrow*, where-with-all he stops the wound-made gore. **1614** MARKHAM *Cheap Husb.* Table Hard Wds., *Yarrow*, is an hearbe called the water-Violet, and growes in Lakes, or marish grounds. **1784** J. TWAMLEY *Dairying Exmpl.* 91, I take yarrow to be an ill favoured Plant for Cheese where it prevails much in Land. **1789** J. PILKINGTON *View Derbysh.* i. viii. 348 *Hottonia palustris*. *Water Violet*. *Water Yarrow*. **1866** MRS. RIDDELL *Race for Wealth* xxiii, A lawn in which I have gathered yarrow.

†**'yarow**, *a. dial. Obs.* [dial. var. ARGH (OE. *earg*); cf. Sussex *yar* (W. D. Cooper *Sussex Gloss.* 1853).] (See *quot.*)

1616 BULLOKAR *Eng. Expos.*, *Yarrow*, fearefull, faint-hearted.

yarrum (jærəm). *Thieves' Cant.* Also 6 *yaram*, 6-7 *yaram*. [?] Milk.

1567 HARMAN *Caveat* (1869) 83 *Yaram* [*v.r.* *yaram*], mylke. **1608** DEKKER *Lanth. & Candle Lt.* i, If we mawnd Pannam, lap, or Ruff-peck, Or poplars of yarrum. **1641** BROME *Joviall Crew* ii. (1652) F3, Here's Pannum and Lap, and good Poplars of Yarrum. **a1700** B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew.*

yarth(e, obs. or dial. ff. EARTH.

a1500 *Cov. Corp. Christi* Pl. 36/79 Apon the yarthie. **1688** HOLME *Armoury* iii. xvii. (Roxb.) 120/1 The yarthing Hooke, or forke is an Instrument of Husbandry as well as warre. **1825** JENNINGS *Obs. Dial. W. Eng.*, *Yarth*, earth.

'**yarwhelp**. *local.* Also 6 *yerwhelp*, 7 *yarewhelp*, *yarwell*, 7-9 *yarwip*, 8 *yarwhelph*, 8-9 *yarwhip*. [? Imitative of the goat-like cry of the godwit; cf. YAR *v.*] The bar-tailed godwit (*Limosa lapponica* or *rufa*) and the black-tailed godwit (*L. ægocephala* or *melanura*).

1577 in *Archaeologia* (1821) XIX. 289 *Yerwhelps* ij...ijs. **1579** J. JONES *Preserv. Bodie & Soule* i. xiv. 26 The flesh of...Towin, *Yarwhelpe*, Plover, Wodcocke. **1634** in Simpkinson *Washingtons* (1860) App. p. xiii, *Yarwell* 1 dozen and 11 02 14 02. **1668** SIR T. BROWNE *Let. to Dr. Merrett* 29 Dec., A *Yarwhelp*, Barker, or Latrator a marsh bird about the bignes of a Godwitt. **1678** RAY *Willughby's Ornith.* 292 The Godwit, called in some places the *Yarwhelp*, or *Yarwip*. **1744** *Ant. & Pres. St. Co. Down* xviii. 227 The *Yarwhelp* or *Yarwip*, is something like a Woodcock.

yarwingle, **yarwyndel**: see YARRINGLE, YARNWINDLE.

yary (jæri), *a. dial.* (chiefly Newfoundland). Also **yarry**. [var. of YARE *a.*] Quick, sharp; alert, energetic; wary, wide awake; rising early.

1855 *Trans. Philol. Soc.* 38 [Norfolk] *Yary*, brisk. **1863** J. MORETON *Life & Work in Newfoundland* iii. 35 *Yary*, wary. **1868** in *Dict. Newfoundland Eng.* (1982) 622/2 Here we saw a great number of wild geese in the lagoon...but it was impossible to get within shooting distance of them, these birds are so wild and extremely yary. **1881** *Even. Telegram* (St. John's, Newfoundland) 20 Sept. 1 We don't find the cruising war-ships of our yary neighbours the French and the Americans, lying in port for weeks at a time. **1906** N. DUNCAN *Adventures Billy Topsail* 256 'Hi, b'y! Get yary (wide awake)!' cried the captain in the morning. **1925** *Dialect Notes* V. 346 *Yary*,... 1. energetic; smart. 2. early. 3. wary. **1966** A. R. SCAMMELL *My Newfoundland* 90 That would be Skipper John Elliott, yary as ever, hi-tailing it for Jacob's ground before the Eastern Tickle crowd got the choice berths for the day.

yas (jæs), repr. colloq. and U.S. Blacks' pronunc. of YES *adv.* See YASSUH *int.*

1887 H. BAUMANN *Londinismen* 238 *Yas*,... yes. **1909** L. M. MONTGOMERY *Anne of Avonlea* xxiv. 279 'Was Ginger hurt?'... 'Yas'm. He was hurt pretty bad. He was killed.' **1927** *N. Y. Times Mag.* 24 Apr. 4/2 *Yas*, sir. Dat right, sir. **1936** M. MITCHELL *Gone with Wind* xxxii. 546 'I suppose you heard Jonas Wilkerson and that Emmie—' 'Yas'm,' said Mammy. **1966** *Keystone Folklore Q.* XI. 85 Caddy always taught the children not to say 'Yas suh, No suh and Yas 'um'... to white folks.

||**yashiki** (jaʃiki). Also 9 *yaski*. Pl. *yashiki*, (anglicized)-s. [Jap., f. *ya* house + *shiki* a space, site.] The residence of a Japanese feudal nobleman, including the palace or mansion and grounds, and the quarters for his retainers.

1727 J. G. SCHEUCHZER tr. *Kämpfer's Hist. Japan* II. ix. 486 *Sokkokf Dai Mio Jassiki*, that is, Palaces and houses of the princes and Lords of the Empire. **1863** R. ALCOCK *Capital of Tycoon* II. xiii. 280 The Daimios' *Yaskis* are merely a low line of barracks of the same construction, rather higher in the roofs. **1871** A. B. MITFORD *Tales of Old Japan* II. 206 The principal *yashikis* (palaces) of the nobles are for the most part immediately round the Shogun's castle. **1906** R. A. CRAM *Impressions Jap. Archit.* iii. 57 The arrangement of these 'yashiki' varied but little: a hollow square...was formed by the barracks for the daimyo's retainers; these barracks were usually two stories in height. **1959** R. KIRKBRIDE *Tamiko* ix. 65 It was at once obvious to him that it was part of the ruins of a magnificent *yashiki*, destroyed by fire during the war. **1970** J. W. HALL *Japan* x. 170 All daimyo were obliged to build residences (*yashiki*) in Edo where they kept their wives and children.

||**yashmak** (jæʃmæk). Also -mack, -mac, *yasmak*, *yachmak* (*erron*. *yakmak*, *yaknack*). [Arab. *yashmaq*.] The double veil concealing the part of the face below the eyes, worn by Muslim women in public.

1844 KINGLAKE *Eothen* iii. 47 *note*, The *yashmak*... is not a mere, semi-transparent veil, but rather a good substantial petticoat applied to the face. **1848** THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xviii, We let their bodies go abroad liberally enough, with smiles and ringlets and pink bonnets to disguise them instead of veils and yakmaks. **1885** *Times* 25 May 10 A Turkish lady is shocked if a strange man sees her without a *yashmak*. **1895** P. HEMINGWAY *Out of Egypt* II. 167, I gave her [*sc.* an old Arab woman] a cigarette, and she consented to accept a light from me, raising her *yashmak* for a moment. Hence 'yashmaked *a.*, wearing a *yashmak*.

1904 OXENHAM *Weaver of Webs* xiii, The simple pleasure of exciting the envious admiration of their *yashmaked* and unemancipated sisters.

yask *sb.* and *v.*, local variant of *yesk*, YEX.

1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong. Baailer*, to gape, *yaske*, to yawne. **1879** MISS JACKSON *Shroph. Word-bk.*, *Yask*, a term used to express the sound made by a violent effort to get quit of something in the throat.

†**yasked** [Y- 4], asked.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XVIII. 294, I haue... hym... yasked Where he were god. **1426** LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 7048 I how sholdest... Fyrst yaxyd A Bordon.

yaspen, **yaspin**: see YEPSEN.

yassuh (jæsa), *int.* Chiefly U.S. Repr. Black colloq. pronunc. of 'yes, sir' (often somewhat obsequious). Cf. YAS + SUH.

1936 M. MITCHELL *Gone with Wind* xxiii. 391 'She's not dead? Is she breathing?' 'Yassuh, she breathin'.' **1944** C. HIMES *Black on Black* (1973) 199 'Take good care of me, Chops,' I said... 'Yassuh.' **1963** PRANGE & VITOLS in A.

Dundes *Mother Wit* (1973) 631/2 Yassuh, I sees all dat. 1973 J. PATTINSON *Search Warrant* ii. 33 'You live alone here?' 'Yassuh. Jus' me an' my mem'ries.'

†**yasured** [Y- 4], azured.

c1483 CAXTON *Dialogues* 14/36 *Bleu asuret*, Blyew y-asured.

yat: see GATE *sb.*¹, THAT, YACHT.

yataghan (ˈjætəɡən). Also yatagan; ATAGHAN. [Turkish *yātāghan*.] A sword of Muslim countries, having a handle without a guard and often a double-curved blade.

1819 T. HOPE *Anastasius* (1820) I. iii. 52, I began hacking and hewing with my yatagan. 1837 *Gambler's Dream* I. 144 With our flowing garments, our turbans, and our yataghans, we conquered Asia under the standard of the Prophet. 1881 *Blackw. Mag.* May 566/1 The curved Arab yataghans with an outside edge. 1894 D. C. MURRAY *Making of Novelists* 125 A Circassian... flourishing... a formidable looking yataghan.

yatch, yatcht, obs. ff. YACHT.

yate (jɛt), *sb.* Also yeit. [Native name.] Either of two species of gum-tree, *Eucalyptus cornuta* and *E. occidentalis* (flat-topped yate), of south-western Australia, yielding a tough wood; also the wood itself.

1880 VON MUELLER *Select Extra-trop. Plants* 110. 1884 MILLER *Plant-n.*, Yate-tree, or Yeit-tree, *Eucalyptus cornuta*. 1907 *Westm. Gaz.* 20 Nov. 12/1 The extraordinary properties of yate, believed to be the strongest of all known woods.

†**yate**, *v.* *Obs.* Forms: 2 *geatan*, *gætan*, *getan*, *ietan*, (*Orm.*) *zaten*, 3-4 *zette*, *zet*, 4 *zete*, *yete*, *north. ziate*, 4-5 *north. zate*, *yate*, 5 *zote*. *Pa. i.* 2 *geatte*, *gætte*, *geotte*, *iætte*, *iette*, 2-3 *zatte*, 3 *zet*(te), 4 *yatt*(e), *zat*(e), *yeitt*; 3 *zet*(t)ed(e). *Pa. pple.* 2 (*Orm.*) *zatedd*, 3 *izetted*. [*late OE. gēatan* (Peterborough Chron.), f. *gēa* YEA, app. after ON. *játa*, also *játta* to assent, acknowledge, confess, promise, grant (cf. OHG. *gijāzan*, MHG. *jāzen* to assent); for the formation cf. ON. *neita* NAIT *v.*² to refuse.

The northern form *zate* is directly from or influenced by ON. The west-midland present *zette* is prob. due to the *pa. t. zette*.]

1. *trans.* To grant, bestow, concede. Also *absol.*

a1122 O.E. *Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 656 Ic Uitalianus papa geate þe Wulfhære cyning & Deusedit ærcebiscop & Saxulf abbod ealle þe ping þe ge gearnon. *Ibid.* 675 Ic gæte þæs ilce curs... Ic Adrianus legat hit iete. *Ibid.* 1066 Se æðeling hit him gætte þa blipolice. c1200 ORMIN 154 Godd Allwældenn hæfep herdd & zatedd tine beness. c1205 LAY. 10994, & al ich þe zette swa þu hit zinneest. *Ibid.* 14267 þe king him zette swa Hengeot hit wolde. a1225 *Ancr. R.* 230 3if þu driuest us heoneene, do us iðeos swin her, & he zettede ham. a1225 *Leg. Kath.* 2402 He zettede hire & 3ef bliðeliche leaue. a1300 *Cursor M.* 8414 And curtaisli, wit-vten hone, He yatte hir freli al hir bone. *Ibid.* 22413 Fourti dais he sal tham yate þat fallen ar utc of þair state... þat þai mai þam wit penance bete. 13... *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 776 'Now bone hostel', coþe þe burne, 'I be-seche yow zette!' c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 201 God zate (*K. Godzote*, *H. Goodzoth*, *P. Godwolde*), *utinam*.

2. To acknowledge, confess.

c1200 ORMIN 9819 Ne wolldenn þe33 nohht cnawenn Ne zatenne þatt te33 wærenn ohht Sinnfulle onn aniz wise. a1300 *Cursor M.* 26946 þou he yeitt [*Faif.* zeted] his wickedhede It moght him to no merci lede. *Ibid.* 27428 A man him cums al for to scriue... And yetes... þat he es fallen in miskenyng.

3. To provide, give, offer.

13... E.E. *Allit. P. A.* 558 Frende no wrang I wyl þe zete. a1420 *Cursor M.* 29047 (Cotton Galba) Als oure lord crist at þe last Gat vs ensaumple forto fast.

1788 *Voc. Forth & Bargie in Trans. R. Irish Acad.* II. 34 Yate, give.

Hence †**yating** (zetting) *vbl. sb.*, granting, consent.

a1225 *Ancr. R.* 204 On is ful wil uorte don þet fulðe, mid skilles zettinge.

yate: see GATE *sb.*¹, YET.

Yates (jeits). *Statistics*. [The name of Frank Yates (b. 1902), English statistician, who published the correction in 1934 (*Suppl. Jnl. R. Statistical Soc.* I. 217).] Yates's correction: a correction for the discreteness of the data that is made in the chi-square test when the number of cases in any class is small and there is one degree of freedom, consisting in the subtraction of ½ from each difference when evaluating chi square.

1934 R. A. FISHER *Statistical Methods for Research Workers* (ed. 5) iv. 96 (*heading*) Yates' correction for continuity. 1968 P. A. P. MORAN *Introd. Probability Theory* ii. 76 The use of the correction ½ results in a closer numerical approximation and is known as Yates's correction. 1972 *Jnl. Social Psychol.* LXXXVII. 53 As the expected frequency in some cells was less than 10, Yate's [*sic*] correction for continuity was applied. 1977 R. HOLLAND *Self & Social Context* vi. 211 Cooper... shows with the help of chi-squared and Yates' correction the effectiveness of conjoint family and milieu therapy.

yatte, obs. form of GATE *sb.*¹

yatter (ˈjætə(r)), *v. colloq.* (orig. *Sc. dial.*). [Imitative, perh. after YAMMER *v.* + CHATTER *v.*;

cf. also NATTER *v.*] *intr.* To talk idly and incessantly; to chatter, or gossip; to gabble; to complain peevishly. Freq. const. (*on*) (*about* something or *at* someone). Occas. *trans.*

1825 JAMIESON (*Suppl.*) II. 703/2 She's ay yatter-yatterin, and never deavolds. 1831 *Gasometer* 457 She yattered about an ugly man that cam' in a fiddle case. 1896 P. A. GRAHAM *Red Scur* viii. 121 Grace likes to yatter about the days when she bonded for him. 1919 J. BUCHAN *Mr. Standfast* i. vi. 122 No company but a wheen ignorant Hielanders that yatter Gawlic. 1942 N. STREATFIELD *Ordered Table for Six* 203, I don't like to yatter about flying much. 1950 'P. WOODRUFF' *Island of Chamba* 124 As long as the British yatter on about going and don't go, things are bound to get worse in India. 1963 J. N. HARRIS *Weird World of Wes Beattie* (1964) v. 62 This dear old Betty was yattering at me on Sunday morning when I was hung over to the eyeballs. 1977 J. I. M. STEWART *Madonna of Astrolabe* ii. 48 The confounded thing might tumble around our ears while we yattered.

Hence 'yattering' *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1859 J. WATSON *Living Bards of Border* 193, I winna get up, sae yer yatterin's vain. 1878 R. FORD *Hamespun Days* 105 A thrawart, yatterin', blatterin' mither. 1935 D. RORIE *Lum Hat* 58 Ta'en in By a yatterin' lump o' original sin. 1972 *Hawick News* 7 Jan. 7/4 Their yatterin', like the stream, goes on for ever.

'yatter', *sb. colloq.* (orig. *Sc. dial.*). [See prec.] Idle talk; incessant chatter or gossip.

1827 J. WATT *Poems* 72 Gin ane hae walth to keep him lievin', Nae cravin' body's yater deevin'. 1898 J. BUCHAN *John Burnet of Barns* ii. ix. 188 The shrill yatter of the fishwives. 1935 F. NIVEN *Flying Years* i. 10 Any yatter of human follies and failings. 1955 E. POUND *Section: Rock-Drill* xciv. 95 To the Odes to escape abstract yatter. 1978 *Sunday Mail* (Brisbane) 28 May 3/4 No one in the Brisbane Valley any longer believes the tourist yatter given out by Government...circles.

yaucht, obs. form of YACHT.

yaud (jɔ:d, jɑ:d). *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Forms: 4-6 *zald*, 6 *zad*, *zaid*, 6-7 *yawde*, 6-9 *yawd*, 8 *yade*, 8-9 *yad*, *yode*, 8- *yaud*. [*a. ON. jalda* (Sw. *dial. jalda*), poet. word for 'mare'.]

1. A mare: usually applied to an old mare; also loosely to an old or worn-out horse (associated with JADE).

1500-20 DUNBAR *Petit. of Gray Horse Poems* lxi. *refrain*, Schir, lett it nevir in toun be tald, That I could be ane 3uillis 3ald! 1641 BROME *Joviall Crew* iv. i. (1652) Kjb, Your Yawdes may take cold, and never be good after it. 1709 *Queen Anne*, or, the *Auld Grey Mare* iv. in *Jacobite Songs & Ball.* (1887) 57 And they hae seized the yaud And tied her head and heel. 1719 D'URFEY *Pills* V. 326 She's have a Yode to ride out; She's neither drive the Swine, nor the Plough. 1724 RAMSAY *Tea-t. Misc.* (1733) I. 8, I have three owsen in a plough Twa good ga'en yads and gear enough. 1816 SCOTT *Bl. Dwarf* i, Landlord, get us our breakfast, and see an' get the yauds fed. 1866 MRS. LYNN LINTON *Lizzie Lorton* II. 294 [They] sneered at her as the 'grey yaud wha'd be better rode wi' martingall nor snaffle'.

b. *Comb.*, as *yaud-stealer*; † *yaud-swiver*, one who commits buggery with a mare.

1508 DUNBAR *Flying* 246 Muttoun dryver, girnall ryver, 3adswyvar, fowll fell the. c1560 *Durham Depos.* (Surtees) 60 And yett Ednam shuld still he his father yawd steiller.

c. *attrib. or adj.* Of a horse: Worn out.

1500-20 DUNBAR *Petit. of Gray Horse* 25 Poems lxi, Suppois I war ane ald 3aid aver, Schott furth our clewch to pull the clever.

†2. A strumpet, whore. *Comb.* *3aldson*, the 'son of a whore'; a term of abuse (cf. *whoreson*).

a1400 *Morte Arth.* 3809 3ondire to 3one 3aldsones he pat 3eldes hym ever, ... Be he neuer mo sauede. 1545 *Burgh Rec. Stirling* (1887) 41 You leid that said Annapill Grahame wes ane freris get and freris yawde.

yaue, obs. pa. t. of GIVE *v.*

yauger, variant of JAGGER⁸.

1808 FORSYTH *Beauties Scot. V.* 390 The fishing flect was often attended by certain vessels, called *yaugers*, that carried salt, casks, and victuals, to barter with the busses for their herrings.

yaugh, yaught, obs. ff. YACHT.

yaul: see YAULD, YAWL.

yauld, yald (jɔ:ld), *a. Sc.* and *north. dial.* Also 8 *yawl*, 9 *yaul*. [Origin unknown.] Active, sprightly, nimble; strong, vigorous.

1786 *Har'st Rig* viii, A bang O' Highlanders, a fendy rout, Baith yawl and strang. 1787 BURNS *Let. to W. Nicol* 1 June, She's a yauld, poutherie Girran. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq. xlv*, There's mony yauld chieks among thae volunteers. 1873 D. MACLAGAN *Heather* iii. in *Mod. Scot. Poets* Ser. III. (1881) 177 Though somethin' auld An' no sae yauld.

yauld, yaulew, yaulpe, yaumer, -our: see YIELD, YELLOW, YAWP, YAMMER.

yaup: see YAP *a.*, YAWP.

'**yawpish, 'yawpish, a. Sc.** [*f. yaup*, YAP *a.* + -ISH¹.] Hungry.

1789 DAVIDSON *Seasons, Spring* 31 Take thou thy way To where the lusty tenant o' the floods Has, yawpish, ta'en his stan' in quest of food. 1835 D. WEBSTER *Paisley Fair in Harp of Renfrewshire* Ser. II. (1873) 153 I'm e'en growing yawpish, We maun hae some buns and some ale.

yaupon, var. YAPON.

yautia (jau'ti:ə). [*Amer. Sp.*] In the West Indies, any of various herbaceous perennials of the genus *Xanthosoma*, esp. *X. sagittifolia*, which belong to the arum family and are widely cultivated for their edible tubers; = TANIA, TANIER, TANNIER.

1899 W. DINWIDDIE *Puerto Rico* xii. 141 The other root, ... known commonly as 'yautia', is much cultivated by the peasantry and held in high esteem, being always on sale in the markets. *Ibid.*, From the 'yautia' roots considerable starch is made... and is sold principally for laundry purposes. 1917 L. H. BAILEY *Stand. Cycl. Hort.* VI. 3523/1 The corms and cornels (offsets) of some taros, and the cornels of some varieties of yautia, are free from acidity even in the raw state as cultivated in southern United States. 1975 E. L. ORTIZ *Best of Caribbean Cooking* 135 Add the yautia, yams, pumpkin, cassava, plantains, salt and Tabasco to taste. 1981 P. THEROUX *Mosquito Coast* xvii. 223 Seeing me with some yautia plants... I told them they were yautias and that their roots were as tasty as carrots.

|| **yava** (ˈjɑ:və). Variant of KAVA; cf. AVA.

1774 W. WALES *Jrnl.* 26 June in J. Cook *Jrnl.* (1961) II. 846 They [*sc.* the Tongans] brought off with them the Yauva, or pepper-Root. 1804 *Ann. Rev.* II. 196/1 The eyes of the great yava drinkers are much blood-shot. 1822-7 *Good Study Med.* (1829) II. 641 It [*sc.* *Bucnesia tropicalis*] is also indigenous to the Polynesian isles, where it takes the name of yava-skin, as being supposed to originate from drinking the heating beverage called yava.

yave, obs. pa. t. of GIVE *v.*

yaw (jɔ:), *sb.*¹ *Naut., Aeronaut., and Astronaut.* Also 7 *yawe*, *yogh*. [Related to YAW *v.*¹]

a. An act of yawing; a movement of deviation from the direct course, as from bad steering; angular motion or displacement about a yawing axis.

1546 GARDINER *Declar. Joye* 91 Lyke a shyppe without anker holde or rother, ye wander as the variable wynde tosseth you, and so make yawes in and oute, without any right course. ? 1565 SIR J. HAWKINS *2nd Voy. W. Ind.* (Hakl. Soc.) 9 To make three yawes, and strike the Myson three times. 1667 (Nov. 5) *Admiralty Crt. Exam.* 77, Made a yogh. 1697 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3315/1, I crouted Sail to Leeward to him, ... making a little Yaw sometimes to shew my French Ensign. 1725 H. DE SAUMAREZ in *Phil. Trans.* XXXIII. 425 It cannot be expected but that a Ship before the Wind will deviate from her true Course, sometimes one Way, sometimes another, in her Yaws and Sheers. 1793 SMEATON *Edystone L.* §254 note, The boat took a sudden yaw or sheer, which canted me overboard. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xxxiii, Another wide yaw and a come-to snapped the guys. 1875 BEDFORD *Sailor's Pocket Bk.* iii. (ed. 2) 59 If under steam, a slight yaw with the helm will serve to show the direction you intend to take. 1916 G. C. LOENING *Military Aeroplanes* xii. 166 Struts of large fineness ratio... present considerable side surface and affect the directional center, at different angles of yaw. 1935 [see PITCH *sb.*² 2b]. 1950 *Engineering* 3 Mar. 255/2 The Desynn type of transmitter and indicator... is used to transmit to the recording apparatus such variables as control forces, angle of yaw, pressures, etc. [in a prototype aircraft]. 1974 *Physics Bull.* Jan. 11/1 The six component wind tunnel balance... will be able to measure three forces (lift, drag and side force) and three moments (pitch, yaw and roll) on any aircraft model it supports. 1977 *Offshore Engineer* May 44/3 During these tests, the data acquisition system recorded... pitch, roll, heave, surge, sway and yaw of the lay barge, pull and length of mooring cables, and anchor positions. 1978 R. JANSSON *News Caper* 7 The Captain manoeuvred the big jet back to stability, damping out yaw and roll.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*: cf. YAW *v.*¹ 2.

1597 J. PAYNE *Royal Exch.* 34 Now and then we make yawes agaynste our wills. 1634 MASSINGER *Very Woman* III. v. 'Tis strong, strong Wine: O the yaws that she'll make! 1870 READE *Put yourself in his Place* III. 163 Putting her left hand to his breast, she gave a great yaw, and then a forward rush with her mighty loins. 1885 STEVENSON *Prince Otto* I. iv, He gave a beery yaw in the saddle.

c. *Comb.* yaw axis = yawing axis s.v. YAWING *vbl. sb.*; yaw-sighted *a.* (*Naut. slang*), cross-eyed, squinting.

1751 SMOLLETT *Per. Pickle* (1779) I. vi. 45 A yaw-sighted bitch. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* 1959 F. D. ADAMS *Aeronaut. Dict.* 184/1 Yaw axis. 1962 F. I. ORDWAY et al. *Basic Astronaut.* ix. 368 Any vehicle motion will take place about three axes... These axes are the yaw axis, the pitch axis, and the roll axis. 1978 *Sci. Amer.* Nov. 137/1 For the first time the machine included a pair of fixed vertical surfaces behind the wings to stabilize motion about the yaw axis.

yaw, *sb.*² [Back-formation from YAWS apprehended as a plural.] Each of the excrescences or spots of eruption in yaws.

1744 *Med. Essays Soc. Edinb.* V. ii. 793 Sometimes after all the other Yaws are fallen off... there remains one large Yaw, high knobby, red and moist; this is commonly called the Master-yaw. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 732/2 Hairs at the seat of a yaw turn white. 1898 P. MANSON *Trop. Diseases* xxvii. 427 The crust which caps and encloses an uninjured yaw is yellowish.

b. Used as attrib. form of YAWS, as *yaw matter*, *taint*, *tubercle*; yaw-house, a hospital for persons affected with yaws; yaw-weed, a shrubby plant, *Morinda Royoc* (N.O. *Cinchonaceae*), used in the West Indies as a remedy for yaws.

1679 TRAPHAM *Disc. Health Jamaica* 122 The... long Guinny Worms, arising from the Yaw teint found... in the Children... of the Blacks. 1822-7 *Good Study Med.* (1829) III. 171 The revolting scene of a yaw-house. 1834 *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) II. 433 note, The time that elapses between the inoculation with yaw matter and the first

appearance of a yaw tubercle. **1864** GRISEBACH *Flora W. Ind. Isl.* 789 Yaw-weed, *Morinda Royoc.*

yaw, *v.*¹ [Of obscure origin.]

ON. *jaga* to move to and fro as a door on its hinges, has been compared.]

1. intr. a. Naut. Of a vessel: To deviate temporarily from the straight course, as through faulty or unsteady steering; to turn to one side or from side to side in her course.

1586 [see YAWING *vbl. sb.*] **1612** DEKKER *If it be not Good* Wks. 1873 III. 293, I spie two Shippes yonder, that yaw too and agen. **1769** FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780) Eee 2, She had yawed to leeward. **1769** *St. James's Chron.* 5-8 Aug. 4/2, I. see the Ship yaw as if there was not a Seaman aboard. **1830** MARRYAT *King's Own* xiii, The frigate yawed-to with all her sails set. **1885** RUNCIMAN *Skippers & Shellbacks* 54 The barque yawed as far as the hawser would allow.

b. Aeronaut. and Astronaut. Of an aircraft or spacecraft: to rotate about a vertical axis, to undergo yawing.

1912 *Q. Rev.* July 243 This disposition tends to offer an ever-increasing amount of surface sideways to the air when a turn is begun, thus accentuating the turn initiated by the rudder and causing the craft to yaw. **1935** C. G. BURGE *Compl. Bk. Aviation* 108 The forces on the two wing tips are neither steady nor equal, so that the aeroplane tends to roll and yaw. **1964** [see PITCH *v.*¹ 19 f]. **1979** *Daily Tel.* 7 Apr. 3/2 It then yawed to the right, did a barrel roll like a light aircraft starting at an aerial show, and went into a nose-dive.

2. transf. and fig. To deviate, go out of course, go or move unsteadily. (Often with direct allusion to sense 1.)

1584 R. SCOT *Discov. Witchcr.* xii. vii. (1886) 183 The daie delaied by length of night which made both daie and night to yawe. **1604** SHAKS. *Ham. v.* ii. 120 (Qo. 2) To deuide him inuentorially, would dosie th' arithmeticke of memory, and yet but yaw neither in respect of his quick saile. **1834** MARRYAT *P. Simple* xvi, I shot ahead, and yawed a little—caught a peep at her through her veil. **1896** *Pall Mall Mag.* May 80 The rider yawed in his saddle as a boat. . . yaws on a cross-sea swell.

3. trans. To cause to yaw (*lit. and fig.*); to move (something) unsteadily from side to side.

1746 W. HORSLEY *Fool* (1748) I. 201 The Ship of State was, as the Seamen phrase it, yawed to and fro. **1807** E. S. BARRETT *Rising Sun* xxxvii. III. 48 Owing to the unskilfulness of her pilots, she was so yawed about, that it was quite uncertain when she would be moored in a safe port. **1827** HOOD *Sailor's Apol. for Bow-legs* 41 [She] yaw'd her head about all sorts of ways. **1845** GOSSE *Ocean* iv. (1849) 168 The man at the wheel, . . . neglecting his helm, 'yaws' the ship about sadly. **1920** *Engineering* 8 Oct. 462/2 It was found that the control was not reversed at large angles of incidence up to 20 deg., unless the model was yawed. **1960** WELCH & DENES *Go Gliding* i. 20 Moving the left foot forward yaws the glider's nose to the left. **1975** L. J. CLANCY *Aerodynamics* xvi. 525 The aircraft is yawed to starboard.

yaw, *v.*² *dial.* (see Eng. Dial. Dict.) [Of obscure origin.] *intr.* To be wide open; to yawn.

1596 LODGE *Wits' Miseries* 71 His browes bent, his hand shaking, his nostrils yawing. *Ibid.* 103 A fellow stretching himselfe at his window, yawing, and starting.

yaw, *adv.* [Used in representations of Ger. and Du. speech: cf. YAH *adv.*] Yes.

1667 DAVENANT & DRYDEN *Tempest* i. i, *Steph.* Boy! *Boy.* Yaw, yaw, here Master. **1697** VANBRUGH *2nd Pt. Æsop* II. iii, *Æsop.* Have you then a mind to a Wife, Sir? *Beau.* Yaw myn Heer. **1815** SCOTT *Guy M.* xxxiv, [Dirk Hatteraick loq.] Wetter and donner! yaw—What do you take me for?

yaw, *int.* An affected exclamation. Also as vb. (cf. YAW-HAW, YAW-YAW).

1797 MRS. A. M. BENNETT *Beggar Girl* (1813) III. 277 He will yaw a parcel of nonsense about jukes and lords. **1826** F. REYNOLDS *Life & Times* II. 94 Yawning and muttering, 'Reynolds is an humorist, not a wit—yaw! yaw! I am a wit!'

yaw, local form of HEW *v.*

1529 SKELTON *Col. Cloute* 1206 Ye prechers shall be yawde; and some shall be sawde. **1847** HALLIWELL, *Yaw*, . . . to hiew. *West.*

yawd(e), var. YAUD, mare.

yawe, obs. *f. gave*, pa. t. of GIVE *v.*

yawer, var. YURE, *dial.*, udder.

yawey, var. YAWY.

yawger, var. JAGGER³.

yaw-haw (ˈjɔːhɔː), *v.* [Echoic.] *intr.* To laugh rudely or noisily. Hence **yaw-haw sb.**, a loud or rude laugh; **yaw-hawing ppl.** *a.*

1836 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* Ser. i. xix, I had to pucker up my mouth . . . to keep from yawhawin in her face. **1912** H. MACFALL in *English Rev.* Jan. 334 A booth at a fair, a place set up but to tickle the country-bumpkins into yaw-haws.

yaw-haw. Intended to represent an affected pronunciation characterized by loose articulation in which open vowel sounds predominate. Hence *attrib.*, as *sb.* (= affected person) and *vb.* (cf. YAW *int.* and *v.*, YAW-YAW *v.*).

1867 E. B. RAMSAY *Art of Reading* 9 All reading where sounding the vowels predominates is indistinct. At Cambridge, in my time, it used to be called a 'yaw-haw' reading. **1876** J. GRANT *One of the '600'* vii, That yaw-hawing donkey, Berkeley.

yawing (ˈjɔːɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. YAW *v.*¹ + -ING¹.] The action of the verb YAW; temporary deviation of a vessel from her course; unsteady movement from side to side; also *fig.* and *attrib.*

1586 J. MELVILL *Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 253 Be hir tumbling and yawing, the mast schouk sa louse, that Mr. Robert. . . haid mikle ado to fasten the sam. **1627** CAPT. J. SMITH *Sea Gram.* ix. 38 He that keepes the Ship most from yawing doth commonly vse the lest motion with the Helme. **1793** NELSON 22 Oct. in *Nicolas Disp.* (1845) I. 335 The Chase. . . by yawing, which her superiority in sailing enabled her to do, gave us many broadsides. **1858** R. S. SURTEES *Ask Mamma* lii, There is a great yawing of mouths and. . . renewed inquiries for fords. **1870** LOWELL *Among my Bks.* Ser. i. (1873) 293 The language has such a fatal genius for going stern-foremost, for yawing. **1915** A. FAGE *Aeroplane* vi. 86 An indifference [on the part of pilots] to yawing, and possibly to rolling, is regarded favourably in many aeronautical circles. **1935** C. G. BURGE *Compl. Bk. Aviation* 238/1 This causes a 'yawing' effect in the opposite direction to the turning effect of the rudder [of the plane]. **1975** L. J. CLANCY *Aerodynamics* xvi. 525 If the aircraft has a yawing velocity, *r*, this affects the fin incidence in the same way that pitching velocity affects the tail incidence.

b. Special Comb.: yawing axis, a vertical axis through a ship or aircraft; an axis through a spacecraft normal to both the longitudinal and lateral axes.

1953 [see *rolling axis* s.v. ROLLING *vbl. sb.*² 9 a]. **1978** *Jrnl. Fluid Mech.* LXXXVII. 533 These passive yawing motions are studied to find their amplitude, the yawing axis and any associated energy dissipation.

So 'yawing ppl. *a.*, that yaws (*lit. and fig.*).

1835 WHATELY in *Life* (1866) I. 292 Another [evil] will be a sort of unsteady yawing course of the state-ship. **1850** 'H. HIEOVER' *Pract. Horsemanship* v. 92 A more yawing, pully-haully brute I had scarcely ever ridden.

yawl (jɔːl), *sb.*¹ Forms: 7 yaule, yale, 7-8 yall, yaul, 8 yawle, (youghall), 8-9 yole, yoa, yoll, 7-yawl. [app. ad. MLG. *jolle* (LG. *jolle*, *jölle*, *jelle*), or Du. *jol* (17th c.) explained by Sewel, 1708, as 'a Jutland boat', whence dim. *jolleken* (1660, Hexham), cf. Sw. *julle*, Da. *jolle*; of unknown origin. *F. yole*, *†iol(e)*, It. *jolo*, Russ. *yal* are from Germanic.]

1. A ship's boat resembling a pinnace, but somewhat smaller, usually with four or six oars.

1670 COVEL in *Early Voy. Levant* (Hakl. Soc.) 131 Next morning our Captain and I. . . went on shore in the yale betimes. **1685** *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2054/3 The *Larks* Boat being Commanded by Captain Leightons Brother, the *Bonadventures* Pinnace by Mr. Harrises accompanied with Mr. Littleton, and the Yauls by Mr. Brisbane. **1687** W. HEDGES *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 240 Capt. Milborne, perceiving y^e Hazard, came off in his Yall to our assistance. **1742** WOODROOFE in *Hanway Trav.* (1762) I. II. xvii. 76 We had. . . a long-boat of five tuns, and a yaul, each with six oars. **1775** DALRYMPLE in *Phil. Trans.* LXVIII. 397 Hove the ship to, and sent jolly boat and yawl in search of him. **1776** *Pennsylvania Even. Post* 4 June 280/2 A small Youghall belonging to some vessel. **1834** MARRYAT *P. Simple* xxxiii, The launch, yawl, first and second cutters, were the boats appointed for the expedition. **1875** KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Yawl*. In the British navy it is the fifth boat in point of size; the others being the launch, long-boat, barge, and pinnace.

2. A small sailing-boat of the cutter class, with a jigger.

1684 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 1898/4 Some Deal men have tried to go off to her in one of our Yaules. **1692** *Ibid.* No. 2808/4 A Deale built Yawl with 6 Oars. **1713** *Order in Council* 13 Sept. in *Lond. Gaz.* No. 5155/1 There came on Board the said Bark Seven Men in a Deal-Yawl. **1798** CRUTTWELL *Gazetteer* (1808) III. s.v. *Orkney*, The inhabitants. . . sail from island to island in small boats, called yoaals. **1873** *Daily News* 22 Aug., The Pantomime takes the schooners' prize, the Oimara that for cutters, and the Florinda for yawls.

3. A small kind of fishing-boat.

1670 J. SMITH *Eng. Improv. Reviv'd* 254 The Commodities of Shotland which the Inhabitants do for the most part Trade withal is Ling and Cod, which they take with Hooks and Lines in small Boats, called Yalls, about the bigness of Gravesend Oars. **1854** H. MILLER *Sch. & Schm.* iii. (1858) 42 All sorts of barques and carvels, from the fishing yawl to the frigate. **1865** *Leeds Mercury* 22 Feb., Three more of the fishing yawls being missing.

4. attrib. and Comb.

1865 *Guardian* 17 May 478 A yawl-boat was landed bottom up from the hurricane-deck upon the heads of those below. **1881** MISS BRADDON *Asphodel* xvi, His little yawl-rigged yacht. **1894** HALL CAINE *Manxman* vi. i, Pete began to think of buying a Dandie, which being smaller than a Nickey, and of yawl rig, he could sail of himself.

yawl (jɔːl), *sb.*² [f. YAWL *v.*¹] An act of 'yawling'; a shout, yell.

1728 FIELDING *Love in several Masques* IV. ii, To me, the Turkish Yawl at an On-set, the Irish Howl at a Funeral, or the Indian Exclamation at an Eclipse, are all soft Musick to that single Noise.

yawl (jɔːl), *v.*¹ Now *dial.* Forms: 4-5 zaule, 4, 7-8 yall, 6 yalle, 6-7 yaule, yawle, 7-8 yaul, 8-9 yole, 7- yawl. [Parallel to YOWL, with alternation of vowel designed to express a variety of the sound echoed. Cf. LG. *jaueln* (of cats).]

1. intr. a. To cry out loudly from pain, grief, or distress: also said of the howling of dogs, the 'wauling' of cats, the screaming of peacocks.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1453 He hutez of þe houndez, & þay ful gomeryly zaule & zelle. **c. 1395** *Plowman's Tale* 386 To catche catell as covytous As hound, that for hunger woll yall

[*rime fall*]. **c. 1400** *Anturs Arth.* ix, Hit zaulut, hit zamurt, lyke a woman. *Ibid.* vii. (Douce MS.) There come a lede of þe lawe. . . 3auland and zomeland, with many loude zelles. **1615** BRATHWAIT *Strappado* (1878) 178 In helis abisse: Where they may yaule and yarme til that they burst. **1621** J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Begger* Biv, I (like many other froward boyes) Would yaule, and baule, and make a yawling noyse. **1681** HICKERINGILL *Sin Man-Catching* i. 16 The little Peacocks shreame out and yawle amain, pluming themselves. **a. 1825** FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia* s.v., The cry of a peacock is an excellent instance of yawling. **1833** TENNYSON *Goose* ix, Then yelp'd the cur, and yawl'd the cat. **1870** E. PEACOCK *Ralf Skirl.* II. 193 Give a look to that bairn, it yawls sorely.

b. To call aloud, shout, bawl, scream, vociferate.

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 288 Cato right eagrely yallyng at Pompeius. **1620** QUARLES *Feast for Wormes* iii. Dijk, The haplesse Pylot. . . mainly calls; Calls *Jonah, Jonah*; and yet lower yawles. **1719** DE FOE *Crusoe* II. (Globe) 405 They all ran screaming and yawling away. **1808** JAMIESON, *To Yaul*, to yell.

transf. **1575** *Gammer Gurton* II. i, My gutts they yawle cawle and all my belly rumbleth.

2. trans. a. (with *simple obj.* or *obj. cl.*) To shout out, utter with shouting.

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 172 b, Thei. . . whiche yalle and rore, that learynyng. . . is utterly nothing available to the gouernance. . . of a comenweale. **1613** WITHER *Abuses Strip* II. iii. Q vj b, Such as haue yauld Ergo in the schooles. *Ibid.*, *Scourge* Vj b, The nimble Tapster. . . Still yalling, here, anon sir, by and by. **1679** *Pol. Ball.* (1860) I. 220 They baul and they yaul aloud thro' the whole town The rights to succession and claims to the Crown. **1859** *Habits of Gd. Society* v. (new ed.) 217 A man. . . should never yawl out the namby-pamby ballads beloved of young ladies.

b. (with compl.) To bring into a specified state by 'yawling'.

a. 1627 MIDDLETON *Widow* II. i, Ile make 'em yaul one an other deaf, but ile have thee.

Hence 'yawling *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1568 *Hist. Jacob & Esau* i. i. Aij, The deuill stoppe that same yallyng throte. . . Somwhiles. **1598** SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. ii. 11, *Babylon* 228 Night breathlesse all, with their confusèd yawling. **1619** *Pasquil's Palin.* (1877) 146 Young Beagles. . . Whose yawling throats will never let him sleepe. **1715** *C'tess D'Aunoy's Wks.* 454 The hideous Outcries that he made, and his continual Yauling. **1719** D'URFHEY *Pills* III. 31 A Wife, That makes him weary of his Life With Scolding, yoleing in the House.

yawl, *v.*² *nonce-wd.* [f. YAWL *sb.*¹] *trans.* To convey in a yawl.

1884 'MARK TWAIN' *Huck. Finn* xxiv, When we got to the village, they yawled us ashore.

yawl (jɔːl, jaɪl), repr. (Southern) U.S. pronunc. of Y'ALL *pers. pron.*

1919 *Dialect Notes* V. 40 *Yawl*, . . you-all. **1938** C. HIMES in *Black on Black* (1973) 167 Why doesn't yuh git happy an' praise de Lawd? Doesn' yawl know who Ah is? **1978** J. R. GASKIN in *Sewanee Rev.* LXXXVI. 426 Dillard accounts for y'awl, or you all, not as the simple concatenation of two English forms.

yawl, var. YAULD *a.*

yawler¹ (ˈjɔːlə(r)). *rare*=⁰. [f. YAWL *v.*¹ + -ER¹ 2.] One who 'yaws' or howls.

1611 COTGR., *Glatisseur*, a barker; bawler, yawler.

yawler² (ˈjɔːlə(r)). Also yoler. [f. YAWL *sb.*¹ + -ER¹ 1.] A sailor who rows or sails in a yawl; one of the crew of a yawl.

1833 M. SCOTT *Tom Cringle* xviii, Pipe away the yawlers, boatswain's mate. **1867** *Engineer* 27 Sept. 283/3 'Yolers'.

'yawling. *local.* Also 8 yaulin. A young herring.

1758 *Descr. Thames* 227 A young Herring is by some termed a Yaulin. **1879** T. SATCHELL *Index Gloss. Fish Names* (E.D.S.) 8 *Chlupea Harengus*, . . Yarmouth-capon, Yawlings, Whitebait, White-Herring.

yawlsman (ˈjɔːlzmən). *rare*=¹. [f. *yawl*'s, gen. of YAWL *sb.*¹ + MAN *sb.*¹] = YAWLER².

1885 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 15 Aug. 513/2 The bluff yawlsman riding to his nets far out at sea.

yawmer, var. YAMMER *v.*

yawmeter (ˈjɔːmɪtə(r)). [f. YAW *sb.*¹ + -METER.] An instrument used to detect changes in the direction of flow round an aircraft or other body.

1921 *Flight* 28 July 511/1 A new direction and velocity meter (yawmeter) has recently been constructed. **1947** *Jrnl. R. Aeronaut. Soc.* LI. 15/2 We imagine aerofoil and observer to be stationary and the aerofoil to be immersed in a stream of air of speed *V* normal to the span. . . the direction of the stream being made known to the observer by, for example, a yawmeter. **1969** *Jrnl. Physics* E II. 989/1 Calibration of the instrument as a yawmeter. Most of the tests on the instrument have been made near the outlet end of an open water channel. **1983** *Ibid.* XVI. 231/1 (*heading*) A yawmeter for steady and low-frequency unsteady flows.

yawn (jɔːn), *sb.* [f. YAWN *v.*]

1. Something that yawns; a gaping opening or entrance; esp. a chasm, abyss.

1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* III. iii. Wks. 1856 I. 111 Now gapes the graves, and through their yawnes let loose Imprison'd spirits to revisit earth. **1755** AMORY *Mem.* (1766) II. 56 The billows that were all in wild uproar, and then came down into the dreadful yawn. **1820** L. HUNT *Indicator* No. 22 (1822) I. 170 Trust not the tempting yawn of stable-yard or gateway. **a. 1821** KEATS *Hyperion* i. 120 Spaces of fire, and all the yawn of hell. **1894** *Idler* Sept. 134 The stubborn, wonderful old piece of timber-frame was picked out of the yawn of the hatch in splinters.

2. The or an act of yawning: a. Gaping or opening wide.

1697 CONGREVE *Mourn. Bride* II. v, Sure, 'tis the Friendly Yawn of Death for me. 1705 ADDISON *Italy* 248 And sometimes with a mighty Yawn, 'tis said, Opens a dismal Passage to the Dead.

b. Involuntary opening of the mouth, as from drowsiness.

1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 96 After . . a few hearty Yawns, he crawls up upon Deck. 1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 320 ¶5 Our Salutation at Entrance is a Yawn and a Stretch. 1742 POPE *Dunc.* IV. 343 She . . heard thy everlasting yawn confess The Pains and Penalties of Idleness. 1875 TENNYSON *Q. Mary* I. iii, A life of nods and yawns.

c. *transf.* and in *transf.* contexts, denoting something that induces boredom; a tedious activity. *colloq.*

1889 E. C. DOWSON *Let.* 3 Feb. (1967) 32 My dear Moore. Here goes for my accustomed Sunday yawn to you! Thanks for your note. 1974 D. GRAY *Dead Give Away* II. 24 To you it may be one big yawn, or the laugh of a life-time. . . But to me it's important. 1978 G. A. SHEEHAN *Running & Being* viii. 102 For them the Super Bowl is three hours of yawns. 1979 *Broadcast* 4 June 8/3, 7 June will be a major event for psephologists. . . if . . a yawn a minute for British voters. 1984 *Times* 3 Oct. 13/1 So much proscriptio may sound like a recipe for a great gastronomic yawn.

Hence (*nonce-wds.*) 'yawnful a., 'yawnfully adv., 'yawnish a., 'yawnless a., 'yawnsome a., 'yawnsomely adv.

1855 ANNE MANNING *Old Chelsea Bun-Ho.* ix. 156, I awoke . . chilly and yawnish. 1878 J. THOMSON *Plenip.* Key 26 His mouth and arms stretched yawnful. 1881 J. M. BROWN *Student Life* 4 A yawnless languor. 1898 *Blackw. Mag.* Apr. 498/1 Fifty dull, stiff-jointed, yawnful years. 1900 *Yorksh. Post* 28 July 6/6 A jaded and yawnsome and even jaundiced assemblage. 1908 *Standard* 18 Feb. 7 A . . yawnsomely dull debate. 1914 W. DE MORGAN *When Ghost meets Ghost* I. xviii. 691 'On my way to Poynders,' said the Countess yawnfully.

yawn (jɔ:n), *v.* Forms: *a.* 1 *ginian*, *gyn-*, *gionian*, *geon-*, *ieon-*, *genian*, 3 *geon(i)e*, *zonie*, 3-4 *zone*, *yone*, 3-5 *geone*, *zene*, *yene*, 4 *zyne*, 6 *yeane*. *β.* 4-5 *zane*, 4-6 *yane*. *γ.* 6-7 *yawne*, 6-8 *yaun*, 6-*yawn*. [OE. *ginian*, *geonian* = OHG. *ginôn*, -*ên* (MHG. *ginen*), MDu. *gēnen* to gape, yawn, related to the synonymous OE. *gānian* GANE *v.* (q.v.), OHG. *geinôn*, and OE. *gīnan*, ON. *gīna*. The vocalism of the present form of this word is difficult to account for. The normal representatives of the OE. and early ME. forms (*gene*, *zone*) would be **yeen* and **yoan*. Later ME. *yane* prob. arose through regional contact with GANE *v.* The 16th cent. *yaun*, *yawn*, may have been the result of special local development of *yane* or *yone*.]

†1. *intr.* To open the mouth wide voluntarily, esp. in order to swallow or devour something; in early use often, to have the mouth wide open; to gape. Said also of the mouth. *Obs.*

a. c.725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) B 24 *Battat*, *geonath*. *Ibid.* G 4 *Garrit*, *gionat*. c.1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 50 Bewyl twy dæl on wætre geot on bollan & geona ymb. c.1000 *Ag. Ps.* (Th.) xxi. 11 [xxii. 13] Hi todýdon heora muð ongean me, swa swa leo, þonne he geonað. a.1100 *Alldhelm Gloss.* 1. 2409 (Napier 65) *Hulco*, *i. aperto*, *ieonidum*. *rostru*, *i. ore*, *bile*. a.1225 *Ancr. R.* 242 3if þu iscie . . geonien wide uppon þe, þene deouel of helle. a.1250 *Owl & Night*. 202 þat me ne chide wit þe gidie Ne wit þan ofne me ne zonie. a.1290 *S. Eustace* 156 in Horstman. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 214 A wilde lioun . . kipt his zonge some anon, On him he zenede wide. 13 . . *Sir Beues* (A.) 2763 þenande & gapande on him so, Ase he wolde him swolwe þo. 13 . . *K. Alis*. 485 (Linc. Inn MS.) Him þouzte a goshauk wit gret flyst Setlip on his herberyng And zenip [*Laud MS.* *synep*] and sprad abrod his wyngyn. c.1400 *Arth. & Merl.* 1583 (Linc. Inn MS.) His mouþ and prote zoned wide. 14 . . *Ibid.* 1117 (Douce MS.) And wip his mouþ he zenede wyde. c.1450 *Mirk's Festial* 200 Then anon come . . a gret horryble dragon and zeonet [*v.r.* *zanyng*] on her.

β. 13 . . *Coer de W.* 276 Upon hys crest a raven stode, That yaned as he wer wode. 1382 *Wyclif 2 Macc.* vi. 18 Eleasarus . . zanyng [*v.r.* *zonyng*] with open mouth, was compellid for to ete swynys flesh. 1308 *TREvisa Barth. De P.R.* xii. x. (Tollem. MS.), The rauē biholdeþ þe mouþe of hire briddes, whan þey zaneþ. *Ibid.* xvi. vi, [Auripigmentum] helpeþ tisik . . if þey zaneþ þeron and takeþ þe smoke þerof. 1555 *EDEN Decades* (Arb.) 151 Multitudes of Crocodiles lyinge in the sande, and yanyng to take the heate of the soonne.

γ. 1568 HACKET *tr. Thevet's New found World* xx. 32 This fish is named Marsouin, . . he hath . . on the heade a certayne cundite or opening, by the which he yawnneth or purgeth, euen as the Whale [orig. Fr. *par lequel il respire ainsi que la balene*]. 1603 *HOLLAND Plutarch's Mor.* 970 The crocodiles . . yawne and offer there teeth unto them to be picked and clenched with there hands.

2. To lie, stand, or be wide open, as a chasm, abyss, or the like; to have or form a wide opening, gap, or chasm.

a. c.890 *WÆRFERTh tr. Gregory's Dial.* 52 Beneoðan swiðe deop niwolnys ginode [*v.r.* *geonode*]. a.1225 *Ancr. R.* 304 Bineoðen us, zeoniinde wide þe wide þreote of helle. c.1450 *Mirk's Festial* 4 Vndyr hym helle zeonyng, and galpyng, and spyttyng fyre.

γ. 1599 *SHAKS. Hen. V.* iv. vi. 14 The gashes That bloodily did yawne vpon his face. 1742 *YOUNG Nt. Th.* vi. 730 Wide yawns the gap; connexion is no more. 1795 *COWPER Needless Alarm* 14 And where the land slopes to its wat'ry bourn, Wide yawns a gulph beside a ragged thorn. 1810 *SCOTT Lady of L.* II. xxxi, As sudden ruin yawned around. 1829 — *Anne of G.* xxxiii, A private staircase which yawned in

the floor to admit their descent. 1865 *GOSSE Land & Sea* (1874) 241 The beach yawning some thirty feet below. 1877 *MISS A. B. EDWARDS Up Nile* xxi. 648 Here yawns a great pit half full of débris. 1890 *W. CLARK RUSSELL Ocean Trag.* II. It was the Isle of Wight, and the shore on either hand went yawning to it till it looked a day's sail away.

fig. 1580 *SPENSER Let. to Harvey H.'s Wks.* (Grosart) I. 35 The onely, or chiefest hardnesse, . . is in the Accente: whyche sometime gapeth, and as it were yawneþ ilfauouredly.

†3. *to yawn after* or *for*, to be eager to obtain, to long for. *Obs.*

a. 1250 *Owl & Night*. 1403 þe gost . . zeoneþ after more & more An lutel rehþ of milce & ore. 1576 *FLEMING Panopl. Epist.* 283 After he hath caught that within his claws, after which he was euer yawning. 1594 *HOOKE Eccl. Pol.* Pref. iv. §3 The chiefest thing which lay reformers yawne for is, that the Cleargie may . . be Apostolicall.

4. To make involuntarily a prolonged inspiration with the mouth wide open and the lower jaw much depressed, as from drowsiness or fatigue.

a. 1450-80 *tr. Secr. Secr.* xxxiv. 23 Suche a man yeneth often, and hath sumtime disese in his eyen. 1547 *BOORDE Brev. Health* cxlvii. 54 The pacient will be colde and oft yeane or gape, yf this feuer be putryfied. 1598 *BP. HALL Sat.* vi. ii. 101 Had he heard the Female Fathers grone, Yeaning in mids of her procession.

β. c.1430 *How Good Wife taught Dau.* 56 in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 38 Lauze þou not to loude, ne zane þou not to wide. a.1529 *SKELTON E. Rummyng* 331 She began to yane and gaspy. 1548 *UDALL Erasm. Par. Luke* viii. 78 [He] wil stande gapyng & yanyng whan he should geue eare as though he wer more then half in slepe. 1557 *EDGEWORTH Serm.* 261 He yaned seuen tymes, and opened his eyen, reuiued, and liued. 1570 *LEVINS Manip.* 19/7 To Gane, yane, *oscitare*.

γ. 1549 *COVERDALE, etc. Erasm. Par. Thess.* 7 Those that yawne and slumbe in naughtinesse, are occupied in darknesse of the soule. 1622 *GATAKER Spirituall Watch* (ed. 2) 67 The very sight of those that yawne is wont to set others also on yawning. 1721 *BOLINGBROKE in Swift's Lett.* (1766) II. 41 You shall be forced to read it out, though you yawne from the first to the last page. 1836 J. H. BARROW *Mirr. Parl.* I. 818/1 Mr. O'Connell here yawned so loudly as to interrupt the Honourable Member. 1852 *THACKERAY Esmond* III. iii, It must be owned that the audience yawned through the play; and that it perished on the third night. 1880 *'OUIDA' Moths* II, I thought I should have yawned till I broke my neck.

b. To open the mouth wide from surprise or the like; to gape. *Obs.* or *dial.*

1604 *SHAKS. Oth.* v. ii. 101 Me thinkes, it should be now a huge Eclipse Of Sunne, and Moone; and that th'affrighted Globe Did yawne at Alteration. 1607 — *Cor.* III. ii. 11 To shew bare heads In Congregations, to yawne, be still, and wonder [etc.]. 1887 *F. T. HAVERGAL Heref. Gloss., Yarning*, = staring. 'Stand yarning there'. E.

c. *trans.* To say or utter with a yawn or with wide-open mouth. Also with cognate object.

1718 *ROWE tr. Lucan* I. 394 Scorning the wound he [sc. the lion] yawns a dreadful roar. 1828 *MACAULAY Poems, Political Georgics* 30 Let all in bulky majesty appear, Roll the dull eye, and yawn th'unmeaning cheer. 1854 *DICKENS Hard T.* III. ii, 'It wouldn't be bad', he yawned at one time, 'to give the waiter five shillings, and throw him.' 1897 *MARY KINGSLEY W. Africa* 243 One immense fellow . . yawns a yawn a yard wide.

d. To bring into some position or condition by, or to the accompaniment of, yawning; also *occas.*, to pass through in a lethargic manner.

1742 *YOUNG Nt. Th.* III. 336 For what live ever here? . . To surfeit on the same, And yawn our joys? *Ibid.* VIII. 614 No man e'er found a happy life by chance; Or yawn'd it into being, with a wish. 1817 *LADY MORGAN France* II. (1818) I. 247 The *Dalai* lamas of *haut ton*, who yawn away their existence in the assemblies of London. 1880 *Daily News* 29 Oct. 6/2 He literally yawned us out of the room. a.1903 'H. S. MERRIMAN' *Last Hope* I, He . . politely yawned that reminiscent fish-curer into silence.

5. *intr.* To open wide as a mouth; to form a chasm; to gape, part asunder.

1599 *SHAKS. Much Ado* v. iii. 19 Graues yawne and yeelde you dead. 1667 *MILTON P.L.* vi. 875 Hell at last Yawning receavd them whole, and on them clos'd. a.1700 *EVELYN Diary* 7 Feb. 1645, The sea retiring neere 200 paces, and yawning on the sudaine, it continued to vomit forth flames and fiery stones. 1713 *YOUNG Last Day* I. 87 The valleys [shall] yawn, the troubled ocean roar. 1820 *SCOTT Monast.* xii, If the earth yawned and gave up a demon. 1848 *DICKENS Dombey* lvi, When the silent tomb shall yawn, Captain Gills, I shall be ready for burial; not before. 1852 *TENNYSON Ode Wellington* 269 The black earth yawns: the mortal disappears; Ashes to ashes, dust to dust.

6. *trans.* To cause to open wide.

1382 *WYCLIF Ps.* xxxiv. [xxxv.] 21 Thei zeneden [*v.r.* *maden* large, *Vulg.* *dilataverunt*] their mouth upon me. a.1653 *G. DANIEL Idyll.* II. 31 The monstrous Whale (w^{ch} Roles The Ocean, wth his Breath, and Yawnes the Brine As its Recesse). 1798 *SOUTHEY Grandmother's Tale* 85 She stood beside the murderer's bed, and yawn'd Her ghastly wound.

7. To make, produce, or afford by opening wide.

1605 *SYLVESTER Du Bartas* II. iii. III. *Law* 1220 The groaning Earth . . Tearing her rocks, untill she Yawn a way To let it out, and to let-in the Day. 1818 *BYRON Ch. Har.* IV. lxiii, None felt stern Nature . . yawning forth a grave for those who lay Upon their bucklers for a winding-sheet. 1821 — *Sardanap.* II. i. 422 The realm itself, in all its wide extension, Yawns dungeons at each step for thee and me. 1907 *Smart Set* Mar. 41/2 The prison doors were yawning a welcome for the runaways.

8. *Comb. yawn-mouthed a.*, yawning, gaping.

1861 *CHR. ROSSETTI Prince's Progr.* xxix, Out it [sc. a light] flashed from a yawn-mouthed cave, Like a red-hot eye from a grave.

yawner ('jɔ:nə(r)). [*f.* YAWN *v.* + -ER¹.]

1. a. One who yawns, as from drowsiness.

1687 *MIÉGE Gt. Fr. Dict.* 1, *C'est un Baillieur perpetual*, he is an everlasting Yawner. 1818 *BENTHAM Ch. Engl.* 130 To procure upon an average half a dozen voluntary yawners, in addition to the compulsory ones. 1897 *Voice* (N.Y.) 9 Sept. 5/5 The yawner . . is not being intentionally rude, but is exercising muscles which have been for a long time inactive.

b. *transf.* Something dreary or boring. *colloq.* (orig. U.S.).

1942 *BERREY & VAN DEN BARK Amer. Thes. Slang* §276/2 *Something uninteresting*, . . washout, yawner. 1969 *A. GLYN Dragon Variation* II. 42 The game between him and Wheaton, still to be played, should be a real yawner. 1980 *Globe & Mail* (Toronto) 5 Nov. 17 (heading) The Awakening is a real yawner. 1983 *Chicago Sun-Times* 6 Aug. 76 (heading) Opener likely to be yawner.

2. Something that yawns; a wide ditch.

1832 *Egan's Bk. Sports* 220/2 Sir Francis Burdett, sitting erect upon Sampson, and putting his head straight at a yawner. 1852 *R. S. SURTEES Sponge's Sp. Tour* VII. 1862 *Sporting Mag.* June 511 In clearing a yawner The King of the Valley covered the extraordinary space of 31 feet.

yawning ('jɔ:nɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [*f.* YAWN *v.* + -ING¹.] The action of the verb YAWN.

1. The action of opening the mouth wide, esp. involuntarily from drowsiness.

c.725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) B 23 *Barritus*, *geunung*. c.1050 *Voc.* in *Wr.-Wülcker* 412/5 *Garrulitas*, *geunung*. c.1440 *Promp. Parv.* 536/1 *3anyng*, or *gapyng* wythe the mrowthe . . . *hiatus*. 1552 *HULOET, Yauninge, oscedo*. 1581 *MULCASTER Positions* xv. 69 Those . . that be cumbered with much gaping & yawning. 1605 *WILLET Hexapla Gen.* 353 Yawning in trauaile to women is mortall. 1707 *PRIOR Sat. Poets* 200 Your Yawning prompts me to give o'er. 1755 *STRYPE Stow's Surv.* II. 774/1 Near to this, is a large handsome Monument, erected to the Memory of James Cooper of this Parish, Gent. remarkable for his loud Yawning during the Time of Divine Service. 1838 *W. C. HARRIS Narr. Exped. S. Africa* 15 [They] were very slow in taking the hint conveyed by his violent yawnings, that he was anxious to retire to rest. 1899 *ALLbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 98 Abnormal visceral or reflex movements such as paroxysmal hurry of the heart, or of respiration—sneezings, yawnings, or hiccoughings.

†2. *Longing after* (something). *Obs.*

1634 *RAINBOW Labour* (1635) 33 Ambitious yawning after outward dignitie and honour.

3. The action of opening wide.

1820 *W. IRVING Sketch Bk.* (1859) 7 The yawning of a seam [in a boat].

yawning ('jɔ:nɪŋ), *ppl. a.* [*f.* YAWN *v.* + -ING².] That yawns.

1. That opens the mouth wide, esp. in order to swallow or devour something; chiefly *transf.* of the mouth, wide open.

c.890 *WÆRFERTh tr. Gregory's Dial.* 156 He gemette on þam wege standan sumne dracan onzæn hine mid zeoniendum [*v.r.* *giniendum*] muþe. a.1225 *Ancr. R.* 80 Ne blowe ze hire nout ut mid maðelinde muðe, ne mid zeoniinde tuteles. 13 . . *Guy Warw.* (A.) 4117 A lyoun þai seye cominde þo . . Wip zenende [14 . . *Caius MS.* *yanyng*] moupe, & weri he was. c.1475 *Partenay* 5852 An horrible serpent . . With a yanyng throte gain hym gan Auance. 1555 *EDEN Decades* (Arb.) 187 As though he wolde with yanyng mouthes haue torne in sunder the bealy of the mannes Image. 1593 *SHAKS. 2 Hen. VI.* IV. i. 73 Now will I dam vp this thy yawning mouth, For swallowing the Treasure of the Realme. 1617 *J. TAYLOR (Water P.) Three Weekes Observ.* Bivb, His eies well dried, would make good Tennis-balls, . . his yawning mouth would serue for a Conniborrow. 1693 *CONGREVE in Dryden's Juvenal* xi. (1697) 289 Large yawning Panthers.

2. Opening, or open wide, as the earth, a chasm, abyss, etc.

c.893 *ÆLFRED Oros.* Contents III. iii, Hu Marcus Curtius besceat on þa zeonigendan [*v.r.* *gyniendan*] eorþan. c.900 *tr. Bada's Hist.* IV. xxi. [xix.] (F.90) 322 For openre wunde & zeoniendre. 1590 *SPENSER F.Q.* I. xi. 35 He . . Vpon his crested scalpe so sore did smite, That to the scull a yawning wound it made. 1667 *MILTON P.L.* x. 635 Both Sin, and Death, and yawning Grave. 1780 *COWPER Progr. Err.* 172 Cards, with what rapture, and the polish'd die, The yawning chasm of indolence supply! 1830 *LYELL Princ. Geol.* xxiv. I. 420 Many houses were swallowed up by the yawning earth, which closed immediately over them. 1860 *TYNDALL Glac.* II. xxv. 363 Strains which, having once rent the ice, tend subsequently to . . produce yawning crevasses. 1884 *GILMOUR Mongols* 87 A lofty pass . . surrounded with yawning precipices.

3. That yawns from weariness; *transf.* characterized by or producing yawning, drowsy, sleepy.

1575 *GASCOIGNE Flowers Wks.* 1907 I. 58 The stretching armes, y^e yawning breath, which I to bedward use. 1599 *SHAKS. Hen. V.* I. ii. 204 The sad-ey'd Iustice . . Deliuering ore to Executors pale The lazie yawning Drone. 1605 — *Macb.* III. ii. 43 The shard-borne Beetle, with his drowsie hums, Hath rung Nights yawning Peale. 1617 *HIERON Wks.* II. 108 Many formal, idle, and (as I may call them) yawning requests for mercy. 1649 *JER. TAYLOR Gt. Exemp.* II. Disc. ix. 122 It is impossible to prevent them . . any more than we can . . refuse to yawn when I see a yawning sleepy person. 1740 *RICHARDSON Pamela* (1824) I. 204 Everyone sees that the yawning husband, and the vapourish wife, are truly insupportable to one another. 1764 *WILKES Corr.* (1805) II. 96 The account of the character of Mr. Legge is the most yawning pamphlet I ever read. 1826 *SCOTT Woodst.* xv, Here am I . . ready to fight, if this yawning fit will give me leave. 1848 *DICKENS Dombey* xxx, The yawning, shaking, peevish figure of the mother.

Hence 'yawningly adv.

1629 *BP. HALL Hypocrite Wks.* 1634 II. 361 Leaning upon your idle elbow yawningly. 1840 *Fraser's Mag.* XXII. 17 The caliph received . . yawningly the countless homages.

1876 MISS BROUGHTON *Joan* i. x, She looks out yawningly towards her friend, the sea.

yawny (ˈjɔːni), *a.* Also yawney. [f. YAWN *sb.* or *v.* + -Y¹.] Characterized by yawns or (much) yawning; inclined to, or provocative of, yawning.

1805 [implied in *yawniness*]. **1813** *Examiner* 1 Feb. 74/2 His laugh relaxed into a yawny simper. **1830** *Ibid.* 410/2 His Discourses are . . . what our departed friend Nollekens would have described as 'yawney'—that is, somewhat heavy. **1888** MEREDITH *Let. to Miss Meredith* 5 Jan., Bruny and Koby in Lapinland last night, very yawny to-day.

Hence 'yawniness'.

1805 SOUTHEY in Robberds *Mem. W. Taylor* (1843) II. 115 The old yawniness comes on at times. **1898** SHIEL *Yellow Danger* 176 The day has that very-early-morning grayness for which one can find no adjective to express its utter yawniness.

yawp, yaup (jɔːp), *sb.* Also yop. [f. next.]

a. A harsh, hoarse, or querulous cry, esp. of a bird.

1824 MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl.*, *Yawp*, the cry of a sickly bird; or one in distress. **1879** BLACK *MacLeod of D.* ix, The eagle raised its great wings, and . . . flapped them . . . while it uttered a succession of shrill yawps. **1905** *Sat. Rev.* 12 Aug. 207/2 He can only tell us how bad he is by hideous grimaces and inarticulate yawps.

b. fig. Applied in contempt to speech or utterance likened to this. Chiefly *U.S.*, sometimes in allusion to Whitman's use.

1835 J. H. INGRAHAM *South-West* I. 29 'Hold your yaup, you youngster you,' roared the old man in reply. **1844** 'JONATHAN SLICK' *High Life N. York* I. 114 He looked round as if he wanted to say something . . . ; but I told him to go ahead and hold his yop. **1855** W. WHITMAN *Leaves of Grass* 55, I sound my barbaric yawp over the roofs of the world. **1870** 'MARK TWAIN' in *Galaxy* Oct. 571/1 He . . . ordered me to 'hold my yop'. **1882** STEVENSON *Fam. Stud.* 93 When Mr. Spencer found his Synthetic Philosophy reverberated from the other shores of the Atlantic in the 'barbaric yawp' of Whitman. **1904** *Buffalo* (N.Y.) *Commercial* 25 Aug. 6 When this contest is ended, the insincere and ridiculous yawp about the fierce belligerency of Theodore Roosevelt will be laid away with the other feeble fakes. **1973** *Publishers' Weekly* 26 Mar. 61/3 American readers may miss the experimentation and 'barbaric yawp' of avant-garde American poetry.

yawp, yaup (jɔːp), *v.* Chiefly *dial.* Also 4 30lp, 6 yaulpe, yolp(e, 6–7 yalp, 7, 9 yope. [Echoic. Cf. YAP *v.* and YELP *v.*]

1. a. intr. To shout or exclaim hoarsely; to yelp, as a dog; to cry harshly or querulously, as a bird.

13.. *E.E. Allit. P. B.* 846 What! pay 3e3ed & 3olped of 3estande sor3e. **a1560** PHAER *Aeneid* ix. (1562) Æeijb, Thereupon men shout, y^t hye heauen yalping yells. **1573** BARET *Alv. Y* 3 To Yaulpe and barke like a dogge, and a foxe, *gannio*. **1580** FULKE *Retentive* 51 They like impudent dogges yolpe & barke against vs. **1599** SANDYS *Europæ Spec.* (1632) 114 To stop their adversaries mouthes, always yolping and crying with hateful sounds. **1623** JOHNSON *Golden Trade* 145 The Lyon . . . remains feeding . . . whilst his small seruant [*sc.* the Jackal] stands barking, and yalping by. **1654–1787** [implied in *yawper* (*yoper*), *yawping*: see below]. **1802** SIBBALD *Chron. Scot. Poetry* IV. Gloss., *Yaup*, . . . more commonly denotes the incessant crying of birds. **1880** *Spec. Westmoreland Dial.* II. 52 (E.D.D.) We yoped an' shoot't to egg folk on. **1885** *Letts's Househ. Mag.* 620/2 'Tbat's it!' yawped Mr. Spoopendyke. 'You've been thinking again!' **1915** *Daily Mail* 12 Mar. 4/5 The Press of the Fatherland yelped and yawped at America's heels.

b. To speak foolishly or noisily. *U.S. colloq.* **1872** S. HALE *Let.* 28 Oct. (1919) 90 Perhaps it is just as well, however, not to yawp much about our going *alone*, as it may be considered loose in America. **1926** T. BEER *Mauve Decade* vi. 233 Where the boys who badgered Richard Harding Davis for autographs in 1890 will be yawping over 'Billy Baxter's Letters' in 1900.

2. trans. To utter with a strident or harsh voice.

1567 PAINTER *Pal. Pleas.* II. 161b, To pacify this immoderate rage which in vaine y^a yalpest forth against this troupe. **1596** NASHE *Saffron Walden* Wks. (Grosart) III. 198 What more haue I in my Proclamation to yalp out?

3. intr. To gape. *dial.* (Cf. GAWP *v.*)

1836 HALIBURTON *Clockm.* Ser. I. xxxi, They stand starin and yawpin, all eyes and mouth. **1895** *Pall Mall Mag.* Jan. 7 'Sue! Wot yer yawpin' at thar?'

Hence 'yawping, yauping *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*; also 'yawper, yauper (*yoper*), one that yawps.

1576 FLEMING tr. *Caius' Dogs* (1880) 31 The older dogges . . . cease from yolping. **1599** NASHE *Lenten Stufe* Wks. (Grosart) V. 214 The apostacie of the sands from the yalping world was so great, that they ioyned themselues to the maine land of Eastfleage. **1654** GATAKER *Disc. Apol.* 97 The yalping of maungie Whelps. **1678** E. HOWARD *Man of Newmarket* IV. i. 43 Thou art so earnest still to follow Yopers, that make so much haste to deuour a simple Hare. **1787** GROSE *Provinc. Gloss.* (1790), *Yauping*, crying in despair, lamenting. Applied to chickens lamenting the absence of their parent hen. **1825** JAMIESON, *Yauping*, *part. adj.*, ill-natured, peevish. **1846** WORCESTER, *Yauper*, one that yaups. *A. Everett.* **1896** CROCKETT *Grey Man* xxxvii, The . . . yawping and crying of the seabirds. **1899** JESSE L. WILLIAMS *Stolen Story* etc. 206 When the time came, . . . a goodly number of these same yawping lads went to the front to get shot at.

yaws (jɔːz). [Origin uncertain; identity with *PIAN sb.* has been suggested (*N. & Q.* Ser. x. I. 5).] A contagious disease of tropical countries, characterized by raspberry-like excrescences or

tubercles on the skin; also called *frambæsia*. Also *attrib.* See also YAW *sb.*²

1679 TRAPHAM *Disc. Health Jamaica* ix. 113 Both which quarters of the world [*sc.* American and African deserts] bring forth the monstrous Yaws as a proper Stock to engraft a new cion of Disease. **1739** HUXHAM in *Phil. Trans.* XLII. 667 He had frequent impure Conversation with some of the Negro Hussies (who probably laboured under the worst Species of Pox, called the Yaws). **1766** HILLARY *Air of Barbadoes* 346 Whether it be the *Yaws* or a sort of itch which the Negroes call in their language *Crowcrow*. **1804** SOUTHEY in C. C. Southey *Life* (1849) II. 257 The yellow fever will not take root in a negro, nor the yaws in a white man. **1897** *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* II. 502 Paulet, who inoculated healthy negroes with yaws-fluid. *Ibid.* 506 Syphilis never itches, yaws nearly always does. **1898** P. MANSON *Trop. Diseases* xxvii. 430 Yaws virus applied to a pre-existing ulcer may . . . cause it to fungate like an ordinary yaw.

yawy (ˈjɔːi), *a.* Also yawey. [f. YAW(S, YAW *sb.*² + -Y¹.] Affected with or characteristic of yaws.

1679 TRAPHAM *Disc. Health Jamaica* ix. 119 The Yawy Patients. **1744** *Med. Essays Soc. Edinb.* V. II. 794 The Yawy Matter. **1888** *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 732/2 If the yawey matter finds access to a pre-existing sore or ulcer.

yaw-yaw (ˈjɔːjɔː), *v.* [Cf. YAW *int.*] *intr.*

a. To say 'yaw! yaw!'; to talk affectedly. *b.* To utter inarticulate cries resembling the syllables 'yaw, yaw'. Hence yawyawdom (*nonce-wd.*), an affected expression.

1854 DICKENS *Hard T.* II, ii, They liked fine gentlemen . . . They became exhausted in imitation of them; and they yaw-yawed in their speech like them. **1862** — in R. C. Lehmann *C. D. as Editor* (1912) 319 The word 'shindy', or any similar yaw-yawdom. **1885** HORNADAY *2 Yrs. in Jungle* vi. 63 The jackals . . . broke out into a perfect concert of agonized yelping and yaw-yawing.

yawyn, obs. 3 pl. pa. t. of GIVE *v.*

yax(e, dial. ff. AXE.

1504 in *Archæologia* (1846) XXXI. 208, ij. yaxronges weyeng iijj li. et di. **1808** JAMIESON, *Yaxe*, an axe, Buchan.

yaxyd: see YASKED.

yay (jei), *adv. U.S. slang.* Also yea. [Prob. f. YEA *adv.*] In phrases *yay big* (or *high*), 'this big', 'this high': freq. accompanied by a gesture indicating the size intended.

1960 WENTWORTH & FLEXNER *Dict. Amer. Slang* 591 *Yea big, yea high*, 1. This big, or t'is high, accompanied with the spreading of the hands to indicate the size; very large, or high, overwhelmingly large or tall. 2. Not very big or high. **1972** T. KOCHMAN *Rappin' & Stylin' Out* 242 Jeff fired on him. He came back and all this was swelled up bout yay big, you know. **1978** P. THEROUX *Picture Palace* 259 Why does a daughter of mine, whom I've loved and respected ever since she was yay high, go out of her way to made a jaekass of me?

yay, obs. graphic variant of *pay*, THEY.

|| **yayla** (jeila). Also 9 yaila; yaylak. [Turk.] A summer camping-ground in the mountains of Turkestan used by Kurdish and other semi-nomadic peoples; the encampment pitched there.

1864 A. VAMBERY *Trav. Central Asia* xvi. 308 A Yaylak (summer abode), near to the hill on the sea-shore. **1896** D. G. HOGARTH *Wandering Scholar in Levant* iii. 53 Others come and go, and the place of the summer yaila is fixed hard by the village itself. **1953** O. CAROE *Soviet Empire* xi. 18: In the same country in winter the yaylaks will be deep under snow. **1975** J. RATHBONE *Kill Cure* III. ii. 85 At last they had come to the yayla or summer pasture.

Yayoi (ˈjaɪɔɪ). The name of a quarter in Tokyo, used *attrib.* and *absol.* to designate a type of early Japanese (wheel-thrown) pottery first discovered at this site in 1884, and hence applied to the mainly neolithic culture characterized by this ware. Cf. JOMON.

1906 N. G. MUNRO in *Trans. Asiatic Soc. Japan* XXXIV. 24 The pottery . . . is called *Yayoi*shiki, 'Yayoi sort', because it was first encountered in breaking ground at Yayoi [*sic*] Street in Tokyo. **1931** G. B. SANSOM *Japan* i. i. 3 This latter type is known as the Yayoi type, because of certain characteristic earthenware first found in a neolithic site at a place of that name. **1955** *Far Eastern Q.* XIV. 329 It is not entirely clear why so few workers paid any serious attention until extremely recent years to the archæology of the Yayoi period. **1960** B. LEACH *Potter in Japan* vi. 136 Jomon pottery 3,000 B.C. on to Yayoi from A.D.o. **1968** *Encycl. Brit.* XVIII. 523/3 The prehistoric period in Japan is characterized by two principal cultures known as Jōmon and Yayoi. . . Yayoi pottery seems to have its beginnings in the 3rd century B.C. and is mostly wheel-thrown. **1970** J. W. HALL *Japan* iii. 19 The Yayoi people brought with them the horse and the cow, though not in abundance.

† **ybake(n** [Y- 4], baked.

1340 *Ayenb.* 112 Bread tuies ybake. **1377** LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* vi. 184 Benes and bren ybakten togideres. **c1430** *Two Cookery-bks.* 54 Tyl it be y-baken y-now. **1513** DOUGLAS *Aeneis* xi. xi. 47 The shaft was sad and sound, and weill ybaik [*orig. solidum modis et robore cuncto*].

ybanysshed, banished.

c1385 [see BANISH *v.* 2c]. **c1400** tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VII. App. 510 Somme of hem were slayn . . . and somme y-banysched.

ybaptized.

1297 [see BAPTIZE *v.* 1].

ybarnd: see YBRENT.

ybarred, barred.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* xix. 162 In an hous al bishette & her dore ybarred. **1470–85** MALORY *Arthur* XIX. v. 780 That wyndowe was y barryd with yron.

ybathed.

c1300 [see BATHE *v.* 3]. **c1374** CHAUCER *Troilus* IV. 815 With here salte terys Here brest here face y-babed was ful wete.

ybatrid.

c1380 [see BATTER *v.*¹ 1b].

ybe, yben(e, yby, earlier 3ebeon, ib(e)on, ibi, etc. (see BE *v.* A. 8).

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5729 Sein swithin . . . þat longe adde vnder erpe ybe. **c1320** *Sir Tristr.* 1203 Sche . . . sleizest had y bene. **1340** *Ayenb.* 239 Ane cite huer he hedde y-by at ane bredale. **a1500** *Flower and Leaf* 375 The grete affray That they in greene without had in ybe. **1513** DOUGLAS *Aeneis* xi. i. 73 The quhilk Acetes had tofor ybe Squyer to kyng Evander.

ybedded [Y- 5], provided with beds.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* xv. 498 Yuel yclothed [pei] 3eden, Badly ybedded.

ybede [Y- 4, BID *v.*], asked for.

1340 *Ayenb.* 117 Huanne god heþ y-yeue to man þet he him heþ ybede.

ybegunne, begun.

1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) III. 147 The batelle ybegunne, men of Persides . . . fledde.

ybeld: see YBULD.

ybenched [Y- 5], furnished with benches.

c1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 205 An halle . . . Wip brode bordes aboute y-benched wel clene.

ybent, bent.

c1330 [see BENT *ppl. a.* 2]. **1399** LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* III. 214 Grette browis y-bente. **1508** DUNBAR *Gold. Targe* 110 Cupide the king, wyth bow in hand ybent. **1579** HAKE *Newes out of Powles* (1872) Gijb, That Broking trade might practizd be by men so well ybent. **1595** *Locrine* i. Prol. 9 A dreadfull Archer with his bow ybent.

yber, pa. t. of I-BERE *v.*¹

yberyit, obs. Sc. pa. pple. of BURY *v.*: see YBURIED.

ybet(te [BEET *v.*], amended; improved; kindled.

c1000 [see BEET *v.* 1]. **1377** LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* iv. 93 Bettere is þat bote bale adoun brynge, þan bale be ybette & bote neuere þe bettere. **a1400** *Octouian* 235 Anoon a fyrr ther was y-beet [*rime* y-set]. **1501** DOUGLAS *Pal. Hon.* Prol. 14 Ypours hote, riht fresche, and weill ybet. **1581** A. HALL *Iliad* II. 19 And to his side a sworde he girt, with golden nayles ybet.

ybete v. [Y- 3c], to beat.

1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* cxvi, My teris . . . That 3e se on the ground so fast ybete.

ybete(n [BEAT *v.*¹], beaten.

13.. *K. Alis.* 1518 An ymage . . . Y-beten al with gold fyne. **1340** *Ayenb.* 236 Behouep þet he by ybeate and y-wesse. **c1385** CHAUCER *L.G.W.* 1122 *Dido*, Ne coupe of gold with floreyngys newe I-bete [*v.rr.* ybet, ybete, ybette]. **?a1400** *Arthur* 609 And Arthour [was] y-bete wyþ wounde. **c1520** SKELTON *Magnyf.* 2017 Nowe must ye be storm ybeten with showres and raynes.

ybite, bitten.

c1460 *Stans Puer ad Mensam* in *Rél. Ant.* I. 157 Off brede y-bite no soppis that thu make.

yblamed, blamed.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* III. 281 Who-so seyth hem sothes is sonnest yblamed.

yblaunchyd, blanchied.

c1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 31 Draw vppe a þrifti Mylke of Almaundys y-blauchyd.

ybleft, var. YBLEUED.

† **y'blent, pa. pple.**¹ *Obs.* Also 4 yblend. [Y- 4, BLEND *v.*¹] Blinded; dazed; 'clouded'.

a1225–1450 iblend, iblent [see BLEND *v.*¹]. **1340** *Ayenb.* 201 Huo þet is beueld mid þo lac he is ri3tuolliche yblend. **1387** TREvisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 457 þat was i-blend wip [*MS.* y yblend be] þe chaungynge of hap of mankynde [*orig. hoc obnubilavit sortis humane varietas*]. **c1407** *Lydg. Reson & Sens.* 3659 Shippes . . . With her songe so fonned bee, So supprysed, and y-blent. **1423** JAS. I *Kingis Q.* lxxiv, All my body so It hath ouerwent, That of my sight the vertew hale iblent. **1590** SPENSER *F.Q.* I. ii. 5 The eye of reason was with rage yblent. **1590** GREENE *Newer too late* (1600) 60 Beeing all with eares yblend, When he thought on yeeres mispent.

y'blent, pa. pple.² *Obs.* or *arch.* [Y- 4, BLEND *v.*²] Blended, mingled; confused; blurred.

1426 *Lydg. De Guil. Pilgr.* 10978 Thys Rud entendement Ys wyth Rudnesse so yblent, That dyamaunt, . . . ys noon . . . So indurat. . . As he. **1591** SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. iv. 108 When I observe their Light and Heat yblent. **1642** H. MORE *Song of Soul* I. II. lvi, He was bent To keep the credit which he then had got, As he conceiv'd: for it had been yblent. **1748** THOMSON *Cast. Indol.* I. iv, All these sounds yblent inclined all to sleep.

† **yblesed, yblest, pa. pple.** *Obs.* Also 1 3ebletsod, 2 iblecced, -sced (see BLESS *v.*), 4 ybli(s)ced, etc. [Y- 4.] Blessed, blest.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6285 Yblesed be þe moder wombe þat him to monne bere. **13..** *Cursor M.* 2308:

(Edinb.) Ybliced folk. **1377** LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. vii. 13 Bisschopes yblessed, 3if pey ben as pei shulden. **1422** YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* xxi. 148 Than was the worlde y-blessyd whan wyse men regnyd. **1591** GREENE *Maiden's Dr.* xxxiv, Bausis and Philemon were iblest For feasting Iupiter in strangers stead.

†**ybleued**, pa. pple. of BELEAVE, to remain.

1340 *Ayenb.* 25 þe ilke þet is ybleued ine lyue he ssel him loki chastliche.

yblowe, yblown, blown.

1377, c1384 [see BLOW v.¹ 13, 17c]. **14..** *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 245 Ther is a bitter blast yblowe. **1642** H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. 1. ii. ix, Lest we... be yblown about with wanton wind.

ybylynd(ed, blinded, blindfolded.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 497 Ybylynd wip þe blasyng of þe snowe. **1426** LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 3681 Entendement Ys with Ire ybylynded so. **c1489** CAXTON *Blanchardyn* xxx. 113 The handes ybounde & the eyen ybylynded.

ybylyndfalled: see BLINDFOLD v.

c1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 3011 Gy of Borgoyngne þar afond y-blyndfalled, and by-bounde.

ybode(n, proclaimed, bidden, prayed.

a935 *Laus of Æthelstan* II. c. 20 3if... hit beo seofon nihtum ær geboden ær ðæt gemot sy. **c1175** Lamb. *Hom.* 69 þurh festing and þurh wacunge and ec þurh ibodenes biddunge. **c1330** Arth. & Merl. 498 Of mani noble he nam 3eme, þat he hadde y-boden flem. **1387** TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 111 þre dayes fastyngne y-bode for þat.

yboffeted, buffeted.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 261 þe my3t in whiche Crist was... i-buffeted [v.r. yboffeted].

ybonchyd, = BUNCHED, humped.

1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 18299 The bo[n]ch... with whiche this folke relygious bene ybonchyd.

ybontyd [BUNT v.³], sifted.

c1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 38 Take Almaunde mylke, & y-bontyd flour.

ybord v. pseudo-arch. [see Y- 3 and ABORD v. 2], to accost.

1768 DOWNMAN *Land of Muses* xx, Them Alma gracefully y-bording.

ybor3e [Y- 4, BERGH], saved; hence ybor3ing, vbl. sb., salvation.

1340 *Ayenb.* 121 Vor tuo pinges is þe man ybor3e, be þe be-ulyynges of kueade and do þet guode. *Ibid.* 201 þet his holy zaule... mi3te ysy and knawe god, and al þet him is niede and guod to his ybor3inge.

†**y'born, pa. pple. Obs.** (from 16th c. *arch.*) Forms: 1 geboren, 2-3 iboren, 4-5 yboren, iborne, 4-6 yborne, ybore, (6 ybor), 4-8 y-born. [OE. *geboren*, pa. pple. of OE. *geberan* I-BERE v.¹, *beran* BEAR v.¹]

1. Born.

Beowulf 1703 þæt ðes eorl wære geboren betera. **900-930** O.E. *Chron.* an. 855 (Parker MS.) Itermon Hrapraing, se wæs geboren in þære earce. **c1175** Lamb. *Hom.* 55 Weo beon swa his sunes iborene. **13..** K. *Alis.* 5024 Alsome as that childe y-borne is. **a1310** in Wright *Lyric P.* xxxix. 110 He is the sloweste mon that ever wes y-boren. **c1330** Arth. & Merl. 7780 Ywain bastard ybore. **c1400** MAUNDEV. (1839) 286 Wommen maken gret Sorwe, whan hire Children ben y born. **1513** DOUGLAS *Æneis* x. Prol. 58 Ne so the Son of hys kynd is ybor, That he a part hes tharof, and na mor. **1634** SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* 220 Woe be to that Priest yborne That will not cleanly weed his corne. **1642** H. MORE *Song of Soul* I. III. xxxiii, Or was hc to continuall pain of God yborn? **1748** THOMSON *Cast. Indol.* II. lxi, Heirs of eterny! yborn to rise Through endless states of being. **1755** MENDEZ *Sqr. Dames* II. xxix. in Dodsley *Coll. Poems* IV. 150 A young swain on Shannon's banks yborn.

2. Borne.

c725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) E 390 *Exposito*, geborone. **11..** O.E. *Chron.* an. 3 (MS. F) þæt cild Crist wearð geboren agean of Egiptan. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 3442 After þat he was in þe hors bere ybore. **c1325** in *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 70 He hath robbed Engelond, the mores, ant the fenne, The gold, ant the selver, ant y-boren henne. **c1380** *Sir Ferumb.* 1810 be opre relyqes... þat þou hast away y-born. **1387** TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 319 Whanne þei haveþ y-bore doun here enemyes. **1642** H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. III. 1. xxv, Fair clusted buildings... with high spires to heaven yborn.

†**yborned, ybornsched:** see YBRENT, YBURNUSCHT.

yborwed [Y- 4, BORROW v.¹].

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xv. 3c7 Fonde þei þat Freres wolde forsake her almesses, And bidden hem bere it pere it was yborwed.

yboosted, boasted.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xvii. 59 Hope cam hippyng after þat hadde so yboosted.

ybought, pa. t. of I-BYE, to buy.

1446 ? LYDG. *Nightingale Poems* i. 396 This blessid lord þat... Vpon a crosse oure soules dere y-bought.

ybought, -oht, -o3t, pa. pple. of BUY v. or I-BYE v.

c1300 Harrow. *Hell* (L.) 182 For my deþ wes monkune yboht.

†**ybound, pa. pple. Obs.** (from 16th c. *arch.*) Forms: 1 gebunden, 4-6 ybounde(n, 6 ibund, 4-8

ybound. [pa. pple. of OE. *gebindan* I-BINDE, *bindan* BIND.] Bound.

Beowulf 871 Cyninges þegn... word oþer fand soðe gebunden. *Ibid.* 1531 Wundenmæl wrættum gebunden. **c1330** Arth. & Merl. 5863 3ond men ledeþ Leodegan Ybounden toward king Rion. **1426** LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 2861, I to-forn hadde nat seyn Som other folk ybounde so. **1513** DOUGLAS *Æneis* iv. Prol. 40 The God abufe, from his hie maieste, With the ibund, law in a maid did lycht. **1563** [see BIND v. 1 c]. **1647** H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. *Democr.* Plat. viii, The low Cusp's a figure circular, Whose compasse is ybound, but centre's every where. **1714** GAY *Sheph. Week* Prol. 84 Thy joyous Madrigals twice three, With Preface meet, and Notes profound, Imprinted fair, and well y-bound.

†**ybowed [Y- 4, BOW v.¹], influenced.**

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 451 [He] was ybowed vor favour [orig. *inflexus favoribus*].

ybowne. pseudo-arch. [Y-, *bowne*, BOUND *ppl.* a.¹], about to go or start.

c1572 GASCOIGNE *Poesies, Fruites Warre* cxi, A daye before he was from thence ybowne.

yboylied, boiled.

c1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 48 Hony y-boylied hote.

ybrad [BREDE v.¹, to roast], tortured as with fire.

a1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xi. 39 The care that icham yn y-brad, y wyte a wyf.

ybraid [BRAY v.²], pounded.

c1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 48 A pece of Milwelle... y-braid with-al.

†**y'brent, pa. pple. Obs.** (from 16th c. *arch.*) Forms: 3-4 ibrend(e, 4-5 ybrend, -te, 6 ybrint, 4-ybrent; 3-4 ybarn(e)d, 4 ybernde, 5 yborned. [See Y- 4 and BURN v.¹] Burnt; *occas.* burnished.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2890 þe king vortiger was ybarnd to doust wipinne. **c1300** Prov. *Hending* xliii. in *Anglia* IV. 199 So þe child pat drawep is hond... fro þe brond þat is enes ibrend. **c1305** St. Katherine 148 in *E.E.P.* (1862) 94 In þe fur me hem caste þo hi hadde longe ibrend. **1340** *Ayenb.* 116 þe ybernde uer dret. **c1384** CHAUCER *H. Fame* II. 432 Y-brent wyth hete. **c1450** LYDG. *Life Our Lady* xlix. (1484) g viij, With golde of fayth fayr bright y borned. **1513** DOUGLAS *Æneis* III. i. 7 Ybrint in smoke of flambis. **1590** SPENSER *F.Q.* III. ix. 53 And heaucnly lampes were halfendeale ybrent. **1647** H. MORE *Song of Soul* I. i. xvii, The proud Phaeton, Who clomb the fiery car and was ybrent. **1767** MICKLE *Concub.* I. xxviii, With feverish Thirste ybrent. *Ibid.* II. liii, The ragged Walls with Lightning seemd ybrent.

†**ybroached:** see BROACH v.¹ I.

ybroke: see BREAK v. and I-BROKE.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4985 þe fourme of pes was vaste ymad... þat ne mi3te no3t wel be ybroke. **1422** YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* 143 Throgh a feyth y-broke.

ybrought, brought.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2505 Rowen... among hom ybro3t was. **c1325** *Poem temp. Edw. II* (Percy) viii, Holy cherche Is mych ibrowt adoun. **1340-70** Alex. & Dind. 586 3e were... y-brouht forþ & bred of pat modur. **c1489** CAXTON *Blanchardyn* xxix. 107 The kyng of polonye, that sawe... his standarde ybrought to the grounde. **1647** H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. *Democr.* Plat. ii, As men ybrought Into some spacious room.

ybroylid, broiled.

c1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 47 Porke y-broyliid.

ybuld, -beld, etc. [Y- 4, BUILD v.], built.

c1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1331 Ne sawe pay neuere by-fore þat a place so faire ybuld. **c1394** P. Pl. *Crede* 172 A woon wonderlie well ybeld. **c1400** in 26 *Pol. Poems* xxvi. 195 Withyn y-byld halles and bowres. **1422** YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* 201 The tempill y-byliid. [For form cf. *bylled*, quot. *c1400* s.v. BUILD v. 1.]

ybulled [BULL v.²], issued a bull against.

c1400 Langland's *P. Pl.* A. v. 77 (MS. H) [Ichaue] y-bulled hem to þe lord to make hem lese siluer.

yburied, -bir-, -ber- [Y- 4, BURY v.], buried. **c1250** [see BURY v. 1]. **1297** [see FALL v. 33 b]. **1387** TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 45 He... was i-slawe and y-buried pere. **1513** DOUGLAS *Æneis* II. v. 28 With wyne and sleip yberyt and at rest.

yburnuscht, ybornsched, burnished.

c1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 3622 Wel y-burnuscht fair & bryght. **1380** *Sir Ferumb.* 3587 Sherpe swerdes y-bornsched bryste.

yburþananseca: see BYRTHYNSAK.

†**ycalled¹, -yd, ycalde [Y- 4], called.**

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xv. 32 þanne am I conscience ycalde. **14..** R. Gloucester's *Chron.* (Rolls) 212 A woman þat heleine was icluped [MS. β ycallyde, γ ycallyd]. **1426** LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 2004 To-forn or he had makyd man... He was ycallyd but God only.

ycalled² [Y- 5, CAUL sb.¹], wearing a 'caul'.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xv. 223 In riche robes rathest he walketh, Ycalled and ycimiled.

ycapred, capered.

c1634 CARTWRIGHT *Ordinary* III. i, Huh, huh, huh, so; ycapred very wele.

ycarked, ykarked, loaded, burdened.

1340 [see CARK v. 1].

ycarped, talked.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xv. 296 If þei couth han ycarped by cryst.

ycast.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5122 þe englisse po & saxons... castles bigonne bulde... þat hii adde er ycast adoun. **1340** *Ayenb.* 108 Huanne... he heþ alle his uelpes ykest out. **c1489** CAXTON *Blanchardyn* xxx. 111 They were... y-caste from the realme of Tourmaday.

ycaught, yca(u)3t.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4372 Hii wende wel hor owe sleupe on 3ou abbe yca3t. **c1570** icaught [see CATCH v. 32].

ycausing pr. pple. [Y- 3 c], causing.

1563 SACKVILLE *Mirr. Mag., Compl. Henry Dk. Buckhm.* xlix, The Tyrant kyng... Saunce earthly gylt ycausing both be slayne.

ycch(e, yce, obs. forms of ITCH, ICE.

yclipped, obs. form of YCLEPT.

†**ycesed [Y- 4, CEASE], appeased, quieted.**

1387 TREVISA *Higden* III. 155 Whanne þe Babilons were i-sesed [MS. γ ycesed].

ych(e, obs. ff. EACH, I pron., ITCH v.¹

†**ychaf(f)ed, warmed.**

1422 YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* 242 That syde is moste colde and moste nedyth to be ychafit. **c1460** J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 893 His stomachere welle y-chaffed to kepe hym fro harme.

ychained.

c1393 [see CHAIN v. 2 b]. **1629** MILTON *Hymn Nativ.* xvi, Those ychain'd in sleep.

ychanged.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 3325 þis art was al clene ydo þat ychanged hii were. **1340** *Ayenb.* 242 Hi wes ychonged in-to an ymage of zalt. **1422** YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* 172 The herte y-changed fro ayse to mysayse. **1647** H. MORE *Song of Soul* III. App. xxv, The bare bones... First into liquour melt to air ychanged been.

ycharged, charged, laden.

a1225 icharged [see CHARGE v. 4]. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2504 Ycharged mid gode kniztes ssipes ei3tetene. **1340** *Ayenb.* 260 þet youre herten ne by... y-charged of gloutounie. **1399** LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* III. 230 Ich man y-charchid to schoppe at his croune. **c1425** Engl. *Conq. Irel.* 12 O shippe... y-charget with whet. **a1542** WYATT in *Tottel's Misc.* (Arb.) 224 And though with Indian stones... Ycharged were thy backe.

ycharm v. (pseudo-arch.) [Y- 3], to charm.

c1620 T. ROBINSON *Mary Magd.* 1438 Seu'n sprights, with thunder hee ycharm'd from out my brest.

ychased, -ced.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 323 þere Lotharius fliz and was i-chasede [MS. β ychaced]. **c1460** [see CHASE v.¹ 2 c].

yche, var. ECHE v. Obs. to augment, increase.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P.R.* IV. vii. (Tollem. MS.), [Blood] is... more scharpe for þe ychyng of hete.

†**ycheckt, checked.**

1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* III. III. xxviii, It would project Dark powerfull bearns, that solar life ycheckt... all things would die.

ychele, var. ICKLE sb., icicle.

ycheon, obs. f. each one: see EACH B. I c.

†**ycheryd [Y- 5], (well) favoured.**

c1407 LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 5373 Wel y-cheryd of lokyng.

ychesyled.

1509 [see CHISEL v.¹ 1].

ycheued [CHEVE v. 5], done homage.

c1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 15062 3it y ne may Leten oure forfadres lay, þat we longe on haue y-leued, & til oure Godes þer-inne y-cheued.

ychid, chidden.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 35 þere Dunston was strongliche despised and i-ched [v.rr. y-chidde, y-chyd].

ychon(e, obs. ff. each one: see EACH B. I c.

†**ychoppid [Y- 4], chopped.**

c1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 46 A litel sope Porke or vele y-choppid.

ychose(n [Y- 4, CHOOSE, I-CHEOSE], chosen. (Cf. YCORE.)

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2419 Ychose we bep þer to. **1340** *Ayenb.* 68 þe holi gost... makeþ his ychosene zinge... þe zuete zonges of heuene. **c1400** tr. *Higden* (Rolls) VII. App. 529 He was lawfullieh y-chose pope.

Y chromosome. Genetics. Also †y chromosome. [Y 4 b.] A sex chromosome which occurs in only one of the sexes (in man and other mammals, the male) or in some species is absent altogether, its presence or absence in the zygote determining in man and many other species the sex of the organism.

1911 Biol. Bull. Jan. 119 We have associated the X and Y chromosomes of the male with sex-determination, but possibly they have some other meaning. **1933**, etc. [see X CHROMOSOME]. **1965** R. P. MOREHEAD *Human Path.* vi. 170/1 Proved cases of mutation involving the Y chromosome are

extremely rare. . . As Y chromosomes occur only in males, the characteristic pedigree of such mutations should contain only affected males, never affected females, and all affected males should transmit the defect to all their sons. **1974** P. CAVE *Dirty Picture Postcard* x. 57 You've buttonholed me to give me long and boring lectures upon Germaine Greer, the faulty Y chromosome and the drudgeries of housework and child-bearing. **1982** *Nature* 2 Dec. 404/2 When a Y chromosome is present the foetal gonad, which has the potential to become either ovary or testis, differentiates into a testis and, when absent, into an ovary. . . Recent genetic analysis shows that this first step is not as simple as first thought and appears to be controlled by an interaction between autosomal genes and a gene(s) on the Y chromosome, for normal male differentiation. **1983** J. R. S. FINCHAM *Genetics* ii. 72 In grasshoppers and other insects of the order Orthoptera. . . there is usually no Y-chromosome. The females are XX and the males just X.

ycicle, ycie, obs. ff. ICICLE, ICY.

yclad (r'klæd), *pa. pple. arch.* (since 16th c.). Also 4-5 ycladde, ycladde, (also 7) iclad, 6 ycladd. [See Y- 4 and CLAD.] *Clothed* (*lit.* and *fig.*).

c1320 *Sir Tristr.* 2843 Mark y clad in palle. ? **a1366** CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 472 Al to selde. . . Is ony pouere man wel fedde Or wel araied or [y]cladde. **c1386** — *Miller's T.* 134 Yclad [v.r. iclad, y-cladde] he was. . . Al in a kirtel of a lyght waget. **1460** CAPGRAVE *Chron.* (Rolls) 363 Iff a man se an other naked he shalle have mo sekernes of hym thanne iff he se hym yclad. **c1474** CAXTON *Recuyell* (1894) 615 A place voyde, where the maysters. . . putte the body of hector. . . y cladde in his beste garentes and robes. **1568** T. HOWELL *Arb. Amitie* (1879) 97 My carefull corps yclad with heaui nesse. **1583** MELBANCKE *Philotimus* Ffij, All yclad in grene. . . he paced forward to the parke. **1590** SPENSER *F.Q.* i. i. 29 An aged Sire, in long blacke weedes yclad. **1593** SHAKS. 2 *Hen. VI.* i. i. 33 Her words yclad with wisedomes Maiesty. **1603** HOLLAND *Plutarch's Mor.* 30 In pure white clothes iclad. **1616** R. C. *Times' Whistle* ii. (1871) 30 Ignorance in his scarlet robe yclad. **1676** HOBBS *Iliad* xix. 371 Yclad in Armour shining like the Sun. **1748** THOMSON *Cast. Indol.* ii. x, Yclad in steel, and bright with burnish'd mail. **1751** R. LLOYD *Progr. Envy* xv, In flowing sable stole she was yclad. **1812** BYRON *Ch. Har.* ii. liv, Spring yclad in grassy dye.

†**yclansed, yclensed**, *pa. pple.* of CLEANSE, YCLENSE.

c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 59 In þe font. . . we iclensed weren. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1012 þoru graces of þe londe Idronke hii þep iclansed sone. **1340** *Ayenb.* 74 þe fornayse huerinne berneþ þe zaules al-huet hi byep yclenzed. **1387** TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 337 Whete cornes beep þere ful smal, vnneþe i-clansed wiþ manis hond.

ycleap'd, obs. form of YCLEPT.

†**yclense, v.** [Y- 3 c, CLEANSE.] To cleanse.

971 *Blíckl. Hom.* 21 We sceolan. . . ure hcortan geclēnsian from oprum gepohtum. **c1394** *P. Pl. Crede* 760 Her kynde were more to y-clense diche.

†**yclepe** (r'kli:p), *v. Obs.* Also 6 ycleepe. [OE. *geclīpian*, *gecleopian* to call (in various senses): see Y- 3 c and CLEPE *v.* Spenser's *ycleepe* is a new back-formation on YCLEPT. In quot. 1901 'ycleping' is an error for 'clipping' (CLIP *v.* 1).] *trans.* To call by name, name.

c950, c1100 [see YCLEPT]. **1595** SPENSER *Col. Clout* 65 Himselfe he did ycleepe, The shepherd of the Ocean by name. **1901** *Westm. Gaz.* 23 Oct. 8/2 The old Saxon custom of 'ycleping', or naming, the Church has just been revived at Painswick, in the Cotswolds.

yclept (r'klept), **ycleped** (r'kli:pt, *poet.* r'kli:pid), *pa. pple. arch.* Forms: 1 *geclypod*, *Northumb.* *gicliop(p)ad*, 2 *gecleped*, *iclipt*, 2-3 *iclepet*, *i-*, *ycluped*, 4 *yclepud*, 4-5 *icleped*, *yclepid*, 5 *iclepyd*, 6 *iclipped*, *iclipt*, *ycliped*, *yclclipped*, *ycleapt*, -ed, *Sc.* *yclepit*, 6-7 *yclipt*, 7 *i-*, *ycleeped*, *ycleep'd*, *ycleap'd*, *yclipped*, *ecleaped*, *eclep't*, 8 *yclyped*, 4-*ycleped* (7-9 *yclep'd*), 8- *yclept*. [OE. *geclypod*, *pa. pplc.* of (*ge*)*clypian*, (*ge*)*clīpian* CLEPE, YCLEPE: see Y- 4. Adopted by Gawin Douglas from his ME. models, and much affected as a literary archaism by Elizabethan and subsequent poets; in less dignified writing often used for the sake of quaintness or with serio-comic intention.] Called (so-and-so), named, styled.

c950 *Durham Ritual* (Surtees) 60 *Dignus vocari apostolus*, wyrðe þætte ic se gicliopad erendwraça. **c1100** *O.E. Chron.* an. 1057 (MS. D.) [Eadmund] Irensíd wæs geclypod for his snellsceipe. **c1175** *Lamb. Hom.* 9 Heo weren iclipt synagoge al swa is nu iclept al cristen folc. **c1200** *Vices & Virtues* 7 Ðurh ane oðre senne þe is geclēped inobediencia. **c1230** *Hali Meid.* 5 Syon was sum hwile iclepet þe hehe tur of Jerusalem. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 110 Al þis was swile icluped [v.r. ycleped, icleped, clepud, callyde, callyd] þe march of walis. **c1330** *Arth. & Merl.* 5560 Her ost was ycleped Blaire. **1340** *Ayenb.* 18 A vice þet is y-cliped ine clergie ingratitude. **c1350** *Will. Palerne* 121 & braunde was þat bold quene of burnes y-clipud. **c1430** *Two Cookery-bks.* 43 Make round-lyke Fretourys. . . þat ben y-clipid Ragnons. **c1440** *Stac. Rome* 674 in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 166 A lytlyle chapelle yeet there is, I-clipyd 'titulus pastoris'. **1509** *HAWES Past. Pleas.* iii. (1555) Cj b, They pypped a daunce Iclipped, amour de la hault plessaunce. **1513** DOUGLAS *Aeneis* iii. ii. 23 The king thair of yclepit Anyus. **1581** HOWELL *Deuises* (1879) 244 By name yclipt Endimion. **1588** SHAKS. *L.L.L.* i. i. 242 Now for the ground Which? which I meane I walkt vpon, it is ycliped, Thy Parke. **1592** *Soliman & Pers.* v. iii. 74 That fraudfull squire of Ithaca, iclipt Vlisses. **1598** *TORTE Alba* iii. G v, Loves Labor Lost, I once did see a Play, Ycleped so. **1611** COTGR., *Nommé*. . . named,

called, cleaped, ecleaped. **1616** R. C. *Times' Whistle* ii. (1871) 22 The drefull beast, ycleped crocodile. **1632** MILTON *L'Allegro* 12 But com thou Goddes fair and free, In Heav'n ycleap'd Euphrosyne. **1638** HEYWOOD *Wise Wom.* ii. i, *Seuc.* Is thy name Taber? *Tab.* I am so eclip't Sir. **1663** BUTLER *Hud.* i. i. 904 A valiant Mamaluke, In Foreign Land yclep'd (Sir Samuel Luke). **1664** *Ibid.* ii. i. 46 A tall long-sided dame (But wondrous light) ycleped Fame. **1717** LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to C'tess of Bristol* 1 Apr., Attending damsels yclep'd maids of honour. **a1764** LLOYD *Poetry Prof. Wks.* 1774 I. 31 Tho' not one wit bestrides the back Of usefull drudge, ycleped hack. **1822** LAMB *Elia* Ser. 1. *Praise of Chimney-Sweepers*, The sweet wood yclept sassafras. **1849** C. BRONTE *Shirley* xi, The old and tenantless dwelling yclept Fieldhead. **1877** GLADSTONE *Glean.* (1879) I. 169 It is yclept 'redistribution of seats'. **1900** *Westm. Gaz.* 23 Feb. 9/1 The Associated South London Extended Gold Mines Corporation, Limited, yclept in the market Suds.

¶irreg. predicated of the name. **1653** J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Cert. Trav. Uncert. Journ.* 17 The name of *Wheat ears*, on them is ycleap'd, Because they come when wheat is yearly reap'd.

†**yclepte, ycli3t** [Y- 4], *pa. pples.* of CLIP *v.* 1, CLITCH *v.*

ycleyed, stopped with clay.

c1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* iv. 438 Another list ycleyed hem to se.

yclinge v. (*pseudo-arch.*) [Y- 3 c], to cling.

c1620 T. ROBINSON *Mary Magd.* 339 Yet to ye banckes his tender rootes yclinge.

y-clive¹, obs. *pa. pple.* of *clive*, CLEAVE *v.* 2

a1325 *Maudelain* 323 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 166 So michel pain is in hir ycliue, 3ete ich wene wele þat sche liue.

yclive², *pa. pple.* of CLIVE *v.*, to climb.

yclomben, climbed.

c1412 HOCCEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 904 þou þat yclomben art in hy honoures.

yclosed, closed.

1377, c1420 [see CLOSE *v.* 1 b, 3]. **c1430** *Two Cookery-bks.* 48 And so no3t y-closyd, serue forth. **1647** H. MORE *Song of Soul* iii. App. xviii, The ghosts Of men deceas'd. . . in sleep yclos'd.

yclothed, clothed.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 3949 Noble men ycloped in ermine. **a1400** *Adam Davy* 140 þe kyng stood, ycloped al in rede. **c1450** *Mirk's Festial* 4 To haue fed me. . . and zeue me dryngke, ylopet me.

yclouted, patched.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. vi. 61, I shal. . . cast on me my clothes yclouted and hole.

yclove, obs. *pa. pple.* of CLEAVE *v.* 1 (3 β).

yclyketed, latched.

1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. viii. 266 þe dore. . . Y-keyed and yclyketed.

yclyped, obs. form of YCLEPT.

†**yclypyd** [Y- 4], obs. *pa. pple.* of CLIP *v.* 2

1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 2012 Yclypyd & yschaue Vp-on your hedys.

y-colded, made cold, cooled.

a1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula* etc. 80 And þe potte y-colded, be it opned.

ycoled, obs. *pa. pple.* of CULL *v.* 1

13. . . K. Alis. 2686 Foure thousand knyghtis, . . Y-coled alle for the nones.

y-colo(u)rid, coloured.

1422 YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* 230 Eyen y-colorid like rede wyne.

ycome(n, come).

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4249 þo king arþures men ycome were echon. **1340** *Ayenb.* 262 þis boc is ycome to þe ende. **1426** LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 3617 Now ye ben ykome ageyn.

ycompaced.

1297 [see COMPASS *v.* 1 2].

ycomparisoned.

1340 [see COMPARISON *v.* 1].

yconceyued.

1340 [see CONCEIVE *v.* 7].

yconfirmed.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4882 þoru hard op & god ostage yconfermed was al þis. **1340** *Ayenb.* 106 þi beleaue by y-confermed ine ous.

yconfortid, comforted.

1422 YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* 247 The kyndly hette shal be y-confortid.

yconfounded.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 8419 Al clene þe ssrewen were confounded [*MS.* a yconfounded].

ycongeyed, *pa. pple.* of CONGEE *v.*, to permit.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 259 Whan eny man is i-congyed [*MS.* y congeyed] pere to commence in eny faculte [etc.].

yconomie, yconomus (-imus), obs. ff. ECONOMY, ÆCONOMUS.

†**yconquest** [see Y- 4 and CONQUEST *pa. pple.*], acquired.

1513 DOUGLAS *Aeneis* xii. ii. 50 Rewardis. . . Yconquest in this battal Laurentane.

yconsayled, counselled.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. App. 509 *note*, As Edricus hadde yconsayled while a was alyve.

ycontined, -contyened, contained.

1340 *Ayenb.* 39 Zome byep y-contined ope þan þet byep yzed. *Ibid.* 118 [see CONTAIN *v.* 2].

yconyd, pa. pple. of COIN *v.* 1

y-coped [Y- 5] *a.,* early form of COPED *a.*, wearing a cope.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xx. 342, I knewe such one. . . Come in þus ycoped at a cure.

†**y'core, pa. pple.** and *ppl. a. Obs.* Forms: 1 *gecoren*, 2-3 *icoren*, 3-4 *icore*, 4 *i-*, *ycorn*, 3-5 *ycore*. [OE. *gecoren*, *pa. pple.* of *céosan* to CHOOSE, *gecéosan* 1-CHEOSE.] Chosen; often predicative and as adj., elect; 'choice', fair, comely (cf. the uses of *corn* s.v. CHOOSE *v.* A. 6 a); hence in ME. used as a meaningless tag often riming with *before*; *absol.* elect one, the elect.

Beowulf 206 He hæfde cempaþan gecorone. **a900** *CYNEWULF Juliana* 299 Wip þa gecorenan Cristes þegnas. **c900** tr. *Bæda's Hist.* ii. xviii, Honorius. . . to bisceope gecoren was. **a1000** *Cædmon's Gen.* 1818 Abraham. . . drihtne gecoren. **c1000** *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) cxxxii. 18 [cxxxii. 17] Ic. . . fægre gearuwe byrnende blac-ern bere for minum criste gecoren [orig. *christo meo*]. **c1175** *Lamb. Hom.* 45 Nu ic þe bidde for þine kinedome. . . and for alle þine halegen and ec þine icorene. **a1200** *Moral Ode* 104 Hwi boð fole iclepede and swa lut icorene. **c1200** *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 167 Hwat is þis þe astih3ð also dai rieme, fair also mone, icoren [orig. *electa*, Song of Songs vi. 10] also sunne? **c1300** *Harrou. Hell* (L.) 244 Let vs neuer be forloren for no sunne, crist ycoren. **c1330** *Amis & Amil.* 579 Of wel heighe kin y-corn. **c1330** *King of Tars* 544 [The child] as a roonde of flesche icore In chaumbre lay hire bifore, Withouten blod or bon. **13. . . Coer de L.** 146 With a coron off gold i-corn. **1340-70** *Alex. & Dind.* 978 þe kiddleste y-core þat corone weldus! **c1380** *Sir Ferumb.* 766 Charlis kyng þe beste kny3t y-core þat is owar now lyuyng. **c1420** *Chron. Vilod.* 789 Edgar. . . To þe kyndam of Englonde was y-core.

†**ycoroned**: see YCROWNED.

ycorumped [Y- 4], *pa. pple.* of CORRUMP *v.*, to corrupt.

ycorve(n, carved).

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4240 He vel adoun as a gret ok þat bineþe ykorue wer. **c1394** *P. Pl. Crede* 173 A woon wonderlie well y-beld, Wip arches on eueriche half & belliche y-corven. **c1430** *Two Cookery-bks.* 23 Rasonys y-corven.

ycoryd, cored.

c1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 46 Take perys y-coryd.

ycounted.

1568 [see Y- 4].

ycouped, pa. pple. of COUP *v.* 2, to cut.

ycoupled.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 445 3if a 3ong sheep. . . schal be y-coupled and y-3oked to a wyldle bole.

ycovered (see also *ykeuered*), covered.

1742 SHENSTONE *Schoolmistr.* xxxiii, Apples with cabbage-net y-cover'd o'er.

ycraul v. [Y- 3 c], to crawl.

1594 CAREW *Tasso* (1881) 75 Vile man from vilest durt on earth ycauld.

ycrested a. [Y- 5], crested.

1581 A. HALL *Iliad* v. 97 A heauie helmet. . . with crests ycrested three.

ycrimiled, pa. pple. of CREMIL *v.*

ycristened, christened.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 37 Sche was y-cristened and i-cleped Eugenius, and i-made monk. **1393** LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. xviii. 165 Men fyndeþ þat makamede was a man ycrystned.

ycrost, crossed.

1603 J. DAVIES *Microcosmos* 243 For, Crownes are richly blest, with Peace y-crost.

ycrowned, -coro(u)ned, -cronet, crowned.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 3934 In þe oþer half þe quene was of erchebissops al so Ylad & ycrownd ek as ri3t was uor to do. **1340** *Ayenb.* 267 Ich y-zey. . . þe innumerable uelazrede of þe holy martires mid blisse and worþssipe y-crowned. **1387** TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 71 þou schalt be y-crowned bissshop at Rome. **1422** YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* 199 Than he hym bethoght of the grete noble that he demenyd in Ierusalem, ther as he was kyng y-cronet. **1642** H. MORE *Song of Soul* ii. iii. iii. xiii, With fair flowers from unknown root ycrownd.

ycullid, obs. *pa. pple.* of KILL *v.*

1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. i. 199 Thauh we hadde ycullid þe catte jut sholde þer come anoper.

ycus(s)ed, obs. *pa. pple.* of KISS *v.*

ycustumet, pa. pple. of CUSTOM *v.* (sense 1).

1422 YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* 247 Aftyr the tyme of the yere and the houre of the day y-custumet or vset.

ycutte (see also *ykyt*, etc.), cut.

c 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 51 Datys y-cutte in .ij. or .iiij.

ycy, yd, obs. forms of ICY, IT.

c 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 78 To fulfyll yd in word and dede.

† **ydad**, a minced oath: cf. EDAD.

c 1680 HICKERINGILL *Hist. Whiggism* 1. Wks. 1716 I. 42 Ydad, I think I am just of that Opinion myself.

† **ydamned, -dampned**, obs. pa. pple. of DAMN *v.*

c 1340 *Ayenb.* 78 Vor manye filozofes oper of greate clirkes and of kynges and of emperours . . . byep ydampned ine helle. *c* 1395 *Plowman's Tale* 1243 Thou shalt be . . . clene y-dampned into hell. *c* 1400 *R. Gloucester's Chron.* (Rolls) 8679 He was pere idemd [*MS.* C ydampned] to pe pine of helle stronge.

ydan(t, obs. ff. EIDENT, IDENT *Sc.*, diligent.

† **ydarted** [Y- 4], pierced as with a dart.

c 1374 [see DART *v.* 1]. *c* 1407 LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 6878 With wo they be through-out y-darted.

ydaunted, overcome.

1581 A. HALL *Iliad* v. 80 Chromius eke fel deade in fielde y-daunted by his might.

ydder, obs. form of UDDER.

† **ydead, ydede** [Y- 4], dead.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 169 bis zere Levynigus pe bisshop of Worcestre y-dede. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* III. 1. v. Old Adam . . . Under some senselesse sod with sleep ydead.

ydee, ydene [OE. *gedén, gedān*, pa. pple. of DO *v.*, I-DO *v.*], done.

a 900 CYNEWULF *Crist* 1266 Synne . . . ær gedenra. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 290 When pe masse was alle y-dee. *c* 1425 *Engl. Cong. Irel.* 28 That thou ne hast y-dene troght some grete lette, hastily be about to do.

ydel, obs. form of IDLE, IDOL.

† **ydel(e)d** [Y- 4, DEAL *v.*], divided.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 542 bis lond was þo ideled [*MS.* a ydel; ð, γ ydelde] a þre. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 107 þese tweie kyngdoms were . . . y-deled bytwene tweie kynges.

† **ydem(e)d** [Y- 4, DEEM *v.*], judged, condemned.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 75 He is idemd to eche wowe on helle. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6381 þin owe moup þe aþ ydemd. 1340-70 *Alex. & Dind.* 909 We faipful folk. . . Ben y-demed to do dedus of rihte. 1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* III. 229 His dwelling [was] ydemed a bowe-drawte from hem.

† **ydemptifically, adv.** *Obs. rare* ⁻¹. [app. ad. med.L. **identificē*, adv. of **identificus IDENTIFIC.*] With actual identity.

1432-50 tr. *Higden, Harl. Contin.* (Rolls) VIII. 461 Criste is not in that sacramente ydemptifically, veryly and really in his propre presence corporealle.

ydenly, obs. form of IDENTLY *adv. Sc.*

ydeot(e, obs. form of IDIOT.

† **ydept** [Y- 4], dipped.

1340 *Ayenb.* 106 Y-dept ine blod.

y-det [Y- 4, DIT *v.*], stopped, closed.

a 1340 in *Rel. Ant.* I. 30 Hwan Banockesbourne is y-det myd mannīs bonīs.

y-dicyd [Y- 4], cut into dice.

c 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 22 Hard Wastel y-dicyd.

† **y'dight, pa. pple. Obs.** (after 1500 *arch.*) [Y- 4, DIGHT *v.*] Prepared, furnished, dressed.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5581 þe welisse ver in engelond vorte he it adde ydijt. *c* 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 211 Her dortour y-digte wip dores flou stronge. *c* 1510 *Lytell Geste R. Hode* VII. Full hastily was theyr dyner I dyght. 1522 *World & Child* A1b, Stretes and strondes flou strongly ydyght. 1579 *FULKE Refut. Rastell* 722 The Aultars bright, that were rounde ydight.

ydil(l, -illy, ydiome, ydiot(e, obs. ff. IDLE *a.*, IDLY *adv.*, IDIOM, IDIOT.

† **ydo(n** [Y- 4, DO *v.*, I-DO *v.*], done, put. *wel idon* (cf. MHG. *wol getân*): excellent.

1123, etc. [see DO *v.* A. 8]. *c* 1205 LAY. 910 Membricius, þet wes a riche mon, þe wes swiðe wel idon [*Wace saives hom*]. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 9535 Wircestere was þus ibarnd and oper harm ido. *c* 1320 *Cast. Love* 312 A þral . . . To strong prison was i-don. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 71 What hast y-doo, sire bisshop? 1392 *E.E. Wills* (1882) 3 þat þe hows be ysold, and þe Almes yi-do in þe worst zere. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 17310 Thys mescheff . . . Ys ydon and wrought by me.

ydobbed: see YDUBBED.

ydodded, shorn.

a 1400 *N.T.* (Pauēs) 1 Cor. xi. 6 3if it be foul for a womman to ben y-dodded oper balled.

ydolve [DELVE *v.*], undermined; buried.

1340 *Ayenb.* 263 Vor huych hord þet ilke zelue hous ne by y-dolue hejlyche he wakeþ. 1430-40 LYDG. *Bochas* IV. ii. (1554) 102 She was ydolue lowe.

ydoubled, -dobbled, doubled.

1340 *Ayenb.* 230 Yef þou me beuelst aye mi wyl, my chasthede hit ssel by me ydobbled. 1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* III. 275 With deyntes y-doublid and daunsinge to pipis.

ydought [DOW *v.* 1], grown strong.

13.. *K. Alis.* 5906 Tho the kyng was hool, and wel y-doughth.

ydots, obs. form of HIDEOUS.

† **ydot** *v.* [Y- 3c], to fear.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6328 Ech prince & ech lond ydouted hom tuo.

ydotued [Y- 4], feared.

1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* 1. 42 With diamauntis derne y-doutid of all.

ydrad(de: see DREAD *v.*, YDRED.

1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* 1. li. O happy man that full perswasion had Of this! if right at home, nought of him were ydrad.

ydrawe *v.* [Y- 3c], to draw.

1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 3037 A cause evydent That thow mayst wel . . . The swerd ydrawe.

ydrawe, ydraze, pa. pple. [Y- 4], drawn.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5905 þou art mid vnriȝt her to ydrawe. 1340 *Ayenb.* 133 He wes villiche y-draze ase a pyef. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* XIX. 218 Eue was of adam and out of hym ydrawe. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 26 Take gode mylke of Almaundys y-drawe with wyne.

ydre: see HYDRE.

† **ydred** (also *ydrreddyd, ydrad, ydraded*), pa. pple. of DREAD *v.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 104 He ys ald and yknawe and ydred and yworpspid and yloued. 1422 YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* 137 Wyrchippyd, ylowid, and ydreddyd. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XII. iv. 55 Abuf the hevin ydred and startit sky. 1590 SPENSER *F.Q.* I. i. 2 Yet nothing did he dread, but euer was ydrad. 1610 G. FLETCHER *Christ's Vict. Heaven* 1. xl. Euery one shakes his ydraded speare. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. 1. II. XIX. Mans awfull majesty of every beast ydred.

ydremed, dreamt.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 49 Wheper I have i-mette [CAXTON hath ydremed] pis tale or nouȝt.

ydrrenched, drenched.

1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* 285 And how the fields ydrrenched were with bloud.

ydressid, ydrest, prepared, equipped, adorned.

c 1386 i-dressed [see DRESS *v.* 3]. 1422 YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* 165 Anooone aftyr the lue Saw that he was wel ydressid. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 11 Make a dragge of powder Gyngere, . . . an caste þer-on When it is y-dressid. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* 1. III. lvi. Their face with love and vigour was ydrest.

ydreycht, obs. pa. pple. of DRAW *v.*

ydreycht [DRENCH *v.*], drowned.

1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 14464 Swych wynsyng . . . Made hym that he was atteycht And myddes off the see ydreycht.

ydrife, ydrive, driven.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4803 þe brutons were ydrue [*v.r.* ydrife] al in to west walis. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 109 He hadde wip his prayers y-dryue away addres and cokedrilles from þe Egypciāns.

ydromancy, ydromel, obs. ff. HYDROMANCY, HYDROMEL.

† **ydronke(n, -drunke, drunk.**

a 1275 *Prov. Ælfred* 476 in *O.E. Misc.* (1872) 131 Werse þe swo on euen yuele haued y-dronken. 1340 *Ayenb.* 51 Ich ne ssel by an eyse al-huet ich habbe ydronke. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* vi. 281 Til I haue dyned bi pis day and ydronke bothe. 1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) III. 75 Mida . . . was sleyn pro the bloode of a bulle ydrunke.

ydrop *v.* [Y- 3c], to drop.

a 1718 PARNELL *Fairy Tale* 171 And down ydrops the knight.

ydropesey, -ie, etc., ydropike, ydrosacre, obs. ff. HYDROPSY, HYDROPIK, HYDROSACRE.

† **ydrownd** [Y- 4], drowned.

1603 J. DAVIES *Microcosmos* Pref. 23 In Teares ydrownd.

ydubbed, dubbed.

1340 *Ayenb.* 83 Godes knyȝtes þet þe holy gost heþ y-dobbed. 1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* III. 363 Tyll degon and dobyn . . . were y-dubbid of a duke ffor her while domes.

ydul, ydy, obs. ff. IDLE *a.*, EDDY.

† **ydyned** [Y- 4], dined.

1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* IX. 303 Er ich haue y-dyned by þys day and y-dronke boþe!

ydyt [DIT *v.*], closed, shut up.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 3186 Wyþ hys hede [he hap] my moup y-dyt. *c* 1400 *Solomon's Bk. Wisdom* 242 A pytte, þere seuen hungri lyouns weren pereinne all ydytte.

ye (jī, jī), *pers. pron. 2nd pers. nom. (obj.), pl. (sing.).* Forms: see below. [OE. *ge*, stressed *gē*, *gīe*, corresp. to OFris. *jī*, OS. *gi*, *ge*, (MLG., MDu. *ghi*, *-i*, LG., Du. *gij*), OHG., MHG. *ir*

(G. *ihr*), ON. *ér* (:— **jēr*), Sw., Da. *i*: analogically modified forms (after the 1st pers. pl. pron., e.g. OE. *ge* after *we*, ON. *ér* after *vér*, HG. *ir* after *wir*) of O'Teut. **jūs*, unaccented **juz*, represented by Goth. *jus*, f. root *yu-* with pl. ending *-s* (cf. Zend *yūš*, Lith. *jūs*, and Skr. *yū-yám*).

For the declension of the 2nd pers. pron. in OE. and ME. see THOU.

In the earliest periods of English *ye* was restricted to the nom. pl. In the 13th c. it came to be used as a nom. sing. = 'thou', first as a respectful form addressed to a superior. This use survives in modern dialects, esp. (in the form *ee*) in interrog. and imperative formulæ (e.g. *Dee* = 'do ye'), but also in objective uses = 'thee' (e.g. *Oi tell ee*). When *you* had usurped the place of *ye* as a nom., *ye* came to be used (in the 15th c.), vice versa, as an objective sing. and pl. (= 'thee' and 'you').

Now (in all uses) only *dial.*, *arch.*, or *poet.*; in ordinary use replaced by *you*.

A. Illustration of Forms:

1 *ge*, *gie*, *gee*, 2-3 *gie*, (*gie*, *ge*), 2-5 (6-8 *Sc.* printed *ze*) *3e*, 4-5 *3ee*, *north.* *yhe*, 4-6 *north.* *3he*, 4-7 *ye* (3 *j3e*, *hye*, 4 *i3e*, *iy*e, (*i*)*he*, 7, 9 *dial.* *yea*), 3- *ye*.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp. Matt.* v. 13 ðee sint salt eorðes. *Ibid.* Luke xvi. 15 ðie sindon ða ðe gie soðfæstigeð iuih forð monnum. *a* 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 217 þenche gie aelc word of him swete. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 127 3e ne beoð ne alȝde of deofles anwalde mid golde ne mid seolure. *c* 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 143 Nu gie habbeð iherd þes wimmanes name. *c* 1200 ORMIN 1118 Hu 3e muȝhenn lakenn Godd. *c* 1250 *Kent. Serm.* in *O.E. Misc.* 28 Hye habbet to gode i-offred of yure selure. *c* 1275 *Sinners Beware* 320 *ibid.* 82 To day ye schulle myd blysse To heueryche wende. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 9360 Louerdinges j3e wute wel þat [etc.]. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 411 (Cott.) Als yee herd me neuē. *Ibid.* 19094 (Edin.) His sone. . . Gie. . . demid als ge seluin wate. 13.. *Gosp. Nicod.* 1105 Wende we to þaime, if yhe [*v.r.* 3he] rede. 13.. *Northern Passion* 157 He seid wol iye yeue me mede? 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Cons.* 68 Als yhe sal here aftirward sone. 1382 WYCLIF *Matt.* xxii. 29 3ee erren, nether knowynge the scripturis. 14.. *Northern Passion* II. 172/306 Me þenkeþ he saide ihe habbet wrong. 1508 DUNBAR *Poems* v. 38 Drink with my Guddame, as 3e ga by. 1510 *Reg. Privy Seal Scott.* I. 314/1 Wit zhe us to have made. . . oure lovit Alexander Andersoun . . . settar and sear of all skynnys. 1611 *Bible Gen.* iii. 5 Yee shall bee as Gods. 1639 MURE *Ps.* cxlviii. 9 Yea mountaines and yea hills. 1683 *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* I. 72 All yee that are willing y^t the last proposition should stand so as it is. 1878 *Cumbld. Gloss.*, *Yea's*, you shall.

b. In combination, proclitically or enclitically, with other words, as: †*3et* = *ye it*, *yare* = *ye are*, *y'have*; *d'ee*, *dee* = *do ye*, *hark'ee*, *harkee*. Now *dial.*

c 1200 ORMIN 9006 Loc 3iff 3et wilenn foll3henn. 1611, 1625, 1632 [see DEE]. 1631 KNEVET *Rhodon & Iris* v. vi. 13, An ample restitution, Of what y'have tane from her. 1632 BROME *Northern Lass* 1. ii. If I interrupt you, hang me. Dee hear? 1634 FORD *Perk. Warbeck* II. i. Madam, yare passionate. 1708, etc. *harkee*, *hark'ee* [see HARK *v.* 2c]. 1746 *Exmoor Courtship* (E.D.S.) 485 No, es thankee, Cozen Magery. 1775 SHERIDAN *St. Patr. Day* 1. i. There's a discipline, look'ee in all things. *Ibid.*, *Hark'ee*, lads, I must have no grumbling.

Cf. the rimes in the following:—*a* 1721 PRIOR *Cupid Mistaken* 14 Indeed, Mamma, I did not know Ye. . . I took You for your Likeness, Cloe. 1774 GOLDSM. *Retaliation* 136 Then what was his failing? come tell it, and burn ye. He was —could he help it?—a special attorney.

B. Uses.

1. The pronoun used (as the plural of THOU) in addressing a number of persons (or, rhetorically, of things), in the nominative (or vocative).

Beowulf 237 Hwæt syndon ge searohæbbendra? *c* 1000 *AgS. Gosp. Matt.* vi. 5 þonne ge eow gebiddon, ne beo ge swylce liceteras. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 15 3e herde wilche laȝe weren er crist wes iboren. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 19 3ie ðe berð iwant fram me. *a* 1250 *Prov. Ælfred* 27 in *O.E. Misc.* 104 Wolde ye, mi leode, lusten eure louerde, he ou wolde wysse wisliche þinges. *c* 1300 *Harrow. Hell* (E.) 142 Helle ȝates, y com ȝou to, Now ich wil pat 3e vndo. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 37 Thus be yee parted nou atuo. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 1 Good men and woymen, þys day, as 3e knowen wel, ys cleped Soneday yn þe Aduent. 1470-80 MALORY *Arthur* x. lxxx. 555 My fayre felawes wete ye wel that I will torne vnto kynges Arthurs party. *a* 1529 SKELTON *Agst. Garnesche* ii. 32 Cum Garnyche, cum Godfrey, with as many as 3e may. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* v. i. 34 Ye, that on the sands with printlesse foote Doe chase the ebbing-Neptune. . . and you, whose pastime Is to make midnight-Mushrumps. 1662 *Bk. Com. Pr., Comm., Conf.*, Ye [*1st Pr. Bk.* 1549 You] that do truly and earnestly repent you of your sins. 1781 SIR J. BANKS in *Phil. Trans.* LXXI. 7 Shew the World that ye still are as ye always have been, worthy the Patronage of your King! 1798 WORDSW. *We are Seven* vii. Yet ye are seven! —I pray you tell, Sweet Maid, how this may be. 1833 TENNYSON *Death of Old Year* i, Toll ye the church-bell sad and slow. 1841 LANE *Arab. Nts.* I. ii. 95 The King answered, Ye know not the reason wherefore I would kill the sage. 1902 BRIDGES *Matres Dolorosa*, They rode to war as if to the hunt, But ye at home, ye bore the brunt.

† b. In apposition with *self* (*ye self*, *selven* = yourselves): see SELF A. 2. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 6786 (Cott.) To cumlinges do yee right na suike, For quilum war yee seluen slike. *Ibid.* 14691 Bot . . . if yee self wille be blind. 1388 WYCLIF 1 *Pet.* ii. 5 And 3e silf as quyk stoonys be 3e aboute bildid in to spiritual housis.

c. In apposition with and preceding a sb. (or adj. used *absol.*) in the vocative.

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* VIII. 62 3e Legistres and lawyers 3e witen wher I lyȝe. *c* 1374 CHAUER *Troilus* III. 1809 Ye sustren nyne. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* xv. 333 3e riche, 3e robeth and fedeth Hem þat han as 3e han. 1549 LATIMER 3rd

Serm. bef. Edw. VI (Arb.) 84 Ye brainsycke fooles, Ye hoddy peckes, Ye doddye poules, ye huddes. **1593** SHAKS. *Rich. II*, III. ii. 88 Looke not to the ground, Ye Favourites of a King. **1681** BAXTER *Hymn*, Ye holy Angels bright, Which stand before God's Throne. **1697** DRYDEN *Æneid* VIII. 634 That Blood, those Murthers, O ye Gods replace On his own Head. **1730** THOMSON *A Hymn* 76 Ye woodlands all, awake. **1803-6** WORDSW. *Ode Intim. Immort.* iv, Ye blessed creatures, I have heard the call Ye to each other make.

2. Used instead of *thou* in addressing a single person (originally as a mark of respect or deference, later generally: cf. THOU, YOU).

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1341 Sire emperour quap þe erl þo, ne be 3e no so bolde. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 8721 'Lauerd', sco said, 'god it witschild þat þou britten sua mi child. Yee giue him all til hir allan, Me es it leuer þan he be slan'. **1390** GOWER *Conf.* I. 47 Ma dame, if ye wolde have rowthe. **1411** *Rolls of Parlt.* III. 650/2 My Lord. . . I knowe wele that ye be of such birth estate and myghte that [etc.]. **c1450** *Merlin* i. 15 Moder, . . be not dismayed, for ye shall neuer be lured to deth for my cause. **c1460** *Promp. Parv.* 549 (Winch.) 3etyng, with worship seyng 3e not þu, vosacio. **1481** CAXTON *Reynard* xxi. (Arb.) 51 Saye that ye your self haue made the lettre. **c1489** — *Sonnes of Aymon* xiv. 336 Good lord, ye created & made our fader Adam. **1516** in *Acts Parlt. Scot.* (1875) XII. 36/2 We with oure lauthfull service thankis 3oure grace of the grete Regarde 3e Beir to the weill. . . of our kingis gracis person. **1590** SPENSER *F.Q.* i. viii. 26 The royall Virgin. . . him thus bespake. . . How shall I quite the paines, ye suffer for my sake? **1591** SHAKS. *Two Gent.* i. ii. 49 *Iullia*. Will ye be gon? *Lu[cetta]*. That you may ruminate. **c1730** RAMSAY *Eagle & Robin* 45 Ze sing sae dull and ruch, Ze haif deivt our lugs. **1786** BURNS *To a Louse* 19 Now haud you there, ye're out o' sight. **1866** MRS. LYNN LINTON *Lizzie Lorton* III. 159 Ye've dune summut ye're sorry for. **1872** TENNYSON *Gareth & Lynette* 1142 'Damsel', he said, 'ye be not all to blame'. **1873** *Oxfordshire Gloss.*, *Ee*. . . is a more refined word than *thee*. . . 'Who did ee see up strit?' . . *Ee* is used to a superior, and not *thee*. **1878** HARDY *Ret. Native* i. iii. Be ye a-cold, Christian?

b. In apposition with and preceding a sb. in the vocative.

a1596 *Sir T. More* i. i. 11 Compell me, ye dogges facel **1599** CHAPMAN *Hum. dayes Myrth* Plays 1873 I. 69 O ye impudent gossip. **1886** STEVENSON *Kidnapped* xxix, Ye donnered auld runt.

3. Used as objective (accusative or dative) instead of *you* (in plural or singular sense).

c1449 PECOCK *Repr.* i. xvi. 86 Y preie 3e seie 3e to me [etc.]. **1538** BAILE *Thre Lawes* 163 We leaue ye here behynde. **1594** MARLOWE & NASHE *Dido* iv. iv, For this will Dido tye ye full of knots. . . Ye shall no more offend the Carthage Queene. **a1596** *Sir T. More* i. i. 110 He is in a good forwardnesse, I tell ye, if all hit right. **1613** SHAKS. *Hen. VIII.* v. iii. 181 As I haue made ye one Lords, one remaine: So I grow stronger, you more Honour gaine. **1624** BEDELL *Lett.* iv. 73 This no Protestant will grant yee. **c1650** MILTON *Sonn.*, *On new Forcers Cons.*, To . . ride us with a classic Hierarchy Taught ye by meer A.S. and Rotherford. **1667** — *P.L.* II. 840, I . . shall . . bring ye to the place. **1721** RAMSAY *Richy & Sandy* 18 I'll bear ye Company for Year and Day. **1815** SCOTT *Guy M.* xxii, There's saxpence t' ye to buy half a mutchkin. **1820** BYRON *Mar. Fal.* v. i. 198 Was not the place of Doge sufficient for ye? **1827** KEBLE *Chr. Y.*, and *Sunday Advent* vi, Ye, who your Lord's commission bear, His way of mercy to prepare: Angels He calls ye. **1840** DICKENS *Old C. Shop* lxxii, 'Go thy ways with him, sir,' cried the sexton, 'and Heaven be with ye both!' **1847** HALLIWELL *Dict.* (1889) I. p. xiv/1 I'd soon yarn sum munney, I warrant ye. **1866** LYTTON *Lost Tales Miletus* 127 The morrow's sun shall light ye homeward both.

† b. Used redundantly ('ethical dative'). *Obs.*

1668 R. L'ESTRANGE *Vis. Quev.* (1708) 6 He comes ye laden forsooth, with Letters of Recommendations. **1768** TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1834) I. 471 He cannot make a handsome bow, nor run ye off an elegant period.

Hence † ye *v.*, to use 'ye' instead of 'thou' in addressing a single person: cf. THOU *v.*, YEET *v.* **1483** *Cath. Angl.* 426/1 To 3e, vosare jn plurali numero vos vestrum vel tibi. **1510** *Promp. Parv.* 537/2 (W. de W.) Yeyn or sey ye, voso.

† ye, *conj.* and *adv.* *Obs.* Forms: 1 ȝe, 2-3 3e, 3 *Orm.* 3a. [OE. *ȝe*, corresp. in use to OS. *ge*, *gi(e)*, *gia*, and *ja*, OHG. *ja* and *jauh*, *joh*, *jouh* (MHG. *ja*, *joch*, *jouch*), Goth. *jah*.] And; also, too. 3e . . . 3e (or and): both . . . and; as well . . . as.

Beowulf 1864 ȝe wið feond ȝe wið freond. **a900** CYNEWULF *Crist* 847 þonne herga fruma æþelinga ord eallum demed leofum ȝe laðum lean æfter ryhte. **900-30** O.E. *Chron.* (Parker MS.) an. 835 [He] þær ȝefliemde ȝe þa Walas ȝe þa Deniscan. **c1000** *Sax. Leechd.* II. 204 Her sint taen aheardodre lifre ȝe on þam læppum & healocum & filmenum. **c1175** *Lamb. Hom.* 103 Deos sunne forðeð eifer ȝe saule ȝe lichoma. **c1200** *Orm.* 846 He turnde mikell folc till Godd 3a læwedd folc, 3a læredd.

ye, *obs. dial. form* of GIVE *v.*

1788 *Voc. Forth & Barge* in *Trans. R. Irish Acad.* II. 34 Y'oure, give over, cease.

ye: see EYE, YEA; graphic var. THE, THEE, cf. Y (3).

yea (jei), *adv.* (*sb.*) Now *dial.* and *arch.* Forms: a. 1 ȝæ, ȝee, ȝe, 2-5 (6 *Sc.*) 3e, 4-5 3he, 4-6 3ee, ye, 4-7 yee, 5 yhe, 6 je. β. 1 ȝea, 1-2 ia, 3-5 3ea, (also 6 *Sc.*) 3a, 4 yaa, iaa, 3ia, 3ai, 4-5 3aa, 3ha, ya, yai, 5 yha, yae, 5- yea; 4 3o, 100, 300, 5 yoe, 5-7 yoo. γ. 3 ȝei, yai, 4-5 ȝey, 5 yei, ȝey3e. δ. 1 ȝiee, ȝi, 4 yie, 5 (6 *Sc.*) ȝie, 8 *dial.* yoy, 9 *dial.* yi, yigh. ε. 3 ȝeoi, ȝui, 5 ȝoye. [An affirmative particle having forms corresponding more or less exactly in all the other Teutonic languages: OFris. *gê*, *jê*, OS. *jâ*, (M)LG. *ja*, (M)Du.,

OHG., MHG. *ja*, *jâ*, (G. *ja*), ON. *já*, Goth. *ja*, *jai*, all derivable ultimately from a primitive Teut. **ja*, *je*, which has undergone modification in different directions as the result of sentence stress or emotional emphasis.

OE. (WS.) *ȝea* combined with the corresp. Anglian *ȝe* to produce the ME. type *ȝe(e)*, *ye(e)*; the Northumb. development of the Anglian form, *ȝie*, *ȝi* (cf. Northumb. **scieþ*, *scip* = WS. *scēap* SHEEP), gave a ME. type *ȝie*, continued in mod. north. dial. in *yi*, *yigh*, *yoi*. In later WS. the falling diphthong of *ȝea* became a rising one, *ȝeá*, *iá*, whence arose southern *3o* and northern *3a* (but cf. ON. *já*). In other respects the phonology of the English forms is obscure. The modern standard spelling *yea* and pronunciation (jer) show arrested development of the vowel, but the pronunciation (ji:) is current locally. ME. *ȝei*, *ȝey*, *ȝey3e* seem to point back to a doubled form **ȝeȝe*. The *e*-forms *ȝui*, *ȝoi* constitute a distinct southern type, with possibly a modern representative in Hampshire *yigh*.]

A. *adv.* A word used to express affirmation or assent: now ordinarily replaced by YES.

1. a. As simple affirmative, in answer to a question not involving a negative: = YES 1.

For the distinction formerly observed between *yea* and *yes*, see NAY *adv.* 1 and YES 2.

In ME. *ȝe* is sometimes accompanied by a pronoun repeating the pronominal subj. of the question (see quots. from *Ancren Riwele*, a 1225, and cf. the first quot. from the same text in 1 c).

731 BÆDA *Hist. Eccl.* v. ii, 'Dicito,' inquiens, 'aliquod verbum, dicito Gæ [OE. *transl.* (c 900) cweð nu ȝee], quod est, lingua Anglorum, verbum adfirmandi et consentiendi, id est, etiam. **c1000** *Ags. Gosp.* John xxi. 15 þa cweð se hælend. . . Simon iohannis lufast ðu me swiðor þænne ðas; He cweð to him, ȝea [*Lind.* & *Rushw.* ȝee] drihten þu wast þæt ic þe lufige. **c1000** ÆLFRIC *Gen.* xxvii. 24 Eart þu Esau min sunu? And he cweð: Ia leof, ic hit eom. **c1175** *Lamb. Hom.* 47 Is hit god for to hiheren godes weordes and heom athalden? ȝe fuliwi. **c1200** ORMIN 4452 Ma33 anig mann slan operr mann & ewellenn himm wiþp herhte? 3a full wel se33p þatt Latin boc. **a1225** *St. Marher.* 4 Hwet godd heiestu ant hersumest? Ich heie qð ha godd feder. . . 3e [see sense 4] qð he lude, leuestu ant luest him þe reowðfulliche deide. . . on rode? Yai quod heo. **a1225** *Ankr.* R. 52 Is hit nu so ouer vuel uor te toten utward? ȝe hit. *Ibid.* 408 Mei ich preouen ou pis? ȝe ich sicerliche. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 772 'And wenis þou þat it be sua Sum he has said yow?' 'certes, yal' **c1330** *Florice & Bl.* (1857) 598 3he ne answered nai ne 3o. **c1350** *Will. Palerne* 268 'What? sone', seide þe couherde 'seidestow i was here?' '3a, sire, sertes', seid þe child. **c1380** *Sir Ferumb.* 1575 'Wolleþ 3e 3ou defende ouer ȝe wollep flen?' '3ea, so god me mende'. **c1420** *Avow. Arth.* xxiv, Gauan asshes, 'Is hit soe?' To tother knyzt grauntus, 3oe. **c1440** *Generydes* 294 His moder. . . Askyd medeyn if she hadde done wele And she seid yae. **a1450** MYRC *Par. Pr.* 69 Belevest thoue fully alle the pryncipalle articles of the Feithe. . . The Sike persone answerethe, Yee. **a1466** GREGORY *Chron.* in *Hist. Coll. Cit. Lond.* (Camden) 165 'Yf ye holde you welle plesyd. . . say you now, ye!' . . And thenne alle the pepylle cryde with oo voyce, 'Yel ye!' **c1470** HENRY WALLACE *iv.* 364 At him he sperryt, all Scottis gyff thai be. Wallace said '3a'. **c1500** *Lancelot* 2843 'Madem, if 3he remembir, so it was The red knyght. . . That wencust al' . . '3ha', quod the qwen, 'rycht well remembir I'. **1500-20** DUNBAR *Poems* xlii. 15, I said, 'Is this 3our gourinace, To tak men for thair lukiug heir?' Bewty sayis, '3a, schir'. **1526** TINDALE *Matt.* xiii. 51 Jesus sayde vnto them; have ye vnderstonde all these thynges: they sayde, ye syr. **a1553** UDALL *Royster D.* III. iii. (Arb.) 46 R. Royster. Trowest thou so? M. Mery. Ye plain. **1593** SHAKS. *Rich. II*, III. ii. 2 *Rich.* Barkloughly Castle call you this at hand? Au. Yea, my Lord. **1602** *Contention betw. Liberalite & Prodigalite* II. iii. (Malone Soc.) 345 Van. . . What, still so hastily? Ten. Yoo by gisse, sir, tis high time. **1611** W. ADAMS *Lett.* in *Rundall Mem. Japon* (Hakl. Soc.) 39 He asked whether our country had warres? I answered him yea. **1796** PEGGE *Derbicisms* (E.D.S.) 86 Yoy, yes, from yea or ay rather than yes. **1859** TENNYSON *Marr. Geraint* 688 'Look on it, child, and tell me if ye know it.' And Enid. . . answer'd, 'Yea, I know it'. **1865** 'ARTEMUS WARD' *His Bk., Shakers*, When we broke up, sez I, 'my pretty dears, ear I go you hav no objections, hav you, to a innerst kiss at partin?' 'Yay', thay sed. **1909** K. D. WIGGIN *Susanna & Sue* i. 13 [Shaker Eldress loq.] 'Yee, yee! I remember well!' [Footnote Yea is always thus pronounced among the Shakers.]

b. Expressing assent to a statement, command, etc.: = YES 3. (See also 4.)

a1000 *Colloq. Ælfric* in Wr.-Wülcker 96 M. And manige fedap þa getemodon ofer sumor pæt eft hig habban ȝearu we. A. ȝea swa hig doþ. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 1246 'Sun', he said, 'þou most now ga to paradis þat i com fra'. . . 'Yai, sir, wist i wyderward þat tat vncuth contre ware.' **a1330** *Otuel* 303 'Euele mote he priue & þe, þat ferst faillep of me & te.' '3e leue 3a,' quap otuvel þo. **a1375** *Joseph Arim.* 170, 'I troupe þat beo þi sone' þi losaphe he seide. '3e, sire, so he is. **c1412** HOCCEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 2979 'Ye shul vnto me swere þe lawes kepe til I agayn come', . . to which þei gan answere, '3ee, ȝee, man, ȝee!' **1535** COVERDALE *Josh.* xxiv. 22 Ye are witnesses ouer youre selues, that ye haue chosen you the Lorde, to serue him. And they sayde: Yee. **1599** SHAKS. *Much Ado* II. ii. 3 *Ioh.* It is so, the Count Claudio shal marry the daughter of Leonato. Bora. Yea my Lord, but I can crosse it. **1859** TENNYSON *Geraint & Enid* 757 'Then, Enid, shall you ride Behind me.' 'Yea,' said Enid, 'let us go.'

c. Rarely in answer to a negative question (*obs.*: = YES 2a), or in contradiction of a negative statement (now *dial.*: = YES 2b).

a1000 *Colloq. Ælfric* in Wr.-Wülcker 92 M. Ne canst þu huntian buton mid nettum? V. ȝea butan nettum huntian ic

mæg. **a1225** *Ankr. R.* 334 Nis nout, cweð he, God so grim ase ȝe him uore makieð. No, he seið, Daudid, ȝuihe [*MS. T.* ȝeoi he, *MS. C.* ȝeihe], and seið penne hwareuore. *Ibid.* 392 Ne muhte he mid lesse gref habben ared us? 3e siker [v.rr. ȝuse I wis, ȝes I wis], ful lihtliche. **1382** WYCLIF *Matt.* xvii. 23 Thei. . . seiden to hym, 3oure maister payeth nat tribute? And he seið, 3he [1388 3his]. **1423** JAS. I *Kingis Q.* lxxviii, Quhare[un]to lyve I langer? Wofullest wight, and subiect vnto peyne; Of peyne? no: god wote, 3a. **1876** WAUGH *Chimney Corner* (1879) 149 'This is th' house isn't it, Matty?' 'Yigh. We're just i' time.' **1886** CUNLIFFE *Gloss. Rochdale-w.-Rossendale Wds. & Phr.*, Yi. . . is. . . a negative [answer] to a statement, as, 'You have not been at home to-day,' to which 'yi' means that the statement made is untrue.

d. to say yea: to answer in the affirmative; hence, to give assent.

c1100 O.E. *Chron.* (MS. D.) an. 1067 Se kyng befealh ȝeorne hire breðer oð þæt he cwæð ia wið. **c1300** *Beket* 36 This Gilbert seide ȝe. **1390** GOWER *Conf.* I. 288 And to the kniht sche seide: 'Yee.' **c1400** *Apol. Loll.* 29 To a ferme. . . oiper ȝie or nay. **c1440** *Generydes* 3164 They praed them to say In all this mater playnly ye or nay. **1513** DOUGLAS *Æneis* 1. Prol. 93 Nocht fullie grantand, nor anis sayand ȝe. **1568** GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 128 A folkemot was an assembly of people to say yea or nay to that which should be declared vnto them. **1683** *Col. Rec. Pennsylv.* I. 72 All yee that are willing y' the last proposition should stand so as it is, see yee.

† e. Standing for an affirmative dependent clause after a verb of saying or believing: = YES 5. *Obs.*

c1375 *Cursor M.* 772 (Fairf.) And wenis þou þat hit is squa? Certis, ho sayde I traw ya [v.rr. 3a, ȝe]. **1397** *Rolls of Parlt.* III. 379/1, I trowe rather 3e than nay. **c1489** CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xxiv. 511 Alas, doo they not remembre me, I byleve better ye than nay. **c1500** *Melusine* 263 Yf they swere ye they are your enemyes and to the contrary, yf they swere that noo.

† f. yea or no, after whether, in an alternative dependent question = 'whether . . . or not'. So in an alternative dependent clause, as *would I yea or no* = 'whether I would or not'. *Obs.*

1515 in *Leadam Sel. Cases Star Chamber* (Selden Soc.) II. 93 To the Interrogatory Whether thei had this by the Comen assent ye or noo [etc.]. **c1540** *B.N.C.* (Oxf.) *Munim.* 27. 112 (MS.) Whether J. S. was cosyn and heire of [A. B.], ye or naye, he knoweth not. **1577** BRETON *Floerish upon Fancie* Wks. (Grosart) I. 7/1 Would I ye or no, I leard some of his raging rules. **1670** in *Extr. St. Papers* rel. *Friends* Ser. iv. (1913) 313 In that time I shall tell thee whether I shall make them yea or no. **1727** DE FOE *Hist. Appar.* iv. (1840) 30 Whether they really do converse familiarly with us, yea or no?

† 2. Used as an ordinary adverb directly qualifying a clause or word: Even; truly, verily. *Obs.*

In the Lindisfarne and Rushworth glosses on the Gospels it freq. renders L. *etiam*, *jam* = *sôðlice*, *witodlice*.

c950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark xiii. 22 *Ad seducendos si potest fieri etiam electos*, to ȝesuicanne ȝif mæȝe wosa ȝe ða ȝeoreno. *Ibid.* John xvi. 32 *Ecce uenit hora et iam uenit*, heono cuom ðio tid ȝee cuom [marg. ȝi nu cummen; *Rushw.* & ȝe comon]. **c1250** *Hymn in Trin. Coll. Hom.* App. 258 Iherd ȝe beo þin holi nome in heouene & in eorpe. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 13050 þou lues hir yaa again þi lue. **1387** *Trevisa Higden* (Rolls) VII. 129 þe kyng. . . forbeed þat any schulde selle hym woode 3e [L. *etiam*] forto sepe his mete and vitailles wip. **1388** WYCLIF *Prov.* xiv. 20 A pore man schal be hateful, ȝhe [Vulg. *etiam*], to his neibore. **c1460** *Wisdom* 895 in *Macro Plays* 64 Schulde we leue þis lyue, ya howe, We may a-mende wen we be sage. **1581** A. HALL *Iliad* III. 58 Helene. . . did him earnestly behold, and swelling yea with wrath [etc.].

3. Used to introduce a statement, phrase, or word, stronger or more emphatic than that immediately preceding: = 'indeed'; 'and more': = YES 4.

Often practically coinciding with NAY *adv.* 5, which however properly expresses the contrast in degree between the statements, etc., whereas *yea* expresses their identity in substance.

a1240 *Ureisin* in O.E. *Hom.* I. 185 He openep swa þe moder hire earmes hire leoue child for to cluppen, ȝe soþes. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4797 Seint patric was pere monek & suppe abbot þer 3e ar seint austin come mo þen an hundred ȝer. **13. . .** *Cursor M.* 19752 (Edin.) He fande a man unfere In parlesie ȝia ȝte ȝier. **13. . .** in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 261 þou þeng wel on þese þinges yie, wat tou art, & wat tou were. **c1375** *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxvii. (*Machor*) 153 þai. . . Ioy mad, ȝey, mare þan ma nemmyt be. **c1380** WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 10 þei seyn þat an heþene filosofre. . . is wittiere and trewere þan almyȝti god, ȝe þat god is fals and a fole. **a1533** LD. BERNERS *Huon* cxlix. 565, I had rather haue lost .iiii. of my best cities, ye and all my cowntre. . . destroyed. **1533** GAU *Richt Vay* 38 Giff we be the barnis of God thane ar we alsua heritours, ȝei heritours of God. **1579** LYLY *Euphues* (Arb.) 106 How wantonly, yea, and how willingly haue we abused our golden time. **1605** CAMDEN *Rem.* 3 As that the true Christian Religion was planted heree most auintly by Joseph of Arimathia, . . yea by saint Peter, and saint Paul. **c1620** A. HUME *Brit. Tongue* (1865) 14 We see, not onelie in our idiom, but in the latin alsoe, one symbol to haue sundrie soundes, ye, and that in one word; as lego, legis. **1671** MILTON *P.R.* i. 117 Regents and Potentates, and Kings, yea gods, Of many a pleasant Realm. **1690** W. WALKER *Idiomat. Anglo-Lat.* Pref. 3, I did not always particularly quote the place of my author. . . ; yea sometimes I did not so much as set down my author at all. **1786** WESLEY *Jrnl.* 3 May, Some of them use improper, yea, indecent, expressions in prayer. **1813** SHELLEY *Q. Mab* II. 130 Those Pyramids shall fall! Yea! not a stone shall stand to tell The spot whereon they stood! **1859** TENNYSON *Marr. Geraint* 704, I. . . kept it for a sweet surprise at morn. Yea, truly is it not a sweet surprise?

4. a. Introducing a question or remark in reply to a statement, etc., expressing either vague assent or (more commonly) opposition or objection: = 'Indeed?'; 'Well', 'well then'.

a 1225 [see sense 1]. *c* 1230 *Hali Meid.* 25 Nu þu art iwedded, & of se heh se lahe ilih. . . 3ei nu, hwat frut, & for hwuch þing meast hit is? 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* xi. 33 '3ee, recche þe neuere,' quod recchelesnes. *c* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 3357 'þis childe rose vp, and alyue he ys' . . . '3e', quod þe kyng, 'he nasnot dede þo, y-wys.' '3eysse, for god', quod þe knyzt, 'dede he was & his body golde.' '3oye, sire', quod þe archebisshop . . . 'Mony grette meracle þis mayden has do.' '3e, syre archebisshop, holde þou þy clappe! For y 3eue no by-leue perto.' *c* 1475 *Rauf Coilgear* 376 'Hald 3ow fra the Court, for ocht that may be; 3one man that thow outrayd Is not sa simpill as he said . . . '3ea, Dame, haue nane dreid of my lyfe to day.' *c* 1520 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 942 *Fan.* . . They fell a chydynge With Crafty Conuayaunce. *Con. Ab.* Ye, dyd they so? 1535 COVERDALE *Gen.* iii. 1 The serpent . . . sayde vnto the woman: Yee, hath God sayde in dede: Ye shall not eate of all maner trees in the garden? 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* iii. ii. 411 *Rob.* Come, recreant . . . *Dem.* Yea, art thou there? 1605 — *Lea* i. iv. 326 (Qo.) Yea, is it come to this? 1859 TENNYSON *Geraint & Enid* 128 'Yonder comes a knight. . . 'Yea, but one? Wait here, and when he passes fall upon him.'

†b. As a mere introductory interjection, emphasizing the statement following. *Obs.*

a 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 1626 Kynge Arthur than loude spake A-monge hys knyghtis to the quene: '3a, yonder is launcelot du lake, Yiff I hym euyr with syght haue sene.'

B. as sb.

1. a. An utterance of the word 'yea'; an affirmative reply or statement; an expression of assent. (Usually opposed to *nay* or *no*: see also 3.)

1228 *Mem. Ripon* (Surtees) I. 53 Credendi . . . per suum na vel suum ya. *a* 1400 *Cristene-mon & Jew* 125 in *Minor Poems fr. Vernon MS.* 488 Oper a nay, or a 3a? Soone tel þou me swa. *c* 1480 HENRYSON *Orpheus & Eurydice* 574 (Bann. MS.) Thingis . . . Till 3e or na quihik ar indifferent. 1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* xv. 36 Sum micht half 3e, with littill cure, That hes of wit, with grit labour. 1534 TINDALE *JAMES* v. 12 Swaere not . . . Let your ye be ye, and your naye naye. 1578 H. WOTTON *Courtlye Controv.* 230 Take pitie of him which attendeth life or death of your yea or nay. 1588 SHAKS. *L.L.L.* v. ii. 413 My woing minde shall be exprest In russet yeas, and honest kersie noes. 1611 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. i. 538 Their No should be as welcome unto him as their Yea. 1714 tr. *Joutel's Jrnal. Voy. Mexico* (1719) 34 We observ'd that their Yea consisted in a Cry, feth'd from the Bottom of the Throat. 1812 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1830) IV. 178 Their nay is the yea of truth, and its best test. 1846 TRENCH *Mirac.* xxxiii. (1862) 473 Not seldom He gives even in the very act of seeming to deny; his Nay proving indeed a veiled Yea.

b. More vaguely: Affirmation, assurance, certainty, absolute truth; a positive statement or principle.

1382 WYCLIF *2 Cor.* i. 18 For oure word the which was at 3ou, ther is not in it is [v.rr. 3ea, 3he] and nay [Vulg. *est et non*], but in it is is, that is, treuthe. 1526 TINDALE *2 Cor.* i. 19-20 Goddis sonne Jesus Christ . . . was not ye and naye: but in hym it is ye. For all the promyses of God, in hym are ye [1881 *R.V.* in him is yea. For how many soever be the promyses of God, in him is the yea]; and are in hym Amen. 1831 CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* ii. ix, Love God. This is the Everlasting Yea, wherein all contradiction is solved.

2. An affirmative vote; a person who votes in the affirmative: usually *pl.*, opposed to *nays* (or *noes*).

Still in use in the U.S. Congress. Cf. AYE.

1657 *Burton's Diary* (1828) II. 58 After a short debate . . . the House was divided. The yeas went forth. 1706 HEARNE *Collect.* (O.H.S.) 203 'Twas carried in y^e Affirmative Yeas 141, Noes 71. 1781 HATSELL *Prec. Proc. Ho. Comm.* (1796) II. 106 *note*, If this question for adjournment takes place before four o'clock in the afternoon, and there is a division upon it, the Yeas go forth; if after four o'clock, the Noes. 1789 *Massachusetts Spy* 29 Jan. 3/2, 197 Members present — Yeas 101. 1838 *Congr. Globe* 24 Dec. 33/1 Mr. Tillinghast asked for the yeas and nays, which were ordered. 1888 BRUCE *Amer. Commw.* xiii. I. 176 If one fifth of a quorum demand a call of yeas and nays, this is taken.

3. a. *yea and nay* (or *no*): positive and negative statement (or command); affirmation and denial (or injunction and prohibition); sometimes, alternate affirmation and denial, vacillating statement, shilly-shallying. Also *attrib.* (see C. below).

1382 WYCLIF *2 Cor.* i. 17 Is and not, or 3he and nay. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 207 He folwede þe kynges wille and his 3ee [v.r. 3he] and nay in al manere wise. 1526 TINDALE *2 Cor.* i. 18 Oure preachynge vnto you, was not ye and naye. 1540 PALSGR. *Acolastus* Declar. Names b4, To flatter hym, and holde him vp with ye and nay. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* i. iv. 99 The very yea, & the no is, y^e French Doctor my Master [etc.]. 1720 PRIOR *Conversation* 34 These two went on, With yea and nay, and pro and con. 1886 RUSKIN *Præterita* II. i. 27 There had been a good deal of dealers' yea and nay about it. 1913 H. BROWN *Our Renaissance* ii. (1918) 56 Beyond yea or nay he inspired the greatest of all philosophers.

b. by *yea and nay* (or *no*): a formula of abseveration in the form of, and substituted for, an oath (cf. *Matt.* v. 34-37). ? *Obs.*

1588 SHAKS. *L.L.L.* i. i. 54 *Longa.* You swore to that Berowne, and to the rest. *Berow.* By yea and nay sir, than I swore in iest. 1598 — *Merry W.* i. i. 88. [1641 BROME *Joviall Crew* i. (1652) C3, By yea-cock and naycock The Fields will afford us a Hedge or a Hay-cock.] 1661 W. N. etc. *Merry Drollery* i. 2b, He swore by yea and nay He would have no denial. 1682 MRS. BEHN *False Count* Prol. Aijb, By Yea and Nay, shee'll throw her self on you. 1828 *Craven Gloss.* s.v., 'By fair yea and nay,' by a solemn affirmation. *a* 1839 PRAED *Charades & Enigmas* xvii, But still the Lady shook her head, And swore by yea and nay.

C. *Comb. yea-and-nay* a. [attrib. use of phrase: see B. 3], (a) whose 'communication' is

'yea, yea, nay, nay'; spec. † *yea-and-nay* man, a quaker; *Richard Yea-and-Nay*, a nickname for King Richard I; (b) of indefinite or indeterminate character, 'neither one thing nor another', ambiguous; (c) disposed to assent or deny indifferently or according to expediency; hesitating, vacillating, undecided; also *sb.* a Quaker; hence *yea-and-nayish* adj. (*nonce-wd.*) in sense (b); *yea-forsooth* a., addicted to saying 'yea forsooth' in the way of superficial assent; *yea-nay* a. = *yea-and-nay*; *yea-say* v. [after NAY-SAY v.], *intr.* to say 'yea', to assent; *trans.* to assent to; hence *yea-saying* *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*; *yea-sayer*, one who says 'yea' or who agrees; a person inclined by nature to assent, or to act in a positive manner; *yea-word*, a word of assent.

1656 FLECKNOE *Diarium* 35 Above all of your *yea and nay Man, take especial heed I pray. 1678 (*title*) A Yea and Nay Almanack for the people call'd Quakers. *a* 1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew, Yea and Nay-Men*, Quakers. 1775 MME. D'ARBLAY *Early Diary* Jan. (1889) II. 9 He was a yea and nay man not worth remembering. 1781 C. JOHNSTON *Hist. J. Juniper* i. 81 One of your water-gruel, yea-and-nay good boys. 1807 *Antid. Miseries Hum. Life* 4 They were Yeas and Nays. 'What's that?' said I. . . 'O quack, quack I suppose', said the squire. 1828 L. HUNT *Ld. Byron* etc. i. 309 Shelley . . . had only to become a yea and nay man in the House of Commons, to be one of the richest men in Sussex. 1865 ANNE MANNING *Belforest* i. 200, I hate yea-and-nay persons that don't care, and leave it to you. 1900 M. HEWLETT (*title*) The Life and Death of Richard Yea-and-Nay. 1911 FLETCHER & KIPLING *School Hist. Eng.* 70 'Richard Yea and Nay', so called because he spoke the truth. 1957 A. DUGGAN *Devil's Brood* xii. 165 Because he [sc. Bertrand de Born] could not persuade Richard to make war at his bidding he gave him the opprobrious nickname Yea-and-Nay. 1777 MME. D'ARBLAY *Early Diary* July (1889) II. 202 Our journey proved very *yea and nayish. 1597 SHAKS. *2 Hen. IV.* i. ii. 41 A Rascally-*yea-forsooth-knaue, to beare a Gentleman in hand, and then stand vpon Security. 1847 MRS. GORE *Castles in Air* iii. The executor was an infirm *yea-nay old gentleman. 1856 R. A. VAUGHAN *Mystics* viii. ii. (1860) II. 279 *note*! It was indeed no time for compliment — for hesitant, yea-nay utterance upon the question. 1875 MORRIS *Æneids* vii. 615 Whom all men follow straight, The while their brazen *yea-saying the griding trumpets blare. *Ibid.* xii. 841 And yea-saying she bowed. 1887 — *Odyss.* xiii. 47 So he spake; and all yea-said him and bade the thing to be. 1934 WEBSTER, Yea-sayer. 1940 'G. ORWELL' *Inside Whale* 176 There are the 'progressives', the yea-sayers, the Shaw-Wells type, always leaping forward to embrace the ego-projections which they mistake for the future. 1972 A. FRIEDMAN in COX & DYSON *20th-Cent. Mind* i. xii. 434 The Wilcoxes . . . are businessmen, robust, conservative, organized, practical yea-sayers who lead lives of 'telegrams and anger'. 1960 *Partisan Rev.* Fall 609 In literary criticism . . . artless enthusiasm . . . has modulated into . . . more restrained yea-saying. 1960 *Times* 14 Oct. 18/3 Matthew Smith's art, so much . . . in tune with the traditional, yea-saying materialism of French painting. 1972 *Jrnl. Social Psychol.* LXXXVI. 220 Subjects who obtained scores of 0, 1, and 11, 12 were dropped from the analysis as representing extremes of yeasaying or naysaying. *a* 1861 SIR F. PALGRAVE *Norm. & Eng.* (1864) III. 82 Nor did any bashfulness real or conventional, delay his *yea-word.

yea, v. [f. prec.] *intr.* (or with *it*): To say 'yea'; to reply affirmatively: opp. to *NAY* v. 2 b.

1598 BP. HALL *Sat.* vi. i. 82 No more smell-feast Vitellio . . . loues him in his maw, loaths in his heart, Yet soothes, and yeas, and Naves on eyther part. 1657 J. GOODWIN *Triers Tried* 6 Such as will swallow their camels, and yea it, and nay it, with them from the one end of their faith unto the other. 1679 *Establ. Test* 23 A. . . Jesuit . . . can thou and thee, and yea and nay, as well as the best of them [sc. Quakers].

yead, obs. form of EYED.

1598 Q. ELIZ. *Plutarch* 134 Thre yead men.

yead, dial. form of HEAD sb.¹

1746 *Exmoor Scolding* (E.D.S.) 97 Chell make thy Yead addle. 1864 TENNYSON *North. Farmer* v, A bummin' awaäy loike a buzzard-clock ower my yeäd.

yead(e), obs. pa. t. of GO: see YODE.

yeaf, obs. pa. t. of GIVE.

yeaghe, obs. f. YACHT.

yeah (jeə), *adv. colloq.* (orig. U.S.). Repr. a casual pronunc. of YES *adv.* Cf. OH YEAH.

1905 *Dialect Notes* III. 67 *Yeah, yep*, . . . variants of yes. 1925 F. S. FITZGERALD *Great Gatsby* iv. 87 'That's a very interesting idea.' 'Yeah.' He flipped his sleeves up under his coat. 1936 M. KENNEDY *Together & Apart* iv. 293 'You were in Sweden with him last year, weren't you?' 'Yeah.' 1940 *Music Makers* May 37/3 *Yeah, man*, exclamation of assent. 1949 E. BIRNEY *Turvey* 153 'Yeah, yeah, Hayes was pretty hot but the ref—'. 1950 'D. DIVINE' *King of Fassarai* xx. 166 'I take it the natives are friendly?' . . . 'Yeah. . . We had us a party last night.' 1961 J. HELLER *Catch-22* (1962) xix. 104 'Will that be all, sir?' asked the chaplain. 'Yeah,' said Colonel Cathcart. 'Unless you've got something else to suggest.' 1977 B. LANGLEY *Death Stalk* ix. 104 'The shooting. That was Tony.' 'Tony?' 'Yeah, he done that.'

yeal, dial. form of ALE.

yeald: see GUILD, OLD, YELD, YIELD.

yealdon, var. ELDING¹, fuel.

1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xlv, Take awa yealdon, take awa low.

yeale, obs. form of EEL sb.

a 1625 in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* Jan. (1915) 25 Some of the yeales being worth 2s. a peece.

yeale, obs. form of YALE¹.

'yealing'. *Sc.* Also 8 eeldin, 9 yeildin, yeelin', eelin. [? For **even eilding*, one of *even eild* (ELD sb.) or equal age with another. Cf. *evineld*, *evin eild* = contemporary in Douglas *Æn.* iii. xii. 42.] A contemporary in age. Also *attrib.*

1728 RAMSAY *Phoenix and Owl* vi, You, a Species by your sell, Near Eldins with the Sun your God. 1787 BURNS *Brigs of Ayr* 150 My dear-remember'd, ancient yealings. 1804 COUPER *Macguldorchiana* i. xvi, His bonny, various, yeelin' frien's. 1808 JAMIESON, *Yeildins, Yealings*.

yealk, obs. form of YOLK.

yeallow, yealow, obs. ff. YELLOW.

yealte, obs. var. YELT.

† *yeam*, sb. *Obs.* Also 5 3eeene, 3e(e)ne, yene, e(e)ne, yn. [app. f. next.] A young lamb, yearling.

1408 *Wycl. Bible* Ps. cxliii. 13 (MS. Fairf. 2) þe sheep of hem ben wþ 3eeene [v.rr. 3ene, 3eene, ene, eene, yn]. *Ibid.* Isa. xl. 11 He shal bere sheep wþ eene eþer wþ lombe [v.r. yene, ene].

a 1650 in J. E. T. ROGERS *Hist. Agriculture & Prices* (1887) V. 341 [Besides the general names of sheep, ewes, rams, wethers or muttons, and lambs, I find tups, tegs, yeans, . . . crones and hoggs].

yeam (ji:n), v. Now *arch.* and *dial.* Forms: 4 3ene, 6 yene, 6-7 yeane, 6- yeam. [? OE. **geéaman*, related to *geéan* 'feta', pregnant: see Y- and EAN v.]

1. *trans.* Of a ewe: To bring forth (a lamb); also said of goats and occas. other beasts.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 303 Alle þe splekked lamberne and kedes þat schulden be i-3ened. *a* 1513 FABYAN *Chron.* vii. (1811) 368 A lambe was yenyd, hauynge .ii. perfyte bodies. 1523 FITZHERB. *Husb.* §37 An ewe goth with lambe .xx. wekes, and shal yeane her lambe in the .xxi. weke. 1605 WILLET *Hexapla Gen.* 319 There is a riuier in Assyria . . . which causeth the sheepe that drinke thereof to yeane blacke lambes. 1644 QUARLES *Sheph. Orac.* vii. They'l conspire To yeane their jolly lambs within thy cot. 1759 R. BROWN *Compl. Farmer* 32 The ewes yeane the polled lamb with the least danger. 1800 WORDSW. *Pet Lamb* 39 The dam that did thee yeane Upon the mountain-tops. 1806 SOUTHEY in *Ann. Rev.* IV. 51 To record the day and hour when a sheep died, a lamb was yeaned, or one of the flock stolen. 1862 TRENCH *Poems, Vis. Tusculum* 15 Watching the white goats . . . their young Tending, new yeaned. 1871 R. ELLIS tr. *Catullus* lxiv. 154 What grim lioness yeaned thee, aneath what rock's desolation?

b. *fig.* To produce, give birth to.

1598 MARSTON *Sco. of Villanie* vi. 39 Yon's one hath yeand a fearefull prodigie. 1847 EMERSON *Poems, Wood Notes* 11, Trenchant time behoves to hurry All to yeam and all to bury.

2. *intr.* To bring forth young, as a sheep.

1548 ELYOT, *Adasia*, an olde yewe, whiche hath lately yeaned or had a lambe. 1565 STAPLETON *Fortr. Faith* 99 Like an ewe when she is yeaning and wringeth for deliuerance. 1573-80 TUSSEY *Husb.* (1878) 73 Eawes readie to yeane craues ground rid cleane. 1615 SYLVESTER *Job Triumph.* iv. 478 The time when mountain Goats and Hinds Do yeane and calve. *a* 1661 HOLYDAY *Juvenal* (1673) 22 To see a woman calve, or a cow yeane. 1794 T. DAVIS *Agric. Wilts* 17 By the time all the ewes have yeaned. 1835 THIRLWALL *Greece* vi. I. 212 The ewes yeane twice a year. 1854 *Jrnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XV. i. 232 The ewes yeane in a yard or standing pen. 1879 BUTCHER & LANG *Odyssey* 51 The ewes yeane thrice within the full circle of a year.

Hence yeaned *ppl. a.*, 'yeaning *vbl. sb.* (also *attrib.*) and *ppl. a.*

1567-1849 [see NEW-YEANED *ppl. a.*]. 1574 HELLOWES *Guevara's Fam. Ep.* (1577) 253 His ewes to haue good yeaning. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* iii. (1586) 139 The shepheard must be as careful as a midwife in the yeaning time. 1686 PLOT *Staffordsh.* 258 Within thirteen months she brought 7 Lambs at three yeainings. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* ii. 751 The yeaning Ewes prevent the springing Year. 1775 ADAIR *Amer. Ind.* 309 The she bear takes an old large hollow tree for her yeaning winter-house. 1776 *Complete Grazier* (ed. 4) xxvi. 144 It is necessary she [sc. a ewe] should at her yeaning have the benefit of springing grass. 1866 COPLEY *Agric.* ix. xvi. 487 Late yeaned lambs . . . are generally delicate.

yeam(e), obs. forms of YAWN.

yeane-sherre, obs. form of JANIZARY.

1704 J. PITTS *Acc. Mohammetans* vii. 73 They are all *Yeane-Sherres*, or *Janizaries*, i.e. Soldiers.

yeanling ('ji:nliŋ). *arch.* [f. YEAN v. + -LING. Cf. EANLING.] A young lamb or kid. Also *fig.*

1637 B. JONSON *Sad Shepherd* i. ii, When to their store They add the poor man's yeanning. 1644 QUARLES *Sheph. Orac.* i, One of my weaker yeanelings hapt to stray. 1791 COWPER *Odyss.* ix. 283 As he milked his ewes. . . All in their turns, her yeanling [he] gave to each. 1862 MRS. NORTON *Lady of La Garaye* iv. 411 Still to the schools the ancient chiming clock Calls the poor yeanelings of a simple flock. 1869 SWINBURNE *Ess. & Stud.* (1875) 207 Take the young ones to the teat, Left in yeanelings' penfolds pent.

b. appositive or as *adj.* That is a yeanning; young or new-born: esp. of a lamb. Also *fig.*

1658 *Topsell's Four-f. Beasts* 495 The common Epithets expressing the nature of this Beast [sc. the lamb] are these,

rough, yeanning [*ed.* 1607 yearling], weak, unripe, sucking, tender. **1667** MILTON *P.L.* 111. 434 The flesh of Lambs or yeanning Kids. **1760-72** H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) I. p. xiv. The yeanning kids and cooing turtles. **1812** W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* XXXIII. 239 To surround himself with ushers, proportioned to the number of boys, and more advanced in acquirement than these yeanning monitors. **a1873** R. BUCHANAN *Man and Shadow* 1. Poet. Wks. 1874 III. 61 By the yeanning Lambkin's side.

yeant, obs. f. GIANT: see Y (1) *note*.

a1440 *Sir Eglam.* 233 Ther dweltyth a yeant in a foreste. *Ibid.* 301 He come where the yeant was.

year¹ (jə(r)). Forms: 1 *gear*, *ger*, (ear, *gar*), 2-5 *gear*, 2-5 (6 *Sc.*) *ger*, (3 *geor*, 3*æar*, 3*ær*, hier, 3-4 *zier*, 4 *ziere*), 3-6 *yer*, (4 *yerr*, *yier*, *yeire*, 3*her*, *Sc.* 3*heir*), 4-5 *zeer*, (*yher*, *yhere*), 4-5 (6 *Sc.*) *zere*, *yier*, 4-7 *yere*, *yeer*, 5 *zeere*, (3*eyre*, *heire*, *heyre*, *here*, *zhere*, *eer*, *Sc.* *yheir*, 3*hir*, 5-6 *yeyr*), 5-7 *yeere*, 5-6 *Sc.* 3*eir* (6-8 *zeir*), 6-7 *yeare*, (*Sc.* *zeare*, 7 *Sc.* *zear*), 6- *year*. [OE. (WS.) *gēar* str. n., also masc., (Anglian) *gēr*, = OFris. *jār*, *jēr* (Nfris. *jûar*, *jôr*, Efris. *jir*, *ir*, Wfris. *jier*), OS. *jār*, *gēr*, MLG. *jār*, MDu. *jaar* (LG., Du. *jaar*), OHG., MHG. *jār* (G. *jahr*), ON. *ár* (Sw. *år*, Da. *aar*), Goth. *jēr*:—**jærom*, cognate with Zend *yāre* year, Gr. *ῥος* year, *ῥα* time of year, season, year, time of day, OSl. *jarū* spring (Russ., Pol., etc. *jar* spring, Serb. summer); cf. also L. *hornus* of this year (:—**ho-jōrimus*). The normal OE. (flexionless) pl. *gēar* is represented still in dialectal usage; for illustration of the history see 1β.]

1. a. The time occupied by the sun in its apparent passage through the signs of the zodiac, *i.e.* (according to modern astronomy) the period of the earth's revolution round the sun, forming a natural unit of time (nearly = 365½ days); hence, a space of time approximately equal to this in any conventional practical reckoning (considered with respect to its length, without reference to its limits: cf. 3).

c960 ÆTHELWOLD *Rule St. Benet* liii. (Schröder 1885) 85 To gearas fæc twegen gebroðra into cumena cicanan gan. **c1000** Sax. *Leechd.* I. 204 Hyt bynnan healfon geara ealne þone wætan ut atyhþ. **c1200** Trin. *Coll. Hom.* 53 Nu a3e we . . . leten also fele dages, also hie diden 3eres . . . þat we ne singeþ þo blisfulle songes. **c1205** LAY. 217 Asscanius heold þis drihliche lond Dai3es & 3eres. **c1290** S. *Eng. Leg.* 2/33 Twelf Monþe it was þare-afterward and half 3er and more. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 4705 Be þe thrid yeur was gan, Vnnethes was per beist left an. **1362** LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* vii. 43 þou schalt 3elden hit a-3eyn at one 3eeres ende. **c1400** St. *Alexius* (Laud 463) 58 More he lerned in on 3er þan any of his oþer fere dide in 3eres tene. **1428** E.E. *Wills* (1882) 80 Competent saleri for an hole here. **1456-70** *Acts Parli. Scot.* (1875) XII. 27/2 Landis . . . quhillkis our predecessoris hes iosyt . . . ii hundreth 3eirys befor thir days. **1500-20** DUNBAR *Poems* xxx. 32 Gif evir my fortoun was to be a freir, The dait thairif is past full mony a 3eir. **1598** SHAKS. *Merry W.* I. i. 13, I that I doe, and haue done any time these three hundred yeeres. **1637** *Decree Star Chamb.* x. in *Milton's Areop.* (Arb.) 14 No Haberdasher of small wares, . . . not hauing beene seuen yeeres apprentice to the trade. **1718-19** SWIFT *Stella's Birthday* Wks. 1841 I. 682/2 Stella this day is thirty-four (We shan't dispute a year or more). **1819** SCOTT *Leg. Montrose* vi. A family of four hundred years' standing. **1842** DICKENS *Amer. Notes* xviii. A gentleman . . . within a year or two on either side of thirty. **1884** GOLDWIN SMITH in *Contemp. Rev.* Apr. 533 The idea that the United States are disposed to aggress upon Canada cannot survive a year's intercourse with their people.

β. 900-30 O.E. *Chron.* (Parker MS.) Pref. 4 þa feng Æpelbryht his broþur to, & heold .v. gear. **c1000** *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. ix. 20 An wif þe polode blod-ryne twelf gear. **c1200** *Vices & Virtues* 143 þrie hier and six monethes. **c1205** LAY. 3789 Ale þe twa 3ere. **a1225** *Ancr.* R. 218 Efter ueole 3er. **1340** HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 741 An hundreth and twenti yhere. **c1386** CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 588 And thre year in this wise his lif he ladde. **c1449** PECOCK *Repr.* I. xi. 56 Poul was slain before the tyme of this exile bi almost xxxii. 3eer. **1526** *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 118 b, A thyng done perauenture a dosyn yere before. **1535** STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) II. 121 Mony 3eir. **1553** BECON *Reliques of Rome* (1563) 200 He had bured in Purgatorye a greate number of year. **1602** SHAKS. *Ham.* v. i. 183 He will last you some eight year, or nine year. **1699** BENTLEY *Phal.* Pref. p. lxxxv, Sir Henry Spelman . . . used it lxxx Year since. **1701** in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* VII. 101 The Curé is now stone blinde, & has been this 4 year. **1815** SCOTT *Guy M.* xxxix, At last they didna 'gree at a' for twa or three year.

b. Following and qualifying a date: = a year before or after . . . ; † was a year, a year ago. More commonly expressed by *twelvemonth* (TWELVEMONTH 1 b).

1533 CROMWELL in Merriman *Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 362 That . . . your pleasure maye be to suffer it to bere date from Mysdromer Was a yere. **1606** G. W[OODCOCKE] *Lives Emp.* in *Hist. Justine* L15, The Emperor . . . tooke him prisoner vpon the same day twentye yeares, after that his father was taken prisoner by Charles the fift. **a1873** WILBERFORCE *Ch. & Emp.* (1874) 8 On the day year on which he had received our Lord's servants into his house. **1880** DISRAELI *Endym.* xxxv, I should not be surpris'd . . . if he were to change his name again before this time year.

c. In reference to the duration of some (usually painful) experience, as the sufferings of purgatory (always in reference to *years of pardon*), a term of imprisonment, etc. (Usually pl. with numeral.)

c1200 Trin. *Coll. Hom.* 61 Vuele god us briseð . . . oðer purh orf qualm oðer purh smerte 3ier [cf. G. *schmerzenjahr*]. **1357** Lay *Folks Catech.* (L.) 221 And so my3t pardoun be gotun to sey yche day a lady sawter 3he ten þowsand 3er in on 3ere. **c1400** Apol. *Loll.* 8 þewenti þowzand 3er of pardoun. **c1489** CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* x. 271 'Goodys curse haue he for it', sayd Charlemagne, 'and an evyll yere.' **1533** GAU *Richt Vay* 5 Sa mony thousand 3eris of pardone pouters and remissione of sine and payne. **1874** W. S. GILBERT *Charity 11, Mr. S.* . . . There is nothing to connect me with that matter. . . . *Ruth.* Nothing? . . . I've writin' of yours which is fourteen year [i.e. penal servitude], if it's a day. **1901** *Scotsman* 27 Feb. 11/1 The woman also told him that . . . if he was not careful she could get him fifteen years.

d. pl. with numeral, expressing a person's age. (Cf. 5.)

More usually either followed by *of age* or *old*, or omitted by ellipsis; e.g. 'a man fifty years of age', or 'fifty years old', or 'a man of fifty'. For obs. variants of expression see *quots.* **a1300** *Cursor M.* 11315 O gode haliman. . . O sex scor yeire, hight symeon. **13.** . . . etc. [see OLD a. 4b]. **c1380** WYCLIF *Serm. Sel. Wks.* I. 83 Whan [Crist] was twelfe 3eer olde. **1382** — *Matt.* ii. 16 Alle the children, . . . fro two 3eer age and with ynne. **c1386** CHAUCER *Merch. T.* 177, I wol no womman thrity yeer of age. **1390** GOWER *Conf.* I. 148 The yongest of hem hadde of age Fourtiene yer. **a1425** *Cursor M.* 12386 (Trin.) Ihesu was þat tyme pore Of eizte yer olde & more. **c1450** *Merlin* i. 15 It semed ij yere age or more. **c1480** *Childe of Bristowe* 37 in Hazl. E.P.P. I. 112 When the child was xij yere and more. **1523** FITZHERB. *Husb.* §67 Put theym bothe in one pasture, tyll they be foure or fyue yere olde. **1570** *Satir. Poems Reform.* x. 14 Ane woundit man, of aucht and threttie 3eiris. **1600** SHAKS. *A.Y.L.* II. iii. 73 At seauenteene yeeres, many their fortunes seeke But at fourescore, it is too late a weeke. **1609** SKENE *Reg. Maj.* Table 62 b, The heire of ane Soccoman is of perfitte age, quhen he is passed fivetene zeares. **1675** HOBBS *Odyssey* (1677) 32 Wine, that aged was eleven year. **1695** SIBBALD *Autobiog.* (1834) 127 Four children . . . who died all before they were full four year old. **1847** TENNYSON *Princess* v. 544 A nurse of ninety years.

e. In special or idiomatic genitive or attrib. uses, qualified by *a* or a numeral.

c1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* xlix. (Z.) 287 *Anniculus*, anes gearas cild oððe lamb. **1451, 1552** [see DAY sb. 11]. **1475** Bk. *Noblesse* (Roxb.) 8 The dyvysyon . . . dured in Fraunce continually by .xj. yeerdar. **1559** *Mirr. Mag.* (1563) Civ. My enmy straunged but for a ten yeares daye. **1609** C. BUTLER *Fem. Mon.* (1623) D iij, The Bee is but a yeares Bird, with some advantage. **1635** in Foster *Crt. Min. E. Ind. Comp.* (1907) 67 [At 41. per hundred at] a yeares day of payment. **1654** CROMWELL *Sp.* 12 Sept., A people that have been unhinged this twelve-years day, and are unhinged still. **1860** *Merc. Marine Mag.* VII. 181 She . . . is classed in Lloyd's Register as an eight years' ship.

2. a. With qualifying words, denoting periods differing in length according to the manner in which they are computed in some scientific or conventional reckoning.

anomalous, astronomical, canicular, civil, embolismic, equinoctial, Gregorian, julian, lunar, lunisolar, natural, sidereal, solar, Sothic, tropical, vague (etc.) year: see the adjs.

c1055 Byrhtferth's *Handboc in Anglia* VIII. 316 þæs gearas dagas þe getelwise witan nemniað on lyden solaris annus, & on englisc þære sunnan gear. **1579-80** NORTH *Plutarch* (1595) 79 For the Romanes at the beginning had but 10. moneths in the yere: as some of the barbarous people make but three moneths for their yere. **1592** [see JULIAN]. **1594** BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.* II. i. xlii. (1597) 171 b, The Egyptian year containeth the iust number of 365. dayes. **1728** CHAMBERS *Cycl. s.v. Period, Victorian Period*, an Interval of 532 Julian Years. **1757** J. FERGUSON *Astron.* (ed. 2) xxi. §408 The Solar or Tropical Year, which contains 365 days, 5 hours, 48 minutes, 57 seconds; and is the only proper or natural year, because it always keeps the same seasons to the same months. **1841** WILKINSON *Mann. & Cust. Anc. Egypt.* xi. Ser. II. I. 17 The sacred was the same as the solar or vague year. **1860** R. S. POOLE in W. Smith *Dict. Bible* I. 505/1 There appear to have been at least three years in use with the Egyptians before the Roman domination, the Vague Year, the Tropical Year, and the Sothic Year.

b. *transf.* Applied to a very long period or cycle (in chronology or mythology, or vaguely in poetic use).

cynic year: see CYNIC a. 3. *great year* (Gr. *μέγας ἐνιαυτός*), the period (variously reckoned) after which all the heavenly bodies were supposed to return to their original positions, also called *Platonic year* (see PLATONIC a. 3b); also occas. used of certain cycles in modern chronology.

1398 TREvisa *Barth. De P.R.* viii. xxi. (Bodl. MS.) lf. 86/1 Chaunging of roundenes and cerclis of sterres . . . þe chaungeing of hem falleþ in euerich xxxvj. M. 3eere. And þis þe greeþe 3ere þat is the laste of alle þinges. **1585** T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* iv. xi. 123 b, With the life of this bird [sc. the phoenix], the revolution of the great yere is made, which diuers . . . say to consist, not in 540. yeres, but in 12950. yeres. **1587** GOLDING *De Mornay* xxvi. (1592) 402 If they had liued lesse than Sixe hundred yeares, their obseruations had bene in vaine, because the great yere continueth so long. **1594** BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.* II. i. xxxvii. (1597) 170 It is called of some the yere of the worlde, and of some the great yere of Plato, which containeth according to Alphonsus, 49000. yeares. . . yet some affirme that the perfect yere of the worlde containeth but 36000 yeares. **1666** S. PARKER *Free & Impart. Censure* (1667) 91, I will engage you shall never be one of their Disciples, though you should study them [sc. Platonists] to the revolution of their Great Year. **1667** MILTON *P.L.* v. 583 On such day As Heav'ns great Year brings forth. **1737** WHISTON *Josephus, Antiq.* i. iii. §9 Unless they had lived six hundred years: for the Great Year is completed in that interval. **1830** LYELL *Princ. Geol.* I. 116 The 'great year,' or geological cycle. **1871** ALABASTER *Wheel of Law* 89 Five thousand angelic years, which are five hundred and eighty-six millions of the years of men. **1893** HUXLEY *Romanes Lect.* 36 The suggestion that the power and the intelligence of man can ever arrest the procession of the great year.

c. The period of revolution of any planet round the sun (*planetary year*).

1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl. s.v.*, The Times wherein Jupiter, Saturn, the Sun, Moon, &c. finish their Revolutions . . . are respectively call'd the Years of Jupiter, and Saturn, [etc.]. **1870** E. F. BURR *Ecce Coelum* iv. 104 According to the Neptunian calendar, it is only thirty-six years since the creation of Adam.

3. A space of time, of the length stated in sense 1, with fixed limits. a. *esp.* Such a space of time as reckoned in a calendar and denoted by a number in a particular era: commonly divided into twelve calendar months, in the ordinary (Roman) calendar beginning with January and ending with December, and consisting of 365 (or 366) days: see CALENDAR 1. (Distinctively called the *civil year*.)

year of Christ, † of God (Sc.), of our Lord (LORD sb. 7 b), of grace (GRACE sb. 12), † of salvation (SALVATION 1 c), a particular year of the Christian era (denoted by a number following).

Also with cardinal number following, denoting a period of a political regime as a means of calendar reckoning. Formerly also in pl. with numeral, denoting a particular year of an era.

c1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke ii. 41 His ma3as ferdon ælce 3ere to hierusalem. **c1132** O.E. *Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1132 Dis gear com Henri king to þis land. **c1205** LAY. 7220 He makede þane kalend þe dihteð þane moned & þe3er. **a1250** *Qul & Night.* 101 þat oþer 3er a f aukun bredde. **c1250** *Gen. & Ex.* 150 Two geuelengðes timen her, And two solstices in ðe 3er. **1357** Lay *Folks Mass Bk.* (1879) 118 The sacrament of the auter . . . whilk ilk man and woman . . . aught forto resceyve anes in the yhere. **1396** in *Scott. Antiq.* (1900) XIV. 217 The secvnde day of May the yher of our lorde MCCC neynty and sex. **a1500** *Bernard. de cura rei fam.*, etc. (E.E. T.S.) 32 Be the yheris of cryst comyn and gone, Fully nynty ande nyne. **1556** LAUDER *Tractate of Kyngis* 19 The 3eir of God Ane M.V.C.LVI. **1584** in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* V. 64 The lettre from Richard Hutton written in September without yere. **1607** TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 297 Stations are to be seperated from Mares al the yere long, except at the time of procreation. **a1646** J. GREGORY *Learned Tracts* (1649) 164 The Christians did not use to reckon by the years of Christ, until the 532 of the Incarnation. *Ibid.* 165 That the first year Dionysian of Christ ought to bee reckoned the thirð. **1657** North's *Plutarch, Add. Lives* 4 In the yere of the Salvation of all mankind, three hundred thirty and nine. **a1700** in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* IX. 335 [They] were al by holy obedience sent to Paris in the yere 1652. **1788** COWPER *Stanzas Bill of Mortality* 2 Could I . . . as sure presage To whom the rising year shall prove the last. **1818** SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxvi, The Hielsands hae been keepit quiet since the year aughty-nine—that was Killiecrankie year. **1861** M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 36 Dr. Pauli . . . more than once gives the day and the month, without remembering to add the year of an event. **1933** E. WAUGH *Scoop* II. iv. 226 New Calendar, Year One of the Soviet State of Ishmaelia. **1971** *Times Lit. Suppl.* 27 Aug. 1015/2 When he refers to 'the language of the Year III', he means that of the Year II [of the 1870 Commune]. **1972** R. COBB *Reactions to French Revolution* i. 38 *The coup d'état of Fructidor* year V (Sept. 1797). **1980** P. VAN GREENAWAY *Dissident* vii. 147 The Seventeen Revolution is Year One to our country.

c1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 265 Abowte þe yeris of our Lord ccccvj. **1474** *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 1 The ferd day of the moneth of August, the 3ere of God etc. lxxiiij. yeris.

b. Such a space of time, with limits not necessarily coinciding with those of the civil year, forming a division of a period (or the whole period) of office, study, or other occupation, or of a person's lifetime (in these cases commonly with ordinal numeral, often with possessive noun or pronoun), or taken between definite dates for some special purpose, e.g. taxation, payment of dividends, agricultural operations, etc.

c1000 *Lambeth Ps.* xxx. 11 Lif min and gearas mine. **c1200** ORMIN 9503, & ta wass Kayfases 3er þe fife 3er þigunenn. **a1225** *Leg. Kath.* 43 þe fife & þrittuðe 3er of his [sc. Maxence's] rixlinge. **1338** R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1725) I. 10 In his elueneþ 3ere com folc, þat misleued. **c1425** *Cursor M.* 3893 (Trin.) His 3eres passed & seuen dayes Rachel he weddide þe story says. **c1450** *Godstow Reg.* 138 þe v. yer of þe reine of kinge Edward. **1518** *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden Soc.) II. 162 Suche greate charges as they [sc. sheriffs] . . . must bere by Reason of the same Office after their yer Ended. **1611** B. JONSON *Catiline* III. i, Which I'll perform . . . not for my year, But for my life. **1616** in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* III. 34 There in your English Colledge, . . . he liued and heard his course of philosophie and almost two yeares of school diuinitie. **1631** MILTON *Sonn.* vii. 2 How soon hath Time . . . Stolen on his wing my three and twentieth yeer! **1635** A. STAFFORD *Fem. Glory* (1869) 61 His living in obscurity from His twelfth to His thirtieth yeere. **1848** E. S. CREASY *Eton Coll.* 42 The relative positions which the boys of each year had occupied in the school. **1871** SMILES *Charac.* iii. (1876) 68 At the following Christmas examination he was the first of his year.

(a) Freq. with qualifying word, as *financial, fiscal, sabbatical, school, tax year*: see under the first elements; *academic year*: in a school, college, etc., in the Northern hemisphere usu. reckoned from the beginning of the autumn term until the end of the summer term.

1932 *Handbk. Univ. Oxford* 103 An overseas application made . . . a few weeks before the beginning of the academic year has little or no prospect of success. **1957** *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 876/2 The master's degree is usually obtained for one academic year of graduate work. **1971** *Morning Star* 28 Dec. 4 Every September boys and girls . . . return to school . . . to begin a new academic year. **1983** *Oxf. Univ. Gaz.* 10 Nov. 218/2 The college proposes to elect a distinguished visitor to a Visiting Senior Research Fellowship during the academic year 1984-5.

(b) Used *attrib.* or *absol.* with preceding ordinal numeral to denote a student at a particular stage of education. Also *collect.*

1851 B. H. HALL *Coll. College Words & Customs* 266 In the University of Cambridge, Eng., the title of *Second-Year Men*... is given to students during the second year of their residence at the University. 1894 A. MORRISON *Tales of Mean Streets* iii. 50 A fourth-year London Hospital student. 1913 J. VAIZEY *College Girl* ii. xix. 268 One word in your ear! Don't ask a third-year girl to dance with you. 1927 R. LEHMANN *Dusty Answer* iii. i. 124 I've done six hours every day this vac. ... Sibyl Jones has done ten hours every day. ... Third years ought to be more sensible. 1935 D. L. SAYERS *Gaudy Night* vii. 139 There are some oddities in the First Year. ... I expect the Third Year said the same about us. ... but. ... I should call the whole of our year pretty sound. 1966 E. H. JONES *Margery Fry* v. 44 Margery... was the obvious choice from the First Year when a committee was formed to arrange a garden-party in May 1895. 1979 D. BRIERLEY *Cold War* iii. 26 Sociology second years from Nanterre. 1982 D. CLARK *Doone Walk* viii. 179 He's a Bristol University third-year bloke.

c. Such a space of time as arranged for religious observance in the Christian Church, with special seasons and holy days, beginning with Advent (but, formerly or locally, with other periods).

a1400 Wyclif's Bible (1850) IV. 683 The lessouns, pistlis, and gospels, that ben rad in the chirche al the 3eer. 1657 SPARROW *Bk. Com. Prayer* 106 We begin... our Ecclesiastical year (as to some accounts, though not as to the order of our service) with the glorious Annunciation of his Birth by angelical message. 1827 KEBLE (title) The Christian Year; Thoughts in Verse for the Sundays and Holydays throughout the year. 1875 W. Smith's *Dict. Chr. Antiq.* I. 33/1 The first Sunday in Advent was not always the beginning of the liturgical year. ... The *Antiphonarius* of St. Gregory begins 1 Advent, and the *Liber Responsalis* with its Vigil. But the earlier practice was to begin the ecclesiastical year with the month of March, as being that in which our Lord was crucified (March 25).

d. Such a period officially designated for special celebration or to focus public attention on a particular object of concern; esp. *Holy Year*, a year so designated by the Pope, now usu. once every 25 years, during which special Indulgences are granted and ceremonies held.

1699 J. JACKSON *Let.* 25 Dec. in *Let. & Second Diary of Samuel Pepys* (1932) 291 We made our entry here on Tuesday last, about 23 a clock, and were soon after deafened with the jangling of all the bells of the town, which for several days, morning and evening, had proclaimed the approach of the Holy Year. 1776 PIUS VI (title) Instructions & Directions for Gaining the Grand Jubilee of the Holy Year, celebrated at Rome anno 1775, and extended to the universal Church anno 1776, by his Holiness Pius VI. 1858 H. E. WISEMAN *Recoll. Last Four Popes* ii. iv. 270 The practice has been, that on Ascension Day of the preceding year, the Pope promulgates the Holy Year, or Jubilee. 1900 H. THURSTON *Holy Year of Jubilee* ix. 358 During the Holy Year, and also during the time of the extension of the Jubilee to the rest of Christendom, the Holy Father grants extraordinary powers to confessors. 1957 J. S. HUXLEY *Relig. without Revelation* (rev. ed.) ix. 205 Mass celebrations, like those of the Holy Year or the rallies and parades of Nazism and Communism. 1960 *Stamp Mag.* May 454/1 Commemorative. For World Refugee Year (Overprint on the rest of the 1958 World Exhibition stamps, with surcharge in aid of World Refugee Year 1960). 1965 *Ibid.* Apr. 244/1 The Australian Post Office will issue a stamp this year to commemorate International Co-operation Year. 1971 M. LEE *Dying for Fun* xlv. 212 He... decided to organize and launch Compassion Year. 1974 *Times* 7 Feb. 15/8 In the year 2073... many of the trees planted in Tree Planting Year 1973 will still be with us. 1983 *Out of Town* Dec. 52/4 Those of us who go to church already know that 1984 is Christian Heritage Year.

4. a. As the period of the seasons, and of the growth of crops and vegetation in general; *spec.* with reference to the vintage of wine. Hence *poet.* connoting the phenomena of growth and decay.

c1386 CHAUCER *Merch. T.* 222 Myn herte and alle my lymes been as grene As laurer thurgh the yeer is for to sene. c1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 20 Take Strawberys, & waysshe hem in tyme of 3ere in gode red wyne. 1573-80 TUSSEER *Husb.* (1878) 59 Make hillocks of molehills, in field thorough out, and so to remaine, till the yeere go about. 1637 MILTON *Lycidas* 5 Shatter your leaves before the mellowing year. 1728-46 THOMSON *Spring* 18 As yet the trembling year is unconfirmed, And Winter oft at eve resumes the breeze. 1781 COWPER *Heroism* 24 Vines, olives, herbage, forests disappear, And all the charms of a Sicilian year. 1842 TENNYSON *Day Dream, Sleeping Palace* i, The varying year with blade and sheaf Clothes and reclothes the happy plains. 1864 'J. WARD' *Diary* 22 May in J. Burnett *Useful Toil* (1974) 1. 85 Everything looks well in fields and gardens, with every prospect of a good fruit year. 1941 B. SCHULBERG *What makes Sammy Run?* xi. 206 Laurette... told the waiter to send it back. 'If you haven't 1927, don't bother. That's the only good year left.' 1967 'L. BLACK' *Two Ladies in Verona* x. 161 A bottle of Mumm Cordon Rouge. I leave the year to you, but it'd better be good. 1984 *Sunday Tel.* 20 May 12/8, I bought the wine. 1964 was quite a good year.

b. *transf.* A year's produce. (A literalism.) 1382 WYCLIF *Joel* ii. 25, Y shal 3eelede to you the 3eris whom the locust eete.

c. Each of the annual rings in the wood of a tree. *rare.*

1708 *Phil. Trans.* XXVI. 163 The Circles, or (as they are commonly call'd) Years, are closer.

5. a. *pl.* Age (of a person).

years of discretion: see DISCRETION 6b.

a1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 2381 ðearum frod. c1200 ORMIN 10885 Himm birrþ beann fullwaxenn mann, & shadd fra childless 3æress. a1225 *Juliana* 5 3unge mon of 3eres. c1400

Destr. Troy 12759 He was yong & yepe, of yeris but iyte. c1500 *Lancelot* 1431 Euery gilt... Done frome he passith the 3eris of Innocens. a1529 SKELTON *Death K. Edw.* IV 37, I se wyll, they leve that doble my 3eris. 1577 HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* (1619) 231, I myself learned it of one of no small credite, of great years. 1598 R. BERNARD tr. *Terence, Hecyra* v. i, I am of that yeares now that it were no reason to remit mine offence. c1610 *Women Saints* (1886) 39 When she was of yeares fitt for marriage. 16.. MIDDLETON, etc. *Old Law* ii. ii, Ere they be thought at years to welcome misery! 1624 QUARLES *Job Militant* Medit. xvi, Dayes, produced to decrepit yeeres, Fild with experience, and grizly haire. c1652 MILTON *Sonn. to Sir H. Vane* 1 Vane, young in yeares, but in sage counsell old. 1700 S. L. tr. *Fryke's Voy.* E. Ind. 1 Ever since I came to years, that I could tell my own inclinations. 1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* XII. xiii, You may change your Opinion, if you live to my Years. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* xiii, That Madame Cheron, at her years, should elect a second husband, was ridiculous. 1867 FREEMAN *Norm. Conq.* I. vi. 594 William, still a boy in years but a man in conduct and counsel.

b. Full or mature age (esp. in phr. *into* or *to years, of years*); old age (esp. in phr. *in years* = old, aged). Now *arch.* or *poet.*

stricken, struck, stricken in years: see the pa. pples. 1579 E. K. in *Spenser's Sheph. Cal. Feb.*, Emblem, Men of yeares haue no feare of god at al. 1581 PETTIE tr. *Guazzo's Civ. Conv.* iii. (1586) 130 It is better for a man to chuse a young wife, then one in yeares. 1593 SHAKS. *Rich. II.* ii. iii. 66 Till my infant-fortune comes to yeeres. 1605 *First Pt. Jeronimo* i. iii, Had not your reuerend yeares beene present here, I should haue ponyarded the Villaynes bowels. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 392 If the horse be of yeeres. 1623 COCKERAM ii, *Vnder Yeeres*, Minoritie, Nonage. 1633 LAUD in *Strafford's Lett.* (1739) I. 111, I am in Years, and have had a troublesome Life. 1724 A. COLLINS *Gr. Chr. Relig.* 85 As they grew into Years. 1773 BURNAY *Pres. St. Mus. Germany* (1775) I. 329 Wagenseil is rather in years. 1813 SCOTT *Trierm.* i. viii, The Man of Years mused long and deep. 1868 BROWNING *Ring & Bk.* iii. 284 He was slipping into years apace, And years make men restless.

6. a. *pl.* (more or less vaguely): Age, period, times; with *poss. pron.* time or period of life.

a1225 *Ancr. R.* 218 lbe uorne 3eres [of monastic life] nis hit bute bal-pleuene. 1340-70 *Alex. & Dind.* 215 Fram pe poupe of my 3er 3erued ich haue Of wide werkus to wite. 1382 WYCLIF *Isa.* xxxviii. 15, I shal eft thenke to thee alle my 3eres, in the bitternesse of my soule. 1430-40 LYDG. *Bochas* viii. xii. (MS. Bodl. 263) 379/1 The lord of lordis, lord of longest yeeris. a1542 WYATT *Penit. Ps.* cii. xxiii, Take me not Lord away In myddes off my yeris. 1659 H. PLUMPTRE in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 6 Wishing that all your yeares yet to come may passe over with mirth and jollities. 1719 WATTS *Ps.* xc, Our God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come. 1762-71 H. WALPOLE *Vertue's Anecd. Paint.* (1786) IV. 28 Those who know any thing of the state of painting in this country of late years. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* vii. §8. 430 The last years of Elizabeth's reign were years of splendour and triumph abroad.

b. In emphatic or hyperbolic use, chiefly in *pl.*: A very long time. (Cf. AGE *sb.* 10b.)

1692 DRYDEN *Cleomenes* i. i, Where hast thou been this long long year of hours? c1750 J. GOFF in *Jrnl. Friends Hist. Soc.* (1918) 69 Dr Betty, I think every Day Absent from thee, Years. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* ii. i, At certain periods of life we live years of emotion in a few weeks. 1853 M. ARNOLD *Scholar Gipsy* v, Once, years after, in the country lanes, Two scholars whom at college erst he knew Met him.

7. a. Phrases. (See also senses 2, 3, 5.) a year, formerly also *azere, ayeer, a-year* [A *adj.* 2 4, *prep.* 1 8b]: every year, yearly, *per annum*. † *by (the) year* [BY *prep.* 24 c]: in the same sense; rarely † *by years*; also *by the year*, from year to year (as a tenancy, etc.). of the year: denoting things or persons considered to be outstanding examples of their kind in a particular year. the year dot: see DOT *sb.* 1 4 c. the year one: see ONE *numeral* 4. year after year [AFTER *prep.* 6], year by year [BY *prep.* 25 c], from year to year [FROM *prep.* 3 b]: through a succession of years, either continuously or at some particular time in each year; every year successively; (hence *year-to-year adj. phr.*, occurring or done from year to year); also † *for year and year*, † *from x year to x year*, x year and x year: every x years; † *year, year, and year*: on a stated occasion every year in succession. year in (and) year out [IN *adv.* 2]: as each year begins and until it ends; continually throughout the year (and through successive years). year-on-year *adj. phr.*: in *Economics*, used with reference to a comparison of figures with corresponding ones for a date twelve months earlier.

a1250 *Owl & Night.* 1133 þar treon schulleþ a yer blowe. 1398 TREVISIA *Barth. De P.R.* xvii. lxi. (Tollem. MS.), The fige tre... bereþ frute prires or fowre sipes azere. 1435 in *Heath Grocers' Comp.* (1869) 417 Paid... the mairalte dew for the ground in the Groceres' Hall... ipurchased ayeer... xlb. 1573-80 TUSSEER *Husb.* (1878) 28 Christmas comes but once a yeere. a1791 WESLEY *Wks.* (1872) VIII. 327 Every worn-out Preacher shall receive... at least ten pounds a-year. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 291 Every man who had fifty pounds a year derived from land. 1861 BROUGHAM *Brit. Const.* vi. (1862) 84 He pays £10 a-year to the owner.

a1300 *Cursor M.* 10212 þai halud alle þe festes dere þe lues war wonto halu bi yere. 14.. *Customs of Malton in Surtees Misc.* (1890) 59, ij suttres by þe 3er' to þe sayd cownt. 1430-40 LYDG. *Bochas* i. v. (MS. Bodl. 263) 22/2 She... tauhte ther laboreris To sowe ther greyn & multieple bi yeris. a1450 *Knt. de la Tour* xvii. 23 A ladi... that might spende more thanne fyue hundred pounde bi yeere. 1544 tr.

Littleton's Tenures iii. viii. 108 b, If such lande be worth xl. s. by yere. 1640 HABBINGTON *Edw. IV* 95 'The reward of a hundred pound by the yeare during life. 1797 [see BY *prep.* 24 c].

1883 H. JAMES in *Atlantic Monthly* Sept. 316/1 Wherever the traveler goes, in France, he is reminded of this very honorable practice—the purchase by the government of a certain number of 'pictures of the year'. 1936 L. P. SMITH *S.P.E. Tract* XLVI. 220 The market-place where the books of the year are sold in large editions. 1968 'E. LATHEN' *Stitch in Time* vi. 46, I hope they haven't confused Wendell Martin with the GP of the year. 1983 *Daily Tel.* 18 Aug. 8/4 A 35-year-old mother... beat 523 competitors to win the London Chamber of Commerce and Industry's award as top secretary of the year.

1611 Bible 2 Sam. xxi. 1 There was a famine... three yeeres, yeere after yeere. 1830 TENNYSON *Day Dream, Sleeping Beauty* i, Year after year unto her feet... The maiden's jet-black hair has grown.

c1380 *Antecrist* in Todd *Three Treat. Wyclif* (1851) 131 þe almes of pise bischoppes of so old synne is gedren for a certeyn rente 3er bi 3er in lecherie to lige. c1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) iv. xxxiv. 82 In euery coudre ben certeyne officers yere by yere chaunged for the more sykernes. 1539 Bible (Great) 1 Kings x. 25 [They] brought him euery man his present, vessels of syluer [etc.] yere by yere. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 5/2 *Annales*,... Chronicles: records of matters done yeare by yeare. 1793 COWPER *A Tale* 77 Be it your fortune, year by year, The same resource to prove. 1885 SIR H. COTTON in *Law Rep.* 30 *Chanc. Div.* 12 The accounts were delivered year by year to Mr. Norton.

c1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 62 Fro 3er to 3er, fro seuen 3er to seuen 3er. 1436 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 175 Now wolte ye here how they in Cotteswolde Were wonte to borowe, or they schulde be solde, Here wolte gode, as for yere and yere [v.r. fro yere to yere]. 176 Ffor yere and yere they schulde make paymente, And some tyme als too yere and too yere. c1485 *E.E. Misc.* (Warton Club) 20 There as thou hast deyllid from heyre to 3ere. 1539 Bible (Great) 1 Sam. ii. 19 Hys mother made hym a lytle coate, and brought it to him from yere to yere. 1594 R. ASHLEY tr. *Loys le Roy* 68 From three yeares to three. c1630 MILTON *Sonn.* i. 11 As thou from yeer to yeer hast sung too late For my relief. 1635 in *Foster Crt. Min. E. India Comp.* (1907) 29 At yeare, yeare, and yeare from the first of March next. *Ibid.* 93 Yeare, yeare and yeare, upon rebate. 1838 H. H. WHITE *Watkins' Princ. Conveyancing* ii. (ed. 8) 28 note, A tenancy from year to year. 1845 A. POLSON in *Encycl. Metrop.* II. 829/1 An estate from year to year may arise not only from express stipulation, but even from that general letting heretofore held to constitute an estate at will. 1855 I. TAYLOR *Restor. Belief* (1856) 218 A year-to-year reading of the Gospels. 1870 HUXLEY *Lay Serm.* etc. (1877) 251 That the energy radiated from year to year was supplied from year to year. 1962 *Lebende Sprachen* VII. 113/3 Year-to-year growth ratio. 1977 J. L. HARPER *Population Biol. Plants* 203 The relative constancy of mean seed weight over a density range in this experiment is particularly interesting because the year to year variation in seed weight is quite large.

1830 *Massachusetts Spy* 28 July 4/1 I've been to... school year in and year out. 1868 LOUISA M. ALCOTT *Little Women* xv, You see other girls having splendid times, while you grind, grind, year in and year out. 1881 MRS. RIDDELL *Senior Partner* III. 135 At Mr. McCullagh's the same faces greeted customers year in year out.

1976 *Daily Tel.* 20 July 1/5 It is hoped this will show a year on year rise in average earnings of between 14 and 15 per cent. 1982 *Listener* 16 Dec. 27/3 Over a ten-week period from September to November, the year-on-year decline recorded is equivalent to 12 per cent of individuals, or 7 per cent of households.

b. *Law.* (a) *year and day*, a period constituting a term for certain purposes, in order to ensure the completion of a full year. *year, day, and waste*, a prerogative whereby the sovereign was entitled to the profits for a year and a day of a tenement held by a person attainted of petty treason or felony, with the right of wasting the tenement: finally abolished in 1870.

Cf. MDu. *jaer en dagh*, a year and six months (and, locally, three days).

c1450 *Merlin* xxxiii. 682, I shall seche hym a yere and a day, but with-ynne that space I may knowe trewe tidings. 1454 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 274/2 In case the Maire, Constables, and Fellowship aforesaid, commence not their accion... within the yer and day next after thoffence. 1514 *Extr. Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 90 Under the pane of banyssing of the toun for 3er and day. 1548 STAUNFORD *Kinges Prerog.* xvi. (1567) 49 b, If the husband be atteinted of felonie the kinge shall haue the yeare, daye and wast of the lands of the wife. 1659 HICKS tr. *Plowden's Abridgm. Comm.* 212 So by the custom of many Mannors, one shall lose Copyhold if he claims it not within a year and a day after the death of his ancestor. a1768 ERSKINE *Inst. Law Scot.* i. vi. §42. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* xxv, When we are handfasted, ... we are man and wife for a year and day; that space gone by, each may choose another mate. 1913 *Act 3 & 4 Geo. V.* c. 20 §103 When the sequestration is dated within year and day of any effectual adjudication.

(b) *years and terms*, in full books of years and terms, the year-books.

1528 MORE *Dyaloge* iii. Wks. 239/1 In the yeris and termes called Hunnes case. 1883 Wharton's *Law Lex.*, Year-books, or Books of years and terms.

c. to see the New (Old) Year in (out) and varr.: to stay up until after midnight on 31 December, to celebrate the start of a new year.

1840 DICKENS *Let.* ? 18 Dec. (1969) II. 169 Will you dine with us on the last day of the old year—just to see it jollily out. 1875 L. TROUBRIDGE *Life Amongst Troubridges* (1966) 134 It's eleven o'clock now, and shall I tell you what we three are doing? Watching the Old Year out and the New Year in. 1916 M. DIVER *Desmond's Daughter* iii. x. 227 Accepting an invitation to... 'see the New Year in' with Thea. 1921 W. DE LA MARE *Mem. of Midget* xv. 99, I had written... an invitation to herself and Fanny to sit with me and 'see in' the New Year. 1939 H. NICOLSON *Diary* 31 Dec.

(1967) II. 52, I do not stay to watch the New Year in or the Old Year out. I write this diary at 11.45 and shall not wait. See also GOODYEAR, NEW-YEAR, TO-YEAR.

8. *Comb.*, as *year-end*, *-spinner*; *year-born*, *-counted*, *-hedged*, *-marked* adjs.; *year-bird*, a name for *Rhyticeros plicatus*, a bird of the Malay archipelago, having a very large beak with a wrinkled growth on the top, which was believed to develop a fresh wrinkle every year; *year class*, the individuals of a particular kind of animal (usu. a fish) that were born in any one year; *year-count*, among the N. American Indians, a series of figures each symbolizing the chief event of a year, usually painted on hide, and forming a record or chronicle (also called *winter-count*); *year-ring*, each of the rings formed by successive years' growth in the wood of a tree; † *year-tack*, a lease for a year. See also YEAR-BOOK, etc.

1873 *Cassell's Bk. Birds* III. 137 The plumage of the *Year Bird is principally black. a 1882 ROSSETTI *Soothsayer* i, Let no man ask thee of anything Not *yearborn between Spring and Spring. 1910 J. HJORT in *Publications de Circumstance* No. 53. 18 Very characteristic in this respect are the analyses of samples of the typical Norse spring-herring, where the *year-class which formed its first wintering in 1904 preponderates largely over all the other year-classes. 1958 *Jrnl. Marine Res.* XVII. 505 The population [of sea-urchins] probably consists of four year-classes. 1967 [see RECRUIT v. 3e]. 1981 *Trans. Amer. Fisheries Soc.* CX. 185/1 By optimizing the yield from dominant year classes, greater yields from the fishery can be realized for all groups involved. a 1896 D. G. BRINTON in Keane *Ethnol.* (1896) 218 There is absolutely no similarity between the Tibetan calendar and the primitive form of the American, which was not intended as a *year-count, but as a ritual and formula. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* xliii, My own small *year-counted existence. 1872 HARTLEY *Yorksh. Ditties* Ser. II. 106 A nice little bit to fall back on i' th' Savings bank at th' *year end. 1899 *Westm. Gaz.* 4 Jan. 6/3 The year-end stocktaking results. 1936 DYLAN THOMAS 25 *Poems* 41 The *year-hedged row is lame with flint, Blunt scythe and water blade. 1873 MRS. WHITNEY *Other Girls* xxiii, Old and *year-marked faces. 1854 RONALDS & RICHARDSON *Chem. Technol.* (ed. 2) I. 58 The original form and structure of wood... are retained by the charcoal left by each, so that *year-rings and cells may be distinguished in wood-charcoal. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. ii. 11. *Babylon* 512 One [language], .. becoming old, Is cradle-toomb'd: another warreth bold With the *yeer-spinners. 1532 *Abst. Protocols Town Clerks Glasgow* (1879) IV. 57 James Grahame sall haef ane *yeyrtak for the yeir that he has gewin our to hymne.

year² (jɪə(r), jɜː(r)). Repr. dial. (chiefly U.S.) pronunc. of EAR sb.¹

1863 *Southern Confederacy* (Atlanta, Georgia) 9 May 1/2 You should git the strait of it from one who seed it with his eyes, and hear it with his years. 1886 *West Somerset Word-Bk.* 845 Year... the ear. 1891 *Dial. Hartland, Devonshire* 122 Year (yur), the ear. 1929 W. FAULKNER *Sound & Fury* 72, I wish I was young like I use to be, I'd tear them years right off your head. 1935 Z. N. HURSTON *Mules & Men* (1970) I. viii. 173 He took and galloped out in de middle of de road right in front of John's horse and laid his years back.

year, obs. f. ERE; **year whayle** = EREWHILE.

a 1592 GREENE *Jas. IV.* 1. Induct., What were those Puppits that hopt and skipt about me year whayle?

year-book ('jɪəbʊk). [Cf. MLG. *jārbōk*, MDu. *jaerboeck* (Du. *jaarboek*), OHG. *jārpuoh* (G. *jahrbuch*), etc.]

1. *pl.* The books of reports of cases in the English law-courts published annually during several periods from the reign of Edward II to that of Henry VIII.

1588 FRAUNCE *Lawiers Logike* I. xvii. 61 b, Uncoherent cases in yeare-bookes. 1639 SANDERSON *Serm.* (1657) II. ix. 189 The Reports and year-books of our Common Law. 1688 SIR E. HERBERT *Acc. Auth. Hales's Case* 12 Plowden, who... is as little like to be mistaken in the sense of the Year-books as any Reporter we have. 1796 SEWARD *Anecd.* IV. 501 [Ld. Mansfield] said, that, when he was young, few persons would confess they had not read a considerable part, at least, of the Year Books. 1824 J. JOHNSON *Typographia* I. 431 It has been supposed that Pynson printed above forty year-books.

2. *a.* A book published annually and containing information for the year, e.g. in connexion with a society or religious denomination; an annual.

1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 261 ¶4 The following Fragment out of much more which is written in my Year-Book. 1839 TIMBS (title) The Year-book of Facts in Science and Art: exhibiting the most important discoveries and improvements of the past year. 1847 (title) The Congregational Year Book, for 1846. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Year-book*, an annual; a book of law cases; a turf register. 1883 (title) The official Year-book of the Church of England.

b. U.S. An album published annually by the graduating class of a high school or college.

1926 B. MANBERT (title) Inter-Scholastic Year Book Manual. 1928 A. H. ANDERSON *School-Built Annual* 21 Don't think you can get out an annual in a week. A yearbook is a year's job. 1939 D. E. MITCHELL *Journalism & Life* xxx. 413 The yearbook is a more formal and permanent production than a newspaper. 1972 M. MEAD *Blackberry Winter* vii. 83, I did not see Luther again, but he sent me his yearbook... Luther was four years older than I and a senior in college. 1978 S. BRILL *Teamsters* vi. 233 The mob looks at high-school yearbooks and picks a hundred guys who look smart and clean.

3. A book of information about the various days and seasons of the year, as Hone's Year-Book (1829). Now freq. as one word.

yeard, **3eard**, Sc. forms of EARTH.

1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 35 Out of the 3eard we cutt peates and turfes. a 1783 *Burd Ellen* xi. in *Child Ballads* III. 88/1 A yeard-fast stane.

yeard, obs. form of YARD.

'year-day. Forms: see YEAR¹ and DAY; also **year's day** (*yeeres dai*, etc.). [In OE. *gēares dæg* = OFris. *ierisdei*, MDu. *jaersdagh*, OHG. *jār(s)tac* (MHG. *jarstag*, G. *jahrstag*).]

† 1. (**year's day**.) The first day of the year, New Year's Day. Obs. (Cf. F. *jour de l'an*.)

a 1122 O.E. *Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1096 To gēares dæge. 1387 TREVISIA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 275 [Christ] hadde of þe firste 3ere of his burpe but sevene dayes from þe nativite to 3eresday.

2. A day observed every year in commemoration of a person or event, an anniversary; *esp.* a day on which requiem services were held every year in commemoration of a deceased person: cf. OBIT 2 b and YEAR'S MIND. Obs. exc. Hist.

1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 171 To every godd... Thei made a temple forth withal, And ech of hem his yeeres dai Attitled hadde. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 537/2 3erday, *anniversarius*. 1448 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 281 We haue ordeyned... for to kepe the 3erday of Jon lyster of Cambruge 3erely. c 1450 in Aungier *Syon* (1840) 275 How be it the fyrst dirige may be differred... yet the xxxii day and 3eres day schal neuer be differred. 1526 *Lincoln Wills* (1914) I. 179 That the sayd feoffers... yerely kepe up the aforsayd tyme my yereday for my soule. 1579-80 NORTH *Plutarch* (1595) 584 The very daies on the which the women celebrated the feast and yeareday of Adonis death.

3. *pl.* Days of the year.

1897-8 *Ann. Rep. Bur. Amer. Ethnol.* p. xliii. (Cent. Dict. Suppl.) A simple observation on the setting sun behind a distant sierra, which would in itself permit a count of year-days, if not the recognition of the bissextile.

yeard-hunger: see YERD-HUNGER.

yeare, obs. form of EAR, YEAR¹.

yeared (jɪəd, poet. 'jɪəɪd), *a.* or *pa. pple.* Also 5 *i-yeerid*. [f. YEAR¹ + -ED.]

1. † That has lived or lasted a given number of years; so many years of age, or of so many years' standing: as *old i-yeerid* = of old standing; *twice yeared* = that has lasted two years; *yeared to thirty* = thirty years of age (*obs.*). Also without qualification, That has lasted many years (*poet.*).

c 1412 HOCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 1858 þou of þe pryue seal art old I-yeerid. 1583 BURGHEY in *Nicolas Mem. Sir C. Hatton* (1847) 323 His [sc. Oxford's] fall in her Court, which is now twice yeared. 1603 B. JONSON *Sejanus* I. i, Year'd but to thirty. 1848 BAILEY *Festus* (1852) 282 White with all yeared snows and radiant time.

2. *Phr. yeared and dayed*, said of property left unclaimed for a year and a day, after which time the original owner's claim lapsed: see YEAR¹ 7 b (a).

1523 FITZHERB. *Surv.* xv. 28 b, They maye... cease theym as streyes and put them in sauegarde to the lordes vse tyll they be yered and deyed. 1579 *Admiralty Crt. Exemplifications* 19 Nov. 105 There was driven... upon my liberte of Alverstoke... a certayne shipp... wheare she being yeered and daied according to the law of Oleron hath ever since remayned.

yearethlye, obs. form of EARTHLY.

1553 *Respublica* II. i. 1 What yearethlye thinge is permanent or stable?

yearful ('jɪəfʊl), *sb. nonce-wd.* [f. YEAR¹ + -FUL 2.] As much as fills a year.

1889 H. M. STANLEY in *Daily News* 25 Nov. 5/4 Over a yearful of stirring events.

† **yearing**, *sb.* and *a.* Obs. Forms: see YEAR¹; also 6 *yeoryng*. [f. YEAR¹ + -ING³.]

A. sb. = YEARLING A. 1; also with numeral, as *three yearing*, an animal three years old.

1460 CAPRAVE *Chron.* (Rolls) 8 Jabel departed the flokkis of sheep fro the flokkis of goot... aftir here age 3eringis be hem selve, and elder be hem selve. 1586 *Wills & Inv. N.C.* (Surtees) II. 131, ij coulte foles, not yearingers [sic]. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 122 The french haue no proper name for this beast that I can learn vntil he be a three yearing, and then they call him (*ein Gabler*). 1611 COTGR., *Borret*, a yearing. 1641 BEST *Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 120 The yearinges weare large, and the two yeares little.

B. adj. = YEARLING B. 1.

1451 *Lincoln Dioc. Doc.* (1914) 51 A 3eryng calf. 1516 in 5th *Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* (1876) App. 596/2 A yeoryng boloke. 1558 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 81, ij yeringe foolles.

yeark, obs. form of YERK.

yearlily, error in mod. Dicts. for *yearely*, YEARLY *adv.*

yearling ('jɪəlɪŋ), *sb.* and *a.* Forms: see YEAR¹; also 6 *erlyng*. [f. YEAR¹ + -LING¹. Cf. early mod.Du. *jaerlingh*, G. *jährling*.]

A. sb. 1. *a.* An animal a year old, or in its second year (*esp.* a sheep, calf, or foal; also

applied to certain birds and fishes; rarely to a child).

1465 *Mann. & Househ. Exp.* (Roxb.) 554, .x. yerlynges. 1531 *Lincoln Dioc. Doc.* (1914) 247, I bequeth to Jane Hay a yereling, that is to say, a cowe heifer. 1541 in *Leadam Sel. Cases Crt. Requests* (Selden Soc.) 53 One heyffer oone Erlyng & xj Shepe. 1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* I. (1586) 43 b, In the next [pasture] are my young breede, Yeerelings, and Twoyeerelings. 1607 MARKHAM *Cavel.* I. (1617) 66 To separete your horse-colts from your Mare Colts... and your yearlings from your two yeares olde. 1847 STODDART *Angler's Comp.* 208 The parr of Tweed... descend to the sea in the shape of smolts, as yearlings. 1847 *Bewick's Brit. Birds* I. 11 note, The female yearling is termed a red Falcon, the male a red Tiercel. 1877 J. A. ALLEN *Amer. Bison* 463 The cows, on the other hand, as well as the yearlings and two-year-olds, are generally fattest in June. 1902 WISTER *Virginian* xi, Alfred... is a little more than a yearlin', and of course he'll snuffle.

b. transf. The fleec of a yearling sheep.

1888 R. BEAUMONT *Woollen Manuf.* i. 7 The second clip, which is somewhat thicker in fibre [than 'lambs'], and both longer and stronger in staple, is styled 'yearlings'.

2. A plant a year old; *spec.* applied to hops of the previous year's growth.

1849 *Florist* 247 Matthew's Juno, large and full, lavender, purple-edge, noticed by us as a yearling last season. 1887 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 6 Oct. 12/1 Messrs. Woolton and Son state that 'brewers hold exceptionally large stocks of yearlings'. 1902 *Times* 19 Sept. 2/5 Yearlings are in good request at 70s. to 100s.

3. U.S. *colloq.* A student in his first year or beginning his second year at college.

1900 *Dialect Notes* II. 70 Yearling, a second year man. 1940 BERRY & VAN DEN BARK *Amer. Thes. Slang* §825/6 Freshman... yearling. 1944 *Collier's* 23 Sept. 69/1 His femme fell for a [West Point] yearling.

4. *Econ.* A yearling bond (see sense 3 of the *adj.* below).

1966 *This is Bill-Broking* (Allen, Harvey & Ross Ltd.) 38/1 Yearlings, stocks issued by local authorities for a period of a year and quoted either on the stock exchange or in the discount market. 1970 *Daily Tel.* 29 Sept. 17/5 (heading) Local authority yearlings at 8p.c. 1977 *Guardian* 19 Apr. 17/2 At the moment the yearlings give a return of 10 per cent which may be lower than what is available on the ordinary bonds, but are flexible. 1981 *Observer* 18 Oct. 20/1 An interesting alternative [to Government stocks] is the local authority negotiable bond—or the 'yearling', so-called because of its one-year term.

B. adj. 1. *a.* Of an animal (rarely of a child): A year old; in its second year.

1528 PAYNELL *Salerno's Regim.* Fj, The fleshe of... yerelynge wethers... is conuenient inoughe to eate. 1605 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iii. 111. *Law* 585 Yearly, the Jews a Yearling Lamb must slay. a 1682 SIR T. BROWNE *Tracts* i. (1683) 80 So many thousand male unblemished yearling lambs. 1719 DE FOE *Crusoe* I. (Globe) 246, I order'd Friday to take a yearling Goat. 1729 SWIFT *Modest Proposal* 13 A well grown, fat Yearling Child. 1814 SOUTHEY *Roderick* I. 244 Even like a yearling child, a fosterer's care. 1859 *Sporting Mag.* Oct. 240 The yearling filly by him [sc. Rataplan], out of Musjid's dam. 1900 *Jrnl. Sch. Geog.* (U.S.) Apr. 148 Kips—the skins of small or yearling cattle, exceeding the size of the calf skins.

b. Of plants or seeds, *esp.* of hops: Of the previous year's growth.

1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) I. 246 Cuttings, or yearling plants, for hedge-planting. 1888 *Daily News* 13 Oct. 2/6 Yearling and old hops are at present quite neglected. 1892 *Ibid.* 11 Oct. 6/4 Yearling red cloverseed.

2. Of a year's standing; that has been such for a year.

1854 THACKERAY *Newcomes* i, As yearling brides provide lace caps, and work rich clothes, for the expected darling.

3. *Econ.* Applied to bonds issued by a local authority usu. for one year.

1964 *Times* 2 Apr. 18/1 Under present conditions a quotation for a yearling bond would mean additional expense. 1969 *Daily Tel.* 12 Apr. 5/7 Most yearling bonds mature in... a year, sometimes two to five years. 1975 *Economist* 19 July 95 The explosion in the yearling bond market. 1977 *Guardian* 19 Apr. 17/2 Yearling bonds... which come in units of £1,000, are much more flexible—and like the local authority bonds disgorge interest twice a year. They last for 12 months only and then investors have to start again.

'year-long, *a.* [f. YEAR¹ + LONG *a.* Cf. OE. *gēarlanges* *adv.* for a year, MHG. *jārlanc*, (G. *jahrelang*), ON. *árlangt* (as *adv.*)] Of the length of a year; lasting for a year, or throughout the year; often, lasting for years in succession, (sometimes) age-long.

1813 COLERIDGE *Lett.*, to T. Poole (1895) 612 The year-long difference [viz. Feb. 1812-13] between me and Wordsworth. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* vii. 319 Thee... From year-long poring on thy pictured eyes, ere I seen I loved. 1868 MORRIS *Earthly Par.* (1870) I. 1. 16 No Greenland winter waits us there, No year-long night. 1886 A. WEIR *Hist. Basis Mod. Europe* (1889) 44 Her legislative assembly... did good service to her fame at the time, but the year-long farce soon lost its plausibility. 1886 W. WALLACE in *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 453/1 The yearlong alliance between philosophy and theology.

b. hyperbolically. Seeming as long as a year.

1871 PALGRAVE *Lyr. Poems* 92 Through year-long hours of hope and woe She sits and waits.

So 'years-long *a.* (rare⁻¹), lasting for several or many years.

1887 HARDY *Woodlanders* I. xiii. 235 The years-long regard that she had had for him.

yearly ('jɪəli), *a.* (*sb.*) [OE. *gēarlic* = OFris. *ier(a)lik*, MLG. *jārlik*, *jaerlije*, OHG. *jārlich*

(MHG. *jaerlich*, G. *jährlich*), ON. *árliǵr*: see YEAR¹ and -LY¹.]

† 1. Of the year; belonging or relating to a year. *Obs. rare.*

c1000 *Hexameron of St. Basil* (1849) 12 Næron nane tida on ðam gearlican getæle ær ðam ðe se ælmihtiga scyppend gesceop ða tunglan to gearlicum tidum. 1557 *Order of Hospitals* Fvb, Yow shall kepe an Yerely-Booke for Collections, Legacies and Benevolences. 1613 *PURCHAS Pilgrimage* To Rdr., The naturall Philosophers may obserue .. the varietie of heavenly influence, of the yearly seasons. c1811 in *Rep. Comm. Publ. Rec. Irel.* (1815) 104 The Recognizances .. are regularly arranged in yearly bundles according to their Receipts.

2. Done, made, observed, happening, coming, produced, etc. every year or once a year; annual.

c725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) A 618 *Annua*, gerlice. 925-36 *Laws of Æthelstan* Prol., ðe ðæs libbendes yrfe, ge ðæs gearlices westmes. c1449 *PECOCK Repr.* II. xi. 216 The seid solempne 3eerli goyng bi ij. tymes in ech 3eer. 1531 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 24, I will that ther be a yerlie obit done. 1561 *WINSET Bk. Questions* §63 Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 115 The 3ierly celebration of the Pasche day. 1595 *SHAKS. John* III. i. 81 The yearly course that brings this day about. 1607 *DRYDEN Æneis* v. 77 And yearly Games may spread the Gods renew. a1721 *PRIOR New-Year's Gift to Phyllis* i, The circling months begin this day. To run their yearly ring. 1857 *H. MILLER Test. Rocks* xii. 470 In some of the fossil-trees these yearly rings are of great breadth. 1868 *FREEMAN Norm. Cong.* II. vii. 85 An officer, who provided them with daily food and with a yearly change of raiment.

b. esp. of payments, charges, revenue.

a1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 2406 þai .. 3erely tribute him to geue 3apely him hetis. 1452 *Lincoln Dioc. Doc.* (1914) 61 To whome I haue granted any fees, annuities, yerely rentis, or fermes. 1524 *Act 14 & 15 Hen. VIII.* c. 3 §8 Landes and tenementes to the yerely value of xx. s. 1599 *SHAKS. Hen. V.* IV. i. 315 Fiue hundred poore I haue in yeerely pay. 1610 *HOLLAND Camden's Brit.* (1637) 318 Having received an yearly pension of Lewis the eleaventh. 1712 *HUGHES Spect.* No. 316 ¶6 The yearly Rent which gives the Value to the Estate. 1855 *KINGSLEY Heroes, Theseus* II. 237 O people and King of Athens, where is your yearly tribute?

c. Engaged or hired by the year.

[1611 *Bible* Lev. xxv. 53 As a yeerely hired seruunt shall he be with him.] 1891 *Daily News* 28 Mar. 2/6 Wages had gone up 5l. a year for yearly men.

d. *Yearly Meeting*, in the Society of Friends (Quakers), a national assembly held annually to deal with legislation and questions of policy (see *esp.* quot. 1869). Cf. *quarterly-meeting* (a) s.v. QUARTERLY a. 3.

1688 *Testimony for the Lord, & His Truth* (Women Friends, York) 1 Given forth by the Women Friends at their Yearly Meeting at York, being a Tender Salutation of Love to their Friends and Sisters in their several Monthly Meetings. 1714 in *Jrnl. Friends Hist. Soc.* (1918) 28 Thence into Maryland to friends yearly-meeting at Tradaven-Creek .. wherein Truth was plentifully afforded to ye bowing of many souls here. 1831 in S. B. Weeks *Southern Quakers & Slavery* (1896) xi. 300 There is not a school in the limits of the [North Carolina] Yearly Meeting that is under the care of a committee of either monthly or preparative meeting. 1869 *BECK & BALL London Friends' Meetings* v. 53 The Yearly Meeting was from its commencement .. first and chiefly, a gathering of public Friends (i.e. ministers), to confer together on matters of faith and doctrine. .. The ministers alone formed the Annual Assembly in London; but in 1677 the invitation for deputies from the Quarterly Meetings was renewed. .. The representative element has been formally recognised, and thereby the Yearly Meeting has come to its position of legislative importance in the Church. 1923 E. B. EMMOTT *Short Hist. Quakerism* xi. 171 The proposal for a General Meeting for the whole country (which we now call the Yearly Meeting) came in the first instance from Durham Friends .. in 1659. 1949 *Friend* 17 June 497/1 When the Clerk, in Yearly Meeting, announces the Report of the Committee on Accounts, it is quite astonishing to note how many Friends .. get up and walk out. 1974 G. HUBBARD *Quaker by Convincement* I. iii. 41 Through the queries answered in writing four times a year by Monthly Meetings, the Yearly Meeting kept a watchful eye on departures from the norm.

yearly ('jɔli), *adv.* [OE. *gēarlīce* = MLG. *jārlik*, OHG. *jārlich*, ON. *árliǵa*, etc.: see YEAR¹ and -LY².] Every year, once a year, year by year, annually.

c1050 *Voc. in Wr.-Wülcker* 347/9 *Annuatim*, gearlice. c1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xl. (Ninian) 1079 þat man syne 3erly can hym seke. .. Ilke 3ere .. fra quhare he duelt in Inghland. a1400 *Relig. Pieces* fr. *Thornton MS.* (1914) 58 þe gearnare þat kepis 3erely þe whete þat es rede with-owte and ellis with-in. c1450 *Godstow Reg.* 47 A feld yerly tyllid, or ellis euyry othar yere. c1460 *FORTESCUE Abs. & Lim. Mon.* v. (1885) 119 Such as wolde haue ben feyner of a c. li in hand, than of xl. li worth lande yerely. 1500 *Reg. Privy Seal Scot.* I. 68/1 To haf merkatis and fairis in the said burgh 3erle, with a merkat cors. 1583 *STUBBES Anat. Abus.* II. (1882) 31, I thought one might haue had a farme or a lease for a reasonable rent yeerely. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* I. 177 There is a Caravan that yearly in Lent goes from Caire to Jerusalem. a1715 *BURNET Own Time* (1766) I. 536 He gave yearly great sums in charity. 1830 A. CUNNINGHAM *Brit. Painters* II. 176 The demand for his works lessened yearly. 1849 *MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* vi. II. 65 It was agreed that Sunderland should receive this sum yearly.

yearly, dial. form of EARLY.

1797 *MRS. A. M. BENNETT Beggar Girl* (1813) IV. 209 A monstrous pretty garden, Miss; .. I am up yearly and late at it myself.

† **yearman**. *Obs.* In 5 *yerman*. [f. YEAR¹ + MAN sb.¹] A man hired by the year. (Cf. *YEARMAN*.)

1481-90 *Howard Househ. Bks.* (Roxb.) 210 My Lord toke the stward to pay the yermen for wages as folew.

year-mind: see YEAR'S MIND.

yearn (jɜ:n), *sb.* [f. next.] A yearning.

a1797 *MRS. M. W. GODWIN Wks.* (1798) III. xlv. 134, I feel my fate united to yours by .. the yearns of .. a true, unsophisticated heart. 1853 *KINGSLEY Misc., Shelley & Byron* (1859) I. 307 In one mighty yearn after that beauty from which he is debarred, [Keats] breaks his young heart, and dies. 1862 'ARTEMUS WARD' *His Bk.* (1865) 35 'Hast thou not yearned for me?' she yelled. .. 'Not a yearn!' I bellered. 1890 W. CLARK RUSSELL *Ocean Trag.* I. v. 106 The rounds of her canvas whitened into marble hardness with the yearn and lean of the distended cloths.

yearn (jɜ:n), *v.*¹ Forms: 1 *giorna*, *geornan*, *giernan*, *girnán*, *gyrnán*, 2-4 *3ierne*, *ierne*, 2-5 *3erne*, 3 *3irn(e)*, (*Orm.*) *3eorrnenn*, 3-4 *3orn(e)* 3-6 *3ern*, 4 *3iern*, *yhern(e)*, *3harn(e)*, *3aren*, 4-5 *3yrn(e)*, 4-6 *3arn(e)*, *yarne*, 4-7 *yerne*, 4-8 *yern*, 5 *yurn*, *herne*, 6 *yo(u)rn*, *Sc.* *3airne*, *yairne*, 6-7 *yearne*, 6- *yearn*. [OE., Northumb. *giorna*, Mercian *geornan*, WS. *giernan*, corresp. to OS. *girnean*, *gernean*, ON. *girna* (see GREEN *v.*²), Goth. *gairnjan*, related to OE. *georn*, Goth. *-gairns*: see YERN *a.* and YERE *v.*]

1. † 1. *trans.* To desire earnestly; to experience a strong desire or longing for. *a.* with simple obj.

c888 *ÆLFRED Boeth.* xv. Ne diorwyrðra hræglā hi ne giŕndan. c1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Luke xxii. 71 Hwi gyŕne we gyt gēwittnesse? c1100 *O.E. Chron.* (MS. D.) An. 1067 Ða begann se cyngc Malcholor gyŕnan his sweostor him to wife. c1200 *Vices & Virtues* 43 Ðare ðinge ðe on ðesse worlde waren he ne 3erne. c1205 *LAY.* 17795 Cnihtes feollen a-dun & giŕnden heore dæðes. a1225 *Ancr. R.* 192 Muche word is of ou hu. .. 3e beoð vor godleic & for ureoleic iŕnerd of monie. a1300 *Cursor M.* 23458 Fair Iuels .. men yerns oft. c1374 *CHAUCER Troylus* III. 152 þis man wole no þyng yerne But youre honour. c1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Verse) 485 Mor we suld 3ern hele of saule þan of bodi. c1412 *HOCLEVE De Reg. Princ.* 1407 For þat þou art brent With couetyse now, .. þou 3ernest soules cure. a1450 *Ratis Raving* 3790 At E nocht seis, hart nocht 3arnis. 1500-20 *DUNBAR Poems* lxxi. 19 We 3arne thy presens, bot oft thow hes refusit Till cum ws till. 1568 *LAUDER Godlie Tractate* 627 That death 3e 3airne, it sall fast frome 3ow fle.

† b. with obj. clause. *Obs.*

c897 *ÆLFRED Gregory's Past.* C. xlv. 331 Hwile ðe he giernð ðæt he his weolan iŕce. c1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Matt. xxiii. 8 Ne gyŕne ge þæt eow man lareowas nemne. a1310 in *Wright Lyric P.* vi. 28 Lest eny reve me my make, ychabbe y-3yrned 3ore. 13 .. *Cursor M.* 1801 (Gött.) þai 3ernid þan, þa caiftes madd, þat þai had ben wid noe stadd. c1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* iii. (Andrew) 423, I 3arne þe Of corse to here þe priwete. c1425 *WYNTOUN Cron.* v. ii. 260 Octoviane 3arnyt hym to be his ayr.

2. *intr.* To have a strong desire or longing; to long. *a.* Const. inf. with (†or without) to.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 53 þa halgan .. naht ne .. gyŕndon to hæbbenne. c1000 *Poenitential Ecgberti* I. §10 in Thorpe *Laws* II. 176 3if se man .. gyŕneð Cristes lichaman to underfonne. c1200 *ORMIN* 3578 Crist was æfre swillc to sen .. þatt gode 3eorrndenn himm to sen. a1300 *Cursor M.* I Man yhernes rimas for to here. *Ibid.* 6479 þi nebbur wiŕf 3erne nocht at haue. 1340 *HAMPOLE Pr. Consc.* 6705 For hungre þai sal yerne it etc. 1375 *BARBOUR Bruce* I. 158 The kynryk þarn I nocht to have. a1395 *HYLTON Scala Perf.* (W. de W. 1494) I. xvi, 3it shalt thou 3erne .. for to come as nere as þou mayst to þat state. a1568 *Wowing of Jok and Jynny* 9 in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 387, I yern full fane To .. sit down by yow. a1616 *BEAUM. & FL. Bonduca* II. iv, I must do that my heart-strings yern to do. 1711 *STEELE Spect.* No. 142 ¶3 My gushing Heart, that .. yearns to tell you all its Achings. 1805 *SOUTHEY Madoc* II. xiii, A female tenderness which yearn'd, As with maternal love, to cherish him. 1840 *DICKENS Old C. Shop* IV. The child yearned to be out of doors. 1879 *DIXON Windsor* II. iv. 38 He had a daughter whom he yearned to hail as queen.

b. *Const. after, for, †to, towards.* Also *absol.*

c893 *ÆLFRED Oros.* VI. xxviii, He ofslōs Proculus & Bonorum, þa giernðon eac æfter þæm onwalde. c1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 27 þe godfrihte .. ne 3ierneð to none piŕge bute after godes wille. *Ibid.* 183 Ðus warð þe sowle þe licame, for þat hit haueð þarafter ierned. a1225 *Juliana* 8 He biȝet et te keiser þat he him 3ettede reue to beonne as þat he iŕjrd hefde. 1340 *Ayenb.* 55 þe þriddle boȝ of piŕse zenne is to uerliche yerne to þe mete ase dep þe hond. 1357 *Lay Folks Catech.* (T.) 560 Tham that ledis thair lifs als thaire fleŕch yherne. c1400 *Destr. Troy* 2937 Yonge men & yuerus .. yurnes to gaumes. 1573 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xlii. 750 Thya pepill .. That .. 3arnis for fude with sa greit zeill. c1645 *HOWELL Lett.* (1688) IV. 503 His Maw began to yern again after some of the Figs. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk.* II. 367 His heart yearned after the damsel who was to inherit these domains. 1868 *TENNYSON Lucretius* 266 Yearn'd after by the wisest of the wise. 1870 *DICKENS Lett.* (1880) II. 440, I yearn for the country again.

transf. 1635 *PAGITT Christianogr.* 213 Sacrilege is one of the most detestable sinnes, after which Gods curse yearneth, til he be revenged.

† 3. *trans.* To express a wish or desire for (an object); to ask for, request. Also *absol.* or *intr.*

c950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark x. 46 *Mendicans*, giornade [Rushw. giornde]. c1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Mark xi. 24 Swa hwæt swa ge gyrnende biddað gelyfað þæt ge hit onfoð. a1122 *O.E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) An. 656 þa geornde seo abbe þet he scolde him tyþian þet he æt him geornde. *Ibid.* 777 He geornde at se kyning þet he scolde for his luuen freon his ane mynstre Wooingas het. *Ibid.* 1011 Se cyng & his witan .. georndon friðes. c1205 *LAY.* 929 3irne we to þane kinge 3euen suiðe gode. *Ibid.* 8250 King Androgeus 3eorneð pi grið. a1225 *Leg. Kath.* 2420 Lauerd, .. 3ette me þet ich 3irne. 1340 *Ayenb.* 39 þe uerpe boȝ of auarice is acsyrge, þet is, to yerne opo opre mid wrong. 1340-70 *Alex. & Dind.* 67 3ernes now of my gift þat 3ou leue were, & what it be þat 3e biðde 3our bonus i graunte.

† 4. *intr.* Of hounds: To cry out eagerly, give tongue. Also *trans.* to give tongue after. *Obs.*

1523 *SKELTON Garl. Laurel* 1409 The howndes began to yerne and to quest. a1530 *HEYWOOD Weather* (Brandl) 276 That after our houndes yournyngs so meryly, .. In herynge we may folow. 1576 *TURBERV. Venerie* lxxv. 181 You muste holde your yong Terrers euyry one of them at a sundrie hole of some angle or mouth of the earth, that they may herken and heare theyr fellows yearne. *Ibid.* lxxvi. 185 When they percieue the Terrers beginne to yearne them. 1674 N. COX *Gentl. Recr.* I. (1677) 18 When Beagles bark and cry at their Prey, we say, they Yearne.

† b. *transf. Obs.*

1582 *STANYHURST Æneis* IV. (Arb.) 100 Nymphs in mountayns high typ doe squeak, hullelo, yearning. 1639 G. DANIEL *Ecclus.* xxii. 4 He shall be soiled in the vnsavory Slime From Dunghills gather'd; all Men yerne at him. 1680 *HICKERINGILL Curse ye Meroz* 26 A Holder-forth may yawl and yerne, snivle and whine, thump and bawl.

5. a. *intr.* To give a sound suggestive of strong desire; to express yearning or strong desire; also *trans.* to utter in emotional voice.

1816 L. HUNT *Rimini* I. 40 Yearns the deep talk, the ready laugh ascends. 1820 *KEATS Eve St. Agnes* vii, The music, yearning like a God in pain. 1856 *DICKENS Househ. Words* 3 May 368/2 While the organ was yearning its last, and the great throng was pushing to the doors. 1894 *LE GALLIENNE Prose Fancies* 22 The kind of voice .. in which Socialist actresses yearn out passages from 'The Cenci'.

b. To have an appearance as of longing.

1870 *ROSSETTI Burden of Nineveh* ix, The faces of thy ministers Yearned pale with bitter ecstasy. 1871 *SWINBURNE Songs bef. Sunrise, Tenebrae* 92 The blossom of man from his tomb Yearns open. 1890 W. CLARK RUSSELL *Ocean Trag.* I. v. 95 The jibs yearning from their sheets taut as fiddle-strings.

II. 6. *intr.* To be deeply moved; to be moved with compassion; to have tender feelings; †to mourn, grieve. In first quot. app. *trans.* to have compassion upon.

1500-20 *DUNBAR Poems* lxxxv. 11 3erne ws, guberne, wirgin matern. a1533 *FRITH Another Bk. agst. Rastell* ii. Biv, The .. slender reasons that those ii. wytted men, syr Thomas More and my lorde of Rochestre had brought to confyrme purgatory made my harte to yerne. 1539 *Bible* (Great) I Kings iii. 26 Her bowelles yerned vpon her sonne. 1562 *COOPER Answ. Priv. Masse* (1850) 56 Any christian heart may rather yearn and lament to remember so ungodly profanation of the holy sacrament. 1577 *HARRISON England* II. x. (1877) I. 217 To raise pitifull and odious sores, and mooue the goers by such places where they lie, to yerne at their miserie. 1602 *DAVISON Rhapsody* (1611) 30 They in their bleating voice did seeme to yearne. 1649 G. DANIEL *Trinarch.*, *Hen. IV.* ci, The horror of Imaginary Death Strikes deep wth fleŕh; and all Mortalitie Yernes at a Change. 1665 *BRATHWAIT Comm. Two Tales* (1901) 21 It would make any ones heart yern within him, that has any man's blood in him. 1711 *ADDISON Spect.* No. 123 ¶5, I have left your Mother in the next Room. Her Heart yearns towards you. 1848 *DICKENS Dombey* xliii, With her gentle nature yearning to them both, feeling the misery of both. 1866 G. MACDONALD *Ann. Q. Neighb.* xxii. (1878) 406 My heart was yearning over her.

† b. To be reluctant to do something. *Obs. rare.* 1597 *BEARD Theatre God's Judgem.* (1612) 53 [He] committed such excesse of crueltie, that the most barbarous heathen in the world would haue yearned to doe.

† 7. *trans.* To cause to mourn; to move to compassion. *Obs.*

1593 *SHAKS. Rich. II.* v. 76 O how it yern'd my heart, when I beheld .. That horse. 1598 — *Merry W.* III. v. 45 She laments Sir for it, that it would yern your heart to see it. 1641 J. SHUTE *Sarah & Hagar* (1649) 94 Who .. torture him, in that manner, that it yerns a mans bowels to observe!

Hence yearned *ppl. a.*; also 'yearner, one who yearns.

c1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xl. (Ninian) 724 Lofare of vertu & dyspysare Of þe warld, of hewine 3 arnar. 1616 B. JONSON *Epigr.* xlii, That his long yearn'd life Were quite out-spun. 1838 S. BELLAMY *Betrayal* 82 What if that vow Thy Father's yearn'd heart, all impatiently, Hath quench'd in its embrace. 1896 *Westm. Gaz.* 30 Oct. 10/1 The yearned-for visitor. 1915 A. BENNETT *Over There* 186 The yearners after Calais did themselves no good by exterminating fine architecture and breaking up innocent homes, but they did experience the relief of smashing something.

yearn (jɜ:n), *v.*² Chiefly *north. dial.* and *Sc.* Forms: 4 yern, 6 *Sc.* *pyrne*, 8- yirn, 7- yearn. [Probably dial. variant of EARN *v.*², with initial y-glide; cf. YEARTH, etc. Continuity with OE. *geyrnan* (pa. *ppl.* *geurnen*) is improbable.]

a. *intr.* To coagulate, curdle. b. *trans.* To curdle (milk), esp. for making into cheese; to make (cheese) of curdled milk. Hence yearned *ppl. a.*

1371-3 [implied in YEARNING *vbl. sb.*]. a1568 *Wyfe of Auchttermuchty* xi. (Bann. MS.) He het the milk our hett, And sorrow spark of it wald yirne. 1635 D. DICKSON *Pract. Wks.* (1845) I. 33 The making of cheese of yearned milk. ? 17 .. *Gaberlunzie Man* vi. in *Songs of Scotl.* (1862) 177 The kirk's to kirk, and milk to yirne. 1818 *SCOTT Hrt. Midl.* xxxix, His honour the Duke will accept ane of our Dunlop cheeses, and it sall be my fault if a better was ever yearned in Lowden. 1866 'SARAH TYTLER' *Days of Yore* II. 219 Mrs. Hoy was salting Elspa's butter, and 'yearning' her cheese. 1868 R. L. STEVENSON in *Scribner's Mag.* (1899) XXV. 36/2 Curds called 'yearned milk' hereaway.

yearn, (yarn(e), yern(e), *v.*³, obs. or dial. f. EARN *v.*¹

a1175 *Cott. Hom.* 221 þat he eorðlic man sceolde 3eðeon, and 3earnian mid admodnisse þet wuniunge on hefen rice. c1530 *Crt. Love* 367 Thy-self art never like to yern .. her mercy. 1557 *TUSSER 100 Points Husb.* xxxvi, Beware they

theshe clene, though the lesser they yarne. **1596** SPENSER *F.Q.* vi. i. 40 Put away proud looke, and vsage sterne, The which shal nought to you but foule dishonor yearne. ? **c1600** *Distr. Emperor* ii. i. in Bullen *Old Pl.* (1884) 111. 189 Those worthye deeds Whereby y'ave yearn'd all wellcome. **1626** *Essex Archdeaconries, Depos.* Bk. 27 June lf. 77 (MS.) He said that he was ever yearning of money. **1851** MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* I. 359/2 She..told me, I must look out and *yearn* my own living.

yearn, obs. Sc. f. ERNE, eagle.

1790 BURNS *Elegy on Capt. M—H—* iii, Ye cliffs, the haunts of sailing yearns.

yearn(e), obs. ff. YARN.

† **yearnandlike**, *a. Obs. rare.* In quots. yorn-, yhern-. [f. YEARNING *ppl. a.* + -LIKE, rendering *L. desiderabilis.*] Desirable.

o **1300** E.E. *Polter* xviii. 11 [xix. 10] Yornand-like over þe golde. *Ibid.* cv. 23 [cvi. 24] And for noghte þai had þe land þat yhernandlike was in þar hand.

yearnful (ˈjɜːnful), *a.* [In sense 1 OE. *geornfull*, f. *georn* YERN *a.*; in senses 2 and 3 f. YEARN *v.* 1: see -FUL 1.]

† 1. Eagerly desirous, anxious, solicitous. *Obs.* **c888** ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxii. §2 Ðu ær sædest þæt þu swiðe geornfull wære hit to gehyrnanne. **c1000** *Ags. Gosp.* Luke x. 41 Martha martha geornfull þu eart & embe fela þinga gedrefed. **c1200** ORMIN 1631 Beo geornfull Crist to cwemenn. **c1275** *Duty of Christians* 100 in *O.E. Misc.* 144 We schulde abute cristes lay Beon yearnfulle & clybbe. **c1375** *Sc. Leg. Soints* xvi. (*Mogdolen*) 780, & scho sa þarnful wes þar-til, þat scho til wildirnes has socht, & fand a derne sted, was wrocht In til a crage of angil wark.

2. Mournful, sorrowful.

o **1566** R. EDWARDS *Domon & Pithios* (1571) Dj, Oh Musicke, ..lend me thy yernfull tunes, to vttter my sorow. **1583** MELBANCKE *Philotimus* Tj, So out of thy stonye hearte maye yett flowe such water, as may wash and purge my yearnfull woundes. **1591** GREENE *Moidens Dr.* Wks. (Grosart) XIV. 303 She wet his visage with a yearnfull streame. **1613** PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* vi. xi. 522 *Alo, Alo*, was their yernfull note. **1889** J. K. JEROME *Three Men in a Boot* xix, The wild yearnful melody.

† 3. Full of compassion. *Obs.*

1633 P. FLETCHER *Purple Isl.* ix. xlv, His yearnfull heart pitying that wretched sight.

Hence 'yearnfully' *adv.*; † 'yearnfulness', eagerness, diligence.

c888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxiv. §3 Sume tiliað mid micelre geornfulnessse wifa. **c960** ÆTHELWOLD *Rule St. Benet* iv. (Schröder 1885) 17 þæs ecean lifes he sceal mid ealne geornfulnessse ginnan. **c1200** ORMIN 11181 Swa þatt himm birr þra þeþennforþ Wiþ þ mikell geornfulnessse... To folhhenn Godess laþhebec. o **1884** WALT WHITMAN *After the Sea-Ship* 9 Larger and smaller waves in the spread of the ocean yearnfully flowing.

yearning (ˈjɜːniŋ), *vbl. sb.* 1 [f. YEARN *v.* 1 + -ING 1.]

1. The action of YEARN *v.* 1; intense longing or desire *after, for, †of, to*, or *to do* something; an instance of this.

c897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Post. C.* v. 45 Mid ðære gierninge [*v.r.* gierninge] ðara smeauunga Godes wisdomes anes. o **1050** *Liber Scintill.* xi. (1889) 59 Se na wiðsæcð middaneard pam eorðlice æhte gegladað gyrrninge [*L. ombitio*]. a **1225** *Ancr. R.* 114 His þurst nis nout buten giernunge of ure soule hele. *Ibid.* 130 þuruh giernunge of heorte to heouenliche þinges. **13** .. *Cursor M.* 10513 (Gött.) þi þerning gode and þi prayere, Es comyn now to goddes ere. **1340** HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 1127-8 Outher yhernyng of þe flesche of man, Or yhernyng of eghe, .. Or pride of lyfe. **1357** *Lay Folks Cotech.* (T.) 507 A urangwise wilnyng Or yernyng to hafe any kyns gode that us augh noght. **1375** BARBOUR *Bruce* iii. 742 Thai, to fullfill hys þarnyng, Become his men euirilkane. a **1395** HYLTON *Scolo Perf.* (W. de W. 1494) ii. xxi, The yernyng of thyn herte to Jhesu. **c1440** *Promp. Parv.* 536/2 þarnyng, or þernyng, or desyryng, desiderium, optacio, exoptacio. o **1450** *Rotis Roving* 975 It makis the knowlege, And ledis the at the þarnyng Fra place to place, quhar þow wald be. **1821** BYRON *Coin* iii. i, Such melancholy yearnings o'er the past. **1836** KINGSLEY in *Life & Lett.* (1878) I. 33 Her restless yearnings after future things. **1840** BARHAM *Ingol. Leg. Ser. i. Mr. Peters's Story*, A strong disposition to doze, And a yearning to seek 'horizontal repose'. **1848** DICKENS *Dombey* xliii, Her doubts and fears between the two; the yearning of her innocent breast to both. **1850** TENNYSON *In Mem.* cxvi, Less yearning for the friendship fled. **1872** LIDDON *Elem. Relig.* i. 24 That Being to Whom the highest yearnings of his inmost self constantly point.

b. *transf.* (contextually) An object of intense desire.

c1430 *Hymns Virgin* (1867) 23 Take to þee al myn entente þat þou be to me myn þerninge. **1869** MOZLEY *Univ. Serm.* ii. (1876) 40 The great yearning of prophecy was the total destruction of idolatry.

† 2. The baying of hounds. Also *transf. Obs.* **1531** ELYOT *Gov.* i. xviii, If they wold use but a few nombre of houndes, onely to harborowe, or rouse, the game, and by their yorning to gyue knowlege whiche way it fleeth. **1576** TURBERV. *Venerie* lxx. 181 When they beginne to baye, (whiche in the earth is called Yearnyng). **1582** STANYHURST *Æneis* ii. (Arb.) 53 Thee skirch rings mounting, increast is the horror of armour, From sleepe I broad waked, .. And to the shril yernyng with tentie greedines harkned.

3. The state of being moved with compassion. **1603** FLORIO *Montaigne* ii. xi. 247 Amongst all other vices, there is none I hate moore, than crueltie. .. But it is with such an yearning [*F. mollesse*] and faint-hartednes, that if I see but a chickens necke pulld off, .. I cannot choose but grieve. **c1625** Bp. HALL *St. Paul's Combat* i. Wks. 1634 II. 441 Of pity and yearning of bowels. **1647** S. M[OORE] (*title*) The Yernings of Christs bowels towards his languishing Friends. **1690** NORRIS *Beotitudes* (1694) 134 All that inward

Feeling and Yerning of the Heart and Soul at a pitiful Object.

4. *attrib.* † **yearning-meat**, the meat for which one yearns.

o **1300** *Cursor M.* 3684 'Fader', he said, 'sitt vp and ete, I ha broght þi jerning mete.'

yearning (ˈjɜːniŋ), *vbl. sb.* 2 *Sc. and n. dial.* [f. YEARN *v.* 2 + -ING 1.] Rennet. Also *attrib.*

1371-3 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 577 Pro yernyng et Chesecloutes emp. pro vaccaria. **1581-2** *Inv.* in *Best Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 172 Yerens [? yernens], oitemeell, and onions 13s. 4d. **1753** *Chombers' Cycl.* Suppl. App., *Eorning*, or *Yorning*, a name used in several parts of the kingdom for rennet. **1788** W. MARSHALL *E. Yorksh. Gloss.* (E.D.S.), *Cheslip-skin*, the calf's bag, used in making yerning. **c1820** [see EARNING *vbl. sb.* 2]. **1825** BROCKETT *N.C. Gloss.* s.v., A plant used in North Tindale to curdle milk for cheese is called yerning grass. **1825** JAMIESON *s.v.*, The yirnin is the maw or stomach of the calf.

yearning, obs. var. EARNING *vbl. sb.* 1 (1 b).

1581 B. RICH *Forew.* Ej, With her yearnynges to helpe to releue hym.

yearning (ˈjɜːniŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. YEARN *v.* 1 + -ING 2.]

1. a. That yearns; characterized by longing desire or compassion.

1627 DRAYTON *Agincourt* cccx, These yearning cryes, that from the Caridge came. **1652** BENLOWES *Theoph.* iv. lxxiii, This Devota breaths out yerning Cries. o **1704** T. BROWN *Two Oxf. Schol.* Wks. 1730 I. 10 Some tenderhearted virgin .. who with yearning bowels will offer me her best assistance. **1819** KEATS *Fall of Hyperion* i. 39 Appetite More yearning than on Earth I ever felt. **1859** GEO. ELIOT *Adam Bede* xlv, The two pale faces ... one with a wild hard despair in it, the other full of sad, yearning love. **1873** E. E. HALE *In His Nome* viii, As if the Holy Spirit had sent the immediate answer to his yearning prayer. **1891** W. CLARK RUSSELL *Marriage of Seo* iv, A full-rigged ship..with yearning canvas and ocean-worn sides.

transf. **1865** SWINBURNE *Poems & Boll.*, Anotario 228 By the yearning in my veins I know The yearning sound of waters.

† b. **yearning mood**: optative mood. *Obs.*

1522 VAUS *Rudim. Grom.* Bbij (Jam.), *Optotiuo modo*, yarnand mode.

† 2. Of hounds: see YEARN *v.* 1 4. *Obs.*

1706 J. PHILIPS *Cereolio* 190 As the tall stag..quits his lair, And flies the yearning pack which close pursue.

Hence 'yearningly' *adv.*; (*nonce-wd.*) 'yearningness'.

1840 *New Monthly Mag.* LIX. 402 She felt yearningly enough for both. **1861** H. MACMILLAN *Footn. Poge Not.* 197 The geranium growing in the cottage window yearningly stretches out its tender leaves..to the smiling sunshine. **1894** HALL CAINE *Monxmon* v. iii, He looked at it lovingly, fondly, yearningly. o **1916** H. JAMES *Sense of Past* (1917) 304 The ideal thing for dramatic interest..would be that there is just one matter in which..he betrays himself, gives himself away..it should..affect her..with but a finer yearningness of interest.

yearnling (ˈjɜːnliŋ). *nonce-wd.* [f. YEARN *v.* 1 + -LING.] A young child over which one yearns.

1829 LAMB *Let. to Procter* 29 June, Sbe visited...a poor man's cottage that had a pretty baby (O the yearnling!).

'year-old, *a.* and *sb.*

A. *adj.* A year old; of the age of one year.

1767 ABERCROMBIE *Ev. Mon his own Gardener* (1803) 85 Young shoots rising in the spring from the year-old plants. **1818** SCOTT *Rob Roy* iv, Was it not Wat the Devil who drove all the year-old hogs off the braes of Lanthorn-side? **1883** GUSTAFSON in *Horper's Mog.* Nov. 894/2 The little year-old Edgar..was very sick.

B. *sb.* A beast a year old, a yearling.

1539 *Wills & Inv.* N.C. (Surtees) I. 114, xj ky & iiij quyes iiij yer olds iiij yere olds. **1583** *Durham Wills* (Surtees) II. 82 Eight younge cattell, yeare-olds, and tuantays. **1774** GOLDSM. *Not. Hist.* (1824) l. xlv. 381 None but the year olds remain together. **1816** SCOTT *Bl. Dwarf* i, To see if him and me can gree about the luckpenny I am to gie him for his year-auids. **c1830** *Glouc. Form Rep.* 17 in *Libr. Usef. Knowl.*, *Husb.* III, The year-olds are kept in the field all winter.

year-round, *a.* and *adv.* [f. the phr. *all the year round* s.v. ROUND *adv.* 1 e.] A. *adj.* That exists, occurs, is used, etc., all the year round. Also of persons: residing in a place for the whole year.

1939 *Florida* (Federal Writers' Project) ii. 177 The western district..contains..many homes of year-round residents. **1939** R. CAMPBELL *Flowering Rifle* ii. 38 And thaws numbed strikers from their year-round frost. **1945** NELSON & WRIGHT *Tomorrow's House* x. 111/1 One advantage of the inside bathroom .. is that it has year-round ventilation. **1960** *House & Garden* Aug. 40/1 A skilfully-planned year-round family house. **1961** *Guordion* 8 May 8/6 A moment, known increasingly to year-round Londoners. **1976** *Sci. Amer.* July 118/1 Where the diversion of local streams would not provide a year-round supply of water it was necessary to build a reservoir. **1980** P. MOVES *Angel Death* i 7 Year-round sunshine.

B. *adv.* = *all the year round.*

1968 *Globe & Mail* (Toronto) 17 Feb. 47/8 Enjoy swimming year-round in the outdoor and indoor pools. **1979** *Woll Street Jnl.* 20 Dec. 18/1 The yuletide bulge chiefly reflects the greater number of people in the stores at that time. However, the crime is rising year-round. **1981** C. MILLER *Childhood in Scotland* 58 Rabbits .. were shot year-round.

year's day: see YEAR-DAY.

yearsman (ˈjɜːzmən). *local.* [f. *year's*, gen. of YEAR 1 + MAN *sb.* 1] A labourer hired by the year.

1891 *Daily News* 12 Sept. 3/6 Our labourers are divided into two classes: the day labourer and the yearsman.

year's mind, 'year-mind'. [OE. *gēargemynd*: see YEAR *sb.* and MIND *sb.* 1 5 b.] The commemoration of a deceased person by the celebration of requiem services a year after, or every year on the anniversary of, his death or funeral; a yearly obit. Cf. *twelvemonth's*, MONTH'S MIND.

a. o **1100** in Napier *Contrib. OE. Lexicogr.* (1906) 28 Dis is seo caritas þe Baldwine abbod hæfð geunnon his gebroðrum for Eadwardes sawle, þæs godan kynges, þæt is healf pund æt his gēargemynde to fisce. **1489** *Will of R. Partrich of Sudbury, Suff.* 5 Dec. (P.C.C., 1 dogett), vs. yerely to the keeping of a yer minde for my soule. **1579-80** NORTH *Plutarch* (1595) 1104 For keeping of a yeare minde and for making feastfull dayes In honour of that worthy wight. **1587** GOLDING *De Mornay* xv. (1592) 229 Hee commaunded an Annuiersarie or Yeere-minde to be kept in remembrance of him. **1606** HOLLAND *Sueton.* 19 b, Augustus had in mirth giuen him the name of *Founder*, he was so reputed, and his yeares-mind after his death solemnized accordingly.

β. **1408** E.E. *Wills* (1882) 15 That ..hys Executours..haue..rewlyng of my obytis, that ys for to sayn, my jerys mynde, xx wynter Aft[er] my deses. **c1420** Prymer 56 Graunte þou to be soule of þi seruauant, whos þeris mynde we maken to dai, a seete of refreschinge blisse. **1520** SIR R. ELYOT *Will in T.* Elyot *Gov.* (1883) App. A, The prest executing the service at myn enterying, moneth mynde, and yeres mynde. **1558** PHAER *Æneid* Gen. Somme a iij, For his fathers honoure he deuised games of actiuite, and set-foorth his Obite or yeres mynde, with greate solempnitie. **1561** VERON *Hunt. Purgat.* 25 The moneth myndes and yeares minds other wyse called Anniversaries. **1849** ROCK *Ch. Fothers* i. vii. II. 350 No others' names were read out but of those whose anniversary or year's mind fell upon that very Sunday or festival. **1902** *Westm. Gaz.* 4 Feb. 7/3 The 'Year's Mind' of her late Majesty Queen Victoria was celebrated at St. Matthew's, Westminster, this morning.

yearth, etc., obs. or dial. ff. EARTH *sb.* 1, etc.

1542 UDALL *Erosim. Apoph.* 49 An yearthen potte. **1561** *Plowman's T.* in *Chaucer's Wks.* 95 b/2 That taketh maistrie in his name Ghostly, and for yearthly good. **c1581** LODGE *Repl. Gosson's Sch. Abuse* (Shaks. Soc.) 6 To make a yearthly creature to beare the person of the Creator. **1582** HESTER *Secr. Phiorav.* iii. i. 2 Drie the Vitrioll in a yearthen pan. **1688** HOLME *Armoury* iii. 261/2 *Yeorthing*, put Earth about [the kiln]. **1828** *Croven Gloss.*, *Yeorthen*, earthen.

yeast (jɪːst), *sb.* Forms: 1 *gist*, 3 *yst*, 5 *jest* (e, 3 *east*, 7 *yeest*, 7 *yest*, 7 *eyst* (?), 8-9 *dial.* east, 9 *dial.* yist, 7-9 *yeast*. [OE. (late WS.) *gist*, Anglian **gest*, corresp. to MLG. *gest* dregs, dirt, MDu. *ghist*, Du. *gist*, *gest* yeast, MHG. *jest*, *gest*, *gist* (G. *gischt*, *gäsch*) yeast, froth, ON. *jastr* yeast, related to OHG. *jeasan*, *gesan* (MHG. *jesen*, *gesen*, *gern*, G. *gähren* to ferment), the causative OHG. *jerian*, *gerian* to cause to ferment, and ON. *gerð* yeast. The underlying base *jes-* is found also in Skr. *yás(y)ati* to seethe, boil, *práyastas* bubbling over, Zend *yah-* to boil (intr.), Alb. *gēs buken* I knead bread, Gr. *ζέω* I boil, *ζερός* boiled, W. *iās* seething.]

1. a. A yellowish substance produced as a froth or as a sediment during the alcoholic fermentation of malt worts and other saccharine fluids, and used in the manufacture of beer and to leaven bread.

Modern science distinguishes two kinds of yeast, *surface* or *top yeast* (G. *oberhefe*) and *under*, *sediment*, or *bottom yeast* (G. *unterhefe*), the former propagated by buds, the latter by spores, of the fungus *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*. The yeast of beer is used medicinally as an antiseptic and stimulant in low fevers, and as an application to ulcers.

c1000 Sax. *Leechd.* II. 266 Læt þonne hwon gestandan, do of þa gazellan, do þonne niwne gist. **1530** PALSGR. 291/1 Yest or barme for ale, *leueton*. **1591** A. W. *Bk. Cookrye* 8 Put into your broth a spoonfull of yest. **1600** SURFLET *Country Farm* v. xxiii. 725 They renewe the force and strength of the yeast or leuen euerie hower with beere already made, so long as till the said leuen or yeast become strong inough of it selfe. **1612** *Househ. Bks.* Howard of Naworth (Surtees) 41 To Harry Baker to bestow in eyst v. **1664** BUTLER *Hud.* ii. iii. 119 When Yeast, and outward means do fail, And have no pow'r to work on Ale. **1666** G. HARVEY *Morb. Angl.* viii. (1672) 19 Those sharp scorbutick dreges imitating the nature of yist. **1743** *Lond. & Country Brewer* iii, (ed. 2) 214 Yeast.. consists of a great Quantity of subtile and spirituous Particles, wrapped up in such as are viscid. **1804** *Med. Jnl.* XII. 192 An instance of a young gentleman in the last stage of typhus fever, being cured by the use of yeast. **1843** R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* Introduct. Lect. 34 Sugar by presence of yest [is made to resolve itself] into alcohol and carbonic acid. **1858** LEWES *Sea-side Studies* 314 There are two kinds of yeast, or rather two forms of the same plant. The one is called 'surface' yeast, the other 'sediment' yeast. The former requires a temperature of 70° to 80° Fahrenheit; the latter 32° to 45°. **1877** HUXLEY *Physiogr.* 193 The porous texture of bread is due to the presence of bubbles of gas evolved by the fermentation of the yeast.

b. With qualifying word, as *beer-yeast*; applied esp. to common yeast drained, pressed dry, and made into a cake in order to be kept for a time: see quots. and cf. *yeast-cake*, -*powder* (4).

[**1781** T. HENRY *Acc. Method Pres. Water*, etc. 26 The Process for making artificial Yeast. Boil flour and water together to the consistence of treacle... In about two days, such a degree of fermentation will have taken place, as to give the mixture the appearance of yeast.] **1845** E. ACTON

Mod. Cookery xxviii. 650 German yeast, imported in a solid state, is now much sold in London. **1858** SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade* s.v., German yeast is now imported to a considerable extent in a dried form from the Continent. **1878** *Chambers's Encycl.* s.v. *Yeast*, Patent Yeast is exactly similar [to German Yeast], but is raised from a wort made purposely from malt and hops. Artificial Yeast is a dough of wheat or other flour, mixed with a small quantity of common yeast, and made into small cakes, which are dried. **1879** WEBSTER *Suppl.*, *Press-yeast*, the yeasty froth from the surface of a fermenting fluid, washed and pressed into cakes for bakers' use. **1889** *Pall Mall Gaz.* 1 July 3/3 Patent yeast is either made by the baker himself or is bought from the yeast merchant. It...leaves an unpleasant smell and taste in the bread.

c. *fig.* = LEAVEN *sb.* 2 a.

1760-72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) III. 35 Though liberty has no relation to party... there is yet a kind of yeast observable in its nature, which may be necessary to the fermentation and working up of virtue. **1818** KEATS *Let. Wks.* 1889 III. 105 The best of men have but a portion of good in them—a kind of spiritual yeast in their frames, which creates the ferment of existence. **1873** DIXON *Two Queens* vi. iv. 1. 324 The Plantagenet yeast being strong within his sons.

d. A fungus that exists predominantly as single cells rather than a mycelium and in which vegetative reproduction takes place by budding or fission.

Now not usu. regarded as constituting any particular taxon.

1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 760 The common saccharomyces or yeast of the scalp. **1906** G. MASSEE *Textbk. Fungi* III. 275 Symbiotic relationship between yeasts and bacteria is not uncommon. **1922** H. GWYNNE-VAUGHAN *Fungi* i. 7 Yeasts and filamentous fungi are abundant in woodland soils. **1930** H. M. FITZPATRICK *Lower Fungi* i. 16 In the lower Ascomycetes the asci are formed without order throughout a mould-like mycelium, or exist as isolated cells as in the yeasts. **1977** R. C. COOKE *Fungi, Man & his Environment* i. 14 Yeasts appear in the Ascomycetes, Basidiomycetes, and Fungi Imperfecti. This is because the term 'yeast' refers to a special mode of growth and does not describe a particular, special assemblage of fungi. **1983** *Oxf. Textbk. Med.* I. v. 372/2 *Candida albicans*... It is a saprophytic yeast often found as a commensal in the mouth and gastrointestinal tract and commonly present in the vagina.

†2. The froth or 'head' of new or fermenting beer. *Obs.*

c. **1430** *Two Cookery-bks.* 10 þen take zest of New ale an caste per-to. c. **1440** *Prompt. Parv.* 537/2 3ceest, berme, spuma. **1683** SALMON *Doron Med.* I. 241 Let not the Head, or Yest work over at the bungs. **1716** GAY *Trivia* II. 290 When drays bound high, they never cross behind, When bubbling yest is blown by gusts of wind.

3. *transf.* Foam or froth, as of troubled water. **1611** SHAKS. *Wint. T.* III. iii. 94 The Shippe boaring the Moone with her maine Mast, and anon swallowed with yest and froth. **1818** BYRON *Ch. Har.* IV. clxxxii, They melt into thy yeast of waves. **1864** *Q. Rev.* Apr. 311 The dim headlands of new empires which are already looming darkly up out of the yeast of stormy waves.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *yeast-ash*, *-cell*, *-culture*, *dumpling*, *-fungus*, *-germ*, *-poultice*, *-scum*; *yeast-like* adj. and adv.; *yeast-beer*, new beer with which a small quantity of fermenting wort has been mixed to make it 'work'; *yeast-bitten a.* (see quot.); *yeast bread*, bread made with yeast (i.e. ordinary bread); *yeast-budding*, a direct budding or germination of spores from other spores as occurring in *Saccharomyces* and other fungi; *yeast-cake*, (*a*) (see 1 b); (*b*) a cake made light with yeast; †*yeast-fat*, a fermenting-vat; *yeast-plant*, any plant of the genus *Saccharomyces*, esp. *S. cerevisiae*, which produces fermentation in saccharine fluids; *yeast-powder*, the powder of dried yeast (cf. 1 b), also (*U.S.*) baking-powder.

1875 HUXLEY & MARTIN *Elem. Biol.* (1877) 6 Pasteur himself used actual *yeast ash. **1829** *Art of Brewing* (ed. 2) 54/2 (L.U.K.) The gas being too weak to buoy up the now close head of the tun, the yeast might partially or wholly subside, and the ale would become *yeast-bitten; it would receive that disagreeable taste which the head had acquired by too long exposure to the atmospheric air. **1853** *Southern Ladies Bk.* (New Orleans) I. 130 The chicks in the free states live on *yeast bread. **1945** *ABC of Cookery* (Ministry of Food) xviii. 67 Nowadays yeast bread is seldom made in the home. **1898** PORTER tr. *Strasburger's Bot.* 350 Such a method of multiplication of conidia by budding is termed *yeast budding, and the conidia are termed yeast conidia. **1795** SIR J. DALRYMPLE *Let. to Admiralty* 4, I put in the Wort-cake and *Yeast-cake at his sight. **1855** E. ACTON *Mod. Cookery* (rev. ed.) xxxi. 604 To test bread that has been cut (or yeast-cakes), press down the crumb... with the thumb. **1897** R. M. STUART *Simpkinsville* 136 Here, too, had passed pantalet patterns, bits of yeast-cake and preserving-kettles. **1908** *McClure's Mag.* Feb. 421/2 We are to be the yeast-cake for democracy's dough. **1973** *Listener* 20 Sept. 377/2 Tea was served by Auntie Golda... thick slices of cinnamon-veined yeast-cake. **1847-9** *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 1. 101/2 The importance of *yeast-cells in the phenomena of fermentation. **1899** CAGNEY tr. *von Jaksch's Clin. Diagn.* v. (ed. 4) 200 Yeast-cells (*Saccharomycetes*) are the commonest form of parasite in the intestinal discharges. **1898** *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* V. 420 Protein or dead cultures of bacteria, filtered *yeast-cultures. **1747** MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* ix. 112 *East Dumplings. First make a light Dough... with Flour, Water, Salt, and Yeast. **1367** *Priory of Finchale* (Surtees) p. lxxviii, j. *yestefatt. **1876** tr. *Wagner's Gen. Pathol.* 86 The several fermentation or *yeast-fungi. **1867** *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 395 The fermentation occurs only in presence of the *yeast germs. **1868** *Rep. U.S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 277 The... *yeast-like appearance of the decomposing brood. **1857** HENFREY *Bot.* §813 What is called the *Yeast-

plant' consists of a particular form of the vegetative structure (*mycelium*) of a Fungus. **1871** TYNDALL *Fragm. Sci.* (1879) II. xii. 257 The brewer deliberately sows the yeast-plant. **1860** MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Cataplasma Fermenti*,... the *yeast poultice, for sloughing and mortification; flour mixed with yeast and heated till it rise. **1795** SIR J. DALRYMPLE *Let. to Admiralty* 2 Wort-cake and *Yeast-powder made at the King's breweries. **1857** W. CHANDLESS *Visit Salt Lake* 1. vi. 95 Three boxes of yeast-powder (at thirty cents each) to improve our bread. **1876** *Amer. Cycl.* XVI. 777 Yeast powders, or baking powders, substitutes for yeast, used in making bread. **1888** *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 602/1 After ten to fourteen days the *yeast-scum on the surface disappears.

yeast (jɪst), *v. rare*. [*f. prec.*] *intr.* (also *refl.*) To ferment; to be covered with froth, as agitated water. Also *fig.* and with *up*. **yeasting vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1819 KEATS *Otho* III. ii, To thee only I appeal, Not to thy noble son, whose yeasting youth Will clear itself, and crystal turn again. **1880** BLACKMORE *Mary Anerley* I. ix. 113 (Like dough before the fire) every well belaboured [bed] tick was left to yeast itself awhile. **1891** C. DAWSON *Avonmore* II. 35 Racing seas, with their yeasting waves. **1902** *Brit. Med. Jnl.* 14 June 1463 The presence of purin bodies in beers is probably due to the yeasting and processes of manufacture. **1921** A. HUXLEY *Crome Yellow* ix. 88 It must inevitably take a long time for Armageddon to ripen, to yeast itself up.

yeast, obs. form of EAST.

yeasty (jɪ:sti), *a.* Also 7-9 *yesty*. [*f. YEAST sb.* + -Y¹.]

1. Of, pertaining to, full of, covered with, like or resembling yeast.

1599 PORTER *Angry Wom.* Abington Dj, His beard, Thats glewed together with his slauering droppes, Of yesty ale. **1600** MARSTON, etc. *Jack Drums Entert.* I. (1601) Aijj, Each... yeastie bowzing bench. **1602** MARSTON *Ant. & Mel. Ind.*, Wks. 1856 I. 5 As slovenly as the yeasty breast of an ale-knight. **1676** COTTON *Walton's Angler* II. viii. 75 We have then [*sc.* in June] another Dunne, call'd the Barm-fie, from it's yesty colour. **1683** TRYON *Way to Health* 25 That Yeasty quality that most Ale in Cities, especially in London, is subject unto. **1743** *Lond. & Country Brewer* II. (ed. 2) 84 He fell into Drinking such Quantities of their yeasty Ale, as made him distracted. **1836** [see *yeastiness* below]. **1849** CUPPLES *Green Hand* II. (1856) 15 From foaming whiteness it melted into yesty green.

transf. **1668** CULPEPPER & COLE *Barthol. Anat.* I. xvi. 39 The Arterial, fermentative, or leavening, and yeasty Blood.

2. *fig.* with various connotations: 'Swelling', 'working'; light and superficial, 'frothy'.

1598 E. GUILPIN *Skial.* (1878) 36 Like a Swartrutters hose his puffle thoughts swell With yeasty ambition. **1602** SHAKS. *Ham.* v. ii. 199 He... only got the tune of the time, and outward habite of encounter, a kinde of yesty collection, which carries them through & through the most fond and winnowed opinions. **1627** DRAYTON *Moon-calf in Agincourt* etc. 161 Knowledge with him is idle, if it straine About the compasse of his yestie braine. **1826** DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* IV. i, Byron's mind was like his own ocean, sublime in its yesty madness. **1904** *Athenæum* 2 Apr. 425/2 Burying his thought in a yeasty mass of adjectives.

3. *transf.* Foamy, frothy, like troubled water.

1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* IV. i. 53 Though the yesty Waues Confound and swallow Nauigation vp. **1798** *Poetry of Anti-Jacobin* No. 36. 236 And Whitbread wallowing in the yeasty main. **1802** PALEY *Nat. Theol.* xxi. (1819) 331 The yesty waves which confound the heaven and the sea. **1819** CRABBE *T. of Hall* IV. 472 Far up the beach, the yesty sea-foam roll'd. **1820** BYRON *Juan* III. lvi. The ocean when its yeasty war is waging Is awful. **1899** F. T. BULLEN *Log Sea-waif* 254 We were over the bar and in smooth water, only the yeasty flakes of the spent breakers following us.

Hence **yeastily adv.*, **yeastiness*.

1778 H. BROOKE *Antony & Cl.* IV. iv, I know not why of late This yestiness of temper comes upon me. **1836** *Penny Cycl.* V. 405/1 It [*sc.* creamy scum] however rises again, becomes yesty, the bladders enlarge in size, the yestiness increases, and, when ready for cleansing, it has a vigorous, rich, yesty brown and bladdery head. **1890** W. CLARK RUSSELL *Ocean Trag.* I. viii. 162 The pale blue brine that melted yeastily from her metallad forefoot.

yeat, obs. Anglo-Irish *f.* GET *v.*

1554 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 415 If the creditore can not yeat the owner nor his attorney.

yeat(e): see GATE *sb.*¹, YET.

yeather, var. EDDER: see YEDDER *sb.* and *v.*

Yeatsian (jɛtsɪən), *a. (sb.)* Also *Yeatsian*. [*f.* the name of the Irish poet and playwright William Butler Yeats (1865-1939) + -IAN.] Of, pertaining to, or characteristic of Yeats or his writing. Also as *sb.*, an admirer of Yeats.

1928 S. O'CASEY *Let.* 5 June (1975) I. 261 Since Mr. Yeats has... shouted a lot of things in at O'Casey's window, he shouldn't be surprised... when he finds O'Casey hammering at the Yeatsian door. **1941** *Scrutiny* IX. 381 Mr. MacNeice does attempt to define the essence of the Yeatsian idiom. **1954** N. & Q. CXIX. 535/2 Yeatsians are doubtless all familiar with Dr. Jeffares' story of the composition of 'The Wheel' at Euston on 17 September 1921. **1959** *Encounter* Nov. 78/2 The misguided Neo-Platonism of some Yeatsians. **1969** *Listener* 13 Mar. 361/2 Though Reisz can give us a Yeatsian despair ('Ah dancer, ah, sweet dancer'), he fails to evoke a Yeatsian gaiety. **1978** *Studies in Eng. Lit.: Eng. Number* (Tokyo) 157 Through his long poetic career, he changed from his early Yeatsian stance to his later self-assurance. **1982** J. GROSS in A. Thwaite *Larkin at Sixty* 86 Larkinesque irony... and high Yeatsian romance.

yeaught, obs. form of YACHT.

yeauman, obs. form of YEOMAN.

yeaunt, obs. form of GIANT: see YEANT.

yeave, obs. form of EWE *sb.*¹

yeaven, obs. pa. pple. of GIVE *v.*
1592 B.N.C. (Oxf.) *Muniments* 18. 73 (MS.).

yeax, *yeck*, obs. ff. YEX, ITCH *v.*¹

yech (jɛk, jɛx), *int.* *U.S. slang.* Also *yecch*, *yeck*; (*rare*) *yee(c)ch*. [*Imitative.* Cf. YUCK *int.*, *sb.*², and *a.*] = YUCK *int.*

1969 C. BURKE *God is Beautiful, Man* (1970) 76 Well, Jesus did the craziest thing you ever heard. He took some clay from the road and he spit on it... yeck! **1972** *Even. Telegram* (St. John's, Newfoundland) 23 June 3/1 Yeechhhhh! How messy. A St. John's pigeon just passed his opinion of a Bayman. **1973** *Daily Tel.* (Sydney) 17 May 36/1 She (yecch) pins a plastic gardenia into her hair. **1975** *Hi-Fi Answers* Feb. 41/1 Colouration introduced by the cartridge will be carried right through the system and emerge at the other end added to the inevitable individual speaker character, result... yeech! **1979** 'A. HAILEY' *Overload* IV. xviii. 389 As for the food there—yech! **1984** N.Y. *Times* 30 Mar. A. 6/2 We come up with new information and we tell them and they go 'Yecch—what a mess.'

yechy (jɛki), *a.* *U.S. slang.* Also *yecchy*. [*f. prec.* + -Y¹. Cf. YUCKY *a.*] = YUCKY *a.*

1969 *Current Slang* (Univ. S. Dakota) Summer 17 *Yecchy*, adj. Extremely unpalatable (of food or drink). **1975** *New Yorker* 16 June 25/1 They thought the green peppers and onions were 'yecchy'. **1983** *Washington Post* 23 Dec. 15/1 She goes on and on about him in yecchy voice-overs: He was like 'a licorice billygoat sniffing the wind for sexual sweat'.

yed (jɛd), *sb.* Now *Sc.* Forms: 1 *gied(d)*, *ged(d)*, *gid(d)*, *gyd(d)*, 3 *zed*, 8-*yed*. [*OE. giedd*: see next.]

†1. A song, poem, speech, tale, riddle. *Obs.* *Beowulf* 1160 Leod's was asungen, gleomannes gyd. *Ibid.* 1723 Ic pis gid be þe awræc. c. **1205** LAY. 25853 Heo... hire *geddes* [*later version* wordes] sæide *geomere stefne*.

b. A fib, an exaggerated tale (Jam.). *Sc.*

2. Contention, wrangling; strife.

1719 RAMSAY *3rd Answ. to Hamilton* II, [The soldier] Wha now to youngsters leaves the yed, To 'tend his fauld. **1808**, etc. [see *Eng. Dial. Dict.*].

yed (jɛd), *v.* Now *Sc.* Forms: 1 *gieddian*, *geddian*, *giddian*, *gyddian*, 3-7 *zedde*, 3-5 *zede*, 6 *yedde*, 8-*yed*. [*OE. gieddian*, *f. giedd* (see *prec.*), ? *f. root gad-* to put together, as in GATHER, TOGETHER. For the development of sense 2 cf. *OE. gieddum wrixlan* to dispute, and the use of the vb. in Daniel 728.]

1. *intr.* To sing, recite, talk, discourse.

c. **888** ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xii. 26 þa ongan se Wisdom gliowan & geoddode þus. *Ibid.* xxxi. 71 þa ongan he eft giddian & þus singende cwæð. c. **1205** LAY. 21420 Arður... þus *geddian* agon [*later version* þes word saide] Mid gomenfulle worden. **1362** LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. 1. 138 Prechet in þin harpe þer þou art Murie at þi mete whon me biððe þe *zedde*. c. **1425** *Seven Sages* (P.) 215 Thay nolden no langer with hym *zedde*, Ne suffry langer lygge in bede.

b. To fib, exaggerate a tale (Jam.). *Sc.*

2. To contend, wrangle.

1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 48/35 To Yedde, chide, *iurgare*. **1721** RAMSAY *Poems* 1. 398 Gloss., *Yed*, to contend, wrangle. Contention, Wrangling.

yed, *yedd(e)*, obs. pa. t. of GO: see YODE.

yedda (jɛdə). Also *yeddo*. [*Origin unknown.*] A type of grass used for making straw hats (see quot. 1925). Freq. *attrib.* as *yedda braid*, *plait*, *straw*.

1918 C. R. AIKEN *Millinery Dept.* 28 Yedda braid was first produced in Italy, but the Japanese have made an imitation. Yedda is a tall grass grown in Italy, Japan, and the Philippines. **1922** F. ANSLOW *Pract. Millinery* viii. 93 The Yedda plaits, made of Japanese and Chinese grass, are soft and pliable, and can be dyed in most beautiful shades, of which, perhaps, the mole, grey and blue are the most attractive. **1923** *Sketch* 9 May 300 Dove-grey yedda straw makes this attractive shady hat. **1925** N. KNEELAND *Millinery* II. 17 Yeddo is a tall grass grown in Italy, Japan, and the Philippines. The hats made from this fiber are loosely woven, light, and delicate. **1927** *Daily News* 20 June 2/4 A smart little hat of varnished black yedda straw. **1929** *Millinery Trade Rev.* May 46 A diversity of summer fabrics is being featured... as well as the ever popular straw items, Bakou, balibuntal, yedda, [etc.]. **1957** E. R. E. LANGRIDGE *Textbk. Mod. Millinery* vi. 62 Yeddo is a knotted straw made entirely by hand and worked up by the Swiss peasants in their houses.

yedder (jɛdə(r)), *sb. north. dial.* Forms: 5 *zedd*, *yeddyr*, 6 *zedder*, 7-9 *yeather*, 8-9 *yether*, 9 *yadder*, 6-*yedder*. [*Variant of EDDER sb.*]

1. An osier, or rod of pliant wood, used for binding a hedge. Also *attrib.*

1512-13 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 106 Pro caria. xij plaustat. lez thornes, zedders, et rysez ad prædict. sepes. 17... [see *STRUT sb.*² 1 b]. **1691** RAY *N.C. Words* 152 A yeather, *vimen*. **1764** *Museum Rust.* III. iv. 10 Yethers (as binders of hassel or willow are here [*sc.* Yorks.] called). **1779** CHARLTON *Hist. Whitby* 96 A certain stake and yether hedge. **1829** J. HODGSON in J. Raine *Mem.* (1858) II. 156 Great abundance of fine osiers will be thus produced, but a few of the strongest shoots should be left on each stake, for other stakes and poles and yeathers. **1852** *Jnl. R. Agric. Soc.* XIII. 11. 281 Farmers find posts and rails cheaper... than the old system of 'stake and vice'. *Footnote.* Called... in

some parts. 'stower and yedder'. 1876 *Whitby Gloss.*, *Yethers*, oziars and similar flexibilities.

2. The mark of a blow or stripe, or that made by tight binding; a weal. Also, a smart blow.

c1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 286 He...grapyd his bakk, & it was passand sare & full of yeddyrs & wondis as he had bene betyn. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 426/1 A jeddyr, *liuor*, *vibex*. 1535 COVERDALE *Ecclus.* xxviii. 17 The stroke of y^e rod maketh yedders. 1802 SIBBALD *Chron. S.P.* IV. Gloss., *Yether*, the mark left by tight binding, as with a small cord. 1825 JAMIESON, *Yether*,...a severe blow, Upp. Clydes. 1877 *Holderness Gloss.*, *Yether*, a discolouration of the skin caused by a blow.

Hence *yedder* *v.* (see *quots.*).

[1523 edderinges: see *EDDER*. 1691 RAY *N.C. Words* 152 Eathering of hedges being binding the tops of them with small sticks as it were woven on the stakes.] 1818 HOGG *Brownie of Bodsbeck* etc. II. 131, I hae heard o' some o' them that fought the deil, ...yethered him and yerked him till he coudna mou' another curse. 1825 JAMIESON, To *Yether*,...to bind firmly, Roxb. 1825 in Hone *Every-day Bk.* I. 1381 Yadder them with your yadders, and...stake them on each side, with street stowers. 1855 ROBINSON *Whitby Gloss.*, To *Yedder* or *Yether*, to interweave or connect with pliable twigs or osiers a row of upright sticks or stobs in hedge work. 1876 *Ibid.*, *Yether*, *v.* to interweave with twigs, as in basket-making. 1877 *Holderness Gloss.*, *Yether*, *v.* to lash with a whip.

†*yedding*, *vbl. sb.* [OE. *giedding*, *f. gieddian*, *YED v.* + -ING¹.] A song; a speech, discourse; *spec.* a 'gest' or romance in verse.

c950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke xv. 3 *Et ait ad illos parabolam istam*, & cwoeð to ðæm yedding ðics. a1350 in *Thornion Rom.* (Camden) 261 ðeddyngis, japis, and folies. c1386 CHAUCER *Cant. T.* Prol. 237 Wel koude he synge and pleyen on a rote Of yeddynges he baar outrely the pris. a1440 *Sir Degrev.* 1421 And evere Myldore sche sete Harpyng notus ful swet...Songe ðeddyngus above. c1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 537/1 ðeddyng, or geest, *idem quod geest* (or rowmamnce).

Yeddo (j'edəu). The former name of Tokyo, used *attrib.* to designate materials, etc., originating there (before 1868, in which year the name was changed), as †*Yeddo crepe*, *poplin*; *Yeddo spruce*, the Japanese spruce, *Picea jezoensis*.

1866 in A. Adburgham *Shops & Shopping* (1964) xii. 126 Costumes at reduced prices in Yeddo Poplin. [1906 ELWES & HENRY *Trees Gr. Brit. & Ireland* 87 Mayr informed me last year that the Yezo spruce was not introduced into Europe until 1891.] 1932 W. DALLIMORE in F. J. Chittenden *Conifers in Cultivation* 26 *Picea*...*jezoensis* Carr... Yeddo Spruce—N.E. Asia to N. Japan. 1952 A. G. L. HELLYER *Sanders' Encycl. Gardening* (ed. 22) 378 *Picea*...*jezoensis*, 'Yeddo Spruce', not so hardy as var. *hondoensis*, 80 to 100 ft., Japan. 1960 C. W. CUNNINGTON et al. *Dict. Eng. Costume* 280/2 *Yeddo crepe*, 1880, a cotton fabric thick as linen but soft... *Yeddo poplin*, 1865, of pure llama wool, resembling French merino. 1981 F. B. HORA in *Oxf. Encycl. Trees of World* 70/2 *P. jezoensis* Yeddo Spruce. NE Asia, Japan.

yeddo, var. *YEDDA*.

†*yede*, *v. Obs.* Also 6 *yead*, 6–7 *yeed*(e), 7 *yed*. [A pseudo-archaism of 16th cent. poets and their imitators; *yede*, *pa. t.* of *GO* (see *YODE*) used *erron.* as an infin.] *intr.* To go, proceed.

1563 SACKVILLE *Induct. Mirr. Mag.* xxx, Yeding forth, anone An horrible lothly lake we might discerne. a1578 DRANT (Webster) Years yead away, and faces fair deflower. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Sept. 145 They wander at wil, and stray at pleasure, And to theyr foldes yead at their owne leasure. 1590—*F.Q.* I. xi. 5 Then bad the knight his Lady yede aloofe. 1602 CAREW *Cornwall* 116 Downeuet... (perhaps so called) of downe yeeding, as hauing a steep hill. 1614 GORGES *Lucan v.* 174 Yet she, poore soule, was sore adread into the horrid cell to yed. 1633 FISHER *Fuimus Troes* III. ix, Vnneath thilke borrells May well ne yede, ne stand. 1768 DOWNMAN *Land of Muses* xii, Early the morn we will forth yede yfere.

yede, *3ede*, obs. *pa. t.* of *GO*: see *YODE*.

†*yeder*, *a. Obs.* In 4 *3eder*, 5 *3edire*. [Origin unknown.] Quick; frequent. Hence †*yederly adv.*, quickly.

13... *E.E. Allit. P. B.* 463 He...sone 3ederly for-3ete 3ister-day steuen. 13... *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1215, I 3elde me 3ederly, & 3e3e after grace. a1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 5042 So did his princes...for pete of him-selfe, With 3edire 3oskingis & 3erre 3ett out to grete.

yee, obs. *f.* *EYE*, *YE*, *YEA*.

yeed(e), *3eed*(e), obs. *pa. t.* of *GO*: see *YODE*.

yee-ho: see *YO int.*

yeel(e), obs. form of *EEL sb.*

yeelaman, variant of *HIELAMAN*, shield of Australian aborigines.

1862 KENDALL *Poems* 19 Yeelamans splinter and boomerangs clash.

yeeld, etc., obs. form of *GUILD*, *YIELD*, etc.

yeelde, obs. *pa. t.* of *AIL v.*

c1489 CAXTON *Somes of Aymon* II. 66 The duke knewe wel what she yeelde.

yeen, obs. *pl.* of *EYE sb.*¹

'*yeender*. *north. dial.* Forms: 7 *earnder*, *eender*, 7–9 *yeender*, 7, 9 *yender*; also 8–9 *yeandurth*. [Representing OE. *ær undern* 'mane' (Ælfric

Lev. vi. 20) = OFris. *êr unden* in the forenoon, NFrís. (Sylt) *irönnær, irner* forenoon, MDu. *eeronderen* (*broot*) 12 o'clock meal (cf. early Flem. *eronderen* 'meridiari', Kilian): see *ERE prep.* and *UNDERN*.] The forenoon.

12... *Ancrene Wisse* in J. Hall *Early M.E.* (1920) 74 Cumeð to ham to þe þurl earunder & ouerunder eanes oðer twien. c1663 KYNDER *Hist. Darby*, §7 But these and y^e Moorelanders add three more [meales], y^e bitt in the morning, y^e Anders-meate, and yenders meate, and soe make up seaven. 1674 RAY *N.C. Words* 55 The *Yeender* or *Eender*, the Forenoon, *Derbysh.* 1684 G. M[ERITON] *Yorkshire Dial.* 195 (E.D.S.) It comes ith Earnder, Wife, or else by Neaun. 1703 THORESBY *Let. to Ray* (E.D.S.), The *Yeender* or *Earnder*, the forenoon. Halifax, in Yorkshire. c1746 J. COLLIER (Tim Bobbin) *View Lanc. Dial.* (1770) 25 Sed 1, I'r there last Oandurth, on he'd leet o oneth' Yeandurth ofore. 1855 J. DAVIES *Races Lanc.* in *Trans. Philol. Soc.* 236 The equivalent of the Lanc. 'oandurth' [afternoon] and 'yeandurth', forenoon.

yeep (jip), *v. rare*. [Imitative.] *intr.* To cheep. Hence '*yeeping ppl. a.* and *vbl. sb.*

1834 T. KEIGHTLEY *Tales & Popular Fictions* i. 11 His feathered charge, who go along *yeeping* and leisurly picking their steps. 1945 B. MACDONALD *Egg & I* (1946) iii. 44 Seven hundred and fifty *yeeping* chicks. *Ibid.* vii. 91 The *yelping* of a puppy and the stronger, louder *yeeping* of the chicks.

yeep (3eep), var. *YEPE a.*

yeepsen: see *YEPSEN*.

yeer, *yeere*, obs. *ff.* *ERE*, *YEAR*¹.

yeerde, obs. *f.* *YARD sb.*²

yees: see *YEZ*.

yees(y), *3ees*(y), obs. *ff.* *EASE*, *EASY*.

†*yeet*, *v. Obs.* In 5 *3eetyn*, *3et-*, *3yt-*. [f. *YE pron.* + -t, as in *THOWT*. Cf. MHG. *ir(e)zen*, med.L. *vosare*, *vobissare*, *vositare*, *vobissitare*, and *YE v.*] To use the pronoun *ye* in addressing a person. Hence †*yeeting vbl. sb.*

c1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 537/2 *3eetyn*, or sey 3ee (*P. 3etyn* or sey 3e with worship), *vosco. Ibid.* 538/1 *3ytyng*, wythe wurchyp seyngne 3e, and not thow (*K. 3etyng*), *vosacio*.

yeet, *3eet*: see *YET v.*, to melt, cast.

yeewk, obs. form of *YUKE sb.*, itch.

yef(e): see *GIVE*, *IF*.

yeff(e): see *GIFT*, *GIVE*, *IF*.

yeffell, obs. *f.* *EVIL adv.*

yeffor, obs. form of *EVER adv.*

yef(f)t(e), obs. *ff.* *GIFT*.

yegg (jeg). *U.S.* [Said to be the surname of a certain American burglar and safe-breaker.] A burglar or safe-breaker. So '*yeggman*.

1903 *N.Y. Even. Post* 23 June (Cent. D. Supp.), The prompt breaking up of the organized gangs of professional beggars and yeggs. 1905 *N.Y. Times* 2 Jan. (ibid.), Detective Sergeants...captured on the Bowery three men who, they say, are among the most successful 'yeggmen', or safe-crackers, in the business. 1906 A. STRINGER *Wire Tappers* 100 'Now, nitro-glycerine I object to, it's so abominably crude...' 'And so odiously criminal!' she interpolated. 'Precisely. We're not exactly yeggmen yet.'

†*yegged* [Y- 5], edged.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5542 þat suerd...Yegged it is in þe on half & in þe oþer noȝt.

yeh (jæ), *colloq.* or *dial.* var. of *YES* or *YEA*. Cf. *YEAH adv.*

1920 GALSWORDTHY *Skin Game* I. 13 *Hillcrest*. Did you meet the Jackmans? *Dawker*. Yeh. 1934 J. FRANKLYN *This Gutter Life* xx. 160 'I hope your son will be happy'. 'Yeh! —I 'opes so lidy.' 1955 W. GADDIS *Recognitions* I. vi. 206 Yeh, I could write a book. 1962 G. E. EVANS *Ask Fellows who cut Hay* (ed. 2) xxv. 235 The affirmative in the East Anglian dialect is 'yeh', which is undoubtedly not a corruption of yes, but a true survival of the early 'ye' ('Let youre ye be ye, and youre naye naye' of Tindal's Bible). 1963 LENNON & MCCARTNEY in *Golden Beatles Bk.* (1966) 37 She loves you yeh yeh yeh. 1973 *Black World* Nov. 91 Can you imagine the R&B band funky as they want to be, using a bass figure that kind of remind you of sweetback, yeh sweetback.

ye-ho: see *YOHO int.*

Yehudi, var. *YAHUDI*.

†*yei*, *sb. Obs.* [f. *YEIE v.*] A cry, wail.

a1225 *Ancr. R.* 306 Mid tisse schulen þe uorlorene worpen a swuch 3eor [*MS. T.* 3ur, *MS. C.* 3ei] þet heouene & eorðe muwen beoðe grisliche agrisen.

yei, obs. form of *EYE sb.*¹

1553 *Respublica* II. ii, I praie god she bee blynde: I am hauif afraide leste she have an yei behynde.

yei, obs. graphic variant of *THEY*.

yeid(e), *3eid*(e), obs. *pa. t.* of *GO*: see *YODE*.

†*yeie*, *v. Obs.* Forms: 2–3 *3ei3e*, 3–4 *3eie*, *yeie*. 4 *3eye*, *3y3e*, *yeye*. [OE. **ȝeȝan*, **ȝéȝan* =

WFrís. *geije* to cry out, ON. *geyja* to bark, to blaspheme:—**gaujan*, *f. *gau* (cf. ON. -*gá* barking, blasphemy, as in *guðgá*).

Prob. related forms with -t- suffix are Du. *guiten* to bark, scold, G. dial. *gauzen*, *gäuzen* to yelp, scold, ON. *gaunta* to boast, prate.]

1. *intr.* To cry out, shout.

c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 43 Summe þer wepeð...and swiðe reowliche ilome 3ei3eð. c1205 LAY. 27750 þa 3eiden lude Alle Rom-leode. *Ibid.* 29563 Heo...seoððe 3eiden him on Mid 3eomerliche stanen. a1225 *Leg. Kath.* 162 Ifont ter swiðe feole 3einde & 3urinde. a1225 *Juliana* 44 þeo ilke þat beoð stalewurðe...3eornliche 3ei3eð [*v.r.* 3ei3eð] efter godes grace to helpe. a1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xxxix. 111 Thah ich 3e3e upon heth. c1320 *Cast. Love* (Halliiv.) 1541 The loude cry and 3ei3yng That heo wolleth with loude stevyn 3evyn. 13... *Northern Passion* (G.) 139 Men ne sschulle noth yeye þos longe. 13... [see *YEDERLY*].

2. *trans.* To utter in a loud voice; to call out; to announce for sale in a loud voice, to 'cry'.

a1225 *Ancr. R.* 66 þe wreche peoddare more noise he makeð to 3eien his sope, þen a riche mercer al his deorewurðe ware. *Ibid.* 126 For þi we 3ei3eð to him iðe Paternoster, 'Et dimitte nobis debita nostra'. a1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1265 þes keiser...wodeliche 3eide: Hwet nu, unwreste men.

3. To ask for, as with a loud voice.

c1320 *Cast. Love* (Halliiv.) 358 How Mercy here sistor heore herte 3y3th. 13... *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 67 Syþen riche forth runnen to reche honde-selle, 3e3ed 3eres 3iftes on hi3.

yeild, *3eild*, obs. forms of *YELD*, *YIELD*.

yeld (3eild), obs. *Sc. f.* *ELD sb.*², age.

1513 *Sc. Acts Jas. IV* (1814) II. 278/2 Dispensand w^t his aige quhat 3eild þat euir he be of.

yeinder, obs. *f.* *YONDER*.

yeir(e), obs. *ff.* *YEAR*¹.

yeird (3eird), obs. *Sc.* and *north. dial. f.* *EARTH*.

1533 *GAU Richt Vay* 41 He suftert onder poncio pilat to be crucifeit to de and to be zeirdit. c1575 *Balfour's Practicks* (1754) 482 Thair to tak sasinc thairof...be deliverance of zeird and stane.

yeirne, obs. form of *IRON*.

yeisk (3eisk), *Sc. f.* *yesk*: see *YEX*.

yeistrein, obs. *f.* *YESTREEN*.

yeit, obs. *Sc. f.* *YET*.

yek, *dial.* form of *OAK*.

†*yeke*, *sb. Obs.* Forms: 1 *ȝeac*, *ȝaec*, *ȝec*, *iac*, *iec*, 4–5 *3eke*, *yeke*. [OE. *ȝeac* cuckoo = MLG. *gôk* simpleton, MDu. *gouc*, OHG., MHG. *gouh*, *gouch* cuckoo, bastard, fool, (G. *gauch* provincial name of cuckoo, etc., simpleton, gawk), ON. *gaukr* cuckoo (whence *Sc. GOWK*); perhaps *f. gau-* as in **gaujan* (see *YEIE v.*)] The cuckoo. Also in comb. (with *gen.*) †*yekesterse* [TARSE¹] = CUCKOO-PINT.

With OE. *ȝeaces sūre* 'cuckoo's sorrel' cf. ME. *goukesures* glossing *Alleluia* in MS. Rawl. C. 607 lf. 1 b.

c725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) A 131 *Accitulum*, *ȝeces sure* [*Epinal ȝeaeae*; *Erfurt ȝeaeae*]. *Ibid.* C 121 *Calcicium*, *ieees surae* [*Erfurt iaces surae*]. *Ibid.* G 87 *Geumatrix*, *ȝeac*. a1000 *Guthlac* 716 ðeacac ȝear budon. a1387 *Sinon. Barthol.* (Anecd. Oxon.) 24 *Iarus*, *barba aaron*, *pes vituli*,...i. 3ekesterse. 14... *MS. Porkington* lf. 59 (Halliiv.) Whene the 3eke gynns to synge, Thenne the schrewe begynnys to sprynge. 14... *MS. Rawl. C.* 506, lf. 249 b, *Iarus aaron*, 3eksters, gauk pyntill.

yeke (3eke), obs. *f.* *EKE v.*, *adv.*, *ITCH sb.*, *v.*¹

†*yekth*. *Obs.* Forms: 1 *ȝieçða*, *ȝieçða*, *ȝihða*, *ȝyhða*, 3 *ȝeçðe*, *ȝeohðe*, 5 *ȝykthe*, *yeketh*, *ȝeght*, *ȝight*. [OE. *ȝieçða* = OHG. *jukido* (MHG. *jukede*):—OTeut. **jukipon-*, *f. juk-*: see *ITCH v.*¹ (The suffix occurs in other names of physical disorders, as *clewepa* itch, *spéowpa* vomit.)] Itching, itch.

c897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xi. 70 Se ȝieçða [*Hatt. ȝieçða*] bið swiðe unsar, & 3e clewepa bið swiðe row. c1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 252 þes læcedom deah ȝe wip hriefðo & ȝicpan. c1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 86 Unaberendlic ȝyhða ofereode ealne ðone lichaman. c1230 *Hali Meid.* 9 þat bearninde ȝeçðe [*v.r.* ȝeohðe] of þat liccomliche lust. c1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 538/2 ȝykynge, or ȝykth'e [1499 *P.* ȝekyn or yeketh], *pruritus*. 14... *Medulla Gram.* (Rawl. MS.), *Prurigo*, a scabbe a ȝeght. 14... *Medulla* (Cant. Cath. MS.), *Pruritus*, ȝight.

yelamber, -*bre*: see *YELLOWHAMMER*.

yeld (jeld), *a. (sb.) Sc.* and *north. dial.* Forms: 1 *ȝelde*, 5–yeld, 6 *3eld*, *3eild*, *3eald*, 6–9 *yeld*, *yeild*, 7 *yeell*, 8–9 *yell*, *yeald*, 9 *yield*, *yeal*, *yeel*, *yill*. See also *EILD*. [late OE. **ȝelde*, *ȝelde* (in glosses), corresp. to MLG. *galt*, OHG., MHG. *galt* (MG. *gelde*, *gelle*, *Galt*), ON. *geldr* (MSw. *galder*, etc.): cf. *GELD a.* and *v.*¹]

1. Of an animal: Barren; that has missed having her young, or is not old enough to bear.

a1100 *Ag. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 226/22 *Effeta*, *ȝelde. Ibid.* 394/26. 1411 *Priory of Finchale* (Surtees) 158, ix yeldbestis videlicet iiij vaccæ jstot ij quicks, ij stirketts. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VI. iv. 32 Enee hym self...to the, Proserpyne, A yeld kow all to trynschit. 1538 *Reg. Privy Seal Scot.* II. 386/2, xl ȝeild scheip. a1598 D. FERGUSSON

Scot. Prov. (1641) No. 47 A yeeld sow was never good to gryces. **1726** *Fleming's Fulfilling Script.* (ed. 5) Table Scots Phr., *Yeald*, barren or dry. **1808** JAMIESON, *Yeld*, . . . 3. Applied to cattle or sheep that are too young to bear, Dumfr. **1831** *Sutherland Farm Rep.* 79 in *Libr. Usef. Knowl.*, *Husb.* III, Yill gimmers. *Ibid.* 81 The yell ewes being all sorted off the herding a few days before the lambing begins. **1844** H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 38 If she has never been put to the ram she gets the name of yeld-gimmer. **1886** *Athenæum* 30 Oct. 560/2 To shoot the yeld hinds on the 15th of October. **1897** *Badminton Mag.* Apr. 474 We have got altogether four bucks and a good yeld doe.

b. Of birds: In a single state, unmated. *Sc.* **1535** STEWART *Cron. Scot.* III. 388 Birdis clekkit as tha war wont till do, . . . No nestis maid bot all that tyme war seild. **1809** EDMONSTON *Zetl. Isl.* II. 280 [They], not paring, are called yeld kittiwakes.

2. Of cattle: Not yielding milk, from being in calf or from age; 'dry'. Also of a nurse.

1670 *Contract in Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.* (1896) XXX. 20 Too tydie kay & four yeell kay. **1785** BURNS *Addr. to Deil* x, An' dawtet, twal-pint Hawkie's gane As yell's the Bill. **1793** *Statist. Acc. Scot.* IX. 317 The yell cattle vary in numbers according to the seasons of the year. **1808** JAMIESON, *Yeld*, *Yeald*, *Yell*, *Eild*, . . . A cow, although with calf, is said to *gang yeld*, when her milk dries up. A yeld nurse signifies a dry nurse. **1818** SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* xxxix, A wild farm in Northumberland, well stocked with milk-cows, yeald beasts, and sheep. **1864** A. LEIGHTON *Myst. Leg. Edin.* (1886) 8 'And wha will pay for the wet nurse?' said I, 'for ye ken I am as dry as a yeld crumme.'

3. Applied to inanimate objects that are sterile, unproductive, etc. (see *quots.*).

1721 KELLY *Scot. Prov.* 42 Any thing is better than the Yell Kail. An Apology for having little, or bad, Fleshmeat. *Ibid.* *foot-n.*, Yell is properly what gives no Milk, here it signifies boill'd without Meat, or having no Butter. **1824** MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl.* s.v. *Yell*, A rock is said to be yell when it will not quarry but with gunpowder; a field is said to be yell when nothing will grow on it. **1825** JAMIESON, *Yeld*, . . . 8. Bleak, cold; applied to the weather, as denoting that it has no tendency to fruitfulness, or that it threatens sterility.

B. sb. A barren cow or ewe; a hind that is not pregnant.

1856 MORTON *Cycl. Agric.* II. 727. **1886** W. SOMERSET *Word-bk.*, *Yeld*, . . . a female deer not pregnant.

Hence yeld (yell) *v. trans.*, to make 'yell', keep from breeding.

1831 *Sutherland Farm Rep.* 81 in *Libr. Usef. Knowl.*, *Husb.* III, That . . . those least fit for breeding be yelled off for sale. *Ibid.*, The contrivance of yelling or breeching a certain number of ewes in each herding.

yeld, obs. form of ELD *sb.*², age.

a 1529 SKELTON *Death Edw. IV*, 86 Of no great yeld.

yeld(e, (3)eld(e), var. *ilde*, obs. form of AISLE.

1527 *Dunmow Churchw. MS.* lf. 6 b, For mendynge of lede over the new chapell and over the 3elde on the same syde. **1535** in Weaver *Wells Wills* (1890) 82 In makyn and byldyn of the new yeld in the ch[urch] of B[romfelde]. xl¹.

yeld(e, obs. form of GUILD, YIELD.

yelden, variant of YOLDEN.

yelderin, -drin(g, var. YOLDRING.

yele, var. AIL *sb.*², awn.

1510 STANBRIDGE *Vocabula Civ, Arista*, the yele.

yele, obs. form of AISLE.

1498 *Churchw. Acc., Pilton* (Som. Rec. Soc.) 66 For takyng downe off the nort wyndow yn our lady yele. **c 1600** *Inscr. Northam Church, Devon* in N. & Q. 8th Ser. I. 463/1 This Yele was made Anno 1593.

yele (3ele): see EEL *sb.*, HEAL *sb.*

y-eled [Y- 4, ELE *v.*¹], anointed.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5331 He was king of engelond . . . pat verst þus yeled was of þe pope of rome. **1387** TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 225 He was i-led [MS. *y* yeelled] and anyoynt and i-housled.

yeled, obs. form of EYELID.

14 . . . in Wr.-Wülcker 600/2 *Palpebra*, an yeled.

yeleinge, var. YILING.

yelek (ˈjɛlək). Also JELICK. [Turk. *yelek*.] A long outer garment worn by Turkish women.

1836 LANE *Mod. Egypt.* I. i. 49 Over the shirt and shintiyān is worn a long vest (called *yelek*), . . . the *yelek* is cut in such a manner as to leave half of the bosom uncovered, except by the shirt; but many ladies have it made more ample at that part; and, according to the most approved fashion, it should be of a sufficient length to reach to the ground. **1865** W. HEPPORTH *Holy Land* II. 49 The *yelek*, a vest, is worn by these ladies open at the front.

yeles, obs. form of EYELESS.

1593 Q. ELIZ. *Boeth.* IV. met. vii. 100 Polephemus . . . with his yeles hed.

yelf, obs. variant of YELVE.

yelfat, obs. f. *ale-fat*, -*vat* (ALE II).

yeliche, obs. form of YLIKE.

yelk: see YOLK.

yell (jel), *sb.* Forms: 4-6 *zell*, 5 *zelle*, *yelle*, 6-7 *yel*, 6- *yell*. [Earlier *izel* (LAY. 17799); f. YELL *v.*]

a. An act of yelling; a sharp loud outcry, such as is described s.v. YELL *v.* 1.

c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* vi. (Thomas) 659 þan al þe prestis gef a zell, As þai had bene fendis of hell. **c 1400** *Anturs Arth.* vii, 3auland ful zamerly, with mony loude zelles. **1509** BARCLAY *Shyp of Folys* (1570) 122 One woman chiding maketh greater yell Than should an hundred pyes in one cage. **1572** *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxii. 79 Than cryit my bairnis with mony zout and zell. **1604** SHAKS. *Oth.* I. i. 75 *Rodo*. . . Ile call aloud. *Iago*. Doe, with like timerous accent, and dire yell, As when (by Night and Negligence) the Fire Is spied in populus Citties. **1758** JOHNSON *Idler* No. 25 ¶ 7 The yell of inarticulate distress. **1784** COWPER *Task* VI. 420 The patient ox, with stripes and yells Driv'n to the slaughter. **1816** BYRON *Siege of Corinth* xxviii, Fearfully the yell arose Of his followers, and his foes; These in joy, in fury those. **1827** SCOTT *Chron. Canongate* v, Janet gave three skips on the floor, and uttered as many short shrill yells of joy. **1841** J. F. COOPER *Deerslayer* xix, Once or twice the Indian yell was given. **1850** PRESCOTT *Peru* II. 212 Closely followed by the victorious enemy, who celebrated their success with songs or rather yells of triumph. **1855** TENNYSON *Maud* I. I. x, The vitriol madness flushes up in the ruffian's head, Till the filthy by-lane rings to the yell of the trampled wife.

b. Of animals.

1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Aug. 178 As my cries. . . You heare all night, . . . so let your yrksome yells augment. **1592** SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 688 Sometime he [sc. a hare] runnes . . . where earth-delung Conies keepe, To stop the loud pursuers [sc. hounds] in their yell. **1697** DRYDEN *Æneis* III. 550 The loud yell of watry Wolves to hear. **1860** TYNOALL *Glac.* I. iii. 26 Marmots. . . with yells of terror scattered themselves among the rocks. **1862** BURTON *Bk. Hunter* (1863) 45 The terrific yells of that cursed biped [sc. a peacock].

c. An outcry in writing, e.g. in a newspaper. **1853** BP. WILBERFORCE in R. G. Wilberforce *Life* (1881) II. v. 210 Once let such a course be begun, and though the yell of 'The Record' will be with you, it will be impossible to halt there. **1887** *Spectator* 4 June 758/1 This, from the 'United Irishman', is of course a mere yell, not to be taken seriously.

d. A cry consisting of a set of words or syllables shouted on certain occasions, as by American college students.

18 . . . *St. Nicholas* XVII. 837 (Cent. Dict.) The young men . . . are giving the mountain calls or yells—cries adopted according to the well-known college custom. **1913** *Spectator* 8 Mar. 386/1 The undergraduates of Princeton and Virginia University . . . acclaimed their academic head . . . with their characteristic college yells.

e. *slang.* Something or someone extremely amusing; a joke, a 'scream'.

1926 E. HEMINGWAY *Sun also Rises* xvi. 179 'Bill's a yell of laughter,' Mike said. **1938** N. MARSH *Artists in Crime* xv. 238 'Well, of course!' exclaimed Miss O'Dawne, greatly diverted. 'Aren't you a yell!' **1949** E. COXHEAD *Wind in West* ii. 32 All these doctors and their ecologists—what a yell. **1970** [see LOOK *v.* 10a].

yell (jel), *v.* Forms: 1 *gellan*, *giellan*, *gïllan*, *gyllan*, 3 *zeolle*, 3-5 *zelle*, 4 *zel*, *zele*, *yhelle*, *zolle*, *zulle*, 4-6 *yel*, *yelle*, 5 *zhelle*, 6 *Sc. zell*, 5- *yell*. *Pa. t. str.* 1 *zeal*, *pl. gullon*, 3 *yal*, *pl. gullen*, *zulle*(n, *zollen*, 3-5 *zal*; *wk.* 4-5 *zelled*, 5 *zellede*, *yellid*, -*yd*, 6 *yeald*, *Sc. zeld*, 6- *yelled*. [OE. (Anglian) *gellan*, (WS.) *giellan*, *gyllan*, *gïllan* str. vb., *pa. t. zeal*, *pl. gullon* = MLG. *gellen*, *gillen* wk., MDu. *gellen* str. (Du. *gillen*), OHG. *gellan* str. (MHG., G. wk. *gellen*), ON. *gjalla*, *pa. t. gall* (Sw. *gälla*, Norw. *giella*); f. *gell-*, extended form of *gel-*: *gal-*, whence OE. *galan* to sing, GALE *v.*¹, -*gale* in *nihtegale* NIGHT(IN)GALE, ON. -*gal* in *hanagal* cockcrow, OS., (M)Du., OHG. *galm* outcry.]

1. *intr.* To utter a loud strident cry, esp. from some strong and sudden emotion, as rage, horror, or agony.

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 2040 þer me mahte iheren þe heaðene hundes zellen & zeien & zuren. **c 1290** *S. Eng. Leg.* 3/87 þo cam þe deouel zeollinde forth. **c 1290** *St. Brandan* 583 *ibid.* 235 Huy weopen ant zollen [Harl. MS. *zulle*] faste. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4239 So grisliche zal [v.rr. *zollid*, *zelled*] þat srrwee þo. **c 1305** *St. Katherine* 241 in E.E.P. (1862) 96 þo gan þemperour for wrappe loude zulle and rore. **c 1386** CHAUCER *Nun's Pr.* T. 569 They yelleden as fendes doon in helle. **c 1450** *Brut* II. 422 Thei cryed alle 'nowelle' as high as thei myght yelle. **1553** T. WILSON *Rhet.* (1580) 176 Women are saied to chatter, churles to grunt, boies to whine, & yongmen to yel. **1575** LANEHAM *Let. Giv* b, Knights stampit, Squiers startid az steeds in a stoour Yeemen & Pagez yeald oout in the hall. **1671** MILTON *P.R.* IV. 423 Infernal Ghosts, and Hellish Furies, round Environ'd thee, some howl'd, some yell'd, some shriek'd. **1821** SCOTT *Kenilw.* v, She yelled out on seeing him as if an adder had stung her. **1835** W. IRVING *Tour Prairies* xii. 93 They whooped and yelled in the Indian style. **1877** TENNYSON *Harold* v. i. 229 When all was lost, he yell'd, And bit his shield, and dash'd it on the ground.

fig. **1602** MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* v. v. Wks. 1856 I. 141 Murder for murder, blood for blood, doth yell!

b. Of certain birds and beasts: To emit a loud cry, either as their natural utterance or when hurt or from rage.

a 1000 *Finnsburg* 6 Fugelas singað, gylleð græghama. **a 1000** *Riddles* xxv. 3 Ic eom wunderlicu wiht, . . . hwilum græde swa gos, hwilum gielle swa hafoc. **a 1250** *Owl & Night* 112 þe faucun was wroþ wit his bridde & lude zal & sterne chidde. **13** . . . *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1453 He hurtez of þe houndez, & þay ful 3omerly 3aule & zelle. **c 1425** WYNTOUN *Cron.* IV. xxiv. 2116 Alkyn best. . . zhellande ran as þai war wode Til woddis and til wildirnes. **a 1529** SKELTON *E. Rummyng* 500 She yelled lyke a calfe. **1560** *Bible* (Genev.) Jer. ii. 15 The lyons roared upon him & yelled. **1588** SHAKS. *L.L.L.* IV. ii. 60 The Dogges did yell. **1590** SPENSER *F.Q.* I. xi. 37 The cruell wound enraged him so sore, That loud he [sc. the dragon] yelled for exceeding paine. **1810** SCOTT

Lady of L. I. iii, Yell'd on the view the opening pack; . . . A hundred dogs bay'd deep and strong. **1863** W. C. BALDWIN *Afr. Hunting* ix. 408 Innumerable hyenas, . . . fighting, running, and yelling like demons.

†c. Applied to loud singing or chanting.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 395 Nero . . . gan to zelle [v.r. *zolle*] and songe þe gastes of Troye. **1395** PURVEY *Remonstr.* (1851) 18 What wisdom is this to hiren hem so dere to yellen in chirchis and abbeies.

†d. *trans.* To protrude (the tongue) in uttering a yell. *Obs.*

1480 *Robt. Devyll* 229 in Hazl. *E.P.P.* 1864 I. 228 Behynde them woulde he steale, And geve them a sowce . . . To cause some to yell out theyr tongues longe.

e. To urge on by yelling.

1868 G. MEREDITH *Poems, Orchard & Heath* ix, They raged; their brothers yelled them on.

†2. *intr.* Of an inanimate thing: To make a strident or crashing noise. *Obs.*

a 1000 *Riddles* xxxiii. 4 Ic seah searo hweorfan, grindan wið greote, giellende faran. **a 1000** *Andreas* 127 Guðsearo gullon, garas hrysedon. **c 1205** LAY. 9797 Helmes þer gullen [c 1275 *zollen*]. **c 1330** *Florice & Bl.* (1857) 302 The water wille zelle als hit ware wode And bicom on hire so red so blod. **1470-85** MALORY *Arthur* XIV. x. 654 Soo she wente with the wynde rorynge and yellynge that it semed alle the water brent after her. **1560** B. GOOGE tr. *Palingenius' Zodiac* v. (1561) Mijb, Black storms he sends with thondres rore he makes the skies to yel. **1606** *Wily Beguiled* F. 2, Let. . . sounding musicke yell Through hils, throur dales.

3. *trans.* To utter with a yell. Also *transf.*

[*a 1000* *Seafarer* 24 Ful oft þæt earn bigeal urifegþa:] **13** . . . *Gosp. Nicodemus* (A.) 1796 Howe þai lay in droupand drede And non so shepe a worde to zelle. **1370-80** *Visions of St. Paul* 275 in O.E. *Misc.* 230 þei zelliden wiþ lodly cry, 'Poul, Michael, on vs ha merci.' **a 1450** *Mirk's Festial* 5 þay styntyn neuer to cry and zelle: 'Woo ys hym þat þedyr schall goo.' **1577** WHETSTONE *Gascoigne* xxvi, The Nightingale, . . . When she might mourn, her sweetest layes doth yel. **1605** SHAKS. *Macb.* IV. iii. 7 It [sc. heaven] resounds As if it felt with Scotland, and yell'd out Like Syllable of Dolour. **1663** BUTLER *Hud.* I. iii. 540 He tumbled down, and as he fell, Did Murther, murther, murther yell. **1700** T. BROWN tr. *Fresny's Amusem.* 21 Another Son of a Whore yells louder than Homer's Stentor, Two a Groat. **1810** SCOTT *Lady of L.* III. i, Clamorous war-pipes yell'd the gathering sound. **1812** BYRON *Ch. Har.* II. lxxi, Yelling their uncouth dirge, long daunced the kirtled clan. **1852** MISS YONGE *Cameos* I. xxviii. 230 Otho . . . fled . . . hunted by the students, all yelling abuse.

Hence yelled (jeld) *ppl. a.*; 'yeller, one who yells.

1823 *New Monthly Mag.* VIII. 499 Some dozen yappers and yellers of all shapes and breeds. **1895** S. CRANE *Red Badge* xxiii, At the yelled words of command the soldiers sprang forward. **1900** *Lancet* 3 Mar. 637/2 To prosecute a newspaper yellor for obtaining money under false pretences.

yell, obs. form of AISLE.

1503-4 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1904) 252 þe gret vynddow vythe þe Trenyte in the sovthe yell. **1540** *Lincoln Dioc. Doc.* (1914) 230 Within y^e churche of saynte peter . . . in y^e myddell yell.

yell, local variant of HEALD.

1883 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade Suppl.*, *Yells*, in weaving, guides for the warp-threads.

yell, obs. or dial. f. ALE, EVIL, HALE *a.*, YELD.

yelld, var. *ilde*, obs. form of ISLE.

1612 *MS. Acc. St. John's Hosp., Canterb.*, St. Larances in the yelld of Teneth.

yelling (ˈjɛlɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. YELL *v.* + -ING¹.] The action of the verb YELL; *esp.* the uttering of a sharp loud cry of rage, agony, etc.

a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1643 An mid zulinge [Jesus MS. *yollinge*] & mid igrede. **c 1290** *St. Brandan* 493 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 233 3eot heo i-heorden heore 3eollinge [Harl. MS. *zullinge*]. **13** . . . *E.E. Allit.* P. B. 971 Such a 3omerly 3arm of 3ellyng þer rysed. **1395** PURVEY *Remonstr.* (1851) 112 Hou abhominable is the feynid preiere other hidous yellinge of siche prelatiss. **a 1450** *Mirk's Festial* 240 þes fendes madyñ a 3ellyng and a crying, þat any myght be agast forto here hit. **1556** LAUDER *Tractate of Kyngis* 92 With gretynge, raryng, and with 3ellyng. **1577** tr. *Bullinger's Decades* v. v. 936/1 Often times the Singers striue among themselues for the excellence of voyces, whereby it commeth to passe that the whole Church ringeth with an hoarse kinde of yellinge. **1612** DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xiii. 124 When after goes the cry with yellings lowd and deepe That all the Forrest rings. **1653** H. COGAN tr. *Pinto's Trav.* lxi. (1663) 281 The dreadful yelling of six thousand Elephants. **1666** SPURSTOWE *Spir. Chym.* 151 Cries . . . that are like the yellings of the damned. **1740** RICHARDSON *Pamela* I. xxvi. 78 The cursed Yellings of you both made me not myself. **1816** SCOTT *Antiq.* xxvii, The yelling and screaming of the children. **1818** — *Br. Lamm.* ix, The impatient yelling of the hounds. **1871** R. ELLIS tr. *Catullus* xlii. 18 Swell your voices in higher harsher yellings.

'yelling, *ppl. a.* [f. YELL *v.* + -ING².] That yells; that utters a loud strident cry or noise.

c 1000 *Widsið* 128 (Gr.) Ful oft of þam heape hwinende fleag giellende gar on grome þeode. **c 1000** *Sax. Leechd.* III. 52 Hy giellende garas sændan. **1590** SPENSER *F.Q.* I. ii. 31 A piteous yelling voyce. **1667** MILTON *P.L.* II. 795 These yelling Monsters that with ceaseless cry Surround me. **1727-46** THOMSON *Summer* 1681 The lonely tower. . . whose mournful chambers hold . . . the yelling ghost. **1823** SCOTT *Quentin D.* vi, The disordered and yelling group. **1879** *Daily News* 1 Mar. leading art., To force their horses through the ring of yelling savages. **1899** SOMERVILLE & ROSS *Irish R.M.* 179 The tall old house quivered, and the yelling wind drove against it.

b. Characterized by or filled with yells.

a 1000 *Cædmon's Exod.* 489 He manegum ȝ esceod giellende gryte. **1549** COVERDALE, etc. *Erasm. Par. Eph.* v. 12 Not with vncomly yelling noyses, as madde drunken men are vsed to dooe. **1595** *Locrine* I. Prol. 4 A Mightie Lion,

ruler of the woods, . . . With yelling clamors shaking all the earth. **1697** DRYDEN *Æneis* III. 887 His brother Cyclops hear the yelling Roar. **1825** SCOTT *Talism.* v, A loud yelling laugh. **1906** 'MARJORIE BOWEN' *Viper of Milan* xxxiv, The garden was one wild, yelling confusion.

yelling, variant of YILING *vb*.

yellm, obs. form of YELM *v*.

yellow ('jeləx), *sb*. *Sc*. Forms: 6 **jelloch**, **jalloch**, **7 yellough**, **9 yell-**, **yelloch**. [app. f. YELL with symbolic ending: cf. *belloch*, *skelloch*.] A yell.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XII. xiv. 100 With a jelloch [*v.r.* **jalloch**] and cairfull womentyng. **1697** CLELAND *Poems* 17 His brains with shouts and yellows tumbled. **1824** SCOTT *Redgauntlet* Let. xi, Sir Robert gied a yelloch that garr'd the castle rock. **1880** *Antrim & Down Gloss*.

yellow ('jeləx), *v*. *Sc*. Also 8 **yellowch**, **9 yello**. [f. prec.] *intr*. To yell; *trans*. to utter with a yell. Hence 'yelloching' *vbl sb*.

1773 FERGUSSON *Hallowfair* viii, Than there's sic yelochin and din, Wi' wives and wee-anes gablin. **1821** SCOTT *Pirate* xxx, An auld useless carline, called Tronda Drons-daughter, . . . yelloched and skirled.

yellow ('jeləu), *a*. and *sb*. Forms: *a*. 1 **gelu**, -o, **geolu**, **geolo**, **giolu**, **geolw-**, -uw-, -ew-, 2 **geoluw**, **geolew**, **zeluw**, 3 **geolu(h)**, **zeleu**, 4 **zelew(e)**, **zelugh(e)**, **zelogh**, **zelow3**, **zel3**, **zelw**, (3ealwe), 4-5 **zelwe**, **yelwe**, **zelou**, **zelow(e)**, 5 **yelu**, (3elwh(e), **zelhew(e)**, 5-6 **yellow**, **yellow(e)**, (6 **zello**, **yellow**, **yealow(e)**, 6-7 **yellowe**, (yeallow), 6- **yellow** (9 *dial.* and *vulgar* yellor). *β*. 2 **zolewe**, 4 **zolz**, **zolwe**, **zow**, 5 **zolgh**, **zow**, 5-6 **zowowe**, 6 **yellow(e)**, **yolo**, 9 *dial.* **yellow** (w. *γ*. (chiefly *Sc*. and *north. dial.*) 4-5 **zalou**, 4-6 **zalow**, **yalow**, 5 **zalowe**, **yalowe**, **zalwe**, (3alo, **yalou**), 5-7 **zallow**, 6 **zallou**, **yellowe**, (3allo, **yalley**), 7-9 *dial.* and *vulgar* **yellow**, (9 esp. *U.S.*, **yaller**, **yallah**). *δ*. 4 **yaulew**, 6 **yewlow**, **ewlow**, **yeolow**, **youlowe**, **jowlo**. [OE. *geolu*, -o = OS. *gelo*, (M)LG. *gel*, MDu. *gel(e)u*, *geluw*, *geel* (Du. *geel*, Flem. *geluw*, *geeltw*, *gilw*), OHG. *gelo*, (MHG. *gel*, *gelw*-, G. *gelb*):—OTeut. **gelwa*:-Indo-eur. **ghelwo-* (cf. L. *helvus* greyish yellow, Lith. *želvas* greenish).

For other derivatives of the Indo-eur. *ghol*:- *ghel*:- *ghl*:-, see GALL *sb*., GOLD¹, and cf. also L. *holus* vegetable, OIr. *gel* white, OSl. *zeliže* cabbage, *zelenū* green, Skr. *hāri*-, Zend *zaranya*- Pers. *zer* gold, ON. *gulr* yellow.]

A. adj.

1. *a*. Of the colour of gold, butter, the yolk of an egg, various flowers, and other objects; constituting one (the most luminous) of the primary colours, occurring in the spectrum between green and orange.

a. **Beowulf** 2610 Hond rond gefeng, **geolwe** linde. **c700** *Epinal Gloss*. 242 **Crocus**, **gelu**. **c725** *Corpus Gloss*. (Hessels) C 876 **Crucis**, **gelo**. *Ibid.* F 219 **Flabum**, **geolu**. **a900** *Leiden Riddle* 10 Uymas mec ni auefun uyrði cæftum, ða ði **geolu** godueb **geatum** fractuath. **c1175** *Lamb. Hom.* 51 Blake tadden. . . **zeluwe** froggen and crabben. *Ibid.* 53 Alsua doð monie of þas wimmen heo. . . clapeð heom mid **zeoluwe** clape. **c1290** *St. Eustace* 182 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 308 With red heued, **zeolu** and crips. **1303** R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 3978 þe ye þat ys ful of lawnes, Alle þenkeþ hym **zelogh** yn hys auys. **c1380** *Sir Ferumb*. 5881 Wyp eþene graye, and browes bent, And **zealwe** traces. **c1386** CHAUCER *Prol.* 675 This Pardoner hadde heer as yelow as wex [*v.r.* **zelw**, **zelow**, **zallow**]. **1431** *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1904) 27 Also j **zelew** cope of selk. **c1440** *Promp. Parv.* 537/1 **3elwe** of colure (K., H. **zelwe**, S. **zelhewe**, P. **zelow** colowre). **1523-34** FITZHERB. *Husb.* §14 Red otes are the beste otes, and when they be thressed, they be yelow in the busshell. **1601** SHAKS. *Twel. N.* II. v. 166 Remember who commended thy yellow stockings, and wish'd to see thee euer crosse garth'd. **1610** — *Temp.* I. ii. 376 Come vnto these yellow sands. **1630** MILTON *On May Morning* 4 The yellow Cowslip, and the pale Primrose. **1784** COWPER *Task* vi. 302 King-cups in the yellow mead. **1855** Ht. MARTINEAU *Autobiog.* (1877) I. 383 Yellow as a guinea. **1860** FITZ-ROY in *Merc. Marine Mag.* VII. 342 A bright yellow sky at sunset presages wind.

β. **c1175** *Lamb. Hom.* 53 þe **zolewe** frogge. **1382** WYCLIF *Gen.* xxx. 32 Seuer alle thi speckid sheep, and with speckyd fese, and what euer **zowow**. **a1400** *Pistill of Susan* 192 Hir hed was **zowow** as wyre Of gold fyned wip fyre. **c1440** *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 579 Ek best are hennis blake, & werst ar white And good ar yolg. **1540** *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 107 The sparver of buckeram yelow and rede. **1571** in Feuillerat *Revels Q. Eliz.* (1908) 146 One maske was yelow. **1828** *Craven Gloss.* 206 As yollo as a daffodowndilly. **1888** *Sheffield Gloss.*, **Yellow**, yellow.

γ. **c1375** *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxix. (Placidas) 23 Quhen for elde . . . his teth waxis **zalu** with-al. **1397** *Priory of Finchale* (Surtees) 117, j coopertorium cum rosys **zallow**. **c1400** MAUNDEV. (1839) vii. 48 His Nekke is **zallowe**. **1483** *Cath. Angl.* 425/1 **3allowe**, **aureus**. **1500** *Ortus Vocab.*, **Glaucus**, **zalo** or yrne graye. **1535** COVERDALE *Jer.* x. 9 Clothed with yalow syck and scarlet. **1546** *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 239 Too yalley coverlettes. **16..** SIR W. MURE *Sonn.* to Margaret ix. 10 Yallow curls of gold. **1863** *Macm. Mag.* Dec. 101 'Do you remember the lilies at Stanlake?' . . . 'Acres on 'em, . . . Yallah ones as well.'

δ. **13..** *Seuyn Sag.* (W.) 477 Here yaulew here Out of the tresses sche hit tere. **1513** *Inv.* in *Archaeologia* LXVI. 343 A pece of yowlowe lawne. **1541** *Lanc. Wills* (Chetham Soc.) I. 80, iij old ewlow quishens. **1550** *Ibid.* II. 103 A yelow coverlet. **1591** SPENSER *Ruins of Time* 10 Rending her yeolow locks.

b. Of the complexion in age or disease; also as the colour of faded leaves, ripe corn, old discoloured paper, etc.; hence *allusively*.

The phrase in quot. 1605 has been freq. echoed. **c1000** *Sax. Leechd.* II. 106 Wip þære **geolwan** adle hune biscoep wyrð. . . munge þa togædere. *Ibid.* 348 ðif him biþ ælfsogopa him beoþ þa eagan **geolwe** þær hi reade beon seeoldon. ? **a1366** CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 310 Sorowe, thought, and greet distresse, . . . Made hir ful yelwe [*MS.* yolare]. **13..** *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 951 Bot vn-lyke on to loke þo ladyes were, For if þe **zonge** was **zep**, **zolz** was þat oper. **1422** YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* 222 Yelow coloure in the face meddelite with palnesse. **1590** GREENE *Never too late* Wks. (Grosart) VIII. 225 The riping corne growes yeolow in the stalke. **1597** SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV.* I. ii. 204 Haue you not a moist eye? a dry hand? a yellow cheeke? a white beard? **c1600** — *Sonn.* civ. 5 Three Winters colde, Haue from the forrests shooke three summers pride, Three beauteous springs to yellow Autumne turn'd. **1605** — *Macb.* v. iii. 23 My way of life Is false into the Seare, the yellow Leaf. **1667** MILTON *P.L.* XI. 435 The green Eare, and the yellow Sheaf. **1730-46** THOMSON *Autumn* 1322 When Autumns yellow lustre gilds the world. **1817** BYRON *Beppo* xcii, No, I never Saw a man grown so yellow! How's your liver? **1824** — 'Tis time this heart' ii, My days are in the yellow leaf. **1836** DICKENS *Sk. Boz, Sentiment*, 'The Misses Crumpton' were . . . very upright, and very yellow. **1847** EMERSON *Repr. Men, Shakespeare* Wks. (Bohn) I. 358 They [*sc.* the Shakespeare Society] have left. . . no file of old yellow accounts to decompose. . . to discover whether the boy Shakespeare poached. **1849** JAMES *Woodman* vii, The yellow autumn time of the year.

† *c*. With allusion to the use of yellow starch (coloured with saffron). *Obs*.

1614 TOMKIS *Albumazar* II. i. (1615) Dj, Trincalo, what price beare's wheate, and Saffron, that your band's so stiffe and yellow? **1616** B. JONSON *Devil is an Ass* I. i, Car-men Are got into the yellow starch. **1619** RICH *Irish Hubbub* 4 Yellow bands are become so common, to euery young giddy-headed Gallant, and light-hee'd Mistress, that me thinks a man should not hardly be hanged without a yellow band, a fashion so much in vse with the vaine fantastick foolcs of this age. **a1626** MIDDLETON *Widow* v. i, That Suit. . . will disgrace my Masters fashion for euer, and make it as hatefull as yellow bands. **c1645** [see STARCH *sb*. 1].

d. Having a naturally yellowish skin or complexion: applied chiefly (often somewhat depreciatorily) to persons of Asiatic, esp. Oriental, origin, but also in the *U.S.* to persons of mixed white and Black origin and (freq. as *yaller*) to light-skinned Blacks.

In modern use also *transf.* in *yellow peril* and similar phrases, denoting a supposed danger that the Asiatic peoples will overwhelm the white, or overrun the world.

1787 *Asiatick Researches* (1790) II. 2 That the Turks have any just reason for holding the coast of Yemen to be a part of India, and called its inhabitants Yellow Indians. **1834** [see MONGOLIAN *a*. 2]. **1834** *Sun* (N.Y.) 20 Mar. 2/2 A huge looking 'yaller gall' was hammering away at the eyes of a small white man. . . because he called her a *snow* ball. **186**. *Amer. Song*, 'Cheer up Sam' i, I lov'd a dark-eyed yellow girl, And thought that she lov'd me. **1888** L. A. SMITH *Music of Waters* 37 Oh, sigh her up, my yaller gals. **1892** E. REEVES *Homeward Bound* 5 The 'yellow agony', as the Chinese, the best market gardeners in the world, are called. **1900** *Daily News* 21 July 3/5 The 'yellow peril' in its most serious form. **1910** *Encycl. Brit.* IX. 851/1 Mongolic or Yellow Man prevails over the vast area lying east of a line drawn from Lapland to Siam. **1913** *Punch* 19 Feb. 138/3 Believers in the Yellow Peril who wish everyone else to realise the importance of that menace are proposing to bring it home by means of All Yellow Suppers. **1927** [see *monkey-man* *s.v.* MONKEY *sb*. 18a]. **1937** C. HIMES *Black on Black* (1973) 141 The nervous profile of the driver bent low over the wheel. A yellow nigger. **1942** Z. N. HURSTON in A. Dundes *Mother Wit* (1973) 28/2, I done slept with yaller women. **1956** J. BARTH *Floating Opera* xxviii. 268 Ah fails to unnerstan' How a wuthless, shifless dahkie such as you, sah, Kin conglomerate de money fo' a Caddy-lac sedan, Jest to keep yo' yaller gal fren' sweet and true, sah. **1966** *Listener* 17 Mar. 401/1 The setting is. . . England now, with a cold war and a yellow peril. **1977** C. McCULLOUGH *Thorn Birds* xv. 348 But Japan was Asia, part of the Yellow Peril poised like a descending pendulum above Australia's rich, empty, underpopulated pit.

e. Applied to naval captains retired as rear admirals in H.M. Fleet without being attached to a particular squadron (red, white, or blue). (Cf. **YELLOW** *v*. 1 2 c.)

1788 *Parl. Hist.* XXVII. 22 An establishment planned in 1747, for the maintenance and support of such officers as were passed by in a promotion of captains to flags, and this was the first (as it was commonly called) of Yellow admils. **1854** DE QUINCEY *War Wks.* 1862 IV. 264 That's a sort of plagiarism from Themistocles. . . I have as good a right to the words. . . as that most classical of yellow admirals. **1867** SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Yellow-admiral*, a retired post-captain, who, not having served his time in that rank, is not entitled to his promotion to the active flag. **1898** *Westm. Gaz.* 11 July 1/2 For the remainder of those in the senior rank there is. . . a prospect of their attaining the rank of flag officer with the 'yellow' attachment.

f. *transf.* Dressed in yellow.

1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lxvi, The yellow postillion was cracking his whip gently.

2. fig. † *a*. Affected with jealousy, jealous. (Cf. JAUNDICED 3.) Also in allusive phrases, as *to wear yellow hose* = to be jealous. *Obs*.

1602 MIDDLETON *Blurt, Master Constable* v. ii, Ha, ha, ha; by my ventoy (yellow Lady) you take your marke improper. **1607** DEKKER & WEBSTER *Northw. Hoe* I. Wks. 1873 III. 14 Iealous men are eyther Knaues or Coxcombes, bee you neither: you weare yellow hose without cause. **1623** MASSINGER *Dk. Milan* iv. ii, If I were The Duke. . . I should weare yellow breeches. **1632** MASSINGER & FIELD *Fatal Dowry* III. i, If my Lord Bee now growne yellow. **1665** BRATHWAIT *Comm. Two Tales* (1900) 47 Your yellow

humour interprets this to be too much familiarity. **c1680** *Roxb. Ball.* (1874) II. 61 Why, therefore, Shouldst thou deplore, Or weare stockings that are yellow? **c1680** *Man's Felicity* xiii, My Wife will wear no yellow hose. **1812** J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict.*, *Yellow*, jealous; a jealous husband is called a *yellow gloak*. **1858** *Aldé Rita* xvi, Well, the filly's cut you out, Rita: won in a canter, you see! You've got to wear the yellow shoes, and all your own fault.

b. Craven, cowardly. *colloq.* (orig. *U.S.*).

1856 in P. T. Barnum *Struggles & Triumphs* (1869) 400 We never thought your heart was yellow. **1918** J. M. GRIDER *War Birds* (1927) 264 One of our noblest he-men, a regular fire-eater to hear him tell it, has turned yellow at the front. **1932** E. WALLACE *When Gangs came to London* xv. 121 The yellow jury. . . acquitted 'em on a murder charge. **1950** J. AGEE in *Botteghe Oscure* VI. 392 Then something happened that made me know I was scared of them and I admitted to myself: I'm yellow. **1974** *Guardian* 30 Jan. 24/3 It frightens me when moderate voices are taken to be from weak and yellow men. **1977** 'O. JACKS' *Autumn Heroes* xiv. 203 You're yellow scum. You'll fight when the odds are with you.

c. Of or pertaining to an organization, a policy, or to persons opposed to militant action by a trade union or trade unions. See also *yellow union*, sense C. 1 e below.

1913 J. A. ESTEY *Revolutionary Syndicalism* ii. 47 The so-called *syndicats jaunes*, or yellow syndicates, formed in the interest of employers for the purpose of strike-breaking. **1920** *Glasgow Herald* 12 Sept. 7 The railwaymen. . . will be content to follow the lead of the General Confederation of labour and stick to the Amsterdam International, which the dictators of Russia have labelled 'yellow'—that is to say 'blackleg'. *Ibid.* 24 Nov. 8/3 The Russian Soviet Republic has insolently rejected it as 'a Congress of yellow leaders who continually betray the fundamental interests of the Labour movement'. **1922** B. G. DE MONTGOMERY *Brit. & Continental Labour Policy* vi. 58 The bus-traffic and road-transport were organized by the members of the 'yellow' or anti-strike syndicates, and by the *bourgeois* class. **1939** A. PHILIP in H. A. Marquand *Organized Labour in Four Continents* 51 The Confederation of Professional Unions, a 'yellow' organization benefiting from employer support. **1972** G. L. MOSSE in *Jrnl. Contemp. Hist.* VII. 206 France was regarded as the classical land of yellow trade unionism.

3. (orig. *U.S.*) Applied to newspapers (or writers of newspaper articles) of a recklessly or unscrupulously sensational character.

A use derived from the appearance in 1895 of a number of the *New York World* in which a child in a yellow dress ('The Yellow Kid') was the central figure of the cartoon, this being an experiment in colour-printing designed to attract purchasers.

1898 *Daily News* 2 Mar. 7/2 The yellow Press is for a war with Spain, at all costs. **1898** ELIZ. L. BANKS in *19th Cent.* Aug. 328 All American journalism is not 'yellow', though all strictly 'up-to-date' yellow journalism is American! *Ibid.* 332 Its [*sc.* *New York Journal*] Sunday editions, with its 'yellow kids' and 'blackberry blossoms' and various other 'special features'. **1902** — *Newspaper Girl* xviii, The very first thing I was asked to do in the line of 'yellow' work was to walk along Broadway at midnight and 'allow' myself to be arrested. **1906** *Times* (weekly ed.) 9 Nov. 714 The President of the United States sent his Secretary of State to New York to throw the whole weight of Mr. Roosevelt's. . . authority and influence against the 'yellow' candidate [*sc.* Hearst].

4. Of or pertaining to a political party whose colour is yellow. Cf. sense 4 of the *sb*.

1834 F. WITTS *Diary* 12 Aug. (1978) 97 The respective parties mustered when the poll was over at their headquarters, the Bell Hotel being the Blue house and the King's Head the yellow. **1874** TROLLOPE *Phineas Redux* I. ii. 14 He remained there for three or four days. . . staying at the 'Yellow' inn.

B. sb.

1. *a*. The colour described in **YELLOW** *a*. 1, or a shade, pigment, fabric, or stuff of this colour.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 3446 **3elugh** vnder **3elugh** pey hyde. **c1386** CHAUCER *Nun's Pr.* T. 82 His colour was bitweye yelow [*v.r.* **zelw**] and reed. **1396-7** *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 214 [Hangings] cum avibus de yalow. **c1400** *Destr. Troy* 5462 All hor colouris to ken were of clene yalow. **c1450** in *Mail. Club Misc.* III. 199 Courtenes of singill worst palyt of red and grein and yhalou. **c1532** in E. Law *Hampton Crt. Palace* (1885) 363 For 4000 flemyshe pavyng tyll of grene and jowlo. **1541** *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) VI. 135 A crosse of yelowwe opone his brest. **a1548** *HALL Chron.*, *Hen. VIII.* 227 Quene Anne were yelow for the mournyng. **1577** B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. (1586) 133 b, The sicknesse of the Gall. . . is also discerned by the browne yelowes vnder the vpper lippe. **1600** NASHE *Summer's Last Will* B 3 b, Wks. (Grosart) VI. 94 To weare the blacke and yelow [*rime* followe]. **1609** B. JONSON *Silent Wom.* I. iv, Wee doe beare for our Coat Yellow, or Or, checker'd Azure, and Gules. **1613** SHAKS. *Hen. VIII* Prol. 16 A long Motley Gule, garded with Yellow. **1633** Bp. HALL *Ocas. Medit.* (ed. 3) §54, I doe not like these reds, and blewes, and yelowes, amongst these plaine stalkes and eares. **c1665** in *Verney Mem.* (1907) II. 275 Ribband knots for her head of sky collar, or yallow. **1715** ADDISON *Freeholder* No. 10. 60 When he appear'd in Yellow, his Great Men hid themselves in Corners. **1824** MISS MITFORD *Village Ser.* I. (1863) 58 The narrow lane bordered with elms, whose fallen leaves have made the road one yellow. **1859** GULLICK & TIMBS *Painting* 224 The ochres are the most permanent yellows. **1889** J. K. JEROME *Three Men in Boat* vii, His complexion is too dark for yellows. Yellows don't suit him.

b. With qualifying words, denoting different shade of the colour, as *brass-*, *bronze-*, *canary-*, *gold-*, *Isabella-*, *lemon-*, *primrose-*, *rust-*, *straw-*, *sulphur-* (etc.) *yellow*, or various pigments and dyes, as *aniline y.*, *Chinese y.*, *cobalt y.*, *imperial y.*, *Indian y.*, *King's y.*, *Mars y.*, *Naples y.*, *strontian y.*, etc., for which see the first element.

1532 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* VI. 23 Tway elnis franche 3allow to lyne the said eote. 1794 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 89 Isabella yellow. 1805-17 R. JAMESON *Char. Min.* (ed. 3) 69 Brass-yellow, gold-yellow, and bronze-yellow. 1831-3 BARLOW in *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VIII. 539/1 A yellow termed rust yellow is made with acetate of iron thickened with gum for light yellows. 1899 *Daily News* 29 Dec. 5/1 Martius's yellow. This substance has many an alias, some alluring, some otherwise, golden yellow, Manchester yellow, saffron yellow, naphthalene yellow. †c. *allusively*, as the colour attributed to jealousy: cf. A. 2. *Obs.*

1611 SHAKS. *Wint. T.* II. iii. 107 If thou hast The ordering of the Mind too, amongst all Colours No Yellow in't.

d. Cowardice. Cf. sense 2 b of the adj. above. 1896 G. ADE *Artie* vi. 57 This is how I found that streak of yellow in him. 1914 B. M. BOWER *Flying U Ranch* 146, I was just b'ginnin' to think this bunch was gitting all streaked up with yellor.

2. a. Denoting various objects of a yellow colour, as the yolk of an egg, the stigmas of the saffron crocus (quot. 1587), a yellow carriage (quot. 1833), or any yellow substance, as sulphur (quot. 1649), gold (U.S.), old faded paper; also *ellipt.* for a yellow variety of any flower, fruit, root, etc.

c 700 *Epinal Gloss.* 429 *Fitulium* [Erfurt *vitellus*], ærgergelu. c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 22 ðenim æges þæt geolowe & meng lythwon wið hunig. *Ibid.* 130 Banwyrt do on sure fletan & on hunig æges geola, meng tosomne, smire mid. 1587 HARRISON *England* III. viii. 232/2 in *Holinshead*, In euerie flour [of saffron] we finde commonlie three chiuies, and three yellows. 1649 *Woodstock Scuffle* xxiv, The men were frighted, and did smell O' th' yellow. 1738 DEERING *Cat. Stirp.* 149 *Napus sylvestris*... the Country People here call them the Yellows. 1833 T. HOOK *Parson's Dau.* II. vii, The arrival... of Lady Frances Sheringham herself and her maid, in a 'yellow and two'. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 14 The yellows [sc. turnips] then follow, and last for about 2 months. a 1845 SYD. SMITH in *Lady Holland Mem.* (1855) I. 373 To make this condiment, your poet begs The pounded yellow of two hard-boild eggs. 1849 CUPPLES *Green Hand* xvi, As he [sc. the aged Negro] sat... leering out of the yellows of his eyes. 1858 *Pike's Peak Guide Bk.* 320 We commenced sending prospecting parties into the mountains, but they returned every night with 'nary yellow'. 1886 C. SCOTT *Sheep-farming* 43 Yellows or swedes. 1901 M. E. RYAN *That Girl Montana* xviii. 227 She would watch some strange miner dig and wash the soil in his search for the precious yellow.

b. A particular yellow species or variety of bird, butterfly (= SULPHUR 5 a), or moth.

1816 STEPHENS in *Shaw Gen. Zool.* IX. II. 464 [American Gold-finches] are called York Yellows. 1855 *Poultry Chron.* II. 515 Tumblers, Blues, Blacks, Silver, Yellows. 1880 A. H. SWINTON *Insect Variety* 51 Our English Clouded Yellows. 1896 W. F. KIRBY *Handbk. Order Lepidopt.* II. 214 Both our Clouded Yellows are very rare in Scandinavia.

c. A yellow ball used in the game of snooker. 1910 *Encycl. Brit.* III. 938/2 If it is pocketed, the player scores one and is at liberty to play on any of the coloured balls; though in some clubs he is compelled to play on the yellow. 1950 L. H. DAWSON *Hoyle's Games Modernized* III. 346 At the beginning of the game [of snooker] Yellow is placed on the right-hand corner of the D. 1977 *Cleethorpes News* 6 May 29/4 After potting the yellow he more or less forced Barnes to take green, brown and blue.

d. A golden Labrador.

1945 C. L. B. HUBBARD *Observer's Bk. Dogs* 97 As long as we have bred Labradors we have had yellows. 1973 *Country Life* 8 Feb. (Suppl.) 325/1 Some of the yellows were a light creamy colour.

3. A person with a naturally yellowish skin or complexion (see A. 1 d). Only *pl.* (Cf. *black, white*.) See also *high yellow* s.v. HIGH a. 21. (Somewhat *depreciatory*.)

1808 C. SCHULTZ Jr. *Trav.* (1810) II. 198 In attending to the amusements of the whites, the yellows, and the blacks, I had almost forgotten to mention the reds. 1886 *Cornh. Mag.* July 50 The 'whites' have made a complete surrender to the 'yellows'. 1901 *19th Cent.* May 837 If they [sc. Japanese] are to colonise at all they must colonise among the yellows and the blacks.

4. As the colour of a party badge; hence *transf.* an adherent of a party whose colour is yellow.

1755 *Gentl. Mag.* Aug. 339/2 The blues being in the old interest, and the yellows in the new. 1868 HOLME LEE B. *Godfrey* li, He would not vote yellow. 1881 [see BLUE sb. 8].

5. A 'yellow' journal or writer: see A. 3.

1898 *Daily News* 27 July 5/7 This deliberate attempt to stir up animosities... is worthy of 'the yellows' at their worst. 1901 *Scribner's Mag.* Apr. 408/2 The killing at the Vulcan Shops made the yellows froth head-lines.

6. *ellipt.* for *yellow alert*, sense C. 1 e below.

1940 *Mass-Observation Archive* 1 Aug. in Calder & Sheridan *Speak for Yourself* (1984) iii. 78 Soon after eleven we were remarking that it was time we got the yellow, when the telephone went. 1943 [see RED sb. 1 8]. 1949 [see ALERT sb. 1 b]. 1978 'G. VAUGHAN' *Belgrade Drop* xiii. 84 President Turner had been in touch with the other Nato head of state and their forces had gone on yellow.

** For specialized uses of the plural in singular sense, see YELLOWS.

C. Collocations and Combinations.

1. Special collocations. a. In names of species or varieties of animals distinguished by their yellow colour or colouring: as *yellow ant, baboon, bass, bittern, boa, chatterer, fly, fly-catcher, grosbeak, Labrador, perch, redpoll, tanager, underwing, wagtail, warbler, weasel, woodpecker, yite*, for which see the sbs.; also *yellow-bob*, a shrike-robin, *Eopsaltria australis*, found in forested areas of south-eastern

Australia; *Yellow Sally*, name for a species of stone-fly used as a bait by anglers; *yellow snake*, one of several yellowish snakes, esp. a boa, *Epicrates subflavus*, found in the West Indies; *yellow warbler*, one of several North American warblers of the genus *Dendroica*; see also YELLOW-BIRD, YELLOW-FISH, YELLOW-HAMMER. b. In names of plants distinguished by having flowers (or sometimes fruit, wood, etc.) of a yellow colour: as *yellow archangel, balsam, bedstraw, bugle, camomile, centaury, cress, crocus, daffodil, dead-nettle, fir, flag, gentian, gilliflower, gold* (GOLD²), *gowan, jasmine, loosestrife, medick, ox-eye, pearmain, pim-pernel, pine, poppy, rattle, rocket, rose, sedge, succory, sultan, thistle, vetch, vetchling, water-cress, water-lily*, for which see the sbs.; also *yellow bean*, the yellow seeds of one of several varieties of soya bean; *yellow birch*, a North American tree, *Betula lutea*, which has yellow or grey bark; *yellow box*, an Australian gum-tree, *Eucalyptus melliodora*, which has yellowish inner bark; *yellow cedar* = *Nootka cypress* s.v. NOOTKA a. 2; *yellow poplar*, one of several North American softwood trees or their wood, esp. the tulip-tree, *Liriodendron tulipifera*; *yellow-weed*, (a) *dial. dyer's-weed, Reseda Luteola*; (b) common ragwort, *Senecio Jacobaea*; (c) in U.S. a name for some species of golden-rod (*Solidago*); *yellow-wort*, a gentianaceous plant, *Chlora perfoliata*, having bright yellow flowers and yielding a yellow dye; *yellow centaury*; *yellow yam*, one of several species of *Dioscorea* producing yellow-fleshed tubers; also, the tubers themselves. c. In names of minerals, and of chemical or other products, of a yellow colour: as *yellow arsenic, copper, copperas, corallin, jasper, lake* (LAKE sb.⁶ 3), *ochre, orpiment, quartz, sandalwood, sanders, ultramarine, wash, wax*, for which see the sbs.; also *yellow bark*, any variety of Peruvian bark of a yellow colour, as *Calisaya bark*; *yellow berries*, the fruit of *Rhamnus infectorius* and other species, yielding a yellow dye; also called *Persian berries*; *yellow deal*, the wood of the Scotch fir, *Pinus sylvestris*; *yellow earth*, †(a) a generic term for minerals or 'earths' of a yellow colour; (b) a yellowish clay, coloured by iron, used as a pigment; a variety of bole; *yellow ground*, kimberlite that is exposed at the surface and has become yellow as a result of atmospheric oxidation; *yellow jack* = *yellow jacket* (b), sense C. 2 c; *yellow metal*, an alloy of two parts of copper and one of zinc, used for sheathing vessels; *yellow ore*, yellow copper ore, copper pyrites (see COPPER sb.¹ 12); *yellow phosphorus* = *white phosphorus* s.v. WHITE a. 11 c; *yellow share*, ? sb. or a. (? *obs.*) [cf. REDSHIRE, -SHARE], a name or epithet for a brittle or friable iron ore (see quot.); *yellow soap*, a common soap made of tallow, rosin, and soda; hence *yellow-soap v. trans. (nonce-wd.)*, to wash or rub with yellow soap; *yellow ware*, yellow earthenware or stoneware; *yellow wove* (see quot.). d. In names of diseases characterized by yellowness of the skin, or of some tissue, secretion, etc.: as *yellow jaundice* (see JAUNDICE), *softening, typhus*; (acute) *yellow atrophy*, 'atrophy and yellow discoloration of the liver with jaundice' (Dorland s.v. *Atrophy*); †*yellow evil*, jaundice, or (app.) some epidemic disease of which jaundice was a symptom; *yellow gum*, jaundice in infants, characterized by yellowness of the gums; *yellow Jack, yellow jack*, a slang name for yellow fever; *yellow plague* = *yellow evil*; *yellow sickness*, (a) = prec.; (b) a disease of hyacinth-plants (see quot. 1887); †*yellow sought* [SOUGHT sb.], jaundice: see also YELLOW FEVER. e. Miscellaneous: *yellow admiral* (see A. 1 e); *yellow alert*, an instruction to be prepared for or an initial state of readiness to cope with an emergency (cf. *red alert* s.v. RED a. 19 a); *yellow badge*, a badge of identification that Jews have sometimes been required to wear, esp. by the Nazis in Germany (cf. *yellow star* below); *yellow band*, a mark on a lamp-post to indicate that motor vehicles are not permitted to wait in the vicinity; freq. *attrib.*; also = *yellow line* below; *yellow belt*, the belt worn by one who has attained a certain standard of proficiency in judo (see quots.); *yellow book*, (a) an official report of government affairs in various European countries; (b) a report issued by the Liberal Party in 1928 on the industrial future of Britain; *yellow card*, in Association

Football, a card shown by the referee to a player when he is cautioned; *yellow cartilage Anat.*, cartilage containing *yellow fibres*, elastic cartilage; *yellow cell Biol.*, one of the small yellow bodies found in many radiolarians, now held to be symbiotic algæ; *yellow dirt*, a contemptuous appellation for gold; *yellow fibre Anat.*, one of the elastic fibres of a yellow colour occurring in certain tissues (so *yellow fibrous tissue* = *yellow tissue*); *yellow flag*, a flag of a yellow colour displayed on board ship, formerly as a signal of capital punishment, now as a signal of infectious disease or of quarantine, and hoisted in war time on hospitals, etc.; *Yellow George* (see GEORGE 4 b); †*yellow jacket*, a military decoration in imperial China (*obs. exc. Hist.*); *yellow jersey* [tr. F. *maillot jaune*], a jersey awarded to the winner of (a stage of) a cycle race, esp. the *Tour de France*; *yellow leaf*, used (in allusion to quot. 1605) to refer to the process of ageing; *yellow light U.S.* a yellow-coloured cautionary light in traffic signals (cf. AMBER a. b); also *fig.*; *yellow line*, a yellow road-marking, usu. parallel to the kerb, indicating that parking of motor vehicles is restricted (though local regulations vary); also *double yellow line* indicating that parking is forbidden; *yellow-man*, †(a) a yellow silk handkerchief (*slang*); (b) a person with naturally yellowish skin or complexion (see A. 1 d); *yellow pages sb. pl. orig. U.S.*, an index printed on yellow paper; *spec.* the classified section of or supplement to a telephone directory, listing firms, products, and services; *yellow peril* (see A. 1 d); *yellow press* (see A. 3); *Yellow Pressman*, a journalist or reporter working for the yellow press (cf. sense 3 of the adj.); *yellow rain* = *sulphur rain* (see SULPHUR sb. 8); a yellow powder reported as falling through the air in S.E. Asia and causing severe blistering and sometimes death; *yellow rust*, a disease of wheat caused by the fungus *Puccinia glumarum*; *yellow spot Anat.*, a yellowish circular depression in the middle of the retina, being the region of most distinct vision; = *macula lutea* s.v. MACULA 2; *yellow star*, a piece of yellow cloth bearing the Magen David, which the Nazis required Jews to wear; *yellow stick* (see quots.); *yellow streak*, a trait of cowardice; *yellow tissue Anat.*, tissue containing *yellow fibres*, elastic tissue; *yellow union* [tr. F. *syndicat jaune*: cf. sense 2 c of the adj. above] a union of workers favouring free enterprise and usually opposed to strike action; *yellow warning* = *yellow alert* above. See also YELLOW-BOY.

1968 *Punch* 28 Aug. 279/1 NATO forces had quickly been placed on 'Yellow *Alert'. 1969 *Times* 17 Sept. 1/8 A yellow alert... on hospital beds... means that all cases not in need of immediate attention will not be admitted to hospitals. 1978 'G. VAUGHAN' *Belgrade Drop* iii. 23 The United States president... put his missile submarines throughout the world on yellow alert. 1815 KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* x. (1818) I. 310 Piso speaks of yellow *ants called *Cupid* inhabiting Brazil. 1864-5 WOOD *Homes without H.* vii. (1868) 129 The common Yellow Ant (*Formica flava*) so abundant in marshes and gardens. 1845 BUDD *Dis. Liver* 204 The yellow *atrophy is distinguished by a deep yellow colour; imbibition of the whole tissue of the organ with bile [etc.]. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Daniel Deronda* III. v. xxxviii. 127 To Deronda just now the name Cohen was equivalent to the ugliest of yellow *badges. 1892 I. ZANGWILL *Childr. Ghetto* l. 2 People who have been living in a ghetto for a couple of centuries are not able... to efface the brands on their souls by putting off the yellow badges. 1942 I. COHEN *Jews in War* iii. 31 *The Yellow Badge* The crowning device for humiliating the Jews was the revival of a mediæval practice. In October 1941, a decree was issued requiring them to wear a yellow armband marked with the 'Shield of David', which the Jews of Poland had been wearing for the past two years. 1962 BRIDGER & WOLK *New Jewish Encycl.* 38/1 (caption) The yellow badge the Nazis required Jews to wear in Germany and Nazi-occupied countries. 1948 *Times* 13 May 2/3 When the no-waiting order was first introduced in the West End it was announced that permanent signs would be erected as soon as the materials were available, the yellow *bands being temporary. 1959 *Times* 8 Dec. 5/6 Vast numbers of cars... are left at the kerbside all day in parts of central London except the yellow-band streets. 1962 R. JEFFRIES *Exhibit No. Thirteen* iv. 36 Parked my car in a yellow-band area. 1967 R. RENDELL *Wolf to Slaughter* ii. 17 The car drew up... 'Not on the yellow band, Drayton', Burden said sharply. 1996 NEMNICH *Polygl.-Lex.* 960 Yellow *bark. 1837, 1875 [see CALISAYA]. 1838 THOMSON *Chem. Org. Bodies* 802 The yellow bark is the most employed, and most highly esteemed in this country. It is the bark of the *cinchona cordifolia* of Mutis. 1888 GOODE *Amer. Fishes* 33 Another species which closely resembles the Striped Bass is the *Morone interrupta*, generally known as the Yellow *Bass. 1965 H. BURKE *Chinese Cooking for Pleasure* 150 In small cans are bamboo shoots, red bean curd, black bean, yellow soy *bean, [etc.]. 1972 CLAIBORNE & LEE *Chinese Cookbk.* (1973) xi. 422 *Bean Sauce*... Also called 'Whole Bean Sauce' or 'Yellow Bean Sauce', this thick sauce is made from yellow beans, flour, and water and is sold in... tins. 1983 *Observer* 16 Jan. (Colour Suppl.: Living Extra) 7/4 Black beans... and yellow beans... are both

products of the versatile soya bean. **1941** M. FELOENKRAIS *Judo* 166 A white belt is worn by beginners, corresponding to the sixth Kyu. The next grade, the fifth, is indicated by a yellow *belt. **1979** *Observer Mag.* 17 June 39/1 For several years he went to judo classes, reached yellow-belt standard (three below black belt). **1712** tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 13 The Yellow *Berry is the Fruit of a Shrub which Authors call Licium. **1812** J. SMYTH *Pract. Customs* (1821) 46 Yellow Berries are the fruit of a species of Lycium, growing plentifully in different parts of France. . . It is much used by the Dyers and Painters. **1787** W. SARGENT in *Mem. Amer. Acad.* IX. 158 Black and Yellow *Birch. . . The bark of the latter is used by the Indians for making canoes. **1851** J. S. SPRINGER *Forest Life* 23 The general outlines of the Yellow Birch often resemble the Elm. **1943** R. PEATTIE *Great Smokies* 156 A yellow birch on Whitetop Mountain was found to be seven feet three inches thick. **1974** M. BRAITHWAITE *Ontario* xi. 169 Hemlock, oak, maple, and yellow birch, they were all there, just waiting to be cut down and sawed up into lumber. **1909** A. E. MACK *Bush Calendar* 68 Then a yellow-*bob came to visit us. **1965** *Austral. Encycl.* VII. 470/1 Another common and familiar bird is the yellow robin ('yellowbob') of eastern Australia, a species with a breast of bright yellow. **1883** *Pall Mall Gaz.* 5 Dec. 8/1 Paris, Dec. 5.—The first volume of the new Yellow-*book on Tonkin affairs. **1897** *Times* 23 Nov. 5/1 The *Berliner Neueste Nachrichten* reminds the French Republic that. . . in former Yellow-books there is plenty of evidence to show how generous was the help afforded by Germany to France. **1929** D. LLOYD GEORGE *We can conquer Unemployment* 3 In the 'Yellow Book', published a year ago, the Liberal Industrial Enquiry presented exhaustive proposals for dealing with the grave unemployment situation with which Britain was, and is still, faced. **1949** *Time* (Atlantic ed.) 14 Feb. 18/1 The Communists issued a 'Yellow Book' containing what they called Mindszenty's written confession. **1983** *Daily Tel.* 24 Nov. 18/4 Had the Liberal Yellow Book been published in 1920 our history might have been different. **1877** F. VON MUELLER *Introd. to Bot. Teaching at Schools of Victoria* 15 This tree passes by the very unapt vernacular name Yellow *Box-tree. **1934** *Bulletin* (Sydney) 31 Jan. 21/2 We lop mainly yellow box. **1977** *Meanjin* (Austral.) XXXVI. 1. 71 I'll. . . split off kindling wood from the yellow-box log. **1776** PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* I. 276 Yellow *Bunting. . . ; the crown of the head is of a pleasant pale yellow. **1548** TURNER *Names Herbes* (E.D.S.) 14 The secund [kind of Camomile] is called in greke chrysanthemon. . . it may be called in englishe yealowe *camomyle. **1882** *Garden* 29 July 85/2 The Yellow Camomile. . . seems to be almost unknown. **1976** *Times* 11 Nov. 12/4 Two Villa men were shown the yellow *card for fairly innocuous offences. **1884** N. Y. *Times* 5 Oct. 5/2 Red and yellow *cedar. . . are the other trees most frequently met with. **1910** [see ALASKA]. **1957** *Handbk. of Softwoods* (Forest Prod. Res. Lab.) 61 'Yellow cedar'. . . is confined to the Pacific Coast area from Alaska south to southern Oregon. **1879** tr. *Semper's Anim. Life* 74 Most of the Radiolaria. . . bear in their body certain. . . particles known as the yellow *cells. **1796** KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 140 Yellow *Copper Ore. Copper Pyrites. **1876** VOYLE & STEVENSON *Milit. Dict.* 488/1 Yellow copper is more brittle, stiffer, and less malleable [than the red]. **1548** TURNER *Names Herbes* (E.D.S.) 55 Plenie maketh mention of a kynde called Narcissus berbaeus, whiche is after my iudgement our yealowe *daffodyl. **1766** *Complete Farmer* s.v. Trellis, Trellises. . . being generally made of regularly cut yellow-*deal, or oak. **1753** A. MURPHY *Gray's Inn Jnl.* No. 42 Convenience stamped an imaginary Value upon yellow *Dirt. **1794** CHARLOTTE SMITH *Wand. Warwick* 152 While you hesitate about receiving from me a little yellow dirt, for which I have no use. **1552** HULOET, Yellow *earth founde in the mynes of golde or syluer, *sandaraca*. **1688** HOLME *Armoury* II. 38/2 Yellow earth, as Durry, Yellow Occar, Sand. **1794** KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 194 This yellow earth differs from ochres only in containing a greater proportion of argill. **1883** *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 425/1 Bole. . . Stolpenite, Rock Soap, Plintheite, Yellow Earth or Felinite, Fetbol, and Ochran are varieties. **1387** TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 113 Afterward fel a pestilence in to al Wales of pe jelowe *yuel pat is i-cleped pe iaundys. **1494** [see JAUNOICE 18]. **1667** PRIMATT *City & C. Builder* 61 Yellow *Fir, called Dram. . . is the best sort of Fir for flooring. **1882** *Garden* 30 Sept. 301/3 The principal tree in these forests is the yellow Fir. **1783** *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 213/2 The other three were hanged. . . a yellow *flag was flying from each ship during the execution. **1805** *Act 45 Geo. III.* c. 10 § 14 If the said ship. . . have a clean bill of health, a large yellow flag of six breadths of bunting at the main-topmast head. **1836** MRS. C. P. TRAILL *Backwoods of Canada* 19 [Our ship bears] the melancholy symbol of disease, the yellow flag. **1863** *Ann. Reg., For. Hist.* 326 The yellow flag, ordinarily held so sacred in modern war, has. . . been but the mark for the hottest and most deadly fire. **1867** SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, Yellow-flag, the signal of quarantine. **1750** G. EDWARDS *Nat. Hist. Birds* III. Index 243 The great Yellow *Fly with black Spots. **1902** *Westm. Gaz.* 31 May 2/1 A banded yellow-fly. c 1386 Yelewe *gooldes [see GOLD² 1]. **1625** B. JONSON *Pan's Anniv.* Wks. (1641) I. 119 Gladdest myrtle for these postes to weare. . . star'd with yellow-golds, and Meadows Queene. **1783** LATHAM *Gen. Synopsis Birds* III. 139 Yellow *Grosbeak. . . head, neck, breast, belly, and vent, yellow. . . Inhabits Asia. **1886** Yellow *ground [see blue ground s.v. BLUE a. 13]. **1947** E. AFRICAN *Ann.* 1946-7 122/1 The portion of a pipe at the surface which has been altered or weathered and is usually of a yellowish colour is known as 'yellow ground', in contrast to the blue-green colour of the unaltered kimberlite or blue ground. **1978** *Sci. Amer.* Apr. 120/3 Most kimberlite exposed at the surface, called 'yellow ground' by miners and prospectors, is severely weathered. **1799** UNDERWOOD *Dis. Childhood* (ed. 4) I. 26 Nurses have usually accounted the yellowness that appears about the third day after birth, if unusually deep (termed by some the yellow *gum) as the true jaundice. **1836** E. HOWARD R. REEfer xxxiii, Misgivings about Yellow *Jack. **1857** KINGSLEY *Two Y. Ago* iv, Have seen three choleras, two army fevers, and yellow-jack without end. **1897** MARY KINGSLEY *W. Africa* 1, I knew a good deal. . . of South East America, and remembered that Yellow Jack was endemic. **1927** M. M. BENNETT *Christison of Lammernoor* iv. 49 These trees called yellowjacks are soft wood, so white ants enclose them with earth walls and eat the wood out. **1943** A. MARSHALL in *Coast to Coast* 1942 14, I tied the horse to a yellowjack and crept towards the river. **1864** *North-China*

Herald 18 June 99/2 [They] being each and all pre-eminent for bravery, contempt for death, and a generous emulation, are invested with the yellow *jacket as a reward for their merits. **1878** H. A. GILES *Gloss. Ref. Far East* 84 A yellow *ma-kwa* is a distinction conferred by the Emperor on high officials; sometimes called the *Yellow Jacket*. **1918** H. B. MORSE *International Relations Chinese Empire* II. v. 104 On Li Hung-chung was conferred the military distinction of the Yellow Jacket and the civil distinction of Junior Guardian to the heir apparent. **1964** *Guardian* 16 June 6/6 Metcalfe (England) won his seventh yellow *jersey with another aggressively defensive ride. **1983** *Times* 1 July 12/5 It's hard enough even to get a ride in the Tour [de France]. . . To be the raceleader, to wear the yellow jersey, that's almost worth dying for. **1948** C. L. B. HUBBARO *Dogs in Britain* xix. 232 The Yellow *Labrador sometimes called the Golden Labrador. . . differs in several respects from the black Labrador. **1974** *Times* 4 May 23/8 (Adv.), Country home urgently wanted for two purebred Yellow Labrador bitches. [1605: see SERE, SEAR, a. 1 b]. **1913** L. STRACHEY in *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 68 The radiant creatures of Sceaux had fallen into the yellow *leaf. **1935** C. ISHERWOOD *Mr. Norris changes Trains* vii. 107 Yes, I shall be fifty-three. . . I find it difficult to become accustomed to the thought that the yellow leaf is upon me. **1974** A. A. THOMPSON *Swiss Legacy* xvi. 157 He guided the Mercedes through the traffic. . . taking chances. . . He ran a yellow *light and then a red one. **1977** N. Y. *Rev. Bks.* 27 Oct. 16/4 They only ask a 'yellow' light—the right to proceed with caution. **1965** *Autocar* 24 Sept. 609/1 The leaflet recently published by RoSPA in conjunction with the Ministry of Transport. . . states that a yellow *line by the kerb means no waiting except for loading and unloading. **1968** J. FLEMING *Kill or Cure* iv. 56 The local police. . . allow me to park on the double yellow line with impunity, when absolutely necessary. **1975** J. SYMONS *Three Pipe Problem* xviii. 180 Traffic wardens can start booking cars on yellow lines after eight o'clock. **1983** *Church Times* 23 Dec. 11/1 Christmas shoppers who had taken the risk of parking on the single yellow line. **1821** *Sporting Mag.* (N.S.) IX. 27 A prime yellow-*man round his squeeze. **1823** 'JON BEE' *Dict. Turf* s.v., John Gully introduced the yellowman. **1898** *Westm. Gaz.* 5 Jan. 1/2 Convinced free-traders from the Colonies. . . draw the line at the free invasion of the Yellowman. **1647** in W. M. Williams *Ann. Founders' Co.* (1867) 103 Wayghtes of Brass. shall not. . . be. . . made of any worse Brass than Yellow *Mettell. **1860** *Merc. Marine Mag.* VII. 284 A ship fastened with yellow metal ought not to be put under the head of 'copper fastened'. **1878** *URE Dict. Arts* IV, Yellow-metal sheathing. **1481-90** Yelu *okyr [see OCHRE sb. 1]. **1599** in *Archaeologia* LXIV. 384 For too pounce of yellow Oker for the said sealing iijd. **1799** G. SMITH *Laboratory* I. 185 Take yellow ochre, Neal it well, and it will turn to a brown red. **1899** CAGNEY tr. *von Jaksch's Clin. Diagn.* (ed. 4) 143 The expectoration, which was of a yellow-ochre tint. **1843** R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* xxix. 391 The ulcer was dressed with yellow *ointment. **1881** RAYMONO *Mining Gloss.*, Yellow-*ore. Chalcopyrite. **1908** *Sears, Roebuck Catal.* (verso rear cover), See the yellow *pages in back of this book. **1956** R. A. HEINLEIN in *Mag. of Fantasy & Sci. Fiction* Oct. 51/2 Get me the yellow-pages phone book. . . I want to check the exact pbrasing of a firm name. **1966** D. G. HAYS in *Automatic Transl. of Lang.* (NATO Summer School, Venice, 1962) 152 In a telephone book. . . in the. . . 'Yellow Pages', the major variable is name of product or service. **1969** *Times* 5 May 26/2 Yellow Pages are the classified guide that will be part of everyone's GPO telephone directory soon. **1982** S. BRETT *Murder Unprompted* i. 10 The random selection method of sticking a pin in the 'Theatrical and Variety Agents' section of the Yellow Pages. **1985** *Punch* 23 Jan. 24/2 I started by ringing a few cowboys through the *Yellow Pages*, just to check on prices. **1866** H. E. ROSCOE *Less. Elem. Chem.* xv. 133 The weight of red substance produced is exactly equal to that of yellow *phosphorus used. **1944** J. A. TIMM *Gen. Chem.* xli. 443 Yellow phosphorus is formed when the liquid solidifies. **1819** LINGARD *Hist. Eng.* I. ii. 108 A pestilence of the most fatal description (it was called the yellow *plague) depopulated the island. **1887** [see PLAGUE sb. 3 b]. **1774** J. R. PEYTON *Let.* 21 July in J. L. Peyton *Adv. My Grandfather* (1867) 127 The forest of Kentucky consists of yellow and white *poplar, walnut, red bud. **1876** W. WHITMAN *Specimen Days* (1882-3) 89 Here is one of my favorites now before me, a fine yellow poplar, quite straight, perhaps 90 feet high. **1955** *Sci. News Let.* 7 May 302/2 The tulip tree is also variously known as tulip poplar, yellow poplar, whitewood and fiddle-tree. **1909** G. K. CHESTERTON *Tremendous Trifles* 131 The Yellow *Pressman seems to have no power of catching the first fresh fact about a man. **1918** S. SASSOON *Counter-Attack* 29 The boys came back. . . And Yellow-Pressmen thronged the sunlit street To cheer the soldiers who'd refrained from dying. **1891** *Cent. Dict.* s.v. *Rain, Sulphur-rain or yellow *rain* is a similar precipitation of the pollen of fir-trees, etc. **1903** *Daily Chron.* 5 Mar. 5/2 The phenomenon of 'yellow rain' was observed at some of the southern. . . stations. **1979** W. SAFIRE in N. Y. *Times* 13 Dec. A31/5 The Laotians call it 'the yellow rain'. **1981** N. Y. *Times* 24 Nov. c-1/5 The United States has been trying since 1976 to verify reports that chemical weapons, known popularly as 'the yellow rain', are being used against remote villages in Laos, Cambodia and, more recently, Afghanistan. **1982** *Sci. News* 20 Feb. 122/1 Blood samples were drawn from nine individuals supposedly exposed to a 'yellow rain' gas attack in the fall of 1981. . . Mirocha 'was able to tentatively identify' . . . a metabolite of the trichothecene mycotoxin T₂, in samples from only two. **1907** *Jnl. Agri. Sci.* II. 129 He [sc. Mr. Biffen] has discovered and grown several wheats which show to a greater or lesser degree immunity to the attacks of *Puccinia glumarum*, Yellow *Rust. **1973** *Scotsman* 7 Aug. 4/6 Mr Blakebell was speaking of yellow rust in wheats. **1855** KINGSLEY *Glaucus* (1859) 195 The delicate lemon-coloured 'Yellow *Sally' (*Chrysoperla viridis*). **1867** F. FRANCIS *Bk. Angling* vi. (1880) 231 The Yellow Sally. . . has. . . a high character with some anglers. **1686** PLOT *Staffordsh.* 160 The first and meanest whereof [sc. Iron Ore], they call yellow *share an ill sort that runs all to dirt and is good for nothing. . . this sort some others are please'd to call Redshare. **1747** CARTE *Hist. Eng.* I. 214 note, The yellow *sickness, a pestilential distemper which is mentioned by abundance of ancient writers, as laying Wales almost desolate. **1807** *Ess. Highl. Soc.* III. 437 note, Yellows. . . Yellow sickness, or Jaundice. **1887** GARNSEY & BALFOUR tr. *De Barry's Fungi* 482 A disease in the hyacinth known in Holland as the yellow

sickness, the characteristic symptom of which is the presence of yellow slimy masses of Bacteria in the vessels. **1725** H. SLOANE *Voy. Jamaica* II. 325 Serpens major subflavus. The yellow *Snake. **1851** P. H. GOSSE *Naturalist's Sojourn in Jamaica* 314 A serpent of the Boa kind. . . is distinguished by the appellation of Yellow Snake. **1860** MAYNE REID *Odd People* 22 The 'Yellow Snake', or South African Cobra. **1868** J. G. WOONO *Homes without Hands* iii. 85 A Yellow Snake. . . is very plentiful in Jamaica and is perfectly harmless to man. **1813** *Gentl. Mag.* Jan. 95/1 *Soap, Yellow, 104s. Mottled 114s. **1837** DICKENS *Pickw.* xxv, Applying plenty of yellow soap to the towel, and rubbing away till his face shone again. **1835** — *Sk. Boz, Parish* vi, The children were yellow-*soaped and flannelled, and towelled, till their faces shone again. **1845** Yellow *softening [see SOFTENING vbl. sb. 1 b]. **1873** T. H. GREEN *Introd. Pathol.* (ed. 2) 42 Yellow Softening. . . in which, from the fine state of division and close aggregation of the fatty particles, a dead yellowish-white colour is imparted to the softened tissue. **14.** . . 3alow *soujt [see SOUGHT sb.]. **1578** LYTE *Dodoens* I. ii. 6 The infusion. . . cureth the Iaundise or Yealowsought. **1819** *Phil. Trans. R. Soc.* CIX. 302 The yellow *spot of Soemmerring. . . is never seen to advantage until this membrane be removed. **1869** HUXLEY *Physiol.* ix. (ed. 3) 241 Exactly opposite the middle of the posterior wall, [sc. the retina] presents a slight circular depression of a yellowish hue, the *macula lutea*, or yellow spot. **1899** *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 730 Ophthalmoscopic examination reveals a peculiar. . . appearance in the region of each yellow spot. **1967** *Guardian* 21 Oct. 8/3 'Private Eye' recently labelled me 'D. A. N. Jew'. Now it happens that I haven't the right to claim the yellow *star. **1981** *Times Lit. Suppl.* 6 Nov. 1296/5 Germans like Captain Ernst Janger. . . who declared himself 'ashamed'. . . when he saw Jews in Paris wearing their yellow stars. **1861** MACLEOD *Devot. to B. V. M.* in N. Amer. 342 note, Hebridean Protestants. . . are. . . called Protestants of the Yellow *Stick. **1880** W. G. BLAICKIE *Life Livingstone* i. 3 A tradition that the people of the island [Ulva] were converted from being Roman Catholics 'by the laird coming round with a man having a yellow staff. . . the new religion went long afterwards. . . by the name of the religion of the yellow stick'. **1911** H. S. HARRISON *Queed* v. 55 'A yellow *streak in him, and we didn't know it!' bellowed the Major. **1977** 'D. MACNEIL' *Wolf in Fold* xi. 116 I'm not showing a yellow streak! But we're going to have casualties. **1876** QUAIN *Anat.* (ed. 8) ii. 67 Yellow or Elastic *Tissue. **1822-34** *Good's Study Med.* (ed. 4) I. 585 *Typhus icterodes* or yellow *typhus. **1947** H. W. EHRMANN *French Labor* vii. 126 The CGT could not properly identify the Catholic trade unions with the various movements, in French usage commonly referred to as 'yellow' *unions, which were organized under the auspices of the employers. **1957** M. P. FOGARTY *Christian Democracy* xv. 192 Widespread support was given to the yellow unions, notably by the clergy. **1970** R. A. H. ROBINSON *Origins of Franco's Spain* 331 Socialists were also determined that no 'yellow' unions should flourish, eg a strike-threat by the UGT procured the dismissal of 20 members of the *Federación Española de Trabajadores*. **1783** J. LATHAM *Gen. Synopsis Birds* II. 482 Spotted Yellow *Warbler. **1845** S. JUDO *Margaret* i. 160 The leafless Butternut, whereon. . . the yellow warbler made its nest, sprawls its naked arms. **1938** M. THOMPSON *High Trails* 153 The yellow warbler. . . and many other birds fill the air with their songs. **1971** *Islander* (Victoria, B.C.) 13 June 13/2 Overhead a pair of yellow warblers trilled out their song. **1785** J. WOODFORDE *Diary* 7 Nov. (1926) II. 213 To Nancy for a new yellow *Ware Chamber Pots 1. o. **1827** LYTTON *Pelham* lxiii, A comfortable sort of dressing-room. . . where I found a yellow-ware jug and basin. **1887** *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 31/1 Sometimes a cherry would fall upon her dark braids, and drop thence in among the verdant contents of the yellow-ware bowl. **1967** *Canadian Antiques Collector* Apr. 9/2 During the next ten years the Bells extended their pottery production to include Rockingham and yellow wares. **1963** *Times* 22 Jan. 10/3 The service have issued a 'yellow *warning'. This is intended to warn hospitals to cut down on routine admissions so as to make room for emergencies. **1973** *Times* 13 Nov. 1/2 In electricity supply terms a national 'yellow warning'. . . means possible voltage reductions. **1760** J. LEE *Introd. Bot. App.* 332 Yellow *weed, *Reseda*. **1853** G. JOHNSTON *Bot. E. Borders* 111 *[Senecio]* *Jacobaea*. Ragwort: Yellow-weed. **1884** MILLER *Plant-n.*, *Reseda luteola*. . . Dyer's-Rocket, Dyer's-weed, Dyer's Yellow-weed. . . Yellow-weed. **1789** PILKINGTON *View Derbysh.* I. 384 *Chlora perfoliata*, perforated [sic] Yellow-*Wort. **1859** *Stationers' Handbk.* 12 In woven papers may be mentioned *Blue Wove*—that is, a paper of woven texture, but blue in colour; then comes another, which, although in point of fact white, or an extremely pale cast of blue, is termed *Yellow *Wove*. **1913** W. HARRIS *Notes Fruit & Veg. Jamaica* 42 Yellow *yam and its varieties belong to *Dioscorea cayennensis*. **1971** [see negro yam s.v. NEGRO 7]. **1973** N. FARKI *Countryman Karl Black* iv. 38 Rice and two pieces of yellow yam in one plate.

2. Combinations. a. Qualifying other adjs. (or sbs.) of colour (= yellowish, inclining to or tinged with yellow): as *yellow-black*, *-blue*, *-brown*, *-dun*, *-golden*, *-green*, *-grey*, *-olive*, *-red*, *-white*; also occas. other adjs., as *yellow-fluffy*, *-gleamy*, *-pale*, *-ripe*.

In OE. expressed by *geolu* in comb. or by the adv. *geolwe*, as *geolurēad*, *geolwe rēad*.

1841 CLOUGH *Poems, Song of Autumn* 5 My gay green leaves are *yellow-black, Upon the dank autumnal floor. **1940** W. FAULKNER *Hamlet* iv. ii. 328 There were three buzzards soaring against the high *yellow-blue. **1796** WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) IV. 177 Pileus *yellow brown. **1859** GEO. ELIOT in *Cross Life* (1885) II. 109 The rich yellow-brown of the oaks. **1639** T. OE GREY *Compl. Horsem.* 59 The horse which is milke white, *yellow-dunne, sanded or pie-bald. **1832** LYTTON *Eugene Aram* I. ix, He. . . drew up his line, and replaced the contemned beauty of the violet-fly with the novel attractions of the yellow-dun. **1837** KIRKBRIDE *Northern Angler* 32 The Yellow Dun. . . makes its appearance on the northern rivers some time in May. **1916** D. H. LAWRENCE *Amores* 50 Flutter for a moment, oh the beast is quick and keen, — Extinct one *yellow-fluffy spark. **1930** — *Phoenix* (1936) 1. 3 In the *yellow-gleamy sunset, wild birds began to whistle faintly. **1946** S. SPENOR *European Witness* i. 15 In the foreground *yellow-golden fields, with above a flat wall of greyish sky. **1963** L.

MACNEICE *Astrol.* (1964) iii. 96 Leo the yellow-golden fire of organized mentality. 1768 G. WHITE *Selborne, To Pennant* 17 Aug., The 'yellow-green of the whole upper part of the body is more vivid. 1816 STEPHENS in Shaw *Gen. Zool.* IX. ii. 404 Upper part of the back and scapulars yellow-green. 1887 JEFFERIES *Field & Hedgerow* (1889) 269 The broad descending surfaces of yellow-green oak. 1811 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* VIII. 466 *Yellow-olive Parrakeet. 1930 D. H. LAWRENCE *Last Poems* (1932) 315 Black lamps. Giving off darkness, blue darkness, upon Demeter's *yellow-pale day. 1950 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 437/20 *Lutea*, pæt *giolureade. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P.R.* v. xiv. (Tollem. MS.), Yf pēy benp browne in coloure, oþer citryn 3olwer[e]de. 1819 STEPHENS in Shaw *Gen. Zool.* XI. ii. 324 The breast is yellow-red. 1886 R. F. BURTON *Arab. Nts.* (abr. ed.) III. 3 All manner trees bearing *yellow-ripe fruits. 1614 SYLVESTER *Parl. Vertues Royall* 1288 Her 'yellow-sallow skin. 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 163/21 *Gilius*, *geoluhwit. 1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* i. i. 337 A Hen that fain would hatch a Brood. Sits close thereon, and with her lively heat, Of yellow-white bals, doth live birds beget. 1891 FARRAR *Darkn. & Dawn* xli. That yellow-white plant, which grows on an old oak in the wood. 1898 ELIZ. & her German Garden 55 Coral-pink petals, paling. to a yellow-white.

b. Parasynthetic and instrumental combs. (many of which are used in the names of species or varieties of animals or plants): as *yellow-backed*, *-banded*, *-barked*, *-barred*, *-belled*, *-billed*, *-blossomed*, *-bodied*, *-breasted*, *-browed*, *-cheeked*, *-chinned*, *-coloured*, *-covered*, *-crested*, *-crowned*, *-eyed*, *-faced*, *-fanged*, *-finned*, *-flagged*, *-flecked*, *-fleshed*, *-flowered*, *-flowering*, *-footed*, *-fringed*, *-fronted*, *-girted*, *-gloved*, *-haired*, *-headed*, *-hilted*, *-horned*, *-jerkined*, *-leaved*, *-legged*, *-lit*, *-livered*, *-locked*, *-lustred*, *-maned*, *-marked*, *-mottled*, *-necked*, *-painted*, *-pinioned*, *-ringed*, *-ringleted*, *-robed*, *-rumped*, *-sealed*, *-shafted*, *-shanked*, *-shouldered*, *-skinned*, *-skirted*, *-slashed*, *-slobbered*, *-spotted*, *-sprinkled*, *-stained*, *-tailed*, *-throated*, *-tinged*, *-tinging*, *-toed*, *-tressed*, *-vented*, *-wamed* (Sc. = *-bellied*), *-washed*, *-winged*, etc., adjs. Also YELLOW-HAIRED.

1783 LATHAM *Gen. Synopsis Birds* IV. 440 *Yellow-backed Warbler. 1874 *Baily's Mag.* Jan. 346 One or two yellow-backed railway novels. 1833 TENNYSON *Eleánore* 22 The *yellow-banded bees. 1611 COTGR., *Saulx vitelline*, .. *yellow-barked Willow. 1824 LUDON *Green-house Comp.* i. 68 Yellow-barked shoots and leaves. 1832 J. RENNIE *Butterfl. & Moths* 174 The *Yellow-barred Iron. occurs in woods. 1752 HILL *Hist. Anim.* 328 The *yellow-beaked, American Owl. 1966 E. PALMER *Plains of Camdeboo* xvi. 262 By far the showiest is the yellow-beaked *Stapelia flavirostris*, with dark flowers marked with yellow and ornamented with silver hairs. 1881 O. WILDE *Poems* 122 On this side and on that a rocky cave, Hung with the *yellow-belled laburnum stands. 1822 LATHAM *Gen. Hist. Birds* II. 331 *Yellow-billed Horn-bill. 1859 GEO. ELIOT *Adam Bede* i. vi. Turning even the muddy water. into a mirror for the yellow-billed ducks. 1764 GOLDSM. *Trav.* 292 The *yellow-blossom'd vale. 1852 MUNDY *Antipodes* (1857) 31 The delicate yellow-blossomed acacia. 1752 HILL *Hist. Anim.* 30 The black and *yellow-bodied *Cestrus*. 1864-5 WOOD *Homes without H.* vi. 139 To see the yellow-bodied Wasp. dart into the dark mass. 1730 MORTIMER in *Phil. Trans.* XXXVI. 432 The *Yellow-breasted Chat. 1776 BROWN *Illustr. Zool.* 80 The yellow-breasted Flycatcher. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. i. 313 The yellow-breasted martin was still pursued in Cranbourne Chase for his fur. 1783 LATHAM *Gen. Synopsis Birds* IV. 459 *Yellow-browed Warbler. 1913 H. K. SWANN *Dict. Names Brit. Birds* 264 Yellow-browed Warbler. . . A Siberian species of Willow Warbler. 1971 *Country Life* 25 Mar. 705/3 Almost any rarity can turn up, such as. yellow-browed warbler. 1872 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 419/1 White petaled, *yellow-centred flowers. 1765 LAYARD in *Phil. Trans.* LVI. 13 A rusty *yellow-colored crust covering the stalactites. 1849 *Merchants' Mag.* XX. 118 The *yellow-covered literature of the day—translations from the French. 1915 H. YOUNG *Hard Knocks* 23 The little yellow covered novels were the cause of it. 1776 BROWN *Illustr. Zool.* 24 The *Yellow-crested Woodpecker. 1894 A. ROBERTSON *Nuggets* 127 A flock of yellow-crested cockatoos. 1776 BROWN *Illustr. Zool.* 50 *Yellow crowned Thrush. 1817 STEPHENS in Shaw *Gen. Zool.* X. 623 Yellow-crowned Warbler. 1925 J. FERGUSON in *Oxf. Poetry* 18 Like stately flowers, yellow-crowned. 1950 *Caribbean Q.* II. iii. 41 Nor were the larger and stronger Yellow crowned Night Herons, to be outdone. 1752 HILL *Hist. Anim.* 322 The *yellow-eyed Owl. 1845-50 MRS. LINCOLN *Lect. Bot. App.* 187 *Xyris. . . caroliniana* (yellow-eyed grass). 1881 O. WILDE *Poems* 180 The hot jungle where the yellow-eyed huge lions sleep. 1957 T. HUGHES *Hawk in Rain* 39 A square-pupilled yellow-eyed look. 1592 NASHE *P. Penilesse Wks.* (Grosart) II. 27 In praise of Lady Swin-snout, his *yeolow-fac'd Mistres. 1758 G. EDWARDS *Glean. Nat. Hist.* I. 49 The Yellow-faced Parrakeet. 1811 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* VIII. 445 Yellow-faced Parrakeet. 1954 J. R. R. TOLKIEN *Two Towers* iii. iii. 50 It was the *yellow-fanged guard. 1804 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* V. 176 *Yellow-finned Herring. 1908 C. F. HOLDER *Big Game at Sea* xxiii. 342 The boatmen. . . called it the 'yellow-finned tuna'. . . This was in 1904, and ever since the new tuna, with its vivid lemon finlets, has appeared every August or September. 1936 *Zoologica* XXI. 190 The various nominal forms of the yellow-finned tuna belong to the same species. 1868 J. E. OLLIVANT tr. *P. Kollonitz's Crt. Mexico* 16 The *yellow-flagged boat of the quarantine. 1920 D. H. LAWRENCE *Lost Girl* iv. 55 The seam of *yellow-flecked coal. 1885-94 R. BRIDGES *Eros & Psyche* Dec. 12 The *yellow-fleeced flocks. 1859 DARWIN *Orig. Spec.* iv. (1860) 85 Another disease attacks *yellow-fleshed peaches far more than those with other coloured flesh. 1721 MORTIMER *Husb.* II. 239 The Toad Flax of Valentia is *yellow-Flowered. 1845 *Florist's Jnl.* (1846) VI. 270 A yellow-flowered Sea-Lavender is a rarity. 1888 J. & E. R. PENNELL *Sent. Journ.* 11 Across the yellow flowered sand-dunes. 1832 *Veg. Subst. Food of Man*

213 The *yellow flowering pea. 1894 LYDEKKER *Marsupialia* 172 *Yellow-footed Pouched Mouse, *Phascogale flavipes*. 1832 J. RENNIE *Butterfl. & Moths* 221 The *Yellow-fringed White [Moth] (*Ypsolophus flaviciliatus*). 1781 PENNANT *Gen. Birds* 62 *Yellow-fronted Honey-Sucker. 1783 LATHAM *Gen. Synopsis Birds* IV. 461 Yellow-fronted Warbler. The forehead and crown are of a bright yellow. 1901 *Nature* 19 Sept. 523/2 A Yellow-fronted Amazon (*Chrysotis ochrocephala*) from Guiana. 1880 *Daily News* 16 Aug. 6/5 The. . . *yellow-funnelled White Star liner steams slowly in. 1818 KEATS *Endym.* i. 253 *Yellow girted bees. 1771 SMOLLETT *Humphrey Cl.* II. 10 June, let. i. It was the singularity in S——'s conduct that reconciled him to the *yellow-gloved philosopher. 1743 G. EDWARDS *Nat. Hist. Birds* 44 The *Yellow-headed Linnet. This Bird being of kin to Linnets or Canary-Birds, I choose to call it by this Name. 1783 LATHAM *Gen. Synopsis Birds* IV. 401 Yellow-headed Wagtail. 1846 *Ex. Doc.* 30th U.S. Congress 1 Sess. House No. 41. 436 [We saw] large flocks of the yellow headed black bird. 1972 R. & R. WRIGHT *Cariboo Mileposts* 50 Stands of tules or reeds will hold the woven nests of red-wing and yellow-headed blackbirds. 1787 HAWKINS *Life of Johnson* 233 A long *yellow-hilted sword. 1832 J. RENNIE *Butterfl. & Moths* 83 The *Yellow-horned [Moth] (*Cleropacha flavicornis*). . . antennæ yellow. 1860 MOTLEY *Netherl.* ii. i. 35 Battling. . . breast to breast with the *yellow-jerkined pikemen of Spain and Italy. 1766 *Complete Farmer* s.v. *Purslane*, The red or *yellow leaved, commonly called golden purslane. 1824 LONGF. *Autumn* 20 Maple yellow-leaved. 1752 HILL *Hist. Anim.* 340 The *yellow-legged Falco. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* iii. viii. A. . . bystander, *yellow-legged and purple-faced. 1877 BLACK *Green Past.* vi. Asleep in the hushed *yellow-lit room. 1935 S. LEWIS *It can't happen Here* 156 The meanest, lowest, cowardliest gang of *yellow-livered, black-slapping, hypocritical gun-toters. 1979 *PN Rev.* No. 9. 27/1 O green, green eating out my eyes, A yellow-livered green in a wet light. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* x. 786 Camers the *yellow Lock'd. 1878 LONGF. *Kéramos* 182 A ground of deepest blue With *yellow-lusted stars o'erlaid. 1863 W. C. BALDWIN *Afr. Hunting* ix. 416 He was only a *yellow-maned one [sc. lion]. 1916 BLUNDEN *Harbingers* 64 Toadstools. . . Yellow, and *yellow-mottled red, and black. 1783 LATHAM *Gen. Synopsis Birds* III. 337 *Yellow-necked Flycatcher. 1889 *Cent. Dict.* 7016/3 The yellow-necked caterpillar. . . feeds in communities on the foliage of apple, hickory, and walnut in the United States. 1908 E. J. BANFIELD *Confessions of Beachcomber* i. iii. 98 Yellow-necked Mangrove Bittern. 1921 G. E. H. BARRETT-HAMILTON *Hist. Brit. Mammals* II. 547 The Yellow-necked Field Mouse is distinguished from *A. sylvaticus* by its larger size. 1979 *Essex Countryside* XXVII. 72/2 The hoarding habits of yellow-necked mice are well known. 1861 W. F. COLLIER *Hist. Eng. Lit.* 104 Those *yellow-painted wooden caravans. 1735 SOMERVILLE *Chase* i. 243 His glossy Skin, or *Yellow-py'd, or blue. 1624 HERIOT in *Mem.* (1822) App. iii. 98 My *yellow-pointed diamond-ring. 1880 A. H. SWINTON *Insect Variety* 94 The groups of *Yellow-ringed Gnats. 1864 TENNYSON *Boadicea* 55 Thither at their will they haled the *yellow-ringleted Britoness. 1819 *Methodist Mag.* Oct. 723 We took leave of our *yellow-robed acquaintances. 1889 S. LANGDON *Appeal to Serpent* iii. 50 A long procession of yellow-robed. . . monks. 1758 G. EDWARDS *Glean. Nat. Hist.* i. 97 The *Yellow-rumped Fly-catcher. 1808-13 A. WILSON *Amer. Ornith.* (1832) I. 280 Yellow-rumped Warbler. — Sylvia Coronata. 1841 *Yellow-sealed [see *yellow-seal* in cl]. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xi, My yellow-sealed wine, which costs me ten shillings a bottle. 1822 LATHAM *Gen. Hist. Birds* III. 410 *Yellow-shafted Woodpecker; . . tail dusky yellow, with black spots, and yellow shafts. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 248 A *yellow-skinned chicken makes the most delicate roast. 1629 MILTON *Hymn Nativ.* xxvi, The *yellow-skirted Fays. 1928 V. WOLFE *Orlando* v. 225 The *yellow-slashed sky of dawn. 1922 JOYCE *Ulysses* 222 Two barefoot urchins, sucking long liquorice laces, halted near him, gaping. . . with their *yellow-slobbered mouths. 1869 'MARK TWAIN' *Innoc. Abr.* vii. 43 The tall *yellow-splotted hills. 1828 LATHAM *Index Gen. Hist. Birds* III, Woodpecker, *yellow spotted. 1853 MRS. GASKELL *Cranford* xiii, The yellow-spotted lilac gown. 1619 RICH *Irish Hubbub* 4 A *yellow-starcht band about his necke. 1758 G. EDWARDS *Glean. Nat. Hist.* i. 101 The *Yellow-tailed Fly-catcher. 1823 LATHAM *Gen. Hist. Birds* VI. 232 Yellow-tailed Warbler. 1749 M. CATESBY *Nat. Hist. Carolina* (1754) I. 62 The *yellow-throated creeper. 1859 TENNYSON *Elaine* 12 Yellow-throated nestling in the nest. 1826 J. WILSON *Noct. Ambr. Wks.* 1835 I. 174 In their *yellow-tinged-lookin blankets. 1728-46 THOMSON *Spring* 1082 The *yellow-tinged Plague Internal Vision taints. 1593 MARLOWE *Ovid's Elegies* II. iv, Amber trest [v.r. *Yellow trest] is she. 1838 WILSON's *Tales of Borders* IV. 176 He can. . . lurk in the green moss like the *yellow-wamed ask. 1859 HAWTHORNE *Marble Faun* xxxvi, Those immense seven-storied, *yellow-washed hovels. 1764 G. EDWARDS *Glean. Nat. Hist.* iii. 239 The *Yellow-winged Pye. 1808-13 A. WILSON *Amer. Ornith.* (1831) II. 259 Yellow-winged Sparrow. . . inhabits the lower parts of New York and Pennsylvania. 1844 KINGLAKE *Eothen* xviii, The yellow-winged Angel [of Death].

c. Forming sbs. (or adjs.), the names (or descriptive epithets) of animals and other objects, in which *yellow* qualifies the name of some part or distinctive feature: *yellow-back*, (a) some kind of fish (see quot. 1796); (b) a cheap yellow-backed (esp. French) novel; more widely, any cheaply issued or reprinted novel; (c) a U.S. currency note having the back coloured yellow; *yellow-beak* = BEJAN; *yellow-bill*, name for various birds with a yellow bill or yellow coloration on the bill, as the American scoter, *Cedemia americana*; *yellow-cup*, a buttercup; *yellow-fin*, name for various fishes with yellow fins or yellow coloration on the fins (see quot.); esp. *yellow-fin tuna*, one of several species of *Thunnus*, esp. *T. albacares*, a large fish found in warmer parts of both the Atlantic and Pacific oceans; *yellow-foot a.* (Sc. -fit), yellow-

footed; *Yellow Hat*, *colloq.*, used *attrib.* or *absol.* in *pl.* to denote a Tibetan Buddhist sect (Gelugpa) founded in the fourteenth century by Tsong-kha-pa; *yellow-head*, (a) an African plant of the genus *Helichrysum* having brilliant yellow flowers; (b) a species of moth (see quot. 1832); (c) the American yellow-headed blackbird, *Xanthocephalus icterocephalus*; (d) a warbler, *Mohoua ochrocephala*, found in the South Island of New Zealand; *yellow jacket*, (a) *U.S. colloq.*, name for a wasp or hornet; (b) name for various species of *Eucalyptus* with yellowish bark (Morris *Austral Eng.*); (c) *slang* (orig. *U.S.*), a pentobarbitone capsule; *yellow-leg*, -legs, (a) a bird with yellow legs, esp. either of two N. American sandpipers, *Totanus flavipes* and *T. melanoleucus*; (b) *N. Amer. colloq.* [from the yellow stripe down the side of the breeches], a U.S. cavalryman or a member of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police; *yellow-line*, collectors' name for species of moths of the genus *Orthosia* (see quot.); *yellow-neb* = *yellow-beak*, BEJAN; *yellow-pate*, the yellow-hammer; *yellow-poll* (warbler), the summer warbler of N. America, *Dendroica aestiva*; *yellow-rump* (warbler), *Dendroica coronata*, also called *yellow-crowned warbler* or *myrtle-bird*; also *D. maculosa*; *yellow-seal* (*nonce-use*), wine in bottles bearing a yellow seal; *yellowseed*, a name for *Lepidium campestre*, also called *mithridate mustard* or *m. pepperwort*; *yellow-shank*, -shanks = *yellow-leg(s)*; *yellow-shell*, collectors' name for a species of moth (see quot.); *yellow-skin*, one of an ethnic type having a yellow skin or complexion (see A. i d); *yellow-spot*, collectors' name for a species of skipper (butterfly), *Polites peckius*, having a yellow spot on each hind wing; also (*yellow-spot unicorn hawk*) for a species of hawk-moth, *Sphinx quinque-maculatus*; *yellow-throat*, any species of warbler of the N. American genus *Geothlypis*, esp. *G. trichas*, the Maryland yellow-throat; *yellow-top*, (a) a N. American species of reed-grass, *Calamagrostis hyperborea Americana*, valued for hay; (b) the early golden-rod, *Solidago juncea*, common in eastern N. America; (c) a variety of turnip, having the top of the root of a yellow colour; *yellow underwing*, one of several noctuid moths. See also YELLOW-BELLY, YELLOW-ROOT, YELLOW-TAIL, YELLOW-WOOD.

1796 STEDMAN *Surinam* II. xxix. 368 The fisher-men having caught a quantity of large fish, I discovered one among them. . . the *yellow-back. . . thus called from its colour, which almost resembles that of a lemon. 1877 *Living Age* 14 Apr. 128/1 Four days ago Ley and I started down the river on an exploring expedition, and he took it into his head to rope ('lasso', as the yellow-backs have it) a buffalo. 1890 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 443 A well-thumbed 'Yellow-back'. 1902 H. L. WILSON *Spenders* xiv. 150 She was dead in love with the nice long yellow-backs that I've piled up. 1928 M. SADLEIR *Trollope: a Bibliogr.* 68 In 1868 *The Belton Estate* was issued at two shillings as a 'yellow back'. 1943 *Copper Camp* (Writers' Program, Montana) 37 They occasionally found yellowbacks tucked in their shoes. 1976 T. EAGLETON *Crit. & Ideology* ii. 47 The 'yellowback' railway novel is available to a mass public. 1865 G. MACDONALD *Alec Forbes* xxxiv, The speaker kindled with wrath at the presumption of the *yellow-beaks. 1868 [see BEJAN]. 1865 GOSSE *Land & Sea* (1874) 321 Yonder floats by a flock of Parrots with a most abominable combination of harsh screams. It is the *Yellow-bill. 1824 W. IRVING *T. Trav.* I. 251 A bed of daisies and *yellow-cups. 1818 HOGG *Brownie of Bodsbeck*, etc. II. 167 At length a *yellowfin rose. . . 'I wish your honour had hookit that ane.' 1825 JAMIESON, *Yellowfin*, a species of trout, so named from the colour of its fins. . . apparently the same with the *Finnoc* or *Finner*. 1845 GOSSE *Ocean* iv. (1849) 206 The Yellow-fin (*Sparus synagris*, Linn.), which has its body marked with longitudinal bands of delicate pink and yellow alternately. 1888 GOODE *Amer. Fishes* 111 About Cape Cod they [sc. squeteague] are called 'Drummers'; about Buzzard's Bay and in the vicinity the largest are known as 'Yellow-fins'. 1922 *Pacific Fisherman* Feb. 12/1 Each of these new species—bluefin tuna, yellowfin tuna and striped tuna—proved itself well adapted to the same canning method as the albacore. 1975 *Islander* (Victoria, B.C.) 7 Sept. 4/2 They [sc. whales] travel in schools in the eastern Pacific, followed by yellow-fin tuna which feed on their leavings. 1796 NEMNICH *Polygl.-Lex.* 944 *Yellow fingers, *Strombus lambis*. 1780 *Johnstone Hey & Yng. Caldwell* xxiv. in *Child Ballads* iv. 293 'Nut-brown was his hawk', they said, 'And *yellow-fit was his hound'. 1747 *Astley's New Gen. Coll. Voy.* II. iv. 450/2 They being of the *yellow Hat, or Chinese party. 1931 C. BELL *Relig. Tibet* viii. 129 With the enthronement of the fifth Dalai Lama as sovereign over the whole country, the power of the Yellow Hats was greatly increased. 1962 H. E. RICHARDSON *Tibet & its Hist.* ii. 40 The Dalai Lamas. . . owed their appearance to the great religious teacher known as Tsong Khapa (1357-1417), the founder of a new sect, the Gelugpa, popularly called the Yellow Hats. 1978 C. HUMPHREYS *Both Sides Circle* xx. 212 The famous monastery at Ghoom. . . belongs to the Gelug-pa or Yellow Hat sect of Tibetan Buddhism. 1712 PETIVER in *Phil. Trans.* XXVII. 419 Narrow-leaved Cape *yellow Heads [*Elichrysum Africanum*, Ray]. 1832 J. RENNIE *Butterfl. & Moths* 210 The Yellow Head ([*Porrectaria*] *flavi-frontella*). . . the head tawny. 1873 *Trans. N.Z. Inst.* VI. 144 Yellow-

head. Average weight of specimens, $1\frac{1}{2}$ ounce. **1897** *Yearbk. U.S. Dept. Agric.* 351 In complaints made against the redwing the yellowhead is frequently included as equally guilty. **1966** *Encycl. N.Z.* I. 206/2 Still widely distributed in the deeper forests are... whitehead... and yellowhead. **1868** *Amer. Naturalist* May 123 [Bears] also dig up '*yellow-jackets', wasp's-nests, for the larvæ. **1897** *Howells Landlord at Lion's Head* 381 He remembered stumbling... into a nest of yellow-jackets. **1953**, **1969** Yellow jacket [see NEMBLE]. **1974** M. C. GERALD *Pharmacol.* xi. 205 Short-acting barbiturates such as pentobarbital ('yellow jackets'). **1772** FORSTER in *Phil. Trans.* LXII. 410 This bird is called a *yellow leg at Albany fort. **1854** *Poultry Chron.* II. 129 A pen of Brahmas—one pea-comb, two single-combs, one white-legs, two yellow-legs. **1894** J. A. FRYE *Fables of Field & Staff* 109 The 'Yellow-Legs' are always great on dismounted duty. **1895** *Outing* (U.S.) XXVI. 70/2 The winter yellowlegs were less numerous. **1943** W. CHASE *Sourdough Pot* xix. 120 Numbers of these prisoners were marched down the main street in charge of a Mountie, or 'Yellow-leg', as they were called on account of the yellow strip running down the outside of their trouser leg. **1957** G. SHIRREFFS *Rio Bravo* (1972) i. 6 He glanced back at the rough country through which they had come, almost as though looking for the beefy figure of Francis Xavier Feeley, one of the best yellowlegs who had ever forked a McClellan. **1974** W. HUNT *North of 53* xix. 139 The 'yellow legs'—the Mounties—were not permissive in law enforcement. **1832** J. RENNIE *Butterfl. & Moths* 59 The *Yellow Line (*Orthosia flavilinea*)... Wings... brownish; first pair with a slanting, but very straight yellowish streak. **1866** E. NEWMAN *Brit. Moths* 365/2 The Yellow-Line Quaker (*Orthosia macilenta*). **1899** H. G. GRAHAM *Soc. Life Scot.* 18th Cent. xii. II. 196 These first year's students were popularly called '*yellow-nebs'. **1612** DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xiii. 75 The *Yellow-pate, which though she hurt the blooming tree Yet scarce had any bird a finer pype than shee. **1783** LATHAM *Gen. Synopsis Birds* IV. 515 *Yellow-Poll. Rather less than the Pettichaps... This species is found in America, but its chief residence is in Guiana. **1785** PENNANT *Arct. Zool.* II. 402 Yellow-poll Warbler... Inhabits Canada. **1730** MORTIMER in *Phil. Trans.* XXXVI. 433 *Parus uropygeus luteo*, the *yellow Rump. **1785** PENNANT *Arct. Zool.* II. 400 Yellow-rump Warbler. **1841** THACKERAY *Gt. Hoggarty Diam.* vii. 'Get some of that yellow-sealed wine, Tiggins,' says the captain. I must say I liked the *yellow-seal much better than aunt Hoggarty's Rosolio. **1846-50** A. WOOD *Class-bk. Bot.* 161 *L[epidum] campestre*... *Yellow Seed. **1785** PENNANT *Arct. Zool.* II. 468 *Yellow-shanks Snipe. With a slender black bill. **1835** AUDUBON *Ornith. Biog.* III. 573 The Yellowshank is much more abundant... to the westward of the Allegheny Mountains than along our Atlantic coast. **1832** J. RENNIE *Butterfl. & Moths* 128 The *Yellow Shell (*C[amptogramma] bilineata*). **1851** MAYNE REID *Rifle Rangers* xiii. (1853) 89, I was in hopes we'd have a brush with the *yellow-skins. **1904** *Contemp. Rev.* Aug. 289 Russia has ever regarded herself as the dear friend of the nations who are now contemptuously nick-named 'yellowskins'. **1832** J. RENNIE *Butterfl. & Moths* 24 The *Yellow-spot Unicorn Hawk (*Sphinx quinque Maculatus*). **1702** PETIVER *Gazophyl.* i. 6 *Avis Mary-Landica gutturaluteo*. The Mary-Land *Yellow-Throat. **1865** *Atlantic Monthly* XV. 521, I miss in the woods... the Yellow Throat. **1949** V. S. REID *New Day* i. xxviii. 143 A... yellowthroat warbler whistles back. **1977** *Blair & Ketchum's Country Jnl.* May 43/1 The yellow-throats will reemerge on other days. **1846** WORCESTER, *Yellow-Top, a species of grass, called also white-top. *Farm. Ency.* 1749, etc. *Yellow underwing [see UNDERWING 2]. **1941** V. WOLFF *Death of Moth* (1942) 9 The commonest yellow-underwing asleep in the shadow of the curtain. **1968** *Oxf. Bk. Insects* 72/1 Like the other Yellow Underwings... this species baffles its enemies by the way it shows its colours.

'yellow, v.¹ [f. YELLOW *a.*]

1. *intr.* To become yellow, turn yellow.
a 1050 *Liber Scintill.* xxviii. (1889) 105 Na beheald þu win þænne hit geoluwað [L. *flavesceit*].
1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* II. 157 Ash or maple 'neath thy colour yellows. **1851** MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunters* xxxviii. The peak [of the temple] is yellowing downward [in the sunlight]. **1868** *Jnl. R. Agric. Soc.* Ser. II. IV. II. 425 In one part of the field the oats 'yellow off'. **1888** RIDER HAGGARD *Col. Quaritch* xxi. Their foliage yellowing to its fall, rose the giant oaks. **1902** CUTCLIFFE HYNNE *Thompson's Progr.* vii. 184 When the wick yellowed out into flame.
2. *trans.* To make or render yellow; to impart a yellow colour to.

1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. III. *Furies* 457 Her fiery poyson, yellowing all without. *c* 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* xvii. My papers (yellowed with their age). **1743** FRANCIS tr. *Hor.* *Odes* i. xxxi. 6 The swelling Grain, That yellows o'er Sardinia's Plain. **1805** WORDSW. *Prelude* v. 560 While the morning light Was yellowing the hill tops. **1863** GEO. ELIOT *Romola* v. The vellum is yellowed in these thirteen years. **1885** MEREDITH *Diana* iv. On that fine spring morning, when... cowslips yellowed the meadow-flats. **1907** J. A. HODGES *Elem. Photogr.* (ed. 6) 25 Some modern lenses... become... yellowed by exposure to strong light.

b. *spec.* in pin-manufacture: see quot.
1839 *URE Dict. Arts* etc. 956 *Yellowing or cleaning the pins*, is effected by boiling them for half an hour in sour beer, wine lees, or solution of tartar.

c. *Naut. colloq.* To make a 'yellow admiral' of (see YELLOW *a.* 1e). Also *transf.* to retire (a person).

1747 in *Mahan Types Naval Off.* (1902) 85 'I will not have Hawke "yellowed"' [was the royal fiat]. **1820** LADY GRANVILLE *Lett.* (1894) I. 171 He... gave a droll description of himself as old and fairly yellowed out of the service. **1867** [see YELLOWING *vbl. sb.*].

†yellow, v.² *Obs. rare.* [app. extension of YELL *v.* on the analogy of BELL *v.*⁴, BELLOW *v.* Cf. YELLOCH.] *intr.* To yelp; to bellow. Hence yellowing *vbl. sb.*² and *ppl. a.*²

1600 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* II. iii. 20 (Qo.) Whilst the babbling Echoe mocks the hounds, Let us sit downe and marke theyr yellowing [Folios yelping] noyse. **1629** MABBE tr. *Fonseca's Dev. Contemp.* 244 Roaring and yellowing like so

many mad Bulls. **1652** LOVEDAY tr. *Calprenede's Cassandra* II. 124 Running about the Camp with horrible yellowings.

yellow-ammer: see YELLOW-HAMMER.

'yellow-, bellied, *a.* 1. Applied to birds or animals having yellow underparts. Also in extended use (in quot. 1909 of an airship).

1709 T. ROBINSON *Nat. Hist. Westmld.* x. 60 The Male is grey, the Female yellow-bellied. **1783** LATHAM *Gen. Synopsis Birds* III. 42 Yellow-bellied Thrush... the under parts of the body of a pale rusty yellow. **1827** J. L. WILLIAMS *View W. Florida* 30 Black-head fly catcher... Yellow-bellied do. **1869** [see SCRUNCHING *vbl. sb.*]. **1908** E. J. BANFIELD *Confessions of Beachcomber* I. iii. 95 Yellow-bellied Fig-bird. **1909** KIPLING *Actions & Reactions* 140 Yellow-bellied ore-flats... punted down leisurely out of the north. **1936** *Discovery* Oct. 307/2 There are many varieties of flying phalanger, the yellow-bellied 25 inches in length with a bushy tail an inch longer than the body. **1942** R. PEATTIE *Friendly Mts.* 210 A sweet or black birch tree... had been tapped by a yellow-bellied sapsucker. **1971** *Islander* (Victoria, B.C.) 25 July 16/2 Most members of his species (the yellow-bellied marmot) weigh about 13 pounds at maturity.

2. *fig.* Cowardly, craven. Cf. YELLOW *a.* 2b, YELLOW-BELLY 5. *slang* (orig. U.S.).

1924 P. MARKS *Plastic Age* ix. 75 Yellow-bellied quitters. **1930** [see potato-mouthed *a.* s.v. POTATO *sb.* 7]. **1943** J. MITCHELL *McSorley's Wonderful Saloon* (1946) I. 24 You yellow-bellied jerk. **1965** J. PORTER *Dover Two* xiv. 185 Anything to save his own skin, the yellow-bellied rat! **1971** [see MALT *sb.*]. **1979** 'M. HEBDEN' *Pel & Faceless Corpse* vi. 58 I'm... a yellow-bellied, lily-livered coward.

'yellow-, belly.

1. *a.* A name for a frog.

1825 *Houlston Tracts* I. No. 28. 4 The Frenchman's soupe-maigre and fricasseeed yellow-bellies. **18..** *Nursery Rime*, Yellow-belly, yellow-belly, come and have a swim.

b. A native of the fens (in humorous allusion to a frog).

1787 GROSE *Provincial Gloss.* s.v. *Lincolnshire*, Yellow bellies. This is an appellation given to persons born in the Fens, who, it is jocularly said, have yellow bellies, like their eels. **1796** *Grose's Dict. Vulgar T.* (ed. 3), *Yellow Belly*, a native of the Fens of Lincolnshire: an allusion to the eels caught there. **1846** J. KEEGAN *Leg. & Poems* (1907) 362, I would rather dig my daughter's grave... than see her tied to Lanty Wolfe, or any other yellow belly of the County Wexford. **1847** HALLIWELL, *Yellow-belly*, a person born in the fens of Lincolnshire. *Linc.* **1982** *Times* 5 Oct. 4/5 The Lincolnshire 'yellowbellies' of south Humberside... for generations have entertained a healthy disregard for Yorkshire 'tykes' on the north bank of the Humber.

2. A kind of tortoise, or the tortoiseshell obtained from it.

1843 HOLTZAPFFEL *Turning* I. 127 note, The Yellow Belly, which plates are very thin and yellow. **1905** *Times* 15 Sept. 11/5 Tortoiseshell... yellowbelly about 5s. dcarer.

3. (See quotes.) *derog.*

1842 *New Orleans Crescent* 16 Mar. (Extra) 1 God send that they bayonet every 'yellow belly' in the Mexican army. **1845** [see COPPERHEAD 3]. **1850** MAYNE REID *Rifle Rangers* I. ii. 12 I've a mighty puncheon, as the Frenchmen say, to hev a crack at them yellor-bellies. *Footn.* Yellow bellies—a name given by Western hunters and soldiers of the U.S.A. to the Mexicans. **1867** SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Yellow-belly*, a name given... occasionally to half-castes, &c. **1934** 'G. ORWELL' *Burmese Days* x. 155 They're Eurasians—sons of white fathers and native mothers. Yellow-bellies is our friendly nickname for them. **1966** [see slant-eye(s) s.v. SLANT *a.* 3].

4. Name for various fishes having the under parts yellow (see quotes).

1890 *Science* 28 Feb. 141/2 A sole (*Peltorhamphus novæ-zealandia*) and a sole-like flounder (*Rhombosolea leporina*), commonly known as 'yellow-belly', are also frequently caught. **1896** JORDAN & EVERMANN *Fishes N. Amer.* 1001 *Lepomis Auritus*... Yellow Belly; Redbreast Bream. **1898** MORRIS *Austral Eng.*, *Yellow-belly*. In New South Wales, the name is given to a fresh-water fish, *Ctenolates auratus*; called also Golden-Perch... In Dunedin especially, and New Zealand generally, it is a large flounder, also called Lemon-Sole [*Ammotretis guntheri*]. **1899** *Cumbld. Gloss.*, *Yalla belly*, a young salmon-trout returning from the sea.

5. A coward. Cf. YELLOW *a.* 2b, YELLOW-BELLIED *a.* 2. *slang* (orig. U.S.).

1930 J. LAIT *Put on Spot* 215 Yellow-belly. Coward. **1942** BERREY & VAN DEN BARK *Amer. Thes. Slang* §404/3 Coward... yellow-back, -belly or guts. **1952** H. INNES *Campbell's Kingdom* III. ii. 271 What are you?... A bunch of yellow-bellies to be fooled into hiding away. **1952** J. STEINBECK *East of Eden* 517 I'm a cowardly yellow-belly. **1965** *Austral. Women's Weekly* 20 Jan. 50/5 'Yellowbelly baby... Spoiled-cat crybaby,' Steve yelled at him. **1969** K. M. WELLS *Owl Pen Reader* II. 209 Grandad's knees shook, and he wasn't no yellow-belly either. **1972** 'H. HOWARD' *Nice Day for Funeral* ix. 128 She'd call me every kind of yellow belly if I suggested throwing in my hand.

yellow-bird ('jɛlsʊb:ɪd). Name for several birds having yellow plumage; now *esp.* the North American goldfinch or thistle-bird, *Chrysomitris* (*Spinus, Carduelis*) *tristis*, and the North American summer warbler (distinctively called *summer yellowbird*), *Dendroica aestiva*.

a 1705 RAY *Syn. Avium* (1713) 80 *Regulus non cristatus Aldrov[andi]*... The small Yellow-Bird. **1738** ALBIN *Nat. Hist. Birds* III. 19 The yellow Bird, from Bengall... This Bird was about the bigness of a Fieldfare. **1792** W. BARTRAM *Trav. N. & S. Carolina* 290 [*arus*] *luteus*; the summer yellow bird. **1860** S. F. BAIRD, etc. *Birds N. Amer.* 421 *Chrysomitris Tristis*. Yellow Bird; Thistle Bird. **1884** E. P. ROE in *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 617/2 The American gold-finch, or yellow-bird. **1896** NEWTON *Dict. Birds* 1056 Yellowbird is the North-American Siskin... and perhaps more than one of the *Mniotiltidae*. **1898** *Atlantic Monthly* LXXXII. 495/2

The summer yellow-bird, which pushes its hardy spring flight beyond the Arctic circle.

'yellow-, bottle.

1. [cf. BLUEBOTTLE 1, BOTTLE *sb.*⁴] The marigold (*obs.*); also the corn-marigold (*dial.*). *c* 1450 *Alphita* (Anecd. Oxon.) 112 *Menelaca*, gall. gounde, anglise yellebottle [*v.r.* yelebothell]. **1847** HALLIWELL, *Yellow-bottle*, corn marigold. *Kent.*

2. *nonce-use* [after BLUEBOTTLE 3]. (See quot.) **1898** MORRIS *Austral Eng.*, *Korrumburra*, aboriginal name for the common blow-fly, which in Australia is a yellow-bottle, not a blue-bottle.

'yellow-boy. *slang. Obs. exc. Hist.* (Also as two words.) A gold coin; a guinea or sovereign.

1662 J. WILSON *Cheats* i. i. Do they cry Chink in thy Pocket?—How many yellow Boyes (Rogue) How many yellow Boyes? **1663** DRYDEN *Wild Gallant* III. 1, If one could see the yellow boyes peeping underneath the brims now. **1700** T. BROWN tr. *Fresny's Amusem.* 129, I have... in my Pocket brave Yellow-Boys, to pay for a Coat of Arms. **1712** ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* i. vi. Yellow-boys to fee counsel, hire witnesses, and bribe juries. **1838** JAS. GRANT *Sk. Lond.* 182 If you don't fork out the yellow boys (sovereigns) presently, I'll send a ball through your carcass. **1840** DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xlii. The delight of picking up the money—the bright, shining yellow-boys. **1883** 'MARK TWAIN' *Life on Miss. xxxvi.* 389 A round ten thousand dollars in yellow-boys. **1898** A. M. BINSTED *Pink 'Un & Pelican* x. 219 Gazing contemptuously at the yellow-boy, and then at its donor, she cried: 'An' since when has a 'new hat' ceased to be a guinea?' **1957** A. BRYANT in J. B. Booth *Palmy Days* p. xi. He reconstructs a vanished world: the last age of horses and 'yellow boys'.

'yellowcake. Also yellow cake. [f. YELLOW *a.* + CAKE *sb.*] An oxide of uranium (and other elements) obtained as a yellow precipitate in the proeessing of uranium ores.

1950 *Mining Congr. Jnl.* Oct. 30/2 Through pH adjustment by regulated additions of sulphuric acid virtually all of the uranium is precipitated as 'yellowcake', an artificial carnotite. **1955** KIRK & OTHMER *Encycl. Chem. Technol.* XIV. 439 If the uranium and vanadium are present in the carbonate leach liquors in the proper stoichiometric ratio, then neutralization by acid leads to the very complete precipitation of sodium uranyl vanadate, the 'yellow cake' of Colorado Plateau extractive metallurgy. **1971** *Daily Colonist* (Victoria, B.C.) 11 June 7/7 A West German... group has undertaken to find a market for 4 million pounds of uranium oxide (yellow cake) annually. **1977** *Telegraph* (Brisbane) 5 Sept. 5/1 Police and 200 anti-uranium demonstrators traded kicks and punches, when a fresh consignment of yellowcake reached the White Bay container terminal today. **1981** T. BARLING *Bikini Red North* i. 34 Will anything positive be done to stop the French selling yellowcake or hardware on the open market?

yellow dog. U.S. 1. A mongrel dog of a yellowish colour.

c 1770 T. FAIRFAX *Compl. Sportsman* 97 Yellow dogs, are those which have red hairs, inclining to brown. **1840** *Daily Penman* (St. Louis) Apr. 20 (Thornton *Amer. Gloss.*) One of those interesting animals, a yellow dog, with a bullet-hole through his breast. **1860** O. W. HOLMES *Elsie V.* iii. A 'yallah dog' is a large canine brute, of a dingy old-flannel colour, of no particular breed except his own. **1873** M. HOLLEY *My Opinions* 237 If I was a yellor dog, she couldn't seem to look down on me any more, and treat me any worse. **1895** BRET HARTE *Clarence* III. iii. In Illinois we wouldn't hang a yellow dog on that evidence.

2. *fig. a.* A person or thing of no account or of a low type.

1881 E. W. NYE *Bill Nye & Boomerang* 166 The presiding officer had lost control, and a surging crowd of yellow dogs had the floor. **1903** *Everybody's Mag.* Oct. 562 In a cut-rate combination you are lucky if you get what you pay for. If there are five magazines in the combination, two of them are good. The rest are 'yellow-dogs'. **1924** A. J. SMALL *Frozen Gold* i. 44 Understand, I won't allow no yellow dog of a Siwash to step over me. **1975** *New Yorker* 8 Dec. 126/2 Calling someone a yellow dog would not imply that the person so called was actually yellow and wagged his tail. It is just the sort of cultural misunderstanding that student-exchange programs were once expected to clear up.

b. *attrib.*; applied *spec.* to organizations, etc., opposed to trade unionism.

1894 KIPLING *Day's Work* (1898) 71 America's paved with the kind er horse you are—jist plain yaller-dog horse—waitin' ter be whipped inter shape. **1902** — *Just So Stories* 92 Old Man Kangaroo is being rude to Yellow-Dog Dingo. Yellow-Dog Dingo has been trying to catch Kangaroo all across Australia. **1902** *Mine Workers' Jnl.* July 1 A yellow dog lease. **1903** *Outlook* 15 Aug. 931/2 In preference to a Tammany 'yellow dog' ticket his organization would support the Fusion candidate. **1920** *Motorman & Conductor* Oct. 34 A yellow dog contract. **1930** *Sun* (Baltimore) 6 May 12/2 The 'yellow dog' contract, requiring men to barter away their right to organize as the price of a job. **1956** *Mag. of Fantasy & Sci. Fiction* Oct. 32/2 It was the latest form of the yellow-dog clause, one in which the employee agrees to refrain from engaging in a competing occupation for five years by letting his former employers pay him cash to option his services on a first-refusal basis. **1976** *Amer. N. & Q.* XIV. 136/1 The committee scrutinized the records and books of the four major New York companies uncovering the existence of the so-called 'yellow dog funds'.

yellowed ('jɛləʊd), *ppl. a.* [f. YELLOW *a.* or *v.*¹ + -ED.] Made yellow.

a 1100 *Aldhelm Gloss.* i. 108 (Napier 4/2) *Crocata*, pa gezeolewedan. **1824** *Examiner* 307/1 A sun-yellowed river softly flows. **1851** ROBERTSON in S. A. Brooke *Life & Lett.* (1865) II. 73 That peculiar watery shine cast on the yellowed leaves. **1906** R. C. BAYLEY *Compl. Photogr.* 114 A yellowed lens.

yellow fever.

1. A dangerous infectious febrile disease of hot climates, characterized by vomiting, constipation, fatty degeneration of the liver, jaundice, etc.

1748 J. LINING in *Ess. Phys. & Lit.* (1756) II. 370 That fever, which continues two or three days, and terminates without any critical discharge, and which is soon succeeded with an icteritious colour in the white of the eyes and the skin, vomiting, hæmorrhages, &c. is called in America, the yellow fever. 1758 *Let. to Mayor of* — 47 Seamen seized by the yellow fever in the West Indies. 1825 SOUTHEY *Let. to John May* 16 Mar. in *Life* (1840) I. 156 He had had the yellow fever three times, and . . . still bore strong vestiges of it in his complexion. 1877 F. T. ROBERTS *Handbk. Med.* (ed. 3) I. 204 Most authorities hold that true yellow-fever is of the continued type. 1898 P. MANSON *Trop. Diseases* vii. 138 Inoculations by the bites of mosquitoes previously fed on yellow fever patients. 1898 *Jrnl. Sch. Geog.* (U.S.) Oct. 300 When a sufficient altitude is reached, the yellow fever zone is left behind.

2. In various allusive uses, chiefly humorous. 1854 *Poultry Chron.* I. 582 After this we got the yellow fever, and the clear buff and silver cinnamon fever. We did not care for a thing except speckless colour. c1856 *Denham Tracts* (1892) I. 336 When the 'Runch' is in bloom the appearance is called 'the Yellow Fever'. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Yellow fever*, a cant term for drunkenness at Greenwich Hospital; the sailors when punished wearing a parti-coloured coat, in which yellow predominates. 1884 *Illustr. Sydney News* 26 Aug. s/3 He said I had the yellow fever [i.e. for gold], and was to go to the diggings to get cured.

'yellow-fish. a. Name for several fishes with yellow coloration; now esp. a species of rock-trout, *Pleurogrammus* (*Hexagrammus*) *monopterygius*, of the coast of Alaska, olive on the back and yellowish below.

1734 MORTIMER in *Phil. Trans.* XXXVIII. 317 *Turdus cauda convexa*. The Yellow-Fish. a1749 CATESBY *Nat. Hist. Carolina*, etc. (1754) II. 10 The Yellow Fish. Some of these Fish were a foot in length: this had small thin scales of a reddish yellow colour. 1796 NEMNICH *Polygl.-Lex.* 944 Yellow fish, *Labrus fulvus*. 1888 GOODE *Amer. Fishes* 272 The 'Yellow-fish', 'Striped Fish', or 'Atka Mackerel', *Pleurogrammus monopterygius*.

b. In South Africa, one of several freshwater fishes of the genus *Barbus*.

1834 A. SMITH *Diary* 9 Dec. (1939) I. 168 Fish in the pools of this river of two kinds, the flat head and the bearded yellow fish. 1896 H. A. BRYDEN *Tales S. Afr.* i. 18 The pouch contained. . . a 'yellow fish', a barbel-like fish of a pound and a half. 1912 J. STEVENSON-HAMILTON *Animal Life Afr.* xix. 334 The yellow fish. . . is the commonest fish of South Africa. 1952 [see KURPER]. 1975 *Stand. Encycl. S. Afr.* XI. 563/1 The yellow-fishes . . . are popular angling fishes, ranging from one kg to over 14 kg in weight.

yellow-haired (-hæd: stress variable), a. Having yellow (flaxen, auburn, or golden) hair. Also fig.

1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong, Blond*, yellow haired. 1690 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2569/4 Edmond Barber, aged about 30, Yellow Hair'd. 1721 RAMSAY *Content* 208 A tall yellow-hair'd young pensive swain. 1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* ii. lxxii, Let the yellow-hair'd Giaours view his horsetail with dread. 1842 PRICHARD *Nat. Hist. Man* 196 The Britons are taller than the Gauls, and less yellow-haired. 1887 HALL CAINE *Son of Hagar* i. ii, The yellow-haired elderly gentleman with the perpetual smile. 1917 D. H. LAWRENCE *Look! We have come Through!* 155 Scyllas and yellow-haired hellebore, jonquils, dim anemones.

yellow-ham. Obs. exc. dial. (yellow an-). = next, q.v.

1544 TURNER *Avium Præcip.* F.4, *Χλωπεύς*, luteus siue lutea, Anglicè a yellow ham, a yowlyng. Germanicè *eyn geelporst*. 1657 C. BECK *Univ. Char.* M.4 b, The yellow-ham bird. 1905 *Eng. Dial. Dict.*, *Yellow an-bird*, the yellow-ammer [Kent].

'yellow-hammer, -ammer. Forms: 6 yelambre, 7 yelamber, yellow-hamer, 7, 9 dial. -amber, 9 -ammer, dial. -ommer, -omber, -homber, 6- yellow-hammer. [In the earliest recorded form, *yelambre*, app. representing OE. **geolo-amore* = *geolo* YELLOW + *amore* 'scorellus' (unidentified), corresp. to OHG. *amero* (MHG. *amer*, G. *ammer*), of which there are various cognate or derivative forms, viz. OE. *omer*, *emer*, *emaer*, 'scorellus', OHG. *amerinc*, MHG. *gold(en)emer*, G. *emmerling*, *femmering*, *emmeritze*, *fembitze* (whence mod.L. *emberiza*), LG. *geelemerken* (dim., with *geel* 'yellow' prefixed). Besides these forms there is a type represented by OE. *clodhamer* (coupled with *feldeware*) 'scorellus', of doubtful formation (? corruption of **goldhamer*) and MHG. *hamere*, *golthamere* 'amarellus'. The origin and identity of *hamer*, -ere are uncertain; but connexion with or assimilation to OE. -hama, OHG. -hamo covering, skin, feathers (see HAME¹) seems probable, and the form YELLOW-HAM, which may go back to an OE. type **geolo-hama* the yellow-feathered bird, gives support to the hypothesis.

Both forms -hammer and -ammer are historically justifiable; Yarell's proposed rejection of -hammer (see *British Birds*, 1843, I. 446) is based on insufficient evidence.

The bird has many local names into which the word *yellow* or *gold* enters, viz. YOWLRING (YORLING), YOLDRING,

YOWLEY, *yellow bunting*, *yellow yite*, *gold spink*, *gold finch*. Cf. (in addition to the names given above) MLG. *gelegorsse*, -gerse, Du. *geelgors*, LG. *gelgans*, -gös, G. *gelbling*, *gelbammer*, *goldfink*, MHG. *golthans*, *gol(hammer)*, G. dial. *golmer*, Sw. *gulsparf*, dial. *golspink*, Norw. dial. *gulspikke*, *gulspurv*, *gulskur*, Du. *guulspurv*.]

1. A species of bunting, *Emberiza citrinella*, common in Britain and Europe generally, having the head, throat, and under parts of a bright yellow.

1556 WITHALS *Dict.* (1562) 5/2 A yelambre, luteus, vel lutea. 1587 HARRISON *England* III. ii. 223/2 in *Holmshed*, Washtales, cheriecrackers, yellowhamers, felfares. 1598 FLORIO, *Spaiarda*, a birde called a yellow hammer, or yowling. 1656 W. DU GARD tr. *Comenius' Gate Lat. Unl.* 43 The songsters, living on seeds; the Yelamber of Poppie; the Linnet, of flax. 1674 RAY *Coll. Words, Engl. Birds* 88 The Yellow-hammer, or amber, *Emberiza flava*, Gesn. 1763 *Amer. Reg., Chron.* 59 Contents of a pye lately made at Lowther-hall, in Westmoreland, . . . forty-six yellow-hammers. 1789 MRS. PROZZI *Journ. France* II. 377 Flights of yellow-hammers . . . enliven the fields. 1855 KINGSLEY *Westw. Ho!* xxx, These same beggarly croakers, that be only fit to be turned into yellow-hammers. . . and sit on a tor all day, and cry 'Very little bit of bread, and no chree-e-esel!' 1898 F. C. GOULD in *Westm. Gaz.* 13 Apr. 2/1 Chaffinches and yellow-ammers give flashes of colour as they pass the glades.

b. U.S. The golden-winged woodpecker, *Colaptes auratus*.

Also locally in England, the skylark, the yellow wagtail, and the chaffinch.

1857 THOREAU *Maine W.* (1894) 31 A 'yellow-hammer', as they called the pigeon-woodpecker. 1874 BAIRD, BREWER, & RIDGWAY *N. Amer. Birds* II. 581 This bird [sc. *Colaptes Mexicanus*], in some parts of California, is known as the Yellow-Hammer, a name given in some parts of New England to the *Colaptes auratus*.

†2. fig. Applied in contempt to a person, esp. a jealous husband (cf. YELLOW a. 2). Obs.

1602 MIDDLETON *Blurt, Master-Constable* III. i. D.3 b, Heere's a Yellow-hammer flew to me with thy water, and I cast it, and finde, that his Mistris being giuen to this newe falling-sickness, will cure thee. 1605 TRYALL *Chev.* II. i, Bowyer a Captayne? a Capon, . . . a red beard Spiat, a Yellow-hammer, a bow case. 1620 MIDDLETON & ROWLEY *Courtly Masque* D.2, Much of the complexion Of high Shroue-Tuesday Batter, yellow-hammer. 1634 ROWLEY *Noble Soldier* II. i, You yellow hammer.

†3. A gold coin. Obs. slang.

1626 MIDDLETON *Mayor Quinb.* II. i, Sym. . . Now by this light a nest of Yellow Hammers! . . . Ile undertake, Sir, you shall have All the skins on our Parish at this price. 1633 SHIRLEY *Bird in a Cage* II. i, Is that he that has gold enough? would I had some of his yellow hammers.

4. A nickname for a charity boy in yellow breeches.

1861 *City Press* May, In Worrall's school, founded in 1689, for poor boys born in Cripplegate, the coat is still red; the orange breeches, shoes, and hose of orange, which secured the boys the sobriquet of 'yellow hammers' have been discontinued.

'yellowing, vbl. sb.¹ [f. YELLOW v.¹ + -ING¹.] The action of imparting a yellow colour.

1611 COTGR., *Iaunissure*, . . . a yellowing, or making yellow. 1622 T. STOUGHTON *Chr. Sacrif.* xii. 166 Thrift . . . is pleaded for this yellowing of linnen as the which being so yellowed needeth not so much washing. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, *Yellowing*, a manufacturing term for cleaning pins. 1859 A. SMITH in *Macm. Mag.* I. 125 The slow yellowing of wheaten plains. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Yellowing*, the passing over of captains at a flag promotion. 1894 *Brit. Jrnl. Photog.* XLI. 25 There would be no yellowing if the paper was good.

So 'yellowing ppl. a., turning yellow, becoming yellow. Also fig.

1757 DYER *Fleece* iv. 576 The op'ning vallies, and the yellowing plains. 1840 BROWNING *Sordello* I. 452 The noisy flock of thievish birds at work Among the yellowing vineyards. 1842 TENNYSON *Launcelot & Guinev.* ii, In curves the yellowing river ran. 1859 GULLICK & TIMBS *Painting* 208 The yellowing tendency of oils on blue. 1908 S. E. WHITE *Riverman* viii, The old piano with the yellowing keys. 1961 E. WILLIAMS *George* xxi. 339 Divers— . . . a routine side-exam based on the yellowing idea that an Oxford graduate must have a solid religious training. 1977 *Guardian Weekly* 10 July 17/4 All that is left is a batch of yellowing declarations of good intentions.

yellowing vbl. sb.²: see YELLOW v.²

yellowish ('jeləʊʃ), a. Forms: see YELLOW a. [f. YELLOW a. + -ISH¹.] Somewhat yellow; of a colour inclining or approaching to yellow; having a tinge of yellow.

1379 *Glouc. Cath. MS.* 19 No. I. i. iv. lf. 11 It ys evirmare whityssh or solowysch. 1398 TREvisa *Barth. De P.R.* XIII. xxi. (Bodl. MS.), Nowe he [sc. the sea] is whitissche and jelowissche now white & clere. 1576 TURBERV. *Venerie* 184 The Badgerdwhelpes haue theyr nose, their throte and their eares yellowyshe. 1622 PEACHAM *Compl. Gentl.* xii. 111 Linseede oyle will turne yeallowish. 1781 PENNANT *Hist. Quadrup.* I. 188 Yellowish monkey with a black face. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D. Introd.*, His clean silk stockings, washed till their tint had become yellowish. 1884 A. LANG in *Century Mag.* Jan. 323/1 The London houses of dirty, yellowish brick.

b. Qualifying adjs. or sbs. of colour.

1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 68 They paint their nailes with a yellowish red. 1688 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2411/4 A yellowish bay Stone-horse. 1752 HILL *Hist. Anim.* 499 The yellowish-grey Fringilla. 1816 STEPHENS in *Shaw Gen. Zool.* IX. 11. 310 Yellowish-green Grosbeak. 1843 PORTLOCK *Geol.* 214 Miemite of a rich yellowish-green. 1882 *Garden* 12 Aug. 145/3 Lovely yellow or yellowish scarlet tints.

c. Comb.

1693 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* (1703) 238 A yellowish coloured fat Earth. 1725 *Bradley's Fam. Dict.* s.v. *Goose*, A goose . . . if yellowish footed and bill'd, [is] young. 1840 G. V. ELLIS *Anat.* 41 A thin, yellowish-looking band.

Hence †'yellowish v., to turn yellowish; 'yellowishness, yellowish colour or tinge.

1590 BARROUGH *Meth. Phisick* III. xxvi. (1639) 146 His tongue is *yellowish. 1547 BOORDE *Brev. Health* lxxiii, An uryne that is yelow lyke the *yelowsyshenes of an horne of a lanterne that is bryght. 1657 W. RAND tr. *Gassendi's Life Peiresc* I. 196 A certain dark and obscure yellowishness [in a picture]. 1663 BOYLE *Exp. Hist. Colours* III. xxviii, Bruis'd Madder. . . being drench'd with the like Alcalizate Solution, exchang'd . . . its Yellowishness for a Redness. 1941 E. R. EDDISON *Fish Dinner* xi. 184 The cloud-bank was indigo against that yellowishness of the sky.

yellowly ('jeləʊli), adv. [f. as YELLOWISH a. + -LY².] With a yellow colour or light.

1611 COTGR., *Iaunement*, yellowly. 1796 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* I. 404 Whether thy fair locks Yellowly curl in the clouds of the morning, or red in the West wave Quivering dip. 1833 TENNYSON *Hesperides* iv, When the fullcared sunset yellowly Stays on the flowering arch of the bough. 1886 HARDY *Mayor Casterbr.* xiii, The evening sun seemed to shine more yellowly. 1932 W. FAULKNER *Light in August* xiv. 314 He saw before daylight a lamp come yellowly alive in the kitchen. 1958 I. FLEMING *Dr. No* vi. 78 The centipede was whipping from side to side in its agony. . . Bond hit it again. It burst open, yellowly. 1968 P. DICKINSON *Skin Deep* ix. 165 The home-made candles burnt yellowly. 1978 H. WOUK *War & Remembrance* x. 100 The lights flickered yellowly on.

yellowness ('jeləʊnis). Forms: see YELLOW a. [f. as prec. + -NESS.]

1. The quality or state of being yellow; yellow colour.

1398 TREvisa *Barth. De P.R.* v. vi. (Bodl. MS.), Aristotel seith jelownes of ysen is meuyng of feblenes. a1400 CHAUCER *Purse* 11 That I . . . may. . . see your colour lyke the sonne bryght That of yelownesse hadde neuere pere. c1460 *Prompt. Parv.* 548 3elhewnesse, *glavedo*. c1475 *Partenay* 3887 Adieu, my lady, with heres yowlownesse! a1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* iv. Wks. 1724 II. 739 A dark yellowness dying his Skin. 1663 DRYDEN *Rival Ladies* III. i, Like the Sun (ev'n while Eclips'd) she casts A Yellowness upon all other Faces. 1765 DELAVAL in *Phil. Trans.* LV. 17 note m, The Hyacinth is a stone, which is red with a certain yellowness. 1844 KINGLAKE *Eothen* viii, Doctors will tell you that the drinking of milk gives yellowness to the complexion. 1889 *Chamb. Jrnl.* 30 Nov. 760/1 There is a solidity and yellowness about Jupiter's light.

†2. fig. Jealousy: see YELLOW a. 2. Obs.

1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* I. iii. 111, I will incense Ford to deale with poyson: I will possesse him with yallownesse. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* III. iii. 1. ii. (1651) 606 The undiscreet carriage of some. . . gallant. . . may. . . if he be inclined to yellowness, colour him quite.

'yellowplush. Plush of a yellow colour, as worn by footmen; hence *transf.* as a humorous appellation for a footman.

[1837 THACKERAY (title) *The Yellowplush Correspondence*.] 1841 — *Gt. Hoggarty Diam.* II, A great powdered fellow in yellowplush breeches. 1842 *Punch* III. 133 He fetched the dishes, drew the forks and performed all the duties of His Majesty's yellowplush.

yellow-rattle: see RATTLE sb.¹ 3 a.

'yellow-root. (Also as two words.) Name for two N. American ranunculaceous plants, the one a herb, *Hydrastis canadensis*, of Canada and Northern U.S. (*Canadian yellow-root*, *goldenseal*, or *yellow puccoon*), the other a subshrub, *Xanthorrhiza apiifolia*, of Southern U.S. (*shrub yellow-root*), or for their roots, which yield yellow dyes, and are used in medicine as tonics.

1796 NEMNICH *Polygl.-Lex.* 944 Yellow root, *Hydrastis canadensis*. 1814 PURSH *Plants N. Amer.* Ind. 712 Yellow Root, *Zanthorrhiza*. 1856 A. GRAY *Man. Bot.* 13 *Zanthorrhiza*. Shrub Yellow-root. 1866 *Treas. Bot.* 605 Yellow Puccoon, Orange root, or Canadian Yellow root. 1876 HARLEY *Mat. Med.* (ed. 6) 781 Yellow Root is an article of the United States Pharmacopœia.

yellows ('jeləʊz). [Plural of YELLOW sb., used in specific senses.]

I. 1. Jaundice, chiefly in horses and cattle.

1561 *Norwich Depos.* (1905) 65 The horse had a disease running through him which was called the yellows. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 454/1 *Arquatus*, . . . that hath the yellows, or the iaunders. 1596 SHAKS. *Tam. Shr.* III. ii. 54 His horse . . . raied with the Yellows. 1607 *Merry Devil Edmonton* v. ii. 16 If I doe not indite him at the next assises for Burglary, let me die of the yellows. 1616 SURFL. & MARKH. *Country Farm* 147 For a Horse that is troubled with the Yellows, you shall first let him blood. 1733 W. ELLIS *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 220 This is apt to gripe them, and bring on the Yellows. 1799 A. YOUNG *Agric. Linc.* 377 They lose many lambs of the yellows, from August to the middle of September. 1805 R. W. DICKSON *Pract. Agric.* II. 1133 The Yellows, which is a disease to which cows are very subject. 1871 NAPHEYS *Prev. & Cure Dis.* III. ix. 995 Jaundice is also known under the name of the yellows.

†2. fig. Jealousy: see YELLOW a. 2. Obs.

1601 B. JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* (Qo.) V. i, You haue a spice of the yealous evt both of you, (in your hose I meane). 1638 FORD *Fancies* II. ii, *Troy*. Yet is this Batchelor miracle not free From the epidemical head-ach. *Liv.* The Yellows. *Troy*. Huge jealous fits. 1638 BRATHWAIT *Barnabees Jrnl.* Fij, Always frolicke, free from yellows.

3. a. A disease of wheat: see *quots.* 1771, 1815.

b. A disease of peach-trees, in which many

sterile shoots are produced and the leaves turn yellow (= *peach-yellow*: see *PEACH* sb.¹ 6).

1771 GULLET in *Phil. Trans.* LXII. 350 What the farmers call the yellows in wheat, . . . occasioned by a small yellow fly with blue wings, about the size of a gnat. **1808** [see *peach yellows* s.v. *PEACH* sb.¹ 6]. **1815** *Farmer's Mag.* 385 The yellows in wheat is a small grub that eats the corn out of the ear before it is ripe. **1848** LOWELL *Biglow P.* 1. 111 'Fore they think on 't they will sprout (Like a peach that's got the yellors), With the meanness bustin' out. **1897** L. H. BAILEY *Fruit-growing* 45 In New York the failure [of peach-growing] is often attributed to yellows.

c. A similar virus or deficiency disease in other plants.

1822 S. DEANE *New-England Farmer* (ed. 3) 318/2 Peach trees are subject to a disease called the 'Yellows', of which we have seen no particular description. **1926** *Amer. Jyrl. Bot.* XIII. 647 Asters affected with yellows never show mottling. **1933** *Times Lit. Suppl.* 16 Mar. 187/2 A disease of the tea-bush known as 'yellows' is due to a deficiency of sulphur in the soil. **1957** *New Scientist* 8 Aug. 31/3 At least 2,800 tons of beet were lost from yellows infection . . . in the Shetley peninsula.

II. 4. Name for certain plants yielding a yellow dye, as *Genista tinctoria* and *Reseda Luteola*; also *dial.* for certain plants with yellow flowers, as the wild mustard, *Sinapis arvensis*, and the wild cabbage, *Brassica campestris*.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XXXIII. v. II. 471 An hearb called likewise Lutea. *mar.*, Some take it to be weld or yellows. **1638** FORD *Fancies* v. ii, Burnish my forehead with the juyce of yellows. **1790** W. MARSHALL *Rural Econ. Midl. Co.* (1796) II. Gloss. (E.D.S.), Yellows, dyers' broom.

5. A miner's term for yellow copper ore occurring in tin mines.

1859 R. HUNT *Guide Mus. Pract. Geol.* (ed. 2) 122 Several tin mines were abandoned when the miners came to the 'yellows'; this was the yellow copper ore, and their saying was that the 'yellows cut out the tin'.

yellowtail ('jeləuteɪl), *sb.* (*a.*) A name (or epithet = *yellow-tailed*) for various animals with yellow tails or yellow coloration on the tail.

†1. A kind of earthworm: cf. GILT-TAIL. *Obs.* **1608** TOPSELL *Serpents* 307 Othersome againe are yellow onely about the tayle: Whereuppon they haue purchased the name of Yellow-tayles. **1688** HOLME *Armoury* II. 210/2 The Ascarides, or lesser Earth-worm, . . . Some are yellow, called Yellow-Tails, or Golden Tails.

2. Name for various fishes, chiefly of N. America, Australia, and New Zealand, as various species of *Seriola*, *Caranx*, and *Latris*, and many others.

1709 Dampier's *Voy.* III. II. 143 The Sea and Rivers [New Guinea] have plenty of Fish; . . . we catch'd but few, and these were Cavallies, Yellow-tails and Whip-rays. **1796** NEMNICH *Polygl.-Lex.* 944 Yellow tail, (*a*) *Perca punctata*. (*b*) *Scomber*. **1838** *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) XXIV. 370/2 [*Seriola*] *Xanthurus*; . . . Yellow-tailed Smooth-mouth. . . Found on the Carolina coast, where it is called the Yellow-tail. **1847** J. C. ROSS *Voy. Antarctic Reg.* II. 117 A kind of mackerel, called yellow tail, and sometimes cavallo. **1867** SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Yellow-tail*, a well-known tropical fish often in company with whip-rays; it is about 4 feet long, with a great head, large eyes, and many fins. *Leiostomas*. **1875** MELLISS *St. Helena* 106 *Seriola lalandii*, . . . The Yellow Tail of St. Helena is obtained also in the Atlantic, at Japan and Australia. **1888** *Rep. U.S. Comm. Fish* (1892) xvi. 45 The yellow-tail rockfish (*S[ebastichthys] flavidus*). **1888** GOODE *Amer. Fishes* 99 The 'Sailor's Choice' [*Logodon rhomboides*] . . . bears several other names, . . . being known . . . in the Indian River region as the 'Scup', and 'Yellow-tail'. *Ibid.* 131 The Yellow Tail, *Bairdiella chrysura*, known as 'Silver Perch' on the coast of New Jersey. *Ibid.* 386 In North Carolina, the names 'Yellow-tail' and 'Yellow-tail Shad' [for the Menhaden] are occasionally heard. **1897** BEATRICE HARRADEN in *Blackw. Mag.* Feb. 179 The yellow-tail is rather like a solid beefsteak of coarse fibre. **1898** MORRIS *Austral Eng.*

3. (Also *yellow-tail warbler*.) The female or young male of the American Redstart.

1775 DALRYMPLE in *Phil. Trans.* (1779) LXVIII. 410 Many yellow tails. **1785** PENNANT *Arct. Zool.* II. 406 Yellow-tail Warbler. With an ash-colored crown: . . . Taken . . . off Hispaniola, at sea.

4. Collectors' name for a species of moth, also called *gold-tail* (see *GOLD*¹ 10).

1749 B. WILKES *Eng. Moths*, etc. 28 The Yellow-tail Moth . . . may be found sticking against the Barks of the Trees in Parks. **1815** KIRBY & SP. *Entomol.* ii. (1818) I. 30 The yellow-tail moth (*Bombyx chrysorhæa*, F.).

yellow-wood ('jeləuwud). Name for various trees and shrubs having yellow wood, or for the wood of any of these. Also *attrib.*

Some furnish yellow dyes, as *Maclura tinctoria* (FUSTIC) of the W. Indies and S. America, and the N. American *M. aurantiaca* (Osage ORANGE), *Cladrastis tinctoria* (American or Kentucky y.), and *Xanthorrhiza apiifolia* (shrub YELLOW-ROOT); others are used for ornamental purposes, as species of *Flindersia* (white TEAK) of Queensland and *Rhus rhodanthema* of New South Wales (both called light y.), *Podocarpus Thunbergii* (Cape y.) of S. Africa, and *Chloroxylon Swietenia* (SATIN-WOOD) of the E. Indies; others as timber or for other purposes, as *Schaefferia frutescens* of Florida, *Podocarpus elongata* (Natal y.) and *P. pruinosa* (bastard y.) of S. Africa, *P. latifolia* of the E. Indies, and *Xanthoxylon Clava-Herculis* and other species (prickly y.) of the W. Indies.

1666 J. DAVIES *Hist. Caribbee Isles* 43 The Island of S. Croix is the most famous of all the Islands for its abundance in rare and precious Trees. There is one very much esteem'd for its usefulness in Dying: It is called the Yellow-wood from its colour. **1716** *Petiveriana* 1. 243 Prickley Yellow wood. **1752** *Rec. Elgin* (New Spald. Club 1903) I. 465 Ilk cwt. brown Brisiell wood, sweet wood, yellow wood

or fustic 8d. **1767** in *Country Life* (1973) 7 June 1607/1 A mahogany Commode, with yellow wood ornaments, and Drawers for medals. **1790**, **1801** [see GEELHOUT]. **1812** BRACKENRIDGE *Views Louisiana* (1814) 59 One very beautiful [forest tree], *bois jaune*, or yellow wood: by some called the mock orange. **1830** LINDLEY *Nat. Syst. Bot.* 122 Oxleya xanthoxyla, a large tree, is the Yellow-wood of New South Wales. **1834** PRINGLE *Afr. Sk.* vi. 219 A tree greatly resembling the cedar in its external aspect, . . . termed . . . geelhout, or yellow-wood (*taxus elongata*). **1868** *Rep. U.S. Comm. Agric.* (1869) 199 Yellow wood (*Cladrastis tinctoria*) is a western tree. **1871** H. H. DUGMORE *Reminisc.* *Albany Settler* 27 Plain dinners and hearty suppers, . . . served up in tin dishes on yellow wood benches. **1875** *Ure's Dict. Arts* II. 527 *Fustic*, or *Yellow Wood*. The old fustic of the English dyer. It is the wood of the *Morus tinctoria*. **1888** E. E. MONEY *Dutch Maiden* 238 The tree, a huge yellow-wood, stood at the edge of the bush. **1915** RIDER HAGGARD *Holy Flower* iv. 63 It . . . rolled under a great yellow-wood chest. **1952** G. M. MILLS *First Ladies of Cape* 42 Cupboards . . . were usually framed by stinkwood and yellow-wood doors. **1981** N. & Q. June 193/2 The most important furnishings of the *groote kamer* were a yellow-wood cupboard and a stink-wood four-poster bed. **1985** *New Yorker* 18 Mar. 65/2 Old yellowwood and stinkwood chests.

yellowy ('jeləʊi), *a.* [f. *YELLOW* *a.* + -Y¹ 2.] Having a yellow tinge; yellowish.

1667 E. KING in *Phil. Trans.* II. 426 The head, with two little yellowy specks where the Eyes are design'd. **1876** MISS BROUGHTON *Joan* II. ii, A little kerchief of cobweb muslin and ancient yellowy lace. **1883** J. PARKER *Tyne Chyld* 107 They took their tumblers and looked at each other across the yellowy foam.

yelm (jɛlm), *sb.* Now *dial.* [OE. *gielm*, *gelm*, *gylm*, *gylm*.] In OE., a handful, bundle, sheaf, as of reaped corn; in mod. *dial.* use, a bundle of straw laid straight for thatching (see *YELM* v.): = *HELM* sb.³ 1.

c1000 ÆLFRED *Gen.* xxxvii. 7 Eowre gilmas stodon ymbutan and abugon to minum sceafe. **c1000** Sax. *Leechd.* II. 120 Æenim grene mintan æenne gelm. **a1100** *Aldhelm Gloss.* 1. 5252 (Napier 133/1) *Manipulorum*, gylma, wræda. **c1390** B.N.C. (Oxf.) *Doct.* C.2 56 We will make 200 yelmes. **1649** BLITHE *Eng. Improv. Impr.* (1652) K kj, You must reap it . . . and lay it upon little yelmes, or two or three handfuls together till it be dry. **a1825** FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Yelm*, s. a portion of straw laid for that purpose [*viz.* thatching]; or as much as can be conveniently carried under the arm for any purpose. **1879** JEFFERIES *Wild Life in S. Co.* 124 [The thatcher] is attended by a man to carry up the 'yelms'.

yelm (jɛlm), *v.* *dial.* Also 6 *yellm*, 8 *yealm*, 9 *yalm*, *yolm*. [f. prec.] *trans.* and *intr.* To separate and select straw and lay it in order for thatching: = *HELM* v.³ Hence 'yelming *vbl. sb.*, the action of the verb; also *concr.* = prec.

1581 Stanford *Churchw. Acc. in Antiquary* (1888) Apr. 172 For a yelmyng of straw xij^d. **1589** in H. Hall *Soc. Eliz. Age* (1886) 203 A woman 'yelmyng' 14 days, 1^s, 9^d. **1601** in Glasscock *Rec. St. Michael's, Bp.'s Stortford* (1882) 67 Pd for strawe, vs. Pd for yelmyng. *xd.* Pd to the thatcher and fixer, iiij^s. *ijd.* **1629** *Ibid.* 71 Pd to Gryces wife for yelmyng strawe for her house, xvij^d. **1765** *Museum Rust.* IV. xviii. 79 Thatching per square, yelmyng and serving included, 2s. 6d. **1850** *Jyrl. R. Agric. Soc.* XI. II. 400 Cornes's new chaff cutter dispenses with the women yelmyng. **1879** JEFFERIES *Wild Life in S. Co.* 124 Two or three women are busy yelmyng, *i.e.* separating the straw, selecting the largest, and laying it level and parallel, damping it with water, and preparing it for the yokes. **1890** *Glouc. Gloss.*, *Yolm* or *Yalm* . . . (Stow-on-Wold).

Hence 'yelmer, one who lays out yelms.

1808 BATCHELOR *Agric. Bedford* 109 These [two men], together with the four yelmers and servers, eost about 20s. per day.

yellow, below, etc., obs. ff. *YELLOW*.

yellowse, obs. form of *JEALOUS*.

14.. *Guy Warw.* (Camb. MS.) 801 Thou woldest be so yellowse And of me so amerowse.

yelp (jɛlp), *sb.* Forms: 1 *gielp*, *gelp*, *gilp*, *gylp*, 2-6 *zelp(e)*, (3 *zealp*, *zælp*, *zeolp*, *Orm.* *zelp*), 5-*yelp*. [OE. *gielp*, etc. vainglorious, pride = OS. *gelp* defiant or arrogant speech, OHG., MHG. *gelp*, *gelf* loud crying, outcry, cheerfulness, exuberance, ON. *gjalp* ? boasting, noise of the sea: see next.]

I. †1. Boasting, vainglorious speaking. *idle yelp*, vain boasting. *Obs.*

Beowulf 2521 ðif ic wiste hu wið ðam aǵlæcean elles meakte gylpe wiðgripan. **c888** ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xix. §1 Hwæt forstent eow þonne se gylp? **c900** tr. *Bæda's Hist.* III. xvii. (1890) 206 Næfde he on him nader ne yrrre ne oferhyrd ne gytunge, ne idel gylp him on ne ricsade. **c1000** ÆLFRED *Hom.* II. 220 Se seofoda heafod-leahter is gehaten idelwuldr, pæt is gylp. **c1175** *Lamb. Hom.* 103 [He] deð for zelp(e) mare þenne for godes luue zif he awiht delan wule. **c1200** ORMIN 4902 þiss mahhte . . . cwennkepp i pin herrte All rosinng & all idell zelp. **a1225** *Leg. Kath.* 865 Ha beoð ful of idel zelp. **c1330** R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 9836 Of gret los mighte he make his zelp. **a1400-c1460** *Towneley Myst.* iii. 321 Without any yelp, At my myght shall I help. **c1400** *Laud Troy Bk.* 15602 Off her goddis myzt made thei zelp.

†b. An object of boasting. *Obs.*

c1320 *Cast. Love* 1364 þis is vre child and vre help, Vre strengþe and vre zelp.

II. 2. A cry characteristic of dogs and some other animals, resembling a bark but distinguished from it by being sharp and shrill.

1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxxii. 10 He [sc. a tod] braisit hir [sc. a lamb's] bony body swett. . . . Synne schuk his tail, with quhinge and zelp. **1501** DOUGLAS *Pal. Hon.* I. iii, This

laithlie flude . . . In quhome the fisch zelland as eluis schoutit, Thair zelpis wilde my heiring all fordeifit. **a1627** MIDDLETON *Witch* III. iii, No howles of woovles, no yelpes of hounds. **1681** CROWNE *Hen. VI.* I. II. 14, I . . . hear the Howles of Wolves, and Yelpes of Foxes. **1682** FLAVEL *Fear* 1 Some are as timorous as hares and start at every sound or yelp of a dog. **1801** SOUTHEY *Thalaba* IX. xviii, The dogs, with eager yelp, Are struggling to be free. **1840** THACKERAY *Barber Cox Mar.*, After hearing a yelp here, and a howl there, tow, row, yow, yow, yowl bursts out. **1848** 'F. FORESTER' *Field Sports* II. 325 A sort of pipe or call by which the cry or yelp, as it is termed, of the female [sc. the wild turkey-hen] may be simulated. **1868** TENNYSON *Lucretius* 45 The dog With inward yelp and restless forefoot plies His function of the woodland. **1886** J. K. JEROME *Idle Thoughts* 129 The watch-dog . . . wakes with a yelp of gladness to greet a caressing hand.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1775 JOHNSON *Tax.* no Tyr. 89 If slavery be thus fatally contagious, how is it that we hear the loudest yelps for liberty among the drivers of negroes? **1825** CROKER *Fairy Leg. Irel.* I. 48 The whinge, and the yelp, and the screech, and the yowl, was never out of his mouth. **1866** BALLANTYNE *Shifting Winds* xxiv, The [engine] driver vented his impatience . . . by causing the whistle to give three sharp yelps. **1885** RUNCIMAN *Shippers & Shellbacks* 241 The yelp of a Norwegian seaman who was hauling on a rope.

c. The syllable *yelp* used imitatively.

1831-4 R. S. SURTEES *Jorrock's Jaunts* i. (1838) 10 'Yelp, yelp, yelp,' howl the hounds. **1835** W. IRVING *Tour Prairies* 299 Yelp! yelp! yelp! passed from mouth to mouth. There was a sudden dispersal.

yelp (jɛlp), *v.* Forms: 1 *gielp*an, *gelp*an, *gilp*an, *gylp*an, 2-5 *zelp*e, 4-7 *yelp*e, (3 *zælp*e, *zeolp*, *zeilp*, *zulp*, *Orm.* *zelp*ann, 4 *gilpe*, 5 *yilp*, 7 *yealp*), 3-*yelp*. *Pa. t.* 1 *gealp*, *pl.* *gulpon*, 3 *z(e)alp*, *yelp*, *pl.* *zulpe*, 4 *yalp*; 4 *zolped*, 6 *yalpid*, *Sc.* *zelpit*, 4-*yelped*. *Pa. pple.* 1 *golpen*, 4 *y-yolpe*; 4-*yelped*. [OE. *gielp*an, etc., = MHG. *gelfen*:—**galp*jan, f. root represented by OS. *galpôn* to cry aloud, boast, LG. *galpen* to croak, MG. *galpen* to bark, yelp, MHG. *galf*, MG. *galp* loud cry, barking, Sw. *dial. galpa* to cry (of certain birds). Cf. *GALP*, *GAWP*, *YALP*, *YAWP*.]

I. †1. *intr.* To boast, speak vaingloriously. *Const. of* (= OE. gen.) *Obs.*

Beowulf 2583 Hreðsigora ne zealp goldwine ðeata. **c888** ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xiv. §1 ðif þu gilpan wille, gilp Godes. **a1000** *Daniel* 714 Ða wearð bliðemod burga aldor, zealp gramlice gode on andan. **c1200** ORMIN 2042 þuss mihtte 3ho full modigil3 Off hire sinne zelpenn. **a1225** *Ancr. R.* 128 [Heo] gelstreð, ase þe uox deð, & zelped of hore god. **a1250** *Owl & Night.* 1299 þu zeolpest of seollice wisdom, þu nūstest wanene he þe come. **1340** *Ayenb.* 208 þe fariseu þet yalp ine his benes and onworpede þane pūbblycan. **c1380** *Sir Ferumb.* 694 Ne schaltu by þat tyme nopnyng gilpe of py doynge here. **c1386** CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 1380, I kepe noght of armes for to yelp, Ne I ne axe nat to-morwe to bave victorie. **c1425** *Cast. Persev.* 2865 in *Macro Plays* 162 Sum bote of bale þou me brew, þat I may of pee zelp.

†b. *refl.* in same sense. *Obs.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 79 Huanne hi ham yelped oper hi ham prodep. **1390** GOWER *Conf.* I. 97 He hath trewly supposed That he him may of nothing yelp, Bot if [etc.].

†c. *Const. clause. Obs.*

c888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xiv. §1 Hwæðer þu dyrrre gilpan pæt hiora fægernes þin sie? **a1023** WULFSTAN *Hom.* xvi. (1883) 99 þa wende he pæt hit godes agen wære; and se deofles man zealp pæt he eae swa wære. **c1205** *LAY.* 26835 þu zulpe biforen þan kaisere þat þu me woldest a-quellen. **a1250** *Owl & Night.* 971 Ac zet þu zelpst of pine songe þat þu canst 3 olle wrope & stronge. **c1275** *Passion of our Lord* 330 in O.E. *Misc.* 46 He yelp to-vore vs alle þat he is vre king. **c1400** *Death of Robin Lyth* 82 in Ritson *Anc. Songs* (1877) 74 Now xalt thu never yelp, Wrennok, At ale ne at wyn, That thu hast slawe goode Robyn. **c1420** *Chron. Vilod.* 53 Bot how pay deden after, y nylt not zelp.

II. †2. To lift up one's voice; to cry aloud; to sing loud or on a high note. *Obs.*

Cf. the OE. sense (with gen.) 'to applaud, praise'. **c1450** *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 4697 Gude fadir, . . . To þe we crye and zelp. **c1460** *Towneley Myst.* xii. 422 Brek outt youre voce, let se as ye yelp. **1549** *Compl. Scot.* vi. 39 The lyntquhit sang cuntirpoint quhen the oszil zelpit.

†b. *trans.* To call out, utter. *Obs.*

c1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 13520 And he myzt not him selff helpe; His sorwe coude he to no man zelp.

3. *intr.* To utter a yelp or yelps: said of dogs and related animals, and certain birds (see *quots.*).

1553 M. WOOD tr. *Gardiner's True Obed.* To Rdr. A v, A rash bethlem brained hound, . . . rushing he careth not which wai, so he be yelpyng. **1593** PEELE *Hon. Garter* C 3 b, Enuy will bite, or snarle and barke at least, As dogs against the Moone that yelp in vayne. **1596** W. SMITH *Chloris* xiii, A lust-led Satyre having hir in eface which after bir, about the fields did yelp. **1688** HOLME *Armoury* II. 134/2 A Dog Barketh, & Baugheth, being smitten Yelpeth. **1706** E. WARD *Wooden World* Diss. (1708) 32 Oft does he make the poor Tars yelp and run about, like Dogs in a Church, under the Correction of a Sexton. **1708** DERHAM in *Phil. Trans.* XXVI. 124 April 1, the Jynx first yelped bere. **1751** JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 119 ¶5 Compassion once obliged me to . . . chide off a dog that yelped at his heels. **1845** DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* vii. (1879) 135 The jaguar, when wandering about at night, is much tormented by the foxes yelping as they follow him. **1847** TENNYSON *Princess* vii. 196 Let the wild Lean-headed Eagles yelp alone. **1848** in 'F. Forester' *Field Sports* II. 326 The gobblers continued yelping in answer to the female, which all this time remained on the fence. **1865** DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* III. xi, A scholastic huntsman clad for the field, with his fresh pack yelping and barking around him. **1879** J. BUFRUGHS *Locusts & Wild H.* (1884) 56 [The fledgling] left the nest and clung to the . . . tree, and yelped and piped for an hour.

fig. 1577 *GRANGE Golden Aphrod.* Givb, To Veronas well he hies whose wante of bloud doth yelp. 1885 TENNYSON *Balin & Balan* 314 That chain'd rage, which ever yelpet within.

4. fig. To complain, whine.

1706 *HEARNE Collect.* 16 Sept. (O.H.S.) I. 288 'Twill make ye Whig Pamphletiers yelp. 1792 ALEX. WILSON *Watty & Meg* x, Night and day she's ever yelpin, Wi' the weans she ne'er can gree. 1801 JEFFERSON *Writ.* (1830) III. 469 The nominations have accordingly furnished something to yelp on. 1881 BESANT & RICE *Chapl. Fleet* II. xx. 167, I might, if I pleased, yelp and cry for my lord and his precious friend, Sir Miles Lackington.

5. trans. a. To utter with a loud cry; to express by yelping or in a yelping tone.

a 1654 W. PRICE in C. Wase *Gratius' Cyneget.* Illustr. 70 There lurks the pride o' th' woods, the Lyon fell, At whose deace our troops [of hounds] shall yelp a knell. a 1704 T. BROWN tr. *Fresny's Amusem.* iii. (1709) 17 Another Son of a Whore yelps [ed. 1700 yells] louder than Homer's Stentor, Two a groat, and Four for Six-pence Mackerel. 1828 *Examiner* 98/1 Lord Ellenborough 'gave tongue' on Monday, and yelped an explanation most melodiously. 1865 PARKMAN *Champlain* x. (1875) 311 On their arrival, they... yelped consternation at the sharp explosion of the arquebuse.

b. To bring into some condition by yelping.

1711 *BUDGELL Spect.* No. 116 ¶ 6 A raw Dog... might have yelped his Heart out, without being taken notice of.

yelper ('jɛlpə(r)). [f. YELP *v.* + -ER¹.]

† 1. A boaster. *Obs.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 22 þe yelpere is þe cockou þet ne kan naȝt zinge bote of him-zelue.

2. An animal that yelps or gives a sharp shrill cry; also, a person who 'yelps', etc.

a. A dog that yelps, a whelp. b. The avocet. *local.* c. A young partridge. d. A redshank. e. A 'call' used by sportsmen to imitate the 'yelp' of the wild turkey-hen. f. *slang.* A town-crier. g. *slang.* A wild beast.

a. 1673, 1825 [implied in 3]. 1847 HALLIWELL, *Yelper*, a young dog, a whelp. 1850 DOBELL *Roman* vi. Poet. Wks. (1875) 90 But let one miscreant yelper howl, and mark How all the pack gives tongue. 1886 H. F. LESTER *Under Two Fig Trees* ii, I was strolling... through the establishment [sc. a dog's home], looking into one cage of yelpers after another.

b. 1770 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* IV. 69 [Avosettas] are found in considerable numbers during the breeding season, near Fossdyke Wash, in Lincolnshire, called there Yelpers. c 1818 *Britton's Lincolnshire* 725.

c. 1802 W. B. DANIEL *Rur. Sports* II. 518 Vos teneri Yelpers, vos grandævique parentes.

d. 1892 D. JORDAN *Within an Hour of London* T. ix, The 'cussed' redshank or pool-snipe was dubbed the red-legged yelper. *Ibid.* xiii, If wild-fowl possess the virtue of gratitude, they must quack, bark, whistle, shriek, and grunt untold blessings on the redshank's bead, for the yelper is their feathered sentinel. 18... ROOSEVELT *Florida & Game Water-Birds* 196 The yelper has a strong, rapid, and often irregular flight and a loud cry.

e. 1884 *Sport with Gun and Rod* II. 762 We now take our yelper, and give a few sharp yelps; he [sc. a wild turkey] hears the call.

f. 1725 *New Cant. Dict.*, *Yelper*, a Town-Cryer; also, one subject to complain. 1823 'JON BEE' *Dict. Turf* 197 *Yelper*, a town-crier. Also, a discontented cove, who is forward to complain of his woes, and the imaginary evils of life.

g. 1823 *Grose's Dict. Vulgar* T., *Yelpers*, wild beasts.

3. Applied contemptuously to a speaker or writer, whose utterance is compared to a dog's yelp.

1673 S. PARKER *Reproof Reh. Transp.* 268 He will never take any notice of such a despicable yelper as you, unless with a Dog-whip. 1703 T. BAKER *Tunbridge Walks* III. 31 Now shall I be ask'd, a thousand more Whimsical Cross Questions, than a Bashful Witness, by an Impudent Yelper at the Old-Bayley. 1821 *Blackw. Mag.* IX. 61 When they reflect on thy strength, and think of their own petty yelpers. 1825 *Blackw. Mag.* XVII. 467 A pretty pack of yelpers they are, to be sure, that the Whigs hound at the Chancellor. 1827 SCOTT *Diary* 10 Aug. in *Lockhart*, In the house of commons he [sc. Canning] was the terror of that species of orators called the Yelpers. 1873 J. GREENWOOD *In Strange Company* 281 The other merciless howlers and yelpers.

yelping ('jɛlpɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. YELP *v.* + -ING¹.]

† 1. Boasting, proud or pompous talk. *Obs.*

a 1050 *Liber Scintill.* xliii. (1889) 144 *Pro sola inani gloria*, for sylfrie idelre gylpingce. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 11 Ne haue þu pines drihtenes nome in nane aða ne... in nane idel zelpunge. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 330 A derne zelpunge & huntunge efter hereword of more holinesse. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4266 Quintilian... answered... þat bote zelpinge [v.r. zulpynge] & bost mid brutons nopng nas. 13... *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 492 He zerned zelpyng to here. 1340 *Ayenb.* 59 In þise boȝe byep vif leaues, þet byep vif manere of yelpinges. c 1400 T. CHESTRE *Launfal* 762 Why madest thou swyche yelpyng? That thy lemmannes lodlokest mayde Was fayer than my wyf, thou seyde. c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 537/1 þelpyngne, or boostyngne, *jactancia*.

2. The utterance of a sharp shrill cry. a. Of dogs or birds.

1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 881 The timorous yelping of the hounds. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* VII. ix, The poor little animal, forgotten by its mistress... was now discovered by its yelping. 1809-10 COLERIDGE *Friend* (1837) II. i. 24 Like children we ran away from the yelping of a cur. 1847 *Bewick's Brit. Birds* I. 7 [Eagles] often soar out of the reach of human sight: and notwithstanding the immense distance, their cry is still heard, and then resembles the yelping of a dog. 1863 BATES *Nat. Amazons* II. (1864) 33 We often heard the shrill yelping of the toucans.

b. Of persons. Also *fig.*

1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* IX. 395 A ceremonious mourning... with such yelping, howling, shouting, and clapping of hands [etc.]. 1854 MACAULAY in *Trevelyan Life* (1880) II. 376 The yelping against Prince Albert is a mere way of filling up the

time. 1894 *Forum* (N.Y.) Aug. 643 The incessant snarling and yelping of demagogues at capitalists.

yelping ('jɛlpɪŋ), *ppl. a.* [f. YELP *v.* + -ING².] That yelps; given to or characterized by yelping.

1591 SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI.* IV. iv. ii. 47 A litle Heard of Englands timorous Deere, Maz'd with a yelping kennell of French Curres. 1623 — *Tit. A.* II. iii. 20 Let vs sit downe, and marke their [sc. the hounds'] yelping [Qg. yellowing] noyse. 1664 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) II. 212 A little yealping Dogg. 1712 ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* IV. i, The Tradesmen... began to surround Lewis like so many yelping curs about a great boar. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk.* *Rip van Winkle* 55 At the least flourish of a broomstick or ladle, he would fly to the door with yelping precipitation. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* li, Kit is... a crouching cur to those that feed and coax him, and a barking yelping dog to all besides. 1848 in 'F. Forester' *Field Sports* II. 326, I heard the yelping notes of some gobblers. 1906 ALICE WERNER *Natives Brit. Central Africa* viii. 188 The miserable, yelping mongrels which infest the villages.

transf. and fig. 1607 BEAUM. & FL. *Woman Hater* I. ii, The very comfort of whose presence shuts The monster hunger from your yelping guts. 1607 LEVER *Crucifixe* xx, And like the hunted deere, Of our loud yelping sinnes, we stand in feere. 1787 HAWKINS *Life of Johnson* 100 The deep-mouthed rancour of Pulteney, and the yelping pertinacity of Pitt. 1871 B'NESS BUNSEN in *Hare Life* (1879) II. vii. 416 The yelping, barking crowds in Trafalgar Square.

yelpingal: see YAFFINGALE.

yelt (jɛlt). *dial.* Forms: 1 gylte, 5 yelte, 7 yealte, (8 ilt, 8-9 elt, 9 hilt), 6- yelt. [late OE. *gylte*, **gylte* = MLG. *gelte* spayed sow:—**galtjōn*: see GALT, GILT *sb.*²] A young sow.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 119/25 *Suilla, uel sucula, gylte.* 14... *Voc. ibid.* 614/30 *Suillus, i. parva sus, a yelte.* 1562 WITHALS *Dict.* 17b/1 A yelt or yonge sow, *sucula.* 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 661 We call a young swine a Pigge, A weaning Pigge, a sheate, a Yealke [read Yealte], and so forth. 1746 *Exmoor Courtship* (E.D.S.) 409 Es must ha' wone that es can trest... to zar tha ilt and tha Barra. 1790 GROSE *Prov. Gloss.* s.v. *Elt, Elt*, or ilt, is also a spayed sow. Exm. 1903 *E. Angl. Daily Times* 24 Aug. 3/7 Some grand young Boars and Yelts for sale at moderate prices.

yelt(e, zelt(e: see YIELD *v.*

yelting ('jɛltɪŋ). A name for fishes of the genus *Lutianus*.

1873 T. GILL *Catal. Fishes E. Coast N. Amer.* 28 *Lutjanus caxis*... Yelting, glass-eyed snapper. 1876 GOODE *Fishes of Bermudas* 55.

yelu, etc., obs. ff. YELLOW.

yelve (jɛlv), *sb. dial.* Also 7 yelf, 9 yilve. [Metathetic f. ME. *zevel*:—OE. *geafel* fork, more directly represented by dial. *yeevil*, EVIL *sb.*³, in use along the Celtic border from Cheshire to Cornwall.] A dung- or garden-fork. Hence yelve *v.*, to use a yelve.

[c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 430 Hi... hīne ufan mid isenum geafum ðydon. a 1100 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 241/36 *Forcelle, gæfle, dictae quod frumenta celluntur, i. commouentur.* a 1100 *Gerefa in Anglia* IX. 263 He sceal fela tola... habban... bærwān, besman, ræce, geafle. 1398 TREvisa *Barth. De P.R.* xvii. lxx[iii]. (Tollem. MS.), Hey... is houe, turnid and wende with pikes, zeuels [ed. 1495 forkees] and rakes.] 1688 HOLME *Armoury* II. 173/2 Yelf or Yelve, an Iron with three fork ends, by which Dung is taken from the Beast, and the house made clean. *Ibid.* III. 337/1 A Yelve Iron with two Ends. *Ibid.*, With the same Forke or Yelve, (or Evil, as some call it). 1817 WILBRAHAM *Gloss. Cheshire* (1818) 32 Yelve, to dig chiefly with the yelve. 1841 HARTSHORNE *Salopia Antiqua* 622 Yilve, a dung fork, an evil, as we more commonly call it. 1879 MISS JACKSON *Shropsh. Word-bk.*, Yelve... a garden-fork. 1886 *Cheshire Gloss.*, Yelve, a potato fork... Yelve, *v.* to dig, chiefly with the yelve.

yelvean, early variant of ELVAN.

a 1728 LOWER in Woodward *Fossils* (1729) I. i. 201 A sort of Yelvean Stone, and Earth, mixed together, down to the Load. [Cf. *Ibid.* 202 A dun Stone which the Miners call Elvean Stone.]

yelver, obs. form of ELVER.

1655 WALTON *Angler* xiii. (1661) 189 In Severn, (where they [sc. young eels] are call'd Yelvers).

yelwe, zelwe, etc., obs. ff. YELLOW.

yelyng, variant of YILING *Obs.*

yem: see EME, YEME.

yeman, obs. form of YEOMAN.

† **yeme**, *sb. Obs.* Forms: 1 *gieme*, *ȝyme*, 2-5 *zeme*, 3-5 *yeme*, 4 *yem*, *zeeme*, 5 *yeeme*, *eme*. [OE. *gieme* fem. (also *giemen*), f. OTeut. *gaum*: see next. Cf. OS. *gōma* fem., attention, entertaining, feast, banquet, OHG. *gouma* (MHG. *goume*) fem., observation, feasting, opulence, ON. *gaumr* masc., *gaum* fem., care (see GOME²).] Care, heed, attention. *in yeme*, in one's care, in charge.

c 893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* III. xix. 134 Hie pæs wealles nane *gieman* ne dydon. c 897 — *Gregory's Past. C.* v. 44 5if we ðonne habbað swæ micle sorge & swæ micle *ȝ ieman* urra nihstena swæ swæ ure selfra. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 117 He is iset to þon þet he scal owerascawian mid his *zeme* þa lewedan. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 344 Wiðuten *zeme* of heorte. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7015 (Cott.) Tene yeir had he þe folk in *yeme* [other MSS. to *zeme*].

b. In ME. almost always in phr. *to nim or take yeme*: to take note, notice, observe; to give heed, attend; to heed, care; to take heed, take care, be careful (corresponding to various senses of YEME *v.*).

c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 19 Nimað *zeme* nu... hwilche *zife* he us zefeð. *Ibid.* 75 Numeð nu *zeme* perto, and ic ou wile seggen word efter word. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 77 þe heuenliche leche seinte poul nimeð *zeme* of ure saule sicnesse. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 78 Nimeð *zeme* hu wel he seið. a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 649 We nimeþ *zeme* of manne bure An after þan we makeþ ure. c 1290 *Beket* 1942 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 162 Holi church... þat geth al-mest noupe to grounde bote god nime *zeme* þar-to. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 17536 For goddes luue tas *yeme* Quat yee sai. 13... *K. Alis.* 7415 (Linc. Inn MS.) Pors gan abak renne And nom piderward *zeme* And loked toward heore crye. 1340 *Ayenb.* 54 Nim *yeme* of þe guodes þet þou dest oper miȝt do. 1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* VII. 14 þe Neodi and þe Nakede nym *zeeme* hou þei liggeren. 1421 HOCCELEVE *Lerne to Dye* 521 They... list take no *yeme* Vn-to the ende which mighte hem profyte. 1426 AUDELEY *Poems* 12 He that sayth he lovys his Lord, on hym take good eme. c 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 7085 Had she kept furth hir way, He wold of hir haue take no *yeme*. c 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 582 3it biddes he to þaim take *zeme*.

† **yeme**, *v. Obs.* Forms: 1 *gieman*, *ȝiman*, *ȝyman*, *ȝeman*, 2-6 *zeme*, 3 *zeome*, 3-4 *ziem(e)*, 3-6 *zime*, 4 *zheme*, *zheyme*, *yeeme*, *yem*, 4-5 *yheme*, 4-6 *yeme*, 5 *zem*, *zyeme*, 6 *zym*. [OE. *gieman* = OS. *gōmean* to care for, guard, entertain (guests), OHG. *goumjan*, *goumōn* (MHG. *goumen*) to give heed to, observe, feast, ON. *geyma* to heed, watch (Sw. *gōmma* to keep, hide, Da. *gjemme* to keep, guard, save), Goth. *gaumjan* to perceive, observe f. OTeut. *gaum*-, whence also the forms s.v. prec.; the ultimate origin is disputed. In OE. constructed with a genitive of the object, which was succeeded in ME. by of, and ultimately by a simple object.]

1. To care for, take notice of, consider.

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xv. §1 Ne *gemdon* hie nanes fyrenlustes. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 99 Hie... nystan ne ne *gemdon* hwonne hie þæt call anforlætan sceoldan. c 1000 ÆLFRIC *De Vet. Test.* Pref. (Gr.) 3/16 He ætes ne *zimde*. c 1205 LAY. 9168 Bruttes her of *zemden* & noht hit ne forȝeten.

b. To give heed or attention to, attend to, look after; to take heed, take care (to do something).

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xxi. 160 Swiðe *geornlice* *giemað* ðæt hie ða eorðlican heortan *gelæren*. c 1205 LAY. 12581 For þa arewen ne mihte þa Bruttes *zemen* nanes fihtes. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 98 Heo went in hire puhte oft swuche wordes, hwon heo schulde oðerhwaet *zeornliche* *zemen*. c 1440 *York Myst.* xxvii. 66 Euer for to *zeme* in soupe and elde, To be buxsome in boure and hall. c 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 2819 All othir thinges he *zemed* þat to a bischope degre *semed*.

c. *intr.* To attend; to look attentively upon.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 44 (MS. C.) Of ower kneolunge, hwense *ze* mazen *izemen*, ear mete & efter [etc.]. 13... *Cursor M.* 17297 (Gött.) Al þai hidd þaim-self to *zeme*. c 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 159 Y *zemede* vpon þat house & *zeme* peron loked.

2. To take care of, keep; to have charge of, have in keeping; to guard, protect, preserve from injury.

a 900 CYNEWULF *Crist* 1546 Se deopa seað... *giemeð* *gæsta*. c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Num.* iii. 38 Moises and Aaron and hira bearn *gimdon* pæs temples on middan Israhela folce. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 23 þa men þe beoð in þe castel and him *zemeð*. *Ibid.* 115 He scal wiche creft aleggian and wigelunge ne *zeman*. c 1200 ORMIN 5585 Himm reoweþþ þatt he noht ne mazz Himm *zemenn* all fra sinne. c 1205 LAY. 369 Children & hinen þa ure nete sculen *zemen*. c 1320 *Cast. Love* 448 Nis þer nout in world bi-leued þat nis destrued... But eȝte souden þæt weren i-*zemed* In þe schup. c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 968 In a tour þai han hir do, þat noman miȝt hir com to, Bot an eld midwiif, þat schuld *zemen* hir liif. 13... *Gosp. Nicod.* (G.) 468 His lare þe pine algate, And his sepe might þe *zeme*. 1357 *Lay Folks Catech.* (T.) 443 The seuent vertu... is methie... That... yhemes us fro yernynges of worldly godes. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XIII. 230 *zhemen*, swanys, and poverail, That in the parc to *zheyme* vittale War left. a 1400 *Leges Burgorum* c. 57 in *Acts Parl. Scot.* (1844) I. 344/2 He sal be lede to þe house of þe kyngis seriant... and þar he sal be yhemyt fra his challangeouris. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8254 He hurlet thurgh the helme, þat the hed *yemed*. *Ibid.* 10791 The yates to *yeme* he *yepely* comaundit. c 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 132 The said secretar. that the sele *zemyt*. 1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxxviii. 39 Disputil of the tresur that he *zemit*. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* III. ix. 97 Poliphemus, *zymmand* his beistis rowch. *Ibid.* VII. x. 23 [He] heyrdis wyde, As storoure to the king, did kep and *zime*. a 1568 W. BROWN *Lett. Gold in Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter Cl.) 141 Ye men of kirk, that cure hes tane Of sawlis for to wetsche [v.r. *yeme*] and keip.

absol. a 1300 *Sarmun* xviii. in *E.E.P.* (1862) 3 Hi nul noȝt spene bot *zime* in store. a 1400 *Sir Perc.* 1136 He lefte mene many ane... Be the *zates* *zemande*.

3. To have the command or oversight of; to rule, govern, manage, control.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* i. 18 þæt hig... *gimdon* pæs dægæs and þære nihte. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 9541 On na manere Moght he in pes his kingrik *yeme*. 1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* 1. 89 The cheuyteyns... Weren all to yonge of *zeris* to *yeme* swyche a rewme. c 1400 *Ywayne & Gaw.* 1185 My landes forto lede and *yeme*. c 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 1052 Vs aw to *zem* our tong And spek not bot we be requerde. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 5338 The septur & the soile sithyn haue I *zemyt*.

4. To keep, observe (a command, festival, etc.).

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Lev.* xxvi. 42 Ic *zyme* min wedd. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 11 þe þridde godes heste... Wite þe þet *ze* *zemen* þenne halie sunnedci. a 1300 *Ten Commandm.* in O.E. Misc. 200 þe halidays þu shalt *zieme* [pr. *pieme*; *rim* *qeme*].

a **1300** *Cursor M.* 2690 Ful wel pis lagh sal he yeme. **13**.. *Ibid.* 9980 (Gött.) Euer scho lyues in maydenhede, þat scho hir ches þe first day, Scho 3emed it in mekenes ay. **1389** in Sir W. Fraser *Wemyss of Wemyss* (1888) II. 24 Til there thyngys al and syndry lillyl and fermly to befulfyllyt and yhemmyt bath the partys. **c 1400** MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xiv. 61 In þe whilk er many gude Cristen men, 3emaund þe same rytes.. þat we vsen. **c 1400** *Destr. Troy* 869, I am ferd lest þou.. for 3euernes for-3ete þat þe 3eme shuld. **c 1450** *Bk. Curtasye* 304 in *Babees Bk.*, With freres on pilgrimage yf þat þou go, þat þei wille 3yme, wilne þou also.

†**yemeles**, *a.* *Obs.* Forms: 1 **3ieme-**, **3ime-**, **3ymeleas**, 2-3 **3emeles**, 3 **3emeleas**. [OE. *3iemelēas*, f. *3ieme* YEME *sb.* + *-lēas* -LESS.] Careless, heedless, negligent. Hence †**yemelesliche** *adv.* [OE. *3iemelēaslice*: see -LY²], carelessly, heedlessly; †**yemeleaschipe** [-SHIP], †**yemelest** [OE. *3iemelēast*: see -I³], heedlessness, negligence.

c 897 *ÆLFRED Gregory's Past. C.* xxi. 164 Ond swæ hwelc swæ mid ðæm Godes andan bið onæled, ne bið he for 3iemeliste [*Hatton MS.* 3iemeleste] gehiened. *Ibid.* xlii. 305 ðæm unbealdum is to cyðanne hu 3iemeleas hie bið ðonne hie hie selfe to suide forsið. **c 1000** *Sax. Leechd.* II. 84 þara stowa sum raþe rotap 3if hire mon 3iemeleaslice tilað. **c 1175** *Lamb. Hom.* 109 3if þe king bið unrihtwis and 3if þe biscop bið 3emeles. **c 1200** ORMIN 2913 þatt te33 ne falle nohht i gillt þurh 3ure 3emelæste. **a 1225** *Ancr. R.* 92 Hwo se 3iemeleasliche witeð hire uttre eien. *Ibid.* 172 3if heo wit ham vuele, & let ham þurh 3iemeleaste eftleon hire seruise. *Ibid.* 202 3iemeleaschipe, oðer to siggen, oðer to don,..oðer miswiten ei þing þet heo hæuð to witene. **a 1240** *Lofsong in O.E. Hom.* I. 205 3emeleas and unlusti.

†**yemelich**, *a.* *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. YEME *sb.* + *-lich*, -LY¹.] Full of care, anxious.

c 1205 LAY. 3356 þai 3edede þe king Mid 3emeliche worden.

Yemeni (ˈjɛməni); *sb.* and *a.* [ad. Arab. *yamanī*, f. *Yemen* name of two States in the south-west of the Arabian peninsula.] *A. sb.* A native or inhabitant of North Yemen or South Yemen. *B. adj.* Of or pertaining to North Yemen, South Yemen, or to the inhabitants of either.

[**1888** C. M. DOUGHTY *Trav. Arabia Deserta* II. 688 *Yemeny*, a man of el-Yēmen.] **1916** *Handbk. Arabia* I. vi. 151 The Yemeni is not regarded as particularly fanatical. **1955** *Times* 1 July 11/6 Britain was obliged to deliver a strong Note protesting about border raiding. This pointed out..that in June there had been a serious attack on Mukeiras by a mixed force of Yemeni troops and tribesmen. **1959** W. THESIGER *Arabian Sands* xiii. 247, I had ridden.. with two Arab companions and three.. Yemeni pilgrims. *Ibid.*, One of the Yemenis fetched us food from the market. **1959** *Listener* 27 Aug. 308/2 The southern Yemeni provinces. **1968** *Ibid.* 4 Jan. 7/1 A guerrilla attack on the outskirts of Sanaa for a few Yemeni riyals. **1973** 'D. JORDAN' *Nile Green* xxv. 105 Mara was wearing.. a silver medallion.. I decided it must be Yemeni. **1982** P. WAY *Belshazzar's Feast* xix. 208 Would these people have been Arabs, Yemeni Arabs? *Ibid.* xx. 223 The Soviets.. have used their East German puppets, the Yemenis, to create trouble. **1982** M. A. ZABARAH *Yemen* 53 Through the Yemeni emigrant and the Yemeni commercial entrepreneur, modern ideas were reaching not only city dwellers but also the tribes.

Yemenite (ˈjɛmənaɪt), *sb.* and *a.* [Sense a (see below); senses b, c f. prec. + -ITE¹.]

A. sb. †*a.* [f. an earlier form of the personal name.] A member of a family belonging to the tribe of Benjamin. *Obs.* b. = YEMENI *sb.* c. A Jew who was, or whose ancestors were, formerly resident in the Yemen.

1566 BIBLE *I Sam.* ix. 21 Am not I the sonne of a Jaminite of the smallest tribe of Israel: and my kyured is the leest of all the kyureds of the trybe of Ben Jamin. **1568** *Ibid.*, Am not I the sonne of a Jeminite. **1864** J. T. THOMSON *Some Glimpses Life Far East* lviii. 323 By race he was a Yemenite. **1902** *Encycl. Brit.* XXV. 518/2 The Yemenites rashly invited Turkish intervention. **1926** tr. *Granovsky's Land Prob. Palestine* 1. 18 The history of Jewish colonization in Palestine shows many attempts to create a class of Jewish farm laborers..by establishing small settlements for Yemenites (Jewish immigrants from Southern Arabia). **1935** A. REVUSKY *Jews in Palestine* xii. 206 The Sephardim and Yemenites, the two main groups of Oriental Jews. **1965** M. SPARK *Mandelbaum Gate* iv. 91 Those Arab girls, those Yemenites, Syrians, those Israelites, Samaritans. **1976** C. BERMANT *Coming Home* II. iii. 154 One of those private schools.. basically.. for the sons of Arab oil sheiks, but it also housed.. tall, lean Persians, tiny, dusky Yemenites, a few bombastic Greeks.

B. adj. Of, pertaining to, or designating a Yemeni Arab or a Yemeni Jew.

1876 R. D. OSBORN *Islam under Arabs* III. i. 296 The Yemenite Arabs of Syria were known as the Kelbites. **1902** *Encycl. Brit.* XXXI. 329/2 The present Sultan, a descendant of those Yemenite Imams who consolidated Arab power in Zanzibar. **1926** *Sunday at Home* July 636/1 Another industry which has been revived in Jerusalem is the silver filigree work of the Yemenite Jews. **1949** [see *gun moll* s.v. GUN *sb.* 17]. **1955** S. N. EISENSTADT in *Public Opinion Q.* XIX. 156 (heading) Communication in a traditional Yemenite community. **1978** *Church Times* 16 June 11/2 In the Flea Market [of Tel Aviv].. the Guide did not want us to miss the sight of Arabs buying from Yemenite salesmen. **1982** D. WILTSE *Wedding Guest* ix. 113 He was an Arab, but he could have been anything from Moroccan to Yemenite.

†**yemer**. *Obs.* [f. YEME *v.* + -ER¹. Cf. ON. *geymari* keeper.] A keeper, guardian; a ruler. **c 1320** *Sir Tristr.* 831 3if tristrem be now sleyn, Yuel 3emers er we. **1375** BARBOUR *Bruce* II. 123 Thow sall tak Ferrand my palfray.. And gyff his 3emar oucht gruchys,

Luk that thow tak him magre his. **c 1400** *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 2244 So þat in godes hows may be A gude 3emer of godes men3e. **14**.. *Tundale's Vis.* (Turnbull) 239, Y was thi yemer evon and moron Seythou thou was of thi moder boron. **1482** *Cely Papers* (Camden) 94 My emer & I be greed that I schold have xl li.

yemer, **3emer**, variant of YOMER.

†**yeming**, *vbl. sb.* *Obs.* [f. YEME *v.* + -ING¹.] The action of the verb YEME; care, keeping, protection, charge.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2783 Hic am god ðe in min 3eming nam Iacob, ysaac, and abraham. **a 1300** *Cursor M.* 16894 For-pi es skil þir dais there Yeming on him yee lai. **c 1330** *Arth. & Merl.* 2034 He..proferd him al his þing To ben vnder his 3emeing. **c 1400** *Rule St. Benet* (prose) lviii. 38 Suilk yeming sal sho haue, þat te saule be turnid to god alle-mihtye. **c 1440** *York Myst.* xliii. 46 Mankynde was thyne whome þu be-kende And toke me to pi 3emyng right.

y-emptid, ME. *pa. pple.* of EMPTY *v.*

c 1412 HOCLEVE *De reg. Princ.* 4435 Whan þat þe peple.. Hir purs y-emptid haue.

yemschi(c)k, **yemstchick**, variants of YAMSTCHIK.

†**yemsel**. Chiefly *Sc. Obs.* Forms: 3 **3emsle**, 4 **3emsel**, -sele, -sale, -seill, -schele, 3eymseill, 3eemsell, 3hemsall, -sell, yhemsale, 4-5 **3emsall**, 5 **3hemsayl**, yhemselle. [ad. ON. *geymsla* (f. *geyma* YEME *v.* + *-sla* = OE. *-els*), with assimilation to the native *3eme* YEME *v.*] Keeping, care, charge, custody.

c 1200 ORMIN 5095 Ne segge icc þe nohht tatt te birrp.. All al se mikell 3emsle, þwerit ut onn iwhille operr mann Alls o þe selfenn leggenn. **c 1375** *Sc. Leg. Saints* i. (*Petrus*) 601 þe quihlk gaff þame ine 3emsale Of twa knychtis, þat war fell. *Ibid.* xii. (*Mathias*) 245 Cryste gef it hyme ay in 3emsle, þo he wes thefe & ay wald steyle. **1375** BARBOUR *Bruce* xi. 329, I trow he sall.. Do his dewour, and virk so weill, That hym sall neyd no mair 3eymseill [*MS. E.* 3emseill]. **a 1400** *Leges Burgorum* c. 3 in *Acts Parl. Scot.* (1844) I. 333/2 Bot gif.. he [sc. an uplandis man] war in þe kyngis oste or in yhemsale of þe kyngis castell. **c 1425** WYNTOUN *Cron.* viii. xxvi. 4352 Keparis, þat it [sc. a castle] in 3hemsayl [*v.r.* 3emsall] hade.

||**yen**¹ (jɛn). [Japanese, ad. Chinese *yüan* round, round thing, circle, dollar.] A Japanese coin, of gold or silver, representing the monetary unit of Japan since 1871, formerly of about the value of the United States dollar. Also *collect.* as *pl.*

1875 JEVONS *Money* xii. 147 Even Japan has imitated European nations, and introduced a gold coinage of twenty, ten, five, two, and one-yen pieces, the yen being only three per mille less in value than the American gold dollar. **1875** BEDFORD *Sailor's Pocket Bk.* ix. 316 The Yen is divided into 100 Sen, and the Sen into 10 Rin. **1883** SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade Suppl.*, Yen, a name for the dollar in Japan, in former years worth 3s. 9d., but now only about 3s. 2d. **1904** *Times* 16 Jan. 11/3 Japan has..specie to the unprecedented amount of 113 million yen, or £11,300,000.

yen² (jɛn). *slang* (orig. U.S.). Also *yin*, *ying*. [Prob. of Chinese origin. The most likely etymon is Chinese (Cantonese) *yǎn* craving; the forms *yin* and *ying* may reflect the Mandarin pronunciation *yǐn* of the same character. Reinforcement from YEN³ is possible. See also YEN-YEN.

See E. C. Knowlton in *Amer. Speech* (1961) XXXVI. 175-80 for further discussion and documentation of this word, YEN³, and YEN-YEN.]

1. The craving of a drug-addict for his drug (orig. for opium). (See also *quots.* 1929, 1937, 1974.)

1876 H. A. GILES *Chinese Sketches* 115 Chinamen ask if an opium-smoker has the *yin* or not; meaning thereby, has he gradually increased his doses of opium until he has established a craving for the drug. **1891** A. W. DOUTHWAITE *Opium Habit* 5 The frequent and regular repetition of this process of stimulation and depression induces the 'ying', or carving, which is simply a demand by the nervous system for its accustomed stimulant, without which it is unable to properly perform its functions. **1912** D. LOWRIE *My Life in Prison* vii. 79, I even saw two or three guys eat chloride o' lime to stop their yen. **1922** E. MURPHY *Black Candle* II. i. 113 When 'the black candle' is ready for lighting and the smoker has the *ying* upon him—that is to say the mad longing for indulgence—the procedure is like this [etc.]. **1929** LIGHT & TORRANCE in *Arch. Internal Med.* XLIII. 210 If he falls asleep, which is often the case, he falls into a deep slumber well known as the 'yen'. **1933** [see MUGGLE³]. **1937** A. R. LINDESMITH *Nature of Opiate Addiction* iv. 107 The drug user does not ordinarily find that his efforts to explain what he means by 'yen' (which signifies both withdrawal symptoms and desire for opiates) are very successful. *Ibid.*, 'The drug user says, 'he wakes up some morning with a yen.' **1948** F. BROWN *Murder can be Fun* v. 78 He hadn't thought Wilkins would know a biological urge from an opium yen. **1974** M. C. GERALD *Pharmacol.* xiii. 251 Symptoms begin within 8 to 12 hours after the last dose.. The addict experiences tearing, a running nose, sweating, yawning, and difficulty in sleeping. This restless sleep is commonly referred to as the 'yen'.

2. *gen.* A craving, a yearning or longing.

1906 H. GREEN *Actors' Boarding House* 248 He had a yen to gamble and bet high. **1928** J. O'CONNOR *Broadway Racketeers* ix. 107 The kid..had a burning yen for champagne and poker. **1932** S. GIBBONS *Cold Comfort Farm* xx. 267 Ezra, who had a secret yen for horticulture. **1952** *Here & Now* (N.Z.) Jan. 19 This yen for a dog that will do everything has had a lot to do with the waning of pointers, setters and retrievers. **1961** *Time* 6 Jan. 4/2 The yen of

Christian churchmen for achieving church unity is more pathetic than peculiar to behold. **1967** A. CHRISTIE *Endless Night* ii. 21 He'd got such a yen for a picture that he managed to get the money together. **1983** *Listener* 7 July 17/3 You write your music because you have a real yen to write it.

Hence *yen v. intr.*, to crave for a drug; to yearn, desire strongly; 'yenny *a.*, affected by a craving for drugs.

1919 MENCKEN *Amer. Lang.* iii. 93 A great many of them [sc. Chinese words] have remained California localisms, among them such verbs as *to yen* (to desire strongly, as a Chinaman desires opium). **1935** N. ERSINE *Underworld & Prison Slang* 80 He's yennin for morph. **1936** F. M. FORD *Let.* 6 Sept. (1965) 261 Not that I particularly yen to mention the Deity, but that I believe that publishers should be as sadistically punished as possible. **1936** E. POUND *Let.* Sept. (1971) 282 Am afraid I got 'em stuck with some bad grub, but it was the only place I cd. count on being open.. The violin player yenned toward another place, where I thought they wd. git stuck a price. **1953** W. BURROUGHS *Junkie* (1972) vi. 63 Nick is followed all the time now. You know yourself when a guy is yennin, he doesn't look behind him. He's running. **1975** H. WHITE *Raincoast Chron.* (1976) 147/1 'We brought a bit of shit in with us to taper off on.. Too bad she's all gone.' 'Yeah,' said Pat longingly, 'I sure get yenny sometimes.' **1977** *Times* 11 Feb. 12/2 The need for new educational certainties..cannot be met by yennin for the relative simplicities of the old 'elementary' education.

yen³ (jɛn). *U.S. slang and techn.* [Prob. a. Chinese (Cantonese) *yīn* opium, or (Mandarin) *yān* opium: cf. YEN² and YEN-YEN.]

1. *Opium.*

1926 J. COLTON *Shanghai Gesture* III. 188 [Servant enters with.. opium..] Here's the yen! **1935** A. J. POLLOCK *Underworld Speaks* 135/1 *Yen in the cheek*, gum opium or yen shee placed and sucked in back of lower teeth which produces comfort to the addict (this is frequently used when traveling in public conveyances). **1942** BERREY & VAN DEN BARK *Amer. Thes. Slang* §509/2 Opium..yen.

2. *attrib. and Comb.*, as (sense 1, with varying degrees of naturalization) **yen hock**, **hok**, and **varr.**, a needle used in the preparation of opium in the form of pills; **yen hop**, an opium pipe; **yen pock**, **pox**, and **varr.** (see *quots.* 1935 and 1959); **yen she(e)** and **varr.**, the deposit of opium ashes formed in the bowl of an opium pipe; also *loosely*, opium; **yen siang**, **tsiang**, an opium pipe.

1882 H. H. KANE *Opium-Smoking in Amer. & China* iii. 35 The other articles..for a smoker's outfit are..a needle (*yen hauck*) on the end of which the opium is taken up, 'cooked', and placed over the small opening in the upper surface of the bowl. **1886** T. BYRNES *Professional Criminals Amer.* 385 Among the frequenters of his place could be seen..such noted characters as.. 'Yen Hock' Harry, who earned his title by stabbing a man with a 'yen hock'. **1909** I. L. NASCHER *Wretches of Povertyville* II. v. 176 The needle or yen hok is merely a short knitting needle, sometimes with a handle. **1926** *Variety* 29 Dec. 7/4 The dopes and hop heads, with their 'stem', 'yen hok', [etc.]. **1955** U.S. *Senate Hearings* (1956) VIII. 4162 *Yen hock*, a long needle-shaped instrument, flat on one end and used to roll the 'pill' and hold same for cooking. **1968-70** *Current Slang* (Univ. S. Dakota) III-IV. 140 *Yen hok, n.*, a slender needle used in preparing opium for smoking. (Drug users' jargon). **1901** C. R. WOOLDRIDGE *Hands Up!* 215 It consists of the 'yen hop', or pipe, usually made of a section and a half of heavy bamboo. **1918** F. HUNT *Blown in by Draft* iii. 60 In the rare old fiction days 'corking a pill' had to do with yen hop, today it tells of naught but rolling a cigarette. **1934** *Detective Fiction Weekly* 21 Apr. 114/1 Yen pok, pill of opium after being prepared for smoking. **1935** A. J. POLLOCK *Underworld Speaks* 135/1 *Yen pock*, a cooked opium pill often eaten by addicts to produce normalcy and temporary relief. **1946** MEZZROW & WOLFE *Really Blues* xiv. 249 We'd..pack along some yen pox (opium pills that you eat). **1955** [see MUD *sb.* 2 d]. **1959** W. BURROUGHS *Naked Lunch* 12 Yen pox is the ash of smoked opium. **1882** H. H. KANE *Opium-Smoking in Amer. & China* iii. 35 A straight and curved knife for cleaning the bowl of the ash (*yen tshi*) that rapidly collects and renders the pipe foul. **1892** H. CAMPBELL *Darkness & Daylight* xxviii. 565 And a little box of tin held the *yen she* or bits of refuse opium. **1901** C. R. WOOLDRIDGE *Hands Up!* 215 The 'yen she gow', or small chisel, for cleaning out the bowl of the pipe. **1912** A. H. LEWIS *Apaches of New York* xi. 229 Number-one hop is \$87.50 a can, an' yee-chee..not less'n \$32. **1918** *Policeman's Monthly* Oct. 16/3 In answer to this, it was learned that fifty-eight began by smoking opium..eight ate morphine, three ate 'yen shee', the ashes of opium, and the remaining cases started by using cocaine and laudanum, or eating opium. **1947** A. MEYERS in J. H. JACKSON *San Francisco Murders* 291 Liu uttered..a pathetic plea that he be allowed his daily pipe of 'yen-shee' or opium. **1952** J. STEINBECK *East of Eden* xix. 219 Odors from Chinatown, roasting pork and punk and black tobacco and yen shi. **1882** H. H. KANE *Opium-Smoking in Amer. & China* iii. 35 The whole pipe is called the *Yen Tsiang*, or opium pistol. **1909** J. S. THOMPSON *Chinese* viii. 336 At last its consistency suits. He places the gummy head on the large flute-like pipe, or *yen siang* (smoking pistol).

yen, *obs.* *pl.* of EYE *sb.*; *Sc.* and *north.* *dial.* f. ONE; *dial.* f. YON; *graphic var.* *pen* THAN, THEN.

Yenan (jɛ'næn). [Chinese (Pinyin) *Yan'an*.] The name of a town in northern Shaanxi province, China, which was the headquarters of the Chinese Communist Party in the years 1936-49, used *attrib.* to designate this period in

the history of the Party, or to describe the principles and policies evolved by it at that time.

1949 F. C. JONES *Manchuria since 1931* xii. 231 The Yen'an régime had no hold upon the country in general before August 1945. **1957** P. S. H. TANG *Communist China Today: Domestic & Foreign Policies* v. 197 Thoroughness of rural regimentation characterized... administration of the Shensi-Kansu-Ninghsia border region during the Yen'an period. **1966** F. SCHURMANN *Ideology & Organization in Communist China* i. 59 The scattered guerrilla forces of the Yen'an period had to report back to headquarters in systematic ways. **1970** E. SNOW *Red China Today* (1971) xxxii. 257 After 1966 foreign ballets were seen no more in China; traditional Chinese opera was also overhauled to make it conform to Yen'an principles. Mao Tse-tung's dicta, *Talks at the Yen'an Forum on Art and Literature*, became the guidelines for stage and screen performances. **1975** I. C. Y. HSÜ *Rise of Mod. China* (ed. 2) xxiv. 714 The heart of the Yen'an Way was the perfection of the mass line and the sharpening of revolutionary nationalism in the countryside, which became the twin pillars of Maoism. **1979** *Encounter* Feb. 74/1 The 'Great Leap Forward' led to a re-evaluation of the significance of the Yen'an period of the late 1930s and early 1940s.

yence, Sc. and north. dial. f. ONCE.

yench, obs. form of INCH *sb.*¹

1493 [see THICK *a.* 2].

†**yend**, *v.* Obs. Forms: 1 *geendian*, 2-3 (3) *ienden*, 5 *zynde*. [OE. *geendian*: see *Y-* 3 c and *END v.* For the form in quot. *c.* 1430 cf. *END sb.* etym. note.] *trans.* To end.

c. 1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Matt. xxviii. 20 Ic beo mid eow ealle dagas oð worulde *ge-endeunge*. *Ibid.* Luke xiv. 30 Hwæt þes man agan timbrian & ne mihte hit *ge-endan*. *c.* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 129 Iwlch mon bið iboren mid muchele sara and mid muchele sorþe his lif iendað. *a.* 1240 *Lofsong* in *O.E. Hom.* I. 217 He is ænde buton ælcere *ziendunge*. *c.* 1430 *Freemasonry* (1840) 12 The multytude that was comynge Of here chyldryn after here *zyndynge*.

yend, obs. or dial. var. YOND.

yend(e, 3end(e, obs. ff. END sb. and v.

Yende, obs. f. IND.

yended, obs. pa. pple. of *END v.*

yender: see YEENDER, YONDER.

yene, obs. pl. of EYE *sb.*; obs. f. YAWN *v.*

yenesherre, obs. form of JANIZARY.

yeng, 3eng, obs. ff. YOUNG.

Yengees ('jɛŋgi:z). Also -eese, *pl.*, whence Yengee ('jɛŋgi) *sing.* Stated to be a N. American Indian corruption of *English*, applied to the people of New England. (Cf. YANKFEE.)

1819 HECKEWELDER *Ind. Nations* iii. (1876) 77 When the Yengeese arrived at Machtitschwanne, they looked about everywhere for good spots of land. *Ibid.* xiii. 143 *Yengees*. This name they [sc. the Chippeways and some other nations] now exclusively applied to the people of New England... They say they know the *Yengees*, and can distinguish them by their dress and personal appearance... The proper English they call *Saggenash*. **1826** J. F. COOPER *Last of Mohicans* xxix, 'What art thou?' 'A woman; one of a hated race, if thou wilt—a Yengee.' *Ibid.*, It is a redskin in the pay of the Yengee. **1834** WHITTIER *Mogg Megone* 40 A scalp or twain from the Yengees torn.

Yenisei ('jenisei, jeni'sei). [a. the name of the river *Yenisei* in Siberia.] One of a group of Palæo-Siberian languages belonging to the Finno-Ugric group. Usu. in *Comb.*, esp. as *Yenisei-Ostiak*, the designation of this linguistic group.

1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 1/1 *Samoyedic*. *Yurak* and *Yenisei*, White-Sea to the Yenisei. **1908** T. G. TUCKER *Introd. Nat. Hist. Lang.* viii. 149 The Hyerborean speeches of Asia, some of which may or may not form a family, include... *Yenisei-Ostiak* (a tongue to be distinguished from the Ural-Altaic *Ostiak*, with which it agrees neither in its roots nor in the principle of vowel-harmony). **1932** W. L. GRAFF *Lang. & Languages* 406 The *Yenisei-Ostiak* variety is believed to be related to Tibeto-Chinese. **1939** L. H. GRAY *Foundations of Lang.* 369 The languages of the Uralic family are as follows: Samoyede group: *Yurak*, *Yenisei-Samoyede*, [etc.]. **1948** R. A. D. FORREST *Chinese Lang.* 22 A remarkable outlier of the Sinitic family, and more specifically of the Tibeto-Burman group, is... a group of dialects known as *Yenisei-Ostiak* and *Kottish*. They are now spoken by a few villagers far in the north of Siberia, on the river *Yenisei*, northwards of *Yeniseisk*. **1951** W. K. MATTHEWS *Languages U.S.S.R.* iii. 17 *Yurak* (Nenets)... is spoken from the Kanin peninsula to the estuary of the *Yenisei* river, *Yenisei* (Enets) along its lower course. **1958** A. S. C. ROSS *Etymology* i. 27 In the language called *Yenisei-Ostyak*... a variation of a kind very similar to *M[oder]n E[nglish]*... is found. **1967** [see NENETS].

yenite ('jinait). *Min.* [ad. F. *yénite* (Lelièvre, *Jrnl. des Mines*, 1807), f. *Jena* + -ITE¹: see quot. 1868.] A former synonym of ILVAITE.

1816 P. CLEAVELAND *Min.* (1822) I. 394 Before the blow-pipe the *Yenite* is easily fusible into a dull, opaque, black globule. **1868** DANA *Min.* 297 Named *Ivvaite* from the Latin name of the island (Elba) on which it was found; *Lievrite* after its discoverer [Lelièvre]; *Yenite* (should have been *Jenite*) in commemoration of the battle of Jena, in 1806. The Germans, and later the French, have rightly rejected the name *yenite*, on the ground that commemorations of political hostility or triumph are opposed to the spirit of science.

yenne, obs. form of EVEN *sb.*¹

1478-9 *Stonor Lett.* (Roy. Hist. Soc.) II. 72 Payd for a cope for the capyns on candelmas yenne, vi. d.

yenny, a.: see YEN².

yenough, obs. form of ENOUGH.

1577 B. GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* i. (1586) 9 b, And suche as I found sounde, I thought yenough for me to keepe the reparations.

yenta ('jɛntə). *U.S.* Also *yente*, (*rare*) *yenteh*. [Yiddish, orig. a personal name.] A gossip or busybody; a noisy, vulgar person; a scolding woman or shrew.

1923 A. YEZIERSKA *Salome of Tenements* 12 The slattern *yentehs* lounging on the stoops... were transfigured. **1931** B. HECHT *Jew in Love* 122 Jesus God, you talk like a typical *yenta*. **1948** *Commentary* V. 500/1 *Yente* has become synonymous with noisiness and vulgarity, plus implications of rough good-heartedness. **1968** *Encounter* Sept. 27/1 *Yenta*, I am told, was a perfectly acceptable name for a lady, derived from the Italian *gentile*—until some ungracious *yenta* gave it a bad name. **1970** S. ELLIN *Bind* xxiii. 114 A couple of *yentas* got nothing better to do, they'll take a sunbath right by my window. **1975** *New Yorker* 24 Nov. 167/3 It is to the director's credit that she manages to hold down Doris Roberts' performance as the *yente*. **1978** J. B. SINGER *Shosha* ii. 38 You were always ready to trade me for the first available *yenta*.

yent (3ɛnt), var. *yend*, YOND Obs.

yentred, ME. pa. pple. of ENTER *v.*

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. x. 375 þat I man made was and my name yentred In þe legende of lyf longe er I were.

yentyll, obs. form of GENTLE *a.*

a. 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* viii. 20 It neuer commyth of a yentyll courage of any knyght to assaile any person without armure.

yentz (jɛnts), *v.* *U.S. slang.* [Yiddish, f. *yentzen* to copulate.] *trans.* To cheat, to swindle (see also quot. 1939). Also *fig.* Cf. SCREW *v.* 6 d, 13.

1930 *Amer. Mercury* Dec. 458/2 *Yentz*, to cheat. 'They try to yentz me out of me end.' **1939** *Amer. Speech* XIV. 240/2 *To yentz*, to cheat; to fornicate. **1969** S. J. PERELMAN in *Holiday* Mar. 104/4 The faintness one characteristically experiences on discovering that he has been yentzed. **1978** J. KRANTZ *Scruples* x. 276 'I don't yentz them,' Maggie explained. Coca-Cola-colored eyes all innocence, 'they just yentz themselves and I try not to run out of tape.'

yen-yen ('jɛnɛn). *U.S. slang.* Also †*inyun*. [Prob. ad. Chinese (Cantonese) *yinyǎn* craving for opium, f. *yīn* opium + *yǎn* craving: cf. YEN² and YEN³.] A craving for opium, the 'opium-habit'.

1886 T. BYRNES *Professional Criminals Amer.* 385 A fiend suffering with the *inyun* is a man to be avoided. *Ibid.* 384, I was a victim to the opium habit, or, as the Chinese have it, *inyun fun*. **1892** H. CAMPBELL *Darkness & Daylight* xxviii. 569 'I've got the *yen-yen* (opium habit) the worst way', said one woman, 'and must have my pipe every night.' **1904** H. HAPGOOD *Autobiogr. of Thief* x. 207 Perhaps it was the sight or smell of the hop, but anyway I got the *yen-yen* and shook as in the ague. **1926** J. BLACK *You can't Win* xvii. 238 He [sc. the old Chinaman] was shaking with the 'yen yen', the hop habit. **1961** *Amer. Speech* XXXVI. 178 If Cantonese *yen yen* be regarded as the probable source of English *yen-yen* we may assume that the syllables represent the individual etymons for *yen* 'opium' and *yen* 'craving'.

yeo, sb.¹ *local* (south-west). [repr. OE. **éa*, **iá* for *éa* stream, river: see *Æ sb.*¹, EA, and cf. AA¹.] A stream or drain (in mining).

[In the following 16th cent. quotes. the forms *yew*, *yō* are of doubtful identity; the river-name *Yeo* (OE. *Eowan* in oblique cases) may be intended:]

1521 *Yatton Churchw. Acc.* (Som. Rec. Soc.) 139 In expenses for dyking y^e new yew... xxiijs. iiijd. **1543** *Ibid.* 157 Payd for mowynge the yew... iijs. iiijd. **1558** *Ibid.* 170 Fo Dyching... the parishe worke in y^e Yo... xvjd and xij^d.

1725 PEARCE *Laws Stannaries* Introd. p. xiii, Every Work may lawfully bring their Water from the River, which the Tinnars [in Cornwall and Devon] commonly call the *Yeo*, without Denial or Contention. *Ibid.*, Then they go [to] the *Yeo*, or River, and fetch home the Water which serves this Work. **1873** *Q. Rev.* CXXXV. 157 'Girts' or 'gulphs' are names given by the moonmen [of Dartmoor] to the long, and sometimes deep, excavations seaming the hill-sides, down which the miners led their stream, generally known as the 'yeo'. **1873** WILLIAMS & JONES *Gloss. Som.*, *Yeo*, main drain of a level.

yeo (jəʊ), *sb.*² Colloq. abbrev. of YEOMAN; commonly in *pl.* = YEOMANRY 3.

[1710 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* ii. III. (ed. 23) 534 M. Alford *Yeo*.] **1831** LOVER *Leg. Irel.*, *Paddy the Piper* 150 If the Hussians or the Yeo's ketches you. **1898** K. TYNAN in *Westm. Gaz.* 12 Oct. 2/1 The yeos at Rathdrum had information that a house... was to be robbed.

y eo, sb.³ Dial. form of EWE; also in comb. *yeo-necked* = EWE-NECKED.

1746 *Exmoor Scolding* (E.D.S.) 210 Tha cortst tha natted Yeo now-reert, ..laping o'er the Yoanna Lock. **1878** G. MURRAY *Russians of To-day* 15 Mounted upon yeo-necked galloways.

yeofaile, obs. form of JEFAIL.

yeo-(heave-)ho: see YO-HEAVE-HO, YOHO.

ye olde (jɪ: əld, 'əuldɪ), *a.* [f. *ye* graphic var. of THE *dem. adj.* (see Y 3) + OLDE *a.*] Employed esp. commercially to suggest (spurious) antiquity in collocations the other words of which are often also archaistically spelt. Also

absol. as *sb.*, a building characterized by (spurious) antique furnishings.

1896 W. WROTH *London Pleasure Gardens* i. 56 A modern public-house. 'Ye olde Bagnigge Wells.' **1900** *Confectioners' Union Hand-bk.* 167 Ye olde English toffee. **1919** WODEHOUSE *Damsel in Distress* xxvi. 298 In London, when a gentlewoman becomes distressed... she collects about her two or three other distressed gentlewomen... and starts a tea-shop in the West-End, which she calls Ye Oak Leaf, Ye Olde Willow-Pattern, Ye Linden-Tree, or Ye Snug Harbour, according to personal taste. **1933** [see OLDE *a.*]. **1951** 'M. INNES' *Operation Pax* v. ii. 197 Not a tourist centre. Nothing ye olde. **1972** P. CLEIFE *Slick & Dead* iv. 36 The Inn was the complete trendy-contemporary Ye Olde—all ship's lanterns, copper pans, chintz and candelabra. **1977** *New Yorker* 16 May 107/1 Quincy Market... basically a suburban shopping mall done up in the instant charm of ye olde exposed brick.

yeolke, yeolow, obs. ff. YOLK, YELLOW.

yeoman ('jəʊmən). Pl. *yeomen* ('jəʊmən). Forms: *a.* 4-5 *3oman*, *3homan*, (4) *3human*, *3ouman*), 4-7 *yoman*, 5 *3oman(n)e*, *3omon*, *yomon*, (*yhoman*), *zuman*, 6-7 *yoeman*. *β.* 4-6 *3eman*, (4) *3heman*), 5-7 *yeman*, (5) *3emman*, *yemon*, 6 *3eamman*, *Sc.* *3iemman*, 8 *ye'man*). *γ.* 4-5 *3iman*, *3yman*, (4) *3ymman*, 5 *3imman*, *3ymanne*). *δ.* 5- *yeoman*, (7-8 *Sc.* *zeoman*). [ME. (14th cent.) *3oman*, *zuman*, *3eman*, *3iman*, prob. reduced forms of *3ong-*, *3ung-*, *3eng-*, *3ingman*: see YOUNGMAN, which is itself used as a designation of an attendant or servant (cf. sense 1 below), while a 12th cent. *yongerman* is given in Pseudo-Cnut de Foresta §2 as a synonym of *læsspegenes* 'mediocres homines' (cf. sense 4), who were intermediate between the *pezenes* 'liberales homines' and the *tunmen* 'villani' (cf. also OE. *gingra* vassal, follower of a prince, etc.).

The *mm* found in some forms (*gemman*, *zimman*) may be a survival of the *ngm* of *yongman*. Cf. MSw., Da. *jomfru*, Icel. *jumfrú* (after LG. *jumfer*), and Du. *juffrouw* beside *jonkrouw* young lady.

The pronunciation ('jɪ:mən) is evidenced as late as the time of Swift (see quot. 1706 in 4 β and cf. 1687 in 4 δ).

If this word is ultimately identical with *youngman*, the derivation has possibly a remarkable parallel in s.w. dial. *yeomath*, *yeemath*, *yemmath*, *youmath*, *yummath* = aftermath, which is app. for 'young math = late mowing.]

I. 1. a. A servant or attendant in a royal or noble household, usually of a superior grade, ranking between a sergeant (SERGEANT *sb.* 7) and a groom (GROOM *sb.*¹ 4) or between a squire and a page.

a. 13.. *K. Alis.* 835 (Laud MS.), To *3oman* page & jorglers. **1377** LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. III. 213 (MS. R.) Emperoures... han *3oumen* [C. IV. 271 *3emen*, *v.rr.* *3omen*, *3immen*, *3emmen*, *3onge men*] to *3ernen* and to ride. ? *a.* 1400 *Morte Arth.* 2628 He [sc. Arthur] made me *3omane* at *3ole*, and gafe me gret gyftes, And c. pounde, and a horse, and harnayse fulle ryche. **14..** in *Monum. Francisc.* (Rolls) 583 Commaunde 3e that 3oure gentilmien yomen and other dayly bete and were there robis in 3oure presence. *c.* 1420 *Chron. Vilod.* 4558 Knyzt, squiere, *3omon* & page. **1449** *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 157/2 *Yomen* of the moste honourable Houshold of the Kyng. *c.* 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* iv. 123 Came there a yoman that sayd to the duchesse... the meete is redy. *c.* 1520 SKELTON *Magnyf.* 2542 To day hote, to morowe outragious colde; To day a yoman, to morowe made of page. **1593** *Lanc. Wills* (Chetham Soc.) 155, I gyve unto everye one of my yomen suche as are my howsholde servants over and besyds theire waigs xx^s a peece.

β. 1345-8 in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 9 The Kinges archers, vinteners, yemen of offices in the Kinges howse. **1375** BARBOUR *Bruce* v. 235 Quhill I liff, and may haf mycht To lede a *3heman* or a swane. *c.* 1470 HENRY WALLACE II. 388 A bauld squier, with him gud *3emen* twa. **1470-85** MALORY *Arthur* XXI. iii. 845 The kyng callyd vpon hys knyghtes squyers and yemen. **1584** WHEATSTONE *Mirr. Mag.*, *Cities* 15 b, Were this a lawe in England, I feare mee... we shuld haue more Gentlemen bondmen, then Yemen trustie seruantes.

δ. *a.* 1483 *Liber Niger* in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 19 Our sovereyn lordes household is now discharged... of the Court of Marshalsy, and all his clerkes and yeomen. **1561** *Old Cheque-Bk. Chapel Royal* (Camden) 1 Mr. Paternoster was sworne gent' the 24th of Marche, and Jones, Gospeller, and Thos. Rawlins, Yeoman. **1571** GOLDING *Calvin* on Ps. vii. 14 Saule... had many yeomen at hand, that wold gladly have employed their labour too destroye David. **1607** DEKKER & WEBSTER *Westw. Hoe* III. D4, Come Sergeant Ambush, come yeoman Clutch, yons the Tauerne, the Gentleman will come yeout presently. **1713** SWIFT *On Himself* 35 The waiters stand in ranks; the yeomen cry, Make room; as if a duke were passing by. **1814** SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* i. xxix, Where squire and yeoman, page and groom, Plied their loud revelry. **1864** TENNYSON *Aylmer's F.* 497 The folly... became in other fields A mockery to the yeomen over ale, And laughter to their lords.

b. An attendant or assistant to an official, etc.

13.. *E.E. Allit.* P. A. 535 Gos to my vyne, *3emen 3onge*, & wyrces & dos pat at 3e moun. **1363** *Rolls of Parlt.* II. 278/2 Gentz de Mestere, d'Artifice & d'Office, appelez Yomen. *c.* 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 101 A Yeman [*v.rr.* *3eman*, *3 oman*] hadde he, and seruantz namo. **1552** in Feuillerat *Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 124 Lyuery for his yemen and other baser officers. **1568** GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 84 Robyn Hood had at his rule and commaundement an hundreth tall yomen. **1597** SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV*, II. i. 4 *Hostesse*. Mr. Fang, haue you entred the Action? *Fang*. It is enter'd. *Hostesse*. Wher's your

Yeoman? Is it a lusty yeoman? 1627 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Armado* C8, Nimble tongu'd Pettifoggers, greedy Sericants, hungry Yeomen, deuouering Catchpoles. 1766 ENTICK *London* IV. 47 Eighteen sergeants at mace, and every serjeant hath his yeoman. 1861 *Times* 26 July, The senior Sheriff's yeoman read Her Majesty's writ, authorizing the Sheriffs to proceed to the election of 'a fit and discreet citizen' to serve in Parliament. 1897 J. D. WALKER in *Rec. Lincoln's Inn* I. Pref. 7 A Benchman in 1442 was entitled as of right to have a yeoman (*valettus*) boarded in the Inn at a charge of 14d. per week.

c. *yeoman's service* (also *yeoman service*): good, efficient, or useful service, such as is rendered by a faithful servant of good standing.

[a1500 *Gest of Robyn Hode* lxxx, It were grete shame sayd Robyn A knyght a lone to ryde, Without squyer yeman or page, . . . I shall the lene lytyll Johan my man, . . . In a yemans stede he may the stande, Yf thou grete nede haue.] 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* v. ii. 36, I once did hold it. . . A basenesse to write faire; . . . but Sir now, It did me Yeomans seruice. 1613 HOBY *Counter-snarle* 75 You may doe the Pope yeoman seruice indeede. 1807 SCOTT 11 Aug. in *Fam. Lett.* (1894) I. iii. 77 This [law] has done me yeoman's service in the hour of necessity. 1857 HUGHES *Tom Brown* i, These stalwart sons of the Browns have done yeomen's work. 1858 DE QUINCEY *Language* Wks. 1890 X. 247 The word *ignore* . . . has now assumed [a general meaning], with little offence to good taste, and with yeoman service to the intellect. 1884 *Illustr. Lond. News* 29 Nov. 84 The . . . Society has done yeoman's service during the ten years of its existence.

2. a. With *of* (or *for*) followed by a word indicating the particular department or function, in the titles of various officials, esp. of a royal or noble household, as *yeoman of the bottles*, *of the buttery*, *of the cellar*, *of the chamber*, *of the crown*, *of the ewery*, *of the horse(s, for the household, of the larder, for the mouth* (MOUTH sb. 2 d), *of the revels*, *of the robes*, *of the stable*, *of the stirrup*, *of the tents*, *of the wardrobe*; so *yeoman of the channel* (an official of the Corporation of London: see CHANNEL sb. 1 3 a). Hence in humorous allusion, as *yeoman of the collar*, a prisoner with an iron band round his neck (COLLAR sb. 5); *yeoman of the cord*, *of the halter*, a hangman, or hangman's assistant.

1455 in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 18 Richard Clerk, Yoman of the *Armure. *Ibid.*, Henri Est, Yoman of the *Beddes. *Ibid.* 19 William Wynnal, Yoman for the *botilles. 1591 *Murder John Ld. Bourgh* A4b, One Iohn Powell yeoman of the bottles. 1531 in *Butt Ford's Archery* (1887) 141 Yoeman of the Kinges *bowes. 1473 *Rolls of Parl.* VI. 97/2 Richard Forster, Yoman of the *Botry of oure Housbold. 1513 Bk. *Keruyng in Babes* Bk. 270 Yoman of the *seller and ewery. 1345-8 in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 4 Yeomen of the Kinges *chamber. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 62 Thre yomen of his chambere. 1438 E.E. *Wills* (1882) 110 The yomen of my lordys chambere. 1708 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* II. III. xliii. (ed. 22) 688 Yeoman of the *Channel. 1647 HAWARD *Crown Rev.* 33 Yeoman of the Stirrup. . . Yeoman of the Male. . . Yeoman of the *close Carte. 1530 *Hickscorner* (Manly) 239 *Freywill.* Syr, laye you beneth, or on hye on the soller? *Imag.* Nay, ywys, amonge the thyckest of yemen of the *coller. c1640 J. DAY *Peregr. Schol.* xvii. (1881) 72 A kinsman of myne that is grome of the ladder and yeoman of the *corde. 1450 *Rolls of Parl.* V. 192/2 Yoman of the *Coroune, and Ussher of oure Chambere. 1498 in *Leadam Sel. Cases Crt. Requests* (Selden Soc.) 5 William Frost oon of your Yomons of the Crowne. 1450 *Rolls of Parl.* V. 194/1 Watkyn Bedell, Yoman of oure *Ewre. 1455 in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 20 John Canne, Yomen for the *halle. 1802 J. T. SMITH *Bk. for Rainy Day* (1861) 169 A most diabolical-looking little wretch, denominated 'the Yeoman of the *Halter', Jack Ketch's head man. 1455 in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 23, 1 Yoman of *Horse. 1530 PALSGR. 291/1 Yeman of the horse, *palfrenier*. 1586 T. B. La Primaud, *Fr. Acad.* I. 320 The yomen of his horses. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 510/2 *Promus*, . . . a butler: a yeoman of the *larder. 1455 in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 20 William Pratte, Yoman for the King's *mouth. 1531 ELYOT *Gov.* III. v, Yoman for the mouthe with the kyng. a1700 B. E. *Dict. Cant. Crew.*, *Yeoman of the Mouth*, an Officer belonging to his Majestie's Pantry. 1345-8 in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 4 Yeomen of the *offices. 1552-3 in *Feuillerat Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 111 Iohn howlre yeman of the *Revelles. 1455 in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 17 John Slytherst, Yoman of the *Robes. 1552 HULOET, Yoman or master of the robes, *vestiarius*. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl. s.v. Acateri*, A Yeoman of the *Salt-Stores. 1650 in *Archaeologia* V. 435 The Saucery House, conteynyng foure little roomes used by the yeoman of the *sauces. 1455 in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 21 Roger Sutton, Yoman for the *sething place. *Ibid.* 23, 11 Yeoman and Gromes of the *Stable. 1473 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 55 The Hensmen and zomen of the stablis for the King and the Quene. a1578 LINDSAY (Pittscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 325 The king callit on ane zemen of the stabill and desyrtit ane of his abullzementis. 1526, 1538, 1647, 1692 Yeoman of the *stirrup [see STIRRUP sb. 1 d]. 1455 in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 18 Yoman of the *Stoole. 1552-3 in *Feuillerat Revels Edw. VI* (1914) 111 Yeman of the *Tentes. 1679-88 *Moneys Secr. Serv. Chas. II & Jas. II* (Camden) 135 To Thomas Howard, yeoman of the tents and toyles, for his charge in removing the toyles and waggons. 1523-34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* §151 The yomen of the *wardropes of noble men. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N. II.* v. 45 The Lady of the Strachy, married the yeoman of the wardrob.

b. *Yeoman of the Guard*: a member of the body-guard of the sovereign of England (first appointed at the accession of Henry VII, and originally archers). Also *Extraordinary Yeoman*: see BEEFEATER 2.

1485 in *Hennell Hist. Yeom. Gd.* (1904) 23 Oure humble and feithful subgiat William Browne yoman of oure garde. 1509-10 *Act 1 Hen. VIII.* c. 14 A Yoman of the Crowne or of the Kynges garde. 1519-20 *Rec. St. Mary at Hill* (1904) 307 Ress' for the Buryall of a yoman of the Gard pat dyed at

pe Swan. . . ij s. 1552 in *Hennell Hist. Yeom. Gd.* (1904) 292 The Garde, 1552. . . Ordinarie Yeomen in number cc. . . Extraordinarie Yeomen in number cc & vii. 1573 *Ibid.* 293 Raulf Colborne an extraordinary yeoman. 1613 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Watermen's Suit* Wks. 1630 I. 175 Gentlemen of the priuy Chamber, or Yeomen of the Gard at least. 1647 HAWARD *Crown Rev.* 19 Captaine of the Guard. . . Ordinary Yeomen of the Guard, 200. . . 50 Extraordinary. 1675 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) II. 305 A L^d Chamberlain was never before turned out for striking a yeoman of the guard. 1711 STEELE *Spect.* No. 109 ¶ 2 The vast jetting Coat and small Bonnet, which was the Habit in Harry the Seventh's Time, is kept on in the Yeomen of the Guard. 1745 MRS. E. MONTAGU *Corr.* (1906) I. 202, I can eat more buttered roll in a morning than a great girl at a boarding school, and more beef at dinner than a yeoman of the Guards. 1904 HENNEL Hist. *Yeom. Gd.* 62 In the Yeomen of the Guard the yeomen are all non-commissioned officers, sergeants or sergeant-majors.

c. In the British and U.S. navies, an inferior officer who has charge of the stores in a particular department: with *of* or possessive, as *yeoman of the powder-room*, *of the sheets* (now abolished), *y. of (the) signals*, *of the store-room*, *boatswain's y., engineer's y., paymaster's y., ship's y.* Also *ellipt.*

[c1400 *Beryn* 2997 Why goon the zemen to bote, Ankirs to hale?] 1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* v. xii. 46 A Gunner. . . must be careful in making Choice of a sober honest Man, for the Yeoman of the Powder. 1698 in *MSS. Ho. Lords* (N.S.) III. (1905) 346 The gunner and the yeoman ordered him to assist him. 1702 in *Lond. Gaz.* No. 3815/2 Yeomen of the Sheets, . . . Yeomen of the Powder Room. 1816 in *Ord. Council Naval Service* (1866) I. 300 We further submit to your Royal Highness to be pleased to sanction the abolition of the following obsolete or unnecessary ratings:—Yeoman of the Powder Room. — of the Sheets. 1833 *Ibid.* 511 Yeoman of the Store Rooms. 1850 H. MELVILLE *White Jacket* I. xxx. 194 The ship's yeoman's store-room. 1891 C. ROBERTS *Adrift Amer.* 234 The boatswain's yeoman. 1898 KIPLING *Fleet in Being* 82 The Yeoman of Signals came to the captain's cabin at the regulation pace. . . 'Signal from the flagship, sir.' 1899 F. T. BULLEN *Way Navy* 28 The chief petty officer, who is entitled chief yeoman of the signals. 1918 T. S. ELIOT *Let.* 13 Nov. in *Waste Land Drafts* (1971) p. xv, I was sent for by the Navy Intelligence, who said. . . that . . . they would make me a Chief Yeoman and raise me to a commission in a few months. 1978 H. WOUK *War & Remembrance* i 6 My chief yeoman's got the logs and other records all lined up.

3. Used appositively in the titles of various attendants and officials, as *yeoman bedel*, †*breuer*, *cook*, *farrier* (†*ferrier*), †*fewterer*, †*furner*, †*garneter*, *gunner*, †*herbergeour* (HARBINGER), *porter*, *pricker* (PRICKER 3), *purveyor*, *usher*, *waiter*, *warder*, etc.: see also these words.

1641 *Yeoman-bedels [see BEADLE 3 a]. 1853 'C. BEDE' *Verdant Green* I. vii, The Vice-Chancellor, with his Esquire and Yeoman-bedels. 1553 in *Archaeologia* XII. 359 The celler. Servauntens. . . John Thorowgood and Jeffrey Perrons, *yeomen brevers. 1450 *Rolls of Parl.* V. 195/1 To Thomas Cateby, *Yoman Cooke for oure mouth. 1454 *Acts Privy Council* (1837) VI. 213 Robert Pilchard *yoman ferroure. 1455 [see FERRER 3]. 1647 [see FARRIER sb. 3]. 1599 *Yeoman pheuterer [see FEWTERER]. 1629 MASSINGER *Picture* v. i, If you will bee An honest yeoman pheuterer, feed vs first, And walke vs after. 1650 B. DISCOLLINIUM 52 The rest of the Subjects [shall be] Yeomen-futerers and Gold-finders. 1553 in *Archaeologia* XII. 357 The Countinge howse. Servants. . . Rauffe Englishe, *yeoman furnator. . . Robert Style, yeoman garnator. 1455 in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 19 William Peyre, *Yoman Fournier. 1454 *Acts Privy Council* (1837) VI. 213 Thomas Wente, *yoman garnetter. 1553 in *Archaeologia* XII. 357 Robarte Style, yeoman garnator. 1647 HAWARD *Crown Rev.* 33 Three Yeomen granators: Fee a peice per diem 9d. 1450 *Rolls of Parl.* V. 198/1 The office of *Yoman Gonner of oure Citee and Castell of Westchestre. *Ibid.* 195/1 Oure servaunt John Ripon, one of oure *Yomen Herbergeours. 1642 *Docq. Lett. Pat. at Oxf.* (1837) 341 His Ma^t gent^r & yeomen Harbingers. 1455 in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 21, 1 *Yoman Herde. *Ibid.* 19 John Swyllington, *Yoman Messenger. *Ibid.*, William Brynklowe, *Yoman Paymenbaker. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* vi. ix. 196 He fond a *yoman porter keypyng ther many keyes. 1560 in J. SCOTT *Berwick-upon-Tweed* (1888) 449 The yeoman porters at any of the gates of this towne. 1708 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* II. III. (ed. 22) 628 Yeoman Porter for Oil and Candle for the Gate. 1766 ENTICK *London* IV. 347 The yeoman porter goes to the governor's house for the keys. 1455, 1601 *Yeoman powder-beater [see POWDER sb. 1 5 b]. 1586, 1760, 1891 *Yeoman pricker [see PRICKER 3]. c1767 G. WHITE *Selborne, To Pennant* vi, I saw myself one of the yeomen-prickers single out a stag from the herd. 1820 SCOTT *Monast.* xvii, Were you to put in for it, I would warrant you were made one of the Abbot's yeomen-prickers. 1454 *Acts Privy Council* (1837) VI. 213 Richard Walgrave and John Glover *yomen purveyours. 1647 HAWARD *Crown Rev.* 33 Foure Yeomen Purveyours: Fee a peice per diem 9d. 1455 in *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 18 Stephen Coote, *Yoman Skynner. *Ibid.*, John Marchall, *Yoman Surgeon. a1400-50 Bk. *Curtasye* 519 in *Babes* Bk. 316 *30mon vssher be-fore pe dore, In vttrr chambur lies on pe flore. 1614 *Nottingham Rec.* IV. 319 To the Yeoman Vssher's grooms and pages. . . xls. 1649 MILTON *Eikon* xxiv. 192 The Yeomen Ushers of Devotion. 1708 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *St. Gt. Brit.* II. III. (ed. 22) 555 Mr. Ric. Pearson, Yeoman Usher. 1523-34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* §152 There was. . . as many good households kept, and as many *yomenne wayters therin as be nowe. 1526 *Househ. Ord.* (1790) 152 The yeoman ushers and yeoman wayters for that day. 1573 in *Hennell Hist. Yeom. Gd.* (1904) 293 The *yeomen warders of our Tower of London. 1947 *Tower of London* (Min. of Works) 13/2 The interior is shown to the public. . . on application to the Yeoman-Warder on duty. 1979 J. GARDNER *Nostradamus Traitor* i. 2 'You are a Beefeater, yes?' 'Yeoman Warder, Ma'am. Beefeater's a kind of nickname.'

II. 4. a. A man holding a small landed estate; a freeholder under the rank of a gentleman; hence *vaguely*, a commoner or countryman of respectable standing, esp. one who cultivates his own land.

a. 1411 *Rolls of Parit.* III. 650/2 All the Knyghtes and Esquiers and Yomen that had ledynge of men. c1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* VIII. xi. 1825 3homen and gentil men alsua. c1449 PECCOCK *Repr.* III. xiv. 371 Whether he be knyzt, squyer, gentilman, 30man, or louzer. c1460 FORTESCUE *Abs. & Lim. Mon.* xvii. (1885) 151 A c.s. off flee or rente, wich is a feyre lyuynge ffor a yoman. 1473 WARKW. *Chron.* (Camden) i And othere of gentylmen and yomenne he made knyghtes and squyres, as thei hade deserved. 1549 LATIMER *1st Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Arb.) 40 My father was a Yoman, and had no landes of his owne, onlye he had a farme of iii. or iiij. pound by yere at the vttermost. . . He had walke for a hundred shepe, and my mother mylked xxx. kyne. 1642 in *Rushw. Hist. Coll.* (1692) III. I. 680 Though many of the Chief Gentry of those Counties were for paying Obedience to his Majestie's Commission of Array, yet the Free-holders and Yoemen being generally of the other side, . . . they were crush'd. 1648 *Hunting of Fox* 39 The sufferings of the Yoemen, Farmers, and other poor Countrymen.

β. 1455 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) 288 Arlaton Husher, merchant. . . and Harry White, yeman. 1486 Bk. *St. Albans* div, Ther is a Goshawke, and that hauke is for a yeman. 1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* xxxix. 25 Honest zemen in every toun War wont to weir baith reid and broun. 1542-3 *Act 34 & 35 Hen. VIII.* c. 26 §26 [70] Twoo substanciall Gentlemen or Yeomen to be chief Constables of the Hundred wherin they inhabyte. 1567 HARMAN *Caveat* (1869) 22 The honorable wyl abhorre them, The worshipfull wyl reiecte them, The yemen wyl sharpely tawnte them, The Husband men vtterly defye them, The laboring men bluntly chydre them. a1578 LINDSAY (Pittscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 283 Money wther gentillmen and zemenis. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 36 3iemen and housbandmen thair sal 3e sie gang weil arrayed. 1706 SWIFT *Baucis & Phil.* 19 A good old honest ye'man, Call'd in the neighbourhood Philemon.

γ. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 171 perfore hit is pat a zeman [v.r. zymman; L. *vernaculus*] arraieþ hym as a squyer, a squyer as a knyzt, a knyzt as a duke and a duke as a kyng.

δ. a1577 SIR T. SMITH *Commw. Eng.* I. xxiii. (1584) 30, I call him a yeoman whom our Lawes doe call *Legalem hominem*, . . . which is a freeman borne English, and may dispend of his owne free lande in yerely reueneue to the summe of xl. s. sterling. *Ibid.* 32 Yeoman: which worde now signifieth among vs, a man well at ease and hauing honestie to liue, and yet not a gentleman. 1591 SHAKS. 1 *Hen. VI.* II. iv. 86 His Grandfather was Lyonel Duke of Clarence, . . . Spring Crestlesse Yeomen from so deepe a Root? 1640-1 *Kirkcudbr. War-Comm. Min. Bk.* (1855) 4 To be payit be the tennants and yeomanes. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* VI. §4 The other party . . . perswading the substantial yeomen and freeholders that at least two parts of their estates would . . . be taken from them. 1687 in *Third Coll. Poems* (1689) 21 The Admiral may now turn common Seaman, Or Fer—s like; from Court to Country Yeoman. 1716 GAY *Trivia* III. 285, I knew a yeoman, who. . . To the great city drove, from Devon's plain His num'rous lowing herd. 1812 SHELLEY *Devil's Walk* xix, The wealthy yeoman, as he wanders His fertile fields among, And on his thriving cattle ponders. 1815 SCOTT *Guy R.* Note B, An old and sturdy yeoman belonging to the Scottish side, . . . well known by his soubriquet of Fighting Charlie of Liddesdale. 1861 GEO. ELIOT *Silas M.* I. iii, The fall of prices had not yet come to carry the race of small squires and yeomen down that road to ruin.

transf. and *fig.* a1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* II. iv. (1912) 167 The first might seeme the Lords, the second the Gentlemen, and the last the Yeomen of dogges. 1863 LONGF. *Wayside Inn*, K. Olaf xx. iii, Turning to a Lapland yeoman. 1865 *Spectator* 14 Jan. 32 Never. . . since yeoman Cain killed nomad Abel. 1879 FROUDE *Cæsar* II. 14 The grandsons of the yeomen who had held at bay Pyrrhus and Hannibal sold their farms and went away.

†b. Used as a term of disparagement. *rare*—1. c1440 *Gesta Rom.* lxix. 318 Thenne þe Emperour turnyd to his brothir, and saide, 'þou zoman, what soory wrecchidnesse is in þe?'

†c. Applied to the pawns at chess. *Obs. rare.* 1523-34 FITZHERB. *Husb.* Prol., That boke [sc. of chess] is deuoyd in vi. degrees, . . . the kyng, the quene, the byshops, the knyghtes, the iudges, and the yomenne.

5. a. A man of the standing or rank described in 4 serving as a (foot) soldier. Now *Hist.* or *arch.* exc. as in b.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XVI. 101 Schir Richard of Clare. . . Send wicht zhomen that veill chut schut To bikkir the reirward apou fut, a1400 *Sqr. lowe Degre* 232 Thus in your warres shall you ryde, Witb syxe good yemen by your syde. a1577 SIR T. SMITH *Commw. Eng.* I. xxiii. (1589) 41 The gentlemen of Fraunce and the yeomen of England are renowned, because in battle of horsemen Fraunce was many times too good for vs, as we againe away for them on foote. And Gentlemen for the most part be men at armes and horsemen, and yeomen commonly on foote. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V.* III. i. 25 And you good Yeomen, Whose Lyrns were made in England; shew vs here The mettell of your Pasture. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xi. 29 Our Armies in those times. . . Of our tall Yeomen were, and foot-men for the most. 1814 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* v. xxix, Two hundred yeomen on that morn The castle left, and none return.

b. *spec.* A member of the (Imperial) Yeomanry: see YEOMANRY 3.

1798 in *Ld. Auckland's Corr.* (1862) III. 429 Two of the yeomen of Lord Ely's corps. . . were hanged. . . being condemned by a Courtmartial. 1812 *Ann. Reg.*, *Chron.* 93 It being reported that a poor old woman had been killed by the carelessness of the yeomen, the crowd began to follow the eavaly. 1828 SCOTT *Jrnl.* 18 Mar. (1891) 558, I am one of the oldest, if not the very oldest Yeoman in Scotland, and have seen the rise, progress, and now the fall of this very constitutional part of the national force. 1912 L. TRACY *Mirabel's Isl.* iv. (1915) 65 'Were you in a Highland regiment?' 'No. I was a mere worm, an Imperial Yeoman.'

III. 6. attrib. and Comb. a. attrib., as yeoman class, rank, throng; appositive (see also 3), as *yeoman farmer, gentleman, man, proprietor, servant, soldier*, †*sprat, volunteer*; †*yeoman ale*, †*yeoman bread* (also *yeoman's bread*), names for second qualities of ale or bread; *yeoman service* (see 1 c).

1532 *Cartular. Abb. de Rievall* (Surtees) 355 Of *yoman aile of the great fatt, v gallons. 1430 *Charters Selby Abbey*, York (B.M. Add. Ch. 45849), 8 panes secundarios vocatos *yomanbreed. 1552 HULOET, Bread called Yomens bread, *domesticus panis*. 1620 VENNOR *Via Recta* i. 18 *Secundarium* is that part of the meale, whereof yeoman-bread is made, which some call second bread. 1876 MISS BRADDON *J. Haggard's Dau.* i. The new-come's costume was that of the *yeoman class. 1878 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* §803 After the economical changes which marked the early years of the fifteenth century, the yeoman class was strengthened by the addition of the body of the tenant farmers. 1821 COBBETT *Rur. Rides* (1885) I. 17 Those only who rent... are, properly speaking, farmers. Those who till their own land are yeomen; and, when I was a boy, it was the common practice to call the former farmers and the latter *yeomen-farmers. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* XIII. 225 *heading*, How the *ghemen men and the pouer men maid of schetis the maner of baneris. 1481 *Acts Parl. Scot.*, *Jas. III* (1814) II. 139/2 For the slaying... of any traitour... cumyn of gentill blude, there salbe payit xx li And for a yeman man x li. a 1578 LINDSAY (Pittcottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 98 Witht sindrie wther gentillmen and money yeamen men of commons. 1593 *Sc. Acts Jas. VI* (1816) IV. 18/2 The panis and vnlaues of lawborrous... salbe of euery erll or lord Tua thowsand pund... and for euerie yeman man Ane hundreth markis. 1873 HAMERTON *Intell. Life* III. iii. 83 A small *yeoman proprietor cultivates his own land. 1862 THORNBURY *Turner* I. 5 A family like Turner's that produced a small tradesman, a bank-clerk, and a solicitor, must have at least been of as good *yeoman rank as Shakespeare's. 1498 in *Somerset Med. Wills* (1901) 375 To every of my servants y callid *yemen servants, 6s. 8d. 1880 HARDY *Trumpet-Major* v. No impossible contingency with the *yeoman-soldier. 1622 MASSINGER & DEKKER *Virg. Mart.* II. i. She tooke vs, tis true, from the gallows, yet I hope she will not barre *yeomen sprats to haue their swinge. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* III. xxvi. And on the tale the *yeoman-throng Had made a comment sage and long. 1808 in C. W. Thompson *Rec. Dorset Yeomanry* (1894) 87 Report of the Dorset *Yeomen Volunteers.

b. Comb., as yeoman-like adj., yeoman-wise adv.

1674 N. FAIRFAX *Bulk & Selv.* 90 They could neither speak with nor make one another, (if I may word it so much Yeoman-wise). 1682 H. MORE in *Glanvill's Sadducismus*, *Contin. Coll.* 38 A proper Yeomen-like Man. 1828 tr. *Manzoni's Betrothed Lovers* Pref. p. viii. His bold, and honest, and yeoman-like bearing.

Hence **yeomaness** = YEOWOMAN; **yeoman-hood**, the position or station of a yeoman.

1623 WODROEPHE *Marrowe Fr. Tongue* 211/2 *Yeamanesse, good wife, haue you no fresh egges? *Ibid.* 283/2 Valiant like the yeamenesses [orig. *Paysantes*] of Lombardie. 1889 SAINTSBURY *Ess. Engl. Lit.* (1890) 6 They had apparently lost even the dignity of *yeomanhood.

yeomanly (jəʊmənli), *a.* [f. YEOMAN + -LY.]

1. Having the rank, or the character, of a yeoman.

1576 A. HALL *Acc. Quarrel w. Mallerie* etc., Misc. Antiq. Angl. (1816) I. 97 A yeomanly man. c 1590 GREENE *Fr. Bacon* xv. (1594) H6b, I warrant you hees as yeomanly a man, as you shall see, marke you maisters, heeres a plaine honest man, without welt or garde. 1621 DONNE *Serm.*, I Cor. xv. 26 (1640) 148 Who will undertake to sift those dusts again, and to pronounce, This is the Patrician, this is the noble flowre, and this the yeomanly, this the Plebeian bran? 1680 AUBREY in *Lett. Emin. Persons* (1813) III. 530 His father was an yeomanly man. 1853 RAINE in *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 36 *note*, The Fells were and are still a clan of yeomanly gentry in the neighbourhood of Ulverston.

2. Pertaining to, characteristic of, or befitting a yeoman; (a) sturdy; (b) homely.

c 1626 DONNE *Serm.*, Ps. xxxviii. 4 (1649) 181 Hee will come to think it... a sordid, a yeomanly thing, still to be plowing, and weeding, and worming a conscience. 1641 MILTON *Reform.* i. 28 A homely and Yeomanly Religion. 1673 S. PARKER *Reproof Reh. Transp.* 30 It is but a blunt and Yeomanly Jest. 1827 *Blackw. Mag.* XXII. 596 Merry Shrovetide, with its rustic feast, and yeomanly feats. 1830 MISS MITFORD *Village Ser.* iv. *Going to Races*, One of a fine yeomanly spirit, not ashamed of his station... sowing his own corn, driving his own team, and occasionally ploughing his own land. 1897 HOWELLS *Landlord at Lion's Head* 126 There was something in Jeff's figure... of a yeomanly vigour.

'yeomanly, adv. [f. as prec. + -LY.] In the manner of or befitting a yeoman; like a yeoman; doughtily, handsomely.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Prolog.* 106 Wel koude he dresse his takel yemanly [v.r. yemanly, yimanly, yemonlie]. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xxix, 'Do the false yeomen give way?' 'No!'. 'they bear themselves right yeomanly.' 1843 JAMES *Forest Days* ix, 'Right yeomanly done', cried Robin Hood.

yeomanry (jəʊmənri). *Forms:* see YEOMAN; also 5 yemandry, yomandrye, 6-7 yeomandrie, -dry, (7-8 -try). [f. YEOMAN + -RY.]

I. 1. The body of yeomen or small landed proprietors, yeomen collectively; †a company of yeomen.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* IV. 386 Schir Iohne the Hastyngis, . . With knyghtis of full mekill pryde, With squyaris and gude ghemantry. 1477 EARL RIVERS (Caxton) *Dictes Fijj*, The nombre of his knyghtes were comonli of his retenew... were ccc. xiiij. thousand wythout yomanrye and other men necessary to his warres. 1538 STARKEY *England* (1878) 79 Yf the yeomanry of England were not, in tyme of warre we schold be in schrode case. 1549 LATIMER *1st Serm. bef. Edw. VI* (Aib.) 46 Suche procedynges... do intend plainly, to

make the yeomanry slavery and the Cleargye shauery. 1607 MARKHAM *Cavel. Ded.* (1617) A], The three great Columbes of this Empire: the Nobilitie, the Gentry, and Yeomanrie of Great Brittain. 1692 R. MEEKE *Diary* 2 Sept. 54 My father was born in a very mean house: my mother in a comely hall... I am a branch of Yeomanry by the father, of gentility by my mother. 1693 *Humours Town* 103 The Yeomandry trudge on honestly in their several Vocations. 1704 SWIFT *T. Tub* x. 184 The Clergy, and Gentry, and Yeomanry of this Land. 1837 HT. MARTINEAU *Soc. Amer.* III. 67 The free yeomanry, and the youth of the towns, have an eye for the right, and a heart for the true. 1868 ROGERS *Pol. Econ.* xiii. (1876) 171 A hardy and prosperous yeomanry, who either purchased the land in parcels, or bargained to work it with their own capital.

b. The general body of freemen of a livery company. Obs. exc. Hist.

1497 in J. Nicholl *Comp. Ironm.* (1866) 50 The yemenry of this yo^r worshipfull felishipe of this craftte of Iermongers. 1532 *Ibid.* 54 The..wardens of the yemanry of Iremongeres. 1578 in *East Anglian June* (1910) 275 [Provision is made for two] banketts [to friends and to the] companye of yeomanrye. 1637 *Decree Star Chamb. conc.* Printing §19 Euery Master-printer of the Yeomanry of the Company may haue one Apprentice.

† 2. a. A company of yeomen or attendants. **b. The yeomen of the guard. Obs. rare.**

16.. *Robin Hood & Beggar* xxxi. in *Child Ballads* (1888) III. 157/2 And Robin took these brethren good To be of his yeomandrie. 1673 MARVELL in *Coll. Poems* 254 [It is] Dishonourable to the Nation He should have any other Guards but the Yeomanry.

3. A volunteer cavalry force in the British army, originally formed at the time of the French revolution, and consisting chiefly of men of the yeomanry class or status; first embodied in 1794 (Act 34 Geo. III, c. 31). The force has now been amalgamated with the Volunteers to form the Territorial Army (q.v.), which has five Yeomanry units.

The full designation was *The Yeomanry Cavalry*, but was subsequently (1908) *The Yeomanry*. In 1899 the formation of a new corps was provided for, entitled *The Imperial Yeomanry*, recruited for service in the South African War (1899-1902) from the yeomanry, the volunteers, and civilians; this title was subsequently extended to the original yeomanry, and was retained until 1908.

1794. 1798 [see sense 6]. c 1800 A. YOUNG in *Autobiog.* (1898) 206, I sat at dinner by a gentleman of great property, captain of a troop of yeomanry. 1802 *Act 42 Geo. III*, c. 66 (*title*) An Act to enable his Majesty to avail himself of the Offers of certain Yeomanry and Volunteer Corps to continue their Services. 1828 SCOTT *Jrnl.* 18 Mar. (1891) 558, I dined at the Club of the Selkirkshire yeomanry, now disbanded. 1846 McCULLOCH *Acc. Brit. Empire* (1854) II. 139 The management of the militia, yeomanry, and other domestic forces, is regulated by various statutes. 1866 GEO. ELIOT *F. Holt* Introd. 10 Their notion of Reform was a confused combination of rick-burners, trades-unions, Nottingham riots, and in general whatever required the calling-out of the yeomanry. 1899 *Daily News* 30 Dec. 8/5 No mounted corps from this country will be accepted for service in South Africa except as part of the Imperial Yeomanry.

II. †4. The condition of a yeoman; yeomanhood. *Obs.*

c 1386 CHAUCER *Reeve's T.* 29 For Symkyn wolde no wyf, as he sayde, But if she were wel ynorissed and a mayde, To sauen his estat of yomanrye [v.r. yemanrye]. 1611 COTGR., *Rature*, yeomanrie; the estate, condition, or calling of such as are not of gentle blood. 1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* xi. 25 They, of all England, most to ancient customes cleaue, Their Yeomanry and still endeoured to vphold.

† 5. Something pertaining to or characteristic of a yeoman. **a.** Speech befitting a (good) yeoman, homely or honest speech. **b.** Yeoman's dress. *Obs.*

c 1500 *Robin Hood & Potter* xxiii. in *Child Ballads* (1888) III. 110/2 'Be mey trowet, thou seys soyt', seyde Roben, 'Thow seys god yemenrey.' 1592 *Arden of Feversham* IV. ii. 38 *Fran.* And, sirra, as we go, let vs haue som more of your bolde yeomandry. *Fer.* Nay, by my troth, sir, but flat knauery. 1597 BP. HALL *Sat.* III. i, Husbanding it in workday yeomanrie.

III. 6. *attrib., as yeomanry cavalry* (= 3), *corps, cut, dress, family, horse, man, officer.*

1794 in Q. L. *Yeom. Cav. Wor.* (1914) 5 The proposed Corps of *Yeomanry Cavalry for the County of Worcester. 1798 *Act 38 Geo. III*, c. 51 (*title*), An Act for authorizing the billeting such Troops of Yeomanry Cavalry as may be desirous of assembling for the Purpose of being trained together. 1825 M'WATT (*title*) Letters to Officers and Privates of the Berwickshire Yeomanry Cavalry. 1886 H. GRAHAM (*title*) Annals of the Yeomanry Cavalry of Wiltshire, a History of the Prince of Wales' Own Royal Regiment. c 1800 A. YOUNG in *Autobiog.* (1898) 206 The undisputed origin of all the *yeomanry corps in the kingdom. 1816 SCOTT *Bl. Dwarf* i, With a saddle of the *yeomanry cut, and a double-bitted military bridle. 1877 MRS. FORRESTER *Mignon* xviii, How handsome he looks in his *yeomanry dress. 1868 *Chamb. Encycl.* X. 315/2 The horses employed on *yeomanry duty. 1885 J. GILLON *Lit. & Biog. Hist. Eng. Cath.* II. 47 The Dennetts, a Lancashire *yeomanry family. 1833 GEN. P. THOMPSON *Exerc.* (1842) II. 426 The landlords... have martial law in their view before they will give up the Corn Laws; they fat their *yeomanry horses for that very chase. 1884 JEFFERIES *Life of Fields* 132 There are *yeomanry-men still living who remember how they rode about at night after the rioters. 1902 VIOLET JACOB *Sheep-Stealers* ix, The *yeomanry officer who had been present at the riot.

yeopardie, obs. f. JEOPARDY: see Y (1) *note*.

1535 in *Lett. Suppr. Monast.* (Camden) 81 Withowt great yeopardie of my liffe.

yeorling, var. YORLING *dial.*, yellow-hammer.

yeorned, ME. pa. pple. of RUN v.

yeoven, obs. pa. pple. to GIVE v.

1551-2 in Aungier *Syon Mon.* (1840) 94 Yeoven under our signet at our pallaice of Westminster. 1581 LAMBARDE *Eiren.* i. xvi. 107 Yeouen at Ightham aforesaid vnder my seale. 1780 B.N.C. (Oxf.) *Munim.* 40. 35 (MS.) Yeoven.

yeowe, obs. f. EWE.

1547-8 in E. Green *Somerset Chantries* (1888) 32 Six yeowe shepe.

yeowoman (jəʊwʊmən). *Pl.* yeowomen (-wimən). [After YEOMAN.] A woman having the rank or position of a yeoman.

1852 W. CORY *Lett. & Jrnls.* (1897) 58 With a young yeowoman called Miss Brook he sang 'All's Well'. 1892 TENNYSON *Foresters* III, *Robin*. Nay, no Earl am I. I am English yeoman. *Marian*. Then I am yeo-woman. O the clumsy word!

yeox(e), var. YEX *Obs.*

yep, int. (7 yeap.) A call to urge on a horse.

1690 DRYDEN *Don Sebastian* I. i. (1692) 15 To your paces villain, amble, trot, and gallop!—Quick about there.—Yeap. 1869 *Lonsdale Gloss.*, *Yep!* a word of command to horses.

yep, repr. a dial. (esp. U.S.) or vulgar pronunc. of YES; cf. NOPE.

1891 *Harper's Mag.* Nov. 970 He gently and peacefully murmured, 'Yep'. 1897 KIPLING *Capt. Cour.* x. 222 'Like Lorry Tuck?' Harvey put in. 'Yep.' 1905 [see YAH adv.]. 1907 J. W. SCHULTZ *My Life as an Indian* xxv. 284 'You must cut your hair.' 'Yep.' 'An' quit gamblin.' 'Yep.' 1926 J. GALSWORTHY in *Scribner's Mag.* Dec. 581/1 Their 'Yeahs!' and their 'Yeps!' Americans no longer said 'Yes' it seemed! 1962 E. BIRNEY *Sel. Poems* (1966) IV. 99 *Yep* ain't nothin we kin do. 1967 *Listener* 19 Jan. 96/3 'Would you like a cigarette?' I got a typically aggressive 'Yep'. 1977 *Time* 16 May 39/2 *Yep*, I let the American people down. 1979 R. JAFFE *Class Reunion* (1980) I. vi. 74 'Oh? You got a new car?' 'Yep... Look out the window.'

† **yepe, a. (sb.) Obs.** *Forms:* 1 *ȝeap*, (ȝep), 3 *ȝeap*, 3*æp*, 3*iap*, 3*iep*, 3-5 *ȝep*, (4 *ȝhepe*, 3*eepe*, 3*eepe*, 6 *epe*), 4-5 *ȝepe*, *yepe*. See also YAP *a.* [OE. *ȝeap* open, wide, spacious, curved, crooked, vaulted, crafty, astute; repr. OTeut. root *gaup-*, and prob. related to ON. *gaupn* hollow made by both hands held together, hollow of the foot, two-hands-ful, etc. (cf. *geypna* to encompass): see GOWPEN and YEPSN.]

1. Cunning, crafty, sly, wily.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* iii. 1 Seo næddre wæs ȝeapre þonne ealle þa oðre nytenu. c 1000 *Life St. Neot* in *Cockayne Shrine* (1864) 14 An fox þe is ȝeapest ealra deora. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 280 þe ȝeape wrastlare nimeð seme hwat turn his fere ne eunne nout, þet he mid wrastleð. *Ibid.* 362 þeos ȝeape children þet habbeð riche uederes... tetered hore clobes forto habben neowe.

2. Prudent, wise, sagacious, shrewd, astute.

c 1000 *Sax. Leechd.* III. 184 Cild acenned wis, milde, ȝeap, ȝesælig. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 193 Beð ȝiepe, and warre, and wakieð. c 1205 LAY. 7581 Julius Cesar He was ȝep and swuðe i-wær. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 5370 A wis man es þi sun ioseph. In al egypti es nan sa yepe [MS. *Gött.* 3ep]. c 1400 *Lead Troy Bk.* 3812 That we sende oure Messenger, Wise and ȝepe. c 1485 *Digby Myst.* IV. 724 Lohn, your cosyn, most virtus & ȝepe.

3. Active, nimble, brisk, alert; bold, daring.

c 1205 LAY. 21503 Cheorles ful ȝepe Mid clubben swiðe græte. 13.. *Guy Warw.* (A.) 3983 Gij to aseleyen þai wer ȝep. 13.. *Sir Beues* (A.) 88 Maseger, be ȝep and snel. 13.. *Gosp. Nicod.* (A.) 1796 þai lay in droupand drede And non so ȝhepe a worde to zelle. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XI. 17 þow art ȝonge and ȝepe and hast ȝeres ynowe, Forto lye longe. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 11265 þai kepyn the cloyse of this clene burgh, With ȝep men at þe yatis zarkit full pik. c 1515 *Scottish Field* 491 (Chetham Misc. II.) And of Yorkshire a yong knight, that epe was of deedes.

B. absol. as sb.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 66 Kumeð þe coue [MS. *T.* cumes te ȝeape] anonriht & reueð hire hire eiren. 13.. *E.E. Allit. P.* B. 796 For aungels hit wern, & þat þe ȝep vnder-ȝede þat in þe ȝate sytze. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 13231 With-in a yere... þat yepe was with child.

Hence †**yephede** [-HEAD], †**yepleȝȝc** [-LAIK], †**yeppship** [-SHIP], cunning; astuteness, sagacity.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Josh.* ix. 16 Eall heora ȝeapscipe wearð ameldod Israhela bearnum. c 1200 ORMIN 2523 þho wass, wiss to fulle sop, All full.. Off sop clænleȝȝc, off god ȝæpleȝȝc. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 193 þe apostel... muneȝeð us to þrie þinges, On is ȝieppship, þat oðer is wakienge, þe þride is bede. *Ibid.* 195 He notede þe næddre ȝieppship. c 1205 LAY. 2760 Heo færden mid ȝeapscipe & mid wisdom, a 1250 *Owl & Night*, 683 (Jesus MS.) þanne crest cumeð his yephede Hwenne hit is alremest on drede.

† **yeplý, adv. Obs.** [OE. *ȝeaplice*: see YEPE *a.* and -LY².]

1. Cunningly, craftily; shrewdly, sagaciously. a 900 *Kent. Gl.* xxi, *Procciter*, ȝeaplice. c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 80 þa betelde he [sc. Herod] hine swiðe ȝeaplice, swa swa he wæs snotorwyrd. c 1055 *Byrhtferth's Handboe* in *Anglia* VIII. 313 Hiȝ eac toscædað þæt stæfsefeg on þrym wisan ȝeaplice swyðe.

2. Quickly, briskly; promptly, without delay.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1981 Fele þryuande ponkkez he þrat hom to haue, & þay ȝelden hym aȝayn ȝeplý þat ilk. c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 3346 [He] ȝerne opened þe ȝates & ȝepli out rides. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XVII. 328 Then he ȝerneþ in-to pouht and ȝeplieche he secheþ Pruyde. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 6081 For to ȝarke vp the ȝate, he ȝeplý comound. c 1430 *Pistill of Susan* 118 (Cott. MS.) Thus þe ȝonge ȝeplý ȝede in here ȝerde.

yepsen (ˈjɛpsən). *dial.* ? *Obs.* Forms: 4 *yspun*, -on, *yepsene*, *yespen*, 5 *yspyn*, *yespon*, *jespe*, (?*jespe*, *jelpe*), 7 *yeaspen*, *yaspen*, *yaspin*, *yeapsond*, 7-9 *yeepsen*, 8 *yepsond*, *capns*, *espin*, 8-9 *yepsintle*, 9 *ipson*. [ME. *zespun*, *zyspon*, *yepsen*, prob.:—unrecorded OE. **giepsen*, **giespen*, corresp. to MLG. *gespe*, *gepse*, (*göpsse*), LG. *gepse*, *geps*, *göpsse*, *göps* (G. *gäspe*).

Various other formations are found in LG. dialects, e.g. *göppsche*, *göpske*, *göppelsche*, -*ske*; also early Flem. *gaspe*, *gaps*, Du. *dial. gap(e)*, LG. *gäpske*, *gäppelsche*, -*ske*.

Affinity of sense suggests derivation from the Teut. stem *gaup-* appearing in OHG. **goufana* (in dat. pl. *coufanôm*), MHG. *goufen*, later and *dial. gauf*, ON. *gaupn* (whence *GOWPEN*). In the present state of the evidence it is impossible to determine the relationship of these forms and of Lith. *ziūpsnis* = as much as can be seized with two or three fingers, a small handful or armful.]

The two hands placed together so as to form a bowl-shaped cavity; as much as can be held in this; = *GOWPEN* 1.

c1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesto*. in Wright *Voc.* 147 Deus meyns ensemble, vodes ou pleyns, Sount apelés les galeyns [*gloss* yepsene; *v.rr.* *yespone*, *zespyns*, *yspun*, *goupynes*]... Cent galeynes [*gloss* yepsen; *v.rr.* *zyspones*]. c1440 *Pallad.* on *Husb.* xii. 561 A yepsen al to grounde Of cyner. c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 537/2 *Selspe*, handfulle (K., H. *sespe*, S. *selpe*, P. *zespyn*), *vola.* 1611 *COTGR.*, *Jointée*,... in some countries of England it is called a yeaspen, in others a goppennful. 1662 *ATWELL Faithf. Surveyor* 109 Out of every hors-footing, ... I could take up whole yeapsonds [of wild oats] that were never the worse for the fire. 1664 *GOULDMAN Dict.* 1. (1669), A yaspin or handful, *vola.* 1674 *RAY S. & E.C. Words* 80 A *Yaspen* or *Yeepsen*: in Essex signifies as much as can be taken up in both hands joyn'd together. 1703 *THORESBY Let. to Ray* (E.D.S.) *Eapns*, sb. 'an eapns', hands full. c1746 J. COLLIER (Tim Bobbin) *View Lanc. Dial.* Wks. (1775) 59 There woud' not I ha com'n for a Yepsintle a Ginneys. 1796 *PEGGE Derbichisms* (E.D.S.) *Espin*, sb. a handful of anything. 1892 C. T. MARTIN *Rec. Interpr.* 256 'A little ipson', in Somerset, is a double handful.

yer¹ (jɜ:(r)), repr. a dial. or vulgar pronunc. of *YOU*.

1848 A. B. EVANS *Leicestersh. Wds.* 109 You're a bigger fool, nur of took yer to be. 1856 *Punch* 2 Feb. 41/1 (*caption*) That's how it was, yer see. 1867 [see *YERE*]. 1880 A. E. HOUSMAN *Let.* 10 May (1971) 20 Yah! yer aint got no votes! 1916 G. B. SHAW *Pygmalion* 1. 106 Theres manners f' yer! Te-oo banches o' voylets trod into the mad. 1946 K. TENNANT *Lost Haven* (1947) iii. 50 Hey! Wait a minute... I want to see yer. 1978 *Hot Car June* 93/1 Brian would like to get in a plug for Micky Mees who helped with the heavy stuff. Good on yer, Mick.

yer² (jɜ:(r)), repr. a dial. or vulgar pronunc. of *YOUR*.

1814 *SCOTT Wav.* xxx. D'ye hear wha's coming to cow yer cracks? 1894 *Jrnl. Amer. Folk-Lore* VII. 148 She is gwine ter keep de house straight and yer briches mended. 1922 *JOYCE Ulysses* 419 Aweel, ye maun e'en gang yer gates. 1954 W. FAULKNER *Fable* 85 'Use yer boot', the sergeant muttered. 1973 J. SPEIGHT *Thoughts of Chairman Alf* 26 Yer Queen should have a veto to... overrule Parliament... 'Cos she's born to rule. Not like yer Labour rubbish. 1980 *Herald* (Melbourne) 3 Apr. (City ed.) 2 Wouldn't it rot yer footy socks! Someone's about to contest Cazaly's musical mark.

yer, obs. f. *ERE*, *IRE*, *YEAR*¹; obs. graphic var. *THEIR*, *THERE*.

-**yer**, suffix, old variant of -*IER*, now used after *w* or a vowel, as *bouyer*, *great oneyer*, *lawyer*, *sawyer*, *stuccoyer* (s.v. *STUCCOER*).

yerabyll, var. *EARABLE a. Obs.*, ploughable.

1517 *Domesday Inclos.* (1897) I. 220, viij acars of yerabyll lond in Wygbarow.

yerb, obs. or dial. f. *HERB*.

|| **yerba** (ˈjɜ:bə). Also *yerva*. [Sp. *yerba* herb (+ *mate* *MATÉ*).] In full *yerba-maté* (ˈjɜ:bəˈmæteɪ): = *MATÉ* 2 a, b.

1818 *Amer. State Papers, For. Relat.* (1834) IV. 279 The yerba is used in decoction, like the tea of China. 1839 [see *PARAGUAY* 1]. 1843 *Chem. Gaz.* 1 Mar. 233 Yerba Maté, or Paraguay Tea. 1855 J. F. W. JOHNSTON *Chem. Common Life* vii. 1. 184 A kind of arch... upon which the Yerba branches are placed. 1858 *SIMMONDS Dict. Trade*, Yerva-mate. 1902 H. HESKETH PRICHARD *Thro' Heart of Patagonia* xii. 177 He seemed to have no provisions, only a bag of yerba.

Hence *yerbal* (jɜ:'ba:l) [Sp. *yerbal*], a grove or plantation of yerba.

1858 *SIMMONDS Dict. Trade*, *Yerbal*, a forest or wild grove of the *Ilex Paraguayensis*, the holly from the leaves of which the Paraguay tea is obtained. 1883 [see *MATÉ* 2 c].

yerba buena (ˈjɜ:bə bu'eɪnə). [Sp., lit. 'good herb': cf. *YERBA*.] A trailing perennial herb, *Satureja douglasii* (formerly *Micromeria chamissonis*) of the family Labiatae, native to western North America and bearing aromatic leaves and white or purplish flowers.

1847 *Calif. Star* (San Francisco) 30 Jan. 2/3 The town [sc. San Francisco] takes its name from an herb to be found all around it which is said to make good tea; and possessing medicinal qualities; it is called good herb or Yerba Buena. 1882 B. HARTE *Flip, & Found at Blazing Star* 15 He seized a few of the young tender green leaves of the yerba buena vine... and ate them. 1915 *ARMSTRONG & THORNBURN Western Wild Flowers* 436 Yerba Buena, Tea-vine... was used medicinally by California Indians, so it was called 'good herb' by the Mission Fathers, and it still used as a tea. 1935 J. STEINBECK *Tortilla Flat* xv. 261 Tea made from

yerba buena will be good. 1975 *Islander* (Victoria, B.C.) 3 Aug. 3/3 Beside the pond speedwell... yerba buena [etc.].

yerbua, obs. form of *JERBOA*.

|| **yecum** (ˈjɜ:kəm). [Tamil.] An East Indian shrub, *Calotropis gigantea* (N.O. *Asclepiadaceae*), or the fibre obtained from its bark; also the allied species *C. procera*; both used medicinally.

1826 [see *MUDAR*]. 1838 *LINDLEY Flora Med.* §1144. 540 Under the names of Mador, Mudar, Akum, and Yercund, the root and bark... are used as... purgatives.

† **yerd**, *v. Obs. rare*—1. [f. *yerd*, *YARD sb.*²; cf. OHG. *gerten*, *kertin* to drive with a stick.] *trans.* To beat with a rod.

a1225 *St. Marher.* (1862) 6 Hwil me yerdede hire.

yerd, **3erd**, etc.: see *YARD*, *YIRD*.

verde, var. *ERDE v.*, to dwell.

c1515 *Scottish Field* 648 (Chetham Misc. II.) His ancetors of long tyme, have yerded there long.

yerd-hunger. *Sc.* . 'Earth-hunger': (a) voracious desire for land (cf. *ear-d-hunger* in *Scott Nigel* ix); (b) see quot. 1825. So **yerd-hungry a.** See also *YIRD*.

1823 *SCOTT Let.* in *Lockhart* (1839) VII. 155 About the land, I have no doubt your Lordship is quite right, but I have something of what is called the *yard hunger*. 1825 *JAMIESON, Yerd-hunger*... 1. That keen desire of food, which is sometimes manifested by persons before death... 2. Voraciousness; the term being used in a general sense. *Ibid.*, *Yerd-hungry*,... voraciously hungry.

† **yere**, *v. Obs.* Forms: 3-4 *3ere*, 4 *3eore*; 3 *pa. t.* *3erde*, *3irde*, *3urde*. [ME. *3ere*, representing an OE. **gerian* = OFris. *geria*, *ieria*, OS. *gerôn* (MLG. *geren*), OHG. *gerôn*, -*ên*, -*ân* (MHG. *geren*, *gern*, *be-geren*, G. *begehren*) to desire, related to OHG., MHG. *ger*, ON. *gerr* greedy (cf. OHG. *giri*, G. *gier* desire, OHG. *giri*, G. *gierig* desirous, covetous, etc.); f. Teut. *ger-*, whence also *YERN a.*, *YEARN v.*

With Teut. *ger-*:—Indo-eur. *gher-* (: *ghor-*: *ghr-*) to long, desire, have pleasure, are prob. allied Skr. *hāryati* finds pleasure, *hārsatē* rejoices, Zend *zara-* striving, goal, *χάρειν*, *χαρίναι* to rejoice, *χάρις* favour, grace, L. *horiri*, *horitāri*, *hortāri* to cheer, exhort.]

trans. To desire, long or yearn for; to express a desire for, request.

c1205 *LAY.* 4790 Belin king him 3ette þæt forward þæt he 3erde [c1275 3ornde]. *Ibid.* 5515 Heo forȝeten here 3isles & þæt grið þæt heo 3urden [c1275 3eornden]. *Ibid.* 11514 Als wa þe king 3irde Mauric hit him 3ette. a1300 *Cursor M.* 28982 þæt es to be here ai 3erand þæt ilk liue is ai lastand. 1362 *LANGL. P. Pl. A.* 1. 33 Mesure is Medieine þauh þou mucbe 3eore.

Hence †**yering** *vbl. sb.*, desire, longing; request.

13... *Ball. on Scottish Wars* xx. (Ritson), Al my yering he me tald, And yatid me, als we went bi waye. c1400 *Cursor M.* 27930 (Cott. Galba) Fole couaitise and fole 3ering.

yere, repr. a dial. (esp. U.S.) or vulgar pronunc. of *HERE*.

1867 *Harper's Mag.* Feb. 274/2 This yere is Colonel N—who wants ter know yer. 1907 J. W. SCHULTZ *My Life as an Indian* xxv. 284 You must... help me run this yere boardin' house. 1920 W. FAULKNER *Sartoris* iv. i. 270 Yere day is, Cunnel. 1956 [see *JONG*]. 1973 J. PATTINSON *Search Warrant* ii. 34 Like young folks is these yere days—long hair, beards.

yere, obs. f. *EAR*, *ERE*, *HEAR*, *HEIR*, *YEAR*¹; *Sc.* and dial. f. *YOUR*.

† **yeresgift**, -*3ift*. *Obs.* = next.

14... [see next]. c1425 *Orolog. Sapient.* vii. in *Anglia* X. 386/24 In pis daye begynneþ pe 3eere, and... pey þat ben knytte to-gedir bi love speccalle vsen to 3eue eche opere 3eerys-3iftis. 1545 in *Shropsh. Par. Doc.* (1903) 79 For or ladys yeris gyft.

† **yeresyve**. *Obs.* Forms: 2 *3ieres3ieve*, 3 *3herscheve*, *jaresive*, 3-4 *3eres-*, *yeres3yve*, -*3iue*, -*3eue*, -*yve*, 5 *3ereseffe*. [f. *yeris*, gen. of *YEAR sb.* + *3ive*, *3eue* GIVE *sb.*¹] A gift customarily given or exacted at the New Year, or at the beginning of a year of office.

1194 *Charter Rich.* I in Rymer *Fœdera* (1816) I. 52/2 Concessimus, quod sint quieti de bridtol, & de childwite, & de 3ieres3ieve. 1201 *Charter Cambr.* in *Rot. Chart.* (1837) 83/2 Quod omnes burgenses de Cantebruge sint quieti de 3herscheve et de scothale. 1231 in *Cal. Charter Rolls* (1903) I. 130 [20 s. which were paid yearly to the constable of Bristol from the land of Mangodesfeld by way of] *jaresive*. 1362 *LANGL. P. Pl. A.* xi. 34 Wolde neuer kyng ne kniht ne Canoun of Seynt poules 3euen hem to heore 3eres-3iue þe value of a grotel 1377 *Ibid.* B. iii. 99 Hem pat desirerth 3iftes or 3eres3yues [*MS. R.* (14...) 3eres3iftes] bi-cause of here offices. *Ibid.* viii. 52 He 3af þe to 3eres3yue to 3eme wel þe selue. c1460 *Prompt. Parv.* 548 (Winch.), 3ereseffe, *encennium*. [1723 *BOHUN Priv. Lond.* (ed. 3) 35 *Jeresgive*, is a Toll or Fine, taken by the King's Officers, on a Person's entering into an Office; or rather, a. Bribe, given to them to connive at Extortion, or other Offence in him that gives it.]

yerfull, obs. form of *IREFUL*.

yeri (ˈjɛri). [Russ.] The name of the Russian vowel *y*, the twenty-eighth letter of the Russian alphabet.

1921 E. SAPIR *Language* ix. 212 Both nasalized vowels and the Slavic 'yeri' are demonstrably of secondary origin in Indo-European. 1977 *Word* 1972 XXVIII. 249 The [i] is a back unrounded vowel, similar to the Russian yeri.

yerk (jɜ:k), **yark** (jɑ:k), *sb.* Now *Sc.* and *dial.* Forms: see the vb. [f. *YERK v.*: see also *YORK sb.*²]

1. a. A smart blow or stroke, as of a whip or rod, or of a heavy body falling; a lash; also, the sound of such a blow; the crack of a whip; a thud.

1509 *HAWES Past. Pleas.* iv. (Percy Soc.) 18 And in her hande a strong knotted whippe; At every yärke she made hym for to skyppe. 1565 *COOPER Thesaurus, Crepitus plagarum*... a yerke, or girke. 1583 *GOLDING Calvin on Deut.* xxiv. 143/2 As soone as the wicked feeble but one yirke of the rod with Gods hand. 1593 *CHURCHYARD Challenge, Murton's Trag.* xcix, No wisdoms lore, nor men of noble fame, Can scape thy scourge, it giues so sore a yärke. 1622 *MABBE tr. Aleman's Guzman d'Alf.* 1. 35 They gaue mee the yärke with the spurte. 1682 *FLATMAN Heraclitus Ridens* No. 56 (1713) II. 99 Our Province is to lash a rout of wanton and disloyal People; and if any will be outer-most, and so get a Yerk that makes 'em smart, let them hereafter learn to hide themselves in the Crowd. a1807 J. SKINNER *Amusem. Leis. Hours* (1809) 47 Wi' a yawfu' yark, ... He derfly dang the bark Frae's shins that day. 1826 T. WILSON *Pitman's Pay* etc. 80 The blacksmith's hammer, yark for yark, We hear ne langer bangin'. 1860 *RAMSAY Remin.* (ed. 7) Pref. p. xxiij, Clinching every decision with the 'yerk' of a spadeful of earth on the grave's brink. 1871 J. MILNE *Sel. Poems & Songs* 89 It flew oure the houses like a lark An down on the fouk's taes fell wi' a yark.

fig. 1682 *FLATMAN Heraclitus Ridens* No. 82 (1713) II. 249 More out of dread of a Yerk from Heraclitus, than of all the Penalties in the Statue-Book. 1689 *Answ. Desertion Disc.* in *11th Coll. Papers rel. Pres. Juncture of Affairs* 5 To call the Breach of the Original Contract pretended, and a Popular Flourish, is a yerk of Malitious Reflection.

† b. fig. An impulse, eager desire. *Obs. rare*—1. 1577 *HELLOWES Guevara's Chron.* 308 Ciucius did much delight to goe on hunting, & had a fine yeark to kill the Bore & other uenerie in the mountaines.

2. a. The act of lashing out with the heels, as a horse; a kick; a sudden or abrupt movement, a jerk, twitch.

1881 A. HALL *Iliad* vi. 120 The horse, That... With many frisks and yerks behinde, his head doth cast aloft. 1618 M. BARET *Hippon*. 1. 9 There is no foale... but will both leap, ... turne loftily, fetch such yarks behind, that it is very delightfull to behold. 1623 *MARKHAM Cheap Husb.* (ed. 3) i. ii. 26 With your rod giue him a good ierke vnder the belly... when you please to giue the ierke, he will then giue the yerke. 1579 *SHADWELL True Widow* iv. 56 Let's fight here; I would have my Mistress see how I put in my Pass, and what a yerk I give it. 1726 *SWIFT Gulliver* iv. xii. 191 Twenty thousand of them... battering the Warriors Faces into Mummy, by terrible Yerks from their hinder Hoofs. 1822 *HOGG Perils of Man* III. 357 He... attacked the couple with his heels, prostrate as they were, yerk for yerk, indiscriminately.

b. A jerking or twitching sensation. ? *Obs.*

1806 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* ix. (ed. 3) 195 The yerk, or throce, in the throat, that follows your last bumper of port. 1831 *Examiner* 290/1 The yerk of the third bottle of hot nastiness [sc. port].

yerk (jɜ:k), **yark** (jɑ:k), *v.* Now *Sc.* and *dial.* Forms: 5-7 *yarke*, 5-9 *yerk*, 6-7 *yerke*, *yeark(e)*, 6-9 *yark*, *yirk*, 9 (*U.S.*) *yawk*. [ME. *yerke* (15th cent.), appearing first as a technical term of bootmaking. Of obscure origin, but prob. in part phonetically symbolic; cf. the largely synonymous *jerk*, *firk*.]

1. To draw stitches tight, to twitch, as a shoemaker in sewing (*trans.* with the leather, etc. as obj., or *intr.*); also, to bind tightly with cords.

c1430 *York Mem. Bk.* (Surtees) I. 194 Pro sutura xij parium sotularium yerkyd ad manum, iij d. 1600 *DEKKER Shoemakers Hol.* (1610) D3. Eyre. Yärke and seame, yark and seame. *Firke*. For yarking & seaming let me alone & I come toot. 1630 *Tincker of Turvey* 27 His Wife sitting by him when hee was yerking of his shooes. 1805 *SCOTT Last Minstr.* (1894) Note xlviii, 'Sutor Watt, ye cannot sew your boots; the heels *risp*, and the seams *rive*.'—'If I cannot sew,' retorted Tinlinn, discharging a shaft, which nailed the captain's thigh to his saddle.—'If I cannot sew, I can yerk.' 1813 *HOGG Queen's Wake* i. iii. lxiv, And they yerkit his limbis with twine. 1818 *SCOTT Hrt. Midl.* lii, His hands and feet are yerked as tight as cords can be drawn. 1822 *HOGG Perils of Man* II. vii. 269 Eight horses, ... every one with its head yerked to the tail of the one before him. 1825 [see *yerking* below].

2. *trans.* To strike smartly, esp. with a rod or whip; to beat, flog, lash; to drive with a whip.

c1520 *SKELTON Magnyf.* 484 A carter... That with his whyp his mares was wonte to yärke. 1550 *COVERDALE Spir. Perle* vi. 54 Like as the carter or foore man yerkerth his horse with the whyp. 1595 *SPENSER F.Q.* vi. vii. 44 That same foole... Was Scorene, who hauing in his hand a whip, Her therewith yirks. 1604 *SHAKS. Oth.* i. ii. 5 Nine, or ten times I had thought t'haue yerkd him here vnder the Ribbes. 1631 J. DONE *Polydoron* (1650) 211 When I observe a cruell Carter yerke and slash but a poore over-toyld lade. 1703 *MRS. CENTLIVRE Love's Contriv.* iv. i. 45 I'll yerk the sullen Devil out of you. a1774 *FERGUSON Leith Races* Poems (1845) 34 Their skins are gaily yarkit And peel'd thir days. 1825 *BROCKETT N.C. Gloss.* s.v., Aw'l yark yah, yah dirty bastard yah. 1833 *Blackw. Mag.* XXXIV. 550 We should yerk the yokel of a Yankee with the knout.

b. To smack or crack (a whip); also *intr.* of the whip, to crack.

a 1566 R. EDWARDS *Damon & Pithias* (1571) Fijb, When ich was a lusty fellow, and could yärke a whip trimly. **1603** FLORIO *Montaigne* 1. xxii. (1632) 48 He would . . make a whip to yärke and lash, as cunningly as any Carter in France. **1606** G. WOODCOCKE [*Hist. Iustine* II. 9] Euery man drew forth his whip, and began to yerke the same.

c. intr. To strike, deal blows.

1815 G. BEATTIE *John O'Arnha* (1826) 30 He swat and yarkit wi' his hammer.

3. fig. To beat, lash, flagellate (as with sharp words or treatment); hence, to stir up, excite.

1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* 10 Arrius will shake the Church; Macchiauell will yerke the Commonwealth. **1607** MIDDLETON *Fam. Love* III. (1608) Ez, If it hit, and that I yearke my familist out of the Spirit. **1639** J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Part Summers Trav.* C. 5, I with my Pen doe meane to yerke and ferke ye. **1786** BURNS *To J. S* — iv, My fancy yerket up sublime Wi' hasty summon. **1797** T. POOLE in Mrs. H. Sandford *T. P. & Friends* (1888) I. 221 The weight of government, which our ministry has cause[d] to touch and yark every individual where he never felt it before. **1819** KEATS *Otho* III. ii, Aye, Satan! does that yerke ye? **1825** JAMIESON, *To Yerk, Yark*, figuratively applied to the rays of the sun, when they beat powerfully on any object. **1874** OUTRAM *Annuity* vi, In vain he yerked his souple head, To find an ambiguity.

b. intr. To gird or carp at.

1621 BP. MOUNTAGU *Diatribæ* 392 Almost in euery Paragraph, either he yerket at his neighbours credit, or commendeth his owne chickens. **1826** J. WILSON *Noctes Ambr.* Wks. 1855 I. 114 Onything's mair preferable than yerk yerkin at every thing said by a wiser man than yoursell.

4. trans. To pull, push, or throw with a sudden movement; to jerk.

1568 J. FEN tr. *Osorius' Confut. Haddon* 1. 7b, When you are prickd and yearked forth with the goades of your owne madnes. **1575** GASCOIGNE *Flowers* Wks. 1907 I. 65 He that yerks old angells out apace. **1604** T. M. *Black Bk.* D 3b, But when I yerkt them [sc. dice] forth, away they ranne like Irish Lackeys. **1644** MANWAYRING *Sea-mans Dict.* 83 When a great sea comes to yerk up the ship. **1780** HUTTON *Tour to Caves* (ed. 2) Gloss., *Yark*, to push or strike. **1825** J. NEAL Bro. *Jonathan* III. 236 A gray beaver . . yerked a little on one side. **1836** [HOOTON] *Bilberry Thurland* I. xiv. 258 He . . seized the parson by the chin and ears and yerked him upwards several times. **1840** HALIBURTON *Clockm.* Ser. III. xiii, I'd larn him how . . to yawk the reins with both hands. **1861** *Stamford Merc.* 27 Sept., He saw him knocking and yarking the horse about and swearing at it. **1882** *Jamieson's Sc. Dict.* s.v., He yerkit to the yett wi' a bang. **1904** *Dundee Adv.* 2 Dec. 7 If any person went and asked a civil question he might get a besom 'yarked' at his head.

b. To utter spasmodically, 'jerk out' (words); to start, strike up (a song, etc.).

1604 MIDDLETON *Fr. Hubburd's T.* C3, He began to speake to the richest of our number, euer and anon, yerking out the word Fines. **1719** RAMSAY *To Arbuckle* 14 Yerking those words out which lye nearest. **1815** G. BEATTIE *John O'Arnha* (1826) 57 A' the devils in a ring Yarkit up the Highland fling. **1892** LUMSDEN *Sheep-head & Trotters* 287 Yerk us aff a sang belyve.

† c. To 'get up' or compose rapidly or hastily, to 'dash off'. Obs.

1592 NASHE *Strange Newes* E 4 b, In a night & a day would he haue yarkt vp a Pamphlet as well as in seauen yeare. **1621** BP. MOUNTAGU *Diatribæ* 88 You are able to shape your aduersary an answer, and yerke vp a booke in a night.

5. To move (some part of the body) with a jerk or twitch; esp. to lash out with (the legs), as a horse.

1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V.* IV. vii. 83 [Wounded steeds] with wilde rage Yerke out their armed heeles at their dead masters. **1607** MARKHAM *Cavel.* II. (1617) 171 You shall observe that when he yarketh, he yark out his hinder feete euen and close together. **1623** — *Cheap Husb.* (ed. 3) I. ii. 17 When a horse yerketh out his nose. **1651** *Loves of Hero & Leander* (1653) 16 Leander now turns on his back, He yerks out legs and lets arme slack. **1726** *Dict. Rusticum* (ed. 3) s.v. *Capriole*, The Goat-leap, when a horse at the full height of his Leap, yerks or strikes out his hind legs. **1825** SCOTT *Betrothed* xiii, Mahound yerked out his hoofs. **1828** *Craven Gloss.* s.v., T'horse yarkd out baath his hinder fit.

b. intr. To lash or strike out with the heels, to kick.

1565 [see *yerking* below]. **1573-80** TUSSEY *Husb.* (1878) 150 The sooner that poore beast is strucke the sooner doth he yerke. **1579-80** NORTH *Plutarch* (1595) 719 The horse . . would let no man get vp on his backe, . . but would yerke out at them. **1581** J. BELL *Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 158 b, He [sc. the horse] chaufeth & champeth vpon the bridle, commeth a loft, yorkeith out with his heeles behinde. **1611** COTGR. s.v. *s' Agrouper*, He would yearke out behind. **1694** MOTTEUX *Rabelais* v. viii. 36 He fell a Trotting, and Winsing, and Yerking.

transf. **1622** FLETCHER *Sea-Voy.* I. i, How she [sc. a ship] kicks and yerks.

6. intr. To spring or rise suddenly: esp. of animals.

1612 DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* vi. 54 So doth the Salmon vault; And if at first he faile, his second summersaut Hee instantly assaies, and from his nimble ring Still yarking [etc.]. **1828** *Craven Gloss.*, *Yark*, to rise hastily. 'He yarks up i' th' snert of a cat [= instantly]. **1892** *Mem. Dean Hole* xvi. (1893) 193 It [sc. a snipe] yarked up, and screeted, and I nipped round, and blazed. **1893** STEVENSON *Catriona* xv, We saw the wee flag yirk up to the maist-heid.

b. fig. To engage eagerly in some proceeding, to 'pitch into'.

1737 RAMSAY *Sc. Prov.* (1750) 103 Thoughts are free, tho' I mayna sae mickle I can yerk at the thinking. **1807** J. STAGE *Poems* 52 Some teymes i' th winter neeghts, when dark We'd into th' Ladies Di'rys yark. **1892** LUMSDEN *Sheep-head & Trotters* 181 We hae a lang tramp to yerk till in the morning. *Ibid.* 257 Now Dominie, yerk in.

Hence *yerking*, *yarking vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.* (in various senses: see above and quotes.).

1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Excussores equi*, flinging and yerking horses. **1587** FLEMING in Holinshed *Chron.* III. 819 The fox . . not able to beare the yerking of his [sc. the lion's] taile, or a pelt of his paw. **1589** — *Virg. Georg.* III. 348 Seest thou not that neither bit and bridle . . Nor cruell yerking, . . do stop or stay Horsses from mares. **1593** G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* 11 And what comparable to this spowte of yarking eloquence? **1598** MARSTON *Seco. Villanie* Proem., Quake guzzell dogs, . . Skud from the lashes of my yerking rime. **1605** *Play Stucley* in Simpson *Sch. Shaks.* (1878) I. 254 We'll spur your linnen. . . Until with yarking she do break her girths. **1624** GEE *Foot out of Snare* App. 114 A song of the same smart-yerking tune. **1639** T. DE GREY *Compl. Horsem.* 2 The horse . . never gave over flinging, yarking, plunging, and bownding. **1689** T. PLUNKET *Char. Gd. Comm.* 47 Are all the yerking Muses fallen asleep? **1787** W. TAYLOR *Sc. Poems* 177 Mornin clocks an' yarkin hammers Reviv'd us by their tunefu' yammers. **1825** JAMIESON, *Yerkin*, the seam by which the hinder part of the upper leather of a shoe is joined to the forepart, Berwicks., Dumfr. **1892** LUMSDEN *Sheep-head & Trotters* 286 Hootsman . . proposed that Rob Clarty . . should . . give us some of his reels . . for the yerking off of which Rob . . is . . a famous hand.

yerk, obs. form of IRK.

'yerker. [f. YERK *v.* + -ER¹.] a. One who yerks; a kicker; a flogger. b. A sudden and very severe blow' (Jam. 1825).

1664 GOULDMAN *Dict.* I. (1669), A yerker out, *sternax*. **1678** LITTLETON *Eng.-Lat. Dict.*, A yerker or whipster, *plagosus Orbilius*.

Yerkish ['jɜ:kɪʃ], *sb.* (and *a.*) [f. the name of R. M. Yerkes (1876-1956), U.S. primatologist + -ISH¹.] A sign language for chimpanzees based on geometric symbols, chiefly devised by E. C. von Glasersfeld for experimental purposes and first published in 1973. Also *attrib.* or as *adj.*

1973 D. M. RUMBAUGH et al. in *Behavior Research Methods & Instrumentation* Sept. 38/2 The study program . . included the design of the language system (Yerkish). *Ibid.* 387/2 Each correlator links two items that are expressed in the Yerkish phrase or sentence. **1973** *Science* 16 Nov. 731 Each Yerkish word, or 'lexigram', is a distinctive geometric white symbol on a colored background. **1974** E. C. VON GLASERSFELD in *Amer. Jnl. Computational Linguistics* (microfiche 12), The Yerkish language for nonhuman primates. **1974** *N. Y. Times* 29 May 52/3 Lana's [sc. a chimpanzee's] computerized language, called *Yerkish* in honor of the primate center's founder, Dr. Robert M. Yerkes. **1977** E. C. VON GLASERSFELD in D. M. Rumbaugh *Language Learning by Chimpanzee* v. 114 The grammar of Yerkish had to be kept as simple as possible for several reasons. **1980** *Times* 3 July 16/3 'Yerkish', an artificial language especially developed by Professor D. M. Rumbaugh at the Yerkes Primate Research Centre, Emory University, near Atlanta, United States, for a chimpanzee called Lana.

yerl, yerle, obs. or Sc. ff. EARL.

yerle, -ly, obs. ff. EARLY, YEARLY.

yerm, variant of YARM *v.*

† yern, a. Obs. Forms: 1 *georn*, 3 *georn*, 3-5 *jern*, (4 *jern*, *yerin*), 4-5 *jerne*, *yerne*, 5 *yarne*, *yherne*, 6 *yorne*, *yearne*, (9 *dial. jern*). [OE. *georn* = OS. *gern*, OHG. *gern*, *kern* (MHG. *gern*, G. -*gern*), ON. *gjarn*, Goth. -*gairns* (in *seinagairns* selfish, *faihgairns* covetous), also OS. -*gerni* (MLG. *gerne*), OHG. **gerni*, *kerni* (MHG. -*gerne*); f. Teut. *ger-*: see YERE *v.* and cf. YEARN *v.*]

1. Eager, earnestly or keenly desirous; also, greedy, covetous.

c 893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* III. viii. 122 For þæm þe ærper para folca was þæs gefeohtes georn. **971** *Blickl. Hom.* 43 Ne sceal he eac beon to georn deaðra manna feos. **a 1000** *Guthlac* 1051 Ic eom sipes fus . . edleanan georn. **a 1200** *Moral Ode* 256 in O.E. *Hom.* I. 175 þa þe weren swa lese pet me hom ne mihte ileuen Med-ierne domes men & wrong-wise reuen. **13** . . *Cursor M.* 14638 (Gött.) þat 3e war sauf jarn haue i bene. **c 1425** WYNTOUN *Cron.* vi. x. 852 To fecht wiþ him þai wer full jarne [v.r. yherne]. [1905 *Engl. Dial. Dict.* s.v. *Yearn*, In phr. to *be jern* on a thing, to be bent on it. Shr., Mtg. I'm jern on this or that.]

b. Earnestly occupied or engaged, busy (about something).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 8205 (Cott.) O þaa wandes grett lose þai made, þe king abute þam was ful gern [v.r. jern(e)]. **c 1450** *Mirk's Festial* 147 þer was a tonne of bras . . into þe weche tonne he was put and cloyd þeryn, and fure made vndyr hote, and so þei weren jerne about for þat Seynt Ion schuld haue ben brent þeryn.

2. Swift, rapid; brisk, lively; nimble, active.

13 . . *Cursor M.* 23588 (Edinb.) Sun and mon, and water and stern, þat rinnes now wit ras sa yerin. **c 1386** CHAUCER *Miller's T.* 71 But of hir song, it was as loude and yerne As any swalwe sittynge on a berne. **c 1515** *Scottish Field* 571 (Chetham Misc. II.) Yorkshippe [sic] like yorne [v.r. (Percy MS.) yearne] men, egerly they foughten!

† yern, v. Obs. Forms: 1 *geiernan*, *geyrnan*, *Nth. geiorna*, 3-4 *burne*, *jirne*, 4-5 *jerne*, *yerne*. *Pa. t. a. (str.)* 1 *gearn*, (*garn*, *geharn*), *giarn*, *pl. geurnon*, *ge-uurnun*, *giurnun*, 3-4 *jorn*, 4 *yorn*, *jerne*, *yorne*, *yourne*, *jarn*, *yarn*, 5 *yarne*, *yurne*; *β. (wk.)* 1 *pl. geærndon*, 4 *yrned*. *Pa. pple.* 1 *geurnen* (see YEARN *v.*² etym.); 4 *yjarned*. [OE.

geiernan, *geærnan*: see *Y-* prefix 3 c and RUN *v.* For the specific sense 'to curdle' see YEARN *v.*²]

1. *intr.* = RUN *v.* 1, 4, 5.

c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* v. vi. (1890) 400 þa geærndon hio sume ðrage, & eft hwurfon. **c 900** WÆRFERTH tr. *Gregory's Dial.* xii. (1900) 88, & þa him gangendum in þam wege him ongen geurnon [v.r. urnon] per ærendracan. **c 1300** *K. Horn* 749 (Laud 108), To boure he gan jerne. **13** . . *K. Alis.* 565 (Laud MS.), Of wilde beestes com a grette pray, 3erned þorouȝout þe contray. *Ibid.* 2699 Forthe [he] is wiþ pat yjarned [rime forbarnd; v.r. yroune, rime brenne]. **13** . . *E. E. Allit.* P. B. 881 Bot þat þe ȝonge men, so ȝepe, ȝornen þeroute. **1377** LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. III. 213 (MS. R.) Emperoures . . þurȝ ȝiftes han ȝoumen to jernen [v.r. renne] and to ride. **a 1400** *Octouian* 561 The maryners . . yorne away, with good wyll, Well hastily. *Ibid.* 965 Vpon a stede he gan yerne With sper and scheld. **c 1400** *St. Jer.* 15 *Tokens* 45 þe deulen willen come ȝernend & speten fire & blast. **c 1425** *Engl. Cong. Irel.* 74 He saw a mych flote of wyld swyne yernynge vp-on hugh & moryce. *Ibid.* 82 He yarne to snellych for to socur hym.

b. = RUN *v.* 9.

c 1055 *Byrhtferth's Handboc in Anglia* VIII. 298 þes circul ys todæled ontwelf, & seo sunne geyrnð þas twelf fætu binnan .xii. monðum. *Ibid.* 320 Saturnus ys se ytemesta he geyrnð his ryne binnan þritigum wintrum. **1340** *Ayenb.* 84 Stedeuest and lestinde ase þe zonne, pet alneway yernþ and ne is neure wery. *Ibid.* 141 [see *yerning* below].

2. = RUN *v.* 20.

1340 *Ayenb.* 27 Vor hit behoueþ þet zuich wyn yerne by þe teppe, ase þer is ine þe tonne. **1377** LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIX. 376 (MS. B) Water . . Egerlich jernynge out of mennes eyen. **1387** *TREVISIA Hiden* (Rolls) I. 105 þe stream of Egipte pat ȝerneþ westward in to þe grette see. **a 1400** *R. Gloucester's Chron.* (Rolls) 8671 (MS. C) þe blod ȝorn to grounde.

3. fig. = RUN *v.* 27, 29, 31.

c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* IV. xxviii[i]. (1890) 366 þa georn ðær sona upp genihtsumlic yrð & wæstm. **c 900** WÆRFERTH tr. *Gregory's Dial.* xxi. (1900) 147 Swa hwæt swa þe on mod geurne [orig. *quidquid animo occurrit*]. **13** . . *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 529 þenne al rypeȝ & roteȝ þat ros vpon fyrst, & þus jirnez þe ȝere in ȝisterdayes mony. **1377** LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XI. 59, I forȝat ȝouthē and jarn [v.r. yarne, yerne; 1393 jorn(e, jarn)] in-to elde. **1393** *Ibid.* C. xix. 165 Enuye and vuel will ȝorn in þe Iewes.

Hence **† yerning vbl. sb.**, running, course; *ppl. a.*, running; also **† yerner**, a runner.

1340 *Ayenb.* 141 þe sterre þet hatte staturne . . pet asemoche yernþ in onelepi daye mid þe firmament . . ase he ðep ine þritti yer ine his oȝene sercle and ine his oȝene yerninge. *Ibid.* 255 þe melle wyoute sluse þet alne-way went be þe yernynge of þe wetere. **1387** *TREVISIA Hiden* (Rolls) VI. 13 þanne þe province was swiþe destourbed by rennyng of [MS. *y jurnyng* and] reses of straungers. **a 1400** *Praier & Compl. Ploughman* (1531) Fij, Thou ne madest none suche shepherdes ne keepers of thy schepe, that weren yerners aboute countreys. **a 1400** *R. Gloucester's Chron.* (Rolls) 8288 (MS. C) þe jurnende water was of hor blod al red. **c 1425** *Engl. Cong. Irel.* 94 Bytwene twe perylle:—on on halue, þe wode-yernynge watyr so grysly; on other halue, hys fomen.

yern(e), obs. ff. EARN *v.*¹, IRON, YARN, YEARN.

yern-bliter, var. EARN-BLEATER, snipe.

1755 R. FORBES *Jrnl. from London in Ajax his Sp.* 35 Afore the leerrick or yern-bliter began to sing.

† yerne, adv. Obs. Forms: 1 *georne*, *ȝyrne*, 2-4 *georne*, 2-5 *jorne*, 2-6 *jerne*, 3 (*Orm.*) *ȝernne*, 4 *jern*, *ȝiern(e)*, 4-5 *yerne*, *ȝurne*, *ȝarne*, 4-6 *yern*, *ȝarn*, 5 *ȝyrne*, *yorne*, *yurne*, *yarn*, 6 *yarne*. [OE. *georne* = OFris. *gerne*, *jerne* (Fris. *jearn*), OS. *gerno* (MDu. *gherne*, *geerne*, Du. *gaarne*), OHG. *gerno* (MHG. *gerne*, G. *gern*), ON. *gjarna* (Sw. *gerna*, *gärna*, Da. *gerne*); adv. of OE. *georn*, etc.: see YERN *a.*]

1. Eagerly, earnestly, diligently, zealously, heartily.

Beowulf 2294 Hordweard sohte georne æfter grunde. **a 1122** O.E. *Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1083 þa wreccan munecas . . ȝyrne cleopendon to Gode his milste biddende. **c 1175** *Lamb. Hom.* 11 Muchel is us þenne neod . . ȝerne bidden ure milciende drihten þet [etc.]. **a 1200** *Moral Ode* 49 þider ȝe sculen ȝorne draȝen. **c 1200** *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 3 Men . . wisten ȝerne after ure lauerd ihesu cristes tocume. **a 1250** *Prov. Ælfred* 101 in O.E. *Misc.* (1872) 108 þe mon þe on his youhpe yeorne leornep wit and wisdom. **c 1290** *St. Brandan* 94 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 222, & bede ȝurne oure louerdes grace þulke veyage to do. **a 1300** *Cursor M.* 2789 (Cott.) 3ern [*Fairf.* ȝ orne] on þaim he cried merci! **1375** BARBOUR *Bruce* III. 547 The king then at thaim speryt ȝarne, How thai . . had faine. **c 1400** *St. Alexius* (Laud 463) 35 Boþe þe day, & þe nyght, ȝerne þei ponked our dright, & Seinte Marie. **c 1400** *Rom. Rose* 6719 Thanne may he go abegging yerne Til he somme maner crafte can lerne. **c 1420** *Chron. Vilod.* 727 Seynt Dunstone heȝede hym fulle farte And ȝyrne to god for hym he bedde. **c 1425** *Engl. Cong. Irel.* 92 He . . besoght ful yorne þat he most allyaunce haue to har kynrede. **c 1440** *Pallad.* on *Husb.* I. 447 Mynge hit yurne Tyl euery part vntyl on body turne. **1513** DOUGLAS *Æneis* IV. vii. 83 The blak swarm our the feildis walkis ȝarn, Tursand throw the gers thar pray to hiddillis dern. *Ibid.* VI. vii. 44 The hiddillis held thai and the roddis darn, A myrtre wod about thaim lowkit ȝarn.

b. Willingly, gladly, 'fain'; occas. wilfully.

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* vii. §2 þonne scealt þu georne geðolian gehwæt þæs þe to heora penungum . . belimpet. **c 1200** *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 9 ȝif þu ȝierne waxest on godnesse, . . after þing þe ðe beð biheue. **13** . . *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1526 ȝe, þat ar so cortays & coynt of your hetes, Oghe to a ȝonke þynk ȝern to schewe, & teche sum tokenez of trweluf craftes. **1474** BRAMPTON *Penit. Ps.* (Percy Soc.) 12 And I trespase aȝens the ȝerne. **a 1508** DUNBAR *Tua Marii Wemen* 129 He trowis that ȝoung folk I ȝerne ȝeild.

c. Thoroughly, well.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* xxxix. 3 He wiste ful georne þæt god hine lufode. 12.. *Moral Ode* 346 (Egerton MS.) þat huð ða þe heom sculdeð georne, wid eliche un-beawe. a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1588 Hire lust swiðe georne spoken mit te meiden. a 1240 Ærēsun in *O.E. Hom.* I. 199 þu hit wost ful georne þæt þe deouel hateð me.

2. a. Quickly, swiftly, rapidly, fast, briskly, at a great rate.

a 1023 WULFSTAN *Hom.* ii. (1883) 18 Hit to ðam dome nu georne nealæcð. 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 498 A 3ere 3ernes ful 3erne, & zeldez neuer lyke. c 1386 CHAUCER *Pard.* T. 70 Myne handes and my tonge goon so yerne That it is ioye to se my bisynesse. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. xxiii. 159 Sleuthe wax wonder 3erne and sone was of age. c 1430 *Freemasonry* 174 The mayster may his prentes so enforme, That hys hure may crese ful 3erne. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 536/2 3arne, hastily (P. 3arne or fast), *festinanter*. 1443-9 *Paston Lett. Suppl.* (1901) 12 There he lyted and knokkyd on the gate, and we folwyd as yam as we myth. 1493 *Dives & Pauper* (W. de W. 1496) ix. viii. 358/1 Bere he his sayle neuer soo hyghe, & go he neuer soo yerne. c 1530 *Crt. of Love* 1299 There nis no swallow swift... ne half so yern can fly.

b. Quickly, without delay, immediately, directly, soon. Also as *yerne* (see AS A. 5 c).

c 1320 *Sir Tristr.* 3065 Hennes 3ern þou fle Out of si3t mine. c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1252 3eld þe to me 3eply or 3erne þou schalt dcie. c 1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* iii. 376 Achilles with his spere Myn heite cleue, ... yf I late or yerne Wolde it by-wreye. c 1384 — *H. Fame* ii. 402 Wyth that he spack to me so yerne And seyde. c 1440 *Jacob's Well* 12 3if 3e hy gylty, be sory in herte, ... and 3erne, wyth full sorwe of herte, beeth schreuyng. c 1470 HARDING *Chron.* cix. vi. And then the kyng made hym hyshop as yerne Of Winchester.

† **yernly**, *adv.* *Obs.* Forms: 1 *geornlice*, 2-3 *geornliche*, 3 *georneliche*, *3ernliche*, *3ierneliche*, *3ornliche*, 4 *3ernely*; *comp.* 3 *3erneliker*, *3eorneluker*, 4 *3ernloker*; *sup.* 2 *3eornlucost*. [OE. *geornlice* = OHG. *gerlichho* = ON. *giarnliga*; see YERN a. and -LY².] = prec. 1.

c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) O 38 *Obuixe*, *geornlice*, c 900 tr. *Beda's Hist.* iv. iii. (1890) 268 He. *geornlice* in his gehede hleoðrade. c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. ii. 8 Farað & axiað geornlice be þam cilde. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 109 þe feorðe unpeu is pet þe riche mon... bihude his feh, and 3eornliche halde hit. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 121 Men bien swo widerfulle þat, swo he 3erenluker clepeð hem to him, swo he widere turneð froward him. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 100 Hecneð nu 3eorneliche, mine leoue sustren. c 1275 *LAY.* 15593 Hii... 3ornliche luste Of þes vncoupe tale. a 1375 *Joseph Arim.* 593 Nas per song mon ne old þat 3ernloker wrou3te. a 1400 *Relig. Pieces fr. Thornton MS.* (1914) 55 Damsle Discrecyone... sall... 3ernely luke þat all go wele.

† **yerr**, *sb.* *Obs.* In 3 *3eor*, 3ur, 4-5 *3erre*. [f. next.] A loud or harsh cry, yell, howl.

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 306 Mid tisse schulen þe uorlorene worpen a swueh 3eor [MS. T. 3ur, MS. C. 3ei] þet heouene & eorðe muwen beoðe grisliche agrisen. a 1225 *Juliana* (Bodl. MS.) 51 [He] higon swa te 3uren þat monie weren awundret hwet tet 3ur were. a 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 5042 So did his princes... With 3edire 3oskingis & 3erre 3ett out to grete.

† **yerr**, *v.* *Obs.* Forms: 1 *gyrran*, 3 *yeorre*, 3ure (*pa. t. pl.* 3urren), 4-5 *3ere*. [OE. **gierran*, *gyrran* str. vb., f. echoic stem *gar-*: cf. GARRE, YAR(R), etc.] *intr.* To make a harsh noise, creak, roar, rattle; to cry out loudly, yell, howl.

a 1000 *Andreas* 374 Strenas gurrōn. a 1100 in Napier *O.E. Glosses* (1900) 194/13 *Garrio*, ic [sc. a file] gyrrre. c 1205 *LAY.* 28358 3urran þa stanes Mid þan hloed-stremes. a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 2041 þer me mahte iheren þe heaðene hundes zellen & zeien & 3uren. a 1225 *Juliana* (Royal MS.) 50 Monie weren awundret hwet te 3uring mahte beon. c 1275 *Sinners Beware* 325 in *O.E. Misc.* 83 He yeorrep & heo gredeþ, þe feondes heom forþ ledeþ. a 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 4745 Vmquile he noys as a nowte as a nox quen he lawes, 3armand & 3erand a 3oten him semed.

yerra (j'ɛrə), *int.* *Anglo-Ir.* Also yerrah. [Ir.] An asseverative oath or exclamation.

1892 E. LAWLESS *Grania* II. iii. 32 Yerral give him his bit and his sup and his hed, ... and 'tis all he wants. 1898 M. MACDONAGH *Irish Life & Character* ix. 156 'What's the matter with the old gentleman?' he was asked. 'What's the matter with him! Yerrah, look at the walk of him... Begor, he only touches the ground in an odd place.' 1914 JOYCE *Dubliners* 155 Yerra, sure the little hop-o'-my-thumb has forgotten all about it. 1939 — *Finnegans Wake* 95 Yerra, why would he heed that old gasometer. 1958 B. BEHAN *Borstal Boy* iii. 218 'Yerra, 'tis nothing,' said I, jovial and Irish, but making every move to work on a bit more. 1965 N. MUNSTER *Antiquarian Jnl.* ix. 186 Yerra there's no good in talking to you. 1977 J. HODGINS *Invention of World* iii. 83 This is no ordinary hoy... Yerra, this is a boy apart.

yerse (jɜ:s), *repr.* a non-Standard pronunc. of YES. Also yers.

1937 PARTRIDGE *Dict. Slang* 970/2 *Yers*; *yerse*, yes: sol.: C. 19-20. 1965 J. PORTER *Dover Two* vi. 60 Yerse, we was. Only they nahhed us first. 1969 J. GARDNER *Founder Member* ii. 16 'All three of us going to New York...' parried Boyzie. 'Yerse,' said Griffin. 1980 P. G. WINSLOW *Counsellor Heart* v. 80 'A plant?' 'Yerse.' She described the plant. 1985 M. GILBERT *Long Journey Home* xii. 125 'Was it as obvious as that?' 'Yers. Well, you can always tell.'

yersel, *Sc.* form of YOURSELF.

yersinia (jɜ:'sɪniə). *Bacteriol.* Also Yersinia. Pl. -ae. [mod.L. (J. J. Van Loghem 1944, in *Antonie van Leeuwenhoek* X. 15), f. the name of A. E. J. Yersin (1863-1943), Swiss-born French bacteriologist + -IA.] A bacterium of the genus *Yersinia* (formerly included in *Pasteurella*),

which includes Gram-negative rods that are facultative anaerobes present in many animals causing plague and yersiniosis in man.

1967 *Acta Path. & Microbiol. Scand.* LXXI. 384 Morphologically, they were fairly easy to distinguish from Yersinia. 1982 E. A. GORZYNSKI in Milgrom & Flanagan *Med. Microbiol.* xxi. 316/1 Yersiniae are facultative intracellular parasites. 1983 *McGraw-Hill Yearbk. Sci. & Technol.* 482/1 Once isolation of a suspect yersinia has been accomplished, the biochemical identification ensues more logically.

Hence yersini'osis [-osis], infection with or a disease caused by yersiniae (other than *Y. pestis*, the cause of plague), which in man is self-limiting and usu. marked by lymphadenitis of the mesentery and ileitis or by enteritis and occurs chiefly in children and young adults.

1971 *Country Life* 2 Dec. 1530/1 In older leverets, parasitism may be the main problem, and in adults yersiniosis, formerly called pseudotuberculosis, a bacterial disease occurring in either the acute or chronic form, appears to be a common cause of death. 1983 *Brit. Med. Jnl.* 27 Aug. 593/1 A large outbreak of yersiniosis in 1980 in a boys' school in Dorset was attributed to contact with a pig kept on the school farm.

yerst, **yerstendai**, *obs.* ff. ERST, YESTERDAY.

† **yert**. *Obs. rare.* [Of obscure origin; combines the symbolic elements, initially of *yerk*, finally of *blurt*, *flirt*, *spirt*, *squirt*.] = YERK *sb.* 1. *yert-point*, name of some game (cf. *blow-point* s.v. BLOW-3).

1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* xxxi. (1555) Tij, At euery yerte she made godfrey to skyppe. 1659 *Lady Alimony* ii. v. All his games... Are yert-point, ninepins, job-nut, or span-counter.

yerth, *obs.* form of EARTH.

yerva: see HERBA, YERBA.

yes, *sb.*¹ *dial.* Also 8 *yesse*, 9 *yis*, *yesh*. [Variant of EASSE, prob. the same word as EES, OE. *ēs* food, bait.] The earthworm.

1787 GROSE *Prov. Gloss.*, *Yesse*, an earth-worm, particularly those called dew-worms. W. c 1820 *Quekett's Sayings* (1888) 33. *Yeshes*... are large worms which they make use of as baits... to catch eels. 1825 JENNINGS *Obs. Dial. W. Eng.*, *Yes*. 1863 BARNES *Dorset Gloss.*, *Yis*.

yes (jɛs), *adv.* (*sb.*²) Forms: a. 1 *gese*, 3-4 *3es*, 4-5 *3eis*, (5 *yhes*, *3eysse*, *yesse*, 9 *dial.* *ees*), 5-*yes*. β. 1 *gise*, 2-4 *3ise*, (4 *yis*), 4-5 *3his*, *3ys*, 4-6 *3is*, 4-6 (9 *dial.*) *yis*, (5 *yhis*, *yys*, *3isse*, 6 *yisse*, 6-7 *is*, 9 *dial.* *iss*). γ. 1 *gyse*, 3 *3use*, 4 *3hus*, *yus*, 4-5 *3us*, (5 *3eus*). [An affirmative word confined to English: OE. *gése*, *gise*, *gyse*, the forms of which point to early WS. **gēse*:—**gēasi*, prob. f. *gēa* YEA + *sí* 3 sing. pres. subj. of *bēon* to be; a similar formation is seen in *nese* (Northumb. *næse*, *næst*), prob. f. *ne* NE *adv.* + *sī* (as above). The acceptance of this derivation necessitates the assumption that *gése* was orig. applicable as an answer to a particular class of question, which is intrinsically not improbable. The suggested derivation from **gēa swā* 'yea, so' is phonologically inadequate.

The pronunciation (jɛs), still widespread in dialects, was formerly current in polite speech and is recorded as such in Walker's *Pronouncing Dict.*

A. *adv.* A word used to express an affirmative reply to a question, statement, command, etc.

1. a. In answer to a question not involving a negative; standing for the affirmative sentence corresponding to the interrogative one constituting the question: = 'It is so.' Phr. to say yes: to assent, comply; *spec.* to accept a proposal of marriage.

Formerly usually more emphatic than *yea* or *ay*; in later use taking the place of these as the ordinary affirmative particle: cf. 2 below.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 14 Hwi! wolde God swa lytles pinges him forwynnan...? ȝyse; hu mihte Adam tocnawan [etc.]. c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 31 Hwat seist þu, Dauīð? Hafst þu anize sikernes herof?... '3ise, [he] seið, 'we bieð all siker of godes hehate'. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* iv. 470 (MS. E.) The kyng... sperit... Giff ony man coult tell tithand Of any strange man in that land. '3his [v.r. 3ail], said a voman, 'schir, perfay, Of strange men I can 3ow say'. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 341 þanne þe kyng com, and þe pope axede of hym 3if he hadde i-holde his oth... þe kyng... seide '3is al at þe fulle'. *Ibid.* VIII. 313 Of þis erle... is ofte greet stryf... where he schulde be acounted for [v.r. among] seyntes oþer none. Some seyn 3is... Oþer seien þe contrarie. c 1440 *Promp. Parv.* 539/1 3ys, *ita*, *eciam*. 1509 HAWES *Past. Pleas.* xxxiv. ix. Haue you hym sene in any time before? Yes yes quod she. 1583 HOLLYBAND *Campo di Fior* 227 Hast thou found thy Tusculans questions? Is, so evill favoured that I knew them not. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* ii. iii. 25 Duk. Loue you the man that wrong'd you? Iul. Yes, as I loue the woman that wrong'd him. 1634 MILTON *Comus* 584, 2. Bro... Is this the confidence You gave me Brother? Eld. Bro. Yes and keep it still. 1747 H. WALPOLE *Let. to Mann* 28 July, Bergen-op-zoom still holds out, and is the first place that has not said yes, the moment the French asked it the question. 1808 SCOTT *Marm.* i. Introd. 45 Will spring return... And blossoms clothe the hawthorn spray? Yes, prattlers, yes; the daisy's flower Again shall paint your summer bower. 1866 MRS. LYNN LINTON *Lizzie Lorton* xvi, 'Is it a nice clean place?' asked Aunt Harriet... 'Yis! yis! clean enough!' said Isaac. 1883 D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* xiv. (1885) 111 She'd never say 'Yes' to a man she didn't care for. 1917 G. W. E. RUSSELL *Pol. & Pers.* iv. x. 364 It is wise to

he prepared for this evil? Until the dream of a universal... disarmament is realized, surely yes.

b. *Yes and No*: a round game (see *quots.*).

1843 DICKENS *Chr. Carol* iii. It was a Game called Yes and No, where Scroogee's nephew had to think of something, and the rest must find out what; he only answering to their questions yes or no, as the case was. 1854 *Round Games* (ed. 2) 111 Yes and No. This game... was formerly called *Animal, Vegetable, and Mineral*. A player was sent out of the room, and a word (or rather thing) thought of. The player was called in, and proceeded to ask certain members of the company to which of the three kingdoms—*animal, vegetable, or mineral*—the object in question belonged... He then proceeded to ask other questions, to which the players were only compelled to answer 'Yes' or 'No'.

c. *yes and no*, in answer to a question to which it is difficult to reply: partly, perhaps, to a certain degree.

1873 C. M. YONGE *Pillars of House* I. vii. 154 'Do you come from his father?' 'Well—yes and no. His father is still in Oregon; but he and I have always been one.' 1896 'M. RUTHERFORD' *Clara Hoppod* xxii. 212, I said 'yes and no' and there is another side. 1933 W. S. MAUGHAM *Sheppey* iii. 75 *Bessie*:... Expecting somebody? *Florrie*: Yes and no. 1964 R. PETRIE *Murder by Precedent* v. 78 'That's why you gave him a home?' he asked. 'Well yes and no.' 1981 B. MURPHY *Enigma Variations* xiii. 137 'Do you believe that if you continue seeing me you'll be damned?' 'Yes and no.'

d. *yes or no*: used *attrib.* (freq. hyphenated) to denote a question, etc., answerable by, or definable in terms of, *yes* or *no*; *spec.* in *Linguistics*. Also *ellipt.* as *yes-no*.

1924 [see PRONOMINAL a. 2]. 1935 [see OKEY-DOKE a.]. 1952 *Mind* LXI. 52 The yes-or-no question is the one we like to ask. 1957 D. L. BOLINGER in *Publ. Amer. Dialect Soc.* xxviii. 24 Yes-no Qs are essentially true-false Qs. 1961 F. W. HOUSEHOLDER in Saporta & Bastian *Psycholinguistics* 17/1 Beside this graded kind of 'grammaticalness'... there is also an absolute yes-or-no type. 1963, 1964 [see MORE C. *adv.* 2]. 1966 A. BATTERSBY *Math. in Management* vii. 180 This type of work [sc. simulation] lends itself very readily to electronic computation, because it comprises a number of repetitive 'loops' of instructions, controlled by simple 'yes-no' decisions. 1976 H. KEMELMAN *Wednesday Rabbi got Wet* xlv. 257 The law is not a yes-or-no thing. 1977 *Times* 8 Feb. 17/1 'The Government is proposing to put a single yes-no question to the voters of Scotland and Wales. 1979 *Economist* 16 June 98/2 Whitehall's traditional passion for compromise only makes for trouble in a crisis which needs yes-or-no decisions, fast. 1984 *Word* XXXV. 188 Sentences other than declaratives are broken up into a speech act operator (a wh-question operator, a yes-no question operator, a command operator, etc.) and a propositional kernel.

2. a. In answer to a question involving a negative.

Formerly regularly used thus (and as in b) in distinction from *yea* (see YEA 1); the distinction became obsolete soon after 1600, and since then *yes* has been the ordinary affirmative particle in reply to any question positive or negative, and *yea* has become archaic. The distinction was still observed in the Bible of 1611, in which *yes* occurs four times (all in N.T.), always after a negative question or statement; the Revisers of 1881, apparently in ignorance of the usage, altered it in all these instances to *yea*.

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xvi. 54 Wenst þu þæt se godcunda anweald ne mihte afyrnan þone anweald þam unrihtwisan kasere, ... gif he wolde? þise, la, gese; ic wat þæt he mihte, gif he wolde. *Ibid.* xxxiv. § 6 Ða cwæð he: Ne sæde ic þe ær þæt sio gesælō good wære? ȝyse, cwæð ic, ȝe þu þæt sædest þæt hio þæt hehste good wære. c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xvii. 25 Eower lareow, ne ȝylt he gafol? þa ewæð he: ȝyse, he deð. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 392 Ne muhte he mid lesse gref habben ared us? 3e siker [MS. T. 3use I wis, MS. C. 3es I wis]. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 5208 (Cott.) 'How sua, es þar na noþer king?' 'Yus [Gött. 3es], bot he dus nakins thing.' c 1315 SHOREHAM *Poems* vii. 499 Nys þys god laze? 3es, y-wys, god laze hys. 13... *Cursor M.* 2761 (Gött.) 'Ne sal þai al þar-forre lue?' 'Yis,' said vr lauerd. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* ix. 84 Trow 3e nocht than that thai Sall vencent in thair hertis be? 3hus, sall thai. c 1400 *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) iv. xx. 66 Myn hertes greef, mote I not wepe? O yis, c 1450 *Merlin* iii. 54 'Haue ye no mynde of the sarazins...?' And thei seide, 'Yesse, full wele.' c 1450 *Cov. Myst.* xxx. (Shaks. Soc.) 296 Thynk 3e not he is worthy to dey? *Et clamabant omnes*. 'ȝys! ȝys! ȝys! alle we seye his is worthy to dey, ȝal ȝal ȝal!' 1533 MORE *Debell. Salem* Wks. 997/1 Wold not the iudges trow you geue them y^e hearing; yes yes I doubt not. 1545 JOYE *Exp. Dan.* iii. 38b, Did we not cast thre men hownde into the fyre? which answerd, yisse trwly oh kyng. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* ii. i. 128 *Val.* What meanes your Ladship? Doe you not like it? *Sil.* Yes, yes. 1632 LITHGOW *Trav.* vi. 255 Was not the hand of the Almighty... able also, to drowne their... plaines with water? Yes and doubtlesse yes. 1646 VAUGHAN *Juw. Sat.* x. 485 But thy spruce boy must touch no other face Then a Patrician? Is of any race So they be rich. 1779 JOHNSON in *Boswell* (1904) II. 308 B. 'Is not the Giant's Causeway worth seeing?'—J. 'Worth seeing, yes; but not worth going to see.' 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* iii. xvi. 'You never can have walked, my dear?' 'Yes, I have.' 1880 'MARK TWAIN' *Tramp Abr.* xxvii, 'I like to be always making acquaintances, don't you?' 'Lord, yes!'

b. In contradiction of or opposition to a negative statement expressed or implied, or a negative command or request.

Now usually accompanied by a short asseverative phrase echoing the preceding statement; e.g. in quot. 1611, mod. colloq. usage would require *Yes*, it was.

c 1205 *LAY.* 17208 þa andswarede þe king: Mærlin þu sæist sællic ping þe nauere nan iboren mon Ne maie heom bringen þenne... Hu mihte ich heom þenne Heom bringen peonne? þa andswarede Mærlin þan kinge... 3use, 3use lauerd king. 13... *Cursor M.* 1249 (Gött.) 'Sun,' he said, 'þe bus ga To paradis þat I cam fra...' '3a, sir, wist i queþward'... '3eis,' he said, 'i sal þe tell and say, Hugat þu sal ta pi right way.' c 1350 *Will. Palerne* i 567 '3e, wist y þat,' seide william 'witterly to speke, Of alle harmes were ich hol.'... '3is, be marie,' seide meliors 'misdrede 3ow neuer.' c 1375 *Cursor M.* 5066 (Fairf.) We ar nozt of a kithe saide he, 3us

pat salle I shew to pe. **c1400** *Rom. Rose* 4659 Knowest hym ought? *Lamaunt*. Yhe, dame, parde. *Raisoun*. Nay, nay. *Lamaunt*. Yhis, I. **c1420** [see YEA 4]. **c1450** *Mirk's Festial* 252 Then . . . pe Iewe . . . sayde hit was not soo. 'Zeus' quod pe cristyn man. **1470-85** *MALORY Arthur* i. xx. 66 How sholdest thou knowe it, for thou arte not so old of yeres to knowe my fader, yes sayd Merlyn I knowe it better than ye or any man lyuyng. **1552** *LYNDESEY Monarchie* 5952 We neuer saw thyn excellence Subdewit to sic Indigence. 3is, sall he [sc. Christ] say, . . . Quhen euer 3e did ressaue the pure. **1603** *SHAKS. Meas. for M.* II. ii. 49 *Isab.* Must he needs die? *Ang.* Maiden, no remedie. *Isab.* Yes: I doe thinke that you might pardon him. **1611** — *Cymb.* i. iv. 52 *Post.* . . . My Quarrell was not altogether slight. *French.* Faith yes, to be put to the arbitrement of Swords. **1779** *JOHNSON in Boswell* (1904) II. 304 *Boswell*. 'You did now know what you were undertaking.' *Johnson*. 'Yes, Sir, I knew very well what I was undertaking.' **1865** *DICKENS Mut. Fr.* II. xv. 'But it's not in the way, Charley.' 'Yes, it is,' said the boy, petulantly. **1880** 'MARK TWAIN' *Tramp Abr.* xxvii. 'I do not know he ever preached there.' 'Oh, yes, he did.'

3. a. Expressing assent to a command, request, proposal, or summons.

a1300 *Cursor M.* 4341 'Lauedi', he said, 'com to pi mete.' 'Yus', sco said. *Ibid.* 7363 'bat child's nam yee will me scau.' 'Yijs', he said, 'i sal pe ken To knau him a-mang oper men.' **c1320** *Sir Tristr.* 436 He bede hem pens mo. . . 3if pai wald wip him go. . . '3is' pai sworn po. **c1369** *CHAUCER Dethe Blanche* 753, I telle hyt the vp a condicion That thou shalt hooly . . . Doo thyn entent to herkene hitte. Yis syr. **c1425** *Cast. Persev.* 440 in *Macro Plays* 90 Now go we forth. . . & bere pee manly euer a-mong. . . *Humanum genus*. 3ys, & ellys haue pou my necke. **1470-85** *MALORY Arthur* II. xv. 93 Hast thou slayn my broder, thou shalt dye therfor or thou departe, wel said balen do it your self, yis sayde kyng pellant, ther shall no man haue ado with the, but my self. **1728** *DE FOE Street Robb. Consid.* 15 Prithee call him, Child, said he, to me. . . Yes, Sir, said I. **1837** *DICKENS Pickw.* iv. 'Joel' 'Yes, sir.' **1859** *RUSKIN Two Paths* iii. §82 Nay, but you will take Christian ornament—purest mediaeval Christian—thirteenth century! Yes: and do you suppose you will find the Christian less human? **1898** G. B. SHAW *Mrs. Warren's Prof.* 1, *The Clergyman* [calling]. Frank! Frank. . . Yes, gov'nor.

b. Expressing assent to a statement or implication.

a1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 2079 'Be his kni3tis as kene as me pis cornes shewis, All pe werd war to waike his wrothe to withstand.' . . '3 is, he ledis bot a lite, lord, with youre lefe . . . Bot mare fersere in feld fell neuire of modire.' **1633** *MARMION Fine Comp.* IV. vi. *Spr.* I heare she is runne mad. *Aur.* Is. **1723** C. WALKER *Mem. Sally Salish*. 26 She would bring out a word something like Abdication, in this manner, Yes, yes, Abdication was of great use to you, &c. **1732** *POPE Ep. Cobham* 1 Yes, you despise the man to books confin'd, Who from his study rails at human kind. **1818** *SHELLEY Rosal. & Helen* 77 *Henry*. This is not the way, Mamma; it leads behind those trees that grow Close to the little river. *Helen*. Yes: I know: I was bewildered. **1837** *DICKENS Pickw.* xiv. 'They must have been very nice men, both of 'em.' . . 'Yes, they were, . . . very nice men indeed!' **1898** 'MERRIMAN' *Roden's Corner* vii. 74 The exquisite sense of humour had also slightly evaporated. People said, 'Oh yes, very funny,' than which nothing is more fatal to humour. *Ibid.* viii. 82 'But we were talking of Mr. Cornish.' 'Yes', answered Dorothy. . . 'Yes; but I must not talk any longer or I shall be late.'

c. Expressing concessive assent (sometimes sarcastically), and introducing an objection: often repeated in sign of impatience.

1596 *SHAKS. Merch. V.* i. iii. 34 *Iew.* . . May I speake with Antonio? *Bass.* If it please you to dine with vs. *Iew.* Yes, to smell porke. **1852** *MRS. STOWE Uncle Tom's C.* xxii. 'Miss Ophelia has taught Topsy to read', continued Eva. 'Yes, and you see how much good it does.' **1865** 'L. CARROLL' *Alice's Adv. in Wonderland* vii. 'It was the best butter.' . . 'Yes, but some crumbs must have got in as well.' **1880** 'MARK TWAIN' *Tramp Abr.* xxv. One morning I said:—'There is an American party,' Harris said, 'Yes, but name the State.'

d. (Usually interrogative.) Expressing provisional assent, with desire for further information or statement; hence as an inquiry addressed to a person waiting in silence (= 'what is it?' 'what do you want?'); also as a mere expression of interest (= 'indeed?' 'is it so?').

1842 *DICKENS Amer. Notes* iv. If you are an Englishman, he expects that that railroad is pretty much like an English railroad. If you say 'No', he says 'Yes?' (interrogatively) and asks in what respect they differ. You enumerate the heads of difference one by one, and he says 'yes?' (still interrogatively) to each. **1858** O. W. HOLMES *Aut. Breakf.-t.* i. My landlady's daughter. . . Tender-eyed blonde. Long ringlets. . . Says 'Yes?' when you tell her anything. *Ibid.*, 'I was only giving some hints on the fine arts.' 'Yes?' **1898** *Punch* 16 Apr. 173/1 After a few moments I was joined by a gentleman. . . 'Yes?' he said, in a tone of interrogation.

4. Used to emphasize or strengthen the speaker's own preceding statement: = YEA 3.

In first quot. perh. used as an ordinary intensive adverb: = YEA 2.

1598 *SHAKS. Merry W.* II. ii. 108 Surely I thinke you haue charmes, la: yes in truth. **1613** — *Hen. VIII.* I. ii. 176, I say, take heed; Yes, heartily beseech you. **1766** *GOLDSM. Vicar W.* xxii. 'Ah, Madam', cried her mother, 'this is but a poor place you are come to after so much finery. . . Yes, Miss Livy, your poor father and I have suffered very much of late.' **1810** *CRABBE Borough* xxii. 12 His father's love he scorn'd, . . . But being drunk, wept sorely when he died. Yes! then he wept. **1827** *SCOTT Highl. Widow* iv. 'The race of Dermid, whose children murdered—yes', she added, with a wild shriek, 'murdered your mother's fathers.' **1866** *MEREDITH Vittoria* iv. 'He rendered payment for it', said Agostino. 'He perished; yes! as we shake dust to the winds.' **1888** 'J. S. WINTER' *Boote's Child.* ii. He was living a month ago, and drunk enough to knock me down. Yes, me . . . me with a babe of a month old.

†5. In construction after a verb of thinking, etc., standing for a clause expressing affirmation or assent: = YEA 1 c. Obs.

a1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* ix. 24 Then Huon . . . demandyd yf he myght ryde or not, 'brother' quod Gerarde 'I thynke yes.' **1634** CAINE *Necess. Separ.* v. 218 His wordes import positively no, but we are sure yes. **1843** *CARLYLE Past & Pr.* III. xv. Thou shalt not disobey them. It were better for thee not. Better a hundred deaths than yes.

¶0 yes (formula introducing a crier's announcement): see OYEZ.

B. as sb. (Pl. yes's, yeses.) An utterance of the word 'yes'; an affirmative reply, or expression of assent: often opposed to no.

[**c897** *ÆLFRED Gregory's Past.* C. xlii. 308 Wene ge ðæt æðder sie mid me ge gise ge nese?] **1712** *STEELE Spect.* No. 266 ¶4 Her innocent forsooths, yes's, and't please you's . . . moved the good old Lady to . . . hire her for her own Maid. **1775** *SHERIDAN in Sheridaniana* (1826) 62 No pearly teeth rejoice my view, Unless a 'yes' displays their hue. **1805** *SOUTHEY Madoc* I. xvii. 29 Madoc smiling on the Maid, . . . lightly gave the yes. **1818** *KEATS Endym.* IV. 898 Striving their ghastly malady to cheer, By thinking it a thing of yes and no, That housewives talk of. **1840** *THACKERAY Shabby Genteel Story* v. Dear yeses and noes, how beautiful you are when gently whispered by pretty lips! **1855** *TENNYSON Maud* I. xvii. 9 Roses are her cheeks, And a rose her mouth When the happy Yes falters from her lips. **1866** *MEREDITH Vittoria* ii. 'Said yes!' he remarked. 'He might say no, for a diversion. He has yeses enough in his pay to earn a Cardinal's hat.' **1879** 'L. HOFFMANN' *Drawing-r. Amusem.* ii. 41 The 'Twenty questions' . . . He is limited to twenty questions, which, with one exception, must be of such a character as to be answered by a simple 'Yes' or 'No'.

yes, v. [f. the adv.]

1. *intr.* To say 'yes'; to assent: opp. to NO v. (see after NO *adv.* 3 and sb.).

1820 *Blackw. Mag.* VIII. 271 Thy hat low dangling from thy better hand, Yes-ing and No-ing to the great man's will. **1891** J. K. STEPHEN *Quo Musa Tendis?* 56, I don't know what we talked about; I smiled; the same old smile: I 'yes'd' and 'no'd' and 'really'd', till I thought he must discover That I was listening to the band.

2. *trans.* To say 'yes' to or agree with (someone); to flatter by habitual assent. U.S.

1921 R. W. LARDNER in Mencken *Amer. Lang.* (rev. ed.) 393 He . . . crossed me up. I ast him for a hook and he yessed me and then throwed a fast one. **1928** J. P. McEvoy *Show Girl* ix. 134 They yes you to death. **1933** *Times Lit. Suppl.* 23 Nov. 844/2 For Mr. Leonard . . . there is no fun in life as lived in the United States. Too much work. . . yessing the boss and dud liquor. **1935** [see RAVE sb. 2 b]. **1945** S. LEWIS *Cass Timberlane* xvi. 89 A lot of bums are always yessing you . . . but me and Boone are good-enough friends to tell you the truth. **1983** *N. Y. Times* 23 Oct. 19/6 Mr. Reagan . . . is unable to get his proposal off the ground . . . his aids yes him to death with plans.

yes, obs. pl. of EYE; obs. f. ICE.

ye'se = ye shall: see SHALL A. 5.

yeshiva (jə'ʃivə). Also yeshiba(h, yeshivah, and with capital initial. Pl. yeshivoth, yeshiva(h)s; also yeshibot. [a. Heb. *yəšibāh*, f. *yashav* to sit.] An Orthodox Jewish college or seminary; a Talmudic academy.

1851 *Living Age* XXIX. 154/2 The hope of seeing him one day decorated with the dignity of rabbi . . . will impel them cheerfully to make all the sacrifices which his outfit and partial support at the yeshibah (academy) entail. **1881** *Encycl. Brit.* XIII. 681/2 The rabbis received their education at the Yeshiboth ('sessions' of academies devoted to the Talmud, the *Shulchan Aruch*, and their commentators). **1904** *Sat. Rev.* 24 Sept. 404/1 The Jewish orphan . . . is brought up . . . at a yeshiva, or seminary, where the Talmud is almost the sole object of study. **1916** H. SACHER *Zionism & Jewish Future* 38 They had passed by so swift and drastic a revolution from the *Cheder* and the *Yeshiba* to the Gymnasium and the University, that the only culture they were interested in was German culture. **1926** S. ASH *Kiddush Ha-Shem* x. 88 Famed far and wide were the yeshivahs of Poland. **1949** *KOESTLER Promise & Fulfilment* III. i. 295 Israel's first Prime Minister . . . and many of the other political leaders, started their education in the *Yeshivot*, the religious schools of Russian Jewry. **1957** *Encycl. Brit.* XIII. 63D/1 Orthodox Judaism created the Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological seminary in New York (1896), which developed into the Yeshiva university, a liberal arts college. **1960** L. P. GARTNER *Jewish Immigrant in England, 1870-1914* ii. 39 Yekuthiel Sussmann Schlosser . . . arrived in 1852 as an itinerant solicitor for a projected yeshibah in Kalish. **1965** J. A. MICHENER *Source* 461 Sometimes the yeshiva students contrived ingenious answers. *Ibid.* 705 He . . . tries always to attend one of the yeshivot. **1976** C. BERMANT *Coming Home* i. i. 17 Yeghivah students . . . had been equipped for a life of prayer, contemplation and study. **1981** *Amer. Speech* LVI. 3 Orthodox Jews are typically strict Sabbath observers who maintain their own religious day schools and yeshivas. **1985** *Listener* 3 Jan. 27/3 He overcomes this obstacle by making a donation to a yeshiva, or religious seminar.

yesk: see YEX.

'yes-man. *colloq.* (orig. U.S.). Also yes man. [f. YES *adv.* + MAN sb.] A man who agrees from self-interest or fear with everything put to him by a superior; an obsequious subordinate.

1912 *Century Mag.* July 339/2 We're both yes-men, Edward. We've got to take orders now. **1924** H. C. WITWER in *Cosmopolitan* Apr. 69/2, I thoroughly enjoy . . . the yes-men who hang about the executives and hold their jobs by simply being constantly affirmative. **1928** *Sunday Express* 15 July 3/6 Heenev is paying the strictest attention to his instructors, and in this respect is very different from

Tunney, who directs his own training, and whose camp associates are all 'Yes' men. **1933** C. DAY LEWIS *Magnetic Mountain* 51 What do they believe in, these yellow yes-men. **1949** [see *closed shop* s.v. CLOSED ppl. a. 3]. **1954** D. UNWIN *Governor's Wife* v. 119 Your administration . . . favours the boot-lickers, the sycophants, the yes-men who do as they're told and don't make trouble. **1959** [see BAND-WAGON]. **1973** *Times* 31 Jan. 14/3 This is not a demand for 'yes men' but for common standards. **1979** J. WAINWRIGHT *Duty Elsewhere* i. 8 The heavies and the molls—the pimps and the yes-men.

Hence 'yes-girl, -woman, an obsequiously subordinate woman.

1930 K. BRUSH *Young Man of Manhattan* v. 56 Her attitude . . . so respectful, so impressed, hardened his heart. 'Just a yes-girl!' he thought bitterly. **1933** S. LEWIS *Ann Vickers* xxxviii. 454 They want to boss a gang of meek yes-women or they want to be received socially, like princesses. **1937** H. G. WELLS *Star Begotten* vii. 128 All his most trusted henchmen, tools, stooges, subordinates, intimates, Watsons, yes-girls. **1942** E. WAUGH *Put out More Flags* i. 17 'That's right,' said the yes-woman. **1950** D. CUSACK *Morning Sacrifice* in 3 *Austral. Three-Act Plays* i. 188 It . . . Prepares them to accept all, question nothing, and grow into nice well-behaved yes-girls. **1979** M. SOAMES *Clementine Churchill* xvi. 235 Devoted and fiercely loyal, she never became a 'yes-woman'.

yesse, obs. f. YES sb. and *adv.*

yessir (jəsə(r), jəs'sɜ:(r)). *colloq.* [Repr. an informal pronunc. of yes, *sir*: see SIR sb. 8 c.]

a. = yes, *sir* s.v. SIR sb. 8 c. b. A formula of assent to a superior. Occas. as sb., a quick utterance of 'yes, sir'. Cf. NOSSIR.

There is much variation in the placing of the main stress in both the ordinary use and in the verbal forms.

1913 R. BROOKE *Let.* 17 Sept. (1968) 511 That note-book. . . I lost it in British Columbia—yessir, isn't it too bloody. **1930** [see NOSSIR]. **1931** M. ALLINGHAM *Look to Lady* xxi. 215 The girl vanished with a startled 'yessir'. **1933** D. L. SAYERS *Murder must Advertise* vi. 102 'Yessir.' Ginger grinned confidentially. **1936** *WODEHOUSE Laughing Gas* xxiv. 262 'And,' said George, 'it's yessir sure enough the picture of the dead wife he loved.' **1962** L. DEIGHTON *Ibress* File xviii. 118 A couple of 'yessirs' when you know that 'not on your life' is the thing to say. **1968** *Globe & Mail* (Toronto) (Mag.) 17 Feb. 1 A perfect specimen, yessir, the Canadian Hercules. **1973** A. BROINOWSKI *Take One Ambassador* ix. 125 The commanding officer went past, giving you marks for . . . the crispness of your Yessir. **1982** M. NABB *Death of Dutchman* vii. 143 'Do you understand me?' 'Yessir!'

Hence yes(-)'sir, yes'sir v., (a) *trans.*, to defer to (someone) as a superior; (b) *intr.*, to say 'yes, sir', esp. obsequiously; yes-sirring *vbl. sb.*

1966 *Punch* 21 Sept. 454/2 Yessirring in the office is insufficient, he offers his clammy devotion to the whole family as well. **1968** L. DEIGHTON *Only when I Larf* i. 16 Imagine . . . yes sirring the boss until superannuation. . . Not me, man. I'm for the open road. **1977** 'J. D. WHITE' *Salzburg Affair* xii. 104 He came in bowing and yes-sirring, although no one . . . was there to overhear. **1980** H. R. F. KEATING *Murder of Maharajah* xv. 182 You're used to people yessirring you left and right.

yes siree (jəs sɜ:'ri:). U.S. *colloq.* Also yes sir-ee, yes sirree. [f. YES *adv.* + SIRREE.] Yes indeed; certainly. Cf. NO SIREE.

1846 *Dollar Newspaper* (Philadelphia) 1 July 3/4 'Will you take this man to be your lawful husband?' said the Justice; to which she responded with breathless haste, 'Yes, sir-ee'. **1898** J. C. HARRIS *Tales of Home Folks* 225 Cassy Tatum! Yes, siree! The very gall! **1900** R. H. SAVAGE *Brought to Bay* i. ii. 'So, the title is secure!' cried the overjoyed Hawtrey. 'Yes, Sir-ee!' frankly answered Texas Dave. **1924** H. J. LASKI *Let.* 29 July (1953) I. 638 For local colour he added that when you emphatically approve of an opinion you write 'yes, sirree' on it. **1927** J. N. McILWRAITH *Kinsmen at War* xxvii. 277 Yes, siree, our army's been going ashore plundering and destroying helpless villages all along the seacoast of the United States. **1956** B. HOLIDAY *Lady sings Blues* (1973) xxiv. 203 Yes siree bob, life is just a bowl of cherries.

||yesso. Obs. [Sp. *yesso* GYPSUM.] = GESSO.

a1533 LD. BERNERS *Gold. Bk. M. Aurel.* let. xiv. (1535) 149 Ye made my figure with fete of straw, my legges of ambre, . . . the heed of yesso. **1619** *Pasquil's Palin* lxix. With Yesso they him purge, with Lime they choake him.

b. Applied to a kind of plaster which is trodden with grapes in the making of wine in Spain.

1875 *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* 952.

yessum (jəs(ə)m). U.S. *dial.* contraction of yes, ma'am [cf. MA'AM], a polite form of assent addressed to a woman.

1913 *Dialect Notes* IV. 1 Yessum, *adv.*, yes, ma'am. **1929** W. FAULKNER *Sound & Fury* 6 'Take his overcoat and overshoes off.' . . 'Yessum.' Versh said. **1938** M. K. RAWLINGS *Yearling* x. 88 'You feel all right?' she asked. 'Yessum. Sort o' weakified.' **1942** W. FAULKNER *Go down, Moses* 11 Miss Sophonsiba said . . . neighbors just a half day's ride apart ought not to go so long as Uncle Buck, and Uncle Buck said Yessum.

yest, slang or epistolary abbreviation of YESTERDAY.

1725 *New Cant. Dict.*, Yest, a Diminutive of Yesterday. **1894** *DUCHESS OF MARLBOROUGH Let.* 21 May in R. S. Churchill *Winston S. Churchill* (1967) I. Compan. i. vii. 486 Your father returned yest morn and went to Harrow.

yest, etc., obs. f. YEAST, etc.

yeste, obs. graphic variant of ieste, GEST sb. 1

13.. *Octavian* 279 (MS. Ff. ii. 38, lf. 84) In yeste as we rede. **13..** *Sir Beues* 3693 (ibid. lf. 121 b) Now begynnyth a yeste ageyn Of King Quore & Armyn.

yesteneuen, var. YESTERNEVEN *Obs.*

yester (ˈjɛstə(r)), *a., adv., sb.* [The first element of *yesterday*, *yestereve*, etc., used as a separate word. Cf. next.]

A. adj. Of or belonging to yesterday. *poet.*

1577 HOLINSHED *Chron.*, *Descr. Scot.* ix. 12/1 We haue such plenty of fishe, . . . that although Millions . . . of them be taken on the one day, yet on the next their losse wil so be supplied with new store, that nothing shal be missing by reason of the yesterfang. 1690 DRYDEN *Don Sebastian* II. 1. (1692) D 1 b, To love an Enemy, . . . whom yester Sun beheld, Must ring her Charms. 1725 POPE *Odyss.* IV. 881 When the glimm'ring ray Of yester dawn disclos'd the tender day. 1737 GLOVER *Leonidas* VII. 31 Opposition more tremendous still And ruinous, than yester sun beheld. 1848 LYTTON *K. Arthur* XI. cxliv, Thro' paths his yester steps had fail'd to find. 1889 *Universal Rev.* Nov. 427 There all day long my yester journey was.

† *B. adv.* Yesterday. *Obs.*

1647 in *Essex Rev.* (1908) XVII. 134 Sir thomas farfax yester dined at the Tower. 1653 *Nicholas Papers* (Camden) II. 6 The other took his advertisement so ill that they were like to have fallen by the ears yester. 1790 GROSE *Prov. Gloss.* (ed. 2) Suppl., All the day yester.

† *C. sb.* Yesterday. Also *transf. Obs.*

a 1701 SEDLEY *Virg. Past.* vi. Wks. 1778 I. 307 With fumes of yester's wine the god was doz'd. 1837 WHITTOCK, etc. *Bk. Trades* (1842) 390 (*Printer*), Ornamental printing—the last thing of yester's date.

yester-, in comb. or as prefix = immediately preceding the present, last, in YESTEREVE, etc., after YESTERDAY, YESTERNIGHT; e.g. *yester-afternoon*, *-age*, *-noon*, *-tempest*, *-week*. See also YESTER-YEAR.

1806 COLERIDGE *Let. to D. Stuart* 18 Aug., I . . . have found myself so unusually better ever since I leaped on land *yester-afternoon. 1870 SWINBURNE *Ess. & Stud.* (1875) 97 A poet of the first order . . . puts the life-blood of an equal interest into Hebrew forms or Greek, mediæval or modern, yesterday or *yesterage. 1855 HYDE CLARKE *Dict.*, *Yester-noon. 1872 M. COLLINS in *Frances Collins M.C., Lett.* etc., (1877) I. 106, I saw some swallows yesternoon at the parsonage. 1888 G. M. HOPKINS *Poems* (1967) 105 Delightfully the bright wind boisterous ropes, wrestles, beats earth bare Of *yester-tempest's creases. 1839 MRS. BROWNING *Rom. Page* xii, The lady Abbess dead before it, And the chanting nuns whom *yester-week Her voice did charge and bless.

yesterday (ˈjɛstədeɪ, -dɪ), *adv., sb., and a.* Forms: *a.* 1 *geostran-*, *zystran-*, *gioster-*, *gestor* dæg, 3–6 *zister-* (3 *yhistre-*, 4 *zester-*, *zistir(e)-*, *zystyr-*, *zystrye-*, *zhister-*, *yhister-*, *zhystir-*, *zuster-*, 5 *zistur-*, *zystyr-*, *zyster-*, *zustir-*, 6 *zeister-*, *yister-*, *-ir*, 9 *dial. yisser-*), 4– yesterday. *β.* 1 *gyrstan-*, *gierstandæg*, 3 *zersten-*, *zurster-*, *zursten-*, *zorsten-*, *zorstnen-*, 4 *zursday*, 5 *zurston-*, *yerstenday*; 4 *zistai*, *-av*, 8 *ye(r)stei*. (Also 1–6 occas. as two words.) [OE. *geostran*, *zystran* dæg, Lindisf. Gosp. *gioster* doeg, Rushw. Gosp. *gestor* dæge, also with metathesis (WS.) *gierstan*, *gyrstan* dæg. The only known parallel to this collocation is Goth. *gistradagis aþrion*, tomorrow; in OE., the simple *giestron* is found only once, but in the other languages the simple word is regularly used alone in the sense of 'yesterday': OFris. **iester*, **iers(t)ne* (Nfris., Wfris. *jister*, Efris. *jursen*, *jersten*), MLG. *gisteren*, *-ern(e)*, (LG. *gistern*, *güster(n)*, MDu. *ghisteren*, *ghister* (Du. *gisteren*, also *dag van gister*), OHG. *gestaron*, *gest(e)ren* (MHG. *gestern*, *gester*, G. *gestern*). The word has the form (with and without inflexional -n) of a comparative **ghistr-*, *ghjestr-* (cf. L. *hester-nus* of yesterday) of an Indo-eur. **ghjes* represented outside Teutonic by Skr. *hyás*, Gr. *χθές*, Alb. *dje*, L. *heri* yesterday (ON. *i gær* yesterday, tomorrow, shows a variant with long vowel).

The twofold meaning exhibited in the above forms and in OHG. *egestern* day before yesterday, day after tomorrow, indicates that the original application of the word was to a day preceding or following the present. The following apparent example of the English word with the meaning 'tomorrow' is isolated:—

1533 MORE *Apol.* 201, I geue them all playn peremptory warnynge now, that they dreue yt of no longer. For yf they tarye tyll yesterday, . . . I purpose to purchace suche a proteccyon for them [etc.].]

A. adv. 1. On the day immediately preceding the present day. Also, in reported speech, on the day last past, the day before.

† *ere yesterday*: the day before yesterday.

a. c950 Lindisf. Gosp. John iv. 52 *Heri*, *gioster* doeg [Rushw. *gestor* dæge, *Ag. Gosp.* *gyrstan* dæg, *Hatton* *gystandaig*]. c1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2732 We witen wel quat is bi-tyd, Quow *zister-dai* was slagen and hid. a1375 *Joseph Arim.* 330 þou toldest me *zusterday*. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 124 Wnfayr thingis may fall, per fay, Alss weill to-morn as *zisterday*. c1380 *Sir Ferum.* 1632 *zester* day, . . . as we ryde forþ rytyes, Wip seuen gloutouns mette we. c1450 *Northern Passion* 160/404 *zisterday* were pay redis thre, Now are thay closed in to a tre. c1450 tr. *De Imitatione* III. lv. 131 As it was *zisterday* and pe opir day. 1535 COVERDALE *Gen.* xxxi. 2 Iacob behelde Labans countenance, & beholde, it was not towarde him as yesterdaye and yer-yesterdaye. a1578 LINDSEY (Pittscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 76 Mr George ansuerit and said, . . . wald they send to him the honest and godlie man that maid the sermone *zeisterday*, he

wald oppin his mynd into him. 1585 WHITNEY *Choice Emblems* (1586) Ep. Ded. 1 For hereby, this present time behouldeth the accidentes of former times, as if they had bin done but yesterdaye. 1601 SHAKS. *Jul. C.* III. ii. 123 But yesterday, the word of Cesar might haue stood against the World: Now lies he there, And none so poore to do him reuerence. 1675 LD. CONWAY in *Essex Papers* (Camden 1013) 11 The Debate there was yesterday and to day in the House of Commons. 1814 JANE AUSTEN *Mansf. Park* xl, He was well, had left them all well at Mapsfield, and was to dine, as yesterday, with the Frasers. 1842 TENNYSON *Gard. Dau.* 81 As tho' 'twere yesterday, as tho' it were The hour just flown. 1849 M. ARNOLD *Forsaken Merman* 30 Children dear, was it yesterday We heard the sweet bells over the bay? 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xxvii. 212 All evidence of the deep track which they had formed yesterday having been swept away.

β. c1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* xxxi. 5 Ic geseo on eowres fæder þeawum, þæt he nys swa wel wið me geworht, swa he was gyrstan dæg and þis æran dæg. c1000 — *Saints' Lives* xxiii. 468 And bige us swa ðeah rumlicor to-dæg be hlafc þonne ðu gebohtest gyrstan dæg. c1050 *Voc.* in Wv. Wülcker 418/9 *Horno* [sic], gierstandæg. c1205 LAV. 17063 *zurstendæi* [c1275 *zorstendai*] ær none Ich wuste þæt 3e comen. c1290 *St. Dominic* 198 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 283 þes frere cam zurstenday to tounne. 1455 *Paston Lett.* (1897) I. 326 Yerstenday we wrote our lettres of our entent to . . . the Archebysshop of Caunterburye. 1788 *Voc. Forth & Barge* in *Trans. R. Irish Acad.* II. 34 *Yerstei*, yesterday; *ear yestei*, the day before yesterday.

2. *transf.* A short time ago; only lately; the other day; now esp. in prov. phr. *I was not born yesterday*, etc.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 15 Anoper seide, 'Zister-day [MS. *γ* zurstonday] he hadde þe peple at his hestes, and now þe peple haþ hym at here heste.' a1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 3304 (Ashm. MS.), I, þat was justirday so 3ape & 3emed all þe werld, To day am dreuyn all to dust. 1509 BARCLAY *Shyp of Folly* 153 b, From the kechyn to the quere and so to a state One yester day a courter is now a prest become. 1718 PRIOR *Solomon* III. 116 Naked from the Womb We yesterday came forth; that in the Tomb Naked again We must Tomorrow lye. 1757 R. DEMERE *Let.* 10 Aug. in W. L. McDowell *Docs. relating to Indian Affairs* (1970) II. 398, I was not born Yesterday. 1837 MARRYAT *Snarleypow* xii. 62, I was not born yesterday, as the saying is. 1856 N. Brit. Rev. XXVI. 264 Edinburgh . . . outstripped in population daily by towns that yesterday were hamlets. 1860 WHYTE-MELVILLE *Mt. Harb.* xii, It is needless for me to observe that Mr. Sawyer was one of those individuals who are described in common parlance as not having been 'born yesterday'. 1895 SNAITH *Mistr. Dor. Marvin* xlviii, 'I wasn't born yesterday', he returned sweetly; 'methinks I am rather old in the tooth.'

3. *fig.* Used to suggest extreme urgency or impatience, esp. in phr. *to want (or need) something yesterday*. *colloq.*

1974 *Times* 7 Feb. 14/7 Attacks by Miss Brigid Brophy and her group, whose case was, roughly, that they wanted everything, and wanted it yesterday. 1978 D. A. STANWOOD *Memory of Eva Ryker* xxi. 196, I need the information yesterday. 1980 T. BARLING *Goodbye Piccadilly* xv. 309 Don't ask me . . . Just get us down there yesterday.

B. sb. 1. The day next before the present; also *pl.* past days (often in echoes of quot. 1605).

c1000 *Ag. Ps.* (Th.) lxxxix. [xc.] 4 þusend wintra bið þon anlicast, swa *geostran* dæg *gegan* were [a1300 *E.E. Ps.* Als *yhistre-dai* þat forth-yhed here]. 13 . . . *E.E. Allit.* P. B. 463 He . . . sone zederly for-3ete *zister-day* steuen. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 145 Who þat folowep þe Medes, he seghal haue þe trauaille of *zister day* [MS. *γ* zurstenday]. 1542 UNALL *Erasm. Apoph.* II. 252 My yesterdayes araye was to please my housbande. 1562 J. HEYWOOD *Prov. & Epigr.* (1867) 74 Well well (quoth she) what euer ye now saie, It is to late to call again yesterdaye. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* v. v. 22 And all our yesterdayes, haue lighted Fooles The way to dusty death. 1627 DONNE *Serm.*, *John* xiv. 26 (1640) 285 Not for your yester-dayes, not for your yester-nights sins. 1779 FARR in *Earl Malmesbury's Lett.* (1870) I. 425 The wind blowing very hard at east all that day, and still more so in the night and on yesterday. 1809 BYRON in *Dallas Corr. of B.* (1825) I. 39 Did you receive my yesterday's note? 1814 SCOTT *Ld. of Isles* III. xxiii, More of the youth I cannot say, Our cattle but since yesterday. 1827 SOUTHEY *Hist. Penins. War* xviii. II. 144 The Junta, he said, had commenced their sittings on the yesterday. 1841 DICKENS *Barn. Rudge* lxxv, The same . . . gentleman he had seen yesterday, and many yesterdays before. 1899 FAIRBAIRN *Catholicism* I. §5. 34 They tried to enrich the church of to-day with the wealth of all her yesterdays.

2. *transf.* Time not long past.

1382 WYCLIF *Job* viii. 9 (MS. Douce 369), Wee ben as *zistai* born, and wee han vnkunnyng. — *Isa.* xxx. 33 Greipid is forsope fro *zistai* tofeth. 1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* III. 261 It flailith as well to fiodis of xxiiiȝ *zeris*, Or yonge men of yistirday to 3eue good redis, As be cometh a kow to hoppe in a cage! 1555 PHILPOT in Foxe *A. & M.* (1570) 2012/2 We are but yesterdayes children, . . . & our dayes are lyke a shadow. 1570 *Ibid.* (ed. 2) 125/1 Thy crucified Christe is but an yesterdayes God, the gods of ye Gentiles are of most antiquite. 1653 ASHWELL *Fides Apost.* 85 Praxeas a fellow of yesterday. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* 187 By a revolution in the state, the fawning sycophant of yesterday, is converted into the austere critic of the present hour. 1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* xli, Their skin-deep yesterday's civilisation. 1876 J. PARKER *Paracl.* II. xviii. 311 As compared with Christian Theology, science as it is now urged upon us is but of yesterday. 1897 KIPLING *Recessional* 15 Lo, all our pomp of yesterday Is one with Nineveh and Tyre!

3. *a. attrib.* with times of the day: *yesterday afternoon*, *evening*, *morning*, *night*, *noon*. The combination is used both as *sb.* and as *adv.* Cf. YESTER-

1654–5 *Clarke Papers* (Camden) III. 26 Yesterday night came letters from Collonell Hacker. 1711 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 4892/2 The Bridge was finished Yesterday-Morning. 1782 MISS BURNEY *Cecilia* I. vi, She enquired how long he had left Suffolk? 'But yesterday noon, ma'am', he answered. 1837

DICKENS *Pickw.* xi, Yesterday morning, when a letter was received from Mr. Wardle.

b. In the possessive, as *yesterday's man*, a man, esp. a politician, whose career is finished or past its peak.

1966 'G. BLACK' *You want to die, Johnny?* ii. 27 John saw himself as one of yesterday's men, a survivor. 1972 *Guardian* 14 Jan. 13/8 Support for Nkrumah still remains limited to his fellow tribesmen in the remote South-west and to those who fell off the high-living Fascist bandwagon when he was overthrown. These people are 'yesterday's men' in the eyes of most Ghanaians. 1979 *Jrnl. R. Soc. Arts* CXXXVII. 349/2 The politicians . . . do not know if they will walk out as ministers . . . or as yesterday's men.

C. as adj. Belonging to yesterday or the immediate past; very recent. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1553 BECON *Reliques of Rome* (1563) 78 b, A late and an yesterday byrde, hatched and brought forth of many Popes. 1646 R. BAILLIE *Anabaptism* (1647) 163 An yesterday conceit of the English Anabaptists. 1657 J. WATTS *Scribe, Pharisee*, etc. III. 51 You may ere long, lay down your Novelties, and the yesterday fashions of your new Brotherhood. 1665 J. WEBB *Stone-Heng* (1725) 41 His Judgment dictated, that Yesterday Writers are most proper for Matters of Antiquity. 1690 C. NESSE O. & N. *Test.* I. 189 The covenant of reconciliation . . . was but a yesterday covenant . . . in comparison of this covenant of redemption . . . which was from eternity.

Hence 'yesterdayness' (*nonce-wd.*), the distinctive quality of being yesterday or of belonging to the recent past.

1897 *Bookman* Nov. 235 Yesterday, as such and in its essential yesterdayness, has no objective existence. 1909 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 3 June 202/2 That disquieting sense of 'yesterdayness' that attaches to most collections of essays . . . that have already severally seen the light.

yestereve (jɛstəˈri:v), *adv. (sb.)* Chiefly *poet.* [f. YESTER- + EVE *sb.*¹] = YESTER-EVENING.

1603 B. JONSON *Entertainm. at Althorpe* Wks. (1616) 873 In hope that you would come here Yester-eue the lady Summer, Shee invited to a banquet. 1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* i, Who . . . jealous is of me, That yester-eve I lighted them, along the dewy green. a 1850 ROSSETTI *Dante & Circle* II. (1874) 271, I marked thee here all yestereve Lurking about my home. 1850 HAWTHORNE *Scarlet Let.* xiv. (1883) 204 No longer ago than yester-eve. 1859 TENNYSON *Marr. Geraint* 702 And yester-eve I would not tell you of it, But kept it for a sweet surprise at morn. 1864 W. C. BRYANT *Italy* 39 Slaves but yester-eve were they — Freeman with the dawning day.

yester-even (jɛstəˈri:v(ə)n), **yestere'en**, *adv. and sb. arch. and dial.* Forms: 5 *zistir-*, *zister-*, *zistur-*, *yster-*, 5– *yester-*: see EVEN *sb.* [f. YESTER- + EVEN *sb.* Cf. YESTREEN.]

A. adv. = YESTER-EVENING *adv.*

c1420 *Avow. Arth.* xlii, *Sistur* euyñ I the king higte, To cumme to my mete. c1440 *Partonope* 10025 (Univ. Coll. MS.) These twyn that yster even full late Caught the last stroke. c1450 *Merlin* 172 Yester even ye sente for vs, and I am now come. c1452 *Paston Lett.* (1897) I. 247 My daughter your wyf told me yester even the man that syyth him will not stonde to your awarde.

1822 BYRON *Werner* III. iv, The myrmidons . . . who were Dogging him yester-even. 1840 TALFOURD *Glencoe* II. i, He has not return'd Since, yestere'en, he left us. 1857 MRS. CARLYLE *Lett.* II. 313, I had yester-even a presentiment I should die before I got back. 1863 READE *Hard Cash* x, 'When was your last spasm?' 'No longer agone than yestereen, ma'am.' 1880 EMMA MARSHALL *Troub.* *Times* 295, I did stop yestereven when, in a rage, I was going to strike Lily, for breaking the toy gun James Ellis bought for me.

B. sb. = YESTER-EVENING *sb.*

1820 SCOTT *Abbot* xxxi, To endure the cruel disappointment of yester even. 1888 STEVENSON *Black Arrow* IV. iv, Thy swinishness of yestereven.

attrib. 1578 H. WOTTON *Courtlie Controv.* 203 Let vs returne then vnto our yester euen lecture.

yester-evening (jɛstəˈri:vɪŋ), *adv. and sb. arch.* [f. YESTER- + EVENING *sb.*¹]

A. adv. Yesterday evening.

1715 ROWE *Lady Jane Gray* III. i, This Morn a trusty Spy, Has brought me Word that yester Evening late, . . . Your Friends were marry'd. a 1774 TUCKER *Lt. Nat.* (1777) III. iv. xxvi. 46 If he be asked why he . . . played at cards yester-evening, to answer, For the glory of God would be untrue, or if true would be a profanation of his name. 1826 SCOTT *Woodst.* xvii, I had taken my post yester evening in the half-furnished apartment. 1889 CONAN DOYLE *Micah Clarke* vii, Yester-evening I left Monmouth's camp.

B. sb. The evening of yesterday.

1796 COLERIDGE *Dest. Nations* 235 Late on the yester-evening. 1808 — *Let. to F. Jeffrey* 20 July, The Review was sent, addressed to you, by the post of yester-evening. 1822 BYRON *Werner* II. ii, Mel! whom he ne'er saw Till yester evening. 1853 G. J. CAYLEY *Las Alforjas* II. 209 Yester-evening's sunset.

yesterfang (FANG *sb.* 2): see YESTER *a.*

yestermorn (jɛstəˈmɔ:n), *adv. and sb.* Chiefly *poet.* [f. YESTER- + MORN *sb.*] Yesterday morning.

1702 ROWE *Tamerl.* II. i, From yester Morn till Even. a1769 FALCONER *Shipwr.* III. 813 Ah! how unlike what yester-morn enjoy'd! c1815 JANE AUSTEN *Persuasion* xiii, Each lady dated her intelligence [of the accident] from the same hour of yestermorn. 1846 TENNYSON *Golden Year* 21 But if you care indeed to listen, hear These measured words, my work of yestermorn. 1895 *Chamb. Jrnl.* XII. 828/1 The lover wrote yestermorn, making light of the story. 1896 KIPLING *Seven Seas, Song of Banjo* 90 To the tune of yestermorn I set the truth.

yester-morning, *adv.* and *sb.* *arch.* and *dial.* [**f.** YESTER- + MORNING *sb.*] = *prec.*

1654-5 *Clarke Papers* (Camden) III. 26, 300... Cavalierser tooke yestermorning... Judge Rolls out of his bed. **1764** H. WALPOLE *Otranto* v, My Lady Matilda told me but yester-morning that her Highness Hippolita knows something. **1775** MRS. THRALE *Let. to Johnson* 24 June, So yestermorning, a flag flying from some conspicuous steeple in Westminster gave notice of the approaching festival. **1821** SCOTT *Kenilto*, xl, Those expressions, which were yestermorning accounted but a light offence. **1848** MRS. GASKELL *Mary Barton* ix, He dropped down dead in Oxford Road yester morning. **1889** CONAN DOYLE *Micah Clarke* vi, There was the Squire o' Milton over here yester morning. **1893** STEVENSON *Catrina* i. i, Even so late as yestermorning, I was like a beggarman by the wayside.

yestern ('jɛstən), *a.* and *adv.* *dial.* or *arch.* [**f.** YESTER after *adjs.* in *-ern*, as *eastern*.] **a. adj.** Of yesterday. **b. adv.** Yesterday.

[**a. 1000** *Riddles* xli. 44 Ic giestron was geong acenned.] **1860** WORCESTER cites Wright. **1877** *Holiness Gloss.*, *Yestern*, W., yesterday. **1891** LD. HOUGHTON *Stray Verses* 85, I linger on the oaken bridge Fine-filigreed with yestern snow.

†yesterneve(n), *adv.* *Obs.* *Forms:* 1 *gyrstanæfen*, 4 *yesteneuen*, *zister-neue*. [OE.: *f. gyrstan* (see YESTERDAY) + *æfen* EVEN *sb.*] Yesterday evening.

c. 900 WÆRFERTH tr. *Gregory's Dial.* 22 *gyrstanæfen* [*v.r.* *gyrstanæfenne*] me gelamp, þæt ic ungewealdes ætsporn æt anum fotscaleme. **c. 1000** ÆLFRED *Saints' Lives* xxiii. 469 Forþon þe þa halfas wæron swiðe eadlice þe us gyrstan æfen comon. **1340** *Ayenb.* 51 We hedde guod wyn yesterneuen and guode metes. **c. 1350** *Will. Palerne* 2160, I sai a selkoupe siȝt mi-self zister-neue.

yesternight ('jɛstə'naɪt), *adv.* and *sb.* Chiefly *dial.* or *arch.* *Forms:* 1 *gystran-*, 3-7 *yister-*, 4 *zistir-*, *zuster-*, *zerstene-*, 4-6 *zester-*, *zister-*, 5 *zistyr-*, *yistre-*, *zustir-*, 6 *yeaster-*, 5- *yester-*. [OE.: *f. gystran* (see YESTERDAY) + *niht* NIGHT *sb.*] **a. adv.** On the night of yesterday, last night.

In early use not necessarily restricted to the night. **Beowulf** 1334 Heo þa fæhðe wræc, þe þu gystran niht Grendel cwealddest. **a. 1300** *Cursor M.* 15988 Ne sal he neuer vp-rise eft, . . . Ar sal þis cok vp-rise Was skald yesternight [other texts *zister-*, *zuster-*]. **13..** *Sir Beues* (A.) 3088 Wel þe grete þat ilche kniȝt, þat sopede wiȝ þe zerstene niȝt. **c. 1374** CHAUCER *Troilus* v. 221 (MS. Gg. 4. 27) Where ben hire armys & hire eyen clere þat zistyr nyȝt þis tyme with me were? **c. 1380** *Sir Ferumb.* 148 *zester* neite wan we had fiȝt zonder out on þe playne. **a. 1450** *Paston Lett.* (1897) l. 97 And now yistre nyȝt my Lord Welles come to Boston with iiij^{xx} horses. **1500-20** DUNBAR *Poems* lxxviii. 1 My heid did ȝak *zesternicht*. **1546** J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 32 Toward night yesternight... we came thither. **1566** GASCOIGNE *Supposes* ii. i, Yesternight in the evening I walked out, and founde Pasiphilo. **1612** SAVILE in *Buccleuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm.) i. 123 Sir Th. Bodley... died yesternight between 5 and 6 of the clock after noon. **1775** JOHNSON *Let. to Mrs. Thrale* i Aug., I forgot that the post went out yesternight, I therefore put this by the by-post. **1808** SOUTHEY *Let. to J. N. White* 9 Jan., I have received two letters, both from persons whom I have never seen, one yesternight, and the other this evening. **1814** CARY *Dante*, *Inf.* xx. 125 Yesternight The moon was round. **1828** SCOTT *F. M. Perth* xviii, His beautiful daughter was a bride yesternight—this morning the Fair Maid of Perth is a widow before she has been a wife! **1888** FENN *Dick o' the Fens* xii, After our bad time with him yesternight, I mean to have some sleep.

b. sb. The night last past.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* x. iii. 54 Mnestheus... Quham the renouwe of this zistir nyȝt... Full prowld maid in hys courage our the laif. **1591** SAVILE *Tacitus*, *Hist.* i. xviii. 46 Excessive affection it was toward me, which bred... yesternights trouble. **a. 1631** DONNE *Lett.* (1651) 83 To know... whether you suffered anie thing, or no, by the ill accident of yester-night. **1700** PENN in *Pa. Hist. Soc. Mem.* IX. 5 Thow wilt by this time have mine of yesternight. **1797** COLERIDGE *Christabel* i. iv, She had dreams all yesternight Of her own betrothed knight. **1812** — *Let. to W. Wordsworth* 7 Dec., They reminded me of my words the very yester-night. **1830** TENNYSON *Ode to Memory* 9 Flinging the gloom of yesternight On the white day. **1865** SWINBURNE *Chastelard* ii. i, I have slept so well and sweet since yesternight.

yester-year. [Coined by D. G. Rossetti to render *F. antan* (:—*L. ante annum*) in François Villon's *Grand Testament*, *Ball.* i.] Last year.

1870 ROSSETTI *Three Transl. fr. Villon* i, But where are the snows of yester-year? **1871** R. BUCHANAN in *St. Paul's Mag.* Apr. 88 No crime of yesterday or yesteryear. **1888** MRS. H. WARD *Robt. Elsmere* xxxi, Where had the crude pretty child of yester-year departed to? **1893** *Daily Chron.* 13 Sept. 3/1 The vogue of 'Ernest Maltravers' has gone with the snows of yesteryear.

yestewarde, *obs.* *f.* EASTWARD.

1482 *Monk of Evesham* (Arb.) 36 Thenne went we yestewarde.

yestreen (je'stri:n), *adv.* and *sb.* Chiefly *Sc.* and *poet.* *Forms:* *a.* 4 *zhistrewyn*, *zystrewine*, 5 *yistrevyn*, *zistreu*. *β.* 6 *zestrene*, *zistrene*, *yestrene*, *yeistrein*, 8- *yestreen*. *γ.* *corruptly*. 6 the *stre*, 8 the *straine*, 9 the *stre*, the *streen*. [*MSc.* *zystrewin* = *zystir* (see YESTERDAY) + *ewin* EVEN *sb.*, in the 16th c. contracted to *zistrene*, later *yestreen* (18th cent.), in which form it was taken up by English writers.]

A. adv. On the evening of yesterday; yesterday evening.

a. **c. 1375** *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxiii. (vii *Sleepers*) 229 *zystrewine* wele lat. **a. 1400** *Northern Passion* 1489 *zhistrewyn* when þe day was gane. **c. 1440** *Alphabet of Tales* 245 *Yone* gude liberrall monke, your hostlye, servid me yistrevyn at my supper wurthelie. **c. 1450** *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 7426 *zistreu*en he was in his awen steed.

β. **1513** DOUGLAS *Æneis* v. xi. 72 In my sleip *zestrene*. **1583** in *3rd Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* 422/2 *Twa missives*, the ane... quhilk he ressaute yistrein. **a. 1600** MONTGOMERIE *Sonn.* xli. 1 So suete a kis *zistrene* fra thee I reft. **1721** RAMSAY *Bessy Bell & Mary Gray* i, Bessy Bell I loo'd yestreen. **1785** BURNS *Halloween* xv, I mind't as weel's yestreen. **1821** SCOTT *Pirate* vii, I did feel a rheumatize in my back-spauld yestreen. **1837** LOWELL *Let. to G. B. Loring* 23 Aug., An' 'twas but late yestreen I met her And—ah! those een! **1894** CROCKETT *Raiders* iii, He was tired yestreen, and he's the better o' a rest this morning.

γ. **1587** W. FOWLER *Wks.* (S.T.S.) I. 129/88 That which long tyme past before or present is in sight, which was the strene, or yit tomorrow. **1711** *Sir Eger, Sir Grahame, & Sir Gray-Steel* 1753 The streen to chamber I him led. **1790** MORISON *Poems* 134 The merligoes are yet before your e'en And paint to you the sight ye've seen the streen. **? a. 1800** *Fair Ellen* xxiv. in *Child Ballads* (1894) V. 221/2, I dreamed a dream san the strain. **1873** [P. BUCHAN] *Leg. North* 29 Quo he, 'Guidwife! I had a thoct thestrean'.

B. sb. The evening of yesterday.

1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xi, When the sea was working like barm wi' yestreen's wind. **1861** J. R. GREEN *Lett.* (1901) II. 75, I spent yestreen at the Crystal Palace.

yet, *v.* *Obs.* *exc. dial.* *Forms:* 1 *geotan*, 2-4 *zeote(n)*, 3 *yeote*, (*Orm.*) *zetenn*, 3-5 *yhet*, 3-6 *zet*, 4 *yete*, 3 *het*, 3 *it*, 4-5 *zete*, *zeete*, *zute*, 5 *zett(e)*, 3 *ut*, 5-7 *yet*, 6 *yette*, 7 *yeat*, 9 *yett*, *yat*. *Pa. t. a.* 1 *geat*, *zet*, *pl.* *g* *uton*, 3 *zeat*, *yhet*, *pl.* *zeoten*, 3-4 *zette*, 4 *zete*, *yeett*, *yeyt*, 4-6 *zet*, 5 *yette*, 6 *yet*. *β.* 3 *yhotte*, 4 *yot*, 3 *ot*, 5 *zote*. *γ.* 2 *zettede*, 4 *zetede*, -*id(e)*, *zeetide*, 4-5 *zettid(e)*. *Pa. pple. a.* 1 *zoten*, 3 *yhoten*, -*in* (*Orm.* *zotenn*), *zhotuten*, *yotten*, *izoten*, *izotten*, 3-4 *izote*, 4 *zoten*, *zooten*, *zote*, *yzote*, 4-6 *yoten*, 5 *yzutte*, *zut*, *yat*, 6 *izotun*. *β.* 4-5 *yeten*, *zette*, (4 *zitte*), 5 *zeten*, 5-6 *zett*, 6 *Sc.* *zet*, *zit*, *zyt*. *γ.* 5 *zettet*, -*yd*. [*Com. Teut. str. vb.* = to pour, to melt metal, pour out, flow: OE. *geotan*, *pa. t.* *geāt*, *guton*, *pa. pple. goten*, = OFris. *giata*, *iata*, (Nfris. *jit*, Wfris. *jiette*, Efris. *jôte*), (M)LG. *geten*, (M)Du. *gieten*, OHG. *giozan* (MHG. *giozen*, G. *giessen*), ON. *gjóta* only in senses, to drop one's young, twinkle with the eyes, Goth. *giutan*; *f.* Teut. *geut-* (: *gaut-*: *gut-*):—*gheud-* (: *ghoud-*: *ghud-*), whence *L. fūd-* in *fundere*, *pa. t.* *fūdī* to pour. For other derivatives and cognates, see *GOTE sb.*, *GUSH v.*, *GUT sb.* The simpler form of the root (*gheu-*) is found in Gr. *χέω* I pour, *χέωμα* pouring, Skr. *hu*, *juhōti* to pour in sacrifice. (Compounds are BIGETEN, INYET, OUTYET.)]

1. *trans.* To pour. Also *absol.*

c. 1000 ÆLFRED *Lex.* viii. 24 He *zet* þæt blod uppān þæt weofod. **c. 1000** Sax. *Leechd.* II. 98 *zet* out fæt, þonne heo *zenoh* picce sie. *Ibid.* III. 246 *Aquarius*, þæt is... se þe wæter *gzt*. **c. 1205** LAY. 19771 Six amppullen fulle Heo *zeoten* i þan welle. *Ibid.* 29255 þer biforen he gon *zeoten* Draf and chaf and aten. **a. 1300** *Cursor M.* 3805 And oye! he *yeett* apōn þæt stan And made to godd a voo onan. **c. 1375** *Sc. Leg. Saints* xii. (Mathias) 251 [She] brocht a precieus vnyment, Til ennownte hymne in entent, & apone cristis hed it *zete*. **a. 1425** tr. *Arderne's Treat.* *Fistula* etc. 35 Be þer *zette* in of a zolk of an ey. **c. 1450** *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 2789 With þis haly water he yode To þe seke man for his gode. In his mouthe he *zettid* thryse. **1483** *Cath. Angl.* 426/2 To *zett* be twene, *interfundere*. **a. 1500** BOLLARD in *Arnolde Chron.* (1502) 64/1 Than thou most moyst them twyes or thries in the day not yeting [*v.r.* *zitteng*] but dewyng or springling. **1513** DOUGLAS *Æneis* vi. iv. 37 The fat olie did he *zet* and þeir Apoun the entrailis, to mak thaim birm cleir. **1666** *Desput.* *Gram.* Fij, (Jam.) *Fundo*, to yet, or power forth. *Ibid.* Gj, *Fundo*... to yeat forth. **1866** EDMONDSTON *Gloss. Shetland & Orkney*, *Yat*, to pour in large quantity, S.

b. To shed (tears or blood; also light).

a. 900 CYNEWULF *Crist* 173 Ic tearas sceal *geotan* geomormod. **c. 900** tr. *Bæda's Hist.* II. vi. (1890) 114 Ond þa ærest longe nihtes in halgum gebedum [he] wæs, & his tearas *geat*. **c. 1175** *Lamb. Hom.* 39 þu scalt... *zeoten* pine teres swiðe sariliche. **c. 1200** ORMIN 1773 þæt blod tachede Cristess blod þæt *zotenn* wass o rode. **c. 1275** LAY. 19142 þar was mochel blod *izote*. **a. 1300** E.E. *Psalter* lxxviii[i]. 3 þai yhotten blode, als watre strem, In vmgange of Ierusalem. **c. 1374** CHAUCER *Boeth.* i. met. vii. (1868) 29 þe sterres couered wiȝ þal cloudes ne mowen geten a doun no lyȝt. **1501** DOUGLAS *Pa. Hon.* Prol. 47 Phebus furth *zet* depured bemis cleir. **1513** — *Æneis* III. v. 121 And with lang sobbis furth *zettand* teris in vane.

Const. inf. **a. 1400-50** *Wars Alex.* 5042 So did his princes... With *zedire* zoskingis & *zerre* *zett* out to grete.

c. To pour forth or cause to flow in a flood. *Sc.*

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* v. xii. 36 Thar wes na strenth of valeant men to waill, Nor large fludis on *zet* that mycht avail. **1533** BELLENDEN *Livy* i. ii. (S.T.S.) I. 17 This Ryver be diuyn puruiance was *zett* furth with large flude abone þe brayis. **1536** — *Cron. Scot.* (1821) I. p. xlviij, The see, be contrarius stremes, makis collision; sum times yettand out the tid, and sum times swelleand and soukand it in agane.

d. fig. To pour, shed, infuse. Often rendering *L. fundere* and its compounds in mere literalisms.

c. 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past.* C. xxxix. 282 Sio slawð *giett* slæp on ðone monnan. **a. 1000** *Guthlac* 1206 þy læs þæt wundredan weras & idesa & on geað *gutān*. **a. 1240** *Lofsong* in

O.E. *Hom.* I. 209 þe holi goste þet þu... sendest pine deorewurðe deciples and *zettet*dest to þeo þet rith luvieð þe. **a. 1300** E.E. *Psalter* xlv. 3 [xlvi. 2] *Yhotin* es hap in þi lippes *þæt* [Vulg. *diffusa est gratia in labiis tuis*]. **1393** LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. II. 151 Heuene holde hit [sc. love] ne myȝte so heuy hit semede, Til hit hadde on erthe *zoten* [v.r. 1-*zotun*, *zetēn*] hym-selue. **c. 1450** *Mirour Saluacioun* (Roxb.) 20 For in hir moders wombe whils this virgine was shette On hire the haly Gast his speciell blissing *yette*. **1502** ATKYNSON tr. *De Imitatione* III. xxx. (1893) 221 For all carnall loue yet into my soule the loue of thyne holy name. **1509** BARCLAY *Shyp of Foly* 219 Some with a fals herte, . . . Into his lordes erys yetyth secretly Lyes venomous. **1563** WINNET tr. *Vincent. Lirin.* v. Wks. (S.T.S.) II. 21 A certane mist wes *zet* vpon the myndis of al the Bischopes of the Latin tounge.

e. transf. To pour fluid into (a cavity).

1560 ROLLAND *Seven Sages* (Bann. Cl.) 157 Thay *zet* his mouth full of het meltit gold.

2. intr. To gush forth or flow in a stream, as water, tears, blood.

a. 900 CYNEWULF *Elene* 1132 Hat heafodwylm ofer hleor *goten*. **a. 1000** *Guthlac* 1029 He hate let torn poliende tearas *geotan*. **a. 1225** *Juliana* 17 Me nom hire & dude swa þat hit [sc. blood] *zeat* adun of þe *zerden*. **c. 1250** *Gen. & Ex.* 582 Reyn *zette* dun on euerilk stede. **c. 1400** *Laud Troy Bk.* 12941 For so faste doun the water *zet*, That thei were alle thorow wet. **c. 1450** *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 7811 Teris oute of þaire eyen *zote*. **1533** BELLENDEN *Livy* v. iii. (S.T.S.) II. 152 The teris for blythnes... *zet* fra þe ene of faderis.

3. trans. To form (an object) by running molten metal into a mould; to found; = CAST *v.* 51.

c. 1000 *Ag. Ps.* (Th.) cxxxiv. [cxxxv.] 15 Gold and seolfur, þe her *geotað* menn, and mid heora folmum fægere wyrcæð. **c. 1000** ÆLFRED *Deut.* ix. 12 Hig *guton* him hæðenne god. **c. 1200** ORMIN 17418 Drihtinn... badd he sholde meltenn brass & *zetenn* himm a neddre. **a. 1225** *Juliana* 38 Ich makede nabugodonosor... makien þe mawmez *izoten* of golde. **c. 1300** in *T. North's Engl. Bells* (1888) 8 [Inscription on bell] IOH:ME:YEYT. **1382** WYCLIF *Isa.* xlv. 10 Who foormede God, and a grauen thing *zeted*, to no thing profitable? **1387** *TREVISIA Higden* (Rolls) VI. 185 þis picher het *zit* [*v.r.* *zute*] Dunstan. **c. 1449** *PECOCK Repr.* II. v. 163 Ymagis graued, coruun, or *zut*. **c. 1450** *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 6021 He made it [sc. a bell] to be *zett*. **1533** *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* VI. 104 To Peris and the laif of the werkmen *zettand* the gunnis in the castell.

b. To form (metal) into a shape, by pouring it when melted into a mould; = CAST *v.* 50.

1387 *TREVISIA Higden* (Rolls) I. 235 And wonderliche by craft of *zetynge* þat bas is *i-zote*. **c. 1425** WYNTOUN *Cron.* i. v. 252 (Edin. MS.) To work metall, Yrne and steill, leid and tyn, To *zet* [*v.r.* *zett*] or bet or graif þar in. **c. 1475** *Promp. Parv.* 538/1 (MS. K.) *zety*n metall. **1513** DOUGLAS *Æneis* viii. Prol. 94 Sum goukis quhill the glas pyg grow full of gold *zit*. **1531** ELYOT *Gov.* i. viii. (1883) l. 48 A commune painter or keruer, . . . stained or embued with sondry colours, . . . or perfumed with tedious sauours of the metalles by him *yoten*. **1552** HULOET, *Yet*, or caste metall, *fundo*.

4. To melt down (metal). Also *fig.*

1382 WYCLIF *Jer.* ix. 7 Lo! I shall 3 eete and preue them. **1387** *TREVISIA Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 129 Vessel, croyses, and chalyes were *y-take*, and golde i-schawe of seyntes schrynes and *i-zote*. **1570** LEVINS *Manip.* 86/16 To *Yette* metal, *fundere*, *liquefacere*.

5. To set or fasten (as iron in stone) by means of molten lead. Hence, to fix firmly.

1387 *TREVISIA Higden* (Rolls) IV. 185 þe stakes were grete, i-schape as a manis pigh, and *i-zote* aboute wiȝ leed. **1554-5** *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1871) II. 302 Item for vj greit cruks fra Johne Alhanny, . . . Item for ane stane of leid to yett thame with, . . . viij^s. **1808** JAMIESON, *To yett*, *v. a.*, to fasten in the firmest manner, to rivet, Loth.

Hence yet, 'yetted *ppl. a.*, poured; molten, cast; 'yetting *vbl. sb.*, casting, founding.

1387 *zetynge* [see 3 b]. **c. 1450** *Mirour Savacioun* (Roxb.) 5 The mawmetiers vnto *ye zette* [printed *zerte*] calf of gold prefigured thes thinges. **1483** *Cath. Angl.* 426/2 *zetyd*, *fusilis*. **1504-5** *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* II. 294 Item, for lede to *zet* the pulleis and the pais, and for *zetting* of thaim, . . . iij s. viij d. **1513** DOUGLAS *Æneis* ix. xi. 12 Als violent as eyur the *zet* doun rane Furth of the west dois smyte apōn the wald.

yet (jet), *adv.* (*adj.*) and *conj.* *Forms:* *a.* 1 *giēt*, *git*, *gieta*, 2-4 *ziete*, 2-5 (6-7 *Sc.*) *zit*, 3-4 *ziet*, *zite*, 3-5 *zyt*, *zitte*, 3-6 *yitte*, 4 *yiet*, (*ytt*, *zhyt*, *yhitte*, 4-5 *zhit*, *yhit*), 4-6 *zitt*, (*zhitt*), 4-7 *yitt*, (5 *ihit*, *yt*), 5-6 *zytt*, 4-6, 7-8 *Sc.*, 9- *dial.* *yit*. *β.* 1 *zet*, *zeta*, 2 *zeat*, *zæt*, *iett*, 2-5 *zet*, *zette*, (2 *zeiet*, 3 *zæte*, *zeht*, *hyet*), 3-4 *yete*, 3-5 *zete*, 4 *zeitt*, *yeitt*, *zeite*, (*zate*, *ihet*, *Sc.* *zeyt*, *yhet*(e), *yheit*), 4, 5-6 *Sc.* *zeit*, 4-6 *yiet*, 4-7 *yett*, 5 *zeet*, *zett*, 5-6 *yette*, 6 *yeat*, (*yate*, 9 *dial.* *yeet*), 3- *yet*. *γ.* 1 *Northumb.* *geot*, 3 *geot*, 3 *ot*. *δ.* 1-2 *zyt*, 2-5 *zut*, 3 *zuet*, *zuyt*, (*zuyt*), 3-4 *z* *uit*, *zute*, 4 *yute*, *zutte*, 5 *zutt*, *zuite*, *yut*. [*OE.* *giēt* and *gieta*, corresp. to OFris. *ieta*, *eta*, *ita* (Wfris. *yette*, Nfris. *jit*); of obscure origin. (The synonymous OE. (Anglian) *gēn*, *gēna* show the same parallelism of formation.)]

The meanings of *yet* are generally expressed in the Teut. langs. outside the Anglo-Frisian group by **noh* (OS., OHG. *noh*; but in Goth. *naiuh* is an interrog. participle):—Indo-eur. **nu-ge* and now.]

1. a. In addition, or in continuation; besides; also; further, furthermore, moreover; with a numeral or the like = 'more', as *yet a*, *yet one* = 'another', 'one more' (= F. *encore un*, G. *noch ein*). *Obs.* or *arch.* (now chiefly with

Beowulf 47 þa ȝyt hie him aetton scegen gylðenne. c 900 WÆRFERTH tr. *Gregory's Dial.* iv. (1900) 42 þa þing, þe ic her to ȝita ȝeþeode [L. *ea quae subiungo*]. c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xviii. 16 ȝyf he þe ne ȝehyrð, him þonne ȝyt ænne oððe twegen to þe. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 13 ȝet cweð ure lauerd to moyses. ȝif ȝe cherrat from me ower heortan [etc.]. *Ibid.* 41 ȝette he him sceawede ane welle of fure. a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 70 A meiden. . . feier & freolich o wlite & o westum ah ȝet, þet is mare wurð, steðfest wiðinnen. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 312 Auh wostu hwat me deð ȝet [MS. T. ȝeddes; MS. C. ȝeddeð]? a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 309 ȝet þu me seist of oþer þinge. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 287 Man þou art iwis To winne ȝyt [v.r. ȝuyt] a kinedom wel betere þan min is. c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 186 þe herde & his hende wif þat bold barn wip his bowe. . . fedde, & ȝit hadde fele felawes in þe forest. 1375 in Horstmann *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 130/2 ȝut after he gat pretty sones mo, And pretty doughtes and two. 1456 SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 87 Allsua ane othir ȝit resoun is [etc.]. c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* ii. 30 Yit, shrew, yit, pull on a thrawl! 1497 *Naval Acc. Hen. VII* (1896) 219 Wages of maryners. . . ix^h vij^s, Vitayle. . . vij^s xx^d. 187 Wages of maryners. . . iij^l x^s x^d. 1534 *MORE Answ. Poys. Bk.* i. xiii. 54 b, They that call it brede declare yet that in dede it is not brede but the body of Chryste. 1599 B. JONSON *Cynthia's Rev.* i. iii, Stay let me observe this portent yet. 1637 MILTON *Lycidas* i Yet once more, O ye Laurels. . . I com to pluck your Berries. c 1643 LD. HERBERT *Autobiog.* (1824) 7 Notwithstanding yet these expences at home, he brought up his children well. 1660 MARVELL *Corr. Wks.* (Grosart) II. 17 There is yet brought in an Act in which of all others your corporation is the least concerned. 1705 ADDISON *Italy* Ded., I had a very early Ambition to recommend my self to Your Lordship's Patronage, which yet encreas'd in me as I Travell'd through the Countries. 1831 WORDSW. *On Dep. Sir W. Scott* 7 While Tweed, best pleased in chanting a blithe strain, Saddens his voice again, and yet again. 1875 JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 273 Yet once more, fair friend. 1895 PETRIE *Egypt. Tales* Ser. i. 73 The Sekhti came yet, and yet again, even unto the ninth time.

b. Used to strengthen a comparative: now more commonly expressed by *EVEN* (*adv.* 9e) or *STILL* (*adv.* 5a). †Also formerly with a superlative (= *VERY* *adv.* 3a) or an ordinal numeral.

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* v. §3 Ae wit sculon peah ȝiet dioplicor ymb ðæt bion. a 1000 *Judith* 182 þe us monna mæst morðra ȝefremede. . . & þæt swyðor ȝyt ycan wolde. a 1122 O.E. *Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1087 He. . . dyde ȝit eallra wæst. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 123 Luian we ure drihten, for þon þe he luuede us er we hine. . . ȝit we sculen mare, we sculan luian ure nehstan. c 1200 ORMIN Ded. 6 Broþerr min i Godess hus, ȝet o þe pride wise. *Ibid.* 780, & Godess enngell seȝde þær Off Sannt Johan ȝet mare. c 1275 LAY. 28538 Sixti þousend manne And mo þousendes ȝite. a 1352 MINOT *Poems* (ed. Hall) i. 49 Ma manasiges ȝit haue þai maked. 1390 GOWER *Conf. III.* 132 Alpha. . . is the twelfthe sterre yit. c 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 299 þe fortte degre ȝit es þair als Of sum þat er in order fals. c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* iii. ix. 1044 þis kyngne mony sonnys hade, Off ane of þa ȝhit most he made. 1567 *Satir. Poems Reform.* vi. 112 Thairfoir ye fand thame prickis vnto your ene, And, ȝif ye spair thame, yit sall find thame moir. 1626 GOUGE *Dign. Chiv.* §5, I purpose to dive yet more deeply into the depth of my Text. 1665 HOOKE *Microgr.* 2 Being able to include as great a variety of parts. . . in the yet smallest Discernable Point, as in those vaster bodies such as the Earth, Sun, or Planets. 1724 RAMSAY *Vision* x, That's yit worse. 1782 MISS BURNIE *Cecilia* viii. v, Which can only awaken painful recollections, or give rise to yet more painful new anxieties. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xxiv, The thought. . . gave a yet deeper colour of carnation to her complexion. 1847 H. MELVILLE *Omoo* lxvii, My sandals were worse yet. 1889 'J. S. WINTER' *Mrs. Bob* x. (1891) 121 'And you're quite sure. . . that you really like me.' 'Yes, I'm quite sure,' said he, holding her yet more closely to him.

c. Used for emphasis after *nor* (†*na*, *ne*, *neither*): *nor yet* = and also not. †Also formerly after *or*: *or yet* = or else, or even (cf. e below).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 12811 Neþer am i crist ne yeitt heli. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* iii. (*Andreas*) 3 In word, in thoct, or yhet in dede. c 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 1084 Nat was foryeten, the portier ydelnesse Ne Narcissus. . . Ne yet the folie of kyng Salomon. 1513 DOUGLAS *Ensis* i. vi. 98 All thai quihilk haitis the cruel tyrantis dedis, Or ȝit his fellown quihille sair dredis. 1526 TINDALE *Luke* xxiii. 15, I. . . founde noo faute in this man. . . No nor yett Herode. 1581 MULCASTER *Positions* xxxvii. (1888) 152 Neither he, ne yet his parentes, can forsake their prince. 1588 A. KING tr. *Canisius' Catech.* gvij, Quhatsoeuer do proceid ather from the hail body thairof, ather yeit only particular membre of the same. 1625 HART *Anat. Ur.* ii. iv. 68 Such an excretion of blood, which cometh thus to passe by reason of the loosenesse. . . of the mouthes of the small veines, or yet of the thinnesse of blood. 1637–50 ROW *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) 121 Yit the samine can noth be concealed. . . Neither zit can the men of God. . . dissemble the samine. c 1639 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. i. 35 He does not reckon the samen nether yett his owne charges. 1884 W. C. SMITH *Kildrostan* 88, I never handled rope, Nor held a tiller, nor yet mean to do.

†d. Denoting repetition of an act: Again. *Obs.* a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1197 Bad him [sc. Adam] thoru an angel steuen, þat he suld wit his wiȝf yete mete. c 1385 CHAUCER *L. G. W.* 2687 *Hypermeestra*, She rist ȝit vp, & stakerith her & ther. a 1400–50 *Wars Alex.* 3163 First warte I to ȝour worthines, ȝit write I þe same. 1431 *Test. Ebor.* (Surtees) II. 15 Unum flatt pece cum scriptura in cooperulo Drynk and fyll ȝytt. 1564–5 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* I. 316 To charge the said Gilbert. . . yit as of befor, to bring the saidis Urchid Makdowell and Patrik Makdowell.

†e. Emphasizing an extreme case: = *EVEN* *adv.* 9. *Obs. rare.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 11575 Ar he self wald. . . To ded it moght naman him bring, And not yeitt þan þat he ne suld rise, Al at his aun deuise. 1382 WYCLIF *Luke* xiv. 26 If only. . . hatith not his. . . britheren, and doughtis, ȝit forsoth and his lyf [and vers. and ȝit his owne lijf]. a 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 2248 All landys north and southe Off this werre the word spronge, And yit at Rome it was full couthe.

f. Used as an ironic intensive at the end of a sentence, clause, etc. (imitating the use of Yiddish *noch*). *colloq.* (orig. U.S.).

1936 *Sat. Even. Post* 19 Dec. 11/3 'The only kinda men I want are ones who wouldn't be afraid to try out by Whiteman.' 'Whiteman yet!' scoffed one. 1943 M. SHULMAN *Barefoot Boy with Cheek* vii. 68 'Not just a little story, but a big story, and on the front page and with pictures.' There were admiring whistles and cries of 'Pictures, yet!' from the audience. 1957 N. Y. *Times Times Book Rev.* 17 Mar. 8 The counter-claim was dismissed (with costs yet). 1962 T. MEEHAN in *Sunday Times* 5 Aug. 20/3 And that spooky organ music they got piped in all over the place—E. Power Biggs instead of Muzak, yet. 1972 D. S. VISCOTT *Making of a Psychiatrist* ii. 32 You can bet your Phi Beta Kappa pin, junior year yet, that D. J. Marley knows exactly what to put down. 1975 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 7 Mar. 250/2 If you own a Beaumont and Fletcher folio, don't lend it. At least not to someone who will return it with extensive annotations (in ink yet!). 1980 *Oxford Times* 22 Aug. 13/3 The tracks include. . . 'To Know Him is to Love Him' (with David Bowie on saxophone, yet!).

II. Senses relating to time.

2. a. (a) Implying continuance from a previous time up to and at the present (or some stated) time: Now as until now (or then as until then): = *STILL* *adv.* 4a. Often also implying contrast to a future or subsequent state more emphatically expressed by *as yet* (7a): cf. c below, and *STILL* *adv.* 4b. *arch.* or *dial.* exc. in negative context: see esp. (b).

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* Pref. 5 Her mon mæg ȝiet ȝesion hiora swæð. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 231 Nu ȝit þry dagas to lafe syndon. a 1000 *Harrow. Hell* 73 (Gr.) A ic þæt heold nu ȝiet. a 1122 O.E. *Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 449 þæt cyn on West Sexum þe man ȝit hæf lutna cyn. c 1160 *Hattou Gosp.* Matt. xv. 16 And synd ȝe ȝeot buton and ȝyete? c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 83 Al to fele swiche men bien ȝet þe ne wilen noht here sinnes forleten. c 1205 LAY. 28636 Bruttes ileueð ȝete þat he bon on liue. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1574 Seint Iones de lateran. . . þat stont ȝute & heued church of al cristendom is. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 796 For of þat ilk appel bitt þair suns tethe ar eggeid yitt. a 1375 *Joseph Arim.* 334 þat I tolde þe þo I telle þe ȝite. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1628 Somur qwenes, and qwahtans, & oþer qwaht gaumes, Ther foundyn was first, & yet ben forthe haunted. c 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 306 þat he had sene before in spirit, he held it all pryue ȝyt. 1534 *Star Chamber Cases* (Selden Soc.) II. 309 Robert hunte baylyf. . . did take and kepe and yeat kepeth a cove of your said orators. a 1548 *HALL Chron., Edw. V* 11 It wer as great commoditee to them bothe, as for yet a while too bee in the custody of their mother. 1588 A. KING tr. *Canisius' Catech.* N v b, Eueric moneth was reconed to begin on ye day of ye change, as is obserued ȝeit in ye Hebrew kallendar. 1611 *Bible Jer.* xv. 9 Her sunne is gone down while it was yet day. 1700 *Stanley's Hist. Philos., Life* aj, While he continued yet in the University. 1711 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 164. ¶ 3 While her Beauty was yet in all its Height and Bloom. 1756 MRS. CALDERWOOD in *Coltness Collect.* (Maitland Club) 187 This man was from Nidsdale, and had been out of the country since he was ten years old, but he spoke the language pretty well yet. 1802 WORDSW. *To the Cuckoo* iv, Even yet thou art to me No bird, but an invisible thing. 1839 BYWATER *Sheff. Dial.* ii. 22 Dusta work at flat backs yit, as thahs been used to do? 1848 MRS. GASKELL *Mary Barton* vii, Earnest as the father was in watching the yet-living, he had eyes and ears for all that concerned the dead. 1872 TENNYSON *Gareth & Lynette* 79 A yet-warm corpse, and yet unburial. 1874 MAHAFFY *Soc. Life Greece* iv. 81 No students of history can fail to observe that even yet very few nations in the world are fit for diffused political privileges. 1888 'J. S. WINTER' *Bootle's Child.* v, You know you look ill yet, very ill.

(b) With negative pples. and adjs.: cf. *not yet* (4).

1535 COVERDALE *Ps. lxxvii*[i]. 6 The children which were yet vnborne. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* iv. 782 Four fair Heifers yet in Yoke untry'd. 1705 STANHOPE *Paraphr.* i. 282 The ravishing Discovery of that which is yet unattainable. 1706 POPE *Let. to Wycherley* 10 Apr., Till you have finish'd these that are yet unprinted. 1725 — *Odys.* v. 382 Then shook the Heroe, . . . And question'd thus his yet-unconquer'd mind. 1839 KEMBLE *Resid. Georgia* (1863) 19 The swampy patches of yet unreclaimed forest. 1859 TENNYSON *Elaine* 378 The yet-unblazon'd shield. 1860 PUSEY *Min. Proph.* 544 The children in their yet undeveloped strength, the very old in their yet sustained weakness.

†b. Qualified by a negative, implying discontinuance before the present time: *not yet* = no longer. *Obs. rare.*

a 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 1038 Ne þearf ðu þe ondrædan. . . nu ȝiet. 1530 PALSGR. 506/2, I darrayne (Lydgat). . . This worde is nat yet admytted in our common spetche. *Ibid.* 508/2, I kydde (Lydgat), I knowe. . . This terme is nat yet in use.

c. Followed by an infinitive referring to the future, and thus implying incompleteness (e.g. *yet to be done*, implying 'not hitherto done'; *I have yet to learn*, implying 'I have not hitherto learnt'). Cf. also 5.

1659 PLUMPTRE in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 6 Wishing that all your yeares yet to come may passe over with mirth and jollities. 1756 MRS. CALDERWOOD in *Coltness Collect.* (Maitland Club) 188 He has three years of study yet to come. 1848 LUSHINGTON in *Notes of Cases* VI. 11, I have yet to learn that. . . those on board the steam-tug had a right to. . . overrule the order of the pilot. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 564 The earl. . . had prepared himself for what was yet to be endured. 1885 SIR J. BACON in *Law Times Rep.* (N.S.) LII. 569/2 None of them had been completely finished, the painting and papering being yet to be done.

3. a. Referring to the period preceding the present or some stated time, without necessarily implying continuance: Up to this (or that) time, till now (or till then), hitherto, thus far; with a superlative, or *only*, etc. = at any time up to the

present. Usually implying expectation of possible change, more fully expressed (as in 2) by *as yet* (7a).

a 1000 *Colloq. Ælfric* in Wr.-Wülcker 101 ȝyt [adhuc] peah-hwære deoplicor mid us þu smeagst þonne yld ure onfon mæge. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 139 þis dei is. . . þe formeste dei þet eauer ȝiete was isegen buen eorðe. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 9321 'Ful littel se we yeitt', coth þai, 'Of al þat euer we her þai sai.' c 1375 *Ibid.* 10078 (Laud) Now blessid be that byrd of grace The worthiest that euyr yet was. c 1475 *Rauf Coilyear* 80 Na, thank me not our airlie, for creid that we threip, For I haue seruit the ȝit of lytill thing to ruse. 1539 CRANMER *Let. to Cromwell* in *Misc. Writ.* (Parker Soc.) 388 'The state of things standing as they do at this present, so far as yet I do know. 1596 SPENSER *F.Q.* vi. ii. 5 A slender slip, that scarce did see Yet seuteene years. 1690 LOCKE *Hum. Und.* ii. xxvi. §4 When we say a Man is Young, we mean, that his Age is yet but a small part of that which usually Men attain to. 1761 WARBURTON in W. & Hurd's *Lett.* (1809) 335, I have yet printed off but 72 pages. 1815 SCOTT *Guy R.* xlviii, This is the queerest thing yet! 1857 BUCKLE *Civiliz.* I. viii. 471 The most important event that had yet occurred in the history of French civilization. 1870 L'ESTRANGE *Life of Miss Mitford* I. x. 147 'Blanch' is to consist of five thousand lines, and only eleven hundred are yet written.

b. By this (or that) time, so soon as this: chiefly in questions, direct or indirect, to which the negative answer would be *not yet* (4): nearly = 'already', but not expressing surprise as that word would in a question.

a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 541 Hu þinç þe, artu ȝut inume, Artu mid rihte ouercome? c 1375 *Cursor M.* 1876 (Fairf.) How sal we of þes waters wete, Queper þai be fully fallyn ȝete? c 1440 *York Myst.* ix. 186 It waxes clere aboute. . . Loke þar owte, Yf þat þe water wane ought ȝitt. 1596 SHAKS. *I Hen. IV.* iii. iii. 61 Haue you enquir'd yet who pick'd my Pocket? 1634 MASSINGER *Very Woman* iii. v, I am glad you have found your tongue yet. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* xxxiii, 'Have you yet done?' said the Duke to the herald. 'One word more,' answered Rouge Sanglier. 1916 D. HANKEY *Student in Arms* (1917) 51 *Potentate*. . . Has a counter-attack been launched yet? *General.* Not yet, Sir.

c. With *ere*, *before*, etc. indicating the ultimate occurrence of something after an interval of time: before *ere*, etc., nearly = 'already'; after *ere*, etc., nearly = 'at length' (cf. 5a). Now only in *ere yet* (arch.).

13. . . *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1122 To bed ȝet er þay ȝede, Recorded couenauntez ofte. c 1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 196 ȝit or ewyn enterit come that bur office, Obeyand their bishoppis, and bydand tham by. 1592 *Arden of Feversham* i. i. 92 Meanwhile prepare our breakfast. . . For yet ere noone wele take horse and away. c 1643 LD. HERBERT *Autobiog.* (1824) 80 Before I departed yet I left her with child of a son. 1795 SOUTHEY *Joan of Arc* viii. 70 Ere yet from Orleans to the war we went. 1828 SCOTT *Death Laird's Yock* ¶ 13 Ere yet the fight began, the old men gazed on their chief. 1866 SPURGEON *Hymn*, 'Sweetly the holy hymn' ii, Ere yet the sun the day renews, O Lord, Thy spirit send.

†d. At some time in the past; 'once'; previously, before, already. *Obs.*

Beowulf 956 Alwalda þec gode forȝylde, swa he nu ȝyt dyde! a 1300 *Cursor M.* 367 þe werld i call wit min entens þe mater of þe four elements, þat yeit was tan o forme mischapien. *Ibid.* 1198 Ur lord had aȝhted yete A child to raise of his oxspring. c 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 389 þan take youre loof of light payne as y haue said ȝett.

4. With a negative, in sense 2 or 3 (yet qualifying the whole sentence or clause including the negative): *not yet*, †*yet not*, still not, thus far not, not hitherto, not by this (or that) time, not till now (or then) and not now (or then): implying expectation or recognized possibility of subsequent change (cf. 7a).

a. With negative preceding. (The more usual, now the only regular, construction.)

Beowulf 583 Breca næfre ȝit æt heaðolace. . . swa deorlice dæd ȝefremede fagum swoerdum. c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xxiv. 6 Ðas þing sceolon ȝewurpan, ac nys þonne ȝyt se ende. *Ibid.* John vii. 8 Min tid nis ȝyt gefyllde. c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 17 Ðar næure ȝiete liht ne cam. c 1200 ORMIN 14371 Abid, abid, wifman, abid, Ne comm noht ȝet min time. c 1205 LAY. 109 Nas ȝet Rome bi-wonnen. c 1275 *Passion of our Lord* 583 in O.E. *Misc.* 53 Ich ne astey nouht yete vp to myne vadere. c 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 293 (Harl. 7334), He hadde nouȝt geten hym ȝit a benefice. 1470–85 MALORY *Arthur* viii. vii. 282 Neuer yet was I preued with good knyghte. 1539 *Bible* (Great) Mark xi. 13 The tyme of fygges was not yet. a 1548 *HALL Chron., Edw. IV* 207 b, Because Quene Margaret and her sonne were not fully yet furnished for suche a iorney. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* ii. iii. 50 *Macd.* Is the King stirring, worthy Thane? *Macb.* Not yet. 1654 GATAKER *Disc. Apol.* 24 Such a manner of Prelacie, I say, I never durst, nor yet dare condemn. 1708 ADDISON *Pres. St. War* 3 This Kingdom was never yet engag'd in a War of so great consequence. 1776 GIBBON *Let. to Holroyd* 18 Jan., Quebec is not yet taken. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 175 A body of representatives was returned, such as England had never yet seen. *Ibid.* iv. 447 As to Halifax, Ormond, and Guildford, he determined not yet to dismiss them. 1861 M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 46 In the reign of James I. . . when the world of fashion had not yet migrated wholly to the west-end. 1880 [see SHOOT v. 23 g]. 1908 KIPLING *Lett. of Travel* (1920) 146 There's them that can't see yit. 1977 *Transatlantic Rev.* LX. 147 'Naw', he says. 'Least, no yit.'

b. With negative following. (Cf. G. *noch nicht*.) *Obs.* or *arch.* exc. when preceded by *even*, or *as* (7a).

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John vii. 6 ȝyt ne eom min tid. c 1205 LAY. 20571 Ah he heo þa ȝate [c 1275 ȝet] Nefde noht bi-wunnen. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3558 'Louerd, merci!' quad moyses, 'ȝet ne let hem nouȝt helpe-les.' a 1300 *Cursor M.* 5904 þe king hert wex herd as bras, 'þe folk', he said, 'yeitt sal nouȝt pas.' 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. viii. 108 Ac ȝete sauoureth me nouȝt þi seggyng. 1460 CAPGRAVE *Chron.*

(Rolls) 302 And yet was not the erl of Arundel and his retenew com hom. **1567** *Satir. Poems Reform.* iii. 37 3it neuer did sho se his maik in France. **1613** SHAKS. *Hen. VIII.* ii. iv. 204 My Conscience, which I then did feele full sicke, and yet not well. **1642** D. ROGERS *Naaman* 423 Such confession was yet never extorted from some of you. **1827** SCOTT *Highl. Widow* iv. I leave you to comfort and certainty, which you have yet never known. **1830** MOORE *Mem.* (1854) VI. 127 Even yet not quite finished.

5. In reference to future time (see also 2 c, 3 c).

a. At some time in the future (usually implying 'though not hitherto'); hereafter; at length, ultimately, before all is over; often with mixture of sense 9 ('after all').

c **897** ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past.* C. xxxv. 245 ȝiet [v.r. ȝit] cymð se micla. . . Godes dæg. **971** *Blüchl. Hom.* iv. 47 On ealra eorþlicra gebedraðenne þe Cristene wæron, oþþe ȝyt syn. **1300** *Leg. Rood* (1871) 32 Vor þer scholde jut a mon deie on pulke tre. c **1400** *Brut* i. 90 þe Britons supposen þat he [sc. Arthur] Leueþ in a-nopere lande, and þat he shal come ȝit and conquire al Britaigne. c **1440** *York Myst.* i. 87 Abowne ȝhit sall I be beelðand, On heghte in þe hyste of heuwen. **1535** CDVERDALE *Ps.* xlii. 7 [5] Put thy trust in God, for I wil yet geue him thanks for y^e helpe of his countenance. **1586** SIDNEY *Ps.* xvii. iv. [1] pray that still you guide my way, Least yet I slipp, or goe astray. **1760-2** GOLDSM. *Cit. W.* xlv. He sees that he may yet be happy, and wishes the hour was come. **1841** BRDWNING *Pippa Passes* iii. ad fin. (Song), You'll love me yet!—and I can tarry Your love's protracted growing. **1849** MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* v. I. 524 Their chief employment is to talk of what they once were, and of what they may yet be. **1902** VIOLET JACOB *Sheep-stealers* viii. 'You couldn't be safer, not if you was in Hereford jail itself.' . . 'That's where I may be yet,' he said.

b. With reference to the immediate future:

(a) Even now (though not till now): often with mixture of sense 9 ('after all'); sometimes implying 'while there is still time' (cf. sense 2).

a **1000** *Cædmon's Gen.* 618 ȝif ȝiet . . læst mina lara, þonne ȝife ic him ȝæs leohtes ȝenōs. c **1375** *Sc. Leg. Saints* v. (Johannes) 251 And of paynis hard and fell, He tald þam, þat he schaw in hell, And sad: 'wrechis, mend ȝow ȝeit!' *Ibid.* i. (Katherine) 921 Lewe pine erreur, . . & ask forȝiffnes of þi syne, Yheit mycht þu sauchtyng with hym wine. c **1430** *Hymns Virgin* (1867) 128 To hevyns blys yhit may he ryse, Thurghe helpe of Marie. c **1450** *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 3367 ȝon gose I bad ȝow is noȝy etyn. . . I bid ȝow þat ȝe take it ȝit. **1529** SKELTON *Woffully araid* 43 Wks. 1843 I. 142 Cum ȝytt, and thou schalt fynde Myne endlis mercy and grace. **1689** *Act. Parl. Scot.* (1875) XII. 77/1 þat if he will yett delver up the Bass & prisoners þerin he should have his bygone arrears to himself & garrison. **1867** MDORRIS *Jason* ii. 850 Bethink ye yet of death, And misery, And dull despair, before ye arm to go. **1879** WEBBER *Pigskin & Willow* xiv. 197 Time enough yet? No, there isn't time enough yet.

†(b) Not later than (a specified time). (Cf. 3 b, c.) *Obs.*

c **1250** *Gen. & Ex.* 313 For ȝef he don ð ad god for-bead, Ðat sal hem bringen to ðo dead, And sal ȝet ðis ilke dai. **1300** *Cursor M.* 15567 þou sal þam se yett to night Do me ful gret spite. **1352** MINDT *Poems* (ed. Hall) vii. 129 Inglis men sall ȝit to ȝere Knok þi palet or pou pas.

c. From this (or some stated or implied) time onwards; henceforth (or thenceforth). Chiefly, now only, contextually with words denoting time, the sense being then strictly 1 ('further, more'); with a negative, nearly coinciding with 4; often replaceable by 'to come'.

c **1000** ÆLFRED *Gen.* viii. 10 He abad þa ȝit oðre seofon dagas and asende ut eft culfran. **1300** *Cursor M.* 12920 Bot ar he wild him fulli scau, For yett a quille he wild abide. **1382** WYCLIF *Lude* i. 15 He schal be fullilid of the Hooly Gost ȝit of his modir wombe. — *John* vii. 33 ȝit a litel tyme I am with ȝou, and I go to the fadir, that sente me. c **1420** *Chron. Vilod.* 3367 He leyse in þe vrthe ȝet prettene ȝere & more. **1535** CDVERDALE *Jonah* iii. 4 There are yet xl. dayes, and then shal Ninie be ouerthrowen. **1628** DIGBY *Voy. Mediterr.* (Camden) 56 It was so hott that all men said in a moneth yet meate could not take salt. **1849** M. ARNOLD *Sick King in Bokhara* 5 O merchants, tarry yet a day Here in Bokhara.

†6. ME. *þe ȝet* [OE. *þa ȝiet* then yet, when yet: see THO *adv.* 1, 2]: a. Still (= 2); also, while still, when as yet. *Obs.*

a **930** O.E. *Chron.* (Parker MS.) an. 921 þa æfter þam þa ȝiet ȝæs ilcan hærfestes ȝegadorode micel here hine of East Englum. c **1000** *Ags. Gosp.* Luke xv. 20 þa ȝyt [Lindisf. ȝet] þa he wæs feorr, his fæder he hyne ȝeseah. **1122** O.E. *Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1106 Feawa oðre of þam heafodmannan þe mid þam eorle of Normandige þe ȝyt heoldan. c **1175** *Lamb. Hom.* 99 þa ȝet wuniende on pissere weorlde, þe helende ableu his gast on his apostlas. c **1205** LAY. 7079 þe ȝehte þe [c **1275** þe ȝet þat] Lud king ahte þis lond hehte Lundene Trinouant. c **1290** *St. Dunstan* 2 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 19 Miracle ore louerd dude for him þe ȝuyt he was un-bore.

†b. with negative: = 4. *Obs.*

a **1000** *Cædmon's Gen.* 103 Ne wæs s her þa ȝiet nympe heolstresceado wiht geworden. **1100** *Aldhelm Gloss.* i. 1296 (Napier 35/2) *Nondum*, na þa ȝyt næs. c **1290** *Beket* 1433 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 147 Ake he ne scholde nouȝt þe ȝeot to engelonde wende. c **1380** *Sir Ferumbe* 750 Of herte was he hol & sound, & pleynede him þe ȝute no þyng.

7. as yet [AS B. 34 a]: a. Hitherto, up to this time; = 3; with a negative = 4; implying expectation or recognized possibility of coming change.

c **1384** CHAUCER *H. Fame* ii. 91 Thow demest of thy selfe amys, For Ioues ys not ther aboute. . . To make of the as yet a sterre. c **1386** — *Frankl. T.* 849, I failed neuere of my trouthe as yit, For sikerly my dette shal be quyt. **1484** *Cely Papers* (Camden) 153 Here ys noo goode wyne to gett for noo mony as yett, but I understond ther schall come from Bruges som. **1592** Q. ELIZ. in *Archaeologia* XIX. 12 If your long expected and never had as yet answer had not lingard.

1665 BOYLE *Occas. Refl.* iv. i. 1 The Sun had as yet but approach'd the East, and my Body as yet lay moveless in the Bed. **1682** BUNYAN *Holy War* 68 Thou hast heard what the Captains have said, but as yet thou shuttest thy Gates. **1708** ADDISDN *Pres. St. War* 19 That War continued Nine Years, and this hath as yet lasted but Six. **1823** SCOTT *Quentin D.* xxix, 'No,' answered the Astrologer, 'the End is not as yet.' **1848** THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xliii, She had never . . met a professional ladies' man as yet. **1849** MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 171 As yet the Duke professed himself a member of the Anglican Church. **1850** TENNYSON *In Mem.* cxiv, Half-grown as yet, a child, and vain. **1874** MAHAFFY *Soc. Life Greece* vii. 226 But there were . . extensions of this practice as yet but little noticed.

†b. Without implied expectation of change: Still, even now or then, to this day, = 2. *Obs.*

1483 CAXTON *G. de la Tour* fivb, As yet they kepe and hold that custome. **1530** PALSGR. 509/2 As for *polu*, defyled, though he be used of Johan le Mayre, there is no verbe used in this sence in the frenche tonge as yet. **1577** HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* iii. vi. 38 The meate as yet rawe, was snatched from the coales. **1585** T. WASHINGTON *Tr. Nicholas's Voy.* ii. iii. 33 The foundations . . are there as yet apparant. **1611** Bible Exod. ix. 17 As yet exaltest thou thy selfe against my people, that thou wilt not let them goe? **1632** LITHGOW *Trav.* vii. 321 Ægypt was made a Prouince of the Turkish Empire, and so continueth as yet. **1651** [see AS B. 34 a].

8. as *adj.* in sense 2 or 3: That is still or as yet such; still continuing or subsisting. (Cf. NOW 16, STILL *adv.* 4 a ¶, THEN 9 b.)

1606 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* ii. iv. ii. *Magnificence* 356 Let, with her staffe, my yet-Youth govern well. . . the Flock of Israel. **1629** W. SCLATER *Exp. 2 Thess.* 83 That the yet aliens in euery quarter of the World may bee wonne by the example of dispersed Saints. c **1634** STAFFORD in *Browning Life* (1892) 117 The certainty of your lordship's yet abode at West-Chester. **1653** *Cloria & Narcissus* 181 Her yet safety. **1817** KEATINGE *Trav.* ii. 269 He was one of the numerous party of yet walkers in the world. **1874** KEY *Lang.* i. 7 In the yet non-existence of language.

III. 9. a. as *conj. adv.* or *conj.* (developed from 1), introducing an additional fact or circumstance which is adverse to, or the contrary of what would naturally be expected from, that just mentioned: In spite of that, for all that, nevertheless, notwithstanding. Sometimes strengthened by *nevertheless*, etc. Often correlative to *though*, etc.

More emphatically adversative than BUT *conj.* 24, and freer in construction; formerly sometimes placed after, and still sometimes in the midst of, its clause; and/or but may precede yet. Nearly equivalent to STILL *adv.* 6 b; but still indicates mainly that the fact or condition remains unaltered by the adverse one; yet usually expresses some degree of surprise at it as something unexpected.

[c **1205** LAY. 28112 ȝif hit weore ilimpe. . . þat Modred . . hafde pine quene inume. . . þe ȝet þu mihtest þe aweken Wurðlice mid wepen.] a **1250** Owl & Night. 995 So bo hit euer in unker siþe þat þu bo sori & ich bliþe; ȝut þu aishoust wi ich ne fare Into oþer londe & singe þare. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 3344 þe castel was ynome & þat folc to sprad pere. ȝute þo hit adde al ydo hit ne founde noȝt þe king pere. *Ibid.* 8804 In prison was roberd al is lif & ȝut ich vnder-sonde, Him adde betere abbe ibe king of þe holi londe. **13..** *Cursor M.* 786 (Gött.) þis heting was. . . ful mekil, Bot ȝeit it was bath fals and fikil. **1377** LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* Prol. 185 Thouȝ we culled þe catte, ȝut sholde þe come another To cracchy vs. **1390** GDWER *Conf.* II. 140 He hath ynowh and yit him nedeth. c **1420** *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 5 And make þo flesshe to seme, iwy, As hit were raw, and ȝyt hit nys. c **1450** *Lay Folks Mass Bk.* (MS. F.) 149, I haw done. . . Synnes diuers, . . And ȝut art thu redi. . . To graunt me ay forȝefnesse. c **1470** *Gol. & Gaw.* 95 Suppose thi birny be bright, as bachiler suld ben, Yhit ar thi latis vnlufulm. **1470-85** MALDRY *Arthur* xx. vii. 809 Oftymes we doo many thynges that we wene it be for the best & yet peradventure hit torneth to the werst. c **1475** *Partenay* 21 Al-be-hit I . . can noght peynt my boke as oþer be, Vnder youre supporte yut aunter wyl me. **1545** RAYNALDE *Byrth Mankynde* i. iii. (1552) 5 Plenty of flesh . . knitting to geather the muskles: not so yet, but that neuertheless they haue they free motion. **1596** SPENSER *Prothalamion* 117 As he would speake, but that he lackt a tong Yeat did by signes his glad affection show. **1644** MILTON *Areop.* 26 Though his belief be true, yet the very truth he holds, becomes his heresie. **1697** DRYDEN *Æneis* xi. 188 Auspicious Prince, in Arms a mighty Name, But yet whose Actions far transcend your Fame. **1764** GOLDSM. *Trav.* 28 Some fleeting good, that . . Allures from far, yet, as I follow, flies. **1814** SCOTT *Wav.* iv, The splendid yet useless imagery. **1831** — *Ct. Rob.* xxiv, Although they did not all agree on the precise cause of danger, it was yet generally allowed that something of a dreadful kind was impending. **1845** M. PATTISON *Ess.* (1889) I. 13 The style of Bede, if not elegant Latin, is yet correct, sufficiently classical. **1857** H. S. RIDDELL *Book of Psalms in Lowland Scotch* lxviii. 61 Though ye hae layne among the pats, yit sall ye be as the wings o' ane dow. **1939** JUVCE *Finnegans Wake* 138 An yit he wanna git all his flesch nuemaid.

†b. yet (*that*), notwithstanding that, although.

c **1320** *Cast.* Love 1422 In whonhope and doute he weoren vchon, ȝit heo seȝen him alyue a lyues-mon. **1425** *Cursor M.* 12119 (Trin.) And ȝit þou wenest makeles to be þat noon in lore shulde teche þe, I con þe teche þat þou not can. **1556** *Aurelio & Isab.* (1608) Mij, Contente you than, for yette that me strenghte be litell, the desiere is grete.

yet(e, ȝet(e, obs. ff. GATE sb.¹

†yete(n, pa. pple. *Obs.* Forms: 1 ȝeeten, 3 ȝeten, (ihteote), 3-4 ȝzet(t)e, yȝete, iete(n, 4 y-yete, i-eete, 4-5 yete(n, 5 yheete. [OE. *ȝeeten*, pa. pple. of *etan* and *ȝeetan* to EAT.] Eaten.

c **1000** ÆLFRED *Gen.* xxxi. 54 þa hig ȝeeten hæfdon, hig wunodon þær. c **1205** LAY. 6691 þear heo hæfdon wel ȝeten [c **1275** ihteote] and seodðen idrunken. *Ibid.* 31773 Ær þe uisc i-eten weore. c **1290** *St. Brandan* 309 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 228 Heo a-risen op and wenden to church þe heo hadden yȝete. c **1330** *Arth. & Merl.* 3127 þo þai hadde yeten alle, Heiȝe &

lowe in þe halle. **1340** *Ayenb.* 13 Efter his arizinge, huanne he hedde y-yete mid his deciples. **1387** TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 511 Thei. . hadde nouȝt y-ete ne dronke nother y-slepe. **1398** — *Barth. De P.R.* ix. xxxi. (1495) 2 iv b/2 A lambe was offryd rosted and yeten. **1426** LYDG. *De Guil.* Pilgr. 6849 When they be fumous, ful off heete, And han yheete & dronke at large.

†yeter, yetter. *Obs.* Forms: 1 ȝeotere, 3-4 ȝeter, 4 ȝeoter, ȝeetere, 5 ȝetare, 6 ȝettare, yetter. See also YOTER. [f. YET v. + -ER¹. Cf. MSw. *giutare* 'factor'.] A caster of metal; a founder. Also in comb. *bellyeter*.

c **893** ÆLFRED *Oros.* i. xii. 54 þa þæt þa onhæt wæs, & call ȝedon swa se ȝeotere þam æðelinge ær behet. **1298** in *Stow Surv.* (1908) II. 290 Beljeterslane. **13..** *K. Alis.* 6735 (Laud MS.) A queynt man, & metal ȝeters [v.r. ȝeoter]. **1382** WYCLIF *Jer.* li. 17 Confoundid is eche ȝeetere [1388 wellere] in grauen thing; for fals is his ȝeting. c **1440** Beljzetare [see BELL sb.¹ 12]. **1512** *Reg. Privy Seal Scot.* I. 360/2 Robert Borthuik, ȝettare of the kingis gunnys. **1552** HULDET, Karuer or yetter of Images, *statuarius*.

yether, var. EDDER; see YEDDER sb. and v.

yeti ('jetɪ). Also Yeti. [ad. Tibetan *yeh-teh* little manlike animal.] Native (Sherpa) name for a hypothetical ape-like animal whose tracks have supposedly been found in snow on the Himalayan mountains; = *Abominable Snowman* s.v. ABOMINABLE a. 1 c.

1937 *Times* 13 Nov. 13/5 The Sherpas had no hesitation in pronouncing them [sc. tracks] to be those of a Snowman or 'Yeti'. **1951** *Times* 6 Dec. 5/7 Sen Tensing immediately pronounced them to be tracks of yetis or Abominable Snowmen. . . He describes it as half man half beast, about five feet six inches tall, covered with reddish-brown hair but with a hairless face. **1955** [see *Abominable Snowman* s.v. ABOMINABLE a. 1 c]. **1956** C. EVANS *On Climbing* xiii. 185, I had heard that there was a yeti scalp there, and I wanted to see it. **1972** J. NAPIER (*title*) Bigfoot: the yeti and sasquatch in myth and reality. **1975** E. HILLARY *Nothing venture Nothing Win* xv. 238 Even in the Thyangboche Monastery —traditionally the source of much Yeti lore and Yeti sightings—we were unable to find anyone who had seen a Yeti.

†yeting, vbl. sb. *Obs.* [f. YET v. + -ING¹. Cf. YOTING.]

1. Casting of metal or a metal object.

1382 [see YETER]. c **1440** *Promp. Parv.* 538/1 ȝytynge [Winch. MS. ȝetyng] of metelle, as bellys, pannys, potys, and other lyke, *fusio*. c **1449** PEDDCK *Repr.* ii. ii. 138 Forwhi in kinde of ymagis no difference the grauyng makith from the ȝutting, or the ȝutting fro the grauyng. **1453-4** *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 191 Pro uno novo axilre cum ȝattynges et factura, xxij. s. iij d. **1473-4** *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 65 For the mending and theking of a hous in thare place that was revin at the ȝetting of the gwn, viiij li.

2. Pouring down, forth, etc.; shedding.

c **1400** *Destr. Troy* 8175 Now is . . yomeryng for-yetion, & yettyng of teres. a **1425** tr. *Arderne's Treat.* *Fistula* etc. 36 Aftir þe ȝettyng in of tapsimel wiþ þe forseid poudre. **1483** *Cath. Angl.* 426/2 A ȝettyngne jn, *jnfusio*. A ȝettyngne oute, *effusio*.

3. attrib. and Comb., as *yeting-place*, *-vessel*.

1382 WYCLIF *Prov.* xxvii. 21 What maner wise siluer is preued in the ȝeting vessel. **1483** *Cath. Angl.* 426/2 A ȝettyngne place, *fusorium*.

yetling ('jetlɪŋ), sb. and a. *Sc.* and *north.* Also 4-5 ȝet(t)lyng, 5 ȝettlyne, yettelling, 5-6 yetlyn(g, -line, 6 ȝet-, yaitling, 8 yetlen, (atelin), 8-9 yet(t)lin, yetland, 9 yetlan, yettling. [f. YET v. + -LING¹.]

A. sb. 1. A pot or boiler, usually of cast iron; esp. one with a bow-handle and three feet.

1378-9 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 588 In factura unius yetling. **1472** *Ibid.* 246, ij ȝetlynges enee. **1559** *Wills & Inv.* N.C. (Surtees 1835) 183 One yaitling of brasse. **1564** *Ibid.* 223 First a pan wth eares v^s—ij yetlinges iiij^s. **1702** in *Northumbld. Gloss.* (1892) 19 ltm. an atelin in the Abbey great kitchen. **1787** GRDSE *Prov. Gloss.*, *Yetling*, a small iron boiler. N. **1865** CORVAN, etc. *Tyneside Songs* 9 A kye! pot an a yetlin fell a-top iv his head. **1892** RAINIE *Handbk. York Mus.* 173 A fine. . camp-kettle or yetling, 16¹ in. high by 12 in. diameter, with three tall legs ending in claws.

2. Applied to various articles made of cast iron; †(a) a small cannon; (b) a 'girdle' on which cakes are baked; (c) a ball used in bowls.

1566 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* XI. 518 Twa culvering moyanis of found and ane grit ȝetling of irne. **1576** *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1882) IV. 51 The tovnis yetlingis lyand vpon the kirk of feild steipill, with thair fourniture. **1866** EDMONDSTON *Shetland & Orkney Gloss.* 147 *Yetlin*, a girdle on which cakes are baked. **1868** GDRIIE *Summ. & Wint. in Orkneys* ix. 354 Flat stones which served the purpose of yettlins, or girdles for firing cakes and scones. **1895** *Fife News* 19 Jan. 7 The 'yetling' measures some seven inches in circumference, and its regulation weight is from twenty two to twenty four ounces.

3. Cast iron.

1777 W. NIMMD *Stirlingsh.* xiii. 309 It [sc. the pint jug] is made of a sort of yetlin, and appears to be very old. **1845** *New Statist. Acc. Scot.* VIII. ii. 413 The Stirling Jug . . is made of a kind of brass or yetlin. **1883** J. MORTLING *Remin. Old Haddington* 384 The land was as hard as 'yetlan' and would soon kill them and their horses.

B. *adj.* Made of cast iron; (of iron) cast.

1495-6 *Priority of Finchale* (Surtees) 394, j yetlyng pan et iiij laddels de auricalco. **1572** *Wills & Inv.* N.C. (Surtees 1835) 381 Two yetling pans viij^s. **1578** in *Inv. Royal Wardr.* (1815) 253 Ane demy culvering of yetline yron. **1703** *Househ. Bk. Lady G. Bailie* (1911) 170 A little yetlin kettle. **1792** *Statist. Acc. Scot.* IV. 167 The ploughs . . have a cast yetland mould-board. **1836** M. MACKINTOSH *Cottager's*

Dau. 190 My heart...As hard as ony yetlin floor Or whunstane rock.

yett, zett, Sc. ff. *GATE sb.*¹

yette (zette), var. *YATE v. Obs.*

yetter: see *YETER*.

yeue, obs. form of *WEW sb.*¹

c1340 Nominale (Skeat) 404 Ram blismyth a yeue.

yeugh, yeuk, yeule: see *YEW, YUKE, YULE*.

yeve, zeve, etc.: see *GIVE*, etc.

yeve, obs. f. *EVE sb.*¹, *IF*.

yewel (zevel), **yevill**, etc., obs. ff. *EVIL*, etc.

yeven (zeven), **-yn**, obs. ff. *EVEN sb.*

'yever, a. Obs. exc. Sc. Forms: 1 *gïfre, gïfre*, *gïfer*, 2 *zifer*, (*Orm.*) *ziferr*, 2-4 *ziuer*, 3 *zifre*, *ziure*, *zefere*, *yuer*, 5 *zeuer*, *yeuer*, *zyuer*, *youre*, 9 *Sc. aiver*. [*OE. gïfre*, corresp. to *ON. gifr* (found only in pl. witches, fiends), whence *gïfrliga* savagely, in mod. *Icel.* exorbitantly, *gïfrligr* in mod. *Icel.* immoderate, exorbitant. The *Icel.* form is represented by north. Engl. *givour* 'greedy', *giverous* (see *YEVEROUS*).]

1. Greedy, covetous.

Beowulf 1277 And his modor þa gyt gïfre and galgmod gegan wolde sorhfulne sið. *c888 ÆLFRED Boeth.* xxxv. §7 Tantulus se cynyng ðe on ðisse worulde ungemetlice gïfre wæs. *c1205 LAY.* 7337 þu sulf ært swiðe griþel þine gumen sunden zefere [*c1275 zifre*]. *a1225 Ancr. R.* 214 þe ziure glutun is þes feondes manciple.

2. Eager, quick, prompt.

c1400 Destr. Troy 3955 Polidamas þe pert...was... Full zæuer and zepe, and a yong knight. *c1425 Engl. Conq. Irel.* 114 Thys legat was youre [*v.r.* besy] aboute, pees to make betwene the kyng & Iohn. *1847 J. HALLIDAY Rustic Bard* 94 Forbye the body's clean an' aiver, Wi' little blust, he's doonright clever.

Hence **'yeverly adv.**, greedily; quickly; **'yeverness**, greediness, gluttony; eagerness, impetuosity.

c888 ÆLFRED Boeth. xxxv. §7 Him ðær ðæt ilce yfel filgde ðære gïfernesse. *c900 tr. Bæda's Hist.* 111. ix. (1890) 178 Ongon gïferlice þæt gars etan. *971 Blickl. Hom.* 25 þurh heora gïfernesse & oferhygde. *a1100 Aldhelm Gloss.* 1. 766 (*Napier 22/1*) *Pertinaciter*, i. *insuperabiliter*, gïferlice. *c1175 Lamb. Hom.* 33 Hordomes and zifernesse and druncnesse. *a1225 Ancr. R.* 240 Ne beo hit neuer so bitter, ne iueleð heo hit neuer: auh gulcheð in ziuerliche, & ne nimeð neuer zeme. *Ibid.* 286 Golnesse cumeð of ziuernesse & of flesches eise. *c1250 Lutet. Sott. Serm.* 11 in *O.E. Misc.* 186 To ziuernesse and prude none neode he nedde. *c1400 Destr. Troy* 543, I haue pittye of your person & your pert face, And zeueres of 30wthe. *Ibid.* 869, I am ferd lest pou... for zeueres for-zepe þæt þe zeme shuld. *Ibid.* 13231 With-in a yere, full yeuerly, þæt yepe was with child.

†'yeverous, a. Obs. Forms: 5 *zyueris*, *-us*, *zeuerus*, *zeferous*. [*f. YEVER* + *-OUS*. The north. form *giverous* (see *YEVER* etym.) is found from 17th c. = 'greedy, avaricious' (1677 Nicolson in *Ray Coll. Words* (1691) 141.) Eager, impetuous.

c1400 Destr. Troy 357 So zonge and so yepe, zyuerus of wille. *Ibid.* 1242 Zyueris of hert. *1483 Cath. Angl.* 426/1 Zeferous, *ambroninus*.

yevery ('jævəri), a. Sc. and north. dial. Forms: 6, 9 *yevery*, 8 *aevery*, 9 *yeovery*, e(*e*)very, *aiverie*. [*f. YEVER* a. + *-Y*.] Greedy, voracious.

1536 BELLENDEN Cron. Scot. (1821) II. 272 Utheris, quhiliks war mair yevery and tume. *17...* *Dick o the Cow* xxv. in *Child Ballads* (1889) III. 465 The lads, that hungry and aevery was. *1825 JAMIESON, Aiverie*, adj., very hungry, Roxb.; a term nearly obsolete. *1847 HALLIWELL, Yeovery*, hungry. *Northumb.*

Hence **'yevrisome a.**, ravenously greedy.

1825 JAMIESON, Yevrisome, having an appetite habitually craving, *Dumfr.*

yew (ju:), sb. Forms: 1 *iuu*, *iw*, *eow*, *eoh*, 4-7 *ewe*, 4-8 *ew*, (4 *w*, *hw*, *hue*, 5 *hew*, *uu*, *uv*, *new*), 5-6 *u*, 5-7 *eu*, 6 *yeue*, *yue*, *yow*, (e, *iewe*, *eughe*, *u(g)he*, 6-7 *ewgh*, 6-8 *ugh*, *yeugh*, *eugh*, 7 *yugh*, *yewgh*, *eue*, 6- *yew*. Also 6 *veiwe*, 6-7 *veve*, 7- *view*, etc.: see *VEW*. [*OE. iū, ēow*, late *ēoh*, str. masc., corresp., with consonant-alternation and variation of gender, to *OS. ih*, pl. *ichas*, *MLG.* *MDu. iwe*, *iewe*, *uwe*, *OHG. iuu*, *iuii* str. masc., *iua* wk. fem., *iga* str. fem. (*MHG. iwe*, *ibe*, *G. eibe*, Swiss dial. *iche*, *ige*), *ON. yr* (chiefly, bow):—*OTeut. *ihwaz*, **izwaz*, **ihwō*, **izwō*. (*F. if*, *Sp. iwa*, med. *L. ivus*, are from Germanic; (*M*)*Du. iif* is ad. *F. if*.)

Related obscurely to the Germanic forms are: *OIr. eo*, *W. ywen*, Cornish *hivin*, Breton *iven*, going back to *OCeltic *iuos*; Lith. *jėvā*, Lett. *ēwa* black alder (*OPruss. iuiwis*, Lett. *iuo* yew, are from *MLG.*); *OSl. (Russ., Serb.) iwa* willow.]

1. a. A tree of the genus *Taxus* (*N.O. Coniferæ*) widely distributed in the North Temperate Zone, esp. *T. baccata*, the common yew of Europe and Asia, having heavy elastic wood and dense dark-green foliage; often planted in

churchyards, and regarded as symbolic of sadness.

c725 Corpus Gloss. (Hessels) T 15 *Taxus*, iuu. *985 Charter of Ædred* in *Kemble Cod. Dipl.* III. 218 Of wænhyrste on ðone eald iw; ðonone of ðon iwe to Lullan setle. *a1000 Riddles lvi.* 9 þær wæs hlin & ac & se hearda iw & se fealwa hollen. *c1000 ÆLFRIC Gloss.* in *Wr.-Wülcker* 139/14 *Ornus*, eow. *c1325 Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in *Rel. Ant.* II. 82/2 *Eye*, w [*Arundel MS.*, *if*, *ew*]. *c1340 Nominale* (Skeat) 667 *Hw*, rosetre and havetre. *c1386 CHAUCER Knt.'s T.* 2065 *Mapul*, thorn, bech, hasel, *Ew*, whippeltre. *a1400 Gloss.* in *Rel. Ant.* I. 7 *Taxus*, ewe. *1535* in *E. Law Hampton Crt. Pal.* (1885) 372 Treys of Yow, Sypers, Genaper, and Bayes. *1562 TURNER Herbal* II. 150 The berries of the Italian Ughes. *1587 MASCALL Govt. Cattle, Oxen* (1596) 36 Yeugh is euill for cattell to eate. *1588 SHAKS. Tit. A.* II. iii. 107 They told me they would binde me heere, Vnto the body of a dismall yew. *1612 WEBSTER White Devil* I. ii. 262 Under that Eu, As I sat sadly leaning on a grave. *1625 BACON Ess., Gardens* (Arb.) 555 Iuniper; Cipresse Trees; Eugh. *1663 COWLEY Verses on Sev. Occas., Complaint 4* Beneath a Bow'r for sorrow made, .. Of the black Yew's unlucky green. *1699 GARTH Dispens.* II. 11 Beneath the gloomy Covert of an Eugh. *1706 HEARNE Coll. (O.H.S.) I.* 223 Robinson... pull'd up some of y^e Ews. *1715 Ibid.* V. 39 Some say that tis to be planted with Ugh, dwarf Ughs. *1750 JOHNSON Rambler* No. 44, I threw myself beneath a blasted yeugh. *1799 J. ROBERTSON Agric. Perth* 478 Ews 6 [feet in circumference]. *1872 OLIVER Elem. Bot.* II. 247 The wood of the Yew is said never to be attacked by insects.

b. The wood of this tree, esp. as the material of bows.

a1400 King & Hermit 199 Wyth a bow of hue full strong And arowys knyte in a thong. *1524 Test. Ebor. (Surtees)* V. 177 A bowe of u. *1530 PALSGR.* 234/1 Iewe wode to make bowes, *hyf. Ibid.* 291/2 Yowe to make bowes of, *hyf. 1545 ASCHAM Toxoph.* (Arb.) 113 Ewe of all other thynges, is that, wherof perfitte shootyng woulde haue a bowe made. *1590 SPENSER F.Q.* I. i. 9 The Eugh obedient to the benders will. *1593 SHAKS. Rich. II.* III. ii. 117 Their Bowes Of double fattall Eugh. *1619 DRAYTON Odes* xvii. 73 With Spanish Ewgh so strong, Arrowes a Clothyard long. *a1700 EVELYN Diary* 18 Apr. 1680, One room parquettued with yew, which I lik'd well. *1805 SCOTT Last Minstr.* III. xx, My bow of yew to a hazel wand. *1899 E. J. CHAPMAN Drama of Two Lives, Snake-Witch* 32 The chevron bands that edg'd the floor All shapely set in oak and yew.

c. Branches or sprigs of the tree, esp. as symbols of sadness.

c1450 in Augier Syon (1840) 349 Two bysoms made of boxe and ewe. *c1450 Mirr's Festival* (MS. Claud. A. II. If. 52), We have non olyfe pat beruth grene leues, we takon in stede of hit hew and palmes wyth, and beruth abowte on procession. *1547 Ludlow Churchw. Acc.* (Camden) 29 Yeve and candelles at Ester to hange in the churche. *1601 SHAKS. Twel. N.* II. iv. 56 My shrowd of white, stuck all with Ew. *1697 DRYDEN Æneis* IV. 731 Sad Cypress, Vervain, Eugh, compose the Wreath. *1820 SHELLEY Prometh. Unb.* IV. 16 Strew, oh, strew Hair, not yew! Wet the dusty pall with tears, not dew!

¶ d. Applied to some flowering plants.

1653 R. SANDERS Physiogn. Pref. b 2, The flowers of plants having the resemblance of Butterflies...; as our English Gandergoose, the flower of Beans, Woodbine, Ew, and Ragwort. *1674 tr. Scheffer's Lapland* 141 The thin leaved heath, that bears a Berry, which some call ground Ewe.

2. A bow made of the wood of the yew.

1598 SYLVESTER Du Bartas II. i. iv. *Handicrafts* 490 Through a Forrest Tubal (with his Yew And ready quiver) did a Boar pursue. *1697 DRYDEN Æneis* IX. 854 At the full stretch of both his Hands, he drew, And almost join'd the Horns of the tough Eugh. *a1718 Prior Henry & Emma* 345 To send the Arrow from the twanging Yew. *1728 RAMSAY Archers diverting themselves* 13 To see them draw the bended yew. *1817 SCOTT Harold* II. iii, When from Wulfstane's bended yew Sprung forth the grey-goose shaft.

3. attrib. and Comb., as *yew-berry*, *-bough*, *-flat*, *-frond*, *-hedge*, *-leaf*, *-stock*, *-wood*; made of yew-wood, as *yew-bow*, *-panel*; *yew-besprinkled*, *-crested*, *-hedged*, *-leaved*, *-roofed* adjs. See also *YEW-TREE*.

c1000 Sax. Leechd. II. 350 Do him pis læcedome...*eo*werge...ofgeot mid ealap. *1768 G. WHITE Selborne, To Pennant* 8 Oct., The ousel...fed on yew-berries. *1820 KEATS Melancholy* i, Make not your rosary of yew-berries. *1851 G. MEREDITH Love in the Valley* vii, Threading it with colour, like yewberries the yew. *1868 MORRIS Earthly Par., Man born to be King* 1479 The feet Of the long *yew-besprinkled hill. *1867 — Jason* vii. 137 She...to a *yew-bow made the boat's head fast. *1558 Nottingham Rec.* IV. 123 A dosyn of *ewe bowes. [*1622 Inv.* (Nottingham) in *N. & Q.* 1st Ser. VI. 10/1 Four Spanishe viewe bowes.] *1727 SOMERVILLE Yeoman of Kent* 9 Bow-men...Whose good yew-bows, and sinews strong, Drew arrows of a cloth-yard long. *1860 LONGF. Wayside Inn, K. Olaf* xx. i, From his yew-bow, tipped with silver, Flew the arrows fast. *1814 SCOTT Flora Macivor's Song* xi, The *yew-crested bonnet o'er tresses of grey! *1922 JOYCE Ulysses* 491 The walls are tapestried with a paper of *yewfronds. *a1763 SHENSTONE Ess. Men & Mann.* Wks. 1777 II. 116 Lord D...s high shorn *yew-edges. *1777 MRS. THRALE Let. to Johnson* 18 Sept., A spirit of innovation has however reached even these at last... A yew hedge, or an eugh hedge if you will. *1832 MISS MITFORD Village Ser. v. Christmas Amusem.* 105 From the yew-hedge to the fountain. *1830 SCOTT Doom of Devorgoil* I. i, The *yew-hedged garden. *1688 HOLME Armoury* II. 80/1 He beareth Argent, a *Yew leaf slipped. *1731 MILLER Gard. Dict. s.v. Abies*, The Silver, or *Yew-leaf'd Firr Tree. *1776 WITHERING Bot. Arrangem.* I. 680 Yew-leaved Feathermoss. *a1691 AUBREY Wilts* (Royal Soc. MS.) 263 (Halli.) With box and *ewgh panrells of about six inches square. *1897 A. DE VERE* in *Ld. Tennyson Tennyson* I. xiii. 293 The *yew-roofed cloister of Muckross. *1483 Cath. Angl.* 118 An *Ev stok, *taxum*. *1613 Holmesfield Crt. Rolls in Sheffield Gloss.* (1888) Addenda s.v. *Ewe forth*, *Ewe Wood. *1830 TENNYSON Oriana* 19 In the yew-wood black as night.

† **yew, v. local. Obs.** Also *yaw*. (See *quots.*)

1748 W. BROWNRIGG Art of Making Common Salt II. iv. 131 At the Lemington works... They boil the brine violently till a thin skin of salt appears on its surfaee. [*Note*] They say then that the brine begins to yew. *1828-32 WEBSTER, Yaw*, To rise in blisters, breaking in white froth, as cane juice in the sugar works... West Indies. *Ibid.*, *Yew*, to rise, as scum on the brine in boiling at the salt works.

yew, repr. a vulgar pronunc. of *YOU*. Also **yewall** = *YOU-ALL pers. pron.*

1890 KIPLING Abaft Funnel (1909) 272 'Do yew know,' as the Private Secretary said at Simla... 'it's remarkably hard for an Anglo-Indian to get along in England.' *1921 H. WILLIAMSON Beautiful Years* 204 'Yew wait... Common as dirt, are we?... Yew wait, young cocky-boy.' 'Yes, yew wait, yew slug-face, bag o' bones.' *1968 A. DIMENT Great Spy Race* i. 8 How can I help yew? *1977 Custom Car* Nov. 14/1 Thank yewall. *1981 P. MACDONALD One Way Street* xix. 189 Yew just scoot, yew an' young John.

yew(e): see *WEW sb.*¹, *GIVE*, *YEO sb.*¹, *YOU*, *YULE*.

yewar, -er, obs. forms of *EWER*².

1538 ELYOT, Gutturium, a lauer, or yewer [*1552 HULOET, yewar*]. *1582 N. LICHEFIELD tr. Castanheda's Cong. E. Ind.* xvii. 44 A certain yewer y^e which had a high foot.

yewel, obs. form of *JEWEL*.

yewen ('ju:ən), *a.* Now rare or arch. Also 6 *ewghen*, *eughen*, 6-8 *ewen*, 7 *yeughen*. [*f. YEW sb.* + *-EN*. Cf. *MHG. iūwen*, *G. eiben*.] Made of the wood of the yew; consisting of yew-trees.

1563 Norwich Depos. (1905) 77 A ewen bow. *1590 SPENSER F.Q.* I. xi. 19 So farre as Ewghen bow a shaft may send. *1591 — M. Hubbard* 747 His stiffe armes to stretch with Eughen bowe. *1654 C. WASE Gratius' Cyneget.* Pref. b 3 b, A round hoop of yeughen wood made of boughs. *a1700 KEN Edmund Poet.* Wks. 1721 II. 262 As warlike Archers bend long ewen Bows. *1861 READE Cloister & H.* xxiv, In spite of their laws and their proclamations to keep up the yewen bow. *1884 E. V. BOYLE Days & Hours in Garden* vi. 89 The square-topped Yewen hedge.

yewer: see *YURE*.

yewisse, yewl, yewlow, yewre, yewrie: see *IWIS, YULE, YELLOW, EWER*¹, *EWERY*¹.

yew-tree ('ju:tri:). = *YEW sb.* 1.

1398 TREvisa Barth. De P.R. xvii. clxi. (1495) Vj/i An Ewe tree... is a tree with venim & poyson. *c1425 Voc.* in *Wr.-Wülcker* 646/13 *Hec taxus*, hawtre [*sic*], newtre. *c1440 Promp. Parv.* 507/2 *V tree* (*K. uv tre*), *taxus*. *1538 TURNER Libellus, Taxus*, an Vhe tre. *1593 in N. & Q.* 1st Ser. (1852) VI. 64/1 Itm. for leadinge of earthe to y^e benche about the yewe tree, .i.ij. iiiij^d. *1607 TOPSELL Four-f. Beasts* 554 The rotten part of Eue-tree. *1612 WEBSTER White Devil* I. ii. 261 Into a church-yard, where a goodly Eu tree Spred her large roote in ground. *a1697 AUBREY Surrey* (1718) III. 46 In this Church-Yard is an Ew-Tree, ten Yards in Compass. *1750 GRAY Elegy* iv, Beneath those rugged elms, that yew-tree's shade, Where heaves the turf in many a mould'ring heap. *1814 SCOTT Ld. of Isles* v. xix, The yew-tree lent its shadow dark. *1864 TENNYSON En. Ard.* 732 An ancient evergreen, A yewtree.

attrib. and Comb. *1688 HOLME Armoury* II. 52/1 He beareth Argent, a Yew Tree Branch Fructed. *1845 R. S. SURTEES Hillingdon Hall* x. 145 A massive yew-tree-lined walk. *1866 GEO. ELIOT F. Holt* Introd. 4 Its untidy kitchen-garden and cone-shaped yew-tree arbour. *1889 Science-Gossip* XXV. 118/2 The poisonous nature of yew-tree leaves.

Hence **yew-tree'd a.**, planted with yew-trees.

1872 MRS. A. GATTY Bk. Sun-dials Introd. p. xxii, The quaint yew-tree'd garden.

yewys, obs. form of *IWIS*.

yex (jeks), yesk (jesk), sb. Now *dial.* Forms: 1 *gesca*, *iesca*, *gescea*, *geocsa*, *geoxa*, *geohsa*, *gihsa*, 4-6 *yoxe*, 5-7 *yexe*, 6 *yeax*, *yeske*, 6-7 *yeox* (e, 7 *yex*, *yox*, 7, 9 *Sc. yesk*, 9 *yisk*, *yucks*, *yeux*, *yokes*. [*OE. gesca*, *geocsa*, **gicsa* (*gihsa*), related to next.] An act of yexing; †a sob (*obs.*); a hiccup or the hiccups.

a700 Epinal Gloss. 958 *Singultus*, *iesca*. *c725 Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) T 71 *Tentigo*, *gesca*. *a1000 Boeth. Metr.* II. 5 Me pios siccetung hafad ageled, ðes geocsa. *c1000 Sax. Leechd.* II. 60 þam monnum þe for fylle gihsa slihð. *1398 TREvisa Barth. De P.R.* xvii. ix. (Tollem. MS.), To abate þe 30xe [*ed. 1495 yex*] þæt comep of fulnesse. *1530 PALSGR.* 291/1 *Yeske* that cometh of the stomake, *sanglout*. *1547 BOORDE Brev. Health* cccxxv, It is named the yexe or the hicket, and of some the dronken mans cough. *1548 PATTEN Exped. Scot.* Pref. c vj b *marg.*, [They] w^t a yoxe, do soon dye. *1565 HARDING Answ. Jewel* II. 138 The yeax and vomite followed. *1578 LYTE Dodoens* II. lxxiv. 246 Two or three branches of Myntes... do swage and appease the Hicquet or yeoxe. *1601 HOLLAND Pliny* xxviii. xx. II. 342 They shall find a remedie for the yox. *1609 — Amm. Marcell.* xxx. ix. 392 The yex that often shooke his flanks and small guts. *1621 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) Goose* Wks. (1630) 1. 110/2 One staggering there hath got the drunken yox. *1808 JAMIESON, Yeisk, Yesk*, s., a single affection of hiccup, S. as, He gae a great yesk, S. B. *eesk*, id. *1818 TODD, Yux*... sometimes pronounced *yex*, and *yox*, or *yokes*... the hiccough. *1824 MACTAGGART Gallovid. Encycl.* 266 Drink... Which cures the yisk and waterbrash. *1876 Whitby Gloss.*, *Yeux*, a hiccup. *1886 ELWORTHY W. Somerset Word-bk.* s.v. *Yucks*, Why Tommy, you've a-got the yucks—drink some cold water.

yex, yesk, v. Now *Sc.* and *dial.* Forms: *a.*¹ 1 *geocsian*, *geoxian*, 3-4 *30xe*, 4-6 *yoxe*, 4-7 *yexe*, 5 *3exe*, 6 *yeax*, *youx*, *yowx*, 6- *yex*, 9 *dial.* *yox*, *yocks*, *yaux*; *a.*² 5-6 *yeske*, 6 *yeask*, 6- *yesk*; *a.*³

4-5 3oske, 5 yoske. *β.*¹ 1 ȝiscian, 5 yiske, ȝyske, 5-6 ȝisk, ȝeisk, 9 yisk; *β.*² 5 ȝyxe. [OE. *ȝeocsian*, *ȝiscian*, corresp. to OHG. *geskôn*, *gesgizôn* 'oscitare': of imitative origin.]

† 1. *intr.* To sob. *Obs.*

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* ii. §1 Ac ic nu wepende & ȝiscende ofgeradra worda misfo. c 1050 [see YEXING]. c 1290 *Becket* 1536 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 150 And sore wepinde he wende forth, he ȝoxede and siȝte wel ofte. 13... *S. Erkenwolde* 312 in Horstm. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 312 þe bysshop...hade no space to speke, so spakly he ȝoskyd. 1388 WYCLIF 2 *Kings* iv. 35 The child ȝoxide [1382 brethed] seueene sithis. c 1440 *Alphabet of Tales* 20 And agayn he suld dy, he began at yiske. 1510 STANBRIDGE *Vocabula* (W. de W.) Aiv, *Singultio*, to yeske or to sob. 1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* xviii. xxxv. I. 614 Ravens crying one to another as if they sobbed or yexed therewith. 1629 GAULE *Holy Madn.* 283 What thinkst thou of the Body, that yelpes and yexes, at any small push?

2. To hiccup.

a 1400 *Arund. MS.* 42 lf. 28 b in *Prompt. Parv.* 539 *note*, Anet...the sed coct, and al hot put to þe nostrelle, soffreth noȝt to galpyn, ne to rospyn, ne to ȝexyn. 1432-50, etc. [see YEXING]. c 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 298 Be yoxinge, ne bolkyng, ne gronyng. 1530 PALSGR. 786/2 Whan he yesketh next, tell hym some straunge newes, and he shall leave it. 1544 PHAER *Regim. Lyfe* (1545) Xvij, It chaunceth oftentimes that a chylde yeaxeth out of measure. Wherefore it is expedyent to make the stomake eygre afore it be fed. 1653 URQUHART *Rabelais* i. xxi. 90 He...yawned, spitted, coughed, yexed. 1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* ix. (1562) D iv, He their maisters head w' sword ofchopt, & left his tronke furth yexing belching blood. 1567 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* v. 58 He...Beheld him yesking forth his ghost. 1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 154 It garr'd him yesk his drammach. 1882 W. WORC. *Gloss.*, Yox, v. to cough, or spit up. 1893 S.E. *Worc. Gloss.*, Yaux, v. to cough, or expectorate. 'I don't want no bacca smokers in my kitchen, yauxin' an' spettin' about.'

3. *trans.* To belch forth. Also *intr.* to belch; to hawk; to expectorate.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Reeve's T.* 231 (Ellesm.) He yexeth [*v.r.* ȝeskep, ȝoxeth] and he speket thurgh the nose As he were on the quakke or on the pose. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* iii. ix. 82 His nek fourth of the cave He straucht, fordrunkin,... Bolkis furth and ȝiskis of ȝoustir mony streme. *Ibid.* viii. iv. 36 At his mouth...His faderis reky flamb furth ȝiskit he. *Ibid.* 154 A laithly smok he yiskis blak as hell. a 1555 LYNDSEY in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 521/1441 Scho pufit and yiskit with sic riftis, That very dirt come furth with driftis. 1560 PHAER *Æneid.* ix. (1562) D iv, He their maisters head w' sword ofchopt, & left his tronke furth yexing belching blood. 1567 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* v. 58 He...Beheld him yesking forth his ghost. 1819 W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 154 It garr'd him yesk his drammach. 1882 W. WORC. *Gloss.*, Yox, v. to cough, or spit up. 1893 S.E. *Worc. Gloss.*, Yaux, v. to cough, or expectorate. 'I don't want no bacca smokers in my kitchen, yauxin' an' spettin' about.'

Hence 'yexer, one who yexes.

1611 COTGR., *Sengleterre*, one that hath the hickocke; a yexer.

† **yexen**, *v.* *Obs.* In 5 ȝyksen, ȝosken. [f. YEX *v.* + -EN⁸.] = YEX *v.*

14... *Chaucer's Reeve's T.* 231 (Camb. MS.) He ȝykseneth & spekyth þowur þe nose. c 1430 *Chev. Assigne* 108 They chyuered for colde as cheuerynge chyliden, They ȝoskened, & cryde out & þat a man herde.

† **yexiled** [Y- 4], exiled.

1340 *Ayenb.* 30 Men and wyfmen and children deserited and y-exiled.

yexing, **yesking**, *vbl. sb.* Now *Sc.* and *dial.* Forms: see YEX, YESK *v.* [OE. *ȝeocsung*, *ȝeoxung* = OHG. *gesgizunga*: see YEX, YESK *v.* and -ING¹.] The action of the vb. YEX; †sobbing (*obs.*); (most freq.) hiccuping.

c 1050 *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 423/12 In *singultum*, in sicettunge and ȝeoxunge. c 1050 *Suppl. Ælfie's Gloss.* *ibid.* 179/4 *Singultus*, ȝeocsung. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 801 Mid ȝoxinge & gret wop þus he bigan is mone. 1382 WYCLIF *Lam.* iii. 56 Ne turne thou awei thin ere fro my sobbing [*v.r.* ȝoxing] and cries. 1387-8 T. USK *Test. Love* i. i. (Skeat) l. 6 Any maner disease outward, is sobbing maner, sheweth sorrowful yexinge from within. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P.R.* vii. xlv. (1495) q vj b, Yoxynge is the sowne in the nose of vyolent meuyng of y^e stomak. a 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 5042 So did his princes...With ȝedire ȝoskingis & ȝerre ȝett out to grete. 1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) v. 389 Pereschenge moche peple in yoxynge or nesynge. c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 539/1 ȝyxyng, *singultus*. a 1470 TIPTOFT *Orat. G. Flaminius* (Caxton 1481) fiv, He in his drunkenesse with his stombling yoxing & prating. 1483 *Cath. Angl.* 426/2 A ȝiskynge, *singultus*. 1510 STANBRIDGE *Vocabula* (W. de W.) Av, *Oscedo*, yeskyng. 1530 PALSGR. 291/1 Yexing, *hocquet*. 1543 TRAHERON tr. *Vigo's Chirurg.* iii. ix. 96 b/1 Great apostemations...whyche cause rigours, feuers, spasmes, youxyng. 1544 PHAER *Regim. Lyfe* (1545) Fj, Hycket or yeaskynge, is an euyl mouyng of the vertue expulsive of the stomake. 1562 TURNER *Bathes* 9 b, It healeth also the hitchcock or yiskinge. 1569 R. ANDROSE tr. *Alexis's Secr.* iv. 1. 35 To remedie the yexings of the stomake and vomitings. 1600 DARRELL *True Narr.* 6 A bygg blacke catt...threwe her backward taking from her the vse both of her eyes and handes, which with yesking were euer losed. 1613 BP. ANDREWES 96 *Serm.*, *Eph.* iv. 30 (1629) 652 The upbrayding or yexing of the heart (as Abigail excellently termeth it). 1684 ROBT. JOHNSON *Enchir. Med.* iii. iv. 152 [The Hicket] is called in English a sobbing or yexing. 1887 F. T. HAVERGAL *Heref. Wds.* 38 He suffers so from yocksing. 1887 *Jamieson's Dict.*, *Suppl.* s.v. *Yeterie*, A yetrie yisking.

yé-yé (jeje), *a. (sb.)* Also Ye-Ye. [a. Fr., tr. of *yeah-yeah*, redupl. of *YEAH adv.*; the form *yeah-yeah* freq. occurred in Eng. popular songs of the 1960s.] Designating or pertaining to the modern style of music, dress, etc., associated

with France in the 1960s. Also applied to persons. *Occas. as sb.*

1960 *Daily Tel.* 24 Oct. 9/3, I found one dramatically yé-yé shop in old Lyons...which sells only British goods of a somewhat bizarre kind. 1966 *Guardian* 1 Apr. 10/7 In Paris, clothes are still a lot more class-divisive with Ye-Ye girls and debutantes thoroughly opposed. *Ibid.* 7 Apr. 8 Paris once had twenty music halls; now it has two—the Olympia, which caters more for yé-yé singers, and Bobino. *Ibid.*, The Bobino...is no place for yé-yés. 1967 *Sat. Rev.* 4 Mar. 49 Amplified like yé-yé music. 1968 *N.Y. Times* 3 July 30 The orchestra Chez Régine will play anything 'from yé-yé to regular music'. *Ibid.* 23 July 42 The name of a high-priced haute couture boutique here, run by Arlette Nastat, a forever yé-yé designer. 1972 M. GOLDBERG *Karamanov Equations* xvii. 161 He sipped a coffee and a Cinzano...watching the mini-skirted yé-yé girls and their hairy escorts parading by. 1979 J. WYLLIE *To catch Viper* viii. 49 Coca-Cola signs and bars, fashionable young women in miniskirts and teen-age yé-yé boys.

yeyed, ? = *yeped*, *pa. pple.* of EATHE *v.*, to ease.

c 1425 *Abraham's Sacr.* 334 in *Non-Cycle Myst. Plays* (1909) 49 A! Lord, I thank The of Thy gret grace, Now am I yeyed on dyuers wysse.

yeyn-, **ȝeyn-**: see GAIN-.

yeyr, *obs. Sc. form* of YEAR¹.

yeYrd, **yeYre**, *obs. Sc. form* of EARTH, AIR *sb.*¹

1533 *Abstr. Protocols Town Clerks of Glasgow* (1879) IV. 60 Jhon Muir...gaef staet, be yeYrd and stane, of ane bak tenement, a 1500 *Coventry Corpus Chr. Pl.* 37/126 When the sun and the stare In the yeYre togeythur warre.

yez, *pers. pron. dial.* (esp. *Anglo-Ir.*). Also yees, yeez, yiz. [f. YE with plural inflexion s.] You (said to more than one).

1804 MARIA EDGEWORTH *Ennui* vi, Mind the big hole in the middle of the bridge, God bless yees! 1828 T. C. CROKER *Fairy Leg. S. Irel.* ii. 110 'Boys', says she, 'I hope yeze have made a good dinner.' 1842 S. LOVER *Handy Andy* xxxiv. 280 Who are yiz at all, gentilemin? 1884 D. BOUCICAULT *Shaughraun* i. iv. 10/2 Away with yeez—hide! 1901 M. FRANKLIN *My Brilliant Career* xvii. 147, I have the table laid out for both of yez. 1908 J. JOYCE *Let.* 8 Dec. (1966) II. 226, I will send him very gladly if that will make yiz all happy and loving. 1939 — *Finnegans Wake* 8 Now yiz are in the Willingdone Museum. 1962 D. PHILLIPS *Lichty Nichts* 30 Yez ur gittin a rare day. 1966 [see JACK *sb.*¹ 1 d]. 1969 in Halpert & Story *Christmas Mumming in Newfoundland* 211 Some people will say, 'How many of yez?' and the janneys will shout back, 'Two or three.' 1977 *Transatlantic Rev. Lx.* 147 'Aye, OK,' I says. 'How but? Did yiz arrange that afore?' 1977 *Sounds* 9 July 8/5 It's not going to be on general release and yez can't buy it at general outlets.

Yezidi, **-dee** ('jɛzidi:). Also Yeze(e)dee, Izedi, Zezidee. [Of disputed origin.] One of a religious sect found in Kurdistan, Armenia, and the Caucasus, which, while believing in a Supreme God, regards the Devil with reverential fear.

1818 KINNEIR *Journ. Asia Minor* 414 The Zezidees live in enmity with the Christians. 1819 T. HOPE *Anastasius* (1820) III. 114 The strangers were Zezidees. 1842 J. B. FRASER *Mesop. & Assyria* xiv. 328 The Yezidee religion appears to be a compound of many others strangely jumbled together. 1848 LAYARD (*title*) *Nineveh and its Remains*: with an Account of...the Yezidis, or Devil-Worshippers. 1852 BADGER *Nestor* i. x. 112, I think it cannot be doubted that the term 'Yezeedee' is derived from Yezid, one of the titles applied by the ancient Persians to the Supreme Being. 1871 TYLOR *Prim. Cult.* II. xvii. 299 The Izedis or Yezidis, the so-called Devil-worshippers.

yezzy, *dial. form* of EASY.

1896 AUG. J. C. HARE *Story of my Life* i. iii. 178 The old Cheshire proverb—'Bout's bare but it's yezzy.'

yf, *obs. form* of GIVE *v.*, IF.

† **yfaze**, *adv. Obs.* Also 4 ifaie. [repr. OE. *ȝefægen* adj.: see Y- and FAIN *a.* (southern ME. *faze*)] Fain, gladly.

a 1300 *Vox & Wolf* 199 in *Rel. Ant.* II. 276 'Woltou', quod the vox, 'srift ounderfonge, Tel thine sunnen on and on, That ther bileve never on.' 'Sone', quad the wolf, 'wel i-faie.' c 1315 SHOREHAM l. 1862 Ne forpe þe moder þet hyt beer, Ne woldest þou nase y-faze.

† **yfailed**, **yfayl**(1)ed [Y- 4], failed.

c 1315 SHOREHAM l. 56 Yf þou nelt nauȝt climme þos, Of heuene þou hest yfailed. 13... *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 702 Trewth is i-faillid with fremid and sibbe. 1340 *Ayenb.* 71 Alle guodes byþe ous yfailed. c 1394 i-failed [see FAIL *v.* 12 b].

yfaired, **yuayred** [FAIR *v.*], made clean or pure.

1340 *Ayenb.* 107 þane gost of wysdom, be huam bi we zuo yclensed ase gold and yuayred of alle uelpe. *Ibid.* 200.

y'faith, in faith: see FAITH *sb.* 12 b.

15... *Chevy Chase* ii. 124 'Such A-nothar captayn skotland within', he sayd, 'ye-feth shuld neuer be.' a 1596 *Sir T. More* i. ii. 152 Yfaith, yfaith, they are too short for me. 1607 Y'faith [see FAITH *sb.* 12 b]. 1619 DRAYTON *Heroic.* xiii. 108 Yfaith her Queenship little Rest should take.

† **y-falle**, *v. Obs.* Also 4 yualle. [OE. *ȝefeallan* = OHG. *gifallan*: see Y- 3 c and FALL *v.*] *intr.* To fall; to befall.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 93 þonne ȝefeallap ealle deofolgyld. 1340 *Ayenb.* 36 Huet cas yualle. *Ibid.* 48 Hit yualþ oþerhuyl desertesoun of eyr and ualse mariages.

† **yfalle**(n, *pa. pple.* *Obs.* Forms: 1 ȝefeallen, 6 ivalle(n, ifalle(n, 4 yvalle, yfall, 4-5 yfalle(n, 3 yfalne. [OE. *ȝefeallan*, *pa. pple.* of *feallan* to FALL, *ȝefeallan* (see prec.).] Fallen; also fig.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 93 Seo heofon biþ ȝefeallen æt þæm feower endum middangeardes. c 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) cxlviii. 8 Fyr, forst, hægel, and ȝefeallen snaw. a 1225 *Ancre. R.* 58 Heo schulen ȝelden þet best þet is þer inne ivalen. a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 514 Vor hwanne he haueþ ido his dede ifalle is al his boldhede. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1537 þe king...let bulde vp grete tounes þat were ney adoun ivalle [*MS* 8 yfalle]. 1340 *Ayenb.* 176 Hou ofte he heþ yualle into zenne. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* x. 179 Men yfalle in myschef. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Engl. Poesie* iii. iv. (Arb.) 160 Many a word yfalne shall eft arise.

yfalt, ME. *pa. pple.* of FOLD *v.*¹

yfare, *var. I-FARE v. Obs.*

1593 *Jack Straw* ii. Civ, So did they all yfare like franticke men.

† **yfare**(n [Y- 4, FARE *v.*¹: cf. I-FARE *v.*], gone; travelled; dealt with.

900-30 *O.E. Chron.* (Parker MS.) an. 894 þa he þær to gefaren wæs, þa eodon hie to hiora scipum. c 1205 LAY. 4690 Nes hit buten feower wiken þat þas kinge ifaren [c 1275 i-vare] weoren, cam Brennes riden. *Ibid.* 26425 þa þis wes al iuare, þa wes Brennes keisere. a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 400 Ho...wes aferd þat hire answare Ne wrpe nouht ariht iware [*v.r.* ifare]. c 1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* iii. 577 Whan þat he seyde so, That Troilus was out of town y-fare. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 385 He was piled and i-robbed, and fare [*MS. γ yvare*] wip as it were a peef. 1432-50 tr. *Higden, Harl. Contin.* (Rolls) VII. 515 The cuntray was foule yfare with.

yfarsyd [FARCE *v.*], stuffed.

c 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 40 Pygge y-farsyd.

yfast, **yvast** [FAST *v.*²], fasted.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 205 Dære nihte þe hie þæt fæsten gefæst hæfdon. c 1275 yuast [see fast *v.*² 3]. 13... *K. Alis.* 2419 (Laud MS.) As a wolf, þat fele dawes had yfast. c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 2822 Gyoun þanne was teynt & paal so longe he hadde yuaste.

yfastened, set fast, fixed, fastened.

c 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) lvii[i]. 7 Swa weax melteð, ȝif hit byð wearmum neah fyre gefæstnad. 1340 *Ayenb.* 107 Zuø yuestned ine þe loue and adrayngt in þe zuetnesse of god. c 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 50 þan take a dysshye y-fastenyd on þe pelys ende.

yfebled, enfeebled.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 363 Engliſſhe men...were moche i-feble [*MSS. β and γ yfebled*].

† **yfed**, *pa. pple.* *Obs.* [OE. *ȝeféd*, *pa. pple.* of *fédan* FEED *v.*] Fed.

a 1100 *Aldhelm Gloss.* i. 3753 (Napier 100/1) *Holuscus* *uisceretur*,...ofætum wære gefed. c 1205 LAY. 13573 He us haueð wel iued. a 1310 in Wright *Lyric P.* xxxix. 110 Wher he were ythe mone boren an y-fed. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 251 Realliche i-cloped and likyngliche i-fedde [*MS. γ yved*]. c 1450 *Crt. of Love* 975 In wofull hour I got was, welaway! In wofull hour fostred and y-fed. 1647 H. MORE *Song of Soul* ii. *Infin. Worlds* c, Where all take life, ... And then renew'd with pleasure be yfed. 1728 POPE *Dunc.* iii. 188 On parchment scraps y-fed.

yfel(1, *obs. ff.* EVIL.

† **yfele**, *v. Obs.* Forms: 1 ȝefelan, 2-4 ifele, 3 ivele, 3-4 yuele, 4 yfele, 7 yfeele. [OE. *ȝefēlan*: see Y- 3 c and FEEL *v.*] To feel.

c 893 [see FEEL *v.* 1], a 1240 *Ureisin* in *O.E. Hom.* I. 201 Hwi ne iuele ich þe imine breoste so swete ase þu ert? c 1305 *Judas Isc.* 18 in *E.E.P.* (1862) 107 Swipe heo gan iwite And yfele þat he was mid childe. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 13 þe same merk and tokene þat he hadde i-felt [*MS. γ yveld*] in his soule he bare alway after i-sene. c 1634 CARTWRIGHT *Ordinary* iii. i. (1651) 36, I no where hoart yfeele, but on mine head.

† **yfell**, *v. Obs.* Also 3-4 yvelle. [OE. *ȝefyllan*, -fiellan: see Y- 3 c and FELL *v.*] *trans.* To strike down, fell. Also yfelled *pa. pple.*

c 893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* iv. vi. §7 þa hio [sc. seo nædre] ȝefylled wæs. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 221 Ða wolde he Sanctus Martinus...ðæt gylt abrecan & ȝefyllan. c 1205 LAY. 14838 We heom habbeoð iflmed... & mid wepnen ifelled. a 1300 *K. Horn* 58 Hysmyten vnder schelde þat sume hit yfelde. 13... *K. Alis.* 3363 (Laud MS.) Wip dynt of spere pou were yfeld. a 1400 *Octouian* 1525 Syx baners were y-feld.

† **yfere**, *sb. Obs.* Forms: 1 ȝefera, 2-3 ifere, iverere, 3 iuære, iuare, ifære, ifeire, yfere. *Pl.* 1 ȝeferan, 2 ȝeferen, 2-3 iferen, 2-4 ifere, iuere, 3-4 yfere, yuere, 3 iveres. [OE. *ȝefera*, f. ȝe- Y- 1 a + *fær-*, mutated f. *för-*: *faran* to go.] A companion, mate, fellow, associate.

c 870 *Codex Aureus Inscr.*, Ic Aelfred aldormon & Werburg min ȝefera. c 1000 ÆLFRED *Gen.* iii. 12 þæt wif, þæt þu me forgeafe to ȝeferan. a 1200 *Moral Ode* 229 In helle his hunger and þurst, twa uuele iuere. c 1205 LAY. 26012 Arður hine teh Bi-siden his iferen [c 1275 iveres]. a 1225 *Juliana* 48 Engle ifere ant arcanglene freond. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5994 Vor suan...adde euere is yuere, þre velawes þat next him were. a 1300 *K. Horn* 235 Hom rod Aylmer þe kyng, Ant horn wip him...Ant alle his yfere. 13... *K. Alis.* 6906 (Laud MS.) þoo wepe þe kyng & hise yfere.

† **yfere**, *adv. Obs.* (from 6 to 8 *arch.*) Forms: 3-4 ifere, yvere, 4-8 yfere, 5 yfeere, yffere, 6 yfeere, yfeare, *Sc. yfeir.* *β.* 4 yferes, 6 *Sc. yferis.* [Origin uncertain. The available evidence favours on

the whole the supposition that the adverb arose out of the predicative use of *ifere*, pl. of YFERE *sb.* ‘companions, associates’, hence ‘associated’ (see introductory quotes, below); if this were so, the form *in fere* (from *c* 1330) arose from analysing *ifere* as *i*, in *prep.* + FERE *sb.*² With the β -form cf. TOGETHERS, and see -s suffix.] In company; together. (Extensively used in ME. poetry as a riming tag; rare in prose.)

[*a* 1200 [see YFERE *sb.*]. *c* 1205 LAY. 27435 Twein kinges pere æuere weoren ifere. *c* 1275 *Ibid.* 24750 Euere tweine and tweyne wenden i-vere [*earliest text* Æuer tweie and tweie tuhte-to-somme ælc mid his honde heold his iuere]. *a* 1300 *S. Michael in Pop. Treat. Sci.* (1841) 136 Ther is turment strong Of wynd, of water, and of fur, and thaye threo were i-fere.]

a 1300 *XV Signa* 117 in *E.E.P.* (1862) 11 Al þe see sal draw ifere as a walle to stond up riȝt. *c* 1330 *Assump. Virg.* (B.M. MS.) 859 Cryst of heuene. . . Amonge þe apostles sone he lyst, And gret hem alle yfere. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 2267 In caue þei lyen, & slepen samen y-fere. 13.. *Gosp. Nicod.* (A.) 751 And þai for skorne sayd alle yfere. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* II. 1116 With þat þey wente arm in arm y fere [*v. rr.* in fere, yfere] In to þe gardeyn from þe chaumbre doun. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1269 We þuþ knyghtes alle y-vere y-born in douce fraunce. *c* 1400 26 *Pol. Poems* xvii. 192 What soule is syk, lay þat herbe aboue, Hit makeþ hool al y-fere. 1426 *Lyne. De Guil. Pilgr.* 2295 And whan I herde al thys yfere, I wex abyssed in my chere. *c* 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 18 þan take Pepyrr, an Safroun, an Brede, y-grounde y-fere. 1508 DUNBAR *Goldyn Targe* 147 Syne folowit all hir dameselis yfere. 1566 DRANT *Horace Sat.* I. i. Aijb, They feede and feele the fruit of that, which once they gott yfeare. 1583 MELBANCKE *Philotimus* Sij, As litle ioy I feare, should we feele yfere, as did the two vnsensible pictures. 1590 SPENSER *F.Q.* I. ix. 1 O goodly golden chaine, wherewith yfere The vertues linked are in louely wise. 1600 *England's Helicon* Fjb, Harpalus and eke Corin were Heard-men both yfere. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* I. II. lxxv, Then let's all go yfere. 1748 THOMSON *Cast. Indol.* II. xxxv, And much they moraliz'd as thus yfere they yode. 1768 DOWNMAN *Land of Muses* lv, There passed by the sister Graces bright, . . Benevolence and Gratitude y-fere. β . ? *c* 1390 *Form of Cury* I. xxii. (1780) 20 Take brede and þe self broth and drawe it up yferes. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* VI. v. 25 Baith matrouns, and thair husbandis, all yferis.

yfern: see FERN *a.* and *adv.* *Obs.*

yferre, pseudo-arch. f. AFAR *adv.*

c 1634 CARTWRIGHT *Ordinary* v. iv. (1651) 84, I do not reche One bean for all. This Buss is a blive guerdon. Henee Carlishnesse yferre.

† **yfet**, *pa. pple.* *Obs.* Also 1 gefett, 2–4 ifet, 3 ifat, 3–4 yuet, 4 y-feet. [OE. *gefett*, *pa. pple.* of (*ge*)*fetian*: see Y- 4 and FET *v.*] Brought, carried, fetched; acquired.

c 893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* iv. vi. §8 Amilcor, se wæs of Sicilium him to fultume gefett. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 147 And wunie ine þet clenesse þet he hæuēd et his fulluhte ifet. *a* 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1296 Fif siðe tene, icudde & icorene & of feorrene ifat. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5721 þe monokes out of abandone verst were puder yuet. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 1624 þe castel was mad & set, & þer godes þerto yfet. *a* 1400 *Octouian* 237 Floraunce was dyder y-feet. 1555 PHAER *Æneid.* I. (1558) Cjb, Giftes with him he had to bring from Troy destroyed yfet.

† **yfetered** [Y- 4], fettered.

a 1000 *Riddles* liii. 4 þa wæron genumne nearwum bendum, gefeterade fæste togædre. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 32 Heo liggeð mid iren heuie iueoterēd. 13.. *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 218 Yfetered were ys legges under his horse wombe. *c* 1420 [see FETTER *v.*¹ 1].

yfethered, **yfeyned**, ME. *pa. pples.* of FEATHER, FEIGN.

yff, obs. form of IF.

yff, **yffen**, obs. ff. *give, given*: see GIVE *v.*

c 1435 *Torr. Portogale* 2009 God, that died vpon the Rode, Yff grace, that she mete with good! 1484 *Cov. Leet Bk.* 519 Of which somme xli. was yffen to theym aʒeyn.

† **y'filled**, *pa. pple.* *Obs.* [OE. *gefyllled*, *pa. pple.* of (*ge*)*fyllan*: see Y- 4 and FILL *v.*] Filled; fulfilled.

c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* iv. iii. (1890) 266 þæt wæs swa soðlice mid dæd gefyllled, swa him to cweden wæs. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 5 þa hit wæs ifullet þet ysaias þe prophete iwiteʒede. *c* 1205 LAY. 6942 þis lond wes on griðe and ifulled mid gode. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1072 Wonder it is. . . of þi noble gentrise þat is so noble anerpe iwolt wiþ so vil coueitise. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 337 Lanfranc hadde y-fylled [*MS. γ y-vulled*] his witt wiþ al vertues. 1422 YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* 241 Whan a man sittyth atte mette he sholde wythdrawe his honde afor that he be y-fillit. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. III. iv. xxiv, So all things he yfild with their wish'd good.

† **y'find**, *v.* *Obs.* [OE. *gefindan*: see Y- 3 c and FIND *v.*] To find.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp. Matt.* xviii. 28 *Inuenit unum de conseruis suis*. . . gefand enne of efne-ðegnum. *c* 1200 *Moral Ode* 243 (Trin. Coll. MS.) Hie secheð reste þar non nis ac hie hies ne muȝen ifinden. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5779 Vor he sende þe kinge word þat he ne miȝte namo vinde. 1340 *Ayenb.* 130þou gest in-to helle huer þou sselst yuinde ver and bernston. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 405 Ethelwoldus . . destroyede al þat he myȝte fynde [*MS. γ yvynde*] anon to Crekanforde. 1412–20 *LYNG. Chron. Troy* I. 537 Famous Argus, þat. . first þat art y-founde.

† **yfixed** [Y- 4], fixed.

1742 SHENSTONE *Schoolmistr.* xviii, This Hand in Mouth y-fix'd, that rends his Hair.

yflawe, **ivlazen** [FLAY *v.*], flayed.

c 1205 LAY. 27377 Heo sculleð beon islaze, and summe quic iulazene. 13.. *K. Alis.* 894 (Laud MS.) þou shalt ben . . quyk of pine hyde y-flawe.

yfled [FLEE *v.*], fled.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* IV. 661 The swyfte fame. . was porugh-out Troye y-fled with preste wynges.

yflemed, **yvlemd** [FLEME *v.*], put to flight; exiled.

c 893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* VI. xxxiv. §4 He ȝefeht wiþ Gotan, & ȝefiemed wearð. *c* 1205 LAY. 7658 Hu he wæs mid his færde i-flæ mde of pissen earde. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5609 Vor a traytour of is lond lof was is name Yflemd was out of engeland. 1340 *Ayenb.* 39 þe oþre byþe, þe ualse yulemde, þet vlyep.

yfleshide [Y- 5]: see FLESHED I.

yflet [FLEET *v.*], removed.

c 1430 *Hymns Virg.* (1867) 92 þanne foond y me ful fer y-flet Al from god in maieste.

yfloured [Y- 5], having flowers.

1340 *Ayenb.* 136 He is ase þe smale uleȝe þet makeȝ þet hony. . and zekþ þe ueldes yfloured.

yflowe(n¹, ifloȝe, yvlowe, etc. [FLEE *v.*], fled. *c* 1205 LAY. 5953 Alle þe flæmen þe iflowc buð of Rome. *Ibid.* 21463 Nu is Childriciuloȝen. 13.. *K. Alis.* 4486 (Linc. Inn MS.) Darie þe kyng is yflowe. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 225 Marcus Antonius was i-flowe [*v. rr.* yflowe, fledde].

yflowe(n², yflone [FLY *v.*¹], flown.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* II. 140 Se earn on ðam ofre ȝesæt, mid fisce ȝeflogen, þone he ðærrihthe ȝefeng. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 672 He let him makie wengen. . & þo he was iflowe [*v. r.* yflowe] an hei [etc.]. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. III. iv. xxxvii, They'll all be gone In a short time, like Bats and Owls yflone At dayes approach.

y'flown [FLOW *v.*], over-flowed.

1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 379 The land of Tyre with seas yflown.

yfoȝte, **yfouȝte**(n [FIGHT *v.*], fought.

688–95 *Laws Ine* vi. (Liebermann), þeah hit sie on middum felda ȝefohten. *c* 1205 LAY. 25693 We habbeð wið him iuohten. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 9923 On hors keuered Cleodalis, þat al so wele yfouȝten, cert. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 229 þe tweie breperen eorles. . hadde stalworthliche i-fouȝte [*MS. γ yvoȝte*].

yfoiled, ME. *pa. pple.* of FOIL *v.*¹

yfold, **-e**(n [FOLD *v.*¹], folded; closed.

c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* John xx. 7 & þæt swat-lin. . on sundron ȝefælden on anre stowe. *c* 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 1454 Vnder þo stones beþ depe in mold To dragouns fast yfold. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 5796 þe Ameral. . gurde hym with ys fuste y-volde. 1432–50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) III. 253 The Roman. . helde his honde y-folden to geder.

yfolewed, **yfolled**: see YFULLED.

yfolȝed, **yfol(o)wed**, followed.

a 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 237 Se gode man þe godes lufe hæð ȝefolȝed. 1340 *Ayenb.* 99 þis uerste word. . yef hit is wel onderstonde and yuolȝed. 1377 *LANGL. P. Pl.* B. III. 39 Falsenese haued yfolwed þe al þis fyfty wyntre.

yfounded [FAND, FOND *v.*], attempted, tried, tested, tempted.

Beowulf 2301 Dæt hæfde ȝumena sum goldes ȝefandod. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 27 A þet he hine hauēd al ifounded to his wille þurhut. *a* 1225 *Ancr. R.* 94 Holi men wuteð wei þet habbeð hit iuonded. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2245 My broþer þat god kniȝt is. . & wel yfounded in armes. 1340 *Ayenb.* 117 We wyllep wei þet we by yuonded.

yfong [FANG *v.*¹], taken, seized, received.

c 1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* xlv. 4 Aris and far æfter pisum mannum, and þonne þu hig ȝefangen hæbbe [etc.]. *c* 1275 *Passion of our Lord* 460 in *O.E. Misc.* 50 We after vre gultes mede habbeþ yuonge. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6620 At rome he was vaire auonge [*MS. ð yfonge*] & asoiled al so. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 357 He. . deide þe ȝere after he hadde i-fonge [*MS. γ yvonge*] þe fey of holy chirche oon and twenty.

yforged, forged.

c 1386 [see FORGED *ppl. a.* 2]. 1426 *LYDG. De Guil. Pilgr.* 7671 Whan they. . Ben yforgyd off malys.

yfost(e)red, fostered.

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 95 þeo. . þet hire forðfederes hefden ifostret. *c* 1325 *Lai le Freine* 389 In a covent y-fostered to be. *c* 1386 CHAUCER *Reeve's T.* 26 She was yfostred in a Nonnerye. *c* 1407 *LYDG. Reson & Sens.* 1633 That wisdam and philosophie Yfostred ben with rychesse.

† **yfound**, *pa. pple.* *Obs.* [Y- 4.] Found.

c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* III. xi. (Schipper) 235/1 þa his ban ȝefunden & ȝemeted wæron & to pære cyricean ȝelædde. *c* 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 35 Oðer he heo wat ðurh þet he heo dude him seolf, oðer he heo hæfð i-escad, oðer hæfð ifunden on boke. *a* 1250 *Owl & Night.* 705 þe Nihtegale. . hedde onswere god ifunde. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 333 Aftirward his body and þe body of his wif Gwenvere were i-founde [*MS. γ yvounde*]. 1422 YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* 160, I haue y-founde a man aftyr myn herte. 1470–85 *MALORY Arthur* XVII. vii. 699 Ye be wel y fonde said sir Bors. 1522 *World & Child* A v b, So fell a fyghter in a felde was there neuer yfounde.

† **yfounded** [Y- 4, FOUND *v.*²], founded.

c 1290, etc. i-founded [see FOUND *v.*²]. 1399 *LANGL. Rich. Redeles* III. 265 It is not unknwon. . That rewlers of rewmes. . Were not yfounded. . To leue al at likynge. *c* 1430

Freemasonry 394 He schal thenne be chasted after the lawe That was y-fownded by olde dawe.

yfo(u)rmed, formed, informed.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 3179 Yfourmed [*v. r.* yformed] as a dragon as red ase fur. *c* 1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* IV. 451 Make no comparyson To creature y-formed here by kynde. 1402 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 43 Jak, thi formur is a fole, that thus thee hath yfourmed. *c* 1420 [see FORM *v.*¹ 3].

yfracled, **yfreklet**: see FRECKLED *ppl. a.* 2.

yfra(u)ght, fraught.

c 1412 HOCCEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 858 My schip is wel ney with dispeir y-fraȝht. 1576 GASCOIGNE *Steele Glas* 363 Such as have their stables ful yfraught, With pampered Jades. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. iv. *Handicrafts* 108 The Trees with thousand fruits yfraught. 1647 H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. *Infin. Worlds* xlv, As if this empty space with bodies were yfraught.

yfryaght [cf. FREIGHT *pa. pple.*], freighted.

1561 B. GOOGE *Palingenius' Zodiac Life* Bk. to Rdr., Momus there doth ryde at flote, with scomefull tonges yfryaght.

yfrede *v.* [Y- 3 c], to feel, perceive, experience.

c 888, etc. [see FREDE *v.*]. *c* 1275 *Sinners Beware* 316 in *O.E. Misc.* 82 To day ye schuleþ y-frede And vnder-fo lūpre mede. *c* 1315 SHOREHAM I. 170 þaȝ we ne mowe hyt nauȝt ise, Ne forþe ine bodie iuredē.

yfree *v.* [Y- 3 c], to free.

688–95 *Laws Ine* lxxiv. (Liebermann), þonne mot hine se hlaford ȝefreogean. *a* 1000 *Paternoster* II. 31 Wið yfele ȝefreo us. *c* 1205 LAY. 475 Heo biddeð þe mid freonseipe, þat þu heom ifreoie. 1340 *Ayenb.* 86 þe guodemen in pise wourd, þet god heþ yvryd be grace. . uram þe þreldome of þe dyeule. *c* 1425 [see FREE *v.* 2].

yfrendg'de [Y- 4], fringed.

1594 CAREW *Tasso* I. xiv, He puts on siluer wings, yfrendg'de with gold.

yfret(ed¹ [FRET *v.*¹], eaten, worn away or into holes.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp. Matt.* vi. 19 *Ubi aerugo et tineæ demolitur*, huer rust & mohða ȝfreten bið. *c* 1275, *a* 1577 [see FRET *v.*¹ 2, 3]. 13.. *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 201 That his fleis be al i-frette. *a* 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 58 þe substance of þe veyne yfreted may noȝt be souted with-out disese. 1426 *LYDG. De Guil. Pilgr.* 17468 Conswymdy, and yffret a-way. 1568 T. HOWELL *Arb. Amitie* 2b, Thy prisonere, Whose chaines hath through his hart yfreat.

yfret(ed² [FRET *v.*²], furnished, studded.

1426 *LYDG. De Guil. Pilgr.* 588, I sawh ther cordys rovdnd & long, Al yffret with knottys strong. *c* 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* IV. 725 His necke in many a ruge Yfretted grete.

yfretized, *pa. pple.* of FRETISH, FRETIZE *v.*² *Obs.*

yfrore [FREEZE *v.*], frozen.

c 1275 *XI Pains of Hell* 181 in *O.E. Misc.* 152 Summe beop fur-brend, and summe ifrore. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5354 More vor þe harde vorst þat put water yuore is. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 497 þe emperesse. . scapede away over Temse, þat was i-frore [*MS. β yfrore*] and heled wiþ snowe. *c* 1403 *LYDG. Temple of Glas* 20 A craggy roche, Like ise Ifrore.

yfrote, ME. *pa. pple.* of FROT *v.*

yfrounct [FROUNCE *v.*], wrinkled.

c 1634 CARTWRIGHT *Ordinary* v. iv. (1651) 84 His Visage foul, yfrounct with glowing eyen.

yfruited, **yfry(e)d**, ME. *pa. pples.* of FRUIT *v.*, FRY *v.*¹

yft(e, obs. forms of GIFT.

1422 YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* xxxi. 173 A wyse and a worthy man þat lowid not yftis to rescewe. *c* 1450 *Godstow Reg.* 177 þe yfte þat Raf þe son of wayfere & hys heyrys made. 1486 *Churchw. Acc., Croscombe* (Somerset Rec. Soc.) 15 John a Dene owth for the yfte of hys syster iij selver sponys. . xxs.

† **yfuled**, **vyyled** [Y- 4, FILE *v.*²], rendered foul.

a 1100 *Aldhelm Gloss.* I. 653 (Napier 19/1) *Foedatos*, ȝefylede. *a* 1240 *Lofsong in O.E. Hom.* I. 205 Ich habbe. . mid flesches fulðe ifuled me. 13.. *R. Gloucester's Chron.* (Rolls) 8971 Wanne he þi mouþ cusste þat so villiche isoiled [*MS. B* yuyled] is.

yfulled, **yfolled** [FULL *v.*¹], baptized.

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past.* C. lviii. 443 Doð ærest hreowsunga, & weorðað siððan ȝ efullwade. *c* 1175–1297 ifulȝed, ifulhet, yuolled [see FULL *v.*¹]. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 157 þere he was i-cristned [*v. rr.* yfulled, yvolled] of pope Sergius. *a* 1400 *New Test.* (Pauces) 47/16 To byleuen in Crist, & ben y-folewed.

yfurred, furred.

13.. *K. Alis.* 5502 (Laud MS.) Twoo pik mantels, yfurred wiþ grys. 13.. *Coer de L.* 6526 A robe i-furryd with blaun and nere. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 40 A cloþe. . þat was of fyne scarlad, well yfurred wyth grys.

yfurthered, furthered.

c 1402 *LYDG. Compl. Bl. Knt.* xlvii, The trewe man Was put abakke, wher-as the falsheðe Y-furthered was.

yfycched [FICCHE *v.*], fixed.

*c*1412 HOCLEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 856 That after-clap, in my mynde so deepe Y-fycehed is.

yfyned [FINE *v.*³], refined.

14.. LYDG. *Beware Doubleness* 99 O ye women, which been enclyned . . . To been as pure as gold y-fyned.

yfyred, ME. pa. pple. of FIRE *v.*¹

† **ygad(e)red, ygedred** [Y- 4], gathered.

*c*891-*c*1275 [see GATHER *v.*]. *1297* R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4527 In is ost þo hii were ygadered in þis cas. *c*1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 189 þou3 þe tax of ten 3er were trewly y-gadered. *c*1489 CAXTON *Blanchardyn* xxxix. 144 So grete a tresoure was ther wyth-in the paleys, ygadred by the kyng.

ygalled = GALLED *ppl. a.*² 1.

1742 SHENSTONE *Schoolmistr.* xviii, See! to their Seats all hie with merry Glee, . . . All, but the Wight of Bum y-galled.

ygan, ME. pa. pple. of GO *v.*

ygathering, *pr. pple.* [Y- 3c; cf. *ycausing*], gathering.

1866 J. B. ROSE *Ovid's Met.* 163 Rustics there, ygathering osiers.

ygazed, arch. pa. pple. of GAZE *v.*

1812 BYRON *Ch. Har.* II. lxxi, He that unawares had there ygazed.

ygazing, *pr. pple.* [Y- 3c], gazing.

1742 SHENSTONE *Schoolmistr.* xiii, Thilk Wight that has y-gazing been.

ygelt, ygerdonyd, ME. pa. pples. of GILD *v.*¹, GUERDON *v.*

ygerd, ygert: see YGURD.

ygete, got.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 225 3wat man þe child ssolde þe þat he adde bi 3ete [*MS. B* y gete]. *1387* TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 61 Whan he hadde y-gete his axynge.

ygeve: see GIVE *v.*

|| **Yggdrasil** (ʔgdr̥sɪl). *Myth.* Forms: 8 Ydrasil, 9 Ig-, Y(g)gdrasil. [ON. *yg(g)drasil*, also *askr yg(g)drasils* lit. ash-tree of *Yggdrasil* (? f. *Yggr* name of Odin + *drasil* horse; but the formation is obscure.)] In Scandinavian mythology, the great tree whose branches and roots extend through the universe. Also *allusively*.

1770 tr. *Mallet's Northern Antiq.* II. Fab. viii. 49 Gangler demanded: Which is the capital of the Gode, or the sacred city: Har answers, It is under the Ash Ydrasil; where the Gods assemble every day, and administer justice. *1840* CARLYLE *Heroes* iii. 165 The Tree Igdrasil, that has its roots down in the Kingdoms of Hela and Death, and whose boughs overspread the highest Heaven! *1865* W. H. GILLESPIE *Argi. Mor. Attrib. God* 51 It [sc. Love] is, in fact, the mundane Yggdrasil. *1865* LOWELL *Thoreau* Wks. 1890 I. 361 The nameless eagle of the tree Ygdrasil. *1878* EMERSON in *N. Amer. Rev.* CXXVI. 413 You say: 'Cut away; my tree is Ygdrasil—the tree of life.'

yghe, y3e, obs. forms of EYE *sb.*¹

† **y3eld(e, y3ened**, ME. pa. pples. of YIELD *v.*, YEAN *v.*

y3ete, yyete: see I-YETEN, Y-ETE(N).

† **ygiled, ygyled** [Y- 4, GUILLE *v.*], beguiled.

1340 *Ayenb.* 124 Lokeþ þane man þet he ne by be none sleþþe of þe kueade y-gyled. *Ibid.* 256 Hi byep ofte y-giled.

ygilt¹ [GUILT *v.*], sinned, offended.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 219 Noper for noblete of þe persone þat hadde agult [*MS. β* ygilt].

ygilt² = GILT *ppl. a.*

1434 [see GILT *ppl. a.* 1 b]. *1589* NASHE *Martin's Months Minde* Wks. (Grosart) I. 196 My hope once was my old shoes should be sticht, My thumbs ygilt, thai were before bepitcht.

yglated [GLAD *v.*], made glad.

*c*950 [see GLAD *v.* 1]. *c*1205 LAY. 19587 þa wes Vðer bliðe & iglated swuðe. *c*1350 *Will. Palerne* 850 þanne was þat menskul meliors muchel y-gladed.

yglated, ME. pa. pple. of GLAZE *v.*¹

yglient [GLENT *v.*], made radiant.

*c*1530 *Songs, Carols*, etc. (E.E.T.S.) 65 Gaude Maria, yglient with grace!

yglewed, yglosed, etc., ME. pa. pples. of GLUE, GLOZE *v.*¹, etc.

ygloved [Y- 5, GLOVE *sb.*], gloved.

*c*1400 *Laud Troy Bk.* 6542 Agamenon on syde houed, With gode Armes and wel y-gloued.

† **y'go**, *adv. Obs.* Also 6 ygone, 6, 8 ygoe. [Spenserian pseudo-arch. form of AGO *adv.*] Ago; formerly. *late ygo*: recently.

[*1426* LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 6276 Yt ys not yet ygon ful yore . . . Whan thow doutest the off thys bred.] *1579* SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Oct. 62 And great Augustus long ygoe is dead. *1590* — *F.Q.* II. i. 2 Whom his victorious hands did earst restore To natue crowne and kingdome late ygoe. *1596* *Ibid.* IV. xi. 39 And following Dee, which Britons long ygone Did call diuine, that doth by Chester tend. *1767* MICKLE *Concub.* I. xliii, And what ygoe the Place of Herbs had bene,

Is now a Turnip Fielde. *1768* DOWNMAN *Land of Muses* lx, Her heart had long y-go transmewed bin to stone.

† **ygo(e**, ME. pa. pple. of GO *v.*

ygolped, ME. pa. pple. of GULP *v.*

ygon(e, ygoon, yguo, ME. pa. pples. of GO *v.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 142 He is y-guo into þe hole of þo roche ase þe colure ine his coluerhous. *c*1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* I. 788 Another with a diche aboute ygoon is. *1642* H. MORE *Song of Soul* I. III. xliii, But when from Aptery we were ygone.

ygot(en [Y- 4, GET *v.*], got.

*c*1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. cxlv. (1869) 74 Litel is woorth thing ygoten if after the getinge it ne be kept.

ygovernet, governed.

1422 YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* 207 By Iustice Is al the worlde y-gouernet.

ygraced, ME. pa. pple. of GRACE *v.*

ygrad, ygred, ME. pa. pples. of GREDE *v. Obs.*

ygraithed, ygreithed [GRAITH *v.*], prepared, equipped.

*a*1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1993 þis pinfule gin wes . . . se grisliche igreiðet. *13..* K. *Alis.* 7536 (Laud MS.) Ygreiþed ben his foure þousynde. *c*1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 225 When he is so y-graihted . . . þen shalle ye open hym thus.

ygratyd, grated.

*c*1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 15 Brede y-gratyd.

ygra(u)nted, ygrawnt, granted.

1340 *Ayenb.* 264 Huyche y-graunted þus he begynþ. *1387* TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 227 Whanne þe legacye of þe cros was commytted to hym he took no procuracies þat hym were y-graunted. *1456* *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) 292 Had and ygrawnt by the fellyst of the sayd comynes.

† **ygrave(n, ygraved, pa. pple. Obs.** [See Y- 4 and GRAVE *v.*] Buried; graven, engraved.

*c*1205 LAY. 21153 Ænne sceold deore . . . per wes innen igrauen [*c*1275 igraued] mid rede golde stauen. *c*1369 CHAUCER *Dethe Blaunche* 164 By a caue That was vnder a rocke ygraue. *1387* TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 379 A cros i-grave in þe pavement of marbilston. *c*1500 *Lancelot* 1798 But be als dep in to the erd y-grave. *1559* *Mirr. Mag.* (1563) Tj, And in the hart it is so diepe ygrave. *1594* CAREW *Tasso* III. lxxiii, Where after was ygrau'd: Here lyes Dudon.

† **ygret**, ME. pa. pple. of GREET *v.*¹

ygreved, ygrewid, grieved.

13.. K. *Alis.* 841 (Linc. Inn MS.) A kyng þer was . . . þat had ygreued muchul his kynne. *1422* YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* 241 Sone he shal be seke and his body y-grewid.

ygromony, obs. form of AGRIMONY.

*c*1475 *Pict. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 786/12 *Hec igromonia*, a ygromony.

† **ygronde, ygrounde(n** [Y- 4, GRIND *v.*¹], ground.

*c*1000 ÆLFRIC *Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 121/2 *Commolitus*, 3egrunde. *1362* LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* VII. 171 To Abate þe Barli bred and þe Benes I-grounde. *c*1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 1691 A sharpe ygrounde speri. *c*1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 13 Temper vp pine Almaundys þat þou hast y-grounde.

ygrope, ME. pa. pple. of GROPE *v.*

ygrounded [GROUND *v.*], grounded.

*c*1369 CHAUCER *Dethe Blaunche* 921 So frendly and so wel ygrounded, Vpon al reason so wel yfounded. *1426* LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 3942 Knowyng that . . . hyr compleynthe . . . Was ygroundyd on folye. *1556* LAUDER *Tractate of Kyngis* 191 Without kyngs Y groundit be In Goddis wound of verytie [etc.].

ygrowe(n [GROW *v.*], grown.

*c*900 WÆRFERTH tr. *Gregory's Dial.* III. xiii. (1900) 198 Swa fæste his heafod was gegrowen to ðam lichaman, swylce hit næfre of acorfen næie. *13..* K. *Alis.* 6491 (Laud MS.) þer hi founde Wymmen grownen out of þe grounde . . . Somme weren to þe nael ygrowe; . . . And summe weren ygrowe al out. *c*1386 CHAUCER *Reeve's T.* 53 This wenche thikke and wel ygrowen was.

yguana, obs. form of IGUANA.

† **yguld, -t, ygyld, -t**, ME. pa. pples. of GILD *v.*¹

ygulpid, ME. pa. pple. of GULP *v.*

ygurd, -t [GIRD *v.*¹], girt.

1340 *Ayenb.* 236 Y-gert aboute mid huite linene gerdles. *1387* TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 403 þey sleþþe i-cloped and i-gerd [*MS. β* y-gurde]. *14..* *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 604/30 *Precinctus*, ygurd.

gygyved, fettered.

*c*1290 i-gwiued [see GYVE *v.*]. *1387* TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 145 Sabar þat flize out of prisoun [added in *MS. γ* ygyued].

yha, 3ha, obs. forms of YEA.

† **yhabited** [Y- 5, HABIT *sb.*], clothed.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* XIII. 285 Y-habited as an hermyte an ordre by hymselfe.

yhacked [Y- 4], hacked.

*a*1225 *Ancr. R.* 298 His heaued is ihacked of. *1387* TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 9 His herte was i-hakked [*MS. γ* y-hakket] to smal gobettes. *c*1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 55 Porke y-sope, & smale y-hackyd.

yhad(de, ME. pa. pple. of HAVE *v.*

yhaded, yhoded [HADE, HODE *v.*¹], consecrated, ordained.

900-930 O.E. *Chron.* (Parker MS.) an. 625 Her Paulinus fram Iusto þam ercebiscep was gehadod Norþhymbrum to biscepe. *c*1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 131 Ihadede men he munegeð wel to lerene ilewede men. *a*1250 *Owl & Night.* 1177 Hwat queþ heo ertu ihoded? *1340* *Ayenb.* 49 Clerkes y-hoded. *c*1425 I-hode [see HODE].

yhaht, ME. pa. pple. of HATCH *v.*¹

yhald, obs. pa. t. of YIELD *v.*

† **yhalde(n**, ME. pa. pple. of HOLD *v.*

yhalewed, yhal3ed, yhal(o)wed [Y- 4, HALLOW *v.*¹], hallowed.

*c*900, etc. [see HALLOW *v.*¹, HALLOWED]. *c*1205 LAY. 29443 Na chirche þer nes ihalejed. *1340* *Ayenb.* 40 þe y-hal3ede stedes þet byep apropred to guodes seruise. *1387* TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 13 þe temple was i-halowed [*MS. γ* yhalwed]. *c*1450 LYDG. *Life Our Lady* xlix. (1484) g viij, In al the erthe y halowed and y holde.

yhalou, obs. form of YELLOW.

† **yhamled**, ME. pa. pple. of HAMBLE *v.*

yhandled [Y- 4, HANDLE *v.*¹, I-HANDLE], handled.

*a*1225 *Juliana* 51 Neauer adet tis dei nes ich þus ihondlet. *1387-8* T. USK *Test. Love* II. xi. (Skeat) l. 101 Is vertue the hye way to this knot that long we have y-handled?

yhanted [HAUNT *v.*], practised.

1340-70 *Alex. & Dind.* 988 Ne we sitte in no sete þere sinne is y-hantep.

yhar(e, obs. ff. YAIR *sb.*, YARE, fishgarth.

† **yharded** [Y- 4, HARD *v.*], hardened.

1297 R. GLOUC. (1724) 352 þe folkes herte ys So yharded [*v.r.* iharded]. *c*1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* IV. met. v. (1868) 133 þe weyste of þe snowe yhardid by þe colde. *c*1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 52 Whan he is a lytel y-hardid in þe ouen.

yharmed¹, var. Y-ARMED, armed.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2633 þre hondred þousend men mid him yharmed he nom.

yharmed², harmed.

1340 *Ayenb.* 238 Vor yef hi byep queade hi ssolle by þe more y-harmed þanne þe oþre.

yharneysed, yhasped, yhat, ME. pa. pples. of HARNESS *v.*, HASP *v.*, HEAT *v.*

† **yhate(n**: see YHOTE.

yhated, hated.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2254 Wip gret poer . . . Of scottes & of picars . . . þat euere abbeþ þis lond yhated. *1377* LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* IX. 99 Is moste yhated vp erthe of hem þat beth in heuene.

yhatered, ME. pa. pple. of HATER *v.*, to clothe.

yhat (3hat), yhate, obs. ff. GATE *sb.*¹

yhaved, had.

*c*1315 SHOREHAM VII. 434 We nedde y-haued ry3t no profy3t Ine heuene a-boue.

yhe, obs. f. EYE, YE, YEA.

yhed(de, var. of YHID.

yhed (3hed(e), obs. pa. t. of GO: see YODE.

yheedid, -yd: see HEADED.

yhefyr, obs. form of HEIFER.

1446 *Churchw. Acc., Yatton* (Somerset Rec. Soc.) 85 It. of J. Meke vor a yhefyr . . . iij s.

yheid (3heid(e), obs. pa. t. of GO: see YODE.

yheir, yheit, obs. ff. YEAR¹, YET, GATE *sb.*¹

yheld(e, obs. ff. YIELD *v.*

† **yheled**¹ [Y- 4] *pa. pple.*, healed.

*c*900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* IV. iii. (Schipper) 366 & þa on morþenne gehælede gewitte aras & ut eode. *c*1175, *c*1200 [see HEAL *v.*¹ 1, 3 b]. *1377* LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* XIV. 96 A wounde yheled.

yheled² [HELE *v.*²], covered, concealed.

*c*1000 ÆLFRIC *Gen.* xxix. 2 Se pitt was geheled mid anum stane. *1297* R. GLOUC. (1724) 305 Myd blod þe erpe was yheled. *13..* K. *Alis.* 278 þeo lady ly3t on hire bedde Yheoled [*MS. Laud* yhiiled] wel wiþ selkyn webbe. *1399* LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* III. 212 An herne at þe halle ende, Well homelich yhelid. *c*1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 40 Straw on poudre Canelle y-now, þat þe stekys be al y-helid þer-wyth.

yheled³, var. Y-ELED, anointed.

*c*1275 iheled [see ELE *v.*¹]. *1297* R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 7243 King alfred þe kunde more þat uerst was yeled [*MS. B.* yheled] at rome.

yhelle, obs. form of YELL *v.*

yheme, etc., var. YEME, etc.

yhen, obs. pl. of EYE *sb.*¹

† **yhende, a. and adv.** [OE. *gehende*: see Y- 1 b and HEND(E)], near, at hand.

*c*893, *c*1000 [see HEND *a.* 1, 2 and *adv.* 1]. *a*1250 *Owl & Night.* 1263 þer hi wel understonde scholde þat sum vnsele

heom is ihende. **1340** *Ayenb.* 212 þer bieþ oþre þet gredeþ haer benes zuo lhoude þet þo þet byeþ y-hende byeþ desstorbed.

yhent [Y- 4, HENT *v.*], caught.

1297 [see HENT *v.* 1]. **14..** *St. Jeremie's 15 Tokens* 96 Miȝth þai hym haue yhent fast by þe crovne.

yheped, heaped.

c1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* xii. 334 Yf they mende not, yheped se Askis or flood grauel aboute her roote.

yher(e), obs. forms of YEAR¹.

†**yherber(e)ȝed**, **yherborwed** [Y- 4], harboured.

c1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 143 Seuen awergede gostes ware on hire ȝeherberȝede. **1340** *Ayenb.* 130 Ine zuo poure house yherberȝed. **1393** *LANGL. P. Pl. C.* vii. 235 Ich was yherborwed with an hep of chapmen.

yherde, early var. of YIRD *Sc.*, earth.

†**yherdling**. *Obs.* The holder of a yardland. **11..** *Cartulary of Battle* in Vinogradoff *Villainage* in *Eng.* (1892) 148 *note*, Yherdlines . . customarii [cf. *Ibid.*, Majores Erdlines scil. virgarii Halferdlines (majores cottarii) Minores cottarii].

†**yhere**, *a. Obs. rare.* [repr. OE. **ȝehiere*, f. *ȝehieran*; see next. Cf. MHG. *gehære*.] Obedient.

c1315 *SHOREHAM* l. 732 þeȝ he ne be nauȝt yhere, Ac wykke.

†**yhere**, *v. Obs.* Forms: see Y- and HEAR *v.* [OE. *ȝehieran*, etc. = OS. *gihōrian*, MLG., MDu. *gehoren*, OHG. *gahōrjan* (MHG. *gehæren*, G. *gehören* with special sense-development, to belong), Goth. *gahausjan*; see Y- 3 c and HEAR *v.* (The instances of the pa. pple. may belong to the simplex or the compound.)] To hear.

c825 *Vesp. Psalter* ix. 38 [x. 17] Lustas heortan heara ȝeherde eare ðin. *Ibid.* liv. 2 [lv. 1] ȝeher god ȝebed min & ne forseh ðu boene mine. **c1000** *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xviii. 15 ðyf he þe ȝehyrð, þu ȝestapelast pinne broðor. **c1000** *ÆLFRIC Saints' Lives* xxxiii. 201 ȝehyredum pysum wordum hi ongunnon ealle weopan. **c1175** *Lamb. Hom.* 5 ȝe iherden er on þe godspel hu [etc.]. **c1200** *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 143 Nu ȝie habbeð iherd þes wimmanes namc. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 3440 Ac suppe hii wonne al clene out as ȝe ssulle after yhere. **c1330** *Assump. Virg.* (B.M. MS.) 9 Par auenture ȝe haue noȝt iherde How oure ladi went out of pis werde. **1340** *Ayenb.* 265 Nou broþren and zostren y-hyreþ my red. **1387** *TREVISIA Higden* (Rolls) III. 355 þe iuge swoor þat he hadde i-herde [MS. y yhurð] suche tales of Zenocrates his mouth. **1393** *LANGL. P. Pl. C.* v. 157 Loue. . . cryed vp-on conscience, þe kynȝe hit myghte yhere. **1422** *YONGE tr. Secr. Secr.* 235 Who-so hath a smale neke, he sholde haue a swete voyce and wel y-harde.

yhere (ȝhere), obs. form of EAR *sb.*¹

†**yher(i)ed**, **yher(y)ed** [Y- 4, HERY *v.*], praised.

c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 107 þet ure drihten beo eure ihered on ure godan weorcan. **a1310** in Wright *Lyric P.* xvi. 52 A betere burde never nes y-heryed with the heste. **c1450** *Crt. of Love* 592 Venus, . . . Goddess eterne, thy name y-heried is!

yhern(e): see YEARN *v.*¹, YERN *a.*

†**yhert** [Y- 4, HARD *v.*], hardened.

1340 *Ayenb.* 29 Huanne man is y-hert ine his kueadnesse þet me ne may him wende.

yheryd [EAR *v.*¹], ploughed.

1426 *LYDG. De Guil. Pilgr.* 5398 That erthe. . . Wher as sowe was thys greyn, Was nat. . . yheryd neueradel.

yheryȝed [HARRY *v.*], ravaged.

a1440 *Sir Degrev.* 140 Hys husbondus that yaf rent Was y-heryȝed dounryght.

yhes, obs. form of YES.

yhet: see GATE *sb.*¹, HAVE, YET.

†**yhevid** [Y- 4, HEAVY *v.*; cf. I-HEVEȜED], grieved.

c1440 *Gesta Rom.* 51 Sith my two doughters haue thus yhevid me, sothely I shal preve the thrid.

yhewe(d), hewn.

c950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark xv. 46 *Excisum de petra*, . . . ȝeheawen of carre *vel* stane. **11..** *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 545/36 *Lignum*, iheawen treow. **1387** *TREVISIA Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 283 þat tyme the woodes in Wales were i-hewe [MS. y yheuwe] adoun. **1430-40** *LYDG. Bochas* viii. xi. (1558) 6b, Vnto the death was wounded and yhewe.

yheyt(e), obs. forms of YET *adv.*

†**yhid(de)**, **yhud(de)**, **yhyd(de)**, etc. [Y- 4, HIDE *v.*¹, I-HEDE], hidden.

c888 *ÆLFRED Boeth.* xxxv. §1 þon fint he þær þa ryhtwisnesse ȝehyddde mid þæs lichoman hæfignesne. **a1225** *Ancr. R.* 146 Hester, on Ebrewish, þet is ihud, an English. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5099 Wanne þe relikes of halwen yfounde were & ykud þat vor drede of saxons er wide were yhud. **a1300** *Sarmun* xi. in *E.E.P.* (1862) 2 þer nis no ping a-boute þe bone to jeme þat was ihuddid here. **1340** *Ayenb.* 109 Godes riche is ase on tresor in þe uelde yhed. **c1369** CHAUCER *Dethe Blanche* 175 Some. . . slepte vpriht her heed yhed. **c1374** [see HIDE *v.*¹ 4]. **1387** *TREVISIA Higden* (Rolls) IV. 431 Iosephus was i-founde y-hid among useles. **c1440** *Pallad. on Husb.* iv. 487 By nyght, and vndir cloude yhid the mone.

yhifte, obs. form of GIFT *sb.*

a1500 *Bernard. de cura rei fam.*, etc. (E.E.T.S.) 36 Of all yhiftes þat gode yevith to man.

†**yhlight**, ME. pa. pple. of HIGHT *v.*¹

yhillid [Y- 4, HILD *v.*], flayed.

1387 *TREVISIA Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 167 [He] made hym be i-hylde [MS. þ, y y-huld] al quyk. **1422** *YONGE tr. Secr. Secr.* 167 Wherfor this kynȝe comandid that he were y-hillid.

yhis, etc., obs. ff. YES, etc.

yhit(te), obs. ff. YET *adv.*

yhode, obs. pa. t. of GO: see YODE.

yhoded: see YHADED.

yholde(n), obs. pa. pples. of HOLD *v.*, YIELD *v.*

yhole, pa. pple. of HELE *v.*¹, to conceal.

†**yhole**, *a. Obs.* Forms: 1 ȝehal, 3 ihal, 3-4 ihol, 4 yhol, 4-5 yhole. [OE. *ȝehál*: see Y- 3 b and WHOLE *a.*] Whole, sound.

c1000 *ÆLFRIC Hom.* II. 154 Ða gemette he þæt fæt. . . swa ȝehal þæt ðær nan cinu on næs ȝesewen. **c1000** *Sax. Leechd.* I. 354 Wyr̃c swa hit man ȝehal forswelȝan mæȝe. **c1205** *LAY.* 821 Al ihal & al isund. **a1225** *Ancr. R.* 80 Hope halt þe heorte i hol. **1340** *Ayenb.* 228 Huo pet is yhol of bodie and uoul ine herte is ase þe berieles yhuited. **c1430** *Two Cookery-bks.* 22 þen take figys, an kerue hem a-to, or Roysynys y-hole.

Hence †**yholliche**, wholly; †**yholnesse**, †**yholschipe**, wholeness.

a1240 *Ureisun* in *O.E. Hom.* I. 203 Moder of swich sune wið iholschipe of meiden. **c1315** *SHOREHAM* III. 223 þarefore do þe al y-holliche þat day [sc. mass-day] to holy þynȝe. **1340** *Ayenb.* 127 þe loue of þe herte huerby he him yefþ y-holliche and wyppoute corrupcion to þet ha louep. *Ibid.* 230 Yholnesse and clenness of bodye pet is to zigge þet pet body by y-hol wyppoute uelpe of lecherie. **a1400** in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 362 3if þ' pe axkere bryngeþ skore oper wryt, and aske þe berynge y-holecheche [*sic*].

yholk, obs. form of YOLK.

†**yholpe(n)** [Y- 4, HELP *v.*], helped.

a1240 *Ureisun* in *O.E. Hom.* I. 191 þu me hauest iholpen aueole kunne wise. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 8358 Ich hom abbe quap yr louerd iholpe [v. rr. yholpe, yholpen] er ywis. **1377** *LANGL. P. Pl. B.* xvii. 60 How he with Moyses maundement hadde many men y-holpe. **c1400** *Rom. Rose* 5505 Socoured ofte And most I hope [*Thynne's ed.* yholpe] in all her neede.

yhon(e), **yhong**, obs. ff. YON, YOUNG.

†**yhonge**, -ed [Y- 4, HANG *v.*], hung, hanged.

a1000 *Phoenix* 38 Wintres & sumeres wudu bið ȝelice bledum ȝehongen. **a1250** *Owl & Night.* 1136 If þu art þar ouer ihonge þi lif is eter luper and qued. **13..** *Seuyn Sag.* (W.) 2612 The thre theues were knyghtes, That were i-honged. **1340** *Ayenb.* 241 Al alsuo ase þe wordle him hild uor uyl and uor wlatuol, ase me dep enne y-honged. **a1425** tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 34 þe legges y-raised vp and wip a towel y-hungen.

†**yhorsed**, *a. Obs.* [OE. *ȝehorsed*: see Y- 5.] Horsed; on horseback.

c893 *ÆLFRED Oros.* III. ix. §1 On his feðehere wæron xxxii M. & þæs ȝehorsedan fife healf M. **a1122** *O.E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1010 þa Dænisean. . . þær wurdon ȝehorsode. **c1350** *Will. Palerne* 1950 Alle on stalworþ stedes stoutliche i-horsed. **c1380** *Sir Ferumb.* 801 Y-horced & y-armed. **c1489** *CAXTON Blanchardyn* xxvii. 102 Yf wele yhorsed I had not ben I shulde neuer haue escaped.

yhote(n) [HIGHT *v.*¹], called; commanded; promised; bidden, etc.

c1000 *ÆLFRIC Gen.* ii. 11 þæt land, þe ys ȝehaten Euilað. **1154**, etc. [see HIGHT *v.*¹ A. 3, B. 1]. **c1175** *Lamb. Hom.* 159 þe fuwer wateres þa þe beoð ihaten us on to weschen. **c1200** *ORMIN* 3360, I Daviþþ kingess chesstre, þatt iss ȝehatenn Beþpleam. **c1250** *Gen. & Ex.* 2416 Siðen ðor was mad on scite, Ðe was y-oten Ramesé. **1340** *Ayenb.* 119 þise graces byep yhote yefþes uor þri skeles. **c1400** *TREVISIA Higden* (Rolls) VII. App. 521 The emperor had y-hote his servauntes that thei schuld go after hym privylich. **14..** *K. Sol. Bk. Wisd.* 156 þe widewe son died, he was yhote Ionas.

yhoten, var. ETEN *Obs.*, giant.

yhou, **yhour(e)**, **yhouth(e)**, obs. ff. YOU, YOUR, YOUTH.

†**yho(u)sled** [Y- 4], houselled, communicated.

a1000 in *Anglia* XIII. 425/860 þænne hi beop ȝehuslude, dum communicantur. **1387** *TREVISIA Higden* (Rolls) V. 73 He . . . was i-housed [MS. y y-housed] to fore al þe peple in an Esterday.

†**yhove** [Y- 4, HEAVE *v.*], heaved.

1387 *TREVISIA Higden* (Rolls) VII. 455 Y-meoved and y-hove fer out of oon place into anoper.

yhow, **yhownge**, **yhowthe**, obs. ff. YOU, YOUNG, YOUTH.

yhowted, ME. pa. pple. of HOOT *v.*

yhte, rare var. of ME. *ehte*: see AUGHT *sb.*¹

1390 *Gower Conf.* II. 378 This Priamus hadde in his yhte A wiȝ, and Hecuba sche hyhte.

yhu, **ȝhu**, obs. forms of YOU.

yhude, ME. variant of YODE.

†**yhugged** [Y- 4], hugged.

1614 J. DAVIES *Eclogue* 188, I ne wot, on mould what feater skill Can bee yhugg'd in Lordings pectorall.

yhuited [WHITE *v.*], whitened.

1340 *Ayenb.* 178 Line cloþ þet is y-huyted be ofte wessinge. *Ibid.* 228 þe berieles yhuited pet is uayr wyþ-oute and wyþ-inne uol of stench.

yhuld: see YHILLED.

yhule, **yhung**, obs. ff. YULE, YOUNG.

†**yhungen**: see YHONGE.

yhuntid [Y- 4], hunted.

1399 *LANGL. Rich. Rededes* III. 228 He was halowid and y-huntid and y-hote trusse.

yhurt(e), ME. pa. pple. of HURT *v.*

yhu(y)red, **yhyred**, hired.

c1000 *ÆLFRIC Gloss.* in Wr.-Wülcker 115/21 *Locatio*, behyring, *uel* ȝehyred feoh. **1387** *TREVISIA Higden* (Rolls) IV. 51 An oost þat was i-hered [MS. y yhuýred] out of Grecia. **1393** *LANGL. P. Pl. C.* ix. 336 Bote he be heyliche yhyred elles wol he chide.

yhy(e)alde, ME. (Kentish) pa. pple. of HOLD *v.* **1340** *Ayenb.* 8 Zuich wrepe longe yhyealde and byuealde ine herte.

yhyȝed [Y- 4, HIE *v.*¹], hastened, **a1400** *New Test.* (Paues) 1 Thess. ii. 17 We. . . hafep muche y-hyȝed to sen ȝoure vysage.

yhyled [HILL *v.*¹], covered.

c1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 193 þat cloister. . . All y-hyled wip leed lowe to þe stones.

Yi (i:). [Chinese.] The name of a minority nationality in China, distributed over Yunnan, Sichuan, and Guizhou; = LOLO. Also, the language of this people. Also *attrib.* or as *adj.*

1960 CHANG-TU HU et al. *China* v. 66 The Yi (Lolo) are located principally in the Liang Shan area on the borders of Szechwan and Yunnan. **1962** E. SNOW *Other Side of River* (1963) lxxviii. 596 Some of the Yi people in Yunnan planted grain as the American Indians did. **1968** [see LOLO]. **1974** *Encycl. Brit. Micropæ dia* X. 818/3 The traditional Yi culture includes a primitive hoe-using agriculture, livestock herding, and hunting. **1978** *Nagel's Encycl.-Guide: China* 65 The Tibeto-Burmese group includes Tibetan, Yi (or Lolo), Hani and Tujia. **1979** *China Now* Mar./Apr. 16/1 The Yi people, like many peasant societies, still want lots of children. **1984** *National Geographic* Mar. 290/2 These people number about 750,000 and belong to the larger group of five million Yi scattered over a wider area.

yi, graphic var. *ȝi*, THY; dial. f. YEA.

||**yichus** ('jikəs, 'jixəs). Also yiches. [Yiddish f. Heb. *yihūs* pedigree.] Honour, prestige, status.

1907 tr. *Frank's Simon Eichelkatz* 431/2 *Yichus*, aristocracy; good family connection. **1927** *Amer. Mercury* X. 172/2 There was a steady demand from wealthy prospective fathers-in-law for professional men whose titles would add *yiches* (prestige) to their wealth. **1946** *Commentary* May 63/1 On the other hand our butcher's daughters. . . had even less *yichus*. **1964** S. BELLOW *Herzog* 86, I know you Herzogs and your *Yiches*. Don't give me that hoity-toity. *Ibid.* 141 All branches of the family had the caste madness of *yichus*. No life so barren. . . that it didn't have imaginary dignities, honors to come. **1976** C. BERMANT *Coming Home* l. vii. 99 If I could become a doctor he might recover something of his former grace. A doctor meant *yichus*, social status, prestige.

yicker, var. YIKKER *v.*

Yid (jid). *slang.* Also †Yit (t. [Back-formation f. next.] A (usu. offensive) name for a Jew.

1874 *HOTTEN Slang Dict.* 344 *Yid*, or *Yit*, a Jew. *Yidden*, the Jewish people. The Jews use these terms very frequently. **a1890** *Sporting Times* (Leland), I might, if I had poached upon the province of the Pitcher, Have devoted just a verse or two to love among the Yids. **1898** [see SCHLEMIEL]. **1912** G. FRANKAU *One of Us* vi. 53 As the Yid Knows well the slump-signs ere the slump convulses. **1935** [see CRAP *sb.*¹ 7b]. **1940** E. POUND *Cantos* lii. 11 Sin drawing vengeance, poor yitts paying for—. **1946** KOESTLER *Thieves in Night* 279, I became a socialist because I hated the poor; and I became a Hebrew because I hated the Yid. **1963** V. NABOKOV *Gift* iii. 180 Then she went and married a yid. **1971** B. MALAMUD *Tenants* 203 Then they go to a synagogue late at night, . . . and make Yid noises, praying.

Yiddish ('jidɪʃ), *sb.* (a.) [Anglicization of G. *jüdisch* ('jy:diʃ) Jewish; the full German name is *jüdisch deutsch* 'Jewish-German'. The English word has been adopted in German as *jiddisch*.] The language used by Jews in Europe and America, consisting mainly of German (orig. from the Middle Rhine area) with admixture (according to local or individual usage) of Balto-Slavic or Hebrew words, and printed in Hebrew characters.

1875 *New Era* 5 May 285 In fact, this corrupt German is known as Yiddish or Jewish German. **1886** BESANT *Childr. Gibbon* II. vii, [German immigrants] tell me their wants in their own language, which is generally Yiddish. **1892** *Chamb. Encycl.* IX. 496/2 There were at one time two newspapers in London alone published in Yiddish. **1894** Du MAURIER *Trilby* vii. (1912) 368 Several of the band stood round gesticulating, and talking German or Polish or Yiddish. **1900** C. RUSSELL *Jew in London* ii. 18 The Yiddish-speaking community. **1917** *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 310 In 1903. . . Yiddish was solemnly proclaimed the Jewish national

language. **1938** *Better English* Feb. 50 As a rule, Yiddish-speaking people do not move in higher society. **1939** [see JUDÆO-, JUDEO-]. **1970** *Language* XLVI. 939 Standard Yiddish is the only variety taught in the schools. **1979** *Guardian* 28 May 11/8 The Jewish community of eastern Europe, the Yiddish-speaking, Ashkenazi quasi-state. **1981** G. CLARE *Last Waltz in Vienna* (1982) 1. 11 He must also have spoken Yiddish, the language of the ghetto. *adj.* **1886** BESANT *Childr. Gibeon* II. xxviii, A large importation of Polish Jews who were making a little Yiddish Poland for themselves up a court. **1892** *Chamb. Encycl.* IX. 496/1 Martin Luther compiled a dictionary of *Rotwälsch*... used by the thieves of his time, in which half the words are Hebrew, derived from the receivers of stolen goods and their Yiddish dialect. **1977** *Rolling Stone* 16 June 43/2 'Never point your gun at someone,' Prince clucked in a Yiddish accent.

'Yiddisher, sb. and a. Also yiddisher, † Yidisher. [ad. G. *Jüdischer* Jew.] A sb. A Jew. Also *transf.* (cf. JEW sb. 2).

1859 MATSELL *Vocabulum* 97 *Yidisher*, a Jew. **1890** BARRÈRE & LELAND *Dict. Slang*. **1896** E. TURNER *Little Larrikin* xxiv. 292 But why... that agent... refused to take the premium... beats me... for he's more than a bit of a yiddisher. **1931** R. CAMPBELL *Georgiad* iii. 62 Doctors much to praise in it can see And with the ancient Yiddishers agree. **1933** L. GOLDING *Magnolia Street* i. iii. 59 Can't he mind his own business, now... he's got hold of a stinking Yiddisher? **1976** *Publishers Weekly* 19 Apr. 81/3 With yiddishers, reasonableness and gentle satire, Vorspan... sets out to convince you that a bit of suffering is good for you.

B. adj. Also Yiddische, etc. [ad. G. *jüdische* (inflectional form of *jüdisch*).]

1892 I. ZANGWILL *Childr. of Ghetto* I. iii. 94 At least, she would have starved in a Yiddish country, not in a land of heathens. **1898** A. M. BINSTAD *Pink 'Un & Pelican* xii. 276 One very enquiring Yiddisher youth stood munching a shoot of celery. **1925** J. YELLEN (song-title) *My Yiddische Momma*. **1961** P. DE VRIES *Through Fields of Clover* i. 27 Jokes about hot pastrami... To say nothing of Yiddisher Mamas. **1965** D. S. DAVIS *Pale Betrayer* iv. 52 I'm a real Yiddische mama. **1971** C. C. FICK *Danziger Transcript* 177, I laughed like a Yiddische baby. **1973** *Jewish Chron.* 18 May 15/3 A Clever Yiddisher boy working next door, heard strange noises. **1976** R. SANDERS in D. Villiers *Next Year in Jerusalem* 198 The young Irving Berlin composed both Italian and Yiddisha pastiche. **1979** *Guardian* 22 Mar. 9/1 In Israel... plangent Yiddisher mammas are passé.

'Yiddishism, orig. U.S. [f. YIDDISH sb. (a.) + -ISM.] a. A linguistic feature influenced by or derived from Yiddish. b. Advocacy of Yiddish culture and language.

1926 *Amer. Mercury* VII. 207/1 Most Yidgin writers qualify their Yiddishisms with parenthetical English explanations. **1933** in A. A. ROBACK *Curiosities of Jewish Lit.* viii. 124 Doebelin sees his model in something on the lines of Yiddishism on a world scale. **1938** *Better Eng.* Feb. 50 No one has yet made an attempt to collect all these Yiddishisms into a single collection. **1962** *Amer. Speech* XXXVII. 202 The use of *better* with *should* here is another Yiddishism... repeated in the announcer's next sentence: 'Better we should stop the clock.' **1966** *New Society* 12 May 9/2 The idiom of the New Yorker—Gentile or Jew—is... full of translated Yiddishisms ('I should live so long', 'Who needs it?' 'You should pardon the expression' and 'Now he tells me.'). **1978** *Soviet Jewish Affairs* VIII. 73 Since Tsinberg's claim, there has been debate as to whether the sixteenth, seventeenth and eighteenth century 'Yiddishists' can properly be viewed as forerunners of modern Yiddishism. **1981** *Amer. Speech* LVI. 17 The noun *glitsh* is a Yiddishism... from the verb *glitshn* 'to slide'.

'Yiddishist, sb. (a.) [f. YIDDISH sb. (a.) + -IST.] An adherent or supporter of Yiddishism (sense a); *spec.*, an advocate of the exclusive use of Yiddish by Jews. Also, a student of Yiddish language or literature. Also *attrib.* or as *adj.*

1917 *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 310 Russian Jewry rang for a time with the bitter controversy of the so-called Hebraists and Yiddishists. The Yiddishists... won... In 1903... Yiddish was solemnly proclaimed the Jewish national language. **1933** *B'nai B'rith Mag.* XLVIII. 32/3 What will the Yiddishists... say to this? **1964** S. BELLOW *Herzog* 108 Her father had been... a member of the Arbeiter-Ring, a Yiddishist. **1970** *Language* XLVI. 938 The title of this book [sc. *The Field of Yiddish*] suggests that it is primarily of interest to Yiddishists. **1971** *Encycl. Judaica* X. 62/2 The Yiddish movement which came at the beginning of the 20th century, laid the accent on Yiddish as the spoken and living language of the vast majority of world Jewry. **1972** H. KEMELMAN *Monday Rabbi took Off* xlvii. 276 'My husband was a Yiddishist,' said Gittel stiffly, 'He did not speak the language out of principle.' **1976** I. B. SINGER in D. Villiers *Next Year in Jerusalem* 62 The leftist Yiddishists tried to identify Yiddish with the social revolution... Russia had promised its Jews a Yiddishist cultural autonomy. **1982** *Lang. Problems & Lang. Planning* VI. 11. 208 Yiddishists apply the term [Yiddish] retroactively to all earlier stages of the language, until its very beginnings about a thousand years ago.

|| Yiddishkeit ('jɪdɪʃkɑrt). Also yiddishkeit. [ad. Yiddish *yidishkeyt*.] = JEWISHNESS, JUDAISM 1; Yiddishness.

1892 I. ZANGWILL *Childr. of Ghetto* I. iii. 87 All they teach them in the school is English nonsense... The good Yiddishkeit goes to the wall. **1901** M. WOLFSTEIN *Idylls of Gass* 25 They do say she reads German books with not a word of Yiddishkeit (Judaism) in them. **1956** 'H. MACDIARMID' *Stony Limits & Scots Unbound* 28 A Yiddishkeit crutch. **1966** *New Statesman* 6 May 648/2 The most sophisticated Israelis are those who are often most attached to *yiddishkeit* and many accept the rabbinical regime as part of Jewish culture without which Israel would have no identity. **1976** B. WILLIAMS *Making of Manchester Jewry* xi. 271 A... strictly observant Jewish society based upon the exclusive Yiddishkeit of the Eastern European

ghetto. **1984** *Listener* 20 Sept. 14/2 With them the immigrants brought their richest possessions: Yiddish and Yiddishkeit—their language and their way of life.

yie, obs. form of EYE, YEA.

yieft, ziefte, obs. ff. GIFT sb.

yield (jild), sb. Forms: 1 *geld*, *giel*, *gild*, *gyld*, *geold*, 2 *zæild*, 2-3 *yield*, 2-5 *zeld*, 4 *eild*, *yilde*, 4-5 *zeild*, *yeild*, 4-6 *yeld*, 5 *zelde*, *yelde*, 6 *yalde*, 6-7 *yeeld*(e, 6- *yield*. [In senses 1-3 OE. *giel*, etc., str. neut. (cf. GUILD etym.) = OFris. *geld*, *iield* (Fris. *jild*, *jil*), OS. *geld* (senses as in OE.), MLG., MDu. *gelt* payment, money (Du. *geld* money), OHG., MHG. *gelt* (senses as in OE.), (G. *geld* money), ON. *gjalld* (Sw. *gäld*, Da. *gjæld*), Goth. *gild* tax: f. stem of **gelōn* (see next). In senses 4-6 directly f. YIELD v.]

†1. a. Payment; a sum of money paid or exacted, as a tribute, tax, etc.: *spec.* = GELD sb. *Obs.*

c950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark Introd. 4 *De reddendo caesaris tributo*, of *gyld* æs caeseres geseleenne. **a1122** O.E. *Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1013 Bead þa Swegen full gild & metsunga to his here pone winter. *Ibid.* 1087 Ælc unriht geold he forbead. **a1154** *Ibid.* 1137 Hi læiden gældes on þe tunes. **c1200** ORMIN 10170 þe33 haðfennn wikkenn off þe king To sammennn hise zeldess. **c1205** LAY. 7194 Romleode... þe... ne dursten hider liðen Axiem king of pissen londe þat he 3efue zeld in to Rome. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 27831 Strenth, þat lauerding agh to meild, þat o pair men tas wrangwis yeild. **13**... *K. Alis.* 2959 (Linc. Inn MS.) 3ef þow wold aske suche a zeld Com and haue hit in þe feild. **1424** *Sc. Acts Jas.* I (1814) II. 4 It is accordit þat a zelde be raisit þat is to say xijd of ilk pvnde. **c1450** *Godstow Reg.* 652 That the lady... shold hold and haue... all yelde and all quarels and exactions fre and quyte. **1494** *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1869) I. 67 And this zeld to be gadderit yeirly anes in the yeir. **1531** in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 329 Euery mannys wief, after the deth of hur husband, beyng a taillo', shall kepe as many seruaunts as they wille... so she bere scotte and lotte, yewe and yeld, w' the occupation. **1582** *Shuttleworth's Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 6 The constabyle of Sharpelles for a yalde vij4.

†b. Payment for loss or injury, compensation.

601-4 *Laws of Ethelbert* xxviii. Sif man inne feoh genimeþ, se man iii gelde gebete. **a1225** *Ancr. R.* 58 Strong zeld is her mid alle & Godes dom is, & his heste, þet heo hit zelde allegate. **c1500** *Priests of Peblis* in Pinkerton *Scot. Poems* (1792) I. 29 Upon the day of Dome, For mans body thair to give ane yeild.

†2. The offering of sacrifice to a deity; worship.

a900 CYNEWULF *Juliana* 146 þu goda ussa zield forhogost. **a1225** *Leg. Kath.* 212 þis ilke zeld, þet tu dest to deoulen.

†3. Reward, recompense; retribution. *Obs.*

a1200 *Moral Ode* 45 (Trin. Coll. MS.) He deð his ahte an siker stede þe hit sent to heueriche, þar ne þarf he habben care of here ne of zielde. **a1225** *Ancr. R.* 376 þe polemode polie bitter one hwule uor he schal sone... habben zeld of blisse.

4. a. The action of yielding crops or other products, production; that which is produced, produce; *esp.* amount of produce.

c1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* i. 216 Eek hillis yeld is Wel gretter grayn and fewer, then in feild is. **a1483** *Liber Niger in Househ. Ord.* (1790) 69 Beyng in some yeres, or in sundrye countreys, thynne wheete, or thycke husked, or bettyr and heauyer of yelde, some tyme whiter flower or browner. **1543** *Grafton Contin. Harding* 157 After haruest for so muche as wheat... was of so smal yelde, it was solde for .xii.s. and .xiii.s. iiiii.d. a quarter. **1563** *HYLL Art Garden.* (1593) 126 The yong plants ought daily to be plucked vp from the old, for feare of hindring the yeeld of the old. **1577** *GOOGE Heresbach's Husb.* 17b, To knowe the nature of euery gronde, Iscomachus in Xenophon, dooth wyll you to marke wel the plantes and the yeeld of the Countrey. **1611** R. FENTON *Usurie* II. xiii. 91 That increase which God gaue by the yeeld of the earth and liuing creatures. **1773** BURKE *Lett.*, to Marg. Rockingham (1844) I. 445 The wheat was large in show upon the ground, but the yield in flour is not extraordinary. **1799** A. YOUNG *Agric. Linc.* 213 His yield 12 guineas an acre. **1854** RONALDS & RICHARDSON *Chem. Technol.* (ed. 2) I. 131 The coking lasts about twenty-four hours, and the yield of coke in the ovens averages 67 per cent. **1863** FAWCETT *Pol. Econ.* III. xv. 489 Since the year 1850, the average of the yield of gold in Australia has been 10,000,000. **1868** DASENT *Jest & Earnest* (1873) II. 381 He had a farm just outside the town on the yield of which he lived. **1893** TRAILL *Soc. Eng.* Introd. p. xlviii. Their earliest trade... is... in the surface products of the earth—in corn or wine, in the yields of the olive-grove or the orchard.

b. The amount obtained from some financial transaction, impost, etc. (e.g. of interest from an investment, of revenue from a tax).

1877 R. GIFFEN *Stock Exch. Securities* 152 The higher the yield of a security. **1884** *Manch. Exam.* 12 Sept. 5/1 A tax... which, moreover, is considerably reduced in its yield by the cost of collection. **1912** *Times* 19 Dec. 15/4 The present value of the three Central London stocks... affords a yield of over 5 per cent.

†5. The action of yielding or giving in; surrender, submission. *Obs. rare.*

1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 193 Their consent, yeeld and concurrence. *Ibid.* 351 No such yeelde, as the Iesuiticall faction report we haue made.

6. The action of yielding or giving way, as under pressure or tension, and *esp.* under a stress greater than the yield stress; also, the stage in the progressive stressing and deformation of a body when the yield stress is reached.

1889 *Telegr. Jnl. & Electr. Rev.* 20 Dec. 707/1 It was concluded that the increase of [elastic resistance] during

'yield' is the same for all the specimens. **1913** *Proc. R. Soc. A.* LXXXVIII. 464 Yield occurred... while there was still a large margin of elasticity left in the side bars. **1925** J. CASE *Strength of Materials* xxxiv. 538 The drop of stress which occurs at yield with materials like wrought-iron and mild steel. **1967** J. G. RAMSAY *Folding & Fracturing of Rocks* vi. 314 The stress conditions which initiate plastic yield. **1981** C. HALL *Polymer Materials* iii. 73 The search for improved impact performance has more recently stimulated a similar systematic study of yield and fracture processes in polymers.

7. Special Comb.: yield table *Forestry*, a table giving (usu. with other information) the average value or volume of a species of timber that can be expected from unit area of woodland each successive year.

1888 W. WEISE (title) *Yield tables for the Scotch pine*. **1953** H. L. EDLIN *Forester's Handbk.* xiv. 222 Yield tables... show the likely rate of growth and timber yield of tree crops of a certain kind of tree, grown in a certain country. **1980** *Forestry* LIII. 23 These regressions were solved for the appropriate values of volume or volume increment from published yield tables for this species.

yield (jild), v. Forms: see below. [Com. Teut. str. vb.: OE. (WS.) *giel*dan, (Angl. & Kent.) *gieldan*, pa. t. *zæald*, *guld*an, pa. pple. *golden* = OFris. *gelda*, *ielda* (WFr. *jilde*, EFris. *jælde*, NFris. *jill*), OS. *geldan*, MDu. *g(h)elden* (Du. *gelden*), OHG. *geltan*, (MHG., G. *gelten*), ON. *gjalda*, Goth. *-gildan* (in compounds *fragildan*, *usgildan* to compensate)—OTeut. **gelōn*, of which the ultimate relations are uncertain.

This verb has had a remarkable sense-development in English owing to its having been used as an equivalent of L. *reddere* and F. *rendre*, or their compounds. In some of the related languages the word has shown tendencies to develop in the same directions, but the only generally surviving senses on the Continent are 'to be worth, to be valid, to concern, apply to', which are not represented at all in the English word.]

A. Illustration of Forms.

1. a. *Infinitive and Present Stem.* a. 1 *giel*dan, *geld*an, 2-5 *zelde*(n, 3-7 *yeld*, 4 *zielde*, *zeilde*, *yeilde*, *yhelde*, (also 8 *Sc.*) *zield*, 4-5 *zhelde*, (also 7 *Sc.*) *zeeld*(e, 4-6 *zeld*, *yelde*, 4-7 *zeild*, 4-7 *yeild*, 5 *zhelde*, *eyelde*, *elde*, 5-7 *yeld*(e, 6 *ealde*, 6-7 *yeald*, 7 *yelde*, *eyld*, 4, 6- *yield*.

c825-a900 [see B. 1-7]. **c1200** ORMIN 19903 Whanne & hu He wolde hiss dere kemme Hiss mede zeldenn. **c1250** *yeld* [see B. 6]. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6369 Icholle wel pin mede zelde. **13**... *Cursor M.* 110 (Cott.) Scho sal þam zeld a hundreth fald. *Ibid.* 260 Traistli acuntes sal we yeild. *Ibid.* 28738 Resun to yeld well better is O merci þan of cruelnes. **13**... *Ibid.* 19472 (Edinb.) To þe ihesu zield I mi gaste. **1340** HAMPOLE *Pr. Cons.* 5503 Account to yhelde of pair kepynge. **1375** BARBOUR *Bruce* xl. 33 To zeld or reskew Strewwing. **1382** WYCLIF *Isa.* xlii. 22 And ther is not that seie, 3eeld. **c1430** *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 9792 Darel fast he behelde, And seid, 'Sir, crist you yelde Of this comynge.' **c1440** *Promp. Parv.* 537/1 3eelde þe goost, or deynn. **a1483** *Elde* [see B. 10a]. **a1500** *Chester Pl.* (Shaks. Soc.) 169 The high father of heuen I prae to eyldre your good deed to daie. **1535** COVERDALE *Ecclus.* li. i. I wil yelde prayse vnto thy name. **a1548** *HALL Chron., Hen. VI.* 126 b, Twoo so inuincible nacions, which neuer wold yeild or bowe. **1572** *Yeald* [see B. 17b]. **1598** SIR T. NORREYS in *Lismore Papers* Ser. 11. (1887) I. 16 His purpose is not to ealde the posession. **1605** SHAKS. *Mach.* i. vi. 13 How you shall bid God-eyld vs for your paines. **1611** MURE *Misc. Poems* i. 25 3eeld to his powar. **1647** H. MORE *Song of Soul* III. App. xix, That light Orb of air... must yeldien evermore To phansies beek. **1659** HAMMOND *On Ps. Pref.* ¶ 18 To yeld him an intire Body of necessary Theology. **c1730** RAMSAY *Some of the Contents* ii, He to best poets skairslie zields in ocht.

β. 1 *gild*an, *gyld*an, 3-5 *zulde*(n, 4-5 *zild*(e, 3yld(e, 4-6 *yild*(e, 6 *ild*, *yld* (in *God dild*, etc.).

c1000 ÆLFRED *Exod.* xxii. 4 Sif man cucu finde, þæt he stæl... gilde be twifealdon. **a1122** [see B. 1]. **c1205** *zuld*en [see B. 1]. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 28833 þe pouer man es like þe fild, þat corn plente is wont to yild. **c1305** in *E.E.P.* (1862) 58 An hezere Justise þat þe schal þe trecherie zulde. **1389** *3yld* [see B. 2]. **a1400-50** *Wars Alex.* 80 3ild vp þi rewme. **1493** *Cov. Leet Bk.* 550 Due therfor paying, gyffynge, or gilding. **1575** *God dylde* [see B. 7]. **1590** SPENSER *F.Q.* i. vi. 3 That stubborn fort to yilde. **1608** SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. *Decay* 138 God dild you.

γ. *Sc.* 5 *zauld*, 5-6 *zald*, *yald*.

c1450 *Sc. Leg. Saints* iv. (Jacobus) 142 þat crist... can vs kene Gud fore ewil to zald almene. **1489** *Barbour's Bruce* x. 824 He suld the castell zeld [*MS. E.* *zauld*] quytly. **c1500** *Lancelot* 553 He bidis yow your londe Ye yald hyme our. **1513** DOUGLAS *Æneis* x. x. 136 He welts out, and zaldis vp the breith.

δ. 5 *zolde*.

c1400 *Sowdone Bab.* 403 Yolde youe here to me. **1432-50** tr. *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 55 Cownsaylenghe theyme to yolde vp the cite. **c1482** J. KAY tr. *Caoursin's Siege of Rhodes* ¶ 1 (1870), So that they wold knowlege hym as theyre souuerayn: and yerely yold hym a lytyll trybute.

b. *Pres. Ind.* (contracted forms) 2nd *sing.* 1 *gieltst*, *giltst*, *gilst*, *gyltst*, 3-4 *zelst*, *yelst*. 3rd *sing.* 1 *gielt*, *gilt*, *gylt*, 2 *zeelt*, 3 *zilt*, *zeldp*, 3-5 *zelt*, 4-5 *yelt*, 5 *yalte*.

c888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xl. §7 Ælmihtig God... gilt ælcum æfter his gewyrhtum. **a1175** *Cott. Hom.* 231 Ælc zeelt æfter his 3earnunge. **c1205** LAY. 21071 Nu he me zilt [*c1275* *zelt*] mede For mire god dede. **a1225** *Ancr. R.* 232 Hwoso is siker of sukurs... & zelt tauh up his kastel to his wiðerwines. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 100 Ac ssroppsire zeldp haluendel to pulke

bissopriche iwis. *Ibid.* 729 þou 3elst nou my loue wrope. **1340** *Ayenb.* 18 He. . . þet. . . yelt him kued uor guod. *Ibid.* 38 Vor yef þe vinst and naȝt ne yelst, þou hit stelst. **c 1400** *Rom.* Rose 4904 He chaungith purpos and entente And yalte into somme couente.

2. a. *Pa. t. a.* 1 ȝeald, 3 ȝeald, 3-4 ȝiald, ȝeld, 3-5 ȝelde, 4 eild, ȝilde, (also 6 *Sc.*) ȝeild, 4-5 yeld, 4-6 yelde, 5 ȝylde, ȝealde, 6 *Sc.* yeild, 7 *Sc.* yeeld.

971 [see B. 5]. **c 1200** *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 45 Ich ȝeald þat ich noht ne nam. **a 1225** *Leg. Kath.* 128 Ah se sone ha ȝeald ham swucche ȝeincleppes. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 9216 He . . . ȝeld him is godnesse þat he dude him. **13..** *Cursor M.* 9484 (Cott.) Sathanas. . . To wais seruiss straitt he him eild. **13..** *Ibid.* 6398 (Gött.) þai ȝeild him ay ful littel thanc. **1387** *TREVISIA Higden* (Rolls) III. 95 þe kyng Ieonias. . . ȝilde hym . . . to Nabugodonosor. **14..** *Sir Beues* 4306 (Pynson) And both in armes yeld vp þe gaste. **a 1585** MONTGOMERIE *Cherrie & Slae* 1024 Bit Hope and Curage was the field, Thocht Dreid and Danger nevir ȝeild. **1632** LITHGOW *Trav.* ix. 418, I yeeld to the Noble mans counsell, and giuing him all dutifull thanks, he sent a guide with mee.

b. 2nd sing. 1 ȝulde, 3 ȝulde; 3rd sing. 4 ȝuld(e). pl. 1 ȝuldon, -an, 3-4 ȝulde(n, 4 ȝuld.

a 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 2419 Duguðum wlanca drihtne ȝuldon god mid gnyrne. **c 1000** *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) cv. 26 [cvi. 36] Sceuccgyludum swyþe ȝuldan. **a 1225** *Ancr. R.* 406 þu ȝulde þet tu outhtest. **c 1380** *Sir Ferumb.* 953 Al þe feldes þo wern y-fuld of dede. . . Saue an weve þat leye & ȝulde & abide hure depes stounde. **1387** *TREVISIA Higden* (Rolls) III. 77 He ȝelde [*MS. y a ȝuld*] vp þe goost. *Ibid.* 95 (MS. y) þeos þat ȝuld [*v.r.* ȝilde] ham wylyfolch [orig. *isti qui sponte se dederunt*]. *Ibid.* 269 Whan þe men of þe eitee sigh þat þey ȝelde hem self [*MS. y hy ȝulde ham sylf*].

β. 3-5 ȝold, ȝolde, yolde, 4 youlde, 4-5 ȝoulde, 4-6 yold.

In the earliest quots. a variant of *ȝulde*: see a β. **c 1275** *Passion our Lord* 61 in *O.E. Misc.* 39 Vor alle þe gode þat he heom dude, hi yolde him lūre mede. **c 1290** *Beket* 819 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 130 And þov ne ȝolde me þar-of none a-countes. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 3847 & to þe king arthure hom ȝolde ech man þat was wys. *Ibid.* 11800 þe castel of pennesseie heo ȝolde vp þe kinge. **c 1320** *Sir Tristr.* 307 For hauke siluer he ȝold. **1340-70** *Alisaunder* 304 Hur ȝates ȝeede þei too & youlden hem soone. **c 1420** *Chron. Vilod.* 562 þe kyng of Denmarke ȝold hym anone þo. **1460** CAPGRAVE *Chron.* (Rolls) 187 But aftirward alle went bak, and ȝold hem to the Kyng. **c 1482** J. KAY tr. *Caoursin's Siege of Rhodes* ¶10 (1870), There he kneled downe and yold thankynge. . . unto God. **1590** SPENSER *F.Q.* III. xi. 25 To her yold the flames.

γ. Chiefly north. 4-5 (6 *Sc.*) ȝald, ȝalde, (also 6, 9 *Sc.*) yald, (4 ȝialde, yalld, yhald); 4-5 yauld, 5 ȝauld, ȝaulde.

13.. *Cursor M.* 1208 (Cott.) Lelli yald he him his teind. **13..** *Ibid.* 19794 (Edinb.) He hir raisid. . . And ȝialde hir quic up for þaim alle. **c 1320** *Sir Tristr.* 390 To crist his bodi he ȝald. **c 1350** *Will. Palerne* 3661 þe kinges sone of spayne. . . to hire ȝalde. **1375** BARBOUR *Bruce* ix. 320 Syne ȝald the castell to the king. **c 1375** *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxii. (Laurentius) 496 He . . . ȝauld þe spryt. **c 1400** *Destr. Troy* 6499 He gird to þe ground, & þe gost yalde. **a 1450** *Knt. de la Tour* lxxx, Whanne it plesed vnto God, he yalde ayen the sight vnto this good man. **1513** DOUGLAS *Æneis* II. ix. 46 The gaist he ȝald with abundance of blude. **1552** ȝald [see B. 14c]. **1819** W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 168 The kirk-yard's coffins yald and broke.

δ. 4 ȝalt, ȝalte, yalt; 4 ȝelt(e, 5 yelte, yilt. **c 1300** *Seynt Mergrete* in *Leg. Cath.* (1840) 100 He. . . ȝelt hem her seruise With wel michel wouȝ. **13..** *Guy Warw.* (A.) 927 & wele he ȝalt him his while. **c 1320** *Sir Tristr.* 261 Durst non oȝain him kipe, Bot ȝalt him tour & toun. **1377** LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XII. 214 Why þat one thef on þe crosse creaut hym ȝelt. *Ibid.* xviii. 100 ȝowre championi chualer . . . ȝelt [*v.r.* ȝelte, yelde, yilt] hym recreaut. **c 1430** *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* III. xxv. (1869) 150 Whan j sigh that he hadde don euele, he yelte ayen the pens.

ε. 4 ȝeldid, yhelded, ȝeilded, 4-5 ȝeldede, yeldid, 5 ȝeldide, yeldyd, yeildyd, yylldyd, 5-6 yelded, 6 yealded, *Sc.* ȝeildit, yeldit, 6-7 yeelled, 7-8 yeilded, 7- yeilded.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* vii. 4 If i ȝeldid ill til ȝeldand til me ill for goed. **1340** — *Pr. Consc.* 2272 He yhelded þe gast to God and dyghed. **13..** *Cursor M.* 696 (Gött.) Alkines in diuers wise ȝeilded to Adam þair seruise. **c 1440** *York Myst.* xli. 356 Whose wombe that yeildyd fresh and fayr. **1474** CAXTON *Chesse* II. v. (1883) 60 They opend the yates and yelded them vnto hym. **a 1578** LINDSAY (Pittscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 408 He. . . held wpe his handis to god and ȝeildit the spreit. **1610** HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 297 He yeilded unto nature, and ended his life. **1617** MORYSON *Itin.* I. 241 The Mountaine. . . of it selfe . . . yeilded many wilde but pleasant fruits. **a 1647** CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* I. §30 The King Yeilded. **1874** [see B. 10b].

ζ. 5 yoldede.

1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) III. 269 The citesynnes. . . yoldede the cite.

3. *Pa. pple. a.* 1 ȝolden, 4 yȝolden, ȝoldine, -un, yoldon, -un, 4-5 ȝolden, -yn, (yholden), 4-6 yolden, -in, -yn, 5 y-yolden, (ȝoldyne, ȝholden), 5 (6 *Sc.*) ȝoldin; 5 ȝoulden, 6 youlden, *Sc.* ȝowdin, yowdin, 9 *Sc.* yowden.

a 900 *Kent. Glosses* in Wr.-Wülcker 67/9 *Et. . . retribuetur*, and bið goden. **a 1000** [see B. 6]. **13..** *Cursor M.* 23192 (Edinb.) þar sal be yoldin him his hire. **13..** *Guy Warw.* (A.) 1572 Ful iuel ichaue y-ȝolden ic þe. **a 1340** HAMPOLE *Psalter* lxiv. 1 Body and saule, sall be yolden till þe in ierusalem. **1375** BARBOUR *Bruce* x. 804 He set ane sege thar-to stoutly, And lay thar quhill it ȝoldyn was. **c 1400** *Rom.* Rose 4556 Curtesie certeyn dide he me So mych that may not yolden be. **c 1450** *Brut* II. 492 þe town of Melun was yholden to þe Kyng. **1483** CAXTON *Gold. Legend* 67 b/1 Our lord hath yolden the malice of Nabal on his owen heed. **1513** DOUGLAS *Æneis* I. iii. 9 Quhy mycht I nocht on fieldis of Troy haue deid, And by thi richt hand ȝowdin furth my spreit? **15..** *Christ's Kirk* 151 in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter.

Cl.) 287 For hir saik he was nocht yoldin. **1553** BRENDE *Q. Curtius* III. 25 b, All the Cities. . . that had bene youlden vnto hym. **1836** youden [see YOLDEN 2].

β. 3-5 ȝolde, yȝolde, yolde, 4 ȝoulde, hyȝolde, ȝulde, yȝulde, 4-5 y-yolde, ȝulde, 4-6 ȝolde, 5 i-yolde; 5 ȝold, 5-6 yold.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 9223 Ar þe castel him were ȝolde. **a 1300** *Floriz & Bl.* 809 To hire he hap ȝolde Twenti pond of ride golde. **13..** *Bonaventura's Medit.* 346 Wheþer nat euyl be ȝulde for gode. **1340** *Ayenb.* 73 Hou uirtues and guode dedes byep heȝliche yolde. *Ibid.* 163 þ is dette ne may by uolliche y-yolde. **1412-20** LYDG. *Chron. Troy* I. 2220 With-out assaut þe castel were y-ȝolde. **a 1450** *Knt. de la Tour* lxxxviii, Whanne they shalle be yolde ayenne an hundred folde more. **c 1500** *Lancelot* 380 She aȝeine to hym haith ansuer ȝolde. **1596** SPENSER *F.Q.* VII. vii. 30 To reape the ripened fruitis the which the earth had yold.

γ. 5 ȝ(h)eldyn, 5-6 yelden(e, 6 -yn, yeelden.

c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* III. ii. 276 þat he Sulde bundyn and syne ȝeldyn [*v.r.* ȝoldin] be. **1471** yelden [see B. 8]. **1556** *Chron. Grey Friars* (Camden) 14 This yere. . . was the towne of Rome yeldene to the emperor. **1568** GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 80 Think. . . what thou hast yelden to him againe. **a 1586** SIDNEY *Arcadia* (1622) 95 Klaius. . . who lately yeelden was To beare the bonds which time nor wit could break.

δ. 4 iyelt, ȝilde, 5 ȝyeld, yelde, 5, 7 yeld, 6 yeeld.

13.. *Seuyn Sages* (W.) 1698 Oure gode dede schal ben iuel i-yelt. **1387** *TREVISIA Higden* (Rolls) VII. 485 Forto he hadde i-ȝilde hym þe castel of Newerk. **1401** in *Ellis Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. I. 14 [He] hadd yȝeld op the Castell of Kermerdyn. **c 1440** *Generides* 4781 Townys and Castelys are yelde to his hand. **1578** WHETSTONE *Promos & Cass.* I. v. iii, Who (wonne by loue) hast yeeld the spoyle of thy virginity. **a 1660** *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) II. 24 Mariborough was. . . treacherously yeld to Casthauen the 9th of May.

ε. 5 ȝielded, ȝeldid, yeldyde, 5-6 yelded, 6-7 yeilded, 7- yeilded.

c 1460 *Oseney Reg.* 128, j.d. ȝerely to be i-ȝelded to me and to my beyres. **c 1489** CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* xii. 304, I have yelded you agen that ye lended me right now. **1540** yelded [see B. 9] **1561** NORTON & SACKV. *Gorboduc* v. ii, Who fearing to be yelded fled before. **1651** HOBBS *Leviath.* III. xxxvi. 230 Before hee yeeld them obedience; unlesse he have yelded it them already. **1875** JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 365, I should never have yielded to injustice from any fear of death.

ζ. 5 yolded, -yd.

1449 *Paston Lett.* I. 85 And ther they were yolded all the hundred schyppys to go with me in what port that me lust. **a 1466** GREGORY *Chron.* in *Hist. Coll. Cit. Lond.* (Camden) 115 The towne whythe grete sawte was yoldyd and wonne.

B. Signification.

I. To pay, repay, requite.

† 1. *trans.* To give in payment, render as due, pay (money, a debt, tribute, tax, etc.). *Obs.*

c 893 *ÆLFRED Oros.* I. x. §1 þæt him leofre wære wið hiene to feohtanne þonne gafol to ȝieldanne. **c 950** *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xviii. 30 *Donec redderet debitum*, wið he ȝulde þæt scyld. **a 1122** *O.E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1014 Se cyning het ȝyldan þam here þe on Grenewic læȝ. xxi. þusend punda. **c 1205** *LAY.* 7372 þu athest me to ȝulden [*c 1275* ȝelde] ȝauel of pine londe. **a 1225** *Ancr. R.* 404 lðen euentid, hwon me ȝelt werc-men hore deies bure. **a 1300** *Cursor M.* 1985 And ȝeildes til þour creatur þe tend part o your labour. **c 1330** *Arth. & Merl.* 5219 Today ic ȝeld ȝour rentes Wiþ hard woundes & dep dentes. **c 1400** MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) xxii. 104 þis citee ȝeldez ȝerely to þe Grete Caan. . . l thousand comayces of florenes of gold. **c 1450** *Godstow Reg.* 318 Symon Holle held j. Cotage, vj. acris of bond-lond, and shold yelde by the yere iij. shillings at two termes of the yere in even porcions. **1491** *Act 7 Hen. VII.* c. 19 §1 By the service of a redde roose. . . to the same late Kyng and his heires for all maner services to be yolden. **1553** T. WILSON *Rhet.* 15 To performe their bargaines, to stand to their promyses, & yelde their debtes. **1598** MANWOOD *Lawes Forest* iv. §1. 21 b, The killing of them [sc. foxes] is a breach of the kings Royall free Chase, and for that the offender shal yelde a recompence. **1652** NEEDHAM tr. *Selden's Mare Cl.* II. xi. 272 Gloucester yielded [orig. *reddebat*] xxxvi Dieres of Iron and c. iron rods fitted to make nails for the Kings ships.

2. a. To give as due or of right, or as demanded or required; to render (service, obedience, account, reward, thanks, etc.). Now somewhat arch.

c 1000 *Ags. Ps.* (Th.) cxviii[i]. 17 ȝild þinum esne gode dæde. **c 1200** ORMIN 5214 Lef faderr, ȝeld me nu Forr all min swinne riht mede. **a 1225** *Ancr. R.* 186 þencheð anon þet he is ower uederes ȝerde, & þet he wule ȝelden him ȝerde seruise. **a 1225** *Leg. Kath.* 2248 Ich am her, . . . mid alle mine hirdmen, to ȝelden reisun for ham. **13..** *K. Alis.* 7420 (Laud MS.), ȝeldep me homage alle. **13..** *Cursor M.* 461 (Gött.) Qui seld i him seruise ȝeilde? All sal be at mine aun weilde. **1362** LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. VIII. 175 þer dede schullen a-rysen, . . . and a-Countes ȝelden How þou laddest þi lyf. **1389** in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 3 Which wardens schul gadere þe quarterage. . . and tewellich ȝyld here aecompt þerof. **c 1400** tr. *Secr. Secr., Gov. Lordsh.* 49 With ioye y wente hoomen ȝeldand to oure creatour gret þankynge. **1470-85** MALORY *Arthur* xvii. xix. 717 They yelded hym honour and good aduerture. **1560** DAUS tr. *Sleidane's Comm.* 49 They shal yeld an accompt for it one day. **1588** J. UDALL *Diatriphes* (Arb.) 33 And so we her subjects should yeild continual thanks vnto her highnesse. **c 1610** *Women Saints* (1886) 170 Seeing we haue bene reserued to yeld these funeral speeches to our brother and sister. **1663** PATRICK *Parab. Pilgr.* xxxviii, That he might be moved to let go his right to punish us, and we not moved to be careless in yielding him the rest of his right which he hath to our. . . obedience. **1823** SCOTT *Quentin D.* xv, What token canst thou give me, that we should yield credence to thee? **1831** JAMES *Phil. Augustus* II. ii, Yield him obedience in lawful things. **1850** TENNYSON *In Mem.* xxxvi, We yield all blessing to the name Of Him that made them current coin.

† b. To perform (a promise), pay (a vow). *Obs.* **c 825** *Vesp. Psalter* xlix. [l.] 14 ȝeld ðæm hestan ȝehat ð in. **13..** *E.E. Allit.* P. B. 665, I schal. . . ȝelde þat I hyȝt. **1382** WYCLIF *Isa.* xix. 21 Thei shul vouwe vouwes to the Lord, and ȝelde. **c 1400** MAUNDEV. ix. [xiii.], þei ȝolden vp here

avowes. **c 1400** tr. *Secr. Secr., Gov. Lordsh.* 110 ȝeide þy hetynge.

† c. To give thanks to. *Obs. rare.*

c 1440 *York Myst.* x. 53 Nowe awe I gretely god to yeelde, That so walde telle me his entente.

† 3. To pay for loss of or injury to (something); to make compensation for (loss or injury); to make up for, make good. (Also *absol.*) *Obs.*

a 900 *Laws of Ælfred* Introd. xxii, ȝif hwa adelfe wæterpyrt . . . & hine eft ne betyne, ȝelde swelc neat swelc ðær on befealle. **c 1000** *ÆLFRED Exod.* xxii. 6 ȝif fyr bærne mugan oððe standende æceras, ȝylde þone byrst þe þæt fyr ontende. **c 1175** *Lamb. Hom.* 31 þah ic hefde al þet ic efre biȝet, ne mahtic ȝelden swa muchel swa ic habbe idon to herme. **a 1225** *Ancr. R.* 58 Heo schulen ȝelden þat best þat is per inne iuallen. *Ibid.*, Heo is gulti of þe bestes deaðe. . . & schal . . . ȝelden þe bestes lure. **1340** *Ayenb.* 31 Uor hi ne moȝe amendi ne yelde þe harmes þet bi habbeȝ yde, and hit behoueȝ yelde oþer hongy.

† 4. To pay back, repay; to give back, restore. (In later use mostly with *again.*) *Obs.*

c 897 *ÆLFRED Gregory's Past.* C. liv. 425 Wenstu. . . hwæðer he hine mid ðy ȝealdan mæge ðæt he him nauht mare on ne nime, ne ðæt ne ȝielde ðæt he ær nam? **c 1175** *Lamb. Hom.* 79 ȝif þu mare spenest of pine, hwan ic aȝen cherre, al ic þe ȝelde. **a 1225** *Ancr. R.* 302 Schrift ȝelt eft al þet god þet we hefden uorloren. **13..** *E.E. Allit.* P. B. 1708 So ȝeþly was ȝarked & ȝolden his state. **1362** LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. v. 236 And ȝit I-chulle ȝelden aȝeyn ȝif I so muche haue. **c 1400** *Cursor M.* 27867 (Cott. Galba) Till wrang tane thing be ȝolden ogayne. **a 1450** *Knt. de la Tour* lxxx, And whanne it plesed vnto God, he yalde ayen the sight vnto this good man. **1450-1530** *Myrr. our Ladye* III. 295 So peace that was loste by Adams synne, he restored & yelded aȝeyne. **1489** CAXTON *Faytes of A.* II. xxi. 219 He ought to be yolden aȝeyn to his frendes. **1552** HULOET, Yeld eftesones a thinge receiued, or taken, . . . money borrowed or suche like.

† 5. a. To give (something) in return for something received; to render, return (a benefit or injury, etc.); const. *for.* *Obs.*

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 223 Ne he nænigne man unrihtlice forðerde, ne nænigum yfel wiþ yfele ȝeald. **c 1175** *Lamb. Hom.* 15 Ne scalt þu ȝelden uel onȝein uel nuða. **a 1225** *Ancr. R.* 186 Ase þe apostle lereð, ne ȝelde neuer uel uor god. **a 1300** *Cursor M.* 4424 For þi leute and þi truthhede Ful iuel es yolden þe þi medel. **1387-8** T. Usk *Test. Love* I. iii. (Skeat) l. 107 Yvels for my godnesse arn manyfolde to me yolden. **1390** GOWER *Conf.* II. 292 It with kinde nevere stod A man to yelden evil for good. **1484** CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* I. x, Euyll folk. . . for the good done to them, they yeld aȝeyne euyll. **a 1586** SIDNEY *Ps.* VII. iv, If I wrought not for his freedom's sake, Who causlesse now yeeldes me a hatefull hart: Then let my foe chase me.

b. To return (an answer, a greeting, or the like). Now only (with admixture of 10 b or 14), to vouchsafe (an assent) *to.*

a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 64 He. . . þe sit & spekeð toward him, & ȝelt him word aȝein word. **a 1300** *Cursor M.* 8166 And þair hailing þai til him tald, Ful hendeli to þam he yald. **c 1320** *Sir Tristr.* 1987 Brengwain answer ȝolde. **c 1350** *Will. Palerne* 234 In hast þemperour hendeli his gretynge him ȝeldes. **c 1475** *Rauf Coilyear* 224 And euer to his asking ane answer he ȝ ald. **1501** DOUGLAS *Pal. Hon.* II. xix, Venus again ȝald thame thair saluing. **1526** *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 142 Than yf we be touched with a sharpe worde, we shal yelde a benigne & gentyll answece. **1603** SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* IV. ii. 6 Leau me your snatches, and yeeld mee a direct answer. **1840** DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xvi, As he yielded to this suggestion a ready and rapturous assent, they all rose. **1875** JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 111 To this Protagoras yields a reluctant assent.

† 6. To give something in return for, make return for, pay for, repay; to reward, recompense, requite (an action, etc., in good or bad sense; often with dative of person). Often in phr. *God yield it you:* cf. 7 a. *Obs.*

a 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 413 þonne he me na on leofran tid leanum ne mahte Mine ȝife ȝyldan. *Ibid.* 1102 Min sceal swiðor mid grimme gryre golden wurðan fyll & feorhcwealm, þonne ic forð scio. **c 1200** *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 5 For þanne he wile ðere ȝelden elch man his hwile mid swilch mede swo he ernede here. **c 1200** ORMIN 6239 þatt heore dazȝwhammlike swinne Beo dazȝwhammlike hemm ȝoldenn. **c 1250** *Kent. Serm.* in *O.E. Misc.* 33 Clepe þu wercmen and yeld hem here trauail. **a 1300** *Cursor M.* 4996 'Sir', þai said, 'godd yeild [*v.r.* ȝilde, ȝeild, ȝelde] it you'. **a 1300** *Assump. Virg.* (Camb. MS.) 249 Thu hast made me ofte glad; Thu has done as my sone bad, My sone shal it yelde to the. **13..** *K. Alis.* 132 (Laud MS.) He. . . pinkeȝ ȝelde his iniquite. **c 1330** *Arth. & Merl.* 9241 He hadde iuel ȝolden þe kisseyng þat Gvenour him ȝaf at his arminge. **c 1350** *Will. Palerne* 319 þat god for his grete miȝt al here god hem ȝeld. **1370** *Robt. Cisyle* 128 in *Hazl. E.P.P.* I. 274 The portar ȝalde hym hys trauayle, He smote hym agayne withouten fayle. **c 1400** *Destr. Troy* 7941 The dethe of þat doughty shalbe ðere yolden With the blode of þi body. **c 1400** *Gamelyn* 368 lf. . . thou thenke as thou seyst, god yelde it thee. **a 1450** *Knt. de la Tour* lxxxviii, Suche good dedes, it is noble thinge to be do, and to vse, whanne they shall be yolde ayenne an hundred folde more. **1530** PALSGR. 786/1 Where I can nat, God yelde it you.

absol. **1382** WYCLIF *Ps.* cxxxviii[i]. 8 The Lord shal ȝelde for me.

7. With personal object (orig. dative; sometimes with *to*). To reward, remunerate, recompense, repay. a. in good or neutral sense: esp. (in later use only) in phr. *God yield (you etc.)*, also corruptly *God eyld. . . , God dild. . .*, etc. (see GOD 8), from *c 1400* to *c 1600* a common expression of gratitude or goodwill. *Obs.* or *rare arch.*

Beowulf 1184 Wene ic þæt he mid gode ȝyldan wille uncran eaferan. **971** *Blickl. Hom.* 123 Se ilca Drihten. . . us þonne wile. . . æghwylcum anum them ȝyldan & leanigan æfter his sylfes weorcum. **a 1175** *Cott. Hom.* 231 He. . . elc

zeelt efter his 3earnunge. **c1250** *Gen. & Ex.* 2581 God it 3eald ðese wifes wel, On hom, or ha3te, eddi sell! **c1300** *Havelok* 803 God yelde him þer i ne may, þat haueth me fed to pis day! **c1350** *Will. Palerne* 1547 But loueliche lemman oure lord mot þe 3eld þat þi worpi wille was to come to me noupe. **c1400** *Beryn* 1680 A Ml in this town Wold do hym worshipp. . . God hem 3eld! so haue þey offit or nowe. **c1430** *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* 1. cxlvii. (1869) 75 Whan þei weren trussed, grace dieu, god yilde hire wel, goodliche spak to me. **1454** *Paston Lett.* (1904) II. 331 Suster, God 3elde 3ow for 3owre labore fore me, for gaderyng of my mony. **c1489** *CAXTON Sonnes of Aymon* xxiii. 495 'Gramercy, sir', sayd the duke rycharde, 'and god yelde you!' **1575** *Gammer Gurton* v. ii, *Baily*. God blesse you gammer Gurton. *Gamer*. God dyldye you master mine. **1602** SHAKS. *Ham.* IV. v. 41 How do ye, pretty Lady? *Ophelia*. Well, God dil'd you. **1606** — *Ant. & Cl.* IV. ii. 33 Tend me to night two houres, I aske no more, And the Gods yeeld you for't. **1608** CHAPMAN *Byron's Conspir.* v. *ad fin.*, Marry God dild him. **1872** TENNYSON *Gareth & Lynette* 18 Heaven yield her for it.

†b. in bad sense: To take vengeance on, 'pay out'. *Obs.*

13.. *Sir Beues* (A.) 318 Al þat hap me fader islawe, . . Ich schel hem gilden [14.. *MS. M.* I shall be vengid]. **c1380** WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 43 Myn is þe veniaunce, and I schal 3elde hem in tyme. **1382** — *Ps.* xl. 11 [xli. 10] Thou.. Lord.. 3æen rere me, and I shal 3elde to them.

II. To give or put forth, produce, furnish, exhibit.

8. a. To give forth from its own substance by a natural process, or in return for cultivation or labour; to produce, bear, generate (fruit, seed, vegetation, minerals, etc.); to put forth (a bud, shoot, etc.); †to bring forth, give birth to, bear (offspring). Now chiefly *arch.* or *poet.*

In first quot. with partitive object.

a1300 *Cursor M.* 4720 þof men ouer all has saun feilds, O corn es þar noght as þat yeilds. **1471** *CAXTON Recuyell* (Sommer) 31 She this day hath rendred & yelden þe fruyt of her wombe a sone and a daughter. **1573-80** *Tusser Husb.* (1878) 31 For want of seede, land yeeldeth weede. **1577** *GOOGE tr. Hereshbach's Husb.* 39b, The Female [hemp].. dooth yeelde a white flowre. **1577** *HARRISON England* II. xv. 90b/2 in *Holinshead*, Till they.. spread or yeld their rootes down right into the soyle about them. **1591** SHAKS. *Two Gent.* I. ii. 107 Inuiurious Wasps, to feede on such sweet honey, And kill the Bees that yeelde it, with your stings. **1608** — *Per.* v. iii. 48 Thy burden at the Sea, and call'd Marina, for she was yeelded there. **1611** *Bible Gen.* i. 29 Euey tree, in the which is the fruit of a tree yeelding seed. **1613** *PURCHAS Pilgrimage* VII. xi. 595 The soile yeeldeth Cloues, Ginger, and Siluer. **1651** *BP. HALL Soliloquies* xvi, If I look into my orchard I see the well gratted scions yield, first a tender bud. **1672** *GREW Idea Philod.* *Hist. Pl.* §43 Turpentine, which, in Distillation, yieldeeth Oyl and Water, both limpid. **1697** *DRYDEN Virg. Georg.* III. 482 The salacious Goat encreases more; And twice as largely yields her milky Store. **1744** *BERKELEY Siris* §25 Trees growing in low and shady places do not yield so good tar. **1857** *MILLER Elem. Chem., Org.* (1862) iii. §3. 194 They all combine with the elements of water and yield one of the acids homologous with formic acid. **1859** *E. FITZGERALD Omar* v, But still the Vine her ancient Ruby yields.

fig. **1587** *GOLDING De Mornay* xvi. (1592) 262 This minde of ours doth also yeeldfourth corruption? *Ibid.* 267 When did cuer purenesse yeeldfourth corruption?

b. To furnish (a produce of so much). Also with *up*.

a1300 *Cursor M.* 12329 þan quen it [sc. wheat] scorn was, weil it yalld A hundred o þair mettes talld. **1577** *HARRISON England* I. xiii. 38/1 in *Holinshead*, Eche acre of Whete.. will yeeld commonly twentie bushelles. **1577** *GOOGE tr. Hereshbach's Husb.* 30b, The other kinde [of oats] is lyghter.. and yeeldeth but little flowre. **1667** *PRIMATT City & C. Builder* 4 Inclosed Lands in many places doth yeild half as much, or as much more, as Lands in common fields. **1833** *HT. MARTINEAU Briery Creek* iii. 63 The farmer makes his land yeild double by good tillage. **1888** *P. STRUTT in Homilist* Sept. 391, I have seen a barrowful of crushed quartz-rock yeild up at last.. a little spoonful of gold.

c. To produce as a result; to give as a mathematical product. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

1542 *RECORDE Gr. Arts* L vij, I multiply the first nombre 3 into y^e second 40000, and it yeldeth 120000. **1593** *FALE Horologiogr.* 31 The quotient Sine shall yeeld an arke, whose Complement shall be named the Complement repeated. **1876** *R. H. HUTTON Ess.* (ed. 2) I. Pref. 26 Wherever two or more independent and equally worthy sources of information appear to yeild up inconsistent results.

d. *absol.* To bear produce; to be productive or fertile. †Hence, to turn out (in a certain way).

1297 *R. GLOUC.* (Rolls) 5666 þe erpe 3eld betere & pet weder was murgore bi is daye.. þan me er ysaye. **c1300** *Prov. Hendyng in Sal. & Sat.* (1848) 277 Lypt chep luyere 3eldes, quop Hendyng. **13**.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 498 A 3ere 3ernes ful 3erne, & 3elde2 neuer lyke. **c1386** [see YIELDING *vbl. sb.* 4]. **c1425** *WYNTOUN Cron.* II. v. 316 He couythe weil bathe ken and se Qwhat lande sulde 3helde or fertile be. **c1440** *York Myst.* x. 30 Sara was vncertan thanne That beere oure seede shulde sagates 3elde. **1523-34** *FITZHERB. Husb.* §10 If the grounde be good, putte the more beanes to the pease, and the better shall they yelde. **1639** *J. TAYLOR* (Water P.) *Part Summers Trav.* 14 A good Myne that doth hold out, and yeild plentifully. **1760** *R. BROWN Compl. Farmer* II. 38 It makes corn to yeild well. **1856** *MORTON Cycl. Agric.* II. 1132/1 Spalding's Prolific Red Wheat.. yields remarkably well, and weighs well in the bushel.

†9. (with compl.) To render, make, cause to be; also occas. to make, cause (*to do something*).

c1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. cli. (1869) 76, I haue a stoon þat to þe folk, whan j wole, yelt inuisible. **c1450** *Mankind* 733 in *Macro Plays* 27 My inwarde affliccyon 3eldynde tellyouse wn-to yourw presens. **1540** *PALSGR. Acolastus* I. i. Div, What? is not he yelded quiete (with these wordes)? **1581** *A. HALL Iliad* v. 83 For doubt that this our forwardnesse may yeelde vs both to die. *Ibid.* VIII. 135 This threat and surly speech doth yeelde the Gods amaze and

dum. **1609** *J. Rainolds's Def. Judgm.* Pref. A i j b, That.. holy man, whose learning.. and pietie.. may perhaps yeeld him more admirable to posteretie. **1674** *T. Campion's Art Descant* II. 35 Example will yeild it more plain.

10. To give, in various senses. †a. To deliver, hand over, present, offer. Also with *up*. *Obs.* or merged in other senses.

a1300 *Cursor M.* 8743 (Cott.) Me think.. þe child be nawight don to ded, Bot he be yoldon to yond wuif. **13**.. *Ibid.* 10220 (Gött.) Ilkan to þe temple broght Sere giftes.. All þair giftes þai 3eld vp þar. **13**.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 67 Syþen riche forth runnen to reche honde-selle, 3e3ed 3eres 3iftes on hi3, 3elde hem bi hond. **1382** *WYCLIF Prov.* xxvii. 24 A croune shal be 3olde [late vers. 30uun] to thee. **a1483** in *Engl. Gilds* (1870) 316 þ' euery prentes.. shall elde a brekefast to the forsayde M. and Wardons. **1603** SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* v. i. 7 Our soule Cannot but yeeld you forth to publique thanks. **1613** *PURCHAS Pilgrimage* II. i. 90 Where the holy Trinitie did first yeild it selfe in sensible apparition to the world. **1807** *J. BARLOW Columb.* III. 212 No furious God bestorms our soil and skies, Nor yeild our hands the bloody sacrifice.

b. To give as a favour, or as an act of grace; to grant, accord, allow, let (one) have, bestow.

a1225 *Juliana* 72 Schendeð hire nußen ant 3eldeð hire 3ærew borh. **a1300** *K. Horn* 1066 (Cambr. MS.) King þe wise, 3eld me mi seruise. Rymenhið help me winne. **a1450** *Knt. de la Tour* lxx, Afterwarde God yelde her that she had deseruid. **1575** *GASCOIGNE Glasse Govt.* Wks. 1910 II. 48 God is..bountifull, yielding unto every man that is industrious the open way to knowledge. **1582** *STANYHURST Æneis* I. (Arb.) 35 Yeeld pytue, graunt mercy. **c1586** *C'TESS PEMBROKE Ps.* CXL. iv, Yeeld, O Lord, that ev'n the head of those That me enclose, Of this their hott pursue May tast the frute. **1590** *SPENSER F.Q.* III. xi. 17 To yeild himloue she doth deny. **1624** *SIR J. DAVIES Ps.* iii. 4 Wks. (Grosart) I. 365 His God to him not safety yeilds nor aid. **1825** *SCOTT Betrothed* xxxi, 'I know but one [jugglers' feat]', said Vidal, 'and I will shew it, if you will yeild me some room.' **1833** *TENNYSON Miller's Daw.* xviii, And slowly was my mother brought To yeild consent to my desire. **1874** *GREEN Short Hist.* II. §6. 89 The King yielded the citizens the right of justice. **1885-94** *R. BRIDGES Eros & Psyche* May xxiv, His name she never learn'd, Nor was his image yielded to her sight.

†c. To exercise, exert (a function, force, etc.); to deliver, deal (blows), to give (battle); to execute, inflict (a sentence, vengeance). *Obs.*

a1300 *Cursor M.* 5872 And taron sett he men at ask Of ilk dai to yeild þair task. **c1315** *SHOREHAM* VII. 893 God þe fader hys leue sone Engendrede out of alle wone, . . Ac man hap certayn tyme of elde Wanne he may engendrure 3elde. **13**.. *Seuyn Sag.* (W.) 1932 Thries misdeed this woman bald, And thre vengauces he hire yald. **c1350** *Will. Palerne* 2708 þe selcoup a-sautes þat þei samen 3olde. **a1400-50** *Wars Alex.* 3126 He.. Bid buske him eft to þe bent vs bataill to 3eld. **c1400** *Destr. Troy* 1177 Iche buerne on his best wise batell to yelde. **c1435** *Torr. Portugal* 2572 Smert boffettes there they yeld. **1561** *GOOGE tr. Palingenius' Zodiac* v. O v, Of custome long is nature bred and yeldes her force alway To vse that long time hath bene kept. **1581** *A. HALL Iliad* I. 3 The rancor ceaseth not, til they do yeeld their vengeance due. **1581** *J. BELL Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 118b, Christ.. doth encourage them.. which do yeild their endeouour.. to performe y^e rule of the Gospell.

11. To give forth, emit, discharge; to utter. Also *absol.* *Obs.* exc. as represented by weakened uses of other senses, as 8, 14.

c1450 *LOVELICH Grail* lvi. 481 And the tombe owt blood gan 3elde. **1535** *LYNDESAY Satyre* 4354 Scho riftit, routit, and maid sic stends, Scho 3eild, and gaid at baith the ends. **1548-77** *VICARY Anat.* v. (1888) 44 It causeth the stomacke to yeld from him that is within him. **1552** *HULOET*, Yeld forth licoure, or moystnes, *exsudo*. **1581** *A. HALL Iliad* IV. 72 They cries and clamors yeeld. **1591-5** *SPENSER Colin Clout* 822 Ne is there shepheard.. That dare.. Blaspheme his powre, or termes vnworthie yeld. **1626** *BACON Sylva* §22 So we finde that Violets..yeeld a pleasing Sent. **1853** *M. ARNOLD Scholar Gipsy* iii, Air-swept lindens yeild their scent. **1872** *TENNYSON Gareth & Lynette* 1344 The huge pavilion slowly yielded up.. that which housed therein.

†12. a. To give, render, state, declare, deliver, communicate (speech, or something expressible in speech, as a reason, etc.). *Obs.*

a1350 *St. Sextus* 109 in Horst. *Altengl. Leg.* (1881) 107 Decius Cesar.. Demed þam al thre to ded. And when þe dome was 3olden swa, þan answerd þe dekins twa [etc.]. **1382** *WYCLIF 1 Tim.* vi. 13 Crist Jhesu, that 3elde a witnessing vndir Pilat of Pounce. **a1400-50** *Wars Alex.* 5192 Lat þi semblance be sadd quen pou þi sa3e 3ildis. **1575-85** *SANDYS Serm.* i. §24 We haue no other reason to yeeld of our dooing, but onely this. **a1577** *SIR T. SMITH Commw. Eng.* (1633) 230 The order of proceeding to judgment is by assent of voyces and open yeelding their mind in court. **1581** *J. BELL Haddon's Answ. Osor.* 104b, Yeldyng the same in the Latine toung almost, which Basile before him dyd expresse most manifestly in the Greeke toung. **1601** SHAKS. *All's Well* III. i. 10 The reasons of our state I cannot yeeld. **1602** *MARSTON Ant. & Mel.* I. i. B 3, Hast thou yeelded vp our fixt decree Vnto the Genoan Embassadour? *Ibid.* IV. G 4, She were no woman, if shee could not yeeld the strange language. **1607** *ROWLANDS Diogenes Lanthorne* E 3b, Morrow (quoth he) Philosopher, I yeild thee time of day. **1645** *USSHER Body Div.* 43 What reason can you yeeld for this?

†b. To report as being so-and-so: = DELIVER *v.* 111 c. *Obs. rare* 1.

1606 SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* II. v. 28 Anthony's dead. If thou say so Villaine, thou kil'st thy Mistris. But well and free, if thou so yeild him, there is Gold.

13. a. To give so as to supply a need or serve a purpose; to give or provide for use, furnish, afford.

a1548 *HALL Chron., Edw. IV.* 226b, They could none otherwise do, but.. yelde & geue hym a reasonable reward. **1560** *DAUS tr. Sleidane's Comm.* 282b, He made a goodly librarie, whiche yielded certen notable bookes afterwarde.

1585 *HIGINS Junius' Nomencl.* 392/2 *Castellum*, . . a conduit built with cocks and spowts to yeeld water. **a1586** *SIDNEY Ps.* XVIII. iv, The cherubins their backs, the winds did yeild their wings To beare his sacred flight. **1605** *CAMDEN Rem.* 1 Navigable rivers, which yeelde safe havens and roads. **1607** *TOPSELL Four-f. Beasts* 594 That there is such a beast in the world, both Pliny.. and others, doe yeald efrefigable testimony. **1661** *J. CHILDREY Brit. Baconica* 103 This County also yeilds good store of Honey. **1674** *PLAYFORD Skill Mus.* (ed. 7) II. 102 Making each several string yeild a clear sound. **1781** *COWPER Retirem.* 326 Man is an harp whose chords elude the sight, Each yielding harmony, dispos'd aright. **1836** *W. IRVING Astoria* II. 128 The narrow valley.. being watered by a running stream, yielded fresh pasturage. **1862** *SPENCER First Princ.* II. v. §57 (1875) 185 A ball fastened to the end of an india-rubber string yields a clear idea of the correlation between perceptible activity and latent activity. **1894** *H. DRUMMOND Ascent of Man* 251 Two flints struck together yielded fire.

b. To give rise to, cause, occasion (a state or feeling). Now *rare*.

1576 *GASCOIGNE Steele Glas* 709 But if it.. might empaire, offende, or yeld anoy Unto the state. **1581** *A. HALL Iliad* I. 15 Yeelding the Greekes a thorough feare, the Trojans courage hie. **1618** *J. TAYLOR* (Water P.) *Penniless Pilgr.* B 3, We made a field-bed in the field, Which sleepe, and rest, and much content did yeeld. **1632** *LITHGOW Trav.* x. 448 The English Fleete..comming, yeelded no small feare to the affrighted Towne. **1746** *FRANCIS tr. Hor. Epist.* II. ii. 120 [He] Yields Diversion to the gaping Throng. **1855** *BAIN Senses & Int.* II. i. §49. 400 Curved forms and winding movements yeild of themselves a certain satisfaction through the muscular sensibility of the eye.

c. To furnish or produce as profit, bring in.

1573-80 *TUSSER Husb.* (1878) 74 Good cow & good ground Yeelds yeerely a pound. **1599** *B. JONSON Cynthia's Rev.* v. iv, I frotted a jerkin, for a new-reuenu'd gentleman, yeelded me threescore crownes, but this morning. **1603** *G. OWEN Pembrokehire* (1892) 114 Rockes yeelding small proffitte. **1700** *S. L. tr. Fryke's Voy. E. Ind.* 96, I.. please my self with the thoughts of what it would yeild me among the Chineeese, and the English. **1840** *DICKENS Old C. Shop* xii, I have sold the things. They have not yeilded quite as much as they might have done. **1895** *Manch. Guardian* 14 Oct. 5/5 It has cost altogether Rx. 875,000, and will yeild a revenue to the Government of Rx. 50,000.

†d. To present to view, exhibit. *Obs.*

1622 *PEACHAM Compl. Gentl.* xvi. 206 The valley yeelding so goodly a prospect, as I neuer beheld a better. **a1700** *EVELYN Diary* 20 July 1654, The stables are well order'd and yeild a graceful front. **1726** *SHELVOCKE Voy. round World* 69 We had a clear view of Staten land, which yields a most uncomfortable landskip.

III. To surrender, give way, submit.

14. a. To hand over, give up, relinquish possession of, surrender, resign. *arch.* or *poet.*

(a) in material sense, esp. of surrendering a military position or forces to an enemy.

1297 *R. GLOUC.* (Rolls) 3366 þat hii solde him þe castel 3elde ar he wiþ strengþe him nome. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 7164 þe Iuus was þan þair vnder-lord, Sampson bunden þai yald for date. **c1300** *Havelok* 2717 Do nu wel with-uten fihþ, Yeld hire þe lond. **c1386** *CHAUCER Wife's T.* 56 And suretee wol I han er þat thou pace Thy body for to yelden in this place. **1460** *CAPGRAVE Chron.* (Rolls) 161 Had he not come, the cyte had be 3oldyn. **c1470** *Gol. & Gaw.* 1032 Gif thou luffis thi life, . . Yeld me thi bright brand, burnist sa bene. **1508** *KENNEDIE Flyting w. Dunbar* 545 Deulbere, thy spere of were, but feir, thou yelde. **1582** *N. LICHEFIELD tr. Castanheda's Conq. E. Ind.* I. lxxviii. 158 The shippe beeing yeilded, our men did enter the same. **1617** *MORVSON Itin.* II. 233 The besieged did yeeld the place to the Queene. **1698** *FRYER Acc. E. India & P.* 151 We soon made him yeild his Prize to engage with us. **1850** *TENNYSON In Mem.* xc, The hard heir strides about their lands, And will not yeild them for a day.

(b) in immaterial sense.

a1300 *Cursor M.* 10602 þai yald hir [sc. the child Mary] to þe temple þan. **1486** in *Surtees Misc.* (1890) 54 Yelding his title and his crowne unto the king. **1570** *FOX E. & M.* (ed. 2) 2296/2 [Queen Mary] who beyng long sicke before, vpon the sayd xvii. day of Nouember, . . yelded her life to nature. **1586** *A. DAY Engl. Secreterie* II. (1595) 28, I was content to yeeld my interest for eleuen hundred and three score poundes. **1611** *Bible Rom.* vi. 13 Neither yeeld yee your members as instruments of vnrighteousnes vnto sinne. **1623** *J. TAYLOR* (water P.) *New Discov.* Bj, We.. Were glad to yeeld the honour of the day Vnto our foes. **1656** *BRAMHALL Replie.* App. 34 He is well contented to pass by them all in silence, which is as much as yeeld the Cause. **1748** *GRAY Alliance* 53 The prostrate South to the Destroyer yields Her boasted Titles. **1802** *MARIA EDGEWORTH Moral T., Forester* xvii, It will be imagined that I yeild my opinions from meanness of spirit. **1833** *NEWMAN Arians* IV. i. 312 The timid Constantius, yielding to fear what he denied to justice. **1838** *JAMES Robber* vii, You have yeilded your heart and your happiness to one of whose.. family you know nothing.

†(c) To give up, resign (mentally). *Obs. rare.*

1697 *DAMPIER Voy.* (1699) 17 Those two men that we left the day before did not come to us till we were in the North Seas, so we yeilded them also for lost.

(d) To relinquish, surrender (a position of advantage or point of superiority).

1590 *SPENSER F.Q.* I. ii. 15 Each to other yeeldeth land. **1647** *COWLEY Mistr., Bathing in River* iii, And still old Lovers yeild the place to new. **a1700** *EVELYN Diary* 3 June 1666, [This] put new courage into our Fleete, now in a manner yielding ground. **1797** *GODWIN Enquirer* I. viii. 69 Grief does not easily yield its place to joy. **1851** *MRS. BROWNING Casa Guidi Wind.* I. 1074 Living heroes who will scorn to yeild A hair's-breadth even. **1864** *Congressional Globe* 5 Mar. 934/2 *Mr. Schenck*, I ask the gentleman from Vermont to yeild to me for about five minutes. *Mr. Morrill*. I will yeild the gentleman ten minutes of my time. **1869** *SWINBURNE Ess. & Stud.* (1875) 268 The finest of Coleridge's Odes is beyond all doubt the 'Ode to France'.. It were profitless now to discuss whether it should take or yeild precedence when weighed with the 'Ode to Liberty'.

b. with *up*; rarely with *over*.

a 1225 *Ancre*. R. 266 preateþ þe wulleð zelden up pene castel bute 3if he sende ou þe sonre help. *c* 1290 *St. Lucy* 83 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 103 Ich zelde him op al mi bodi. *c* 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1256 He zald vp his swerd to saue þanne his liue. *a* 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 1140 Or he zode þai zolde hym vp þe realm. *a* 1548 *HALL Chron.*, *Hen. VIII*, 258 He tolde them . . . that onlesse thei woulde yelde vp the toun. . . he would put them to the sword. 1600 *Old Cheque-Bk. Chapel Royal* (Camden) 5 Edward Pearce yealded up his place for the Mastership of the children of Poules. 1611 *Bible* 1 Macc. x. 32, I yeeld vp my authoritie ouer it. 1814 *SCOTT Ld. of Isles* iv. xxix, The ring which bound the faith he swore, By Edith freely yielded o'er. 1842 *DICKENS Amer. Notes* ix, He had kindly yielded up to us his wife's own little parlour. 1852 — *Bleak Ho.* xvi, Sir Leicester yields up his family legs to the family disorder [sc. gout].

c. to yield (*up*) the ghost (soul, breath, life, spirit): to 'give up the ghost', die, expire. *arch.*

c 1290 *S. Eng. Leg.* 211 He was neiz ope þe pointe pene gost op to zelde. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 209 How our leuedi endid and yald Hir sely saul. *c* 1330 *R. BRUNNE Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 13262 þey fond hym sone, zeldyng þe gast. 1386 *CHAUCER Knt.'s T.* 2194 Whan with honour vp yolden is his breeth. *c* 1430 *Chev. Assigne* 335 He bowethe hym down & zeldethe vp þe lyfe. *c* 1500 *Lancelot* 1088 The batell was richt crewell to behold, Of knyghtis wich that haith there lyvis zolde. 1552 *LYNDESAY Monarche* 4000 Thay, . . . For extreme hunger, zald the spreit. 1610 *HOLLAND Camden's Brit.* i. 303 Canutus the Hardie . . . who there amid his cups yeilded up his vitall breath. 1611 *Bible* Gen. xlix. 33 He . . . yeilded vp the ghost, and was gathered vnto his people. 1627 *J. TAYLOR* (Water P.) *Armado* C4, The Horse proued himselfe a mortall beast, yeelding his breath into the ayre. 1844 *MRS. BROWNING Romaunt of Page* xviii, Out upon the traitor's corse Was yielded the true spirit. *a* 1845 *Hood Fall of Deer* 35 Nor like a Craven yeeld his Breath.

d. *refl.* and *þpass.* To be dedicated or devoted to; to give oneself up or be addicted to.

a 1366 *CHAUCER Rom. Rose* 429 As she were, for the love of God, Yolden to religioun. 1390 *GOWER Conf.* III. 317 In blake clothes thei hem clothe, . . . And yolde hem to religion. *c* 1500 *Lancelot* 951 Y ware zolde euermore to be your knyght. 1621 *T. WILLIAMSON tr. Goulart's Wise Vieillard* 124 Eleazar . . . was gone and yeilded to prophane ceremonies. 1825 *SCOTT Talism.* iv, All the extravagances which strong affection suggests and vindicates to those who yield themselves up to it. 1852 *DICKENS Bleak Ho.* xiii, I . . . yielded myself for a little while to the interest of the scene.

15. *refl.* To give oneself up, surrender, submit, as to a conqueror (now *rare*; superseded by 16). Also with *up*.

1297 *R. GLOUC.* (Rolls) 5447 þe maystres of þe lond zolde hom to hom echon [v.rr. zulde, zoulde, zeldede, zelden]. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 23769 Hardili es he cuward, . . . þat yeildes him ar he be soght. 13 . . . *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1215, I zelde me jederly, & 3e3e after grace. *c* 1400 *Brit* cxvii. 219 Anone he & his company comen to the Gentil Knyght . . . & saiden 'zelde þe, traitour! zelde þe!' 1470-85 *MALORY Arthur* viii. xxii. 306 Rather shalle he slee me than I shal yelde me as recreant. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 237 Quhen deith cummis thair is na vther grace, Bot zeld the than, for doutles thow mon die. 1596 *SHAKS. 1 Hen. IV.* v. iii. 10 Vnesse thou yeeld thee as a Prisoner. 1611 *SPEED Hist. Gl. Brit.* ix. xix. 724/1 The sight of vs their appointed Soueraign shall . . . cause them . . . submissively to yeeld themselves to our mercy. 1642 *J. TAYLOR* (Water P.) *Life Henry Walker* A3 b, Others would have him come on Land and yeeld himselfe. *a* 1648 *L.D. HERBERT Hen. VIII* (1683) 243 Genoua also was constrained to yeeld it self, and shake off the French yoke. 1847 *TENNYSON Princess* vii. 343 Indeed I love thee: come, Yield thyself up.

with *compl.* 1377 *LANGL. P. Pl. B.* xii. 193 He zelte [v.rr. yald, zelde, yelde, zalte, zald] hym creaut to cryst on þe crosse & knewleched hym gylt. *c* 1500 *Melusine* 335 My intention is thither to goo and to yeld my selfe there hermyte. 1560 *DAUS tr. Sleidane's Comm.* 284 b, I yelde my self prisoner to you saith he. *c* 1645 *HOWELL Lett.* i. iii. xxxi. (1655) 157 My Don will . . . yeeld himself his prisoner. 1651 *HOBBS Leviath.* i. xii. 54 To those that have yeilded themselves subjects. 1802 *MARIA EDGEWORTH Moral T., Prussian Vase*, He . . . yeilded himself up a prisoner. 1813 *SCOTT Rokeby* iv. xvi, He . . . yeilded him an easy prey To those who led the Knight away.

const. *inf.* 1590 *SIR J. SMYTHE Disc. Weapons* Ded. 1 b, [They] will [with humility] yeeld themselves to heare and learne by their experiences.

16. a. *intr.* To give oneself up, surrender, submit (as overcome in fight). Also with *up* (*obs. rare*).

c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 3451 Seuen knyghtes . . . to hem ward gun priken . . . & bad hem zeld. *c* 1450 *Merlin* 461 Sir knyght, thow art take: yelde thow to me. 1509 *HAWES Past. Pleas.* xvi. lxx, It [sc. a castle] must yelde vp, or els be wonne at length. 1599 *SHAKS. Hen. V.* iv. ii. 37 England shall couch downe in feare, and yeeld. 1605 *CAMDEN Rem.* 28 The rebels therewith were so terrified, that they forthwith yeilded. 1672 *MARVELL Corr. Wks.* (Grosart) II. 400 The whole Province of Utrecht is yielding up. 1719 *DE FOE Crusoe* i. (Globe) 270 There needed very few Arguments to perswade a single Man to yield, when he saw five Men upon him, and his Comrade knock'd down. 1791 *COWPER Iliad* xvii. 16 Yield. Leave the body and these gory spoils.

† with *compl.* *a* 1547 *SURREY Æneis* ii. 77 [They] brought . . . A yongman, bound his handes behinde his back Whoe willingly had yelden prisoner.

b. In wider sense: To give way, be subjected, submit (cf. 17); occas. to break down, succumb.

1576 *GASCOIGNE Steele Glas* Ep. Ded., Shall I yelde to myserly as a just plague appointed for my portion? 1577 *tr. Bullinger's Decades* iv. ii. 566 The worldly grieve is the sorrowe of such men . . . as yeld to the burthen of sorrowe. 1593 *SHAKS. 3 Hen. VI.* v. ii. 11 Thus yeelds the Cedar to the Axes edge. 1640 *G. SANDYS Christ's Passion* i. 184 Not yeelding to the charmes of Sleep. *a* 1721 *PRIOR Turtle & Sparrow* 86 Sorrow shoud't to Prudence yield. 1750 *GRAY Elegy* 25 Oft did the harvest to their sickle yield. 1813 *SCOTT Rokeby* vi. xxiii, The night has yielded to the morn. 1840 *DICKENS Old C. Shop* xlv, The child . . . soon

yielded to the drowsiness that came upon her. *a* 1862 *BUCKLE Civiliz.* (1873) III. v. 355 Theory should yield to fact, and not fact to theory. 1896 *Pall Mall Mag.* May 17 The night was yielding, and the dawn came up in a thin white mist.

† c. *pa. pple.* in *refl.* or *intr.* sense = that has surrendered. Hence in *pass.* sense = forced to surrender, subdued. *Obs.* Cf. YIELDED, -EN, YOLDEN.

In first quot. with mixed constr.

a 1330 *Otuel* 862 Hit where sschame . . . To sslen a man þat zolden him is. *c* 1374 *CHAUCER Troylus* III. 1211 Now yeldeth yow, for oper bote is noon. To þat Criseyde answered þus a-noon, Ne hadde I er now, my swete herte dere, Ben yolden, y-wys I were now not here. 1387-8 *T. USK Test. Love* i. vii. (Skeat) l. 30 Although the party be yolden, he may with wordes saye his quarel is trewe. *a* 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 1899 þe erthe at to myne enpire enterly bees zolden. 1470-85 *MALORY Arthur* vii. xi. 228 Whan ye see me beten or yolden as recreant. 1533 *BELLENDEN Livy* iv. xii. (S.T.S.) II. 91 þe Inemys kest away þare wappynns and war zoldin prisoner. *a* 1547 *SURREY Æneis* ii. 827 Like as the elm . . . doth bend his top, Till yold with strokes . . . with ruin it doth fall. *a* 1600 *MONTGOMERIE Sonn.* xxxvi. 7, I zoldin am, and jit am stryving still. *a* 1600 — *Misc. Poems* xxi. 11 To prove on me thy pith, . . . That zoldin am in will.

† d. To give place, give way to. *Obs.*

1604 *E. G[RIMSTONE] D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* III. xxvii. 201 In some partes one element ends and another begins, yeelding by degrees one vnto another. 1611 *MURE Misc. Poems* II. 42, I yeild to the, more worthie thame nor I.

e. To be inferior to. Now *rare*.

[1604 *E. G[RIMSTONE] D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* iv. xxvi. 281 But as touching almonds and other fruites, all trees must yeelde to the almonds of Chachapoyas.] 1617 *MORYSON Itin.* i. 18 The City [of Nuremberg] . . . may perhaps yield to Augsburg in treasure and riches. 1726 *SWIFT Gulliver* i. vi, Their mutton yields to ours, but their beef is excellent. 1826 *SYD. SMITH Wks.* (1859) II. 74 Demerara yields to no country in the world in her birds. 1832 *R. & J. LANDER Exped. Niger* i. iv. 187 The vast plain on which it stands, although exceedingly fine, yields in . . . fertility and . . . beauty . . . to the delightful country surrounding the . . . city of Bohoo.

17. a. To give way to persuasion, entreaty, or the like; to cease to oppose or object; to submit, comply, consent. Also with *up* (*obs. rare*).

a 1500 *Chester Pl.* (E.E.T.S.) vii. 647 Turne to this fellowes and kisl I yeald, for in my youth we haue bene fellowes, I wis. 1531 *ELYOT Gov.* III. xviii. (1883) II. 315 Ther lacked litle that the yonge man was nat vanquished; and that the fleshe yelded nat to the seruice of Venus. 1561 *T. HOBY tr. Castiglione's Courtier* II. Qivb, He woulde neuer yelde at the perswasion of many Scholars. 1583 in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* V. 43 Yealdinge to the froward importunities of the Donatists. 1589 *HAKLUYT Voy.* To Rdr. ¶ 8, I haue yeilded vnto those my freindes which pressed me in the matter. 1596 *SHAKS. Merch.* V. iv. i. 425 You presse mee farre, and therefore I will yeeld. 1630 *PRYNNE Anti-Armin.* 2 We will forthwith yeeld up to them without any more dispute. 1671 *MILTON P.R.* II. 409 Thy temperance . . . For no allurements yields to appetite. 1749 *FIELDRING Tom Jones* x. iii, He . . . yeilded to the dissuasions of his friend from searching any farther after her that night. 1866 *G. MACDONALD Ann. Q. Neighb.* xxvi, As soon as they had yielded to my arguments. 1874 *GREEN Short Hist.* viii. §5. 516 The danger at last forced the King to yield to the Scotch demands.

† b. With *inf.* or *clause*, or with *to* and *sb.*: To submit, consent, agree (to do something, that something should be done, or to something proposed).

1572 in *13th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. iv. 13 If such reasons shall not move him to yeald to departe. 1597 *HOOKEE Eccl. Pol.* v. lxxi. §7 To . . . graunt that what their fancie will not yeelde to like, their iudgement cannot with reason condemne. 1598 *GRENEWAY Tacitus, Ann.* i. xvi. 31 The Reatins . . . no way yeelding that the mouth of the lake Velinus should be dammed vp. 1604 *E. G[RIMSTONE] D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* vii. xii. 529 As this was preparing, and every one yeilded to this treatie of peace [etc.]. 1626 in *Ellis Orig. Lett.* Ser. i. III. 245 Which news so soon as the French heard, their courage came downe, and they yeilded to be gone the next tyde. 1667 *MILTON P.L.* ix. 248 To short absence I could yeild, For solitude sometimes is best societie. *Ibid.* 902 How hast thou yeilded to transgress The strict forbiddance? *a* 1763 *SHENSTONE Elegies* vii. 55 Should some patron yield my stores to bless. 1799 *JANE WEST Tale of Times* xxxiii, Nor can I yield to sully my integrity by basely framing a forged accusation. 1814 — *Alicia de Lacy* IV. 265 He yeilded to ask for mercy, but he yeilded without hope of success.

18. *trans.* † a. With *compl.* adj. or adj. phr.: To acknowledge or admit that a person or thing is so-and-so. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 28077 Til our lauerd crist and þe, M. gastli fader, yeild i me Plightri for my syn o pride. 1377 *LANGL. P. Pl. B.* v. 374, I, glotoun, . . . gylti me zelde, þat I haue trespassed with my tonge. *c* 1400 *MAUNDEV.* (1839) x. 120 Zeldyng me self gylt, and cryenge him mercy. 1450-1530 *Myrr. our Ladye* ii. 87 Yeldyng vs gylty not for the thanke of man but *Coram domino*. 1591 *SHAKS. 1 Hen. VI.* ii. iv. 42 Till you conclude, that he vpon whose side The fewest Roses are cropt from the Tree, Shall yeeld the other in the right opinion. 1630 *W. FREAKE Doctr. Jesuits* 17 Which thing, if I shall yeeld unto you as lawfully done [etc.]. 1667 *MILTON P.L.* xi. 526, I yeild it just, said Adam, and submit. 1673 *Lady's Call.* i. iv. ¶ 19, I shall be thought to have out-run my subject . . . Yet I cannot yield it wholly impertinent. 1676 *DRYDEN Aurengz.* i. i, He yields his Arms unjust if he withdraws. 1744 *ELIZA HAYWOOD Female Spect.* viii. (1748) II. 65, I knocked under, in token of yielding myself in the wrong.

† b. With *clause* or *acc.* and *inf.*: To concede or admit that a thing is so. *Obs.*

1590 *SPENSER F.Q.* II. ix. 38 Pensieve I yeeld I am, and sad in mind. 1605 *CHAPMAN All Fooles* II. i, I must yeeld, . . . I

did . . . Make such a frivall promise. 1628 *T. SPENCER Logick* 242 The Apostle Paul 2 Cor. ii. 6 is content to yeeld his accusers, that, he was 'rude in speech'. 1633 *BP. HALL Hard Texts* 1 Cor. vii. 40, I think that I also shall be yeilded to have the Spirit of God. 1692 *LOCKE 3rd Let. Toleration* iv. 114, I will yield my self to have mistaken you. *a* 1697 *AUBREY Lives, Suckling* (1898) II. 241 Sir John Digby . . . yeilded to be the best swordsman of his time. 1703 *Rowe Fair Penit.* v. i, 'Tis hard for Souls like mine . . . to yield they have done amiss.

c. With simple obj., with or without dative of the person: To grant, allow, concede the fact, validity, or cogency of. Now *rare* (and associated with 14).

1571 *CAMPION Hist. Irel.* vii. (1633) 20 The honourable Historian Titus Livius, yeeldeth certaine privilege to antiquitie. 1611 *SHAKS. Wint. T.* iv. iv. 421, I yeeld all this. *c* 1620 *A. HUME Brit. Tongue* (1865) 22 This idle e; . . . in wordes ending in e . . . as pease, face . . . these I yeld because I ken noe other waye to help this necessitie. 1652 *BROME Queenes Exch.* i. i, Tis true, the King Osrick . . . may be thought fit To be endow'd with all you seem to yeild him. 1713 *SWIFT Cadenus & Vanessa* 265 And Pallas, if she broke the laws, Must yield her foe the stronger cause. 1713 *STEELE Englishman* No. 55. 354 All which wise Men mean was yeilded on both sides by our Lawyers. 1907 *Verney Mem.* I. 63 The point appears to have been yeilded.

† 19. *refl.* To betake oneself (cf. *F. se rendre*); hence *yield-you* as a nonce-rendering of *rendez-vous*.

c 1330 *R. BRUNNE Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 14225 [Guenevere] zald hure til þat nonnerye. *c* 1400 *Rom. Rose* 4904 He . . . yalte [him] into somme couente. 1470-85 *MALORY Arthur* xvii. xxiii. 724 Sire Percuyl yeilded hym to an hermytage oute of the cyte. 1578 *H. WOTTON Courtlie Controv.* 295 He tooke his leaue of hir, and went out . . . into a narrowe by lane, where from thenceforth euer after the (yeeld you) was giuen him.

20. a. *intr.* To give way under some natural or mechanical force, so as to collapse, stretch, bend, crack, etc.; *spec.* To deform inelastically; to undergo a large increase in strain without a corresponding increase in stress. Const. *to* (the force, pressure, etc.).

1552 *HULOET*, Yeld againe as dankysh, *contabesco*. 1577 [see *YIELDING ppl. a. 4*]. *c* 1580 *LODGE Reply Gosson's Sch. Abuse* (Hunter. Cl.) 26 Looke for wonders where musike worketh, . . . the bowels of the earth yeld where the instrument soundeth. 1590 *GREENE Neuer too late* (1600) EJ, As there is a Topace that will yeeld to euery stamp, so there is an Emerald that will yeeld to no impression. 1603 *G. OWEN Pembrokehire* (1892) 2 [The sea] doth not . . . seeme to yeld to the lande in anye parte. *c* 1610 *Women Saints* (1886) 64 The same stone moste miraculoubly being pulled, would yeld like a bowe. 1735 *JOHNSON Lobo's Abyssinia, Descr.* x. 98 After Rains, . . . the Ground yields and sinks so much, that [etc.]. 1830 *R. KNOX Bèclard's Anat.* 196 If they [sc. the arteries] be distended in the longitudinal direction, they yeld and elongate. 1860 *TYNDALL Glac.* i. xiv. 96 The snow yeilded, he fell, and slid swiftly downwards. 1883 *GRESLEY Gloss. Coal M. s.v.*, Pillars of coal are said to yield when they commence to give way or crush. 1900 *Phil. Mag.* L. 77 The assumption . . . that the material yields when one of the principal stresses reaches a certain amount. 1927 *F. V. WARNOCK Strength of Materials* iii. 46 At the point C the material has yielded a large amount, and the corresponding stress is known as the 'Yield Stress'. 1968 *A. H. COTTRELL Introd. Metallurgy* xxi. 395 Suppose that the central grain . . . has in fact so yeilded (e.g. because of the stress-concentrating effect of a foreign inclusion in it), but its neighbours are still elastic.

b. To submit to some physical action or agent (e.g. pressure, friction, heat, etc.) so as to be affected by it.

1794 *KIRWAN Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 37 He distinguishes those that yield to the file, as the white copper ore, hæmatites, etc. 1827-35 *N. P. WILLIS Idleness* 49 When the frost has yielded to the sun. 1838 *DICKENS O. Twist*, xxi, The door yielded to the pressure. 1847 *W. C. L. MARTIN Ox* 158/1 Ophthalmia arising . . . from blows, generally yields to bleeding. 1867 *H. MACMILLAN Bible Teach.* Pref. (1870) p. vii, The mountain must yield to the action of cold and heat. 1908 *H. WALES Old Alleg.* xvii. 292, I was surprised that you didn't yield to brandy.

† 21. To decline, turn aside, be deflected from a path or course: *lit.* and *fig.* *Obs.*

1576 *FLEMING tr. Caius' Dogs* 15 [Setters] attend diligently vpon theyr Master, . . . inclining to the right hand, or yealding toward the left. 1631 *MARKHAM Cheap Husb.* (ed. 6) i. ii. 22 Ease your hand, and draw it up againe, letting it come and goe till hee yeeld and goe backward. 1806 *Simple Narrative* I. 21 Without yielding, in the smallest degree, from the resolution she had formed.

IV. 22. *Comb.*: *yield-capacity*, capacity of yielding or producing; *yield gap*, the excess rate of return of long-dated or undated Government stocks over that of ordinary shares; *yield-point*, (the stress corresponding to) the point on a stress-strain diagram at which the strain begins to increase substantially without a corresponding increase in stress; in some metals differentiated as *upper yield point*, a point at which the stress ceases to increase as the strain increases, prior to a fall to the *lower yield point*, from which the strain increases while the stress remains almost constant at the lower value; also, esp. in *Geol.*, the elastic limit or the yield strength; *yield sign U.S.* = GIVE-WAY SIGN; *yield strength*, in materials that do not exhibit a well-defined yield point, the stress at which (in addition to the elastic deformation) a definite amount of plastic deformation is produced (usu.

taken as 0.2 per cent of the unstressed length); **yield stress**, the value of stress at a yield point or at the yield strength.

1889 *Nature* 12 Dec. 122 To assess the yield-capacity of any locality stocked with Scotch pine. **1959** *Economist* 25 Apr. 353/1 Investors today keep a careful eye on the 'yield gap'—the margin between dividend yields on ordinary shares and long term rates of interest set by the yield on irredeemable Consols. **1981** *Observer* 4 Oct. 19/2 It would also draw attention to the widening yield gap between gilts and shares. **1870** G. BERKELEY in *Exper. Mech. & Other Properties Steel* 4 Within the 'yielding point' of Steel the amount of lengthening from tension, or shortening from compression, produced by equal forces per unit of area is nearly the same. **1886** K. PEARSON in I. Todhunter *Hist. Theory Elasticity & Strength of Materials* I. 887 When a bar is subjected to increasing traction, a certain stretch is reached after which there is a sudden and rapid increase of stretch. . . The point at which this change takes place is very marked, and various names have been suggested for it, as the limit of fatigue, the limit of stability, and the break-down point. The latter name brings out the character of the phenomenon, but at the same time suggests a point related to absolute strength or cohesion; I have therefore spoken of this point in the present work as the yield-point. **1889** *Telegr. Jnl. & Electr. Rev.* 20 Dec. 707/1 The question of discontinuity of the curves about the 'yield point' was next discussed. **1919** FULLER & JOHNSTON *Appl. Mech.* II. x. 378 If the material is very ductile a yield point in torsion will appear at a torque somewhat higher than the elastic limit, similar to the yield point in tension. **1967** J. G. RAMSAY *Folding & Fracturing of Rocks* vi. 258 The specimen has . . . been permanently strained because the elastic limit has been exceeded. The point where this limit is first exceeded is known as the yield point. **1968** A. H. COTTRELL *Introd. Metallurgy* xxi. 390 In some materials . . . general yielding can begin in a very striking manner with a yield drop in which the applied stress falls, during yielding, from an upper yield point to a lower yield point. **1971** B. SCHARF *Engin. & its Lang.* iv. 23 Many metals such as aluminium, copper and brass have high ductility but no definite yield point (yield stress). **1981** *Pop. Hot Rodding* Feb. 66/1 To delve into this whole subject more deeply, we discussed it with SPS engineer Jack Schmidt, who spoke to us of tensile strength, yield points, and clamping loads. **1951** C. E. RIGGS in *Amer. City June* 133/1 On one street of each open intersection the sign reading *slow yield right of way* is erected. . . The new 'yield' signs are . . . of distinctive shape. **1977** J. CHEEVER *Falconer* 48 Putting up traffic signs, speeding signs, yield signs, stop signs. **1935** *Proc. Amer. Soc. Testing Materials* XXXVIII. 1315 *Yield strength*, the stress at which a material exhibits a specified limiting permanent set. **1967** *Times Rev. Industry* Feb. 45/2 Some British orders went overseas because of the inability . . . to cope with the more difficult combinations of pipe diameter, wall thickness and yield strength. **1982** *Materials Sci. & Engin.* LVI. 10/1 The yield strength of tempered lath martensitic 0.4% C steels is generally independent of packet size. **1913** *Proc. R. Soc. A.* LXXXVIII. 465 The observed stress at yield might . . . be below the true yield stress. **1954** C. W. MACGREGOR in W. R. Osgood *Residual Stresses in Metals* 110 Local yielding occurred with an applied uniform tensile stress considerably less than the yield stress. **1971** [see *yield-point* above]. **1973** C. R. BARRETT et al. *Princ. Engin. Materials* vi. 208 The applied tensile stress required to induce plastic behavior is known as the elastic limit or yield stress. **1973** J. G. TWEEDDALE *Materials Technol.* I. iv. 81 The yield stress is slightly above the elastic limit since it clearly represents the incidence of gross plastic strain.

yieldable ('jɪldəb(ə)l), *a. rare*. [f. YIELD *v.* + -ABLE.] †*a.* Having the quality of yielding, productive *of*. †*b.* Disposed to yield, submissive. *c.* That can be yielded. *rare*—0 (mod. Dicts.). Hence 'yieldableness (in quot., †submissiveness).

1577 HARRISON *England* i. viii. 17b, in *Holinshed*, If . . . the soyle [were] yeeldable of woode. **1603** H. CROSSE *Vertue's Commw.* (1878) 19 She is euer readie to dwel where she findeth the heart yeeldable to honestie. **1645** BP. HALL *Three Tract.*, *Peace-maker* §13 The fourth disposition for Peace, a yeeldableness upon sight of clearer Truths.

†**yieldance**. *Obs.* [f. YIELD *v.* + -ANCE. (A favourite word with Bp. Joseph Hall.)] The action of yielding, in various senses.

1. Surrender, submission, compliance.

1610 BP. HALL *Apol. Brownists* 2 The spirits of these men are two-well knowne, to admit any expectation of yeeldance. **1633** — *Hard Texts* Rom. vii. 8 Had not the law strictly restrained us from the yeildance unto sinne. **1657** TRAPP *Comm. Job* ix. 14, 87 Seeking to disarm his indignation by an humble yeildance. **1716** SOUTH *Serm.*, *Gal. ii. 5* (1727) V. 490 For if the things under Debate be given up to the Adversary, it must be upon one of these two Accounts; either, 1. That the Persons who thus yield them up, judge them unfit to be retained. Or, 2. That they find themselves unable to retain them; one or both of these must of necessity be implied in such a Yieldance.

b. Granting, allowance.

1656 BP. HALL *Specialities Life* Rem. Wks. (1660) 23 If . . . I might draw him to a willing yeildance of that parcell of my due maintenance, which was kept back from my not over-deserving predecessor.

2. Production, yield.

1656 BP. HALL *Serm.*, *Ps. cvii. 34* Wks. 1662 III. 197 How should the corn, wine, oyl, be had without the yeildance of the earth? **1668** STEELE *Husbandman's Calling* vii. 183 When it [sc. harvest] comes, sometimes the poor yeildance of it utterly disappoints him.

yielded ('jɪldɪd), *ppl. a.* [f. YIELD *v.* + -ED¹.] Surrendered, given up, granted, etc.: see the verb.

1591 SAVILE *Tacitus*, *Hist.* IV. lxxx. 231 A dishonoured captive, and yeelded person. **1595** SHAKS. *John* v. ii. 107 Haue I not heere the best Cards for the game. . . ? And shall I now giue ore the yeelded Set? **1697** DRYDEN *Æneis* XII.

1359 Against a yielded Man, 'tis mean ignoble Strife. **1801** SOUTHEY *Thalaba* III. xix, The rushing flow, the flowing roar, Filling his yielded faculties. **1810** SCOTT *Lady of L.* I. xxxiv, He sought her yielded hand to clasp. **1868** MORRIS *Earthly Par.*, *Watching of Falcon* (1870) I. 582 And yielded towns were set aflame. **1895** W. WATSON *Odes* etc. 53 O yielded lips, O captive breast!

†**yielden**, *ppl. a. Obs.* [pa. pple. of YIELD *v.* (A. 3y). Cf. YOLDEN.] = prec.

1542 WYATT in *Tottel's Misc.* (1557) Hijb, The fierce lyon will hurt no yelden thinges. **1547** SURREY *Æneis* II. 196 Ye sacred bandes I wore as yelden hoste. **1561** NORTON & SACKV. *Gorboduc* II. ii, Shall I abide, . . . And holde my yelden throate to traitours knife?

yielder ('jɪldə(r)). Forms: see YIELD *v.* [f. YIELD *v.* + -ER¹.] One who or that which yields.

†1. One who has to pay, i.e. owes, something; a debtor. *Obs.*

1340 Ayenb. 163 He ne is na3t ri3tuol, þet ne yzi3þ na3t ine his herte, . . . and onderstant, þet he is yeldere, and a-yens god of treupe, toppe alle þing. *Ibid.* 262 [see YIELDING *vbl. sb.* 1].

†2. A rewarder. *Obs.*

1382 WYCLIF *Judith* Prol. 3eldere of hir chastite. **1388** — *Ecclus.* xxxv. 13 For whi the Lord is a 3eldere [1382 3eldende], and he schal 3elde seuene fold so myche to thee.

3. One who gives something up, or gives in; a surrenderer (also with *up*); one who concedes.

1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 30 For briars and thornes at their apparell snatch, Some sleeues, some hats, from yeelders all things catch. **1597** — *2 Hen. IV.* iv. ii. 123 The Block of Death, Treasons true Bed, and yeelder vp of breath. **1598** — *1 Hen. IV.* v. iii. 11 (Qo. 1), I was not borne a yeelder thou proud Scot. **1893** *Daily News* 25 May 5/6 In the hope that they might get concessions from this universal yielder.

4. Something that produces or furnishes, a producer; now esp. with qualifying word referring to the amount or quality of the produce.

1733 W. ELLIS *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 198 A sort [of wheat] . . . that . . . is a great Yielder to the Barn. **1861** W. BARNES in *Macm. Mag.* June 132 Nature's yielders of good. **1906** *Westm. Gaz.* 6 Dec. 2/3 The quality of the good milker's milk is better than that produced by the small yielder.

yieldiness: see YIELDY.

yielding ('jɪldɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. YIELD *v.* + -ING¹.] The action of the verb YIELD.

†1. Payment; *transf.* obligation to pay, debt.

1340 Ayenb. 115 Ich am mochel ine dette ayen þe . . . and . . . ich ne habbe huer-of maki þe yeldinge. *Ibid.* 262 Uorlet oure oure yeldinges, ase and we uorlepte oure yelderes. **1380** WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 423 þis is . . . but 3ilding of dette bi mannus lawe.

2. The giving of something as due, or as a favour; rendering; bestowal.

1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 7846 Yheldyng of mede for ilk gud dede. **1382** WYCLIF *Ps.* cii[i]. 2 And wile thou not forȝete alle the 3eldingus of hym.

†3. Repayment, reward, recompense, retribution.

1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* xciii[i]. 2 3elde 3eldyngne til proude. **1382** WYCLIF *Isa.* lxvi. 6 Vois of the Lord 3eldende 3elding to his enemys. **1382** — *Luke* iv. 19 He sente me . . . to preche the 3eer of the Lord plesaunt, and the day of 3eldyngne. **1388** — *Ps.* cxxx. 3 [cxxx. 2] As a child wenyde on his modir, so 3elding be in my soule. **1440** *Promp. Parv.* 537/1 3eldyngne, reddicio. **1530** PALSGR. 291/1 Yeldeng, retribution.

4. Production of crops or the like; produce.

1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 598 Wel wiste he by the drogte and by the reyn The yeldyngne of his seed and of his greyn. **1547-8** in E. Green *Somerset Chantries* (1888) 32 A tenement in Pytmyster . . . the yelding wherof John Forde . . . solde unto William Voysey . . . for xij. li. sterling. **1903** *Smart Set* IX. 127/2 Speculating as to the profit of this year's yielding. **1922** W. SCHLICH *Man. Forestry* (ed. 4) I. 97 Timber fit for sawing would begin to be cut about 10 to 15 years later, and by the eightieth year the forests should be in full yielding.

5. *a.* Giving *up*, giving in, surrender, submission.

1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* VIII. xxv. 3833 Syn of þe 3eldyn [v.r. yelding] trefyt þai, þat gif þai be a certane day War noucht reskewit . . . þai sulde gif vp þe towne. **1475** *Rauf Coilze* 837 '3arne efter 3 elding, on ilk syde thay call. **1544** in Leadam *Sel. Cases Crt. Requests* (Selden Soc.) 112 To make an yeldyngne yf she lyst . . . by the deliueyrng of a mote to any of the seyd tenants to the vse of them whom shall please her. **1568** GRAFTON *Chron.* I. 427 Eche part with an hundred Knights and Esquiers, . . . to fight and combate to the yeldyng. **1583** MELBANCKE *Philotimus* R iv, But this, nor anye thinge coulde enforce him to relinquishe his suite, sauing the yelding of her battered breast. **1606** SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* II. ii. 25 What merit's in that reason which denies The yelding of her vp? **1631** WEEVER *Anc. Funeral Mon.* 769 At the bataille, and yelding vp of Mont de dier. **1711** SHAFTESB. *Charac.* II. 214 A Sacrifice and mutual yielding of Natures one to another. **1818** KEATS *Endym.* I. 411 She . . . breath'd a sister's sorrow to persuade A yielding up. **1885** *Athenæum* 17 Oct. 499/2 More or less cowardly yieldings to panic and sedition.

b. Giving way, as to persuasion or the like; compliance, concession, consent.

1588 SHAKS. *L.L.L.* I. i. 118 How well this yeelding rescues thee from shame. **1592** — *Rom. & Jul.* II. ii. 105 Therefore pardon me, And not impute this yeelding to light Loue. **1611** *Bible* Eccl. x. 4 Yeelding pacifeth great offences. **1634** CANNE *Necess. Separ.* (1849) 108 Their bare presence argues their approbation and yielding in show to ceremonies. **1647** CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* I. §22 (1702) I. 12 His Yielding to the violent passion. **1749** FIELDING *Tom*

Jones IV. vi, He . . . imputed her yielding, to the ungovernable force of her love towards him. **1844** KINGLAKE *Eothen* xv, I can see no limit to the yielding, and bending of his mind when it is worked upon by the idea of power. **1856** FROUDE *Hist. Eng.* II. vii. 130 Nothing was to be gained by yielding in minor points.

6. Giving way, as to pressure or other physical force. Cf. YIELD *v.* 20.

1665 HOOKE *Microgr.* 41 It is . . . shrunk, . . . which is caused by the yielding a little of the hardened Skin to a Contraction. **1683** MOXON *Mech. Exerc.*, *Printing* xxiv. ¶7 The softness or yielding of the Paper, Tympan, and Blankets. **1688** BOYLE *Final Causes* iv. 176 The Yielding of the Flexible Branch or Twigs whereto the Nest is fastened. **1860** TYNDALL *Glac.* I. ii. 10 There will be a gradual yielding of its mass under the pressure. **1899** J. A. EWING *Strength of Materials* iii. 31 There is . . . a well-marked yield point . . . at which extension goes on for a time through a considerable distance without increase of load. After this the extension becomes less rapid until the final yielding occurs just before rupture. **1961** LUBAHN & FELGAR *Plasticity & Creep in Metals* v. 104 When a piece of metal is loaded in such a way that the elastic stress is non-uniform, . . . yielding begins at the most highly stressed point. **1973** C. R. BARRETT et al. *Princ. Engin. Materials* viii. 257 The yielding usually starts at a small notch or irregularity in the sample and subsequently propagates throughout the sample.

'**yielding**, *ppl. a.* [f. as prec. + -ING².] That yields, in various senses.

†1. Owing, indebted: cf. YIELDER I, YIELDING *vbl. sb.* 1. *Obs. rare*.

1340 Ayenb. 169 Asemoche ase he is worþ betere þanne ich, zuo moche ich am yeldinde be ri3te ri3tuolnesse.

2. Bearing produce, productive, fertile. ? *Obs.*

1553 GRIMALDE *Cicero's Offices* I. (1556) 59b, Nothing is better than groundtilth and trimmyng, nothing yeeldinger, nothing sweeter, nothing meeter for a freeborne man. **1598** YONG *Diana* 441 The fertilitie of the yeelding soyle. **1777** [W. MARSHALL] *Minutes Agric.*, *Digest* 45 note, In a yielding Year, a Jag of equal size to those alluded to will afford from two Quarters to twenty Bushels of Wheat. **1849** C. LANMAN *Lett. Alleghany Mts.* xx. 159 The yielding wells are somewhat over two hundred feet deep.

3. Giving in, surrendering, submitting; disposed to submit, submissive, compliant, unresisting.

1578 H. WOTTON *Courtlie Controv.* 44 As the Hunter who pleaseth not to take the yelding pray, thou shunnest me. **1599** B. JONSON *Ev. Man* out of Hum. iv. v, I am eas'ly yeelding to any good Impressions. **1698** [FERGUSON] *View Ecclesiastick* 5 To become Guilty of the Little and mean Vanity of Attacking a yielding as well as a Routed Enemy. **1741-2** GRAY *Agrippina* 107 With fond reluctance, yielding modesty. **1749** FIELDING *Tom Jones* XI. iii, Sophia, who was yielding to an excess, . . . at last gave way. **1801** SCOTT *Glenfinlas* xvii, Fair woman's yielding kiss. **1811** W. R. SPENCER *Poems* 75 You may press her yielding hand. **1848** DICKENS *Dombey* xxxv, There are yielding moments in the lives of the sternest and harshest men.

4. Giving way to pressure or other physical force; not stiff or rigid; taking impression, bending, collapsing, etc.

1577 T. KENDALL *Flowers Epigr.* 42 Can Flint or Marble harde be made, as yeldyng Butter softe? **1590** SPENSER *F.Q.* III. xi. 25 A thunder bolt Perceth the yielding ayre. **1613** PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* VIII. iii. 618 Neither can the hard-hearted Rockes breake these yeelding Vessells. **1639** T. DE GREY *Compl. Horsem.* 313 By some fall upon yeelding or slippery ground. **1697** DRYDEN *Æneis* II. 66 His forceful Spear . . . Pierc'd through the yielding Planks of jointed Wood. **1732** T. BOSTON *Crook in Lot* (1805) 132 The cannon ball breaks down a stone wall, while the yielding packs of wool take away its force. **1827** KEEBLE *Chr. Y.*, *Prayers at Sea*, Beneath the shadowy clouds The yielding waters darken in the breeze. **1890** *Retrospect Med.* CII. 258 The shafts of all the long bones being so soft and yielding that the mere weight of the limbs is sufficient to produce their distortion.

Hence 'yieldingly *adv.*, 'yieldingness (see senses 3 and 4 above).

1560 A. L. tr. *Calvin's Four Serm. Song Ezech.* (1574) Ep., You see him sometyne *yieldingly stretch out, sometyne strugingly throw his weakend legges. **1592** WARNER *Alb. Eng.* VIII. xlii. 28 As Mayds that know themselves belou'd and yeeldingly resist. **1823** MOORE *Loves of Angels* Introd. 53 A Spirit of light mould, that took The prints of earth most yeeldingly. **1862** LYTTON *Str. Story* lxxxvi, Like the clouds that are yeeldingly pierced by the light of the evening star. **1607** HIERON *Wks.* I. 282 This readinesse and *yeeldingnesse of the inward man. **1766** FORDYCE *Serm. Yng. Women* (1767) II. xiii. 222 A degree of complacence, yieldingness, and sweetness, beyond what we look for in men. **1802** PALEY *Nat. Theol.* viii. 124 The yieldingness of the cartilaginous substance. **1838** LYTTON *Alice* VIII. vi, Evelyn was gentle, even to yieldingness. **1880** J. E. BURTON *Handbk. Midwives* 227 The thinness and yieldingness of the bones.

'**yieldless**, *a. poet. rare*. [f. YIELD *v.* + -LESS.] Unyielding; not surrendering; not productive.

1651 DAVENANT *Gondibert* III. II. civ, A Fort so yeildless, that it fears to treat. **1703** ROWE *Ulysses* III. i, Undaunted, yeildless, firm. **1974** R. ADAMS *Shardik* xxxiv. 285 There was . . . something sinister about this place, unhusbanded and yeildless in the midst of the abundant land all about.

yieldy ('jɪldɪ), *a. rare*. [f. YIELD *sb.* or *v.* + -Y¹.]

a. Productive, fertile. *b.* Having the quality of yielding or giving way physically. Hence 'yieldiness.

1598 CHAPMAN *Iliad* v. [IX.] 92 Of the most fat and yeeldie soile. **1757** tr. *Henckel's Pyritologia* 42 Themselves containing nothing of the noble metals, yet mixed with other ores . . . prove yeeldy. **1857** MAYNE REID *War-Tail* xiii, A . . . serpentine yeildiness of movement. **1933** *Amer. Speech*

VIII. 1. 53/2 That 'ar west bottom never was much yieldy, nohow.

yien, yiet, yif(f, yift, yigh: see EYE *sb.*¹, YET, GIVE, IF, GIFT, YEA.

|| **Yigdal** (ˈjɪgdəl). *Judaism.* Also 9 Yigdol. [Heb., = 'may he be magnified', the opening word of the hymn.] A Hebrew hymn, thought to have been composed by Daniel ben Judah (fl. c 1300), embodying the thirteen articles of the Jewish faith, and recited at morning prayer and on Sabbath and festival eves.

1845 *Jewish Chron.* 19 Sept. 244/1 The children sang in a beautiful manner the hymn Yigdol (Sabbath Hymn). 1892 I. ZANGWILL *Childr. Ghetto* I. xii. 269 You confound the air of the Passover Yigdal with the New Year ditto. 1907 J. JULIAN *Dict. Hymnol.* (ed. 2) II. 1149/2 The hymn [sc. *The God of Abraham Praise*] is a free rendering, with, as Olivers puts it, as decided 'a Christian character' as he could give to it, of the Hebrew Yigdal or Doxology, which rehearses in metrical form the thirteen articles of the Hebrew Creed.

yight, obs. form of OUGHT *v.* (q.v., 6 b γ.)

c 1386 CHAUCER *Pars. T.* ¶ 321 (Egerton MS.) He þat.. hath despite to doon þat hym yight to do.

Yi Hsing (i: ɿŋ). Also I-hsing, Yi-hsing. [f. the name *Yi Xing* of a town in Jiangsu prov., China.] In full *Yi Hsing yao*, *Yi Hsing ware*. A type of unglazed stoneware (esp. for teapots) first produced at Yi Xing in the Song dynasty and reaching its height in the later part of the Ming dynasty.

1904 E. DILLON *Porcelain* x. 165 The Yi-hsing yao, made at a place of that name... includes the red unglazed ware. 1910 *Encycl. Brit.* V. 744/2 The manufacture of red teapots, mugs, bowls, cups, &c., in imitation of the Yi-Hsing-Yao was widespread during the late 17th and early 18th centuries under the name of red porcelain. 1915 R. L. HOBSON *Chinese Pottery & Porc.* xv. 178 The Yi-hsing wares in the celebrated Chinese ceramic collection formed by Augustus the Strong at Dresden supplied designs for the fine red stoneware made in the first years of the eighteenth century by Böttger. 1945 [see BOCCARO]. 1970 *Ashmolean Mus.: Rep. Visitors 1969* 47 Tea-pot, I-hsing brown stoneware, Chinese, 18th century. 1971 L. A. BOCGER *Dict. World Pottery & Porc.* 378/2 Yi Hsing Yao... an unglazed stoneware produced at Yi-hsing-hsien in Kiang-su province... Its greatest productive period was during the latter part of the Ming dynasty and during the Ch'ing period.

yijs, obs. form of YES.

yike (jaik), *sb.*¹ An imitation of the cry of the woodpecker. So **yike** *v.*

1889 D. JORDAN & JEAN A. OWEN *Woodland, Moor, etc.* 38 The yikeing laugh of the green woodpecker. 1891 — *Within an Hour London* T. xi, [The green woodpecker] making the woods ring with his maniacal yikes! 1892 — *Forest Tithes* (1893) 126 The yaffle shins about, yells, laughs, and yikes to his heart's content.

yike (jaik), *sb.*² *Austral. slang.* [Origin unknown.] An argument, a dispute; a fight, a brawl. Occas. as *v. intr.*

1940 *Mod. Standard Eng. Dict.* (rev. ed.) 697/2 *Yike*, *v.* to fight. 1945 R. RENE *Mo's Memoirs* 186 There's that tram connie having a yike with a drunk. 1951 D. STIVENS *Jimmy Brockett* 86 It was a pretty good yike while it lasted. 1952 T. A. G. HUNGERFORD *Ridge & River* 213 Don't let's yike about it. 1964 G. JOHNSTON *My Brother Jack* 244 Sorry your party ended up in a yike. 1976 *Sunday Sun* (Brisbane) 11 Apr. 6/2 ALP circles have scoffed at suggestions of a political 'yike' between State Opposition Leader Tom Burns and TLC chief Egerton. 1984 *Business Rev. Weekly* (Australia) 7-13 Jan. 18/1 We have had a couple of small yikes, mainly on things like contract prices.

yikes (jaiks), *int. colloq.* [Origin unknown, but cf. YOICKS *int.*] An exclamation of astonishment.

1971 *TV Comic* 5 June 8 Yikes! He's blown out the candles all right... blown them out of the cake! 1973 G. SIMS *Hunters Point* xiii. 115 Holding her nose... and exclaiming: 'Yikes! It seems that a cat has been shut up there.' 1978 *Detroit Free Press* 5 Mar. B 5/1 Yikes! Even Paul Newman loses the woman in this new breed of movies.

yikker (ˈjɪkə(r)), *v.* Also yicker. [Echoic, f. *yik* + -ER⁵.] *intr.* Of a bird or other animal: to make repeated short, sharp cries.

1951 *Chambers's Jnl.* Sept. 528/2 As we pushed through the bilberry bushes, rowan, and stunted Scots fir, a lemming yikkered angrily at the disturbance. 1959 W. K. RICHMOND *Brit. Birds of Prey* ix. 113 Sometimes he yickers to himself as he goes... a low, emphatic chatter. 1960 'L. LAMPLUGH' *Sixpenny Rumer* xiii. 137 Good track dogs wait... yickering eagerly and ready to fly out. 1964 T. H. WHITE *Goshawk* III. 154 A pair of young badgers... greedily fought for warm milk and sugar out of a champagne bottle, and nipped my ankles yickering when they were not nipping the rubber teat.

yild(e, **zild**(e, obs. ff. GUILD, YIELD.

† **yile**, obs. var. GYLE. 3eeltonne for **yile-tun* = *gyle-tun*, GYLE-FAT.

c 1425 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 43 Item ij 3eeltonnys, ij mashfattes... pro cerevisia.

yile, obs. Sc. form of ISLE.

a 1578 LINDESAY (Pittscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 389 The Yile of Rosa.

† **yiling**, *vbl. sb.* Obs. Forms: 5 *yelyng*, 5-6 *yilyng*(e, 6 *yailinge*, *yeleinge*, 7 *yelling*. Variant of GYLING *vbl. sb.*

c 1440 *Inv. in Camden Misc.* (1895) IX. p. xviii, Unum yilyngfate. 1488-9 *Rep. MSS. Ld. Middleton* (Hist. MSS. Comm. 1911) 471, iiiij. yelyng tubbys. 1556 *Lanc. Wills* (Chetham Soc. 1884) 14 On yilynge toobe and on saltynge toobe. 1573 *Ibid.* 64 One brewing keare and a troghe for y^e same, ij^s. A yailinge keare, xij^d. 1588 *Ibid.* (1861) III. 137 One yeleinge combe v^s. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 319/2 The Yelling Comb or Tub is that Vessel into which the Wort is put to Work with the Yeast, or Bearm.

yill (jɪl), *sb.* Scotch variant of ALE.

1785 BURNS *Death & Dr. Hornbook* iii, The Clachan yill had made me canty. ? a 1800 *Bonnie Earl o' Murry* in Child *Ballads* (1889) III. 449/2 Her bread it's to bake, Her yill is to brew. 1818 SCOTT *Br. Lamm.* xii, If they offer ye a drink o' yill, or a cup o' wine. 1885 RUNCIMAN *Skippers & Shellbacks* 98 The guests in the sanded kitchen were content with twopenny bottles of 'yill'.

b. attrib. and Comb., as yill-caup [CAP *sb.*³], *-house*, *-maker*, *-making*, *-seller*, *-selling*, *-shop*, *-wife* (see also Eng. Dial. Dict.).

1786 BURNS *Holy Fair* xviii, The Change-house fills, Wi' yill-caup Commentators. 1789 D. DAVIDSON *Seasons* 13 Chiels wi' sooty skins, an' yill-caup een. 1790 JAS. FISHER *Poems* 59 Ye're welcome neighbour yill wives here.

Hence **yill** *v. trans.*, to entertain with ale.

1808 JAMIESON, To Yill, *v. a.*, to entertain with ale, a term commonly used by the vulgar... to denote one special mode in which a lover entertains his Duleinea at a fair or market. 1890 SERVICE *Notandums* ii. 11 He forgot... to bid Maggie... to the yuillin'.

yill, yilt, yin, yinder, ying (ɹɪŋ): see YELD *a.*, YIELD *v.*, ONE, YON, YONDER, YOUNG.

|| **yimkin** (ˈjɪmkin), *adv. slang.* Also yimpkin. [a. Iraqi Arabic *yimkin*.] Perhaps (see also quot. 1966).

1925 FRASER & GIBBONS *Soldier & Sailor Words* 311 Yimkin, perhaps. An Arabic word used colloquially among troops on the Eastern Fronts. 1966 'L. LANE' *ABZ of Scouse* 120 Yimkin, nonsense; I don't believe it. 1967 *Sunday Times* (Colour Suppl.) 10 Sept. 46/4 Yimpkin, perhaps. Expressive of extreme septicism. 'When Tunis falls we're all going home, yimpkin!' (Ar.)

|| **yin** (jɪn). Also Yin, Yn. [Chinese *yīn* shade, feminine; the moon.] **a.** In Chinese philosophy, the feminine or negative principle (characterized by dark, wetness, cold, passivity, disintegration, etc.) of the two opposing cosmic forces into which creative energy divides and whose fusion in physical matter brings the phenomenal world into being. Also *attrib.* or as *adj.*, and *transf.* Cf. YANG.

1671, etc. [see YANG]. 1845, etc. [see T'AI CHI I]. 1850 [see QI]. 1911 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIII. 68/1 The altar to the Earth is dark and square, on the north side of the city, the region of yin, the principle of cold and gloom. 1931 A. U. DILLEY *Oriental Rugs & Carpets* ix. 210 Other primitive motives are... male and female forms called Yin and Yang. 1963 'R. ERSKINE' *Passion Flowers in Italy* xi. 144 The things that woman was doing to us... More truly Yin than you could believe. 1976 H. FERGUSON *Confessions of Long Distance Acid Head* 17 Lucy was so yin, receptive and feminine, that the passions, slumbering in my bosom, were consciously aroused.

b. Comb., as yin-yang, the combination or fusion of the two cosmic forces; freq. *attrib.*, esp. as *yin-yang symbol*, a circle divided by an S-shaped line into a dark and a light segment, representing respectively yin and yang, each containing a 'seed' of the other.

1850 *Chinese Repository* XIX. 375 The Great Extreme... is not exterior to or separate from the Yin-yáng. 1934 A. D. WALEY *Way & its Power* App. II. 112 The aim of the yin-yang philosophers was not the triumph of Light, but the attainment in human life of perfect balance between the two principles. 1958 W. WILLETS *Chinese Art* I. iv. 273 The observed behaviour of this stellar couple accorded perfectly with the yin yang theory. 1972 MANAKA & URQUHART *Layman's Guide Acupuncture* (1977) 1. 32 Their relativity and inseparability are symbolized by the inclusion, in the Chinese yin-yang symbol, of a small portion of each within the other. 1976 C. SOO *Chinese Art of T'ai Chi Ch'uan* iii. 19 When these [outlines] are put together, the Yin-Yang symbol is obtained. 1977 MILLER & SWIFT *Words & Women* iv. 69 The ancient belief that contrasting male and female forces are at work in everything—the yin-yang of dark and light... too easily becomes an adversary concept.

yin, ying, *varr.* YEN².

|| **ying ch'ing** (jɪŋ tʃɪŋ). Also Ying Ch'ing, Ying ch'ing, etc. [Chinese, lit. 'shadowy blue'.] A type of glazed porcelain produced in Jiangxi and other provinces, chiefly during the Song dynasty. Freq. *attrib.*

1922 A. L. HETHERINGTON *Early Ceramic Wares China* xix. 139 The ware... with a very translucent, white sugary body and a bluish-white glaze tending to a more pronounced blue... is known as ying ch'ing yao... ying ching... may be translated 'shadowy blue'. 1934 *Burlington Mag.* May 214/1 The ying ch'ing species of white porcelain. 1936 *Ibid.* Jan. 10/1 With pale bluish glaze currently known as Ying Ch'ing (misty blue). 1943 [see SUNG *sb.* b]. 1949 [see JU]. 1954 H. GARNER *Oriental Blue & White* ii. 9 Ying ch'ing (shadow blue) is a thin translucent white porcelain covered with a clear glaze of bluish tint. The term is a modern one, invented by Chinese dealers, which has unfortunately become established in the West. 1977 O. IMPEY *Chinoiserie*

II. vii. 89/2 The famous 'Fonthill vase', a Yüan dynasty ying ch'ing bottle fitted with a gothic silver-gilt and enamel mount.

Yinglish (ˈjɪŋlɪʃ), *sb.* (*a.*) orig. U.S. [f. YI(DDISH *sb.* (*a.*) + E)NGLISH *sb.*] A jocular name for a blend of English and Yiddish spoken in the United States; a form of English containing many Yiddishisms. Also *attrib.* or as *adj.*

1951 W. & S. SCHACK in *Commentary* Dec. 586/2 A Jewish American theater in which... the material is of mixed nature, and the language neither the King's English nor the rebbetzin's Yiddish but a crossbreed that we might call 'Yinglish'. 1953 H. J. GANS in *Amer. Q.* V. 213 (*title*) The 'Yinglish' music of Mickey Katz. *Ibid.* 215 Katz's life is as Yinglish as the concept of a Bar Mitzvah ranch. 1967 N. Y. Times 6 Apr. 44 This show... is a mixture of Yinglish (English with Yiddish) and Yidlish (Yiddish with English). 1968 [see O.K. *adj.* a]. 1970 L. M. FEINSILVER *Taste of Yiddish* iii. 372 Yinglish. This coined term describes English that contains Yiddish idiom, pronunciation and/or intonation. 1974 *Observer* 31 Mar. 39/4 The text, written in Yinglish and American, abounds in euphemisms. 1983 *Listener* 7 July 20/3 One of the joys of the *Oxford American Dictionary* is searching out the progress of Yinglish.

yio, *var.* HEO Obs., she.

13... *Northern Passion* 104 In holy wrytte of here men rede þat sche [v.r. yio] hade donen synfulle dede.

yioyned, ME. pa. pple. of JOIN *v.*¹

yip (jɪp), *v.* In 5 3yppe, 3ippe, yepe. [Echoic.]

1. *intr.* To cheep, as a young bird. Obs. or *dial.*

c 1440 *Prompt. Parv.* 401/2 Pypyn, or 3yppe, as henn byrdys (K., H. 3ippyn, as bryddys, P. yepyn). a 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia*, Yip, *v.* to chirp like a newly hatched chicken, or other very young bird.

2. *intr.* To utter a sharp cry or yelp (with a dog or human being as subj.); to shout; to complain. orig. U.S.

1907 K. D. WIGGIN *New Chron.* Rebecca vii. 177 He would walk right up close and cuff 'em if they dared to yip. 1922 S. LEWIS *Babbitt* vii. 99 There's a swell bunch of Lizzie boys and lemon-suckers... that love to fire off their filthy mouths and yip that Mike Monday is vulgar and full of mush. 1927 P. MARKS *Lord of Himself* 15, I love to hear you yip at him. 1945 B. MACDONALD *Egg & I* ii. 176 Sport and the puppy... yapping and yipping at each other. 1963 *New Statesman* 11 Jan. 38/3 Yet how does the victim react? He yips with delight. 1978 S. RADLEY *Death & Maiden* i. 6 [The] Jack Russell terrier had yipped itself to the edge of hysteria.

3. *trans.* To cry or exclaim (with the words spoken as direct obj.). U.S.

1927 *Sat. Even. Post* 24 Dec. 84/2 'Hey!' Jim yipped, 'Get away from there!' 1974 WODEHOUSE *Aunts aren't Gentlemen* x. 81 'Has he brought it yet?' she yipped.

Hence 'yipping' *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*; also yip-yipping.

1910 N. Y. *Even. Post* 14 Oct. 4 The applause was really deafening... not yip-yipping... but steady volume of vocal uproar. 1951 J. MASTERS *Nightrunners of Bengal* ix. 195 Women's voices rang clear... on the verandah, and a child's excited yipping. 1956 H. GOLD *Man who was not with It* (1965) xi. 85 The inner yipping of a man who had assaulted the Pittsburgh of his babyhood may have given them obscure desires to kick me. 1960 I. CROSS *Backward Sex* ii. 60, I could not help making a slight yipping noise as I tried to clear my throat. 1977 *New Yorker* 26 Sept. 42/1, I have spoken to those people about that yipping dog. 1980 A. DESAI *Clear Light of Day* i. 3 He [sc. a dog] has such a beautiful voice, it's a pleasure to hear him. Not like the yipping and yapping of other people's little lap dogs.

yip (jɪp), *sb.* orig. U.S. [Echoic: see prec.] A short high-pitched cry, as from a dog; a shout, an exclamation; a complaint, an expostulation.

1911 H. QUICK *Yellowstone Nights* xii. 303 They chase 'em, with wild whoops an' yips over the undulating reservation. 1928 WODEHOUSE *Money for Nothing* ix. 208 If I'd been a life-insurance company I'd have paid up on him without a yip. 1945 B. MACDONALD *Egg & I* xii. 179 The dog began to bark and, guided by his excited yips, I was able to follow the progress of the hunt around the ranch. 1946 E. HODGINS *Mr. Blandings* iii. 48 This is the first faint yip of pain he's drawn. 1962 J. STEINBECK *Travels with Charley* 221 He [sc. a dog] ran... and laughed and gave little yips of pure joy. 1971 *Shankar's Weekly* (Delbi) 4 Apr. 5/1 In the old days, there would have been a spate of... discussions... But today? Not a yip.

yip (jɪp), *colloq. pronunc.* of YES. Cf. YEP.

1934 'R. CROMPTON' *William—the Gangster* iii. 49 'Is that a fair down there?' 'Yip,' answered William. 1954 — *William & Moon Rocket* i. 13 'That's fixed it,' said the youth. 'Yip,' said the man.

yippee (jɪpi:, stress variable), *sb.* and *int.* orig. U.S. Also yip-ee. [Perh. connected with HIP *int.* (*sb.*⁴).] An exclamation of delight or excitement.

1920 S. LEWIS *Main St.* 86 She galloped down a block, and as she jumped from a curb across a welter of slush, she gave a student 'Yippee!' 1939 R. CHANDLER *Big Sleep* xii. 80, I was being brought into camp. I was going to yell 'Yippee!' 1947 N. MARSH *Final Curtain* xvi. 246 She said 'Yip-ee' like a cow-girl. 1951 J. FLEMING *Man who looked Back* xvi. 212 He permitted himself a loud 'Yippee!' 1961 *Guardian* 19 Apr. 5/1 Yippee. I've been blooded. It's lovely. 1976 BOTHAM & DONNELLY *Valentino* vii. 51 Rodolpho let rip a great cowboy yippee. 1980 A. CORNELISEN *Strangers & Pilgrims* viii. 162 It's a boy! A boy! Yippee!

Hence as *v. intr.*, to make this exclamation; yip'ppeeing *vbl. sb.*

1938 M. K. RAWLINGS *Yearling* xxvi. 351 They capered together and shouted and yipped until their throats were

hoarse. **1963** A. LUBBOCK *Austral. Roundabout* 182 There was bush ballads, and a whistling and yippeeing! **1977** 'E. CRISPIN' *Glimpses of Moon* v. 69 Clarence Tully hilloed. His sons yippeed.

yippie, **Yippie** (ˈjɪpi). orig. *U.S.* Also **yippy**. [f. the initials of Youth International Party + -IE, influenced by HIPPIE, HIPPY *sb.* and *a.*] A member of a group of politically active hippies, orig. in the United States.

1968 *Time* 5 Apr. 55/1 The Yippies—1968's version of the hippies... The term Yippie comes from Youth International Party. **1968** *Listener* 3 Oct. 428/2 One student outlines his own theories to me. 'This whole scene began with Dylan, the Beatles, and of course pot.' Another complains that the militants need a sense of humour and hopes the Yippies move in with their 'politics of ecstasy'. **1968** *Time* 11 Oct. 28 Pierson had infiltrated a yippie group known as the Headhunters, and soon rose to the dizzying position of personal bodyguard to the yippie leader. **1971** *Bulletin* (Sydney) 19 June 15/3 The news that Sydney's Yippies ('Yippie is a fun Revolution') were preparing to play an energetic part in the strenuously humorless Vietnam Moratorium came as a surprise. **1976** *Times* 18 Aug. 4/7 If we're going to save democracy, we've got to put an end to all this yippy filth, these abortions, [etc.]. **1981** J. DUNNING *Deadline* (1982) xiv. 138 Bill Neal was one of those yippie types... One of those bearded nonconformists.

yips (jɪps), *sb. pl. colloq.* [Origin obscure.] In *Golf*, a state of nervousness which causes a player to miss an easy putt in a competition. *Usu.* with the *def. article*.

1963 *Times* 10 June 4/2 His left-below-right putting stroke designed to prevent the 'yips', is most effective once it begins to flow. **1972** *Tel.* (Brisbane) 1 Jan. 5/7 Nevertheless, Jones got a dose of what golfers call 'the yips'. **1984** *Times* 21 Sept. 9/4 Golfers suffer from the 'yips', which means that their muscles seize up and freeze when they are faced with a short putt and they cannot play the stroke.

yir, graphic var. *þir* THIR, these.

1572 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xxxi. 199 Thairfor, yir plaigs wald yai eschew.

yirb, *Sc.* and *n. dial. f.* HERB.

yird (also 4 3erd(e, 4, 8–9 yerd, 5 yherde, 6 jird). *Sc.* and *north. f.* EARTH *sb.*, and *v.* (to bury).

c1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* i. (Petrus) 681 Ihesu... þat in þis 3erd com fra hewine. **1433** *Deeds rel. Orkney* vi, Aisiamentis... as weill under yherde as boufe yherde. **1550** *Rental Bk. Cupar-Angus* (1880) II. 74 All... pertenens quhatsumeuir... als weill vnder the jird as about. **1562** *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* XI. 214 To David Ellis for 3erding of Johnne Gordounc... xx s. **a1670** SPALDING *Troub. Chas. I* (Bannatyne Club) II. 221 They fand yirdit in the yaird of Drum ane trunk full of silver plait. **1785** BURNS *Jolly Beggars* Recit. i, When lyart leaves bestrew the yird. **1824** MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl.* s.v. *Yird-fasts*, The cauld yird, the grave. **1825** JAMIESON s.v., 'Fairly yirdit', dead and buried. **1851** *Cumbl'd. Gloss.*, *Yerd*, a fox-earth. **1882** *Proc. Berw. Nat. Club* IX. No. 3. 511 The 'Yirding of a live Cock' to cure epilepsy. **1894** CROCKETT *Raiders* xxiv, To afford yirds and secret caves for our Solway smugglers.

b. Comb.: esp. in *yirdfast* = EARTHFAST (cf. ON. *jarðfastr*). See also YERD-HUNGER.

1545 *Aberd. Reg.* XIX. (Jam.) Tuelf pennis Scottis of yerd-siluer. **1785** *Poems in Buchan Dial.* 6 Where now thy groans in dowy dens The yerd-fast stanes do thirle. **1808** JAMIESON, *Yirdin*, thunder [see EARTH-DIN]. **1820** *Blackw. Mag.* VI. 568 A penetrating and even suffocating yird-drift. **1824** MACTAGGART *Gallovid. Encycl.*, *Yird-fasts*, large stones sticking in the yird, or earth, that the plough cannot move. **1825** JAMIESON, *Yird-drift*, snow, not in the act of falling, but lifted up from the ground, and driven by the wind, after it has lain for some time.

yire, **yirk**, **yirm**, **yirn**: see IRE, YERK, YARM, IRON.

yirr (jɪr), *v. Sc.* [Possibly repr. OE. *gyrran*, **gyrran* (see YERR), but probably an independent echoic formation.] *intr.* To snarl, growl. So **yirr sb.**, a snarl, growl.

1786 BURNS *Ep. to Maj. Logan* ii, When idly goavan whyles we saunter; Yirr! fancy barks. **1815** G. BEATTIE *John o' Arnha* (1826) 63 The watch-dogs yirr'd and yowf'd wi' fright. **1825** JAMIESON, *Yirr*, the growl of a dog. **1890** SERVICE *Notandums* xix. 125 If only whillywha o' an Engliſher ſhould yirr and mak a kilfudyoch aboot the words he doesna ken.

yirth, *Sc.* form of EARTH.

yis, obs. *pl.* of EYE *sb.*¹

c1425 *Found. St. Bartholomew's* (E.E.T.S.) 11 Beholdyng... thynges to cumme... with the yis of his soule.

yis: see THIS, YES.

yisce, variant of YISSE.

yise, obs. *f.* ICE, YES.

†yisel. *Obs.* Forms 1 *gisel*, 2 *zysel*, 3 *isisel*, *zæsel*. [OE. *zēsel* = OHG. *gīsal* (MHG. *gīsel*, G. *geisel*), ON. *gísl* (Sw. *gislan*, Da. *gidsel*, *gissel*) GISEL; cf. OIr. *giall*.] A hostage.

c893 ÆLFRED *Oros* III. vii. §2 Philippus þa he cniht wæs, wæs Thebanum to gisle geseald. **c1205** LAY. 21103 Bringeð her þa zæles Biforen ower cnihtes. *Ibid.* 22790 He was i3efen Arður To halden to gisle.

Yishuv (jɪˈʃu:v, jɪˈʃʊv). Also *Yishub*. [ad. Heb. *yīšūb* settlement.] The Jewish community or settlement in Palestine during the nineteenth

century and until the formation of the State of Israel in 1948.

1918 *Round Table* VIII. 321 The Jewish *Yishub*, or settlement in Palestine. **1922** *Encycl. Brit.* XXXII. 1130/1 This new Palestinian *Yishub* (settlement), strengthened in the early years of the present century by a number of young men and women who went to Palestine with the ideal of working as labourers on its soil, became the basis of the political success which Zionism achieved during the World War. **1940** *Contemp. Jewish Rec.* III. 599 The *Yishub* has made available over £P200,000 for emergency purposes. **1940** A. ULITZUR *Two Decades of Keren Hayesod* ii. 40 From the beginning of the Third *Aliyah* until the end of September, 1940... the *Yishuv* grew by about 432,000 persons. **1949** KOESTLER *Promise & Fulfilment* i. xii. 130 Let the *Yishuv*, the Diaspora and the whole world know what Bevin, Attlee and their henchmen are preparing for us. **1962** *Observer* 20 May 25/5 The British Zionists with whom I worked—infected, no doubt, by the free life of the *Yishuv* in Palestine—did not give me an inkling of what goes on in the mind of an orthodox Jew. **1970** I. SIEFF *Memoirs* vi. 107 These Jews of the old *Yishuv* (meaning settlement) were usually advanced in years before they left their country of origin. **1980** *Times Lit. Suppl.* 14 Nov. 1288/5 The extent and scale of the massacres tended to be underestimated for a while by Jews in the West... by the *Yishuv* in Palestine, and even by Jews in Europe themselves.

yisk, *Sc. f.* *yesk*, YEX.

†yisse, *v. Obs.* Forms: 1 *gitsian*, *gietsian*, *gidsian*, 2–3 *gitsen*, 2–4 *zissen*, (2 *gitcen*, 3 *ziscen*, 3 *yscen*, 3 *escen*, 3 *ietcen*, 3 *etsen*, 4 *yisse*; in *vbl. sb.* 3 *gittsunng*, *yssyng*, 4 *icinge*). [OE. *gitsian*, *gidsian* = OHG. **gītisōn* (MHG. *gīzen*, *gitsen*, G. *geizen*), *f. Teut. gid-*, whence also OHG. *kīt* (MHG. *gīt*, G. *geiz*) covetousness, OHG. *kītac* (MHG. *gītec*, G. *geizig*) covetous; ultimately related to Lith. *geidžu* to covet, Lettish *gaida* desire, OSl. *židati* to expect.] *trans.* (in OE. const. gen. or dat.) and *intr.* To covet. Hence *visser*, a covetous person; *yissing vbl. sb.*, coveting, covetousness.

Beowulf 1749 [He] gytasð gromhydig. **c700** *Epinal Gloss.* 82 *Appetitus*, gitsung [Corpus Gloss. gidsung]. **c888** ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xiii. §1 Sio gitsung gedeð heore gitseras laðe. *Ibid.* xxvi. §2 Ælc bit þæs reafleaces þe him on zenumen bið, oððe eft oðres gitsað. **c897** — Gregory's *Past.* C. xli. 298 (Cotton MS.) Hu gewitende ða ðing sint þe hie gidsiað [*v.r.* gietiað]. **a1175** *Cott. Hom.* 233 He wat wel þat manise men bieð sa ful of jescung. **c1200** *Moral Ode* 271 (Trin. Coll. MS.) þo þe waren gietceres of pis wereldes ahte. **c1200** ORMIN 4560 þæn gittsunng & gredigle3c. **c1205** LAY. 5332 þe kinges beoð 3unge Of æhte 3issinge. **a1225** *Ancr. R.* 202 Also 3isceð a 3issare [*v.r.* 3iscere] þet moni þusunt muhten bifluten. **c1250** *Gen. & Ex.* 3515 Ne 3isce ðu no3t ðin nestes ðing, Hus, ne a3te, ne wif, in ðin 3iscing. **c1275** *Passion our Lord* 35 in *O.E. Misc.* 38 Mid yuerneſse and prude and yssyng wes þat on. **c1315** SHOREHAM IV. 357 þor3 3eskyunge efter gode. **1340** *Ayenb.* 16 *Icinge*, in cle[r]gie auarice oper couaytise. **a1400** in *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 251 3issinge and glosinge and felſpish beon riue. *Ibid.* 269 Worlðes yissyng Me haueth schent.

yisse, 3-, obs. *ff.* YES.

yist, *dial. f.* YEAST *sb.*

yistai, -ay, (3istai, -ay), *contr. ff.* YESTERDAY.

yister-, **3ister-**, etc., obs. or *dial. ff.* YESTER-.

†yit, *pron. Obs.* Forms: 1 *git*, *gyt*, 2–3 *3it*, 3 *3et*, (*Orm.*) *3itt*. [OE. *git* = OFris. **jit* (NFris. *jat*, *jæt*, Sylt *at*), OS. *git*, ON. (MSw.) *it*; *f.* unstressed form of YE with an obscure dental element.] Ye two, both of you.

Beowulf 508 Dær git for wlence wada cunnedon. **971** *Blickl. Hom.* 187 Gyt git purhwuniað on incre anwliness. **c1000** *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xx. 22 Gyt nyton hwæt gyt biddaþ. **c1175** *Lamb. Hom.* 93 Hwi iwearð hinc swa þet 3it dursten fondian godes? **c1200** ORMIN 4498 Butt iff 3itt mu3henn betenn itt Onn ani3 kinne wise. **c1205** LAY. 5020 Ne beon 3it [c 1275 3e] bute tweien, mine sunen 3it [c 1275 3eo] beoð beien.

yit(e, 3it(e, obs. ff. YET.

yite (jart). *dial.* Also yeite, yoit. [Obscure.] The yellow-hammer, *Emberiza citrinella*.

1812 P. FORBES *Poems* 104 (E.D.D.) Herryin' linties, yites an' kays. **1830** J. WILSON *Noctes Ambr.* Wks. 1856 III. 4 Lark, lintie, yellow-yite, . . . shilfa, and goldfinch. **1888** BARRIE *Auld Licht Idylls* ii. 54, I have known a black-fishing expedition stopped because a 'yellow yite', or yellowhammer, hovered round the gang when they were setting out.

Yit(t), *varr.* YID.

†yiug(g)ed [Y- 4], judged.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 7082 þo was it ilugged þat he ssolde be. . . Hardi knigt. **c1315** SHOREHAM V. 101 Y-iyuged by þe lawe To by stend wyþ stone. **1387** TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 45 Geta was i-iyuged [*MS. y y-juget*] for a comoun enemy.

yive, **3ive**, obs. *ff.* GIVE, IF.

yiz, *var.* YEZ.

Yizkor (ˈjɪzkə(r)). Also *Yiskor*, *Yizcor*. [Heb., lit. 'may he [sc. God] remember'.] A memorial service, formally known as *Hazkarat Neshamot*, held by Jews on certain holy days for deceased relatives, martyrs, etc.

1934 *Encycl. Jewish Knowl.* 644/1 *Yizkor*, popular name for Memorial Service, the full title being *Hazcarath Neshoma*. **1946** *Commentary* Aug. 173/1 They may still be on time to say *Yizcor*. **1956** S. BELLOW *Seize Day* v. 86 He asked him whether he had reserved his seat in the synagogue for Yom Kippur. . . 'Well, you better hurry up if you expect to say *Yiskor* for your parents.' **1966** H. KEMELMAN *Saturday Rabbi went Hungry* viii. 46 The Memorial Service for the Dead. . . the *Yizkor* service. **1976** C. BERMANT *Coming Home* II. v. 189 Four times a year special remembrance prayers, known as *yizkor*, are read in synagogue. . . The word means memorial.

yk, obs. form of I *pers. pron.*

ykeld, **ykend**, **ykened**, ME. *pa. pples.* of KILL, KEN *v.*², KENE.

†ykeþ(t [Y- 4, KEEP, I-KEPE *vbs.*], kept.

13.. *Seuyn Sag.* 460 To the ich have i-kept mi maidenhod. **c1380** *Sir Ferumb.* 2125 þis ys þat tresour. . . Which pat my fader. . . haueþ y-kept hit in-to þis day. **1399** *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) I. 365 Roton come, So long ykeþ, hit is forlorne. **1422** YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* lxix. 246 Als longe as the natural hette duryth. . . the helth of man shal be y-keþpit. **1593** [see KEEP *v.* 14].

ykeſt: see CAST *v.*, YCAST.

†ykeuered [Y- 4, COVER *v.*'], covered.

1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. x. 138 Vnder godes sece seel here synnes ben ykeuered. **1420** Æ.E. *Wills* (1882) 45, I 3eive to Iohn Forster my godsomme a beure of selur y-keueryd.

†ykid, *pa. pple.* and *ppl. a. Obs.* Forms: 1 *gecyd*, 2 *ȝekyd*, 3 *ikud*(d, 3–4 *icud*(de, 3–5 *ykud*, 4–5 *ykid*(de, *ykyd*, 5 *ykyde*, (4 *ykudde*, *ycud*, *ikid*, *yked*, *ikedde*). [OE. *ȝecýd*, contracted *pa. pple.* of *cýþan*, *ȝecýþan*: see KID *ppl. a.* and KITHE *v.*] Made known; hence, well known, renowned; sometimes (like YCORE) a vague epithet of commendation.

a1100 in *Leg. Rood* (1871) 3 þa wearð hit sona þam mæran constantine þam kasere ȝecyd. **a1122** *O.E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1093 Se cyng. . . wæs ofer eall deað ȝekyd. **c1205** LAY. 24671 þat nan lauerd taken nolde. . . Næwer nænne cniht, . . . Bute he icostned weoren þrie inne compe, & his oht-scipen icudde. **a1225** *Leg. Kath.* 1295 Italde bi tale, fif siðe tene, icudde & icorene. *Ibid.* 1933 O icudd keiser! **c1315** SHOREHAM I. 633 Bote wanne per hys o pyng yked, An oper to onderstonde þerinne. **13..** *K. Alis.* 3359 (Linc. Inn MS.) Y say Darie. . . þat he was god kny3t y kud. **1340–70** *Alex. & Dind.* 64 þe king cortais i-kid cofliche saide. **1362** LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. iv. 140 Bote he beo A Coke-wold I-kore [*MS. H. ykyd*] cut of bope myn Eres! **c1380** *Sir Ferumb.* 4344 Y schal. . . haue wyþ me of 3our kny3tes .V. hundred yke y-kudde. **1393** LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. xiii. 196 A confessor ykud [*MSS. M., T. i-kid*] that couetþ nat a ruysshe Fere, ne famyne, ne false menne tonges. **14..** *K. Sol. Bk. Wisd.* 78 Wisdom yheled, litel is worþ oþer treuþ ihyd; Bot bope þai wexen swiþe 3if þai ben y-kyd.

†ykitt, **ykut**, **ykuttet**, **ykyt** [Y- 4], cut.

c1300, **c1330** [see CUT *v.* 1, 7]. **1387** TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 391 He made alle þe hedes and lymes of mawmettes i-kut [*MS. y kytt*] of. **a1425** tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 69 Smal y-kuttet. **c1430** *Two Cookery-bks.* 55 Taylid Datys y-kyt a-long.

yknet(t, **yknit**, **yknyt**, **knit**.

13.. *Leg. Greg.* 481 þe ropes wer fast yknett. **c1374** CHAUCER *Boeth.* iv. pr. vi. (1868) 134 While pat I weue. . . to þe resouns yknyt by ordre. **1426** LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 4924 Whan thys lettrys [sc. P, A, X] ben yknet, . . . Parfyt pes they sygnfyfe. **c1440** *Prompt. Parv.* 154/1 Felowys, y-knytte togedyr in wykydnesse, *complices*.

†yknow, *v. Obs.* Forms: 1 *ȝecnawan*, 2 *ȝecnowen*, *ikna(u)wen*, 2–3 *icnawe*(n, 3 *icnowe*(n, 3–4 *iknowe*(n, 3–5 *yknowe*(n, 4 *yknaue*(n, *yknaue*(n, 5 *iknow*. *Pa. t.* 1 *ȝecneow*, 2–3 *icnew*, 2 *ȝecnew*, 3 *icneow*(e, 3–4 *iknewe*, *ikneu*. *Pa. pple.* 1 *ȝecnawen*, 2–3 *icnawe*(n, 2 *ȝecnowe*, 3 *icnowe*(n, *iknowe*, 4 *yknaue*, *yknowe*(n, *ycnowen*, 5 *yknow*. [OE. *ȝecnáwan*: see Y- 3 c and KNOW *v.*] To know (in various senses); to acknowledge.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 71 He wæs. . . of cilda muþe ȝecnawen & weorpad. **a1000**, etc. [see KNOW *v.* 1, 11, etc.]. **c1175** *Lamb. Hom.* 49 Betre hit is þet mon ne iknawe noht þe wei to godalmihtin þe he hine icnawe and seodðe hine for-ho3ie. **c1200** *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 143 Ða biðohte heo on hire liflode and ȝe-cnew þat hie was lað gode. **c1205** LAY. 24805 3if pu wult icnawen þat he is king ower þe. **a1240** *Lofsong* in *O.E. Hom.* I. 205 Ich icnowe me gulti and creie þe leafrd merci. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) App. H. 122 Ich ne dar pat þe folc yhure pat ich yknowe þe. **c1320** *Cast. Love* 36 For him pat con not i-knownen Nouþer French ne Latyn. **c1330** *Arth. & Merl.* 9049 Herui Riuel þis iknewe. **1340** *Ayenb.* 104 He is þe eldeste and þe meste yknaue and þe meste beloued. *Ibid.* 201 Zuo þet he ne may y-knawe his sseppere. **1377** LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xi. 225 In her lyknesse owre lorde ofte hath ben y-knowe. **1387** TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 205 A lewed goost, þat kouþe not y-knowe þe cause. . . of verray martirdom. **c1394** *P. Pl.* Crede 252 We ben clerkes y-cnowen cunnynge in scole. **1422** YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* 123 Whath awaylyth Sotile of vndyrstondynge and connyng, and how thay byth y-know. **c1430** *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 6737 If ye can me tech Hou I may I-know him.

b. To make known; = KNOW *v.* 13.

a1400 *New Test.* (Pauſe) Col. i. 27 To whom God wolde y-knowe þe richesſe of þe bliſſe of þis ſacrament.

†ykorve(n: see YCORVE(n).

ykoweryn, ME. pa. pple. of COVER *v.*¹

? **1466** *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 77 To send hym worde wher to [= whether the] Mylle of Ermyngton schall be y-koweryn with stone or strawe.

ykoyned [Y- 4, COIN *v.*¹], coined.

1423 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 256/2 Silver is...no better.. thenne xxxiis. the seid pound of troie ykoyned.

ykremyd [CRIM *v.*], crumbled.

c 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 40 A fewe 3olkys of hard Eyroun y-kremyd per-on.

ykuenct: see YQUENCT.

kykynde [Y- 5, KIN *sb.*¹], of (high) kin or lineage.

1420 *Proc. Privy Council* (1834) II. 273 The whiche parties bothe beth weel ykynde and of gret allyaunce.

kykt: see YKITT.

yl, obs. form of ILL, ISLE.

-yl (il, ail), formerly occas. -ule, a terminal element of chemical terms, ad. G. -yl, f. Gr. ὕλη wood, matter, substance (see HYLE), used for 'chemical principle, radical'. It was introduced by Wöhler and Liebig (*Ann. der Pharm.* (1832) III. 262), and first used by them in the term *benzoyl*; other early names were *éthyle* (*éthule*), *élayle* (Berzelius), *dadyle*, *peucyle*, *citronyle*, *citryle* (Blanchet and Sell). Some fifteen in anglicized form, including *acetyl*, *amyl*, *cinnamyl*, *glyceryl*, *salicyl*, appear in the *Elements of Chemistry* by T. Graham, 1842, who also invented the general term *basyle* for a body which unites with oxygen to form a base. *Methyl* is peculiar in being a back-formation from *methylene*.

-yl is used in forming the names of radicals compounded of two or three elements in various atomic proportions, which behave in combination like simple elements and are the constant bases of series of compounds (though they may not be themselves obtainable in a free state). Thus *carbonyl* CO, *hydroxyl* HO, *sulphuryl* SO₂, are compounds of carbon, hydrogen, and sulphur respectively. The greater number are compounds of carbon and hydrogen, either alone, as *amyl*, *ethyl*, *deutyl*, *trityl*, or with oxygen, as *acetyl*, *lactyl*.

b. Now also in more formal use in *Organic Chem.*

1952 *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* 5075 Rule 58.5. Radicals derived from amino-acids which have trivial names in *ine* by removal of OH from all -CH(NH₂)-CO₂H and related groups will be named by replacing the ending *ine* with *yl*. **1965** *Recommended Names for Chemicals used in Industry (B.S.I.)* 11 Univalent radicals derived from cycloalkanes with no side chain are named by replacing the ending '-ane' of the hydrocarbon name by '-yl'. **1966** [see FURYLL]. **1971** *Nomencl. Org. Chem.* (I.U.P.A.C.) (ed. 3) A. 5 Univalent radicals derived from saturated unbranched acyclic hydrocarbons by removal of hydrogen from a terminal carbon atom are named by replacing the ending '-ane' of the name of the hydrocarbon by '-yl'. *Ibid.* B. 70 Univalent heterocyclic radicals whose names end in '-yl'. *Ibid.* C. 128 Radicals derived from unsubstituted ring assemblies are named by adding '-yl',...etc., to the name of the assembly.

ylacay, obs. Sc. var. LACKEY.

1512 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* IV. 342 Item, to ane Franche ylacay, ...xiiij s.

†ylacet [Y- 4, LACE *v.*], laced.

c 1425 *Engl. Cong. Irel.* 52 pay...turneden toward weysford by Odroon, wyth baners y-lacet.

ylad(d [LEAD *v.*¹], led, conveyed, carried.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2424 Mercurius us ap ylad in to pin londe. **1387** *TREVISIA Higden* (Rolls) V. 99 Numerianus was y-lad in a liter. **c 1400** MAUNDEV. (1839) ii. 13 Oure Lord Jesu, in that Nyghte that he was taken, he was y lad in to a Gardyn. **14...** *K. Sol. Bk. Wisd.* 211 þo Ely in þis fair cart to heuen was ylad, Elisee his felawe was sory. **1426** LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 9772 The maryner...Ledeth the shyp, ...And ys hym sylff ylad also.

ylaft(e: see YLEFT.

ylaht [LATCH *v.*¹, I-LECCHE], seized, caught.

c 1306 *Pol. Songs.* (Camden) 214 The Bisshop of Glascou ychoht he was y-laht.

ylaid, ylayd, yleid, yleyd, ME. pa. pples. of LAY *v.*¹

12... *Moral Ode* vi. in *E.E.P.* (1862) 22 Al to muchel ic habbe i-spend, to litel y-leid an horde. **c 1330** *Assump. Virg.* (B.M. MS.) 842 It was in þe tumber ylaide. **c 1380** *Sir Ferumb.* 2427 þe cloþes þat wern on hure bed ilaid. **1426** LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 5415 Ther was no chaff ysene, And the strawh yleyd a-syde.

ylakked [LACK *v.*¹], blamed.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. II. 21 That is Mede þe Mayde... hath noyed me ful oft, And yllakked my lemman.

yland(e, obs. forms of ISLAND.

ylang-ylang ('i:læŋ'i:læŋ). Also *yhlang-*, *i(h)lang-*. [Tagalog *álang-ilang*.] An anonaceous tree (*Canangium odoratum*) of Malaysia, the Philippines, etc., with fragrant greenish-yellow

flowers from which a perfume is distilled; hence, the perfume itself.

1876 *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* I. 243 Oxidation of Essential Oils. ... *Citronella* and *yhlang yhlang* developed no hydrogen peroxide. **1881** *Ibid.* XL. 916 Cananga Oil. ... This oil, also known as Hang-lang or Alanguilan oil. **1882** *Englishman* (Calcutta) 2 Dec. 4/5 Atkinson's Perfumery. Ess. Ylang Ylang, Frangipanne. **1884** MILLER *Plant-n.*, *Cananga odorata*, llang-llang-tree.

Hence *y'langol Chem.* (See quot.)

1895 *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* LXVIII. i. 243 *Ylangol*, C₁₀H₁₈O, the isomeride of geraniol.

†y'last, *v.* Obs. Forms: 1-5 *gelæstan*, etc. as in LAST *v.*¹; also 3-4 *ylaste*, *yleste*. *Pa. t.* 1 *gelæste*, 2 *zelest*, 3-4 *ilast*(e, *ilest*(e, 3-5 *ylast*(e. *Pa. pple.* 1 *gelæst*, *gelæsted*, 2 *zelest*, 3 *ilæst*, *ilast*, 4 *ylast*(ed. [OE. *gelæstan*: see Y- 3 c and LAST *v.*¹]

1. trans. To carry out, perform: = LAST *v.*¹ 1 b. *Beowulf* 524 Beot eal wið þe sunu Beanstanes soðe gelæste. **c 888** ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xxxvi. §4 Ic eac nauht ne tweoðe dæst ðu hit mæg e gelæstan. **a 1000** *Cædmon's Gen.* 2762 He...hæfde wordbeot leofum gelæsted. **a 1122** *O.E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1012 Ða pet gafol zelest wæs. **a 1200** *Moral Ode* 242 þa pe gode bihten heste and nolden hit ileste. **c 1205** LAY. 31109 3if þu miht under criste þis forward me ileste.

2. intr. To last, continue, endure; = LAST *v.*¹ 2.

a 1000 *Boeth. Metr.* vii. 19 Ne mæg hælepa gehwæm þus on munte lange gelæstan. **c 1175** *Lamb. Hom.* 157 Wa is mine saule pet mi lif þus longe ilest. **c 1200** *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 151 Letitia sempiterna, þat is ilestende liht. **a 1250** *Prov. Ælfred* 387 in *O.E. Misc.* 126 Alle world-ayhte schulle bi-cumen to nouhte... And vre owe lif lutel hwile ileste. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 208 þe bataile of troye þat ilast vale 3er. **1377** LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. III. 191 [þow] wendest þat wyntre wolde han y-lasted eucere. **c 1400** *St. Jer.* 15 *Tokens* 32 Leuere had his owen moder in helle pyne to be, Al þe while þe dom ylast, þan her sonas face to see.

b. To stretch, extend; = LAST *v.*¹ 4.

a 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 231 His land zelest wide and side.

†ylat: see YLET.

ylauenyt, ME. pa. pple. of LEAVEN *v.*

1422 [see LEAVEN *v.* 1].

ylauzte, ylauzthe, ME. pa. pples. of LATCH *v.*¹, I-LECCHE.

ylay(e, yleie, yleighe, yleize, yleine, yleie(n, yly, ME. pa. pples. of LIE *v.*¹

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5729 He sein swithin...þat longe adde vnder erpe ybe [*v.r.* yleie] verst brozte in to ssryne. **13...** *K. Alis.* 508 (Linc. Inn MS.) A god...þat hap ylaye by þe quene. **1377** LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. v. 82 As a leke hadde yleie longe in þe sonne. **c 1400** MAUNDEV. xiii. [ix.], 3if here fader had not ben drunken he hadde not yleie with hem.

ylde, obs. by-form of ISLE.

yle: see AIL *sb.*², AISLE, HYLE, ILL, ISLE.

†yleave. Obs. [OE. *gelæaf*: see Y- 3 a, LEAVE *sb.*¹] Permission; leave.

a 1050 *Liber Scintill.* 1. (1889) 165 *Iniquorum potestas super te ex dei datur licentia*, unrihtwisra miht ofer þe of godes ys geseald geleaf. **a 1122** *O.E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1043 Be þes cynges gelæfan. **c 1315** SHOREHAM 1. 1269 3ef eny oþer hyt doþ, Nys hyt ordre, ac ileaue. **1340** *Ayenb.* 50 God vaf yleave þe deyeulen to guo in to þe zuyn. *Ibid.* 112 At his yleave nymynge.

ylechyd, ME. pa. pple. of LEACH *v.*¹

†y'left, y'laft, pa. pple. Obs. Forms: 1 *gelæfed*, 3 *ileaued*, *ileued*, 4 *yleued*, -yd, 4-5 *yleft*(e, *ylafte*, 7 *ylaft*. [OE. *gelæfed*, pa. pple. of (*ge*)*læfan*: see Y- 4 and LEAVE *v.*¹] Left.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp. Matt.* xv. 37 *Et quod superfuit de fragmentis*, & þ gelæfed wæs of screadungum. **a 1225** *Ancr.* R. 168 Oure large relif þet we habbeð ileaued. **c 1275** LAY. 28583 þo nas þar na more ileued in þan filte...bote Arthur þe king. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6722 He was al one of þe tem bileued [*v.r.* yleft] there. **c 1380** *Sir Ferumb.* 3349 þe Assege þanne pay y-lafte. *Ibid.* 5121 Tho was þe assaut y-leuyd elene. **1405** in *Royal & Hist. Lett. Hen. IV* (Rolls) 158, I have nought ylafte with me over two men. **1422** YONGE tr. *Secr.* *Secr.* lxiv. 240 Yf anythyng be y-lefte in the stomake. **c 1634** W. CARTWRIGHT *Ordinary* II. ii. (1651) 25 None pleasaunce is me ylaft.

†yleid, yleie, yleighe, yleine, etc.: see YLAID, YLAY(E).

ylem ('i:lem). *Astr.* [f. med.L. *hylem*, acc. of *hylē* HYLE.] In the big-bang theory, the primordial matter of the universe, orig. conceived as composed of neutrons at high temperature and density.

[**1390**: see HYLE.] **1948** R. A. ALPHER in *Physical Rev.* LXXIV. 1581/1 Very shortly after the beginning of the universal expansion, the ylem was a gas of neutrons only. [Note] According to Webster's New International Dictionary...the word 'ylem' is an obsolete noun meaning 'The primordial substance from which the elements were formed.' It seems highly desirable that a word of so appropriate a meaning be resurrected. **1954** *Sci. Amer.* Mar. 61/2 As the Universe went on expanding and the temperature of ylem dropped, protons and neutrons began to stick together, forming deuterons...and heavier elements. **1959** J. BLISH *Clash of Cymbals* vii. 171 The ylem was the primordial flux of neutrons out of which all else emerged. **1974** FRAUENFELDER & HENLEY *Subatomic Physics* xviii. 475 It is interpreted as the radiation that is left over from the primordial fireball and thus provides some information about the conditions in the ylem.

ylend, ylent, pa. pples. of LEND *v.*¹ and *v.*²

a 1310 [see LEND *v.*¹ 2]. **13...** *Leg. Greg.* 259 þat day was hem no grace ylent. **1340** *Ayenb.* 19 þe grete guodes þet god ham heþ ylend. **1647** H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. II. II. iv, The hearing never knew the verdant peint Of springs gay mantle, nor heavens lght ylent That must discover all that goodly pride. *Ibid.* IV. xxii, Their life ylent And subtile being quite away are flone.

ylengd, pa. pple. of LENG *v.*

†y'leof, a. (sb.) Obs. Forms: 1 *geleof*, 3 *pl. yleoue*, *iloue*. [OE. *geléof* = MHG. *geliep* (also as sb. pl.): see *ge-* Y- 1 b, 2 and *leof* LIEF.] Mutually loving or beloved; *sb. pl.* a pair of lovers.

a 1000 *Confess. Ecgberti* xxviii. in Thorpe *Laws* (1840) II. 152 On þære fiftan cneorysse geleofe men his moton zesamnigan. **c 1000** *Agg. Gloss.* in Haupt's *Zeitschr.* (1853) IX. 461 *Contubernali sodalitate*,...mid geleofre ferrædene. **a 1250** *Owl & Night.* 1047 þar two yleoue [*Cott.* iloue] in one bedde Liggeþ iclupt & wel bihedde.

†ylepe, ylope [Y- 4, LEAP *v.*], leapt.

c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 4626 Many wer ouer y-lepe. *Ibid.* 5059 þe tour þay hauede y-take þo Nadde duk Naymes y-lope hem to.

†y'lere, v. Obs. [OE. *gelæran*: see Y- 3 c and LERE *v.*] To teach; to learn.

Beowulf 3079 Ne meahon we gelæran leofne peoden...ræd ænigne. **c 1290** *Beket* 216 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 112 Seli child is sone i-lered. **c 1300** *Havelok* 12 þat ye mowen nou y-here, And þe tale ye mowen y-lere. **1393** LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XII. 128 Thus þow my lore beþ men ylered.

†ylered, ppl. a. Obs. [OE. *gelæred*, pa. pple. of (*ge*)*læran*: see prec.] = LERED, learned.

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past.* C. 8 Uncuð hu longe þar swæ gelærede biscopas sien. **11...** *Fragm. Ælfred's Gram.* (1838) 6 Ilærede men. **c 1205** LAY. 21858 þreo biscopos wise, a boke wel ilæred. **a 1225** *Ancr.* R. 64 Sum is so wel ilered, oðer se wis iworled. **1377** LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. XIII. 213 My deuore to shewen, And conformen fauntekynes and other folke ylered. **c 1440** *Partonope* 1994 And eke in armes full wele ylered.

†ylnerned [Y- 4], learnt.

1340 *Ayenb.* 70 Non wel libbe ne ssel conne þet to sterue ylyrned ne hep. **1362** LANGL. *P. Pl.* A. IX. 10 Ich heilede hem hendeli as Ich hedde i-learned [*C-text* hadde ylerned]. **1387** *TREVISIA Higden* (Rolls) VII. 219 þat þey hadde i-learned [*MS.* y ylnurned] of here sovereynes to meyntene freedom.

yleslipe, ylespile, var. *ilespil*: see under IL, ILE.

yledsed, ME. pa. pple. of LESS *v.*

ylet, obs. form of EYELET.

14... *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 598/39 *Ocellulus*, an ylet.

†ylet¹, ylat, earlier *gelæten, ileten, ilate(n* [Y- 4, LET *v.*¹], let, allowed, left, etc.

13... *K. Alis.* 2414 (Linc. Inn MS.) þer was...mony a veyne ylat blode. **1340** *Ayenb.* 115 þe guodes þet ich habbe uoryete and ylete to done. **1387** *TREVISIA Higden* (Rolls) V. 109 He was i-closed wyþ inne þe citee, and y-let out by a roop over þe wal.

ylet², ylettyd, earlier *gelet(t, ilet* [LET *v.*²], hindered.

13... *K. Alis.* 1776 (Linc. Inn MS.) Ac he was y-lat by þe way. *Ibid.* 3221 þer þey weoren fouly ylet, þe gates weoren ageyns him scheot. **1422** YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* xxxi. 174 He was moche y-lettyd by an hugy ryuer.

ylettert, ylettred, early varr. of LETTERED.

1393 y-lettrede [see LETTERED *ppl. a.*]. **1387** *TREVISIA Higden* (Rolls) VI. 141 Well i-lettred [*MS.* y yletttert].

†yleve, sb. Obs. Forms: 1 *geleafa*, 2 *3el(e)afe*, *ileafe*, *ileave*, 2-3 *ileve*, 3 *gielefe*, *ileafe*. [OE. *geléafa*: see LEVE *sb.*] Belief, faith.

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* v. §3 Nu þu ðone geleafan hæfst. **c 1175** *Lamb. Hom.* 5 þet we suhlen...habben godne ileafe to ure drihten. *Ibid.* 73þet an is rihte ileue, þet oðer fulluht. **c 1200** *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 143 þurh rihte gielefe, and elene liflade. **c 1205** LAY. 2974 Swa helpe me Apollin, for min ileafe is al on him.

†yleve, v. Obs. Forms: 1 *geliefan*, *gelyfan*, *gelefan*, 2 *3elifen*, *3elyfen*, *ileafen*, 2-5 *ileve(n, 3 ilæiven*, *ilæfen*, *iluven*, 3-4 *ilefe(n, ylefe(n, ileove(n, 4 ileave*, *ileeve*, *ilyve*, *yleve*, *ylif*. [OE. *geliefan* = OS. *gilōbbjan* (MDu. *ghelooven*, Du. *gelooven*), OHG. *gilouben* (MHG. *gelouben*, *glouben*, *glōuben*, early mod.G. *gleuben*, G. *glauben*), Goth. *galaubjan*: f. Teut. *ga-* Y- + *laub-* dear (related to *leub-* LIEF and *lub-* LOVE).] To believe.

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* v. §3 3elefst ðu þet sio wyrd wealde pisse worulde? **a 1000** *Boeth. Metr.* xxvi. 99 Ða dysezan men þe ðysum drycraeftum long gelyfdon. **c 1175** *Lamb. Hom.* 65 Wenne ic ileue and wel iso pet no gult me forzeuen bo. **c 1205** LAY. 29022 Karic ileouede to soðe Sexisce monne lare. **a 1250** *Prov. Ælfred* 352 in *O.E. Misc.* 124 Ne ilef þu neuer þane mon þat is of feole speche. **c 1380** *Sir Ferumb.* 4097 þou ne dost noht ase þe wys If þow ylyuest sir Alorys. **1387** *TREVISIA Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 177 Men of þe contray aboute longe tyme perafter myzte unneþe i-leve þat þat citee was i-take. **c 1400** *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 267 I-leue þe wordis þat I seie.

yleve: see YLIVE, to live.

yleved, yleyd, yleie, yliac: see YLEFT, YLAID, YLAY, ILIAC.

ylid ('lɪd). *Chem.* Also **ylide** (-aid). [a. G. *ylid* (Wittig & Felletschin 1944, in *Ann. d. Chem.* DLV. 133): see -YL, -ID⁴.] Any neutral compound containing a negatively charged carbon atom directly bonded to a positively charged atom of another element (commonly sulphur, phosphorus, or nitrogen). Hence **y'lidic** *a.*

1951 *Chem. Abstr.* XLV. 6166 The reaction of PhLi upon suitable quaternary ammonium salts results in compds. with a semipolar bond between N and adjacent C. These compds. are called ylides. **1970** *Nature* 25 July 335/2 Silylated ylides of phosphorus, arsenic and sulphur, in which the silyl group is both a stabilizing and an efficient leaving group, transferring the ylidic moiety in very mild conditions. **1972** S. J. WEININGER *Contemporary Org. Chem.* xviii. 491 Ylids are extremely useful reactive intermediates for syntheses and are the subject of a good deal of research effort at the present time. **1979** *Nature* 15 Nov. 231/3 The zwitterionic ylides were obtained from the reaction of phenyl-lithium with quaternary ammonium halides. **1982** *Heterocycles* XIX. 1849 Cycloimmonium ylides.. possessing two electron-withdrawing groups covalently bonded to the ylidic carbon.. can be isolated.

-ylidene ('ɪl-, -'aɪlɪdɪn), *suffix. Chem.* [f. as -IDENE.] Used in place of -IDINE when the name of the parent compound does not end in -yl.

1971 *Nomencl. Org. Chem.* (I.U.P.A.C.) (ed. 3) A. 17 Names of bivalent radicals derived from saturated or unsaturated monocyclic hydrocarbons by removal of two atoms of hydrogen from the same carbon atom of the ring are obtained by replacing the endings '-ane', '-ene', '-yne', by '-ylidene', '-enyldiene' and '-ynyldiene', respectively.

† **ylight(ed)** [Y- 4, LIGHT *v.*²], lighted.

1422 YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* lxi. 237 The mecche of a candill whych is ylyghtid. **c 1450** *Brut* II. 313 With candels ylight.

† **ylike**, *a.* and *sb.* *Obs.* Forms: *a.* 1 **ȝelic**, 2 **ȝelic(h)**, 2-5 **ilich(e)**, **ilych(e)**, 3-5 **ylic(h)**, 4 **ileche**, 4-5 **yleche**, **ilyche**. *β.* 2-5 **ilik(e)**, 3-5 **ilyke**, 4 **ylík**, **ilek**, 4-5 **ylýk(e)**, **illike**, **ylíke**. [OE. *ȝelíc*: see Y- 1 b and LIKE *a.* Represented now by ALIKE, *q.v.*; see also INLIKE.]

A. adj. 1. Like, similar (const. dat. or to).

a 900 CYNEWULF *Juliana* 549 Ic ær ne sið ænig ne mette in woruldrice wiþ þe ȝelic. **c 900** tr. *Bæda's Hist.* IV. xix. (1890) 322 [Se lichoma] was slæpendum men ȝelicra þonne deaðum. **c 1175** *Lamb. Hom.* 109 þe alde mon þe bið butan treowscepe bið iliche þan treo þe bereð lef and blosman and nane westmas ne bereð. **c 1200** *Vices & Virtues* 9 Ic scal bien ȝelich ðan heisten [orig. *ero similis altissimo*]. **a 1225** *Ancr. R.* 200 Hwose haueð eni unðeau of þeo þet ich er nemde, oðer ham iliche. **1340-70** *Alex. & Dind.* 792 3e ben to þe helle-hond holliche i-like. **c 1380** *Sir Ferumb.* 2336 A semede þe diuel ileche. **1422** YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* xxii. 149 None afore the hath be y-lyke the, ne aftyre the shall come. **c 1474** CAXTON *Recuyell* (1894) 321 A geant named Cerberus ynowh ylyke vnto pluto of condicions.

2. Of a number of things: Like one another; alike; equal. *ever ylike*: always the same.

Beowulf 2164 Feower mearas.. ȝelice. **c 890-c 1060** *Laws of Æthelred* VI. lii. (Liebermann) 258 Se magz & se unmaga ne beoð na ȝelice, ne ne maȝon na ȝelice byrþene ahebban. **a 1240** *Ureisun in O.E. Hom.* I. 203 þet naueþ nouðer ende ne biginnunge þet is euer iliche wiðte sturiunge. **1387** TREvisa *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 355 þinges þat beeth i-liche [*MS. γ* buþ ylyche] aȝordeþ to gidres. **c 1391** CHAUCER *Astrol.* I. §17 Than ben the daies & the nyhtes illike of lengthe in al the world. **c 1420** *Chron. Vilod.* 399 Thre waxe-candels he let make þen, Euery candelde y-leyche of weyzt. **1422** YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* xxiii. 151 Yestyrday he hadd frendys Speciall, but to-day he haue ham all y-lyke. **1430-40** LYDG. *Bochas* IV. xi. (1558) 103 Fortunes gyftes be nat aye ylyche.

3. Fitting, suitable. (Cf. LIKE *a.* 6 a.)

c 1205 LAY. 15117 Nusten heo an world-riche ræd þat heom weore ilike.

B. sb. 1. (One's) like, equal, counterpart.

a 1000 *Boeth. Metr.* xx. 37 Nan þing nis þin ȝelica. **c 1175** *Lamb. Hom.* 151 Iob wes.. swa godmon þet ure drihten.. seide þet under houene ne nan his ilike. **c 1205** LAY. 25378 Nes þer na king his ilike. **c 1305** *Judas* 66 in *E.E.P.* (1862) 109 Ech þing louep his iliche.

2. Outward appearance, likeness, semblance; *concr.* an image, 'likeness'.

a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 1843 Crist.. purh his ahne engel i culurene iliche, fedde hire. **a 1225** *Ancr. R.* 136 Loke þet tu habbe his iliche, þet is þet crucifix. **a 1300** *K. Horn* 305 In hornes ilike þu schalt hure biswike. **c 1315** SHOREHAM VII. 883 Ase mannes ylyche ymad of tre May nauzt be al ase man may be.. Ne godes ylyche, man, y-wys Ne may nauzt be al ase god ys.

† **y'like**, *adv. Obs.* Forms: 1 **ȝelice**, 2 **ȝelic(h)e**, 3-5 **iliche**, **ilyche**, 4-5 **ilike**, 4-7 **ylíke**, etc. (cf. prec.); also 4 **eliche**, **elike**, **elyke**, 5 **yeliche**. [OE. *ȝelice* = OS. *gīlico* (MDu. *geliqe*, Du. *gelijk*), OHG. *gālīho*, *g(i)līcho* (MHG. *g(e)līche*, *g(e)līch*, G. *gleich*), Goth. *galeikō*; f. prec.]

1. Similarly; likewise; alike; equally. *ever ylike*: unceasingly, continuously.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 119 Ne wæron þas ealle ȝelice lange. **c 1000** *Ag. Gosp.* Matt. xx. 5 Eft he ut-eode embe þa sixtan & niȝopan tide & dyde þam swa ȝelice. **c 1200** *Moral Ode* 66 (Trin. Coll. MS.) Africh man mid þat he haueð mai bugge heueriche þe þe more haueð and þe þe lasse boðe iliche. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 152 þat water of baþe is pat on þat euere is iliche hot. **1377** LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xix. 436 Al tymes ylyke. **c 1386** CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 1668 Til that the Thebane knyghtes bothe yliche Honured, were in to the paleys fet. **c 1391** — *Astrol.* II. §39 The longitude of a clymat ys a lyne ymagined fro Est to west, illike distant by-twene them alle.

a 1395 HYLTON *Scala Perf.* (W. de W. 1494) I. xxxiv, Who soo is euer ylyke wyse in knowyng of god & ghostly thynges. **c 1400** LYDG. *Chorle & Bird* 48 (MS. Harl. 116) Of lengthe and brede yeliche square and longe. **c 1403** CLANVOWE *Cuckow & Night.* 64 The floures and the gras y-lyke hye. **1423** JAS. I *Kingis Q.* lxx, Tantalus.. That euer ylyke hailith at the well Water to draw with buket botemes. **c 1460** *Tosneley Myst.* viii. 106 A bush I se burnand full bryght, and euer clyke the leyfes are greyn. **1486** *Bk. St. Albans* cvjb, Take Fenell Maryall and Kersis ilich moch.

2. Const. dative: In the same manner (as), like, as. Also with *as* (OE. *swá*), as conj. or conj. adv.

c 893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* v. vii. §2 þe elpendes hyd wile drincan wætan, ȝelice & spynged deð. **971** *Blickl. Hom.* 17 He him ȝehet his æriste, .. ȝelice swa he ær þa þrowunge dyde. **1393** LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. xx. 330 Wusshen and wylnen Alle manere of men mercy and forseuenesse, And louye hem yliche hym-sylf. **1579** SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* May 4 How falles it then, we no merrier bene, Ylike as others, girt in gawdy greene? **c 1634** W. CARTWRIGHT *Ordinary* II. ii. (1651) 25 If I kissen, These thick stark bristles of mine beard will prickn Ylike the skin of Hownd-fish.

† **y'like**, *v. Obs.* [OE. *ȝelician* (cf. MDu. *gheliken*, MHG. *gelichen*, Goth. *galeikan*): see Y- 3 c and LIKE *v.*¹] *trans.* To please.

c 893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* v. i, Ascian þonne Italie hiera aȝne londleode, hu him þa tida ȝelicoden. **1340** *Ayenb.* 109 Leue uader ylyky þe pet þe holy gost ous wille alyzte þe hert.

† **ylík(e)ned** [Y- 4], likened.

1340 *Ayenb.* 234 No þing ne is worpi to be ylykned to þe chaste herte. **1393** LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. xvii. 265 Ypocrisie is.. ylikned to latyn to a lothliche dounghep. **1422** YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* lviii. 228 They bene folis y-lykenyd to assis.

y'likewise, *adv.* = ALIKEWISE: cf. YLIKE *a.*

1460 *Cal. Anc. Rec. Dublin* (1889) 305 And of fysherys ylykewis for the fysch.

ylin(c)ked [Y- 4], linked.

a 1565 SIR T. CHALLONER in Q. Eliz. *Boeth.* etc. 156/56 What ere thow be that thinges ylynked hast In league so olde. **1590** [see LINKED *ppl. a.*].

ylípe *v.* [Y- 3 c, LITHE *v.*³], to hearken, listen.

a 1300 *K. Horn* (Harl. MS.) 2 Alle heo ben blype þat to my song ylype.

† **ylive**, *v. Obs.* Forms: 1 **ȝelifian**, 4 **yleue**; *pa. pple.* 1 **ȝelifd**, 3-4 **ilyued**, **yliued**, **ilyued**, 4 **yleued**. [OE. *ȝelibban*, *ȝelifian* (cf. OHG. *gileben*): see Y- 3 c and LIVE *v.*¹] To live.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke x. 28 *Hoc fac et uiues*, ðis do þætte ðu ȝelífge. **c 1000** in *Narrat. Angl.* (1861) 30 Fulne ende pines lifes þu hæfst ȝelifd. **1297**, etc. *Yliued*, etc. [see LIVE *v.*¹]. **1340** *Ayenb.* 93 þet is guod lyf and yblyssed þet cristene sölle yleue. *Ibid.* 130 Huanne þe man þengþ.. ine huet traual he heþ yleued. **1393** LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. xii. 255 A goode fryday.. a felon was ysaued That vnlawefulliche hadde ylyued.

ylk(e), **ylkan**, **yll**, obs. ff. ILK, ILKA, ILL.

ylle, obs. form of AISLE, ILL, ISLE.

yllischman, **yllisman**, obs. ff. ISLESMAN.

a 1578 LINDESAY (Pitscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 29 Of grett oppressioun maid be the yllismen [cf. *infra* men of the yllis]. **1610** *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* VIII. 615 What cours salbe takin with these Yllischmen.

yllond, obs. form of ISLAND.

ylls, obs. form of ELSE.

1461 in *Jarrow & Wearmouth* (Surtees) 245 Y^t he.. apper be for y^e said holy fader y^e pope, or ylls y^e wirschipfull doctour Bernardus Romia.

† **ylog(g)ed** [Y- 4], lodged.

13.. *K. Alis.* 3132 (Laud MS.) Forto he com to þat plas, þer Alisaunder yloged was. **c 1380** *Sir Ferumb.* 4c01 Wel y-logged ther on pauyllouns.

ylo3e, **ylo(e)**, ME. *pa. pple.* of LIE *v.*²

ylo3ed, **ylowed** [LOW *v.*¹], subjected, humbled.

1340 *Ayenb.* 144 Hi ham byeþ zuo moche ylo3ed. **1422** YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* xxx. 172 He ne holdyth hym not y-lowet ne vndyrfote of the dyssayss whyche he hath escapid.

yloke, **ylokked**, ME. *pa. pples.* of LOCK *v.*¹

13.. *K. Alis.* 2769 (Laud MS.) Ar þe ȝates weren yloke. **1399** LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* I. 44 With lewte and loue yloke to þi peeris. **c 1400** *Trevisa's Higden* (Rolls) VII. App. 525 That the dore be fast y-loke and barred. **c 1400** y lokked [see LOCK *v.*¹ 3].

yloked [LOOK *v.*], looked, observed, etc.

1340 *Ayenb.* 7 þe sabat, þet wes straytliche y-loked ine þe yalde laȝe.

† **ylome**, *adv. Obs.* Forms: 1 **ȝelome**, 2-5 **ilome**, 3 **ȝelome**, 3-5 **ylo(e)**. [OE. *ȝelôme*, f. ȝe- Y-, with an element of obscure origin: see LOOM *sb.*¹] Frequently, often; phr. *oft and ylome*.

a 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 1539 5e on wolcnum þæs oft ȝelome andȝiettacen maȝon sceawigan. **c 1175** *Lamb. Hom.* 13 Westmes porð uuele wederas oft and ilome scal for-wurðan. **c 1200** *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 31 Heald þin cunde, and pine licames lust kel ilome. **a 1250** *Owl & Night.* 595 þar me mai þe ilomest finde, þar men worpeþ hore bihinde. **1340-70** *Alisaunder* 521 A Lioun in a launde may lightlych drie Of hertes an holle herde, as happes ilome. **c 1400** *St. Alexius* (Laud 622) 69 Men speken of hym ylome In alle pinges wiþouten strif.

ylond, obs. form of ISLAND.

† **ylong**, obs. var. ALONG *a.*¹ (in sense 'depending on').

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2711 þe king esste at enchantors war on it were ylong. **a 1310** in Wright *Lyric P.* xxi. 61 My joie ant eke my blisse on him is al y-long. **c 1400** *Pilgr. Sowle* (Caxton 1483) iv. xxx. 78 Yf it soo be that in his hede be founde ony defaute, hit wylle seme.. that hit is y long vppon his counceyl.

ylope: see YLEPE.

ylore(n), **ylorn(e)**, ME. *pa. pple.* of LEESE *v.*¹ to lose.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5133 Hii söllep ȝut keuery moche lond þat hii abbeþ y lore. **a 1310** in Wright *Lyric P.* xxxix. 110 Al is dayes werk ther were y-loren. **1393** LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. xiii. 182 Oper sedes.. That ben leide on lough erthe ylore as hit were. **c 1430** *Hymns Virg.* (1867) 79 At euery hour a poynt is y-loore.

ylosed, **ylost(e)**, ME. *pa. pple.* of LOSE *v.*¹

13.. *K. Alis.* 4282 (Linc. Inn MS.) Darie haþ ylost his pray. **1387** TREvisa *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 461 Allas! my freendes, þis day I have y-lost. **1407** SCOGAN *Mor. Balade* 36 Tyme y-lost in youthe folily Greveth a wight goostly and bodily.

yloused¹, loosed, loosened.

1387 TREvisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 151 þe skyn y-loused [orig. *soluta cute*].

yloused², freed from lice.

1387 TREvisa *Higden* (Rolls) III. 353 þey hadde i-lowsed [*MS. γ* yloused] her cloþes.

ylowed, **ylowid**, ME. *pa. pple.* of LOVE *v.*¹

13.. *Coer de L.* 1744 Friends, with the best That might be in any lond Y-loved. **1422** YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* vii. 137 Wyrchippyd, ylowid, and ydreddy.

ylo(e), **yloved**: see YLO3E, YLO3ED.

yluggyd, lugged, pulled.

1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* III. 336 He was lyghtliche y-lauzte and y-luggyd of many.

ylurned, **ylurned**: see YLERNED.

ylý: see YLAY(*E*).

ylých(e), **ylýk(e)**, *varr.* YLIKE.

ylýft(e), lifted.

1387 TREvisa *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 9 þanne he was ileft [*MS. γ* ylýft] an hiȝe.

ymaad, **ymad(e)**, obs. *pa. pples.* of MAKE *v.*¹

ymaced, ME. *pa. pple.* of MASS *v.*²

ymadge, **ymag(e)**, etc., obs. ff. IMAGE, etc.

† **ymake**, **ymaked**, ME. *pa. pples.* of MAKE *v.*¹

ymanered, **ymanerit(e)** [Y- 5, MANNER *sb.*¹], mannered.

1393 LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. xi. 260 A mayde wel ymanered of good men yspronge. **1422** YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* lviii. 226 Tho that haue the flesshe of the brestis lytill and dry bene ille-ymanerite.

ymanned, **-yd** [Y- 4], manned.

c 1450 *Brut* II. 434 The toune of Orliaunce was.. well ymannyd and vitailid.

ymaried, married.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. ii. 39 Now worth þis Mede ymaried al to a mansed schrewe.

ymariss(ch)ed, *pa. pple.* of MARISSE *v.*

ymarked, **-yd**, ME. *pa. pple.* of MARK *v.*

13.. *Sir Orfeo* 546 (Zielke) A way!.. þat him was so hard Grace yzarked, And so vile deþ ymarked! **1422** YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* xl. 199 Euery manes lyfe is y-markyd by kynde, how longe he shal mow doure.

ymart(i)red, **ymartyred**, ME. *pa. pple.* of MARTYR *v.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1819 Ymartred [*v.rr.* y martired, y martred] uor vre louerdes loue. **1387** TREvisa *Higden* (Rolls) V. 19 þat ȝere Eustas.. was y-martired.

ymasked, **ymaymed**, ME. *pa. pples.* of MASK, MAIM.

yambar, obs. form of EMBER².

1550 *Acts Privy Council* (1891) III. 68 Holiedaies or fastinge daies as Lent, Ymbar daies, or any such lyke.

ymbarge, obs. form of EMBARGE *v.*

1585 *MS. Tanner* 78, 52 They shall ymbarge or arrest the Duke of Florrences Gallion.

ymbassator, **-bassutt**, obs. var. AMBASSADOR, AMBASSADE.

1484 *Cely Papers* (Camden) 149 To goo as ymbassutt for the stappell to Dewke Phyllypp. **1543** in Lodge *Illustr. Brit. Hist.* (1791) I. 45 The Frenche Ymbassator has not proponyt that matt^r as yet.

yMBER, **ymbre**, obs. forms of EMBER¹.

c 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 254 Our old faders wolden ete þes dayes kakes bakyn yn þe ymbres. **1588** KYD *Househ. Phil. Wks.* (1901) 273 She gins the ymbres vp to rake.

ymbir-, **ymbre(n, etc., obs. ff. EMBER**².

ymbolden, obs. f. EMBOLDEN, IMBOLDEN.

1611 W. ADAMS *Let. in Rundall Mem. Japon* (Hakl. Soc.) 31, I have ymboldened my selfe to write these few lines.

ymbrasour, obs. form of EMBRACER².

ymbroder, obs. form of EMBROIDER.

1562-3 N. *Country Wills* (Surtees 1912) 37 A suyte of blewet velvet ymbrodered. **1638** *Abridgm. Specif. Patents. Furniture* (1869) 1 Ymbrodering or huffing of guilded leather.

† **ymed(e)led** [Y- 4, MEDDLE v.], mixed.

c1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* III. 815 So worldly selynesse.. y-medled is with many a bitternesse. **c1394** P. Pl. *Crede* 177 Wyde wyndowes..Schynen wiþ schapen scheldes..Wiþ merkes of marchauntes y-medled bytwene.

ymedicable, **ymedyat**, obs. ff. IMMEDICABLE, IMMEDIATE.

† **ymeint**, pa. pple. (ME. and 7 *arch.*) of MENG v., to mix.

ymel(le): see IMELLE.

ymelked [Y- 4], milked.

13.. St. *Kenelm* 234 in *E.E.P.* (1862) 54 As ful heo wolde a morwe beo, þe3 heo were ymelked an eue.

† **ymelled, -yd** [MELL v.²], mixed.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 469 þe elementes i-medled [MS. y ymelled] to gidres. **c1430** *Two Cookery-bks.* 28 Pouder Gyngere y-mellyd with Sugre.

ymelt(ed, ME. pa. pple. of MELT v.¹

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 13 A streem of gold of nayles i-melt [MS. y ymelt]. **1432-50** tr. *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 187 Golde y-meltede.

ymende [Y- 3 c, *mende* MIND v.], to remember. **1340** [see MIND v. 2 c].

ymene: see I-MENE.

ymene3ed, pa. pple. of MING v.

ymeng, ymeng(e)d, -id, -yd, ME. pa. pples. of MENG v., to mingle.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2541 þo were among cristinemen pis paiens þus imenged [*v.r.* y menged]. *Ibid.* 3437 þus were in worre & in wo ymeng þe saxons..myd þe brutons. **1340** *Ayenb.* 196 Loke þet ydele blisse..ne by naȝt y-mengd. **c1430** *Two Cookery-bks.* 38 3olkys of Eyroun y-mengyd with þe Ius of haselle leuys.

yment, ME. pa. pple. of MEAN v.¹

ymered, pa. pple. of MERE v.¹, to purify.

ymesurid, ME. f. MEASURED; *well y-mesurid*, well-proportioned.

1422 YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* lix. 236 The hede well y-mesurid.

ymet¹, ME. pa. pple. of METE v.², to dream.

c1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 335 þou hast y met of venysoun; þou mostest drynke a torn. **c1430** [see METE v.² 2].

ymet², pa. pple. (ME. and 6-7 *arch.*) of MEET v.

1522 *World & Child* (facs.) Cvb, Well ymet syr, well ymet. **1642** H. MORE *Song of Soul* I. III. ii, Last time we were together here ymet.

† **ymete**, v. *Obs.* [OE. *gemétan*: see Y- 3 c and MEET v.] To meet, meet with, encounter.

c893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* vi. xxxi. 286 Mid þæm þæt hiene gemette an mon, þa he for from Aetesiphonte þære byrig. **c1175** *Lamb. Hom.* 109 Iselie beoð efre þa mildheortan for þi heo imetað þa mildheortnesse. **c1275** *Wom. Samaria* 67 in *O.E. Misc.* 86 To alle þat heo myhte iseon oper y-mete. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1437 Him pouȝte imete mid is ost ar he at hom were. **c1300** *Names of Hare* 1 in *Rel. Ant.* I. 133 The mon that the hare i-met, Ne shal him nevere be the bet. **c1305** St. *Christopher* 37 in *E.E.P.* (1862) 60 þe maistre þat was firs ynouȝ com & ymette him anon.

† **ymete(n, ME. pa. pple. of METE v.**¹, to measure.

c1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 2092 Fuliche ne is he noȝt now fram þe vj fet ymete in brede.

ymeved, ymeoved, ymoved, ME. pa. pple. of MOVE v.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 301 þe Frensche men.. were i-meved [MS. y ymeoued] by likynge of pat wyn. **1422** YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* xxxiv. 189 Yf he thyȝn answer in dispite haue, neuer for that be thow ymeuet. **1432-50** tr. *Higden* (Rolls) V. 143 To decide the maters y-movede.

ymeynd, ymeynt = YMEINT.

ymgrame, error (in T. Wilson's *Rhet.* p. 37, edd. 1580, etc.) for *yngrame*, INGRAM.

ymidde, ymydde, var. IMID *Obs.*

c1400 26 Pol. *Poems* xi. 66 God may say, fern ȝere, folk were fayn To rescyeue me ymydde here brest. **c1450** St. *Cuthbert* (Surtees) 7794 He.. went forth his enmys y midde.

† **yminne v.** [Y- 3 c, MIN v.²], to mention.

a1325 *Maudelain* 579 in Horstrn. *Altengl. Leg.* (1878) 169 Herdestow euer in spelle yminne Of a woman þat was in sinne?

yminted, pseudo-arch. pa. pple. of MINT v.²

1835 CLARE *Rural Muse* 10 Like gold yminted new.

ymixt, mixed.

a1600 MONTGOMERIE *Misc. Poems* xxxv. 38 Hir comelie cheeks of vive colour, Of rid and vhyt ymixt.

ymnake, error for *ynmake*, INMAKE, inmate.

1536 *Act 28 Hen. VIII.* c. 24 in Bolton *Stat. Irel.* (1621) 175 Euery person and persons..which in the haruest season, receiue..in his or their houses..any person or persons called ymnakes.

ymne, etc., obs. forms of HYMN, etc.

† **ymolt(en** = YMELT(ED).

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 129 Golde i-schave of seyntes schrynes and i-ȝote [MS. β y-molt]. **a1425** tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 31 Whiche y-molten and þe forseid pingis beyng hote. **1590** [see MELT v.¹ 8]. **1748** [see MELT v.¹ 11].

† **y'mone, sb. Obs.** [OE. *gemána*: see MONE sb.¹, MENE, MEAN a.¹]

1. Companionship, fellowship.

c888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* v. §1 þonne wære he mid his aȝnum cygne..þonne he wæs on ðara ryhtwisena ȝemanan. **a1175** *Cott. Hom.* 245 For ðan þe se helende underfeng þa sinfullan, and ham mid imone hafede. **c1205** LAY. 21308 þeh þe wulf beon ane buten ælc imane [c1275 one..imone]. **c1260** K. *Horn* (Camb. MS.) 834 Sire, ischal al one Wiȝute more ymone..Bringe hem þre to depe.

2. Sexual intercourse.

c950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark xii. 25 *rubric*, Ne ceorl hæfis wifes ȝemana. **c1275** *Wom. Samaria* 32 in *O.E. Misc.* 85 Nabbe ich of wepmonne nones kunnes y-mone. **c1275** *Annunc. Virg.* 10 *ibid.* 100 Hw myhte hit iwurpe þat ich were myd childe, Monnes imone on me ne may nomon fynde. **c1275** LAY. 25916 Ne nihte þat maide his imone [c1205 mone] þolie. **c1315** SHOREHAM v. 28 Hy wyȝ-oute mannes ymone In body,..to manne hyne broute.

3. A companion. (? A scribal error.)

a1300 K. *Horn* (Harl. MS.) 530 He nolde gon is one, Athulf wes hys ymone [*Camb. MS.* mone].

† **ymone, a. and adv. Obs.** [Alteration of IMENE a. and adv. after YMONE sb.]

A. *adj.* Common, shared by two or more.

1205 LAY. 978 3if we sceoteð to heora mæðe, þat bið ure imone deað. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6359 He..sede, hail þou be King one. Se nis it noȝt, quap þe King, uor mi Kinedom is ymone.

B. *adv.* Together.

c1300 St. *Brandan* 380 Anon so hi seȝe the monekes come, hi gonne to singe ymone. **c1380** *Sir Ferumb.* 99 If þat on of hem ne dar him self wiȝ me fiȝte al one Send hem boþe on þyn helf to fiȝte wiȝ me ymone.

† **ymong, sb. Obs.** [OE. *ȝemang*, f. ȝe- Y- 3 a + root *mang-* to mix, found in MENG v. Cf. next.] Mixture (OE. only); company, assembly.

a1000 *Judith* 193 Berað..Scire helmas in sceaðena ȝemong. **c1205** LAY. 10868, & sloh þene king..Imong þissen imonge [c1275 motinge].

† **y'mong, prep. and conj. Obs.** Forms: 1 *ȝemang*, *ȝemong*, 2-3 *imong*, 3-7 *ymong*, 4 *imang(e)*, 4-5 *ymang(e)*, 4-6 *ymonge*; also 5 *Sc. ymangis* (after *amonges*, AMONGST). [OE. *ȝemang*, *ȝemong*, used beside *onȝemang* AMONG *prep.*, which is f. on ON *prep.* + *ȝemang* company, YMONG sb.] A. *prep.* Among, in the midst of.

c893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* iv. iv, & þeah ȝemong þære heringe ȝyllica bismra on hie selfe asædon. **c1000** *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. x. 16 Nu ic eow sende swa sceap ȝemang [*Lindisf.* inmong, *Hatton* onmang] wulfas. *Ibid.* John xxi. 23 Deos spræc com ut ȝemang broþrum þæt se leorning-cniht ne swylt. **c1175** *Lamb. Hom.* 27 Hu derst þu mon þer on-ȝein underfon drihtenes fleis and his blod in þine licome imong þan unwreste sunne and ec imong þan deofre þe wuned in him? **c1205** LAY. 13116 þe per sæt..imong alle þan cnihten. **c1250** *Gen. & Ex.* 3419 If ymorg .x. wurð oȝt mis-don. **c1325** *Metr. Hom.* 48 Imang you wonand he isse. **c1330** R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 369 Y-monge þe pres. **a1400** *Imbras* 368 In his mantille of skarlet rede Ymange his golde he did his brede. **c1450** St. *Cuthbert* (Surtees) 5646 Be takyns he aspyed þe thefe ymang ilkan. **1474** *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 53 Item to the batis that cariȝ our the King, the Quene, and the Courte, ymangis thaim. . . xi. s. **c1500** *Lancelot* 820 He goith ymong them in his hie curage. **1536** in J. Nicolson & R. Burn *Westmld. & Cumbl.* (1777) 613 *note*, Every on of the other iiij prysts to have vi d, and to have to drynke ymonge theym viii d. **1642** H. MORE *Song of Soul, Paraphr. Interpr. Answ. Apollo* 15, I Phœbus with my lovely locks ymong The midst of you shall sit.

b. *her (þer)*..ymong: among or with them; herewith, therewith.

c1205 LAY. 22702 Her wes fiðelinge and song, her wes harpinge imong. *Ibid.* 24194 þer wes harepinge and song, þer weoren blissen imong. **a1225** *Leg. Kath.* 1580 Heo wes hire seolf þer imong, as hire ȝuhte.

B. *conj.* **ymong** *pat*: while.

Cf. OE. *ȝemang* *þæm*, meanwhile.

c893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* iv. i. §9 ȝemong þæm þe Pirrus wið Romane winnende wæs. **c1205** LAY. 18174 Imong þat he king wæs..Merlin him æt-wende.

† **ymorþred**, ME. pa. pple. of MURDER v.

1297 [see MURDER v. 1 a]. **1393** LANGL. P. Pl. C. XIII. 242 And so is meny man ymorþred for hus money and goodes.

ymortified, ME. pa. pple. of MORTIFY.

a1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula* etc. 45 A gret quantite y-mortified.

ymoselyd, ME. pa. pple. of MUZZLE v.¹

Y-moth: see Y 3 b.

ymounted, pseudo-arch. pa. pple. of MOUNT v. **1590** MARLOWE *2nd Pt. Tamburl.* iv. iii, Like to an almond tree ymounted high.

ymovede: see YMEVED.

ympes(c)he, obs. forms of IMPEACH.

ymplizeþly, obs. form of IMPLIEDLY.

ympn(e, obs. forms of HYMN.

ympreif, var. IMPREVE v. *Obs.*

ymree, obs. form of EMERY.

ymston, var. ME. *ȝymston*: see GEMSTONE.

a1272 Luue *Ron* 175 in *O.E. Misc.* 98 Among alle opre ymstone þes beoþ deorre in vyche place. *Ibid.* 178 Mayde al so ich þe tolde þe ymston of þi bur.

ymulis, obs. Sc. form of EMULOUS.

† **yummyd**, ME. pa. pple. of MUM v.

ymund, -munt: see YMINT.

ymunde: see MIND sb.¹, a.

ymundified, ME. pa. pple. of MUNDIFY v.

a1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula* etc. 27 þe wounde ymundified if it be wele tretable.

† **ymur. Obs.** [? a. dial. var. of OF. *umor* HUMOUR sb. (cf. Picard *himeur*, Walloon *imeure*.)] ? Atmospheric moisture.

c1400 *Destr. Troy* 897 All cold it became & the course helde, Bothe of ymur & aire after I-wise. *Ibid.* 1575 The Stretis were strenght & of a stronge brede, For ymur & aire opou in þe myddis.

† **ymurdred**, arch. pa. pple. of MURDER v.

1581 A. HALL *Iliad* v. 95 Here dy thou sbalt ymurdred by my hand.

ymuwed, ME. pa. pple. of MEW v.¹

ymyd(de, ymyddes, -is, -ys, ymydward, obs. varr. AMID (cf. YMIDDE), AMIDST, AMIDWARD.

c1400 *Destr. Troy* 8769 The body..Was..set in a seate vnder, Ymydward the mayne towmbre.

† **ymylded**, ME. pa. pple. of MILD v.

ymynced, ymysyd, ME. pa. pple. of MINCE v.

c1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 6 Oynons y-mynced. *Ibid.* 13 Oynonys y-mysyd.

ymyned, ME. pa. pple. of MINE v.

ymynt(c): see YMINT.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4920 + 31 þe nyȝt þet he adde imund [MS. ȝ mynte] vort abbe ywend a-morwe. **c1380** *Sir Ferumb.* 576 Hadd y þat stronge strok y-take þou haddest to me ymynt.

ymynused, pa. pple. of MINISH v.

a1400 *New Test.* (Paues) Col. i. 21 Whan ȝe weren sumtyme y-alyened & y-mynused in wyt in efel werkes.

yn, obs. f. IN *prep.* and *adv.*, INN sb.

Yn: see YIN.

ynail(l)ed, ynamyd, ME. pa. pples. of NAIL v., NAME v.¹

Ynca, obs. f. INCA.

ynce, obs. Sc. form of HENCE *adv.*

ynch(e, obs. ff. INCH.

yncke, ync(k)le, ynclynge, yncorne, obs. ff. INK, INKLE, INKLING, INK-HORN.

ynd(e): see END sb., HIND sb.¹, IND, INDE.

Yndeen, -ien, Yndewes, obs. ff. INDIAN, INDIES.

yndling, var. INDLING, EYNDLING sb. *Obs.*, jealous.

yndoys, var. *Yndes* (see IND 2).

yndrest, var. INNEREST *Obs.*, innermost.

yne, obs. pl. of EYE sb.¹, obs. f. IN *prep.*

-yne (-ain), orig. var. -INE⁵, now used in its own right to denote a triple bond between carbon atoms, as in BUTYNE, PROPYNE.

1931 *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* 1610 Definitive Report of the Committee [of the International Union of Chemistry] for the Reform of Nomenclature in Organic Chemistry... The name of hydrocarbons containing the triple linkage will end in *yne*, *diyne*, etc.

† **ynem(p)ned**, pa. pple. of NEMN v., to name.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) App. H. 10 After þe quene y-nempned heo was. **1340** *Ayenb.* 66 Alle pise zennes þet we habbeȝ hyer y-nemned. **1417** *E.E. Wills* (1882) 27 All my pourest tenauntes..excepte ham þat I haue y-nemned in pis bok.

†**ynence**, **-ens**, **-entes**, *prep.* *Obs.* [var. *ff. enence*, *anentes* ANENT.] Towards; in relation to. *a* 1340 *HAMPOLE Psalter* ix. 2 Ynence my selfe i. sall be glad in pe. *Ibid.* x. 8 Euenness is sen in his knawyngye, ynentes bath pe partis of goed and ill. *c* 1340 — *Prose Treat.* 8 Many are þat neuer haue halde þe ordyre of iufe ynesche [read ynence] paire frendrys sybbe or firemede. *a* 1400 *Relig. Pieces fr. Thornton MS.* (1914) 26 Thurghe pis commandement es man ordaynede ynence God þe Fadire. *c* 1400 MAUNDEV. (Roxb.) x. 40 Ynentes þe kirk of þe Sepulchre es þe citee maste wayke. *c* 1400 *tr. Secr. Secr., Gov. Lordsh.* 106 Conferme my louyngye in þe, ynens þis lew.

yneuch(t, ynew(cht: see ENOUGH, ENOW.

ynewe, obs. var. ANEW *adv.*

c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 626, & þo by-gan ynewe fȳt be-twene þis knyghtes tweye.

†**ynewed** [Y- 4, NEW *v.*], renewed.

1340 *Ayenb.* 107 Ynewed and eft ycrystned ine þe bloode of Iesu crist.

yingde, obs. f. IND.

ynge, obs. f. HINGE, ING, YOUNG.

ynjoin, ynion, obs. *ff.* ONION.

Yngles, -is(se, etc., obs. ff. ENGLISH, INGLIS.

yingynore, obs. form of ENGINEER.

ynke, ynkell, obs. forms of INK, INKLE.

ynkirly, -urly, var. ENKERLY *adv.* *Obs.*

ynkleth: see INKLETH.

ynmast, -most, obs. forms of INMOST.

ynn(e, ynner: see IN, INN, INNE, INNER.

ynnion, obs. form of ONION.

c 1580 in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* (1914) July 519 Greate ynnions that be xij or xiiij ynches abowte.

ynogh(e, ynoh(e, etc.: see ENOUGH, ENOW.

†**ynombred**, ME. pa. pple. of NUMBER *v.*

1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* v. x. 178 His armye... with the garneson of godard and sarasyns of Southland ynombred lxiii of good men of armes.

ynome(n, ynume, ME. pa. pple. of NIM *v.*, to take.

c 1275 in *O.E. Misc.* 43/206 So me dop to þeoue þat schal beon ynume. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2421 Vor to be maistres of þis folc we bep ychose & ynome. 13.. *K. Ahs.* 4668 (Laud MS.), þe boweles weren ynomen oute. *c* 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1105 Erid Olyuer & his felawes þat Sarazyns habbeþ ynome. *c* 1470 HENRY Wallace ix. 53 Leyt salys fall, and has thar cours ynom.

ynon, obs. form of ONION.

†**ynorisched, -issed, ynorsched**, ME. pa. pples. of NOURISH, NORSH.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1450 He spac engliss vor he was at rome inorssed [*MS. B. ynorisched*] biuore. 1340 *Ayenb.* 205 þe children þet weren y-norissed mid greate metes. 1387 TREvisa *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 35 While he was a child y-norsched in þe kynges court of Fraunce. *c* 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 9, I.. haue ben cheresly ynorysched.

ynot = *y not*, I do not know: see NOT *v.*²

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5628 þere he lip jut to þis day ac ynot to wuche dome þe toun suppe of pokel chirche fram glastingbury come. 13.. in Ritson *Anc. Songs* (1877) 57 Ynot non so freoh flour, Ase ledies that beth bryght in bour.

ynou(gh, ynow(gh, etc.: see ENOUGH, ENOW.

ynumbred, ME. pa. pple. of NUMBER *v.*

ynpossybull, ynpugne, obs. *ff.* IMPOSSIBLE, IMPUGN.

yn sted, stude, styd, obs. *ff.* INSTEAD.

ynsyte, obs. form of INCITE.

†**ynued** [Y- 4, NOY *v.*], harmed.

1422 YONGE *ti. Secr. Secr.* xxx. 170 By this vertu Is the herte of a man I-Stabelid, in so myche that for no chaunce hit is not y-nued.

ynug(h, ynume(n: see ENOUGH, YNOME(N.

ynuste = *y nuste*, I knew not: see NIST.

yo (jəʊ), *int.* (*sb.*¹) Forms: 5 30, io, 3aw, 9 yo, yeo(h. An exclamation of incitement, warning, etc. (also repeated). In nautical use = YOHO. Occas. as *sb.* and in *vbl. sb.* *yo-yoing*.

c 1420 *Avow. Arth.* vii. [To hounds], 3aw thar suche him no mare. *c* 1450 *Monkey* 450 in *Macro Plays* 17 *Myscheff.* How, New-gyse, Now-a-days! herke or I gool! When ourw hedis wer to-gethere, I spake of 'si dederō'. *New-gyse.* 3o! go bi weyl! we xall gaper mony on-to. *c* 1460 *Towneley Myst.* ii. 25 Io furth, greyn-horne! and war oute, gryme! 1772 *Monthly Rev.* XLII. 191/1 The scene was quite chang'd, 'twas no more yo, yo-ho. 1806 PINCKARD *Tour W. Indies* III. 343 A string of negroes singing out in the sailors' cry — yeoh-yeoh, yeoh-yeoh, and hauling at a long rope. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* ix, He was roused by a loud shouting of the post-boy on the leader. 'Yo—yo—yo—yo—yoe', went the first boy. 'Yo—yo—yo—yoe!' went the second... And amidst the yo-yoing... the chaise stopped. 1839 HOOD *Storm at Hastings* xiii, Sundry boatmen, that with quick yoe's, Lest it should blow,—were pulling up the *Rose*. 1859 DICKENS *T. Two Cities* i. ii, Yo there! Stand! I shall fire!

yo (jəʊ), *sb.*² Also yoe. Repr. dial. (esp. U.S.) pronunc. of EWE *sb.*¹ Cf. YOWE.

1891 *Dialect Notes* I. 71 Yo, ewe. 1899 B. W. GREEN *Word-bk. Virginia Folk-Speech* 434 Yoe, n.: yow, yeo; eow; yowe; a female sheep. 'Breeding yoes & a Ramm.' 1922 BLUNDEN *Shepherd* 12 While each one came from the poor frightened yoes. 1946 *Amer. Speech* XXI. 98 [S. Illinois] Yo, ewe.

yo, [historically an obs. form of YOU]: in mod. use, repr. dial. pronunc. of *you*, *your*, esp. in Black English.

1848 MRS. GASKELL *Mary Barton* I. vi. 90 Yo stop here, and I'll be back in half-an-hour. 1897 [see SHOOT *v.* 2 d]. 1931 W. FAULKNER *Sanctuary* xxiv. 271 Minnie tapped at the door. 'Here yo dinner.' 1937 C. HIMES *Black on Black* (1973) 139 Niggah, ef'n yo is talkin' tuh me, Ah ain' liss'nin'. 1969 R. FAIR in A. Chapman *New Black Voices* (1972) 114 Oh, shut yo mouf up man. 1973 *Black World* June 61 Saturday nite take yo shoes off at the door.

yoak(e: see OAK, YOKE, YOLK.

yoaks, yoax (jəʊks), *int.* *Obs. exc. dial.* (yocks). A hunting cry; also as *vb.* (Cf. YOICKS.)

1778 GARRICK in *Monthly Rev.* (1779) LX. 59 'Squire Western, reeling, with October mellow, Tall, yol—Boys! —Yoax—Criticks! hunt the fellow! 1828 *Sporting Mag.* (N.S.) XXII. 129 He yoaxed in a whisper, he cheered in a whisper. 1905 *Eng. Dial. Dict.*, Yocks, a call of encouragement to a dog hunting rabbits, &c. n. Yks.

yoalk, obs. form of YOLK.

yob (jɒb), *slang*. [Backslang for BOY *sb.*¹] Orig. simply, a boy, a youth; in mod. use, a lout, a hooligan; (see also quot. 1918).

1859 HOTTEN *Dict. Slang* 131 Yob, a boy. 1886-96 in Farmer & Henley *Slang* (1903) VII. 375/1 And you bet that each gal, not to mention each yob, Didn't care how much ooftish it cost 'em per nob. 1908 A. N. LYONS *Arthur's* II. i. 108 It'd take more'n a yob in a squash 'at to call me a blighted sooper. 1918 FARROW *Dict. Milit. Terms* 673 Yob, a slang term used by soldiers meaning an officer or one who is easily fooled. 1927 J. C. GOODWIN *Crook Pie* iii. 71 A yob shouted: 'Now for yer belts, boys!' and my friend was thrashed. 1930 P. MACDONALD *Link* 130 Well, sir, I sez to myself, what does A do? Then I thinks, keep the mob off. So I jest backs into the door of the public, and doesn't let any of the yobs get out. 1957 J. OSBORNE *Look Back in Anger* 1. 15 'Let's go to the pictures.'... 'And have my enjoyment ruined by the Sunday night yobs in the front row?' 1962 J. WAIN *Strike Father Dead* vii. 303 If you're expecting a description of what those yobs did to us, please forget it. 1977 *Western Morning News* 30 Aug. 1/3 One police officer sheltering from a bombardment of missiles behind a plastic shield said: 'It's just a bunch of yobs.' 1984 *Times* 16 Feb. 3/1, I would not want anybody looking at me to think this man is a thick, stupid, illiterate yob.

Hence 'yobbery, hooliganism; 'yobbish *a.* characteristic of a yob; 'yobby *a.* loutish.

1955 E. BLISHEN *Roaring Boys* iv. 210 Though I don't hold with Grimes' yobby way of dressing, I think the Edwardian style's a good thing in itself. 1972 *Guardian* 16 Feb. 12/1 The 16-year-old boy... was... adopting a yobbish air which drove his mother into nerve-twanging tantrums. 1974 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 1 Mar. 215/2 A comparative study of urban adolescent vandalism and upper-class yobbery. 1980 *Observer* 9 Nov. 12/4 It is one thing to deplore the collective yobbery of Mr. Benn's supporters. 1982 E. NORTH *Ancient Enemies* ii. 19 The boys, although none of them as individuals are that dim or yobby, jeered. 1984 *Listener* 27 Sept. 22/1 A club with one of the worst records for drunken yobbery, Tottenham Hotspur, ... brazenly makes a deal with the makers of Holstein lager. 1984 *Sunday Tel.* 2 Dec. 20/6 The loony Left should not be confused with that other Left which has been described as the Left of the yobbish tendency.

yobbo (ˈjɒbəʊ), *slang*. Also yobo. Pl. yobbos, occas. yobboes. [An extended form of prec.] A lout, a hooligan.

1922 *Contemp. Rev.* CXXII. 368 To him the boys are always the 'yobos'. 1938 *Evening News* 7 Mar. 11/5 A few inverted words have found common acceptance; slop (policeman), yob or yobbo (street rough, an inverted form of boy). 1940 R. POSTGATE *Verdict of Twelve* i. v. 74 Hardly any one about except a few yobos who had got nothing to do, and hung around in irritated idleness, spitting manfully in the gutter and telling dirty stories. 1955 E. BLISHEN *Roaring Boys* iii. 147 'Yoboes!' said my colleague. 'My God, I wouldn't teach again in a senior school... Their insolence and rowdiness.' 1959 J. BRAINE *Vodi* xii. 165 Some yobbos in 1916 broke Nisbauer's shop window. 1960 *News Chron.* 9 Feb. 6/6 The local Teddies and yobbos swing their dubious weight behind the strike. 1964 in Hamblett & Deverson *Generation X* 56 Ever since that Profumo lark I've come to the conclusion that we working class yobos, as they like to call us, have less to be ashamed of than those establishment geezers. 1972 T. STOPPARD *Jumpers* II. 80 That astronaut yobbo is good for twenty years hard. 1978 [see street-corner *s.v.* STREET *sb.* 4 b]. 1982 *Age* (Melbourne) 4 Feb. 9/4 We get the odd guarded comment from the yobbo on the street about our dress.

yoberte, obs. form of JEOPARDY.

1539 *St. Pap. Hen. VIII* III. 161 Yn gret yoberte of lyff.

yobliged, ME. pa. pple. of OBLIGE *v.*

yochomdale, yockynggale, var. YOKINDALE.

yock (jɒk), *sb.* (and *v.*) *Theatr. slang* (chiefly U.S.). Also yok. [Cf. Eng. dial. *yocha* to laugh.] A laugh. Also as *v. intr.* (and quasi-trans.).

1938 H. M. ALEXANDER *Strip Tease* 83 'Listen to 'em yock out there,' says the comic... 'Yock' is a belly laugh. 1949 *N. Y. Times* 4 Sept. 7/6 It makes me furious when I have a corny line and it gets a yock. 1951 *New Yorker* 12 May 32/3 There'd be Don, yockin' it up like crazy... he's so hysterical

with loyalty laughter. 1957 S. J. PERELMAN *Road to Miltown* 73 Brother, I've heard some dillies in my day, but that's the payoff... What a yock this'll give the mob at Sardi's! 1957 WODEHOUSE *Over Seventy* xiii. 134 A few gay observations on the weather and he is ready for the big yoks. 1961 *Daily Mail* 4 Mar. 8 'I'm right in saying that you wouldn't do this to me, madam?' asked the colonel... The producer said, 'You'd have got a helpful yok from the audience there, colonel.' 1965 *New Yorker* 31 July 56/3 A chuckle or even a short, muted yock is acceptable from time to time. 1973 *Publishers Weekly* 26 Feb. 50/1 (Advt.), An hilarious collection of jokes, rhymes, riddles, tongue twisters, teasers and other assorted high-flying nonsense. The riddles and illustrations sprinkled throughout this page give just a brief taste of this yok-filled book. 1975 *New Yorker* 2 June 36/3 'Maybe you were a king in Babylon and I was a Christian slave,' I chaffed him. 'But enough with the yocks.'

yock, yocke, obs. forms of YOKE.

yod (jɒd, jəʊd). Also yodh. [See JOD.]

1. Name of the tenth (the smallest) letter of the Hebrew alphabet.

1735 LYONS *Scholars Instr.* (1757) 25 Those Verbs which have Vau Consonant, or Yod Consonant for the second Radical. 1769 PARKHURST *Grk. Eng. Lexicon* N.T. (1794) 385/2 An Iota, Jod, or Yod. 1861 *Grammatography* I. Yodh. 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* I. II. viii. 143 They remembered... what He had said about the permanence of every yod and horn of a letter in the Law. 1958 D. DIRINGER *Story of Aleph Beth* i. iii. 36 Several letters in the Ahiram sarcophagus (*aleph, waw, ... yodh, ... and resh*) indicate a cursive rather a monumental development. 1982 *Canad. J. Linguistics* XXVII. 76 Part II also has several appendices, dealing with Middle High German and Old Yiddish transcription, with the source of double waw and double yodh.

2. *Phonetics*. Also jod. The semi-vowel (j).

1934 M. K. POPE *From Lat. to Mod. Fr.* II. i. 55 The voiced fricative sound j (*jod*), heard in *bien* bjē. 1954 PEI *Dict. Linguistics* 237 Yodization, the changing of a pure-vowel (usually *e* or *i*) in hiatus into the semivowel which in English orthography is usually written *y*, and called *yod* after a letter of the Hebrew alphabet. 1971 *Canad. J. Linguistics* XVII. 19 Discussion is limited to two aspects of palatization in French: velars followed by front vowels, and clusters of single consonant plus yod. 1982 J. C. WELLS *Accents of English* I. ii. 163 The *cure* vowel is frequently preceded by a yod, /j/. GenAm reflects more widespread Yod Dropping than RP and most other British accents. *Ibid.* II. v. 435 Yod Coalescence in stressed syllables is common in Dublin...; *dew* = *due* = *Jew*. 1984 *Word* XXXV. 70 The consequence of this for yod-assibilation in Irish English is that it is not found in instances where it might be expected.

†**yode, yede, v.**¹ *Obs.* Past tense of GO *v.* (= went, went away, proceeded, took his course).

[12th cent. ME. (north-east midland) *ȝeode, ȝede* (*iede*), prob. altered form of OE., ME. *eode* (*ede, ode*), pa. t. of GO *v.*, by prothesis of *ȝ*-glide induced by the hiatus in such collocations as *he eode, we eoden*. Later, when the form *ȝode*, arising from the development of *eo* as a rising diphthong, became established, it would help to extend the currency of the form *ȝede* by analogical influence upon *ede*, the normal representative of *éode* with a falling diphthong. A parallel development is furnished by ME. *York, Yerk*:—OE. *Eoforwíc* (see YORK). Moreover, the OE. compound form *ȝeéode*, pa. t. of *ȝegán* IGO *v.*, examples of which are here given with the meaning of the simple *éode*, may have survived in localities where the prefix *ȝe-* = *y-* persisted in ME., and so have furthered the spread of *ȝede* and *ȝode*.

Beowulf 1967 Hi sið ðrugaon, elne ȝeodon. *Ibid.* 2676 Ac se maga ȝeonga under his mæges scyld elne ȝeode. *c* 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) A 217 *Adgreduntur*, ȝeodon [*Epinal* 76 ȝihiodun]. *c* 950 *Lindisf. Gosp. Matt.* xx. 5 *Exiit*, ȝe-eode. *Ibid.* John x. 23 *Ambulabat*, ȝe-eade.]

Illustration of Forms.

a. 2-4 *ȝeode* (4 *ȝiode*).

a. 1122 *O.E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1070 Hi... ȝeodon into þe mynstre. *c* 1260 *K. Horn* (Camb. MS.) 401 He ȝeode in þe mynste To Rymenhild þe bryzte. *c* 1275 *LAY.* 25331-2 Ofte hii ȝeode [c. 1205 eoden] to reade, ofte hii ȝeode to rounne. *c* 1305 *Judas* 31 in *E.E.P.* (1862) 108 þe quene ȝeode adai and pleide bi þe stronde. 13.. *Cursor M.* 19920 (Edin.) Quen þai of Petir undirstode, His coming, some gain him þai ȝiode. 1387 TREvisa *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 397 A lampe... in þat hevene... þat ȝede [*MS. ȝeode*] adoun westward as it were þe sonne. *a* 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 228 To the ȝate ȝaply þei ȝeoden [v.rr. ȝedyn, ȝede] wel ȝare. *c* 1400 *R. Gloucester's Chron.* (Rolls) 8409 (MS. a) þoru wham þe heþene men ȝeoden al to schonde.

β. 2. ȝæde, iede, iæde, 2-5 ȝede, 3-4 ȝiede, 4 ȝide, ȝed, yhed, *Sc.* ȝheid, 4-5 ȝeide, ȝheide, ȝeede, 4-6 yeede, (also 9 *Sc.*) yede, 5 ȝeyde, ȝhed, *Sc.* ȝheide, 5-6 *Sc.* ȝeid, yeid, 5-6 (8 *Sc.*) yeed, 6 yheid, yead(e, 8 yee'd.

a. 1122 *O.E. Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1070 Syððon ȝeden heom to scipe, ferdn heom to Elis. 1154 *Ibid.* an. 1137 Sume ieden on ælmes þe waren sum wile rice men. *Ibid.*, Me dide cnotted strenges abuton here hæued & uurythen to ðet it ȝæde to þe hæernes. *Ibid.* 1140 Sæ fleh & iæde on fote to Walingford. *c* 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 69 Dies ȝunge mann ȝiede awei sari. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1766 Ac basian & al is folc ȝede anon to gronde. *a* 1300 *Cursor M.* 1086 Quen caym had don þat dredi dide, Til his fader hamward he ȝeide. *Ibid.* 21093 He prechid þare wiþ fote he ȝide. *c* 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 14308 þyse were þe lordes of renoun þat on Moddredes side ȝed doun. 1340 *HAMPOLE Pr.*

Consc. 4851 þat day, þat Loth yhed out of Sodome. **1340-70** *Alisaunder* 304 Hur zates zeede þei too & youlden hem soone. **1375** BARBOUR *Bruce* l. 90 Bot othir wayis all zheid the gle. *Ibid.* 333 And till swylyk thowlesnes he zeid, As the cours askis off zowtheid. **1423** *Acts Privy Council* III. 97 He yeed in ambassiate to . . . ye Kyng of Polayn. **c1470** *Gol. & Gaw.* 228 The day yeid down. **1487** *Cely Papers* (Camden) 158, I had xx^{li} more wheyr of zeide xij^{li} and mor for carryage of wholl. **1508** DUNBAR *Kynd Kittok* 33 Becaus the wif zeid wrang. **1566** DRANT *Horace, Sat.* v. C vij, When you . . . yeade to Louaine there to heare the Latine Romishe worde. **1575** *Gammer Gurton* IV. ii, My Gammer then she yeede, see now hir neele again to bring. **1583** *Leg. Bp. St. Androis* 327 With this the word yead through the toun. **a1600** MONTGOMERIE *Devot. Poems* iii. 29 That leddir . . . Quhairby the angels come and zeid From hevin to earth. **1768** ROSS *Helenore* l. 7 They Yeed hand in hand together. **1808** JAMIESON, *Yede* is still used in Ang[us] although almost obsolete.

β². 3-4 3et.
c1275 LAY. 2647 þis wes þe ereste king þet 3et vt to reuing.
c1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints xxix. (Placidas)* 297 þane wes þe feynd wondir wa, þat placidas lewit hym sa & 3et on crist.
 γ. ? 1 3ode, 3-5 3od, 4-5 yhode, (also 6 *Sc.*) 3ode, (also 7-8 *dial.*) yod, (4 3ood, 3odd, yoede, 5 3-, yooede, 6 yood, *Sc.* 3oid, 7 youd), 4-6 (6-9 *arch.*) yode.

c1030 *Rule of S. Benet* xxvii. (ed. Logeman) 58 *Abiit*, se ðe 3ode [How this spelling is to be interpreted in this instance is doubtful]. **c1250** *Gen. & Ex.* 2030 Sone zhe mai hire louerd sen, zhe 3od him bitterlike a-zen. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 1806 He wist noght wyder-ward he 3odd. *Ibid.* 6264 þe see on aiper side þam stod Als walles tua, quils þai for yod. **13** . . *Ibid.* 24360 (Gött.) þe nailes þat him fest on rode Thoru in hend and fete þai 3ode. **13** . . *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1146 A bundreth of hunters. . . To trystors vewters 3od. **c1400** *Melayne* 449 The fire 3ode owtt þat come þer nee. **c1400** [see GO v. B. 21 b]. **c1440** *York Myst.* ix. 151 My frendis þat I fra yode Are ouere flownen with floode. **c1450** *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 643 Him thought oute of þe shipp he yhode. **1513** DOUGLAS *Aeneis* II. xii. 21 Throw howis and the citie quhar I 3oid. **1524** in *Ellis Orig. Lett.* Ser. I. I. 244 Saing if he yode awaye she must nedes do for her self. **a1533** LD. BERNERS *Huon* clxiii. 636 He issued out of the gate and yode towardes the tentes of his enemies. **1590** SPENSER *F.Q.* I. x. 53 Such one, as that same mighty man of God, That blood-red billowes. . . parted with his rod, Till that his army dry-foot through them yod. **1596** *Ibid.* IV. viii. 34 So forth they yode, and forward softly paced. **1600** FAIRFAX *Tasso* xx. xcii, An armed stead fast by the Soldan yood. **1615** BRATHWAIT *Strappado* (1878) 130 A lang youd I. **a1650** *Glasgerion* 46 in Furniv. & Hales *Percy Folio* I. 250 He did not kisse that Lady gay when he came nor when he youd. **1748** THOMSON *Cast. Indol.* II. xxxv, And much they moraliz'd as thus yfere they yode. **1808** SCOTT *Marm.* III. xxxi, In other pace than forth he yode, Returned Lord Marmion.

γ². 4 3ot, yot.
 13. . . *E.E. Allit. P. A.* 10, I leste hyr in on erbere, þur3 gresse to grounde hit fro me yot. **c1380** *Sir Ferumb.* 3690 A rideþ to Richard wyþ a spere, . . & on þe scheld hym smot; þor3-out ys scheld. . . & iakke & ioupoun, þor3-out al it 3ot.

δ. 4 3ud, 4-5 yude, (yhude, zhude, 5 zhuyde), 4-6 3ude, 7 *dial.* yud, 7-8 *dial.* yewd.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* xii. 560 Quhill throu the byrneis brist the blud, That till the erd doune stremand 3ud [*MS.* 3hude]. **1387** TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 423 þe kyng meked hym, and zeede [*MS.* γ 3ude] barfoot. **c1425** WYNTOUN *Cron.* II. v. 330 His breþir . . . Slew a kyde and in þe blude Wet þe gowne þat he in zhuyde. ? **a1550** *Freiris of Berwik* 563 in *Dunbar's Poems* 303 And throw the myre full smertly than he 3ude. **1674** RAY *N.C. Words* 55 *Yewd* or *Yod*: Went, *Yewing*: Going.

ε. 5 yad.
1424 in *Picton L'pool Munic. Rec.* (1883) I. 23 The Sheriffs . . . yadden up to the West Derby fen. **c1435** *Torr. Portugal* 1192 His squiers habite he had, Whan he to the deysde yad.

†**yode**, *v.* ² *Obs. rare.* [Pseudo-archaic use of prec. as infin. or pres.; cf. YEDE *v.*] *intr.* To go. **1587** M. GROVE *Pelops & Hippod.* (1878) 42 Then foorth one yodeth fast And sayes [etc.].

yode, var. YAUD, mare.

yodel (ˈjɔdəl), *sb.* Also jodel, yodle, *erron.* jödel. [f. next.] A melody or musical phrase inarticulately sung with interchange of the ordinary and falsetto voice, as by Swiss and Tyrolese mountaineers. Also *transf.* any cry resembling this.

1849 THACKERAY *Pendennis* lxxv, Fanny's little sisters were taught a particular cry or *jödel*, which they innocently whooped in the court. **1864** *Cornh. Mag.* Aug. 230, I heard singing and wild jodels about this dissipated city of Innsbrück. **1883** *Harper's Mag.* July 907/2 As he joined his own vibrant baritone to the Tyrolese song-music, his yodel drowned all other sounds. **1894** DU MAURIER *Trilby* I. 22 The British milkman's yodel, 'Milk below!'

Comb. **1874** MISS R. H. BUSK *Valk* (1901) Pref. p. vi, Just as the shriek of the whistle overpowers the Jödel-call.

yodel (ˈjɔdəl), *v.* Also youdle, yoddle, yodle, jodel, *erron.* jödel. [ad. G. *jodeln* (Bavarian dial. *jodln, jolen*), properly, to utter the syllable *jo*.]

a. intr. To sing or warble with interchange of the ordinary and falsetto voice, in the manner of Swiss and Tyrolese mountaineers. Also *transf.*

1838 LADY GRANVILLE *Lett.* (1894) II. 266 Listening to three little peasant girls, all yoddlng to perfection in parts. **1841** in J. F. Campbell *Frost & Fire* (1865) I. 156 We went yoddlng and shouting to rouse the echoes. **1850** *The Initials* v, A loud gay voice was heard in the distance joddlng. **1876** BESANT & RICE *Gold. Butterfly* xxv, The shepherds jodel in the valleys. **1878** H. S. WILSON *Alpine Ascents* i. 21 Our guides shout and jödel. **1890** LOWELL *Let. to Miss E. G.*

Norton 7 Sept., The screech-owl . . . every night yodels mournfully about the house like a banshee.

b. trans. with the melody as object.

1839 LONGF. *Hyperion* III. iii, A single voice . . . was heard yoddlng forth a ballad. **1879** BARING-GOULD *Germany* xi. II. 52 From far away comes the refrain jödeled back to her.

Hence yodel(l)ing (yoddlng, jodel(l)ing) *vbl. sb.*; also yodel(l)er (yodler, jodler), yodelist, one who yodels.

1827 M. WILMOT *Jrnl.* 18 Aug. in *More Lett.* (1935) 288 The wild yoddlng of two young girls, who suddenly begun [*sic*] to sing their mountain melody. **1830** SCOTT *Jrnl.* 4 June, Anne wants me to go to hear the Tyrolese Minstrels, but . . . I cannot but think their yodeling . . . is a variation . . . upon the tones of a jackass. **1841** in J. F. Campbell *Frost & Fire* (1865) I. 155 We stepped out for our stone house, from which came yoddlng and screaming and all sorts of noises. **1880** 'MARK TWAIN' *Tramp Abroad* xxviii. 289 Now the jodeler appeared . . . and . . . we gave him a franc to jodel some more. **1885** MRS. C. PRAED *Head Stat.* xxviii, Clephane and Wyatt executed . . . an effective jodelling chorus. **1885** *Detroit Free Press* 7 Nov. (Cassell), The yodelist began to play once more. **1910** *Blackw. Mag.* Oct. 469/2 A Swiss yodeler.

yodization (jɒdərˈzeɪʃən). *Phonetics.* [f. YOD 2 + -IZATION.] = YOTIZATION.

1954 [see YOD 2]. **1966** [see PROSODY 3]. **1982** *Times Lit. Suppl.* 3 Sept. 953/5 Such phonological phenomena as yodization and consonantal dissimilation.

yoe, obs. form of JOY.

yoe: see YO, repr. EWE *sb.*¹

yoede: see YODE.

yoelle, obs. form of JEWEL.

1536 in Archbold *Somerset. Relig. Houses* (1892) 62 The crosses, chalysshes and other yoelles of the churches.

yoeman, obs. form of YEOMAN.

yoen, **yoene**, obs. forms of YON.

yof, graphic var. *þof*, obs. f. THOUGH: see Y 3.

yof, variant of YOFU.

yoff, intended to imitate the grunt of a pig.

c1630 *Song* II. in De Foe *Mem. Cavalier* (1840) Notes 323 Yoffing, crying, youlling, yelling, Lyk ane citie swyne summonds out with an horne.

†**y-offred** (earlier *ioffred*, OE. *ȝeooffrod*), offered, sacrificed.

1340-70 *Alex. & Dind.* 738 Of swiche bestus þat ben of burnus yoffred. **1387** TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 427 þe bisschop acountede þis nombre by þe nombre of oystes þat were y-offred. **1432-50** *tr. Higden* (Rolls) V. 169 The bowelles of a beste y-offrede.

yoga (ˈjɔʊgə). [Hind., Skr. *yoga* lit. union: see YOKE *sb.*¹] In Hindu religious philosophy, Union with the Supreme Spirit; a system of ascetic practice, abstract meditation, and mental concentration, used as a method of attaining this; now a widespread cult in many countries outside India. Also *attrib.*

1820 W. WARD *View Hindoos* (ed. 3) IV. 125 Clear knowledge of spirit arises from yogū, or abstraction of mind. **1832** H. H. WILSON in *Asiatic Researches* XVII. 184 The Yoga, or Pātanjala school of philosophy. **1843** *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 657/2 *Yoga* . . . chiefly consists in a continual meditation on the sacred monosyllable *Om* . . . profound contemplation of the divine excellence, and various acts of self-denial. . . The *Yoga* is often practised for the purpose of obtaining the eight magical properties of power. . . In the Purān'as and other works, *Yoga* very often means magic. **1881** *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 583 The *yoga* faculty, or the power of spiritual communion and absorption, is specially claimed for the Hindu race. **1886** 'F. ANSTAY' *Fallen Idol* viii, A yogi performing his *japa* in the *yoga* posture. **1934** A. HUXLEY *Let.* 22 July (1969) 382 Some modification of this *yoga* technique may provide what's needed . . . since it is as . . . independent of religion . . . as Freudism—many Indian yogis being in fact atheists. **1937** 'G. ORWELL' *Road to Wigan Pier* xiii. 254 If only . . . every . . . creeping Jesus [could be] sent home . . . to do his *yoga* exercises quietly! **1967** *Daily Tel.* 1 Feb. 13/1 All kinds of *yoga* (the word means 'union' or 'joining') are practised, including *yoga* of action, wisdom, knowledge, devotion, sounds and higher faculties, but far the most common in Britain is hatha *yoga*, the philosophy of physical well-being. **1977** 'M. YORKE' *Cost of Silence* iv. 31 She had managed . . . to enrol . . . in a weekly *yoga* class. **1977** J. A. KOTARBA in Douglas & Johnson *Existential Sociol.* ix. 266 Osteopaths, naturopaths, *yoga* instructors, acupuncturists, and anyone else who offers hope. **1979** R. JAFFE *Class Reunion* (1980) III. i. 308 She took all sorts of lessons: gourmet cooking, . . . macramé, origami, *yoga*. **1982** 'A. J. QUINNELL' *Snap Shot* i. 27 She had immersed herself in the expatriate social routine . . . Ikebana classes on Tuesdays and *Yoga* on Thursdays. **1984** *Times* 17 Mar. 15/3 *Yoga* postures . . . are demonstrated by a small group.

Yogacara (jɔʊgəˈtʃɑːrə). [ad. Skr. *yogācāra* (also used), f. *yoga* YOGA + *ā-cāra* conduct, practice.]

a. A school of Mahayana Buddhism which teaches that only consciousness is real.

1889 M. MONIER-WILLIAMS *Buddhism* x. 225 Our present concern is . . . with the growth and development of mystical Buddhism in India. . . , through its connexion with the system of philosophy called *Yoga* and *Yogācāra*. **1932** M. HIRIYANNA *Outl. Indian Philos.* ix. 219 Objects according to the *Yogācāra* are not . . . encountered by the mind, but are created by it. **1951** E. CONZE *Buddhism* vii. 165 The tradition of *Yogacara* logic is still active in Tibet. *Ibid.*, Together with Buddhism, the *Yogacara* school disappeared from India about 1,100 A.D. **1960** J. HEWITT *Teach*

Yourself Yoga 11 Buddhist meditation utilizes *Yoga*, especially the *Yogacara* school which lays emphasis on the trance. **1978** *Pacific Affairs* LI. 513 The author's equation of *Yogacara* philosophy with 'mind-only doctrine' . . . is, on the basis of Tibetan writings, open to doubt.

b. An adherent of the *Yogacara* school.

1915 R. W. FRAZER *Indian Thought* ix. 181 This sect was known as *Yogācāras*; the only thing they would admit the reality of was a series of thoughts or consciousnesses . . . As *Yogācāras*, teachers of *Yoga*, they adhered to a *Yoga* system of philosophy. **1922** S. DASGUPTA *Hist. Indian Philos.* I. x. 411 The *Yogācāras* or idealistic Buddhists . . . say that since we can come into touch with knowledge and knowledge alone, what is the use of admitting an external world of objects as the data of sensation determining our knowledge? **1933** E. J. THOMAS *Hist. Buddhist Thought* xvii. 246 It was among the *Yogācāras* that Tantrism developed.

Hence *Yoga'carin* = sense *b* above.

1951 E. CONZE *Buddhism* vii. 161 It was the function and purpose of the *Yogacarins* to give due emphasis to the outlook on the world revealed by withdrawal into trance. **1974** *Encycl. Brit. Micropædia* X. 822/3 *Yogācārin*s were not unique among Buddhists in practicing meditation.

yogee: see YOGI.

yogh (jɒg, -x). Also 3ok, 3och, etc. (see quotes.). [See *Mod. Lang. Review* VI. (1911) 441 seqq., VII. (1912) 520-1.] The name of the ME. letter 3: see G, Y.

The use of L. *jugum* 'joke' to designate this letter (see quot. *a* 1440) points to the prevalence of the English form 3ok.

c1300 *MS. M^cClean* 123, lf. 114b in *Mod. Lang. Rev.* (1911) VI. 442 · Y03 · 3 · [examples] 3ef · 3us · 3er · 3ender · dra3 · sclaz · ar3 · mar3. **a1400** *Maundeville's Travels* (Fr. text, MS. Brit. Mus. Harl. 4383, lf. 31) *ibid.* 444 Nous auons en nostre parleur en Engleterre deux lettres pluís qils nount en lour a b c, cest assauoir þ et 3, qi sont appelez thorn et yogh [v.rr. 3ogh, iogh, 3ok]. **1410-20** *Ibid.* (Eng. text, MS. Cott. Tit. C. xvi, lf. 60b) *ibid.* 445 þ & 3, the whiche ben clept þorn and 3ogh [v.rr. 3och, 3oche, 3oghe, 3ouh, yowh, yough, 3ou3, 3ow3e, 3ow, 3oux, youx]. **14** . . . *M.S. Reg.* 17, B. 1, lf. 14 b, *ibid.* 442 þe carect yogh, þat is to seie 3 is figurid lijk a 3ed. [a1440 THOMAS ELMHAM *Liber Metr. de Hen. V* ii. in *Mem. Henry V* (Rolls) 195 Praeposita litera Anglica, scilicet 3 quae jugum sonat. **c1465**: see Y 1].

yogh, obs. form of YAW *sb.*¹

yoghourt, **yoghurd**, **yoghurt**, varr. YOGURT.

||**yogi** (ˈjɔʊgi). Forms: 7 ioggee, iogue, 9 jogee, jogi, 7, 9 jogue, 8 jougie, joguey, 9 yoguee, yogue, yogee, yogi; yogin. [Hind. *yogī* (Skr. *yogi-n*), f. *yoga*: see YOGA.]

1. An Indian devotee or ascetic who practises the system of YOGA, q.v.

1619 PURCHAS *Microcosmus* lvii. 543 The Indian Gymnosophists . . . offering violence to Nature in nakednesse, and strict absurd Niceties, wherein they are followed to this day by the Bramenes, Ioggees, and others. **1625** — *Pilgrims* I. II. 31 An Indian Iogue, a begging Friar of that Bramene Religion. **1727** A. HAMILTON *New Acc. E. Ind.* I. 152 There is another Sort called *Jougies*, who . . . go naked, except a Bit of Cloth about their Loyns. **1734** *Cerem. & Relig. Customs Nat.* III. 480 The *Joguis*, who affect to devote themselves to the most dreadful Torments, from a Principle of Pride and Fanaticism. **1810** SOUTHEY *Kehama* XIII. xvi, A band Of *Yoguees*, as they roam'd the land Seeking a spouse for Jaga-Naut their God. **1813** J. FORBES *Oriental Mem.* III. 14 A *Yogee*, who lives under the tree on the skin of a tiger or leopard, which they are very fond of. **1824** HEBER *Narr. Journ.* (1828) I. 133 A 'Yogi' (a religious mendicant). **1854** MILMAN *Lat. Christ.* VIII. iv. III. 335 He attained a height of abstraction from earthly things which might have been envied by an Indian *Yogue*. **1864** J. A. GRANT *Walk across Afr.* 317 Like mad 'jogees' or devotees. **1871** TYLOR *Prim. Cult.* II. xviii. 375 No wonder that . . . the Hindu yogi should bring on by fasting a state in which he can with bodily eyes behold the gods. **1899** *Folk-Lore* X. 394 The struggle for local supremacy between a Musalman saint and his rival and counterpart, a Hindu *jogi*. **1922** *Chambers's Jrnl.* 29 Apr. 343/2 Other *jogis* there are, with heavy iron rings in their ears.

(b) **1841** *Penny Cycl.* XX. 402/1 Hence has arisen the saying, that the 'yogin' is exalted above the Vedas. **1959** *Times Lit. Suppl.* 27 Mar. 181/5 It is not to divide Time and Eternity that the yogin undertakes his arduous task of recreation, but to restore to them their true relation. **1962** A. HUXLEY *Island* v. 39 The Yogin and the Stoic—two righteous egos who achieve their very considerable results by pretending, systematically, to be somebody else. **1965** P. WYLIE *They both were Naked* i. iii. 131 Sitting opposite me on my divan cross-legged as a yogin etc. **1973** J. BLOFIELD *Secret & Sublime* i. 19 To yogins steeped in the arts of rejuvenation, prolonging life and achieving one of several kinds of immortality, it meant both of these. **1979** R. CASSILIS *Arrow of God* IV. vii. 121 A little rent in the seamless garment of self-mastery. On, yogin, heal thyself!

2. = YOGA.

1925 A. HUXLEY *Let.* 25 Feb. (1969) 242 His little book . . . is a sort of explanation of the ethics of Christianity. . . . Lose one's life in order to gain it. . . . It is the same idea as lies at the bottom of the *Yogi* system. **1943** D. POWELL *Time to be Born* i. 22 He had no pot at all due to his *Yogi* exercises. **1952** 'R. GORDON' *Doctor in House* iv. 43 There was another medical student there, a man from St. Mary's who kept tropical fish in a tank in his bedroom and practised *Yogi*. **1960** R. CROFT-COOKE *Thief* i. 9 One day he was in a shop with her when she put her bag down on a chair while she looked at something. I don't know how he got out with it, but then . . . I'm not a thief. It seemed like *Yogi* to me, or at least conjuring.

So 'yogified *a. nonce-wd.*, treated in a yogic manner; yogi-man poet., a devotee of yoga; 'yogism, 'yogeeism, the system of yoga or of the yogis; 'yogist, a yogi.

1881 SINNETT *Occ. World* 27 The ethereal yogeeism which is called *Ragi yog*. **1881** *N. & Q.* 6th Ser. III. 291 The Indian yogist (or fakeer) Haridas. **1893** A. LANG in *Daily News* 20 Apr. 5/1 He reckons about 90,000 believers in Yogism. **1938** L. MACNEICE *Mod. Poetry* v. 78 In T. S. Eliot Hyde is the yogi-man. **1938** — *Earth Compels* 58 It's no go the Yogi-Man, it's no go Blavatsky. **a 1960** E. M. FORSTER *Maurice* (1971) 235 Carpenter's yogified mysticism.

Yogi Bear (ˈjəʊɡɪ bɛə(r)). The name of a popular U.S. cartoon character, used *attrib.* of toys, garments, etc., featuring the bear.

1960 *Newsweek* 18 July 84/2 Yogi Bear, who lives with a small bear-buddy, Boo-Boo, in a national preserve called Jellystone Park, spends a good deal of his time trying to cadge food. **1962** *Punch* 19 Dec. p. xviii, Marshall & Snelgrove's Toy Shop features... Yogi bear hobby sticks. **1963** *Sunday Express* 3 Mar. 15/4 Another baby bit a chunk out of a yogi bear hat. **1974** P. DICKINSON *Poison Oracle* 188 The Shaikhah had easily found jeans and a Yogi-Bear tee-shirt to fit her.

yogi'bogeybox. *nonce-wd.* [f. YOGI + BOGEY, BOGEY + BOX *sb.*²] The paraphernalia of a spiritualist.

1922 JOYCE *Ulysses* 189 Yogibogeybox in Dawson Chambers. *Isis Unveiled*. Their Pali-book we tried to pawn... He thrones an Aztec logos, functioning on astral levels, their oversoul mahamahatma. **1965** *Spectator* 15 Jan. 73/1 Yeats, like AE... stood for the whirlpool, Madame Blavatsky and the yogibogeybox.

yogic (ˈjəʊɡɪk), *a.* Also **Yogic**. [f. YOG(A) + -IC.] Of or pertaining to yoga.

1921 STREETER & APPASAMY *Sadhu* v. 136 The object of the Yogic trance is not the heart but the head. **1946** A. HUXLEY *Let.* 26 Oct. (1969) 551 In yogic practices there is a form of intense concentration which induces 'false samadhi', or self-hypnosis. **1960** J. HEWITT *Teach Yourself Yoga* 17 The Yogic internal cleansing method of swallowing a long strip of cloth, retaining it for a while in the stomach to absorb bile, etc. **1960** R. P. JHABVALA *Householder* i. 58 Yogic exercises, you know. He's getting quite good at them. **1967** *Listener* 7 Sept. 298/1 A few serious young people squatting in Yogic postures, spines straight, hands receptively cupped. **1980** *Dædalus* Spring 103 Repressed Hindus rejoice in myths of extreme forms of ascetic yogic mortification.

yogini (jəʊɡɪˈniː). [a. Skr. *yoginī* (also used), fem. of *yogi*, f. *yoga* YOGA.] *a.* In India, a female demon or sorceress, esp. one of a group attendant on Durga or Siva. *b.* A female yogi.

1883 M. WILLIAMS *Relig. Thought & Life in India* vii. 188 Another class of manifestation is that of the Yoginis. These are sometimes represented as eight fairies or sorceresses... sometimes as mere forms of that goddess [sc. Durgā], sixty or sixty-five in number. **1910** *Encycl. Brit.* XIII. 512/1 The different classes of sorceresses and ogresses, called *Yoginis*, *Dakinis* and *Sakinis*. **1928** A. K. COOMARASWAMY *Yakṣas* i. 9 The Seven Mothers..., the Sixty-four Joginis..., and some forms of Devi... must have been Yakṣinis. **1969** 'R. FARRE' *Beckoning Land* xvi. 196 She wore an unbleached off-white sari and her black hair hung loose denoting that she had freed herself from worldly ties and that she was a yogini (a female yogi). **1972** B. N. SHARMA *Social & Cultural Hist. N. India* iv. 76 There was a *Yogini Sainipradāya* among the *Sāktas* and many persons received the highest knowledge from the female ascetics. **1979** *Telegraph* (Brisbane) 15 Aug. 7/4 Meditation can cure many illnesses caused by mental and physical tension, according to a yogini (female yogi) visiting Brisbane.

yogurt (ˈjɒɡət, older ˈjəʊɡʊət). Forms: 7 yoghurt, yogourt, 9 yahourt, yaghourt, yogurd, yoghourt, yoghort, yughard, -urt, yohourth, 9-yogurt, 20 yoghurt. See also YAOURT. [Turkish *yôghurt*.] Properly, a sour fermented liquor made from milk, used in Turkey and other countries of the Levant; now common in many English-speaking countries as a commercial semi-solid, often flavoured, foodstuff.

1625 PURCHAS *Pilgrims* II. ix. xv. §9. 1601 Neither doe they [sc. the Turks] eat much Milke, except it bee made sower, which they call *Yoghurd*. **1687** A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 25 A kind of Butter-milk by them [sc. Turks] called *Yogourt*, which they drink. **1837** PARDOE *City of Sultan* (1838) III. vi. 83 The *yahourt*-merchant, with his... trays covered with little brown clay basins, showing forth the creamy whiteness of his merchandize. **1883** E. O'DONOVAN *Merv* xviii. 216 We halted to... refresh ourselves with a draught of *yaghourt*. **1912** *Dundee Adv.* 2 Nov. 7 Servian yoghourt is well known. **1925** C. H. BROWNING *Bacteriol.* vii. 154 'Yoghurt', which contains very little alcohol, is prepared by the Bulgarians, Greeks and Turks from cow's milk. **1934** E. WAUGH *Handful of Dust* i. 13 Mrs. Beaver stood with her back to the fire, eating her morning yoghourt. She held the carton close under her chin and gobbled with a spoon. **1955** G. FREEMAN *Liberty Man* i. ii. 32 Miss Parrot, who ate only yoghourt for lunch, would dip a teaspoon into the bottle. **1970** R. LOWELL *Notebook* 185 Open books, yogurt cups in the unmade bed. **1980** *Sunday Times* (Colour Suppl.) 14 Sept. 85/4 Stokowski... was concerned with retaining his youth—and Garbo, always a food faddist, was into the 'yoga and yoghourt' experience.

Hence 'yog(h)urty *a.* (and varr.)', fed on or smeared with yoghurt; containing or being yoghurt.

1981 *Times* 20 June 12/3 The dull and dispirited expressions that lie on their yoghurt faces. **1983** *N. Y. Mag.* 18 July 15 Not everything yogurty, performs magically—certainly, frozen yogurt hasn't in the last few years.

yo-hah, yohay, int. (sb.) An exclamation of pleasure among N. American Indians.

1751 J. BARTRAM *Observ. Trav. Pennsylv.* 22 They gave us the Yohay, a particular Indian expression of approbation. **1791** J. LONG *Voy. Ind. Interpr.* 56 These [gifts] were received with a full yo-hah.

yo-heave-ho (ˈjəʊˈhiːvˈhəʊ), *int. (sb.)* Also -oh, -o; yeo-heave-o', -yeo. [See *YO int.* and *HEAVE HO*.] An exclamation of sailors when hauling at a rope or a capstan, heaving an anchor up, etc. Hence **yo-heave-hoing** *vbl. sb.*

1803 DIBDIN *Songs* II. 254 To the windlass let us go, With yo heave ho! **1840** R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xv. Yo, heave ho! Heave and paw! Heave hearty ho! **1867** SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Yeo-heave-yeoing*, the chant or noise made at the windlass and purchase-falls in a merchantman, to cheer and lighten labour, but not permitted in a man-of-war. **1872** LOWELL *Milton Wks.* 1890 IV. 102 He offers a striking contrast with Wordsworth, who has to go through with a great deal of *yo-heave-ohing* before he gets under way. **1883** S. FERGUSON *Forging of Anchor* v. Our Anchor soon must change the lay of merry craftsmen here, For the Yeo-heave-o', and the Heave-away, and the sighing seaman's cheer.

yo'himbenine, yo'himbine. *Chem.* Also -in. [See *def.* and -INE⁵.] Names of two colourless alkaloids obtained from the bark and leaves of the *yohimbe*, a West African rubiaceous tree. Also **yo'himbic acid**.

1898 *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* LXXIV. 1. 679 An extract of the acid of the rind of the *yohimbe* has been recommended as an aphrodisiac. Two substances named yohimbine and yohimbenine have been separated from it. *Ibid.*, Yohimbic acid, C₂₀H₂₄O₆N₂, is soluble. **1977** E. J. TRIMMER et al. *Visual Dict. Sex* (1978) vi. 65 Yohimbine is incorporated in a preparation that many doctors prescribe for patients with loss of sexual desire and ability. **1979** *Nature* 29 Feb. 600/1 (*caption*) Inhibition by yohimbine and indoramin of the response of human platelets to adrenaline. **1983** *Guardian* 11 Aug. 18/4 Curare blocks acetylcholine receptors, another alkaloid, yohimbine, does the same for noradrenaline. **1984** *Observer* 9 Dec. 14/4 The detailed promotional material claims that the drug—containing... yohimbine and strychnone—will improve both erections and sperm.

yoho (jəˈhəʊ), *int.* Also as two words, or with hyphen; also 8 yoa hoa, yoe-hoe, 9 yeo-ho, -hoy, ye(e) ho. [See *yo int.*, *HO int.*¹ and ³.] An exclamation used to call attention: orig. in nautical use, hence generally; also sometimes used like *YO-HEAVE-HO*, *q.v.*

1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780) 11, *Hola-ho*, a cry which answers to yoe-hoe. *Ibid.* s.v. *O! d'en haut*, Yoa-hoe, aloft there! **1803** DIBDIN *Songs* III. 47 He can pull away, Cast off, belay, Aloft, allow, Avast, yo ho! **1825** L. HUNT *Redi's Bacchus in Tuscany* 153 The yeo-hoys on board a ship. **1833** M. SCOTT *Tom Cringle* ii. Yo ho, my young un! whence and whither bound, my hearty? **1844** DICKENS *Mart. Chuz.* xxxvi, Yoho, past hedges... Yoho, past donkey-chaisses... Yoho, down the pebbly dip... Yoho! Yoho! **1849** LEVER *Con Cregan* xiii. The very voices that ye-hoed... made delicious music to my ear. *Ibid.* xviii. The pleasant ye-ho! of the sailors. **a 1880** WEATHERLY *Song, Nancy Lee*, The sailor's wife the sailor's star shall be, Yeo ho! we go across the sea. **1883** STEVENSON *Treas. Isl.* i. Fifteen men on the Dead Man's Chest—Yo-ho-ho, and a bottle of rum!

attrib. **1887** *Academy* 7 May 317/3 The despised bow-wow theory [BOW-WOW 2 b] would, after all, have something in it. On the analogy of that famous nickname, one may, perhaps, venture to suggest the yo-ho theory as a convenient appellation for Noire's view; yo-ho being... the *clamor concomitans* of sailors engaged in working a capstan. **1888** MAX MÜLLER *Nat. Relig.* xiv. (1889) 373 The *Pooh-pooh* theory, the *Bow-wow* theory, and the *Yo-heho* theory, completely fail to explain... how conceptual words arose.

Hence **yo'ho v., intr.** to shout 'yoho!' (whence **yo'hoing** *vbl. sb.*); **yo'hoic a., nonce-wd.** after *echoic* (cf. *quot.* 1887 above).

1772 *Gentl. Mag.* Apr. 191/1 The passengers bawling, the sailors yo-ho-ing. **1840** R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xv. After two or three hours of constant labour at the windlass, heaving and 'Yo-ho!'-ing with all our might, we brought up an anchor. **1843** THACKERAY *Irish Sk.-bk.* vii. Seamen are singing and yechoing on board. **1888** HENLEY *Bk. Verses* 128 Hark! the echoes are yeo-hoing valiantly from vale and hill! **1888** MAX MÜLLER *Nat. Relig.* viii. (1889) 211 The Yo-heoic theory [of language]. **1901** BESANT *Lady of Lynn* viii. The bargemen brought their... craft alongside with many loud-sounding oaths and the yohoing without which they can do nothing.

yoi, int. ? Obs. Also **yooi**. A huntsman's cry to encourage the hounds: cf. **YOICKS**.

1826 *Sporting Mag.* (N.S.) XVII. 270 The word was given 'Yoi—hark on, hark'. **1831-4** R. S. SURTEES *Jorrocks's Jaunts* i. (1838) 10 'Yooi in there!' shouts Tom Hill, who has long hunted this crack pack. **1832** *Egan's Bk. Sports* 221/2 'Yooi, over he goes!' hollows the Squire. **1869** WHYTE-MELVILLE *Songs & Verses* 90 Yoi! wind him! and rouse him! By Jove, he's away.

yoi, obs. form of JOY.

yoicks (jɔɪks), *int.* Also 8-9 yoicks, 9 yoix, yooicks. [Cf. **YOAKS**, **YOI**, and **HOICKS**, earlier *hoik* (1607), *hoic*, which is used similarly to, and appears to be a variant of, *hike*, *hyke*, as in *hike hallow*, *hyke a Bewmont* (see *Turberville Hunting* 31, 112, 175).] A call used in fox-hunting to urge on the hounds; also occas. *gen.* as an exclamation of excitement or exultation.

1774 *Westm. Mag.* II. 657 The bold Fox-hunter, just come up to town, From 'Yoicks, hark forward', loves to seem a clown. **1777** T. SWIFT *Gamblers* 54 'Hark forward!

Yoicks!' with rough delight he hears. **c 1800** *Armiger's Sportsman's Vocal Cabinet* (1830) 112 Old Juno, young Scentwell, bold Jowler, and Tray, Yoix! yoix! have compelled him to yield. **1831-4** R. S. SURTEES *Jorrocks's Jaunts* i. (1838) 11 The wood begins to resound with shouts of 'Yoicks True-bo-y, yoicks True-bo-y, yoicks push him up, yoicks wind him!' **1858** in *Morn. Chron.* 5 Nov. 7/1 The energetic 'view-holloa', and the hearty cheerful 'yoicks-tally ho'. **1875** F. T. BUCKLAND *Log-Bk.* 3 Yoicks! tear him, my beauties! **1884** *Blackw. Mag.* May 642/1 With renewed spirits he jumped into a hansom, and gave the direction—... 'Yoicks!' cried he to himself, 'I'm going it!'

Hence **yoicks** (also **yoick**) *v., intr.* to cry 'yoicks!'; *trans.* to urge on by crying 'yoicks!'

1847 R. S. SURTEES *Hawbuck Gr.* xiv. The swell huntsman yoicked his hounds into cover. **1854** — *Handley Cr.* xlvii. (1901) II. 63 The hounds dashed into cover, and master and man proceeded to 'yoicks' and crack their whips.

yoike, obs. form of YOKE.

||yojan (ˈjəʊdʒən), **yojana** (ˈjəʊdʒənə). *E. Indian.* Also -en, -unu. [Hindi *yōjan*, Skr. *yōjana*, yoking, measure of distance (lit. that travelled at one time without unyoking), f. *yōga*: see **YOKE sb.¹] A measure of distance, varying locally from about four to ten miles.**

1784 W. CHAMBERS in *Asiatick Researches* (1788) I. 155 South of the Ganges two hundred Yojen. **1784** W. HASTINGS *ibid.* 259 That ancient city [sc. Audh] extended... over a line of ten Yojans, or about forty miles. **1820** W. WARD *View Hindoos* (ed. 3) IV. 315 The circumference of the earth is 5,059 yojūnus. **1834** *Nat. Philos.* III. *Hist. Astron.* App. 122 (U.K.S.) The Brahmins suppose the Earth to be spherical: they suppose the diameter divided into 1600 equal parts called yojanas. **1883** E. ARNOLD *Ind. Idylls* 171 Who else Could in one day drive fivescore yojanas?

yok (jɒk). *slang.* [Yiddish, *GOY* reversed with unvoicing of final consonant.] A pejorative Jewish term for a non-Jew, a Gentile.

1923 A. YEZIERSKA *Children of Loneliness* 75 She stands there like a yok with her eyes in the air! **1960** *Times* 17 May 17/4 Mr. Faulks... said that on February 10, 1958, Mr. Daniels had said to Mr. Lincoln: 'Unless you join me and Mr. Jackson against that bloody Yok I will crush you, smash you and drag you into the gutter.' His Lordship asked the meaning of 'Yok' and was told that it was a Yiddish word meaning a Gentile, a rude way of saying a 'Goy'. A woman member of the jury.—It is not rude. **1969** R. ESSER *Hot Potato* 34 My God, this could all be a Nasser plot. And you let this yok into our Intelligence camp! **1970** *Guardian* 21 July 8 Jews... in the arts area are pretty smashing but then some of the yoks are fabulous. **1981** R. SAMUEL *East End Underworld* vii. 76 There were five Jewish boys in the gang—I was the only 'Yok'.

yok, var. YOCK sb. (and v.).

yoke (jəʊk), *sb.*¹ Forms: 1 *geoc*, *gioc*, *ioc*, *iuc*, 2-3 *zoc*, 3 *geoc*, *ziok*, (*Orm.*) *zocc*, 3-5 (6 *Sc.*) *zok*, 4 *zook*, 4-5 (6 *Sc.*) *zokke*, *zoke*, (6-7 *Sc.*) *zock*, 4-6 (8-9 *dial.*) *yok*, 4-7 (8-9 *dial.*) *yock*, 5 *zokk*, *youk*(k)e, 5-7 *yocke*, 6 *youck*, *yowcke*, *yowg*, *yoike*, (*pl.* *yoixe?*), *Sc.* *zoik*, (*zoilk*), 6-7 *yoake*, (7 *yoike*, *oak*), 6-8 *yoak*, (8 *yolk*), 4- *yoke*. [Com. Teut. str. neuter: OE. *geoc* = OS. *juc* (MLG. *juk*, MDu. *juc*, *joc*, LG., Du. *juk*, *jok*), OHG. *juh*, *joch*, (MHG., G. *joch*), ON. *ok* (Sw. *åka*, Da. *aag*), Goth. *juk*, corresp. to L. *jugum*, Gr. *ζυγόν*, W. *iau*, OS. *igo*, Skr. *yugá-m*:—Indo-eur. **jugóm*.

The Indo-eur. series *jeug-: joug-: jug-* is represented also by OHG., MHG. *giuh*, *jiuch* *yoke*, 'yoke' of land (whence late OHG. *júhhart*, MHG. *júchert*, dial. G. *jauchert*, *juchert*), L. *jūgerum* measure of land, Gr. *ζεύρος* *yoke* of beasts, couple; ON. *eykr* (:—Teut. **jaukiz*), Skr. *yóga* *beast* of draught; Skr. *yuj*, Gr. *ζευγνύω*, L. *jungere*, Lith. *jungti* to *yoke*, couple, join, Skr. *yóga* *union*.

On the analogy of *LOCK sb.*¹ from OE. *loc*, the modern standard form would be *yock*, which survives in certain (chiefly north-midland) districts. Orthographic evidence for the lengthening of the stem vowel (which began first in the inflected forms) appears in the latter part of the 14th century.]

I. 1. a. A contrivance, used from ancient times, by which two animals, esp. oxen, are coupled together for drawing a plough or vehicle; usually consisting of a somewhat curved or hollowed piece of wood fitted with 'bows' or hoops at the ends which are passed round the animals' necks, and having a ring or hook attached to the middle to which is fastened a chain or trace extending backward by which the plough or vehicle is drawn.

in the yoke: with the oxen yoked up.

c 1050 *Ags. Voc.* in Wr. Wülcker 267/34 *Iugum*, *iuc*. *Ibid.* 313/37 *Jugum*, *geoc*. **a 1300** *Cursor M.* 21288 þe carter self is iesus crist, His bodi es yock [v.rr. *zok*, *zock*] he has stablist. **c 1325** *Gloss. W. de Bibbesto*, in Wright *Voc.* 169 *Les juges*, the yokkes. **a 1340** HAMPOLE *Palser* cxxxii. 3 A wyldre beste in þe zoke. **1390** GOWER *Conf.* II. 131 Hou that an Oxe his yock hath bore For thing that scolde him noght availle. **c 1425** WYNTOUN *Cron.* i. xvi. 1615 He gert bestis vndyr zok [v.rr. *zoke*] Thoil broddis sare and mony knok. **1523-34** FITZHERB. *Husb.* §5 To lerne to make his yokes, oxe-bowes, stooles, and all maner of plough-gere. **1526** TINDALE *Matt.* xxi. 5 The foole off an asse vsed to the yooke. **1534** in Weaver *Wells Wills* (1890) 6 Ye plow and all belongyn thereto, cheyns, yowgs and such other. **1535** COVERDALE *Job* xxxix. 10 Canst thou bynde y^e yock aboute him in thy forowes? **1563** *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 169 Four yokes for oxen. **1593** *Lanc. Wills* (Chetham Soc. 1884) 121 Plowe harrowes

Cheyne and Yokes to yt belonging. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* i. i. 263 In time the sauge Bull doth beare the yoke. 1642 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) I. 232 Beasts that have bine used to the yoke. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 227 Let 'em... never know The taming Yoke, or draw the crooked Plough. 1728-46 THOMSON *Spring* 38 There, unrefusing, to the harness'd yoke They lend their shoulder and begin their toil. 1834 *Brit. Husb.* I. 194 In England the custom is to attach the yoke round the neck by a hoop of alder, or of elm, fixed under it, which, passing through the yoke, is then fastened to the upper part with buttons, or pegs, upon the ends of the hoop, which is called a bow. 1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) II. 107 It is a question, whether it is most advantageous to work oxen by the collar or harness single, or in double yoke. 1850 R. G. CUMMING *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* xii. We were in the yoke soon after daybreak. 1860 TENNYSON *Tithonus* 40 The wild team Which love thee, yearning for thy yoke. 1876 VOYLE & STEVENSON *Milit. Dict.* s.v., Yokes are required for bullock draught, and are used either for pole or trace.

b. A similar appliance anciently placed on the neck of a captive or conquered enemy; among the ancient Romans and others, a symbol of this consisting of two spears fixed upright in the ground with another on the top of them, under which vanquished enemies were compelled to pass.

a 1000 *Ag. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 195/7 *Boia, arcus, uel geoc.* c 1050 *Ibid.* 336/38 *Bogia*, iuc obde swurcops. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* xii. 101 Ve sal put your cragis in ane joik to be ane perpetual takyn that 3e ar vencent be vs. 1600 HOLLAND *Livy* III. xxviii. 107 His... pleasure was, they should passe al under the yoke or gallowes. 1649 *Alcoran* 151 They shall have Oaks [ed. 1734 collars] upon their necks. 1720 OZELL tr. *Vertot's Rom. Rep.* II. ix. 93 Jugurtha grants the Romans Life and Liberty but upon Condition that they should pass under the Yoke. 1875 MERIVALE *Gen. Hist. Rome* xxx. 209 His army was routed, and passed under the yoke.

c. A figure or representation of a yoke.

stone yoke, an ancient Mexican carving representing a yoke, supposed to have been placed on the necks of victims when sacrificed.

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII.* 8b, Garmentes... travessed with cloth of gold, cut in Pomegranettes and yokes, strynged after the facion of Spayne. 1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 335/2 He beareth Vert, a Yoke. 1899 *Smithsonian Rep.* 41 A beautiful example of the stone yoke, or ceremonial collar.

2. A wooden frame or collar fitted on the neck of a hog or other animal, to prevent it from breaking through or leaping over a hedge, fence, etc.

1573-80 TUSSEY *Husb.* (1878) 38 Strong yoke for a hog. 1669 WORLIDGE *Syst. Agric.* 278 A Yoke, an Instrument... to put on Swine or other unruly Creatures, to keep them from running through Hedges. 1886 *Cheshire Gloss.* s.v., I have never seen a pig yoked, but yokes are still in common use for cattle and sheep; and I have, on one occasion at least, seen a number of hens all wearing yokes.

3. a. A frame fitted to the neck and shoulders of a person for carrying a pair of pails, baskets, etc.

c 1618 MORYSON *Itin.* IV. iii. (1903) 383, I haue seene men... carry the milke in two payles fastned to a wooden yoke before them. c 1700 KENNETT *MS. Lansd.* 1033, A yoke of milk, two pails. 1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstr.* I. 155 Whenever to rest she her buckets set down, She jinkled her yokes to and fro. 1876 HARDY *Ethelberta* i. The speaker, who had been carrying a pair of pails on a yoke, deposited them upon the edge of the pavement.

b. A part of a garment, made to fit the shoulders (or the hips), and supporting the depending parts, often of double thickness, of special material, or particularly ornamented.

1880 *Girl's Own Paper* 20 Mar. 191/3 Make a new yoke and sleeves, and add a scarf to tie round the neck. 1882 CAULFIELD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework* 527 Yokes.—These are headings, or shaped bands, into which plaitings or gatherings of garments are sewn, and which are so cut as to fit either the shoulders or the hips, and from which the rest of the bodice, nightdress, dressing gown, or the skirt is to depend. 1891 *Truth* 10 Dec. 1240/2 The front [of a teagown] was all white satin, with a yoke of gold and white embroidery. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 24 Jan. 8/4 The hip-yoke is a plain piece, sometimes, however, covered with embroidery, that is moulded to the figure below the waist.

4. a. Applied to various objects resembling the yoke of a plough.

e.g. a ridge of hill connecting two peaks (after L. *jugum*), an arched convex frame, timber, bar, etc. (see *quots.*).

1382 WYCLIF *Isa.* xxxvii. 24, I stejede vp the heigtis of mounteynes, jokes [later vers. jockis] of Liban. 1489 CAXTON *Faytes of A.* II. xxviii. 139 Leuers of yron youkes for byrgges to make with. 1577 GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* II. 84 The Uine keeper must often goe about his Uines, and set vp his proppes, and make euen his yokes. 1864 WEBSTER, *Yoke*.—A frame or convex piece by which a yoke is hung for ringing it. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, a Yoke... A bracing coupling-section, connecting two pipes with a single one, as the hot and cold water pipes with a single pipe for a shower-bath. 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal M.*, Yokes, short sawn timbers placed across biats for steadying pump trees. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 242/1 The fiducula or lyre consisted of a resonant box, having a yoke (*jugum* or *transtillum*) instead of a neck. 1902 *Ibid.* (ed. 10) XXVII. 584/1 The yoke, which joins the [magnet] limbs together and conducts the flux between them.

b. *Naut.* A board or bar fixed transversely to the head of the rudder, and having two cords or ropes (*yoke-lines*) attached for steering; see also *quots.* 1627, 1769.

a 1625 *Nomencl. Navalis* (Harl. MS. 2301). 1627 CAPT. J. SMITH *Sea. Gram.* ix. 41 A yoke is when the Sea is so rough as that men cannot govern the Helme with their hands, and then they cease a block to the Helme on each side at the end,

and reeuing two fals thorow them like Gunners Tackles brings them to the ships side, and so some being at the one side of the Tackle, some at the other, they steare her with much more ease than they can with a single rope with a double Turne about the Helme. 1769 FALCONER *Dict. Marine* (1780), Yoke, a name formerly given to the tiller, when communicating with two blocks or sheaves affixed to the inner end of the tiller. It is now applied to a small board or bar which crosses the upper end of a boat's rudder at right angles. 1792 *Jrnl. Ho. Comm.* XLVII. 364/1 Those Ships that have no Roundhouse, their Rudders should run up, and steer with a Yoke abaft the Rudder Head. 1840 R. H. DANA *Bef. Mast* xxiii, The bowman had charge of the boat-hook and painter, and the coxswain of the rudder, yoke, and stern-sheets.

c. *Electr. Engin.* The part of a magnet or electromagnet that joins the poles or pole-pieces.

1884 S. P. THOMPSON *Dynamo-Electric Machinery* vii. 145 One such iron mass... is attached solidly to each pole-piece, and the two are united at the top by a still heavier yoke of iron. 1924 A. L. COOK *Elements Electr. Engin.* xi. 88 On the ring-shaped portion or yoke are inwardly projecting cores, which carry the exciting windings and have pole pieces, curved to fit the armature. 1951 R. B. DOME *Television Princ.* ix. 230 Another problem, that of high-voltage surges across the yoke and tube during flyback, must be taken into account in designing the components. 1975 D. G. FINK *Electronics Engineers Handbk.* xi. 42 For PPI deflection one common arrangement is to have the single-axis yoke rotated physically by an external motor... driven by the radar antenna.

d. *Aeronaut.* = control column s.v. CONTROL sb. 5.

1934 in WEBSTER. 1956 W. A. HEFLIN *U.S. Air Force Dict.* 576/2 Yoke, a control column, esp. a dual control column. 1971 R. DENTRY *Encounter at Kharmel* ix. 151 Ed eased back on the yoke and made a slow, climbing turn. 1984 *Miami Herald* 27 Mar. 2D/5 A co-pilot immediately pulled back on the yoke.

II. 5. a. *transf.* A pair of animals, esp. oxen, that are or may be coupled by a yoke.

In this sense the plural after a numeral is often yoke.

688-95 *Laus of Ine* lx. (Liebermann) 116 Se ceorl se ðe hæfð oðres geohht [v.r. geoc] ahyrod... agife ealle. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 195 Half hundre jiokes of ocsen. 13... E.E. *Allit.* P. B. 66, I haf jerned & jat jokkez of oxen. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xlv. (Lucy) 252 Fyfty jok of oxine. 1535 COVERDALE *Job* xlii. 12 A M. yock oxen [1539 *Gt. Bible* a M. yoeck of oxen]. 1551 in *Phillips Wills* (c 1830) 201, I wyll that Ihon my sun, and William my sun, shall have every of them... a yowcke of Oxyn. 1606 *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 173 One yocke of draft oxen, vijij xijij. 1660 F. BROOKE tr. *Le Blanc's Trav.* 18 A deep well whence they draw water, with a wheel turned round by a yoke of Bulls. 1778 *Eng. Gazetteer* (ed. 2) s.v. *Wergins*, One of them required 9 yoke of oxen to draw it. 1879 BARTLETT *Egypt to Pal.* xix. 408 We... saw men plowing, sometimes with a camel, and oftener with a yoke of cattle.

† b. *gen.* A pair, couple. *Obs.*

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 224 þe þridde jok þat Poul forfendiþ, is chiding and envie. c 1380 — *Wks.* (1880) 354 þis first jock bigynniþ wiþ paciens. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* II. i. 181 These that accuse him in his intent towards our wivies, are a yoke of his discarded men.

6. One-fourth of a SULING, about 50 or 60 acres (cf. *oxgang* as $\frac{1}{4}$ of a plough-land); hence, later, applied vaguely to small manors. (Cf. YOKLET.) *Kent.*

837 *Kent. Charters* 42 in Sweet *O.E. Texts* 450, xvi gioc ærðelondes. c 1050 *Ag. Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 424/2 *Iuger*, iuc. 1653 in *Hasted Hist. Kent* (1782) II. 525 [In the survey of Milton manor, taken anno 1653, there is mention made, as held of that manor, of the] yoke of Hamons atte Deane. [Note, Upon these hills, the smaller manors are frequently called yokes.] 1772 SHRUBSOLE & DENNE *Hist. Roch.* 44 The originals... mention certain persons by name, with the number of yokes and acres belonging to them. 1886 *Archæol. Cant.* XVI. 167 The yoke of Henwood or Hewitt... at the east end of the town [of Ashford] extended into Willesboro'.

7. A spell of work at the plough (cf. YOKING vbl. sb. 4). *local (Kent).*

1796 BOYS *Agric. Kent* 157 An acre a day is the common yoke for eight or ten oxen in wet, heavy, land, where four horses would plough an acre and a quarter. 1805 *Ibid.* (ed. 2) 183 When two yokes are made in a day, which is the usual practice of East Kent, the time of going to work is at six o'clock in the morning, returning home at ten; and then going out again at one, and returning at six.

III. 8. *fig.* or in *fig. phr.* a. Denoting servitude, subjection, restraint, humiliation, oppression, etc.

c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xix. §1 Æala, ofermodan, hwi ge wilnigen þæt ge underlutan mid eowrum swiran þæt deaðlice geoc. c 897 — *Gregory's Past.* C. xxix. 200 Ælc ðara pe sie under ðæm geoke hlaforðsceipes. c 1000 *Ag. Gosp.* Matt. xi. 29 Nimap min geoc ofer eow. c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 71 Se ðe... Cristes 30e wile beren, and forlat al ðe world. c 1200 ORMIN 4045 þatt tanne shollde itt lesedd ben Fra dæpess 30cc. c 1380 WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 228 What kynne seruauitis ben vnder 30ok of seruage deme þei here lordis worþ i alle manere honour or worschipe. 1387 TREvisa *Higden* (Rolls) V. 357 He brougte alle þe kynges þat were nyh hym under his 3ok. c 1449 PECOCK *Repr.* iv. i. 420 What euer seruauitis ben vndir 3ok, deeme thei her lordis worthi al honour. c 1450 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Gilbert* 90 þe 3ok of all þis birden was leid in his nek. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* iv. 31 Tyl al them that hes resauit the 3oik ande the confessorie of crist. 1573 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xli. 68 This day thy heid is in the 3ok. 1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* i. i. 69 He circumscribed with his Sword, And brought to yoke the Enemies of Rome. 1596 SPENSER *State Irel.* Wks. (Globe) 610/2 Having quite shaken of their yoke, and broken the bandes of theyre obedience. 1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* i. 719 It [sc. a castle] became a most grievous yoke unto the neighbour Inhabitants. 1648 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* xi. xxxiv, Impudent Boldness! which can... make the Bond of Sweetness their pretence, To break

all other yokes. 1709 STEELE *Tatler* No. 36 ¶1 Termagant Wives who make Wedlock a Yoke. 1756 BURKE *Subl. & Beaut.* Introd., In tying us down to the disagreeable yoke of our reason. 1837 HOWITT *Rur. Life* i. iv. (1862) 36 The weary yoke of business. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* iii. I. 400 The Restoration emancipated thousands of minds from a yoke which had become insupportable. 1879 DIXON *Windsor* I. ii. 11 His province... had never yet submitted to the Norman yoke.

b. With various other implications, as of connexion, co-operation, labour, etc.; in reference to marriage, combining the ideas of union or co-operation and subjection or restraint.

1382 WYCLIF 2 *Cor.* vi. 14 Nyle 3e lede 3ok [Vulg. *jugum ducere*] with vnfeithful men. a 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 818* (Dubl. MS.), He... fair enformed þam of fight & fetez of armez For 3apest in hys awne yoke 3arly to drawe. c 1403 CLANVOWE *Cuckow & Night.* 140 Myn entent is neither for to dye, Ne, whyl I live, in loves yok to draw. c 1412 HOCCEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 3992 3ok of mariage. 1475 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 158 Tyll... pat youkke of wedlokke ly in my nekke as hyt dose now in yours. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 128 We haue byn ioyned togyther with the yoke of holy matrimonie. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* III. iv. 13 Companions... Whose soules doe beare an equal yoke of loue. 1645 FULLER *Good Th. in Bad* T. 228 It is therefore some comfort that I draw in the same Yoke with my Neighbours. 1697 DRYDEN *Æneis* IV. 22 Were I not resolv'd against the Yoke Of hapless Marriage. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* VI. 188 If thou needs must bear the yoke, I wish it Gentle as freedom. 1885 HAGGARD *K. Sol. Mines* i, Well I had better come to the yoke [i.e. begin my task].

IV. 9. *Comb.*, as (sense 1) yoke-bar, -bow, -gear, -peg, -pin, -ring, -work; yoke-weary adj.; (sense 3) yoke-shouldering adj.; (sense 3 b) yoke-back, -bodice, -collar, front, piece; yoke-arbor (see *quot.*); yoke-band (= Gr. *ζυγόδεσμον*), a band for fastening the yoke to the pole; † yoke-bone, the jugal or malar bone of the cheek, forming part of the zygomatic arch; † yoke-devils sb. pl. (*nonce-wd.*), companion devils; yoke-elm, a name for the hornbeam, from the wood being used for yokes, and the leaves resembling those of the elm; yoke-horse (= Gr. *ζυγος ἵππος*), a horse yoked to another; yoke-line *Naut.*, each of the two cords or ropes attached to a yoke (sense 4 b) for steering; yoke-skey *S. Africa*, = SKEY sb.²; see also JUKSKEI; yoke-steed = yoke-horse; yoke-stick, (a) = sense 1; (b) = sense 3; (c) a stick, or one of two crossed sticks, attached to an animal's neck (cf. sense 2); yoke-strap, -thong = yoke-band; yoke-toed a., having the toes joined together in pairs, as scansorial birds; zygodactylous; yoke-tree, † (a) = yoke-elm; (b) the body or main part of a yoke.

1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, *Yoke-arbor, a form of double journal-box for pulley-spindles, in which a curved branch extending from one bearing to the other on each side of the pulley serves to protect the belt from being chafed or otherwise injured. 1895 *Montgomery Ward Catal.* Spring & Summer 278/3 Men's Overshirts... Gathered *yoke back. 1981 *Country Life* 22 Jan. 226/2 Mr. Tommy Nutter wears... a jacket of honey-toned Donegal twed, yoke back, single-breasted. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 270/2 *Subiugium lorum*,... the yoke thong, or *yoke band. 1848 BUCKLEY *Iliad* 452 Then they brought out the yoke-band, nine cubits in length, along with the yoke. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 320 The *yoke-bars... are made of hard-wood. 1888 *Bow-Bells Weekly* 4 May 286/3 A serviceable navy serge *yoke bodice, with belt. 1615 CROOKE *Body of Man* 755 The first paire of the vpper Lip... ariseth from the vter seame of the lugal or *yoke-bone. 1634 T. JOHNSON tr. *Parey's Chirurg.* v. xi. (1678) 117 There is a cleft under the yoke-bone ascending into the orb of the eye. c 725 *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) Int. 185 *Iungula*, *geocboza. 1587 MASCALL *Govt. Cattle, Oxen* (1596) 73 If ye tie them as plow oxen be, with a sole and a with, which is made like a yoke bowe. 1891 MEREDITH *Horses of Achilles* 15 Poet. Wks. (1912) 560 All their lustrous manes... Right side and left of the yoke-ring tossed, to the breadth of the yoke-bow. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 5 Apr. 8/5 A *yoke collar of fine Irish lace. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V.* II. ii. 106 Treason, and murder, euer kept together, As two *yoke diuels sworne to cythers purpose. 1687 MIÈGE *Gt. Fr. Dict.* 11, *Yoke-elm, un *Charme*, sorte d'Arbre de bois dur. 1706 LONDON & WISE *Retir'd Gard'n* I. 261 The Gard'ner who has a fence of Yoke-Elms. 1768 T. NUGENT *Trav. Germany* II. 89 A beech or elder, a yok-elm, an aspin and a crab. 1901 LEVETT-YEATS *Traitor's Way* x, We had reined up under a huge yoke-elm. 1888 *Bow-Bells Weekly* 4 May 286/3 Six chemises, made with pointed *yoke fronts. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 1181 The *yoke-geer of this cart. 1837 B. D. WALSH *Aristoph.*, *Clouds* I. i, Neither you, sir, nor your *yoke-horse, ... shall eat my goods. 1849 CUPPLES *Green Hand* xvi, The fat midshipman... watching me critically as I handled the *yokelines. 1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 269/1 *Radius*,... the yoke stieke: the yoke pin or *yoke peg. 1885 *Letts's Househ. Mag.* 93/2 A *yoke piece of velveteen. 1819 REES *Cycl.* XXXIX. s.v. *Yoking*, The *yoke-ring and ox-chain. 1891 [see *yoke-bow*]. 1895 K. GRAHAME *Golden Age* 42 The *yoke-shouldering village folk were wont to come to fill their clinking buckets. 1817 G. BARKER *Diary* 29 May (MS.), Made *yoke schegen. 1835 A. SMITH *Diary* 31 Mar. (1939) I. 338 The woman looked at her for a moment and then took up a yokeskey. 1850 R. G. CUMMING *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* ii, Passing through each end of the yoke, at distances of 18 inches from one another, are two parallel bars of tough wood about 18 inches in length; these are called yoke-skeys. In inspanning, the yoke is placed on the back of the neck of the ox, with one of these skeys on either side. 1934 B. BUCHANAN *Pioneer Days in Natal* 31 The straight yoke was placed across their necks and secured by the throat strap attached to the wooden yokeskeys. 1948 W. S. CHADWICK *Mother Africa hits Back*

i. 21 When transport riding in Barotseland I had two good but rather cheeky Zulu drivers. One night after an argument they threatened me with yoke-skeys and I got in the first blow. **1880** L. WALLACE *Ben-Hur* 208 They termed the two next the pole *yoke-steeds. **c725** *Corpus Gloss.* (Hessels) O 108 *Obicula*, *geocsteeca. **1483** *Cath. Angl.* 427/1 A zoke styke, *fisticulum* **1614** R. TAILOR *Hog hath lost Peari* Prol., Ovr long time rumor'd Hogge...is at length got loose, Leauing his seruile yoke-sticke to the goose. **1684** [MERITON] *Yorksh. Dial.* 100 (E.D.S. No. 76), Yoakes and Bowes and Gad and Yoak-sticks. **1855** ROBINSON *Whitby Gloss.*, *Yoke-stick*, the wooden shoulder-bar for carrying the milk pails by suspension... 'As crooked as a yoke-stick,' deformed. Also the wooden horseshoe-shaped collar with which oxen are yoked. **1837** B. D. WALSH *Aristoph., Knights* II. iii, May I die, ... And be cut into *yoke-straps and traces. **1585** *Yoke-thong [see *yoke-band*]. **1835** *Yoke-toed [see ZYGODACTYLIC]. **1872** COUES N. *Amer. Birds* 199 The parrots... are yoke-toed. **1585** HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 149 *Carpinus*, ... a kind of tree, called in olde time the *yoke tree, the wood whereof was easie to be cleft. **1844** H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 322 The draught-chains, hooked to the lever, and passed under the pulleys of the yoke-trees. **1910** KIPLING *Rewards & Fairies* 219 And a wet *yoke-weary bullock Pushed in through the open door. **1890** CRAWFORD *Round Cal. in Portugal* 32 One may see oxen and even cows —for they too do their share of *yoke-work—harnessed to the net.

yoke (jəuk), *sb.*² *Anglo-Irish.* [Origin unknown.] A thing; a thingummy.

1910 P. W. JOYCE *English as we speak it in Ireland* xiii. 352 Yoke; any article, contrivance, or apparatus, for use in some work. 'That's a *quare* yoke Bill,' says a countryman when he first saw a motor car. **1958** N. FITZGERALD *Student Body* v. 69 Don stooped to pick up the gun... 'Where's the safety-catch on these yokes?' **1979** K. DOWLING *Interface: Ireland* I. iii. 26 This fecking yoke is maggots up to here!

yoke (jəuk), *v.* Forms: see *YOKE sb.*¹; also 1 *pa. pple.* *ȝeukod*, 3 *pa. t.* *ȝeokede*, *ȝogede*, 4 *oak*, *pa. pple.* *y-zoket*, *y-yokyd*, *Sc.* *zakkit*, 5 *pa. pple.* *ȝeokyn*, 6 *Sc.* *ȝolk*, *pa. pple.* *iooked*. [OE. *ȝeocian*, f. *ȝeoc* *YOKE sb.*¹]

1. *trans.* To put a yoke on (a pair of draught-animals, etc.); to couple with a yoke. Also with *up* (? *Colonial*).

a1000 *Colloq. Ælfric* in Wr.-Wülcker 90 *Iunctis bobus*, *ȝeukodan* oxan. **c1000** *ÆLFRIC Gram.* (Z.) 174 *Iungo*, ic iucige [*v.r.* *ȝeocige*]. **1399** LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* III. 251 Steeris well y-yokyd. **c1400** MAUNDEV. (1839) xxvi. 269 For o Griffoun there will bere, fleyng to his Nest, a gret Hors or 2 Oxen ȝoked to gidere, as thei gon at the Plowghe. **c1400** *Destr. Troy* 902 ȝuerly the ȝepe knight ȝokit hom belyue, Pight hom into ploghe. **c1440** *Promp. Parv.* 539/1 ȝokke beestys (*S.* *ȝok*, *P.* *ȝeokyn*, *W.* *yoken*). **1530** PALSGR. 786/2 Yoke the oxen, for I wyll go to the plough this mornynge. **1641** J. JACKSON *True Evang.* T. III. 166 It was cautioned in the Law not to yoke an Oxe, and an Asse together. **1724** SWIFT *Drapier's Lett.* Wks. 1755 V. II. 100, I shall... learn to consider my driver, the road I am in, and with whom I am yoked. **1775** *Ann. Reg.* *Chron.* 98/2 The prisoners were all secured and yoked. **1859** H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* xviii, A bullock-driver yoking-up his beast. **1880** 'MARK TWAIN' *Tramp Abr.* xi, A peasant's cart, ... drawn by a small cow and a smaller donkey yoked together.

2. *a.* To attach (a draught-animal) to a plough or vehicle (orig. with a yoke); to 'put in', 'put to'.

c1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* iv. (*Jacobus*) 329, 332 Scho had bulis wilde and ande, þat scho nocht trewit mycht ȝakkit be In carte, ... And, gyf It hapnyt þat þai Var ȝokit, suld ryne away. **1398** TREVISA *Barth. De P.R.* XVIII. lxiii[i]. (Bodl. MS.), A ȝonge cowe þat is able to be ȝoked [*ed.* 1495 yockid] to drawe at plowȝ. **c1420** *Prose Life Alex.* 78 We tille na lande, ... ne ȝokes noþer ox ne horse in plughe ne in carte. **c1450** *Mirk's Festial* 21 þe bulles mekely stodyn styll, till pay had ȝeokyn ham yn þe wayne. **1535** COVERDALE *i Sam.* v. 7 Take two mylke kyne, ... and yoke them to y^e cart. **1650** J. NICOLL *Diary* (Bann. Club) 12 The hangman rydand on ane hors befor him yockit in that cairt. **1697** DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* I. 69 Produce the Plough, and yoke the sturdy Steer. **1774** GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) III. 199 Lions have been yoked to the chariots of conquerors. **1856** KANE *Arctic Expl.* I. xvii. 210 They yoked in their dogs in less than two minutes. **1871** C. GIBBON *For Lack of Gold* xvii, Four fresh borses which had been 'yoked' at Abbotskirk. **1882** 'OUIDA' *Maremma* II, Twice a year regularly she yoked her mule to her cart and drove into Grosseto.

b. with the plough or vehicle as object.

a1568 Wyfe of Auchtermuchty i. (Bann. MS.) He yokkit his plwch vpon the plane. **1635** *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* Ser. II. VI. 37 He yoked the cairt wherain Cokstouns chartour kist was caried away. **1638** A. HENDERSON *Serm.*, *Ps.* cxxix. 3 (1867) 276 Without his license the plough cannot be yoked. **1697** DRYDEN *Æneis* XII. 433 These on their Horses vault, those yoke the Car. **a1774** FERGUSSON *Hame Content* 62 The chaise is yokit in a trice. **1869** GIBBON *Robin Gray* xxii, He said he would 'yoke the cart'. **1871** ELLIS *Catullus* lv. 18 Rhesus' chariot yok'd to snowy coursers. **c. gen.** To attach, put on or in (as a yoke).

c1848 KEEGAN *Leg. & Poems* (1907) 470 The Scotchman ... 'yoked on' his war-pipes, and the... rafters... rang... with the martial strains of the Highland Pibroch. **1853** KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xxiv. (1856) 196 By the time I had yoked my neck in its serape.

3. To fasten a yoke round the neck of (a hog or other animal): see *YOKE sb.*¹ 2.

1530 PALSGR. 786/2 You muste yoke your hogge, for he roneth throwe every hedge. **1607** in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 442 That all thinhabitants of this lordship yoke or ring their swine sufficiently. **1657** J. WATTS *Scribe, Pharisee*, etc. Ep. Rdr. cjb, So yoking and ringling the wild Boars amongst them... that they may not break through the hedges, or down the walls of the vineyard of the Lord. **1708** in *Hist. Anc. Chapel Stretford* (Chetbam Soc.) II. 84 Wm. Moss for not yoking and ringing his swine, 28. **1840** COLQUHITT in *Congr. Globe Jan.*, App. 145/2 If they think it... a duty... to yoke the

geese to keep them from going in washing in violation of the Sabbath. **1886** [see *YOKE sb.*¹ 2].

4. To suspend (a bell) on a yoke (see *YOKE sb.*¹ 4, quot. 1864).

1701 in W. S. Banks *Walks Yorksh.*, Wakefield etc. (1871) 44 John Hinchliff for yoking ye bell 2 18 6.

5. *Mining.* To mark out (a claim) with 'yokings' (see *YOKING vbl. sb.* 6).

? **1556** in Pettus *Fodinæ Reg.* (1670) 96 All Grounds, as Crosses and Holes that be not stowed nor yoked lawfully. **1664** [see *STOWCE*].

6. *trans.* To bring into or hold in subjection or servitude; to subjugate, oppress. Now *rare* or *Obs.*

c1325 *Old Age* iii. in *E.E.P.* (1862) 149 Y-zoket ic am of ȝore wiþ last an luper lore. **a1529** SKELTON *Col. Cloute* 325 The pore people they yoke With summons and citacions. **1542** UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* 300b, Vntill thei wer yoked by the thirtie tyrannes, and afterwarde conquered and subdued by Philippus. **1567** *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 185 With traditiounis of men we haif thame ȝokit. **1592** KYD *Sol. & Pers.* IV. I, All Rhodes is yokaft, and stoopes to Soliman. **1605** CAMDEN *Rem.* (1637) 29 The Normans, who... would have yoked the English under their tongue, as they did under their command. **1647** N. BACON *Disc. Govt. Eng.* I. lvii. (1739) 106 He was fain to yoke his lawless will under the grand Charter. **1667** MILTON *P.L.* x. 307 Xerxes, the Libertie of Greece to yoke. **1671** — *Samson* 410 But foul effeminacy held me yok't Her Bond-slave. **1781** COWPER *Table T.* 258 As well be yok'd by despotism's hand, As dwell at large in Britain's charter'd land.

7. *fig. a.* To join, link, couple, connect, associate; †*occas.* to embrace.

c1205 LAY. 1872 Heo ȝeokeden [**c1275** ȝogede] heora earmes & ȝarweden heom seoluan. **a1400** Prymer (1891) 111 Oak nouȝt me to gydere with synneres. **1490** CAXTON *Eneydos* xxiv. 89 Whiles that the sterres ben in theyr courses well yoked. **a1508** DUNBAR *Tua Mariùt Wemen* 220 [He] with a ȝoldin ȝerd, dois ȝolk me in armys. **1561** WINSET *Bk. Questions* §53 Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 110 The matrimonie to be dissoluit, and the twa barlotis to be ȝokit vp in a prætendit band of matrimonie. **a1578** LINDSAY (Pittscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 319 The Earle of Angus and the Earle of Glencairneis was ȝokit together. **1611** SHAKS. *Wint. T.* I. ii. 419 Oh then, ... my Name Be yokaft'd with his, that did betray the Best. **1612** T. TAYLOR *Comm. Titus* I. 16 Let euery of vs be careful to approuoe our sinceritie to God... by yoking answerable practise to our profession. **1614** RALEIGH *Hist. World* I. viii. 171 The two Riuer (as it were) yoked together goe along it. **1638** FARLEY *Moral Embl.* x, Foure Elements in this my body are All yokt in one. **1818** SCOTT *Rob Roy* xiv, Sae mony royal boroughs yoked on end to end, like ropes of ingans. **1865** J. G. HOLLAND *Plain Talks* II. 67 Ambition, when yoked with genius. **1867** DK. ARGYLL *Reign of Law* II. 103 It often happens that some common law is yoked to extraordinary conditions. **1879** FROUDE *Cæsar* xxiv. 420 Cato was one of those hetter natured men whom revolution yokes so often with base companionship.

b. With reference to marriage: only in *pa. pple.*

1604 SHAKS. *Oth.* IV. i. 67 Thinke euery bearded fellow that's but yokaft'd May draw with you. **1632** SANDERSON *Serm.* 364 He that is yokafted with a wife must not put her away. **1712** STEELE *Spect.* No. 455 ¶3, I have the Honour to be yok'd to a young Lady. **1847** TENNYSON *Princess* VII. 340 My bride, My wife, my life. O we will walk this world, Yoked in all exercise of noble end.

c. To join or couple the ridges in ploughing.

1812 SOUTER *Agric. Banff App.* 82 We are directed to yoke awal and bear-root, that is to plow the ridges by pairs. *Ibid.*, We must take care not to yoke twice one way, other-wise it will impoverish the one half, and thicken the other too much. **1844** H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* I. 471 Another mode of ploughing land from the flat surface is *casting* or *yoking* or *coupling* the ridges.

8. *a. intr.* (for *refl.*) To join, associate oneself, be or become connected or linked. Now *rare*.

1500-20 DUNBAR *Poems* lv. 33 Keip ȝou fra barlattis nycht and day; Thay sall repent quha with thame ȝockis. **a1592** GREENE *Jas. IV.* v. ii, That galling grief and I may yoke in one. **1607** SHAKS. *Cor.* III. i. 57 You must enquire your way, ... with a gentler spirit, Or neuer be so Noble as a Consul, Nor yoke with him for Tribune. **1851** TENNYSON *To the Queen* 10 The care That yokes with empire.

b. with reference to the married state.

1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI.* IV. i. 23 God forbid, that I should wish them seuer'd, Whom God hath ioyn'd together; I, and 'twere pittie, to sunder them, That yoke so well together. **1624** FLETCHER *Rule a Wife*, I. iv, *Alt.* Shee would faine marry. 1. *Lady*... Who would she yoke with? **1765** BOSWELL *Let.* 11 May in *Corr. Boswell & Johnson* (1966) 167 At any trade I shall be in no hurry to yoke as my Father calls it. **1920** R. MACAULAY *Pottermist* II. i. 61 She is yoking together with an unbeliever.

9. *intr.* To join battle, engage (*with an enemy*); to engage in a contest or dispute; rarely *trans.* to engage in dispute with, attack. *Sc.*

1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) III. 333 Syne he and tha hes ȝokkit sone togidder In plane battell. **1581** A. HALL *Iliad* v. 92 We sooner see goe to the hacke, the dull and fearful vke, Than hardie souldiors in the field, who wishe with foes to yoke. **1587** MONTGOMERIE *Sonn.* xix. 12 ȝok when we will, I hope to gar him ȝeild. **1646** R. BAILLIE *Lett. & Jnrls.* (1841) II. 398 The orthodoxe and heterodoxe partie will yoke about it with all their strength. **1822** CHALMERS in *Hanna Mem.* (1850) II. 360, I... yoked upon him, and posed him well with questions. **1901** N. MUNRO *Doom Castle* xv, She yoked himsel' on his jyllyng the lassie.

10. *trans.* To set (a person or thing) to work or service (usually consciously *fig.* from 2); *dial.* to urge to attack, set (a dog) upon a person.

1606 SHAKS. *Tr. & Cr.* II. i. 116 There's Vlysses, and old Nestor, ... yoke you like draft-Oxen, and make you plough vp the warre. **1637** RUTHERFORD *Lett.* (1862) I. xciv. 285 He hath yoked me to work, to wrestle with Christ's love. **1681** COLVIL *Whigs Supplic.* (1751) 98 Bishops either will cause stone him, Or else yoka butcher dogs upon him. **1805** MACINDOE in *Chambers Pop. Hum. Scot. Poems* (1862) 152

To count, his man and Tam were yoket, Ten hunder thousand tatties. **1807** COLERIDGE *Let. to H. Coleridge* 3 Apr., Mere natural qualities... must not be deemed virtues until they are broken in and yoked to the plough of Reason. **1867** DK. ARGYLL *Reign of Law* III. 128 It is by wisdom and knowledge that the Forces of Nature... are yoked to service. **1910** W. R. NICOLL *Round of Clock* xv. 230 He yoked his great imagination to constant labour.

11. *intr.* To engage vigorously in some occupation; to set to work, set to; to put one's hands *to*; to set on a person. *Sc.*

1554 in Tytler *Hist. Scot.* (1864) III. 29 ['Oh! said Angus, 'that I had here my white goss-hawk: we should then all] yoke [at once']. **1637** RUTHERFORD *Lett.* (1862) I. xciv. 243 O, if I could yoke in amongst the thick of angels and seraphims and now-glorified saints! **1685** PEDEN *Let. to Prisoners* July, He is the easiest merchant ever the people of God yoked with. **1768** ROSS *Helenore* 20 Right yape she yoked to the pleasing feast. **1816** CHALMERS in *Hanna Mem.* (1850) II. 83, I yoked to the review of 'Jones'. **1818** *Ibid.* 444 In homely phrase... she yoked to the reading of the Bible upon that principle. **1823** MRS. E. LOGAN *St. Johnstoun* ix, Wi' that they a' yoked to me, and hoisted me ower into the cobble. **1886** J. BARROWMAN *Sc. Mining Terms* 74 To Yoke, to resume work. **1895** MARCHBANK *Coven. Annandale* xi, They yoked on the man as he was riding alang in his carriage.

yoke: see YOLK, YUKE.

'yok(e)able, *a. rare.* [f. *YOKE v.* + -ABLE.] Capable of being or adapted to be yoked. Hence 'yokeableness' (in quot.), readiness to be held in subjection, submissiveness).

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 427/1 ȝokabylle, iugalis. **1611** COTGR., *Accouplable*, yokeable. **a1638** MEDE *Wks.* (1672) 161 Yokeableness, or a pliableness and tractableness to be ordered.

yokeage ('jəukidʒ). *U.S.* = ROKEAGE, q.v.

yoked (jəukt, *poet.* 'jəukid), *ppl. a.* [f. *YOKE sb.*¹ + -ED.]

1. Coupled by a yoke, as a pair of draught-animals; also, attached to a vehicle or plough, as a draught-animal.

c1480 HENRYSON *Test. Cress.* 209 This goldin Cart... Four ȝokkit steidis... throw the Sphæiris drew. **c1485** Digby *Myst.* II. 119 He was nother horse ne mare, nor yet yokyd sow. **c1550** CHEKE *Matt.* xxi. 5 A foole of an looked as. **1568** HOWELL *Arb. Amitie* 24 The yoked Oxe doth smell his strawie stall. **1607** TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 42 The Septentrions call them *Triones*, that is yoked Oxen. **1716** in *Cramond Ann. Banff* (1893) II. 86 John Gregor cited for going with his yoked horse through the country on the Sabbath day. **1819** CHALMERS *Serm.*, *Job* ix. 30-33, 124 The yoked and the tortured negro is compelled to yield to the whip of the overseer. **1902** FAIRBAIRN *Philos. Chr. Relig.* II. iv. 384 The yoked oxen plough the fields.

2. Connected, coupled, linked; in *Bot.* said of a leaf consisting of one or more pairs of opposite leaflets; now called CONJUGATE (*a.* 4a), JUGATE (*a.* 1).

1551 T. WILSON *Logic* Kv, Yoked wordes whiche beyng deriued of one, are chaunged in the speakyng. **1807** J. E. SMITH *Phys. Bot.* (1814) 137 *Conjugatum*, conjugate, or yoked [leaf], consists of only a pair of *pinnæ* or leaflets, and is much the same as *binatum*. **1829** T. CASTLE *Introd. Bot.* 70 It is said to be simply yoked, when one pair only of opposite leaflets, is supported on the common foot-stalk... Double-yoked—when there are two pairs, and so on.

3. Carried on a yoke, as a pail; furnished with a yoke, as a garment: see *YOKE sb.*¹ 3, 3b.

1866 GEO. ELIOT *F. Holt* Introd. 6 At the well, clean and comely women carrying yoked buckets. **1913** *Play Pictorial* No. 133. 78/3 With an original trimming of diamanté on the yoked back and down the fronts.

yoke-fellow ('jəuk,fələu). [f. *YOKE sb.*¹ + FELLOW *sb.*, transl. Gr. *σὺζυγος*.]

1. A person 'yoked' or associated with another, esp. in some work or occupation; a fellow-worker; an associate or partner, esp. in a task.

1526 TINDALE *Phil.* iv. 3 Yee and I beseeche the faythfull yockfellowe, helpe the wemen which labored with me in the gospell. **1559** *Mirr. Mag.*, *Dk. Clarence* xli, He tolde me to, my yokefellow should dyde. **1599** SHAKS. *Hen. V.* II. iii. 56 Yoke-fellowes in Armes, let vs to France. **a1659** BP. BROWNRIE *Serm.* (1674) I. iv. 61 We must not... be Yoke-fellowes with them in their Religion. **1664** BUTLER *Hud.* II. i. 672, I know you cannot think me fit, To be th' Yoke-fellow of your Wit. **1815** SCOTT *Guy M.* lvi, 'Mr. Corsand,' said Glossin to the other yoke-fellow of justice [after Shaks. *Lear* III. vi. 39], 'your most humble servant.' **1850** MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* IV. I. 193 This was the second time that these reluctant yoke-fellows had been joined together in public office. **1908** *Ch. Times* 5 June 762/1 An able, Catholic-minded and devout Prince having for his yokefellow a resolute and saintly Primate.

b. Applied to things.

1579 TOMSON *Calvin's Serm.* Tim. 411/1 Doctrine & an honest & godly life, are two yockfellowes y^t cannot be sundred. **1670** MAYNWARING *Vita Sana* xv. 140 Unwilling is the Soul to move her yoka-fellow, farther then the enforcing Law of Nature... commands. **1675** T. BROOKS *Gold. Key* 183 Those two sinful Yoke-fellows, the soul and the body. **1852** H. ROGERS *Essays* (1874) I. vii. 378 Unhappy mind!... so strictly is it united to that mad yockfellow, Matter... that it can find a tongue only by its aid. **1871** FREEMAN *Norm. Cong.* IV. xviii. 211 The castle... still crowns the height as no unworthy yokefellow of its ecclesiastical neighbour.

2. *spec.* A person joined in marriage to another; a husband or wife, spouse.

? **1545** BRINKLOW *Compl.* xxiv. (1874) 68 This fast... is good to be vsed... of such as be absent from their yockfellowes, & prycked to fylthynes. **1629** WINTHROP *Let. to Wife in New*

Eng. (1825) I. 366 It grieveth me much, that I want time and freedom of mind to discourse with thee (my faithful yokefellow). 1693 CONGREVE *Old Bach.* IV. xxii, I have been a tender Husband, a tender Yoke-fellow. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 530 ¶1 Those who have most distinguished themselves by railing at the sex in general, very often make an honourable amends, by choosing one of the most worthless persons of it for a companion and yoke-fellow. 1838 DICKENS *O. Twist* xxxviii, Mrs. Bumble... did not want for spirit, as her yokefellow could abundantly testify. 1871 MEREDITH *H. Richmond* IV, Was it possible I had ever refused to be her yokefellow?

Hence yoke-fellowship, association, partnership.

1816 *Sporting Mag.* XLVIII. 57 We never heard that Godwin... slighted... the yoke-fellowship. 1856 *N. Brit. Rev.* XXVI. 113 The forced yoke-fellowship of slaves. 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* II. 108 They would... separate themselves from their incongruous yoke-fellowship with unbelief.

yokel ('jəuk(ə)l). Also *yokell*. [Of uncertain origin. Perh. a fig. application of dial. *yokel* (1) green woodpecker, (2) yellow-hammer.] A contemptuous term for a (stupid or ignorant) countryman or rustic; a country bumpkin. Also quasi-adv., as *yokel-stubborn*.

1812 J. H. VAUX *Flash Dict.*, *Yokell*, a countryman or clown. 1820 *Sporting Mag.* (N.S.) VI. 193 It was thought Redgreaves was a Yokel; but upon further scrutiny, it turned out that he was a Clerkenweller. 1823 'JON BEE' (title) A Dictionary of the Turf... useful... for Novices, Flats, and Yokels. 1828 P. CUNNINGHAM *N.S. Wales* (ed. 3) II. 222 A raw yokel [note, Countryman] was once complained of to me by a messmate of his, for robbing him of a dollar. 1861 THACKERAY *Four Georges* iv, Black legs... inveigle silly yokels with greasy packs of cards in railroad cars. 1883 D. C. MURRAY *Hearts* xxv, The yokel, being a yokel, was not good at the reading of facial expression. 1935 L. MACNEICE *Poems* 15 'The moon's glare, Goggling yokel-stubborn.

attrib. 1829 P. EGAN *Boxiana* 2nd Ser. II. 665 If he stood still, in his yokel attitude, he was laughed at by the spectators. 1844 DICKENS *Mart. Chuz.* xxxvi, None of your steady-going, yokel coaches, but a swaggering, rakish... London coach. 1891 C. T. C. JAMES *Rom. Rigmarole* ix, Maidservants... looked eagerly for their yokel sweethearts. Hence 'yokeldom, yokels collectively; 'yokelish *a.*, characteristic of a yokel.

1886 *Manch. Exam.* 16 Feb. 5/3 The chosen home of rural stupidity and yokeldom. 1886 *Jrnl. Anthropol.* Nov. 236 A very good rural population, with somewhat yokelish notions.

yokel, obs. var. of *ICKLE sb.*, icicle.

yokeless ('jəuklis), *a. rare*. [f. *YOKE sb.* + -LESS. Used as a rendering of L. *absque jugo* 'without yoke', the interpretation given by Jerome of Heb. *b'li-yasal* BELIAL, as *b'li* without + *ōl* yoke.] Without a yoke; fig. not under subjection or restraint, unrestrained, dissolute.

1596 LODGE *Diuel Coniured* (Hunter. Cl.) 21 He is likewise called Sathan, because an aduersary... and Belial, because yokeless. 1641 TRAPPE *Theol. Theol.* iv. 180 These Yokelesse Belialists snuffe at it as over-strict. 1675 BROOKS *Gold. Key* Wks. 1867 V. 464 Brainless fellows, light and empty, yokeless and masterless persons. 1680 C. NESSE *Church Hist.* 104 Those men of Belial or, as the word signifies, yokeless ones.

yokeless ('jəuk(ə)'les), *sb. nonce-wd.* [f. *YOKE* + -ESS.] A female yokel.

1925 D. H. LAWRENCE *Refl. on Death of Porcupine* 182 As for the yokel, his little stream may have flowed out of commonplace little hills, and been ready to mingle with the streams of any easy, puddly little yokeless.

'yoke-mate. [f. *YOKE sb.* + *MATE sb.*] = *YOKE-FELLOW*. Chiefly fig. So yoke-mated *a.* (rare).

c1555 HARPSFIELD *Divorce Hen. VIII* (Camden) 276 [She] all to beat her yoke-mate with a washbutte. 1581 MARBECK *Bk. Notes* 1015 [1013] He had to his yoke mate one Helen. 1581 HANMER *Jesuites Banner* G 4 b, Neyther may they bee ioynd as yoke-mates, to drawe in the vineyarde of the Church. 1684 J. S. PROFIT & PLEAS. *United* to Some were wont to yoke them together, putting one of them yoke-mate with an Ox. 1704 SWIFT *T. Tub* Ep. Ded., He is a worthy yoke-mate to his forementioned friend. 1776 G. CAMPBELL *Philos. Rhet.* II. 296 note, Such yoke-mates as these, immortal mark, great captain, illustrious place. 1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* xxv, Rebecca... trying to soothe her angry yoke-mate. 1857 GLADSTONE *Glean.* (1879) VI. 58 Inasmuch as St. Paul has declared that a Christian husband or wife married to an unbeliever is to suffer the unbelieving yoke-mate to depart. 1882 G. M. HOPKINS *Let.* 1 Jan. (1956) 162 One of our Fathers, who was... my yoke-mate on that laborious mission, died there yesterday night. 1911 FLETCHER & KIPLING *School Hist. England* 223 The very marrow of Youth's dream, and still, Yoke-mate of wisest Age that worked her will! 1914 *Nineteenth Cent.* July 111 In water, Oxygen is still further subjugated by its yoke-mate, Hydrogen. 1917 *Q. Rev.* Apr. 276 The Austrians... to the disgust of their German allies, did nothing to endure themselves to their unequal yoke-mates, the Italians. 1929 R. BRIDGES *Test. Beauty* iv. 145 Where lay the harness'd bones of the yoke-mated oxen. 1973 L. RUSSELL *Colonial Canada* iv. 46 If one ox of a pair were lost or killed, the other was usually unfit to work, because it would not function in union with a new yoke-mate.

So 'yoke-mating, marriage.

1891 MEREDITH *One of our Conq.* xiv, On some future day of a per chance miserable yokemating.

yoker ('jəukə(r)). *rare*. [f. *YOKE v.* + -ER¹.] One who yokes.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 427/1 A 3oker, iugator. 1731 A. HILL *Advice to Poets* Ep. p. v, How little is it suspected, by

Thousands... that a Poet is no Yoker of Sounds, or idle Assayer of Syllables. 1913 R. HARRIS *Boanerges* xxxvii. 341 Since Jason is alone, another pair of twin yokers will come to his assistance.

yokewise ('jəukwaiz), *adv. rare*¹. [f. *YOKE sb.* + -WISE.] In the manner or form of a yoke.

1577 GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* III. 128 In the stable, you must haue certayne stalles, or boordes, yokewise set vp. [1684 J. S. PROFIT & PLEAS. *United* 9.]

† **yokindale**. *Obs.* Also *yochomdale*, *youkyndall*, *yockynggale*; *youghendale*; *Sc.* *yopeindail*, 3(e)op-, 3ewp-, *yopindaill*, -dale, -dall, *yowpindail*. [ad. early LG. *jochimdailer*, var. of *joachimsdaler* (whence also early Da. *iochim*-, *iocumdaller*, *iochimsdaler*, -dale, and 16th c. F. *jocondal(le)* = G. *joachimstaler*, 'the coin of Joachimstal' (in Bohemia), the orig. name of the THALER: see DOLLAR. (The Sc. forms *yop*-, *yowp*- are prob. due to contamination with GOWPEN 'double-handful'.)] A silver coin of the 16th century varying in value from 15 to 20 shillings Scots.

1536 in *Diplom. Island.* (1910) IX. 758 Declaring iijij^{xx} ml. yochomdales to be ready at Breame to be conveyed to Copmanhaven. 1541 *Aberd. Reg.* XVII. (Jam.), To deliuer Johnn Auchtuholly and yopindaill, or than xv sh. Scottis thairfor. 1557 *Richmond Wills* (Surtees) 103 To John Teysdayll a yokindale of syluer. 1557 *Will of R. Pickworth* (Somerset Ho.), I geve to... my suster a youkyndall of silver. 1558-9 in *N. & Q.* (1901) 9th Ser. VII. 288 Halfe a yockynggale of silver. 1572 *Will of James Innes of Drennie* (Jam.), Be Thomas Innes of Pethnik auchtene yowpindailes, pryce of the pece xxs. 1580 R. HITCHCOCK *Pol. Plat* div Paiying their custome (a Youghendale vppon euery Laste) to the king of Denmarke.

yoking ('jəukɪŋ), *vbl. sb.* [f. *YOKE v.* + -ING¹.]

1. The action of *YOKE v.* in various senses.

1. The action of coupling draught-animals together with a yoke, or of attaching a draught-animal to a vehicle, etc.; also with *up*. Also *attrib.*, as *yoking-gear*.

1580 HOLLYBAND *Treas. Fr. Tong. Accouplement de bœufs*, a yoking of oxen. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* III. 1176 The yoking-geer of the shafts. 1881 A. C. GRANT *Bush Life in Queensland* I. iv. 39 They passed camp after camp of bullock-drags, the drivers and assistants all busy in yoking-up for the day.

b. *concr.* Harness. *U.S.*

1873 *Routledge's Ev. Boy's Ann.* 579 'Do your horses bear yokings?' asked Trick... 'We have often used them for driving, but we have no harness,' was the answer.

† 2. Subduing, subjugation. *Obs. rare*.

1604 HIERON *Wks.* (1634) I. 548 The yoking and hampering, and restraining of mans naturall disposition.

3. The action of engaging in a contest; attack, onset; contest; a spell, turn, or bout of any occupation. *Sc.*

1596 DALRYMPLE *tr. Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 177 Seuerus at the first yoking [orig. congressu] slew of Albion xx thousand. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Let.* (1862) I. cxvii. 294 Three yokings laid him by. 1785 BURNS *Ep. to J. L.* — k ii, At length we had a hearty yokin, At sang about. 1816 SCOTT *Old Mort.* viii, Sitting among the wat moss-hags for four hours at a yoking. 1882 CUPPLES *Mem. Mrs. Valentine* vi. 88 'A double yoking', as was the phrase for a service when two successive sermons were preached without any mid-day interval. 1883 J. MARTIN *Remin. Old Haddington* 203 One 'yoking' [of Sunday School attendance] might have been sufficient for young folk.

4. A spell of work at the plough, or with a cart, etc., done at a stretch, between the times of yoking and unyoking the beasts; *locally*, a day's ploughing, carting, etc.

1765 A. DICKSON *Treat. Agric.* (ed. 2) 127 An acre was plowed at one yoking. 1787 BURNS *Answ. to Gudewife* i, When I... first could thresh the barn; Or haud a yokin at the plough. 1811 KEITH *Agric. Aberd.* 500 A pair of horses can plough an English acre in three journeies, or yokings, of four hours each. 1812 SIR J. SINCLAIR *Syst. Husb. Scot.* II. 124 The work-horses also go two journeies or yokings in the day. 1832 *Scoreby Farm Rep.* 4 in *Lib. Usef. Knowl.*, *Husb.* III, It is very general to average full two acres per day, with a pair of light horses in two yokings of five hours each. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* II. 691 Colts... will soon submit to work, and become harmless in the course of a few short yokings.

II. † 5. A measure of land (see quot. 1888). *Obs.*

1587 *Lanc. Wills* (Chetham Soc. 1893) 147 In plowynge of syx and twentye yockynge of land. 1888 *Sheffield Gloss.* s.v., Broad 'lands' in a ploughed field sixteen yards in width are called yokings. They are only made in dry flat fields. The word yoking is also applied to two 'lands' or 'roods' lying side by side in a ploughed field, the united breadth of the two 'lands' being from sixteen to seventeen yards.

6. *Mining. (pl.)* Pieces of wood joined together in a 'grove' or pit to prevent the earth from falling; also used in conjunction with 'stows' or 'stowces' for marking out a claim.

1653 MANLOVE *Lead-Mines* 14 If that the Stowes be pinned and well wrought With yokings, sole-trees. 1664 [see STOWCE]. 1747 HOOSON *Miner's Dict.* Tjb, In Sinking with Square Wood or Yokings. 1802 MAWE *Min. Derbysh.* Gloss., Yokings, pieces of wood ascertaining possession.

'yoking, ppl. a. [f. as prec. + -ING².] That yokes, in various senses: see the verb.

1592 SHAKS. *Ven. & Ad.* 592 And on his neck her yoking armes she throws. 1643 MILTON *Divorce* l. xiii. 21 An improper and ill-yoking couple. 1645 — *Tetrach. Matt.* v.

31 What can be more... disparaging to the cov'nant of love... then to bee made the yoking pedagogue of new severities?

yokle, obs. var. of *ICKLE sb.*, icicle.

† **yoklet**. *Obs.* Also *joclet*. [OE. *geocled*, *iocled*, -let, -leta, f. *geoc* *YOKE sb.* with obscure second element.] In Kent, A small manor. (Cf. *YOKE sb.* 6.)

805 in Sweet *O.E. Texts* 455 *Mediam partem unius mansiunculae, id est an geocled*. 811, 812 in *Birch Cartul. Sax.* I. 462, 476 *Iocled*, *ioclet*. 1704 *Dict. Rusticum*, *Joclet*, is a little Farm, or Mannor, called in some parts of Kent a Yoklet, as requiring but a small Yoke of Oxen to Till it.

Yokohama ('jəukəu'hɑ:mə). The name of a city in Japan, used as a specific epithet (see quots.); also as *sb.* (ellipt.).

1882 CAULFIELD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework*, *Yokohama Crape*, this is a very fine, close make of Crape, otherwise known as Canton Crape... The Yokohama is the costliest of all descriptions of Crape, and the most durable in wear. 1885 *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 646/1 Long-tailed fowls, under the names of Yokohama or Phoenix fowls, or Shinotawaro fowls, are... varieties recently introduced from Japan. 1910 *Ibid.* (ed. 10) X. 227/1 A domesticated breed of jungle-fowl known as the 'Japanese long-tailed fowls' or as 'Yokohamas'.

|| **yokozuna** ('jəukə'zu:nə). [Jap., f. *yoko* across + *zuna*, f. *tsuna* rope, festoon, orig. a sacred straw festoon presented to a champion wrestler.] A grand champion sumo wrestler.

1966 *Manch. Guardian Weekly* 9 June 7 The last six bouts were the most important with two yokozuna (grand champions) and several ozeki (champions) fighting. 1972 *Times* 19 July 6/7 The only *Yokozuna* or grand champion at present active, Kitanofuji, was unable to take part in the Nagoya tournament because of injury. 1974 *Daily Tel.* (Colour Suppl.) 22 Feb. 40/3 The *yokozuna* is the embodiment of all the highest virtues of Sumo and no slightly less than brilliant *sumotori* will ever be allowed to degrade the status of the Grand Champion.

yökul, variant of *JOKUL*.

1818 E. HENDERSON *Iceland* I. p. viii, The most extensive of all the Icelandic Yökuls is that called Klofa Yökul.

Yokuts ('jəukʌts), *sb. and a.* [Yawelmani Yokuts *yok'hoč* person, people.]

A. sb. a. (A member of) any of about 40 closely related Indian peoples of central California; these peoples collectively.

1877 *Contrib. N. Amer. Ethnol.* III. 370 At the time of the American advent... the Yokuts occupied the south bank of the Fresno. 1929 A. H. GAYTON *Yokuts & Western Mono Pottery-Making* 249 These sherds are related stylistically to southern California ware rather than to that of the Yokuts. 1973 A. H. WHITEFORD *N. Amer. Indian Arts* 39 In southern California the baskets of the Yokuts and Mono have thin grass coils.

b. The language family of the Yokuts, or the language of any Yokuts group.

1912 [see PENUTIAN *sb.* and *a.*]. 1921 E. SAPIR *Lang.* iv. 77 In another Indian language, Yokuts, vocalic modifications affect both noun and verb forms. 1965 *Canad. Jrnl. Linguistics* X. 139 Yokuts is a language family that is centered in the San Joaquin Valley and is flanked by languages of the Uto-Aztecan family.

B. *adj.* Of, pertaining to, or designating the Yokuts.

1877 *Contrib. N. Amer. Ethnol.* III. 370 In the Yokuts nation there appears to be more political solidarity... than is common in the State. 1944 S. S. NEWMAN (title) *Yokuts language of California*. 1974 *Encycl. Brit. Micropædia* X. 824/2 Yokuts ceremonies included puberty rite for boys, involving use of the hallucinogen *tolguache*, made from jimsonweed.

yoky ('jəuki), *a. rare*. Also 7-*ie*. [f. *YOKE sb.* + -Y¹.] a. Having, or coupled by, a yoke; yoked. b. Consisting of or constituting a yoke.

c1590 MARLOWE *Faustus* vi. Chorus, A chariot... Drawn by the strength of yoky dragons' necks. c1611 CHAPMAN *Iliad* xvii. 382 Their manes... fell through the yokie sphere, Ruth-fully ruff'd and defilde. a1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archæol. Soc.) I. 61 Hoisinge theire thundering instruments upon the unconstant wheelles of yokie beasts.

yol, 3ol, obs. forms of *YULE*.

yold(e, 3old(e): see *YIELD v.*, *YULE*.

yolden, yold, ppl. a. *Obs. exc. Sc.* Forms: see *YIELD v.* A. 3. [pa. pple. of *YIELD v.*]

† 1. Surrendered (as a prisoner); that has surrendered or submitted; hence, submissive. *Obs.*

c1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* III. 96 With lok down cast & vmbele & 3oldyn chere. c1440 *Promp. Parv.* 539/2 3olde manne, yn werre, daticius. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* XIX. ix. 787, I wylle neuer aryse vntyll ye take me as yolden & recreant. a1547 SURREY *Eccles.* iv. 107 The yolden goost His marcy doth requyre. 1553 BRENDEN *Q. Curtius* v. 86 His promys keaping towards y^e yelden, his clemencie towards prisoners.

2. Wearied, exhausted. *Sc.*

a1508 DUNBAR *Tua Mariit Wemen* 220 [He] with a 3oldyn 3erd, dois 3olk me in armys. 15... *Christ's Kirk* 151 in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Cl.) 287 For hir saik he wes nocht yoldin. 1836 M. MACKINTOSH *Cottager's Dau.* 62 O deed quo' William I am youden now.

'yoldring, 'yeldring. *Sc. and north. dial.* Also *youldring, yowdring, yoldrin, yaldrin, -an,*

yeld(e)rin, yeldrin. [Variant of YOWLRING.] (Also *yellow y.*) A yellow-hammer.

1790 GROSE *Prov. Gloss.* (ed. 2), *Yold-ring*, a yellow-hammer. North. a1810 TANNAHILL *Midges dance aboon the burn* ii. While weary yeldrins seem to wail their little nestlings torn. 1815 G. BEATTIE *John o' Arnha'* (1826) 37 Three yaldrin's eggs. 1820 SCOTT *Abbot* xvii, You heed me no more than a goss-hawk minds a yellow yoldring. 1865 ALEX. SMITH *A. Hagart's Househ.* v, The yellow yelderin builds in dry banks.

yole, early var. of YAWL *v.*¹

? a1500 *Chester Plays* (Shaks. Soc.) xiii. 229 See, ffellowe, for cokes soule! This freeke begins to reme and yole.

yole: see YAWL *sb.*¹, YULE.

volgh, 3ol3e, obs. ff. YELLOW.

yolk (jəuk), **yelk** (jelk), *sb.*¹ Forms: *a.* 1 *geolca*, *geoloca*, *gieleca*, 3 *geolke*, 4 *yholk*(e, 4-5 *3olke*, 5 *3olk*, 7 *yeolke*, *3olke*, *yowlk*, *yoalk*(e, 8- *Sc. yowk*, (9 *yoke*), 7- *yolk*. *β.* 4-5 *3elke*, 4-7 *yelke*, 5 *3elk*, 7 *yealk*, 6- *yelk*. [OE. *geolca*, *geoleca*, -oca, f. *geolu* spelling.]

The spelling *yelk* appears to have ceased to be frequent since the third quarter of the 19th century, but it is found in later scientific and technical works. The pronunciation (jelk) survives locally; it is not clear during what period or to what extent it has been current in standard English.]

1. *a.* The yellow internal part of an egg, surrounded by the 'white' or albumen, and serving as nourishment for the young before it is hatched.

a. a1000 *Boeth. Metr.* xx. 170 þæm anlicost þe on æge bið gieolca onmiddan. c1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 38 Hænne æges geolcan. c1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 40 Sceawa nu on anum æge, hu þæt hwite ne bið gemenged to ðam geolcan. c1290 *St. Michael* 635 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 317 Ase þe 3wyte of þe Eye goth a-boute þe 3eolke. 1340 HAMPOLE *Pr. Consc.* 6446 An egge yholke. 1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P.R.* xii. xix (Bodl. MS.), þe chicken is ibred of þe white and ynorissched wip þe 3olke. c1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 18 Take 3olkes of eyren þat harde bene. 1486 *Bk. St. Albans* b vj b, Tempere it with clere wyne and with the yolke of an egge. 1604 MARSTON *Malcontent* II. iv. D1b, Seauen and thirty yowlks of Barbarie hennes eggs. 1605 TIMME *Quersit.* i. xiv. 67 The yeolke of the egge... is the true sulphur. 1666 *Third Adv. to Painter* 18 An Addle-egg with double Yoalk. a1756 MRS. HAYWOOD *New Present* (1771) 158 Beat up the yolks of three eggs. 1842 TENNYSON *Audley Court* 24 A pasty costly-made, Where quail and pigeon, lark and leveret lay, . . with golden yolks Imbedded and injellied.

β. c1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 150 *Le motel*, a yelke. c1400 *Lanfranc's Chirurg.* i. iii. 53 Wipinne þe wounde leie þe jelke of an ey. 1560 WHITEHORNE *Ord. Souldiours* (1588) 46b, Oile of the yelkes of eggs. 1600 SURFLET *Country Farm* vii. lxxv. 895 Putting thereto the yelkes of two eggs and a little saffron. a1625 FLETCHER *Wife for Month* II. i, Like to poch'd eggs That had the yolks sucked out. 1650 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* III. xxviii. (ed. 2) 150 That a Chicken is formed out of the yolk of the egge, . . the people still opinion. a1700 EVELYN *Diary* 29 Sept. 1645, He abounded in things petrified, wallnuts, eggs in which y^e yealk rattl'd. 1756 C. LUCAS *Ess. Waters* I. 73 [These] divided and inviscated by the yelk of an egg become miscible in . . water. 1864 *Reader* 5 Nov. 572/2 The embryos of man [etc.] are nourished . . by the mother's blood, . . and those of birds by the yelk of the egg. 1884 *Health Exhib. Catal.* 39 The leather is . . soaked in liquor made of the yelks of eggs.

b. in *Biol.* extended to the corresponding part in any animal ovum, which serves for the nutrition of the embryo (*nutritive* or *food-yolk*), and to the protoplasmic substance from which the embryo is developed (*formative* or *germ-yolk*): = VITELLUS 1.

1835-6 [see 5]. 1851 WOODWARD *Mollusca* 51 After impregnation, the germinal vesicle, which then subsides into the centre of the yolk, divides spontaneously into two. 1879 HAECKEL'S *Evol. Man* I. ii. 28 Cephalopods, the embryo of which has a bag of yolk protruding from the mouth. 1889 GEDDES & THOMSON *Evol. Sex* viii. 101 The yolk . . is more or less readily distinguished from what is often called the formative protoplasm. c1909 E. RAY LANKESTER *Science* *For. Easy Chair* xxiii. 209 The 'yolk' of the bird's egg . . corresponds to the black sphere of the frog's egg—the actual germ.

† *c. Bot.* = VITELLUS 2. *Obs. rare.*

1807 J. E. SMITH *Phys. Bot.* xix. (1814) 222 *Vitellus*, the Yolk, first named and fully illustrated by Gaertner.

† 2. *fig.* Centre; innermost part, 'core'; also, best part.

1387-8 T. USK *Test. Love* III. iv. (Skeat) I. 198 Of loue (quod she) wol I nowe ensample make, sithen I knowe the heed knotte in that yelke.

1614 T. GENTLEMAN *England's Way* 12 Then being the very heart of Summer, and the very yoalke of all the yeaere. 1637 RUTHERFORD *Let. to Parishioners* 13 July, Christ hath the yolke and heart of my love. 1637 — *Let. to J. Kennedy Lett.* (1664) 187 Then Christ would . . conquer to himself a lodging in the inmost yolk of our heart. 1695 J. SAGE *Fund. Charter Presbyt.* Pref., Wks. 1844 I. 32 The true yolk of the mystery. c1730 RAMSAY *To Duncan Forbes* iv, Chance gi'es them of gear the yowk, And better chiels the shell.

3. (Also *y. of egg*.) Name for a gastropod mollusc of the genus *Nerita*, from the appearance of its shell.

1796 NEMNICH *Polygl.-Lex.* 945 *Yolk nerita*, *nerita vitellus* and albumen. 1815 S. BROOKES *Introd. Conchol.* 157 Yolk of Egg, *Nerita Vitellus*.

4. *a.* A rounded opaque or semi-opaque part occurring in window-glass; also, a pane of rough or thick glass. *b.* A hard or otherwise differentiated nodule in stone, rock, etc. *local.*

1808 JAMIESON *s.v.*, Those round, opaque and radiated crystallizations, which are found in window-glass, in consequence of being too slowly cooled, are generally termed yolks in S[cotland]. 1811 *Acc. Game Curling* 3 Those whinstone nodules . . called yolks, on account of their toughness. 1883 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade Suppl.*, *Yolk*, a local name in the Forest of Dean for masses of rotten stone intervening in the grey stone. 1886 J. BARROWMAN *Sc. Mining Terms* 74 *Yolk coal*, or *Yolks*, free or soft coal. 1901 W. LAIDLAW *Poetry & Prose* 34 They [sc. windows] were of yolks of darkish green, Sae dim they didna need a screen.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.* in sense 1 *b.*

The most important are: *yolk-bag*, -*sac*, the sac or vesicle inclosing the yolk, esp. when attached to the umbilicus as an organ of nutrition; it is connected with the intestine of the embryo by the *yolk-duct* or *yolk-stalk*; *yolk-cleavage*, -*division*, -*segmentation*, the division of the (formative) yolk as the initial process in the development of the embryo; *yolk-membrane*, -*skin*, the delicate membrane surrounding the yolk of some ova; *yolk plug*, a mass of yolk cells partly filling the blastopore in the development of certain fish, amphibians, and insects. Also *yolk-coloured* adj.

1835-6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 560/2 The point of attachment of the yolk-bag [in the Cephalopod], which is suspended from the head of the embryo. 1849-52 *Ibid.* IV. 1223/2 The central yolk-mass of the body. 1857 GOSSE *Omphalos* xi. 330 The yolk-globe, fastened by its twisted *chalazae*, is suspended in a glairy fluid (albumen). 1859 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* V. 461/1 The process of yolk-segmentation. *Ibid.* 51/2 The ovum of the frog . . consists of the yolk-ball, . . surrounded by a . . layer of . . albuminous matter. *Ibid.* [124/1] The germ-forming and yolk-forming portions. 1861 J. R. GREENE *Man. Anim. Kingd., Cælent.* 15 Many ova are provided with an outer envelope, known as the yolk-sac or 'vitelline membrane'. *Ibid.*, After fecundation, the ovum exhibits a series of changes inaugurated by the process of 'segmentation' or yolk-division. *Ibid.* 181 After yolk-cleavage the embryo appears rudely cylindrical in form. 1869 G. M. HOPKINS *Jrnl. & Papers* (1959) 189 The other evening . . there was a slash of glowing yolk-coloured sunset. 1878 BELL tr. *Gegenbaur's Comp. Anat.* 18 Special particles—yolk-granules—may appear in its protoplasm. *Ibid.* 53 Special glands, Yolk glands, are formed from the ovary. 1879 HAECKEL'S *Evol. Man* I. x. 284 Connected with the central portion of the intestinal tube by a thin stalk, the yolk-duct. [1881 F. M. BALFOUR *Treat. Compar. Embryol.* II. vii. 102 Shortly after the stage represented in fig. 71 B, the plug of yolk, which fills up the opening of the blastopore, disappears, and the mesenteron communicates freely with the exterior by a small circular blastopore.] 1888 GOODE *Amer. Fishes* 190 The comparatively large yolk-sac. 1889 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* *Introd.* p. xxvii, The Gastrula is derived either by invagination or by differentiation of the yolk-cells. 1892 E. L. MARK tr. O. Hertwig's *Text-bk. Embryol. of Man & Mammals* vi. 117 The inner lamella [of the Triton embryo] . . is connected with the mass of yolk-cells . . , which lies like a wall in front of the blastopore and even projects into it as the Rusconian yolk-plug. 1898 P. MANSON *Trop. Diseases* xxxvi. 532 The points to be attended to in the diagnosis of ova are size, shape, colour . . the presence or otherwise of yolk spheres. 1900 *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* Feb. 7 The thin . . yolk-stalk carrying the vitelline artery. 1928 [see INDUCTION 9b]. 1959 SOUTHWOOD & LESTON *Land & Water Bugs* 299 Fertile eggs [of the bug *Capsus ater*] commence to develop at once and the grey band of the yolk plug forms just below the operculum about 2 weeks after laying. 1980 *Jrnl. Exper. Zool.* CCXIV. 323 YSL [sc. yolk syncytial layer] cytoplasm which reaches the yolk plug during epiboly is not a part of the syncytium when gastrulation begins.

yolk (jəuk), *sb.*² Also *yoak*, *yoke*, *yok*, *yelk*. [OE. **eowoca* (whence *eowocig* YOLKY *a.*²), corresp. to Flem. *ieke* (*iecke* in Kilian; in comb. *ie(c)kwoll* of yolk wool), whence Sc. EIK. The spelling of the Eng. word has been influenced by association with YOLK *sb.*¹] The greasy substance secreted by the sebaceous glands in the skin of a sheep, which serves to moisten and soften the wool. Also called *suint*, *wool-oil*, and (as a chemical substance) *lanolin*.

in the yolk: said of wool in its natural state, containing the yolk.

1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 686 The panch of a sucking pig being taken out and mingled with the yolke which sticketh to the inner parts of the skin. 1798 *Young's Ann. Agric.* XXX. 73 The wool on the moor [sc. Dartmoor] 5 lb. on an average, in the yoak, that is unwashed. 1805 LUCKOCK *Nat. Wool* 81 The power of producing a copious supply of healthy and nutritious yolk is one of the most important qualities of wool-bearing animals. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Yolk, Yelk*, a natural oily secretion or greasy substance in wool. 1884 JEFFERIES *Red Deer* viii. 165 The water is fouled by the grease, called the 'yok'. 1901 *Dundee Adv.* 17 May 5 [Wool] in 'the yoke' . . was only fetching about 4½d. a lb.

attrib. 1808 VANCOUVER *Agric. Devon* 343 Eight pounds of yoak wool to the fleece.

yolk, *sb.*³ *local.* Also *yoak*, *yoke*. [f. next.] Hiccup.

c1700 KENNETT *MS. Lansd.* 1033 lf. 481 *Yoaks*, hiccup. 1825 JENNINGS *Obs. Dial. W. Eng.*, *Yokes*.

yolk, **yelk**, *v. dial.* Also 7 *yoke*, *yeke*, 8- *yock*, *yeck*, etc. [app. alteration of *yox*, *yex* (q.v.) with subsequent assimilation to *bol*k, *bel*k to *belch*. In mod. dials. *yolk*, *yoak*, *yock* are south-western and *yeck* is Sc.] *intr.* To hiccup; also, to utter a

short cough, as a sheep. Hence *yolking*, *yelking* *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

a. 1585 *MS. Ashmole* 208 lf. 237b Whose vgly locks and yolkinge voice Did make all men a feard. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. III. *Furies* 414 Thirst, Yawning, Yolkling, Casting, Shivering, Shaking. c1700 KENNETT *MS. Lansd.* 1033 (E.D.D.) Applied to the short cough of a sheep, as the sheep yekes or yokes, or has a yeking or yoking.

β. 1527 ANDREW *Brunswyke's Distyll. Waters* Hij b, The same dronke in the maner aforesayd is good for the yelkyng, named Singultus. c1532 *Du Wes Introd. Fr. in Palsgr.* 954 To yelke, *sangloutir*. 1590 BARROUGH *Meth. Phisick* III. xi. (1596) 117 The meate being . . so corrupted, causeth some to yelke. *Ibid.*, When yelking is caused of fulnesse, vomiting is the best remedie. 1653 R. SANDERS *Physiogn.* 191 A yelking which followeth vomiting.

yolk, **yolke**, obs. forms of YOKE.

yolked (jəukt), *a.* [f. YOLK *sb.*¹ + -ED².] Having or containing a yolk or yolks: chiefly in comb. as *double*-, *large*-, *two-yolked*.

1585 HIGINS *Junius' Nomencl.* 54/1 *Ouum geminum*, . . . a two yolked egge. 1599 T. M[OUFET] *Silkwormes* 66 Whited alike, and yellow yolked all. 1859 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* V. 51/2 Animals . . with the large-yolked ova. 1889 *Science Gossip* 118/1, I know that 'double-yolked' eggs are not uncommon. 1900 *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* Feb. 75 Small-yolked, holoblastic eggs.

yolkiness (jəukinis). [f. YOLKY *a.*¹ + -NESS.] Yolkly quality or condition.

1528 PAYNELL *Salerne's Regim.* (1541) 98b, Coler prassine, lyke the colour of the herbe Prassion . . is engendred of the yolkynes whan hit is burned: for burnyng causeth a yolkly blackenes in the coler.

yolkless (jəuklis), *a.* [f. YOLK *sb.*¹ + -LESS.] Destitute of yolk; containing no yolk.

1897 *Brit. Birds, their Nests & Eggs* II. 163 Three full-sized eggs and one small yolkless one.

yolkly (jəukli), *a.*¹ Also 6 *yelky*, 9 *yoky*. [f. YOLK *sb.*¹ + -Y¹.] *a.* Resembling or consisting of (egg) yolk; of or pertaining to yolk; full of or abounding in yolk.

1528 [see YOLKINESS]. 1533 ELYOT *Cast. Helthe* (1541) 9 *Yelky* choler, like to the yelkes of eggs. 1576 NEWTON *Lemnie's Complex.* 147 The seconde [melancholy] . . is compact and made of yealow or yolkie Choler aduste. 1841 J. T. HEWLETT *Parish Clerk* I. 80 Vield's eggs was more yokier than their's was. 1889 *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* May 11 Small round, highly refractive yolkly particles were present in the egg protoplasm. 1918 W. J. LOCKE *Rough Road* ix. 104 With a hazardous plunge of his spoon he had made a yellow yelky horror of the egg-shell.

b. in reference to stone or other mineral: cf. YOLK *sb.*¹ 4 *b.* *yolkly-stone*, a local name for a kind of conglomerate.

1805 MUSHET in *Phil. Trans.* XCV. 167 The fracture [of the bars] was gray, tore out a little in breaking, but was otherwise yolkly and excessively dense. 1813 HEADRICK *Agric. Angus* 34 Beds of coarse pudding-stone, or gravel, or yolkly-stone, as it is here called.

yolkly (jəukli), *a.*² Also *yoky*. [OE. *eow(o)cig*, f. **eowoca* YOLK *sb.*²; see -Y¹ 1.] Containing 'yolk'; greasy with yolk, as unwashed wool.

c1000 *Sax. Leechd.* II. 42 ðenim ele, do on mid eowocig re wulle. *Ibid.* 74 Mid eowicg re wulle. 1847 HALLIWELL, *Yoky-wool*, unwashed wool as it comes from the sheep's back. *Devon.* 1854 MISS BAKER *Northampton Gloss.*, *Yolk*, the grease of wool. Wool that is oily is said to be *yolkly*. 1886 C. SCOTT *Sheep-farming* 130 The fleece falls to pieces in a vexatious fashion on the table, especially if the sheep has been fed for the shambles, or is naturally very yolkly.

† **yoll**, *v.* *Obs.* Forms: 3-5 *3olle*, 4 *3ol*, 4-5 *yolle*. [Imitative. Cf. NFr. *jolli*, and for similar forms with vowel-variation YAWL *v.*¹, YOWL *v.*] *intr.* To cry aloud, howl; = YAWL *v.*¹ 1 *a.* Hence † *yolling* *vbl. sb.*

a1250 *Owl & Night.* 223 þu schirchest & 3ollest to pine fere. *Ibid.* 1643 Myd yollinge [v.r. yulinge] & myd igrede. a1300 *Leg. Rood* (1871) 44 þo com þe deuel 3ollynge uorp. c1325 *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 152 *note*, *Oule*, [glossed] yolles. c1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 1814 The heraudes, that ful loude yolle and crie. c1400 *Anturs Arth.* 86 (Thornton MS.) 3ollande jamyrly, withe many lowde 3elle. 1483 CAXTON *Gold. Leg.* 81 b/1 When they had made thys pyetous cryeng and yollyng.

yolle, **vol(1)ow**, obs. ff. OIL *sb.*¹, YELLOW.

yolp, *v.* *Obs.* or *dial.* Also *yollop*. = GULP *v.* 1579 HAKE *Newes out of Powles* (1872) D vij b, The pitchie burning pit . . Shall yolpe them vp. 1881 *Leic. Gloss.*, *Yollop*, or *Yolp*, *v.a.*, var. pron. of 'gulp' and 'gulf'.

yolp, *v.* The cry of hounds. Cf. YAWP *v.*, YOUP. 1602 *Narcissus* (1893) 17 Then woe bee vnto little Watt, Yolp, yolp, yolp, yolp!

† **yolster**. *Obs.* [perh. of Scand. origin (cf. Sw. (*h*)*jolster*, (*h*)*jelster*, (*h*)*ilster*, Norw. *ister*, ON. **jolstr*, *ilstri*, pointing to orig. **elustr*- and **elustrj*-); but possibly from an unrecorded OE. **eolstr*.] Some kind of willow or osier.

1387 *Demise of site in Scagglethorpe, Yorks.* (MS.), Omnes yolstres crescent[tes] super ripam de Ouse infra dominium de Scaylthorpe. 1396 *Ibid.*, Yholsters. [See *Yorks. Deeds* (Yorks. Archæol. Soc.) II. 161.]

yoly, obs. form of JOLLY *a.*

yoman, **3oman(n)e**, obs. forms of YEOMAN.

†**yomer**, **zomer**, *a.* *Obs.* Forms: 1 **geomor**, 3 **geo(u)mer**, **zimer**, 3-4 **zomer**, *Kentish* **zemer**, **yemer**. [OE. *geómor* = OS., OHG. *jâmar*. A neut. sb. is represented by OFris. *iâmer*, OHG. *jâmar*, also *âmar*, MHG. *jâmer* (G. *jammer*) sorrowful desire. (ME. *yēmer* may partly reflect OE. *gēamrung*, *gēmrung* of Vesp. Psalter.)] Sorrowful, wretched; grievous, doleful.

Beowulf 49 Him wæs geomor sefa. *a1000 Husband's Message* 22 (Gr.) Siððan ðu gehyrde on hlipes oran galan geomorne geac on bearwe. *c1200 Trin. Coll. Hom.* 169 þe he polede þe zimere pine he makede ane reuliche meninge. *c1205 LAY.* 16566 þer wes þa Hengest cnihten alre geomerest. *a1225 Leg. Kath.* 1831 Twa hundret cnihtes, . . . þat zeuen anan up hare geomer bileaue. *c1250 Kent. Sermon* in O.E. *Misc.* 30 þo. . . þet purch yemere werkes oper purch yemer i-wil liesed þo blisce of heuene. *1340 Avenb.* 215 þer me ssel. . . do al out alle seculere niedes, yemere postes, and penche an his ssepper.

Hence †**yomerness** *Obs.*, wretchedness, misery.

c1250 Kent. Sermon in O.E. *Misc.* 28 þo gode werkes þet is biter to þo yemerness of ure flesce.

†**yomer**, **zomer**, *v.* *Obs.* Forms: 1 **geom(e)rian**, 2-3 **zomer**, 3 **zeumer**, 5 **zomer**, **yomer**. [OE. *geómrian*, f. *geómor*: see prec. Cf. OHG. *jâmarôn*, MHG. *jâmern*, and YAMMER *v.*] *intr.* To murmur, complain; to lament, mourn. Hence †**yomering** *vbl. sb.*

Beowulf 1118 Earme on eaxle ides gnornode, geomrode giddum. *971 Blickl. Hom.* 113 For þære geomrunge pæs opres deapes. *c1000 in Lat. Hymns A.-S. Ch.* (Surtees No. 23) 21 Bena geomrigende we asendap. *c1205 LAY.* 23492 Gullen þa helmes zeumereden eorles. *c1230 Hali Meid.* 35 þat unrotes uuel, þat pine upo pine, þat uuelrende zeomerunge. *c1400 Destr. Troy* 1722 The Grekes. . . vs to grefe brought. . . And to yow & also yours zomeryng for euer. *c1400* [see YAWL *v.* 1 a].

†**yomere**, **zomere**, *adv.* *Obs.* [f. YOMER *a.*] Sorrowfully, dolefully.

a1250 Owl & Night. 415 A wintere þu singest wrope and zomere [Jesus MS. yomere], And eue þu art dumb a sumere.

†**yomerly**, **zomerly**, *a.* *Obs.* Forms: see YOMER *a.* [OE. *geómorlic*, f. *geómor* YOMER *a.* + *-lic* -LY¹. Cf. OHG. *jâmarlih*, ON. *ámorlegr*.] = YOMER *a.*

Beowulf 2444 Bið geomorlic gomelum ceorle to gebidanne, þæt his byre ride giong on galzan. *c1205 LAY.* 29564 Heo. . . seoððe geiden him on mid zeomerliche stanen. *13. . . E.E. Allit.* P. B. 971 Such a zomerly þarm of jelling þer rysed.

†**yomerly**, **zomerly**, *adv.* *Obs.* Forms: see YOMER *a.*; also 5 **zamyrlly**, **zamerly** (but cf. YAMMER *v.*). [OE. *geómorlice*, f. *geómor* YOMER *a.* + *-lice* -LY². Cf. OHG. *jâmarlichho*.] = Sorrowfully, dolefully.

a1000 Sal. & Sat. 267 Se fugol. . . gilleð geomorlice. *c1200 Trin. Coll. Hom.* 35 His ofspring al þrowude on synne. . . and zemerliche pineden. *13. . . Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1453 He hurtz of þe houndez, & þay Ful zomerly zaule & zelle. *c1400 Anturs Arth.* vii, 3auland ful zamerly, with many loude jelles.

Yom Kippur (jɒm 'kɪpə(r), kɪ'pʊə(r)). Also 9 **Jaumkipur**. [a. Heb. *Yôm Kippûr*, f. *yôm* day + *kippûr* atonement.] The Day of Atonement, the annual Jewish fast day of repentance and expiation that ends the Ten Days of Penitence.

1854 Asmonean 6 Oct. 198/3, I will tell thee now why the Jews in Gneson do not wear the kittel at Jaumkipur. *1878 Harper's* Oct. 768/2 This. . . is a *Shopfar*, such as is blown in the synagogues on the Jewish New Year. . . and the Day of Atonement (*Yom Kippur*). *1907 I. ZANGWILL Ghetto* *Comedies* 20 With a woman *Yom Kippur* is a wonder-working day. *1922 JOYCE Ulysses* 149 Their butteries and larders. I'd like to see them do the black fast Yom Kippur. *1941 Contemp. Jewish Record* IV. 429/2 Last Yom Kippur. . . Nazi elite guards. . . evicted Jews from a synagogue in Szczucin. *1974 Ann. Reg.* 1973 200 Yom Kippur (the Day of Atonement), when there is no public transport [in Israel] or private or public business and even non-observant Jews stay at home, fell on 6 October. *1981 C. MACLEOD Palace Guard* xii. 89 'Have you ever in your life seen anybody eat the way he does?' 'Yes, my Uncle Hymie on the night after Yom Kippur.'

b. Comb. **Yom Kippur War**, an Arab-Israeli war that began on Yom Kippur on 6 October 1973 and ended in the same month.

1973 Guardian 29 Oct. 3/5 The Yom Kippur war had given them [sc. the superpowers] a greater hold over their respective clients. *1980 'E. ANTHONY' Defector* v. 101 We [Russians] made very good use of the opportunities given to us by the Yom Kippur war.

yommer, *obs.* f. YAMMER *v.*

yomon, **zomon**, *obs.* forms of YEOMAN.

yomp (jɒmp), *v.* *orig. Mil.* [Origin unknown. The word came into prominence when used by the Royal Marines during the Falklands conflict of 1982. It was subsequently identified with YUMP *v.* by correspondents familiar with the terminology of rally driving, but whether correctly or not has not been confirmed.]

a. intr. To march with heavy equipment over difficult terrain. Also **fig. b. trans.** To cover (a certain distance) in this way.

1982 Daily Tel. 3 June 36/6 And always in the cold light of the Falklands dawn, the. . . Marines. . . have been ready to 'yomp on' for the next stage of the journey. *1982 Observer* 20

June 3/2 Yomping round the sodden and trackless wastes of the constituency, I found the voters in less martial mood. *1983 Listener* 20 Jan. 31/2 Mrs. Thateher may begin yomping. . . around the hustings considerably sooner. *1983 Guardian* 15 Apr. 10/1 Our boys. . . who yomped all those miles in the Falklands. *1984 Sunday Times* 14 Oct. 9/3 So the sweaty soldier yomping to battle ends up with blisters and a pool of water inside the boot.

So **yomping** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*; also **yomper**.

1982 Daily Tel. 3 June 1/1 (heading) Yompers surprise the enemy. *Ibid.*, Yomping they call it in the Royal Marine Commandos. It means marching, humping up to 120 lb. of equipment and all the arms needed for attack at the far end of the trek. *1982 Standard* 6 Aug. 8/1 (Adv.), Yompers wanted. . . in teams of 3 for 40 mile mountain express 24-hour walk. *1983 Financial Times* 28 Jan. 16/6 Will robots replace the 'yomping' soldier in the army of the future?

yom tov (jɒm tɒv). Also **yomtov**, 9 **yontef**, and with capital initial(s). [Yiddish, f. Heb. *yôm* day + *tôb* good.] A Jewish holiday or holy day.

1854 Asmonean 7 July 96/2 Now, Shlome's grand-father was a kind of careless man who preferred making 'yontef' throughout the year. *1892 I. ZANGWILL Childr. Ghetto* II. 166 He had been so proud of having earned enough money to make a good *Yomtov*. *1933 A. VAN SON* tr. C. van Bruggen in J. Leftwich *Ysrâel* 1012 A Jewish woman cannot be too ill to hear the Seder. . . That's right, it's Yomtov now. *1962 B. ABRAHAM* tr. *Life Glückel of Hameln* iii. 51 Before we eat I must first take my child. . . some food. It is *Yom Tov*. *1976 M. HOROVITZ* in D. Villiers *Next Year in Jerusalem* 113 Quite often, in the midst of supra-national poetry events, I find myself involuntarily imagining *yom tov*.

Yomud (jəʊmʌd, jɒ'mʌd). Also 9 **Yimoot**; **Yomut**. [Native name.] **a.** (A member of) an ethnic group of Turkmen people (once a nomadic tribe) inhabiting the Turkmen Soviet Socialist Republic of the U.S.S.R. Also *attrib.*

1834 A. CONOLLY Journey India Overland I. iv. 35 The large tribe of Yimoot occupy the banks of the Goorgaun river. *1864 A. VÁMBÉRY Trav. Central Asia* xvi. 307 The Yomuts inhabit the East shore of the Caspian Sea and some of its islands. *1889 G. N. CURZON Russia in Central Asia* viii. 275 The Turkomans under Khivan rule are Yomuds, Chadars, Emrali, Ata and Alili. *1938 E. O. LORIMER* tr. *Krist's Alone through Forbidden Land* ii. 38 We had reached Qala-Qaya, the standing camp or village of the Yomut. *1963 L. KRADER Peoples Central Asia* iii. 58 Yomud had an alternative division, based on subsistence type rather than genealogy. *1974 Even. Stand.* 12 Feb. 48/5 (Adv.), Superb oriental carpets & rugs. Including: . . . A special collection of unique Persian Nomadic rugs from the Yomut. . . and Qashgari tribes.

b. attrib. Designating rugs made by this people, often distinguished by a diamond-shaped motif.

1900 J. K. MUMFORD Oriental Rugs xii. 234 One might reasonably say, looking at some of the Yomud rugs, that they had come from the Shirvan or Dagestan looms. *1940 A. B. THACHER Turkoman Rugs* 24 This type of jwal is the aristocrat of Yomud rugs in respect to density of knotting. *1974 Encycl. Brit. Micropædia* X. 825/2 The large Yomud carpets are entirely of wool or of goat hair.

yon (jɒn), *dem. a.* and *pron.* Now *arch.* and *dial.* Forms: *a.* 1 **geon**, 4 **zion**, **yoene**, **zhone**, **yhon(e)**, 4-5 **yone**, 4-6 **zone**, (6, 8 *Sc.*) **zon**, 5 **yhone**, 6 **yoen**, (7-8 *yon*), 4- **yon**. **β.** 5 **zene**, (6 *ien*), 6, 9 **dial. yen**, 9 **dial. yin**. [OE. *geon* adj. (rare), corresp., with variation of vowel, to OFris. *iēna*, *gēna* (*ienn-*, *inn-*), WFrisk. *jinge*, OHG. *jenēr*, MHG., G. *jener*, also OHG., MHG. *enēr*, G. *dial. ene(r)*, ON. *enn*, *inn*, *hinn*, def. art. (Sw., Da. *hin*), Goth. *jains* that. The Teut. bases underlying these forms, or other variants of them, are represented also in OHG. *ennân*, MHG. *enneln* from there, hither, OHG. *en(n)ônt*, MHG. *en(n)ent* yonder, G. *dial. jenntak*, *jennabend* yesterday, Goth. *jainar* there; Du. and LG. show forms with initial guttural, viz. MDu. *ghene*, *gone*, *gōne* (Du. *gene*) that, LG. *gunnen* that, there, *gunsiet* yonder. Related forms outside Teut. are recognized in Skr. *ēna-3rd pers. pron.*, *anēna*, *anayā* (instr.), that (one), Oslav. *onŭ* he, Lith. *añs* he. See also YOND, YONDER.

In OE. the only members of this family of words for which evidence is forthcoming are *geon* adj. and *geond*, *geondan* YOND prep. (? orig. adv. like Goth. *jaind*), together with *biŷeonan* (-*ginan*, -*zenan*) 'trans', *beŷeondan* (Northumb. *biŷeanda*, *biŷienda*) BEYOND adv. and prep. From these the various parallel uses of *yon*, *yond*, and *yonder* have arisen through the extension to other members of applications originally appropriated to one of them.

The 17-18th cent. spelling of the word with an apostrophe (*yon')* indicates that it was regarded as short for *yond*.]

A. adj.

1. A demonstrative word used in concord with a sb. to indicate a thing or person as (literally, or sometimes mentally) pointed out: cf. THAT *dem. adj.* 1. Formerly often, as still in some dialects, simply equivalent to *that* (*those*); but chiefly, and in later literary use almost always, referring to a visible object at a distance but within view: = 'that (those) . . . over there'.

a. c897 ÆLFRED Gregory's Past. C. lviii. 443 Aris, & gong to geone byrg. *a1300 Cursor M.* 654 Bot yhon tre cum þou nawight to, þat standes in midward paradis. *Ibid.* 3027 Sco seced abraham, 'yon bastard Do him a-wai.' *1393 LANGL. P. Pl. C.* xxi. 149 Patriarkes and prophetes þat in peyne ligen, Leyf hit neuere þat zon [v.rr. zeon, zone, zonde, zynen, zeond] lyght hem a-lofte brynge. *a1400 Northern Passion* 9/70, I wyll weynd to þhone cyte. *c1400 Cursor M.* 27684 (Cott. Galba) 3one man ledes His life in priars and almus dedes. *a1400-50 Wars Alex.* 498 3one selfe dragon forsothe Isaze with myne eŷen. *c1450 St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 7398 Knaues þou nozt 3one 3onge man? *15. . . Sonnge Sir Andraye Barton* xxii. in *Surtees Misc.* (1890) 70 'Fetch me yoen English dogs,' he saide. *1621 G. SANDYS Ovid's Met.* viii. (1626) 168 And to yon' hill Follow our steps. *c1630 MILTON Sonn.* i, O Nightingale, that on yon bloomy Spray Warbl'st at eeve. *c1645 HOWELL Lett.* (1890) i. i. 62 When we have gain'd yon Maiden City. *1652 URQUHART Jewel* 189 Because of his being of this or this, or that, or yon, or of that other Religion. *1712 POPE Vertumnus* 100 The fair fruit that on yon' branches glows. *1766 GOLDSM. Hermit* i, To where yon taper cheers the vale With hospitable ray. *1818 SCOTT Hrt. Midl.* xxx, I mind aye the drink o' milk ye gae me yon day. *1833 HT. MARTINEAU Tale of Tyne* i. 16, I must go somewhere away from yon great town. *1890 W. A. WALLACE Only a Sister?* xxix, There's a man in yon brake listening to what we're a-saying.

β. c1425 Cast. Persev. 1765 in *Macro Plays* 129 All 3ene maydyns on 3one playn. *c1550 CHEKE Matt.* xxvii. 64 We remember y'tien deceiver said, whil he was iet aliv. J wil rijs again after iij dais. *1583 MELBANCKE Philot.* Dd iij b, Seest thou not yen milke white pateth that cross the welkin wendes? *a1825 FORBY Voc. E. Anglia*, Yin, adj., yon.

2. *the yon*: the farther, the more distant: = YOND *a.* 1, YONDER *a.* 1. *local.*

1700 B.N.C. (Oxf.) Munim. 33. 15 (MS.) The yon acre in Bindfield. *1897 Outing* (U.S.) XXX. 384/1 We were told that Bill Ryder lived on the yon side of the mountain.

B. pron. (sing. or pl.) The adj. used *absol.*, usually denoting a visible object (or objects) pointed out, at a distance but within view: = 'that (or those) over there'; but sometimes simply = 'that' (or 'those'): cf. A. 1. Now only *Sc.* and *dial.*

a1300 Cursor M. 3358 (Cott.) Yon es mi lauerd ysaac, Yon es þi keiser sal be þin. *13. . . Ibid.* 15919 (Gött.) 'Yoene,' he said, 'es ane of his þat wid vs es in band.' *Ibid.* 19700 (Edinb.) Na es nozt 3ion He þat we sa3 þis ender dai Gain name of ihesu sua werrai? *1375 BARBOUR Bruce* xiv. 280 3one ar gadering of the cuntre. *c1470 HENRY Wallace* iii. 123 Yhonne is Wallace, that chapit our presoun. *c1480 HENRYSON Test. Cress.* 533 Quhat Lord is 3one (quod scho)? *1533 BELLENDEN Livy* iv. ix. (S.T.S.) II. 79 3one Is he þat has violate þe law of pepil. *1616 MARLOWE's Faustus* xi, What strange beast is yon, that thrusts his head out at window? *1621 G. SANDYS Ovid's Met.* viii. (1626) 165 What place Is yon', and of what name, that stands alone? *a1704 T. BROWN Misc., Campaign* iii. Wks. 1711 IV. 143 Now, now we are there; yon's the General's Tent. *1822 SCOTT Peveril* xl, Was yon the messenger? *1829 MARRYAT Frank Mildmay* xix, 'D—n the dog that says yon of Jock Thompson,' replied the Caledonian. *1895 'IAN MACLAREN' Brier Bush, Highl. Mystic* i. 60 Yon were verra suitable words at the second table [i.e. at the Communion]. *1896 KIPLING Seven Seas, M'Andrews' Hymn* 108 Yon's strain, hard strain, o' head an' hand.

yon, dem. adv. Forms: 5-6 **zone**, 7 **yonn**, 7- **yon**. [See prec.] *a.* = YOND adv., YONDER adv. *Obs.* exc. *dial.* and as in b.

c1475 RAUF Coilgear 706 In clais of clene gold, kythand 3one cleir. *c1500 Lancelot* 2826 Who is he 3one? *1608 MIDDLETON Five Gallants* ii. iii, Fulk. Where sir? *Gold.* Peepe yon sir vnder. *1622 WITHER Philarete* Bjb, Here, you might (through the water) see the land, Appear. . . Yonn, deeper was it. *1628 — Brit. Rememb.* 116 b, Yonn lay a heape of skulls. *1632 MILTON Penseroso* 52 But. . . with thee bring, Him that yon soars on golden wing. *1896 A. E. HOUSMAN Shropsh. Lad* ix, And yon the gallows used to clank Fast by the four cross ways.

b. hither and yon: hither and thither, this way and that. *orig. dial.* Cf. YONDER adv. 1 c.

1787 GROSE Prov. Gloss., *Hither and yon*, here and there, backwards and forwards. *North.* *1836 GALT in Tait's Mag.* III. 33 She swayed hither and yon, and was so coggly that I had fears of a catastrophe on the floor. *1883 Century Mag.* July 379/2 The bass dashed hither and yon at the end of his tether, but all the time working up-stream and toward the rod. *1903 H. JAMES Ambassadors* ii. v. 53 What carried him hither and yon was an admirable theory that nothing he could do would not be in some manner related to what he fundamentally had on hand. *1939 W. S. MAUGHAM Christmas Holiday* iv. 94 The wan characters of Chekov's stories drifted hither and yon at the breath of circumstance like dead leaves before the wind. *1963 BIRD & HUTTON-STOTT Veteran Motor-Car* 52 Untidy chain or belt drives running hither and yon. *1978 Nature* 27 Apr. 768/2 It is inaccurate, full of fanciful and unilluminating analogies, infuriatingly unsystematic, and skims hither and yon over the surface of the subject.

†**yon, prep.** *Obs.* In 3 **zeon**, **zen**. [See YON *a.*] = YOND prep. 1.

c1205 LAY. 4401 To færen zeon þan eærde. *Ibid.* 6087 þat me mihte hine bi-halden wide zeon þeon londe. *Ibid.* 6109 He seonde his sonde wide zen his londe.

†**yon, v.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. early Du. *gonnen*, now *gunnen*, to favour, vouchsafe.] *trans.* To wish. *1481 CAXTON Reynard* xxvii. (Arb.) 66 He sawe there many of his kynne standyng which yonnen hym but lytly good.

yoncker, *obs.* form of YOUNKER.

yond (jɒnd), *a.* 1 and *pron.* *Obs.* exc. *dial.* Forms: *a.* 3 **yeonde**, *Orm.* 3onnd, 3-4 (6 *Sc.*) 3ond, 4 3onde, 3und, yend, 5-6 **yonde**, (6 3ound, 7 yon'd,

yond', yound'), 4- yond. [adj. use of YOND *adv.*, after YON *a.* Cf. EFris. *juntí*, MLG. *gint*, Du. *gindsch*.

The 17th cent. spelling of the word with an apostrophe (*yond'*) indicates that it was regarded as short for *yonder*.]

A. adj.
†1. Qualifying *half*, *side*, or the like (with or without *the* preceding): The farther, the more distant, 'the other'. *Obs.*

c 1200 ORMIN 10588 þatt an wass o 3onnd halff þe flumm & o piss halff þatt operr. 1340 *Ayenb.* 256 þis waye ne ssel hong of þis half ne of yend half, arizthalf ne alefthalf. 13.. *Ball. on Scottish Wars* 91 (Ritson) On yonde-alf Humbre. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* xvii. 191 Nane that wes that tyme wonand On 3ond half Tweid durst weill apeir. 1495 *Trevisa's Barth. De P.R.* xv. lxxxii. (W. de W.) Hij, The next party therof beerith corne... The yonde [Bodl. MS. 3endre] party toward Mundia is occupied w^t beestis. 1553 *Douglas' Aeneis* vi. v. 166 Vncallit on the 3ound bray wald thou be? 1561 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* i. 194 Beneficent men on the yond syde of the Month [sc. Grampians]. 1596 DALRYMPLE *tr. Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 122 To this end Andro Bartayne saylet with a multitudo of marineris to the 3ond syd. 1623 WEBSTER *Duchess Malfi* v. iii, To yond side o' th' riuer lies a wall.

2. = YON *a.* 1.
Rarely preceded by *the*, as in quot. c 1380 (cf. YONDER *a.* 1 b).

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 8743 Me think sua, if yee rede, þe child be nawight don to ded, Bot he be yolden to yond wijf. c 1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 5862 3ond men ledeþ Leodegan Ybounden toward king Rion. c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 5367 Fro þe 3ond pauyllons prykeþ a knyzt. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 3160 And prise of þis prouynse are in yond proude yle. c 1500 *Melusine* 70 Lepe on horsback and ryde on your way to mete yonde straungers. 1583 GOLDING *Calvin on Deut.* iv. 5 In a Countre where there is a Prince, euerie man may well say, yondsme is the king, yondsme is the Prince. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* i. i. 36 When yond same Starre that's Westward from the Pole Had made his course. a 1616 BEAUM. & FL. *Bonduca* iii. iii, The Roman is advanc'd from yound' hills brow. 1641 BROME *Joviall Crew* 11, But do you see yon'd Fellow? 1672 DRYDEN *Assignment* II. ii, There's the Wall: Behind yond' Pane of it we'll set up the Ladder. 1708 *Brit. Apollo* No. 67. 3/2 Yond Azure Roof. 1886 BRIERLEY *Cast upon World* xiv, I'd rather live at yond farmhouse than here.

B. pron. (the adj. used *absol.*) = YON *pron.*

In early use preceded by *the*.
a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 119 Iwis hit was ure o3e broþer þe 3ond [yesus MS. þat yeonde] þat haved þat grete heued. c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 3052 þe 3ond is þat semly and his selue make. c 1520 SKELTON *Magny.* 780 Who is yonde that for the dothe call? 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* iii. v. 85 Yonds that same knaue That leads him to these places. 1623 WEBSTER *Duchess Malfi* v. iii, Yond's the Cardinal's window. 1886 BRIERLEY *Cast upon World* ii, Come, Tummy, let's goo, ... I conno abide t' yer yond.

† **yond**, *a.* ² *Obs. pseudo-arch.* Spenserian word, with the sense 'furious, savage', due to misunderstanding of a passage containing YOND *a.* ¹ or *adv.*, prob. the following:—

Beth egre as is a Tygre yond in Ynde (Chaucer *Clerk's T.* 1143).

1590 SPENSER *F.Q.* II. viii. 40 Like a Lion, which hath long time taught His robbed whelpes, and at the last them fond ... then wexeth wood and yond. *Ibid.* III. vii. 26 As Florimell fled from that Monster yond. 1600 FAIRFAX *Tasso* i. iv, Those three brethren, Lombards fierce and yond [orig. *i tre fratei lombardi al chiaro mondo Involiti*].

yond, *prep.* and *adv.* *Obs. exc. dial.* Forms: 1 *geond*, *giond*, *geondan*, *iand*, 2-3 *3eond*, 3 *3eont*, *puond*, 3-4 *3eonde*, *3und*, *3ont*, 3-5 (6 *Sc.*) *3ond*, 4-5 *3onde*, *yonde*, (5 *yande*, 6 *Sc.* *3ound*), 6, 8-9 *Sc.* *yont*, (prep. only 8 *Sc.* 'yont, 8-9 'yond), 4-yond. *β.* 3-4 *3end*, 4 *3ende*, *3ent*, *yent*, (3endis). [OE. *geond* prep., also *geondan* (cf. BEYOND), corresp. to MLG. *gint*, *genten*, *jint* there, LG. *gunt*, *gunten*, early Flem. *ghins*, Du. *ginds*, Goth. *jaind*: see YON *a.*] *A. prep.*

†1. Through, throughout, over, across. *Obs.*
c 888 ÆLFRED *Boeth.* xviii. §2 þæt ge woldon eowerne naman tobrædan geond ealle corpan. a 1000 *Gloria* 2 (Gr.) Sy þe wuldor & lof wide geopenod geond ealle peoda. c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xii. 43 He gæð geond drige stowa secende rest. a 1122 O.E. *Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1048 & com þa Eustatius fram geondan sæ sona æfter þam biscop. c 1205 LAY. 28 Lazamon gon liðen wide 3ond þas leode. *Ibid.* 423 Wide 3end [c 1275 3eont] þane londe. 13.. *K. Horn* (Harl. MS.) 1078 He sende þo by sonde, 3end al is londe, after knyhtes to fyhte. c 1320 *Cast. Love* 1448 He... sette tweyne and tweyne to gon 3ond al þe world to prechen vchon. c 1325 *Chron. Eng.* 809 in Ritson *Metr. Rom.* II. 304 He wes... Cleped yent this lond wide Edmund Irnenseside.

2. On (or to) the farther side of, beyond. In later use *poet.*, or *Sc.* (chiefly in form *yont*); often written with apostrophe as if aphetic f. *beyond* or *ayont*.

1388 WYCLIF *Ezra* iv. 16 Thou schalt not haue possessioun bi3ende [v.r. 3endis] the flood [Vulg. *trans fluvium*].

1567 DRANT *Horace, Ep.* i. xi. Eij, If those chaunge weather, not their wit, which yont the sea do run. 1579 HAKE *News out of Powles* (1872) Eijb, Thou God of grace, ... yond whome we can not roaue Or raunge aright. 1720 RAMSAY *Rise & Fall of Stocks* 169 'Yond Seas I saw the Upstarts drifting. 1725 — *Gentle Sheph.* III. ii, A' that's done In ilka place beneath, or yont the moon. c 1730 — *Eclipse* iv, Imprudent men... Rax yont their reach. 1789 D. DAVIDSON *Seasons* 58 'The silent night... sinks 'yond the western main. 1866 'SARAH TYTLER' *Days of Yore* iv. iv, She would have a hoard to fill Elspa's drawer 'yont the coast'.

a 1870 RIDDELL *Poet. Wks.* (1871) II. 317 Desperate deeds 'Yond ocean [they] had been doomed to dare.

B. adv. 1. = YONDER *adv.* 1.

c 1300 *St. Brandan* i Seint Brendan the holi man was 3und of Irland. a 1327 in *Rel. Ant.* i. 123 3ent ryd Maximon. c 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 241 The fairnesse of that lady þat I see Yond in the gardyn romen to and fro. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* xxi. 263 Ihesus as a gyauht with a gyn comeþ 3onde [v.r. 3ont, 3eonde, 3ende, 3ender]. c 1475 *Partenay* 5827 Behold yande that hiduous montain. a 1553 UDALL *Royster D.* i. ii. (Arb.) 10 Who commeth forth yond from my swete hearte Custance? a 1592 GREENE *Jas. IV.* II. ii, Yond comes the messenger of weale or woe. 1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* i. ii. 409 Say what thou see'st yond. 1639 COKAINE *Masque Poems* (1669) 124 Sweet youth! yon'd is your Father, kiss his hand. 1815 SCOTT *Guy M.* iii, Sit down yont there at the door. 1898 HARDY *Wessex Poems* 204 Young Tim away yond... Through brimble and underwood tears.

b. = YONDER *adv.* 1 b.

c 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* Matt. xxvi. 36 Sittap her op þæt ic gange geond [Lindisf. bider; *Ags. Gosp.* & *Hatton* hidergeond]. c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 263 Gop yond to a gret lord þat gayly is tyred. c 1375 *Cursor M.* 3065 (Fairf.) Lede him 3onde.

c. † here and yond, here and there (*obs.*); **hither and yond** (now *Sc.*), hither and thither. Cf. YON *adv.* b, YONDER *adv.* 1 c.

c 900 *tr. Bæda's Hist.* v. xiii. [xii.] (1890) 428 Da ahof ic mine eazan upp & locate hider & geond. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 385 Her and 3und ðor he buried lin. 1831 CAMPBELL *Lines on View from St. Leonard's* 83 Moored as they cast the shadows of their masts In long array, or hither flit and yond Mysteriously.

2. At or to a distance; (far or farther) away. **far yond**, in an extremely bad state, 'far gone'. In later use *Sc.*

13.. *K. Horn* (Harl. MS.) 1261 Ich eode mony a myle, wel fer 3ent by weste [Camb. MS. Wel feor bi 3onde weste]. 1513 DOUGLAS *Aeneis* xii. Prol. 9 Nor frawart Saturn... Durst langar... appeir, Bot stall abak 3ond in his region far Behynd the circulat world of Jupiter. a 1665 W. GUTHRIE *Serm.* (1709) 24 (Jam.) When he that reproves in the gate makes himself a prey, then they are far yond, when they refuse to return. 1721 RAMSAY *Prosp. Plenty* 19 Sweet prolific Plains... Stand yont; for Amphitrite claims our Sang. 1893 STEVENSON *Catriona* xxx, I'll be getting a wee yont among the bents, so that I can see what way James goes.

yonder (ˈjɒndə(r)), *adv.* and *a.* (*pron.*, *sb.*) Now only literary and somewhat *arch.*, or *dial.* Forms: *a.* 4-5 (6 *Sc.*) *3onder*, -ir, (4 *3ionder*, *3undir*, *yunder*, 5 *3ondur*, -yr, *yondur*), 5-6 *yondre*, (6 *3ondar*, *Sc.* *3ounder*, 7 *younder*), 4-yonder; 4 *yonper*, 6-7 *yonther*; 6, 9 *dial.* *yander*. *β.* 4 *3ender*, 5 -ir, -yr, *yendre*, *yeinder*, 5-6 *yender*, 7 *dial.* *yeander*, 9 *dial.* *yinder*. [ME. *3onder*, *3ender*, corresp. to OS. *gendra* adj. on this side, MLG. *ginder*, *gender*, LG. *gunter*, Du., WFr. *ginder*, Goth. *jaindrē* (cf. *hidrē* HITHER): see YON *a.*]

A. adv. 1. *a.* At or in that place; there; usually implying that the object spoken of is at some distance but within sight: Over there, away there.

a. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 2717 þan asked þai quare was sarra. Abraham said, 'yonder wit-in'. *Ibid.* 3148 'Yonder vp', he said, 'on yon fell Sal þou bren þi sun for me'. 13.. *Ibid.* 19899 (Edinb.) Lo! 3ionder pre Men... er sende to seke þe. 13.. *Ibid.* 14976 (Gött.) be stede es yonper, lol c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 402 Sum men seien þat he is 3undir at Rome. c 1386 CHAUCER *Man of Law's T.* 920 Whos is that faire child that stondesth yonder? 1523 LD. BEPNEFS *Froiss.* I. lxxxii. 43/1, I wyll nat departe hens tyll I see what company is yander within the eastell. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* II. i. 163 Looke who comes yonder. 1641 BROME *Joviall Crew* i. (1652) C2b, I left the merry Griggs... in such a Hoigh yonder! 1667 DAVENANT & DRYDEN *Tempest* iv. iii. (1670) 63 Mark her behaviour too, she's tripping yonder with the serving-men. 1766 GOLDSM. *Vicar W.* xii, But, as I live, yonder comes Moses. 1818 SCOTT *Rob Roy* xxvi, 'The limes', he assured us, 'were from his own little farm yonder-awa' (indicating the West Indies with a knowing shrug of his shoulders). 1863 READE *Hard Cash* x, You sits yander fit to bust: but... ye never offers me none on't. 1876 MISS BRADDON *J. Haggard's Dau.* x, To the white cottage yonder on the lower ground across the meadows.

β. 13.. E.E. *Allit.* P. B. 1617 þaz þe mater be merk þat merked is 3ender. c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* II. 138 þis man is Jesus þat stondip 3endre on þe banke. c 1450 LYDG. *Life Our Lady* lii. (MS. Ashm. 39), Loke vp yender & se the sercle of golde. c 1485 Digby *Myst.* III. 1438 Yender is þe lond of satyllie. 1674 RAY *N.C. Words* 55 Yeander, Yonder, *Var. Dial.* a 1825 FORBY *Voc. E. Anglia*, *Yinder*, *adv.* yonder.

b. To that place; thither.

c 1300 *Havelok* 922 Go þu yonder, and sit þore. 13.. *Cursor M.* 3065 (Gött.) Lede him 3ender [Cott. yonder]. c 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* iv. 127 Lady, I goo yonder without. 1535 COVERDALE *Gen.* xxii. 5 As for me and the childe, we wyl go yonder.

c. in phr. **here and yonder**, **hither and yonder**: cf. YON *adv.* b, YOND *adv.* 1 c.

1412-20 LYDG. *Chron. Troy* i. 4291 As he rod among hem here & 3onder. c 1485 Digby *Myst.* III. 1346 Now have þe dyspylles take þer passage to dyvers contreys her and 3ondyr. 1883 *Century Mag.* XXVI. 221/2 Gangs of street paviors were seen and heard here, there, and yonder.

† **2.** Farther. *Obs. rare.*

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 33 Som men wolde mene þat Loegria endep at Homber, and stretcheþ no 3onder [Caxton: ferther] northward.

B. adj. 1. With *the*. *a.* Farther, more distant, 'other': = YON *a.* 2, YOND *a.* 1.

13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 2440 Syn 3e be lorde of þe 3onder londe. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) I. 173 þere is anoper Pannonia be 3onde þe watteres Meotides in þe 3onder Scythia. *Ibid.* 299 þe hyder bygynneþ from þe pleynes and valey of Pireneies... þe 3onder Spayne conteyneþ be west partye anon to þe see Gaditanus. c 1450 in Augier *Syon* (1840) 345 The seyð brother schal se that ther be a lectrone set in the 3endyr corner of the ambytus for redyng of the gosbel towarde the este. 1513 DOUGLAS *Aeneis* vi. v. 166 Vncallit, on the 3ondir bray wald thou be. 1609 *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 51/2 Terras de Bruntseath, ... Over et Nethir Lagane, ... Hither and Yonther Barscheuallis. 1899 MRS. HUGH FRASER *Dipl. Wife in Japan* xxxv. II. 313 His dead name, the one by which his shadowy companions call him in the yonder world. 1909 MEREDITH 'The Years had worn their seasons' belt' ix, O she was fair as a beech in May With the sun on the yonder side. 1910 *Dublin Rev.* Jan. 64 Something on the yonder side of imagery.

b. = 2.

c 1374 CHAUCER *Troilus* II. 1188 Nece who hath arayed þus The yonder hous þat stant a-forn yeyn vs? c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 930 Olyuer my felaw ys take! y-seep þat 3onder company how þay him ledeþ away. c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 4018 The yonder man to shenden vs alle. a 1425 *Cursor M.* 1251 (Trin.) Towarde þe eest ende of þe 3ondur [Cott., Fairf. pis, Gött. þe] vale. c 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 4727 Toward the ost of the yendre kinges Ne made I neuer lovely lookinges. c 1480 HENRYSON *Paddock & Mouse* 77 That thou wald gyde me to 3one 3onder land [Bann. How thou wald gyd me to þe yondir land].

2. That is yonder; usually, and in later literary use always, implying that the thing spoken of is at some distance but within sight: cf. YON *a.* 1.

a. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 8837 We hade hertely no hope... Yonder toun for to take. a 1413 *Anturs of Arthur* (Ireland MS.) xlix, 3ondur byrnes [Thornton MS. 3one beryns] in batelle, that bidus on the bent. c 1450 *Mirk's Festial* 39 Hit wer almes forto 3eue 3ondyr pore man warmer clothes þen he hape. 1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. lxxxvii. hij, It shuld be great honour for vs if we might delyuer out of daunger yonther two knyghtes. a 1533 — *Huon* xxiv. 70 Yonder company are foolis. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* III. ii. 61 Yet you, the murtherer, looke as bright, as elear, As yonder Venus, in her glimmering spheare. 1615 JACKSON *Creed* iv. vi. §7 This is profitable, That is pleasant, we shall not then say, but yonder other truly good and honest. 1671 MILTON *Samson* 3 Yonder bank hath choice of sun or shade. 1770 GOLDSM. *Des. Vill.* 219 Near yonder thorn, that lifts its head on high. 1842 TENNYSON *E. Gray* i, Sweet Emma Moreland of yonder town Met me walking on yonder way. 1850 — *In Mem.* xv, To-night the winds begin to rise And roar from yonder dropping day.

β. c 1440 *Generydes* 2777 On yender towre on highe. ? a 1500 *Chester Pl.* (Shaks. Soc.) iii. 52 Mother, my father after thee sende, And byddes thee into yeinder shippe wende. 1563 GOOGE *Eglogs* i. (Arb.) 32 The Hylls... that ioynne to yender towne. 1755 *Gammer Gurton* i. v, Chae tost and tumbled yender heap oter and ouer againe.

† **3.** (with *this* or *that*) Qualifying *day*, *night*: Lately past, 'other'. (Cf. ENDER *a.*, HINDER *a.* 2, and YONDERS.) *Obs.*

a 1425 *Cursor M.* 4561 (Trin.) Me pou3te þat þis 3onder [v.r. ender] nyzt I coom in a medewe bryst. *Ibid.* 13559 Art þou not he þat 3ondir day mistes not se? a 1450 *Le Morte Arth.* 1105, I gabbyd on hym this 3endyr day.

C. pron. (*sing.* or *pl.*: †also with *the*: *absol.* use of B. 1 b, 2): = YON *pron.* Now *dial.*

c 1375 *Cursor M.* 4891 (Fairf.) 3onder ar theues we lelmen wende. c 1430 *Chev. Assigne* 232 And þe 3ondur is my qwene betryce she hette. 1855 BROWNING *Grammarians' Funeral* 7 Look out if yonder be not day again Rimming the rock-rowl 1880 *Sat. Rev.* 2 Oct. 423/2 A closely-shaven curate, who was walking down a street elad in his cassock, was once horrified by hearing shouted across the road an inquiry whether 'yonder was' a lad or a lass'.

D. as *sb.* 1. (*nonce-use*.) Something beyond.

1888 MEREDITH *Hymn to Colour* vii, His touch is infinite and lends A yonder to all ends.

2. [After quot. 1939.] The far and trackless distance; usu. with preceding adj.

1939 R. CRAWFORD *Army Air Corps* (song), Off we go in to the wild blue yonder, Climbing high into the sun. 1948 *N. Y. World Telegram* 30 Dec. 11/6 A pilot... took wing into that wonderful yonder on a training flight. 1967 C. COCKBURN *I, Claud* xxxiii. 410 The ex-editor of *The Week* had suddenly appeared out of the deep green yonder of Ireland. 1974 *Times* 26 Feb. 12/3 Mr. Wilson's... policy for controlling inflation, which consists of holding down prices by law while letting wages go up, up, up into the wide blue yonder. 1979 'D. KYLE' *Green River* High viii. 103 My father had vanished into the great green yonder of a million square miles of jungle. 1985 W. GOLDING *Egyptian Journal* iv. 57 Minya is a centre for scarping, for fading away, for disappearing into the blue yonder.

Hence 'yonderly *a.*, *dial.*, 'distant', reserved, sullen; depressed, gloomy, melancholy; † *yondermair adv.* *Sc.*, farther; † *yondermest a.* *Sc.*, farthest, most distant (cf. YONDMOST); † *yonderward adv.* [cf. Du. *ginderwaerts*], in yonder or the other direction, thither; farther off; † *yonderway*, by that way, in that manner. 1828 *Craven Gloss.*, *Yonderly, grave, sullen, distant. I have not often heard this word. 1863 WAUGH *Lanc. Songs* 28 Thae's looked very yonderly mony a day. 1513 DOUGLAS *Aeneis* VIII. xi. 48 Syne '3onder mayr was schapin in the feild The dansand prestis, clepit Salii. 1808 JAMIESON *s.v.* *Yound*, *Sit yontermert*, ... sit farther off. 1513 DOUGLAS *Aeneis* VIII. xii. 31 The '3ondermaist [v.r. The zoundermaist] pepill, clepit Baktranis. *Ibid.* x. vi. 148 Nou presis this syde, and now '3onderwart. 1535 COVERDALE *J. Sam.* xx. 37 The arowe lyeth yonderwarde before the. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 197/7 *Yonderway, *illac, illo modo*.

† **yonders**, *a.* *Obs. rare*—1. *a.* = YONDER *a.* 3. (Cf. *enders*, ENDER *a.*) *b.* Next following.

c 1510 *Songs* (MS. Royal, App. 58) in *Anglia* XII. 265 This yonders nyght I herd a wyght most heuily complayne.

a 1650 *Sir Lambewell* 232 in Furniv. & Hales *Percy Folio* (1867) l. 153, I shall die this yenders night.

'yondmost, *a. Sc. ? Obs.* Also 7 yonmest. [f. YOND *a.* + -MOST.] Farthest, most distant; farthest advanced, extreme, utmost; also *absol.* (*the yondmost*) = the uttermost.

1608 *Burgh Rec. Glasgow* (1876) 286 It is maist ncesser that ane bulwork or butradge be bigit befor the yonmest piller of the said brig except ane. 1640 R. BAILLIE *Canterb. Self-convict.* 3 They... at last have wrought their yondmost myne to that perfection, that it is now readie to spring under our walls. 1650 MONTROSE in M. Napier *M. & Covenanters* (1838) II. 539 That then you should have... entered into a League and Covenant with them against the King, was the thing I judged my duty to oppose to the yondmost. a 1653 BINNING *Serm.* (1845) 468 A Christian assaulted with many temptations should unite his strength and try the yondmost. a 1658 DURHAM *Comm. Rev.* vi. vi. (1660) 360 Death and the Grave came as the yondmost step of temporall affliction. 1716 WISHART *Theologia* 393 Here the Mercy of God is gone to the Yondmost.

yondsame: see YOND *a.*¹ 2.

† yondward, *adv. Obs.* In 3 3eondward, 5 yondeward. [f. YOND + -WARD. Cf. (M)Du. *ginswaert(s)*, Goth. *jaindwairps*. Cf. YONWARD.] In a direction away from the speaker; thither.

c 1205 LAY. 30781 þe an hine putte hiderward and þe oðer hine putte 3eondward. 1485 CAXTON *Trevisa's Higden* II. ii. (1527) 59 b, Antypodes... their fete towarde oures and theyre hede yondeward [1387 TREVISA 3onward].

yone, obs. form of YON.

yo-necked, corrupt or dial. f. EWE-NECKED.

1836 HALBURTON *Clockm.* Ser. i. ix, The nasty yo necked, eat hammed, ... good for nothin brutes.

† y-oned [OE. *ȝeāned*: Y- 4, ONE v.], united. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 341 3e moste commune wiþ us þat 3e be i-oned [*MS.* β yooned; γ y-oned] to Crist his lymes. *Ibid.* VII. App. 534 He helde... these bischopriches so ooned [*MS.* γ y-oned] with thre cuntrayes that longed therto.

† yong, *sb. Obs.* Forms: 1 *Northumb.* (hin)iong, ȝeong, 3 3eong(e, (3oing?, 3eone-), 3-4 3ong(e. [OE. (*Northumb.*) ȝeong, and in comp. *hiniong* departure, *inȝeong* entrance, *ūtȝeong* exit, *ymbȝeong* 'decurus, ambitus': of obscure origin; cf. next.] Going; gait; travelling, journey; course.

3ongdawes, Rogation Days; cf. GANG-DAYS. c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark i. 3 *Rectas facite semitas eius*, rehta doeð *vel* wyrcaas stig *vel* geongas his. *Ibid.* Luke ii. 44 *Uenerunt iter dieti*, cuomon ȝeong dæges. c 1205 LAY. 1298 beonene he ferdon forð wel feole dawen 3ong. a 1225 *Leg. Kath.* 500 Earen buten herunge, honden buten felunge, fet buten 3onge. *Ibid.* 569 Ich... wule... wið kinewurðe ȝeoues ȝelden ow hehliche owre 3ong hider. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 412 Uridawes and umbridawes and 3oing dawes [*v.rr.* 3ong dahes, 3eondcāzes]. a 1300 *Sayings of Bernard* 184 (*MS.* Laud 108) in Herrig's *Archiv* LII. 33 3is ridingue and pis proute 3ong. a 1327 in *Rel. Ant.* I. 124 Nou nabbe y nout that 3ong, That speche, ne that song.

** Illustration of compounds (see etym. above).

a 900 *Bede's Death-song* in *O.E. Texts* 149 Aer his himionge. c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark Introd. 4 Of uneaðallice wlonga inngeonges in ric godes. *Ibid.* Matt. xxii. 9 ȝeongas forðon to utgeong ðære wegana [*Rushw.* utgengum]. c 1205 LAY. 28370 þa burhweren... warnden him inȝeong. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 62 þurh eie purles deað hæueð hire inȝong into þe soule. *Ibid.* 206 To openen þet inȝong & leten in sunne. a 1240 *Sawles Ward* in *O.E. Hom.* I. 247 Forte sechen in 3ong abute þe wahes. c 1320 *Cast. Love* 878 þorw þe faste 3at he con in teo, And at þe out-3ong he lette faste beo.

† yong, *v. Obs.* Forms: 1 *Northumb.* ȝeonga, 3 ȝunge, ȝeonge, -ȝenge, -yenge [see MISYENGE, to go astray], 3-4 3onge, 4-5 yonge, 5 ȝynge; *pa. pple.* 3 -ȝeong, -e(n, -ed. [OE. (*Northumb.*) ȝeonga, and in comp. *foreȝeonga* to go forward, *inȝeonga* to enter, *ūtȝeonga* to go out, **ymbȝeonga* to surround (*pa. t.* *ymbéade*): cf. *prec.*] *intr.* To go.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Mark xiv. 42 *Surgite eamus*, arisað ȝæ we *vel* wuton ȝeonga. c 1205 LAY. 8436 Euelin i-seh enne gume zungen him bi-halfues. c 1275 *Ibid.* 9061 Nas hit noht longe þat he ne com 3onge. 13... *Pol. Songs* (Camden) 216 Now Kyng Hobbe in the mures 3ongeth. a 1375 *Joseph Arim.* 313 þenne þei wenden heore wei and to þe court 3ongen. c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* IV. 641 And wrie hem fest, lest wynd theynto yonge. a 1450 MYRC *Par. Pr.* 1851 Make þy clerk before þe ȝynge, To bere lyzt, and belle ryng.

** Illustration of compounds (see etym. above; also ME. *pa. pples.* *ȝeong(en)* passed, *bizeonge* surrounded).

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. xix. 23 Wlonc uneaðe inngeongas in ric heofna. c 1205 LAY. 9364 þe sæ wes ȝeonged [*MS.* -eð], þe scipen stoden a londe. *Ibid.* 23557 þa feowur wiken weoren ȝonged [c 1275 agon]. *Ibid.* 23702 In þan æitlonde þe mid watere is bizeonge. *Ibid.* 28893 þe alde king dædeð, his dæges weoren ȝeonge. *Ibid.* 30552 þa nisen dæges weoren ȝeong. c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* II. 214 Vp they goth vche as her seed is, And letuce in their leues vmbiyonge. *Ibid.* IV. 437 With seefroth other hæue hem vmbiyonge.

yong(e, 3ong(e, etc., obs. ff. YOUNG, etc.

† yongate, *adv. Sc. Obs.* In 4 3ongat. [f. YON *a.* + GATE *sb.*² 9 b.] In that way.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* III. 171 It semys it likis the perfoy, That he slayis 3ongat our mengze.

yongfrow: see YUFFROUW.

yongker, obs. form of YOUNKER.

|| yoni (['jəʊni]). [*Skr.*] A figure or symbol of the female organ of generation as an object of veneration among the Hindus and others. Hence 'yonic *a.*

1799 *Asiatick Researches* III. 363 The navel of Vishnu, by which they mean the *os tinca*, is worshipped as one and the same with the sacred *yóni*. 1879 M. MACFIE *Relig. Parall.* 27 The yonic or moon-worshippers of Chaldea... The yonic symbolism professed by their remote ancestors in Turkestan, who were originally worshippers of the female principle. 1906 WHATHAM in *Amer. Jyml. Relig. & Psychol.* II. 44 In nature-worship, all natural orifices were revered as representing the yoni of the mother-earth goddess.

yonike, obs. form of IONIC *a.*¹

1598 FLORIO, *Cartoccio*, ... a kinde of yonike worke in building.

yonk, yonker: see JUNK *sb.*³, YOUNKER.

yonks (['jɒŋks]). *slang.* [Origin unknown.] A long time, 'ages'; chiefly in phr. *for yonks*.

1968 *Daily Mirror* 27 Aug. 7/1, I rang singer Julie Driscoll... She said: 'I haven't heard from you for yonks.' 1977 'J. GASH' *Judas Pair* iv. 54 Any man that says he can remain celibate for yonks on end is not quite telling the truth. 1980 *Oxford Times* 20 June 18 Even though Gabriel left Genesis yonks ago, his music and particularly his vocals remind one of Genesis. 1984 *Listener* 10 May 32/2 The English have been writing poetry for yonks, and have become damned good at it too. 1985 A. BLOND *Book Book* ix. 142 Nicholas Bagnall and David Holloway have run the *Telegraph's* book pages for yonks.

yonnie (['jɒni]). *Austral. slang.* [Origin unknown.] A small stone; a pebble.

1941 BAKER *Dict. Austral. Slang* 84 Yonnie, a small stone, a pebble. 1979 *Sun-Herald* (Sydney) 18 Mar. 79 There were two lamp posts... each equipped with one electric bulb... Young couples courting would smash each of them with a well-aimed 'yonnie' on pay night.

yons (['zɒns]), obs. form of ONCE *adv.*

c 1400 tr. *Secr. Secr., Gov. Lordsh.* 100 And he 3ons put him to folk of disceplyne.

† yonsame (in rustic speech), = *yon same*: see YON *a.* I.

1565 GOLDING *Ovid's Met.* II. (1567) 26 Vnder yonsame hill they were, and vnder yonsame hill Cham zure they are.

yonside (['jɒnsaid]), *sb., adv., and prep.* [The phrase *yon side* (YON *a.*, SIDE *sb.*¹) taken as one word: cf. INSIDE, OUTSIDE. Cf. LG. *gunsiet*, -*syts*, G. *jenseits*.] A. *sb.* The farther side; the other side.

1535 COVERDALE *Hos.* v. 8 Crie out at Bethauen vpon the yonside of Ben lamen. 1856 MEREDITH *Shav. Shagpat, Well of Paravid* 156 The sun... sank on the yonside of the mountain. 1912 *Sat. Rev.* 1 June 690/2 Visions of the things of the 'yonside' as his Lincolnshire flock love to term the hereafter.

B. *adv.* On the farther side (*of*).

1681 W. ROBERTSON *Phrasel. Gen.* 1361 Yonside, *ab illa regione*. 1878-9 LANIER *Street-Cries, How Love looked for Hell* 23 As I rode down, and the River was black, And yonside, lol an endless wrack. 1901 H. TRENCH *Deirdre Wed* II. 12 Yonside of Assaroe the swineherd found her.

C. *prep.* On the farther side of; beyond.

1856 MEREDITH *Shav. Shagpat, Genie Karaz* 147 A phial full of the waters of Paravid from the wells in the mountain yonside the desert.

† yonste. *Obs. rare.* [ad. early Du. *gonst*, now *gunst* favour; cf. YON *v.*] Favour.

1481 CAXTON *Reynard* viii. (Arb.) 14 Ye shal wel vnderstande the very yonste and good wyl that I bere to you ward.

yont, var. YOND.

yont(e, yonture, obs. ff. JOINT *sb.*, JOINTURE.

1422 YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* 225 That haue... moore flesshe fro the Ioyntures ypwarde, than fro the yontures downwarde. 1597 *Pilgr. Parnass.* I. 62 Whose yonts youe see are dryde, benumd and coulede.

yonthe (['zɒŋθe]), var. YOUNGTH *Obs.*, youth.

yonther, obs. form of YONDER.

† yonward, *adv. Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. YON + -WARD.] = YONDWARD.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) II. 205 [Antipodes] here feet toward oure, and hire heed 3onward.

yoo, yoooff, yook, yool(e: see EWE *sb.*¹, YEA, YOUNF *v.*, YUKE, YULE.

yoo-hoo (['ju:hu:]), *int. (sb.)* [Cf. YOHO *int.*] A call made to attract attention, esp. to one's arrival or presence; also as *sb.*

1924 *Dialect Notes* V. 280 Yoo-hoo! (call). 1926 *New Yorker* 2 Jan. 18/3 Yoo-hoo! When did your school let out? 1937 M. ALLINGHAM *Case of Late Pig* vii. 49 He opened the breakfast-room door. 'Yoo-hoo!' said someone inside. 1946 A. MARSHALL in Murdoch & Drake-Brockman *Austral. Short Stories* (1951) 316 There was a faint 'yoo-hoo!' from behind us. We all turned. 1959 L. LEE *Cider with Rosie* 150 I'm coming—yoo-hoo! Just mislaid my gloves. 1959 A. WESKER *Roots* I. 16 Girl's Voice (off): Yoo-hoo! Any one

home? 1970 J. UPDIKE *Bech* 182 Mildred... waved an alabaster, muscular arm: 'Yoo-hoo, Henry, over here.' 1973 E. BULLINS *Theme is Blackness* 62 Yoo Hoo up there! Someone will be up to give you a hand with the rest of those things. 1983 'J. GASH' *Sleepers of Erin* viii. 61 Patrick... trilled a roguish yoo-hoo.

Hence 'yoo-hoo, 'yoo-hoo *v. intr. and trans.*, to call 'yoo-hoo!' (to); 'yoo-hooing *vbl. sb.*

1948 D. BALLANTYNE *Cunninghams* 14 He... yoo-hooed for a chair. 1954 *Partisan Rev.* Nov.-Dec. 599 Life, despite their frantic yoo-hooing, had passed them by. 1957 J. KEROUAC *On Road* I. xiii. 88 Then they yoo-hooed us. 1969 'E. LATHEN' *When in Greece* xxii. 231 Leaving the ladies to their yoo-hooing, the three men followed the officer's directions. 1978 'J. GASH' *Gold from Gemini* iii. 24 Patrick yoo-hooed me over to his place. 1982 — *Firefly Gadroon* xiii. 122 Margaret blew a kiss... Patrick yoo-hooed.

yoolughan, var. ULLAGONE.

yoong, yoonker, obs. ff. YOUNG, YOUNKER.

yoop (ju:p), *sb. and int.* Also youp. A word expressing the sound made by convulsive sobbing; also as an exclamation.

1848 THACKERAY *Van. Fair* i, The hysterical yoops of Miss Swartz. 1854 — *Rose & Ring* xix, Mrs. Jenkins, giving a dreadful youp, fell down in a fit. 1865 DICKENS *Mut. Fr.* III. vii, 'Yoop!' cried Wegg. 'You're there, are you?'

yoore, yoow, obs. forms of YORE, YOU.

yop, var. YAWP, YAUP *sb.*

yop(e)indail(l, etc.: see YOKINDALE.

† y-opened [Y- 4], opened.

1297, etc. [see OPEN *v.*] c 1450 *Two Cookery-bks.* 114 Yopened & ywasshe clene.

yopon, yor (3or), Yordan, obs. ff. YAPON, YOUR, JORDAN.

† y-ordayned, -deined, ME. *pa. pple.* of ORDAIN *v.*

yore (jɔə(r)), *adv. (a.) arch.* Forms: 1 ȝeara, ȝara, iara, ȝeare, ȝearo, 3 ȝar, ȝeare, ȝaure, 3-5 ȝare, 3-6 yare, ȝore, 4 yar, 5 yoore, 6 ȝoir, youre, 4- yore. [OE. *ȝeára*, also *ȝeäre*, *ȝeáro*, advb. formations of obscure origin.]

† 1. A long time ago; of old; freq. strengthened by *full*; also in collocation with *ago*, *agone*. Phr. *it is (gone) yore (that...)*: long ago. *Obs.*

Beowulf 2664 Swa ðu on ȝeogudfeore ȝeara ȝecwæde. c 900 tr. *Bæda's Hist.* II. xiii, ȝeare ic þæt onȝeat þæt ðæt nowiht was þæt we beoðdan. *Ibid.* III. xxii, Is se [sc. tun] be ðam wealle þe ȝearo Romane Breotone ealonde begyrdon twelf milum fram eastsæ. c 975 *Rushw. Gosp.* Matt. xi. 21 Olim, Iara. a 1000 *Boeth. Metr.* i. 1 Hit was ȝeara iu ðætte Gotan eastan of Sciððia sceldas læddon. c 1050 *Voc.* in W.-Wülcker 427/6 Iam, ȝeara, oppe ȝeogara. c 1205 LAY. 4650 þe king him ȝef Delcan þe ȝare wes mi leouemon. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 88 ȝare hit is þet ich wuste herof. a 1300 *Floriz & Bl.* 653 Nis noȝt ȝore þat i ne com And fond hire wiþ hordom. c 1386 CHAUCER *Sir Thopas* Prol. 19 (Harl. 7334) Other tale certes can I noon But of a rym I lerned þere agoon. c 1400 *Gamelyn* 257 Sithen I wrastelet first it is gone ȝore. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 13968 Til a ȝer was full yore yarkit to end, And a halfe, er þat end happit to fare. a 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 1008 All þe ȝeris of oure ȝouthes es ȝare syne passid. a 1425 *Cursor M.* 5672 (Trin.) Wolout me sle herfore As þou didest þe egipcian not ȝore? 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 5696 And for that skyle gon ful yore, ... I callede the my paramour. ? a 1500 *Chester Pl.* (E.E.T.S.) xx. 27 He dyed on Rood, gone is not yore. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XIII. Pref. 3 ȝoir ago, in myne ondantit ȝowth. c 1532 DU WES *Introd. Fr.* in *Palsgr.* 927 Yare so, aincois ainsy. a 1542 WYATT *Poems*, 'Ryght true it is', Ryght true it is, and said full yore agoo. a 1550 in *Dunbar's Poems* (S.T.S.) 320 The Gret Forlore Of Babylon, that I full yore Espousit. 1613 CAWDREY *Table Alph.*, Yore, long agoe, before.

† 2. In time past; formerly, before. *Obs.*

a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1180 Ich not ȝef þu were ȝaure prest. c 1350 *Will. Palerne* 1503 God... graunt ȝou ioie, For þe worchipe þat ȝe han wrut to me ȝore. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* xxiii. (vii *Sleperis*) 258 [He] lukyt vpe, & saw þare þe sammyne takine he saw yare. c 1400 *Rom. Rose* 7597 Thus seide I now, and haue seid yore. c 1450 *Cursor M.* 2651 (Laud) Abraham hast þou yore by cald, That name no lenger shalt þou hald. ? a 1500 *Chester Pl.* (E.E.T.S.) xxiv. 513 Doe as thou hast yore beight. 1570 LEVINS *Manip.* 174/34 Yore, before, ante, prius. 1574 *Mirr. Mag.*, Kimarus xii, A iust rewarde, for so vniust a life, No worse a death, then I deserued yore.

† 3. For a long time (past, or rarely to come).

c 1275 *XI Pains of Hell* 23 in *O.E. Misc.* 147 In helle ich habbe yare ibeo. a 1300 *Vox & Wolf* 169 in Hazl. *E.P.P.* I. 63 The wolf haueth honger swithe gret, For he nedde ȝare i-ete. c 1386 CHAUCER *Clerk's T.* 12 Thus in delit he lyueth and hath doon yoore. c 1430 LYDG. *Chichevache & Bycorne* in Dodsley *O. Pl.* (1827) XII. 304 And thus ye stonde and have don yore. 1522 *World & Child* Cj, In englonde haue I dwelled yore.

4. of yore: *a. in advb.* use: Of old, in time long past, anciently, formerly. Also † of yore ago(ne, † long yore: long ago.

a 1375 *Joseph Arim.* 317 Werdes of Ebrey weren I-written of ȝore. c 1385 CHAUCER *L.G.W.* Prol. 13 For that he say it nat of ȝore a-go. 1430-40 LYDG. *Bochas* IX. xiv. (1554) 202 b/2 She was the same that of yore agon, Unworthele sate in Peters place. 1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* July 116 The saynctis Which han be dead of yore [*Gloss* long agoe]. c 1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* lxxviii, To shew faulse Art what beauty was of yore. 1632 MILTON *Penseroso* 23 Thee bright hair'd Vesta long of yore, To solitary Saturn bore. 1784 COWPER *Task* II.

591 A form, not now gymnastic as of yore. **1819** SCOTT *Ivanhoe* i, Here haunted of yore the fabulous Dragon of Wantley. **1862** KINGSLEY in *Life & Lett.* (1877) I. 477, I have defended the right of combination among the workmen, in hope that they would become wiser than of yore. **1867** 'OUIDA' Cecil Castlemaine's *Gage* 19 Proud Cecil Castlemaine was yet prouder than of yore.

b. in *adj.* use: Belonging to time long past, ancient, former.

1598 Mucedorus IV. iii. 72 In time of yore. **1612** DRAYTON *Poly-olb.* v. 338 His Bishoprick of yore. **1705** POPE *Jan. & May* 514 Well sung sweet Ovid, in the days of yore. **1809-10** COLERIDGE *Friend* I. v. (1865) 134 This is altogether different from the village politics of yore. **1814** WORDSW. *Excurs.* II. 1 In days of yore how fortunately fared The Minstrel! **1820** W. IRVING *Sketch Bk.* I. 80 (*Rip van Winkle*) The quiet little Dutch inn of yore. **1883** WHITELAW *Sophocles, Philoct.* 1151 For now I hold not in my hands The mighty shafts of yore.

c. With other preps.: e.g. †*for yore* (obs.); in *yore* (pseudo-arch.). *rare*.

13.. E.E. Allit. P. A. 586 3et oþer þer werne... þat swange & swat for long 3ore. **c 1350** Will. *Palerne* 4174 Hire mi sone is founde þat sche for 3ore saide was sonk in þe see. **1876** MORRIS *Æneids* v. 865 In yore agone.

5. as *adj.* Of old time; ancient, former. *arch.* and *dial.* †*yore while* (advb. phr.), some time ago. *Yore-flood* (nonce-use), the biblical Flood. *yore-day* is an echo of OE. *on geárdagum*, ON. *i árdaga* in days of yore.

13.. E.E. Allit. P. A. 322 Oure 3ore fader hit con mysseþeme. *Ibid.* B. 842 þete vus out þose 3ong men þat 3ore-whyle here entred. **c 1400** *Destr. Troy* 9959 So hatnet hir hert in his hegh loue, And all 3omeryng for-yeton of hir yore dedes. **1866** G. STEPHENS *Runic Mon.* I. p. v, Thousands of books and yore-day things. **1876** G. M. HOPKINS *Wreck of Deutschland* xxxii, in *Poems* (1967) 62, I admire thee, master of the tides, Of the Yore-flood.

yore, 3ore: see EWER², ORE¹, YARE, YOUR.

yores, dial. or obs. form of YOURS.

yorezeit, var. YAHRZEIT.

||**yorgan** (jɔ:'gan). Also yorghān. [Turk.] A quilt.

1914 *Blackw. Mag.* Dec. 759/2 He...brought a heavy quilted yorghān, a warm covering for the coldest night. **1962** Times 6 June 16/7 Blankets and silk yorgans—Turkish eiderdowns.

Y organ. Zool. Also y organ and with hyphen. [tr. F. *organe* Y (M. Gabe 1953, in *Compt. Rend.* CCXXXVII. 111), after X ORGAN.] An endocrine gland in certain crustaceans which secretes a hormone that causes moulting.

1959 E. SCHARER in E. Gorbman *Compar. Endocrinol.* 239 The final common path for the resulting decision to molt is represented by the neurosecretory cell which presumably activates the Y-organ. **1965** LEE & KNOWLES *Animal Hormones* xi. 137 The Y organ is located in the antennary segment of those species which have a maxillary excretory organ, and in the second maxillary segment of those which have an antennary excretory organ. **1973** *Nature* 9 Mar. 133/2 An insect does not enter premolt if its thoracic glands have been removed, nor a crustacean if its y-organs have been removed.

York (jɔ:k), *sb.*¹ [OE. *Eoforwic*, later *Efer-*, *Euerwic*, ME. *Everwik*, also *Yerk* (Havelok), surviving in Lincolnshire dial. *Yerksheer*, and *York* (cf. ON. *c 960* *Jörvik*, later *Jork*), ad. L. *Eboracum*, with addition of *wic* dwelling.]

1. a. The name of a city in N. Yorkshire (the capital of the former county of Yorkshire); used attrib. in names of things originating from or peculiar to York or Yorkshire, as *York ham*, †*York robe*, *York tan*. York-Antwerp rules [adopted at York in 1864 and modified at Antwerp in 1877], an international set of rules governing the application of general average in marine insurance. York-paving, paving with Yorkshire stone. York pitch (of a plane): see quot. 1875 and PITCH *sb.*² 24g; hence York-pitched a. York use *Eccl.*: see USE *sb.*¹

1794 WALDRON *Heigho for Husb.* III. i. 27 There's not a week goes over her head, but she [sc. the mistress] says to me... Maria, my dear, you may take that polonese, or York-robe, or pierrot, or whatever dress it happens to be. **1815** JANE AUSTEN *Emma* xxiv, While the sleek, well tied parcels of 'Men's Beavers' and 'York Tan' were... displaying on the counter. **1826** MISS MITFORD *Village Ser.* II. *My Godfather's Manœuvring*, [He] actually drew my York-tan gloves from my astonished hands, and substituted a pair of his own best white kid. **1853** WHYTE-MELVILLE *Digby Grand* x, The Major's York-tan gaiters. **1861** *Skyrings Builders' Prices* 87 York paving, per foot super...os. 8d. **1875** *Carpentry & Join.* 144 Knotted or crosse-grained wood can [only] be planed... with a special tool, of which the iron is placed at a more obtuse angle... For deal and soft wood this is 45 degs., or common pitch; for mahogany and hard wood 50 degs., or York pitch. **1877** HELLYER *Plumber* vii. 54 The other compartment should be sealed over... with a piece of York stone. [1877] TWISS & JENCKEN in H. D. Jencken *York & Antwerp Rules* 20 The Rules which your committee now bring before you as the basis for a uniform system of General Average for all maritime countries, and to which the title might be given of the 'York and Antwerp Rules', are appended.] **1881** R. LOWNDES *Pract. Treat. Law Marine Insurance* vii. 203 The York-Antwerp Rules constitute a sort of international code of general average, not as yet obligatory. **1897** *Westm. Gaz.* 7 Apr. 2/3 A ham is a 'York' ham if composed of English meat and prepared in Yorkshire or 'in contiguous counties or places'. **1913** *Engl.*

Rev. Apr. 110 The wood, being cut, is planed up and finished with a 'York-pitched' plane. **1970** York ham [see *Cambridge sausage* s.v. CAMBRIDGE]. **1974** E. R. H. IVAMY *Marine Insurance* (ed. 2) xiv. 191 The policy almost invariably provides that either a foreign law or the York-Antwerp Rules 1974 shall apply. **1983** *Harrods Mag.* Xmas. 44/1 At Christmas the whole York ham, costing £35. **1984** J. GRIGSON *Brit. Cookery* 122 Today, York ham has become a generalised term, meaning no more than a mild cured ham.

b. as predicative adj. connoting the character of a Yorkshireman: cf. YORKSHIRE 2.

1856 LEVER *Martins of Cro' M.* xxxix, Don't lose your time trying to humbug me, I'm 'York' too.

c. Short for *Yorkshire cabbage*.

1823 COBBETT *Rur. Rides* 26 July (1885) I. 210 They appear to be early Yorks, and look very well. **1841** J. T. HEWLETT *Parish Clerk* I. 102 Large patches of early yorks.

2. Pertaining to the royal house of York; *spec.* = YORKIST 1 b.

York pence, copper coins of the reign of Henry VI. *York and Lancaster rose* (see quot.); hence allusive use of *York and Lancaster* in quot. 1653.

14.. *Norwich Corporation Records* (Halliiv.) Pens of topens fabricatis de ære vocatis brasenpens, secundum formam et similitudinem denar. vocat. Yorkpens. **1653** CLEVELAND *Upon Phillis walking* 26 Poems 22 And he that for their colour seeks, May find it vaulting in her cheeks, Where Roses mix: no civil war Between her York and Lancaster. **1688** HOLME *Armoury* II. 62/2 The York and Lancaster Rose, is half white, half red in the leaves: but in Heraldry it is a white Rose, in a red Rose. **1759** HUME *Hist. Eng.* I. i. 4 Henry himself... had imbibed a violent antipathy to the York party. *Ibid.* 8 The retainers of the York family. **1837** RIVERS *Rose Amateur's G.* 12 The true York and Lancaster Rose is a Damask Rose.

3. One of the heralds of the College of Arms. **1630** B. JONSON *New Inn* II. vi, She's a wild-Irish borne! Sir, and a Hybride, That... studies Vincent against Yorke. **1766** [see HERALD *sb.* 1 c].

4. = New York; in *York shilling*, (a) in U.S.A. 12½ cents, (b) in Canada sixpence.

1824 *Microscope* (Albany) 27 Mar. (Thornton *Dict. Amer.*), The bill amounted to the enormous sum of one York shilling for each gentleman. **1883** SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade Suppl.*, *York shilling*, a name in Western Canada for the English sixpence.

5. The name of *York Factory*, a trading settlement in northeastern Manitoba, used attrib. in York boat, a type of inland cargo boat used in Canada between c 1790 and 1930.

1864 *Nor' Wester* (Red River Settlement) 26 Apr. 2/5 Gentlemen of practical experience gave their opinion that the present York boats (bateaux) could be used for the transportation of goods from Lake of the Woods to Lake Superior with as little difficulty as is encountered between this place and York Factory. **1909** G. BRYCE *Romantic Settlement Lord Selkirk's Colonists* 71 The birch-bark canoe is a mere trifle on the portage, but the heavy York boat capable of carrying three or four tons is a clumsy lugger. **1971** R. RUSSELL *Carlton Trail* 10 The company hired Scotsmen, Metis, and Indians to man brigades of York Boats.

york (jɔ:k), *sb.*² *dial.* Also yark, yer. [Perh. the same word as YERK, YARK *sb.*] Something used to tie a trouser leg beneath the knee. *Usu. pl.*

1905 *Eng. Dialect Dict.* V, *Yark*, a strap or piece of string to fasten the trousers to keep them free from mud. [Cites a quot. with 'yerks'.] **1958** K. ETHERIDGE *Welsh Costume* 66 When kneeling at the coal-face, dirt and small coal are apt to get inside the trouser-leg... Tying of the trouser leg just below the knee prevents this. A piece of string, or a leather strap... may be used for this. The strap... is called a 'york'. **1967** *Listener* 19 Oct. 504/3 The 'tyings' or straps worn below the knees... are, or were, used by the South Wales colliers, whose term for them is 'yorks'. **1977** SCOLLINS & TITFORD *Ey up, mi Duck!* III. 12 Mr. Flint, who played the Fool, wore moleskin trousers tied with 'yorks'. **1984** *Guardian Weekly* 22 Jan. 4/2 They wore corduroy trousers fastened below the knee with leather straps ('yarks' is the technical name).

york (jɔ:k), *v.*¹ *Cricket.* [Back-formation f. YORKER².] *trans.* To bowl (a batsman) out or strike (the wicket) with a yorker.

1882 *Australians in Engl.* 42 Butler was 'yorked' the second ball he received. **1888** A. G. STEEL *Cricket* (Badm. Libr.) iii. 169 [W. G. Grace loq.] I'm never frightened of him; he is always trying to 'york' you, and bowls any amount of half-volleys. **1904** *Daily Chron.* 19 July 7/3 The ball that bowled Tunncliffe started its flight a foot outside the off stump, at the finish it 'yorked' the middle stump.

york (jɔ:k), *v.*² [f. YORK *sb.*² Cf. YERK, YARK *v.*] *trans.* To keep up trouser legs by tying them with 'yorks'.

1960 R. WILLIAMS *Border Country* 258 The thongs which yoked the trousers legs just below the knees. **1969** M. HARRIS *Kind of Magic* 178 He always wore thick brown cord trousers yoked up below the knee with leather straps, and his face was the colour of a bit of old leather.

Yorker¹ (jɔ:kə(r)). [f. YORK *sb.*¹ + -ER¹.]

1. An inhabitant of York or Yorkshire; applied allusively (cf. YORKSHIRE 2).

1599 BUTTES *Diets Dry Dinner* Ep. Ded. A a j b, As for the Middle-sex or Londoner, I smell his Diet... Here is a Pipe of right Trinidad for him. The Yorkers they will bee content with bald Tabacodocko. What should I say? here is good Veale for the Essex-man. **1673** KIRKMAN *Unlucky Citizen* 158 She was a right Yorker, being of that Countrey breed, and as full of dissimulation and hipocrisy as most of that Countrey. **1847** H. MILLER *First Impr.* xiii. 232 The Yorkers contend that their organ is not only the greater, but also the finer organ of the two; whereas the Birminghamers assert, on the contrary, that theirs... plays vastly better. **1849**

H. W. HERBERT *Frank Forester* I. 75 Here's Archer, and another Yorker with him—leastwise an Engliher I should say.

2. An inhabitant or a soldier of New York.

1776 ABIGAIL ADAMS in *Fam. Lett.* (1876) 229 We are told for truth that a regiment of Yorkers refused to quit the city. **1876** BANCROFT *Hist. U.S.* V. xxii. 587 Sir John Johnson and some part of his royal Yorkers. **1883** *Harper's Mag.* Nov. 821/1 The settlers... hated... the 'Yorkers'.

yorker² (jɔ:kə(r)). *Cricket.* [? Same word as prec.] (See quot. 1888.)

1861 *Bell's Life* 25 Aug. (Suppl.) 2/1 Buchanan stopped sometime, and bothered the bowlers much, as he would not hit even a 'Yorker'. **1870** *Sporting Mag.* Oct. 99 A fast Yorker is as disagreeable a first ball as an incoming batsman could receive. **1888** A. G. STEEL *Cricket* (Badm. Libr.) iii. 133 The ordinary definition of a 'yorker' is a ball that pitches inside the crease, and this, no doubt, is correct so far as it goes, but it does not go far enough. It really should be, any ball that pitches directly underneath the bat. It is quite possible for a man to be bowled out with a 'yorker' when he is two or three yards out of his ground, if he misjudges the ball, and allows it to pitch directly beneath his bat, although the ball pitches as far from the crease as he is standing. The most deadly sort of 'yorker', however, is the one that pitches about three or four inches inside the crease.

yorker³ (jɔ:kə(r)). [f. YORK *sb.*² + -ER¹.] = YORK *sb.*²

1940 H. SPRING *Fame is Spur* xiii. 362 Checked mufflers... were at the throats of most [miners], and their trousers were hitched up with yorkers below the knee. **1972** [see NICKY TAM].

York gum. [Named after *York*, a town in Western Australia east of Perth.] A gum-tree, *Eucalyptus loxophleba*, of Western Australia, or its timber.

1846 [see GUM *sb.*² 5]. **1889** J. H. MAIDEN *Useful Native Plants Austral.* ix. 449 Samples of this timber were sent to the Colonial and Indian Exhibition under the name 'York gum' (*E. loxophleba*). **1934** T. WOOD *Cobbers* viii. 101 In addition to seeds for me—yates gum and york gum and mallee wattle—a cold turkey sat in the back seat. **1944** *Coast to Coast* 1943 60 The slope... rose towards his own home, a thin tracery of york-gums screening the house. **1965** *Austral. Encycl.* III. 407/1 York gum... and wandoo... are pale-coloured Western Australian timbers.

Yorkie (jɔ:ki). Also 9 Yorky. [f. YORK(SHIRE) + -IE, -Y⁸.]

1. A Yorkshireman; †a nickname for a Yorkshireman. *colloq.*

1818 P. EGAN *Boxiana* (ed. 2) II. 301 Yorky did not appear wholly without judgment. **1938** J. CURTIS *They drive by Night* xiii. 144 You're in Yorkshire now... Them Yorkies never was any good. **1950** W. BIRD *This is Nova Scotia* 14 The gallant young Yorkie hushed up her every attempt to talk. **1980** 'J. GASH' *Spend Game* x. 107 Joseph Bramah was a Yorkie, and a genius... His legendary lock patent is dated 1784.

2. A Yorkshire terrier. *colloq.*

1950 A. C. SMITH *Dogs since 1900* xiii. 321 A bigger Yorkie... is as satisfactory a companion as could be desired. **1967** A. GILBERT *Visitor* vi. 95 'Mrs. Warren is telling me poodles are out!'... 'And Yorkies are in?' I suggested. **1977** *S. Wales Echo* 18 Jan. 12/3 (Advnt.), Wanted, Toy Poodles... and Yorkies. **1984** *Hampstead & Highgate Express* 14 Dec. 27/5 Yorkie and Westie pups, inoculated, guaranteed.

Yorkish (jɔ:kɪʃ), *a. rare.* [f. YORK *sb.*¹ + -ISH¹.] = YORKIST 1 b.

a 1548 HALL *Chron., Hen. VI.* 171 b, As the Iewes disdayned the company of the Samaritans, so the Lancastrians abhorred the familiaritie of Yorkysh lynage. **1634** FORD *Perkin Warbeck* I. i, Idolls of Yorkish malice. **1829** SCOTT *Anne of G.* xxiv, Does Burgundy prepare to... make common cause with this Yorkish host against King Louis of France? **1884** *Leisure Hour* Feb. 102/2 All colours being admissible except the Yorkish white.

Yorkist (jɔ:kɪst), *sb.* (a.) [f. YORK *sb.*¹ (see below) + -IST.]

1. An adherent of the house of York, the English royal family which based its title on its descent from Lionel, Duke of Clarence, and Edmund, Duke of York (died 1402), the third and the fifth sons of Edw. III; or one of the party (whose emblem was the White Rose) which supported this family in the Wars of the Roses.

1601 WEEVER *Mirr. Mart.* Cv, Then high-resolved Hotspur... Join'd with the Yorkists, made a mutinie. **1643** BAKER *Chron., Hen. VI.* (1653) 280 From whence Richard Beauchampe Bishop of Salisbury, is sent to offer the Yorkists a full and generall pardon. **1726-31** TINDAL *Rapin's Hist. Eng.* (1743) I. xii. 583/1 The King having advanced with design to give Battle, the Yorkists sent him a very submissive Letter. **1829** SCOTT *Anne of G.* xxiv, Offering with large sums of money to purchase England to the Yorkists. **1856** MISS MULOCK *John Halifax* v, The Vineyards had been a battle-field; and under the long wavy grass... slept many a Yorkist and Lancastrian.

b. *attrib.* or as *adj.*

1823 S. TURNER *Hist. Eng.* III. II. 321 The Christmas of 1469, seemed to have ended all hostilities between these two Yorkist parties. **1861** *Sat. Rev.* 7 Dec. 586 The Yorkist poems are numerous. There is one on the reconciliation of Henry and Duke Richard. **1864** BOUTELL *Her. Hist. & Pop.* xx. (ed. 3) 339 The Yorkist Collar is formed of suns and roses.

2. A supporter of James, Duke of York (c 1680), in his claim to succeed to the crown on the death of his brother, Charles II.

1681 LUTTRELL *Brief Rel.* (1857) I. 124 The former [party] are called by the latter, tories, tantivies, Yorkists, high-flown church men, &c. **a 1734** *NORTH Examen* II. v. 59

(1740) 321 It is easy to imagine how rampant these Procurators of Power, the Exclusioners, were... Every where insulting and menacing the Loyallists... This Trade... naturally led to a common Use of slighting and opprobrious Words; such as Yorkist. [1858 KNIGHT *Pop. Hist. Eng.* IV. xxi. 350 The anti-exclusionists were first called Yorkists.]

3. An inhabitant of York: = YORKER¹ I. *rare*. 1796 *Sporting Mag.* VII. 55 Once a Cockney and Yorkist maintain'd a dispute, Whether London or York was of oldest repute.

Yorkshire (ˈjɔːkʃə(r)). [f. YORK sb.¹ + SHIRE 5.] Formerly, the name of the largest of the northern counties of England (comprising three ridings or administrative divisions). As a result of local-government re-organization in 1974, this region was divided into the three counties of North, West, and South Yorkshire (and some territory originally included in Yorkshire became part of Humberside). The name is still used loosely to designate the region covered by the former county or, more accurately, to that formed by the present three counties.

1. *attrib.* a. Pertaining to or characteristic of Yorkshire.

1683 G. M[ERITON] (*title*) A York-shire Dialogue, in its pure Natural Dialect. 1685 DRYDEN *Sylvæ* Pref. a6, Like a fair Shepherdess in her Country Russet, talking in a Yorkshire Tone. 1826 Zool. *Jrnl.* II. 555 An undescribed Fossil Animal from the Yorkshire Coal-field. 1859 *Househ. Words* 15 Jan. 148/2 His sullen, self-willed, local Yorkshire nature. 1886 KINGTON OLIPHANT *New Engl.* I. 31 Hampole's... 'Pricke of Conscience'... is in the Yorkshire dialect.

b. Applied to things originating in or cultivated especially in Yorkshire, as *Yorkshire ale*, *cabbage*, *cord*, *drab*, *fog*, (FOG sb.¹), *justian*, *gray*, *grit* (GRIT sb.¹ 2), *kidney* (potato), *pie*, *sanicle* (SANICLE 2), *shoe*, *stone*, *tyke* (TYKE 3), *white(s)*; Yorkshire bond, cement, light, maiden, mile (see *quots.*); Yorkshire chair, a type of 17th-century upright chair, usu. distinguished by an open backrest and arched cross-rails; Yorkshire fog, a perennial greyish-green grass, *Holcus lanatus*, bearing pale green or purplish panicles; Yorkshire pudding, a batter-pudding orig. baked under meat, now usu. cooked and served as a separate item to accompany roast beef; hence Yorkshire pud *colloq.*; Yorkshire Relish, the proprietary name of a kind of savoury sauce; Yorkshire teacake, a kind of baked yeast teacake occas. made with currants or sultanias; Yorkshire terrier, a small, long-coated, tan and blue-grey terrier belonging to a breed developed in the West Riding of Yorkshire about 1870.

1683 G. M[ERITON] (*title*) The Praise of *York-shire Ale. 1892 *Dict. Archit.*, *Yorkshire bond, or flying, or garden wall, bond, is chiefly used in building garden walls, one brick thick; the face shows three or four stretchers to one header; or five courses of stretchers to one of headers. 1786 ABERCROMBIE *Gard. Assist.* 228 Cabbage seed... some early dwarf sorts, early *Yorkshire. 1892 *Dict. Archit.*, *Yorkshire cement, the same as Mulgrave, Whitby, or Atkinson's cement. [1900 E. SINGLETON *Furnit. of Our Forefathers* I. 1. 46 There were not so many kinds of single chairs in the seventeenth century... There were two very favourite patterns, the Derbyshire and the Yorkshire... The Yorkshire model... is rather more ornamental.] 1906 W. E. MALLETT *Introd. Old Eng. Furnit.* 20 A solid oak chair of the Stuart period. These are often called *Yorkshire chairs. 1976 *Southern Even. Echo* (Southampton) 12 Nov. (Advt. Suppl.) 19/3, 4 Yorkshire chairs and 1 carver, £300. 1849 H. W. HERBERT *Frank Forester* I. 3 A pair of most voluminous unmentionables, of thick *Yorkshire cord. 1810 *Sporting Mag.* XXXVI. 240 A driving coat of *Yorkshire drab. 1874 C. C. BABINGTON *Man. Brit. Bot.* (ed. 7) 419 *H. lanatus*... Meadows and pastures... *Yorkshire Fog. 1954 C. E. HUBBARD *Grasses* 237 'Yorkshire Fog' is generally regarded as a weed, but when young it has some value for grazing. 1977 *New Yorker* 8 Aug. 58/3 The fairways were edged by the wispiest kind of rough—a thin, random collection of fescue, buttercups, plantain sowerweed, Yorkshire fog, dandelions, and assorted other weeds, grasses and wild flowers. 1612 in *Halyburton's Ledger* (1867) 308 *Yorkshire or Northern fusteanes. 1679 *Trials of T. White & Other Jesuits* 83 In Gray Cloaths, a Gray Coat like a Shepherds Coat, a *Yorkshire-Gray. 1892 *Dict. Archit.* s.v., *Yorkshire stone or Grit, is a name sometimes given to Bramley Fall stone; it is one of the most general of the sandstones sent to London, and is used for paving, copings, and other rough work. 1849 H. W. HERBERT *Frank Forester* III. 144 There was a *Yorkshire ham, which had not suffered so deeply by the last night's onslaught. 1842 LOUDON *Suburban Hort.* 639 The red-nosed kidney and the white *Yorkshire kidney. 1892 *Dict. Archit.*, *Yorkshire light, a term used in Lancashire, for a sliding sash. 1752 *Gentl. Mag.* Jan. 32/2 A Machine for washing of Linnen, called a *Yorkshire Maiden. 1711 E. WARD *Quix.* I. 44 Not caring to perform much more Than one good *Yorkshire Mile an Hour. 1889 *N.W. Linc. Gloss.*, *Yerkshere* mile, a long distance. 1838 DICKENS *Nich. Nick.* vii, A young servant girl brought in a *Yorkshire pie. 1894 *Garrett's Encycl. Pract. Cookery* II. 803/1 *Yorkshire Pie*. A pie under this name sold at Italian warehouses is nothing more than a galantine packed in terrines of different sizes. 1794 WEDGE *Agric. Chester* 23 The Rotherham or *Yorkshire plough. 1747 MRS. GLASSE *Cookery* 69 A *Yorkshire Pudding. Take a Quart of Milk, four Eggs, ... make it up into a thick Batter with Flour, like a Pancake Batter. 1832 MACAULAY in *Trevelyan Life* (1876) I. v. 272 They feed me on roast-beef and Yorkshire

pudding. 1836 [HOOTON] *Bilberry Thurland* I. vii. 140 At the bottom of all... lay about half an acre of sad and heavy Yorkshire pudding, like a leaden pancake. 1975 *New Society* 21 Aug. 411/2 The roast beef and *Yorkshire pud dinners provided on Sundays. 1976 C. BERMANT *Coming Home* II. iv. 169, I was given roast beef and Yorkshire pud. 1877 *Trade Marks Jrl.* 13 Jan. 78 *Yorkshire Relish... William Powell, of... the firm of Goodall Backhouse and Co., Leeds...; drysalters and general merchants. 1881 *Cassell's Family Mag.* Dec. 46/1 And two table-spoonfuls of Yorkshire Relish. 1926 *Daily Colonist* (Victoria, B.C.) 17 Jan. 7/7 (Advt.), Genuine Yorkshire Relish. 1770 BRIDGES *Burlesque Transl. Homer* (1797) II. 30 One Tychius, who dwelt in Hyle, Where *Yorkshire shoes are made most vilely. 1569 in *Black Bks. Linc. Inn* (1897) I. 449 For vj fote of *Yorksere stone for bassys of dorys. 1877 *Cassell's Dict. Cookery* 1157/2 *Yorkshire tea-cakes... Two pounds of good flour;... an ounce of German yeast... two well-beaten eggs and six ounces of butter... Leave it in a warm place to rise... Divide it into ten portions. 1945 'R. CROMPTON' *William & Brains Trust* v. 84 One of his happiest memories was the Yorkshire tea cakes that his mother used to make. 1977 E. DAVID *Eng. Bread & Yeast Cookery* 488 The following nineteenth-century recipe for plain Yorkshire tea cakes comes from... Marcus Woodward. [1871 R. PEARSON in *Field* 13 May 386/2 Some friends of mine in Yorkshire wish me to put a matter right in connection with dog shows, namely, the classification of a breed of dogs they claim as of Yorkshire origin—those beautiful blue and tan long-haired terriers, now sometimes entered in the Scotch and broken-haired, also rough-haired terrier classes. They with myself think it would much simplify the matter by calling them the 'Yorkshire blue and tan long-haired terrier'.] 1872 'STONEHENGE' *Dogs of Brit. Islands* (ed. 2) v. 108 The silver-grey *Yorkshire terrier is not a distinct breed, being merely a paler variety of the blue-tan. 1922 D. MATHESON *Terriers* 1. 188 Yorkshire Terriers are hardy, game little dogs. 1959 *Observer* 1 Feb. 12 Yorkshire Terrier. Coat should hang straight and evenly down each side. 1971 *Country Life* 6 May 1098/3 Mrs. Huxham makes it clear... how much pleasure and entertainment she gets from her gay little Yorkshire terriers.

c. The name of a breed of white pig, now widely bred for bacon.

1770 BRIDGES *Burlesque Transl. Homer* (1797) II. 319 A pastry-cook, That made good pigeon-pie of rook. Cut venison from Yorkshire hogs. 1845 *Encycl. Metropol.* XXV. 310/1 The Old Yorkshire Pig is by some considered as the very worst of the large varieties, very long legged, weak loined, not of strong constitution, nor good sty pigs, but yet quicker feeders. 1856 J. C. MORTON *Cycl. Agric.* II. 942/1 The Old Lincolnshire, or Yorkshire Pig, was one of the largest breeds in the kingdom, and probably the worst... The large breed, or improved wold pig, has probably undergone as great a change as any, and has become... the most profitable kind we have. 1914 'SAKI' *Beasts & Super-beasts* 24 Tarquin, the huge white Yorkshire boar-pig, had exchanged the narrow limits of his sty for the wider range of the grass paddock. 1974 *Encycl. Brit. Macropædia* X. 1281/2 The Yorkshire pig, which originated early in the 19th century in England, where it was considered a bacon type, is long, lean, and trim with white hair and skin. Found in most countries, this breed is probably the most widely-distributed in the world.

2. Used allusively, esp. in reference to the †boorishness, cunning, sharpness, or trickery attributed to Yorkshire people. *to come (or put) Yorkshire on one*, to cheat, dupe, overreach him. *Yorkshire bite*, a sharp overreaching action or person. †Also in prov. phr. *a pair of Yorkshire sleeves in a goldsmith's shop*, said of anything worthless.

1620 *Westward for Smelts* (Percy Soc.) 36 If she lived now, she would shew as vild as a paire of Yorkshire sleeves in a goldsmiths shop. 1624 A. HOLLAND *Contin. Inquis. Paper-Persec.* 85 England is all turn'd Yorkshire, and the Age Extremely sottish, or too nicely sage. 1650 *Brief Disc. betw. Yorkshiem. & Scottish-man* 1 Yorks. I am a Yorksbireman born and bred, I care not who knows it: I hope true Yorkshire never denies his county. *Scot.* I thought you looked like a subtle blade. 1700 *Step to the Bath* 10, I ask'd what Country-Man my Landlord was? Answer was made full North; and Faith 'twas very Evident, for he had put the Yorkshire most Damnable upon us. 1706 E. WARD *Wooden World Diss.* (1708) 53 He's more confident of his Way, than a Yorkshire Carrier. c 1747 J. COLLIER (Tim Bobbin) *View Lanc. Dial.* (1770) *Gloss.*, *Yorshar*, Yorkshire; to put Yorkshire of a Man, is to trick, cheat, or deceive him. 1795 *Gentl. Mag.* Aug. 629/1, I flatter myself that this will turn out to be a Yorkshire bite, and that the biter will be bit. 1796 HOLMAN *Abroad & at Home* I. i, I dare say, his Yorkshire simplicity will qualify him admirably for the profession! 1801 *Sporting Mag.* XIX. 114, I will not denominate your coursing correspondent a Yorkshire bite, for he only snaps. 1877 *N.W. Linc. Gloss.*, *Yerkshere*, Yorkshire. When anything is done very sharp or clever, we say 'that's real Yerkshere'. 1887 *S. Cheshire Gloss.*, *Yorshere*, cajolery, blarney, attempt to hoodwink or deceive. 'Let's ha' none o' yur Yorkshire.'

3. *ellipt.* as the designation of a thick coarse cloth made in Yorkshire, a breed of canary, (*pl.*) soldiers of a Yorkshire regiment; also short for *Yorkshire dialect*; *Yorkshire pudding*; a *Yorkshire pig*; a *Yorkshire terrier*.

1717 M. W. MONTAGU *Let.* 1 Apr. (1965) I. 333 'Tis as ridiculous to make use of the expressions commonly us'd, in speaking to a Great Man or a Lady, as it would be to talk broad Yorkshire or Somersetshire in the drawing room. 1726 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 6444/5 Speaks Yorkshire. 1753 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) I. vi. lxxxv. 390 Soldiers cloths, yorkshires, and flannels. 1849 PATON *Highl. Adriatic* II. xvii. 215 The Hausknecht and Stallknecht... speaking the broad dialect of the south-eastern provinces, a kind of Yorkshire to the classic language of the Schillers and Herders. 1898 *Westm. Gaz.* 31 Jan. 7/1 Fifteen of the Yorkshire Light Infantry killed; two Sikhs and thirty-one Yorkshires wounded. 1898 *Daily News* 28 Nov. 3/3 Slim and sprightly Yorkshires...contrast strongly with the

equally esteemed Lancashires of pale yellow plumage. 1898 J. D. BRAYSHAW *Slum Silhouettes* 235 Now's yer time, gents, fer a nice 'ot dinner, cut off the jint... an' two wedgetables; plum-tart or Yorkshire—a shilling. 1902 *Encycl. Brit.* XXV. 194/2 The latter [sc. recognized breeds] include the Large White, Middle White, and Small White, which were all formerly embraced under the general term of Yorkshires, and are still so called in other countries. 1908 *Daily Chron.* 7 Feb. 3/5 [Women] much prefer the graceful, stylish Yorkshire to the more rotund Norwich. 1922 D. MATHESON *Terriers* 1. 181 Originally designed as a sporting dog, the Yorkshire has gradually passed into a lap-dog. 1956 A. WILSON *Anglo-Saxon Attitudes* 1. ii. 41 Theo... said, 'Shame!' in his broadest Yorkshire. 1967 M. KENYON *Whole Hog* viii. 93 They're Large Whites. You [sc. Americans] call them Yorkshire. 1971 R. J. WHITE *Second-Hand Tomb* ix. 95 Rammel. That's Yorkshire for rubbish. 1977 J. WAMBAUGH *Black Marble* (1978) viii. 105 The handler two stations down had a Yorkshire with a touch-up. 1977 *S. Wales Guardian* 27 Oct. 5/3 Oh the joy of digging into tender roast beef and Yorkshire!

†4. = YORKIST b. *Obs.*

1643 BAKER *Chron.*, *Hen. VI* (1653) 278 All the enemies of the Yorkshire Faction are assembled by the Queen at Greenwich. 1792 E. SPELMAN & LEMON *Hist. Civ. Wars* 125 The earl of Warwick... came over to England, in order to put himself at the head of the Yorkshire insurgents.

Hence **Yorkshiredom**, the character of a Yorkshireman; **Yorkshir(e)ism**, an action or expression characteristic of a Yorkshireman.

1849 *Athenæum* 7 Apr. 356/2 Tim Matlock... who keeps his 'canny Yorkshire-dom' intact even on Jonathan's hunting-ground. 1849 C. BRONTE *Shirley* xviii, Mr. Hall's sincere friendly homily, with all its racy Yorkshiresms. 1962 P. BENTLEY *O Dreams, O Destinations* iv. 56 Her voice was pleasant, quite devoid of Yorkshirisms. 1971 J. WAINWRIGHT *Dig Grave & let him Lie* 128 'Aye.' The open-vowelled Yorkshirism was heavy with self-disgust.

Yorkshireman (ˈjɔːkʃəmən). A man of Yorkshire.

1549 THOMAS *Hist. Italie* 3 b, Betwene the Florentine and Uenetian is great diuersitee in speeche, as with vs betwene a Londoner and a Yorkshyreman. 1650 [see YORKSHIRE 2]. 1752 HUME *Ess.*, *Bal. Trade* (1777) I. 332 A melancholy Yorkshireman. 1808 SCOTT *Marmion* v. xvii, Yorkshyremen are stern of mood. 1820 — *Abbot* xvi, He was a bluff Yorkshireman. 1856 [H. H. HALL] *Post & Paddock* i, The Yorksbiremen generally direct their attention to quick returns.

'yorlin(g. Sc. and north. dial. Also 7 yourling, 9 yorline, yeorling, yarlin, yerlin. [Variant of YOWLRING; cf. YOLDRING.] A yellow-hammer.

1679 LOVELL *Indic. Univ.* 31 A Yellow-hammer or Yourling. 1789 D. DAVIDSON *Seasons* 151 Should at his feet a scared yorlin bir. 1813 HOGG *Queen's Wake, Kilmeny* i, It was only to heire the yorline syng. 1861 ATKINSON *Brit. Birds* Eggs 50, I used to hear in Berwickshire, that 'The Brock, the Toad, and the Yellow Yeörling, Get a drap o' the Deil's bluid ilka May morning.'

yorn(e, 3orn(e: sec YARN, YERN, YERNE.

yornyman, obs. form of JOURNEYMAN.

1553 *Cov. Lett Bk.* 806 For a yornyman or a Suffeycent servaunte not aboue vjd. a daye.

yort(e, obs. or dial. (Lancs.) f. YARD sb.¹

c 1515 *Exam. towcheynge Cokeye More* 9 (Chetham Misc. II.) & so vnto Ryngley yorte.

yort, yorth, 3orth, yoske, 3oske: see YOURT, EARTH, YEX.

yortzeit, var. YAHRZEIT.

Yoruba (ˈjɔruba), sb. and a. Also 9 Yarriba. [Native name.] A. sb. a. The language of the Yorubas, a tonal language of the Kwa group.

1841 *Outl. Vocab. Lang Western & Central Africa* 2 (heading) Ako, Eyo, Yabu, or Yarriba. 1843 S. CROWTHER (*title*) Vocabulary of the Yoruba language. Part I.—English and Yoruba, Part II.—Yoruba and English. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 755/1 The Bible and several religious treatises have been translated into Yoruba. 1927 E. S. PANKHURST *Delphos* v. 51 Yoruba, one of the African languages, conjugates its verbs as in English, though its vocabulary is entirely different. 1964 *New Statesman* 1 May 681/1 In Accra recently a Nigerian company, under the direction of the brilliant young artist Demas Nwoko, presented a dramatised version, in Yoruba, of Amos Tutuola's *The Palm-Wine Drinkard*. 1972 B. EMECHETA *In Ditch* i. 6 The landlady started scolding her husband in Yoruba.

b. (A member of) a Black people of western Nigeria and neighbouring parts.

1843 S. CROWTHER *Vocab. Yoruba Lang.* p. iii, The Yorubas, like other nations, have always considered themselves the first people in the world. 1897 M. H. KINGSLEY *Trav. W. Afr.* xiii. 526, I had a set of porters composed of four Bassa boys, two Wei Weis, one Dualla, and two Yorubas. 1937 *Discovery* July 225/1 The Yoruba have only the vaguest tradition of their own past. 1960 *Guardian* 15 July 14/3 The Yorubas live in the largest urban agglomerations to be found in traditional Africa. 1970 P. OLIVER *Savannah Syncopators* 32 Between the lands of the Ibo and those of the Ashanti (Akan) of the old Gold Coast (Ghana) lie the domains of the Yoruba of Nigeria and Dahomey.

B. *adj.* Of, pertaining to, or characteristic of this people.

1843 [see sense A. b above]. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 517/1 In the Yoruba lands the Church Missionary Society has 11 stations. 1938 J. CARY *Castle Corner* 357 Four big Yoruba soldiers. 1957 M. BANTON *W. Afr. City* viii. 153 A Yoruba secret society called *Engugun*. 1978 *Jrnl. R. Soc. Arts* CXXXVI. 366/2 In Nigeria, Yoruba woodcarvers have adapted their techniques to work in concrete.

Hence **Yoruban** sb. and a.

1853 S. TUCKER *Abbeokuta* (ed. 2) ii. 15 There were few or no Yorubans brought to Sierra Leone till the year 1822. *Ibid.* viii. 100 It afforded Mr. Townsend the opportunity of becoming in some degree acquainted with the Yoruban language. **1879** J. A. FARRER *Primitive Manners* iii. 89 Captain Burton justly calls attention to the possibility of many Yoruban proverbs being relics of the Moslems. **1936** V. A. DEMANT *Christian Polity* xi. 193 The thunder-god of the Yorubans is decidedly an earthly king who became a god. **1957** M. STEARNS *Story of Jazz* iii. 27 The musical instruments for such occasions consist of Yoruban drums, shaped like hour glasses, and the drumming and singing are in the Yoruban style.

Yoshiwara (jɒʃiˈwɑːrə). Also yoshiwara. In Japan, an area (esp. one in Tokyo) where brothels were officially recognized. Freq. attrib.

Official recognition was withdrawn in May 1958. **1870** *Fortn. Rev.* Aug. 154 At Yokohama, indeed, and at the other open ports, the women of the Yoshiwara are loud in their invitations to visitors. **1877** A. C. MACLAY *Let.* 25 Nov. in *Budget of Lett. from Japan* (1886) xix. 342 That strange institution of the feudal Government of Japan known as the Yoshiwara system... This was a system of legalized prostitution... under government patronage. **1896** KIRLING *Seven Seas* 70 And tell the Yoshiwara girls to burn a stick for him. **1911** *Daily Colonist* (Victoria, B.C.) 27 Apr. 3/4 The fire... destroyed the new yoshiwara at Tokyo, sweeping away 6555 houses. **1944** H. G. WELLS '42 to '44 102 The child may be apprenticed to Fagin's academy, it may be sold into the Yoshiwara. **1966** *New Statesman* 2 Dec. 840/1 A short look at *A Harlot's Progress*, and then—if not at a yoshiwara house by a Japanese master of the Floating World—at Botticelli's *Venus*. **1978** *Country Life* 24 Aug. 500/2 The brothels in the red light district of Edo, the Yoshiwara.

yosted: see HOST *v.* 1

yostregere, obs. form of OSTREGER.

1563 in *N. & Q.* (1889) 7th Ser. VIII. 106 Here vnder lyeth Xp'ofor Walasto' who somtyme was .on of y^e yostregere unto y^e late kynges & quenes of famous memorye.

yot(e, 3ot(e: see YET.

† **yote**, *sb.* [f. next.] Casting (of a metal object).

1474-5 in Swayne *Churchw. Acc. Sarum* (1896) 19 Brasse that remainyd of the yote of the grete bell.

yote, *v. dial.* Also 4 3(e)ote, *pa. pple.* 3otted, 6 yout, *vbl. sb.* yotting, 6-7 yowt, yeot, 7 yoat. [Local (chiefly west and south-west) development of OE. *ȝeotan* YET *v.*]

1. *trans.* To pour.

a1400 *New Test.* (Paues) Acts ii. 18 Vpon my honde-maydens I schal zote oute of my spiritte in poo dais. *Ibid.* 33 He has zotted downe pis, pat zhe see ande here. *Ibid.* x. 45 For in nacyons po grace was zotted oute of po Holygoste. **1878** [see 2].

2. To pour liquid upon; to soak.

1615 CHAPMAN *Odyss.* xix. 760 My Fowles... I.. found feeding at their Trough, Their yoted wheate. **1877** GROSE *Prov. Gloss.* s.v., The brewer's grains must be well yoted, or whesed for the pigs. **1878** *N. & Q.* 5th Ser. IX. 328 Workmen are said to 'yote in' metal to fix iron clamps or railings. The word 'yote' also signifies to water, to pour water on.

3. a. To cast in metal.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 77 þis Gerebertus... dede zote [MS. *β* zote] an hede pat spak nouȝt but whanne me axede of hym.

b. To fasten in (a metal bar, a stone block, etc.) with lead; to 'lead in'.

1535 MS. *Rawl. D.* 777, lf. 85 Youtyng the hookes of the Kechyn Dores in to the stone Wallles. **1572** in Swayne *Churchw. Acc. Sarum* (1896) 287 White for his labore for the yoting of them 6d. **1692** WOOD *Ath. Oxon.* II. 111 [Selden's] grave was nine foot deep at least, the bottom pav'd with bricks and walled about two foot high, with grey marble coarsly polished, each piece being yoated (that is fastned with lead molted in) with iron champps. **1850** *N. & Q.* 1st Ser. II. 89/2 *Yote* or *Yeot*, a term used in Gloucestershire and Somersetshire for 'leading in' iron work to stone.

Hence 'yoting' *vbl. sb.* (attrib.); also † *yoter*, a caster of metal.

1479-80 in Swayne *Churchw. Acc. Sarum* (1896) 367 Casting 3 C lede to y^e *yoters 2s. **1543** *Will of Ric. Elyot* (Somerset Ho.) *Yowtyng faate. **1534** in Weaver *Wells Wills* (1890) 176 Iohn labur a *yottingston. **1597** in Phillips *Wills* (c 1830) 40, I give and bequeath to my son... one yeoting stone. **1602** *Will of Albyn* (Somerset Ho.) Yowting stone. **1652** *Will of M. Reeve* (Somerset Ho.) The yeoting stone, the mowstadells. **1592-3** *Will of B. Saunders* (Somerset Ho.) One broache and my plumpe and *yottinge vate and garnett. **1602** *Inv.* in *Collect. Archæol.* (1863) II. 111 In the well yarde. One yotinge vate and frame xxs. **c1530** in Weaver *Wells Wills* (1890) 176 *margin*, One *yotinge vault in the house at Tolland. **1511** in *Somerset Med. Wills* (1903) 151 A *yoting wessaile of lede.

† **yoten**, *ppl. a. Obs.* Forms: 4 3oten, -un, 3etun, 4-6 yoten. [pa. pple. of YET *v.*] Cast.

13.. *Coer de L.* 371 Hys mase... That was made of yoten bras. **1382** WYCLIF *Prolog. Bible* iii. 4 Thei forsoken the feith... of God, and onoureden zoten calues. — *Exod.* xxxiv. 17 3otun goddis thow shalt not make to thee. **1555** WATREMAN *Fardle Facions* II. viii. M i v b, Some worship the sonne, some y^e moone. Other, ymages of yoten metalle.

yotization (jəʊtəˈraɪzən). *Phonetics.* [f. *yot-*, repr. IOTA + -IZATION.] The prefixing of the semivowel (j) to another sound or syllable; the change of a sound into (j). So 'yotized' *ppl. a.* **1936** *Bull. School Oriental Stud.* VIII. 525 Peanius... presents various types of syllable such as those 'quibus copulatur ja, seu jota', which we may describe as 'yotized'. *Ibid.* 532 Basic type of articulation... yotization... labio-velarization... nasalization. **1951** [see PROSODY 3].

yott, obs. form of YACHT.

you (juː, jə), *pers. pron., 2nd pers. obj. (nom.), pl. (sing.).* Forms: 1-3 eow, (1 ieow, iow, 2 3eau, heou, heow, how, 3ehw,) 2-3 eou, 3eu, 3ew, 2-4 ou, hou, 3u, 3 iou, æu, ew, heu, eo, oeu, howe, 3eow, 3uw, ov, 3-4 ow, owe, 3iu, 3-5 eu, yu, (6 Sc.) 3ou, 4 iow, 3ue, 3uu, 3ou3, yuu, youu, yhow, 4-5 3owe, 3how, 3ou, (6-7 Sc.) 3ow, 4-7 yow, 5 3oue, 3ewe, 3hu, yowe, yooow, yw, yo, yewe, Sc. yhu, yhw, 5-6 youe, 6 iow, 7 yew, 4- you, (9 dial. & vulgar yah, yer, also YEZ). [OE. *ēow* acc. and dat. (also *ēowic*, Northumb. *iuih*, etc.) = OFris. *iuwe*, *iwe*, OS. *iu*, MDu., Du. *u*, OHG., MHG. *iu*, *ew*; deriving from earlier **iūw*—O Teut. **iūwiz*. A parallel formation is represented by ON. *yðr* (MSw. *iper*) for **iðwir*, ? **iRwi*R, Goth. *izwis*.

Originally the accusative and dative plural of the second personal pronoun: see THOU for the declension of the 2nd pers. pron. in OE. and ME. Between 1300 and 1400 it began to be used also for the nominative YE, which it had replaced in general use by about 1600. During the 14th century it also appears as a substitute for the singular obj. THEE and nom. THOU, being originally used in token of respect in addressing a superior, but later also to an equal, and ultimately generally: cf. THOU 1. Thus you is now the general pronoun of the second person, nominative or objective, singular or plural.]

1. As plural, used in addressing a number of persons (or, rhetorically, of things).

1. *Objective. a.* as direct object of a verb.

a900 CYNEWULF *Elene* 551 Eow þeos cwen lapap, secgas, to salore. **1155** in *Anghia* VII. 1. 220 God 3eau 3ehælde. **a1175** *Cott. Hom.* 233 Unwaste man wat lacede 3eu? **c1175** *Lamb. Hom.* 13 Swa þet heo eow tintrazed and heow i-swenchet. **c1205** LAY. 4556 Æuere mare ich æu leouie. *Ibid.* 5455 Leou wer here ic eow [c1275 3ou] abide. **c1250** *Kent. Serm.* in O.E. *Misc.* 32 Wat dret yw, folk of litte beliaue? **1389** in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 53 To certefyen 3^u of godes and chateux. **a1400** *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 254, I come to leden ou swiþe. **c1420** *Sir Amadace* (Camden) lviii, Butte, alle my men, I 3o cummawunde, To serue him wele to fote and honde. **14..** *Northern Passion* II. 173 In heuene ich wole 3o clopy & fede. **1450** in *Exch. Rolls Scot.* V. 425 *note*, Oure will is and we charge yhw that [etc.]. **1482** *Cov. Leet Bk.* 504 Ryght trusty & wele-beloued, we grete yewe wele. **1567** *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 15 To him I 3ow commit baith small and greit. **1607** TOMKIS *Lingua* iv. i, I will be Iudicium, the moderator betwixt you, and make you both friends. **1766** GOLDSM. *Elegy Death Mad Dog* i, Good people all, of every sort, Give ear unto my song; And if you find it wondrous short,—It cannot hold you long. **1848** THACKERAY *Van. Fair* lxii, Fair scenes of peace and sunshine... who has ever seen you, that has not a grateful memory of those scenes of friendly repose and beauty? **1859** GEO. ELIOT *Adam Bede* ii, The lost!... Sinners!... Ah! dear friends, does that mean you and me?

b. as indirect object.

c897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past.* C. xxvi. 181 (Hatton MS.) Waa ieow welegum. **c1160** *Hatton Gosp.* Matt. xxv. 45 Soð ic 3u segge [etc.]. **c1175** *Lamb. Hom.* 49 Nu we sculen heow sceawen hwilc hit is heom for to heren. **c1200** *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 117 Ich wile 3iu senden þe heuenliche frefringe. **c1205** LAY. 26515 Hit is eo muchel scome þat 3e wulleð at-sceken. **a1250** *Prov. Ælfred* 29 in O.E. *Misc.* 104 He ou wolde wyssye wisliche pinges. **a1250** *Owl & Night.* 115 Hit was idon eu [Cotton MS. ov] a lope custe. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 10997 3uf we dop ou wrong wo ssal ou do rist? **a1300** *Cursor M.* 139 Sythen sal i tell yow [v.rr. 3aw, 3ou] Of iacob and of esau. **c1320** *Cast. Love* 567 3e habbeþ i-herd, as Ich ow tolde, For-why God þe world maken wolde. **1340** HAMPOLE *Pr. Cons.* 3560 Here haf I shewed yhow, on Inglys, Som syns þat Saynt Austyn specifys. **c1400** *Pilgr. Soule* (Caxton 1483) iv. v. 61, I graunte you leue, seyth what yow semyth eueriche in his parte. **1481** CAXTON *Godfrey* vi. 25, I shal shew you one exampel. **1567** *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 29, I will 3ow giue Eternall lyfe. **1638** BROME *Antipodes* iv. vi, Ile give you halfe a dozen At the next Alehouse, to set all right. **1722** DE FOE *Plague* (1840) 129, I tell you, that we have not made use of the barn. **1859** KINGSLEY *Good News of God* xiii, I preach to you a Spirit... who has given you all the life you have.

c. As object of a preposition.

c975 *Rushw. Gosp.* Matt. xii. 28 Cuðlice becymep in eow godes rice. **a1175** *Cott. Hom.* 225 Betwuxe me and eow. **c1175** *Lamb. Hom.* 149 þene fule onkume... þa þe douel hæueð in ow ibroht of sunne. **c1275** *Sinners Beware* 272 in O.E. *Misc.* 81 Loke seyde god nuþe Hwat ich for you oupe. **c1290** *St. Patrick* 612 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 218 3if ich fram eow wende. **c1300** *Harrow. Heli* (E.) 141 Helle 3ates, y com 3ou to, Now ich wil þat 3e vndel. **1382** WYCLIF *John* xviii. 39 It is a custum to 3ou, that I deluyuer oon to 3ou in pask. **c1400** *Apol. Loll.* 1, I witnes bifor God Almiȝ ty, and alle trewe cristunmen and wommen, and 3owe. **c1460** *Towneley Myst.* xx. 464 And I in you, and ye in me. **1536** WRIOTHESLEY *Chron.* (Camden) I. 42 Longe to reigne over yow. **1567** *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 31 Mark weill... How Christis croce, is for 3ow meit. **1609** B. JONSON *Epicane* v. iii, That it be not strange to you, I will tell you. **1722** DE FOE *Plague* (1840) 130 The danger is as great from you to us, as from us to you. **1821** SCOTT *Kenilw.* i, Here's an unbelieving Pagan for you, gentlemen! **1896** MRS. FORRESTER *Harlow's Ideal* etc. 46 You have killed me between you.

d. As reflexive pron. (acc. or dat.) Yourselfs. *arch.* See also yourself *s.v.* SELF *A.* 2-4.

c897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past.* C. xv. 93 (Hatton MS.) Habbað 3e sealt on ieow, & sibbe habbað betweoh iow [Cott. MS. eow]. **c1175** *Lamb. Hom.* 73 Wascheð ou and wonieð clene. **c1007** ORMIN 5273 þatt iss min bodeword, tatt 3e 3uw

lufenn swa bitwenenn Rihht alls icc hafe lufedd 3uw. **c1205** LAY. 7473 3arewieð eow [c1275 Greipeh ow] to fihite. *Ibid.* 26447 Cnihtes fareð eou aȝain. **a1225** *Leg. Kath.* 1403 Ne drede 3e ow nawiht. **c1350** *Will. Palerne* 106 Halde ow stille. **1375** BARBOUR *Bruce* 1. 92 Haid 3e wmbethocht 3ow enkrely, Quhat perell to 3ow mycht apper. **c1450** *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 3689 Demys 3ow na better in 3our doying þan othir of þe same leuyng. **c1560** A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) iv. 103, I will nocht brek my brane, Suppois 3e sowld mischeif 3ow. **1601** SHAKS. *Jul. C.* 1. i. 1 Hence: home you idle Creatures, get you home. **1611** *Bible* Isa. i. 16 Wash yee [mod. edd. you], make you cleane. **1881** W. S. GILBERT *Patience* 1, Now tell us, we pray you, Why thus you array you.

2. a. *Nominative*, replacing YE (sense 1).

In early use sometimes asp. for emphasis, as opposed to ye unemphatic; but often beside ye as a mere alternative.

13.. *Cursor M.* 23160 (Gött.) Vnto mi blis haf 3ue na right. **c1400** *Destr. Troy* 7600 And, as yo [sc. Æneas and Hector] counsell in the cas, I comaund be done. **1526** *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 8b, What ye rede, se you practise it in lyfe and dede. **1582** *N. T.* (Rhem.) Matt. v. 47 And if you salute your brethern only, what do you more? **1605** SHAKS. *Macb.* 1. iii. 47 *Mac.* Speake if you can: what are you? **1611** *Bible* Ruth i. 11 Turne againe, my daughters; Why will you goe with mee? **1637** *Sc. Bk. Com. Prayer, Publ. Bapt.* Exhort., Friends, you heare in this Gospel the words of our Saviour Christ. **1652** BENLOWES *Theoph.* vi. lxiii, Pure, scientifick and illustrious Spirits You'are. **1722** DE FOE *Plague* (1840) 129 And do you assure us that you are all sound men? **1868** HELPS *Realmah* xiii, I declare you are all very unkind to me.

b. As *vocative*, chiefly in apposition with a sb. following.

1569 PRESTON *Cambyzes* (c 1584) F 3, Farwell you Ladies of the Court. **1594** SHAKS. *Rich. III.* 1. iii. 158 Heare me, you wrangling Pyrates, that fall out, In sharing that which you haue pill'd from me. **1658** COKAINE *Trappolin* v. v, You Lords of Florence, wise Machavil, and You Lord Barbarino, will you never come Out of this frenzie? **1799** SHERIDAN *Pizarro* II. ii, And you, my daughters, away to the appointed place of safety. **1875** JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) I. 37 You sirs, I said, what are you conspiring about? **1885** TENNYSON *The Fleet* i, You, you, if you shall fail to understand, What England is, ... On you will come the curse of all the land.

3. In apposition with a sb., a numeral, *all, both*, in nominative or objective case.

c1205 LAY. 5453, & 3if 3e þis nulleð, alle ich 3eow [c1275 3ou] aquelle. **c1320** *Sir Tristr.* 2184 Loke now on aday And blod lat 3ou pre. **1340-70** *Alex. & Din.* 65, I haue founde 3ou folk faipful of speche. **1470-85** MALORY *Arthur* x. lv. 506 Is þ^t the rule of yow arraunt knyghtes for to make a knyght to Iuste will he or nyll. **1549** COVERDALE *Erasm. Par. Phil.* 1. 8, I longe after you all, from the very hart rote in Iesus Christ. **a1596** *Sir T. More* 1. 120 If you men durst not vndertake it, before God, we women would. **1610** SHAKS. *Temp.* III. iii. 69 You three From Milan did supplant good Prospero. **c1720** DE FOE *Mem. Cavalier* iv. (1840) 61 You English gentlemen... are too forward in the wars. **1837** DICKENS *Pickw.* xlv, If you law-gentlemen do these things on speculation. **1884** 'EDNA LYALL' *We Two* xxi, You don't know how I love you all.

II. As singular, used in addressing one person (or thing); orig. as a mark of respect, later *gen.*

4. *Objective*, replacing the earlier THEE.

a. as direct object of a verb.

13.. *Benaventura's Medit.* 314 My wurschypful fadyr, ... Here my bone... For sorowe my soule hap 3ow soȝt. **c1350** *Will. Palerne* 634 Madame, ... nis it no sekeneis bote þat so sore 3ou3 eiles, I schal purth craft pat ich kan keuer 3ou i hope. **c1440** *York Myst.* xxx. 58, I beseke you my souerayne, assente to my sawes. **c1470** *Gol. & Gaw.* 147 To mak you lord of your avne, me think it grete skill. **1585** JAS. I *Ess. Poesie* Pref. (Arb.) 55, I will also wish zow (docile Reider) that or ze cummer zow with reiding thir reulis [etc.]. **1587** in *Cath. Rec. Soc. Publ.* V. 138, I committ you to the tuition of Jesu. **1650** in *Verney Mem.* (1907) 1. 465 If yew love your selfe, and those that love yew. **1749** FIELDING *Tom Jones* XII. iv, Your religion... serves you only for an excuse for your faults. **1837** DICKENS *Pickw.* ii, It will afford me the greatest pleasure to know you, sir. **1857** *Chamb. Jnl.* 8 Aug. 83/1 When I say mammon, I don't mean idle dukes or greedy merchant-princes; my small adulterating shopkeeper I mean you!

b. as indirect object. (See also 7.)

a1352 MINOT *Poems* (ed. Hall) vi. 23 No bowes now thar 3ow bennde; Of blis 3e er all bare. **c1375** *Sc. Leg. Saints v.* (*Johannes*) 643 Myn lord, ... þis ringe, pat I yu present now, Me gafe a pilgram to gyf 3ow, ... And bad I suld gyf it 3ov tilt, & thange 3ou of 3ore gud yyl. **1471** MARG. PASTON in *P. Lett.* III. 24, I can yw thanke for ywyr lettir that ye sente me. **c1520** SKELTON *Magnyf.* 2355 Nowe must I make you a lectuary softe. **1567** *Satir. Poems Reform.* iii. 64 My Lord, ane taikin I 3ow plycht. **1646** *Hamilton Papers* (Camden) 114 The drawing of that whereof the copy is sent yow. **1749** FIELDING *Tom Jones* VII. viii, Let me tell you that. **1826** SCOTT *Woodst.* xviii, 'Hold, woman, hold!' said Alice Lee; 'the dog will not do you harm.'

c. as object of a preposition.

a1352 MINOT *Poems* (ed. Hall) vi. 28 Oure men sall with 3ow mote. **c1375** *Sc. Leg. Saints* xl. (*Ninian*) 1123 Lord, ... of pat land 3et brocht haf I a man to 3ou as presoner. **c1420** *Chron. Vilod.* 2417 Me thouȝt þat asssembly lady come me to ... & badde þat y chulde heȝe & to 3ow go. **a1455** MARG. ANJOU *Let. to Abbot of St. Osy* (Camden) 124 Unto you that bene a member of chirche. **1482** in *Engl. Hist. Rev.* XXV. 122 This owre ordinance made for yowe Thomas Raile now keper of þ^e said Brethernes locutorie. **15..** *Adam Bel* 47 in *Ritson Anc. Pop. Poetry* 7 Thys place hath ben besette for you, Thys half yere and more. **1596** DALRYMPLE *tr. Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) 1. 296 This goldne ape... I preparat and decret vnto 3ow my Souerane. **1607** TOMKIS *Lingua* iv. i, Mendatio you offer mee great wrong to hold me, in good-faith I shall fall out with you. **1780** *Mirror* No. 97 'Quantity of syllables,' exclaimed the Captain, 'there is a modern education for you!' **1852** MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xx, I bought her, and I'll give her to you.

d. As *refl. pron.* (acc. or dat.) Yourself. *arch.*

c1400 Anturs Arth. 100 Thus he comforted he þe gwene . . . 'At this gaste,' quod Sir Gaweyne, 'greue þowe no more.'
c1420 Chron. Vilod. 3470 Seynt Ede. . . sayde: syre kyng, drede þow nomore! *c1500 Three Kings' Sons* 29 Y thought that ye wolde kepe you nere aboute hym. ? *a1550 Freiris Berwik* 512 in *Dunbar's Poems* (1893) 302 And neir the dur þe hyd þow prevely. **1585** [see a]. **1610 SHAKS. Temp.** 111. i. 18 Pray set it downe, and rest you. . . Pray now rest your selfe. **1712** [see GET v. 28 c]. **1884 W. S. GILBERT Princ. Ida** 111, Coward! get you hence.

5. a. Nominative, replacing THOU.

Always const. with pl. verb, exc. in the collocation *you was*, prevalent in 17th and 18th c., for which see BE v. 6 ¶. For phr. such as *you bet*, *you know*, *you see*, see the verbs. **14..** *Guy W.* (Cambr. MS.) 4192 'Syr Gye,' he seyde, . . . 'To morowe schall yow weddyd bee.' **1489 Barbour's Bruce** vi. 657 (Edin. MS.) Bot the gret part to þow tuk þe, That slew iij off the fyve þowane. **1555 EDEN Decades** (Arb.) 380 Ouer the sayde byght, yow shall se a great gappe in the mountayne. **1588 SHAKS. L.L.L.** 1. i. 53 You swore to that Berowne, and to the rest. **a1596 Sir T. More** 1. ii. 194 Well, Maister Moore, you are a merie man. **1648 Hamilton Papers** (Camden) 236 Yow shall, if yow finde it necessary, goe from Holland to France, and deliver to the Queen's Maj^{ty} this our letter. **1740 RICHARDSON Pamela** I. 163 Well, Jacob, what do you stare at? Pray mind what you're upon. **1821 CLARE Vill. Minstrel** I. 34 If yah set any store by one yah will! **1833 TENNYSON Death of Old Year** ii, Old year, you must not go; . . . Old year, you shall not go.

b. As *vocative*, chiefly in apposition with a sb. following; in reproach or contempt often repeated after the sb. (cf. THOU 1 b).

c1500 Melusine 182 My lord and you my lady, yf ye vouchsaf it were tyme that we went thurgh the world at our auntere. **1590 SHAKS. Mids. N.** 111. ii. 288 Fie, fie, you counterfeit, you puppet, you. **1606 CHAPMAN Gentil. Usher** 111. i, You asse you, d'ee call my Lord horse? **1667 DRYDEN & Dk. NEWCASTLE Sir M. Mar-all** v. iii, You old Sot you, to be caught so sillily! **1768 GOLDSM. Goodn. Man** 11, And you have but too well succeeded, you little hussy, you! **1840 THACKERAY Catherine** ix, You young hangdog, you! **1849 H. W. HERBERT Frank Forester** II. 179 Walk a few yards ahead of me, and look out you for all that cross you! **1852 E. BURNE-JONES Let.** 24 Jan. in *Mem.* (1904) I. 63 You scamp not to write before. **1919 CAPES Skel. Key** xxi. 273 'I love you for trying, you dear,' he said.

c. Phr. *you and your* —: a contemptuous, impatient, or good-natured dismissal of the thing or person mentioned. *colloq.*

1607 SHAKES. Coriolanus IV. vi. 97 You haue made good worke, You and your Apron men. **1837 H. MARTINEAU Society in America** III. 111. i. 80 An old acquaintance of Noah's . . . said . . . 'Go, get along, you and your old ark! I don't believe we are going to have much of a shower.' **1899 KIPLING Stalky & Co.** 178 'I was born there. . . It was called after my uncle.' 'Shut up—you and your uncle!' **1943 J. B. PRIESTLEY Daylight on Saturday** xxii. 172 I've told 'im. . . 'You an' your Teds!' I told 'im. **1955 E. BLISHEN Roaring Boys** 1. 27 'Progressing!' He relished it. 'You and your long words!' **1980 P. G. WINSLOW Counsellor Heart** xiv. 171 Ah, you and your Colonel. Worms' meat, he is now.

d. *you and who else?*: see WHO *pron.* 4 a; *you and yours*: see *YOURS poss. pron.* 2 b.

III. Special uses.

6. Denoting any hearer or reader; hence as an indef. pers. *pron.*: One, any one.

1577 GOOGE Heresbach's Husb. 11. (1586) 87 You shall sometime have one branch more gallant than his fellows. **1614 TOMKIS Albumazar** 1. iii, With this [perspicill] I le read a leafe of that small Iliade. . . as plainly Twelue long miles off, as you see Pauls from Highgate. **1625 BACON Ess., Atheism** (Arb.) 333 Nay more, you shall haue Atheists striue to get Disciples, as it fareth with other Sects. **1707 Lond. Gaz.** No. 4351/3 One Red Buoy to the Eastward of you, as you pass this Chanel. **1726 SWIFT Gulliver** II. i, A child. . . began a squall that you might haue heard from London Bridge to Chelsea. **1865 RUSKIN Sesame** i. §30 You can talk a mob into anything. **1870 Good Words** 133/2 The slope [is] so rapid that you can scarcely find footing when once off the beaten road.

7. Used with no definite meaning as indirect object ('ethical dative'). Cf. ME 2 c. *arch.*

1590 SHAKS. Mids. N. 1. ii. 84, I will roare you as gently as any Sucking Doue; I will roare and 'twere any Nightingale. **1602 — Ham.** v. i. 183 If he be not rotten before he die. . . he will last you some eight yeare, or nine yeare. A Tanner will last you nine yeare. **1624 BEDELL Lett.** xii. 162 Vnto him . . . I doe . . . commend you; and rest you, Your very louing brother. **1874 GEO. ELIOT Coll. Breakf.-P.** 388 Anti-social force that sweeps you down The world in one cascade of molecules.

†8. As *possessive* = YOUR. *Obs.* or *dial. rare.*

1642 D. ROGERS Naaman 272 You rather will quarrel with God for not fulfilling you wills. *Ibid.* 290 You make benefit thereof for you owne behoofe and content. **1888 ELWORTHY W. Somerset Word-bk.**

9. Qualified by a preceding adj.

c1600 SHAKS. Sonn. lxxxvi. 2 Bound for the prize of (all to precious) you. **1895 MRS. FORRESTER Too Late Repented** viii, 'Oh', muttered Ethel. 'poor you, poor you!' **1904 F. WHISHAW Tiger of Muscovy** xi. 95 How should poor little you deal with a maiden who dares to call the Tsar a bear?

10. As *sb.* a. The word as used in addressing a person or persons.

c1645 HOWELL Lett. IV. xix. (1890) 596 The Courtiers began to magnify him, and treat him in the plural number by You, and by degrees to deify him by transcending Titles. **1669 PENN (title)** No Cross, No Crown: or Several Sober Reasons against Hat-Honour, Titular Respects, You to a Single Person, . . . with Testimonies of the most famous Persons in defence of the poor despised Quakers.

b. The person (or such a person as the one) addressed; the personality of the one addressed.

1700 DRYDEN Fables Poet. Ded. 138 Or Heav'n . . . So lik'd the Frame, he would not work anew, To save the Charges of another You. **1724-5 SWIFT Receipt to restore Stella's Youth** 38 If your flesh and blood be new, You'll be no more the

former you. **1729 LAW Serious C.** xix. 361, I don't mean that you have not bodies . . . , but that all that deserves to be called *you*, is nothing else but spirit. **1911 MARETT Anthropol.** viii. 231 Though the language may seem to imply a 'you', he would mean, I believe, to impute to the flint just as much, or as little, of personality as we should mean to do when using similar language. **1964 'E. LATHEN' Accounting for Murder** xv. 142 We run tests. . . Then, once we had really found the real you, we. . . would try to find a place that provided a challenge to your best creative talents. **1974 Spartanburg** (S. Carolina) *Herald* 25 Apr. A-5 (Advt.), Vicaltein can be your ticket to a newer, slimmer you. **1978 J. GRENELL Stately as Galleon** 38 Learn . . . to dance the natural nature way. Let the music through, find the inner you. **1981 Sci. Amer.** July 14/3 For every quantum-mechanical branch point in your life. . . you have split into two or more you's riding along parallel but disconnected branches of one gigantic universal wave function.

11. As *adj.*: expressive of or suited to your taste, personality, etc.

1918 R. FRY Let. 12 Mar. (1972) II. 425 I've read your *Lucretius*. . . I feel sure it's both immensely him and also very much you. **1936 U. ORANGE Begin Again** xi. 247 'I think it's lovely,' said Jane unkindly, 'So you, somehow.' **1960 N. MARSH False Scent** viii. 232 The boudoir . . . had been created by Bertie. . . 'Almost indecently you, darling!' Bertie had told Miss Bellamy. **1981 M. SPARK Loitering with Intent** ii. 44, I thought your piece was very much you.

12. Phrasal combinations: *you-be-damned a.*, addicted to saying 'you be damned!'; contemptuously overbearing; hence *you-be-damnedness*; *you-know-what*, † *you-wot-what sb.*, used instead of the name of something which it is needless or undesirable to specify; also as *vb.*; *you-know-who*, *-whom*, a deliberately unnamed person whose identity is apparent to the hearer.

1545 ASCHAM Toxoph. 11. (Arb.) 145 As though they were doying you wotte what. **1605 CAMDEN Rem.** (1623) 29 *Kakdaw*, to you know what. **1766 O. GOLDSMITH Vicar of Wakefield** II. ix. 143, I danced last night with Lady G—, and could I forget you know whom, I might be perhaps successful. **1796 M. EDGEWORTH Parent's Assistant** (ed. 2) 1. 174 Do nothing in this till we have consulted you know who about whether it's right or wrong. **a1845 HOOD Tale of Trumpet** xxvi, And down you go, in you know what. **1857 Commerc. Trav. Mag.** II. 240 First give me, Marguerite, just a little drop of you know what. I'm quite husky. **1885 Society in London** ix. 204 What I principally like about your Lord Hartington is his you-be-damnedness. **1891 KIPLING Light that Failed** vi, He is such an aggressive, cocksure, you-be-damned fellow. **1912 C. MACKENZIE Carnival** xiii. 167, I don't think I'm jealous of you know who. **1936 O. NASH Primrose Path** 178 Be my gazelle, my wishing well. . . But never my you-know-what. **1937 M. ALLINGHAM Dancers in Mourning** xiii. 179 Not a word to Mrs. You Know Who. **1956 L. MCINTOSH Oxford Folly** 37 She's madly gay, but hard as nails when it comes to you know what. **1975 Verbatim Dec.** 1/2 John O'Donnell expressed his delight that 'we're going to arm German panzer divisions for you-know-what'. **1976 New Yorker** 26 Apr. 99/1 She gives me a pain in my you-know-what. **1978 J. IRVING World according to Garp** xviii. 390 Old You-Know-Who—the Under Toad, that's who, Helen thought. **1981 Q. CRISP How to become Virgin** vi. 81 Since neither I nor Mr. Hurt. . . flashed you-know-what before the cameras. . . we might both by modern standards be considered old-fashioned.

Hence *you v. trans.*, to address (a person) by the pronoun *you* (instead of *thou*); *intr.* with *it*, to use the pronoun *you* repeatedly. (Cf. THOU v.)

1564 BULLEYN Dial. agst. Pest. (1573) 1 He [sc. a beggar] thowes not God, but you[s] hym. **1675 H. MORE in R. Ward Life** (1710) 341 No Man will You God, but use the Pronoun *Thou* to him. **1676 BUNYAN Strait Gate** 55 I say unto you. Had not the Lord Jesus designed by these words, to shew what an overthrow will one day be made among professors, he needed not to have you'ed it at this rate. **1848 A. B. EVANS Leicestersh. Wds.** 109 Says I, 'Do yeaw mane to bully me? . . . Yeaw come here to bully me?' So I yeawowed him out o' the field.

you, obs. f. EWE sb.¹

1523-4 Churchw. Acc., Croscombe (Som. Rec. Soc.) 37 The whych you scheppes beth delyvered unto Hew Morganne.

you, graphic variant of *þou*, THOU.

you-all (ju:'ɔ:l, ju:'ɔ:l), *pers. pron.* U.S. *dial.* Also *you all*. [f. *you pers. pron.* + ALL a.] Used in place of *YOU pers. pron.*

Used, with no clear pattern, both as *sing.* and as *pl.* **1824 'A. SINGLETON' Lett. South & West** 82 Children learn from the slaves some odd phrases; . . . as . . . will you *all* do this? for, will one of you do this? **1871 R. M. JOHNSTON Dukesborough Tales** vii. 95 You all little fellows was . . . skeered. **1875** [see WE-ALL *pron.*]. **1901 A. H. RICE Mrs. Wiggs of Cabbage Patch** vi. 81 Some of you all shake down the stove an' pull the door to fer me. **1919 R. FROST Let.** 24 Mar. (1972) 56 The second thing is to ask you what you-all are thinking of to want me to judge in a lyric contest. **1924 W. M. RAINE Troubled Water** xix. 201 You-all are losing a better man than Missie ever had. **1926 E. FERBER Show Boat** 299 You-all one of them Suhveys? **1926 Amer. Speech** II. 476/1, I was born in South Carolina. . . and have worked on a New Orleans paper for two years, and I have not once in my life heard the expression 'you-all' used except in plural address. **1927 Ibid.** III. 5 *You-all* certainly is used as singular in the Ozarks—I have heard it daily for weeks at a time. *You-uns*, however, . . . is nearly always plural in the Ozark country. **1928 Ibid.** IV. 54 Here in Missouri. . . I have again and again heard 'you all' used in speaking to one person. **1942 M. K. RAWLINGS Cross Creek** xxii. 344, I ain't never been as far as you-all aim to go. **1944 Amer. Speech** XIX. 147/2 In almost a score of years of residence in North Carolina I have never heard anyone say 'you all', unless the plural was definitely and distinctly intended. **1954 G. DURRELL Three Singles to Adventure** 15 Is youall to catch the

Parika train? **1981 TV Picture Life** Mar. 46/3 Then I walked into this audition, put my feet up on the desk, finished my beer, and drawled, 'What kind of character you-all looking for?'

So *you-all's* and *varr.*, your.

1869 Overland Monthly Aug. 131 During the war we all heard enough of 'we-uns' and 'you-uns', but 'you-all's' was to me something fresh. **1887 Scribner's Mag.** Oct. 478/1 How are you all's little trick? **1929 W. FAULKNER Sound & Fury** 347, I try to obey his wishes for you all's sakes. **1934 C. CARMER Stars fell on Alabama** 190 We are honored to have you-all's company.

youden-drift, variant of EWDEN-DRIFT.

'youdith. *Sc.* [f. *youd*, obs. *Sc.* var. YOUTH + *-ith*, after *poortith*.] Youth.

1728 RAMSAY Fair Assembly xiv, Her Cheek, where Roses free from Stain, In Glows of Youdith beek. **1810 in Cromek's Sel. Scot. Songs** II. 54 Sae lang's ye hae youdith.

youdle, var. YODEL v.

youf (jauf), v. *Sc.* Forms: 7 *yough*, *yooft*, 8-9 *youf*, *yuff*, 9 *youff(e)*, *yowf* (f. [Echoic. Cf. YAFF.] *intr.* To bark, esp. in a suppressed manner.

1682 LAW Mem. (1818) 224 His dogs. . . howling, yelling, and youphing. *Ibid.*, Howling and yoofting. **a1774 FERGUSSON Poems** (1789) II. 6 My colley, Ringie, youf'd an yowf'd a' night. **1789 D. DAVIDSON Seasons** 41 And, Cerberus, though but just whelped, Did stan' an' yuff. **1826 J. WILSON Noctes Ambr.** Wks. 1855 I. 173 A' the collies began yelpin and youffin. **1842 Whistle-Binkie** Ser. 111. *Last Laird o' the Auld Mint* viii, A kind yowffin bark.

So *youf int.* (also reduplicated) and *sb.*

1842 J. WILSON Chr. North I. 18 Youf—youf—youf—go the terriers. **1866 GREGOR Banffsh. Gloss.**, *Youff*, the bark of a dog. *Youff* conveys the notion of a softer sound than *youp*.

youf (f, *youft*, variants of YOWF, YUFT.

youghendale, *youkyndall*, var. YOKINDALE.

yough fro, obs. form of YUFFROUW.

yought, *youghten*, *youghthe*, *youghth*: see YACHT, YOUTH, YUFT.

youhoge, obs. form of EWE-HOG.

1531 in Weaver Wells Wills (1890) 29 My sister-in-law Marg. Pinare a youhoge.

youk, *youk(e)*, obs. ff. YOKE, YUKE.

youl(e), *youll*, *youlan*: see OIL sb.¹, YOWL, YULAN.

youlde, *-en*, obs. pa. t. and pple. of YIELD v.

youle, obs. spelling of *you'll*, = *you will*.

1607 TOMKIS Lingua 111. vi, Leauē iesting, youle put the fresh Actor out of countenance.

youlowe, obs. form of YELLOW.

youl(w)ring: see YOWLRING.

yound (3-), *-er*, obs. ff. YOND, YONDER.

young (jaŋ), a. (sb.¹). Forms: a. 1 *geong*, *giong*, *zung*, *iung*, 2 *jung*, 2-5 (6 *Sc.*) *zung*, 3 *zeung*, 3-5 *zeong(e)*, *zonge*, *zunge*, *yung*, (6 *Sc.*) *zong*, 3-7 *yong*, (4 *zonke*, *zhoung*, *yhung*), 4-5 *yunge*, 4-6 *yonge*, *zounge(e)*, (5 *yhonge*, *zoyng*, 6 *yownge*, *yongue*), 6-7 *yoong*, *younge*, 6- *young*. β. 1 *ging*, 3 *zing*, 3-5 *jinge*, 4-5 *zyng(e)*, 4-6 *zing*, *ying*, (4 *yyng*, 5 *yinge*, *yynge*, *yng*, *yhyng*). γ. 3 *zenge*, 3-5 *zeng*, (4 *zeing*), 4-5 *yeng*. See also YOUNGER, YOUNGEST. [OE. *geong*, *zung*, *iung*, (Northumbrian) *ging*, = OFris., OS. *jung*, MDu. *jonc* (Du. *jong*), MLG. *junk* (LG. *jung*), OHG., MHG. *junc* (G. *jung*), ON. *ungr* (Sw., Da. *ung*), Goth. *juggs*—OTeut. **jūngaz*, contraction of **juwungaz*:—Indo-Eur. **juwōnkós* (whence Skr. *juvācās* youthful, youngling, L. *juuencus* young bull, W. *ieuanc*, OIr. *ōac*, *ōc* young), f. **juwen-* (*jūn-*, *jun-*), which is represented also by Skr. *yūvan-*, *yūn-*, L. *juvenis*, comp. *jūnior*, Lith. *jáunas*, OSl. *junŭ* young, L. *juuentūs*, *juuenta*, OIr. *ōitiu*, YOUTH.]

A. *adj.*

1. That has lived a relatively short time; that is in the early stage of life or growth; youthful: opp. to OLD a. 1. a. of persons.

not so *young as (one)* was (or *used to be*): getting old, advanced in years (*colloq.*, often *jocular*).

a. *Beowulf* 13 *Ðæm eafra wæs æfter cenned geong in geardum.* **a1000 Andreas** 392 Nu synt gepreade pegnas mine, geonge guðincas. **a1100 Aldhelm Gloss.** 1. 2591 (Napier 70/2) *Lactantes, i. infantes*, iung cildra. **c1200 ORMIN** 1212 3iff þu. . . hafest 3et, tohh þu be zung, Eldernemanness late. **a1225 Leg. Kath.** 66 A meiden swiðe zung of zeres. **c1290 S. Eng. Leg.** 7/209 On oueward he i-sai3 a luyte zong child. **a1300 Cursor M.** 12460 Quen iesus com in-to þat scole, þof he was yong was he na fole. **1362 LANGL. P. Pl.** A. x. 181 Hit is an vn-Comey Couple be Cryst, as me pinkeþ, To zeuen a zong wenche to an old feble Mon. **1375 BARBOUR Bruce** xii. 322 His air. . . his land sall weild, All be he neuir so zhoung of eild. **c1450 CAPGRAVE Life St. Aug.** iii, Wher zong damesellis be with chateryng tongis. **c1460 Emaré** 707 Up he toke that fayre ladye, And the yonge chyldre her by. **1551 ROBINSON tr. More's Utopia** 11. (1895) 162 The noureils sitte suerall alone with their

yonge suckelings. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* iii. 185 Philip died young before his Father. 1682 DRYDEN *Mac. Fl.* 3 Who, like Augustus, young Was call'd to Empire and had govern'd long. 1751 SMOLLETT *Per. Pickle* xvi, He instructed the young boys in the games of hustle-cap, leapfrog, and chuck-farthing. 1821 SCOTT *Kenilw.* xli, Young in years but old in grief. 1852 MISS MULOCK *Agatha's Husb.* vii, Judging such things by what they were when I was young. *Ibid.*, He is not so young as he used to be. 1859 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* xxxvii, George Hawker, it's many years since we met, and I'm not so young as I was. 1888 'J. S. WINTER' *Boote's Childr.* vi, Somehow the laugh had made her look young and pretty again.

β. a 900 CYNEWULF *Elene* 353 Ic up ahof eforan zinge. *Ibid.* 464 Ongit, guma zinga, godes heahmægen, nergendes naman. c 1250 [see YOUNG WOMAN 1]. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3224 A sargiant. . . bat had ben als of his fostering, Ai sipen he was a barn ying. 13. . . *Coer de L.* 924 Forleyn was his daughter ying. 1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys* (Roxb.) 195 That ageynys oo maydyn tendyr & ying Fyfty greth clerkys pou doost furth bryng. c 1450 *Merlin* 198 As soone as thei hem saugh, thei ne doutod nothinge so small a peple that were so ynge. 1522 *World & Child* Aij b, I wyll the fynde whyle thou art yinge, So thou wylte be obedynt to my byddynge. 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xvii. 188 In him I hope releif, Of zeiris thoct he be zing. a 1600 MONTGOMERIE *Misc. Poems* xxxiv. 2 Suetit ying, bening and zing.

γ. c 1205 LAY. 3123 He was a zenge king. 13. . . *Cursor M.* 24030 (Gott.), bat wreche womman zeng [rime steng]. c 1400 [see YOUNG MAN 1]. c 1430 *Syr Gener.* (Roxb.) 3305 Among the lordes old and yeng For gladnes of thes new titbing. c 1450 *Cursor M.* 10618 (Laud) There was no maide of none ospryng So holy of lyf old nor yeng. c 1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 591 He had sex childre zeng A lang tyme in his keepyng.

b. (a) In collocations of specific meaning, as *young creature*, *young folk(s)*, *young fry*, *young master*, *young people*, *young person*, *young thing*; see the sbs. CREATURE 3, FOLK 3, 4, FRY¹ 4b, MASTER sb.¹ 23, PEOPLE 6b, PERSON 2e, THING¹ 10, and quots. below. *young one*: †a young person; (usually with poss.) offspring, pl. *young ones*, offspring, progeny; = B. 2; also in colloq. form *young 'un*, *youngun* = YOUNGSTER. See also YOUNG LADY, YOUNG MAN, YOUNG WOMAN, and C. below.

Certain collocations, e.g. *young man*, *gentleman*, *woman*, *lady*, are colloq. used vocatively in addressing reproach or warning to persons of almost any age. See YOUNG MAN 1, quot. 1865, YOUNG WOMAN 1, quot. 1864.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6446 Awey seli zonge pinges. 13. . . *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 1526 3e. . . Oghe to a zonke pynk jern to schewe, & teche sum tokenez of trweluf craftes. 1382 WYCLIF *Mark* xvi. 5 Thei goyng ynto the sepulcre syzen a zong oon, hild with a whit stoole. c 1412 HOCCELEVE *De Reg. Princ.* 147 Ful seeldre is, bat zong folk wyse been. c 1450 *Brut* ii. 349 A yong creature of ix yere of age, Dame Isabell. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* ii. iv. (1883) 55 That the yonge peple shold not hane but on gowne or garment in the yere. 1533 GAU *Richt Vay* 3 Mony guyd men and vemen and specialie zung persons. 1535 COVERDALE *Isa.* xi. 7 The cove and the Bere shal fede together, and their yongones shal lye together. 1542 [see THING sb.¹ 10]. 1601 SHAKS. *All's Well* v. iii. 303 Dead though she be, she feesles her yong one kicke. 1605 — *Macb.* iv. ii. 11 The poore Wren. . . will fight, Her yong ones in her Nest, against the Owle. 1653 W. HARVEY *Anat. Exerc.* xi. 53 The superficialis of this Island (in the moneths of May and June) is almost covered quite over with Nests, Egges, and Young-Ones. 1693 *Humours Town* 118 If you want a Foil, as indeed 'tis generally the Care of you young Ones, now-a-days, to get one that's Ugly or Old. 1709 MRS. MANLEY *Secret Mem.* (1720) IV. 190 My Eyes, like most young Peoples, were perpetually at the Windows. 1753 SMOLLETT *Count Fathom* viii, Certain dangerous books, calculated to debauch the minds of young people. c 1810 W. HICKEY *Mem.* (1960) iv. 64 So the young'un there wanted to be off, but I said as how I knew a trick worth two of that. 1814 SCOTT *Wav.* lxxi, The Baron, while he assumed the lower end of the table, insisted that Lady Emily should do the honours of the head, that they might, he said, set a meet example to the young folk. 1833 [see FOLK 3b]. 1838 EGAN *Pilgr. Thames* x. 200 'Where's the kids?' 'Kids!' reiterated Mrs. Brindle, interrogatively. 'Yes, the young 'uns!' said Mrs. Bodger. 'Oh, the children!' 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* xviii, Dinah would. . . tell all marauding 'young uns'. . . to keep out of the kitchen. 1852 MISS MULOCK *Agatha's Husb.* x, 'The young couple were excellent listeners. 1855 LEIFCHILD *Cornwall* 281 'Young persons' have been defined to be males and females from thirteen to eighteen years of age. 1860 GEO. ELIOT *Mill on Fl.* iii. iii, Well, young sir, we've been talking as we should want your pen and ink. 1876 MISS BRADDOX *J. Haggard's Dau.* i, You beware o' that young'un. He's bound to be your foe. 1886 BESANT *Childr. Gibbon* i. ix, She could be properly described as a Young Girl, which is the general name for the workwoman in youth, but no one would think of calling her a young lady. 1918 *Act 8 & 9 Geo. V.* c. 39. §48 The expression 'young person' means a person under eighteen years of age who is no longer a child. 1922 JOYCE *Ulysses* 418 Collar the leather, Youngun. 1940 C. McCULLERS *Heart is Lonely Hunter* i. iv. 56 A youngun was sitting on the banisters. . . He had seen her somewhere before. 1981 J. D. MACDONALD *Free Fall in Crimson* xix. 219 Here and there are little groups of younguns who know what an original idea tastes like.

(b) Such collocations may be used attrib. or as adj., may be converted into verbs, or may take a suffix; e.g. *young-girl* adj. (pertaining to a young girl), hence *young-girlish* adj., *-girlishly* adv.; *young-master* vb. (to address or treat as a young master); *young-gentlemanly* adj. (pertaining to or characteristic of a young gentleman).

1613 *Sidney's Arcadia* ii. xxix. (ed. 4) 210 Looking to haeue bin yong-mastred among those great estates, as he was among his abusing vnderlings. 1854 THACKERAY *Leech's Pict.* Wks. 1900 XIII. 488 What fine young-gentlemanly wags they are. 1868 SILL *Hermitage* i, A well-bred, fair,

young-gentlemanly life. 1880 'MARK TWAIN' *Tramp Abr.* ix, She was absorbed in. . . her own young-girl dreams. 1928 A. HUXLEY *Point Counter Point* xi. 174 She flushed with a young-girlishly timid pleasure. 1975 *New Yorker* 28 Apr. 66/3 Her young-girlish way of lowering her eyes with an air of anguish when I asked her what had happened to her affair with the man she said she had loved.

c. Used to distinguish the younger of two persons of the same name or title in a family (esp. a son from his father); equivalent to *junior*.

1340 *Ayenb.* 48 be holy mayce sare pet zeppe wes yonge thobyes wyf. 1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* iii. 216 Scipio the ying. ? a 1461 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) l. 55 Yn Abraham tyme, and in Balty tyme the yongge. 1533 BELLENDEN *Liuy* i. xviii. (S.T.S.) l. 101 3oung [v.r. jing] terquyne and bis feirs tullia war maryit togidder. 1563-1693 [see MASTER sb.¹ 23]. 1572 in *Bucceuch MSS.* (Hist. MSS. Comm. 1899) l. 23 For maring of zoung Quein Marie with Prince Edward. 1647 CLARENDON *Hist. Reb.* iii. §147 The chief leaders, Nathaniel Fynes and young Sir H. Vane. 1753 SMOLLETT *Count Fathom* xliii, Young Melvil. . . implicitly believed the story and protestations of Fathom. 1817 MARIA EDGEWORTH *Ormond* i, Young Ormond was the son of the friend of Sir Ulick O'Shane's youthful and warm-hearted days. 1885 'MRS. ALEXANDER' *At Bay* xi, Lady Frances keeps her dower, and young Deering the estates for his life.

d. of animals (or their flesh as food).

young fry: see FRY sb.¹ 4.

c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Luke xv. 23 *Uitulus saginatum*, zing oxo fætt. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 201 De neddre bileued hire hude baften hire, and cumeð newe fel and hie wurð jung. 1390 in W. HUDSON *Leet Jurisd. Norwich* (1892) 73 Capere yongfry in Regia Ripa et vendere hominibus de Crowmeer . . . pro bayte. c 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 54 Take kydes Fleysche & zong porke. c 1440 *York Myst.* ix. 139 Of beestis and foules zynge, . . . a peyre. 1573-80 TUSSEY *Husb.* (1878) 82 Thy colts for thy saddle geld yong to be light. 1599 PORTER *Angry Wom. Abingt.* (Percy Soc.) 43 As soone goes the yong sheep to the pot as the olde. 1653 W. HARVEY *Anat. Exerc.* v. 20 Pullets or young Hens. c 1730 RAMSAY *Eagle & Robin* 23 A tunefful Robin trig and zung. 1803-6 WORDSW. *Ode Intim. Immort.* iii, While the young lambs bound As to the tabors sound. 1828 G. F. LYON *Jrnl. Mexico* i. 109 A steak which I cooked tasted so like well-fed young pork.

e. of plants, or their parts or products.

a 800 *Blickl. Glosses* in O.E. *Texts* 122 þa zingan eletriw. a 1100 *Aldhelm Gloss.* i. 3750 (Napier 99/2) Lungum wyrtuna ofætum. a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1134 þar tron shulle a zere blowe An zunge sedes springe & growe. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1418 þar ras o pam tres wandes yong. c 1420 *Liber Cocorum* (1862) 11 Do per to sage and persely zoyng. 1508 DUNBAR *Gold. Targe* 22 The rosis yong. . . War powderit bryght with hevynly beriall droppis. 1600 SHAKS. *A.Y.L.* iii. ii. 378 There is a man haunts the Forrest, that abuses our yong plants with earuing Rosalinde on their barks. 1678 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* vi. 108 If it [sc. cross-grain] grew up young with the Trunk, then instead of a Knot you will find a Curling in the Stuff when it is wrought. 1716 'H. S. PHILOKOPUS' *Yng. Gard. Director* 108 Yung Onions. 1824 MISS MITFORD *Village Ser.* i. 15 The sunny colouring of the young leaves. 1828 G. F. LYON *Jrnl. Mexico* ii. 249 The cattle. . . make sad incursions amongst the young crops. 1842 LONDON *Suburban Hort.* 29 The heart wood is. . . of a darker colour than the soft or young wood.

2. *transf.* Belonging or pertaining to a young person or persons, or to youth. a. with age, days, years, etc.: the age or time when one is young; youth. *Obs.* exc. in *young days*.

c 1000 *Rule St. Benet* (1888) 99 3if he pæt sylfe cild on iunre ylde is. a 1100 *Aldhelm Gloss.* i. 2275 (Napier 61/2) Lunges cildhads. *Ibid.* 2843 (77/1) *Teneritudine*, iungan iugepe. 13. . . *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 492 This hanselle has Arthur of aenturatus on fyrst, In zonge 3er. 1389 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 53 Children in zonge age. 1460 CAPGRAVE *Chron.* (Rolls) 131 Whan his zong dayes were go, he went to Rome. a 1548 *HALL Chron., Hen. V.* 79 At these yong yeres of age. c 1570 *Satir. Poems Reform.* xiv. 27 Than vp thow rasit to reule my Ring, In to my tender yeiris zing. c 1610 *Women Saints* (1886) 77 Cuthburge. . . from her yong yeares soughte to please Christ. 1852 MISS MULOCK *Agatha's Husb.* xv, A remnant of my young days.

b. of bodily members, faculties, acts, etc.

a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1434 His zunge blod hit dræpæ amis. c 1400 *Brut* i. 251 He was wonder sory, and ful hertly wepte wip his zonge eyne. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) II. 308 Ane zong stomach. . . of groiss metitis. . . ma tak skayth and harme. a 1548 *HALL Chron., Edw. IV.* 204 Hauyng a yonge and a lusty courage. . . he set on hys enemies. 1591 SHAKS. *Two Gent.* i. i. 47 By Loue, the yong, and tender wit Is turn'd to folly. 1852 THACKERAY *Esmond* i. xi, She. . . made eyes at him, and directed her young smiles at him. 1876 MISS BRADDOX *J. Haggard's Dau.* i, A homily, in which he held up to his son the picture of his young infirmities. 1883 D. C. MURRAY *Hearis* ix. (1885) 66 A young eye beneath a grey eyebrow is a prettier thing than a grey head on young shoulders.

3. Having the characteristics of young persons, or of youth; youthful in bodily condition or mental disposition (with various connotations); esp. having the freshness or vigour of youth.

1513 BRADSHAW *St. Werburge* i. 1400 To se the a quene wyll make vs yonge agayne. 1600 SHAKS. *A.Y.L.* i. i. 57 *Oli.* What Boy. *Oli.* Come, come elder brother, you are too yong in this. 1678 WANLEY *Wond. Lit. World* i. xxxii. 52 An old Abbates, being decrepit, suddenly became young, her monthly courses return'd [etc.]. 1712 LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Let. to W. Montagu* 9 Dec., 'Tis a maxim with me to be young as long as one can. 1815 J. C. HOBHOUSE *Substance Lett.* (1816) I. 454 Napoleon's mother. . . a very handsome, regular featured, princely personage, young of her age. 1824 MISS MITFORD *Village Ser.* i. *Lucy*, The affectation of age and wisdom, which contrast so oddly with his young unmeaning face. 1858 TROLLOPE *Dr. Thorne* iii, Mr. Gresham was young for his age, and the doctor old. 1894 MAX PEMBERTON *Sea-Wolves* i, Why, man, she must be a hundred and four, and young at that.

4. a. That has newly or not long since entered upon some course of action, or having the character of such a one; newly or recently initiated; inexperienced, or having little experience; unpractised; 'raw'.

Also in Australian use, Newly arrived; that is a new-comer.

a 1100 *Aldhelm Gloss.* i. 1673 (Napier 45/1) Lungum, neutericis, i. nouellis (catholicae fidei sectatoribus). a 1200 *Moral Ode* 4 þah ich bo a wintre ald, to zung ich em on rede. 1340 *Ayenb.* 162 Nou yziz ane yongne boryeis and ane newene knist. 1423 JAS. I *Kings Q.* vii, Quich to declare my scole is ouer zong. 1496-7 *Act 12 Hen. VII.* c. 6 The seid felishippe and Marchauntes of London take of every English man or yonge merchaunte beyng there att his first comyng xx li. sterling. 1561 WINSET *Bk. Questions* Wks. (S.T.S.) l. 101 Men in this vocatioun. . . suld noch be zoung of leirning. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* iii. iv. 144 We are yet but yong indeed. 1650 HUBBERT *Pill Formality* 161 Its not with thee as with a yong Christian. 1722 De Foe *Col. Jack* iv. (1840) 67, I was but young at the work. 1768 STERNE *Sent. Journey, Montriul*, The landlord supposing I was young in French. 1796 H. HUNTER tr. *St. Pierre's Study Nat.* (1799) II. 77 We are still so young in the study of Nature. 1859 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* xxxi, 'Matey, what station are you on?' 'Maraganoa', says he, 'So', says I, 'you're rather young there, ain't you?' 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Young gentlemen*, a general designation for midshipmen, whatever their age.

†b. *transf.* Characteristic of a young person, or of a beginner; showing inexperience; juvenile; immature; occas. childish, infantile. *Obs.*

c 1200 *Moral Ode* 10 (Trin. Coll. MS.), Fele idel word ich habbe ispeken sefen ich speken cuðe, And fele zeunge [v.r. zunge] dade idon þe me ofkinðe nuðe. 1623 COCKERAM ii, *Young*, childish. 1663 GERBIER *Counsel* 9 To excuse his young Experience. 1718 J. HUGHES in *J. Duncombe's Lett.* (1773) I. 205 He has. . . inserted some trifles of mine which were very young performances.

5. a. Of a thing (concrete or abstract): That is in its early stage; lately begun, formed, introduced, or brought into use; not far advanced; recent, new.

In quot. 1402 applied to something resulting or 'springing' from something else, as compared to offspring (cf. 1 d).

1402 *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 103 And alle siche zonge impossibilittees folowen therof. 1538 ELYOT, *Mustus*. . . newe, yonge, late made. 1553 *Respublica* iii. 731 It ys but yong daies yet. 1569 UNDERDOWNE *Heliodorus* vii. 93b, A little yonge yellowe bearde. 1577 HARRISON *England* ii. ii. (1877) 1. 50 Oxford hath Oxfordshire onelie, a verie yong iurisdiction, erected by king Henrie the eight. 1592 SHAKS. *Rom. & Jul.* i. i. 166 *Rom.* Is the day so young? *Ben.* But new strooke nine. 1631 MARKHAM *Country Contentm.* (ed. 4) i. xiii. 89 Take the Kidney-Tallow of a Sheep, and as much young Cheese. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* i. 64 While yet the Spring is young. *Ibid.* iii. 752 Such are the Symptoms of the young Disease. 1743 *Lond. & Country Brewer* ii. (ed. 2) 113 To tun or put up their Drink young, as the Brewers call it, that is before it hath, fermented too much. 1859 H. KINGSLEY *G. Hamlyn* xxxviii, It's a young country, but there's been muckle wickedness done in it. 1869 BLACKMORE *Lorna D.* xvi, The water. . . spread with that young blue which never lives beyond the April. 1880 O. CRAWFORD *Portugal* 253 New port wine—the trade speak of it as *young wine*. 1884 BESANT *Dorothy Forster* xi, They. . . left the table when the night was yet young, and the bottle just beginning. 1886 CUMMING *Electr. treated Experim.* (1887) 63 It is. . . necessary, while the ship is young, to make a new correction for magnetism after each voyage. 1893 STEVENSON *Catrina* iii, A. . . gabled house set by the walk-side among some brave young woods. 1913 *Times* 13 Sept. 15/6 [This] was a severe tax on a young concern not earning profits.

b. Applied to the moon in the early part of the lunar month, soon after 'new moon', when it appears as a crescent.

In quot. c 1386 applied to the sun at the season just after the vernal equinox.

c 1386 CHAUCER *Prolog.* 8 The yonge sonne Hath in the Ram his halfe cours yronne. 1813 [see *May moon*, *MAY sb.*³ 5]. 1821 SHELLEY *Hellas* 168 When the young moon was westering as now. 1849 H. W. HERBERT *Frank Forester* III. 95 The dark azure vault, upon which the thread-like crescent of the young moon was climbing.

c. *spec.* in nautical uses (see quots.).

1596 SIR W. SLINGSBY *Voy. Cadiz* (Navy Rec. Soc. XX.) 71 At six hours' end. . . upon the opportunity of the young flood, the San Felipe, the San Matias, the San Andrés, and the San Tomaso. . . were abandoned by the Spaniards. 1774 C. J. PHIPPS *Voy. N. Pole* 60 The pools of water in the middle of the pieces were frozen over with young ice. 1833 M. SCOTT *Tom Cringle* i, We. . . ran up the river with the young flood for about an hour. 1853 KANE *Grinnell Exp.* xv. (1856) 109 The 'young', or as it is called by the whalers, the 'bay ice'. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.* s.v. *Flood*, When the water begins to rise, it is called a young flood. *Ibid.*, *Young wind*, the commencement of the land or sea breeze.

†d. *young with child*: newly pregnant, in the early stage of pregnancy; also loosely used for 'pregnant' (app. by confusion of *with child* and *with young*). *Obs.*

1613-18 DANIEL *Coll. Hist. Eng.* (1626) 187 Charles [King of France] dying leaues his Wife young with childre. 1652 FRENCH *Yorksh. Spaw* viii. 78 When they have been very young with child. 1758 MRS. LENNOX *Henrietta* i. x, My mother, being young with child when my father died, miscarried. a 1800 T. BELLAMY *Beggar Boy* (1801) III. 51 When my father was commanded on board, he left my mother young with child of me.

6. a. *fig.* Small, diminutive, miniature, not full-sized. Now *colloq.* and *jocular*.

1550 J. COKE *Eng. & Fr. Herald's* §8 (1877) 60 We have in England great corne countres, groves, yongsprynges, great ryvers and swete brockes. 1577 GOOGE *Heresbach's Husb.* iv.

(1586) 173 It is best to bring from the Sea, little Rockes with the weedes and all vpon them, and to place them in the midst of your Ponds, and to make a young Sea of them. 1851 *Amer. Mag.* Nov. 92 I'll turn all the drawers inside out, was than a young earthquake. 1854 GRACE GREENWOOD *Haps & Mishaps* 10, I left Liverpool on an afternoon of unusual brightness, but plunged immediately into a young night, in the shape of the longest tunnel I ever passed through. 1885 HORNADAY *Two Yrs. in Jungle* xvii. 192 Such a weapon is really a young cannon.

†b. Technically applied to a lens of low magnifying power. *Obs.*

1667 PEPPS *Diary* 4 Nov., To Turlington, the great spectacle-maker, . . . who dissuades me from using old spectacles, but rather young ones. 1718 J. CHAMBERLAYNE *Relig. Philos.* (1730) I. xii. §22 To speak in the Language of the Glass-Grinders, of younger or older Spectacles.

B. *absol.* or as *sb.*

1. a. *absol.* in pl. sense (with def. art., or without art. in conjunction with *old*): Young people.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* lxxvii[i]. 63 *Juvenes eorum comedit ignis*, zunge heara æt fyr. c 1000 *Rule of Chrodegang* ii, Æfre þa geongan wurðian þa caldan, & þa caldan lufien þa gingran. c 1205 LAY. 28444 þa zeonge and þa alde alle he aqualde. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 20495 3ong and ald and euerilkan All þar fell to slepe onan. 1390 GOWER *Conf. I.* 112 And how that love among the yonge Began the hertes thanne awake. c 1460 *Towneley Myst.* ix. 217 Therfor thou byd both old and ying, That ich man knowe me for his kyng. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 29 Cum zung and auld, baith man and wyfe, I will 3ow giue Eternall lyfe. 1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* II. i. 118 He woos both high and low, both rich and poor, both yong and old. 1611 *Bible* 2 Macc. v. 13 Thus there was killing of yong and old. 1632 [see *OLD a.* 1]. 1710 STEELE *Tatler* No. 207 ¶ 1 Old Age, which is a Decay from that Vigour which the Young possess. 1770 [see *OLD a.* 1]. 1817 MARIA EDGEWORTH *Ormond* i, She saw herself surrounded by the young, the fair, and the gay. 1841-4 [see *OLD a.* 1]. 1885 'MRS. ALEXANDER' *Valerie's Fate* v, I have always lived with people older than myself, . . . so I do not feel it, though it is very nice to be with the young.

†b. *absol.* or as *sb.* *girl.* A young person, *esp.* a young woman or girl. *Obs.*

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past. C.* xlix. 385 Ðu gionga, bio ðe uniðe to clipianne & to læranne. c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Matt. xix. 20 þa cwæð se geonga, eall piß ic geheold. a 1300 K. *Horn* 137 (Cambr. MS.) 'Feren', quap he, '3onge [v.r. 3ynge], lhc telle 3ou tipinge.' 13.. *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 951 Vn-lyke on to loke þo ladyes were, For if þe 3onge was 3ep, 3ol3e was þat oper. ? 1402 in *Yorksh. Archæol. Jnl.* (1909) XX. 43 Vlives. . . Brak hir hisrowth, & toke another yhyng, Circes, to loue. c 1430 [see YEPLY 2]. 14.. *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 77 This goodly yong and fresche of face.

c. as *sb.* in pl. Young or newly initiated persons, new-comers, novices. *nonce-use.*

1890 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 30 Aug. 2/2 Although the 'Olds' have been the pioneers. . . of the movement, the 'Youngs' show an impatience with them at every meeting.

2. †a. A young one; *esp.* with *a* and *pl.* (chiefly in imitation of foreign idiom). *Obs. rare.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 10977 Til þat he be born, þat yung, þan sal be do þe haue þe tung. c 1520 ANDREW *Noble Lyfe* xxxviii. in *Babees Bk.* (1868) 234 Halata is a beste that dothe on-natural dedys, for whan she feleth her yonges quycke, or stere in her body, than she draweth them out & loketh vpon them. 1527 — *Brunswyke's Distyll. Waters* Fijb, A Scorpion, whyche kylleth the yonges of the lyon with his venomous stynges. 1759 B. STILLINGFLEET tr. *Riberg's Econ. Nat.* in *Misc. Tracts* (1762) 90 The elephant scarcely produces one young in two years. 1797 *Encycl. Brit.* (ed. 3) XIV. 612/1 It [sc. the great seal] breeds about the month of Mareh, and brings forth a single young on the ice.

b. Young animals collectively in relation to the parent; young ones, offspring.

1484 CAXTON *Fables of Æsop* I. xiii. The tree where vpon the egle and his yonge were in theyr nest. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* lxxiii[i]. 3 The sparrow hath founde hir an house, & the swalowe a nest, where she maye laye hir yonge. — *Jer.* xvii. 11 The disceatfull maketh a nest, but bringeth forth no yonge. 1593 SHAKS. *Lucr.* 863 So then he hath it when he cannot vse it, And leaues it to be maistred by his yong. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 123 Gif a Sou eit his 3oung, stane him. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 382 'Tis with this rage, the Mother Lion stung, Scours o're the Plain; regardless of her yong. 1820 SHELLEY *Witch Ail.* vii. The brindled lioness led forth her yong. 1849 *Sk. Nat. Hist.*, *Mammalia* IV. 63 The field mouse breeds twice in the year, producing from six to ten young at a time.

c. Phr. with *young* (also in *young*), of a female animal: Pregnant.

1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* lxxvii[i]. 71 The yowes greate with yonge. 1593 SHAKS. 3 *Hen. VI.* II. v. 35 So many Dayes, my Ewes haue bene with yong. 1607 TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 241 Goats grow fat when they are with young. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* III. vii. 203 The cat goes with young fifty-six days. 1846 J. BAXTER *Libr. Pract. Agric.* (ed. 4) II. 309 The breeding sow, when in young, and near farrowing, should be kept in good condition.

†3. (? *ellipt.* for *young age*: see the adj. 2 a.) The time of life when one is young; youth. *rare.*

c 1450 *Cov. Myst.* (Shaks. Soc.) v. 50 In thi 3onge lerne God to plesse. 1639 G. DANIEL *Ecclus.* End 60 In the strong Estate of Man, and the sweet Time of young.

C. Special collocations and Combinations. (See also A. 1 b.)

1. a. With the names of countries or their inhabitants, in the designations of political parties chiefly composed of young men: as *young* (or *Young*) *America*, (a) a slogan used in connection with an expansionist movement within the Democratic Party in the 1840s and 1850s (*obs. exc. Hist.*); (b) American youth collectively; *Young England*, name assumed by

a group of Tory politicians in the early part of the reign of Queen Victoria (hence *Young-Englander*, a member of this group; *Young-Englandism*, the principles of 'Young England'); *Young Europe*, a group of associations of republican agitators of various nations which arose after the July revolution (1830) in France, known severally as *Young France*, *Young Germany*, *Young Italy*, *Young Poland*; *Young Ireland*, a group of Irish agitators about 1840-50 (hence *Young-Irelander*, *Young-Irelandism*); *Young Turk*, a member of a party of Turkish agitators which brought about the revolution of 1908 (hence *Young Turkish* adj.); see also *TURK* 2 e. (Such phrases may also be used in a general sense, as *Young England* = the typical young Englishman, or the rising generation of Englishmen.) Also with names of political parties and movements, denoting a young member or (pl.) a section organized by and for young members, as *Young Communist*, *Conservative*, *Farmers*, etc.

1844 *St. Louis Reveille* 30 Nov. 2/2 No mammoth bank . . . can form any part of the creed of the * *Young America!* 1852 *U.S. Mag. & Democratic Rev.* Feb. 185/2 We are not for all the young men before the country, but only for the bold, active honor and talent of Young America. 1880 'MARK TWAIN' *Tramp Abr.* xxxviii. 444 He and the innocent chatterbox whom I met on the Swiss lake are the most unique and interesting specimens of Young America I came across during my foreign tramping. 1924 *Outlook* 10 Sept. 45/1 Young America could with profit leave such affairs alone. 1962 E. WILSON *Patriotic Gore* p. xxii, Douglas . . . had been the leader of the 'Young America' movement in the Democratic Party, which had favored . . . the annexation of Mexico, Cuba and . . . Central America. 1936 J. BELL *Let.* 4 Jan. in *Ess., Poems & Lett.* (1938) II. 294 While I have been writing these last pages, I have been acutely aware of 'the adversary'. He takes the form of an enthusiastic member of the * *Young Communist League* and he bellows incessantly. 1966 'H. MACDIARMID' *Company I've Kept* viii. 188 Some of the Edinburgh University students, members of the Young Communist League, . . . came to the rescue. 1982 *Manch. Guardian Weekly* 21 Nov. 10/3 He had a good secondary education and joined the Young Communists in 1923 while he was at a metallurgical school. 1924 *Times* 17 Mar. 13/5 (heading) The 'Young Conservatives Union'. *Ibid.*, This union has been formed by Young Conservatives who desire to prove by attaching themselves to constituencies for social service that their Conservative ideal is one which they are prepared to maintain by action. 1938 B. R. BRAINE in *Torchbearer* Apr. 41/3 The prefix 'Junior' we dislike, and the word 'Imps' infers an extreme and irresponsible youthfulness that is certainly not in accordance with reality. . . I suggest . . . that we take steps to become the 'Young Conservative League'. 1944 *Times* 11 July 2/2 The Conservative Party has decided to establish a new Young Conservative movement which will take the place of the Junior Imperial League. 1959 E. H. CLEMENTS *High Tension* x. 165 Fiona isn't a Young Conservative! She's a Communist. 1977 J. WAINWRIGHT *Do Nothin' till You hear from Me* iv. 52 It is a Young Conservative hop, in a neighbouring town. 1838 R. MONCKTON MILNES *Let. to C. J. MacCarthy* 13 Mar., I go on with small * *Young England*s' on Sunday evenings, which unfortunately excludes the more severe members—Acland, Gladstone, &c. 1843 *Times* 17 Aug. 5/2 It is not to defend 'Young England' . . . that we make these remarks. 1848 KINGSLEY *Yeast* vi, Young England or Peelite, this is all right and noble. 1859 *New Sporting Mag.* (N.S.) LVIII. 425 Now Master Young England I am afraid I have been rather angry with you. 1886 KEBBEL *Hist. Toryism* v. 273 That distrust of Sir Robert Peel which alone made the Young England Party possible. 1837 in T. W. Reid R. M. Milnes (1890) I. 205 We may both rejoice that our two * *young Englanders* [sc. Milnes and Acland] have come out so well. 1848 KINGSLEY *Yeast* iii, She would have started as from a snake, from the issue . . . that Lancelot would fall in love, not with * *Young Englandism*, but with Argemone Lavington. 1840 T. GORDON tr. *W. Menzel's Ger. Lit.* IV. 309 The coterie took the name of Young Germany (*das junge Deutschland*) only, however, as an emanation from * *Young Europe*. 1968 P. JENNINGS *Living Village* 71 The flourishing * *Young Farmers Club* movement. 1981 J. WAINWRIGHT *Urge for Justice* I. v. 35 The lads from the local Young Farmers branch put on a New Year's Ball. 1835 *Ann. Reg., Hist. Eur.* 478/1 Germany had found in her political reformers a new school of literature and morals, as well as of civil rights. . . Under the appellation of * *young Germany*, or 'young literature', aping the French . . . disregard of all authority, . . . they preached up their extravagant doctrines in corrupting publications. 1845 R. MONCKTON MILNES *Let. to C. J. MacCarthy* 26 Mar., * *Young Ireland* would separate from Rome to-morrow if they dared. 1884 *Dict. Eng. Hist.* 610/1 The 'Young Ireland' party . . . made a foolish attempt at rebellion in 1848. 1855 MORIARTY in W. Ward *Life Newman* (1912) I. 361, I do not at all share . . . in Dr. Cullen's distrust of those he calls * *Young Irelanders*. 1851 *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 224 Rise and Progress of * *Young-Irelandism*. 1844 R. MONCKTON MILNES *Let. to C. J. MacCarthy* 1 July, Mazzini, . . . who has been organising a * *Young Italian* descent on Italy from Malta. 1983 *Economist* 21 May 37/1 As usual, the * *Young Liberals* attacked it from a neo-Trotskyite stand. 1980 *Christian Science Monitor* 28 Jan. 12/3, 80,000 pounds—none of which, say the editors, came from abroad. Much of it probably came through the Labour youth movement, * *Young Socialists*, where the tendency reportedly has strong support. 1901 *Scotsman* 4 Sept. 7/6 As regards the * *Young Turks*, the Sultan hopes that Munir Bey will be able to keep them under surveillance. 1909 *Westm. Gaz.* 17 Aug. 9/1 Salonika, the head-quarters of the Young Turk Party. 1911 *Encycl. Brit.* XXVII. 463/2 The * *Young Turkish* party had long been preparing for the overthrow of the old régime.

b. In other special collocations, as *young FUSTIC*, *young HYSON*, *Young PRETENDER*, for which see the *sbs.*; *young grammarians sb. pl.* *Philol.* [tr. Gr.] = JUNGGRAMMATIKER *sb. pl.*; cf. NEO-GRAMMARIAN; so *young-grammarian a.*; *young lion*, a young and vigorous man.

1922 *Young-grammarian* [see JUNGGRAMMATIKER *sb. pl.*]. 1947 *Essays & Studies* XXXII. 89 This was bound to shake the young-grammarian theory of the inviolability of the sound laws. 1856 C. M. YONGE *Daisy Chain* ix. 92 Take care of my arm! . . . I was . . . a little in dread of such a young lion! 1917 H. JAMES *Middle Years* iii. 36 Frederic Harrison . . . one of his [sc. Matthew Arnold's] too confidently roaring 'young lions' of the periodical press. 1937 K. BLIXEN *Out of Africa* v. v. 407 It was curious to hear the young Kikuyu lions speak with reverence and awe of . . . the old dancers. 1977 *Listener* 17 Feb. 216/2 An orchestra comprising most of the 'young lions' from the home front.

2. Comb. a. Adverbial and predicative, as *young-born* (cf. 'new-born': also *absol.*), *-fed*, *-looking*, *-old* (old in years but young in condition or disposition), *-seeming*, *-sprung* adjs. b. Parasynthetic, etc. as *young-bladed*, *-conscienced*, *-headed*, *-hearted*, *-minded*, *-winged*, †-yeared adjs.; *young-blood*, a 'young-blooded' person, a young hothead; recently revived in U.S. as a hyphenated or one-word form of *young blood* (see *BLOOD sb.* 15); † *young-head*, a headstrong young man. Also YOUNG-EYED, YOUNG-LIKE.

1551 ROBINSON tr. *More's Utopia* Ep. (1895) 5 This * *yong bladed* and newe shotte vp eorne. 1630 BRATHWAIT *Eng. Gentleman* 12 These * *Young-blouds* use rather, Catiline-like, to speake much, and doe little. 1946 MEZZROW & WOLFE *Really the Blues* viii. 106 He was a tall blond good-looking * *youngblood*. 1979 *N.Y. Times Mag.* 30 Sept. 28/4 The fault always lay with . . . veterans rather than the youngbloods that Willis himself had drafted. 1874 *Edin. Rev.* July 80 The first-fruits of the * *young-born* eruptive power. 1915 D. H. LAWRENCE *Rainbow* i. 2 Every year throws forward the seed to begetting, and . . . leaves the young-born on the earth. 1651 DAVENANT *Gondibert* II. vii. xxx, She . . . like * *Young Conscienc'd* Casuists, thinks that sin, Which will by talk and practise lawfull seeme. 1608 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iv. *Schisme* i Rejecting Old, * *Young-Counsail'd* rash Roboam Loseth Ten Tribes, which fall to Jeroboam. 1598 *Mucedorus* iv. i. 29 What . . . * *young-fed* humour moist within the braine? 1630 BRATHWAIT *Eng. Gentleman* 12 It is intolerable for these * *Young-heads* to be opposed: they are deafe to reason. 1588 *FRAUNCE in Brit. Bibliogr.* (1812) II. 280 Ould dotinge graye bearded talke muche of Baralipont, whiles * *young headed* boyes beare awaye logike. 1868 LYNCH *Rivulet* CL. vi, * *Young-hearted*, gay Summer shall fling Thy doubts away. 1824 MISS MITFORD *Village Ser.* I. *Mod. Ant.*, A man of seventy, . . . but wonderfully * *young-looking* and well-preserved. 1930 *Daily Express* 23 May 10/4 The Italians and the Russians are * *young-minded*. 1558 R. RAMSEY *Boy Bp.'s Sermon* 14 in *Camden Misc.* (1875) VII. All yow that are no childer, but men, women, and * *yonggolds*, of years and discretion. 1650 FULLER *Pisgah* II. xiii. 274 Caleb was that young-old man, whose strength contradicted his years. 1903 *Westm. Gaz.* 21 Feb. 2/1 A tall, ascetic-looking, young-old man. 1951 S. SPENDER *World within World* 113 An old man. . . With * *young-seeming* nervous fingers he touched the rim of his glass. 1614 R. TAILOR *Hog hath lost Pearl* IV. i. All thy * *young sprung* griefes shall seeme but sparkes To the great fire of my calamities. 1706 WATTS *Horæ Lyr.* II. xxxiii. 149 A generous Pair Of * *young-wing'd* Eaglets. 1596 R. LINCHE *Diella* Fj b, This * *young-year'd* Hermit. 1599 — *Fount. Anc. Fiction* Hij, A carelesse crue of young-year'd Nymphs.

Young (jʌŋ), *sb.*² *Physics and Mech.* [The name of Thomas Young (1773-1829), English physician and physicist.] *Young's modulus*: = *modulus of elasticity* s.v. MODULUS 3.

1865 *Proc. R. Soc.* XIV. 293 Young's 'modulus', which has generally been called simply the modulus of elasticity of a solid, is the longitudinal traction of a stretched rod or wire of the substance, divided by the extension produced by it. *Ibid.*, Several accurate determinations of Young's modulus have been made upon wires of different substances hung in the College Tower of the University of Glasgow. 1930 *Engineering* 11 Apr. 465/1 The modern theory of the elasticity of isotropic materials makes use of a number of physical constants, all of which are definitely related to Young's Modulus E. 1967 M. CHANDLER *Ceramics in Mod. World* iv. 118 The harder it is to stretch a material, the higher is its Young's modulus. 1978 *Jnl. R. Soc. Arts* CXXVI. 683/1 The stresses built up in a structure due to these temperature differences are proportional to E (Young's Modulus), α (the linear coefficient of expansion) and ΔT (the temperature difference).

young (jʌŋ), *v.* *Geol.* [f. YOUNG *a.*] *intr.* Of a structure or formation: to present the apparently younger side (in a specified direction). Hence 'younging *vbl. sb.*

1934 E. B. BAILEY in *Q. Jnl. Geol. Soc.* XC. 469, I have . . . been forced to coin the barbaric verb 'to young', in the sense 'to present the younger aspect'. 1969 BENNISON & WRIGHT *Geol. Hist. Brit. Isles* viii. 164 It seems probable that beds 'young' both southwards and northwards from the St. Austell Granite. 1972 *Nature* 28 Apr. 431/2 The eastward younging of plutons was taken to indicate an eastward migration of the downwelling plate margin. 1975 TINDALL & THORNHILL *Blandford Rock & Mineral Guide* 1. 30 The direction of younging in a single layer of rock can sometimes be established if there is clear evidence of erosion. 1982 COLLINSON & THOMPSON *Sedimentary Structures* II. 9/2 A sequence [of beds] could therefore be reported as 'younging to the east' for example.

youngberry (ˈjʌŋbəri). Also *Young-*. [f. the name of B. M. Young (fl. 1905), U.S.

horticulturist, who first produced it + BERRY sb.]. A dewberry derived from a cross made in Louisiana in 1905 between a blackberry and a dewberry; also, a fruit of this plant, similar to a loganberry.

1927 *Calif. Cultivator* 30 July 104 (heading) The Youngberry. *Ibid.* 20 Aug. 178/4 As to the Youngberry plant it does not produce a dewberry fruit and if the name dewberry cheapens a most excellent fruit and is misleading as well we can see no reason why, in California, dewberry should not be dropped and Youngberry... adopted. 1935 *Ann. Rep. Oregon State Hort. Soc.* xxvii. 74 Our oldest Youngberries were set in the spring of 1931. 1971 *Post* (Cape ed.) 9 May (Suppl.) 10/4 Ingredients: ... Apple Jelly, ... 2 cups boiling water, 2 cups milk, 1 tin youngberries or loganberries. 1980 *Times* 9 June 6/4 A few untended youngberry bushes are all that remain of the thriving farming community that once lived here [in Zimbabwe].

younger (ˈjʌŋgə(r)), *a.* (sb.) Forms: 1 *gingra*, *gyngra*, *geongra*, 3 *geong(e)re*, *zengere*, 3(e)unger, *zungre* (*Orm.* *zungre*), *yungre*, *zongor(e)*, 3-4 *zongere*, 3-5 *zungar*, (6 *Sc.*) *zonger*, 4 *yunger*, 4-6 *yongar*, *Sc.* *zongar(e)*, 4-7 *yonger*, 5 *zongir(e)*, *zungir*, *yungur*, 5-6 *yongur*, 6 *Sc.* *zoungar*, *youngar*, *yonggar(e)*, 7 *Sc.* *zonnegar*, 6- younger. [f. YOUNG *a.* + -ER³. (The normal mutated OE. comp. *gingra*, *gyngra* did not survive.)] *A. adj.* The comparative degree of YOUNG *a.*; opposed to ELDER *a.*, OLDER.

1. *a.* In senses 1 and 3 of YOUNG: Of less age; that has lived a shorter time; more youthful (in years, or *fig.* in disposition, etc.).

c 930-40 *Laus Æthelstan* vi. xii. §1 Cwæð þa þæt him þuhte . . . þæt man nænne gingran mann ne sloze þonne xv wintre man. c 1000 *Ag. Ps.* (Spelman) xxxvi. 26 [xxxvii. 25] *gyngra* [v.rr. *geongra*, *zongre*] ic wæs, witendlice ic ealdode. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 8753 Hit ne likede noping wel Robert courtheese þoru is zongore þroper so engeland to lese. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 3493 Iacob hight þe yonger broþer. 1390 *Gower Conf.* II. 308 Fedra hire yonger Soster. a 1400-50 *Wars Alex.* 1474 Athils of all age eldire & zongire. 1523-34 *FITZHERB. Husb.* §23 The yonger and the grener that the grasse is, the softer and the sweter it wyll be. c 1600 G. HARVEY *Marginalia* (1913) App. ii. 232 The yonger sort takes much delight in Shakespeares Venus, & Adonis. c 1626 *Dicke of Devon.* iv. i. in *Bullen Old Pl.* (1883) II. 62 All yonger brothers Must sitt beneath the salt & take what dishes The elder shoves downe to them. 1678 *WANLEY Wond. Lit. World* i. xxxii. 52 They are proverbially said to have eaten a snake, who look younger than accustomed. 1718 *POPE Let. to Lady M. W. Montagu* 1 Sept., I shall look upon you as so many years younger than you was, so much nearer innocence. 1838 *LYTTON Alice* ix. ii, Evelyn was younger than her years! 1844 R. MONCKTON MILNES *Let. to C. F. MacCarthy* 1 July, Sir F. Doyle is going to marry the younger Miss Wynn. 1897 *MARY KINGSLEY W. Africa* 484 The younger brother may not marry the elder brother's widows.

(b) *younger generation*, the next or rising generation, seen in contrast to the current one or one's own.

1896 G. B. SHAW *Our Theatres in Nineties* (1932) II. 289 A fine young woman in rational dress who . . . treads the boards with no little authority and assurance as one of the younger generation knocking vigorously at the door. 1914 L. WOLFE *Wise Virgins* iv. 93 'Most lakes . . . are repulsive,' ejaculated Harry. 'Ah,' said Mr. Macausland tolerantly, 'there spoke the younger generation.' 1931 R. CAMPBELL *Georgiad* i. 25 Writers of the younger generation. 1939 T. S. ELIOT *Family Reunion* i. 1. 14 The younger generation are undoubtedly decadent. 1976 J. FRASER *Who steals my Name?* ii. 22 Mr. Cedric was a member of the younger generation.

b. Used after a person's name for distinction from an older person of the same name; = JUNIOR 1. Chiefly *Sc.*

esp. in the titles of Scottish heirs. c 1375 *Sc. Leg. Saints* ii. (Paulus) 1138 Iustine yungre. c 1460 *Oseney Reg.* 84 Aleyn Romely þe yonger. 1529 *Reg. Privy Seal Scot.* 62/2 Umquhill Johnne Culquhone, eldar, and Johnne Culquhone, zonger. 1567 in R. Pitcairn *Criminal Trials in Scotland* (1833) I. ii. 496 (heading) Deposition by John Hay, zonger of Tallo. 1627 *HAKESWILL Apol.* (1630) 163 Tobias the Elder lived to one hundred fifty and eight, the yonger to one hundred twenty seven. 1684 *Procl. in Wodrow Hist. Suff. Ch. Scot.* (1722) II. App. 109 John Baxters elder and yonger, Tenants to Robert Campbell. 1734 *Parish Reg. Forres* 23 Feb. (MS.), Witnesses Alexander Dunbar yonger and Elder of Boath. 1815 *SCOTT Guy M.* xli, Charles Hazlewood, yonger of Hazlewood. 1982 *Who's Who* 1425/2 Hugh Magnus Macleod, yonger of Macleod.

† c. *younger man*: see quot. and YEOMAN etym. Cf. *MLG. jungerman*, newly elected judge or counsellor, newly admitted member of a guild.

? c 1185 *Pseudo-Chnut De Foresta* ii. (Liebermann) 620 Sintque sub quolibet horum [primariorum] quatuor ex mediocribus hominibus, quos Angli læsspegenes nuncupant, Dani uero yongermen uocant.

2. *transf.* in sense 2 of YOUNG: Belonging to the earlier part of life; earlier. Now only in *younger days*.

1578 *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* Ser. 1. II. 707 Gude will schawin unto him in his yongar aige. 1695 *SHAKS. Lear* i. 41 (Qo. 1) To shake all cares and busines of our state, Confirming them on yonger years. 1676 *GLANVILL Ess. Philos. & Relig.* iii. 52 They [sc. the Peripatetic Disputers] employed their Younger Studies upon the Philosophy of Disputation. 1741 *WATTS Improv.*, *Mind* i. xvii. §8 Whether in their chamber, parlour or study, in the yonger or elder years of life. 1827 *LYTTON Pelham* lxi, He had been an old votary of the turf in his yonger days.

3. *a.* In senses 4 and 5 of YOUNG: More lately initiated, begun, introduced, etc.; having less

experience or practice; that is in an earlier stage; less advanced; later, more recent.

1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super.* 122 Thou art young in years, I suppose; but younger in enterprise, I am assured. 1609 *BP. HALL Disswas. Poperie* Wks. (1625) 614 If there be any point of our Religion yonger than the Patriarchs, and Prophets. 1662 *STILLINGFL. Orig. Sacra* i. iii. §10 We have made it evident, that these two great historians are younger even then the translation of the Bible into Greek. 1706 *PHILLIPS* (ed. Kersey), *Younger Regiment or Officer*, in Military Affairs, that Regiment is counted Youngest, which was last rais'd, and that Officer youngest, whose Commission is of the latest Date. 1794 *J. Boys Agric. Kent* 58 The second year after planting [hops], full size poles . . . are placed to the hills instead of the seconds, which are removed to younger grounds. 1849 *MACAULAY Hist. Eng.* iii. 1. 340 Younger towns, towns which are rarely or never mentioned in our early history and which sent no representatives to our early parliaments. 1854 *MURCHISON Siluria* i. 13 The Silurian rocks of the Ural chain are succeeded by younger palæozoic deposits. 1874 *SAYCE Compar. Philol.* ii. 60 The younger the science, the smaller will be the amount of known facts. 1915 *Daily Tel.* 5 May 2/3 The directors decided not to commence tapping on the younger [rubber] fields.

b. *younger hand* (in Card-playing): the second player in a two-handed game (opp. to *elder hand*, ELDER *a.* 4).

1744 *HOYLE Piquet* iii. 28 If the younger-hand has one Ace dealt him, what are the Odds of his taking in one or two of the three remaining Aces?

B. *absol.* or as sb.

1. *absol.* (usually, now always, with *def. art.*) in *sing.* or *pl.* sense; One who is, or those who are, younger. (Most commonly contrasted with *elder*.)

OE. *gingra* (fem. *gingre*) spec. = follower, disciple, vassal. c 900 *tr. Bæda's Hist.* iii. v. (1890) 160 Se bisceop, betwih opre lare mannun to lyfgeanne, þa fægerestan bysene his gingrum foret. a 1000 *Cædmon's Gen.* 291 Ne wille ic leng his geongra wurpan. c 1200 *Moral Ode* 326 (Trin. Coll. MS.) Ne muze we werien naðer ne wið þurst ne wið hunger . . . þe elder ne þe zeunger. c 1205 *LAY.* 3927 þe king hæuede tweie sunen . . . þe zengere [c 1275 þe zeongre] hehte Poreus. *Ibid.* 9189 Wiðer wes þa ældere Aruiragun þe zungere [c 1275 zeongere]. a 1225 *Ancr. R.* 424 Nenne mon ne leten heo in ne þe zungre ne speke mid none monne bute leaue. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 2934 þe elder to þe yonger spak. c 1380 *WYCLIF Wks.* (1880) 383 He þat is gratter of zow, loke þat he be made as zongar in symplines. c 1400 *Apol. Loll.* 2 Wan þe synne of þe heldar man drawiþ not be his ensaumple þe hertis of þe zungar in to dep. 1526 *TINDALE Rom.* ix. 12 The elder shall serve the yonger. 1612 *WOODALL Surg. Mate Pref.*, Wks. (1653) 16 It is fit that the yonger obey the elder.

2. (In early use *absol.* without change in *pl.*; later as *sb.* with *pl.* in -s.) With preceding possessive: (A person's) inferior in age: = JUNIOR B. b. Now rare.

c 1200 *ORMIN* 13279 þatt uss birrþ follzhenh blipeliþ þatt ure zungure uss læreþþ, 3iff þatt iss þatt hiss lare iss god. 1493 [H. PARKER] *Dives & Pauper* (W. de W. 1496) i. xxxvi. 78/1 Than begyn they moost to dote and to teche theyr yonger many folyes. 1523 [COVERDALE] *Old God* (1534) Rj, Suche thinges do theyr yongers here. a 1540 in T. West *Antiq. Furness* (1807) 157 They shall diligently instruct their juniors and yongers. 1595 *SOUTHWELL Image of Death* 33 My yongers daili drop away, And can I think to 'scape alone? 1639 *LD. DIGBY Lett. conc. Relig.* (1651) 90 No false doctrine whatsoever can be admitted into the Church in any age, unless they of that age do unanimously conspire to deceive their children and yongers. 1742 *YOUNG Nt. Th.* iv. 22, I scarce can meet a monument, but holds My yonger. 1836 *Going to Service* viii. 87 [Lady's maid loq.] It is very mortifying to be obliged to one's yongers. 1872 *TENNYSON Gareth & Lynette* 1380 Answer'd Sir Gareth graciously to one Not many a moon his yonger'd.

3. (As *sb.* with *pl.* in -s.) A younger person: = JUNIOR B. (Chiefly, in later use only, in *pl.*; commonly contrasted with *elder*.)

c 1449 *PECOCK Repr.* iii. iv. 302 He muste nedis meene that he allowith oon to be grettist among hem, and that he in sum other maner louge him as a zonger. 1551 *ROBINSON tr. More's Utopia* ii. (1895) 164 To the intent that the sage grautie . . . of the elders should kepe the yongers from wanton licence. 1596 *SHAKS. Merch. V.* ii. vi. 14 How like a yonger or a prodigall The skarfed barke puts from her natue bay. 1658 *OSBORN Queen Eliz.* Ep. A 3b, So have I a little wondred at Age, to finde it so techy, when Younger in years lay any claim to Knowledge. a 1734 *NORTH Lives* (1826) III. 175 The two younger [of the family] were also well placed. 1885 *MOZLEY Remin.* i. xxiv. 138 In 1823 all we yongers were at a small farmhouse between Filey and Scarborough. 1894 'EDNA LYALL' *To Right the Wrong* v, He himself was one of the despised yongers of the family.

C. *Comb.*, as *younger-born*; *younger-brotherish*, -*sisterish* *adjs.* (*nonce-wds.*), having the character of a younger brother or sister.

1530 *PALSGR.* 291/2 Yongar borne, *maise.* 1856 *LEVER Martins of Cro' M.* lxxv, His preference for the younger-born. 1864 *MISS YONGE Trial* v, She is painfully meek and younger-sisterish. 1885 *WINGFIELD Barb. Philpot* xii, To sell smiles to such a beggarly younger-brotherish runagate!

Hence 'youngerly' *a.* (*U.S. colloq.*), somewhat young (opp. to *elderly*); 'youngership' (*rare*), the condition of one who is younger, juniority.

1868 *Church Union* 11 Jan. (Cent. Dict.), The life-blood of Christendom flows in the veins of her *youngerly men. 1611 *COTGR.*, *Iuweigner*, *youngership. 1898-9 *Ann. Rep. Bur. Amer. Ethnol.* p. cxiii, The captive is thus doomed to perpetual youngstership, if the term may be permitted—that is, to perpetual servitude.

youngest (ˈjʌŋɡɪst), *a.* Forms: 1 *gingest*, *gingæst*, *gingst*, 3 *geongeste*, *zengestte*, *zongest(e)*, -ist, -ost(e), 3-6 *zungest(e)*, 4 *zingest*, *yongeist*, *Sc.*

zongast, *zungaste*, 4-6 *zongest*, *yongest*, 5 *zongust*, 6 *yoongest*, 6- youngest. [f. YOUNG *a.* + -EST. (The normal mutated OE. form *gingest* did not survive.)] The superlative degree of YOUNG *a.*; opposed to ELDEST, OLDEST.

1. In sense 1 of YOUNG: Of least age. Also *absol.*

c 893 *ÆLFRED Oros.* i. iv. §1 Ioseph, se þe gingst wæs hys zebroðra. c 1205 *LAY.* 3460 Mi zengestte [c 1275 zeongeste] dohter. *Ibid.* 6955 þe zungeste of þan breðeren. 13.. *Cursor M.* 7391 (Gött.) Quer es þin alder zingest son? 1390 *GOWER Conf.* i. 148 The yongest of hem hadde of age Fourtiene yer. 1464 *Paston Lett.* II. 153 Your sone and lowly servant, John Paston, the yongest. 1568 *GRAFTON Chron.* II. 391 When suche questions be asked, the yongest both of the spiritualitie and temporalitie say their opinions first. 1611 *COTGR.*, *Qulocul.*, . . . the last, or yongest child one hath. 1826 *MISS MITFORD Village Ser.* II. *Walk through Vill.*, They are a fine family from the eldest to the youngest. 1852 *MISS MULLOCK Agatha's Husb.* xii, She and the youngest Miss Harper eyed one another uncomfortably. 1860 *TYNDALL Glac.* i. xxii. 156 My guide, . . . with his strong right arm round the youngest of the party.

2. In senses 2 and 3 of YOUNG: Belonging to the earliest part of life, earliest; most youthful in character or aspect, freshest. *rare.*

c 1586 *C'TESS PEMBROKE Ps. LXXXVIII.* xi, Thou dost me fill, And hast from yongest yeares, With terrifying feares. 1818 *KEATS Endym.* 1. 42 While the early budders are just new, And run in mazes of the youngest hue About old forests.

3. In senses 4 and 5 of YOUNG: Most newly initiated, begun, introduced, etc.; latest, most recent.

Beowulf 2817 þæt wæs þam gomelan ðingæste word breostgehygdum, ær he bælc cure, hate heaðowylmas. c 897 *ÆLFRED Gregory's Past.* C. xlii. 300 Ure Aliesend . . . he hiene gemedemede to bionne betweox ðæm læstum & ðæm zingestum monnum. c 1586 *C'TESS PEMBROKE Ps. CXXXIX.* ii, Not yongest thought in me doth grow, . . . But yet unutt'ed thou dost know. 1596 *Edw. III.* ii. 117 Since Letherne Adam till this yongest howre. 1797 *NELSON* 5 Apr. in *Nicolas Disp.* (1845) II. 27 To go youngest into the Britannia.

b. *youngest hand* (in Card-playing): the last player, or the last except the dealer (opp. to *eldest hand*, ELDEST 5).

1680 *COTTON Compl. Gamester* 66 If the eldest and second hand pass the Ruff the youngest hath power to double it, and then it is to be plaid for the next deal. *Ibid.* 89 This being done, the eldest must show how many Chalks he hath in his hand to set up, and after him the youngest. 1720 *R. SEYMOUR Compl. Gamester* (1734) 74 If the youngest Hand names his Trump without asking Leave.

4. *Comb.*, as *youngest-born*.

1596 *MARKHAM Poem of Poems* ii. xi, Now with their [sc. the vines'] smallest grapes, times yongest borne Clustred in bunches like a countlesse broode. 1833 *GEN. P. THOMPSON Exerc.* (1842) II. 414 Music, the youngest-born heaven's benevolence. 1838 *LYTTON Alice* viii. iii, Our youngest-born affection is our darling and our idol.

young-eyed (ˈjʌŋaɪd), *a.* Having the bright or lively eyes of a young person; also *fig.*; *occas.* having a youthful vision. (In later use an echo of *Shaks.*)

1596 *SHAKS. Merch. V.* v. i. 62 There's not the smallest orbe . . . But in his motion like an Angell sings, Still quiring to the young eyed Cherubins. 1777 *POTTER Æschylus, Agamemnon* 749 To Troy the shining mischief came, Before her young-eyed pleasures play. 1796 *COLERIDGE Death of Chatterton* xiv, And we . . . would round thee throng, . . . And greet with smiles the young-eyed Poesy All deftly mask'd as hoar Antiquity. 1812 *BYRON Ch. Har.* i. xlvii, Young-eyed Lewdness walks her midnight rounds. 1820 *HAZLITT Lect. Dram. Lit.* 14 The grace of Fletcher and his young-eyed wit. 1902 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 575 The fantastic visions of a young-eyed people.

young fogey. Also young fogy and with capital initials. [f. YOUNG *a.* + FOGY, FOGY 2.] A young person of noticeably conservative tastes or outlook. Cf. *old fogey* s.v. FOGY, FOGY 2.

Though occasionally used at an earlier date in contrast with *old fogey*, the expression did not become common until the 1980s.

c 1909 C. S. PEIRCE *Coll. Papers* (1935) VI. i. xii. 218, I expect the day will come when another generation of old and young fogies will be equally indisposed to admit that there is any corner of the whole field that I have not turned up. 1929 'D. YATES' *Maiden Stakes* 11 Fashions, outlook, the spirit and manners of the age—I found the lot beyond me. . . I was a young fogey. 1980 *Business Week* 6 Oct. 95 Noting a split in the profession between 'old Turks and young fogies', Aaron says: 'The older generation of economists was stimulated by external problems.' 1981 *N. Y. Times* 18 Mar. A27/1 At their worst, conservatives were old fogies. There were some young conservatives, of course, but they were unbrilliant young fogies. 1983 *Listener* 27 Jan. 21/3 He implies that this is a consequence of the decline in educational standards of the past decades. Mr. Wilson, though he has many admirable qualities, is a bit of a professional young fogey. 1985 *Times* 16 July 30 Mr. Gorbachov is something of a young foggy, though with an inquiring mind. 1985 S. LOWRY *Young Fogey Handbk.* i. 8 The present resurgence of the Young Fogey ties up neatly with the reinvention of the class system that has been going on at least in the South of England ever since Tina Brown revamped *Tatler*.

youngfrow (3oung-): see YUFFROUW.

† **younghede**. *Obs.* [f. YOUNG *a.* + -hede, -HEAD.] Youth (*abstr.* and *concr.*).

c 1275 *Moral Ode* 369 in *O.E. Misc.* 71 þer is yonghede buten ealde. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2195 Alle vre kniȝtes & swaines & alle vre zonghede. c 1305 *St. Lucy* 21 in *E.E.P.*

(1862) 102 To an hepene man Lucie was iwedded in sunghede. ?a1366 CHAUCER *Rom. Rose* 351 Elde. That shorter was a foot, ywis, Than she was wont in her yonghede.

Young-Helmholtz (jɑŋ 'hɛlmhɒltz). The names of Thomas YOUNG and von HELMHOLTZ used *attrib.* to designate the theory that in the eye there are receptors sensitive to one or other of three colours (red, green, violet) and every colour sensation is due to the stimulation of these in different proportions.

1889 in *Cent. Dict.* 1896 [see TRICHROMATIC *a.*]. 1935 *Discovery* July 187/2 In 1801, Dr. Thomas Young (1773-1829),... propounded the theory which now, as the result of the latter work of Helmholtz, commonly bears the name of the Young-Helmholtz theory of colour vision. 1974 *Encycl. Brit. Macropædia* VII. 108/2 All the evidence points to the correctness of the Young-Helmholtz hypothesis with respect to the three colour basis.

youngish (ˈjʌŋɪʃ), *a.* [f. YOUNG *a.* + -ISH¹.] Somewhat young.

1667 PEYPS *Diary* 10 Apr., It is strange... that Mr. Weaver, ... who was... a youngish man, should be dead. 1712 *STEELE Spect.* No. 282 ¶2 Our Father is a youngish Man. 1860 O. W. HOLMES *Elsie V.* vii. (1891) 102 Judge Thornton, ... as good at sixty as he was at forty, with a youngish second wife. 1903 *Times* 18 Mar. 10/5 These senile parts generally appeal to young or youngish actors.

younger, obs. form of YOUNKER.

'young 'lady.

1. A lady who is young; a young woman, usually unmarried, or a girl, orig. one of superior social position; formerly often used to connote the artificiality, primness, sentimentality, etc., attributed to young ladies.

This expression is now avoided in polite use, except among some old-fashioned speakers and jocularly. Various particular applications formerly existed; thus, from the 17th to the early 19th cent. a young woman or a girl waited upon by a maid-servant was called "her young lady"; until late in the 19th cent. girls at boarding schools were spoken of and addressed as young ladies. At the present day, the term is freq. applied, with the intention of avoiding the supposed derogatory implication of *young woman*, to female shop assistants or clerks of good appearance and manners. N.E.D.

For the vocative use, see YOUNG *a.* 1 b.
?1402 QUIXLEY *Ball.* 160 in *Yorksh. Archæol. Jnl.* (1908) XX. 44 The yhongie lady then praysed of beautee. c1450 *Mirk's Festial* 291, I rede pat per was an olde knythe and wedded a jung ladi. 1669 COKAINE *Choice Poems* 35 Ask but a Chamber-maid... what her young Lady Doth. 1749 SMOLLETT *Gil Blas* iv. vii. (1816) 128 It is a long time since I left her, and went to serve a young lady of fashion. a1800 *The Governess* in Miss Yonge *Storehouse of Stories* (1870) 188 Two young ladies, Lady Caroline and Lady Fanny Delun... Lady Caroline was fourteen years of age, ... Lady Fanny, who was one year younger than her sister, was rather little of her age. 1824 MISS MITFORD *Village Ser.* i. *Ellen*, A life, and freedom, and buoyancy, quite unusual in that artificial personage, a young lady. 1837 ELIZA FARRAR *Yng. Lady's Friend* i. 1 When they cease to attend school, and begin their career as young ladies. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xvi, The premises of Westgate House Establishment for Young Ladies. *Ibid.* xl, 'Good morning, my dear,' said the principal, addressing the young lady at the bar. 1842 MOTLEY *Corr.* (1889) i. iv. 95, I have been young lady enough to keep a journal. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xxiii, 'Fetch him home,' said Miss Ripper with authority, 'and say that my young lady's here.' 1856 LEVER *Martins of Cro' M.* xii, 'A young lady, did you say, Collins?' 'Yes, my Lady.' 'Then you were very wrong, Collins. You meant to say a young person.' 'Yes, my Lady—a young person, like a lady.' 1856 *Amy Carlton* 42 Miss Colman... pronounced the oracular words, 'Your lessons, young ladies, immediately.' 1886 [see YOUNG *a.* 1 b]. 1920 *Oxford Times* 24 Dec. 1/2 Young Lady Wanted, with good experience, as Book-keeper.

attrib. 1784 BAGE *Barham Downs* i. 43 Amongst young-lady-correspondents especially, it is a sort of petty treason, to send blank paper to a friend. 1857 *Chamb. Jnl.* 2 May 274/2 My young-lady friends, of from seventeen upwards. 1865 LE FANU *Guy Dev.* iii. i. 42 Beatrix was in a young-lady reverie.

2. A female sweetheart; a fiancée. *vulgar.*

1896 G. B. SHAW *You Never Can Tell* iv, My wife was like your young lady: she was of a commanding... disposition.

Hence (chiefly *nonce-wds.*) **young-'ladydom**, young ladies collectively; **young-'ladyfied** (-faɪd) *a.*, having acquired, or having, the style of a young lady; **young-'ladyhood**, the condition or status of a young lady; also *concr.* young ladies collectively; **young-'ladyish**, **young-'ladylike** *adjs.*, resembling or characteristic of a young lady; **young-'ladyism**, the style, or a phrase, characteristic of young ladies; **young-'ladyship**, the personality of a young lady.

1866 *Sat. Rev.* 14 Apr. 439 The virtuous young man... monopolized the sympathies of *young-ladydom. 1882 *Pall Gaz.* 31 Oct. 4/2 A general air of 'young-ladydom' prevails, each second name in the catalogue is a Lily or a Jessie or a Letitia. 1863 MISS BRADDON *Aur. Floyd* vi, No stiff, embroidered, *young-ladyfied garment. 1853 MISS YONGE *Heir of Redclyffe* iv, They had not arrived at perceiving that they were on the equal terms of *youngladyhood. 1858 TROLLOPE *Dr. Thorne* xxxi, No bevy of Greshamsbury young ladies had fairly represented the Greshamsbury young-ladyhood if Mary Thorne was not there. 1860 *Sat. Rev.* 7 Jan. 12/1 It is not to be wondered at... that there should be something eminently *young ladyish in the clergyman's way of doing parochial business. 1884 HOWELLS *Silas Lapham* i. iv, The Colonel, in fond

enjoyment of their *young ladyishness. 1853 MISS YONGE *Heir of Redclyffe* x, I am not fallen so low as the essence of *young-ladyism. 1832 E. FITZGERALD *Lett.* (1889) i. 12, I am sorry to say that I have a very *young-lady-like partiality to writing to those that I love. 1852 MISS MULOCK *Agatha's Husband* iv, To judge whether, young-lady-like, she had told his secret to all her female friends. 1871 *Young-ladyship [see GROWN-UP-DOM]. 1891 BARRIE *Little Min.* iv, 'Hae you ever looked on a lord?' 'No.' 'Or on an auld lord's young leddyship? I have.'

younglet (ˈjʌŋlɪt), *rare.* [f. YOUNG + -LET.] = YOUNGLING 1 b.

1852 BAILEY *Festus* (ed. 5) 240 E'en as an eagle drops a hare Brought for her callow younglets' fare. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* xxiii, The angular cows [grow] into... matrons... with younglets.

'young-like, *a.* [f. YOUNG + -LIKE. Cf. YOUNGLY *a.*] Resembling, or having the nature of, one that is young; youthful in condition or character.

1530 PALSGR. 330/2 Yonglyke, ...juenil. 1562 TURNER *Bathes* 11 b, They kepe a man yonge like and lustye. 1756 MRS. CALDERWOOD in *Coltness Collect.* (Maitland Club) 268 The old countess was too young-like for the other to be her daughter. 1878 BRET HARTE *Hoodlum Band* i, We used to call him little Weevils, he was so young-like.

youngling (ˈjʌŋlɪŋ), *arch.* Forms: see YOUNG. [OE. *geongling* = OS. *iungling* (MLG., Du. *jongelinc*, Du. *jongeling*), OHG., MHG. *jungeling* (G. *jüngling*), whence Icel. *unglingr*: see YOUNG and -LING.]

1. One who is young; a young person, young man or woman, youth or child, youngster.

c900 WÆRFERTH *Gregory's Dial.* (1900) 89/2 Us utgangendum com ongean sum iungling. c1160 *Hattton Gosp.* Matt. xviii. 2 þa clypede se hælend enne geongling & sette on heora midlen. c1205 LAY. 28681 Siȝen toward hirede geonglignes snelle. a1300 *Floriz & Bl.* 705 Floriz was so fair jongling, And blauncheffur so suete ping. 1387 *TREvisa Higden* (Rolls) i. 165 Dido... went out of Phenicia wip a grete companye of jonglynges i-chose. c1450 in *Cov. Myst.* (Shaks. Soc.) 414 This pore yongling For whom we do singe By, by, lully, lullay. 1481 *Churchw. Acc.*, Croscombe (Somerset Rec. Soc.) 9 Comes yonglens and presents in Rich. Costrell's hands. vjs. xd. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* x. xiii. 155 O douchty zingling [Virg. puer]. 1522 SKELTON *Why not to Court* 345 He is but an yongling, A stalworthy strypling. 1578 H. WOTTON *Courtly Controv.* 95 This virtuous youngling... made hir hearing deafe vnto his sugred talke. 1620 *QUARLES Feast for Wormes* G 3, Like as a yongling that to schoole is set, (Scarce weaned from his dandling mothers tet). 1779 JOHNSON *Let. to Mrs. Thrale* 16 Oct., You say nothing of the younglings; I hope they are not spoiled with the pleasures of Brighthelmston, a dangerous place, we were told, for children. 1837 HOOD in *Mem.* (1860) i. 280 Little Tom is a capital traveller, ... our trouble was less than might have been expected with such a youngling. 1876 MORRIS *Sigurd* i. 65 The smooth-lipped youngling's kiss. fig. 1812 J. JEBB *Corr.* (1834) II. 116 He recommended me to publish. England I have looked to as the proper sphere in which to bring my youngling out. 1880 W. WATSON *Prince's Quest* ix, A grassy vale... Where... a pure stream ran, as yet A youngling.

b. A young animal; the young or offspring of an animal.

c1220 *Bestiary* 667 Ðanne remen he alle a rem, ... For here mikle reming rennande cumeð a jungling. 1576 BAKER *Gesner's Jewell of Health* 51 b, This drunke in lyke quantitie... expelthe the youngling dead. 1596 *Edw. III.* iii. i. 119 Be like the feldie of Beares, When they defend their younglings in their Caves! 1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* iii. vi. 116 The parturition or very birth it selfe: wherein not only the Dam, but the younglings play their parts. 1772 MACKENZIE *Man of World* i. iii. (1773) 39 The linnet... was bringing out her younglings to their first imperfect flight. 1807 WORDSW. *White Doe* vii. 256 A spotless Youngling white as foam. 1883 *Century Mag.* XXVI. 487/1 If rain should come on, ... the mother calls her younglings under her wings.

c. A young plant, sapling; a young shoot or blossom of a plant.

1559 MORWYNG *Evonymus* 382 The yonglinges or shoutes of bremble. 1818 KEATS *Endym.* i. 138 Each having a white wicker over brimm'd with April's tender younglings. a1822 SHELLEY *Coliseum* Ess. (1840) I. 174 The shattered masses of precipitous ruin, overgrown with the younglings of the forest.

†2. A young scholar or student, a disciple; a beginner, novice, tiro; one who is unpractised or inexperienced (usually with implication of actual youth). *Obs.*

a1175 *Cott. Hom.* 237 þa apostles and hare iunglenges. 1387 *TREvisa Higden* (Rolls) i. 387 He seiþ þat Chadde was a zongelyng, and lerned the rule of monkes in Hibernia. 1548 UDALL *Erasm. Par. N.T.* To Rdr. B vj b, Younglynges in the feith. 1590 SIR J. SMYTHE *Disc. Weapons* 34 b, Whose weapons of fire... doo... terrifie... yonglings and nouices of warre. 1649 AMBROSE *Media* x. (1652) 277 Let our Lord Iesus his tender-heartedness in Spiritual younglings, teach us mercy. 1682 T. FLATMAN *Heracitus Ridens* No. 78 (1713) II. 226 From the Seminary there, a small Detachment was made of Yonglings that were got as far as *Asserit A*, negat E.

3. *attrib.* a. That is a 'youngling'; young, youthful; inexperienced (*obs.*).

a1175 *Cott. Hom.* 237 þa apostles and hare iunglenges. 1387 *TREvisa Higden* (Rolls) i. 387 He seiþ þat Chadde was a zongelyng, and lerned the rule of monkes in Hibernia. 1548 UDALL *Erasm. Par. N.T.* To Rdr. B vj b, Younglynges in the feith. 1590 SIR J. SMYTHE *Disc. Weapons* 34 b, Whose weapons of fire... doo... terrifie... yonglings and nouices of warre. 1649 AMBROSE *Media* x. (1652) 277 Let our Lord Iesus his tender-heartedness in Spiritual younglings, teach us mercy. 1682 T. FLATMAN *Heracitus Ridens* No. 78 (1713) II. 226 From the Seminary there, a small Detachment was made of Yonglings that were got as far as *Asserit A*, negat E.

b. Pertaining to or characteristic of a 'youngling'; juvenile, immature; in quot.

a 1616, belonging to the production or rearing of young.

1582 T. WATSON *Cent. Love To Rdr.* A4, Idle toyces proceedinge from a youngling frenzie. 1615 BRATHWAIT *Strappado* (1878) 77 To thee (young youth) these youngling lines I write. a1616 BEAUM. & FL. *Wit at Sev. Weapons* II. i, You have built a Nest That will stand all storms, ... and one day it may be The youngling season too, then I hope You'll ne'er fly out of sight.

†**youngly**, *a.* *Obs.* [OE. *geonglic* = MDu. *jongelik*, OHG., MHG. *junglich*, ON. *ungligr*: see YOUNG *a.* and -LY¹.] Young, youthful, juvenile (in years, in appearance or condition).

c1000 ÆLFRIC *Gram.* ix. (Z.) 54 *Iuuenilis*, iunglic. c1000 — *Hom.* II. 118 On geonglicum gearum. a1225 *Leg. Kath.* 544 A meiden junglich of 3eres. c1290 *St. Brendan* 704 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 239 þo cam to heom a jonglich man. a1300 *E.E. Psalter* cxviii[i], 141 Yongelike am I, and hated for-pi. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 369 Beerdles with a yongly face. 1478 EARL RIVERS *Crystyne's Mor. Prov.* (1859) 2 b, A yongly man of chastising content Is signe of grace & of a good entent. 1542 BOORDE *Dyetary* xxxix. (1870) 300 A mery herte and mynde... causeth a man to lyue longe, and to loked yongly. a1577 SIR T. SMITH in *Strype Life* (1698) App. 42 Look what Ladies and Gentlewomen be most fruitful, and have most Children, if they look not for their Age most youngly, best coloured, and be clearest from Diseases. 1634 [see INFANTRY 2].

youngly (ˈjʌŋli), *adv.* Now *rare.* [f. YOUNG *a.* + -LY².]

1. In youth; when one is young; early in life.

1559 *Mirr. Mag.* (1563) Pj, Euen in thy Swathebands out commission goeth To loose thy breath, that yet but yongly bloweth. c1600 SHAKS. *Sonn.* xi, That fresh bloud which yongly thou bestow'st. 1607 — *Cor.* II. iii. 244 How youngly he began to serue his Countrey. 1888 MEREDITH *Reading of Earth* i, Flowers of the clematis drip in beard, Slack from the fir-tree youngly climbed.

2. In the manner of a young person; youthfully, immaturally.

c1530 MORE *Ans. Frith* Wks. 841/2 This point is as ye see well of this young man very younglye handlede. a1596 SIR T. MORE iv. ii. 29 As tis the custome in this place The youngest should speake first, so, if I chaunce In this case to speake youngly, pardon me. 1607 MARKHAM *Cavel.* Ded., About foureteene yerres agone (when myne experience was but youngly fortified). 1922 JOYCE *Ulysses* 192 Yes, Mr. Best said youngly, I feel Hamlet quite young.

young man. Also youngman. [Cf. NFr. *ongman* lad, fellow, Du. *jongmensch* young man, *jonkman* bachelor, G. *jungmann* deckhand, ordinary seaman, ON. *ungmenn* youths.]

1. A man who is young; one in early manhood.

For the vocative use, see YOUNG *a.* 1 b.
a1122 O.E. *Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 1052 Rodberd... & Vlf... of slogon & elles amyrdon manize iunge men. c1200 *Vices & Virtues* 69 Dies iunge manni jiede a-wei sari. c1205 LAY. 376 A zung mon of priti zeren. a1375 *Joseph Arim.* 437 þou weore a zong mon in þi grete strengþe. 1607-12 BACON *Ess., Youth & Age* (Arb.) 258 Yonge men in the Conduct... of accions embrace more then they can hold. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* i. 278 When Young-men find themselves all of a sudden advanc'd to so great power. 1840 DICKENS *Old C. Shop* xiv, Abel has not been brought up like the run of young men. 1865 — *Mut. Fr.* III. vii, You had better provide yourself with another situation, young man.

b. Written as one word. (Not now in standard use.)

a1250 *Prov. Ælfred* 134 in O.E. *Misc.* (1872) 110 Ne scolde neuer yongmon howyen to swipe þeih him his wyse wel ne lykie. a1300 *Cursor M.* 18984 Yur suns and yur doghteres fre, And yur yongmen sightes se. c1400 *Apol. Loll.* 59 3engmen. 1486 in *Surtees Misc.* (1890) 47 If this slaundersous report come to the eers of some yongmen of the blode that he is of. 1591 SPENSER *Virg. Gnat* 431 A rulesse rout of yongmen... lie wallowed in their blood. 1961 *Evergreen Rev.* July-Aug. 15 There was a youngman I had seen often around Times Square. Like me, he was... hustling. 1963 J. RECHY *City of Night* i. 43 Part of Pete's technique as a hustler was to tell the men he'd been with that he knew other youngmen like himself. 1967 R. MCGOUGH in A. Henri et al. *Mersey Sound* 91 Let me die a youngman's death not a clean & inbetween the sheets holywater death. 1977 *Sunday Times* (Lagos) 6 Feb. 3/3 A police dog also bit a youngman who was rushed to the hospital for treatment.

Comb. 1551 T. WILSON *Logic* Tjb, He went in freshe apparell, yong man like.

2. With special application or connotation.

a. Various uses: see quotes.

Quotes. 1577 and c1643 relate to Galway; cf. the following:—In 1611, the "young men" obtained a charter from the corporation, instituting them a body politic of themselves... Their "captain" was privileged to sit next the sheriffs... They were also exempt from paying taxes; in consideration of which, they were bound to keep watch and ward' (Hardiman, *Hist. Galway* (1820) 212 note).

963-84 in *Birch Cartul. Sax.* III. 366 þonne is æt Farresheafde .xvi. weorc wuðe men, & .viii. iunge men. 1577 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 447 This indenture, made... betwixt William Halloran, yongman, and... Edmond Ffrench. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Engl. Poesie* i. xxvi. (Arb.) 66 The skreeking and outcry of the young damosell [on the marriage night] feeling the first forces of her stiffe and rigorous young man. c1643 in *10th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. v. 493 The Captaine of the Youngmen. 1799 NELSON in *Nicolas Disp.* (1845) IV. 82 The first act of my command was to name Sidney Smith's First Lieutenant to the death-vacancy of Captain Miller. I have placed two of his young men in Gun-boats. 1858 *Phytologist* Jan. 320 The Windsor-street Young Men's Society. 1862 C. C. ROBINSON *Dial. Leeds* 199 A Young Men's Mutual Improvement, and all the rest of it, Society. 1863 B. A. HEYWOOD *Vac. Tour Antipodes* 153 A Young Men's Christian Association Room.

†b. A man in the service of, or in attendance upon, a person of high rank or an official: = YEOMAN 1, 1b. *Obs.*

Cf. also *younger* s.v. YOUNGER a. 1c.

1362 LAngl. P. Pl. A. III. 207 Emperours . . þorw giftes han þonge men to renne and to ride. [Cf. quot. 1377 s.v. YEOMAN 1.] 1382 WYCLIF *Acts* v. 10 The þonge men entrynge founden hir deed, and thei baren out, and brieden to hir hosebonde. c1400 *Gamelyn* 793 He . . seide to his þonge men, dightep þow þare. 1530 PALSGR. 291/1 Yongman a servaunt, ualeton. 1541-2 *Act 33 Hen. VIII*, c. 10 §6 Any servantes comonly called yongemen [orig. Yeomen] or gromes.

c. A youth employed by a tradesman, etc.

1751 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 116 ¶11 The term of *Young Man*, with which I was sometimes honoured, as I carried a parcel to the door of a coach, tortured my imagination. 1836 DICKENS *Sk. Boz*, *Scenes* i. She discovers . . that Mr. Todd's young man over the way is . . taking down his master's shutters. 1887 G. R. SIMS *Mary Jane's Mem.* vi. While the grocer's young man was waiting inside for orders.

3. A lover, a male sweetheart; a fiancé. *vulgar.*

1851 MAYHEW *Labour* I. 207/2 Treated to an ice by her young man which they seemed as if they were keeping company. 1887 G. R. SIMS *Mary Jane's Mem.* iv. And cook she shouted 'Murder!' too, and asked us . . to spare his life, as it was only her young man.

Hence *young-manhood*, †(a) the valour befitting a young man (*obs.*); (b) the condition of being a young man, early manhood; *young-mannish* a., resembling, pertaining to, or characteristic of a young man (chiefly in a derogatory sense); hence *young-mannishness*.

1422 YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* v. 134 Ther-as thay hath . . stowly demenet ham-Selfe in grete *yonge-man-hode. 1784 BAGE *Barham Downs* I. 19 Eight of the first years of my young-man-hood. 1875 SWINBURNE *Let. to E. C. Stedman* 21 Feb., One must . . jump from little-boyhood into young-manhood. 1854 C. M. YONGE *Heartsease* I. II. xii. 310 He looked more *young-mannish and sentimental than he does now. 1887 MISS BRADDON *Like & Unlike* iii. Father has talked so much of your girlish days and his young manish days. 1873 FURNIVALL in *Biogr.* (1911) p. liii. The boyish romanticism or the sharp *youngmanishness of his [sc. Shakspeare's] early plays.

youngness (ˈjʌŋnis). [f. YOUNG a. + -NESS.] The state or quality of being young; youthfulness: = YOUTH 1, 3 (but usually expressing the character or appearance of one who is young, rather than the mere fact of being young).

1528 PAYNELL *Salerno's Regim.* Fj. Their drines is abated with the humidite of theyr yongnes. a1600 MONTGOMERIE *Misc. Poems* xliii. 38 Will he my þongnes 3it With mercy once remit, I trou to fail no more. 1678 CUDWORTH *Intell. Syst.* I. iv. §18. 312 The Youngness and Newness of its Duration. a1735 EARL HADDINGTON *Forest-Trees* (1756) 27 The youngness of the plants made them take root sooner than if they had been older. 1835 LYTTON *Rienzi* i. vii. How flushed and mighty as with the youngness of a god. 1901 *Munsey's Mag.* XXV. 694/1 The first cabin passengers . . exclaimed over their youngness and his good looks. 1919 C'LESS VON ARNIM *Chris. & Col.* xxx. 394 Those cunning little bits of youngness, the Twinkler sisters.

†b. The time when one is young; the early period of life or existence: = YOUTH 2. *Obs.*

1510-20 *Compl. of them that ben to late maryed* (1862) 12 We twayne sholde have all our yongnesse . . Passed in joye. 1579 KNEWTSTUB *Confut.* 35 They let passe the childhood, or the yongnes of the holy understanding, & grew vp . . vnto the manly agednes of Christ.

youngster (ˈjʌŋstə(r)). Now chiefly *colloq.* Forms: see YOUNG; also 6-7 *yonckster*, *ounster*. [f. YOUNG a. + -STER, suggested by YOUNKER.]

1. A young person, *esp.* a young man, and, formerly, a lively or vigorous young fellow; †a novice. Now only as extension of sense 3 with connotation of inexperience or immaturity.

1580 GREENE *Menaphon* (Arb.) 23 Menaphon, . . a man . . loured of the Nymphes, as the paragon of all their countrey youngsters. 1594 NASHE *Unfort. Trav.* Wks. (Grosart) V. 158, I am halfe in a ieaolzie hee is some fantastick amorous yonckster, who to dishonor me hath hyr'd you to this stratagem. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* i. II. xxxviii, A youngster gent, With bever cockt. 1670 EACHARD *Cont. Clergy* 18, I cannot foresee any other Remedy, but that most of those University Youngsters must fall to the Parish. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Youngster*, an airy, brisk young Man; a raw or unexperienced Youth, a Novice. 1798 *Lit. Mem. Living Authors* I. 116 This . . is adapted to youngsters rather than the higher classes of readers. 1824 MISS MITFORD *Village Ser.* 1. *Hannah*, John Wilson has no rival, . . for the Robert Ellis, whom certain youngsters would fain exalt to a co-partnership of fame, is simply nobody. 1825 BROCKETT *N.C. Gloss.*, *Youngster*, a novice in any thing. 1866 OXENDEN *Our Church* ii. 15 If, for instance, we wanted a Counsellor, we should not consult a mere youngster.

attrib. 1623 LISLE *Ælfric on O. & N. Test.* 36 They called straight vnto him their yongster captain.

2. Familiarly applied to a boy or junior seaman on board ship (cf. YOUNKER 2b); also to a junior officer in the army or navy.

1608 *Relat. Trav. W. Bush* B4b, At length a nimble yonckster gets him to the very top of the foremast. 1802 C. JAMES *Milit. Dict.*, *Youngsters*, a familiar term to signify the junior officers of a troop or company. The word youngster is like-used in the navy. 1850 HANNAY *Sing. Font.* v. v. The shrill, squeaking voices of 'youngsters' in the tops. 1857 *Chamb. Jnl.* 9 May 290/2 Nowhere was the excitement more intense than in the midshipmen's berth, and on no one had the intelligence a more surprising effect than on Bobstay, our junior youngster.

3. A young person who is not of age; a child, *esp.* a boy. *colloq.*

1732 BERKELEY *Alciph.* VII. §20 Appetite . . which is elder Brother to Reason, . . is sure . . to take the advantage of drawing all to his own side: And Will . . is but at best a Football or Top between those Youngsters who prove very unfortunately matched. 1788 COWPER *Pity for Poor Afr.* 21 A youngster at school, more sedate than the rest. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* iv, 'Now for the cake,' said Mas'r George . . ; and with that the youngster flourished a large knife over the article in question. 1886 SPURGEON *Treas. Dav.* Ps. cxxviii. 3 The wife is busy all over the house, but the youngsters are busiest at meal-times.

4. A young animal.

1849 W. S. MAYO *Kaloolah* xxxvii. (1851) 341 A youngster of a crocodile who had come out of the water. 1854 *Poultry Chron.* I. 598 All the chickens hatched prior to the 22nd of May, dwindled away one by one, and scarcely left a single youngster from many clutches. 1873 *Baily's Mag.* Nov. 193 The rest of the youngsters [sc. young racehorses] . . had gone away for change of air to Newmarket.

youngstock (ˈjʌŋstɒk). [f. YOUNG a. + STOCK sb.] Young (domestic) animals.

[1888 W. DAY *Horse* xviii. 250 To put them [sc. yearlings] into small paddocks totally unfitted for rearing young stock in is a sad blunder.] 1963 *Times*, 9 May 17/6 Some excellent hunter youngstock classes came before Major Stoddart at the Oxfordshire Show today. 1971 *Pony* Oct. 6/3 There were 325 entries in the classes for pony youngstock. 1979 *Proc. 11th Ann. Convention Amer. Assoc. Bovine Practitioners* 72/2 Cold housing is generally preferred for youngstock. 1982 *Proc. Internat. Conf. Goat Production & Disease* III. 499/1 Perinatal and youngstock mortality data of a 5 year period . . of 8 goat breeding farms.

†**youngth.** *Obs.* Forms: a. 4 *zungþe*, *zonkþe*, *youngþe*, -the, 4-5 *jongþe*, -the, *yongthe*, 4-6 *yongth*, 5 *zungth*(e, *yongith*, *zonþ*, 6-7 *youngth*. β. 4 *zingþe*, *zyngtheth*, *zinkthe*. [f. YOUNG a. + -TH.]

1. The state of being young, or period of life when one is young: = YOUTH 1, 2.

1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 2807 Yn zungþe or elde. c1330 *Arth. & Merl.* 6269 þe leuedis . . hadde wonder of his zingþe [ime strengþe]. c1440 *Gesta Rom.* xiv. 47 (Harl. MS.). [He] servid god in all the tyme of his yongith. 1531 *ELYOT Gov.* III. xxii. (1883) II. 343, I haue knowen men of worships . . whiche duryng their yongth haue dronken for the more parte water. 1590 SPENSER *Muiop.* 34 The fresh yong flie, in whom the kindly fire Of lustfull youngth began to kindle fast. 1602 DAVISON *Rhapsody* C 12, Ah Thenot, be not all thy teeth on edge, To see youngths folke to sport in pastimes gay? [After Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* May 9 Youghthes folke: see YOUTH 4.]

2. Young people collectively: = YOUTH 5.

1483 CAXTON *G. de la Tour* cxxi, The goddessse Venus, whiche hath grete power vpon yongthe. 1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* Pref. *vij, The vnbroken youngth not yet full rype for the serious preceptes of philosophie.

Hence †*youngthed* pa. pple., made young; †*youngthly* a., pertaining to youth, youthful.

c1440 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Kath.* III. 126 Hys body is *yonthid [v.r. yongthed], he pinketh hym-self ful lygth. 1602 DAVISON *Rhapsody* C 11 b, All for he feelles the heate of *youngthly dayes.

young woman.

1. A woman who is young; one in early womanhood.

For the vocative use, see YOUNG a. 1b.

a1100 *Voc. in Wr.*-Wülcker 310/9 *Puella*, mæden, oððe geong wifman. c1205 LAY. 261 þeos junge wifman [c1275 *jonge*] Iwerð hire mid childe. c1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 4049 Ðe zinge wimmen of ðin lond, Faizer on sizte and softe on hond. c1449 PECOCC *Repr.* II. xiii. 226 A 3ong womman, which gate myche money to her maistris. 1589 PUTTENHAM *Engl. Poesie* i. xxvii. (Arb.) 67 Such as had tasted the frutes of loue before, (we call them well experienced young women). 1775 SHERIDAN *Rivals* I. ii, You thought, miss! I don't know any business you have to think at all—thought does not become a young woman. 1864 MISS YONGE *Trial* vi, Let me tell you, young woman, it is hard on a man who has been at work all day to come home and find a dark house and nobody to speak to. 1887 *Blackw. Mag.* Dec. 774/2 Hannah More was still a young woman, and also remarkably young for her years.

2. A female sweetheart; a fiancée. *vulgar.*

1858 *Househ. Words* 27 Mar. 338/1 It was assumed that I had fallen in love, had made my offer, and had been accepted by my young woman and her family.

Hence *young-womanhood*, the condition of being a young woman; young women as a class; *young-womanly* a., like a young woman.

1885 R. BUCHANAN *Matt.* iii. [Her change of costume] made her look several years older—in fact, quite young-womanly. 1892 *Athenæum* 20 Feb. 240/3 The Giron girl [is] treated as a distinct species of young-womanhood.

younker (ˈjʌŋkə(r)). Forms: 6 *yonckher*, *yongker*, *yonkar*, *yonckker*, *yonker*, *yunker*, *Sc.* *zungker*, *zoungker*, *zouunker*, *zonkier*, 6-7 *yoncker*, *Sc.* *zonker*, 7 *youngker*, 6, 9 *yunker*, 8 *younkier*, 6- *yonker*, *younker*. [ad. MDu. *jonckher*, *jongheer*, *jonchere* (mod.Du. *jonker*, *jonkheer*) = *jonc* YOUNG + *hêre* lord, master (HER, HERE sb.). Cf. OFris. *ionker*, MHG. *junchêrre* (G. *junker*: see JUNKER).]

†1. A young nobleman or gentleman, a youth of high rank (orig. Dutch or German, hence generally). Cf. JUNKER¹. *Obs.*

1505 in *Lett. Rich. III & Hen. VII* (Rolls) I. 253 Also go to yenker [sic] Flovrens, and sae I recommand me to hem. *Ibid.* II. 383 The king made knightes of the Toyson at

Myddelburgh . . amonges whiche were my Lord Nassou, Don John Emanuel, . . Yonker Florens and Monsieur de la Layn. 1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* I. viii. 8 The queene Dido . . To temple cummis with an fair menjie Of lustie zonkeris walking hir about. 1533 BELLENDEN *Livy* III. xii. (S.T.S.) I. 296 With þe patricians & nobil zounkeris of þe ciete. 1547 BOORDE *Introd. Knowl.* xiv. (1870) 160 The people of Hygh Almayne . . yf some of them can get a fox tale or two . . standyng vp ryght vpon theyr cappe . . or that he maye haue . . any long feder on his cap, than he is called a 'yonker'. ?1560 COVERDALE *Treat. Death* III. iii, Some say (and speciallye great yonkers) mi mourning . . is, because my kinred . . perysheth. 1617 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Three Wks. Observ.* F2, A man is in almost as high promotion to bee a knaue in England, as a Knight in Germany, for there a Gentleman is called a Youngeur, and a Knight is but a Youngeurs man. c1645 HOWELL *Lett.* (1890) 301 There was a Parliament then at Rhensburgh, where all the Younkers met.

2. A young man generally, in early use *esp.* a gay or fashionable young man: = YOUNGSTER 1.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* I. vi. 29 How, say me, zonkeris, saw 3e walkand heir, By aventure ony of my susteres deir? ?1560 COVERDALE *Treat. Death* I. xii, Then were we forced to receiue & loue the gospel, which els here to fore might not come to such stout and ioly yonkers. 1578 LYTE *Dodens* VI. i. 656 Venus loued the younker Adonis better then the warriar Mars. 1596 H. CLAPHAM *Briefe Bible* II. 152 The yonker Saul, consented to the death of Steuen. 1611 CHAPMAN *May Day* IV. 60 How now? whom doe I see? my daughter and a yonker together? 1748 RICHARDSON *Clarissa* III. 59 When put to the university, the same course of initial studies will qualify the yonker for the one line or for the other. 1880 DISRAELI *Endym.* xlvii, He always encouraged one. A yonker likes that. 1885 C. F. HOLDER *Marvels Anim. Life* 227 He was as wild a yonker as they make *em.

†b. *spec.* A boy or junior seaman on board ship: cf. YOUNGSTER 2. *Obs.*

c1595 CAPT. WYATT R. *Dudley's Voy. W. Ind.* (Hakl. Soc.) 36 Two proper younkers sailers, and two painful and able Dutchmen. 1622 R. HAWKINS *Voy. S. Sea* (1847) 44 To have younkers in the top continually, is most convenient. 1626 CAPT. J. SMITH *Acid. Yng. Seamen* 6 The Younkers are the yong men called Fore-mast men, to take in the Topsayles, or Top and yeard; Furle, and Sling the maine Saile; Bousing or Trysing; and take their turne at Helme. 1786 NELSON in Nicolas *Disp.* (1845) I. 160 To Lord Ducie say compliments; why has he never sent the younker? a 1818 MISS ROSE in G. ROSE'S *Diaries* (1860) I. 9 He . . served . . as a younker and midshipman.

3. A child: = YOUNGSTER 3.

1601 DENT *Pathw. Heaven* 131 Two beares came out of the Forrest, and tare in peeces two and fortie yonkers, which mocked Elisha. 1648 HERRICK *Hesper.*, Upon Pagget, Pagget, a School-boy, got a sword . . Who w'd not think this Yonker fierce to fight? 1742 BLAIR *Grave* 461 Yet ne'er Yonker on the Green laughs louder. 1815 SCOTT *Guy* M. xxxiv, Do you think the younker knows much of his own origin now? 1838 DICKENS O. *Twist* xxii, Sit down by the fire, younker, and rest yourself. 1842 TENNYSON *Walking to the Mail* 25 And there he caught the younker tickling trout. 1866 R. CHAMBERS *Ess.* Ser. I. 157 A merry group of human younkers.

b. Of animals.

1868 GORRIE *Summ. & Wint. in Orkneys* vii. 260 [276] Some old fellows thumping the yunkers with their finny paws while they tumbled headlong out of harm's way.

Hence (only with spelling *yonk-*) †*younkerkin* [-KIN], a little younker; †*younkerly* a. [-LY¹], befitting or characteristic of a younker, juvenile; †*younkery* (-erie) [-Y³], younkers collectively.

a1529 SKELTON *Replyc.* Wks. 1843 I. 209 These demy diuines, and Stoical studentes, and friscaioy *younkerkins. 1579 G. HARVEY *Let. to Spenser* Wks. (Grosart) I. 24 Youre Latine Farewell is a goodly braue *younkerly peece of work. 1593 — *Pierce's Super.* 121 That yonkerly & presumptuous enterprise. 1594 O. B. *Quest. Profit. Concern.* 13 We haue spent our selues thus vpon our *yonkerie, euen to that which would haue proued honest portions for them to haue liued all their life thorough.

youp, yowp, int., sb., and v. Variant of YAWP.

1808 JAMIESON, *Youp*, a scream. 1855 ROBINSON *Whitby Gloss.*, To *Yowp* or *Yope*, to yelp. 1856 OLMSTED *Slave States* 63 They [sc. hounds] contented themselves with dolefully *yowping* as long as we continued in sight. 1881 JEFFERIES *Wood Magic* I. ii. 22 'Yowp, yow; wow-wow!' The yelling of Pan woke Bevis.

youp, variant of YOOP.

yough, obs. form of YOUF.

your (jʊə(r), usually *unemphatic* jɔ:(r)), *poss. pron.* and a. Forms: 1 *iower*, *Northumb.* *iuer*, *iwer*, 1-3 *eower*, 2 *euwer*, 3 *uer*, *ower*, 3 *eouwer*, *eou(e)r*, *æ(o)uwer*, *eur*, *ouwer*, *owur*, *our*, or, 3 *iuer*, 3 *iuwer*, 3 *iuwer*, 3-4 *oure*, 3 *iour*, 3-5 *zure*, *yure*, (6 *Sc.*) *zoure*, (6-8 *Sc.*) *zour*, 4 *hour*, 3 *iuour*, 3 *ouure*, *yur*, *yor*, 4-5 *zor*, 3 *ore*, 3 *owr(e)*, *youre*, 3 *hour(e)*, *yhour(e)*, 5 *yowr(e)*, *yowyr*, -ur, *ywyr*, *youure*, *iho(i)re*, 5-6 *yower*, 6 *iour*, 9 *Sc.* *yere*, *dial.* *yore*, *dial.* and *vulgar* 4- your. See also YER². (For inflexional adj. forms see 2aβ.) [I. OE. *éower*, usually in partitive sense, the genitive of *gē ye pron.*, corresponding to OFris. *iuwer*, OS. *iuwar*, iwar, OHG. *iuwēr* (MHG. *iuwer*, G. *euer*); cf. ON. *yðr*, Goth. *izvara*. II. OE. *éower*, *éowru*, *éower*, *poss. adj.*, corresponding to OHG. *iuwar*, *iwar* (MHG. *iuwer*, *iwer*, G. *euer*); cf. ON. *yð(v)arr*, Goth. *izvar*. The other langs. had a distinct formation

for the adj.: OFris. *iurwe*, OS. *i(u)wa* (MDu. *u*, inflected *uwe*, Du. *uw*).

On the pronunciation John Walker in his *Pronouncing Dict.* 1791, says: 'When the emphasis is upon this word, it is always pronounced full and open like the noun *Ewer*; as, "The moment I had read *Your* letter I sat down to write *Mine*"; but when it is not emphatical it generally sinks into *yur*, exactly like the last syllable of *Law-yer*; as, "I had just answered *yur* first letter as *yur* last arrived." Here if we were to say, "I had just answered *yur* first letter as *your* last arrived," with *your* sounded full and open like *Ewer*, as in the former sentence, every delicate ear would be offended.' Since this was written, there has been a reaction in favour of less obscuration of the vowel.]

1. As genitive case of the 2nd personal pronoun. †*a*. (*pl.*) in partitive sense: Of you. *your aller*: see ALL D. 4. *Obs.*

Beowulf 248 Eower sum. c 950 *Lindisf. Gosp.* Matt. vi. 27 *Quis . . . uestrum*, hualc. . iurre [*Rushw. hwilc eower*]. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 15 Swa muchel þa wredða bid þe mare bi-twenen eow and eow eyper sune 3að. c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 3471 Ilc 3ure. 13. . . K. Horn 821 (Harl. MS.) 3ef oure þre sleh ure on. c 1330 *Amis & Amil.* 852 Your noither it may forsake. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1725) 162 þat I be 3our aller broþer. c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 4146 Bote it be amended, . . 3our summe it schal aby. 1423 *JAS. I Kings Q.* cxiii, I will that gude hope seruand to the be, 3oure alleris frend. [1556 CARELESS in Coverdale *Lett. Martyrs* (1564) 610, I woulde haue stryken iij. strokes the more for your two sakes.]

b. (*pl.* or *sing.*) in certain absolute constructions, as †*your* ALONE, Sc. *your lane* (LONE a. 6b), †*your* UNWITTING: see these words.

2. As possessive pronoun and adjective of the 2nd person: Of or belonging to you, that you have.

This includes three uses: the possessive proper, as *your books, your hands, your friends*; the subjective, as *your attention, your promise*; and the objective with an agent-noun, or in any way involving the possessive idea, as *your persecutors, your benefit*. (For other objective uses see 4.) Cf. note s.v. *HIS* *poss. pron.* 2a.

a. as possessive plural, referring to a number of persons addressed.

c 825 *Vesp. Psalter* xxx. 25 *Cor vestrum*, heorte eower. a 1000 *Cædmon's Exod.* 563 Bið eower blæd micel. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 13 3e beoð isæld eower feonde to prisune. *Ibid.* 29 For godes luue beteoð ower sunnen. c 1200 *Vices & Virtues* 7 For 3uer lieue saule. a 1250 *Owl & Night.* 1699 Ich eu wolde alle rede. . . þat eur [*Cott. ower*] fihlak letep beo. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 10285 Inot nout, quap þe king, wat ower demande be. Commune rist, quap pandulf, we essep & nammore. a 1300 *Cursor M.* 4844 Tells me Quat-kin man yur fader be. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 976 Blessede mote 3e alle be For 3oure preyers hap saued me. 1370-80 *Visions of St. Paul* 313 in O.E. *Misc.* 231 3e weore lyzers al 3or lyf. c 1386 CHAUCER *Knt.'s T.* 701 Allas thou felle Mars, allas Iuno, Thus hath youre Ire oure kynrede al fordo. c 1450 CAPGRAVE *Life St. Aug.* 6 3our tables matrimonial þat wer mad be-twix 3ou and 3our husbandis at 3our wedding. 1508 *DUNBAR Gold. Targe* 265 Your angel mouthis most mellifluate Our rude langage has clere illumynate. 1591 SHAKS. *1 Hen. VI.* ii. iv. 26 In dumbe significantis proclayme your thoughts. 1616 *SIR W. MURE Shaks. Poems* xi. 1 Gaise, eyes, on nocht quihich can content 3or sight. 1780 COWPER *Progr. Err.* 185 Let him your rubric and your feasts prescribe. 1790 BURKE *Fr. Rev.* 66 The power. . of the house of commons. . is as a drop of water in the ocean, compared to that residing in a settled majority of your National Assembly. 1872 'MARK TWAIN' *Sp.* (1910) 97 The names rise up in your own memories at the mere suggestion.

β. OE. and ME. inflexional adj. forms: 1 eowre, -u (etc.), 2 (3)iure, 2-3 eo(u)were, eowre, 3 3(o)ure, (e)ore, æ(o)ure, oure, owre.

Beowulf 2889 Syððan æðelingas Feorran gefricgean fleam eowerne. c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past.* C. xvi. 98 Eft sona cirrað to eowrum lyfthæmede. *Ibid.* xxiii. 211 For eowerre fortuwnedness. *Ibid.* lix. 451 Dios eowru leaf. 971 *Blickl. Hom.* 171 Godes Gast eowres Fæder. a 1122 O.E. *Chron.* (Laud MS.) an. 656 þet 3eo hit write mid iure fingre. a 1175 *Cott. Hom.* 217 Al swa an huni tri felle upe 3iure herte. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 5 Beð wakiende and foreteð 3ure synne. a 1250 *Prov. Ælfred* 33 in O.E. *Misc.* 104 Hw ye myhte worldes wrpsipes welde, and ek eure saule wrmen to criste. c 1250 *Doomsday* 68 in O.E. *Misc.* 166 Comeþ her mine freond oure [c 1275 eure] sunnes for to lete. c 1290 *St. Eustace* 28 in *S. Eng. Leg.* 393 Nim hire and ewere twei sonas. c 1300 *Havelok* 171 Mi douter þat shal be Yure leuedi after me.

b. as possessive singular, referring to one person addressed (originally as a mark of respect, later generally: cf. YOU II.): replacing THY.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 10310 3e mowe þretni ynou, Ower dede ne may be no wors þan ower word is. 13. . . *Bonaventura's Medit.* 469 To þe fadyr of heuene she [*sc.* Our Lady] made þys mone: . . He [*sc.* Christ] ys so buxum to do 3oure wyl, þat he nat chargeþ hym self to spyl. 1377 *LANGL. P. Pl. B.* i. 43 'Madame, mercy,' quod I 'me liketh wel 3owre wordes.' c 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (Prose) xxx. 23 Lauerd, for yure pite ye gete vs fra sinne. c 1470 *Gol. & Gaw.* 114 Lord, wendis on your way. 1613 SHAKS. *Hen. VIII.* v. i. 167 Sir, your Queen Desires your Visitation. 1668 DRYDEN *Even. Love* iv. iii, Take back your oaths and protestations. . . take 'em. . for the use of your next Mistress. 1726 *GAY in Swift's Lett.* (1766) II. 68, I gave your service to lady Harvey. 1802 MARIA EDGEWORTH *Moral T., Prussian Vase*, Take your time to speak. We are in no hurry. 1884 'EDNA LYALL' *We Two* i, You must be content with your own people.

c. In titles of honour substituted for *you* in addressing a person (or persons) of high rank, as *your Excellency, your Grace, your Highness, your Honour, your Lordship, your Majesty*: see the sbs.

c 1368 CHAUCER *Compl. Pite* 59 Sheweth vn-to youre rialle excellence Yourre seruant, yf I durst me so calle, Hys mortal harme. 1423 *Rolls of Parlt.* IV. 249 Please it your full wyse discretions, to consider the matier. 1433 in *Hist. Sudbury* (1896) 125 To youre ryght Reverent lordshepe and faderhod in God. c 1590 GREENE *Fr. Bacon* xvi, In Royallizing Henries Albion With presence of your princely mightnesse. 1601 B. JONSON *Poetaster* iii. i, Sir, your silkenesse Cleerely mistakes Mecenas, and his house. 1656 HARRINGTON *Oceana* (1658) 198 These are to certifie unto your Fatherhoods, that the said Votes of the People were as followeth. 1709 MRS. MANLEY *Secret Mem.* 19 Your Mightiness has indeed guess'd at my Thoughts. a 1814 *Gonzaga* ii. ii. in *New Brit. Theatre* III. 119 My son wasn't grand enough for your Royal Highness-ship! 1851 *Househ. Words* III. 64/1 Never was there one of the cloth who addressed a fare otherwise than as 'Your Grace'.

d. Qualifying a sb. denoting the speaker or writer himself, esp. in the subscription of a letter: see also SERVANT sb. 4 d.

1418 ABP. CHICHELE in *Ellis Orig. Lett.* Ser. i. I. 5 Wryten at Lamhyth xvj day of Febr. 3our preest and bedeman H. C. 1477 *Paston Lett.* III. 186 By your John Pympe. c 1514 in *Ellis Orig. Lett.* Ser. i. I. 119 Yowr on whyl I lefe Mary. c 1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) ix. 13 This woundit hairt, sweet hairt, ressaif, Quhilk is. . 3our fayfull hairt w't trew intent. 1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* III. ii. 47 So he wishes you all happinesse, that remaines loyall to his Vow, and your encreasing in Loue, Leonatus Posthumus. 1629 *SIR F. HUBERT Hist. Edw. II.* Ep. Ded., And so. . I rest, not your Servant according to the new and fine, but false Phrase of the Time, but in honest old English, your loving Brother, and true Friend for euer. 1647 CHAS. I. in *Antiquary* (1880) I. 97/1 Yo' loving Father Charles R. 1654 WHITLOCK *Zootomia* 352 Some counts it as pleasant to converse with Historians, . . though now rotten, as with the finest perfumed Your-humble-Servant-Madam alive. 1721 RAMSAY *Pattie & Roger* 36 Yet may I please you, while I'm your Devoted Allan. 1746 FRANCIS tr. *Hor., Epist.* i. vii. 3 Yet August roll'd away, And left your Loiterer here. 1837 HOOD in *Mem.* (1860) I. 217 Your old Unitarian in love, T. H. 1848 KINGSLEY *Lett. in Life* (1879) I. 146 Your own Daddy, Charles Kingsley.

†3. *absol.* or as *pron.* (predicatively, or standing for *your* + sb.) = YOURS. *Obs.*

971 *Blickl. Hom.* xi. 117 Nis þæt eower. . . þæt 3e witan þa þrað & þa tide þa þe Fæder gesette on his mihte. a 1250 *Prov. Ælfred* 213 in O.E. *Misc.* 114 Lvstep ye me, leode; ower is þe neode, And ich eu wille lere wit and wisdom. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 8174 Ne se 3e þat 3are hors beþ sulfore þan 3oure be? 13. . . K. *Alis.* 2138 (Linc. Inn MS.) Y kepe nouht bote honour, Al þe bygate schal beo 3our. c 1386 CHAUCER *Can. Yeom. Prol.* & T. 605, I wol be youre in al that euere I may. a 1400 *Sqr. lowe Degre* 546 For ye are myne and i am your. ? a 1400 *Arthur* 286 Hys worthynesse, sur Emperour, Passeþ Muche alle 3owre. 1540 J. HEYWOOD *Four P.P.* (Manly) 838 Helpe me to speke with my lorde and your. 1556 — *Spider & F.* lxxiv, I had woordes of thanke from the mouth of your. a 1625 FLETCHER *Fair Maid* II. i, This affront of your.

4. As objective genitive, qualifying a noun of action or the like: Of you. Now *rare* or *Obs.* exc. in certain phrases, as *in your despire*.

c 1175 *Pater Noster* 221 in *Lamb. Hom.* 67 Ower hating for 3efe 3e; þin sunful efening luue him for godes þing. 1481 CAXTON *Reynard the Fox* xxxiv. (Arb.) 100 One. . . whiche. . . was your better and wyser. 1562 WINSET *Cert. Tractates* Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 4 Quhiddir sal we begin 3our commendation and louing at 3our haly lyfes, or at 3oure helthful doctrine, we ar doutsum. 1659 FULLER *Appeal, Lett. to Dr. C. Burges*, Abler Men are undertaking your Confutation. 1661 FELTHAM *Lusoria* etc. 79 While I stay, you cannot want an Agent that will glory in your employment. 1690 DRYDEN *Don Sebastian* v. (1692) 102, I can hold my breath in your despiht. 1751 CHESTERF. *Lett.* (1802) I. cliii. 386, I have not yet heard from Lady Hervey upon your subject. 1760-72 H. BROOKE *Fool of Qual.* (1809) IV. 136 [He] would be nearly distracted with joy at your sight. 1822 MRS. ELIZA NATHAN *Langreath* III. 253, I hope our union will be the means of renewing your intimacy.

5. a. Used more or less vaguely of something which the person or persons addressed may be expected to possess, or have to do with in some way: cf. *HIS* *poss. pron.* 2b.

c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 17 Alle cunne ower crede. . . þeiþ 3e alle nuten hwat hit biqueðe. 1585 *JAS. I Ess. Poeste* (Arb.) 55 To know the quantite of your lang or short fete in they lynes. 1682 DRYDEN & LEE *De. Guise* ii. ii, Your Air, your Mien, . . Will kill at least your thousand in a Day. 1773 MRS. CHAPONE *Improv. Mind* x. (1774) II. 183 The most ancient of all histories, you will read in your Bible. 1808 SYD. SMITH *Lett. on Cath.* i, You (if you had lived in those times) would certainly have roasted your Catholic. 1865 RUSKIN *Sesame* i. §23 Take up your Latin and Greek dictionaries, and find out the meaning of 'Spirit'.

b. Used with no definite meaning, or vaguely implying 'that you know of', corresponding to the 'ethical dative' *you* (YOU 7): often expressing contempt.

a 1568 ASCHAM *Scholem.* i. (Arb.) 32 Euen the wisest of your great beaters, do as oft punishe nature, as they do correcte fautes. 1590 SHAKS. *Mids. N.* iii. i. 33 There is not a more fearefull wilde foule then your Lyon liuing. 1602 — *Ham.* v. i. 188 Your water is a sore Decayer of your horson dead body. 1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* iv. iv, Your Spanish Pauin is the best daunce. 1653 H. MORE *Antid. Ath.* ii. ix. §3 That grave Awfulness, as in your best breed of Mastiffs. 1703 ROWE *Ulysses* Epil. 18 Your Sal, and Harts-horn Drops, they deal not in. 1759 R. BROWN *Compl. Farmer* 19 A good hardy sort [of cows] are your Angleseys and Welsh. 1791 'G. GAMBADO' *Ann. Horsem.* xv. (1809) 122 Your Gentleman now-a-days, must have with his bridle two head stalls, and two reins. 1851 E. FITZGERALD *Euphranor* 76 They *valse* very well, which is enough for me, — I hate your accomplished women. 1884 W. C. SMITH *Kildrostan* 92, I hate Your meek and milky girls that dare not kiss A burning passion, clinging to your lips.

6. As possessive of the indefinite pronoun (YOU 6): One's, any one's.

1598 SHAKS. *Merry W.* II. i. 233 In these times you stand on distance: your Passes, Stoecado's, and I know not what. 1708 *Caldwell Papers* (Maitland Club) I. 213 Here [*sc.* Hanover] there is no living without them [*sc.* curtains], one whole side of your house being glass. 1709 MRS. MANLEY *Secret Mem.* 115 They may be well term'd discharging ones Duty with a good Grace, wearing your Fetters with no Inclination to Freedom. 1870 LOWELL *Study Wind., Thoreau*, He wishes. . to trump your suit and to *ruff* when you least expect it.

youraballi, var. JURIBALLI.

yourn (juən), *poss. pron. dial.* Also 4 3ouren, 9 your'n. [f. *YOUR* + -n as in HERN, HISN, OURN, q.v.] = YOURS.

1382 WYCLIF *Gen.* xxxiv. 16 Thanne we shulen 3yue and take togidere our dow3tris and 3ouren. 1825 JENNINGS *Obs. Dial. W. Eng., Yourn*, yours. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxiii, Sam. . . replied that his master was extremely well. 'Oh, I am so glad,' replied Mr. Trotter, 'is he here?' 'Is your'n?' asked Sam. 1858 *Househ. Words* 14 Sept. 298/1 Famous top-coat that o' your'n, sir.

yours (juəz, jɔ:z), *poss. pron.* Forms: 4 3ures, -is, 3urs, yurs, 4-6 3ouris, 4-7 youres, 5 3oures, -ys, 3owres, 3owers, yowres, yowers, yourez, -is, yor(e)s, -ys, yowrs, 6 *Sc.* yowris, 8-9 your's, 5-yours. [f. *YOUR* + -s as in HERS, OURS, q.v.] The absolute form of *YOUR*, used when no sb. follows (originally, like *you* and *your*, referring to a number of persons, later also to a single person): That or those belonging to you.

1. a. Predicatively.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruce* I. 497 All hale my land sall 3ouris be. c 1440 *Generydes* 2869 The felissheppe is yourez that yender ye see. 1535 COVERDALE *Gen.* xlv. 20 The goodes of all the lande of Egipte shalbe yours. 1603 SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* v. i. 543 If you'll a willing eare incline; What's mine is yours, and what is yours is mine. 1625 B. JONSON *Staple of N.* II. i, All this Nether-world Is yours, you command it, and doe sway it. 1709 MRS. MANLEY *Secret Mem.* 31 Take all that an over-indulgent Monarch has enrich'd me with! these Jewels! these Bills must be yours! 1825 MARIA EDGEWORTH *Harry & Lucy* (1858) 174 You should not meddle with them; they are not yours. 1845 LADY DUFFERIN *Irish Emigrant* 33 Yours was the good brave heart, Mary, That still kept hoping on.

†b. With *both, two*, etc. following. *Obs.*

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 2068 Drightin graunt þat it be sua, þat al þis wold be yurs tua. 1671 H. M. tr. *Erasm. Colloq.* 162 Moreover remember that boy which is yours both.

c. In the subscription of a letter (cf. YOUR 2 d): often qualified by an advb. phr., or an adv., as *faithfully, sincerely, truly* (see also these words). Hence *yours truly*, etc. humorously for 'I' or 'me', 'myself'.

? 1430 W. PASTON in *P. Lett.* I. 30 Yowres, Will. Paston. 1438-9 *Priory of Coldingham* (Surtees) 109 Be 3o's in all thyng, David Home of Wuderburn. 1516 LD. DACRE in *Ellis Orig. Lett.* Ser. i. I. 133 At Kirkoswald the xxij. daye of Auguste Yowrs with hyes serves Thomas Dacre. 1582 in *Allen Martyrdom Campion* (1908) 77 Yours to death, and after death, Luke Kirbie. c 1680 *Let.* in *Hickes Sp. Popery* (1680) 75 Yours in the Lord, Subscribed, J. B. 1682 J. W. *Let. fr. New-Eng.* 9 end, Sir, I shall trouble you no more at present, onely that I am Yours, J. W. 1718 *Illustr. Modern* 19, I depend on your mighty Talent, . . and on that Score, remain, Most Lovingly Yours. 1798 FERRIAR *Illustr. Sterne* Ded., I am, most truly and faithfully your's, The Author. 1833 DICKENS *Let.* Oct. (1965) I. 31 Pray give my love to Letitia; 'accept the same from yours truly' as school-boys say. 1860 SALA *Baddington P.* xxvii, The verdict will be 'Guilty, my Lord,' against yours truly. *Ibid.*, It's ill. . . with yours obediently. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* xx, And they were his faithfully, etc. 'Hang their "yours faithfully!"' banded out Ernest.

d. = Your business or affair.

1841 MIALl in *Nonconf.* I. 409 Be it your's to help him.

2. a. Standing (esp. in collocation with another possessive) for *your* + a sb. to be supplied from the context.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 5061 Knaung of yours haue i nan. c 1300 *Havelok* 2798 Leuedi, kristes ore, And youres! c 1450 *Merlin* iv. 68 The kyng that is my lorde and yowres. 1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* iv. i. 96 Let their beds Be made as soft as yours. a 1707 *Prior To the Lady Dursley* 13 With Virtue strong as Your's had Eve been arm'd. 1777 BOSWELL *Lett. to Johnson* 29 Nov., I was, indeed, doubly uneasy;—on my own account and yours. 1827 DISRAELI *Viv. Grey* v. vii, Such a father as yours. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xlv, 'Will you take a glass of wine?' 'You're wery good, sir,' replied Mr. Roker, accepting the proffered glass. 'Yours, sir.' 'Thank you,' said Mr. Pickwick. 1840 — *Old C. Shop* li, 'It shall [be done], sir,' said Sampson. 'Then give me your hand,' retorted Quilp. 'Sally, girl, yours.'

b. Those who belong to you; your family, kindred, or friends: chiefly in phr. *you and yours*.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 17340 It sal i wene On yow and yours bath be sene. c 1400 *Destr. Troy* 1722 Bothe to me & to myne mykull vnright, And to yow & also yours 3omeryng for euer. c 1465 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 70 Allmyty God haue you in ys kepyng, and all yowrs. a 1533 LD. BERNERS *Huon* lxi. 212 You & al yours shal be ryche for euer. 1605 SHAKS. *Macb.* III. i. 91 Whose heauie hand Hath bow'd you to the Graue, and begger'd Yours for euer. 1645 CHAS. I in *12th Rep. Hist. MSS. Comm.* App. ix. 14 Some considerations hinder me from doing all I would towards you and yours. 1772 MACKENZIE *Man of World* i. ii. (1773) 32, I had looked forward to some happy days, amidst a race of my Harriet's and yours. 1838 HOOD in *Mem.* (1860) I. 313 And now, God

bless you and yours. **1847** TENNYSON *Princess* vi. 282 Yourself and yours shall have Free aid.

c. That which belongs to you, your property. **1526** TINDALE 2 *Cor.* xii. 14, I seke not yours but you. d. In epistolary (now chiefly commercial) correspondence: Your letter, the letter from you.

1536 in Ellis *Orig. Lett.* Ser. II. II. 77, I have yours of the last of April. **c1645** HOWELL *Lett.* (1892) 515, I had yours of the last week. **1755** CHATHAM *Lett. to Nephew* 15 Apr., Pardon an observation on style: 'I received yours' is vulgar and mercantile; 'your letter' is the way of writing. **1775** CHALLONER in E. H. BURTON *Life* (1909) II. xxviii. 116 Yours with the enclosed draught for 50-ll. came safe to hand. **1821** BYRON *Lett. to Moore* 3 May, Though I wrote to you on the 28th ultimo, I must acknowledge yours of this day.

e. Phr. *what's yours?* (colloq.): what would you like to drink?

1930 AUDEN *Poems* 12 There's time for a quick one before changing. What's yours? **1982** P. LOVESEY *False Inspector Dead* v. 177 What's yours, Inspector?

3. Used instead of *your* before another possessive, etc. qualifying the same sb. Now rare or Obs.

1534 CRANMER *Lett. to Warden of All Souls' Coll.* Misc. Writ. (Parker Soc.) 279 So that by yours and their agreement I may obtain the next lease. **1610** SHAKS. *Temp.* II. i. 254 Yours and my discharge. **a1634** CHAPMAN *Rev. for Honour* III. i. Despight of yours and your Maids weak resistance. **1710** ADDISON *Lett. to Swift* 11 Apr., I suppose you know, that I obeyed your's, and the Bishop of Clogher's commands. **1791** BURKE *Lett. to Member of Nat. Ass.* 66 This adaptation of contending parts, as it has not been in our's, so it can never be in your's, or in any country, the effect [etc.].

4. of *yours*: see OF 44.

a1300 Cursor M. 15409 If yee me oght of yurs giue. **c1470** Gol. & Gaw. 164 Ane knyght of youris. **1471** Paston *Lett.* Suppl. (1901) 140 3e schuld borow of my brother Sir John, or of sum other frend of 3owers. **1539** Bible (Great) 1 *Cor.* viii. 9 Lest... this libertye of yours be an occasyon of falling. **1601** SHAKS. *All's Well* v. iii. 209 She hath that Ring of yours. **1709** MRS. MANLEY *Secret Mem.* Ded. p. iv, So near a Resemblance of Yours to the Young Prince. **1851** Amer. Mag. Dec. 116/2 This charming new sister of your's. **1894** W. E. NORRIS *St. Ann's* xxiv, That dictatorial Colonel of yours.

yourself (juə'self, jə'self), *pron.* Forms: see YOUR and SELF. [ME. *your self(e)*, *your selven*, superseding earlier nom. *3e selfe*, and acc.-dat. *eow selve(n)*, *3ou self*: see SELF A. 2-4. The development of the sing. use through the honorific pl. use followed the precedent of YE, YOU, YOUR.] The emphatic and reflexive pronoun corresponding to *you*.

I. In plural sense: now replaced by *yourselves*.

† 1. *emphatic*, = YOURSELVES 1, 2. *Obs.*

c1325 in E.E.P. (1862) 134 þe soþeþe may 3or self ise. **1340-70** Alex. & Dind. 1095 Al þe nede & þe noy þat 3e now suffren By a-sent of 3our-silf, 3e sain þat 3e dryen. **c1380** WYCLIF *Wks.* (1880) 179 þat... her-by schulde be... worschepe to god & endeles good to 3ouwre self. **c1400** Destr. Troy 5036 All the wise how it was ye wetyñ your selfe. **1567** Gude & Godlie B. (S.T.S.) 195 Preistis, thole to preiche, Sen 3e 3our self can preiche na thing.

β. **13...** Cursor M. 780 (Gött.) Als goddess suld 3ur seluen be. **c1420** Sir Amadace (Camden) xxx, 3e most noue take 3our leue, For 3oure seluun knauyn the cace.

† 2. *refl.* = YOURSELVES 4. *Obs.*

13... Cursor M. 16653 (Gött.) Ne wepe 3e noight for me, Bot on 3ur childer and 3urself [Cott. 3owself]. **c1400** Apol. Loll. 4 Wil 3e not sei wipin 3or self we haue þe fadir Abraham. **1426** AUDELEY *Poems* 9 Do fore 3oure self ore 3e gone, Or mede of God get 3e none. **1509** BARCLAY *Shyp of Folyis* (1570) 9 Ye proude galants that thus your selfe disguise. **1572** ABP. PARKER *Corr.* (Parker Soc.) 391 Think you, that this way you among yourself shall escape?

β. **c1400** Destr. Troy 12843 But the noble Duke Nestor onon to hom said: 'Sendis fro youre-seluyn to your syde londis.' **1426** LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 2730 Ye sholde alway your syluen shewe Wyth cheryshyng fyrr of plesauce.

II. In singular sense (originally as a honorific plural: cf. YOU II, YOUR 2 b): replacing THYSELF.

* *Emphatic*. 3. a. In apposition with *ye* or *you* (usually as subj., less commonly as pred. or obj.), or after a verb in the imperative.

13... Gaw. & Gr. Knt. 350 þa3 3e 3our-self be talentyf to take hit to your-seluen. **c1400** Destr. Troy 3309 And ye sothely, your selfe, . . . Shal be worshipped worthely. **a1553** UDALL *Royster D.* III. v. (Arb.) 58 R. Royster. If it were an other but thou, it were a knaue. M. Mery. Ye are an other your selfe, sir. **1591** SHAKS. *Two Gent.* I. i. 154 Henceforth, earry your letters your selfe. **c1600** — *Sonn.* xiii, You are No longer yours, then you your selfe here liue. **1707** FREIND *Peterborow's Cond.* Sp. 211 You will hardly believe your self, what this Letter informs you of. **1749** FIELDING *Tom Jones* vi. ii, Suppose she should have fixed on the very Person whom you yourself would wish. **1859** H. KINGSLEY G. *Hamlyn* xxvii, I hope I may see you happily married yourself some of these days. **1861** MISS YONGE *Stokesley Secret* vi, 'Johnnie!—get sticks, I say.' . . . Johnnie uttered a gruff 'Get 'em yourself.' **1890** BURNAND *Very Much Abr.* 103 You certainly gave me to understand you had been there yourself.

b. Added as a retort after repeating something just said to oneself. *colloq.*

1897 H. G. WELLS *Plattner Story*, & Others 214 William came up beside her and said, 'Hello!' 'Hello yourself!' she said. **1944** S. BELLOW *Dangling Man* 39 'Minna,' I said, 'Minna yourself!' **a1945** C. WILLIAMS *Seed of Adam* (1948) 77 *Hell (to Grace)* Stop that noise! *Grace* Noise yourself!

4. a. Used as simple subject, with the verb either in the pl. (as with *you*), or in the 3rd pers. sing. (*self* being taken as a sb.).

c1400 Destr. Troy 2489 Your seluyn sothely asayet haue before. **1509** HAWES *Past. Pleas.* xviii. (Percy Soc.) 81 Your selfe hath caught it in so sure a net. **1586** A. DAY *Engl. Secretorie* II. (1625) 22 Your owne selfe doe know, that both he and the rest were to me knowne before time. **1594** SHAKS. *Rich. III.* II. i. 18 Madam, your selfe is not exempt from this. **1621** BP. MOUNTAGU *Diatribe* 47 Your selfe deny this elsewhere. **1641** 'SMECTYMNUS' *Vind. Answ.* §13. 122 But your selfe grants . . . that Timothy was not yet Bishop. **a1745** SWIFT *Verses, To a Lady* 126 Conversation is but carving; Carve for all, yourself is starving. **1799** WASHINGTON *Lett.* Writ. 1893 XIV. 150 Does the Presidt. and yourself wear them? *Mod. (vulgar)* How's yourself?

b. as predicate, or after *as* or *than*. Now esp. in Anglo-Irish.

c1400 Destr. Troy 1849 Sho might haue bene mariede to more þen your selfe. **1601** SHAKS. *All's Well* III. v. 46 Is it your selfe? **1709** MRS. MANLEY *Secret Mem.* 31, I know nothing so valuable as your self. **1805** G. COLMAN *John Bull* IV. i. 65 Och! and is it yourself I see, at last? **1847** R. S. SURTEES *Hawbuck Gr.* xii, 'Why, what a mess you're in, Beane!' . . . 'Am I? . . . I can't be much worse than yourself; look at your breeches!' **1896** MARY BEAUMONT *Joan Seaton* x, It's yourself, Sweetheart, it's yourself I think most of now. **1896** C. M. YONGE *Release* II. ix. 160 And is it yourself, Miss Caroline, as would honour me by sailing under my flag. **1907** J. M. SYNGE *Tinker's Wedding* II. 32 And it's yourself is wedding her, Michael Byrne? **1970** N. MARSH *When in Rome* iv. 92 The monk . . . spoke with a superb brogue. . . 'Ah, it's yourself again,' he said.

c. as direct or indirect object, or after a preposition (or *like* adj. and adv.).

13... Gaw. & Gr. Knt. 1548, I . . . euer-more wylle Be seruaut to your-seluen. **c1400** Destr. Troy 2327 Yff it like your Alegiaunce, þat I, your lefe son, Be sent from your seluon. **1634** PRYNNE in *Documents agst. P.* (Camden) 34 This odious scandall . . . which I wish may not truly reflect upon your self. **1725** RAMSAY *Gentle Sheph.* II. i, Spoke like ye'ssell, auld birky. **1766** Gentl. Mag. May 234/1 Good fortune befall Yourself, and the B-n-r-d family all. **1807** ANNA SEWARD *Lett.* (1811) VI. 331 On a balance of their beauty and deformity, not one of them equals yourself or Southey. **1852** MISS MULOCK *Agatha's Husb.* iv, What a strong friendship used to exist between Uncle Brian, yourself, and Anne Valery.

5. In pregnant sense: Your being or personality; also, your true self, you as you are in your natural or normal condition: cf. SELF D. 1, 2.

1590 SPENSER *F. Q.* I. viii. 42 What euill starre On you hath found, . . . That of your selfe ye thus berobbed arre. **c1600** SHAKS. *Sonn.* xiii, O that you were your selfe. **1740** RICHARDSON *Pamela* (1741) I. ii. 5 For fear you should be brought to any thing . . . wicked, by being set so above yourself. **1749** FIELDING *Tom Jones* vi. v, 'Dear aunt, you frighten me out of my senses.' 'O, my dear, . . . you will soon come to yourself again.' **1889** 'J. S. WINTER' *Mrs. Bob* viii, 'Now you look like yourself', she said fondly.

** 6. Reflexive, as direct or indirect object, or after a preposition: taking the place of YOU 4 d.

13... to your-seluen [see 3]. **1426** LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 3759 To occupye your sylff alway. **1568** GRAFTON *Chron.* II. 102 Least that by the doying the contrary, you bring your selfe into such a pecke of troubles. **1598** B. JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* I. i, Nor would I, you should melt away your selfe In flashing brav'rie. **1606** SHAKS. *Ant. & Cl.* II. v. 75 Good Madam keepe your selfe within your selfe. **1680** R. L'ESTRANGE *Erasm. Colloq.* 127 'Twas well you bethought your self before you were in for good and all. **1717** LADY M. W. MONTAGU *Lett. to Mrs. S. C.* — 1 Apr., I am going to tell you a thing that will make you wish yourself here. **1865** 'L. CARROLL' *Alice's Adv. in Wonderland* ix, Pray don't trouble yourself. **1882** 'EDNA LYALL' *Donovan* xix, You'll do for yourself one of these days.

*** 7. As indefinite pronoun (emphatic or reflexive): = ONESELF: cf. YOU 6, YOUR 6.

1669 STURMY *Mariner's Mag.* II. iii. 56 Here is a Table of Latitudes . . . and the way to calculate it your self. **1881** Baily's Mag. Apr. 97 Our friend learned that one of the secrets of their success was picking the line of country quickly yourself. **1918** Times Lit. Suppl. 2 May 207/2 The monkey . . . has a rule that everything which cannot be eaten must be used to scratch yourself with.

yourselves (juə'selvz, jə'-), *pron. pl.* Forms: see YOUR and SELF. [f. prec., in the 16th cent., with pl. inflexion, like *ourselves*, *theirselves*, *themselues*, in order to provide an unambiguous form for the pl. use.] The emphatic and reflexive pronoun corresponding to *you* in plural sense: replacing the earlier *yourself* (see prec. 1, 2).

I. *Emphatic*.

1. In apposition with *ye* or *you* (as subj., pred., or obj.), expressed or implied.

1526 TINDALE *Matt.* xxiii. 13 Ye youre selves goo nott in, nother [1611 yee neither goe in your selues, neither] suffre ye them that come to enter in. **c1550** LYNDSEY *Monarchie, Trag. David* 312 It is 3our craft, . . . 3our selfis, in 3our Templis, for to teche. **1611** Bible Luke xiii. 28 When yee shall see . . . all the Prophets in the kingdom of God, and you your selues thrust out [1526 TINDALE, and your selues thrust oute a dores]. **1881** 'MARK TWAIN' *Sp.* (1910) 24, I think I honor and appreciate your Pilgrim stock as much as you do yourselves, perhaps.

2. As simple subject (now *arch.* or *poet.*), predicate, or object.

1526 [see quot. 1611 in 1]. **a1578** LINDESEY (Pittscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 58 To manefest 3ourselvis quhat men 3e ar. **1582** N.T. (Rhem.) i. 1 Thess. ii. 1 For your selues know, brethren, our entrance vnto you, that it was not vaine. **1608** SHAKS. *Lea* II. iv. 194 (Qo. 1) If you doe loue old men, . . . if your selues are old. **1709** MRS. MANLEY *Secret Mem.* 110, I intend to carry you where your selues shall be Judges of his Conversation. **1728** POPE *Dunc.* I. 3 Say great Patricians! (since yourselves inspire These wond'rous

works). **1881** 'MARK TWAIN' *Sp.* (1910) 20, I ask you to put yourselves in his place.

3. In pregnant sense: cf. prec. 5.

1718 POPE *Iliad* XIV. 428 Be still your selves, and we shall need no more.

II. 4. Reflexive, as direct or indirect object, or after a preposition: taking the place of YOU 1 d.

1523 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* I. cxlvi. 71 b/2 It is his wyll that ye all shulde put your selves into his pure wyll. **1526** TINDALE *Luke* xvii. 3 Take hede to youre selves. **1539** Bible (Great) Matt. vi. 19 Laye not vp for your selues treasure vpon earth. **1632** BROME *Novella* I. i, Not to wanton out your holy voves Dancing your selves to th' Devill. **1790** BURKE *Fr. Rev.* 52 Respecting your forefathers, you would have been taught to respect yourselves. **1837** DICKENS *Pickw.* xxxii, 'You ought to be ashamed of yourselves,' said the voice of Mr. Raddle. **1847** R. S. SURTEES *Hawbuck Gr.* xvi, It is all very well for you to give yourselves airs among other girls.

yourt, var. YAOURT.

yous (ju:z). Also *youse*. Dial. varr. YOU *pers. pron.* (with pl. inflection, though used in sing. sense also). Cf. YEZ.

1893 S. CRANE *Maggie* i. 8 Youse kids makes me tired. *Ibid.* II. 13 Ah, Jimmie, youse bin fightin' agin. **1901** M. FRANKLIN *My Brilliant Career* xxx. 256 Ye and Lizer can have a little fly round. It'll do yous good. **1907** J. M. SYNGE *Playboy of Western World* III. 63 Is it mad yous are? **1929** WODEHOUSE *Gentleman of Leisure* XIV. 110 Say, youse won't want me any more, boss. **1930** J. DOS PASSOS *42nd Parallel* I. 102 Say, yous guys, this is fellowworker McCreary. **1939** X. HERBERT *Capricornia* xiii. 183, I want yous two back here at Black Adder. **1968** S. L. ELLIOTT in E. Hanger *Three Austral. Plays* II. i. 74 Good luck to youse. **1975** [see STORE sb. 12a]. **1981** S. RENA *Painless Death* xx. 132 We've a telephone installed in the lounge since yesterday and none of yous even noticed it!

yous, yoush, dial. contractions of *you shall*: see SHALL A. 5.

1575 Gammer Gurton I. v. Bj, Yoush beare the blame.

youst, obs. form of JOUST v. 1

youster, sb. *north. dial.* Forms: 1 *gelostr*, *geolster*, -or, 6 *Sc.* 3oustir, 7 *yowster*, 9 *youster*. [OE. *geolster* (late also *gillister*) suppuration, pus, related to LG. *galster* mouldy spot in cheese, bacon, etc., whence Du. *galsterig* rank, rancid (cf. OE. *geolstrig* purulent, poisonous).] Fetid discharge from a wound; pus, sanies. Hence *youster v.*, to fester; *youstered pa. pple.* (see quot. 1894).

c725 Corpus Gloss. (Hessels) S709 *Supuratio*, *gelostr*. **a1100** Aldhelm Gloss. I. 3585 (Napier 95/2) *Tabo*, *i. sanie*, *wyrnse*, *geolstre*. **1513** DOUGLAS *Eneis* III. ix. 72 The 3oustir tharfra chirtand and blak blud. **1691** RAY N.C. *Words*, *Yowster* [printed *Yowfter*], to fester. **1894** Northumbld. Gloss., *Youstered*, puffed or swollen in the cellular membranes of the skin.

yout, variant of YOWT.

youth (ju:θ). Forms: 1 *geogup*, *giogup*, *iugud*, -oð, 1-2 *geogop*, *iugep*, 2-3 *geozeð*, *zuheð*, 3-5 *3oup*(e, 4-5 *3owthe*, *youghthe*, *youth*(e, 4-6 *youth*e, 4-5 (6-7 *Sc.*) *3outh*, (7 *Sc.*) *yowthe*, 5-6 *3outh*e, *3owth*, *yough*(e, *yough*(e, (3 *zuweð*, -wuð, -zeð, *3uep*, *3oep*, *3ieuð*, *youthp*, *3uð*, 4 *3owep*, *3oughep*, *3uth*, 5 *3owith*, *yowith*, *yowuthe*, *3ougepe*, *3ougthe*, *youpe*, *yup* e, *3ouhet3*, *Sc.* *3owuth*, 5-6 *vthe*, 6 *yowght*, *Sc.* *3owt*, 7 *yewth*), 5- youth. [OE. *geogup* = OS. *juguð* (MLG., MDu. *jôghet*, Du. *jeugd*), OHG. *jugund* (MHG. *jugent*, G. *jugend*):—Com. W. Ger. **jugunpi*-, app. an alteration on the analogy of **dugunp*-DOUTH of **juwunpi*:-—pre-Teut. **juwanti*- (cf. the parallel formation in L. *juventa*, Goth. *junda*). See YOUNG and -TH¹.]

1. a. The fact or state of being young; youngness. (Often blending with sense 2.)

a1100 Aldhelm Gloss. I. 2843 (Napier 77/1) *Teneritudine*, *iungan iugepe*. **c1100** O.E. Chron. (MS. D) an. 975 On his dagum for his iugoðe, Godes wiparsacan Godes lage bræcon. **a1225** Leg. Kath. 1462 Nim 3eme of pi zuheðe. **c1380** WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* I. 84 Seynge þe 3oupe of þe childe. **c1425** Engl. Cong. Irel. (1896) 68 Other tweyn of hys bretheren, (that thogh yough & foolrede hym folwed). **a1500** Cov. Corpus Chr. Pl. II. 751 Thogh thatt my vthe frome me be worne. **a1533** LD. BERNERS *Huon* xxii. 65 They knewe well by the reason of his yough hunger opressed hym more then it dyde to them of gretter age. **a1572** KNOX *Hist. Ref.* Wks. 1846 I. 195 By your authoritie, the people may be moved the rather to beleve the trowth, whereof many dowbtes be reassone of our yowght. **1601** SHAKS. *Jul. C.* II. i. 148 Our youths, and wildenesse, shall no whit appeare, But all be buried in his Grauity. **1697** DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* III. 664 A Snake . . . renew'd in all the speckl'd Pride Of pompous Youth. **1709** MRS. MANLEY *Secret Mem.* 122 Their free-behaviour are generally attributed to Youth and Gaiety. **1796** BURKE *Lett. to Hussey* Dec., Corr. 1844 IV. 401 If I had youth and strength, I would go myself over to Ireland to work on that plan. **1803** BEDDOES in *Med. Jnrl.* X. 572 He has youth on his side, and it is odds but he gets over it [sc. a disease].

b. *fig.* Newness, novelty, recentness.

1596 SHAKS. *Merch. V.* III. ii. 224 If that the youth of my new interest here Have power to bid you welcome. **a1600** HOOKER *Eccl. Pol.* VI. iv. §13 These opinions have youth in their countenance.

2. a. The time when one is young; the early part or period of life; more specifically, the period from puberty till the attainment of full growth, between childhood and adult age.

c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past.* C. xxxi. 206 Dære scame & ðære scande þe ðu on iuguðe worhtes ic gedo ðæt ðu forgiſt. c 1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke xviii. 21 Eall þis ic heold of minre geoguþe. c 1200 *Trin. Coll. Hom.* 127 On his zuweðe he fleh fro folke to weste. a 1250 *Prov. Ælfred* 100 in *O.E. Misc.* (1872) 108 þe mon þe on his youhppe yeorne leorneþ wit and wisdom. c 1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 10436 Alle þe þongest bachelers þat...were of þouþe. c 1400 *Rule St. Benet* (verse) 14 Women...þat leris no latyn in þar þouþ. 1508 DUNBAR *Poems* vii. 63 Most fortunable chiftane, bothe in yhouþ and eild. 1535 COVERDALE *Gen.* viii. 21 The ymaginacion of mans hert is euell, euen from the very youth of him [1611 from his youth]. 1749 SMOLLETT *Gil Blas* iv. vii. (1816) 126/2 One of those old boys who had been great rakes in their youth. 1839 FR. A. KEMBLE *Resid. Georgia* (1863) 11 As soon as they begin to grow up and pass from infancy to youth. 1879 HARLAN *Eyesight* vii. 103 In the case of any kind of optical defect, it is a great advantage to begin the use of glasses in youth.

b. *transf.* and *fig.* Early stage or period of existence.

1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* i. iii. 7 A Violet in the youth of Primy Nature. 1678 MOXON *Mech. Exerc.* vi. 108 As the Bough grew in the youth of the Tree. 1733 W. ELLIS *Chiltern & Vale Farm.* 14 One very bad [quality]...that often ruins part of its Crop, while in their youth. 1883 *Ch. Times* 9 Nov. 813/2 Lutheranism...covers a smaller area to-day than it did in its early youth.

3. A quality or condition characteristic of the young; e.g. youthful freshness or vigour; youthful wantonness, folly, or rashness; youthful appearance or aspect.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 65 þær is geogop buton ylde. c 1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 145 þær seal beon...Ivæðe [v.r. 3eozæðe, 3ieuð] wið-uten elde. a 1300 *E.E. Psalter* cii[i]. 5 Als erne þi yhouthe be newed sal. 1390 GOWER *Conf.* II. 263 Sche...preide hem alle...To grante Eson his ferste youthe. 1475 *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 158 Tyll...pat youkke of wedlocke ly in my nekke...youth shall rene in me as hyt has done in you afore tyne. c 1489 CAXTON *Sonnes of Aymon* ix. 244 Now is loste our beaulte and our yougthe thourghe grete synne. 1525 LD. BERNERS *Froiss.* II. cxxv. 140 b/2 Though...that youthe of wytte haue made hym to defyte the kynge. a 1653 BINNING *Serm., John* i. 5 Wks. (1725) 410/2 [The sun] puts a Youth upon the World. 1709 MRS. MANLEY *Secret Mem.* 16 The Enervating of their Youth and Vigour. 1817 MARIA EDGEWORTH *Ormond* i. After she had purchased all of youth which age can purchase for money. 1844 MRS. BROWNING *Rhaps. Life's Progr.* viii. Oh, the soul keeps its youth! But the body faints sore.

4. Personified, or vaguely denoting any young person or persons (without article).

Here perhaps belongs *youthes folke* (Spenser *Sheph. Cal.* May 9), which was imitated by Davison (see YOUNGTH I, quot. 1602).

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 358, I sih wher lusty Youthe tho...Stod with his route wel begon. 1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* Prol. 69 They shall fynde fiele flawtis floure score and odde, That yougthe weneth alwey þat it be witte euer. c 1400 *Beryn* 1052 3owith is recheles. c 1430 *Hymns Virg.* (1867) 93 Ful of corage is þouþe in herte. 1513 MORE *Rich. III* Wks. 39/1 Slipper youth [must be] vnderpropped with elder counsayle. 1579 LYL *Euphues* (Arb.) 124 We haue an olde prouerbe youth wil haue his course. 1675 BROOKS *Gold. Key* 27 Youth enclines to Wantonness and Prodigality. 1757 GRAY *Bard* 74 Youth on the prow, and Pleasure at the helm. 1844 DISRAELI *Coningsby* III. i. Almost everything that is great has been done by youth.

5. Young people (or creatures) collectively; the young. (With or without *the*; now always construed as plural.)

Beowulf 66 Oð þæt seo geogod geweoX. c 897 ÆLFRED *Gregory's Past.* C. Pref. 7 Eall sio gioguð ðe nu is on Angelcynne friora monna. c 1205 LAY. 15372, & inne Æstsaxe heore æðeleste 3uþeð. *Ibid.* 19837 Beztal æar 3eozæðe þa...a þan dægen weore Ærður ihaten. 1538 STARKEY *England* (1878) 152 The yl and idul bryngyng vp of youth here in our cuntry. *Ibid.* 156 To ouerse the educatyon of vthe. 1581 MULCASTER *Positions* xxxiii. (1888) 119 Youth from seuen till one and twenty, will abyde much exercising. 1599 SHAKS. *Hen. V.* II. Chorus 1 Now all the Youth of England are on fire. 1656 HARRINGTON *Oceana* (1658) 204 The Elders could remember that they had been Youth. 1742 GRAY *Spring* 25 The insect youth are on the wing. 1818 BYRON *Juan* I. cxxv. The unexpected death of some old lady Or gentleman...Who've made 'us youth' wait too—too long already for an estate. 1874 STUBBS *Const. Hist.* I. ii. 25 When there was peace at home, the youth sought opportunities of distinguishing...themselves in distant warfare. 1883 *Century Mag.* XXVI. 202/1 There was a native innocence in the New York youth of both sexes that was pleasing to our pride.

6. a. A young person; *esp.* a young man between boyhood and mature age; sometimes, *esp.* in earlier use, more widely (see quots.).

Formerly sometimes (and still in dialect or vulgar speech) pleonastically qualified by *young*.

c 1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 2665 Bi ðat time ðat he was 3uð, Wið faijered and strengthe kuð. a 1400 *Pistill of Susan* 230 He lift vp þe lach and leop ouer þe lake, þat þouthe. ? 1580 W. HERGEST (*title*) The Right Rule of Christian Chastitie; profitable to bee read of all godly and vertuous Youthes of both sexe. 1583 STOCKER *Civ. Warres* Lowe C. I. 32 b. Accompanied with a multitude of women, young youthes and children. 1599 SHAKS. *Much Ado* II. i. 40 He that hath a beard, is more then a youth; and he that hath no beard, is lesse then a man. 1605 TRESWELL *Journ. Earl Nott.* 32 A youth of ten years of age. 1611 *Bible* Susanna 45 The Lord raised vp the holy spirit of a young youth, whose name was Daniel. 1632 MILTON *L'Allegro* 95 The jocond rebecks sound To many a youth, and many a maid. 1687 [? W. PENN] *Reason. Toleration* 16 He ended his days a young Youth, in the 24th Year of his Age. 1711 HEARNE *Collect.*

(O.H.S.) III. 263 Wch was in the eleventh Year of his Age, and y^e he was then a very hopeful Youth. 1774 tr. *Chesterfield's Lett.* Kal. May 1741, To-morrow...you will attain your ninth year; so that, for the future, I shall treat you as a youth. 1805 *Ann. Reg., Chron.* 396/2 Two youths, one 14 and the other 8 years of age, sons of a poor man. 1837 DICKENS *Pickw.* xxxii, The pot-boy, the muffin youth, and the baked-potato man. 1881 *10th Cent.* May 780 Before she was twenty she wrote verses like other youths.

b. (*esp. college youth.*) Applied technically to societies of bellringers. *Obs. exc. Hist.*

1668 [STEDMAN] *Tintinnalogia* (1671) Ded., To the Noble Society of Colledge-Youths. 1816 SHIPWAY *Campanal.* p. xix, The Society of College Youths, in the summer of 1657, on a visit to Cambridge, were presented by Mr. Stedman with his peculiar production on five bells. 1855 T. BAILEY *Ann. Notts.* IV. 29 The bells at St. Peter's church re-cast this year;...The following are the inscriptions upon them: First, or Treble.—'I was given by the Society of Northern Youths, in 1672, and recast by the Sherwood Youths, in 1771.'

7. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *youth cult, culture, -day, -group, movement, organization, -slip, -state, -tide, -time; youth-bold, -consuming* adjs.; *youth-bereft, -charmed, -oriented* ppl. adjs.; *Youth Aliyah* [Heb. *aliyah* ascent], a movement begun in 1933 for the emigration of young Jews to Palestine; *youth and old age* = ZINNIA; *youth camp*, one of the camps of various kinds that were established for young people in Germany under the Nazis; *youth centre*, a building providing social and recreational facilities for young people; *youth club*, a social club provided for the spare-time activities of young people; the premises of such a club; *Youth Employment Service*, an advisory service for school leavers set up in 1948 and superseded by the Careers Advisory Service; also *ellipt.*; so *Youth Employment office, officer*; †*youthgrass*, †*youthwort*, names for sundew; *youth hostel* [tr. G. *jugendherberge*], a hostel providing cheap overnight accommodation for young travellers and holiday-makers; hence *youth-hostel v. intr.*, *-hostelling vbl. sb.*; *youth hosteller*; *youth leader*, a person having charge of young people in a youth club or other youth organization; †*youthlike a.*, resembling or having the character of youth, juvenile (cf. *YOUTHLY a.*); *adv.*, like a youth, or in the manner of youth; hence †*youthlikeness*; †*youth-master*, a master who teaches young people; *Youth Opportunities Programme*, a Government-sponsored service introduced in 1978 to provide temporary work experience for unemployed young people and replaced in 1983 by the *Youth Training Scheme* (see below); *youth orchestra*, an orchestra open only to young musicians; *youth-potion*, a potion supposed to restore youth; *youth service*, a service, esp. of local government, providing social and recreational facilities for young people; *Youth Training Scheme*, a Government-sponsored scheme introduced in 1983 to replace the *Youth Opportunities Programme* (see above) and offering job experience and training for unemployed school leavers; *youth work*, social work among young people; hence *youth worker*.

1936 H. SZOLD *Let.* 4 Sept. in M. Lowenthal *Henrietta Szold: Life & Lett.* (1942) xvi. 312 We build homes, we work our heads off over *Youth Aliyah and social service. 1968 P. DURST *Badge of Infamy* i. 3 A Youth Aliyah village in a kibbutz south of Tel Aviv. 1975 E. AVRIEL *Open the Gates!* vi. 62 We had a number of special immigration certificates for youngsters from the separately functioning body of Youth Aliyah. 1889 G. NICHOLSON *Illustr. Dict. Gardening* IV. 241/2 Zinnia... *Youth and Old Age. 1971 *Farmer & Stockbreeder* 16 Feb. 80/1 Zinnias—common name 'youth-and-old-age'—have normally bloomed in late summer. 1911 M. BEERBOHM *Zuleika Dobson* xix. 292 As on the towing-path, so on the *youth-bereft rafts of the barges, yonder, stood many stupefied elders, staring at the river. a 1618 SYLVESTER *Sonn. Mirac. Peace* xii, My *youth-bold thoughts. [1936 *Liverpool Echo* 5 Sept. 4/1 (heading) A visit to a Hitler youth camp.] 1942 E. WAUGH *Put out More Flags* iii. 217 Those absurd instructors who harangued the *youth camps. 1975 H. W. KOCH *Hitler Youth* ix. 196 Officials of the party and the Hitler Youth participated. Final selection of candidates was made early each year in what was described as 'Youth Camp'. 1942 H. C. WARNER *Christian Youth Leadership* ii. 26 We have seen the sudden outcrop of *Youth Centres, Youth Service Corps, Juvenile Civil Defence Units, etc. 1958 I. MURDOCH *Bell* xx. 251 The opening of a new youth centre. 1976 'W. TREVOR' *Children of Dymmouth* i. 21 The Youth Centre curtains are apparently unavailable for the Easter Fête, dear. 1943 C. DAY LEWIS *Word over All* 16 Oh *youth-charmed hours. 1940 *Times* 19 Sept. 7/3 *Youth clubs may be found in all districts of the city. 1955 E. BLISHEN *Roaring Boys* iv. 249 Some of the blocks...had community centres and youth clubs. 1957 J. OSBORNE *Entertainer* 28, I was teaching Art to a bunch of Youth Club kids. 1980 P. LIVELY *Judgement Day* i. 7 He was no good at Youth Clubs and disturbed black teenagers. 1610 FLETCHER *Faithf. Sheph.* i. i, That heavy *youth-consuming Miserie. 1968 *Harper's* Oct. 8/3 That temptation to jump on the *youthcult bandwagon is hard to resist. 1976 B. BOVA *Multiple Man* vii. 73 Aspen was once a center of the youth cult... Kids from all over the country flocked there. 1980 J.

O'FAOLAIN *No Country for Young Men* x. 209 Typical Ireland! They got the youth cult ten years late. 1958 *Listener* 28 Aug. 308/2 We know little or nothing about the motivation of the new *youth culture, whose emergence is one of the key phenomena of the 'fifties. 1977 M. DICKSTEIN *Gates of Eden* 289 The best ongoing rock criticism, some of it quite sharp, appeared in periodicals associated with the youth culture of the sixties, such as *Rolling Stone*, *Creem*, *Crawdaddy* and the *Village Voice*. 1985 *Isis* 3 May 4/2 Youth culture implies the new, the non-conformist, the intractable, yet these still form themselves into cults with rules to keep you right. 1953 C. DAY LEWIS *Italian Visit* v. 55 I too gave tongue in my piping *youth-days. 1948 *Youth Employment Service* (Min. Labour) 1 Local Education Authorities in England and Wales...may be authorised by means of a scheme approved by the Minister of Labour and National Service to operate a *Youth Employment Service. 1966 P. WILLMOTT *Adolescent Boys* vi. 105 In theory, the youth employment service is available to help school leavers find suitable work. In fact, although more of the boys in the sample had got their first job through the Youth Employment Officer than any other single source, they were not a majority. 1976 L. THOMAS *Dangerous Davies* iv. 30 She had gone to the youth employment office...to inquire about...becoming a nurse. 1584 COGAN *Haven Health* ccxiv. 228 In Lankashire...the common people do call it *youth grasse, and they think that it rotteth sheepe. 1946 KOESTLER *Thieves in Night* 155 The *youth-group for a while looked on critically at us rapturous elders. 1929 *Liverpool Post & Mercury* 13 Dec. 7/5 (heading) *Youth hostels. *Ibid.*, A meeting...held last evening in Liverpool, passed a resolution in favour of proceeding with the formation of a local Youth Hostel Association for the purpose of providing hostels in North Wales for holiday sojourns on the lines of those already existing on the Continent, in Scotland, and Northumberland. 1948 'N. SHUTE' *No Highway* ix. 185 'Are you fond of hiking?' 'We used to do a lot,' he said. 'Staying in Youth Hostels?' she inquired. 1972 D. DEVINE *Three Green Bottles* I. iv. 39, I was youth-hostelling on a hired bicycle. 1977 *Daily Colonist* (Victoria, B.C.) 5 June 24/4 When the original—and still operating—youth hostel opened its doors in the West German town of Altena 68 years ago, its purpose was to provide inexpensive accommodations for young students on walking trips. 1977 C. McCULLOUGH *Thorn Birds* xvii. 441 The typical fate of Australians in England, youth-hostelling on a shoestring, working for a pittance. 1933 Y.H.A. *Rucksack* Summer 42/1 This is written as a challenge to *Youth Hostellers everywhere to send us word whether they want such a hostel. 1977 M. DRABBLE *Ice Age* II. 152 Whenever he went to any of the three pubs...he had to spend his time listening to complaints about the behaviour of delinquent youth hostellers. 1947 (*title*) *Youth hostelling abroad. 1959 *Woman* 2 May 3/4 Youth Hostelling is great fun, for those who enjoy an outdoor holiday, with a sufficiency of male escorts. 1936 *Liverpool Echo* 5 Sept. 4/1 In the streets [of Germany] we met policemen, storm-troopers, *youth-leaders, soldiers...all in their various uniforms. 1958 *Listener* 21 Aug. 256/1 Youth leaders trained in Spain by Franco's Falange. 1973 'B. MATHER' *Snowline* i. 10 A youth leader at a church club in London. 1582 STANYHURST *Ensis* II. 518 When shee saw Priamus *youthlik surcharged in armour. a 1586 SIDNEY *Arcadia* III. iv. (1912) 371 All such, whom either youthfull age, or youth-like mindes did fill with unlimited desires. 1549 CHALONER *Erasm. on Folly* Cij b. Women with their smoth chekes, small voyces, and fine skinnies, doo euer shewe a certayne *youthlikeness. 1550 HARRINGTON tr. *Cicero's Bk. Friendship* (1562) 48 b. For so shall nursses and *youthmaisters challenge muche frendshyp. 1921 *Survey* 31 Dec. 487 (heading) *Youth movement of Germany. 1941 'G. ORWELL' *Lion & Unicorn* I. 16 No party rallies, no *Youth Movements. 1982 *Listener* 11 Feb. 3/1 The youth movements and their clashes with the police in the 1960s. 1977 *Dept. of Employment Press Notice* 29 June 1 Up to 230,000 unemployed youngsters each year will have a chance of work experience or training under a new £160 million *Youth Opportunities Programme announced today by Mr. Albert Booth, Secretary of State for Employment. 1983 *Sunday Tel.* 16 Oct. 11/4 A Midlands businessman who has successfully employed Jamaican youngsters under the Youth Opportunities Programme. 1948 *Times* 22 Apr. 7/4 The Bath Assembly...opened this afternoon in the Pavilion with a concert given by the National *Youth Orchestra. 1972 *Daily Tel.* 18 Jan. 9/5 Leicestershire Schools Symphony Orchestra, a 100-strong unit which has a considerable reputation as a youth orchestra. 1959 *Listener* 2 July 17/2 Local institutions: for example, water boards, *youth organizations and universities. 1977 *Gay News* 7–20 Apr. 8/3 It's always been known as a *youth-oriented action spot. 1982 S. BRETT *Murder Unprompted* v. 51 The new youth-oriented culture. 1876 GEO. ELIOT *Dan. Der.* liii, A sorceress...to mix *youth-potions for others. 1943 *Ann. Reg.* 1942 68 The Council...advocated...adequate *youth services. 1962 *Guardian* 25 Sept. 6/4 A great impact would be felt if this country had a fully developed...youth service staffed by trained social workers and youth leaders. 1975 *Times* 2 Jan. 3/1 Libraries and the youth services will be among the main victims of cuts...in 1975. 1605 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. iii. iv. *Captains* 1220 'Tis better bear the *Youth-slips of a King...Then to fill all with Blood-floods of Debate. 1553 GRIMALDE *Cicero's Offices* II. xiii. (1556) 81 Publius Rutilius *youth-state [orig. *adolescentiam*]. 1873 BRENNAN *Witch of Nemi*, etc. 291 The seeds that in *youth-tide we sow. 1845 S. AUSTIN *Ranke's Hist. Ref.* I. 307 Their works, produced in the *youth-time of the human race. 1895 *Educat. Rev.* Sept. 190 Miss Cobbe regrets the banished grace of her mother's youthtime. 1981 *Hansard Commons* 15 Dec. 153 We are able to ask the Manpower Services Commission to ensure that this new *youth training scheme is in full operation by the autumn of 1983. 1983 *Times* 18 Jan. 1/4 The Government is putting a £100-a-head value on the work and training opportunities created by new jobs 'brokers' under the £1000m Youth Training Scheme, which starts in Sept. 1944 *Ann. Reg.* 1943 306 Trust funds...for the development of *youth work. 1964 'J. H. ROBERTS' 'Q' *Document* (1965) iv. 84 She...had pangs of conscience and decided to go into youth work. 1976 *Equals* Dec. 6/1 A *youth worker is to be appointed to escort young people to interviews...and generally support those making an uncertain start in work or training. 1597 GERARDE *Herbal* III. clv. 1366 Called in English Sunne deaw, *Ros Solis*, *Youth woort. 1598 R. CHESTER *Poems* (1914) 18 Youthwort faire Affections lover.

Hence **youthen** (ju:θ(ə)n) *v.* [-EN⁸], *trans.* to make youthful, impart a youthful appearance to; *intr.* to become youthful, acquire youthful qualities; 'youthless *a.*, having no youth, lacking the ordinary characteristics of youth (whence 'youthlessness); †'youthness, youth; 'youthship, with poss. adj., used as a title (cf. *worship*); †'youthsome *a.*, youthful in disposition, juvenile.

1882 *Even. Star* (Philad.) 28 Apr., No dress *youthens a girl so much as white. **1916** C. H. SORLEY *Lett.* (1919) 140 You will always be forty to strangers perhaps: and youthen as you get to know them. **1906** MANSFIELD *Girl & Gods* xiii, A *youthless, over-developed girl of fifteen. **1909** *Times Lit. Suppl.* 17 June 225/2 It is his own letters...his cold *youthlessness...that are his enemy. **c1475** *Partenay* 5221 þat he had don in his *youthnesse soo. **1906** A. & E. CASTLE 'If Youth but knew' ii, Heaven knows...what sweet hostess may not greet your *youthship tonight. **1661** PEPYS *Diary* 31 Oct., I found him drinking and very jolly and *youthsome.

youthful (ju:θful), *a.* [f. YOUTH + -FUL.]

1. Having or characterized by youth; that is still young.

1590 SPENSER *F.Q.* i. i. 14 The youthfull knight could not for ought be staide. **1590** SHAKS. *Com. Err.* v. i. 52 In vnlawfull loue, A sinne preuailing much in youthfull men. **1610** HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* i. 77 This Prince being youthfull, cast behinde him all care of the Empire. **1703** ROWE *Fair Penit.* iii. 32 Is she not more than Painting can express, Or youthful Poets fancy, when they love? **1832** W. IRVING *Alhambra* xxiii. 11. 37 A youthful princess, in the very sweetness and bloom of her years. **1875** JOWETT *Plato* (ed. 2) IV. 129 Here we have...an unmistakable attack made by the youthful Socrates.

2. *transf.* Of, pertaining to, characteristic of, or suitable for, youth or the young; juvenile.

1561 T. HOBY tr. *Castiglione's Courtier* ii. Xij, Alonso Carrillo...hauynge committed certain youthfull partes that were of no great importance, was...caried to prison. **1579** LYL Y *Euphues* (Arb.) iii. Idleness is...ye sole maintenance of youthful [later *edd.* youthly] affection. **1600** SHAKS. *A.Y.L.* ii. vii. 160 The leane and slipper'd Pantaloon, His youthfull hose well sau'd, a world too wide, For his shrunke shanke. **1632** MILTON *L'Allegro* 26 Jest and youthful Jollity. **1723** C. WALKER *Mem. Sally Salisb.* 10 Dress and Dancing were the sole Youthful Delights of our Sally. **1799** HAN. MORE *Fem. Educ.* (ed. 4) I. 173 That profusion of little...sentimental books with which the youthful library overflows. **1848** DICKENS *Dombey* xxxv, Mrs. Skewton...appropriately attired for that purpose in a very youthful costume. **1901** JACOBS *Light Freights* 228 An ancient eye watched with almost youthful impatience the slow warming of a mug of beer on the hob.

3. *fig.* That is in its early stage, early, new; also, having the freshness or vigour of youth.

1588 SHAKS. *Tit. A.* iii. i. 18 O earth! I will befriend thee more with raine That shall distill from these two ancient ruines, Then youthfull Aprill shall with all his showres In summers drought. **1613** PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* i. vii. 34 The larger stature...of men in those youthfull times and age of the world. **1692** BENTLEY *Boyle Lect.* i. 24 Perfect Felicity, such as after millions and millions of Ages is still youthfull and flourishing. **1777** POTTER *Æschylus, Agamemnon* 256 The youthfull bloom of rosy love. **1830** LVELL *Princ. Geol.* I. 147 There may be a connexion between an extraordinary profusion of monocotyledonous plants and a youthful condition of the world. **1877** *Pall Mall Gaz.* 17 Oct. 11/1 A youthful and astringent Tinta, an aromatic Malmsey of fabulous value.

4. Comb. **youthful-looking** adj.

1846 POE in *Godey's Mag.* July 15/1 The likeness conveys a good general idea of the man, but it is far too stout and youthful-looking for his appearance at present. **1954** W. FAULKNER *Fable* 8 A man not so young actually, but rather simply youthful-looking. **1977** *New Yorker* 19 Sept. 66/3 Mrs. McCabe is a youthful-looking woman.

Hence **youthfullity** (*nonce-wd.*), youthfulness; *pl.* youthful acts or follies.

1763 H. WALPOLE *Lett. to G. Montagu* 15 Aug., You see my impetuosity does not abate much; no, nor my youthfullity. **1764** — *Lett. to C. Churchill* 27 Mar., You do not suspect me, I hope, of any youthfullities.

youthfully (ju:θfuh), *adv.* [f. prec. + -LY².] In a youthful manner; with the freshness, vigour, or other characteristic of youth; like a young person; in a juvenile style.

1581 MULCASTER *Positions* xxxix. (1888) 209 Let them...defende that stoutly, which they haue begone youthfully. **1582** HESTER *Secr. Phiorav.* iii. ii. 6 The face beyng washed therwith, it maketh it very faire, and preserueth it youthfully. **1638** JUNIUS *Paint. Ancients* 195 If anything seemeth to be painted somewhat youthfully, it is esteemed to proceed out of a promising forwardnesse of our naturall inclinations. **1665** MANLEY *Grotius' Low C. Wars* 87 Youthfully impatient of all delay. **1808** HAN. MORE *Cælebs* ix, Rather youthfully drest. **1875** BROWNING *Aristoph.* *Apol.* 5289 Now that the cloud has broken, sky laughs blue, Earth blossoms youthfully!

youthfulness (ju:θfulnis). [f. as prec. + -NESS.] The fact or quality of being youthful; youthful condition or character.

1587 GOLDING *De Mornay* viii. 117 Should we rather graunt an euerlasting ignorance in man, than a kynd of youthfulness which hath learned things according to the growths thereof in ages? **1622** MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d' Alf.* ii. 139 He might either doe it out of youthfulness...or out of want. **1717** ADDISON tr. *Ovid's Met.* iii. Wks. 1726 I. 213 With all the purple youthfulness of face, That gently blushes in the wat'ry glass. **1840** DICKENS *Old C. Shop* i, Her very small and delicate frame imparted a peculiar youthfulness to her appearance. **1898** 'H. S. MERRIMAN' *Roden's Corner* xii. 124 A complexion almost dazzling in its youthfulness and brilliancy.

youthhead (ju:θhed). Chiefly *Sc.* Forms: 3 **yuðhede**, 4 **3oupehede**, -heed, **3outhhede**, **yhouthede**, **3uthed**, 4-5 **3owthed(e, -eid)**, **youthed(e, 4-6 3outhed(e, -eid, 5 yowthid, 3owthehede, youtheed, (yu)hed, 5-6 3owthheid, youtheid, yowthed, 6 3outhhed, 3outhhed, yowth(h)eid, 3euthheid, yutheid, 3owcht-heid, youtheid, 6, 8 3outhheid, arch. 8 youthhede, 9 -hed, 9 youth-head, youthhead** (*Sc.* -heid). [f. YOUTH + -HEAD.]

1. The state of youth, youngness: = YOUTH 1. **c1220** *Bestiary* 55 Wu he newed his 3uðhede, hu he cumeð ut of elde. **c1375** *Sc. Leg. Saints* ii. (Paulus) 862 Quhare hele beis ay but seknes, 3outhed but eld or wrechitnes. **1456** SIR G. HAYE *Law Arms* (S.T.S.) 3 Till enforme 3our 3outhede of mony syndry knaulagis. **1535** STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) I. 67 3outhheid is without resson or ryme. **c1560** A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) xvi. 50 Quha wald the rege of 3owtheid dant. **c1730** RAMSAY *Some of the Contents* vi, Quhen eild and spyte takis place of 3outhheids flame. **1819** SCOTT *Lett. to Cornet W. Scott* 3 Dec. in *Lockhart*, Mamma and the girls are quite well, and so is Master Charles, who is of course more magnificent, as being the only specimen of youthhead at home.

2. The time of youth, adolescence: = YOUTH 2. **a1300** *Cursor M.* 3592 Quen pai it [sc. eld] haue pai are vnfaun, And wald ha youthed þan again. **c1375** *Sc. Leg. Saints* xiv. (Lucas) 3 In his 3outhede leyrit he In antyoeche leche to be. **c1440** *Gesta Rom.* lxix. 317 (Harl. MS.) My lord god, þat hast y-kept me fro my 3owthede, kepe me now in þis hour. **1526** *Extr. Burgh Rec. Stirling* (1887) 29 He was within youtheid and of mynor aige. **1588** A. KING tr. *Canisius' Catech.* kiv, All the iust men, florising in thair 3outhheid. **1798** H. MACNEILL *Scot. Muse* xiv, Year after year in youtheid's prime, Wander he will, frae clime to clime. **1814** SOUTHEY *Roderick* xvii. 17 The children, free In youthhead's happy season from all cares. **1826** J. WILSON *Noctes Ambr.* Wks. 1856 I. 170 That never was Mr. North's character, even in lusty youth-head.

3. Youths collectively: = YOUTH 5.

1562 WINNET *Cert. Tractates* Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 23, I iugeit the teching of the 3outhed in vertew and science, nixt efter the auctoritie with the ministeris of iustice vnder it. **1567** *Privy Council Scot.* I. 535 Privatlie or publictlie to instruct the youtheid. **1848** *Tait's Mag.* XV. 123 They are...guilty of having committed the education of 'the youth-head' of the country to men whom they consider disqualified.

youthhood (ju:θhud). Now *rare* or *arch.* Forms: 1 **geogophad, geoguphad, 3 zuweðehode; 7-9 youthhood, youth-hood, youthhood.** [OE. *geoguphād*, f. *geogup* YOUTH + -*hād* -HOOD; cf. OS. *juguðhēd*, MHG. *jugentheit*. In mod.E. a new formation.]

1. = YOUTH 1, 2, 3.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 59 Swa þonne gelice bið þære menniscan geeynde þæs lichoman, þonne se geogop-had ærest blowep & fægost bið. **a1050** *Liber Scintill.* lxii. (1889) 189 Se þe estelice fram geoguphade [L. *pueritall*] fet þeow his þær-æfter hyne ongyt ofermodigne. **a1225** *Ancre R.* 342 Of al þin elde, of childhode, of zuweðehode.

1623 tr. *Favine's Theat. Hon.* i. vi. 49 In this age of youthhood, (commonly called Adolescence). **1637** GILLESPIE *Engl. Pop. Cerem.* ii. iii. 17 From his youthhood he was most observant of Ecclesiastical Ceremonies. **1680** in *Sprat Relat. Wicked Contriv.* ii. (1693) 64 It was a folly of Youthhood. **1724** WARBURTON *Tracts* (1789) 36 My Governess Philosophy, under whose Roof I spent my Youth-hood. **a1807** J. SKINNER *Amusem. Leis. Hours* (1809) 49 A gawsie girk, wi' phiz o' yellow, In youthhood's sappy bud. **1837** CARLYLE *Fr. Rev.* i. vii. x, With the down of youthhood still on his chin. **1887** SMILES *Life & Lab.* 143 All new ideas are young, and originate for the most part in youth-hood.

b. fig. Early stage or period: = YOUTH 2b. **1828** D'ISRAELI *Chas. I.* ii. xii. 343 The native of a land where, in the youthhood of the Republic, a nation's independence had broke forth. **1880** W. WATSON *Prince's Quest* 101 And night and day its crystal heart doth yearn To wed its youthhood with the sea's old age.

2. *concr.* Young people collectively: = YOUTH 5.

1690 J. MACKENZIE *Siege London-Derry* 48 The Youthhood by a strange impulse ran in one Body and shut the Gates. **1834** H. MILLER *Scenes & Leg.* xxviii. (1857) 412 The urchin who, in behalf of the outraged youthhood of the place, wore the white sheet on this interesting occasion.

youthify (ju:θifai), *v.* [f. YOUTH + -IFY.] *trans.* To make (a person) appear more youthful. Hence 'youthifying *ppl.* a.

1945 H. L. MENCKEN *Amer. Lang.* Suppl. I. 573 *Beauty-parlor*...was displaced by *beauty-shop*... The girls have produced a considerable vocabulary of elegant terms to designate their operations, e.g. to *youthify*. **1960** *Housewife* May 24/3 She...has both to 'youthify' and age actors. **1976** U. HOLDEN *String Horses* iii. 41 He wasn't such a bad looker...his summer tan was youthifying.

youthily, youthiness: see after YOUTHY.

youthless: see after YOUTH.

youthly (ju:θli), *a.* Now *rare*. [f. YOUTH + -LY¹. In OE. *geoguplic*; cf. OHG. *jugundlih*.]

1. Pertaining to or characteristic of youth: = YOUTHFUL 2.

c900 tr. *Beda's Hist.* v. vi. (1890) 398 Ic ne was min mod fulfremmedlice bewergende þam geoguplicum unalefednessum. **1922** E. R. EDDISON *Worm Ouroboros* xxvi. 323 Yet is Corinius...a valiant and puissant soldier...and this one in his youthly age. **1923** H. J. LASKI *Lett.* 23 Oct. in *Holmes-Laski Lett.* (1953) I. 553, I have read a new *Early Life of Burke* which is full of good things, especially in its

recovery of some youthly essays of his which have not appeared before.

a1536 WYATT *Love's Arraignm.* v, Always whetting my youthly desyer On the cruell whetstone tempered with fier. **1577** HANMER *Anc. Eccl. Hist.* viii. xii. 152 Two daughters, ...which passed all other in...youthly comelines. **1590** SPENSER *Muiop.* 431 And all his youthly forces idly spent. **1685** BURNET *Trav.* iii. (1687) 97 Pope Nicolas the IV. who had...a youthly and womanish face. **1817** SHELLEY *To Wm. Shelley* 14 To a blighting faith and a cause of crime They have bound them slaves in youthly prime.

2. Having youth or the characteristics of youth: = YOUTHFUL 1.

1566 PAINTER *Pal. Pleas.* I. Pref. 8 Faulting foolcs and youthly heades. **1596** SPENSER *F.Q.* iv. ii. 40 All that youthly rout. **a1629** HINDE *J. Bruen* xxxvii. (1641) 116 This Master Done being young and youthly. **1767** MICKLE *Concub.* i. xxxiii, While thus the Knight persewd the Shaddow Joy As youthly Spirits thoughtlesse led the Way. **1856** *Chamb. Jnl.* 8 Nov. 301 Although still something too youthly in figure, [he] had a frame well knit. **1925** T. DREISER *Amer. Tragedy* (1926) II. ii. xxviii. 347 All seeking a glimpse of the astonishingly youthly slayer.

So †'youthly *adv.* *Obs.* = YOUTHFULLY.

1541 PAYNELL *Conspir. Catal.* 1b, With men of sadnesse he lyued soberly, ...with youth youthly. **1581** A. HALL *Iliad* vii. 131 Paris...youthly thus doth answer him. **1582** STANYHURST *Æneis* i. 590 His heunly moother amended His bush with trimming, his sight was yoothlye bepurpled.

youthness to youthsom: see after YOUTH.

youthquake (ju:θkweik). *colloq.* [f. YOUTH after EARTHQUAKE.] The series of radical political and cultural upheavals occurring among students and young people in the 1960s.

1967 *Punch* 8 Nov. 708/2 Mary Quant opened her first Bazaar shop...simultaneously with the first tremors of the youthquake. **1970** R. NEVILLE *Play Power* 18 A unique feature of today's Youthquake—as *Vogue* once dubbed it—is its intense, spontaneous internationalism. **1976** *Sunday Mail* (Brisbane) 5 Sept. 19/3 He's built an empire based on the youthquake.

'youthy, *sb.* *Sc.* [f. YOUTH + -Y⁶.] A youthful person.

1795 MACNEILL *Scotl. Scaith* i. xviii, The mair they crack'd, the mair ilk youthy Pray'd for drink to wash news down.

youthy (ju:θi), *a.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* [f. YOUTH + -Y¹. 'A bad word' (J.).] Having or affecting the character of youth: usually connoting a youthful appearance or behaviour inconsistent with the person's years.

1712 STEELE *Spect.* No. 296 ¶5 Affecting a youthier Turn than is consistent with my Time of Day. **1819** SCOTT *Lett. to J. Richardson* 18 Jan. in *Lockhart*, A withered beauty who persists in looking youthy. **1841** CAROLINE FOX *Mem. Old Friends* (1882) I. 231 When at college, Sterling had venerated and defended Shelley as a moralist as well as a poet, 'being rather youthy'.

Hence 'youthily *adv.*, with the appearance of youth; 'youthiness, youthfulness, juvenility.

1821 *Blackw. Mag.* VIII. 517 Bringing back with me...a sort of youthiness that lasted sometimes more than a fortnight. **1839** GALT *Demon of Dest.* 6 His bright eyes shone youthily.

you-uns (ju:anz), *pron.* *U.S. dial.* Also *9* youns; 20- you uns. [f. YOU *pers. pron.* + uns, dial. var. ones (ONE *pron.*).] Used in place of YOU *pers. pron.*

1810 M. V. H. DWIGHT *Jnl.* 10 Nov. in *Journey to Ohio* (1912) 37 Youns is a word I have heard used several times, but what it means I don't know. **1869** [see *you-all's* s.v. YOU-ALL *pers. pron.*]. **1885** 'C. E. CRADDOCK' *Prophet Great Smokey Mountains* 7, I hev no call ter spen' words 'bout sech ez that, with a free-spoken man like you-uns. **1927** *Amer. Speech* II. 345 The paterfamilias questioned solicitously: Did you uns sleep good last night? **1934** W. FAULKNER *Dr. Martino* 341 Why did you uns have to stop here? **1941** *Amer. Mercury* June 660/2 'Proud to know ye!' Sam will beam. 'Why, you-uns be a-comin' in ter th' fire an' set a spell.'

yoward(s), in phr. *to youward(s)*: see -WARD(s).

yove, yoven, -yn, zove, etc., occas. **yoved**, obs. *pa. t.* and *ppl.* of GIVE.

c1300 *Harrow. Hell* (E.) 189 Y haue 3ouen my liif for þe. **13...** *Northern Passion* 130/1255 Ageyn oure law he hap 3oue red. **1390** GOWER *Conf.* II. 192 Unto thidolcs yowe vnde and granted. **1426** LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 24360 Whan Iuges, for offence Han yoved hir sentence. **c1460** *Wisdom* 945 in *Macro Plays* 66 My wyll was full yowe to syne. **1532** CROMWELL in *Merriman Life & Lett.* (1902) I. 344 According to your high commandment to me youyn yesterdaye. **1552** HULOET, Yoven or enclined to couetousenes or crueltye.

yow (jau), *int.* [Imitative.]

a. An exclamation of vague meaning.

c1440 *York Myst.* xxx. 295 Yow! þat schalke shuld not shamefully be shente.

(b) In mod. Austral. and N.Z. use = *wow* *int.* 2.

a1943 L. ESSON in *Penguin Bk. Austral. Ballads* (1964) 232 Not er shutter lifted Since they jugged 'im. Yowl **1978** P. GRACE *Mutuwhenua* vi. 35, I know. Matter of fact, some of those girls you went round with. Yowl! **1983** 'F. PARRISH' *Bait on Hook* viii. 111 The rain came... 'Yow,' said Cedric, and shot back into the pub.

b. An imitation of the yelp or bark of a dog, or the miaow of a cat; also as *sb.* and *v.* (reduplicated *yow-yow*).

1820 *Edin. Mag.* May 452 *To yow*, to caterwaul. **1837** BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. 1. *Spectre Tapp.*, Yowl!—yeough!

—yeough!—yow!—yowl! yelled a hapless sufferer from beneath the table. **1839** *Ibid.*, *Cynotaph*, Cupid, of 'Yow-Yow'-ing memory. **1866** SIR T. SEATON *From Cadet to Col.* I. iv. 103 A mob of pretty dogs, yow-yowing musically after a poor little beast.

yow (jau), *sb.* *Austral. slang.* [Origin unknown.] In phr. to *keep yow*, to keep a look-out, esp. in order to protect some criminal activity.

1942 E. LANGLEY *Pea Pickers* xix. 283 You keep yow, ... and whistle... if anyone comes along. **1965** G. MCINNES *Road to Gundagai* xii. 206 Molly kept a look out ('kept yow', as we used to say).

yow(e): see YOVE; obs. f. YEW, YOU.

yow(e), obs. (exc. *dial.*) ff. EWE *sb.*¹; also *attrib.*

1459-60 *Durham Acc. Rolls* (Surtees) 320 Pro emend. unius muri iuxta le yowecote. **1521-2** *Churchw. Acc.*, *Croscombe* (Somerset Rec. Soc.) 36 Ed. Wynsor geve unto the chorch ij. yows the prissee iij^s. iij^d. **1566** in *Reg. Mag. Sig. Scot.* 1584, 208/2 Pastura ðe yow-flokkis sive aliarum ovium quarumcunque de Pawinshill. **1903** 'T. COLLINS' *Such is Life* (1937) v. 249 He went out back, Cooper's creek way, with three thousand gunbar yowes. **1925** 'H. MCDIARMID' *Sangschaw* 2 Ae weet forenicht i' the yow-trummle I saw yon antrin thing. **1978** *Jnl. Lakeland Dial. Soc.* xl. 14 I' a field wid sum yows in there was a crab apple tree. **1979** L. DERWENT *Border Bairn* i. 15 Her brother, the shepherd... accepted me more or less as one of his flock. A yowe or a glimmer, a stirk or a stot.

yowcke, **yowg**, obs. forms of YOKE.

yowden-drift, variant of EWDEN-DRIFT, SNOW driven by the wind.

1815 G. BEATTIE *John O' Arnha'* (1826) 58 Choakin' thick as yowden drift.

yowdin, **3owdin**, obs. *Sc. pa. pple.* of YIELD *v.*: see YOLDEN.

yowe, **yower**, **yowese**, obs. ff. JEWEL, EWER², YOUR, YURE, USE.

yowf (jau), *sb.* *Sc.* Also **yowff**, **yowf** (f. [Echoic.] A smart swingeing blow. Hence **yowf** *v. trans.*, to strike with such a blow.

1711 RAMSAY *On Maggy Johnston* vii. Death wi' his rung rax'd her a yowff. **c1738** J. SKINNER *Christmas Ba'ing* ii. They yowff'd the ba' frae dyke to dyke. **1808** JAMIESON, *Yowff*, *Yowff*, a swinging blow, Loth.

yowght, obs. *Sc.* form of YOUTH.

yowie¹. *Sc.* [f. *yow*, EWE *sb.*¹ + *-ie*, *-y*⁶.] A little ewe.

1783 BURNS *Death & Dying Wds. Poor Mailie* ix. An' niest my yowie, silly thing, Gude keep thee frae a tether string!

yowie² (jau), *Austral.* [Origin unknown.] A large, hairy, man-like creature supposedly inhabiting south-eastern Australia.

1976 *Australasian Express* 17 Sept. 10/4 Since 1795 there have been over 3,000 reported sightings of the Snowy Mountains version of the abominable Snowman nicknamed the Yowie. **1980** *Courier-Mail* (Brisbane) 4 Jan. 1/8 The 'yowie', a large hairy animal similar to the Himalayan yeti and American Big Foot, has existed in Aboriginal folklore for thousands of years. **1984** *Truckin' Life* (Austral.) Feb. 80/1 'In search of a Yowie.' That was how Theiss Toyota promoted its media function for the release of its new HiLux [*sc. type of van*]... last year.

yowith, obs. form of YOUTH.

yowl (jau), *sb.* Also 5-6 **3owle**, 7 **youle**, 9 **yowl**. [f. next.] An act of yowling; a prolonged loud cry, now esp. of a dog or cat.

c1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 53 He gret grylsy grym, and gaif a gret 3owle. **1500-20** DUNBAR *Poems* xxi. 69 Pitt obscure, Quhair 3oulis ar hard with horreble stevin. **1622** MABBE tr. *Aleman's Guzman d' Alf.* i. 36 He brake forth into such a Youle of laughing, that he was ready to burst. **1820** HOGG *Tales & Sk.*, *Sheph. Cal.* i. A dog...gae two or three melancholy yowls. **a1877** JAS. BALLANTINE in *Mod. Scott. Poets* Ser. III. (1881) 31 At your feet wi' kindly yowl, Whurrs your wee catty. **1917** P. MACGILL *Gt. Push* i. The cats raise their primordial, instinctive yowl.

yowl (jau), *v.* Forms: 3 **3owle**, **3uhele**, **3ule**, 4-5 (6 *Sc.*) **3oule**, **3owle**, 5-6 **yowle**, 5-7 **youle**, 5, 7, 9 **yowl**, 7, 9 **yowl**, 9 **yowl**, 8- **yowl**. [ME. **3owle**, **3owle**, **3uhele**, **3ule**. Cf. ME. **3aule**, YAWL *v.*¹ and GOWL (ON. *gaula*).]

1. a. *intr.* To cry out loudly from pain, grief, or distress; also said of the howling of dogs and various wild animals, the 'wauling' of cats, and (formerly) of the hooting of owls, the cooing of doves.

a1225, **a1250** [see YOWLING *vbl. sb.*]. **c1375** *Sc. Leg. Saints* iv. (*Jacobus*) 102 he fendis furth can fare... 3ouland and cryand in pe ayre. **c1380** WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* I. 200 Whanne þei [sc. wolves] bigynen to 3oule, þei turnen her snowte to hevене ward. **c1410** *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) 66/60 A bolde hounde shulde neuer pleyne nor yowle, but if he were oute of þe reghtes. **1483** *Cath. Angl.* 427/2 To 3owle, *vlulare*. **1513** DOUGLAS *Æneis* iv. viii. 112 The nycht oule... was hard 3owle With langsum voce. **1535** COVERDALE *Ps.* lviii. [lix.] 14 Let them go to & fro, & runne aboute the cite, youlinge like dogges. **1549** *Compl. Scot.* vi. 39 The turtill began for to greit, quhen the cuschet 3oulit. **1674** RAY *N.C. Words* 22 To Greet and Yowl, *Cumberland*, to weep and cry. **1728** RAMSAY *Robt., Richy, & Sandy* 24 His dog its lane sat yowling on a brae. **1820** *Marmaiden of Clyde* vii. in *Edin. Mag.* VI. 422 An' the wilcat yowl't through its dowie

vowts. **1848** THACKERAY *Dr. Birch* (1849) 18 She is always croaking, scolding, bullying—yowling at the housemaids, snarling at Miss Raby [etc.]. **1862** SALA *Seven Sons* I. vii. 161 The Blenheim spaniel... yowled fractiously. **1866** BARING-GOULD *Broom-Squire* i. [The child] yowlin' enough to tear a fellow's nerves to pieces.

transf. **1513** DOUGLAS *Æneis* II. viii. 84 The whole howsis 3owlit and resoundit For womenting of ladyis and women.

† b. Applied to loud singing or shouting. *Obs.*

1509 BARCLAY *Shyp of Folys* (1874) I. 297 Yowlynge with theyr folysshe songe and cry. **c1630** *Song* ii. in *De Foe Mem. Cavalier* (1840) Notes 323 Yoffing, crying, youlling, yelling, Lyk ane citie swyne summonds out with an horne.

2. *trans.* To express by yowling; to utter with a yowl.

1842 J. WILSON *Chr. North* I. i. 13 The chained mastiff in the yard yowls his admiration. **1889** RUSKIN *Præterita* III. iv. 175 However fast the clergyman may gabble, or the choir-boys yowl, their psalms.

Hence **yowler**, one who or that which yowls (in quot. 1935 applied to a crooner).

1935 WODEHOUSE *Blandings Castle* v. 120 He's a yowler, and girls always fall for yowlers. They have a glamour. **1966** 'L. LANE' *ABZ of Scouse* 120 *Yowler*, a cat. **1979** *Tucson (Arizona) Citizen* 20 Sept. 10A/3 In every airport I stand, sip, sleep, weep, wail and yowl in, I find an equal number of other standers, sippers, sleepers, weepers, wailers and yowlers.

yowle, obs. form of YULE.

'yowley. *north. dial.* [? f. YOWLRING + *-ey*, *-y*⁶.] A yellow-hammer.

1797 BEWICK *Brit. Birds* I. 143 Yellow Bunting. Yellow Hammer, or Yellow Yowley. **1862** *Tyneside Songs* (1863) 56 They've a bunch ov hair upon their jaws Just like a yowley's nest.

yowling (jau), *vbl. sb.* [f. YOWL *v.* + *-ING*¹.] The action of the verb YOWL; esp. the uttering of a prolonged wailing cry.

a1225 *Juliana* 57 3e, quod elusius, haldest tu zetten up o þi 3uhelunge? **a1250** *Owl & Night*. 40 Me luste bet speten þane singe Of pine fule 3owelinge [*Jesus MS.* howelynge]. *Ibid.* 1643 Mid 3ulinge & mid igrede. **1382** WYCLIF *Gen.* xxvii. 38 With a greet 3owlyng [**1388** jelylyng; *Wycl. ejulat*] he wepte. **c1440** *Alphabet of Tales* 179 He vanysshid away with grete crying & yowlyng. **1528** LYNDESAY *Dreme* 165 3owtyng and 3owlyng we hard, with mony 3ell. **1632** LITHGOW *Trav.* x. 466 The water...strangled and swallowed vp my breath from youling and groaning. **1710** *Acc. Last Distemper of Tom Whigg* i. 19 He...set all the Dogs in the Town a yowling. **1844** THACKERAY *White Squall* vi. Then the wind set up a howling. And the poodle dog a yowling. **1894** W. CLARK RUSSELL *Good Ship 'Mohock'* vii. The hoarse yowling of pulling and dragging sailors.

So **'yowling ppl. a.**, that yowls.

c1590 W. FOWLER *Wks.* (S.T.S.) I. 193/11 All thir cold nights... I wishe for day, ... disturb'd with youling hounds. **1790** ALEX. WILSON *Callamphitres Elegy* Poet. Wks. (1846) 104 Wi' yowling clinch auld Jennock ran. **1843** THACKERAY *Men's Wives, Mr. & Mrs. Berry* ii. Her little yowling black-muzzled darling of a Fido. **1899** BARING-GOULD *Furze Bloom* iii. 33 Think what it 'ud be wi' two yowlin' females under one roof!

yowlk, obs. form of YOLK.

yowling. *dial.* Also 6 **yowlo-**, **yowlw-**, 6-7 **yowle-**, 9 **youlring**, **yo(ur)in**, **yowring**. See also YOLDRING, YORLIN(G. [f. *yowlo(w)*, YELLOW *a.* + RING *sb.*] A yellow-hammer.

1544 [see YELLOW-HAM]. **1591** *Shuttleworths' Acc.* (Chetham Soc.) 70 Larkes and yowlorings. **1595** *Ibid.* 104 Sixtine sparrows and yowlwringes. **1828** *Craven Gloss.*, *Yellow-yowring*, a yellow hammer.

yowndrift, var. EWDEN-DRIFT, SNOW driven by the wind.

1834 H. MILLER *Scenes & Leg.* xviii. (1850) 265 I'll be lost, I'm feared, in the yowndrift.

yownge, **yowp**, **yowr(e)**, obs. forms of YOUNG, YOUP, YOUR, YURE.

yowpindail: see YOKINDALE.

yowt (jaut), *sb.* Chiefly *Sc.* Forms: 6 **3ewt**, **3out(t)**, 9 **yout(t)**, **yowte**, 8- **yowt**. [f. next.] A yell, yelp.

1552 LYNDESAY *Monarchie* 6002 With mony 3amer, 3ewt, and 3ell. **1567** *Satir. Poems Reform.* iii. 189 Cerberus... Sall gar hir cry, with mony 3out and 3ell. **c1590** BURREL *Pass. Pilgr.* i. xxxvii. in Jas. Watson *Coll. Scots Poems* (1709) II. 33 And vther sum with 3outs and zells, Maist cairfully did cry. **1806** R. JAMIESON *Pop. Ballads* I. 233 The sights to see, the yowts to hear That stound upon mine ear.

yowt (jaut), *v.* Chiefly *Sc.* Forms: 5 **3owt**, 6, 9 **yout**, 9 **yowt**. [Cf. Flem. *juyten* 'iubilare & vociferari & ouare' (Kilian). Verbs of similar meaning and differing in form by the initial consonant are *hout* (HOOT), *ROUT* *vbs.*² and ³, *SHOUT*.] *intr.* To yell, yelp, howl, bellow.

c1450 HOLLAND *Howlat* 102 To 3owt and to 3owle, As ane horrible Owle. **1528** [see YOWLING *vbl. sb.*]. **1808** JAMIESON *s.v.*, A cow is said to yout, when she makes a noise. **1819** W. TENNANT *Papistry Storm'd* (1827) 38 Yelplin' and youtin' in his face. **1848** A. B. EVANS *Leicestersh. Wds.* s.v. *Yowt*, I yeard the dogs yowting.

yowthe, **yowuthe**, obs. ff. YOUTH.

yowx, **yox(e)** (3oxe), obs. or dial. ff. YEX.

yoy(e), **3oye**: see JOY, YEA.

yoye, **yoylle**, **yoyne**, **yoyntor**, **yoyste**, obs. ff. OIL *sb.*¹, YULE, JOIN, JOINTURE, JOIST *sb.*¹

1557 in *Archæologia* I. 13 For wast of the paschall, and for holye yoyle 5s. 10d. **1585** *Knareb. Wills* (Surtees) I. 149 In full recompence of her thirde or yoyntor. **1536** *MS. Rawl. D.* 780 lf. 68 The flore with plates yoystes and other nedfull for the same.

yo-yo (jəʊjəʊ), *sb.* [Origin uncertain, but prob. from one of the Philippines languages.]

1. Also **Yo-Yo**. A proprietary name for a toy in the form of two conjoined cones or discs with a deep groove between them in which a string is attached and wound, its free end being held so that the toy can be made to fall under its own weight and rise again by its momentum.

1915 *Philippine Craftsman* Dec. 363 Sumpit (blowgun), pana (arrow), and yo-yo, however, are names very generally used throughout the islands. *Ibid.* 364 There is evidently some commercial possibility in Filipino toys, for a patent was recently secured upon the yo-yo by a firm in the United States. **1932** *Trade Marks Jnl.* 2 Mar. 279/2 *Yo Yo*... All good included in Class 49 [*i.e.* toys and games equipment]. Henry Clement Conlin, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada; merchant. **1932** *Evening Standard* 1 June 17/4 He asked me to hold his hand until he became proficient, and I experienced a queer thrill as I brought his hand slowly up and down to make the Yo-Yo respond to the twitch of the string. **1932** AUDEN in *Rev. Eng. Stud.* (1978) Aug. 281 In the year of my youth when yoyos came in The carriage was sunny and the Clyde was bright. **1933** D. L. SAYERS *Murder must Advertise* vi. 99 Ginger brought a Yo-Yo to the office with him and broke the window in the boys' room practising 'Round the World' in his lunch-hour. **1958** *Observer* 12 Oct. 15/7 The yo-yo craze of the thirties. **1972** *Daily Tel.* 20 Dec. 14 Overall trading was at a low ebb and bored dealers spent a very quiet afternoon in yo-yo competitions and other pre-Christmas pastimes. **1984** *New Yorker* 23 July 76/2 They've got the right string but the wrong yo-yo.

b. The pastime of playing with a yo-yo.

1932 *Daily Express* 2 July 3/3 Some boys playing yo-yo attracted the Queen's attention. **1932** *Morning Post* 15 July 10/5 Games similar to Yo-Yo have been played in almost every age.

2. *fig.* or in *fig.* context. a. Something or someone going continually up and down, or to and fro; also, such a motion or fluctuation. Freq. used in comparative phrases referring to emotions or spirits rising and falling like a yo-yo.

1958 *Listener* 16 Oct. 623/2 What is it like to be a human yo-yo, driving all day on a ten-minute bus route. **1963** L. DEIGHTON *Horse under Water* xi. 47 Singleton was jumping in and out of the water like a yo-yo. **1973** C. BONINGTON *Next Horizon* xii. 168 With a bit of luck the constant yo-yo between Scheidegg and the snow cave would be over. **1975** *Times Lit. Suppl.* 12 Dec. 1496/4 Confronted by these dramatic developments, transport policy ceased to be the political yo-yo it had previously been. **1976** J. GRENFELL *Joyce Grenfell requests Pleasure* xvi. 230 Our spirits went up and down like yo-yos. **1980** *Times* 13 Sept. 10/5 Alarming yo-yos in the quality of food and service. **1981** *Daily Tel.* 19 Oct. 25/4 (*heading*) Interest rates all a big yo-yo. **1984** S. TOWNSEND *Growing Pains A. Mole* 23 Your emotions are up and down like a yo-yo.

b. A stupid person, a fool. *U.S. slang.*

1970 *New Yorker* 28 Nov. 40 He would leer, and categorize them in a loud, mocking voice. ('Weirdo' was one of his favourite appellations; also 'Freak', 'Yo-Yo', and 'creep'.) **1975** *Ibid.* 20 Jan. 29/1 Some yo-yo of a technician there pulls the control rods out of the core to polish them with Rally wax. **1978** V. BUGLIOSI *Till Death us Do Part* xi. 325 I've got enough problems without some punk yo-yo threatening me.

3. *attrib.* Marked by a continual up-and-down or to-and-fro motion; continually passing from and into a condition. Also *fig.*

1932 *Amer. Speech* VII. 272 *Yo-yo driller*, a cable-tool driller. **1960** *Spectator* 30 Sept. 501 It isn't the industry's fault that we have a yo-yo economy. **1963** T. PYNCHON *V.* i. 29 Though they only thought about one another at random, though her yo-yo hand was usually busy at other things, now and then would come the invisible, umbilical tug. **1977** *Lancet* 15 Oct. 792/1 There was no improvement in patients with severe on-off disabilities with freezing and rapid oscillations ('yo-yo' effect). **1979** *Globe & Mail* (Toronto) 22 Jan. 4/3, I want this job because all the jobs I've had have been yo-yo jobs, I've been laid off my job four times in the last six years.

'yo-yo, *v.* [f. prec. *sb.*] 1. *intr.* To play with a yo-yo.

1932 *Daily Express* 30 June 12/6 (*heading*) Do you yo-yo? **1973** *N. Y. Times* 14 Apr. 18/2 The idea is to go where the kids are and to teach them how to yo-yo.

2. *fig.* To move up and down, or between one point and another; to fluctuate.

1967 *Punch* 12 Apr. 514 The hard facts underlying our economic health—as opposed to the headlines and Treasury press releases—just don't yo-yo about like this. **1973** C. BONINGTON *Next Horizon* xi. 166 In those early stages of the climb we yo-yo'd back and forth between Kleine Scheidegg and the Rock Band. **1976** *Time* 20 Dec. 23/2 He has yo-yoed between 210 and 296 lbs., now carries a bulky 263. **1978** *Sunday Times* 21 May 53/1 City rates of interest have yo-yoed.

Hence **'yo-yoing** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*; also **'yo-yoer**, **'yo-yoist**, one who plays or performs with yo-yos.

1933 *Spectator* 6 Jan. 23/2 Surely the unkind girl of figure fifty-eight is the precursor of the modern yoyoist. **1947** *Sat. Even. Post* 10 May 12 His Casper Milquetoast model for timid yo-yoists was lighter, and, he added, prettier. **1963** T. PYNCHON *V.* i 30 As it turned out, the New Year's party was to end all yo-yoing. **1967** F. CONROY *Stop-Time* viii. 114

The greatest pleasure in yo-yoing was an abstract pleasure — watching the dramatization of simple physical laws. **1973** *N. Y. Times* 14 Apr. 18/2 When you're a professional yo-yoer, how can you take anything very seriously? **1976** *Alyn & Deeside Observer* 10 Dec. 34/5 It is more volatile than the yo-yoing pound. **1980** *Illustr. London News* Mar. 56/1 The uncomfortable and costly yo-yoing of temperature experienced in light-weight buildings with large areas of window.

† **ypaid**, **ypay(e)d** [Y- 4, PAY *v.*], paid, pleased. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1842 þat folc was þo of þis lond ypaid wel ynou. **1393** LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. IV. 393 Be þe pecunie y-paid þauh parties chide.

ypaised, **yparroked**, ME. pa. pples. of PEASE *v.*, PARROCK *v.*

ypass *v.* [Y- 3 c], to pass.

13.. *K. Alis.* 5606 (Laud MS.) A northhalf ne mowen 3æc nouȝth ypassæ For deserte & wilderness.

ypas(s)ed, **ypast**, ME. pa. pple. of PASS *v.*

13.. *K. Alis.* 5460 (Laud MS.) Nov it is ypassed hy ne don þerof. **1422** YONGE tr. *Secr.* 157 Who-so nothyng the thynkyth of thyngis y-passet. **1432-50** tr. *Higden* (Rolls) III. 195, vij. year ypaste. *Ibid.* 335 A litelle season y-passede.

ypaved, -yd, paved.

c 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 194 Y-paued wiþ peynt til. **1426** LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 331 For al the weyes & paament Wer ypayyd all off gold.

ypavylounded, ME. pa. pple. of PAVILION *v.*

† **ypaynt(ed)**, **ypeint**, **ypeynt(ed)**, ME. pa. pples. of PAINT *v.*¹

c 1290 ypeint, **13..** y-paynted [see PAINT *v.*¹ 1]. **c 1440** *Gesta Rom.* 8 þis ymage that is thus y-paynt.

y-pekyd: see YPIKED.

ypend, obs. pa. pple. of PEN *v.*¹

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. i. 429 Though yet he seem in feeble flesh ypend.

† **ypent**, *pa. pple.* Obs. [Y- 4.] = PENT *pa. pple.* and *ppl. a.*

c 1395 *Plowman's T.* 22 He nas nat alway in cloystre y-pent. *Ibid.* 939 Proude pendaunts at hir ars y-pent. **1579**, **1728** [see PENT *pa. pple.* 1]. **1642** H. MORE *Song of Soul* III. i. xxv, Those powers be all or more or lesse ypent In this grosse life. **1839** KINGSLEY *Poems, In Illum. Missal* 7 My love.. Have I within this seely book y-pent.

† **yperced**, -sed [Y- 4], ME. pa. pple. of PIERCE.

yperished, **yperis(s)ed**, etc., ME. pa. pple. of PERISH *v.*

1297 [see PERISH *v.* 2]. **1377** LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xviii. 189 Were þe myddel of myn honde ymaymed or ypersshed.

yperite (i:'pərit). [ad. F. *ypérite*, f. *Ypres*, name of the town in Belgium where the gas was first used, in 1917: see -ITE¹.] = *mustard gas* s.v. MUSTARD *sb.* 4 c.

1919 *Chem. Abstracts* XIII. 3063 (*heading*) Yperite and poisonous gases. **1940** *Times* 17 Aug. 4/4 Dr. Gerard C. Savoy, of Lausanne, has produced a preparation which is the most efficient known antidote to yperite (mustard gas). *Ibid.*, Fifty per cent. of the yperite present in the wound is destroyed after one hour. **1979** *Microbiology* XLVIII. 246 Nitrous yperite and other alkylating substances with a radiomimetic effect can inhibit cell division in *Escherichia coli* B.

ypeyred [PAIR *v.*²], impaired.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 225 What is amended and apeyred [*MS.* γ ypeyred].

ypicking, *pr. pple.* [Y- 3 c], picking.

1656 *Choyce Drollery* 74 And as she romed here, and there, Y-picking of the bloomed briar.

ypi3t(e), **ypight**, **ypy3t**, **ypyght**, *pa. pple.*, pitched.

c 1435, **1489**, **1590** [see PITCH *v.*¹ A. 3 a]. **1768** DOWNMAN *Land of Muses* xxii, A wond'rous tow'r, Which hence thou seest high in the air y-pight.

ypiked [PICK *v.*¹], picked.

c 1407 LYDG. *Reson & Sens.* 5422 Hys firste bowe.. Is wrought.. of ivory, Y-piked out ful craftyly. **c 1430** *Two Cookery-bks.* 41 Pigis fete clene y-pekyd.

ypin [PINE *v.*], put to suffering or torment. **12..** in *Rel. Ant.* I. 282 Jhesu Crist.. y-boren of þen mayden Marie, y-pined under Ponce Pilate. **1340** *Ayenb.* 213 Hi ssolle by more y-pined.. ine þe øpre wordle.

† **ypir**. Obs. [Flem. *Yper.*] app. Cloth of Ypres. **1517** *Caldwell Papers* (Maitland Club) I. 57 Tua capis, ane of scarlet and ane uthor of ypir.

† **ypitched**, obs. pa. pple. of PITCH *v.*

1581 A. HALL *Iliad* IV. 71 His campe ypitched By Asope flood.

ypitte, ME. pa. pple. of PUT *v.*¹

yplaid, played.

13.. *K. Alis.* 7734 (Linc. Inn MS.) So longe þey hadde þus yplaid.

ypleite, **yplight** [PLIGHT *v.*²], pleaded.

1421 HOCCEVE *Min. Poems* xxii. 928 And from hire heed shee hath hir veil y-plight. **c 1430** *Pol. Rel. & L. Poems* (1903) 209 þi gowne y-pleite.

yplet [PLEAT *v.*], plaited.

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* XII. ii. 126 Hys.. hayr,.. Yplet ilk nycht on the warm broch of steill.

ypleynted, ME. pa. pple. of PLAINT *v.*

yplizt, -ight, -y3t, -yght, ME. pa. pple. of PLIGHT *v.*¹

yplonged, plunged.

c 1407 [see PLUNGE *v.* 2]. **a 1565** SIR T. CHALLONER *Boeth.* I. ii. in *Q. Eliz. Engl.* (1899) 151 The mynde yplonged in worldly thoughte.

ypocrafet, **ypocras**, **ypocr(e)it**, -cryte, -crisy, -crisy: see APOCRYPHATE, HIPPOCRAS, HYPOCRITE, HYPOCRISY.

ypodeakon, var. *hypodeacon* (see HYPO- II).

ypointing, in *star-ypointing*: see STAR *sb.*¹ 20 and Y- 3 c.

ypoquistid, -is, var. HYPOCISTIS.

a 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 63 Medicynez restrictyuez bene pise;.. ypoquistid, gallez cupule.

† **yporchaced**, **ypurchasede** [Y- 4], purchased.

1340 *Ayenb.* 35 þet hire uaderes.. habbeþ yporchaced be gaelinge. **c 1425** y-purchasede [see PURCHASE *v.* 4 b].

yportreyd, ME. pa. pple. of PORTRAY *v.*

yporveide, -veyid, purveyed.

13.. *R. Gloucester's Chron.* (Rolls) 7473 þe normans were þo wel porueid [*MS.* C. wel yporueide].

yposarca, obs. form of HYPOSARCA.

ypotam(e), -tamos, etc., obs. ff. HIPPOPOTAMUS.

† **ypothecar**, -gar. ? obs. Sc. ff. APOTHECARY.

1509 *Burgh Rec. Edin.* (1869) I. 125 Our familiar and daily seruitour Maister Stephane, ypothegar. **1574** *Reg. Privy Council Scot.* Ser. I. II. 377 [Thomas Davidson] ypothecar [and burgess of Edinburgh].

† **ypoudred**, -ide, **ypoutered** [Y- 4, POWDER *v.*¹], powdered, sprinkled.

c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1327 þe wyndowes wern y-mad of iaspere.. Ypoudred wyþ perree of polastre. **1395** *E.E. Wills* (1882) 4 A bed of tapicers werk.. ypoutered with chapes and scochons. **c 1403** CLANVOWE *Cuckow & Night.* 63 The ground was grene, y-poudred with daisy.

ypowred, poured.

a 1565 SIR T. CHALLONER *Boeth.* II. ii. in *Q. Eliz. Engl.* (1899) 160 Of Goodes somoche ypowred owte, With never stayed hande.

ypoynet, ME. pa. pple. of POIN *v.*

† **ypoynnt**, = *in point*: see POINT *sb.*¹ D. 4 f.

a 1340 HAMPOLE *Psalter* ix. 1 When he was in þe se ypoynnt to perisch.

† **ypoynnt** [Y- 4], ME. pa. pple. of POINT *v.*¹

ypraised, **ypraysed**, **ypreised**, praised.

c 1330 y-praised [see PRAISE *v.* 2]. **1422** YONGE tr. *Secr.* 172 He haue no cure that he be y-praysid ne that otheris be blamyd.

yprast, **ypreost**, **ypressede**, ME. pa. pples. of PRESS *v.*¹

13.. *K. Alis.* 2342 (Linc. Inn MS.) His hors he gaf to orst, þat was to grounde ypreost.

ypreked, **ypricked**, **yprykked**, pricked.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl.* B. xx. 85 Frenesyas, & foule yueles.. Hadde yprykked and prayed polles of peple. **1387** TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 371 He were priked [*MS.* γ ypreked] wiþ spores. **1748** THOMSON *Cast. Indol.* I. lxxvii, In soul ypricked deep.

ypre(o)ved, **yproved**, **yprowed**, etc., proved.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 3958 Bote he were in armes wel yproued [*v.rr.* yprowed, ypreuede, ypreuyd]. **1422** YONGE tr. *Secr.* 134 They haue vertue and Streynth of consaill y-provide. **1522** *World & Child* A v, I am a pryne, peryllous yprovyde.

Ypresian (i:'presian), *a. Geol.* [ad. F. *ypresien* (A. H. Dumont 1850, in *Bull. de l'Acad. des Sci.*, etc., *de Bruxelles* XVI. 11. 368), f. as YPERITE: see -IAN.] Of, pertaining to, or designating the lowest stage of the Eocene in western Europe, lying above the Landenian. Also *absol.*

[**1852** *Q. Jnrl. Geol. Soc.* VIII. 323 The group of tertiary strata which we meet with next in the descending order in Belgium (comprising the 'Systèmes Laekien, Bruxellien et Ypresien' of M. Dumont) corresponds most nearly.. in age with the Barton, Bagshot, and Bracklesham beds.] **1880** J. D. DANA *Man. Geol.* (ed. 3) III. 512 London Clay; Lower Ypresian of Belgium. **1969** BENNISON & WRIGHT *Geol. Hist. Brit. Isles* xv. 339 The Ypresian cycle commenced with the basement bed of the London clay. **1977** A. HALLAM *Planet Earth* 227 The most commonly accepted stages [of the Eocene] include (from oldest to youngest) the Ypresian, Lutetian and Bartonian.

† **yprimisined**, **yprimsened** [Y- 4], pa. pple. of PRIME-SIGN.

ypriused, prisoned.

a 1450 *Knt. de la Tour* lxxxviii, Any pore prisonere that was yprisoned for ani xxxsite of wronge.

ypriued, **ypryved**, ME. pa. pple. of PRIVE *v.*

yprocured, **yprokered**, procured.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 215 þe emperesse Eudoxia had i-procured [*MS.* β y-prokered] þe out puttynge of Iohn.

yprofred [PROFFER *v.*], offered.

1340-70 *Alex. & Dind.* 187 As sone as his king say þat sonde him yprofred.

ypsiform (ip'silfɔ:m), *a.* [f. YPSILON + -(i) FORM.] Shaped like the Greek letter upsilon; Y-shaped. Cf. HYPISLOID.

1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XX. 417/1 The T-shaped gradually passes into the 'ypsiform' figure.

upsilon. *rare.* [So med.L., OF., etc.] = UPSILON.

1567 SALESBURY in Ellis *E.E. Pronunc.* 763 *marg.*, The englishe Scolers tongues be marueilously tormented in soundyng of the Greke *ypsilon* and yet attain not to the right sound.

† **ypullished** [Y- 4], polished.

c 1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 63 Bryght y-pullished youre table knyve.

ypult [Y- 4, PILT, PULT *v.*], thrust.

1297 [see PILT *v.* 1 a]. **1393** LANGL. *P. Pl.* C. XII. 208 Ypult out of grace.

ypunched, **ypunsed**, **ypunyss(h)ed**, punished.

1340 [see PUNISH *v.* B. 1 b]. **1340-70** *Alex. & Dind.* 395 Wherefore we miht aftur Ben y-punched in paine. **1426** LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 2404 They..wer..ypunysshed by that swerd.

yput(te), ME. pa. pple. of PUT *v.*¹

1377 [see PUT *v.*¹ B. 27]. ? **1466** *Stonor Papers* (Camden) I. 77 Y haue.. y-putte yn iij seuryteys.

ypuysned, poisoned.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 287 I-poysoned [*MS.* γ ypuysned] by þe venym of his wyf.

ypy3t, **ypynned**: see YPI3T(E), PINNED *a.*

† **yquartred** [Y- 4], quartered.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 317 His bowels i-brent and y-quartred.

yquaysched, ME. pa. pple. of QUASH *v.*

Yquem (i:'kɛm). The name of Château d'Yquem, a vineyard in the Gironde, France, used *absol.* and (*rarely*) *attrib.* to denote a variety of fine, rich Sauternes wine produced and bottled there.

1869 A. TROLLOFE *Phineas Finn*. I. viii. 29 They give you a capital little dinner at Moroni's, and they've the best Chateau Yquem in London. **1902** BELLOC *Path to Rome* 396 He had.. Yquem with his fish, the best Chambertin during the dinner. **1927** C. CONNOLLY *Let.* 11 Feb. in *Romantic Friendship* (1975) 252, I drank.. Yquem at 300 francs the bottle. **1959** *Sunday Times* 1 Nov. 32/5, I find Yquem too sweet. **1982** D. PEPPERCORN *Bordeaux* xi. 315 A good vintage of Yquem is the quintessence of Sauternes.

yqueme, var. IQUEME *v.*

yquenct, **yqueynte**, ME. pa. pple. of QUENCH *v.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 205 Zenne of lecherie þet is yquenct mid uorbering of mete. **c 1440** *Pallad. on Husb.* ix. 111 A light.. Yf hit be founde yqueynte, ther is a veyne Of water nygh.

yquit, **yquyt(te)**, ME. pa. pple. of QUIT *v.*

yr, obs. f. HER, *poss. pron.*, 3rd sing. fem., IRE; graphic var. *þr*, THEIR.

† **yrad** [Y- 4, REDE *v.*¹], counselled.

1297 [see REDE *v.*¹ 6 g]. **c 1380** *Sir Ferumb.* 4083 Gweloun..hap y-rad the at oure deuyas, As it wil best auayle.

yrad(e), **yredde** [READ *v.*], read.

c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 5789 þe bysschop..þat had..ouer y-rad Alle ys orysouns.

yraft, ME. pa. pple. of REAVE *v.*¹

c 1380 *Sir Ferumb.* 1934 þe other relyqes ryche wyche þov him hast y-raft.

† **yra3te**, **yraþt**, obs. pa. pples. of REACH *v.*¹, WRAP *v.*

yrare [cf. Y- 3 b], pseudo-arch. f. RARE *a.*¹

1742 SHENSTONE *Schoolmistr.* xvii, With sugar'd Cates she doth them greet, And Gingerbread y-rare.

yrast ('ræst), *a. Nucl. Physics.* [See quot. 1967.] Pertaining to or designating any nuclear energy level that is the lowest for some value of the spin; *yrast line*, a line on a graph of spin against nuclear rotational energy (or some function of each of these), connecting points representing the various yrast states of a nuclide.

1967 J. B. GROVER in *Physical Rev.* CLVII. 832 It has been proposed that the lowest-energy excited state at a given

angular momentum be called 'yrast' level for that angular momentum. *Ibid.* 832/1 The yrast levels play a crucial role in deciding the course and outcome of many nuclear reactions. [Note] By 'yrast' level of a given nucleus, at a given angular momentum, is meant the level with least energy at that angular momentum. The English language seems not to have a graceful superlative form for adjectives expressing rotation. Professor F. Ruplin (of the Germanic Languages Department of the State University of New York, Stony Brook) suggested the use of the Swedish adjective *yr* for designating these special levels. This word derives from the same Old Norse verb *hvirfla* (to whirl) as the English verb *whirl*, and forms the natural superlative, *yrast*. It can thus be understood to mean 'whirlingest', although literally translated from Swedish it means 'dizziest' or 'most bewildered'. 1971 *Physics Lett.* XXXIVb. 575 Non-axially symmetric deformation of a nucleus is introduced to account for the admixture of the collective rotational bands and the distribution of the yrast levels. 1974 FRAUENFELDER & HENLEY *Subatomic Physics* xvi. 435 The yrast line of a nucleus gives *E* as a function of *J*. 1983 *Nucl. Physics A*. CDIII. 421 Precession of the yrast 2^+1 , and 4^+1 , and the second 2^+2 states in ^{24}Mg have been measured.

†**yrauiessed**, **-issgid**, **yrauesed** [Y- 4], ravished, carried away.

1340 *Ayenb.* 231 Hi was y-rauiessed of þe princes zone of þe cite. 1362 [see RAVISH v. 1 b]. 1387 *TREVISIA Higden* (Rolls) VI. 9 He... i-was i-ravished [*MS.* *γ* yrauesed] out of his body anon to þe holy sijt of aungles.

yraunceouned, **-soned**, ransomed.

†**yrauish** [Y- 3 c], pseudo-arch. f. RAVISH.

1608 SHAKS. *Per.* III. Prol. 35 The sum of this, Brought hither to Pentapolis, Y-ravished [*so Malone; Q1* Iranyshed] the regions round.

†**yraylle** [Y- 3 c], variant of RAIL v.¹, to arrange, and RAIL v.³, to flow.

1426 *LYDG. De Guil. Pilgr.* 246 In ordre dresse hyt, & yraylle. *Ibid.* 4740 And doun therby hys blood yraylled.

†**yrayn(e)**. *Obs.* Also i-, yreyn(e, -eine. [a. OF. *iraine*, var. *araine* ARAIN. Cf. IRANE.] A spider. 1382 *WYCLIF Hosea* viii. 6 The calf of Samarie shal be into webbis of yreynus [1388 ireyns]. c1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* III. xvi. (1869) 143, I do as the yrayne doth; for as longe as any blood... is in the flye, al she souketh it. c1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 2646 All oure 3eris... Sall be thought as an yrayn [*Psalm* xc. 9].

yrchen, **-on**, **-oun**, var. IRCHIN.

yre, var. (perh. errone.) of EYRE, in phr. (*wip*) *gret yre* = OF. *de grant erre* with great speed. 13.. *R. Gloucester's Chron.* (Rolls) 1183 As þe ssipes wip gret eir [*v.r.* heir, yre, Ire] come toward londe. *Ibid.* 3824 Wip hard dunt & gret eir [*v.r.* yre] to gadere sone hii come.

yre, obs. form of IRE, IRON *sb.*¹

†**yre(a)ued** [Y- 4], ME. pa. pple. of REAVE v.¹

yrebuked, ill-used.

1377 *LANGL. P. Pl. B.* xiv. 162 A-fyrst sore and afyngred and foule yrebuked.

yredliche, **yredy**, var. I-RADLICHE, I-REDY.

yregned, reigned.

1387 *TREVISIA Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 73 Hyderto þou hast y-regned gloriousliche.

Yreis, obs. form of IRISH.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5551 þer were of deneyis & of scottes aslawe & al so of yreis.

†**yreke(n)** [Y- 4], obs. pa. pple. of REKE v.³, to cover up.

c1386 yreke [see REKE v.³]. c1634 W. CARTWRIGHT *Ordinary* II. ii, My fire yreken is in Ashen cold.

yremuwed, ME. pa. pple. of REMUE, to remove.

yren(e), **yrenen**, obs. ff. IRON *sb.*¹, a., IRNEN.

†**yrent** [Y- 4, REND v.¹], rent.

c1395 *Plowman's T.* 256 These wollenen... Christes membres all to-tere On rode as he wer newe y-rent.

yrented: see RENTED *ppl. a.*¹

yreos, variant of IREOS *Obs.*

†**yrrerd** [Y- 4, REAR v.¹], raised.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5740 Ar vre king þat we abbeþ nou adde yrrerd so vale.

Yres(she), obs. forms of IRISH.

c1450 *St. Cuthbert* (Surtees) 64 Of auncetry In yres kynges most worthy. 1509 *BARCLAY Shyp of Polys* (1874) I. 21 Thoughe one know but the yresshc game.

†**yrest** [Y- 4], ME. pa. pple. of REST v.¹

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 3763 Him þoste he adde yrest ynou, no leng he nolde abyde. c1350 *Libeaus Desc.* (Kaluza) 1192 Al day þey hadde y-rest.

yreued, ME. pa. pple. of REAVE v.¹

yreuerenced, revered.

1393 *LANGL. P. Pl. C.* xvii. 49 The ryche is yreuerenced by reson of his richeshe.

yreuested [REVEST v.¹], robbed.

c1290 [see REVEST v.¹]. 1387 *TREVISIA Higden* (Rolls) VII. 453 [He] sigh þe bisshop of Salisburie y-revested to doo þe solemprnite of þat weddyng.

yreuled, ME. pa. pple. of RULE v.

yride, **yrifled**, ME. pa. pples. of RIDE v., RIFLE v.¹

yrin, **yringe**, **yrrios**, **Yrisch(e, -iss(h, etc., yrk**: see IRON, ERYNGE, IREOS, IRISH, IRK.

†**yrle**. *Sc. Obs.* [Cf. north. dial. *urling*, *yurlin*, and *wurlin*, WIRLING.] A dwarfish person.

1508 *KENNEDIE Flying w. Dunbar* 38 Wan-fukkit funling, that natour maid ane yrle.

yrmonger, obs. form of IRONMONGER.

1297-8 *MS. Pipe Roll*, De Randulfo le yrmonger.

yrn(e), **yrnen**, obs. ff. IRON, IRNEN.

yrof, graphic var. *prof*, THEREOF.

1517 *Knarsh. Wills* (Surtees) I. 6 According to a dede yrof.

†**yroked** [Y- 4], rocked.

c1425 *Engl. Cong. Irel.* 42 Old men that fore eld yroked weren yn her cradelys.

yrold, **yrollyd** [ROLL v.²], rolled.

c1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 48 Y-rollyd with pin hond. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* I. i. xviii, Things 'fore our feet yrold.

yron(e), obs. forms of IRON.

yron, **yronge**, **yronne(n)**, **yrosted**, **yroted**, ME. pa. pples. of RUN v., RING v.², ROAST v., ROOT v.¹

yrous, **-ows**, etc., var. IROUS, etc.

yrþe, obs. form of EARTH *sb.*¹

?c1400 *Emare* 285 He felle down in sowenyng, To þe yrþe was he dyght.

yruþde, **yruled**, ME. pa. pples. of RUB v.¹, RULE v.

yrun, **yrn**, obs. forms of IRON.

†**yruyflid** [Y- 4, RIFLE v.¹], plundered.

1393 *LANGL. P. Pl. C.* xx. 90 Fer wente neuere inan þis way þat he ne was here rifled [*MS.* *I* y-ruyflid].

ryrmed [RIME v.¹], rimed.

1340 *Ayenb.* 99 Uor he ne heþ none hede of longe ryote of tales y-slyked ne y-rymed.

yrnyged: see RINGED *ppl. a.* 2.

Yrysch, **Yryssh(e)**, obs. forms of IRISH.

†**yryve** [Y- 3 c], variant of RIVE v.¹

1426 *LYDG. De Guil. Pilgr.* 4814 Wych shal thorgh hyr herte blyve Sharper than any swerd y-Ryve.

ys, obs. f. HIS, ICE, *is* (see BE v.).

ys, var. ES *pers. pron.*, them.

14.. *Stockholm Med. MS.* I. 79 in *Anglia* XVIII. 297 Take rwe [&] heysele & meng ys with hony.

†**ysackte** [Y- 4], obs. pa. pple. of SACK v.²

1581 A. HALL *Iliad* v. 90 Their... Citie spoild, ysackte, and pilld bare.

ysacred(e, -yd), ME. pa. pple. of SACRE v.

1387 *TREVISIA Higden* (Rolls) VII. 445 Anselyn fonge þe investiture, and was y-sacrede. c1407 [see SACRED a. 2].

ysade, ME. pa. pple. of SAY v.¹

ysaluwed [SALUE v.], saluted.

1387 *TREVISIA Higden* (Rolls) V. 101 þey emperoures þat were to fore hym were i-salwed [*MS.* *γ* y-saluwed] as iuges.

ysamed, pa. pple. of SAM v.¹

ysam(m)e, var. I-SAME *adv.*, together.

c1330 y-same [see I-SAME]. 1362 *LANGL. P. Pl. A.* x. 193 Bote Maydens and Maydens macchep ou ysamme. 1596 *SPENSER F.Q.* vii. vii. 32 And in a bag all sorts of seeds ysame.

ysatled, ME. pa. pple. of SETTLE v.

ysaued(e, -id, etc., saved.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5835 þat hente him by a bem and ysaued was. 1387 *TREVISIA Higden* (Rolls) VI. 461 Who þat comþ in þat helle schal nevere after be saved [*MS.* *γ* ysaued].

ysawed, ME. pa. pple. of SHOW v.

ysay, pa. t. of YSEE.

ysayd(e), **yscalded**, **yscend**, ME. pa. pples. of SAY v.¹, SCALD v., SHEND v.¹

yscha, obs. Sc. form of ISSUE *sb.*

1531 *Abstr. Protocols Town Clerks of Glasgow* (1897) IV. 43 G. B... hes tane in prenteisship P.D... for the space of fyff yeiris, and to be fre at the yscha of the saydis fyff yeiris.

†**yschad**, **yschape(d, -en, -schappit**, **yschatred** [Y- 4], obs. pa. pples. of SHED v.¹, SHAPE v., SCATTER.

1340-70 *Alex. & Dind.* 647 Al so many as a man hap membrys y-schape. 1501 *DOUGLAS Pal. Hon.* Prol. 41 The vmbrate treis... War portrait, and on the irth yschappit Be goldin bemis vyficiuatie.

ysche, var. ISH *sb.*, v.¹, to issue.

ysched(de), ME. pa. pple. of SHED v.¹

yscheill, var. ESCHELE *Obs.*, squadron.

1375 *BARBOUR Bruce* XII. 214 Ilk man in-till his awne yscheill.

†**yschend(e, -ent, ysche(o)t** [Y- 4], ME. pa. pples. of SHEND v.¹, SHUT v.

yschete, ME. pa. pple. of SHIT v.

1387 *TREVISIA Higden* (Rolls) IV. 441 Oon of þe Assiries aspiel þat doynge by oon þat hadde yschete golde.

yschew(e, yschey, obs. Sc. ff. ISSUE sb.

1498 *Acta Dom. Conc.* II. 137 To begin on Friday... and sa furth quhil the yschey of aire.

†**yschewede**, **-owed, yschod, yschoded, yschore, yschorn(e, yschote(n, yschott(e** [Y- 4], ME. pa. pples. of SHOW v., SHOE v., SHED v.¹, SHEAR v., SHOOT v.

yschred(yd), ME. pa. pples. of SHRED v.

c1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 29 Almaundys y-schredyd. *Ibid.* 49 þan take Almaundys & Dates y-schred þer-to.

yschrined, shrined.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 5730 Yssryned [*v.r.* yschrined, yshryned] he was nyn hondred & on & seuentipe 3ere.

yschrowd [SHROUD v.¹], clothed.

1513 *DOUGLAS Æneis* XI. xv. 36 This precyus spul3e... Quharwith, as said is, was this preist yschrowd.

yschryve(n, ME. pa. pple. of SHRIVE v.

c1412 *HOCLEVE De Reg. Princ.* 1802, I am yschryue So ny, þat oper way ne se I noon.

yschue, obs. form of ISSUE *sb.*

1393 *LANGL. P. Pl. C.* xi. 243 God seide ensample of suche manere isshue [*v.r.* yschue] That kynde folwep kynde.

†**yschutte** [Y- 4], shut.

1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) III. 163 Fyndenge the 3ates yschutte.

ysclayn, ME. pa. pple. of SLAY v.¹

yscore [SHEAR v.], shorn.

1387 *TREVISIA Higden* (Rolls) VI. 173 Etheldredus... was i-schore [*MS.* *γ* yscore] monk at Bardeneye.

yscote, shot.

1387 *TREVISIA Higden* (Rolls) VII. 411 He was i-schote [*MS.* *γ* yscote] of oon Walter Tirel.

yscredde [SHRED v.], shredded.

c1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 40 Oynonys smal y-scredde.

yscryve, shriven.

1387 *TREVISIA Higden* (Rolls) VII. 345 He... was i-schryve [*MS.* *γ* yscryve] and i-houseled.

yse, obs. form of ICE *sb.*, IRON *sb.*¹

yse, variant of ISH, ISS v.¹

c1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* I. vi. (1869) 4 þanne j ysede me out of myn hous.

ysed, obs. pa. pple. of SAY v.¹

†**ysee**, v. *Obs.* [OE. *ȝesēon*: see Y- 3 c and SEE v.] *trans.* To see, behold.

[For early quotes. see SEE v. and I-SEE].

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 3329 þe porter ysei is louerd come. *Ibid.* 5615 þe king bi huld aboute & þe traytour ysay. 1340 *Ayenb.* 27þet he ne may opre manne guod yzy. *Ibid.* 130 He yziþ þane greate heap of his zennes. *Ibid.* 264 Me him acseþ huo he ys, huannes he comþ, huet he heþ yso3e. c1460 J. RUSSELL *Bk. Nurture* 1222 Now dar y do seruice diligent to dyuers of dignyte, where for scantnes of connyng y durst no man y-se.

†**ysegede** [Y- 4, SIEGE v.], besieged.

1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) III. 377 For to socoure that cite y-segede.

yseid(e, ME. pa. pple. of SAY v.¹

1387 *TREVISIA Higden* (Rolls) VII. 445 [He] put of al þat was good y-seide to hym wip swellyng wreþþe. c1412 *HOCLEVE De Reg. Princ.* 1991 What I haue y-seid þe, naght forgete.

ysekele, obs. form of ICICLE.

ysel, obs. form of ISEL, ashes, etc.

ysell, variant of EISELL *Obs.*, vinegar.

1552 *HULOET*, Ysell, *acetum*.

†**yselþe**, variant of I-SELTH, success.

12.. *Moral Ode* 8 in *E.E.P.* (1862) 22 Ic myhte habbe bet i-don hadde ic þer y-selþe.

†**ysemblid** [Y- 4, SEMBLE v.²], likened.

1393 *LANGL. P. Pl. C.* xv. 188 To lowe-lyuynge men þe larke is resembled [*MS.* *S* y-semblid].

ysen, obs. f. IRON *sb.*¹; pa. pple. of SEE, YSEE.

†**ysend(e, ysent** [Y- 4], ME. pa. pple. of SEND v.¹

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 4332 Ac þo com þe duc of peyto as god adde þe grace ysend [*MS.* *ε* ysent]. a1440 *Sir Degrev.* 121 Hys steward hadd a lettre y-sent.

yserved, yserved, ME. pa. pples. of SEARCH v., SERVE v.¹, ².

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 6365 þer nis non alieue nou þat þe abbe yserved so. 1340 *Ayenb.* 115 þine greate guodnesses... huyche ich habbe kueadliche yvezd and þe kueadliche yserved.

yse-schokkill, **-s(c)hokle**, obs. ff. ICICLE.

†**ysesid**, **yseyed** [Y- 4], seized.

ysessed, ceased.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 389 þe monkes of Turon hadde al þe offrynge for to þe werre was i-sesede [*MS.* γ yssessed].

yset, **ysett(e)**, **yseuered**, **-et**, ME. pa. pples. of SET *v.*, SEVER.

ysewed, ME. pa. pple. of SEW *v.*¹

c 1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 229 His kyrtel of clene whijt clenlyche y-sewed.

yse-yckel, obs. form of ICICLE.

†**yseyd(e)** [Y- 4], ME. pa. pple. of SAY *v.*¹

c 1380 WYCLIF *Sel. Wks.* III. 102 On þe prydde manere is holy Church yseyd to be disposed. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 150 My wrytyng . . ys al yseyd vnder correcion.

yseye, **yseyne**, ME. pa. pple. of SEE *v.*

yshad(e), ME. pa. pple. of SHED *v.*¹

c 1400 *Pety Job* 172 in 26 *Pol. Poems* 126 Ryght as the hardnesse of chese yshade.

yshadewed, shadowed, darkened.

c 1400 *St. Alexius* (Laud 622) 1082 Yshadewed is al my myroure.

yshape, ME. pa. pple. of SHAPE *v.*

1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* xvi. 301 To wroper-hele was he wrouȝt þat neuere was ioie yshape.

yshave, ME. pa. pple. of SHAVE *v.*

c 1386 Y-shaue [see SHAVE *v.* 3]. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 2012 Thogh ye now . . Ben yclypyd & yshaue Vp-on your hedys euerychon. 1480 CAXTON *Trevisa's Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 129 Gold of seventene shrynes y-shave and molten.

yshend *v.* [Y- 3 c], pseudo-arch. f. SHEND *v.*¹

1579 SPENSER *Sheph. Cal.* Aug. 139 Should it not yshend Your roundels fresh, to heare a doolefull verse Of Rosalend.

yshent(e), **yshet** [Y- 4], ME. pa. pples. of SHEND *v.*¹, SHUT *v.*

ysheued, **yshewed**, **-yd**, ME. pa. pple. of SHOW *v.*

1362 LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* xii. 34 When scripture þe skolde hadde þus wyt y-sheued. 1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 5795 Yiff the valu off thys bred Were yshewyd.

yshildred: see SHOULDERED *ppl. a.* 1.

yshogged, ME. pa. pple. of SHOG *v.*

yshoned, shunned.

1387-8 T. USK *Test. Love* II. xi. (Skeat) l. 10 These olde philosophers . . wenden that of pure nature . . me might have y-shoned th'other livinges.

yshood, ME. pa. pple. of SHOE *v.*

yshore, **yshorne**, obs. pa. pples. of SHEAR *v.*

yshorted, shortened.

c 1400 26 *Pol. Poems* xxiv. 252 My dayes shulle yshorted be.

yshote, ME. pa. pple. of SHOOT *v.*

yshrad, ME. pa. pple. of SHRED *v.*

yshred, **-id**, ME. pa. pple. of SHRIDE *v.*¹

yshriuen, **yshryue(n)**, ME. pa. pple. of SHRIVE *v.*

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* v. 91, I wolde ben yshryue, . . and I for shame durst.

yshryned, shrined.

yshuldred: see SHOULDERED *ppl. a.* 1.

ysibbe, variant of I-SIB.

c 1315 SHOREHAM l. 1931 3ef hy ysibbe ine degres Ryȝt wyp-inne þe ferþe.

ysicle, obs. form of ICICLE.

†**ysinwed** [Y- 4], sinned.

a 1400 *Leg. Rood* (1871) 176 þat pine be my socour there That y haue y-sinwed with myn here.

ysiwed, ME. pa. pple. of SUE *v.*

yskaldyd, scalded.

c 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 22 Brede y-Skaldyd.

yslaze, **ysla(i)ne**, **yslawe(n)**, **yslayn(e)**, obs. pa. pples. of SLAY *v.*¹

13 . . *Coer de L.* 1788 That six and thirty they had y-slowe. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 71 Gordianus . . was y-slawe of oon Phelip. 1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle*, etc. (1871) 122 The dead body was a calfe yslaine.

yslaked, obs. pa. pple. of SLAKE *v.*¹

yslape, **yslepe**, ME. pa. pple. of SLEEP *v.*

ysle, **yslelonde**, obs. ff. ISLE, ISLAND.

†**yslente** [Y- 4], pa. pple. of SLENT *v.*²

ysleyn(e), ME. pa. pple. of SLAY *v.*¹

1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) III. 133 Balthasar ysleyne, Darius did translate the realme of men of Babilon . . in to Persia.

ysliked, **yslyked**, **ysmacked**, **ysmer(e)d**, ME. pa. pples. of SLICK, SMACK, SMEAR *vbs.*

ysmete, **ysmite**, **ysmyte(n)**, ME. pa. pple. of SMITE *v.*

1297, etc. [see SMITE *v.*]. c 1400 *Parce Mihi* 117 in 26 *Pol. Poems* 146 Nowe hathe age y-smyte [v.r. y-smete] me fro My secund feder. c 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 55 Nym raw ȝolkys of Eyroun, & melle hem a-mong chikonys y-smete.

ysmoped, **-smothed**, ME. pa. pple. of SMOOTH *v.*

ysmytted [SMIT *v.*], infected.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 477 He was i-smeten [*MSS.* β & γ ysmytte] wiþ þe vice of pride.

ysnes, obs. pl. of IRON *sb.*¹

†**ysnyt** [Y- 4], ME. pa. pple. of SNITE *v.*

ys(o)cht [SEEK *v.*], sought.

c 1306 *Ball. agst. Scots* 79 (Ritson), He bith y-soht out. 1568 *Hoccleve's Let. Cupid* 128 in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 787 Every woman . . is licht to get . . gife scho be weill ysocht [v.r. I-soght].

ysocoured, **ysocyed**, **ysode(n)**, **ysoze**, **ysoiled**, ME. pa. pples. of SUCCOUR, SOCIE, SEETHE, SEE and YSEE, SOIL *vbs.*

ysojourned, sojourned.

1576 GASCOIGNE *Steele Glas* 91 Where when she had some yeeeres ysojorned, . . A deepe Desire hir loving hart enflamde.

ysome: see I-SOM.

†**ysomned** [Y- 4, SOMNE *v.*²], summoned.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 151 He com at þe tyme as he was sommed [*MS.* γ ysomned].

ysondred, sundered.

c 1380 *Sir Ferumb* 1737 Of grete hertes . . y asky of ȝow an hundred, & clene maydens faire smal al-so manye y-sondred.

ysondur: see SUNDER *a.* and *adv. B.*

†**ysonge** [Y- 4, SING *v.*¹], sung.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 467 þe same day after þat he hadde i-songen [*MS.* β ysonge] masse.

ysoop, **ysop(e)**, obs. forms of HYSSOP.

†**ys(o)the(n)** [Y- 4, SEETHE *v.*], boiled.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* xv. 425 Ysothe [v.r. ysoden, y-sothen, ysoothe] or ybake. a 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula* etc. 31 Not wele y-sopen. c 1430 *Two Cookery-bks.* 23 Take a tenche whan he is y-sothe.

ysophage, **-gus**, var. CÉSOPHAGE, -GUS.

c 1400 *Lanfranc's Cirurg.* 153 þouȝ þat trache arterie be peersid or ellis ysophage.

†**ysopt**, **ysouȝt**, **ysou(g)ht** [Y- 4, SEEK *v.*], sought.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* Prol. 50, I seigh somme that seiden þei had ysouȝt seyntes. 1470-85 MALORY *Arthur* xviii. xvi. 754, I haue the same y sought.

ysound, var. ISOUND.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) App. H. 52 Morbidus huld pis lond . . Freliche wel on grip and his men y sounde.

ysoupid [Y- 4, SUP *v.*¹], supped.

1399 LANGL. *Rich. Redeles* iv. 55 Some had ysoupid with Symond ouere euen.

ysow(e), **ysowȝ**, **ysown(e)**: see SWOW, SWOWN *pa. pple. Obs.*

ysowe(n) [Y- 4], ME. pa. pple. of sow *v.*¹

ysowndir, asunder: see SUNDER *a.* and *adv. B.*

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* i. iii. 59 Eneas navy skatterit fer ysonwdir.

ysowpit [Y- 4], obs. pa. pple. of SOWP *v.*²

†**ysped(d)**(e), **yspeke**, ME. pa. pples. of SPEED *v.*, SPEAK *v.*

yspend(ed), **-dyth**, **yspent** [SPEND *v.*¹], spent.

13 . . *R. Gloucester's Chron.* (1724) 404 Hii þo adde yspend þat wyppynne was. 1340 *Ayenb.* 171 He hise heþ folliche y-spended. 1408 *E.E. Wills* (1882) 15 That ther be yspendyth . . of my good, . . Cs'. 1581 A. HALL *Iliad* II. 22 Our saile yards rotten, our masts yspent. 1647 H. MORE *Song of Soul* III. App. lxxxvi, Grosse sperm yspent in Nuptiall bed.

ysperde, **ysper(r)ed(e)**, **ysperyd** [SPEAR *v.*¹], bolted, shut.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* XIX. 162 In an hous al bishette & her dore ybarred [v.r. ysperrrede, yspersed].

yspewed, **yspild**, **-lt**, etc., **yspited**, **yspoke(n)**, **-yn**, **ysponne**, ME. pa. pples. of SPEW, SPILL, SPIT, SPEAK, SPIN *vbs.*

yspouse(d) [SPOUSE *v.*], espoused.

13 . . *R. Gloucester's Chron.* (1724) 13 þis mayde y spoused was of so riche blode.

ysprad(de), **yspre(a)d**, ME. pa. pple. of SPREAD *v.*

1297, etc. ysprad, yspred [see SPREAD *v.*]. 1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle* v. (1871) 64 Who . . Knewe . . on which side of his bread The sweetnesses of the butter was yspread.

yspraind, **ysprengd(e)**, **yspreynd**, etc., **yspratelid**, ME. pa. pples. of SPRENGE *v.*, SPRATTLE *v.*¹

ysprinkled, pseudo-arch. f. *sprinkled*, pa. pple. of SPRINKLE *v.*¹

1867 JEAN INGELOW *Song Nt. Christ's Resurr.* iv, Her star y-sprinkled gown.

ysprong(e), **-en**, **ysprung(e)**, obs. pa. pple. of SPRING *v.*¹

a 1300, etc. [see SPRING *v.*¹]. 1586 MARLOWE *1st Pt. Tamburl.* III. iii, The brats ysprong from Typhons loins. 1748 THOMSON *Cast. Indol.* II. xxvi, From heaven this life ysprung, from hell thy glories vild!

ysprout [Y- 3 c], pseudo-arch. f. SPROUT *v.*¹

c 1620 T. ROBINSON *Mary Magd.* 349 And farther in, y'e laden vines ysprout.

yspunne, arch. pa. pple. of SPIN *v.*

1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle* II. (1871) 27 His stockings of the coarsest woole yspunne.

yspuwed, ME. pa. pple. of SPEW *v.*

ysquaryd, squared.

1426 LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 7672 Yforgyd off malys, And ysquaryd by fals devys.

ysrive, ME. pa. pple. of SHRIVE *v.*

yss, **ysse-ikkle**: see ICE, ISH, ISS *v.*¹, ICICLE.

yssant, var. ISSANT = ISSUANT 1.

1482 *Paston Lett.* III. 298 To be yssant or chargeabill oute or upon the seid tenement.

†**yssape** [Y- 4], ME. pa. pple. of SHAPE *v.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 87 þe zoþe uorbisne huer-by we byþp yssape to his ymage.

ysse, obs. f. *is* (see BE *v.*); var. ISH, ISS *v.*¹

†**ysse(a)wed**, **yssed** [Y- 4], ME. pa. pples. of SHOW *v.*, SHED *v.*¹

yssend, **yssent**, **ysset**, **yssette**, ME. pa. pples. of SHEND *v.*¹, SHUT *v.*, SET *v.*

1422 YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* 237 Yf the mecche be ouer depe y-sette in the oyle.

yssew(e), **ysshue**, **yssu(e)**, obs. ff. ISSUE.

yssh(e), var. ISH, ISS *v.*¹

†**yssored**, **yssot(t)e**, **yssred**, **yssriue**, **yssryned** [Y- 4], ME. pa. pples. of SHORE *v.*¹, SHOOT *v.*, SHRIDE *v.*¹, SHRIVE *v.*, SHRINE *v.*

13 . . *R. Gloucester's Chron.* (1724) 353 Wyllam, þe rede kyng, yssote was by cas. 1340 *Ayenb.* 188 Martin . . me heþ yssred mid pise cloþe. *Ibid.* 70 Nou ssel . . þe ilke . . yzy diligentliche to by yssriue.

ysstreynned: see YSTRAINYD.

yst = IS'T, *is it*.

1553 *Respublica* i. iv, Youe that sholde have wytte, yst youre Descretion Bluntlye to goe forth, and be called Oppression?

†**ystabelid**, **ystabled**, **-yd** [Y- 4], ME. pa. pples. of STABLE *v.*¹, ²

13 . . *K. Alis.* 4690 (Linc. Inn MS.) Whan he hadde ystabled þat lay, þus he saide. 1422 YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* 135 The lawes y-stabelid in the Pepill.

ystade [STEAD *v.*], beset (with difficulties).

a 1440 *Sir Degrev.* 1631 He was never so hard y-stade.

ystal(1)ed, ME. pa. pple. of STALL *v.*¹

ystamped, pounded.

c 1410 *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xii, Take of blac pyche and of rosyn as myche of one as of an oper wele ystamped.

ystatut, obs. pa. pple. of STATUTE *v.*¹

ysteare [Y- 3 c], pseudo-arch. f. STEER *v.*¹

ysteke, **-yd** [Y- 4], ME. pa. pples. of STEEK *v.*¹, ²

ystept [STEP *v.*], advanced.

c 1634 W. CARTWRIGHT *Ordinary* II. ii, A Norice Some dele ystept in age!

ysteynud, ME. f. STAINED.

ystik(k)ed, **ystyked**, **-yd**, ME. pa. pple. of STICK *v.*¹

ystocked [STOCK *v.*¹], imprisoned.

1387-8 T. USK *Test. Love* I. i. (Skeat) l. 41 Depe in this pyninge pitte with wo I ligge y-stocked.

ystoffed, **ystoke(n)**, **ystol(n)e**, **ystond(e)**, **ystonge(n)**, **ystonnge**, **ystope**, **ystored**, **-id**,

obs. pa. pples. of STUFF *v.*², STEEK *v.*¹, STEAL *v.*¹, STAND *v.*, STING *v.*¹, STEP *v.*, STORE *v.*

ystowe [STY *v.*¹], ascended.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 227 Oo Kyng of bliss, .. þat .. art þis day i-steie [*MS.* *γ* ystowe] up above alle hevenes.

ystraynyd, ystraynid [STRAIN *v.*¹], fastened; strained.

c **1325** *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 169 Sunt les boufs si fort artes, *gloss* ysstreynnend [*v.r.* streingned]. *c* **1430** *Two Cookery-bks.* 17 Take Eyroun, þe 3olke an þe Whyte y-straynyd a lyte.

ystrawed, ystreizt, -streight, -streith, ME. pa. pples. of STRAW *v.*¹, STRETCH *v.*

ystrengped [STRENGTH *v.*], strengthened.

1340 *Ayenb.* 201 Y-strengped be þe yefþe of onderstonndinge.

ystrewed, ME. pa. pple. of STREW *v.*

ystrick(en, ystrike, ystruck, obs. pa. pples. of STRIKE *v.*

1583 MELBANCKE *Philotimus* Zij, To rescue Phedimus and Tantalus ystrick with pearcing shaft yfere. **1642** H. MORE *Song of Soul* III. l. i, Ystruck with mighty rage.

ystrived, ME. pa. pple. of STRIVE *v.*

ystuded [STUDY *v.*], endeavoured.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 83, I have studied [*MS.* *γ* y-studed] to take þe floures of Stevenes book.

ystured, ystwyde, -yed, ME. pa. pples. of STIR *v.*, STEW *v.*²

ystyffled [Y- 5, STIFLE *sb.*¹], having (weak) stiffl-bones.

c **1410** *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xii, Somtyme an hounde is euyl astyfed [*v.r.* y styffled], so þat he shall somtyme abyden half a yere or more, or he be wele ferme.

ysucrod, obs. pa. pple. of SUCCOUR *v.*

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 157 þere he was i-socoured [*MS.* *γ* ysucrod] awhile wiþ oon Maximus.

ysue, obs. form of ISSUE.

† **ysuffred** [Y- 4], suffered.

c **1374** CHAUCER *Troilus* v. 415 This knowen folk þat han y-suffred peyne.

ysuled [SULE *v.*], sullied.

c **1394** *P. Pl. Crede* 752 A soutere y-suled in grees.

ysunged, etc., sinned.

13.. *Marina* 119 in Böldeker *Altengl. Dicht.* (1878) 260 Ich habbe ysunged, merci y crie. **1362** LANGL. *P. Pl. A.* viii. 165 Soules þat han sunget [*MS.* *T* ysynned] seuen sipes dedlich. **1393** *Ibid.* C. xi. 213 After þat adam and eue hadden ysynged. **1387** TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 47 We haveþ i-synned [*MS.* *γ* ysynwed] greuously.

ysuore, ME. pa. pple. of SWEAR *v.*

ysustained, -teyned, sustained.

1340-70 *Alex. & Dind.* 877 3e han .. ben y-sustained so wiþ sorwe in þis worde.

ysuwed [SEW *v.*¹], sewn.

c **1400** TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. App. 535 On caas 3e mowe kepe my body 3if hit is sewide [*MS.* *γ* ysuwed] in hertes lether.

ysuyled [SOIL *v.*¹], soiled.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* xiii. 458 Thus haukyn þe actyf man hadde ysoiled [*MS.* *O* ysuyled] his cote.

yswathid, swathed.

c **1325** *Gloss. W. de Bibbesw.* in Wright *Voc.* 143 Lors deyt estre maylolez, *gloss* yswathid.

yswengyd, ME. pa. pple. of SWENGE *v.* *Obs.*

yswepe, ysweped, ME. pa. pples. of SWEEP *v.*

yswered, ME. pa. pple. of SWEAR *v.*

yswerred [Y- 5, SWIRE], necked.

13.. *K. Alis.* 6264 (Linc. Inn MS.) Schorte y-swerred.

yswo3e [Y- 4]: see SWOW, SWOWN *pa. pple.* *Obs.*

yswolle, yswolwet, ME. pa. pples. of SWELL *v.*, SWALLOW *v.*

yswone, yswounyng: see SWOW(N, SWOON *v.* **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 305 Heo criede & wep mid sorwe inou & ofte iswowe [*MS.* *B* yswone] lay. *Ibid.* 829 þe quene þo 3o ihurde þis nei iswowe [*MS.* *B* yswounyng] was.

yswonge(n, yswonnge, ME. pa. pples. of SWING *v.*¹

yswope(n, -ed, yswore, ysworn, ME. pa. pples. of SWOPE *v.*¹, SWEAR *v.*

yswowe: see SWOW, SWOWN *pa. pple.*

13.. *K. Alis.* 2262 (Linc. Inn MS.) þat heo to grounde yswowe sletten. **1387** TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VI. 477 þe kyng .. fil down to þe grounde as þey3 he were i-sowe [*MS.* *γ* y-swowe].

yswyke, variant of I-SWIKE *v.* *Obs.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 3261 Nou hii beþ al onywar hii wollep yswyke by daye.

ysy, ysyb, ysyle: see YSEE, I-SIB, ISEL.

† **ysynged, -synned, -synwed** [Y- 4]: see YSUNGED.

ysywed [SUE *v.*], followed.

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2743 þo he adde ysywed me longe in pisse fare.

ysz, obs. form of ICE.

yt, obs. f. IT; (also *yʹ*) contr. graphic var. THAT.

† **ytachid** [Y- 4, TACHE *v.*²], attached.

1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* xix. 279 Hit is a preciose present, .. ac þe pouke hit haþ attached [*v.r.* y-tachid].

Ytaile, var. ITAILE *Obs.*, Italian.

† **ytailed** [Y- 5], var. TAILED *a.* and *ppl. a.*¹

ytailed, ytayled [Y- 4], ME. pa. pple. of TAIL *v.*²

ytak(e, -en, -yn, ytan, ME. pa. pples. of TAKE *v.*

ytald, ME. pa. pple. of TELL *v.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 70 Nou we habbeþ ytald ten manere zennes of þe tonge.

Ytalian, etc., obs. ff. ITALIAN, etc.

† **ytamet** [Y- 4, TAME *v.*²], broken into.

c **1450** *Mirk's Festial* 276 þer was no clothe of hors, ny heere of hor hede ytamet wyth þe fyre.

ytaried, ME. pa. pple. of TARRY *v.*

yta(u)3t, ytaught, ytaw3t(te, obs. pa. pple. of TEACH *v.*

1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 2197 3e beþ men bet iteizt [*v.r.* yta3t, ytau3t] to ssofle & to spade. **13..** *K. Alis.* 3141 (Linc. Inn MS.) Bote he beo wel ytaugt, Wipoute skorn passip he nou3t. **1642** H. MORE *Song of Soul* II. III. iv. viii, Thinking how all doth flee What-ever we have painfully ytaught.

ytch(e, obs. ff. ITCH.

yte, obs. pa. t. of EAT *v.*

† **yteld** [Y- 4], ME. pa. pple. of TELL *v.*

13.. *Coer de L.* 1972 His foe, That had his good knights queld, And eke on him despite y-teld. **13..** *K. Alis.* 7870 (Laud MS.) What helpeþ it lenger yteld?

yteld(e, ytelt, ME. pa. pple. of TELD *v.* *Obs.*

ytelle, var. I-TELLE *v.* *Obs.*

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VIII. 49 But þou doo as I ytelle and amende þy lyf.

ytemperit, -yd, ytempred, -id, -yd, ytempted, ME. pa. pples. of TEMPER *v.*, TEMPT *v.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 257 And zuo ssolede he by wel ytempred and amesured. **1422** YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* 186 In ettyng and drynkynge be thou y-temperit. **14..** *Voc.* in Wr.-Wücker 615/36 *Temporatus*, ytempored.

ytend, ytent, yteyned, ME. pa. pple. of TIND *v.*

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) III. 395 þe taperes þat were i-tend [*MS.* *γ* ytent]. *a* **1400** *New Test.* (Paues) James iii. 6 Heo is y-tend of þe fuyr of helle.

ytent, ytented, ME. pa. pple. of TENT *v.*³

ytенped [TENTH *v.*], tithed.

a **1400** *N.T.* (Paues) Heb. vii. 9 And 3ef it mowe be seyð so, by Abraham Leui, þat vnderfong tenþinges, was y-tenped.

ytermenyd, -myned, ME. pa. pple. of TERMINE *v.*

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* i. 97 Til treuthe had ytermyned her trespas to þe ende.

ytesed, teased.

a **1425** tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 68 Streche pam on wolle y-tesed or subtille stupez of line.

yteyd, yteynd(e, ME. pa. pples. of TIE *v.*, TINE *v.*¹

yth = *in the*: see I'TH'.

ythan(d, -en, etc., var. ITHAND, etc.

† **ythe**. *Obs.* Forms: 1-2 *yþ*, 2 *uþe*, 3 *uðe*, 4-5 *yþe*, 5 *ythe*, *ithe*. [OE. *yþ* str. fem., also *yþe* wk. fem. = OS. *ūðia*, OHG. *undea*, *unda* (MHG. *unde*, *ünde*), ON. *unnr*, *uðr*.] A wave of the sea.

Beowulf 1918 þy læs hym yða ðrym wudu wynsuman for-wrecan meahte. *a* **1000** *Andreas* 466 Mere sweoðerade, yða ongin eft oncyrde. *c* **1175** *Lamb. Hom.* 43 Innan þan sea weren .vii. bittere uþe. *c* **1205** LAY. 4578 þe wind com on weðere and þa sæ he wraðede; vðen þer urnen. **13..** *E.E. Allit. P. C.* 147 Hit reled on round vpon þe ro3e yþes. *a* **1400-50** *Wars Alex.* 63 Carrygis comand he knew keruand þe ithis. *c* **1400** *Destr. Troy* 1992 So wode were the waghes & þe wilde ythes. **14..** *Siege Jerus.* (E.E.T.S.) 3/50 Myd þe grym yþes.

† **ythewed** [Y- 5], var. THEWED *ppl. a.*, *mannered*.

13.. *K. Alis.* 3209 (Linc. Inn MS.) Mony baroun ful wel y-pewed.

ythe (yþe), obs. f. EATH *a.*, easy; var. I-THEE *v.*

ythied, obs. var. THIGHED.

yþirled, yþurled [Y- 4, THIRL *v.*¹], pierced.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 397 I-bored and i-prulled [*v.rr.* yþirled, yþurled] wiþ meny smale holes.

yþo3t, yþoght, yþou(3)t, ME. pa. pple. of THINK *v.*²

c **1315** SHOREHAM IV. 413 Wanne hy y-þo3t beþ oper y-speke, Oper y-don in stat. **1422** YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* 157 Whan thou haste all y-thought, mowrnynge and wrothi thou shalte reme.

ytholed [THOLE *v.*], suffered.

13.. *K. Alis.* 7138 (Linc. Inn MS.) Al his damage þat he hadde yþoled in pat vyage.

yþonked, yþorsse, ythrysshe, yþraw, ythrest, ythreve, ME. pa. pples. of THANK *v.*, THRASH *v.*, THROW *v.*¹, THREST *v.*, THRIVE *v.*

ythrotelede, throttled.

1432-50 tr. *Higden* (Rolls) III. 161 A nakede man ythrotelede to the dedde.

yþrowe, ME. pa. pple. of THROW *v.*¹

ythrungin [THRING *v.*], hurled.

1423 JAS. I *Kingis Q.* clxv, Be quhirlyng of the quhele, vnto the ground, Full sudaynly sche hath thaim vp ythrungin.

ythrust, ythryste, thrust.

1422 YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* 220 Ouer-oppyn eyen, lyke as they were y-thryste owte.

ytielde, ytilde, ytizt, ME. pa. pples. of TELD, TILD *v.*, TIGHT *v.*²

ytilied, -lled [TILL *v.*¹], obtained.

1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* xv. 105 Tythes of vntrewe pinge ytilied or chaffared.

ytint, ME. pa. pple. of TINE *v.*²

yto3te, ythought [TEACH *v.*], taught.

1340 *Ayenb.* 254 þe wyse and þe wel yto3te temprep .. his wordes. **1656** *Choyce Drollery* 73 Full well she was y-tought the leire Of mickle courtesie.

ytokenyd, ME. pa. pple. of TOKEN *v.*

ytold, ytolte, ME. pa. pple. of TELL *v.*

ytore, ytorn [TEAR *v.*¹], torn.

1647 H. MORE *Song of Soul* I. II. cxxix, The tallest trees up by the root ytorn. *Ibid.* III. App. xvii, Sith unwillingly they were ytore From their dear carkasses their fate they rue.

ytormentet, tormented.

c **1400** TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. App. 505 Grevouslich tormented [*MS.* *γ* ytormentet].

ytornd, ytourned, -yd, ytost, ytoted, ytouchide, ytowchid, ytooked, obs. pa. pples. of TURN *v.*, TOSS *v.*, TOOT *v.*¹, TOUCH *v.*, TUCK *v.*¹

ytranslatid, translated.

1422 YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* 236, I .. haue y-translatid to youre excellence by this boke afor, the techynges [etc.].

ytraualid, -aillit, -ayled [TRAVAIL *v.*], troubled, harassed.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 85 Deeius and Valerius were i-travaillid [*MS.* *γ* y-travayled] wiþ a fend. **1422** YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* 162 He was ytraualid with the Deuyl.

ytreated, treated.

1480 [see HANDLE *v.*¹ 6.].

ytredded, ytrodded, ME. pa. pples. of TREAD *v.* *c* **1410** *Master of Game* (MS. Digby 182) xxiv, If ye se it gret and brode and wele ytredded [*MS.* *Reg.* ytrodde].

ytrent, ME. pa. pple. of TREND *v.*

yttressed, var. TRESSED *ppl. a.*

c **1374** CHAUCER *Troilus* v. 810 To gon y-tressed with hire heerys clere Doun by hire coler.

ytried, ytryed, -id, ME. pa. pple. of TRY *v.*

ythrowbelid, troubled.

1422 YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* 173 His Spirite is not by rancoure y-throwbelid.

ythrowe, ME. pa. pple. of THROW *v.*¹

ytt, obs. form of IT, YET *adv.*

yttter ('tʰə(r)). *Min.* The first element of *Ytterby* (see next) used attrib. = combined with yttria, yttriferous, yttrious, in imitation of Sw. or Ger., as in Sw. *yttterjord*, G. *ytttererde* (ytter earth).

1805 R. JAMESON *Syst. Min.* II. 585 Yttertantalite... According to Ekeberg, it is composed of tantalum, the new earth called yttria, and iron. **1877** E. B. Dana's *Text-bk. Min.* 281 Yttriferous, or Ytter-garnet. **1897** *Ann. Rep. Smithsonian Inst.* 239 As early as 1794 Gadolin had separated from the gadolinite of Ytterby an earth which he called ytter earth.

ytterbite ('tʰəbɪt). *Min.* [Named by Gadolin 1794, from *Ytterby* in Sweden, where found: see -ITE¹.] A synonym of GADOLINITE. So *ytterbia* ('tʰɪːbiə) *Chem.*, the oxide of ytterbium; *ytterbic*

(tʰɪːbɪk) *a.*, containing ytterbium; **ytterbium** (tʰɪːbɪəm) [mod.L. (Marignac)], a rare metallic element occurring in gadolinite, etc.

1839 URE *Dict. Arts* 541 Gadolinite; called also Yttrite and Ytterbite. **1879** *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* XXXVI. 118 Ytterbium, a new Metal from Gadolinite. . . Solutions of ytterbia give no absorption-spectrum. . . Ytterbium sulphate resembles . . the sulphates of yttrium and erbium.

ytterite (tʰɪːrɪt). *Min.* [f. *Ytter*(by (see YTTERRITE) + -ITE¹).] A synonym of GADOLINITE. **1849** WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* III. 409 Silicate of Ytria. — Gadolinite, or Ytterite.

yttria (tʰɪːrɪə). *Chem.* Also *ittria*. [mod.L. (Ekeberg, 1797), f. the name of *Ytterby*: see YTTERRITE.] An earth obtained as a white powder from gadolinite and other rare minerals, consisting of sesquioxide of yttrium (Y₂O₃).

1800 HENRY *Epit. Chem.* (1808) 105 Ytria, or Ittria. — This earth was discovered in 1794 . . in a stone from Ytterby in Sweden. **1873** *Pownes' Chem.* (ed. 11) 382 To obtain the earths, yttria and erbia, in the separate state, gadolinite is digested with hydrochloric acid.

yttrium (tʰɪːrɪəm). *Chem.* [mod.L., f. YTTRIA, after names of other metals in -ium.] A rare metal of the cerium group, the base of the earth YTTRIA. Symbol Y.

1822 *Imison's Sci. & Art* II. 93 The base of yttria has been supposed to be a metallic substance, which would receive the name of yttrium. **1866** ROSCOE *Elem. Chem.* 8 The metals yttrium, erbium, indium, &c. have only as yet been met with in most minute quantities.

Hence (or from prec.) **yttrialite** (tʰɪːrɪəlɪt) *Min.*, a silicate of thorium and the yttrium metals; **yttric** (tʰɪːrɪk) *a. Chem.*, related to or containing yttrium; **y'ttriferous** *a.*, containing or yielding yttrium; **yttrious** (tʰɪːrɪəs) *a.*, pertaining to or containing yttria; **yttrite** (tʰɪːrɪt) *Min.*, a synonym of GADOLINITE.

1889 *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* XXXVIII. 477 *Yttrialite. **1860** MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Yttricus* . . y'ttric. **1877** *y'ttriferous [see YTTERRITE]. **1828-32** WEBSTER, *Yttrious, pertaining to yttria; containing yttria; as, the yttrious oxyd of columbium. *Cleveland*. **1839** URE *Dict. Arts* 541 Gadolinite; called also *Yttrite and Ytterbite.

ytthro- (tʰɪːrɪθ), *Min.*, used as combining form of YTTRIUM in names of minerals containing yttrium, the second element usually indicating the other metallic constituent, sometimes an allied mineral: as **ytthrocerite** (-sɪərɪt) [CERIUM], **ytthrocolumbite** [COLUMBIUM], **ytthro'gummite** [GUMMITE], **ytthro'tantalite** [TANTALUM], **ytthro'titanite** [TITANIUM]: see QUOTS. **ytthro'tungstite**, a basic oxide of yttrium and tungsten, YW₂O₆(OH)₃, occurring as yellow monoclinic crystals.

1817 T. THOMSON *Syst. Chem.* (ed. 5) III. 495 *Ytthrocerite. . . occurs at Finbo in Sweden. . . It is found in amorphous masses, . . disseminated through quartz. **1868** WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1065 *Ytthrocerite*, a mineral consisting of fluoride of yttrium mixed with the fluorides of cerium and calcium. **1819** W. PHILLIPS *Elem. Introd. Min.* (ed. 2) 202 *Ytthro-columbite. . . It consists, according to Vauquelin, of 45 oxide of columbium, 55 of yttria and oxide of iron. **1879** *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* XXXVI. 365 *Ytthrogummite . . is the final product of the decomposition of cleveite. **1850** WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* IV. 19 *Samaraskite*. — This mineral, first named Urano-tantalite or Columbite, and afterwards called *Ytthro-ilmenite by Hermann. **1809** WOLLASTON in *Phil. Trans.* XCIX. 246 The two Swedish minerals, tantalite and *ytthro-tantalite, from which I could obtain tantalum. **1868** DANA *Min.* (ed. 5) 519 Ytthrotantalite. . . Color black, brown, brownish-yellow, straw-yellow. . . Tantalate of yttria and lime, or yttria, lime, and iron, with some protoxyd of uranium. **1828** WHEWELL *Ess. Min. Classif. & Nomencl.* 52 *Ytthro-Tantalum Oxide. **1854** DANA *Syst. Min.* (ed. 4) II. 341 Keilhauite. . . Ytthrotitanite. **1868** WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1065 *Ytthrotitanite*. *Keilhauite*. A silicotitanate containing lime, yttria, ferric oxide, and alumina, with small quantities of other bases. **1950** E. H. BEARD in *Colonial Geol. & Mineral Resources* I. 51 The results show conclusively that the term 'thorotungstite' is inapplicable as a true description of the mineral. . . It is suggested that the mineral in future be called ytthrotungstite. **1971** *Mineral. Mag.* XXXVIII. 262 All the specimens studied consisted mainly of a fine-grained aggregate of pale-yellow earthy ytthrotungstite, with rare druses lined by ytthrotungstite crystals.

†**ytuckde, yttukked** [Y- 4], obs. pa. pple. of TUCK *v.*¹

ytueped, ME. pa. pple. of TITHE *v.*²

^c**1400** TREvisa *Higden* (Rolls) VII. App. 504 Cristes flok was tethed [MS. γ ytueped], the nyne were slayn and the tenth was kept.

ytund, ME. pa. pple. of TINE *v.*¹

yturnde, -ed, ME. pa. pple. of TURN *v.*

1387 TREvisa *Higden* (Rolls) IV. 443 þe wombe and þe boweis were i-slitte and y-turned to seche good wip ynne.

†**ytwyn** = *itwin, in twin*, apart: see TWIN *sb.* 4. **1375** BARBOUR *Bruce* VIII. 175 Thai War in-twyn [v. r. ytwyn] a bow-draucht & mar. **1513** DOUGLAS *Aeneis* ix. i. 3 In diuers placis set full for ytwyn.

†**ytwynned** [Y- 4, TWIN *v.*¹], separated. ^c**1374** CHAUCER *Troilus* iv. 788 (Corpus MS.) Though in erthe ytwynned be we tweyne.

ytyed, tied.

1402 HOCCLEVE *Let. Cupid* 226 Ful mony of hem wer in my cheyne y-tyed.

ytynt, ME. pa. pple. of TINE *v.*²

yu (juː). *Archæol.* [Chinese.] An ancient Chinese wine vessel in the form of a small metal pail with a swing handle and a decorative cover, popular in the Shang and Early Zhou periods.

1904 S. W. RUSSELL *Chinese Art* I. iv. 90 The sacrificial wine vessels illustrated . . have been selected as the most ancient pieces in the collection. . . The first is an ovoid jar (yu), of the shape used by the old kings for presents of wine to deserving subjects, with a cover surmounted by a knob, and a loop handle ending in dragons' heads. **1945** P. ACKERMAN *Ritual Bronzes of Anc. China* iv. 99/1 Yu range from six to nine inches high. . . They often come in pairs. **1973** W. WATSON in *Genius of China* (R. Acad.) II. 74/2 The yu with its high handle is an invention of late Shang.

yu, obs. form of YOU.

Yuan¹ (juːˈɑːn, ||juːˈɛn). Also 7 Ivena, 8 Ywen, 8-9 Yuen; Yüan. [a. Chinese *yuán*, lit. 'first'.] *a.* The name of the Mongol dynasty established as rulers of all China by Kublai Khan in 1279 and in power until 1368.

Kublai Khan named his kingdom Yuan in 1271, and the Yuan dynasty is often described as beginning in that year. **1673** [see SUNG *sb.* a]. **1738** tr. J. B. Du Halde's *Descr. of Empire of China & Chinese Tartary* I. 214 (heading) The twentieth dynasty, call'd Ywen, which contains nine emperors in the space of eighty nine years. **1788** GIBBON *Decl. & Fall* VI. lxiv. 268 The annals of the Moguls or Yuen. **1836** J. F. DAVIS *Chinese* I. v. 182 On the accession of Koblai Khan, the first of the Yuen dynasty. . . an order was promulgated to burn all the books of the Taou sect. **1948** D. DIRINGER *Alphabet* 355 This character. . . was only sparsely used but it lingered on at the imperial Chancery under the Yüan dynasty. **1966** F. SCHURMANN *Ideology & Organization in Communist China* i. 53 The Yüan Mongols relied heavily on a traditional bureaucratic elite to rule the country. Many of these bureaucrats remained loyal to the Yüan after 1368. **1977** N. Y. Rev. Bks. 26 May 22/1 The wreckers had found, during their work, the foundations of a gate of the Yuan era.

b. Used *attrib.* and *absol.* of the art and porcelain of the Yuan period.

1888 F. HIRTH *Ancient Porc.* 50 Pieces of a surface which bears no resemblance to any of the classical Sung or Yüan monochrome vessels . . are very common. **1933** [see SUNG *sb.* b]. **1969** R. QUEST *Cerberus Murders* iv. 30 Whistler and his circle went in for blue-and-white. . . but it was all late stuff. . . This is all Hsüan-tê or Yüan. **1978** *Nagel's Encycl.-Guide: China* 199 In old Yuan opera, one actor alone, the hero of the play, had the privilege of singing certain parts of his role.

yuan² (juːˈɑːn). Also yüan. Pl. yuan. [a. Chinese *yuán* round.] 1. A Chinese unit of currency introduced in 1914, equal to 10 *jiao*; a coin of this value.

1921 J. V. A. MACMURRAY *Treaties & Agreements with China 1894-1919* I. 853 The Law for the National Currency. . . January 1914. . . Article 2.—The unit of the national coins shall be called *yuan*, and the *yuan* shall contain . . 23.97795048 grammes of pure silver. **1927** *Glasgow Herald* 14 Jan. 8 The surtax imposition will yield . . an advantage of 12,000,000 yuan of revenue. **1949**, etc. [see JIAO]. **1962** E. SNOW *Other Side of River* (1963) ii. 23 At the Hsin Ch'iao a small suite consisting of a sitting room, bedroom and bath cost me 24 yuan. . . a day. **1976** W. H. CANAWAY *Willow-Pattern War* xvii. 173 Yang Ma-wei gave me a fistful of yüan and told me to . . find Thupien at the tea-house, and pay him. **1982** C. THOMAS *Jade Tiger* ii. 51 He offered the stallkeeper one of his own grubby ten yuan notes.

2. *Chinese Archæol.* A flat ring or perforated disc made of jade, widely circulated from the Shang period to the Hang dynasty.

1912 *Field Museum Nat. Hist.* X. v. 154 There are three kinds of annular jade objects, called *pi* . . yüan . . and *huan*. . . The former is a disk with a round perforation in the centre, the two latter are rings. **1958** W. WILLETS *Chinese Art* I. ii. 89 The yüan has a perforation twice the width of the body substance, so that its diameter is half that of the whole ring. **1963** K. CHANG *Archæol. Anc. China* ix. 276 A ceremonial pit was uncovered which contained over twenty stone discs of various sizes and a number of jade and stone ceremonial objects (circular yüan, square *tsung* tubes, *wuan-kui*, etc.).

yuan³ (juːˈɑːn). Also Yuan. Pl. yuan. [a. Chinese *yuàn* courtyard, yard.] Each of several government institutions (e.g. *guo wu yuan* the State Council, *waiyuxueyuan* a foreign languages institute) in China.

1928 *China Year Bk.* xxvi. 1234 Administrative Court (*P'ing Cheng Yuan*). . . The principal officials of the Administrative Court are the President (Yuan Chang) . . and 15 judges. **1938** E. TEICHMAN *Affairs of China* xiv. 205 On the governmental side the Central Executive Committee of the Kuomintang gives birth to the National Government of the Republic of China, composed of a President. . . and five Yuan, or governing committees: the Legislative Yuan, charged with the making of laws; the Judicial Yuan, charged with the administration of justice. . . the Examination Yuan charged with selection of officials of the public service; the Control Yuan, charged with the supervision of the national administration. . . and the Executive Yuan, charged with the actual administration of the government. **1947** *Sun* (Baltimore) 22 Aug. 6/3 They. . . will be asked to participate in the selection of the National Assembly and the legislative Yuan. **1967** *Sunday Times* 14 May 6/1 Chiang's executive Yuan (Cabinet) has discussed measures. **1979** *China Yearbk.* ix. 98/2 In the event of a dispute among the various Yuan, the President may call a meeting of the Presidents of the Yuan concerned for consultation on a solution.

||**yuan hsiao** (jyən ɕiəu). Also yüan hsiao and with hyphen. [Chinese *yuánxiào* (in Wade-Giles *yüanhsiao*), f. *yuán* first + *xiào* night.] A sweet rice-flour dumpling made for the Chinese Lantern Festival (15 January in the lunar calendar).

1956 B. Y. CHAO *How to cook & eat in Chinese* II. xvii. 210 Orange soup with yüan-hsiao. . . Knead the glutinous rice flour with ½ cup hot . . water. Then make into globules of about ½ inch in diameter. These are the yüan-hsiao. **1972** K. LO *Chinese Food* 1. 56 *Yuan hsiao* is a form of Chinese festival sweet, served in a rather bland rice soup. *Ibid.* 57 We Chinese love these *yuan hsiaos*, partly, I think, because of happy childhood memories of being allowed to do the rolling.

†**yuarzed, yuarwed**, ME. pa. pple. of FARROW *v.*

yuastr(e): see YFAST.

Yucatec (juːkətek). Also Yuca'teco and with lower-case initial. [ad. Sp. *yucateco*, f. *Yucatán*, earlier *Yocotán*, adapted from a Maya name for the language of the Mayan Chontal Indians.]

a. An American Indian of the Yucatan Peninsula in eastern Mexico; such Indians collectively. *b. colloq.* Any present-day inhabitant of the Peninsula or of the Mexican state of Yucatán in its northern part.

1843 J. L. STEPHENS *Incidents of Travel in Yucatan* I. vi. 139 No native ever calls himself a Yucateco, but always a Macegual or native of the land of Maya. **1845** *Trans. Amer. Ethnol. Soc.* I. 107 The Yucatecs differed materially from the Mexicans with regard to the time of the solar year. **1875** H. H. BANCROFT *Native Races Pacific States* II. xxi. 675 So great was the horror in which the Yucatecs held this crime that they did not always wait for conviction, . . but sometimes punished a suspected person. **1912** *Contemp. Rev.* Feb. 257 The better Yucatecos do not lean to this profession [of clergymen], which is unendowed. **1966** T. PYNCHON *Crying of Lot 49* v. 119 He was part-owner here with a yucateco who still believed in the Revolution. **1974** *Encycl. Brit. Micropædia* X. 841 The Yucatec were the Classical Maya who were conquered by the Spanish and whose calendar, architecture, and hieroglyphic writing marked them as a highly civilized people. **1983** *Word Ways* Aug. 152 Originate in Yucatan and you are a Yucatec.

c. The language of the Yucatán Indians, a Mayan language.

1940 F. JOHNSON in *Maya & their Neighbors* vi. 107 The divisions of the Yucatec-speaking Maya are relatively indistinct. **1954** J. E. S. THOMPSON *Rise & Fall Maya Civilization* i. 28 Yucatec is spoken by many whites and mestizos of Yucatán as a second language and is said to be easy to learn. **1977** *Language* LIII. 296 Tall people can be reclassified by one of the long classifiers in Bantu . . , Japanese, and Yucatec.

d. attrib. or as *adj.*

1875 H. H. BANCROFT *Native Races of Pacific States* II. xxi. 665 A Yucatec noble who wedded a woman of inferior degree, descended to her social level. **1934** A. TOYNBEE *Study of Hist.* I. 123 The Yucatec Society was apparently incorporated into the Mexic Society by conquest at about the turn of the twelfth and thirteenth centuries of the Christian Era. **1956** *Publ. Amer. Dial. Soc.* xxvi. 25 It is their speech which Vasquez . . describes as 'yucateco Spanish', characterized by Mayan phonemes and Mayan phrases. **1975** *Sci. Amer.* Oct. 74/3 They spoke a dialect unlike the Yucatec Maya dialect heard generally throughout Yucatán; it was Chontal Maya, one of the dialects of the Cholan Maya group. **1983** *Washington Post* 13 July E-3/1 You can be sure that Yucatec farmers don't waste maize on their cows. **1983** *Times Lit. Suppl.* 7 Oct. 1090/5 The Yucatec city of Chichen Itza.

Hence Yuca'tecan *a.* and *sb.*

1869 *Proc. Amer. Philos. Soc.* XI. 5 The most important dialects of the Maya are the Yucatecan, the Quiche, the Cakchiquel, [etc.]. **1886** U.S. Cons. Rep. LXVII. 495 A fair sample of Yucatecan agriculture. **1909** *Athenæum* 4 Dec. 688/1 Of the Yucatecans themselves the authors have nothing good to say. **1931** E. H. MORRIS *Temple of Warriors* xix. 228 Gold and copper were the only metals known to pre-Columbian Yucatecans. **1950** *Caribbean Q.* II. ii. 30 Actual settlement was limited at first to the Belize district, and even that was made precarious by the attack of the Spaniards and Yucatecan Indians.

yucca (juːkə), **yuca** (juːkə). Forms: 6-7 iucca, 6-9 yuca, 7-8 jucca, 7- yucca. [In sense 1, found in the forms *juca* (Amerigo Vespucci, 1497), *yuca* (Clusius, 1567); of Carib origin.]

1. The common name in Western South America and Central America for the CASSAVA. (Now usually in form *yuca*, for distinction from sense 2.)

1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 67 They haue also an other kynde of rootes, whiche they call *Iucca*, wherof they make breade in lyke maner. **1597** GERARDE *Herbal* iii. cxlix. 1359 Of Yuca or Iucca. . . The roote wherof the bread Casaua, or Cazaua is made. **1631** R. H. ARRAIGN. *Whole Creature* ix. 67 Figs and Lemmans from Spaine, Jueca from Cuba, Mayze from Peru. **1726** J. STEVENS tr. *A. de Herrera Tordesillas' Hist. Amer.* IV. 135 A Roll of Yuca, being a clammy Root, like a Patata. **1851** MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunters* xx. There were 'lair's' among the underwood thatched with the palmated leaves of the yuca. **1894** C. D. TYLER in *Georg. Jrnl.* III. 481 The *masato*. . . is . . the masticated and fermented root of the yuca.

2. Any plant of the liliaceous genus *Yucca*, native of the warmer parts of N. America, and extensively cultivated for ornament, characterized by a woody stem with a crown of

usually rigid narrow pointed leaves and an upright cluster of white bell-shaped flowers; popularly known as *Adam's needle*, particular species being also called *Spanish bayonet* and *Spanish dagger*. (Almost always in form *yucca*.)

1664 EVELYN *Kal. Hort.* 83 [Plants] not perishing but in excessive Colds... Opuntia, or the smaller Indian Fig, Yucca, Seseli *Ethiop.* 1731 MILLER *Gard. Dict.* s.v., The Narrow-leav'd Carolina Yucca. 1841 MANTELL in *Phil. Trans.* CXXXI. 140 The...trunks of the *Clathraria*,... *Yucca*, and arborescent ferns. 1851 MAYNE REID *Rifle Rangers* i. (1853) 18 The thickets of yucca and acacia-trees. 1872 C. KING *Mountain. Sierra Nev.* i. 20 Tall stems of yucca bore up their magnificent bunches of bluish flowers.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *yucca-flower*, *-plant*, *-root*; *yucca-borer*, (a) a N. American moth, *Megathymus yuccæ*, whose larva bores into the roots of yucca-plants; (b) a Californian weevil, *Yuccaborus frontalis*; *yucca-moth*, a tineid moth of the genus *Pronuba*, esp. *P. yuccasella*, which lays its eggs in the ovary of the yucca-plant, and deposits a ball of pollen on the stigma, thus fertilizing the seeds on which the larvæ feed; *yucca-palm*, *yucca-tree*, any arborescent species of *Yucca*.

1895 COMSTOCK *St. Insects* 367 A much better known species is the *Yucca-borer, *Megathymus yuccæ*. 1753 Chambers' *Cycl. Suppl.*, *Yucca-Bread, or Cassada-Bread. 1892 Rep. Missouri Bot. Gard. 99 The *Yucca moth and Yucca Pollination. 1851 MAYNE REID *Scalp Hunters* xviii. 124 She was standing near one of the *yucca palm trees that grew up from the azotéa. 1828-31 TENNYSON in *Ld. Tennyson Mem.* (1897) I. 57 She gave them the *yuccaroot... Of sweet Xaraguay. 1828 G. F. LYON *Jrnl. Mexico* I. 142 Most uninteresting country, bearing here and there a stunted bush or a *Yucca-tree.

Yuchi (ˈjuːtʃi). Also 8-9 Euchee, Euchie(e), Uchee. [a. Creek, of uncertain origin.]

a. (A member of) an Indian people formerly inhabiting the region of the Savannah river in Georgia and South Carolina, and now incorporated into the Creek nation in Oklahoma.

1738 W. STEPHENS *Jrnl.* in *Colonial Rec. Georgia* (1906) IV. 75 He understood they were a Party of the Euchies. 1741 in *South Carolina Hist. Soc. Coll.* (1887) IV. 40 Thomas Jones... was Employed... as a Linguist to the Creeks and Euchees. 1744 in *Georgia Hist. Soc. Coll.* (1840) I. 145 Their cattle... had strayed away and eat the Uckee's corn. 1818 Lynchburg (Va.) *Press* 25 Dec. 3/1 The captain... reports to have taken three warriors, a Creek, a Choctaw, and a Uchee. 1893 *Amer. Anthropologist* VI. 280 The Yuchi believe themselves to be the offspring of the sun. 1965 [see CREEK sb.2]. 1975 W. L. BALLARD in J. M. Crawford *Stud. Southeastern Indian Lang.* 163, I spent approximately six weeks in Sapulpa, Oklahoma, interviewing Yuchis.

b. The language of this people.

1836 *Trans. & Coll. Amer. Antiq. Soc.* II. 96 These five languages, the Muskogee and the Hitchitee, the Uchee, the Natches, and the Alibamon or Coosada are, it is believed, the only ones spoken by the different tribes of the Creek confederacy. 1909 F. S. SPECK *Ethnol. Yuchi Indians* 15 It is quite certain now that Yuchi is spoken in only one dialect. 1975 W. L. BALLARD in J. M. Crawford *Stud. Southeastern Indian Lang.* 163 A number of tapes of conversations in Yuchi were made.

yuck (jʌk), sb.¹ *slang* (orig. U.S.). Also yuk. [Origin unknown.] A fool; a boor; anyone disliked or despised.

1943 H. A. SMITH *Life in Putty Knife Factory* xiv. 239 Yuck is a word introduced into the language by Fred Allen. A yuck is a dope who makes a practice of going around appearing on quiz programs. That was its original definition; it now means a dope of any description. 1948 R. CHANDLER *Let.* 27 Jan. (1981) 105 The public's capacity and adaptability to a quality of entertainment which the yucks seem to be afraid to give them. 1957 M. SHULMAN *Rally round Flag, Boys!* (1958) vi. 67 The yucks who look at television don't know the difference between Ernest Hemingway and Huntz Hall. 1972 P. ROWLANDS *Fugitive Mind* xi. 132 'Is your brother a yuk?' Clare asked Sally. 'Oh yes! He's a terrible yuk! He shouts a lot, he breaks my toys, he pushes me over.' 1979 J. WAINWRIGHT *Duty Elsewhere* xx. 56 Three no-good yucks had felt like playing footsie with the law.

yuck (jʌk), *int.*, sb.², and *a. slang*. Also yuk. [Imitative. Cf. YECH *int.*, YUCK *v.*¹] *A. int.* An expression of strong distaste or disgust.

1966 R. H. RIMMER *Harrad Experiment* (1967) 25 Across the table, Dorothy Stapleton and Valerie Something-or-other belong (yucks, is that the right word?) to Herber Snyder and Peter Longini. 1970 *It* 12-25 Feb. 16/4 The whole tenor of the epistle is that of one elite talking to another without reference to... those who have paid... Yuk. 1976 G. MOFFAT *Short Time to Live* vii. 58 'Fish pie perhaps, and parsley sauce.' 'Yuk,' said Arabella. 1981 P. DICKINSON *Seventh Raven* x. 130 You took a harmless animal and chopped it up... to please your God—yuck, they thought. 1983 D. SIMPSON *Puppet for Corpse* xx. 172 It was the way he talked about her... 'You know what older women are, wink, wink...' Yuk!

B. sb.² Messy, unpleasant, or distasteful material. *lit.* and *fig.*

1966 *New Statesman* 19 Aug. 258/1 Rotting wodge of chilly yuck which once were apples and pears. 1971 P. PURSER *Holy Father's Navy* xxxviii. 187 There was a lot of yuk which I didn't investigate too closely, and a bit of ear definitely in the wrong place. 1977 *Times* 17 Oct. 12/6, I asked Nancy Grimes, a freelance who arranges plants for people... 'The offices now are so ugly and so standard, such standardized urban yuk... They want to see something that

can actually survive and grow here. It gives them reassurance.' 1981 M. E. ATKINS *Palimpsest* xii. 118 One of those syndicated advice columns... All noble sentiments and romantic yuk.

C. *adj.* 1. = YUCKY *a.*

1971 *TV Times* (Austral.) 24 Feb. 39/2 Business was a bit yuk and I was bugged by this lack of confidence. 1973 P. DICKINSON *Green Gene* ii. 28 She's got a really yuck family, even worse than mine.

2. *Comb. yuck-making ppl. a.* = *sick-making* ppl. *adj.* s.v. SICK *a.* 11.

1972 *Courier-Mail* (Brisbane) 30 Mar. 1/10 The BBC yesterday described a song about the former Australian Prime Minister... as the biggest 'yuck-making' piece of propaganda in politics. 1975 *Listener* 7 Aug. 168/3 Nasty, yuk-making remarks.

yuck (jʌk), *v.*¹ *Canad. dial.* [Imitative.] *intr.* To vomit.

1963 *Amer. Speech* XXXVIII. 301 [Newfoundland.] Yuck, to vomit. 1981 *Publ. Amer. Dial. Soc.* LXVIII. 54 [Newfoundland.] To vomit, yuck.

yuck (jʌk), *v.*² *slang*. (chiefly N. Amer.). Also yuk. [Origin unknown. Cf. YOCK sb. (and v.).] *intr.* a. To fool around; to act so as to cause laughter. b. To laugh. Also to *yuck it up*.

1964 S. BELLOW *Herzog* 119 And Gersbach, boisterous, yucking it up, poured whisky, wine, pounded the table. 1967 *Boston Sunday Herald* 2 Apr. (T.V. Mag.) 9/2 Russ Tamblin and Sidney Poitier yuk it up as the lightly clad barbarians; Rosanna Schiaffino and Beba Loncar play it cool as the lightly clad camp followers. 1969 *Listener* 23 Jan. 98/3 An American watches British television... for visions of America. Stray ones move us: Wally Schirra yucking it up in space. 1974 *Publishers Weekly* 12 Aug. 55/3 Laurel and Hardy fans... should enjoy this semi-biography... Old-timers who yucked when they saw the movies way-back-when should swell the market. 1975 *Time Out* 11 Apr. 36/4 Pryor has them yucking at whitey one moment and at themselves the next.

Hence *yuck sb.*³, a laugh.

1971 *Daily Colonist* (Victoria, B.C.) 10 Feb. 5/2 The biggest yucks, as might be expected, are to be found right here in Canada. 1976 *National Observer* (U.S.) 16 Oct. 10/3 The biggest yuck of the night was when Mr. T. called Mrs. Lewclyn 'Mrs. Rreweryn'. 1977 *Canadian* 2 Apr. 20/1 Humor is his forte. Looking for yuks? Phone Sammy. 1984 *Sun-Times* (Chicago) 17 Feb. 49/2 The movie gets its yuks with slapstick scenes where one guy goes out the window when the other guy comes in the door.

yuck, variant of YUKE.

yuckle (ˈjʌk(ə)l), *dial.* Also yuckel, yuccle, yuckel, yockel. [var. of *hickle*, HICKWALL, influenced by YAFFLE.] The green woodpecker.

1847-78 HALLIWELL, *Yuckel*, a woodpecker. *Wilts.* 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* xli, I feel sum how as peert as a yuckel.

yucky (ˈjʌki), *a. slang*. Also yukky. [f. YUCK *a.*] a. Nasty, unpleasant; sickly sentimental.

1970 D. UHNAK *Ledger* v. 79 She wanted to go to a lousy, yucky secretarial college. 1977 *Oxford Times* 1 July 15 The sweetness is fused with enough real feeling to avoid being sugary, except for the rather yucky spoken introduction to 'Meadows of Springtime'. 1980 *Sunday Times* 13 Jan. 61/1 To develop an improved instrument for doctors dealing with emergency cases of perforated lungs, the research boys set to work with butchers' skewers and a lot of belly of pork. It may sound yucky to the squeamish. 1981 M. GORDON *Company of Women* 111. 240 It's only bats, I say... 'They're weird,' says Linda. 'Yucky.'

b. Messy, 'goosey'.

1975 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 13 June 661/3 Peanut butter, that yucky staple standby of the American snack-eater. 1977 J. WILSON *Making Hate* v. 62 Let's get these yucky things off and get you washed.

Hence 'yuckiness'.

1982 E. NORTH *Ancient Enemies* ix. 120 The ringing in my ears and general lassitude and yuckiness. 1984 *Info World* 14 May 18/1 So you go for 100 shares... Let's say that by November it soars back up to 68 5/8, where it peaked before all this market yuckiness began.

yud (jud), *dial.* var. HEAD sb.¹ *rare*.

1874 [see INNARDS sb. pl.]. 1882 E. L. CHAMBERLAIN *Gloss. W. Worcestershire Words* 35 Yud... head. 1974 W. FOLEY *Child in Forest* 1. 100 I'll 'old her yud still, and... you get a good dose down 'er gullet.

yud(e, ʒud(e, obs. pa. t. of GO: see YODE.

yue, obs. form of GIVE *v.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 265 Nou bropren and zostren y-hyrep my red and yuep youre. *Ibid.* 271 Yue.

† **yued**, ME. pa. pple. of FEED *v.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 141 þo hedde of yreched and yued pet uolk.

Yüeh¹ (ˈjyɐ). Also Yueh. [f. the name Yüeh Chou of a town (now called Shaoxing) in Zhejiang Province, China.] A type of stoneware distinguished by a celadon glaze, first produced in the Six Dynasties period and perfected during the Tang dynasty. *Freq. attrib.*, esp. as *Yüeh ware*.

[1887 *Jrnl. R. Asiatic Soc. N. China Branch* XXII. 134 The author of the *T'ao-Shuo* begins his treatise on ancient porcelains with the Yüeh-chou potteries of the T'ang dynasty.] 1910 S. W. BUSHELL *Descr. Chinese Pott. & Porc.* 11. ii. 35 The Hsing-chou porcelain resembles silver, while the Yüeh-chou porcelain resembles jade... Hsing is inferior to Yueh. 1915 R. L. HOBSON *Chinese Pott. & Porc.* v. 59 Surely this cannot be far removed from the 'secret colour' of the Yueh ware. 1933 *Burlington Mag.* Sept. 122/2 When

Yüeh Chou was capital of a principality, Yüeh ware was made exclusively for the princely court and was known as *pi sê yao* or ware of forbidden colour. 1958 W. WILLETTTS *Chinese Art* II. vi. 439 In 1930 a Yüeh Kiln was found by Yonayama at Tê-ch'ing near Hangchow. *Ibid.* vi. 442 A number of whole bowls in the shape of lotus flowers are illustrated, all reputedly being Yüeh yao. 1972 *Trans. Oriental Ceramic Soc.* XXXVIII. 23 The fully evolved ware which T'ang poets praised is generally termed *Yüeh ware*... the earlier product being called *Old Yüeh* by the Japanese.

Yüeh² (ˈjyɐ). Also Yueh. [Chinese.] (A member of) a group of peoples originally living in the coastal provinces of southern China, who expanded into south-east Asia during the third century B.C.

1901 E. A. PARKER *China* ii. 23 The... Yüeh tribes... seem to have very soon lost their separate identity, and to have either permanently retired into Annam proper or to have been merged into the Chinese. 1934 K. S. LATOURETTE *Chinese* i. ii. 51 Both Wu and Yüeh seem to have depended in part upon boats for their victories, navigating these craft on the sea and on the rivers and lakes in which their possessions abounded. 1966 W. G. GODDARD *Formosa* i. 16 The Yuch in coastal China. 1972 M. SHEPPARD *Taman Indera* 5 At the beginning of the Christian era well-established trade links existed between South China, India and the Red Sea. Many different traders and sailors joined in operating this route... leaving the Yuehs to control the final sector. 1974 *Encycl. Brit. Macropædia* XIX. 120/1 A long-held notion that identified the Vietnamese with one tribe of the Viets of southern China (Yüeh in Chinese) has been abandoned.

Yüeh³ (ˈjyɐ). Also Yue. [ad. Chinese *Yuè*, a former name for Guangdong province.] A Chinese dialect spoken in parts of the provinces of Guangdong and Guangxi. *Freq. attrib.*

1954 M. A. PEI *Dict. Ling.* 34 *Cantonese*... spoken in Kwang-tung... The indigenous name of this vernacular is *Yüeh*. 1961 CHANG-TU HU et al. *China* v. 101 Yüeh or Cantonese is spoken by some forty million people in China and abroad. 1974 *Encycl. Brit. Macropædia* XVI. 801/2 The most important representative of the Yüeh languages is Standard Cantonese of Canton, Hong Kong, and Macao. 1978 *Nagel's Encycl.-Guide: China* 70 *Yue* dialect: most of Guang dong and south eastern Guang xi. 1982 C. THOMAS *Jade Tiger* ii. 43 The man spoke in northern Min dialect as opposed to his own expatriate Yue dialect.

|| **yüeh**⁴ (ˈjyɐ). *Archæol.* Also yueh. [Chinese *yuè*.] A bronze battle-axe or halberd, esp. one of the Shang period.

1956 W. C. WHITE *Bronze Culture Ancient China* 4 *Axes* (Yüeh), the most common type of axe is found in a variety of shapes. *Ibid.* 58 (caption) *Axe-head* (Yüeh), with socket for hafting. 1960 CHENG TE-K'UN *Archæol. in China* II. iv. 69 Larger, and consequently richer, tombs would be provided with bronze vessels as well as weapons, such as *ko* dagger axes... *yueh* broad-axes. 1964 M. MEDLEY *Handbk. Chinese Art* 14/2 *Axes*, called *yüeh*, *ch'i* or *fu*, are either tanged or socketed. 1978 *New Archæol. Finds in China* II. 29 Also found was a bronze weapon *yueh*.

|| **yüeh ch'in** (ˈjyɐ tʃin, kin). Also yueh-ch'in, yu-kin, yukin, 9 *yuè kin*. [Chinese (Pinyin *yuè qín*), lit. 'moon guitar'.] A Chinese lute with four strings and a flat, circular body.

1839 *Chinese Repository* VIII. 44 The *pepa* and *yuè kin* are of easy purchase. 1909 *Cent. Dict. Suppl.* *Yu-kin*,... a Chinese lute or guitar with a large circular body, a short neck, and four strings. 1954 *Grove's Dict. Mus.* (ed. 5) II. 239/2 *Yüeh ch'in*... flat lute of four strings. Used... to accompany ballads. Now rare. 1962 E. SNOW *Other Side of River* (1963) lxxiii. 566 They may specialize in piano, violin, cello, flute, or one of the standard Chinese strings: *p'i-p'a*, *yang-ch'in*, *yueh-ch'in*, and others. 1971 J. R. BERNASCONI *Collectors' Gloss.* 396 *Yukin*, a Chinese instrument with four strings played by plucking. 1975 [see SAN HSIEN].

yuel (l, -lle, obs. ff. EVIL.

yuer, var. YURE, udder.

yuer, **yuery**(e, **yuerene**, obs. ff. IVORY, IVORINE.

yuerred, ME. pa. pple. of FAR *v.*

yuert, variant of YOUTRT.

yuff, variant of YOUNF.

|| **yuffrouw** (ˈjʊfraʊ). Forms: 5-6 3ong-, 6 3oung frow, yong frow, 7 yough Fro, 9 yuffro(u)w, yungfrau, euvrou, uvrrou, -ow: see also EUPHROE. [ad. early mod.Du. *jongvrouw*(e) (cf. FROW sb.), now *juffrouw* young lady, miss, and (in shortened form) *juffer* young lady, beam in shipbuilding, rammer (see JUFFER, UFER). See also EUPHROE.]

1. A young lady, girl.

1589 GREENE *Menaphon* (Arb.) 45 To see the fashion of these country yong frowes. 1673 DRYDEN *Amboyna* IV. i. And it may be then in stead of kissing, desir'd yough Fro to hold his head. 1810 W. IRVING *Let. to Mrs. Hoffman* 26 Feb. I have... formed acquaintance with some of the good people, and several of the little Y[u]ffrouws.

2. *Naut. a. ?* A dead-eye. *Obs.* b. (See *quots.* 1810, 1867.)

1494 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 254 3ong frowis and collaris, seme and rufe to the bote. 1505 *Ibid.* III. 36 Blokkis and brassin schiffs, paralingis, and 3ong frowes. 1810 J. DESSIOU *Moore's Pract. Navigator* 291 *Uvrou*, the piece of wood by which the legs of the crow-foot are extended. 1815- [see EUPHROE]. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Crow-foot*, a

number of small lines spreading out from an uvrow or long block, used to spread awnings by.

|| **yuft** (jʌft). Also 9 **youghten**, **jucten**, **juff**, **juft**, **youft**. [a. Russ. *yuft'*, *yukht'*, whence also G. *juften*, *juchten*.] Russia leather (see RUSSIA 1).

1799 W. TOOKE *View Russ. Emp.* III. 514 The chief products of the tanneries of this country... are the yufts. 1802-3 tr. *Pallas's Trav.* (1812) I. 45 Russian leather, or Youghten. 1853 URE *Dict. Arts* (ed. 4) II. 60 The Russians have long been possessed of a method of making a peculiar leather, called by them *jucten*, dyed red with the aromatic saunders wood. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Juff, Youft*.

|| **yug** (jʊg), **yuga** (ˈjʊgə). Also **yoog**, **yoogu**. [Hindi *yug*, Skr. *yugá*- YOKE, an age of the world.] In Hindu cosmology, any of the four ages in the duration of the world, the four ages comprising 4,320,000 years and constituting a great yuga (*Mahāyuga*).

1784 W. HASTINGS in *Asiatick Researches* (1788) I. 237 The duration of the Historical ages must needs be very unequal... while that of the Indian Yugs is disposed so regularly and artificially, that it cannot be admitted as natural or probable. 1820 W. WARD *View Hindoos* (ed. 3) IV. 315 The amount of these four yoogūs form a mūhu or great yoogū, viz. 4,320,000 years. 1883 *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 207/2 The Hindu doctrine of the four ages or yuga.

yugawaralite (jʊˈgæwərəlaɪt). *Min.* [f. *Yugawara*, name of a town in Japan near where it was first found + *-l-* + *-ITE*¹.] A hydrated aluminosilicate of calcium, $\text{CaAl}_2\text{Si}_6\text{O}_{16} \cdot 4\text{H}_2\text{O}$, that is a member of the zeolite group and occurs as colourless or white monoclinic crystals having a vitreous lustre.

1952 SAKURAI & HAYASHI in *Sci. Rep. Yokohama Nat. Univ.* Section II. 1. 77 We can not identify this mineral with the other zeolites, and we may consider this to be a new zeolite. We wish to [call] it 'Yugawaralite' after its locality. 1969 *Acta Cryst.* B. XXV. 1190/1 It is difficult to place yugawaralite in any of the seven recognized groups of zeolites, although it shows certain similarities to both mordenite and heulandite. 1978 *Mineral. Rec.* IX. 296/1 Yugawaralite, a relatively rare calcium zeolite, has been found in specimens mined from the Khandivali quarry near Bombay, India.

yugement, obs. form of JUDGEMENT.

|| **yugen** (ˈjuːɡən). Also **yūgen** and with capital initial. [Jap., f. *yū* dark + *gen* the unfathomable.] In traditional Japanese Court culture, esp. poetry and, later, the No play, a hidden quality of graceful beauty or mystery; profound aestheticism.

1921 A. WALEY *Nō Plays of Japan* 21 The difficult term yūgen which occurs constantly... is derived from Zen literature. It means 'what lies beneath the surface'; the subtle, as opposed to the obvious; the hint as opposed to the statement. 1932 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 6 Oct. 715/1 Such a couplet... can hardly be said to capture the spirit of yugen. 1959 *Ibid.* 15 May 291/2 This brief basking in the Shōgun's favour led Zeami to stress the importance in performance of Yūgen, or elegant beauty and gentleness. 1970 *Daily Tel.* 16 May 9/4 His smooth curving movements of a fan, together with circling movements across the stage... gave a poetic suggestion of flight, illustrating the Yūgen—indirection, allusiveness, mystery—which lies at the heart of No.

Yugo (ˈjuːɡəʊ), colloq. abbrev. of YUGOSLAVIAN *a.* and *sb.*

1941 *Daily News* (N.Y.) 20 Mar. 19/1 (heading) Yugos and Axis in compromise. *Ibid.* 24 Mar. 3/3 (heading) Yugo disorders, Greek warning stay Axis pact. 1963 I. FLEMING *On H.M. Secret Service* xi. 117 'Which one was it, anyway?' 'One of the Yugos. Bertil.' 1982 'I. I. MAGDALEN' *Search for Anderson* 1. x. 47 There was something wrong about that Yugo shoot-out. It stank.

Yugoslav (ˈjuːɡəʊslɑːv, ˈjuːɡəʊslɑːv), *sb.* and *a.* Also **Jugo-**; 9 **Iugo-Slav**, **Yougo-Slave**, **Yugo-Slave**. [ad. G. *Jugoslawe* (F. *Yougoslave*), f. Serbo-Croat *jugo-*, comb. form of *jug* south + G. *Slawe* SLAV *sb.*] *A. sb.* *a.* (A member of) various groups of southern Slavs, comprising the Serbs, Croats, and Slovenes; also, since 30 Oct. 1918, a native or inhabitant of the State of Yugoslavia. *b. rare.* The Slavonic language dominant in Yugoslavia; = *Serbo-Croat* s.v. SERBO-.

1853 L. H. KERR tr. *Robert's Slave Prov. Turkey in Ranke's Hist. Servia* (ed. 2) 382 Toasts were drunk to... the New Servian Kingdom, which will reunite all the Yugo-Slavs under the eternal patronage of the house of Romanoff. 1867 MACKENZIE & IRBY *Trav. Slavonic Provinces of Turkey-in-Europe* xxv. 369 The situation was reversed when the Russians had shaken off the Tartar, and the Iugo-Slav fell under the Turk. 1881 MRS. A. O. BRODIE tr. *Tissot's Unknown Hungary* I. 111 The Yugo-Slavs, or Slaves of the south of Austria. 1917 F. S. COPELAND tr. *Vosnjak's Bulwark against Germany* xv. 250 The unification of the Jugoslavs. 1922 *Encycl. Brit.* XXX. 372/1 The Yugoslavs... are the most numerous people in the [Balkan] peninsula. 1943 J. B. PRIESTLEY *Daylight on Saturday* xxv. 194 If you've got the morale—and even if you've got hardly anything else, like the Jugo-Slavs—you stand up and fight. 1948 R. A. D. FORREST *Chinese Lang.* i. 28 The feature [sc. distinctive tone]... survives to this day in one Lithuanian dialect, with traces in Scandinavian and in a variety of Yugoslav. 1973 *Times* 29 Oct. 12/7 The new Electra is Danica Mastilovic, a Yugoslav, making her debut in the house.

B. adj. Of, pertaining to, or designating the people or state of Yugoslavia.

1853 L. H. KERR tr. *Robert's Slave Prov. Turkey in Ranke's Hist. Servia* (ed. 2) 378 Gai's 'Illyrian Journal', the organ of the Serb and Yugo-Slave interests. 1916 B. VOSNJAK *Jugoslav Nationalism* 11 There have been... three Yugoslav state creations. 1920 *Edin. Rev.* July 42 Whatever else may be said of the Yugoslav movement... it is at any rate a national movement having its origins within... the peoples whose destiny it affects. 1967 *Listener* 29 June 843/3 Italian, Yugoslav, or Spanish workers have migrated to West Germany... or Switzerland. 1981 L. DEIGHTON *XPD* xxviii. 226 The duty officers could be sure of a bottle of Yugoslav riesling.

Yugoslavian (juːɡəʊˈslɑːviən), *a.* and *sb.* Also **Jugo-**. [f. prec. + *-IAN*.]

A. adj. = YUGOSLAV *a.* *B. sb.* *a.* A native or inhabitant of Yugoslavia. *b. rare.* The Serbo-Croat language.

1923 W. J. LOCKE *Moordius & Co.* xiii. 180, I must be back to give dinner to the Jugo-Slavian minister. 1924 *Contemp. Rev.* Apr. 448 They cannot effectively crush the revolutionaries on Yugoslavian soil. 1949 E. POUND *Pisan Cantos* lxxx. 96 White boy says: do you speak Yugoslavian? 1953 A. SMITH *Blind White Fish in Persia* x. 204 Firstly, our Yugoslavian visas had not come through. 1962 A. LURIE *Love & Friendship* ii. 31 They didn't have them [sc. Boy Scouts] in Yugoslavia. Anyway, only for Yugoslavians. 1977 *New Yorker* 19 Sept. 49/2 There was a Yugoslavian boy who had brought along a portable silent keyboard with a weight attached to each key, to regulate the action. 1983 *Times* 3 Oct. 1/4 The Greek and the Yugoslavian were accustomed to the heat.

yuh (jʌ), repr. a colloq. (esp. Black English) pronoun. of YOU.

1906 [see OUTA]. 1922 [see *tough nut* s.v. TOUGH *a.* 10a]. 1933 *Publ. Texas Folklore Soc.* XI. 101 She tol' me to ax yuh. 1952 [see MACOUMÈRE]. 1967 E. BRATHWAITE in *Ramchand & Gray West Indian Poetry* (1972) 25 Yuh does get up, walk 'bout. 1969 [see SECKO]. 1977 *Rolling Stone* 30 June 80/3 So get back to me as soon as you can, will yuh.

yuill, obs. Sc. form of YULE.

yuk, var. YUCK *int.*, *sb.*², and *a.*

Yukaghir (ˈjuːkəɡɪə(r), ˈjuːkəˈɡɪə(r)), *sb.* (*a.*) Also **Yukaghire**, **Yukagir**(e). *a.* (A member of) a Mongoloid people of Arctic Siberia. *b.* The Palæo-Siberian language (of unknown affiliation) of this people. Also *attrib.* or as *adj.*

1842 C. H. COTTRELL *Recoll. Siberia* iv. 104 The Yukaghires, settled on the banks of the river Anuiy, maintain themselves the whole year on the reindeer they kill in spring and autumn. 1879 C. H. EDEN *Frozen Asia* ix. 208 The head-quarters of the Yukaghires is on the River Anyui. 1898 [see KORYAK]. 1906 *Daily Chron.* 4 Apr. 7/5 The sole survivors of a group of ten Yukaghirs, are charged with having eaten the man's nephew... After that the Yukagir, although he had caught a swan, continued to eat human flesh. 1908 T. G. TUCKER *Introd. Natural Hist. Lang.* 149 The Hyperborean speeches of Asia, some of which may or may not form a family, include... *Yukaghir*. 1932 [see CHUKCHEE, CHUKCHI *sb.* and *a.*] 1948 D. DIRINGER *Alphabet* 35 Sad love-story of a Yukaghir girl. 1951 W. K. MATTHEWS *Languages U.S.S.R.* ii. 3 Yukagir (Odu), the mother-tongue of fewer than 500 persons in Northern Yakutia. 1964 tr. *Levin & Potapov's Peoples of Siberia* 789 The name 'Yukagir' was borrowed by the Russians from the Yakuts, but its origin is probably Tungusic. 1972 W. B. LOCKWOOD *Panorama Indo-Europ. Lang.* 154 There are isolated languages spoken by diminutive populations. These are Gilyak... and, with a thousand speakers... or less... Yukagir (Yukagir National Area). 1981 M. C. SMITH *Gorky Park* i. xiv. 213 He was more Siberian than any of us... The Borodins... lived with the Yukagir, the reindeer herders. 1983 *Word* XXXIV. 217 The focus system of Yukagir, and case and negation in Uralic are treated in syntax sections.

|| **yukata** (juˈkɑːtə). Also **Yukata**, **yukatta**; 9 **ukata**. [Jap., f. *yu* hot water, bath + *kata* short for *katabira* a light kimono.] A light cotton kimono, freq. with steneil designs, orig. intended to be worn after a bath, but now also used as a housecoat.

1822 F. SHOBERL tr. *Titsingh's Illustr. Japan* II. 254 The *ukata*... a robe of fine linen; it is put on in coming out of the bath to dry the body. 1881 SATOW & HAWES *Handbk. Japan* p. xvi, Japanese loose cotton gowns (*yukata*). 1886 J. LA FARGE *Let.* 3 Sept. in *Artist's Lett. from Japan* 229 A... rode along with only a partial covering of *yukatta*, and attracted no attention. 1936 K. NOHARA *True Face of Japan* v. 130 Dons the *yukata*, the light, informal, Japanese house-jacket of coloured cotton. 1960 B. LEACH *Potter in Japan* vi. 133 My Yukata (provided cotton kimono) reached to my knees. *Ibid.* ix. 195 Visitors were strolling the streets in 'yukatta' (cotton kimono provided by hotels). 1970 *Guardian* 12 Dec. 6/6 The donning of the cool cotton *yukata* robe and slippers is the first showing of Western identity. 1981 J. MELVILLE *Sort of Samurai* ix. 75 All four of them were now wearing cotton *yukatas*.

Yukawa (juˈkɑːwə). *Nucl. Physics.* The name of H. Yukawa (b. 1907), Japanese physicist, used *attrib.* with reference to the theory of the strong interaction between nucleons put forward by him, in which it is mediated by the exchange of particles (*Yukawa particles*) subsequently identified with pions; **Yukawa potential**, a potential function of the form $V = V_0(r/r_0)^{-1}$

$\exp(-r/r_0)$, occurring in Yukawa's theory of the nuclear force.

1938 *Nature* 1 Oct. 592/2 The discovery of a new particle, the Yukawa particle or 'heavy electron', has given a new orientation to many of our ideas. 1948 *Proc. Camb. Philos. Soc.* XLIV. 90 As an illustration of the treatment developed above the nuclear field as described by the Yukawa potential $U(r) = -\frac{1}{2}g^2r^{-1}e^{-\mu r}$ will be treated. 1964 *Listener* 29 Oct. 661/1 Immediately after the war, many physicists... became deeply involved in these problems, especially the nature of protons, neutrons, and the Yukawa mesons. 1968 C. G. KUPER *Introd. Theory Superconductivity* xv. 258 The Yukawa force between nucleons has a pairing part, and the methods of the BCS theory are applicable. 1973 R. J. BLIN-STOYLE *Fund. Interactions & Nucleus* i. 3 The earlier Lagrangian formulation of strong interactions based on Yukawa type interactions has continued to play an important role. 1974 FRAUENFELDER & HENLEY *Subatomic Physics* viii. 187 If virtual pions are exchanged between nucleons, the basic Yukawa reaction $N \rightarrow N' + \pi$ should conserve isospin. 1977 P. D. B. COLLINS *Introd. Regge Theory & High Energy Physics* i. 42 The simplest form of potential which has the short-range character appropriate to strong interactions is the Yukawa potential $U(r) = g^2e^{-\mu r}/r$, where g^2 is the coupling strength and μ^{-1} is the range.

yuke (juːk), *sb.* *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Forms: see the vb. [f. next.] Itching, itch.

1551 TURNER *Herbal* 1. Avb, Wormwood... helyth also the yche or yuke. *Ibid.* Piv, The broth of them is good... for itche or yeewk that goeth over the hole body. 1572 BUCHANAN *Detectioun in Jas. Anderson Coll.* (1727) II. 16 Certane blak Pimples... brak out ouer all his hail Body, with sa greit Zuik... that he lingerit ouer his Lyfe with verray small Hope of Eschapi. 1715 RAMSAY *Christ's Kirk Gr.* II. ix, When their hands he shook, Ga'e them what he got frae his dad, Videlicet, the yuke. 1722 in *C'tess Suffolk's Lett.* (1824) I. 93 All the best families in the parish are laid up with what they call the yoke—which in England is the itch. 1824 W. OLIVER *Songs* 7 For fear that... Scotch Donald chance to myek owr free, An' gie wor king the yuick. [1901 *Let. to Editor*, Among stablemen, coachmen, &c., the itch goes by the name of the 'dukes' (or dooks), and horses suffering from the complaint are referred to as 'dukey (or dooky) horses'.]

yuke (juːk), *v.* *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Forms: 5 **zhuyk**, **zoke**, **zouk**, 5-6 **zuke**, 6 **zoik**, **yuik**, **iuke**, **yeewk**, 7 **yeauk**, 6- **yeuk**, **yuke**, 7- **yuck**, 8-9 **yook**, (**youk**, **yoke**, 9 **yuk**, **yuc**, **yewk**, **yeuck**, **yuick**, **ewk**, **euk**(e, **uke**). [app. alteration of north. ME. *zeke*, *zike* (see ITCH v.1), prob. under the influence of MDu. *jeuken*.] *intr.* To itch.

c 1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* II. vii. 574 Senyphes... And alkyn kynde of cleggis als bat gert zhuyk [v. r. zuke] bathe heid and hals. a 1508 DUNBAR *Tua Mariit Wemen* 130 Bot I may zuke all this zer, or his 3erd help. a 1600 MONTGOMERIE *Sonn.* xxvi. 3 Quhais craig zoiks fastest, let tham sey thame sell. 1674 RAY *N.C. Words* 56 *Yuck*; Linc. 1790 BURNS *'Kind Sir, I've read'*, etc. 26 How Daddie Burke the plea was cookin', If Warren Hastings' neck was yeukin'. 1796 — *Poem on Life* vi, Ah Nick!... Thy auld, damned elbow yeuks wi' joy, And hellish pleasure. 1804 R. ANDERSON *Cumbl'd Ball.* (c 1850) 99 She'll scart my back whene'er it yuks. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xxi. It had hae been a fashious job that; by my certie, some o' our necks wad hae been ewking. 1882 JAS. WALKER *Jaunt to Auld Reekie* etc. 42 For poachin' aye his heart it yeukit.

Hence **yuking** *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

a 1449 W. BOWER in *Fordu'n's Scotichron.* (1759) II. 376 Wyth prik zoukand eeris, as the awsk gleg [tr. *L. auribus indisciplinata, ut aspis*]. 1562 TURNER *Bathes* i b, Good... for the sciatica, and for all kindes of itche or iukinge. 1600 J. HAMILTON *Facile Traicte* 40 Sik as flatters thair zeuking earis. 1886 S.W. Linc. *Gloss.* s.v. *Yuck*, Such a nasty yucking pain comes on in the legs. 1894 CROCKETT *Raiders* xxiv, When I get that dry yeukin' in my thrapple.

Yuki (ˈjuːki), *sb.* (*a.*) Also 9 **Yuka**, **Yukeh**, etc. [a. Wintu *yu-keh*, lit. 'stranger, enemy'.]

a. (A member of) a group of linguistically related American Indian peoples, comprising the Yuki, Huchnom, and Wappo tribes, inhabiting the coast of north-western California. *b.* The language spoken by this people. Also *attrib.* or as *adj.*

1858 S. P. STORMS *Let.* 14 Aug. in *Ann. Rep. Commissioner of Indian Affairs for 1858* CIX. 307 About three thousand Nome Cults or Yukas make this valley [sc. Round Valley in northern California] their headquarters. 1863 *Hist. Mag.* VII. 123/1 The Yukeh, or as the name is variously spelt, Yuka, Yuques, and Uca, are the original inhabitants of the... Round Valley in Tehama County, California. 1875 H. H. BANCROFT *Native Races Pacific States* III. 11. iii. 648 In Round Valley, northern California, there is the... Yuka language. *Ibid.* 643 At Humboldt Bay a language called Patawat is mentioned, and in Round Valley the Yuka. 1877 S. POWERS *Tribes Calif.* xiv. 129 If a Yuki stumbles and falls on the march... it is a bad omen. *Ibid.*, He has seen Yuki dead left on the field. 1900 J. FRAZER *Golden Bough* (ed. 2) I. i. 34 When the men of the Yuki tribe of Indians in California were away fighting, the women at home... danced... in a circle, chanting and waving leafy wands. 1923 A. L. KROEBER *Anthropol.* iii. 90 In the native Californian language known as Yuki, *ko* means *go*. 1939 H. M. WORMINGTON *Ancient Man in North Amer.* vi. 256 Among living Indians in North America the Cahuilla tribes of inland southern California and the Pomo and Yuki of northern coastal California, are thought to show the greatest number of Amurian traits. 1965 *Canad. J. L.* Linguistics X. 99 Hoka-Siouan in Sapir's arrangement includes six major constituent units... Hoka-Coahuiltecan, Yuki, [etc.]. 1974 *Encycl. Brit. Micropædia* X. 844/1 Warfare was apparently frequent—between certain communities, between the different Yuki groups, and with other Californian Indians. *Ibid.* 844/2 The Yuki... were organized into communities composed of several scattered settlements. 1981 A. B.

KEHOE *North Amer. Indians* vii. 376/2 Yuki and its sister language Wappo, both spoken north of San Francisco Bay.

yukky, var. YUCKY *a.*

Yukon (ˈjuːkɒn). [The name of the Yukon Territory in north-west Canada.] *Yukon stove*, a lightweight portable stove consisting of a small metal box divided into firebox and oven.

1898 W. B. HASKELL *Two Years in Klondyke* 75 The 'Yukon stove'... is a small sheet iron box with an oven at the back and a telescope pipe. 1943 W. CHASE *Sourdough Pot* xvi. 97 The stove, a sheet-iron affair, known as a Yukon stove, had a limited capacity. 1974 W. HUNT *North of 53* iv. 15 A wood-fired 'Yukon' stove, either square or round bottomed, and containing a small oven at the back end, provided cooking facilities and kept the cabin warm in the winter.

Also **Yukoner**, an inhabitant of the Yukon Territory; **Yukonesque** *a.*

c1898 Yukoner [see HOCHINO 2]. 1924 M. H. MASON *Arctic Forests* 84 These things have made the Yukoners the finest, most generous, and most virile population to be found on the whole continent of America. 1934 A. HUXLEY *Beyond Mexique Bay* 128 Our Yukonesque stampedes into any business that seems, at any given moment, to be doing well. 1977 Yukoner [see OUTSIDER 1].

yuky (ˈjuːki), *a.* *Sc.* and *north. dial.* [f. YUKE + -y¹.] Itchy; itching with curiosity.

1719 RAMSAY *3rd Answ. to Hamilton* xv, We, like nags whose necks are yucky, Ha'e us'd our teeth. 1722—*Three Bonnets* III. 46 While haste his youky mind expresses. c1750 J. COLLIER (Tim Bobbin) *Frates in Malo*, Scratching his Yuky arm. 1789 D. DAVIDSON *Seasons* 46 Unto thy smooth'ning tongue they faintly turn Their yeuky rumps. 1867 RAMSAY *Remin.* (ed. 15) 86 I'm unco yuckie to hear a blaud o' your gab.

Hence **yukiness**.

1853 G. JOHNSTON *Nat. Hist. E. Bord. I.* 74 If the hairs get into the neck, a youkiness (itch) is the... consequence.

Yulan (ˈjuːlən). Also **youlan**. [Chinese, f. *yu* a gem + *lan* plant.] A Chinese species of magnolia, *M. conspicua* (*M. Yulan*).

1822 *Hortus Anglicus* II. 55 Lily flowered Magnolia, or Youlan. 1882 *Garden* 6 May 311/1 The Yulan... forms a conspicuous object amongst spring flowering trees.

yule (juːl), *sb.* Forms: 1 *geol*, *geochol*, *geoh(h)ol*, -el, *geh(h)ol*, *gehhel*, *geola*, *iula*, 2 *iol*, 2-4 *3ol* (*yol*), 3 *zeol*, 4 *3ool*, 4-5 *3ole*, 5 *3oil* (*l*), *yoyll* (*e*), *3owle*, *yowle*, *youle*, *yole*, *yoole*, *3wle*, (*yold* (*e*)), 5-7 *3ule*, 6 *3oile*, *3uill*, *3ull*, *3owill*, -ell, *3oull*, *3eoll*, (*ewle*), 6-7 *yeul*, *yewl*, *yool*, *yuill*, *3uill*, (*ule*, 9 *yuhl*), 6- *yule*. Also *dial.* (in comb.) 7 *yew*, 7-8 *yu*, *u*. [The modern form descends from OE. *geol*, earlier *geoh(h)ol*, *geh(h)ol*, also *geola* sometimes pl.) Christmas day or Christmastide, and in phr. *se ærra geola* December, *se æftera geola* January; corresp. to ON. *jól* pl. a heathen feast lasting twelve days, (later) Christmas. An Old Anglian *giuli*, recorded by Bede (see quot. 726 in sense 1) as the name of December and January, corresponds to ON. *ýlir* month beginning on the second day of the week falling within Nov. 10-17, and Goth. *jiuleis* in *fruma jiuleis* November. The ultimate origin of the Teut. types **jeul-* (*jegul-*) and **jexul-*—pre-Teut. **jequl-* is obscure.]

†1. December or January. *Obs.*

726 BÉDA *De Temp. Rat.* xv, De Mensibus Anglorum... Primusque eorum mensis, quem Latini Januarius vocant, dicitur Giuli... December Giuli, eodem quo Januarius nomine, vocatur... Menses Giuli a conversione solis in auctum diei, quia unus eorum præcedit, alius subsequitur, nomina accipiunt. a900 O.E. *Martyrol.* 1 Jan. 12 Ianuarius, þæt is on ure geþeode se æftera geola. *Ibid.* 10 Dec. 216 Se monað ys nemned on leden Decembris ond on ure geþeode se ærra geola. c1200 ORMIN 1910-15 Crist wass borenn i piss lif Wipinnen 3oless moneþþ, ... þatt wass o þe fifte da33 Att twentiz daghess ende Off 3ol.

2. Christmas and the festivities connected therewith. (Still the name in *Sc.* and *north. dial.*; since c1850 also a literary archaism in Eng.)

a900 O.E. *Martyrol.* 6 May 76 Feowertiz daga ær Criste accennisse, þæt is ær geolum [v.r. *zyhelum*]. c900 tr. *Beda's Hist.* IV. xix. (1890) 318 þy twelftan dege ofer ðeochoh [v.r. *geohol*, *geohhel*]. a901 *Laws of Ælfred* §43, xii daga on gehhol [v.r. *gehol*, *gehhel*, *geol*]. ?12... *Charter of Eadweard* an. 1067 in Kemble *Cod. Dipl.* IV. 209 Ealle ða gyltes ða belimpeð to mine kinhelme inne Iol and inne Easterne. 13... *Gaw. & Gr. Knt.* 284, I craue... a crystemas gomen, For hit is 3ol & nwe 3er. 1338 R. BRUNNE *Chron.* (1725) 49 þe kyng one on þe morn went to London, His 3ole forto hold was his encheson. c1425 *Engl. Cong. Irel.* (1896) 42 Seynt Tomas-ys day, Apostle, ys þe fyft day afor yold. c1440 *Bone Flor.* 1897 Of seynt Hyllary the churche ys, The twenty day of yowle y wys. c1450 *Merlin* vi. 96 The kyng is now deod sithe Martin-masse, and fro hens to yoole is but litill space. 1533 *Extr. Aberd. Reg.* (1844) I. 149 At the natuie of our Lord, callit zowill. 1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* XIII. xiv. (1821) II. 340 Quhen he wes sittand with his modir, on the Epiphany Day, at his yuill. a1580 SIR R. MAITLAND *Sat. Age* 45 Thai... yat held grit 3ulis. 1589 WARNER *Alb. Eng.* v. xxiv. 108 At Ewle we wonten, gambole, daunce, to carrole, and to sing. 1637 *Bk. Com. Prayer Scotland* Table Proper Ps., Yule, or Christmas day. 1644 in Row *Hist. Kirk* (Wodrow Soc.) p. xxix, Knowing that the superstitious dayis of Yool was approaching. 1753 *Stewart's Trial* App. 61 About Yule last. 1794 BURNS *Bonnie Peggy Ramsay* i, And dawin' it is dreary, When birks are bare at Yule. 1816 SCOTT *Antiq.* xxiii, Ye ken a green Yule makes a

fat kirk-yard. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* xxviii, They bring me sorrow touch'd with joy, The merry merry bells of Yule. 1878 SUSAN PHILLIPS *On Sea-board* 74 And many a Yule since... You chose a spray all brightly berried over.

¶ **Yule of August, Lammass Yule**: the festival of Lammass, the first of August. *Obs.*

This use has arisen from confusion of this word with GULE sb.² (Lammass Day).

1643 HAMMOND *Let. Resol. Six Quæres* vi. §65. 465 *Gula Augusti*, or the Yule of August. a1661 FULLER *Worthies, Northumbld.* (1662) II. 304 It [sc. Yule] is a name general for festivals, as Lammass Yule, &c.

†3. Used as an exclamation of joy or revelry at the Christmas festivities. *Obs.*

1546 J. HEYWOOD *Prov.* (1867) 28 It is easy to cry vle at other mens coste. a1568 in *Bannatyne MS.* (Hunter. Club) 380 It is eith [pr. dith] to cry yule [Mail. Fo. MS. hailzule] On an vder manis coist. 1661 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* s.v. *Ule*, In Yorkshire and our other Northern parts, they have an old Custom, after Sermon or Service on Christmas day, the people will, even in the Churches cry *Vle, Vle*,... and the common people run about the streets singing *Ule, Ule, Ule*, Three Puddings in a Pule, Crack nuts and cry *Ule*. 1737 RAMSAY *Sc. Prov.* (1750) 58 It is eith crying yool on anither man's stool. 1853 W. SANDYS *Christmastide* 143 In some places it seems to have been the custom to dance in the country churches, after prayers, crying out, 'Yole, yole, yole!' &c.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *yule banquet*, *batch*, *common* (COMMON sb.¹ 8), *fare*, *feast*, *hearth*, *night* [cf. ON. *jólanótt*], *time*; locally applied to articles of food made specially for Christmas as *yule-bread*, -*cake*, -*dough*, -*loaf* (see quots.); also *yule-block* = *yule-log*; *yule-candle* = *Christmas candle* (CHRISTMAS 4); *yule-clog* = *yule-log*; *yule-game*, a Christmas game or sport; †a frolic, gambol; †*yule-girth* [see GRITH sb. 6; cf. ON. *jólagrið*], the peace of Christmas; *yule-log*, a large log of wood burnt on the hearth at Christmas; *yule-song dial.*, a Christmas carol; †*yule-stock*, (a) [? STOCK sb.¹ 20, 47], ? contribution to Christmas festivities; (b) = *yule-log*; *yule-tide* [cf. ON. *jólatíð*], the season of Yule, Christmas-tide; †*yule-waiting* (*volwayting*) [app. ON. *veiting*, WAITING vbl. sb.²], app. a due paid by bondmen at Christmas; †*yule-waitstand* (*volwayte*), ? the place where the waits (WAIT sb. 8a) stood at Christmas; †*yule-work* (*Sc. zeoll vark*), ? preparations for Christmas festivities.

1629 *Orkney Witch Trial* in N.B. *Advertiser* Oct. (1894), If ever the guidman of the hous sould mak ane other *yull bannet. 1674 RAY N.C. *Words*, *Yu-batch. 1796 PEGGE *Derbicisms* (E.D.S.), U-back, U-block. See Yu-batch... *Yubach*. a1661 FULLER *Worthies, Northumberland* (1662) II. 304 The Northern parts call Christmas Yule, (hence the *Yule-block, *Yule-cakes [pr. oakes], Yule-songs, &c.). 1820 *Sporting Mag.* (N.S.) VI. 283 Yule Cake, a kind of spiced cake, often supplies the place of gingerbread. 1884 BESANT *Dor. Forster* xiii, The tables were covered with Yule-cakes, which are, in the north, shaped like a baby, and Christmas pies in form of a cradle. 1808 JAMIESON s.v., The candle, that is lighted on Yule, must be so large as to burn from the time of its being lighted till the day be done... Hence large candles are by the vulgar called *Yule-candles. 1820 *Sporting Mag.* (N.S.) VI. 283 The yule candle, a tall mould candle, is lighted and set on the table. 1725 BOURNE *Antiq. Vulg.* xiii. in Brand *Pop. Antiq.* xiii. (1777) 155 Our Fore-Fathers... were wont... to lay a Log of Wood upon the Fire, which they termed a *Yule-Clog, or Christmas-Block. 1836 R. FURNESS *Astrol.* III. Wks. (1858) 163 When ample yule-clogs lent their heat and light, And all-spiced possets warm'd the Christmas night. 1850 TENNYSON *In Mem.* lxxviii, The yule-clog sparkled keen with frost. a1614 J. MELVILL *Autob. & Diary* (Wodrow Soc.) 274 That *Yuill comoun they thought to resey weill now at Pasch. 1777 BRAND *Pop. Antiq.* 163 The *Yule-Dough... a Kind of Baby or little Image of Paste, which our Bakers used formerly to bake at this Season, and present to their Customers. 1888 JESSIE M. E. SAXBY *Lads of Lunda* 210 Such bounty, in the form of *Yule-fare, as the folks are pleased to bestow. a1661 FULLER *Worthies, Northumbld.* (1662) II. 304 A *Yule feast may be quat at Pasche. That is Christmas-cheer may be digested, and the party hungry again at Easter. a1774 FERGUSSON *Geordie & Davie* 14 Poems (1789) II. 6 For the Yule-feast a sautit mart's prepar'd. 1611 COTGR., *Gambade*, agamboll, *yew-game, tumbling trick. 1632 SHERWOOD, A yew-game, or yeule-game, *gambade*. 1615 R. COCKS *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 93 The shippes company... plaied Christmas ule games in good sort. 1621 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* II. ii. iv. 346 Masks, singing, dancing, vlegames. 1674 RAY N.C. *Words*, Yu-game. 1569-70 *Rec. Inverness* (New Spalding Club) I. 182 For breking of *Yule gerthe and trubling of the towne. ?16... in F. Drake *Eboracum* I. vi. (1736) 197 The fower serjants shall go and ride... and so go forth to the fower barrs of the city and blow the youle-girthe. *Ibid.*, To make proclamation at the pillory of the Yoolle-girtholl. 1656 MENNIS & J. SMITH *Mus. Delic.* (ed. 2) 23 Thrice had all New-yeares Guests their *yewl guts fill'd With embalm'd Veal, buried in Christmas Past. 1848 LYTTON *Harold* iv. vi, We strip not the green leaves for our *yule-hearths. 1729 WALKDEN *Diary* (1866) 85 A *yule loaf, 3d. 1725 BOURNE *Antiq. Vulg.* xiii. in Brand *Pop. Antiq.* (1777) 157, I am apt to believe, the Log has had the Name of the *Yule-Log, from its being burnt as an Emblem of the returning Sun. 1848 LONGF. K. *Willaf's Drinking-horn* viii, The Yule-log cracked in the chimney. 1303 R. BRUNNE *Handl. Synne* 4648 Howe God was born yn *3ole nyght. c1325 *Metr. Hom.* 101 On feld thar thai woc on yol nite. c1475 *Rauf Coilyear* 342 Betuix none of the day and 3ule nite. 1792 BURNS *Duncan Gray* i, On blythe yule night when we were fu'. a1661 *Yule-songs [see yule-block]. 1876 ROBINSON *Whitby Gloss.*, Yule-sangs, s. pl. Christmas carols. 1282 *Yorksh. Inquis.* (Yorks. Rec. Soc. 1892) I. 244 [The same pays 12d. at Christmas, which is called] *Yolstoch. c1480 HENRYSON

Sum Practysus Med. 77 (Bann. MS.) With three crawis of the cok, The schadow of ane yule stok, Is gud for þe host. c1475 *Rauf Coilyear* 4 Quhair Empreouris and Erlis, and vther mony ane, Turnit fra Sanct Thomas befor the *yule tyde. 1860 LONGF. *Way-side Inn* i. *Musician's T.* XII. ii, Three days his Yule-tide feasts He held. 1787 W. TAYLOR *Poems* 44 About *Yule-time an' Hogmenai. 1864 PRIOR in *Athenæum* 2 Jan. 10/2 [Mistletoe] ripened its snow-white fruit just at Yule-time. 1183 *Boldon Bk.* (Surtees) 20 Dant cum villanis partem suam de scat et de metride et de *yolwayting. c1380 Bp. *Hatfield's Surv.* (Surtees) 22 lidem tenentes red. p. a. pro yol-wayting, ad festum Nativitatis Domini, ss. 1413-14 *Boldon Bk.* (Surtees) Gloss. p. lxxii, De quadam placea vocata *Yolewaytestand. 1540 *Rec. Elgin* (New Spald. Cl. 1903) I. 47 David Hardy... sall pay ane stane wax to the nixt *Zeoll vark.

Hence *yule v.*, *intr.* to keep Christmas. *Sc.* and *north. dial.*

a1670 SPALDING *Troub. Chas. I* (Bannatyne Club) I. 39 The lords refused to lett the lady marchioness go to the castle with her husband, except she would waird also, and with great intreatie had the favour, to Yule with him, but to stay no longer. 1828 *Craven Gloss.*, Yuling, Christmas feasting.

yule-day. Chiefly *Sc.* Forms: see YULE sb. and DAY sb. [OE. *geohheldæg*; cf. ON. *jóladagr*.] Christmas Day.

a900 O.E. *Martyrol.* 1 Nov. 198 Se ærysta dæg in natale domini, þæt is ærysta geohheldæg. c1200 ORMIN 11063 Itt iss þe prittendne da33 Fra 3olda33, nohhit te twelfte. c1205 LAY. 22737 Hit wes in ane 3eol-dæie þat Arður in Lundene lai. c1330 R. BRUNNE *Chron. Wace* (Rolls) 10371 On þe 3ol day he made his feste. c1425 WYNTOUN *Cron.* v. vii. 1381 On 3oil [v.r. 3ule] day He bad thre messis be said ay. 1488 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 100 To the Kings offerande on 3wle da, ij demyss. 1596 DALRYMPLE tr. *Leslie's Hist. Scot.* (S.T.S.) II. 462 Euin juil day, Christes awne day. 1600 J. HAMILTON *Facile Traictise* 174 They cause thair wyfis and seruants spin in oppin sight of the people vpon zeul day. a1670 SPALDING *Troub. Chas. I* (Bannatyne Club) I. 85 Doctor Scrogie gave the communion, upon Yeull day, in Old Aberdein. a1774 FERGUSSON *Daft Days* v, Whan merry Yule-day comes, I trow, You'll scantins fin' a hungry mou.

yule-even. *Sc.* Forms: see YULE sb. and EVEN sb. [Cf. ON. *jólaaptann*.] Christmas Eve.

1375 BARBOUR *Bruc* ix. 204 Befor 3oill-evyn ane nycht bot mair. 1473-4 *Acc. Ld. High Treas. Scot.* I. 67 Gevin to Rob Purvas, ... on 3ule evin, ... xxiijs. 1567 *Gude & Godlie B.* (S.T.S.) 72 Ane Carrell of the Epistill on 3ule Euin. 1570-1 *Rec. Inverness* (New Spalding Club) I. 198 Vpon the xxiiij day of December last being Yule Ewin. a1653 BINNING *Serm.*, Isa. lxiv. 6 Wks. (1735) 618/1 Sin rising up to Iniquities... hath accomplished the Judgment, put Fire up among us, made us as the Birk in Yule-even. a1670 SPALDING *Troub. Chas. I* (Bannatyne Club) I. 85 The marquess of Hamilton... upon Yeull evin, takes journey towards London. 1808 JAMIESON s.v., Some farmers... are so extremely superstitious, as to go into their stables and cow-houses on Yule-e'en, and read a chapter of the Bible behind their horses and cattle, to preserve them from harm.

yulo (ˈjuːləu). Also **yluhol**, **ylow**, etc. [Prob. ad. Chinese (Cantonese) *iū-lō* to scull a boat, f. *iū* to shake + *lō* oar.] A Chinese sculling oar (see quot. 1899). So also as *v. intr.* to scull a boat with such an oar. Hence *'yulohing* vbl. sb.

1878 H. A. GILES *Gloss. Reference* 170 *Yuloh*, to, to scull a boat with an oar at the stern. From the Shanghai pronunciation of, *yao* to work... *lu* an oar. 1888 A. J. LITTLE *Through Yang-tse Gorges* 320 In addition to these, two lateral yuloes (sculls worked by a screw motion)... were attached to the sides. 1899 I. L. BISHOP *Yangtze Valley & Beyond* xiii. 145 Others are toiling at *yu-lows*, big broad-bladed sculls, worked over the stern or parallel to the junk's side. 1905 N. & Q. 22 Apr. 305/1 The *yuloh* is the single oar used over the stern for the propulsion of sampans and barges, after the manner sometimes called sculling in England. To *yuloh* is to row a boat in that fashion. The meaning is literally 'push and pull wood'. 1911 J. D. BALL *Chinese at Home* xvi. 203 Ferryboats slowly cross the river... The loads of the coolies are put in the bows of the boat, where also occasionally is to be seen a leper, who is not allowed amongst the other passengers. The ferryman *yeeo-loes* at the stern. 1921 *Outward Bound* June 36/1 The junk is propelled when possible by great oars, called by the Chinese 'yulos', projecting out from either side. 1927 *Chambers's Jnrl.* Mar. 163/1 We pass a fishing boat; a woman with a willowy figure bending to the yulow at one end. 1941 J. HOMER *Dawn Watch in China* iv. 93 Junks bound downstream were manned on the foredeck with six or eight or a dozen oarsmen, who stood, each to his oar poling forward into the fast water and singing in unison the minor wordless river chant of the sacred Yangtze. Now and then, the helmsman would *yuloh* in a high-pitched scream were he called forth the wind. 1966 G. R. G. WORCESTER *Sail & Sweep in China* ii. 11 In rowing, as in so many other arts, the Chinese show their great independence of thought; and in the yuloh or sculling oar, they demonstrate a perfect example of applied mechanics which can, confidently, be dated back to the Later Han Dynasty AD25-220. *Ibid.* 12 When operated by a Chinese, even by a child, yulohing appears to be supremely simple. 1981 *Jnrl. R. Naval Med. Service* LXVII. 46/2 Navigable by one man using a large yulo at the stern.

yum (jam), *int.* [Echoic.] An exclamation of pleasurable anticipation, with implication of sensual or gustatory satisfaction; freq. reduplicated as *yum-yum*, etc.

Some of the reduplicated examples are not clearly distinguishable from those given s.v. YUM-YUM sb. and a. below.

1878 *Burlington Hawkeye* in *Irish Monthly* VI. 688 How we would like to get hold of the man... Alone. In the woods, with a revolver in our hip-pocket. Revenge is sweet; yum, yum, yum. 1899 KIPLING *Stalky & Co.* 239 Pretty lips... Seem to say—Come away. Kissy! come, come!... Yummy-

yum-yum! 1922 JOYCE *Ulysses* 173 Kissed her mouth. Yum. 1942 O. NASH *Good Intentions* 143 And fish are only something about which some people say, 'Yum yum, right out of the water and fried to a delicate golden brown.' 1959 J. CHRISTOPHER *Scent of White Poppies* iii. 40 When she had gone, Bella said: 'Yum-yum. Really luscious.' 1962 A. LURIE *Love & Friendship* iii. 45 Miranda cut a piece of warm coffee cake, handed it to Emmy... 'Oh, yum. Thank you.' 1982 S. PARETSKY *Indemnity Only* xii. 155 'Lotty talked her into... making homemade enchiladas, yum-yum.' 'Yum-yum,' the two little girls chorused.

Hence 'yummy' *a. colloq.,* delicious, delectable; also as *int.*

1899 [see YUM *int.*] 1934 WEBSTER, *Yummy* *adj.* 1950 'S. RANSOME' *Deadly Miss Ashley* xii. 147 Lora's attractive face or Dorothea's yummy figure. 1955 J. P. DONLEAVY *Ginger Man* xix. 213 Sitting, facing one another across the white table. Bacon and eggs, tea, bread and butter. Yummy. 1955 H. KURNITZ *Invasion of Privacy* (1956) vi 47, I adore movie stars. Gregory Peck! Yummy! 1970 P. ZELVER *Honey Bunch* xx. 96 Thanks a lot for the lemonade. It was yummy. 1979 *Evening Standard* 18 Sept. 23/2 Mr. Zamoyski is a handsome devil himself—such a yummy photograph on the back of the jacket.

Yuma (ˈju:mə), *sb.*¹ and *a.* Also 9 Umea. [a. Sp., ad. Pima-Papago 'yumi'.] *A. sb. a.* (A member of) an Indian people inhabiting south-west Arizona and the adjoining areas of Mexico and California, now officially referred to as the Quechan. *b.* The language of this people. *B. adj.* Of, pertaining to, or designating this people or their language.

1831 J. O. PATTIE in R. G. Thwaites *Early Western Trav.* (1905) XVIII. 188 Here we found the tribe of Umeas. 1849 A. W. WHIPPLE *Jrnl.* 1 Dec. in H. R. Schodcraft *Hist. & Stat. Information Indian Tribes* (1852) II. iv. 118 To this day among the Yumas I have never seen anger expressed. *Ibid.*, I will add a vocabulary of the Yuma (or rather Cuchan) language. 1877 H. S. GATSCHE *Indian Lang. Pacific States* 156 The term *opa*, composing several of these tribal names, is taken from the Yuma, and means man. 1891 D. G. BRINTON *Amer. Race* II. ii. 109 It has also been called... the Apache, that being the Yuma word for 'fighting men'. 1892 *Amer. Anthropologist* Oct. 326 This pamphlet... is the fourth of the author's Yuma series. 1907 [see G STRING 2 a]. 1942 *Amer. Anthropologist* July-Sept. 425 Certain structural features of the Yuma language should be outlined... Yuma has three 'parts of speech'. 1965 *Language* XLI. 305 Yuma has /a/. 1973 A. H. WHITEFORD *North Amer. Indian Arts* 13 Modeling and paddling is a technique... still used by the Papago and Yuma of Arizona. 1979 *Tucson Mag.* Apr. 27/3 In 1780 Teodoro de Croix... ordered that two new settlements of Spaniards be established among the Yuma Indians on the Lower Colorado River.

Yuma (ˈju:mə), *sb.*² The name of Yuma county in north-eastern Colorado, used chiefly *attrib.* to designate the remains of a prehistoric culture discovered there, and applied esp. to a type of projectile point. Cf. FOLSOM.

1932 E. B. RENAUD in *Proc. Colorado Museum Nat. Hist.* 19 Nov. 5 Yuma and Folsom artifacts. *Ibid.*, The number and variety of artifacts of this splendid collection from the Yuma district contributed greatly to our better knowledge of the points which, in recognition, we named 'Yuma points' to distinguish them from the true Folsom type. 1948 A. L. KROEBER *Anthropol.* (rev. ed.) xvi. 684 Points called Yumas have now and then been found in Folsom association, as at Clovis. 1949 *Time* 12 Sept. 69/1 Not much is known about Yuma Man, for no Yuma skeleton has yet been found. 1960 C. WINICK *Dict. Anthropol.* 277/2 Yuma implements are unfluted.

Yuman (ˈju:mən), *a.* and *sb.* [YUMA *sb.*¹: cf. -AN:]

A. adj. Of, pertaining to, or designating various related Indian peoples of Arizona, Mexico and California, or the languages spoken by them. *B. sb. a.* A member of this group of peoples. *b.* A language family of Hokan stock to which the languages of these peoples belong.

1891 J. W. POWELL in 7th Ann. Rep. Bureau Amer. Ethnol. 13 With the exception of certain small areas possessed by Shoshonean tribes, Indians of the Yuman stock occupied the Colorado River from its mouth as far up as Cataract Creek. 1901 G. W. JAMES *Indian Basketry* x. 161 The carrying frame and net of the Mohave Indians, of the Yuman stock, dwelling about the mouth of the Colorado River. 1920 *Univ. Calif. Publ. Amer. Archaeol. & Ethnol.* XVI. 478 The Yuma, who call themselves Kwichyana... are known to other Yumans by dialect variants of the same name. 1933 L. SPIER *Yuman Tribes of Gila River* 151 The Maricopa have transposed the normal Yuman word from south to west. 1950 *Nat. Hist.* Feb. 76/3 They speak essentially the same language—a dialect of the Yuman tongue. 1952 *Amer. Anthropologist* Jan.-Mar. 80 The cultivated plants and the agricultural methods of the Yumans. 1963 [see SHASTAN *a.* and *sb.*] 1965 [see MOHAVE]. 1970 *Language* XLVI. 533 The Yuman languages... were early recognized as constituting a linguistic family. 1974 *Encycl. Brit. Micropædia* X. 845/3 The total number of Yuman peoples remaining in the 1970s... was uncertain. 1978 *Language* LIV. 219 It crops up again in Southern California, in one subgroup of the Yuman family. *Ibid.* 505 The present collection indicates that such a tradition has now also been established for Yuman, a Hokan family of Arizona, California.

yump (jʌmp), *v. slang.* [Alteration of JUMP *v.*, repr. the supposed pronunciation of it by Swedish speakers or the Norw. *jump* jump (*sb.*), *jumpe* jump (*vb.*)] *intr.* Of a rally car or its

driver: to leave the ground while taking a crest at speed. So 'yumping' *vbl. sb.*

1962 *Motoring News* 22 Nov. 7 (caption) 'Yumping', a pastime dear to Scandinavian rallyists, was seen practised to the full for the first time in this country during the R.A.C. Rally. 1968 [see ROLL *v.*² 19a]. 1968 *Sun* 12 Nov. 8/5 Yumping happens... when cars literally jump into the air. They take off when taking crests at speed.

Also as *sb.*, an instance of 'yumping' (see also quot. 1980).

1975 *Country Life* 4 Dec. 1529/2 Clark had an enormous 'yump' (Swedish rally parlance for a car leaving the ground and hurtling for some distance before landing heavily). 1980 *Sunday Express* 24 Aug. 23 (Advt.), Yump: Rally jargon for a sharp crest in the road, which causes a car to take off at speed.

yumpie (ˈjʌmpi), *colloq.* (orig. U.S.). Also yump, Yumpie. [f. the initial letters of young upwardly mobile people: see -IE.] = YUPPIE.

1984 *Economist* 17 Mar. 40 Mr. Hart seems to have drawn much of his support from young upwardly mobile people and young urban professionals—yumps and yuppies, as they are called. 1984 *Times* 21 Mar. 14/2 Sometimes 'Yuppies' are referred to as 'Yumpies', meaning Young, upwardly-mobile people. 1984 *N.Y. Times Mag.* 25 Mar. 20 The yumpies climbing the ladder of success with great agility can be described as upscaling. 1984 *Chicago Sun-Times* 25 Mar. 7 The ultimate Yumpie status symbol is to have a child suffering flash-card burn-out.

yum-yum: see YUM *int.*

yum-yum (ˈjʌmˈjʌm), *sb. slang.* [Redupl. of YUM *int.*] *a.* An action providing a pleasurable or delicious sensation; love-making; also (*Naval slang*), love-letters. Also *yum-yum girl* (euphem.), prostitute.

1885 *Punch* 3 Jan. 4/1 You and me's got our notions of yum-yum, as isn't fur wide o' the mark. 1939 A. HUXLEY *After Many a Summer* i. iv. 45 Enjoying what she called 'a bit of yum-yum'. 1943 HUNT & PRINGLE *Service Slang* 71 Yum yum, love letters. 1960 'S. HARVESTER' *Chinese Hammer* xxv. 202 Yum-yum tarts from Hong Kong or ex-temple dancers from Java. 1962 A. BUCHWALD *How Much is that in Dollars?* 124 One of the chiefs said, 'Don't let her kid you. All her girls are really yum-yum girls from the dance halls'. 1962 *Times* 12 July 13/5 Would the sin boss (chaplain) frown, on hearing a love-letter described as a 'yum-yum'? 1967 S. BECKETT *Texts for Nothing* III. 86 Come, ducky, it's time for yum-yum.

b. spec. Tasty food (of various kinds). 1889 'Aunt Babbette's' *Cook Book* 330 Yum-Yums. Grate one coconut, reserving the milk; one pound and a half of pulverized sugar, whites of three eggs. 1932 O. O. MCINTYRE *Another 'Odd' Book* 5 Whenever I mention a longing for such old-fashioned yum-yums as gingersnaps... the response is immediate. 1941 J. SMILEY *Hash House Lingo* 58 Yum-yum, sugar.

yum-yum, *a. slang.* [f. as prec.] Excellent, first-class; delectable.

1890 BARRÈRE & LELAND *Dict. Slang* II. 428/2 Yum-yum (London), first-rate, elegant. 1922 JOYCE *Ulysses* 372 Howth settled for slumber tired of long days, of yumyum rhododendrons. 1962 R. PRAWER *JHABVALA Get Ready for Battle* iii. 135, I wish my cook could learn... how to make cheese pakoras like these, they are absolutely yum-yum.

Yunani (juːˈnɑːni), *a.* Also Unani. [a. Arab. *yūnāni*, lit. 'Greek'.] Designating a Western system of medicine (opp. AYURVEDIC *a.*). Occas. also applied to other disciplines (see quot. 1958).

1922 [see AYURVEDIC *a.*] 1958 O. CAROE *Pathans* iii. 45 The Yunani or Greek lore which so largely influenced Islamic literae humaniores. 1977 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 3 June 684/2 The traditional Hindu (Ayurvedic), Muslim (Unani) and Chinese medicine... Unani is Arabic for 'Ionian' and thus declares its descent from Greek medical thought. 1979 *Social Sci. & Med.* XIII.B. 339 Yūnāni medicine which lasted for a few centuries in the court of medieval Baghdad. 1979 V. MEHTA *Mamaji* iii. 39 The Unani system, which is based on ancient Greek medicine and relies on metallic compounds.

Yunca (ˈjʌŋkə), Also Yunga, Yunka. [Amer. Sp., a. Quechua *yunca* plain, valley.]

a. The Chipayan language formerly spoken by a group of Indian peoples inhabiting the coast of Peru; = MOCHICA *sb.* *b.* *b.* A member of such a people. Also *attrib.* or as *adj.*

1853 F. L. HAWKS tr. *Von Tschudi's Peruv. Antiquities* v. 117 The Quichua language has various dialects strongly marked... the Yunca, in the bishopric of Truxillo. 1871, etc. [see MOCHICA *a.* and *sb.*] 1908 *Athenæum* 11 Apr. 447/1 Customary with the Natchez, Muizcas, Pokomames, Yuncas, and Incas of the American continent. 1950 J. A. MASON in J. H. Steward *Handbk. S. Amer. Indians* VI. 194 The Yunca, Mochica, or Chimu language... is practically extinct. 1954 *Internat. J. Amer. Ling.* Jan. 24 (heading) Yunka, language of the Peruvian coastal culture. *Ibid.*, A comparison of the Yunka language with Quechua has been made.

yuncte, obs. form of JOINT *sb.*

yund(3-), yunder(3-), obs. ff. YOND, YONDER.

yung, yunker, obs. ff. YOUNG, YOUNKER.

Yung Chêng (juŋ tʃɛŋ). Also Yung Cheng, Yung-ching, etc. The name of the reign of the third Chinese Emperor of the Ching dynasty (1723-35), used *attrib.* and *absol.* to denote a kind of porcelain produced during his reign, characterized by its delicate colouring.

1902 W. G. GULLAND *Chinese Porcelain* II. 384 It [is]... impossible to tell whether many of these rose pieces were made during this reign or early in the following, but they are all spoken of as Yung-ching pieces. 1906 R. L. HOBSON *Porcelain* iv. 34 The Yung-chêng porcelain has a character of its own and includes many innovations worthy of separate notice. 1908 J. F. BLACKER *Chats on Oriental China* ix. 115 The contrast between the delicacy of the detail is striking when compared with the broad treatment of the Kang-he period. On the one hand there is fine stipple work. This is Yung-ching. On the other hand there is a broad wash of colour. 1925 R. L. HOBSON *Later Ceramic Wares of China* vii. 62 (heading) Yung Chêng Porcelain (1723-35). 1949 G. SAVAGE *Ceramics for Collector* ii. 83 Celadons take on a bluish tinge, and obviously have some cobalt mixed with the glaze colour. Colour is applied in washes and fine, detailed drawing usually indicates Yung Chêng. 1971 R. QUEST *Death of Sinner* v. 42 'You mean it's not K'ang Hsi?' 'It's later—Yung Cheng.' 1976 SCOTT & KOSKI *Walk-In* x. 55 A wealthy importer of usually genuine Chinese *objets d'art*, mostly Yung-chêng porcelain.

yungth(e) (zungth(e)), var. YOUNGTH *Obs.*

Yunnanese (junˈnɪz), *sb.* and *a.* Also 9 Yun-Nese. [f. *Yunnan* (see below: Chinese *Yúnnán*) + -ESE.]

A. sb. a. A native or inhabitant of Yunnan, a province in S.W. China; also *collect.*, the people of Yunnan. *b.* The dialect of Yunnan. *B. adj.* Of or pertaining to Yunnan.

1849 *Ann. Propagation Faith* Mar. 109 A young physician from the province of Yun-nan evinced more generosity... This young Yun-Nese had led so strange a life. 1909 *N. China Herald* 18 Sept. 671/3 With their catch crops the Yunnanese in the eastern part of the province seemed as satisfied as they were at the time before wheat took the place of the now-departed opium. 1927 *Blackw. Mag.* Mar. 308/1 He had a full knowledge of Yunnanese, but these men were Lolos from Szechuan, and understood not a word. 1933 N. WALN *House of Exile* III. ii. 200 These Yunnanese soldiers were hired henchmen that Sun Yat-sen had brought to Canton to police the city. 1948 G. H. JOHNSTON *Death takes Small Bites* iv. 85 'It's usually thronged with people,' Coates continued boredly. 'Kachins and Shans, Yunnanese, Lisus, Burmese, Miaos.' 1959 C. OGBURN *Maurauders* (1960) iii. 92 Cantonese and Yunnanese... slammed their vehicles from one gear to another with a grinding scream. 1959 *Times* 19 Mar. 14/7 It was found expedient not to have Yunnanese mules in Lucifer's section. 1964 M. A. K. HALLIDAY et al. in J. A. Fishman *Readings Sociol. of Lang.* (1968) 145 In China, you speak Cantonese if you come from Canton, Pekinese if you come from Peking and Yunnanese if you come from Yunnan. 1981 P. BARR *Chinese Alice* iv. 94 Golden Persimmon sang... and the Yunnanese watched her.

||yunx (jʌŋks). Aberrant mod.L. *a.* Gr. *ὑνξ* *iyxn*, JYNX; adopted by Linnæus.

1694 RAY in *Lett. Lit. Men* (Camden) 200 The Yunx, a genuine Woodpecker, hath a tail as long [as the Cuckow] in proportion to his body, and marked with crosse-bars too.

† **yuō**, pl. **yuon** [OE. *ȝefá(n)*: see Y- 2 and FOE], an enemy.

1340 *Ayenb.* 171 þe castel of his herte... he heþ yolde to his yuo dyadlich.

yuozte [Y- 4, FIGHT *v.*], fought.

1340 *Ayenb.* 176 Efterward me ssel zigge yef he ne heþ naȝt yuozte aye þe uondinge.

yuori(e, -ory(e, obs. forms of IVORY.

1589 LODGE *Scillaes Metam.* B.2. An yuorie shadowed front. 1593 Q. ELIZ. *Boeth.* i. pr. v. 20 Nor doo I desyre my shops walles adornid with yuory or glasse.

† **yuorped** [Y- 4, FORTH *v.*], supplied, kept going.

1340 *Ayenb.* 186 Vor be oyle is y-uorped þet uer ine þe lompe.

yup (jʌp), colloq. (orig. U.S.) var. of YES. Cf. YEP, dial. pron. of YES.

1906 *Cent. Mag.* Jan. 410/2 'Will you go—if I swear?' 'Yup,' said Pinchas, airing his American. 1919 G. MURRAY *Aristophanes & War Party* 36 *Demos*. You see those rows and rows of people? *Offal-monger*. Yup. 1923 E. F. WYATT *Invisible Gods* II. iv. 78 'Paul as mean as ever?' 'Yup,' replied Hancock... 'and a little meaner.' 1947 [see *supercolossal* *adj.* s.v. SUPER- 9a]. 1959 E. H. CLEMENTS *High Tension* iv. 63 'You're staying here, then?' 'Yup.' 1968 S. CHALLIS *Death on Quiet Beach* v. 75 'Will you pay the fine?'... 'Yup.' 1978 J. IRVING *World according to Garp* xii. 232 'Is that you, Roger?' 'Yup.'

Yupik (ˈjuːpɪk), *a.* and *sb.* [See quot. 1951¹.]

A. adj. Of, pertaining to, or designating an Eskimo-Aleut language spoken in Siberia and Alaska, or the speakers of it. *B. sb.* This language.

1951 M. SWADESH *Internat. J. Amer. Ling.* Apr. 69/1 The phonologic material shows an unmistakable cleavage between two groups of dialects which may be conveniently called the Yupic and Inupik divisions by reference to their treatment of the root for *human being* (juk versus inuk; these are the words for *real person* in Kuskokwim and Barrow respectively). *Ibid.* 70/2 The dichotomy between Yupik and Inupik is clear and geographically abrupt. *Ibid.*, We find nothing in the [Wales] dialect which minimizes the depth of its separation from Yupik Eskimo. 1967 W. H. OSWALT *Alaskan Eskimos* p. xiv, In Alaska two languages, Inupik and Yupik are spoken. *Ibid.* iv. 115 The Yupik speakers... would be expected to have had a greater long-term stability than the Inuit. 1974 *Encycl. Brit. Macropædia* VI. 963/2 In 1961 a program was started... with the active participation of Yupik Eskimos, for working out a systematic Eskimo orthography in the Roman alphabet. *Ibid.*, Greenlandic

ūvoq... is related to the Asian Yupik form *ugu-*. 1977 *New Yorker* 20 June 55/2 The big river delivers the wood to the Yupik Esimos of the western coast. 1980 M. E. KRAUSS *Alaska Native Languages* App. 11. 91 There is... the well known sharp division between Yupik and what we in Alaska usually call Inupiaq. *Ibid.* 103 With a dense and increasing population, almost entirely Yupik, the Yupik language remained... strong.

yupon, variant of YAPON.

yuppie (ˈjʌpi). *colloq.* (orig. U.S.). Also **Yuppie**, **yuppy**. [Orig. f. the initial letters of young urban professional; now also freq. interpreted as young upwardly mobile professional (or person, people): see YUMPIE and -IE.] A jocular term for a member of a socio-economic group comprising young professional people working in cities. Also *attrib.* Cf. YUMPIE.

1984 PIESMAN & HARTLEY (*title*) The yuppie handbook. 1984 [see YUMPIE]. 1984 *Times* 21 Mar. 14/2 A new term has been introduced into the American political lexicon... It is 'Yuppie', which stands for Young, urban professional people. 1984 *Observer* 8 Apr. 12/1 We have got to break this yuppie image. 1984 *Guardian* 22 Oct. 6/6 The yuppies themselves, in the 25-34 age group, supported Senator Gary Hart in the primaries. 1984 *Washington Post* 29 Mar. V1/5 The two yuppie, upwardly mobile professional capitals of Virginia. 1985 *Investors Chron.* 8-14 Nov. 8/1 It also announced that it will change its name to Next—the yuppie clothes-chain responsible for its meteoric rise.

Hence 'yuppie(ness); 'yuppyish a. 1984 *N. Y. Times* 28 May 22/6 Yuppiness depends on the prestige of gaining; happiness on the satisfaction of giving. 1986 *Courier-Mail* (Brisbane) 8 Jan. 5/4 There is a serious side to yuppiness, as advertisers are discovering. 1986 *Financial Times* 22 Apr. 25/1 There is nothing yuppyish about the Folkes Group. 1987 *Athletics Today* Apr. 33/1 The area, fast becoming the hot-bed of 'Yuppiness', was first vacated several years ago when the ships left London's docks. 1988 *Fortune* 15 Feb. 124/3 This declaration points to upscale yuppyish types plainly able to afford \$100 a week.

'yuppiedom. *colloq.* (orig. U.S.). Also **yuppydom**. [f. YUPPIE + -DOM.] The condition or fact of being a yuppie; the domain of yuppies; yuppies as a class.

1984 *MacNeil-Lehrer NewsHour* 4 June, What a curve, that from hippiedom to Yuppiedom. Is it really possible that these Yuppies are the same people who were the counterculture? 1984 *Washington Post* 20 June A21/5 Yuppiedom does not conduce to a realistic view of the human condition or of American society. 1985 *Sunday Tel.* 26 May 11/6 Occasionally they [sc. Yuppies] are overcome by the instinct to perpetuate Yuppiedom with their little Yuppies. 1987 *New Musical Express* 14 Feb. 42/4 Real yuppiedom is an absence more than a presence—an absence of social conscience, of tolerance and of depth. 1988 *Guardian* 13 Apr. 20/2 'There was a great rush into the City in the early to mid-Eighties,' reflects Mark, 'a great boom in yuppiedom.'

'yuppieism. *colloq.* (orig. U.S.). Also **yuppieism**, **yuppyism**. [f. YUPPIE + -ISM.] The state of being a yuppie; behaviour characteristic of yuppies. Also, a yuppyish phrase, expression, etc.

1984 *New Republic* 6 Aug. 11/2 Neoliberalism, generational politics, faith in the 'future', yuppie-ism. 1984 *Washington Post* 21 Oct. C3/4 Baez says she's sick to death of the '60s. Eldridge Cleaver is a Republican and Jerry Rubin has traded in Yippieism for Yuppieism. 1985 *Christian Science Monitor* 17 Jan. 8/2 All who sit here silent... betray the oppressed... It is institutionalized yuppyism. 1987 *N. Y. Times Mag.* 5 July 8/5, I played second base for Our Lady of the Assumption... I don't deal in yuppie-isms.

yuppifi'cation. *colloq.* (orig. U.S.). Also **yuppiefication**. [f. YUPPIE + -FICATION; cf. GENTRIFICATION.] The action or process by which an area, building, clothing, etc., becomes or is rendered characteristic of or suitable for yuppies. (Usu. *disparaging*.)

1984 *Time* 9 Jan. 66 Some signs of imminent Yupification [sic]: forced relocation of candy stores and laundromats, the proliferation of gourmet-food stores, [etc.]. 1985 *Los Angeles Times* 10 Mar. 76/5 The association with three Japanese masters brings conflicting thoughts. There are still places for the loner artist to escape 'yuppiefication'. 1987 *Independent* 17 Sep. 18/2 What Dickens is describing, I suddenly realised, is yuppiefication. The trendies were moving in. 1987 *Daily Tel.* 26 Sept. 9/3 At a pre-conference meeting of Labour's National Executive, Left-wing critics such as Dennis Skinner scornfully dismissed what they describe as the 'Yuppiefication' of the party. 1988 *Christian Science Monitor* 4 Feb. 23/1 In some ways the change reflects a trend—'yuppiefication' or 'gentrification' which is transforming many inner cities in the West.

Also 'yuppyify *v. trans.*, to subject to yuppiefication; 'yupified *ppl. a.*

1984 *Listener* 8 Mar. 27/1 They get into a district before anyone else and really yuppyify it. 1984 *Adweek* 17 Dec. 42/2 The marketer's never-never land between the 12-to-18-year-old MTV set and the yupified Rolling Stone audience. 1985 *Washington Post* 13 Feb. B4/1 A yupified suit that converts to something sexier for after-hours wear. 1986 *Daily News* (N.Y.) 23 May 41/1 Betty gets (shudder) yupified. 1987 *Observer* 16 Aug. 3/4 Their 'bashers' (shacks) will be forcibly removed by police to make way for developers who want to 'yuppyify' the Charing Cross area. 1987 *Listener* 24 Sept. 38/2 The dramatist sketches a new breed of yupified 'social managers', obsessed with image-building and politicking to the exclusion of... justice.

yur, yure, obs. forms of YOUR.

Yurak (ˈjʊəræk). [Native name.] = NENETS (see quot. 1972). Also **Comb.**, as **Yurak-Samoyed(e)**.

1882 H. LANSDELL *Through Siberia* I. viii. 103 Reclus... speaks of the Yurak-Samoyedes as still practising their bloody rites. 1911 *Daily News* 3 Nov. 1 Great praise is due to the Russian Red Cross Society for the noble way in which the women of this corps work among the revolting and diseased Yuraks. 1939 L. H. GRAY *Foundations of Lang.* 369 The languages of the Uralic family are as follows... *Samoyede group*: Yurak, Yenisei-Samoyede, [etc.]. 1952 *Trans. Philol. Soc.* 118 Yurak-Samoyede *paju, pal* 'close, thick'. 1954, etc. [see NENETS]. 1964 tr. Levin & Potapov's *Peoples of Siberia* 547 Before the Revolution the Russians called the Nentsy Samoyeds or Yuraks. 1972 *Language* XLVIII. 208 Calling the language and people 'Yurak' is an anachronism. Since 1917 a native self-designation has come into use in the Soviet Union, which I render as 'Nenets'. 'Yurak' arose from a term applied to the eastern Nenets by their Enets and Nganasan neighbours. 1975 G. F. CUSHING tr. *Hajdu's Finno-Ugrian Languages & Peoples* iii. 216 The Nenets are generally termed Yurak-Samoyeds.

yure (jʊə(r)). *Sc.* and *north. dial.* Forms: 5 **3owre**, 7- **yower**, **ure**, **ewr**, 8-9 **yewer**, **ewer**, 9 **yure** (**yuer**, **yoo(e)r**, **yowr**, etc.). [Obscurely connected with ON. *jūgr* (Norw. *juver*, MSw. *juver*, *juger*, Sw. *jufver*, Da. *yver*), f. unexplained variant of the Teut. stem represented by OE. *ūder* UDDER.] An udder.

1483 *Cath. Angl.* 427/2 A **3owre**, *uber*. 1641 *BEST Farm. Bks.* (Surtees) 8 It is goode to admonish the shepherd to pluck the wolle away from the yower of the ewe, thereby to make more way for weake lambes to finde the pappe. *Ibid.* 80 If an ewe bee kittle on her yower, or unkinde to her lambe. 1691 RAY N.C. *Words* (ed. 2), *Ure*, udder. 1787 *GROSE Prov. Gloss.*, *Ewer*, an udder. 1825 JAMIESON, *Ure*, the dug or udder of an animal, particularly of a sheep or cow. *Ibid.*, *Ure-lock*, the name given to the locks of wool growing round the udder of a sheep, which are pulled off when it is near lambing-time. 1828 *Craven Gloss.*, *Yower-joint*, the joint near the udder or thigh of the horse, opposite the hock or hough.

yurn, yurne, yurt: see YEARN *v.*¹, YERN *v.*, YERNE *adv.*, YOUT.

Yurok (ˈjʊərɒk), *sb.* and *a.* Also 9 Euroc, Youruk. [a. Karok *yürük* (a considerable distance) downriver; cf. *yurük'varara* Yurok Indian, lit. 'downriver person'.]

A. sb. *a.* (A member of) an Indian people of northern California. *b.* The language of this people, distantly related to Algonquian and Wiyot. *B. adj.* Of, pertaining to, or designating this people or their language.

1851 [see KAROK]. 1872 *Overland Monthly* Apr. 326/2, I have seen a half-dozen tatterdemalion Eurocs... come rushing down through the chaparral. 1875 H. H. BANCROFT *Native Races Pacific States* III. 641 On the lower Klamath, the Euroc language prevails. 1904 *Univ. Calif. Publ. Amer. Anthropol. & Ethnol.* II. III. 95 The belief in a previous world... is not uncommon. The Torint of the Eskimo... the Waghe of the Yurok. 1913 *Amer. Anthropologist* XV. 621 Our knowledge of Wiyot and Yurok is still very incomplete. 1921 [see CULTURALLY *adv.*]. 1946 L. BLOOMFIELD in H. Hoijer et al. *Ling. Structures Native America* 85 Two languages of California, Wiyot and Yurok, have been suspected of kinship with Algonquian. 1954 E. A. HOEBEL *Law of Primitive Man* ii. 25 An aggrieved Yurok who felt he had a legitimate claim engaged the legal services of two nonrelatives from a community other than his own. 1962 [see KAROK]. 1973 A. H. WHITEFORD *N. Amer. Indian Arts* 47 Half-twist overlay was used by the Yurok... for fine flexible mats. 1977 R. HOLLAND *Self & Social Context* ii. 40 Witness the astonishingly beautiful analogy between the oral anxiety of the Yurok people and the uncertainty of the salmon run on which they depend as a culture. 1981 A. B. KEHOE *N. Amer. Indians* vii. 376/2 Macro-Algonkian is represented by two language isolates, Yurok... and Wiyot.

Yurrap (ˈjʌrəp). Repr. a supposed U.S. pronunc. of *Europe*.

1883 *National Police Gaz.* 17 Mar. 3/1 The entire court of shyler lawyers, wives and contractors' daughters who have been to Yurrap. 1960 N. MITFORD *Don't tell Alfred* iii. 34 There are the [American] business men trying to make a better position for themselves at home as experts on Yurrap. 1980 R. MCCRUM *In Secret State* xiii. 123 American students enthusing about Yurrap.

||**yurt** (jʊət). Forms: 8-9 **jourt**, 9 **jurt**, **y(o)urte**, **yurta**, **yuert**, **yort**, 9-**yurt**, **yurta**, 8- **yourt**. [ad. Russ. *yurta*, through F. *yourte* or G. *jurte*.] A semi-subterranean dwelling or hut of the natives of northern and central Asia, usually formed of timber covered with earth or turf. Also, a circular skin- or felt-covered tent, with collapsible frame, used by the nomadic peoples of Siberia and Central Asia. Also *transf.* and *attrib.*

1784 KING *Cook's Voy. Pacific* III. 9 May 1779, Natcheeekin is a very inconsiderable *ostrog*, having only one log-house, the residence of the *Toion*; five *balagans*, and one *jourt*. 1780 COXE *Russ. Discov.* 259 Six or seven of these huts or yurts make a village. 1858 ANNE BOWMAN *Yng. Exiles* xii. 154 They made no scruple to enter the warm, though uninviting yurt. 1865 TYLOR *Early Hist. Man* viii. 207 Stone knives... have been found in the high northeast of Siberia, on the site of deserted yurts of modern date. 1883 S. W. WILLIAMS *Middle Kingdom* (rev. ed.) I. iv. 206 A first-class yurt is by no means an uncomfortable dwelling, with its

furniture, lining, shrine, and hot kettle in the centre. 1899 BARING-GOULD *Furze Bloom* iii. 29 A Khan's yurt or the steppes of Central Asia. 1904 H. G. C. SWAYNE *Through Highlands Siberia* vi. 98 Occasional groups of true Kalmak huts, extinguisht-shaped, ... felt 'yurtas', which are used by the richer Kalmuks, though I believe they are properly the Kirghiz type of dwelling. 1911 P. T. ETHERTON *Across Roof of World* iv. 60 The habitations of the Kirghiz are the 'yurts', or 'khirgas', constructed of felt on a wooden framework, with an opening at the top to let out smoke from the fire lighted in the centre. 1924 *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 255/2 We had seen little camps of their Yurtas, large black tents. 1940 *Antiquity* XIV. 410 Dwelling of the semi-dugout type. This was probably a conical structure similar to a yurt. 1953 J. MASTERS *Lotus & Wind* xx. 247 Groups of the round black felt tents called yurts dotted the grass. 1974 *Publishers Weekly* 4 Mar. 5/2 (Adv.), Build a yurt. The round house you can make... It's a portable dwelling for people and pets... Inspired by the ancient Mongolian felt-and-hide structures, the yurt is the newest thing in housing. 1978 A. GREY *Chinese Assassin* ii. 38 The yurt camps... were now quickly dispersing... across the steppes. 1979 J. HALIFAX *Shamanic Voices* (1980) ii. 49 Kyzlasov lived a distance from his village... in an isolated and impoverished yurt constructed of logs and surrounded by birch trees. 1981 *Nordic Skiing* Jan. 51/2 Skiing the system of five yurts set five miles apart in the Sawtooth Mountains is what Leonard Expeditions is all about.

Yuruk (ˈjʊərʊk), *sb.* (*a.*) [a. Turk. *yürük* (also used) = nomad.] (A member of) a nomadic people inhabiting Anatolia. Also *attrib.* or as *adj.*

1869 H. F. TOZER *Researches Highlands of Turkey* I. i. 13 In one of these glades we found a tribe of Yuruk with their flocks. 1896 D. G. HOGARTH *Wandering Scholar in Levant* iii. 53 The 'Turk', most rightly so called, is the despised Yuruk, the 'wanderer', a name applied to the half-settled population, roaming in summer... collected in the winter into villages. 1907 G. BELL *Let.* 1 May (1927) I. xi. 233 So we rode back along the beautiful grassy shores of the lake, where the Yuruks were watching their flocks and herds. 1959 *Listener* 6 Aug. 221/1 Three weeks among the Yuruks. 1963 *Times* 9 May 14/6 The Yürüks are a tribe of nomads who spend their winter in the equable south of Anatolia and move up to the plateaux and highlands for the summer. 1974 *Encycl. Brit. Micropædia* X. 848/2 *Yü rük rugs*, handwoven by nomadic people in various parts of Anatolia... Rugs from Eastern Anatolia, many of them Kurdish rugs... but classed as Yürük, show a wide range of rich and unusual colour shades. 1983 J. THOMPSON *Carpet Magic* 19/2 (*caption*) One member of a Turkish nomad, or Yuruk, family on migration.

yus, adv. Also **yhus** (*once*), **yuss**. Repr. *dial.* and non-Standard form of YES.

1828 W. CARR *Dial. Craven* (ed. 2) II. 279 *Yus*, Yes. 1888 S. O. ADDY *Gloss. Words Sheffield* 292 *Yus, adv.*, yes. 1890 KIPLING *Many Inventions* (1893) 284 Ho yuss! 'Taint much though, is it? 1898 J. D. BRAYSHAW *Slum Silhouettes* 15 'Yus!' responded his wife. 1934 J. FRANKLYN *This Gutter Life* xx. 159 *Yhus, movin'* aht, are yer? Norra bad flet. 1968 C. M. VINES *Little Nut-Brown Man* i. 32 'Please, may I ask you something?' 'Yus!' said he [sc. Lord Beaverbrook], employing, in good humour, this cheerful Canadianism.

yus, zus, obs. forms of YES.

yused, ME. *pa. pple.* of USE *v.*

yusho (ˈjʊːʃəʊ). *Path.* [Jap., f. *yu* oil + *sho* disease.] A disease characterized by the development of brown staining of the skin and severe acne, caused by the ingestion of polychlorinated biphenyls.

1969 GOTO & HIGUCHI in *Fukuoka Acta Med.* LX. 409 (*heading*) The symptomatology of yusho (chlorobiphenyls poisoning) in dermatology. *Ibid.*, We thought its cause might be rice oil... The case has been called Yusho. 1973 G. L. WALDBOTT *Health Effects of Environmental Pollutants* xviii. 226/1 In 1968 about 1000 persons in southern Japan developed darkened skin... and severe acne... The illness was named 'Yusho', or rice oil disease, because the patients had eaten food cooked with contaminated rice oil. 1977 *Lancet* 22 Jan. 176/1 Chisato Hirayama provides a chapter on the clinical aspects of yusho (oil disease), the important skin symptoms being reviewed separately.

yust, obs. f. JOUST *v.*¹

Yusufzai (ˈjʊːsʊfzai), *sb.* and *a.* Also **Yusafzai**; 9 **Eusofzye**, **Eusafzai**, etc. [a. Pers., f. *yūsuf* Joseph + *-zāi* bringing forth.] *A. sb.* (A member of) a Pathan tribal group inhabiting the North-West Frontier Province of Pakistan. *B. adj.* Of, pertaining to, or designating this people.

1815 M. ELPHINSTONE *Caubal* III. i. 328 The Eusofzyes are a very numerous tribe. 1838 in *Parl. Papers* 1839 XL. 29 Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk disclaims all title... to... Peshaur, with the Eusefzye territory. 1857 S. COTTON *Nine Years on North-West Frontier* (1868) ix. 220 The column placed under his orders on the Euzofzaie Border. 1886 [see -OLOGY, OLOGY 2]. 1887 KIPLING *Plain Tales from Hills* (1888) 24 A Eusufzai horse-thief. 1899 *Dict. Pathan Tribes* 234/1 *Yusufzai* (73,000), a great group of Pathan tribes which includes those of the Black Mountain, the Bunerwals, the Swatis, the people of Dir and the Panjkora valley, and the inhabitants of the Yusufzai plain in British territory. 1900 R. WARBURTON *Eighteen Years in Khyber* v. 52 Mukarrub Khan of Panjar... was another pleasing character connected with Yusufzai politics. 1940 P. SYKES *Hist. Afghanistan* I. xix. 290 In the autumn of that same year Babur... decided on an expedition against the Yusufzais. 1953 O. CAROE *Soviet Empire* v. 86 Another Yusufzai *maira*. 1958 — *Pathans* i. 14 A Yusufzai or a Khalil... if he is asked who he is, will always reply, 'I am an Afghan.' 1978 'M. M. KAYE' *Far Pavilions* xi. 170 The men of his own troop were drawn largely from the Border tribes: Yusafzai, Orakzai and

Khattak. 1983 J. C. GRIFFITHS *Queen of Spades* ii 26 Hussein Rahman, a Yusufzai Parthan.

yut(e, ȳut(e, obs. ff. YET.

yupe, obs. f. YOUTH.

yuū, obs. f. YOU.

Yuvaraja (jʊvə'rɑ:dʒə). Also Jubaraj, Yuvaraj, Yuveraj, Yuvraj. [a. Hindi, f. Skr. *yuva-* young + *rājā*: see RAJA, RAJAH.] The male heir to an Indian state or principality; the crown prince.

1893 R. LETHBRIDGE *Golden Bk. India* p. xv, In some of the Orissa Tributary Mahāls... the heir-apparent is styled *Jubaraj* or *Yuvaraj*. 1916 N. SINGH *King's Indian Allies* 1. xii. 150 To distinguish the heir-apparent from the other sons, it is customary to call the former by some distinctive title, *Yuvaraja* in the case of Hindus. 1931 *Times of India* 6 Nov. 5/4 On May 28, 1930, he was received, with the Yuvraj, at Court at Buckingham Palace. 1937 W. H. SAUMAREZ SMITH *Let. 3 Jan. in Young Man's Country* (1977) ii. 50 On the 30th, I saw Prince Jaya's father, the Yuvaraja. 1953 E. M. FORSTER *Hill of Devi* 161 Vikky, henceforward to be referred to as the Yuvraj (Crown Prince), had now developed into a charming and intelligent youth. 1978 'M. M. KAYE' *Far Pavilions* iii. 54 The young crown-prince, Lalji, Yuveraj of Gulkote. 1982 K. SINGH *Heir Apparent* i. 1 The birth of a Yuvaraj (heir apparent) was always a matter for rejoicing.

yuy(e, yve, obs. ff. IVY.

yuzbashi (ju:z'ba:ʃi). Also Yuzbachi, Yuz-bashi, Yuzbashi. [Turk. *yüzbaşı*, lit. 'one who is head of a hundred', f. *yüz* hundred + *baş* head.] A captain in the Turkish army; in the Turkish navy, a first lieutenant. Cf. BIMBASHI.

1876 [see BIMBASHI]. 1907 *Blackw. Mag.* June 806/2 Our procession was headed by a Yuz-bashi. 1908 M. PICKTHALL *Children of Nile* xxxiii. 268 Word of his coolness during the bombardment having reached the ear of power, he found himself raised to the rank of yuzbashi and honoured with a small command. 1920 *Glasgow Herald* 21 Jan. 4 The author... is an umquile Yuzbashi of the Imperial Ottoman Naval College. 1969 R. MILLAR *Kut* v. 87 The Turkish *yuzbashi* (equivalent to a captain, literally means the commander of 100 troops) was ushered into the office still blindfolded.

||yūzen (ju:zen). Also yuzen and with capital initial. The name of Miyazaki Yūzen-sai (fl. mid-18th cent.), Japanese inventor of a technique of dyeing silk fabric in which rice-paste is applied to areas which are not to be dyed, used *attrib.* and *absol.* with reference to this process and the designs produced. Also **yūzen-zome** (see quot. 1983).

1902 [see HABUTAI]. 1911 *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 183 The difference between the results of the ordinary and the yūzen process of dyeing is, in fact, the difference between a stencilled sketch and a finished picture. 1958 K. NOMACHI *Jap. Textiles* 21 Yuzen pattern is the design printed by the Yuzen process, with beautiful and graceful flowers and birds... as the motifs. The Yuzen process is of three kinds: Yuzen proper, hand painting, and stencil printing. 1964 NEWMAN & RYERSON *Jap. Art* x. 77 Yūzen zome, a method of producing elaborate multi-colour designs by starch dyeing. Came into vogue in the Edo period. 1968 G. T. WEBB tr. *Seiroku's Arts Japan* II. 214/2 The design of this *furisode*... a garment traditionally worn only by young girls, is executed in a variety of techniques, including yūzen and *shibori* dyeing and gold appliqué. In yūzen-zome, a hand-painted dyeing method, the patterns are first outlined with a color-resist of rice paste applied with a paper funnel or a chopstick-like wooden implement, and later filled in with dyes of any color desired. 1980 *Textile Designs Japan* (rev. ed.) I. 21 The invention of a new starch-resist dyeing technique, known as yūzen, during this period... led to undreamed of achievements in the dyeing of free-style graphic designs. 1983 Y. TAZAWA *Biogr. Dict. Jap. Art* 652 During and after the Genroku era... stencil dyeing was developed and became popular, for a large number of yūzen designs are mentioned... From amongst these dyes, the term *yūzen-zome* came to be used thereafter to refer to all such pattern dyeing and it is still used thus to the present day.

yvel, -ll(e, yven, obs. ff. EVIL, IVY.

yvenkessyd, -kised, -quyst, ME. pa. pple. of VANQUISH.

yver(e, -cry(e, obs. ff. IVORY.

†yveresce. *Obs.* [a. OF. (F.) *ivresse*, f. *ivre*:—pop. L. **ēbriu-s*, for *ēbriu-s* drunk: see -ESS.] Drunkenness.

c1430 *Pilgr. Lyf Manhode* iii. xliii. (1869) 159 Twey wombes... Of whiche yueresce [gloss *drunkeshipe*] is that oon seid. And that oother the gulf that to ete is eue reddy.

†yverysshe, a. Obs. [f. *yvery*, IVORY + -ISH.] Of or like ivory.

1530 PALSGR. 330/2 Yverysshe, . . . eburnyn.

†yves. *Obs.* Also 8 ives. = VIVES.

1578 H. WOTTON *Courtlye Controv.* 301 To the ende the horse by his continual trembling mighte seeme to haue the Yues. 1753 BARTLET *Gentl. Farriery* 104 The vives or ives differs from the strangles only in this [etc.].

†yvewddid, ME. pa. pple. of VOID *v.*

yvi(e, yvle, yvoire, yvor(e, -ie, etc., obs. ff. IVY, EVIL, IVORY.

†yvitaillid [VICTUAL *v.*], supplied with victuals.

1422 YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* 215 That thou be.. well y-vitaillid.

†yvolvuld [Y- 4, FULFIL *v.*], fulfilled.

c1330 *Hymn in Rel. Ant.* I. 87 Y-volvuld ys Davidthes sawe.

Yvorne (i:'vɔ:n). The name of a village in the Vaud canton of S.W. Switzerland, used *absol.* to designate a white wine produced in the region.

1871 J. MURRAY *Handbk. for Travellers in Switzerland* (ed. 14) p. xxxii, *Yvorne* is considered the best Swiss white wine. 1888 [see CORTAILLOD]. 1935 A. L. SIMON *Wines & Liqueurs* 61 *Yvorne*, one of the best Swiss white wines from Aigle, in the Upper Rhône Valley. 1962 *Economist* 29 Dec. 1283/1 The best whites are perhaps Yvorne and Dézaley. 1980 G. GREENE *Doctor Fischer of Geneva* ix. 54 Beside every plate was a bottle of good Yvorne.

y-vowted, ME. pa. pple. of VAULT *v.*¹

yvsed, yvzed, ME. pa. pple. of USE *v.*

1340 *Ayenb.* 115 þine greate guodnesses þet ich habbe eche daye onderuonge, huyche ich habbe kueadliche yvzed. c1394 *P. Pl. Crede* 510 And also Domyrikes dedes weren deruelich y-vsed.

yvy, yvyl, obs. forms of IVY, EVIL.

vyyned, obs. form of VINNIED, mouldy.

14.. *Voc.* in Wr.-Wülcker 597/2 *Mucidus*, vyyned.

yw, obs. form of YOU.

†ywaged [Y- 4, WAGE *v.*], hired.

1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* xxiii. 261 Bote hij been nempned in þe nembre of hem þat ben ywaged.

ywalked, ME. pa. pple. of WALK *v.*²

ywalled, obs. f. WALLED *ppl. a.*

ywalwed, pa. pple. of WALLOW *v.*¹

ywar, obs. form of AWARE.

ywarded, ywareschid, ywarnist, ywarred, ywasche, ywasshe(n, ywasted, ywatert, -eryd, ywedded, ME. pa. pples. of WARD *v.*¹, WARISH *v.*, WARNISH, WAR *v.*¹, WASH, WASTE, WATER, WED *vbs.*

ywel(l, obs. forms of EVIL.

†ywelde, variant of I-WELDE *v.* *Obs.*, to carry into effect.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 491 He... assaieþ dedes þat he may nouȝt y-welde.

ywemmed, ME. pa. pple. of WEM *v.*

ywend(e, ywent(e, ywenkused, ywept, ME. pa. pples. of WEND *v.*, VANQUISH *v.*, WEEP *v.*

ywende, var. I-WENDE *v.* *Obs.*, to go, progress.

13.. *R. Gloucester's Chron.* (Rolls) 4063 3if we in pisse manere wendeþ [M.S. a ywendeþ] we ne faylep on none wyse þat we ne wollep abbe þe maistrie. 1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* ix. 62 Ich... wol y-wende To pylgrimages, as palmers don pardon to wyne.

ywer, ME. var. of AWARE *a.*, wary.

1340 *Ayenb.* 100 By wys and y-wer.

†ywerche [Y- 3 c], var. I-WURCHE *v.* *Obs.*

ywerred, ywess(h)e, ywet(te [Y- 4], ME. pa. pples. of WAR *v.*¹, WASH *v.*, WET *v.*

ywete, var. I-WITE *v.*¹ *Obs.*, to know; to preserve, keep.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 59 3if any good counsaile... were i-ȝeue, anon enemyes schulde wite [M.S. a ywete] for al. a1400 in *Eng. Gilds* (1870) 360 þ' þe seal byfore y-seyd shal be y-weted vnder þre heuedes.

ywetered, yweved, ywexed, ME. pa. pples. of WATER *v.*, WEVE *v.*, WAX *v.*

†y'whelped, *pa. pple.* and *ppl. a. Obs.* [pa. pple. of WHELP *v.* or f. WHELP sb.¹: see Y- 4 and 5.]

a. Brought forth as whelps.

1398 TREVISA *Barth. De P.R.* xviii. xxiv. (Bodl. MS.), þe sonner þei haue here sight than þey beþ ywhelpid.

b. In kindle with whelps.

a1400 *Octouian* 433 A grysly best, A greet y-whelpyd lyonesse.

†ywhere, adv. Obs. Forms: 1 *ȝehwær*, 2 *ȝewer*, ywer, 3 *ihwar(e, ihwær, ihwer, iwar(e, iwære, iwere*. [OE. *ȝehwær*: see Y- 2b and WHERE.] Everywhere.

Beowulf 526 Deah þu heaðoræsa ȝehwær dohte. c1000 ÆLFRIC *Hom.* I. 2 His ȝebyrd and goodnys sind ȝehwær cupe. a1175 *Cott. Hom.* 231 His under-þeoden ȝewer on his cyne rice wuneden. a1200 *Moral Ode* 88 þe þe deð godes wille uwer he mei him finden. c1205 LAY. 260 Hit iwerð þere swa hit deð wel iwere [c1275 *iwære*]. a1240 *Ureisin* in *O.E. Hom.* I. 189 þet he wule þet al pine wil ihwer beo iforped. a1250 *Owl & Night*. 216 þe Nihtegale wes al ware heo hedde ileorned wel ihware [Cott. MS. aiware].

ywhet(t, ME. pa. pple. of WHET *v.*

†ywhether [Y- 2 b], obs. var. WHETHER.

c1400 26 *Pol. Poems* 113 Ywhether pou art alone, withoute mene?

ywhyngged [Y- 4], ME. var. WINGED.

ywil(le, var. I-WILL Obs., will, desire.

12.. *Moral Ode* 14 in *E.E.P.* (1862) 22 þe muchel folȝep his y-wil him sulfne he bi-swikeð. a1275 *Prov. Ælfred* 423 in *O.E. Misc.* (1872) 129 Ich telle him for a dote, þat sait al is y-wille, þanne he sulde ben stille.

ywilned, ME. pa. pple. of WILN *v.*

ywis, ywiss(e: see IWIS.

†ywist, pa. pple. of I-WITE, YWITE *v.*¹ *Obs.*

1340-70 *Alex. & Dind.* 582 Of riches & of renoun romme be ȝe kidde, & ben baldere y-wist þan any burn elles.

ywite, var. I-WITE *v.*¹ *Obs.*

ywitted, ME. form of WITTED.

1393 LANGL. *P. Pl. C.* xii. 235 Ryght wel ywittede men.

ywive, var. I-WIVE *v.* *Obs.*, to marry.

ywon(e, ywonne(n, ywonde(d, ywonden, ywon(e)d, -et, ywonte, -wonyd, yworewid, ME. pa. pples. of WIN *v.* (cf. I-WIN(NE *v.*), WOUND *v.*, WIND *v.*, WON *v.* (see WONT *a.*), WORRY *v.*

ywori, obs. form of IVORY.

†yworred, yworschiped, -wor(þ)sshipid, etc., ME. pa. pples. of WAR *v.*¹, WORSHIP *v.*

yworþ(e, -worth(e, -wourthe, var. I-WORTH *v.* Obs.

1422 YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* 217 The chylde wox, . . . but for no-thinge he hit myght lerne; . . . And ther-for they lettyn hym y-wourthe.

ywounded, ywounden, obs. pa. pples. of WOUND, WIND *vbs.*

ywoven, obs. pa. pple. of WEAVE *v.*

1610 HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* i. 285 Faire Reading towne, . . . where Cloth's ywoven be.

ywowed, ywoxe, obs. pa. pples. of WOO, WAX *vbs.*

ywrapped, ywrapt, obs. pa. pple. of WRAP *v.*

c1400 MAUNDEV. ix. (E.E.T.S.) 39 In þat same cloth so ywrapped the aungeles beren hire body to the mount Synay. a1425 *Cursor M.* 23324 (Trin.) I wrapped alle in gome & gle. 1572 GASCOIGNE *Voy. Holland* Wks. 1907 I. 358 A wretch ywrapt in wroth. 1583 MELBANCKE *Philotimus* I iv b, Pills ywrapt in sugar. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* i. 1. i, Nor Ladies loves, nor Knights brave Martiall deeds, Ywrapt in rolls of hid Antiquity.

ywrapped, ywreȝe, ywreke, obs. pa. pples. of WRATH, WRY, WREAK *vbs.*

†ywrit, pa. pple. Obs. Forms: 1 *ȝewriten*, 2-4 *iwrite(n, 3-4 ywrite, ywryte, 4 iwritten, (i-, ywrete, 5 iwreten), 5-7 ywrit*. [OE. *ȝewriten*, pa. pple. of (*ȝe*)*writan* to WRITE.] Written.

c1000 *Ags. Gosp.* Luke x. 26 Hwæt is ȝewriten on þære æ? c1175 *Lamb. Hom.* 11 þe priddes godes heste was iwritten inne þa table. c1200 *Moral Ode* 118 (Trin. Coll. MS.) Swo he hit iseiæ aboc iwrite. 1297 R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 1901 An aungel he sey þat huld an croiz & þer on ywrote was lo pis. c1315 SHOREHAM v. 320 þer-bye we mowe wel y-wyte, þaȝ þer be nauȝt of y-wryte, þat cryst hym self was þere. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* xi. 220 Sum wordes I fynde ywryten were of faithes techyng. 1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) V. 15 Whanne bookes of oure byleve were y-wrete. *Ibid.* VIII. 41 Foure famous men discreved his lyf and his dedes as it is i-written in his lyf. 1422 YONGE tr. *Secr. Secr.* 149 In the thyrd boke of kynges we fyndyth y-writ that [etc.]. c1450 *Merlin* 279 Whan it was I-wreten. 1642 H. MORE *Song of Soul* i. iii. xxvi, On which in golden letters be ywrit These words.

ywroȝt, ywroht: see YWROUGHT.

ywroken (i'rɔuk(ə)n), *pa. pple. arch.* Forms: 1 *ȝewrecen*, 3 *iwreken*, 4 *iwrokin*, 5 *ywrekȳd*, ywroke, 4- ywroken. [OE. *ȝewrecen*, pa. pple. of (*ȝe*)*wrecan*: see Y- 4 and WREAK *v.*] Avenged; taken vengeance upon, punished.

c893 ÆLFRED *Oros.* i. xiv, Ær hie þæt ȝewrecen hæfden. c1250 *Gen. & Ex.* 1856 Symeon and leui... hauen here sister ðor i-wreken. 13.. *Cursor M.* 4416 (Gött.) As þu art man for þe Loke on him i-wrokin be. 1377 LANGL. *P. Pl. B.* xx. 203 3if þow wilt ben ywroken wende in-to vnite. 14.. *Tundale's Vis.* (Turnbull) 1304 But they schall soo y-wrekȳd be That non of hem schall see the. c1430 LYDG. *Misc. Poems* (Percy Soc.) 41 Ther was no speke y-broke, Nor wrestelyng wherby he was y-wroke. 1595 SPENSER *Col. Clout* 921 Through iudgement of the Gods to been ywroken. 1825 SCOTT *Betrothed* Concl., Vanda's wrong has been y-wroken. a1835 MOTHERWELL *Clerke Richard & Maid Margaret* xi, And now that hatred was ywroken, A wondrous joy in them had sprung.

ywronge, ME. pa. pple. of WRING *v.*

ywrought (i'rɔ:t), *pa. pple. arch.* Forms: 1 *ȝeworht*, 3-4 *iworht, iwroht, 3-4 ywro(u)ȝt, 4-5 ywroght, (3 iwraht, ywort, 4 ywroht, 5 ywrouht, ywrowte), 5- ywrought*. [OE. *ȝeworht*, pa. pple. of *ȝewyrcean* IWURCHE, *wyrcean* to WORK.] Worked, wrought, made.

971 *Blickl. Hom.* 127 Ehta eaȝpyrelu swipe mycele of glæse ȝeworht. c1230 *Hali Meid.* 25 þe þat art i wit iwraht

to godes ilicnesse. **1297** R. GLOUC. (Rolls) 3613 Aboute is ssoldren & peron ypeint was & ybro3t [? ywro3t; *v.rr.* ywrou3t, ywort] þe ymage of vre leuedy. *a* **1310** in Wright *Lyric P.* ix. 36 Hit is wonder wele y-wroht. **14..** *Pol. Poems* (Rolls) II. 284 When suche clothe ys alle ywrowte, To the maker it waylyth lytyle or now3tte. **1426** LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 3593 Ye han ywrouht ageynys kynde. *a* **1500** *Flower & Leaf* 49 A plesaunt herber, wel y-wrought. **1610** HOLLAND *Camden's Brit.* I. 196 This by-word.. (Hengston downe well ywrought Is worth London deere ybought). **1642** H. MORE *Song of Soul* III. II. xx, What's gnawing conscience from impietie By highest parts of humane soul ywrought?

ywrye, ywryed, ywry3e, obs. pa. pples. of WRY *v.*

†**ywry3eliche**, *adv.* *Obs.* [repr. OE. type **gewrigenlice*, f. *gewrigen*, pa. pple. of *wreón* to cover, conceal + *-lice* -LY².] Secretly. **1340** *Ayenb.* 37 þe þyef y-wre3e is pet stelep ine halkes and ywry3eliche greate þinges oþer little.

†**ywrythe, ywurnd, ywuste**, ME. pa. pples. of WRITHE, WARN, WIT *vbs.* (cf. I-WITE *v.*).

ywus, obs. form of IWIS.

ywyl, var. I-WILL *Obs.*

ywylned, pa. pple. of WILN *v.*

ywypillit [obs. Sc. var. WIMPLED], wrapped. **1513** DOUGLAS *Æneis* XI. xi. 48 Ywypillit [orig. *clausam*] in this bark tho did he take Hys 3ong douchtyr.

ywynne, var. I-WIN(NE *v.* *Obs.*, to win.

ywryyed, ME. pa. pple. of WORRY *v.*

ywys(se, ywysed, ywyte, ywyve: see IWIS, IWISSE *v.*, I-WITE *v.*¹, I-WIVE *v.*

yye, obs. form of EYE.

c **1485** *Digby Myst.* III. 1124 þer xall þey se me.. with here carnall yye. *a* **1539** in *Archæologia* XLVII. 53 That ther vayle come as lowe as ther yye ledes.

yyeve, y3eve, y3ive, ME. pa. pple. of GIVE *v.*

yyf(e, 3yf(e, yyff: see GIVE *v.*, IF.

†**yy3t**, ME. pa. pple. of HIGHT *v.*³, to augment, enhance.

1387 TREVISA *Higden* (Rolls) VII. 455 By his studie and travaille þis storie is greetliche i-hi3t [*MS.* γ y-y3t].

yyldyd, obs. f. *yielded*, pa. t. of YIELD *v.*

yym(m)an(e, 3ym(m)an(e, obs. ff. YEOMAN.

yynge, obs. f. YOUNG.

yyoked, yyolde (-3-), **y3ulde, yyolpe, yyoyned**, ME. pa. pples. of YOKE, YIELD, YELP, JOIN *vbs.*

yyrne, obs. f. YEARN *v.*²

yys, obs. pl. of EYE *sb.*¹; obs. f. YES.

c **1485** *Digby Myst.* III. 640 Her xal Mary wasche þe fett of þe prophet with þe terres of hur yys.

yzard, obs. form of IZZARD.

1669 [see ZAD].

yzawe, yzed, ME. pa. pples. of SOW *v.*¹, SAY *v.*¹

yzen, obs. var. IRON *sb.*¹

†**yzendred**: see SENDRE.

yzen(e)3ed, yzet, ME. pa. pples. of SIN *v.*, SET *v.*¹

1340 *Ayenb.* 21 þou sselt ysi þet þou hest more ziþe y-zene3d.. þet þou ne kanst na3t telle. *Ibid.* 7 Zonday and þe oþre he3e festes þet byep y-zet to loky ine holy cherche.

yzizþ, yzy: see YSEE *v.*

1963 *Amer. Speech* XXXVIII. 174 An onomatopoeic construction reported four times is *get some Z's*... Variants occurring once were: *bagging Z's*, *copping some Z's*, *cutting Z's*, and *knocking out Z's*. **1973** A. DUNDES *Mother Wit* 238 Got to go...cop me some Z's. **1977** C. MCFADDEN *Serl*

(1978) xxxii. 71/1 All Harvey wanted... was to pop his Sominex and catch a few z's.

II. Symbolic uses.

5. *Math.* Used as the symbol for the third of a set of unknown or variable quantities (the first and second being denoted by *x* and *y*); *spec.* in Analytical Geometry of three dimensions, for a quantity measured in the direction of the third axis of coordinates (hence called the † *axis of z*, now always *z-axis*; also *transf.*).

For the history see X 3 *note*.

1660, 1709 [see X 3]. 1929, etc. [see X 3 a]. 1967 *Electronics* 6 Mar. 2 (Adv't), Plug-in markers offer not only variable band-width, but also Z-axis or pulse-type marking.

6. Used abstractly for the name of a person or thing: cf. X 3, 3 c, Y 5.

1798, 1873, 1901 [see X 3 c]. 1833 NEWMAN *Let. to Froude* 13 Nov., Palmer musters the Z's [sc. Establishment men] in great force against the tracts, and some Evangelicals. 1848 HANNAY *Biscuits & Grog* 109 Lord X, the Marquis of Y, and Baron Z. 1880 'MARK TWAIN' *Tramp Abr.* xiii, Mr. X, pranced in his long night garment with a candle, young Z, after him with another candle.

7. Used, like the other letters of the alphabet, to denote position in a series.

1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* viii, We dismounted with as much ease and comfort as though we had been escorted by the whole Metropolitan Force from A to Z inclusive. 1860 SALA *Baddington P.* xxiv, A very Rabelais of the Z division. *Ibid.*, Z. 92 saw the striped bracelet of a sergeantcy in perspective. 1862 THACKERAY *Philip* xxxviii, 'Tell that to his worship,' says the incredulous Z. 1867 'OUIDA' *Cecil Castlemaine's Gage* etc. 381 He exchanged into the Z Battery going out to India.

8. *Genetics.* Z is used to designate the male-determining sex chromosome in species in which the female rather than the male is the heterogametic sex.

1917 T. H. MORGAN in *Amer. Naturalist* L.I. 534 Since the female here [sc. in pigeons] is the heterozygotic sex (ZW) the results are such as would follow a direct influence on the sex chromosomes when the polar body is eliminated. 1925 *Ibid.* L.IX. 133 The locus of the male tendency gene (M) is in the 'Z-chromosome' of which two are present in the male and one in the female. 1966 *Lancet* 24 Dec. 1397/2 The phenotypic expression of plumage factors on the Z chromosome of birds seems to be a function, principally, of gene dosage. 1971 [see HETEROGAMETIC a.]. 1976 *Nature* 17 June 598/2 In avian species, the heterogametic (Z W) female sex possesses W-linked histocompatibility antigen.

9. *Physics.* Z is the symbol for the atomic number of an element.

1931 *Proc. R. Soc. A*. CXXXIII. 234 We have taken Z = 8 (oxygen). 1962 F. I. ORDWAY et al. *Basic Astronautics* xii. 502 Electrons such as those in the outer Van Allen radiation belt are easily stopped by a few millimeters of a low-Z material such as aluminum or magnesium. 1978 P. W. ATKINS *Physical Chem.* xiv. 438 The next atom to build is lithium, Z = 3.

10. Z is used to denote one of the two directions of twist in spinning (see quot. (1935)); hence *z-spun* adj.

1935 [see S II. 8]. 1964 H. HODGES *Artifacts* ix. 128 In thigh spinning, for example, a right-handed person will almost always produce Z-spun yarn. 1980 A. FRITZ *Fibre of Clothing* iii. 40 There are two types of twist possible in a yarn. One is an S twist, the other a Z twist.

11. *Particle Physics.* Z is the symbol of a heavy, uncharged vector boson that forms a triplet with the two Ws.

1967 S. WEINBERG in *Physical Rev. Lett.* XIX. 1265/2 The only unequivocal new predictions made by this model have to do with the couplings of the neutral intermediate meson Z_0 . *Ibid.* 1266/1 Our Z_0 and W_0 mesons get their mass from the spontaneous breaking of the symmetry. 1971 — in *Ibid.* XXVII. 1688 This procedure... resulted in a model involving electrons, electron-type neutrinos, charged intermediate bosons (W_\pm), neutral intermediate bosons (Z_0), [etc.]. 1977 *Dædalus* Fall 32 The family of intermediate vector bosons, of which the photon is a member, is believed to contain one heavy charged particle and its anti-particle, called the W^+ and W^- , and one even heavier neutral particle, called the Z^0 . 1982 [see W 4 b]. 1983 *New Scientist* 12 May 355 (heading) CERN physicists find the Z particle. 1983 *Nature* 25 Aug. 686/2 This resulted in a total of six examples of the Z particle (four decaying into e^+e^- and two into $\mu^+\mu^-$) and 52 W^\pm particles.

III. Abbreviations.

12. a. ZANU, Zanu, Zimbabwe African National Union; ZAPU, Zapu, Zimbabwe African People's Union; ZBB (U.S.), zero-base(d) budgeting; Z-DNA (Biochem.), DNA in which the double helix has a left-handed rather than the usual right-handed twist and the sugar phosphate backbone follows a zigzagged course; ZPG, zero population growth. See also Z band (s.v. Z LINE), Z LINE.

1963 *Times* 10 Aug. 5/2 The split in the Southern Rhodesian African nationalist movement has come to a head. A breakaway group... has formed... the Zimbabwe African National Union. The president is the Rev. Ndabaninge Sithole, formerly one of Mr. Nkomo's staunchest lieutenants, as are all the members of the new *Zanu executive. 1964 *Ann. Reg.* 1963 II. v. 105 On 8 August a new organization, the Zimbabwe African National Union (Z.A.N.U.), was formed with the Rev. Sithole as leader. 1977 *Times* 17 Sept. 15/3 Nobody wants to clear an arena for a final fight between Zapu and Zanu armies for supremacy. 1961 *Guardian* 18 Dec. 1/3 A new African political party, to be known as the Zimbabwe African People's Union, has been launched in Southern Rhodesia... by Mr. J. M. N. Nkomo... Mr. Nkomo said... *ZAPU would press for immediate negotiations for a fresh

constitutional arrangement. 1972 J. BIGGS-DAVISON *Africa — Hope Deferred* xi. 100 The rival parties Z.A.P.U. and Z.A.N.U. 1977 *Daily Times* (Lagos) 27 Jan. 3/2 Mr. Moyo... was with Nkomo in ZAPU before the revolt which Nkomo faced prior to 1963. 1976 *N.Y. Times* 27 Aug. D 1 *Z.B.B., as it is widely known, calls for the justification of all spending in relation to priorities. 1978 *National Civic Review* LXVII. 132 ZBB was formally delineated and put into practice for the first time by Texas Instruments, Inc., 15 years ago. 1979 A. H.-J. WANG et al. in *Nature* 13 Dec. 681/2 In looking at this left-handed helix... it is apparent that the ribose-phosphate backbone follows a zig-zag course resulting from alternating residue conformations. Accordingly, we propose to call this *Z-DNA. 1983 *Sci. Amer.* Dec. 92/1 In Z DNA... the repeating unit of the helix is not a single base pair, as it is in A and B DNA, but rather two successive base pairs: G-C followed by C-G. 1970 *N.Y. Times* 3 June 61/6 Of all the cries that have arisen, perhaps none is quite so superficially appealing, or so profound in its long-range social and economic implications, as zero population growth — *ZPG in the slogans of the day. 1978 *Nature* 6 Apr. 491/3 This may have reduced the maximum possible number of children per female to around five, and it does not then require harsh assumptions about mortality rates to end up with ZPG.

b. In combinations containing the abbreviation Z followed by a word, as Z-car, a police patrol car (after the title of a popular U.K. television series, from the radio call-sign 'zulu' allotted therein to a group of such cars); also used allusively; Z-day *Mil.* = zero day s.v. ZERO sb. 7 a.

1961 *Radio Times* 28 Dec. 29/2 The call-sign is ZULU — they call them Z-cars. There are two young constables in each, ready to deal with trouble. 1963 *Daily Mail* 23 Apr. 1/6 (heading) Z-car crashes. 1965 *Sunday Mail* (Brisbane) 19 Dec. 32/5 Two black Z-cars — powerful Humbers — keep driving around the half-mile circle every five minutes watching for strangers. 1976 'D. CRAIG' *Faith Hope & Death* xviii. 127 It's not like Barlow and Z Cars, all that shouting stuff and strong jaws. These boys, they was slimy. 1925 FRASER & GIBBONS *Soldier & Sailor Words & Phrases* 312 The opening of the main attack of the battle of the Somme was fixed for June 20th, and notified beforehand as 'Z Day'. 1930 S. SASSOON *Mem. Infantry Officer* iv. 61 Operation Orders... notified us that Thursdays was 'Z' (or zero) day. 1938 BLUNDEN *On Several Occasions* In the zone concrete hole the corporal shows his muddy map, his Z Day zone of fire.

'Z, phonetic spelling of 'S as a euphemistic shortening of *God's* in certain oaths: see 'ZBLOUD, 'ZDEATH, 'ZFÖOT, 'ZLIFE, &c.

za (zɑː). Also 'za. U.S. slang abbrev. of PIZZA.

1968-70 *Current Slang* (Univ. S. Dakota) III-IV. 140 Za... pizza. 1980 L. BIRNBACH et al. *Official Preppy Handbk.* 44/2 You can go for 'za, burgers, and ice cream without signing out. 1983 *Verbatim* IX. iv. 1/1 One of the boys called up and asked the parlor to bag the za (meaning 'cancel the pizza'). 1984 *Amer. Speech* LIX. 89 In surveying my classes for campus slang I learned that pizza is referred to as za and to get or eat a pizza is to do a za.

Zaara(h, Zaarra, variants of SAHARA.

Zabæan, variant of SABIAN.

zabaglione (zɑːbɑːlʃjəʊni). Also sambaglione, zabaione, etc. [a. It., perh. ult. ad. late Lat. *sabaia* an Illyrian drink.] A dessert consisting of egg yolks, sugar, and (usu. Marsala) wine, whipped to a frothy texture over a gentle heat and served either hot or cold. Cf. SABAYON.

1899 M. NINET *Dainty Meals for Small Households* xiv. 223 *Sambaglione*. — Put into a saucepan about six new-laid eggs, and two sherry-glassfuls of Madeira. 1901 W. G. WATERS *Cook's Decameron* 175/1 Zabaglione is a kind of syllabub. *Ibid.* 175/2 (heading) Iced zabaglione. 1914 C. E. EDWARDS *Bohemian in San Francisco* 104 This was followed by a glass of zabaglione for dessert. 1917 *Blackw. Mag.* Jan. 111/1 We dined off onion pilaff, and sponge-cake of maize flour with zabaglione. 1924 M. KENNEDY *Constant Nymph* xvi. 222 She had instructed Roberto to beat up some eggs... that she might make zabaglione. 1932 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 10 Nov. 836/4 At a single opening of the book we find... zambaglione (the reviewer would prefer to omit the lemon-juice but to add a pinch of yeast). 1958 *Times* 2 Oct. 11/4 A nation that is content at midday with shepherd's pie... must dine out off kebabs and zabagliones. 1960 *Country & Garden* May 94/3 A copper zabaglione pan. 1974 *House & Life* 25 Apr. 1006/1 The best-known Italian sweet, *zabaglione*. 1981 R. AIRTH *Once a Spy* ix. 100 Zac ordered blackberry, peach, pineapple [ices] and *zabaione*. 1984 *Listener* 1 Nov. 42/2 Whatever food is mentioned, from aubergines to zabaglione, they are ready to garnish it with some unsavoury gobblet of introductory junk music.

Zabaism (Zabiism), variant of SABAISM. So zabaist, one who practises Sabaism.

1662 STILLINGFL. *Orig. Sacrae* II. vii. §9 The rites and customs of these Zabaists. 1669 GALE *Crt. Gentiles* I. II. i. 3 Zabaisme, ... gave a Deitie... to the Sun, Moon, and Stars. 1748 T. BLACKWELL *Lett. conc. Mythol.* 364 That Religion which is still known under the Name of Zabaism among the Eastern Writers. 1775 J. BRYANT *Mythol.* II. 443 Addicted to Zabaism, and other species of idolatry.

† zabernism ('zæbənɪz(ə)m). Obs. [f. *Zabern*, German name of the village of Saverne in Alsace + -ISM.] The misuse of military power or authority; bullying, aggression (see quot. (1921)). Also 'zabernize v. intr.

1914 *Daily News & Leader* 6 Apr. 1/7 A quaint illustration of an attempt to 'zabernise' in business life... is published...

to-night. 1916 [see ROUNDING vbl. sb. 1 a]. 1918 *Nineteenth Cent.* Dec. 992 The acquisitive commercialists and financiers of Germany — the Zabernism of industry and l.s.d. — were up to the eyes in it [sc. the war]. 1918 H. G. WELLS *In Fourth Year* iii. 36 Both countries have been slaves to Kruppism and Zabernism. 1920 *Glasgow Herald* 7 Apr. 8 The advance of the Government troops into the Ruhr district, coupled with a marked exhibition of 'Zabernism', has stiffened the Spartacist resistance. 1921 E. WEEKLEY *Etym. Dict. Mod. Eng.* 1658/2 *Zabernism* (hist.), military jackbootery. From an incident at Saverne (Ger. *Zabern*) in Alsace (1912), when an excited Ger. subaltern cut down a lame cobbler who smiled at him.

Zabian, Zabianism, var. SABIAN, SABIANISM.

zable, var. SABLE sb. 3 Obs., sabre.

|| zabra ('θabɹa, 'zɑːbrə). Also 6 zabre, azabra, 9 zumbra. [Sp.] A small vessel used off the coasts of Spain and Portugal.

1523 WOLSEY in *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, VI. 118 That the Emperour... do sende also 2 zabres of the portage of 30 or 40 ton a pece. 1588 ARCHDEACON tr. *True Disc. Army K. Spain* 19 The Zabra Augusta, of 166 tunnes. 1589 GREENE *Span. Masq. Wks.* (Grosart) V. 274 Of Gallions, Hulkes, Pataches, Zabres, Galeasses, and Gallies 130. 1607 DEKKER *Whore Bab.* H 4, Our Galeons, Galeasses, Zabraes, Gallies. 1860 MOTLEY *Netherl.* xix. II. 507 Of the tenders and zabras, seventeen were lost. 1867 SMYTH *Sailor's Word-bk.*, *Zumbra*, a Spanish skiff or yawl.

zabra, obs. form of ZEBRA.

|| zabuton (zə'buton). [Jap., f. *za* sitting, a seat + *buton* f. *futon* cushion, padded mattress.] A flat floor cushion on which one sits or kneels.

1889 M. B. HUISSH *Japan & its Art* vii. 85 The Japanese... is only comfortable when resting on his knees and heels on a cushion (*zabuton*). 1928 J. I. BRYAN *Jap. All vi.* 76 In a Japanese house the guest does not sit, but kneels down and rests on the heels with toes out behind. A cushion, called *zabuton*, is given to rest the knees on. 1960 *Sunset* Mar. 137/1 The word *zabuton* applies to a Japanese floor cushion designed for sitting. It comes from the Japanese words *za* meaning to sit, and *futon* meaning bedding. 1973 A. BROINOWSKI *Take One Ambassador* v. 57 There were *shoji* screens and *zabuton* cushions on the *tatami* round the table. *Ibid.* xii. 193 She brought a *zabuton* and sat on the floor on that.

zac (zæk). Austral. slang. Also zack, zak. [Origin unknown.] A sixpence.

1898 *Bulletin* (Sydney) 1 Oct. 14 6d., a 'zack'. 1924 *Truth* (Sydney) 27 Apr. 6 *Zack*, sixpence. 1941 *Coast to Coast* 1941 213 'Only one, then,' I said. 'We'll only have one more, so we'll make it a sixpence in.' 'Don't worry about the zac,' said Tom. 1952 M. TRIPP *Faith is Windsock* ii. 29 Arthur spent the break losing bobs and tanners while the tall Australian reckoned his profits in dieners and zaks. 1962 *John o' London's* 8 Mar. 229/2 And all you get for it is a zack. 1966 *Tel.* (Brisbane) 13 Oct. 13/2 The zack, now the 5c piece, is in such demand that very often its scarcity makes one wonder if it is gradually going out of circulation. 1966 P. MATHERS *Trap* ii. 31 Two taps with an improvised hammer and anvil, a two bob and a zac. 1977 *Sunday Sun* (Brisbane) 1 May 16 When it comes to unique competitions the people of outback Winton reckon they're the full quid — and you can bet your last zac or traybit on it.

zacate: see SACATE, ZACATE.

zacaton: see SACATON, ZACATON.

'zackly, 'zactly ('zækli, 'zækth). Repr. a dial. or colloq. pronunc. of EXACTLY adv.

1886 BAUMANN *Londinism* 239/1 'Zactly... exactly. 1893 H. A. SHANDS *Some Peculiarities of Speech in Mississippi* 69 *Zackly*... negro for exactly. 1929 W. FAULKNER *Sartoris* iii. vi. 232 'Yessuh,' Simon agreed readily. 'Hit struck me jes' 'zackly dat way.' 1929 H. WILLIAMSON *Beautiful Years* (rev. ed.) vi. 63 'Isn't the sunshine lovely, Mr. Lewis?' 'Eh, ooh? 'Zactly!' 1973 *Amer. Speech* 1970 XLV. 77 Her dress was 'zactly like mine. 1983 R. SUTCLIFF *Blue Remembered Hills* xii. 91 Some people believed that Mr. Snow was, in West Country parlance 'not quite zackly'... I think he was just simple in the true sense of the word.

zad. Obs. exc. dial. Variant of ZED, name of the letter Z; hence (slang) applied to a thing or person of crooked form. (Cf. ZARD.)

1669 HOLDER *Elem. Speech* 140 We may imagine it to have been anciently pronounced, as it is now by the Italians, Ds or Ts; and so to be called *Zad* from the Hebrew *Tsadi*; but yet... we... do as often call it *Yzard*. 1725 *New Cant. Dict.* s.v., *A meer Zad*, used of any bandy-legg'd, crouch-back'd... Person. 1728 DE FOE *Street Robb. Consid.* 35 *Zad*, crooked. 1778 HALHED *Gram. Bengal Lang.* 6 W is defined from its form only, not from its use; and *Z zad*, or *izard* is an appellation equally useless. 1810 CRABBE *Borough* xviii. 30 And how she soothed me, when, with study sad, I labour'd on to reach the final *Zad*. 1877 *Reports Provinc.* (E.D.D.) Labouring man said at a night school, 'I can't made a zad.'

zaddik, zadik, varr. TSADDIK.

Zadokite ('zeɪdəkaɪt), sb. and a. [f. the name of *Zadok*, a high priest of Israel in the time of King David + -ITE.] A sb. A member of a Jewish sect which seceded from orthodox Judaism in the second century B.C., and traced its authority back to *Zadok*.

1910 S. SCHECHTER *Fragments of Zadokite Work* p. xxi, It is the Zadokites from which the Sect derived its spiritual

pedigree. 1920 *Encycl. Relig. & Ethics* XI. 43/2 The Sadducees were thus not a religious party at all, but simply a body of people bound together by a common interest to maintain the existing régime. The name is explained as meaning 'Zadokites', and was given to them by their opponents, the Pharisees, who borrowed it from an earlier age... when the descendants of Zadok, who then filled the high-priestly office, identified themselves with Hellenism in its most dangerous forms. 1960 tr. *Noth's Hist. Israel* III. ii. 316 It may also be that... some deported Zadokites returned to Jerusalem. 1974 *Encycl. Brit. Macropædia* XIV. 190/1 The Zadokites may have constituted the survival of an ancient Jebusite (Canaanite) royal priesthood.

B. adj. Of, pertaining to, or designating the members of this sect; *spec.* applied to fragments of sectarian texts discovered in Cairo in 1896-7 and later traced back to the Dead Sea Scrolls.

1910 S. SCHECHTER (*title*) Fragments of a Zadokite work. 1912 R. H. CHARLES *Fragments of Zadokite Work* p. vii. There is no question as to the genuineness of the orders of the Zadokite Priests and Levites. *Ibid.* p. x, The Zadokite Party represents an attempt at reform beginning within the ranks of the priesthood and extending outwards so as to embrace a strong lay element. 1921 J. MOFFATT *Approach to New Testament* i. 60 In the so called Zadokite document of Jewish piety, just before the days of Jesus, the idea of a new covenant, a covenant of repentance, began to be linked to the expectation of a messiah. 1954 [see QUMRAN]. 1974 *Encycl. Brit. Macropædia* II. 938/2 Another sectarian book of ordinances is the Damascus Document (the Zadokite Fragments). The work was already known from two medieval copies before the discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls, but fragments of it also were found in Qumrân.

||zadruga (za'druga). Pl. zadrugas, zadrüge. Also with capital initial. [Serbo-Croat, = patriarchal commune, association.] A type of patriarchal social unit traditional to (agricultural) Serbians and other southern Slavic peoples, orig. comprising an extended family group which worked the land and lived communally round the main house; the customs and rules associated with this type of unit.

1887 *Encycl. Brit.* XXII. 146/2 The Slavs know nothing of private property,—the land being held in common under the care of the *vladika* or *starešina*, as in the Serbian *xadrugas* at the present day. 1900 'ODYSEUS' *Turkey in Europe* viii. 375 The old system of Zadruga, or communal village based upon the family. 1911 PRINCE LAZAROVICH-HREBELIANOVICH *Servian People* i. 39 The basis of the Serb organisation is the family, either in its narrowest sense of blood-relationship, in communistic organisation, or other individuals grouped together for common work and with common possessions. These forms are called 'Zadruga'. 1934 *N. Y. Times* 24 June iv. 3/4 Zadruga in Serbia means a big family where brothers and sisters... lead a community life, under the leadership usually of the eldest member of the family. 1943 L. ADAMIC *My Native Land* 214 From their Russian homeland the Slavs brought a democratic institution called *zadruga*, a clan or family cooperative, which some of the tribes tried to extend and adjust to the wider forms of government necessary in their new homelands. *Ibid.* 216 They lived in their primitive villages and held onto their Old-Slavic *zadrugé* and 'heart culture'—decency, friendliness, hospitality. 1963 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 25 Jan. 49/3 The *dvor* or peasant household... is the same elastic unit which was familiar in medieval Europe, and survives today in the *zadruga* of the Balkans. 1979 *Internat. J. Soc. Sci.* 7. 270 The old customary Slavonic 'family' law, the *zadruga*. 1980 A. TOFFLER *Third Wave* ii. 44 People tended to live in large, multi-generational households... from the 'joint family' in India to the 'zadruga' in the Balkans.

zaffre, zaffer ('zæfə(r)). Also (7 zaphara, saffera), 9 saffre, saffer, (zaffira, suphara). [ad. It. *zaffera* (Neri) or F. *zafre, safre* (12-13th c.); cf. Sp. *zafre, safre*, G. *zaffer, zaffra*: of uncertain origin.] An impure oxide of cobalt, obtained by roasting cobalt-ore, and used in the preparation of smalt and as a blue colouring-matter (cobalt blue) for pottery, glass, etc.

1662 MERRETT tr. *Neri's Art of Glass* xii. Take Zaffer in gross pieces. 1686 *Phil. Trans.* XVI. 26 Smalt is made of Zaffer and Pot-ashes. 1693 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (ed. 2), *Zaphara* or *Saffera*. 1745 WATSON in *Phil. Trans.* XLIII. 497 Zaffer, which is used by the Glass-makers and Enamellers, is made of Cobalt... calcined after the subliming the Flowers. 1804 tr. *Tingry's Paint. & Varn. Guide* 301 Smalt, or vitreous oxide of cobalt, is saffer reduced to blue glass by the action of a violent fire. 1843 POE *Tales, Gold-Bug*, Zaffre, digested in *aqua regia*, and diluted with four times its weight of water, is sometimes employed; a green tint results. 1912 *Contemp. Rev.* Dec. 860 The Egyptian porcelain... manufacturer, who used for the zaffre the Cyprus blue-stone.

||zaftig ('zæftɪg), *a.* U.S. colloq. Also *zoftig*, *zofti(c)k*. [Yiddish, *a.* G. *saftig* juicy.] Of a woman: plump, curvaceous, 'sexy'.

1937 M. LEVIN *Old Bunch* II. 394 He could see himself on the road, whizzing by a flaming poster—a beautiful... girl, snappy, modern, *zaftig*. 1950 *Commentary* IX. 460/2 The owner of the local barber shop... installed a *zoftig* blond manicurist. 1960 'E. MCBAIN' *Heckler* x. 91 *A zaftig* redhead... in her early thirties. 1967 P. WELLES *Babyhip* (1969) xxiv. 139 'And see how *zoftik* she is.' Mrs. Green felt pleased she had spotted someone over-weight. 1970 S. J. PERELMAN *Baby, it's Cold Inside* 188 This demure but *zoftik* freshman, with a brain rivaling Spinoza's encased in the body of a Lollobrigida. 1973 R. HAYES *Hungarian Game* xxx. 179 That *zoftig* colonel wasn't a colonel at all. I checked her out in Budapest. 1981 *Gossip* (Holiday Special) 11/2 *Zaftig* Dolly Parton... once described herself as looking like a 'hooker with a heart of gold'.

zag (zæg). The second syllable of *zigzag* used as a separate word (*adv.*, *vb.*, or *sb.*) to express a movement or direction inclined at an angle to that indicated by *zig*.

1793 BURNS *Let. to R. Ainslie* 26 Apr., I have written many a letter in return for letters received, but, then, they were original matter. Spurt away! zig here, zag there. 1840 ARNOLD in A. P. Stanley *Life & Corr.* (1844) II. 403 We go down by zig and zag towards the level of the Tiber. 1900 H. SUTCLIFFE *Shameless Wayne* xii, His steel zags down like lightning before a man's eye can teach his hand to parry. 1906 *Spectator* 1 Dec. 879/2 One of the chief difficulties of walking up snipe is that when you shoot zig he goes zag, and when you shoot zag he goes zig.

† **za'gaie, za'gaye.** *Obs.* Also 6 zagaia, 7 sagay. [a. F. *zagaie*, reduced form of *azagaye*: see ASSAGAI *sb.*] = ASSAGAI *sb.*

1590 SIR J. SMYTHE *Disc. Weapons* L 4, Some numbers of *Zagaia* (which are double headed Lances). 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* 1. 35 They are very dextrous at the *Zagaye*. a 1693 *Urguhari's Rabelais* III. Prol., Long Hooks, Lances, *Zagayes* [*Rabelais azzesgayes*]. 1698 FROGER *Voy.* 12 The *Sagay*, which is a very light Half-Pike. [1702 W. J. tr. *Bruyn's Voy. Levant* xxii. 95 They... excell [in] the managing of the *Zagaie*; which is a sort of Stick about four Foot long, about an Inch Thick, round before and flat behind. 1869 BOUTELL *Arms & Armour* vii. 102 The 'Estradiots',... armed with a *zagaie*, or javelin, pointed at both ends.]

Zaghlulist (zæ'glu:lɪst), *sb.* and *a.* Also Zaghloulst. [f. the name of the Egyptian politician *Zaghlül Sa'd* (1857-1927) + -IST.]

A. sb. An adherent or supporter of the nationalist and separatist principles and policies of *Zaghlül Sa'd*. *B. adj.* Of, pertaining to, or designating members of this political group.

1921 *Times* 29 Dec. 9/3 The Zaghlulists have raised the familiar Indian cry of non-cooperation. 1924 *Times* 14 Jan. 11/5 The comparative nonentity who was his Zaghlulist opponent. 1924 [see OMDAH, OMDEH]. 1927 *Daily Express* 9 Sept. 1/1 A congress of Zaghlulist parliamentarians to decide on a policy consequent on the death of their leader will open on September 15 or immediately after, when the Wafdists (champions of Home Rule)... arrive. 1943 LD. WAVELL *Allenby in Egypt* vii. 102 The completeness of the Zaghlulist victory surprised every one... even Zaghlulists themselves. 1955 H. W. JARVIS *Pharaoh to Farouk* xxxii. 267 The Zaghlulists, however, were determined that a 'Tantah' incident should be repeated in some part of Egypt. 1971 P. MANSFIELD *British in Egypt* xxii. 252 Allenby... departed to genuine expressions of regret from the Egyptian public including the Zaghlulists.

||zaguan (za'gwan, sa-). Also 9 saguan. [Sp., = vestibule, hallway.] The passage running from the front door to the central patio in houses in South and Central America and in the south-western U.S.

1851 *Harper's Mag.* Sept. 465/2 Don Pedro was heard within, moving toward the 'Saguan'. 1863 *Rio Abajo Press* 28 Apr. 1/2 She had just seen Juanito's ghost in the saguan door. 1880 G. W. CABLE *Grandissimes* 131 It was a long, narrowing perspective of arcades, lattices, balconies, *zaguan*s, dormer windows, and blue sky. 1921 *Chambers's Jnl.* Mar. 258/1 There is the *zaguan* or vestibule at the outside, then the *cancel* or grating, and next the *patio* within. *Ibid.* Nov. 821/1 A couple of Moors—in the vestibule or *zaguan*—conduct a peculiar performance. 1927 D. H. LAWRENCE *Mornings in Mexico* 12 Some stranger comes into the *zaguan*.

Zahal (||tsa'hal). [Heb., f. *Šēḥā' Hāgānāh Lē-Yisra'el* Israel Defence Force.] The name applied by the Israelis to their defence forces, formed originally in 1948 by the fusion of pre-independence military organizations.

1959 A. M. HELLER *Israel's Odyssey* 61 The Haganah disbanded, the Irgunist and the Sternist forces and their members were fused into the Zahal, made up of the initial Hebrew letters of Zva Haganah L'Israel—Israel's National Army. 1969 A. PERLMUTTER *Mil. & Politics in Israel* v. 55 Zahal's chief of staff was delegated the operational function of maintaining and training the army. 1971 *Scope* (S. Afr.) 19 Mar. 17/3 Very few top-ranking Israeli officers gave their Zahal (Defence Force) more than one chance in three of pulling it off. 1975 C. A. HADDAD *Moroccan* i. 7 The twins did not have to lose two years to the Zahal, as the [Israeli] army does not draft religious girls. 1982 MURRAY & VIOTTI *Defense Policies of Nations* ix. 378 The leadership opted for a unified command for *Zahal* in which there would be one general headquarters and a chief of staff.

Zahara, variant of SAHARA.

||zaibatsu (zaibætsu:). Also Zaibatsu. [Jap., f. *zai* wealth + *batzu* clique.] In Japan, a large capitalist organization, usu. based on a single family having controlling interests in a variety of companies, of a type that existed before the war of 1939-45; since 1947, a cartel or conglomerate. Also, the members of such an enterprise.

1937 *Econ. Jnl.* June 272 These concerns are popularly known in Japan as the *Zaibatsu* or money-cliques. 1947 R. BENEDICT *Chrysanthemum & Sword* iv. 93 A chosen financial oligarchy, the famous *Zaibatsu*. 1957 *Pacific Affairs* XXX. 219 The *zaibatsu* and the landlords. 1959 R. KIRKBRIDE *Tamiko* (1960) vi. 41 By getting the right people to sit for you. The *zaibatsu*. The Royal Family. 1964 *Asia Mag.* 26 July 15/2 While the companies being merged presently are old *Zaibatsu* connected firms, and the groups are sponsoring the moves, the economics of the mergers

themselves have little to do with such connections. 1965 *Economist* 11 Dec. 1219/2 The *Zaibatsu* are becoming concerned about the problems of seniority and management. 1970 [see CONGLOMERATE *sb.* 3]. 1974 P. GORE-BOOTH *With Great Truth & Respect* 45 When a community, historically prone to become the victim of unreason, finds itself in a position of success amid failure, its only recourse is probably to go to ground. The Japanese *Zaibatsu* understood this; a really successful Japanese business man was and is rarely obtrusive. 1982 K. OHMAE *Mind of Strategist* (1983) ix. 109 Japan's prewar *zaibatsu* holding companies.

||zaikai ('zaikai). [Jap., f. *zai* wealth + *kai* community.] In Japan: financial circles; the business world or power élite who control it.

1968 C. YANAGA *Big Business in Jap. Politics* ii. 32 A new postwar term, *zaikai*,... practically supersedes *zaibatsu*... It is frequently interpreted... as a synonym for 'business circles', 'financial circles', and even 'business community'. More inclusive than *zaibatu*, it is nevertheless restricted to big business... *Zaikai* also denotes the place where the craving for political power is openly expressed and gratified. 1970 *Times* 19 Aug. 5/2 A Japanese economic magazine recently conducted a survey of opinion among leading representatives of the *zaikai*, the world of business and high finance. 1975 G. L. CURTIS in E. F. Vogel *Mod. Jap. Organization & Decision-Making* 38 The men who make up this élite in Japan spend an extraordinary amount of time in so-called *zaikai* activities... that are not directly related to their own companies, but which seek to represent the interests of the business community as a whole. 1981 J. B. KIDD in P. G. O'Neill *Tradition & Mod. Japan* 50 The process of *nemawashi* operating in the senior levels of the *zaikai* world enable the companies to secure long-term goals.

zaire (za'ɪə(r)). [f. *Zaire*, local name of the Congo River in Central Africa.] The basic monetary unit of the Republic of Zaïre; a coin of this value, equal to 100 makuta (see LIKUTA).

1967 *Times* 9 Nov. 6 They tried to recruit former Katangese gendarmes... They offered seven zaires (£5) to every man who enlisted. 1971, 1972 [see LIKUTA]. 1976 L. SANDERS *Hamlet Warning* (1977) xvi. 133 A bribe... Five thousand zaire—ten thousand dollars.

Zairean (za'ɪəɪən), *sb.* and *a.* Also Zairian. [f. the name of the Republic of *Zaïre* (cf. *prec.*) + -AN, -IAN.] *A. sb.* A native or inhabitant of the Republic of Zaïre, formerly the Democratic Republic of the Congo. *B. adj.* Of or pertaining to Zaïre.

1972 *Observer* 19 Nov. 2/1 Dead victims... have been found dumped close to the frontier with Zaïre... They were taken there by contract drivers, many of them Zaireans. 1973 *Black World* May 80 The dollar value of this manpower is considerable and most of it is defrayed by the Zairian Government. 1973 *Daily Tel.* 1 Oct. 19 Two British geologists yesterday described their fortnight's ordeal under armed Zairean Gendarme guards. 1973 *Times* 11 Dec. (Zaire Suppl.) p. vii/2 None of the young Zairians danced. 1977 *Times* 12 Apr. 13/1 Both the Moroccans and Zaireans are using their own planes to transport the troops. 1977 *Daily Tel.* 14 Apr. 1/8 The spokesman said that on Saturday two Zairean jets violated Zambian airspace. 1982 S. JOHNSON *Marburg Virus* x. 121 The logistic support of the Zairian army.

Zairese (za'ɪə'ɪɪz), *a.* and *sb.* [f. as *prec.* + -ESE.] = ZAIREAN *sb.* and *a.* Cf. next.

1974 *N. Y. Times* 10 Feb. 11/1 A 700-page, 30,000 word Swahili dictionary... is the work of a Zairese priest. 1975 *Business Week* (Industrial ed.) 27 Oct. 94H On the other side of the lake, the Zairese would like to build a new recovery unit. 1977 *Bangladesh Times* 19 Jan. 11/6 A lack of co-ordination between Belgian and Zairese security officials at Brussels airport, where the Belgian monarch was greeting President Mobutu. 1978 *Washington Post* 18 June A18/4 In the name of 'authenticity', he declared that in French revolution fashion Zairese should call each other 'citizen'.

Zairois (za'ɪə'wɑ:), *sb.* and *a.* Also Zaïrois. [a. Fr.] = ZAIREAN *sb.* and *a.*

1973 J. J. MACKELVEY *Man against Tsetse* iv. 228 The state of war against tsetse as the Zairois assess it will dictate the role that this institution may play in further research. 1974 *Observer* 22 Sept. 20/3 The Zairois people are warm, helpful and charming. 1975 R. BARCLAY *Ernest Bevin & Foreign Office* viii. 159 It is in any case an offence for a Zairois to wear such an 'un-authentic' item of dress as a tie. 1977 *New Day Summer* 10 (*caption*) A Zairois student learns how to take a skin smear. 1982 *Financial Times* 26 Jan. 22/1 The Government intends the industry to employ an eventual 700 Zairois.

||zakat (za'kat). Also *zakah*, *zakkat*, †*zecchat*. [Pers. *zakāt*, Turk. *zekât*, etc., ad. Arab. *zakāh*.] An obligatory tax payable annually under Islamic law on certain kinds of property in order to raise money for charitable and religious objects.

1802 J. PINKERTON *Mod. Geogr.* I. 452 [Turkey.] This revenue is partly derived from... the *zecchat*. 1875 BELLEW & CHAPMAN in T. D. Forsyth *Rep. Mission to Yarkund* ii. 103 The *zakāt* is a Mahomedan tax... It is one part in forty of all live-stock, and of merchandise entering the country. 1957 LD. HAILEY *African Survey* 1956 x. 671 In Mauritania those who are not liable to *zakkat* pay the personal tax and in addition a capitation fee on every animal. 1960 C. GEERTZ *Religion of Java* x. 123 The fifth pillar [of Islam] is the *zakah*, the religious tax. 1979 *Observer* 4 Mar. 12/3 Their principal objection was to 'zakat', a partly-compulsory Islamic welfare tax which General Zia proposes to introduce in July. According to Shi-ism *zakat* has to be an

individual act of conscience and can never be levied compulsorily by the State, he said.

|| **zakuska** (za'kuska). Also **zakouska**. Pl. **zakuskas**, **zakuski**. [a. Russ. *zakúska* (usu. as pl. *zakúski*).] An hors d'œuvre. Freq. pl.

The sing. form is occas. erron. const. as pl.
1885 A. J. C. HARE *Stud. in Russia* v. 203 The refreshment-room is enormous, ... with a great buffet at one end, whither the Russians resort before dinner for the customary *zakuska* of pickles, sardines, vodka, &c. 1919 H. WALPOLE *Secret City* i. xii. 79 The 'Zakuska' were on a side-table near the door—herrings and ham and smoked fish and radishes and mushrooms and tongue and caviare. 1920 E. & P. SYKES *Through Deserts & Oases Central Asia* iv. 73 It began with many *zakuskas*, consisting principally of dubious-looking tinned fish. 1922 W. S. MAUGHAM *On Chinese Screen* vi. 27 The emotion ... was diverted by the appearance of two Chinese servants in long silk robes and four-sided hats with cocktails and *zakouski*. 1933 H. NICOLSON *Let.* 7 Nov. (1966) 156 There were also little snippets of lobster in tomato cocktails, which were among the least successful of *zakouska* that I have ever known. 1951 V. NABOKOV *Speak, Memory* xiv. 213, I detest crowds, harried waiters, Bohemians, vermouth concoctions, coffee, *zakuski*, floor shows and so forth. 1981 T. KEENE *Skyskroud* i. 18 The *Zakouski*, the *borshch* and the *blini* of his homeland.

zalamdbodont (zə'læmdəndnt), *a. Zool.* [f. Gr. ζα-, intensive prefix + λάμβδα the letter lambda, Δ + δδόντ-, δδόντ- tooth.] Belonging to the division *Zalamdbodontia* of insectivorous mammals, characterized by short molar teeth with a single A- or V-shaped ridge: opp. to **DILAMBODONT**.

1885 *Riverside Nat. Hist.* (1888) V. 136 The *zalamdbodont* dentition.

zalandyne, obs. form of **CELANDINE**.

1530 PALSGR. 291/2 *Zalandyne* an herbe, *esclairer*.

|| **zamacueca** (zama'kweka, sa-) Also **9 -cuca**. [Amer. Sp.] A South American, esp. Chilean, dance in which a couple move around one another, accompanied by chords on the guitar and rhythmical handclapping. Shortened as **CUECA**.

1855 E. R. SMITH *Araucanians* vi. 65 The fashionable dances soon gave way to the more national *Zamacuca*. The *Zamacuca* has been very much reviled by foreigners, who have seen it only in sea-port towns. 1895 L. GROVE et al. *Dancing* xii. 375 The 'Zamacueca' is an inimitable dance, in which the handkerchief plays a prominent part. 1917 [see **CUECA**]. 1974 *Encycl. Brit. Macropædia* I. 669/1 The Creole people of the coast and plains [of South America] have been replacing the indigenous music of the mountains with their own music, especially with the ubiquitous *cueca*, or *zamacueca*.

|| **zamang** ('zæmæŋ). Also **zaman**, **saman**. [Native name.] A large ornamental leguminous tree (*Pithecolobium Saman*, suborder *Mimoseæ*) of tropical S. America, having a spreading head of branches of immense extent.

1819 HEL. M. WILLIAMS tr. *A. von Humboldt's Pers. Narr.* IV. 116 The famous *zamang* del Guayre, known throughout the province for the enormous extent of its branches, which form a hemispheric head five hundred and seventy-six feet in circumference. The *zamang* is a fine species of mimosa, ... The branches extend like an immense umbrella, and bend toward the ground, from which they remain at a uniform distance of twelve or fifteen feet. 1852 E. SULLIVAN *Rambles N. & S. Amer.* 400 The *zamang* is a species of mimosa, ... the leaves of this giant of nature are as small and delicate as those of the silver-willow.

|| **zamarra** (θa'marra). Also **9 semara**. [Sp.] A sheepskin jacket worn by Spaniards.

1839 E. E. NAPIER *Jrnl.* 4 May in *Excursions along Shores of Mediterranean* (1842) II. vi. 81, I observed a tall, gentlemanly-looking man, dressed in a semara. 1841 G. BORROW *Zincali* I. ii. i. 231 Another Gypsy ... dressed in a zamarra of sheep-skin. 1842 BORROW *Bible in Sp.* ix. 53 The gipsy Antonio ... dressed in his zamarra and high-peaked Andalusian hat. 1894 MAX PEMBERTON *Sea Wolves* xxii, Swarthy Galicians, in the black zamarra.

Zamazim, -zin, obs. corrupt ff. **AMAZON**.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 7043 *Zamazims* [c 1425 *Trin. MS.* *amazinis*] pat sith be-gan, þe wimmen land wit-outen man.

Zambian ('zæmbiən), *sb.* and *a.* [f. *Zambia* (see def.) + -AN.] *A. sb.* A native, citizen, or inhabitant of *Zambia* (formerly Northern Rhodesia), a country in south central Africa.

1964 *Economist* 15 Feb. 607/2 With only 180 'Zambians' (Northern Rhodesia's name when independent) taking school certificate this year. 1976 *Drum* (E. Afr. ed.) Aug. 8/1 Another reason for the shortage here is that the township council has turned down licence applications from non-black Zambians and foreigners. 1977 'O. JACKS' *Autumn Heroes* xiv. 207 Everyone had learned to freeze into silence the moment the *Zambian* made pronouncements.

B. adj. Of, pertaining to, or characteristic of *Zambia* or its people.

1964 *Times* 13 Nov. 11/3 A European in *Zambia* whose father was born in Britain might decide after a year to acquire *Zambian* citizenship. 1966 *Listener* 15 Dec. 879/2 The whole Rhodesian situation has driven *Zambian* politicians into a kind of neurosis. 1970 *Cape Times* 28 Oct. 2/5, I was furious when we found ourselves on the *Zambian* side of the lake. 1977 *Whitaker's Almanack* 1978 588/1 The *Zambian* Minister of Home Affairs signed deportation

orders for 55 aliens who it was said had entered the country illegally.

Hence 'Zambianize *v. trans.*, to make *Zambian* in character, by replacing foreign personnel by native Zambians; *Zambianization*.

1968 *Times* 18 Nov. (Zambia Suppl.) p. v/2 The *Zambian* government wants to see the whole industry *Zambianized*, with no whites and indeed no foreign Africans in any jobs. 1968 *Economist* 14 Dec. 26/2 ANC claims simply that it could have done better, picking out the soaring cost of living, wasteful public expenditure and falling standards in the police force—the last two linked with too-rapid *Zambianisation*. 1969 *Listener* 14 Aug. 221/3 That may have led to the proposal to 'Zambianise' the judiciary. 1976 G. C. BOND *Politics of Change in Zambian Community* x. 166 Its policy of rapid *Zambianization* siphoned off the more educated and progressive elements. 1984 *Mining Jnl.* 26 Oct. 287/2 *Zambianization* of the mining industry was a natural consequence of independence.

zambo ('zæmbəʊ). [Sp.: see **SAMBO**.]

1. = **SAMBO** 1.

1819 HEL. M. WILLIAMS tr. *A. von Humboldt's Pers. Narr.* IV. 430 He was ... of a dark brown complexion like a *Zambo*. 1851 MAYNE REID *Rifle Rangers* xi. (1853) 72 In the sparse settlements of the country [sc. Mexico] you meet with a strange race—the cross of the negro with the ancient inhabitants of the country—the 'zamboes'. 1896 W. E. CURTIS *Venezuela* xii. 159 The *zambos*, the offspring of the imported negro and the native Indian stock.

2. A species of American monkey.

1851 MAYNE REID *Rifle Rangers* i. (1853) 11 The ferocious *zambo* fills the woods with its hideous half-human voice. *Ibid.* 350 The 'zambo' monkey is one of the largest and fiercest of the family of *quadrumana*.

Zamboni (zæm'bəʊni). Chiefly *N. Amer.* Also **zamboni**. [See quot. 1965.] A proprietary name for a machine used to resurface ice rinks.

1965 *Official Gaz.* (U.S. Patent Office) 16 Feb. TM 93 Frank J. Zamboni & Co., Paramount, Calif. ... *Zamboni* for ice resurfacing machines and dump attachments therefor. First use July 1962. 1968 *Trade Marks Jnl.* 3 Apr. 517/2 *Zamboni*. ... Machines for resurfacing ice rinks and parts and fittings therefor. 1974 *Kingston* (Ontario) *Whig-Standard* 11 July 14/2 With 12 scrapers, I could do that ice in nine minutes. With the *Zamboni*, it took a little longer ... but I will have to admit it does do a better job. 1978 *Winnipeg Free Press* 25 Sept. 53/4 A crack in the boards near the door used by the *zamboni* helped Guindon open the scoring. 1984 *N.Y. Times* 11 Feb. 1. 22/6 Then the ice was glazed by a smooth-nosed French cousin of the *Zamboni* before another Soviet skater ... glided to gold medals.

zamboorak, **zambourouk**: see **ZUMBOORUK**.

|| **zambra** ('θambra, 'zæmbɾə). [Sp.] A Spanish or Moorish dance.

1670 DRYDEN *Conq. Granada* I. i, Fair Almahide ... Prepares a *Zambra* to be danc'd this Night. 1832 W. IRVING *Alhambra* II. 46 In wanton Seville, where black-eyed damsels dance the *zambra* under every orange grove. 1906 19th Cent. June 942 The knights ... often joined them in the graceful dance of the *zambra*.

zambuck, variant of **SAMBUK**.

zambuk ('zæmbʌk). *Austral.* and *N.Z. colloq.* Also **zambuc**, -buck, and with capital initial. [A proprietary name of a type of antiseptic ointment.] A first-aider, a St. John's ambulance man or woman, esp. at a sporting occasion. Also *attrib.* and *transf.*

[1904 *Trade Marks Jnl.* 23 Nov. 1406 *Zam-buk*. ... Chemical substances prepared for use in medicine and pharmacy, but not including gelatine capsules. ... The Bile Bean Manufacturing Company, ... Leeds; vendors of proprietary medicines.] 1918 [see **GUTSER**]. 1943 *Amer. Speech* XVIII. 95 A few trade names have caught the public fancy, and become generalised. Thus *Zambuk*, a brand of ointment, is regularly used for a 'first-aid man' (usually a member of the St. John's Ambulance Corps), or even as an appeal for first aid. 1950 B. SUTTON-SMITH *Our Street* iv. 50 Everybody would shout, 'Zambuk! Zambuk!' until the first-aid man came to the rescue. 1965 *N.Z. Listener* 5 Nov. 4/5 Perhaps he might have concussion. ... A *zambuck* came with sal volatile. 1968 *Wanganui Photo News* 31 Aug. 13 (caption) No injuries to attend to so these 'Zambuk' ladies get on with their knitting at the basketball recently. 1969 *N.Z. Listener* 23 May 12/3 The driver was dead. ... There was a girl in a bad way mixed up with him. 'Better leave it for the *zambucks*,' Payne said. 1972 P. MATHERS *Wort Papers* 95 They even supplied the *zambuck*, a priest with brown attaché case containing oils and waters for extreme unction.

|| **Zamia** ('zeimɪə). *Bot.* [mod.L. (Linnæus, 1767), taken from *zamiæ*, misreading for *azaniæ* pine-nuts which open on the tree, in Pliny *N.H.* XVI. xxvi. 44.] A genus of cycadaceous plants, natives of the tropical and sub-tropical parts of N. America, the W. Indies, and S. Africa, resembling dwarf palms, with fern-like leaves and oblong cones; a plant of this genus.

1819 LINDLEY tr. *Richard's Obs. Fruits & Seeds* 74 The embryo of *Zamia* is reversed with regard to the pericarp, and occupies an axile cavity in a large endosperm. 1827 *Gard. Mag.* II. 425 The *Zamia* is a palm with a large scaly protuberance above the surface. 1841 G. GREY *Jnl. Two Exped. Discov.* II. iii. 61 The native had ... gone away to look for *Zamia* nuts. 1847 ANSTED *Anc. World* ix. 219 *Zamias*, cycadæ, and such plants.

Hence **zamioid** ('zeimɪɔɪd) *a.*, belonging to the genus *Zamia* or tribe *Zamiææ*.

1860 J. PHILLIPS *Life on Earth* 145 Stems and fronds of *Zamioid* and *Cycadeoid* plants.

zamindar, variant of **ZEMINDAR**.

zamindari, -y, varr. **ZEMINDARY**.

|| **zamorin** ('zæməɪn). *East Indies.* Forms: 6 **samoryn**, 7 **samorine**, -orein, -aryn, -arine, **zamori**, -ourin, (-erhin), 7-8 **samori**, 7, 9 **samorin**, 8-9 **zamorim**, 9 **zamorine**, 7- **zamorin**. [a. Pg. *samorim*, *çamorim* (It. *samory*, 16th c.), ad. Malayalam *sāmūrī*, of disputed origin.] 'The title for many centuries of the Hindu Sovereign of Calicut and the country round' (Yule).

1582 N. LICHEFIELD tr. *Castanheda's Cong. E. Ind.* i. xiv. 33 b, They called him *Samoryn*, which in their tongue is Emperour. 1601 R. JOHNSON *Kindg. & Commw.* (1603) 204 All souverayne authority should rest in the king of Calcutte, with the title of *Samori*. 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Mandelslo's Trav.* 111 Since the establishment of the Portuguese in those parts, the power of *Zamourin* is grown so low, ... the King of Cochim is more powerful then he. 1776 MICKLE tr. *Camoens' Lusid* Introd. p. xlvii, Gama sent two of his officers with Monzaida to wait upon the *Zamorim* at his palace of Pandarene. 1862 BEVERIDGE *Hist. India* I. i. vii. 156 Calicut, ... was then the capital of a Hindoo sovereign, who, under the title of *samiry* or *zamorin*, ruled a considerable extent of country. 1883 F. DAY *Indian Fish* (Fish. Exhib. Publ.) 17 The *Samorin*, in 1513, sent a deputation to Portugal.

zampatan, variant of **SUMPITAN**.

|| **zampogna** (tsam'pɒɲna, z-). *Mus.* [It.:—LL. **sumpōnia*, *symphōnia* (see **SYMPHONY**). Cf. Sp. *zampoña*, Pg. *sanfon(h)a*.] A traditional wind-blown bagpipe of southern Italy having two chanters and two drones; also, any wood-wind instrument.

1740 GRASSINEAU *Mus. Dict.* 343 *Zampogna*, sometimes written *Sampogna*. ... is ... any instrument that sounds like a Flute and particularly a Bag-pipe, being an assemblage of divers pipes of different sizes. 1801 T. BUSBY *Dict. Mus.*, *Zampogna*, or *Sampogna*, the flute-à-bec, or common flute. 1826 M. KELLY *Reminisc* (1975) ii. 30 The peasantry and shepherds from Abruzzo, Calabria, and Apulia, ... come from the mountains in their sheepskin dresses, playing on their various instruments, some on the *Zampogna*, (a kind of bagpipe), others on the *Colascione*. 1876 STAINER & BARRETT *Dict. Mus. Terms* 455/1 A rough-toned reed instrument without a bag is also called *Zampogna* or *Zampugna*. 1954 *Grove's Dict. Mus.* (ed. 5) I. 351/1 Italian pipers ... make a practice of coming into the towns at the Christmas season to serenade the images of the Infant Christ, which are set up at the roadside. They also formerly visited Britain as strolling musicians, but they appear to have abandoned this habit many years ago; they were all players of the *zampogna*. 1977 *Early Mus.* Oct. 555/2 It was ... good to see no less than two sets of *zampognas*, from the early 19th century. 1983 *N.Y. Times* 26 June xi. (Westchester Weekly) 13/1 Vocalists will be accompanied on such classic Old World instruments as the *zampogna*.

|| **Zamzummim**. Also 6 **Zamzumym**, **Samsumim**, 7 **Zanzummin**(e, -im). [Heb. pl. *zamzumīm*.] A name of 'a people great, and many, and tall, as the Anakims' (Deut. ii. 21); used *allusively* or *fig.*

1530 TINDALE *Deut.* ii. 20 That also was taken for a londe of geauntes and geauntes dwelt therin in olde tyme, and the Ammonites called them *Zamzumym*s. 1530 — *Answ. Sir T. More's Dial. Pref.*, Wks. (1573) 249/1 Haue they not compelled the Emperours of the earth ... to be their tormentours, and the *Samsumims* them selues do but imagine mischief and inspire them. 1628 BURTON *Anat. Mel.* II. iii. II. (ed. 3) 290 *Aiax*, *Caligula*, and the rest of those great *Zanzummins*, or giganticall *Anakims*. 1642 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Skiamachia* Wks. (1711) 201 Such numbers of arm'd enemies, so many *Nimrods*, *Zanzummins*, adversaries to our opinions. 1660 *England's Mon. Asserted* 9 Those two great *Zanzummins* of Church and State, the Arch-bishop of Canterbury, and the Earl of Strafford.

zanana(h): see **ZENANA**.

zanbuc(o, var. SAMBUK.

Zand: see **ZEND**.

Zande ('zændi:). Also 9 **Zandey**; 9- **Zandeh**. Pl. **Zandes**, **Azande** (†**A-Zande**). [Native name.]

a. (A member of) a people of mixed ethnic origin inhabiting central Africa. *b.* The language of this people. Also *attrib.* as *adj.*

1873 E. E. FRETWER tr. *Schweinfurth's Heart of Afr.* II. xiii. 6 As marks of nationality, all the 'Zandey' score themselves with three or four tattooed squares. 1884 *Encycl. Brit.* XVII. 474/1 The *A-Zandey* are to be regarded as rather of mixed Negroid than of pure Negro stock. *Ibid.* The *Zandey* language ... appears to be everywhere spoken with considerable uniformity. 1891 A. H. KEANE tr. *W. Junker's Trav. in Africa* II. iv. 102 The hair, arranged *Zandeh*-fashion, though somewhat carelessly, in tresses, projected under a tarbush round the occiput. 1902 *Encycl. Brit.* XXXI. 230/1 The *Zandehs* proper ... are now found to stretch, with interruptions, from the White Nile above the Sobat confluence to the Shari affluent of Lake Chad. 1918 R. G. C. BROCK in *Sudan Notes & Records* Oct. 249 The *Zande* tribe. *Ibid.*, The true *Azande* live in the Belgian Congo. *Ibid.* 253 The *Azande* are divided into different clans and most of these believe that they return to the earth in the form of some animal. *Ibid.* 257 The ordinary *Zande* dance is a very dull affair. 1938 E. M. NORTH *Bk. of*

Thousand Tongues 353/2 Zande... Spoken by perhaps 300,000 people in northeastern Belgian Congo, eastern French Equatorial Africa and southern Anglo-Egyptian Sudan. 1955 M. GLUCKMAN *Custom & Conflict in Afr.* iv. 85 If a Zande murdered a fellow-tribesman with his spear he was tried in court by his chief. *Ibid.* 90, I find it difficult to see exactly how the Azande witchcraft charges work. 1978 J. SKORUPSKI in Hookway & Pettit *Action & Interpretation* 85 Winch's account of the meaning of Zande magic is ultimately not at all unlike that which some symbolist writers might give.

zander ('zændə(r)). Also sandre, sander. [G. *zander*; in mod.L. *sandra* (Cuvier).] A common European species of pike-perch, *Stizostedion lucioperca* (*Lucioperca sandra*), valued as a food-fish.

1854 BADHAM *Halieut.* 114 The German *sandre*, pike-perch, one of the best-flavoured of the family. 1888 GOODE *Amer. Fishes* 14 In the Old World... there are two well marked species, the Zander, or Schill, [*Stizostedion*] *lucioperca*, and the Berschick, or Sekret, *S. volgensis*.

zanella (zə'nɛlə). Also 9 zenilla. [? f. name of Antonio Zanelli (author of *Le lane italiane*, 1878).] (See quot. 1882.)

1876 F. KILVERT *Diary* 28 Apr. (1940) III. 272, I found she had taken my umbrella and left me a much better one, a fine silk umbrella in place of my zenilla. 1880 *Gt. Industr. Gt. Brit.* III. 213 Since 1848 a material called zanella cloth, which has a cotton warp, has been largely made. 1882 BECK *Draper's Dict.*, *Zanella*, a mixed twilled fabric introduced of late years, and used for covering umbrellas.

zaniacci, -o, zanjack, obs. ff. SANJAK.

1663 DAVENANT *Siege of Rhodes* II. III. i, A *Zanjack* from the Camp attends Behind the out-let of the Peer.

Zante ('zænti:). Also 7 Zant. A name of one of the Ionian islands, anciently *Zacynthus*: used attrib. in the names of certain products (see quots.); also short for *Zante wine, wood*, etc.

1615 E. S. BRIT. *Buss in Arber Eng. Garner* III. 634 Physic and Surgery helps... Zante Oil. 1825 W. WELDON *Chem.* 560 Claret. Zante. Malmsey Madeira. 1835 R. D. THOMSON'S *Rec. Gen. Sci.* I. 387 A black juicy berry resembling the Zante grape. 1843 HOLTZAPFEL *Turning* I. 110 Zante, or Young Fustic, from the Mediterranean, is a species of sumach, (*Rhus Cotinus*). 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Zante-wood*, a name for the *Rhus Cotinus* and for the *Chloroxylon Swietenia*.

zantho-, misspelling of XANTHO-.

zany ('zeini), *sb.* (a.) Also 6-7 zani, zanie, 7 zane, zanee, zanni, (*pl.* zaneese), 8 zaney. [a. F. *zani*, or its source It. *zani*, *zanni* name of servants who act as clowns in the 'Commedia dell' arte'.

Properly, the Venetian and Lombardic form of *Gianni* = *Giovanni* John (cf. *Zanipolo* the title of the church of St. John and St. Paul in Venice) used as an appellative for a porter (or the like) from the mountain country of Bergamo who had taken service in a seaside town.

In the following the French word is app. fitted;—a 1566 R. EDWARDS *Damon and Pithias* (1571) Fij, *lacke*. Iebit avow mon companion. *Grimme*. Ihav vow pleadge pety Zawne. *lacke*. Can you speake Frenche, here is a trimme colier by this day.]

1. A comic performer attending on a clown, acrobat, or mountebank, who imitates his master's acts in a ludicrously awkward way; a clown's or mountebank's assistant; a merry-andrew, jack-pudding; sometimes used vaguely for a professional jester or buffoon in general. Now *Hist.* or *arch.*

1588 SHAKS. *L.L.L.* v. ii. 463 Some carry-tale, some please-man, some slight Zanie, . . . That . . . knows the trick To make my Lady laugh. 1596 LODGE *Wits Mis.* Mivb, Here marcheth forth Scurlitlie, . . . the first time he lookt out of Italy into England, it was in the habite of a Zani. 1599 B. JONSON *Ev. Man out of Hum.* iv. i, Hee's like a Zani to a Tumbler, That tries trickes after him to make men laugh. 1601 SHAKS. *Twel. N.* i. v. 96, I protest I take these Wisemen . . . no better then the foolies Zanies. 1648 WINYARD *Mids.-Moon* 2 Cheynell among the visitors, is a mountebanke extraordinary with 4 zanyes. 1652 URQUHART *Jewel* 104 They go . . . in the disguise of a Zanni or Pantaloon to ventilate their fopperies. 1682 *New News fr. Tory-Land* 7 He may serve for some Zany to a Mountebank, to jest off Medicines for the Tooth-ach to the Rabble in Southwark. 1760 C. JOHNSTON *Chrysal* lix, A mountebank-doctor, and his zany. 1810 CRABBE *Borough* vii. 66 There was a time, when we beheld the quack, On public stage, the licensed trade attack; He made bis labour'd speech with poor parade; And then a laughing zany lent him aid. 1848 L. HUNT *Jar of Honey* vi. 75 Those who had flattered him most when a king, were the loudest in their contempt, now that he was the court-zany. 1883 MISS M. BETHAM-EDWARDS *Disarmed* viii, Everybody is good to the Court-fool, the zany!

2. Hence in transf. and allusive uses, with various shades of meaning: a. An attendant, follower, companion, assistant: almost always contemptuous (sometimes, hanger-on, parasite), and with direct reference to sense 1. Now *rare* or *arch.*

1601 B. JONSON *Ev. Man in Hum.* II. iii. (Qo.), I pray thee be acquainted with my two Zanies [1616 *Fol.* hang-by's] heere. 1602 MIDDLETON *Burt* III. i. E2, Lady Imperia (the Curtezian's Zani). 1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle* (1871) 136 Ye Aristippian zanies, . . . Leave off at last your poysning honied speech. 1631 CHAPMAN *Cæsar & Pompey* iv. i, Protean fortune, and her zany, warre. 1673 HICKERINGILL *Greg. Fr.-Greyb.* 50 The Directory, and the geud Covenant, (its zanee). 1746 FRANCIS *tr. Hor.*, *Ep.* i. xv. 37 A vagrant

Zany, of no certain Manger, Who knew not, ere he din'd, or Friend or Stranger. 1746-7 SMOLLETT *Advice* 181 To shine confess'd her zany and her tool, And fall hy what I rose, low ridicule. 1760 H. WALPOLE *Let. to G. Montagu* 24 Nov., On the Address, Pitt and his zany Beckford quarrelled. 1817 [see MOUNTBANK *sb.* 2]. 1880 *Q. Rev.* Jan. 14 St. John was not content to be a mere zany, he aspired to rival his master as a wit, and to outstrip him as a libertine. 1911 *Athenæum* 25 Mar. 343/3 To figure as a zany of a peer.

†b. An imitator, mimic; *esp.* a poor, bad, feeble, or ludicrous imitator. *Obs.*

1606 DEKKER *Seven Sins* v. 31 An Ape is Zani to a man, doing ouer those trickes . . . which hee sees done before him. 1627 DRAYTON *Ep. to H. Reynolds* 93 As th' English Apes and very Zanies be Of euery thing that they doe heare and see. 1678 DRYDEN *All for Love* Pref. b3 b, They are for persecuting Horace and Virgil, in the persons of their Successors. . . . Some of their little Zanies yet go farther; for they are Persecutors even of Horace himself. 1730 *Flying Post* 22 Dec., Their little Zanies about the Country have learnt their Cant.

c. One who resembles, or acts like, a merry-andrew or buffoon; one who plays the fool for the amusement, or so as to be the laughing-stock, of others. Now *rare*.

1606 Sir G. Gooscappe III. i. in Bullen *Old Pl.* (1884) III. 42 Goe too, you French Zanies you. 1630 BP. HALL *Serm.*, 2 *Tim.* iii. 5 Wks. 1808 V. 393 What is a Hypocrite but a Player; the Zany of religion? 1728 POPE *Dunc.* III. 206 Oh great Restorer of the good old Stage, Preacher at once, and Zany of thy age! 1790 WOLCOT (P. Pindar) *Adv. to Fut. Laureat* xv, I'll not be Zany to a King, not I. 1846 *Eclectic Rev.* June 662 Sydney Smith . . . was a West-end chapel preacher, . . . a lecturer in Albemarle-street, and Zany to Holland-house. 1925 *Sunday at Home* Nov. 91/2 He went capering about all his tasks with a zany-like glee. 1929 C. DAY LEWIS *Transitional Poem* 1. 11 A burly wind playing the zany In fields of barleycorn. 1976 G. LANGFORD (*title*) Death of the early morning hero. Episodes of a zany in love.

d. A fool, simpleton, 'idiot'. Still *dial.*

a 1784 JOHNSON in R. Cumberland *Mem.* (1806) I. 263 The lady asked me for no other purpose than to make a Zany of me. 1847 TENNYSON in Ld. Tennyson *Mem.* (1897) I. 241 The printers are awful zanies, they print erasures and corrections too, and other sins they commit of the utmost inhumanity. 1862 THACKERAY *Philip* iii, Whether Andrew was a genius, or whether he was a zany, was always a moot question. 1897 WATTS-DUNTON *Aylwin* III. i, A heaven for zanies and tom-fools!

B. attrib. passing into *adj.* a. attrib. That is a zany, or characteristic of a zany; †imitative; clownish; foolish, idiotic. b. *adj.* Comically idiotic, crazily ridiculous.

The adjectival use of the word (as if an *adj.* formed with -y) is now the dominant one. In quot. 1938, 'simple-minded' (cf. sense 2 d).

1616 ANTON *Philos. Sat.* C2, Like a gorgeous robe, Purl'd ore with natures Ape, and Zany-art. 1618 J. TAYLOR (Water P.) *Pennyles Pilgr.* E2, Nor Britaines Odcomb (Zanye braue Vlissis) In all his ambling saw the like as this is. 1869 BLACKMORE *Lorna D.* xv, He will make some of your zany squires shake in their shoes. 1890 HALL CAINE *Bondman* II. ii, Your zany doings have shut every other door against you. 1918 G. B. SHAW in *Nation* 22 June 308/2 Before Shakespear touched Hamlet there was a zany Hamlet who mopped and mowed. 1938 L. MACNEICE *I crossed Minch* viii. 117 The gardener who was apparently zany, used to level his stick at an obelisk. 1957 MANVELL & HUNTLEY *Technique Film Music* v. 204 *Sloppy Jalopy* (UPA), a zany cartoon. 1959 *House & Garden* June 76 Luncheon-mats of the subtlest as well as the zaniest designs. 1978 J. KRANTZ *Scruples* xii. 349 Television shows that lean heavily on the brand of humor known as 'zany', consisting largely of sight gags and the sight of appealing people making cheerful fools of themselves. 1983 D. CECIL *Portrait of Lamb* II. ii. 143 A sympathetic spirit able to appreciate his more characteristic and zany vein of humour.

Hence 'zanily *adv.*;' 'zaniness.

1958 S. ELLIN *Eighth Circle* (1959) I. i. 11 In Central Park sea lions barked zanily at the sky. 1960 *Sat. Rev.* 6 Feb. 13/2 Ginsberg, for all his carefully cultivated (and natural) zaniness, is a writer far above Kerouac. 1966 M. LAURENCE *Jest of God* ix. 170 I've . . . emptied the crucial and precious capsules out of my window, zanily. 1976 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 21 May 602/2 His wider appeal owes much more to his modern zaniness and irreverence. 1980 L. BIRNBACH et al. *Official Preppy Handbook*. 111/1 Many of these forays into zaniness actually wind up involving mayhem or destruction of property. 1984 *Financial Times* 25 July 13/6 The play is a staple of the repertory and amateur theatre diet, and while it may not inspire to the zanily surreal heights of *See How They Run* or *Madame Louise*, Dighton is certainly a name worth conjuring with. 1985 *Listener* 21 Mar. 28/3 How could anything with Jerry Lewis not fall into a comic range somewhere between surrealistic zaniness and childish destructiveness?

'zany, *v.* *Obs.* or *rare arch.* [f. prec.] *trans.* To play the zany to; to imitate poorly or awkwardly like a zany; hence *gen.* to imitate, mimic.

1602 MARSTON *Antonio's Rev.* IV. i, Who . . . Laughs them to scorne, as man doth busie apes When they will zanie men. a 1619 FLETCHER, etc. *Q. Cor.* I. ii, [He] takes his oath . . . that all excellence In other Madams doe but zany hers. 1691 LANGBAINE *Acc. Dram. Poets* 351 Francisco's zanying the Person and Humour of Albano, is an incident in several Plays. 1894 H. PEASE *Mark o' Deil* Pref. 7 If the delicious original be beyond capture, why essay to zany it?

zanyism ('zeimɪz(ə)m). [f. as prec. + -ISM.] The character or style of a zany; action or language like that of a zany; fantastic folly; buffoonery.

1818 COLERIDGE *Lit. Rem.* (1836) I. 138 The caricature of his [sc. Rabelais'] filth and zanyism. 1823 *Blackw. Mag.* XIII. 662 Such zanyisms as these.

So 'zanyship, the condition or character of a zany.

1766 J. ADAMS *Diary* 7 Jan., Wks. 1850 II. 175 Y. Z. and H. had attacked him about idleness, and familiar spirits, and zanyship.

zanza, zanze, *varr.* SANSA.

zanzack, -ziac, Zanzummim, -in(e, zaphire, zapota, -ote, zapotilla, obs. ff. SANJAK, ZAMZUMMIM, SAPPHIRE, SAPOTA, SAPODILLA.

Zanzibari (zænzɪ'bɑ:ri), *sb.* and *a.* [f. *Zanzibar*, name of an island off the east coast of Africa, now part of Tanzania + -i.] *A. sb.* A native or inhabitant of Zanzibar. *B. adj.* Of, pertaining to, or characteristic of Zanzibar or its people.

1888 G. W. BROOKE *Let.* 18 July in M. E. Herbert *Afr. Slave Trade* (1890) 12 The Zanzibaris express horror and disgust at the bare idea of associating with them. *Ibid.* 13 The women and children are hurried off to the Zanzibari camps. 1890 W. BOOTH *In Darkest Eng.* I. i. 12 Mr. Stanley's Zanzibaris lost faith. 1917 G. B. SHAW in *Daily Express* 28 Nov. 3/2 When the Sultan of Zanzibar ordered the admiral of his second-hand penny steamboat to go out and sink the British fleet, and the poor devil actually went, we laughed. . . . No doubt Ireland, north and south, teems with Zanzibari courage. 1959 *Daily Tel.* 1 Dec. 8/6 It is uphill work to persuade the Zanzibaris to make a partial switch to other products, which they could fairly easily do in their fertile island. 1966 D. WILSON *Quarter of Mankind* xvi. 205, I have sat on a train in Manchuria and heard Zanzibari visitors ask their guides why colonialism had not yet been expelled from Hong-kong. 1975 *Nat. Geographic* Apr. 501/1 Towering above all a tree bearing tiny reddish buds—the famous cloves, basis of the Zanzibari economy. 1985 *Daily Tel.* 20 Aug. 4/7 Zanzibaris with foreign exchange were allowed to import essential goods.

zaouia, *var.* ZAWIYA.

zap (zæp), *int. slang* (orig. U.S.). [Echoic.]

1. Used to represent the sound of a ray gun, laser, bullet, etc.; also *fig.*, expressing any sudden or dramatic event.

1929 P. F. NOWLAN in *Washington Post* 7 May 16/3 Ahead of me was one of those golden dragon Mongols, with a deadly disintegrator ray. . . . Br-r-r-r-r-z-zzz-zap. 1962 *Amer. Speech* XXXVII. 288 The joker, pretending to be a creature from outer space, pointed his cosmic ray gun (finger) at his friend's genitals and exclaimed, 'Zap! You're sterile.' 1967 L. DEIGHTON *Only when I Larf* (1968) xii. 160 Shouting idiotic things and going, 'Whoop,' 'Zap,' and 'Yap,' all the time. 1968 *Maclean's Mag.* Mar. 77 Bang! Zap! Pow! With laser beams and cracking doomsday machines, the deadly-serious super-heroes. 1970 *Daily Tel.* (Colour Suppl.) 15 May 34/4 I'm against the war in Vietnam. But I'm not among the people who say let's stop Vietnam, zap. 1971 *Frendz* 21 May 17/1 Getting down to a blow job, she suddenly produces a razor and zap—the man bleeding and gushing blood, is screaming on the floor. 1974 *Globe & Mail* (Toronto) 12 Sept. 7/2 We have been told . . . we needn't worry, the sections are not being enforced. Then zap, another homosexual is denied entry for being honest. 1978 *Fortune* 18 Dec. 101 (Advt.), The solution receives a positive charge, the truck a negative charge. Zap! The primer and the GMC are joined with a magnetic-like bond. 1985 *Parade Mag.* 31 Mar. 9 A staff meeting will be Wick just shooting out those things one after another—zap, zap, zap.

2. **zap gun**, a ray gun or the like.

1969 K. VONNEGUT *Slaughterhouse-Five* iv. 65 Billy's will was paralyzed by a zap gun aimed at him from one of the portholes. 1976 *Publishers' Weekly* 15 Mar. 59/1 Plot is subordinated to character exploration, but there's more adventure in that than in many a zap-gun epic. 1977 *Sunday Sun* (Brisbane) 30 Jan. 7/1 New York police have confiscated two space-age 'zap' guns from blind singer Stevie Wonder. . . . The guns look like flashlights and fire two darts attached to 20 ft. thin copper wires.

zap (zæp), *v. slang* (orig. U.S.). Also (*rare*) **zapp**. [Echoic.] I. *trans.* 1. a. To kill, esp. with a gun; to deal a sudden blow to.

1942 BERRY & VAN DEN BARK *Amer. Thes. Slang* §118/3 *Kill, murder*, . . . wipe out, work off, zap. 1965 *Time* 10 Dec. 34 *Zap* . . . means to clobber. 1966 *Current Slang* (Univ. S. Dakota) Fall 6 *Zap*, v., to slap. . . . I got zapped when I tried that. 1969 I. BROWN *Rhapsody of Words* 143 In Vietnam a man knocked out was said to be zapped. 1970 *Courier-Mail* (Brisbane) 14 Dec. 3/3 A council workman on-duty during the week zapped any rat foolish enough to wiggle a whisker within a hundred yards of the place. 1971 *Sunday Times* 28 Mar. 9/1 He wants to prove a Hanoi man can zap a Saigon man. 1971 *Radio Times* 18 Nov. 15/4 This year the system has zapped the counter-culture member in the sneakiest way of all, by robbing him of a decent way of making a living after graduation. 1977 *Time* 6 June 55/2 Proto . . . fires a beam of electrons at the pellet, zapping it with a jolt equal to 8 trillion watts. 1979 *Mod. Photogr.* Oct. 64 You can't run a darkroom without plug-in power, so you'd better make it electrically safe or you might get zapped! 1981 *Observer* 2 Aug. 10 God is not going to zap women for coming forth. 1982 N. FREELING *Wolfnight* 161 Unbureaucratically, any bugger who shoots, you zap. 1984 *Weekly World News* (U.S.) 25 Dec. 29/1 Teenager Vickie Parker was zapped to death by 640 volts of electricity when she wandered onto the tracks of an elevated train and accidentally touched the 'live' third rail. 1985 *N.Y. Rev. Bks.* 9 May 23/3 (Advt.), In a New York restaurant, a young man celebrating with friends was zapped in the face by a man with an aerosol spray can.

b. To put an end to, do away with.

1976 *Courier-Mail* (Brisbane) 22 Apr. 21/4 We can zap a headache almost immediately. 1982 *Sunday Sun-Times* (Chicago) 17 Oct. 62 (*heading*) Atari seeks to zap X-rated video games.

2. To fail (someone) in a test, course, etc.; to punish (see also quot. 1969).

1961 *Amer. Speech* XXXVI. 149 The cadet who is *zapped* is the recipient of a large number of demerits or other cadet punishments. The term was probably taken from a favorite cadet newspaper comic strip, 'B.C.', where *zapp* is used as the sound of any blow. **1969** *Current Slang* (Univ. S. Dakota) Winter 12 *Zap*, v., to 'put down'; to put someone in his place. **1976** *National Observer* (U.S.) 17 Jan. 8/5 A graduate student whose 'scholarly potential' is not overwhelmingly lauded 'is going to get zapped'.

3. To overwhelm emotionally.

1967 *Punch* 26 July 123/1 I'll be zapped with love, blow the mind of straight people. **1970** *New Yorker* 22 July 4/3 If the music doesn't zap you... you can contemplate... movies on the wall. **1971** *Daily Colonist* (Victoria, B.C.) 30 May 47/1 Our politicians turn to the architects, presuming them to be the theatrical stage managers of the city to zap the masses with compelling masques and follies. **1974** A. LURIE *War between Tates* (1977) vi. 134 If The Book is published in time, and the right people in Washington read it, it's going to really zap them. **1977** *It* May 31/3 (Adv.), Bring you own sounds!! and get zapped. **1983** *Theology* Jan. 15 A well-known evangelist invited the undergraduates of Oxford to allow themselves to be 'zapped by the Holy Spirit'.

4. To send, put, or hit in a forceful way.

1967 *Time* 22 Dec. 56 For quick acceleration... the nickel-cadmium batteries would cut in briefly, could zap the car from a standstill to 50 m.p.h. in 20 seconds. **1972** D. DELMAN *Week to Kill* 139, I nosed the car out of town and on to 118, where I zapped it into high. **1974** *Farm & Country* 9 Apr. 11 (heading) Computers zap farmers through space-age door. **1976** *National Observer* (U.S.) 29 May 12/4 Won't they be surprised when Ms. Klutz limberly zaps the ball over the net.

5. To demonstrate against or at.

1972 *Sat. Rev.* 12 Feb. 24/1 Homosexuals... 'zap' (confront) politicians until they express themselves... on equal housing... for homosexuals. **1980** *Observer* 3 Aug. 8/5 Columbia and Warner Bros. were 'zapped' last week; this Tuesday it's the turn of 20th Century Fox. An itinerant army of 1,000 striking actors... will parade at the old studio's grimy portals.

6. Computers. To erase or change (an item in a program).

1982 *Times* 14 Jan. (Information Technol. Suppl.) p. v/5 When the program is erased, the PROM is said to be 'zapped'. **1983** 80 *Microcomputing* Jan. 29/3 On DRS 304, RB 2C you will find the byte to be 20H. Zap this to 18H. **1983** *Your Computer* Sept. 86/1 Since I keep a hard copy listing of the assembly of MODEM7, the easiest thing to do was to zap the offending byte.

II. intr. 7. To move quickly and with vigour.

1968 *Maclean's* Sept. 55 Nothing is quite as sad as watching Lynn watching Lightfoot zap off out of a parking lot. **1972** *Observer* 27 Feb. 33/5 The well-known routine of zapping from studio to studio. **1977** *Mod. Boating* (Austral.) Jan. 30/3 We're zapping over Kogarah Bay with 45 miles an hour on the clock. **1981** *Times* 22 July 12/4 When those self-satisfied pop singers and dizzy girls from Hollywood zap in and out they are not drinking themselves silly at our expense. **1985** *Times* 6 Apr. 11/1 Several smaller craft zap past.

8. To use a fast-forward facility on a video recorder to go quickly through the advertisements in a recorded television programme; to switch through other channels for the duration of the advertisements when watching programmes off-air.

1983 [implied in ZAPPING *vbl. sb.*] **1984** *Broadcast* 7 Dec. 27/2 People are beginning to record the best commercial programmes on their VCRs so they can zap through the commercials. **1985** *Marxism Today* May 34/1 People with the technology use it to avoid commercial breaks, either by zapping through other channels or by fast-forwarding material recorded off-air.

Hence zapped *ppl. a. and pa. pple.*

1962 *Amer. Speech* XXXVII. 71 'Zapped'... I first heard it in 1952 while I was an undergraduate at Brown University. The term was in vogue... to designate precisely the process by which a student... had his 'come-uppance' in class or on an examination. **1966** *Punch* 21 Dec. 911/3 Maybe truce negotiations won't be possible until the Viet Cong are zapped to the point of accepting the impossibility of military victory. **1976** *National Observer* (U.S.) 22 May 12/4 Despite his allure, could she really endure him? But the chap's got her zapped. **1980** R. ADAMS *Girl in Swing* xix. 254 She was pale and sweating; clearly what Mr. Steinberg would call 'zapped'.

zap (zæp), *sb. slang* (orig. U.S.). [f. ZAP *v., int.*]

1. Liveliness, energy, power, drive; also, a strong emotional effect.

1968 *N. Y. Times* 2 Aug. 3 When the heat's too much and the gin's lost its zap... tranquilize your jangled nerves with the Swinging Wonder. **1972** *Publishers' Weekly* 6 Mar. 62/2 As for those lyrics—probably only the over-30s will dig them. Anyone older or younger won't grasp the 'organic' zap of rock's years of innocence. **1975** *Harpers & Queen* May 128/3 The zap of his language drawn from every dialect of the underground. **1979** *Chatelaine* (Canada) Jan. 50 She loves sports, especially skiing, but found she had lost some of her old zap. **1979** *Mod. Photogr.* Oct. 68 Electricity arrives at your neighborhood at a level of 2400 [read 240] volts... If the transformers were perfect you would get precisely the 110 volts you wanted and could care less about the big zap lurking outside. **1984** *New Yorker* 16 Apr. 141/1 He gives the film a manic zap.

2. A demonstration (by a group against something).

1972 *Sat. Rev.* 12 Feb. 26 Despite six zaps, New York's Mayor Lindsay has consistently refused to meet with any homosexual delegation. **1974** *Times* 7 Oct. 12/3 A demonstration, alternatively described as a community action or a zap, had been planned... in Brixton's Tesco supermarket.

3. Computers. A change in a program.

1983 80 *Microcomputing* Jan. 29/1, I would like to provide the following zaps to TRSDOS 1.3 for the Model III. To

provide a 30ms track stepping rate you must change the nine bytes listed below.

4. A short, varying sound of the kind expressed by 'zap!'

1984 *Verbatim* X. 111. 17/2 The whir of the flippers—pin-ball machines—the zaps of the video games.

Zapata (zə'pɑ:tə). The name of Emilio Zapata (1879–1919), Mexican revolutionary, used *attrib.* to designate a type of moustache in which the two ends extend downwards to the chin.

Zapata was portrayed with a moustache of this kind by Marlon Brando in the film *Viva Zapata!* in 1952.

1968 *Punch* 25 Dec. 903/1 He stood now, in the centre of the enormous white vault of the school's auditorium, a willow figure in a green velvet frock-coat, Zapata moustache and a Donovan cap. **1972** A. ROSS *London Assignment* 84 One of the younger men, wearing nothing now but his Zapata moustache... came up for a fresh joint. **1977** *N. Y. Rev. Bks.* 4 Aug. 11/1 He is a heavy, buccaneering figure with a Zapata moustache. **1983** *Manch. Guardian Weekly* 22 May 20/1, I was delighted to see a few shots of Karajan as stage actor—hiding behind a Zapata moustache as a bit-part cardsharp in the Carmen film he made in 1967.

||zapateado (θapate'aðo). Also Zapateado. [Sp., f. *zapato* shoe.] a. A flamenco dance which involves complex rhythmic syncopated stamping of the heels and toes in imitation of castanets.

1845 R. FORD *Handbk. Spain* I. 190 The chief dances are the *Jota* of Arragon... the *Zapateado* and *Seguidilla* of La Mancha... and the *Zortico* of Biscay. **1902** *Encycl. Brit.* XXVII. 374/2 Other provincial dances now in existence are the *Jaleo de Jerez*... the *Zapateado*, the *Zorongo*... and the *Tripola Trapola*. **1952** *Ballet Ann.* VI. 30 Antonio is in certain details of the Spanish dance the greatest exponent I have seen... Both his Bolero and his Zapateado must be seen to be believed. **1958** *Times* 23 Sept. 3/4 There is a good selection of flamenco dances, including solo and *à deux* Zapateados. **1973** *Daily Tel.* 19 Nov. 12/1 They danced without music and—like flamenco dancers performing a Zapateado—they used a very wide variety of sounds produced with their heels and toes so that music was superfluous. **1985** *Listener* 28 Feb. 18/3 Soon the girls are dancing with sensuous frenzy and a young man leaps on a table to execute a fine *zapateado*.

b. Dancing or footwork of this kind.

1959 *Sunday Times* 17 May 20/8 José's imprisonment, his rage expressed in zapateado, and the drama of Carmen's death, are adroitly planned. **1980** 'M. FONTEYN' *Magic of Dance* 56 Antonio, an electrifying dancer of flamenco and particularly of the language of foot and heel beats called zapateado. **1981** *Daily Tel.* 26 Aug. 9/8 Maya... has a superb grasp of subtle and varied zapateado.

zapote (zə'pəutei). [Sp.: see SAPOTA.] = SAPOTE.

1842 S. MAVERICK *Jrnl.* 16 Dec. (1953) ix. 185 Fruit—oranges, Zapotes, etc. **1909** *Chambers's Jrnl.* Aug. 557/2 The Zapote... should secure the appreciation of the English fruitarian. **1926** D. H. LAWRENCE *Plumed Serpent* xiv. 229 A big basket piled with mangoes, papayas, zapotes—all the tropical fruits one did not want, in hot weather. **1948** G. M. FOSTER *Empire's Children* 27/2 Fruit trees include the fig... white and black zapotes.

Zapotec ('zæpətek), *sb.* and *a.* Also 8-Zapoteca, -o, 9 Zapoteque. [ad. Sp. *zapoteco*, *zapoteca*, ad. Nahuatl *tzapoteca*, pl. of *tzapotcatl*, lit. 'person of the place of the sapodilla'.]

A. *sb.* A member of an American Indian people of southern Mexico.

1797 *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 668/1 To the south-east... were the great provinces of the Mixtecas, the Zapotecas, and the Chiapanecas. **1875** *Ibid.* I. 694/2 In Chiapa were the Zapotecs, in Yucatan the Mayas. **1877** L. H. MORGAN *Anc. Soc.* II. vii. 195 The confederacy was confronted by hostile... tribes... the tribes of Chiapas, and the Zapotecs. **1953** S. BEDFORD *Sudden View* III. v. 231 The ancient Zapotecs... who may have come from Asia across the Behring Straits, and who are believed to have built... these temples at Mitla and Monte Albán. **1979** P. THEROUX *Old Patagonian Express* v. 75 These Indians—the Zapotecs—were a matrilineal people.

b. Any of several dialects or languages of the Zapotecs.

1881 *Encycl. Brit.* XII. 828/1 The other chief stock or at least not yet classified Mexican tongues are the Mixtec and Zapotec of Oajaca, [etc.]. **1936** E. C. PARSONS *Mitla* i. 16 These ladies understand Zapotec... but they do not speak it. **1965** *Language* XLI. 73 In Trique, Isthmus Zapotec, and certain other languages of Mexico, certain clause types have the preferred ordering predicate, subject, object. **1973** *Times* 24 Mar. 11/8 The student of architecture we met in the square of Oaxaca was talking Zapotec to his girl-friend.

B. *adj.* Of or pertaining to the Zapotecs.

1861 [see EXPECTANT *ppl. a. i b.*] **1927** D. H. LAWRENCE *Mornings in Mexico* 45 Four words in the *idioma*, the Zapotec language... 'You understand them?' **1934** A. HUXLEY *Beyond Mexique Bay* 46 A bas-relief of an ithyphallic man—the work... of the pre-Zapotec occupants of the site. **1972** *Bk. Thousand Tongues* (rev. ed.) 464/2 The Zapotec language is spoken in a number of regional dialects. **1980** *Sci. Amer.* Feb. 46/3 Its hieroglyphs, mostly carved from 500 B.C. to A.D. 700, record the rise and decline of the Zapotec state.

Hence Zapotecan *a. and sb.*

1922 K. AL-SHIMAS *Mexican Southland* vii. 122 The Zapotecan tongue is spoken by at least 500,000 souls. *Ibid.* 126 Those accosted made answer in Zapotecan. **1962** E. BIRNEY *Ice Cod Bell or Stone* 54 Rhythmic and Zapotecan-proud the classic women dance. **1978** *Language* 506/2 In the Zapotecan family of Oaxaca, 'Choapan Zapotec phonology', by Larry and Rosemary Lyman... employs 'a hierarchically

oriented framework' of five levels, from phoneme to 'phonological sentence'.

zappe (cf. It. *zappare*), *obs. f. SAP sb.*³ and *v.*¹ **1600** DYMOK *Ireland* (1843) 38 When that rampart which is, shall either be beaten or zapped.

zapper ('zæpə(r)). [f. ZAP *v.* + -ER¹.]

a. A person, technique, etc., that kills or does away with something. b. *spec.* Any of various devices for destroying or warding off pests; also (properly with capital initial), a proprietary name in the U.S. for an agricultural machine of this kind.

1969 *Guardian* 27 May 8/5 The United States colonel who formerly commanded them... is now busy evolving a 'zapper' technique for scything down nippa palm groves where Vietcong are reported to be hiding with direct fire artillery. **1970** *Courier-Mail* (Brisbane) 14 Dec. 3/3 The rat zapper does not work on Saturdays or Sundays, but there were still no rats to be seen there yesterday. **1973** *Sci. Amer.* Sept. 74/2 One particularly promising application, making use of small portable zappers, is for greenhouses and other horticultural enterprises where the cost of soil preparation per acre is not an important consideration. For row crops... the self-propelled Zapper is presently economic only when chemical weed-control costs are higher than \$15 per acre. **1975** *Official Gaz.* (U.S. Patent Office) 25 Mar. TM 271/2 *Zapper*. For agricultural machine which employs microwaves to control vegetation and vegetation damaging pests. **1976** *Nature* 12 Feb. 441/1 The general message is that although various alternatives are promising, there is no magic 'insect zapper', as Kennedy put it, to replace chemical poisons in the near future. **1977** *Globe & Mail* (Toronto) 30 July 4/1 How many bugs do zappers zap? **1983** *Monitor* (McAllen, Texas) 23 June 10C (Adv.), 1 acre bug zapper. \$59.97. 35 watt ultraviolet fluorescent bulb has an effective range up to 1 acre for outdoor comfort.

zapping ('zæpɪŋ), *vbl. sb. slang*. [f. ZAP *v.* + -ING¹.] The action of ZAP *v.*; *spec.* the practice of skipping advertisements when watching television programmes.

1972 *Daily Colonist* (Victoria, B.C.) 8 Jan. 17/7, I wouldn't take the zapping he has taken, to use the contemporary word, for a million dollars. **1983** *Times* 27 Oct. 8/3 The practice is known in the US as 'zapping'. Apparently people who have remote control devices are substantially more likely... to switch over to another channel when ads come on. **1983** *Austral. Personal Computer* Nov. 32/2 You could add suitable sound-effects to an applications program—zapping noises as a word processor deletes characters, maybe? **1984** *Listener* 9 Feb. 14/2 For the ITV companies there is the additional problem of 'zapping' to contend with—the habitual use of the fast-forward button to bypass the commercial breaks in recorded material.

zappy ('zæpi), *a. slang*. [f. ZAP *sb.* + -Y¹.] Lively, amusing, energetic; striking.

1969 *Guardian* 1 Mar. 5/2 The Minister wore in his lapel... a zappy coloured badge of the 'Cocoa makes you sterile' type. **1971** 'J. MAYO' *Asking for It* xxiv. 155 They were both giving each other big zappy grins. **1972** *Observer* 16 July 30/2 We badly need some zappy young editor who will start making his more garrulous authors prune their books. **1983** *Times Lit. Suppl.* 30 Dec. 1448/3 The best of contemporary American prose sometimes has a zappy elegance. **1984** *Listener* 3 May 30/4 The company felt the need for a zappier profile.

||zaptieh ('zæptiɛ). Also -ié. [Turkish *qabtiyeh*, f. Arab. *qabī* administration, regulation.] A Turkish policeman.

1869 TOZER *Highl. Turkey* II. 100 A young Turkish Zaptié, or policeman. **1878** tr. *F. von Löher's Cyprus* xxi. 177 A wretched coffee-house, which was full of zaptiehs, who were quartered here.

zarab, early var. *sharab*, SHRAB, wine, etc.

1477 EARL RIVERS (Caxton) *Dictes* 27 b, He that seketh the delices of this worlde is like vnto him that seketh to drink zarab wenyng it were water.

zarape, U.S. var. of SERAPE.

Zarathustrian (zæ'rəθustrɪən), *a. and sb.* [f. *Zarathustra*, the Old Iranian form of the name of the founder of the ancient Persian religion.] = ZOROASTRIAN. So *Zarathustrianism*, *Zara'thustic a.*, *Zara'thustrism*.

1871 TYLOR *Prim. Cult.* I. ii. 49 Brahmanism, Zarathustrism, and Buddhism. *Ibid.* II. xv. 219 The Wicked Serpent of the Zarathustrians. **1886** *Encycl. Brit.* XX. 361/1 The Vedic and Zarathustrian religions. *Ibid.* 370/1 Mazdaism (Zarathustrianism), with its sects. **1983** CHEYNE *Orig. Psalter* viii. 401 The Bundahis is thoroughly Zarathustrian in spirit when it states [etc.].

zaratite ('zæratɪt). *Min.* [a. Sp. *zaratita* (Casares, 1851), f. the name of Señor Zarate: see -ITE¹.] A hydrous carbonate of nickel, of a green colour, found as an incrustation and in stalactites.

1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade* [erron. as *Zamitite*]. **1861** BRISTOW *Gloss. Min.* [erron. as *Zavalite*]. **1868** DANA *Min.* (ed. 5) 710 Zaratite.

||zarcole. Also 6 saracoll, 6–7 zarcola, 7 -cull, zercola. [Turkish.] A high cylindrical head-dress such as was worn by janizaries.

1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* i. vi. 4 b, Slaues bearyng on theyr heads a Saracoll of Crymson veluet. *Ibid.* iii. 73 b, A hood of fine white felt, whiche they call Zarcola. *Ibid.* x. 91 b, A white Zarcole. **1603** KNOLLES *Hist. Turks* (1621) 831 His slaues with their red zarcoll on their

heads. 1696 tr. *Du Mont's Voy. Levant* 176 A Thousand Janisaries... with Zercola's on their Head.

†zard. *Obs.* Variant of IZZARD; cf. ZAD. 1608 J. DAY *Humour out of Breath* III. i. *Asp.* Marry, buz. *Flo.* Double the zard and take the whole meaning for your labour.

zareba, zareeba: see ZARIBA.

||zarf (zɑ:f), zurf (zɜ:f). [Arab. *zarf* vessel.] A cup-shaped holder for a hot coffee-cup, used in the Levant, usually of metal and of ornamental design.

1836 LANE *Mod. Egypt*. I. 168 Zurf. 1854 R. CURZON *Armenia* 80 One brought coffee on a tray... and then came a man bringing to each of us a cup, well frothed up, and in a zarf, or outer cup. 1978 *Times* 2 May 13/3 (*caption*) A diamond and emerald zarf, mounted in gold and silver, 19th century, 6.5 cm high.

||zariba, zareba (zə'ri:bə), sb. Also seriba, sariba, zerybeh, zareeba, zer(r)iba, zereba. [Arab. *zariba*^h pen or enclosure for cattle (*zarb* sheep-fold).] a. In the Sudan and adjacent parts of Africa, A fence or inclosure, usually constructed of thorn-bushes, for defence against the attacks of enemies or wild beasts; a fenced or fortified camp.

1849 O'REILLY tr. *Werne's Exped. Sources White Nile* II. 112 A shining seriba of reeds, the stalks of which... perhaps only afford resistance to tame animals. 1852 *Eliza Cook's Jnl.* 27 Mar. 337 The Sultan has planted a zerybeh, or circular inclosure, with two issues. 1867 BAKER *Nile Trib.* xii. 315 We employed ourselves... in cutting thorn branches, and constructing a zareeba. 1884 *Times* 11 Mar. 5 The Black Watch (Royal Highlanders) advanced this morning to Baker Pasha's zariba.

b. Applied to a formation of troops for defence against attack.

1887 *Times* 9 Apr. 5/5 Forming a zariba, or square, to resist cavalry.

c. *transf.* and *fig.* In these uses usu. as zareba.

1885 *Glasgow Her.* 19 Mar. 4/5 It is when he advances from these elementary zarebas that he loses himself in the wilderness, and, apparently from an inherent inability to state any fact correctly. 1898 A. WHITE in *Nat. Rev.* Aug. 804 The... Tsar... is... surrounded by a zareba of detail and enticed from affairs of State by organized diversions. 1916 'TAFFRAIL' *Pincher Martin* iii. 42 The orchestra... took their places behind a zareba of bunting-covered biscuit-boxes and hired palms erected in front of the stage. 1940 G. GREENE *Power & Glory* II. ii. 128 The shadows of the palms pointed at him like a zareba of sabres. 1961 WODEHOUSE *Ice in Bedroom* vii. 52 Owing to his *obiter dicta* having to be filtered through a zareba of white hair, it was not always easy to catch exactly what Mr. Cornelius said. 1965 G. MAXWELL *House of Elrig* x. 139 The final approach to any birds' nest was an affair of struggle and achievement. My hand reaches through the twigged zareba of basket and basket bandle, touches the soft lining, touches the firm intimacy of the eggs. 1974 *Author Spring* 33 A novelist... has direct access to his readers, with no thorny zariba of a cast of actors to battle through. 1984 *Listener* 3 May 24/2 The two previous ones faced the reader in their opening chapters with an almost impenetrable zareba of thickset descriptions of the committee structure.

d. *attrib.*

1895 A. H. KEANE *Africa* I. v. 245 The expression 'zeriba country' applied by some geographers to the northern slope of the Nile-Congo divide. 1901 H. VIVIAN *Abyss.* vii. 184 A succession of enclosures, each with a zareba wall.

Hence *za'riba* v. *trans.*, to surround or inclose with a zariba; *intr.* to construct or form a zariba.

1885 19th Cent. July 89 Orders were given to zareba ourselves... The Brigadier ordered the force to zareba on the best position that was near. 1886 *Contemp. Rev.* June 850 A large garden, zerebaed in with aloes and henna.

zarish, obs. form of TSARISH.

1814 tr. *Klaproth's Trav. Cauc.* 181 The ambassadors of his Zarish Majesty.

||zarnich ('zɑ:nɪk). Also 7 zernich, 9 zarnac, -ec, -eg, -ek. [Arab. *zarnīkh*, f. Pers. *zernī* orpiment, f. *zer* gold.] A name for the yellow and red sulphides of arsenic, usually called respectively *orpiment* and *realgar*.

1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* II. iii. Your lato, azoch, zernich, chibrit, heautari. 1748 J. HILL *Hist. Fossils* 406 Bright red Zarnich, the Sandarach of Authors. 1867 BRANDE & COX *Dict. Sci.* s.v. *Yellow Orpiment*, In its native state it [*sc.* yellow arsenic] is used under the name of Zarnic or Zarnich.

Zarp (zɑ:p). *S. Africa.* Now *Hist.* [From the initials of Du. *Zuid Afrikaansch Republikeinsch Politie* South African Republican Police.] An appellation for a member of the Boer police force in the pre-1902 South African Republic; a Boer constable. Hence *Zarpine* a., of or belonging to the 'Zarps'.

1895 *Standard & Diggers News* (Johannesburg) 23 Nov. 21 The Zarp produces his latest capture. Jan, an Ethiop, is a vagrant who resisted Zarpine authority, and even attempted to testify the Zarpine probity by the bribe of a sixpence.

zarza parilla: see SARSAPARILLA.

||zarzuela (θar'θwela). [Sp.] A traditional form of popular musical comedy in Spain.

In its theatrical sense the word is said to be derived from the name *Real Sitio de la Zarzuela* in Madrid, where these works were first performed in the early 17th century.

1888 *Lippincott's Mag.* July 51 It had all transpired in a flash, like some of the absurd things he had seen in

pantomimes by the zarzuela companies at the theatres. 1922 J. HERGESHEIMER *Bright Shawl* (1923) 54 The zarzueltas, the operettas of one act, largely improvised with local allusions. 1947 A. EINSTEIN *Music in Romantic Era* xvii. 328 The way was being prepared for the Italianization of Spanish music as early as Calderón's period, which brought forth the old zarzuela, a mixture of song and dance with spoken dramatic dialogue. 1973 *Oxford Times* 30 Mar. 14/5 The modern zarzueltas are really operettas or lyric dramas, which are a kind of Spanish equivalent of Gilbert and Sullivan and the Viennese operetta, full of tunes which have become part of Spain's popular culture. 1973 R. A. CRAMPSEY *Puerto Rico* viii. 130 Less common are the old zarzueltas, the traditional musical dramas. 1983 *Listener* 21 Apr. 31/2 A Catalan born in 1871... he [*sc.* Amadeo Vives] was evidently best known as a zarzuela composer.

zastruga, var. SASTRUGA.

zat (zæt), repr. a colloq. pronunc. of the cricket appeal 'How's that?' (see *HOW* *adv.* 2 b).

1934 *Humorist* 27 Jan. 38/3 Not a bad record... for a game that consists chiefly of standing about... and shouting 'Zat?' at intervals. 1966 M. WOODHOUSE *Tree Frog* xxiii. 167 Outside the window a sharp yelp of 'Zat?' sounded.

zatch (zætʃ). *vulg.* [Perh. corruption of SATCHEL in similar slang sense.] The buttocks; the female genitals; an act of copulation.

1950 E. B. WHITE *Let.* 6 June (1976) 321 You are just sticking out your zatch, and many a tosspan and strutfart will run you through. 1971 R. DENTRY *Encounter at Kharmel* v. 88 Scotsmen playing the bagpipes give me a pain in the prick... Pathan tribesmen playing them is enough to make the harlot of Jerusalem snatch her zatch! 1980 J. KRANTZ *Princess Daisy* xii. 191 You're going to take her home and give her a zatch.

zaught, zaunders, zauns, zavana: see YACHT, SANDERS¹, ZOUNDS, SAVANNAH.

||zawiya ('zɑ:wɪə). Also zawia, zawayah, zawya; zaouia. [Arab. *zāwiya* (hence F. *zaouia*) corner, prayer room.] In North Africa, a Muslim religious community or its mosque, usually containing the shrine of a holy person.

1836 E. W. LANE *Acct. Manners & Customs Mod. Egyptians* II. xi. 190 These lights were not hung merely in honour of the Prophet: they were near a *zawayeh* (or small mosque) in which is buried the sheykh Durweesh El-Ashmawee; and this night was his Moolid. 1874 R. L. PLAYFAIR *Handbk. Trav. Algeria* II. 70/2 The *Djamāa*, or rather *Zaouia* of *Abd-er-Rahman eth-Thalebi*... contains the tomb of that saint, who died in 1471. 1911 *Encycl. Brit.* XXVII. 289/1 Kufra... is a centre of the Senūsīte brotherhood, whose *zawya* (convent) at Jof, in Kebabo, ranks in importance with that of Jarabub. 1911 D. S. MARGOLIOUTH *Mohammedanism* v. 184 A *zawayah*, or 'hermitage' was offered him by the Pasha. 1924 W. M. SLOANE *Greater France in Afr.* viii. 166 The sacred colleges of the Moslem fraternities, *zaouias*, are the scenes of wild, maniacal, religious orgies. 1958 N. EPTON *Saints & Sorcerers* ii. 28 The sheikh (this word signifies either the head of a *zaouia* or of a tribe...) lives close to the *zaouia* with his family and the devotees. 1968 T. BLUNSUM *Libya* x. 105 The *zawias*, or houses of learning and worship, were documentation centres where copies of the Koran were prepared for distribution. 1977 *Times* 30 Apr. 11/3 Nefta... a village... whose roof lines are broken by the cupolas of mosques and *zaouias*. 1978 J. UFDIKE *Coup* (1979) iii. 122 Who was it used to tell reporters I was a *zawiya* Berber too pious to be seen?

zax, dial. form of SAX *sb.*¹, tool for cutting slates.

zay, dial. form of SAY *v.*¹

||zayat ('zɑ:jət). [Burmese.] A public hall or shed for worship, meetings, or shelter.

1823 MRS. A. JUDSON *Amer. Bapt. Miss. Burman Emp.* 145 The Zayat, the Burman name for a place for public worship, was erected. 1852 PIERSON *Miss. Mem.* 89 In April 1819 the first zayat was opened for Christian worship. 1906 *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 230/2 They went straight to the *zayat*, the strangers' rest-house.

||zazen (zɑ:'zen). Also 8 Sasen; Zazen. [Jap., f. *za* sitting, a seat + *zen* ZEN.] Zen meditation.

1727 J. G. SCHEUCHZER tr. *Kämpfer's Hist. Japan* I. III. i. 242 A posture, which is thought to engage one's mind in so profound a meditation, and to wrap it up so entirely within itself, that the body lies for a while as it were sens less... This profound Enthusiasm is by them call'd *Safen* [*sc.* read *Sasen*]. 1897 *Princ., Pract. & Enlightenment Soto Sect* 22 How can you think of not-thinking? That is thinking of nothing. This is the most important art of Zazen. 1907 *Jrnl. Pali Text Soc.* 1906-7 36 Zazen is not meant to induce a trance or a state of self-hypnotization. 1960 KOESTLER *Lotus & Robot* II. xi. 257 Zazen meditation, unlike Yoga, holds no promise of supernatural rewards. 1973 A. BROINOWSKI *Take One Ambassador* viii. 108 Three hours of daily *zazen* meditation. 1983 M. FURLONG *Cousins* xxi. 167 He had taken to practising what he hoped was *zazen* in the yard.

Z band: see Z LINE (as a main entry).

Zblood, 'Zbud, Z'ddeath, obs. ff. 'SBLOOD, 'SBUD, 'SDEATH.

1620 I. C. *Two Merry Milk-maids* IV. iii. M2, Zblood I heard otherwise. 1676 ETHEREDGE *Man of Mode* I. i. 'Zbud, I think you men of quality will grow As unreasonable as the Women. 1689 N. LEE *Princ. Cleve* II. ii, Z'Death and Fury, if they shoud't try.

ze, obs. form or graphic var. of THE, YE.

||zea ('zi:ə). [late and mod.L. *zēa*, a. Gr. *ζέα*.] †1. A Latin name for the grain called spelt. *Obs.*

1577 GOOGE tr. *Heresbach's Husb.* 29 Next to Wheate and Barley, foloweth Zea. 1611 COTGR., *Bled leger*, Spelt or Zea; a corne which makes light and saourie... bread.

2. *Bot.* Adopted by Linnæus as the name of a genus of graminaceous plants, comprising the one species *Z. Mays* (sometimes anglicized as *zea maize*), Maize or Indian corn.

1787 tr. *Linnæus' Fam. Plants* II. 633 *Zēa*... Indian, or Turkey Wheat. 1808 BARTRAM in A. Wilson *Amer. Ornith.* (1832) I. 8, I fed him with corn, (*zea*, *maize*). 1820 *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* II. 46 The smut upon an ear of Zea-Mays. 1851 MAYNE REID *Rifle Rangers* i. (1853) 16 The lance-like blades of the *zea maize*.

zeagonite (zi'ægənat). *Min.* [Named in 1816 by Gismondi, f. Gr. *ζέω* to boil + *ἀγῶνος* barren: see -ITE¹.] = GISMONDINE.

c1840 *Encycl. Metrop.* (1845) VI. 519/2.

zeal (zi:l), sb. Forms: 4-7 zele, 5 zel, 5-6 zeel(e, 5-7 zeale, 6 zealle, *Sc.* zeil(e, zeill, (syil), 4- zeal. [Late ME. *zele*, ad. L. *zēlus*, a. Gr. *ζῆλος*. Cf. OF. *zel* (F. *zèle*), It., Pg. *zelo*, Sp. *celo*.]

1. In biblical language, rendering L. *zelus* (or *æmulatio*), Gr. *ζῆλος*, denoting ardent feeling or fervour (taking the form of love, wrath, 'jealousy', or righteous indignation), with contextual tendency to unfavourable implications (emulation, rivalry, partisanship).

1382 WYCLIF 2 *Kings* xix. 31 The zeel [1388 feruent loue, COVERDALE gelousy] of the Lord of hoostis schal done that. — *Ezek.* viii. 3 The north, where the idol of zele [*gloss* or enuye], was set. 1526 TINDALE *Gal.* v. 20 The dedes of the fleshe... hatred, lawynge, zele [1611 emulations, 1881 (*R.V.*) jealousies]. 1535 COVERDALE *Ecclus.* xlviii. 2 He brought an honger vpon them and in his zeile he made them few in nombre. 1575 tr. *Luther's Comm. Gal.* iii. 88 These kindes of anger are good, and are called in the scripture icelousies or zeales. 1604 T. WRIGHT *Passions* II. iii. 63 Zeale (that is, envie, emulation or indignation) and anger shorten thy dayes. 1611 *Bible Ezek.* v. 13 They shal know that I the Lord haue spoken it in my zeale, when I haue accomplished my fury in them.

†2. In a specialized sense: Ardent love or affection; fervent devotion or attachment (to a person or thing). *Obs.* or merged in sense 4.

c1400 *Rule St. Benet* (prose) lxxii. 139 As there is an euyll zele, loue, or affeccyon the whiche departyth one from god... soo there is a zele or affeccion... the whiche departyth one from synne. 1412-20 *LYDG. Chron.* Troy II. 1368 With zel of feith I brenne as doth þe glede, Of alle harmys to bidden 3ow be war. c1449 *PECCOCK Repr.* I. xiii. 71 Bi cause noon of hem... wole so allegge agens me for eny zele or credence which he him silf hath to what he schal so allegge. c1450 tr. *De Imitatione* II. iii. 43 Hauē perfore first zeel to þiself, & þan maist þou haue zeel to þi neigbore [*Habe primo zelum super te ipsum, et tunc juste zelare poteris etiam proximum tuum*]. 1485 *Cov. Lett Bk.* 524 The loue and zeale that ye owe... to the wele... of our said Citie. 1513 *MORE Rich. III* (1883) 36 Hath the protectour so tender zele to him that he fereth nothing but lest he should escape hym? 1559 *Mirr. Mag., Salisbury* xxviii, For though no cause be found, so nature frames, Men haue a zeale to such as beare their names. a1562 G. CAVENDISH *Wolsey* (1893) 51 The Cardynall esping the great zeale that the kyng had conceived in this gentilwoman. 1606 G. W[OODCOCKE] *Hist. Iustine* xxxv. 113 Demetrius... spared his life not for any zeale hee had toward him. 1685 in *Verney Mem.* (1907) II. 403, I thought I had ground for those hopes, which... the zeal of my soul formed into wishes for her recovery.

†3. Ardent, earnest, or eager desire; longing. Also const. inf. or clause. *Obs.* or merged in 4.

c1450 *CAPGRAVE Life St. Gilbert* 65 Gilbert... had... so grete zel to lede soules to heuene. c1450 *Brut* II. 522 Wherefore he might nat performe bis zele & desire þat he had conceived Agenst þe Turke. 1474 CAXTON *Chesse* II. iv. (1883) 54 Thus shold the knyghtes haue grete zeale that the lawe be kept. 1547 in *Strype Eccl. Mem.* (1721) II. App. K. 39 Upon the confydence of whych your accompyshment to my expectation, zeale, and request. 1581 A. HALL *Iliad* II. 21 Ye rout with zeale of news now goes. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV.* v. 14 This doth inferre the zeale I had to see him. 1658 SLINGSBY *Father's Leg. in Diary* (1836) 211 My tender zeal... of your future welfare. 1697 DRYDEN *Virg. Georg.* IV. 300 Such Rage of Honey in their Bosom beats And such a Zeal they haue for flow'ry Sweets.

4. (a) Intense ardour in the pursuit of some end; passionate eagerness in favour of a person or cause; enthusiasm as displayed in action. Const. *for*; †formerly *to*, occas. *of*.

[c1520 NISBET *N.T. Eph.* iv. 26 *marg.*, This angre and wraith was bot a weray zeill vnto the law of god. 1535 COVERDALE *Ps.* lxxviii[i]. 9 The zeile of thine house hath euen eaten me.] ? 1545 BRINKLOW *Compl.* xxv. (1874) 74 Let all thinges be done of zeale only for Gods truthe sake. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 50 By whose... godly zeale this myghtie portion of the worlde hath byn addid to the flocke of Chrystes congregation. 1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super. Wks.* (Grosart) II. 175 Inordinate Zeale is a pernicious Reformer. 1610 B. JONSON *Alch.* III. i. In pure zeale, I doe not like the man: He is a heathen. 1611 *Bible Transl.* Pref. ¶1 Zeale to promote the common good. 1641 J. JACKSON *True Evang. T.* III. 197 They deride our worship, and zeale, as Michall did Davids. 1681 TATE *Lear* Ep. Ded., My Zeal for all the Remains of Shakespear. a1700 EVELYN *Diary* 19 Aug. 1641, Popular reformers, whose zeale had foolishly transported them in other places rather to act like mad-men than religious. 1727-46 THOMSON *Summer* 1615 That first paternal virtue, Public Zeal. 1816 BYRON *Siege Cor.* iv, With all the zeal Which young and fiery converts feel. 1835 THIRLWALL *Greece* vi. I. 209 A mean between this irreverent criticism, and the excessive zeal of those who regarded Homer as a master of all arts and sciences. 1860 E. B. RAMSAY *Remin.* v. (ed. 6) 183 He joined with his drinking propensities a great zeal for the Episcopal Church. 1874

GREEN *Short Hist.* vii. §6. 400 The decay of Catholicism appealed strongly to the new spirit of Catholic zeal.

†(b) In obsolete constructions.

1526 *Pilgr. Perf.* (W. de W. 1531) 122 b, Many hath a good zeale to perfeccyon, whiche for lacke of this lyght . . . knoweth not what is to be done. 1535 STEWART *Cron. Scot.* (Rolls) II. 535 His gude Lyfe and Maneris, and Zeill of Justice. 1561 WINSET *Bk. Questions To Rdr.*, Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 53 Blindit be feruent zeile towart the Mosaical law. 1597 SHAKS. 2 *Hen. IV.* iv. ii. 27 Vnder the counterfeited Zeale of Heauen. 1723 *Pres. St. Russia* II. 86 A Zeal of converting the neighboring Nations.

†(c) In plural. *Obs.*

c1533 LATIMER in Foxe *A. & M.* (1563) 1309/2 Such ar zele without knowlege, and iudgement. 1625 BACON *Ess.*, *Viciss. Things* (Arb.) 570, I doe not finde, that those Zeales, doe any great Effects. 1654 Z. COKE *Logick Pref.*, Whereof (my Lords) . . . we . . . by your unwearied Zeals may . . . obtain the full . . . Fruition.

†5. In weakened sense, with qualifying adj.: Intent, purpose, will, disposition (chiefly *good zeal*). *Obs.* (chiefly *Sc.*).

1513 DOUGLAS *Æneis* III. Prol. 29 Gentill curtas redaris of guide zeill. a1533 FRITH *Answ. More* (1548) A3 b, Master More which of late hath busied him selfe to medle in al such matters (of what zeile I will not defyne). 1536 BELLENDEN *Cron. Scot.* vi. v. (1821) I. 207 Thus grew he, ilk day, more terribill and odius to his pepill, and governit the realme with na better zeil than he gat it. 1537 *St. Papers Hen. VIII*, VII. 707 The many discomoditeis, . . . the wiche be like were unknown to hym or them that have preffarrid the same, who myght of a good syl doo it. a1578 LINDSEY (Pittscottie) *Chron. Scot.* (S.T.S.) I. 14 Men of guid zeall and conscience.

†6. *transf.* (from 4). A zealous person, zealot.

1614 B. JONSON *Barth. Fair* I. iii, As errant a Zeale as he. 1643 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* I. §3 There are . . . both in Greek, Roman, and African Churches, solemnities, . . . whereof the wiser zeales doe make a Christian use. 1647 JER. TAYLOR *Lib. Proph.* Ep. Ded. 9 Although some Zeales are so hot, and their eyes so inflamed with their ardors.

7. *attrib. and Comb.*

a1613 OVERBURY *A Wife*, etc. (1638) 140 The hooke and crooke of his *Zeale-blind Shephard. 1628 LEIGHTON *App. Parl.* ix. 202 The fyrie *zeal-consuming love of Gods howse. 1648 J. BEAUMONT *Psyche* XII. ccii, The Stranger's *zeal-inflamed Eye. 1736 THOMSON *Liberty* iv. 919 The worst the zeal-inflam'd Barbarian drew. 1774 J. ADAMS in *Fam. Lett.* (1876) 23 This zeal will prove fatal to the fortune and felicity of my family. . . Colonel Otis's phrase is, 'The *zeal-pot boils over'. 1671 FOULIS *Hist. Romish Treasons* (1681) 110 *Zeal-pretending gravity. 1727 P. WALKER in *Biogr. Presbyt.* (1827) I. 304 The Christ-dethroning, Church-ruining, . . . *Zeal-quenching Indulgence. 1598 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* II. i. ii. *Imposture* 35 The profane *zeal-scoffing Atheist. a1644 QUARLES *Sol. Recant.* solil. v. 37 O but my *zeal-transported soul, take heed. 1797 BENTHAM in *Bentham-Edwards Autob. A. Young* (1898) 309 Knowing . . . your zeal for all *zeal-worthy objects.

Hence 'zealful a., full of zeal, zealous; †'zealist, a zealot; 'zealless a., wanting in zeal (whence 'zeallessness).

1602 FULBECKE *2nd Pt. Parall.* Ded. i My dutifull thankful and *zealefull affection toward your graces person. 1605 SYLVESTER *Tri. Faith* iv, Meek Moses with a zeal-full ire. 1614 C. BROOKE *Ghost Rich. III*, lxxiv. Poems (1872) 107 Proue not a *Zelst in fond purity, Nor paint a heauen, nor counterfeit a hell. 1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 27 The Meccan zealists have here a few poore built Mosques. 1613 SPELMAN *De non Temer. Eccl.* (1646) 30 O thou *zealeless mortality. 1643 HAMMOND *Serm.*, *John xviii.* 40 Wks. 1684 IV. 514 That heartless zealles behaviour in this very house of God. 1868 PUSEY *Our Pharis.* 15 A zealles, loveless, lifeless worship of God. 1667 WATERHOUSE *Narr. Fire Lond.* 65 Levity and *Zealesness for Reformed Religion.

†*zeal*, *v. Obs.* Also *zele*. [ad. late L. *zēlare*, ad. Gr. *ζηλοῦν*, f. *ζῆλος* ZEAL *sb.*]

1. *trans.* To be zealous for; to pursue with zeal or passionate ardour.

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* I. 69 A notable example of sapience with whole herte & mynde, feruently desired and zeled. 1609 *Bible* (Douay) Wisd. i. 12 Zeale not death in the error of your life. 1623 NAUNTON in *Fortescue Papers* (Camden) 193 Blesse and prosper it to both yourselves and to all that truly zeale your truest prosperities.

2. To inspire with zeal.

1549 CHEKE *Hurt Sedit.* (1569) Lij b, Men zealed towarde God, but not fit to iudge. 1642 FEATLY *Vertumnus* 85 They will . . . stirre up an earnestnesse in them in religion, as zealing their owne being opposed by falshood.

3. *intr.* To act with zeal, show zeal, be zealous.

1549 [see *zealing* below]. a1626 BACON *Disc. conc. Ch. Aff.* (1641) 19 Stiffe fellows, and such as zeale marvellously for those whom they have chosen to bee their masters.

Hence †*zealed ppl.* a., full of zeal, zealous (see also OVER-ZEALED); †*'zealing ppl.* a.

1459 *Rolls of Parlt.* V. 348/2 Subtly coloured, and feyned zelyng Justice. 1600 W. WATSON *Decacordon* (1602) 68 A faire seeming . . . fountaine of zealing christall streames. ?1635 FLETCHER, etc. *Love's Pilgr.* iv. i, You might have done, but for that zeald religion You women bear to swownings.

Zealander ('zi:ləndə(r)). Forms: 6 Zelender, 7 Zelander, 7- Zealander. [f. *Zealand* = Du. *Zeeland* + -ER¹.] a. A native or inhabitant of Zealand, a province of the Netherlands.

1573 BEDINGFIELD tr. *Cardanus' Comf.* II. (1576) 21 Gulielmus a Zelender. 1656 EARL MONM. tr. *Boccalini's Pol. Touchstone* (1674) 254 She doth . . . make more . . . War upon the Spaniards, than do the Hollanders and Zealanders. 1766 *Compl. Farmer* 5 Hb/1 The Zealanders let their's [sc. madder] grow larger. 1855 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* xx. IV. 485 Every merchant ship that cleared out from the Thames or

the Severn would be manned by Zealanders and Hollanders and Frieslanders.

b. A native or inhabitant of New Zealand; orig. and esp. a Maori.

1773 W. BAYLY *Jrnl.* 12 Apr. in R. McNab *Hist. Rec. N.Z.* (1914) II. 207 The Zealanders never eat greens of any kind. 1821 M. EDGEWORTH *Let.* 7 Dec. (1971) 288 Captain Thompson . . . went some years ago to New Zealand and when he was taking leave of the Zealanders one of their chiefs consented to accompany him to England. 1949 E. POUND *Pisan Cantos* lxxx. 92 And persuaded an Aussie or Zealander or S. African To kneel with him in prayer.

** See also NEW ZEALANDER.

zeale, *obs.* form of SEAL *sb.*¹

1666 *Chirk Castle Acc.* (1908) 129 Paid Sir Thomas Myddelton . . . what he gave the men that came to shew the zeale fish.

zealot ('zelot). Forms: [4], 6-7 zelote, 4-8 zelot, 7 zelott, 6- zealot. [ad. eccl. L. *zēlōtēs*, a. Gr. *ζηλωτής*, f. *ζηλοῦν* to be zealous (see ZEAL *v.*)]

1. A member of a Jewish sect which aimed at a Jewish theocracy over the earth and fiercely resisted the Romans till the fall of Jerusalem in A.D. 70.

[a1300 *Cursor M.* 21165 Symon zelote.] 1537 [COVERDALE] *Orig. & Sprynge of Sectes* 55 Zelotes or Gelous secte. These were suttill and sedicious rascals amonge the Iewes of Ierusalem. 1644 HAMMOND (title) Of Resisting the Lawfull Magistrate under colour of Religion. . . Also, Of the Zelots among the Jewes. 1671 STILLINGFL. *Serm.*, *Matt.* xxi. 43 Wks. 1710 I. 107 That desperate Faction of the Zealots, who . . . soon put the whole Nation into Flames. 1831 E. BURTON *Eccl. Hist.* i. 11 The persons who were called Zealots, from their zeal for the national religion and independence. 1882 FARRAR *Early Chr.* II. 111 *note*, The Zealots formed the 'extreme left' division of the Pharisees politically, as the Essenes did religiously.

2. One who is zealous or full of zeal; one who pursues his object with passionate ardour; usually in disparaging sense, one who is carried away by excess of zeal; an immoderate partisan, a fanatical enthusiast. *Const. for*, †*of*, †*to*.

a1638 MEDE *Diatribe* lii. Wks. I. (1672) 300 The true Zealot whom God approveth, namely, He whose Spirit is in Fervency and not in Shew. 1651 HOWELL *Venice* 5 Though they continue still such great Zelotts to their own Country . . . they are not so to the Church. c1665 MRS. HUTCHINSON *Mem. Col. Hutchinson* (1838) 25/1 The more religious zealots, who afterward were branded with the name of Puritan. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Zelot* . . . is often taken in an ill Sense, for a Separatist or Schismatick, a Fanatick. 1712 ADDISON *Spect.* No. 445 ¶6 The insignificant Party Zealots on both sides. 1758 JOHNSON *Idler* No. II ¶3 Slavery is now no where more patiently endured than in countries once inhabited by the zealots of liberty. 1779 BURKE *Let. to J. Erskine* Apr. I do not aspire to the glory of being a zealot for any particular national Church. 1827 HALLAM *Const. Hist.* I. iii. 168 The queen [sc. Elizabeth] was as a mark for the pistol or dagger of every zealot. 1851 *House. Words* III. 386/2 A horde of Methodists, Baptists, Campbellites, and other burning zealots. 1892 MEREDITH *Let.* (1912) II. 448 They are both zealots of the rod [i.e. keen anglers].

3. *attrib.* or as *adj.* That is a zealot; characteristic of a zealot.

1670 PERWICH *Desp.* (1903) 73 The old zelot Cardth have made a great noyse, being much offended. 1711 SHAFESB. *Charac.* (1737) III. 322 Our gentleman by these expressions had already given considerable offence to his zealot-auditors. 1713 *Guardian* No. 93 ¶10, I would not willingly lie at a zealot papist's mercy. 1879 FARRAR *St. Paul* II. 262 It was not likely that at Rome there should be any of that zealot fanaticism which held it unlawful for a Jew to recognise any other earthly ruler besides God.

zealoter, zealotic, -ical, -ism: see ZELATOR, ZELOTIC, etc.

zealotry ('zelətri). Also 7 zel-. [f. ZEALOT + -RY; cf. *bigotry*.] Action or feeling characteristic of a zealot; an instance of this.

1656 *Artif. Handsom.* 63 Some mens and womens more plebeian Zelotry. 1661 GAUDEN *Consid. Liturgy* 29 The late inordinate zealotries, and desperate frolicks of Religion. 1797 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Rev.* XXIII. 573 The ecstacy of eulogy and the zealotry of panegyric. 1839 DE QUINCEY *Wordsw.* Wks. 1854 II. 287 A more apostolic fervour of holy zealotry in this great cause. 1898 BODLEY *France* II. III. vi. 316 A bigot whose zealotry could not be pierced with sentiments of patriotism.

zealous ('zeləs), *a.* Also 6-7 zelous. [ad. med. L. *zēlōsus* (cf. It., Pg. *zeloso*, Sp. *celoso*), f. *zēlus* ZEAL *sb.*: see -OUS.]

1. Full of or incited by zeal; characterized by zeal or passionate ardour; fervently devoted to the promotion of some person or cause; intensely earnest; actively enthusiastic.

a. of persons. *Const. for.*

In the 17th cent. sometimes connoting puritanical zeal. 1535 COVERDALE *1 Kings* xix. 10, I haue bene zelous for the Lorde God Zebaoth. 1585 WHITNEY *Choice Embl.* (1586) Ep. Ded. *3, A zelous fauor of the Gospell, and of the godlie Preachers thereof. a1591 H. SMITH *Serm.*, *Acts xxvi.* 27-9 (1592) 921 As some giddy spirites thinke now, that they which are zelouser than themlselves know not what they say nor doe. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 32 Let them stay at home who are so zelous, as they will pull the *Hostia* or Sacrament out of the Priests hand. 1653 MILTON *Hirelings* Wks. 1851 V. 368 Out of the ablest and zelousest among them to create Elders. 1673 J. W[ADE] *Vin. & Must.* (1873) 15 Are they not reverend botchers, . . . or some weavers, Some zealous cobbler, hatmakers and gloves? 1733 in *Swift's Lett.*

(1768) IV. 47 Be assured that none is more truly zealous for your welfare, than your F. A. Kelly. 1849 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* ii. I. 175 The House of Commons . . . more zealous for royalty than the king, more zealous for episcopacy than the bishops. 1874 GREEN *Short Hist.* viii. §5. 508 Episcopacy had become identified among the more zealous Scotchmen with the old Catholicism.

(b) *Const. inf.*, occas. clause (the sense passing into: Eagerly desirous).

1605 BACON *Adv. Learn.* II. vii. §2. z4, I am . . . zealous and affectionate to recede as little from Antiquitie . . . as may stand with truth. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* iv. 565 A Spirit, zealous, as he seem'd, to know More of th' Almightyes works. a1700 EVELYN *Diary* I Apr. 1688, Multitudes zealous to hear the second sermon. 1847 TENNYSON *Princess* IV. 403 Not a scorner of your sex But venerator, zealous it should be All that it might be. 1852 MRS. STOWE *Uncle Tom's C.* viii, I's so zealous to be cotechin' Lizzy, that I couldn't hold in.

†(c) In *obs. const.* with preps.

1526 TINDALE *Acts* xxi. 20 They are all zelous over the lawe [*Geneva* zelous of the Lawe]. 1611 *Bible* Acts xxii. 3, I . . . was zealous towards God. *Ibid.* Titus ii. 14 A peculiar people, zealous of good works. 1644 MILTON *Judgm. Bucer* xxii. Wks. 1851 IV. 313 Jerom. . . though zealous of single life more then enough, . . . defended Fabiola.

b. Of passions, actions, etc.

1563 *Mirr. Mag.*, *Hastings* xiv, The many meanes, wherby I dyd bewraye My zelous wyll, to earne my prynces grace. 1594 SHAKS. *Rich. III.* iii. vii. 94 When . . . Religious men Are at their Beades, 'tis much to draw them thence, So sweet is zealous Contemplation. 1595 — *John* II. i. 19 This zelous kisse. 1649 BP. HALL *Cases Consc.* II. iii. 130 Then weh [sc. *Bulla Cruciatæ*] there was never a more zealous piece, published to the world. 1808 W. WILSON *Hist. Diss. Ch. I.* 391 To those doctrines he expressed a zealous attachment. 1851 GLADSTONE *Glean.* VI. lxiv. 42 Zealous and intelligent co-operation.

†2. = JEALOUS 4, c. *Obs. rare.*

1563 *Homilies* II. *Agst. Idol.* III. Tijb, To spoyle the zelous God of his honour. 1630 HAKEWILL *Apol.* (ed. 2) IV. x. §4. 433 That this people should be so wonderfully zealous of the renowe of their nation.

zealously ('zeləslɪ), *adv.* Also 6-7 zel-, (7 selusslie). [f. *prec.* + -LY².] In a zealous manner; with zeal or passionate ardour; with enthusiastic eagerness.

1575 tr. *Luther's Comm. Gal.* 24 b, At the first when the light of the gospell . . . began to appeare, many were zealously bent to godlines. 1611 *Bible* Transl. Pref. ¶3 To professe it [sc. Religion] zealously. *Ibid.* Gal. iv. 17 They zealously affect you, but not well [TINDALE They are gelous over you amysse]. c1630 MILTON *Sonn.* ix, They care is fixt and zealously attends To fill thy odorour Lamp with deeds of light. 1661 *Lauderdale Papers* (Camden 1884) I. 92 The chanslir is selusslie your frind. 1769 *Junius Lett.* iii, You zealously undertook the cause of that gallant army. 1879 LUBBOCK *Sci. Lett.* ii. 36 We know how fond ants are of honey, and how zealously and unremittingly they search for food. 1886 BESANT *Childr. Gibeon* II. v, A place . . . where there was no prospect of improvement, however zealously one worked.

†b. In the way of religious zeal or devotion.

1644 MILTON *Divorce* I. viii. Wks. 1851 IV. 40 It will easily be true that a father or brother may be hated zealously, and lov'd civilly or naturally.

zealousness ('zeləsnɪs). Now *rare*. [f. ZEALOUS + -NESS.] The quality of being zealous; zeal.

c1555 in *Strype Eccl. Mem.* (1721) III. App. xliii. 122 Mark . . . Christ's Words, which he spake with Zealousnes and Power. 1579 W. WILKINSON *Confut. Fam. Love* Aiv, The old Fathers grew out of a zealousnes of the mynde towards God . . . to institute certaine Ceremonies. c1662 BOYLE *Motives Love of God* (1708) 169 The Zealousness of our Endeavours. 1803 *Ann. Reg.*, *Chron.* 608/1, I will not betray his confidence nor that zealousness in his cause which he has a right to expect. 1903 McLEAN *Stud. Apost.* xiii. 194 It is difficult to draw the line between zealousness and zealotry.

†**zealousy**. *Obs.* Forms: 6 *zelousie*, -ye, *zelosie*, -zie. [f. ZEALOUS + -Y³.]

1. Jealousy.

1542 UDALL *Erasm. Apoph.* II. 177 b, Whiche grudges; . . . the zelousie, and the eage feersenes of Olympias did augmente. 1598 Q. ELIZ. *Plutarch* 126/25 Or Zelozie of wife, or Sons suspect, or dout of frind.

2. Zealousness, zeal.

1597 MIDDLETON *Wisd. Solomon* v. G2 b, His armour zelousie, his breast-plate heauen.

zearalene (zi:ə'rælənəʊn). *Biochem.* [f. ZEA + -ralene, f. resorcylic acid lactone + -ENE, repr. a double bond + -ONE.] A white crystalline bicyclic latone, C₁₈H₂₂O₅, that is a metabolic product of certain cereal fungi and causes disorders of the reproductive system in pigs.

1966 W. H. URRY et al. in *Tetrahedron Lett.* xxvii. 3109 Study of the substance of striking physiological activity isolated from the mycelia of the fungus *Gibberella zeae*. . . has shown that it is one of the enantiomorphs of 6-(10-hydroxy-6-oxo-trans-1-undecenyl)-β-resorcylic acid lactone 1. . . Zearalene 1. . . gives reactions that indicate it has one olefinic and one ketonic group, and two phenolic hydroxyls and an ester group in a β-resorcylate structure. 1977 *Lancet* 26 Mar. 671/2 Analytical tests failed to show the presence of aflatoxin. . . although zearalene was found in maize samples. 1978 [see TRICHOHECENE]. 1981 M. L. CLARKE et al. *Veterinary Toxicol.* (ed. 2) viii. 277/1 The phenolic macrolide zearalene (F-2 toxin) produced by *Fusarium graminearum* . . . and other *Fusarium* species growing on maize, barley and wheat destined for incorporation into animal feeds, is probably one of the most widespread and economically important mycotoxins.

zearat, var. ZIARAT.

zeatin ('zi:ətin). *Biochem.* [f. ZEA + -t- + -IN¹.] A purine derivative occurring as a cytokinin in maize kernels and other plants; 6-(4-hydroxy-3-methylbut-2-enyl)-aminopurine, C₁₀H₁₃N₅O.

1963 D. S. LETHAM in *Life Sciences* No. 8. 572 For this factor the name zeatin is proposed since it was first isolated in crystalline form from *Zea mays*. 1973 D. W. KROGMANN *Biochem. Green Plants* xi. 196 Coconut milk... contains a high concentration of zeatin. 1980 *Physiologia Plantarum* XLIX. 304/1 All the cytokinins, at 10⁻⁶M and above, inhibited both the initiation and the emergence of lateral roots, zeatin being the most powerful inhibitor.

zeaght, obs. Sc. form of YACHT.

zeaxanthin (zi:ə'zænθin). *Biochem.* [a. G. *zeaxanthin* (P. Karrer et al. 1929, in *Helvetica Chim. Acta* XII. 791): see ZEA and XANTHIN.] A xanthophyll, C₄₀H₅₆O₄, originally isolated from Indian corn, *Zea mays*.

1929 *Chem. Abstr.* XXIII. 4480 (heading) Zeaxanthin, a new carotinoid pigment in maize. 1934 [see XANTHOPHYLL a]. 1978 [see VIOLAXANTHIN].

zeyade, obs. Kent. ind. past of SAY v.¹

zebec(k, variant of XEBEC.

†**'Zebedist**. *Obs. nonce-wd.* [f. the name *Zebedee* + -IST.] One who acts like the sons of Zebedee (see Matt. xx. 20-22).

1574 tr. *Josselin's Life 70 Abp.* To Rdr. Eijj. Like a pore blinde zebediste to aske he knoweth not what.

zebelin, -elline, -iline, obs. ff. ZIBELINE.

zebra ('zi:brə, 'zebrə), *sb.* Also 7 zabra, zeuera, sebra, zebre, zevre, (zembra), 7-8 zeura; 7 *pl.* zebrae. [Congolese. Cf. F. *zèbre*, It. (Florio, 1598), Pg. *zebra*, Sp. *cebra*.]

1. A South African equine quadruped (*Equus* or *Hippotigris zebra*), of a whitish ground-colour striped all over with regular bars of black; inhabiting mountainous regions, and noted for its wildness and swiftness.

With qualifying words, applied to other species, as Burchell's Zebra, *E.* or *H. Burchelli* (also called DAUW); Grévy's Zebra, *E.* or *H. Grévyi*. Sometimes applied generically to the whole subgenus *Hippotigris*, comprising all the striped species of African wild horses, including the Quagga.

1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* Introd. 39 The Zebra or Zabra of this country [sc. Congo] being about the bignes of a mule, is a beast of incomparable swiftness. 1625 *PURCHAS Pilgrims* vii. iii. §3. 977 Holding in each hand a Zeueras, or wilde horses tayle. 1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 14 Apes, Baboons, Zebrae, Wolves, Foxes. 1653 H. COGAN tr. *Pinto's Trav.* lv. 216 Some applied themselves... to the pursuing of Tygers, Rhinocerotis, Ounces, Zevres. 1683 *Weekly Mem.* 15 A Beast called *Zecora* or *Zembra*. 1735 JOHNSON *Lobo's Abyssinia*, Voy. i. 5 A Zeura or Wild-Ass, a Creature of large Size, and admirable Beauty. 1776 GIBBON *Decl. & F.* xii. l. 350 Twenty zebras displayed their elegant forms and variegated beauty to the eyes of the Roman people. 1857 LIVINGSTONE *Trav.* iii. 56 The presence of the... zebra... is always a certain indication of water being within a distance of seven or eight miles. 1886 BESANT *Childr. Gibeon* II. vi. You might as well put a zebra in harness as Melenda into any kind of service.

2. *transf.* Applied to things having stripes resembling or suggesting those of a zebra:

a. natural objects (see quotes.).

1811 PINKERTON *Petril.* II. 101 There is also a rare kind [of agate] called the zebra, from its regular black bands upon a white ground. 1815 BURROW *Elem. Conchol.* 200 *Bulla Achatina*, Broad-striped Zebra, or Pink-mouthed Chersina. 1901 *Field* 23 Nov. 812/2 Howietoun still supplies... two-year-old 'zebras', a name given to a very beautiful hybrid between our English trout and the American char.

b. *Comm.* Name for a striped shawl, scarf, or the like.

1851 *Illustr. Exhibitor* 7/1 Coloured goods, such as handkerchiefs, gingham, checks, scarfs, and zebras. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Zebras*, a name given to Paisley shawls, which are very generally worn in Turkey, as sashes or other parts of dress.

c. Humorous name for a convict in striped prison dress. Also, a striped prison uniform.

1882 SALA *Amer. Revis.* (1885) 218 A 'Zebra' is the humorous nickname for a convict. 1895 *Harper's Weekly* 10 Aug. 753/3 At present I understand that he is in limbo, wearing the famous 'zebra'—the penitentiary dress. 1935 A. J. POLLOCK *Underworld Speaks* 136/1 Zebra, striped prison clothing.

d. A zebra crossing, *colloq.*

1951 O. LANCASTER in *Daily Express* 15 Dec. 1/5 If we can only find a Zebra, we can sit down and relax. 1959 *Woman* 24 Jan. 4/3, I often wait ten minutes or more, even at a zebra, while super new cars speed past. 1968 *Listener* 15 Aug. 201/3 Outside, on the road, trucks wait for me to cross a zebra. 1976 *S. Wales Echo* 27 Nov. 9/2 [He] pleaded guilty to stopping a car in a zebra-controlled area.

3. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as *zebra mark*, *marking*, *meat*, *skin*, *stripe*; *zebra-like*, *-marked*, *-striped* *adjs.*; esp. in names of genera, species, or varieties of animals having stripes like those of a zebra, as *zebra caterpillar*, *finch*, *frog*, *mackerel*, *mussel*, *paraakeet*, *rush*, *shark*, *sole*, *woodpecker* (see quotes.); also *zebra crossing*, a pedestrian crossing marked by broad black and

white stripes on the road and Belisha beacons on the kerb; *zebra danio* ('deiniəu), a small Indian freshwater fish with horizontal dark and light stripes, *Brachydanio rerio* (family Cyprinidae), which is popular as an aquarium fish; *zebra fish*, an Australian fish (*Neotephræops zebra*) of the perch kind; also, any of several striped tropical fishes, esp. the zebra danio; *zebra-opossum* = *zebra-wolf*; *zebra-plant*, a tropical American plant, *Maranta (Calathea) zebрина*, having large ornamental leaves marked with dark stripes (*Treas. Bot.* 1866); *zebra-poison*, a South African tree, *Euphorbia arborea*, with highly poisonous milky juice (see quot.); *zebra spider*, any of several striped spiders of the family Salticidae; *zebra-wolf*, the striped Tasmanian 'wolf' = THYLACINE; *zebra-wood*, name for several kinds of ornamentally striped wood used by cabinet-makers, furnished by various trees and shrubs, as *Omphalobium Lambertii* of S. America, *Eugenia fragrans* of the W. Indies, and *Guettarda speciosa* of various tropical regions; also for the plants themselves.

1895 J. H. & A. B. COMSTOCK *Study of Insects* 305 The *Zebra Caterpillar, *Mamestra picta*. 1949 *Surveyor* 8 July 407/1 Investigations by the Road Research Laboratory... have led to the full-scale trials of the striped (zebra) markings for pedestrian crossings. 1950 *Times* 18 Feb. 2/5 Experiments are now being carried out... to test the efficacy of the zebra striped pedestrian crossing when illuminated at night. 1950 *Surveyor* 23 June 365/2 The initial values of the percentage of drivers giving way are higher on the 'zebra' crossings than on the plain. 1977 B. PYM *Quartet in Autumn* ii. 23 He... called out angrily after a car which had failed to stop at a zebra crossing. 1917 W. T. INNES *Goldfish Varieties & Tropical Aquarium Fishes* (ed. 2) vii. 86 *Danio rerio*, *Zebra Danio. 1962 D. W. TUCKER tr. *Sterba's Freshw. Fishes of World* 265 Some species, such as the Zebra Danio, will spawn over gravelly bottoms even when there are no plants present. 1980 *Sci. Amer.* Feb. 127/2 McCutchen has employed his rig to study the motion of a small fish, a zebra danio (*Brachydanio rerio*), which is about three centimeters long. 1889 *Science-Gossip* XXV. 215 *Zebra finches. 1771 LORT in *Phil. Trans.* LXI. 247 It is called by the Commodore the *Zebra fish. 1895 *Aquarium* Apr. 172/1 (heading) Brazilian Zebra Fish (*Heros facetus*). 1925 *Aquatic Life* June 18/1 *Danio rerio*, those swift, graceful, blue and white and sometimes golden striped zebra fish, have many admirers. 1934 C. W. COATES *Tropical Fishes as Pets* v. 49 The Zebra Fish (*Pterois volitans*), a marine beast from the Indian Ocean, erects all his fins, faces his future meal, and appears to drift toward it. 1962 *Listener* 22 Nov. 852/2 The three black-and-white-striped zebra fish were speed-merchants [in the tank]. 1979 H. F. AXELROD et al. *Exotic Marine Fishes* 121 The scorpion fishes... often called butterfly cod or zebra fishes... are mostly hardy, attractive predators. 1802 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* III. 123 *Zebra Frog... This appears to be... the largest of all the... slender-bodied Frogs, and is, according to Seba, a native of Carolina and Virginia. Its colour is an elegant pale rufous brown, beautifully marked... with transverse chesnut-coloured bands. 1815 BURROW *Elem. Conchol.* 201 *Buccinum rugosum*, *Zebra Helmet. 1872 *Daily Tel.* 11 Jan., Certain most brilliant fish, covered with 'zebra-like stripes of green and pink. 1802 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* IV. 587 *Zebra Mackrel. *Scomber Zebra*... bands of the body continued nearly through the dorsal and anal fin. 1869 J. PAGET in *Mem. & Lett.* (1901) 408 A note from Lord Fitzwilliam about his horse with 'zebra-marks. 1924 J. A. THOMSON *Science Old & New* v. 30 Butterflies like the unpalatable *zebra-marked *Heliconius*, which insectivorous birds leave unmolested. 1949 *Zebra marking [see *zebra crossing* above]. 1907 J. H. PATTERSON *Man-Eaters of Tsavo* xxiii. 262 He was afraid that they would seize all the 'zebra-meat that the lions had not already eaten. 1883 *Goole Weekly Times* 7 Sept. 8/4 Down among the side stones are *zebra-mussels (*Dreissena polymorpha*). 1899 *Speaker* 18 Feb. 204/1 The zebra mussel is a native of the rivers of Southern Russia. 1855 *Engl. Cycl.*, *Nat. Hist.* III. 697 *T[hylacinus] cynocephalus*,... the Tasmanian Wolf, *Zebra Opossum, and Zebra Wolf. 1865 H. KINGSLEY *Hillyars & Burtons* l. Others... now so popular in London as *Zebra parakeets. 1882 J. SMITH *Dict. Pop. Names Plants* 449 *Zebra Poison... Its milky juice is highly poisonous, whole herds of zebras having been killed by branches of it being placed in the water which they drink. 1796 NEMNICH *Polygl.-Lex.* 946 *Zebra rhomb, *Voluta paupercula*. 1882 *Garden* 2 Sept. 203/1 The Eulalia although very beautiful... is still surpassed by the *Zebra Rush. 1804 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* V. 352 *Zebra Shark... *Squalus tigrinus*... Of a dark brown colour... barred with... milk-white... somewhat undulating stripes. 1973 G. BEARE *Snake on Grave* xiii. 68 Walls, floor, and ceiling were all done in a *zebra-skin motif. Everything... was covered in zebra skin. 1978 S. NAIPAUL *North of South* II. vi. 230 Copies of *Playboy* were scattered on a zebra-skin rug. 1803 SHAW, *Gen. Zool.* IV. 305 *Zebra Sole... Marked from head to tail by numerous... deep brown... bands. 1866 *Hours at Home* III. 331/1 Next to the garden-spider, the hunting or *zebra spider is the most common. 1966 C. SWEENEY *Scurrying Bush* vi. 87 The commonest of these [jumping spiders] was banded black and white like a zebra... Zebra spiders are able to leap... in an eighteen-inch arc. 1890 BURNARD *Very Much Arab.* 332 The Merry Swiss Boy, in canary-coloured uniform with *zebra stripes over it. 1852 *Zebra-striped [see *dove orchid* s.v. *DOVE sb.* 5b]. 1950 [see *zebra crossing* above]. 1976 *National Observer* (U.S.) 21 Aug. 1/3 There was Clarabell in his green-and-white zebra-striped clown suit. 1895 J. H. & A. B. COMSTOCK *Study of Insects* 379 The *Zebra Swallow-tail, *Ipichlides ajax*. 1853 *Househ. Wds.* VII. 210/2 The skin of the *Zebra-Wolf is smooth and glossy, somewhat resembling in its colour that of the Bengal tiger... Zebra-Wolves are now extremely scarce. 1783 *Trans. Soc. Arts* I. 22 For importing Earth Nuts, Myrtle Wax, Sturgeon, and *Zebra Wood. 1715. 1852 R. S. SURTEES *Sponge's Sp.* *Tour* xlii. A beautiful Devonport of zebra-wood, with a plate-glass back. 1934 [see ZINGANA 2].

Hence *zebraed* ('zi:brəd) *pa. pple.* or *ppl. a.* (cf. F. *zèbré*), striped like a zebra; *ze'braic* [irreg. after *Hebraic*], *zebrine* ('zi:brain) [-INE¹] *adjs.*, related to, or characteristic of, the zebra.

1839 *New Monthly Mag.* LVI. 311 The whole garment *zebraed with tarnished lace. 1855 *Engl. Cycl.*, *Nat. Hist.* III. 697 Barred or zebraed on the lower part of the back and rump with about 16 jet-black transverse stripes. 1890 *Sat. Rev.* 6 Sept. 287/2 Its multi-coloured zebraed form. 1895 W. WRIGHT *Palmyra & Zenobia* xxiv. 277 Hermon itself, streaked and zebraed with snow. 1898 A. LANG in *Longm. Mag.* Oct. 559 The horse is supposed to have been developed out of the zebra, or a *zebraic animal. 1868 DARWIN *Anim. & Pl.* II. 373 The *zebrine stripes on dun-coloured horses.

zebrano (zə-, zi:'brɑ:nəu). [Irreg. f. ZEBRA *sb.*] Striped wood furnished by various species of African trees, esp. those of the genus *Microberlinia*.

1928 *Sunday Express* 29 July 15/4 We take the most handsome pieces of... sapele mahogany, or of lesser known woods like macassar, ebony, zebrano, amboyna. 1934 *Archit. Rev.* LXXV. 144 (caption) The furniture is in Indian rosewood and Japanese chestnut and the panelling in zebrano. 1965 *Wireless World* Sept. 37 (Advt.), Finish zebrano, mahogany, walnut or teak veneers. 1980 E. SCOTT *Illustr. Encycl. Working in Wood* 248 *Microberlinia brazzavillensis* Zebrano. Normally coarse texture; interlocked grain.

zebrina (zə'braɪnə). *Bot.* Also Zebrina. [mod.L. (A. Schnitzlein 1849, in *Bot. Zeitung* VII. 870/2), f. ZEBRA(A), in allusion to the striped leaves of some species + -INA².] A creeping recumbent herb of the genus of this name (family Commelinaceae) that is native to central America, bears ovate, often striped, leaves and clusters of small flowers, and is grown as a greenhouse and indoor plant.

1946 M. FREE *All about House Plants* iii. 15 English Ivy, Tradescantia, and Zebrina (to trail over edge [of a window-box]). 1960 *Times* 30 Jan. 11/2 The green or white and green striped zebrinas. 1963 [see PERICLINAL a. (sb.) 2b]. 1978 *Homes & Gardens* Oct. 42/2 Among these summer sun-lovers are beloperone... and zebrina.

zebroid ('zi:-, 'zebrɔɪd), *a.* and *sb.* [f. ZEBRA(A) + -OID.] *A. adj.* Resembling or characteristic of a zebra.

1899 *Nat. Science* Mar. 209 The reproductive organs, which were of a zebroid type. 1974 *Nature* 22 Mar. 296/2 G. Nobis's study of the horse teeth recognised three groups: two larger species with primitive 'zebroid' features.

B. *sb.* The offspring of a horse and a zebra.

1899 *Tablet* 25 Nov. 848/2 The zebroid, or hybrid between the horse and the zebra, 'will be the mule of the 20th century'. 1926 *Daily Colonist* (Victoria, B.C.) 18 July 24/1 The first man to have any practical success in crossbreeding the zebra and the horse is Dr. W. E. Hastings of Mt. Vernon, Ind. The result is a new mule, the zebroid. 1973 *Daily Tel.* (Colour Suppl.) 5 Oct. 31/4 Another Kenya 'character'... crossed ponies with zebras, and used the resulting 'zebroids' as pack animals for safaris. 1983 *Listener* 20 Jan. 25/1 Christina Dodwell, in *Travels with Fortune*, paddled a dug-out canoe, and rode a camel and a zebroid, in her journey through Africa.

zebrule ('zi:-, 'zebru:l). [f. ZEBRA(A) + M] ULE¹.] = ZEDONK.

1903 in P. Fleming *Bayonets to Lhasa* (1961) viii. 102 In my Section are two Zebrules, half zebra and half donkey. 1978 J. MORRIS *Farewell the Trumpets* vii. 132 By December 13, 1903 every last yak and zebrule had crossed the frontier of Tibet.

zebu ('zi:bjʊ:). [ad. F. *zébu* (Buffon, who states that it was shown under this name at a fair in Paris in 1752).] A humped species of ox, *Bos indicus*, domesticated from the most ancient times in India, China, Japan, and parts of Africa.

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) III. 23 Others among them [sc. bisons], such as the zebu, or Barbary cow, are very small. 1844 CARPENTER *Zool.* §269 The Zebu or Brahmin Ox. 1894 *Chambers's Jnrl.* 2 July 488/1 Zebus (the pigmy cattle of Ceylon).

attrib. 1847 W. C. L. MARTIN *Ox* 19/1 The zebu race is not confined to India, China, and the Indian islands, but is found on the eastern coast of Africa, and in... Madagascar. 1903 *Times* 9 Jan. 5/2 He bred a female hybrid from a zebu bull and a gaval cow.

zecchin ('zekin). Forms: 6-7 zechine, 7-yne, 8-9 zechin, (8 zekkin, zequeen), 7- zecchin, -ine. [ad. It. *zecchino*, f. *zecca* the mint at Venice = Sp. *seca*, a. Arab. *sekkah* coin.] A former gold coin of Venice and Turkey: = CHEQUEEN, SEQUIN 1.

1575 GASCOIGNE *Flowers* Wks. 1907 I. 77 Zechines of glistering golde, two thousand was his price. 1615 G. SANDYS *Trav.* 3 They pay tribute to the Turke, 14000 Zecchins yearly. 1617 MORYSON *Itin.* i. 88 The gold coyne of the Venetians is called Zecchino. *Ibid.* 276 In Turkey the gold zechines of Venice are most currant. 1702 W. J. tr. *Bruyn's Voy. Levant* xl. 160 A Subsidy of 600000 Zechins; worth about seven Franks and a half a piece. 1727 A. HAMILTON *New Acc. E. Ind.* I. 304, I presented the Officer... with five Zequeens. 1789 MRS. P10221 *Journ. France* I. 195 A zecchine will bend between your fingers. 1819 SCOTT *Ivanhoe* xxxvi, They would swear the mother that bore them a sorceress for a zecchin. 1857 RUSKIN *Pol. Econ. Art* ii. (1868) 124 If you don't choose to submit to be cheated by

them out of a ducat here and a zecchin there, you will be cheated by them out of your picture.

Zechian, var. CZECHIAN, a Czech.

1847 MRS. A. KERR tr. *Ranke's Hist. Servia* i. 5 The Western races—the Moravians, Zechians, Carantaneans, and to some extent, even the Poles.

|| **Zechstein** ('zekstain). *Geol.* [Ger., lit. minestone.] A limestone stratum of the Permian system as developed in parts of Germany, corresponding to the Magnesian Limestone of the N.E. of England; also extended to the series of rocks containing this, forming the upper division of the Permian.

1823 *Amer. Jnrl. Sci.* VI. 189 On the Rhine..., the Zechstein or 1st floetz limestone is imbedded in the coal-field. **1885** GEIKIE *Text-bk. Geol.* (ed. 2) VI. ii. v. §2. 754 Zechstein, an argillaceous thin-bedded compact limestone.

zed. Also 5-6 **zedde**. [a. F. *zède* (= It. *zeta*, †*zette*, Sp. *zeta*, *zeda*), ad. L. *zēta*, a. Gr. ζῆτα.]

1. Name of the letter Z.

In quot. 1605 applied contemptuously to a person.

14.. *MS. Reg. 17, B. 1, f. 146* in *Mod. Lang. Rev.* (1911) VI. 442 For as miche as þe carect yogh, þat is to seie 'z' is figurid lijk a zed, þefore alle þe wordis of þis table þat biginnen wiþ þat carect, ben set in zed, which is þe laste lettre of þea b-c. **14..** MAUNDEV. (MS. Laud 699 f. 37) Too lettres... þat is to sey 'y' [i.e. þ] & 'z' which is called thorn and zedde. **1582** MULCASTER *1st Pt. Elem.* xxiii. 161 Hence cummeth it that so manie zeds in our tung are herd, and so few sene, for dexteritie and spede in the currantnesse of writing. **1605** SHAKS. *Lear* II. ii. 69 Thou whoreson Zed, thou vnecessary letter. **1755** JOHNSON *Dict., Gram., Z*... [Name] *zed*, more commonly *izzard* or *uzzard*, that is, *shard*. **1817** *Err. Pron. Lond.* 38 Children... often call this letter *Izard*... They should be taught to pronounce it *Zed*. **1882** E. A. FREEMAN in *Longman's Mag.* I. 94 The name... given to the last letter of the alphabet... in New England is always *zee*; in the South it is *zed*. **1893** [see Z 2].

2. **zed-bar**, also simply **zed** = Z-bar; see Z 2. **1891** *Engineer LXXI*. Advt. p. xxxviii. (Cent. Dict.), Angles, Zeds, Channels, Beams, Bars. **1892** *Daily News* 9 Sept. 6/1 The improved sections of steel known as channel and zed bars.

zed(e): see SAD *a.*, SAY *v.*¹, SEED.

zedewal, -wal(l)e, -ward, obs. ff. SETWALL (= ZEDOARY).

1310 *Acc. Exors. T. Bp. of Exeter* (Camden) 9 De xd. de j libra de zedewand [sic] vendita.

zedge, obs. dial. form of SAY *v.*¹

zedoary ('zedəʊəri). Forms: 5-6 **zeduarye**, -ie, 6 **zedwary**, 6-7 **zedoarie**, 6- **zedoary**. [ad. med.L. *zedoarium*, -ia (also *zedu-*), ad. Arab. *zedwār*: cf. OF. *zedouar*, *zedoar*, mod.F. *zédouaire*, Prov. *zeduari*, Sp., It. *zedoaria*, Pg. *zeduaria*, It. *zettovario*, OHG., MHG. *zitwar* (G. *zitwer*). See also SETWALL.] The aromatic tuberous root of one or more species of *Curcuma* (N.O. *Zingiberaceae*), of the East Indies and neighbouring countries, sold in two forms, **long zedoary** and **round zedoary**, and used as a drug, having properties resembling those of ginger; also the plant itself. **yellow zedoary** = CASSUMUNAR.

c1475 *Nominale* in Wr.-Wülcker 714/11 *Hoc zeduarium*, *zeduarye*. **c1550** LLOYD *Treas. Health* Ivj, *Zedwary*, chewed... and swallowed... taketh awaye the greffe of the bely. **1684** tr. *Bonet's Merc. Compit.* III. 103 Zedoary is most powerfull against vitreous Phlegm. **1760** J. LEE *Introduct. Bot.* App. 332 Zedoary, round, *Kæmpferia*. Zedoary, long, *Amomum*. **1773** W. LEWIS C. Neumann's *Chem. Wks.* (ed. 2) II. 201 Zedoary is the root of a plant said to be of the Ginger kind, growing in different parts of the East Indies, and brought to us chiefly from Bengal. **1858** HOGG *Veg. Kingd.* 784 From the roots of *Zingiber casumunar*, the article known in commerce as Casumunar, or Yellow Zedoary, is obtained. ... Long Zedoary is the root of *Curcuma zerumbet*, a native of the East Indies... Round Zedoary is furnished by *C. zedoaria*. **1880** C. R. MARKHAM *Peruv. Bark* 347 The undergrowth... consists of cardamom, wild ginger, zedoary, rattan, a small bamboo... and a few ferns.

attrib. **1741** *Compl. Fam.-Piece* i. i. 40 Take... Zedoary Root to Grains. **1866** *Treas. Bot.* s.v. *Curcuma*, *C. aromatica* and *C. Zedoaria* furnish Zedoary tubers... used by the natives of India as aromatic tonics, and as a perfume.

zedonk ('zi:dnŋk, 'zednŋk). Also **zeedonk**. [f. ZE(BRA + DONK(EY.) The offspring of a male zebra and a female donkey. Cf. ZONKEY.

1971 *Daily Tel.* 17 Apr. 8/5 The staff at Colchester Zoo have described their newcomer as a 'Zedonk'. **1976** *Observer* (Colour Suppl.) 5 Sept. 42/3 Donkeys crossed with zebras, sometimes called zeedonks, have been used like mules... as pack animals. **1978** *Panorama* (Austral.) Aug. 13/2 Zareeba the zedonk (half zebra, half donkey) is one of only five of his kind known in the world.

zeduale, obs. form of SETWALL (= ZEDOARY).

zee (zi:). A name, esp. now in U.S., of the letter Z.

1677 T. LYE *New Spelling Bk.* II. 5 Zz zee Z-eal, thou shalt be my charret, whilst I ride, Elijah-like, with Word and Spirit, my Guide. **1797** *Gazette of U.S.* No. 1429. 3/3 Younker yield the yawning yea—Zounds, I'm safe at zig-zag zee. **1828** WEBSTER, *Z...* It is pronounced *zee*. **1882** [see ZED 1].

zeel(e, obs. forms of ZEAL.

zeelde, variant of SELD *adv.* *Obs.*

c1374 CHAUCER *Boeth.* II. met. iii. 26 (Camb. MS.) 3if the forme of this worlde is so zeelde stable.

Zeeman ('zeimən). *Physics.* The name of P. *Zeeman* (1865-1943), Dutch physicist, used *attrib.* with reference to the splitting of a spectral line into three or more closely spaced components when the light source is in a magnetic field not strong enough to produce the Paschen-Back effect.

Observed by Zeeman in 1897.

[**1897** *Phil. Mag.* XLIV. 503 A theoretical analysis... can be developed in connexion with Zeeman's phenomenon, which may help to throw light on the nature of the electric vibrations in the molecule.] **1899** *Rep. Brit. Assoc. Adv. Sci.* 1898 789 An effect converse to the Zeeman effect occurs in those cases where the body is absorbing instead of emitting light. **1904** [see MAGNETOXYRIC *a.* 1]. **1926** [see LARMOR]. **1962** W. B. THOMPSON *Introduct. Plasma Physics* i. 3 There are several ways of inferring the existence of magnetic fields, of which the most direct is from a measurement of the Zeeman splitting of spectral lines. **1971** *New Scientist* 18 Feb. 381/1 When a nucleus is placed in a high magnetic field, each energy level splits into several sublevels known as magnetic sublevels or Zeeman levels. **1978** PASACHOFF & KUTNER *University Astron.* viii. 219 (*caption*) From studies of the splitting of lines that are sensitive to the Zeeman effect, the magnetic field on the sun can be mapped.

zeep (zi:p), *v.* *rare*⁻¹. [? var. ZIP *v.*] *trans.* To elicit a zipping sound from.

1935 S. BECKETT *Echo's Bones*, Tires bleeding voiding zeep the highway.

zeferus: see ZEPHYRUS.

† **zegedine**. *Obs.* Also **zega(r)dine**. [? f. *Szegedin* in Hungary.] A drinking cup of silver (?).

1643 *Ball. Coll. Oxf. List of Plate* (MS.), Given to the King in the year 1642—silver plate—5 great two-ear'd pots: called Zegardines. **1650** *Balliol Coll. Reg.* (MS.), Mr. Robt. Pudsey a Zegadine 15 [oz.] 02 [dwt.]. **1651** BARKSDALE *Nympha Lib.* iv. xlv. 91 Oft have we discours'd ore a Zegedine Of Double, and now and then a pot of wine. **1688** *Ball. Coll. Oxf. List of Plate* (MS.), Mag. Price, a Bedmaker in the Colledge gave the 5th zegadine of 5 li. price.

zeil(e, zeill, obs. Sc. forms of ZEAL.

zeilanite ('zailənait). *Min.* Also **zey-**. [ad. G. *zeilanit*, f. *Zeilan* CEYLON.] A variety of spinel, found in Sri Lanka (Ceylon); = CANDITE, CEYLONITE.

1851 WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* V. 275 Aluminate of Ferrous Oxide.—Zeilanite.

zein ('zi:in). *Chem.* Also -ine. [f. ZEA + -IN¹.] A protein found in maize, analogous to gluten.

1822 *Q. Jnrl. Sci.* XIII. 402 The zeine of John Gorham, is obtained from Indian corn, by infusing it in water. **1877** WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1066.

zeinte, obs. form of SAINT.

zeir, Sc. graphic var. *zeir*, YEAR¹.

Zeiss (zais). The name of Carl *Zeiss* (1816-88), German optical instrument maker, used *attrib.* to designate binoculars manufactured by the firm he founded.

1905 W. JAMES *Let.* 3 Apr. (1920) II. 224 Now I will stop, and use my Zeiss glass on the land, which is getting nearer. **1912** A. CONAN DOYLE *Lost World* viii. 126 He had his Zeiss glasses in his hand. **1938** S. BECKETT *Murphy* iv. 60, I have worshipped her from afar... All last June, through Zeiss glasses. **1971** R. DENTRY *Encounter at Kharmel* vii. 127 There were... Zeiss binoculars... at the back of the glove compartment. **1983** T. POCOCK *1945* vii. 217 The luckiest found Leica cameras and Zeiss binoculars.

|| **zeitgeber** ('tsaitge:bər). *Physiol.* Pl. same or (anglicized) zeitgebers. [Ger. (J. Aschoff 1954, in *Naturwissenschaften* XLI. 49), f. *zeit* time + *geber* giver.] A rhythmically occurring event, esp. in the environment, which acts as a cue in the regulation of certain biological rhythms in an organism.

1964 E. BÜNNING *Physiological Clock* ii. 9 The change of light and dark or alternations of high and low temperatures have a synchronizing effect on the endodiurnal rhythm; they function as 'Zeitgeber' (cues, synchronizers). **1969** *New Scientist* 21 Aug. 369/2 Light is known to be the *zeitgeber* for the ant-lion's solar-day rhythm. **1975** D. VINCE-PRUE *Photoperiodism in Plants* v. 169 The signals responsible for entrainment have been called *zeitgebers*. **1975** *Nature* 27 Nov. 291/2 The various rhythms respond to changes in the phase or the period of the entraining cycle (the *Zeitgeber*). **1983** *Brit. Med. Jnrl.* 6 Aug. 426/2 Melatonin is secreted by the pineal gland during the night... In rats it will act as a 'zeitgeber' or synchroniser of the rest-activity cycle under conditions of zero environmental input.

|| **Zeitgeist** ('tsaitgaist). Also *Zeit Geist*, *Zeit-Geist* (both *rare*), and with lower-case initial. [G., f. *zeit* time + *geist* spirit.] The spirit or genius which marks the thought or feeling of a period or age.

1848 M. ARNOLD *Let.* Nov. (1932) 95, I...took up Obermann, and refuted myself with him...against your *Zeit Geist*. **1873** M. ARNOLD *Lit. & Dogma* v. 129 It is what we call the *Time-Spirit* that is sapping the proof from miracles,

—it is the 'Zeit-Geist' itself. **1876** *Mind* I. 369 There is a *Zeitgeist*, he says. **1884** *Macmillan's Mag.* Aug. 254 For realism in one form or another is the *zeitgeist* which will master us all. **1889** G. B. SHAW *Let.* Aug. (1965) I. 222 My business is to incarnate the *Zeitgeist*. **1893** *Nation* (N.Y.) 5 Jan. 15/2 Rome has undergone radical changes, for the year 1870 has intervened, and the *Zeitgeist* has occupied and is rebuilding the city. **1933** A. HUXLEY *Let.* 9 Oct. (1969) 374 The *Zeitgeist* is a most dismal animal and I wish to heaven one cd escape from its clutches. **1946** AUDEN *Litany & Anthem for S. Matthew's Day*, May we worship neither the flux of chance, nor the wheel of fortune, nor the spiral of the *zeit-geist*. **1972** *Science* 2 June 991/3 A clear mark of the *Zeitgeist* of the late 1960's and the 1970's is the increased demand for participation in decision-making by those affected by it. **1982** D. PIPER *Image of Poet* i. 13 Shakespeare becomes in a sense an ever-changing embodiment of the *Zeitgeist*.

zek (zæk). [Russ., prob. repr. pronunc. of *z/k*, abbrev. of *zaklyuchënniy* prisoner.] In the U.S.S.R., a person confined in a prison or forced labour camp.

1968 T. P. WHITNEY tr. *Solzhenitsyn's First Circle* p. x, All the zeks at the Mavriko sharashka belonged, though they were not at the time in hard-labor camps, to the realm of GULAG. **1977** *Guardian Weekly* 26 June 22/2 And didn't his author work gratefully too in the same *sharashka*, or Island of Paradise, as the zeks called these 'soft' research camps? **1982** T. BINYON *Swan Song* viii. 58 They got him for parasitism and a few other offences. Now he was presumably...east of the Urals and taking the zeks for their bread ration.

zekill, obs. form of SICKLE *sb.*

zel. Also **zell**. [Turkish *zıl* (Redhouse).] A kind of cymbal.

1817 MOORE *Lalla Rookh, Fire-Worshippers* i. 8 Where, some hours since, was heard the swell Of trumpet and the clash of zel. **1838** LYTTON *Leila* iv. i, The clash of the zel, the boom of the African drum, and the wild and barbarous blast of the Moorish clarion.

zel, obs. form of SELL *v.*, ZEAL.

Zelander, obs. form of ZEALANDER.

† **'zelant**. *Obs. rare*. [ad. late L. *zēlant-*, *zēlans*, pr. pple. of *zēlāre*: see ZEAL *v.* Cf. It. *zelante* zealous.] A zealot.

1625 BACON *Ess.*, *Unity in Relig.* (Arb.) 427 To certaine Zelants all Speech of Pacification is odious. [1885 E. A. ABBOTT *Bacon* 426 An *Advertisement touching an Holy War*... in which the interlocutors represent a Moderate Divine, a Protestant Zelant, a Romish Catholic Zelant.]

zelator ('zələtə(r)). Also 5-6 **zelatour**, 6 **zelat(e)ur**, -oure, **zealatour**, 9 **zealator**, **zealoter**. [a. OF. *zelateur* (= It. *zelatore*, Sp. *celador*, Pg. *zelador*) or its source eccl. L. *zēlātor*, f. *zēlāre*: see ZEAL *v.* The spellings with *zeal-* are due to assimilation to *zeal*, *zealot*.]

1. A zealous defender or supporter; one who zealously furthers the cause of. *rare*.

1460 CAPGRAVE *Chron.* (Rolls) 195 That the qween and the prince schuld be receyved as good zelatores of the rem. **1531** ELYOT *Gov.* III. xxvii. (1883) II. 426 Many zelatours or fauourers of the publyke weale. **1549** *Compl. Scot.* ix. 76, I praye you to be zelators of the lau of gode. **1600** HAMILTON *Facile Traictise* Ded., Al zelateurs of the trew seruice of God. **1865** W. G. PALGRAVE *Journ. Arabia* I. 408 'Meddey' yeeyah', 'men of zeal', or 'Zelators'. *Ibid.* II. 3 He had figured conspicuously in the first band of Zelators at the epoch of their foundation in 1855. **1891** *Catholic News* 25 July 8/6 The Salford Diocesan Branch of the Zelators of St. Joseph's Foreign Missionary Society.

2. = ZEALOT 1, 2. *rare*.

1644 H. LESLIE *Blessing of Judah* 41, I can best compare them...with that Rebellious rout of the Iewes, who called themselves Zelators. **1867** PALGRAVE in *Maem. Mag.* XVI. 143 Even stoutest parliamentary 'zealoters' must yield to utter weariness of body.

3. A sister in a religious community whose duty is to keep a check upon the conduct of the mother superior or of the younger religious and novices.

[**1671** WOODHEAD *St. Teresa* II. xvi. 113 Nor was there any accusation against her in the Chapter concerning the least defect; although the smallest, and most minute matters are by the *Zelatore* observed, and mentioned there.] **1851** ULLATHORNE *Plea Rights Relig. Women* II The rule commonly requires also that there should be two prudent sisters who are called *Zealators*, and whose duty it is to admonish the superioress, should she exceed or fail in her duties.

zelatrice ('zələtris), **zelatrix** (-iks). [ad. F. *zēlatrice* and its source eccl. L. *zēlātrix*, fem. of *zēlātor*: see prec.] A female zealot.

1890 *Tablet* 17 May 794 The Superioress of a Convent, a most fervent zelatrix. **1902** M. J. F. MCCARTHY *Priests & People in Irel.* 200 A zelatrice is a curiosity of religion in Ireland. *Ibid.* 201 A zelatrice for the Œuvre Expiatoire.

zelde, zele, Zelender, zelié, zell, Zelonian, zelot, -(t)e: see SELD *adv.*, ZEAL, ZEALANDER, SEELY, SELL, ZEYLONIAN, ZEALOT.

Zeldovich ('zeldəvɪtʃ). *Chem.* The name of Y. B. *Zeldovich* (b. 1914), U.S.S.R. physicist, used *attrib.* to designate a mechanism proposed by him for the oxidation of nitrogen to nitric oxide in flames via a two-stage free-radical reaction.

1973 S. J. WILLIAMSON *Fund. Air Pollution* x. 298 The formation of NO occurs primarily through two simultaneous reactions known as the Zeldovich mechanism: $N + O_2 = NO + O$; $O + N_2 = NO + N$. 1982 *Sci. Amer.* Feb. 94/1 At temperatures low enough to suppress the Zeldovich reactions other reactions still generate nitric oxide.

zelkova (zɛl'kəʊvə). Also Zelkova. [mod.L. (E. Spach 1841, in *Ann. des Sci. Nat.: Bot.* 2nd Ser. XV. 352), f. *zelkova*, *tselkwa*, cited by Spach as local names for *Z. carpinifolia* in the Caucasus; cf. mod.Russ. *zel'kova grabolistnaya*.] A deciduous tree of the genus of this name (family Ulmaceae), which is native to China, Japan, and the Caucasus, and bears toothed leaves and small green flowers. Also *zelkova tree*.

1893 A. D. WEBSTER *Hardy Ornamental Flowering Trees & Shrubs* 134 Zelkova Tree. . . is a handsome, large growing tree, with oblong deeply-crenated leaves, and small inconspicuous flowers. 1957 M. HADFIELD *Brit. Trees* 226 The zelkova . . . deserves more extensive planting. 1976 *Daily Tel.* 5 July 8/6 Three thousand Zelkova trees imported from Germany are being planted in Peterborough to replace elms killed by Dutch Elm disease. 1978 *Vole* Dec. 27/1 Zelkovas are a rather special group of trees. They belong to the Elm family and have delicate, toothed leaves.

zelotic, zealotic (zi:'ləʊtɪk), *a.* [f. ZEALOT + -IC; now often assimilated to Gr. ζηλωτικός, f. ζηλωτής zealot.] Of the nature of, or characteristic of, a zealot.

1657 GAUDEN *F. Watts' Scribe, Pharisee*, etc. To Rdr., He . . . is void as of all superstitious novelties, so, of all zealotic transports. 1743 J. MORRIS *Serm.* iv. 90 In such a legal and zelotic, such a passionate and fierce . . . spirit. 1889 J. B. BURY *Later Roman Empire* I. i. 3 We have the zelotic dogmatism of Epiphane. 1899 STALKER *Christol. Jesus* iv. 152 Such zelotic enthusiasm. 1916 P. T. FORSYTH in *Contemp. Rev.* June 762 The Pharisees were doing that passionately. It was their whole zelotic programme about which they had no misgivings.

So †zel'otical *a.*

1630 in *Crt. & Times Chas. I* (1848) II. 80 One Leviston, a zelotical Scotsman. a1638 MEDE *Par. Peter* Wks. III. (1672) 611 The zelotical Anti-chilists. 1694 STRYPE *Cranmer* III. xix. 373 Dr. Marshal Dean of Christ's-Church, a most furious and zelotical Man.

zelotism, zealotism ('zɛlətɪz(ə)m). [f. ZEALOT + -ISM; for the spelling cf. prec. So F. *zélotisme*.] Action, thought, or feeling characteristic of a zealot; zealotry.

1716 M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* III. *Suppl. Diss. Drama* 2 His Ambassador's indefatigable Zelotism. 1751 GRAY *Let. to Walpole* 8 Oct., Wks. 1825 II. 165 The folly and cruelty of stiffness and zealotism in religion. 1885 J. F. SMITH tr. *Ewald's Hist. Israel* VII. 615 Zealotism itself did not . . . cease to ferment in the hearts . . . of many . . . adherents of the party. 1888 DOUGHTY *Arabia Deserta* I. 548, I could not altogether escape . . . the Mohammedan zelotism.

So †zelotist *Obs.*, a zealot.

1593 G. HARVEY *Pierce's Super. Wks.* (Grosart) II. 173 Their feruent, and illuminate Zelotistes. 1608 H. CLAPHAM *Errour Left Hand* 8, I haue sinned much in following blind Zelo[t]ists, setting al on fire with Samsons foxes. 1640 [see SCIOLOUS].

||zelo'typia. *Obs. rare.* [late L., *a.* Gr. ζήλοτυπία, f. ζήλοτυπος, f. ζῆλος ZEAL *sb.* + τυπ-, stem of τυπτεω to strike.] Jealousy. So †zelotypie [cf. F. *zélotypie*, Cotgr.]. Hence †zelotyping *a.*, jealous; †zelotypist (-tip-), a person characterized by excessive zeal, a zealot.

1601 T. WRIGHT *Passions* I. vi. (1604) 26 Every diversity or change we finde in passions, . . . as, Mercy, Shamefastnesse, . . . Zelotypia, Exanination. 1623 COCKERAM, *Zelotypie*, iéalousie. 1631 R. H. ARRAIGNM. *Whole Creat.* xvii. 302 In all the hot Countries, where horspurre Zelotypists haue resided. a1660 *Contemp. Hist. Irel.* (Ir. Archaeol. Soc.) II. 159 Castlhauen . . . appointinge there his temptinge and zelotypinge [*sic*] spirits, deserted the towne.

zely, *obs. form* of SEELY *a.*

1496 *Bk. St. Albans, Fishing* h j b, Who soo woll ryse erly shall be holy helthy & zely. 1555 PENDLETON in *Bonner's Hom.* 38 b, The impudent procedars haue taught the zely people that euerye man . . . maye be a iudge of controuersyes.

'Zembl(i)an, *a.* and *sb. rare.* [f. (Nova) Zembla = Russ. *Novaya Zemlya* 'new land'.]

a. adj. Belonging to Nova Zembla, a group of islands in the Arctic Ocean north of Archangel in Russia; hence, arctic. *b. sb.* A native or inhabitant of Nova Zembla.

1674 tr. *La Martinière's New Voy.* 34 Samoiedes, Siberians, Zemblans. *Ibid.* 122 We descryed . . . a Zemblane in a Canoe. 1749 CAWTHORN *Poems* (1771) 179 Thy unwearied soul . . . gave to Britain half the zemblan sky. 1806 SHEE *Rhymes Art* (ed. 3) 10 Lybian sands, or Zemblan snows.

†'zembletee. *Obs. rare.* (illiterate.) [f. SEMBLE *a.* + -tee, -TY.] by zembletee, in appearance: = by semblant (see SEMBLANT *sb.* 2 b).

a1553 UDALL *Royster D.* i. iv, A sore man by zembletee.

zembra, *obs. var.* ZEBRA.

zeme, zemi ('zi:mɪ). [Carib *ce-mi*.] An idol, or a tutelary spirit represented thereby, worshipped

by the aborigines of the West Indian islands. Hence 'zemeism (see quot. 1902); zeme'istic *a.*

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* ix. xiv. 743 These Images they made of Gossampine cotton hard stopped, sitting, like the pictures of the Deuill, which they called *Zemes*. *Ibid.*, Euery King hath his particular *Zemes*, which he honoureth. 1663 J. OWEN *Vind. Animadv. Fiat Lux* xxi. 487 In the Indies, the Catholick Spaniards took away the *Zemes* or Images of their Idols. 1902 FEWKES in *Science* 18 July 104 The whole social and religious organization was knit together by a form of totemism or tutelary clan ancients worship which I shall call *Zemeism*. 1903-4 *Ann. Rep. Bur. Amer. Ethnol.* 54 *Zemiism*. *Ibid.* 59 Her body was painted with figures and . . . flowers, evidently zemeistic or totemistic.

zeme, *obs. form* of SEAM *sb.* 2

zemindar (zə'mi:ndɑ:(r)). *E. Ind.* Forms: 7 gemidar, 7-8 jem(m)idar, 8 jemitdar, jemendar, zemidar, zemendar, zimeendar, 8-9 zamindar, 9 zem-, zumeendar, 8- zemindar. [Hind., *a.* Pers. *zamīndār* (also *zamīdar*), f. *zamin*, *zamī* earth + *dār* holder.]

The pronunciation shown by the earliest forms *gemi-*, *jemidar*, is that of the North-West Provinces of India today, where 'the rustic pronunciation of the word *zamīndār* is hardly distinguishable from the Anglo-Indian pronunciation of *jama'dār* (Yule).]

Formerly, a collector of the revenue from land held by a number of cultivators; subsequently, an Indian who held land for which he paid revenue direct to the British government.

1683 W. HEDGES *Diary* (Hakl. Soc.) I. 77 We lay at Bogatchera, . . . y^e Gemidar invited us ashore, and showed us Store of Deer, Peacocks, &c. 1698 *Ext. Consultations at Chuttanutte* 31 Oct. (Yule) Paying the said Rent to the King as the Jemidars have successively done. 1713 *MS. Records* in Yule & Burnell *Anglo-Ind. Gloss.* s.v., Mr. Edwd. Page. . . Jemendar. 1753 HANWAY *Trav.* (1762) II. xiv. iv. 357 note, *Rajahs*, who are the chiefs of those people who are distinguished by the name of *zemidars*, which signifies possessors of lands. 1764 *Ann. Reg.*, *St. Papers* 188/1 To all governors, officers . . . and zemindars . . . in the provinces of Bengal. 1776 JAS. RENNELLS *MS. Let.* 5 Aug. (Yule), The Countrey Jemitdars remote from Calcutta, treat us frequently with great Insolence. 1781 *Ann. Reg.*, *Hist. Eur.* 177/1 The Zemindars, who are the present great landholders of India, are likewise a sort of hereditary princes of the country. 1844 H. H. WILSON *Brit. India* I. i. vii. 401 The Zemindars had been formerly charged with the management of the police, and were held accountable for all acts of robbery or violence committed within their Zemindaris. 1890 *Times* 8 Mar. 4/1 The zemindar of Devarakota.

Hence 'zemindarship, zemindary.

1698 *Ext. Consultations at Chuttanutte* 31 Oct. (1788) (Yule), The Prince having given us . . . the Jemidarship of the said towns. 1860 [C. GRANT] *Rur. Life Bengal* 64 For the honour and glory of Zumeendarship he cares not a fig. 1878 JAS. GRANT *Hist. India* I. ii. 9 For a good round sum he sold to the East India Company the zemindarships of Govindpore, Chutanutty, and Calcutta.

zemindary (zə'mi:ndəri). *E. Ind.* Forms: 8 zemidary, 8-9 zemindarry, -aree, 9 zeme(e)ndary, zam-, zemindari, zam-, zumeen-, zeminary. [Hind., *a.* Pers. *zamīndārī*, f. *zamīndār*: see prec.]

1. The system of holding lands and farming revenue by means of zemindars; the office or jurisdiction of a zemindar.

1757 in Scrafton *Indostan* (1770) 81 All the land lying south of Calcutta, as far as Culpee, shall be under the Zemindary of the English Company. 1758 in *Jrnl. Ho. Comm.* XXXIII. 850/1 Sunnud from the Dewan of the Subah of Bengal, for the Zemindary of the Lands granted to the Company. 1783 *Ann. Reg.*, *Hist. Eur.* 5/2 The zemindary was secured to the family . . . of Bulwant Sing. 1890 *Times* 8 Mar. 4/1 The appellant, who was the eldest son of the late zemindar . . . contended that the zemindary was impartible. 1917 *Chambers's Jrnl.* Dec. 781/1 There is no such man within my zamindary as can catch the living snake.

attrib. 1790 J. GRANT (title) An Inquiry into the nature of Zemindary Tenures in the landed property of Bengal. 1885 G. S. FORBES *Wild Life in Canara* 171 They now . . . cultivate the lands of some eight or ten zemindari estates. 1914 W. G. LAWRENCE *Let.* 30 July in *Home Lett.* T. E. Lawrence (1954) 563 We all ate together of food one could stick one's teeth in, thick Zamindari bread. 1932 *Ann. Reg.* 1931 i. 155 Movements against the payment of rents and land revenue, particularly in the United Provinces, where the *zamindari* (landlord) system is prevalent. 1968 *Times* 6 Apr. (Pakistan *Suppl.*) p. v/4 After independence, many Hindu zamindars fled, the zamindary system was abolished and the land divided into tiny portions and sold to the Muslims. 1976 M. S. HOQUE *Hunger* II. vi. 41 Parents now think that their son is a Zamindari estate on auction sale.

2. The territory administered by a zemindar. 1764 *Ann. Reg.*, *St. Papers* 191/2 If the French come into the country, I will not allow them to . . . hold lands, zemindaries, &c. 1858 J. B. NORTON *Topics* 165 The ancient zemindary of Golugondah, which yields about 10,000 rupees of clear surplus annually. 1878 *Macm. Mag.* Jan. 250/2 The actual extent of land cultivated in the Madras Presidency (excluding Zemindary), amounted to 14,236,072 acres of dry and 3,510,615 acres of wet.

||zemirah (zə'miərə). *Judaism.* Pl. *zemirot* (h (zə'mi:ərəʊt, s-). [Heb.] A religious song sung in Hebrew at Sabbath meals.

1831 [see MITZVAH]. 1892 I. ZANGWILL *Childr. Ghetto* II. xviii. 82 When supper was over grace was chanted, and then the *Zemirot* were sung—songs summing up, in light and jingling metre, the very essence of holy joyousness. 1973 *Jewish Chron.* 9 Feb. 21/5 The service was followed by supper and zemirot in the communal hall.

||zemni ('zɛmni). Also 8 ziemni, 9 zemmi. [Short for Russ. dial. *schenók zemnói* 'puppy of earth' (*zemnói* adj. f. *zemlya* earth).] The blind mole-rat, *Spalax typhlus*. Also *zemni-rat*.

1785 SMELLIE tr. *Buffon's Nat. Hist.* (1791) VIII. 232 In Poland and Russia there is another animal called *ziemni* or *zemni*, which is of the same genus with the zisel. 1836-9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 571/2 Some . . . are devoid of the auricle, as the mole, the zemni-rat, the mole-rat.

||zemstvo ('zɛmstvo). Also zem(p)stvo. Pl. *zemstvos*, ||*zemstva*. [Russ., f. *zemlya* land.] An elective district or provincial council in Russia for purposes of local government, created by Alexander II in 1864.

1865 *Saunders's Newsletter* 8 Feb., He . . . sneered at the upstart ambition of the *Zemstvo* class, by which is meant the mere owners of certain acreable amount of the soil. 1877 D. M. WALLACE *Russia* xiv. (ed. 2) I. 326 The Zemstvo is a kind of local administration. 1896 *Jewish Chron.* 17 Jan. 8/1 The Zemstvo of Odessa. 1958 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 10 Jan. 14/3 The history of the pressure for political freedom was closely interwoven with the development of the organs of local self-government, the *Zemstva*. 1967 *Listener* 2 Nov. 559/1 At any time in those final decades of the last century even a central assembly of representatives of the *zemstvos* would have constituted an important safety-valve. 1980 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 14 Nov. 1306/3 Linked closely to the work of the *zemstva*, new local units of administration, medicine became the first true profession in Russia. 1983 P. USTINOV *My Russia* xi. 122 Members of local *zemstvos* might soon enjoy a voice in the internal government of the country.

Hence 'zemstvoist, a member of zemstvo.

1905 *Times* 8 May 5/3 The Zemstvoists have split over the question of universal suffrage.

Zen (zɛn). Also 8 Sen. [a. Jap. *zen*, ad. Chin. *chán* quietude, ad. Skr. *dhyāna* meditation.] A school of Mahayana Buddhism that emphasizes meditation and personal awareness and became influential in Japanese life from the 13th century after being introduced from China.

1727 J. G. SCHEUCHZER tr. *Kämpfer's Hist. Jap.* I. II. v. 199 In the 1850 streets of this city, there were 1050 [families] of the *Ten Dai's* Religion, . . . 11 016 of *Sen*. 1834 [see SHINGON]. 1911 *Encycl. Relig. & Ethics* IV. 704/1 Meditation came to have more weight than the other two factors, until in China and Japan there arose a sect, the *Zen* . . . in which it is the most essential part of the entire teaching. 1921 *Eastern Buddhist* (Japan) I. 13 *Zen* in its essence is the art of seeing into the nature of one's own being. 1960 *Spectator* 15 July 101 *What* do they know about *Zen*—the programme-writer, the film-makers, the beatniks, the lot? 1967 D. & E. T. RIESMAN *Conversations in Japan* 123 Another boy, who . . . was their top judo athlete, said that he got his values from *Zen*. 1976 A. DAVIS *Television* 122 By the late sixties, religious programmes were beginning to reflect the interest of young people in Eastern religions such as Buddhism, Hinduism, *Zen* and the cult of the Maharishi. 1977 J. F. FIXX *Compl. Bk. Running* ii. 14 Our society puts considerable emphasis on personal development and the maximizing of one's potential. *Zen*, transcendental meditation, assertiveness training . . . and similar movements are all directed at making us fulfilled human beings.

2. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, esp. in *Zen Buddhism, Buddhist*.

1881 *Trans. Asiatic Soc. Japan* IX. 179 (*heading*) *Zen* sect. 1894, etc. [see SOTO]. 1902 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIX. 681/1 The *Zen* doctrines of Buddhism, which contributed so much to the development of the heroic and the sentimental, . . . were therefore favourable to the stability of military feudalism. 1921 *Eastern Buddhist* (Japan) I. 13 (*heading*) *Zen* Buddhism as purifier and liberator of life. *Ibid.* 26 Whether an enlightened *Zen* master or an ignoramus of the first degree, neither can escape the so-called laws of nature. 1923 *Ibid.* II. 341 It remained for the Chinese *Zen* Buddhists to invent their own methods according to their own needs and insight. 1947 *Archit. Rev.* CII. 32/2 Taoism and nature mysticism, transmitted through the vehicle of *Zen* Buddhism. 1950 A. HUXLEY *Themes & Variations* 98 As the *Zen* Masters like paradoxically to put it, 'Buddha never taught the saving truth.' 1960 KOESTLER *Lotus & Robot* II. x. 234 The monk's rudeness . . . was in the right tradition of *Zen*-teasing. 1965 W. SWAAN *Jap. Lantern* v. 58 The canons of Japanese aesthetic appreciations were formulated to a very large degree under the influence of *Zen* Buddhist philosophy. 1971 'G. BLACK' *Time for Pirates* iii. 45 Mr. Akamoro . . . contrived . . . to leak the thought . . . that it is time for Japanese initiative to take over with *Zen* Buddhism for the moral trimmings. 1979 B. MALAMUD *Dubin's Lives* viii. 280 She said she had been talking to a *Zen* Master in South San Francisco . . . 'I'm thinking of entering a *Zen* commune . . . I expect to become a *Zen* disciple.'

zenana (zə'nɑ:nə). Also 8-9 zananah, zenanah, zunana, (8) jenana, 9 zennanah, zanana. [Hind. *zenāna*, *zanāna*, *a.* Pers. *zanāna*, f. *zan* woman (related to Gr. *γυνή* woman: see QUEAN *sb.*).]

1. In India and Persia, that part of a dwelling-house in which the women of a family are secluded; an East Indian harem.

1761 COOTE in Vansittart *Narr. Trans. Bengal* (1766) I. 245, I asked him where the Nabob was? Who replied, he was asleep in his Zenana. 1776 *Trial of Nundocomar* 66/2 Sujah Dowlah . . . plundered all the goods . . . of Cossim Ally; he even infringed the rights of his Zenana. 1790 in Yule & Burnell *Anglo-Ind. Gloss.* s.v., The Jenanas or Women's apartments of principal Natives. 1889 G. HOOPER *Wellington* II. 45 He was disgusted with an order to search the zenana for treasure.

2. (Also *zenana-cloth*.) A light thin fabric used for women's dresses.

1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 6 Dec. 2/2 A bolero of pale blue zenana. 1903 *Daily Chron.* 17 Jan. 8/4 Such combinations of wool and silk as *Zenana* cloth.

3. *attrib.*, esp. of missionary work carried on by Christian women among native women in India.

1810 T. WILLIAMSON *E. Ind. Vade Mecum* I. 244 The *zenanah* apparel is given to him [sc. the doby] to wash, and to iron. 1872 E. BRADDON *Life in India* iii. 57 The influence of zenana society told upon his character. 1882 CUPPLES *Mem. Mrs. Valentine* ix. 146 For the purpose of assisting her to pursue Zenana-work when she returned to India. 1886 YULE & BURNELL *Anglo-Ind. Gloss.* s.v., The growth of the admirable Zenana missions has of late years made this word more familiar in England.

Zend (zənd). Also **Zand**, **Zund**. [a. F. *zend* (used as the name of the language by Anquetil du Perron, 1771): see **ZEND-AVESTA**.]

1. = **ZEND-AVESTA**.

In T. Hyde *Hist. Relig. Vet. Pers.*, 1700, it is usually designated *liber Zend*, but it is also referred to as *Zendavestā*, *Vestāzend*, *Avesta*, *Vesta*, *Avestak*, etc.

1715 PRIDEAUX O. & N. *Test.* i. (1718) 176 This book is called *Zendavesta*, and by contraction *Zend*, the vulgar pronounce it *Zundavestow*, and *Zund*. *Ibid.*, In their language they call a righteous action *Zend-aver*, i.e. what the book *Zend* allows. 1789 SIR W. JONES *Disc. Persians* Wks. 1799 I. 79 Besides the *Pārsi* and *Pahlavi*, a very ancient and abstruse tongue was known to the priests and philosophers, called the language of the *Zend*. 1790 FRANKLIN *Obs. Tour Bengal to Persia* 29 Their sacred book, the *Zend*, which is said to have been written by their celebrated prophet Zerdusht.

2. The language of the Avesta (see **ZEND-AVESTA**): also called *Old Bactrian*, forming with Old Persian the Iranian group of the Indo-European languages. Also *attrib.*

In early use, *attrib.* use of sense 1, = pertaining to or used in the *Zend-Avesta*.

1700 T. HYDE *Hist. Relig. Vet. Pers.* xxvi. 338 *Literæ*... quæ... apud incolas vulgò audiunt *Literæ Zundicæ*, seu *Character Zundicus*, vel si Anglicè loquimur, the *Zund Character*. 1788 *Asiatick Researches* I. 45 note, The *Zend Letters*. 1789 SIR W. JONES *Disc. Persians* Wks. 1799 I. 83 M. Anquetil... has exhibited in his work, entitled *Zendavestā*, two vocabularies in *Zend* and *Pahlavi*. 1815 ELPHINSTONE *Acc. Caubul* (1842) I. 251 Some of this very class [of words] belong to the *Zend* and *Pehlevee*. 1842 (title) The *Vandād Sādi* of the *Pārsis* in the *Zand Language*. 1878 G. SMITH *Life John Wilson* vii. 213 He was the first English scholar to master the original *Zand* texts.

Hence *Zendic a.* [cf. mod.L. *Zundicus*, T. Hyde, 1700], belonging to *Zend*; so *Zendish a.* (also as *sb.* = *Zend*); *Zendist*, one versed in *Zend*.

1813 Q. *Rev.* Oct. 266 In ancient Media, *Zendish* was the language of the northern, and *Pehlvi*, or *Parthian*, of the southern parts. 1842 W. C. TAYLOR *Anc. Hist.* App. II. (ed. 3) 581 The *Zendic* and *Pehlvi* dialects of Persia. 1893 *Nation* (N.Y.) 22 June 457/2 That persons professing to be specialists in *Zend* should be able to read the *Pahlavi* language... in MS.—an accomplishment which... very few professed *Zendists* possess.

† **zendalet**. *Obs.* Also **zendaletto**. [It. *zendaletto*, dim. of *zendale* **SENDAL**.]

1. In Venice, a large square woollen shawl, usually black, folded triangularly and worn either over the head (in the 18th cent. upon a wire frame) or over the shoulders.

1789 MRS. PIOZZI *Journ. France* I. 184 A Venetian lady's mode of appearance in her *zendalet*, without which nobody stirs out of their house in a morning. It consists of a full black silk petticoat... flounced with gauze... A skeleton wire upon the head... over it a large piece of black mode or persian, so as to shade the face like a curtain. [1910 tr. P. Monnier's *Venice 18th Cent.* iv. 57 Over their heads they fasten that *zendaletto* of white lace, which inwreathes the waist, the shoulders, and the smile.]

2. A long piece of cloth falling from the back of the hood of a gondola into the water; hence, the gondola itself.

1794 MRS. RADCLIFFE *Myst. Udolpho* xvii. The count led Emily to his *zendaletto*. a 1814 *Gondolier* II. i. in *New Brit. Theatre* III. 183 When moonlight cheers the scenes we love, ... And *zendalettos* seem to move Upon a sea of liquid light.

Zend-Avesta (zəndə'vestə). Also 7-8 **Zundavastaw**. [Alteration (cf. Pers. *zand(a)-wastā*, *zandastā*) of *Avestā-va-Zend* (*Pehlevi Avistāk va Zend*), i.e. the Avesta with the interpretation. The word *Zend* was taken as an *attrib.* element denoting the language of the books, and was hence used independently as its name: see **ZEND**.] The sacred writings of the Parsees, usually attributed to Zoroaster.

1630 LORD *Relig. Persees* Proeme, A booke writ in the Persian Character, containing their Scripture, and in their owne language, called their *Zyndavastaw*. 1760-2 GOLDSM. *Cit. W.* xv, 'Kabul', says the *Zendavesta*, 'was born on the rushy banks of the river Mawra'. 1854 [see **VATICAN** I b]. 1878 N. *Amer. Rev.* CXXVII. 323 The *Zendavesta* of the Persians.

Hence *Zend-Ave'staic a.*

1816 G. S. FABER *Orig. Pagan Idol.* I. p. xxxii, The materials of the *Zend-Avesta* history seem to be genuine.

zende, *obs.* form of **SEND** v. 1

Zendik ('zendik). [a. Arab. *zindīq* atheist, fire-worshipper, disbeliever in a future state, etc., Pers. *zandīq* fire-worshipper; cf. late Avestic *zandā*—a kind of heretic (Bartholomae).] A name given in the East to a disbeliever in

revealed religion or a practiser of heretical magic. Also *Zend'ician*. Hence *'Zendicism*, the belief of a *zendik*; *'Zendikite* (*Zin-*), a believer in *zendicism*.

1697 PRIDEAUX *Mahomet* (1708) 13 *Zendicism*, an Error among the Arabs near of kin to the Sadducism of the Jews, ... denying Providence, the Resurrection, and a Future State. 1842 *BRANDE Dict. Sci.*, etc. s.v., The sect of *Zendiks* opposed the progress of Mohammedanism in Arabia with great obstinacy. 1845 *Encycl. Metrop.* XI. 558/2 The *Zendicians*... Their belief seems to have been a medley formed from the doctrines of the Magians and Paulicians. 1877 *Smith & Wace's Dict. Chr. Biog.* I. 477/2 The Persians exulted in crimes and *Zendicism* abounded. *Ibid.* 478/1 Hareth, son of Amr, ... who is said by Hamza to have been a *Zendikite*, was of *Kendite* race.

zendo ('zəndəu). [a. Jap. *zendō*, f. *zen* **ZEN** + *dō* hall.] A place for *Zen* Buddhist meditation and study.

1959 *Encounter* XII. 1. 20 The *Zendo* or meditation-hall. 1968 *Time* 18 Oct. 62/3 Students must report to the *zendo* (meditation hall) by 5. 1974 *Country Life* 14 Feb. 326/1, I was taken to the *Zendo*, the special hall for contemplation, by a young monk. 1981 'E. V. CUNNINGHAM' *Case of Sliding Pool* vii. 77, I thought I would drive down to the *Zendo*... I feel a need to talk to the *Roshi*.

zeneji, **zeng**, *obs.* ff. **SIN** v., **SINGE** v.

Zener ('zi:nə(r)). Also **zener**.

1. The name of K. E. *Zener* (1903-61), U.S. psychologist, used *attrib.* to designate a pack of 25 cards that he designed for use in parapsychology experiments, containing five each of five different cards, each showing a simple symbol.

1934 J. B. RHINE *Extra-Sensory Perception* iv. 50 We have once since substituted a 'heart' for the 'waves' figure but later returned to the latter. I shall hereinafter call these cards the 'Zener cards'. 1940 *Proc. Soc. Psychical Res.* XLVI. 153 The guesser at Zener cards all unwittingly was guessing correctly... a card which was one or two places earlier or later in the sequence. 1949 *Mind* LVIII. 390 Extra-sensory perception (ESP) is investigated by means of the card-guessing technique. Zener cards are generally used. 1969 *Listener* 6 Mar. 301/2 Rhine devised a new kind of test for ESP. He made packs of 25 cards called Zenercards, with geometrical designs: cross, square, circle, waves and star. 1978 D. BLOODWORTH *Crosstalk* xiv. 110 There are a dozen ways of beating the odds with the Zener packs they use for card-guessing tests.

2. *Electronics*. The name of C. M. *Zener* (b. 1905), U.S. physicist. a. Used *attrib.* to denote various concepts, etc., connected with or arising from his researches, as *Zener breakdown* = *Zener effect* below; *Zener diode*, a junction diode in which the forward characteristic is like that of an ordinary diode but there is a sudden large increase in reverse current at a certain constant reverse voltage owing to the Zener effect or the avalanche effect, making it useful as a voltage regulator and in switching circuits; *Zener effect*, the increase in reverse current of a Zener diode when attributed to the tunnelling of current-carriers through the transition region rather than to the avalanche effect; *Zener voltage*, the voltage at which Zener breakdown occurs; the reverse breakdown voltage of a Zener diode.

1956 L. P. HUNTER *Handbk. Semiconductor Electronics* III. 17 The two mechanisms which have been observed for semiconductor contacts in the absence of thermal breakdown are Zener breakdown... and avalanche breakdown. 1962 [see *Zener effect* below]. 1981 NASHELSKY & BOYLESTAD *Devices: Discrete & Integrated* ii. 29 As V_z [sc. the Zener voltage] decreases to very low levels, such as -5V, another mechanism, called Zener breakdown, will contribute to the sharp change in the characteristic. 1957 R. F. SHEA *Transistor Circuit Engineering* iii. 62 One of the simplest methods of obtaining such a [stable collector-voltage] supply is with the aid of a diode biased into breakdown in the reverse direction (so-called Zener diode). 1975 *Gramophone* Aug. 384/3 Stabilisation of the feedback input stage is achieved with a Zener diode. 1981 J. C. SPROTT *Introd. Mod. Electronics* vi. 136 In the forward direction a Zener diode behaves like any other diode. 1957 W. C. DUNLAP *Introd. Semiconductors* viii. 168 Internal field emission, often called Zener effect because of the early theoretical contributions made to the subject by C. Zener, ... is analogous to field emission from metals. 1962 SIMPSON & RICHARDS *Physical Princ. Junction Transistors* iv. 69 Lower voltage units usually have negative temperature coefficients indicating the existence of Zener effect. In such devices the transition region is apparently too thin to allow appreciable carrier multiplication to take place and Zener breakdown occurs before the critical avalanche condition has been reached. 1952 *Proc. IRE* XL. 1349/2 The Zener voltage for this junction was 21.5 volts. 1969 J. J. SPARKES *Transistor Switching* i. 13 At Zener voltages of about 6V the slope resistance of the diode characteristic is minimal. 1980 C. F. G. DELANEY *Electronics for Physicist* ix. 215 The Zener voltage... is a function of the resistivity (that is, of the doping) of the materials from which the diode is constructed.

b. *ellipt.* A Zener diode.

1965 *Wireless World* July 14 (Advt.), Ask for details of zeners from 400 mW to 50W, and 3.6V to 200V. 1976 *Pract. Electronics* Oct. 791/1 To provide any given voltage, it is only necessary to select a Zener having a voltage exceeding the required voltage by 0.7 volts.

Zengakuren (zəŋə'ku:rən). [Jap., acronym f. *Zen Nihon Gakusei Jichikai Sorengo*, = All-

Japan Federation of Student Self-Government Associations (formed in 1948).] In Japan, an extreme left-wing student movement, noted for its violent interventions in national politics. Also *attrib.* or as *adj.*

1952 E. S. COLBERT *Left Wing in Japanese Politics* v. 299 The Communist-dominated student organization, the *Zengakuren*. *Ibid.* 300 On May 23, [1950] at a *Zengakuren* convention. 1960 *Times* 21 Sept. 16/6 He is rather naturally unloved by the members of *Zengakuren*, the radical student movement. 1967 D. & E. T. RIESMAN *Conversations in Japan* 121 The large *Zengakuren* ideas and practical accomplishments. 1970 *Guardian* 1 Apr. 11/1 The students, armed with quarter-staves, ... with the colours and battle-cry of the *Zengakuren* sect to which they belonged. 1975 *New Yorker* 18 Aug. 50/2 Five student groups, including two main ones called *Kakumaruha* (the Revolutionary Marxists) and *Chukakuha* (the Middle Core), both composed of self-styled Trotskyites, are offshoots of the original *Zengakuren*, a radical association that led demonstrations against the security treaty and instigated campus riots that succeeded in closing down a number of universities over a period of months in 1969.

zenick ('zi:nik). Also **zenik**. [a. F. *zénik* (Sonnerat *Voy. aux Indes Orientales*, 1806).] The African suricate, *Suricata suricatta*. = **MEERKAT** 2 b, **SURICATE**.

1801 J. BARROW *Acct. Trav. S. Afr.* I. iii. 231 Others of this genus [sc. *Viverra*] are the muskiliatte cat, or *zenik*, ... the tigrina [etc.]. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 764. 1875 *BUCKLAND Log-Bk.* 96.

zenilla, *obs.* var. **ZANELLA**.

zenith ('zenɪθ, 'zi:nɪθ). Forms: 4-5 *cinit*, *cenith*, -yth, *senith*, -yth, 5 *cenit*, *senit*, 6 *zenit*, -ithe, -yth, *ceneth*, 6- *zenith*. [a. OF. *cenit(h)* (F. *zénith*) or med.L. *cenit* (cf. It. *zenit*, Sp. *cenit*, Pg. *zenith*, G. *zenith* etc.), obscurely ad. Arab. *samt*, in *samt ar-rās* lit. way or path over the head (*samt* way, *al the*, *rās* head); cf. **AZIMUTH** (*al the*, *sumūt* pl. of *samt*).]

1. The point of the sky directly overhead; the highest point of the celestial sphere as viewed from any particular place; the upper pole of the horizon (opp. to **NADIR**).

† Sometimes, as in quot. 1555, 1638, used like a predicative adj. = in the zenith, 'vertical': cf. also quot. 1604.

1387 *TREvisa Higden* (Rolls) II. 177 *Cinit*, þat is þe point þat is in þe welken euen æzenst hem in þe oþer side of þe erpe. c 1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* I. §18 The centre þat standith a-Middes the narwest cercle is cleped the senyth... this forseide cenyth is ymagened to ben the verrey point ouer the crowne of thyn heued, & also this senyth is the verrey pool of the orisonte in euery region. *Ibid.* II. §22 As fer is the heued of aries... from owre orisonte as is the cenyth fro the pole artik. c 1495 *The Epitaffe*, etc. in *Skelton's Wks.* (1843) II. 393 Creatures more maddyr In erthe none wandreth atwene senit and naddyr. 1549 *Compl. Scot.* vi. 50 The point that is rycht abufe our hede is callit zenyth... ande as oft as ve change fra place to place, as oft ve sal hef ane vthir zenyth. 1555 *EDEN Decades* (Arb.) 251 The sonne beinge there Zenith (that is the poynt of heauen directly ouer theyr heades) they felte greater heate... then when they were vnder the Equinoctiall line. 1604 E. G. [RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* II. ix. 101 When I passed, which was when the sun was there for Zenith, being entered into Aries. 1638 SIR T. HERBERT *Trav.* (ed. 2) 6 Shadowlesse, when Sol is Zenith. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* I. 745 From Morn To Noon he fell, from Noon to dewy Eve...; and with the setting Sun Dropt from the Zenith like a falling Star. 1733 BERKELEY *Th. Vision* §60 As an object gradually ascends from the horizon towards the zenith. 1849 H. W. HERBERT *Frank Forester* I. 144 There was not a speck of cloud from east to west, from zenith to horizon. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xi. 72 The stars... near the zenith shine with a steady light. 1885-94 R. BRIDGES *Eros & Psyche* Mar. xxiv, She saw the evening light In shifting colour to the zenith tower.

† b. The point of the horizon at which a heavenly body rises; the point of intersection of an azimuth-circle with the horizon; hence by extension = **AZIMUTH** 2. *Obs.*

c 1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* I. §19 Thise Azimutz seruen... for to knowe the cenyth of the sonne & of euery sterre. *Ibid.* II. §33 To knowe the senyth of the Altitude of the sonne, &c... Any tyme of the day tak the altitude of the sonne, & by the Azymut in which he stondith, Maistou sen in which partie of the firmament he is.

† c. *transf.* Course towards the zenith. *Obs.* 1667 MILTON *P.L.* x. 329 Satan... Betwixt the Centaure and the Scorpion steering His Zenith, while the Sun in Aries rose.

d. *magnetic zenith*: the point of the sky directly above the magnetic pole of the earth.

1885 S. TROMHOLT *Aur. Bor.* x. I. 221 The Auroral Corona... is produced by the streamers shooting from every part of the sky towards a common point, viz., the magnetic zenith.

2. *loosely*. The expanse of sky overhead, the upper region of the sky; the highest or culminating point of a heavenly body.

[1592 SIR J. DAVIES *Nosce Teipsum* L 2 b, If we beleuee, that men do liue vnder the Zenith of both frozen Poles.] 1631 MASSINGER *Believe as you List* I. ii. Two-and-twenty yeares of miserie... that long time spent to Under distant zeniths. 1704 SWIFT *Batt. Bks.* T. Tub, etc. 271 The conscious Moon, now in her Zenith. 1791 E. DARWIN *Bot. Gard.* I. 118 As Night's pale Queen... climbs the zenith. 1827-35 N. P. WILLIS *Starlight* II Above To the far-stretching zenith. 1864 TENNYSON *En. Arden* 587 Huge trees that branch'd And blossom'd in the zenith. 1898 E. V. LUCAS *Willow & Leather* 106 Jack would... brandish the bat,

And away the balls would go, . . . sometimes bang into the zenith.

3. *fig.* Highest point or state, culmination, climax, acme.

1610 SHAKS. *Temp.* i. ii. 181, I finde my Zenith doth depend vpon A most auspicious starre, whose influence If now I court not, . . . my fortunes Will euer after droope. 1627 *DONNE Serm., Acts vii. 60* (1661) 214 Gods suffering for man was the Nadir the lowest point of Gods humiliation, mans suffering for God is the Zenith, the highest point of mans exaltation. 1643 SIR T. BROWNE *Relig. Med.* i. §17 The hand of God, whereby all Estates arise to their Zenith and vertical points. 1728 MORGAN *Algiers* i. iv. 149 In S. Augustine's Time, the Christian affairs seem to have been in their Zenith of Prosperity. 1820 BYRON *Mar. Fal.* iv. i, I left the festival before It reach'd its zenith. 1837 MACAULAY *Ess., Bacon* (1851) I. 377 Bacon had reached the zenith of his fortunes. 1884 F. HARRISON *Choice of Bks.* (1886) 251 Built . . . in the zenith of the pointed style, [Westminster Abbey] is one of the most exquisite examples of its class.

† *b. Med.* (See quot.) *Obs.*

1753 *Chambers' Cycl. Suppl.*, *Zenith*, . . . a word used by some medical writers to express the first appearance of the menses in young women.

4. *attrib.* and *Comb. a. attrib.* (quasi-*adj.*: cf. quots. 1555, 1638 in 1): Belonging to or situated in the zenith, directly overhead, as *zenith sky*, *star*, *sun*; also *fig.* (cf. 3) highest, supreme, culminating, as *zenith happiness*, *hour*. *b. Astron.*, etc. In names of instruments used for determining the *zenith distance* (see c) of a heavenly body, as *zenith sector*, *telescope*, *tube* (see quots.). *c.* Other special combs.: *zenith-borne a.*, borne to or towards the zenith; *zenith distance*, the angular distance of a heavenly body from the zenith (the complement of its *altitude* or angular distance from the horizon); † *zenith line*, used for a vertical line or arc extending from the zenith to the horizon (= *AZIMUTH* 1); so † *zenith point*, the point at which such a line meets the horizon (cf. sense 1 b); *zenith sweep* (*SWEEP sb.* 7), a series of observations of a region of the sky passing through the zenith.

1886 M. F. TUPPER *My Life as an Author* 365 Liberty! . . . Rise to thy height upon *zenith-borne wings! 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.*, **Zenith Distance*, is the Complement of the Sun, or Stars Meridian Altitude, or what the Meridian Altitude wants of 90 Degrees. 1854 TOMLINSON *Arago's Astron.* 41 Zenith-distances and azimuths form . . . a system of angles, by means of which it is easy to fix the positions of the stars with extreme precision. 1869 DUNKIN *Midn. Sky* 156 The zenith-distance of Gamma Draconis is daily observed at Greenwich. 1875 W. CORY *Lett. & Jnls.* (1897) 405 Scott's way of *zenith happiness. 1853 WHITTIER *Rantoul* iii, Dead! in . . . That triumph of life's *zenith hour! 1596 BLAGRAVE *Astrol. Uran.* i. Bjb, The 90. lower ends of the 90. *zenith lines, which before I called the 90. *zenith points. 1776 MASKELYNE *Astron. Observ.* i. Pref. p. ix, The *zenith sector, . . . constructed by that excellent artist Mr. Graham, . . . was fixed up at Wanstead in the year 1727, for the use of that great astronomer Dr. Bradley; who, from his first year's observations with it, discovered the apparent motion of the fixed stars, which he called the aberration of light. 1802 A. ELLICOTT *Jrnl.* (1803) 185 The pack-horse-men likewise brought on my small zenith sector. 1829 W. PEARSON *Pract. Astron.* II. 531 The zenith sector. . . can be used only on the meridian; and its measures are referred to the zenith point of the place of observation. Its principal uses are to determine the latitude of the place of observation by a star of known zenith distance; to measure the zenith distance of a star. . . and to ascertain the zenith point. . . The first zenith sector was . . . constructed by the ingenious Dr. Hooke [c 1700], with an intention of determining whether or not a fixed star has a measurable annual parallax. 1862 F. T. PALGRAVE *Hymn, 'Lord God of morning and of night'* iii, The sun may stand in *zenith skies. 1817 SHELLEY *Rev. Islam* vii. xx, When *zenith-stars were trembling on the wave. 1903 HARDY *Dynasts* i. v. v, This Trafalgar Will. . . Pitt exalt As zenith-star of England's firmament. 1826 CARRINGTON *Dartmoor* 3 Deep-hued flowers that light Their tints at *zenith suns. 1789 HERSHEL in *Phil. Trans.* LXXX. 10 My twenty-feet speculum was so much tarnished by *zenith sweeps, in which it had been . . . exposed to falling dews. 1834 POND *ibid.* CXXIV. 209 The erection of a *zenith telescope of twenty-five feet focal length. . . for the purpose of measuring the zenith distance of γ Draconis. 1836 G. B. AIRY *Autobiog.* (1896) 123 The North Terrace was the official passage to the North-west Dome, where there was a miserable Equatorial, and to the 25-foot *Zenith Tube. 1847 *Ibid.* 184 On Nov. 13th I circulated an Address, proposing to discontinue the use of the Zenith Tube, because it had been found . . . that the Zenith Tube was not more accurate than the Mural Circle. 1869 DUNKIN *Midn. Sky* 15 The reflex zenith-tube.

Hence † *zenithfer*, a part of an astrolabe used for measuring zenith distances; *'zenithward(s) adv.*, towards the zenith.

1596 BLAGRAVE *Astrol. Uran.* i. B 1, This Astrolabe hath three generall partes, that is to say, the Celestiall, the *Zenither with his Cursor, and the Almicantifer with his Pointer. *Ibid.* B 1 b, As farre as the Zenither will giue leaue. 1868 CARLYLE *Jrnl.* 8 June in J. A. Froude *T. Carlyle* (1884) II. xxxi. 371 It was as a ray of everlasting light and insight this, that had shot itself **zenithward* from the soul of a man. 1871 A. STEWART *Nether Lochaber* xxii. (1883) 128 The meridian sun. . . is . . . climbing zenithwards. 1881 TRAILL in *Nature* 10 Feb. 351/1 The streamers . . . still ascending zenithward.

'*zenithal*, *a.* [f. ZENITH + -AL¹.]

Pertaining or relating to, situated or occurring at, the zenith; also *fig.* supreme, 'culminating'. *zenithal projection*, any of a class of map

projections in which a portion of the globe is projected on to a plane tangential to a point on that portion, usu. made the centre of the map.

1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* i. v. 39 The deep zenithal blue. 1869 DUNKIN *Midn. Sky* 57 Beta and Gamma Draconis . . . were the two zenithal stars in June. 1882 T. CRAIG *Treat. on Projections* v. 89 The name zenithal projections is . . . derived from the fact that they can always be considered as the representation of the hemisphere situated above the horizon of the given point, and having the zenith for pole. 1891 HARDY *Tess* xxv, A zenithal paradise, a nadiral hell. 1903 *Blackw. Mag.* Nov. 651/1 They have known the zenithal instant of piscatorial life. 1910, etc. [see PROJECTION *sb.* 7 b]. 1961 L. F. BROSNAHAN *Sounds of Language* iii. 74 A continuous distribution of the O blood-group gene frequencies in Europe was . . . redrawn on a map of zenithal equal-area projection. 1974 *Encycl. Brit. Micropædia* IV. 587/3 *Gnomic map*, type of zenithal projection in which the Earth's grid is projected by radials from a point at the centre of the sphere into a tangent plane so that all great circles are represented by straight lines.

Zenker ('zɛŋkə(r)). 1. The name of F. A. Zenker (1825–98), German pathologist, used in the possessive and occas. *attrib.* to designate (a) a hyaline degeneration of striated muscle occurring chiefly in cases of acute infectious disease, esp. typhoid and cholera (described by Zenker in 1864); (b) a pathological diverticulum at the junction of the pharynx and œsophagus (described by Zenker & von Ziemssen in *Cycl. Practice of Med.* (1878) VIII. 1–214).

1890 BILLINGS *Med. Dict.* II. 789/2 *Zenker's degeneration*, waxy degeneration as seen in muscles after acute attacks of fever. 1898 W. S. LAZARUS-BARLOW *Man. Gen. Path.* xii. 521 In Zenker's degeneration the muscular fibres themselves look dull and semi-opaque, and microscopically are found to have lost their striation. 1910 LIPPINCOTT'S *New Med. Dict.* 1103/2 Zenker's pulsion diverticulum. 1932 *Jrnl. Amer. Med. Assoc.* CXVIII. 965/2 The symptoms of a Zenker pulsion diverticulum depend on the size of the pouch. 1970 PASSMORE & ROBSON *Compan. Med. Stud.* II. xxiv. 25/1 In typhoid fever, patches of necrosis develop in striated muscles. Here, the fibres lose all structure and become glassy and eosinophilic (Zenker's hyaline degeneration). 1975 *Year Bk. Ear, Nose & Throat* 279 A variety of neuro-muscular disorders, with or without Zenker's diverticulum.

2. *Histology*. [The name of Konrad Zenker, German histologist, who described the fluid in 1894 (*Arch. f. path. Anat. und Physiol.* CXXXV. 147).] *Zenker's fluid*: a fixative (see quot. 1902).

1902 E. A. SCHÄFER *Essentials of Histol.* (ed. 6) 397 General methods of preserving and hardening tissues and organs.—The fluids which are more commonly used are . . . Müller's fluid (bichromate of potash 2½ parts, sulphate of soda 1 part, water 100 parts); Zenker's fluid (which is Müller's fluid containing 5 parts per cent. of mercuric chloride, to which 5 c.c. of acetic acid is added at the time of use); [etc.]. 1941 [see FIXER 2]. 1976 *Path. Ann.* XI. 130 Tumors that have been fixed in Zenker's fluid almost invariably show affinity for chrome salts, so that brown granules are easily discerned.

zeno- (zi:nəʊ), *f.* Gr. Ζηνο-, *comb.* form of Ζεύς, used as a word-forming element with the sense 'the planet Jupiter', as *zeno'centric a.*, measured or expressed with reference to the centre of Jupiter; *zeno'graphic a.*, measured or expressed with reference to the surface of Jupiter.

1968 *Dissertation Abstr.* B. XXIX. 858/1 For each year the study has reconfirmed that there are two zeno-centric intervals of Io's position in which we observe this influence. 1978 *Nature* 14 Sept. 111/1 The $\pm 3.3^\circ$ variation of the zeno-centric declination of the Earth is sufficient to lead to a 15° variation of the . . . sub-Io longitude of the emission. 1971 *Icarus* XIV. 343 A bright spot at zenographic latitude $23^\circ.8$ N displayed the shortest rotation period ever recorded on Jupiter. 1979 *Nature* 5 July 42/2 Values . . . synthesised on a 10° by 10° zenographic θ (co-latitude) and λ (longitude) grid.

zenober, *obs. var.* of SINOPER.

1535 COVERDALE *Jer.* xxii. 14 The sylinges and geastes maketh he off Cedre, and paynteth them with Zenober.

† *zeno'cratically, adv.* *Obs. nonce-wd.* [f. Gr. Ζηνο-, combining form of Ζεύς + κράτος power, rule + -ICALLY; cf. *autocratically*.] With the power or authority of Zeus or Jove.

1588 J. HARVEY *Disc. Probl.* 35 They will seeme . . . to haue borrowed euen from the mouth of mightie Ioue, or the oracle of wise Apollo himselfe, or Zenocratically, and Pythagorically to haue remained. . . *Instar Sybillæ cuiusdam vaticinantis, furentisque*.

zenography (zi:'nɒgrəfi). *rare*—0. [f. Gr. Ζηνο- (see prec.) + -GRAPHY: cf. AREOGRAPHY.] The description or study of the planet Jupiter. So **zenographical** (zi:nəʊ'græfikəl) *a.*, pertaining to zenography.

1889 A. S. WILLIAMS (*title*) *Zenographical Fragments*, Part I, The Motions and Changes of the Markings of Jupiter in . . . 1886–87.

Zenonian (zi:'nəʊniən), *a.* and *sb.* [f. L. *Zēno*, *Zēnōn*, Gr. Ζήνων + -IAN.] *a. adj.* (a) Of or pertaining to Zeno of Elea, a philosopher of the 5th century B.C., famed for his paradoxical arguments about motion. (b) Of or pertaining to Zeno of Citium (c 300 B.C.), the founder of the Stoic school of philosophy. *b. sb.* A follower of

Zeno, esp. of Zeno of Citium; a Stoic. So **Zenonic** (zi:'nɒnik) *a.* = *a.*; **Zenonism** (zi:'nɒnɪz(ə)m), the philosophy of Zeno, Stoicism.

1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 769/1 They [sc. Stoics] were at first called Zenonians from the name of their master. 1850 GROTE *Greece* II. lxviii. VIII. 565 Generalising dialectics and Zenonian negation. 1866 CHARNOCK *Verba Nom.* 343 Zenonism. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 779/1 Gorgias's sceptical development of the Zenonian logic. *Ibid.* 779/2 The Zenonian difficulty continued to demand and to receive Plato's best attention. 1888 *Academy* 21 Apr. 278/1 Heraclitus's system was the polar antithesis to this Zenonic position.

zenophobia: see XENOPHOBIA.

zenvy, *dial. form* of SENVY *Obs.*, mustard.

1519 HORMAN *Vulg.* 172 b, Zenvy sede ones sowed wyll neuer almoste oute of the grounde. 1825 JENNINGS *Obs. Dial. W. Eng.*, *Zenvy*, wild mustard.

† *'zenzic, a.* and *sb. Math. Obs.* [ad. mod. L. *zenzicus, zens-*, *f. zensus*, Germanized *f. census* (1202 in Leonardo of Pisa), transl. Arab. *māl* possessions, property, as used spec. in mathematics. Cf. It. *censo* (13th c.).]

a. adj. Of a number or root: = SQUARE *a.* 2, 2 b. *b. sb.* A square number: = SQUARE *sb.* 8.

So various compounds denoting higher powers or roots, as 'zenzicube (the square of the cube, the sixth power), *zenzi'cubic a.*, *zenzi'cubicube*, *zenzi'zenzic a.* and *sb.*, *zenzi'zenzicube*, -*cubic a.*, *zenzi'zenzi'zenzic, etc.* (Cf. 13th c. It. *censo di censo, censo di cubi, censo cubo, etc.*)

1557 RECORDE *Whetst.* Hijb, Squares of Squares. . . of some men. . . are named *Zenzizenzikes*, as square numbers are called *Zenzikes*. *Ibid.* Hijb, 81 whiche is a *Zenzizenzike* number. *Ibid.* Hijb, If I name it [sc. 64] to bee a Square of Cubes, or *zenzicube*: then is. . . 2. his roote. *Ibid.* Hivb, *Zenzizenzizenzikes*, that is squares of squared squares. *Ibid.* Kj, *Zenzicubike*, or Squared Cube. *Ibid.* Qiv, When Squares and Cubes be compounde together: as *Zenzicubes, Zenzizenzicubes, Zenzicubicubes. . .* 3. is the *Zenzizenzicubike* roote of .531441. 1571 DIGES *Pantom.* Ddj b, Extracte the Zenzike rootes of these numbers. 1674 JEAKE *Arith.* (1696) 177 A Zenzicube, or a Squared Cube Number made by multiplying the Sursolide into the Root.

zenzyber, -yr, *obs. forms* of GINGER.

c 1485 Digby *Myst.* III. 343 Zenzybyr and synamom.

zeolite (zi:'ləɪt). *Min.* Also 8–9 *erron.* -yte. [ad. Sw., G., etc. *zeolit*, *f.* Gr. ζεῖν to boil, seethe + λίθος stone, -LITE; so named from its boiling and swelling under the blowpipe: see quot. 1777.] Generic name for a large and varied group of minerals, consisting of hydrous silicates in which the bases are alumina and the alkalies and alkaline earths; generally characterized by swelling up and fusing to a glass or enamel before the blowpipe, and often by gelatinizing with acids; commonly found in the cavities of igneous rocks.

Examples are ANALCITE, BREWSTERITE, CHABAZITE, HARMOTOME, NATROLITE, PHILLIPSITE, STILBITE, THOMSONITE, etc.

1777 *Dict. Chem.* III. X 8, *Zeolites*. This name is given by Mr. Cronstedt to a stone described by him in the Transactions of the Academy of Sciences at Stockholm for the year 1756, the peculiar properties of which have induced that mineralogist to consider it as forming a distinct order of earths, called *zeolites*. 1777 PRIESTLEY *Exper. Air* III. 39 The sparry zeolyte from the Ferro Isles. 1803 *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 510 This Zeolite, found in the rocks of Edinburgh Castle. 1804 *Ibid.* Jan. 311 Zeolytes [see CHABAZITE]. 1842 T. GRAHAM *Elem. Chem.* 145 Chabasie and other minerals of the zeolite family. 1880 HAUGHTON *Phys. Geog.* v. 214 note, Tabular trap, which . . . contains abundant zeolites.

Hence *zeolitic* (-'tɪk), † -*ical adjs.*, pertaining to, consisting of, or of the nature of zeolite; *zeolitically adv.*, as in a zeolite; *zeolitiform* (-'tɪfɔ:m) *a.* 'having the form of zeolite' (Webster, 1828); *zeolitization*, transformation into a zeolite; so *zeolitize v.* (in mod. Dicts.).

1828–32 WEBSTER, **Zeolitic*. 1848 DAUBENY *Volcanoes* (ed. 2) 18 An intimate mixture of augite and magnetic iron with a mineral of the zeolitic family. 1857 G. BIRD'S *Urin. Deposits* (ed. 5) 231 Four-sided prisms, which exhibited, like the zeolitic crystals, beautiful coloured bands, when examined with polarized light. 1807 HEADRICK *Arran* 86 **Zeolitical* concretions. 1951 C. PALACHE et al. *Dana's Syst. Min.* (ed. 7) II. 993 The water content can vary **zeolitically* over a range from 8H₂O to 5H₂O. 1969 H. T. EVANS tr. G. HÄGG'S *Gen. & Inorg. Chem.* xxi. 510 Water in a solid phase may . . . be zeolitically bound. . . so that the proportion of water can vary without breaking down the crystal structure. 1980 *Nuclear Technol.* LI. 143/2 This study shows that similar enrichment of ²³⁴U occurs in zeolitically altered volcanic ash and tuff. 1891 *Cent. Dict.*, **Zeolitization*, the process by which a mineral is converted into a zeolite by alteration—for example, nepheline into thomsonite.

Zep (zɛp), *sb.* and *v.* Also Zepp and with lower-case initial. Colloq. abbrev. of ZEPPELIN *sb.*, *v.* Also *attrib.*

1915 JESSIE POPE *Simple Rhymes, Mariana*, The night those Zeps bombarded town. 1915 A. HUXLEY *Let.* Oct. (1969) 79 The dear old Boches and their Zepps, which always get back bomb for bomb. 1915 W. OWEN *Let.* 12 June (1967) 338 The spot where a Zep. Bomb fell in a cross-roads. 1916 *Morning Post* 15 Mar. 1 (Adv't.), Anti-Zep blinds. 1916 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 27 Jan. 40/3 A hostile raiding 'Zepp.' 1919 C. ORR *Glorious Thing* ii. 20 We're exceedingly preoccupied with the war—Zepp. raids and things. 1920 W.

J. LOCKE *House of Baltazar* vii. 83 'So you've been Zepped, I hear,' she said. 1931 *Flight* 28 Aug. 855/1 The most interesting feature of our trip was a personally escorted tour of the entire Zep whilst crossing over France. a 1935 T. E. LAWRENCE *Mini* (1955) II. xxii. 159 There were Zepps in a cloud (sausages and mashed) and Adam and Eve on a raft (Hoxtonian for fried eggs on toast). 1974 *Listener* 7 Feb. 177/3 This aeroplane... flew towards the zepp, and he started firing.

zep, obs. form of **SAP sb.**¹

Zephiran ('zɛfɪrən). *Pharm.* A proprietary name for an antiseptic preparation of benzalkonium chloride.

1935 *Trade Marks Jnl.* 17 July 887/1 *Zephiran*... Chemical substances prepared for use in medicine and pharmacy. Bayer Products Limited, London, E.C.2; merchants and manufacturers. 1936 *Official Gaz.* (U.S. Patent Office) 28 Jan. 687/2 I. G. Farbenindustrie Aktiengesellschaft, Frankfurt-on-the-Main... *Zephiran* for antiseptic and disinfectant. 1951 A. GROLLMAN *Pharmacol. & Therapeutics* xxv. 503 Benzalkonium chloride (*Zephiran* ®) is of comparatively low toxicity. 1974 M. C. GERALD *Pharmacology* xxvi. 448 Iodine tincture..., *Zephiran*, and hexachlorophene are representative examples of local anti-infective agents.

Zéphirine Drouhin ('zɛfiri:n 'dru:æ). A thornless shrub or climbing Bourbon rose of the variety of this name, which bears fragrant pink flowers and was first introduced in France in 1868.

1931 H. H. THOMAS *Rose Bk.* viii. 7z The old thornless Rose (*Zéphirine Drouhin*) makes an excellent bush, and its lovely, fragrant blooms of soft rose-colour... are freely produced for weeks together. 1940 A. CHRISTIE *Sad Cypress* II. xii. 193 Do you know the name of this rose? It is *Zephyrine Drouhin* [sic]. 1983 *Woman's Jnl.* Jan. 85/z *Zéphirine Drouhin* is a fragrant climber with cerise-pink semi-double flowers and is thornless.

zephyr ('zɛfə(r)), *sb.* Forms: *a.* (in Latin form) 1 *zefferus*, 4 *zeferus*, 4-7 *zephirus*, 5 *zeforus*, 5-6 *zepherus*, 6- *zephyrus*; *β.* 7 *zephir(e, -yre, -zephyr*. [a. or ad. L. *zephyrus*, a. Gr. *ζέφυρος*: cf. F. *zéphire*, It. *zefiro*, *zefiro*, Sp. *cefro*, Pg. *zephyro*, G. *zephyr*, etc.]

1. The west wind, esp. as personified, or the god of the west wind.

a. a 1000 *Riddles* xl[i]. 68 Nis *zefferus* se swiftha wind þæt swa fromlice mæg feran æghwar. 13... E.E. *Allit. P.* C. 470 & sayez vnte *Zeferus* þat he syfle warme. c 1386 CHAUCER *Prol.* 5 *Zephirus*... with his swete breeth. c 1520 SKELTON *Garl. Laurel* 677 There blew in that gardynge a soft pipling colde, Enbrethyng of *Zepherus* with his pleasant wynde. 1594 *Selimus* ad fin., *Zephyrus* sweete smelling blast. 1616 R. C. *Times' Whistle* (1871) 116 Art thou perhaps that purest breathing air, Sweet *Zepherus*? 1667 MILTON *P.L.* v. 16 With voice Milde, as when *Zephyrus* on Flora breathes. 1898 MEREDITH *Lett.* (1912) II. 498 Like a gossamer puffed by summer *Zephyrus*.

β. 1598 CHAPMAN *Iliad* vii. [xi.] 120 When the hollow flood of ayre in *Zephyres* cheeks doth swel. 1605 DRAYTON *Idea* liii, Sweet mirrh-breathing *Zephire*. 1632 MILTON *L'Allegro* 19 *Zephir* with Aurora playing, As he met her once a Maying. 1750 JOHNSON *Rambler* No. 80 ¶3 Regions in which no wind is heard but the gentle *Zephyr*. 1823 B. W. PROCTER *Flood of Thess.* 1. 89 Words more soft than *Zephyr*.

2. A soft mild gentle wind or breeze.

1611 SHAKS. *Cymb.* iv. ii. 17z They are as gentle As *Zepheires* blowing below the Violet, Not wagging his sweet head. 1683 TRYON *Way to Health* 47 The pure thin sweet Vapours of the Air (which are the Refreshing *Zephiri* of Nature). 1718 PRIOR *Henry & Emma* 389 While gentle *Zephyrs* play in prosp'rous Gales. 1764 GOLDSM. *Trav.* 173 No *zephyr* fondly sues the mountain's breast. 1807 W. IRVING *Salmag.* (1824) 187 The flowers, the *zephyrs*, and the warblers of spring, returning after their tedious absence. 1883 MISS M. BETHAM-EDWARDS *Disarmed* x, The *zephyrs* breathed softly from the south.

3. *a.* Applied to various very light articles of clothing; e.g. a light shawl; a light dust-coat; *esp.* a light shirt worn by athletes.

1774 *Westm. Mag.* II. 259 Negligees of pale lutestring, ... with tassels and *zephyrs* in fancy, or of muslin. 1830 *Lady's Mag.* 31 May 284/2 Some wear little square shawls of soft crape, called *zephyrs*. 1879 F. W. ROBINSON *Coward Cons.* 1. ii, 'The gentleman's light overcoat had once done duty as a 'zephyr' at the races. 1887 SHEARMAN *Athletics* 68 When the athlete has got a pair of the best shoes, a *zephyr*, and a pair of silk or merino drawers, ... he has got all the stock-in-trade required to win half-a-dozen championships. 1891 R. F. MURRAY *Scarlet Gown* 6 He sat upon the sofa, where my hat, My wanton *Zephyr*, rested on its rim.

b. [after Ger.] A fine light cotton cloth of the gingham type used for women's dresses, having the colours woven into the fabric.

1849, etc. [see 6 b]. 1863 B. TAYLOR *Han. Thurston* I. 128 [To] measure a yard of calico... or choose a shade of *zephyr*. 1866 in *Abridgm. Specif. Patents, Spinning* II. (1868) 490 Equal in appearance to the finest German *zephyr*. 1905 WELLS *Kipps* i. vi. §1 I'm sorting up *zephyrs* to-morrow, Sir.

c. *Cookery.* (See quot.)

1894 *Garrett's Encycl. Cookery, Zephyrs*. These might almost be described under the heading of *Soufflés*.

4. A butterfly of the genus *Zephyrus*.

5. [after Fr.] A soldier of the Algerian light infantry.

1854 *Househ. Words* VIII. 145/1 *Zephyrs* is a nickname given in Algeria to a corps which is recruited from... the French army. 1911 *Blackw. Mag.* May 595/z Service with the 'Zephyrs', the malefactors of the French army.

6. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as (sense 2) *zephyr-bough, -breath, -sigh, -whispering; zephyr-fanned, -haunted, -kissed* adjs.; *zephyr-flower* = ZEPHYRANTH (Miller *Plant-n.* 1884).

1818 KEATS *Endym.* II. 318 Within my breast there lives a choking flame—O let me cool't the *zephyr-boughs among! 1854 BREWSTER *More Worlds* II. 17 The *zephyr breath among the distant foliage. 1880 A. H. SWINTON *Insect Var.* 96 The *zephyr-fanned summits of the oak wood. ? 1793 COLERIDGE *Lines to a beautiful Spring* 5 Ere from thy *zephyr-haunted brink I turn. c 1840 ELIZA COOK *Spring* v, The *zephyr-kissed grass. 1818 KEATS *Endym.* 1. 376 Where every *zephyr-sigh pouts, and endows Her lips with music for the welcoming. 1842 DICKENS *Amer. Notes* x, Nor was the atmosphere quite free from *zephyr whisperings of the thirty beds which had just been cleared away.

b. Applied to certain light yarns and fabrics (see quotes.); also = made of *zephyr* (sense 3 b).

1849 *Jnl. Design* Aug. 143 *Zephyr* Silk Barège... This is one of those light and elegant fabrics which have done so much to reduce the demand for the higher class of light printed goods. 1852 *Househ. Words* IV. 398/2 We have Paletôts... *Zephyr* wrappers... and a host of other garments. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Zephyr-cloth*, a kind of kerseymere made in Belgium; a waterproof fabric. *Ibid.*, *Zephyr-shawl*, a kind of thin light worsted and cotton embroidered shawl. 1864 WEBSTER, *Zephyr yarn*, or *worsted*, a fine kind of yarn or worsted, called also *Berlin wool*. 1882 CAULFIELD & SAWARD *Dict. Needlework, Zephyr Gingham* or *Prings*. These are pretty delicate textiles, resembling a cotton batiste. *Zephyr Merino Yarn*, the term employed by the wool staplers of Germany to signify what is usually called German or Berlin. *Zephyr Shirting*... a kind of gauze flannel, having a silk warp. 1883 *Truth* 31 May 768/2 Two sisters in blue *zephyr* gowns. 1888 MAUDE BRADSHAW *Ind. Outfits* 31 Two pairs of *zephyr* stays, ... besides a few pairs of ordinary stays.

Hence *zephy'rean, zephyrian, 'zephyrous, 'zephyry* adjs., of, pertaining to, or of the nature of a *zephyr*; full of or having *zephyrs*; 'zephyret, a gentle *zephyr*; 'zephyrine, the name of a light thin material or a garment made of this; also *attrib.*; 'zephyrless *a.*, destitute of *zephyrs*.

1837 *Blackw. Mag.* XLI. 146 The voice of Reason, like the *zephyrean breath of summer. 1848 tr. J. P. F. RICHTER's *Levana* III. iii. §54 To... send the *zephyrets of pleasure through artistic bellows and air-pumps, to the little flowers. 1734 *Poor Robin* Mar. A7, And from the West with a *Zephyrian Breath, Plants seeming dead he re-revives from Death. 1873 MRS. WHITNEY *Other Girls* III, A span new tea-coloured *zephyrine polonaise. *Ibid.*, Her *zephyrine*, with its silky shine. 1819 KEATS *Lines to Fanny* 37 Whose winds, all *zephyrless, hold scourging rods. 1847 *Tait's Mag.* XIV. 267 This soft *zephyrous breeze. 1791 LEARMONT *Poems* 188 The *Zephyry Summer breeze. 1880 A. H. SWINTON *Insect Var.* 169 In *zephyry* hay-fields.

zephyr ('zɛfə(r)), *v.* [f. the sb.] *intr.* To blow like a *zephyr*. Hence 'zephyring *ppl. a.*

1922 HARDY *Late Lyrics & Earlier* 111 An aura *zephyring* round, That care infected not. 1939 JOYCE *Finnegans Wake* 418 Since longsephyring sighs sought heartseast for their orience? 1973 J. JONES *Touch of Danger* xxiii. 131 A light little breeze *zephyred* in... from the open water.

zephyranth ('zɛfɪrənθ). [ad. mod.L. *Zephyranthes*, f. Gr. *ζέφυρος* ZEPHYR *sb.* + *άνθος* flower; with allusion to the waving flower-stalks.] A plant of the genus *Zephyranthes*.

1845 *Florist's Jnl.* (1846) VI. 248 In habit the one-flowered *Habranths* are the same as the *Zephyranths*.

Zepp: see ZEP.

Zeppelin ('zɛpəlɪn), *sb.* [The name of the German Count Ferdinand von *Zeppelin*.] In full *Zeppelin airship*: a dirigible airship; properly, one of a type constructed by Count *Zeppelin* of Germany in 1900.

Sometimes colloquially abbreviated ZEP(p). 1900 *Whitaker's Alm.* 665/z The *Zeppelin* Air-ship, now [1899] in construction on an island of the Boden See, is a cylindrical frame of aluminium in partitions, each holding a gas-bag. 1914 F. T. JANE in *Land & Water* 12 Sept. 15*/1 A *Zeppelin* has dropped bombs on Antwerp. *Ibid.* 19 Sept. 19*/1 Alarming rumours of a German *Zeppelin* invasion of England *viâ* Calais. *Ibid.* 26 Sept. 16*/2 It takes something like a year to build a *Zeppelin* shed.

Hence 'Zeppelin *v. trans.*, to drop bombs on from a *Zeppelin* (see also ZEP *v.*); 'Zeppelinite, one who advocates the use of *Zeppelins* as an engine of war, esp. against non-combatants; 'Zeppelinist, a member of the crew of a *Zeppelin*; Zeppeli'nistic *a.*, resembling a *Zeppelin* in shape; (both rare-1).

1916 WELLS *Mr. Britling* i. v. §12 They will *Zeppelin* the fleet and walk through our army. 1916 *Daily Express* 29 Mar. 4/7 The battle royal between the *Zeppelinites* and the anti-*Zeppelinites* [in Germany] continues. 1930 KIPLING *Limits & Renewals* (1932) 328 He called Saint Jukamus a militarist and an impostor—this defeatist of a *Zeppelinitic* belly! 1937 F. MORISON *War on Great Cities* iv. 127 The demons who drove and dealt death cared as little for us as the earlier *Zeppelinites* cared.

zeppole ('zɛpəleɪ). *U.S.* Pl. *zeppoli*. [It.] A kind of doughnut.

1976 *Monitor* (McAllen, Texas) 14 Oct. c 2/6 The mingled smells of salsiccia, bracciola, pepper and calzone wafted from the stalls of food vendors around Father Zemo Square. 1979 *New Yorker* 8 Oct. 32/1 There aren't a lot of food vendors. We wanted to differentiate this from other street fairs. Also, I didn't want people dropping zeppoli all over our books.

zequi, zequin(e, obs. forms of SEQUIN.

1613 PURCHAS *Pilgrimage* VII. iv. (1614) 675 Euery *Zequi* being sixteene ryals, and with vs eight shillings. a 1701 [see SEQUIN *sb.* 1]. 1765 SMOLLETT *Trav.* xxx. (1766) II. 107 Two scudi make a zequine; and a French loui'dore is worth about two zequines.

zeraphim, var. SERAPHIN.

zerbaffe, zerbaft, variants of SHERBAFF *Obs.*

1686 tr. *Chardin's Coronat. Solyman* 81 Seventy Pieces of *Zer-baffè*, which is a very rich sort of Persian Tissue. 1687 A. LOVELL tr. *Thevenot's Trav.* II. 92 *Zerbaft*, which is the Bocart of Persia.

zerbet, obs. form of SHERBET.

zerda ('zɜ:də). *Zool.* [So called by the 'Moors' (*Kongliga Svenska Vetenskaps Handlingar*, 1777, XXXVIII. 265).] The fennec, *Canis zerda*.

1781 PENNANT *Hist. Quadrup.* I. 248.

zereba, zeriba: see ZARIBA.

zereglia, Zerez, obs. ff. SERAGLIO, XERES.

zeriff, var. SHERIFI.

zernich, obs. form of ZARNICH.

zero ('ziərəʊ), *sb.* Pl. zeroes (-əʊz). [ad. F. *zéro* (1515 in Hatz.-Darm.) or its source It. *zero*, for **zefro*, ad. Arab. *ṣifr* CIPHER *sb.*]

1. *a.* The arithmetical figure 0 which denotes 'nought': = CIPHER *sb.* 1.

1604 E. G[RIMSTONE] *D'Acosta's Hist. Indies* VI. ii. 435 They accompted their weekes by thirteene dayes, marking the dayes with a Zero or cipher. 1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey). *Zero*, a Word sometimes us'd especially among the French, for a Cipher or Nought (0). 1799 *Tilloch's Philos. Mag.* II. 413 Every letter... marked with a figure followed by a zero. 1854 *Orr's Circ. Sci., Math. Sci.* 16 Sometimes the divisor ends with zeros or noughts. 1857 *Househ. Words* 8 Aug. 143/z A five, with a zero to the right, and a three to the left. 1878 GURNEY *Crystallogr.* 15 If we have two zeros in the symbol. 1940 E. T. BELL *Devel. Math.* iii. 48 The introduction of zero as a symbol denoting the absence of units or of certain powers of ten... has been rated as one of the greatest practical inventions of all time. 1959 KOESTLER *Sleepwalkers* II. iii. 105 The Indian system of numerals based on the symbol zero. 1969 P. B. JORDAIN *Condensed Computer Encycl.* 572 Users can be confused and misled by leading zeros: they may hide the true size of the numeral and make it harder to grasp at a glance.

b. The compartment numbered 0 on a roulette table.

1859 LEVER *Dav. Dunn* xlv, I have been sketching out a little plan of a martingale for the roulette-table. There's only one zero at Homburg, and we can try it there as we go up. 1889 J.-S. BOND *Roulette* 29 If for 150 years Roulette has held its own against all comers, it is zero that has done it. 1911 tr. *Silberer's Roulette* 50 When the *zéro* comes out, the Bank takes the half of all stakes on the *chances simples* and the whole of all stakes upon the *chances multiples* (excepting, of course, stakes laid upon *zéro*, or on a combination including *zéro*, which alone it pays).

2. The point or line marked 0 on a graduated scale, from which the reckoning begins: esp. in a thermometer or other measuring instrument.

1795 *Phil. Trans.* LXXXV. 446 When the instrument is adjusted, and the index belonging to the micrometer-screw stands at the zero on its circle. 1826 *Art of Brewing* (Libr. Usef. Knowl. 1829) 19/2 If the saccharometer be made so as to sink to a certain point marked zero (a cypher) in distilled water. 1826 HENRY *Elem. Chem.* II. 639 The Centigrade thermometer places the zero at the freezing point. 1840 LARDNER *Geom.* 208 The French adopt as their zero of longitude the meridian which passes through the Observatory at Paris. 1890 W. F. STANLEY *Surv. & Lev. Instr.* 439 These rollers are fixed in such a manner as to turn in a circumference concentric with the zero of the alidade.

3. The temperature corresponding to the zero of a thermometer; that degree of heat (or cold) which is reckoned as 0°: i.e. in the Centigrade and Réaumur's scales, the freezing-point of water; in Fahrenheit's scale (traditionally the usual one in Eng. use), 32° below this, or 'thirty-two degrees of frost'.

absolute zero, the lowest temperature possible in the nature of things, at which the molecular motion which constitutes heat would cease; the zero of absolute temperature, reckoned as -273° C.

1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* I. 78 That the melting of ice produces cold, is proved by the custom which confectioners have of melting certain salts with ice to produce a cold below zero. 1809 *Med. Jnl.* XXI. 525 On the 23d of January, at sunrise, the thermometer was 10 deg., on the 26th 13 deg. below Zero; the coldest weather ever recorded in this town. 1823 BYRON *Juan* x. xxxiii, Thermometers sunk down to... zero. 1848 WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* 1. 303 Clement and Desormes place the absolute zero at -266.6° C. (-447.9° Fah.). 1905 *Times* 24 Jan. 4/6 In a terrible surf, with the glass near zero, they finally brought the remnant of the crew off safely.

4. *a.* In abstract sense: Nought or nothing reckoned as a number denoted by the figure 0, and constituting the starting-point of the series of natural numbers; the total absence of quantity considered as a quantity (in *Alg.* and *Higher Math.* as intermediate between positive and negative quantities); hence as expressing the amount of something = 'none at all'.

1823 BYRON *Juan* ix. ii, Though your years as man tend fast to zero. **1831** Phil. Trans. CXXI. 113 This sum is equal to zero in all positions of the line *d s* round the point (*x, y, z*). **1837** CARLYLE *Sart. Res.* ii. ix, Unless my Algebra deceive me, Unity itself divided by Zero will give Infinity. **1872** LOWELL *Dante* Pr. Wks. 1890 IV. 155 Dante's direct acquaintance with Plato may be reckoned at zero. **1899** *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VII. 248 In a certain patient, I have observed the intercranial tension to be slightly below zero while he was standing upright.

b. In the theory of functions, A value of a variable for which a function vanishes.

1893 A. R. FORSYTH *Functions* 62 The number of distinct zeros in the limited area is finite. **1902** E. T. WHITTAKER *Mod. Anal.* 94 A polynomial of degree *n* has *n* zeros.

c. Linguistics. In grammar, the absence of an overt mark, written or spoken, as against its presence in corresponding positions elsewhere (e.g. *cut* pa. t. as against *putted*).

1891 S. C. VASU *Ashtādhyāyī of Pāṇini* 56 In Sanskrit Grammar, this 'lopa' is considered as a substitute or ādeṣa, and as such this grammatical zero has all the rights and liabilities of the thing it replaces. **1914** BLOOMFIELD *Introd. Study Lang.* v. 154 If... we take into view... *amo* 'I love', *amāvīt* 'he loved', *amētur* 'he may be loved', it is possible to call them all related by affixation, the kernel being *am-*... In this instance the group does not contain a word that equals the kernel, or, as we might say, has 'affix zero'. **1933** — *Language* xiii. 209 In *sheep*: *sheep* the plural-suffix is replaced by zero. **1946** *Jrnl. Amer. Oriental Soc.* LXVI. 98/1 Zero counts as an ending if it has the same function as an overt ending in another paradigm. **1957** *Eng. Lang. Teaching* (British Council) Oct.-Dec. 11 If the pronoun is object, zero should be used if the subject is a personal pronoun. **1972** R. QUIRK et al. *Gram. Contemporary Eng.* xiii. 866 With time adjuncts, omission of the preposition is usual whether the pronoun is *that* or zero... That is the time (that) he arrives (at). **1979** *Amer. Speech* LIV. 31 Fifteen items take zero as the plural suffix.

5. fig. (from 4). Something that counts as or amounts to nothing; a worthless thing or person, one of no account; a 'cipher', 'nonentity'; a 'nothing' or 'nobody'.

1813 MARIA EDGEWORTH *Patronage* xxiv, The other gentlemen are zeros. **1858** CARLYLE *Fredk. Gt.* vi. ix. II. 126 Whatever the answer now be from England, I will have nothing to do with it... to me it shall be zero. **1861** *Macm. Mag.* III. 322 A man who will not work... is as complete a zero in the labour supply as if he were dead. **1870** H. MACMILLAN *True Vine* iii. (1872) 82 He is not surrounded with a vast zero, an all-absorbing negation.

6. fig. (from 2 and 3). **a.** The lowest point or degree; vanishing-point; nothingness, nullity. Also, an absence or lack of anything; nothing. (Sometimes coinciding with **b.**)

1820 BYRON *Juan* III. cx, Sure my invention must be down at zero. **1837** HOOD *Desert-Born* 64 Merely to look at such a sight my courage sinks to zero. **1867** 'MARK TWAIN' *Jumping Frog, Curing a Cold*, I got to coughing incessantly, and my voice fell below zero. **1883** *Proc. Inst. Mech. Engineers* Jan. 74 We have again a zero of current. **1894** DRUMMOND *Ascent of Man* 176 Man began the Ascent of Civilization at zero. **1915** J. HUNELER *Ivory, Apes & Peacocks* iii. 35 We should soon reach a zero if we only registered the absence of 'necessary' traits in our poet. **1967** *Boston Globe* 21 May (Confidential Chat) 8/3 True, there is a certain amount of 'freedom' in their use but the wearing of them adds up to absolutely zero! **1977** C. MCCARRY *Secret Lovers* xii. 159 'What about the airlines, the hotel, ear rentals.' 'Zero, I'd have used phony paper, wouldn't you?'

b. The initial point of a process or reckoning; the starting-point, the absolute beginning; *spec. Mil.*, the time or the day when an attack or operation is due to begin.

† *hour of zero, Mil. Obs.* = *zero hour* (see 7a).

1849 H. MILLER *Footpr. Creator* x. 193 The vegetation of the Silurian system, from its upper beds down till where we reach the zero of life. **1866** J. MARTINEAU *Ess.* i. 7 He... makes 1788 his zero of human history. **1916** P. GIBBS *Battles of Somme* xxviii. 248 When the hour of 'zero' came for the attack. **1916** *King's R. Rifle Corps Chron.* 1915 104 Zero, the time the gas and smoke was to start, was 5.50 a.m. **1918** E. A. MACKINTOSH *War, the Liberator* iv. 124 We've got to be at Battalion Headquarters at 5, although I don't suppose zero'll be for a good time after that. **1924** KIPLING *Debts & Credits* (1926) 314 The men's teeth chattering behind their masks between rum-issue and 'zero'. **1942** W. S. CHURCHILL in *Second World War* (1950) IV. i. xiii. 225 It should be assumed... that zero [for an attack on Madagascar] should be about April 30. **1954** W. FAULKNER *Fable* 10 At zero, nobody left the trench except the officers and a few N.C.O.'s. **1983** L. MACDONALD *Somme* v. 41 The main body was ordered to Thiepval... timing their arrival for Zero plus two hours... to stride on to consolidate the third objective.

7. attrib. **a.** in sense 2 (or 6b), as *zero-line*, *-mark*, *-plane*, *-point*; *zero-base*, *-based* *adjs.*, applied to a budget and to budgeting in which each item is costed anew, rather than in relation to its size or status in the previous budget; cf. *ZBB* s.v. *Z* 12a; *zero creep*, spontaneous slow displacement of the zero-point on a graduated scale; *zero-crossing*, the crossing of the horizontal axis by a function as it passes through zero and changes sign; a point where this occurs; also *attrib.* with reference to the analysis of complex wave-forms through the study of such points; *zero day Mil.*, the day on which an attack or operation is scheduled to begin; also *transf.*; *zero hour*, (*a*) *Mil.*, the hour at which an attack or operation is timed to begin; also *transf.*; (*b*) the hour when something is at its lowest ebb (*nonce-use*); (*c*) the hour from which the time of

day is measured; *zero magnet*, a magnet for adjusting the zero, e.g. of a galvanometer; *zero mark*, post, a mark or post from which distances along roads are measured; *zero-point* (POINT *sb.* 1 A. 22), *spec.* in *Physics*, used *attrib.* with reference to properties and phenomena in quantized systems at absolute zero; esp. *zero-point energy* (see quot. 1935).

1970 P. A. PYHRR in *Harvard Business Rev.* Nov.-Dec. 111 In this speech [Arthur F.] Burns identified the basic need for what we at Texas Instruments have come to call 'zero-base budgeting... Burns was advocating that government agencies start from ground zero, as it were, with each year's budget and present their requests for appropriations in such a fashion that all funds can be allocated on the basis of cost/benefit or some similar kind of evaluative analysis. **1977** *Wisconsin State Jrnl.* 1 Feb. 1 Zero-base budgeting was used by President Carter when he was governor of Georgia. He asked state agencies to justify their existence and the programs they administer from zero up, rather than merely bringing in requests for more programs, money and staff. **1976** *National Observer* (U.S.) 27 Mar. 3/3 To curb inflation, he advocates a 'zero based' Federal budget, in which each program must be justified every year. **1983** *Financial Times* 10 Nov. 9/1 Sir Douglas Wass... proposed two specific changes... The first would be to introduce 'zero-based budgeting' to make spending departments consider their action if the money available to them were drastically cut. **1906** *Athenaeum* 19 May 612/2 A very ingenious bifilar galvanometer... warranted free from the tendency to 'zero creep'. **1950** *Jrnl. Acoustical Soc. Amer.* XXII. 821/2 Vowel sounds were the first to become intelligible, presumably because for them the density of 'zero crossings in the input to the time quantizer is lower than it is for consonants. **1969** *New Scientist* 1 May 225/1 Equipment capable of analysing and recognizing speech... has achieved considerable success using the so-called zero crossing technique. **1982** *Electronics Today Internat.* Oct. 78/2 Switching the zero-crossing point of the mains cycle eliminates the need for RFI suppression. **1929** *Papers Mich. Acad. Sci., Arts & Lett.* X. 335/2 *Zero day, the day for an attack. **1938** *Brit. Jrnl. Psychol.* XXVIII. 325 On zero-day (the day preceding the beginning of training with the aid of the electric shock) each rat was immersed six times in the tank. **1947** L. HASTINGS *Dragons are Extra* iv. 80, I... fixed a zero-day three months ahead. **1978** R. V. JONES *Most Secret War* xxxix. 350, 20th October had been fixed as Zero Day for rocket attacks on London to begin. **1917** W. BEACH THOMAS *With British on Somme* II. v, The coming of the *zero hour of 3.30 in the morning. **1930** *Daily Express* 23 May 1/6 Psychologists have fixed 11 a.m. as the zero hour of the worker. **1939** WODEHOUSE *Uncle Fred in Springtime* xviii. 269 Your duties will not begin till after dinner. Zero hour is at nine-thirty sharp. **1939** JOYCE *Finnegans Wake* 403 Methought... I heard at zero hour as 'twere the peal of vixen's laughter among midnight's chimes. **1946** K. TENNANT *Lost Haven* (1947) vii. 98 Desperate over the nearness of zero hour for the punt service, he seized her by the hand and snatched her along. **1953** A. HUXLEY *Let.* 2 Feb. (1969) 664 Incidentally, zero hour for tax-payments is approaching. **1978** A. PRICE '44 *Vintage* viii. 86 He had... the... impression... that they had been travelling at breakneck speed... as though the Americans were determined to deliver them on time for some impossible pre-arranged zero hour. **1915** A. KEITH *Antig. Man* xxi. 341 The horizontal or *zero line, which crosses the hinder and lower angles of the right and left parietal bones. **1862** TYNDALL *Heat* i. (1863) 3 At the present moment the needle... points to the *zero mark on the graduated disc. **1908** *Times* 2 Jan. 8/6 The iron tablet marking the position of Tyburn-gate... is virtually a milestone, marking, as it does, a spot from which the miles on the two great roads that join at Marble Arch are measured. It is perhaps the sole survivor of the zero marks of London. **1880** HAUGHTON *Phys. Geog.* ii. 51 The *zero plane is the surface of the ellipsoid similar to the sea surface. **1810** T. THOMSON *Syst. Chem.* (ed. 4) I. 565 A thermometer, the *zero point of which indicates absolute cold. **1826** *Mem. Astron. Soc.* II. 469 Every star observed in the course of the sweep which can be identified with a star in any catalogue, and whose place is determined with certainty, is taken as a zero point. **1895** *Physical Rev.* II. 326 The balls were placed horizontally in their neutral position, and the reading of the zero-point of the scale taken. **1935** J. DOUGALL tr. *Born's Atomic Physics* 339 According to the classical theory, the state of least energy of an oscillator is that of zero energy. According to wave mechanics, however, the ground state has a finite energy $E = \frac{1}{2}h\nu$... This zero-point energy can be explained by Heisenberg's uncertainty principle. **1938** R. W. LAWSON tr. *Hevesy & Paneth's Man. Radioactivity* (ed. 2) xx. 194 If account be taken of zero-point energy, it is found that at low temperatures the lighter isotope must have the higher vapour pressure, whereas if there is no zero-point energy it will have the lesser vapour pressure. **1955** H. B. G. CASIMIR in W. Pauli *Niels Bohr* 130 The interaction with the zero point vibrations of the crystal lattice leads to an interaction between electrons. **1969** P. ANDERSON in Cockburn & Blackburn *Student Power* 263 When neither society nor man are anywhere put in question, culture stops. In England, it has gradually slowed towards zero point. **1970** G. K. WOODGATE *Elem. Atomic Struct.* iv. 67 A quantized radiation field has a zero-point energy equivalent to a mean-square electric field so that even in a vacuum there are fluctuations in this zero-point radiation field. *Ibid.*, Zero-point fluctuations. **1973** *Sci. Amer.* Jan. 91/1 In quantum physics the ground state is not a state of absolute rest or motionlessness but only a singular 'zero point' form of motion in which there are no quasiparticles. **1908** *Daily Chron.* 9 Jan. 3/3 The *zero posts which formerly stood on the present site of the Marble Arch, and at Hyde-park-corner.

b. in sense 3, as *zero night*, *temperature*, *weather*.

1854 HAWTHORNE *Engl. Note-bks.* (1870) I. 162 In the zero atmosphere of America. **1855** BROWNING *Old Pict. in Flor.* xxxiv, Feel truth at blood-heat and falsehood at zero rate. **1884** E. P. ROE in *Harper's Mag.* Jan. 288/z, I can keep my... hens warm even in zero weather. **1899** *Edin. Rev.* Apr. 323 Molecular rest—the theoretical condition of zero-temperature. **1902** *Encycl. Brit.* XXXIII. 299/2 The zero

reading and the steam reading would both generally correspond to a falling meniscus.

c. in sense 4: That is of the amount expressed by zero, i.e. none at all; in *Math.* also *transf.* applied to a value of a function corresponding to the value 0 of the variable or variables. Hence (*colloq.*) more widely as *adj.* in the sense 'no, not any'.

1879 CAYLEY *Math. Papers* X. 499 The letter *c* is used in connexion with the zero values $u = 0, v = 0 \dots \delta_0, \delta_1, \delta_2, \dots$ are even functions, and the corresponding zero-functions are denoted by c_0, c_1, c_2, \dots . When (*u, v*) are indefinitely small each of these functions is of course equal to its zero-value plus a quadric term in (*u, v*). **1882** MINCHIN *Unipl. Kinemat.* z5 The surface of still water is agitated by wave disturbances proceeding from three fixed points... find the points of zero disturbance. **1920** *Conquest* Apr. 257/2 Years of tedious work out of which there was always the chance of a zero result. **1938** *Brit. Jrnl. Psychol.* XXVIII. 329 If each such contact [sc. a mild electric shock received by rats] had been counted as an error, the number of cases of zero-error would have been considerably reduced. **1960** [see *social distance* s.v. *SOCIAL* a. 12]. **1962** *Times* 30 Oct. 4/6 Good design points include 'zero torque'. **1972** *Listener* 22 June 820/3 Why is the notion of zero economic growth so seductive for those who embrace environmental causes? **1976** *New Yorker* 24 May 28/1 Because he had zero toads, Howard had to content himself with the tub of thin green gruel. **1978** *Peace News* 6 Oct. z/1 We can't call together the group at zero notice. **1981** *TV Picture Life* Mar. 39/3 Jackie claims they now have 'zero communication'.

d. In sense 4c: denoting an absence of a feature (as an inflection, or a phonetic or syntactic element) that is present in other cases, and is often indicated by the following word; *zero-derivation Linguistics*, derivation in which the parent word is not altered; the use of a word with a different grammatical function or in a different (though related) sense; hence *zero-derivative a.* and *sb.*, -derived *a.*; *zero grade Philol.*, the absence or extreme reduction of an ablaut vowel from a syllable.

1905 *Amer. Jrnl. Philol.* XXVI. 179 The intrusion of the *é* grade on the zero grade... is... attested for the nasal verbs of the Indo-Iranian group. **1926** BLOOMFIELD in *Language* II. 160 *Alternation*... Absence of sound may be a phonetic or formal alternant... Such an alternant is a zero element. The postulation of zero elements is necessary for Sanskrit... for Primitive Indo-European... and probably economical for English (singular *book* with affix zero, as opposed to *book-s*, cf. *f-oo-t*; *f-ee-t*). **1933** — *Language* xiii. 215 Another extreme case is that of zero-alternants... in which a constituent is entirely lacking, as in the plurals *sheep, deer, moose, fish*. *Ibid.* xiv. 236 In English, the nouns *longlegs, bright-eyes, butterfingers* are exocentric, because they occur both as singulars, and, with a zero-affix, as plurals (*that longlegs, those longlegs*). *Ibid.* xv. 252 We have zero-anaphora for participles after forms of *be* and *have*, as in *You were running faster than I was*. **1942** *Language* XVIII. 170 In *He cut it* there is a zero morpheme meaning 'past time' after *cut*. **1947** *Ibid.* XXIII. 340 We may set up the tentative portmanteau... as an alternant of that constituent morpheme which it resembles phonemically, and set up a zero morph as an alternant of the other constituent morpheme. **1954** M. PEI *Dict. Linguistics* z38 *Zero ending*, in morphology, the bare stem of a word when used as such in discourse is said to have zero ending. **1959** *Brno Studies in English* I. 43 The indefinite article and its zero plural variant. **1960** H. MARCHAND *Categories & Types of Present-Day English Word-Formation* v. 295 (heading) Zero-derivation as a 'specifically English' process. *Ibid.* 297 There are quite a few vbs with French roots for which no French verbs are recorded and which may accordingly be treated as zero derivatives: *feeble vb.*, *master vb.* [etc.]. **1963** F. T. VISSER *Hist. Syntax Eng. Lang.* I. iv. 538 The Authorized Version of the Bible clearly fights shy of it: in those places where the Hebrew has a zero-clause, it uses a relative pronoun printed in italics (e.g. Ps. 7. 5, 'he is fallen into the ditch which he made'). **1964** *English Studies* XLV. (Suppl.) 63 *The be going + infinitive* group has had a partially independent development. Its opposite in this case is the *will + zero infinitive* group. **1965** *Language* XLI. 519 The unfortunate myth that there is some essential connection between aorist aspect and stems consisting of zero-grade root plus accented thematic vowel in Indo-European. **1971** *Canad. Jrnl. Linguistics* Fall 31 The use of zero morphs would have greatly facilitated the description... of several problems in Japanese. **1976** *Archivum Linguisticum* VII. 129 Zero-derivation... must be regarded an extremely productive word-formative process both in English and German, but also in other languages. *Ibid.* 132 The Direct Object-type based on (17b) has two different surface realizations in English: payment and also the zero-derived noun *pay*Ø. *Ibid.* 133, I believe... that *act* (noun) must be regarded as zero-derivative (*act*Ø) from the corresponding verb. **1979** *Dictionaries* I. 19 The last point concerns zero-derivatives or homographs. **1981** *Amer. Speech* LVI. 229 Other details on which there have been ethnic speculations are the zero genitive of nouns... and the zero subject of a relative clause.

e. Special Combs. (see also sense 7a, d): *zero-balance a.*, applied to a bank account operated with no continuing balance, funds being transferred into it when necessary to just the extent required to meet drawings made on it; *zero beat*, a condition existing between two equal frequencies, in which no beats are produced; *spec. in Radio*, applied *attrib.* to a method of reception in which the incoming signal is mixed with a receiver-generated oscillation of the same frequency as the carrier wave (see *homodyne* s.v. *HOMO*-); *zero-coupon a.*, applied to a bond carrying no interest but issued below its redemption price; *zero-energy a.* (Nucl. Physics), applied to a small reactor,

usu. built for research purposes, that develops so little power that no cooling and little shielding are required; zero *g* or *G* = *zero gravity* below; zero gravity, the state or condition in which there is no apparent force of gravity acting on a body, either because the force is locally weak, or because both the body and its surroundings are freely and equally accelerating under the force; = WEIGHTLESSNESS; zero grazing *vbl. sb.* (Agric.) = SOILING *vbl. sb.*⁴ 1; so zero-graze *v. trans.* = SOIL *v.*⁴ 1; zero-grazed *ppl. a.* = SOILED *ppl. a.*²; zero growth, an absence of increase (in population, production, etc.); zero-length *a.* (of a rocket launcher) no longer than the rocket it supports; zero norm, in a period of pay restraint, a recommended value of zero for the percentage increase in pay; zero option, a disarmament proposal that if the Soviet Union would withdraw its SS-20 missiles from Europe the U.S.A. would abandon its plan to deploy Pershing and cruise missiles there; zero population growth, an absence of any increase (or decrease) in a population over a period of time; abbrev. ZPG *s.v.* Z 12a; zero-power *a.* (Nucl. Physics) = zero-energy *adj.* above; zero rating, a rating of zero for the purposes of value added tax; also as *vbl. sb.*, the practice of assessing the VAT at zero for a particular item; so zero-rate *v. trans.*, to assess at a VAT rate of zero; zero-rated *a.*; zero sound: see SOUND *sb.*³ 1 d; zero-sum *a.*, in the theory of games, applied to a game in which the sum of the winnings of all the players is always zero; also *transf.*, denoting any situation in which advantage to one participant necessarily leads to disadvantage to one or more of the others; zero tillage (Agric.) = *sod planting s.v.* SOD *sb.*¹ 5b; zero-zero (Aeronaut.), (a) a situation in which both the (horizontal) visibility and the cloud ceiling are technically zero; (b) used *attrib.* to designate an ejection seat that works even at rest and at zero altitude.

1974 *U.S. Investor/Eastern Banker* 26 Aug. 42/2 With a Zero Balance account, a customer will pay a small charge for actual activity. 1983 *Fortune* 18 Apr. 76/2 A controlled disbursement account is a type that bankers call a 'zero balance account'—it contains no cash at the end of the day after all checks have been paid. There are no funds left idle. 1927 *Mod. Wireless* Mar. 334/2 The results of fading on an ordinary set using high-frequency amplification were large compared with these effects in zero-beat reception. 1957 *Practical Wireless XXXIII*. 370/1 Tune a signal to zero-beat at the high-wavelength end of the scale. 1982 *Amer. Jnl. Physics* L. 137/1 With this arrangement, one can explore the zero-beat situation (when frequencies are matched) as well as a variety of non-zero-beat situations. 1979 *Jnl. Finance XXXIV*. 189 The relationship between yield curves for zero coupon bonds and coupon-bearing bonds is important. 1983 *Chicago Sun-Times* 29 May 5 Following the birth of their first child, the couple purchased \$7,000 worth of zero coupon bonds in their daughter's name. 1951 *Canad. Chem. & Process Industries* Jan. 42 (heading) Zero Energy Experimental Pile. 1954 R. STEPHENSON *Introd. Nucl. Engin.* iii. 82 The smaller one is known as ZEEP (zero energy experimental pile) and is very similar... except that its power level is limited to a few watts. 1981 *Nucl. Energy XX*. 467 Fast neutron fluence measurements in the core of a zero-energy research reactor. 1952 A. C. CLARKE *Islands in Sky* v. 80 She was escorted by an elderly woman who seemed to be quite at home under zero 'g' and gave Linda a helpful push when she showed signs of being stuck. 1962 F. I. ORDWAY et al. *Basic Astronautics* xii. 477 Walking will be impossible in zero G. 1970 N. ARMSTRONG et al. *First on Moon* vi. 127 Deke Slayton ate the same food we did... In our zero-G situation we were always full. 1978 *Radio Times* 28 Jan. 59/2 *Horizon* explores all these aspects, with footage from Skylab and reminiscences from ex-inhabitants—the astronauts who call this world zero gravity—zero G for short. 1951 A. C. CLARKE *Sands of Mars* i. 5 I'll take you into the zero-gravity section and see how you manage there. 1968 *New Scientist* 12 Sept. 545/1 Astronauts of the future will probably have to build vehicles in space. This will entail joining different metals together under zero-gravity conditions. 1978 [see zero g above]. 1979 *United States 1980/81* (Penguin Travel Guides) 553 You'll be offered the opportunity to... experience weightlessness in a zero-gravity machine. 1984 *News* (Mexico City) 12 Mar. 22/4 Two of the first drugs that will be produced in zero gravity in mass quantities are beta cells... and interferon. 1956 *Britannica Bk. of Year* 316/1 Studies indicated that green-chopping, sometimes called zero-grazing or soiling (bringing the pasture to the livestock), resulted in forage yields about double those from grazing. 1958 *Agriculture LXXV*. 129 Zero grazed animals also put on greater weight during the summer months than those out grazing. *Ibid.* 131 The cattle have been zero grazed since May 1956. 1970 R. JEFFRIES *Dead Man's Bluff* vi. 56 Cows were zero-grazed and never stepped off concrete. 1978 *Exper. Husbandry* No. 33. 18 (heading) Beef from spring-born zero-grazed Friesians—comparison of bulls, steers and late castrates. 1984 'D. ARCHER' *Ambridge Yrs.* 19 There are other herds that never go out into pasture... They have their grass cut and carted to them, a method called 'zero-grazing'. 1973 *Science* 15 June 1143 The possibility of zero growth in the population of the United States. 1976 *Atlantic Monthly* Jan. 4 Can economies have simultaneously zero growth, rapid inflation, substantial unemployment, and a balance of payments deficit? 1976 N. Y. *Times Mag.* 4 July 73 Power to stop new construction is wielded through the... water board... a

majority of which is dedicated to zero growth. 1954 K. W. GATLAND *Developm. Guided Missile* (ed. 2) iii. 79 (caption) A later G.A.P.A. rocket being adjusted on a 'zero-length' launcher. 1966 *Economist* 17 Dec. 1214/1 There is no bogymen so dismal to those who run Britain's economy as the dreaded Zero Norm, the spectre who is supposed to rule over pay negotiations in the six-month period of 'severe restraint' that replaces the total pay freeze from New Year's Day. 1976 F. ZWIG *New Acquisitive Society* II. i. 80 A zero norm which equalizes everybody is easier to endure. 1981 *Washington Post* 5 July A20/1 By reviving controversy about a moratorium and the 'zero option', Brandt's trip appears to have realized some of the fears of those in the West German government and opposition party. 1983 *Financial Times* 10 Feb. 11/6 Mr. George Bush, the U.S. Vice-President, last night confirmed Washington's willingness to consider alternatives to its zero option proposals for banning intermediate range nuclear missiles from Europe. 1967 *Science* 10 Nov. 732/2 Most discussions of the population crisis lead logically to zero population growth as the ultimate goal. 1974 *Environmental Conservation* I. 15/1 It is my estimate that zero population growth will be reached... some time during the next decade. 1950 *Nucleonics* Sept. 104/2 Zero-power reactor, an experimental nuclear reactor operated at low neutron flux and at a power level so low that not only is no forced cooling required but also fission-product activity in the fuel is sufficiently low to allow the fuel to be handled after use without serious hazard. 1983 *Trans. Amer. Nucl. Soc. XLIV*. 528/2 Plate versus pin geometry continues to be an issue for Zero-Power Plutonium Reactor (ZPPR) analysis. 1972 *Daily Tel.* 22 Mar. 19/3 Zero-rating a transaction, rather than exempting it, is advantageous, because a trader is allowed credit for any VAT paid on his inputs. 1975 *Times* 11 Feb. 6/4 The first thing the Government could do would be to zero-rate the theatre for VAT. 1972 *Daily Tel.* 22 Mar. 17/4 A firm which supplies zero-rated goods or services gets complete relief from Value Added Tax both on its purchases and on its sales. 1976 *Horse & Hound* 3 Dec. 28 (Advt.). Rubber riding boots. Best quality, shiny leather-look finish. Price £3.45 (zero rated). 1971 *Nature* 3 Dec. 310/3 The recently reported claim of the salvage industries to be given zero rating for value-added tax... can also be extended. 1972 *Daily Tel.* 22 Mar. 17 Mr Barber explained the difference between exemption from VAT and 'zero rating'. 1984 *Bookseller* 3 Nov. 1857/1 Books are the essential tools of society and zero-rating is a very efficient way of encouraging their wide availability. 1944 VON NEUMANN & MORGENTHAU *Theory of Games* ii. 47 An important viewpoint in classifying games is this: Is the sum of all payments received by all players (at the end of the game) always zero; or is this not the case?... We shall call games of the first mentioned type zero-sum games. 1966 S. BEER *Decision & Control* x. 210 Perhaps the contestants in most important games nowadays (from labour disputes... to international diplomacy) too readily regard their games as zero-sum. 1967 L. B. ARCHER in Wills & Yearsley *Handbk. Management Technol.* vii. 121 Everybody can win. Manufacturing is not a zero-sum game. 1971 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 22 Oct. 1335/3 C. Wright Mills... used a zero-sum conception of power (i.e., the more one person had the less was available to others). 1980 *Ibid.* 26 Sept. 1072/2 In Europe [in the 1930s] class conflict was seen as a zero-sum game in which one group could only benefit at the expense of another. 1983 *Listener* 15 Dec. 31/1 We live in a zero-sum world, and it was inconceivable that the strains of setting up a completely new operation within an essentially fixed budget would not eventually begin to tell. 1971 *New Scientist* 25 Mar. 663/1 Even fairly low levels of pesticide destroyed these bacteria... The situation is made even worse by the growing popularity of 'zero-tillage'. 1979 *Austral. Financial Rev.* 16 Aug. Farmers using zero tillage leave straw and stubble on the field and this trash cover helps to eliminate erosion, conserve moisture... and reduce salinity problems. 1939 HIXSON & COLODNY *Word Ways* xvi. 141 Zero-zero (no visibility in any direction). 1947 *Shell Aviation News* No. 113. 7/2 There are few greater nervous strains than that experienced by a pilot of a transport in deciding to switch over from instruments and manually bring the ship in these low hundred feet when visibility is 'zero-zero'. 1961 *Aeroplane C.* 593/2 The most interesting item in the Martin-Baker Aircraft Co., Ltd., display... is the prototype rocket-assisted 'zero-zero' ejection seat for VTOL aircraft. 1967 *Times Rev. Industry* June 53/1 Category 3C represents visibility of less than 50 metres and includes 'zero-zero' conditions under which safety experts believe operations will not be possible for a very long time. 1977 P. WAY *Super-Celeste* 215 They had explained to him the controls of his zero-zero ejection seat.

zero ('ziəʊ), *v.* [f. the *sb.*] I. 1. *trans.* To set the sights of (a rifle) using targets at known distances.

1913 A. G. FULTON *Notes on Rifle Shooting* 30 (Advt.). A Zero Target, by means of which any novice may correctly zero his own rifle. 1918 H. MCBRIDE *Emma Gees* ix. 119 'Zeroing' a rifle is the process of testing it out on a range of known distances and setting the sights to suit one's individual peculiarities of aiming. 1958 L. VAN DER POST *Lost World Kalahari* vii. 142, I had not yet fired at a live target, though... I had zeroed it on a marked one. 1979 D. LOWDEN *Boudapesti* 3 xxxii. 176 The rifle had been zeroed... at an elevation of 200.

2. zero in. *a. trans.* To range guns or missiles on (a target). *Usu. pass.*

1944 *Newsweek* 8 Jan. 45 Don't you know the Jerries have that road zeroed in?—a phrase meaning the Germans had sighted their guns on the road and needed only to pull their triggers. 1945 *Finito! Po Valley Campaign* (15th Army Group) 41 Road junction 711 was not only mined, but zeroed in. 1965 H. KAHN *On Escalation* iv. 74 American bases overseas and American targets on the mainland are at all times zeroed in by Soviet missiles, and vice versa. 1971 *Scope* (S. Afr.) 19 Mar. 20/4 These roads were well covered by strongpoints, and zeroed-in by artillery.

b. trans. To aim (a weapon) at a target. *Const. on.*

1944 *Life* 14 Aug. 57/1 Germans who had retreated out of town 'zeroed in' mortar shells among troops and light tanks which tried to follow. 1950 N. Y. *Herald* 26 Aug. 2/1 Guns are 'zeroed in' on the junction. 1961 *Time* (Atlantic ed.) 17

Feb. 16 The Russians now have some 50 ICBMs ready to go, presumably zeroed in on U.S. targets.

c. intr. To focus attention on, to concentrate on. Also *transf.* (const. on), to get a closer view of a subject with a camera.

1959 *Guardian* 1 Dec. 15/4 So far... Governor Rockefeller has spoken out on space research, the housing of Puerto Ricans, crop subsidies... Now he is zeroing-in on the social drinkers. 1961 D. HUFF *Score* (1962) p. ix, This book... will narrow the subject down to the specific material you are likely to encounter in a variety of fields... Finally this book will zero-in on the increasingly important psychological tests. 1971 *Daily Tel.* 18 Oct. 14 An excited Taiwanese photographer zeroed in on the frail figure... with a long-range lens. 1972 *Screw* 12 June 21/2 The storyline, such as it is, zeros in on a classy whore-house in a banana republic. 1974 A. DILLARD *Pilgrim at Tinker Creek* viii. 143 Zero in on a well-watered shore. 1976 *Word* 1971 XXVII. 142 Wittgenstein zeros in upon linguistic constraints and logical conditions as they are made manifest in common, ordinary speech. 1983 *Listener* 14 Apr. 33/1 Its staff were slowly but surely zeroing in on the essential secret of successful breakfast broadcasting in this country. 1985 *Weekly World News* (U.S.) 1 Jan. 11/1 Security cameras were installed to stop vandalism, but they zeroed in on the athletes as they traipsed back and forth across a corridor from the shower to their locker room.

d. intr. To move towards, as if to a target. Also *fig. Const. on.*

1959 *Guardian* 26 Sept. 5/2 The squadrons of flies that zeroed in on his shiny pate. 1961 J. STEINBECK *Winter of our Discontent* xxi. 300 For twenty years that check has zeroed in on the first of every month. 1965 J. A. MICHENER *Source* (1966) 797 A series of bullets was beginning to zero-in on her, and in a few more steps she was sure to be hit. 1968 K. AMIS *I want it Now* i. 27 By the time he got back to the girl two other men had zeroed in on her. 1972 W. GARNER *Ditto, Brother Rat* iv. 30, I zeroed in on the downstairs bar. 1974 *Newsweek* 8 Apr. 51/1 In recent months, instrumented spacecraft have zeroed in on Venus, Mars and Jupiter to provide astronomers with a wealth of significant new data on those planets. 1978 G. A. SHEEHAN *Running & Being* xii. 174 A pacemaker... had zeroed in on the perfect pace.

II. 3. To fix the zero hour for (a military operation).

1926 *Blackw. Mag.* 774/1 Plan no. 7 will be put in operation to-night. It will be zeroed as from 23.00 hours.

4. = ZEROIZE *v.*

1949 W. F. GOODELL in J. F. Blackburn *Components Handbk.* x. 331 This zero convention makes it possible to 'zero' the dial of a synchro motor on one unit of a system.

1951 C. W. KENNEDY *Inspection & Gaging* ix. 293 An error would result if the air gage were zeroed against a 5-microinch surface and then used to compare the diameter of a bore with a 200-microinch surface roughness. 1969 [see ODOMETER]. 1974 *Physics Bull.* Mar. 108/2 An offset control allows the pen to be zeroed at any point on the chart. 1982 *Homes & Gardens* Jan. 17/3 One button... can zero the read-out at any point, allowing you to add ingredients without emptying the bowl.

III. 5. zero out. *trans.* To eliminate.

1967 *Word* XXIII. 316 We 'zero out' the voicing of /b/, which is not at all to deny that /b/ is voiced. 1972 W. LABOV *Language in Inner City* ii. 52 The deletion of *er* has reached such a high point that it is effectively zeroed out for many speakers. 1982 *Daily Tel.* 25 Jan. 12/7 Watch... for word of new budget cuts, including Federal programmes that are to be 'zeroed out'.

zeroable ('ziəʊəb(ə)l), *a.* [f. ZERO *sb.* + -ABLE.]

1. *Linguistics.* That may be omitted from a sentence without loss of meaning.

1965 *Language* XLI. 395 Metaphorical and idiomatic objects are not pronounable or zeroable. 1975 *Rev. des Lang. Vivantes* XLI. 239 The relation between 'They described Vesuvius' and its metalinguistic, zeroable, expansion into 'They described Vesuvius which is a volcano'.

2. Capable of being set to read zero.

1974 *Physics Bull.* Aug. 349/1 A zeroable offset counter system is provided which makes it easy for the operator to measure the angular error between the ground reference face and the crystallographic planes.

'zeroing, *vbl. sb.* [f. ZERO *v.* + -ING.]

1. *a.* The adjustment of an instrument to give a reading of zero.

1949 W. F. GOODELL in J. F. Blackburn *Components Handbk.* x. 331 It is to facilitate the zeroing of synchros that they are provided with standardized flanges that are accurately concentric with the shafts. 1954 *Electronic Engin.* XXVI. 118/1 The connexion of Dekatrons in cascade presents difficulties in that a carry makes necessary a cumbersome circuit for resetting or zeroing. 1975 *Chem. Engin.* 10 Nov. 223/1 A process-control computer... has been extended to control zeroing of selected instrument transmitters to improve the accuracy of the input.

b. The adjustment or setting of the sights of a gun.

1975 V. CANNING *Kingsford Mark* v. 83 On the rifle were telescopic sights... He would... fire a few rounds and check the zeroing. 1979 D. LOWDEN *Boudapesti* 3 xxxii. 176 The proper zeroing target had been used.

2. *Linguistics.* The deletion or omission of part of a linguistic form or structure.

1956 *Language* XXXII. 645 In all or nearly all dialects the first of two contiguous unstressed vowels may or may not be modified by shortening and/or raising or zeroing. 1965 *Ibid.* XLI. 393 In *I prefer that I should go first* there is no zeroing, but in the transform of this *I prefer for me to go first* → *I prefer to go first*. 1970 J. W. GAIR *Colloquial Sinhalese Clause Structures* iv. 54 It is convenient to treat such clauses as derived by context-governed deletion from full clauses like them in every respect save the presence of such constituents. The term 'zeroing' will be reserved for such discourse deletion.

zeroize ('ziərəʊaɪz), *v.* [f. ZERO *sb.* + -IZE.] *trans.* To adjust (an instrument or device) to give a zero reading, esp. in order to calibrate it; to assign a value of zero to. So 'zeroizing *vbl. sb.* 1908 *Brit. Patent* 23,895 3 Such clutches have already been employed for the simultaneous zeroizing of two indicating mechanisms. 1914 E. M. HORSBURGH *Mod. Instruments & Methods Calculation* 87 Mr. Trinks has invented a device which disengages the pawls from the number wheels when the latter are being zeroised. *Ibid.*, The zeroising crank is fixed on the right-hand side of the carriage, and the zeroising is effected by a half revolution of this crank. 1928 [see REGISTER *sb.*¹ 10 c.]. 1945 *Chambers's Jnl.* Dec. 671/1 It is said to enable operational errors to be rectified in a matter of moments, and the calculations to be continued without the waste of time involved by 'zeroising' the machine and restarting the calculations from the beginning. 1956 G. A. MONTGOMERIE *Digital Calculating Machines* ii. 28 The other major control is the zeroizing or clearance key or handle at the right-hand side of the keyboard. 1974 *Software World* V. v. 12 Integer Function JCV12C converts a positive integer L (L < 256) to a character in A1 format, zeroizing bits 24 to 1.

zeroth ('ziərəθ). *Math. and Sci.* Also (*rare*) zero'th. [f. ZERO *sb.* + -TH².] Coming next in a series before the one conventionally regarded as the first.

1896 *Electrician* 10 Jan. 350/2 In order to have the zeroth Bessel normal function, we need only let the conductance and permittance per unit length of cable both vary directly as the distance from $x = 0$. 1932 *Physical Rev.* XL. 56 The zeroth order wave functions which they use do indeed indicate that tetrahedral symmetry should give high stability. 1956 E. H. HUTTEN *Lang. Mod. Physics* iv. 143 From this the theorem is derived that one body in contact with another may be used as a thermometer, or that one body 'reads' the temperature of another. This theorem is sometimes referred to...as the zeroth law of thermodynamics. 1969 *Nature* 15 Nov. 642/1 The energy of transition between the zeroth and the first energy levels. 1976 J. H. CONWAY *On Numbers & Games* 0. 3 In this zeroth part, our topic is the notion of number. 1984 *QL User* Dec. 23 LET input. vector = VEC 5 declares a vector of 6 words (BCPL vectors start at their zero'th element) pointed to by INPUT.VECTOR.

zerovalent (ziərəʊ'veɪlənt). *Chem.* [f. ZERO *sb.* + -VALENT.] Having an actual or formal valency of zero. Hence zero'valency.

1940 *Chambers's Techn. Dict.* 919/2 Zero-valent. 1953 BARNETT & WILSON *Inorg. Chem.* xxii. 282 Since the electrons forming these covalencies are supplied solely by the molecules of carbon monoxide, the metal atom is said to have zero-valency. 1965 *Jnl. Chem. Soc.* 847 The analogous reaction...of the naphthalene complex in its zerovalent formulation...cannot be distinguished from the possible consecutive reactions. 1977 *Inorg. Chem.* XVI. 1313 (heading) Reactions of the zerovalent complex Ni[HP(C₆H₅)₂]₄. 1984 *Science* 22 June 1330/2 A greater proportion of nickel in the catalytically active zero-valent state.

||zerumbet (zi'rʌmbet). Also 7-8 -eth. [Pg., ad. Hind., Pers. *zerunbād*.] An East Indian plant of the genus *Curcuma*, or its aromatic root, used, like the allied CASSUMUNAR and ZEDOARY, as a tonic drug.

[1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 269 Of the Apotheearies drugges: And of what price they are in Calicut and Malabar. . . Zerumba, the farazuola Fanan ii. Zedoaria, the farazuola Fanan i.] 1662 J. DAVIES tr. *Mandelslo's Trav.* ii. 151 The Zerumbet...likewise grows in these parts, and is like to ginger. 1694 *Phil. Trans.* XVIII. 278 Kua or Zerumbeth of our Shops, a Species of Ginger. 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 33 The Zedoary is the long Part of the Plant, serving as a root to the Zerumbeth. 1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 668 The so-called Cassumunar roots, Zedoary roots, and Zerumbet roots of commerce.

zerybeh: see ZARIBA.

zerzeline, zertzelnie, var. SERGELIM *Obs.*

zest (zest), *sb.*¹ Also 8 zist. [a. F. *zeste*, earlier †*zest*, †*zec*, 'the thicke skin, or filme whereby the kernell of a wall-nut is diuided' (Cotgr.), also orange or lemon peel; of obscure origin. Cf. Walloon *zess*, Pg. *zeste*.

The sense given in Chambers *Cycl.* 1728, 'the woody, thick Skin, quartering the Kernel of a Walnut', is taken from French, and was not in English use.]

1. Orange or lemon peel used as a flavouring or for preserving; also, the oil squeezed from such peel to flavour liquor, etc. Also in Fr. form zeste (see etym.).

1674 BLOUNT *Glossogr.* (ed. 4), *Zest* (Fr.) the pill of an Orange, or such like, squeezed into a glass of wine, to give it a relish. 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 150 Citron Oil...is made...by the Zest or the rasping or grating of the Citron Peel. 1747 WESLEY *Prim. Physick* (1755) 70 Pour into the Palm of the Hand a little Brandy, with some Zist of Lemon. 1800 tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* II. 173 To prepare lemon-juice you must first carefully remove the zest and then the white part. 1903 GILCHRIST *Beggar's Manor* ii. As he...fastidiously deprived the oranges of their zest. 1958 L. DURRELL *Mountolive* viii. 162 How good the taste of Dubonnet with a *zeste de citron*. 1967 *Guardian* 3 Feb. 8/5 The thin outer skin of oranges, known as the zest. 1974 *Homes & Gardens* Jan. 68/2 Add candied peel, lemon zest, salt and nutmeg and mix. 1979 N. GORDIMER *Burger's Daughter* II. 269 He had fished the slice of lemon out of the bottom of his glass and was gobbling the skin with a mouth drawn by the zest. 1981 *Family Weekly* (U.S.) 12 July 10/3 Grated zest of 1 lemon. 1982 J. GRIGSON *Fruit Bk.* 256

Orange juice and a little zest can also be added to tomato and carrot soups.

2. *fig.* Something that imparts a relish, savour, or piquancy; a piquant quality which adds to the enjoyment or agreeableness of something.

1709 MRS. MANLEY *Secret Mem.* 107 Monsieur St. Amant lov'd nothing so tenderly as he did the Baron;...he was the Zest to all his Pleasures. 1728 VANBR. & CIB. *Prov. Husb.* III. i. A smart Repartee, with a Zest of Recrimination at the Head of it, makes the prettiest Sherbet. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* IX. 1211 The Life of life, the Zest of worldly bliss. 1819 KEATS *To Fanny* 6 That sweet minor zest Of love, your kiss. 1820 W. IRVING *Sketch Bk.* II. 134 There was a quaintness too, mingled with all this revelry, that gave it a peculiar zest. 1862 THACKERAY *Philip* xvi. The sense that, perhaps, it was imprudent to take a cab or drink a bottle of wine, added a zest to those enjoyments. 1873 HELPS *Anim. & Mast.* viii. 207 The difference of character should have given a zest to companionship, not destroyed it.

3. a. Keen relish or enjoyment displayed in speech or action; the pleasure of enjoying something; gusto. Usually const. *for*.

1791 BOSWELL *Johnson* 20 Sept. an. 1777, If I were to reside in London, the exquisite zest with which I relished it in occasional visits might go off. 1831 SIR J. SINCLAIR *Corr.* II. 358 After travelling...for two or three days alone, when he arrives at an inn, it gives him a greater zest for society. 1844 DICKENS *Mart. Chuz.* xix, She went to a lying-in or a laying-out with equal zest. 1854 THACKERAY *Newcomes* I, The zest of life was certainly keener. 1895 SALMOND *Chr. Doctr. Immort.* 1. vii. 119 The Greek people had an almost unrivalled zest for life.

b. *phr. to your zest*, to your taste or liking. *rare*.

1817 BYRON *Beppo* xii, That picture...Is loveliest to my mind of all the Show; It may perhaps be also to your zest.

4. *transf.* Something which furnishes a relish or provides a savoury addition to a meal; an appetizer; also, a relish, a piquant flavour.

1835 DICKENS *Sk. Box, Miss Evans & Eagle*, Mr. Wilkins had brought a pint of shrimps...to give a zest to the meal [*sc. tea*]. 1848 NEWMAN *Loss & Gain* 154, 'I like these rides into the country', said Vincent, as they began eating;... 'it is exquisite as a zest'. 1848 DICKENS *Dombey* xxvi, The Native had private zests and flavours on a side-table, with which the Major daily scorched himself. 1856 KANE *Arctic Expl.* II. xxvii. 273 We...renewed the zest of the table with the best salad in the world—raw eggs and cochlearia. 1876 MISS BRADDON *Dead Men's Shoes* i, For a cheap relish, a zest which shall make bread and butter supply the place of dinner, your fishmonger is your best friend.

Hence 'zestful *a.*, full of zest, characterized by piquancy or keen relish or enjoyment; whence 'zestfully *adv.*, 'zestfulness.

1850 *Fraser's Mag.* XLII. 345 A zestful sort of place in which to spend a fortnight. 1857 *Ibid.* LVI. 601 How...shall any man...abridge...twenty volumes of such zestful personalities? 1872 C. KING *Mountain. Sierra Nev.* xi. 241 While we chatted and ate zestfully portions [of meat] not too freely brecciated with lava sand. 1897 JACOBS *Skipper's Wooing* i, He bent over and with much zestful splashing began his ablutions. 1882 *Illustr. Lond. News* 30 Sept. 350/2 The zestfulness of its Radicalism is not lessened.

† **zest, sb.**² *Obs. rare*—¹. = SIESTA.

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Zest*...sometimes taken for a short Afternoon's Sleep or Nap: as To go to one's Zest.

zest (zest), *v.* [f. ZEST *sb.*¹]

1. *trans.* To flavour with 'zest'; to add a relish to; to give a piquant quality to; also *fig.*

1704 CIBBER *Careless Husb.* III. 56 My Lord, when my Wine's Right I never care it shou'd be Zested. 1709 MRS. MANLEY *Secret Mem.* (1720) IV. Ded. p. vii, Heaven is sometimes pleased with Bitterness to Zest the Bowl of Bliss! 1737 J. HERVEY *Mem. Reign Geo. II* (1848) II. xxx. 288 Many more expressions not quite so strongly zested, though but few degrees weaker. 1760 GOLDSM. *Ess.* Misc. Wks. 1837 I. 327 Hundreds sunk to the bottom by one broadside, furnish out the topic of the day, and zest his coffee. 1862 MEREDITH *Marian* ii, Ye who zest the turtle's nest With the eagle's eyrie. 1871 H. MARSHALL *For very Life* i. i, One autumn morning, zested with a sharp frosty feeling.

† 2. [after F. *zester*.] (See quot.) *Obs.*

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), To Zest an Orange or Lemon, (among Confectioners) is to cut the Peel from top to bottom into small Slips, as thin as it can possibly be done.

Hence 'zested *ppl. a.*

1769 GOLDSM. *Rom. Hist.* II. 74 One circumstance that might well...teach mankind to relish the beverage of virtue...above their most zested enjoyments. 1801 *Lusignan* III. 131 The most zested enjoyments of vice.

† **zest, int.** *Obs.* [Cf. F. *zest* int.] An exclamation accompanying quick action.

1705 VANBRUGH *Confed.* III. i, Oons the old Woman—Zest.

zest, s.w. dial. f. 2nd pers. sing. pres. of SAY *v.*¹ 1602 *Contention betw. Lib. & Prod.* 1. iv, Bur Lady, zonne, zest true.

'zesty' ('zɛsti), *a.* [f. ZEST *sb.*¹ + -Y¹.]

1. Of a taste or a food: piquant, agreeably sharp.

1934 in WEBSTER. 1936 [see PICK-UP *sb.* f.]. 1953 'A. BRIDGE' *Place to Stand* v. 67 The meal was plain and good, with the zesty taste of country cooking. 1969 *Daily Tel.* 5 Feb. 15/5 The food is spicy and zesty enough to make you nearly spring out of your seat. 1971 A. G. SEABERG *Menu-Design-Merchandising* 214 The zesty garlic butter brings out the best in this epicurean treat from the sea.

2. *fig.* Energetic, lively, stimulating.

1952 *Time* 15 Dec. 33/1 Zesty as a two-year-old rounding into the stretch, Britain's aged Prime Minister Winston Churchill last week entered his 79th year enthusiastically

agallop on all his old hobbies. 1958 *Oxf. Mag.* 22 May 459/1 The little farrago ends with a bound of zesty life-assertion and merriment. 1959 *News Chron.* 23 July 5/5 To provide its zesty performance, Rootes' engineers have developed an aluminium cylinder head. 1972 *Time* 17 Apr. 43/2 Housing starts remain zesty, at an annual rate of 2,500,000 units in recent months. 1981 *N.Y. Times Mag.* 27 Apr. 18/3 The zesty lexicographer from New Zealand neither equivocates nor jazes around. 1982 *Observer* 10 Oct. 40/8 This column's Third Rule of Television—'If it works, change it'—was given another zesty outing last week.

zet, dial. f. SET *v.*

|| **zeta**¹ ('zi:tə). *Antiq.* [med.L., = *diæta* (see Z), a. Gr. *διατα* way of living, dwelling (see DIET *sb.*.)] A term of disputed meaning (see quots.).

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Zeta*,...a Room kept warm like a Stove; a withdrawing-Chamber with Pipes convey'd along in the Walls, to receive from below, either the cool Air, or the heat of warm Water. In our old Records, it is taken for a Dining-Room, Hall, or Parlour. 1849-50 *Weale's Dict. Terms, Zeta*, presumed to be a room over the porch of a Christian church. 1860 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Zeta, Zeteorila* [*? Zeticula*],...the *Vaporaria* and *Conclavia*, or vapour-baths and inner closets, in the pavement of which warm or cold water was diffused as required.

|| **zeta**² ('zi:tə). [Gr. *ζῆτα*, the letter Z, ζ: see Z.]

1. Name of the sixth letter of the Greek alphabet, used *attrib.* in zeta-function *Math.*, one of a set of functions (denoted by a capital Z prefixed to the variable) connected with elliptic integrals.

2. zeta potential *Physical Chem.*, the potential difference that exists across the electrical double layer at the interface of a solid and a liquid.

1939 E. A. HAUSER *Colloidal Phenomena* ix. 91 In simple cases, this double layer can be regarded as an electric condenser, the potential of which is generally termed electrokinetic, or ζ (zeta), potential. 1982 *Nature* 21 Jan. 267/2 They [*sc. electrokinetic phenomena*] arise whenever there is relative motion between a charged interface and a liquid and are usually interpreted in terms of the zeta potential.

Hence 'zetacism (-siz(ə)m) [cf. ETACISM, LAMBDAICISM, RHOTACISM], frequent or faulty use of the letter ζ; zetaic (zi:'tenk) *a. Math.*, applied by Sylvester to operations (denoted by the letter ζ prefixed to an expression) in which subscript indices are treated like ordinary indices of powers, and to expressions or functions so obtained.

1840 SYLVESTER *Coll. Math. Papers* (1904) I. 47, I use the Greek letter ζ to denote that the product of factors to which it is prefixed is to be effected after a certain symbolical manner. This I shall distinguish as the zeta-ic product. *Ibid.*, Rule for zeta-ic multiplication. *Note.* An analogous interpretation may be extended to any zeta-ic function whatever. 1889 I. TAYLOR *Aryans v.* §1. 260 The tendency to Zetacism among the Ionians may be due to an admixture with the pre-Aryan population.

zete, obs. dial. form of SET *v.*¹

zetetic (zi'tetik), *a.* and *sb. rare*. [ad. mod.L. *zētēticus*, a. Gr. *ζητητικός*, f. *ζητεῖν* to seek, inquire.]

A. *adj.* Inquiring, investigating; proceeding by inquiry or investigation.

In quot. 1645 used in burlesque.

1645 URQUHART *Trissotetras* Wks. (1834) 145 Zetetic, is said of loxogonospherical moods which agree in the same quæsitæ. 1660 STANLEY *Iist. Philos.* xii. (1687) 771/1 This was called the Zetetic Philosophy, from its continual enquiry after Truth. 1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, *Zetetic* Method in Mathematicks, is the Analytick, or Algebraick way. 1849 S. B. ROWBOTHAM (*title*) *Zetetic Astronomy*. A description of several experiments which prove that the surface of the sea is a perfect plane and that the Earth is not a Globe!

B. *sb.* 1. (*sing.* or *pl.*) Investigation, inquiry (as in mathematics, etc.).

Often with allusion to Franciscus Vieta's *Zeteticorum libri quinque*.

1679 MOXON *Math. Dict.* (1701), *Zetétique*, numbers used in Algebra and Equations by the famous Vieta. 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 775/2 *Zetetics*, a name given by Vieta...to the part of algebra which consists in the direct search after unknown quantities. 1853 W. THOMSON *Laws Th.* (ed. 3) §35 [Logic] has been called...Zetetic or the Art of seeking.

2. An investigator, inquirer; *spec.* an adherent of the ancient Greek sceptic school of philosophy (see SCEPTIC A., B. 1).

1660 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* xii. (1687) 772/2 These all were called Pyrrhonians from their Master; Aporeticks, and Scepticks, and Ephecticks, and Zetetics, from their (as it were) Doctrine. 1838 J. ROWBOTHAM *Dict.* 66 The ancient Pyrrhonists were called Zetetics or seekers.

Hence *ze'tetical a.*, only in *Zetetical Society*, a nineteenth-century society with mystical beliefs; also. *ellipt.*; *ze'tetically adv.* [see -ICALLY], by way of inquiry or investigation.

1881 (*programme*) The Zetetical Society...Committee...J. M. Fells...G. B. Shaw...Sidney Webb. 1882 G. B. SHAW *Let.* 30 Jan. (1965) I. 47, I have overtaxed the patience of the Almighty, and he has smitten me; and, through me, the Zetetical Society. 1885 *Bookseller* 7 Jan. 12/1 A party of Zetetic astronomers with scientific instruments. 1905 G. B. SHAW *Let.* 3 Jan. (1972) II. 486 After about a year of the Zetetical I joined the Dialectical. 1921 G.B. SHAW *Immaturity* (1930) p. xl, Not until...1879, did I for the first time rise to my feet in a little debating club called the

Zetetical Society. **1962** D. H. LAURENCE *Bernard Shaw's Platform & Pulpit* p. x, A meeting of the Zetetical Society. **1665** HOOKE *Microgr.* ix. 55 It would be somewhat too long . . . zetetically to examine . . . what particular kind of motion it is. **1872** *Zetetic* July 8/2 (Advnt.). The life and teachings of Jesus Christ zetetically considered.

zep, obs. dial. pl. ind. pres. of SEE *v*.

zeppe, obs. var. SITH.

Zetland ('zɛtlənd). Later spelling (see Z) of Sc. *ȝetland* (also *Yetland*, latinized *Yhetlandia*), a. ON. *Hja(l)tland*, *Hjetland* (MDa. *Hetland*) SHETLAND. Hence *Zetlander*, *Zetlandic a.* (Survives in a title of the peerage; until recently an official name of the Shetland Islands.)

1703 J. BRAND *Descr. Orkney*, etc. To Rdr., Zetland . . . is unknown to the most of the Nation, if not, that they have only heard, there were such Isles, as the Zetlandick. *Ibid.* 116 Some Zetlanders went to the King with their Skin-Coats, laying the oppressed condition of their Country before him. **1809** EDMONDSTON *Zetland Isl.* I. 206 The native Zetland horse is very small. **1813** MONTAGU *Ornith. Dict.* Suppl. s.v. *Shearwater*, In addition to the Zetlandic name of Lyre, Lyar or Lyrrie, it has acquired the Norwegian names of Skrabe or Skraap. **1821** SCOTT *Pirate* ii, Sweyn Erickson, as good a Zetlander as ever rowed a boat to the *haaf* fishing. **1868** *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* i. 338 A list of the Zetlandic Annelids dredged in 1867 and 1868.

zeuera, **zeuet**, obs. ff. ZEBRA, CIVET *sb.*¹

Zeuglodon ('zju:gləʊdn̩). *Palæont.* [mod.L. (Owen, 1839), f. Gr. ζεύγλη strap or loop of a yoke + ὀδούς, ὀδοντ- tooth.] A genus of extinct cetaceans of a primitive type, whose fossil remains are found in the Eocene. Hence *'zeuglodont*, *sb.* a cetacean of this genus; *a.* belonging to this genus; *zeuglo'dontoid* [-oid], *a.* having the characters of this genus, or belonging to the family *Zeuglodontidae*; *sb.* a cetacean of this family.

1839 OWEN in *Trans. Geol. Soc. Lond.* Ser. II. VI. 75 The microscopic characters of the texture of the teeth of the *Zeuglodon* are strictly of a mammiferous character. **1857** AGASSIZ *Contrib. Nat. Hist. U.S.* I. 116 The *Zeuglodonts* [are] embryonic Sirenidae. **1883** FLOWER in *Encycl. Brit.* XV. 393/2 The earliest Cetaceans of whose organization we have anything like complete evidence are the *Zeuglodons* of the Eocene period. **1885** J. Phillips' *Man. Geol.* II. 650 Whales of the *Zeuglodont* family. **1892** *Athenæum* 12 Nov. 667/3 *Zeuglodont* and other cetacean remains from the tertiaries of the Caucasus.

zeugma ('zju:gmə). *Gram.* and *Rhet.* [mod.L., a. Gr. ζεύγμα a yoking, f. ζευγνύναι to yoke, related to ζυγόν YOKE *sb.*¹] A figure by which a single word is made to refer to two or more words in the sentence; esp. when properly applying in sense to only one of them, or applying to them in different senses; but formerly more widely, including, e.g., the use of the same predicate, without repetition, with two or more subjects; also sometimes applied to cases of irregular *construction*, in which the single word agrees *grammatically* with only one of the other words to which it refers (more properly called SYLLEPSIS).

1586 A. DAY *Engl. Secretorie* II. (1595) 82 *Zeugma*, when one or more clauses are concluded vnder one verbe, as to say, His loosnesse ouercame all shame; his boldnesse, feare; his madnesse, reason. **1589** PUTTENHAM *Engl. Poesie* III. xii. (Arb.) 175 But if it be to mo clauses then one, that some such word be supplied to perfit the congruitie or sence of them all, it is by the figure (*Zeugma*) we call him the (single supplie) . . . as to say. Fellowes and friends and kinne forsooke me quite. **1848** J. T. WHITE *Xenophon's Anab.* Notes I. v. §9 (1872) 51 Observe the zeugma in πλήθει [in ἡ βασιλεύς ἀρχή, πλήθει μὲν χώρας καὶ ἀνθρώπων ἰσχυρὰ οὐδα]. **1872** LILLIE tr. J. P. Lange's *Comm.* 2 *Thess.* iii. 156 Αὐτοὺς is now to be taken out of the dative τοῖσιν, by an obvious zeugma [in 2 *Thess.* iii. 12 τοῖς δὲ τοῖσιντοῖς παραγγέλλομεν, καὶ παρακαλοῦμεν]. **1882** FARRAR *Early Chr.* II. 560 By the figure of speech called zeugma, or rather syllepsis, the same word . . . is often made to serve two purposes in the same sentence. A verb is often used with two clauses which is only appropriate to one of them, as in Pope's line—'See Pan with flocks, with fruits Pomona crowned.'

Hence *zeugmatic* ('-mætk) *a.*, pertaining to or involving zeugma; *zeug'matically adv.*, so as to involve zeugma.

1857 ELLICOTT *Comm. Col.* ii. 5 A zeugmatic construction of the accus. with both verbs. **1857** — *Comm. Phil.* i. 27 Attempts have been made to defend the construction as it stands, . . . by referring ἀκούσω zeugmatically to both clauses.

zeugmatography (zju:gmə'tɒgrəfi). *Med.* [f. Gr. ζεύγμα, ζεύγματ- a yoking (in allusion to the coupling of the electromagnet and magnetic fields) + -ο + -GRAPHY.] A form of imaging using the principles of nuclear magnetic resonance to obtain and display the structural details of soft tissue. Hence *zeug'matogram*, a picture produced by zeugmatography; *zeugmato'graphic a.*, involving or produced by zeugmatography.

1973 P. C. LAUTERBUR in *Nature* 16 Mar. 190/1 Because the interaction may be regarded as a coupling of the two fields by the object, I propose that image formation by this technique be known as zeugmatography. *Ibid.* 191/1 At low

radio-frequency power . . . the two capillaries gave nearly identical images in the zeugmatogram. *Ibid.* 191/2 Zeugmatographic techniques should find many useful applications in studies of the internal structures, states, and composition of microscopic objects. **1981** *Brit. Med. Jnl.* 7 Nov. 1212/1 Nuclear magnetic resonance (or zeugmatography) is looming on the horizon.

zeunerite ('zɔɪnərɪt). *Min.* [f. the name of Gustav *Zeuner* of Freiberg, Saxony.] A hydrous arseniate of uranium and copper, occurring in bright-green crystals.

1873 *Jnl. Chem. Soc.* XXVI. 1010 Arseniferous Uranium Mica (*Zeunerite*) from Joachimsthal.

zeura, obs. form of ZEBRA.

Zeus (zju:z). [Gr. Ζεύς, gen. Διός, related to L. *Jovis* (gen.): see JOVE, JUPITER.]

1. *Myth.* Name of the supreme deity of the ancient Greeks; cf. JUPITER. Hence *allusively*.

1920 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 1 Apr. 207/4 The Zeus of Weimar [sc. Goethe] was the last person we should have imagined comparable with our Swan of Avon!

b. *Comb.*

1839 T. MITCHELL *Frogs of Aristoph.* Add. 411 Cretan Zeus-worship. a **1861** CLOUGH *Poems* (1869) II. 464 You are the hatefullest to me of the Zeus-fed princes. **1875** BROWNING *Aristoph. Apol.* Poet. Wks. 1896 I. 730/1 The hapless Zeus-born offspring. **1880** JEBB in *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 140/1 Legends of warlike deeds done by Zeus-nourished kings.

2. *Ichthyol.* A genus of spiny-finned fishes, including the John Dory, *Zeus faber*, anciently sacred to Zeus or Jupiter.

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Zeüs*, a Fish taken about Cadiz . . . of a black Colour and very delicate. **1752** J. HILL *Hist. Anim.* 274 The red Zeus, with an even tail. **1854** BADHAM *Halieut.* 48 His own fish Zeus, the dory [was offered] to Jupiter.

Zeuxis ('zju:ksɪs). Name of a famous ancient Greek painter; hence *allusively*, and in comb. *Zeuxis-like* adj. Hence *'Zeuxian a.*

1616 DRUMM. OF HAWTH. *Poems* I. Sonn. xix. Wks. (S.T.S.) I. 23 Desire (alas) Desire a Zeuxis new, From Indies borrowing Gold, from Western Skies Most bright Cynoper, sets before mine Eyes In euery Place, her Haire, sweet Looke and Hew. **1635** QUARLES *Embl.* III. ix, Zeuxian Art. **1850** MRS. JAMESON *Leg. Mon. Ord.* 299 A vase containing white lilies . . . painted with such Zeuxis-like skill, that birds . . . have been seen attempting to . . . peck the flowers.

zeuxite ('zju:ksɪt). *Min.* [f. Gr. ζεύξις yoking, joining (f. ζευγνύναι to join), rendering 'unity' in the name Huel Unity (see quot.).] A variety of tourmaline.

1836 T. THOMSON *Min., Geol.*, etc. I. 320 Zeuxite. The mineral which I distinguish by this name was found in 1814 in considerable quantity in the Huel Unity mine, about three miles east of Redrath, in Cornwall.

zeve, obs. form of SEVEN.

zevre, obs. form of ZEBRA.

zeze ('zeizet). [a. Swahili *zeze*.] A zither-like string instrument of eastern and central Africa.

1860 R. F. BURTON *Lake Region Central Africa* II. xviii. 291 The zeze, or banjo, resembles in sound the monochord Arabian rubabah, the rude ancestor of the Spanish guitar. **1978** *Times* 19 Aug. 3/3 (caption) A member of the Tanzania National Dance Troupe playing a 13-string zeze.

Zfoot, var. 'SFOOT *int. Obs.*

1620 I. C. Two Merry Milkmaids II. ii. G 4 b, *Ber.* Zfoot, hee's turn'd Echo. **1640** *Wits Recreat.* 17 b, Z' foot, will you have of men more than their hearts?

Zhdanovism ('zdɑ:nəvɪz(ə)m, -fɪz(ə)m). [f. the name *Zhdanov* (see below) + -ISM.] The policy of rigorous ideological control of literature and cultural life generally that was developed in the post-war period by A. A. Zhdanov (1896–1948), Russian politician. So *'Zhdanovist*, -ite *adjs.*, of, pertaining to, or resembling Zhdanov or Zhdanovism.

1957 C. HUNT *Guide to Communist Jargon* xi. 37 The Zhdanovite decrees on literature and the arts of 1946–7. **1958** *Encounter* Nov. 35/1 The ideal of Zhdanovism was, precisely, the reduction of literature to 'a small cog and a small screw' in the mechanism of the totalitarian state. **1962** H. SWAYZE *Polit. Control Lit. in U.S.S.R., 1946–59* ii. 26 (heading) The heyday of Zhdanovism, 1946–1952. **1966** *Listener* 3 Nov. 659/3 The decree . . . contained the Zhdanovist denunciation of the works of Shostakovich and Khachaturian. **1975** *Times Lit. Suppl.* 31 Oct. 1280/5 Its account of Gramsci's career and the early history of the Communist Party can only be described as Zhdanovite. **1977** *Ibid.* 21 Jan. 76/4 Socialist realism he gives deservedly short shift. But the practice of Zhdanovism does not exhaust the subject.

zhe, **zheel**, dial. forms of SHE.

zho (ʒɔʊ). [Tibetan *mdso*.] A hybrid bovine animal, bred from a yak bul and a common cow, used for domestic purposes in Northern India. Also called *zob*o, zobu [with masc. affix -*bo*]. So *zho*mo, also jomo [with fem. affix -*mo*], a female zho.

1841 MOORCROFT *Trav.* I. 272 Oxen of the common kind are not used for ploughing, the zho ox, or hybrid male between the yak . . . and the common cow, or the humped

variety called zebu, being greatly preferred, as is its sister, the zho^{mo}, for the dairy. Ploughing is performed by a pair of zhos. *Ibid.* 309 The Zho or Yak-mule. **1854** HOOKER *Himal. Jnl.* I. ix. 213 The zobo . . . is but rarely seen in these mountains, though common in the North West Himalaya. **1867** A. L. ADAMS *Wand. Nat. India* 271. **1880** R. STRACHEY in *Encycl. Brit.* XI. 833/2 The yák, from which is reared a cross breed with the ordinary horned cattle of India locally called 'zobu'.

zhuyin zimu (dʒujin dzimu). Also with accents and (in Wade-Giles transliteration) as *chu-yin tzu-mu*. [Chinese, f. *zhùyīn* phonetic notation (f. *zhù* notes + *yīn* sound) + *zīmǔ* letters of the alphabet (f. *zì* word, character + *mǔ* mother).] The national phonetic alphabet of China made up of symbols based on Chinese characters, first adopted in 1918. Also *ellipt.* as *zhuyin*.

1938 E. M. NORTH *Bk. Thousand Tongues* 89/1 North Mandarin colloquial, Peking dialect, or Kuoyü . . . Chu Yin phonetics. . . Wang Chao phonetics. . . Roman characters. **1960** CHANG-TU HU et al. *China* v. 107 A set of thirty-nine phonetic symbols, *chu-yin tzu-mu*, officially promulgated in 1918 by the government. **1968** P. KRATOCHVÍL *Chinese Lang. Today* v. 168 The purpose of the first official Chinese phonemic transcription called *zhùyīn zīmǔ* 'Pronunciation Alphabet' . . . was to serve as a stepping stone towards learning the characters, and also as a tool for promulgating the National Language. **1978** Nagel's *Encycl.-Guide: China* 95 The thirty-nine letters of the *zhuyin zimu* alphabet were taken from old, very simple Chinese characters.

ziarat (zi:'ɑ:rət). Also 8 zeearat; zearat, ziarath, ziarut. [ad. Hindi f. Urdu, f. Arab. *ziyārat* pilgrimage.] A Muslim place of pilgrimage, a shrine; a pilgrimage to such a place.

1776 N. B. HALHED tr. *Code Gentoo Laws* xii. 187 Places of *zeeārut* (or religious Walks). **1913** 19th *Cent.* May 993 This is said to occur frequently in the large shrines or Ziarats, such as Mashad. **1916** M. DIVER *Desmond's Daughter* II. ix. 121 A graphic tale of the manner in which his tribe had come by their first *ziarat*. **1925** *Blackw. Mag.* Dec. 796/z That is where my brothre lives, Sahib; he likes to be next to his Ziarat. **1934** N.-W. *Frontier Province Gazetteer Peshawar Dist.* (ed. 3) I. i. 153 For the mass of the people the local *ziarats* have to suffice. **1967** F. RASUL *Bengal to Birmingham* vi. 61 At the appointed time, led by our group leader, we went for the *ziarat* (meeting the respected one). **1976** [see ZIKR].

zibeline ('zɪbəln̩, -aɪn). Forms: 6 zebelin, 7 -elline, 7 zibellin, -en, zubeline, 8 zebiline, 8-zibelin(e), (9 zibelline). [ad. F. *zibeline* (also †*zabelline*, †*zebeline*, OF. *sebelin*), = It. *zibellino*, Sp. *z-*, *cebellina*, Pg. *zebelina*; Romanic deriv. of Slav. *sobol*: see SABLE *sb.*¹]

1. A small carnivorous quadruped, the sable, *Mustela zibellina*. Also *attrib.*

1585 T. WASHINGTON tr. *Nicholay's Voy.* II. xxiii. 62 Fures of martirs, Zebelins, Sables. **1654** tr. *Martini's Cong. China* 9 Garnished round with . . . skin three fingers broad, of Castor, or Zibellin. **1671** H. M. tr. *Erasm. Colloq.* 447 Clothed . . . in cloth of Gold and Silver in Zebelline and African furs. **1784** KING *Cook's Voy. Pacific* VI. vi. 340 The common fox; the stoat, or ermine; the zibeline, or sable. **1808** ELEANOR SLEATH *Bristol Heiress* I. 177 The zibelin from her haunts decoy'd; Or chas'd the ermine from his cell. **1844** HUGH MURRAY *Trav. Marco Polo* I. §23. 133 The inside is lined with skins of ermine and zibelline.

2. The fur of the sable; sable.

1869 *Daily News* 7 Jan., Black velvet, trimmed all over with zibeline. **1889** *Pop. Sci. Monthly* May (1890) 34 In 1188 or thereabout no person was allowed to wear garments of vair, gray, zibeline, or scarlet color.

3. (Also *zibeline cloth*.) A soft smooth woollen material with a slightly furry surface, used for women's dress. Also *attrib.*

1892 *Daily News* 17 Dec. 5/7 Blue-grey zibeline cloth . . . A Czarina jacket of almond-coloured zibeline. **1893** *Lady* 17 Aug. 172/2 The cloths coming in are mostly beavers, thick zibeline finished beavers for choice. **1909** W. J. LOCKE *Septimus* ix, It was Emma. He recognized the zibeline toque and coat.

zibet ('zɪbɪt). Forms: 6- zibeth, 7 zibith, (sebat), 8- zibet. [ad. med.L. *zibethum* (cf. It. *zibetto*, F. *zibet*, G. *zibeth*): see CIVET *sb.*¹] A variant of CIVET *sb.*¹, the animal and the perfume; used distinctively (after Buffon) for the Asiatic species of *Viverra*, *V. zibetha*, and the secretion it yields (called also *zibethum*).

1594 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc., Plancius' Map* (1597) 265 Next to her genitories, shee hath a little bagge into the which doth fall the precious greace or humour, which they call Ciuet and Zibeth. **1607** TOPSELL *Four-f. Beasts* 585 The Zibeth or Sivet-cat. **1669** *Addr. to hopeful yng. Gentry Eng.* 44 You would conceive . . . that some Chymist had dearly purchas'd their more terrene excrements, out of them to exalt his occidental zibith. **1781** SMELLIE *Buffon's Nat. Hist.* (1791) V. 242 The zibet is probably the civet of Asia, of the East Indies, and of Arabia. **1843** *Penny Cycl.* XXVI. 406 The marks on the lateral and anterior parts of the neck are very dark in the Zibet.

b. Comb. † *zibet-muff*, a muff made of civet fur.

1685 *Lond. Gaz.* No. 2078/4 A Sebat Muff.

zibib ('zɪbɪb, ‖zə'bɪb). Also zibeeb. [ad. Arab. *zabīb* dried grapes, (in Egypt) *zibīb*.] A colourless, strongly alcoholic Egyptian drink

made from raisins and drunk with added water, which turns it white.

Pronounced ('zibb) by N.Z. servicemen in Egypt in the 1939-45 war.—R.W.B.

1836 E. W. LANE *Acci. Manners & Customs Mod. Egyptians* II. i. 19 In the same manner, many *shurbetlees* (or sellers or sherbet) carry about for sale *zebeeb* (or infusion of raisins). 1958 L. DURRELL *Mountolive* ix. 181 He drank quite a lot of *zibib* according to the proprietor. 1977 J. HUTCHISON *Danger has No Face* (1978) iv. 41 Would I have a glass of *zebeeb*? He asked me. 1980 J. HOVE *Flowers of Forest* 1. 8, I wandered... sherry glass in hand, imagining it *zibib* or some other sharp foreign drink.

zich, **zick**, dial. ff. SUCH, SICK.

ziczac ('zikzæk). Also *siksak*, *sagsag*, *sicsac*, *zi(c)kza(c)k*. [Ultimately a. Arab. *zaqzāq*, *saqsaq* (Dozy).] An Egyptian species of plover, *Pluvianus aegyptius* (*Charadrius melanocephalus*), which by its cry warns the crocodile of approaching danger; perhaps identical with the trochilus (see TROCHILUS¹ 1).

1844 W. D. COOLEY *Larcher's Notes Herod.* II. lxviii. 1. 285 The bird called *sagsag*, or *siksak*, by the Arabs, is a species of plover. 1849 CURZON *Vis. Monast. Levant* xii. 150, I was on the point of firing at his [sc. a sleeping crocodile's] eye, when I observed that he was attended by a bird called a *ziczac*. 1882 PHIL ROBINSON *Noah's Ark* iii, Almost too lazy to keep his jaws open while the little 'sicsac' plover picked his teeth.

ziczac, variant of ZIGZAG.

zide, obs. or dial. f. SIDE.

Zidonian, obs. var. SIDONIAN.

Ziegfeld ('zi:gfeld). The name of Florenz Ziegfeld (1869-1932), American theatre manager and producer, used *attrib.* with reference to the follies that he staged annually from 1907 to 1931; so *Ziegfeld girl*, an actress taking part in such a revue.

1913 *Green Bk.* Jan. 72 Never before was so much beauty shown so much as in this latest of the Ziegfeld nonsensicalities. 1915 *New Republic* 31 July 336/1 Ziegfeld Follies 1915, a musical comedy produced by F. Ziegfeld Jr. 1917 *Ibid.* 7 July 278/1 If the Ziegfeld chorus were clothed in brown jaegers..., the paucity of the entertainment... would be shockingly revealed. 1923 G. ADE *Let.* 9 Jan. (1973) 87 Do not permit encores unless actually demanded. This is most important and is the secret of the success of a good Ziegfeld show. 1929 etc. [see FOLLY *sb.*¹ 5 b]. 1932 G. GREENE *Stamboul Train* II. i. 70 A baronet had married a Ziegfeld girl. 1976 BOTHAM & DONNELLY *Valentino* iv. 35 He chatted to the Ziegfeld Follies girls.

Ziegler ('zi:glə(r)). *Chem.* The name of Karl Ziegler (1898-1973), German chemist, used *attrib.* to designate a trialkyl aluminium-titanium tetrachloride catalyst discovered by him for the synthesis of stereoregular isotactic polymers of high density and crystallinity from an ethylene or propylene monomer; also, *loosely*, = next.

1957 [see ISOPRENE]. 1961 [see STEREOREGULAR *a.*]. 1966 PHILLIPS & WILLIAMS *Inorg. Chem.* II. xxxiii. 560 This reaction is of interest in connexion with the polymerization of olefins by Ziegler catalysts. 1980 *Nature* 20 Mar. 213/3 [They] produced thin films by exposing acetylene gas to concentrated solutions of Ziegler catalysts.

Ziegler-Natta ('zi:glə'nætə). *Chem.* The names of K. Ziegler (see prec.) and Giulio Natta (1903-79), Italian chemist, used *attrib.* to designate any catalyst of the class including the Ziegler catalyst, consisting in general of a transition metal halide and a non-transition metal organic derivative, and used with any olefin monomer. So *Ziegler-Natta catalysis*.

1965 PHILLIPS & WILLIAMS *Inorg. Chem.* I. x. 382 Whereas the ionic catalysts appear to be capable of general use with any unsaturated molecule... Ziegler-Natta catalysts are usually employed in the polymerization of olefinic hydrocarbons—notably, ethylene and propylene. 1974 *Encycl. Brit. Micropædia* X. 880/3 The Ziegler-Natta catalysts include many mixtures of halides of transition metals, especially titanium, chromium, vanadium, and zirconium, with organic derivatives of nontransition metals, particularly alkyl aluminium compounds. 1980 M. ORCHIN et al. *Vocab. Org. Chem.* xiv. 535 It has been suggested that Ziegler-Natta catalysis may involve metal-carbene formation.

Ziehl (tsi:l). *Bacteriol.* The name of F. Ziehl (1857-1926), German neurologist, used *attrib.* and in the possessive to designate a red stain consisting of an alcoholic solution of fuchsin in an aqueous solution of phenol; so *Ziehl-Neelsen* [F. K. A. Neelsen (1854-94), German bacteriologist], applied to a method for identifying acid-fast organisms such as tubercle bacilli by staining with Ziehl's stain, decolorizing with sulphuric acid (and sometimes also alcohol), and counterstaining with methylene blue: acid-fast organisms retain the original red colour.

1892 G. M. STERNBERG *Man. Bacteriol.* 1. iv. 29 (*heading*) Carbol-fuchsin (Ziehl's solution). *Ibid.* 30 (*heading*) The Ziehl-Neelson [*sic*] method. 1967 K. M. SMITH *Insect Virol.*

x. 189 Immature polyhedra in the nuclei of the hemolymph cells are easily differentiated by staining the smears with Ziehl fuchsin. 1974 R. M. KIRK et al. *Surgery* ii. 21 *Mycobacterium... tuberculosis*... stained by the Ziehl-Neelsen method is acid-fast and alcohol-fast.

zickle, obs. form of SICKLE.

1471 CAXTON *Recuyell* (1894) 16 He destroyed the vices in suche wyse as the zickle cuttyth herbes.

zifer, obs. form of CIPHER *sb.*

ziff (zif). *Austral.* (and N.Z.) *slang.* [Origin unknown.] A beard.

1919 W. H. DOWNING *Digger Dialects* 54 *Ziff*, a beard. 1924 C. J. DENNIS *Rose of Spadgers* 137 'E lobbed in on us sudden, ziff an' all. 1934 *Bulletin* (Sydney) 2 May 25/4 All the Druids in that show wore long, white nightgowns and ziffs down to where the tops of their trousers should have been. 1947 J. MORRISON *Sailors belong Ships* 97 We all called him The Prophet. He had a long ziff. 1971 N.Z. *Listener* 19 Apr. 56/5 So up he goes and finds he knows one of them, the one with the ziff. 1981 G. KELLY *Always Afternoon* xii. 211 'Better get rid of that ziff,' she said pointing to his embryonic beard.

ziffius, obs. f. XIPHIAS, swordfish.

1590 SPENSER *F.Q.* II. xii. 24 Huge Ziffius, whom Mariners eschew No lesse, then rockes.

zig (zig), *sb.* and *v.* The first syllable of *zigzag*, used in the same way as ZAG. Hence *'zigging vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1969 *Southern Rev.* July 760 After that We drove back, zigging, cautious. 1971 G. EWART *Gavin Ewart Show* 1. 11 An ant zigs quietly over the windowsill. 1977 *Time* 17 Oct. 24/3 The Carter Administration's push for Geneva will surely require much more shoving, not to mention zigging and zagging, in the weeks ahead if it is to succeed. 1978 H. WOUK *War & Remembrance* vii. 72 The transports were on a zig away. 1982 A. MELVILLE-ROSS *Trigger* v. 45 What's his course? ... Go deep if it zigs towards us. *Ibid.* 53 'They've turned ninety degrees to starboard.' ... 'A zig, sir?' 'Afraid not. They've altered course.' 1983 *Sci. Amer.* July 14/2 Subtler to see is the line just below, whose zigging and zagging is 180 degrees out of phase with the top line. 1985 S. VANAUKEN *Under the Mercy* x. 246 One word more on change and development, ... the zigs and zags and the farings forward on one's pilgrimage to God.

zig(g), variants of SIG *sb.*, urine.

zigabo, **zigaboo**, varr. JIGABOO.

zigan, early variant of TZIGANE.

|| **Zigeuner** (tsi'gœnə(r)). fem. -erin, pl. -erinnen. [Ger., cogn. with ZINGANO, ZINGARO.] A gypsy. *Zigeunerbaron*, a gypsy baron (in allusion to the operetta *Der Zigeunerbaron* (1885) by Johann Strauss).

1841 G. BORROW *Zincali* I. 1. 2 They are styled in Russia, Zigani; in Turkey and Persia, Zingari; and in Germany, Zigeuner.] 1845 THACKERAY *Legend of Rhine* x, in G. *Cruikshank's Table-Bk.* I. 198 Here should come the gleemen and jongleurs... the dark-eyed nut-brown Zigeunerinnen. 1963 *Times* 12 Jan. 9/7 He was a violinist, a travelling musician. His coat had a black fur collar; he looked somewhat like a refined *Zigeunerbaron*. 1964 *Listener* 25 June 1043/3 His [sc. Bartók's] passion for the true Hungary and its folk-music as opposed to the *Zigeunerbaron* travesties. 1970 N. FREELING *Kitchen Bk.* xix. 184 There were no musicians, though I recognized Philippa's zigeuner guitarist.

zigge, obs. f. SAY *v.*¹

zigger, **zighyr**, Cornish dial. ff. SICKER *v.*²

a 1843 SOUTHEY *Comm.-pl. Bk.* Ser. III. (1850) 725/1 The water zighyrs away. A Cornish mining word for dribbling, or flowing in a small stream. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, *Zighyr*, *zigger*, or *sicker*, to percolate, trickle or ooze.

ziggety ('zigetɪ), *int.*, *adj.*, and *adv. slang* (orig. and chiefly U.S.). Also *ziggedy*, *ziggetty*, *ziggity*. [App. var. of (*hot*) *diggety* s.v. HOT *a.* 12 c.]

1. *int.* Usu. preceded by *hot* and followed by *dog* or another monosyllable: = *hot diggety (dog)* s.v. HOT *a.* 12 c.

1924 *Dialect Notes* V. 265 I'll be damned, hot ziggety damn. 1926 MAINES & GRANT *Wise-Crack Dict.* 9/2 *Hot ziggetty dog*, expressing unlimited admiration. 1933 R. JAMES *Worth Remembering* iii. 62 *Hot ziggetty zig!* 1942 BERREY & VAN DEN BARK *Amer. Thes. Slang* 277/7 *Hot ziggetty!* *hot ziggetty damn!* or *darn!* *hot ziggetty dog!* 1944 M. SHULMAN *Feather Merchants* xiii. 78 'Ziggetty!' he said. 1950 A. BUCKERIDGE *Jennings goes to School* viii. 155 Oh, hefty ziggetty door knobs! 1961 R. LONGRIGG *Daughters of Mulberry* viii. 97 'Hot ziggetty,' said an old American. 'That's six grand I made.' 1984 *New Yorker* 21 May 46/1 Mr. Deforester entered with his face bright, his hands folded behind him. 'Well, hot ziggetty, a holiday for me. What have we got going here?'

2. *adj.* and *adv.* = ZIGZAG *a.* and *adv.* Also redupl., as *ziggety-zaggety*.

1935 J. T. FARRELL *Judgment Day* ii. 25 He pursued a ziggedy course along the sidewalk. 1956 H. GOLD *Man who was not with It* (1965) xi. 86, I had gone backwards to walk sideways, ziggety-zaggety.

|| **ziggurat**, **zikkurat** ('zigərət, 'zik-). [Assyrian *zīqquratu* (also *zigg-*, *sig(g)-*, *-ur(r)at*) height, pinnacle, top of a mountain, temple-tower; cf. *zaqaru* to be high (Muss-Arnolt).]

a. A staged tower of pyramid form in which each successive storey is smaller than that below

it, so as to leave a terrace all round; an Assyrian or Babylonian temple-tower.

1877 tr. *Lenormat's Chaldean Magic* xv. 227 The ziggurat or sacred tower of the palace of Khorsabad. 1883 P. H. HUNTER *Story of Daniel* ix. 156 In all directions rise the lofty *ziggurats* or towers of the temples. 1898 *Engl. Hist. Rev.* Jan. 5 The ziggurat, or great tower, of which the Tower of Babel was a famous example. 1908 *Expositor* May 402 The zikkurats at Erech and Borsippa.

b. *transf.* and *fig.*

1959 *Times* 21 Oct. 11/3 The burnished ziggurats of copper saucepans. 1970 *Daily Tel.* (Colour Suppl.) 30 Oct. 26/3 The bags are abandoned, of course, and join the rest of the overkill of trash imagery, now heaped into ziggurats, festooning vegetation, scrawled in livid drifts on the downs. 1979 *Jrnl. R. Soc. Arts* Nov. 761/1 His Dallas Chapel in the form of a spiral ziggurat... borrows quite directly from the ninth-century minaret at Samarra. 1980 *Bee Culture* July 376 The photograph will give an idea of the real engineering performed to make this temple a 'ziggurat' of comb—upward from the base above the regular [honey]combs.

zi3, **zi3t**, **zi3pe**: see SEE *v.*, SIGHT.

zigsaw, **zigzaw**, obs. varr. JIG-SAW *sb.* b.

1912 H. MAXWELL *Early Chron. Rel. Scotl.* I. 16 One of those zigzag puzzles which had a fleeting vogue two or three years ago. 1919 D. WYLLARDE *Holiday Husb.* xiii. 167 As neatly as if she had found the right pieces of a zigsaw puzzle.

zigzag ('zigzæg), *sb.*, *a.*, *adv.* Also as two words or with hyphen; also 8 *zic-zac*, *zigzac(k)*, *ziczag*. [ad. F. *zigzag* (1680 in Hatz.-Darm.); ultimate origin unknown; partly symbolic, the two different vowels suggesting the two different directions. Cf. G. *zickzack* (Sperander, 1727), said to be first used of fortifications (sense 3 a).]

A. *sb.*

1. a. A series of short lines inclined at angles in alternate directions; a line or course having sharp turns of this kind; *concr.* something characterized by such lines or turns. Orig. in *phr.* in *zigzag* (= F. *en zigzag*).

1712 J. JAMES tr. *Le Blond's Gardening* 42 Steps of Grass laid in *Zic-Zac* [Note, The French call this an *Allée en Zic-Zac*, for its Likeness to a Machine so called]. *Ibid.* 215 Chevrons, or Checks of Grass in *Zig-Zac*. 1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl. s.v. Alley*, An Alley in *Ziczac*, is that which has too great a Descent. 1822 J. PARKINSON *Outl. Oryctol.* 139 The larger tubercles placed in zig-zag. 1892 E. REEVES *Homeward Bound* 299 Entering by the beautiful Gate of Justice, and winding in zigzag through the thickness of the tower.

1766 COLMAN & GARRICK *Cland. Marr.* II. ii, Here's none of your strait lines here—but all taste—zig-zag—crinkum crankum—in and out. 1830 M. DONOVAN *Dom. Econ.* I. 235 Twisted into a serpent, or bent into a zig-zag. 1856 MERIVALE *Rom. Emp.* xl. IV. 495 The other [road] was practicable for carriages, and for this purpose was made to climb the acclivity with a zigzag. 1871 NESBITT *Catal. Slade Coll. Glass* 6 Terminating with a turquoise zig-zag. 1880 MEREDITH *Tragic Com.* xi, Dashing his finger in a fiery zigzag along the line for her pen to follow. 1884 RUSKIN *Pleas. Eng.* iii. §87. (1885) 121 The hieroglyphic use of the zigzag, for water, by the Egyptians.

b. Each of such lines or turns; chiefly in *pl.*

1728 POPE *Dunc.* I. 124 Nonsense precipitate, like running Lead, That slipp'd thro' Cracks and Zig-zags of the Head. 1775 TWISS *Trav. Port. & Sp.* 64 A winding road, which forms thirteen zig-zags. 1833 L. RITCHIE *Wand. Loire* 182 A cap, laced and ribanded in all manner of zig-zags. a 1861 CLOUGH *Poems, Ite Domum Saturae* 11 The lightning zigzags shoot across the sky. 1865 G. MACDONALD *Alec Forbes* lxxiv, The button made many a zigzag from side to side of the table. 1875 BENNETT & DYER *Sachs' Bot.* 742 The grand curve of growth... does not assume the form of a continuous curve, but shows a number of small zigzags.

c. *fig.*

1781 COWPER *Conversation* 861 Though such continual zig-zags in a book, Such drunken reelings, have an awkward look. 1796 BURKE *Regic. Peace* ii. Wks. 1842 II. 311 The fanaticks going straight forward and openly, the politicians by the surer mode of zigzag. 1815 JANE AUSTEN *Emma* xv, The little zigzags of embarrassment. 1913 ROOSEVELT *Autobiogr.* 579 Our policy is apt to go in zigzags, because different sections of our people exercise at different times unequal pressure on our government.

2. A road or path turning sharply at angles in alternate directions, esp. so as to reduce the gradient on a steep slope; each of the sharp turns forming such a road.

1728 SWIFT *My Lady's Lam.* 184 How proudly he talks Of zigzags and walks. 1848 THACKERAY *Bk. Snobs* vi, I thread the doubtful zig-zags of Mayfair. 1855 ALFORD in *Life* (1873) 250 Up the valley of the Adour to Arreau, a village approached by zigzags. 1890 'R. BOLDREWOOD' *Col. Reformer* xiii, Many years before the Zig Zag [sc. railway in New South Wales] was chopped out of the sidelings.

3. Applied *spec.* to other things of a zigzag shape. a. *Fortif.* A trench leading towards a besieged place, constructed in a zigzag direction so as not to be enfiladed by the defenders; a boyau. b. *Archit.* A chevron-moulding. c. *Fishery.* (See quot.)

a. 1733 BUDGELL *Bee* IV. 67 A Battery began in the Morning to play upon the Cavalier of the Bastion Ghiera; the Night following the *Zic-zacs* were continued. 1834-47 J. S. MACAULAY *Field Fortif.* (1851) 239 The zig-zags may often require a greater relief than the parallels.

b. 1814 SCOTT *Border Antiq.* I. 59 The dancette, as the figure is termed in heraldry, or zig-zag. 1826 W. A. MILES *Deverel Barrow* 4 The chevron or zig zag, that favorite British ornament so prominent in Egyptian remains. 1884 RUSKIN *Pleas. Eng.* iii. §87. (1885) 119 The Norman zigzag.

c. 1875 KNIGHT *Dict. Mech.*, Zigzag, a winding chute on the face of a dam to enable fish to ascend.

4. Collectors' name for a shell, or a moth, with zigzag marking.

1815 S. BROOKES *Conchol.* 157 Zigzag, *Cypræa Ziczac*.

5. (Zig(-)Zag.) A proprietary name for cigarette paper.

1909 *Official Gaz.* (U.S. Patent Office) 14 Dec. 594/1 Braunstein & Cie, Paris... *Zig Zag*... Cigarette-paper. 1927 *Trade Marks Jnl.* 13 Apr. 675 Zig-zag No. 114... Cigarette papers. Société anonyme des anciens Établissements Braustein Frères... Paris. 1968 *Current Slang* (Univ. S. Dakota) Fall 52 Zig-zag, paper of high quality which is commonly used in rolling marijuana. 1977 C. McFADDEN *Serial* (1978) xxx. 67/1 She stuffed her... Zig Zags back into her purse.

6. attrib., as zigzag machine, a sewing machine with a swing needle that may be used to produce a zigzag stitch and decorative stitches derived from it.

[1950 *Vogue Pattern Book* Apr.-May 81/2 It was Pfaff that developed the famous Zig-Zag Model 130.] 1952 *Consumers' Res. Bull.* Sept. 11/1 All the zig-zag machines but one... were heavy. 1963 *Which?* June 165/2 For plain zig zag machines, the width of the stitch limits the range of patterns they can make. 1978 *Detroit Free Press* 5 Mar. D14 (Adv't.), Fashionmate zig zag machine featuring our front drop-in bobbin.

B. adj. 1. a. Having the form of a zigzag; turning sharply at angles in alternate directions; characterized by turns of this kind.

1750 DOBBS in *Phil. Trans.* XLVI. 543 Striking it with a wriggling Motion from Side to Side, in a zigzag Way. 1767 HAMILTON *ibid.* LVIII. 11 Flashes of forked, or zig-zag lightning. 1784 COWPER *Task* II. 364 He... transforms old print To zig-zag manuscript. 1792 WORDSW. *Descrip. Sketches* 236 Up from the lake a zigzag path will creep. 1835 DICKENS *Sk. Boz, River*, Away jogs the boat in a zig-zag direction. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. ii. 11 A kind of zigzag channel had been worn on the side of the mountain.

fig. 1798 MATHIAS *Purs. Lit.* (ed. 7) 327 Be regular: from A to B proceed; I hate your zig-zag verse, and wanton heed. 1861 J. PYCROFT *Ways & Words* 192 The old joke of the zigzag jury who said 'Guilty' and 'Not guilty' alternately, all through the assizes. 1863 COWDEN CLARKE *Shaks. Char.* vi. 145 All the brood of zig-zag politicians. 1897 GOSCHEN in *Hansard's Parl. Deb.* XLVII. 597 Our policy is to have as little of the zigzag policy... as possible.

b. *Archit.* Applied to a moulding or other ornament of a zigzag pattern: cf. A. 3b.

c. 1765 GRAY *Let. to Bentham* Wks. 1825 II. 286 The chevron-work (or zig-zag moulding). 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* I. 136 Channels in various forms, some plain zigzag, some like network, and some spiral. 1840 C. WORDSW. *Greece* 58 Columns of green basalt, with fantastic zigzag ornaments.

c. *Bot.* Applied to the stem of a plant, or to a plant having such a stem.

1796 MARTYN *Lang. Bot.* (ed. 2), Zigzag, used by some English writers for *Flexuose*. 1796 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 3) III. 579 Zigzag Ladies smock. 1819 REES *Cycl.*, Zigzag Trefoil, ... a term sometimes applied by farmers to the perennial red clover, marl grasses, or wild red clover.

2. Having zigzag markings. (Chiefly *Nat. Hist.*)

1785 LATHAM *Gen. Syn. Birds* V. 61 Zigzag Bittern. 1796 NEMNICH *Polygl.-Lex.* 946 Zigzag chama, *Venus castrensis*.

3. *Mil. slang* (chiefly U.S.). Drunk.

1918 HAMILTON & CORBIN *Echoes from over There* (1919) 125 He got a trifle zig-zag. 1919 W. H. DOWNING *Digger Dialects* 54 Zig-zag, drunk. 1923 E. PAUL *Impromptu* 149 He groped and floundered... not completely 'zigzag'. 1930 BROPHY & PARTRIDGE *Songs & Slang Brit. Soldier* 181 Zig-zag, drunk. 1961 *Times* 27 Apr. 17/2 What is that to a nation which uses some 400 synonyms for 'drunk'—from 'all geezed up' to 'zig-zag'?

4. *Comb.*, as zigzag-shaped adj.; zigzag fashion, -wise quasi-advbs.; zigzag connection *Electr. Engin.*, a form of star connection of three-phase circuits, each branch of which is interconnected and contains portions of two consecutive phases.

1758 GOLDSM. *Mem. Prot.* (1895) II. 149 A Way very commodious cut, Zigzag Fashion. 1846 BRITTAN tr. *Malgaigne's Man. Oper. Surg.* 236 The interline is zigzag shaped. 1877 HUXLEY & MARTIN *Elem. Biol.* 26 Its joints are bent zig-zag-wise. 1922 P. KEMP *Alternating Current Electr. Engin.* (ed. 2) xiii. 188 This affects the magnetising current and may result in an appreciable increase in iron loss owing to flux distortion, and to minimize this effect zig-zag connections are sometimes adopted. 1947 R. LEE *Electronic Transformers & Circuits* iii. 47 Unbalanced direct current in the half-wave rectifiers requires larger transformers than in the full-wave rectifiers. This is partly overcome in three-phase transformers by the use of zigzag connections.

C. *adv.* In a zigzag manner or direction.

c. 1730 BURT *Let. N. Scot.* (1754) II. 132 It is almost incredible... how nimbly they skip... turning *Zic Zac* to such Places as are passable. 1764 VEICHT in *Phil. Trans.* LIV. 287 The lightning is observed to run not in strait line, but zig zag. 1846 GREENER *Sci. Gunnery* 244 When he ignites a rocket, it may go straight forward, or zig-zag. 1862 BEVERIDGE *Hist. India* III. viii. iv. 374 The road... led zig-zag up the side of a precipitous mountain.

'zigzag, v. [f. prec. Cf. F. *zigzaguer*.]

1. a. *intr.* To go or move in a zigzag course; to have a zigzag course or direction. Also quasi-trans., to zigzag it, to zigzag one's way.

1787 BURNS *Let. to J. Richmond* 7 July, His horse... zig-zagged across before my old spavined hunter. 1792 T. TWINING in *Recr. & Stud.* (1882) 163 We... zigzagged up to the very top. 1806-7 J. BERESFORD *Miseries Hum. Life* xviii. *Miseries Trav.* xix, The surprising range of rocks, zigzagging away in all directions. 1812 COLMAN *Br. Grins*,

Lady of Wreck II. xxvi, He had zigzagged many a league. 1861 HUGHES *Tom Brown at Oxf.* II, He managed to... zigzag down Kennington reach... with much labour. 1897 JACOBS *Skipper's Wooing* iii, He... zigzagged his way back to the ship.

fig. [1787 BURNS *Let. to Earl Buchan* Feb., While I was chalking out to you the straight way to wealth and character, with audacious effrontery you have zigzagged across the path.] 1825 SOUTHEY in *Corr. w. C. Bowles* (1881) 78 Not following the natural course of thought and feeling... but zig-zagging after the rhyme. 1825 HOR. SMITH *Gaieties & Grav.* II. 245 The red and black had zig-zagged, or won alternately for fourteen times. 1901 G. DOUGLAS *House with Gr. Shut.* xxiii, His courage zigzagged... one moment he towered in imagination, the next he grovelled in fear.

b. Of a sewing-machine: to make zigzag stitches.

1950 *Consumer Rep.* May 212/1 The *Necchis* [sc. sewing-machines] which zigzagged were inferior to the... *Necchis* which didn't. 1956 *Sears, Roebuck Catal.* Fall-Winter 1068/1 Whether you want to embroider... zig-zag or sew a straight seam, you'll find the '84' unsurpassed. 1976 *Woman's Weekly* 6 Nov. 68/2 (Adv't.) It's a pocket-size sewing machine which you hold in one hand—that sews, bastes, hems, zig-zags, sews on buttons and even zippers.

2. a. *trans.* To give a zigzag form to; to trace a zigzag line upon. Chiefly in *pa. pple.*; see also ZIGZAGGED a.

1777 PENNANT *Brit. Zool.* (ed. 4) IV. 98 White zigzagged with ferruginous edges crenulated. 1872 HOWELLS *Wedd. Journ.* iii, The breast of the black cloud was now zigzagged... by lightning. 1884 BOWER & SCOTT *De Bary's Phaner.* 65 Its lateral margin... toothed and zigzagged by the outgrowth of conically elongated cells.

b. To traverse in a zigzag manner.

1930 BIRD & RYAN *Recall Public Officers* 42 He literally zigzagged the whole tremendous territory, visiting almost every hamlet. 1978 J. WAINWRIGHT *Ripple of Murders* 78 The vans... zig-zagged the near-deserted streets.

3. To cause to move in a zigzag direction; *refl.* = 1.

1821 CLARE *Vill. Minstrel* I. 115, I oft zigzag me round Thy uneven, heathy ground. 1889 GRETTON *Mem. Harkh.* 49 To see him zigzag his large body through the mob from the vestry to the pulpit.

Hence 'zigzagging' *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1827 SOUTHEY *Let. to Mrs. Hughes* 31 Dec., The zigzagging which it would be necessary to make in stage-coaches. 1861 E. T. HOLLAND in *Peaks, Passes*, etc. Ser. II. (1862) I. 85 We... climbed a steep zigzagging ascent up the ridge. 1870 LOWELL *Study Wind.* (1886) 14 One of these zigzagging blurs [sc. hummingbirds] came purring toward me. 1872 O. W. HOLMES *Poet Breakf.-t.* viii, These zigzagging minds. 1893 *Athenæum* 15 July 90/1 The irritating task of zig-zagging through her volumes.

zigzagged ('zɪgzægd), a. [f. ZIGZAG sb. or v. + -ED.] Having a zigzag form or marking.

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1824) III. 62 The body oblong; the line running down the side zigzagged towards the tail. 1781 WARTON *Hist. Oxf.* (1783) 4 The zigzagged semicircle of this arch. 1829 *Anniversary* 88 [The house] presents sundry crowfooted, alias zigzagged, gables. 1841 *Penny Cycl.* XXI. 86/1 On the external barbs of the caudal feathers are two zigzagged bands.

Hence 'zigzaggedly' *adv.*; 'zigzaggedness'.

1893 *Strand Mag.* VI. 693 It is in accordance with the general zig-zaggedness of things that the most popular residents in the fish-house are the birds. 1921 W. DE LA MARE *Mem. Midget* xxxiii. 230 How zigzaggedly you talk. What has poetry to do with Mr Crimble? 1977 R. KATZ *Ziggurat* vi. 55 It [sc. a ball] rolled zigzaggedly for a while.

zigzaggery ('zɪgzægəri), [f. as prec. + -ERY.] Zigzag course or proceeding (*lit.* and *fig.*).

In first quot. with allusion to ZIGZAG sb. 3a.

1760 STERNE *Tr. Shandy* III. iii, The transverse zigzaggery of my father's approaches towards it [sc. his coat pocket]. 1797 MRS. A. M. BENNETT *Beggar Girl* (1813) II. 248 One of those whimsical beings who hated the zig-zaggery of worldly wisdom. 1885 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 31 Aug. 4 The zigzaggery of the English Foreign Office.

zigzaggy ('zɪgzægi), a. [f. ZIGZAG sb. + -Y¹.] Characterized by zigzags or short sharp turns at alternate angles.

c. 1845 BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. III. *Blasph. Warn.* 387 The zig-zaggy pattern by Saxons invented. 1865 W. WHITE *East. Eng.* I. x. 135 We rambled in and out of strange zig-zaggy back ways. 1902 A. LANG in *Longman's Mag.* Sept. 481 A fortification in a sketch of the style of Vauban, a zig-zaggy, forked-lightning affair.

zig-zig, U.S. Mil. slang var. JIG-A-JIG.

1918 H. V. O'BRIEN *Diary* 30 Jan. in *Wine, Women & War* (1926) 18 Zig-zig—nothing else but. 1930 in S. Longstreet *Canvas Falcons* (1970) 271 Zig-zig wif me? 1962 W. ROBINSON *Barbara* (1964) 135 'Allo, baybee! Comment alley vooz—zigzig?

zik, zikere, obs. ff. SICK, SICKER a.

||zikr (zikr). Also zikir. [ad. Arab. *zikr* remembrance.] A Muslim ritual prayer in which an expression of praise is continually repeated.

1836 E. W. LANE *Acct. Manners & Customs Mod. Egyptians* II. xi. 170 They had not yet begun their performances or *zikrs*, in concert; but one old durweesh, standing between the two rows, was performing a zikr alone; repeating the name of God (Allāh), and bowing his head each time that he uttered the word, alternately to the right and left. 1877 *Encycl. Brit.* VII. 114/1 The Zikr consists mainly in a chant, always becoming louder and more violent, of the first attribute [of God]. 1900 'ODYSSEUS' *Turkey in Europe* v. 193 Dervishes... have also their own characteristic form of worship called Zikr, consisting of the repetition, sometimes continued during several hours, of some religious formula, such as 'There is no God but God', or the

ninety and nine names of the Deity. 1923 *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 251/1 Dervishes shouting themselves into ecstasy at their zikr. 1954 M. MURRAY in G. B. Gardner *Witchcraft Today* 16 The solemn *zikr* of the Egyptian peasant. 1976 *Bangladesh Times* (Dacca) 12 Jan. 2/5 Monday, January 26: after Esha prayer Khatme Holy Quran, Khatme Gousia and Khatme Khajegan at 2 a.m. Zikir, Zearat and Munazat.

Zilavka (zɪ'lafkə). The name of a white wine of Yugoslavia.

1926 P. M. SHAND *Bk. Wine* x. 255 *Bosnia-Herzegovina*... The principal wines are the red growth of Blatina... and the white Zilavka, a potent, greenish-yellow wine with a Muscatelle bouquet. 1954 M. KRIPPNER *Yugoslavia Invites* 199 Zilavka, a yellow wine, and Blatina, a heavy claret, both come from Herzegovina. 1965 *Sun* 23 Jan. 6/6, I tried Zilavka—a wine... from the Macedonian vineyards near the Greek frontier. 1978 *Chicago* June 220/2 We recommend Zilavka from Mostar vineyard, white but with enough richness and strength for meats.

zilch (zɪltʃ), sb. (and a.) slang (orig. and chiefly U.S.). [Origin uncertain.] Nothing, nil; also as adj., no; non-existent.

[1931 *Ballyhoo* I. 1. 1 (heading) President Henry P. Zilch. Chairman of the Board Charles D. Zilch. Treasurer Otto Zilch. *Ibid.* II. 10 (caption) 'Mr. Zilch, you don't often stay in so long.' 'No I don't often lose my bathing trunks.' 1940 BERREY & VAN DEN BARK *Amer. Thes. Slang* §184/1 *Dingleoof*, Mr. Zilch, indefinite nicknames.] 1966 *Current Slang* (Univ. S. Dakota) Winter 8 Zilch, adj. Nothing, zero... What a day—zilch from everybody. 1967 P. WELLES *Babyhip* ii. 25 Half-starved, no doubt. The old whore probably fed him zilch. 1973 *Daily Colonist* (Victoria, B.C.) 14 Jan. 13/7, I feel that since I was elected to the board of directors last year I have accomplished zilch. 1976 *New Musical Express* 17 Apr. 6/6 My knowledge of classical music is zilch. 1976 *Billings* (Montana) *Gaz.* 27 June 2-E/2 In the light of data developed from the city's own 1975 studies, the 17th Street project rates zilch in priorities. 1977 *Tel.* (Brisbane) 3 Feb. 14/3 Gorgeous faces but zilch talent. 1977 *Playgirl* May 12/2 Our sex life is practically zilch, and he almost never pays any attention to me. 1984 *Daily Tel.* 8 Mar. 36/5 The power of the legislature over the executive being slightly better than zilch, any MP... who bounces the Home Office deserves a small roll of drums. 1984 *Sounds* 1 Dec. 38/3 Three further 45s ensued in 1979 and '80, plus an album which didn't sell. After that, zilch.

||zillah ('zɪlə). Also zilla. [Hind. *ḍilāh* side, part, district, division.] An administrative district in British India. *zillah parishad*: see PARISHAD.

1800 *Asiat. Ann. Reg.*, *Char.* 24 Within the zilla, or district of Calcutta. 1810 T. WILLIAMSON *E. Ind. Vade Mecum* II. 493 In each of the *zillahs*, or districts, only a collector, with an assistant, perhaps, was stationed. 1869 *Jrnl. Agric. Soc. India* I. 398 The Zillah of Huzareebag. attrib. 1814 HEYNE *Tracts on India* 323 Punishments... executed... by the Zillah judge. 1845 STOCQUELER *Handbk. Brit. India* (1854) 340 Ahmedabad, 300 miles from Bombay, is a zillah station.

Hence 'zilladar, the collector of a zillah.

1785 *Asiatic Misc.* I. 409 The riots paid their revenues to the Ziladars in the produce of the lands.

zillion ('zɪljən). slang (chiefly U.S.). [f. Z + M)ILLION.] A very large but indefinite number.

1944 D. RUNYON *Runyon à la Carte* (1946) 165, I love him a zillion dollars' worth. 1947 *Esquire* May 40/2 Faithful to their zillions of fans. 1976 *National Observer* (U.S.) 10 Jan. 10/4 A zillion or so years ago, while I was a student nurse. 1976 J. CROSBY *Snake* (1977) xvii. 93 She was going to break the story to her zillion readers. 1983 *Sunday Tel.* 9 Oct. 20/2 Broken Hill Proprietary... is Australia's biggest company and a zillion times bigger than his own. 1984 *Guardian* 29 Oct. 9/2 The whiff of news managers at work, rather than an urge to hear about British Telecom's zillion-pound share sale from the horse's mouth, took me to BT's big press conference on Friday.

Hence *zillionaire*, a very rich person; 'zillionth a., following very many others; 'umpteenth', sb., a tiny fraction of anything.

1946 D. RUNYON *Runyon à la Carte* ix. 143 She plays the frost for all who are not well established as practically zillionaires. 1959 I. FLEMING *Goldfinger* iv. 50 He's a zillionaire himself... He's crawling with money. 1969 *Daily Tel.* (Colour Suppl.) 15 Aug. 21/3 A sprinkling of... Texas zillionaires, film stars, socialites and international playboys. 1972 *Good Housekeeping* Apr. 69/1 'We have strict controls on television,' said Mrs. Hamon [an American]. 'We don't hear a zillionth of what you hear.' 1975 *Listener* 24 Apr. 554/3 Anchorman Peter Snow... said, for the zillionth time, 'Well, there it is.' 1983 'J. GASH' *Sleepers of Erin* xviii. 141 The Heindricks' scam was so big that even zillionaires were keen on its successful execution. 1984 *Listener* 6 Dec. 26/3 For the zillionth time, the hardback edition only is credited in reviews.

||zimb (zimb). [Amharic.] A dipterous insect of Abyssinia, allied to and resembling the tsetse, and very destructive to cattle.

1790 JAS. BRUCE *Trav.* I. 388 Large swarms of flies appeared wherever that loomy earth was... This insect is called *Zimb*... It is in size very little larger than a bee. a 1827 *Good Ps. cv.* 31 (1854) 415 He spake, and the zimb-fly came.

Zimba ('zɪmbə). (A member of) an African people that was active in the vicinity of the Zambezi in the sixteenth century.

1901 G. M. THEAL tr. J. dos Santos in *Rec. South-Eastern Africa* VII. xvii. 291 Facing Tete on the other side of the river... there are two tribes of Kaffirs who eat human flesh, one called the Mumbos and the other the Zimbabos or Muzimbabos. 1913 C. A. STIGAND *Land of Zinj* i. 17 The Zimba, a powerful tribe of barbarians who lived N.E. of Tete on the Zambezi, are now first heard of in these parts. In 1588 they invaded Kilwa, and the next year passed up the coast and invaded Mombasa. 1968 R. OLIVER in J. Biggs-Davison *Africa—Hope Deferred* (1972) iii. 26 The Zimbabos

who swept up the east coast of Africa in the late sixteenth century. 1972 *Stand. Encycl. S. Afr.* VI. 341/1 Mirale occupied Mombasa in 1589, but the Portuguese received unexpected help from the interior when the mysterious cannibal Zimba tribe arrived from the south, destroying Mombasa and most of its occupants. 1974 *Encycl. Brit. Macropædia* XVII. 277/2 The Zimba. were followers of a Manganja chief living to the south of the Shire River.

Zimbabwe (zim'ba:bwɛɪ, -bæb-). Also **zimbabwe**. [The name in Bantu of the first such ruin to be discovered, in what is now the State of Zimbabwe.] One of the numerous ruined stone-walled settlements scattered across Zimbabwe and neighbouring countries and dating from medieval times.

1902 HALL & NEAL *Anc. Ruins Rhodesia* iii. 36 They introduced fresh features in building, as shown... by new Zimbabwe, which they erected. 1929 J. BUCHAN *Courts of Morning* 11. 288 The subsidiary towers... recalled in their shape pictures she had seen of the Rhodesian Zimbabwe. 1931 G. CATON-THOMPSON (title) The Zimbabwe culture. 1963 R. SUMMERS in E. Bacon *Vanished Civilisations* iii. 36/2 Other 'Zimbabwe'—over 200 of them...—lie scattered all over Southern Rhodesia. 1976 *Times* 17 July 14/6 Another, early, stone-walled *zimbabwe* of the type best known from the Great Zimbabwe ruins in Rhodesia has been discovered... in Mozambique. 1980 *Nature* 1 May 5/3 In 1975... after independence in Mozambique one of the Zimbabwe—Manyikeni, 50 km west of Vilanculos was excavated.

Zimbabwean (zim'ba:bwɛən, -bæb-), *sb.* and *a.* [f. *Zimbabwe* (see below) + -AN.]

A. sb. a. Before 1980, when Rhodesia became Zimbabwe, (a) an African nationalist name for a Black Rhodesian; (b) an inhabitant of a future state of Zimbabwe. *b.* Since 1980, a native or inhabitant of Zimbabwe. *B. adj.* Of or pertaining to Zimbabweans or Zimbabwe.

1967 *Times* 30 Dec. 4 Let us work untiringly for the total mobilization of the four million Zimbabweans for Chimurenga (war of liberation). 1973 *Black Panther* 28 Apr. 9/1 (caption) Brother Kumbirai Kangai, freedom fighter in the Zimbabwean people's struggle. 1975 *Times* 11 Feb. 12/2 Whatever the future holds in store for an independent Zimbabwe, the white Zimbabwean will continue to play his part alongside his black counterpart. 1976 *Daily Tel.* 19 Aug. 14 Zimbabwean Nationalists who patiently tried a negotiated settlement cannot now be expected to lay down arms. 1979 *African Affairs* LXXVIII. 253 (heading) Zimbabwean economic and social historiography since 1970. 1984 *News* (Mexico City) 12 Mar. 7/2 Nkomo... suggested Zimbabweans were no freer than they were under the white-minority colonial government.

zimbalom, -n, var. CIMALOM, CIMBELOM.

1910 F. W. GALPIN *Old Eng. Instrum. Music* iv. 66 The large Dulcimer, used in Hungarian Bands at the present time, is known by the Magyar musicians as the *zimbalom*. 1925 *Glasgow Herald* 17 Oct. 6/2 The zimbalom, which is an improved type of dulcimer, has been honoured with a d.-s. record made by Nitzza Godolban. 1975 *New Yorker* 19 May 90/1, I spent two weeks in Shiraz and Persepolis, listening for hours every day to percussion from all over the world:... to varieties of dulcimer (zither, santir, zimbalom).

|| **zimbél** ('tsimbəl). *Mus.* [Ger., ad. L. *cymbalum* (see CYMBAL).] = CYMBAL 3.

1910 F. W. GALPIN *Old Eng. Instrum. Music* xiv. 264 We also find an organ-stop called the *Zimbel*. and this... was a compound stop or mixture intended to represent the sound of bells. 1976 *Gramophone* Oct. 628/3 An exuberant finale contrasts the zimbél with the cornet. 1980 *New Grove Dict. Mus.* XIII. 791/1 'Mixture' was normally used to denote the Principal-scaled chorus Mixture as distinct from the high Zimbeln or the solo Cornets.

zimes, var. TZIMMES.

[**zimme**, spurious word; being the OE. *gimm* gem, with the *g* taken for a *z*.

1848 LYTTON *Harold* II. iii. Taking from his own neck a collar of zimmes... of great price. *Ibid.* III. ii. His diadem, with the three zimmes shaped into a triple trefoil.]

Zimmenthal, var. SIMMENTAL.

Zimmer ('zimə(r)). Also **zimmer**. [Maker's name.] A proprietary name for orthopaedic appliances, used esp. *attrib.* to designate a kind of walking frame.

1951 *Trade Marks Jnl.* 11 Apr. 358/1 Zimmer... Orthopaedic appliances and instruments. Zimmer Orthopaedic Limited... London, W.1...; manufacturers. 1957 *Official Gaz.* (U.S. Patent Office) 16 Apr. TM 116/2 Zimmer. For orthopaedic appliances and fracture equipment. First use in May of 1927. 1974 PASSMORE & ROBSON *Compan. Med. Stud.* III. II. xxxiv. 103/1 For patients with unsteadiness and ataxia, a simple walking frame of 'Zimmer' pattern is valuable. 1981 *Church Times* 10 Apr. 14/4. I had felt too ill to try and use my zimmer-frame and calipers. 1982 E. DEWHURST *Whoever I Am* iii. 44 Incapable of walking without a Zimmer frame.

zimome: see ZYMOME.

zinc (zɪŋk), *sb.* Forms: 7-9 zink, (7 zinke, 7-8 zinck), 8- zinc. [ad. G. *zink* (of obscure origin), whence also late 17th c. F. *zinc* (†*zinch*, †*zin*, †*zain*), Sw., Da. *zink*, etc., mod.L. *zincum*.]

1. a. A hard bluish-white metal (commercially known as SPELTER), brittle at ordinary temperatures, but malleable and ductile between 200° and 250°F.; obtained from various ores, esp. the sulphide (BLENDE), the carbonate

and silicate (CALAMINE, SMITHSONITE), and the red oxide (ZINCITE), and used for roofing, for coating or 'galvanizing' sheet-iron, and for numerous other purposes; it forms several alloys, of which the best known is that with copper called BRASS. Chemical symbol Zn; atomic weight 65.

1651 FRENCH *Distill.* v. 139 Any sulphurous, and imperfect metall, as Iron, Copper, or Zinke. 1731-3 P. SHAW *Chem. Lect.* xviii. (1755) 409 We took six Ounces of Copper, and melted it in a Wind-Furnace, added to it an Ounce of Zink. 1813 SIR H. DAVY *Agric. Chem.* ii. (1814) 48 Zinc is one of the most combustible of the common metals. 1871 TYNDALL *Fragm. Sci.* (1879) II. xiv. 344 The metal zinc may be burnt in oxygen. 1878 BROWNING *Poets of Croisic* viii, Zinc's uncontrolled Flake-brilliance.

b. (with *pl.*) A plate of zinc used as the electropositive metal in a voltaic battery. (Cf. ZINC CODE.)

1876 PREECE & SIVEWRIGHT *Telegraphy* 29 If the zincs are scraped clean and the solution of sal-ammoniac kept up.

c. Galvanized iron. Chiefly *S. Afr.* and *W. Indies*. Cf. *zinc roof* in sense 2 c below.

1873 F. BOYLE *To Cape for Diamonds* xix. 252 These hoppers are made of perforated zinc, or wire, the latter being preferable. 1953 R. MAIS *Hills were Joyful Together* I. vi. 57 Surjue went through a zinc fence—through a hinged zinc sheet in a zinc fence that looked like a solid stretch of zinc sheeting down one side of a lane. 1973 *Eastern Province Herald* (Port Elizabeth) 23 Jan., The brazier, zink bath and cooking utensils... were obtained from Coloureds in the area. 1977 *Daily Express* 29 Jan. 7/3 All six members of the cast take turns to strip off and bathe in a zinc bath.

d. The zinc-covered bar of a café or public house; by metonymy, a café. (A gallicism.)

1914 19th Cent. Feb. 286 Elections are made or marred chez le marchand de vin, or, as the Parisians familiarly call him, le *mastroquet*. The 'organised democracy marching towards the good of progress and liberty, etc.'... is in reality nothing else than the disorganised and demoralised *plebs* marching towards the zinc of the *mastroquet*. a 1936 KIPLING *Something of Myself* (1937) iv. 81 My barmaid... had watched it [sc. evil] across the zinc she was always swabbing off. 1948 W. FORTESCUE *Beauty for Ashes* xx. 148 We even supplied a little bar with a zinc and a motherly Frenchwoman to look after it. 1965 V. CANNING *Whip Hand* xii. 138, I... tottered to the nearest zinc, and called for a triple cognac. 1979 A. M. STEIN *Rolling Heads* vi. 103 The last of the cafés shut down—it was a laborers' zinc down a back street.

2. *attrib.* and *Comb.* a. *attrib.* Made or consisting of zinc, as *zinc dish*, *filings*, *gauze*, *plate*, *wire*; containing or made with zinc, as *zinc amalgam*, *bath*, *-lining*, *lotion*, *ointment*, *ore*, *plaster*; *spec.* in names of chemical compounds, as *zinc carbonate*, *oxide*, *salt*, etc.; pertaining to or used in connexion with zinc, as *zinc furnace*. b. objective and instrumental, as *zinc-etching*, *printing*, *-worker*; *zinc-coated*, *-covered*, *-lined*, *-plated*, *-roofed*, *-topped* adjs.

c. *Spec. comb.*: *zinc-air a.*, applied to a type of primary cell employing a zinc anode, a porous carbon cathode able to utilize atmospheric oxygen, and an alkaline electrolyte; *zinc-alum*, *-amide* (see *quots.*); *zinc-blende*, native zinc sulphide = BLENDE; *zinc-bloom* [tr. G. *zinkblüthe* (Karsten, 1808)], hydrous carbonate of zinc, hydrozincite; *zinc chloride*, a white, crystalline, deliquescent solid, ZnCl₂, used as a preservative, a flux, and in Leclanché cells; *zinc chromate*, a toxic, yellow, water-insoluble powder, ZnCrO₄, used as a pigment; *zinc chrome* = *zinc yellow* below; *zinc-dust*, zinc in the form of fine powder (often mixed with zinc oxide and other impurities), obtained by grinding, or in the extraction of zinc from its ores, and used as a deoxidizing agent and as a paint (see *zinc-grey*); *zinc-foil*, thin sheet zinc; *zinc green*, a mixture of zinc and cobalt oxides used as a pigment; *zinc-grey*, (a) zinc-dust obtained by grinding in oil, used as a preservative paint for ironwork; (b) a colour resembling that of zinc; *zinc-iron*, *sb.* an alloy of zinc and iron; *adj.* consisting of zinc and iron; *zinc-plate* = *zinc-foil*; *zinc-powder* = *zinc-dust*; *zinc roof* *S. Afr.* and *W. Indies*, a corrugated roof of galvanized iron; *zinc spar*, an old name for native zinc carbonate (= CALAMINE, SMITHSONITE 2); *zinc-spinel* = GAHNITE (Dana *Min.* 1868); *zinc-sponge* (see *quot.*); *zinc sulphide*, (*U.S.*) *sulfide*, a yellow, water-insoluble powder, ZnS, used as a pigment and as a phosphor; *zinc-vitriol*, sulphate of zinc, white vitriol (Jameson *Syst. Min.*, 1805, II. 35); *zinc white*, oxide of zinc used as a white paint; *zinc yellow*, a greenish-yellow pigment consisting principally of zinc chromate.

1970 C. L. MANTELL *Batteries & Energy Systems* vi. 63 These portable *zinc-air batteries are being used in man-pack transceivers, night vision devices, and space satellite communications. 1978 *Jnl. Electrochem. Soc.* CXXV. 333C/2 The Gould zinc-air button cell is... used in hearing aids and other devices which require a moderately high current. 1851 WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* V. 46 Sulphate of Alumina and Zinc-oxide.—*Zinc-alum =

ZnO.SO₃ + Al₂O₃.3SO₃ + 24Aq. 1839 *URE Dict. Arts* 166 Dilute muriatic acid, containing some wine stone and *zinc amalgam. 1859 WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* XIII. 503 Action of Zinc-ethyl on Ammonia... after a little while, *zinc-amide NH₂Zn separates out. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* xxvii. 339 During the year 1827, the venereal patients took on the whole 14 saline baths, 38 *zinc baths. 1842 T. GRAHAM *Elem. Chem.* 573 The principal ores of zinc are calamine... and *zinc blende. *Ibid.* 575 The mineral substance, *zinc bloom. 1851 WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* V. 9 The precipitated *zinc-carbonate is washed... by subsidence and decantation. 1851 H. WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Hand-bk. Chem.* V. xxviii. 32 ZnCl₂, gZnO... [is prepared] by precipitating aqueous *zinc-chloride with an insufficient quantity of ammonia and filtering immediately. 1911 *Encycl. Brit.* XXVIII. 984/1 Zinc chloride, ZnCl₂, is produced by heating the metal in dry chlorine gas, when it distils over as a white translucent mass. 1981 BRADY & HOLM *Fund. Chem.* xx. 700 Zinc chloride, which is exceptionally soluble in water... has a range of uses that extend from embalming, to fireproofing lumber, to the refining of petroleum. 1851 H. WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Hand-bk. Chem.* V. xxviii. 48 The crystals... really consisted of ordinary zinc-sulphate containing small quantities of *zinc-chromate intimately bound up with them. 1974 *Encycl. Brit. Macropædia* IV. 571/2 Zinc yellow, a basic zinc chromate, is used as a corrosion-inhibiting primer on aircraft parts fabricated from aluminum or magnesium. 1892 G. H. HURST *Painters' Colours, Oils, & Varnishes* iv. 132 *Zinc chrome is a yellow pigment of good colour and body. 1963 *Times* 22 Apr. 6/5 Zinc chromes, with zinc chromate as the major constituent, form an important class of pigments. 1930 *Jnl. Iron & Steel Inst.* CXXI. 749 An investigation of the corrosion fatigue of *zinc-coated steel specimens. 1981 M. C. SMITH *Gorky Park* III. iv. 361 The sables... climbed zinc-coated mesh walls. 1890 A. CONAN DOYLE *Firm of Girdlestone* xxx. 238 A very seedy-looking individual... was leaning with his elbows upon the *zinc-covered counter. 1883 *Hardwick's Phot. Chem.* (ed. 9) 330 *Zinc dishes must not be used. 1877 *Jnl. Chem. Soc.* I. 468 Action of *Zinc-dust on the Chlorides of Sulphoparabromobenzoic Acid. 1890 W. J. GORDON *Foundry* 216 In the *zinc-etching systems the gelatin is spread on the zinc. 1809 J. MURRAY *Syst. Chem.* (ed. 2) III. 305 The concrete phosphoric acid, heated with *zinc-filings, is decomposed. 1851 WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* V. 4 To obtain zinc-plate, or *zinc-foil, the metal cast in a tabular form is heated in a boiling solution of common salt, and then passed between rollers. 1878 *Ure's Dict. Arts* IV. 1006 *Zinc Furnace for the Distillation of Zinc combined with Lead. 1844 H. STEPHENS *Bk. Farm* I. 214 The windows should be protected... with fly *zinc-gauze. 1847 *Brit. Pat.* 11,616 5 Processes for manufacturing on a large scale zinc yellow... and *zinc green. 1973 E. LALOR in T. C. PATTON *Pigment Handbk.* I. 850/1 Much of the zinc yellow manufactured was mixed with Prussian blue to make various shades of a permanent zinc green. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, *Zinc-gray, see Zinc-dust. 1900 *Westm. Gaz.* 11 Jan. 3/2 Zinc grey is very much worn. 1849 NOAD *Electricity* (ed. 3) 177 The *zinc-iron circuit. 1868 DANA *Min.* (ed. 5) 149 Kreittonnate, or Zinc-Iron Gahnite. 1882 *Encycl. Brit.* XIV. 385/2 The leather is rolled and compressed on a level *zinc-lined wooden bed. 1912 C. N. MOODY *Saints of Formosa* vi. 132 Boxes had to be made or furnished with *zinc-lining. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 522 *Zinc lotions. 1843 R. J. GRAVES *Syst. Clin. Med.* xxvi. 332 *Zinc ointment. 1808 *Zinc ore [see GAHNITE]. 1839 *URE Dict. Arts* 1330 The mineral genus called zinc-ore... is denser than either of the above. 1849 D. CAMPBELL *Inorg. Chem.* 223 Small quantities of iron and *zinc oxides. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 579 A simple *zinc plaster will be as much as the skin will tolerate. 1823 J. BADCOCK *Dom. Amusem.* 126 A *zinc plate of ten inches was immersed in the liquid. 1859 G. A. SALA *Twice round Clock* 117 There is the rotunda of the Bank of England, with its many-slramming, *zinc-plated doors. 1966 *McGraw-Hill Encycl. Sci. & Technol.* IV. 531/1 Zinc-plated coatings are usually purer than hot-dipped coatings. 1881 *Jnl. Chem. Soc.* XXXIX. 462 Two grams of the *zinc powder are weighed out. 1875 *Ure's Dict. Arts* III. s.v., *Zinc printing... can be applied with great advantage for certain purposes in the etching style, for maps, plans, &c. 1883 'R. IRON' *Story Afr. Farm* I. i. 11 The *zinc roofs of the out-buildings, the stone walls of the 'kraals', all reflected the fierce sunlight. 1946 U. KRIGE *Way Out* vi. 82 There was a mass of dry maize leaves under a zinc roof jutting out from the wall. 1899 *Blackw. Mag.* Feb. 312 The *zinc-roofed bungalow. 1841 BRANDE *Chem.* (ed. 5) 777 When hydroferrocyanic acid is added to a soluble *zinc-salt. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.*, *Zinc-scum, the zinc-silver alloy skimmed from the surface of the bath in the process of desilverization of lead by zinc. 1905 *Times* 6 July 14/6 *Zinc sheets quiet at late rates. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 236 *Zinc Spar. 1902 *Encycl. Brit.* XXVIII. 110/2 The deposition of pure zinc is beset with many difficulties... unless the conditions are closely watched, it is liable to be thrown down in a spongy form... Siemens and Halske have proposed the addition of oxidising agents such as free halogens, to prevent the formation of zinc hydride, to which they attribute the formation of *zinc-sponge. 1851 WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* V. 14 The solution of *zinc-sulphate is mixed with sal-ammoniac. 1868 FOWNES *Chem.* (ed. 10) 398 Zinc sulphate... is used... as an emetic. 1851 H. WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Hand-bk. Chem.* V. xxviii. 19 Nöggerath and Bischof... found in an old mine a quantity of *zinc-sulphide mixed with washings of the ore. 1937 *Discovery* Feb. 44/2 The [television] screen is coated with a powder consisting of zinc sulphide and other chemicals. 1974 *Encycl. Brit. Micropædia* X. 883/3 Zinc sulfide is insoluble in water but dissolves in mineral acids. 1938 E. AMBLER *Cause for Alarm* (1940) xiii. 203 A *zinc-topped bar and four marble-topped tables. 1847 *Brit. Pat.* 11,616 9 The dryer is added to the color prepared with the *zinc white. 1849 *Weale's Dict. Terms* s.v., Zinc white is valuable... in painting, on account of its durability both in oil and water. 1803 *Med. Jnl.* X. 58 He placed the *zinc wire on the tongue. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade*, *Zinc worker and drawer, a preparer of zinc for making into wire. 1847 *Zinc yellow [see *zinc green* above]. 1901 A. C. WRIGHT tr. *Bersch's Manuf. Mineral & Lake Pigments* xiv. 152 Zinc yellow may be prepared by the immediate precipitation of a solution of zinc sulphate by a solution of potassium chromate. 1974 *Encycl. Brit. Macropædia* XIII. 889/1 Zinc

yellow has a greenish cast because of a high content of chromic oxide.

d. As *adj.*: Having a basically greyish colour. **1922** 'K. MANSFIELD' *Let.* 11 Aug. (1977) 271 A zinc greengage or two. **1960** *New Yorker* 1 Oct. 44/2 Faultless eyes gone blank beneath the immense Zinc-and-gunmetal northern sky.

zinc (zɪŋk), *v.* Inflected zinned, zin(c)ked (zɪŋkt), zincing, zin(c)king ('zɪŋkɪŋ). [f. prec. *sb.*] *trans.* To cover or coat with zinc or some compound of zinc (esp. ironwork, as a preservative from rust); to treat with zinc, add zinc to. Hence zinned (zɪŋkt) *ppl. a.*, zincing ('zɪŋkɪŋ) *vbl. sb.*

1841 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jnl.* IV. 328/2 Improvements . . in tinning or zincing metal. *Ibid.* 353/2 Zinked nails and bolts. **1841** BRANDE *Chem.* (ed. 5) 731 The advantage of zined iron. **1843** *Pract. Mech. & Eng. Mag.* II. 342 These processes enable us to zinc in an economical manner, iron, steel [etc.]. *Ibid.*, An estimate for zinking the suspension bridge at Hungerford Market. **1890** *Jnl. Franklin Inst.* Nov. 401 The conditions under which the zincked pipe is to be used. **1891** J. A. PHILLIPS & BAUERMAN *Elem. Metall.* (ed. 3) 700 Parkes's process, or, as it is now frequently called, 'zincing'. **1895** MORRIS in Mackail *W.M.* (1899) II. 319 The little barn finished with a zinked iron roof.

|| **Zincalo** ('zɪŋkələʊ), *fem. -ala.* Pl. -ali. [The name by which the Gitanos of Spain call themselves. Cf. ZINGANO, etc.] A Spanish gipsy.

1842 BORROW *Bible in Spain* ix, The Zincali, Gitános, or Spanish gypsies. **1868** GEO. ELIOT *Sp. Gypsy* I. 137 Before you dreamed You were a born Zincala—in the bonds Of the Zincali's faith.

zincate ('zɪŋkert). *Chem.* [f. ZINC *sb.* + -ATE⁴.] A compound which may be regarded as a combination of the oxide of zinc (*zincic oxide*) with that of a more electropositive metal.

1872 WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* Index 330/1.

zincian ('zɪŋkiən), *a. Min.* [f. ZINC *sb.* + -IAN 2.] Of a mineral: having a (small) proportion of a constituent element replaced by zinc.

1930 W. T. SCHALLER in *Amer. Mineralogist* XV. 571 Zinc—zincian. **1968** I. KOSTOV *Mineralogy* ix. 498 Pisanite is a cuprian variety . . ; sommairite zincian melanterite. **1977** *Amer. Mineralogist* LXII. 463/2 The proportion of zinc is probably insufficient to justify a new name. . . It might, therefore, be called a zincian takovite.

zincic ('zɪŋkɪk), *a.* Also zinckic. [ad. mod.L. *zincicus*, f. *zincum* ZINC.] Of, pertaining to, or containing zinc. *zincic oxide*, oxide of zinc, regarded as the source of the compounds called *zincates*.

1860 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Zincicus*. Berzelius terms *Oxydum zincicum* the second degree of oxidation of zinc. . . zinzie [sic]. **1869** *Jnl. Chem. Soc.* XXII. 33 The mixture of ethylic zincodiethoxalate and zincic iodide.

zinciferous (zɪŋkɪfərəs), *a.* Also (in Dicts.) zinckiferous, zinkiferous. [f. ZINC *sb.*: see -FEROUS.] Containing or producing zinc.

1820 *Amer. Jnl. Sci.* II. 323 The black zinciferous mineral, the Franklinite. **1828-32** WEBSTER, Zinkiferous.

zincify ('zɪŋkɪfaɪ), *v.* Also (in Dicts.) zinkify. [f. ZINC *sb.*: see -FY.] *trans.* To coat or impregnate with zinc. Hence *zincification* (zɪŋk-), the process of zincifying, or state of being zincified.

1801 COLERIDGE in *Sir H. Davy's Rem.* (1858) 89 My motive muscles tingled and contracted at the news, . . as if you . . were zincifying their life-mocking fibres. **1891** EISSLER *Metall. Argent. Lead* 304 Argentiferous zinc may settle in the cavities during zincification.

zincite ('zɪŋkart). *Min.* Also (in Dicts.) zinckite, zinkite. [f. ZINC *sb.* + -ITE¹.] A native oxide of zinc, of a deep-red or orange-yellow colour, found in New Jersey; red oxide of zinc, red zinc ore.

1854 DANA *Min.* (ed. 4) II. 100 Zincite Group.

zinckenite ('zɪŋkənart). *Min.* Also zink-. [ad. G. *zinkenit* (G. Rose, 1826), named in honour of J. K. L. Zincken, director of Anhalt mines.] A steel-grey sulphide of antimony and lead.

1835 R. D. & T. Thomson's *Rec. Gen. Sci.* I. 272 Combinations of sulphuret of antimony and sulphuret of lead in different proportions, viz.: zinkenite, . . Plagionite, Federerz, Bournonite.

zinckic, -iferous, -ite: see ZINCIC, etc.

zinky: see ZINKY.

zinc- ('zɪŋkəʊ), abbreviation of ZINCOGRAPH.

1887 Scott. *Leader* 23 Nov. 5 The zinc has some resemblance to Mr. G. **1889** *Athenaeum* 26 Oct. 541/2 Drawings Wanted (on litho paper for zincing) for a Provincial Journal. **1891** *Cost of Production* (ed. 2) 44 Various 'processes' of which the 'zinc-process' is one of the commonest.

zinc-, combining form of mod.L. *zincum* ZINC.

a. In terms denominating chemical compounds containing zinc and some other element or radical, as *zinc-aluminic*, *-ammonic*, etc. adjs.; *zinc-sulphate*, etc. b. In various other terms: *zincocalcite*

(zɪŋkəʊ'kælsart) *Min.* (see quot. 1892); *zincolysis* (zɪŋ'kɒlɪsɪs) [after ELECTROLYSIS], decomposition by an electric current (as in a voltaic cell of which the anode consists of zinc), electrolysis; so *zincolyte* ('zɪŋkəʊlart), a substance thus decomposed, an electrolyte; *zincopolar a.*, having the polarity of the zinc plate or zincode of a voltaic cell; 'zincotype = ZINCOGRAPH.

1842 T. GRAHAM *Elem. Chem.* 209 The surface of the zinc presented to the acid has zincous affinity, or is zincopolar. *Ibid.* 222 On the electrical hypothesis a body which is thus decomposed in the active cells . . is called an *electrolyte*, . . and this kind of decomposition is distinguished as *electrolysis*. The chemical expressions equivalent to these are *zincolyte* and *zincolysis*. **1851** WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* V. 36 Carbonate of Zinc-oxide and Ammonia.—Zinc-ammonic Carbonate. *Ibid.* 481 Zincocupric Sulphate. **1869** *Eng. Mech.* 19 Mar. 575/2 White lead is . . more siccative than the zinc-sulphate. **1889** *Athenaeum* 12 Oct. 492/2 The two volumes are copiously illustrated by a zincotype process. **1890** WOODBURY *Encycl. Phot.* 535 In Zincotypes the zinc is first coated with bitumen or bichromated gelatine or albumen. **1892** Dana's *Min.* (ed. 6) 269 *Zincocalcite*. Contains some zinc carbonate; one specimen from Olkucz, Poland, gave Gibbs 4.07 ZnO. **1892** *Daily News* 23 Sept. 8/6 Zincotyper is open for Engagement.

zincode ('zɪŋkəʊd). *Electr.* [f. mod.L. *zincum* ZINC + Gr. *δδός* path, after ANODE, etc.] The positive (zinc) plate (anode) of a voltaic cell.

1839 [see PLATINODE].

zincography (zɪŋ'kɒgrəfi). [f. ZINCO- + -GRAPHY.] The art or process of engraving or etching designs on zinc, or of printing from such designs. Hence *zincograph* ('zɪŋkəʊgrəf, -æ-) *sb.*, a design or impression produced by zincography; 'zincograph *v. trans.*, to engrave or print by zincography; *zin'cographer*, one who practises zincography, an engraver on zinc; *zincographic a.*, pertaining to or produced by zincography.

1834 *New Monthly Mag.* XLII. 523 The art of zincography has several advantages over that of lithography. **1839** *URE Dict. Arts* 1334 Zinc is extensively employed for making . . plates for the zincographer. **1850** ANSTED *Elem. Geol., Min.* etc. §469 [Zinc] is also engraved on (instead of stone) for zincographic printing. **1865** *Athenaeum* 18 Feb. 239/2 An ancient map zincographed. **1870** *Eng. Mech.* 14 Jan. 429/3 The . . zincographic plate is brought under the roller. **1888** *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 231 Reproduced in 'zincograph' by the aid of photography. **1890** Munim. *Royal Burgh Irvine* I. Introd. p. xxxii, Zincographs of these stones.

zincoid ('zɪŋkɔɪd). [f. ZINC + -OID.] = ZINCODE.

1842 T. GRAHAM *Elem. Chem.* 216 On the electrical hypothesis, the same plates are variously denominated: The zincoid as the positive pole, the positive electrode, and the zincode. . . Chlorine is of course attracted by the surface of the zincoid and discharged there. **1848** WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* I. 431 Graham's Zincode or Zincoid.

zincous ('zɪŋkəs), *a. Chem. and Electr.* [f. mod.L. *zinc-um* ZINC + -OUS.] Pertaining to or of the nature of zinc; having the affinity of zinc; relatively electropositive. (Opp. to CHLOROUS.)

1842 T. GRAHAM *Elem. Chem.* 204 The zincous pole. **1868** FOWNE'S *Chem.* (ed. 10) 277 It is true in a general way that those elements which differ most strongly in their electrical characters, chlorine and potassium, for example, are likewise those which combine together with the greatest energy; and the division of bodies into electro-positive and electro-negative is therefore retained; the former are also called acid or chlorous, and the latter basylous or zincous.

|| **zindan** (zɪn'dɑ:n). [Pers. *zindān*, Turk. *zindan*.] A prison in Persia or neighbouring parts.

1889 G. N. CURZON *Russia in Central Asia* vii. 217 In another part of the citadel was the Zindan, or prison. **1924** *Glasgow Herald* 29 May 9/7 In Persia . . I saw for the first time a Central Asian underground prison called Zindan. . . Prisoners . . cannot possibly escape out of a deep pit with only a circular opening at the top. **1959** *Listener* 21 May 883/1 The Zindan or prison where Stoddart and Conolly spent so many miserable months [in Bokhara].

zine (zi:n). *U.S. colloq.* Shortened form of FANZINE.

1965 *New Yorker* 21 Aug. 24 The fanzines, or fan magazines, which are also known as amazines, or amateur magazines, do a great deal of research on the Golden Age, and some of the faneds, or fan-magazine editors, do a remarkably good job. Some zines specialize—like *ERB-dom*, which caters to the fans of Edgar Rice Burroughs—but most of them concentrate on the fantasy adventure or superhero comics, on which most fanac, or fan activity, centers. **1975** *Piece of Action* (Houston) Jan. 6 The above zine should not be confused with another proposed zine called *The Atavachron*. **1982** *Amer. Speech* LVII. 20 A publisher of a fanzine would send copies of his zine to a central location for collation with other zines and subsequent distribution. **1985** *Times* 25 Jan. 12/2 A zine is what its addicts call a postal games magazine, of which there are about 50 in the country.

zineb ('zɪneb). [f. *zinc* ethylene bisdithiocarbamate, the systematic name: see ETHYLENE, BIS-².] A white powder used as a fungicide on vegetables and fruit; Zn(S·CS·NH·CH₂)₂.

1950 *Phytopathology* XL. 118 The Subcommittee on Fungicide Nomenclature of The American

Phytopathological Society, cooperating with the Interdepartmental Committee on Pest Control, has selected common names for five commercially-available fungicidal chemicals. . . *Zineb* for the fungicidal chemical, zinc ethylene bisdithiocarbamate. . . *Ziram* for the fungicidal chemical, zinc dimethyl dithiocarbamate. **1966** *McGraw-Hill Encycl. Sci. & Technol.* V. 563/2 Organic fungicides have become increasingly important since 1934. . . Examples are. . . nabam, zineb, and maneb, the sodium, zinc, and manganese salts, respectively, of ethylenebis(dithiocarbamic acid). **1981** [see ZIRAM]. **1981** *Bull. Environmental Contamination & Toxicol.* XXVII. 418 Zineb is an important fungicide widely used in agriculture.

zines, ? obs. variant of ZOUNDS.

1709 [E. WARD] *Rambling Fuddle-Caps* 9 Zines, Madam, says Nell, in a damnable Fury, I won't be thus snub'd and abus'd. **1710** *Brit. Apollo* III. No. 82. 2/2 *Zines* . . we suppose . . an affected Word for *Zouns*.

zinfandel ('zɪnfændəl). a. A red or white dry wine of California.

1896 *Pall Mall Mag.* Mar. 393 He drinks cheap Zinfandel, which must kill him eventually. **1897** *Outing* (U.S.) Nov. 144/2 Four-year-old zinfandel.

b. The grape from which this wine is made. In full, *Zinfandel grape*.

1880 *Californian* II. 219/1 The favorite wine grapes are the Zinfandel, Riesling and Chasselas. **1977** H. FAST *Immigrants* iv. 254 'What kind of grapes do you grow for the market?' 'Zinfandels mostly. We have some Thompsons —' 'Ah, well the color of zinfandels is excellent, but we want a sweeter grape.' **1980** *Times* 23 Sept. 10/1 We were . . in California. . . My companion . . grows Chardonnay, Cabernet and Zinfandel grapes.

zing (zɪŋ), *sb. colloq.* (orig. U.S.). [Echoic.]

1. A sharp, high-pitched ringing sound; a twang.

1911 D. RUNYON *Tents of Trouble* 22, I felt him fall and I sensed the 'zing' of a boob-face Arab's knife. **1922** C. SANDBURG *Slabs of Sunburnt West* 63 Then the axmen came and the chips flew to the zing of steel and handle. **1930** E. FERBER *Cimarron* xx. 331 He seized the typewriter by its steel bar and plumped it to the floor with a force that wrung a protesting whine and zing from its startled insides. **1961** E. WILLIAMS *George* xxv. 403 There was the confident zing of tennis-rackets in the Parks. **1970** *Washington Post* 30 Sept. B-1/1 The butterfly chair, that zing-zong-zang of tubular metal.

2. Energy, vigour, liveliness; zest; a quality that induces alertness or vitality.

1918 *Independent* 14 Dec. 369/1 They were the picked athletes of the whole English Army and were doing their calisthenics with a precision and spirit I have never seen equaled anywhere. The 'pep', 'zing' and 'vim' were thrilling. **1931** [see BELT v. 4b (b)]. **1941** G. KERSH *They die with their Boots Clean* II. 83 I'll soon get that paleness off your faces and put some zing into those limbs. **1955** 'S. RANSOME' *Deadly Bedfellows* i. 7 Lake Haven's air . . was full of zing and bounce. **1964** *Punch* 27 May 796/3 The show had zing. **1979** *Brit. Jnl. Photogr.* 21 Sept. 917/1 In the old days a photographer used to go to work with a holdall and could be on the other side of the world. That doesn't happen very often nowadays in Fleet Street. It's lost its zing. **1983** *Daily Tel.* 21 Dec. 9/2 Freshly-squeezed lemon or lime has a unique impact, adding a zing to almost any combination in flavours. **1985** *Spectator* 28 Sept. 9 While death has not lost its sting, sex has undoubtedly lost its zing.

zing (zɪŋ), *int.* Chiefly U.S. [Echoic. Cf. ZINGO *int.*] Representing the sudden advent of a new situation or emotion.

1919 WODEHOUSE *Damsel in Distress* vi. 75 The generous blood of the Belfers boiled over, and then—zing. They jerked him off to Vine Street. **1948** *Sun* (Baltimore) 3 Dec. 14/2 A method of freezing concentrated orange juice was developed, and zing! the first thing they knew they had a new and depression-beating industry on their hands. **1955** W. GADDIS *Recognitions* I. iv. 161 String a good piece of piano wire across the road. . . and take a couple of shots at them. They go after you. . . and zing zing zing there go their heads just like that. **1977** M. FRENCH *Women's Room* (1978) iv. 248 So one day you meet this guy, right? And, ZING! He is gorgeous!

zing (zɪŋ), *v. colloq.* (orig. U.S.). [f. the *sb.* or *int.*] 1. *intr.* a. To make a sharp, high-pitched ringing or whining sound; to travel rapidly producing such a sound.

1920 S. LEWIS *Main Street* ii. 18 Go zinging along on a fast ice-boat. **1949** N. MARSH *Swing, Brother, Swing* v. 88 Lord Pastern banged, and rattled, and zinged. . . 'Oh,' she thought, 'how vulnerable he is among his tympani!' **1960** I. CROSS *Backward Sex* i. 12 It would be better if this old chap did not . . hear the bullet zing past. **1962** S. PLATH *Johnny Panic & Bible of Dreams* (1977) III. 247 The bees, now Charlie had lifted the top off the hive, were zinging out and dancing round. **1963** T. PYNCHON *V.* xi. 345 Had his coincidence, the accident to shatter the surface of this stagnant pool and send all the mosquitoes of hope zinging away to the exterior night; had it happened? **1977** G. DURRELL *Golden Bats & Pink Pigeons* II. 38 A group of zosterops, . . zinging and twittering to each other.

b. *fig.* To move energetically and with ease; to abound with energy.

1961 *John o' London's* 29 June 724/2 She zings along the tight-rope which passes for plot. **1969** N. FREELING *Tsing-Boum* xx. 145 They had been busy enough already in Holland! In Marseilles they had been zinging with ambitious energy. **1973** *Playboy* May 44 As pure escapist entertainment . . the movie zings right along. **1973** *Daily Tel.* 7 Nov. 15/2 When . . she denounces him to her husband for the imaginary seduction . . of a 16-year-old girl pupil, matters zing into focus.

2. *trans.* With up. To enliven, invigorate. *U.S.* **1970** *New Yorker* 14 Nov. 154 Charles Revson is the philosopher-king of the cosmetic world. . . He claims to

know by instinct how to 'zing up' a face. 1978 *Chicago* June 23/4 Delicious, spiey pickled-pepper relish... which you can use to zing up the otherwise mild dishes.

3. To abuse; to criticize. U.S.

1974 *Evening Herald* (Rock Hill, S. Carolina) 18 Apr. 7/4 In the eighth, Mitterwald doubled and... the rest of the Cubs zinged him for not hitting a fourth homer. 1975 *New Yorker* 21 Apr. 61/3 Brodie told me... of another investigator who, in his haste, 'zinged a dead man' and delivered an investigative report concerning his insurability.

4. To deliver (a witticism, question, etc.) with speed and force. U.S.

1975 W. SAFIRE *Before Fall* III. vi. 179 [Nixon] read what they wrote and surprised them later by remembering it and occasionally zinging it back at them. *Ibid.* VII. i. 474, I zinged out a couple of one-liners. 1977 *Time* 10 Jan. 26/2 Her usual practice of zinging brash, hostile questions at world leaders.

Hence 'zinging ppl. a.

1954 G. DURRELL *Three Singles to Adventure* vi. 144 A group of sandflies discovered us with zinging cries of joy. 1963 *Times* 16 Jan. 6/5 Mr. Richard Daley, the last of the big city political bosses, has promised him a rough ride in a 'swinging, zinging, campaign, the roughest, toughest ever seen in Chicago'. 1970 'D. HALLIDAY' *Dolly & Cookie Bird* xi. 170 There was a sharp pop, a clang, and the zinging noise of a ricocheting bullet. 1972 *Daily Tel.* (Colour Suppl.) 4 Feb. 8/3 She beat me like a rug, pounded me like dough, using karate chops, zinging finger stabs, incredible flicks. 1978 G. DURRELL *Garden of Gods* iii. 59 The air was... full of the zinging cries of cicadas.

zing(e, obs. or dial. ff. SING v.¹

'zingana. [a. It., fem. of ZINGANO.]

1. (With capital initial.) A gypsy girl or woman.

1722 JON. RICHARDSON *Statues Italy* 334 An Exquisite Madonna, a Half Figure only, the same Attitude as the Zingana.

2. = ZEBRANO.

1934 A. L. HOWARD *Man. Timbers of World* (ed. 2) 582 *Zebano* or *Zingana*. ? *Cynometra* aff. C. *Lufai* Willd... West Coast of Africa... Known as 'zebra' wood in the United Kingdom and America. 1947 J. C. RICH *Materials & Methods of Sculpture* x. 297 Zebrawood, also known as Zingana and Zebano, is a tropical wood imported from Africa. 1957 N. CLIFFORD *Timber Identification* IV. 134 (table) Common name... Zebano... Alternative names... Zingana; Zebrawood... Botanical name... *Brachystegia fleuryana* Chev... Habitat: West Africa. 1973 *Observer* (Colour Suppl.) 8 Apr. 13/1 (Advt.), The grapefruit knife's got a stainless steel blade, zingana wood handle. 1974 F. N. HOWES *Dict. Useful & Everyday Plants* 286 Zingana, *Microberlinia brazzavillensis*, W. Afr., a commercial timber.

|| Zingano ('zɪŋgənəʊ). Pl. -ani. Also anglicized 6 cingane, 7-8 zingan; pl. 7, 9 zinganies. [Italian. For the etymology, see Miklosisch in *Denkschr. d. k. Akad.* (Wien) XXVI. 55-64, Wiener in *Archiv f. d. Studium d. neueren Spr.* CIX. 295-6.] = ZINGARO, -ARA.

1581 PETTIE *Guazzo's Civ. Com.* i. (1586) 26 Your meaning is... that as it is lawful onlie for the Cinganes to robbe, so these also haue priuiledge to plaie in open streete. 1600 J. PORY tr. *Leo's Africa* VII. 290 In that journey they are exceedingly molested by certaine theues called Zingani. 1684 T. SMITH in *Phil. Trans.* XIV. 446 There are thousands of Gypsies or Zinganes in Turkey. 1733 CHISHULL *Trav. Turkey* (1747) 93 A gang of Zingans, or gypsies. 1838 W. HOWITT *Rural Life Eng.* I. 249 They were very sweet nondescripts, but not very perfect beggars; and far, far indeed from perfect Zinganes.

|| Zingaro ('zɪŋgəroʊ), fem. -ara (-ərə). Pl. -ari, -e. Also 7 pl. Singari, Zingaries; 9 Zingaree. [It. Cf. prec.]

1. A gypsy; also attrib. or as adj.

1617 MORYSON *Itin.* III. 45 The very Northerne Weomen... haue their faces tanned, that they may seeme to be Southerne Weomen (which sort are in Italy called Singari). 1775 CHANDLER *Trav. Asia Minor* 159 Some of the vagrant people, called Atzincari or Zingari, the Gypsies of the East. 1784-5 *Ann. Reg.* II. 83 A Vocabulary of the Zingara, or Gypsy Language. 1823 SCOTT *Quentin D.* xvi, I am a Zingaro, a Bohemian, an Egyptian, or whatever the Europeans... may choose to call our people. *Ibid.*, The Zingaro boy was no house-bred cur. 1845 FITZBALL *Maritana* III. Duetto, *Don C.* Once more we meet! 'Tis the Zingari! Mar. Yes, Maritana. 1856 Amy Carlton 129 She had copied two lines of the 'The Merry Zingra'; then she... hummed 'I'm a merry, merry Zingra'. 1871 M. COLLINS *Marq. & Merch.* I. vii. 217 The Zingari had built their fires. 1906 E. REICH *Plato* vi. 114 The Zingaree or gypsy mother.

2. pl. I (or The) Zingari: the name of an amateur cricket club founded in 1845.

1846 W. DENISON *Cricketer's Compan.* 1845 p. xiii, Everybody knows that the 'Zingari' are a tribe of wanderers... Just such a race of individuals is the Club which bears the name and title of 'I Zingari'. As a Club, they have neither habitation nor home. 1867 'OUIDA' *Under Two Flags* I. v. 106 The Household [Cavalry] played the Zingari. 1905 H. A. VACHELL *Hill x.* 222 After the Zingari Match, Desmond got his Flannels. 1922 JOYCE *Ulysses* 731 A new raincoat on him with the muffler in the Zingari colours. 1948 E. WAUGH *Loved One* i. 5 Sir Ambrose wore dark grey flannels, an Eton Rambler tie, an I Zingari ribbon in his boater hat. 1978 *Times* 17 June 13/6 The Household Brigade might turn out in jackboots, gauntlets, [etc.]... to contend with the Zingari.

|| zingel ('tsɪŋgəl). [G.] Any fish of the percoid genus *Aspro*; esp. *A. zingel* of the Danube. So 'zingelin, an allied species.

1803 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* IV. 551 Zingel Perch. *Ibid.*, Zingelin Perch... Extremely allied to the Zingel in general appearance. 1868 *Chamb. Encycl.* X. 352/2.

zinger ('zɪŋə(r)). U.S. slang. [f. ZING sb. + -ER¹.] 1. Something outstandingly good of its kind.

1955 M. ALLINGHAM *Beckoning Lady* vi. 99, I don't know why it was such a zinger, unless it was that it was very big and very cheap. 1968 *Times* 30 May 10, I think every actress needs one zinger of a part early in her career. 1973 N. Y. *Times Bk. Rev.* 4 Nov. 79 (caption) A zinger of a novel. 1976 *New Yorker* 9 Feb. 84/2 It's a zinger of a scene: an educated, socially conscious woman dating a lumpen lost soul. 1980 R. ADAMS *Girl in Swing* v. 63 My private collection was becoming what an American friend... described as a 'zinger'.

2. a. A wisecrack; a punch line.

1970 *Time* 12 Oct. 7 Ann-Margret is giving him a hard time on the home front, too, tossing out little zingers about his advancing age like 'Flab is reality'. 1970 *Life* 30 Oct. 40 In casual chatter the zingers [of Dick Cavett] are just as fast and frequent as they are on the show. 1975 *Homemaker's Mag.* Oct. 28/2 The Vancouver Status of Women group is planning to put out a booklet of useful zingers... Sometimes you just need one sharp line to show you mean business. 1979 *Courier-Mail* (Brisbane) 31 Mar. 76 (caption) One more zinger about my height, and I shall be compelled to thrash you mercilessly about the feet and ankles. 1980 *Maledicta* III. 254 Sorry. After having exhibited immense self-control not to quip... I just had to shoot off this little zinger.

b. A surprise question; an unexpected turn of events, e.g. in a plot.

1973 R. THOMAS *If you can't be Good* (1974) vii. 51, I would drone along... asking tired questions... Then I would throw in the zinger and watch what happened. 1976 *Publishers Weekly* 2 Feb. 91/1 There's a zinger toward the end, in which the nominal hit man gets hit, but it doesn't really compensate for the tedium the reader's gone through. 1983 *Fortune* 11 July 134/2 The supervisor should also encourage discussion... of what may seem like personal issues... In the process, though, be wary of 'zingers', heart-to-heart matters brought up at an awkward time, often near the end of a meeting.

Zingg (zɪŋ, tsɪŋ). *Petrol.* The name of Theodor Zingg (b. 1905), Swiss meteorologist and engineer, used attrib. with reference to his system of classification of pebble shapes, in which two ratios formed from three mutually perpendicular diameters are used to assign a pebble to one or other of certain basic shape classes.

1941 *Jrnl. Sedimentary Petrol.* XI. 67/1 (heading) Relation between sphericity and Zingg shape classes. 1949 F. J. PETTJOHN *Sedimentary Rocks* II. 49 (caption) Chart showing relationship between sphericity and Zingg shape indices. 1979 *Nature* 8 Feb. 496/3 Very simple probabilistic methods were used to estimate the formation of the four basic Zingg shapes (disks, spheres, blades and rods).

† zingho. Obs. rare. [? for It. zinco.] Zinc.

1743 WALPOLE *Lett. to Mann* 10 June, He promised me too to go to Lord Islay, to know what cobolt and zingho are.

zingiber ('zɪŋzɪbə(r)). [See GINGER.]

= GINGER sb. 1, 2.

1902 L. H. BAILEY *Cycl. Amer. Hort.* IV. 2010/1 Zingibers are occasionally cultivated as stove decorative plants. 1970 *Guardian* 2 June 12/5 Bottles... of everything from Advocaat to Zingiber wine. 1971 *Country Life* 20 May 1252/2 But the particular forte of most [herbs] is as permanent foliage foils for other, brighter things as well as in their own right, from angelica to zingiber.

zingiberaceous (zɪŋzɪbə'reɪʃəs), a. Bot. [f. mod.L. *Zingiberaceæ*, f. *Zingiber*: see GINGER sb. and -ACEOUS.] Belonging to the N.O. *Zingiberaceæ* of monocotyledonous plants, typified by the genus *Zingiber* (GINGER).

1846 SMART (ed. 2). 1869 A. R. WALLACE *Malay Archip.* I. iii. 51 A stream overgrown with Zingiberaceous plants.

zingo ('zɪŋɡəʊ), int. Chiefly U.S. [Echoic. Cf. ZING int.] = ZING int.

1914 *Sat. Even. Post* 17 Jan. 7/1 Just when he was bursting with happiness because he was going to be a real big leaguer and one of us—zingo! he was back where he started. 1941 B. SCHULBERG *What makes Sammy Run?* ii. 32 It didn't take nearly this long to think. It went zingo, just a look. 1968 *Sunday Times* 25 Aug. 29/5 The stock is 24 asked and I reach for it and I get 200 shares and it moves up 28, zingo. 1970 *New Yorker* 17 Oct. 40/3 Zingo, another pair of jokers... bust in.

zingy ('zɪŋɪ), a. [f. ZING sb. + -Y¹.] Energetic, exciting, lively. Also ellipt.

1948 [see MAMBO 1]. 1962 *Guardian* 7 Feb. 9/1 A zingy collection... that every with-it girl is going to adore. 1966 *Daily Tel.* 17 Aug. 11/5 With her own fashion taste, a delicate blend of the elegant and the zingy, a model like Fiona Campbell-Walter looks set for a great comeback career. 1968 *Globe & Mail* (Toronto) 3 Feb. 11/1 With some zingy comedy, they're an act that the regular club-haunters around town wait for. 1975 *Observer* 9 Nov. 22/6 A zingy Moselle, from a world famous estate. 1976 *Publishers Weekly* 16 Aug. 116/1 Some zingy, down-to-earth comments... She doesn't mince words.

Zinjanthropus (zɪn'dʒænθrəpəs). *Palæont.* [mod.L. (L. S. B. Leakey 1959, in *Nature* 15 Aug. 491/2), f. *Zinj*, ancient name for East Africa + Gr. *άνθρωπος* man.] = *Nutcracker Man* s.v. NUT-CRACKER 5.

1959 *Nature* 15 Aug. 493/2 *Zinjanthropus* comes from Olduvai Gorge. 1961, 1962 [see *Nutcracker Man* s.v. NUT-CRACKER 5]. 1973 B. J. WILLIAMS *Evolution & Human Origins* ix. 143/1 The species *Australopithecus robustus* includes... 'Zinjanthropus' from East Africa. 1977 A.

HALLAM *Planet Earth* 286 From the early beds... are recognized two kinds of hominids. One is *A. boisei* (sometimes called *Zinjanthropus*).

zink, obs. f. ZINC.

|| zinke ('zɪŋkɪ, 'tsɪŋkə). Also zincke, zink, zinka. [G.] A cornet-like musical instrument of wood or horn, formerly common in Europe; also, a loud reed-stop in an organ.

1776 HAWKINS *Hist. Mus.* II. iv. 452 Luscinius next exhibits the forms of four other wind instruments, namely, 1. the Ruspfeiff. 2. The Krumhorn. 3. The Gemen horn. And 4. the Zinke. [Note] The Gemen horn and Basaun... are to be found in many great organs in Germany, as is also the Zinke corruptly spelt Cink. 1889 *Grove's Dict. Mus.* IV. 511 Zink or Zinke. 1917 *Museums Jrl.* XVI. 239 A zinka (wind instrument) of the 17th century, made of ivory with ornamental mountings.

zinked: see ZINC v.

zinkenite, variant of ZINCKENITE.

zinkiferous, -ify, -ite: see ZINCIFEROUS, etc.

zinking: see ZINC v.

zinky ('zɪŋkɪ), a. Also zincky. [f. ZINC + -Y¹.] Pertaining to zinc; containing zinc.

1757 tr. J. F. Henckel's *Pyritologia* 176 The ground-mixture of this zinky matter. 1796 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 218 The Zincky ores.

zinnar, obs. f. CHENAR, plane-tree.

|| zinnia ('zɪniə). Bot. Also erron. zinia. [mod.L. (Linnæus, 1763), from the name of J. G. Zinn, a German botanist.] A plant of the genus so named of American composite plants, extensively cultivated for the beauty of their flowers.

1767 ABERCROMBIE *Ev. Man his own Gard.* (1803) 227 Sowing less tender Annuals... The principal sorts are... alkekengi or winter-cherry, tobacco-plant, zinnia, Indian corn. 1885 PATER *Marius* xi. I. 187 They visited the flower-market... and purchased zinnias... to decorate the folds of their togas. 1910 *Nation* 13 Aug. 702/1 The hot and scentless glare of zinnias and dahlias.

zinnobar ('zɪnəʊbə(r)). Also zinnobar. [a. G. *zinnobar* CINNABAR, vermillion.] *zinnobar green*: = *chrome green* (b) s.v. CHROME 3.

1895 *Montgomery Ward Catal.* Spring & Summer 252/3 Zinnobar Green, Light. Zinnobar Green, medium. Zinnobar Green, deep. 1897 *Sears, Roebuck Catal.* 360/3 Colors for Artists... Zinnobar Green, light. 1942 GETTENS & STOUT *Painting Materials* 178 Zinnobar Green is a term ordinarily synonymous with chrome green... which is a processed mixture of chrome yellow and Prussian blue. More specifically, it is given to mixtures that are olive in hue. 1973 F. TAUBES *Painter's Dict. Materials & Methods* 253 Zinnobar green is a mixture of Prussian blue and cadmium yellow.

zinnwaldite ('zɪnwɔldart). *Min.* [ad. G. *zinnwaldit* (Haidinger, 1845), f. *Zinnwald* in Bohemia, its locality.] A kind of mica containing lithium and iron, a variety of lepidolite.

1861 BRISTOW *Gloss. Min.*, Zinnwaldite, Haidinger.

zinopre, var. SINOPER Obs.

Zinoviev (zɪ'nɒviːɛf). Also Zinovieff. [The assumed name of Y. A. Radomyslsky (1883-1936).] *Zinoviev letter*: a letter published in the press in 1924 as having been sent by Zinoviev, a Russian statesman, to British Communists and urging them to commit subversive acts; it was later discovered to be a forgery.

1924 *Times* 28 Oct. 8/1 (heading) The Zinovieff letter. *Ibid.*, If the Zinovieff letter is a forgery, it shows the amount of scoundrelliness with which we are surrounded. 1925 (title) The 'Zinoviev' letter: report of investigation by British delegation to Russia. 1957 *Encycl. Brit.* XIII. 554/2 In the general election of 1924 the Labour party met with a serious reverse, largely because of the confusion attending the publication of the 'Zinoviev' letter. 1958 C. COCKBURN *Crossing Line* iv. 64 The timely forgery by the Intelligence Service of the 'Zinoviev letter'. 1972 'M. SINCLAIR' *Norstag* xi. 101 The stories in the 'twenties about the Zinovieff letter. 1979 *Guardian* 28 Apr. 32/8 Mr Benn told a Bristol audience that the Tories... were dragging out the old Zinoviev Letter technique.

Hence Zi'novievite, in Russia, a supporter of Zinoviev and his anti-Stalin faction in the 1920s and 1930s; also attrib. or as adj.

1937 *Foreign Affairs* XVI. 50 The Trotskyites and Zinovievites. *Ibid.* 64 Designated by the government of the U.S.S.R. as members of a 'Trotskyite-Zinovievite Center'. 1970 S. TALBOTT tr. *Khrushchev Remembers* (1971) i. 28 The Fifteenth Party Congress, at which Stalin and his supporters squared off against the Zinovievites, or 'Leningrad opposition', as they were then called. 1974 T. P. WHITNEY tr. *Solzhenitsyn's Gulag Archipelago* I. i. viii. 329 Centers keep creeping in all the time... Trotskyite-Zinovievite Centers, Rightist-Bukharinite Centers, but all of them are crushed.

zinziberaceous (zɪnzɪbə'reɪʃəs), a. Bot. = ZINGIBERACEOUS.

1864 in WEBSTER.

ziogoon, variant of SHOGUN.

Zion ('zaɪən). Forms: 1- Sion, 5 Syon, 7- Zion. [eccl. L. *Sion*, Gr. *Σιών*, *Σιών*, a. Heb. *tsiyōn*.] The name of one of the hills of Jerusalem, on which the city of David was built, and which became the centre of Jewish life and worship; in biblical and derived use, allusively for: The house or household of God; and hence connoting variously, the Israelites and their religious system, the Christian Church, heaven as the final home of believers, a place of worship or meeting-house (cf. BETHEL, EBENEZER 2).

c 1000 Ps. lxxxiv. 7 in Ælfric *Hom.* II. 334 Ða halgan farað fram mihte to mihte; ealra goda God bið gesewen on Sion. 1382 WYCLIF *Isa.* li. 16 That thou plaunte heuenus, and founde erthe, and sey to Sion, My puple thou art. 1450-1530 Myrr. *our Ladye* z As ye are doughtres of this bodely Syon, so ought ye to be doughtres of Syon gostly. *Ibid.* 147 By Syon . . . ys vnderstonde sowles that are gyuen to contemplacyon, where in oure lorde Iesu chryste ys sewrely stabled. a 1542 WYATT *Penit. Ps.* iv. 77 Make Syon, Lord, acording to thy will, Inward Syon, the Syon of the ghost. 1611 Bible Ep. Ded., Many, who wished not well vnto our Sion. 1779 J. NEWTON *Hymn*, 'Glorious things of thee are spoken' v. Solid joys and lasting treasure None but Zion's children know. 1823 GALT R. *Gilhaize* vii. That same city of St. Andrews is the Zion of Scotland. Of old, the glad tidings of salvation were first heard there. 1871 R. B. VAUGHAN *Life S. Thomas of Aquin* II. 859 As if the Basilica of S. Peter's were brought into juxtaposition with the Zions and Ebenezers of our more modern days.

Hence **Zioner**, a member of an organized religious body; **Zionless** a. fig., having no centre of common worship.

1760 RUTTY *Spir. Diary* (ed. 2) 158 O the carelessness of our Sioners. 1908 F. SPENCE *Chr. Reunion* ix. 170 The tribes must remain Zion-less without the Ecclesia.

Zionism ('zaɪnɪz(ə)m). [f. prec. + -ISM.] A movement among modern Jews having for its object the assured settlement of their race upon a national basis in Palestine; after 1948, concerned chiefly with the development of the State of Israel (see ISRAEL 3).

1896 *Jewish Chron.* 15 May 10/1, I would ask them . . . to consider whether Zionism . . . really deserves to be preached down as a standing danger to Israel's progress. *Ibid.* 28 Aug. 6/1 Zionism does not necessarily aim at the formation of a Jewish State in Palestine. 1904 *Times* 5 May 15/2 Zionism had actually penetrated the West End Synagogue. 1948 *Sunday Pictorial* 18 July 7/6 The Government took office solemnly pledged to support Zionism. 1949 [see REVISIONISM 2]. 1955 *Ann. Reg.* 1954 241 Social democracy . . . and Zionism were . . . repeatedly condemned. 1955 *Times* 9 May 9/3 It happened that Jewish workers in considerable numbers were the first to come to Palestine in answer to the appeal of Zionism. 1975 *Globe & Mail* (Toronto) 14 Nov. 7/6 To [Jews], Zionism is and remains a precious term of honor, tied to the heart of their religious and national dreams.

'Zionist. Also **Sion-**.

1. [f. ZIONISM.] A supporter of Zionism; also *attrib.* or as *adj.*

1896 *Jewish Chron.* 17 Jan. 12/2 The emigration and Zionist societies. *Ibid.* 28 Aug. 6/1 Many of those who worship the national ideal are Zionists; not all though, nor do all Zionists share the national idea. 1906 *Times* 29 Oct. 10/5 The Zionist Congress, which is the nearest approach to a Jewish Parliament, permitting women deputies equally with men. 1906 *Q. Rev.* Oct. 589 The Sionists, who are a small minority of the Jews. 1923 *Jewish Chron.* 19 Jan. 5/1 It will be seen from this how far right the Zionist leaders, Dr. Weizmann and Mr. Sokolow in particular, were in the estimate they put upon that Statement. 1940 E. GILL *Autobiogr.* vii. 252 The agricultural, arboricultural and horticultural work of the young Zionist colonies . . . superb in itself and of great educational benefit to the Arabs. 1955 *Times* 9 May 9/3 The private sector—politically represented in the main by the General Zionists. 1966 C. POROK *Chosen* (1967) xiii. 213 He had become involved in Zionist activities and was always attending meetings where he spoke about the importance of Palestine as a Jewish homeland. 1977 *Time* 30 May 10/2 Begin . . . joined the youth organization of the Zionist-Revisionists, a group of right wing militants who condemn the regular Zionist leadership as misguided and soft.

2. A member of any of a group of independent churches in southern Africa similar to pentecostal churches but containing distinctive African elements of worship and belief. [Named after the first such church, the Christian Catholic Apostolic Church in Zion, brought from Chicago to S. Africa in 1904.]

1948 B. G. M. SUNDKLER *Bantu Prophets in S. Africa* ii. 55 Theologically the Zionists are now a syncretistic Bantu movement with healing, speaking with tongues, purification rites, and taboos as the main expressions of their faith. 1956 H. BLOOM *Episode* xvii. 318 Among the crowd were a number of Sunday pilgrims, location Zionists of various sects. 1970 *Standard Encycl. Southern Afr.* II. 55/1 Most 'Zionists' have a characteristic form of dress, worn to all services by all members: long dresses and capes, mostly white, decorated with coloured figures (stars, crosses, rings, angels, etc.), veils for women and special forms of headdress for men. *Ibid.*, The 'Zionist' phase has led to extensive proliferation of small groups. 1977 *Time* 27 June 18/3 Some aspects of the old Soweto still exist: the neatly kept gardens of middle-class black homes; . . . the Zionists, an Africanized Christian sect, famous for their daylong religious dances that begin at prayer services in backyard tents on Saturday nights.

Zionite ('zaɪnaɪt). [f. ZION + -ITE¹.]

a. A citizen of Zion; one of the chosen people of God. b. One of a sect so called: see quot. 1886.

1675 T. BROOKS *Gold. Key Wks.* 1867 V. 342 The Zionites, the people of God, the citizens of Zion. 1882-3 *Schaff's Encycl. Relig. Knowl.* II. 1604 The Zionites in Norway. 1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XX. 842/2 Founded in 1737 by the followers of Elias Eller, a religious enthusiast, Ronsdorf received town-rights in 1745. The Ronsdorf sect, the members of which called themselves Zionites, is now extinct.

Zionward(s) ('zaɪnɪwəd(z), *adv.* [f. ZION + -WARD(S.) Towards Zion; usually fig. heavenwards.

1705 R. SMYTH *Lett.* 17 Feb. in *Lett. J. Pinney* (1939) 117, I am sure there are too few y^t sett their faces Zionward, here in this Town. 1815 A. BURN *Mem.* (1816) I. 35 The same . . . Sun of Righteousness to guide our faces Zionward. 1836 HOR. SMITH *Tin Trump.*, *Christianity* (1890) 83 They are too polite to travel Zionward in such company. 1861 EDMOND *Children's Ch. at Home* xxi. 325 The faces of all are Zionwards.

zip (zip), *sb.*¹ *colloq.* [Imitative.]

1. (Often reduplicated *zip, zip*, or *zip-zip*.) A syllable expressing a light sharp sound such as that produced by a bullet or other small or slender object passing rapidly through the air or through some obstacle, or by the tearing of canvas or the like; a sound of this kind, or movement accompanied by such sound.

1875 FOGG *Arabistan* xxi. 264 The blood-thirsty zip of mosquitoes by the million. 1885 *Century Mag.* May 134/1 The ping, zip, zip of bullets. 1887 D. C. MURRAY in *Good Words* Apr. 249 The zip of the needle and swish of the thread went on. 1899 KIPPLING *Stalky* ii. 55 Another buck-shot tore through the rotten canvas tilt with a vicious zip. 2. *fig.* Energy, force, impetus.

1900 LORIMER *Old Gorgon Graham* xi. (1904) 225, I need . . . a little more zest for my food, and a little more zip about my work. 1907 N. MUNRO *Daft Days* xxxii, That's how I feel . . . when I've got the zip of poetry in me.

3. Nothing, nought, zero. Cf. ZILCH *sb.* (and *a.*) *colloq.* (orig. and chiefly U.S.).

1900 *Dialect Notes* II. 70 Zip, n., a zero in marks. 1904 *N.Y. World Mag.* 1 May 6/5 'Zip' is the same as 'zero'. 1927 *Amer. Speech* III. 455 *Suaboo, zip, zero*. 1972 D. E. WESTLAKE *Cops & Robbers* (1973) viii. 111 Before this, neither one of us had known zip about stocks and bonds. 1976 *Times* 27 Apr. 10/8 The successful team are said to have won one-nothing, one-zero or, more fashionably now, one-zip. 1977 J. CHEEVER *Falconer* 65 Armed robbery. Zip to ten. Second offense. 1980 J. KRANTZ *Princess Daisy* xxv. 443 No launch, no commercials, no nothing. Zip! Finished! Over!

4. Also zipp. A form of fastener for clothes, luggage, etc., consisting of two flexible strips with interlocking projections closed or opened by a sliding clip pulled along them. In full, *zip-fastener*, *-fastening* (see sense 5 below). Cf. ZIPPER.

1928 E. M. FORSTER *Arthur Snatchfold in Life to Come* (1972) 102 He felt the shirt . . . and he gave the zip at the throat a downward pull. 1940 *Punch* 5 June 612/2 Miss Fisher used to wear some lovely plum-coloured trousers with a zip to match. 1957 J. BRAINE *Room at Top* ix. 90 There was too much messing about with buttons and zips and straps. 1969 *Homes & Gardens* Nov. 190/1, I lost marks in a dressmaking competition because the zipp was machine-stitched in. 1972 *Lancet* 10 June 1271/1 The plain apron front has an off-centre . . . fastening by a heavy-duty metal 'Zipp', 30 in. long. 1985 *Vogue* July 77 Over this go . . . flared shorts . . . some with zips placed to show net pockets but a sliver of flesh.

5. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as (sense 4), *zip bag*, *-bedding*, *-case*, *-fastener*, *-fastening*, *-front*, *-jacket*, *-pocket*, *-shirt*, *-side*, *-suit*, *-top*; *zip-fastened*, *-topped* *adjs.*; zip gun U.S. *colloq.*, a cheap home-made or makeshift gun; zip lock U.S., used *attrib.* to denote plastic bags with an airtight fastening of two interlocking strips; also (a proprietary name) Ziploc; zip-top *a.*, = *ring-pull* *adj.* s.v. RING *sb.*¹ 19 a.

1937 L. MACNEICE in Auden & MacNeice *Lett. from Iceland* 133 The permutations . . . of zip bags. Of compacts . . . and coiffures. 1948 W. FORTESCUE *Beauty for Ashes* xxx. 235 Only at Croyden did I discover that my small zip bags had been stowed away in a locker directly under my legs. 1933 T. E. LAWRENCE *Home Lett.* (1954) 384 The new zipp-bedding is a great success. 1960 N. KNEALE *Quatermass & Pit* i. 22 The Minister's Private Secretary enters quickly, clutching a zip-case. 1950 J. CANNAN *Murder Included* vii. 158 A brown zip-fastened handbag. 1927 *Daily Express* 22 Nov. 3/5 Many of the new sports suits have zip-fasteners. 1973 A. PRICE *October Men* vii. 95 He stumbled down the nearest alleyway . . . fumbling as he went for the zip-fastener on his fly. 1927 *Daily Express* 6 Sept. 3/4 The airwoman's costume of tango suede, complete from the zip fastening to the little hat . . . is attracting many admirers. 1942 'M. INNES' *Daffodil Affair* i. 24 The poms of death: dissolution had once been a comfortably solid affair. Now it was papier-mâché coffins and zipp-fastening shrouds. 1965 *N.Y. Herald-Tribune* 11 Apr. 8 Zip-front seersucker 'skimma'. 1974 *Harrods Xmas Catal.* 9/1 Hostess gown with zip-front. 1950 *N.Y. Post* 29 Sept. 2 Three Bronx schoolboys were held by police today after admitting shooting off a home-made 'zip' gun. . . . It was fashioned of a 6-inch stainless steel tube taped to a wooden block with an ordinary closet bolt for a 'trigger'. By means of a rubber band, a long .22 caliber bullet could be shot from it. 1971 B. MALAMUD *Tenants* 103, I . . . had thoughts to kill him off with my zip gun but was afraid to. 1984 *Listener* 7 June 7/2 With the decline of this chicano movement and the increase in sophisticated

weapons—zip-guns were replaced with sawn-off shotguns and sometimes automatic weapons—violence rocketed in the Seventies. 1958 *Spectator* 6 June 729/1 A blue zip jacket and slacks. 1970 *Official Gaz.* (U.S. Patent Office) 17 Feb. TM134 *Ziploc*. The Dow Chemical Company. . . Filed 9-9-68. 1977 C. McFADDEN *Serial* (1978) I. 107/1 Spenser rummaged among the Ziploc bags in his briefcase. 1982 *Town Crier* (McAllen, Texas) 31 Mar. 1-A/4 Wrapped in foil in a clear zip lock bag. 1979 *Daily Tel.* 20 Nov. 3/1 When Mrs Robabeh Moheby . . . was strip-searched, a bundle of banknotes was found in a zip pocket in her knickers. 1976 *Morecambe Guardian* 7 Dec. 32/4 (Adv't.), Boys short-sleeved, zip shirts. 1940 *Punch* 4 Dec. p. xvii. (Adv't.), A Dunlopillo sleeping bag. It has . . . soft upper lining, zip side, . . . and makes an ideal holdall. 1978 F. MULLALLY *Deadly Payoff* ii. 25 He handed Fernandez a zip-suit of grubby white fatigues. 1970 *Times* 16 Feb. p. iii. Ring-pull and zip-top cans are already available. 1974 *Harrods Xmas Catal.* 18/1 Bag . . . with side pocket, zip top. 1976 *Globe & Mail* (Toronto) 30 Dec. 27/6 Here plastic fish surface and bob for zip-top rings from beer and pop cans. 1979 *This England* Winter 19/3 She folded her cap inside her apron and pushed both into her zip-topped bag.

zip (zip), *sb.*² U.S. Also Z.I.P., ZIP, Zip. [f. the initials of Zoning Improvement Plan.] Used esp. *attrib.* in *zip code*: a series of digits representing a particular area in a city, etc., used in addressing mail (see quot.).

1963 *N.Y. Times* 5 May 86/3 Z.I.P. codes, for the present at least, are for big business, and more particularly big users of the mails such as publishers, banks, insurance companies and mail-order houses. 1964 *N.Y. Times Book Rev.* 5 Apr. 3/2 Among his petty peevs are . . . Zip codes and automatic telephone dialling. 1969 *Computers & Humanities* IV. 69 The zip code has been another, but less successful, step towards using computer recognition to improve our lives. *Ibid.*, Once a person has miswritten the zip, the computer just misdirects the mail. 1973 *Black Panther* 21 July 16/2 (Please print) Name . . . Address . . . City . . . State/Zip. 1975 *New Yorker* 5 May 2 (Adv't.), In ordering a change of address, subscribers should give four weeks' notice, providing both old and new addresses, with Zip Codes. 1977 *Chicago Tribune* 2 Oct. vi. 26/4 A 13-cent U.S. commemorative honoring 50 years of talking pictures will go on sale Thursday in Hollywood, Cal., where the postmaster Zip is 90028. 1980 *Christian Sci. Monitor* (Mid-western ed.) 4 Dec. 2/2 The Postal Board of Governors . . . withheld final approval of a controversial plan to expand ZIP codes to nine digits.

zip, *v.* [f. ZIP *sb.*¹.]

1. *intr.* to make the sound expressed by 'zip'; also to move briskly or with speed.

1852 *Knickerbocker* XL. 182 How we did 'z-i-p!' Seven miles, at one time, in less than seven minutes. 1897 KIPPLING *Day's Work* (1898) 234, I heard my flanges zipping along the ties. 1907 A. BENNETT *Grim Smile of Five Towns* 222 'Let her zip,' said Mr. Colclough. 1915 STRATTON-PORTER *M. O'Halloran* xix, [A snake] that would . . . coil zipping mad over the warm twisting body. 1922 S. LEWIS *Babbitt* xviii. 221 Everything zips at the Chatham Road Church. 1929 *Evening News* 3 Jan. 4/2 He . . . hardly saw it [sc. the ball] after it pitched, as it zipped off the ground and whipped round his bat to take the off stump. 1958 *Daily Mail* 24 Feb. 12/2, I found the man . . . zipping round the garden . . . on a toy trike. 1967 *Electronics* 6 Mar. 46/2 Rail travelers will be able to make telephone calls while zipping along at speeds of up to 160 miles an hour from New York City to Washington, D.C. 1976 *Guardian Weekly* 26 Sept. 9/3 The millions of Orange County commuters, who zip past on the Santa Ana Freeway each morning. 1984 *Times* 30 Nov. 11/2 Even though she is likely to spend as much time immersed to the elbows in washing up as zipping down the slopes, there is no stigma of 'service' attached to the job.

2. *trans.* To close with a zip-fastener. Freq. const. *up* and with a person being or getting dressed as obj. Also *intr.* for *pass.* and *refl.* Also *fig.*

1932 A. HUXLEY *Brave New World* iii. 50 He zipped up his trousers. 1936 *Sears Catal.* 163/4 Easy to 'Zip' baby in and out! 1939 *Punch* 11 Oct. 412/2 The most marvellous outfits . . . that you step into and zip up. 1942 *Time* 23 Feb. 78 (Adv't.), Zips flawlessly. 1942 in *Amer. Speech* (1943) XVIII. 305/2 Zip your lip. 1944 *Penguin New Writing* xx. 60 Zipping on her enchanted house-coat over her night-dress. 1948 *Chicago Tribune* 28 Mar. (Comics) 4 Stand still, now, while I zip you up! 1956 G. N. PATTERSON *God's Fool* i. 14 Shivering in the icy atmosphere, [I] zipped myself into my double-layer sleeping bag. 1968 B. HINES *Kestrel for Knave* 23 His mother pulled her skirt on and tried to zip it on the hip. 1973 J. DRUMMOND *Bang! Bang! You're Dead!* viii. 13 Authority, including the B.B.C., did not speculate about guilt. Mouths were carefully zipped. 1980 T. BARLING *Goodbye Piccadilly* ii. 36 The cistern flushed and Cave emerged, zipping up.

b. The verb-stem in combination, as *zip-down*, *-in*, *-off*, *-on*, *-out*, *-over*, *-up*, *adjs.*

1971 C. BONINGTON *Annapurna South Face* 241 [Breeches with] zip-down side to allow putting on over boots and crampons. 1974 *Amer. Speech* 1970 XLV. 179 *Chil-dodger* . . . zip-in garment to be worn under jackets, coats, or over lounge clothes for extra warmth. 1957 *Housewife* Sept. 26 Zip-off covers for easy cleaning. 1974 *Harper's & Queen* Sept. 36/2 Zip-off mink £925, extra maxi piece £300. 1959 *Housewife* June 57 Silk cushions. . . with zip-on covers. 1963 *New Yorker* 26 Oct. 6 Enter the Chesterfield in Black Tweed . . . with warm acrylic pile zip-out liner. 1962 'A. GILBERT' *No Dust in Attic* v. 63 He'd left his luggage . . . one of the zip-over bags. 1959 M. SHADBOLT *New Zealanders* 26 He wore an open-neck check shirt and a zip-up jacket. 1973 'D. RUTHERFORD' *Kick Start* i. 12 The zip-up calf-length boots. 1985 *Times* 24 Jan. 3/2 He was described as aged between 18 and 20, of West Indian appearance . . . wearing a beige zip-up jacket.

3. *trans.* To beat (an opposing team) comprehensively by not allowing it to score. Cf. ZIP *sb.*¹ 3.

1976 *Daily News* (N.Y.) 16 Jan. 82 The Adams Division leaders zipped Los Angeles, 4-0. **1978** *Time* 16 Jan. 66 The Broncos went out and beat the hell out of them, then the next week, went and zipped Cleveland.

Hence **zipping** *vbl. sb.*; **zipped** *ppl. a.*, fastened or provided with a zip. Also **zipped-in**, **-up** *adjs.* Also *fig.*

1881 J. M. BATTEN *Remin. Two Yrs. U.S. Navy* 72, I heard the zipping of bullets in the air close to my head. **1944** [see *slide fastener* s.v. SLIDE- a]. **1946** 'S. RUSSELL' *To Bed with Grand Music* i. 13 She picked up her mother's zipped travelling bag. **1959** *Listener* 2 Apr. 593/2 The chemical configuration of starch... is a long zipped-up chain of glucose molecules. **1959** *Times* 5 Oct. 6/2 A zipped-in detachable lining. **1966** T. PYNCHON *Crying of Lot 49* vi. 158 Blobb inquired around about the Trystero organization, running into zipped mouths nearly every way he turned. **1972** D. HASTON *In High Places* xi. 117 Down suit and fully zipped windproofs. **1982** M. KENYON *God Squad Bod* ii. 22 Zipped-up moneybags, satchels and briefcases.

Zipf (zipf). The name of George Kingsley Zipf (1902-50), American linguist, used in the possessive in *Zipf's law*, a principle in *Psycholinguistics* (see *quots.*).

1960 É. DELAVENAY *Introd. Machine Transl.* v. 68 To lend support to arguments based on Zipf's law, Yngve produced evidence likely to convince unbelievers. **1967** M. SCHLAUCH *Language & Study of Languages Today* vii. 143 Some three decades ago, G. K. Zipf undertook to investigate what relation, if any, exists between the length of words and their frequency of occurrence in sample languages chosen for investigation. He came to the conclusion that the length of a word tends to decrease as its relative frequency of use increases... The formula... has come to be known as 'Zipf's Law', often quoted if also sometimes questioned. **1971** *Jrnl. General Psychol.* Oct. 297 Zipf's law predicts an inverse ratio in the rank order distribution of varieties such that a minimal number of varieties covers a maximal number of responses and a maximal number of varieties covers a minimal number of responses. **1980** *Verbatim* Spring 9/2 A psycholinguist will say that this phenomenon is working proof of Zipf's Law, which states loosely that one can generally determine the relative age of a particular word or phrase by how short it has become.

Ziph (zɪf). [Origin unknown.] An invented language used at Winchester College.

1853 DE QUINCEY *Autobiogr. Sketches* I. vii. 209 Lord Westport and I communicated our thoughts occasionally by means of a language... which bore the name of *Ziph*. The language and the name were both derived... from Winchester. **1922** O. JESPERSEN *Lang.* viii. 150 'Ziph' or 'Hypernese' (at Winchester) substitutes *wa* for the first of two initial consonants and inserts *p* or *g*, making 'breches' into *warechepes*. **1942** E. PARTRIDGE *Usage & Abuse* 160/2 *Gibberish* is applied mostly to Ziph (*shagall wege gogo* = shall we go).

ziphioid ('zɪfiɔɪd), *a.* and *sb.* *Zool.* Also *erron.* ziphoid. [f. mod.L. *Ziphius* (Cuvier, 1834), *erron.* form for *Xiphius*, ad. Gr. *ξίφιος*, var. form of *ξίφίας* swordfish, XIPHIAS; see -OID.]

a. adj. Resembling or allied to the genus *Ziphius* of whales; belonging to or having the characteristics of the family *Ziphiidae*. *b. sb.* A ziphioid whale. Also 'ziphian'; so 'ziphiiform *a.*', having the form of a whale of this genus.

1870 FLOWER *Osteol. Mamm.* iv. 40 In *Hyperoodon*, and most of the other Ziphioids, the whole of the cervical vertebrae are ankylotized together. **1870** *Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist.* Ser. iv. VI. 348 A Ziphioid Whale, probably *Berardius Arnuxii*. **1876** TOMES *Dental Anat.* iii. 56 The *Micropteron*, a ziphioid Cetacean. *Ibid.* ix. 288 The Cetaceans classed together as Ziphioids have no teeth in the upper jaw. **1896** R. J. ANDERSON *Whales & Dolphin* ii. 13 In Ziphians the ribs are ten. *Ibid.* 14 In Sternum of the Ziphian kind A hole at middle, you will find.

ziphoide, *erron.* var. XIPHOID.

ziphre, *obs.* form of CIPHER *sb.*

'**zipless**, *a. coarse slang.* [f. ZIP *sb.*¹ 4 + -LESS.] Denoting a brief and passionate sexual encounter.

1973 E. JONG *Fear of Flying* i. 11 My response... was... to evolve my fantasy of the Zipless Fuck... Zipless because when you came together zippers fell away like petals. **1978** G. VIDAL *Kalki* iii. 79 Girls who feared flying tended to race blindly through zipless fucks. **1984** *Times* 2 Nov. 11/1 This small hand I'm shaking... launched a thousand zipless erotic encounters for her heroine.

zippeite ('zɪptɪt). *Min.* [ad. G. *zippeit* (Haidinger, 1845), named after F. X. M. Zippe, a German mineralogist.] A sulphate of uranium, occurring in small bright yellow needles.

1854 R. D. THOMSON *Cycl. Chem.*

zipper ('zɪpə(r)), *sb.* orig. U.S. [f. ZIP *sb.* + -ER¹.]

1. = ZIP *sb.* 4. Also *transf.* and *fig.*

Zipper was registered in the U.S. as a trade mark in April 1925 (with use of the term claimed since June 1923), but in the sense 'boots made of rubber and fabric'. It is no longer a proprietary term in any of its uses. Quot. 1925, which appeared in the first Supplement to the *O.E.D.* (1933), and in the *Dictionary of Americanisms*, does not appear in surviving copies of *Scribner's Mag.*

1925 *Scribner's Mag.* Oct. 22/2 (Advt.), No fastening is so quick, secure, or popular as the 'zipper'. **1928** *Daily Express* 11 Oct. 5/5 Bootees...fastening with 'zippers', press studs, or inset clips. **1933** A. G. MACDONNELL *England, their England* viii. 130 Brown leather jenkins fastened up the front

with that singular arrangement which is called a zipper. **1957** *New Yorker* 29 June 24/2 He hated fiddling with things like zippers caught on tiny strips of cloth. **1959** *Listener* 2 Apr. 593/2 We possess a biological zipper—an enzyme—which enables us to undo the chain [of the glucose molecules of starch]. **1966** F. SHAW et al. *Lern Yerself Scouse* 21 *Purra zipper on it*, please be silent. **1979** R. JAFFE *Class Reunion* i. xi. 105 She reached for the zipper of her skirt.

2. *attrib.* and *Comb.*, as **zipper bag**, **fastener**, **fastening**, etc.

1925 *Harper's Bazaar* June 108/3 (Advt.), A 'zipper' closing bag sometimes used to carry champagne. **1925** *Scribner's Mag.* June 31/1 (Advt.), The most convenient and attractive form of the pocket purse is this one of lizard calf, leather lined, with a zipper fastening. **1928** *Daily Express* 15 Aug. 4/3 One 12-inch zipper fastener. *Ibid.* 11 Oct. 5/5 Zipper-fastened. **1937** D. ALDIS *Time at her Heels* ix. 196 He was wearing his dark blue zipper jacket. **1939** A. KEITH *Land below Wind* xx. 311 There were two zipper bags with dutiable goods. **1941** [see FLY *sb.*² 4a]. **1959** C. WILLIAMS *Man in Motion* vii. 81 The briefcase... was a slender one, of the type with no handles, zipper-closed. **1960** M. SPARK *Ballad Peckham Rye* ii. 22 He sat down among his belongings, which were partly in and partly out of his zipper bag. **1969** *Sears Catal.* Spring/Summer 6 Center zipper pocket divides bag into two handy sections. **1978** *Lancashire Life* Mar. 70 (Advt.), Ladies zipper coats £11.50. **1982** R. RENDELL *Master of Moor* xvi. 175 He put on the zipper jacket and went out.

'**zipper**, *v.* orig. U.S. [f. the *sb.*] *trans.* To fasten with a zipper. Also *transf.* and *fig.* Freq. const. *up*.

1930 J. LAIT *Put on Spot* 215 Zipper. To shut something up, principally the mouth. **1935** N. ERSINE *Underworld & Prison Slang* 80 *Zipper, v.*, to cease talking. (Almost invariably the term is a command.) 'Zipper that mug!' **1961** *John o' London's* 5 Oct. 398/2 Jean Renoir himself capering about zippered up... in a bear-suit. **1966** D. F. GALOUE *Lost Perception* vi. 60 Driving wind... tunnelled through the TUT's open cab and Forsythe zippered up his jacket. **1971** *Nature* 3 Sept. 48/2 It seems to act by zippering together chromosomes which have their homologous telomeres attached next to each other at the nuclear membrane. **1974** H. L. FOSTER *Ribbin', Jivin', & playin' Dozens* vi. 284 After he tucked in his shirt, he closed his pants, zippered them up, put his belt back, and then left. **1984** *Sunday Tel.* (Colour Suppl.) 19 Feb. 12/3 Much was made of the 'keep it zippered' dressing-down he gave to his fellow-astronauts.

'**zippered**, *ppl. a.* orig. U.S. [f. ZIPPER *sb.* + -ED².] Fastened with a zipper; having a zipper.

1939 *Times* 31 Mar. 19/7 A charming wool frock with sun-ray decoration round the neck and neatly zippered might be chosen. **1941** *Time* 25 Aug. 2/3 His zippered ankle-high shoes. **1959** *Harrods News* Summer 15 Pigskin clothes brush with zippered top. **1971** B. MALAMUD *Tenants* 35 A bulky zippered briefcase was squeezed under his left arm. **1982** S. RADLEY *Talent for Destruction* vi. 36 A thin man in a zippered fawn cardigan.

Zippo ('zɪpəʊ). Also **zippo**. The proprietary name of a make of cigarette lighter.

1934 *Official Gaz.* (U.S. Patent Office) 10 July 270 Zippo Manufacturing Company, Bradford, Pa... Zippo for pocket lighter of the pyrophoric type. **1938** *Trade Marks Jrnl.* 16 Mar. 320/1 *Zippo*...Pyrophoric lighters. Miriam Barcroft Blaisdell...trading as Zippo Manufacturing Company,... Bradford, State of Pennsylvania, United States of America; manufacturers. **1964** G. McDONALD *Running Scared* iii. 35 The Zippo lighter he had given Casey. **1966** G. LYALL *Shooting Script* xxii. 174 Luiz flicked a Zippo under my nose. **1977** MCKNIGHT & TOBLER *Bob Marley* ix. 108 A novel sleeve made to look like a zippo lighter. *Ibid.* 112 Gone was the zippo, replaced by a picture of Marley smoking a kingsize splif. **1982** R. LUDLUM *Parsifal Mosaic* viii. 111 He extracted one [cigarette] and lit it with an old, tarnished Zippo purchased a quarter of a century ago.

zippy ('zɪpɪ), *a. colloq.* (orig. U.S.). [f. ZIP *sb.* 2 + -Y¹.] Bright, lively, energetic; fresh, invigorating; fast, speedy.

1904 G. ADE *True Bills* 108 Vivian, our bright-eyed little Daughter... is the zippiest High-Flyer that speeds the Boulevard. **1917** *National Police Gazette* 25 Aug. 2/4 It bubbles o'er with song and jest, Its fun is keen and 'zippy'. **1926** *Bulletin* (Glasgow) 26 Oct. 18/2 A zippy show is 'Cheerio' at the Glasgow Empire this week. **1939** *Better English* Jan. 29 (heading) Your words—are they zippy? **1953** *Amer. Mercury* Jan. 67/2 The March evening was zippy outside but cupped in it the breath of spring. **1959** I. JEFFERIES *Thirteen Days* xii. 202 My idea... was to get a zippy load into Richon and then move on to T.A. **1966** R. H. RIMMER *Harrod Experiment* (1967) 161 All we have to do now is to put together a zippy script. **1971** *Daily Tel.* 23 June 11/6 The engine warms up rapidly and provides zippy acceleration. **1980** M. BROADBENT *Great Vintage Wine Bk.* 134 Ch. Potensac. Zippy little wine. **1984** *Guardian* 5 Nov. 12/1 One advantage to being on Castleton social services committee is that they do have zippy meetings.

Hence 'zippily *adv.*; 'zippiness.

1924 WODEHOUSE *Bill the Conqueror* viii. 152 This series on Bookmakers' Swindling Methods... had always reached a fair level of zippiness; but never... had it so outzipped itself as in the present instalment. **1983** *Times* 10 June 17/6 The piece is zippily played... and sung with immense liveliness.

ziraleet ('zɪrəlɪt). [Arabic; cf. *zaghrata*, *zaghlata* to utter the cries of joy called *zaghrūta*^h or *zaghrīta*^h, pl. *zaghārūt* (Dozy).] (See *quot.* 1794.)

1794 A. Russell's *Aleppo* (ed. 2) I. 382 The Ziraleet, or Zilroota [*zīlḡūtāh*], (as written by a native of Aleppo) is the common manner of a company of women expressing joy, or any sudden exultation. The words expressed are Lillé, Lillé, Lillé, repeated as often as the person can do at one breath. **1817** MOORE *Lalla R., Veiled Prophet* iii. ix. And light your shrines and chaunt your ziraleets.

In N. & Q. Ser. vi. VI. 268 'A lark's ziraleet' is said to be used by Longfellow.

ziram ('zairəm). [f. zinc dimethyl dithiocarbamate, the systematic name: see CARBAMATE.] A white powder used as a fungicide, esp. on vegetables and some fruit crops; Zn(S·CS·N(CH₃)₂)₂.

1950 [see ZINEB]. **1960** [see FERBAM]. **1969** *New Scientist* 8 May 299/2 The two main breakdown products of the fungicide, ziram (zinc dimethyldithiocarbamate) were carbon disulphide and dimethylamine. **1981** *Jrnl. Agric. & Food Chem.* XXIX. 729 The limit of detection in water solutions for zineb, ziram, and thiram was 0.05, 0.01, and 0.01 ppm, respectively.

Ziranian, var. SIRYENIAN *sb.* and *a.*

ziraph, *obs.* form of GIRAFFE.

†**zirbal**, *a. Obs. rare.* [f. late L. *zirbus* + -AL¹.] Of or pertaining to the *zirbus* or omentum.

1547 BOORDE *Brev. Health* cccx, There be thre kyndes of ratures, the fyrst is zirbale.

zircaloy ('zɜːkəlɔɪ). Also **zircalloy**. [f. ZIRC(ONIUM + ALLOY *sb.*] Any of several alloys of zirconium, tin, and other metals that are used chiefly as cladding for nuclear reactor fuel.

1956 THOMAS & FORSCHER in *Jrnl. Metals* VIII. 640/1 Zircaloy-2, a low alloy of zirconium, was developed by the Westinghouse Atomic Power Div. during 1952. **1963** H. R. CLAUSER *Encycl. Engin. Materials & Processes* 769/1 Zircaloy resists corrosion very well in high-temperature water and steam. **1973** *Nature* 2 Feb. 318/1 The rods are zirconium alloy (zircalloy) tubes filled with pellets of uranium dioxide (UO₂) ceramic. **1977** J. H. SCHEMEL *ASTM Manual on Zirconium & Hafnium* (ASTM Special Technical Publ. No. 639) i. 6 Zircaloy is used to designate a series of zirconium, tin, iron, chromium, nickel alloys developed by the U.S. Navy Nuclear Propulsion Program for nuclear service in water-cooled reactors. Zircaloy-1 and Zircaloy-3 are obsolete. Zircaloy-2 and Zircaloy-4 are the most commonly used alloys in nuclear service.

zircon-: see ZIRCONIO-.

zircon ('zɜːkən). *Min.* Also 8 circon, 9 zircone. [ad. F. *zircone*, G. *zirkon*; see JARGON *sb.*²]

a. A native silicate of zirconium, occurring in tetragonal crystals, variously coloured, red, yellow, brown, green, etc.

Colourless and translucent varieties are used as gems: cf. HYACINTH 1 b, JARGON *sb.*²

1794 KIRWAN *Elem. Min.* (ed. 2) I. 14 Jargonie Earth or Jargonia. This earth has been discovered by Mr. Klaproth; it has as yet been found only in the stone called Jargon, or Ciron, of Ceylon. **1815** J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 453 Zircon is destitute of taste and smell, and is harsh to the touch. **1849** D. CAMPBELL *Inorg. Chem.* 160 Zirconia; Sesquioxide of zirconium... This oxide is found combined with silicic acid in the mineral zircons. **1902** *Encycl. Brit.* XXVIII. 613/2 The zircon, jargon, or hyacinth is a very beautiful stone, varying in colour, like the topaz, from red and yellow to green and blue.

b. attrib. and *Comb.*, as **zircon crystal**, **earth**, **fossil**, **zircon-like** *adj.*; **zircon blue**, a light blue colour; **zircon-syenite** (see *quot.*).

1949 *Brit. Colour Council Dict. Colours* III. 28/2 **Zircon blue*... Matched to specimens of the precious stone at the B.M. **1972** 'E. PETERS' *Death to Landlords!* i. 30 Withdrawing her zircon-blue eyes from the heavens. **1976** *Evening Post* (Nottingham) 13 Dec. 12/3 (Advt.), Rover 2000 1969. H. Zircon blue with black trim. **1804** R. JAMESON *Syst. Min.* I. 34 The *zircon crystal is formed. **1816** J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* II. 93 *Zircon earth. **1809** J. MURRAY *Syst. Chem.* (ed. 2) II. 274 *Zircon fossils. **1868** DANA *Min.* (ed. 5) 275 Tetragonal *zircon-like minerals. **1825** HÄIDINGER tr. *Mohs' Treat. Min.* II. 370 Those [varieties of pyramidal zircon] from Frederiksvärn in Norway [occur] in *zircon-syenite.

zirconate ('zɜːkənɪt). *Chem.* [f. ZIRCON-IC + -ATE¹ c.] A salt of zirconic acid.

1851 WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* V. 464 Zirconate of Cupric Oxide.

zirconia (zə'kəʊniə). *Chem.* Also 8 circonia, 9 zircona. [mod.L. (Klaproth), f. *zircon*: see above and -IA¹.] An earth, usually obtained as a white powder by heating zirconium to redness in contact with air; zirconium dioxide, ZrO₂; used in certain incandescent burners.

1797 *Monthly Mag.* Mar. 206 The hyacinth... consists of... more than six-tenths of its weight of a peculiar earth, now known under the name of jargon, zircon, or circonia. **1800** tr. *Lagrange's Chem.* I. 160 When exposed to a violent heat, zirconia becomes fused, and assumes a somewhat greyish colour. **1812** DAVY *Chem. Philos.* 361 Zirconia is soluble in the mineral acids. **1871** tr. *Schellen's Spectrum Anal.* 19 The oxyhydrogen light... attains a still higher intensity, if a piece of magnesium or zirconia be substituted for the cylinder of lime.

attrib. **1849** WATTS tr. *Gmelin's Handbk. Chem.* III. 343 The zirconia-salts are not precipitated by zinc. **1875** KNIGHT *Diet. Mech., Zirconia Light*, one in which a stick of oxide of zirconium is exposed to the flame of oxyhydrogen gas.

zirconian (zə'kəʊniən), *a.* [f. prec. + -AN.] = ZIRCONIC; *spec.* in *Min.*, applied to a mineral in which zirconium replaces a (small) proportion of some constituent element (cf. -IAN 2).

zirconian syenite = zircon-syenite (ZIRCON b).

1853 ROSS tr. *Humboldt's Trav.* III. 378 *note*, Pyroxenic porphyries with amygdaloids and zirconian syenites. **1930**

W. T. SCHALLER in *Amer. Mineralogist* XV, 572. 1963 *Doklady Acad. Sci. USSR: Earth Sci. Sect.* CXLI. 1301/1 Apatite, nepheline, and perovskite were observed, frequently forming intergrowths with the zirconian schorlomite. 1972 *Nature* 31 Mar. 1972 The appearance of zirconian SiO_2 -free minerals in the granitic fraction is rather strange.

zirconic (zə'kɒnɪk), *a.* [f. ZIRCON, ZIRCONIA, or ZIRCONIUM + -IC.] Of, pertaining to, or like zircon; containing zirconia or zirconium. *zirconic acid*, an acid containing zirconium, known only by its salts (*zirconates*).

1804 *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 304 After the zirconic follows the silicious genus. 1876 *Encycl. Brit.* V. 539/1 Zirconic oxide is infusible.

zirconio- (zə'kəʊniəʊ), *Chem.*, also zircono-, and abbreviated zirco-, combining form of ZIRCONIUM, indicating the presence of zirconium in a compound, as **zircon(i)ofluoride**, a compound of zirconium fluoride, ZrF_4 , with any of various oxides (more properly *fluozirconate*: see FLUO-).

1868 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 10) 383 Double salts, called zircofluorides or fluozirconates. 1894 *MUIR & MORLEY Watts' Dict. Chem.* IV. 859/1 Combinations... With various metallic fluorides... These salts are often called zircono-fluorides, or fluo-zirconates; they are better named zirconi-fluorides.

zirconite ('zɜ:kənait). *Min.* [f. ZIRCON + -ITE¹ z b.] A greyish or brownish variety of zircon. Hence *zirco'nitic a.*, containing zircon.

1814 *AIKIN Man. Min.* 87 Zirconite... occurs in small crystals imbedded in Sienite. 1895 *Dana's Man. Geol.* (ed. 4) 83, *a.* Common or ordinary granite... *i.* Zirconitic.

zirconium (zə'kəʊniəm), *Chem.* Also *zirconum*. [mod.L., f. ZIRCON.] A metallic element, obtained from zircon as a black powder or as a greyish crystalline substance. Symbol **Zr**.

1808 *DAVY in Phil. Trans.* XCVIII. 353 Had I been so fortunate as to have... procured the metallic substances I was in search of, I should have proposed for them the names of silicium, aluminium, zirconium, and glucium. 1812 — *Chem. Philos.* 361 No substance has as yet been formed... in which zirconium can be supposed to exist free from oxygen. 1868 *Fownes' Chem.* 382 Zirconium... is a tetrad metal.

attrib. 1868 *Fownes' Chem.* (ed. 10) 382 Zirconium Oxide... is prepared by strongly igniting zircon. 1906 *Athenæum* 1 Sept. 245/3 The osmium, tantalum, and zirconium incandescent filaments of electric glow-lamps.

zirconolite (zɜ:'kɒnəlait). *Min.* [ad. Russ. *tsirkonolit* (L. S. Borodin et al. 1956, in *Doklady Akad. Nauk SSSR* CX. 845): see ZIRCON and -LITE.] A mixed oxide of (essentially) calcium, zirconium, and titanium, now regarded as identical with zirkelite.

1957 *Chem. Abstr.* L1. 6440 (heading) The new mineral zirconolite, a complex oxide of the type AB_3O_7 . 1975 *Amer. Mineralogist* LX. 341/1 Zirconolite, $\text{CaZrTi}_2\text{O}_7$, was described in 1956... as a new mineral and the zirkelite of Blake and Smith was considered to be zirconolite... New analyses and X-ray studies of type material show that all these are a single mineral species of composition $(\text{Ca,Th,RE})\text{Zr}(\text{Ti,Nb,Fe})_2\text{O}_7$. The name zirkelite has priority. 1980 *Nature* 17 Jan. 282/1 Synthetic zirconolite, $\text{CaZrTi}_2\text{O}_7$, has attracted interest recently, as it has been proposed as a constituent phase of an artificial rock (SYNROC) which may immobilise, in solid solution, the elements occurring in high-level nuclear reactor wastes. 1981 [see ZIRKELITE].

zirkelite ('zɜ:kəlait). *Min.* [f. the name of Ferdinand Zirkel (1838-1912), German mineralogist + -ITE¹.] A black monoclinic (pseudocubic) oxide of zirconium, calcium, thorium, titanium, rare earths, and other elements, $(\text{Ca,Th,Ce})\text{Zr}(\text{Ti,Nb})_2\text{O}_7$.

1895 *HUSSAK & PRIOR in Mineral. Mag.* XI. 86 Zirkelite. A new calcium zirconate and titanate. 1962 *Mineral. Abstr.* XV. 538/1 Zirkelite is widely distributed in the Palaeozoic ultrabasic and alkaline complexes of the Kola Peninsula where it occurs as an accessory mineral in calcite-amphibole rocks; [etc.]. 1972 *Nature* 31 Mar. 215/1 We find that terrestrial zirkelite bears the closest comparison with the tranquillityite group, and yet contains sufficient CaO ... to provide a possible link with any calcic lunar zirconian phases yet to be established. 1975 [see ZIRCONOLITE]. 1977 *Amer. Mineralogist* LXII. 408 Zirconolite and niobozirconolite... are synonymous with zirkelite. 1981 K. FRYE *Encycl. Mineral.* 220/1 There is considerable controversy over the exact formulas of zirkelite and zirconolite. Some evidence suggests that there is no difference.

zisel, variant of ZIZEL.

zit (zit). *slang* (chiefly *N. Amer.*). [Origin unknown.] A pimple. Also in extended and *fig.* use. Occas. in *Comb.*

1966 G. C. SAUER *Man. Skin Dis.* (ed. 2) 284 Zits, term in teen-agers' vernacular for 'pimples' of acne. 1966 *Current Slang* (Univ. S. Dakota) Summer 5 Zit, something bad or unpleasant; crude... What's that zit on your coat? 1972 B. RODGERS *Queens' Vernacular* 45 Vit (late '60s, fr. sl. zit = a pimple: boy with Pepsi consciousness, i.e. nothing going on between the ears). 1975 *Atlantic Monthly* Mar. 51 One splendid effort in 1971 featured... districts with remarkable pimples in their boundary lines, zits that popped up to include the home of one liberal incumbent in the district of another liberal incumbent. 1975 *Maclean's Mag.* June 59/1 When did you last have a zit on your face? 1977 *Amer. Speech* 1975 L. 69 Zit n, reddish mark caused by kissing.

'She has a big zit on her neck.' 1977 J. WAMBAUGH *Black Marble* (1978) vi. 77 How old is the little zit-faced, coke-snorting, hash-smoking son of a bitch? 1980 *Courier-Mail* (Brisbane) 30 Apr. 46/3 (caption) You know playing with teenagers will give you zits. 1984 S. TOWNSEND *Growing Pains A Mole* 105 Forgot to send you an invite, zit face, but come anyway, dress as a warlock or you won't get in.

zit(te, zitch: see SIT v., SUCH.

zita ('zi:tə). Pl. zite, ziti. [It.] A tubular variety of pasta resembling large macaroni.

1845 E. ACTON *Mod. Cookery* (ed. 4) p. xxx, Zita, Naples macaroni. 1943 A. L. SIMON *Conc. Encycl. Gastron.* iv. 141/1 Zita, pl. zite, one of the fancy Italian pastes... It is made of the gluten of hard wheat and eggs, like Macaroni, in hollow, straight tubes of larger diameter than Macaroni. 1964 *Guardian* 22 May 8/6 Ziti, cut macaroni tubes slightly curved. 1978 R. F. CAPON *Food for Thought* vii. 106 Why not sauces for ziti, for occhi di lupo, [etc.]? 1979 *Tucson Mag.* Sept. 68/2 Bargain specialties—like gnocchi, zita, linguine, and so-so meat dishes. 1983 *Fortune* 21 Feb. 78/1 For the one-time shopper, goods from auto-parts to ziti.

|| **zitella**. *Obs.* Pl. -e. [It.] A girl, young woman, maiden.

a 1668 *LASSELLS Voy. Italy* II. (1670) 250 The Procession of the Zittelle upon our Ladies day in Lent. 1670 *MRS. BEHN Feign'd Curtizans* III. i, A Curtizan! and a Zittella too? a pretty contradiction! a 1700 *EVELYN Diary* 1 Mar. 1645, We saw the Pope and Cardinals ride in pomp to the Minerva... when he gives portions to 500 zittelle.

zither ('ziθə(r)), *sb.* Also *zithern*, zitt(h)er, zittern. [ad. G. *zither*: see CITHER, CITHERN.]

a. A musical instrument (introduced into England c1850 from Austria) having from thirty to forty strings let into the lower rim of a shallow resonance-box, and played by striking with the fingers and thumb.

In modifications of the instrument a fretted finger-board is fitted across a resonance-box shaped like a heart (*bow zither*) or like a viola (*viola zither*), and the instrument is played with a bow.

1850 *The Initials* iv, I expected some such proposition as soon as I heard the sound of the zither. 1864 in WEBSTER. 1868 *Daily News* 14 Aug., A couple of musicians, one playing the violin, another an instrument something like the zittern. 1871 *MEREDITH Harry Richmond* xxx, Nothing haunted me so much as those tones of her zither. 1874 *MISS R. H. BUSK Vall. Tirol* Pref. p. vi, Just as... the barrel-organ supersedes the zither and the guitar. 1886 *RUSKIN Præterita* II. vi. 215 He is playing... on a kind of zithern-harp.

b. *Comb.*, as *zither music*, *player*, *zither-playing*, *-tinkling* adjs.; *zither-banjo*, a modification of the zither, resembling a banjo.

1900 *Referee* 9 Dec. 3 (Cass. Suppl.), Mr. —'s 'Valse des Fleurs', with a zither-banjo. 1881 W. BLACK *Sunrise* iii, He was passionately fond of zither music. 1850 *The Initials* iv, The untutored singers and zither players. 1982 C. MCINTOSH *Swan King* viii. 83 A fun-loving, zither-playing, somewhat bohemian character. 1925 E. SITWELL et al. *Poor Young People* z Among the zither-tinkling round green leaves.

Hence 'zitherist', a performer on the zither. 1887 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 8 Feb. 6/1 The Zitherist to his Highness the Duke of Nassau.

'zither', *v.* [f. the sb.] *intr.* To play the zither. Also *fig.* (occas. also *trans.*). Hence 'zithering ppl. *a.*

Some of the examples could equally well be interpreted as being of echoic origin, with the sense 'to make a sibilant humming sound, buzz lightly'.

1906 W. J. LOCKE *Beloved Vagabond* (1907) ix. 120 We wandered and fiddled and zithered and tamboured through France. 1930 R. CAMPBELL *Adamastor* 71 The sunlight, zithering their flanks with fire, Flashes between the shadows as they pass. 1958 J. TOWNSEND *Young Devils* iv. 35 His squeaky voice zithered through morning or afternoon. 1973 *Art Internat.* Mar. 57/1 Balla's zithering *Rhythm of the Violinist* is considerably more effective. 1979 H. MCLEAVE *Double Exposure* i. 1 The helicopter... trailing a zithering shadow. 1981 B. CARTER *Black Fox Running* xxvii. 176 Insects zithered and chirred.

ziti: see ZITA.

zitkamer, **zit-kamer**, *varr.* SITKAMER.

zix, **zixt**: see SIX, SEE v.

|| **zizania** (zi-, zaizə'niə). *Bot.* [mod.L. fem. sing. = late L. n. pl. (see ZIZANY).] (Any aquatic grass of) the genus so named, esp. *Z. aquatica* (Canada, Indian, water, or wild rice).

1829 T. CASTLE *Introd. Bot.* 157 The zizania or Canada-rice. 1847 *PRICHARD Phys. Hist. Man.* V. vi. v. §6. 395 The Menomonies are called 'Folles Avoines', or Wild Oats, from the wild rice or zizania which their country produces.

† **zizany**. *Obs.* Forms: 4 zizanny, -ije, 5 zizannie, 6 zizanie, 6-8 zizany; also (in Gr.-L. form) 4-6 zizania, 7 pl. zizaniaes. [a. OF. *zizanie*, ad. late L. *zizania* n. pl., a. Gr. ζίζάνια, pl. of ζίζάνιον.] 1. An injurious weed among corn; also *fig.*; = TARE sb.¹ 3, b.

a 1300 *Cursor M.* 1138 bi wete sal bi-com zizanny [Gött. zizannie, Fairf. darnel]. a 1425 tr. *Arderne's Treat. Fistula*, etc. 100 Recipe semen iusquiamus, zizannie, i. darnel. c 1532 Du WES *Introd. Fr. in Palsgr.* 915 Zizany, droe. 1581 J. HAMILTON in *Cath. Tract.* (S.T.S.) 74 To desae the varld to sau zizanie and pernicious heresie in mennis hartis. a 1706 *EVELYN Hist. Relig.* (1850) II. 314 Many holy and

excellent persons God has dispersed, as wheat among the tares and zizany.

[1398 *TREvisa Barth. De P.R.* xvii. exciv. (1495) Xiv/1 Ray hyghte Zizania and is a certen herbe... lyke to whete whanne it is grasse.] 1562 *TURNER Herbal* II. 41 There is great lyknes betwene whete and zizanian, which we call lolium. 1570 *FOX E. & M.* (ed. 2) 829/2 The doctrine of the Bohemians, whiche he termeth by the name of Zizania. 1612 T. JAMES *Iesuits Downef.* 8 With their Zizaniaes of faction, they make boot & havocke of Catholickes estates. 2. = ZIZANIA. *rare.*

1759 B. STILLINGFLEET tr. *Gedner's Use Cur.* in *Misc. Tracts* (1762) 184 A great number of plants fit for food might be sown, such as zizany of Canada.

zisel ('zizəl). Also zisel. [ad. G. *ziesel* (also *zieselmaus*, -ratte; in MHG. *zisel*; cf. also OHG. *zisemūs* dormouse = OE. *sisemūs*.)] The ground-squirrel *Spermophilus citillus*; = SUSLIK.

1785 *SMELLIE Buffon's Nat. Hist.* (1791) VIII. 229 The Zisel, or Earless Marmot. 1833 *Penny Cycl.* I. 441/2 The zisel or soursic marmot. 1893 *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 20 Other Southern districts [were visited] by zisels and worms.

zizith, *var.* TSITSITH.

|| **zizypha**. *Obs.* [mod.L., pl. of late L. *zizyphum* fruit of the tree ZIZYPHUS.] The fruit of the zizyphus; = JUJUBE 1; also, the tree itself.

1546 *LANGLEY tr. Pol. Verg. De Invent.* III. ii. 67 Zinzipha [sic] & Tuberes .ii. kyndes of apple trees S. Papinius conueighed out of Siria and Affrike into Italy. 1555 *EDEN Decades* (Arb.) 110 The frute cauled Zizipha, which the Apothecaries caule *Iuiuba*. 1712 [see ZIZYPHUS].

|| **zizyphus** ('zizifəs). *Bot.* Also -iphus (5 -ifus); 8 anglicized ziziph. [late L., ad. Gr. ζίζυφον.] A plant of a large widely distributed genus so named, which comprises spiny shrubs or trees of the buckthorn family, various species of which bear an edible fruit called ZIZYPHA or JUJUBE, q.v.

c 1440 *Pallad. on Husb.* VII. 84 Now zizifus in cold lond wole ascende. 1712 tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 134 Jujuba, or Zizipha, a large Fruit of the Ziziph Tree. 1741 J. MARTYN *Virg. Georg.* II. 84 note, It seems to me more probable that the *Lotus* of the *Lotophagi* is what we now call *Zizyphus* or the *Jujube-tree*. 1865 *TRISTRAM Land of Israel* xxii. 527 The zizyphus and caper crept higher up the hills. 1882 *FLOYER Unexpl. Baluch.* 265 We are... still camped under a spreading zizyphus.

attrib. 1890 *Daily News* 5 Apr. 6/1 The Crown of Thorns at Notre Dame is made of plaited reeds, in which zizyphus thorns are intertwined.

zizz (ziz), *sb.*

1. a. The noise made by the rapid motion of a wheel; also as *adv.* Also extended to other whizzing or buzzing noises (see *quots.*).

1824 *SCOTT Redgauntlet* ch. xi, I carried a cutler's wheel for several weeks... there I went bizz—bizz—whizz—zizz, at every auld wife's door. 1904 G. A. B. DEWAR *Glamour of Earth* vi. 131 The zizz of the cricket, or the shrill of the bat. 1908 *BELLOC Mr. Clutterbuck's Elect.* xiii, They shot round the base of the hills... had a splendid zizz along the Hog's Back, and then turned sharp round. 1955 D. BARTON *Glorious Life* xxv. 232 The sustained, high-pitched zizz of a party was audible. 1965 *Listener* 17 June 900/3 The zizz of a trishaw's wheels passing on the road. 1976 *Drive* May-June 53/2 Gear lever zizz is irritating.

b. Gaiety, liveliness, 'sparkle'. *colloq.* 1942 *BERRY & VAN DEN BARK Amer. Thes. Slang* §240/2 *Animation; spirit; vim*;... zing, zip... zizz. 1970 *Gourmet* Jan. 18/2 No party got into full swing until Tallulah arrived to put her particular type of zizz into it. 1983 *Times* 22 Feb. 12/6 The Queensgate centre lacks, perhaps, finesse and a touch of zizz.

2. Also ziz. A short sleep, a nap. Cf. Z 4 b. *slang.*

1941 *Tee Emm* Aug. 17 He could not have caught our Pilot Officer Prune at three o'clock one afternoon having a zizz full-length on a mess settee. 1960 'N. SHUTE' *Trustee from Toolroom* v. 105 'Captain's having a ziz now,' said the navigator. 'Supper's at eleven o'clock, Greenwich. He's getting up for that.' 1970 P. DICKINSON tr. *Aristophanes' Wasps in Plays* I. 169 Just what I aim to forget by having A quiet ziz. 1979 M. TABOR *Baker's Daughter* 1. 31 Philip's having a zizz. He can't stay awake. 1985 *Guardian* 24 Jan. 1/3 They would not film any lord who had drifted off in the warmth of the lights for a refreshing zizz.

zizz, *v.* [f. the sb.] 1. *intr.* To make a whizzing or buzzing sound. Occas. *trans.* (causally). Also *const. up*, to liven up.

a 1934 in WEBSTER s.v., Trolleys went zizzing along. 1961 E. WILLIAMS *George* ix. 112 The pince-nez zizzed back to her lapel. 1963 *Punch* 1 May 621/3 'Then she [s.c. a bee] saw the carpet and zizzed. 1965 *Harper's Bazaar* Feb. 21/2 An adventurous buyer deciding that model 127 is just the thing to zizz up his mid-season collection. 1970 T. LEWIS *Jack's Return Home* 89 The banger'd started zizzing furiously. 1970 *Daily Tel.* 16 Dec. 11 Darts and circles about on the floor after its wheels are zizzed smartly. 1978 *Ibid.* 19 July 12/5 'The gearchange... is light but slightly notchy, and tended to 'zizz' on the overrun.

2. *slang.* To doze or sleep. Occas. *trans.* with *away*.

1942 [see below]. 1961 D. MOORE *Highway of Fear* xxxvi. 240 Reckon this sector's safe. Might as well zizz. 1972 K. BONFIGLIOLI *Don't point that Thing at Me* xii. 94, I zizzed away the worst of the afternoon, awaking some three hours later. 1978 *Sunday Mail Color Mag.* (Brisbane) 30 Apr. 20/6 When everyone inside the building had zizzed off he had sneaked inside.

Hence 'zizzing *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1942 *Gen* 1 Sept. 13/1 Sleeping is 'zizzing' whether it's on the job or in the hammock. **1951** J. STRACHEY *Man on Pier* 37 The flies on the window-pane woke up and started to rage together with a venomous zizzing. *Ibid.* 88 Confusion continued, it seemed to Ned, to the old background of zizzing flies, bellowing cows, walks, and hot, cloudy weather. **1961** E. WILLIAMS *George* ix. 111 There was a terrified zizzing noise from an obedient coil-spring.

'zizzy, a. colloq. [f. *ZIZZ sb.* + -y¹.] Showy, spectacular; lively, uninhibited.

1966 *Guardian* 5 Feb. 7/6 And who's going to pay for 'Danger Man' with that zizzy Patrick McGooohan, then? **1975** *New Yorker* 21 Apr. 24/3 If you accept the silly, zizzy obviousness, it can make you laugh helplessly. **1976** *Times* 4 Oct. 7 My wife said I should wear a dark suit but I did risk a particularly zizzy tie. **1983** *Guardian Weekly* 6 Feb. 1/z Zizzy little TV charts.

† **Zlead(s, Zlid. Obs.** A minced oath: = *God's lid(s)*: see *GOD sb.* 14 a, and cf. *UDS* 1. So † *Z'life* = *God's life*.

1616 S. S. *Honest Lawyer* 1. B. 4 b, *Zlid*, before the Prologue had done, I had lost my purse. **1689** N. LEE *Princ. Cleve* 11. ii. 19 *Z'life* I am as weary of mine, as a Modish Lady of her old Cloaths. **1785** HUTTON *Bron New Work* 170 (E.D.S.) *Zleads!* he niver played hocus pocus.

Z line (zɛd, U.S. zir, lain). *Histology*. [Partial tr. G. *schicht z z* layer (T. W. Engelmann 1873, in *Arch. f. die ges. Physiol.* VII. 37), f. initial letter of *zwischen-scheibe* intervening disc.]

A transverse dark line in a fibril of striated muscle formed by Krause's membrane (see *KRAUSE b*); the membrane itself.

1916 JORDAN & FERGUSON *Text-bk. Histol.* iv. 105 This stripe or accessory disk... bisects the portion of the J disk between the Z line and the succeeding Q disk. **1954** *Nature* 22 May 976/1 The series elastic component is provided either by the actin filaments themselves, or, more probably, by their mode of attachment to the Z-line. **1979** *Sci. Amer.* May 94/2 In muscle fibers the actin filaments are anchored to flat protein structures called Z lines, which are emplaced between every two contractile units.

Also **Z band**.

1950 A. W. HAM *Histology* xix. 283/1 When a substantial degree of contraction has occurred, an appearance, often referred to as a 'reversal of striations', becomes apparent. This is due to the substance of the myofibril on each side of the Z band, which was formerly light, becoming dark, and the dark material of the Q band becoming light. **1964** G. H. HAGGIS et al. *Introd. Molecular Biol.* iv. 101 The segment from one Z-band to the next, along a fibril, is termed a sarcomere. **1970** [see *KRAUSE b*].

zloty ('zlɒti, ||'zwɒti). Pl. *zloty, zlotys*. [a. Polish *złoty*, f. *złoto* gold, cogn. w. Russ. *zóloto*: see *GOLD*.] a. A gold or silver coin of monarchic Poland. b. The monetary unit of the Polish republic; a note or coin of the republican currency.

1915 *Publ. Scottish Hist. Soc.* LIX. 63 The fourth witness... hath borne witness in the following words:—'I... have seen how Jan Furman, a Scot, hath taken... 40 Polish zloty, from that Kilian.' **1923** *Times* 3 Mar. 16/6 The Polish Minister of Finance has decided that State loans... shall... be effected in Polish zlotys (a zloty is equivalent to a Swiss franc), at the current market rate. **1923** *Times* 13 Aug. 14/5 The zloty, or gold franc, the nominal unit of Poland. **1944** V. G. GARVIN tr. R. Gory's *Forest of Anger* xxiii. 90 They've imposed a fine of 100,000 zlotys on Pinski! **1960** S. BECKER tr. *Schwarz-Bart's Last of Just* 11. 40 When you have a few zlotys in hand, you can come back here and reimburse me. **1970** *New Yorker* 6 June 33/1 He promised me a room, food, and a small salary in Polish marks. The zloty wasn't yet established as a currency. **1983** *Nature* 28 July 299/2 The Polish Government has raised the price of edible salt to between 11 zloty and 17 zloty per kilo.

zo, dial. f. so *sb*.

zoa, plural of *ZOON sb*.

zoæa: see *ZOEA*.

zoane, obs. form of *ZONE*.

zoantharian (zəʊæn'theəriən), a. and sb. *Zool.* [f. mod.L. *Zoanthāria* neut. pl., f. *Zoanthus*, name of genus, f. Gr. ζῷον animal + ἄνθος flower.]

a. *adj.* Belonging to the *Zoantharia*, one of the main divisions of *Actinozoa* (contrasted with *Alcyonaria*), containing the sea-anemones and other (often flower-like) animals, usually with simple tentacles and parts arranged in sixes (HEXACORALLAN); sb. a member of the *Zoantharia*. Also zo'anthid, a member of the family *Zoanthidae* of zoantharians, typified by the genus *Zoanthus* (hence zo'anthidan a.); zo'anthodeme (-dim) [Gr. δέμα bundle], a compound organism formed of coherent zoantharian zooids or polyps (hence zoantho'demic a.); zo'anthoid a. [-OID], resembling or related to the genus *Zoanthus*.

1887 H. A. NICHOLSON *Mon. Zool.* (ed. 7) 186 Transverse section of a simple *Zoantharian Coral (*Cyathina Bowerbanki*). **1888** ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 733 note, The Zoantharian mesenterial filaments. **1870** H. A. NICHOLSON *Man. Zool.* xiii. (1875) 132 Structures supposed to be gills are developed in some *Zoanthids on either side of the primary mesenteries. **1888** ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 736 A pair [of mesenteries] of the typical *Zoanthidan structure. **1877** HUXLEY *Inv. Anim.* iii.

155 Many give rise by gemmation to turf-like, or arborescent, *zoanthodemes. **1854** A. ADAMS, etc. *Mon. Nat. Hist.* 354 *Zoanthoid-Polyps (Zoanthoida). **1841** T. R. JONES *Anim. Kingd.* 37 A small *Zoanthus or other naked zoophyte.

zoanthropy (zəʊ'ænrəpi). *Path.* [ad. mod.L. *zoanthrōpia*, f. Gr. ζῷον animal + ἄνθρωπος man: cf. CYNANTHROPY, LYCANTHROPY.] A form of insanity in which a man imagines himself to be a beast. Hence zoanthropic (-'ɒpɪk) a., pertaining to zoanthropy.

1856 E. JESSE *Wolton's Angler* 1. v. 166 note, Several forms of mania, classed by Sauvages in his Nosology under the general head of Zoanthropy. **1891** *Cent. Dict.* s.v. *Zoanthropic*, Zoanthropic mania...; zoanthropic literature.

zoar, obs. var. of *ZOHAR*.

|| **zoarium** (zəʊ'ɛəriəm). *Zool.* Pl. *zoaria* (-iə). [mod.L., in form ad. Gr. ζωάριον, dim. of ζῷον animal, but taken as if f. ζῷον + -ARIUM: cf. POLYZOARY.] The common supporting structure of a colony of polyps, or the colony or compound organism as a whole (esp. in the *Polyzoa* or moss-animalcules): = POLYZOARY. Hence zo'arial a., pertaining to or constituting a zoarium.

1880 SAVILLE-KENT *Infusoria* I. 338 The zoarium of the polyzoic genera *Aulopora* or *Hippothoo*. **1896** J. W. GREGORY *Cotol. Fossil Bryozoa* Introd. 16 In typical *Diotopora* the zoarium consists of two layers of zoecia, one on each side of the zoarial lamina.

zob (zɒb). U.S. slang. rare. [Origin unknown.] A weak or contemptible person; a fool.

1911 W. F. KIRK *Right off Bat* 13 He came here in the early Spring with all the try-out mob Striving to bat like Wagner and to slide (spikes first) like Cobb. Some of the vets cried, 'Bonehead!' Others remarked, 'Poor zob!' **1920** S. LEWIS *Moin Street* xxxv. 416 And the same thing goes for that crowd of crabs and snobs Down East, and next time you hear some zob from Yahooville-on-the-Hudson chewing the rag... you tell him that no... Westerner would have New York for a gift! **1922** — *Babbitt* x. 140, I don't know how you fellows feel about prohibition, but the way it strikes me is that it's a mighty beneficial thing for the poor zob that hasn't got any will-power but for fellows like us, it's an infringement of personal liberty. **1942** BERREY & VAN DEN BARK *Amer. Thes. Slang* §396 Terms of disparagement... yaphead, yazzihamper, zob.

zobo: see *ZHO*.

zocalo ('zɒkələʊ). Also zócalo and with capital initial. [a. Sp.] In Mexico, a public square, a plaza.

1884 J. W. STEELE *To Mexico by Palace Car* v. 75 The square in front of the Cathedral, called the Zócalo, is the place of universal resort. **1884** F. H. OBER *Trov. in Mexico* xii. 232 Beneath us is the great square, with the smaller one, the zocalo, or pleasure garden, in its center. **1912** E. H. BLICKFELD *Mexican Journey* x. 119 The Zocalo, as it is called, is the real center of Mexico City. **1927** D. H. LAWRENCE *Mornings in Mexico* 39 And a plaza is a zocalo, a hub. **1957** M. LOWRY *Let.* 17 Mar. (1967) 398, I read of revolutions, counterrevolutions... in the zócalo. **1975** *Times* 24 May 10/3 Oaxaca... its zocalo, with its trees and its arcades.

† **zocco, zoc(c)olo. Obs.** [It. *zocco, zoccolo*: see *SOCLE*.] = *SOCLE* 1.

1664 EVELYN tr. *Freort's Archit.* II. 92 The Piedestal with its entire *Bossment, Cymatium*, and that *Zocolo* or Plinth above wrought with a festoon (which in my judgment makes a part of it, as rendering it a perfect Cube). *Ibid.* 124 Certain *Zoccos* or Blocks elevating the rest of the members of an Order. **1715** LEONI *Palladio's Archit.* (1742) II. 31 The Bases have no *Zocco*. **1723** CHAMBERS tr. *Le Clerc's Archit.* I. 27 KL. Piedroit with its Fillet at bottom. M. Its *Zocco*.

zocle ('zɒkəl). [ad. It. *zoccolo*.] = *prec.*

1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I. *Zocle*, is a Square Member in Architecture, being lower than its Breadth, which serves to support a Pillar... *Continued Zocle*, is a kind of continued Pedestal, on which a Structure is raised, but hath no Base, or Cornish. **1723** CHAMBERS tr. *Le Clerc's Archit.* I. 54 Vignola terminates these Pillars with a plain Zocle. **1870** ROCK *Text. Fabr.* II. 334 Two little naked winged boys standing on a highly elaborate zocle.

|| **zoco** ('zɒkəʊ). Also *Soko*. [Sp., ad. Arab.: see *SOUK*.] = *SOUK*; also *transf.*

1892 M. THOMAS *Scamper through Spoin & Tangier* xii. 232 The Soko is an unpaved square surrounded with booths, outside the walls, where on Thursdays and Sundays, as in Spain, the market is held. **1903** A. F. CALVERT *Impressions of Spain* 96 Toledo—? She is at least faithful to the dead past... So she retains her old *Soko*, and will have naught to do with the correct *Plazo de la Constitucion*. **1921** *Chombers's Jnl.* Dec. 817/z Tangier... cosmopolitan enough as it seems to be to any one who ambles through the little *zoco*, has been administratively mismanaged. **1924** *Ibid.* Sept. 689/z The minaret of the new mosque overlooking the big *zoco* cuts through the blue. **1965** C. D. EBY *Siege of Alcázar* (1966) i. 34 The Gobierno resembled the *zoco* of a North African town except that the jewellery boxes, bundles of clothing... and whimpering children were not for sale.

zodiac ('zəʊdiæk), sb. (a.) Forms: 4-7 *zodiak*, -ake, 4-8 -aque, 5 *zodyak*, -ack, (sodyak, zodiacs), 6 *zodiacque*, 6-7 -acke, 6-8 -ack, (7 -aq), 5-*zodiac*. [a. OF. (mod.F.) *zodiaque* (= Pr. *zodiac*, It., Sp., Pg. *zodiaco*), ad. L. *zōdiacus* (Cicero), a. late Gr. ζωδιακός, sc. κύκλος the circle of the

figures or signs (cf. L. *orbis signifer*, Cicero, *circulus signifer*, Vitruvius = δ ζωφορός κύκλος, Aristotle), f. ζῳδιον sculptured figure (of an animal), sign of the zodiac (ὁ τῶν ζωδίων κύκλος), dim. of ζῷον animal.]

1. *Astr.* A belt of the celestial sphere extending about 8 or 9 degrees on each side of the ecliptic, within which the apparent motions of the sun, moon, and principal planets take place; it is divided into twelve equal parts called *signs* (see *b*).

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 108 Ther ben signes tuelve, Whiche have her cercles be hemselfe Compassed in the zodiaque. **c1391** CHAUCER *Astrol.* Prol. 3 To knowe in owre orizonte with wyche degree of the zodiac that the Mone arisith in any latitude. **c1400** *Destr. Troy* 3726 The sun vnder zodiac settis hym to leng Two dayes betwene. **1426** LYDG. *De Guil. Pilgr.* 17200 She held also a gret ballaunce, Only off purpos (yiff she konne,) To peyse the sodyak and the sonne. **1549** *Compl. Scot.* vi. 50 Ane vthir grit circle in the spere, callit the zodiac, the quihik deuidis the circle equinoctial in tua partis. **1588** SHAKS. *Tit. A.* II. i. 7 When the golden Sunne... Gallops the Zodiacke in his glistering Coach. **1611** DONNE *Poems, Anat.* World 263 They have impal'd within a Zodiacke The free-borne Sun, and keepe twelve Signes awake To watch his steps. **1727** POPE, etc. *Art of Sinking* 86 Thus Phoebus through the zodiack takes his way. **1868** LOCKYER *Elem. Astron.* §364 One of the points in which the zodiac cuts the equator.

b. *signs of the zodiac* (*SIGN sb.* 11): the twelve equal parts into which the zodiac is divided, and through one of which the sun passes in each month; they are named after the twelve constellations (Aries, Taurus, Gemini, Cancer, Leo, Virgo, Libra, Scorpio, Sagittarius, Capricornus, Aquarius, Pisces) with which at a former epoch they severally coincided approximately (see *PRECESSION* 3).

1390 GOWER *Conf.* III. 117 Hou that the Signes sitte arowe, Ech after other be degre In substance and in properte The zodiaque comprehendeth Withinne his cercle, as it appendeth. **c1532** DU WES *Introd. Fr. in Palsgr.* 1054 The XII signes of the Zodiacke. **1585** FETTERSTONE tr. *Colvin on Acts* xxviii. 11 The signe in the Zodiacke called Gemini. **1625** N. CARPENTER *Geogr. Delin.* 1. v. 101 Wheresoeuer any man stands on the Surface of the Earth, six signes of the Zodiacke will shew themselves. **1715** tr. *Gregory's Astron.* I. 203 The images of the Stars have removed from the Signs of the Zodiac, to which they originally gave names. **1866** R. M. FERGUSON *Electr.* (1870) 36 The sun is in the northern signs of the zodiac.

c. *zodiac of the moon, a planet*, etc.: that belt of the heavens (usually a portion of the ordinary zodiac) within which the apparent motion of the moon, planet, etc. takes place.

1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I. *Zodiack* of the Comets, Cassini hath observed a certain Tract... within whose Bounds... he hath found most Comets... to keep. **1715** tr. *Gregory's Astron.* II. 821 These Comets... do not go in the Zodiac or Way of the Planets. **1788** GIBBON *Decl. & F. L. V.* 190 The Bedoween... was taught by experience to divide, in twenty-eight parts, the zodiac of the moon. **1834** *Not. Philos., Astron.* i. 4 (U.K.S.), According to Gaubil, the invention of the Chinese zodiac, divided into twenty-seven constellations, is to be referred to Yao. **1888** *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 793/z The synodical revolution of the moon laid down the lines of the solar, its sidereal revolution those of the lunar zodiac.

2. A figure or representation of the zodiac.

c1391 CHAUCER *Astrol.* 1. §21 Alle sterres sittinge wythin the zodiak of thin astrolabie ben cleped sterres of the north. **a1548** HALL *Chron., Hen. VIII.* 157 b, In the zodiak were the twelue figures curiously made and aboute this were made the seuen planettes. **1605** CAMDEN *Rem.* 168 A virgin Prince, who presented in his shield, the Zodiacke with the Characters onely of Leo and Virgo. **1688** HOLME *Armoury* II. 42/z Zodiack, is the imitation of a Bend, and is esteemed a girdle of Honor, or a note of favour. **1774** J. BRYANT *Mythol.* II. 483 The Zodiack, which Sir Isaac Newton supposed to relate to the Argonautic expedition, was an assemblage of Egyptian hieroglyphics. **1820** BELZONI *Egypt & Nubia* II. 278 The Egyptians connected astronomy with their religious ceremonies, as we found various zodiacs, not only among the temples, but in their tombs also. **o1836** M'NICOLL *Wks.* (1837) 24 The motto of a crest which bears his own picture, encircled by a zodiac.

3. † a. *transf.* A year; the calendar. *Obs.*

c1560 A. SCOTT *Poems* (S.T.S.) v. 25 Vpoun thair vyce war lang to waik, Quhais falsat, fiblines, and tressone, Hes rung thryis oure this zodiak. **1603** SHAKS. *Meas. for M.* 1. ii. 172 So long, that nineteene Zodiacks haue gone round. **1618** BOLTON *Florus* IV. ii. (1636) 291 A month in the Zodiack.

b. *fig. and allusively.* (a) Recurrent series, round, course. (b) Compass, range. (c) Set of twelve.

This fig. use was inaugurated by Marcellus Palingenius in the title of his work *Zodiacus vitæ, hoc est de hominis vitæ* (c1530), each book of which was named after a sign of the zodiac. The title was imitated by Gaspar Barthius in *Zodiacus vitæ christiane* (1623).

1560 (title) The first three Bokes of the most christian Poet Marcellus Palingenius, called the Zodyake of lyfe: newly translated out of latin into English by Barnabe Googe. **a1586** SIDNEY *Apol. Poetrie* (Arb.) 25 The Poet... goeth hand in hand with Nature, not inclosed within the narrow warrant of her gifts, but freely ranging onely within the Zodiack of his owne wit. **1607** WALKINGTON *Optic Gloss* Ep., It moues not once within the Zodiacke of my expectation. **1629** DEKKER *London's Tempe* (1844) 53 In your yeares zodiacke may you fairly move. **o1631** DONNE *Poems, Litonie* ix, Thy illustrious Zodiacke Of twelve Apostles, which ingirt this All. **1645** G. DANIEL *Poems* Wks. (Grosart) II. 94 Gladlie hast Through Follie's Zodiacke, from the first to th' Last. **1742** YOUNG *Nt. Th.* ix. 989 Thro'

various virtues, they, with ardour, ran The Zodiac of their learn'd, illustrious lives. **1856** EMERSON *Eng. Traits, Religion*, The Catholic church... moves through a zodiac of feasts and fasts. **1888** RUSKIN *Præterita* III. ii. 67, I saw my turn had come, and the revolving zodiac brought its fairest sign to me.

B. a. attrib. (orig. adj.), as *zodiac-figure*, *-lion*, *-sign*; † *zodiac circle* [cf. Gr. ὁ τῶν ζωδίων κύκλος (Aristotle)], † *zodiac line*, the zodiac; *zodiac ring*, a ring with figures of the signs of the zodiac. **b. Comb.** as *zodiac-zoned* adj.

1447 BOKENHAM *Seyntys*, Anna 624 The XII signes thryes by & by In þe *zodyak cerle had passyde coursly. **1602** FULBECKE *2nd Pt. Parall.* 60 The Zodiacke circle is alwayes rowled about. **1688** HOLME *Armoury* II. 20/2 The Zodiack Circle is ever born Bendways Sinister. **1844** MRS. BROWNING *Drama of Exile* iii. 90 Poems (1892) 27 The *zodiac-figures of the earth loom slow. **1590** T. WATSON *Poems* (Arb.) 157 Ye Figures in the *Zodiacke line, that decke heauns girdle with æternall light. **1818** KEATS *Endym.* I. 553 Now when his [sc. the sun's] chariot last Its beams against the *zodiac-lion cast. **1895** N. & Q. 8th Ser. VIII. 187/2 *Zodiac Rings. These, when made of gold, are usually said to be the work of native goldsmiths on the African coast. *Ibid.* 272/1, I have a gold zodiac ring marked with the leopard's head. **1883** *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 212/2 The similar *zodiac-signs of the Old World. **1856** R. A. VAUGHAN *Mystics* VIII. iii. (1860) II. 48 The *zodiac-zoned and silver-bearded counsellor.

zodiacal (zəu'daɪkəl), *a.* [f. L. *zōdiacus*: see *prec.* and -AL¹.] Of, pertaining to, or situated in the zodiac.

1576 FLEMING *Panopl. Epist.* 372 The yerely course of the Sunne throug the .i.z..signes Zodiaccall. **1682** SIR T. BROWNE *Chr. Mor.* III. §26. (1716) 121 The Northern Zodiacal Signs. **1694** MOTTEUX *Rabelais* v. 256 Before the full revolution of a Zodiacal Girdle [i.e. before the completion of a year]. **1715** tr. *Gregory's Astron.* I. 304 By the help of the Moon, ... they placed this Zodiacal Armilla in such a situation as was agreeable to the present moment of time. **1837** WHEWELL *Hist. Induct. Sci.* (1857) II. 226 Pearson's [catalogue] has 520 zodiacal stars. **1878** NEWCOMB *Pop. Astron.* I. i. 18 The zodiacal constellations occupy quite unequal spaces in the heavens.

b. zodiacal light: a tract of nebulous light extending along the zodiac on each side of the sun in the form of an elongated ellipse; in the temperate zones visible chiefly after sunset in late winter and early spring, and before sunrise in autumn.

1734 EAMES in *Phil. Trans.* XXXVIII. 244 The Zodiacal Light is the purer unmixed Atmosphere of the Sun. **1849** MRS. SOMERVILLE *Connex. Phys. Sci.* xxxvii. (ed. 8) 449 [Professor Olmsted] agrees with La Place in thinking that the zodiacal light is a nebulous body, revolving in the plane of the solar equator. **1876** TAIT *Rec. Adv. Phys. Sci.* x. 259 The zodiacal light, which obviously cannot possibly be part of the gaseous atmosphere of the sun. **1879** *Cassell's Techn. Educ.* IV. 411/2 The Zodiacal light is supposed to be the remains of the great nebula out of which the solar system was constructed.

zodico, var. ZYDECO.

† **zodiographer**. *Obs. rare*⁻¹. [f. Gr. type ζωδιογράφος, f. ζωδιον, dim. of ζῶον animal (see *ZODIA*) + γράφειν to write: see -GRAPHER.] One who writes about or describes animals.

1650 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* v. i. (ed. 2) 197 Ancient Zodiographers, and such as have particularly discoursed upon Animals.

|| **zoëa** (zəu'ɪə). *Zool.* Pl. zoëæ (zəu'ɪ:æ), also in Eng. form zoëas (zəu'ɪ:æz). Also zoëa, zoëa. Earlier form zoe (zəu'ɪ); pl. zoes (zəu'ɪ:z). [mod.L. *zoe*, *zoëa* (Bosc, 1802), the first form a. Gr. ζωή life, the second an extension of it by addition of fem. suffix -Α 2.] † *a.* (An animal of) a supposed genus of crustaceans, founded on certain larval forms mistaken for adults. *Obs.* **b.** A larval stage of development in crustaceans, esp. decapods, usually characterized by one or more spines on the carapace, and rudimentary thoracic and abdominal limbs. Also *attrib.*, as *zoëa-form*, *-phase*, *-stage*.

1828 J. V. THOMPSON *Zool. Res.* I. 1. 5 The fifth or terminal joint formed as in all the genuine Zoëas, of a deep fork, the inner sides of which are furnished with three small spines. *Ibid.* 9 On the 1st of May of the present year, (1827,) another large Zoëa was taken. *Ibid.* 11 *note*, The French have adopted the term Zoe for these animals, which, as more simple, and better suited to the genius of our own language than the Latin, may be used in familiar discourse without any impropriety. *Ibid.* 63 The Zoe or Larva of the common or edible Crab. **1835** WESTWOOD in *Phil. Trans.* CXXV. 324 If... these latter Zoës are to be regarded as the larvæ of Crabs, they must be considered as having acquired the maximum of their Zoe form. **1857** GOSSE *Omphalos* viii. 217 The Zoëa form [of the crab], with carapace rising into a tall erect spine, sessile eyes, no claws. **1865** [see MYSTIS b]. **1877** HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* vi. 303 In most Podophthalmia the embryo leaves the egg, not as a Nauplius, but as a Zoëa, which has thoracic, but no abdominal, appendages. **1888** ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 169 In the larval form [of the crayfish] known as *Zoëa*, the first Zoëa-stage has no palp to the mandible.

Hence zoëal (zəu'ɪ:əl) *a.*, of a zoëa.

1870 P. M. DUNCAN *Blanchard's Transf. Insects* 459 During the next zoëal period the paired eyes... are formed.

zoecial, *-ium*: see ZOCE-.

zoetekoekie, var. SOETKOEKIE.

zoetrope (zəu'trəʊp). [irreg. f. Gr. ζωή life + -τροπος turning.] A mechanical toy or optical instrument consisting of a cylinder open at the top, with a series of slits in the circumference, and a series of figures representing successive positions of a moving object arranged along the inner surface, which when viewed through the slits while the cylinder is in rapid rotation produce the impression of actual movement of the object. Also called *wheel of life*.

1867 'AUNT CARRIE' *Popular Pastimes for Field & Fireside* 229 The Zoetrope is a newly invented toy. It presents a series of striking optical delusions. **1869** W. S. GILBERT 'Bab' Ball., *Capt. Reece* vi. And, also, with amusement rife, A 'Zoetrope, or Wheel of Life.' **1881** *Athenæum* 29 Oct. 567/2 By a zoetrope these figures are projected on a screen, and the clown exhibited as in motion, with all his changes of position.

zoftick, **zoftig**, **zoftik**, varr. ZAFITIG *a.*

zo3e, obs. Kent. pa. pple. of SEE *v.*

† **zograpner**, **zography**. *Obs.* See *quots.* and cf. ZOOGRAPHER, ZOOGRAPHY.

1570 DEE *Math. Pref.* d i j b, This Mechanicall Zograpner (commonly called the Painter). *Ibid.*, Zographie, is an Arte Mathematicall, which... demonstrateth, how, the Intersection of all visuall Pyramides, made by any playne assigned, (the Centre, distance, and lightes, beyng determined) may be, by lynes, and due propre colours, represented.

zograscope ('zɒgrəskəʊp). *Obs. exc. Hist.* [Etym. uncertain, perh. f. ZOGRA(PHER, ZOGRA(PHY + -SCOPE.) An optical instrument, consisting of a vertically suspended convex lens in front of a pivotally adjustable mirror mounted on a stand, designed for the viewing of prints in magnified form and with stereoscopic effect.

1753 in G. Adams *Descr. & Use Universal Trigonometrical Octant* 3 (Advnt.), Zograscopes for viewing perspective Prints. **1953** *Ann. Sci.* IX. 315 (*heading*) The zograscope or optical diagonal machine. *Ibid.*, No reference to the zograscope has so far been found in the literature of the eighteenth or nineteenth centuries, save in certain... advertisements listing instruments made... by [George Adams]. **1969** E. H. PINTO *Treen* 284 Usually described and sold as Georgian shaving mirrors; this, they are not; they are zograscopes... probably invented about 1750... Also known, during its long life, as an optical machine... intended for viewing prints, etc., in a magnified form.

Zohar (zəu'hɑ:(r)). Also 7 zoar. [Heb., lit. 'light, splendour'.] The major text of Jewish Cabalism, in the form of an allegorical interpretation of the Pentateuch.

1682 W. PAYNE *Learning & Knowl.* 12 A studying Judiciary Schemes, and fanciful Cabalas, and mysterious zoars. **1837** *British & Foreign Rev.* V. 419 The work called Zohar is written in Chaldaic, and develops the mysterious science called *Cabala*. **1843** G. BORROW *Bible in Spain* III. xv. 295 He knew more Zohar and more secrets than the wisest of them. **1888** J. C. MURRAY tr. *Maimon's Autobiogr.* xiv. 95 The principal work for the study of the Cabbalah is the *Zohar*, which is written in a very lofty style in the Syrian language. **1932** A. BENSON *Zohar* i. 11 Although they derived their inspiration from the same source—Zohar and Kabbala—Ashkenazi and Sepharadi mysticism inevitably took different directions. **1941** [see TEL AVIVIAN sb. and a.]. **1965** J. A. MICHENER *Source* (1966) 662 Ximeno had given Dr. Abulafia a manuscript of the Zohar, the arcane book of Kabbalism. **1978** I. B. SINGER *Shosha* i. 8 There stood on our shelves volumes of the Zohar..., and other cabalistic works.

zoic (zəu'ɪk), *a.* [ad. Gr. ζωικός, f. ζῶον animal; in sense 1 taken as f. ζωή life, after AZOIC.]

1. Showing traces of life; in *Geol.*, containing organic remains.

1863 DANA *Man. Geol.* 597 If, therefore, these simple species existed in the Azoic era, they were systemless life, and only foreshadowed the great systems of life which were afterwards displayed... in the true Zoic ages. **1885-6** *Rep. U.S. Geol. Survey* (1888) 453 These great Pre-Cambrian and Post-Archæan series are zoic in character.

2. Of the nature of an animal; animal.

1895-6 W. J. MCGEE in *17th Ann. Rep. Bur. Amer. Ethnol.* (1898) 169* The Seri face-painting would seem to be essentially zoösematic, or symbolic of zoic tutelaries. **1900** *Ann. Rep. Smithsonian Inst.* 63 The use of zoic motives in the decoration of primitive weapons.

zoid (zəu'ɪd), *sb. Biol.* [f. Gr. ζῶον animal + -ID², or shortened f. ZOOID.] = ZOOID.

1856 WOODWARD *Mollusca* 336 In one group [of Tunicata], the individuals... become blended into a common mass... The separate individuals of these composite masses are termed Zoids. **1875** *Encycl. Brit.* II. 69/1 Many zoids or buds being attached in line. **1960** *Bot. Gaz.* CXXII. 33/1 Most algae, excluding the Cyanophyta, reproduce sexually by gametes and asexually by spores of various kinds (collectively called 'zoids', except for aplanospores). **1981** *Austral. J. Zool.* XXIX. 365 Subterminal ovicell complexes bud distally from part of the complex and are generally composed of female zoid with ovicell, lateral zoid, and ovicell zoid with apical chamber.

'**zoid**, *a. Zool. rare*⁻¹. [f. *zoe* = ZOEA + -ID³.] Applied to a larval or zoëa stage in Crustacea.

1864 *Athenæum* 13 Aug. 215/2 The early zoid conditions and subsequent transformations of the Crustacea.

zoid(i)ogamous: see *zooidiogamous* s.v. ZOOID.

Zoilus (zəu'ɪləs). Also 6-7 Zoylus, 7 Zoilis; also 6-7 anglicized Zoil(e, Zoyl(e. [L., a. Gr. Ζωῖλος. Cf. F. *zoïle*, It., Sp. *zoilo*.

The supposed relation of Ζωῖλος to ζῆλος ZEAL, which is held to account for the association of the notion of malignancy or envy with this word, is reflected in the following:

1597 J. PAYNE *Royal Exch.* 23 There... resolution to suffer for there bad causes will intice the ignorant... to thinck that there outragious zoyle is a sanctified zeale.]

Name of a Greek critic and grammarian (4th century B.C.) famous for his severe criticism of Homer; *transf.* (with pl. *Zoili, Zoiluses*), a censorious, malignant, or envious critic.

1565 COOPER *Thesaurus, Dict. Hist. & Poet.* s.v. *Zoilus*, Of him, all malicious carpers of other mens wourkes be called *Zoili*. **1567** J. SANFORD *Epictetus* A v b, Carp not ye canked Zoiles al, the men Whose labour spente in paynfull toyle hath ben. **1575** W. CLOWES in *J. Banister's Treat. Chirurg.* In praise of Author, Although that Zoylus would him spot, Let him doe what he may. **1580** R. HITCHCOCK *Pol. Plat* Pref. **ij, To defende my imperfection, against a sorte of Momus secte, and Zoilus bande. **1609** DOULAND *Ormith. Microl.* 76 Zoilisses and Thersitisses. **1612** R. SHELTON *Serm. at St. Martin's* 47 Such as are eminent should be careful of their conuersations when they are besieged with such malicious Zoiles. **1636** PRYNNE *Rem. agst. Ship-money* Ep., Carping Zoilusses, or malignant Momusses whom no men can please. **1818** LADY MORGAN *Fl. Macarthy* (1819) II. ii. 99 This formidable Zoilus of the Crawley family. **1834** COLERIDGE *Notes & Lect.* (1849) I. 64 How then comes it that not only single *Zoili*, but whole nations have combined in unhesitating condemnation of our great dramatist?

Hence 'Zoilean, †Zoi'litical, 'Zoilous *adjs.*, characteristic of Zoilus or his criticism; 'Zoilism, carping criticism like that of Zoilus; 'Zoilist, an imitator of Zoilus, a carping critic.

1846 WORCESTER cites RICHARDSON for *Zoilean. **1609** N. MORGAN *Perf. Horsem.* 44 The bitter humor of *Zoilisme and malice. **1682** SIR T. BROWNE *Chr. Mor.* II. §2 Let not Zoilism or Detraction blast well intended labours. **1753** *Gray's Inn Jnl.* No. 54, I am convinced of your Endeavours to propogate the Cause of Zoilizm. **1594** NASHE *Christ's T.* To Rdr., The plodding sort of vnlearned *Zoilists about London, exclaim, that it is a puft-up stile. **1658** FRANCES *Northern Mem.* (1694) Pref. p. xxvii, Some prevaricating Zoilist will arraign my Hypothesis. **1716** M. DAVIES *Athen. Brit.* II. 87 Polydore Virgil, Dr. John Cay, with other Zoilists, reported that his Poetical Wit made him so conceited. **1849** H. COLERIDGE *Ess.* (1851) II. 75 The same class of fastidious wits who in France became Zoilists, in England were the stoutest sticklers to Homer. **1665** J. WEBB *Stone-Heng* (1725) 41 Their magnificent Monuments shall come to be controverted by every *Zoilitical Pretender! **1577** GRANGE *Golden Aphrod.* Ep. Ded. A iv b, I thought it good (somwhat to stop a *zoilous mouth) to sette a more cleanly name vpon it, that is, *Golden Aphroditis*. **1618** M. BARET *Hippon.* i. 47 Hee... therefore needeth not be daunted for the taunts of any Zoylous beholders.

zoisite (zə'ɪsɪt). *Min.* [ad. G. *zoisit*, named by Werner after Baron von *Zois*, the discoverer.] A native silicate of alumina and lime, occurring in orthorhombic prismatic crystals, of various colours, white, green, or red.

1805 R. JAMESON *Syst. Min.* II. 597. **1843** PORTLOCK *Geol.* 209 Zoisite in fine crystals of a greyish brown or olive colour, ... at Hollyhill, near Strabane, County Tyrone.

zoism (zəu'ɪz(ə)m). [f. Gr. ζωή life + -ISM.] The doctrine that life depends on a peculiar vital principle, and is not a mere resultant of combined forces; esp. in connexion with 'animal magnetism' and the like. So *zoist* (zəu'ɪst), one who upholds the doctrine of zoism; hence *zo'istic* (zəu'ɪstɪk) *a.*, as in *zoistic magnetism* = animal magnetism.

1843 (*title*) The Zoist: a Journal of Cerebral Physiology & Mesmerism, and their Applications to Human Welfare. **1849** SCORESBY (*title*) Zoistic Magnetism. **1900** (*title*) Psychic Research Co.'s Course of Instruction in Personal Magnetism, Series A: Mind Reading, Hypnotism, Magnetic Healing, and Zoism.

zoite (zəu'ɪt). *Zool.* [The suffix used as an independent word.] (See *quots.*).

1963 E. N. KOZLOFF in J. Ludvik et al. *Progr. Protozool.* (Proc. First Internat. Congr. Protozool., Prague, 1961) 78 It appears advisable to reconsider the terminology applied to stages in the life-histories of gregarines and coccidians... *Zoite*, an infective stage, produced by division of a zygote, and usually surrounded by an envelope which is either a zoitocyst or zygozocyst. **1969** *New Scientist* 29 May 465/1 Another stage in the development of *Toxoplasma* is the cystic form or zoite. **1977** *J. Protozool.* XXIV. 36/1 Electronmicroscopic studies revealed that the structure of *T. gondii* zoites (trophozoites, merozoites, 'spores', etc.) is similar to that of the zoites of the coccidia *Eimeria* and *Isospora*. **1979** *Ibid.* XXVI. 437/1 Uninucleate, dinucleate, and multinucleate zoites. **1980** *J. Parasitol.* LXVI. 67/1 Ultrastructurally, cysts of *[Toxoplasma] gondii* and *[Ammonia] hammondi* cannot be distinguished with certainty in skeletal muscle. Classification is based on the typical distribution of cysts and their zoites in the intermediate host.

-zoite (zəu'ɪt), *suffix*. [f. Gr. ζῶ-ov animal + -ITE¹.] A word-forming element used in zoological terms in the sense 'spore', as in *merozoite* s.v. MERO⁻¹, *tachyzoite* s.v. TACHY-.

Zolaism ('zəʊləɪz(ə)m). [f. the name *Zola* + -ISM.] The literary manner characteristic of the French novelist Émile Zola (1840-1902), whose works are marked by an excessively realistic treatment of the coarser sides of human life. So **Zolaesque** (-'ɛsk) *a.*, characteristic of or resembling the style of Zola; **'Zolaist**, one who studies or approves of the writings of Zola (hence **Zolaistic** *a.*); **'Zolaize** *v. intr.*, to imitate or follow the style of Zola; *trans.* to make like Zola.

1886 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 14 July 5/2 Mr. Moore's 'Zolaesque search for characteristic phrases has led him into some startling extravagances. **1903** in *Gayley Repr. Engl. Com.* I. 387 The mean circumstances of his Bohemian career, and the terribly brutal, Zolaesque scene of his death-chamber. **1882** *Athenaeum* 30 Dec. 875/3 A particular form of 'Zolaism, much in vogue at this moment. **1886** TENNYSON *Locksley Hall* 60 Yrs. After 145 Set the maiden fancies wallowing in the troughs of Zolaism. **1886** *Athenaeum* 30 Jan. 161/2 Even the 'Zolaist has to remember that 'art is art because it is not nature'. *Ibid.* 161/3 The French critics either of the Hugoistic or the 'Zolaistic persuasion. *Ibid.* 2 July 13/3 The 'Zolaizing novel of Paul Lindau, 'Arme Madchen'. **1901** *Literature* 30 Mar. 234/2, I do not mean that M. Roz has Zolaized Mr. Hardy.

zoll, variant of **SAL**².

Zollinger-Ellison syndrome ('zɒlɪndʒər 'elɪsən). *Path.* [Named after M. Zollinger (b. 1903) and E. H. Ellison (1918-70), American physicians, who described the syndrome in 1955 (*Ann. Surg.* CXLII. 709).] A syndrome characterized by excessive gastric acid secretion (producing recurrent peptic ulcers) associated with a gastrin-secreting tumour or hyperplasia of the islet cells of the pancreas.

1956 EISEMAN & MAYNARD in *Gastroenterology* XXXI. 302 For the sake of simplicity we propose this clinical entity be called the Zollinger-Ellison syndrome. **1960** *Jrnl. R. Coll. of Surgeons of Edin.* V. 191 Since that time [sc. 1955] over 100 instances of co-existent peptic ulcer and islet cell tumours have been described and the association appears to constitute a clinical entity called, by general consent, the 'Zollinger-Ellison syndrome'. **1962** [see **ISLET** 3]. **1974** R. M. KIRK et al. *Surgery* vi. 85/1 In the Zollinger-Ellison syndrome, ulcers may occur at the duodenojejunal junction.

Zöllner ('tʃœlnə(r), z-). *Psychol.* Also **Zoellner**. The name of the German astronomer and physicist, Johann Karl Friedrich Zöllner (1834-82), used *attrib.* and in the possessive to designate the optical illusion noted by him of parallel lines which, when marked with short diagonal lines, appear to converge. Now usu. as **Zöllner illusion**.

1890 W. JAMES *Princ. Psychol.* II. xx. 232 In what is known as Zöllner's pattern . . . the long parallels tip towards each other the moment we draw the short slanting lines over them. **1911** *Encycl. Brit.* XXVIII. 142/1 (caption) Zoellner's Figure showing an illusion of direction. **1922** K. DUNLAP *Elem. Sci. Psychol.* xiii. 295 In the Zöllner figure, the long lines, really parallel, seem to converge. **1955** H. E. GARRETT *Gen. Psychol.* v. 179 (caption) Zoellner illusion. The four horizontal lines are parallel. **1971** [see **HERING**]. **1980** *Sci. Amer.* Jan. 91/1 The Zöllner illusion, which exhibits assimilation at extremely small angles and contrast at larger angles.

||zollverein ('tsɒlfeɪrən). Now *Hist.* [G., f. *zoll* tax, impost, **TOLL** *sb.*¹ + *verein* union.] A union, orig. between certain states of the German empire, after 1833 including all the states, for the maintenance of a uniform rate of customs duties from other countries and of free trade among themselves; hence *gen.* of other countries. Hence **'zollvereinist**, an advocate of a British imperial zollverein.

1843 *Times* 21 Aug. 5/2 The Zollverein.—The Bavarian Chamber of Deputies . . . voted by an immense majority the two following resolutions. **1847** COBDEN in *Morley Life* (1881) I. xviii. 448 The Prussian law of 1818, and the tariff which followed it, form the foundation of the German Zollverein. **1862** (title) London Exhibition. Special Catalogue of the Zollverein-Department edited by authority of the Commissioners of the Zollverein-Governments. **1893** GOLDW. SMITH *Ess. Quest. Day* 150 When colonists propose an Imperial zollverein.

zolo go, var. **ZYDECO**.

||zolotnik (zɒlɒt'nik). Now *Hist.* Also 8 solothnic, solotnik, -nick. [Russ. *zolotnik*, f. *zoloto* gold.] A former Russian unit of weight, $\frac{1}{96}$ of the funt or Russian pound.

1783 MARTYN in *Geogr. Mag.* II. 40 Russia has some weights peculiar to itself: such as a solothnic, which is one-sixth of an ounce. **1799** W. TOOKE *View Russ. Emp.* II. 532 The solotnik is only reckoned at 19½ kopecks, whereas the solotnik of gold is valued at 2 rubles 50 kopecks. **1919** PETRIE in *Man* XIX. 80 The Russian and Irak pound . . . was divided into 96 zolotniks, which was equal to the Attic drachma.

zollow, **zom(e)**, **zomboruk**, **zomer**: see **SULLOW**, **SOME**, **ZUMBOORUK**, **SUMMER**¹.

zombie ('zɒmbɪ). Also **zombi** and with capital initial. [Of W. Afr. origin; cf. Kongo *nzambi* god, *zumbi* fetish.] **1**. In the West Indies and southern states of America, a soulless corpse

said to have been revived by witchcraft; formerly, the name of a snake-deity in voodoo cults of or deriving from West Africa and Haiti.

1819 R. SOUTHEY *Hist. Brazil* III. xxxi. 24 Zombi, the title whereby he [chief of Brazilian natives] was called, is the name for the Deity, in the Angolan tongue. . . NZambi is the word for Deity. **1872** SCHELE DE VERE *Americanisms* 138 *Zombi*, a phantom or a ghost, not unfrequently heard in the Southern States in nurseries and among the servants. **1886** *Century Mag.* Apr. 815/2 This spiritual influence or potentate is the recognized antagonist and opposite of Obi, the great African manitou or deity, or him whom the Congoes vaguely generalize as Zombi. **1929** W. B. SEABROOK *Magic Island* II. ii. 94 At this very moment, in the moonlight, there are zombies working on this island. **1943** R. OTTLEY *New World* 46 Adding the zombies, jumbies, and obeah men to the gallery of voodoo characters. **1966** G. GREENE *Comedians* iv. 104 Luckily no one dared move on the roads at night; it was the hour when only zombies worked or else the Tontons Macoute. **1979** J. RHYS *Smile Please* 30 Zombies were black shapeless things. They could get through a locked door and you heard them walking up to your bed. You didn't see them, you felt their hairy hands round your throat. **1984** *Times* 26 Jan. 12/6 A zombie, as every schoolboy knows, is a person who has been killed and raised from the dead by sinister voodoo priests called boocors.

2. fig. A dull, apathetic, or slow-witted person. Also as a general term of disparagement. *colloq.*

1936 H. L. MENCKEN *Amer. Language* (ed. 4) xi. 587 Any performer [in a film] not a Caucasian is a zombie. **1941** H. MACINNES *Above Suspicion* ix. 80 He nodded. . . in the direction of those concentrating on the mastication of specially chosen vitamins to build a specially chosen race. 'Zombies is, I believe, the technical term,' suggested Richard. **1946** J. B. PRIESTLEY *Bright Day* xi. 329 They've spent their lives starving their imagination, just starving it to death. And now they're zombies. **1957** J. BRAINE *Room at Top* i. 17 To Charles and me it was always Dead Dufton and the councillors and chief officials and anyone we didn't approve of were called zombies. **1961** [see **LOVE** *sb.*¹ 4]. **1974** S. MIDDLETON *Holiday* xiii. 233 He had no time for her as a zombie, preferring her moody volatility to this flabby acquiescence. **1981** P. CAREY *Bliss* iv. 156 They'll give us electric shocks. . . They'll give us pills and make us zombies. **1984** *Guardian* 22 Oct. 3/1 Mr. Dawson describes the committee as a parliament of zombies.

3. Canad. Mil. slang. In the war of 1939-45, an opprobrious nickname applied to men conscripted for home defence.

1943 *Daily Express* 16 Sept. 4/1 The Canadian Government is reducing its 'Home Guard' army. . . These troops were jocularly dubbed 'Zombies', after the Voodoo cult which insists that dead men can be made to walk and act as if they were alive. **1946** [see **OLD MAN** 1 a]. **1953** D. M. LE BOURDAIS *Nation of North* 245 The first men were drafted for service. . . Contemptuously referred to as 'zombies', they were never taken seriously by the military authorities. **1963** A. S. MORTON *Kingdom of Canada* 481 A nasty distinction arose between the volunteers for service overseas and the conscripts for home defence, who were given the pungent nickname of 'zombie', a West Indian word for impotent spirits. **1978** *Daily Colonist Mag.* (Victoria, B.C.) 1 July 12/1 When the Canadian Army was struggling on the Western Front in the early winter of 1944 and there was an urgent call for reinforcements, yet, in the military camps in Vernon and Terrace the Zombies mutinied when orders came for their movement overseas.

4. A long mixed drink consisting of several kinds of rum, liqueur, and fruit juice (see quot. 1958).

1942 M. K. RAWLINGS *Cross Creek* xvii. 221 There is a passion fruit liqueur that is the primary ingredient . . . of that marvelous . . . drink, the Zombie. **1958** A. L. SIMON *Dict. Wines, Spirits & Liqueurs* 167/1 *Zombie*, . . . lime juice; . . . pineapple juice; . . . Falernum, or simple syrup; . . . White Label Rum; . . . Gold Label Rum; . . . Jamaica Rum; . . . Demerara Rum; . . . apricot liqueur. Shake well and strain. . . Garnish with . . . orange and . . . mint. **1968** J. M. ULLMAN *Lady on Fire* vi. 80 The bartender . . . went off to prepare a zombie. Forbes hated zombies, but it was the longest drink that came to mind. **1977** *Zigzag* Apr. 10/1 It's a Polynesian drink, a rum drink . . . a killer drink. There was a restaurant I found very close to The Cage that I went to every day. . . Like I would wake up, go there at noon, have a Zombie, go back and start writing.

5. a. attrib.

1956 M. STEARNS *Story of Jazz* (1957) xviii. 222 Thelonius Monk, whose weird . . . and pioneering modulations were referred to as 'Zombie music' by the musicians themselves, more in awe than anger. **1958** A. WILSON *Middle Age of Mrs. Eliot* i. 77 The breathing zombie orchestra around her. **1966** *New Statesman* 14 Jan. 58/3 A dream-sequence in a cemetery with zombie-hands sprouting like crocuses. **1968** P. ABLEMAN *Vac* xxiv. 113 Stop clashing those zombie lips and glide to the bar. **1973** [see **one-nighter** s.v. **ONE** B. 35]. **1976** D. LODGE *Changing Places* v. 162 He could send home, when the time came, some zombie replica of himself.

b. Comb., as zombie-like *a.*, characteristic of or resembling a zombie; lifeless, unfeeling.

1957 J. KEROUAC *On Road* (1958) 302 His arms hanging zombie-like at his sides. **1962** *Times* 25 July 13/1 Future . . . where everybody lives a zombie-like existence. **1975** *Publishers Weekly* 10 Feb. 57/3 White Brian is a zombie-like boy who wanders unseen and unseen through life. **1983** *Times* 4 Oct. 10/6 On state occasions, a few old men shuffle on to the balcony of the Kremlin and raise their hands in zombie-like salutation.

Hence **zombi'esque**, **'zomboid** [-OID] *adjs.*; **'zombiism**.

1956 M. STEARNS *Story of Jazz* (1957) v. 51 The Calinda dance is connected with zombiism in Haiti. **1972** *Vogue* Jan. 7/3 Ponderax . . . sidetracks the appetite but leaves the character . . . muted, zombiesque. **1974** *Observer* 3 Feb. 31/5 Zombiesque Security Guard charged with shooting. **1974** *Radio Times* 18 Mar. 22/4 We're not putting up with 'Zomybism'. The aim of our programme is to give hope.

1975 *Sunday Times* (Colour Suppl.) 20 July 11/3 'I'm David Bowie,' he intones with a zomboid air. **1979** *Guardian* 18 Oct. 11/6 Some of the most zomboid heroines in recent fiction. **1983** *Daily Tel.* 15 Oct. 17/1 Zombi-ism exists and is a social phenomenon that can be explored logically.

zomotherapy (zəʊməʊ'therəpi). *Med.* [ad. F. *zomothérapie*, f. Gr. ζυμός soup + θεραπεία THERAPY.] The use of raw meat, or the juice expressed from it, in the treatment of tuberculosis. Hence **zomothera'peutic** *a.*, pertaining to zomotherapy.

1900 *Lancet* 27 Oct. 1242/2 The experiments of M. Richet and M. Héricourt relative to the use of raw meat as a prophylactic and curative substance in tuberculosis. . . Such treatment these observers have called 'zomotherapy'. *Ibid.*, At various stages of the zomotherapeutic treatment.

zon, dial. form of **SON**.

||zona ('zəʊnə). The Lat. form of the Gr. word repr. by **ZONE**. *a. Archæol.* A girdle: = **ZONE** *sb.* **3. b.** Used in Anatomy with various qualifying adjs. to denote certain structures or parts of structures (see quots., and cf. **ZONE** *sb.* 6); also **zona fasciculata**, **glomerulosa**, **reticularis** [mod.L. (see **FASCICULATE** *a.*, etc.), coined in Ger. by J. Arnold 1866, in *Arch. f. path. Anat. & Physiol.* XXXV. 66], the middle, outer, and inner layers respectively of the cortex of the adrenal gland; **zona ignea** [L., = fiery girdle] *Path.*, also simply **zona**, the disease **herpes zoster** or shingles. **zona pellucida**, the transparent membrane forming the cell-wall of the ovum in Mammalia. **zona radiata**, a radially striated form of the **zona pellucida** surrounding the ova of certain vertebrates as seen in the light microscope.

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), *Zona* . . . a kind of *Herpes*, or Shingles call'd Holy Fire. **1800** DALLAWAY *Anecd. Artis Eng.* 249 Both the tænia and zona are concealed by drapery falling over them. **1818-20** THOMPSON tr. *Cullen's Nosol.* (ed. 3) 331 *Herpes Zoster, Zona; or Zona ignea*: the shingles. **1841** M. BARRY in *Phil. Trans.* CXXXII. 116 We saw the incipient chorion, when rising from the 'zona pellucida' in the mammiferous ovum, to leave a stratum of unappropriated cells behind it on the 'zona'. **1848** DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.* s.v., *Zona Tendinosa*, the whitish circle around the auriculo-ventricular orifice of the right side of the heart. **1874** R. J. DUNGLISON *Dict. Med. Sci.* (new ed.) 1130/1 *Zona reticularis*. . . *Zona glomerulosa*. . . *Zona fasciculata*. **1881** F. M. BALFOUR *Treat. Compar. Embryol.* II. iv. 55 The ovum [of Teleostei] when laid is usually invested in the *zona radiata* only. **1883** KLEIN *Elem. Histol.* 341 The inner *zona*, or *zona reticularis*, composed of smaller or larger groups of polyhedral cells. *Ibid.* 341 Next follows the middle *zone*, or *zona fasciculata*. *Ibid.* Next follows the inner *zone*, or *zona reticularis*. **1899** Allbutt's *Syst. Med.* VIII. 616 Yet there has never been any confusion with regard to [Herpes] Zoster, or *Zona*, since the disease was first described. **1925** E. B. WILSON *Cell* (ed. 3) iv. 272 The *zona radiata* of the vertebrate ovum, conspicuously shown in the fishes, is a thick and often double membrane traversed by fine radial canals. **1964** PARKER & HASWELL *Text-bk. Zool.* (ed. 7) II. 319 The ovum [of *Salmo trutta*, the brown trout] is covered by a thick membrane, the *zona radiata*. **1905** LEE & KNOWLES *Animal Hormones* iv. 70 The cells in the innermost layer are in the form of a reticulum—the *zona reticularis*. *Ibid.*, The *zona glomerulosa* secretes mineralocorticoid. *Ibid.* 71 Hypophysectomy results in shrinkage mainly of the *zona fasciculata* and *reticularis*, and the blood glucose falls.

zonal ('zəʊnəl), *a.* [ad. mod.L. *zōnālis*, f. L. *zōna* **ZONE**.]

1. a. Characterized by or arranged in zones, circles, or rings; of the nature of or forming a zone.

1873 A. WILSON *Elem. Zool.* i. ii. 22 In 'zonal' symmetry the merosomes are arranged in zones, one after another, in a longitudinal axis. **1888** RUTLEY *Rock-Forming Min.* 124 The small spherical crystalline aggregates show . . . a concentric zonal structure.

b. Marked with zones or circular bands of colour: applied to varieties of pelargonium or geranium having the leaves so marked.

1868 MORN. *Star* 17 June, The cultivators of zonal pelargoniums, or variegated leaf-coloured geraniums, had a grand competition. **1908** *Nation* 22 Feb. 756/2 The zonal geranium.

2. Math. and Cryst. Relating to a zone or zones of a sphere, or of a crystalline form: see **ZONE** *sb.* 8.

1867 THOMSON & TAIT *Nat. Phil.* §781 These circles . . . are . . . all in parallel planes . . . and cut the spherical surface into zones, in which case the harmonic is called zonal.

3. Pertaining or relating to, involving, or constituting a 'zone' or 'zones', i.e. regions or areas distinctively characterized in some way: see **ZONE** *sb.* 2 b, 7.

1882 *Knowledge* 7 July 92 The six zonal areas we have thus described will serve our purpose admirably for grouping together our Seaside Health-Resorts. **1890** *Nature* 4 Sept. 454/2 Zonal divisions are based upon these bogus species and conclusions drawn from them. **1893** GEIKIE *Text-bk. Geol.* vi. iii. i. (ed. 3) 876 In tracing the zonal parallelism of the Triassic succession within the Alps themselves. **1904** *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 219 The study . . . of strata characterised by the dominance of a zone-fossil forms zonal geology. **1909** *Spectator* 29 May 856/2 The companies adopted a zonal tariff (as the State has done for telephone purposes).

4. *Soil Sci.* [a. F. *zonal* (N. Sibirtsev 1897, in *Compt. Rend. de la VII^e. Session, Congr. géol. internat.* (1899) II. III. v. 80.)] Of a soil: regarded as characteristic of a particular climatic or geographic zone and as reflecting the predominant influence of the climate in its formation.

1908 *Jrnl. Agric. Sci.* III. 84 The seven fundamental groups of 'zonal' soils just enumerated are spread over the surface of large continents in zones which coincide with the physico-geographical zones of those continents. 1927, etc. [see INTRAZONAL a.]. 1952 [see AZONAL a.]. 1972 J. G. CRUICKSHANK *Soil Geogr.* iv. 110 Apart from being an oversimplification of reality, the zonal system had the unfortunate effect of restricting, in the mind of the student, the distribution of each zonal soil within the limits of its climatic zone.

Hence *zo'nality*, *zonal character* or *distribution*; *'zonally adv.*, in or according to zones.

1873 A. WILSON *Elem. Zool.* i. ii. 22 The segments . . of the body, which are arranged zonally along a longitudinal axis. 1889 *Amer. Nat.* XXIII. 814 Crystals of the hyacinth variety of quartz . . contain numerous inclusions of anhydrite arranged zonally. 1909 *Daily Chron.* 21 Mar. 3/5 The zonality of the flowers.

zo'narious, *a. rare*—⁰. [f. L. *zōna* *ZONE sb.*]

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Zonarious* . . of or belonging to a Girdle, Purse, or Zone.

zonary ('zəʊnəri), *a.* [f. *ZONE sb.* + -ARY.]

1. Having the form of a zone or girdle: applied to the placenta in certain mammals, as the *Carnivora*, forming a broad girdle round the chorion.

1881 MIVART *Cat* 472 Though the Rodents have a deceduate placenta, it is never zonary.

2. Occurring in a zone or zones, i.e. within definite limits of depth (see *ZONE sb.* 7).

zonate ('zəʊneɪt), *a. Zool. and Bot.* [ad. mod. L. *zōnātus*, f. *zōna* *ZONE sb.*: see -ATE².] Marked with zones, rings, or bands of colour; zoned. Also *'zonated a.*

1803 SHAW *Gen. Zool.* IV. 45z Zonated Sparus. 1852 *Zoologist X.* 3315 The coral snake (zonated scarlet and black). 1866 *Treas. Bot.*, *Zonate*, *Zoned*, marked with concentric bands of colour.

zonation (zəʊ'neɪʃən). [f. *ZONE sb.* + -ATION.]

a. Distribution in zones or regions of definite character; *spec. in Ecol.*, the distribution of plants into specific zones which are characterized by their dominant species.

1898 *Rep. Brit. Assoc. Adv. Sci.* 1897 863 (heading) The zonal constitution and disposition of plant formations. By Frederic E. Clements. *Ibid.*, The author has here reviewed the phytogeographical contributions bearing upon the subject in hand, with especial reference to the part they have played in the elaboration of the conception of zonation. In addition, he has endeavoured to demonstrate the fundamental universality of zonation in all divisions of the floral covering. 1904 [see ECOTONE]. 1926 TANSLEY & CHIPP *Study of Veg.* iv. 53 Adjacent plant communities are often arranged in more or less definite zones, following one another in constant order. This is specially noticeable in ascending a mountain (where it is called altitudinal zonation). 1936 J. MUIR *Geol. Tampico Region, Mexico* 121 Reliable local zonation of both the Eocene and the Oligocene has been worked out in the Tampico area. 1969 *Nature* 15 Mar. 1005/2 Marine work during the first eight months concentrated on community structure and zonation on cliffs, reef flats and in mangrove woodland. 1971 *Scot. Jrnl. Geol.* VII. 306 It is first necessary therefore to establish a regional metamorphic zonation. 1981 *Birds* Autumn 63/3, I would have preferred to have seen an accompanying annotated sketch so that the plant zonations could be easily recognised.

b. Formation of zones in the oocytes of certain plants and animals.

1899 *Bot. Gaz.* XXVIII. 237 There is a stage called zonation in which the nuclei, usually in metaphase, are lined up around the ooplasm. 1902 *Bot. Gaz.* Dec. 421 During the completion of the mitosis the ooplasm and periplasm become clearly differentiated, but as yet no plasmoderma exists. This process of differentiation has been termed zonation. 1975 *Acta Anat.* XCIII. 51z The zonation of the ooplasm reveals that a majority of the oocytes [of the teleost *Schizothorax richardsonii*] have a darkly stained inner and a lightly stained outer zone.

zone (zəʊn), *sb.* Also 6–7 *zoane*. [ad. L. *zōna*, a. Gr. *ζώνη* girdle (*ζωννύμαι* to gird). Cf. F. *zone* (from 12th c.), It., Sp., Pg. *zona*.]

1. *Geog.*, etc. a. Each of the five 'belts' or encircling regions, distinguished by differences of climate, into which the surface of the earth (and, in ancient cosmography, the celestial sphere) is divided by the tropics (of Cancer and Capricorn) and the polar (arctic and antarctic) circles; viz. the *torrid* (†*burning*, †*burnt*, †*hot*) *zone* between the tropics, the (north and south) *temperate zones* extending from the tropics to the polar circles, and the *frigid* (†*frozen*, †*cold*) *zones* (arctic and antarctic) within the polar circles.

The arctic and antarctic zones are strictly not 'belts' but circular 'caps' with the poles in the centre.

a 1500 *Hist. K. Boccus & Sydracke* (? 1510) U iv, For three zones [Laud MS. thre wonynges] shal he fynde Where no

man may lyue in one kynde One is hote and colde are two. 1551 *RECORDE Cast. Knowl.* (1556) 64 The olde Cosmographers . . called all that space betweene the two Tropiques, the Burnynge Zone. . . And of eche syde of it, they noted two Zones, . . whiche they called the Frosen zones, . . and betweene those Frosen zones, & the Burning zone, they appointed two Temperat zones. 1555 EDEN *Decades* (Arb.) 298 The could zone or clime was condemned to perpetuall snowe. 1594 BLUNDEVIL *Exerc.*, *Mercator* (1597) 208 The hotte Zone is that which lyeth betwixt the two Tropiques. 1602 SHAKS. *Ham.* v. i. 304 Till our ground Sinding his pate against the burning Zone, Make Ossa like a wart. 1652–62 HEYLIN *Cosmogr.* Introd. (1674) 19/2 The parts next the Torrid Zone are the hotter, and the parts next the Frigid Zone are the colder. 1700 DRYDEN *Ovid's Met.* 1. 55 The Sun, with Rays directly darting down, Fires all beneath, and fries the middle Zone. 1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1776) V. 38 The feathered inhabitants of the temperate zone are but little remarkable for the beauty of their plumage. 1869 RAWLINSON *Anc. Hist.* 53 Africa belongs almost entirely to the torrid zone.

b. Any region extending around the earth and comprised between definite limits, e.g. between two parallels of latitude. Also *Astron.* applied to a similar region in the heavens or on the surface of a planet or the sun.

1559 W. CUNNINGHAM *Cosmogr. Glasse* 64 Do you not in this Figure call euery portion betwixt two paralleles: a zone? . . Yes verely. 1578 T. TWYNE tr. *Daneau's Workm.* *World* 61 Those fue quarters and zones, which the Astronomers doe describe in heauen, and vponn the earth. 1602 [see 3b]. 1860 MAURY *Phys. Geog.* (Low) iv. §205 We have, extending entirely around the earth, two zones of perpetual winds. *Ibid.* §355 On the north side of this calm zone of Cancer. 1890 C. A. YOUNG *Elem. Astron.* §190 The spots are confined mostly to two zones of the sun's surface between 5° and 40° of north and south latitude.

2. a. More or less vaguely: A region or tract of the world, esp. in relation to its climate; also *fig.*

1599 SIR J. DAVIES *Nosce Teipsum* 5 We that acquaint our selues with euery Zoane, And passe both Tropikes, and behold the Poles. a 1628 F. GREVILLE *Sidney* iv. (1907) 39 Her nature hard to imitate, and diversly worshipped, according to Zones, complexions, or education. 1667 MILTON *P.L.* II. 397 We may . . in some milde Zone Dwell not unvisited of Heav'n's fair Light Secure. 1772 *Monthly Rev.* XLII. 190/2 'Midst Lapland's live-long snows, Or India's burning zone. 1856 VAUGHAN *Mystics* vi. vi. It has been theirs . . to encounter the perilous furores of that zone where never cooling cloud appears to veil insufferable radiance. 1870 O'SHAUGHNESSY *Epic Wom.*, *Seraphitus* i, Some Spirit from a zone Of light, and ecstasy, and psalm.

b. A definite region or area of the earth, or of any place or space, distinguished from adjacent regions by some special quality or condition (indicated by a defining word or phrase); also *fig.*

Often in technical use; see also 4b, 5, 6, 7. 1822 MANTELL *Foss. S. Downs* 298 This occurrence of the more ancient deposits, within a zone of chalk hills. 1835 THIRLWALL *Greece* I. i. 29 Greece lies in a volcanic zone, which extends from the Caspian . . to the Azores. 1837 BREWSTER *Magnet.* zzz The zone of easterly diurnal variations. 1849 PATON *Highl. Adriatic* II. xix. 253 The wide-scattered city, with its zone of the glacis, is the foreground of the view. 1852 E. YATES *Elem. Strat.* 9 Every theatre of war is supposed to be divided into three Zones. . . These are called Zones of Operation, and are distinguished as the Right, Left, and Central. 1873 *Daily News* 2 Aug., That all extensions should be performed before entering within the fire zone. 1876 VOYLE & STEVENSON *Milit. Dict.* s.v., The zone of defence signifies a belt of ground in front of the general contour of the works within effective range of the artillery on the ramparts. . . Zone of fire, a term synonymous with range or trajectory. 1881 RAYMOND *Mining Gloss.* s.v., In a shaft-furnace, the different portions (horizontal sections) are called zones, and characterized according to the reactions which take place in them, as the zone of fusion. 1883 GRESLEY *Gloss. Coal M.*, Zone, in coal-mining phraseology, this word signifies a certain series of coal seams, with their accompanying shales, &c. 1902 *Times* 24 Nov. 5/z Beyond the rain zone dead scrub and lifeless trees alone meet the eye.

c. (*Town-*) *Planning.* A district or an area of land subject to particular restrictions concerning use and development.

1909 H. I. TRIGGS *Town Planning* iv. 177 The usual method in formulating town building plans on a large scale is to divide the urban area into building zones. 1910 F. HOWKINS *Housing Acts 1890–1909, & Town Planning* ix. 125 Certain portions of the area would be reserved for the erection of better class residences. . . This would be similar to the 'zone' system which has been adopted in certain towns on the Continent. 1939 H. M. LEWIS *City Planning* xvi. 166 A single map will show the subdivision of the area into zones, which in a typical case might be defined as follows: One family zones. Two family zones. [etc.]. 1953 [see SMOKELESS a. z]. 1964 J. S. SCOTT *Dict. Building* 364 Certain areas can be kept for light industry, others for heavy industry, dwellings, offices . . and so on, each area being called a zone.

d. *N. Amer. Football and Basketball.* A specific area of the court to be defended by a particular player; also, a mode of defensive play employing this system (cf. *zone defence*, sense 10a below).

1927 G. S. WARNER *Football Coaches & Players* 191 In the zone defense the players playing back of the line of scrimmage . . are so stationed that they can knock down or intercept any pass that comes into their territory or zone. 1942 C. BEE *Zone Defense & Attack* i. 1 Certain coaches believe only the 'zone' can be called a team defense. 1964 ANDERSON & ALBECK *Coaching Better Basketball* ix. 209 You cannot win consistently . . utilizing the zone. 1971 L. KOPFETT *N. Y. Times Guide to Spectator Sports* iii. 83 Each player is given a specific portion of the floor as 'his territory', and he guards, in turn, any offensive player who enters his 'zone'. 1979 *Farmington* (New Mexico) *Daily Times* 27 May

8a/7 The defense must be a man-to-man with no presses or zones allowed.

e. Any one of those areas of Germany and Austria occupied by British, American, French, or Russian forces after the war of 1939–45 until 1955. Subsequently occas. applied to East German territory; also *transf.*

1945 *Times* 13 Feb. 4/1 The conference of Mr. Churchill, President Roosevelt, and Marshal Stalin, held at Yalta, in the Crimea, has drawn up military plans for the final defeat of Germany. . . The forces of the three Powers will each occupy a separate zone of Germany, and a central control commission will have headquarters in Berlin. France will be invited to take a zone of occupation. 1947 *Daily Tel.* 25 Sept. 5/8 German machinery . . will be delivered to Hungary in the next three months under a trade agreement signed between Hungary and the Soviet zone of Germany. 1954 W. FAULKNER *Fable* 128 Frenchmen . . had been spending their leaves . . among the combat-troop rest-billets not only throughout the entire French Army zone, but the American and the British ones too. 1956 *Ann. Reg.* 1955 III. v. 223 Some political leaders expressed the view that German interests would be furthered by direct negotiations with the Soviet Union, and that it would ease conditions for the people of the Soviet Zone if there was limited collaboration with the East German authorities. 1963 'J. LE CARRÉ' *Spy who came in from Cold xii.* 127 The GDR. . . The Zone if you prefer. 1964 L. DEIGHTON *Funeral in Berlin* vii. 50 Not too near the Sektor boundary and within a mile of the Soviet Zone. . . Sometimes we prefer to put our cargo on ice in the zone. . . Anywhere from Lübeck to Leipzig. 1976 W. D. GRAF *German Left since 1945* iii. 77 This movement aimed at the restoration of German unity. . . It was founded on the basis of proposals put forward by the communist leadership in the Soviet Zone.

3. a. A girdle or belt, as a part of dress. (Chiefly *poetic.*) Hence, any encircling band.

1608 B. JONSON *Masques, Beauty* Wks. (1616) 906 Germination. In greene; with a Zone of gold about her wast. 1635 QUARLES *Embl.* v. viii. 40 Shall these course hands untie The sacred Zone of thy Virginitie? 1656 STANLEY *Hist. Philos.* II. III. 13 This was the first place where he untied his zone since he fled from Athens. . . So great was his fear. 1742 YOUNG *Nt. Th.* v. 30 Wit calls the Graces the chaste zone to loose. a 1806 H. K. WHITE *To My Lyre* vii, Dear to me the classic zone, Which . . Adorns th' accepted bard. 1839 E. D. CLARKE *Trav. Russia* 83/1 It was a zone for the leg, or bracelet for the arm, of the purest massive gold. 1869 LECKY *Europ. Mor.* II. v. 338 To the fabled zone of beauty the Christian saints opposed their zones of chastity. 1883 HARDY in *Longman's Mag.* July 258 The carters with a zone of whipcord round their hats.

b. A money-belt or purse.

1692 WASHINGTON tr. *Milton's Def. People* ix. 21z How many Zones you observed in that Golden and Silken Heaven of the King's, I know not; but I know you got one Zone (a Purse) well tempered with a Hundred Golden Stars by your Astronomy. 1818 SCOTT *Hrt. Midl.* viii, The zone of the ex-trooper, to use Horace's phrase, was weighty enough to purchase a cottage.

c. *Astron.* The girdle of Orion.

1599 T. HILL *Schoole of Skil* 92 The constellation named the Zone or gyrdle of Orion.

4. a. Something that encircles like a girdle; a circumscribing or inclosing line, band, or ring.

1591 SYLVESTER *Du Bartas* I. vi. 71 Round about him he so closely cleaves With's writhing body; that his Enemy . . Hastes to some Tree, or to some Rock, whereon To rush and rub-off his detested zone. 1620 T. PEYTON *Glasse of Time* 1. 50 With twelve braue gates the curious eye to fill, The sacred luster as the glistening Zoane, And every gate fram'd of a seuerall stone. 1784 COWPER *Task* iv. 257 The moon . . set With modest grandeur in thy [sc. Evening's] purple zone. 1840 *Civil Eng. & Arch. Jrnl.* III. 144/1 Below the entablature is a band or zone, formed of large stones and bricks placed alternately. 1856 W. CLARK *Van der Hoeven's Zool.* I. 93 Tentacles disposed in a zone around the mouth. 1860 TYNDALL *Glac.* I. xxii. 154 A tendency to form circular zones round the sun. 1895 BRIDGES *Ode to Music* iv. 1, His [sc. the sea's] world-wide elemental moan Girdeth our lives with tragic zone.

b. A band or stripe of colour, or of light or shade, extending around something, or (*loosely*) over any surface or area; often, any one of a number of concentric or alternate markings of this kind.

1752 J. HILL *Hist. Anim.* 131 The outer surface of the whole shell [of the Buccinum] . . is of a pale brownish colour, elegantly variegated with a great number of yellow zones. 1805 SHAW *Nat. Misc.* XVI. pl. 657 Long-tailed green Parrot, with . . the collar on the nape and abdominal zone yellow. 1816 R. JAMESON *Syst. Min.* (ed. 2) II. 146 All such white marbles as are marked with green-coloured zones, caused by talc or chlorite. 1815 J. SMITH *Panorama Sci. & Art* I. 556 When Jupiter is viewed through a good telescope, we perceive a number of zones or belts, of a darker colour than the rest of his disc. 1833 SIR C. BELL *Hand* (1834) 311 If we press upon the eye-ball with a key or the end of a pencil-case, zones of light are excited. 1891 FARRAR *Darkn. & Dawn* vi, The atrium glowed in zones of light.

5. *Astron.* A region or belt of the sky comprised between definite limits, e.g. between two parallels of declination.

1795 HERSCHTEL in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXV. 381 My examinations of the heavens in zones. 1829 *Chapters Phys. Sci.* 413 That broad zone called the milky-way. 1890 AGNES M. CLERKE *Syst. Stars* xxiv. 377 The general plan of nebular distribution is into vast assemblages, one on either side of the galactic zone.

6. *Anat.*, *Zool.*, and *Bot.* A growth or structure surrounding or encircling some part in the form of a ring or cylinder; also, a region or area extending around or over some part and distinguished by some special character or condition.

With various defining words applied *spec.* to particular structures or regions. *CILIARY zone*, *MOTOR zone*: see these words. *zone of Zinn*: see *ZONULE*.

1811 C. BELL *Anat. Hum. Body* (ed. 3) III. 468 These tubercles are... surrounded by a zone or disk, of a brownish red colour, the areola. **1849** A. H. HASSALL *Microsc. Anat. Hum. Body* I. 514 Ciliary processes.—These processes... are received into corresponding folds or plaitings of the hyaloid membrane, called the secondary ciliary processes, and which taken altogether form a circle around the crystalline lens named after their discoverer the Zone of Zinn. **1882** WILDER & GAGE *Anat. Technol.* §1421 The cornea... is... intermediate in thickness between that of the white zone and the rest of the sclerotic. **1884** BOWER & SCOTT *De Bary's Phaner.* 7 The periblem, which is a zone of tissue lying between the plerome and dermatogen. **1913** DORLAND *Med. Dict.* s.v., *Abdominal z[one]s*, the three zones into which the surface of the abdomen is divided by the subcostal and intertubercular lines... *Pellucid z.*, the zona pellucida.

7. Geol. and Physical Geog. A region, or each of a series of regions, comprised between definite limits of any kind, e.g. of depth or height, and distinguished by special characters, esp. by characteristic fossils or forms of animal and plant life.

1829 URE *New Syst. Geol.* 150 In the north [of France], it [sc. limestone] forms a portion of the great transition zone, which stretches from Flanders into the Hartz. **1839** MURCHISON *Silur. Syst.* i. ii. 17 The presence of this zone of clay... is marked by the outburst of water. **1851** AMER. JRN. Sci. Ser. II. XI. 263 This cretaceous zone of the shore of the Cantabrian sea. **1882** GEIKIE *Text-bk. Geol.* vi. 635 A bed, or limited number of beds, characterized by one or more distinctive fossils, is termed a zone or horizon.

8. a. Math. A part of the surface of a sphere contained between two parallel planes, or of the surface of any solid of revolution contained between two planes perpendicular to the axis. **b. Cryst.** A series of faces of a crystal extending around it and having their lines of intersection parallel.

1795 HUTTON *Math. Dict.* II. 477/2 The curve-surface of any segment or zone of a Sphere, is also equal to the curve surface of a cylinder of the same height with that portion, and of the same diameter with the Sphere. **1867** THOMSON & TAIT *Nat. Phil.* §781 I. 621 These circles... are... all in parallel planes... and cut the spherical surface into zones. **1868** DANA *Min.* (ed. 5) Intro. p. xxvi, The planes [of a crystalline form] may thus be viewed as lying in vertical zones, a different zone for every ratio of the lateral axes. **1878** GURNEY *Crystallogr.* 21 These four vertical faces constitute what is called a zone (or girdle) of the form. **1895** PALMER tr. *Nernst's Theor. Chem.* 67 The 'law of zones'... viz. all planes which can occur on a crystal are related to each other in zones; or, in other words, from any four planes, no three of which lie in one zone, all possible crystal planes can be derived by means of zones.

9. A hole in certain punched cards that is punched above the column of holes representing non-zero digits and is used in conjunction with these latter holes to represent non-numerical characters. *Usu. attrib.*

1950 W. W. STIFLER *High-Speed Computing Devices* 149 For alphabetical representations, two perforations in a single column are used for each letter; one of these is a zone punch (0, 11, or 12) while the other perforation is made in the position identifying one of the digits 1 to 9. **1959** M. H. WRUBEL *Primer of Programming for Digital Computers* ii. 33 Alphabetic information is recorded by using two punches in the same column: the upper punch (sometimes called the 'zone') is always a 12, 11, or 0. **1970** O. DOPPING *Computers & Data Processing* ii. 44 A letter in the English alphabet is coded with one zone punch (12, 11, or 0) together with one under-punch. **1972** W. R. PRICE *Intro. Data Processing* vii. 179 The correspondence between the Hollerith zones and the 1401 zones. **1979** DAVIS & McCORMACK *Information Age* vi. 98 Later, when the need for alphabetic data arose, the zone positions, rows 12 and 11, were added.

10. attrib. and Comb. **a. attrib.**, chiefly in technical senses: e.g. in sense 2b, esp. in reference to 'zones' or regions into which a district or country is divided for purposes of railway or other travelling, etc., as *zone centre*, *fare*, *system*, *tariff*; in sense 5, as *zone-clock*, *-piece*, *-reticle*; in sense 8b, as *zone-axis*, *-circle*, *-plane*; *zone-mind*; *zone centre*, *spec. in Teleph.*, an exchange which acts as a main switching centre in an area containing a number of exchange groups; *zone defence* (U.S. defense), *N. Amer. Football and Basketball*, a system of defensive play whereby each player guards an allotted portion of the field of play; *zone electrophoresis*, electrophoresis in which a solid but porous medium such as paper is used to ensure that the components remain separated in zones or bands according to their differing electrophoretic mobilities; *zone fossil* *Geol.*, a fossil characteristic of a particular zone or belt of strata; *zone leveller*, an apparatus used for zone levelling; *zone levelling*, a process similar to zone refining in which the molten zone is passed repeatedly to and fro to produce a more homogenous material; so *zone level v. trans.*, *-levelled ppl. a.*; *zone melting* = *zone refining* below; so *zone-melt v. trans.*; *zone plate*, a plate of glass marked out into concentric zones or rings alternately transparent and opaque, used like a lens to bring light to a focus; *zone refiner*,

an apparatus used for zone refining; *zone refining*, a method of refining used to produce semiconductors and metals of very high purity by causing narrow zones of molten material to travel slowly along an otherwise solid rod or bar, so that impurities become concentrated at one end or the other if their solubilities in the liquid and the solid phases differ; so *zone-refine v. trans.*, *zone-refined ppl. a.*; *zone therapy*, a technique in which different parts of the feet (or palms) are massaged to relieve conditions in different parts of the body with which they are held to be associated; *zone time*, mean solar time at the standard meridian on which the local time zone is based, taken as the standard time throughout the zone (cf. *Zulu time* s.v. *ZULU sb.* and *a. 6*). **b. Comb.** (objective, instrumental, parasynthetic, etc.), as *zone-confounding*, *-like*, *-tailed* adjs.

1878 GURNEY *Crystallogr.* 22 The zone, the *zone axis, and the zone plane are all denoted by the same symbol, namely (U V W). **1934** G. S. BERKELEY *Traffic & Trunking Princ. in Automatic Telephony* i. 12 Level 94... is used for trunk calls instead of level 0 in the case of exchanges in Trunk *Zone Centres. **1948** [see ROUTE v. c]. **1960** R. SYSKI *Congestion Theory in Telephone Systems* ii. 53 A suitable exchange (zone centre) is established within each zone to handle the long-distance calls to and from that zone. **1971** *Gloss. Electrotechnical, Power Terms (B.S.I.)* III. ii. 8 *Zone centre*, exchange acting as the main switching centre. **1878** GURNEY *Crystallogr.* 32 The poles of all the faces in the same zone will lie in the same *zone circle. **1795** HERSCHEL in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXV. 398 It would not only be trouble-some to the workman, but often bring on mistakes, were he to count the turns of the handle, which perhaps for hours together he is moving; a *zone-clock, therefore, has been contrived to release him from that care... It strikes a bell... when the telescope is come to one of the limits of the zone. **1890** PUNCH 28 June p. iv, The yellow pod-flowers and the waving palms, the vermeil apples and the primrosed banks, of Camoens's somewhat *zone-confounding vision. **1927** *Zone defense [see sense 2d above]. **1929** H. C. CARLSON *You & Basketball* vi. 128 Zone defense, in which each individual is responsible for a certain zone. **1937** C. ALLEN *Better Basketball* xviii. 291 It is to be noticed in charting these penetrating offensive plays against a zone defense that the setup of the offense is identical with that used in penetrating the man-for-man defense. **1970** G. SULLIVAN *Pro Football A to Z* 341 *Zone defense*, a type of pass defense in which each of the three linebackers and four deep backs is assigned to cover a specific area of the field. Zone defense contrasts with man-to-man defense. **1952** *Proc. Soc. Exper. Biol. & Med.* LXXX. 42 (heading) *Zone electrophoresis in a starch supporting medium. **1964** G. H. HAGGIS et al. *Intro. Molecular Biol.* ii. 23 (caption) The separation of some of the human plasma proteins by zone electrophoresis. **1975** DAVIS & SIMPKINS in Williams & Wilson *Biologist's Guide to Princ. & Techniques Pract. Biochem.* iv. 100 A common feature of the use of all supporting media is that the substances migrate as distinct zones which at the end of the analysis can be readily detected by suitable analytical techniques... The term zone electrophoresis has been applied to this method. **1903** *Daily Chron.* 18 Dec. 6/3 They proposed to fix *zone fares, and they treated Hammersmith as what they called the zone centre. **1904** *Zone-fossil [see ZONAL a. 3]. **1969** BENNISON & WRIGHT *Geol. Hist. Brit. Isles* ii. 23 It may be possible to recognize a zone without actually finding a specimen of the zone fossil itself if other highly characteristic species are found. **1975** J. G. EVANS *Environment Early Man Brit. Isles* iii. 69 Evolution needed the temporal and biological continuum which Lyell's theory made possible. And from this came the concept of the 'zone fossil'. **1953** W. G. PFANN in *Trans. Amer. Inst. Mining & Metall. Engineers* CXIV. 752/1 The discussion of zone-melting has been confined to the categories of *zone-leveling and zone-refining. **1956** *Bell Syst. Technical Jnl.* LXXXV. 657, p fluctuations in zone leveled material are generally coarse. *Ibid.* 660 A zone leveler has been developed to provide growth conditions suitable for the production of quality germanium single crystals. **1974** *Jnl. Physics* D. VII. 33 The mixed alloy was then placed in a porcelain boat and zone-levelled by passing through 10-15 zones. **1978** P. W. ATKINS *Physical Chem.* x. 301 A modification of the technique, zone levelling, is used to introduce controlled amounts of impurity (for example, indium into germanium). **1598** MARSTON *Scot. Villanie* i. i, When chast Dictinna, breakes the *Zonelike twist. **1952** W. G. PFANN in *Jnl. Metals* IV. 747/1 A number of procedures will be indicated which have in common the traversal of a relatively long charge of solid alloy by a small molten zone. Such methods will be denoted by the general term *zone-melting. **1965** PHILLIPS & WILLIAMS *Inorg. Chem.* I. viii. 305 All such techniques as precipitation, partition, distillation, crystallization, chromatography, and zone-melting are based on phase equilibria. **1982** *Materials Lett.* I. 33/2 Dielectrically isolated single crystals of large extent may be fabricated by zone melting a thin silicon sheet that is encapsulated between SiO₂ layers. **1983** *Rev. Sci. Instruments* LIV. 385/2 The use of the heater assembly in the specific case of zone melting of mercury cadmium telluride compounds is described. **1932** BLUNDEN *Halfway House* 55 When gong-like struck The violent crisis of *zone-minds That chilled us with clouds turned winds. **1795** HERSCHEL in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXV. 385 A *zone-piece, to point out the required limits of the intended zones. **1878** GURNEY *Crystallogr.* 22 The plane to which they [sc. the edges of the crystal] are all perpendicular is called the *zone plane. **1890** T. PRESTON *Theory of Light* ix. 178 A *zone plate has therefore the power of a condensing lens. **1937** G. S. MONK *Light* xii. 167 The intensity of the image produced with a zone plate will be greater if alternate zones are not blocked out but are left transmitting, with a phase difference of one half period introduced between them and adjacent zones. **1978** *Sci. Amer.* Nov. 65/1 When the zone plate is illuminated with an X-ray plane wave, a converging spherical wave will come out. **1952** W. G. PFANN in *Jnl. Metals* IV. 750/2 The particular merit of *zone-refining

becomes evident when repeated crystallizations are desired. **1956** — in *Chem. & Engin. News* XXXIV. 1443/3 F. Montariol and coworkers... found that zone-refined aluminum cannot be hardened by cold-working. **1962** *New Scientist* 5 Apr. 813/2 To zone-refine and produce single crystals from such [refractory] materials, N. V. Philips's Gloeilampenfabrieken, Eindhoven, has developed a carbon-arc image furnace. **1973** J. G. TWEEDDALE *Materials Technol.* I. vi. 152 Probably the most effective and generally used method of refining to this kind of standard is zone refining. **1978** P. W. ATKINS *Physical Chem.* x. 301 Bismuth is normally regarded as a hard, brittle metal, yet when it has been zone refined it forms rods which can be bent without fracture. **1983** *Metallurgical Trans. A*. XIV. 223/2 Straining electrode experiments were performed in zone refined and vacuum melted nickel alloys. **1959** *Times* 24 Nov. 19/7 It will be possible to obtain high quality single-crystal rods after a few passes in the *zone-refiner. **1980** *Analytical Chem.* LII. 1738/1 A novel zone refiner is described, in which a single helical heater rotates in an annular sample space. **1876** G. F. CHAMBERS *Astron.* (ed. 3) 632 Observers... will find a 'zone reticle' of great service. **1903** *Daily Chron.* 21 Nov. 7/2 Hungary has introduced a *zone system on her railways, which has made travelling on them the cheapest in the world. **1809** SHAW *Gen. Zool.* VII. 62 *Zone-tailed Eagle. **1891** *Econ. Jnl.* I. 507 A system of *zone tariffs. **1902** *Encycl. Brit.* XXXII. 153/2 A zone-tariff system... whereby the country is mapped out into zones, and the traveller pays according to the number of these he passes through. **1917** W. H. FITZGERALD *Zone Therapy* xvi. 157 Dr. Roemer... examined him in a characteristic *zone therapy way. He searched the patient's fingers with a metal comb to find out what was the matter with his teeth. **1971** N. SAUNDERS *Alternative London* xv. 123 Zone Therapy is based on the premise that one zone of the body acts as a microcosm of the whole. **1979** D. E. BAYLY in A. Hill *Visual Encycl. of Unconventional Med.* 61 The origin of the reflex method is obscure. It is said that it came from China to the West... It is known to have been used by the natives of Kenya, and also by some American Indian tribes. At the beginning of this century it was called zone therapy by one Dr Fitzgerald [sic] in America who used it as a form of anaesthesia to render the patient insensible to pain when performing small operations, and to ease childbirth. **1908** H. B. MORSE *Trade & Admin. Chinese Empire* viii. 203 The Eighteen Provinces roughly extend from... longitude 98° to 122° E., comprising the seventh and eighth hours of the *Zone time east of Greenwich. **1930** *Daily Express* 16 Aug. 1/3 The passengers wonder whether they should retire by Greenwich or zone time. **1981** G. WATKINS *Exercises in Astro-Navigation* ii. 22 A vessel's chronometer or watch is not generally adjusted or altered at any time while the vessel is at sea, but her clock is altered as she moves through each zone in such a way that it should always be indicating the correct Zone Time for the vessel's position.

zone, v. [f. prec.]

1. trans. To furnish with, or surround like, a zone or girdle; to gird, encircle.

1795 *Monthly Rev.* Dec. 542 Her population... had zoned every hill with vines and with olive-trees. **1795** ANNA SEWARD *Lett.* (1811) IV. 105 Our road zoned the midway of the Alpine steeps which overhung it. **1813** SCOTT *Trierm.* II. iv, Art she invokes to Nature's aid, Her vest to zone, her locks to braid. **1818** KEATS *Endym.* II. 569, I could hear her lov'd Some fair immortal, and that his embrace Had zoned her through the night. **1853** KANE *Grimmell Exp.* xxviii. (1856) 237 The southeastern horizon is zoned with a mellow uniform band of light.

2. Nat. Hist. To mark with zones, rings, or bands of colour. (Only in *pa. pple.*)

1792 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 2) III. 433 Auricularia papyrina... Annual, membranaceous, soft, zoned. **1854** DANA *Min.* (ed. 4) II. 148 Egyptian Jasper is zoned with colors, and forms nodules. **1871** DARWIN *Desc. Man* II. xiv. 131 A variety of the common pigeon with the wing-bars symmetrically zoned with three bright shades.

3. Geol., etc. To divide into zones; to distribute or arrange in zones: see *ZONE sb.* 7.

1904 *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 222 The Ordovician and Silurian rocks have been zoned by means of their graptolites.

4. (Town-) Planning. To divide (a city, land, etc.) into areas subject to particular planning restrictions; to designate (a specific area) for use or development in this manner. *Occas. intr.* Also (U.S.) const. *out*, to forbid (the siting of an enterprise) in a given area. *orig. U.S.*

1916 N. Y. *Times* 4 Feb. 17/2 The plan to zone the city and regulate the height of buildings. **1919** *Melbourne Argus* 28 Aug. 6 The question of 'zoning' the metropolitan area, or separating the city into districts, in order that regulations may be applied to control the erection of shops and factories near residential sites, has recently been occupying the attention of the Melbourne City Council. **1934** W. H. HEATH in E. Betham *House Building 1934-36* xviii. 180 There is practically no area around London that is zoned in a reasonable manner. **1939** H. M. LEWIS *City Planning* xvi. 169 All the frontage of main streets was placed in business zones although... only a small fraction of areas so zoned can ever be used for that purpose. **1967** *Boston Sunday Herald* 26 Mar. I. 9/4 Planners... are concerned that a community will be thoughtfully zoned overall. **1971** P. GRESSWELL *Environment* 267 There is no guarantee that land zoned for housing will be released by the landowners. **1975** N. Y. *Times* 16 Oct. 29/1 A law that would 'zone out' massage parlors from the Times Square area on the principle that their proliferation is not sound community planning. **1976** *National Observer* (U.S.) 14 Aug. 7/2 When a municipality zones for industry and commerce for local tax benefits... it... must zone to permit adequate housing within the means of the employees involved in such uses. **1977** *Chicago Tribune Mag.* 2 Oct. 8/2 At that time, which was before horse racing was zoned out of the city, the track was on Stony Island Avenue near 63rd Street. **1978** J. UPDIKE *Coup* (1979) vii. 274 The land, they say, is zoned for agribusiness.

5. To restrict the distribution of (a commodity) to a designated area; used *spec.*

concerning the allocation of foodstuffs in the war of 1939-45.

1942 *Hansard Lords* 3 June 103 We have arranged that the deliveries of bread shall be zoned. **1945** *Daily Herald* 31 Aug. 2/1 (Advt.), Cyder, like many other things, is now zoned to save transport and labour. **1952** *Ann. Reg.* 1951 394 The Group scheme of the National Film Finance Corporation has been announced. This 'zoned' a considerable proportion of British production.

Hence 'zoner, one employed in the application of planning restrictions to particular areas; 'zoning ppl. a.

1853 ALEX. SMITH *Life Drama* ii, When first they clasped a Son of God. In zoning heaven of their milky arms. **1865** TENNYSON *On a Mourner* v, When the zoning eve has died. **1962** *Punch* 6 June 848/2 Planners and zoners won't apparently make up their minds. **1976** *Daily Tel.* 4 Apr. 3/6 This district contains about 1,000 homes approved by town zoners... after they were assured restrictive deed clauses would make the district a 'permanent adult community'.

zoned (zəʊnd), a. [f. ZONE sb. or v. + -ED.]

† 1. Located in a zone or region of the celestial sphere: = ZONIC a. *Obs. rare*—1.

1662 STANLEY *Hist. Chaldaick Philos.* 4 Or else by fiery Zone, he means the Seat of the zoned Deities just above the Empyrean or Corporeal Heaven.

2. Wearing a zone or girdle. Hence, virgin, chaste.

1718 POPE *Odyss.* xxiii. 142 Fair zoned damsels. **1829** LYTTON *Devereux* 11. ix, A zoned and untainted Innocence.

3. Characterized by or arranged (naturally) in zones, rings, or bands.

1794 R. J. SULLIVAN *View Nat.* I. 435 The zoned or tabulated form of the onyx. **1805-17** R. JAMESON *Char. Min.* (ed. 3) 213 Zoned (*zonaire*), when a row of facets is arranged around the middle part, thus forming a kind of zone or girdle. Example, Zoned calcareous-spar. **1845** G. DODD *Brit. Manuf.* Ser. iv. 200 As a fifth source of variety [in wood] may be mentioned eyes, zoned spots, and curls.

b. Marked with zones, circles, or bands of colour.

1792 WITHERING *Brit. Plants* (ed. 2) III. 433 *Auricularia ferruginea*, ... zoned above. **1805** SHAW *Nat. Misc.* XVI. pl. 657 The Zoned Parrot. **1849** W. H. HARVEY *Brit. Mar. Algæ* 121 Zoned tetraspores exist in *Rhodlymenia ciliata*. **1874** BIRCH *1st and 2nd Egypt. Rooms B. Mus.* 31 With side handles of zoned alabaster.

4. a. Arranged according to zones or definite regions.

1795 HERSCHEL in *Phil. Trans.* LXXXV. 384 A zoned catalogue of the stars. **1890** AGNES M. CLERKE *Syst. Stars* v. 80 The spectra of the great nebulae, like those of the 'zoned' stars, must be considered as integrating the results of emanations taking their rise under notably diverse circumstances.

b. Distributed according to zones. Cf. ZONE v. 5.

1943 *Daily Express* 16 Sept. 3/3 Compelling some grocers to buy their zoned cake through the co-ops.

5. (*Town-*) *Planning*. Designated for a particular type of use or development. orig. U.S.

1920 *Michigan Rep.* (Michigan Supreme Court) May 210 A penalty is provided for violation of said ordinance with a mandate prohibiting departments of the city from issuing permits for erection of the forbidden buildings within such zoned district. **1939** *Florida* (Fed. Writers' Project) 111. 396 Zoned residential, business, and industrial districts. **1970** *Cape Times* 28 Oct. 20/3 (Advt.), Paarl shopping centre. On 11 000 sq. ft., zoned special business with free car park... in fast developing area.

zoneless ('zəʊnlɪs), a. [f. ZONE sb. + -LESS.]

1. Not confined by, or not wearing, a zone or girdle; ungirt.

1748 W. MASON *Isis* 8 In careless folds loose flow'd her zoneless vest. **1784** COWPER *Task* 111. 52 Pleasure... That reeling goddess with the zoneless waist. **1802** COLERIDGE *Lett.* (1895) 370, I always thought him a bantling of zoneless Italian muses. **1822** MILMAN *Mart. Antioch* 14 Come in thy zoneless grace, thy flowing locks Crown'd with the laurel of the Gods.

2. Not marked with zones or bands of colour.

1836 M. J. BERKELEY *Sir J. E. Smith's Engl. Flora* v. 11. 140 Pileus of a fleshy... substance zoneless villous white.

zonelet ('zəʊnlɪt), *rare*. [-LET.] A little zone.

1855 BAILEY *Mystic* 30 From the moon's hand her starry stole he took, And zonelet studded with thrice ten beamy rings.

Zonian ('zəʊniən), sb. (a.) [f. Panama Canal Zone (see below) + -IAN.] An American inhabitant of the Panama Canal Zone, a ten mile wide strip of land crossing the Isthmus of Panama on both sides of the Panama Canal, which was granted to the United States as a territory in 1904 and became independent in 1978. Also *attrib.* or as *adj.*

1910 *Everybody's Mag.* Mar. 322/1 Whatever your job, digging a canal, or driving a taxi-cab, or writing stock quotations, don't wear a uniform... The Zonian has a uniform, though, in spite of himself. It is the umbrella. **1950** *Social Forces* Dec. 161/1 The man marrying a girl of mixed blood may be unaware of the general Zonian prejudice that classes all Panamanians as 'colored'. **1951** *Panama Canal Rev.* 3 Aug. 9/3 Zonians... need no longer do without—just because the commissaries are closed. **1964** *Observer* 12 Jan. 1/5 'Zonians', American inhabitants of the [Panama Canal] Zone. **1979** P. THEROUX *Old Patagonian Express* xii. 170 Within a very few months the treaty would be ratified. I told this to a Zonian lady... The Zonians, 3,000 workers for the Panama Canal Company... saw the treaty as a sell-out.

zonic ('zəʊnɪk), a. *rare*. [f. ZONE sb. + -IC.] Belonging to a particular zone or region.

1797 *Monthly Mag.* III. 511 The zonic gods are those which revolve round the celestial zones.

'zoning, vbl. sb. [f. ZONE v.]

1. Dividing into zones.

1819 KEATS *Fall Hyperion* i. 312 Not so much air As in the zoning of a summer's day. **1888** *Nature* 5 July 225 What Mr. Lockyer has called the zoning of colour in the heavens. **1904** *Edin. Rev.* Jan. 220 The zoning of the strata. **1942** *Times* 5 June 2/3 Further steps, including the zoning of the distribution of manufactured goods... are being investigated by the Ministry. **1945** *Daily Tel.* 17 May 5/7 In the zoning of Germany the United States Navy has been allotted the ports of Bremen and Bremerhaven. **1946** *How Britain was fed in War Time* (H.M.S.O.) iii. 22 The transport of food from production or import points to wholesalers' stores was effected by 'zoning' schemes... The country was divided into... zones, and movement between different zones... was allowed only by permit. **1968** *New York City* (Michelin) 16 After the First World War... A new zoning law regulated the height of buildings in relation to the width of the streets.

2. *spec. in (Town-) Planning*, the regulation of land use by particular planning restrictions in designated areas. orig. U.S.

1912 *Proc. 4th Nat. Conference City Planning* 190 In view of... existing indirect zoning laws, why not add some of the building laws in force in Frankfurt-on-the-Main? **1914** *Proc. 6th Nat. Conference City Planning* 92 The well-established principle of zoning that has been in operation for a generation or more in that country [sc. Germany]. **1921** *Glasgow Herald* 25 Mar. 8/3 'Zoning' means the locating of industries in the areas which are best suited for them and the reserving for housing of districts best adapted for this purpose. **1940** GRAVES & HODGE *Long Week-End* xi. 175 The Town-Planning Act of 1932 perpetuated this cleavage... Now there was 'zoning'... segregating families according to their incomes. **1943** J. S. HUXLEY *TV A* 31 Some States have introduced compulsory 'agricultural zoning' by which certain types of farming are prohibited in certain areas. **1966** R. F. BABCOCK (*title*) The zoning game: municipal practices and policies. **1978** J. A. MICHENER *Chesapeake* xiii. 830 Crossing over to the rivers south of Annapolis... Chris had a chance to see how lack of zoning and policing had encouraged this shoreline to become a marine slum.

zonite ('zəʊnaɪt), *Zool.* [ad. mod.L. *zōnītēs*, f. L. *zōna* ZONE sb.: see -ITE'.]

1. A snail of the genus *Zonites*.

1860 *All Year Round* No. 43. 390 Porcelain Zonites that lived two years and a half without aliment.

2. Any of the body-rings of a segmented animal, as an arthropod or annelid. Hence *zo'nitic* a.

1880 PASCOE *Zool. Class.* (ed. 2) 297 Zonites, Somites, or Metameres. **1888** Huxley & Martin's *Pract. Biol.* 241 Each somite is subdivided externally into at least two lesser divisions or zonites. **1888** J. R. A. DAVIS *Biol.* 161 The zonitic constrictions.

zonk (zɒŋk), *int.* (sb.) *slang*. [Echoic.] Representing the sound of a blow or heavy impact, used to indicate finality. Occas. as *sb.* (see *quots.*).

1949 T. RATTIGAN *Harlequinade* 38 Just sit there and relax and I'll dash and get you an enormous zonk of whisky. **1958** *Spectator* 15 Aug. 218/2, I... hurl it with a great zonk into the waste-paper basket. **1961** *Radio Times* 16 Nov. 47/2, I never took a note when I was interrogating. The moment you got hold of a piece of paper they'd think 'ah-hah...' and zonk! they'd button up. **1968** L. DEIGHTON *Only when I Larf* i. 12 Silas... closed the safe door a few times. Zonk. It closed with a clang. **1979** R. BLYTHE *View in Winter* i. 64 He was a man with a catapult. He'd knock a pheasant down—zonk!

zonk, v. *slang*. [f. *prec.*] 1. *trans.* To hit, strike, or knock. Also *fig.*

1950 A. MELVILLE *Castle in Air* i. in *Plays of Year* III. 338 If the Third Earl found that his wife had nipped off with another man while he was away at the Crusades, he'd have zonked her over the head with his kitbag. **1959** P. BULL *I know Face* xi. 201 We found ourselves back in my flat... zonking down the drink. **1960** I. CROSS *Backward Sex* 188 She zonked me again on the head with this hairbrush. **1975** *New Yorker* 21 July 67/1 William Green tried to assure them that care had been taken to put provisions in the bill to see to it that New England 'doesn't get zonked'. **1979** G. WATSON *Black Jack* xxii. 178, I felt zonked by this idea. It had never occurred to me. **1982** *Observer* 14 Nov. 15 ICI has invented a new adaptation to ethylene crackers that will zonk the competition and make feedstock costs less critical.

2. *intr.* To fail; to lose consciousness; to die. **1968** *Listener* 14 Mar. 352/3 If Johnny zonked, it would be bad for my book. **1977** *N.Y. Times Mag.* 4 Dec. 142 In a burst of determination, she'd been sitting in the bathtub doing her breathing for five hours straight—in one nostril, out the other—until she zonked and went rigid.

3. *const. out.* a. *intr.* To fall heavily asleep. b. *trans.* To overcome or knock out (in *fig.* senses).

1970 J. SANGSTER *Touchfeather*, Too iii. 75 He left me at seven a.m. and I zonked out until after mid-day. **1973** *Austral. Women's Weekly* 26 Dec. 32/5, I sank into my bed... zonked myself out with sleeping pills, and woke up Friday. **1980** *Telegraph* (Brisbane) 21 Mar. 6/3 It's J. R.'s power that zonks women out. **1984** *N.Y. News Mag.* 18 Mar. 18/2 If mothers zonk out at three in the afternoon every day, they may continue that pattern after it's no longer necessary. **1985** *Sunday Times* 24 Feb. 36/6 No Jonesees oarswomen though... 'I think I row because it zonks me out, then I don't row with anyone.'

Hence 'zonking ppl. a. (freq. as quasi-*adv.* in *zonking great*).

1958 *Spectator* 25 July 130/2 He would give one a zonking great clip on the ear. **1959** P. BULL *I know Face* vi. 100 She was now technically a 'star' owing to her zonking success as Claudia. *Ibid.* vii. 126 She... is a zonking great film star.

1973 *Daily Tel.* (Colour Suppl.) 9 Feb. 36/4 *Long Day's Journey*... was the first big, zonking part he played after his cancer. **1976** *Times* 21 May 4/7 Rather than play these zonking great parts... I will try to find some dazzling little cameo roles.

zonked (zɒŋkt), ppl. a. (chiefly *pred.*) *slang*. [f. ZONK v. + -ED'.] 1. Intoxicated by drugs or alcohol; 'stoned'. Freq. *const. out.* Also *transf.* and *fig.*

1959 *Esquire* Nov. 701, *Zonked*, one who is stoned, high, drunk. **1967** *New Scientist* 19 Oct. 185/1 Most of the drivers one meets should not be allowed to take charge of a car when sober—let alone when three parts zonked. **1967** P. WELLES *Babyhip* iv. 53 If only Mr Green weren't Jewish, he could swing around the world on the magic carpet completely zonked out. **1968** T. WOLFE *Electric Kool-Aid Acid Test* vi. 70 Everybody... had taken acid and they were zonked. **1972** J. WAMBAUGH *Blue Knight* (1973) xiv. 246 We sat... drinking arak and wine, and then beer, and we all got pretty zonked. **1973** H. NIELSEN *Severed Key* x. 107 I'm serious. Zonked about her. Way out. **1975** *Publishers Weekly* 20 Jan. 78/1 Susan begins an affair with a zonked-out type who calls himself Commander Cloud. **1977** *Rolling Stone* 24 Mar. 84/1 Thousands of young people squeezed themselves into Radio City Music Hall to enjoy, scream at, get zonked to Jethro Tull. **1979** *Daily Tel.* Apr. 21/5 A... Caucasian woman obviously zonked out... and a tracery of leaves resembling cannabis.

2. Exhausted, tired out.

1972 *Maclean's Mag.* Oct. 40/1 This portrait of his wife... zonked out on a floating sofa. **1976** J. FARRIS *Fury* i. 10 You just collapsed and... pulled the covers up around your head... You were completely zonked. **1978** *Washington Post Mag.* 19 Mar. 42/2 Patricia Wells, three hours after providing the high point of 2,300 people's evenings, was 'zonked' and went back to her hotel to bed. **1980** *Daily Tel.* 28 July 8/6 'Fairly zonked' by his non-stop 17 weeks of filming, he is recharging himself for the next stage.

zonkey ('zɒŋki). [f. ZEBRA + D)ONKEY.] The offspring of a zebra and a donkey. Cf. ZEDONK.

1953 *N.Y. Herald Tribune* 2 Sept. 1/7 Mr. [Gene] Holter explained that a zonkey was half zebra and half donkey, a combination the zoomen had never seen. *Ibid.*, 'Zonkey is not exactly a scientific name and I'm no scientist' Mr. Holter said, 'But I don't know what else you would call it.' **1973** *Indian Express* 29 Oct. 6/8 A zebra and a donkey are expecting an offspring next March, Brooklyn's Prospect Park Zoo authorities say. It will be New York's first zonkey, though. The others were born in western zoos. **1983** *N.Y. Times* 6 Mar. x. 53/4 Melancholy exemplars abound: a male camel who recently injured a foreleg;... and a morose-looking zonkey—the mother a zebra, the father a donkey.

zonky ('zɒŋki), a. (sb.) *slang*. Also zonkey. [f. ZONK(ED) ppl. a. + -Y'.] Odd, weird, 'freaky'. Hence as *sb.*, a person in this state.

1972 *Daily Colonist* (Victoria, B.C.) 26 Apr. 22/5 'Wow, is this zonky?' breathed an admiring observer softly, as she gazed incredulously at the newly opened, all-cardboard room. **1975** *Globe & Mail* (Toronto) 25 Oct. 34/1 Unlike the honkey-tonk zonkies who used to hang out at his... workshop, shooting up or having sex in public view... Warhol has rarely, personally, done anything scandalous. **1977** *N.Y. Rev. Bks.* 28 Apr. 12/3 That combination of the new and old seems to have escaped most journalists except—in one of his zonky moments of insight—Hunter Thompson. **1979** B. MALAMUD *Dubin's Lives* i. 22 All the guy there does is... shakes his head. Makes you feel zonky... twittery. **1980** *Times* 6 Nov. 12/6 His book is really a study in ideas—or to coin an appropriately zonkey term—*weirdology*.

zonne, obs. (Kentish) form of SUN.

zono- (zəʊnəʊ), repr. Gr. *ζωνο-*, combining form of *ζώνη* ZONE, occurring in a few scientific and technical words. **zonochlorite** (-'klɔərɪt) *Min.* [Gr. *χλωρός* green], name for a supposed species of mineral from Lake Superior, marked with bands of different shades of green (perh. the same as CHLORASTROLITE). **zonociliate** (-'sɪleɪt) a. *Zool.*, having a zone or circlet of cilia. **zonopla'cental** a. *Zool.*, having a zonary placenta, as the *Carnivora* and other mammals: opposed to *discoplacental*.

1872 A. E. FOOTE in *Proc. Amer. Ass. Adv. Sci.* (1873) XXI. 65 *Zonochlorite, a New Hydrous Silicate from Neepigon Bay, North Shore of Lake Superior. **1885** *Encycl. Brit.* XIX. 437/1 The fertilized egg of the Phylactolæma does not give rise to a *zonociliate larva. **1879** DE QUATREFAGES *Hum. Spec.* xi. 109 Man, apes, bats, insectivora, and rodents... form a natural group to which no *zonoplacental, and, of course, no indeciduate mammals can be admitted.

zonular ('zəʊnjʊlə(r)), a. *Anat.* and *Path.* [f. mod.L. *zōnula* ZONULE + -AR'.] Pertaining to or forming a zonule or little zone; zonal, zonary; *spec.* belonging to or affecting the zonule of Zinn.

1835-6 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* I. 320/1 The Pigeon... having the gastric glands... arranged in a zonular form. **1876** T. BRYANT *Pract. Surg.* (ed. 2) I. 354 Zonular or lamellar cataract is either congenital or commences soon after birth.

zonule ('zəʊnju:l), *Anat.* Also in L. form *zonula* ('zəʊnjʊlə). [ad. mod.L. *zōnula*, dim. of L. *zōna* ZONE: see -ULE.]

1. A little zone: applied *spec.* to the ring-shaped fibrous structure which forms the suspensory ligament of the crystalline lens (*zonule of Zinn*).

1831 R. KNOX *Cloquet's Anat.* 555 These membranous folds, which collectively are called the zonule of Zinn, are vascular. 1854 KÖLLIKER *Hum. Histol.* 390 The zonula is a thin transparent...membrane, stretching from the *ora serrata retinae* as far as the border of the lens. 1873 POWER tr. *Stricker's Histol.* III. 354 The zonula-fibres arise from the substance of the vitreous behind the ora serrata.

2. *Geol.* (See quot. 1928.)

1928 C. L. & M. A. FENTON in *Amer. Naturalist* XI. 21 We have discussed the need for some term to designate the rocks bearing a faunule with several stratigraphers. In the course of one conversation Dr. Weller suggested 'zonule', and it has been approved by others. . . We propose the term, therefore, with the following definition: A zonule is the stratum or strata which contain a faunule, its thickness and area being limited by the vertical and horizontal range of that faunule. 1958 *Bull. Geol. Soc. Amer.* LXIX. 113/1 A zonule is a biostratigraphic unit that is recognizable in a sedimentary basin or similar restricted area of sedimentation. 1976 *BMR Jnl. Austral. Geol. & Geophysics* I. 109 The assemblage can be referred to the middle Eocene *Proteacidites confrogosus* Zonule on the basis of the presence of the nominate species.

†'zonulet. *Obs. nonce-wd.* [f. as prec. + -ET¹.] A little zone or girdle.

1648 HERRICK *Hesper.*, Upon *Julio's Riband*, 'Tis that Zonulet of love, Wherein all pleasures of the world are wove.

zonure ('zəʊnjʊə(r)). *Zool.* [ad. mod.L. *Zōnūrus*, f. Gr. *ζώνη* ZONE + *οὐρά* tail; from the rings of spiny scales on the tail.] A lizard of the genus *Zonurus* or family *Zonuridae*, found in South Africa, Madagascar, and other countries.

1883 *List Vert. Anim. Gardens Zool. Soc.* (ed. 8) 583 *Zonurus derbionus*, Gray. Derbian Zonure.

zoo (zu:). *colloq.* [The first three letters of ZOOLOGICAL taken as one syllable.]

1. The Zoological Gardens in Regent's Park, London; also extended to similar collections of animals elsewhere.

1847 MACAULAY in *Life & Lett.* (1878) II. 216 We treated the Clifton Zoo much too contemptuously. 1886 C. E. PASCOE *Lond. To-day* iv. (ed. 3) 65 The 'Zoo' in time past was as favourite a fashionable resort as Rotten Row.

2. *transf.* A (diverse) collection, esp. of people; the place where they are assembled. (Freq. mildly contemptuous.)

1924 GALSORTHY *White Monkey* i. ii. 11 You won't keep me in your Zoo, my dear. I shan't hang around and feed on crumbs. 1935 E. BLUNDEN *Edward Gibbon & his Age* 14 He [*sc.* Gibbon] passed through Oxford, gathering little but materials for his future monody on a moribund zoo of dons. 1964 in *Current Slang* (Univ. S. Dakota) (1967) Spring 5 Zoo, place where students congregate. 1975 J. I. M. STEWART *Young Patullo* i. 9 The Glencorrys were...the principal figures of fun in Ninian's and my own family zoo.

3. Comb. *zoo-crazy* adj.; *zoo-keeper*, an animal attendant employed in a zoological garden; also, a zoo owner or director; *zoo-man* *U.S. colloq.* = *zoo-keeper*; similarly *zoowoman* (*rare*).

1938 L. MACNEICE *Zoo* iv. 71 A curate who was Anglo-Catholic...and...zoo-crazy. 1936 L. R. BRIGHTWELL *Zoo you Knew?* viii. 163 Zoo keepers gave up whistling 'Ta-ra-ra-boom-dehay'. 1960 D. H. S. RISON *Zoo Keeper* vi. 53 Minor ailments should be curable by the Zoo keeper if he knows his job properly. 1977 *Monitor* (McAllen, Texas) 17 July 2F/4 Zookeepers caring for a two-week-old orphaned hippopotamus have taken to...wading into a pool...to nurse the hippo from a bottle. 1930 *Time* 13 Oct. 32/3 U.S. zoomen, animal catchers and park directors attended the annual meeting of the American Association of Zoological Parks and Aquariums... One zooman had too many elephants. *Ibid.* 33/2 Conspicuous among the zoomen was the only zoowoman in the world. 1942 BERREY & VAN DEN BARK *Amer. Thes. Slang* §458/17 *Zooman*, a zoo director or caretaker. *Ibid.* §624/16 Animal man, zooman. 1973 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 9 Mar. 262/4 The increasing value of the *Yoorbook* to zoomen and biologists.

zoo- ('zəʊə, zəʊb), before a vowel properly zo-, repr. Gr. *ζωο-*, combining form of *ζῷον* animal, occurring in numerous scientific and technical terms, of which the more important will be found in their alphabetical places. (The second element is usually and properly from Greek, but in a few recent words from Latin or English.)

In biological and botanical terms the prefix sometimes denotes the power of spontaneous movement (formerly supposed to be a distinctive characteristic of animals): see *zoogomete*, *zoogonidium*, *zoosperm*, *zoozygosphere*; *ZOOSPORE*.

zoarchæology, the study of the animal remains of archæological sites; hence *zoarchæologist*. *'zoocarp* [Gr. *καρπός* fruit], †(a) a former name for certain algæ of low organization, then supposed by some to be animals; (b) a zoospore. *'zoocaulon* [mod.L., f. Gr. *καυλός* stalk] (see quot.). *zoo'centric* *a.*, centred upon the animal world; regarding or treating the animal kingdom as a central fact. *zoo'chemistry*, the chemistry of animal bodies; so *zoo'chemical* *a.* *'zoochore* (-kə(r)) [Gr. *χωρεῖν* to spread], a plant whose seeds are dispersed by animals; hence *zoo'chorous* *a.*; *zo'ochory*, the dissemination of plant seeds by animals. *'zooculture* = *zootechny*; so *zoo'cultural* *a.* *'zoocytiūm* (-'sitiəm), pl. -ia [mod.L., after *SYNCYTIUM*] (see quot.).

'zoo'dendrium, pl. -ia [mod.L., after *SYNDENDRIUM*] (see quot.). *'zoody'namics*, the dynamics of animal bodies; so *zoody'namic* *a.* *'zoo'rythrin* (-'ε'πθ'ριν), also *zoonyrythrin* [irreg. for **zoerythrin*, f. Gr. *ἐρυθρός* red], a red pigment found in the plumage of the touracos, and in sponges. *zoo'fulvin* [L. *fulvus* tawny], a yellow pigment found in the plumage of the touracos. *'zoogamete*, a motile gamete: = *PLANOGAMETE*. *'zooge'ology*, that branch of geology which deals with fossil animal remains, palæozoology; so *'zoogeological* *a.*, pertaining to zoogeology; *'zoogeologist*, one versed in zoogeology. *'zoogon'idium*, pl. -ia [mod.L.: see *GONIDIUM*], a motile gonidium. *zoo'magnetism*, animal magnetism. *'zoomancy* [-MANCY], divination by observing the actions of animals. *zoo'mania* (*nonce-wd.*), a mania or insane fondness for animals. *zoo'mantist*, one who practises zoomancy. *'zoome'chanics* = *zoodynamics*; so *zoome'chanical* *a.* *zoo'melanin*, the black pigment of animal bodies, MELANIN; *spec.* as found in the feathers of birds. *zo'ometry* [-METRY], measurement of the dimensions and proportions of the bodies of animals; so *zoo'metric* *a.* *zoo'mythic* *a.*, belonging to a mythology in which the deities are represented in the form of animals. *zoo'nosis* (pl. -noses (-'nəʊsɪz)) [Gr. *νόσος* disease], a disease communicated from one kind of animal to another or to a human being; usu. restricted to diseases transmitted naturally to man from animals; so *'zoono'sology*, the study of the diseases of animals; *'zoono'sologist*, one who pursues this study; hence *zoo'notic* *a.* *zoo-or'ganic* (bad formation for *zoorganic*) *a.*, belonging to animal organs or organisms. *'zoopa'thologist*, *'zoopa'thology* = *zoonosologist*, -logy. *'zoophobia* (-'fəʊbiə) [mod.L.: see -PHOBIA], morbid or superstitious fear of animals. *zoo'physics*, the study of physics in relation to animal bodies; so *zoo'physical* *a.*, pertaining to zoophysics. *'zoophysiology*, animal physiology. *zoo'plankter* [PLANKTER], an individual organism of the zooplankton. *'zoo'plankton* [PLANKTON], floating animal organisms collectively; *zoo'plank' tonic* *a.*, of, pertaining to, or consisting of zooplankton. *zoo'plastic* *a.* [see *PLASTIC*], forming figures of animals or living beings. *zoopra'xography* [Gr. *πράξις*], the study of animal locomotion. *zoopsy'chology*, animal psychology, the study of mental phenomena in animals. *zoo'scopic* *a.* [Gr. *σκοπεῖν* to view], †(a) examining or studying animals, zoological (*obs.*); (b) applied to a species of hallucination (*zo'oscopy*) in which imaginary animal forms are seen, as in delirium tremens. *zoose'matic* *a.* [Gr. *σημα* sign; see *ZOIC*, quot. 1895-6. *zoosemi'otics* *sb. pl.* (const. *sing.*), the study of animal communication through the investigation of signalling behaviour in and between species. *zo'osophy* [Gr. *σοφία* wisdom], the knowledge or study of animals: †(a) the art of keeping and breeding animals (*obs.*); (b) the science of zoology (Oken). *zoosperm*, (*a*) = *SPERMATOZOON*; (*b*) = *ZOOSPORE*; hence *zoo-sper'matic* *a.* *'zootaxy* [Gr. *τάξις* arrangement], zoological classification, systematic zoology. *'zootechny* (-tekni) [Gr. *τέχνη* art], the art of rearing and using animals for any purpose; so *zoo'technic* *a.*, pertaining to zootechny; *zoo'technics* = *zootechny*. *'zootheca* (-'θi:kə), pl. -æ [mod.L., f. Gr. *θήκη* case], the case or sheath inclosing a zoosperm. *'zoothecium* (-'θi:ʃ(i)əm), pl. -ia [mod.L., f. Gr. *θήκιον*, dim. of *θήκη*; see prec.], the tubular sheath produced and inhabited by certain Infusoria. *zo'otheism* [see *THEISM*], the attribution of deity to animals (cf. *ZOOLATRY*); hence *zoo'theistic* *a.*, pertaining to or characterized by zootheism. *'zoothome* [Gr. *θαμός* heap] (see quot.). *'zootokon* [Gr. *ζωοτόκον*, neut. of *ζωοτόκος* viviparous], a viviparous animal. *zootrophy* (-'tʁəfi) [ad. Gr. *ζωοτροφία*, f. *ζῷον* animal + *τρέφειν* to breed, rear, tend, etc.], the practice of rearing or tending animals. *'zootype*, an animal, or figure of one, used as the type of a deity, as in Egyptian hieroglyphics. *zootypic* (-'tʁɪk) *a.*, pertaining to the animal type or types. *zoo'xanthin* [Gr. *ξανθός* yellow], a (? yellow) pigment obtained from the red feathers of certain birds. *zoozygosphere* (-'zaɪgəʊsfɪə(r)) [see *ZYGO-*, and cf. *OOSPHERE*], a motile spherical cell produced

by conjugation; proposed as a substitute for *zoogamete*.

1984 *Nature* 1 Mar. 88/z John Speth's *Bison Kills and Bone Counts* extends such an invitation to *zoarchaeologists and to everyone who uses faunal evidence from archaeological sites to reconstruct past human diet. 1972 *Science* 20 Oct. 297/2 Recently the *Atlas of Animal Bones* by Elisabeth Schmid has become available for research workers in *zoarchaeology. 1985 *Times Lit. Suppl.* 7 June 646/1 Taphonomy...has...only recently become an integral part of zoo-archaeology (or, as the subject of faunal analysis is more usually called in Europe, archaeo-zoology). 1843 *Penny Cycl.* XXVII. 804 **Zoocorpes*, the name given to certain organized bodies...variously classed...as animals or plants...placed by botanists in the natural order Algæ... It is in the lower forms more particularly that the Zoocarps occur. 1888 *Cassell's Encycl. Dict.*, *Zoocorp.*... A zoospore. 1882 SAVILLE-KENT *Man. Infusorio* 874 **Zoocoulon*...title conferred by the author on the erect tentaculiferous branching colony-stocks of the genus *Dendrosomo*. 1882 *Trans. Anthropol. Soc. Washington* I. 93 In later times a few of this school have expanded their scheme to embrace the animal world in general, rendering it *zoöcentric instead of anthropocentric. 1977 J. L. HARPER *Population Biol. Plants* 433 Virtually all of the work reported is that of zoologists and the research is zoocentric. 1845 G. E. DAY tr. *Simon's Anim. Chem.* I. 87 **Zoochemical* analyses are instituted for the purpose of ascertaining...the...constituents of animal substances. 1865 *Nat. Hist. Rev.* July 352 [Zoology] consequently divides itself into...Zootomy, or the dissection of all the formative parts of the body: **Zoochemistry*, or their chemical investigation. 1905 F. E. CLEMENTS *Res. Methods Ecol.* 216 Migration results when spores, seeds, fruits, offshoots, or plants are moved out of their home by water, wind, animals, man, gravity...or mechanical propulsion. Corresponding to these agents there may be recognized the following groups:...Animals, **zoochores*. *Ibid.* 218 Species which grow in exposed grassy or barren habitats are for the most part anemochores, while those that are found in the shelter of forests and thickets are usually **zoochorous*. 1969 L. VAN DER PIJL *Princ. Dispersal in Higher Plants* v. 24 We enter here the more general field of zoochory. *Ibid.*, All following zoochorous classes can be subdivided by crosswise partitions as follows. 1974 *Nature* 8 Feb. 407/1 Modes of dispersal, namely aerial (both active and passive), hydrochorous, zoochorous and anthropochorous, are discussed at some length. 1960 *McGraw-Hill Encycl. Sci. & Technol.* X. 499/2 Animal dispersal, **zoochory*, is divided into epizoochory (barbed or sticky disseminules, desmochores...) and endozoochory (disseminules eaten and egested by animals). 1980 *Botanisk Tidsskrift* LXXV. 159 Dispersal is probably mostly by means of water flowing through pores and channels in the soil, but zoochory also plays a role. 1898-9 *Ann. Rep. Bur. Amer. Ethnol.* p. cxiii, Agricultural and **zoocultural* industries. 1900 *Ann. Rep. Smithsonian Inst.* 65 That condition of toleration between animals and men which normally precedes domestication, and forms the first step in **zooculture*. 1880 SAVILLE-KENT *Man. Infusorio* I. 286 Spongomonas... Animalcules...living in social colonies, and forming by excretion a common domicile, which takes the form of a...gelatinous or semi-granular **zoocytiūm*, within which they remain constantly immersed. *Ibid.* 265 Dendromonas... Animalcules...stationed singly at the extremities of an erect...variously branching pedicle or **zoodendrium*. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 803 **Zoo-Dynamics*, *Zoo-Physics*, *Zoo-Chemistry*. 1882 *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 410 Another red pigment is the **zoerythrin*; first extracted by Bogdanow from *Calurus auriceps*. 1885 *Proc. Roy. Soc. Lond.* XXXVIII. 321 Under this name [*sc.* luteins] are also included allied pigments, such as carotin, *zoonyrythrin*. 1882 *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 415 All other green feathers [than those of the Musophagidae] contain only either **zoo'fulvin* or a black-brown pigment. 1880 *Q. Jnl. Microsc. Sci.* XX. 418 In the proposed system... Strasburger's **zoogametes* or 'planogametes' must enjoy the somewhat cumbersome name of *'zoozygospheres'*, the prefix 'zoo' or suffix 'zoid' being always used to denote an apparently spontaneous power of motion. 1861 GEIKIE E. *Forbes* xv. 543 The **zoo-geological* researches of Edward Forbes. *Ibid.* 537 It is mainly as a **zoo-geologist* or palæontologist that he will take rank. *Ibid.* 536 The transition from these fields of inquiry to that of palæontology or **zoo-geology*. 1880 BESSEY *Bot.* 221 Each *'zoogonidium* breaks itself up into sixteen new zoogonidia. 1834 S. T. COLERIDGE *Table Talk* (1884) 73 Nine years has the subject of **Zoo-magnetism* been before me. 1864 T. SHORTER *Two Worlds* 19 Familiar with zoo-magnetism and clairvoyance. 1841 HOR. SMITH *Moneyed Man* xxi, That attachment to birds and animals...has afforded me no little...solace, though you have sometimes been pleased to term it a **zoo-mania*. 1861 F. HALL in *Jnl. Asiat. Soc. Bengal* 198 note, Vasantaraja Bhatta, the *'zoo'mantist*. 1897 *Not. Sci.* June 412 Roux claims that **zoomechanical* methods are of primary importance. 1891 *Cent. Dict.*, **Zoomechanics*. 1897 *Not. Sci.* June 412 To tack on the word 'mechanics' to zoology and re-christen it 'zoomechanics' in a general philosophical sense is not to create a new science. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1085 **Zoomelanin*, a name applied by Bogdanow...to the black pigment of birds' feathers, probably identical with the melanin of the choroid coating of the eye. 1878 BARTLEY tr. *Topinard's Anthropol.* ii. 81 Osteometry itself is only a part of what should be called **zoometry*. 1889 *Nature* 5 Dec. 99/2 Their **zoo-mythic* conceptions of their divinities. 1876 tr. *Wagner's Gen. Pothol.* 132 The *'zoonoses*,...in which there is a transference between individuals of different species, and for the most part from animals to man. 1894 G. M. GOULD *Med. Dict.* 1631/1 *Zoonosis*, any disease communicated or communicable from one of the lower animals to man. 1956 *Nature* 3 Mar. 407/z When a zoonosis gets under way, man-to-man contact may be sufficient to keep the infection spreading. 1972 N. D. LEVINE in T.-T. Chen *Res. Protozool.* IV. 340 This was the first proof that simian malaria is a true natural zoonosis. 1974 R. ZELEDÓN in K. Elliott et al. *Trypanosomiasis & Leishmaniasis* 51 Chagas' disease...became a zoonosis when the reduviid insect vectors adapted to human dwellings. 1860 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, **Zoonosologist*...name for him who studies specially the diseases of cattle, or **zoonosology*. *Ibid.*, *Zoonosology*. 1900 DORLAND *Med. Dict.* 769/2 **Zoonotic*. 1956 *Nature* 3

Mar. 407/2 In searching for explanations of . . . zoonotic outbreaks, there are limitations in the taxonomic approach which should be borne in mind. 1980 *Brit. Med. J.* 29 Mar. 928/2 Zoonotic pathogens, such as salmonellas . . . may be present in any type of slurry. 1821 COLERIDGE *Lett.* (1895) 712 Vital or *zoo-organic power, instinct and understanding, fall all three under the same definition in *generis*. 1879 WEBSTER *Suppl.*, *Zoopathology. 1884 W. WILLIAMS *Vet. Med.* (ed. 4) 4 Pathology, or more properly, when applied to the lower animals, Zoo-Pathology. 1901 *Amer. Anthropol.* (N.S.) III. 12 Experience of superior faculty awakens consciousness of superior power . . . and rends the shackles of *zoophobia. 1888 *Encycl. Brit.* XXIV. 803 *Zoophysics [see *zoodynamics*]. *Ibid.* 816/1 Schwann united two lines of inquiry, viz., that of minute investigation of structure and development and that of zoo-chemistry and zoo-physics. 1865 *Nat. Hist. Rev.* July 352 [Zoology] divides itself into many . . . branches, amongst which we indicate . . . *Zoophysiology, or the science of the functions of the organs. 1963 *Spec. Sci. Rep. U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service* No. 452 (*title*) A towed pump and shipboard filtering system for sampling small *zooplankters. 1979 *Nature* 1 Feb. 353/2 Zooplankters must also cope with the consequences of living in a transparent medium. 1901 *Lancet* 3 Dec. 1801/1 Shallow pools of clear water which were rich in *zooplankton. 1911 *Rep. Brit. Assoc.* 422 In the high Alpine lakes there exists an outstanding production of *zooplanktonic organisms. 1964 *Oceanogr. & Marine Biol.* II. 152 This technique . . . is well suited to analysis of zooplanktonic extracts. 1978 *Nature* 20 July 246/1 Determinations of element concentrations in the fecal pellets from a common zooplanktonic species, the euphausiid *Meganyctiphanes norvegica*, are now available for 18 elements. 1870 RUSKIN *Aratra Pent.* ii. Wks. 1872 III. 31 The great mimetic instinct underlies all such purpose [sc. the fashioning of figures of living creatures]; and is *zooplastic, life-shaping. 1891 E. MUYBRIDGE (*title*) The science of animal locomotion (*zoopraxography). 1893 — *Descriptive Zoopraxography* 2 In the presentation of a lecture on Zoopraxography the course usually adopted is to project . . . a series of the most important phases of some act of animal motion. 1947 L. EDWARDS *Reminisc. Sporting Artist* xv. 151 The science of animal motion (Zoopraxography) cannot be entirely ignored by artists, more especially since the advent of instantaneous photography has familiarised the public with the camera's version of animal movement. 1974 *Country Life* 2 May 1059/1 His [sc. Lionel Edwards'] preoccupation with zoopraxography is a desire to capture a precise impression of the rhythm of venery and racing. 1847 tr. *Feuchtersleben's Med. Psychol.* 19 The study of animal psychology (*zoo-psychology, comparative psychology). 1816 BENTHAM *Chrestom.* Wks. 1843 VIII. 87 *Zooscopic or Zoologic Physiurgics. 1890 *Science* XV. 43 This condition of zooscopic hallucination is one of the commonest among the phenomena of alcohol poisoning. 1963 T. A. SEBEOK in *Language* XXXIX. 465 The term *zoosemiotics—constructed in an exchange between Rulon Wells and me—is proposed for the discipline, within which the science of signs intersects with ethology, devoted to the scientific study of signaling behavior in and across animal species. 1968 *Language* XLIV. 211 The Section of Semiotics and Linguistics of the Laboratoire d'Anthropologie Sociale is assembling a library of offprints on the areas within its purview (viz., linguistics, oral and written literature, . . . theory of languages, scientific languages, zoosemiotics, and the like). 1978 *New Yorker* 17 Apr. 78 In a collection of papers written by various experts in the field of . . . 'zoosemiotics'—in other words, animal communication—each writer tries valiantly to define what he means by the term. 1662 J. CHANDLER *Van Helmont's Oriat.* 163 The other Son . . . noted the properties and Societies of living Creatures; whence by the undoubted hope of a Flock, a quiet life is led: This indeed, was *Zooophie or the wisdom of keeping living Creatures together. 1854 SPENCER *Ess.* iv. (1858) 166 Biology . . . divides into Organogeny, Phytosophy, Zoosophy. 1836-9 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* II. 112/1 The *Zooosperm appears to be a moving filament like a minute *Vibrio*. 1838 *Penny Cycl.* XII. 270/1 According to his principles of *zootaxy. 1890 O. T. MASON in *Amer. Anthropol.* (N.S.) I. 46 The industries of the American aborigines, in connection with . . . animal life . . . may be divided into *zootechnic provinces. 1891 *Cent. Dict.*, *Zootechnics. 1900 DENIKER *Races of Man* Introd. (ed. 2) 4 [In] the genus *Homo* . . . one can neither speak of the 'species', the 'variety', nor the 'race' in the sense that is usually attributed to these words in zoology or in zootechnics. 1879 DE QUATREFAGES *Hum. Spec.* 61 Anyone who possesses even the smallest knowledge of zoology and *zootechny. 1861 BENTLEY *Man. Bot.* 376 *The antheridium* . . . is filled at maturity with a number of minute cells, which have been termed *zootheca. 1880 SAVILLE-KENT *Man. Infusoria* I. 61 For these aggregations of . . . simple loricae the distinctive title of 'zootheca' has been adopted. 1881 *Abstr. Trans. Anthropol. Soc. Washington* 128 Let us hope that American students will not fall into this line of error by assuming that *zootheism is the lowest stage, because this is the status of mythology most widely spread on the continent. 1889 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* Nov. 62 In the stage of barbarism all the phenomena of nature are attributed to the animals . . . or rather to the ancestral types of these animals, which are worshipped. This is the religion of zootheism. *Ibid.* Dec. 208 The prophets tried to pull the Israelites too rapidly through the 'zootheistic and physisittheistic stages into monotheism. 1872 DANA *Corals* i. 48 The compound mass produced by budding . . . was called . . . a Zoöphyte. As a substitute the term *Zoothome may be employed. 1661 LOVELL *Hist. Anim. & Min.* 132 They [sc. bats] are *zootokons, only, amongst all flying creatures, and bring forth . . . two young ones at a time. 1877 G. MACDONALD *Marq. Lossie* xxxix, Pigs, which, with all her *zootrophy, Clementina did not like. 1905 *Daily Chron.* 4 Sept. 3/1 Egyptian hieroglyphics and Totemic *zootypes. 1897 *Ann. Rep. Smithsonian Inst.* 454 Out of this worm-form type . . . all the higher ranges of *zootypic evolution have sprung. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1085 *Zooxanthin, the colouring-matter of the red feathers of *Calurus auriceps*. 1880 *Zoozygosphere [see *zoogamete*].

zoochlorella (zəʊəʊklo'relə). *Bot.* Also Zoo-. Pl. -æ. [mod.L. (coined in Ger. by K. Brandt 1881, in *Arch. für. Anat. & Physiol.: Physiol. Abt.* 571), f. zoo- + CHLOR-¹ + L. -ella (see

-EL²).] One of the numerous green unicellular organisms, believed to be algæ, that are present as symbionts in the cytoplasm of many freshwater invertebrates.

1889 in *Cent. Dict.* 1899 F. S. LEE tr. *M. Verworn's Gen. Physiol.* ii. 84 Among such symbiotic organisms are especially many algæ, the *Zooxanthellæ* and the *Zoochlorellæ*, the nature of which as independent organisms has been for a long time in dispute. They occur abundantly in the cells of lower animals. 1924 J. A. THOMSON *Sci. Old & New* xxvii. 150 The same kind of co-operation is illustrated by a number of green Protozoa, in cases where the green colour has been shown to be due . . . to a partnership with minute algæ (*Zoochlorellæ* and *Zooxanthellæ*). 1972 M. S. GARDINER *Biol. of Invertebrates* i. 34/1 *Zooxanthellæ* are limited to marine species, and *zoochlorellæ* almost entirely to freshwater species. 1979 *Nature* 5 July 58/2 Traces of chlorophyll *b* in extracts of pigments from intact animals suggested that *Amphistegina* spp. and *Amphisorus hemprichii* also contained symbiotic zoochlorellæ.

zoodikers ('zu:dikəz), *int.* *rare.* An asseverative exclamation: cf. ZOOKERS, ZOOKS, ZOONTERS.

1749 FIELDING *Tom Jones* XVIII. xii, Zoodikers! She'd have the wedding to-night.

zoœa: see ZOEÆ.

||**zoœcium** (zəʊ'i:ʃ(i)əm). *Zool.* Pl. -ia. [mod.L., f. Gr. ζῶον animal + οἶκος house.] The thickened and hardened part of the cuticle of each zooid or polyp of a colony of Polyzoa, forming a cell or sheath in which it is lodged. Hence zoœcial (zəʊ'i:ʃ(i)əl) *a.*, pertaining to or forming a zoœcium.

1880 PASCOE *Zool. Class.* 297 *Zoœcium*, a cell in which a polypide of the Polyzoa is lodged. 1881 *Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* Jan. 2 The avicularia are placed in the outer border of the *Zoœcia*. 1884 *Athenæum* 29 Mar. 414 The zoœcial tube.

zoogen ('zəʊədʒən). *Chem.* ? *Obs.* [ad. F. *zoogène*: see zoo- and -GEN.] A nitrogenous substance found in the water of sulphur-springs; also called *barégén* or GLAIRIN.

1820 *Blackw. Mag.* Mar. 710 Mineral Animal Matter—Zoogene.—Sig. Carlo di Gimbernat has discovered a peculiar substance in the thermal waters of Baden and of Ischia.

zoogenic (zəʊəʊ'dʒənɪk), *a.* [f. zoo- + -genic, adj. suffix of -GENY.] *a.* Pertaining to zoogeny (*rare*—⁰). *b.* Produced from animals; in *Geol.* applied to formations of animal origin, e.g. limestones formed from shells.

1864 WEBSTER, *Zoogenic*, of, or pertaining to, animal production. 1866 LAWRENCE tr. *Cotta's Rocks Classified* 360 Zoogenic deposits are products of animal agency.

zoogeny (zəʊ'dʒɪni). *rare.* [f. zoo- + -GENY.] Production or generation of animals; an account, or the study, of this.

1848 DUNGLISON *Med. Lex.* (ed. 7), *Zoogeny* . . . the doctrine of animal formation. 1854 SPENCER *Ess.* iv. (1858) 166 [Oken's Classification] Biology. Organoscopy, Phytogeny, Phyto-physiology, Phytology, Zoogeny, Physiology [etc.].

zooge'ography. [f. zoo- + GEOGRAPHY.] The geographical distribution of animals. Hence **zooge'ographer**, one versed in zoogeography; **zoogeo'graphic**, **zoogeo'graphical** *a.*, pertaining to zoogeography; **zoogeo'graphically** *adv.*, in relation to zoogeography.

1875 *Encycl. Brit.* III. 738/1 It is therefore . . . the business of the *zoogeographer, who wishes to arrive at the truth, to ascertain what groups of animals are wanting in any particular locality. 1891 *Cent. Dict.*, *Zoögeographic. 1907 *Jrnl. Geol.* XV. 296 Zoögeographic works in all points confirm the conclusions. 1971 *Nature* 9 July 88/1 The largest zoogeographic group so far recovered . . . is found in the southern shallow waters of the Florida-Halteras slope. 1868 *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 317 None of the great *zoogeographical provinces . . . are sharply defined from one another. 1893 SEEBOHM in *Geogr. Jrnl.* II. 338 The fact is that life areas, or zoo-geographical regions, are more or less fanciful generalisations. 1890 *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 148 That section of the United States *zoogeographically known as the Sonoran Region. 1868 *Ibid.* 295 The relations of these subdivisions to *zoogeography. 1896 *Naturalist* 80 The inclusion of Irish habitats would have been of value in the study of zoogeography.

||**zooglæa** (zəʊəʊ'gli:ə). *Biol.* [mod.L. (Cohn, 1872), f. Gr. ζῶον animal + γλοιός glutinous substance.] An aggregate of bacteria with thickened cell-walls, forming a gelatinous mass. Also *attrib.* Hence **zoo'glæal**, **zoo'glæic** *adjs.*

1877 F. T. ROBERTS *Handbk. Med.* (ed. 3) I. 95 Living objects variously described as bacteria, vibrios, micrococci, microzymes, zooglæa, &c. 1877 HUXLEY & MARTIN *Elem. Biol.* 26 *Bacteria*, in the still state, very often become surrounded by a gelatinous matter . . . This is termed the *Zooglæa* form of *Bacterium*. 1905 *Brit. Med. Jrnl.* 25 Feb. 409/2 The giant or mother cells have the appearance of zooglæic masses. 1934 A. T. HENRICI *Biol. of Bacteria* xviii. 289 *Nitrosomonas* species may appear in cultures in two forms—as zooglæal masses which rest at the bottom of liquid cultures, in which the cells are non-motile; and as motile 'swarmers'. 1976 *Ann. Rev. Microbiol.* XXX. 265 Protozoa crawl about the zooglæal mass and occur in the liquor; most are free-swimming or stalked ciliates.

zoogonic (zəʊəʊ'ɡɒnɪk), *a.* *rare.* [f. Gr. ζωή life + -γονος producing + -ic.] Life-producing.

1788 T. TAYLOR *Proclus* I. 118 The zoogonic, or vivific goddess. 1791 — *Diss. Eleus. Myst.* 95 This goddess . . . is evidently of a Saturnian and zoogonic, or intellectual and vivific rank.

zoogony (zəʊ'ɡɒni). *rare.* [ad. Gr. ζωογονία, f. ζῶον animal + -γονία a begetting.] The generation or production of animals, or a doctrine concerning this.

1675 BURTHOGGE *Causa Dei* 242 The Theogonie and Zoogonie [*mispr.* -enie] of the Antients. 1864 WEBSTER, *Zoogeny*, *Zoogony*, the doctrine of the formation of living beings.

†**zoograph.** *Obs. rare.* [ad. Gr. ζωογράφος = ζωγράφος one who draws figures, a painter, artist, f. ζῶον animal, figure: see -GRAPH.] = next, 2. 1623 COCKERAM, *Zoograph*, any one that painteth beasts.

zoographer (zəʊ'ɒɡrəfə(r)). [f. Gr. ζῶον animal + -γράφος depicting, describing; see -GRAPHER.]

1. One who describes animals; a descriptive zoologist.

1646 SIR T. BROWNE *Pseud. Ep.* iv. i. 180 One kinde of Locust . . . by Zoographers called *mantis*. 1677 PLOT *Oxfordsh.* 104 The Zoographer Gesner. 1688 BOYLE *Final Causes* ii. 61 Zoographers observe, That the Camelion has a very uncommon structure of his visive Organs. 1711 *Brit. Apollo* IV. No. 17. 1/2 Others [sc. beasts having only one horn] are mentioned by Zoographers.

2. A painter or depicter of animals; a painter or artist in general.

(In the latter use repr. Gr. ζωγράφος (see ZOOGRAPH): not an Eng. sense.)

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Zoographer* . . . a Painter or one that draws the pictures of beasts. [Citing Sir T. Browne: see 1646 in 1.] 1814 *Sporting Mag.* XLIV. 66 This very clever artist and zoographer. 1814 W. TAYLOR in *Monthly Mag.* XXXVII. 406 The earlier writers on art, . . . who flourished before the age of Trajan and the Antonines, constantly entitle their books on zoographers, on zoography—this was their only usual denomination for painting, as if still life did not merit the name.

zoographic (zəʊəʊ'græfɪk), *a.* [f. ZOOGRAPHY + -ic.] Describing or representing animals; relating to zoography. So **zoo'graphical** *a.*; hence **zoo'graphically** *adv.*, in relation to zoography.

1741 WARBURTON *Div. Legat.* II. iv. iv. 111 A new Species of *Zoographic Writing, called by the Ancients Symbolic. 1870 RUSKIN *Aratra Pent.* iv. §110 Both arts [sc. painting and sculpture] . . . so far as they are zoo-graphic;—representative, that is to say, of animal life. 1881 *Academy* 17 Sept. 224 He it was, and not Polygnotos, whose lifelike figures earned him a similar zoographic reputation to that of Giotto. 1651 H. MORE *Second Lash in Enthus. Tri.*, etc. (1656) 194 My censure on this rare *Zoographical piece. 1887 *Athenæum* 6 Aug. 171/3 *Zoographically the fauna and flora of this archipelago appear to have their affinities with those of the Philippine Islands.

zo'ographist. *rare*—⁰. [f. Gr. ζωογράφος (see ZOOGRAPH) + -IST.] = ZOOGRAPHER.

1775 in ASH. [Hence in later Dicts.]

zoography (zəʊ'ɒɡrəfi). Now *rare* or *Obs.* [f. Gr. ζῶον animal + -γραφία, -GRAPHY.]

1. Description of animals; descriptive zoology.

1593 R. HARVEY *Philad.* 97 When men play the parts of beasts, let them go among the numbers of cattel in Zoography. 1651 H. MORE *Second Lash in Enthus. Tri.*, etc. (1656) 194 We are now come to that rare piece of Zoography of thine, the world drawn out in the shape of an Animal. 1697 SWIFT *T. Tub Ep. Ded.* (1704) 8, I was grossly mistaken in the Zoography and Topography of them. 1807 W. WOOD (*title*) Zoography; or the Beauties of Nature, displayed in Select Descriptions from the Animal and Vegetable . . . Kingdom. 1865 *Nat. Hist. Rev.* July 352 With regard to species and groups of species, (a) their complete description or Zoography; (b) their systematic arrangement or Taxonomy.

2. The art of depicting animals; pictorial art in general.

(Repr. Gr. ζωγραφία: not an Eng. sense.)

1656 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Zoography* . . . the painting or picturing of beasts. 1814 W. TAYLOR [see ZOOGRAPHER 2].

zoogyroscope (zəʊəʊ'dʒaɪə'skəʊp). [f. zoo- + GYROSCOPE.] An apparatus in which a series of instantaneous photographs of a moving animal are placed upon a rotating glass cylinder and illuminated so as to throw the images in rapid succession upon a screen, producing the appearance of the actual movement.

1880 *Cassell's Fam. Mag.* 640 The zoogyroscope can . . . be applied to photographs of other animals besides the horse.

zooid ('zəʊɪd), *sb.* *Biol.* [f. Gr. ζῶον animal + -οιδ: cf. late Gr. ζωοειδής adj. resembling an animal.] Something that resembles an animal (but is not one in the strict or full sense): in early use applied somewhat widely, including, e.g., a free-moving animal or vegetable cell, as a spermatozoon or antherozooid; but chiefly restricted to an animal arising from another by asexual reproduction, i.e. budding (gemination) or division (fission); *spec.* (and most usually) Each of the distinct beings or 'persons' which

make up a compound or 'colonial' animal organism, and often have different forms and functions, thus more or less corresponding to the various organs in the higher animals. (Cf. *ZOON sb.*) Also *attrib.*

Often as the second element of a compound, as *antherozoid*, *ascidiozoid*, *dactylozoid*, *gonozoid*, *siphonozoid*, etc.: see these words.

1851 HUXLEY in *Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist. Ser. II. VIII. 15* The term 'zoid'... is intended to suggest... with regard to the creatures to which it is applied... that they are like individuals, and yet are not individuals, in the sense that one of the higher animals is an individual... Instead of saying then, that in a given species, there is an alternation of so many generations, we should say that the individual consists of so many zooids. *Ibid.* 17 Zooid Development by External Gemmation. Internal Gemmation. **1855** W. S. DALLAS in *Orr's Circ. Sci., Org. Nat. II. 456* The individual *Salpa* consists of two zooids, one oviparous, the other gemmiparous... In the *Aphides*, as many as eleven consecutive series of gemmiparous zooids have been observed to intervene between two periods of sexual reproduction. **1864** [see *ZOON sb.*] **1870** ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* p. lxxxvi. In the Polyzoa polymorphic zooids are produced by gemmation. **1871** T. R. JONES *Anim. Kingd.* (ed. 4) 98 In each colony [of hydroids] the alimentary and reproductive functions are respectively intrusted to two distinct kinds of zooids... the nutritive and the sexual polypites... The sexual zooids, like the flower-buds of plants, are only developed at certain seasons. **1888** ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 711 *Rhabdopleura* forms indefinitely branching colonies... The zooids are all connected by a stem. *Ibid.* 745 The sexual zooid is developed from the asexual, either directly by metamorphosis, or indirectly by gemmation or fission, thus giving rise to an Alternation of Generations.

Hence *zo'oidal a.*, pertaining to a zooid or zooids; *zooidi'ogamous (zoidi'o-, zoi'dogamous) a.*, characterized by, or of the nature of, fertilization in which a 'zooid' or motile cell (e.g. an antherozoid) unites with another cell.

1886 *Geol. Mag.* Dec. 535 The larger [tubuli] I regard as zooidal tubes. **1891** *Nature* 17 Sept. 484/1 Karyogamy is... Zooidiogamous: one gamete at least is actively motile. **1907** *Amer. Nat.* June 362 Ancient zoidogamous Gymnosperms.

zooid, a. rare—⁰. [[?] *erron.* deduction from *attrib.* use of *prec.*] Resembling, or having the character of, an animal.

Only in recent Dicts.

Zookers ('zukəz), int. Obs. or arch. exc. dial. Also 7 zwookers. [Short for *gadswookers* (*GAD sb.*⁵ 3), *GODSOOKERS*.] = next.

1620 SHELTON *Quix.* II. xxv. 166 Zwookers (quoth Sancho) Ile not giue a farthing to know what is past. **1631** MASSINGER *Emperor East* IV. i. Zookers had I one of you zingle with this twigge, I would so veeze you! **1753** *Scots Mag.* Oct. 491/1, I had proceeded by Fegs, 'Faith, Pox, Plague, 'pon my life, 'pon my soul, Rat it, and Zookers, to Zauns, and the divill. **1761** A. MURPHY *Way to keep Him* v. i. (1765) 101 Zookers, that money—Oh! I am going to blab —. **1814** *Sixteen & Sixty* II. ii. in *New Brit. Theatre* IV. 387 Zookers! if measter Bore'em were to pop in! **1854** AINSWORTH *Fitch of Bacon* iv. 'I've... Seen him make love to another woman.' 'To Mrs. Nettlebed?' 'Zookers! no.'

Zooks (zuks), int. Obs. or arch. exc. dial. [Short for *gadzooks* (*GAD sb.*⁵ 3); cf. *Gods sokin* (*GOD sb.* 14 b).] An exclamation or minced oath, expressing vexation, surprise, or other emotion.

1634 HEYWOOD *Witches Lancs.* III. i. E4, Zookes thou art so brave a fellow that I will stick to thee. **1749** FIELDING *Tom Jones* IV. x, Zooks, parson, you remember how he recommended the weather o' her to me. **1754** GARRICK *Prol. to J. Brown's 'Barbarossa'*, He eat a plagy deal, Zooks! he'd have beat five Ploomen at a Meall. **1842** BARHAM *Ingol. Leg.* Ser. II. *Lay St. Cuth.* Moral, And as for that shocking bad habit of swearing, leave it to dustmen and mobs, Nor commit yourself much beyond 'Zooks!' or 'Odsbobs!' **1855** BROWNING *Fra Lippo Lippi* 3 Zooks, what's to blame?

zoolatry (zəʊˈblətri). [ad. mod.L. *zōolatRIA*, f. Gr. ζῷον animal + λατρεία worship.] The worship of animals. So *zo'olater*, one who practises zoolatry; *zo'olatrōus a.*, pertaining to, of the nature of, or practising zoolatry.

1817 G. S. FABER *Eight Diss.* (1845) I. 285 That the gods of the Gentiles, however connected with Sabianism and Materialism and Zoolatry, were originally... deified mortals. **1858** HARDWICK *Christ & Other Masters* IV. i. 56 Conspicuous at the head of the zoolatry of Egypt stands the worship of the great Memphitic bull, Apis. **1891** *Cent. Dict.*, Zoolatry... Zoolatrous. **1898** E. P. EVANS *Evol. Ethics* i. 6 Vestiges of zoolatrous worship. **1907** *Q. Rev.* July 200 They brought with them a concrete form of zoolatry in the cult of the buffalo.

zoolite ('zəʊləɪt). *rare.* [ad. F. *zoölite* (J. F. Esper, 1774), f. Gr. ζῷον animal + λίθος stone: see -LITE.] A fossil animal or animal substance.

1822 J. PARKINSON *Outl. Oryctol.* 327 Where M. Esper, the narrator, expected to be left to augment the number of zoolites contained in these terrific mansions [*sc.* caves].

zoologist (zəʊˈblɒdʒə(r)). *rare.* [f. mod.L. *zōologia* ZOOLOGY + -ER¹; cf. *astrologer*.] = ZOOLOGIST.

1663 BOYLE *Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* II. ii. 46 As the Naturalist may thus illustrate Pathology as a Chymist, so may he do the like as a Zoologist. **1766** SWINTON in *Phil. Trans.* LVII. 112 That these bodies ever ascend fifty or sixty feet, has not... been yet observed by any Zoologist. **1884**

Prospectus of Brehm's 'Life of Animals', Dr. Afr. Edm. Brehm, the eminent zoologist.

zoologic (zəʊˈlɒdʒɪk), a. rare. [f. ZOOLOGY + -IC; cf. mod.L. *zōologicus* (Kirchmaier, 1661).] = next.

1816 BENTHAM *Chrestom.* Wks. 1843 VIII. 87 Zooscopic or Zoologic Physiurgics. **1849** SAXE *Times* 279 As boys expend their zoologic rage On annual tigers in a travelling cage. **1852** BAILEY *Festus* 368 That roses weep is a botanic fact; A zoologic truth, that birds woo flowers.

zoological (zəʊˈlɒdʒɪkəl, pop. zəː-), a. [f. ZOOLOGY + -ICAL; cf. *prec.*] a. Pertaining or relating to zoology; belonging or devoted to the scientific study of animals.

1807 J. PINKERTON *Mod. Geogr.* (ed. 2) I. p. xxvii. Conceiving that the zoological part might admit of some improvements... the author applied to Dr. Shaw of the British Museum. **1815** *Tweddell's Rem.* 190 note, His numerous zoological and botanical works. **1837** WHEWELL *Hist. Induct. Sci.* III. 465 Molluscous animals had been placed too high in the zoological scale. **1839** DARWIN *Voy. Beagle* vii. 152 We shall... have two zoological provinces strongly contrasted with each other. **1877** COUES *Fur-Bearing Anim.* i. 2 The zoological characters by which it is distinguished from other Carnivorous Mammals.

b. **Zoological Garden** (usually *Gardens*), the gardens of the London Zoological Society, situated in Regent's Park, London, in which the society's collection of wild animals is housed (formerly colloquially abbreviated as 'the Zoological'; hence *gen.* a garden or park in which wild animals are kept for public exhibition. Also *zoological park*.

1829 T. ALLEN (title) A guide to the Zoological Gardens and museum. **1831** J. JEKYLL *Corr.* (1894) 279, I... passed three hours with some new foreigners at the Zoological, which is the best lounge of London. **1843** *Comic Album* W 2 b/1 The parrots at the Zoological Gardens. **1854** GOSSE *Aquarium* 13 The interesting exhibition opened to the public last year at the Zoological Gardens in the Regent's Park. **1855** *Poultry Chron.* III. 416 The first annual exhibition of the Hull and East-Riding Poultry Society, took place on Wednesday, June 27th, at the Zoological Gardens, Hull. **1890** BURNAND *Very Much Abr.* 122 After which I never gave any buns to the bears at the Zoological. **1899** *N.Y. Times* 9 Nov. 14/3 A splendid stretch of 261 acres of country, that is destined to accommodate one of the finest collections of wild animals in the world, and will be known as the New York Zoological Park, was formally opened... yesterday. **1935** *Chambers's Encycl.* X. 811/1 The Zoological Park of Edinburgh... one of the most beautiful. **1978** JORDAN & ORMROD *Last Great Wild Beast Show* i. 48 Stellingen itself remains the finest example of the use of moated enclosures in zoological parks.

attrib. and comb. **1843** HOOD in *Mem.* (1860) II. 152 Me, who have no more notion of engineering than a Zoological monkey of driving piles. **1858** *Househ. Words* 18 Dec. 51/1 A whole zoological-garden-full of symptoms constantly making him uncomfortable.

c. *transf.* (sometimes *humorous*). Animal. **1855** DICKENS *Holly-Tree* i. One of the apartments has a zoological papering on the walls, not so accurately joined but that the elephant occasionally rejoices in a tiger's hind legs and tail, while the lion puts on a trunk and tusks. **1889** H. P. LIDDON *Magnificat* iv. 91 Which is the nobler sort of ancestry—the purely zoological, or the spiritual? **1893** *Harper's Mag.* Dec. 39/2 Other strange and zoological sounds.

Hence *zoologically (zəʊˈlɒdʒɪkəlɪ, zəː-) adv.*, in a zoological way, in relation to zoology.

1819 W. LAWRENCE *Lect. Phys.* etc. 249 The representations of all the animals being brought before Adam in the first instance, and subsequently of their being all collected in the ark, if we are to understand them as applied to the living inhabitants of the whole world, are zoologically impossible. **1845** DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* xvii. (1852) 393 This Archipelago [*sc.* the Galapagos Islands]... is zoologically part of America. **1869** A. R. WALLACE *Malay Archip.* I. i. 24 Borneo and New Guinea, as like physically as two distinct countries can be, are zoologically wide as the poles asunder.

zo'logico-, used as combining form of *zoologic* or *zoological*: *zoologico-archæologist*, one who studies archæology zoologically, i.e. in relation to animal remains.

1865 LUBBOCK *Preh. Times* 114 The admirable researches of the Danish and Swiss zoologico-archæologists.

zoologist (zəʊˈblɒdʒɪst, pop. zəː-). [f. mod.L. *zōologia* ZOOLOGY + -IST; cf. *zoologer*.] One versed in zoology; a scientist who studies or treats of animals.

1663 BOYLE *Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* II. ii. 46 The... liberty of making those Experiments in live Beasts... may enable a Zoologist... to determine divers Pathologicall difficulties. **1752** J. HILL *Hist. Anim.* 531 This... has been described... under the name of the Mus Africanus Hayopolin dictus. Most of the zoologists have omitted it. **1773** JOHNSON *Lect. to Mrs. Thrale* 21 Sept., Nor have I seen any thing that interested me as a zoologist, except an otter. **1870** NEWMAN *Gram. Assent* II. viii. 253 The proverb says, 'Ex pede Herculeum'; and we have actual experience how the practised zoologist can build up some intricate organization from the sight of its smallest bone.

zoologize (zəʊˈblɒdʒaɪz), v. [f. ZOOLOGY or ZOOLOGIST: see -IZE.]

1. *intr.* To study zoology practically; to seek and examine animals zoologically. (Cf. *botanize*.)

1861 GEIKIE E. *Forbes* ix. 267 He had botanized and zoologized... from the Shetlands to the Channel Isles. **1890** ROMANES in *Life & Lett.* (1896) 256, I have just heard that Charles Lister... has died of fever in Brazil, where he was zoologising.

2. *trans.* To study, explore, or treat zoologically.

1865 KINGSLEY *Herew.* i, Not to him, as to us, a world... circumscribed, mapped, botanised, zoologised.

Hence *zo'ologizing vbl. sb.* (also *attrib.*).

1815 [see ENTOMOLOGIZE v.]. **1867** GEO. ELIOT in *Cross Life* (1885) III. 20 Giving up zoologising for the present. **1876** SMILES *Sc. Natur.* xiv. 290 On a zoologising excursion.

zoology (zəʊˈblɒdʒɪ, pop. zəːˈblɒdʒɪ). [ad. mod.L. *zōologia*, mod. Gr. ζῳολογία (see note below), f. ζῷον animal + -λογία (see -LOGY). Cf. F. *zoologie* (18th c.).]

The word was orig. used to denote that part of medical science which treats of the medicines or remedies obtainable from animals; e.g. in the title of T. Bateson's translation of Johann Schröder's *Zoologia: or the History of Animals, as they are useful in physick and chirurgery*, 1657; and in Sperling's *Zoologia Physica*, 1661, a distinction is made between 'zoologia medica' and 'zoologia sacra'; the first concerns animals 'ut materiam medendi præbent', the second 'ut ad Dei majestatem, ad vitia deponenda, et ad vitam corrigendam faciunt.'

The sense first recorded in English dictionaries is 'a treatise concerning living creatures' (Bailey 1726) and is still the only one in Todd's Johnson, 1818.]

The science which treats of animals, constituting one of the two branches (*zoology* and *botany*) of Natural History or Biology, and comprising many subordinate branches, as ornithology, ichthyology, entomology, etc.; also, a treatise on, or system of, this science.

1669 ROWLAND tr. *Schröder's Chym. Disp.* 506 The Fifth Book of Chymical Dispensatory, called Zoology, treating of living Creatures. Zoology is a Part of Pharmacy, that shews what Medicines are to be taken from Animals. **1726** BAILEY, *Zoology*, a Treatise concerning living Creatures. **1728** CHAMBERS *Cycl. s.v.*, Zoology makes a considerable Article in Natural History. **1753** *Chambers's Cycl. Suppl.*, *Vacca*, in zoology, the female of the ox-kind. **1766** PENNANT (title) *The British Zoology*. **1833** SIR W. HAMILTON *Discuss.* (1852) 158 'Dogs bark': this was erst of necessary matter; 'dogs' were then 'all dogs'... Since an observation of the dogs of Labrador (I think), the proposition, as in our zoologies, so in our logics, has fallen to contingent matter. **1867** OWEN in Brande & Cox *Dict. Sci.* etc. s.v., The term *Zoology* is practically restricted to the science of the outward characters, habits, properties, and classification of animals. **1874** GREEN *Short Hist.* ix. §1. 599 John Ray was the first to raise zoology to the rank of a science.

zoom (zu:m), v. [Echoic.]

1. *intr.* To make a continuous low-pitched humming or buzzing sound; to travel or move (as if) with a 'zooming' sound; to move at speed, to hurry. Also *loosely*, to go hastily. Freq. with advbs. *colloq.*

1892 'Q' *I saw three Ships* i, Amid... the scraping and zooming of the instruments, string and reed. **1904** — *Shining Ferry* xiv, A couple of humble-bees zoomed against the window pane. **1924** *Brit. Weekly* 18 Dec. 270/1 Trams zoom along and buses rattle past. **1946** WODEHOUSE *Joy in Morning* xxix. 280 How would it be... to zoom off immediately, without waiting to pack. **1960** T. McLEAN *Kings of Rugby* 118 Hewitt soon zoomed away on the right. **1976** *National Observer* (U.S.) 14 Aug. 16/1 Every night... a speedboat zooms into the Jones Beach Marine Theater. **1977** G. DURRELL *Golden Bats & Pink Pigeons* v. 121 Three cleaner fish... worked assiduously on their three customers, zooming in to suck the parasites off their skin.

2. a. *Aircraft slang.* (See first quot.) Also *transf.*

In recent use, often not distinguished from sense 1. **1917** *Daily Mail* 19 July 4/5 'Zoom'... describes the action of an aeroplane which, while flying level, is hauled up abruptly and made to climb for a few moments at a dangerously sharp angle. **1918** 'B. CABLE' *Air Men o' War* i. 11 The 'Silver Wings' righted, zoomed sharply up, whirled round. **1920** *Blackw. Mag.* July 71/2 The bird checked, swerved and dived and zoomed back into level flight again. **1934** [see DOG-FIGHT v.]. **1940** *War Illustr.* 19 Jan. 620/3 The mother-ship would be guarded by 350 m.p.h. fighters that would zoom up into the skies about her on the first hint of danger. **1962** S. CARPENTER in *Into Orbit* 75 At 28,000 feet, diving at 900 mph... we suddenly pulled through and started to zoom up again... This manoeuvre converted some of our speed into zoom energy. **1980** J. DITTON *Copley's Hunch* II. i. 115 He zoomed up and over to gain height.

b. *trans.* To cause (an aircraft) to zoom; also, to fly over (an obstacle) in this manner.

1918 *Independent* 16 Nov. 208/2, I 'gave 'er all the gun' and 'zoomed' the château—that is, I almost went up the front of the place. **1928** V. PAGÉ *Mod. Aircraft* 521 A machine should never be 'zoomed' or made to jump into the air by a too-rapid movement of the elevator flaps.

c. *intr.* fig. Of prices, costs, etc.: to rise sharply; to soar or rocket. *colloq.*

1970 *Daily Tel.* (Colour Suppl.) 6 Feb. 17/3 They must double labour and work overtime. Costs zoom. **1976** *National Observer* (U.S.) 17 July 3/1 By March 1978... the dropout total would zoom to 498,300—50 times the total as of March 1972. **1981** *Times* 12 Sept. 2/1 He did not think that the Prime Minister had ever said the economy was going to zoom.

3. *Cinematogr. and Photogr.* a. *intr.* Of a camera, lens, etc.: to close up on a subject (esp. rapidly) without losing focus; more generally, to alter range by variation of focal length. Freq. const. in (on). Also fig.

1948 *Jrnl. Soc. Motion Picture Engin.* L.I. 296 Does the speed change while zooming?.. The speed is independent of the zoom. **1959** HALAS & MANVELL *Technique Film Animation* xix. 237 The scene opens with a full screen live-action back-projection shot which zooms to a miniature. **1962** *Daily Tel.* 8 June 23/7 The lens is capable of 'zooming-in' on a set target up to a mile distant. **1970** *Amateur Photographer* 11 Mar. 13 (Advt.), Needle-sharp f1.8 lens—zooms from telephoto to wide angle. **1973** H. J. EYSENCK *Inequality of Man* ii. 84 The computer will continue to select items in such a way as to 'zoom in' on the crucial set of items which will really test the subject's IQ, avoiding all the useless items which are below or above his true level. **1978** *N. Y. Times* 30 Mar. D18/2 The TV camera zoomed in on a triumphant Holmes.

b. trans. To cause (a lens fitment, camera, etc.) to alter range in this manner.

1952 *Applied Electronics Ann.* 1951 57/1 The construction makes it possible for the operator to 'zoom' the lenses after the ball or player. **1975** *Physics Bull.* Nov. 481/2 The image magnification, AEI claims, can be zoomed continuously up to $\times 15\,000\,000$ with no change in image focus or brightness. **1979** *SLR Camera* Mar. 5/3 Have you tried focusing and zooming a lens that operates in the opposite direction to others in your gadget bag?

Hence 'zooming' *vbl. sb.* and *ppl. a.*

1917 *Daily Mail* 19 July 4/5 'Zooming' is... frequently the only means of avoiding an obstacle when flying low. **1923** *Blackw. Mag.* July 7/1 We settled into steady, zooming flight. **1961** G. MILLERSON *Telev. Production* iii. 34 (caption) The zoom angle can be adjusted anywhere in the zooming range. **1982** L. COOK *Under Etna* i. i. 11 'I hate this zooming-in bit.' She gazed hypnotically at the strip of runway coming up to meet them.

zoom, sb. [f. the vb.]

1. Aeronaut. An act of 'zooming'. Also *attrib.*

1918 *Blackw. Mag.* June 762/1 The Hun's third repetition of the manoeuvre was varied by a straight zoom instead of a climbing turn. **1932** [see BLACKING *vbl. sb.* 1c]. **1960** *Aeroplane* 2 Dec. 741/1 At the zoom altitudes which the Mirage is capable of reaching, there is insufficient airflow through the engine to maintain afterburner combustion.

2. Cinematogr. and Photogr. a. A camera shot in which the range is (usu. rapidly) shortened to close-up without loss of focus; this process.

1934 [see FADE-OUT 1]. **1948** [see ZOOM *v.* 3a]. **1962** *Movie* Dec. 6/3 The film ends on a zoom into a close up of Tolly's clenched fist. **1967** MCLUHAN & FIORE *Medium is Massage* 128 The audience had... been preconditioned by television commercials to abrupt zooms... no story lines, flash cuts. **1977** J. HEDGECOE *Photographer's Handbk.* 125 (heading) Zoom and tilt.

b. = zoom lens, sense 4 below.

1974 *Some Technical Terms & Slang* (Granada Television), Zoom, lens allowing a change of view from longshot to close-up. **1978** *Amateur Photographer* 29 Nov. 120 He uses a Nikon with 24mm, 43-86mm and 80-200mm zooms, and uses Kodachrome exclusively. **1982** 'A. J. QUINNELL' *Snap Shot* vi. 99 [He] had taken the telephoto lens off the camera and replaced it with an all-purpose zoom.

3. fig. Zest, energy; sparkle, zip. Cf. ZOOM *int.* *colloq.*

1964 in Hamblett & Deverson *Generation X* 97 Perhaps also a man has to have a bit of an inferiority complex... to give him that extra zoom as a lover. A smug, inbred type like Roger doesn't care if he's a dead loss to a woman between the sheets. **1974** R. CROSSMAN *Diaries* (1977) III. 297, I am definitely losing political zest, looking and feeling more detached, with less zoom, watching, not believing in things, not as enthusiastic or inspired.

4. Comb. zoom lens Cinematogr. and Photogr., a camera lens whose focal length (and hence the magnification and the field of view) can be smoothly varied while the image remains in focus; cf. VARIFOCAI *a.*; zoom shot, a camera shot taken with a zoom lens.

1936 *World Film News* Apr. 12 No British manufacturer makes a nice, cheap zoom-lens. **1949** R. H. ALDER *Movie Making for Everyone* vi. 67 Most amazing of all is the 'Zoom' lens, in which the angle of view can be changed while the picture is actually being taken. **1962** L. DEIGHTON *Ipress* File xxiv. 154 A zoom lens, one that would change its focal length. **1978** J. GARDNER *Dancing Dodo* xix. 146 The drifting began. Like a huge, long pull-back on a zoom lens so that everything diminished. **1984** A. C. & A. DUXBURY *Introd. World's Oceans* iii. 104 The Alvin was equipped with a new color television camera that had a special zoom lens for inspecting the vent animals. **1966** *Listener* 24 Feb. 286/1 A pre-credit titles vertical zoom-shot is served as *hors d'œuvre* for those with appetites for impudently expert camera work. **1977** T. ALLBEURY *Man with President's Mind* x. 108 A zoom shot on the representatives of OPEC.

zoom (zu:m), int. [See the vb.] Representing a 'zooming' sound, such as that made by something travelling at speed. Freq. used *fig.* to denote a sudden rise (to success, etc.) or equivalent fall.

1942 D. POWELL *Time to be Born* vi. 130 Men... just lucky enough to hold a job a few years and then—zoom! **1942** BERREY & VAN DEN BARK *Amer. Thes.* Slang §2/11 All of a sudden... socko... whang, zoom. **1976** *National Observer* (U.S.) 25 Dec. 4/2 People began to talk about him. An article appeared in Advertising Age, a trade magazine. Then he wrote a guest column for the Hollywood Reporter. Zoom.

Zoomar ('zu:ma:(r)). Also zoomar. A proprietary name in the U.S. for a make of zoom lens.

1946 *Jrnl. Soc. Motion Picture Engineers* XLVII. 465 (caption) Optical principle of Zoomar lens. **1947** *Official Gaz.* (U.S. Patent Office) 10 June 177/2 'Zoomar' for varifocal camera lenses. **1961** A. L. M. SOWERBY *Dict. Photogr.* (ed. 19) 712 The first zoom lens for a miniature camera, the Voigtlander Zoomar, gave focal lengths from 36

mm to 82 mm. **1971** D. E. WESTLAKE *I gave at Office* (1972) 68 Rudy had a zoomar lens and got as close as he could for greater clarity. **1973** D. OSMOND-SMITH tr. *Bettetini's Lang. & Technique of Film* ii. 94 By making use of a complicated system of lenses, called 'pancinor' or 'zoomar', it is in fact possible to vary in a continuous progression the focal length of the shot and, therefore, to move the lens with apparent continuity towards or away from an object or person.

zoomorph ('zəʊəʊmɔ:f). [f. Gr. ζῷον animal + μορφή shape.] A representation of an animal form in art; a zoomorphic design or figure.

1889 [see SKEUOMORPH 1]. **1895** HADDON *Evol. Art* 40 The designs are based on human faces...; sometimes the human form is employed, and occasionally zoomorphs are depicted. **1902** *Trans. Glasgow Archaeol. Soc.* (N.S.) IV. 398 Key-patterns, zoomorphs, and figure subjects.

zoomorphic (zəʊəʊ'mɔ:fɪk), *a.* [f. as prec. + -IC.]

1. Representing or imitating animal forms, as in decorative art or symbolism.

1872 *Archaeol. Cant.* VIII. 266 A legend not in runes, but in zoomorphic characters. **1885** M'CRIE *Sk. & Stud.* 23 The zoomorphic character so conspicuous in the ornamentation of Celtic manuscripts.

2. Attributing the form or nature of an animal to something, esp. to a deity or superhuman being. (Cf. ANTHROPOMORPHIC.)

1880 MURRAY *Philol. Soc. Addr.* 22 The enlargement or abbreviation of words by letters, which in the curious zoomorphic dialect of many books, *creep in*, or *drop out*, or *fall away*, or develop as *parasites*. **1884** A. LANG *Custom & Myth* 118 Mr. Sayce, who recognises totemism as the origin of the zoomorphic element in Egyptian religion.

b. Having, or conceived or represented as having, the form of an animal.

1886 A. LANG in *19th Cent.* 428 Under Dynasty XII. the gods... appear in their later shapes, often half anthropomorphic, half zoomorphic. **1887**—*Myth, Rit. & Relig.* I. 9 All pre-Christian religions have their 'zoomorphic'... idols.

zoomorphism (zəʊəʊ'mɔ:fɪz(ə)m). [Formed as prec. + -ISM, prob. after F. *zoomorphisme*.]

1. Attribution of animal form or nature to a deity or superhuman being. (Cf. ANTHROPOMORPHISM.)

1822 tr. *Malte-Brun's Universal Geogr.* I. xxiii. 576 The most gross is the religion of the Egyptians, in which the attributes of the divinity were represented under the figures of animals... This may be termed *zoomorphism*. **1840** SMART, *Zoomorphism*, (belief of a transformation into beasts). **1882** MIVART *Nat. & Th.* 205 Zoomorphism is much more absurd than Anthropomorphism.

2. Imitation or representation of animal forms in decorative art or symbolism.

1879 JDS. ANDERSON *Scot. Early Chr. T.* (1881) 206 Zoomorphism of ornamentation. *Ibid.* 221 An Irish crosier... exhibits a more pronounced character of zoomorphism.

zoo'morphize, v. [f. ZOOMORPHIC + -IZE.] *trans.* To make zoomorphic; to attribute an animal form or nature to.

1895 *Folk-Lore* Mar. 75 The belief in sympathetic interchange and interrelation between man and the lower animals... the zoomorphizing of everything.

zoomor'phosed, ppl. a. rare. [f. ZOOMORPH, after METAMORPHOSED *ppl. a.*] Of a decorative or symbolic design: formed into an animal-like shape; rendered zoomorphic (sense 1).

1955 *Proc. Prehist. Soc.* XXI. 234 The famous sheath with zoomorphosed wave-tendrils... which forms part of his Third La Tène style. **1967** *Antiquaries Jrnl.* XLVII. 211 In two recent papers de Navarro has discussed the most common and indeed interesting occurrence of the horse in Celtic art—as part of a zoomorphosed lyre.

|| **zoon** ('zəʊn), *sb. Biol.* Pl. *zoa* ('zəʊə). [mod.L. (Herbert Spencer), a. Gr. ζῷον animal.] An organism scientifically regarded as a complete animal, i.e. one which is the total product of an impregnated ovum, whether constituting a single being as in the higher animals, or a number of distinct beings (*zooids*) as in the successive asexual generations of aphides or the various 'persons' that make up a compound or 'colonial' animal.

1864 H. SPENCER *Princ. Biol.* §73 A zoological individual is constituted either by any such single animal as a mammal or bird, which may properly claim the title of a *zoon*, or by any such group of animals as the numerous *Medusæ* that have been developed from the same egg, which are to be severally distinguished as *zooids*.

zoon (zu:n), *v.* (and *int.*) *U.S. colloq.* [Echoic; cf. ZOOM *v.*] *a. intr.* To make a humming or buzzing sound; to move quickly. *b. trans.* To (cause to) travel with such a sound; to propel. Also as *int.* Hence 'zooming' *vbl. sb.* (also applied *spec.* in *Black English* to a style of preaching and response characterized by the repetition of words and phrases with tonal variation).

1883 J. C. HARRIS *Nights with Uncle Remus* xxxvii. 224 Bimeby Brer Rabbit year de skeeters come zoomin' 'roun', en claimin' kin wid 'im. **1909** *Dialect Notes* III. 391 *Zoon*, *v.i.* and *tr.*, to make a humming or buzzing sound, to cause to make such a sound. 'That rock came zoomin' by my head.' 'Watch me *zoon* this rock.' **1911** M. JOHNSTON *Long Roll* xv. 197 *Zoon—Zoon—Zoon!* O Lord! listen to that shell. **1922** *Outward Bound* Nov. 137/1 The zoomings and ploppings of

blundering winged intruders. **1950** W. L. JAMES in *Phylon* XVI. 1. 19 The prayer maker is too full for any utterance which is not colored tonally by his emotions. This is called 'Zooming'. **1977** J. L. DILLARD *Lexicon Black Eng.* iii. 55 The 'cries'... may come relatively early in the [church] service and show the importance of tonal phenomena in the Black sermon. There is even a term for one such practice: *zooming*, 'crying (a word or phrase) over and over with variations'.

zoonerythrin: see *zoerythrin* s.v. ZOO-.

† **zoonic** (zəʊ'bnɪk), *a.* *Chem. Obs.* [ad. F. *zoönique* (Berthollet), irreg. f. Gr. ζῷον animal + -ique, -IC.] Applied to a supposed peculiar acid obtained from animal substances, afterwards shown to be impure acetic acid. Hence † *zoonate* [-ATE¹], a salt of this acid.

1799 *Monthly Rev.* XXX. 349 Among the acids, the editor has omitted several... newly discovered; viz. the Zoonic [etc.]. **1802** PYE *Chem. Nomencl.* 35 *Zoonic radical*, Basis of Zoonic acid. *Ibid.*, Zoonates.

zoonist ('zəʊnɪst). *rare.* [irreg. f. Gr. ζῷον living being, animal + -IST.] One who holds that nature as a whole is a living being, or that natural objects are such. (In quotes. only *attrib.*)

1892 *Athenæum* 25 June 829/2 The conception of nature as itself living, or the Zoonist conception, and... the conception of nature as inclusive of beings of a superhuman character, or the Supernalist conception. **1897** *Folk-Lore* Sept. 274 Among the Zoonist poems are dialogues between personified natural objects.

zoonite ('zəʊnɪt). *Zool. rare.* [ad. F. *zoonite* (Dugès) or mod.L. *zōonitum*, irreg. f. Gr. ζῷον animal: see -ITE¹.] = ZOOID; *spec.* each of the segments of an articulated animal regarded as distinct organisms; a somite. Also *attrib.* or as *adj.* = articulated, segmented. Hence *zoonitic* (-'ɪtɪk), *a.*, pertaining to or composed of 'zoonites' or segments.

1860 *Cornh. Mag.* I. 203 *note*, We may adopt Huxley's suggestion, and call all such individual parts zōoids, instead of animals. Dugès suggested zōonites in the same sense. **1860** LAYCOCK *Mind & Brain* II. Contents p. ix, Zoonitic Constitution of Vermes. **1861** HULME tr. *Moquin-Tandon* II. II. 59 The Worm... is composed of segments or articulations... in each of which the same organs are regularly repeated... It may be termed a distinct series of animals... These special organisms have received the name of Zoonites (1826). *Ibid.* 60 Three sub-kingdoms: I. The Isolated animals; II. Zoonite animals; III. The Associated animals.

zoonomy (zəʊ'bnɒmɪ). *rare. ? Obs.* [ad. mod.L. *zōonomia* (E. Darwin, 1794), which (after ASTRONOMY, q.v.) should properly mean 'arrangement of animals, zoological classification', but taken as f. Gr. ζῷον animal (or ζωή life) + νόμος law.] The science of the laws of animal or organic life; physiology. So *zoo'nomie* (in mod. Dicts.), *zoo'nomical adjs.*, pertaining or relating to zoonomy; *zo'onomist*, one who is versed in or treats of zoonomy.

1800 *Med. Jrnl.* III. 282 The Zoonomical inquirer, when he attempts to explain organic and animal phenomena, should renounce all... unfounded hypotheses. *Ibid.*, The Zoonomist must endeavour to avoid all partial and incomplete explanations. **1815** T. FORSTER (title) Sketch of the New Anatomy and Physiology of the Brain and Nervous System of Drs. Gall and Spurzheim, considered as comprehending a complete system of Zoonomy. **1861** J. BROWN *Horæ Subsec.* Ser. II. 375 If we could... give ear to the teaching of an enlightened zoonomy, we might soon drive many of our fellest diseases out of our breed.

|| **zoon politikon** ('zəʊnɪn pəʊ'lɪtɪkən). [Gr.] = *political animal* s.v. POLITICAL *a.* 6 (q.v.).

1958 W. STARK *Sociology of Knowledge* 238 Anybody who regards man as necessarily... a *zoon politikon*. **1971** A. GIDDENS *Capitalism & Mod. Social Theory* 5 In the Greek *polis* every man—that is, every free citizen—was a *zoon politikon*: the social and political were inextricably fused.

zoons: see ZOUNDS.

† **zooners, int.** *Obs. rare.* An exclamation, app. suggested by *zoons* (ZOUNDS) and ZOOKERS. *a* 1763 SHENSTONE *Ode Dr. Brettle* 16 Zooners they're gone.

zoophagous (zəʊ'fəgəs), *a.* [f. Gr. ζῷον animal + -φάγος -eating; see -PHAGOUS.] Feeding on animals; carnivorous; belonging to the *Zoophaga*, a name for various groups of animals: opp. to PHYTOPHAGOUS. So *zo'ophagan a.* and *sb.*

1840 **Zoophagan* [see *entomophagan* s.v. ENTOMO-]. **1842** BRANDE *Dict. Sci.* etc., *Zoophagans*... the order of Unguiculate Mammals which live on animal food, ... also the corresponding group of the Marsupial Quadrupeds. **1835** KIRBY *Hab. & Inst. Anim.* II. xvi. 70 **Zoophagous* animals, or those which attack and devour living animals. **1839** OWEN in *Trans. Geol. Soc. Lond.* Ser. II. VI. 72 The true or zoophagous Cetacea. **1881** *Nature* 3 Feb. 324/1 The countless host of animals that inhabit the depths of the ocean, all of which are necessarily zoophagous.

zoophile ('zəʊəfɪl). [ad. F. *zoophile*, f. Gr. ζῷον animal + -φίλος -loving.] *a. Bot.* A zoophilous plant, or its seed. *b. = zoophilist.* So zoophilism (zəʊ'fɪlɪz(ə)m) = *zoophily*; zoophilist

(zəʊ'fɪlɪst), a lover of animals; an opponent of cruelty to animals, *spec.* an anti-vivisectionist; zo'ophilite (-ait) = prec.; zoophilous (zəʊ'fɪləs) *a.*, loving animals; in *Bot.* (after *entomophilous*) applied to plants whose seeds are disseminated by the agency of animals; zo'ophily, love of animals; *spec.* the principles of zoophilists.

1895 *Pop. Sci. Monthly* Feb. 501 The seeds which are aided by this mode of dissemination are called *zoöphilés. 1886 *Sat. Rev.* 28 Aug. 290/2 The Progress of *Zoophilism. 1829 *Hull Packet* 17 Nov., A species of animal which is likely to become a great favourite among our female *zoophilists. a1843 *SOUTHEY Doctor* cccxviii, Our Philosopher and Zoophilist... advised those who consulted him as to the best manner of taking and destroying rats. 1895 *Contemp. Rev.* Oct. 502 None of us Zoophilists have ever pleaded for equal rights for animals with men. 1879 *SIR R. CHRISTISON in Life* (1886) II. 251 He has been assailed by extreme *Zoöphilites. 1886 *Nature* 26 Aug. 403/1 Plants... which he terms *zoophilous or 'ornithophilous', i.e. those which are absolutely dependent for the germination of their seeds on the fruit being swallowed by birds. 1882 *Cornh. Mag.* Mar. 279 (*title of article*) *Zoophily. 1903 *Month* Aug. 214 The extremer advocates of Zoophily.

zoophilia (zəʊə'fɪlə). *Psychol.* Also zoöphilia. [f. Gr. ζῷον animal + φιλία affection.] Attraction to animals that acts as an outlet for some form of sexual energy, formerly not implying sexual intercourse or bestiality.

[1899 *REBMAN tr. Krafft-Ebing's Psychopathia Sexualis* iii. 267 In close relation to stuff-fetichism, certain cases must be considered in which beasts exercise an aphrodisical influence over human beings. One feels tempted to call it *Zoophilia Erotica*. This perversion seems to be rooted in a fetichism the object of which is the skin of the beast.] 1906 *H. ELLIS Stud. Psychol. Sex* V. 71 There is... the more or less sexual pleasure sometimes experienced... in the sight of copulating animals. This I would propose to call Mixoscopic Zoophilia; it falls within the range of normal variations. 1908 *M. E. PAUL tr. Bloch's Sexual Life of our Time* xxiii. 641 We will first describe zoophilia, a sexual inclination towards animals without actual sexual intercourse. 1940 *HINSIE & SHATZKY Psychiatric Dict.* 558/2 Zoöphilia... is a term coined by Krafft-Ebing to denote sexual excitement caused by the stroking and fondling of animals. It does not refer to sexual intercourse with animals. 1960 *Arch. Gen. Psychiatry* III. 442/1 Zoophilia was known in antiquity. 1966 *R. & D. MORRIS Men & Apes* iii. 65 The extent to which zoophilia involving monkeys was actually practised is difficult to assess. 1978 *Daily Tel.* 2 Dec. 16 One of your contemporaries referred in its review to the 'zoophilia' in this film. A simpler word is animalism or bestiality.

zo'ophilic, *a.* [f. as ZOOPHILE + -IC.]

a. Characterized by zoophilism; animal-loving. *b. Psychol.* Characterized by zoophilia.

1947 *New Biol.* 152 Our chief concern, however, is with the dog as a beast of burden. In England, presumably owing to the prevalence of zoophilic organisations such as the R.S.P.C.A. such practices are illegalised. 1951 *J. STEINBECK Log* p. xxiv, A sexual, a religious, a zoophilic or a gustatory impulse. 1965 *Movie* Spring 23/2 Although some spectators may derive a premature zoophilic frisson from Marnie's words to her horse, 'Oh, Forio, if you want to bite anyone, bite me,' we don't learn that there is anything psychologically wrong with Marnie until the sequence in which we meet Mother.

zoophorus, etc.: see ZOPHORUS.

zoophyte ('zəʊəfaɪt). Forms: *a.* 7-8 zoophyton (7 zoophiton), 7-9 *pl.* zoophyta (zəʊ'fɪtə). *β.* 7 zoophyt, -phit, 7-9 -phite, 7- zoophyte. [ad. mod.L. *zōophyton*, *a.* Gr. ζῳόφυτον (Aristotle), f. ζῳον animal + φυτόν plant, f. *φύεσθαι* to grow. Cf. *F. zoöphyte* (Rabelais).]

†1. Applied to certain plants having or supposed to have some qualities of animals, as the 'sensitive plant' and the 'vegetable lamb' or BAROMETZ. *Obs.*

1621 *LODGE Summary Du Bartas* i. 132 There is mention of the Boranets, Zoophites, or Plant-animals of Moscouy, in the first Booke of the second Weeke. 1653 *W. HARVEY Anat. Exerc.* xvii. 95 The sensitive Plant, and other Zoophyta. 1680 *MORDEN Geog. Rect., Muscovy* (1685) 67 In this Country grows the Plant Zoophyte that resembles a Lamb.

2. A general name for various animals of low organization, formerly classed as intermediate between animals and plants, being usually fixed, and often having a branched or radiating structure, thus resembling plants or flowers: as crinoids, hornwracks, sea-anemones, corals, hydroids, sponges, etc.; any member of the group *Zoophyta*.

Formerly sometimes applied to the branched connecting structure in hornwracks, corals, etc. as distinct from the 'polyps' inhabiting it; but often also a synonym of 'polyp'.

In early modern Zoology the term *Zoophyta* was applied systematically but with varying extent, sometimes including all the Echinoderms, Polyzoa, Coelenterates, Sponges, and Protozoa, in other cases more restricted, esp. to the Coelenterates; it is now almost or entirely disused.

a. 1635 *PERSON Varieties* i. §9 Mid creatures which wee call Zoophyta, and Plantanimalia. 1651 *J. F[REAKE] Agrippa's Occ. Philos.* 74 The Zoophyton [*mispr. Zoo-*] (*i.e.*) half Animall, and half Plant. 1682 *H. MORE Annot. Glanvill's Lux* O. 53 To blame her [*sc. Providence*] for making Zoophiton's, or rather Amphibion's. 1743 *Phil. Trans.* XLII. 590 A Zoophyton, somewhat resembling the Flower of the Marigold. 1855 *J. PHILLIPS Man. Geol.* 46 The innumerable tribes of zoophyta, mollusca, and other [in]vertebrata.

β. 1621 *BURTON Anat. Mel.* II. ii. III. 319 Many strange creatures, mineralis, vegetalis, Zoophites. 1640 *HOWELL Dodona's Grove* 23 Those Zoophits or Plant-Animals the Philosophers write of. 1644 *DIGBY Nat. Bodies* xxiii. (1658) 259 Under the title of plants I include not zoophytes or plant animals. 1752 *WATSON in Phil. Trans.* XLVII. 457 If... some will still consider these marine productions as plants, they are truly zoophytes, formed by the labour of the animals, which inhabit them. 1762 *NASMYTH* *ibid.* LII. 556 Whether animal, zoophite, or submarine plant, I leave to your determination. 1828 *STARK Elem. Nat. Hist.* II. 395 Polypi or Zoophytes; comprehending all those small, gelatinous, and compound or aggregated animals which have a mouth surrounded by tentacula, and conducting into a simple stomach. 1847 *WHEWELL Hist. Induct. Sci.* (1857) III. 463 Suppose the coralline zoophytes to go on building. 1877 *THOMSON Voy. Challenger* I. iv. 255 Very elegant alcyonarian zoophytes.

fig. 1865 *O. W. HOLMES Aut. Breakf.-t.* viii. 75 When the whole human zoöphyte flowers out like a full-blown rose.

3. *attrib. and Comb.*

1753 *Chambers' Cycl. Suppl.* s.v. *Marygold*, Zoophyte Marygold... the name of a species of sea animal, of a very beautiful kind, and of the nature of those commonly called Zoophytes, by the old naturalists. 1856 *CARPENTER Micros.* §69 For the examination of living aquatic objects, too large to be conveniently received into the Aquatic Box, the Zoophyte-trough contrived by Mr. Lister may be employed with great advantage. 1889 *Science-Gossip* XXV. 38 The zoophyte-clothed rocks.

Hence 'zoophytal, zoophytic (-'fɪtɪk), -ical *adjs.*, of or pertaining to a zoophyte or zoophytes; of the nature of a zoophyte; produced by zoophytes; 'zoophytish *a.*, having the character of a zoophyte; 'zoophytist, a naturalist who studies zoophytes, a zoophytologist; 'zoophytography, description of zoophytes; 'zoophytoid *a.*, resembling a zoophyte, or related to the zoophytes; 'zoophyto'logical *a.*, pertaining to zoophytology; 'zoophytologist, one versed in zoophytology; 'zoophytology, that department of zoology which treats of zoophytes.

1838 *MANTELL Wonders Geol.* II. 468 In the flustra... we have the elements of *zoophytal organization. 1818 *Q. J. J. Sci.* V. 375 Molluscous and *zoophytic animals. 1830 *LYELL Princ. Geol.* I. 128 The zoophytic, and shelly lime-stones... sometimes alternate with the rocks of mechanical origin. 1851 *RICHARDSON Geol.* (1855) 216 The ocean's bed, on which the foundations of the zoophytic structure are laid. 1838 *G. JOHNSTON Brit. Zooph.* 8 Bernard de Jussieu and Guettard proceeded... to different parts of the coasts of France with the view of examining their *zoophytical productions. 1850 *W. SCORESBY Cheever's Whalem. Adv.* iv. (1858) 53 Many of the zoophytical and molluscous orders. 1854 *Chamb. J. J. Sci.* 28 Oct. 280/1 The home of some human reptile or *zoophytish monster. 1862 *ANSTED Channel Isl.* II. ix. 242 Caverns... worthy the careful examination of the *zoophytist. 1736 *BAILEY (folio) Pref., *Zoophytography... a Treatise or Discourse of animal Plants, as Cockles, Muscles, Oysters.* 1861 *R. E. GRANT Tabular View Rec. Zool.* 66 Physograda... *Zoophytoid. 1828-32 *WEBSTER, *Zoophytological.* 1849-52 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 1307/1 The modern *Zoophytologist. 1828 *Athenæum* 6 Aug. 651/1 *Zoophytology. Respiration of Animalcules. 1883 *Knowledge* 13 July 22/1 Ellis... has been called the father of English Zoophytology.

zoopraxiscope (zəʊə'præksɪskəʊp). Also -praxiscope, and erron. -praxinoscope (cf. PRAXINOSCOPE). [f. zoo- + Gr. πᾱῖς (acc. πᾱῖν, gen. πᾱῖews) action + -SCOPE.] A modified form of the ZOOGYROSCOPE.

1881 *Leeds Merc.* 31 May 5 The Zoöpraxeoscope is... the zoögyroscope in an improved form. 1889 *Athenæum* 16 Mar. 352/3 Mr. Muybridge, of Philadelphia, lectured on 'The Science of Animal Locomotion in its Relation to Design in Art.'... The lecturer by the zoopraxiscope and its limelight displayed a great number of illustrations.

||zoosporangium (zəʊə'spɒrændʒɪəm). *Bot.* Pl. -ia. Also in anglicized form zoosporange ('zəʊə'sprændʒ). [mod.L., f. next after SPORANGIUM.] A receptacle containing zoospores. Hence zoospo'rangio'phore (-'fɔə(r)) [see -PHORE], a structure bearing zoosporangia.

1874 *COOKE Fungi* 170 Thick filaments or tubes, similar to those which form the Zoosporangia. 1882 *HUXLEY in Nature* 9 Mar. 438 The zoospores are set free through an opening formed at the apex of the zoosporangium. 1889 *A. W. BENNETT & MURRAY Crypt. Bot.* 326 The... zoospores are borne in zoosporanges at the end of cylindrical or club-shaped zoosporangio'phores.

zoospore ('zəʊə'spɔə(r)). *Biol.* [f. zoo- + SPORE.] A spore having the power of spontaneous movement, occurring in certain Algæ, Fungi, and Protozoa; a motile spore, swarm-spore.

1846 *LINDLEY Veg. Kingd.* 8 Cellular flowerless plants, ... propagated by zoospores, coloured spores, or tetraspores. 1858 — *Veg. Phys.* §767 For the propagation of their kind, ... the Confervæ have two different modes; the one being the liberation of moving particles, termed zoospores, from the interior of the cells. 1888 *ROLLESTON & JACKSON Anim. Life* 821 The spores [in Protozoa]... may when they become motile be amoeboid or flagellate, and to these two states respectively the terms *amoebula*, or *zoospore* s. *flagellula* may be applied.

Hence zoosporous (zəʊ'spɔərəs) *a.*, producing, of the nature of, or effected by zoospores.

1846 *LINDLEY Veg. Kingd.* 1 The spores of those Confervæ which are sometimes called Zoosporous. 1859 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* V. 212/2 Zoosporous reproduction.

zooster, var. ZOSTER.

zoot (zʊt). *U.S. slang.* [See ZOOT SUIT.]

1. A zoot suit.

1965 'MALCOLM X' *Autobiogr.* iv. 59, I saw some of the real Roxbury hipsters eyeing my zoot. 1973 *C. HIMES Cotton goma kill me Yet in Black on Black* 196 This George Brown was strictly an icky, drape-shaped in a fine brown zoot with a pancho conk slicker'n mine. 1973 *T. PYNCHON Gravity's Rainbow* II. 246 Where'd you get that zoot you're wearing, there?

2. *Comb. zoot-shirt*, a (brightly coloured) shirt designed to be worn with a zoot suit.

1959 *A. FULLERTON Yellow Ford* viii. 95 He wore a multi-coloured zoot shirt. 1961 *Times* 8 Mar. 14/7 For men students... zoot shirts... are banned.

Hence 'zooty *a.*, in the style of a zoot suit; (strikingly) fashionable, 'sharp'.

1946 *MEZZROW & WOLFE Really the Blues* iv. xvi. 313 Colored kids... work on their dungarees, pegging the legs till they're real sharp and zooty. 1952 *Amer. Speech* XXVII. 20 What the zootie character and the dude have in common is an overfastidious regard for clothing. 1964 *S. BELLOW Herzog* 240 Her lover, too, with long jaws and zooty sideburns. 1974 *Listener* 8 Aug. 166/1 The suits were... the zooty type—that's the American style of suiting with a straw hat.

zo'otic, *a.* [ad. mod.L. *zōoticus* (Mayne *Expos. Lex.*), f. Gr. ζῳον animal: see -OTIC.] (See quotes.)

1868 *WATTS Dict. Chem.* V. 1085 *Zootic Acid*, syn. with Hydrocyanic Acid. 1879 *WEBSTER, Zootic*... containing the remains of organized bodies;—used of rock or soil.

zootomy (zəʊ'tɒmɪ). [ad. mod.L. *zōotomia* (M. A. Severinus, 1645): see ZOO- and -TOMY.] The anatomy of animals; the dissection, or the science of the structure, of animal bodies; in mod. use *esp.* comparative anatomy.

1663 *BOYLE Usef. Exp. Nat. Philos.* II. i. 21 The naturalist by his Zootomy, may be very serviceable to the Physician in his anatomical inquiries. 1697 *Phil. Trans.* XIX. 558 Zootomy is either for completing natural History, ... or for the better Attainment of the Cure of Diseases. 1797 *S. JAMES Narr. Voy.* 156 The cook... lives in East Smithfield, where he exercises the trade of zootomy. 1870 *ROLLESTON Anim. Life* Pref. p. v, To combine the concrete facts of Zootomy with the outlines of systematic Classification. 1872 *MIVART Anat.* 74 This lower jaw—or, as it is called in zootomy, mandible. 1875 *W. TURNER in Encycl. Brit.* I. 799/1 [Anatomy] resolves itself into... Animal Anatomy or Zootomy, ... and Vegetable Anatomy or Phytotomy.

So zootomic (zəʊə'tɒmɪk), zoot'otomical *adjs.*, belonging or relating to zootomy; zoot'otomically *adv.*, in relation to or in the way of zootomy; zo'otomist, one versed in zootomy; one who dissects, or who studies the structure of, animal bodies; in mod. use *esp.* a comparative anatomist.

1887 *Nature* 17 Nov. 70/1 The *zootomic and embryological works of the last ten years. 1833 *R. E. GRANT in Lancet* 12 Oct. 93/2 The *zootomical investigations of Moreschi of Milan. 1870 *ROLLESTON Anim. Life* Pref. p. v, A Zootomical account of its various Sub-kindoms. 1849-52 *Todd's Cycl. Anat.* IV. 873/1 The investigation of the whole of this vast subject, *zootomically. 1688 *BOYLE Final Causes* iv. 223 The remarks of *Zootomists. 1797 *S. JAMES Narr. Voy.* 156 The cook... by profession a zootomist. 1879 *LEWES Probl. Life & Mind* Ser. III. 1. 132 If the biologist recognises the many points of community in animal structures, the zootomist has to insist on the points of diversity.

zootrope ('zəʊə'trəʊp), corrected form of ZOETROPE, with substitution of the more normal combining form zoo- [Gr. ζωο-] for zoe-.

1872 *HUXLEY Physiol.* x. 245 The curious toy called the thaumatrope or 'Zootrope' or 'wheel of life'.

zoot suit ('zʊt s(j)ʊt). orig. *U.S. slang.* [Redupl. rhyming formation on SUIT sb.]

1. A type of man's suit of exaggerated style popular in the 1940s (orig. worn by U.S. Blacks), characterized by a long, draped jacket with padded shoulders, and high-waisted tapering trousers.

1942 *GILBERT & O'BRIEN Zoot Suit* (song) 3, I want a Zoot Suit with a reat pleat, with a drape shape. 1942 [see REET *a.*]. 1949 *R. CHANDLER Little Sister* xxix. 218 Taking knives away from grease-balls in zoot suits. 1951 *E. PAUL Springtime in Paris* xv. 269, I saw a few Zoot suits, please believe me, on Negroes headed for the bar at No. 12. 1969 *Time* 14 July 16/2 Chavez became a *pachuco*, affecting a zoot suit with pegged pants. 1982 *B. FANTONI Stickman* xxix. 206 Two coloured tap dancers in dazzling yellow zoot suits. 1984 *Guardian* 5 Oct. 3/1 Baggy zoot suits and skinhead styles have revived the adult market.

2. *transf.* in various *Mil.* uses. Chiefly *U.S.*

1943 *Yank* 15 Oct. 3 Some of the Japs even wore our jungle 'zoot suits'. 1945 *BAKER Austral. Lang.* 158 *Zoot suit* (which, of course, came originally from U.S. jive slang) for the crude civilian clothes given to discharged servicemen. 1952 *D. CLARKE Eleventh at War* xvii. 416 The warm 'tank suits'... were soon known to the troops as 'zoot suits', and were aptly described as a 'mass of zip-fasteners joined together by windproof and waterproof material'. An ingenious manipulation of the zips could convert the zoot

suit into a sleeping-bag. **1975** H. WHITE *Raincoast Chronicles* (1976) 144/1 Bernie Grimes, older veteran of the first, wartime zootsuit gangs.

Hence **zoot-suited** *a.*, dressed in a zoot suit; **zoot-suiter**, a zoot-suited person; *spec.* one of a group or gang of young men wearing zoot suits.

1969 Zoot-suited [see *crash-helmeted* adj. s.v. CRASH *sb.*¹ 7 a]. **1971** A. PRICE *Alamut Ambush* ix. 105 We met at poor old David's nuptials—you were one of the zoot-suited ushers, weren't you? **1943** *Chicago Daily News* 12 June 6/z A new human variety has excited the populace [in California]—the 'zoot suiters'. **1952** Zoot-suiter [see DADDY-o]. **1972** J. WAMBAUGH *Blue Knight* (1973) i. 18 It was almost twenty years [ago]... It was real bad then. We had B-girls and zoot-suiters and lots of crooks.

zooxanthella (ˌzəʊzænˈθɛlə). *Bot.* Also Zoo-. Pl. -æ. [mod.L. (coined in Ger. by K. Brandt 1881, in *Arch. für Anat. & Physiol.: Physiol. Abt.* 572), f. ZOO- + XANTH(O- + L. -ella (see -EL²)).] One of the numerous yellow-brown unicellular organisms present in the cytoplasm of many radiolarians, corals, and other marine invertebrates, probably as symbionts.

1889 in *Cent. Dict.* **1899, 1924** [see ZOOCHLORELLA]. **1967** NOLAND & GOJDICS in T.-T. Chen *Res. Protozool.* II. 238 The zooxanthellae found in Radiolaria and Foraminifera (as well as in some lower invertebrates) are probably specialized dinoflagellates or cryptomonads. Presumably they play the same role that zoochlorellae do in fresh-water forms, but a mutually beneficial relationship has not been experimentally proved. **1972** [see ZOOCHLORELLA]. **1975** *Nature* 6 Nov. 37/1 The only chlorophyll in corals is contained in the brown zooxanthellae. **1983** *McGraw-Hill Yearbk. Sci. & Technol.* 150/1 All the available evidence suggests that the nudibranchs have evolved mechanisms to maintain healthy populations of zooxanthellae in their tissues and are able to extract photosynthetic products from the dinoflagellate partner.

zope (zɒp). [a. G. dial. *zope* (F. *sope*), prob. Slav. (cf. Russ. *sapá*).] A bream, *Abramis ballerus*.

1880 GÜNTHER *Fishes* 603 In Europe there occur the 'Common bream', *A. brama*; the 'Zope', *A[bramis] ballerus*.

|| **zophorus** ('zəʊfərəs), **zoophorus** (zəʊˈfərəs). *Anc. Arch.* Pl. -i. Also 8 anglicized zoophore. [L. *zōphorus, zoōphorus* (Vitruvius), ad. Gr. ζωφόρος, ζωφόρος adj. bearing figures of animals, f. ζῶν animal + -φόρος -bearing. Cf. F. *zooaphore* (Rabelais).] A continuous frieze bearing figures of men and animals carved in relief.

1563 SHUTE *Archit.* Biiij, Vpon their heddes, he laide Epistilia, and Coronas, setting betwixt them Zophorus. **1694** MOTTEUX *Rabelais* v. xliiii. 199 The Architraves, Zoophores and Cornishes. **1706** PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey), Zophorus or Zoophorus. **1823** P. NICHOLSON *Pract. Builder* 586. **1905** *Times* 25 Apr. 5/2 The sculptures on the zophorus of the west front... should be taken down and stored in a museum.

So **zo(o)phoric** (-'fɒrɪk) *a.*, bearing the figure of an animal.

1728 CHAMBERS *Cycl.*, *Zoophoric Column*, is a Statuary Column; or a Column that bears or supports the Figure of an Animal. **1752** *Ibid.*, *Zophoric*.

|| **zopilote** ('zəʊpɪləʊt). Also -ot. [Sp., a. Mexican *azopilotl*.] A vulture of the family *Cathartidæ*, esp. the American carrion vulture or turkey-buzzard, *Cathartes aura*.

1787 CULLEN tr. *Clavigero's Mexico* I. 47 The Zopilots, known in South America by the name of *Gallinaziti*;... There are two very different species...; the one, the Zopilote properly so called, the other called the *Cozcaquauhlti*. **1850** MAYNE REID *Rifle Rangers* II. xxx. 278 The Eagle's cliff was black with zopilotes. **1862** J. G. WOOD *Illustr. Nat. Hist.* II. 17 When in search of food, the Zopilote ascends to a vast height in the air.

|| **zopissa** (zəʊˈpɪsə). [L., a. Gr. ζώπισσα, f. πίσσα pitch.] † *a.* An old medicinal application made from wax and pitch scraped from the sides of ships. *Obs.* *b.* A patent composition used as a hardening or protecting coat for metal, etc.

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* xxiv. vii. II. 184 Zopissa, is that Pitch, which... is scraped from ships, and is conected of wax well soked in salt water of the sea. **1712** tr. *Pomet's Hist. Drugs* I. 212 This Zopissa is a Composition of black Pitch, Rosin, Suet and Tar melted together. **1861** *Illustr. Lond. News* 2 Feb. 108/1 To experimentalise on a portion of that stone with a substance called 'zopissa'—phraseologically borrowed from Dioscorides... pitch-plaster.

1862 *Catal. Internat. Exhib.*, *Brit.* II. No. 2653 The zopissa composition, for preserving iron and wooden ships against rust and decay, invented by N. C. Szerelmy. *Ibid.* 5089 Arabian zopissa waterproof and paper boards processes.

|| **zoppa** ('tsɒppa), *a. Mus.* [It., fem. of *zoppo* limping (formerly also used).] (See quotes.) Freq. in phr. *alla zoppa*.

1740 GRASSINEAU *Mus. Dict.*, *Zoppo*, lame... hopping;... Hence... they call those counter-points... *Contrapunti alla Zoppa*... One is obliged to place in each bar to the subject given one note between two others... which, when it comes to be played..., by the frequent synopses, seems to proceed... in a jumping manner. **1889** GROVE *Dict. Music* IV. 514/1 *Zoppa, alla*, a term applied to a rhythm in which the second quaver in a bar of z-4 time is accentuated. **1959** WESTRUP & HARRISON *Collins Mus. Encycl.* 17/1 *Alla zoppa*,...in a limping manner, syncopated. **1963** *Times* 25 Feb. 5/1 Once heard, in closing gavotte, with the crisp, jaunty, and

insinuating appoggiaturas of the kind called *zoppa*, hangs in the mind for ever after.

zopy, obs. var. SOPIE.

1687 LOCKE in Fox Bourne *J. L.* (1876) II. 71 A hogshead of cyder, even now and then a bottle of wine or a zopy.

Zoque ('səʊkɪ), *sb.* (and *a.*) [a. Sp., of uncertain origin.] Any of a group of Central-American Indian languages of the Mixe-Zoquean family; this group of languages collectively. Also *attrib.* or as *adj.*

1891 D. BRINTON *Amer. Race* III. vi. 144 (*heading*) Zoque linguistic stock. **1911** THOMAS & SWANTON *Indian Lang. Mex. & Central Amer.* 60 (*heading*) Zoque. **1940** F. JOHNSON in *Maya & Neighbors* vi. 109 The territory in which the Zoque language was spoken has scarcely been changed on any map since Thomas. **1953** [see *non-phonemic* s.v. NON- 3]. **1964** E. A. NIDA *Toward Sci. Transl.* vi. 134 As in Zoque, spoken in Mexico, the Biblical expression 'Perfect love casts out fear' becomes 'we do not fear when we truly love'. **1972** [see MIXTEC].

zore, obs. or dial. f. SORE *a.*¹

† **1572** GASCOIGNE *Posies* Wks. 1907 I. 73 Our landlords a zore man: He racketh up our rentes.

zores, -us, varr. TSORES.

zor3e, obs. form of SORROW.

zorgite ('zɔːgɑːt). *Min.* [f. *Zorge*, a village in the Hartz Mountains: see -ITE'.] A lead-grey selenide of lead and copper.

1852 BROOKE & MILLER *Phillips' Introd. Min.* 153.

zorgo, obs. variant of SORGHO.

1549 THOMAS *Hist. Italie* 5 b, He is not hable...to finde breade of Zorgo (a verie vile graine).

|| **zori** ('zɔːrɪ), *sb. pl.* Also 9 sori. [Jap., f. *sō* grass, (rice) straw + *ri* footwear, sole.] Japanese thonged sandals with straw (or leather, wood, etc.) soles.

1823 F. SCHOBERL *Japan* v. 131 The shoes of the Japanese consist of straw soles or slips of wood. Those in common use are called *sori*. **1884** [see GETA]. **1939** A. KEITH *Land below Wind* xviii. 298 Even her *zori* were blue, with sapphire soles and bright blue straps which came between the toes. **1962** *Amer. Speech* XXXVII. 288 Japanese *zori* or the American adaptation, thong sandals. **1970** J. KIRKUP *Japan behind Fan* 180 On summer days, *zori* of a specially fine quality, made of bamboo sheaths, may be used for strolling in the garden. **1984** *Coaching Award Scheme* (Brit. Judo Assoc.) 9/1 *Zori* (flip-flops) are compulsory wear at BJA events and should be worn off the mat in Clubs, Schools, etc.

zoril, zorille ('zɒrɪl). Also zorilla, -o. [ad. F. *zorille*, ad. Sp. *zorilla, -illo*, dim. of *zorra, ZORRO*.] An animal of the African genus *Zorilla*, allied to the skunks; also applied to some Central or South American skunks, as the conepatl.

1774 GOLDSM. *Nat. Hist.* (1824) II. 47 The zorille resembles the skink, but is rather smaller. **1845** DARWIN *Voy. Nat.* iv. 80 We saw also a couple of Zorillos, or skunks. **1878** *Cassell's Nat. Hist.* II. 196 The Cape Zorilla. **1883** SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade Suppl.*, *Zoril*, a variety of the American skunk.

Zoroastrian (zɒrəʊˈæstriən), *a.* and *sb.* Also 8 Zoroastran. [f. L. *Zōroastrēs*, a. Gr. Ζωροάστρης, ad. Zend *Zarathustra* (Pers. *Zardusht*): see -IAN.] *A. adj.* Of or pertaining to Zoroaster or his religious system, which is mainly dualistic.

1743 WARBURTON *Pope's Ess. Man* II. 81 *note*, This dangerous school-opinion gives great support to the Manichean or Zoroastran error. **1795** T. MAURICE *Hindustan* (1820) II. iv. iii. 249 The...heresy of Manes, which was compounded out of the ancient Zoroastrian or Magian superstition, and certain perverted doctrines of Christianity. **1892** WESTCOTT *Gospel of Life* 172 There appears to be a distinct polemical element in the earliest Zoroastrian Hymns. **1903** *Times* 5 Mar. 3/5 On no previous occasion has any one been received from Christianity into the Zoroastrian faith.

B. sb. A follower of Zoroaster; a Parsee.

1811 BYRON *Let. to F. Hodgson* 3 Sept., I would sooner be a Paulician, Manichean, Spinozist, Gentile, Pyrrhonian, Zoroastrian, than any one of the seventy-two villainous sects who are tearing each other to pieces for the love of the Lord. **1864** PUSEY *Daniel* 492 The doctrine of the Resurrection... was not known to the Zoroastrians until after the Christian era. **1886** PHIL ROBINSON *Vall. Teetotum Trees* 3 The semi-sacred character of the holly... among the Zoroastrians and Fire-worshippers.

Hence **Zoro'astrianize** *v.*, *trans.* and *intr.*, to make or become Zoroastrian in character.

1891 CHEYNE *Orig. Psalter* viii. 449 Zoroastrianizing phraseology. *Ibid.* 452 The Judaism carried to Egypt... had... already been in some degree Zoroastrianized.

Zoro'astrianism. Also -ter-. [f. prec. + -ISM.] The religious system taught by Zoroaster and his followers, and incorporated in the Zend-Avesta: commonly known as *fire-worship*.

1854 MILMAN *Lat. Christ.* IV. i. II. 4 Zoroasterianism had failed to propagate itself with any great success. **1874** SAYCE *Compar. Philol.* viii. 307 The deities of the Veda became the evil spirits of Zoroastrianism.

Zoro'astric, a. rare. [f. L. *Zōroastrēs* Zoroaster.] = ZOROASTRIAN. So Zoro'ast(e)r-ism = ZOROASTRIANISM.

1854 T. KEIGHTLEY *Mythol.* (ed. 3) 468 The Ferwer of Zoroastric theology. **1862** tr. *Renan's Age & Antiq. Bk.*

Nab. Agric. ii. 45 The old Zoroasterism of the Zend writings. **1864** PUSEY *Daniel* ix. 528 Zoroastrism betrays its original, the Aryan creature-worship, to which has been added its characteristic Dualism.

zorrino: see ZORRO.

|| **zorro** ('θɒrro, 'zɒrəʊ). [Sp., = fox.] The South American fox-wolf. Also zo'rrino [dim.], a kind of skunk (cf. ZORIL), or its fur.

1838 HUNTER tr. *Azara's Nat. Hist. Paraguay* I. 290 As to habits they vary considerably in my zorros. **1885** *Encycl. Brit.* XVIII. 353/1 The zorro or *Canis Azarae* (a kind of fox), the zorrino or *Mephitis patagonica* (a kind of skunk), and the tuco-tuco or *Ctenomys magellanicus*. **1899** *Westm. Gaz.* 17 June 7/1 Furs in great variety (chinchilla, vicuna, guanaco, zorrino, lynx, leopard, alpaca, &c.).

zos-grass ('zɒsgrɑːs, -æ-). [Abbrev. of ZOS(TERA + GRASS *sb.*¹) = ZOSTERA.

1937 J. W. DAY *Sporting Adventure* 129 Five ducks come out of the sunset and swing low above me out to the muds and bared *zos* grass. **1974** *Times* 9 Mar. 14/1 They [sc. brent geese] cleared the mud-flats of the zos-grass, their natural feed.

|| **zoster** ('zɒstə(r)). Also 9 zooster. [L., a. Gr. ζωστήρ girdle, f. ζώννυαι to gird.]

† **1.** A kind of seaweed. *Obs. rare.*

1601 HOLLAND *Pliny* XIII. xxv. I. 401 As for the former [seaweed] called Zoster, it is found among the shelves and shallow waters not farre from the shore.

2. The disease shingles, *herpes zoster*. Also *attrib.*

1706 PHILLIPS (ed. Kersey). **1867** O. W. HOLMES *Guardian Angel* xxv, Armed against every malady from Ague to Zoster. **1876** DUHRING *Dis. Skin* 78 Pustules are met with... in non-parasitic sycosis, zoster, etc.

3. Gr. Antiq. A belt or girdle, esp. as worn by men.

1824 *Gentl. Mag.* Dec. 483 A *zooster* or girdle of the same metal, which reaches half round the body. **1906** *Academy* 1 Dec. 543/2 The Mitré is a band of metal worn round the waist under the Chiton, the Zoster a similar belt worn over the tunic.

zoster, obs. form of SISTER.

|| **zostera** (zɒˈstiərə). *Bot.* [mod.L. (Linnæus), f. Gr. ζωστήρ: see ZOSTER and -A¹. So called from its long leaves.] A marine plant of the genus so named, esp. grasswrack, *Z. marina*.

1819 LINDLEY tr. *Richard's Obs. Fruits & Seeds* 54 The kernel of *Zostera* is an oblong oval. **1855** KINGSLEY *Glaucus* 57 The delicate green ribbons of the *Zostera* (the only English flowering plant which grows beneath the sea). **1858** *Phytologist* Nov. 601 The thin line of dry *Zostera* to be met with at high-water mark. **1865** MRS. L. L. CLARKE *Common Seaweeds* ii. 30, I have found it often in *Zostera* beds at low tide.

|| **zosterops** ('zɒstəɒps). *Ornith.* [mod.L. (Vigors and Horsfield, 1827), f. Gr. ζωστήρ girdle + ὤψ eye.] Any of the small birds of the genus so named, widely distributed chiefly in tropical and subtropical regions, and charaterized by a ring of white feathers round the eye; a silver-eye or white-eye.

1867 A. L. ADAMS *Wand. Nat. India* 71 That beautiful warbler the yellow zosterops, known by the white downy ring round the eye. **1909** *Blackw. Mag.* Aug. 204/2 It is interesting to watch a Zosterops operating on a pear.

zop(e, obs. forms of SOOTH *a.*

zotie, zoty, variants of SOTIE² *Obs.*

1578 T. N. tr. *Conq. W. Ind.* (1596) 272 They burned... three Zoties neere vnto their owne lodging. **1667** DRYDEN *Ind. Emp.* v. ii, At last Cydaria looks over the zoty.

Zotzil, var. TZOTZIL.

Zouave (zuːˈɑːv). Also zouava. [F., f. native name *Zouaoua* (see below).]

1. One of a body of light infantry in the French army, originally recruited from the Algerian Kabyle tribe of Zouaoua, but afterwards composed of French soldiers distinguished for their physique and dash, and formerly retaining the original Oriental uniform.

[**1830** tr. *E. Blaquiere's Sig. Pananti* (ed. 2) 56 The whole of the native warriors called the *Zouavi*.] **1848** KELLY tr. *L. Blanc's Hist. Ten* Y. II. 520 The Zouaves were standing on the breach. **1858** HAWTHORNE *Fr. & It. Note-bks.* 8 Jan., Zouaves with turbans, long mantles, and bronzed, half Moorish faces. **1897** *Harper's Mag.* Apr. 752/1 In January, 1863, the French general Forey laid siege to Puebla... In one of the many assaults on the corner held by Diaz the zouaves broke into the first court-yard of his stronghold. *fig.* **1858** BEECHER *Life Th.* 135 Those sciences which might be called the light infantry of progress, the Zouaves of thought. **1903** *Speaker* 30 May 210/2 The 'Physical Force' agitators were the Zouaves of Carleton House.

attrib. **1863** E. DICEY *Six Months* II. 7 The orderly disorder of a Zouave march.

b. (Also *Papal* or *Pontifical Z.*) One of a corps of French soldiers organized at Rome in 1860 for the defence of the pope, and disbanded in 1871.

1864 MANNING in A. Reinaud *Abbé-Zouave* Pref. p. ix, Some hundreds of the Pontifical Zouaves, chiefly French and Belgian,... were seen at St. Peter's. **1868** tr. *Cardella's J. W. Russell* 38 When he returned to Rome to join the Zouaves.

c. A soldier of any of several volunteer regiments, assuming the name and in part the uniform of the French Zouaves, which served on the side of the North in the American Civil War (1861-5).

1860 *Chicago Tribune* 23 Feb. 1/4 The gallant Zouaves... attracted much attention and admiration by their fine appearance and exact drills. **1861** J. CHESNUT *Let.* 12 June in M. B. Chesnut *Diary* (1949) 67 Reinforcements were sent from here last night, the New Orleans Zouaves. **1865** SALA *My Diary* I. 292 In the beginning, when the Yankee Zouaves were young and hopeful.

2. (In full, *Zouave jacket*, *bodice*.) A woman's short embroidered jacket or bodice, with or without sleeves, resembling the jacket of the Zouave uniform.

1859 *Ladies' Treas.* Sept. 285/1 One of the most decided novelties of the present season is the *Zouave jacket*. **1859** *Ladies' Cabinet* Dec. 335/1 Nothing can be prettier for the interior than the little oriental jackets which we call to-day *Zouaves*. **1893** *Lady* 17 Aug. 178/1 Zouave Bodices are a feature of autumn gowns.

zouchee: see WATER SOUCHY.

zounds (zaundz), *int.* Now *rare* or *Obs.* In later use a literary archaism. Forms: 6 zownes, 7 zoones, 'zons, zons, zonnies (?), dzowns, zownds, zowunds, zauns, 7-8 'zoons, 7-9 zoons, 8 'dswounds, 7- zounds. (Cf. ZINES.) A euphemistic abbreviation of *by God's wounds* (1535, 1573, s.v. GOD *sb.* 14 a) used in oaths and asseverations.

1600 ROWLANDS *Lett. Humours Blood* Sat. v. 72 If any fall together by the eares, To field cries he; why? zownes (to field) he swears. **1605** ARMIN *Foole vpon F.* E3b, One comes sweating, zoones (Cobler) the boots. **1607** DEKKER *Hist. Sir T. Wyatt* Wks. 1873 III. 119 Zounds I was talking with a crue of vagabondes. **1614** J. COOKE *Greene's Tu Quoque* C2, *Spend*, M. Rash! zownds how does he know I am here? **1616** Marlowe's *Faustus* 1158 Zounds hee'l raise vp a Kennell of Diuels. *Ibid.* 1300 'Zons, hornes againe. **1623** Shaks. *John* II. ii. 466 Zounds, I was neuer so bethumpt with words. **1682** *Tories' Conf.* in *Roxb. Ball.* (1882) IV. 269 Dzowns, we'll have none but honest Souls. **1699** FARQUHAR *Love & Bottle* II. ii, Zoons is only us'd by the disbanded Officers and Bullies: but Zauns is the Beaux pronunciation [*sic*]. **1712** ARBUTHNOT *John Bull* II. ix, 'Dswounds! why dost thou not lay out thy money to purchase a place at court? **1739** *Joe Miller's Jests* 3 Zoons, Sir, said an old Campaigner... who's that? **1812** COMBE *Picturesque* x, Syntax look'd wild - the man said 'Zounds! You know you betted twenty pounds.' **1821** *Sporting Mag.* (N.S.) VII. 180 Zoons! said we, deranging the economy of our grey hairs. **1847** LYTTON *Lucretia* I. i, Zounds, Charles, I love you, and that's the truth. **1883** *Fortn. Rev.* July 111 Forgiven me! Zounds! I must correct him in that.

Hence †**zounds** *v.* (*obs. nonce-wd.*) *intr.* to exclaim 'zounds'.

1680 DRYDEN *Kind Keeper* IV. i. 39 When he loses upon the Square, he comes home Zoundzing and Bleeding.

zoutchee: see WATER SOUCHY.

†**Zou-Zou** ('zu:zu:). *Obs. exc. Hist.* Also (*rare*) **Zu-Zu**. [a. Fr.] Colloq. diminutive of ZOUAVE.

1860 *Leisure Hour* 15 Mar. 190/2 *The gamins* of Paris, we believe, first applied to the world-renowned Zouaves the pet name of *Zous-Zous*; and France has confirmed the pleasant diminutive. **1863** *Harper's Mag.* Mar. 569/2 A zou-zou... found himself arrested by the guard. **1866** L. P. BROCKETT *Camp, Battlefield, & Hospital* III. 458 He soon after moved off, followed by the Zou-zous. **1894** [see NOUNOU]. **1944** J. S. PENNELL *Hist. Rome* Hanks 70 Tom thought it was the boy who sang the Zu-Zu song at the creek.

zow, zowl, dial. ff. SOW, SOWL *v.* 3, SULL *sb.*

zowie ('zau:; 'zau'i:), *int.* U.S. colloq. An exclamation of astonishment (generally, or as a reaction to a sudden or surprising act), and freq. of admiration.

c **1913** S. FORD *On with Torch* 302 'Zowie! A plush one!' says I. **1922** S. LEWIS *Babbitt* xiii. 169 You're a natural-born orator and a good mixer and - Zowie! **1931** [see POW *int.*]. **1958** E. BIRNEY *Turvey* iv. 32 Visitors... they slap me where it's sore yet and zowie they're off! **1962** [see BAM *int.*]. **1972** WODEHOUSE *Pearls, Girls, & Monty Bodkin* xi. 171 He gets out and zowie a gang of thugs come jumping out of the bushes, and next thing you know they're off with your jewel case. **1978** G. McDONALD *Fletcher's Fortune* (1979) ix. 60 She was totally unconscious... Gently, he put her head on the floor. 'Zowie.'

zown, obs. form of SWOON *v.*

Zoyl(e, etc.: see ZOILUS, etc.

zoysia ('zɔɪzɪə). [mod.L. (C. L. Wildenow 1801, in *Neue Schriften Gesellsch. Naturfreunde Berlin* III. 440), f. the name of Carl von Zoys zu Laubach (1756-c1800), Austrian botanist + -IA'.] A perennial grass of the genus of this name, native to eastern Asia, and sometimes used for lawns in subtropical regions. Also *zoysia grass*.

1965 M. C. NEAL *In Gardens of Hawaii* 67 Zoysia, a turf-forming grass from the Mascarene Islands has proved excellent for lawns in Hawaii. **1968** F. W. GOULD *Grass Systematics* i. 6 Southern lawns and other turfs are mainly... zoysia grasses. **1969** J. MORRIS *Fever Grass* viii. 69 It was fronted by a rectangle of zoysia grass. **1974** *Marlboro Herald-Advocate* (Bennettsville, S. Carolina) 18 Apr. 11/2 For bermuda or zoysia type lawns, [cut] one-half to three-

quarters of an inch. **1982** *Birmingham* (Alabama) *Post-Herald* 22 June A3/1 Zoysia lawns along curving and curbed streets.

zubeline, obs. form of ZIBELINE.

||**zubr** (zu:br). Also 8 zuber. [Russ. See *Columna lui Traian* (1875) 97 ff.] The European bison or aurochs, *Bos bonasus*.

1763 J. BELL *Trav.* I. 294 The stags are of two kinds; one called zuber, the same with the German crownhirsh, but somewhat larger. **1847** W. C. L. MARTIN *Ox* 8/1 He who kills a zubr without permission of the Russian government, has to pay as a fine 2000 rubles. **1882** C. ELTON *Orig. Eng. Hist.* 59 A confused account of two distinct animals, the Aurochs or Zubr of Lithuania, and the extinct Urus which Charlemagne is said to have hunted.

zubu, var. *zobo*: see ZHO.

†**zucarine**, *a. Obs.* [ad. med.L. *zucarinus* adj., f. *zucara* SUGAR.] *alum zucarine*, saccharine alum (see ALUM *sb.* 1).

a **1425** tr. *Arderne's Treat.* *Fistula* etc. 40 Tapsimel, In which is puluerz of alumz zucarine brent, of attrament, and of vitriol. *Ibid.* 81 Alum zucaryne is called comonly alumglasse. [**1616** B. JONSON *Devil is an Ass* IV. iv, Your *Allum Scagliola*, or Pol dipedra; And *Zuccarino*.]

||**zucca** ('zu:kə). *rare.* Pl. *zucche*. [It.: see ZUCCHINI *sb. pl.*] A gourd, esp. a pumpkin.

Shelley's (plural) form is erroneous. **1818** SHELLEY *Let.* 6 Nov. (1964) II. 45 Vast heaps of many coloured zucki or pumkins... piled as winter food for the hogs. **1946** BLUNDELL *Shelley* xxii. 272 Perhaps... it was Mary who placed a zucca in a vase on the window-sill.

zuccary, zucco(u)r, obs. ff. SUGAR.

||**zucchetto** (tsuk'ketto). Also zucchetta, -etto. [Incorrect but usual form for It. *zucchetta* (tsuk'ketta) small gourd, cap. f. *zucca* gourd, the head.] The skull-cap of an ecclesiastic, differing in colour according to rank.

1853 DALE tr. *Baldeschi's Ceremonial* 3 They should take off their zucchetos in the act of genuflecting. **1897** *Westm. Gaz.* 18 June 3/2 Instead of the usual college cap the Chapter will appear in zucchetos. **1901** M. J. F. MCCARTHY *Five Yrs. in Irel.* xx. 257 Leo XIII... took off the Zuchetta he had been wearing and gave it to Father O'Brien.

zucchini (zu:'ki:ni), *sb. pl.* [a. It., pl. of *zucchini* (small) marrow, dim. of *zucca* gourd.]

a. Courgettes. Also const. as *sing.*

The usual word for the vegetable in N. America and Australia.

1929 *Sunset* Feb. 58/2 Wash the succini and slice thinly into a baking pan. **1945** B. MACDONALD *Egg & I* iv. xiii. 183 Succulent summer squash and zucchini where it seemed only a matter of an hour ago there were blossoms. **1960** *Guardian* 15 July 8/7 The miniature vegetable marrows called courgettes in France and zucchini in Italy. **1966** T. PYNCHON *Crying of Lot 49* iv. 82 Around them all, Negroes carried gunboats of mashed potatoes, spinach, shrimp, zucchini, pot roast, to the long, glittering steam tables. **1975** *Telegraph* (Brisbane) 11 Sept. 30/2 Zucchini, although a relatively new vegetable, is rapidly becoming an alternative to the old standards. **1982** L. KALLEN C. B. *Greenfield* xiii. 125, I kept on to the market... to replenish our stores of onions, zucchini, and Bartlett pears.

b. *attrib.*

1960 *House & Garden* Aug. 72/3 We... will grow... those exquisite little Zucchini marrows. **1967** *Courier-Mail* (Brisbane) 4 Nov. 8 They were all charged with having stolen four cases of zucchini melons. **1979** E. NEWMAN *Sunday Punch* xv. 127 The waiters had wheeled in zucchini quiche.

zucer, obs. form of SUGAR.

†**zuche**. *Obs.* [app. AN. form of OF. *çoche* (tsɔtʃə), mod.F. *souche*, Norman-Picard *chouque* (whence dim. *chouquet*): of unknown origin. Not known in real English use as an ordinary sb.; survives in the town-name of *Ashby-de-la-Zouch* (Leicestershire).] A tree stump.

[**1220** *Close Rolls 4 Hen. III* memb. 10 (1833) I. 418/1 De auxilio faciendo burgensibus Salop. de veteribus zuchis & de mortuo bosco. **1223** *Plac. Forest.* in *Com. Nott.* (Cowell 1672) Omnes Zuches aridos qui Anglice vocantur stovenes infra Haiaam nostram de Beskewood [now Bestwood]. **1358** *Patent Rolls 32 Edw. III* memb. 5 (1911) I. 59 [Grant to Richard de la Vache, steward of the forest of Shirewood, of fall logs (*ligna*) called] zouches in Beskwode. **1672** COWELL *Interpr.*, Zuche, *zucheus*, *stips siccus* & *aridus*, A withered or dry stock of wood. **1676** COLES *Dict.*, *Zuche*, *Stovene*, a withered or dry stock of wood.

Zuckerkindl ('zʊkəkænd(ə)). *Anat.* The name of E. Zuckerkindl (1849-1910), Austrian anatomist, used *attrib.*, in the possessive, and with *of* to designate the para-aortic bodies. [Described by Zuckerkindl in *Verhandl. d. Anat. Ges.* (1901) XIX. 95.]

1910 Lippincott's *New Med. Dict.* 1107/2 Zuckerkindl's body or organ. **1927** *Jrnl. Anat.* LXI. 317 Under the high power of magnification the cells of the Zuckerkindl bodies at full time resemble the larger cells described in the suprarenal medulla. **1930** [see PARAGANGLION]. **1983** *Oxf. Textbk. Med.* II. xiii. 286/1 The commonest extra-adrenal site [of phaeochromocytomas] appears to be the organ of Zuckerkindl, adjacent to the bifurcation of the aorta.

zucré, -ur, zucrish, -ys, obs. ff. SUGAR, -ISH.

Zuen(c)kfeldian, obs. ff. SWENKFELDIAN.

1565 T. STAPLETON *Fortr. Faith* 9b, Memnonites and Zuenckfeldians.

zufolo ('tsu:fələu, z-). *Mus.* Also zuffolo. [a. It. *zuf(f)olo*.] A flageolet, a small flute or whistle (see *quots.*).

1724 *Short Explic. Foreign Words in Mus. Bks.*, *Zufolo*, a Bird Pipe or Small Flageolet. **1740** GRASSINEAU *Mus. Dict.*, *Zuffolo*, a little Flute or Flageolet. c **1801** T. BUSBY *Dict. Music*, *Zuffolo*, any little flute or flageolet: but more especially that which is used to teach birds. **1876** STAINER & BARRETT *Dict. Mus. Terms* 456/1 *Zufolo*..., a flageolet or whistle. **1954** *Grove's Dict. Mus.* (ed. 5) IX. 427/2 There... is no reason for concluding... that Keiser's *zufollo* was a small shawm. **1960** [see PICCO PIPE]. **1976** D. MUNROW *Instruments Middle Ages & Renaissance* vi. 58/1 Leonardo clearly envisaged the possibility of a keyed trumpet and a keyed *zufolo* or pipe.

zuft: see SUFF *Obs.*

zug (tsu:g). Also Zug. The name (formerly proprietary) for a variety of waterproofed leather used esp. for the uppers of climbing boots.

1899 *Trade Marks Jrnl.* 6 Sept. 1092 *Zug*... 222,699. Leather. W. & J. Martin, 63, Brunswick Street, Glasgow; Leather Merchants and Manufacturers. **1899** *Shoe & Leather Trader* (Glasgow) 7 Dec. p. ii. (Advt.), W. & J. Martin, tanners, curriers, and leather factors, Albion Leather Works... Sole makers of Zug leather. 63 Brunswick Street, Glasgow. **1900** *Ibid.* 12 Apr. 819/1 The firm made a speciality of 'zug' leather, a new production... The manufacture of 'zug' is an entirely new process. The leather... will not burn like ordinary leather, and the fibre cannot be destroyed even by boiling... In the process of manufacture, the gelatine of the hide becomes oxidised, and is rendered insoluble and repellant [*sic*] to water. **1907** [see CHROME *sb.* 2c]. **1929** *Footwear Organiser* July 37/2 Sports shoes, of pigskin, calf, crocodile, and zug. **1933** G. D. ABRAHAM *Mod. Mountaineering* x. 179, I would have soft, almost glove-like, zug or beaver leather for the uppers.

zugere, -ure, zucker, -re, -ur, obs. ff. SUGAR.

||**zugtrompete** ('tsu:ktrom'petə). *Mus.* [Ger., f. *zug* pulling, tugging + *trompete* TRUMPET.] A slide trumpet.

[**1938** *Oxf. Compan. Music* 962/2 *Slide trumpet*... *Zugtrompete* (Ger.). **1959** WESTRUP & HARRISON *Collins Mus. Encycl.* 681/2 The slide trumpet... *G. Zugtrompete*,... was used in Germany in the early 18th cent. (e.g. in Bach's cantatas.) **1978** *Early Music* Oct. 539/1 The *zugtrompete* illustrated at the foot of the page is from Naumburg not Nuremberg.

||**Zugunruhe** ('tsu:kʊnru:ə). *Ornith.* [Ger.] Migratory restlessness; the migratory drive in birds.

1950 *Condor* May 108 *Zugunruhe*... is the restlessness displayed by caged migratory birds during the migratory period. **1971** *Sci. Amer.* Apr. 76 The behavior of the four groups was studied in terms of signs of *Zugunruhe*, or migratory urge, as shown by night activity and by the molt of feathers. **1978** *Nature* 13 July 154/1 The birds were housed under natural photoperiod in an outdoor aviary, and tested only after they showed migratory restlessness (*Zugunruhe*) in activity cages and exhibited subcutaneous fat deposits.

||**Zugzwang** ('tsu:ktsvan). *Chess.* [Ger., f. *zug* move + *zwang* compulsion, obligation.] A position in which a player is obliged to move but cannot do so without disadvantage; the disagreeable obligation to make such a move. Freq. in *Zugzwang*. Also *transf.*

1904 *Lasker's Chess Mag.* I. iv. 166 White has struggled bravely and only loses by 'Zugzwang'. **1930** *British Chess Mag.* I. 196 The move... puts Black into a Zugzwang [*sic*] position that speedily loses. **1935** SMITH & BONE tr. *Tarrasch's Game of Chess* I. 5 White has constrained his opponent to move, has placed him, as we say in Germany, in *Zugzwang*. **1942** H. GOLOMBEK *Fifty Great Games Mod. Chess* 53/2 Black now has only a few pawn moves left after which he is in complete 'Zugzwang'. **1963** [see GRAB *sb.* 2 5 b]. **1973** *Country Life* 13 Sept. 744/2 She is, to use a chess term, in complete *Zugzwang*. She could only make six tricks for a penalty of 200.

Zuitzer, obs. form of SWITZER.

zule, zulis. *Her.* A chess rook as a bearing.

1780 EDMONDSON *Compl. Body Her.* II, *Zulis*, a German bearing, nearly resembling a chess-rook. **1874** PAPWORTH *Ord. Brit. Arm.* 1125 Gu. three zules (chess rooks?) arg. in chief a label of three points of the last.

zull(ow, var. SULL(OW *sb.*, a plough.

Zulu ('zu:lu:), *sb.* and *a.* Also Zoola, Zooloo. [Native name.]

1. (Formerly also *Z.-Kaffir*.) a. A member of a Bantu people mainly inhabiting Zululand and Natal in S. Africa. Also *attrib.* or as *adj.*, belonging to this people.

Since the early nineteenth century, the Zulus have been noted for their fiercely patriarchal social organization and their aggressive defence of territory, first against the Boers in 1838, and subsequently against the British in the Zulu Wars of 1879-97.

1824 in Christopher Natal (1850) 21 Chaka, king of the Zulus, to whom belongs the whole of the country from Natal to Dela Goa Bay. **1828** *Ibid.* 23 The country of the Zoolas, eastward of Natal. *Ibid.* 25 The interior productions of the Zoola country. **1863** W. C. BALDWIN *Afr. Hunting* ii. 40 A buffalo, which some Zulu Kaffirs had killed. *Ibid.* iii. 75

They much resemble the Zulu huts, but have larger doorways. 1895 A. H. KEANE *Africa* II. vi. 241 Tribal groups belonging either to the Bechuana, or to the Zulu-Kafir division of the Southern Bantus.

b. A derogatory term for a Black person. *U.S.* 1931 *Amer. Mercury* Nov. 354/2 Zulus, negroes who participate in spec. 1967 'D. SHANNON' *Chance to Kill* vii. 91, I just didn't care to have any damn zulu saying I didn't do the work right. 1970 J. BROWN *Un-Melting Pot* xi. 169 Expressions of colour antagonism can at times be bizarre — witness the New York West Indian boy who was heard to call a Barbadian girl a 'bloody Zulu bastard'.

2. The language spoken by the Zulus, belonging to the Nguni subgroup of Bantu languages. Also *attrib.* or as *adj.*

1839 W. C. HARRIS *Wild Sports Southern Africa* 150 Andries... possessed a smattering of zooloo, and we thus hoped to be able to proceed without the aid of a sworn interpreter. 1849 *Jrnl. Amer. Oriental Soc.* I. 50 The Zulu alphabet... contains the same letters as the English... The English language abounds with short words, but in the Zulu such words are very few. 1850 CHRISTOPHER *Natal* 137 The Zulu alphabet. 1857 DÖHNE *Zulu-Kafir Dict.* Intro. p. xxxviii, The Zulu, as the high language, has ever exercised a controlling influence upon the low languages. 1861 COLENSO *Zulu-Engl. Dict.* p. v, The Zulu for dog is commonly spelt *inja*. 1869 BLEEK in *Cape & its People* (ed. R. Noble) 272 The Zulu noun *a-ba-ntu* 'men, people'. 1900 *Speaker* 24 Feb. 551/2 What we want is competent officials, with knowledge of Zulu.

3. Name of an artificial fly used in angling. 1898 *Speaker* 29 Oct. 515 General utility flies... Such are the red tag, the Zulu, the blue dun, the snipewing. 1901 *Field* 9 Nov. 739, I put up a fine cast with three biggish flies tied on fine gut (a March brown, a Zulu, and a black palmer).

4. *Zulu hat*, a kind of straw hat with a wide brim. *Obs. exc. Hist.*

1880 *Girl's Own Paper* 27 Nov. 144/1 Wreaths of grapes and a few poppies serve best as trimming for a Zulu hat. 1893 YONGE & COLERIDGE *Strolling Players* viii. 54 She had managed, while seizing a Zulu hat, to divest herself of the apron. 1895 M. BEERBOHM in *Yellow Bk.* Jan. 280 Zulu hats shaded their faces. 1941 F. THOMPSON *Over to Candleford* x. 144 Both [children] wore what were then known as Zulu hats, plaited of rushes and very wide brimmed.

5. A kind of fishing-boat formerly used in Scotland. *Obs. exc. Hist.*

1884 *Trans. Highland Soc.* 122 Ten or twelve boats of the carvel-zulu shape have been built. 1905, etc. [see FIFIE, FIFIE]. 1952 G. MAXWELL *Harpoon at Venture* (1955) ii. 37 She was a seventy-foot 'zulu', lugsail-rigged, and with two Kelvin paraffin engines. 1963 P. MACTYRE *Fish on Hook* iii. 43 MacAra's window looked on to the jibs of disused cranes and the carcasses of two rotting 'Zulu' boats. 1976 *Oxf. Compan. Ships & Sea* 964/2 Zulu, a type of fishing vessel peculiar to the north-east coastal ports of Scotland... They were... first produced during the Zulu War (1878-9), hence their name.

6. The radio code word for the letter 'z'; *spec.* (in full *Zulu time*) (*Aeronaut. colloq.*) = *zone time* s.v. ZONE sb. 9 a.

1960 'N. SHUTE' *Trustee from Toolroom* 104 We'll have a meal... at twenty-three zulu—at eleven o'clock English time. 1976 B. JACKSON *Flameout* (1977) v. 90 'Check Zulu 10.50.28,' he said, using airman's and Air Traffic Control jargon for time... 'Okay. The line after Zulu 10.50.30.' 1978 PASACHOFF & KUTNER *University Astron.* v. 125 Astronomers often keep track of events according to the standard solar time that corresponds to the Greenwich time zone. This is called G.M.T. (Greenwich Mean Time), U.T. (Universal Time), or Z (which is colloquially called Zulu Time). 1981 T. BARLING *Bikini Red North* zii. 260 Projected detonation deadline at fourteen-hundred hours, Zulu Time.

Hence 'Zulu v., *intr.* (with *it*) to act like a Zulu; 'Zuludom, the domain of the Zulus; 'Zuluize v., *trans.* to make into a Zulu.

1876 *Jrnl. Soc. Arts* 28 Jan. 166/2 Into the heart of savage Zuludom. 1882 PHIL ROBINSON *Noah's Ark* i, The lion, again, they say, is King in Africa, yet the gorilla Zulus it over the forests within the lion's territory. 1895 *Pall Mall Gaz.* 6 Aug. 7/1 Death of John Dunn. A Zuluized Englishman.

zum, dial. f. SOME.

zumate: see ZYMATE.

†**zumbador**. *Obs.* [Sp., f. *zumbador* to hum.] A humming-bird of S. America.

1760-72 J. ADAMS tr. *Juan & Ulloa's Voy.* vi. viii. (ed. 3) I. 436 Partridges, condors, and zumbadores or hummers. 1764 GRAINGER *Sugar Cane* i. 641 The swift-wing'd zumbadore The mountain desert startled with his hum.

zumbi, var. JUMBY.

zumbooruk ('zambūrak). Also zumbooruck, -boorak, -barak, zomboru(c)k, zumboorak, -borouk, -būrak. [ad. Hindustani *zambūrak*, f. Pers. *zambūr* hornet. Cf. Pers. *zemberek* crossbow.] A small swivel-gun, esp. one mounted on the back of a camel. Hence zumboorukchee, a gunner.

1825 J. B. FRASER *Journ. Khorasan* 198 One or two shots from Zumboorucks dropping among them. 1840 — *Trav. Koordistan* II. xiii. 249 Four guns, and a large body of zumboorukchees. 1863 R. F. BURTON *Abeokuta* I. 75 East Indian jezails and zumbaraks. 1904 *Blackw. Mag.* July 87/1 Rakish swivel-guns, bell-mouthed zumbooraks.

zumeendar, -ary, var. ZEMINDAR, -ARY.

zumic, **zumologic**, etc.: see ZYMIC, etc.

zunana, **Zundavastaw**: see ZENANA, ZEND-AVESTA.

Zuñi ('zu:nji). Also Zuni. Pl. usu. **Zuñi**.

a. A Pueblo Indian inhabiting the valley of the Zuñi, New Mexico. Also **Zuni Indian**.

1834 A. PIKE *Prose Sk. & Poems* 200 The Moqui (pronounced *Mokee*,) and the Suni (Sunee) live near the Nabajo. 1853 L. SITGREAVES *Exped. Zuñi & Colorado Rivers* 5 The cornfields of the Zuni Indians extend... for several miles. 1883 *Century Mag.* XXV. 201 Zūni food prepared in Zūni fashion. *Ibid.* 202/1 The domestic life of the Zūnis. 1898 A. LANG *Making Relig.* xiv. 275 In the Zuñi hymn we have the myth of the marriage of Heaven and Earth. 1910 F. W. HODGE *Hand. Amer. Indians North of Mexico* II. 1017/1 Fray Martin de Arvide... was killed by 5 Zuñi. 1929 *Amer. Speech* V. 115 Among these Pueblo tribes we find... the Zuñi, who called themselves *Ashiwí*, Zuñi being a Spanish adaptation of *Sunyitsi*, the Keresan name for this tribe. 1937 A. HUXLEY *Ends & Means* iii. 20 Among the Zuñi Indians... individuals are not led into the kind of temptation which invites the men of our civilization to work for fame, wealth, social position or power. 1960 R. C. BELL *Board & Table Games* I. ii. 49 The Zuni Indians played another game on the roof-tops called Kolowis Awitlaknannai. 1969 *Vogue* Nov. 30/2 Marvellous chokers, from the Zuni of the southwest.

b. The language of this people.

1882 *Atlantic Monthly* Sept. 367/2 Then I spoke in Zuñi. 1932 [see ATHAPASCAN sb. 2]. 1956 J. LOTZ in Saporta & Bastian *Psycholinguistics* (1961) 12/2 Color-recognition tests were given to both Zuni and English speakers. 1972 *Language* XLVIII. 847 His list can be supplemented from... Yuma, Zuni.

Hence 'Zuñian, Zunyan a.

1885 *Science* 25 Sept. 267/2 This clay model of the Zuñian owl.

zunyite ('zu:njait). *Min.* [f. *Zuñi*, name of a mine in Colorado + -ITE¹.] A fluosilicate of aluminium, occurring in transparent tetrahedral crystals.

1885 *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* Apr. 340.

||**zuppa** ('tsuppa). [It.] Soup. *Comb.*, esp. as *zuppa di pesce* ('peʃʃe), fish soup. Also *transf.* and *fig.* in phr. *zuppa inglese* (in'gleze) [lit. 'English soup'], a rich trifle.

[1935 M. MORPHY *Recipes of all Nations* 124 (heading) Zuppa di fagioli alla fiorentina (Haricot Bean Soup à la Florentine).] 1961 W. VAUGHAN-THOMAS *Anzio* xi. 231 The tourists eat their *zuppa di pesce* in the restaurants on the quayside. 1962 L. DEIGHTON *Ipccress File* xvi. 95 We ordered the Zuppa di Lenticchie. 1975 F. BRESLER *You & Law* 77 My favourite culinary term, 'zuppa inglese', the Italian's idea of a sickly English trifle. 1976 *Times* 10 July 10/8 A true Italian zuppa di pesce. 1977 *Listener* 10 Feb. 189/2 One way and another, [the book is] a *zuppa inglese*, heavy with leftovers and alcoholic seasonings. 1981 'J. GASH' *Vatican Rip* xii. 101 We'd decided on *Zuppa inglese* for pud... Who can resist trifle in hooch?

zur, **zurr**, dial. (chiefly south-western) form of **SIR**.

1803 G. COLMAN *John Bull* I. i. 16 *Dan*. I be ready, zur. 1825 J. JENNINGS *Observ. Dial. W. Eng.* etc. 118, I bag ye, zur, to take en vooath. 1838 JAS. GRANT *Sk. Lond.* ix. 292 'Woy, yes, Zur,' said a waggon-driver, with a short smock-frock... 'That's how it is, Zur.' 1921 H. WILLIAMSON *Beautiful Years* 117 Beg pardon, zur, but can't abide here while they be a-reapin'. 1977 F. PARRISH *Fire in Barley* iii. 30 A-ben sleepen in m'bed, zurr, 'tel cock d'crow for dawnen.

zureveld, **zurf**: see ZUUR-VELDT, ZARF.

Zurich ('zuərɪk, ||'tsy:ɾɪç). Also Zürich. The name of a city on Lake Zurich in Switzerland, used *attrib.* to designate porcelain manufactured there in the eighteenth century.

1870 C. SCHREIBER *Jrnl.* 18 Feb. (1911) I. 71 Crispin still possessed the Zurich cups we saw there two years ago. 1875 *Ibid.* 26 Feb. 360 Some very pretty Zurich écuelles. 1897 F. LITCHFIELD *Chaffers's Marks Pott. & Porc.* (ed. 8) 530 Mr. H. Angst... has the most important collection of Zurich porcelain known. 1949 W. B. HONEY *European Ceramic Art* 42 Zurich porcelain at its best shows a belated Rococo and a rare beauty of colour. 1981 *Times* 25 May 10/5 Among features in the sale... were... Zurich porcelains. *Ibid.*, £3,721, for an attractive Zurich hunting group of about 1770.

b. *Zurich gnome*: see GNOME¹ I c.

1970 K. GILES *Death in Church* vii. 168, I arranged to 'buy' it from our Swiss agent, a nice Zurich gnome. 1972 D. LEES *Zodiac* 11, I certainly wasn't going to break up the Zurich gnome's marriage—not even for money. 1981 'D. JORDAN' *Double Red* ii. 14 Those who really believe in Zürich gnomes and see in each day's gold fixing the action of some giant hidden hand.

||**zurla** ('zuələ). *Mus.* Also surla. [Serbo-Croatian, f. ZURNA.] A kind of oriental shawm introduced into Yugoslavia by gypsies.

1940 C. SACHS *Hist. Musical Instr.* (1942) xiii. 249 When the drums join in, the two larger oboes accompany the sibs in the lower octave. This must be an old custom, for the same is true for the Turkish oboes *surle* played by Croatian gypsies. 1953 Y. ARBATSKY *Beating Tupan in Central Balkans* 4 We may assume that the Persian word *zurnā* is the root from which *zurna*, *zurne*, *zurla* and *surla* were derived. 1957 A. BAINES *Woodwind Instruments & their Hist.* i. 229 We have only the notion, based on general historical grounds, that the parent instrument of the staple-bearing kind is the Middle Eastern shawm *surna*, a variety of which, frequently heard at our folk-dance festival, is the Macedonian *zurla*. 1962 *Jrnl. Gypsy Lore Soc.* XLI. 43 The Gypsies in Balkan countries used, at the beginning of the nineteenth century, the following musical instruments: tambourine, cymbalum, drum and *zurla* (a wind-instrument of Oriental origin). 1975 L. PICKEN *Folk Mus. Instr. of Turkey* iv. 499 The facts suggest that the modern Turkish

shawm represents a development independent of the shawms of Western Europe. The two types co-exist today in Yugoslavia, where the *zurla* has a 'head' comparable with that of Anatolian and Thracian *zurna*. *Ibid.* 500 To group (b) belong the shawms-with-finger-holes of Macedonia, both those of Yugoslavia—*zurla*... and those of Greece—*zournā*.

zurlite ('zɜ:lɪt). *Min.* [f. the name of Signor *Zurlo*, an amateur naturalist of Naples + -ITE¹.] A white or green variety of melilite.

1826 *Amer. Jrnl. Sci.* XI. 255 The zurlite was discovered by Ramondini.

||**zurna** ('zuəna). *Mus.* Also *g zournā*; 20- surna. [Turk.; cf. Pers. *surnā*.] A Turkish pipe resembling a bagpipe or shawm.

1870 C. ENGEL *Descr. Catal. Mus. Instr. S. Kensington Museum* 17 *Zournā*, a kind of hautboy... The *zournā* has usually a mouthpiece consisting of a brass tube. *Hindustan. Ibid.* 28 *Zournā* *Veziṛli* [from Turkey]. 1876 STAINER & BARRETT *Dict. Mus. Terms* 456/1 *Zurna*, a Turkish wind instrument similar in character to the oboe. 1941 N. BESSARABOV *Anc. European Mus. Instr.* 20 Nine musicians playing the *zurna* (a kind of oboe), including their chief... the bandmaster. 1953, etc. [see ZURLA]. 1965 *Listener* 24 June 940/3 Speaking of the mouth-blown cylindrical pipes which she inclines to regard as ancestors of the modern clarinet, would she be referring to the *zurna*, sometimes known as *duduk*? 1976 *Southern Even. Echo* (Southampton) 11 Nov. 20/2 If you are genuinely interested in the derivation, history and characteristics of musical instruments... you will find everything from the accordion to the *zurna* in 'Musical Instruments of the World'.

zurumbeth, var. ZERUMBET.

zussmanite ('zʌsmənait). *Min.* [f. the name of J. ZUSSMAN (b. 1924), English mineralogist + -ITE¹.] A rhombohedral aluminosilicate of potassium, ferrous iron, and other metals, K(Fe²⁺, Mg, Mn)₁₃(Si, Al)₁₈O₄₂(OH)₁₄, found as pale green tabular crystals.

1965 S. O. AGRELL et al. in *Amer. Mineralogist* L. 278 (heading) Deerite, howieite and zussmanite, three new minerals from the Franciscan of the Laytonville district, Mendocino Co., California. 1980 *Mineral. Mag.* XLIII. 611/2 Zussmanite compositions at their most aluminium-rich become quasi-isochemical with stilpnomelane and in many rocks a back-reaction can be seen with a fine-grained stilpnomelane fuzz (brown in colour) developing along cracks in the zussmanite.

||**zut** (zyt), *int.* [Fr.] An exclamation expressing annoyance, contempt, impatience, etc.

1915 W. OWEN *Let.* 25 July (1967) 350 *For Gautier*... Zut! I never read him. 1923 W. J. LOCKE *Moordius & Co.* ix. 129 'Well, what if I am?' she said, rebelliously. 'Zut!... Why shouldn't I?' 1967 R. PETRIE *Foreign Bodies* ii. 23 If his own wife read such trash as the Professor's, he reflected, *zut!* he'd have something to say. 1980 A. HUNTER *Honfleur Decision* x. 136 *Zut!* Come without your gun, or do not come at all.

||**zuur-veldt** ('zuərvɛlt). *S. Africa*. Also -feldt, zureveld. [Cape Du., = sour country or pasture land: see SOUR, VELD.] A district covered with sour pasturage. Also *attrib.*

1785 G. FORSTER tr. *Sparman's Voy. to Cape Good Hope* I. vi. 249 What are termed by the colonists *Zuurvelden* or *Sour-fields*, are such as lie somewhat higher and cooler than the shore, and thus are better supplied with rain than the other plains. 1827 T. PHILIPPS *Scenes in Albany & Cafferland* 119 The pasture is all *Zureveldt*. 1834 PRINGLE *Afr. Sk.* vi. 203 Long, coarse, wiry grass, of the sort called sour (whence the names *Zureberg* and *Zure-veld*). 1850 R. G. CUMMING *Hunter's Life S. Afr.* (ed. 2) I. 13 Black, zuur-feldt oxen.

||**zuz** (zu:z). Pl. *zuzim*; also *zuzees*. [Rabbinical Heb. *zūz*.] A silver coin anciently in use among the Jews, the fourth part of a silver shekel.

1688 HOLME *Armoury* III. 25/2 A *Zuz* or *Zuzim* shekel. 1858 SIMMONDS *Dict. Trade, Zuzah*, an ancient Hebrew silver coin, worth about 6d. 1877 C. GEIKIE *Christ* xxxvi, A blow on the ear was variously set at the fine of a shilling or a pound: a blow on the one cheek at two hundred zuzees.

Zu-Zu, var. ZOU-ZOU.

||**zwanziger** ('tsvantsigər). [G., f. *zwanzig* twenty + -er masc. adj. ending.] A former Austrian silver coin, equivalent to twenty kreutzers.

1828 R. CRAIG in *Mem.* viii. (1862) 151 A passenger pays a zwanzig[er] or 17½ sous of France per hour. 1841 BROWNING *Pippa Passes* II, I possess a burning pocketfull of zwanzigers. 1866 HOWELLS *Venet. Life* xix, Lest the fervid imagination of the gondolier rise to zwanzigers and florins.

zwart wit pens, var. SWARTWITPENS.

Zwenckfeldian, var. SWENKFELDIAN.

1565 HARDING *Confut. Apol.* II. xi. 88 The Zwenckfeldians that spring out of the same stocke.

zwieback ('tsvi:bak). Also *zwei*. Pl. -(s). [a. Ger., f. *zwie* (*zwei*) twice + *backen* BAKE.] A (sweet) rusk or biscuit made by baking a small loaf, and then toasting slices until they are dry and crisp.

1894 N.Y. *Weekly Tribune* 14 Mar. 5/3 These Zweiback will keep for a long time if put in a dry place. 1907 *Practitioner* Apr. 552 On the seventh day, some well-cooked rice and a few softened Zweiback are allowed. 1925 [see BISCUITY a.]. 1949 M. MEAD *Male & Female* xiii. 273 The

game of 'I give you something and you give me something' is not necessarily cross-sexed when it is based on bottles and zwieback. 1957 V. NABOKOV *Pnin* v. 132 The various biscuits, wafers, pretzels, zwiebacks. 1978 J. IRVING *World according to Garp* xv. 287 Hope gave Nicky a zwieback and he stopped crying.

zwieselite ('tsvi:zəlat). *Min.* Also *zwis-*. [ad. G. *zweiselit* (Breithaupt, 1841), f. *Zwiesel*, Bavaria.] A clove-brown variety of triplite. 1861 BRISTOW *Gloss. Min.*

Zwingfelter, aberrant f. SCHWENKFELDER.

1794 MORSE *Amer. Geog.* (1796) I. 545 Zwingfelters, who are a species of Quakers.

Zwinglian ('zwingliən, 'tsvɪŋliən), *sb.* and *a.* Also 6 *Zu-*, *Zwunglian*, *-lyan*, 6-7 *Swi-*, 6-9 *Zui-*, 7 *Sui-*. [f. *Zwingli* (see below) + *-AN*.]

A. sb. A follower of Ulrich Zwingli (1484-1531), the Swiss religious reformer.

1532 MORE *Confut. Tindale Wks.* 570/2 The Lutheranes & Zwinglianes have begunne to ryse & ruffle in rebellion in soondry partes of Almayne. 1533 — *Answ. poysoned Bk. Wks.* 1051/2 These Lutherane heretikes, and these Huskins, Swinglians: and Tyndalins. 1567 ALLEN *Def. Priesth.* 146 The whole packe of Protestauntes and Zuinglians deny that sacrament also to remitte sinnes. 1615 BRATHWAIT *Strappado* (1878) 4 Yes, for want of a bush thou'd hang thy selfe, And caper like a zuinglian. 1687 T. R. *Veritas Evang.* 23 Some being Lutherans, others Swinglians, others Anabaptists. 1768 MACLAINE tr. *Mosheim's Eccl. Hist.* (ed. 2) IV. 70 This union, between the Lutherans and Zuinglians, was so ardently desired by Melancthon. 1888 SCHAFF *Hist. Church, Mod. Chr.* I. 61 He regretted the toleration of the Zwinglians in Switzerland.

B. adj. Of or pertaining to Ulrich Zwingli or his doctrine, esp. concerning the eucharist (see SACRAMENTARIAN B. 1).

1565 HARDING *Confut. Apol.* I. x. 36 b, Ye shall be driuen to forsake your Zuinglian doctrine which putteth signes and figures only in the sacrament of the aulter for the true and reall body of Christ there present. 1661 HEYLIN *Hist. Ref.* II. (1670) 59 Their... Leaders... being for the most part of the Zwinglian-Gospellers. 1752 CARTE *Hist. Eng.* III. 395 The Zuinglian doctrines preached by Farel and other ministers. 1898 *Expositor* Oct. 271 Mere protest is conducting us through Zwinglian attenuation to Socinian negation.

Hence **Zwinglianism**, the doctrines of Zwingli, or the holding of such doctrines; † **Zwinglianist**, a Zwinglian.

1581 ALLEN *Apol.* 35 b, In most things agreing with Zuinglianisme, in some with Lutheranisme. 1641 'SMECTYMNUS' *Answ.* (1653) 71 So doe the Papists upbraid the Protestants with their Lutheranisme, Calvinisme, and Zuinglianisme. 1674 HICKMAN *Quinquart. Hist.* (ed. 2) Ep. a, The Lutherans use no breaking of the Bread: So do the Zuinglianists. 1745 BUTLER *Lives of Saints* (1845) XI. 117 Where he... converted many Zuinglianists. 1857 PUSEY *Real Pres.* I. 109 Zwinglianism was consistent in itself.

zwischenzug ('tsviʃəntsuk). *Chess.* [Ger., f. *zwischen* intermediate + *zug* move.] An interim or temporizing move.

1941 F. REINFELD *Keres' Best Games of Chess* 108/1 This masterly *zwischenzug* is the finest move in the whole game. 1969 A. GLYN *Dragon Variation* ix. 292 Carl thought about the move for thirty-five minutes, and then made a temporising move, a *zwischenzug*, checking with his Bishop. 1978 *Spectator* 26 Aug. 27/3, 50 P-K6ch Black resigns. 50... K x P now fails to the *zwischenzug* 51 B-N3!

zwitterion ('tsvɪtəɪən). *Chem.* Formerly also *zwitter-ion* and with capital initial. [a. G. *zwitter-ion* (F. W. Küster 1897, in *Zeitschr. f. anorg. Chem.* XIII. 136), f. *zwitter* hermaphrodite, hybrid (OHG. *zwitar(a)n*, f. *zwi-* TWI-, TWY-) + *ion* ION.] A molecule or ion having separate positively and negatively charged atoms or groups.

1906 G. MANN *Chem. Proteids* vi. 210 Ions which are simultaneously electro-positive and electro-negative (Bredig), and which Küster calls 'Zwitter-ions', i.e. hermaphrodite-ions. Thus the 'Zwitter-ion' of glycocoll is the group H₂N-CH₂-COO. 1925 *Jrnl. Chem. Soc.* CXXVII. 1. 1381 The 'isomeric change' now takes the form of a fission of the molecule by the rupture of a bond, the final ionisation of which provides the electric charges which are needed to neutralise those already present in the 'Zwitterion'. 1937 *Nature* 18 Sept. 492/1 One of the greatest advances in the understanding of the physico-chemical behaviour of amino-acids and proteins is due to the zwitterion theory introduced by Bjerrum in 1923. 1948 *Endeavour* VII. 85/2 The products of [penicillin] inactivation are *zwitter-ions*. 1949 E. CHAIN in H. W. Florey et al. *Antibiotics* II. xxii. 847 The penicilloic acids are zwitterions with two acid groups and one basic group. 1968 D. W. WOOD *Princ. Animal Physiol.* iii. 35 At the pH of living cells, lecithin forms a balanced zwitterion. 1982 R. M. SCHULTZ in T. M. Devlin *Textbk. Biochem.* ii. 41 It is useful to calculate the exact pH at which an amino acid is electrically neutral and in its zwitterion form.

Hence **zwitterionic** *a.*

1946 *Nature* 16 Nov. 703/1 A hybrid structure derived from a number of ionic states of which there are... eight zwitterionic forms. 1949 ABRAHAM & HEATLEY in H. W. Florey et al. *Antibiotics* I. ii. 94 These [substances]... may be neutral, acidic, basic, or zwitterionic. 1981 *Biochimica & Biophysica Acta* DCLXVIII. 117 Vesicles of zwitterionic phosphatidylcholine.

Zwitzar, *-er*, obs. ff. SWITZER.

zwookers, **zwop**, **zwoonds**: see ZOOKERS, SWAP, ZOUNDS.

zy: see SEE *v.*, THE.

zylde: see SELL *v.*

Zydeco ('zaidikəu). *U.S. Blacks.* Also *zodico*, *zolo go*. [? Creole pronunc. of Fr. *les haricots* from dance-tune title 'Les haricots sont pas salés'.] A kind of Afro-American dance music of southern Louisiana; the dance itself. Also *attrib.*

1949 in Leadbitter & Slaven *Blues Records 1943-66* (1968) 136 Zologo (Organ Blues)—I. Gold Star 669. 1960 M. McCORMICK notes to LP record *Treasury of Field Recordings* I 31 Two local groups... have achieved nationwide record sales with their interpretations of Zydeco music. 1964 *Amer. Folk Music Occasional* 1. 28 'Zydeco' is a mixture of the blues and the music of the early Acadian settlers and is very popular in Southern Louisiana and along the Southeast Texas Gulf Coast especially in Houston, Texas. 1964 [see *rub-board* s.v. RUB *v.* 18]. 1979 *Guardian* 13 June 10/7 [The Twisters] have two records currently available here: Doin' The Zydeco... and Zy-De-Blue. 1979 N. SPITZER notes to LP record *Zodico: Louisiana Creole Music* 3/1 *Zodico* refers to the fast, syncopated dance numbers in a Creole band's repertoire as well as to the dance event itself. 1984 *New Yorker* 1 Oct. 29/3 Clifton Chenier strapped on his accordion to play some loud, rollicking Creole music known as *zydeco*.

zyga, plural of ZYGON.

zygadite ('zɪɡədaɪt). *Min.* [ad. G. *zygadit* (Breithaupt), f. Gr. *ζυγάδην* in pairs, f. *ζυγόν* yoke.] A variety of albite, occurring in tabular twin crystals, of a yellowish-white or reddish colour.

1861 BRISTOW *Gloss. Min.* 1886 *Jrnl. Chem. Soc. L.* 518 *Zygadite*... occurs in druses in the slate of St. Andreasberg in association with quartz and sphalerite.

zygæna (zaɪ'dʒi:nə). *Zool.* Also *Zygæna*. [mod.L., ad. Gr. *ζύγαινα* a kind of fish, perh. the hammer-headed shark.] *a. Ichth.* A fish of the genus formerly so named (now *Sphyrna*), comprising the hammerheaded sharks. *b. Entom.* A genus of moths (also called *Anthrocera*), comprising the burnet-moths. Hence *zygænid*, *-idan* *sbs.*, a member of the family *Zygænidæ*, typified by the genus *Zygæna*; *adjs.* belonging to the *Zygænidæ*.

1683-4 [see *balance-fish*, *BALANCE* *sb.* 22]. 1774 *GOLDISM. Nat. Hist.* (1824) III. 34 The Dog Fish... the *Zygæna*, the Tope, the Cat Fish. 1837 SIR J. RICHARDSON *Fauna Bor.-Amer.* IV. 301 Family *Zygænidæ*. *Zygænidans*. 1913 *Oxf. Univ. Gaz.* 954/1 The *Zygænid* moth *Procris geryon*.

zygal ('zɪɡəl), *a. Anat.* [f. ZYGON + *-AL*.] Pertaining to or having a zYGON.

1886 B. G. WILDER in *Jrnl. Nerv. & Mental Dis.* June 304 The complete or typical condition of a zygal fissure is like two y's joined by their stems, . . . or, viewed from the side, like an expanded H.

zygantrum (zaɪ'gæntɾəm, zɪg-). *Anat.* and *Zool.* Pl. *-antra*. [mod.L., f. Gr. *ζυγόν* yoke + *άντρον* cave.] A double cavity on the posterior side of the neural arch of each ordinary vertebra in serpents and some lizards, into which the *zygosphen* of the next vertebra fits.

1854 OWEN in *Orr's Circ. Sci., Org. Nat.* I. 197 This wedge [sc. the zygosphen] is received into a cavity (the 'zygantrum') excavated in the posterior expansion of the neural arch. 1888 ROLLESTON & JACKSON *Anim. Life* 73.

zygapophysis (zaɪ'gəpəfɪsɪs, zɪg-). *Anat.* and *Zool.* Pl. *-physe* (-fɪsɪz). [mod.L., f. Gr. *ζυγόν* yoke + *ἀπόφυσις* APOPHYSIS.] A lateral process on the neural arch of a vertebra, articulating with the corresponding process of the next vertebra; an articular process. There are normally four to each vertebra, viz. right and left anterior (*prezygapophyses*) and right and left posterior (*postzygapophyses*). Hence *zygapophysial* (-əpəʊ'fɪziəl) *a.*, pertaining to a *zygapophysis*.

1854 OWEN in *Orr's Circ. Sci., Org. Nat.* I. 169 The exogenous parts are the diapophysis... the parapophysis... the zygapophysis... the anapophysis... the metapophysis... the hypapophysis... and the epapophysis. 1870 ROLLESTON *Anim. Life* 11 Two oblique zygapophysial surfaces.

zygge, **zy3t**, **zy3b**, **zy3be**: see SAY *v.* 1, SEE *v.*, SIGHT *sb.* 1

zygite ('zaidʒaɪt). *Gr. Antiq.* [ad. Gr. *ζυγίτης*, f. *ζυγόν*: see ZYGON 2 and *-ITE* 1.] In the ancient bireme or trireme, a rower of the upper or the middle tier: cf. THALAMITE, THRANITE.

1888 WOODGATE *Boating* (Badm. Libr.) i. 17 In the bireme the *zygite*, as he sat on his bench, had behind him and below him his thalamite.

zygnemaceous (zɪɡni:'meɪʃəs), *a. Bot.* [f. mod.L. *Zygnemaceæ* pl., f. *Zygnema* (Kützing, 1843), irreg. for **zygonema*, f. Gr. *ζυγόν* yoke + *νήμα* thread: see *-ACEOUS*.] Belonging to the N.O. *Zygnemaceæ* of filamentous fresh-water algæ, typified by the genus *Zygnema*, which

propagate by conjugation. So *zygnemid* (zɪɡ'ni:mɪd), a member of this order.

1887 *Athenæum* 12 Mar. 357/1 The *Conjugatæ*, including *zygnemids* and *desmids*.

zygnomic ('zɪɡnɒmɪk), *a. Law.* [f. ZYG(0- + Gr. *νόμος* law + *-IC*.] In the terminology of A. Kocourek: 'a jural relation which involves an act the evolution of which directly abridges... the freedom of the servus in the enjoyment... of the substance of a legal advantage'. Opp. MESONOMIC *a.*

1926 A. KOCOUREK in *California Law Rev.* XV. 19 *Zygnomic* relation is a legal relation which (i) directly constrains the *servus* of the relation in his physical freedom and (ii) with the support of the law. 1927, etc. [see MESONOMIC *a.*]. 1927 [see REGENERABLE *a.*]. 1930 A. KOCOUREK *Introd. to Science of Law* iv. 294 A *zygnomic* relation is one which works an immediate and direct constraint on human freedom at a given moment with the support of the law.

zygo- (zɑɪ'gəu, zɪ'gəu), before a vowel properly *zyg-*, repr. Gr. *ζυγο-*, combining form of *ζυγόν* yoke; occurring in various scientific terms, of which the more important will be found in their alphabetical places. (In terms of Biology the prefix often refers to *conjugation* or *zygosis* as a method of reproduction: see CONJUGATION 5.)

zygo'cardiac *a.* [CARDIAC A. 4], denoting an ossicle in the stomach of the crayfish and other crustaceans (see quot., and cf. PTEROCARDIAC, UROCARDIAC). **'zygodont** *a.* [Gr. *δδούς*, *δδοντ-* tooth], having molar teeth with an even number of cusps arranged in pairs; having cusps thus arranged, as a molar tooth. **zygo'genesis** [-GENESIS], reproduction involving the formation of a zygote; so **zygoge'netic** *a.* **'zygomere** *Cytology* [-MERE], a site on a chromosome thought to be responsible for the initiation of pairing between homologous chromosomes during zygotene in eukaryotes. **zygo'nema** *Cytology* [a. F. *zygonema* (V. Grégoire 1907, in *La Cellule* XXIV. 371), f. Gr. *νήμα* thread], † (*a*) a chromosome at zygotene; (*b*) = ZYGOTENE; now *rare*. **zygoneurous** (-'njuərəs) *a.* [Gr. *νεῦρον* nerve], applied to an arrangement of the nervous system in certain gastropod molluscs, in which the pallial nerve of each pleural ganglion unites directly with the ganglion of the visceral commissure of its own side (opp. to *dialyneurous*); so **zygo-neury**, *zygoneurous* condition. **zygophiuran** (-'pʃiʊərən) *a.* and *sb.*, belonging to, or a member of, the division *Zygophiura* of ophiuroids, having special structures which limit the movement of the ossicles of the arms (cf. *zygospondyline* below). **'zygophore** *Bot.* [-PHORE], a differentiated hypha in Zygomycetes that takes part in conjugation; hence **zygo'phoric** *a.* **'zygophyte** (-fart) [Gr. *φυτόν* plant], a plant which reproduces by conjugation. **zy'gopterid** *sb.* and *a.* [Gr. *πτερόν* wing], a member of, or belonging to, the division *Zygopterides* or *Zygoptera* of dragonflies, having all the wings nearly or quite equal in size. **'zygosome** *Cytology* [ad. G. *zygosom* (E. Strasburger 1904, in *Sitzungsber. d. k. Preuss. Akad. d. Wissensch.* 606): see *-SOME* 1] = BIVALENT *sb.* **'zygosperm** [Gr. *σπέρμα* seed] = ZYGOSPORE. **'zygosphere** (-sfɪə(r)) [after OOSPHERE], either of the two conjugating cells or gametes which form a zygospore. **zygo'spondyline** *a.* [Gr. *σπόνδυλος* vertebra, joint], applied to those ophiuroids in which the arms are incapable of being coiled round straight objects, the movements of their ossicles being limited by internal pits and processes. **'zygostyle** (-stail) [STYLE 10] (see quot.). **zygo'zoospore**, a zoospore formed by conjugation; a motile zygospore.

1877 HUXLEY *Anat. Inv. Anim.* vi. 319 A large, elongated postero-lateral or *zygocardiac ossicle. 1888 *Amer. Naturalist* XXII. 832 The *zygodont (quadrutubercular) type. 1950 *Adv. Genetics* III. 194 The most common mode of animal reproduction is, however, sexual reproduction or gamogony or *zygogenesis. 1973 B. J. WILLIAMS *Evolution & Human Origins* iii. 37/2 It [sc. random genetic drift] includes all events that lead to sampling error in random zygogenesis. 1950 *Adv. Genetics* III. 198 In other parthenogenetic animals both parthenogenetic and zygogenetic reproduction are present. 1978 *Biol. Bull. CLV.* 273 (heading) *Artemia* hemoglobins: genetic variation in parthenogenetic and zygogenetic populations. 1966 J. SYBENGA in *Genetica* XXXVII. 188 General occurrence of localization of the function of initiation of chromosome pairing (long-distance attraction) in discrete units on specific loci is considered a useful working hypothesis. In analogy to 'centromere', 'chromomere' and 'telomere' the term '*zygomere' is proposed for such units. 1981 *Cytologia* XLVI. 527 Since the bivalent formation has not been disturbed, at least one of two zygomeres seems to be able to have a complete activity. 1911 *Q. Jrnl. Microsc. Sci.* LVII.

32 The debatable stages of the meiotic prophase in which parasyndesis and its associated phenomena occur—leptonema, *zygonema...—have been dealt with by many experienced cytologists. *Ibid.* 33 By the time the zygonema is fairly far advanced we do get appearances not unlike what may occasionally be found in the condensation of a somatic chromosome. **1976** *Nature* 8 Apr. 534/2 It is generally known that during zygonema (stages XII–XIV in rat spermatogenesis) the homologous sets of sister chromatid pairs begin to come together and associate with one another. **1901** *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 466 A *Vivipara* possessing a single *zygoneurous connection on the left and the normal dialoneurous relationship of the nerves upon the right. **1892** *Ibid.* 182 For the *Zygophiurans assistance in classification will be gained from Ljungman's well-known work. **1904** A. F. BLAKESLEE in *Science* 3 June 866/1 In all species of both homo- and heterothallic groups... the swollen portions (progametes) from which the gametes are cut off do not grow toward each other... but arise as a result of the stimulus of contact between more or less differentiated hyphae (*zygophores). **1970** J. WEBSTER *Introd. Fungi* II. ii. 116 When two compatible strains approach each other aerial club-shaped branches or zygophores develop which show directional growth towards zygophores of the opposite strain. Zygophores of the same strain repel each other. **1904** *Zygophoric [see HETEROGAMIC a.]. **1978** *Cenad. Jnrl. Bot.* LVI. 1061 One or more slender, lateral zygophoric filaments proliferate from the subterminal portion of a septate, erect hypha. **1885** GOODALE *Physiol. Bot.* 439 note, The sexual process in *Zygophytes is characterized by the confluence of the protoplasmic masses of two very similar cells by which a new mass is formed as the starting-point of the new individual. **1900** W. J. LUCAS *Brit. Dragonflies* 53 A *Zygopterid [wing]. *Ibid.* 34 Nymph of a Zygopterid Dragonfly. **1905** *Ann. Bot.* XIX. 249 A similar operation of the law of chance has been suggested by Strasburger ('04) in the separation of the chromatin granules as a result of the division of the *zygosome. **1910** [see *parasympatric* adj. s.v. PARA-¹]. **1974** *Jnrl. Heredity* LXV. 257/1 The varying amounts of the *q* segments present in the zygosome may account in large measure for the physical and mental deviation of these mongoloid patients from the usual spectrum of characteristics typical of mongoloids bearing three independent chromosomes 21. **1880** A. W. BENNETT & MURRAY in *Q. Jnrl. Microsc. Sci.* XX. 417 The conjugated *zygospheres... constitute a *zygosperm. **1892** *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 1 Mar. 178 To regard the streptospondylus type [of ophiuroids] as earlier than the *zygospondylus. **1881** MIVART *Cat* 463 The caudal vertebrae are few and end in a bone, shaped somewhat like a plough-share, called the *zygostyle. **1881** *Nature* 28 July 292 Family *Protococcaceae*. Genus *Chlorochytrium*... Each cell becomes resolved into spherical zoospores, which upon leaving the mother-cell conjugate within the gelatinous envelope. The *zygozoospores before becoming surrounded with a membrane make their way... into the intercellular spaces of living plants.

zygobranchiate (zaigəu'bræŋkriət, zig-), *a. (sb.)* *Zool.* [f. mod.L. *Zygobranchiata* pl., f. Gr. ζυγόν yoke + βράχια gills: see -ATE².] Belonging to the division *Zygobranchiata* or *Zygobranchia* of gastropod molluscs, having paired (right and left) gills or ctenidia; as *sb.* a mollusc of this division.

1883 RAY LANKESTER in *Encycl. Brit.* XVI. 655/2 The Zygobranchiate Streptoneura.

zygocactus ('zaigəukæktəs). *Bot.* Also *Zygo-*. [mod.L. (K. Schumann 1890, in C. F. Martius *Flora Brasiliensis* IV. II. 223): see ZYGO- and CACTUS.] Any cactus of the Brazilian genus *Zygocactus* (sometimes included in *Schlumbergera*), the members of which have branched and jointed stems bearing zygomorphic flowers in various shades of red, and are freq. grown as houseplants.

1950 V. HIGGINS *Cactus Grower's Guide* iv. 54 Two other Epiphyllums which have been much cultivated are now placed in *Schlumbergera*—*Schlumbergera Gaertneri* and *S. Russelliana*; both are similar in habit to *Zygocactus* but the flowers are regular. **1962** *Amateur Gardening* 24 Mar. 29/1 *Zygocactus* should be watered throughout the year. **1980** *Daily Tel.* 24 Sept. 14/5 Among the new plants on show are... *zygocactus* in pastel colours with a future as room plants, from Rochford.

zygodactyl (zaigəu'dæktɪl, zig-), *a. and sb.* *Ornith.* Also -yle. [See ZYGO- and DACTYL.]

a. adj. Having the toes 'yoked' or arranged in pairs, i.e. two before and two behind, as the feet of a scansorial bird, or the bird itself; yoke-toed. *b. sb.* A yoke-toed bird. Also zygodactyllic, zygo'dactylous *adjs.*

[**1842** BRANDE *Dict. Sci.* etc., *Zygodactyles*, the name given by M. Temminck to an order of Climbing Birds.]

1828–32 WEBSTER, *Zygodactylous*. **1831** *Gard. & Menag. Zool. Soc.* *Birds* 73 By the structure of their toes, which are partially zygodactyle (the intermediate ones being turned forwards, and the two lateral ones most commonly taking the opposite direction). **1835** PARTINGTON *Brit. Cycl. Nat. Hist.* I. 445/1 Feet which accomplish these purposes are all zygodactylic, or yoke-toed. **1890** COUES *Handbk. Ornithol.* 187 The arrangement of toes in pairs, two before and two behind... is called zygodactyl or zygodactylous. *Ibid.* 188 The true hind toe is wanting, the outer anterior one being reversed as usual in zygodactyls.

zygology (zaigə'lɒdʒɪ). [f. ZYGO- + -OLOGY: coined by Mr. C. G. Hardie, Magdalen College, Oxford.] The branch of technology concerned with joining and fastening. Hence zygo'logical *a.*, zy'gologist.

1970 *Assembly & Fastener Engin.* Oct. 48/3 We at Oxford Polytechnic are now offering courses in Zygology. *Ibid.*, I do

not wish to suggest that all your readers should be considered as practising zygologists. **1971** *New Electronics* May 56 (Advt.). We are zygologists—experts in fastening techniques. We have specialised in riveting for years. **1973** *Oxford Times* 14 Dec. 40 (Advt.), Oxford Polytechnic... Postgraduate diploma in zygology. **1976** W. C. WAKE *Adhesion* i. 4 Adhesion science should thus include adhesives and joints under its wing and is, if the reader likes classification, a branch of zygology. **1978** *Engin. Materials & Design* Apr. 37/2 Not that adhesion is the only zygological process available for joining one piece of plastics material to another.

|| **zygoma** (zaigə'mə, zig-). *Anat.* Pl. *zygomata*, *zygomas*. Also 8 *erron.* *zigoma*. [mod.L., a. Gr. ζύγωμα, f. ζυγόν yoke. Cf. F. *zygome*, †*zigome*.] The bony arch on each side of the skull in vertebrates, consisting of the malar or jugal bone (cheek-bone) and its connexions, and forming a junction between the cranial and facial bones; the zygomatic arch; also, in restricted sense, some part of this, as the malar bone itself, the zygomatic process of the temporal bone, or the process of the malar which articulates with this.

1684 tr. *Blancard's Phys. Dict.* (1693), *Zygoma*, the jugal Bone about the Temples. **1758** J. S. tr. *Le Dran's Observ. Surg.* (1771) 13 There appeared near the *Zigoma*..., by the Wing of the Nostril, a slender Fluctuation. **1804** ABERNETHY *Surg. Obs.* 175 The fracture ran horizontally, about a quarter of an inch above the zygoma. **1806** SIR C. BELL *Anat. Expr.* (1872) 109 The zygoma, a process of the cheekbone, which joins the temporal bone. **1825** A. MONRO *Anat. Hum. Body* I. 379 The Temporal muscle is seen in the temples, and its tendon passing under the zygoma. **1855** HOLDEN *Hum. Osteol.* (1878) 69 At the lower part of the squamous portion there is an outgrowth of bone, termed the zygoma. **1893** H. MORRIS *Treat. Human Anat.* 37 A ridge of bone, the supra-mastoid crest, runs immediately above the external auditory meatus, and is continued onwards to the zygoma.

zygomatic (zaigəu'mætɪk, zig-), *a. (sb.)* *Anat.* [ad. mod.L. *zygomatikus*, f. Gr. ζύγωμα, -α-: see *prec.* and -IC.] Pertaining to or forming part of the zygoma; jugal.

zygomatic apophysis = *z. process*. *zygomatic arch* = *ZYGOMA*. *zygomatic bone*, the malar bone. *zygomatic fossa*, an irregularly-shaped cavity on the side of the skull below and within the zygomatic arch. *zygomatic muscle*, any one of several small muscles connected with the zygoma; *esp.* each of two pairs of muscles (*zygomatikus major* and *minor*) arising from the malar bone and inserted at the corners of the mouth, serving to draw the upper lip outward and upward. *zygomatic process*, a process of the squamosal portion of the temporal bone, which articulates with the malar bone. *zygomatic suture*, the suture connecting the squamosal with the malar bone.

1709 BLAIR in *Phil. Trans.* XXVII. 143 Two Zygomatic Bones. **1741** A. MONRO *Anat.* (ed. 3) 95 Immediately before the Root of the zygomatic Process. **1811** C. BELL *Anat. Hum. Body* (ed. 3) I. 180 The zygomatic muscles pull the angles of the mouth upwards as in laughter. **1825** *Zool. Jnrl.* II. 162 The zygomatic arch. **1855** HOLDEN *Hum. Osteol.* 102 The 'zygomatic fossa' is bounded externally by the zygomatic arch. **1895** Q. *Rev.* July 178 That 'sweet contraction' of the zygomatic muscles.

B. sb. Short for *z. muscle* or *z. bone*. **1811** C. BELL *Anat. Hum. Body* (ed. 3) I. 181 The zygomatics and levators pull the angles of the mouth upwards. **1919** *Man* XIX. 156 Prominence of the zygomatics.

zygo'matico-, combining form of mod.L. *zygomatikus* ZYGOMATIC, forming *adjs.* in sense 'belonging to the zygoma or zygomatic arch and (some other part)', as *zygomatiko-auricular* (see *quot.*).

1890 BILLINGS *Med. Dict.*, *Zygomatiko-auricular index*, ratio between the bizygomatic and the biarticular diameters of the cranium.

zy'gomato-, combining form of ZYGOMA, used as *prec.*, as in *zygomato-temporal*.

1831 R. KNOX tr. *Cloquet's Anat.* (ed. 2) 41 The cerebral and zygomato-temporal aspects of the sphenoid bone.

zygomorphic (zaigəu'mɔ:fɪk, zig-), *a. Bot.* [f. Gr. ζυγόν yoke + μορφή form + -IC.] Applied to a flower that is symmetrical about a single plane, i.e. divisible into similar lateral halves in only one way; = MONOSYMMETRICAL. Also *zygo'morphous*; opp. to ACTINOMORPHOUS. So *zygo'morphism*, the character of being zygomorphic.

1875 BENNETT & DYER tr. *Sachs' Bot.* 526 In Orchids both whorls are developed in a petaloid, and like the whole flower in a zygomorphic or monosymmetrical manner. *Ibid.* 534 The zygomorphism of the flower. **1879** A. GRAY *Struct. Bot.* 175 note, Both these forms [sc. monosymmetrical and polysymmetrical] have a more expressive and older terminology, adopted by Eichler, viz.:—*Zygomorphous*, for flowers, or other structures, which can be bisected in one plane,... (*median zygomorphous*, when this is a median or anteroposterior plane,... *transverse zygomorphous*, when the plane of section is transverse or at right angles to the median).

Zygomycetes (zaigəu'ma:sɪtɪz), *sb. pl. Bot.* Also (*rare*) *zygo-*. [mod.L., ad. G. *Zygomyceten* (O. Brefeld *Bot. Untersuchungen über Schimmelpilze* (1872) I. 53): see ZYGO-, MYCETES *sb. pl.*] A class of saprophytic and parasitic fungi

in which sexual reproduction is by fusion of usu. similar gametangia to produce a zygosporangium and asexual reproduction is by means of non-motile spores; fungi of this class. Occas. in *sing.* *Zygomycete* (-'maɪsɪt). Hence *zygomycetous a.*

[**1874** Q. *Jnrl. Microsc. Sci.* XIV. 56 Brefeld does not admit that *Chaetocladium* and *Piptocephalis* possess sporangia, but only conidia. According to his views, therefore, the term *Zygomycetes* is more expressive than *Mucorini*, which he restricts to the sporangiferous *Zygomycetes*. This, however, appears to us founded on an error.] **1887** H. E. F. GARNSEY tr. *A. de Bary's Compar. Morphol. & Biol. of Fungi* vi. 345 This coincidence with a fixed period of the year is at least not a general rule in the zygosporangia of the *Zygomycetes*. **1928** C. W. DODGE tr. *Gäumann's Compar. Morphol. Fungi* xxxvi. 621 A convergent development has apparently occurred in the *Zygomycetous* sporangia which have become gonotocones. **1930** H. M. FITZPATRICK *Lower Fungi. Phycomycetes* ii. 34 The origin of the *Zygomycete* line is somewhat more obscure, though forms possessing one or more undoubted zygomycetous characters exist among the Ancylistales and Chytridiales. **1937** GWYNNE-VAUGHAN & BARNES *Struct. & Developm. Fungi* (ed. 2) 16 The *Zygomycetes*... are the first fungi to colonise dung. **1952** C. J. ALEXOPOULOS *Introd. Mycol.* vii. 180 Such a theory is based almost entirely on the asexual cycle, the zygomycetous reproduction having no counterpart in the present-day Saprolegniaceae which might give us a clue to its origin. **1978** *Bio Systems* X. 97/2 There are several eukaryote groups where there is, so far, no solidly based evidence for a flagellate ancestry:...(4) *zygomycete fungi*. **1979** I. K. ROSS *Biol. of Fungi* xiii. 378 There are three main methods by which spores are actively released: the bursting of a turgid cell (ascomycetes and some *zygomycetes*), the rounding off of a surface under tension (some *zygomycetes*, some basidiomycetes) and the so-called ballistospore discharge. **1982** *Phytopathology* LXXII. 1102 (*heading*) Synoptic keys to the genera and species of *zygomycetous mycorrhizal fungi*.

|| **zygon** ('zaɪɡɒn). Pl. *zyga* ('zaɪɡə). [mod.L., ad. Gr. ζυγόν yoke.]

1. Anat. The bar or stem connecting the two branches of an H-shaped fissure (*zygal fissure*) of the brain.

1886 B. G. WILDER in *Jnrl. Nerv. & Mental Dis.* June 310 If, the zygon is the principal, central, and primary constituent of a fissural integer, the paroccipital.

2. Gr. Antiq. A cross-bench or thwart for rowers.

1888 WOODGATE *Boating* (Badm. Libr.) i. 17 When... vessels were expressly built as trimemes, we may imagine... the benches or zyga would be a little raised.

zygophyllaceous (zaigəu'fɪleɪʃəs, zig-), *a. Bot.* [f. mod.L. *Zygophyllaceae* pl., f. *Zygophyllum*, f. Gr. ζυγόν yoke + φύλλον leaf: see -ACEOUS.] Belonging to the N.O. *Zygophyllaceae*, typified by the genus *Zygophyllum* (bean-capers).

1887 J. BALL *Nat. S. Amer.* 198 The singular *Zygophyllaceous* shrub *Portiera hygrometrica*.

|| **zygopleura** (zaigəu'pluərə, zig-), *sb. pl. Morphol.* [mod.L., f. Gr. ζυγόν yoke + πλευρά side.] Organic forms having bilateral symmetry, with either two or four antimeres or corresponding opposite parts (DIPLEURA, TETRAPLEURA). Hence *zygo'pleural a.*, having bilateral symmetry.

1883 [see DIPLEURA]. **1896** [see DIPLEURAL def.].

|| **zygosis** (zaigə'usɪs, zig-). *Biol.* [mod.L., ad. Gr. ζύωσις, f. ζυγούν to yoke, f. ζυγόν yoke.] = CONJUGATION 5.

1880 PASCOE *Zool. Chem.* (ed. 2) 297. **1882** SAVILLE-KENT *Man. Infusoria* 874.

zygosity (zaigə'sɪtɪ). *Genetics.* [f. ZYGOS (IS + -ITY).] *a.* The genetic relationship of twins, triplets, etc., in respect of their being either monozygotic or dizygotic.

1952 *New Biol.* XII. 42 Instead of exchanging skin between the twin animals whose zygosity it is desired to establish, grafts are being transplanted from both of them to a third, unrelated recipient. **1971** *Nature* 23 July 277/1 Before recent developments with marker genes, it was not possible to assign with certainty the zygosity of a substantial proportion of twin pairs. **1978** *Jnrl. R. Soc. Med.* LXXI. 311/2 The type of twinning and determination of zygosity are given attention.

b. The degree of genetic similarity between alleles which determines whether an individual is homozygotic or heterozygotic for the characteristic expressed.

1967 *Jnrl. Clin. Investigation* XLVI. 681 (*heading*) Relationship between Rh₀(D) zygosity and red cell Rh₀(D) antigen content in family members. *Ibid.*, The members of two families showed a poor correspondence between antibody binding and zygosity. **1972** *Transplantation* XIV. 793/1 Efforts have been made to determine HL-A zygosity of unrelated subjects by use of the gene-dose effect.

zygosphere ('zaigəusfɪ:n, 'zig-). *Anat. and Zool.* [f. Gr. ζυγόν yoke + σφῆν wedge.] A double wedge-shaped projection on the anterior side of the neural side of each ordinary vertebra in serpents and some lizards, which fits into the *zygantrum* of the next vertebra. Hence

zygo'sphenal *a.*, belonging to or constituting a zygosphenes.

1854 OWEN in *Orr's Circ. Sci., Org. Nat.* I. 196 A wedge-shaped process (the 'zygosphenes')... is developed from the fore part of the base of the spine. *Ibid.* 197 Surfaces to which the zygosphenal surfaces are adapted. 1892 *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 1 Mar. 176 The zygosphenes and zygantra of the Ophidian vertebrae.

zygospore ('zaigəuspə(r), 'zig-). *Bot.* [ad. G. *zygospōr*: see ZYGO- and SPORE.] A spore formed by conjugation; a germ-cell arising from the fusion of two similar cells (gametes), as in certain Algae and Fungi. Hence **zygo'sporic** *a.*, of the nature of or producing zygosporos.

1864 *Q. J. J. Microscop. Sci.* (N.S.) IV. 178, I have... made use of... the more apt term 'Zygospore', as suggested by Professor De Bary in his work 'Untersuchungen...' in preference to the... inaccurate term 'Sporangium' of most other authors. 1874 COOKE *Fungi* 164 The threads which conjugate to form the zygosporos. 1906 *Science* 27 July 122/2 Zygospore cultures of the 'Harvest Strain' have... been kept running for nearly ten years. 1970 J. WEBSTER *Introd. Fungi* II. ii. 141 In some species [of the genus *Endogone*]... the fruit-body is entirely zygosporic.

†**zygostat.** *Obs. rare*⁻⁰. [ad. late L. *zygostatēs*, *a.* Gr. *ζυγοστάτης*, *f.* *ζυγόν* yoke, beam of a balance, etc. + *ιστάναι* to set, place.] Hence †**zygostatical** *a.* (*obs. rare*⁻⁰). (See quotes.)

1623 COCKERAM, *Zygost[ate]*, one that is appointed to see the weights, a Clarke of the market. [1654 CHARLETON *Physiol. Epic.-Gass.-Charlton*. 403 Such a Zygostata or Balance, wherewith Jewellers are to weigh Pearles and Diamonds.] 1666 BLOUNT *Glossogr.*, *Zygostatical*... belonging to the pound weight of Sixteen ounces, or to a Clark of a Market that looks to weights.

zygote ('zaigəut). *Biol.* [ad. Gr. *ζυγωτός* yoked, *f.* *ζυγόν* to yoke.] A body of living protoplasm, as a cell or cell-nucleus, formed by the conjugation or fusion of two such bodies in reproduction; a zygosporos, or any germ-cell resulting from the union of two reproductive cells or gametes. Also *attrib.* or as *adj.* That is a zygote, formed by conjugation; of or pertaining to a zygote.

1891 HARTOG in *Nature* 17 Sept. 484 Paragamy or Endokaryogamy: vegetative or gametal nuclei lying in a continuous mass of cytoplasm fuse to form a zygote nucleus. 1895 OLIVER tr. *Kerner's Nat. Hist. Plants* II. 628 The cell produced by the fusion of the bodies of two gametes is called the zygote.

Hence **zygotic** ('-tɪk) *a.*, pertaining to or of the nature of a zygote, produced or characterized by zygosis; **zy'gotically** *adv.*, in the zygote; in terms of the zygote; **zy'gotoblast** [-BLAST], one of a number of germ-cells or sporozoites produced by budding from a *zygotomere* (see below); **zy'gotoid** [-OID], a multinucleate form of zygote in certain fungi (see quot.); **zy'gotomere** [Gr. *μέρος* part], one of a number of cells formed by segmentation of a zygote in the malaria parasite or other *Sporozoa*.

1891 HARTOG in *Nature* 17 Sept. 484 In apocytal fungi multinucleated masses of protoplasm (*gametoids*) may conjugate to form a *zygotoid*. 1899 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* VIII. 945 Nucleus and protoplasm divide into a number of *zygotomeres*, which become blastophores, each bearing on its surface... a large number of filamentous *zygotoblasts*. 1909 W. E. CASTLE *Inheritance in Rabbits* (Carnegie Inst. Publ. No. 114) 58 The enumeration of the conceivable different varieties of gray rabbit, all alike in appearance but all different in breeding capacity, *i.e.*, of different *zygotic* formula. 1915 *J. J. Genetics* V. 45 Zygotically therefore the three forms [of rabbit] may be represented thus: Self-coloured... CCSS, Himalayan... CCss, Albino... ccss. 1931 *Ibid.* XXIV. 448 It is probable that the new combinations will be less successful than the old, both zygotically and gametically. 1977 J. COHEN *Reproduction* ix. 163 The second phase of embryology begins, controlled by *zygotic* genes. 1980 *Genetics* XCVI. 187 The possibility that essential loci in the zeste-white region of the *Drosophila melanogaster* X chromosome are expressed both maternally and zygotically has been tested.

zygotene ('zaigəuti:n). *Cytology.* [a. F. *zygotène* (V. Grégoire 1907, in *La Cellule* XXIV. 371): see ZYGO- and -TENE.] The second stage of the prophase of meiosis, following leptotene, during which homologous chromosomes begin to pair.

1911 *J. J. Morphol.* XXII. 752 This view... goes on to show that after the last spermatogonial mitosis the chromosomes become very delicate slender threads, the leptotene condition...; these then approximate themselves parallel into pairs making the zygotene condition. 1939 [see DIAKINESIS]. 1974 *Nature* 9 Aug. 469/2 At leptotene of meiotic prophase in many organisms, all the telomeres become gathered together and attached to a small area of the nuclear envelope, presumably so as to facilitate pairing during zygotene.

zyke, zykere, *obs. ff.* SICK, SICKER.

Zyklon ('zaiklon). Also *Cyclon*. [a. G. *Zyklon*, of unknown etym.] Hydrogen cyanide adsorbed on, or released from, a carrier in the form of small tablets, used as a fumigant and formerly as a poison gas. *Usu.* as *Zyklon B*.

[1926 *Official Gaz.* (U.S. Patent Office) 9 Nov. 298/1 Deutsche Gesellschaft für Schädlingsbekämpfung, m.b.H., Frankfurt-on-the-Main... *Zyklon*... Apparatus for

measuring the quantities of substances which generate poisonous gases—for instance, hydrocyanic acid.] 1939 METCALF & FLINT *Destructive & Useful Insects* (ed. 2) ix. 281 The other type of dry cyanides, such as the *zyklon* products, undergo no chemical change when exposed. 1944 *Chem. Abstr.* XXXVIII. 3416 The application of Cyclon B (0.4 g./cc.) for 24 hrs. destroyed all insects but imparted a peculiar taste to the tobaccos. 1964 L. DEIGHTON *Funeral in Berlin* xxxi. 169 With Cyclon B they killed two and a half million at Auschwitz. 1975 W. CRAIG *Strasbourg Legacy* (1976) i. 9 Former SS soldiers... had functioned so anonymously in the camps that hardly anyone lived who could identify them as guards once manning machine guns or dropping *Zyklon B* tablets into gas chambers. 1977 *Times* 8 June 9/7 [He] was tried and acquitted at Nürnberg in 1948 for supplying the SS with *Zyklon-B* gas. 1978 H. WOUK *War & Remembrance* xi. 111 *Zyklon B*, the powerful insecticide they have been using right along at the camp to fumigate the barracks, may be the surprisingly simple solution.

zylo-, erroneous spelling of words in XYLO-.

zymad ('zaimæd). [f. Gr. *ζύμη* leaven + -AD, after *monad*.] A micro-organism which produces zymotic disease.

1885 *Leisure Hour* Jan. 25/2 The cook... exorcises *zymads* and parasites. 1913 DORLAND *Med. Dict.*

zymase ('zaimeis). *Chem.* [ad. F. *zymase* (Bechamp), *f.* Gr. *ζύμη* leaven, after *diastase*.] Name given to a ferment obtained from the yeast-fungus; also extended to unorganized ferments or enzymes in general.

1875 *J. J. Chem. Soc.* XXVIII. 374. 1899 J. R. GREEN *Soluble Ferm.* viii. 108 Bechamp thought that the enzyme from fungi was not quite the same as that existing in the flowers... He gave to the first the name *zymase*... The name *zymase* was soon abandoned, as it began to be applied to enzymes in general.

†**zymate** ('zaimet). *Chem. Obs.* In actual use *zumate* ('zju:met). [f. ZYM-IC (*zum-ic*) + -ATE⁴.] A salt of 'zymic acid'.

1817 T. THOMSON *Syst. Chem.* (ed. 5) II. 189 *Zumate* of ammonia. 1819 J. G. CHILDREN *Chem. Anal.* 281 *Zumate* of peroxide of iron.

zyme (zaim). [ad. Gr. *ζύμη* leaven.] A name for the substance or principle causing a zymotic disease: cf. ZYMOSIS.

1882 *Quain's Dict. Med.* 1806 Corresponding with the adjective *zymotic* is the substantive *zyme*..., by which we refer to the poisonous cause of zymotic diseases.

†**zymic** ('zaimik, 'zimik), *a.* *Chem. Obs.* In actual use *zumic* ('zju:mik). [f. Gr. *ζύμη* leaven + -IC.] Pertaining to or connected with fermentation; formerly applied to a supposed acid (afterwards shown to be impure lactic acid) obtained by fermentation of starchy substances.

1817 T. THOMSON *Syst. Chem.* (ed. 5) II. 189 Of *Zumic Acid*. I give this name to an acid recently discovered by M. Braconnot. 1826 HENRY *Elem. Chem.* II. 241.

zymin ('zaimin). Also -ine. [f. Gr. *ζύμη* leaven + -IN¹.] *a.* = ZYME. *B.* A pancreatic extract used in medicine. Hence **'zyminized** *a.*, predigested by means of *zymin*.

1842 W. FARR in *4th Ann. Rep. Reg.-Gen.* 201 The morbid principle (*zymine*). *Ibid.* 202 Some... kinds of matter (*zymin*) are reproduced in the organization after they have been destroyed by transformation (*zymosis*) in attacks of disease. 1888 M. MACKENZIE *Fredk. the Noble* vii. 99 *Zyminised* nutriments. 1901 DORLAND *Med. Dict.*, *Zymin*... a pancreatic extract prepared for therapeutic use.

zymo- (zaiməu), before a vowel *zym-*, combining form repr. Gr. *ζύμη* leaven, used in the general sense 'ferment', in various scientific terms. (Some of these were formerly written *zumo-*, the Gr. *υ* being represented, contrary to analogy, by *u*: see Y.) **'zymocyte** (-sant) [-CYTE], a unicellular organism which produces fermentation. **zymoglu'conic** *a.*, epithet of an acid obtained by fermentation from glucose; hence **zymo'gluconate**, a salt of this acid. **'zymogram** *Biochem. and Genetics*, a strip of electrophoretic medium showing enzymes separated by a technique such as zone electrophoresis. ||**zymohy'drolysis**, hydrolysis effected by the action of a ferment. **zy'mology** (†*zumo-*) [-LOGY], the science of fermentation; that department of chemistry which deals with ferments and their action; hence **zymo'logical** (†*zumo-*) *a.*, relating to *zymology*; **zy'mologist** (†*zumo-*), one versed in *zymology*. **zy'molysis** [Gr. *λύσις* loosening], decomposition by means of a (esp. an unorganized) ferment; so **zymo'lytic** *a.*, pertaining to or involving *zymolysis*. **zy'mometer** (†*zumo-*) [-METER] = ZYMOSIMETER. **'zymophore** (-fə(r)), **zymo'phoric** (-'fɔrik), **zymophorous** (-'fɔərəs) *adjs.* [see -PHORE, etc.], in Ehrlich's theory of immunization, applied to a particular group of atoms in a ferment, or in the receptors of a living cell, to which the fermentative action is due (analogous to the toxophore group in a toxin). **'zymophyte** (-fait) [-PHYTE], a vegetable

organism which causes fermentation. **zymo'plastic** *a.* [see PLASTIC *a.*], forming a ferment. **'zymoscope** [-SCOPE]: see quot. **zymotechnic** (-'teknik), -ical *adjs.* [Gr. *τεχνή* art], relating to the art of fermentation; so **zymo'technics**, **'zymotechny**, the art of fermentation (cf. ZYMURGY); **zymotech'nology** [-LOGY], the scientific study of the principles of *zymotechny*; **zymotech'nologist**, one versed in *zymotechnology*. **zymo'toxic** *a.*, having a fermentative and toxic action.

a 1909 *Disinfectants* 14 (Cent. D. Suppl.) Salicylic acid only holding its reputation as an enemy to the 'zymocytes of the cider barrel. 1887 *J. J. Chem. Soc.* LII. 468 The crystallised ammonium gluconate recently described by Volpert... had previously been obtained by the author [sc. L. Boutroux], and described by him as ammonium *zymogluconate. 1886 *Ibid.* L. 682 The *zymogluconic acid obtained by the action of *M[icrococcus] oblongus* on glucose. 1957 HUNTER & MARKERT in *Science* 28 June 1295/2 We propose the term *zymogram to refer to strips in which the location of enzymes is demonstrated by histochemical methods. 1978 *Nature* 2 Mar. 77/2 The high degree of gene duplication in these species often confounds the genetic interpretation of *zymograms*. For example, how many loci code for an enzyme represented by a single electrophoretic band? 1981 *Histochemistry* LXXIII. 311 Electro-focused *zymograms* display species and organ differences. 1903 C. SNYDER *New Concept. Sci.* 236 Croft Hill's bold announcement, three or four years ago, of the discovery of 'reversible *zymohydrolysis'. 1828-32 WEBSTER, *Zumological, *Zumologist. 1846 WORCESTER, *Zumological*, *Zumologist* (citing OSWALD). 1753 *Chambers's Cycl. Suppl.*, *Zymology [referring to W. Simpson's *Zymologia Physica*, 1675]. 1828-32 WEBSTER, *Zumology*. 1890 A. S. LEA in *J. J. Physiol.* XI. 254 note, I would suggest that the word *zymolysis might be... used to denote generally the changes produced by the enzymes or unorganised ferments. *Ibid.* 264 The *zymolytic activity of the digestive fluid. 1842 BRANDE *Dict. Sci.*, etc., *Zumometer, or Zumosimeter, ... an instrument intended to show the degree to which fermentation has proceeded in different fermenting liquors. 1900 U.S. Dept. Agric., *Bur. Anim. Ind.* Rep. 257 (Cent. D. Suppl.) The hypothesis of Morgenroth in regard to the existence of a haptophore group and the [sic; ? a] *zymophore group in the labile ferment has been recently verified by Myers and Bashford, who have discovered *zymoids* analogous to the toxoids. 1902 *Brit. Med. J. J.* 12 Apr. 920 There is no amboceptor as such, but the body consists of a *zymophoric group. 1890 BILLINGS *Med. Dict.*, *Zymophytes, bacteroid ferments that liberate fatty acids from neutral fats. 1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1086 *Zymoscope, an instrument... for testing the fermenting power of yeast, by bringing it in contact with sugar-water, and observing the quantity of carbonic anhydride evolved. 1896 A. K. MILLER tr. E. C. Hansen's *Ferment.* 71 Ancker and Bergh's *zymotechnic laboratory, Stockholm. 1900 tr. A. Jørgensen's *Micro-org. & Ferment.* 47 *Zymotechnical examinations of water according to the principles laid down by Hansen. 1896 A. K. MILLER tr. E. C. Hansen's *Ferment.* 113 Several *zymotechnologists have made similar experiments. 1860 MAYNE *Expos. Lex.*, *Zymotechny. 1902 *J. J. Exper. Med.* 17 Mar. 282 The complement possesses in addition to such a... haptophore group, another group which exhibits fermentative properties (*zymotoxic or toxophore group).

zymogen ('zaiməʊdʒən). *Biol. Chem.* [ad. G. *zymogen* (Heidenhain, 1875): see ZYMO- and -GEN.] A substance formed in an organism, from which a ferment is produced. Also *attrib.*

1877 M. FOSTER *Physiol.* II. i. (1878) 219 A pancreas taken fresh from the body... contains but little ready-made ferment, though there is present in it a body which, by some kind of decomposition, gives birth to the ferment... To this body... Heidenhain has given the name of *Zymogen*. 1896 E. B. WILSON *Cell in Devel.* 288 *Zymogen* granules. 1897 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* III. 306 A *zymogen* is the antecedent of the ferment of the secretion—pepsinogen, trypsinogen, for example.

So **zymoge'netic**, **zymo'genic**, **zy'mogenous** *adjs.*, producing a ferment, or causing fermentation.

1896 *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 528 Organisms... acting partly as ferments, partly as *zymogenetic cells. 1884 KLEIN *Micro-org.* xxi. 187 Putrefactive and many *zymogenic organisms thrive well at ordinary temperatures. 1900 *Nature* 13 Sept. 405 *Zymogenic*... bacteria.

zymoid ('zaimɔid), *a.* and *sb.* [f. Gr. *ζύμη*: see ZYMO- and -OID.] *a. adj.* Resembling a ferment. *b. sb.* A substance having a relation to a ferment analogous to that of a toxoid to the corresponding toxin.

1891 *Cent. Dict.* 1900 [see *zymophore* under ZYMO-].

†**'zymome**. *Chem. Obs.* Also *zimome*. [ad. mod.L. *zymōma*, It. *zimoma* (Taddei), ad. Gr. *ζύμωμα* fermented mixture, *f.* *ζυμῶν*: see ZYMOSIS.] A name for that constituent of gluten which is insoluble in alcohol. Also called †**zymomin**.

[1820 *Q. J. J. Sci.* VIII. 377 D. Taddei... having undertaken researches in fermentation... in various cases has ascertained that the gluten of wheat is composed of two substances, perfectly distinct from each other, one of which he has named *gloiodina*, and the other *zimoma*.] 1820 T. THOMSON in *Ann. Phil.* May 390 M. Taddey... has lately ascertained that the gluten of wheat may be decomposed into two principles, which he has distinguished by the names, *gliadine*... and *zimome*. 1826 HENRY *Elem. Chem.* II. 268 *Zimome* is obtained pure by boiling gluten in alcohol. 1830 DONOVAN *Dom. Econ.* I. 345 *Zimomin* is of a dirty white colour, hard, and without any of the elasticity which

gluten possesses. **1831** JONES *New Convers. Chem.* xxix. 292 Zymome.

zymosan ('zaiməʊsæn). *Biochem.* [f. ZYMO-, after *glucosan*, *hexosan*.] An insoluble polysaccharide of the cell wall of yeast, used in the assay of properdin.

1943 E. E. ECKER et al. in *Jrnl. Immunol.* XLVII. 185 The preparation of human complement lacking in third component. The third component is specifically removed from or inactivated in human serum by the insoluble carbohydrate prepared from fresh yeast... The insoluble carbohydrate is hereafter referred to as 'zymosan'. **1973** *Sci. Amer.* Nov. 60/3 The incubation of normal blood serum... with certain polysaccharides derived from microbial cells (such as zymosan, a carbohydrate of the yeast cell membrane) gives rise to enzymes that activate the complement factors C₃ and C₅.

zymo'simeter. Also zumo-. [f. Gr. ζύμωσις (see next) + μέτρον measure: see -METER.] An instrument for measuring the degree of fermentation of a fermenting liquor.

1704 J. HARRIS *Lex. Techn.* I, Zymosimetre. **1842** Zumosimeter [see *zymometer* under ZYMO-].

|| **zymosis** (za'məʊsɪs). Pl. zymoses (-sɪz). [mod.L., ad. Gr. ζύμωσις fermentation, f. ζυμοῦν to leaven, in pass. to ferment, f. ζύμη leaven: see -OSIS.] Fermentation; *spec.* the morbid process which constitutes a zymotic disease, regarded as analogous to or involving fermentation.

1842 W. FARR in *4th Ann. Rep. Reg.-Gen.* 201 *note*, Zymosis fermentation, and-zyrna ferment, may also be employed in English, not in the sense which they have in Greek, but as general designations of the morbid processes and their excitors. *Ibid.* 202 [see ZYMIN]. **1876** BARTHOLOW *Mat. Med.* (1879) 523 As all fermentations are correlative of the growth and multiplication of these minute bodies, carboic acid, by destroying their activity, arrests zymosis.

fig. **1876** EMERSON *Lett. & Soc. Aims, Eloquence Wks.* (Bohn) III. 195 In the Elizabethan Age there was a dramatic *zymosis*, when all the genius ran in that direction.

zymotic (za'mɒtɪk), *a. (sb.)* [ad. Gr. ζυμωτικός causing fermentation, f. ζυμοῦν: see ZYMOSIS.] A general epithet for infectious diseases, originally because regarded as being caused by a process analogous to fermentation (cf. ZYMOSIS); pertaining to this theory of disease; causing such disease.

1842 W. FARR in *4th Ann. Rep. Reg.-Gen.* 201 The property of communicating their action, and effecting analogous transformations in other bodies, is... characteristic in these diseases, which it is proposed therefore to call... zymotic. **1851** MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* (1861) II. 395/2 The zymotic doctrine of the Board of Health as to the cause of cholera. **1896** *Allbutt's Syst. Med.* I. 528 Since many morbid processes are analogous, if not akin, to fermentative processes... the term *zymotic* has been applied to them,—a term, however, to be avoided rather than recommended.

b. In etymological sense: Causing or consisting in fermentation, fermentative.

1874 GARROD & BAXTER *Mat. Med.* 145 The zymotic action of yeast.

c. transf. Containing putrefactive germs.

1881 TYNDALL *Ess. Floating Matter Air* 208 An éprouvette containing one cubic centimeter of cold water, previously ascertained to be zymotic, was evaporated to dryness.

B. sb. A zymotic disease.

1842 W. FARR in *4th Ann. Rep. Reg.-Gen.* 201 A single word, such as Zymotics, is required to replace... the long periphrasis 'epidemic, endemic, and contagious diseases'.

1859 *Househ. Words* 8 Jan. 122/2 People who have died of Zymotics. **1916** *Lancet* 8 Jan. 112/1 Health of Belfast... In 1914 there were 51 notifications of typhus...; not a case of this zymotic has been reported in 1915.

Hence zy'motically *adv.*

1851 MAYHEW *Lond. Labour* (1861) II. 385/2 Whether this mass of filth be, zymotically, the cause of cholera.

zymurgy ('zaimɜ:dʒɪ). [f. Gr. ζύμη leaven + -ουργία working, as in METALLURGY.] The practice or art of fermentation, as in wine-making, brewing, distilling, etc.

1868 WATTS *Dict. Chem.* V. 1086.

zynder, zyne, zyphe: see CINDER, SINE¹, XIPH.

Zyrenian, var. SIRYENIAN *sb.* and *a.*

Zyrian ('zɪrɪən), *sb.* and *a.* Also Syrian, Syryane, Syryen, (and esp.) Zyryan. [ad. Russ. *Zýryánin*: see -IAN.] *A. sb.* A member of the Komi people of northern central U.S.S.R. *b.* The language of this people; = KOMI *b.* *B. adj.* Of or pertaining to this people or their language.

1886 *Encycl. Brit.* XXI. 79/2 The Permians... including... the Zyrians in Vologda, Archangel, Vyatka, and Perm. **1926** *Chambers's Encycl.* VIII. 101/1 The Syriän is spoken by a large population in the districts of Perm, Viatka, Archangel, and Vologda. **1932, 1933** [see PERMIAN *a. (sb.)* 2]. **1942** [see KOMI]. **1948** D. DIRINGER *Alphabet* II. viii. 482 Other peoples... such as the Zyryans or Syryans (now called Komi). **1951** W. K. MATTHEWS *Languages U.S.S.R.* iii. 20 The Yuraks have loans from Zyryan (Komi), a Finnic language. *Ibid.* 25 Zyryan resistance to the Russians was less dogged and implacable than Ugrian. **1955** *Trans. Philol. Soc.* 1954 99 The forms are: Norwegian Lappish *mieltä*... Syryane *ma* [etc.]. **1972** *Language* XLVIII. 848, 7b is given by Hockett for 'German... French... Zyryan'. **1978** K. RÉDEI (*title*) Zyrian folklore texts.

zyb, obs. (Kentish) 3rd sing. ind. pres. of SEE *v.*

zybe, obs. f. SITHE *sb.*¹

zyxst, obs. f. SIXTH.

zyxt, obs. (Kentish) 2nd sing. ind. pres. of SEE *v.*

BIBLIOGRAPHY

NOTE TO THE BIBLIOGRAPHY

THIS list comprises the titles of such works as have been most commonly quoted in the Dictionary. It represents a conflation of the two bibliographies already in existence: that of the first edition of the *Oxford English Dictionary*, published, together with the original Supplement, in 1933, and that of *A Supplement to the OED*, published in Volume IV of that work in 1986. Apart from emendations arising directly out of the integration of the two lists, and the correction of miscellaneous minor errors, no systematic revision of the bibliography to the first edition has been attempted. While it has no claim to be regarded as a complete guide to English literature, this list will be found to contain a large proportion of the more important works, together with many others less familiar; it includes a large number of titles of periodical publications.

The arrangement is according to the alphabetical order of authors' names or titles of works. Following each title is the date of the first edition or of composition (ascertained or inferred). Where it is possible or necessary to give only a limiting date, such as that of an author's death, or of a manuscript in which the work is extant, this is preceded by *a* (= *ante*), e.g. BACON *Works a 1626*, *King Horn a 1300*. As occasion requires, the dates of editions used other than the first, or the names of editors or of series of publications, are added within round brackets. Where a title (e.g. Arnolde's *Chronicle*) is followed by a second title in brackets, the first is that by which the work is generally known, the second is its proper title. Round brackets are also occasionally used to indicate that works are questionably assigned to the authors under whom they are entered.

Publications of learned institutions are listed here under the name of the institution; translations under the name of the translator (where known). The country or city of publication has not usually been given except for newspapers published outside London, and UK editions of books published in an earlier year abroad.

It is to be observed that the dates assigned (in the early years of the history of the Dictionary) to some Middle English texts and to a few books of later date (e.g. the plays of Shakespeare), as also certain ascriptions of authorship, have been modified by subsequent research (the resulting discrepancies rarely affect in any serious degree the chronology of words and senses).

ABBREVIATIONS

<i>a</i> (before a date)	<i>ante</i> (before; not later than)	ser.	series
<i>c</i> (before a date)	<i>circa</i> (about)	S.H.S.	Scottish History Society
Cl.	Club	Soc.	Society
Ed., ed.	editor of; edited (by); edition	S.T.S.	Scottish Text Society
E.D.S.	English Dialect Society	tr.	translated (by); translation of
E.E.T.S.	Early English Text Society	v.d.	various dates
et al.	and others	vol.	volume
rev.	revised		

- A. 1593 See *Passionate Morrice*
A., A. *Reply to Dr. Sanderson* 1650
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A., H. 1613, 1633 See AUSTIN, Henry; HAWKINS, Henry
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